



SWIFTS AND SCAFFOLDING HOLES

2007-2022



http://www.festivaldeirondoni.info/documenti_scaricabili



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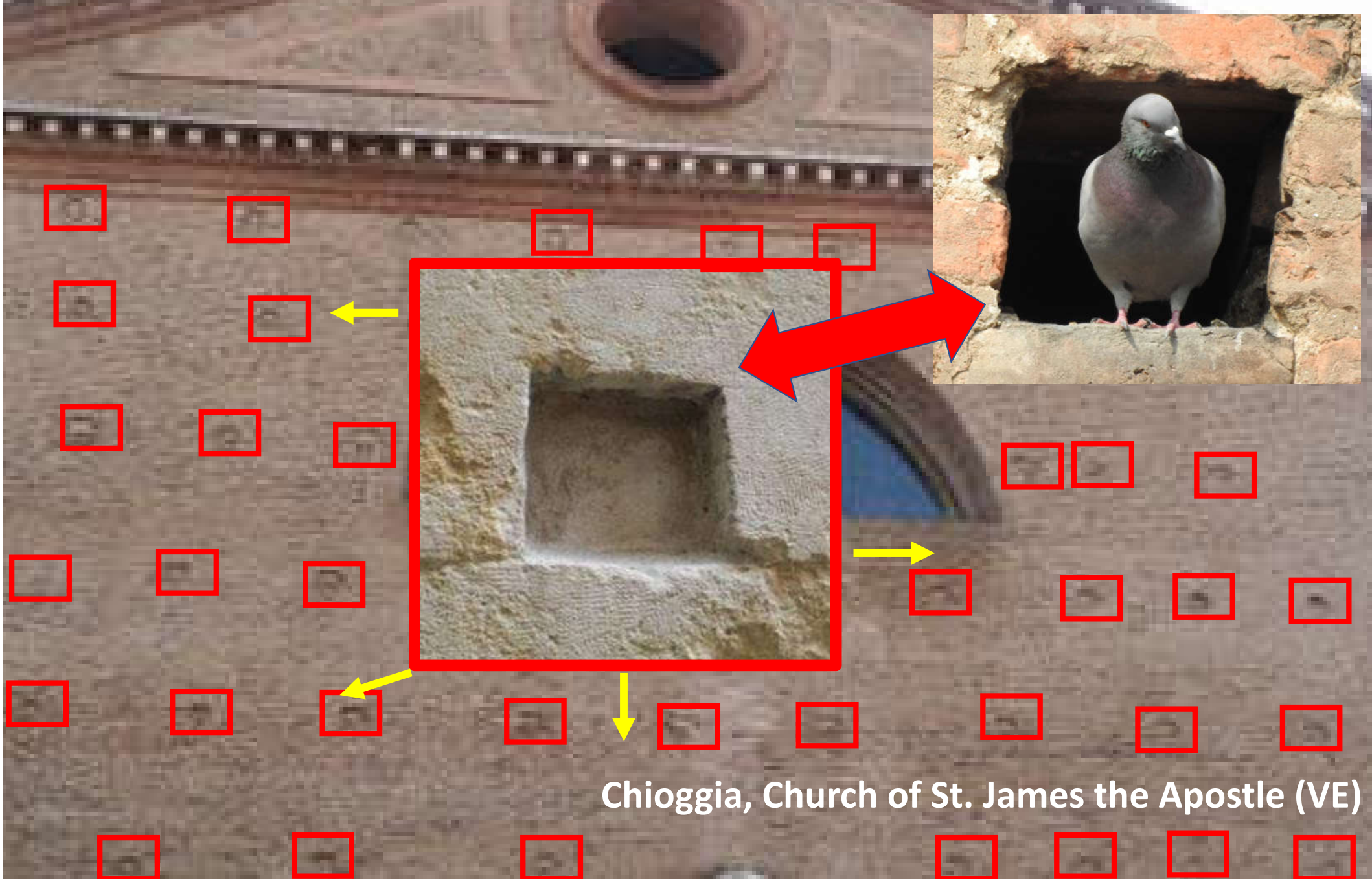
26/03/2023

SCAFFOLDING HOLES

Since they are often used by pigeons...



