The Old Villages of Sappada

Compiled by:

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Itinerary through the villages

Lerpa
Granvilla – Dorf
Palù
Pill
Bach
Muhlbach
Cottern
Hoffè
Fontana
Kratten
Soravia
Ecche
Puiche
Cretta
Cima Sappada
Lerpa [Lerpa]

The village of Lerpa gets its name from the river named *Lerch Poch*, which means Larches' Stream, the name of the torrent that passes through it coming down from the southern slopes of Mount Ferro. It is the most recent of the Sappada villages.

Development began there in the 1920s at the western end of the village, where the chapel of Saint John the Baptist has stood since 1815. (In 1954, this chapel was rededicated to St. Mary Help of Christians.) In 1983 the village experienced further growth with the construction of a residential tourist complex known as "Borgo al Sole".

Because the village's development has been a recent phenomenon, noteworthy architectural features are rather scarce and there is almost no traditional residential architecture. The only exception is the 19th century Peratoner House in the locality of Plotta. Formerly known as the Plotta-Pèater House, it once belonged to the Granvilla Village, to which it was directly connected by a trail. All the village's stable-barns are from the 20th century and, architecturally, are of second and third generation. There are, however, several devotional landmarks, specifically three small chapels and three crucifixes.

On the side (Ob(e)rLerpa) overlooking the lesser chapel of Lerpa (Klàne Lerpamaindl), there are also noteworthy archaic stone circles, which could date back to the age of the first known settlements or be the vestiges of even earlier, yet unknown, settlers. The meaning of these circles has yet to be determined. Farther west, deep in the woods, one can also find about ten pits enclosed by dry stone walls; believed to be remnants of lime ovens, their ultimate meaning also remains obscure due to their unusual position.
Urban and architectural items

1 - Lerpamaindl [Chapel of St. Mary Help of Christians] 1815

2 - Klàne Lerpamaindl [Small Chapel of the Crucifix] II m. XIX s.

3 - Faidlanstècklmaindl [Small Chapel of Our Lady of the Rosary] II m. XIX s.

4 - Plotta-Pèater (Peratoner) Haus II q. XIX s.

5 - s'Èpplan - Róunar Tòria Stol 1920/30

6 - Sèffn Pui Stol 1920/30

7 - s'Giùstos Stol 1920/30

8 - s'Pèaterlan Stèllile 1920/30
9 - s'Anzilan Tonin Stol 1930/50
10 - s'Nètlan Stol 1930/50
11 - Plotta Tòn(d)l Stol 1930/50
12 - s'Bènzlan Pui Stol 1930/50
13 - s'Klèmmentn Stol [restored and transformed] 1930/50
14 - s'Ghildn Stèllile 1930/50
15 - Ròunar Stol 1950/70
16 - Masonry house 1920/30
17 – Crucifix 2000 (in. XIX s.)
18 – Crucifix 1950/60
19 – Crucifix 1960/70
20 – Fountain 1936
21 – Fountain 1925
22 – Fountain 1920 ca.
23 - Stone Circles?
Lerpa [Lerpa]

Photograph of the village of Lerpa in the 1930s.
Plotta Pèater Haus, around 1930
(Photograph by Ubaldo Piller, courtesy of the Piller family)

Winter view of Plotta, with Plotta Pèater Haus, around 1935
(Photograph by Ubaldo Piller, courtesy of the Piller family)
The houses of Lerpa in the 1940s.
(Photograph by Ubaldo Piller, courtesy of the Piller family)
View of the village of Lerpa in the 1950s.
(Peratoner archive- Venice [gift of Olga Riva Piller])
Granvillä [Dorf]

The Granvilla village gets its name from its large size; it represents the old religious and civic center of Sappada and even today is one of its largest and most heavily populated communities. The most prominent ancient residential building of Sappada is here, specifically, the Solero Ortar masonry house (1642). Here, we also find the parish church of St. Margaret. Ancient documents trace the presence of a church on this location (some distance from the residential area to the East) to 1327; the church that we see today, however, is the result of a reconstruction carried out between 1777 and 1779.

At the close of the 19th century, the eastern end of the village saw the erection of the Albergo Alle Alpi, the second tourist facility of Sappada, which followed shortly that of the Stella d'Oro Hotel in the Hoffe village.

The night of October 9, 1928, most of the village was devastated by a fire that burned 35 houses to the ground and left 41 families homeless. The only two noteworthy traditional buildings that survived are the peculiar Fauner Tèjar house and the more classic Kòchlar house, slightly uphill.

Reconstruction took place quickly, reestablishing the houses of the village and replacing the lost traditional buildings with others that reflected the architectural and aesthetic tastes of the ’30s and ’40s. The renovation also affected the main street, whose path was straightened and leveled. Part of the old, curvy road (visible in some old pictures), that used to climb up among the houses of the village, still survives further uphill.
Urban and architectural items

1. Gruössekirche [St. Margaret Parish Church] 1777-1779
2. Vràithof [Cemetery] XIX s.
3. Iersponmaindl [Small Chapel of Our Lady of the Rosary] in. XX s.
5. Small Chapel of the Blood Donors 1978
6. Casa Solero Ortar 1642
7. Solero Ortar Stol [restored and transformed] II m. XVII s.
8. Tèjlar Haus / Stol 1766
9. Kòchlar Haus II m. XVIII s.
10. Bidn Stèllile fine XIX s.
11. s'Ènders Stol I q. XX sec.
12. s'Lùtn Stol I q. XX sec.
13. s'Stinis Stol I q. XX sec.
14. s'Vèslars Stol II q. XX sec.
15. s'Zipperle Stol II q. XX sec.
16. s'Tìlios Stol II q. XX sec.
17. Schmàuzan Stol II q. XX sec.
18. Kònnois Stol II q. XX sec.
19. s'Pèckn - s'Gìgis Stol II q. XX sec.
20. Sàndrig'n Stol II q. XX sec.
21. Siesn Mottlan Haus / Stol II q. XX sec.
22. s'Filos Haus / Stol II q. XX sec.
23. s'Óudar Stol [restored and transformed] II q. XX sec.
24 - Gate of the wall surrounding Villa Solero I m. XIX sec.

25 - Albergo San Marco [formerly Albergo Kratter alle Alpi] 1873

26 - War Memorial 1922

27 – Crucifix fine XIX sec.

28 – Fountain II q. XX sec.

29 – Fountain m. XX sec. (ric. 1982)
Detail of the 1821 cadastral map (archive of Luigi Piller Cottrer - Sappada).
One can see the path of the old road which, today, only the curve above the state road exists.
Advertisement poster for the "Grand Hotels Kratter", among which was the Kratter Hotel of Granvilia (1890s - courtesy of Paolo Kratter - Sappada)
Southern view of Granvilla (Postcard, 1920s)
(Archive of Antonio Genova - Pieve di Cadore)

Detail of the previous postcard in which one can see the traditional village houses before the fire that destroyed them
(Archive of Antonio Genova - Pieve di Cadore)
Detail of the old road, between the original houses of Granvilla, later destroyed by the 1928 fire (1900-1920 - Archive of the Ethnographic Museum - Sappada)

Detail of the village, with the original houses destroyed by the 1928 fire (1900-1920 - original Sartor Schlossar Family - Sappada)
View of Granvilla, from the village of Pill
(1900-1920 - archive of Luigi Piller Cottrer - Sappada)
Postcard showing the road near St. Margaret parish church
(1900-1920 - archive of Benito Pagnussat - Tai di Cadore)
Southern view of Granvilla
(about 1920 - Luigi Piller Cottrer - Sappada)

St. Margaret parish church skirted by the road towards the Palù village
(about 1920 - Archive of the Ethnographic Museum - Sappada)
Pastoral visit by the Archbishop of Udine, 1923
(Arnaldo Kratter Thaler - Sappada)
View of the village of Granvilla, oil painting by Marcelliano Canciani, 1925 (courtesy of Rina Quinz - Sappada)

View of the village of Granvilla after the fire of October 9, 1928 (photo from the "Il Gazzettino" newspaper)
Un incendio distrugge un intera borghata

Granvilla di Sappada divorata dalle fiamme
Trentacinque case distrutte - 41 famiglie senza tetto

Sappada, il paese che segna con la sua silenziosa imitazione della nostra Patria, lussureggiante sotto la sorgente del Piave, è stato teatro d'un'orrore segreto, la Granvilla, in una palude fangosa, stagnante per il fiume che qui prende il nome di Piave. Insieme alla roccia, è stato interamente distrutto.

