

# Otres – srednjovjekovno selo kod Bribira\*

Mate Zekan

## UVOD

Mnogobrojni srednjovjekovni kameni spomenici ukrašeni starohrvatskom pletenom skulpturom i natpisima, a potječu s položaja Otres, inicirali su potrebu revizijskog istraživanja tog lokaliteta. Bilo je poznato da su spomenici dopremljeni u Prvi muzej hrvatskih spomenika u Kninu poslije pretraživanja koje je ondje proveo Marun pred Prvi svjetski rat, ali se nije znao ni oblik ni stupanj očuvanosti crkvenog objekta koji su ukrašavali.

Nedostatak tehničke kao i svake druge dokumentacije još više je poticao potrebu takvog zahvata u nastojanju da se tom lokalitetu prida onakva važnost na koju je ukazivao očuvani spomenički materijal. Kako se u srednjovjekovnim dokumentima konstatira postojanje sela (*villa*) Otres, bilo je potrebno obaviti praktičnu provjeru na nekropoli, koja se protezala uokolo crkve, gdje su se na površini nazirali grobovi i utvrditi postojeće odnose stanovništva i tog ukopišta u kasnom srednjem vijeku. Ispitivanjem crkve i groblja, analizom konstrukcije i sadržaja grobova željelo se utvrditi vrijeme nastanka i kultne upotrebe cijelog arheološkog kompleksa.

Tijekom pripreme za publiciranje lokaliteta Otres ustanovilo se da je prijašnja arheološka istraživanja obavljao povjerenik Hrvatskoga starinarškog društva Vladimir Ardalić uz povremene oblaske L. Maruna.

\* Nedovršeni tekst Mate Zekana o lokalitetu Otres, koji je istraživao dugi niz godina, nedavno je slučajno pronađen. Odlučili smo ga prigodno tiskati u ovom broju *Starohrvatske prosvjete*, koji je kolegi Zekanu i posvećen. U tekst nismo zadirali osim što smo dodali popis literature i fotografije. Također napominjemo da su u međuvremenu objavljena pisma Vladimira Ardalića, na koje se autor često poziva u bilješkama. Vidi: *Pisma Vladimira Ardalića Luji Marunu* (1893. - 1917.), (priredio: M. Kumir), Split, 2019. Tekst Mate Zekana za tisak su priredili Maja Petrincec i Ante Alajbeg.

# Otres – a medieval village by Bribir\*

Mate Zekan

## INTRODUCTION

The many medieval stone monuments ornamented with Old Croatian interlacing sculpting as well as epigraphs deriving from the position of Otres indicated the need for there to be an archaeological reinvestigation of the site. It was known that monuments had been taken to the First Museum of Croatian Monuments in Knin after the research carried out there by Marun before World War I, but it was not known what shape the ecclesiastical structure that they had graced was, or the extent to which it had been preserved.

The absence of technical and any other kind of documentation underlined the need for such an undertaking, in the ambition to give the site the importance that was suggested by the extant monumental material. Since the medieval documents noted the existence of the village (*villa*) of Otres, it was necessary to carry out a practical check at the necropolis that extended around the church. On the surface graves could be discerned and the relations existing between the population and this burial site in the Late Middle Ages could be observed. It was wished, through an examination of the church and the graveyard, to make an analysis of the construction and contents of the graves, to ascertain the time at which the whole of the archaeological complex came into being and when it was used for cult purposes.

\* This unfinished paper by Mate Zekan about the archaeological site of Otres, which he investigated for many years, recently came fortuitously to light. We decided to print the paper in this issue of *Starohrvatska prosvjeta*, which is dedicated to Mate Zekan. We have not altered anything in the text, except to add a list of references and some photographs. We should also mention that the letters of Vladimir Ardalić, which the author often cites in the notes, have been published in the meantime. See: *Pisma Vladimira Ardalića Luji Marunu* (1893. - 1917.), (edited: M. Kumir), Split, 2019. The text of Mate Zekan was prepared for the press by Maja Petrincec and Ante Alajbeg



Zračna fotografija arheološkog lokaliteta na Otresu nakon kampanje 2017. godine (foto: Z. Alajbeg)  
*Aerial photo of the archaeological site at Otres after the 2017 campaign (photo: Z. Alajbeg)*

Na osnovi vijesti iz pisama kojima izvođač V. Ardalić izvješćuje L. Maruna o tijeku istraživanja, isplatnih lista radnika te iz zabilješki u Marunovu *Starinarskom dnevniku* i u njegovim priručnim notesima, koje sukcesivno donosimo u bilješkama, pokušat ćemo valorizirati značenje tog lokaliteta, iako velik dio nalaza, osobito grobnih priloga, nismo uspjeli determinirati. Oni su čini se za znanstvenu obradu izgubljeni, budući se za vrijeme istraživanja nije vodila nikakva dokumentacija, a predmeti se u Muzeju nisu inventirali.

Veći dio kamenih spomenika obilježen je oznakom “Ot” tek kada su dopremljeni u Knin, zajedno s nalazima iz crkve sv. Ante u Ostrovici, na koje je istovrsnom crvenom bojom nanesena oznaka “Os”, pa je trebalo dosta truda da se izvrši ispravna atribucija spomenika. U tome je značajno pomogao očuvani arhivski materijal čijim korištenjem se uspio jedan dio kamenih spomenika, koji nisu signirani i nije im poznato mjesto nalaza ili su pripisivani dru-

During the preparations for describing in print the site of Otres, it was discovered that previous archaeological excavations had been carried out by a commissioner of the Croatian Antiquarian Association, Vladimir Ardalić, with occasional visits by Lujo Marun.

Pursuant to information from letters with which the contractor, Ardalić, informed Marun about the course of the research, the pay slips of the workmen and from notes in Marun’s Antiquarian Diary, and in his handy notebooks, which we will provide successively in the notes, we shall attempt to valorise the importance of the site, although a large part of the finds, particularly the grave goods, have been impossible to determine. They have been lost to scholarly discussion, it would seem, since no documentation was kept during the excavations, and the objects were not inventoried in the museum.

Most of the stone monuments were marked “Ot” only after they had been brought to Knin, togeth-

gim lokalitetima, sada pripojiti već poznatom materijalu iz Otrisa.

Revizijsko arheološko istraživanje lokaliteta Otres započeo je autor ovoga priloga 3. listopada 1977. godine, pod stručnim vodstvom akademika Stjepana Gunjače.

Kako planirani prostor *Starohrvatske prosvjete* ne omogućuje da se radnja objavi u cijelosti, razlomljena je na dva dijela. Prvi dio odnosi se na spomenike ranoga srednjeg vijeka, dok će drugi dio "Otres kod Bribira u kasnom srednjem vijeku", biti objavljen u slijedećem broju.

### Toponomastičko-topografska obilježja

Arheološki položaj Otres, za koji su se do sada upotrebljavali različiti nazivi, kao "Lukačeva ograda",<sup>1</sup> "Lukačuša",<sup>2</sup> "Mandića vinograd",<sup>3</sup> „obor (avlija) Jakova Mandića",<sup>4</sup> "Mandića ograda",<sup>5</sup> "pod Otrinom",<sup>6</sup> smješten je između Bribira, poznatog arheološkog lokaliteta (antička *Varvaria*), i srednjovjekovnog sijela velikaške obitelji Šubića i njihove druge srednjovjekovne utvrde, Ostrovice (crtež 1).

Toponim mikroregije Otres nalazi svoje podrijetlo u strmom brdu koje pripada ostrovičko-otreškome planinskom lancu, koji kao prirodna barijera razdvaja kamenitu i suhu visoravan Bukovice od unižene i plodne zaravni Ravnih kotara. Na mjestu gdje se visoravan strmo obrušava prema Ravnim kotarima, a danas ispod visoko podignutog podzida željezničke pruge na odsječku Đevrske – Ostrovice, izvire manje nepresušno vrelo kojem je hidronimski naziv odredio naznačeni oronim.

S lijeve strane potoka koji teče od izvorišta na jug, a oko petsto metara daleko od vrela, na istočnom kraju ograde Bože Mandića (obilježenoj na

er with the finds from the Church of St Anthony (Ante) in Ostrovice, which were marked, in the same kind of red, "Os", and a good deal of effort was necessary to make a correct attribution of the monuments. In this task, the extant archival materials were a great help; with the use of them, some of the stone monuments, which had not been signed and the discovery site of which was unknown or else had been ascribed to other sites, have now been added to the material from Otres already known.

Revision archaeological excavation of the site of Otres was begun by the present writer on October 3, 1977, under the expert supervision of Academician Stjepan Gunjača.

Since the space provided in *Starohrvatska prosvjeta* is insufficient for the publication of the work as a whole, the paper has been split into two parts. Part one relates to monuments from the Early Middle Ages, while the second part, "Otres by Bribir in the Late Middle Ages" will be published in the following issue.

### Toponomastic and topographic characteristics

The archaeological site of Otres, for which previously various names were used such as Lukač's enclosure,<sup>1</sup> Lukačuša,<sup>2</sup> Mandića vinograd [vineyard]<sup>3</sup>, the obor [courtyard] of Jakov Mandić,<sup>4</sup> Mandić's enclosure,<sup>5</sup> below Otres,<sup>6</sup> located between Bribir, itself a well known archaeological site (Antique *Varvaria*), the medieval seat of the magnate family of the Šubićes, and their other medieval fort of Ostrovice (Drawing 1).

<sup>1</sup> Marun 1998, str. 216, te u: Arhiv hrvatskog starinarskog društva u Muzeju hrvatskih arheoloških spomenika u Splitu (AHSD). U notesu putnih bilješki (Koncept) od 17. i 19. listopada 1911. godine upotrebljava taj naziv. Isti toponim nalazi se i u *Obćem blagajničkom dnevniku* od 14. listopada 1911. i 30. prosinca 1911. godine.

<sup>2</sup> AHSD. Od dvadeset pisama koje je V. Ardalić uputio L. Marunu, a odnose se na taj lokalitet, u četrnaest se upotrebljava taj naziv.

<sup>3</sup> Marun, 1998, str. 62.

<sup>4</sup> Marun 1896, str. 124, 200.

<sup>5</sup> AHSD. Dopisnica Peše Gladovića iz Bribira od 19. siječnja 1912., kojom traži naknadu za prijevoz dva kamena iz Mandića ograde u školu u Bribiru.

<sup>6</sup> Radić 1897, str. 129.

<sup>1</sup> Marun 1998, p. 216, as well as in: Arhiv hrvatskog starinarskog društva u Muzeju hrvatskih arheoloških spomenika u Splitu [Archives of the Croatian Antiquarian Society in the Museum of Croatian Archaeological monuments in Split (ACAS)]. In a notebook full of notes (Concept, which means sketch or synopsis of a larger work) from 17 to 19 October 1911, he uses this name. The same place name is to be found in *Obći blagajnički dnevnik* [General Treasury Diary] of October 14, 1911, and December 30, 1911.

<sup>2</sup> ACAS. Of the twenty letters that Ardalić sent to Marun relating to this site, fourteen of them use this name.

<sup>3</sup> Marun, 1998, p. 62.

<sup>4</sup> Marun 1896, p. 124, 200.

<sup>5</sup> ACAS. Postcard from Pešo Gladović of Bribir of January 19, 1912, asking for payment for the carriage of two stones from Mandića ograda to the school in Bribir.

<sup>6</sup> Radić 1897, p. 129.

katatarskom planu Bribira kao čestica 1720/3 i 1720/4) leže ostaci crkve i nekropole (crtež 2).

### Povijesni izvori

Najranije pisane vijesti o postojanju sela Otres nalaze se u registru zadarskoga javnog i kaptolskog bilježnika Petra de Serčane, iz zadnjeg desetljeća 14. stoljeća. Prvi put nalazimo ga uz ime Martina iz Otres (Martinum de Otressi), koji svjedoči presudi Sudbenog stola u Podgrađu donesenoj 11. lipnja 1394. godine, koju u prijepisu izdaje i ovjerava Zadarski kaptol 15. svibnja 1395. godine.<sup>7</sup>

Pred tim Kaptolom vjerojatno isti Martin Mlatković iz sela Otres, isplaćuje 28. studenoga 1394. godine 150 malih libara plemenitom Monetu pokojnog Pavla od roda Šubića iz Bribira, te na taj način dolazi u posjed jednog ždrijeba zemlje u Otresu što su ga njegovi preci založili Monetovim precima za istu sumu.<sup>8</sup>

Istoga dana Martin Mlatković iz Otres, pristav sudbenog stola iz Podgrađa, pred Zadarskim kaptolom svjedoči u korist Moneta pokojnog Pavla i Nikole sina Butka iz Bribira, obojice od roda Šubića. Njima Zadarski kaptol vraća četvrtinu svih njihovih posjeda koje im je prethodno oduzeo Ivan od Paližne, vranski prior, prisilivši ih da o tome potpišu posebnu ispravu pred Ninskim kaptolom.<sup>9</sup>

Selo Otres češće se spominje tijekom 15. stoljeća. Uglavnom su to isprave Sudbenog stola Županije Luka i Kninskog kaptola, iz kojih se odražava važnost koje je imalo to selo i ugled koji su njegovi žitelji uživali u to vrijeme.

U dokumentu iz godine 1419. kojim se vraćaju posjedi Grguru iz plemena Kukara, spominje se Butko, odnosno Blaž (*Vlaci*) iz Otres.<sup>10</sup> Isti Butko pokojnog Blaža iz sela Otres (*de villa Otres*) navodi se kao zakleti sudac u ispravi istoga suda od 9. rujna 1428., kojom se ustupa gvardijanu samostana Male braće iz Šibenika osam vriti zemlje u selu Bratiškovcima (*Braschievivichi*).<sup>11</sup>

Žitelj sela Otres pod utvrdom Ostrovica je i Veseljko Tomašić, koji se spominje u spisu šibenskog notara Michela q. Iohannisa iz 1432. godine.<sup>12</sup>

The place name for the Otres micro-region derives from the steep hill that belongs to the Ostrovica-Otres mountain chain, a natural barrier that separates the stony, arid plateau of Bukovica from the lower, fertile plateau of Ravni Kotari. At the place where the plateau dips steeply down to Ravni Kotari, today underneath the elevated retaining wall of the railway line on the Đevrske to Ostrovica section, there is a smallish but never failing spring the name of which was determined by the name of the hill.

On the left side of the stream that flows from the spring to the south, about five hundred metres from the source, on the eastern end of the enclosure of Božo Mandić (marked on the cadastral map of Bribir as parcel 1720/3 and 1720/4) lie the remains of a church and a graveyard (drawing 2).

### Historical sources

The earliest written information about the existence of Otres village is to be found in the register of the public and chapter notary Petro de Serčane from the last decade of the 14<sup>th</sup> century. We find him for the first time together with the name of Martin of Otres (Martinum de Otressi), who is witnessing to a judgement of the court in Podgrađe adopted on June 11, 1394 a copy of which was made and authenticated by the Chapter in Zadar on May 15, 1395.<sup>7</sup>

Before the chapter, probably the same Martin Mlatković of Otres village, paid out on November 28, 1394, 150 small pounds to the noble Monet son of the late Pavao of the family of Šubić of Bribir, and in this manner came into the possession of a piece of land in Otres that his forefathers had mortgaged to Monet's ancestors for the same sum.<sup>8</sup>

The same day, Martin Mlatković of Otres, a clerk of the court in Podgrađe witnessed on behalf of Monet, son of the late Pavao, and Nikola, son of Butko of Bribir, both of them from the Šubić family. The Zadar chapter restored to them a quarter of all their possessions that had previously been taken from them by Ivan of Paližna, prior of Vrana, forcing them to sign a special document before the chapter of Nin.<sup>9</sup>

<sup>7</sup> Ančić, Majnarić, 2009, str. 82.

<sup>8</sup> Ančić, Majnarić, 2009, str. 65.

<sup>9</sup> Ančić, Majnarić, str. 2009, str. 93-94. U krakom sadržaju (konceptu) isprave na posebnoj cedulji koja je donesena na str. 140 stoji: ...*Martinus Mlatcouich (uocatus Otr) de uilla Otresse...*

<sup>10</sup> Alačević 1883, str. 77-88.

<sup>11</sup> Fabianich 1863, str. 435-436.

<sup>12</sup> Smiljanić 2003, str. 22.

<sup>7</sup> Ančić, Majnarić, 2009, p. 82.

<sup>8</sup> Ančić, Majnarić, 2009, p. 65.

<sup>9</sup> Ančić, Majnarić, p. 2009, pp. 93-94. In a short synopsis (the concept) of a document on a separate slip of paper that is given on p. 140 is: ...*Martinus Mlatcouich (uocatus Otr) de uilla Otresse...*

U dokumentu od 7. lipnja 1446. godine, kojim Kninski kaptol izvješćuje bana Petra Talovca o uvođenju u posjed Jakova, sina bana Pavla bibriskoga, spominje se kao povjerljiva osoba Ivan Inečalić (*Inechalich*) iz Otresa, koji taj akt treba uručiti banu. U tom se spisu kao suvlasnici susjednih zemljišta nabrajaju Ivan sin Jurin, Jakov sin Butkov (*Buthle*) i Milerio sin Jakovljević, svi mještani Otresa.<sup>13</sup>

Kada 10. ožujka 1481. godine Juraj Čulinović, slikar rodnom iz Skradina, želi i prenosi pravo upravljanja dobrima svog pokojnog rođaka na ugledne građanine Skradina, među njima nalazimo i plemenitog muža Luku Jurkanića iz lučkog Otresa (*Otressi de Lucha*).<sup>14</sup> Isti Luka Jurkanić, sada član rotnog suda, spominje se u dokumentu od 3. svibnja 1492. godine kada Lučki stol rješava spor između mještana sela Kašića i Milote Nješustovića, radi korištenja plemenskog prostora. U tom se dokumentu kao jedan od porotnika spominje i Juraj Grgurov Pavičić iz Otresa.<sup>15</sup> Luka Jurkanić sudjeluje i u radu Kninskoga kaptola 28. srpnja 1495. godine, pri uvođenju Ivana Keglovića u vlasnost gradova i posjeda koje mu je ostavio Juraj Mikuličić.<sup>16</sup>

Osim I. Kukuljevića Sakcinskog, D. Fabjanića, J. Alačevića, Đ. Šurmina, I. Bojničića, V. Klaića, P. Kolendića, F. Smiljanića, M. Aničića i I. Majnarića, koji su između ostale građe sabrali i ovdje naznačene dokumente koji spominju mještane srednjovjekovnoga sela Otres, kasnije vijesti, više ne o selu, nego o strateškom položaju Otres, a u svezi s njegovom važnom ulogom u obrani od turskih prodora i sukoba s njima tijekom 17. stoljeća, donose S. Zlatović i B. Desnica.<sup>17</sup>

### Položaj srednjovjekovnog sela Otresa

Pretražujući okolni teren u potrazi za ostacima srednjovjekovnog sela koje se spominje u dokumentima, ustanovili smo da su na padini i zaravni kose koja se pruža istočno od porušene crkve prema Čoraševim kućama, vidljivi mnogobrojni tragovi suhozidnih građevina, uglavnom manjih kvadratnih zgrada. Već je Marun primijetio te temelje uruše-

Otres village is often mentioned in the 15<sup>th</sup> century. On the whole these references are in documents of the court of the county of Luka and of the chapter of Knin, from which the importance of this village is reflected, the respect which its inhabitants enjoyed at that time.

A document of 1419, restoring the possessions to Grgur of the Kukar tribe, mentions Butko or Blaž (Vlaci) of Otres.<sup>10</sup> The same Butko son of Blaž of the village of Otres (de villa Otres) is mentioned as a sworn judge in a document of the same court of September 9, 1429, in which eight units of land in the village of Bratiškovci (Braschievivichi) are ceded to the guardian of the Friars Minor Priory in Šibenik.<sup>11</sup>

Another inhabitant of the village of Otres beneath the fort of Ostrovica was Veseljko Tomašić, who is mentioned in a document of the Šibenik notary Michel q. Iohannis of 1432.<sup>12</sup>

A document of July 7, 1446 in which the Knin chapter informed Ban Petar Talovac of putting Jakov, son of Ban Pavo of Bribir, in possession, mentions, as a trustworthy person Ivan Inečalić (*Inechalich*) of Otres, who was to deliver this document to the ban. Mentioned as co-owners of neighbouring pieces of land in this document are Ivan, son of Jura, Jakov, son of Butko (*Buthle*) and Milerio, son of Jakov, all inhabitants of Otres.<sup>13</sup>

When on March 10, 1481, Juraj Čulinović, a painter from Skradin by birth, wanted to, and did, transfer the rights to the management of the estates of this deceased relative to distinguished townsmen of Skradin, among them we can find the noble gentleman Luka Jurkanić from Lučki Otres (*Otressi de Lucha*).<sup>14</sup> It was also this same Luka Jurkanić that was a member of the assizes, mentioned in a document of May 3, 1492, when the Court of Lučka settled a dispute between the inhabitants of the villages of Kašić and Milo Nješustović, to do with the use of the tribal area. One of the jurors, the document says, was Juraj Grgurov Pavičić of Otres.<sup>15</sup> Luka Jurkanić also took part in the work of the chapter of Knin on July 28, 1495, while installing Ivan Keglović in

<sup>13</sup> Bojničić 1899, str. 197-198.

<sup>14</sup> Kolendić 1920, str. 141.

<sup>15</sup> Kukuljević Sakcinski 1851, str. 204; istu ispravu u ćirilskoj transkripciji donosi Šurmin 1898, str. 361.

<sup>16</sup> Klaić 1917, str. 48.

<sup>17</sup> Desnica 1950, str. 35 (1. 5. 1648.), 48 (1. 8. 1648.), 50 (2. 8. 1648.), 60 (14. 6. 1652.), 106 (13. i 14. 2. 1662.), 115 (8. 5. 1663.), 135 (18. 12. 1668.), 300 (16. 12. 1663.), te Desnica 1951, str. 216 (2. 4. 1688.).

<sup>10</sup> Alačević 1883, pp. 77-88.

<sup>11</sup> Fabianich 1863, pp. 435-436.

<sup>12</sup> Smiljanić 2003, p. 22.

<sup>13</sup> Bojničić 1899, pp. 197-198.

<sup>14</sup> Kolendić 1920, p. 141.

<sup>15</sup> Kukuljević Sakcinski 1851, p. 204; the same document is given by Šurmin 1898, p. 361, in a Cyrillic transcription.

nih građevina, ali ih je pripisao pretpovijesnim nastambama.<sup>18</sup> On je te nastambe pregledao zajedno s P. Kaerom i V. Ardalićem. Nakon njihova obilaska jedan je mještanan Bribira nedaleko od crkve u Otresu, pokraj puta koji vodi k Bribiru, krčeći jedan okrajak svoje zemlje na kojoj se nalazilo nekoliko “kućetina”, u pola jedne našao tri četvrtana tanka brusa, tri manja noža i jedan dugački nož te jedan keramički šuplji pršljen.<sup>19</sup>

Takve nastambe, građene od slabije obrađenih ili u cijelosti neobrađenih kamenih blokova, protokom stoljeća pretvorile su se u gomile pa je tek njihovo pažljivo proučavanje uz ostali razlomljeni i razasuti sitni materijal ukazalo da se tu radi o ostacima arhitekture srednjovjekovnoga sela Otres, koje se spominje u pisanim izvorima 14. i 15. stoljeća.

Temeljni izvor koji upućuje na smještaj srednjovjekovnoga sela Otres kupoprodajni je ugovor od 28. studenoga 1394. godine, gdje se navode njegove granice.<sup>20</sup> Sa sjeveroistočne strane graniči sa selom Srijane, s jugoistoka su bile bribirske zemlje, s jugozapada dijelom selo Žažvić, a dijelom selo Krivičić (Krinčić),<sup>21</sup> a sa sjeverozapadne su strane bile zemlje ostrovičke utvrde.<sup>22</sup> Tri međašna mjesta (Bribir, Žažvić i Ostrovica) naziv su zadržala do danas, dok su se sela Srijane i Krivičić pod tim imenima izgubila. Srijane nalazimo 1550. godine u sastavu nahije Ostrovice Istrije (naseljenoj Vlasima) pod turskom vlašću, a poslije je preslojeno imenom Đevrske.<sup>23</sup> Selo Krivičić treba tražiti na području

the possession of cities and estates willed to him by Juraj Mikuličić.<sup>16</sup>

Apart from I. Kukuljević Sakcinski, D. Fabjanić, J. Alačević, Đ. Šurmin, I. Bojničić, V. Klaić, P. Kolendić, F. Smiljanić, M. Aničić and I. Majnarić who among other materials collected the documents referred to here that mention inhabitants of the medieval village of Otres, later information, no longer about the village, rather about the strategic position of Otres in connection with its important role in defence against the Turkish incursions and conflicts with them during the 17<sup>th</sup> century, is provided by S. Zlatović and B. Desnica.<sup>17</sup>

### The position of the medieval village of Otres

Searching the surrounding land in for the remains of the medieval village mentioned in the documents, we established that on the slope and plateau of a spur that stretches east of the ruined church in the direction of Ćoraš houses, many traces of dry stone wall buildings were to be seen, on the whole smallish square buildings. Marun had already observed these foundations of tumble-down buildings, but had classified them as prehistoric habitations.<sup>18</sup> He examined the dwellings with Kaer and Ardalić. After their tour of inspection, one of the inhabitants of Bribir, not far from the church in Otres, alongside the path that leads to Bribir, clearing a nook of his land on which there were several cottages, in half of one found three quarters of a slender whetstone, three small knives and one long one, and one hollow ceramic loom weight.<sup>19</sup>

These dwellings, built of very roughly dressed, or not dressed at all, stone blocks, had through the centuries turned into just heaps, and only careful study, along with other broken and scattered small sized material, indicated that what was involved was the remains of architecture of the medieval village of Otres, mentioned in the written sources of the 14<sup>th</sup> and 15<sup>th</sup> century.

The fundamental source that indicates the location of the medieval village of Otres is a sale contract of November 28, 1394 that gives its bounda-

<sup>18</sup> Marun 1998, str. 62.

<sup>19</sup> AHSD, Pismo V. Ardalića, 29. 12. 1896.

<sup>20</sup> ... *cui totius ville Otresse hos dixerunt confines: de traversa est villa vocata Sryane, de austro terra Bribirii, de ouirina villa vocata Zasimich partem et partem villa vocata Crivicich, et de borea sunt terre castrae Ostrovicae...*, Ančić, Majnarić 2009, str. 82.

<sup>21</sup> Ančić, Majnarić 2009, str. 65. U tekstu isprave piše *Criiucich*, a varijanta *Crincich* nalazi se u kratkom sadržaju (konceptu) isprave na posebnom listiću, na str. 140. Smiljanić 2003, str. 16, donosi ih kao dva zasebna mjesta, *Cerinich* (Kerenčić) i *Cruncich* (Krunčić) te ih smješta kao granična sela Otresu, i to s njegove jugozapadne strane.

<sup>22</sup> Ančić, Majnarić 2009, str. 64-66.

<sup>23</sup> Opširni popis 2007, str. 15, 18. Autori ga uvjetno poistovjećuju s nekadašnjim Srnjanima, dijelom Kistanjeg Sela. Velika udaljenost tog položaja u usporedbi s drugim mjestima koja graniče s Otresom navedenima u notarevu dokumentu ne govori tome u prilog, što osnažuje i činjenica da između Srnjana u Kistanjem Selu i Ostrvice već 1528. godine postoji nahija Zečevo naseljena Vlasima iz Istre. Tu su pred turskom opasnošću početkom 16. stoljeća utvrdili Obradi-

<sup>16</sup> Klaić 1917, p. 48.

<sup>17</sup> Desnica 1950, p. 35 (1. 5. 1648.), 48 (1. 8. 1648.), 50 (2. 8. 1648.), 60 (14. 6. 1652.), 106 (13. and 14. 2. 1662.), 115 (8. 5. 1663.), 135 (18. 12. 1668.), 300 (16. 12. 1663.), as well as Desnica 1951, p. 216 (2. 4. 1688.).

<sup>18</sup> Marun 1998, p. 62.

<sup>19</sup> ACAS, Letter of V. Ardalić, 29. 12. 1896.

današnjih Lišana Ostrovičkih, prema Lepurima, gdje je još u 18. stoljeću bio očuvan toponim potoka Krivac, na kojem je na zahtjev glavara i staraca Lepura providur Renier (26. lipnja 1766.) dopustio izgradnju mlina.<sup>24</sup>

Već je otprije poznato da su srednjovjekovni stambeni objekti podizani tehnikom gradnje u suho, kao što je to slučaj sa zidanjem naših građevina.

ći iz loze Šubića Bribirskih, koji su u Srijanima imali svoje posjede. Zidovi srijanske crkva kod groblja sv. Martina (nazivane i kapela), koja se spominje 1455. godine (Smiljanić 2003, str. 22), bili su vidljivi sve do kraja 19. st. na položaju staroga groblja u Đevrskama. Tada su radi potrebe za građevinskim materijalom pri izgradnji kanonike porušeni zidovi crkve, kojoj je kao stupac menze služio rimski miljokaz (Patsch, Marun 1895, str. 101). U ruševinama je nađen i dio rimskog natpisa ...LIBIS. Na prostranom groblju uokolo crkve nalazilo se dvadesetak srednjovjekovnih monolitnih nadgrobni ploča (kamika, stećaka), od kojih su neke bile ukrašene križevima i malteškim križevima, te jedan stećak sljemenjak. Šest najboljih ploča među kojima i sljemenjak odneseni su za izgradnju mosta kod kuće poglavara Simeuna Ležajića. Ostatak groblja uništen je gradnjom ceste preko njega 1903. godine. Tada su istražena tri groba koja su imala priloge: naušnica, puceta, kopča, keramički pršljen i drugo (Marun, 1998, str. 69, 124). Iz svih navedenih razloga nije prihvatljiva konstrukcija N. Jakšića (Jakšić 2009, str. 36), koji Srijane poistovjećuje s Otresom, s time da je toponim Otres preslojio stariji naziv Srijana. No, vidjeli smo kako se u dokumentima toponim sela Otres javlja prije (1394.), istodobno sa Srijanima (1397.), a zadnji put, koliko nam je poznato, 1494. godine. Selo Otres, za razliku od Srijana, ne nalazimo u turskom katastarskom popisu iz 1550. godine pa bi se, parafrazirajući Jakšićevu znanstvenu metodologiju, prije moglo tvrditi da je naziv Srijane preslojio ostatke sela Otres. No ni takva konkluzija ne bi bila blizu ozbiljnog promišljanja. Otres i Srijane dva su međašna sela, kako to izričito navodi i kaptolska isprava iz 1397. godine.

<sup>24</sup> Dukale i terminacije, IX, 327; Bačić 1989, str. 92. Mlin je podigao Mate Lepur. Danas se taj mlin, zvan Nakića mlin, nalazi na potoku Jaruga ispod Bulića. Ne stoji isforsirana tvrđnja N. Jakšića (Jakšić 2009, str. 35-36) kako je selo Krivičić (kod njega Krivčić) stari naziv za Bribirske Mostine, koju autor pokušava osnažiti neutemeljenom dosjetkom traženja njegova imena u suvremenom toponimu pretpovijesnog nalazišta Krivača, smještenom istočno od Mostina. Takvu tvrdnju treba odbaciti i zbog činjenice što se taj položaj nalazi jugoistočno od Otresa, gdje se, vidjeli smo, kao međa izričito navode bribirske zemlje. Uza sve to autor je, kao i kod pokušaja ubikacije Srijana, svrhovito umišljenom rezultatu, iako se u izvoru međašna sela nabrajaju od sjeveroistoka do sjeverozapada u smjeru kazaljke na satu, iskonstruirao i u grafičkom prilogu izmijenio redosljed navođenja (Krivčić, Žažvić umjesto Žažvić, Krivičić).

ries.<sup>20</sup> On the north-east it bounded with the village of Srijane, on the south east were the Bribir lands, on the south west partly the village of Žažvić and partly the village of Krivičić (Krinčić),<sup>21</sup> while on the north west there were the lands of the fort of Ostrovica.<sup>22</sup> There of the boundary places (Bribir, Žažvić and Ostrovica) have retained their names to this day, while the villages of Srijane and Krivičić are lost under these names. We can find Srijane in 1550 as a part of the *nahia* of Ostrovica Istria (settled by Vlachs) under Turkish rule, and later replaced by the name of Đevrske.<sup>23</sup> Krivičić should be

<sup>20</sup> *cui totius ville Otrasse hos dixerunt confines: de traversa est villa vocata Sryane, de austro terra Briberii, de ouirina villa vocata Zasimich partem et partem villa vocata Crivcich, et de borea sunt terre castre Ostrovica...*, Ančić, Majnarić 2009, p. 82.

<sup>21</sup> Ančić, Majnarić 2009, p. 65. The wording of the document goes: *Criucich*, while the variant of *Crinicich* is to be found in the synopsis (the Concept) of the document on a separate slip, on p. 140. Smiljanić 2003, p. 16, gives them as two separate places, *Cerinich* (Kerenčić) and *Cruncich* (Krunčić) and locates them as villages bordering with Otres, on the south-west side.

<sup>22</sup> Ančić, Majnarić 2009, p. 64-66.

<sup>23</sup> An extensive list of 2007, pp. 15, 18. The authors provisionally identify it with the former Srijane, part of today's Kistanje. The great distance of this position as compared with that of other places that border with Otres noted in the notary's document do not tend to support this, which is strengthened by the fact that between Srijane in Kistanje and Ostrovica as early as 1528 there was already the *nahia* of Zečevo populated with Vlachs from Istria. In the 16<sup>th</sup> century, a fort was built as defence against the Ottoman threat by the Obradićes, from the house of the Šubićes of Bribir, who had lands in Srijane. The walls of Srijane church by the cemetery of St Martin (also called a chapel), which is mentioned in 1455 (Smiljanić 2003, p. 22) were visible until the end of the 19<sup>th</sup> century at the place of the old graveyard in Đevrske. Then for the sake of the need for building materials in the development of the *canonica* the walls of the church were knocked down; the Roman milestone was used there for a pillar of the mensa (Patsch, Marun 1895, p. 101). In the ruins part of a Roman inscription were found: ...LIBIS. Found in the extensive graveyard around the church were some score of medieval monolithic gravestones (kamiks, stechaks), some of which were ornamented with crosses and Maltese crosses, while one stechak had a gable roof. Six of the best slabs (gravestones), including the gable roof, were taken away for the building of the bridge by the house of the headman Simeun Ležajić. The remainder of the cemetery was destroyed by the building of a road across it in 1903. At that time, three graves with goods were investigated, yielding an earring, a button, a buckle, a ceramic loom weight and other things (Marun, 1998, p. 69, 124). From all these reasons the construction

Takvim nalazima treba pridavati posebnu važnost, svrhovito proučavanju povijesti graditeljstva, osobito kad je u pitanju srednjovjekovna profana arhitektura.

Imajući u vidu relativno kratku trajnost tako građenih suhozidnih objekata, potrebno je kod istraživanja i reambulacije veću pozornost usmjeriti upravo na gomile nastale njihovim urušavanjem, osobito ako su one locirane na rubnim kosama plodnih polja.<sup>25</sup>

Naselje Otres, o čijem neprekinutom trajanju od 9. stoljeća nepobitno govore predromanička i romanička crkva, doživjelo je svoju kataklizmu početkom 16. stoljeća, kada su u te krajeve prodrli Turci, koji osvajanjem utvrda Bribira i Ostrovice godine 1523. uspostavljaju stogodišnju dominaciju na tom prostoru.

Stanovništvo se povlači pred neprijateljem pa se već 1542. godine konstatira da su polja u okolici Bribira bila zapuštena i neobrađena.<sup>26</sup> Nakon toga sve do polovice 17. stoljeća nema vijesti o Otresu, kada ga izvori opet spominju, ali samo kao važan strateški položaj koji kontrolira i sprječava turske prodore u Ravne kotare.<sup>27</sup>

Selo Otres nikada nije obnovljeno na istome mjestu. Danas se isti toponim zadržao za istočni dio sela Ostrovice, gdje je smješten zaselak Mandić, a potok Otres odvaja ga od položaja srednjovjekovnog sela udaljenog 2 km.

### Prethodni arheološki nalazi

Arheološki lokalitet Otres, smješten na lijevoj strani istoimenog potoka, a udaljen oko 500 metara od njegova vrela, zaokupio je pozornost istraživača još 1894. godine, kada je na tom položaju utvrđeno postojanje ostataka jedne crkve<sup>28</sup> s koje je dosta "greda" odneseno u Ostrovicu, gdje su s ostalim kamenom uzidane pri dogradnji crkve sv. Ante.<sup>29</sup> Uokolo crkvice nalazili su se mnogobrojni grobovi pa se javlja misao o "razkopavanju" toga položaja.<sup>30</sup> Pri posjetu lokalitetu Marun zatječe crkvu s malom apsidom i s vidljivim ležištima za pilastre crkvene

sought in the area of today's Lišane Ostrovičke, in the direction of Lepuri, where the place name of the Krivac brook was still in existence, on which at the demand of the headman and senior of Lepuri, the *proveditore* Renier on June 16, 1766, consented to the building of a mill.<sup>24</sup>

It was known already that medieval residential structures were built in dry stone wall technique, which is the case with the construction of these buildings of ours. Special importance should be attached to such finds, the history of building should be effectively studied, especially in the case of medieval secular architecture.

Bearing in mind the relatively short duration of structures built with the dry stone wall technique, in the case of investigation and reambulation, it is necessary to pay greater attention to the heaps of stone resulting from their collapse, particularly if they are located on spurs at the edges of fertile plains.<sup>25</sup>

The village of Otres, irrefutable evidence of the uninterrupted life of which from the 9<sup>th</sup> century is

of N. Jakšić (Jakšić, 2009, p. 36) cannot be accepted; Jakšić identifies Srijane with Otres, with the place name Otres having replaced the older name of Srijane. But we have seen in the documents that the place name of the village of Otres occurs before or coevally with that of Srijane (1997), and the last time, as far as we know, in 1494. Otres, unlike Srijane, cannot be found in the Turkish defter of 1550, and, paraphrasing Jakšić's scholarly methodology, it would be better to say that the name of Srijane was applied to the remains of the village of Otres. But this conclusion too would not be close to any serious consideration. Otres and Srijane are two villages that border each other, as is specifically said in the chapter document of 1397.

<sup>24</sup> The mill was built by Mate Lepur. Today this mill, named Nakića mill, lies on the Jaruga brook below Bulić. The strained claim of N. Jakšić (Jakšić 2009, pp. 35-36) that the village of Krivičić (he renders it as Krivčić) is the old name for Bribirske Mostine does not hold water; the author attempts to back this up with the unfounded ingenuity of seeking his name in the contemporary place name of the prehistoric archaeological site of Krivače, placed to the east of Mostine. This claim has to be rejected because of the fact too that this position lies south-east of Otres, where, we have seen, the lands of Bribir are specifically mentioned as border. With all this the author, as with the attempt to locate Srijane, simply made a construction for the sake of the result he wanted; although in the sources the bordering villages are listed from north-east to north-west in a clockwise direction, in a graphic display he changed the order of listing (Krivčić and then Žažvić instead of Žažvić and then Krivičić).

<sup>25</sup> Such a position was occupied by the medieval settlement on Kosa in the Donje polje near Šibenik, as the investigator of this site Zlatko Gunjača once told me.

<sup>25</sup> Takav položaj imalo je i ranosrednjovjekovno naselje na Kosi u šibenskom Donjem polju, kako me je svojedobno izvijestio istraživač tog lokaliteta Zlatko Gunjača.

<sup>26</sup> Gunjača 1968, str. 210.

<sup>27</sup> Vidi bilj. 17.

<sup>28</sup> AHSD. Pismo V. Ardalića, 18. XII. 1894.

<sup>29</sup> AHSD. Pismo V. Ardalića, 8. II. 1895.

<sup>30</sup> AHSD. Pismo V. Ardalića, 17. II. 1895.



pregrade. Istodobno opaža da se u sredini crkve i na padini s njezine južne strane nalaze ostaci debelog stupa na kojem je reljefno prikazan genij s prekrštenim nogama te na kojemu se nalazi nekoliko slabo čitljivih slova. Pretpostavlja da je to ostatak miljokaza.<sup>31</sup> Na njegov nagovor tom lokalitetu još veću pozornost posvećuje povjerenik Hrvatskoga starinarskog društva V. Ardalić, koji nešto poslije poklanja P. Kaeru veliku korodiranu željeznu ostrugu nađenu u Otresu kod jednog seljaka.<sup>32</sup> Na Marunov prigovor on će ustvrditi da Kaer ionako nađene predmete predaje muzeju u Kninu.<sup>33</sup> Tu ostrugu kao muzejsku akviziciju navodi Marun u svome *Starinarskom dnevniku* zajedno s pretpovijesnom brončanom fibulom od debele žice (vjerojatno spiralnonaočalasta fibula) koja je uočena kako viri iz jednog od mnoštva grobova kod srušene crkve pod Otresom.<sup>34</sup>

Upornim nagovaranjem vlasnika se pokušava privoljeti da dopusti iskopavanje, ali on zbog pra-

given by a pre-Romanesque and a Romanesque church, was struck by a cataclysm in the 16<sup>th</sup> century, when the Turks broke into the region, and capturing the forts of Bribir and Ostrovica in 1523, established a domination of the area that was to last for a hundred years.