... many of them have been blocked up

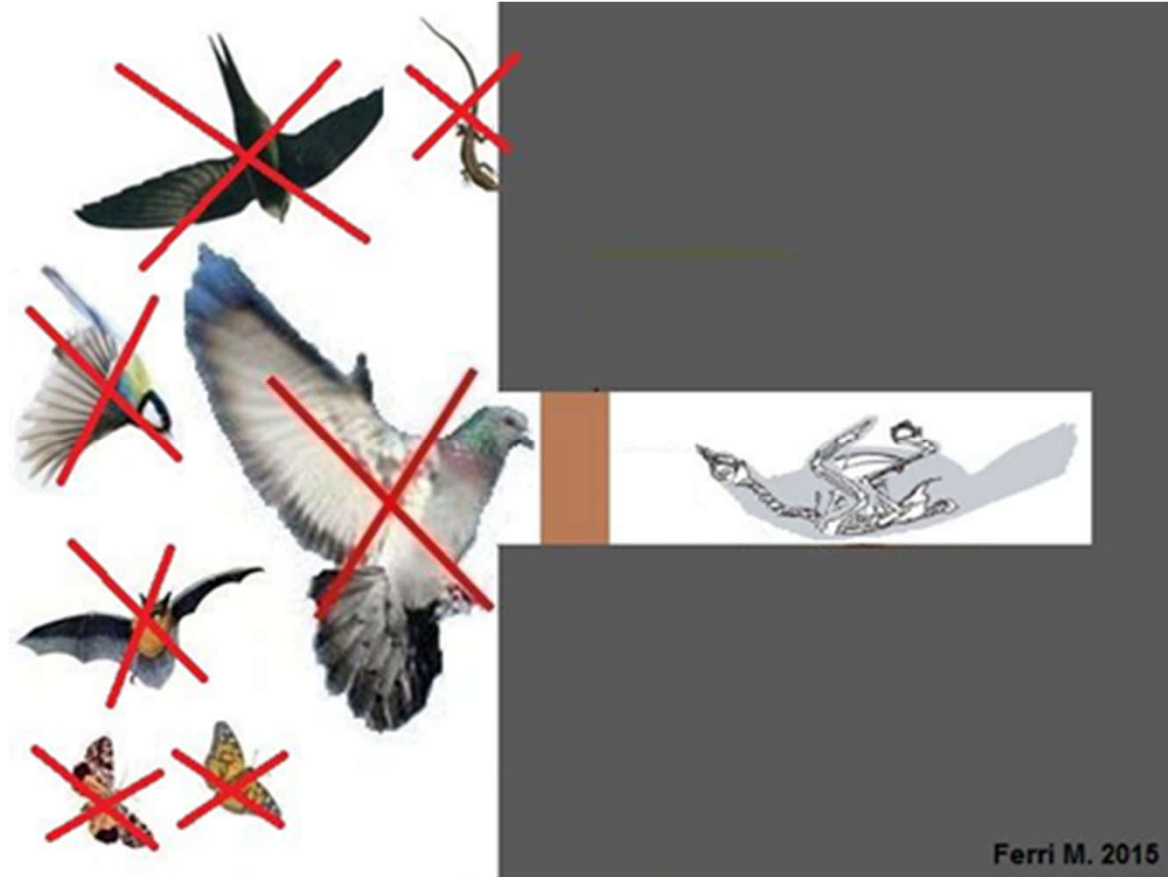


Chioggia, Church of St. James the Apostle (VE)

HOLES ARE BLOCKED UP TO KEEP PIGEONS AWAY BUT...

1 - ... **ANIMALS** may be buried alive

2 - ... **BIODIVERSITY** is being cancelled for ever



«BLIND WALL»

http://www.festivaldeirondoni.info/male_pratiche_immagini.html



ALWAYS CHECK THE INSIDE OF HOLES!

KNOW-HOW, ADEQUATE METHODS AND INSTRUMENTS
IN ORDER TO BE SURE AND GUARANTEE SAFETY



ENDOSCOPY



http://www.festivaldeirondoni.info/buone_pratiche.html

IN THE DARKNESS OF HOLES THERE ARE CREATURES SUCH AS...



SWIFTS



JACKDAWS



BATS

LED LAMPS

ENDOSCOPE

CAMERA



PIGEONS



SPARROWS



LIZARDS

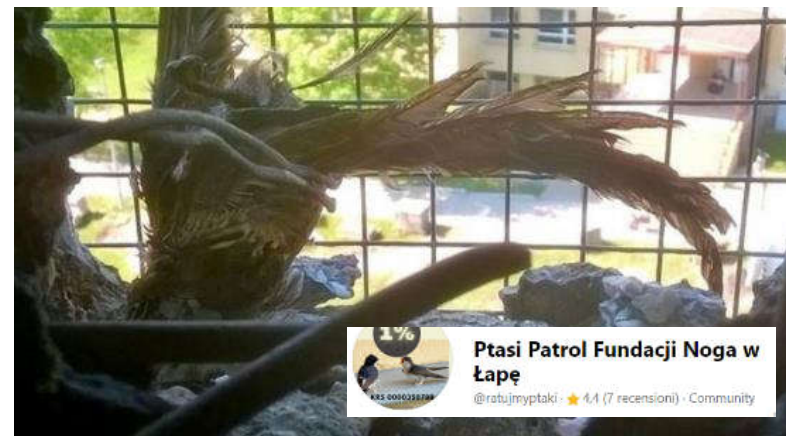


GECKOS



http://www.festivaldeirondoni.info/buone_pratiche.html

... WHICH MAY BE BURIED ALIVE!



