

Village of Leumann Worker

Collegno

The Village Leumann was built around the homonymous cotton mill in late 1800 and early 1900 in the project of Pietro Fenoglio - creator of the most significant works of the style liberty in Turin -. It takes its name from its founder, the Swiss entrepreneur Napoleon Leumann.

The Village was considered to be completely autonomous. Indeed, in addition to the habitations for the workers and employees (mostly two-storey small villas with relative gardens), including the boarding school for young workers, the building of the baths, the hotel, the infirmary, the post office, the small train station, the kindergarten, the primary school, the church, the circle for the employees and the food market. Built in an area of open country which offered preferential conditions for the installation of a factory (cost of land relatively low, the presence of water and railway), was in the original place of the Borgata Leumann, fraction of the Collegno.

In the cotton mill there were the works of weaving, dyeing and finishing. The factory has continued its activities from 1875 to 1972, when was closed, following a severe crisis in the textile sector (although the activity is greatly reduced, the cotton mill has continued its activity until 2007). The City of Collegno bought the Village, by implementing a significant action to save the site.

The Village of Leumann Worker is today an important document with the urban, historic and architectural characteristics, and it continues to live. The houses are inhabited and service facilities have a public function. The boarding school hosts the Civic Library, the hotel hosts two associations, the small train station is the centre of a CTS and offers a tourist information service, the building of baths hosts a Senior Centre. The post office, school and the church keep the original functions.

The Ecomuseum covers the entire area of the Village of Leumann.

So far there were restored many buildings (Small Train Station, Cotton Mill, Hotel, Post Office ...). Recently, also the restructuring of the school has been completed. It continues to host the primary school and it has also become the centre of interpretation of the Eco-museum and the place for the reception of visitors. Simultaneously was launched a comprehensive program of activities to fully valorize this heritage.

