

FRAGMENTS OF THE TEMPLE'S DECORATION

Plasio Street

The two fragments of a statue in *terracotta* which are now put one next to the other in the museum's setting, were found in 1970. They were re-used as construction material in a wall dating back to the Middle Ages which is kept in one of the cellars of the primary school Capra Plasio, the same in which were found some mosaic floors of a Roman *domus*.

This is what is left of a gable's decoration of a temple built in the 2nd century b.C., at the very beginning of the town's life. It is not possible to identify the precise identity of the male figure who has a young face and the left shoulder covered by a mantle. We only know he was a God, probably Apollo, or a hero. We do not know which was the scene, and which were the other characters. We do not even have the necessary elements to identify the location of the temple, because the remains were found in a re-used context. However, these remains are fundamental for the Cremonese archaeology. The statue is extremely refined and this datum confirms the high cultural and economical level of Cremona, first colony founded by the Romans in the Northern areas of the river Po and deeply influenced by the central-Italic culture.

On the other side, the analysis of the clay used demonstrates that it is probably a local raw material; the discovery in Marconi Square's excavations of some molds' fragments for the architectonic elements in *terracotta*, let us think that in Cremona used to exist the production of this kind of decorations.

REMAINS OF A STATUE IN CLAY

GABLE