Trentacinque case sono state distrutte, 41 famiglie sono state evacuate, una valanga di macerie umane ha preso il posto delle caratteristiche case alpine, messe in muratura e erette in legno.

IL LUOGO DEL DISASTRO

Sappada, alle 4,30, mentre il sole illuminava le case, una fiammata di notevole altezza si levò sopra le case della Granvilla. La fiamma, iniziata all'inizio della strada, si propagò velocemente verso l'interno della città, distruggendo le case di legno e facendo fuoriuscire fumo dalle finestre delle case vicine.

Il fuoco, che si era propagato in tutta la città, si era poi diffuso anche verso le case della Granvilla, causando gravi danni alle case e ai loro abitanti.

L'ARRIVO DELLE AUTORITÀ PROVINCIALI

Dopo il disastro, le autorità locali si sono immediatamente impegnate nella riparazione delle zone colpite. La situazione è stata controllata da tre poliziotti, mentre le autorità locali si sono impegnate nella riparazione delle area colpita.

TUTTE LE CASE HANNO SOSTENUTO GRAVI DANNI

Inoltre, le autorità locali hanno deciso di sospendere le attività lavorative nella città, per la riparazione delle zone colpite.

LA LUNGA OPE RA DI SUGGERRONE

Il disastro ha causato gravi danni alle case e alle loro abitanti. Le autorità locali hanno deciso di sospendere le attività lavorative nella città, per la riparazione delle zone colpite.

UN IMMEDEO BRASIERE

L'incendio si allargava: tre, quattro, cinque case erano in preda alle fiamme e il fumo, che si era propagato in tutta la città, era visibile anche a diverse chilometri di distanza.

CHIUSI TELONI TELEFONICI

Inoltre, le autorità locali hanno deciso di sospendere le attività lavorative nella città, per la riparazione delle zone colpite.

L'ASSISTENZA AI COLPITI

Inoltre, le autorità locali hanno deciso di sospendere le attività lavorative nella città, per la riparazione delle zone colpite.
Reconstruction of the village in masonry, after the fire  
(1929 - Luigi Piller Cottrer - Sappada)

The old Granviglia fountain, originally located near the Tejlar house and demolished in the '50s  
(1946 - Adelia Piller Cottrer - Sappada)
Panoramic view of the western villages of Sappada. One can still make out the clear separation of Pill and Bach from Granvilla (and Palù), in the foreground (about 1950 - archive of Giorgio Piller Puicher - Sappada)

A religious procession in the village of Granvilla (about 1950 - Luigi Piller Cottrer - Sappada)
Some of the Granvilla houses after the extraordinary snowstorm of February 1951
(Arnaldo Kratter Thaler - Sappada)

Eastern view of Granvilla
(in the ’50s - Archive of the Peratoner Family - Venezia)
Winter view of Granvilla from the Rio Storto basin
(in the '50s - Archive of the Peratoner Family - Venezia)
Palù [Moss]

The Palù village gets its current Ladin name from the marshy land that used to cover the surrounding area; it lies on the valley side just east of the parish church. It is home to only one or two of the traditional Sappada residential buildings and to a number of rustic houses in the second and third generation of local architectural style.

In the old days, people attributed the small size of the village to a massive landslide that, in an unspecified epoch, supposedly fell from Mt. Morpa destroying most of its buildings.

Before the construction of the new, straight street in 1922, and its extension all the way to the Mühlbach valley, the road leading to the village had a sharp turn and a steep incline. It went from 1,216 meters at the bottom of the curve to 1,240 near Pill. Given this change in altitude and the related need for a rest-stop for travelers, the old carriage stop was replaced by the Posta hotel at the end of the 19th century.
Urban and architectural items

1 - s'Tìklan - s'Pumpus Haus m. XVIII sec.
2 - s'Fàidlan Haus in. XIX sec.
3 - Casa s'Móusars m. XIX sec.
4 - Bidn Stèllile II (Tacus) fine XIX sec.
5 - Stabile "Post'Ettore" fine XIX sec.
6 - Albergo Posta [restored and transformed] fine XIX sec.
7 - s'Làitnars Stol I q. XX sec.
8 - Casa Tacus 1908
9 - Cottrar Schnaidars Stol II q. XX sec.
10 - s'Lèxn Stol I II q. XX sec.
11 - Casa Schlóssar II q. XX sec.
12 - s'Lèxn Stol II m. XX sec.
13 - s'Làitnars Haus [+ 1960] I m. XVIII sec.
14 - Plaque in Memory of Pope John XXIII 1960 c.
15 – Fountain III q. XX sec.
Palù [Moss]

Detail of the 1821 cadastral map showing s'Lätnars Haus next to the curve of the road. The house was demolished in 1960.
(archive of Luigi Piller Cottrer - Sappada).

Palù in an early 1900s postcard
(Peratoner Archive - Venice)
The Posta Hotel - between 1900 & 1920
(Archive of the Ethnographic Museum - Sappada)

Detail of the previous photo, the Posta Hotel
The village of Palù in a 1910-1920 postcard, The Tacus house carries the inscription "Coop branch"
(Archive of Antonio Genova - Pieve di Cadore)
Panoramic view of Palù at the end of the 1920s, Picture taken from the bell tower of the Parish Church during a religious procession
(Archive of Giorgio Piller Puicher - Sappada)

Panoramic view of the Palù village at the end of the 1920s,
(Peratoner Archive - Venice)
The Piller paper and sporting goods store, at the end of the 1920s (Peratoner Archive - Venice)

Palù in a photo taken by Ubaldo Piller in 1944 (Archive of the Ethnographic Museum - Sappada)
Palù during the exceptional snowstorm of February 1951
(source: Arnaldo Kratter Thaler, by the good offices of Luigi Piller Cottrer)

Palù after the exceptional snowstorm of February 1951
(source: Arnaldo Kratter Thaler, by the good offices of Luigi Piller Cottrer)
Palù after the exceptional snowstorm of February 1951.  
S'Làtnars Haus, demolished in 1960, is visible in the background.  
(source: Arnaldo Kratter Thaler, by the good offices of Luigi Piller Cottrer)

Palù after the exceptional snowstorm of February 1951  
(source: Arnaldo Kratter Thaler, by the good offices of Luigi Piller Cottrer)
Winter panoramic view of Palù in the 1950s (archive of Giorgio Piller Puicher - Sappada)
Pill [Pi(il)l]

The village of Pill gets its name from the land relief on which it is located, that is: a protruding knoll (Pill) overlooking the western villages of the valley. The village consists of a small cluster of houses situated slightly uphill from the path of the old road, at altitudes between 1240 and 1263 meters.

Left virtually untouched by 20th century urban development, the village still preserves its identity as a community separate from the neighboring Palù and Bach villages. It also presents an interesting concentration of 18th and 19th century traditional buildings, some of which are particularly important from the standpoint of architectural development. Such is the case of the lateral expansions of the s'Mèstros house or that of the Schmàuzan - s'Poch and s'Trèas - s'Lièndlan houses.

