

“TREVIGLIO”

PALAZZO SILVA

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

Of all the stately homes along Via Galliari, Palazzo Silva at n° 6 may be considered the most significant. The building is of medieval origin and in the 14th century belonged to the Donati family who built a church dedicated to St. Christopher. During the 17th century, the Marquis Silva and his family acquired the complex and re-organised it according to construction and town-planning methods typical of the baroque period.

The main entrance doors were ornated and the doorway had alternating concave and convex lines in its mouldings. The rooms were richly decorated with precious fire-places and valuable wall paintings.

The plan of the buildings is still approximately that of the 17th century: the main courtyard entered from Via Galliari was surrounded by a gallery on the first floor and a monumental stone staircase; there was a service courtyard at the rear, with adjacent stables and carriage-mews.

The precious 17th century fire-places, with their landscape decorations, can still be seen in some of the rooms on the ground and first floor, as can the painted wooden lacunar ceilings. The most artistically valuable work is conserved in two rooms on the first floor: they could be described as “painted rooms” given the unusual fact of their being completely covered, walls and ceiling alike, in painted decorations. These paintings have unfortunately been damaged in some parts making them illegible but they are nevertheless of very good artistic quality and include different allegorical and sacred themes. One medallion shows the date 1696, probably indicating when some of the frescos were painted, but the artist is unknown.

Nowadays it is possible to enter the main courtyard, but the rooms, being functioning offices, are partially open.