

ARHEOLOŠKA ISTRAŽIVANJA LOKALITETA CRKVINA U ČUH POLJU KOD SALI

ARCHAEOLOGICAL EXCAVATIONS OF THE SITE OF CRKVINA IN ČUH POLJE NEAR SALI

Tijekom kolovoza i rujna 2018. godine Odjel za arheologiju Sveučilišta u Zadru proveo je sustavna arheološka iskopavanja lokaliteta Crkvina u Čuh polju kod Sali s ostacima urušene crkvice. Tim istraživanjima u potpunosti je tlocrtno definiran izgled crkve kao male jednobrodne pravokutne građevine s dubokom apsidom na istočnom dijelu. Temeljem pronađenih nalaza, načina gradnje i usporedbe s najbližom vrlo sličnom crkvom (Sv. Viktor na Citoriju), utvrđeno je da najvjerojatnije pripada kasnoantičkom vremenu, a vremenom njezine gradnje okvirno se smatra 5./6. stoljeće.

Cljučne riječi: Sali, Telašćica, Čuh polje, ranokršćanska crkva

In August and September of 2018 the Department of Archaeology of the University of Zadar conducted systematic archaeological excavations of the site of Crkvina in Čuh Polje near Sali where the remains of a small dilapidated church were located. In the excavations the ground plan of the church was defined as a small single-nave rectangular structure with a deep apse on the eastern side. On the basis of the recovered finds, manner of building and comparison with a very similar church (St. Victor in Citorij) it was determined that it most probably belonged to Late Antiquity, dating broadly to the 5th/6th century.

Key words: Sali, Telašćica, Čuh Polje, Early Christian church

UVOD

Čuh polje, koje se nalazi na krajnjem sjeveroistočnom dijelu Dugog otoka kod mjesta Sali, već je dugo vremena prisutno u znanstvenoj i stručnoj literaturi. Toponim sličnog imena, *Pizych* (grč. Πίζύχ), javlja se prvi put u djelu bizantskog cara i pisca Konstantina VII. Porfirogeneta (945. – 959.) *De administrando imperio*,¹ a prvi koji je taj naziv identificirao s jednim toponimom na Dugom otoku bio je povjesničar Ivan Lučić (*Lucius*) u 17. st., smjestivši ga u današnje mjesto Sali (*Sale*).² Iako neki naši istraživači iz druge polovine 19. i početka 20. stoljeća (Franjo Rački³ i Frane Bulić⁴) nisu prihvatili takvu ubikaciju, većina njih je to učinila (Carlo Federico Bianchi,⁵ Alois Maschek,⁶ Luka Jelić,⁷ Ferdo Šišić,⁸ Ante Marija Strgačić⁹), a nakon njih to je sve do danas postala općeprihvaćena činjenica. Jezikoslovac Petar Skok iz toponima Πίζύχ izveo je upravo današnji naziv Čuh. On je pretpostavio da se u srednjem vijeku tamo nalazilo naselje po kojem je Konstantin Porfirogenet nazvao cijeli Dugi otok.¹⁰ Isto tako pretpostavio je da je Čuh slavenska riječ koja se u Konstantinovo vrijeme izgovarala Pčuh, te da ju je Konstantin transkribirao u Πίζύχ. Potvrdu takvoj pretpostavci pronašao je Ivo Petricioli u više srednjovjekovnih dokumenata te navodi da je 1491. godine zabilježen naziv *Pičuh*, 1475. *Pçuh*, 1555. *Pzuch*, a 1689. ime slično današnjem, *Zuch*.¹¹ Ispravljajući razmatranja razvoja i etimologije naziva Πίζύχ, Mate Suić ga djelomice veže uz lokalitet na jugoistočnom dijelu otoka, nedaleko od ostataka rimske vile u Maloj Proversi, smatrajući ga predslavenskim toponimom. Također spominje toponime Podselo i Crkvina koji ukazuju na naselje i crkvu u polju Čuh.¹²

Ostatcima crkve na padini brda Sukavac, na Crkvini u Čuh polju, prvi je pozornost posvetio Ivo Petricioli čiji opis ovdje u cijelosti prenosimo: „Crkvice je pravilno orijentirana, sastoji se od longitudinalne, nešto nepravilne pravokutne lađe i polukružne apside. Taj jednostavan tlocrt ne kazuje mnogo za dataciju. Takav tip crkvice javlja se kroz čitav Srednji vijek. Tehnika zidanja je slična, malter gotovo identičan s malterom u telaškim crkvicama, ali nedostatak bilo kakvog nalaza fragmenata crkvenog namještaja ne

INTRODUCTION

Čuh polje (*Čuh field*) situated in the peripheral northeastern part of Dugi Otok, near the settlement of Sali has been present in the scholarly and professional literature for a while. A toponym with a similar name *Pizych* (Greek Πίζύχ) appeared for the first time in the work *De administrando imperio* by the Byzantine emperor and author Constantine VII Porphyrogenetos (945-959),¹ and the first to identify this term with a toponym on Dugi Otok was historian Ivan Lučić (*Lucius*) in the 17th century, pinpointing it to the present-day settlement of Sali (*Sale*).² Although some of our researchers from the second half of the 19th and the beginning of the 20th century (Franjo Rački³ and Frane Bulić⁴) did not accept such location, most others did (Carlo Federico Bianchi,⁵ Alois Maschek,⁶ Luka Jelić,⁷ Ferdo Šišić,⁸ Ante Marija Strgačić⁹), and after them it has become a generally accepted fact. Linguist Petar Skok derived current name Čuh exactly from the toponym Πίζύχ. He assumed that a settlement was located there in the Middle Ages that was used by Constantine Porphyrogenetos to refer to entire Dugi Otok.¹⁰ He also assumed that Čuh was a Slavic word pronounced Pčuh in the time of Constantine, who transcribed it as Πίζύχ. Ivo Petricioli found a confirmation of such assumption in several medieval documents mentioning that name *Pičuh* was recorded in 1491, *Pçuh* in 1475, *Pzuch* in 1555, and in 1689 *Zuch* similar to current name.¹¹ In his corrections of considerations of development and etymology of the name Πίζύχ Mate Suić associated it partially with the site on the southeastern part of the island, close to the remains of a Roman villa in Mala Proversa, believing it was a pre-Slavic toponym. He also mentioned toponyms Podselo and Crkvina suggestive of the settlement and church in the field Čuh.¹²

Ivo Petricioli was the first to pay attention to the remains of the church on the slope of Sukavac hill, in Crkvina in Čuh polje. We will quote his description in entirety: “Little church is properly oriented, it consists of longitudinal, somewhat crude rectangular nave and semicircular apse. The simple ground plan is not helpful regarding dating.

1 Konstantin Porfirogenet 2003, glava XXIX, 74, 256.

2 I. Lucius 1666, 48.

3 F. Rački 1877, 414, bilj. 31. Navedeni je smatrao da je Πίζύχ pogrešno pisana riječ Πίζύχ, koja odgovara Plinijevu nazivu za današnji otok Iž.