http://www.festivaldeirondoni.info/male_pratiche_immagini.html

26/03/2023

THE SOLUTION IS SELECTIVE EXCLUSION



2007-2019



http://www.festivaldeirondoni.info/documenti_tecnici_scaricabili.html

N.B. As for small, large or irregular holes, see next pages

GOALS, METHODS AND RESULTS FOR A «NEW» SWIFT TOWER

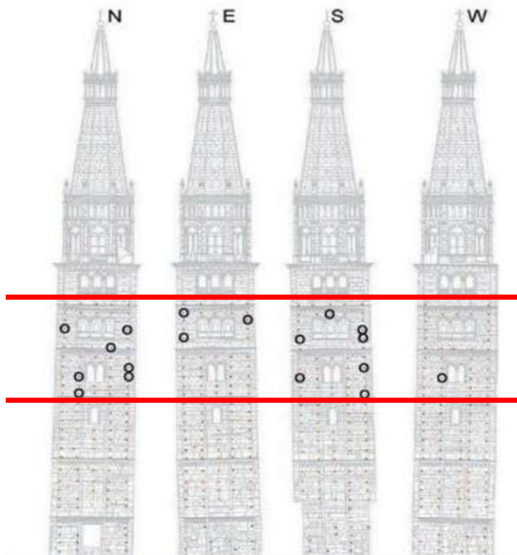


PIGEONS are excluded from the tower
120 Scaffolding holes for swifts (and bats)

2013: Common Swift: 18 couples;

2020: Common Swift: 40-45 couples;

NESTING SPECIES: Common Swift, Little Owl, Redstart, Peregrine Falcon (in nestbox)



Ferri et al., 2015 - Buche pontai selettive per favorire i rondoni ed escludere i colombi dalla Ghirlandina. In: Cadignani R. (Ed.) <La torre Ghirlandina - cronaca del restauro e studi recenti>, Luca Sossella Edizioni, 2015; 54-59.

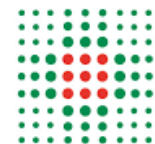


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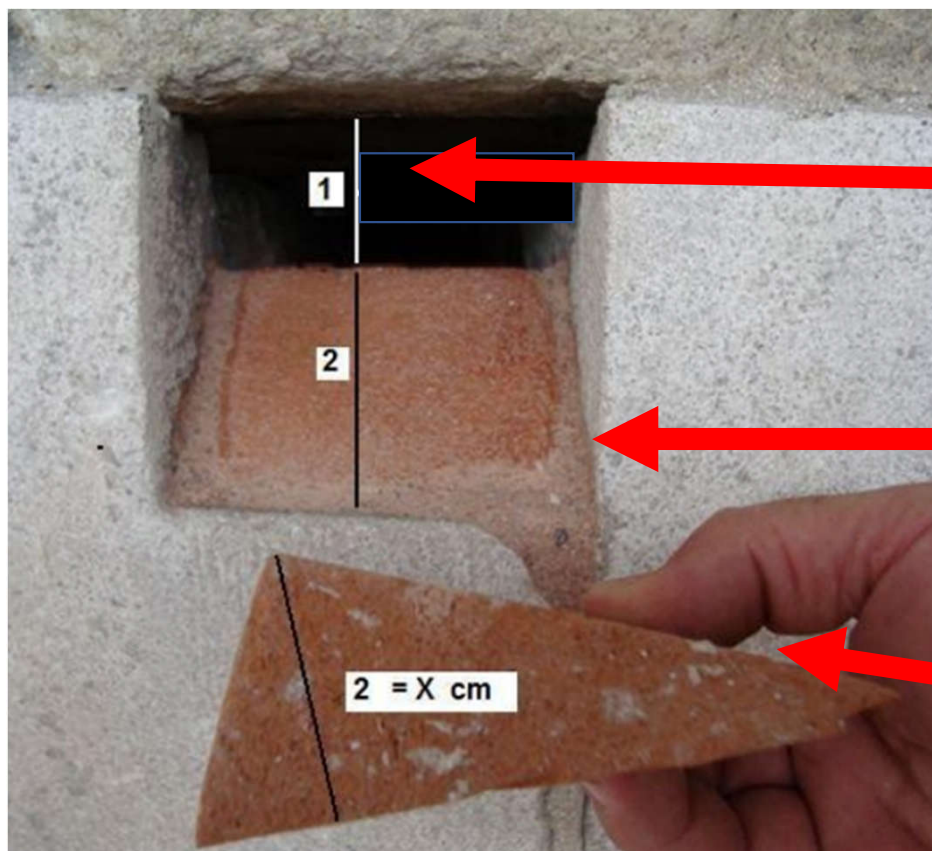
http://www.festivaldeirononi.info/documenti_scaricabili

2007 – SELECTIVE SOLUTION

FOR SMALL SCAFFOLDING HOLES OF THE GHIRLANDINA TOWER, MODENA - UNESCO SITE



SERVIZIO SANITARIO REGIONALE
EMILIA-ROMAGNA



Wedge opening

H: 3.5 to 5 cm

L: width of the hole at least 5 cm

Outer slope: 40-45%
(anti-pigeon precaution)

Inner slope: should not be
steep or smooth

<APPEARANCE> OF THE HOLES AFTER THE ADAPTATIONS.
SEEN FROM THE ROAD THEY LOOK UNCHANGED.