The populace withdrew before the enemy, and as early as 1542 it could be concluded that the fields in the vicinity of Bribir were abandoned and untilled.<sup>26</sup> After that, until the mid-17<sup>th</sup> century, we have no reports of Otres, and then the sources mention it again, but only as an important strategic point that controlled Ravni Kotari and prevented any Turkish breakthrough into it.<sup>27</sup>

The village of Otres was never renewed in the same place. Today, the toponym is in use for the eastern part of the village of Ostrovica, where the hamlet of Mandići is located, the Otres Brook separating it from the position of the medieval village two kilometres away.

#### Previous archaeological finds

The archaeological site of Ores, located on the left hand side of the brook of the same name, some 500 metres downstream from the spring, occupied the attention of researchers back in 1894, when it was concluded that there were the remains of a church<sup>28</sup> at this position, from which plenty of “architraves” or beams had been taken off to Ostrovica, where, with other stones they had been incorporated into the Church of St Anthony while it was being extended.<sup>29</sup> Around the church there were numerous graves, and the idea was broached that the site should be dug up.<sup>30</sup> Visiting the site, Marun came upon a church with a small apse with visible housings for pilasters of a church screen. He also noted that in the centre of the church and on the slope to its south there were the remains of a thick pillar on which a genius was shown in relief, with crossed legs, and on which there were some hardly legible letters. It was assumed that it was the remains of a milestone.<sup>31</sup> At his urging, still greater attention

<sup>31</sup> Marun, 1998, str. 62; AHSD. U konceptu (*Skizzenbuch*) pod datumom 9. 5. 1895. Marun piše: “... Bio sam pod Otresom na Mandića zemlji... glavica sa grobovima razom zemlje - Crkvice od prilike 8 met. visoka 4. Vjerojatno starohrvatska. U sred vidi se neki miliar? i na njemu izbuljen genij prekrštenim noga... U ruševinam crkvice opaza se velikih kamenja i izdubake za stupove presbiterija - Nešto niže, izvan crkvice, sa podnevene strane ulomak miliarija sa nekoliko slova – miliarij polović svrha dolje. - Iduć kosom prama Čoraševim kućan opaza se mnogo mali, većinom četvrtasti a vjerojatno u suhozid sgrada, valjda i to prehistoričke –”.

<sup>32</sup> AHSD. Pismo V. Ardalića, 29. V. 1895.

<sup>33</sup> AHSD. Pismo V. Ardalića, 1. VI. 1895.

<sup>34</sup> Marun, 1998, str. 64. Donosimo dio Ardalićeva pisma od 14. VIII. 1895. iz kojega je vidljivo kako je od poslanih predmeta samo fibula nađena u Otresu, a ne i neki drugi predmeti, kako bi se moglo shvatiti iz Marunova zapisa. “...Evo Vam šaljem kao štosam Vam i javijo pismeno i ustmeno, t.j. dva glijeta, jednu lucernu, jedan kameni kalup od krsta, 1. jaspru srebrnu, 1. dvotoku bronzanu. Glijeta su našasta više komada skupa blizu sv. Bartula u Ždrapnju, koja su bila u jamići složena i ozgo japnom zamazata kao štoše i vidi na jednom glijetu kakoje klak prijano; lucerna je našasta u jednoj srušenoj crkvi više Vaćani zvanoj Mikulici; kalup od krsta isto je nađen u polju vaćanskom; - dvotoka je nađjena pod Otresom kod one crkve srušene kao što Vam je poznato, dvotoka je virila iz skraja iz jednog groba; bez dvojbe daće biti u istom grobu još nakita; ne u onom samom nego još i udrugima, jer tu ima bez broja mnoštvo grobova koje sam ja dobro razgledao. Koliko se boji vlastnik Mandić sujevjerja za dopuštati kopati, toliko i ja se boim zakona, nego ako izvolite kako ovlastiti mene, - t.j. da mogu pretraživati starinarske stvari i.t.d...”

<sup>26</sup> Gunjača 1968, p. 210.

<sup>27</sup> See n. 17.

<sup>28</sup> ACAS. Letter of V. Ardalić, 18. XII. 1894.

<sup>29</sup> ACAS. Letter of V. Ardalić, 8. II. 1895.

<sup>30</sup> ACAS. Letter of V. Ardalić, 17. II. 1895.

<sup>31</sup> Marun, 1998, p. 62; ACAS. In the concept (*Skiženbuch*), on 9. 5. 1895, Marun writes: “I went to Otres on Mandić’s land... a hilltop with graves level with the ground... a little church of about 8 m, 4 high. Proba-

znovjerja ne želi pristati te traži visoku naknadu.<sup>35</sup> Ipak, Ardalić u obilasku lokaliteta utvrđuje da uz crkvicu ima i drugih zidova s primjesom vapna. Zajedno s vlasnikom vadi spomenike iz zgrade ispod (pored) crkve. Za jedan od tih spomenika pretpostavlja pripadnost sarkofagu, a drugi je bio ukrašen ornamentom, ukvadren s više žljebova. Vlasnik zemljišta poklonio mu je ulomak s natpisom ...*EN-DOES...*, koji se navodno pojavio nakon povodnja u avliji pred njegovom kućom;<sup>36</sup> nema sumnje da ga je zapravo našao upravo u Lukačuši. Za taj ulomak luka crkvene pregrade s ostacima natpisa Marun pretpostavlja da pripada ciboriju.<sup>37</sup> Potaknuti nalazom ulomka s gusto isprepletenim troprutim pleterom,<sup>38</sup> opet su, bez uspjeha, namjeravali pristupiti pretraživanju.<sup>39</sup> Slučajni su nalazi jednog

was devoted to the site by the commissioner of the Croatian Antiquarian Society V. Ardalić, who later on donated to Kaer a large corroded iron spur found in Otres in the possession of one of the peasants.<sup>32</sup> When Marun complained, he remarked that Kaer anyway had given the objects found to the museum in Knin.<sup>33</sup> Marun notes this spur as a museum acquisition in his Antiquarian Diary, together with a prehistoric bronze fibula of thick wire (probably a spiral spectacle shaped fibula) that was observed poking out one of a mass of graves by the demolished church under Otres.<sup>34</sup>

Long arguments were devoted to the owner to attempt to persuade him to permit excavations, but because of superstition he would not agree, but nevertheless asked for a high fee.<sup>35</sup> Nevertheless, going around the site, Ardalić ascertained that alongside the church there were other walls with a mixture of lime. Together with the owner he took the monuments out of the building beneath (by) the church. One of these monuments is assumed to

*bly Old Croatian. In the middle some milestone can be seen, and on it a genius in relief with crossed legs... In the ruins of the church large stones and niches for the columns of the presbytery. A bit lower, outside the church, on the south side a fragment of a milestone with several letters – the upper half of the milestone – Going along the slope towards the Čoraš house one can see many small, mostly squarish and probably dry stone wall buildings, probably prehistoric.“*

<sup>35</sup> AHSD. Pismo V. Ardalića, 30. XII. 1895; 28. I., 4. II. i 3. IV. 1896.

<sup>36</sup> AHSD. Pismo V. Ardalića, 28. III. 1896. Ardalić u pismu prilaže skicu spomenika; Marun 1896, str. 124; Marun 1998, str. 69.

<sup>37</sup> Marun 1896, str. 124, 200.

<sup>38</sup> AHSD. Pismo V. Ardalića, 5. I. 1897. “...nekidan moj brat Aćim bijaše u Otresu i u ogradi Save Mandića kamo je već Vami poznata ona crkva u njoj srušena, ispod iste ili ukraj iste crkve, našao jest komad ciborija dugačka 24 cm; široka i debela 18 cm; s jedne je strane odbijen te mu se ne može znati kolika je duljina bila, a drugi kraj imade, koi je ravan, i znade se da je u japnu bija jer ima još tvrdo prijanuta klaka, štoliže. Nego je krasno ornamentiran trostrukim pleterom, a izmegju pletera ispupčena, ima četverokuta jamica izdubljena ovako : (crtež romboidne serife - op. M.Z.) nije od bijelog kamena, nego od domaćeg prostog, ili onakog kano i *Endoes*. na koje čim mi jest brat kazao, pohitijo sam isti predmet otići viditi. »im ga okrenu poznado da Vi onake baš tražite, i ja odma jesam ga zamota i donijo kući... Faliti isti ulomak ne mogu, ali pod Žažvićem onakav nije našast; niti sam ga još u Vašim slikama ni u knjigama vidijo, jerbo izmegju pletera jamice iskopate diče ga - daklen bez dvojbe u crkvi predmeta ima.

*Aćim bi doista oltar od iste crkve očistija, bez da i zna Mandić, pa se isti nebi nanj ni ljutijo, jerbo mu je poljar zakleti. Ako izvolite isti kamen da Vam pošaljem, onda javite mi..”*

Ispod skice pleterne mreže Ardalić nastavlja: “...ovako naliči pleter unutra opisani, ali ga njesam u stanju orisati, jerbo je čudnovato isprepletan i izmegju pletera imade po duboke i četrokute jame, koje krase pleter. Poznata Vam jest ona kolona u onoj crkvici, i na njoj genij - ista kolona jes izvaljata ba brijeg i imadu dva genija na njoj - drugi ima bi rek krila te naliči anđelu. U istoj ogredi nagjena je opeka, na njoj slova ...SOL...”

<sup>39</sup> AHSD, Pismo V. Ardalića, 15. I. i 29. XII. 1897.; 6. IV. 1898.

<sup>32</sup> ACAS. Letter of V. Ardalić, 29. V. 1895.

<sup>33</sup> ACAS. Letter of V. Ardalić, 1. VI. 1895.

<sup>34</sup> Marun, 1998, p. 64. We give part of Ardalić's letter of 14. VIII. 1895, from which it can be seen that of the things sent, only the fibula was found in Otres, no other items, as could be understood from Marun's account. “There, I send you, as I informed you in writing and orally, i.e., two chisels, one oil lamp, one stone mould of a cross, 1 silver akce, 1 bronze spectacle spiral fibula. I found several chisels together close to St Bartholomew's in Ždrapanj, which were put together in a pit, and smeared on top with lime as can be seen on one chisel that the lime is stuck to; the lamp was found in a ruined church above Vaćani called Mikulici; the cross mould was also seen in the Vaćani polje, the fibula was found below Otres at that ruined church, which you know, the fibula was poking out from one grave; without any doubt there will be other jewellery in the same grave; not only in that, but also in others, for there is a countless mass of graves that I had a good look round. Just as much as the owner Mandić is too superstitious to allow us to dig, so much I am afraid of the law, but if you would be so kind as to authorise me, i.e., that I can search for antiquarian things and so on...”

<sup>35</sup> ACAS. Letter of V. Ardalića, 30. XII. 1895; 28. I., 4. II. i 3. IV. 1896.

natpisa u tri retka,<sup>40</sup> dio skulpture, tj. jedne noge do ispod koljena na obrađenom bijelom kamenu,<sup>41</sup> a Radić objavljuje slučajni nalaz sjekire iz Otrisa te daje kompletne kataloške podatke.<sup>42</sup> S lokaliteta potječe i kamena ljudska glava s “rudastom kosom odbijena pri vratu”<sup>43</sup> te dvije kamene glave: jedna od rimskog nadgrobno spomenika, gornji dio, a druga predstavlja glavu torusa (ovna).<sup>44</sup>

Prilikom izvođenja poljodjelskih radova Mirko Bjelanović je na zemljištu smještenom između lokaliteta i potoka našao zlatni prsten sa četiri križno postavljena kamenčića od staklene paste crvene boje, koji je uz to ukrašen “prepletenim žicama”.<sup>45</sup> Nakon nabave prstena Marun ga šalje na popravak zlataru u Split, jer je bio slomljen u tri komada.<sup>46</sup> Temeljem tih podataka utvrdili smo da se radi o prstenu koji se do tada u inventaru MHAS-a vodio kao predmet kojem nije poznato mjesto nalaza pa je kao takav i objavljen.<sup>47</sup>

Među predmetima koji su otkupljeni s tog lokaliteta je i ulomak pletera, ali kako o njemu nemamo bližih podataka, nismo u mogućnosti atribuirati ga pa za sada ostaje nepoznat.<sup>48</sup>

Već te 1908. godine brojnost i važnost arheoloških spomenika koji su s tog položaja dospjeli u Mu-

have belonged to a sarcophagus, and the other was decorated with an ornament, framed with several grooves. The owner of the land gave him a fragment inscribed... ENDOES... which allegedly appeared after there had been a flood in the yard in front of his house;<sup>36</sup> there is no doubt that in fact they found it in Lukačuša. Marun assumes that this fragment of a church screen with the remains of an inscription belonged to the ciborium.<sup>37</sup> Encouraged by the find of a fragment with a thickly interwoven triple-stranded interlacing,<sup>38</sup> once again, but without success, he set his mind to investigation.<sup>39</sup> Accidental finds of one a three-line epigraph,<sup>40</sup> part

<sup>36</sup> ACAS. Letter of V. Ardalić, 28. III. 1896. Ardalić appends a sketch of the monument; Marun 1896, p. 124; Marun 1998, p. 69.

<sup>37</sup> Marun 1896, p. 124, 200.

<sup>38</sup> ACAS. Letter of V. Ardalić, 5. I. 1897. *One day my brother Ācim was at Otres and in the enclosure of Sava Mandić, where you already know that ruined church in it, below that or by that same church, found a piece of a ciborium 24 cm long, wide and 18 cm thick; on one side it is broken and you cannot know how long it really was, but it has the other end, which is straight, and it is known it was in lime for it still has lime on it, stuck fast. But it is wonderfully ornamented with triple interlacing, and between them sticking out interlacing it has a rectangular hole hollowed out in this way: [a drawing of a rhomboidal serif – M. Z.] it was not of white stone but of simple domestic stone, or that like Endoes, at which as soon as my brother told me, I hurried to see the actual object. As soon as I turned it over I knew that you were looking for ones just like that, and I at once wrapped it up and took it home... I cannot miss the same fragment, but below Žažvić such was not found; nor did I see it in your pictures or in the books, for its characterised by little holes between the plaits – then without any doubt there are objects in the church.*

*Ācim would really clean the altar of the same church, without Mandić knowing, so as he wouldn't get mad at him, for his fieldman is a sworn enemy.*

Under the sketch of the network of interlacing, Ardalić goes on: “*this is what the interlacing described inside looks like, but I am not able to draw it really, for it is amazingly interwoven and between the strands it has deep rectangular holes, that decorate the interlacing.*” *You know that column in that little church, with the genius on it – the same column is rolled out on the and has two geniuses on it – the other has I would say wings and is like an angel. In the same enclosure a brick was found, on it the letters....SOL...*

<sup>39</sup> ACAS, Letter of V. Ardalić, 15. I. and 29. XII. 1897.; 6. IV. 1898.

<sup>40</sup> ACAS. Letter of V. Ardalić, 1. II. 1897. “*and one inscription found below Otres in the brambles by the cart road. It was of white stone on a quarter; there were three lines of letters, the stone is heavy. It's not a*

<sup>40</sup> AHSD. Pismo V. Ardalića, 1. II. 1897. “*...i jedan natpis nagjen pod Otrinom u kupini kraj puta kolnog. Predmet je od bjelog kamena na četvrt, tri su redka slova, kamen je težak. Ara rimska nije a miljokaz nije, potpuno slova se čitati nemogu jerbo su zarasla mahovinom - ali bi ih Vi mislim razumjeli i digli. Isti kamen je u moim rukama čeka Vas kad tad...*”

<sup>41</sup> AHSD. Pismo V. Ardalića, 12. II. 1897.

<sup>42</sup> Radić, 1897, str. 124, 129.

<sup>43</sup> AHSD. Pismo V. Ardalića bez datuma, inventirano u Ardalićevoj korespondenciji pod br. 122.

<sup>44</sup> Marun 1998, str. 109.

<sup>45</sup> Marun, 1998, str. 151.

<sup>46</sup> Marun 1998, str. 164, 166; AHSD. Specifikacija troškova na listiću koji je Marun uputio D. Šperi u Knin, 13. III. 1908. Prsten je plaćen 16 kruna. U *Obćem blagajničkom dnevniku* pod istim datumom (13. III. 1908.) i za istu cijenu pogreškom se umjesto prstena navodi otkup zlatnog novca (“*za zlatni novac iz Otrisa (K. 16) (br. prot. 121)*”). U istoj bilježnici je pod datumom 25. III. 1908. zapisana isplata: “*Anti Radiću za poprav. starinskog zlatnog prstena*”.

<sup>47</sup> Vinski 1968, str. 105, 112-113, T. I. br. 2. Isti je, kao član uredništva *Starohrvatske prosvjete*, nakon predaje i neprihvatanja za tiskanje polovicom 1983. godine rukopisa M. Zekana „Otres kod Bribira, revizija istraživanja”, u kojem je prsten pripisan lokalitetu Otres, bez znanja autora prisvojio atribuciju prstena (Vinski 1987, str. 423, T. 72, Kat. X, 20 str. 437).

<sup>48</sup> AHSD. Pismo V. Ardalića, 7. X. 1908.

zej, kao i devastiranje položaja od strane seljaka, inicirali su neuspjeh pokušaj istraživača Maruna da stupi u kontakt s vlasnikom radi iskopina.<sup>49</sup> Tek tri godine poslije, kada je otkriveno bazno ležište za plutej,<sup>50</sup> nakon dugotrajnih pregovora tijekom mjeseca listopada 1911. godine o visini naknade koju su zahtijevali vlasnici zemljišta,<sup>51</sup> započelo se s pretraživanjem terena.

Istraživanja su vođena u dvije etape. Prvo iskopavanje započeto je 17. listopada,<sup>52</sup> a završilo je 11. studenoga 1911. godine, a drugo je trajalo od 11. do 23. travnja 1912. godine.<sup>53</sup> O obujmu radova govori podatak da je za ta istraživanja utrošeno 270 radnih dana.

### Istraživanja 1911.

Kod planiranja prve akcije, uočivši već prije početak iskopavanja *stećke*, kako je on nazivao monolitne nadgrobne kamene ploče položene uokolo crkve, Marun je odlučio da će najprije provesti prekopavanje zemljišta s južne (podnevne) strane crkve, a zatim istražiti teren ispred crkve (zapadna = donja strana).

Istraživanjem padine s južne strane crkve ustanovilo se postojanje grobova “po dva reda”, u koje je polagano po nekoliko pokojnika. Grobovi su bili uobičajene orijentacije. Uz pokojnike su bili polagani prilozi.<sup>54</sup>

<sup>49</sup> Marun 1998, str. 174.

<sup>50</sup> Marun 1998, str. 216.

<sup>51</sup> Pregovore je uz dopuštenje Marunovo vodio V. Ardalić, koji je o njihovu tijeku izvješćivao pismima od 7. i 13. listopada 1911. Iz *Obćeg blagajničkog dnevnika* (AHSD) vidljivo je da je 14. listopada 1911. poslano Ardaliću za Lukačevu ogradu K. 80.

<sup>52</sup> Marun 1998, str. 217.

<sup>53</sup> Marun 1998, str. 224.

<sup>54</sup> AHSD. Marun, Koncept, 17. 10. 1911.: “*Kopanje u Lukačevoj ogradi u Otresu. Danas radilo pet radnika. Počelo se presukavati zemlju sa podnevne strane crkvice. Našast ulomak epigrafički... Stećci oko crkve... Jedan osobita poriza... Predmeti u grobovima... Saližu crkvi... Transene... Rimski spomenici kao materijal... Grobovi po dva reda i po više mrtvaca... Orientacija običajna. - Rimski materijal u temeljima zidova... Sedra... Cipus prije bio u crkvi, vjerojatno na njemu ležala mensa oltara... U prostoj zemlji ulomak starijeg buzdovana... Male kamenice - izdubljene - Na sred sriede crkvice, daleko od ograde presbiterija jedan i po metar, 0,40 pod livelom pločnika grob prosto ozidan u klak, ali mu se ne našlo poklopnica, jer prije seljani prekopavali crkvu, dubok širok dug. Kupa na način Mletačkih... Pred crkvom u jednom ozidanom grobu, našast jedan*

of a sculpture i.e., of a leg to below the knee in worked white stone<sup>41</sup>, and Radić published an article describing the accidental find of an axe from Otres, giving complete catalogue data.<sup>42</sup> Also from this site comes a stone human head with “curly hair chipped off at the neck”<sup>43</sup> and two stone heads: one of a Roman funerary monument, the top part, and the other representing the head of a torus (ram).<sup>44</sup>

While working in the field, Mirko Bjelanović, on a piece of land located between the site and the brook, found a gold ring with four stones of red glass paste arranged in a cross, which was also ornamented additionally with “interlaced wires”.<sup>45</sup> After acquiring the ring, Marun sent it to be repaired at a Split jeweller’s, for it was broken in three pieces.<sup>46</sup> On the basis of these data, we ascertain that this was a ring that had previously been registered in the MCAM inventory book as an object from an unknown finding site, and so published.<sup>47</sup>

Among the objects purchased from this site there is also a fragment of interlacing ornamentation, but since we have no detailed information about it, it cannot be attributed and remains for the moment unknown.<sup>48</sup>

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*Roman ara and its not a milestone, I cannot completely read the letters for they are overgrown with moss – but I think you would understand them and interpret them. This stone is in my hands and is waiting for you sooner or later... ”*

<sup>41</sup> ACAS. Letter of V. Ardalić, 12. II. 1897

<sup>42</sup> Radić, 1897, p. 124, 129.

<sup>43</sup> ACAS. Letter of V. Ardalić undated, inventoried in Ardalić’s correspondence as no. 122.

<sup>44</sup> Marun 1998, p. 109.

<sup>45</sup> Marun, 1998, p. 151.

<sup>46</sup> Marun 1998, p. 164, 166; ACAS. Specification of costs on a slip that Marun sent to D. Špera in Knin, 13. III, 1908. The ring cost 16 krone. In the *Obći blagajnički dnevnik* [General treasury diary] of the same date (March 13, 1908) and for the same date, by mistake, instead of the ring, the purchase of a gold coin is referred to (“for a gold coin of Otres (K. 16) (no. protocol. 121). In the same notebook under the date March 25, 1908, the payment is recorded: “To Ante Radić for the repair of an old-fashioned gold ring”.

<sup>47</sup> Vinski 1968, p. 105, 112-113, Pl. I. br. 2. He, as a member of the editorial board of *Starohrvatska prosvjeta*, after the submission of the manuscript of Zekan “Otres by Bribir...” and its rejection for printing in the middle of 1983, in which the ring was ascribed to the site of Otres, without the knowledge of the author, adopted the attribution of the ring. (Vinski 1987, p. 423, Pl. 72, Kat. X, 20 p. 437).

<sup>48</sup> ACAS. Letter of V. Ardalić, 7. X. 1908.

Prilikom otkopavanja nekropole istraživači su već na površini, a osobito u zemljanom iskopu nailazili na dekorativne ulomke starohrvatskoga crkvenog namještaja s ostacima pletera ili natpisnog polja. Tako su prvog dana istraživanja našli osam ulomaka, među kojima je bio i dio luka predoltarne pregrade s ostatkom natpisa ...*RISTIA*... .

Najizdašniji i najznačajniji dio nekropole pružao se ispred crkve. Ondje je ustanovljeno postojanje većeg broja grobova, koji su korišteni za višestruki ukop, ali su prilozu u njima dosta rijetki.<sup>55</sup> Iako nalazi priloga u grobovima po navedenom Ardalićevom podatku nisu brojni, ipak i oni za koje imamo dokumentirane vijesti pobuđuju pozornost.

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*mrtvac sa dvie srebrenne fildegranim zrnima, a na prsima srebrenni skudelirani novac Dux Orius. U drugem samo na prsima jednaki novac a na prsima novac istoga dužda. - U crkvi jaki saliz od velikih pravilnih ploča od importiranog bijelog kamena - vjerojatno iz Guduće... Turske klačine... Jedan prsten našast u grobu sa sjeverne strane izvan crkve, sa crnjelim prozračnim kamenčićem... U presbiteriju crkve, pod temeljima ulomak od velikog polustupa. Drugi ulomak istog stupa, dug 1.70 premjerao 0.50 našast je sa sjeverne strane izvan crkve... Jedna mala srebrena sa 3 zrna naušnica... Opet jedan Oriev skudelirani novac u grobu na ud. Mandić zemljištu sa željeznim saponima. U grobu pred crkvom velik prag, bračkog kamena, vjerojatno od nekog pluteja, te više drugih ulomaka bračkog kamena...*"

<sup>55</sup> AHSD. Ardalićevo pismo iz Gjevrsaka, 18. 10. 1911.: „...Prvi dan našao sam biće do 30 cm. duga ulomka od praga, ali od spomenika sa dvojstrukim kukami: (slijedi skica kuka, op. M. Z.) Od prilike pokraj tih kuka nadpis, početna slova biće ih 7, ali su sve skraćene, ili jerogljfi, pari da su cvijeće kakve imadu. Daklen u dva dana našao sam 8 ulomaka različite ornamentike ili pletera koga Vi želite. Sve od pragovate ulomak veliki a drugi od šarkofaga sa palmami i cvijećem. Meni se čini da neće slišiti ona ornamentika u sv. Anti (u Ostrovici, op. M. Z.) prema ovoj. Ona najprije će biti prenešena sa tarkula kamo smo pogodili, jer kažu daje ondje bila crkva. Amo grobova ima dosta, obično u njima ništa, jer po više lubanja. Ostavili smo dva sa velikim pločama kao od šarkofaga, bliže crkve s donjeg kraja, dok Vi nedogjete... Sad, da kamo će mo kamenjima? nije ih fajde ostavljatiodje u pustinji, očeli na Bribir? trebalo bi ih makar gdje prenjeti, a u Bribirskoj županiji jesu i našasta. Onaj spomenik slovima držim da će te ga protumačitikojem je knezu bio podignut početna su slova (slijedi skica ostatka natpisa ...*RISTIA*..., op. M. Z.) divno je izvežen, bi rek daje luk bio, a ne prag. Sa onu stranu drugog vlasnika ima dosta predmeta. Vašim čekićem, kojoj valja puno, našao sam dva komada, te jednu krasnu rezbariju sa zvijezdom ovalikom na pr: (slijedi skica rozete, op. M. Z.) od praga vidi se. A ko zna što još tu šta može biti, a nije nego tek načeto...”

By 1908, the numbers and importance of the archaeological monuments that arrived in the museum from the site, and the devastation of it by the peasants, led to an unsuccessful attempt by the researcher, Marun, to get in touch with the owner for the sake of excavations.<sup>49</sup> Only three years later, when the housing for the pluteus was discovered,<sup>50</sup> after lengthy negotiations during October 1911 about the amount of money that the owners of the land wanted to charge<sup>51</sup> was the search of the field addressed.

Excavations went on in two stages. The first dig was started on October 17<sup>52</sup> and ended on November 11, 1911, and the second lasted from April 11 to April 23, 1912.<sup>53</sup> The scale of the works is suggested by the excavations having lasted for 270 man-days.

### Excavations of 1911

When he was planning the first campaign, having noticed before the beginning of the dig the stechaks, as the called the monolithic grave stones placed around the church, Marun decided first of all to carry out a dig of the land on the southern side of the church, and then to explore the land in front of the church (the western or lower side).

In the investigation of the slope on the southern side of the church, the existence of graves in two rows, each one containing several corpses, was ascertained. The graves had the usual orientation and grave goods were placed alongside the dead.<sup>54</sup>

<sup>49</sup> Marun 1998, p. 174.

<sup>50</sup> Marun 1998, p. 216.

<sup>51</sup> The negotiations, with Marun's consent, were handled by Ardalić, who reported on their conduct in letters of October 7 and 13, 1911. From the *Obći blagajnički dnevnik* (ACAS) it can be seen that on October 14 that year, Ardalić was sent K. 80 for Lukačeva ograda.

<sup>52</sup> Marun 1998, p. 217.

<sup>53</sup> Marun 1998, p. 224.

<sup>54</sup> ACAS. Marun, Concept, 17. 10. 1911.: “Digging in Lukačeva ograda in Otres. Today five workmen were employed. They started carrying earth from the southern side of the church. Found an epigraphic fragment...Stechaks around the church...One particular footing.... Objects in graves... Paving of the church... Transennas...Roman monuments as material... Graves in two rows, several dead in each... Usual orientation...Roman material in the foundations of the wall... Tufa... Cippus was in the church before, probably the altar mensa lay upon it... In simple ground a fragment of an old mace. ... Small stone vessels – hollowed out...In the middle of the church, one and a half metres awaz from the screen of the presbytery, 0.40 m under the level of the paving, a grave simple, built

Iz očuvanih bilježaka saznajemo da je u dva groba nađen po jedan srebrni novac dužda Orija Malipiera (1178. - 1192.), koji je bio položen na prsima pokojnika. U jednom od tih grobova nađene su i dvije srebrne, najvjerojatnije trojagodne naušnice, ukrašene tehnikom filigrana.<sup>56</sup>

Uz te podatke o skupnom nalazu naušnica i novca mletačkog dužda Orija Malipiera, Marun ukazuje da je u grobovima nađena jedna ostruga, velika naušnica te još jedan primjerak novca, koji možemo pripisati Ludoviku Anžuvincu (1342. - 1382.).<sup>57</sup>

O skupnom nalazu novca i trojagodnih naušnica s velikim filigranskim zrnima izvještava još jednom Ardalić, navodeći da su pred vratima crkve otvorena dva duboka i velika groba u kojima se nalazio po jedan kostur, a u jednom je uz naznačene naušnice nađen na prsima pokojnika srebrni “škudasti” novac, kojemu se “s jedne strane jasno vidi kolice, a unutra zvijezda”, kojoj skicira oblik. Isti takav novac nađen je na prsima pokojnika u drugom grobu.<sup>58</sup>

Na tom dijelu groblja pronađeno je dosta ulomaka s pleterom, kao i fragmentiranih ostataka natpisa, kao što su ...MA..., ...DRA..., ...NIS...<sup>59</sup> Zadnji navedeni natpis danas ne postoji u zbirci Muzeja,<sup>60</sup>

<sup>56</sup> AHSD. Marun, Koncept, 17. 10. 1911.

<sup>57</sup> AHSD. Marun, Koncept, 19. 10. 1911.: „...Za tim posli podjoso viditi (sa Č. M. Ivekovićem i M. Abramščem, op. M. Z.) izkopine u Lukačevoj ogradi...Ploče od, calcare fetidum iz Škripa, ovdje vjerojatno prenešena sa prilježne oranice. Pred crkvom poklopnice dvie nad jednim grobomsa pleterom dolje. Obe na četvrt po 0.70... Ulomak nadpisa MA. Drugi DRA, treći NIS. Jedna ostruga u grobu. Velika naušnica... Novac S. Ladislaus.“

<sup>58</sup> AHSD. Ardalićevo pismo iz Lukačuse, 23. 10. 1911.: “...Poslije nego ste otišli odavlen, našla se sa gornje strane kolona duga ne puna dva metra, ne obla cijela, nego bi rek’ da je raspilata po polak u duljinu, tako našao sam ja u drači 30. centimetara odbijen prag pleterom. Od jutros do sad, našlo se pred vratima Crkve dva duboka groba velika, po jedan kostur, u jednom našlo se dvije velike naušnice sa trima zrnima fildegranim velikim, srebrenim te na prsima jedan novac srebreni škudast, nesmijem trati, ali s jedne strane jasno se vidi kolice a u nutra zvijezda ovako (slijedi crtež jedne strane novca ispunjene osmorlatičnom rozetom, op. M. Z.) tako i u drugom grobu tu, našla se jaspra isto na prsima mrtcu škudasta ne malešna. Kopam ispred crkve ozdo do nekog kraja, jer nalaze se dosad ulomci od prozora, i kamena korčulaša prosta, pa nije isključeno da nebi mogao tu biti i koji još nadpis...“

<sup>59</sup> AHSD. Marun, Koncept, 19. 10. 1911.; Marun boravi na lokalitetu 24. listopada te 2. i 9. studenog 1911. Marun, Koncept (Notes) 1910. - 1911.

<sup>60</sup> Ako to nije loše pročitani ulomak ...NVS...

While excavating the necropolis, even on the surface, and particularly in the dig, the researchers came upon decorative fragments of Old Croatian church furnishing with remains of interlacing ornament or an epigraphic field. On the first day of the research they found eight fragments, among which was part of the arch of the rood screen with the remains of an inscription: ...RISTIA...

The most important and amply yielding part of the graveyard stretched in front of the church. Ascertained there was the existence of a large number of graves that were used for multiple interments, although grave goods were fairly rare in them.<sup>55</sup>

*in lime, but they did not find the top slab, for before the villagers had dug over the church, deep broad and long.... A goblet in Venetian style...*

*In front of the church in one masonry built grave, found one corpse with two silver filigree beads, and on the chest a silver escudo-like coin of Doge Orius. In the second only on the breast an identical coin, and on the chest a coin of the same doge. In the church strong paving of large regular flags of imported white stone – probably from Guduća... Turkish limekilns... One ring found in grave on the north side outside the church with blackened transparent stone... In the presbytery of the church, under the foundations, a fragment of a large half-column. A second fragment of the same column, 1.70 long, measured 0.50 found on the northern side outside the church... A little silver earring with three beads... Again an Orius escudo-like coin in a grave on Mrs Mandić’s land with iron buckles. In a grave in front of the church a big threshold of Brač stone, probably from some pluteus, and several other fragments of Brač stone...*

<sup>55</sup> ACAS. Ardalić’s letter of Gjeverske, 18. 10. 1911.: *The first day I found a probably up to 30 m long fragment of a threshold, as well as of a monument with double hooks [a sketch of a hook follows, M.Z.]. More or less by these hooks an inscription, initial letters probably seven of them, but all abbreviations, or hieroglyphs seems that they have some kind of flowers. So in two days I found 8 fragments of different ornamentation or interlacing that you want. All of the threshold, a big fragment and another of a sarcophagus with palms and flowers. It seems to me that ornamentation in St Anthony’s [in Ostrovica] won’t compare to this. It will be first of all transferred from the olive press as we agreed, for they say that there was a church there. There are plenty of graves there, usually nothing in them, just several skulls. We left two with big slabs as if from a sarcophagus, closer to the lower end of the church until you come.... Now, where shall we put the stones? There is no sense in leaving them here in the wilderness, shall they go to Bribir? They should be moved somewhere, and they were found in Bribir county. That monument with the letters, I think that it will be explained which duke it was put up for the initial letters [then comes a sketch of the remainder*

a isti je slučaj i s ulomcima s uklesanim slovima ...ORO...<sup>61</sup> i ...NA...<sup>62</sup> Oni su najvjerojatnije izgubljeni prilikom prijevoza zaprežnim kolima s lokaliteta od Otrésa do Đevrsaka<sup>63</sup> ili iz Otrésa do bribirske škole,<sup>64</sup> a zatim u kninski Muzej.

Vjerojatno najznačajniji fragment o kojemu vijest donosi Marun je onaj kojeg slova BR... najvjerojatnije pripadaju početku imena kneza Branimira.<sup>65</sup> Taj je ulomak dovezen u Knin, ali ga danas nema u Muzeju hrvatskih arheoloških spomenika pa se po svemu čini da je izgubljen prilikom višekratnih seljenja zbirke u Drugom svjetskom ratu i nakon njega.

Starohrvatski je crkveni namještaj upotrebljavan kao gradivo prilikom zidanja grobova pa u njima nalazimo dva pluteja koji su u gornjem dijelu odbijeni, te postavljeni kao poklopnice na jednom grobu pri jugozapadnom uglu crkve.<sup>66</sup> Kod njihove atribucije služili smo se Ardalićevom skicom u pismu, što nam je pomoglo da nađemo i kaneliranu kolonu koja nije tipična za namještaj starohrvatske crkve.<sup>67</sup>

Although finds of goods in the graves, according to the information of Ardalić, are not numerous, nevertheless those for which we have documentary reports do arouse our attention.

From the extant notes we find that two graves each had a silver coin of Doge Orío Malipiero (1178-1192), placed on the breast of the departed. In one of these graves, two silver, probably three-bead, earrings were found, decorated in filigree technique.<sup>56</sup> Together with this information about the collective find of earrings and coins of Doge Orío Malipiero, Marun reveals also found in the graves were a spur, a large earring and one more find of a coin, which we can attribute to Louis Angevin (1342-1382).<sup>57</sup>

Ardalić reports one more time on the collective find of coins and the three-bead earring with large filigree beads, saying that two deep and large graves were opened up in front of the door of the church, revealing a skeleton each. In one, along with the earring referred to, a silver “shield [escudo-like]” coin was found, “on one side of which a circle was clearly shown, and inside it a star,” the shape of which is in the sketches. An identical coin was found on the chest of the deceased in the other grave.<sup>58</sup>

<sup>61</sup> AHSD. Ardalićevo pismo iz Lukačuše od 6. 11. 1911.: “...Subota poslje diližanse, našao se je ulomak nadpisa su slova 7, te fragmenata pletera. Od jutros našao se je ulomak nadpisom ...ORO... te fragmenata lijepi pletera. Osim toga našlo se sa donjeg kraja nugla crkve grob, na njemu dvije poklopnice, t.j. ploče duge i široke preko 70 cm. jedna je sva od raznog pletera, bi će da je žrtvenik druga isto, ali je na jednom nugluodbivena, s jednog kraja ima ovelik pleter, a ispod toga obruč od pletera, u sred toga veliki križ od pletera, oko njega četiri simbolične ruže, izgleda ovako: (slijedi shematizirani crtež koji je poput opisa dosta netočan, a radi se o gornjoj polovici pluteja s križem i palmetama. op. M. Z.) koje je veliko na ploči, a bog da i do mraka što nagjem. Ko je god ovu ploču vidio čudi se, još njesmo došli do pred crkvena vrata.”

<sup>62</sup> AHSD. V. Ardalić u nedatiranom pismu (br. 376): “... Od jutros našao se jest okrugli ulomak kapitela dug 24 cm. okrugao izgleda od prilike: (slijedi crtež vjerojatno rimske kanelirane kolone, op. M. Z.) tri su obruča u dnu i vrhu, urezati u nj kao prozorčići, kolo naokolo. Našast i komad pletera od žrtvenika te ulomak natpisa slovima ...NA... . Nada je da će se još šta moći naći, jer pomnjivo se pretraživa...”

<sup>63</sup> AHSD. Marun, Koncept (Notes 1910. - 1911), 9. 11. 1911. U *Obćem blagajničkom dnevniku* stoji podatak od 26. studenog 1911. o plaćanju prijevoza starina iz Otrésa za K. 6.

<sup>64</sup> AHSD. Dopisnica Peše Gladovića iz Bribira od 19. 1. 1912. Spomenici su spremeni u bribirsku školu i kasnije. Vidi Ardalićevo pismo od 15. 4. 1912.

<sup>65</sup> Marun 1927, str. 313.

<sup>66</sup> AHSD. Ardalićevo pismo od 6. 11. 1911.

<sup>67</sup> AHSD. Ardalićevo pismo br. 376.

of the inscription ...RISTIA...], wonderfully done, you might say it was an arch and not just a threshold. On that side of the other owner there are plenty of objects. With your hammer, which is worth a lot, I found two items, and one lovely carving with a star like this [then comes a sketch of a rosette] everything of the threshold can be seen. Who knows what else there might be, and it has only just been opened up...”

<sup>56</sup> ACAS. Marun, Concept, 17. 10. 1911.

<sup>57</sup> ACAS. Marun, Concept, 19. 10. 1911.: “...” “After that we went to see [with Iveković and Abramić] the digs in Lukačeva ograda...Slabs of calcare fetidun from Škrip, here very likely transferred from the neighbouring ploughland. In front of the church two slabs on one grave with interlacing downwards. Both squarish and 0.70 m long. A fragment of an epigraph MA. Second DRA, third NIS. One spur in a grave. A big earring. Coin of St Ladislav.

<sup>58</sup> ACAS. Ardalić's letter from Lukačuša, 23. 10. 1911.: “After you went from here, a column not quite two metres long was found on the upper side, not all round, rather one would say it's been sawn in half the length of it, and I found in the scrub a 30 centimetre broken sill with interlacing. From morning to now, in front of the door of the church, two deep graves, big, were found, one skeleton each, in one two big earrings were found, with three big filigree beads, silver; and on the chest a coin, silver, escudo-like, I mustn't rub it, but on one side a circle is clearly to be seen, and inside it a star like this [then comes a drawing of a coin with the figure of an eight-petal rosette] and in the second

Nakon završetka radova na dijelovima nekropole s južne i zapadne strane crkve istražen je i uzak pojas s vanjske strane sjevernog zida crkve, gdje su također ustanovljeni grobovi.

