

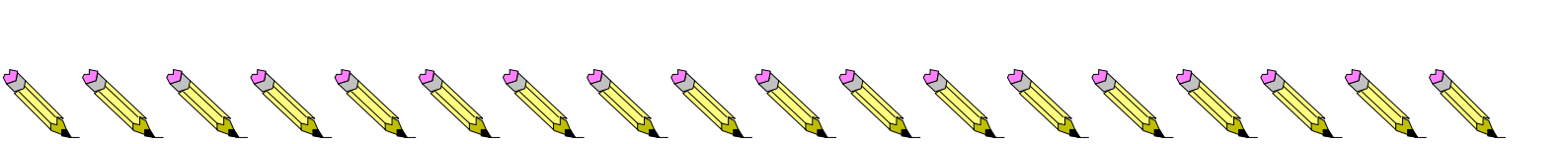


Education and Culture
Lifelong Learning Programme
COMENIUS

Sicilian old houses

Sicilian Old Houses





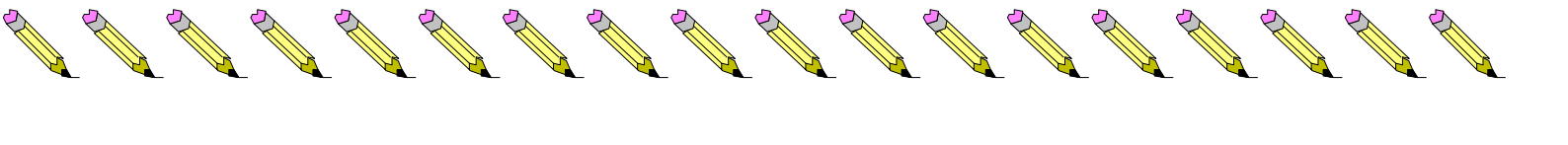
I ragazzi del progetto “Comenius”, hanno incontrato diversi personaggi, che attraverso il resoconto della loro esperienza di vita e di lavoro hanno raccontato il nostro territorio storicamente importante per la nostra comunità (a livello economico, sociale, antropologico, culturale).

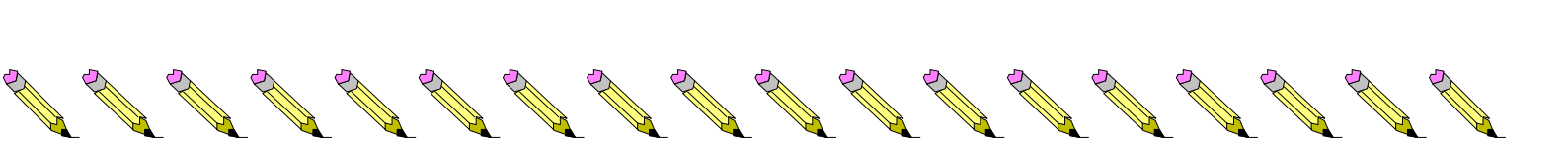
Così i nostri alunni hanno imparato a conoscere il territorio che abitano attraverso storie vissute e sono stati protagonisti delle varie testimonianze raccolte imparando a diventarne i custodi. Si sono evidenziate diverse tipologie di case legate all'estrazione sociale e al tipo di lavoro svolto, sottolineando, così, la stretta relazione socio-economica tra i soggetti in questione .

Riassumendo si può dire che nel nostro territorio insistono quattro tipologie di case:

- *“U PAGLIARO” Era per lo più un rifugio temporaneo o un piccolo ricovero di animali e attrezzi dei contadini che si spostavano nelle campagne per lavorare la terra.*
- *“CASA DU VIDDANU” Era una costruzione di solito in pietra viva formata da un'unica stanza ,più o meno grande ,con un arredo molto povero ed essenziale ,composto solitamente da un forno a legna, un tavolo ,delle sedie ,un letto matrimoniale con materasso in paglia, dove alloggiavano intere famiglie.*
- *“ CASA DU BURGISI” Questa era l'abitazione del piccolo proprietario terriero .Essa era composta, ,di solito, da due o tre piani ;nel pianterreno vi era la stalla con alcuni animali (asino,mulo, pecore etc...); al primo piano vi era la cucina con un arredo povero : il forno a legna ,una vetrinetta dove riporre le varie suppellettili e una cassapanca dove si conservavano tovaglie e lenzuola di “pregio”;nell'ultimo piano si trovava la camera da letto con un armadio e altri piccoli mobili.*
- *“CASA DI BARUNA” (erano case nobiliari dove abitavano i proprietari terrieri (spesso nobili).Esse erano finemente arredate con stucchi,quadri e mobili di gran valore .Esse avevano numerose stanze adibite alle molteplici attività dei proprietari :stanza degli ospiti ,saloni per feste, cucine, magazzini etc..*

Accanto a queste costruzioni ve ne era un'altra che spesso racchiudeva tutte queste tipologie di costruzioni:

- *La “MASSERIA” Le “masserie” consistevano in una grande costruzione di forma quadrata con all'interno un vasto cortile a cielo aperto chiamato “bagghiu”attorno al quale si disponevano gli edifici funzionali alla conduzione dell'azienda (stalle, magazzini, torchi, dormitori, panetteria etc...) e in posizione di preminenza la villa padronale e una cappella .*
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The boys of the "Comenius", have met many old people, who through the account of their experience of life and work have told about our territory historically important for our community.

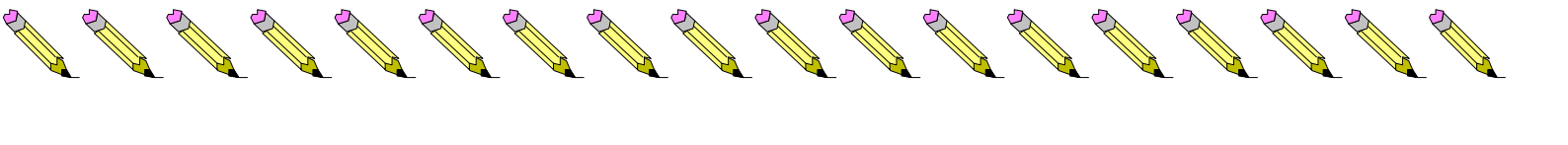
So our students have learned to know the area who live through lived stories and were protagonists of the various testimonies learning to become guardians of the past.

They highlighted different types of houses related to the extraction and social type of work, stressing, so, the close relationship between socio-economic subjects in question.

In summary it can be said that in our area insist four types of houses:

- *"U PAGLIARO" It was mostly a temporary shelter or a small shelter for animals and tools of peasants who moved to the countryside to work the land.*
- *"CASA DU VIDDANU" It was a building made of stone usually consists of a single room, more or less, with a very poor furniture and essential, typically it contains a wood-burning oven, a table, chairs, a bed double mattress with straw, where entire families were staying.*
- *"CASA DU BURGISI" This was the home of the small landowner .It was made, usually two or three floors, the ground floor there was the star with some animals (donkey, mule, sheep etc ...); on the first floor there was the kitchen furniture with a poor: the wood stove, a cabinet to store the various furnishings and a chest where he kept tablecloths and sheets of "merit"; the top floor was the bedroom with a wardrobe and other small furniture.*
- *"HOUSE BARUNA (ancestral homes where they lived were the landowners (often noble) .Esse were finely decorated with stucco, paintings and furniture of great value .Esse had several rooms used to the many activities of the owners: the guest room, saloons for parties, kitchens, warehouses etc ..*

Next to these buildings there was another that often encompassed all these types of buildings:

- *The "FARM" The "farms" consisted of a large building a square within a vast open courtyard called "bagghiu" around which there were buildings functional to the run of 'company (stables, warehouses, presses , dormitories, bakery etc ...) and in leading position in the manor house and a chapel*
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U pagliaru "is a hut from the ground up to a meter. It was built with dry stones and with poles that go obliquely to join up to form a cone shape (skeleton), covered with layers of straw (or rarely all in stone alive). Inside were placed three or four couches and a fireplace in the center which consisted of four stones arranged in a square. Their primary function was to give occasional shelter in case of sudden downpours and also it served as storage for the working tools of farmers or shepherds.



