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CONTEMPORARY APPROACHES TO THE REVITALISATION, PRESENTATION AND PROMOTION OF THE CULTURAL AND NATURAL HERITAGE OF THE PART OF THE ROMAN LIMES - CASE STUDY OF THE LATE ANTIQUE TOMB IN BRESTOVİK

ABSTRACT

The Roman Limes is recognised as a serial cultural property of exceptional universal values of international importance by UNESCO. In the Republic of Serbia, it includes the Danube Valley. The protection, revitalisation, presentation and promotion of sites along the Danube in Serbia is a prerequisite for the entry of this part of the Roman Limes on the UNESCO World Cultural and Natural Heritage List. Bearing in mind the current state of a large number of sites, the question of their protection, revitalisation, presentation and promotion in a contemporary context arises. Referring to the principles of international charters and conventions, the main goal of this paper is to spread knowledge about the possibilities of the protection, revitalisation, presentation and promotion of the cultural and natural heritage of the Roman Limes in Serbia, all for the integration of cultural and natural heritage into the contemporary environment and the establishment of sustainable landscape development. The results are presented through a case study of the late antique tomb in Brestovik, through the conceptual solutions of architecture students, within which the possibilities of integrating contemporary architecture into spaces of natural and historical values were examined. The expected results include raising awareness of the possibilities of integrating natural and cultural heritage into a contemporary context, as well as considering the natural and cultural heritage as a driver for establishing sustainable landscape development.

KEY WORDS: ROMAN LIMES, CULTURAL AND NATURAL HERITAGE, LATE ANTIQUE TOMB, CONTEMPORARY REVITALISATION AND PRESENTATION, SUSTAINABLE DEVELOPMENT

INTRODUCTION

Roman Limes

The Roman Limes represents the former border between the Roman Empire and other, the so-called, "barbarian territories". Considering the dominant position of the Roman Empire through-

out history, which is supported by the evidence of the territorial spread of the Roman Empire on three continents – Africa, Europe, and Asia, the Roman Limes represents a significant testimonial of the existence, development, intertwining, and alternation of different and various social and cultural influences that shaped life over time on the border of the Roman Empire. Nowadays,

the remains of the former Roman Limes consist of many sites of different periods of origin (pre-historic, classical antiquity, and the Middle Ages). It also includes different types of sites such as, fortlets and watchtowers, legionary and auxiliary forts, settlements, and necropolises (Mrđić and Golubović, 2014:101). The rediscovery and study of the site of the Roman Limes enables a revival and understanding of the customs, cultures, and traditions of the people who were an inseparable part of the Roman Limes and who shaped life on the border of the Roman Empire.

Within the borders of the European continent, the natural border of the former Roman Empire includes the courses of large rivers, among which the Rhine and Danube rivers stand out. Along the banks of the Rhine and Danube, an elaborate defensive system was built. As a result of the existence of these numerous fortifications, the rivers became a sort of first defensive shield against enemy attacks on the territory of the Roman Empire (Mrđić and Golubović, 2014:101). Although primarily in the role of protecting the border of the Roman Empire, the built defence facilities enabled the emergence and development of life on the Roman Limes, as seen in the evidence of the remains of many settlements and necropolises. The Roman Limes is, therefore, not only a testimony to the power and wealth of the former Roman Empire, but also a testimony to the former life along the border, which is rediscovered through the study of the remains of the natural and cultural heritage of the Limes itself.

The importance of the study, protection, presentation, and promotion of the Roman Limes on an international and global level has been recognised by UNESCO. Based on the UNESCO initiative, a transnational project for the protection, presentation, and promotion of the cultural and natural heritage of the Roman Limes was launched, under the name “Frontiers of the Roman Empire” (Cvjetičanin 2013; Mrđić and Golubović, 2014:102-103). This project aims to preserve the remains of the Roman Limes in Europe, Asia, and Africa. The project began with the inscription of the Antonine Wall in Scotland to the UNESCO List of World Cultural Heritage, in 2008 (Breeze 2009: 39-72). Germany, Great Britain, The Netherlands, Austria and Slovakia, on whose territories the sites belonging to the remains of the Roman Limes can be found, have entered sites on the UN-

ESCO List of World Cultural Heritage and numerous other countries are in the process of registering (Cvjetičanin 2013; Mrđić and Golubović, 2014:102-103). The Republic of Serbia, through whose territory the Danube river flows and which is part of the Roman Limes, is in the process of registering as well (Cvjetičanin 2013; Mrđić and Golubović, 2014:102-103). However, in order for sites to be included in the UNESCO List of World Cultural Heritage, they must be properly protected, presented, and promoted, as laid out in the “Operational Guidelines for the Implementation of the Convention on World Heritage”, verified by the UNESCO organisation (UNESCO 2021:42-43).

Consequently, this paper aims to highlight the necessity of studying the natural and cultural-historical values of the part of the Roman Limes located on the territory of the Republic of Serbia. The length of the Danube river through the Republic of Serbia is 588 kilometres and it keeps the testimony of the natural and cultural heritage of the part of the Roman Limes that requires a certain type of protection, presentation, and promotion in the contemporary context, in order to enter the UNESCO List of World Cultural Heritage as part of the heritage of the border of the Roman Empire. In 2015, a tentative list of sites in Serbia was submitted and adopted, while in 2020, the list was revised by Serbia, and now includes 35 sites (UNESCO 2020).

Roman Limes in Serbia

Within the territory of the Republic of Serbia, the Roman Limes includes the course of the Danube river. Geographically and spatially, the study of the part of the Roman Limes in the territory of the Republic of Serbia can be divided into three sections: the Pannonian section, the Moesian section, and the Iron Gates section (Figure 1) (Korać et al, 2014:37)

The Pannonian section includes the area along the banks of the Danube on the territory of Vojvodina – Srem, Banat and Bačka, and extends to Belgrade. This part of the Roman Limes stands out for its large number of fortifications and watchtowers, which were built for the needs of the Roman garrisons. The evidence of their existence are numerous remains of former buildings, but also the remains of settlements and necropolises that point to the

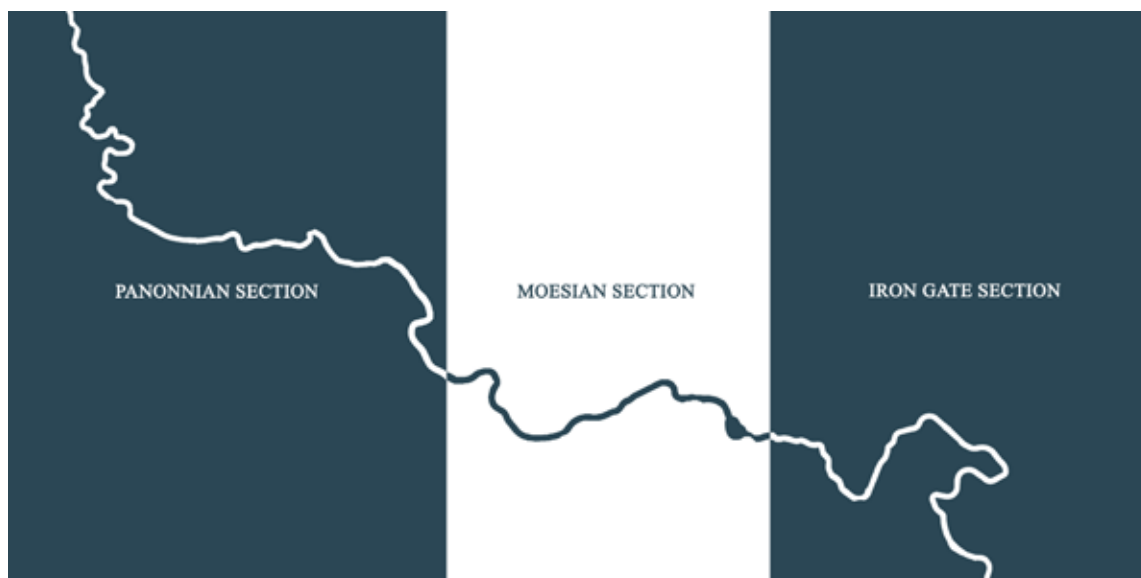


Fig. 1. Roman Limes in Serbia (map by J. Šćekić).