### Istraživanje godine 1912.

Uz prijevoz dvaju kamenih spomenika početkom godine s Otresa u bribirsku školu,<sup>68</sup> Ardalić u više navrata obilazi lokalitet tijekom zime. Tada je nađen ulomak s palmetom koji je virio iz zemlje “više” crkve i jedna polovica rascijepljene grede s lijepo očuvanom ornamentikom i jednim redom slova.<sup>69</sup>

Nakon nekoliko odgađanja<sup>70</sup> Marun odlučuje započeti iskopavanja istovremeno s onima na Bribiru, 11. travnja 1912.<sup>71</sup> Istraživši upravo do visine crkve, već drugi dan nađena su dva ulomka s pleternim ukrasom, dijelovi tranzene, natpis s dva retka slova te jedan golemi rog i zub.<sup>72</sup> Uz brojnije nalaze nakita (naušnica i prstenja) na gornjem kraju lokaliteta nije bilo očekivanih kamenih spomenika.<sup>73</sup> Do kraja istraživanja na tom su prostoru nađena još dva

In his part of the cemetery, several fragments with interlacing were found, as well as fragmented remains of inscriptions, such as ... MA..., ...DRA..., ... NIS...<sup>59</sup> The last mentioned inscription is not to be found in the collection of the museum today<sup>60</sup>, which is also the case with fragments with the carved letters ..ORO..<sup>61</sup> and ...NA...<sup>62</sup> They were probably lost while being transported by means of horse and cart from the site of Otres to Devrske<sup>63</sup> or from Otres to Bribir school,<sup>64</sup> and then to the museum in Knin.

Probably the most important fragment Marun reports on is that on which the letters BR... prob-

*grave, an akce was found, also on the breast of the corpse, escudo-like, not so little.*

*I dig in front of the church from on top to some end for so far window fragments have been found, and simple Korčula stone, and it is not to be ruled out that there might be some other inscription here“*

<sup>59</sup> ACAS. Marun, Concept, 19. 10. 1911.; Marun was on-site on October 24 and on November 2 and 9 1911. Marun, Concept (Notes) 1910. - 1911.

<sup>60</sup> If the fragment has not been wrongly read ...NVŠ...

<sup>61</sup> ACAS. Ardalić's letter from Lukačuša of 6. 11. 1911.: “Saturday after the diligence a fragment of an inscription was found with 7 letters and fragments of interlacing. In the morning a fragment with the inscription... ORO... was found and fragments of nice interlacing. Apart from that from the lower end of the corner of the church a grave was found, and on it two slabs, i.e., long and wide, over 70 cm, slabs one all in various interlacing, probably the altar of the other is the same, but on one corner it is broken off, with one end it has a large interlacing, and under that a hoop of interlacing, and in the middle of that a big interlacing cross, around it, four symbolic roses, looks like this: [then comes a diagrammatic drawing that, like the description, is fairly inaccurate, and concerns the upper half of a pluteus with cross and palmettes, M. Z.] that is much on the slab, and if god grant I'll find something before dark. Whoever saw this slab was amazed, we haven't even got to the church door yet.”

<sup>62</sup> ACAS. V. Ardalić in an undated letter (no. 376): *Since morning a round fragment of a capital 24 cm long was found, round, looks approximately [a drawing of probably a Roman fluted column M.Z.], three hoops at the bottom and top carved into it like windows, round and around. Also found a piece of interlacing from an altar and a fragment of an inscription with the letters ... NA... It's to be hoped that something else will be found, for everything is being carefully examined“*

<sup>63</sup> ACAS. Marun, Concept (Notes 1910. - 1911), 9. 11. 1911. In the *Obći blagajnički dnevnik* there is a note of November 26 about the payment of carriage of antiquities from Otres amounting to K. 6.

<sup>64</sup> ACAS. Postcard of Pešo Gladović from Bribir of 19. 1. 1912. Monuments were stored in Bribir school even later. See Ardalić's letter of 15. 4. 1912.

<sup>68</sup> AHSD. Dopisnica Peše Gladovića iz Bribira od 19. 1. 1912.

<sup>69</sup> AHSD. Ardalićevo pismo iz Gjevsraka, 18. 3. 1912: “...tako nemogu da započnem t.j. dovršim radnje u Lukačuši kako sam rekao. Nade je da će se tu još što naći, jer nekidan ja sam više crkve našao ulomak palme virila iz zemlje. Našla se je ona polovica kolone u dnu Vujine zemlje, koja je bila u plotu zabačena, bi rek da je neko racijepio, koja polovina lijepo je sačuvata ornatima s jednim redkom slova. Tomka ud: protiv se daljnjem krčenju na svom dijelu, oče ponovnu plaću. Nu na tome uz brdo nema više litica je, a uzko je, da bez toga možemo biti...”

U 1911. godini je za iskopavanja na njezinu zemljištu isplaćeno Tomki ud. Mandić K. 40. *Obći blagajnički dnevnik*, 30. 12. 1911.

<sup>70</sup> AHSD. Ardalićeva pisma od 20. 3. i 8. 4. 1912.

<sup>71</sup> Marun 1998, str. 224.

<sup>72</sup> AHSD. Ardalićevo pismo iz Gjevsraka, 13. 4. 1912.: “...Kako reko, da sam ja odregjen za Lukačušu a isto išao sam sve ove dane i na glavicu, do tamo i amo ima dobra ura i pol puta. Kad sam radnike jutros odveo, te ih u poredio tako okolo 81/2 uri otišao sam na glavicu,... U Lukačuši juče su našli dva ulomka pletera, i od prozora, danas neki ogroman rog i zub, kao od pret-historičkijeh živina tako i jedan nadpis, su dva reda slova, virilo bilo nešto iz zemlje, za koje držim da će te biti zadovoljni, što i želim, sad smo uprav došli do više crkve, uzdajući se da će mo što bolje naći...”

<sup>73</sup> AHSD. Ardalićevo pismo iz Gjevsraka, 18. 4. 1912.: “...U Otresu još danas pa će s gornjeg kraja biti svršeno. Naušnica i prstenja ima dosta srebrna, a nadpisi-je slabe smo sreće do sad s donjeg kraja nije se ticalo. Kad Vi dogijete sporazumi će mo se...”



ulomka crkvenog namještaja. Na jednom od njih očuvano je jedno slovo.<sup>74</sup>

Iz malog broja dostupnih podataka nismo mogli utvrditi kakva je bila situacija na nekropoli s istočne strane crkve. Na tom dijelu groblja istraživanja su započela godine 1911., a nastavljena su i završena 1912. godine. Već je početak istraživanja pokazao da se i na tom dijelu nekropole u grobovima nalaze materijalni prilozi. To potvrđuju podaci o nalazu prstena s kamenom, male srebrne trojagodne naušnice kao i skupni nalaz jednog “škudeliranog” novca Orija Malipiera i željeznih kopči.<sup>75</sup> Zastupljenost priloga u grobovima potvrđena je i sljedeće godine, kada je u grobovima nađeno dosta srebrnih naušnica i prstenja.<sup>76</sup>

Do prekida radova, koji više nisu obnavljani, došlo je zbog traženja vlasnice jedne čestice da joj se ponovno nadoknadi odšteta,<sup>77</sup> ako se želi vršiti prekopavanje njezina zemljišta, na što Marun i Ardalić nisu pristali. Istraživši površinu pod zakupom, odustaju od daljnjeg iskopavanja. Kasniji nalaz ulomka grede veličine do 30 cm s pleternim ukrasom pokraj potoka pokazao je da su spomenici razbacani na širem prostoru.<sup>78</sup>

Zadnju vijest o arheološkom lokalitetu Otres našli smo u Knjizi protokola Muzeja iz 1936. godine, gdje stoji zabilješka o pismu kojim Drago Ivanović iz Bribirskih Mostina javlja S. Gunjači “...da je seljak Simo Mandić pristao da proda Muzeju dva kamena...”,<sup>79</sup> a u drugom pismu “...da je poslao autobusom starohrvatske fragmente...”.<sup>80</sup>

ably belong to the beginning of the name of Duke Branimir.<sup>65</sup> This fragment was carted to Knin, but does not exist in the Museum of Croatian Archaeological Monuments today, and it seems, all in all, that it must have been lost during one of the several moves of the collection during World War II and subsequently.

The Old Croatian church furniture was used as building material when the graves were being built, and in them we can find two plutei that were chipped off in the upper part and placed as lids on one grave at the south-west corner of the church.<sup>66</sup> For this attribution we made use of Ardalić’s sketch in the letter, which helped us to find a fluted column, which is not typical of the furniture of an Old Croatian church.<sup>67</sup>

After the ending of operations on the parts of the necropolis on the western and southern side of the church, a narrow strip on the outside of the northern wall of the church was investigated, and graves were ascertained there too.

### The 1912 investigation

As well as transporting two stone monuments from Otres to Bribir School at the beginning of the year,<sup>68</sup> Ardalić several times went round the site during the winter. At that time a fragment with a palmette poking up out of the land of the higher church was found as well as the half of a split beam with a nicely preserved ornament and a row of letters.<sup>69</sup>

<sup>74</sup> AHSD. Ardalićevo pismo pisano po završetku istraživanja 24. 4. 1912.: “...U Lukačuši s gornjeg kraja je svršeno u ponedjeljak i utorak. Potrošeno je 10 radnika. Kažu da su našli samo dva ulomka, na jednom, jedno samo slovo. Za koje mi je veliko žao, a kopalo se najstrožije i najdublje... Sad ako izvolite s donjeg kraja da se radi, javite mi, ja sam izgubio nadu, da li će se išta više i naći, ali svakako, ja ću još probajati na nekim točkama okolo crkve, jer ima jedna kruška divija nije izvadjena, blizu nje smo našli nadpis, a tako mora biti i ispod nje... Lište od lukačuše uredi ću dok Vi dogjete.”

<sup>75</sup> AHSD. Marun, Koncept, 17. 10. 1911.

<sup>76</sup> AHSD. Ardalićevo pismo iz Bribira, 18. 4. 1912.

<sup>77</sup> AHSD. Ardalićevo pismo od 18. 3. 1912.

<sup>78</sup> AHSD. Ardalićevo pismo iz Gjeversaka, 8. 4. 1913. “...Jutros sam otišao na Otres, kamo je brat mi Gajo krčeci kraj foše potoka, lominu, našao ulomak od praga do 30 cm. s pleterom, to je dobar svjedok, da se razneseni od Crkve kamenja po svojoj ogradi Lukačevoj kad ih ima uz potok dalje...”

<sup>79</sup> AHSD. Pismo je datirano 16. 11. 1936. g. Za ulomke je seljak tražio 100 dinara uz uplatu na njegovu adresu.

<sup>80</sup> AHSD. Pismo je datirano 26. 11. 1936. g.

<sup>65</sup> Marun 1927, p. 313.

<sup>66</sup> ACAS. Ardalić’s letter of 6. 11. 1911.

<sup>67</sup> ACAS. Ardalić’s letter no. 376.

<sup>68</sup> ACAS. Postcard of Peš Gladović from Bribir of 19. 1. 1912.

<sup>69</sup> ACAS. Ardalić’s letter from Gjeversak, 18. 3. 1912: “...tako nemogu da započnem t.j. dovršim radnje u Lukačuši kako sam rekao. Nade je da će se tu još što naći, jer nekidan ja sam više crkve našao ulomak palme virila iz zemlje. Našla se je ona polovica kolone u dnu Vužine zemlje, koja je bila u plotu zabačena, bi rek da je neko racijepio, koja polovina lijepo je sačuvata ornatima s jednim redkom slova. Tomka ud: protivni se daljnjem krčenju na svom dijelu, oće ponovnu plaću. Nu na tome uz brdo nema više litica je, a uzko je, da bez toga možemo biti...” “And so I can’t start, i.e., finish the works in Lukačuša as I said. There’s some hope to find something still here, for one day above the church I found a fragment of palm sticking out of the ground. Also found was that half a column at the bottom of Vuja’s land, which was chucked into the fence, I would say that someone had split, half of which has nicely preserved ornaments with one row of letters. Tomka married: [Mandić] is against any fur-

Na žalost, te podatke sam pronašao tek poslije smrti S. Gunjače, a kako navedeni ulomci nisu investirani niti su u arhivu sačuvana naznačena pisma koja bi nam eventualno mogla dati pobliže podatke o fragmentima, nismo u mogućnosti utvrditi o kojim se spomenicima radi.

#### Dosadašnja obrada u literaturi

Prvu tiskanu vijest o nalazima s tog lokaliteta donio je Marun krajem prošlog stoljeća prilikom pronalaska natpisa ...*ENDOES*... . U svojem izvješću daje sažetu sliku stanja na lokalitetu, te objavljuje i izvadak iz pisma društvenog povjerenika V. Ardalića.<sup>81</sup> Drugom prigodom Marun piše o nastojanju da Društvo nabavi to zemljište za istraživanja,<sup>82</sup> kako bi se omogućilo otkrivanje ruševine odakle je, po predaji, vađeno gradivo za zidanje crkve sv. Ante u Ostrovici.<sup>83</sup>

U svom obimnom članku o nalazu natpisa kneza Muncimira Marun između ostalog komparativnog materijala donosi tri ulomka nađena na ovom položaju. Na njima su očuvani fragmentarni ostaci natpisa ...*BR(animir)*, *DOMNO*... i *DUCI EGO*... pa autor pretpostavlja da se tu radi o još jednom spomeniku na kojem je očuvano zapisano ime kneza Branimira.<sup>84</sup>

F. Radić, u svojstvu glavnog izvjestitelja Znanstvenog odbora Hrvatskoga starinarskog društva, izvješćuje Skupštinu o društvenoj djelatnosti na terenu i opetuje vijest o nalazu natpisa ...*ENDOES*... pod Otresom.<sup>85</sup> U drugom članku donosi opis i sliku sjekire nađene na istom položaju (slika 2).<sup>86</sup>

U svojem esejističko-romantičarskom *Vodiču V. Živić* replicira nalaze natpisa ...*ENDOES*... i sjekire iz Otresa.<sup>87</sup>

Miho Barada osvrće se na natpise ...*DUCI EGO C*... i ...*DOMNO*... (neispravno donosi ...*DOMNA*...), analizirajući romboidno slovo *O*, koje smatra najkarakterističnijim elementom za datiranje, pa vezano s tim određuje nastanak tih dvaju ulomaka u 9. st.<sup>88</sup>

Dajući pregled iskopavanja koja je poduzeo Marun od početka stoljeća do Prvoga svjetskog rata,

After several postponements<sup>70</sup> Marun decided to start excavations at the same time as those in Bribir, on April 11, 1912.<sup>71</sup> In an investigation up to the height of the church, the very next day, two fragments with interlacing ornamentation were found, parts of a transenna, an inscription with two lines of letters and a very large horn and a tooth.<sup>72</sup> In addition to more numerous finds of jewellery (earrings and rings), at the upper end of the site there were none of the stone monuments that had been expected<sup>73</sup> By the end of the excavations at this place, two more fragments of church furniture were found. On one of them, a single letter was found.<sup>74</sup>

From the few accessible data we could not ascertain what the situation in the graveyard at the eastern side of the church was like. In this part of the cemetery, research started in 1911, and was continued and concluded in 1912. Right at the begin-

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*ther clearing on her part, she wants paying again. But there alongside the hill there is no more rock, and it is narrow, and we can do without it*". In 1911 for digging on her land, K. 40 was paid to Tomka [married name] Mandić. *Obći blagajnički dnevnik*, 30. 12. 1911.

<sup>70</sup> ACAS. Ardalić's letters of 20. 3. and 8. 4. 1912.

<sup>71</sup> Marun 1998, p. 224.

<sup>72</sup> ACAS. Ardalić's letter from Gjevske, 13. 4. 1912.: "As I said, I am set for Lukačuša, and I went there these days, to the hilltop, and there and back it's a good hour and a half. When I took the workmen there today, and set them to work, about eight thirty I went to the hilltop... At Lukačuša yesterday they found two fragments of interlacing, and from the window, today some huge horn and tooth, as if from pre-historic beasts and also one inscription, two rows of letters, something was sticking out of the land, that I think you will be pleased with, which I want, now we have got to the top church, hoping that we are going to find something good..."

<sup>73</sup> ACAS. Ardalić's letter from Gjevske, 18. 4. 1912.: "Just today still in Otres, and all will be done from the upper end. There are quite a lot of earrings and rings, silver, and we haven't had much luck with inscriptions far, from the lower end nothing doing When you come we'll agree about..."

<sup>74</sup> ACAS. Ardalić's letter written when the dig was over 24. 4. 1912.: "In Lukačuša on the top it is finished Monday or Tuesday. Ten workmen were employed. They say they found just two fragments, on one, just one letter. Which I am sorry about, and they dug precisely and deeply... Now if you please to have work done at the lower end, let me know, I have lost hope, that anything more will be found, but certainly, I shall still have a go at some points around the church, for there is one wild pear tree not taken out, we found an inscription close to it, and there should be something under it... I shall arrange the payroll of Lukačuša by the time you come."

<sup>81</sup> Marun 1896, str. 124; Marun 1896A, str. 200.

<sup>82</sup> Marun 1896, str. 195.

<sup>83</sup> Marun 1901, str. 5.

<sup>84</sup> Marun 1927, str. 290, 313.

<sup>85</sup> Radić 1896, str. 200.

<sup>86</sup> Radić 1897, str. 124, 129.

<sup>87</sup> Živić 1935, str. 102, 115.

<sup>88</sup> Barada 1940, str. 411.

S. Gunjača među ostalim lokalitetima spominje i Otres,<sup>89</sup> a spomenički materijal komparativno spominje kod obrade drugih položaja.<sup>90</sup>

Zdenko Vinski je, obrađujući križni nakit na području Jugoslavije, uključio u svoju radnju i jedan zlatni prsten iz zbirke MHAS-a za koji nije bilo poznato mjesto nalaza. Znalo se da potječe sa šireg područja Dalmatinske zagore, između rijeka Zrmanje i Cetine.<sup>91</sup> Uz kratku katalošku obradu utvrdio je da je prsten kasnoantički proizvod iz 5. - 6. st., kojem podrijetlo treba tražiti na istočnom Mediteranu,<sup>92</sup> a u naše krajeve je dospio kao istočnorimski import. Autor je ostavio mogućnost da se takva skupina nakita mogla po tim uzorcima proizvoditi i u romanским radionicama na jadranskoj obali ili negdje u balkansko-maloazijskim regijama.<sup>93</sup>

K. Jurišić u svojoj monografskoj obradi života i djela L. Maruna ekspicira njegov tiskani govor na trinaestoj godišnjoj skupštini Društva,<sup>94</sup> gdje među lokalitetima za koje nedostaju sredstva za istraživanje nabraja i Otres.<sup>95</sup>

Duje Jelovina još se jednom osvrće na sjekiru iz Otrisa, smještajući je u vremenski okvir od 9. do 12. st.<sup>96</sup> Donoseći kratku vijest o revizijskom arheološkom istraživanju na položaju Otres, isti autor konstatira otkriće temeljnih ostataka zidova starohrvatske crkve, pronalazak nekoliko kamenih ulomaka crkvenog namještaja ukrašenih pletenom plastikom iz 9. st., kao i nekoliko starohrvatskih grobova.<sup>97</sup>

Vedrana Delonga se kod obrade ulomka predromaničke pleterne plastike iz obližnje crkve sv. Ante u Ostrovici komparativno osvrnula na neke stilske dekorativne značajke starohrvatske skulpture iz Otrisa kao i na rezultate revizijskog istraživanja, precizirajući da su tu nađeni ostaci romaničke jednobrodne crkve s kasnosrednjovjekovnom nekropolom.<sup>98</sup>

ning it turned out that in this part of the necropolis, there were material goods in the graves. This is confirmed by data about the find of a ring with a stone, a small silver three-bead earring and the collective find of a “escudo-ish” coin of Orio Malipiero and iron buckles.<sup>75</sup> The presence of goods in the graves was confirmed the following year, when quite a lot of silver earrings and rings were found in the graves.<sup>76</sup>

The interruption of operations, which were never renewed, occurred because of the demand of the owner of one parcel, to pay her fee again<sup>77</sup>, if they wanted to dig over her land, to which Marun and Ardalić did not agree. Having explored the area leased, they gave up on further digs. The later find of a fragment of a beam up to 30 cm in size with interlacing ornament by the brook showed that the monuments were scattered over the wider area.<sup>78</sup>

We found the last report about the archaeological site of Otres in the protocol register of the Museum of 1936, where there is a note about a letter in which Drago Ivanković of Bribirske Mostine wrote to Gunjača “that the peasant Simo Mandić had agreed to sell to the Museum two stones”<sup>79</sup> and in a second letter “that they had sent the Old Croatian fragments by bus”.<sup>80</sup>

Unluckily, I found this information only after the death of Gunjača, and since the fragments were not inventoried, and since there was no trace in the archives the letters indicated that might perhaps have been able to give us more detail information about the fragments, we are not able to establish which of the monuments are concerned here.

#### Discussion in the literature to date

The first printed report about the finds from the site was made by Marun at the end of the 19<sup>th</sup> century when the inscription ...*ENDOES*... was discovered. In his report he gives a condensed picture of

<sup>89</sup> Gunjača 1958, str. 21.

<sup>90</sup> Gunjača 1958A, str. 112.

<sup>91</sup> Vinski 1968, str. 105.

<sup>92</sup> Vinski 1968, str. 112-113.

<sup>93</sup> Vinski 1968, str. 118-119.

<sup>94</sup> Jurišić 1979, str. 54.

<sup>95</sup> Jurišić 1979, str. 54.

<sup>96</sup> Gunjača, Jelovina 1976, str. 74 (veći primjerak), str. 110.

<sup>97</sup> Jelovina 1981, str. 247-248.

<sup>98</sup> Delonga 1982, str. 79.

<sup>75</sup> ACAS. Marun, Concept, 17. 10. 1911.

<sup>76</sup> ACAS. Ardalić's letter from Bribir, 18. 4. 1912.

<sup>77</sup> ACAS. Ardalić's letter of 18. 3. 1912.

<sup>78</sup> ACAS. Ardalić's letter from Gjevske, 8. 4. 1913. “*This morning I went to Otres, where my brother Gajo, clearing by the ditch of the brook, rubble, found a fragment of a sill up to 30 cm long with interlacing, this is good proof, that they took stone from the church for their Lukačeva enclosure, when there is some for the brook further off...*”

<sup>79</sup> ACAS. Letter dated 16. 11. 1936; the peasant wanted 100 dinars for them, with payment at his address.

<sup>80</sup> ACAS. The letter is dated 26. 11. 1936.

## Arheološka istraživanja i preliminarne spoznaje

Arheološki lokalitet Otres zaokupio je pozornost istraživača još 1895. godine, kada je na tom položaju L. Marun utvrdio postojanje zasutih ostataka jedne crkve.

Prva arheološka iskopavanja poduzeo je Prvi muzej hrvatskih spomenika 1911. i 1912. godine. Tijekom tih iskopavanja nije se vodila dokumentacija tako da je za znanost ostao nepoznat oblik tada otkrivene crkve, za koju se pretpostavljalo da je bila ukrašena predromaničkom pleternom plastikom koja je tom prilikom dospjela u fundus Muzeja. Po završetku tih radova cijela istražena površina bila je zasuta zemljom.

U nakani da se utvrdi stvarno stanje objekta pristupa se 1977. godine revizijskom istraživanju tog lokaliteta. Tada su otkriveni temelji srušene crkve veličine 10,70 x 7 metara. Crkvu karakterizira široki i kratki brod te obla apsida na istočnoj strani. Tipološka analiza osnove crkvenog objekta ukazivala je da ga treba uvrstiti među romaničke građevine. No takav se zaključak morao prihvatiti s rezervom, budući da s tog lokaliteta potječu već prije spomenuti ulomci kamenog crkvenog namještaja ukrašeni starohrvatskom pleternom skulpturom, koji su svojim dekorativnim i epigrafsko-paleografskim elementima i uklesanim vladarskim atributima na natpisnim poljima upućivali na nastanak u vrijeme kneza Branimira. Na jednom ulomku bila su očuvana i početna slova imena tog vladara.

Dvojba radi li se tu o predromaničkoj ili romaničkoj građevini, riješena je kad je u temeljnoj stopi crkve nađena polovica pluteja ukrašena pleternom plastikom i polovica menze, a dospjele su onamo kao spoliji prilikom izgradnje crkve. Time je sa sigurnošću utvrđeno da je starija predromanička crkva služila kao izvor građevinskog materijala pri izgradnji romaničke crkve. Kako je ova potonja izgrađena na litici, a jednim joj dijelom temelji leže i na sterilnom zemljanom tlu, isključena je mogućnost da se starija crkva nalazila ispod nje pa su se njezini ostaci trebali tražiti u neposrednoj blizini.

Nastavak revizijskog istraživanja uslijedio je 1983. godine.

### Revizijsko istraživanje

#### Situacija

Nakon prekida prvih istraživanja zidovi crkve zasuti su zemljanom nasipom s nakanom da se na

the situation at the site, and publishes a section from the letter of the society's commissioner, Ardalić.<sup>81</sup> On another occasion, Marun wrote about the efforts for the Society to obtain this land for research,<sup>82</sup> in order to enable the unearthing of the ruins from which, according to tradition, building material was taken to build the church of St Anthony in Ostrovica.<sup>83</sup>

In his lengthy article about the finding of the inscription of Duke Muncimir, Marun, including other comparative material, referred to three fragments found at this site. Extant on them are fragmentary remains of the inscription *BR(animir)*, *DOMNO...* and *DUCI EGO...* and the writer hypothesizes that this is one more monument on which the written name of Duke Branimir is preserved.<sup>84</sup>

F. Radić, in his capacity as main reporter of the Scholarly Committee of the Croatian Antiquarian Society, informed the Assembly about the society's activity in the field and repeats information about the find of the inscription *ENDOES* at Otres.<sup>85</sup> Another article of his gives a description and an image of the axe found at the same site (Fig. 2).<sup>86</sup>

In his *Guide*, written in the style of a romantic essay, V. Živić repeats the finds of the inscription ... *ENDOES...* and the axe from Otres.<sup>87</sup>

Miho Barada refers to the inscriptions ... *DUCI EGO C...* and ... *DOMNO* (which he incorrectly renders as ... *DOMNA...*) analysing the rhomboidal letter O, which he thinks the most characteristic element for dating, and in connection with this determines the origin of these two fragments as being in the 9<sup>th</sup> century.<sup>88</sup>

Giving a review of the excavations undertaken by Marun from the beginning of the century up to World War I, Gunjača, among the other sites also brings in Otres,<sup>89</sup> and mentions the monumental material by way of comparison when he discusses other sites.<sup>90</sup>

In a discussion of cross-shaped jewellery in Yugoslavia, Zdenko Vinski included in his dissertation

<sup>81</sup> Marun 1896, p. 124; Marun 1896A, p. 200.

<sup>82</sup> Marun 1896, p. 195.

<sup>83</sup> Marun 1901, p. 5.

<sup>84</sup> Marun 1927, p. 290, 313.

<sup>85</sup> Radić 1896, p. 200.

<sup>86</sup> Radić 1897, p. 124, 129.

<sup>87</sup> Živić 1935, p. 102, 115.

<sup>88</sup> Barada 1940, p. 411.

<sup>89</sup> Gunjača 1958, p. 21.

<sup>90</sup> Gunjača 1958A, p. 112.

taj način spriječi njihovo urušavanje. Na nekropoli koja je istraživana prekopavanjem, a to znači da je novim otkopom zemlje zasipan već otkriveni prostor, nije došlo do bitnih promjena u konfiguraciji terena.

S druge strane, takvo svježe iskrčeno zemljište pružilo je idealne uvjete za nekontroliran rast bujne vegetacije, jasenovih i hrastovih stabala, što je sve zajedno stvorilo neprohodnu šikaru. Takvu situaciju zatekli smo kod našega prvog posjeta nalazištu 1976. godine, kada smo planirali reviziju ranijih istraživanja.<sup>99</sup>

Nakon odstranjivanja raslinja moglo se jasno zamijetiti da je cijeli kompleks smješten pri rubu zaravnane glavice, koja strmo pada na južnoj, a nešto blaže na istočnoj strani. Iz tih razloga, a zbog djelovanja erozije, naslage zemlje nešto su tanje od onih na sjevernoj i zapadnoj strani. Na tako lagano ukošenom terenu uočavali su se obrisi zasutih crkvenih zidova što su se izrazitije dizali iznad ulegnute unutrašnjosti crkvenog broda. Nad južnim zidom crkve stajala je uspravljena ploča poda s pravokutnim ležištima za pilastre, dok je s vanjske strane apside koja se nazirala stajala monolitna kamena ploča uspravljena "na nož", za koju se poslije ispostavilo da je sekundarno služila kao poklopnica groba. U svojoj prvoj funkciji dugo je služila kao prag neke građevine, na što ukazuju duboki kanali utrti okretanjem vrata na njezinoj površini.

### Tijek iskopavanja

Prvi i osnovni cilj revizijskog arheološkoga zahvata bio je da se istraži crkveni objekt i ustanovi njegov oblik. Iako je konfiguracija terena stvarala poteškoće već u početku radova, odlučeno je da se kod iskopavanja primijeni metodološki princip vodoravne stratigrafije, kako bi se uočilo što više pokazatelja o načinu i širini prijašnjih arheoloških istraživanja. Stoga je prije početka rada na otkopavanju crkvenih zidova prostor istraživanja razdijeljen mrežom kvadrata veličine 4 x 4 metra.

Nakon postavljanja kvadratne mreže pristupilo se sustavnom spuštanju terena u kvadratima VIII., IX., X., XIV., XV. i XVI., koji su prekrivali zemljište na kojem je ležala crkva.

Bilo je očekivano da će se ostaci zidova najprije pojaviti na sjevernoj strani, gdje je visina nasipa ukazivala na njihovu najvišu očuvanost. To se po-

a gold ring from the MCAM collection the finding site of which was unknown. It was known that it derived from the general area of the Dalmatian hinterland, between the Zrmanja and Cetina rivers.<sup>91</sup> In addition to providing a short catalogue study, he established that the ring was a Late Antique production from the 5<sup>th</sup> to the 6<sup>th</sup> century, the origin of which should be sought in the eastern Mediterranean,<sup>92</sup> arriving in this region as an import from the Eastern Roman Empire. He allowed for the possibility that such a group of jewellery could have been produced according to these models in the Romanesque workshops on the Adriatic coastline, or else somewhere in the regions of the Balkans and Asia Minor.<sup>93</sup>

In his monograph on the life and work of Marun, K. Jurišić gives an extract of his printed speech at the thirteenth annual assembly of the Society,<sup>94</sup> in which he lists Otres among those sites for which there were insufficient research funds.<sup>95</sup>

Duje Jelovina refers one more time to the Otres axe, placing it somewhere from the 9<sup>th</sup> to the 12<sup>th</sup> century.<sup>96</sup> Giving a short account of the archaeological reinvestigation at Otres, the same writer refers to the discovery of the remains of the wall foundations of the Old Croatian church, the find of several stone fragments of church furniture decorated with interlacing carving of the 9<sup>th</sup> century and of several Old Croatian graves.<sup>97</sup>

Discussing fragments of pre-Romanesque interlacing carving from the nearby church of St Anthony in Ostrovica, Vedrana Delonga referred by way of comparison to several stylistic decorative features of Old Croatian sculpture from Otres and to the results of the revision excavation, making the precise statement that the remains of a Romanesque single nave church had been found here together with a late medieval graveyard.<sup>98</sup>

<sup>91</sup> Vinski 1968, p. 105.

<sup>92</sup> Vinski 1968, p. 112-113.

<sup>93</sup> Vinski 1968, p. 118-119.

<sup>94</sup> Jurišić 1979, p. 54.

<sup>95</sup> Jurišić 1979, p. 54.

<sup>96</sup> Gunjača, Jelovina 1976, p. 74 (bigger example), p. 110.

<sup>97</sup> Jelovina 1981, pp. 247-248.

<sup>98</sup> Delonga 1982, p. 79.

<sup>99</sup> Lokalitet su obišli S. Gunjača, N. Jakšić i M. Zekan.

tvrdilo već prvi dan, kada su se nakon uklanjanja sloja zemlje debljine 20 cm pojavili gornji kameni blokovi. Pomno odstranjujući slojeve zemlje u debljini od 15 cm, nakon deset dana otkrili smo u cijelosti brod i zidove kvadratne crkve s oblom apsidom na istočnoj strani. Prilikom istraživanja zidova ustanovili smo da su uz njih prislonjeni grobovi, što je iniciralo istraživanje nekropole.

Otkriveni smještaj crkve pokazao je da je kvadratna mreža zahvatila prostor dosta udaljen od njezinih zidova pa se nije u ovoj fazi istraživanja pristupilo iskupu krajnjih istočnih kvadrata I., VII., XIII., XIX. i XXV., kao i kvadrata VI., XII., XVI-II. i XXIV., dok se pri kraju kampanje ipak izvršio manji zahvat u kvadratu XXX. na zapadnoj strani, o čemu će biti riječi poslije.

Kvadrati II. - IV. južnim su stranicama smješteni uz rub padine, odakle se zemljište blago diže prema sjeveru i nešto izrazitije prema zapadu, tj. prema kvadratu V.

Kvadrat II. Taj je kvadrat smješten u uglu zaravni glavice. Debljina humusnog sloja je 5 - 10 cm. Maksimalna dubina donjeg sloja je 20 cm, s velikom primjesom vapnene žbuke. Bez arheoloških nalaza. Ranije prekopavan.

Kvadrat III. Debljina humusnog sloja 10 cm. Maksimalna dubina kvadrata je 60 cm. Zemlja crnica, s ponegdje većom primjesom vapnene žbuke, osobito blizu zidova i kvadrata II. Ustanovljeno je postojanje slabih ostataka grobne arhitekture, koja je uništena prethodnim istraživanjima.

Kvadrat IV. Debljina humusnog sloja 10 cm. Maksimalna dubina 90 cm. Osobitosti zemljišta kao u prethodnom kvadratu. U sredini ovog kvadrata, na dubini od 35 cm, iznad same litice nađen je ulomak s ostatkom natpisa ...*ANN*..., iznad kojeg se uočava dio pojasa ukrašenog *peretz* motivom. Ispod ruba litice, a na južnoj strani kvadrata utvrđeno je postojanje grobova, koji su ostali neistraženi.

Kvadrat V. Debljina humusnog sloja 15 cm. Maksimalna dubina pri zapadnom kraju je 130 cm. Zemlja je crnica s tragovima vapnene žbuke. U kvadratu su zatečena dva otvorena groba (32 i 33), među kojima je nađen obični brončani prsten.

Kvadrat VIII. Debljina humusnog sloja je 10 cm. Maksimalna dubina kvadrata je 70 cm. Zemljište sadrži veliku primjesu vapnene žbuke. Na dubini od 30 cm našli su se ostaci apside za čiji je zid upotrijebljen i dio kolone. Na dubini od 40 cm nađen je grob 1.

## Archaeological investigations and preliminary insights

The archaeological site of Otres had drawn the attention of researchers since 1895, when at this site Marun established that there were the buried remains of a church. The first excavations were carried out by the First Museum of Croatian Monuments in 1911 and 1912. During these digs, no documentation was kept, and scholarship still did not know the shape of the church then uncovered, hypothesized to have been decorated with pre-Romanesque interlacing sculpture, which on that occasion arrived in the holdings of the Museum. At the end of the works, the whole of the area explored was covered with earth.

With the intention of finding out the real state of this feature, in 1977 the revision excavation of the site was addressed. Then the foundations of the ruined church, sized 10.70 x 7 metres, were discovered. The church featured a broad, short nave, and a round apse to the east. Analysis of the typology of the foundations of the structure showed that it should be classified as Romanesque. But this kind of conclusion can be accepted with reservations, since from this site come the already mentioned fragments of stone church furnishing decorated with Old Croatian interlacing carving, which indicate, in their decorative, epigraphic and palaeographic elements and the carved attributes of the ruler in the epigraphic fields, that they were produced at the time of Duke Branimir. One of the fragments actually contains the initial letters of the name of this ruler.

The dilemma as to whether this is a pre-Romanesque or a Romanesque building is resolved when in the footings of the church half a pluteus was found, decorated with interlacing sculpture and half a mensa, being incorporated as spolia during the building of the Romanesque church. Since this is built on a cliff, and in part lies on a sterile earthen base, there is no chance that an older church lay beneath it, the remains of it having to be searched for in the immediate vicinity.

The continuation of the revision excavations came in 1983.

## Revision excavations

### Situation

After the interruption of the first excavation, the walls of the church were covered with soil, the in-

Kvadrat IX. Humusni je sloj debljine 5-10 cm. Dubina kvadrata različita je i varira od 20 cm unutar crkvenog broda do 60 cm iznad osnove crkve. U zemlji je bila velika primjesa vapnene žbuke. U tom kvadratu nađeni su grobovi 26 i 27, koji su smješteni s vanjske strane zida crkve te grob 28, prilikom čije gradnje je do temelja razoren crkveni zid. Na taj je način uništeno koljeno između apside i longitudinalnoga južnog zida. Rušenju zida pridonijela je i izgradnja groba 29, od kojeg je ostao samo dio rake ukopan u laporastu liticu. U liticu je gotovo u cijelosti ukopan i grob 31, koji je svojim smještajem u crkvenom brodu pridonio razbijanju pločnika kao i kružno zidane jame u sredini crkve. Polovica ovoga groba proteže se u kvadrat X.

Kvadrat X. Slojevi u tom kvadratu istovjetni su kao i u prethodnom, s razlikom što je sloj uz zid deo 75 cm. Pokraj zidova, a unutar crkvenog broda, nađeni su manji tragovi pločnika. Zid je očuvan u visini od dva reda kamena. S vanjske strane južnog zida položeni su grobovi 24 i 25, s tragovima oštećenja od ranijih istraživanja. U temelju čelnog zida crkve uložen je kao spolij ulomak rimske kolone.

Kvadrat XI. Humusni sloj deo je 10-15 cm. Maksimalna dubina kvadrata je 120 cm. Zemlja je crnica. Pred čelnim zidom crkve zamijećene su veće primjese vapnene žbuke. Tijekom istraživanja preko dijela kvadrata prevožena je zemlja koja je deponirana na tridesetak metara udaljenu liticu. Širina tog neistraženog "mosta" je 80 cm, a pruža se od jugozapadnog ugla crkve prema sjeverozapadnom uglu kvadrata. Sa sjeverne strane "mosta", na dubini od 50 do 65 cm u zemlji su nađena dva ulomka glazirane keramike, a uz nasip je ležao dosta oštećen grob 23. Na južnoj strani kvadrata, na dubini između 45-50 cm nađeno je pet pločica za apliciranje od tankog lima.

Kvadrat XIV. Debljina humusnog sloja je 10 cm. Maksimalna dubina kvadrata je 95 cm. U zemlji je bilo velikih primjesa vapnene žbuke. Prislonjen uz vanjsku stranu apside, na dubini od 20 cm, nađen je grob 2, nad kojim se nalazila uspravljena monolitna kamena ploča, za koju smo već prije utvrdili da je služila kao prag vrata. Zid apside očuvan je u donjem redu kamena. S istočne strane koljena, koji tvore sjeverni longitudinalni zid i apside, nađen je ulomak prozorske rešetke.

Kvadrat XV. Situacija je kao u kvadratu IX. Prostor kvadrata zauzima sjeveroistočni ugao cr-

vention of which was to prevent them collapsing. The graveyard was dug over in the research, which means that the space was covered with the new piles of earth, there were no essential changes in the configuration of the ground.

On the other hand this kind of freshly cleared ground provided ideal conditions for the uncontrolled growth of luxuriant vegetation, trees of ash and oak, which all together created impenetrable scrubland. We found this kind of situation in our first visit to the site in 1976, when we planned a reinvestigation of earlier research<sup>99</sup>

When the vegetation had been removed, it was easier to see that the whole complex was located on the edge of a flattened hilltop, which dipped sharply on the southern and a little more softly on the eastern side. For these reasons, and because of the work of erosion, the earth deposits were thinner than those on the northern and western sides. On this slightly slanting ground the outlines of the buried church walls could be found, which started out rather distinctly above the settled interior of the nave. Over the southern wall of the church was an upright slab of a wall with right-angled housings for pilasters; on the outside of the apse that could be made out was a monolithic stone slab straightened "on a knife edge", that was subsequently determined to have served secondarily as the lid of a grave. In its first use, it was long used as the threshold of some building, which was shown by the deep grooves made by the turning of a door over the surface of it.

#### The course of the excavations

The first and the fundamental objective of the revision archaeological operation was to explore the church feature and establish its shape. Although the configuration of the ground caused problems right at the outset of the works, it was decided to apply in the excavations the methodological principle of horizontal stratigraphy so as to observe as many indications as possible of the manner and extent of the previous archaeological excavations. And so before the beginning of the work on the excavation of the walls of the church, the research area was divided into a network of squares 4 x 4 metres in size.

