

WP4

Platy limestone as cultural heritage

Annex 3.2

Database with Show-Cases of Good Good Practice and Proposed Selection of Show Towns

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DATABASE WITH SHOW-CASES OF GOOD PRACTICE AND PROPOSED SELECTION OF SHOW-TOWNS

Results and conclusions of analysis of good practice in use and conservation of platy limestone in cultural heritage are presented here in two parts. The first part is a commented database of objects from the whole project area that can be viewed as an example of good practise on basis of their maintenance, conservation and restauration approach and utilisation. The second part is a proposal of five chosen settlements (towns or villages) that are – or have a potential to be – show-towns of preservation, administrative protection and appropriate use of buildings with platy limestone.

Both lists are just small selections meant to illustrate this topic. They are based on present state of the art and knowledge gained during project development and could (or should) be expanded in future.

Object from the first part are not necessarily from places enlisted in second part, neither are all settlements from the second list represented with objects in the first part. The reason is clear. Some show-case objects are singular or isolated buildings or buildings from settlements with general urbanism changed in such way that they can be no more regarded as typical or well preserved cultural landscape. Vice versa: some towns still have their authentic outlook, even with traditional architecture forms preserved, but neglected or maintained without systematic heritage protection vision – for now. In this way we hope that enlisting will be regarded as recognition or their potential and stimulus for future comprehensive approach to protection of both – whole settlements and individual objects inside their areal.

Part 1:

Show cases of good practice of platy limestone as cultural heritage

Through the analysis of maintenance, conservation, restauration and utilisation of objects made of platy limestone we tried to find the best and most successful examples within all examined buildings in the whole Eastern Adriatic area.

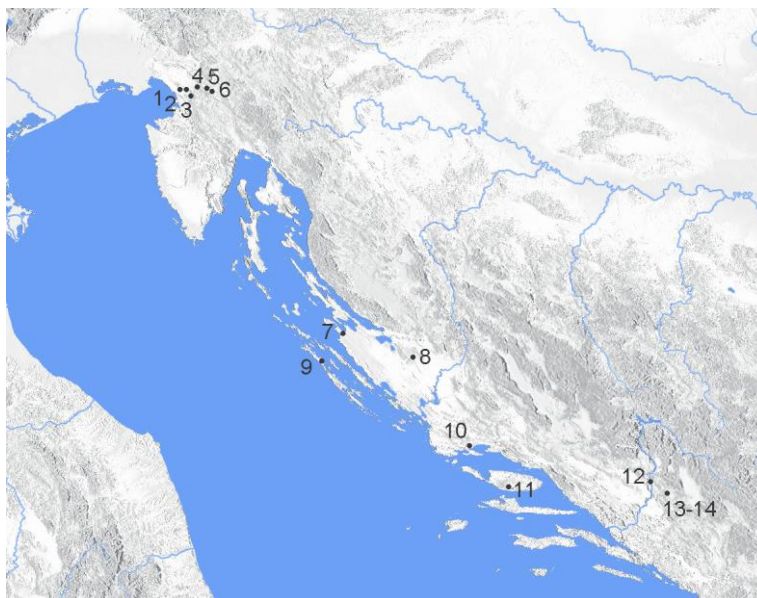


Figure 1. Distribution of the presented show cases: 1 Monrupino/Repentabor, 2 Trebiciano, 3 Col, 4 Šmarje pri Sežani, 5 Gorenje pri Divači, 7 Prahuje kod Nina, 8 Medviđa, 9 Savar, 10 Trogir, 11 Blaca, 12 Mostar, 13- 14 Blagaj.

The selection was made with the help of observations about conservation practices prepared by project specialist from partner areas and compiled in Elaborate II, as well as their detail description sheets and photo material of in-detail studied objects. That is why technical documentation and other data of chosen objects can be found in complete database of in-detail studied objects (Elaborate I, annex 3). Here we present just short descriptions and stress the elements of good practise.

»Kraška hiša« (Karst house) museum Rupingrande/Repen 31, Monrupino/Repentabor, Italy

RoR description number: ITALIAN KARST 1001

Till 1968 farm house, later museum.

