



ECOMUSEUM OF MONTORFANO WHITE GRANITE. PRESENT AND FUTURE

The past activities and future projects of Ecomuseum of Montorfano white granite can be divided in three main areas of work:

1) Interpretation and land storytelling

Past and present projects: creation of Ecomuseum infopoint; realization of three thematic paths with multilingual signage and QR code (granite path in Montorfano, pink marble path in Candoglia; historical architectures path in the town centre and in the hamlets), involving local primary schools in collection memories and information about the traditions.

Future projects: reorganization of the points of visibility. Creation of two new points of visibility: "**Stone Space**" in an early 20th-century building in the hamlet of Albo, in the heart of stonework, exhibition focused on two varieties of stone: white granite and pink marble; "**Bibliolab**" in the old dairy building, in the historic centre, a space for conferences, temporary exhibitions and specialized library about "archaeology, ethnography, stone". At the same time, the historical Museum, will be entirely dedicated to "**Archeo Space**" with the exhibition of findings from recent excavations.

Actually, together with the near town of Baveno, we are planning an extension of Ecomuseum's boundaries, including the area of pink granite quarries of Baveno/Feriollo.

2) Participative paths

Past, present, future: excursions on the territory to read and interpret its components with focus on different themes and experimenting different forms of mobility. In 2015 we focused also on biking routes, combined with bike rental service.

Future: project to recover **new hiking paths**: an ancient path for sleigh-transport of stone from Montorfano to Gravellona Toce and the road with military barracks of the Cadorna line (made during the first world war).

3) Local supply chains and economy

Past, present, future: collaboration with the artisans of stone quarries and stone carving, with visit to workshops of white granite of Montorfano and pink marble of Candoglia.

Future: project to improve the area of **stone terraces** in Groppole with cleaning and maintenance by Mergozzo Municipality, supported by private farmers for replanting of traditional cultivations.