The farmer's house usually consists of a single room in which they added up all the essential functions of dwelling, animal shelter, storage of straw and tools etc ...



*Almost always,
these houses were
without plaster and
built with squared stones extracted
by perrere (caves)*



The house of "burgisi" usually consisted of two or three rooms .In the ground floor a room was used as a "carreteria" or warehouse and the others, on the first floor ,were used as bedrooms and kitchen



Noble houses



Villa Beneitende built around the sec.XIX



Villa Barile built around the sec.XIX



LE "MASSERIE"

The "farms" were large housing usually squared.

Inside there was a large open courtyard called "bagghiu" around which there were buildings functional to run the farmer work (stables, warehouses, presses, dormitories, bakery ...) and in a

leading position there was the main villa and a chapel.

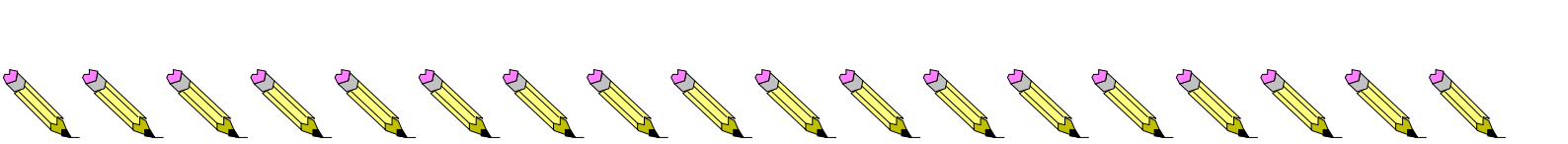


Our interviewsand investigations



1. *Quanti tipi di abitazioni c'erano nel nostro territorio?*
2. *Che differenza c'era tra la casa del contadino e del 'burgisi'?*
3. *A cosa serviva il 'pagliaru'?*
4. *Come erano strutturate le masserie?*
5. *Le masserie erano abitate tutto l'anno?*

1. *Nel nostro territorio esistevano vari tipi di abitazioni. Esse erano: la casa 'du viddranu', 'du burgisi', la masseria e le case padronali.*
2. *La casa del contadino era composta da un unico locale in cui si svolgevano tutte le attività quotidiane. La casa del 'burgisi', invece, era composta da più piani. Di solito, al pianoterra c'erano le stalle, al primo piano c'era la cucina e il tinello e all'ultimo piano c'erano una o due camere da letto.*
3. *Il 'pagliaru' era una costruzione in paglia e fango che veniva utilizzato soprattutto in estate dai contadini come riparo dall'eccessiva calura.*
4. *Le masserie avevano una struttura complessa di forma quadrangolare. Un'ala era adibita come abitazione privata dei nobili del luogo.*



Le parti restanti erano utilizzate dai contadini per lo svolgimento delle varie attività: raccolto del grano, allevamento, magazzini. . .

5. I contadini ci abitavano tutto l'anno, invece i nobili proprietari soltanto durante il periodo estivo.

Interviews

1. How many types of homes were in our territory?

1. In our area there were various types of housing. They were: the house 'du viddranu', 'du burgisi', the ancient farm and the manor houses.

2. What was the difference between the farmer's house and the 'burgisi' house?

2. The farmer's house or 'viddranu' was composed of a single room in which all routine activities were held. The house of 'burgisi', however, it was made up of more grounds. Usually, on the ground floor there were the stables, in the first floor there was the kitchen and the dining room and on the top floor there were one or two bedrooms.