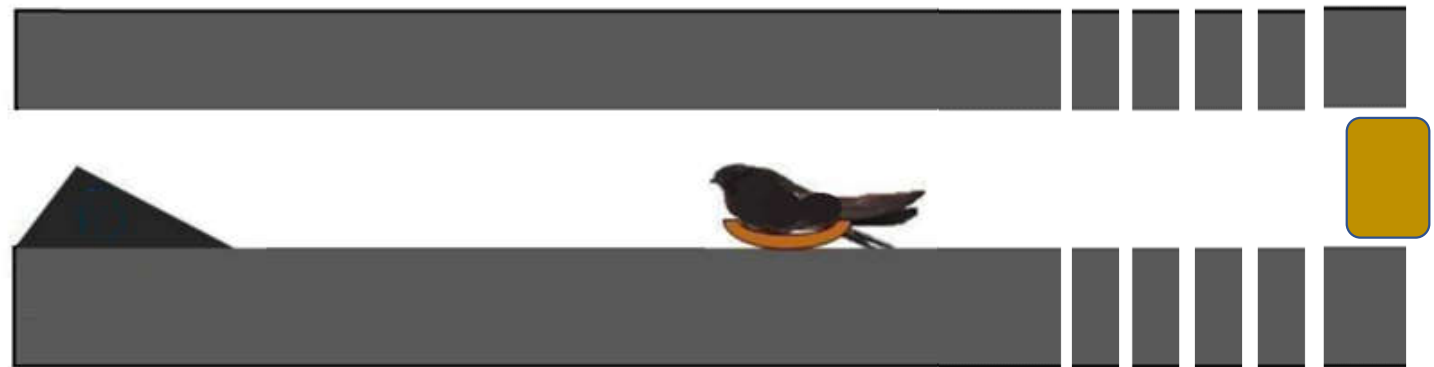
WAS IT ONLY A MATTER OF HOLES...?

NO

1. The Ghirlandina tower was built with bricks but it was covered with precious marbles and other stone slabs taken from ancient ruined Roman villas.
2. Its holes are small and regular.
3. Holes are deep and open through the walls in order to be used also from the inside of the tower.
4. The wedge opening for swifts was OK at the top.
5. But what can be done for other kinds of holes?



<10-20 x <10-20 cm

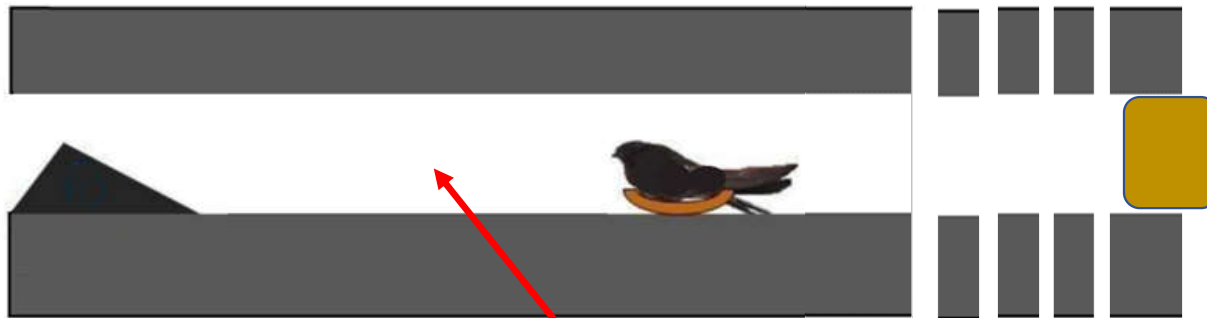


A – HOLES: SMALL, REGULAR AND DEEP

<10-20 x <10-20 cm

2007-2011

WEDGE OPENING AT THE TOP



Wide space inside

The inner hole should be blocked up for the safety of the swifts

Ghirlandina Tower, Modena, 2011

Ferri et al. 2011 - Control of the urban pigeon *Columba livia* population and the preservation of common swift *Apus apus* and bats *Chiroptera* during the restoration of the Ghirlandina tower in the city of Modena (Italy). In: Jens Jacob, Alexandra Esther (Editors), 8th European Vertebrate Pest Management Conference, Berlin, Germany, 26-30 September 2011. Book of Abstracts. Julius Kühn-Institut Bundesforschungsinstitut für Kulturpflanzen, JKI Arkiv 432, 2011. 133-135



