Sant'Andrea

Category: Catholic Church

business description: Adjacent to the new parish church of Sant'Andrea, a hamlet of Cassine, built in Neo-Early Christian style in the last century, is the old church, which, despite several renovations, retains various Romanesque structures.
The church of Sant'Andrea is the only surviving building with Romanesque parts among the donations that Bishop Dudone made between 1023 and 1033 to the monastery he founded of San Pietro d'Acqui. This donation was confirmed by Saint Guido, Bishop, between 1040 and 1041, simultaneously reaffirming the bishop's right to control the election of the abbot and subjecting the rule to the limitations of episcopal authority.
An epigraph documents that in 1663 the church was adorned with furnishings donated by local residents.
Other stone inscriptions confirm the long-standing dependence on the Abbey of San Pietro, such as a 1677 concession granted to Bartolomeo Gagino and Aloisio Gamalero by Abbot Giovanni Battista Spinola.
Restoration work in 1758 was carried out by Alexandrian Tomaso Ghilini, Commendatory Abbot of San Pietro d'Acqui.
The building has a basilica plan with three naves, retaining the two semicircular lateral apses, while the central apse was entirely rebuilt with a hexagonal plan using recycled materials.
Halfway along the north side is the bell tower, with a Romanesque base that rises to the roof of the nave.
Externally, a single-lancet window is visible, partially obscured at the bottom by a later door; at the top, it features a stone arch with a string-like incision running along its curve, surmounted by a ring of small brick blocks.
The façade features salient elements with a central architraved entrance surmounted by a blind lunette, divided into three sections by pilasters corresponding to the naves.

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Address: 15016 - Cassine , Frazione Sant'Andrea

phone: +39 0144.714746

Links

http://www.diocesiacqui.piemonte.it

ALEXALA
Piazza della Libertà 43
15121 Alessandria (AL)
tel: +39 (0131) 288095
email: info@alexala.it
sito web: http://www.alexala.it
facebook.com/alexala.it - twitter.com/ATLALEXALA

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