origin and development of life on the border of the Roman Empire (Korać et al, 2014:47-49). Among the discovered and explored sites, those that stand out are: the Dumbovo site (remains of a settlement), the sites in Susek and Neštin (watchtowers), the Bač site (fortification and port), the Ilok site (fortification), the site in Begeč (*Castelum Onagrinum* – fortification), the site near Čortanovci (*Ad Herculem* – fortification), the site at Petrovaradin (*Cusum* – auxiliary fort), the site near Stari Slankamen (*Acumincum* – ancient fortification under the medieval fortification), the site in Surduk (*Rittium* – fortification), and the site in Zemun (*Taurunum* – fortification, settlement, and necropolis) (Đorđević 2007).

The Moesian section extends geographically between Belgrade and Golubac, including the course of the Danube river and its embankment. Given the geographical and morphological characteristics of the Moesian section, which is dominated by wide valleys, this part of the Roman Limes within the territory of today's Republic of Serbia was part of the border among those most exposed to enemy attacks. Consequently, the Moesian section was the most important part of the border of the Roman Empire in the defence system (Korać et al. 2014:50-53). Confirmed sites of the Moesian section are the one located under today's Belgrade (*Singidunum* – Roman city and legionary fortress), a site in Višnjica (*Castrum Oc-*

tavum – auxiliary fort), sites in the area of Ritopek (*Castra Tricornia* – auxiliary fort), site near Grocka (Brestovik – a tomb), a site in Seone (*Aureus Mons* – a settlement), a site in Dubravica (*Margum* – a settlement and a fort), a site in Stari Kostolac (*Viminacium* – the capital of the province of Upper Moesia and the legionary fortress), two sites in Ram (Roman road with the inscription and *Lederata* – auxiliary fort), and a site in Golubac (*Cuppae* – auxiliary fort) with the remains of the Roman road below the Golubac fortress (Korać et al. 2014:50-53).

The section of Iron Gates includes the course of the Danube river within the Iron Gates gorge. Bearing in mind the geographical and morphological characteristics of the Iron Gates gorge, which represents a composite river valley composed of four gorges (Golubac, Gospođin vir, Kazan, and Sip) and four valleys (Ljupkova, Donji Milanovac, Oršavska, and Wallachia-Pontic lowlands), the Iron Gates section of the Roman Limes represented is one of the most challenging parts of the border of the Roman Empire from the perspective of defence infrastructure (Korać et al, 2014:54). As a result, smaller military fortifications for auxiliary troops of the Roman army were built in the Iron Gates gorge, while larger settlements, fortifications, and ports were built in the valleys where the space for construction was more accessible (Korać et al, 2014:54). Explorations of the Iron Gates section began in the 19th century,

and numerous books and travelogues indicate the existence of more than 80 archaeological sites, among which Roman fortifications prevail (Korać et al, 2014:55). The most extensive protective research of this part of the Roman Limes, the results of which can be found in the publications of the Institute of Archaeology in Belgrade – “Đerdapske sveske (Cahiers des Pontes de Fer) I, II, III, IV”, were carried out in the 20th century (Kondić, 1980, 1984, 1986, 1987). After the beginning of the work of the Iron Gates Hydroelectric Power Plant, numerous sites were submerged and, as a result, almost forgotten. The sites still visible and partly accessible in this section are Čezava (*Novae* – auxiliary fort) in Dobra, a site named Hajučka Vodenica (auxiliary fort), a site in Miroč (*Gerulata* – auxiliary fort), Trajan’s tablet (imperial rock inscription with the section of the Roman road), a site in Karataš (*Diana* – auxiliary fort), a site in Kostol (*Pontes* – auxiliary fort with Trajan’s Bridge), a site in Rtkovo (*Glamija* – fortlet), a site in Brza Palanka (*Egeta* – three auxiliary forts), a site in Mihajlovac (*Mora Vagei* – fortlet), a site in Prahovo (*Aquae* – city), and a site in Radujevac (Ćetaće – fortlet). (Korać et al, 2014:67-87; UNESCO 2020).

Cultural and historical values of the Moesian section

As already mentioned in this paper, the Moesian section (Figure 2) represented one of the most vulnerable parts of the Roman Limes on the territory of today’s Republic of Serbia, because of which more attention was directed towards its protection. The Moesian section is characterised by a large number of sites that are the remains of military fortifications and settlements built in their surroundings (Figure 3).

Singidunum is a Roman legionary fortress around which a settlement and necropolis developed. According to its geographical position, at the confluence of two rivers, the Danube and the Sava in Belgrade, *Singidunum* represented an important military stronghold, but also a town, a trade and economic centre. Many discovered archaeological remains testify to its multi-layered importance (Đorđević, 2019:38-41). Based on the decision from the Institute for the Protection of Cultural Monuments of the City of

Belgrade, ancient *Singidunum* was recognised as and declared an immovable cultural asset in 1964 (Rešenje 1964).

The site of *Viminacium* includes the remains of a legionary fortress and a Roman city, the capital of the province of Upper Moesia. Its location is in the village of Stari Kostolac, just 12 kilometres from the town of Požarevac (INSKD 2020b). Considering its role as a former military and administrative centre, *Viminacium* is recognised as an archaeological site of exceptional importance. Based on the decision on determining immovable cultural assets of exceptional and great importance, the *Viminacium* site was declared a cultural asset of exceptional importance for the then Socialist Republic of Serbia in 1979 (Odluka 1979).

The site of *Lederata* is located on the right bank of the Danube river, near the village of Ram. It represents the remains of an auxiliary fort from the end of the 1st century and later building phases up to the 6th century. The fort’s hilly position above the river predetermined the function of *Lederata* as a defensive fortification for the protection of the river crossing (INSKD 2020a). The fortification’s significance was also recognised by the then Socialist Republic of Serbia. The site of *Lederata* was declared a cultural asset of great importance in 1987, based on the decision regarding the determination of immovable cultural assets of exceptional and great importance (Odluka 1987).

The shown sites indicate the cultural and historical values of the Moesian section as part of the Roman Limes that is located on the territory of the Republic of Serbia. Above all, it also showed its defensive importance in the military protection system of the borders of the Roman Empire. However, although it is mainly dominant in its defensive role, the Moesian section includes sites of other functions. One of them, which, from the perspective of the protection, presentation, and promotion of cultural heritage, has been unduly neglected, is the late antique tomb in Brestovik, chosen as a case study within this paper. The Brestovik tomb represents a kind of testimony of social and cultural values, but also beliefs, customs, and traditions of the time.