http://www.festivaldeirondoni.info/documenti_tecnici_scaricabili.html

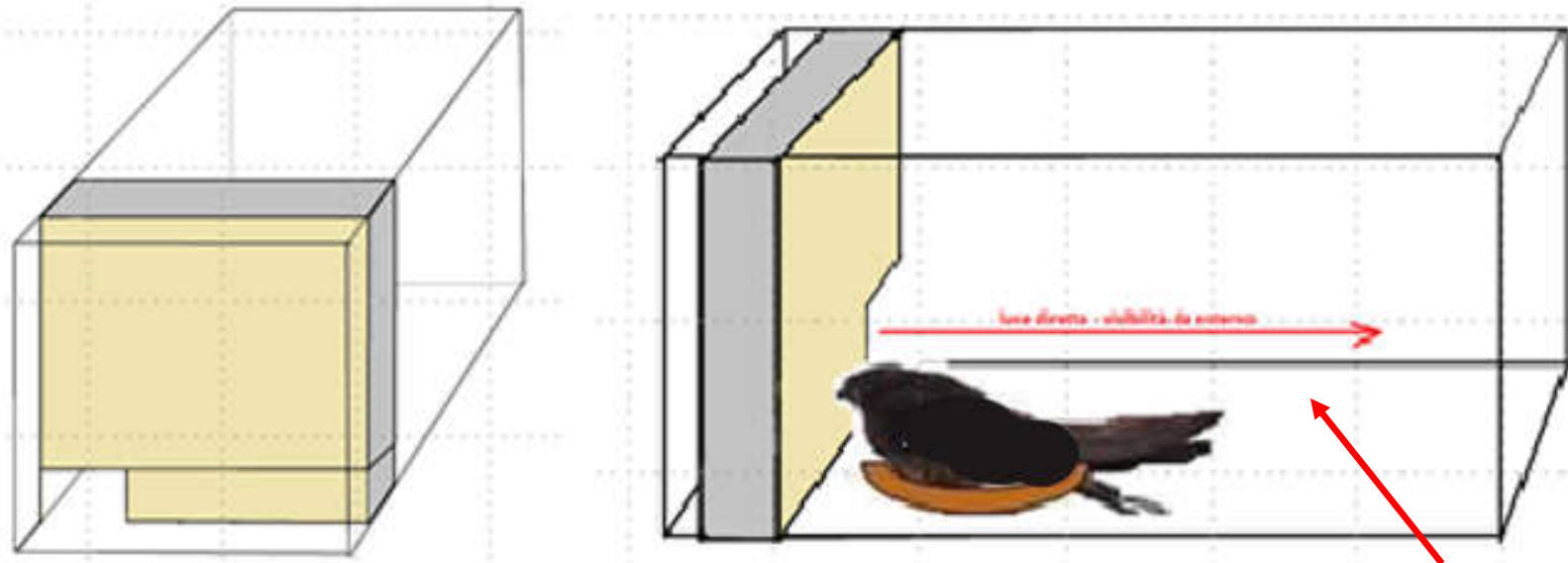
Video results and pictures at: <https://www.facebook.com/media/set/?set=oa.1582557358519303&type=3>

B – HOLES: LARGE, REGULAR, DEEP OR SHORT

2018

>20 x >20 cm

OPENING AT THE BOTTOM



The maximum possible space should be guaranteed inside



Ferri M., 2018 - *Le "rondonare": come attrarre i rondoni negli edifici, dal Medioevo ai nostri giorni*. Atti Soc. Nat. Mat. di Modena, 149: 181-223.

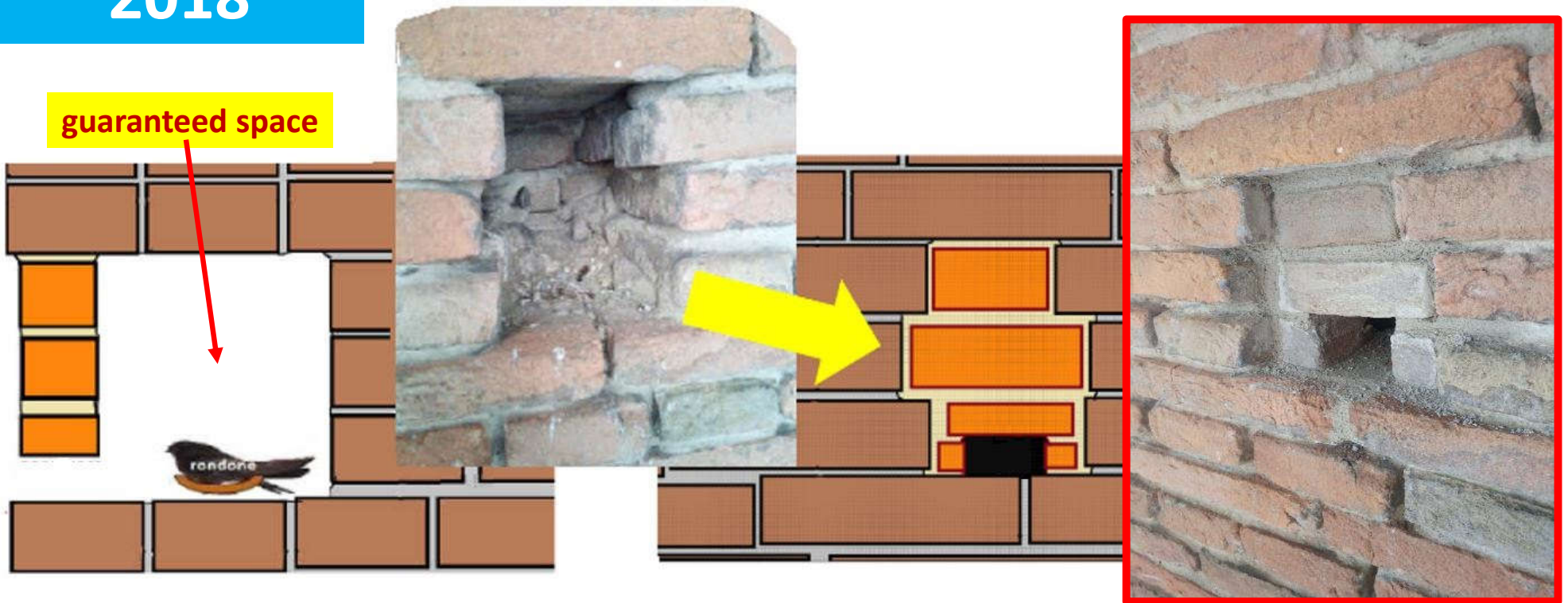
http://www.festivaldeirondoni.info/documenti_tecnici_scaricabili.html