Two wooden crucifixes stand near one another on the edge of the old road, while the village has no chapel. The old fountain, once situated at the edge of the road that climbs between the houses of the higher part of the village, was demolished in the '60s.
Urban and architectural items

1 - s'Schmàuzan - s'Pòch Haus I m. XVIII sec.
2 - s'Trèas - s'Lièndlan Haus I m. XVIII sec.
3 - s'Lùzios Haus II m. XVIII sec.
4 - s'Mèstros Haus ult. q. XVIII sec.
5 - s'Zènzilan Haus fine XVIII sec.
6 - s'Boltràns Haus I q. XIX sec.
7 - s'Boltràns - s'Schmàuzan Stol I q. XIX sec.
8 - s'Massìas Stol II q. XIX sec.
9 - s'Lièndlan Stol III q. XX sec.
10 - s'Lièndlan Stol [+1960] I m. XVIII sec.
11 – Crucifix fine XIX sec.
12 – Crucifix in. XX sec.
Pill [Pi(il)l]

Detail of the 1821 cadastral map (archive of Luigi Piller Cottrer - Sappada).
Panoramic view of the village of Pill at the end of the 1920s.
(Archive of Giorgio Piller Puicher - Sappada)

Winter view of Pill at the end of the 1920s.
(Postcard - archive of Antonio Genova - Pieve di Cadore)
Detail of the previous postcard

Houses in the village of Pill in the 1930s.
In the center, one can recognize the s'Meštros house next to a stable/hay-loft subsequently demolished.
(source: Arnaldo Kratter Thaler, by the good offices of Luigi Piller Cotrre - Sappada)
Houses in the village of Pill in the 1930s with th s’Ióclan Haus / stol in the foreground, demolished around 1945 (Photograph by Ubaldo Piller, courtesy of the Piller family)

View of Pill in the fourth decade of the 1900s (Photograph by Ubaldo Piller, courtesy of the Piller family)
A crucifix along Pill's road in the direction of Palù in the 1940s.

View of Pill, oil painting by Marcelliano Canciani, 1945
(courtesy of Rina Quinz - Sappada)
s'Lièndlan štol, demolished in 1960.  
The picture, taken in the 1950s, bears witness to the ancient technique of using horizontal beams instead of masonry to build the basement.  
(courtesy of Maria Piller s'Lièndlan - Sappada)
View of the villages of Pill and Bach in the 1950s. The picture shows the contrast of color between the old houses of Pill and the white masonry buildings of Bach, also known as the "new village" (Peratoner archive- Venice [gift of Olga Riva Piller])

1950s postcard showing a view of Palù and Granvilla from the road through Pill. The crucifix alongside the road is also visible. (Peratoner archive- Venice [gift of Olga Riva Piller])
Winter view of the houses of the Palù and Pill villages.
(Peratoner archive- Venice [gift of Olga Riva Piller])
Bach [Poch]

The Bach Village gets its name from a nearby stream that, descending from the rocky cliffs of 'Olbe', separates the eastern and western villages. It is the largest village of Sappada but architecturally neither its buildings nor its town layout are particularly noteworthy. Most of the old buildings, in fact, were destroyed on the 13th of September 1908 by a massive fire that broke out in a barn and quickly spread to the rest of the village.

Following this event, the village was reconstructed according to a rigidly geometric plan. The new buildings were aligned along three major parallel rows complemented, uphill, by two more rows of rustic buildings which, overtime, also turned into residential homes. In 1922, when the new road was built, its path crossed the village between the second and the third row depriving some houses of their small lawns. All these changes, unfortunately, made the prospect of having a sizeable, usable space in what would eventually become Sappada's town center, virtually impossible. In reality, the post-reconstruction growth, Bach's relatively central position in the valley, and the extent of flat land around the village all played major roles in the community's extraordinary expansion. Most of the development took place South and West of the original center and was so far-reaching that the Bach village almost merged with the neighboring Palù. Finally, in 1953, the relocation of the Sappada town hall to the Bach Village conclusively confirmed the role of this community as the urban and civil center of Sappada.

The fire spared the chapel of S. Anthony of Padua, also known as Schantantonimaindl or Pocharmaindl. You can still see this chapel today along the path of the old road. Built in 1726, it is the oldest religious building of Sappada. Above and below the residential area there are also several small chapels; four of them are prayer sites and ex-voto resulting from popular devotion while the 1824 Gethsemani chapel, standing at the western end of the village, is ideally linked to the nearby Stations of the Cross path, whose chapels are spread uphill along the opposite slope of Mühlbach.

The only traditional buildings that survive are the residential Nicklar house and the rural stable/hay-loft bearing the same name. Both are situated at the northern edge of the village and escaped the fire due to their isolated position, some distance from the village center.
Urban and architectural items

1 - Schantantonimaindl [Chapel of St. Anthony of Padua] 1726

2 - Mèlgòrte [Mount of Olives (Gethsemani) and Ist Station of the Way of the Cross] 1824

3 - Nicklarmaindl [Holy Mary of Good Health] I m. XIX sec.

4 - s'Férismaindl [St. Anthony] I m. XIX sec.

5 - Róunarmaindl [Sacred Heart of Mary] 1825

6 - Lúzianmaindl [St. Lucy] I q. XX sec.

7 - Nicklar Haus I m. XVIII s.
8 - Nicklar Stol I q. XIX sec.

9 - Prückn Zeffn Haus fine XIX sec.

10 - Stòckn Stol I q. XX sec. (1908-)

11 - s'Carlétтов Stol I q. XX sec. (1908-)

12 - s'Nètlan Stol I q. XX sec. (1908-)

13 - s'Kórlan Puis Stol I q. XX sec. (1908-)

14 - s'Lódnars Stol I q. XX sec. (1908-)

15 - s'Klàn Pùtts Ningl Stol I q. XX sec. (1908-)

16 - s'Frànzlan Stol I q. XX sec. (1908-)

17 - Gòlar Beppi Stol I q. XX sec. (1908-)

18 - Róunar Schúistars Nin(gh)ile Stol I q. XX sec. (1908-)

19 - s'Véslars Mariàndl Stol II q. XX sec.

20 - Schmàuzan Ienus - Áin(gh)ile Stol II q. XX sec.

21 - s'Scè(g)nars Zèntl Stol [restored and transformed] I q. XX sec. (1908-)

22 - s'Kórlan Puile - s'Schnàcklars Stol [restored and transformed] I q. XX sec. (1908-)

23 - s'Bestlan Stol [restored and transformed] I q. XX sec. (1908-)

24 - s'Gróassn Pùttos Stol [restored and transformed] I q. XX sec. (1908-)

25 - s'Fróusj'n Stol [restored and transformed] I q. XX sec. (1908-)

26 - Róunar Schúistars Gino Stol [restored and transformed] I q. XX sec. (1908-)

27 - s'Annas Stol [restored and transformed] I q. XX sec. (1908-)

28 - s'Ènders Stol [restored and transformed] I q. XX sec. (1908-)

29 - s'Ciùschn Stol [restored and transformed] I q. XX sec. (1908-)

30 - s'Ènders Pièter Stol [restored and transformed] I q. XX sec. (1908-)

31 - Nicklar Piero Stol [restored and transformed] I q. XX sec. (1908-)

32 - s'Féris Stol [restored and transformed] II q. XX sec.

33 - s'Kindlan Stol [rebuilt] in. XX sec.

34 - Casa s'Lùzios fine XIX sec.

35 - Building of the first Ethnographic Museum [formerly School Building] fine XIX sec.

36 - City Hall 1927

37 – Crucifix 1890

38 – Crucifix 1988

39 – Fountain 1987
Bach [Poch]

Detail of the 1821 cadastral map (archive of Luigi Piller Cottrer - Sappada).
Detail of an old house in the village of Bach, destroyed in the fire of 1908 (photograph published by A. Baragiola, La casa villereccia delle colonie tedesche del gruppo carnico -Sappada, Sauris e Timau, Padova, F.lli Drucker ed. - Chiasso, Tip. Tettamanti, 1915 (La casa villereccia di Sappada: pp. 5-19))

View of Bach after the fire of September 13, 1908 (Archive of the Ethnographic Museum - Sappada)
Casa s'Lùzios near the Mühlbach bridge (about 1910-1920) (Archive of Luigi Piller Cottrer - Sappada)

Construction of the new road through the houses Bach (1922) (Archive of the Ethnographic Museum - Sappada)
The new road through the houses of Bach around 1925 (Archive of Antonio Genova - Pieve di Cadore)

The Belvedere Hotel (later renamed Roma), built in 1927. Today it is Sappada's Town Hall
The Roma Hotel in 1935 (Photograph by Ubaldo Piller, courtesy of the Piller family)

Panoramic view of Sappada around 1935.
The picture clearly shows how the new buildings in Bach are lined up regularly, yet still clearly separated from the houses of Palù and Pill (Peratoner Archive - Venice)
The Hotel Sole near the Muhlbach turn (Archive of the Ethnographic Museum - Sappada)

View of Bach und Mühlbach Villages (Photograph by Ubaldo Piller, courtesy of the Piller family)
Panoramic view of Bach in a postcard of the 1950s (Archive of Antonio Genova - Pieve di Cadore)

Three stables lined up in Bach; two of them have been renovated (drawing by Olga Riva Piller, 1991 - courtesy of the artist)
Mühlbach [Milpa]
The village of Mühlbach gets its name from the nearby mountain stream bearing the same name. The name (literally, river of the flour mill) refers to a now inoperative water mill which can still be seen near the narrowing of the stream's basin, directly downstream from the waterfalls.