Fig. 2. Cultural and historical values of Moesian section

- a. Remains of old Roman castrum of Singidunum (@Crnibombarder/Wikimedia Commons/CC BY-SA 3.0, https://upload.wikimedia.org/wikipedia/commons/thumb/9/92/Singidunum_ostaci1.jpg/350px-Singidunum_ostaci1.jpg, accessed October 9th, 2022);
- b. Mausoleum in Viminacium (Perpetuum Mobile, Viminacium: Grad careva, grobova, mamuta i brodova, @2014-2022 Milan Mirković, <https://www.perpetuummobile.blog/2020/08/viminacijum.html>, accessed October 9th, 2022)
- c. Remains of Lederata fort tower (Boom93, Kakve se još tajne kriju u Ramu, @Narodni muzej Požarevac, <https://boom93.rs/info/drustvo/kakve-se-jos-tajne-kriju-u-ramu/>, accessed October 9th 2022)

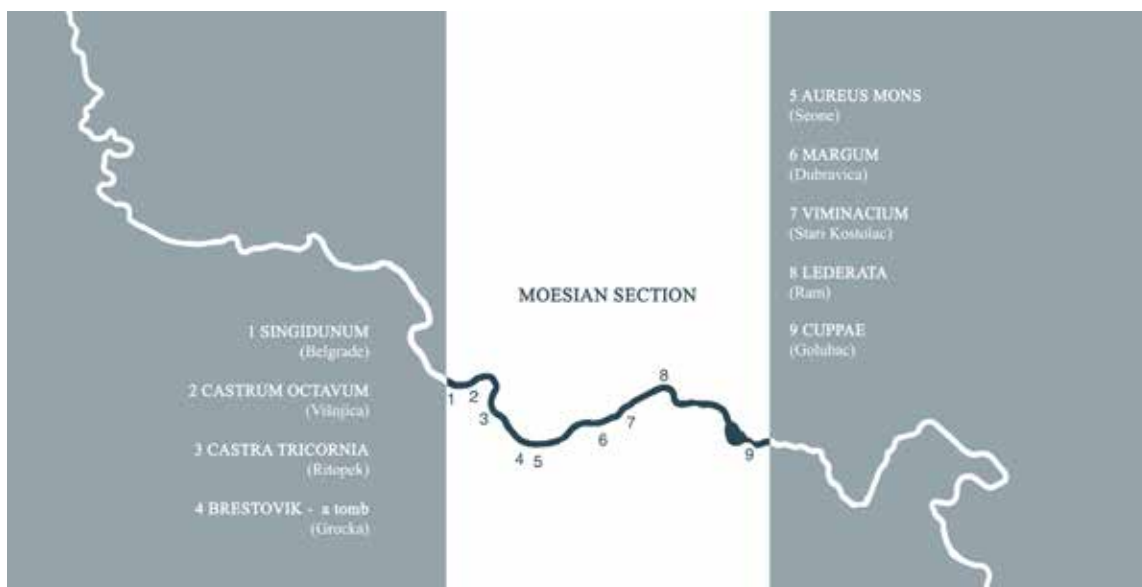


Fig. 3. Moesian section - archaeological sites source (map by J. Šćekić, October 2022).

NEW APPROACHES TO THE PROTECTION, PRESENTATION AND PROMOTION OF CULTURAL AND NATURAL HERITAGE IN THE CONTEMPORARY CONTEXT

The previous analysis of the Roman Limes, as well as the overview of important sites that belong to different historical periods and with different purposes, indicates its multi-layered importance, both on the level of the Republic of Serbia as well as on the global level. Consequently, the necessity of adequate protection, presentation, and promotion of the cultural heritage of the Roman Limes as a piece of heritage of the entire humanity, in accordance with the needs and ways of contemporary life, is highlighted. In that regard, the importance of studying international documents, charters, and declarations, verified by relevant organisations working on the protection, presentation, and promotion of cultural and natural heritage on the global level, is emphasised, among which are UNESCO (United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organisation – a United Nations organisation specialising in education, science and culture throughout the world), the Council of Europe and international non-governmental organisations, such as: ICOMOS (International Council on Monuments and Sites), ICCROM (International Centre for the Study of the Preservation and Restoration of Cultural Properties) and Europa Nostra (Europa Nostra – The Voice of Cultural Heritage in Europe) (Nikolić 2022:50). Within the framework of documents, declarations, and charters that are important for the study of cultural and natural heritage, principles and guidelines for their protection, presentation, and promotion in the contemporary context are defined, aligned with the imperative of preserving their natural and cultural and historical values. Therefore, their study is a prerequisite for any dealings with cultural and natural heritage in the contemporary context. Bearing in mind the subject and problem of this research paper, which refers to the contemporary principles of the revitalisation, presentation, and promotion of cultural and natural heritage researched in the case study of the late antique tomb in Brestovik, the importance of studying the Florence Landscape Convention (Council of Europe, 2000), the Charter on Cultural Routes from

Quebec (ICOMOS 2008), and the Nara Document on Authenticity is particularly emphasised (ICOMOS 1994).

Within these documents, the concepts of cultural and natural heritage, cultural landscape, and cultural routes are more closely defined. Also, the potential of viewing cultural and natural heritage through the concept of the protection, presentation, and promotion of the authenticity of cultural and natural heritage, as well as the presentation and promotion of landscapes and cultural routes, allows cultural and natural heritage to be seen as an inseparable part of the environment in which they are located.

The importance of studying the authenticity of cultural and natural heritage is especially highlighted from the aspect of recognising the value of the cultural and natural heritage that should be protected, presented, and promoted in the contemporary context (Nikolić 2022:111-116). The term authenticity defined this way indicates the complexity of authenticity as a quality of heritage, but also its importance in the process of preserving heritage, which requires a comprehensive consideration of all its values, both material and immaterial, but also a dedicated search for the truth that should be preserved and appropriately presented and promoted in the contemporary context. The importance of the Nara Document on Authenticity is particularly emphasised when integrating contemporary architecture into spaces with pronounced natural, cultural, and historical values, where the preservation of all existing cultural and historical layers that built the identity of the cultural heritage over time and influenced its current state is an imperative in the process of the protection, presentation, and promotion of cultural heritage in the contemporary context (Roter Blagojević et al, 2013:20-24).

The use and respect of the principles of protection, presentation, and promotion of cultural and natural heritage defined in the framework of internationally recognised documents, charters, and declarations, with an examination of the possibility of their implementation within the project framework of the protection and revitalisation of natural and cultural heritage through contemporary architectural expression, represents a possible method for the integration of natural and cultural heritage into contemporary trends, and seeing

them as an integral part of the space in which they are located, something that is also sought in the case study of the late antique tomb in Brestovik.

TEACHING IN THE FIELD OF THE STUDY AND PROTECTION OF ARCHITECTURAL HERITAGE AT THE UNIVERSITY OF BELGRADE – FACULTY OF ARCHITECTURE

Within the Faculty of Architecture's teaching process at the University of Belgrade, the successful and long-term development of the teaching programme in the field of the study and protection of architectural heritage, in compulsory as well as optional subjects, is noticeable. These programmes are in line with the guidelines adopted for education and training for the conservation of monuments, ensembles, and sites by ICOMOS in Colombo in 1993 (Roter Blagojević i Nikolić, 2013: 45). These guidelines stipulate that in the educational system and training for conservation, it is a necessity to transfer all the necessary knowledge to those who directly or indirectly affect the cultural heritage. According to that, the basic recommendations defined by the guidelines have been incorporated in various ways into the system of education and improvement of conservation practices in certain European countries, as well as at the Faculty of Architecture in Belgrade.