4 F. Bulić 1886, 59.

5 C. F. Bianchi 1880, 62.

6 A. Maschek 1888, 284.

7 Arheološki muzej Split, Arhiv don Luke Jelića, reg. XII; F. Šišić, 1914, karta.

8 F. Šišić 1914, karta; 1925, 445.

9 A. M. Strgačić 1943, 324.

10 P. Skok 1916, 666, bilj. 5; 1927, 164; 1934, 223–224; 1950, 115.

11 I. Petricioli 1954, 62.

12 M. Suić 1955, 135–140. Iznio je mišljenje da je ime Πίζύχ povezano s voćkom kruškom (grč. τό άμιον), a svoju tvrdnju zasniva na imenima polja i brda koja se nalaze sjevernije od Čuha (*Kruševo* ili *Krševo polje* i brdo *Kruševac*). N. Jakšić 1987, 86, smatra da je riječ Πίζύχ bila u literaturi etimološki posve pogrešno interpretirana te da ju treba povezati s pojmom *jaram*, međutim, ne donosi argumentaciju za takvu pretpostavku.

1 Konstantin Porfirogenet 2003, chapter XXIX, 74, 256.

2 I. Lucius 1666, 48.

3 F. Rački 1877, 414, note 31. He believed that Πίζύχ was actually Πίζύχ spelled incorrectly corresponding to Pliny's name for the present island of Iž.

4 F. Bulić 1886, 59.

5 C. F. Bianchi 1880, 62.

6 A. Maschek 1888, 284.

7 Archaeological Museum in Split, Archives of father Luka Jelić, reg. XII; F. Šišić, 1914, map.

8 F. Šišić 1914, map; 1925, 445.

9 A. M. Strgačić 1943, 324.

10 P. Skok 1916, 666, note 5; 1927, 164; 1934, 223–224; 1950, 115.

11 I. Petricioli 1954, 62.

12 M. Suić 1955, 135–140. He expressed an opinion that the name Πίζύχ is related to pear fruit (Greek τό άμιον), and he based his claim on the names of the fields and hills that are located north of Čuh (*Kruševo* or *Krševo polje* and *Kruševac* hill). N. Jakšić 1987, 86, believes that the word Πίζύχ was etymologically incorrectly interpreted and that it should be associated with the term *jaram*, however he offers no arguments therein.

dopušta, da je sa sigurnošću postavimo u preromaniku.“ Također na tom položaju spominje nalaz dječjeg groba u amfori.¹³

Amos Rube Filipi 1981. godine donosi unutrašnje dimenzije ostataka crkvice u polju Čuh (5 x 3,7 m broda i 1,7 m apside) te zbog toponima Sukavac smatra da je „valjda bila posvećena sv. Luki“.¹⁴ Kao mogući ranokršćanski objekt određuje ga Branka Migotti u svom doktorskom radu.¹⁵ Re-kognoscirajući Dugi otok početkom devedesetih godina prošlog stoljeća i prvim dolaskom na položaj Crkvina utvrdili smo da je zasigurno riječ o zdanju ranog postanka te smo ga doveli u vezu s mogućim kasnoantičkim naseljem i dječjim grobom u amfori koji spominje I. Petricioli.¹⁶

OPIS ARHEOLOŠKIH ISTRAŽIVANJA

Arheološko istraživanje na položaju Crkvina u Čuh polju kod Sali proveo je Odjel za arheologiju Sveučilišta u Zadru u suradnji s Javnom ustanovom Park prirode Telašćica u razdoblju od 27. kolovoza do 15. rujna 2018. godine, a u skladu sa Sporazumom o suradnji.¹⁷ Lokalitet Crkvina nalazi se na k. č. 10728, k. o. Sali, oko 30 m sjeverno od stambenih objekata malog zaseoka Rudići, na zapadnim padinama brda Sukavac. Zaselak Rudići sačinjava svega nekoliko recentnih pastirsko-poljskih kućica koje su nekada bile u upotrebi tijekom znatnog dijela godine. Cijela ograda koja odgovara k. č. površine je 925 m², a pri dolasku na istraživanje bila je u potpunosti zarasla u travu i grmlje, što je vjerojatno utjecalo i na očuvanost same crkve (sl. 1). Ostatci crkve zatečeni su u iznimno lošem stanju. Vidljiv je bio južni bočni zid dužine oko 4 m, a sjeverni je bio gotovo potpuno rasut i naslućivalo se samo njegovo vanjsko lice. Oni su međusobno udaljeni oko 3,7 m, a na njih se na istočnoj strani nadovezuje polukružna apside dubine 1,7 m i širine 2,5 m. Bočni zidovi očuvani su samo u visini od jednog do dva reda kamena. Nešto je više očuvan dio ramena apside. Pročelni dio nije bio vidljiv prije istraživanja. U strukturi zidova nije bilo vidljivih tragova žbuke koja je uništena atmosferskim i vegetacijskim utjecajem. Orijentacija crkve je u pravcu istok-zapad s otklonom od 20° prema pravcu sjeverozapad-jugoistok.

Istraživanje je započelo dokumentacijom zatečenog stanja, nakon čega je uslijedilo uklanjanje vegetacije te dizanje prvog površinskog sloja humusa. S obzirom na to da

This type of church is present throughout the Middle Ages. Building technique is similar, plaster is almost identical with plaster from the churches in Telašćica, but lack of any fragment of church furnishings does not allow definite dating to the pre-Romanesque period.“ He also mentions a find of a child’s grave in an amphora.¹³

Amos Rube Filipi in 1981 recorded inner dimensions of the church remains in the field Čuh (5 x 3.7m nave, 1.7m apse) and assumed that “it was probably dedicated to St. Luke” because of the toponym Sukavac.¹⁴ Branka Migotti determined it as possibly Early Christian structure in her doctoral dissertation.¹⁵ In a field survey of Dugi Otok in the early 1990s and after our first visit to the site of Crkvina we have determined that it was a definitely an ancient building and we associated it with possible late antique settlement and child’s grave in an amphora mentioned by I. Petricioli.¹⁶

DESCRIPTION OF THE ARCHAEOLOGICAL EXCAVATIONS

Archaeological excavations on the position Crkvina in Čuh polje near Sali were conducted by the Department of Archaeology of the University of Zadar in cooperation with the Public Institution of Nature Park Telašćica in the period from August 27 to September 15, 2018, in accordance with Cooperation Agreement.¹⁷ The site of Crkvina is located on the cadastral plot no. 10728, of the cadastral municipality of Sali, about 30m north of houses of the Rudići hamlet, on western slopes of Sukavac hill. The Rudići hamlet consists of only few recent shepherd’s and field huts that were once used throughout most of the year. Entire enclosure that corresponds to the cadastral plot covers 925m², and before the excavation began it was completely overgrown with grass and bush which probably affected good preservation of the church (Fig. 1). Church remains were in exceptionally poor condition. Southern lateral wall was visible measuring 4m in length while the northern one was almost completely dilapidated and only its outer face could be discerned. They are at a mutual distance of 3.7m, and on the eastern side is a semi-circular apse 1.7m deep and 2.5m wide. Lateral walls have been preserved only to the height of one to two rows of stone. Part of the apse’s shoulder is somewhat better preserved. Front part was not visible prior to the excavations. In the wall structure there were no traces of mortar as it

13 I. Petricioli 1954, 61.

14 A. R. Filipi 1981, 30–31.

15 B. Migotti 1990, 60.

16 A. Uglešić 1993, 171–172; 2002, 110.

17 Istraživanja su financirana sredstvima proračuna Parka prirode Telašćica. Voditelj istraživanja bio je prof. dr. sc. Ante Uglešić, zamjenik voditelja dr. sc. Jure Sućur, a članove stručne ekipe sačinjavali su dokumentaristica Maja Grgurić s Odjela za arheologiju Sveučilišta u Zadru te Jona Petešić, viša stručna suradnica za opće poslove i strukturne fondove Općine Sali. Dio stručnih, kao i fizičke radove, izvršili su diplomirani arheolozi Renato Babić, Petra Nikolić, Marica Sućur, prvostupnik arheologije Ante Vukić, te studenti arheologije Sveučilišta u Zadru Anamarija Negulić i Nikolina Vodopić.