C – HOLES: LARGE, SHORT, IRREGULAR

OPENING AT THE BOTTOM

2018

guaranteed space



Church of St. Dominic, Modena, 2018

<https://www.facebook.com/media/set/?set=oa.1603127546462284&type=3>



NOT ONLY BRICKS

2018

PERFORATED AND INCLINED METAL SHEETS



Perforated steel sheet:
the lower edge is smooth
and safe for swifts



Tower of the Cathedral, **Turin**

With these solutions (as with cut nets, cf. p. 18), the opening should always be towards the bottom, even in small holes, **IN ORDER TO AVOID THE TRAP EFFECT**



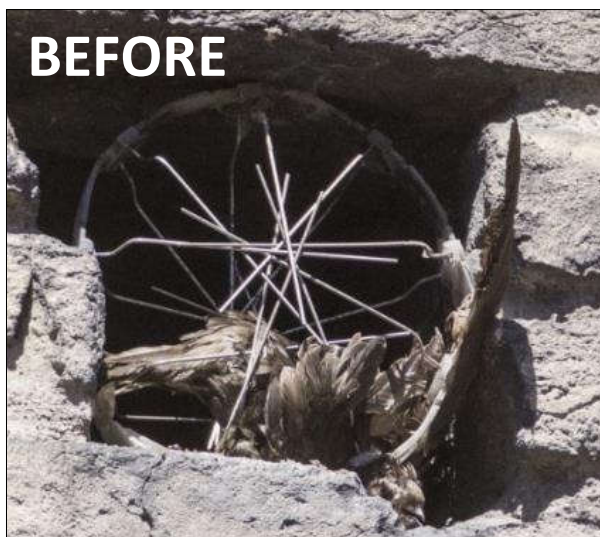
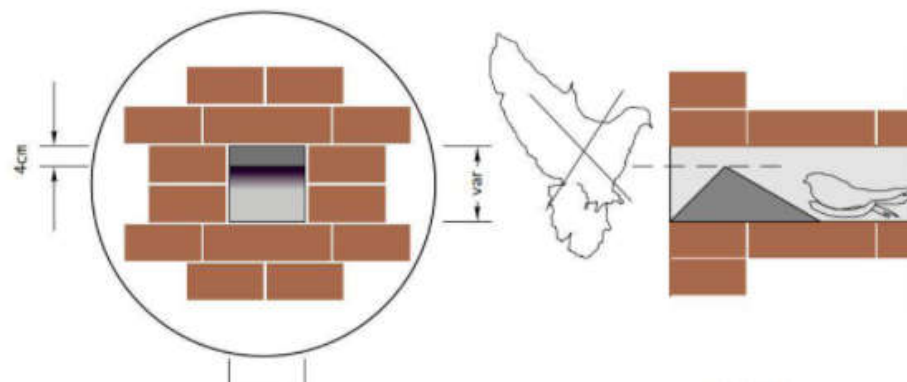
<https://files.secure.website/wscfus/9770565/8585519/duomo-di-torino-1.pdf>

Scaffolding holes

Garisenda Tower, Bologna

2019

Holes from 15x15 to 21x21 cm, and some extra large and irregular ones



Downloadable
album,
38 pictures



for
**COMMON AND PALLID
SWIFTS**

For JACKDAWS

<https://www.facebook.com/media/set/?set=oa.1981513811956987&type=3>

REOPENING OF SCAFFOLDING HOLES AT CARPI (MO)

2020-2022

- Tower of the Spaniards
- Tower of Passerino
- Church of St. Nicholas

Blocked up
in the 1990s



Reopened
for swifts



Reopened
for jackdaws



Scaffolding holes shut by means of **SMALL NETS** but later **REOPENED**

Parish Church of St. John the Baptist, **Riomaggiore (SP)**



SMALL NETS:
a bad idea



- Metal shears
- Opening at the **BOTTOM**
NEVER at the top (pot effect)
- Do not leave sharp points



