



# Mejes de Gherdeina - Bauernhoefe in Groeden - Masi della Val Gardena

Wolfgang von Klebelsberg  
Paulina Moroder  
Vaclav Sedy

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- A photo atlas to map and document vernacular architecture of one of the most beautiful Alpine valleys
- The masi, historic alpine farms, are an example of integration between human activity and architecture and the Alpine landscape
- Beautiful tritone photography by Václav Sedy

The masi are the equivalent of farms in the Alpine area of the Dolomites (Sudtirool/Alto Adige in northern Italy). Val Gardena, one of the valleys of Sudtirool, houses a great number of masi, some dating back to the thirteenth century. The historical importance of these farms resides in the richness and variety of their building techniques and the sheer beauty of their vernacular architecture perfectly integrated in the stunning landscape of the Dolomites. Recent socio-economic development and the difficulty to adapt the older masi to modern needs has endangered them. A movement to map and preserve these precious witnesses of the material culture of Val Gardena is taking place. Photographing and exhibiting the images of these buildings – shedding light on their cultural role, forms and the architectural elements – in the mountain villages and later in the Architecture Departments of universities in Italy and surrounding countries (Austria, Germany) is a way to increase awareness on the importance of preserving this distinctive vernacular architecture. Text in Ladin, German, Italian with short abstracts in English.

**Paulina Moroder** is the Director of the Museo Gherdeina and coordinator of the project on the mapping of the masi di Val Gardena. **Wolfgang von Klebelsberg** is an architect who lives in Bolzano/Bozen and his work concerns the preservation of historic buildings. He collaborates with the Polytechnic of Milan. **Vaclav Sedy** is a Czech photographer based in Milan. He specialises in architecture photography and he works on the representation of their architectural form through photography at the Prague Polytechnic.