13 I. Petricioli 1954, 61.

14 A. R. Filipi 1981, 30–31.

15 B. Migotti 1991, 60.

16 A. Uglešić 1993, 171–172; 2002, 110.

17 The research was funded from the budget of the Nature Park Telašćica. Professor Ante Uglešić, PhD, led the research, Jure Sućur, PhD, was his deputy, and the members of the professional team were Maja Grgurić, documentarist from the Department of Archaeology of the University of Zadar and Jona Petešić, senior professional associate for administration and structural funds of the Sali Municipality. Some of professional works as well as manual labour was carried out by graduate archaeologists Renato Babić, Petra Nikolić, Marica Sućur; Ante Vukić, BA in archeology, and archaeology students from the University of Zadar Anamarija Negulić and Nikolina Vodopić.



Slika 1. Zračna snimka položaja Crkvina u Čuh polju prije početka istraživanja

Figure 1. Aerial photo of the site of Crkvina in Čuh Polje before the excavations

foto / photo by: J. Šučur

pročelni zid nije bio vidljiv, površinom istraživanja obuhvatilo se i dvije nakupine kamena na zapadnoj strani (sl. 2).

Ukupno je istraženo oko 69 m² približno pravokutne površine dimenzija 11 x 6,75 m. Iskopavanje je potom vršeno od bolje očuvanih dijelova apside prema zapadu. Odmah po dizanju jednog otkopnog sloja smeđocrvene zemlje s malim kamenom na većem se dijelu javljala matična stijena. Jedino je na zapadnom dijelu iskopa zemlja bila tamnije, smeđe boje te su na pojedinim mjestima uočeni tragovi žbuke. Na cijelom prostoru istraživanja očišćene su i škrape među matičnom stijenom, a na nekoliko mjesta na dnu su pronađeni su slojevi gline koji su najvjerojatnije geološki sloj.

Svaka faza istraživanja u potpunosti je dokumentirana, a osobito se to odnosi na početno i završno stanje. Tijekom istraživanja elementi i slojevi dokumentirani su kroz 15 stratigrafskih jedinica.

Svi su pokretni nalazi sakupljeni, uz bilježenje pozicija, u stratigrafskom i geodetskom smislu te, po potrebi, uz fotografsku dokumentaciju. Oni su uvedeni kroz 20 nalaza (N 1–20), među kojima su izdvojena četiri posebna nalaza (PN 1–4).

was destroyed by weathering and vegetation. Orientation of the church is EW with deviation of 20° towards NW-SE.

The research commenced with documenting the existing condition, then the vegetation was removed and the first surface layer of humus. Since the front wall was not visible, excavation area also encompassed two heaps of stone on the western side (Fig. 2).

The excavation area encompassed about 69m² of roughly rectangular surface with dimensions of 11 x 6,75m. The excavation started from better preserved parts of the apse westwards. Bedrock was hit as soon as the first excavation layer of brown-red soil with small rocks was removed. The soil was darker brown only in the western part of the dig, and traces of mortar were noticed at certain places. Cracks in bedrock were cleaned in the entire excavation area, and layers of clay were occasionally found on the bottom, probably as a geological layer.

Each research phase was extensively documented, which refers in particular to the initial and final state. Elements and layers were documented through 15 stratigraphic units during the research.

All movable finds were collected, their position recorded in geodesic and stratigraphic terms, and documented



Slika 2. Crkva u fazi istraživanja, nakon dizanja površinskog sloja
Figure 2. Church during the excavations, after removing surface layer
foto / photo by: M. Grgurić

REZULTATI ARHEOLOŠKIH ISTRAŽIVANJA

Istraživanjem je u potpunosti definiran sakralni objekt pravokutnog broda, unutarnjih dimenzija 4,54 – 4,64 m x 3,6 – 3,63 m, na koji se s istoka nastavlja polukružna apsida unutarnje širine od 2,3 m i dubine 1,75 m (sl. 4, 7–9).

Potpuna rekonstrukcija tlocrta objekta bila je moguća jer smo istraživanjem na pročelju uspjeli definirati oba ugla. Iako veći dio pročelnog zida nije očuvan, njegov spoj s bočnim zidovima jasno je vidljiv u velikom kamenu koje se nalazi pod pravim kutom u odnosu na bočne zidove, a svojim ravnim ploham predstavlja vanjsko i unutarnje lice pročelnog zida. Potvrdu takvoj rekonstrukciji pružaju i sitni ulomci žbuke u smeđoj zemlji koji su pronađeni jedino na pretpostavljenom pravcu pružanja pročelnog zida (sl. 3).

Debljina zida na apsidalnom dijelu iznosi 0,45 – 0,55 m, južnog zida 0,53 – 0,66 m, a sjevernog 0,57 – 0,62 m. Apsida je najviši očuvani građevni element, visine oko 0,6 m, u unutrašnjem dijelu crkve. Visina temeljne stope s vanjske strane svjedoči da je crkva već pri gradnji podignuta na padini koja se blago spušta od apside prema pročelju, dok odnos dna zida apside i bočnih zidova u unutrašnjosti, kao i visina matične stijene, pokazuju da je svetište bilo uzdignuto u odnosu na brod crkve. Južni je zid bolje očuvan, u visini od dva do tri reda kamena, ali je rastresen, dok je

photographically if needed. They were introduced through 20 finds (N 1–20), among which four special finds were singled out (PN 1–4).