After the establishment of the network of squares, the systematic lowering of the ground in

<sup>99</sup> The sites were toured by S. Gunjača, N. Jakšić and M. Zekan.

kve, gdje su otkopani ostaci zida visokog 30 cm. U unutrašnjosti crkve otkriveni su ostaci podnice načinjene od debelih priklesanih kamenih ploča. U jednoj od njih, u uglu crkve, nađen je ulomljen ostatak kvadratnog stupa koji je učvršćen u pripremljenu rupu. Uz pločnik je ležala i baza kaneliranog stupa. Na križanju ovog kvadrata i kvadrata XVI. smještena je okrugla zidana rupa dubine 80 cm. U njoj smo pronašli grob 30. Unutar groba nađena su dva kockasta kamena bloka u kojima je uklesana po jedna rupa kvadratnog oblika.<sup>100</sup>

Kvadrat XVI. Situacija je kao u prethodnom kvadratu, osim što je uz sjeverni zid očuvan sloj maksimalne debljine 130 cm. Ovaj je kvadrat zahvaćao sjeverozapadnu četvrtinu crkve. Uz zapadni zid, cijelom dužinom stranice kvadrata, otkriveni su ostaci izvornog poda crkve načinjenog od debelih priklesanih kamenih ploča. Ostatak sjevernog zida najočuvaniji je dio crkvenog objekta. Na tom dijelu šest redova kamena seže do visine od 105 cm. S unutrašnje strane zida, u trećem redu iznad pločnika, pronađeni su kao spoliji donja polovica pluteja i veći ulomak oltarne ploče (menze) okrenuti licem prema gore (sl. 3, 1). U temelju sjeverozapadnog ugla crkve nalazi se uloženi obrađeni i profilirani kameni blok koji je pripadao nepoznatoj građevini iz jedne od prethodnih faza. Profilirani blok nalazi se umetnut i u temelj čelnog zida, gdje je služio kao prag crkvenih vrata.

Kvadrat XVII. Situacija je kao u kvadratu XI. Kvadrat je zahvaćao prostor ispred sjevernog dijela čelnog zida crkve. Na dubini od 40 cm nađen je grob 21, pokriven monolitnom kamenom pločom. Ploča je dijelom uvaljena u grobnu raku, vjerojatno u vrijeme ranijih zahvata. Tešku kamenu ploču nismo uspjeli izvaditi pa je grob ostao neistražen. Dvadeset centimetara ispod razine ovog groba nalazili su se ukopi u grobovima 20 i 22. Oba groba su devastirana prijašnjim istraživanjima. Grob 22 na svom se istočnom kraju uvukao za 5 cm pod nesolidan temelj crkve.

Kvadrat XX. Debljina humusnog sloja je 15 cm. Ispod njega nalazi se sloj nekad obrađivane pročišćene zemlje debljine od 25 do 30 cm. Donji sloj je sterilna zemlja crvenica pomiješana s velikom količinom sitnih kamenčića (škalje). U tom sloju nađen je neoskvrnut grob 3.

squares VIII, IX, X, XIV, XV, and XVI was addressed, covering the ground on which the church lay.

It was expected that the remains of the walls would appear first of all on the northern side, where the height of the fill indicated they were in the best state of preservation. This was borne out the very first day, when after the removal of a 20-cm thick layer of earth, the top stone blocks appeared. Carefully removing the layers of earth to a thickness of 15 cm, after ten days we discovered the whole of the nave and the walls of a square church with a round apse on the eastern side. While exploring the walls, we found that graves abutted them, which led to an excavation of the graveyard.

The accommodation of the church discovered showed that the square network covered a space quite distant from its walls, and so, in this phase of the research, the excavation of the far easterly squares, I, VI, XIII, XIX and XXV was not attempted; nor was that of squares VI, XII, XVIII and XXIV; while at about the end of the campaign, a small operation in square XXX on the western side was carried out to be discussed below.

Squares II to IV on their southern sides were located along the edge of the slope whence the land rises gently to the north and somewhat more markedly to the west, i.e., in the direction of square V.

Square II. This square is located in the corner of the plateau of the hilltop. The humus layer is some 5 to 10 cm thick. The maximum depth of the lower stratum is 20 cm, with a large admixture of lime mortar. No archaeological finds. Dug earlier.

Square III. A 10 cm deep humus layer. Maximum depth of the square is 60 cm. Black soil, with in places a larger admixture of lime mortar, particularly close to the walls and square II. The existence of slight traces of grave architecture was established, but it had been destroyed by previous research.

Square IV. Humus layer 10 cm thick. Maximum depth 90 cm. Plot features as in the previous square. In the centre of this square, at a depth of 35 cm, right above the cliff, a fragment was found with the remains of an inscription: /...ANN...., above which could be seen part of a zone decorated with the *pretzel* motif. Below the edge of the cliff, on the southern side of the square, the existence of graves was ascertained, but they were not investigated.

Square V. The thickness of the humus layer was 15 cm. Maximum depth at the western end was 130

<sup>100</sup> Marun vjerojatno misli na njih kada donosi vijest o postojanju malih kamenica. AHSD. Marun, Konzept, 17. 10. 1911.



Kvadrat XXI. Situacija je ista kao u prethodnom kvadratu. Okomita stratigrafija je izmijenjena uza zid crkve, gdje se primjećuje da je zemljište u širini od jednog metra ispremiješano, što je ukazalo na širinu prijašnjih istraživanja. Tada je došlo do devastacije groba 4, koji se nalazio 30 cm ispod površine. Na istoj dubini nađen je i grob 9, u kojem smo našli dva srebrna novčića. Na dubini od 55 do 60 cm nađeni su u zemlji ulomak stakla i keramičke posude. Grob 5, koji je ležao ispod groba 4, ostao je nezamijećen kod prijašnjih radova pa je nađen očuvan u cijelosti. Grob 11 je već bio djelomično istražen i urušen. Ta dva groba, uz još četiri druga (6, 7, 8, 10) nađena su na dubini od 50 do 75 cm i pripadaju istom stratumu grobova. Različitu razinu uvjetovala je nepravilna konfiguracija terena.

Kvadrat XXII. Situacija je istovjetna prethodnom kvadratu, osim što je primjetno izdizanje donjeg sloja prema zapadu uvjetovalo istu takvu promjenu kod nivelete terena. Neposredno ispod sloja humusa našli smo grob 14. Na dubini od 45 cm nađen je devastirani grob 13. Ispod groba 14 ležao je grob 15. Uza zid crkve na dubini od 75 cm nalazio se grob 12. U prostoru između ta dva groba nađen je na dubini od 60 cm ulomak staklene posude, a pet centimetara ispod nje ulomak pluteja (inv. br. 2264). U jugozapadnom dijelu kvadrata, uz ugao crkve, a u pravcu čelnog zida, bio je “na nož” postavljen obrađeni i profilirani kameni blok.

Kvadrat XXIII. Situacija je u cijelosti istovjetna s prethodnim kvadratom. Na dubini od 35 cm, u zemlji između ugla groba 16 i uzglavnice groba 20, našao se obični prsten (21). Djelomično sačuvani pokrov groba 16 nalazio se na dubini od 50 cm. Devastirani grobovi 17 i 19, koji se nalaze ispod razine prije naznačenoga groba, ukazuju na to da je ovaj prostor bio zahvaćen prijašnjim istraživanjima.

Kada je na sjecištu kvadrata XXIII. i XXIV. nađen grob 17, koji se pružao pod kvadratu XXIX. i XXX., pristupilo se njegovu cjelovitom otkopavanju. Tako započeo rov produžen je prema sjeverozapadu u nakani da se ustanovi pravac širenja nekropole, uz očekivanje da bi se mogli pojaviti i tragovi starije crkve, iz koje potječu starohrvatski ulomci. Nalaz groba 18 ukazao je na to da se nekropola širila prema sjeveru, da se grobovi zbog izdignutog terena nalaze na većoj dubini i da bi buduća istraživanja trebala usmjeriti sjeverno od istraženog područja. Tragovi koji bi ukazali na prisutnost arhitekture nisu uočeni.

cm. Black earth with traces of lime mortar. Two open graves were found in the square (32 and 33), between which a bronze ring was discovered.

Square VIII. Thickness of the humus layer 10 cm. Maximum depth in this square was 70 cm. The plot contains a large admixture of lime mortar. At a depth of 30 cm, the remains of an apse were found; the wall of the apse was used as part of the column. Grave 1 was found at a depth of 40 cm.

Square IX. Humus stratum 5 to 10 cm thick. The depth of this square varied from 20 cm within the nave to 60 cm over the foundation of the church. There was a large admixture of lime mortar in the earth. Found in this square were graves 26 and 27, located on the outer side of the wall of the church, and grave 28, during the building of which the wall of the church was damaged down to the foundations. In this manner the angle between the apse and the longitudinal southern wall was destroyed. Also contributing to the damage of the wall was the construction of grave 29, only a part of the pit of which has remained, dug into the marly cliff. Grave 31 is almost entirely dug into the cliff, the location of it within the nave contributing to the breaking of the pavement and the circularly built pit in the centre of the church. Half of this grave stretches into square X.

Square X. The strata in this square are the same as in the preceding square, with the difference that the stratum along the wall is 75 cm thick. By the walls, in the nave, small traces of paving were found. The wall is extant up to the height of two courses of stones. On the outside of the southern wall, graves 24 and 25 are placed, with traces of damage inflicted by earlier excavations. In the foundation of the front wall of the church, a fragment of a Roman column has been incorporated.

Square XI. The humus layer is 10 to 15 cm thick. The maximum depth of the square is 120 cm. Black earth. In front of the front wall of the church, larger admixtures of lime mortar were observed. During researches over part of the square, earth was carried that was deposited on the thirty-metre distant cliff. The width of this unexcavated bridge is 80 cm, and it extends from the south-west corner of the church off towards the north-west corner of the square. On the northern side of the “bridge” at a depth of 50 to 65 m, two fragments of glazed ware were found, and alongside the fill was grave 23, fairly damaged. On the southern side of the square, at a depth of

U istu svrhu kao i kod prethodnog rova poduzeto je iskopavanje još jednog profila 15 m zapadno od crkve. Rov usmjeren sjever-jug postavljen je upravo na granici gdje zemljana površina prelazi u krševitu kosu, na koju smo deponirali zemlju od iskopa. Dužina rova je 15 m, dok je širina 80 cm. Njegovo istraživanje nije dalo pozitivne arheološke rezultate pa smo mogli utvrditi da se nekropola ne proteže dalje na zapad.

#### PLUTEJI:

**I. Inv. br. 2260 (T. I, 1).** Materijal: vapnenac. Veličine: visina 96 cm, širina 64 cm, debljina 9 cm. Letva je visoka 21,5 cm i deblja je dva centimetra od pluteja. Smještaj: MHAS - lapidarij. Pronađen: gornji dio 1911. g. (kao poklopnicu groba zajedno s plutejom pod inv. br. 2262),<sup>101</sup> a donji dio 1977. g. (kao spolij u zidu crkve).

Plutej je spojen od dva dijela u zajedničku cjelinu, a ugaoni dijelovi letve su restaurirani. Na ukrasnom polju pluteja uklesan je motiv križa u arkadi. Donji dio arkade formiraju stupići čija je površina ukrašena troprutim dvopletom, kao što je slučaj i s ukrašavanjem lika koji naliježe na stilizirane kapitule. Središnji prostor ispunjava latinski križ kojemu je vodoravna hasta ispunjena cjelovitom vrpcom troprutog dvopleta, dok se istovrsni ukras okomite haste upravo tu prekida. U donjem dijelu pluteja, sa strana križa, smještena je po jedna palmeta, a u gornjem dijelu po jedna virovita rozeta s naglašenim središtem. Paralelni prutovi koji se lome pod pravim kutom ispunjavaju trokutasti prostor iznad arkade u gornjim uglovima pluteja. Lijeva strana ukrasnog polja pluteja pretrpjela je oštećenja najvjerojatnije od djelovanja biljnih kiselina. Iznad ukrasnog polja nalazi se izbočena vodoravna letva čiji je središnji dio uokviren pojasnicom ukrašen prepletom triju troprutih vrpca.

**II. Od ovog pluteja očuvana su tri ulomka (inv. br. 2012, 2025 i 2263),** od kojih su prva dva spojena, a zajedno s trećim pripadaju njegovoj desnoj gornjoj polovici. Na osnovi njihove debljine vežemo ih uz plutej sličan prethodnom.

**Inv. br. 2012 i 2025 (T. I, 4).** Materijal: vapnenac. Veličine: visina 21 cm, širina 19 cm, debljina 8 cm. Smještaj: MHAS - lapidarij. Pronađen: 1911. ili 1912. godine.

between 45 and 50 cm, five thin metal sheeting appliqué-plaquettes were found.

Square XIV. The humus stratum was 10 cm thick. Maximum depth of the square was 95 cm. There was a large admixture of lime mortar in the soil. Grave number 2 abutted the outer side of the apse at a depth of 20 cm, and over it was an upright monolithic stone slab which we had earlier established to have been used as the threshold of the door. The wall of the apse was preserved in the lower course of stones. On the eastern side of the join or angle, created by the northern longitudinal wall and the apse, a fragment of window grating was found.

Square XV. The situation was the same as that of square IX. The space of the square occupied the north-east corner of the church, where the remains of wall 30 cm high were excavated. In the interior of the church the remains of flooring were found, made of thick, roughly dressed stone slabs. In one of them, in the corner of the church the broken remainder of a square column was found, fitted into a hole prepared for it. Alongside the paving lay the base of a fluted column. At the crossing of this square and square XVI there was a round masonry-built hole, 80 cm in depth. In it we found grave 30. Inside the grave were two cuboid stone blocks each of which had a square shaped hole carved out of it.<sup>100</sup>

Square XVI. The situation was the same as that which obtained in the previous square, except that alongside the northern wall a stratum of maximum thickness of 130 cm was extant. This square covered the north-west quarter of the church. Alongside the western wall, the whole length of the side of the square, the remains of the original flooring of the church were found, made of thick, roughly dressed stone flags. The remainder of the northern wall was the best preserved part of the church structure. In this part, six courses of stone reached a height of 105 cm. Inside the wall, in the third course above the paving, the lower half of a pluteus was found, spolia built into the wall, and a large fragment of an altar slab (mensa), with its faced turned upwards (Fig. 3, 1) Fitted into the foundation of the north-west corner of the church is a worked and moulded stone block that once belonged to an unknown building of one of the previous phases. The moulded block is also fitted into the foundation of

<sup>100</sup> Marun probably was thinking of them when he gave the news about the existence of the small stone vessels. ACAS. Marun, Concept, 17. 10. 1911.

<sup>101</sup> AHSD. Ardalićevo pismo iz Lukačuše od 6. 11. 1911.

Na licu ulomka ostala je profilacija gornjeg dijela stupića s tragovima troprute pletenice na njegovoj površini. Nad stupićem se nalazi stilizirani kapitel s formiranim krinom u sredini. Iznad kapitela nalazi se dočetak luka arkade. Na lijevom dijelu ulomka vidljiv je ostatak dvaju listova koji su pripadali palmeti, dok se na desnoj strani nalazi rubna letva.

**Inv. br. 2263 (T. I, 5).** Materijal: vapnenac. Veličine: visina 26 cm, širina 14 cm, debljina 9 cm. Smještaj: MHAS - lapidarij. Pronađen: 1911. ili 1912. godine.

Ulomak je ukrašen s više usporednih prutolikih narebrenja oštrog brida, koja se lome pod pravim kutom, a ispunjavali su trokutasti prostor iznad arkade u desnom gornjem kutu pluteja.

**III. Inv. br. 2261 (T. I, 2).** Materijal: vapnenac. Veličine: visina 86 cm, širina 75 cm, debljina 11 cm. Smještaj: MHAS - lapidarij. Pronađen: Prilikom iskopavanja 1911. i 1912. godine.

Plutej je restauriran na osnovi 16 spojenih izvornih ulomaka, kako je vidljivo iz oštećene arhivske fotografije.

Lice pluteja uz manje razlike ornamentirano je kao i prethodni pluteji. Manje razlike u ukrašavanju ovog pluteja u odnosu na plutej pod inv. br. 2260 vidljive su u ukrašavanju križa, jer je, za razliku od navedenog, okomita hasta ispunjena jednodijelnom pletenicama, a pletenica vodoravne haste razdvojena je u dva dijela. U prazan prostor između gornjih hasta križa i arkade nanosena je po jedna sedmerolatična rozeta. Trokutasti prostor u gornjim kutovima pluteja ispunjen je s više usporednih prutova koji se lome pod pravim kutom. Na pluteju nema gornjeg završetka u vidu vodoravne letve.

U sredinu lijeve bočne strane pluteja treba umetnuti ulomak (**inv. br. 2002 (T. II, 1)**) koji je naknadno nađen među spomenicima u lapidariju, kako je to izvedeno na fotomontaži, a na kojem je očuvan ostatak stiliziranog kapitela i vrh palmete.

**IV.** Četvrti plutej, koji je svojom dekoracijom i debljinom istovjetan prethodnom, očuvan je samo u fragmentima, a ulomci pripadaju središnjem dijelu njegovog dna i sredini lijeve bočne strane.

**Inv. br. 2264 (T. II, 2).** Materijal: vapnenac. Veličine: visina 20,5 cm, širina 31 cm, debljina 11,5 cm. Smještaj: MHAS - lapidarij. Nađen 1977. godine u kvadratu XXII. prilikom arheoloških istraživanja.

Ulomak je pripadao sredini donjeg dijela pluteja. Od ukrašenog lica očuvan je ostatak haste križa,

the front wall, where it served as a threshold for the church door.

Square XVII. The same situation as in square XI. The square took in the space in front of the northern part of the front wall of the church. At a depth of 40 cm, grave no. 21 was found, covered with a monolithic slab of stone. The slab was partly pushed into the grave pit probably during the earlier operations. We did not manage to remove this heavy stone slab, and the grave was not investigated. Twenty centimetres beneath the level of this grave, there were burials in graves 20 and 22. Both graves were devastated by previous investigations. Grave 22 at its eastern end got 5 cm underneath the not very sound foundation of the church.

Square XX. Thickness of humus layer. Beneath it lay a layer of formerly processed and sieved soil from 25 to 30 cm thick. The lower layer is sterile red soil mixed with a large quantity of small pebbles. In this layer, the undesecrated grave no. 3 was found.

Square XXI. The situation was the same as in the previous square. The vertical stratigraphy was changed by the wall of the church, where it was observed that for a width of one metre, the soil had been mixed together, indicating the width of the previous excavations. At that time, grave 4 was devastated; it was 30 m under the surface. At the same depth, grave 9 was found, in which we discovered two small silver coins. At a depth of from 55 to 60 cm in the soil a fragment of glass and some ceramic vessels were found. Grave 5, which lay underneath grave 4, had not been noticed in the previous operations, and was preserved in its entirety. Grave 11 was already partially explored and had collapsed. These two graves, with four others (6, 7, 8, 10) were found at a depth of from 50 to 75 cm and belong to the same stratum of graves. The different depth was the result of the irregular configuration of the ground.

Square XXII. The situation is the same as in the previous square, except that the perceptible elevation of the lower stratum westward led to the same kind of change in the level of the ground. Immediately below the humus layer, we find grave 14. At a depth of 45 cm a devastated grave was found, no. 13. Beneath grave 14 was grave 15. Alongside the wall of the church at a depth of 75 cm lay grave 12. In the space between these two graves, at a depth of 60 cm, a fragment of glass vessel was found, and five centimetres below it a pluteus fragment (inv.

čija je sredina bila prekrivena pletenicom troprutog dvopleta. Sa strana križa nalaze se tragovi po jedne palmete. Od izvornih površina očuvano je glatko naličje i donja stranica pluteja.

**Inv. br. 2006 (T. II, 3).** Materijal: vapnenac. Veličine: visina 35 cm, širina 27 cm, debljina 11 cm. Smještaj: MHAS - lapidarij. Pronađen 1911. ili 1912. godine.

Ulomak sa sredine lijeve strane pluteja spojen je od četiri manja ulomka. Očuvano je izvorno glatko naličje i lice na kojem je vidljiv bočni stupić ukrašen troprutim dvopletom. Nad njim se izdiže stilizirani kapitel ispunjen zakošenim urezima. Nad kapitelom se vidi dočetak luka arkade čija je površina ukrašena istim motivom kao i stupići. S desne strane stupića uočava se ostatak vrha palmete.

#### V. plutej:

**Inv. br. 1997, 2262, 2936 (T. I, 3).** Materijal: vapnenac. Veličine: visina 102 cm, širina 69 cm, debljina 12 cm. Visina letve je 20 cm, a od pluteja je deblja za 2 cm. Smještaj: MHAS - lapidarij. Nađen: gornji dio 1911. g., zajedno s inv. br. 2260, kao poklopnica groba,<sup>102</sup> a donji desni ugao iste ili iduće godine.

Plutej je u donjem dijelu restauriran. Nije bio označen te je uvršten među spomenike iz Biskupije - Crkvine. Tijekom proučavanja arhiva fotografija utvrđeno je da je snimljen zajedno sa spomenikom iz Otresa.<sup>103</sup> Kada se na osnovi dosta konfuzno pisanog podatka o nalazu dviju ploča ukrašenih pleterom na jednom grobu<sup>104</sup> utvrdilo da jedna pripada prvom pluteju,<sup>105</sup> prihvaćena je s većom sigurnošću pretpostavka da i drugi plutej pripada istom lokalitetu. Tu činjenicu osnažila je provjera veličine ulomka kao i oštećenje na desnom kutu, o čemu se govori u istome pismu. Konačna potvrda uslijedila je nakon što je u spremištu Muzeja pronađen ulomak s oznakom *Ot* na naličju, koji se i svojim ukrašenom i veličinom uklapa u donji desni restaurirani ugao pluteja, kako smo ga fotomontažom i uložili.

Donji dio lica pluteja ukrašen je s tri okomita niza kružnica spojena čvorištem. Svaki niz čini sedam kružnica koje se međusobno presijecaju na način da se u njihovu središtu nalazi čvorište dvi-

no. 2264). In the south-west part of the square, by the corner of the church, in the line of the front wall, was a worked and moulded stone block placed “on a knife edge”.

Square XXIII. The situation was entirely the same as that in the previous square. At a depth of 35 cm, in the soil between the corner of grave 16 and the head of grave 20, an ordinary ring was found (21). The partially preserved cover of grave 16 lay at a depth of 50 cm. The devastated graves 17 and 19, which lay below the level of the grave previously referred to, indicate that this space was also encompassed by the previous excavations.

When at the intersection of squares XXIII and XXIV grave 17 was found, stretching underneath squares XXIX and XXX, its complete excavation was addressed. The trench started in this way was extended to the north-west, the intention being to establish the direction in which the graveyard expanded, in the expectation that traces of an older church from which the Old Croatian fragments derived might appear. The finding of grave 18 indicated that the graveyard expanded to the north, and that the graves, because of the elevated ground, lay at a greater depth and that future research should be directed northwards from the area investigated. No traces suggestive of the presence of architecture were observed.

For the same purpose as the trench described above, the excavation of one more profile 15 cm west of the church was undertaken. A trench in the north to south direction was placed precisely at the border where the transition from earth surface to the rocky spur was located, the spur on which we had deposited the earth from the dig. The length of the trench was 15 cm, and its width 80 cm. The exploration of it did not provide any positive archaeological results and we were able to ascertain that the graveyard did not, in fact, stretch further off to the west.

#### PLUTEI

**I. Inv. no. 2260 (Pl. I, 1).** Material: limestone. Dimensions: height 96 cm, width 64 cm, thickness 9 cm. The border strip is 21,5 cm high and is two centimetres thicker than the pluteus. Current location MCAM - lapidarium. Discovered: upper part in 1911 (as lid of grave together with pluteus at inv. no. 2262)<sup>101</sup> and the lower part in 1977 (incorporated as spolia into the wall of the church). The cen-

<sup>102</sup> AHSD. Ardalićevo pismo iz Lukačuše od 6. 11. 1911.

<sup>103</sup> Fotografiju unutrašnjosti Muzeja u Kninu snimljenu oko 1930. godine, na kojoj se uz kamene spomenike iz Otresa nalaze i oni iz Uzdolja, Lepura, Ždrapnja i Ostrovice, objavio je Gunjača 1958, str. 13.

<sup>104</sup> AHSD. Marun, Konzept, 19, 10. 1911.

<sup>105</sup> AHSD. Ardalićevo pismo iz Lukačuše od 6. 11. 1911.

<sup>101</sup> ACAS. Ardalić's letter from Lukačuša of 6. 11. 1911.

ju susjednih kružnica. Na početku i završetku niza smještena je polovica kružnice.

Iznad tako ukrašena polja nalazi se izbočena rubna letva ukrašena nizom polumjesečastih (*peretz*) motiva.

**VI.** Od tog pluteja očuvano je pet ulomaka načinjenih od sitnozrnatog vapnenca, čija debljina (12 - 12,5 cm) i ukras prednjeg polja od paralelnih dijagonalno položenih troprutih vrpca ukazuje da pripadaju istoj cjelini.

**Inv. br. 2001 (T. II, 4).** Veličine: visina 14 cm, širina 11,2 cm, debljina 12,5 cm. Smještaj: MHAS - lapidarij. Nađen: 1911. ili 1912. godine.

Na ulomku je očuvano izvorno glatko naličje i lice koje ukrašavaju tri dijagonalno položene troprute vrpce. Jedna vrpca oštro se lomi, što ukazuje na to da je ulomak pripadao rubnom dijelu pluteja.

**Inv. br. 2267 (T. II, 5).** Veličine: visina 19,5 cm, širina 18 cm, debljina 12,5 cm. Smještaj: MHAS - lapidarij. Nađen: 1911. ili 1912. godine.

Na licu se nalazi ostatak pet paralelnih, dijagonalno položenih troprutih vrpca koje se uz izvornu glatku rubnu letvu oštro lome.

**Inv. br. 2003 (T. II, 6).** Veličine: visina 7,5 cm, širina 16 cm, debljina 12 cm. Smještaj: MHAS - lapidarij. Nađen: 1911. ili 1912. godine.

Ulomak pripada rubnom dijelu pluteja s očuvanim ostatkom bočnog rebra kojim je ulijegao u žlijeb pilastra. Na ulomku je očuvano izvorno neukrašeno naličje i lice s očuvanim tragovima triju troprutih vrpca, koje je sa strane bočnog rebra omeđeno glatkom izdignutom rubnom letvom.

**Inv. br. 2266 (T. II, 7).** Veličine: visina 10,7 cm, širina 13,9 cm, debljina 12 cm. Smještaj: MHAS - lapidarij. Nađen: 1911. ili 1912. godine.

Kao i prijašnji, i ovaj ulomak pripada rubu pluteja, na što upućuje ostatak bočnog rebra. Od izvornih površina očuvano je neukrašeno naličje i lice s vidljivim ostacima dviju troprutih vrpca, od kojih se jedna lomi pri spoju s izdignutom i neukrašenom rubnom letvom.

**Inv. br. 2265 (T. II, 8).** Veličine: visina 20,5 cm, širina 21,5 cm, debljina 12 cm. Smještaj: MHAS - lapidarij. Nađen: 1911. ili 1912. godine.

Na ulomku je očuvano izvorno ravno naličje, jedna bočna strana i lice ukrašeno usporednim, dijagonalno položenim troprutim vrpca. Uz glatku izdignutu rubnu letvu vrpce se blago svijaju, kratko je prate, a zatim ponovno ulaze u mrežu.

tral part is filled with a Latin cross the horizontal arm of which is filled entirely with a band of three stranded braiding, while the same decoration of the vertical arm breaks off precisely here. In the lower part of the pluteus, at each side of the cross, is one palmette, and in the upper part of one swirling rosette with an emphatic centre. Parallel withes that break at right angles fill the triangular space above the arcade in the upper corners of the pluteus. The left side of the decorative field of the pluteus was damaged, probably as a result of the action of plant acids. Above the decorative field there is a protuberant horizontal strip the central part of which is framed with a belt decorated with an interweaving of three triple-stranded strips.

**II.** Three fragments of this pluteus have been preserved (inv. nos. 2012, 2025 and 2263), the first two of which are joined, and together with the third belong to the top right half. On the basis of their thickness, they can be correlated to a pluteus similar to that in the preceding entry.

**Inv. no. 2012 and 2025 (Pl. I, 4).** Material: limestone. Dimensions: height 21 cm, width 19 cm, thickness 8 cm. Currently housed: MCAM - lapidarium. Discovered: 1911 or 1912.

On the face of the fragment, the moulding of the upper part of a pillar has remained, with traces of triple-stranded interlacing on the surface. Over the pillar there is a stylised capital with a formed lily in the centre. Over the capital is the beginning of the arch of the arcade. On the left hand part of the fragment, the remains of two leaves that belonged to a palmette can be seen, while on the right hand side there is an edge strip.

**Inv. no. 2263 (Pl. I, 5).** Material: limestone. Dimensions: height 26 cm, width 14 cm, thickness 9 cm. Current location MCAM - lapidarium. Discovered: 1911 or 1912.

The fragment is decorated with several parallel withelike sharp-edged ribs, breaking at a right angle, and filled the triangular space over the arcade in the right upper corner of the pluteus.

**III. Inv. no. 2261 (Pl. I, 2).** Material: limestone. Dimensions: height 86 cm, width 75 cm, thickness 11 cm. Currently housed: MCAM - lapidarium. Discovered: During excavations of 1911 and 1912.

The pluteus was restored according to 16 joined original fragments, as visible from the damaged archival photograph.

The face is ornamented, with some small differences, like the previous pluteus. The smaller differ-

## PILASTAR:

**Inv. br. 2000 (T. III, 1).** Materijal: vapnenac. Veličine: visina 28,5 cm, širina 18 cm, debljina 14 cm. Smještaj: MHAS - lapidarij. Nađen: 1911. ili 1912. godine.

Na ulomku je očuvano izvorno glatko naličje, desna i donja bočna strana te lice. Površina lica ukrašena je s pet troprutih vrpca koje svojim dijagonalnim isprepletanjem tvore mrežu s rombičnim udubljenjima. Vrpce se na spoju s izdignutom glatkom rubnom letvom blago uvijaju, dok se uz istu takvu donju letvu oštro lome. Pilastru nedostaje druga bočna strana, u koju je bio uklesan utor.

Među ulomke istih stilskih značajki ukrašavanja vidljivog na ulomcima pluteja ili pilastra spada jedan ulomak kojemu ne možemo odrediti pripadnost jer mu nije očuvana izvorna debljina, a pretrpio je i naknadno priklesavanje.

**Inv. br. 1999 (T. III, 2).** Materijal: vapnenac. Veličine: visina 17 cm, širina 16 cm, očuvana debljina 8 cm. Smještaj: MHAS - lapidarij. Nađen: 1911. ili 1912. godine.

Na ulomku je očuvano izvorno lice, s ostacima tri dijagonalno položene troprute vrpce, od kojih se jedna oštrije lomi, što ukazuje da pripada rubnom dijelu pluteja ili pilastra.

## KAPITEL:

**Inv. br. 2004 (T. III, 3).** Materijal: sitnozrnati vapnenac. Veličine: visina 17 cm, širina 15,5 cm, očuvana debljina 9 cm. Smještaj: MHAS - lapidarij. Nađen: 1911. ili 1912. godine.

Na kapitelu je očuvana jedna cijela stranica i manji dijelovi dviju drugih stranica koje pokazuju istovrsno ukrašavanje. U kutovima kapitela smještena je po jedna zavojnica (kaulikul), koja svojom punom stapkom izlazi iz okomito postavljenoga središnjeg tordiranog rebra. Dno rebra i dna stapki imaju svoje utemeljenje u vrhu profiliranoga lista koji je smješten među glatkim uvijenim listovima u donjim kutovima kapitela. Na abaku, koji je dijelom očuvan, vidljiva je okomita profilacija.

## LUK CRKVE NE PREGRADE:

Među kamenim spomenicima osobitu je pozornost privuklo pet ulomaka koji se svojim oblikom, tehnikom ukrašavanja i epigrafskim obilježjem izdvajaju od ostalog materijala. Oni pripadaju dijelu luka crkvene pregrade kojemu rekonstruirani izvorni oblik pokazuje lagano širenje od dna prema vrhu.

ences in the decoration of this pluteus as against the pluteus of inv. no. 2260 are visible in the ornamentation of the cross for, unlike the previous one, the vertical arm of the cross is filled with one-part interlacing and the interlacing of the horizontal beam is divided into two parts. In the empty space between the upper beam of the cross and the arcade there is one seven-petalled rosette. The triangular space in the upper angles of the pluteus is filled with several parallel withes that break at right angles. There is no upper finishing in the shape of a horizontal strip.

In the middle of the left side of the pluteus a fragment (inv. no. 2002) that was found later on among the monuments in the lapidarium should be inserted, as has been done on a photographic montage, on which the remains of the stylised capital and the tip of the palmette is preserved.

**IV.** The fourth pluteus, which with its decoration and thickness is the same as the previous one, is extant only in fragments, and the fragments belong to the central part of the bottom and the middle of the left side.

**Inv. no. 2264 (Pl. II, 2).** Material: limestone. Dimensions: height 20,5 cm, width 31 cm, thickness 11.5 cm. Currently housed: MCAM - lapidarium. Found in 1977 in square XXII during archaeological excavations.

The fragment belonged to the middle of the bottom part of the pluteus. Only the remains of a beam of the cross is preserved of the ornamented face, the centre of which was covered with interlacing of a triple-stranded double interlacing. At each side of the cross are traces of a single palmette. The smooth obverse and the lower side of the pluteus are what remain of the original surfaces.

**Inv. no. 2006 (Pl II, 3).** Material: limestone. Dimensions: height 35 cm, width 27 cm, thickness 11 cm. Currently housed: MCAM - lapidarium. Discovered: 1911 or 1912.

The fragment from the middle of the left side of the pluteus is put together of four small fragments. The original smooth back and the face on which a side baluster decorated with triple stranded double interlacing is visible have been preserved. Over them rises a stylised capital filled with slanting incisions. Over the capital the impost of the arch of the arcade is visible, the surface of which is decorated with the same motif as the balusters. On the right side of the pillar the remains of a tip of a palmette is to be seen.

**Inv. br. 2131 (T. III, 4).** Materijal: vapnenac. Veličine: širina 18 cm, širina 27 cm, debljina 11,6 cm. Smještaj: MHAS - lapidarij. Nađen: 17. 10. 1911.<sup>106</sup>

Lice ulomka razdijeljeno je u dva polja. Vanjsko polje ukrašavaju zavojnice polegnute udesno, koje se nižu od dna prema sredini luka. Na početku, ispred najmanje zavojnice, vidljiva je izvorna rubna letva kojom je luk nalijegao na gredu. U polju je očuvano pet zavojnica. Unutrašnjim poljem teкао je natpis od kojeg je očuvan dio teksta ...*RISTIA*... Iza slova *A* slijedi okomita hasta slova iz čijeg se dna ukoso odvaja druga, ukazujući na pretpostavku o postojanju slova *V*. Za razliku od vanjskog polja tu nema izvornog dočeka jer se polje nastavljalo i završavalo u razini dna grede. Moguća restitucija teksta: *(Ch)RISTI AV(lam)*.

ULOMAK ...C...?

**Inv. br. 1990 (T. III, 5).** Materijal: vapnenac. Veličine: širina 19,5 cm, visina 28,5 cm, debljina 11,4 cm. Smještaj: MHAS - lapidarij. Nađen 1896. godine.<sup>107</sup>

Spomenik je spojen od dva ulomka i pripadao je vrhu luka, na što upućuje promjena pravca pružanja zavojnica. Zadnja od četiri zavojnice polegnute udesno, a pripadaju lijevoj polovici luka, naslonila se svojim leđima na leđa njoj nasuprotne zavojnice. Unutrašnjost polja nosi ostatak natpisa ...*ENDOE*... Iza zadnjeg slova, na rubu loma nalazi se kružni duktus sljedećeg slova, koji može pripadati slovima *C*, *G*, *O* i *Q*. Kako se u tom dijelu latinskog teksta radi o završetku glagola u dativu gerunda vjerojatna je restitucija *(faci)ENDO E(go)*.

**Inv. br. 2259 (T. III, 6).** Materijal: vapnenac. Veličine: širina 18,3 cm, visina 21 cm, debljina 11,5 cm. Smještaj: MHAS - lapidarij. Nađen 1911. ili 1912. godine.

Ulomak pripada desnoj strani luka. Njegovo vanjsko polje ukrašavaju tri ulijevo polegnute, dosta oštećene zavojnice. Na unutrašnjem polju očuvao se dio natpisa ...*NUS*..., koji pripada završetku imenice u nominativu, ali ne pruža dovoljno elementa za restituciju.

**Inv. br. 2258 (T. IV, 1).** Materijal: vapnenac. Veličine: visina 19 cm, širina 25 cm, debljina 12 cm. Smještaj: MHAS - lapidarij. Nađen: 1911. ili 1912. godine.

<sup>106</sup> AHSD. Ardalićevo pismo iz Lukačuše od 18. 10. 1911.

<sup>107</sup> Marun 1896, str. 124, Marun 1896A. str. 195, 200.

## V pluteus

**Inv. no. 1197, 2262, 2936 (PI I, 3).** Material: limestone. Dimensions: height 102 cm, width 69 cm, thickness 12 cm. Height of the surrounding strip is 20 cm, and it is 2 cm thicker than the pluteus. Currently housed: MCAM - lapidarium. Found: upper part in 1911, together with item inv. no. 2260, as lid of a grave<sup>102</sup> and the lower right corner of it the same or the following year.

The pluteus is restored in the lower part. It was not labelled and was placed among the monuments from Biskupija –Crkvina. During study of the photographic archives it was discovered it had been taken together with monuments from Otres.<sup>103</sup> When on the basis of a confused written information about the finding of two slabs decorated with interlacing in one grave<sup>104</sup> it was stated that one belonged to the first pluteus<sup>105</sup> the assumption that the second pluteus belonged to the same position was accepted with a greater degree of certainty. This was backed up by a check of the dimensions of the fragment, as well as an item of damage in the right hand corner, discussed in the same letter. A final confirmation came after in the stores of the Museum a fragment was discovered with the marking *Ot* on the back; in its decoration and size, this fitted into the lower right hand restored corner of the pluteus, as we inserted it by photographic montage.

The lower part of the face of the pluteus is decorated with three vertical rows of circles joined with a node. Each sequence consists of seven circles that intersect each other in such a way that in their centre there is the node of two neighbouring circles. At the beginning and ending of the series a half a circle is fitted.

Above the field ornamented in this way is the protuberant edge strip decorated with a number of half-moon (pretzel) motifs.

**VI.** Five fragments of this pluteus have been preserved; they are made of fine-grained limestone, the thickness of which (12 – 12.5 cm) and the decoration of the front field of parallel diagonally placed three-stranded bands show that they belong to the same unit.

<sup>102</sup> ACAS. Ardalić's letter iz Lukačuša of 6. 11. 1911.

<sup>103</sup> Photo of the interior of the museum in Knin taken about 1930, in which there are the stone monuments from Otres together with those from Uzdolje, Lepuri, Ždrapanj and Ostrovica, published by Gunjača, 1958, p 13.

<sup>104</sup> ACAS. Marun, Concept, 19, 10. 1911.

<sup>105</sup> ACAS. Ardalić's letter from Lukačuša of 6. 11. 1911.

Ulomak pripada donjem desnom dijelu luka, što potvrđuje rubna letva, na završetku vanjskog polja, kojom je nalijegala na gredu. Unutar polja vidljiv je isti oblik i raspored pet očuvanih zavojnica, kao i na suprotnom dijelu luka. Na unutrašnjem polju uklesan je natpis ...*TESSIA*..., iza kojega se nazire ukošena hasta slova *V*, nakon čega slijedi lom kojim je nestao upravo produžetak polja koje se spuštalo do dna grede.

#### ZABAT:

**Inv. br. 1995 (T. IV, 2).** Materijal: sitnozrnati vapnenac. Veličine: visina 11,5 cm, širina 30 cm, debljina 10,7 cm. Smještaj: MHAS – stalni postav, uklopljen u trabeaciju oltarne ograde. Nađen: ulomak s natpisom 19. 10. 1911., a drugi ulomak te ili prijašnje godine.

Ulomak pripada lijevoj strani zabata oltarne pregrade. Očuvano mu je izvorno naličje i dio luka. Na licu je vidljiv mali dio središnjeg polja bez ukrasa, kojemu je bočnu stranu omeđivao tzv. *peretz* motiv, dok ga je od luka odvajalo polje s natpisom. Od natpisa su ostala samo slova ...*DRA*..., visine 3 cm. Vanjsku, u cijelosti otučenu obrubnu pojasnicu zabata ukrašavao je niz zavojnica.

