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THE LANDSCAPING OF THE MARMONT PARK IN SPLIT DURING THE TIME OF ANTONY BAYAMONTI

Summary

In the second half of the 19th century, Dalmatia was the center of fierce clashes between autonomists and populists. It was during this period that the role of Mayor of Split was held by Antonio Bajamonti, the leader of the autonomous party. Bajamonti wanted to elevate Split to the level of a developed European city through ambitious construction projects. This paper is focused on the works that were done on the MarmontPark, a terrain intended to be arranged by French General Auguste Marmont in the first half of the 19th century. For projects at the Marmont Park, Italian architects and artists were hired to highlight Dalmatia's connection to Italian culture. After the victory of the populists in the local elections of 1882, Bajamonti's merits for the city of Split began to be systematically challenged. From that time, especially during the Italian occupation of Dalmatia, Bajamonti's architectural achievements were attributed to the wrong political connotations, and thus the wrong judgment about artistic value. For these reasons, these valuable artistic achievements of the second half of the 19th century have been neglected to this day.

Keywords: Autonomous Party; Split urbanization; Bajamonti-Dešković Palace; Bajamonti Theater; Procurators; Bajamontuša