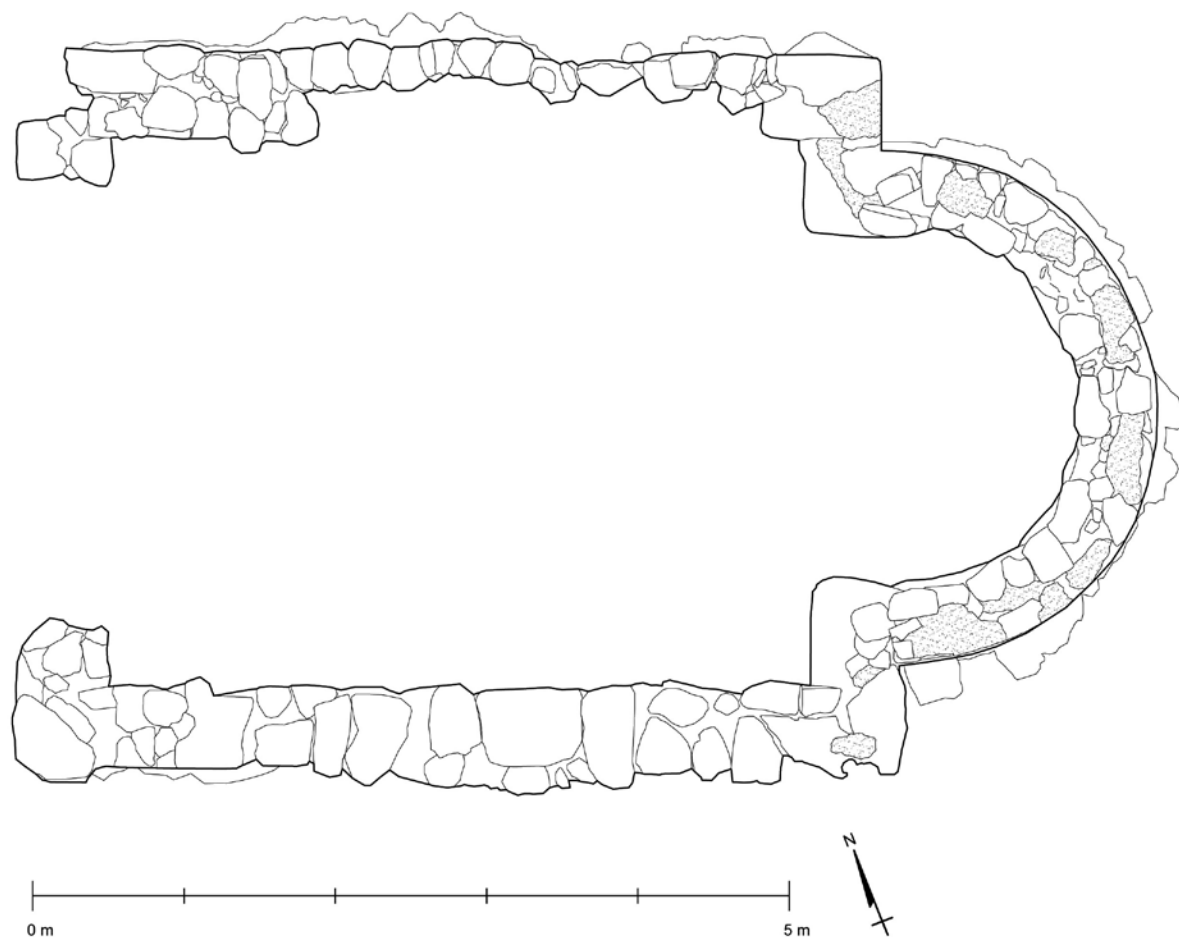
RESULTS OF THE ARCHAEOLOGICAL EXCAVATIONS

A sacral structure with rectangular nave and inner dimensions 4.54-4.64m x 3.6-3.63m was completely defined in the excavations. The apse adjoins the structure on the eastern side measuring 2.3m in width and 1.75m in depth (Figs. 4, 7–9).

Complete reconstruction of the ground plan of the structure was possible because we managed to define both corners in the front during the excavations. Although



Slika 3. Tragovi žbuke na mjestu pročelnog zida
Figure 3. Traces of mortar in the place of the front wall
foto / photo by: J. Šučur



Slika 5. Ulomci keramike pred pročeljem crkve
Figure 5. Pottery sherds in front of the church front

foto / photo by: J. Šučur

unutrašnje lice sjevernog zida očuvano samo na pročelju te kod ramena apside (sl. 4).

Pokretni nalazi pronađeni pri istraživanju crkve su rijetki i najčešće se ne mogu uže datirati. Sitni ulomci stakla uvedeni su kroz pet nalaza. Ulomci keramičkih posuda zabilježeni su u osam navrata, pri čemu se najvećim dijelom radi o ulomcima keramike koji se zbog boje, debljine i fature datiraju u antičko doba, najčešće istrošeni ulomci amfora od oker, preko narančaste do svjetlocrvene boje

Slika 4. Tlocrt crkve po završetku istraživanja

Figure 4. Church layout after the end of the excavations

crtež / drawing by: M. Grgurić

bigger part of the front wall is not preserved, its connection with lateral walls is clearly visible in big stones that are at right angles in relation to lateral walls, and with their flat sides they represent outer and inner face of the front wall. Such reconstruction is corroborated by small fragments of mortar in brown soil that were found only in the assumed direction of spreading of the front wall (Fig. 3).

Thickness of the apse wall is 0.45-0.55m, southern wall is 0.53-0.66m thick, and northern wall 0.57-0.62m. The apse is the highest preserved construction element, about 0.6m high, in the inner part of the church. The height of the foundation footing on the outer side testifies that the church was originally built on a slope descending slightly from apse towards the front while the relation between the base of the apse wall and lateral walls as well as the height of the bedrock in the interior indicate that the sanctuary was slightly raised in relation to the church nave. The southern wall is preserved better, in height of two to three rows of stone, but it is loose while the inner face of the northern wall was preserved only in the front and next to the apse shoulder (Fig. 4).



Slika 6. Ulomak dovratnika

Figure 6. Doorpost fragment

foto / photo by: J. Šučur

te dijelom crne kuhinjske keramike. Veća količina ulomaka pronađena je na prostoru izvan crkve, pred pročeljem (sl. 5). Riječ je o 90 ulomaka od kojih većina pokazuje karakteristike prapovijesne keramike (ukras plastičnog rebra s utiscima prstiju, bradavičasti ukrasi), a najvjerojatnije se radi o dvije posude. Od datacije većine keramičkih nalaza odudara i recentni površinski nalaz ulomka novovjekovne glazirane posude.¹⁸

Od kamenih ulomaka pronađen je jedino profilirani ulomak dovratnika koji se nalazio među hrpom kamenja pred pročeljem crkve (sl. 6). Zabilježena su i tri metalna posve recentna nalaza te jedan ulomak duge kosti.

INTERPRETACIJA

Usprkos malom broju pokretnih nalaza, a osobito u nedostatku onih uže databilnih, sakralni objekt na Crkvini u Čuh polju kod Sali s velikom se dozom sigurnosti može datirati u kasnoantičko doba, a na takav zaključak upućuje više činjenica. Jedan od razloga za takvu tvrdnju jest taj da među ostacima keramike i stakla pronađenim pri iskopavanju crkve nema mlađih od antičkih. Nadalje, na njezino ranokršćansko podrijetlo upućuje način gradnje i duboka apsida. Jednako tako treba istaknuti da vrlo blisku analogiju crkvi u Čuhu nalazimo na drugoj strani uvale Telaščice, iznad jugozapadnog kraja Stivanjeg polja, na dijelu Stivanje gore zvanom Citorij. Na blagoj južnoj padini toga platoa, na 92 m nadmorske visine nalazi se ranokršćanska crkva sv. Viktora čija prva faza izgradnje načinom gradnje, oblikom i veličinom gotovo u potpunosti odgovara crkvi na Crkvini u Čuh polju.¹⁹ Gradnja crkve sv. Viktora datirana je u drugu polovinu 5. ili početak 6. stoljeća, prvotno je bila mala jednobrodna građevina vanjske širine 4,6 m i dužine po centralnoj osi s apsidom 6,9 m, a naknadno su joj dodani narteks i pastoforija s jugoistočne strane.²⁰ Obnovljena

Few movable finds were unearthed in the excavations of the church and most cannot be dated precisely. There were five small glass fragments, and eight pottery sherds that are mostly dated to antiquity on the basis of colour, thickness and fabric, usually these are worn fragments of amphorae, ocher, orange or light red in colour and some black kitchen ware. Big amount of fragments was found in the area outside the church, in front of the front (Fig. 5). These ninety sherds exhibit characteristics of prehistoric pottery (decorated with embossed rib with finger tip impressions, hemispherical protrusions), and most likely these were two vessels. Recent surface find of a post-medieval glazed vessel stands out among the pottery finds in terms of dating.¹⁸

Out of stone fragments only a moulded fragment of the doorpost was found among the heap of stones in front of the church front (Fig. 6). There were also three recent metal finds and a fragment of a long bone.