http://www.festivaldeironi.info/buone_pratiche.html

Not only in Italy has **SELECTIVE REDUCTION OF HOLES** been applied

Ghirlandina Tower, Modena (I), 2011



<https://www.facebook.com/media/set/?set=oa.1582557358519303&type=3>

Molenbeek (B), 2011

<https://www.facebook.com/media/set/?set=oa.1308409173224160&type=3>

Maison des Récollets, Liège (B), 2016

<https://www.facebook.com/media/set/?set=oa.174479114907258&type=3>

Abbatiale de Payerne (CH), 2014-2016

<https://www.facebook.com/media/set/?set=oa.886706075767160&type=3>

Het Steen, Antwerp (B), 2019

<https://www.facebook.com/media/set/?set=oa.2229430627165303&type=3>

Pauscollège, Louvain (B), 2020

<https://www.facebook.com/media/set?set=oa.2641434159298279&type=3>

La Muralla, Sevilla (E), 2021

<https://www.facebook.com/media/set/?set=oa.527443889305251&type=3>

Predikherenkerk-klooster, Mechelen (B), 2022

<https://www.facebook.com/media/set/?set=oa.158480997023644&type=3>

199 case studies and related topics

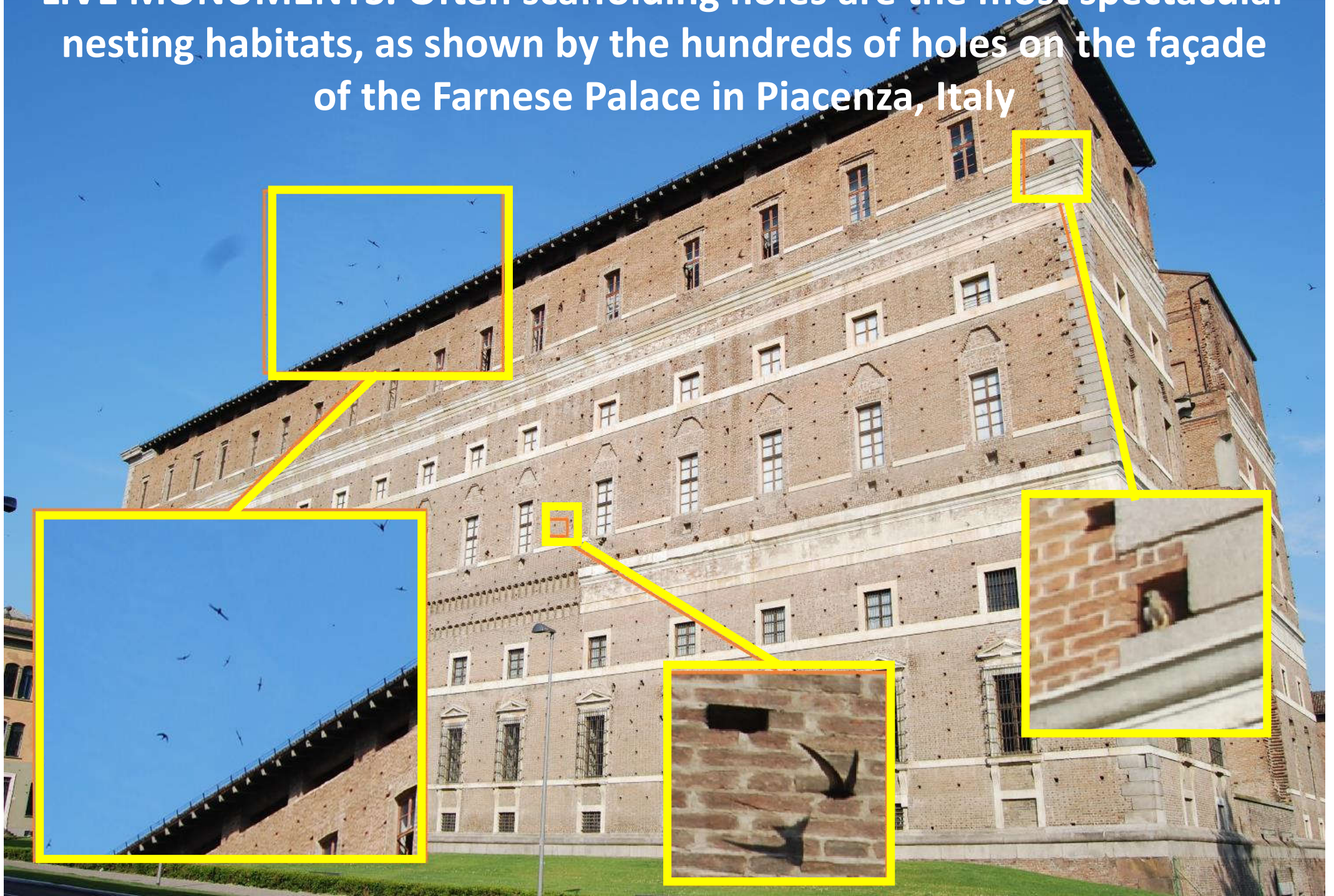


<https://www.facebook.com/groups/888105881297791/media/albums>

**SCAFFOLDING HOLES MAKE THE
MOST ATTRACTIVE HABITAT
FOR SWIFTS AND THE MOST
IMMEDIATELY PERCEIVABLE BY
THE PUBLIC**

**They induce awareness for the
conservation of swifts**

The buildings which have been hosting biodiversity for centuries are **LIVE MONUMENTS**. Often scaffolding holes are the most spectacular nesting habitats, as shown by the hundreds of holes on the façade of the Farnese Palace in Piacenza, Italy



Downloadable DOCUMENTS

35

1-31: 31 numbered thumbnails showing various documents, monographs, and leaflets. Topics include historical architecture, pigeon breeds, and conservation efforts.