The methodology of the elective course History and Theory 3 – Ancient Heritage in the Region

During classes in the autumn term of 2020/2021 at the University of Belgrade's Faculty of Architecture, a course was part of a syllabus in the second year of the master studies, i.e., in the fifth year of integrated academic studies in architecture, entitled History and Theory 3 – Ancient Heritage in the Region, led by Assistant Professor Dr Marko Nikolić and Teaching Assistant Ena Takač. A total of 28 students from the master's academic studies in architecture and 12 students from the integrated academic studies actively attended the course (Nikolić i Takač, 2021: 202). The teaching process in this subject consisted of lectures and exercises, during which students had the opportunity to become acquainted with modern methodological approaches to research and the valorisation of an-

cient heritage in the world, as well as on the territory of the Republic of Serbia, and to address the problems and methods of defining the potential and possibility of restoration of the ancient heritage in accordance with contemporary needs. The topic of the research in the subject was related to the study of the ancient heritage on the territory of the city of Belgrade, through the study of the late Roman tomb in Brestovik and the possibilities of its protection, revitalisation, and presentation.

Cultural and historical values of the late Roman tomb in Brestovik and its surroundings

The village of Brestovik is located 28 km east of Belgrade, within the boundaries of Grocka borough, near the Danube river. Like many small towns in Serbia, Grocka was organised in an oriental manner, with a busy bazaar in the centre of the settlement. The settlement consists of houses that are made of bondruck (houses with a wall construction made of a visible skeleton of wooden beams), and which, with their architectural and ethnographic values, represent the largest domains of construction, housing, and local culture in our national architecture. Houses in the Grocka style are spacious single-family dwellings of different types of bondruck country houses, with three to four rooms, a porch, and a veranda (Вујовић 1994: 341). Brestovik has a similar character to the municipality to which it belongs, a spontaneous character, created on hilly terrain, Brestovik, like Grocka, has village-type buildings that are in very bad condition. (Figure 4)

The late Roman tomb in Brestovik represents evidence of life in Brestovik even in Roman times. It represents one of the most precious monuments from the ancient period, not only on the territory of Belgrade but also on the whole territory of Serbia. The late Roman tomb is located right next to the village cemetery, on the site that locals call Vukašin's church. The tomb is positioned in a diverse landscape on a hill that had a potential of viewing the entire landscape and creating a visual connection with the Danube river, which, due to contemporary construction, does not exist now. Emphasizing the potential of the natural environment is one of the key aspects of connecting this site with its visitors (Nikolić i Takač, 2021: 206).



Fig. 4. Brestovik - late Roman tomb and its surroundings (photo by P. Marjanović, June 2021, from Nikolić, Takač 2021).

The tomb's layout and the found artifacts indicate the connection of the tomb with pagan heroes and sanctuaries of the imperial cult. Considering that, this tomb represents a link in the chain of development between ancient and early Christian cult buildings. The tomb was built in the second half of the 3rd or at the beginning of the 4th century AD (Вујичић-Вуловић, 1967:85). It represents the type of building from which complex Christian buildings related to the tombstone cult would later develop (Симић 2009:3). Today, the entrance to the late Roman tomb is located on private property, in a back garden. In other words, it requires the visitor to pass through private property, an inappropriate and impractical way to visit this cultural asset, which should be publicly approachable and open to all visitors (Figure 5).

The current approach to the protection of the late Roman tomb in Brestovik

The late Roman tomb in Brestovik was discovered in 1895 by the then owner of the property on which it is located. In the same year, the first explorations of the tomb were conducted by the architect Mihajlo Valtrović. He made detailed notes about the remains and artifacts that he found there. Based on the discovered remains, consisting of three brick sarcophagi – for two adults and one child, parts of two figures of the Genius of Death, and two lions guarding the tomb entrance, together with one life-sized statue of a Roman, Valtrović pointed out in his report that they were the remains of a Roman tomb. After further excavations, it was determined that this tomb dates back to the 3rd century and that it represents the first example of a multi-chambered tomb from the ancient era to be found on



Fig. 5. Brestovik - late Roman tomb (photo by P. Marjanović, June 2021, from Nikolić, Takač 2021).



Fig. 6. Brestovik – Appearance of the late Roman tomb (photo by Institute of Archaeology, May 2022, December 2019, from Nikolić, Takač 2021).

the territory of the city of Belgrade (Валтровић, 1906: 130). The study of the painted decoration in the late Roman tomb was described by Mihajlo Valtrović in 1905, while research and revision excavation works on the tomb were carried out much later in 1955 by the Institute of Archaeology of the Serbian Academy of Sciences and the researcher Đorđe Stričević. Research concluded that the room with the remains of the sarcophagus on the west side is older than other parts of the building (Стричевић 1957: 412).

The report after all completed research and works on renovation, which was published in 1967 by the architect Mila Vujičić-Vulović, did not clearly state exactly which interventions were included in the conservation of the painting inside the tomb, which was carried out by Radomir Gašić. After the completion of the works carried out in 1964, which are not clearly stated, the tomb was restored to the state it is in today, which is accessible to the public (Вујичић-Вуловић, 1967: 91) (Figure 7).

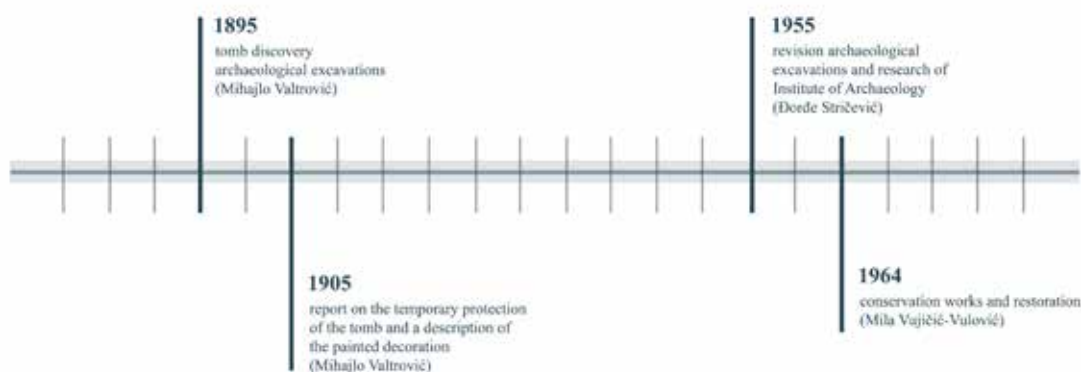


Fig. 7. Chronological overview of the archaeological research of the late Roman tomb in Brestovik (scheme by E. Takač, modified from Nikolić, Takač 2021).

Research and conservation efforts on the remains of the tomb continued in 1964 under the supervision of the architect Mila Vujičić-Vulović (Nikolić, Rogić i Anđelković Grašar, 2018: 198). The focus of the work was centred on the conservation and restoration of the tomb's architecture and painting. The condition of the tomb in 1964 was very similar to that of 1955, before the works were carried out. It was noted that the walls of the building were damaged and that the frescoes had disappeared in several places due to exposure to atmospheric changes (Вујичић-Вуловић, 1967: 89). The renovation works in 1964 were conducted on the architecture, that is, on the entrance wall of the burial chamber, the walls of the apse, and the walls of the approach area, as well as on the floors in front of the chamber and inside the porch. In addition to the above-mentioned efforts, the renovation also included access paths, as well as a plateau in front of the tomb. (Figure 6)

With its architectural and constructional characteristics and religious-cultural features, the tomb represents an outstanding example of Roman sacral architecture on the territory of the Republic of Serbia. Consequently, in 1979 it was declared a cultural asset of great importance.