INTERPRETATION

Despite the small number of movable finds, and in particular since the datable finds are lacking, the sacral edifice in Crkvina in Čuh polje near Sali can be dated to Late Antiquity with great certainty. Such conclusion is suggested by a number of facts. One of the reasons for such claim is that there are no glass or ceramic finds from this site that are younger than classical antiquity. Its early Christian origin is also indicated by the manner of construction and a deep apse. It is worth mentioning that a very close analogy for the church in Čuh can be found on the other side of Telaščica cove, above southeastern end of Stivanje polje, at the part Stivanje gore called Citorij. On the mild slope of this plateau, at an altitude of 92 masl is the early Christian church of St. Victor whose first phase almost completely corresponds to the church in Crkvina in Čuh polje regarding manner of construction, form and size.¹⁹ Construction of the church of St. Victor was dated to the second half of the 5th or beginning of the 6th century. Originally it was a small single-nave edifice measuring 4.6m in outer width and 6.9m in length in the central axis with the apse. Narthex and pastophorium on the southeastern side were

18 Svi ulomci keramičkih posuda vrlo su fragmentarni, pa smo ih izostavili iz objave na ovom mjestu.

19 Prva istraživanja crkve sv. Viktora na Citoriju proveo je A. M. Strgačić 1935. godine (A. M. Strgačić 1943, 316–329). Iduća istraživanja bila su 1951. i 1956. godine (I. Petricioli 1954, 56–60; 1987, 95–98; 1997, 169–174). Revizijska i cjelovita istraživanja crkve sv. Viktora proveo je Arheološki muzej u Zadru u travnju i svibnju 2008. godine pod vodstvom dr. sc. Jakova Vučića. Vidi J. Vučić 2012, 103–142.

20 J. Vučić 2012, 108–110, 118, sl. 6.

18 All pottery sherds are very fragmented so they were left out of this publication.

19 The first excavations of the church of St. Victor in Citorij were conducted by A. M. Strgačić in 1935 (A. M. Strgačić 1943, 316–329). The following excavations were carried out in 1951 and 1956 (I. Petricioli 1954, 56–60; 1987, 95–98; 1997, 169–174). Revised and complete excavations of the church of St. Victor were conducted by the Archaeological Museum in Zadar in April and May 2008 led by Jakov Vučić, PhD. See J. Vučić 2012, 103–142.



Slika 7. Čuh polje, zračna snimka, u prvom planu istražena crkva
Figure 7. Čuh Polje, aerial photo, excavated church in the foreground

foto / photo by: Maja Grgurić

je u predromaničkom vremenu i uz nju se veže najstariji spomen ribarstva kod Hrvata, u ispravi datiranoj oko 995., odnosno između 986. i 999. godine, kojom zadarski plemići daruju samostanu svetog Krševana u Zadru lovište ribe „na Tilagu u velikoj Uvali svetog Viktora“ (*in Tilago in ualle maiori sancti Uictoris*).²¹

Crkva na Crkvini u Čuh polju izrazito je malih dimenzija i njezinu namjenu zasad možemo samo pretpostaviti. Čuh polje, mala visoravan opkoljena brdima i na svojevrsnom skrovitom mjestu, moglo je poslužiti kao idealno mjesto za kontemplaciju pa bi jedan od razloga gradnje te crkvice mogla biti nazočnost male pustinjačke redovničke zajednice na tom mjestu. Prostor gdje su pustinjaci mogli živjeti jesu već ranije uočene suhozidne kućice u neposrednoj blizini lokaliteta.²² Na moguću nazočnost eremita na prostoru Telašćice upućuje špilja naziva Remetina peč na strmim

added subsequently.²⁰ It was renewed in pre-Romanesque period and it is associated with the earliest mention of fishing in association with the Croats, in a document dated to ca. 995, that is between 986 and 999 whereby the noblemen from Zadar donate a fishing ground “in Tilag in the big cove of St. Victor to the Monastery of St. Chrysogonus in Zadar” (*in Tilago in ualle maiori sancti Uictoris*).²¹

The church in Crkvina in Čuh is exceptionally small and its function can only be assumed for now. Čuh Polje, a small plateau surrounded by hills, in a sort of secluded place, might have been used as an ideal position for contemplation. In that regard one of the reasons for building this church might have been the presence of a small hermit community at this spot. The area where hermits might have lived are previously noticed dry stone wall houses in immediate vicinity of the site.²² Possible presence of hermits

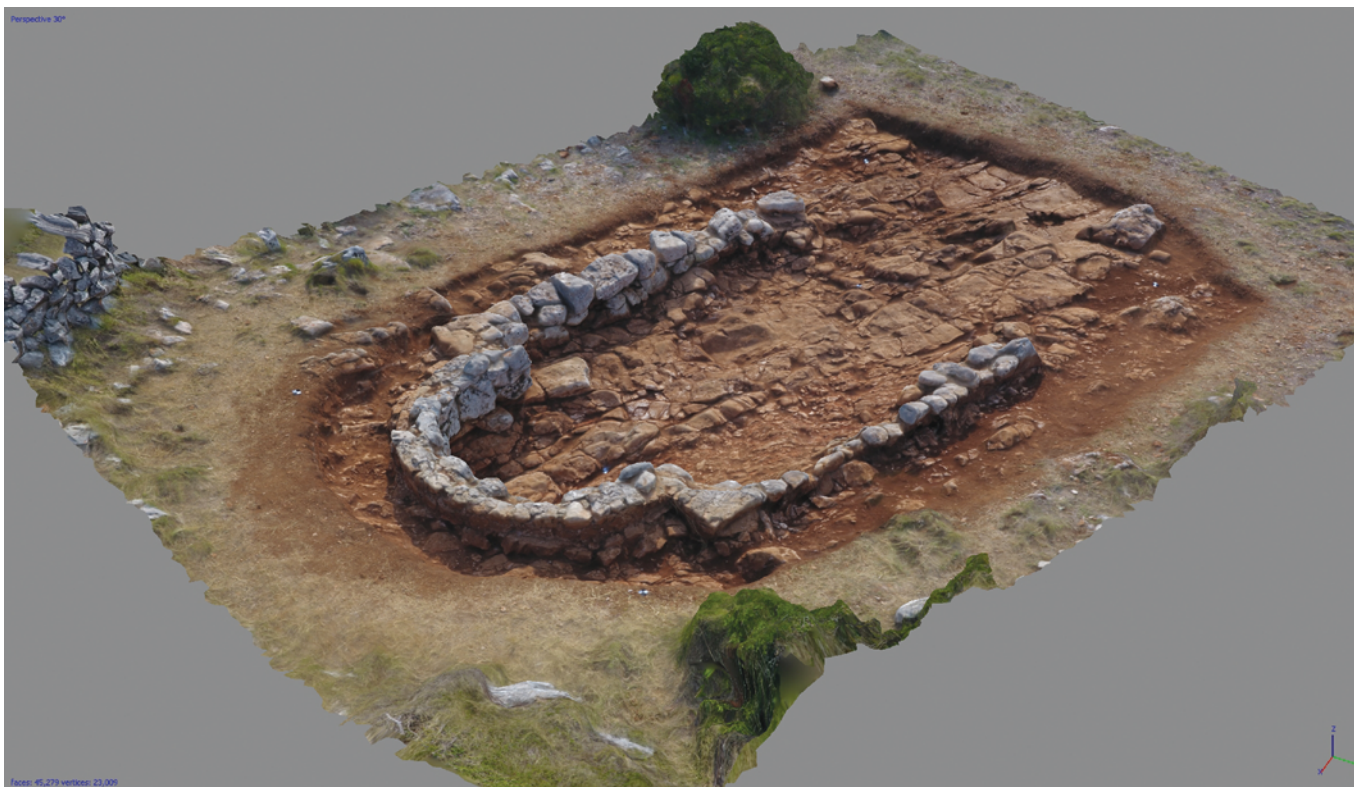
21 Tisuću godina prvoga spomena ribarstva u Hrvata 1997, 16.

