



**IX international Symposium on Vulcanospeleology**

**“INSIDE VOLCANOES”**

CATANIA, SEPTEMBER 11 - 19, 1999

**Cultural Center “Le Ciminiere”**

**SESSION : HISTORY, ARCHEOLOGY, ARTIFICIAL CAVES**

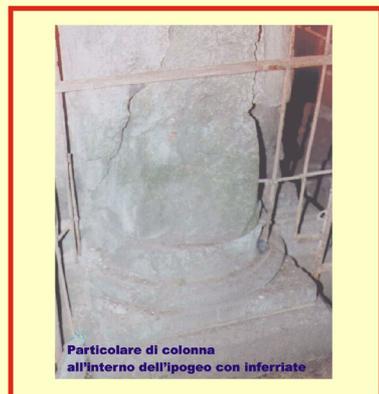
**“Mompileri”** M. Etna, Italy



Regione Siciliana - Assessorato al Territorio e Ambiente  
NICOLOSI - Carta Tecnica 1:10.000  
Sezione n° 625, Quadro 130 Edizione 1988



Visione del “Santuario di Mompileri”. Sulla sinistra si accede all'ipogeo.



Particolare di colonna all'interno dell'ipogeo con inferriate

**ABOUT THE ANCIENT MAIN CHURCH OF MOMPILERI**

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**ABSTRACT**

Aim of the present paper is to get a better historical knowledge about the Church of “Annunziata” in Mascalluca.

According to researches and our studies “in situ”, this work try an historical description of the church with a hypothesis of three-dimensional graphic reconstruction of the building and a cartographic localization of the main artificial hollow strictly connected to the church.

The site is the main church of Mompileri, dedicated to “Maria SS. Annunziata”, that has very ancient origins: there are historical news about it since the half of the XV century. Its history is tightly linked to the eruptions of the vulcano Etna: the sacred building has been licked up by the lava casting of 1537 and subsequently covered with the country of Mompileri from the eruption of 1669.

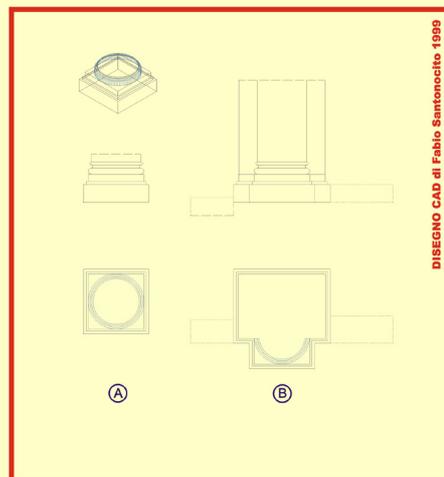
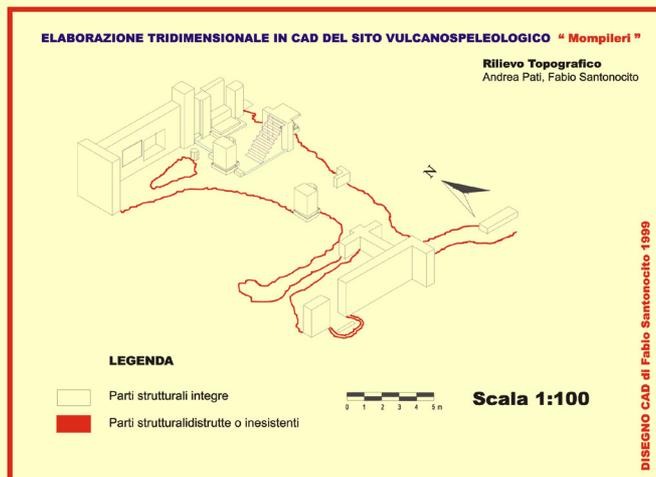
Since the beginnings of XVIII century, were builded artificial galleries (Eremita's Cave) in order to reach the rests of the ancient church and subsequently the famous simulacros.

Worthy of mention is the recovery of the cult statue dedicated to the “Madonna delle Grazie” that was discovered, in good condition, under a deep lava layer.

Words key: urban speleology, church, undergrounds, lava eruptions, Mompileri.



**PARTICOLARI DI COLONNE (A) E PILASTRI (B) DI ROCCIA LAVICA ALL'INTERNO DEL SITO VULCANOSPELEOLOGICO “Mompileri”**



[ Il Presente Lavoro è stato realizzato a totale carico degli autori ]

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Grafica & Impaginazione : Fabio Santonocito 1999  
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