THE POSSIBILITIES OF THE PROTECTION, REVITALISATION AND PRESENTATION OF THE LATE ROMAN TOMB IN BRESTOVİK – ACHIEVED RESULTS

After researching the cultural-historical and natural values of the site and its development over time, the conducted research and the current state – based on the collected, systematised, analysed, and valorised data, the students started working on conceptual solutions for the protection, revit-

alisation, presentation, and promotion of the observed values of the late Roman tomb in Brestovik, with the aim of integrating it into the contemporary environment.

Project 1 – Proposed by students Milena Ristić, Eli Janja Stojanović and Emilija Savić

The proposal for the revitalisation of the late Roman tomb project is formed by emphasising the solution to the main problem of accessibility and the specific morphology of the terrain, in order to preserve the ambiance. Accordingly, the basic concept of moving around the site is designed to be carried out by using a system of ramps that reach all points on the site and allow unhindered movement and viewing of its complete content. The ramp system extends over several levels and, as it were, “collects” each object with all their functions and, thus, following the route of the system, visitors can create a story and enjoy all the possibilities that the site offers. (Figure 8)

The revitalisation plan of this project envisages the creation of a visitor centre, located at the beginning of the ramp system, where visitors would receive basic information about the site, then, via the ramp, reach the vineyard, which includes a wine store, a coffee bar, a viewpoint, pavilions containing a souvenir shop and, finally, they come

to the tomb, where conservation is planned. Newly designed buildings are fully integrated into the natural environment, emphasising their character. By using stone, wood, and glass in shaping the new content, a balance between the old and the new is achieved, which enables the preservation of the authenticity and ambiance of this monument. (Figure 9)

The project, in addition to the introduction of new complementary content, foresees the formation of a protective structure serving as a lapidarium, the main motive of this project, which also integrates a ramp. The formation of the lapidarium points to the tomb as an important location for the development of the space for education. The construction of the protective building was shaped to emphasise the connection of the natural environment with the tomb itself, which is reflected in the formation of a semi-open structure which, by the exclusion of one wall, enables a clear view towards the Danube river. (Figure 10)

Project 2 – Proposed by students Teodora Simonović, Ana Srebro, Jelena Stanisavljević, Milica Miljković and Jelena Šćekić

The proposal for the revitalisation of the late Roman tomb in this paper is based on improving access to the site and its better presentation, and



Fig. 8. Proposal for arranging the parterre around the late Roman tomb (drawing and models by M. Ristić, E. J. Stojanović and E. Savić, from Nikolić, Takač 2021).



Fig. 9. Preliminary project of the visitor centre (models by M. Ristić, E. J. Stojanović and E. Savić, from Nikolić, Takač 2021).

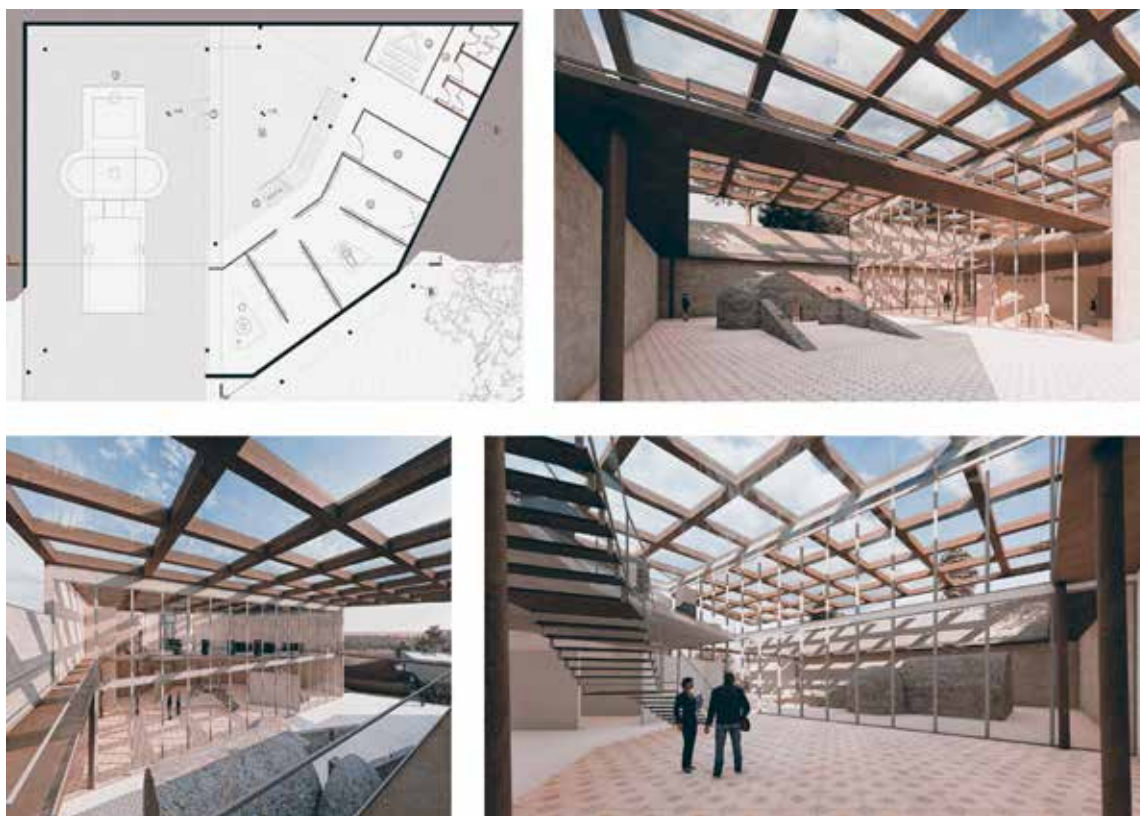


Fig. 10. Preliminary project of the lapidarium (drawing and models by M. Ristić, E. J. Stojanović and E. Savić, from Nikolić, Takač 2021).

also its tangible and intangible values. Establishing such an approach in order to revitalise the site, indicates that its goal is to find a balance between the old and the new in order to preserve the authenticity and ambiance of its archaeology.