22 I. Petricioli 1954, 62; A. R. Filipi 1981, 30–31.

20 J. Vučić 2012, 108–110, 118, fig. 6.

21 Tisuću godina prvoga spomena ribarstva u Hrvata 1997, 16.

22 I. Petricioli 1954, 62; A. R. Filipi 1981, 30–31.



Slika 8. Crkвина u Čuh polju, 3D snimka istražene crkve
 Figure 8. Crkвина in Čuh Polje, 3D image of the excavated church

izradila / made by: M. Grgurić

padinama prema otvorenom moru, oko 200 m južno od austrougarske mornaričke utvrđice na brdu Grpaščaku.²³ Komu je crkva u Čuh polju bila posvećena, ne može se sa sigurnošću tvrditi, međutim, velika je vjerojatnost da se radi o sv. Luki, na što upućuje toponim Sukavac, naziv brda iznad Crkvine.²⁴ Već smo ranije spomenuli da se u literaturi spominje da je na Crkvini pronađen dječji ukop u amfori, no ne navode se ni vrijeme ni okolnosti takvoga nalaza.²⁵ Temeljem toga ostavljamo mogućnost da nalaza takva groba nije ni bilo, već da je nehotice došlo do zamjene s toponimom Crkвина u Luci gdje su pri gradnji kuće utvrđeni pokopi u amforama.²⁶

Poluotok na kojem se nalazi polje Čuh bio je najvjerojatnije dio jednog velikog antičkog posjeda kojemu je pripadala i rimska *villa rustica* na Mrkotinu u Maloj Proversu.²⁷ Ta se vila osim na prostoru koji sa sjeverozapadne strane zatvara krajnji rt Dugog otoka, protezala i na otočić Katinu koji jednim svojim krakom zatvara uvalu Telaščica (sl. 10). Navedeni

in the Telaščica region is suggested by the cave called Remetina peč on steep slopes facing the open sea, about 200m south of the small Austro-Hungarian naval fort on Grpaščak hill.²³ It is difficult to say to whom the church in Čuh polje was dedicated. However it is very likely that it might have been St. Luke as suggested by the toponym Sukavac, name of a hill over Crkвина.²⁴ We have already mentioned that it is stated in the literature that a child's burial in an amphora was found in Crkвина, but neither time nor circumstances of this finding are mentioned.²⁵ Therefore it is possible that there was never such grave, because burials in amphorae were found in Crkвина in Luka when a house was built so it is possible that these two sites were accidentally mixed up.²⁶

The peninsula where the field of Čuh is located was most probably a part of a big ancient estate that also encompassed Roman *villa rustica* on Mrkotin in Mala Proversa.²⁷ This villa spread in the area enclosed by the final

23 A. R. Filipi 1981, 24. Isti autor (A. R. Filipi 1981, 22–24) s pustinjacima povezuje crkvu sv. Antona opata u Dugom polju kod Sali, međutim, zasad nemamo nikakvih dokaza za takvu tvrdnju jer sam titular i pretpostavljeni ostatci ranije crkve nisu nikako dostatni za izvlačenje bilo kakvih zaključaka o tomu.
 24 A. R. Filipi 1981, 31.
 25 I. Petricioli 1954, 61.
 26 A. Uglešić 1993, 169.
 27 O istraživanjima vile na Maloj Proversu vidi M. Suić 1952, 174–187. Najstariji novac pronađen pri istraživanjima vile pripada vremenu cara Trajana (98. – 117.).

23 A. R. Filipi 1981, 24. The same author (A. R. Filipi 1981, 22–24) associates another church with hermits. It is the church of St Anthony the Abbot in Dugo Polje near Sali. However for now we have no evidence whatsoever for such claim since the titular and assumed remains of an older church are not sufficient to draw any conclusion.
 24 A. R. Filipi 1981, 31.
 25 I. Petricioli 1954, 61.
 26 A. Uglešić 1993, 169.
 27 On the research of villa in Mala Proversa see M. Suić 1952, 174–187. The oldest coin recovered from the research belongs to the period of the Emperor Trajan (98–117).



Slika 9. Ortophoto snimka istražene crkve
 Figure 9. Ortophoto of the excavated church
 izradila / made by: M. Grgurić

otočić u rimsko je doba bio spojen s Dugim otokom, a vjerojatno i s Kornatom, te je to bio najduži otok na Jadranu. Produbljenje između Dugog otoka i Katine nastalo je još u rimsko doba i povezano je s funkcijom same vile. Ona, nažalost, nije cjelovito istražena, a jedan njezin dio nalazi se pod morem. Izgrađena je u ranorimsko doba (krajem 1. ili na samom početku 2. st.), namjena joj je bila vezana za more, ribolov, možda i proizvodnju soli, no do kada je bila u upotrebi, za sada možemo samo pretpostavljati. Velika je mogućnost da je naziv šireg prostora, odnosno cijelog poluotoka povezan s nazivom *Πιζύχ* koji donosi Konstantin Porfirogenet, a na to upućuju i toponimi sačuvani u današnjim varijantama imena pojedinih predjela toga dijela otoka (Čuh, Čuh polje, rt Punta Čuške, uvale Čušćica i Čuška dumboka). To je vjerojatno i bio razlog zašto je tako nazvan cijeli otok. Položaj „Pod selo“ između Čuha i Drakovca ukazuje na postojanje nekog naselja, međutim, kakvog je karaktera bilo i iz kojeg vremena točno potječe, možemo samo pretpostavljati. Sudeći po opisu ostataka suhozidnih nastambi koje spominje A. R. Filipi,²⁸ najvjerojatnije se radi o pastirsko-poljskim kućicama