#### GREDE:

**Inv. br. 1992 (T. IV, 3).** Materijal: sitnozrnati vapnenac. Veličine: visina 19,3 cm, širina 23 cm, debljina 10,5 cm. Smještaj: MHAS – stalni postav, uklopljen u trabeaciju oltarne ograde. Nađen: 1911. ili 1912. godine.<sup>108</sup>

Na ulomku grede oltarne pregrade očuvalo se izvorno glatko naličje i lice razdijeljeno u tri polja. Gornje polje ukrašavaju četiri zavojnice pune stapke polegnute udesno. Na dijelu središnjeg polja uočavaju se u gornjem dijelu jače otučena dva tzv. *peretz* motiva. Treće polje, kojemu nedostaje donja polovica, ispunjeno je natpisom ...*DOMNO*... . Visina slova je 4 cm. visina 11,5 cm, širina 30 cm, debljina 10,7 cm. Smještaj: lapidarij. Nađen: ulomak s natpisom 19. 10. 1911., a drugi ulomak (nezavršena riječ, *op. M. P. i A. A.*).

#### Predromanička crkva (*sic!*)

Smještena na zaravnjenom zemljanom brežuljku, na sjevernoj strani bribirsko-ostrovičkog polja, crkva je svojim položajem dominirala nad tom prirodnom kotlinom.

**Inv. no. 2001 (Pl. II, 4).** Dimensions: height 14 cm, width 11,2 cm, thickness 12,5 cm. Currently housed: MCAM - lapidarium. Found: 1911 or 1912.

On the fragment there is a preserved smooth face decorated with three diagonally positioned three-stranded bands. One of the bands breaks acutely, suggesting that the fragment belonged to the edge of the pluteus.

**Inv. no. 2267 (Pl. II, 5).** Dimensions: height 19,5 cm, width 18 cm, thickness 12,5 cm. Currently housed: MCAM - lapidarium. Found: 1911 or 1912.

On the face there are remains of five parallel, diagonally positioned, three-stranded bands that break acutely alongside the original smooth edged strip.

**Inv. no. 2203 (Pl. II, 6).** Dimensions: height 7,5 cm, width 16 cm, thickness 12 cm. Currently housed: MCAM - lapidarium. Found: 1911 or 1912.

The fragment belongs to the edge part of the pluteus with preserved remainder of a lateral rib with which it fitted into the groove of the pilaster. Preserved on the fragment is the originally undecorated reverse and face with preserved traces of three three-stranded bands, which is bounded at the side rib side with a smooth raised edge strip.

**Inv. no. 2266 (Pl. II, 7).** Dimensions: height 10.7 cm, width 13.9 cm, thickness 12 cm. Currently housed: MCAM - lapidarium. Found: 1911 or 1912.

Like the previous one, this fragment too belongs to the edge of the pluteus, as shown by the remains of the lateral rib. Preserved of the original surfaces is the undecorated reverse and face with visible remains of two three-stranded bands, of which one breaks at the connection with the raised and undecorated edge strip.

**Inv. no. 2265 (Pl. II, 8).** Dimensions: height 20.5 cm, width 21.5 cm, thickness 12 cm. Currently housed: MCAM - lapidarium. Found: 1911 or 1912.

The fragment retains the original flat reverse, one lateral side and a face decorated with parallel diagonally placed triple-stranded bands. Alongside the smooth raised edge strip, the bands bend gently, briefly follow it, and then get into the network again.

#### PILASTER

**Inv. no. 2000 (Pl. III, 1).** Material: limestone. Dimensions: height 28.5 cm, width 18 cm, thickness 14 cm. Currently housed: MCAM - lapidarium. Found: 1911 or 1912.

<sup>108</sup> AHSD. Marun, Koncept, 19. 10. 1911.



Uz proširenje prostora uokolo crkve, gdje smo ustanovili postojanje brojnih ukopa, otvoreni su sondažni radovi sjeverno i zapadno od crkve. Nalaz grobova s priložima (križić - enkolpij, trojagodne naušnice) u sjevernoj sondi ukazao nam je da groblje u Otresu treba tretirati kao veliku srednjovjekovnu nekropolu.

U zapadnoj sondi, pedesetak metara daleko od crkve, ustanovili smo postojanje pravokutnog ugla jedne građevine.

Nastavak radova u 1984. godini provodio se na svim trima sekcijama. Prateći perimetar zidova u zapadnoj sondi, ustanovili smo da pripadaju temeljima jedne pravokutne, gotovo kvadratne srednjovjekovne zgrade. Mjestimično su temelji tog objekta u cijelosti nestali. Urušavanju zidova smještenih na samom hrptu strme kamene kose svakako je pridonijelo slabo utemeljenje postavljeno na nabijenoj zemlji, ali i upotreba nekvalitetne malterne mase s malom primjesom vapna.

U istraživanju unutrašnjosti zgrade pronađeni su ostaci eksedre jedne rimske građevine, koja je u vrijeme izgradnje srednjovjekovne kuće bila zanemarena i uništena kako bi se izravnala podloga za izgradnju kasnijeg objekta. Mjestimično su temelj i zid, koji su izgrađeni od manjih kamenih blokova povezanih kvalitetnim malterom s velikom primjesom vapna, očuvani do visine od 50 cm, što ujedno znači da je to bila i razina poda srednjovjekovnog objekta. Uz eksedru, a s vanjske strane kuće, nađene su dvije are na kojima je uočljiv rustični natpis, dok je uokolo nađeno dosta rimskih tegula i srednjovjekovnih opeka.

Širenjem sjeverne sonde, uz već ranije tvrđeno postojanje nekropole, naišlo se na ostatke zidova koji pripadaju dvjema građevinama. Veća zgrada, koja svojim zidovima obuhvaća manju zgradu u svojoj unutrašnjosti, rimska je građevina s temeljima položenima na liticu. Zidovi su joj većim dijelom rađeni pravilno uslojenim kamenim blokovima, premda je mjestimično primjetna upotreba *opus spicatum*. Nalaz malog brončanog novca Konstantina Velikog, koji je ležao uz temelj zida, pomaže nam pri određivanju vremena gradnje tog objekta.

Približno istu orijentaciju zadržao je i kasnije podignuti objekt, smješten unutar zidova rimske građevine. Gradnju zidova karakterizira primjena slabije malterne smjese i nesolidno utemeljenje. Tehnika gradnje ukazuje nam da se tu radi o jed-

Kept in the fragment is the original smooth reverse, the right and lower lateral side and the face. The surface of the face is decorated with five three-stranded bands that with their diagonal interweaving create a network with diamond-shaped depressions. The bands at the join with the raised smooth edge strip bend slightly, while they break sharply at the similar lower strip. The pilaster wants a second lateral side, in which a mortise would have been carved.

A fragment the origins of which we cannot determine, for its original thickness has not been preserved, and it has been subsequently re-carved, belongs among fragments of the same decorative features visible on the pluteus or pilaster fragments.

**Inv. no. 1999 (Pl. III, 2).** Material: limestone. Dimensions: height 17 cm, width 16 cm, extant thickness 8 cm. Currently housed: MCAM - lapidarium. Found: 1911 or 1912.

The fragment has retained its original face, with remains of three diagonally placed three-stranded bands, one of which breaks sharply, showing that it belongs to the edge part of a pluteus or pilaster.

#### CAPITAL

**Inv. no. 2004 (Pl. III, 3).** Material: fine-grained limestone. Dimensions: height 17 cm, width 15.5 cm, extant thickness 9 cm. Currently housed: MCAM - lapidarium. Found: 1911 or 1912.

Preserved on the capital is the whole of one side and smaller parts of two other sides that show the same kind of decoration. In each of the corners of the capital a coil is located, which with its full stem emerges from the vertically placed central twisted rib. The bottom of the rib and the bottoms of the stems have their founding in the tip of the moulded leaf that is located among the smooth bent leaves in the lower corners of the capital. On the abacus, which is partially preserved, a vertical moulding is to be seen.

#### THE ARCH OF THE ROOD SCREEN

Among the stone monuments, particular attention was attracted by five fragments that in their shape, technique of decoration and epigraphic characteristics are distinguished from the other material. They belong to part of the arch of the rood screen the original shape of which has been reconstructed, showing a gentle widening from bottom to top.

noj srednjovjekovnoj zgradi, za sada nedefinirane namjene. Između zidova srednjovjekovnoga i antičkog objekta nađena je velika količina rimskih tegula, s pečatima radionica i srednjovjekovne opeke.

Najznačajniji nalaz učinjenih arheoloških istraživanja svakako su ostaci gornjeg dijela oltarne pregrade koja je ukrašavala starohrvatsku crkvu u 9. stoljeću, a naknadno su bili upotrijebljeni kao građevinski materijal pri izgradnji obložnica i uzglavnice jednoga groba.

Na ulomku lijeve grede, desnoj strani zabata i cijeloj desnoj gredi, koje je ukrašavala iznimno kvalitetno izvedena pleterna dekoracija, očuvan je i posvetni natpis s imenima sedmorice titulara crkve.

Nastavljajući istraživanja na površini uokolo romaničke crkve, ustanovili smo postojanje dubokog sloja grobova oblijepljenih glinom. U jednom od njih bile su uz pokojnika položene velike jednojagodne srebrne naušnice s pozlatom, koje su do sada jedini primjerci te vrste među inim nakitom na toj nekropoli.

#### Položaj srednjovjekovnog sela

Nalaz ostataka predromaničke i romaničke crkve te temeljni zidovi dvaju stambenih srednjovjekovnih kuća u njihovoj neposrednoj blizini upućuju na zaključak da se na istraženom arheološkom lokalitetu nalazilo središte značajnog srednjovjekovnog naselja Otres. S obzirom na osnovne gospodarske grane kojim se bavilo njegovo stanovništvo, a one su u prvom redu ovisile o zemljopisnim uvjetima, pa su to poljodjelstvo i stočarstvo, bilo je očekivano da selo nije urbanistički kompaktno, nego da se u skladu s ekstenzivnom privredom i ono formiralo u zaselcima ili duž prometnice.

tegula s pečatima radionica i srednjovjekovne cigle (*nedovršeno, op. M. P. I A. A.*)

Najznačajniji nalaz učinjenih arheoloških istraživanja svakako su ostaci gornjeg dijela oltarne pregrade koja je ukrašavala starohrvatsku crkvu u 9. stoljeću,

**Inv. no. 2131 (Pl. III, 4).** Material: limestone. Dimensions: width 18 cm, width 27 cm, thickness 11.6 cm. Currently housed: MCAM - lapidarium; Found: October 17, 1911.<sup>106</sup>

The face of the fragment is divided into two fields. The outside field is decorated by coils laid to the right, which are sequenced from the bottom to the middle of the arch. At the beginning, in front of the smallest coil, the original edge strip is visible, with which the arch fitted onto the beam. Five coils are preserved in the field. Around the interior field ran an inscription of which only the letters ...*RISTIA*... have been preserved. After the "A" comes the vertical stem of a letter from the bottom of which a second separates, suggesting that there was once the letter V here. Unlike the outer field, there is no original continuation for the field continued and finished at the level of the bottom of the beam. A possible restitution of the text is: (*Ch*)*RIS-TI AV(lam)*.

#### FRAGMENT ... C...?

**Inv. no. 1990 (Pl. III, 5).** Material: limestone. Dimensions: width 19.5 cm, height 28.5 cm, thickness 11.4 cm. Currently housed: MCAM - lapidarium. Found in 1896.<sup>107</sup>

The monument has been put together of two fragments and once belonged to the apex of the arch, which is suggested by the change in the direction of the coil. The last of the four coil lain to the right, belonging to the left half of the arch, rested with their backs on the backs of the opposite coil. The interior of the field bears the remainder of an inscription... *ENDOE*... After the last letter, on the edge of the break is a circular stroke of the next letter, which might be either C, G, O or Q. Since in this part of the Latin text we are dealing with the ending of a verb in the dative of a gerund a probable restitution would be: (*faci*)*ENDO E(go)*

**Inv. no. 2259 (Pl. III, 6).** Material: limestone. Dimensions: width 18,3 cm, height 21 cm, thickness 11,5 cm. Currently housed: MCAM - lapidarium. Found: 1911 or 1912.

The fragment belongs to the right hand side of the arch. Its outer field is graced with three left placed and fairly damaged coils. Part of the inscription is preserved in the inner field: ...*NUS*..., which is the nominative ending of a noun, but does not offer enough elements for restitution.

<sup>106</sup> ACAS. Ardalić's letter from Lukačuša of 18. 10. 1911.

<sup>107</sup> Marun 1896, p. 124, Marun 1896A. p. 195, 200.



Trabeacija oltarne ograde s Otresa (foto: Z. Alajbeg)  
*Trabeation of the rood screen from Otres (photo: Z. Alajbeg)*

**Inv. no. 2258 (Pl. IV, 1).** Material: limestone. Dimensions: height 19 cm, width 25 cm, thickness 12 cm. Currently housed: MCAM - lapidarium. Found: 1911 or 1912.

The fragment belongs to the lower right hand part of the arch, as shown by the edge strip, at the end of the outer field, with which it fitted onto the beam. Inside the field the same shape is visible and the arrangement of five extant coils, as on the opposite part of the arch. In the interior field the inscription ...*TESSIA* is carved, after which the slanting stroke of the letter V can be discerned, after which comes a break with which the extension of the field that went down to the bottom of the beam disappeared.

#### Gable

**Inv. no. 1995 (Pl. IV, 2).** Material: limestone. Dimensions: height 11,5 cm, width 30 cm, thickness 10,7 cm. Currently housed: MCAM – permanent exhibition, incorporated in the trabeation of the Otres rood screen. Found: fragment with inscription on October 19, 1911, the other one in 1911 or 1910.

The fragment belongs to the left side of the gable of the altar screen. Its original reverse and part of the arch are still in existence. On the face a small part of the central field, without decoration, can be seen, the lateral side of which was bounded by what is called a pretzel motif, while it was separated from the arch by a field with an inscription. Only the letters ...*DRA*..., 3 cm in height, have remained of the inscription. The outer perimeter zone/belt, which has been entirely chipped away, was ornamented by a sequence of coils.

#### Beams

**Inv. no. 1992 (Pl. IV, 3).** Material: fine-grained limestone. Dimensions: height 19,3 cm, width 23 cm, thickness 10,5 cm. Currently housed: MCAM - permanent exhibition, incorporated in the trabeation of the Otres rood screen. Found: 1911 or 1912.<sup>108</sup>

On a fragment of the architrave of the altar screen the original smooth reverse and the face divided into three fields have been preserved. The upper field is ornamented by four coils of a full pedicle placed to the right. In the part of the central field in the upper part two rather strongly chipped off pretzel motifs can be seen. The third field, which is missing the bottom half, is filled with the inscription...*DOMNO*... Letter height: 4 cm.

height 11.5 cm, width 30 cm, thickness 10.7 cm. Currently housed: MCAM - lapidarium. Found: fragment with inscription, 1910 or 1911, and other frag – word unfinished – eds.]

#### Pre-Romanesque Church (sic)

It is located on a flat earthen hillock, on the northern side of the Bribir-Ostrovica polje, the church with its position dominates this natural basin.

Alongside the expansion of the space around the church, where we established the existence of numerous burials, probe operations were started north and west of the church. The find of graves with goods (cross – medal, three-bead earrings) in the northern probe showed us that the graveyard in Otres should be treated as a large medieval cemetery.

<sup>108</sup> ACAS. Marun, Concept, 19. 10. 1911.

In the western trench, fifty or so metres distant from the church, we determined the existence of a rectangular corner of a building.

The continuation of the works in 1984 was conducted in all three sections. Keeping up with the perimeter of the walls in the western probe, we established that they belonged to the foundations of a rectangular, practically square, medieval building. In places the foundations of this structure had completely vanished. Certainly contributing to the collapse of the walls located on the very edge of a steep stone spur was the weak foundations placed on rammed earth, as well as the use of poor quality mortar with a small admixture of lime.

In the exploration of the interior of the building, the remains of the exedra of a Roman building were found, which at the time of the development of the medieval building were ignored and destroyed so that the builders could level the base for the building of the later structure. In places the foundation and the wall, built of small stone blocks bonded with high quality mortar with a lot of lime are preserved up to 50 cm in height, which also means that this was the level of the floor of the medieval feature. Alongside the exedra, on the outer side of the house, two arae were found, on which a rustic inscription can be seen, while all around plenty of Roman tegulae and medieval bricks were found.

Enlarging the northern trench, with the earlier established existence of a necropolis, the remains of walls were found that belonged to two buildings. The bigger building, which encompassed with its walls a smaller building in its interior, is a Roman building with foundations placed on the bedrock. The walls are mostly made with stone blocks put down in regular courses, although in places the use of *opus spicatum* can be seen. The find of a small bronze coin of Constantine the Great, which lay alongside the foundation of a wall, helps us to determine the time of the building of this structure.

The later built structure retained more or less the same orientation, located as it was within the walls of the Roman building. The walls show the use of a weak mortar mixture and unsound foundations. The building technique shows us that this was a medieval building, the purpose of which has not yet been established. Between the walls of the medieval and the Antique building a large quantity of Roman tegulae was found, with the stamps of the workshops, and medieval bricks.

The most important find of the excavations conducted was certainly the remains of the upper part of the rood screen that graced the Old Croatian church in the 9<sup>th</sup> century and were later used as building material in the building of the lining and headstone of a grave.

On a fragment of the left beam, on the right side of the gable and the whole of the right architrave, which was decorated with extremely nicely produced interlacing decoration, a dedicatory inscription with the names of seven dedicatees of the church is still in existence.

Continuing the rear in the area around the Romanesque church, we established the existence of a deep layer of graves daubed in clay. In one of them, alongside the deceased, were large one-bead silver gilt earrings, the only examples of this kind among the other jewellery at this necropolis.

#### The position of the medieval village

The find of the remains of a pre-Romanesque and Romanesque church and the foundation walls of two residential medieval houses in their immediate vicinity suggest the conclusion that at this archaeological site there was the centre of the important medieval settlement of Otres. Because of the basic branches of the economy that the population dealt with, and they depended primarily on geographical conditions, consisting of arable farming and stock-rearing, it would be to be expected that the village would not be compact in its design, rather in line with the extensive nature of the way they earned their livings, formed either in small hamlets or along the road.

tegulae with stamps of workshops and medieval bricks (*incomplete*, M. P and A. A.)

The most important find of the excavations conducted was certainly the remains of the upper part of the rood screen that graced the Old Croatian church in the 9<sup>th</sup> century.

(G. M.)

TABLA I (PLATE I)



1



2



3



4



5

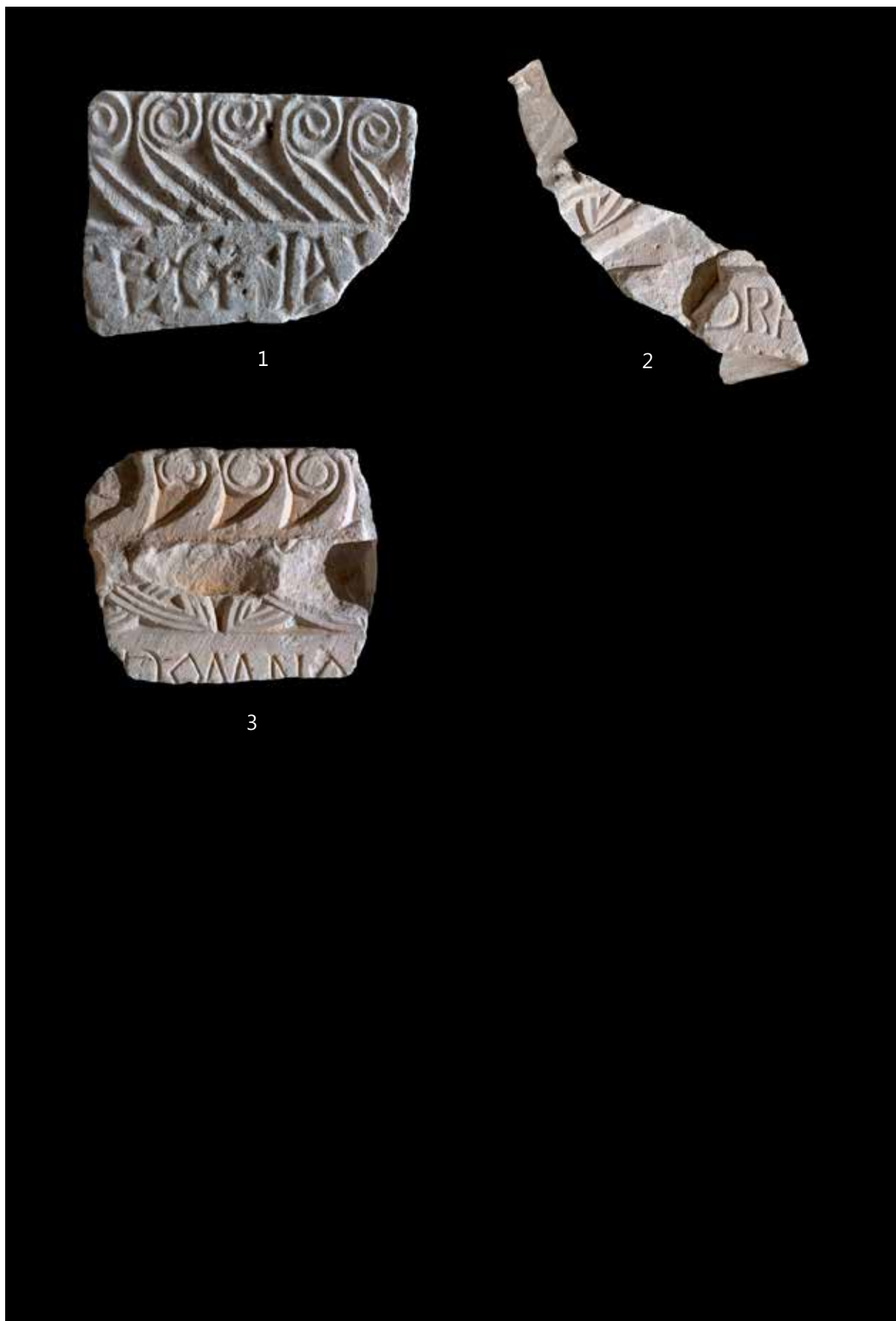
TABLA II (PLATE II)



TABLA III (PLATE III)



TABLA IV (PLATE IV)





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(foto/photo: Z. Alajbeg)



Zračna fotografija arheološkog lokaliteta na Otresu nakon kampanje 2017. godine (foto: Z. Alajbeg)  
*Aerial photo of the archaeological site at Otres after the 2017 campaign (photo: Z. Alajbeg)*

Na osnovi vijesti iz pisama kojima izvođač V. Ardalić izvješćuje L. Maruna o tijeku istraživanja, isplatnih lista radnika te iz zabilješki u Marunovu *Starinarskom dnevniku* i u njegovim priručnim notesima, koje sukcesivno donosimo u bilješkama, pokušat ćemo valorizirati značenje tog lokaliteta, iako velik dio nalaza, osobito grobnih priloga, nismo uspjeli determinirati. Oni su čini se za znanstvenu obradu izgubljeni, budući se za vrijeme istraživanja nije vodila nikakva dokumentacija, a predmeti se u Muzeju nisu inventirali.

Veći dio kamenih spomenika obilježen je oznakom “Ot” tek kada su dopremljeni u Knin, zajedno s nalazima iz crkve sv. Ante u Ostrovici, na koje je istovrsnom crvenom bojom nanesena oznaka “Os”, pa je trebalo dosta truda da se izvrši ispravna atribucija spomenika. U tome je značajno pomogao očuvani arhivski materijal čijim korištenjem se uspio jedan dio kamenih spomenika, koji nisu signirani i nije im poznato mjesto nalaza ili su pripisivani dru-

During the preparations for describing in print the site of Otres, it was discovered that previous archaeological excavations had been carried out by a commissioner of the Croatian Antiquarian Association, Vladimir Ardalić, with occasional visits by Lujo Marun.

Pursuant to information from letters with which the contractor, Ardalić, informed Marun about the course of the research, the pay slips of the workmen and from notes in Marun’s Antiquarian Diary, and in his handy notebooks, which we will provide successively in the notes, we shall attempt to valorise the importance of the site, although a large part of the finds, particularly the grave goods, have been impossible to determine. They have been lost to scholarly discussion, it would seem, since no documentation was kept during the excavations, and the objects were not inventoried in the museum.

Most of the stone monuments were marked “Ot” only after they had been brought to Knin, togeth-

gim lokalitetima, sada pripojiti već poznatom materijalu iz Otrisa.

Revizijsko arheološko istraživanje lokaliteta Otres započeo je autor ovoga priloga 3. listopada 1977. godine, pod stručnim vodstvom akademika Stjepana Gunjače.

Kako planirani prostor *Starohrvatske prosvjete* ne omogućuje da se radnja objavi u cijelosti, razlomljena je na dva dijela. Prvi dio odnosi se na spomenike ranoga srednjeg vijeka, dok će drugi dio "Otres kod Bribira u kasnom srednjem vijeku", biti objavljen u slijedećem broju.

### Toponomastičko-topografska obilježja

Arheološki položaj Otres, za koji su se do sada upotrebljavali različiti nazivi, kao "Lukačeva ograda",<sup>1</sup> "Lukačuša",<sup>2</sup> "Mandića vinograd",<sup>3</sup> „obor (avlija) Jakova Mandića",<sup>4</sup> "Mandića ograda",<sup>5</sup> "pod Otrinom",<sup>6</sup> smješten je između Bribira, poznatog arheološkog lokaliteta (antička *Varvaria*), i srednjovjekovnog sijela velikaške obitelji Šubića i njihove druge srednjovjekovne utvrde, Ostrovice (crtež 1).

Toponim mikroregije Otres nalazi svoje podrijetlo u strmom brdu koje pripada ostrovičko-otreškome planinskom lancu, koji kao prirodna barijera razdvaja kamenitu i suhu visoravan Bukovice od unižene i plodne zaravni Ravnih kotara. Na mjestu gdje se visoravan strmo obrušava prema Ravnim kotarima, a danas ispod visoko podignutog podzida željezničke pruge na odsječku Đevrske – Ostrovice, izvire manje nepresušno vrelo kojem je hidronimski naziv odredio naznačeni oronim.

S lijeve strane potoka koji teče od izvorišta na jug, a oko petsto metara daleko od vrela, na istočnom kraju ograde Bože Mandića (obilježenoj na

er with the finds from the Church of St Anthony (Ante) in Ostrovice, which were marked, in the same kind of red, "Os", and a good deal of effort was necessary to make a correct attribution of the monuments. In this task, the extant archival materials were a great help; with the use of them, some of the stone monuments, which had not been signed and the discovery site of which was unknown or else had been ascribed to other sites, have now been added to the material from Otres already known.

Revision archaeological excavation of the site of Otres was begun by the present writer on October 3, 1977, under the expert supervision of Academician Stjepan Gunjača.

Since the space provided in *Starohrvatska prosvjeta* is insufficient for the publication of the work as a whole, the paper has been split into two parts. Part one relates to monuments from the Early Middle Ages, while the second part, "Otres by Bribir in the Late Middle Ages" will be published in the following issue.

### Toponomastic and topographic characteristics

The archaeological site of Otres, for which previously various names were used such as Lukač's enclosure,<sup>1</sup> Lukačuša,<sup>2</sup> Mandića vinograd [vineyard]<sup>3</sup>, the obor [courtyard] of Jakov Mandić,<sup>4</sup> Mandić's enclosure,<sup>5</sup> below Otres,<sup>6</sup> located between Bribir, itself a well known archaeological site (Antique *Varvaria*), the medieval seat of the magnate family of the Šubićes, and their other medieval fort of Ostrovice (Drawing 1).

<sup>1</sup> Marun 1998, str. 216, te u: Arhiv hrvatskog starinarskog društva u Muzeju hrvatskih arheoloških spomenika u Splitu (AHSD). U notesu putnih bilješki (Koncept) od 17. i 19. listopada 1911. godine upotrebljava taj naziv. Isti toponim nalazi se i u *Obćem blagajničkom dnevniku* od 14. listopada 1911. i 30. prosinca 1911. godine.

<sup>2</sup> AHSD. Od dvadeset pisama koje je V. Ardalić uputio L. Marunu, a odnose se na taj lokalitet, u četrnaest se upotrebljava taj naziv.

<sup>3</sup> Marun, 1998, str. 62.

<sup>4</sup> Marun 1896, str. 124, 200.

<sup>5</sup> AHSD. Dopisnica Peše Gladovića iz Bribira od 19. siječnja 1912., kojom traži naknadu za prijevoz dva kamena iz Mandića ograde u školu u Bribiru.

<sup>6</sup> Radić 1897, str. 129.

<sup>1</sup> Marun 1998, p. 216, as well as in: Arhiv hrvatskog starinarskog društva u Muzeju hrvatskih arheoloških spomenika u Splitu [Archives of the Croatian Antiquarian Society in the Museum of Croatian Archaeological monuments in Split (ACAS)]. In a notebook full of notes (Concept, which means sketch or synopsis of a larger work) from 17 to 19 October 1911, he uses this name. The same place name is to be found in *Obći blagajnički dnevnik* [General Treasury Diary] of October 14, 1911, and December 30, 1911.

<sup>2</sup> ACAS. Of the twenty letters that Ardalić sent to Marun relating to this site, fourteen of them use this name.

<sup>3</sup> Marun, 1998, p. 62.

<sup>4</sup> Marun 1896, p. 124, 200.

<sup>5</sup> ACAS. Postcard from Pešo Gladović of Bribir of January 19, 1912, asking for payment for the carriage of two stones from Mandića ograda to the school in Bribir.

<sup>6</sup> Radić 1897, p. 129.

katatarskom planu Bribira kao čestica 1720/3 i 1720/4) leže ostaci crkve i nekropole (crtež 2).

### Povijesni izvori

Najranije pisane vijesti o postojanju sela Otres nalaze se u registru zadarskoga javnog i kaptolskog bilježnika Petra de Serčane, iz zadnjeg desetljeća 14. stoljeća. Prvi put nalazimo ga uz ime Martina iz Otrisa (*Martinum de Otressi*), koji svjedoči presudi Sudbenog stola u Podgrađu donesenoj 11. lipnja 1394. godine, koju u prijepisu izdaje i ovjerava Zadarski kaptol 15. svibnja 1395. godine.<sup>7</sup>

Pred tim Kaptolom vjerojatno isti Martin Mlatković iz sela Otres, isplaćuje 28. studenoga 1394. godine 150 malih libara plemenitom Monetu pokojnog Pavla od roda Šubića iz Bribira, te na taj način dolazi u posjed jednog ždrijeba zemlje u Otrisu što su ga njegovi preci založili Monetovim precima za istu sumu.<sup>8</sup>

Istoga dana Martin Mlatković iz Otrisa, pristav sudbenog stola iz Podgrađa, pred Zadarskim kaptolom svjedoči u korist Moneta pokojnog Pavla i Nikole sina Butka iz Bribira, obojice od roda Šubića. Njima Zadarski kaptol vraća četvrtinu svih njihovih posjeda koje im je prethodno oduzeo Ivan od Paližne, vranski prior, prisilivši ih da o tome potpišu posebnu ispravu pred Ninskim kaptolom.<sup>9</sup>

Selo Otres češće se spominje tijekom 15. stoljeća. Uglavnom su to isprave Sudbenog stola Županije Luka i Kninskog kaptola, iz kojih se odražava važnost koje je imalo to selo i ugled koji su njegovi žitelji uživali u to vrijeme.

U dokumentu iz godine 1419. kojim se vraćaju posjedi Grguru iz plemena Kukara, spominje se Butko, odnosno Blaž (*Vlaci*) iz Otrisa.<sup>10</sup> Isti Butko pokojnog Blaža iz sela Otrisa (*de villa Otrès*) navodi se kao zakleti sudac u ispravi istoga suda od 9. rujna 1428., kojom se ustupa gvardijanu samostana Male braće iz Šibenika osam vriti zemlje u selu Bratiškovcima (*Braschievivichi*).<sup>11</sup>

Žitelj sela Otres pod utvrdom Ostrovica je i Veseljko Tomašić, koji se spominje u spisu šibenskog notara Michela q. Iohannisa iz 1432. godine.<sup>12</sup>

The place name for the Otres micro-region derives from the steep hill that belongs to the Ostrovica-Otres mountain chain, a natural barrier that separates the stony, arid plateau of Bukovica from the lower, fertile plateau of Ravni Kotari. At the place where the plateau dips steeply down to Ravni Kotari, today underneath the elevated retaining wall of the railway line on the Đevrske to Ostrovica section, there is a smallish but never failing spring the name of which was determined by the name of the hill.

On the left side of the stream that flows from the spring to the south, about five hundred metres from the source, on the eastern end of the enclosure of Božo Mandić (marked on the cadastral map of Bribir as parcel 1720/3 and 1720/4) lie the remains of a church and a graveyard (drawing 2).

### Historical sources

The earliest written information about the existence of Otres village is to be found in the register of the public and chapter notary Petro de Serčane from the last decade of the 14<sup>th</sup> century. We find him for the first time together with the name of Martin of Otres (*Martinum de Otressi*), who is witnessing to a judgement of the court in Podgrađe adopted on June 11, 1394 a copy of which was made and authenticated by the Chapter in Zadar on May 15, 1395.<sup>7</sup>

Before the chapter, probably the same Martin Mlatković of Otres village, paid out on November 28, 1394, 150 small pounds to the noble Monet son of the late Pavao of the family of Šubić of Bribir, and in this manner came into the possession of a piece of land in Otres that his forefathers had mortgaged to Monet's ancestors for the same sum.<sup>8</sup>

The same day, Martin Mlatković of Otres, a clerk of the court in Podgrađe witnessed on behalf of Monet, son of the late Pavao, and Nikola, son of Butko of Bribir, both of them from the Šubić family. The Zadar chapter restored to them a quarter of all their possessions that had previously been taken from them by Ivan of Paližna, prior of Vrana, forcing them to sign a special document before the chapter of Nin.<sup>9</sup>

<sup>7</sup> Ančić, Majnarić, 2009, str. 82.

<sup>8</sup> Ančić, Majnarić, 2009, str. 65.

<sup>9</sup> Ančić, Majnarić, str. 2009, str. 93-94. U krakom sadržaju (konceptu) isprave na posebnoj cedulji koja je donesena na str. 140 stoji: *...Martinus Mlatcouich (uocatus Otr) de uilla Otrèsse...*

<sup>10</sup> Alačević 1883, str. 77-88.

<sup>11</sup> Fabianich 1863, str. 435-436.

<sup>12</sup> Smiljanić 2003, str. 22.

<sup>7</sup> Ančić, Majnarić, 2009, p. 82.

<sup>8</sup> Ančić, Majnarić, 2009, p. 65.

<sup>9</sup> Ančić, Majnarić, p. 2009, pp. 93-94. In a short synopsis (the concept) of a document on a separate slip of paper that is given on p. 140 is: *...Martinus Mlatcouich (uocatus Otr) de uilla Otrèsse...*

U dokumentu od 7. lipnja 1446. godine, kojim Kninski kaptol izvješćuje bana Petra Talovca o uvođenju u posjed Jakova, sina bana Pavla bibriskoga, spominje se kao povjerljiva osoba Ivan Inečalić (*Inechalich*) iz Otresa, koji taj akt treba uručiti banu. U tom se spisu kao suvlasnici susjednih zemljišta nabrajaju Ivan sin Jurin, Jakov sin Butkov (*Buthle*) i Milerio sin Jakovljević, svi mještani Otresa.<sup>13</sup>

Kada 10. ožujka 1481. godine Juraj Čulinović, slikar rodom iz Skradina, želi i prenosi pravo upravljanja dobrima svog pokojnog rođaka na ugledne građanine Skradina, među njima nalazimo i plemenitog muža Luku Jurkanića iz lučkog Otresa (*Otressi de Lucha*).<sup>14</sup> Isti Luka Jurkanić, sada član rotnog suda, spominje se u dokumentu od 3. svibnja 1492. godine kada Lučki stol rješava spor između mještana sela Kašića i Milote Nješustovića, radi korištenja plemenskog prostora. U tom se dokumentu kao jedan od porotnika spominje i Juraj Grgurov Pavičić iz Otresa.<sup>15</sup> Luka Jurkanić sudjeluje i u radu Kninskoga kaptola 28. srpnja 1495. godine, pri uvođenju Ivana Keglovića u vlasnost gradova i posjeda koje mu je ostavio Juraj Mikuličić.<sup>16</sup>

Osim I. Kukuljevića Sakcinskog, D. Fabjanića, J. Alačevića, Đ. Šurmina, I. Bojničića, V. Klaića, P. Kolendića, F. Smiljanića, M. Aničića i I. Majnarića, koji su između ostale građe sabrali i ovdje naznačene dokumente koji spominju mještane srednjovjekovnoga sela Otres, kasnije vijesti, više ne o selu, nego o strateškom položaju Otresa, a u svezi s njegovom važnom ulogom u obrani od turskih prodora i sukoba s njima tijekom 17. stoljeća, donose S. Zlatović i B. Desnica.<sup>17</sup>

### Položaj srednjovjekovnog sela Otresa

Pretražujući okolni teren u potrazi za ostacima srednjovjekovnog sela koje se spominje u dokumentima, ustanovili smo da su na padini i zaravni kose koja se pruža istočno od porušene crkve prema Čoraševim kućama, vidljivi mnogobrojni tragovi suhozidnih građevina, uglavnom manjih kvadratnih zgrada. Već je Marun primijetio te temelje uruše-

Otres village is often mentioned in the 15<sup>th</sup> century. On the whole these references are in documents of the court of the county of Luka and of the chapter of Knin, from which the importance of this village is reflected, the respect which its inhabitants enjoyed at that time.

A document of 1419, restoring the possessions to Grgur of the Kukar tribe, mentions Butko or Blaž (Vlaci) of Otres.<sup>10</sup> The same Butko son of Blaž of the village of Otres (de villa Otres) is mentioned as a sworn judge in a document of the same court of September 9, 1429, in which eight units of land in the village of Bratiškovci (Braschievivichi) are ceded to the guardian of the Friars Minor Priory in Šibenik.<sup>11</sup>

Another inhabitant of the village of Otres beneath the fort of Ostrovica was Veseljko Tomašić, who is mentioned in a document of the Šibenik notary Michel q. Iohannis of 1432.<sup>12</sup>

A document of July 7, 1446 in which the Knin chapter informed Ban Petar Talovac of putting Jakov, son of Ban Pavo of Bribir, in possession, mentions, as a trustworthy person Ivan Inečalić (*Inechalich*) of Otres, who was to deliver this document to the ban. Mentioned as co-owners of neighbouring pieces of land in this document are Ivan, son of Jura, Jakov, son of Butko (*Buthle*) and Milerio, son of Jakov, all inhabitants of Otres.<sup>13</sup>

When on March 10, 1481, Juraj Čulinović, a painter from Skradin by birth, wanted to, and did, transfer the rights to the management of the estates of this deceased relative to distinguished townsmen of Skradin, among them we can find the noble gentleman Luka Jurkanić from Lučki Otres (*Otressi de Lucha*).<sup>14</sup> It was also this same Luka Jurkanić that was a member of the assizes, mentioned in a document of May 3, 1492, when the Court of Lučka settled a dispute between the inhabitants of the villages of Kašić and Milo Nješustović, to do with the use of the tribal area. One of the jurors, the document says, was Juraj Grgurov Pavičić of Otres.<sup>15</sup> Luka Jurkanić also took part in the work of the chapter of Knin on July 28, 1495, while installing Ivan Keglović in

<sup>13</sup> Bojničić 1899, str. 197-198.

<sup>14</sup> Kolendić 1920, str. 141.

<sup>15</sup> Kukuljević Sakcinski 1851, str. 204; istu ispravu u ćirilskoj transkripciji donosi Šurmin 1898, str. 361.

<sup>16</sup> Klaić 1917, str. 48.

<sup>17</sup> Desnica 1950, str. 35 (1. 5. 1648.), 48 (1. 8. 1648.), 50 (2. 8. 1648.), 60 (14. 6. 1652.), 106 (13. i 14. 2. 1662.), 115 (8. 5. 1663.), 135 (18. 12. 1668.), 300 (16. 12. 1663.), te Desnica 1951, str. 216 (2. 4. 1688.).

<sup>10</sup> Alačević 1883, pp. 77-88.

<sup>11</sup> Fabianich 1863, pp. 435-436.

<sup>12</sup> Smiljanić 2003, p. 22.

<sup>13</sup> Bojničić 1899, pp. 197-198.

<sup>14</sup> Kolendić 1920, p. 141.

