

CONSTRUCTION AND EQUIPMENT OF SCOOP-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 *stupa*) and for rolling and cleaning of woollen fabrics (the *koš* or hopper).

(Translated by Nina H. Antoljak)