One-floor farm house with external stone stairs, wooden gallery, jutting roof and inner fire-place kitchen. Typical karst home with walled farmyard. It's a court-yard house with stone portal gate and well in the court, probably from 18th century.

Its present appearance dates back to 1831, when the last additions were made and it was renovated. Subsequent building work was exclusively aimed at its conservation.

The NAŠ KRAS cooperative society bought the building in 1968 and restored the farm house as a museum. Some restoration works were done in 1999.

Preserved are original volume and construction, as well as historic arrangement of rooms. In the farm buildings, the visitor can see the activities of the karst inhabitants of the past which enabled them to survive; the tools and objects on display represent a cross-section of some of the more frequent occupations: viticulture, animal husbandry, agriculture. The old hayloft located above the stable is nowadays used as a space for temporary exhibitions. The roof, wooden gallery and northern façade need some restoration works.



Figure 2. Rupingrande/Repen 31, typical courtyard with platy limestone pavement (photo Fabiana Pieri).

Ljenčkica's house, Trebiciano 107, Trieste, Italy

RoR description number: ITALIAN KARST 1003

Initially dwelling house, now museum/cultural centre

Typical »single cell« karst home with the added kitchen (*spahnjenca*) and interior oven. Initially perhaps a stable, transformed at the end of 19th century in a dwelling house, later museum and cultural centre. The Slovensko kulturno drustvo Primorec bought the building on 1999 and restored it. Preserved are original volume and construction. All well-preserved since recently restored.



Figure 3. Trebiciano 107, the added kitchen is covered by stone slabs (photo Fabiana Pieri).

Community's house, Col 2, Monrupino/Repentabor, Italy

RoR description number: ITALIAN KARST 1005

Till 1983 community's house, later used for cultural events.

It's a »single cell« karst building, built on a rock with external stone stairs and interior kitchen fireplace. Typical »single cell« Karst building, built on a rock with external stone stairs.

It was built at the beginning of the sixteenth century in response to the Turkish raids on "karst plateau". It was restored rather poorly between 1983 and 199, but later the roof have been rebuilt. Original volume, construction and historic arrangement of rooms have been preserved.

All well preserved since recently restored.



Figure 4. Col 2 (photo Fabiana Pieri).

Cerkev Marijinega vnebovzetja (Church of the Assumption of Mary), Šmarje pri Sežani, Slovenia

RoR description number: SLOVENIAN KARST 4

local monument; EŠD: 746

Sacral building, original use

The single nave Karstic church with long presbytery, build in 1502 in late gothic style. Later baroquised, with remodelled bell –gable (1668) and added entrance shed.

All in good state of preservation.



Figure 5. Šmarje (photo Mitja Guštin).

Domačija/Homestead »Pri Blaževih«, Gorenje pri Divači 14, Slovenia

RoR description number: SLOVENIAN KARST 1

local monument; EŠD: 7338

Till 1956 dwelling house, later outhouse.

Typical karstic home with walled farmyard. House is one floor farm house with gabled roof, added kitchen (*spahnjenca*) with four-sixth ground plan and oven with triangular drip. Preserved original volume, construction and historic arrangement of rooms, *Spahnjenca* with a bread oven. All in good state of preservation.



Figure 6. Gorenje pri Divači 14 (photo Mitja Guštin).

Domačija / Homestead »Škrateljnovi«, Divača, Slovenia

RoR description number: SLOVENIAN KARST 1

local monument; EŠD: 94

Till 1956 dwelling house, now Museum of (Muzej slovenskih filmskih igralcev).

One floor farm house Typical karstic farmer homestead of “closed” architectural concept of 17th c. Consisted of double (?) added kitchen’s, stable (modernized), barn (modernized), cistern, new drystone support wall.

Preserved original volume and construction, preserved historic arrangement of rooms. All in good state of preservation.

Recent renovation of complex won national award and wide positive responses.



Figure 7. Divača (photo Mitja Guštin).

Crkva sv. Nikole, Prahuje near Nin, Croatia

RoR description number: ZADAR COUNTY

protected cultural heritage Z-1336

Sacral building, occasionally in use.

