



FORMER VISCARDI'S TOWER AND BUILDINGS OF MEDIEVAL ORIGIN*

*structure in part disappeared

You can find this point of interest in Argegno - Path 1 - Stage 1 and in Argegno – Path 2 – Stage 0

INFORMATION

Location: the former tower of the Viscardi family stood above the building that today hosts the Café “Motta” in via Milano, in front of Piazza Testi, while the buildings of medieval origin are located on the left side of Piazza Roma, keeping our backs to the lake

Paving: square in porphyry. Sidewalk upstream paved in porphyry, asphalted road

Architectural barriers: sidewalks along the SS340, which is often very crowded

Access: you can meet some difficulties in crossing the zebra passage, because of the intense traffic. So we suggest to go back along the sidewalk placed along the lake: in front of the Café “Il porto”, enter the subway - free from architectural barriers – that leads to Piazza Rimembranze (in front of the Trattoria “Da Emilio”) and from here, always free from architectural barriers, through a narrow street, reach Piazza Roma, just in front of the new fountain

Services: parking available in the area for a fee (can be paid for in Piazza Roma); cash dispenser Banca Popolare di Sondrio at the lakeside Station in Piazza Testi, Pharmacy in via Milano in front of Piazza Testi

Leisure and food: docking of the Lake Navigation with public toilets at the lakeside Station, Café, Restaurants and shops in Piazza Roma and in the surrounding area.

DESCRIPTION

(*Silvia Fasana*)

Only the lower part of the former medieval tower of the Viscardi family is now visible, because the upper collapsed in 1876. The few images left show a crenellated tower, a little lower than the bell tower of the old Parish Church, with embrasures and windows on all sides. According to Donato Gregorio, author of a documented publication about Argegno, it was possible to enter it directly from the Café “Motta” or to rise from the steps which today bring to the terrace above the place. Next to the Café “Motta” we find some buildings of medieval origin, among them the present “Barchetta” Restaurant and other tourist companies which look onto Piazza Roma. A fascinating hypothesis by Donato Gregorio, suggested by some documents of the 15th Century, holds that in this place a big “Palaxium” palace was built, belonging to Giovanni de Castello. The Catasto Teresiano of 1755 signals the presence of a press located where now stands a clothing shop for children.