By recognising the main problem that is reflected in the access to the site, the students proposed arranging the traffic infrastructure and the surroundings of the site itself. The development plan foresees the existing access to the site being moved to the side of the plot where the tomb is located, thus, preventing the need to go through the properties of nearby buildings. (Figure 11) After rearranging the site's access, the next step related to the position of the first content that will indicate the importance of the site is the formation of the visitor's centre. The centre is designed as an exhibition space with a lecture hall, which would offer visitors their first information about the site. The ground-floor of the centre is designed in a simple geometric form, which, with its appearance and realisation, indicates the consistency of the revitalisation project with its aim of not jeopardising the perception of the tomb's architecture and its ambiance. (Figure 12)

The revitalisation of the central part of the plot creates a piazza as the main gathering spot from which paths branch off to other complementary contents, such as: a wine cellar, amphitheatre, lapidarium, and the tomb itself. In addition to everything mentioned above, in the piazza, we would form some prefabricated pavilions, which would represent a space for the presentation of the intangible heritage, as well as a gathering place for the local population. Within the pavilion, it is foreseen that it would provide content to inform the site's visitors, in addition to including some information about the architecture of Grocka – about its cultural heritage and natural resources. (Figure 13)

In addition to the piazza as an organised public space, an amphitheatre would also be created, located next to the tomb itself. It is placed so it can follow the fall of the terrain and it represents a natural deflection from the village cemetery, which is located behind the tomb itself. Above the amphitheatre and the remains of the tomb, which is being conserved, a steel protective structure is formed so that it can protect the frescoes and the interior of the tomb

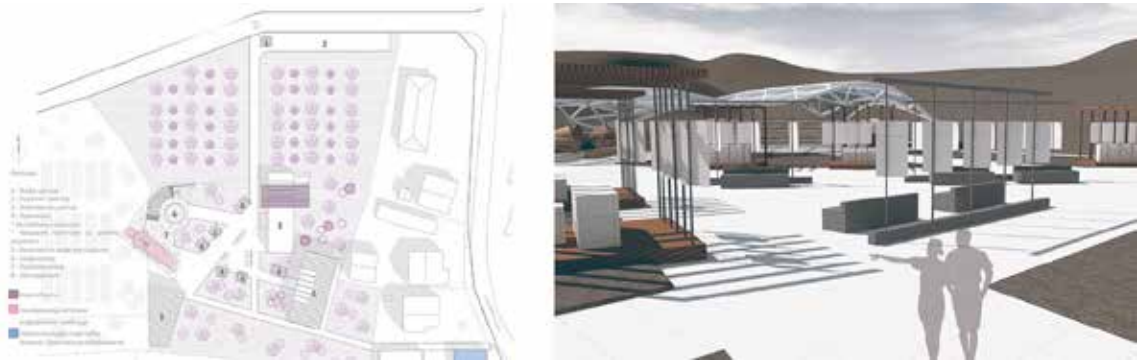


Fig. 11. Proposal for arranging the parterre around the late Roman tomb (drawing and model by T. Simonović, A. Srebro, J. Stanisavljević, M. Miljković and J. Šćekić, from Nikolić, Takač 2021).



Fig. 12. Preliminary project of the visitor centre (models by T. Simonović, A. Srebro, J. Stanisavljević, M. Miljković and J. Šćekić, from Nikolić, Takač 2021).



Fig. 13. Preliminary project of the piazza with pavilions (models by T. Simonović, A. Srebro, J. Stanisavljević, M. Miljković and J. Šćekić, from Nikolić, Takač 2021).

itself. By positioning the amphitheatre next to the late Roman tomb itself, visitors are given the opportunity to observe the landscape as a whole, and it can also be used for open-air lectures. (Figure 14)

To additionally point out the importance of the presentation of the intangible heritage of this area, the students, in addition to prefabricated pavilions, envisioned a wine cellar. Bearing in mind the dominant natural environment of the location near private family houses, the wine shop was designed to fit into the existing landscape. By positioning the wine shop within this site, a presentation of wine and local products is made possible,

which enables the nurturing of the culture of wine production that is a characteristic of this region. (Figure 15)

Project 3 – Proposed by students Nevena Petrović, Emilija Radenković, Jovan Jovanović, Teodora Jeremić, Una Korica and Milica Jovančević

By analysing the environment in which the monument is located, to activate it and bring it closer to visitors, this group of students approached the solution of its approach and the use of the specificity of its disposition by proposing three options. (Figure 16)

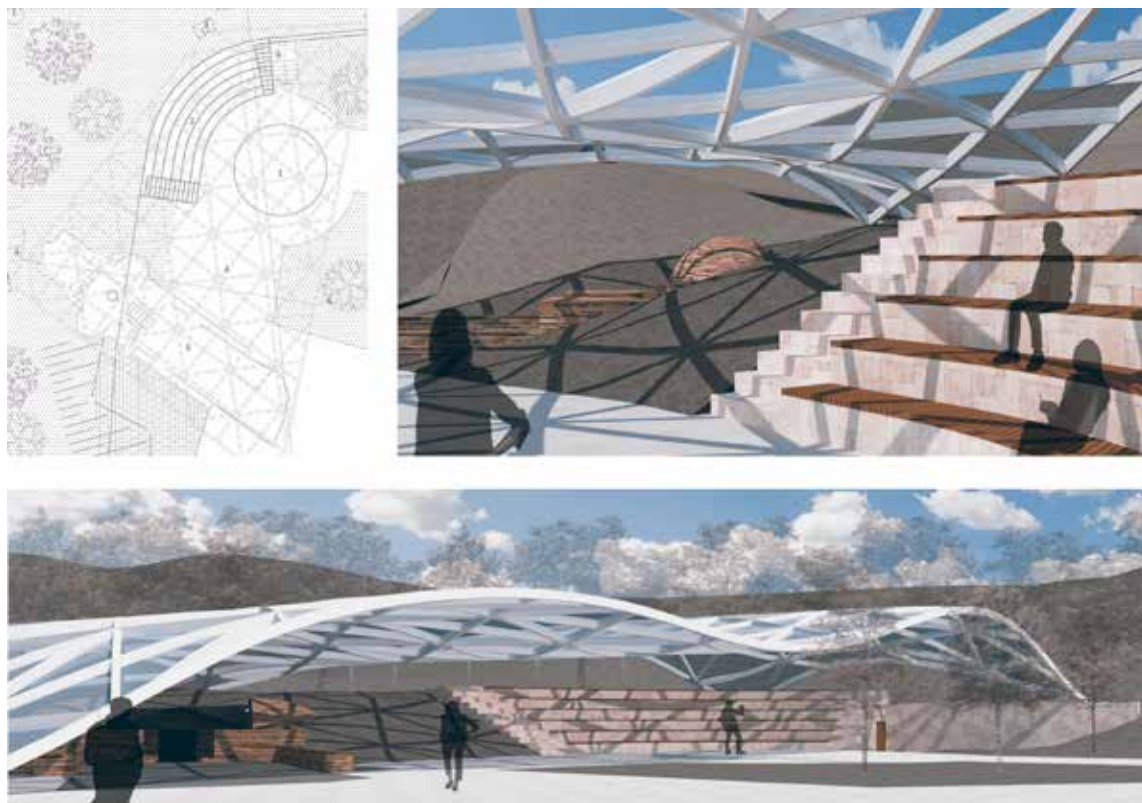


Fig. 14. Project of the amphitheatre and protective structure above the late Roman tomb (drawing and model by T. Simonović, A. Srebro, J. Stanisavljević, M. Miljković and J. Ščekić, from Nikolić, Takač 2021).



