

NEAPOLITAN MAJOLICA TRAILS: RESTORATION AND ENHANCEMENT OF THE “ RIGGIOLE”

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ABSTRACT

The “*riggiole*”, from the Catalan rajolas, are majolica handcrafted and hand-decorated produced in Naples since the beginning of '400, used to pave churches, monasteries and aristocratic palaces. The production, widely distributed also internationally in numerous factories (*figuline*) until the beginning of '900, is now almost entirely disappeared.

An integral part of the cultural heritage of Naples, the “*riggiole*” are artifacts of significant historical and artistic value to preserve and enhance, also because they contribute to connote styles and eras of the buildings in which they appear.

In the absence of a systematic cataloging of the heritage, the study identifies the sites that are still significant evidence and created *Neapolitan Majolica Trails*, implemented on reasoned interactive map, available on all internet devices.

Applying information technology, support for tourist use and for the dissemination of knowledge of “*riggiola*” flywheel can provide for the recovery and preservation of heritage, which today is facing a general state of disrepair.