Central early-Romanesque church with irregular circular ground plan was built on a prehistoric tumulus in the 12th century. During the 17th century, in the Turkish wars, church became a military observation post and over the dome was added the battlement/crenulation.

The walls of the buildings were built with roughly shaped limestone and originally were covered with plaster. It has a trefoil ground plan with vaulted conch. All vaults are covered with a platy limestone, as well as a cornice.

All in good state of preservation.



Figure 8. Prahuje near Nin (photo Silvije Pranjić).

Crkva sv. Ivana krstitelja, Medviđa, Benkovac, Croatia

RoR description number: ZADAR COUNTY

a preventive protected cultural heritage

Sacral building, occasionally in use.

Church of St. John the Baptist is a cemetery church, built in the 13th or 14th century. The building is very picturesque because of its location at the foot of the rock, which rises above the tall tower in front of the church. The church has an elongated rectangular floor plan with a rectangular apse prominent in the area on the eastern side. It was built of stone plastered on the outside.

Remarkable architectural monument, unique in Zadar County because of the position, shape, preserved roof cover, high tower and dual confessional use.

Gabled roof is covered with large rough-cut stone slabs(Bukovica typ). The roof was recently restored.



Figure 9. Medviđa (photo Silvije Pranjić).

Crkva sv. Pelegrina, Sava, Dugi otok, Croatia

RoR description number: ZADAR COUNTY

protected cultural heritage Z-1568

Sacral building, occasionally in use.

Pre-Romanesque church of the central type from 9th century is built on a small island connected to the mound on the Island of Dugi otok. This is the most valuable early medieval monument in archipelago of Zadar. The church consists of nave and domed sanctuary that represents the original, small Romanesque church, to which in the 15th century a nave was attached. In 1747 smallish bell tower was raised above the entrance to the church and sacristy added.

According to tradition, the church was built by stonemasons of nearby quarry - most famous medieval quarry of Zadar. All in good state of preservation.



Figure 10. Savař, Dugoi otok (photo Silvije Pranjić).

Cathedral of St Lawrence, Trogir, Croatia

RoR description number: 3300

listed as a national built heritage Z-3489; part of the UNESCO World Heritage Site (Historic City of Trogir)

Sacral building, original use

Construction of the Cathedral of St Lawrence, built on the site of an earlier basilica and dominating the main square, began around 1200 and was added in the late 16th century. This relatively protracted period of construction has meant that successive architectural styles - Romanesque, Gothic and Renaissance - are all represented. The gothic 47 m-high bell tower has three sections in different styles, testimonial of the four centuries required for its completion. Cathedral of St. Lawrence in Trogir is a triple-naved basilica, each of the naves terminating in an apse. Triple apse is covered with platy limestone unlike the rest of the Cathedral roofs.



Figure 11. Trogir (photo Silvije Pranjić).

Blaca Hermitage, Blaca, Island of Brač, Croatia

RoR description number: 3602

listed as a national built heritage Z-1553; added to the UNESCO World Heritage Tentative List in 2007; Croatian candidate for 2015 Landscape Award Of The Council Of Europe
originally sacral building complex (monastery), today sacral monument - museum

The Blaca hermitage is located in a long karstic valley on the southern part of the island of Brač. The monastery, completely isolated in an austere site, was built in front of the **cave Ljubitovica** below high cliffs. It consists of church from the XVII century, apartment buildings and outbuildings, observatories and libraries, all built in limestone. This eremite quarters was established in the sixteenth century. The church is located near the caves. A complex of buildings was reconstructed and modified.

Blaca hermitage was established in 1552 by Glagolitic priests from Poljica that fled from the Turks to island of Brač running away. They produced wine, honey and other cultures. Wealth enabled the monks to build world-wide known astronomic observatory. Furniture of Blaca monastery is also very attractive, the church was restored following the baroque patterns. After the departure of last monk in 1963, the monastery was transformed into museum. Platy limestone is used mainly on roof surfaces, pavement and eaves, all well preserved.



