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Damage scenario of the earthquake on 23 July 1930 in Melfi: the contribution of technical documentation

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Abstract

As regards the 1930 Irpinia earthquake a detailed research both on the institutional response to the seismic event in Vulture area and reconstruction of the damage scenario for the town of Melfi has been performed. This study was carried out by an analysis of coeval dossiers drawn up by the Special Office of Civil Engineers, which was set up after the earthquake. The research brought to light the typologies and the modalities of the institutional actions taken during the post-seismic period. In general, these territorial interventions had a notable effect on urban systems, especially those involving both the partial shifting of urban areas and the construction of earthquake-proof buildings. The research also identified the damage pattern in Melfi by a deeper study on about 2400 archive files. A preliminary analysis of the damage pattern indicates probable seismic amplification phenomena due to the lithological and geomorphological features of the site. Moreover, the analysis of time-dependent activities of reconstruction has shown that almost all the buildings of the town (90%) were repaired or reconstructed within five years after the seismic disaster.

Keywords

historical seismology; damage scenario; 1930 Irpinia earthquake; seismic amplification

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References

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
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