The historical center of the village lies between the edge of the slope that hangs over the Mühlbach stream basin to the West, and the northern side of the Piave valley. On account of its position, some local authors (G. Fontana, 1966; A. Laguna, 1983) list Mühlbach as "the village with the best scenic view of the valley." The successive development of the village took place, in the ’30s and ’50s, immediately downhill, along a road that connects with the new street.

Particularly interesting is the area around the sharp curve of the old road, at the top of the ascending ramp of the Mühlbach slope. Here, next to the fountain, are a crucifix and a chapel dedicated to the Sacred Heart of Jesus (HerzJésusmaindl). Nearby there are also some rural buildings, one of which has the characteristic ramp-bridge (prücke) to access the barn.

The large school building (1907) was also used as the town hall until 1953, when the latter was relocated to the village of Bach. The eastern end of the village is home to a few notable, traditional wooden homes, such as the s'Paurn house and the Milpasènders house. The Mühlbach village also features the Calvary (Kolvàri) complex, erected as an offering by the Sappada resident Pietro Kratter Pieterlan in 1824. It consists of 14 small chapels representing the Stations of the Cross whose path, beginning at the edge of Bach, ascends along the eastern slope of the stream basin to end at the small Calvary church next to which stand the three crosses of the Golgotha.
Urban and architectural items

1 - Kolvàri [The Calvary Complex] 1824
2 - Filomenamaindl [St. Philomena] 1870
3 - Schantantònimaindl [St. Anthony of Padua] 1873
4 - HerzJésusmaindl [Sacred Heart of Jesus] 1908
5 - s'Pàurn Haus I m. XVIII sec.
6 - Milpasènders Haus I m. XVIII sec.
7 - s'Tòmmasn Haus II m. XIX sec.

8 - s'Ceccóns Stol I q. XX sec.

9 - s'Pìrstlan Tòndl Stol II q. XX sec.

10 - s'Pìrstlan Beppi Stol II q. XX sec.

11 - Milpasènders Stol [restored and transformed] [II m. XVIII sec.]

12 - s'Pàurn Stol [restored and transformed] [II m. XVIII sec.]

13 - s'Krùmpn Zèntl Stol [restored and transformed] [XIX sec.]

14 - Milpa Mile ult. q. XIX sec.

15 - School Building (formerly City Hall) 1907

16 - "Casa Peralba" (formerly the Cooperative store) I q. XX sec.

17 - Casa Mons. Freschi 1920/30

18 - Casa d'Rìccan Luidi 1933

19 – Crucifix II m. XIX sec.

20 – Fountain I q. XX sec.

21 – Fountain I m. XX sec.; ric. 1986
Mühlbach [Milpa]

Detail of the 1821 cadastral map (archive of Luigi Piller Cottrer - Sappada).
Photograph showing the laying of the first stone of the municipal and scholastic building in Mühlbach, May 23, 1907
(Archive of the Ethnographic Museum - Sappada)

The chapel of the Sacred Heart with the old Crucifix and the uphill slope called Milparane, around 1910
(Peratoner archive- Venice)
Mühlbach between 1900 and 1920
(Peratoner archive - Venice)

The Way of the Cross chapels in a wartime postcard
(Archive of Antonio Genova - Pieve di Cadore)
The star-shaped flower-bed of the garden in front of the City Hall in the 1920s
(Archive of Luigi Piller Cottrer - Sappada)

Milpasènder house in the 1920s
(Archive of Luigi Piller Cottrer - Sappada)
Mulino, the old flour mill from which the village got its’ name.

The inoperative mill today
Cottern [Kottrn]

Cottern is one of Sappada's smallest villages. Even though, at one end, it seems just a continuation of the neighboring Mühlbach settlement; at the other end, it is clearly separated from the Hoffe village by grassy meadows. At the side of the road one can find a small niche chapel dedicated to the Holy Trinity, also known as Lexànd(e)rsmaindl. The fact that it is partially underground shows the road was originally lower.

In the vicinity there are also additional examples of the essential elements of each village, namely a fountain and a crucifix that stands on the eastern meadows of the valley. Another small chapel, erected as a votive offering to commemorate the survival of a Sappada resident after a winter accident, overlooks the houses from the edge of the forest.

There are only a few traditional buildings but they are all very interesting. Particularly noteworthy are the dr'Idan - s'Spùssn house, a residential building connected to its hay-loft by a covered bridge, the s'Tischlars - Iòcca house, a classic Sappada style residence, and the complex s'Krùmpn - s'Gàigherlan house, notable for its sizeable lateral expansions.
Urban and architectural items

1 - s'Lexànd(e)rsmaindl 1884
2 - s'Krúmpn - s'Gàigherlan Haus I m. XVIII sec.
3 - s'Tíschlars - Iòcca Haus I m. XVIII sec.
4 - dr'Idan - Spussn Haus / Stol II m. XVIII sec.
5 - s'Mòttas Ànghile Haus II m. XVIII sec.
6 - Schànderlan Haus XIX sec.
7 - Schànderlan Stol [restored and transformed] III q. XX sec.
8 – Crucifix fine XIX sec.
9 – Fountain in. XX sec. (ric. 1986)
Cottern [Kottrn]

Detail of the 1821 cadastral map (archive of Luigi Piller Cottrer - Sappada).
s'Tischlars - Iòcca House in the 1910s
(A. Baragiola, La casa villereccia delle colonie tedesche del gruppo carnico - Sappada, Sauris e Timau, Padova, F.lli Drucker ed. - Chiasso, Tip. Tettamanti, 1915 (La casa villereccia di Sappada: pp. 5-19))

dr'Idan - Spussn Haus / Stol in the 1910s
(A. Baragiola, La casa villereccia delle colonie tedesche del gruppo carnico - Sappada, Sauris e Timau, Padova, F.lli Drucker ed. - Chiasso, Tip. Tettamanti, 1915 (La casa villereccia di Sappada: pp. 5-19))
The village of Cottern in a 1920-1930 postcard
(Archive of Carlo Malaguti - Udine, his courtesy)

dr'Idan - Spusn Haus / Stol about 1930
(Photograph by Ubaldo Piller, courtesy of the Piller family)
dr'Idan - Spussn Haus / Stol about 1930
(Photograph by Ubaldo Piller, courtesy of the Piller family)

dr'Idan - Spussn Haus / Stol
(drawing by Olga Riva Piller, 1991 - courtesy of the artist)
Hoffe [Hóuve]

The village of Hoffe (Borgata Hoffe) is one of the most interesting cluster villages of the Sappada valley. It is also one of the best examples of such a village because it has most of the typical features and remarkable surviving examples of the characteristic cluster architecture. Compared to the nearby villages of Cottern and Fontana, it still maintains a certain urban separation characterized by grassy meadows that permit us to fully appreciate its identity.

The historical nucleus lies at the average altitude of 1250 meters, on a mostly argillaceous grassy hill that protrudes considerably from the profile of the northern side colonized by the villages' settlements.

The center of the original settlement is located exactly on a small plateau on this hill. We can see this in the watercolor by Josiah Gilbert (1873) that remarkably portrays the typical buildings and the isolation of the village from the surrounding landscape. Evidently, the contrasts of the land, jutting out from the profile of the mountain, offered a particularly favorable position for developing a village.