Figure 12. Blaca, Brač (photo Ivo Vojnović).

"Bišćević House", Mostar, Bosnia and Herzegovina

RoR description number: HERZEGOVINIAN KARST

National monument

Originally dwelling house, today it is used as dwelling house and tourist object.

The complex has remained relatively unchanged from 17th to 20th century and consists of two parts: *selamluk* (male yard or part of the house for the reception of guests and business talks) and *haremluk* (women's or family's courtyard, an intimate part of the building). The house is very boldly composite piece of residential architecture from the Ottoman period, with *divanhana* (room for talks), a garden and a protruding part with tall columns above the Neretva.

Great part of Roof is reconstruction in 20th century from local quarries of platy limestone.
One part is not in good state of preservation.



Figure 13. Mostar (photo Radoslav Dodig).

"Velagić Mill"/Velagića mlinica, Blagaj, Bosnia and Herzegovina

RoR description number: HERZEGOVINIAN KARST

National ethnological monument

Ottoman economic complex/Mill

Mills has an irregular rectangular shape. The first part was living millers, while the second part contained five mills properly distributed.

On the west wall, the inner side of the room where the mills, there is a stone fireplace whose stone chimney exits the roof.

Roof of platy limestone was reconstructed in 20th century.



Figure 14. Blagaj (photo Radoslav Dodig).

"Čaršijska mosque", Blagaj/Careva džamija, Stolac, Bosnia and Herzegovina

RoR description number: HERZEGOVINIAN KARST

National monument

Sacral building, original use

The mosque complex consists of a ottoman mosque with minaret, cistern, the harem of the mosque, a fountain in the portal axle, gusulhana and harem walls. It is one of the largest BH mosque built in the 16th century. The mosque is in the interior had 11 poles, five relied on by the central ceiling beams and 6 columns on which he relied mahvil.

Roofs of platy limestone on the mosque and on other objects were fully reconstructed in 2006.



Figure 15. Blagaj (photo Radoslav Dodig).

Commentary:

For most of enlisted object renovation of platy limestone roofs with stones from original source can be stated and is important indicator of good practice.

It is evident that enlisting among cultural monuments (no mater of rank) is important in preservation and even more in proper renovation of objects. As such are protected practically all sacral buildings. Owners of those are religious entities that mostly have correct relation with heritage offices. Moreover, sacral buildings are practically continuously used and maintained.

Dwelling houses are more often adequately renovated in western part of project area (on Carso/Kras, where their function often changed from living quarters to museum presentation or community use. Public use seems to be the best way to preserve and at the same time promote platy limestone as cultural heritage.

Most important is, of course, that the building is not abandoned – in a state which – in the short term – preserves the original look, but later leads to neglect and decay. The use of objects should therefore be encouraged, even if this means some modernisation. This, however, should be done under auspice of heritage protection office (especially when object is under protection) or with help of guidelines such as those, prepared in frame of our project. Regular inspection and prompt sanitation of minor damage is also vital, as it prevent risk of structural damage and consequently more complicated and expensive reconstruction.

Part 2:

Proposed show-towns of platy limestone cultural heritage

As part of good practice promotion we have chosen five settlements (towns or villages) that are or have the potential to be show-towns of preservation, administrative protection and appropriate use of buildings with platy limestone.

This limited selection is based on the present state of art and knowledge gained during project development and could (hopefully should) be expanded in future. Main criterion was of course the presence of platy limestone – mainly used for roofing – but its quantity was not decisive. Important factors were also preservation and quality of conservation/renovation of platy limestone structures.

The second important aspect was the quality of life in those settlements. We were avoiding abandoned places “frozen in time” that can be found in rural hinterland or in interior of islands. They could have numerous original objects still preserved and conservation potential, but they are – for now – dead monuments. Chosen show-towns, on the other hand, are living more or less ordinary life that include platy limestone object or even recognise them as additional value.

We hope that enlisting will be regarded as recognition of their potential and stimulus for future comprehensive approach to protection.



Figure 16. Geographical distribution of selected show-towns with platy limestone cultural heritage.

