

Alberobello *trulli*

Historical background - Engineering geological conditions and problems:

The name “Alberobello” derives from “*Sylva Arboris Belli*” (the forest of the tree of the war) and is probably linked with an ancient forest of oaks present in the zone.

The *trulli*, limestone dwellings found in the southern Puglia region, are remarkable examples of drywall (mortarless) construction, a prehistoric building technique still in use in this region. The *trulli* are made of roughly worked limestone boulders collected from neighbouring fields. Characteristically, they feature pyramidal, domed or conical roofs built up of corbelled limestone slabs.

The *trullo* and its rooms usually have a square plan. The main room acts as dining and living room. The kitchen and the other rooms come together to it. "Alcove" are niches and sleeping seats created in the walls and used as rooms. *Trulli* builders used to know and utilize the round arch building technique.

The *trulli* don't show any geological problem.



Trulli (www.laterradipuglia.it)

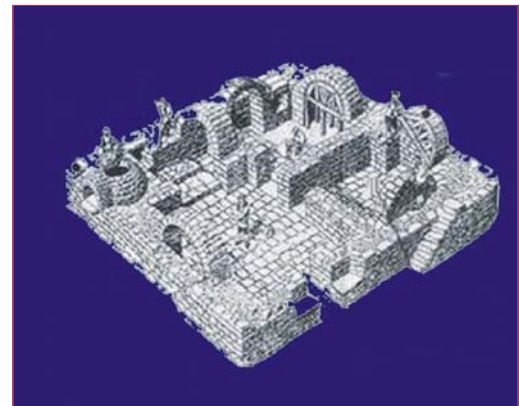


Trulli by night (www.laterradipuglia.it)

Supplementary information:

The *Trulli* of Alberobello were inserted in the UNESCO World Heritage List in 1996.

They are considered as an example of a building deriving from pre historical building techniques, which remained unchanged until today.



Cross section of a *Trullo* (modified from www.comune.alberobello.ba.it)

References on studies already done:

SISTO O. e ANGIULLI G. (1971) “Alberobello - La Città dei Trulli” Ed. Resta Bari