

“TREVIGLIO”

THE TOWN HALL

Taken from “**Treviglio: storia, arte e cultura**” by Barbara Oggioni - *ed. Clessidra 2002*

A stone slab discovered on the wall of the Town Hall and now kept in the Civic Cultural Centre suggests that the building was constructed in 1300 by order of the town's superintendent. At the time the Town Hall occupied the space approximately corresponding to the area between the lane known as Via Municipio and the end of the third arch span in the front of the building.

The town hall was seriously damaged during the siege by the Venetians in 1509, but then extended in the second half of the 16th century with the addition of the part which includes the three arches towards Via Galliari.

Various repairs were done in the following centuries, the most significant being in 1873 when the building was completely remodelled, with the addition of a third level and the upgrading of many rooms and council offices.

It was painted with frescos several times, both internally and externally but only photographs of them remain as in the case of those done by Luigi Cassani in the Council Chamber or in that of the crest which hung on the front of the building in the first decades of the 20th century.

Now the town hall is organized with offices open to the public on the ground floor, with access directly from the arcade. The upper floor is reached by the service stairs from the arcade or through the main formal doors over which hangs the City Crest. From here a majestic stone staircase starts from the courtyard with arches that supported on slender columns topped by capitals ornamented with acanthus leaves.

The first floor houses the main Council Chambers, the Committee room, the Major's office and various council offices. Other council offices are found on the second floor.

Every room in the building is decorated with paintings, sculptures, inlay work and furnishing of remarkable historical and artistic value. There is also a collection of historical maps from past centuries showing the city and parts of surrounding area.



In the octagonal tower (which was part of the St. Joseph's Church, built in 1509 by the St. Joseph's Confraternity that moved in the courtyard behind the main Town Hall building) there are precious frescos painted in the vaulted dome, and traces of red sinopite stone in the niches cut into the walls as shrines to the saints and other religious figures.