CONSTRUCTION AND EQUIPMENT OF
SCOOPE-MILLS AND WATER-POWERED
INSTALLATIONS IN RASTOKE

SUMMARY

Rastoke is located at the place where the Slunjčica river pours into
the numerous brooks and waterfalls which flow into the Korana
river. The inhabitants of this small settlement have, from time
immemorial, utilised power generated by water to drive their mills
and other installations.

Himself a native of Rastoke, the author as a child performed
various tasks in his father’s mill, and the milling activities of
Rastoke are part of his own and his family’s tradition. He later
worked as a mechanical engineer, and, towards the end of his life,
drew up documentation on the installations which had earlier
served as the source of existence of the people of Rastoke, and
which are now, on the whole, merely signs of a time which has
gone.

The so-called scoop-mills, in which the mill-stones were turned
by transmission of power onto a vertical axle, were the types of
mill common in Rastoke. By both word and illustration, the
author showed the mill building equipped for both “black” and
“white” milling, with details of the main structural elements, and
mention of the material from which they were made. He also
described and sketched all the accompanying mill equipment
such as the vats and maintenance tools, and did not forget to
include the old units of measure used by the millers. As well, he
provided drawings of barley-husking equipment, which he
himself designed.

He then attached technical documentation on the log-sawing
equipment, this activity having started in the period between the
two world wars. As in the past, when homespun was still being
produced, plants for its finishing had operated in Rastoke, the
author described and sketched the equipment for rolling fabric
(the stupu) and for rolling and cleaning of woollen fabrics (the
koš or hopper).

(Translated by Nina H. Antoljak)