The original settlement was, in relatively recent times, deprived of its geometric center with the demolition of the great s'Nàzzilan-s'Schitzn-s'Lóisn house in 1967. The house was the largest building in the village and occupied, with its remarkable size, the square surrounded by the surviving houses of the ancient nucleus. This demolition had been preceded, in 1955, by that of the nearby s'Stèfflan stable-barn. Thus, all that is left of the original nucleus of the village is the external circle, with the addition of the new s'Nènderlan house (whose construction, in 1960, preceded the demolition of the s'Nàzzilan house). In this area, however, we can still see two of the characteristic elements that define each village as a separate urban unit: a fountain and a small chapel. The fountain is situated near the southwestern corner of the square, while the chapel closes its northern side. The chapel was formerly dedicated to the Holy Trinity and, after 1937, to St. Giovanni Bosco. One missing element is the typical crucifix, of whose possible presence there is no trace or memory.

In addition to this nucleus, a part of the village with some houses and agricultural buildings of considerable antiquity and noteworthy architectural interest stretches westward along the old road ("strada vecchia"). Alongside these buildings, another fountain can be found on the valley edge of the same road.

Downhill, not far from the original nucleus of the village, the construction of a new road in 1922 encouraged people to erect several new buildings (made with non-traditional plans and building materials), none of which has any particular historical or architectural value. The only feature worth mentioning in this area is the presence of a 20th century stable-barn, demolished and rebuilt in 1989 with a combined commercial and residential purpose.
Urban and architectural items

1 - Hóuvarmaindl [Chapel of Saint Giovanni Bosco] 1856; ric. 1954

2 - s'Stèfflan - s'Céscos Haus II m. XVII s.

3 - s'Grèatlan Haus I m. XVIII s.

4 - s'Natlan Haus I m. XVIII s.

5 - s'Rèschlan - s'Schmìdilan Haus m. XVIII s.; XIX s.

6 - s'Zènzn Haus XVIII-XIX s. (1808)

7 - s'Pìeris Haus [formerly stable/hay-loft] II m. XVIII s.

8 - s'Céscos Stol XVIII/XIX s.
9 - s’Zènzn Lüt / Hanni Stol XVIII/XIX s.
10 - s’Nènderlan - s'Prinzn Haus / Stol II q. XIX s.
11 - [Hotel] Stella d'Oro 1866
12 - s'Grèatlan Stol I q. XX s.
13 - s'Stèfflan (già s'Natlan) Stol II q. XX sec.
14 - Rounar s'Schnaidars Stol I II q. XX sec.
15 - Rounar s'Schnaidars Stol II q. XX sec.
16 - s'Rèschlan Stol [restored and transformed: Hotel Cristina] XIX s.
17 - s'Prinzn Stèllile [restored and transformed] II q. XX sec.
18 - s'Nàzzilan - s'Schitzn - s'Lóisn Haus [+ 1967] XVII s.
19 - s'Stèfflan Stol [+ 1955] XVIII s.
20 - s'Schlossar Stol [+ 1989] m. XX s.
21 – Fountain I q. XX s.
22 – Fountain XX s. (ric. 1982)
Detail of the 1821 cadastral map. s'Nàzzilan - s'Schitzn - s'Lóisn House, demolished in 1967, is clearly visible in the middle of the present day village square (archive of Luigi Piller Cottrer - Sappada)
Watercolor by J. Gilbert depicting the Hoffe village (1871).
(Belluno - Fondazione G. Angelini - Centro Studi sulla Montagna)

View of the village of Hoffe from the road through Cottern.
(photo of U. Camavitto, 1904 - courtesy of Società Alpina Friulana Archive (Udine))
View of Hoffè around 1925.
S'Nàzzilan - s'Schitzn - s'Lóisn House towers among the houses of the historic center
(Peratoner Archive - Venice)

The Stella d'Oro Hotel around 1925
(Photograph by M. Piller, courtesy of the Ubaldo Piller family)
Winter view of Hoffe around 1930
(photo of Ubaldo Piller - Archive of the Ethnographic Museum - Sappada)
View of Hoffe around 1930
(Photograph by Ubaldo Piller, courtesy of the Piller family)

View of the villages of Hoffe, Cottern and Mühlbach around 1930
(Detail of a Postcard, courtesy of the Ubaldo Piller family)
Winter view of Hoffè village around 1940
The large s'Nàzzilan - s'Schitzn - s'Lóisn House is located in the heart of the historic center
(Archive of Giorgio Piller Puicher - Sappada)

Reconstruction of the chapel dedicated to St. John Bosco in 1954
(Courtesy of Elena Piller Hoffer - Sappada)
Reconstruction of the chapel dedicated to St. John Bosco in 1954
(Source Fam. Tach)

Houses in the village of Pill in 1960
(Courtesy of Elena Piller Hoffer - Sappada)
View of the village of Hoffe around 1965. The picture shows the houses of s'Nàzzilan - s'Schitzn - s'Lóisn among the houses and the s'Schlossar Stol next to the new road (Courtesy of Marino Piller Hoffer - Sappada)

s'Schlossar Stol
(drawing by Olga Riva Piller, 1991 - courtesy of the artist)
Fontana [Prunn]

The village of Fontana has an extraordinary concentration of wooden structures built in the typical Sappada style. Even though it is clearly separated from the village of Hoffe, to the east it seems almost attached to the village of Kratten due to 20th century development. While expansion on the valley side of the old road has only partly filled in the natural spaces between the two settlements, growth was more substantial in the area immediately below, alongside the new road, where several masonry residences and large hotel structures were built.

The historical center lies slightly below the Hoffe on the gentle slopes of this area of the northern side of the valley at the average altitude of 1245 m. In the village of Fontana there are numerous traditional wooden buildings, representing the various styles and periods of Sappada's architectural history.

Surprisingly, the village does not have the customary small chapel; it does have, however, a crucifix in a beautiful position on a meadow adjacent to the Prunner s'Zenzn house. There is also a double-basin fountain slightly downhill from the old road, marking the geometric center of the settlement and serving as a meeting point for the people of the village.

Particularly remarkable is the 1650 Prunner Sèfilan house, partially built with masonry, which is one of the oldest documented residences of Sappada. Just as noteworthy are the 18th century s'Pàulan house (1737), the Prunner s'Zenzn house (middle of the XVIII c.) and the s'Plàsn house (1707); all classic type buildings with cross-sectional corridors. Next to the s'Plasn house are two items worth mentioning: another fountain and an extraordinarily rare example of kèisn: a large drying rack for cereals once common in all the villages.
Urban and architectural items

1 - Prunner Sèfilan Haus 1650
2 - s'Plàsn Haus 1707
3 - s'Pàulan - s'Zènzn Haus 1737
4 - Prunner s'Zènzn Haus II q. XVIII sec.
5 - s'Ànzilan Haus II q., poi fine XVIII sec.
6 - s'Ènderlan - s'Zènzn Schûistars Haus II m. XVIII sec.
7 - s'Stinglan Haus II m. XVIII sec.
8 - dr'Affran Haus I q. XIX sec.
9 - s'Pièrinlan Haus 1843
10 - Schlóssar Zèntl Haus XIX sec.
11 - Prunner s'Zènzn - Schûistars Stol I m. XIX sec.
12 - s'Plàsn Stol m. XIX sec.
13 - Schlóssar Zèntl / Pèaterle Stol fine XIX sec.
14 - s'Ènderlan Stèllile fine XIX sec.
15 - Schlóssar Pèaterle Haus 1907
16 - s'Pàulan Stol II q. XX sec.
17 - s'Stinglan Stol [restored and transformed] [XVIII sec.]
18 - Siesn - s'Titzn Stol [restored and transformed] [in. XIX sec.]
19 - d'Rosinan Angela - s'Ànzilan Stol [restored and transformed] [I m. XIX sec.]
20 – Crucifix 1980 (il Cristo ligneo)
21 – Kèisn fine XIX sec.
22 – Fountain in. XX sec.
23 – Fountain II q. XX sec.
Fontana [Prunn]