<sup>15</sup> Kukuljević Sakcinski 1851, p. 204; the same document is given by Šurmin 1898, p. 361, in a Cyrillic transcription.

nih građevina, ali ih je pripisao pretpovijesnim nastambama.<sup>18</sup> On je te nastambe pregledao zajedno s P. Kaerom i V. Ardalićem. Nakon njihova obilaska jedan je mještanin Bribira nedaleko od crkve u Otresu, pokraj puta koji vodi k Bribiru, krčeći jedan okrajak svoje zemlje na kojoj se nalazilo nekoliko “kućetina”, u pola jedne našao tri četvrtana tanka brusa, tri manja noža i jedan dugački nož te jedan keramički šuplji pršljen.<sup>19</sup>

Takve nastambe, građene od slabije obrađenih ili u cijelosti neobrađenih kamenih blokova, protokom stoljeća pretvorile su se u gomile pa je tek njihovo pozorno proučavanje uz ostali razlomljeni i razasuti sitni materijal ukazalo da se tu radi o ostacima arhitekture srednjovjekovnoga sela Otres, koje se spominje u pisanim izvorima 14. i 15. stoljeća.

Temeljni izvor koji upućuje na smještaj srednjovjekovnoga sela Otres kupoprodajni je ugovor od 28. studenoga 1394. godine, gdje se navode njegove granice.<sup>20</sup> Sa sjeveroistočne strane graniči sa selom Srijane, s jugoistoka su bile bribirske zemlje, s jugozapada dijelom selo Žažvić, a dijelom selo Krivičić (Krinčić),<sup>21</sup> a sa sjeverozapadne su strane bile zemlje ostrovičke utvrde.<sup>22</sup> Tri međašna mjesta (Bribir, Žažvić i Ostrovica) naziv su zadržala do danas, dok su se sela Srijane i Krivičić pod tim imenima izgubila. Srijane nalazimo 1550. godine u sastavu nahije Ostrovice Istrije (naseljenoj Vlasima) pod turskom vlašću, a poslije je preslojeno imenom Đevrske.<sup>23</sup> Selo Krivičić treba tražiti na području

the possession of cities and estates willed to him by Juraj Mikuličić.<sup>16</sup>

Apart from I. Kukuljević Sakcinski, D. Fabjanić, J. Alačević, Đ. Šurmin, I. Bojničić, V. Klaić, P. Kolendić, F. Smiljanić, M. Aničić and I. Majnarić who among other materials collected the documents referred to here that mention inhabitants of the medieval village of Otres, later information, no longer about the village, rather about the strategic position of Otres in connection with its important role in defence against the Turkish incursions and conflicts with them during the 17<sup>th</sup> century, is provided by S. Zlatović and B. Desnica.<sup>17</sup>

The position of the medieval village of Otres

Searching the surrounding land in for the remains of the medieval village mentioned in the documents, we established that on the slope and plateau of a spur that stretches east of the ruined church in the direction of Ćoraš houses, many traces of dry stone wall buildings were to be seen, on the whole smallish square buildings. Marun had already observed these foundations of tumble-down buildings, but had classified them as prehistoric habitations.<sup>18</sup> He examined the dwellings with Kaer and Ardalić. After their tour of inspection, one of the inhabitants of Bribir, not far from the church in Otres, alongside the path that leads to Bribir, clearing a nook of his land on which there were several cottages, in half of one found three quarters of a slender whetstone, three small knives and one long one, and one hollow ceramic loom weight.<sup>19</sup>

These dwellings, built of very roughly dressed, or not dressed at all, stone blocks, had through the centuries turned into just heaps, and only careful study, along with other broken and scattered small sized material, indicated that what was involved was the remains of architecture of the medieval village of Otres, mentioned in the written sources of the 14<sup>th</sup> and 15<sup>th</sup> century.

The fundamental source that indicates the location of the medieval village of Otres is a sale contract of November 28, 1394 that gives its bounda-

<sup>18</sup> Marun 1998, str. 62.

<sup>19</sup> AHSD, Pismo V. Ardalića, 29. 12. 1896.

<sup>20</sup> ... *cui totius ville Otresse hos dixerunt confines: de traversa est villa vocata Sryane, de austro terra Bribirii, de ouirina villa vocata Zasimich partem et partem villa vocata Crivicich, et de borea sunt terre castrae Ostrovice...*, Ančić, Majnarić 2009, str. 82.

<sup>21</sup> Ančić, Majnarić 2009, str. 65. U tekstu isprave piše *Criiucich*, a varijanta *Crincich* nalazi se u kratkom sadržaju (konceptu) isprave na posebnom listiću, na str. 140. Smiljanić 2003, str. 16, donosi ih kao dva zasebna mjesta, *Cerinich* (Kerenčić) i *Cruncich* (Krunčić) te ih smješta kao granična sela Otresu, i to s njegove jugozapadne strane.

<sup>22</sup> Ančić, Majnarić 2009, str. 64-66.

<sup>23</sup> Opširni popis 2007, str. 15, 18. Autori ga uvjetno poistovjećuju s nekadašnjim Srnjanima, dijelom Kistanjeg Sela. Velika udaljenost tog položaja u usporedbi s drugim mjestima koja graniče s Otresom navedenima u notarevu dokumentu ne govori tome u prilog, što osnažuje i činjenica da između Srnjana u Kistanjem Selu i Ostrvice već 1528. godine postoji nahija Zečevo naseljena Vlasima iz Istre. Tu su pred turskom opasnošću početkom 16. stoljeća utvrdili Obradi-

<sup>16</sup> Klaić 1917, p. 48.

<sup>17</sup> Desnica 1950, p. 35 (1. 5. 1648.), 48 (1. 8. 1648.), 50 (2. 8. 1648.), 60 (14. 6. 1652.), 106 (13. and 14. 2. 1662.), 115 (8. 5. 1663.), 135 (18. 12. 1668.), 300 (16. 12. 1663.), as well as Desnica 1951, p. 216 (2. 4. 1688.).

<sup>18</sup> Marun 1998, p. 62.

<sup>19</sup> ACAS, Letter of V. Ardalić, 29. 12. 1896.



današnjih Lišana Ostrovičkih, prema Lepurima, gdje je još u 18. stoljeću bio očuvan toponim potoka Krivac, na kojem je na zahtjev glavara i staraca Lepura providur Renier (26. lipnja 1766.) dopustio izgradnju mlina.<sup>24</sup>

Već je otprije poznato da su srednjovjekovni stambeni objekti podizani tehnikom gradnje u suho, kao što je to slučaj sa zidanjem naših građevina.

ći iz loze Šubića Bribirskih, koji su u Srijanima imali svoje posjede. Zidovi srijanske crkva kod groblja sv. Martina (nazivane i kapela), koja se spominje 1455. godine (Smiljanić 2003, str. 22), bili su vidljivi sve do kraja 19. st. na položaju staroga groblja u Đevrskama. Tada su radi potrebe za građevinskim materijalom pri izgradnji kanonike porušeni zidovi crkve, kojoj je kao stupac menze služio rimski miljokaz (Patsch, Marun 1895, str. 101). U ruševinama je nađen i dio rimskog natpisa ...LIBIS. Na prostranom groblju uokolo crkve nalazilo se dvadesetak srednjovjekovnih monolitnih nadgrobni ploča (kamika, stećaka), od kojih su neke bile ukrašene križevima i malteškim križevima, te jedan stećak sljemenjak. Šest najboljih ploča među kojima i sljemenjak odneseni su za izgradnju mosta kod kuće poglavara Simeuna Ležajića. Ostatak groblja uništen je gradnjom ceste preko njega 1903. godine. Tada su istražena tri groba koja su imala priloge: naušnica, puceta, kopča, keramički pršljen i drugo (Marun, 1998, str. 69, 124). Iz svih navedenih razloga nije prihvatljiva konstrukcija N. Jakšića (Jakšić 2009, str. 36), koji Srijane poistovjećuje s Otresom, s time da je toponim Otres preslojio stariji naziv Srijana. No, vidjeli smo kako se u dokumentima toponim sela Otres javlja prije (1394.), istodobno sa Srijanima (1397.), a zadnji put, koliko nam je poznato, 1494. godine. Selo Otres, za razliku od Srijane, ne nalazimo u turskom katastarskom popisu iz 1550. godine pa bi se, parafrazirajući Jakšićevu znanstvenu metodologiju, prije moglo tvrditi da je naziv Srijane preslojio ostatke sela Otres. No ni takva konkluzija ne bi bila blizu ozbiljnog promišljanja. Otres i Srijane dva su međašna sela, kako to izričito navodi i kaptolska isprava iz 1397. godine.

<sup>24</sup> Dukale i terminacije, IX, 327; Bačić 1989, str. 92. Mlin je podigao Mate Lepur. Danas se taj mlin, zvan Nakića mlin, nalazi na potoku Jaruga ispod Bulića. Ne stoji isforsirana tvrdnja N. Jakšića (Jakšić 2009, str. 35-36) kako je selo Krivičić (kod njega Krivčić) stari naziv za Bribirske Mostine, koju autor pokušava osnažiti neutemeljenom dosjetkom traženja njegova imena u suvremenom toponimu pretpovijesnog nalazišta Krivača, smještenom istočno od Mostina. Takvu tvrdnju treba odbaciti i zbog činjenice što se taj položaj nalazi jugoistočno od Otresa, gdje se, vidjeli smo, kao međa izričito navode bribirske zemlje. Uza sve to autor je, kao i kod pokušaja ubikacije Srijana, svrhovito umišljenom rezultatu, iako se u izvoru međašna sela nabrajaju od sjeveroistoka do sjeverozapada u smjeru kazaljke na satu, iskonstruirao i u grafičkom prilogu izmijenio redosljed navođenja (Krivčić, Žažvić umjesto Žažvić, Krivičić).

ries.<sup>20</sup> On the north-east it bounded with the village of Srijane, on the south east were the Bribir lands, on the south west partly the village of Žažvić and partly the village of Krivičić (Krinčić),<sup>21</sup> while on the north west there were the lands of the fort of Ostrovica.<sup>22</sup> There of the boundary places (Bribir, Žažvić and Ostrovica) have retained their names to this day, while the villages of Srijane and Krivičić are lost under these names. We can find Srijane in 1550 as a part of the *nahia* of Ostrovica Istria (settled by Vlachs) under Turkish rule, and later replaced by the name of Đevrske.<sup>23</sup> Krivičić should be

<sup>20</sup> *cui totius ville Otrasse hos dixerunt confines: de traversa est villa vocata Sryane, de austro terra Briberii, de ouirina villa vocata Zasimich partem et partem villa vocata Crivcich, et de borea sunt terre castre Ostrovica...*, Ančić, Majnarić 2009, p. 82.

<sup>21</sup> Ančić, Majnarić 2009, p. 65. The wording of the document goes: *Criucich*, while the variant of *Crinicich* is to be found in the synopsis (the Concept) of the document on a separate slip, on p. 140. Smiljanić 2003, p. 16, gives them as two separate places, *Cerinich* (Kerenčić) and *Cruncich* (Krunčić) and locates them as villages bordering with Otres, on the south-west side.

<sup>22</sup> Ančić, Majnarić 2009, p. 64-66.

<sup>23</sup> An extensive list of 2007, pp. 15, 18. The authors provisionally identify it with the former Srijane, part of today's Kistanje. The great distance of this position as compared with that of other places that border with Otres noted in the notary's document do not tend to support this, which is strengthened by the fact that between Srijane in Kistanje and Ostrovica as early as 1528 there was already the *nahia* of Zečevo populated with Vlachs from Istria. In the 16<sup>th</sup> century, a fort was built as defence against the Ottoman threat by the Obradićes, from the house of the Šubićes of Bribir, who had lands in Srijane. The walls of Srijane church by the cemetery of St Martin (also called a chapel), which is mentioned in 1455 (Smiljanić 2003, p. 22) were visible until the end of the 19<sup>th</sup> century at the place of the old graveyard in Đevrske. Then for the sake of the need for building materials in the development of the *canonica* the walls of the church were knocked down; the Roman milestone was used there for a pillar of the mensa (Patsch, Marun 1895, p. 101). In the ruins part of a Roman inscription were found: ...LIBIS. Found in the extensive graveyard around the church were some score of medieval monolithic gravestones (kamiks, stechaks), some of which were ornamented with crosses and Maltese crosses, while one stechak had a gable roof. Six of the best slabs (gravestones), including the gable roof, were taken away for the building of the bridge by the house of the headman Simeun Ležajić. The remainder of the cemetery was destroyed by the building of a road across it in 1903. At that time, three graves with goods were investigated, yielding an earring, a button, a buckle, a ceramic loom weight and other things (Marun, 1998, p. 69, 124). From all these reasons the construction

Takvim nalazima treba pridavati posebnu važnost, svrhovito proučavanju povijesti graditeljstva, osobito kad je u pitanju srednjovjekovna profana arhitektura.

Imajući u vidu relativno kratku trajnost tako građenih suhozidnih objekata, potrebno je kod istraživanja i reambulacije veću pozornost usmjeriti upravo na gomile nastale njihovim urušavanjem, osobito ako su one locirane na rubnim kosama plodnih polja.<sup>25</sup>

Naselje Otres, o čijem neprekinutom trajanju od 9. stoljeća nepobitno govore predromanička i romanička crkva, doživjelo je svoju kataklizmu početkom 16. stoljeća, kada su u te krajeve prodrli Turci, koji osvajanjem utvrda Bribira i Ostrovice godine 1523. uspostavljaju stogodišnju dominaciju na tom prostoru.

Stanovništvo se povlači pred neprijateljem pa se već 1542. godine konstatira da su polja u okolici Bribira bila zapuštena i neobrađena.<sup>26</sup> Nakon toga sve do polovice 17. stoljeća nema vijesti o Otresu, kada ga izvori opet spominju, ali samo kao važan strateški položaj koji kontrolira i sprječava turske prodore u Ravne kotare.<sup>27</sup>

Selo Otres nikada nije obnovljeno na istome mjestu. Danas se isti toponim zadržao za istočni dio sela Ostrovice, gdje je smješten zaselak Mandić, a potok Otres odvaja ga od položaja srednjovjekovnog sela udaljenog 2 km.

### Prethodni arheološki nalazi

Arheološki lokalitet Otres, smješten na lijevoj strani istoimenog potoka, a udaljen oko 500 metara od njegova vrela, zaokupio je pozornost istraživača još 1894. godine, kada je na tom položaju utvrđeno postojanje ostataka jedne crkve<sup>28</sup> s koje je dosta "greda" odneseno u Ostrovicu, gdje su s ostalim kamenom uzidane pri dogradnji crkve sv. Ante.<sup>29</sup> Uokolo crkvice nalazili su se mnogobrojni grobovi pa se javlja misao o "razkopavanju" toga položaja.<sup>30</sup> Pri posjetu lokalitetu Marun zatječe crkvu s malom apsidom i s vidljivim ležištima za pilastre crkvene

sought in the area of today's Lišane Ostrovičke, in the direction of Lepuri, where the place name of the Krivac brook was still in existence, on which at the demand of the headman and senior of Lepuri, the *proveditore* Renier on June 16, 1766, consented to the building of a mill.<sup>24</sup>

It was known already that medieval residential structures were built in dry stone wall technique, which is the case with the construction of these buildings of ours. Special importance should be attached to such finds, the history of building should be effectively studied, especially in the case of medieval secular architecture.

Bearing in mind the relatively short duration of structures built with the dry stone wall technique, in the case of investigation and reambulation, it is necessary to pay greater attention to the heaps of stone resulting from their collapse, particularly if they are located on spurs at the edges of fertile plains.<sup>25</sup>

The village of Otres, irrefutable evidence of the uninterrupted life of which from the 9<sup>th</sup> century is

of N. Jakšić (Jakšić, 2009, p. 36) cannot be accepted; Jakšić identifies Srijane with Otres, with the place name Otres having replaced the older name of Srijane. But we have seen in the documents that the place name of the village of Otres occurs before or coevally with that of Srijane (1997), and the last time, as far as we know, in 1494. Otres, unlike Srijane, cannot be found in the Turkish defter of 1550, and, paraphrasing Jakšić's scholarly methodology, it would be better to say that the name of Srijane was applied to the remains of the village of Otres. But this conclusion too would not be close to any serious consideration. Otres and Srijane are two villages that border each other, as is specifically said in the chapter document of 1397.

<sup>24</sup> The mill was built by Mate Lepur. Today this mill, named Nakića mill, lies on the Jaruga brook below Bulić. The strained claim of N. Jakšić (Jakšić 2009, pp. 35-36) that the village of Krivičić (he renders it as Krivčić) is the old name for Bribirske Mostine does not hold water; the author attempts to back this up with the unfounded ingenuity of seeking his name in the contemporary place name of the prehistoric archaeological site of Krivače, placed to the east of Mostine. This claim has to be rejected because of the fact too that this position lies south-east of Otres, where, we have seen, the lands of Bribir are specifically mentioned as border. With all this the author, as with the attempt to locate Srijane, simply made a construction for the sake of the result he wanted; although in the sources the bordering villages are listed from north-east to north-west in a clockwise direction, in a graphic display he changed the order of listing (Krivčić and then Žažvić instead of Žažvić and then Krivičić).

<sup>25</sup> Such a position was occupied by the medieval settlement on Kosa in the Donje polje near Šibenik, as the investigator of this site Zlatko Gunjača once told me.

<sup>25</sup> Takav položaj imalo je i ranosrednjovjekovno naselje na Kosi u šibenskom Donjem polju, kako me je svojedobno izvijestio istraživač tog lokaliteta Zlatko Gunjača.

<sup>26</sup> Gunjača 1968, str. 210.

<sup>27</sup> Vidi bilj. 17.

<sup>28</sup> AHSD. Pismo V. Ardalića, 18. XII. 1894.

<sup>29</sup> AHSD. Pismo V. Ardalića, 8. II. 1895.

<sup>30</sup> AHSD. Pismo V. Ardalića, 17. II. 1895.

pregrade. Istodobno opaža da se u sredini crkve i na padini s njezine južne strane nalaze ostaci debelog stupa na kojem je reljefno prikazan genij s prekrštenim nogama te na kojemu se nalazi nekoliko slabo čitljivih slova. Pretpostavlja da je to ostatak miljokaza.<sup>31</sup> Na njegov nagovor tom lokalitetu još veću pozornost posvećuje povjerenik Hrvatskoga starinarskog društva V. Ardalić, koji nešto poslije poklanja P. Kaeru veliku korodiranu željeznu ostrugu nađenu u Otresu kod jednog seljaka.<sup>32</sup> Na Marunov prigovor on će ustvrditi da Kaer ionako nađene predmete predaje muzeju u Kninu.<sup>33</sup> Tu ostrugu kao muzejsku akviziciju navodi Marun u svome *Starinarskom dnevniku* zajedno s pretpovijesnom brončanom fibulom od debele žice (vjerojatno spiralnonaočalasta fibula) koja je uočena kako viri iz jednog od mnoštva grobova kod srušene crkve pod Otresom.<sup>34</sup>

Upornim nagovaranjem vlasnika se pokušava privoljeti da dopusti iskopavanje, ali on zbog pra-

given by a pre-Romanesque and a Romanesque church, was struck by a cataclysm in the 16<sup>th</sup> century, when the Turks broke into the region, and capturing the forts of Bribir and Ostrovica in 1523, established a domination of the area that was to last for a hundred years.

The populace withdrew before the enemy, and as early as 1542 it could be concluded that the fields in the vicinity of Bribir were abandoned and untilled.<sup>26</sup> After that, until the mid-17<sup>th</sup> century, we have no reports of Otres, and then the sources mention it again, but only as an important strategic point that controlled Ravni Kotari and prevented any Turkish breakthrough into it.<sup>27</sup>

The village of Otres was never renewed in the same place. Today, the toponym is in use for the eastern part of the village of Ostrovica, where the hamlet of Mandići is located, the Otres Brook separating it from the position of the medieval village two kilometres away.

#### Previous archaeological finds

The archaeological site of Ores, located on the left hand side of the brook of the same name, some 500 metres downstream from the spring, occupied the attention of researchers back in 1894, when it was concluded that there were the remains of a church<sup>28</sup> at this position, from which plenty of “architraves” or beams had been taken off to Ostrovica, where, with other stones they had been incorporated into the Church of St Anthony while it was being extended.<sup>29</sup> Around the church there were numerous graves, and the idea was broached that the site should be dug up.<sup>30</sup> Visiting the site, Marun came upon a church with a small apse with visible housings for pilasters of a church screen. He also noted that in the centre of the church and on the slope to its south there were the remains of a thick pillar on which a genius was shown in relief, with crossed legs, and on which there were some hardly legible letters. It was assumed that it was the remains of a milestone.<sup>31</sup> At his urging, still greater attention

<sup>31</sup> Marun, 1998, str. 62; AHSD. U konceptu (*Skizzenbuch*) pod datumom 9. 5. 1895. Marun piše: “... Bio sam pod Otresom na Mandića zemlji... glavica sa grobovima razom zemlje - Crkvice od prilike 8 met. visoka 4. Vjerojatno starohrvatska. U sred vidi se neki miliar? i na njemu izbuljen genij prekrštenim noga... U ruševinam crkvice opaza se velikih kamenja i izdubake za stupove presbiterija - Nešto niže, izvan crkvice, sa podnevene strane ulomak miliarija sa nekoliko slova – miliarij polović svrha dolje. - Iduć kosom prama Čoraševim kućan opaza se mnogo mali, većinom četvrtasti a vjerojatno u suhozid sgrada, valjda i to prehistoričke –”.

<sup>32</sup> AHSD. Pismo V. Ardalića, 29. V. 1895.

<sup>33</sup> AHSD. Pismo V. Ardalića, 1. VI. 1895.

<sup>34</sup> Marun, 1998, str. 64. Donosimo dio Ardalićeva pisma od 14. VIII. 1895. iz kojega je vidljivo kako je od poslanih predmeta samo fibula nađena u Otresu, a ne i neki drugi predmeti, kako bi se moglo shvatiti iz Marunova zapisa. “...Evo Vam šaljem kao štosam Vam i javijo pismeno i ustmeno, t.j. dva glijeta, jednu lucernu, jedan kameni kalup od krsta, 1. jaspru srebrnu, 1. dvotoku bronzanu. Glijeta su našasta više komada skupa blizu sv. Bartula u Ždrapnju, koja su bila u jamići složena i ozgo japnom zamazata kao štoše i vidi na jednom glijetu kakoje klak prijano; lucerna je našasta u jednoj srušenoj crkvi više Vaćani zvanoj Mikulici; kalup od krsta isto je nađen u polju vaćanskom; - dvotoka je nadjena pod Otresom kod one crkve srušene kao što Vam je poznato, dvotoka je virila iz skraja iz jednog groba; bez dvojbe daće biti u istom grobu još nakita; ne u onom samom nego još i udrugima, jer tu ima bez broja mnoštvo grobova koje sam ja dobro razgledao. Koliko se boji vlastnik Mandić sujevjerja za dopuštati kopati, toliko i ja se boim zakona, nego ako izvolite kako ovlastiti mene, - t.j. da mogu pretraživati starinarske stvari i.t.d...”

<sup>26</sup> Gunjača 1968, p. 210.

<sup>27</sup> See n. 17.

<sup>28</sup> ACAS. Letter of V. Ardalić, 18. XII. 1894.

<sup>29</sup> ACAS. Letter of V. Ardalić, 8. II. 1895.

<sup>30</sup> ACAS. Letter of V. Ardalić, 17. II. 1895.

<sup>31</sup> Marun, 1998, p. 62; ACAS. In the concept (*Skizzenbuch*), on 9. 5. 1895, Marun writes: “I went to Otres on Mandić’s land... a hilltop with graves level with the ground... a little church of about 8 m, 4 high. Proba-

znovjerja ne želi pristati te traži visoku naknadu.<sup>35</sup> Ipak, Ardalić u obilasku lokaliteta utvrđuje da uz crkvicu ima i drugih zidova s primjesom vapna. Zajedno s vlasnikom vadi spomenike iz zgrade ispod (pored) crkve. Za jedan od tih spomenika pretpostavlja pripadnost sarkofagu, a drugi je bio ukrašen ornamentom, ukvadren s više žljebova. Vlasnik zemljišta poklonio mu je ulomak s natpisom ...*EN-DOES*..., koji se navodno pojavio nakon povodnja u avliji pred njegovom kućom;<sup>36</sup> nema sumnje da ga je zapravo našao upravo u Lukačuši. Za taj ulomak luka crkvene pregrade s ostacima natpisa Marun pretpostavlja da pripada ciboriju.<sup>37</sup> Potaknuti nalazom ulomka s gusto isprepletenim troprutim pleterom,<sup>38</sup> opet su, bez uspjeha, namjeravali pristupiti pretraživanju.<sup>39</sup> Slučajni su nalazi jednog

was devoted to the site by the commissioner of the Croatian Antiquarian Society V. Ardalić, who later on donated to Kaer a large corroded iron spur found in Otres in the possession of one of the peasants.<sup>32</sup> When Marun complained, he remarked that Kaer anyway had given the objects found to the museum in Knin.<sup>33</sup> Marun notes this spur as a museum acquisition in his Antiquarian Diary, together with a prehistoric bronze fibula of thick wire (probably a spiral spectacle shaped fibula) that was observed poking out one of a mass of graves by the demolished church under Otres.<sup>34</sup>

Long arguments were devoted to the owner to attempt to persuade him to permit excavations, but because of superstition he would not agree, but nevertheless asked for a high fee.<sup>35</sup> Nevertheless, going around the site, Ardalić ascertained that alongside the church there were other walls with a mixture of lime. Together with the owner he took the monuments out of the building beneath (by) the church. One of these monuments is assumed to

*bly Old Croatian. In the middle some milestone can be seen, and on it a genius in relief with crossed legs... In the ruins of the church large stones and niches for the columns of the presbytery. A bit lower, outside the church, on the south side a fragment of a milestone with several letters – the upper half of the milestone – Going along the slope towards the Čoraš house one can see many small, mostly squarish and probably dry stone wall buildings, probably prehistoric.*<sup>32</sup>

<sup>32</sup> ACAS. Letter of V. Ardalić, 29. V. 1895.

<sup>33</sup> ACAS. Letter of V. Ardalić, 1. VI. 1895.

<sup>34</sup> Marun, 1998, p. 64. We give part of Ardalić's letter of 14. VIII. 1895, from which it can be seen that of the things sent, only the fibula was found in Otres, no other items, as could be understood from Marun's account. "There, I send you, as I informed you in writing and orally, i.e., two chisels, one oil lamp, one stone mould of a cross, 1 silver akce, 1 bronze spectacle spiral fibula. I found several chisels together close to St Bartholomew's in Ždrapanj, which were put together in a pit, and smeared on top with lime as can be seen on one chisel that the lime is stuck to; the lamp was found in a ruined church above Vačani called Mikulici; the cross mould was also seen in the Vačani polje, the fibula was found below Otres at that ruined church, which you know, the fibula was poking out from one grave; without any doubt there will be other jewellery in the same grave; not only in that, but also in others, for there is a countless mass of graves that I had a good look round. Just as much as the owner Mandić is too superstitious to allow us to dig, so much I am afraid of the law, but if you would be so kind as to authorise me, i.e., that I can search for antiquarian things and so on..."

<sup>35</sup> AHSD. Pisma V. Ardalića, 30. XII. 1895; 28. I., 4. II. i 3. IV. 1896.

<sup>36</sup> AHSD. Pismo V. Ardalića, 28. III. 1896. Ardalić u pismu prilaže skicu spomenika; Marun 1896, str. 124; Marun 1998, str. 69.

<sup>37</sup> Marun 1896, str. 124, 200.

<sup>38</sup> AHSD. Pismo V. Ardalića, 5. I. 1897. "...nekidan moj brat Aćim bijaše u Otresu i u ogradi Save Mandića kamo je već Vami poznata ona crkva u njoj srušena, ispod iste ili ukraj iste crkve, našao jest komad ciborija dugačka 24 cm; široka i debela 18 cm; s jedne je strane odbijen te mu se ne može znati kolika je duljina bila, a drugi kraj imade, koi je ravan, i znade se da je u japnu bija jer ima još tvrdo prijanuta klaka, štoliže. Nego je krasno ornamentiran trostrukim pleterom, a izmegju pletera ispupčena, ima četverokuta jamica izdubljena ovako : (crtež romboidne serife - op. M.Z.) nije od bijelog kamena, nego od domaćeg prostog, ili onakog kano i Endoes. na koje čim mi jest brat kazao, pohitijo sam isti predmet otići viditi. »im ga okrenu poznado da Vi onake baš tražite, i ja odma jesam ga zamota i donijo kući... Faliti isti ulomak ne mogu, ali pod Žažvićem onakav nije našast; niti sam ga još u Vašim slikama ni u knjigama vidijo, jerbo izmegju pletera jamice iskopate diče ga - daklen bez dvojbe u crkvi predmeta ima.

*Aćim bi doista oltar od iste crkve očistija, bez da i zna Mandić, pa se isti nebi nanj ni ljutijo, jerbo mu je poljar zakleti. Ako izvolite isti kamen da Vam pošaljem, onda javite mi.."*

Ispod skice pleterne mreže Ardalić nastavlja: "...ovako naliči pleter unutra opisani, ali ga njesam u stanju orisati, jerbo je čudnovato isprepletan i izmegju pletera imade po duboke i četrokute jame, koje krase pleter. Poznata Vam jest ona kolona u onoj crkvici, i na njoj genij - ista kolona jes izvaljata ba brijeg i imadu dva genija na njoj - drugi ima bi rek krila te naliči anđelu. U istoj ogredi nagjena je opeka, na njoj slova ...SOL..."

<sup>39</sup> AHSD, Pisma V. Ardalića, 15. I. i 29. XII. 1897.; 6. IV. 1898.

<sup>35</sup> ACAS. Letter of V. Ardalića, 30. XII. 1895; 28. I., 4. II. i 3. IV. 1896.

natpisa u tri retka,<sup>40</sup> dio skulpture, tj. jedne noge do ispod koljena na obrađenom bijelom kamenu,<sup>41</sup> a Radić objavljuje slučajni nalaz sjekire iz Otrisa te daje kompletne kataloške podatke.<sup>42</sup> S lokaliteta potječe i kamena ljudska glava s “rudastom kosom odbijena pri vratu”<sup>43</sup> te dvije kamene glave: jedna od rimskog nadgrobno spomenika, gornji dio, a druga predstavlja glavu torusa (ovna).<sup>44</sup>

Prilikom izvođenja poljodjelskih radova Mirko Bjelanović je na zemljištu smještenom između lokaliteta i potoka našao zlatni prsten sa četiri križno postavljena kamenčića od staklene paste crvene boje, koji je uz to ukrašen “prepletenim žicama”.<sup>45</sup> Nakon nabave prstena Marun ga šalje na popravak zlataru u Split, jer je bio slomljen u tri komada.<sup>46</sup> Temeljem tih podataka utvrdili smo da se radi o prstenu koji se do tada u inventaru MHAS-a vodio kao predmet kojem nije poznato mjesto nalaza pa je kao takav i objavljen.<sup>47</sup>

Među predmetima koji su otkupljeni s tog lokaliteta je i ulomak pletera, ali kako o njemu nemamo bližih podataka, nismo u mogućnosti atribuirati ga pa za sada ostaje nepoznat.<sup>48</sup>

Već te 1908. godine brojnost i važnost arheoloških spomenika koji su s tog položaja dospjeli u Mu-

have belonged to a sarcophagus, and the other was decorated with an ornament, framed with several grooves. The owner of the land gave him a fragment inscribed... ENDOES... which allegedly appeared after there had been a flood in the yard in front of his house;<sup>36</sup> there is no doubt that in fact they found it in Lukačuša. Marun assumes that this fragment of a church screen with the remains of an inscription belonged to the ciborium.<sup>37</sup> Encouraged by the find of a fragment with a thickly interwoven triple-stranded interlacing,<sup>38</sup> once again, but without success, he set his mind to investigation.<sup>39</sup> Accidental finds of one a three-line epigraph,<sup>40</sup> part

<sup>36</sup> ACAS. Letter of V. Ardalić, 28. III. 1896. Ardalić appends a sketch of the monument; Marun 1896, p. 124; Marun 1998, p. 69.

<sup>37</sup> Marun 1896, p. 124, 200.

<sup>38</sup> ACAS. Letter of V. Ardalić, 5. I. 1897. *One day my brother Ćim was at Otres and in the enclosure of Sava Mandić, where you already know that ruined church in it, below that or by that same church, found a piece of a ciborium 24 cm long, wide and 18 cm thick; on one side it is broken and you cannot know how long it really was, but it has the other end, which is straight, and it is known it was in lime for it still has lime on it, stuck fast. But it is wonderfully ornamented with triple interlacing, and between them sticking out interlacing it has a rectangular hole hollowed out in this way: [a drawing of a rhomboidal serif – M. Z.] it was not of white stone but of simple domestic stone, or that like Endoes, at which as soon as my brother told me, I hurried to see the actual object. As soon as I turned it over I knew that you were looking for ones just like that, and I at once wrapped it up and took it home... I cannot miss the same fragment, but below Žažvić such was not found; nor did I see it in your pictures or in the books, for its characterised by little holes between the plaits – then without any doubt there are objects in the church.*

*Ćim would really clean the altar of the same church, without Mandić knowing, so as he wouldn't get mad at him, for his fieldman is a sworn enemy.*

Under the sketch of the network of interlacing, Ardalić goes on: *“this is what the interlacing described inside looks like, but I am not able to draw it really, for it is amazingly interwoven and between the strands it has deep rectangular holes, that decorate the interlacing.”* *You know that column in that little church, with the genius on it – the same column is rolled out on the and has two geniuses on it – the other has I would say wings and is like an angel. In the same enclosure a brick was found, on it the letters....SOL...*

<sup>39</sup> ACAS, Letter of V. Ardalić, 15. I. and 29. XII. 1897.; 6. IV. 1898.

<sup>40</sup> ACAS. Letter of V. Ardalić, 1. II. 1897. *“and one inscription found below Otres in the brambles by the cart road. It was of white stone on a quarter; there were three lines of letters, the stone is heavy. It's not a*

<sup>40</sup> AHSD. Pismo V. Ardalića, 1. II. 1897. *“...i jedan natpis nagjen pod Otrinom u kupini kraj puta kolnog. Predmet je od bjelog kamena na četvrt, tri su redka slova, kamen je težak. Ara rimska nije a miljokaz nije, potpuno slova se čitati nemogu jerbo su zarasla mahovinom - ali bi ih Vi mislim razumjeli i digli. Isti kamen je u moim rukama čeka Vas kad tad...”*

<sup>41</sup> AHSD. Pismo V. Ardalića, 12. II. 1897.

<sup>42</sup> Radić, 1897, str. 124, 129.

<sup>43</sup> AHSD. Pismo V. Ardalića bez datuma, inventirano u Ardalićevoj korespondenciji pod br. 122.

<sup>44</sup> Marun 1998, str. 109.

<sup>45</sup> Marun, 1998, str. 151.

<sup>46</sup> Marun 1998, str. 164, 166; AHSD. Specifikacija troškova na listiću koji je Marun uputio D. Šperi u Knin, 13. III. 1908. Prsten je plaćen 16 kruna. U *Obćem blagajničkom dnevniku* pod istim datumom (13. III. 1908.) i za istu cijenu pogreškom se umjesto prstena navodi otkup zlatnog novca (“za zlatni novac iz Otrisa (K. 16) (br. prot. 121)”). U istoj bilježnici je pod datumom 25. III. 1908. zapisana isplata: „Anti Radiću za poprav. starinskog zlatnog prstena”.

<sup>47</sup> Vinski 1968, str. 105, 112-113, T. I. br. 2. Isti je, kao član uredništva *Starohrvatske prosvjete*, nakon predaje i neprihvatanja za tiskanje polovicom 1983. godine rukopisa M. Zekana „Otres kod Bribira, revizija istraživanja”, u kojem je prsten pripisan lokalitetu Otres, bez znanja autora prisvojio atribuciju prstena (Vinski 1987, str. 423, T. 72, Kat. X, 20 str. 437).

<sup>48</sup> AHSD. Pismo V. Ardalića, 7. X. 1908.

zej, kao i devastiranje položaja od strane seljaka, inicirali su neuspjeh pokušaj istraživača Maruna da stupi u kontakt s vlasnikom radi iskopina.<sup>49</sup> Tek tri godine poslije, kada je otkriveno bazno ležište za plutej,<sup>50</sup> nakon dugotrajnih pregovora tijekom mjeseca listopada 1911. godine o visini naknade koju su zahtijevali vlasnici zemljišta,<sup>51</sup> započelo se s pretraživanjem terena.

Istraživanja su vođena u dvije etape. Prvo iskopavanje započeto je 17. listopada,<sup>52</sup> a završilo je 11. studenoga 1911. godine, a drugo je trajalo od 11. do 23. travnja 1912. godine.<sup>53</sup> O obujmu radova govori podatak da je za ta istraživanja utrošeno 270 radnih dana.

### Istraživanja 1911.

Kod planiranja prve akcije, uočivši već prije početak iskopavanja *stečke*, kako je on nazivao monolitne nadgrobne kamene ploče položene uokolo crkve, Marun je odlučio da će najprije provesti prekopavanje zemljišta s južne (podnevne) strane crkve, a zatim istražiti teren ispred crkve (zapadna = donja strana).

Istraživanjem padine s južne strane crkve ustanovilo se postojanje grobova “po dva reda”, u koje je polagano po nekoliko pokojnika. Grobovi su bili uobičajene orijentacije. Uz pokojnike su bili polagani prilozi.<sup>54</sup>

of a sculpture i.e., of a leg to below the knee in worked white stone<sup>41</sup>, and Radić published an article describing the accidental find of an axe from Otres, giving complete catalogue data.<sup>42</sup> Also from this site comes a stone human head with “curly hair chipped off at the neck”<sup>43</sup> and two stone heads: one of a Roman funerary monument, the top part, and the other representing the head of a torus (ram).<sup>44</sup>

While working in the field, Mirko Bjelanović, on a piece of land located between the site and the brook, found a gold ring with four stones of red glass paste arranged in a cross, which was also ornamented additionally with “interlaced wires”.<sup>45</sup> After acquiring the ring, Marun sent it to be repaired at a Split jeweller’s, for it was broken in three pieces.<sup>46</sup> On the basis of these data, we ascertain that this was a ring that had previously been registered in the MCAM inventory book as an object from an unknown finding site, and so published.<sup>47</sup>

Among the objects purchased from this site there is also a fragment of interlacing ornamentation, but since we have no detailed information about it, it cannot be attributed and remains for the moment unknown.<sup>48</sup>

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*Roman ara and its not a milestone, I cannot completely read the letters for they are overgrown with moss – but I think you would understand them and interpret them. This stone is in my hands and is waiting for you sooner or later...*

<sup>49</sup> Marun 1998, str. 174.

<sup>50</sup> Marun 1998, str. 216.

<sup>51</sup> Pregovore je uz dopuštenje Marunovo vodio V. Ardalić, koji je o njihovu tijeku izvješćivao pismima od 7. i 13. listopada 1911. Iz *Obćeg blagajničkog dnevnika* (AHSD) vidljivo je da je 14. listopada 1911. poslano Ardaliću za Lukačevu ogradu K. 80.

<sup>52</sup> Marun 1998, str. 217.

<sup>53</sup> Marun 1998, str. 224.

<sup>54</sup> AHSD. Marun, Koncept, 17. 10. 1911.: “*Kopanje u Lukačevoj ogradi u Otresu. Danas radilo pet radnika. Počelo se presukavati zemlju sa podnevne strane crkvice. Našast ulomak epigrafički... Stećci oko crkve... Jedan osobita poriza... Predmeti u grobovima... Saližu crkvi... Transene... Rimski spomenici kao materijal... Grobovi po dva reda i po više mrtvaca... Orijentacijski jaobičajna. - Rimski materijal u temeljima zidova... Sedra... Cipus prije bio u crkvi, vjerojatno na njemu ležala mensa oltara... U prostoj zemlji ulomak starijeg buzdovana... Male kamenice - izdubljene - Na sred sriede crkvice, daleko od ograde presbiterija jedan i po metar, 0,40 pod livelom pločnika grob prosto ozidan u klak, ali mu se ne našlo poklopnica, jer prije seljani prekopavali crkvu, dubok širok dug. Kupa na način Mletačkih... Pred crkvom u jednom ozidanom grobu, našast jedan*

<sup>41</sup> ACAS. Letter of V. Ardalić, 12. II. 1897

<sup>42</sup> Radić, 1897, p. 124, 129.

<sup>43</sup> ACAS. Letter of V. Ardalić undated, inventoried in Ardalić’s correspondence as no. 122.

<sup>44</sup> Marun 1998, p. 109.

<sup>45</sup> Marun, 1998, p. 151.

<sup>46</sup> Marun 1998, p. 164, 166; ACAS. Specification of costs on a slip that Marun sent to D. Špera in Knin, 13. III, 1908. The ring cost 16 krone. In the *Obći blagajnički dnevnik* [General treasury diary] of the same date (March 13, 1908) and for the same date, by mistake, instead of the ring, the purchase of a gold coin is referred to (“for a gold coin of Otres (K. 16) (no. protocol. 121). In the same notebook under the date March 25, 1908, the payment is recorded: “To Ante Radić for the repair of an old-fashioned gold ring”.