Fig. 15. Preliminary project of the winery (models by T. Simonović, A. Srebro, J. Stanisavljević, M. Miljković and J. Ščekić, from Nikolić, Takač 2021)

Option 1 represents a proposal that considers the formation of new content at the current position of the entrance to the site itself. Based on this option, it was established that the privacy of properties in the immediate proximity of the tomb is being compromised and, for this reason, it is additionally conditioned that future interventions on this site must be of a closed nature. Looking back to the previous option, option 2 was formed to indicate that it is necessary to avoid close contact with residential buildings by relocating the entrance to the complex to the centre of the plot. This option envisions a smaller building being po-

sitioned south on the street itself and this could be used as an information centre after the revitalisation. Similar to option 1, this solution would be primarily linear, and would create a climb to the tomb, which would include exhibits along its route. Option 3 does not resemble the previous two concepts, as accessing the tomb is possible from a secondary road leading to the village cemetery. The advantage of this solution is that the private plots would not be disturbed, but the connection to the tomb itself would be formed on a path that lies on the divisions of the plots. The proposed form of the new facility may seem inconsistent and



Fig. 16. Diagram of variations of the parterre in front of the late Roman tomb (drawings by N. Petrović, E. Radenković, J. Jovanović, T. Jeremić, U. Korica and M. Jovančević, from Nikolić, Takač 2021).

invasive at first glance. However, this structure is justified by the division of new content. In addition to the above, the embankment that separates the new building from the village cemetery could be used and, thus, a part of the building could be subterranean. By considering all the variations, the students concluded that the best solution for the regeneration of this area is variant 3, which, with its unique solution enables the undisturbed use and presentation of the tomb.

After solving the main problem of accessing the site itself, the students considered the concept of the architectural project. The concept of new content was formed in relation to the importance

of the cult of the dead, which was present during the late Roman period. Following that concept, the students envisioned a multi-functional facility designed as intertwining above-ground and underground spaces, simulating the cycle of life through the experience of the exhibition. Consequently, an object of four broken tracts that follow the isohypses of the terrain was formed. The first tract of the building is located above ground and contains an information centre with a gallery space where visitors can learn about the intangible heritage of Brestovik. The second tract is located underground and introduces visitors to the tangible heritage. Within the third tract, which is

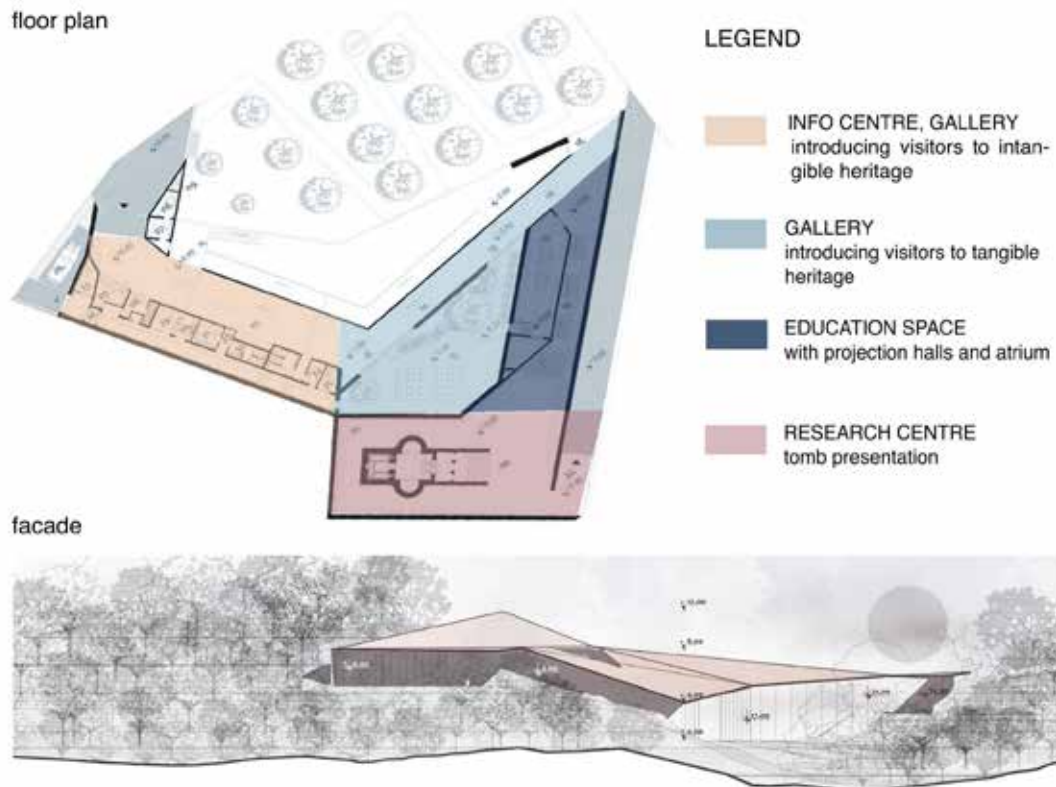


Fig. 17. Floor plan and facade of the object (drawings by N. Petrović, E. Radenković, J. Jovanović, T. Jeremić, U. Korica and M. Jovančević, from Nikolić, Takač 2021).

found above ground, there is an educational hall which, in addition to the projection room, also has an atrium where lectures are held that teach visitors about the importance and preservation of archaeological sites. The fourth and final tract, located underground, forms the centre for scientific research with the purpose of presentation of the late Roman tomb itself. (Figure 17)

Analysis of achieved student results in the field of the protection, revitalisation and presentation of the late Roman tomb in Brestovik

The rich range of offered solutions speaks, on the one hand, of the complexity of all the problems encountered by students during the work and, on the other hand, about the breadth and creativity of the students with which it is potentially possible to improve and restore the site of the late Roman tomb in Brestovik. Accordingly, the relevance and success of the protection, revitalisation, and presentation projects of the late Roman tomb in Brestovik are viewed with regard to three important criteria: the relationship to protected cultural-historical and natural values (Table 1), the introduction of new complementary content (Table 2), and the use of contemporary materials in the architectural expression (Table 3).

The protection and preservation projects of the late Roman tomb in Brestovik envisage the conservation of the remains (in situ) and the forma-

tion of a protective structure that, with its structure and materialisation, does not damage the cultural-historical and natural values of this site. The specificity that distinguishes the approaches in the presentation of the remains of the late Roman tomb in the presented projects is their relationship to the environment. With its proposal for a protective structure, Project 1 envisages the formation of a semi-open protective structure that integrates the environment with the remains of the tomb itself. That is not the case with Project 3, which presents the remains of a tomb in a closed structure buried underground. Complete contact with the environment was made possible within the framework of Project 2, by forming a protective structure whose shape fully follows the configuration of the terrain.

The students' works, in addition to considering the protection the remains of the late Roman tomb site itself, also realise the importance of its presentation. As the first problem in solving the site's presentation, they encountered the problem of its accessibility and disposition, which all projects solved by proposing new access to the site and creating new public spaces within which new cultural and educational content was formed. These allow visitors to learn about the importance of the late Roman tomb in Brestovik (Table 2).

The students' work that dealt with designing new content at the site of the late Roman tomb in Brestovik envisages the use of stone, steel, wood,




REMAINS OF A LATE ANTIQUE TOMB					
	Relationship with the environment	Technical protection measure	Protective construction / purpose	Materialisation	Project
PROJECT 1	The protective building integrates with the environment with its open plan	Conservation of remains in situ	Protective structure in a massive system with the purpose of a lapidarium	The building was made from a combination of stone, steel and glass	
PROJECT 2	The protective structure was created to follow the morphology of the terrain	Conservation of remains in situ	Protective structure as a skeletal system in the form of a canopy	Protective structure was made from a combination of steel and glass	
PROJECT 3	The protective structure is partially buried in the ground and allows the synergy of the interior and the natural environment	Conservation of remains in situ	Protective building in a massive system with the purpose of a scientific research and visitor centre	The building was made from a combination of steel and glass	

Table 1. Relationship between protected cultural-historical and natural values (table by E. Takač).