Detail of the 1821 cadastral map (archive of Luigi Piller Cottrer - Sappada).
s'Pàulan - s'Zènzn House in the 1910s
(A. Baragiola, La casa villereccia delle colonie tedesche del gruppo carnico - Sappada, Sauris e Timau, Padova, F.lli Drucker ed. - Chiasso, Tip. Tettamanti, 1915 (La casa villereccia di Sappada: pp. 5-19))

s'Plàsn Haus (Postcard, 1920s)
(Archive of the Ethnographic Museum - Sappada)
View of the village of Fontana around 1925. The picture shows the path of the new road still free of buildings
(Peratoner Archive - Venice)

View of Fontana around 1925.
(Archive of Giorgio Piller Puicher - Sappada)
Panoramic view of the eastern villages of Sappada, from Fontana to Mühlbach, around 1930
(Photograph by Ubaldo Piller, courtesy of the Piller family)

View of the village of Fontana around 1930
(Photograph by Ubaldo Piller, courtesy of the Piller family)
Kratten [Khrótn]

The village of Kratten looks like a small cluster of houses well positioned on the sunny slopes overlooking the old road at the average altitude of 1250 m. A small part of the locality expands downhill and crosses the old road; however, the 20th century urban development that took place here left the layout of the village and its noteworthy architectural structures almost intact.

A small chapel, built in 1920 and dedicated to the Virgin Mary of Lourdes, stands alone on the meadow, resting at the edge of the old road, like the chapels of the villages of Bach and Hoffè. A little farther east, a fountain marks the corner of the short road that leads to the highest houses of the village. Slightly downhill from the old road, at the edge of the downward slope that merges into the new road skirting the Kratten stream, there is an extraordinarily rare example of kèisn, the characteristic drying rack for cereals. The only other surviving example of this structure is a little farther west, on the open meadows of the nearby village of Fontana.

Among the traditional wooden buildings located in Kratten, a special mention should be made of the 17th century s'Cótt'n Paurn house (1634): a mixed wooden-masonry residence that is one of the oldest documented buildings in Sappada. Just as noteworthy are the composite s'Chrisch'n - s'Khrótars house, resulting from the combination of four heterogeneous portions, and the group of rustic buildings that forms the northeastern edge of the village. Also rather remarkable, finally, is the Béibar Sèff'n - s'Chrisch'n - s'Khrótars stable/hay-loft, whose facade is entirely built with wooden beams from the ground up.
Urban and architectural items

1 - Khrótarmaindl [Chapel of Our Lady of Lourdes] 1920

2 - s' Cótttn Paurn Haus 1634

3 - s'Chrisch'n - s' Khrótars - s' Nàntlan Haus II m. XVII sec.

4 - Bèibar - s'Chrisch'n - s' Khrótars Stol XVII / XVIII sec.

5 - Bèibar Sèffn Haus I m. XVIII sec.

6 - s' Cótttn - s' Iégherlan Stol I m. XVIII sec.

7 - s' Lóurn - Caracùl Haus m. XVIII sec.

8 - s' Khrótars - s' Iégherlan Stol II m. XVIII sec.

9 - s'Chrisch'n Tòne Stol XIX sec.

10 - s' Nàntlan Stol [restored and transformed] [I q. XX sec.]

11 - s' Cótttn Stol [partially renovated] II q. XX sec.

12 – Kèisn fine XX sec.

13 – Fountain 1912

14 – Fountain II q. XX sec.
Kratten [Khrótn]

Detail of the 1821 cadastral map (archive of Luigi Piller Cottrer - Sappada).
View of the village of Kratten, about 1900-1910. 
(Courtesy of Teresina Kratter s’Kötttn - Sappada),

View of the village of Kratten, about 1910-1920. 
(Courtesy of Teresina Kratter s’Kötttn - Sappada)
View of Kratten around 1925
(Courtesy of Teresina Kratter s’Kótt – Sappada)

A keisn in the village of Kratten around 1930
(Photograph by Ubaldo Piller, courtesy of the Piller family)
View of Kratten
(drawing by Olga Riva Piller, 1991 - courtesy of the artist)
Soravia [Begar]

The village of Soravia, separated from Kratten by the basin of a stream of the same name, is situated at the edge of a grassy cliff that overlooks it, jutting out from the northern side of the valley.

The historical center is located at an average altitude of 1245 m and is, perhaps, the least built up of all the villages of Sappada, since the houses that make it up are considerably spaced from each other.

The stretch of road that gradually goes up towards the village of Ecche gets its name (Zàine) from the fences that delimit it. At the center of the settlement stands the small chapel of St. Joseph, also known as Bégarmaindl, built in 1891 by the families of the village. Next to it, a fountain and a crucifix complete the triad of the traditional village points of reference and meeting. Another fountain can be found next to the 18th century s'làcklars house (1786). Remarkable are the 17th century s'Millian s'Titz'n houses, with its newer hay-lofts and its ancient lateral wings, and the s'Kitzlars s'Bàrblan house (1668), with its substantial masonry sections. Just as noteworthy are the 18th century Ródar house, a classic-type residence, and the large s'Millian s'Stànnilan stable/hay-loft (1778), an important example of a rustic complex of the first type.

At the western end of the village, near the edge of the gully dug by the Kratten stream, between 1971 and 1973 the people of Sappada erected a sanctuary dedicated to Mary Queen of Peace. The architect Luciano Ria designed this temple, which was built to fulfill a vow pronounced on the 9th of April 1944 by the residents of Sappada faced with the dangers of war. The shrine is the second largest religious building in Sappada.
Urban and architectural items

1 - Bégarmaind [Chapel of St. Joseph] 1891
2 - Shrine of Mary Queen of Peace [Regina Pacis] 1971-1973
3 - s'Kitzlars - s'Bàrblan Haus 1668 - XVIII sec.
4 - s'Millian s'Titzn Haus / Stol ult. q. XVII - XVIII sec.
5 - s'Rodars Haus III q. XVIII sec.
6 - s'Millions s'Stànnilan Stol 1778
7 - s'Iàcklars Haus 1786
8 - s'Iàcklars Ièrghilan Stol [partially renovated] II m. XIX - I q. XX sec.
9 - s'Rodars Stol I q. XX sec.
10 - s'Iàcklars Stini Zèffile Stol m. XX sec.
11 - s'Pierindlan Stol m. XX sec.
12 - s'Pòttuls Stol [restored and transformed] [II q. XX sec.]
13 – Crucifix fine XIX sec.
14 – Crucifix I q. XX sec.
15 – Fountain I q. XX sec. (ric. 1988)
16 – Fountain I m. XX sec. (ric. 1985)
Soravia [Begar]

Detail of the 1821 cadastral map (archive of Luigi Piller Cottrer - Sappada).
The village of Soravia in a 1920-1930 postcard
(Archive of Carlo Malaguti - Udine)

View of the village of Soravia around 1930
(Postcard, courtesy of the Ubaldo Piller family)
View of Soravia in 1934
(Photograph by Ubaldo Piller, courtesy of the Piller family)
Ecche [Ecke]

The village of Ecche gets its name from a word in the Sappada dialect that describes the profile of the land (i.e., ecke, which means "corner" or "knoll"). It is among the few villages that still today retain a certain geographical separation from the surrounding ones. Its historical center is located on a sunny knoll on the northern side of the valley, adjacent to the gorge of the Puiche stream, at an average altitude of 1275 m. The village, therefore, is considerably higher in altitude compared with the other settlements.

Currently the village is going through a phase of urban expansion thanks to the construction of several sets of townhouses a little below the old center. The small shrine dedicated to St. Anthony of Padua, also known as Ëckarmaindl, was constructed in 1930 after the demolition of another chapel that stood in the center of the village. Another smaller niche chapel, dedicated to St. Notburga (Notpùrgamaindl), was erected in 1897 alongside the old access road that ran just below before turning and reaching the village from the east. Farther downhill, another small niche chapel dedicated to St. Theresa (Teresamaindl) was built next to the new road in 1927.