<sup>47</sup> Vinski 1968, p. 105, 112-113, Pl. I. br. 2. He, as a member of the editorial board of *Starohrvatska prosvjeta*, after the submission of the manuscript of Zekan “Otres by Bribir...” and its rejection for printing in the middle of 1983, in which the ring was ascribed to the site of Otres, without the knowledge of the author, adopted the attribution of the ring. (Vinski 1987, p. 423, Pl. 72, Kat. X, 20 p. 437).

<sup>48</sup> ACAS. Letter of V. Ardalić, 7. X. 1908.

Prilikom otkopavanja nekropole istraživači su već na površini, a osobito u zemljanom iskopu nailazili na dekorativne ulomke starohrvatskoga crkvenog namještaja s ostacima pletera ili natpisnog polja. Tako su prvog dana istraživanja našli osam ulomaka, među kojima je bio i dio luka predoltarne pregrade s ostatkom natpisa ...*RISTIA*... .

Najizdašniji i najznačajniji dio nekropole pružao se ispred crkve. Ondje je ustanovljeno postojanje većeg broja grobova, koji su korišteni za višestruki ukop, ali su prilozu u njima dosta rijetki.<sup>55</sup> Iako nalazi priloga u grobovima po navedenom Ardalićevom podatku nisu brojni, ipak i oni za koje imamo dokumentirane vijesti pobuđuju pozornost.

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*mrtvac sa dvie srebrenne fildegranim zrnima, a na prsima srebrenni skudelirani novac Dux Orius. U drugem samo na prsima jednaki novac a na prsima novac istoga dužda. - U crkvi jaki saliz od velikih pravilnih ploča od importiranog bijelog kamena - vjerojatno iz Guduće... Turske klačine... Jedan prsten našast u grobu sa sjeverne strane izvan crkve, sa crnjelim prozračnim kamenčićem... U presbiteriju crkve, pod temeljima ulomak od velikog polustupa. Drugi ulomak istog stupa, dug 1.70 premjerao 0.50 našast je sa sjeverne strane izvan crkve... Jedna mala srebrena sa 3 zrna naušnica... Opet jedan Oriev skudelirani novac u grobu na ud. Mandić zemljištu sa željeznim saponima. U grobu pred crkvom velik prag, bračkog kamena, vjerojatno od nekog pluteja, te više drugih ulomaka bračkog kamena...“*

<sup>55</sup> AHSD. Ardalićevo pismo iz Gjevrsaka, 18. 10. 1911.: „...Prvi dan našao sam biće do 30 cm. duga ulomka od praga, ali od spomenika sa dvojstrukim kukami: (slijedi skica kuka, op. M. Z.) Od prilike pokraj tih kuka nadpis, početna slova biće ih 7, ali su sve skraćene, ili jerogljfi, pari da su cvijeće kakve imadu. Daklen u dva dana našao sam 8 ulomaka različite ornamentike ili pletera koga Vi želite. Sve od pragovate ulomak veliki a drugi od šarkofaga sa palmami i cvijećem. Meni se čini da neće slišiti ona ornamentika u sv. Anti (u Ostrovici, op. M. Z.) prema ovoj. Ona najprije će biti prenešena sa tarkula kamo smo pogodili, jer kažu daje ondje bila crkva. Amo grobova ima dosta, obično u njima ništa, jer po više lubanja. Ostavili smo dva sa velikim pločama kao od šarkofaga, bliže crkve s donjeg kraja, dok Vi nedogijete... Sad, da kamo će mo kamenjima? nije ih fajde ostavljatiodje u pustinji, očeli na Bribir? trebalo bi ih makar gdje prenjeti, a u Bribirskoj županiji jesu i našasta. Onaj spomenik slovima držim da će te ga protumačitikojem je knezu bio podignut početna su slova (slijedi skica ostatka natpisa ...*RISTIA*..., op. M. Z.) divno je izvežen, bi rek daje luk bio, a ne prag. Sa onu stranu drugog vlasnika ima dosta predmeta. Vašim čekićem, kojoj valja puno, našao sam dva komada, te jednu krasnu rezbariju sa zvijezdom ovalikom na pr: (slijedi skica rozete, op. M. Z.) od praga vidi se. A ko zna što još tu šta može biti, a nije nego tek načeto...“

By 1908, the numbers and importance of the archaeological monuments that arrived in the museum from the site, and the devastation of it by the peasants, led to an unsuccessful attempt by the researcher, Marun, to get in touch with the owner for the sake of excavations.<sup>49</sup> Only three years later, when the housing for the pluteus was discovered,<sup>50</sup> after lengthy negotiations during October 1911 about the amount of money that the owners of the land wanted to charge<sup>51</sup> was the search of the field addressed.

Excavations went on in two stages. The first dig was started on October 17<sup>52</sup> and ended on November 11, 1911, and the second lasted from April 11 to April 23, 1912.<sup>53</sup> The scale of the works is suggested by the excavations having lasted for 270 man-days.

### Excavations of 1911

When he was planning the first campaign, having noticed before the beginning of the dig the stechaks, as the called the monolithic grave stones placed around the church, Marun decided first of all to carry out a dig of the land on the southern side of the church, and then to explore the land in front of the church (the western or lower side).

In the investigation of the slope on the southern side of the church, the existence of graves in two rows, each one containing several corpses, was ascertained. The graves had the usual orientation and grave goods were placed alongside the dead.<sup>54</sup>

<sup>49</sup> Marun 1998, p. 174.

<sup>50</sup> Marun 1998, p. 216.

<sup>51</sup> The negotiations, with Marun's consent, were handled by Ardalić, who reported on their conduct in letters of October 7 and 13, 1911. From the *Obći blagajnički dnevnik* (ACAS) it can be seen that on October 14 that year, Ardalić was sent K. 80 for Lukačeva ograda.

<sup>52</sup> Marun 1998, p. 217.

<sup>53</sup> Marun 1998, p. 224.

<sup>54</sup> ACAS. Marun, Concept, 17. 10. 1911.: “Digging in Lukačeva ograda in Otres. Today five workmen were employed. They started carrying earth from the southern side of the church. Found an epigraphic fragment...Stechaks around the church...One particular footing.... Objects in graves... Paving of the church... Transennas...Roman monuments as material... Graves in two rows, several dead in each... Usual orientation...Roman material in the foundations of the wall... Tufa... Cippus was in the church before, probably the altar mensa lay upon it... In simple ground a fragment of an old mace. ... Small stone vessels – hollowed out...In the middle of the church, one and a half metres awaz from the screen of the presbytery, 0.40 m under the level of the paving, a grave simple, built

Iz očuvanih bilježaka saznajemo da je u dva groba nađen po jedan srebrni novac dužda Orija Malipiera (1178. - 1192.), koji je bio položen na prsima pokojnika. U jednom od tih grobova nađene su i dvije srebrne, najvjerojatnije trojagodne naušnice, ukrašene tehnikom filigrana.<sup>56</sup>

Uz te podatke o skupnom nalazu naušnica i novca mletačkog dužda Orija Malipiera, Marun ukazuje da je u grobovima nađena jedna ostruga, velika naušnica te još jedan primjerak novca, koji možemo pripisati Ludoviku Anžuvincu (1342. - 1382.).<sup>57</sup>

O skupnom nalazu novca i trojagodnih naušnica s velikim filigranskim zrnima izvještava još jednom Ardalić, navodeći da su pred vratima crkve otvorena dva duboka i velika groba u kojima se nalazio po jedan kostur, a u jednom je uz naznačene naušnice nađen na prsima pokojnika srebrni “škudasti” novac, kojemu se “s jedne strane jasno vidi kolice, a unutra zvijezda”, kojoj skicira oblik. Isti takav novac nađen je na prsima pokojnika u drugom grobu.<sup>58</sup>

Na tom dijelu groblja pronađeno je dosta ulomaka s pleterom, kao i fragmentiranih ostataka natpisa, kao što su ...MA..., ...DRA..., ...NIS...<sup>59</sup> Zadnji navedeni natpis danas ne postoji u zbirci Muzeja,<sup>60</sup>

While excavating the necropolis, even on the surface, and particularly in the dig, the researchers came upon decorative fragments of Old Croatian church furnishing with remains of interlacing ornament or an epigraphic field. On the first day of the research they found eight fragments, among which was part of the arch of the rood screen with the remains of an inscription: ...RISTIA...

The most important and amply yielding part of the graveyard stretched in front of the church. Ascertained there was the existence of a large number of graves that were used for multiple interments, although grave goods were fairly rare in them.<sup>55</sup>

*in lime, but they did not find the top slab, for before the villagers had dug over the church, deep broad and long.... A goblet in Venetian style...*

*In front of the church in one masonry built grave, found one corpse with two silver filigree beads, and on the chest a silver escudo-like coin of Doge Orius. In the second only on the breast an identical coin, and on the chest a coin of the same doge. In the church strong paving of large regular flags of imported white stone – probably from Guduća... Turkish limekilns... One ring found in grave on the north side outside the church with blackened transparent stone... In the presbytery of the church, under the foundations, a fragment of a large half-column. A second fragment of the same column, 1.70 long, measured 0.50 found on the northern side outside the church... A little silver earring with three beads... Again an Orius escudo-like coin in a grave on Mrs Mandić's land with iron buckles. In a grave in front of the church a big threshold of Brač stone, probably from some pluteus, and several other fragments of Brač stone...*

<sup>55</sup> ACAS. Ardalić's letter of Gjeverske, 18. 10. 1911.: *The first day I found a probably up to 30 m long fragment of a threshold, as well as of a monument with double hooks [a sketch of a hook follows, M.Z.]. More or less by these hooks an inscription, initial letters probably seven of them, but all abbreviations, or hieroglyphs seems that they have some kind of flowers. So in two days I found 8 fragments of different ornamentation or interlacing that you want. All of the threshold, a big fragment and another of a sarcophagus with palms and flowers. It seems to me that ornamentation in St Anthony's [in Ostrovica] won't compare to this. It will be first of all transferred from the olive press as we agreed, for they say that there was a church there. There are plenty of graves there, usually nothing in them, just several skulls. We left two with big slabs as if from a sarcophagus, closer to the lower end of the church until you come.... Now, where shall we put the stones? There is no sense in leaving them here in the wilderness, shall they go to Bribir? They should be moved somewhere, and they were found in Bribir county. That monument with the letters, I think that it will be explained which duke it was put up for the initial letters [then comes a sketch of the remainder*

<sup>56</sup> AHSD. Marun, Koncept, 17. 10. 1911.

<sup>57</sup> AHSD. Marun, Koncept, 19. 10. 1911.: „...*Za tim posli podjoso viditi (sa Č. M. Ivekovićem i M. Abramščem, op. M. Z.) izkopine u Lukačevoj ogradi... Ploče od, calcare fetidum iz Škripa, ovdje vjerojatno prenešena sa prilježne oranice. Pred crkvom poklopnice dvie nad jednim grobomsa pleterom dolje. Obe na četvrt po 0.70... Ulomak nadpisa MA. Drugi DRA, treći NIS. Jedna ostruga u grobu. Velika naušnica... Novac S. Ladislaus.*“

<sup>58</sup> AHSD. Ardalićevo pismo iz Lukačuse, 23. 10. 1911.: *“...Poslije nego ste otišli odavlen, našla se sa gornje strane kolona duga ne puna dva metra, ne obla cijela, nego bi rek' da je raspilata po polak u duljinu, tako našao sam ja u drači 30. centimetara odbijen prag pleterom. Od jutros do sad, našlo se pred vratima Crkve dva duboka groba velika, po jedan kostur, u jednom našlo se dvije velike naušnice sa trima zrnima fildegranim velikim, srebrenim te na prsima jedan novac srebreni škudast, nesmiem trati, ali s jedne strane jasno se vidi kolice a u nutra zvijezda ovako (slijedi crtež jedne strane novca ispunjene osmorlatičnom rozetom, op. M. Z.) tako i u drugom grobu tu, našla se jaspra isto na prsima mrtcu škudasta ne malešna. Kopam ispred crkve ozdo do nekog kraja, jer nalaze se dosad ulomci od prozora, i kamena korčulaša prosta, pa nije isključeno da nebi mogao tu biti i koji još nadpis...“*

<sup>59</sup> AHSD. Marun, Koncept, 19. 10. 1911.; Marun boravi na lokalitetu 24. listopada te 2. i 9. studenog 1911. Marun, Koncept (Notes) 1910. - 1911.

<sup>60</sup> Ako to nije loše pročitani ulomak ...NVS...



a isti je slučaj i s ulomcima s uklesanim slovima ...ORO...<sup>61</sup> i ...NA...<sup>62</sup> Oni su najvjerojatnije izgubljeni prilikom prijevoza zaprežnim kolima s lokaliteta od Otrisa do Đevrsaka<sup>63</sup> ili iz Otrisa do bribirske škole,<sup>64</sup> a zatim u kninski Muzej.

Vjerojatno najznačajniji fragment o kojemu vijest donosi Marun je onaj kojeg slova BR... najvjerojatnije pripadaju početku imena kneza Branimira.<sup>65</sup> Taj je ulomak dovezen u Knin, ali ga danas nema u Muzeju hrvatskih arheoloških spomenika pa se po svemu čini da je izgubljen prilikom višekratnih seljenja zbirke u Drugom svjetskom ratu i nakon njega.

Starohrvatski je crkveni namještaj upotrebljavan kao gradivo prilikom zidanja grobova pa u njima nalazimo dva pluteja koji su u gornjem dijelu odbijeni, te postavljeni kao poklopnice na jednom grobu pri jugozapadnom uglu crkve.<sup>66</sup> Kod njihove atribucije služili smo se Ardalićevom skicom u pismu, što nam je pomoglo da nađemo i kaneliranu kolonu koja nije tipična za namještaj starohrvatske crkve.<sup>67</sup>

Although finds of goods in the graves, according to the information of Ardalić, are not numerous, nevertheless those for which we have documentary reports do arouse our attention.

From the extant notes we find that two graves each had a silver coin of Doge Orio Malipiero (1178-1192), placed on the breast of the departed. In one of these graves, two silver, probably three-bead, earrings were found, decorated in filigree technique.<sup>56</sup> Together with this information about the collective find of earrings and coins of Doge Orio Malipiero, Marun reveals also found in the graves were a spur, a large earring and one more find of a coin, which we can attribute to Louis Angevin (1342-1382).<sup>57</sup>

Ardalić reports one more time on the collective find of coins and the three-bead earring with large filigree beads, saying that two deep and large graves were opened up in front of the door of the church, revealing a skeleton each. In one, along with the earring referred to, a silver “shield [escudo-like]” coin was found, “on one side of which a circle was clearly shown, and inside it a star,” the shape of which is in the sketches. An identical coin was found on the chest of the deceased in the other grave.<sup>58</sup>

<sup>61</sup> AHSD. Ardalićevo pismo iz Lukačuše od 6. 11. 1911.: “...Subota poslje diližanse, našao se je ulomak nadpisa su slova 7, te fragmenata pletera. Od jutros našao se je ulomak nadpisom ...ORO... te fragmenata lijepi pletera. Osim toga našlo se sa donjeg kraja nugla crkve grob, na njemu dvije poklopnice, t.j. ploče duge i široke preko 70 cm. jedna je sva od raznog pletera, bi će da je žrtvenik druga isto, ali je na jednom nugluodbivena, s jednog kraja ima ovelik pleter, a ispod toga obruč od pletera, u sred toga velik križ od pletera, oko njega četiri simbolične ruže, izgleda ovako: (slijedi shematizirani crtež koji je poput opisa dosta netočan, a radi se o gornjoj polovici pluteja s križem i palmetama. op. M. Z.) koje je veliko na ploči, a bog da i do mraka što nagjem. Ko je god ovu ploču vidio čudi se, još njesmo došli do pred crkvena vrata.”

<sup>62</sup> AHSD. V. Ardalić u nedatiranom pismu (br. 376): “... Od jutros našao se jest okrugli ulomak kapitela dug 24 cm. okrugao izgleda od prilike: (slijedi crtež vjerojatno rimske kanelirane kolone, op. M. Z.) tri su obruča u dnu i vrhu, urezati u nj kao prozorčići, kolo naokolo. Našast i komad pletera od žrtvenika te ulomak natpisa slovima ...NA... . Nada je da će se još šta moći naći, jer pomnjivo se pretraživa...”

<sup>63</sup> AHSD. Marun, Koncept (Notes 1910. - 1911), 9. 11. 1911. U *Obćem blagajničkom dnevniku* stoji podatak od 26. studenog 1911. o plaćanju prijevoza starina iz Otrisa za K. 6.

<sup>64</sup> AHSD. Dopisnica Peše Gladovića iz Bribira od 19. 1. 1912. Spomenici su spremeni u bribirsku školu i kasnije. Vidi Ardalićevo pismo od 15. 4. 1912.

<sup>65</sup> Marun 1927, str. 313.

<sup>66</sup> AHSD. Ardalićevo pismo od 6. 11. 1911.

<sup>67</sup> AHSD. Ardalićevo pismo br. 376.

of the inscription ...RISTIA...], wonderfully done, you might say it was an arch and not just a threshold. On that side of the other owner there are plenty of objects. With your hammer, which is worth a lot, I found two items, and one lovely carving with a star like this [then comes a sketch of a rosette] everything of the threshold can be seen. Who knows what else there might be, and it has only just been opened up...”

<sup>56</sup> ACAS. Marun, Concept, 17. 10. 1911.

<sup>57</sup> ACAS. Marun, Concept, 19. 10. 1911.: “...” “After that we went to see [with Iveković and Abramić] the digs in Lukačeva ograda...Slabs of calcare fetidun from Škrip, here very likely transferred from the neighbouring ploughland. In front of the church two slabs on one grave with interlacing downwards. Both squarish and 0.70 m long. A fragment of an epigraph MA. Second DRA, third NIS. One spur in a grave. A big earring. Coin of St Ladislav.

<sup>58</sup> ACAS. Ardalić's letter from Lukačuša, 23. 10. 1911.: “After you went from here, a column not quite two metres long was found on the upper side, not all round, rather one would say it's been sawn in half the length of it, and I found in the scrub a 30 centimetre broken sill with interlacing. From morning to now, in front of the door of the church, two deep graves, big, were found, one skeleton each, in one two big earrings were found, with three big filigree beads, silver; and on the chest a coin, silver, escudo-like, I mustn't rub it, but on one side a circle is clearly to be seen, and inside it a star like this [then comes a drawing of a coin with the figure of an eight-petal rosette] and in the second

Nakon završetka radova na dijelovima nekropole s južne i zapadne strane crkve istražen je i uzak pojas s vanjske strane sjevernog zida crkve, gdje su također ustanovljeni grobovi.

### Istraživanje godine 1912.

Uz prijevoz dvaju kamenih spomenika početkom godine s Otresa u bribirsku školu,<sup>68</sup> Ardalić u više navrata obilazi lokalitet tijekom zime. Tada je nađen ulomak s palmetom koji je virio iz zemlje “više” crkve i jedna polovica rascijepljene grede s lijepo očuvanom ornamentikom i jednim redom slova.<sup>69</sup>

Nakon nekoliko odgađanja<sup>70</sup> Marun odlučuje započeti iskopavanja istovremeno s onima na Bribiru, 11. travnja 1912.<sup>71</sup> Istraživši upravo do visine crkve, već drugi dan nađena su dva ulomka s pleternim ukrasom, dijelovi tranzene, natpis s dva retka slova te jedan golemi rog i zub.<sup>72</sup> Uz brojnije nalaze nakita (naušnica i prstenja) na gornjem kraju lokaliteta nije bilo očekivanih kamenih spomenika.<sup>73</sup> Do kraja istraživanja na tom su prostoru nađena još dva

In his part of the cemetery, several fragments with interlacing were found, as well as fragmented remains of inscriptions, such as ... MA..., ...DRA..., ... NIS...<sup>59</sup> The last mentioned inscription is not to be found in the collection of the museum today<sup>60</sup>, which is also the case with fragments with the carved letters ..ORO..<sup>61</sup> and ...NA...<sup>62</sup> They were probably lost while being transported by means of horse and cart from the site of Otres to Đevrske<sup>63</sup> or from Otres to Bribir school,<sup>64</sup> and then to the museum in Knin.

Probably the most important fragment Marun reports on is that on which the letters BR... prob-

*grave, an akce was found, also on the breast of the corpse, escudo-like, not so little.*

*I dig in front of the church from on top to some end for so far window fragments have been found, and simple Korčula stone, and it is not to be ruled out that there might be some other inscription here“*

<sup>59</sup> ACAS. Marun, Concept, 19. 10. 1911.; Marun was on-site on October 24 and on November 2 and 9 1911. Marun, Concept (Notes) 1910. - 1911.

<sup>60</sup> If the fragment has not been wrongly read ...NVS...

<sup>61</sup> ACAS. Ardalić's letter from Lukačuša of 6. 11. 1911.: “Saturday after the diligence a fragment of an inscription was found with 7 letters and fragments of interlacing. In the morning a fragment with the inscription... ORO... was found and fragments of nice interlacing. Apart from that from the lower end of the corner of the church a grave was found, and on it two slabs, i.e., long and wide, over 70 cm, slabs one all in various interlacing, probably the altar of the other is the same, but on one corner it is broken off, with one end it has a large interlacing, and under that a hoop of interlacing, and in the middle of that a big interlacing cross, around it, four symbolic roses, looks like this: [then comes a diagrammatic drawing that, like the description, is fairly inaccurate, and concerns the upper half of a pluteus with cross and palmettes, M. Z.] that is much on the slab, and if god grant I'll find something before dark. Whoever saw this slab was amazed, we haven't even got to the church door yet.”

<sup>62</sup> ACAS. V. Ardalić in an undated letter (no. 376): *Since morning a round fragment of a capital 24 cm long was found, round, looks approximately [a drawing of probably a Roman fluted column M.Z.], three hoops at the bottom and top carved into it like windows, round and around. Also found a piece of interlacing from an altar and a fragment of an inscription with the letters ... NA... It's to be hoped that something else will be found, for everything is being carefully examined“*

<sup>63</sup> ACAS. Marun, Concept (Notes 1910. - 1911), 9. 11. 1911. In the *Obći blagajnički dnevnik* there is a note of November 26 about the payment of carriage of antiquities from Otres amounting to K. 6.

<sup>64</sup> ACAS. Postcard of Pešo Gladović from Bribir of 19. 1. 1912. Monuments were stored in Bribir school even later. See Ardalić's letter of 15. 4. 1912.

<sup>68</sup> AHSD. Dopisnica Peše Gladovića iz Bribira od 19. 1. 1912.

<sup>69</sup> AHSD. Ardalićevo pismo iz Gjevsraka, 18. 3. 1912: “...tako nemogu da započnem t.j. dovršim radnje u Lukačuši kako sam rekao. Nade je da će se tu još što naći, jer nekidan ja sam više crkve našao ulomak palme virila iz zemlje. Našla se je ona polovica kolone u dnu Vujine zemlje, koja je bila u plotu zabačena, bi rek da je neko racijepio, koja polovina lijepo je sačuvata ornatima s jednim redkom slova. Tomka ud: protivni se daljnjem krčenju na svom dijelu, oče ponovnu plaću. Nu na tome uz brdo nema više litica je, a uzko je, da bez toga možemo biti...”

U 1911. godini je za iskopavanja na njezinu zemljištu isplaćeno Tomki ud. Mandić K. 40. *Obći blagajnički dnevnik*, 30. 12. 1911.

<sup>70</sup> AHSD. Ardalićeva pisma od 20. 3. i 8. 4. 1912.

<sup>71</sup> Marun 1998, str. 224.

<sup>72</sup> AHSD. Ardalićevo pismo iz Gjevsraka, 13. 4. 1912.: “...Kako reko, da sam ja odregjen za Lukačušu a isto išao sam sve ove dane i na glavicu, do tamo i amo ima dobra ura i pol puta. Kad sam radnike jutros odveo, te ih u poredio tako okolo 81/2 uri otišao sam na glavicu,... U Lukačuši juče su našli dva ulomka pletera, i od prozora, danas neki ogroman rog i zub, kao od pret-historičkijeh živina tako i jedan nadpis, su dva reda slova, virilo bilo nešto iz zemlje, za koje držim da će te biti zadovoljni, što i želim, sad smo uprav došli do više crkve, uzdajući se da će mo što bolje naći...”

<sup>73</sup> AHSD. Ardalićevo pismo iz Gjevsraka, 18. 4. 1912.: “...U Otresu još danas pa će s gornjeg kraja biti svršeno. Naušnica i prstenja ima dosta srebrna, a nadpisi-je slabe smo sreće do sad s donjeg kraja nije se ticalo. Kad Vi dogijete sporazumi će mo se...”

ulomka crkvenog namještaja. Na jednom od njih očuvano je jedno slovo.<sup>74</sup>

Iz malog broja dostupnih podataka nismo mogli utvrditi kakva je bila situacija na nekropoli s istočne strane crkve. Na tom dijelu groblja istraživanja su započela godine 1911., a nastavljena su i završena 1912. godine. Već je početak istraživanja pokazao da se i na tom dijelu nekropole u grobovima nalaze materijalni prilozi. To potvrđuju podaci o nalazu prstena s kamenom, male srebrne trojagodne naušnice kao i skupni nalaz jednog “škudeliranog” novca Orija Malipiera i željeznih kopči.<sup>75</sup> Zastupljenost priloga u grobovima potvrđena je i sljedeće godine, kada je u grobovima nađeno dosta srebrnih naušnica i prstenja.<sup>76</sup>

Do prekida radova, koji više nisu obnavljani, došlo je zbog traženja vlasnice jedne čestice da joj se ponovno nadoknadi odšteta,<sup>77</sup> ako se želi vršiti prekopavanje njezina zemljišta, na što Marun i Ardalić nisu pristali. Istraživši površinu pod zakupom, odustaju od daljnjeg iskopavanja. Kasniji nalaz ulomka grede veličine do 30 cm s pleternim ukrasom pokraj potoka pokazao je da su spomenici razbacani na širem prostoru.<sup>78</sup>

Zadnju vijest o arheološkom lokalitetu Otrés našli smo u Knjizi protokola Muzeja iz 1936. godine, gdje stoji zabilješka o pismu kojim Drago Ivanović iz Bribirskih Mostina javlja S. Gunjači “...da je seljak Simo Mandić pristao da proda Muzeju dva kamena...”,<sup>79</sup> a u drugom pismu “...da je poslao autobusom starohrvatske fragmente...”.<sup>80</sup>

ably belong to the beginning of the name of Duke Branimir.<sup>65</sup> This fragment was carted to Knin, but does not exist in the Museum of Croatian Archaeological Monuments today, and it seems, all in all, that it must have been lost during one of the several moves of the collection during World War II and subsequently.

The Old Croatian church furniture was used as building material when the graves were being built, and in them we can find two plutei that were chipped off in the upper part and placed as lids on one grave at the south-west corner of the church.<sup>66</sup> For this attribution we made use of Ardalić’s sketch in the letter, which helped us to find a fluted column, which is not typical of the furniture of an Old Croatian church.<sup>67</sup>

After the ending of operations on the parts of the necropolis on the western and southern side of the church, a narrow strip on the outside of the northern wall of the church was investigated, and graves were ascertained there too.

### The 1912 investigation

As well as transporting two stone monuments from Otrés to Bribir School at the beginning of the year,<sup>68</sup> Ardalić several times went round the site during the winter. At that time a fragment with a palmette poking up out of the land of the higher church was found as well as the half of a split beam with a nicely preserved ornament and a row of letters.<sup>69</sup>

<sup>74</sup> AHSD. Ardalićevo pismo pisano po završetku istraživanja 24. 4. 1912.: “...U Lukačuši s gornjeg kraja je svršeno u ponedjeljak i utorak. Potrošeno je 10 radnika. Kažu da su našli samo dva ulomka, na jednom, jedno samo slovo. Za koje mi je veliko žao, a kopalo se najstrožije i najdublje... Sad ako izvolite s donjeg kraja da se radi, javite mi, ja sam izgubio nadu, da li će se išta više i naći, ali svakako, ja ću još probajati na nekim točkama okolo crkve, jer ima jedna kruška divija nije izvadjena, blizu nje smo našli nadpis, a tako mora biti i ispod nje... Lište od lukačuše uredi ću dok Vi dogjete.”

<sup>75</sup> AHSD. Marun, Koncept, 17. 10. 1911.

<sup>76</sup> AHSD. Ardalićevo pismo iz Bribira, 18. 4. 1912.

<sup>77</sup> AHSD. Ardalićevo pismo od 18. 3. 1912.

<sup>78</sup> AHSD. Ardalićevo pismo iz Gjeversaka, 8. 4. 1913. “...Jutros sam otišao na Otrés, kamo je brat mi Gajo krčeci kraj foše potoka, lominu, našao ulomak od praga do 30 cm. s pleterom, to je dobar svjedok, da se razneseni od Crkve kamenja po svoj ogradi Lukačevoj kad ih ima uz potok dalje...”

<sup>79</sup> AHSD. Pismo je datirano 16. 11. 1936. g. Za ulomke je seljak tražio 100 dinara uz uplatu na njegovu adresu.

<sup>80</sup> AHSD. Pismo je datirano 26. 11. 1936. g.

<sup>65</sup> Marun 1927, p. 313.

<sup>66</sup> ACAS. Ardalić’s letter of 6. 11. 1911.

<sup>67</sup> ACAS. Ardalić’s letter no. 376.

<sup>68</sup> ACAS. Postcard of Peš Gladović from Bribir of 19. 1. 1912.

<sup>69</sup> ACAS. Ardalić’s letter from Gjeversak, 18. 3. 1912: “...tako nemogu da započnem t.j. dovršim radnje u Lukačuši kako sam rekao. Nade je da će se tu još što naći, jer nekidan ja sam više crkve našao ulomak palme virila iz zemlje. Našla se je ona polovica kolone u dnu Vujine zemlje, koja je bila u plotu zabačena, bi rek da je neko racijepio, koja polovina lijepo je sačuvata ornatima s jednim redkom slova. Tomka ud: protivni se daljnjem krčenju na svom dijelu, oće ponovnu plaću. Nu na tome uz brdo nema više litica je, a uzko je, da bez toga možemo biti...” “And so I can’t start, i.e., finish the works in Lukačuša as I said. There’s some hope to find something still here, for one day above the church I found a fragment of palm sticking out of the ground. Also found was that half a column at the bottom of Vuja’s land, which was chucked into the fence, I would say that someone had split, half of which has nicely preserved ornaments with one row of letters. Tomka married: [Mandić] is against any fur-

Na žalost, te podatke sam pronašao tek poslije smrti S. Gunjače, a kako navedeni ulomci nisu investirani niti su u arhivu sačuvana naznačena pisma koja bi nam eventualno mogla dati pobliže podatke o fragmentima, nismo u mogućnosti utvrditi o kojim se spomenicima radi.

#### Dosadašnja obrada u literaturi

Prvu tiskanu vijest o nalazima s tog lokaliteta donio je Marun krajem prošlog stoljeća prilikom pronalaska natpisa ...*ENDOES*... . U svojem izvješću daje sažetu sliku stanja na lokalitetu, te objavljuje i izvadak iz pisma društvenog povjerenika V. Ardalića.<sup>81</sup> Drugom prigodom Marun piše o nastojanju da Društvo nabavi to zemljište za istraživanja,<sup>82</sup> kako bi se omogućilo otkrivanje ruševine odakle je, po predaji, vađeno gradivo za zidanje crkve sv. Ante u Ostrovici.<sup>83</sup>

U svom obimnom članku o nalazu natpisa kneza Muncimira Marun između ostalog komparativnog materijala donosi tri ulomka nađena na ovom položaju. Na njima su očuvani fragmentarni ostaci natpisa ...*BR(animir)*, *DOMNO*... i *DUCI EGO*... pa autor pretpostavlja da se tu radi o još jednom spomeniku na kojem je očuvano zapisano ime kneza Branimira.<sup>84</sup>

F. Radić, u svojstvu glavnog izvjestitelja Znanstvenog odbora Hrvatskoga starinarskog društva, izvješćuje Skupštinu o društvenoj djelatnosti na terenu i opetuje vijest o nalazu natpisa ...*ENDOES*... pod Otresom.<sup>85</sup> U drugom članku donosi opis i sliku sjekire nađene na istom položaju (slika 2).<sup>86</sup>

U svojem esejističko-romantičarskom *Vodiču V. Živić* replicira nalaze natpisa ...*ENDOES*... i sjekire iz Otrisa.<sup>87</sup>

Miho Barada osvrće se na natpise ...*DUCI EGO C*... i ...*DOMNO*... (neispravno donosi ...*DOMNA*...), analizirajući romboidno slovo *O*, koje smatra najkarakterističnijim elementom za datiranje, pa vezano s tim određuje nastanak tih dvaju ulomaka u 9. st.<sup>88</sup>

Dajući pregled iskopavanja koja je poduzeo Marun od početka stoljeća do Prvog svjetskog rata,

After several postponements<sup>70</sup> Marun decided to start excavations at the same time as those in Bribir, on April 11, 1912.<sup>71</sup> In an investigation up to the height of the church, the very next day, two fragments with interlacing ornamentation were found, parts of a transenna, an inscription with two lines of letters and a very large horn and a tooth.<sup>72</sup> In addition to more numerous finds of jewellery (earrings and rings), at the upper end of the site there were none of the stone monuments that had been expected<sup>73</sup> By the end of the excavations at this place, two more fragments of church furniture were found. On one of them, a single letter was found.<sup>74</sup>

From the few accessible data we could not ascertain what the situation in the graveyard at the eastern side of the church was like. In this part of the cemetery, research started in 1911, and was continued and concluded in 1912. Right at the begin-

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*ther clearing on her part, she wants paying again. But there alongside the hill there is no more rock, and it is narrow, and we can do without it*". In 1911 for digging on her land, K. 40 was paid to Tomka [married name] Mandić. *Obći blagajnički dnevnik*, 30. 12. 1911.

<sup>70</sup> ACAS. Ardalić's letters of 20. 3. and 8. 4. 1912.

<sup>71</sup> Marun 1998, p. 224.

<sup>72</sup> ACAS. Ardalić's letter from Gjevske, 13. 4. 1912.: "As I said, I am set for Lukačuša, and I went there these days, to the hilltop, and there and back it's a good hour and a half. When I took the workmen there today, and set them to work, about eight thirty I went to the hilltop... At Lukačuša yesterday they found two fragments of interlacing, and from the window, today some huge horn and tooth, as if from pre-historic beasts and also one inscription, two rows of letters, something was sticking out of the land, that I think you will be pleased with, which I want, now we have got to the top church, hoping that we are going to find something good..."

<sup>73</sup> ACAS. Ardalić's letter from Gjevske, 18. 4. 1912.: "Just today still in Otres, and all will be done from the upper end. There are quite a lot of earrings and rings, silver, and we haven't had much luck with inscriptions far, from the lower end nothing doing When you come we'll agree about..."

<sup>74</sup> ACAS. Ardalić's letter written when the dig was over 24. 4. 1912.: "In Lukačuša on the top it is finished Monday or Tuesday. Ten workmen were employed. They say they found just two fragments, on one, just one letter. Which I am sorry about, and they dug precisely and deeply... Now if you please to have work done at the lower end, let me know, I have lost hope, that anything more will be found, but certainly, I shall still have a go at some points around the church, for there is one wild pear tree not taken out, we found an inscription close to it, and there should be something under it... I shall arrange the payroll of Lukačuša by the time you come."

<sup>81</sup> Marun 1896, str. 124; Marun 1896A, str. 200.

<sup>82</sup> Marun 1896, str. 195.

<sup>83</sup> Marun 1901, str. 5.

<sup>84</sup> Marun 1927, str. 290, 313.

<sup>85</sup> Radić 1896, str. 200.

<sup>86</sup> Radić 1897, str. 124, 129.

<sup>87</sup> Živić 1935, str. 102, 115.

<sup>88</sup> Barada 1940, str. 411.

S. Gunjača među ostalim lokalitetima spominje i Otres,<sup>89</sup> a spomenički materijal komparativno spominje kod obrade drugih položaja.<sup>90</sup>

Zdenko Vinski je, obrađujući križni nakit na području Jugoslavije, uključio u svoju radnju i jedan zlatni prsten iz zbirke MHAS-a za koji nije bilo poznato mjesto nalaza. Znalo se da potječe sa šireg područja Dalmatinske zagore, između rijeka Zrmanje i Cetine.<sup>91</sup> Uz kratku katalošku obradu utvrdio je da je prsten kasnoantički proizvod iz 5. - 6. st., kojem podrijetlo treba tražiti na istočnom Mediteranu,<sup>92</sup> a u naše krajeve je dospio kao istočnorimski import. Autor je ostavio mogućnost da se takva skupina nakita mogla po tim uzorcima proizvoditi i u romanjskim radionicama na jadranskoj obali ili negdje u balkansko-maloazijskim regijama.<sup>93</sup>

K. Jurišić u svojoj monografskoj obradi života i djela L. Maruna ekscipira njegov tiskani govor na trinaestoj godišnjoj skupštini Društva,<sup>94</sup> gdje među lokalitetima za koje nedostaju sredstva za istraživanje nabraja i Otres.<sup>95</sup>

Duje Jelovina još se jednom osvrće na sjekiru iz Otresa, smještajući je u vremenski okvir od 9. do 12. st.<sup>96</sup> Donoseći kratku vijest o revizijskom arheološkom istraživanju na položaju Otres, isti autor konstatira otkriće temeljnih ostataka zidova starohrvatske crkve, pronalazak nekoliko kamenih ulomaka crkvenog namještaja ukrašenih pleternom plastikom iz 9. st., kao i nekoliko starohrvatskih grobova.<sup>97</sup>

Vedrana Delonga se kod obrade ulomka predromaničke pleterne plastike iz obližnje crkve sv. Ante u Ostrovici komparativno osvrnula na neke stilske dekorativne značajke starohrvatske skulpture iz Otresa kao i na rezultate revizijskog istraživanja, precizirajući da su tu nađeni ostaci romaničke jednobrodne crkve s kasnosrednjovjekovnom nekropolom.<sup>98</sup>

ning it turned out that in this part of the necropolis, there were material goods in the graves. This is confirmed by data about the find of a ring with a stone, a small silver three-bead earring and the collective find of a “escudo-ish” coin of Orio Malipiero and iron buckles.<sup>75</sup> The presence of goods in the graves was confirmed the following year, when quite a lot of silver earrings and rings were found in the graves.<sup>76</sup>

The interruption of operations, which were never renewed, occurred because of the demand of the owner of one parcel, to pay her fee again<sup>77</sup>, if they wanted to dig over her land, to which Marun and Ardalić did not agree. Having explored the area leased, they gave up on further digs. The later find of a fragment of a beam up to 30 cm in size with interlacing ornament by the brook showed that the monuments were scattered over the wider area.<sup>78</sup>

We found the last report about the archaeological site of Otres in the protocol register of the Museum of 1936, where there is a note about a letter in which Drago Ivanković of Bribirske Mostine wrote to Gunjača “that the peasant Simo Mandić had agreed to sell to the Museum two stones”<sup>79</sup> and in a second letter “that they had sent the Old Croatian fragments by bus”.<sup>80</sup>

Unluckily, I found this information only after the death of Gunjača, and since the fragments were not inventoried, and since there was no trace in the archives the letters indicated that might perhaps have been able to give us more detail information about the fragments, we are not able to establish which of the monuments are concerned here.

#### Discussion in the literature to date

The first printed report about the finds from the site was made by Marun at the end of the 19<sup>th</sup> century when the inscription ...*ENDOES*... was discovered. In his report he gives a condensed picture of

<sup>89</sup> Gunjača 1958, str. 21.

<sup>90</sup> Gunjača 1958A, str. 112.

<sup>91</sup> Vinski 1968, str. 105.

<sup>92</sup> Vinski 1968, str. 112-113.

<sup>93</sup> Vinski 1968, str. 118-119.

<sup>94</sup> Jurišić 1979, str. 54.

<sup>95</sup> Jurišić 1979, str. 54.

<sup>96</sup> Gunjača, Jelovina 1976, str. 74 (veći primjerak), str. 110.

<sup>97</sup> Jelovina 1981, str. 247-248.

<sup>98</sup> Delonga 1982, str. 79.

<sup>75</sup> ACAS. Marun, Concept, 17. 10. 1911.

<sup>76</sup> ACAS. Ardalić's letter from Bribir, 18. 4. 1912.

<sup>77</sup> ACAS. Ardalić's letter of 18. 3. 1912.

<sup>78</sup> ACAS. Ardalić's letter from Gjevske, 8. 4. 1913. “*This morning I went to Otres, where my brother Gajo, clearing by the ditch of the brook, rubble, found a fragment of a sill up to 30 cm long with interlacing, this is good proof, that they took stone from the church for their Lukačeva enclosure, when there is some for the brook further off...*”

<sup>79</sup> ACAS. Letter dated 16. 11. 1936; the peasant wanted 100 dinars for them, with payment at his address.