32: AGRI CHE UCCIDONO! (PDF) - AGRICOLTORI & RURALI, oggi al 2022. Questo PDF, aggiornato nel 2022, è stato preparato da un gruppo di agricoltori e rurali per sensibilizzare il pubblico sui rischi per la salute e l'ambiente.

33: Les Monuments Vivants, un patrimoine de la biodiversité (PDF) - A Tou local "Co" après accès LIN? Per: https

34: Les Monuments Vivants, un patrimoine de la biodiversité (PDF) - Tous Monuments Vivants (PDF) - Les Monuments Vivants, un patrimoine de la biodiversité (PDF)

Monographs, guide-lines and leaflets, Italian and foreign case studies



http://www.festivaldeirondoni.info/documenti_scaricabili

RECOMMENDED ARTICLES

In the order, about: CHURCHES, NEEDLES THAT KILL, LIVE MONUMENTS (in French), ROOFS AND WALLS



[FERRI M. 2021, CHIESE, ALTRI EDIFICI E RONDONI](#) un PDF preparato per l'intervista di **ARCHITETTURA SACRA**, rivista on line della CEI (Conferenza Episcopale Italiana) guida passo a passo il neofita di <edifici e biodiversità>, passando in rassegna punti critici e topics mostrati con disegni e schemi a loro volta annotati con LINK e QR code di rinvio a pagine web e album di casi studio validati. I tanti **casi studio** segnalati sono anche stranieri e interconfessionali (cattolici, protestanti, ebraici e mussulmani)



[Ferri M. 2022, AGHI CHE UCCIDONO](#) Questo PDF, aggiornato ai nuovi artt. 9 e 41 della Costituzione (2022) e ad alcuni Regolamenti comunali (2014-2022) mette a fuoco l'ipocrisia che spaccia aghi acuminati come "repellenti". In realtà sono particolarmente cruenti, **SONO INVISIBILI** per gli uccelli finché non ci si piantano sopra, per morirli trafitti o, più spesso, ferirsi gravemente e in profondità e morire altrove dissanguati o per ferite profonde infette. Su questo argomento l'indifferenza degli "esperti" e dei manuali scivola come acqua fresca, addirittura insistendo su termini che tra la gente hanno radicato il convincimento che si tratterebbe di «mezzi ecologici» (*sic!*) per allontanare. **Niente di più sbagliato**, purtroppo. Unica voce, nel 2009 la dr. Biol. **Fosca de Vita** ha messo in rete **tre documenti** importanti, densi di prove inconfutabili. Questo PDF offre integralmente queste **EVIDENZE anatomo patologiche**, assieme a **NORMATIVE e norme comunali** che **FINALMENTE** ben motivano la necessità di proibire questa barbarie in tutto il Paese



[Ferri M. 2022, Les Monuments Vivi, véritables foyers de la biodiversité](#) PDF della presentazione per «**Rencontres Nature en Ville. Concilier les travaux d'aménagements et les martinets. Toulon 25.11.2022**», organizzato da LPO PACA. Passa in rassegna le tante tipologie architettoniche sfruttate dai rondoni, da quelle <intenzionali> (torri rondonare e similari) ai tanti spazi di risulta in cui le tre specie di rondoni si insediano, da quelle per loro più comode a quelle a prima vista più rare ed improbabili, ma pur sempre utili. Ricco di link di rinvio a singoli casi, offre anche quelli accesso ad oltre 30 documenti scaricabili dallo scaffale digitale dedicato a questi problemi ed anche ad oltre 180 album di argomenti er casi studio consultabili su un gruppo specializzato



[Ferri M., Parisi E. 2022, I rondoni che abitano i tetti e i muri chiedono l'aiuto dei professionisti dell'edilizia](#) PDF organizzato per incontri con professionisti e tecnici locali in borghi con belle colonie di rondoni insediate soprattutto su tetti a «embrici e coppi» o a «coppi e controcoppi», ma con accenni e **link di rinvio** anche ad altri particolarità architettoniche e strutturali sfruttate localmente dai rondoni. Composto nel 2021, un anno dopo è stato aggiornato ed integrato



http://www.festivaldeirondoni.info/documenti_scaricabili

ALBUMS



**EACH ICON IS AN ALBUM
COVER WITH TITLE,
INTRODUCTION AND
PICTURES WITH CAPTIONS**

**ON THIS SOCIAL NETWORK
THE ALBUMS ARE LISTED IN
CHRONOLOGICAL NOT
ALPHABETICAL ORDER**

**Case studies and related topics
from Italy and abroad**



<https://www.facebook.com/groups/888105881297791/media/albums>

**END OF THE
PRESENTATION**

***THANK YOU
FOR YOUR
ATTENTION***

