



Excelsior - Dulio - Niobe - Lupa



Villa Excelsior is located along the Simplon state road, just past the park of Villa Pallavicino. Easily identifiable by its red belvedere turret, it aptly represents the sumptuous residences built along the shores of the lake. It was initially named 'Excelsior', as its first owner was the choreographer Luigi Manzotti (Milan 1835-1905), author of the pharaonic ballet of the same name.

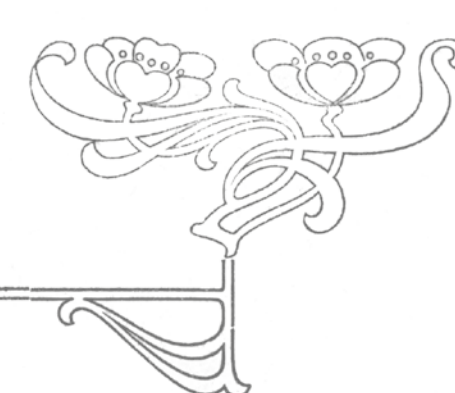
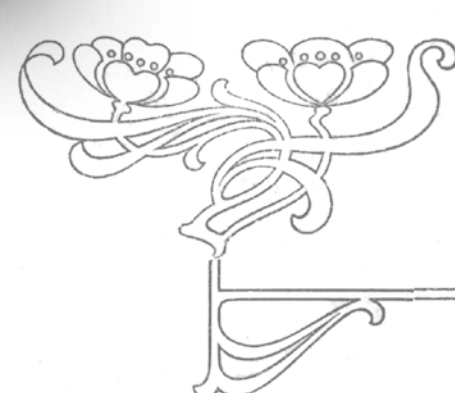
Around 1910, the property passed to the family of engineer Giuseppe Dulio and later to Commendator Passardi, director of the Bernocchi Cotton Mills, who in turn sold it to Professor Balestrazzi of Novara, a doctor at the San Gaudenzio Clinic.

In the 1980s, the Stresa mansion was bought by a construction company that transformed it into a luxurious residence, keeping the exterior architectural forms unchanged.

Built at the end of the 19th century, it offers an example of the castellan typology that was an alternative to the prevailing Liberty Style. The planimetric layout of the residence consists of a squat body, flanked by the quadrilateral of the tower. The building rises two floors above ground level resting on a half-basement. The villa is connected to the garden by an imposing double flight of steps. The elevation facing the lake is characterised by the refined mullioned windows with two lights and white profiles that stand out against the ground of the building. The contrast is further taken up by the corner ashlar that emphasise the edges of the entire building.

Also noteworthy are the four-light windows that illuminate the four sides of the turret's loggia floor and the cornice supported by corbels on which the belvedere above rests.

To the side: on the back of the old postcard it was already indicated as 'villa Dulio': the sale between the choreographer Luigi Manzotti and the engineer Giuseppe Dulio had already taken place.



English

