



**TRANSNATIONAL MEETING ON INTANGIBLE CULTURAL HERITAGE**

# **PARMA'S INVENTORY**

City Hall of Tours, February 3<sup>rd</sup> 2020



PARMA MUNICIPALITY

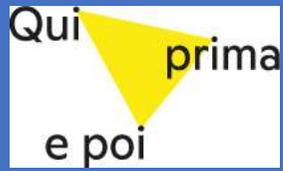


## TOTAL NUMBER OF ENTRIES

on January 24<sup>th</sup> 2020



178



## WHO ARE OUR CONTRIBUTORS?

They are just 37! = 5 entries per person  
(average)

Contributors' age	
under 16	
16-21	
22-30	
31-59	
60 or more	



## POSITIVE aspects

- Large participation
- Most contributors have understood the scope of the project
- More than 98% of the entries include a personal description of the item
- Participants added more than one item to the inventory
- Positive feedback from contributors



## CRITICAL aspects

- **Localisation/positioning** of items on the map not always straightforward
- **Item n. 1** of the questionnaire («dai un nome alla tua proposta» in Italian) can be misleading > E.g. «Saving ancient cemeteries» or «Beduzzo's hospitale. [The remains of Beduzzo's ancient *hospitale*] are located on a private property now and no actions have been put into place to preserve them or promote this place culturally or touristically. For all the reasons state above [long description of the history of the building and its original structure], the *hospitale* deserves grater attention and protection. I am entering the *hospitale* in the inventory so that [people, local administration, ?] might become aware of it, before it is too late»



Dealing with:

- complainers
- cataloguing enthusiasts
- encyclopaedism



Categories	n. of entries	Categories	n. of entries
People	19	Building	31
Nature/landscape	14	Celebration/festival	11
Toy	3	Work/labour	24
Trade/commerce	7	Religion	25
Game	10	Music/dance etc.	4
Food	19	Symbol	8
Tale	30	Place	37
Popular belief	12	Other	11
Word	14	Non-categorized	-
Work of art	6		



Tangible vs intangible heritage	
Tangible	56
Intangible	79
Combined	43

Geographical distribution of the entries	
Lowlands	20
City of Parma and neighbouring areas	20
Highlands	31
Apennines	96
Non-localised	8
Wrong localisation/positioning	3



## EXAMPLES

### **To chase away a storm and save the crops**

When people saw the sky getting dark and feared that a storm might be approaching, they used to place little crosses made of blessed olive branches in the vineyards, while old people would then go and burn them. This ritual was accompanied by the pronunciation of a formula which included the motto «*ca sandisa a sfrogher in tla Perma*» [let's hope the storm goes and hits Parma].

### **The Great River**

The Great River [river Po] and its floods have always been important for Parma's lowlands, not only for the people living here, but also for those who had to leave this place. For example, soldiers writing home from the front sought and received news which had to do with the river, from floods to updates concerning carp-fishing in its waters.



# EXAMPLES

## **Villula's cemetery**

This is one of the few remaining examples of the time when graveyards used to be located just next to parish churches. In Villula, on the side of the church there was a small door (called Heaven's Door) leading directly to the cemetery. It is very small [...] but it doesn't look sad nor abandoned. I think this place represents a small mountain community wishing to preserve the memory of its members who had passed away [...]. All the deceased were gathered within the cemetery's enclosure, in the shade of the church, as witnesses of the identity of the whole village, its culture and traditions.