Considering the modest size of the village, the traditional buildings are few but virtually all of them are noteworthy. Particularly remarkable is the 19th century s'Nàntn two-family house near which stands the village fountain. Also worth mentioning is the Khàtilan house, a classic type residence that has remained almost unchanged. At the eastern end of the village, along the downward slope that leads to the Puiche stream, one can also find a Prèchllòch, an ancient walled pit for the maceration of linen.
Urban and architectural items

1 - Éckarmaindl [Chapel of St. Anthony of Padua] 1930
2 – Notpúrgamaindl 1897
3 – Teresamaindl 1927
4 - Éckar s'Nàntn Haus I m. XVIII sec.; 1777; ... 
5 - s'Khàttilan Àinghilan Haus I m. XVIII sec.
6 - Éckar s'Nàntn Stol fine XVIII / in. XIX sec.
7 - s'Góvinèrs Stol I m. XIX sec.
8 - s'Góvinèrs Haus II m. XIX sec.
9 - s'Kòccius Haus III q. XIX sec.
10 - s'Zènzn Tàn Stol III q. XIX sec.
11 - Casa s'Zènzn Tàn fine XIX / in. XX sec.
12 - s'Nùttis Haus II m. XIX sec.
13 - s'Zènzn Bèppos Stol II q. XX sec.
14 – Prèchllòch XIX sec.
15 – Fountain in. XX sec.
Ecche [Ecke]

Detail of the 1821 cadastral map (archive of Luigi Piller Cottrer - Sappada).
Ecche in a 1920-1930 postcard
(Archive of Carlo Malaguti - Udine, his courtesy)

View of Ecche around 1930
(Photograph by Ubaldo Piller, courtesy of the Piller family)
View of Ecche in 1934
(Photograph by Ubaldo Piller, courtesy of the Piller family)
Puiche [Puicha]

Puiche is the most isolated and the smallest village of Sappada (only 16 residents lived here in 2000). Puiche almost appears to mirror the village of Ecche, for its position on the edge of the opposite side of the Puiche river basin. The name of both the village and the stream that skirts it comes from the word for "beech" in the local dialect, in reference to the vegetation of the forest above.

The historical center is located on a knoll on the northern side of the Sappada valley, enclosed by the Puiche and Fauner mountain streams. To enhance its exposure to the sun, the settlement tilts considerably towards the first stream, at an average altitude of 1275 m, corresponding exactly to the altitude of the village of Ecche.

In a dominant position near the edge of the ravine of the Puiche stream stands the chapel of Our Lady of the Rosary built in 1901 by Giorgio Piller Puicher and formerly dedicated to the Assumption of Mary. There is also a fountain nearby, whose presence next to the chapel repeats a pattern found in many villages of Sappada.

Farther to the rear, on the grassy slopes that jut out from Monte della Piana, there are a few houses with remarkable examples of the local interlocked beam architecture. Among them, the Puichar house stands out. This began as a classic building to which a new story and some additional rooms on its eastern side were added, leading to a peculiar displacement of the roof top.
Urban and architectural items

1 - Puicharmaindl [Chapel of Our Lady of the Rosary] 1901

2 - Puichar Haus / Stol XVII-XIX sec.

3 - Puichar Stóff Haus II m. XVIII sec.

4 - Puichar Nat Haus II m. XVIII sec.

5 - Puichar Stóff Stol II m. XVIII sec.

6 - s'Titzn Tin Stol III decennio XX sec.

7 - Bèlschismèndl Stol [restored and transformed] 1930 ca.

8 – Fountain I q. XX sec. (ric. 1989)
Puiche [Puicha]

Detail of the 1821 cadastral map (archive of Luigi Piller Cottrer - Sappada).
Panoramic view of Sappada's Eastern villages in 1933 (Puiche is in the foreground)
(Photograph by Ubaldo Piller, courtesy of the Piller family)

Panoramic view of the villages of Puiche, Ecche and Soravia in 1934
(Photograph by Ubaldo Piller, courtesy of the Piller family)
Houses in the village of Puiche in the 1930s
(Photograph by Ubaldo Piller, courtesy of the Piller family)

View of Ecche and Puiche around 1934
(Photograph by Ubaldo Piller, courtesy of the Piller family)
Cretta [Krette]

The village of Cretta is spread along the floor of the entrance to the valley, on the right bank of the Piave River. It is located below Cima Sappada, at an average altitude of 1252 m, next to the southern side of Teston dei Larici where the old and new roads are one (after having merged below Ecche).

The village is spread out along an east-west axis but most buildings are concentrated around the village chapel. This chapel is dedicated to the Holy Trinity and is also known as Hâiligedraivòltikaitmaindl, or simply Krèttarmaindl. Next to it, on the opposite side of the road, there are the typical fountain and crucifix.

Particularly noteworthy, among the buildings, is the Puicher s'Kóttlarsch house, which overlooks the village from its high vantage point. It is a 19th century single-family house with a stable/hay-loft attached. It has remained virtually unchanged and, recently, has been restored and transformed into a Museum of Farm & Country Life.
Urban and architectural items

1 - Krèttarmaindl [Chapel of the Holy Trinity] 1727
2 - s'Nàlars Schmídís - s' Rònckn Haus I m. XVIII sec.
3 - s'Nàlars Tòmmile Haus m. XVIII sec.
4 - Puicher s'Kóttlarsch Haus / Stol II q. XIX sec.
5 - d'Ríccan Haus I m. XIX - XX sec.
6 - Plintn Ènder Haus ult. q. XIX sec.
7 - Marènzian Zèff Stol II q. XX sec.
8 - s'Tòffilan Stol II q. XX sec.
9 - Schmídís Stol m. XX sec.
10 - s'Ròn(ck)n - s'Nalars - s'Màxlan - d'Riccan Stol [restored and transformed] [I m. XIX s.]
11 - Hânsl Stol [I m. XX sec.]
12 – Crucifix m. XX sec.
13 – Fountain I q. XX sec. (ric. 1983)
Cretta [Krette]

Detail of the 1821 cadastral map (archive of Luigi Piller Cottrer - Sappada).
View of Cretta with the houses of Puiche in the foreground, about 1925
(Photograph by Ubaldo Piller, courtesy of the Piller family)

View of Cretta, about 1934
(Photograph by Ubaldo Piller, courtesy of the Piller family)
Cima Sappada [Zepódn]

Cima Sappada is a village that the Sappada residents have always seen as separate, and more independent than any other village. The etymology of Zepódn seems to refer to the plain on which the settlement is built and, probably, it is also the origin of the Italian name Sappada.

The historical center is concentrated on the northeastern end of a large flood plain that overlooks the Sappada valley from an average altitude of 1297 m. There are reasons to believe the first settlement in the Sappada valley was located here, although this is purely a hypothesis.

The layout of the buildings is different from that of all the other villages. Because of the flat ground, the houses and the rustic buildings are evenly spread out, forming an intricate web of streets and alleys.

Cima Sappada has its own small church, built in 1732 and enlarged in 1773, known as Zepódarkirche. The church is dedicated to St. Oswald to whom two other churches are also dedicated: the church of Kartitsch (Gailtal) and the parish church of the nearby linguistic island of Sauris. Cima Sappada also has five niche-chapels: four in the meadows around the church (Fèlixnmaindl, Sindarmaindl, Gràznmaindl, s'Gràntnmaindl) and a fifth (Plótznmaindl) in Plótzn.

The village has numerous noteworthy old buildings, including the Kratter s'Gàigars house. It is a 17th century masonry manor with a vaulted foyer and a small mullioned window on the eastern wall. Among the various traditional wooden buildings, a particularly interesting one is the 18th century s'Ghèarat'n - Spànglars house, inside of which one can still find an old stone fireplace with a smoke room. The three-story s'Vùchs'n - Stànich - s'Tàicn house (XVII c.), s'Zenzn Schúistsars house (XVIII c.) and Sindar house (1806) are also interesting, and so are the classic style houses such as the Vòltans - s'Plèschn house (1777) and the Lanner house. Finally, worth noting are the Graz and the Padróusn - s'Plèschn houses, otherwise classic style homes with an unusual longitudinal corridor.

