

**Palace of the Mutilates and War Invalides  
- VERONA -**



**The Mutilates and the War Invalides bear, in body and soul, the  
painful signs of war they fought. For the rest of your life.  
(Raul Adami – Invalid of World War II)**

The House of the Mutilate of Verona was built on the design of the Arch. Prof. Francesco Banterle of Verona and with the collaboration of his brother Ruperto, a sculptor. The entire building occupies an area of 500 square meters about. It is located in a very central position, in the vicinity of the Portoni della Bra and is accessed by Via dei Mutilati. The building consists of a basement floor, ground floor, first and second floor. The laying of the first stone, still recognizable today as pinkish in color and with the emblem of the Association carved, is from May 1933. It was donated by the mutilated and disabled of the Great War of St. Ambrose who took it with a solemn ceremony on a chariot via Cavour and via Rome. The stone is visible on the lower left outer corner of the main facade.

The date of the inauguration of the House of Mutilate, which has been given great importance, is 16 September 1934 in the presence of Mr Carlo Delcroix and Undersecretary Lojacono.

To this day it is a testimony and example of rationalist architecture among the most important for interest and state of conservation not only of the city of Verona but of the Veneto Region itself. The House is home to the National Association of Mutilated Invalides of War (A.N.M.I.G.) which was formed in 1917 with ideal, moral and patriotic purposes.

The building, in addition to a structural integrity, offers perfectly maintained interiors. All the furniture, also designed by the architect Francesco Banterle, has been made of root and still retains the original fabrics. In the last period of war the House of mutilato was requisitioned by the American command present in the city, which made it its headquarters, respecting its contents. In the 1950s, the first President of the Verona section of the Association, Prof. Antonio Girelli, invited local artists through the newspaper L'Arena to donate some works to embellish the offices of

the section. Some painters responded to the invitation by placing the paintings on display on the first floor.

The building, about six thousand cubic meters of volume, has the main facade depicting a triumphal arch closed to the bottom by a massive portal regent a grandstand. The portal is framed by a structure compartmentalised by faces with emblems of the mutilated. The same facade, adorned with a marble balcony that topped the large front door, has a central view of the winged Victory sculpture at the top, under the roof. On the sides of the Victory on the penthouse is written the motto "IN SACRIFICIO TRIUMPHANS" and above the main entrance portal the other motto "MUTILAVIT HOSTIS RECREAT PATRIA".

The two statues on the sides of the gate, works by Rupert Banterle, merged in bronze in 1960 but originally carved in to a stone block, represent the sacrifice of the dying soldier for the Fatherland, the brotherhood of the comrade who supports him and the memory of what lived as a warning for the search for peace as the only worthy weapon of confrontation between peoples. You enter the entrance to a large hard stone stairway of St. Ambrose.

On the ground floor the interior is formed by a luxurious large atrium, covered in marble completed by four combat heads performed by the same sculptor Cav. Rupert Banterle. The chandelier resembles bundles of bayonets and flames. A large Hall of Gatherings dedicated to Prof. Antonio Girelli (1894-1970) President of the Verona A.N.M.I.G. Section until 1967. This Salon has a capacity of 170 seats and the chairs are all made of original wood. The space at the bottom opens in a semi-circumference with a final wall sealed by six windows-doors, set by a finely crafted wooden structure: in alabaster the interior, glass outwards. In the



salon, the only one of its kind, the conferences and meetings of the A. N.M.I.G.

From the atrium you reach the staircase by means of an arched opening, supported by two large "blood" marble columns of St. Ambrose of Valpolicella. The staircase, occupying a living area, is entirely covered in bright and harmonious color marble and is complemented by a large handrail supported by chrome columns.

On the first floor are located the Office of the Association and a series of rooms, each dedicated to the mothers of some illustrious mutilated, as remembered by the inscriptions on the portals. Today the rooms, still intact, are home: the archive, the medical clinic, a meeting room of the Council and the Office of the President. In the archive are the shelves where are catalogued the documents of thousands of Verona who, having fought in the two world wars, have suffered permanent disabilities and who, precisely because of these, were followed for obtaining pensions integration into work and support through scholarships for children. In each of the individual records are kept the freshman sheet with the military path, the description of the place and date of disability, the relative consequences, imprisonment and repatriation.

In the past, the Provincial Representative of the National Work for the Protection and Assistance of The War Invalides was based on the second floor. In the basement, however, were the caretaker's home, the orthopedic workshop and other services.

**National Association Mutilates and Invalides of War and Foundation**

**SECTION OF VERONA**

**Via dei Mutilati n. 8 - 37122 Verona**

**tel. 0458002125**