1. Štanjel, Komen, Slovenija

Fortified medieval agglomeration on the hill with the castle fort, which was burnt down during /after World War II, but is now renovated in greater part. Because of pronounced settlement structure, preservation of many buildings of traditional architecture, castle and fortifications of the town and comprehensive park of Enrico Ferrari, the work of architect Max Fabijani between the years 1924-1942, Štanjel is the focus of the conservation profession and municipality of Komen. Cultural and eco-tourism are developing, being important part of local sustainable economy.



Figure 17. Štanjel / Kras, pogled na Ferrarijevo vilo in hišu »pri Pibakovih« z značilno kraško kamnito streho (photo Neža Čebtron Lipovec, Mitja Guštin).

2. Monrupino/Repentabor, Italy

Municipality Monrupino /Repentabor comprises of villages *Ferneti/Fernetiči*, *Col* and *Repen* where traditional roof of platy limestone slabs has been preserved in some otherwise refurbished buildings. Municipality is important historical, cultural and economic heartland of Slovene minority in Trieste hinterland and architectural heritage is understood as one of most recognisable elements of national identity.



Figure 18. Repentabor / Carso (photo Neža Čebtron Lipovec).

3. Nin, Croatia

Fortified medieval settlement on small island has long and rich cultural and architectural past. Two of most famous object are the church of Holy Cross (sv. Križ) from the 9th century, called “the smallest cathedral in the world”, and the coronation church st. Nicholas (sv. Nikola), both tightly connected to Croatian history during middle ages. Today town is important tourist destination, and both churches promoted as flagships of Nin’s cultural heritage.



Figure 19. Nin (photo internet).

4. Grohote, island Šolta, Croatia

Settlement Grohote is geographic and administrative centre of small island of Šolta. Medieval urbanistic concept is still preserved, as well as some house steads with platy limestone roofs and other elements, the best example being “Ruića dvori” homestead - an residential complex consisting of several houses which are connected through common courtyards. Inland location (off the sea) should encourage the renovation and reuse of such traditional architectural forms as a part of cultural tourism offer.



Figure 20. Šolta, Grohote (photo Wikipedia).

5. Počitelj, Bosnia and Herzegovina

The walled town of Počitelj evolved into the present day urbanistic concept between the 16th and the 18th century in two stages: mediaeval and Ottoman. Stylistically, the residential architecture is a blend of Mediterranean and Oriental elements. The basic building material is stone and typical roof cladding is that of platy limestone slabs. Počitelj represents one of the few urban ensembles in Bosnia and Herzegovina that were preserved in their integrity to the present times, but was mostly abandoned during war in BIH nineties.

In 1996 Počitelj was placed on the list of the world's most endangered cultural heritage sites by the World Monuments Watch. In the year 2000 the Federation of Bosnia and Herzegovina Government initiated the Programme of the permanent protection of Počitelj that includes the protection of cultural heritage, encouraging the return of the refugees and the long-term protection and revitalization of the Počitelj's historic urban area. Since 2007 it is on tentative list of UNESCO world heritage sites.



Figure 21. Počitelj / Hercegovina, parts of the settlement with "Gavrankapetanović Tower", Glavna kula /main tower on the hill (photo internet).

Commentary:

In all show-towns platy limestone is important part of cultural heritage. Počitelj, Nin, Grohote, Štanjel are under general state or local protection, while in Monrupino/Repentabor singular object have various level of juridical protection.

In all selected settlements this heritage enjoy awareness of local community, in some of them it has also strong historical and/or national identification role.

Platy limestone heritage is a great touristic potential. Some of the chosen towns already use it extensively in promotion (Nin, Štanjel), while in others it is a part of a broader agritourism offer (Monrupino/Repentabor). Last one is frequent model of local economy known in rural parts of whole project area. Nevertheless more systematic renovation and use of such object with focus on tourists that desire authentic architecture and cultural landscape would gained them additional boost – this concept should be especially interesting in underdeveloped regions that can't benefit directly of classical "sea-sand-sun" tourism. Grohote (and Škrip on nearby island of Brač) and Počitelj both belong to this category of hinterland settlements.