

Assunta Lavorgna

## RESOURCES

In trying to reconstruct an earthquake culture from the links between building techniques and available resources it made sense to look at the geographical distribution of the various materials at the time the buildings were erected.

### Stone

The buildings in San Lorenzello contain two types of stone: rubble and quarystone (limestone).

Rubble, found along the banks of the Titerno and usually dressed on one side only, is the commonest material after tuff.

For doorways, lintels, window- and door-sills in dressed stone - that is to say the most characteristic parts of the building - the quarrymen used to fetch stone from the quarries in Pietraroia, far from the historic centre. It is only more recently, or for houses belonging to wealthier families, that local dressed stone began to be used for masonry work too. But in this case it was more often brought in from the towns around Cusano Mutri and Pietraroia.

### Tuff

The grey tuff of Campania is found everywhere in San Lorenzello, at differing depths. Close to the historic centre it forms imposing cliffs which still to this day show traces of earlier workings.

In the area either side of the Titerno torrent, close to the houses, tuff crops out; but it is also found at very shallow depths in the most recent part of the historic centre, so shallow that the cellars of houses are often sunk directly into it.

Naturally, grey tuff is the building material most commonly used in the historic centre.

### Wood

In the historic buildings of San Lorenzello the wooden elements - floors, frames and trusses - were predominantly of chestnut and oak.

The present-day distribution of the different species suggests that the mountainous part was covered with beech, with chestnut trees at the mid-level. The oak trees were very probably at the foot of the mountains or hills in the form of dense forests, thinning out lower down.

## AVAILABLE RESOURCES