3. What was the 'pagliaru'?

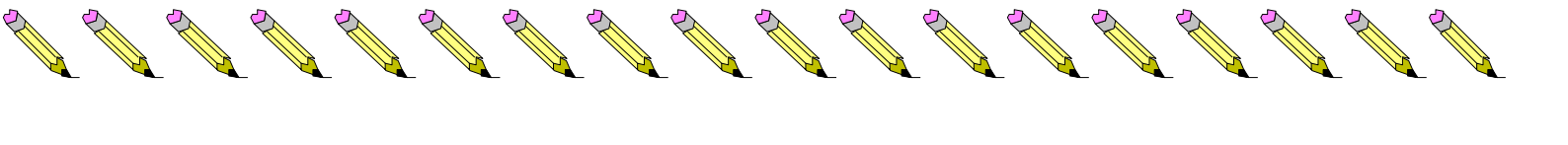
3. The 'pagliaru' was a built in straw and mud that was used mostly in summer by peasants as a shelter from the excessive heat.

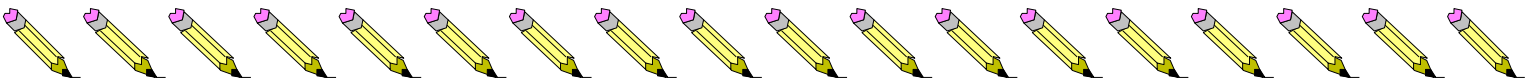
4. How were structured farms?

4. The farms had a complex square shape. A part was used as a private residence of the local nobles. The remaining parts were used by the farmers to carry out various activities: wheat crops, livestock, warehouses . . .

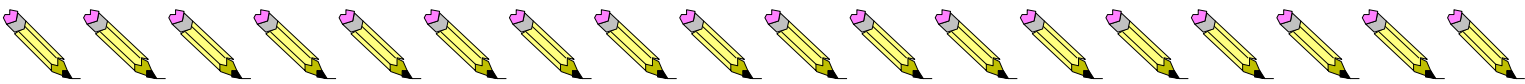
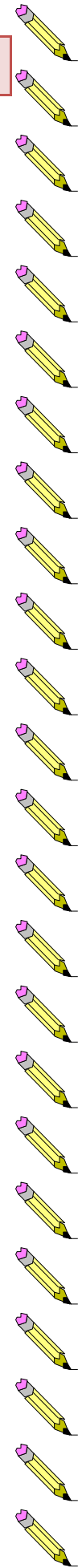
5. Were the farms inhabited all year round?

5. The farmers living there all year, instead of the noble owners only during the summer.



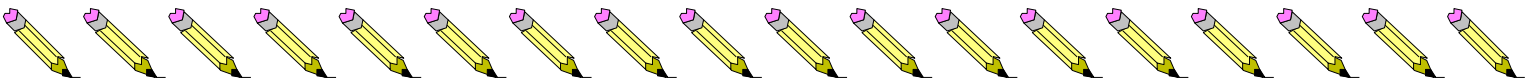


We are exploring... the old quarter.....

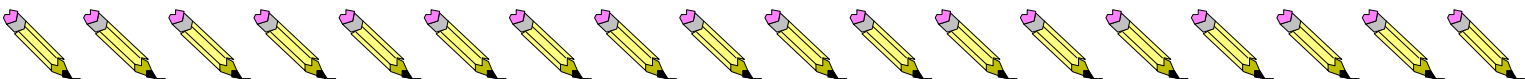
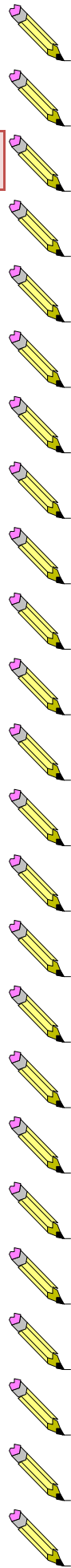




... the old streets ...



.....The house "du Burgisi"



Our "masterpieces"