cape of Dugi Otok and on the islet of Katina that closed Telašćica cove with one of its parts (Fig. 10). Mentioned islet was connected with Dugi Otok in Roman times, and probably also with Kornat, and was therefore the longest island in the Adriatic. Dugi Otok and Katina were separated back in the Roman period which is related to the function of the villa. Unfortunately it was not explored completely, and a part of it is under the sea. It was built in the Early Roman period (late 1st or early 2nd cent.), and its function was related to the sea, fishing, possibly also salt production, but its duration can only be hypothesized about. It is very likely that the name of the wider area, that is the entire peninsula is related to the name *Πιζύχ* mentioned by Constantine Pophyrogennetos, which is also indicated by the toponyms preserved in current variants of names of certain areas in this part of the island (Čuh, Čuh Polje, cape Punta Čuške, coves Čušćica and Čuška Dumboka). That is probably the reason why the entire island was called *Πιζύχ*. „Pod selo“ (*under village*) between Čuh and Drakovac suggests presence of a settlement but we can only assume what its character was and from what period. Judging from the description of the remains of dry stone wall houses mentioned by A. R. Filipi,²⁸ most likely these were shepherd's or field huts and

28 A. R. Filipi 1981, 30.

28 A. R. Filipi 1981, 30.



Slika 10. Topografska karta s prikazom položaja rimskih gospodarskih objekata i kasnoantičkih crkava na prostoru Telašćice
Figure 10. Topographic map with positions of the Roman outbuildings and late antique churches in the Telašćica region

izradili / made by: A. Uglešić, J. Šučur

i manjem (moguće srednjovjekovnom) naselju čiji kontinuitet nastavlja današnji zaselak Rudići.

S druge strane Telašćice, na poluotoku koji tu uvalu zatvara prema otvorenom moru, na sjeverozapadnom rubu Stivanjeg polja, nalazi se lokalitet Gruh s ostacima ranokršćanske crkve sv. Ivana i većeg rimskog stambeno-gospodarskog kompleksa.²⁹ Sudeći prema dijelu sačuvanih zidova vile i dosad pronađenim pokretnim arheološkim nalazima gradnja toga kompleksa otprilike je istovremena s gradnjom vile na Maloj Proverasi.³⁰ Crkva je tijekom kasne antike (vjerojatno u 6. st.) na dijelu prostorija vile prvotno sagrađena kao jednobrodna građevina s apsidom, a nešto kasnije joj je na prostoru koji je pripadao

a smaller (possibly) medieval settlement whose continuity is perpetuated by the present-day hamlet of Rudići.

On the other side of Telašćica, on a peninsula that shelters this cove from the open sea, on the northwestern edge of Stivanje polje is the site of Gruh with the remains of the early Christian church of St. John and a large Roman residential and agricultural complex.²⁹ Judging from the part of preserved walls of the villa and recovered movable archaeological finds construction of this complex is roughly simultaneous with building of the villa in Mala Proversa.³⁰ The church was originally built in Late Antiquity (probably in the 6th century) as a single-nave edifice with an apse in

29 Crkva sv. Ivana u Gruhu istraživana je u nekoliko navrata, tijekom pedesetih godina prošlog stoljeća pod vodstvom I. Petriciolija te tijekom 1995. kada su i konzervirani pronađeni ostatci zidova (I. Petricioli 1954, 56–60; 1987, 93–95, 98–105; 1997, 169–178). Revizijska i sustavna istraživanja crkve i stambeno-gospodarskog kompleksa započela su 2017. godine, a provodi ih Odjel za arheologiju Sveučilišta u Zadru pod vodstvom doc. dr. sc. Josipe Baraka Perice i doc. dr. sc. Jure Šučura. Istraživačke arheološke radove financira Javna ustanova Park prirode Telašćica, a sredstva za konzervatorsko-restauratorske radove većinom je osiguravalo Ministarstvo kulture Republike Hrvatske.

30 Među pronađenim ulomcima keramike najraniji se nalazi mogu datirati u 1. st., a najstariji pronađen novac pripada vremenu cara Hadrijana (117. – 138.).

29 Church of St. John in Gruh was explored on several occasions in the 1950s, under the leadership of Ivo Petricioli, and in 1995 when the wall remains were conserved (I. Petricioli 1954, 56–60; 1987, 93–95, 98–105; 1997, 169–178). Revised or systematic research of the church and residential and agricultural complex started in 2017, and they were conducted by the Department of Archaeology of the University of Zadar led by assistant professor Josipa Baraka, PhD, and assistant professor Jure Šučur, PhD. Archaeological research works were funded by the Public Institution of Nature Park Telašćica, and funding for conservation-restoration works was mostly provided by the Ministry of Culture of the Republic of Croatia.

30 Earliest pottery sherds can be dated to the 1st century, and the earliest coin recovered dates to the time of the Emperor Hadrian (117–138).



Slika 11. Crkva nakon provedenih konzervatorsko-restauratorskih radova

Figure 11. Church after conservation-restoration works

foto / photo by: Š. Glavan

termalnim instalacijama dograđen narteks. Obnovljena je tijekom predromaničkog i ranoromaničkog razdoblja, kada je kompleks vile prerastao u naselje koje je živjelo sve do novog vijeka. Mišljenja smo da je prostor rimske vile na Grusima vjerojatno pripadao istom veleposjedu kao i sjeverozapadni dio Telašćice, odnosno da je cijeli širi kopneni i morski prostor te uvale bio jedan jedinstveni posjed, što se kasnije nastavilo i u ranom srednjem vijeku.

Crkva sv. Viktora na Citoriju iznad Stivanjeg polja imala je osobito značenje za cijeli prostor Telašćice. Ona je smatrana zavjetnom crkvom ili se povezivala s pustinjacima, odnosno dovodila se u vezu s monasima koji su mogli živjeti u nedalekoj Remetinoj peći, uz njihovo služenje liturgije i molitvene pobožnosti.³¹ Takva namjena crkve zasigurno je moguća, međutim, sama lokacija i smjer gradnje crkve na litici prema otvorenom moru upućuje na još jednu njezinu vrlo vjerojatnu namjenu. S obzirom na to da

some of the villa rooms. Narthex was added some time later in the area that belonged to thermal installations. It was renewed in the pre-Romanesque and Early Romanesque period when the villa complex had grown into a settlement that existed until the Modern Period. We believe that the area of the Roman villa in Grusi probably belonged to the same large estate as the northwestern part of Telašćica, that is that the entire terrestrial and maritime area of this cove was one estate that continued its existence in the Early Middle Ages.