Not far from the residential area, along the Piave River, a saw mill and an old water mill bear witness to the traditional economic activities of the valley, but which have now disappeared.
Urban and architectural items

1 - Zepódarkirche [Church of St. Oswald] 1732; 1773

2 – Vráithof XIX sec.

3 – Gràznmaindl II m. XIX sec.

4 – Fèlixnmaindl 1873

5 – Sindarmaindl 1880 c.

6 - s'Gràntnmaindl 1905

7 – Plòtznmaindl I q. XX sec.

8 - Kratter s'Gàigars Haus XVII sec.

9 - s'Vúchs'n - s'Tanich - s'Tàicn Haus XVII sec.
10 - s'Ghèarat'n Stol XVII sec.
11 - s'Pódars - s'Kúckars - s'Véslars Haus in. XVIII sec.; ult. q. XVIII sec.
12 - s'Zènzn - Schúistars Haus XVIII sec.
13 - d'Lúigian Zèff - Tróiar Stinlan Haus in. XVIII sec.
14 - s'Ghèarat'n Spànglars Haus 1733/1734
15 - s'Plèschn - s'Kúckars Stol m. XVIII sec.
16 - s'Tònis Stol m. XVIII sec.
17 - Padròusn s'Plèschn Haus II m. XVIII sec.
18 - s'Gràntn - Schmidis - dr'Affran Stol II m. XVIII - in. XIX sec.
19 - Vòltans - s'Plèschn Haus 1777
20 - Lanner s'Zèntn Haus ult. q. XVIII sec.
21 - d'Lúigian Stol fine XVIII sec.
22 - s'Kúckars Haus fine XVIII sec.
23 - s'Tòmmasn Haus fine XVIII - I m. XIX sec.
24 - Spànglars Haus fine XVIII - in. XIX sec.
25 - Schúistars Stol fine XVIII - in. XIX sec.
26 - Síndar Haus / Stol 1806
27 - Síndar Mile I q. XIX sec.
28 - s'làcklars Mile I q. XIX sec.
29 - s'Gràntn - dr'Zènzan Haus I q. XIX sec.
30 - s'Vúchsn s'Tàicn Stol I q. XIX sec.
31 - s'Kóurn Haus I q. XIX sec.
32 - dr'Lúigian Piet(e)r Haus I q. XIX sec.
33 - s'Gàigars Stol 1830-40; parz. ric. I q. XX sec.
34 - Graz Tróiar Haus 1846
35 - s'Tónis - s'Vétrënders Haus m. XIX sec.
36 - s'Bédlars Stol II m. XIX sec.
37 - s'Tómmasn Boschkúchl III q. XIX sec.
38 - Síndar Boschkúchl III q. XIX sec.
39 - Casa s'Killis ("Haus Peralba") 1868
40 - Còtrrar Sóge III q. XIX sec.
41 - s'Pódars Khráizpílar Stol in. XX sec.
42 - Tróiar Stol [partially renovated] I q. XX sec.
43 - s'Vétrënders Stol XX sec.
44 - Tróiar Stínlan Stol XX sec.
45 - s'Kóttlars Stol XX sec.
46 - Spànglars Stol [restored and transformed] [XIX sec.]
47 - s'Tìnlan Stol [restored and transformed] [XIX sec.]
48 - Lanner s'Zèntn Stol [restored and transformed] [XIX sec.]
49 - s'Tómmasn Stol [restored and transformed] [XX sec.]
50 - s'Rùipm Stol [restored and transformed] [XX sec.]
51 - Tróiar s'Píeris - s'Rúipm Haus [rebuilt] [1618]
52 – Crucifix fine XIX sec.
53 – Crucifix I q. XX sec.
54 – Fountain in. XX sec.
55 – Fountain I q. XX sec.
56 – Fountain I q. XX sec.
57 – Fountain m. XX sec. (ric. 1982)
Cima Sappada [Zepódn]

Detail of the 1821 cadastral map (archive of Luigi Piller Cottrer - Sappada).
The picture shows the canals running North of Cima Sappada, built to supply the two mills with water taken from the Piave River.
Detail of the 1821 cadastral map (archive of Luigi Piller Cottrer - Sappada).
Watercolor by J. Gilbert depicting the village of Cima Sappada (1871) (Belluno - Fondazione G. Angelini - Centro Studi sulla Montagna)

Some buildings of Cima Sappada, with an old kèisn in the foreground, about 1906 (photograph published by A. Baragiola, La casa villereccia delle colonie tedesche del gruppo carnico - Sappada, Sauris e Timau, Padova, F.lIi Drucker ed. - Chiasso, Tip. Tettamanti, 1915 (La casa villereccia di Sappada: pp. 5-19))
s'Zènzn Schùïstars Haus, about 1906 (photograph published by A. Baragiola, La casa villereccia delle colonie tedesche del gruppo carnico - Sappada, Sauris e Timau, Padova, F.Ili Drucker ed. - Chiasso, Tip. Tettamanti, 1915 (La casa villereccia di Sappada: pp. 5-19))

Spànlars Stol, about 1906 (photograph published by A. Baragiola, La casa villereccia delle colonie tedesche del gruppo carnico - Sappada, Sauris e Timau, Padova, F.Ili Drucker ed. - Chiasso, Tip. Tettamanti, 1915 (La casa villereccia di Sappada: pp. 5-19))
View of Cima Sappada, oil painting by Marcelliano Canciani, 1919
(courtesy of Rina Quinz - Sappada)

View of Cima Sappada, oil painting by Marcelliano Canciani, 1919 (detail)
(courtesy of Rina Quinz - Sappada)
The 'Alla pace' tavern in Cima Sappada, in the second decade of the 1900s
(Archive of the Ethnographic Museum - Sappada)

The plateau of Cima Sappada in the 1920s
(Archive of Antonio Genova - Pieve di Cadore)
The plateau of Cima Sappada in the 1920s
(Archive of Antonio Genova - Pieve di Cadore)

Cima Sappada in the 1920s.
In the foreground, s‘Ghèarat‘n Spànglars House and, beyond it, Kratter s‘Gaigars House
/archive of Giorgio Piller Puicher - Sappada)
Tròiar s'Pieris - š'Rúipm Haus in the 1920s
(Peratoner Archive - Venice)

s'Vúchs'n - s'Tanich - s'Tàiçn Haus in the 1920s
(Photograph by Ubaldo Piller, courtesy of the Piller family)
Panoramic view of the village of Cima Sappada in the 1920s
(Photograph by Ubaldo Piller, courtesy of the Piller family)
Panoramic view of the village of Cima Sappada at the end of the 1920s  
(Photograph by Ubaldo Piller, courtesy of the Piller family)

View of Cima Sappada at the end of the 1920s  
(Photograph by Ubaldo Piller, courtesy of the Piller family)
Cima Sappada around 1930
(Photograph by Ubaldo Piller, courtesy of the Piller family)

Cima Sappada in the 1930s
(Image published in: "Cadore", I, 1941, n. 5, p. 10)
View of Cima Sappada in the fourth decade of the 1900s
(archive of Giorgio Piller Puicher - Sappada)

Panoramic view of the Cima Sappada village at the end of the 1930s
(Photograph by Ubaldo Piller, courtesy of the Piller family)
St. Oswald church, about 1940
(Peratoner Archive - Venice)

Cima Sappada in the 1940s
(archive of Giorgio Piller Puicher - Sappada)
Cima Sappada during the exceptional snowstorm of February 1951
(archive of Giorgio Piller Puicher - Sappada)

Panoramic view of Cima Sappada around 1950
(Peratoner Archive - Venice)
Panoramic view of Cima Sappada from the Mt. Siera chairlift, about 1950 (Peratoner Archive - Venice)

Kratter s'Gaigars Haus around 1960
(archive of Giorgio Piller Puicher - Sappada)
Panoramic view of Cima Sappada from the Mt. Siera chairlift, about 1960
(Peratoner Archive - Venice)

Winter view of Cima Sappada in the 1970s
(archive of Giorgio Piller Puicher - Sappada)