NEW STRUCTURES ON THE SITE					
	Public spaces	Accessibility	Cultural - educational contents	Catering facilities	Project
PROJECT 1	A ramp system like a street gallery	Moving the original access to the side street. Creating new pedestrian paths and ramp systems	Lapidarium Visitor centre Gallery	Cafe Restaurant	
PROJECT 2	Forming a piazza with prefabricated pavilions	Moving the original access to the side street. Creating new pedestrian paths	Lapidarium Visitor centre	Winery Cafe Restaurant	
PROJECT 3	Formation of inner courtyards with the character of a park area	Moving the original access to the side street	Lapidarium Gallery Research centre Visitor centre	Cafe Restaurant	

Table 2. Formation of new complementary content at the site (table by E. Takač).




MATERIALISATION OF NEW STRUCTURES ON THE SITE					
	Public spaces	Accessibility	Cultural - educational content	Catering facilities	Project
PROJECT 1	Corten steel ramp system	Access to the building paved with stone slabs	Walls built of a combination of stone and steel Roof covered with glass and sheet metal	Walls built of a combination of stone and steel Roof covered with glass and sheet metal	
PROJECT 2	The piazza is paved with stone slabs Pavilions built of light wooden construction	Access to the building paved with stone slabs	Walls built of a combination of stone and wood Roof covered with glass and sheet metal	Walls built of a combination of stone and wood Roof covered with glass and sheet metal	
PROJECT 3	The floor is formed of stone slabs	Access to the building paved with stone slabs	The walls are made of steel in combination with glass Roof covered with corten steel	The walls are made of steel in combination with glass Roof covered with corten steel	

Table 3. Use of modern materials in architectural expression (table by E. Takač).

and glass, enabling their integration into the environment. (Table 3)

Based on the established criteria, we can conclude that, in the creation of their solutions, the students have a clear definition and relocation of the access to the site, as well as the aspiration to, through the introduction of new artistic and educational content, retain the primary cultural-educational character of the site and, thus, make it more attractive for visitors, as a common characteristic. By forming this approach for the revitalisation of this ancient

heritage, the students pointed out the importance of presenting archaeological sites and monuments, primarily their tangible and intangible elements and, in this way, the authenticity and integrity of the site to be preserved is enabled.

CONCLUSIONS

Through theoretical and practical teaching in the elective course History and Theory 3 – Ancient Heritage in the Region, students were able

to become acquainted with the methodology of planning and modern planning approaches in protected areas. Based on the student projects of the protection, revitalisation, and presentation of the late Roman tomb in Brestovik, we can conclude that archaeological sites and monuments represent good training grounds for the development of various cultural and artistic content that enrich both the sites and their surroundings, as well as society as a whole. The presented projects indicate the monitoring of the dynamic concept of constant enrichment of the authenticity of the historical location, through the changes and layers brought by time, with the necessary respect for the guidelines and principles of architectural heritage preservation, in accordance with the recommendations established in international documents, charters, and conventions.

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REZIME

SAVREMENI PRISTUPI REVITALIZACIJI, PREZENTACIJI I PROMOCIJI KULTURNOG I PRIRODNOG NASLEĐA DELA RIMSKOG LIMESA – STUDIJA SLUČAJA KASNOANTIČKE GROBNICE U BRESTOVIKU

KLJUČNE REČI: RIMSKI LIMES, KULTURNO I PRIRODNO NASLEĐE, KASNOANTIČKA GROBNICA, SAVREMENA REVITALIZACIJA I PREZENTACIJA, ODRŽIVI RAZVOJ.

Rimski limes prepoznat je kao kulturni predeo izuzetnih univerzalnih vrednosti međunarodnog značaja od strane relevantne organizacije za zaštitu kulturnog i prirodnog nasleđa - UNESCO. Na prostoru Republike Srbije, Rimski limes obuhvata dolinu reke Dunav gde se nalaze lokaliteti različitih istorijskih perioda (praistorije, antike, srednjeg veka), koji predstavljaju svedočanstvo o kontinuitetu života na granici Rimskog carstva. Zaštita, revitalizacija, prezentacija i promocija lokaliteta duž reke Dunav predstavlja preduslov za upis dela Rimskog limesa na prostoru Republike Srbije na Listu svetske kulturne i prirodne baštine Uneska. Ovaj prostor se trenutno nalazi na Tentativnoj listi Uneska od 2020. godine. Imajući u vidu trenutno stanje velikog broja lokaliteta, postavlja se pitanje njihove zaštite, revitalizacije, prezentacije i promocije u savremenom kontekstu. Pozivajući se na principe međunarodnih povelja i konvencija, među kojima se ističu Dokument o autentičnosti, Evropska konvencija o predelu i Povelja o kulturnim rutama, osnovni cilj ovog rada jeste širenje znanja o mogućnostima zaštite, revitalizacije, prezentacije i promocije kulturnog i prirodnog nasleđa dela Rimskog limesa na prostoru Republike Srbije kroz primenu principa definisanih u međunarodnim poveljama i konvencijama, a radi integracije kulturnog i prirodnog nasleđa u savremene tokove i uspostavljanja održivog razvoja predela.

Rezultati istraživanja prikazani su kroz studiju slučaja arheološkog nalazišta kasnoantičke grob-

nice u Brestoviku, kroz idejna rešenja studenata arhitekture, u okviru kojih su ispitivane mogućnosti integracije savremene arhitekture u prostore izraženih prirodnih i kulturno-istorijskih vrednosti, uz istovremeno očuvanje identiteta prirodnog i kulturnog nasleđa koje iziskuje određeni stepen zaštite, ali i prezentacije i promocije. Kroz proces edukacije studenata arhitekture, budućih graditelja, pruža se mogućnost svestranog sagledavanja problema očuvanja kulturnog i prirodnog nasleđa, njegovog istorijskog i urbanog konteksta, nastanka, razvoja, kulturnih, urbanističkih i arhitektonskih vrednosti, te ispitivanja mogućnosti i komparacije različitih pristupa prezentaciji i savremenog korišćenja. U koncipiranju budućeg pristupa prezentaciji i uključivanja u savremeni život kasnoantičke grobnice u Brestoviku i njene okoline, u studentskim analizama akcenat je stavljen na sveobuhvatno istraživanje njenog života, od vremena nastanka do savremenog doba, te otkrivanju specifične kulturne vrednosti i karaktera koji su osnov očuvanja u budućnosti. Cilj je bio da se osmisle održiva rešenja koja će sa jedne strane očuvati razvojne faze, autentičnost i integritet kompleksa kasnoantičke grobnice u Brestoviku, a sa druge strane obezbediti njenu reaktivaciju i kvalitetnu integraciju u neposredno okruženje, koje je i pored brojnih neadekvatnih savremenih intervencija očuvalo pojedine elemente prepoznatljivog istorijskog ambijenta. Kroz svoje predloge, studenti su kompleks ispunili brojnim savremenim kulturnim, edukativnim i umetničkim sadržajima koji su u korelaciji sa njegovim karakterom i značajem, a obezbeđuju mu i aktivan život u budućnosti. Očekivani rezultati istraživanja obuhvataju podizanje svesti o mogućnostima integracije prirodnog i kulturnog nasleđa u savremeni kontekst, te sagledavanje prirodnog i kulturnog nasleđa kao pokretača za uspostavljanje održivog razvoja predela.

* * *

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