The church of St. Victor over Stivanje polje had special importance for the entire area of Telašćica. It was considered to be a votive church or it was associated with hermits or monks that could have lived in the nearby Remetina cave, practising liturgy and prayer devotions.³¹ Such function of the church is definitely possible but the location and orientation of the church building on the cliff towards

31 B. Migotti 1995, 127; J. Vučić 2012, 121.

31 B. Migotti 1995, 127; J. Vučić 2012, 121.

je uz vanjsku stranu Dugog otoka tekao antički plovidbeni put otvorenim morem,³² crkva je osim liturgijske namjene imala i funkciju svjetionika, tako da je u noći u njoj gorjelo svjetlo (lumin) koje je bilo putokaz za daljnju plovidbu, a ujedno i oznaka ulaza u sigurnu i najveću prirodnu jadransku luku, Telašćicu. Pandan za takvu namjenu nalazimo na suprotnoj strani Dugog otoka kod Velog Rata, odnosno njegova zaseoka Polje gdje se na položaju Garška crkva nalaze ostatci također najvjerojatnije ranokršćanske crkve sv. Jelene.³³ Ona je isto tako smještena na samom vanjskom rubu sjeverozapadnog dijela Dugog otoka, na blagoj uzvisini zvanoj Zaboje. Položaj te crkve, poput sv. Viktora, bio je idealan za noćnu svjetlosnu oznaku plovidbenog puta, a ujedno i oznaku ulaza u tri sigurne luke, današnju Velarsku valu (Panteru),³⁴ zaštićenu od gotovo svih vjetrova, Solišćicu, zaštićenu od juga i bure, i Sakarun, zaštićenu od bure i zapadnih vjetrova.

ZAKLJUČAK

Istraživanjem lokaliteta Crkvina tijekom kolovoza i rujna 2018. godine u potpunosti je definiran sakralni objekt na padini brda Sukavac koji sa zapada omeđuje Čuh polje (sl. 4, 7–9). Radi se crkvi pravokutnog tlocrta s polukružnom apsidom na istočnoj strani, moguće posvećenoj sv. Luki. Usprkos malom broju pokretnih nalaza, a osobito nedostatku onih uže databilnih, sakralni objekt na Crkvini s velikom se dozom sigurnosti temeljem pronađenih nalaza, načina gradnje i usporedbe s najbližom vrlo sličnom crkvom (Sv. Viktor na Citoriju) može datirati u kasnoantičko doba, okvirno u 5./6. stoljeće.

Odmah po završetku istraživanja pristupilo se konzervaciji zatečenih ostataka arhitekture te je na taj način Park prirode Telašćica dobio dodatnu točku u prezentaciji kulturne baštine unutar svojih granica (sl. 11).³⁵ Povezivanje toga lokaliteta s prapovijesnim tumulima (jedan u neposrednoj blizini lokaliteta, tri na brdu Gomiljak, jedan istražen u samom polju), ostacima rimske vile u Maloj Proversu, ostacima srednjovjekovnih i novovjekovnih nastambi i gospodarskih objekata, svjedoči o kontinuitetu života na tom dijelu Dugog otoka od prapovijesti preko antike, ranokršćanskog doba tijekom srednjeg i novog vijeka, sve do današnjih dana. Jednako tako ostali arheološki lokaliteti na suprotnom dijelu Telašćice, među kojima osobito treba

the open sea suggest another function it might have had. Since the ancient maritime route in the open sea followed outer side of Dugi Otok³² the church also functioned as a lighthouse, not only for liturgic purposes, so that a light was lit at night as a guidepost for continuation of sailing, and at the same time as a mark of entrance into the safe and biggest natural Adriatic port, Telašćica. We can find its counterpart on the opposite side of Dugi Otok, next to Veli Rat, that is its hamlet Polje where remains of most probably also early Christian church of St. Helena are located on the position Garška crkva.³³ It is also situated on the outer part of the northwestern part of Dugi Otok, on a mild slope called Zaboje. The position of this church, like St. Victor was ideal for a nightly light guidepost on a maritime route, and at the same time as a sign of entrance into three safe ports, current Velarska Vala (Pantera),³⁴ sheltered from almost all winds, Solišćica, protected from jugo and bura winds, and Sakarun, sheltered from bura and western winds.

CONCLUSION

In the excavations of the site of Crkvina in August and September of 2018 a sacral edifice was defined on the slope of Sukavac hill that is bordered by Čuh Polje (Figs. 4, 7–9). It is a church with a rectangular layout and semicircular apse on the eastern side, possibly dedicated to St. Luke. Despite the small number of movable finds, and in particular since the datable finds are lacking, the sacral edifice in Crkvina can be dated to Late Antiquity, broadly to the 5th/6th century, with great certainty on the basis of recovered finds, manner of building and comparison with a very similar church (St. Victor in Citorij).

As soon as the excavations were finished, conservation of the architectural remains was initiated so the Nature Park Telašćica got another point in presentation of the cultural heritage within its boundaries (Fig. 11).³⁵ Associating this site with prehistoric tumuli (one in immediate vicinity of the site, three on Gomiljak hill, one excavated in the field), remains of the Roman villa in Mala Proversa, remains of medieval and post-medieval houses and farm buildings testify to the continuity of life in this part of Dugi Otok from prehistory over antiquity to the Early Christian era in the Middle Ages and Modern Period to the present day. Other archaeological sites on the opposite side of

32 O načinu plovidbe u antici i sakralnim objektima uz plovidbenu rutu istočnom obalom Jadrana vidi Z. Brusić 1993, 223–233.

33 A. Uglešić 1993, 168; 2002, 100–102; A. Uglešić, M. Parica 2013, 148.

34 Treba istaknuti da se najzaštićeniji dio Velarske vale (Pantere) gdje se nalazila i velika rimska *villa rustica* naziva imenom sličnim nazivima pojedinih predjela u Telašćici, uvala *Čune*. Podrijetlo te riječi trebalo bi tražiti u staroslavenskom jeziku jer u čakavskom govoru dugootočkih naselja još uvijek postoji riječ *pričuhnuti*, a istoznačnica je za *smiriti/primiriti* (se) u današnjem hrvatskom književnom jeziku. *Čune* bi u tom kontekstu značilo *mirna luka*, što ona zapravo i jest.

35 Konzervatorsko-restauratorske radove financirala je Javna ustanova Park Prirode Telašćica, a izvela ih je tvrtka Travej d.o.o., Zadar.

32 On sailing in antiquity and sacral edifices along the eastern Adriatic maritime route see Z. Brusić 1993, 223–233.

33 A. Uglešić 1993, 168; 2002, 100–102; A. Uglešić, M. Parica 2013, 148.

34 It is worth mentioning that the most protected part of Velarska Vala (Pantera) where the big Roman *villa rustica* was located also bears a name that is similar to the names of certain areas in Telašćica, *Čune* cove. The origin of this word should be looked for in the Old Slavic language since a word *pričuhnuti* is still present in Chakavian speech of the settlements on Dugi Otok. In contemporary Croatian language it would mean to calm (down) /*smiriti/primiriti* (se). In that context *Čune* would mean calm, quiet port which it actually is.

35 Conservation-restoration works were funded by the Public Institution of Nature Park Telašćica, and they were carried out by the company Travej d.o.o., Zadar.

istaknuti položaje Gruh i Citorij, upotpunjuju sliku tog prostora koji je povijesno često bio dio iste cjeline i kao takav imao značajnu ulogu u gospodarstvu šireg zadarskog područja, a također je strateški bio izuzetno važna točka na ruti plovidbenog puta istočnom jadranskom obalom.

Telašćica, such as Gruh and Citorij, complement the image of this area that has historically been a part of the same whole and as such it played an important role in the economy of the wider Zadar region, being also an exceptionally important strategic point on the maritime route along the eastern Adriatic coast.

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