<sup>80</sup> ACAS. The letter is dated 26. 11. 1936.

## Arheološka istraživanja i preliminarne spoznaje

Arheološki lokalitet Otres zaokupio je pozornost istraživača još 1895. godine, kada je na tom položaju L. Marun utvrdio postojanje zasutih ostataka jedne crkve.

Prva arheološka iskopavanja poduzeo je Prvi muzej hrvatskih spomenika 1911. i 1912. godine. Tijekom tih iskopavanja nije se vodila dokumentacija tako da je za znanost ostao nepoznat oblik tada otkrivene crkve, za koju se pretpostavljalo da je bila ukrašena predromaničkom pleternom plastikom koja je tom prilikom dospjela u fundus Muzeja. Po završetku tih radova cijela istražena površina bila je zasuta zemljom.

U nakani da se utvrdi stvarno stanje objekta pristupa se 1977. godine revizijskom istraživanju tog lokaliteta. Tada su otkriveni temelji srušene crkve veličine 10,70 x 7 metara. Crkvu karakterizira široki i kratki brod te obla apsida na istočnoj strani. Tipološka analiza osnove crkvenog objekta ukazivala je da ga treba uvrstiti među romaničke građevine. No takav se zaključak morao prihvatiti s rezervom, budući da s tog lokaliteta potječu već prije spomenuti ulomci kamenog crkvenog namještaja ukrašeni starohrvatskom pleternom skulpturom, koji su svojim dekorativnim i epigrafsko-paleografskim elementima i uklesanim vladarskim atributima na natpisnim poljima upućivali na nastanak u vrijeme kneza Branimira. Na jednom ulomku bila su očuvana i početna slova imena tog vladara.

Dvojba radi li se tu o predromaničkoj ili romaničkoj građevini, riješena je kad je u temeljnoj stopi crkve nađena polovica pluteja ukrašena pleternom plastikom i polovica menze, a dospjele su onamo kao spoliji prilikom izgradnje crkve. Time je sa sigurnošću utvrđeno da je starija predromanička crkva služila kao izvor građevinskog materijala pri izgradnji romaničke crkve. Kako je ova potonja izgrađena na litici, a jednim joj dijelom temelji leže i na sterilnom zemljanom tlu, isključena je mogućnost da se starija crkva nalazila ispod nje pa su se njezini ostaci trebali tražiti u neposrednoj blizini.

Nastavak revizijskog istraživanja uslijedio je 1983. godine.

## Revizijsko istraživanje

### Situacija

Nakon prekida prvih istraživanja zidovi crkve zasuti su zemljanom nasipom s nakanom da se na

the situation at the site, and publishes a section from the letter of the society's commissioner, Ardalić.<sup>81</sup> On another occasion, Marun wrote about the efforts for the Society to obtain this land for research,<sup>82</sup> in order to enable the unearthing of the ruins from which, according to tradition, building material was taken to build the church of St Anthony in Ostrovica.<sup>83</sup>

In his lengthy article about the finding of the inscription of Duke Muncimir, Marun, including other comparative material, referred to three fragments found at this site. Extant on them are fragmentary remains of the inscription *BR(animir), DOMNO...* and *DUCI EGO...* and the writer hypothesizes that this is one more monument on which the written name of Duke Branimir is preserved.<sup>84</sup>

F. Radić, in his capacity as main reporter of the Scholarly Committee of the Croatian Antiquarian Society, informed the Assembly about the society's activity in the field and repeats information about the find of the inscription *ENDOES* at Otres.<sup>85</sup> Another article of his gives a description and an image of the axe found at the same site (Fig. 2).<sup>86</sup>

In his *Guide*, written in the style of a romantic essay, V. Živić repeats the finds of the inscription ... *ENDOES...* and the axe from Otres.<sup>87</sup>

Miho Barada refers to the inscriptions ... *DUCI EGO C...* and ... *DOMNO* (which he incorrectly renders as ... *DOMNA...*) analysing the rhomboidal letter O, which he thinks the most characteristic element for dating, and in connection with this determines the origin of these two fragments as being in the 9<sup>th</sup> century.<sup>88</sup>

Giving a review of the excavations undertaken by Marun from the beginning of the century up to World War I, Gunjača, among the other sites also brings in Otres,<sup>89</sup> and mentions the monumental material by way of comparison when he discusses other sites.<sup>90</sup>

In a discussion of cross-shaped jewellery in Yugoslavia, Zdenko Vinski included in his dissertation

<sup>81</sup> Marun 1896, p. 124; Marun 1896A, p. 200.

<sup>82</sup> Marun 1896, p. 195.

<sup>83</sup> Marun 1901, p. 5.

<sup>84</sup> Marun 1927, p. 290, 313.

<sup>85</sup> Radić 1896, p. 200.

<sup>86</sup> Radić 1897, p. 124, 129.

<sup>87</sup> Živić 1935, p. 102, 115.

<sup>88</sup> Barada 1940, p. 411.

<sup>89</sup> Gunjača 1958, p. 21.

<sup>90</sup> Gunjača 1958A, p. 112.

taj način spriječi njihovo urušavanje. Na nekropoli koja je istraživana prekopavanjem, a to znači da je novim otkopom zemlje zasipan već otkriveni prostor, nije došlo do bitnih promjena u konfiguraciji terena.

S druge strane, takvo svježe iskrčeno zemljište pružilo je idealne uvjete za nekontroliran rast bujne vegetacije, jasenovih i hrastovih stabala, što je sve zajedno stvorilo neprohodnu šikaru. Takvu situaciju zatekli smo kod našega prvog posjeta nalazištu 1976. godine, kada smo planirali reviziju ranijih istraživanja.<sup>99</sup>

Nakon odstranjivanja raslinja moglo se jasno zamijetiti da je cijeli kompleks smješten pri rubu zaravnane glavice, koja strmo pada na južnoj, a nešto blaže na istočnoj strani. Iz tih razloga, a zbog djelovanja erozije, naslage zemlje nešto su tanje od onih na sjevernoj i zapadnoj strani. Na tako lagano ukošenom terenu uočavali su se obrisi zasutih crkvenih zidova što su se izrazitije dizali iznad ulegnute unutrašnjosti crkvenog broda. Nad južnim zidom crkve stajala je uspravljena ploča poda s pravokutnim ležištima za pilastre, dok je s vanjske strane apside koja se nazirala stajala monolitna kamena ploča uspravljena “na nož”, za koju se poslije ispostavilo da je sekundarno služila kao poklopnica groba. U svojoj prvoj funkciji dugo je služila kao prag neke građevine, na što ukazuju duboki kanali utrti okretanjem vrata na njezinoj površini.

### Tijek iskopavanja

Prvi i osnovni cilj revizijskog arheološkoga zahvata bio je da se istraži crkveni objekt i ustanovi njegov oblik. Iako je konfiguracija terena stvarala poteškoće već u početku radova, odlučeno je da se kod iskopavanja primijeni metodološki princip vodoravne stratigrafije, kako bi se uočilo što više pokazatelja o načinu i širini prijašnjih arheoloških istraživanja. Stoga je prije početka rada na otkopavanju crkvenih zidova prostor istraživanja razdijeljen mrežom kvadrata veličine 4 x 4 metra.

Nakon postavljanja kvadratne mreže pristupilo se sustavnom spuštanju terena u kvadratima VIII., IX., X., XIV., XV. i XVI., koji su prekrivali zemljište na kojem je ležala crkva.

Bilo je očekivano da će se ostaci zidova najprije pojaviti na sjevernoj strani, gdje je visina nasipa ukazivala na njihovu najvišu očuvanost. To se po-

a gold ring from the MCAM collection the finding site of which was unknown. It was known that it derived from the general area of the Dalmatian hinterland, between the Zrmanja and Cetina rivers.<sup>91</sup> In addition to providing a short catalogue study, he established that the ring was a Late Antique production from the 5<sup>th</sup> to the 6<sup>th</sup> century, the origin of which should be sought in the eastern Mediterranean,<sup>92</sup> arriving in this region as an import from the Eastern Roman Empire. He allowed for the possibility that such a group of jewellery could have been produced according to these models in the Romanesque workshops on the Adriatic coastline, or else somewhere in the regions of the Balkans and Asia Minor.<sup>93</sup>

In his monograph on the life and work of Marun, K. Jurišić gives an extract of his printed speech at the thirteenth annual assembly of the Society,<sup>94</sup> in which he lists Otres among those sites for which there were insufficient research funds.<sup>95</sup>

Duje Jelovina refers one more time to the Otres axe, placing it somewhere from the 9<sup>th</sup> to the 12<sup>th</sup> century.<sup>96</sup> Giving a short account of the archaeological reinvestigation at Otres, the same writer refers to the discovery of the remains of the wall foundations of the Old Croatian church, the find of several stone fragments of church furniture decorated with interlacing carving of the 9<sup>th</sup> century and of several Old Croatian graves.<sup>97</sup>

Discussing fragments of pre-Romanesque interlacing carving from the nearby church of St Anthony in Ostrovica, Vedrana Delonga referred by way of comparison to several stylistic decorative features of Old Croatian sculpture from Otres and to the results of the revision excavation, making the precise statement that the remains of a Romanesque single nave church had been found here together with a late medieval graveyard.<sup>98</sup>

<sup>91</sup> Vinski 1968, p. 105.

<sup>92</sup> Vinski 1968, p. 112-113.

<sup>93</sup> Vinski 1968, p. 118-119.

<sup>94</sup> Jurišić 1979, p. 54.

<sup>95</sup> Jurišić 1979, p. 54.

<sup>96</sup> Gunjača, Jelovina 1976, p. 74 (bigger example), p. 110.

<sup>97</sup> Jelovina 1981, pp. 247-248.

<sup>98</sup> Delonga 1982, p. 79.

<sup>99</sup> Lokalitet su obišli S. Gunjača, N. Jakšić i M. Zekan.

tvrdilo već prvi dan, kada su se nakon uklanjanja sloja zemlje debljine 20 cm pojavili gornji kameni blokovi. Pomno odstranjujući slojeve zemlje u debljini od 15 cm, nakon deset dana otkrili smo u cijelosti brod i zidove kvadratne crkve s oblom apsidom na istočnoj strani. Prilikom istraživanja zidova ustanovili smo da su uz njih prislonjeni grobovi, što je iniciralo istraživanje nekropole.

Otkriveni smještaj crkve pokazao je da je kvadratna mreža zahvatila prostor dosta udaljen od njezinih zidova pa se nije u ovoj fazi istraživanja pristupilo iskupu krajnjih istočnih kvadrata I., VII., XIII., XIX. i XXV., kao i kvadrata VI., XII., XVI-II. i XXIV., dok se pri kraju kampanje ipak izvršio manji zahvat u kvadratu XXX. na zapadnoj strani, o čemu će biti riječi poslije.

Kvadrati II. - IV. južnim su stranicama smješteni uz rub padine, odakle se zemljište blago diže prema sjeveru i nešto izrazitije prema zapadu, tj. prema kvadratu V.

Kvadrat II. Taj je kvadrat smješten u uglu zaravni glavice. Debljina humusnog sloja je 5 - 10 cm. Maksimalna dubina donjeg sloja je 20 cm, s velikom primjesom vapnene žbuke. Bez arheoloških nalaza. Ranije prekopavan.

Kvadrat III. Debljina humusnog sloja 10 cm. Maksimalna dubina kvadrata je 60 cm. Zemlja crnica, s ponegdje većom primjesom vapnene žbuke, osobito blizu zidova i kvadrata II. Ustanovljeno je postojanje slabih ostataka grobne arhitekture, koja je uništena prethodnim istraživanjima.

Kvadrat IV. Debljina humusnog sloja 10 cm. Maksimalna dubina 90 cm. Osobitosti zemljišta kao u prethodnom kvadratu. U sredini ovog kvadrata, na dubini od 35 cm, iznad same litice nađen je ulomak s ostatkom natpisa ...*ANN*..., iznad kojeg se uočava dio pojasa ukrašenog *peretz* motivom. Ispod ruba litice, a na južnoj strani kvadrata utvrđeno je postojanje grobova, koji su ostali neistraženi.

Kvadrat V. Debljina humusnog sloja 15 cm. Maksimalna dubina pri zapadnom kraju je 130 cm. Zemlja je crnica s tragovima vapnene žbuke. U kvadratu su zatečena dva otvorena groba (32 i 33), među kojima je nađen obični brončani prsten.

Kvadrat VIII. Debljina humusnog sloja je 10 cm. Maksimalna dubina kvadrata je 70 cm. Zemljište sadrži veliku primjesu vapnene žbuke. Na dubini od 30 cm našli su se ostaci apside za čiji je zid upotrijebljen i dio kolone. Na dubini od 40 cm nađen je grob 1.

## Archaeological investigations and preliminary insights

The archaeological site of Otres had drawn the attention of researchers since 1895, when at this site Marun established that there were the buried remains of a church. The first excavations were carried out by the First Museum of Croatian Monuments in 1911 and 1912. During these digs, no documentation was kept, and scholarship still did not know the shape of the church then uncovered, hypothesized to have been decorated with pre-Romanesque interlacing sculpture, which on that occasion arrived in the holdings of the Museum. At the end of the works, the whole of the area explored was covered with earth.

With the intention of finding out the real state of this feature, in 1977 the revision excavation of the site was addressed. Then the foundations of the ruined church, sized 10.70 x 7 metres, were discovered. The church featured a broad, short nave, and a round apse to the east. Analysis of the typology of the foundations of the structure showed that it should be classified as Romanesque. But this kind of conclusion can be accepted with reservations, since from this site come the already mentioned fragments of stone church furnishing decorated with Old Croatian interlacing carving, which indicate, in their decorative, epigraphic and palaeographic elements and the carved attributes of the ruler in the epigraphic fields, that they were produced at the time of Duke Branimir. One of the fragments actually contains the initial letters of the name of this ruler.

The dilemma as to whether this is a pre-Romanesque or a Romanesque building is resolved when in the footings of the church half a pluteus was found, decorated with interlacing sculpture and half a mensa, being incorporated as spolia during the building of the Romanesque church. Since this is built on a cliff, and in part lies on a sterile earthen base, there is no chance that an older church lay beneath it, the remains of it having to be searched for in the immediate vicinity.

The continuation of the revision excavations came in 1983.

## Revision excavations

### Situation

After the interruption of the first excavation, the walls of the church were covered with soil, the in-



Kvadrat IX. Humusni je sloj debljine 5-10 cm. Dubina kvadrata različita je i varira od 20 cm unutar crkvenog broda do 60 cm iznad osnove crkve. U zemlji je bila velika primjesa vapnene žbuke. U tom kvadratu nađeni su grobovi 26 i 27, koji su smješteni s vanjske strane zida crkve te grob 28, prilikom čije gradnje je do temelja razoren crkveni zid. Na taj je način uništeno koljeno između apside i longitudinalnoga južnog zida. Rušenju zida pridonijela je i izgradnja groba 29, od kojeg je ostao samo dio rake ukopan u laporastu liticu. U liticu je gotovo u cijelosti ukopan i grob 31, koji je svojim smještajem u crkvenom brodu pridonio razbijanju pločnika kao i kružno zidane jame u sredini crkve. Polovica ovoga groba proteže se u kvadrat X.

Kvadrat X. Slojevi u tom kvadratu istovjetni su kao i u prethodnom, s razlikom što je sloj uza zid deo 75 cm. Pokraj zidova, a unutar crkvenog broda, nađeni su manji tragovi pločnika. Zid je očuvan u visini od dva reda kamena. S vanjske strane južnog zida položeni su grobovi 24 i 25, s tragovima oštećenja od ranijih istraživanja. U temelju čelnog zida crkve uložen je kao spolij ulomak rimske kolone.

Kvadrat XI. Humusni sloj deo je 10-15 cm. Maksimalna dubina kvadrata je 120 cm. Zemlja je crnica. Pred čelnim zidom crkve zamijećene su veće primjese vapnene žbuke. Tijekom istraživanja preko dijela kvadrata prevožena je zemlja koja je deponirana na tridesetak metara udaljenu liticu. Širina tog neistraženog "mosta" je 80 cm, a pruža se od jugozapadnog ugla crkve prema sjeverozapadnom uglu kvadrata. Sa sjeverne strane "mosta", na dubini od 50 do 65 cm u zemlji su nađena dva ulomka glazirane keramike, a uz nasip je ležao dosta oštećen grob 23. Na južnoj strani kvadrata, na dubini između 45-50 cm nađeno je pet pločica za apliciranje od tankog lima.

Kvadrat XIV. Debljina humusnog sloja je 10 cm. Maksimalna dubina kvadrata je 95 cm. U zemlji je bilo velikih primjesa vapnene žbuke. Prislonjen uz vanjsku stranu apside, na dubini od 20 cm, nađen je grob 2, nad kojim se nalazila uspravljena monolitna kamena ploča, za koju smo već prije utvrdili da je služila kao prag vrata. Zid apside očuvan je u donjem redu kamena. S istočne strane koljena, koji tvore sjeverni longitudinalni zid i apsida, nađen je ulomak prozorske rešetke.

Kvadrat XV. Situacija je kao u kvadratu IX. Prostor kvadrata zauzima sjeveroistočni ugao cr-

vention of which was to prevent them collapsing. The graveyard was dug over in the research, which means that the space was covered with the new piles of earth, there were no essential changes in the configuration of the ground.

On the other hand this kind of freshly cleared ground provided ideal conditions for the uncontrolled growth of luxuriant vegetation, trees of ash and oak, which all together created impenetrable scrubland. We found this kind of situation in our first visit to the site in 1976, when we planned a reinvestigation of earlier research<sup>99</sup>

When the vegetation had been removed, it was easier to see that the whole complex was located on the edge of a flattened hilltop, which dipped sharply on the southern and a little more softly on the eastern side. For these reasons, and because of the work of erosion, the earth deposits were thinner than those on the northern and western sides. On this slightly slanting ground the outlines of the buried church walls could be found, which started out rather distinctly above the settled interior of the nave. Over the southern wall of the church was an upright slab of a wall with right-angled housings for pilasters; on the outside of the apse that could be made out was a monolithic stone slab straightened "on a knife edge", that was subsequently determined to have served secondarily as the lid of a grave. In its first use, it was long used as the threshold of some building, which was shown by the deep grooves made by the turning of a door over the surface of it.

#### The course of the excavations

The first and the fundamental objective of the revision archaeological operation was to explore the church feature and establish its shape. Although the configuration of the ground caused problems right at the outset of the works, it was decided to apply in the excavations the methodological principle of horizontal stratigraphy so as to observe as many indications as possible of the manner and extent of the previous archaeological excavations. And so before the beginning of the work on the excavation of the walls of the church, the research area was divided into a network of squares 4 x 4 metres in size.

After the establishment of the network of squares, the systematic lowering of the ground in

<sup>99</sup> The sites were toured by S. Gunjača, N. Jakšić and M. Zekan.

kve, gdje su otkopani ostaci zida visokog 30 cm. U unutrašnjosti crkve otkriveni su ostaci podnice načinjene od debelih priklesanih kamenih ploča. U jednoj od njih, u uglu crkve, nađen je ulomljen ostatak kvadratnog stupa koji je učvršćen u pripremljenu rupu. Uz pločnik je ležala i baza kaneliranog stupa. Na križanju ovog kvadrata i kvadrata XVI. smještena je okrugla zidana rupa dubine 80 cm. U njoj smo pronašli grob 30. Unutar groba nađena su dva kockasta kamena bloka u kojima je uklesana po jedna rupa kvadratnog oblika.<sup>100</sup>

Kvadrat XVI. Situacija je kao u prethodnom kvadratu, osim što je uz sjeverni zid očuvan sloj maksimalne debljine 130 cm. Ovaj je kvadrat zahvaćao sjeverozapadnu četvrtinu crkve. Uz zapadni zid, cijelom dužinom stranice kvadrata, otkriveni su ostaci izvornog poda crkve načinjenog od debelih priklesanih kamenih ploča. Ostatak sjevernog zida najočuvaniji je dio crkvenog objekta. Na tom dijelu šest redova kamena seže do visine od 105 cm. S unutrašnje strane zida, u trećem redu iznad pločnika, pronađeni su kao spoliji donja polovica pluteja i veći ulomak oltarne ploče (menze) okrenuti licem prema gore (sl. 3, 1). U temelju sjeverozapadnog ugla crkve nalazi se uloženi obrađeni i profilirani kameni blok koji je pripadao nepoznatoj građevini iz jedne od prethodnih faza. Profilirani blok nalazi se umetnut i u temelj čelnog zida, gdje je služio kao prag crkvenih vrata.

Kvadrat XVII. Situacija je kao u kvadratu XI. Kvadrat je zahvaćao prostor ispred sjevernog dijela čelnog zida crkve. Na dubini od 40 cm nađen je grob 21, pokriven monolitnom kamenom pločom. Ploča je dijelom uvaljena u grobnu raku, vjerojatno u vrijeme ranijih zahvata. Tešku kamenu ploču nismo uspjeli izvaditi pa je grob ostao neistražen. Dvadeset centimetara ispod razine ovog groba nalazili su se ukopi u grobovima 20 i 22. Oba groba su devastirana prijašnjim istraživanjima. Grob 22 na svom se istočnom kraju uvukao za 5 cm pod nesolidan temelj crkve.

Kvadrat XX. Debljina humusnog sloja je 15 cm. Ispod njega nalazi se sloj nekad obrađivane pročišćene zemlje debljine od 25 do 30 cm. Donji sloj je sterilna zemlja crvenica pomiješana s velikom količinom sitnih kamenčića (škalje). U tom sloju nađen je neoskvrnut grob 3.

squares VIII, IX, X, XIV, XV, and XVI was addressed, covering the ground on which the church lay.

It was expected that the remains of the walls would appear first of all on the northern side, where the height of the fill indicated they were in the best state of preservation. This was borne out the very first day, when after the removal of a 20-cm thick layer of earth, the top stone blocks appeared. Carefully removing the layers of earth to a thickness of 15 cm, after ten days we discovered the whole of the nave and the walls of a square church with a round apse on the eastern side. While exploring the walls, we found that graves abutted them, which led to an excavation of the graveyard.

The accommodation of the church discovered showed that the square network covered a space quite distant from its walls, and so, in this phase of the research, the excavation of the far easterly squares, I, VI, XIII, XIX and XXV was not attempted; nor was that of squares VI, XII, XVIII and XXIV; while at about the end of the campaign, a small operation in square XXX on the western side was carried out to be discussed below.

Squares II to IV on their southern sides were located along the edge of the slope whence the land rises gently to the north and somewhat more markedly to the west, i.e., in the direction of square V.

Square II. This square is located in the corner of the plateau of the hilltop, The humus layer is some 5 to 10 cm thick. The maximum depth of the lower stratum is 20 cm, with a large admixture of lime mortar. No archaeological finds. Dug earlier.

Square III. A 10 cm deep humus layer. Maximum depth of the square is 60 cm. Black soil, with in places a larger admixture of lime mortar, particularly close to the walls and square II. The existence of slight traces of grave architecture was established, but it had been destroyed by previous research.

Square IV. Humus layer 10 cm thick. Maximum depth 90 cm. Plot features as in the previous square. In the centre of this square, at a depth of 35 cm, right above the cliff, a fragment was found with the remains of an inscription: /...ANN...., above which could be seen part of a zone decorated with the *pretzel* motif. Below the edge of the cliff, on the southern side of the square, the existence of graves was ascertained, but they were not investigated.

Square V. The thickness of the humus layer was 15 cm. Maximum depth at the western end was 130

<sup>100</sup> Marun vjerojatno misli na njih kada donosi vijest o postojanju malih kamenica. AHSD. Marun, Konzept, 17. 10. 1911.

Kvadrat XXI. Situacija je ista kao u prethodnom kvadratu. Okomita stratigrafija je izmijenjena uza zid crkve, gdje se primjećuje da je zemljište u širini od jednog metra ispremiješano, što je ukazalo na širinu prijašnjih istraživanja. Tada je došlo do devastacije groba 4, koji se nalazio 30 cm ispod površine. Na istoj dubini nađen je i grob 9, u kojem smo našli dva srebrna novčića. Na dubini od 55 do 60 cm nađeni su u zemlji ulomak stakla i keramičke posude. Grob 5, koji je ležao ispod groba 4, ostao je nezamijećen kod prijašnjih radova pa je nađen očuvan u cijelosti. Grob 11 je već bio djelomično istražen i urušen. Ta dva groba, uz još četiri druga (6, 7, 8, 10) nađena su na dubini od 50 do 75 cm i pripadaju istom stratumu grobova. Različitu razinu uvjetovala je nepravilna konfiguracija terena.

Kvadrat XXII. Situacija je istovjetna prethodnom kvadratu, osim što je primjetno izdizanje donjeg sloja prema zapadu uvjetovalo istu takvu promjenu kod nivelete terena. Neposredno ispod sloja humusa našli smo grob 14. Na dubini od 45 cm nađen je devastirani grob 13. Ispod groba 14 ležao je grob 15. Uza zid crkve na dubini od 75 cm nalazio se grob 12. U prostoru između ta dva groba nađen je na dubini od 60 cm ulomak staklene posude, a pet centimetara ispod nje ulomak pluteja (inv. br. 2264). U jugozapadnom dijelu kvadrata, uz ugao crkve, a u pravcu čelnog zida, bio je “na nož” postavljen obrađeni i profilirani kameni blok.

Kvadrat XXIII. Situacija je u cijelosti istovjetna s prethodnim kvadratom. Na dubini od 35 cm, u zemlji između ugla groba 16 i uzglavnice groba 20, našao se obični prsten (21). Djelomično sačuvani pokrov groba 16 nalazio se na dubini od 50 cm. Devastirani grobovi 17 i 19, koji se nalaze ispod razine prije naznačenoga groba, ukazuju na to da je ovaj prostor bio zahvaćen prijašnjim istraživanjima.

Kada je na sjecištu kvadrata XXIII. i XXIV. nađen grob 17, koji se pružao pod kvadrata XXIX. i XXX., pristupilo se njegovu cjelovitom otkopavanju. Tako započet rov produžen je prema sjeverozapadu u nakani da se ustanovi pravac širenja nekropole, uz očekivanje da bi se mogli pojaviti i tragovi starije crkve, iz koje potječu starohrvatski ulomci. Nalaz groba 18 ukazao je na to da se nekropola širila prema sjeveru, da se grobovi zbog izdignutog terena nalaze na većoj dubini i da bi buduća istraživanja trebala usmjeriti sjeverno od istraženog područja. Tragovi koji bi ukazali na prisutnost arhitekture nisu uočeni.

cm. Black earth with traces of lime mortar. Two open graves were found in the square (32 and 33), between which a bronze ring was discovered.

Square VIII. Thickness of the humus layer 10 cm. Maximum depth in this square was 70 cm. The plot contains a large admixture of lime mortar. At a depth of 30 cm, the remains of an apse were found; the wall of the apse was used as part of the column. Grave 1 was found at a depth of 40 cm.

Square IX. Humus stratum 5 to 10 cm thick. The depth of this square varied from 20 cm within the nave to 60 cm over the foundation of the church. There was a large admixture of lime mortar in the earth. Found in this square were graves 26 and 27, located on the outer side of the wall of the church, and grave 28, during the building of which the wall of the church was damaged down to the foundations. In this manner the angle between the apse and the longitudinal southern wall was destroyed. Also contributing to the damage of the wall was the construction of grave 29, only a part of the pit of which has remained, dug into the marly cliff. Grave 31 is almost entirely dug into the cliff, the location of it within the nave contributing to the breaking of the pavement and the circularly built pit in the centre of the church. Half of this grave stretches into square X.

Square X. The strata in this square are the same as in the preceding square, with the difference that the stratum along the wall is 75 cm thick. By the walls, in the nave, small traces of paving were found. The wall is extant up to the height of two courses of stones. On the outside of the southern wall, graves 24 and 25 are placed, with traces of damage inflicted by earlier excavations. In the foundation of the front wall of the church, a fragment of a Roman column has been incorporated.

Square XI. The humus layer is 10 to 15 cm thick. The maximum depth of the square is 120 cm. Black earth. In front of the front wall of the church, larger admixtures of lime mortar were observed. During researches over part of the square, earth was carried that was deposited on the thirty-metre distant cliff. The width of this unexcavated bridge is 80 cm, and it extends from the south-west corner of the church off towards the north-west corner of the square. On the northern side of the “bridge” at a depth of 50 to 65 m, two fragments of glazed ware were found, and alongside the fill was grave 23, fairly damaged. On the southern side of the square, at a depth of

U istu svrhu kao i kod prethodnog rova poduzeto je iskopavanje još jednog profila 15 m zapadno od crkve. Rov usmjeren sjever-jug postavljen je upravo na granici gdje zemljana površina prelazi u krševitu kosu, na koju smo deponirali zemlju od iskopa. Dužina rova je 15 m, dok je širina 80 cm. Njegovo istraživanje nije dalo pozitivne arheološke rezultate pa smo mogli utvrditi da se nekropola ne proteže dalje na zapad.

#### PLUTEJI:

**I. Inv. br. 2260 (T. I, 1).** Materijal: vapnenac. Veličine: visina 96 cm, širina 64 cm, debljina 9 cm. Letva je visoka 21,5 cm i deblja je dva centimetra od pluteja. Smještaj: MHAS - lapidarij. Pronađen: gornji dio 1911. g. (kao poklopnicu groba zajedno s plutejom pod inv. br. 2262),<sup>101</sup> a donji dio 1977. g. (kao spolij u zidu crkve).

Plutej je spojen od dva dijela u zajedničku cjelinu, a ugaoni dijelovi letve su restaurirani. Na ukrasnom polju pluteja uklesan je motiv križa u arkadi. Donji dio arkade formiraju stupići čija je površina ukrašena troprutim dvopletom, kao što je slučaj i s ukrašavanjem lika koji naliježe na stilizirane kapitule. Središnji prostor ispunjava latinski križ kojemu je vodoravna hasta ispunjena cjelovitom vrpcom troprutog dvopleta, dok se istovrsni ukras okomite haste upravo tu prekida. U donjem dijelu pluteja, sa strana križa, smještena je po jedna palmeta, a u gornjem dijelu po jedna virovita rozeta s naglašenim središtem. Paralelni prutovi koji se lome pod pravim kutom ispunjavaju trokutasti prostor iznad arkade u gornjim uglovima pluteja. Lijeva strana ukrasnog polja pluteja pretrpjela je oštećenja najvjerojatnije od djelovanja biljnih kiselina. Iznad ukrasnog polja nalazi se izbočena vodoravna letva čiji je središnji dio uokviren pojasnicom ukrašen prepletom triju troprutih vrpca.

**II. Od ovog pluteja očuvana su tri ulomka (inv. br. 2012, 2025 i 2263),** od kojih su prva dva spojena, a zajedno s trećim pripadaju njegovoj desnoj gornjoj polovici. Na osnovi njihove debljine vežemo ih uz plutej sličan prethodnom.

**Inv. br. 2012 i 2025 (T. I, 4).** Materijal: vapnenac. Veličine: visina 21 cm, širina 19 cm, debljina 8 cm. Smještaj: MHAS - lapidarij. Pronađen: 1911. ili 1912. godine.

between 45 and 50 cm, five thin metal sheeting appliqué-plaquettes were found.

Square XIV. The humus stratum was 10 cm thick. Maximum depth of the square was 95 cm. There was a large admixture of lime mortar in the soil. Grave number 2 abutted the outer side of the apse at a depth of 20 cm, and over it was an upright monolithic stone slab which we had earlier established to have been used as the threshold of the door. The wall of the apse was preserved in the lower course of stones. On the eastern side of the join or angle, created by the northern longitudinal wall and the apse, a fragment of window grating was found.

Square XV. The situation was the same as that of square IX. The space of the square occupied the north-east corner of the church, where the remains of wall 30 cm high were excavated. In the interior of the church the remains of flooring were found, made of thick, roughly dressed stone slabs. In one of them, in the corner of the church the broken remainder of a square column was found, fitted into a hole prepared for it. Alongside the paving lay the base of a fluted column. At the crossing of this square and square XVI there was a round masonry-built hole, 80 cm in depth. In it we found grave 30. Inside the grave were two cuboid stone blocks each of which had a square shaped hole carved out of it.<sup>100</sup>

Square XVI. The situation was the same as that which obtained in the previous square, except that alongside the northern wall a stratum of maximum thickness of 130 cm was extant. This square covered the north-west quarter of the church. Alongside the western wall, the whole length of the side of the square, the remains of the original flooring of the church were found, made of thick, roughly dressed stone flags. The remainder of the northern wall was the best preserved part of the church structure. In this part, six courses of stone reached a height of 105 cm. Inside the wall, in the third course above the paving, the lower half of a pluteus was found, spolia built into the wall, and a large fragment of an altar slab (mensa), with its faced turned upwards (Fig. 3, 1) Fitted into the foundation of the north-west corner of the church is a worked and moulded stone block that once belonged to an unknown building of one of the previous phases. The moulded block is also fitted into the foundation of

<sup>100</sup> Marun probably was thinking of them when he gave the news about the existence of the small stone vessels. ACAS. Marun, Concept, 17. 10. 1911.

<sup>101</sup> AHSD. Ardalićevo pismo iz Lukačuše od 6. 11. 1911.

Na licu ulomka ostala je profilacija gornjeg dijela stupića s tragovima troprute pletenice na njegovoj površini. Nad stupićem se nalazi stilizirani kapitel s formiranim krinom u sredini. Iznad kapitela nalazi se dočetak luka arkade. Na lijevom dijelu ulomka vidljiv je ostatak dvaju listova koji su pripadali palmeti, dok se na desnoj strani nalazi rubna letva.

**Inv. br. 2263 (T. I, 5).** Materijal: vapnenac. Veličine: visina 26 cm, širina 14 cm, debljina 9 cm. Smještaj: MHAS - lapidarij. Pronađen: 1911. ili 1912. godine.

Ulomak je ukrašen s više usporednih prutolikih narebrenja oštrog brida, koja se lome pod pravim kutom, a ispunjavali su trokutasti prostor iznad arkade u desnom gornjem kutu pluteja.

**III. Inv. br. 2261 (T. I, 2).** Materijal: vapnenac. Veličine: visina 86 cm, širina 75 cm, debljina 11 cm. Smještaj: MHAS - lapidarij. Pronađen: Prilikom iskopavanja 1911. i 1912. godine.

Plutej je restauriran na osnovi 16 spojenih izvornih ulomaka, kako je vidljivo iz oštećene arhivske fotografije.

Lice pluteja uz manje razlike ornamentirano je kao i prethodni pluteji. Manje razlike u ukrašavanju ovog pluteja u odnosu na plutej pod inv. br. 2260 vidljive su u ukrašavanju križa, jer je, za razliku od navedenog, okomita hasta ispunjena jednodijelnom pletenicama, a pletenica vodoravne haste razdvojena je u dva dijela. U prazan prostor između gornjih hasta križa i arkade nanosena je po jedna sedmerolatična rozeta. Trokutasti prostor u gornjim kutovima pluteja ispunjen je s više usporednih prutova koji se lome pod pravim kutom. Na pluteju nema gornjeg završetka u vidu vodoravne letve.

U sredinu lijeve bočne strane pluteja treba umetnuti ulomak (**inv. br. 2002 (T. II, 1)**) koji je naknadno nađen među spomenicima u lapidariju, kako je to izvedeno na fotomontaži, a na kojem je očuvan ostatak stiliziranog kapitela i vrh palmete.

**IV.** Četvrti plutej, koji je svojom dekoracijom i debljinom istovjetan prethodnom, očuvan je samo u fragmentima, a ulomci pripadaju središnjem dijelu njegovog dna i sredini lijeve bočne strane.

**Inv. br. 2264 (T. II, 2).** Materijal: vapnenac. Veličine: visina 20,5 cm, širina 31 cm, debljina 11,5 cm. Smještaj: MHAS - lapidarij. Nađen 1977. godine u kvadratu XXII. prilikom arheoloških istraživanja.

Ulomak je pripadao sredini donjeg dijela pluteja. Od ukrašenog lica očuvan je ostatak haste križa,

the front wall, where it served as a threshold for the church door.

Square XVII. The same situation as in square XI. The square took in the space in front of the northern part of the front wall of the church. At a depth of 40 cm, grave no. 21 was found, covered with a monolithic slab of stone. The slab was partly pushed into the grave pit probably during the earlier operations. We did not manage to remove this heavy stone slab, and the grave was not investigated. Twenty centimetres beneath the level of this grave, there were burials in graves 20 and 22. Both graves were devastated by previous investigations. Grave 22 at its eastern end got 5 cm underneath the not very sound foundation of the church.

Square XX. Thickness of humus layer. Beneath it lay a layer of formerly processed and sieved soil from 25 to 30 cm thick. The lower layer is sterile red soil mixed with a large quantity of small pebbles. In this layer, the undesecrated grave no. 3 was found.

Square XXI. The situation was the same as in the previous square. The vertical stratigraphy was changed by the wall of the church, where it was observed that for a width of one metre, the soil had been mixed together, indicating the width of the previous excavations. At that time, grave 4 was devastated; it was 30 m under the surface. At the same depth, grave 9 was found, in which we discovered two small silver coins. At a depth of from 55 to 60 cm in the soil a fragment of glass and some ceramic vessels were found. Grave 5, which lay underneath grave 4, had not been noticed in the previous operations, and was preserved in its entirety. Grave 11 was already partially explored and had collapsed. These two graves, with four others (6, 7, 8, 10) were found at a depth of from 50 to 75 cm and belong to the same stratum of graves. The different depth was the result of the irregular configuration of the ground.

Square XXII. The situation is the same as in the previous square, except that the perceptible elevation of the lower stratum westward led to the same kind of change in the level of the ground. Immediately below the humus layer, we find grave 14. At a depth of 45 cm a devastated grave was found, no. 13. Beneath grave 14 was grave 15. Alongside the wall of the church at a depth of 75 cm lay grave 12. In the space between these two graves, at a depth of 60 cm, a fragment of glass vessel was found, and five centimetres below it a pluteus fragment (inv.

čija je sredina bila prekrivena pletenicom troprutog dvopleta. Sa strana križa nalaze se tragovi po jedne palmete. Od izvornih površina očuvano je glatko naličje i donja stranica pluteja.

**Inv. br. 2006 (T. II, 3).** Materijal: vapnenac. Veličine: visina 35 cm, širina 27 cm, debljina 11 cm. Smještaj: MHAS - lapidarij. Pronađen 1911. ili 1912. godine.

Ulomak sa sredine lijeve strane pluteja spojen je od četiri manja ulomka. Očuvano je izvorno glatko naličje i lice na kojem je vidljiv bočni stupić ukrašen troprutim dvopletom. Nad njim se izdiže stilizirani kapitel ispunjen zakošenim urezima. Nad kapitelom se vidi dočetak luka arkade čija je površina ukrašena istim motivom kao i stupići. S desne strane stupića uočava se ostatak vrha palmete.

#### V. plutej:

**Inv. br. 1997, 2262, 2936 (T. I, 3).** Materijal: vapnenac. Veličine: visina 102 cm, širina 69 cm, debljina 12 cm. Visina letve je 20 cm, a od pluteja je deblja za 2 cm. Smještaj: MHAS - lapidarij. Nađen: gornji dio 1911. g., zajedno s inv. br. 2260, kao poklopnica groba,<sup>102</sup> a donji desni ugao iste ili iduće godine.

Plutej je u donjem dijelu restauriran. Nije bio označen te je uvršten među spomenike iz Biskupije - Crkvine. Tijekom proučavanja arhiva fotografija utvrđeno je da je snimljen zajedno sa spomenicima iz Otresa.<sup>103</sup> Kada se na osnovi dosta konfuzno pisanog podatka o nalazu dviju ploča ukrašenih pleterom na jednom grobu<sup>104</sup> utvrdilo da jedna pripada prvom pluteju,<sup>105</sup> prihvaćena je s većom sigurnošću pretpostavka da i drugi plutej pripada istom lokalitetu. Tu činjenicu osnažila je provjera veličine ulomka kao i oštećenje na desnom kutu, o čemu se govori u istome pismu. Konačna potvrda uslijedila je nakon što je u spremištu Muzeja pronađen ulomak s oznakom *Ot* na naličju, koji se i svojim ukrašenom i veličinom uklapa u donji desni restaurirani ugao pluteja, kako smo ga fotomontažom i uložili.

Donji dio lica pluteja ukrašen je s tri okomita niza kružnica spojena čvorištem. Svaki niz čini sedam kružnica koje se međusobno presijecaju na način da se u njihovu središtu nalazi čvorište dvi-

no. 2264). In the south-west part of the square, by the corner of the church, in the line of the front wall, was a worked and moulded stone block placed “on a knife edge”.

Square XXIII. The situation was entirely the same as that in the previous square. At a depth of 35 cm, in the soil between the corner of grave 16 and the head of grave 20, an ordinary ring was found (21). The partially preserved cover of grave 16 lay at a depth of 50 cm. The devastated graves 17 and 19, which lay below the level of the grave previously referred to, indicate that this space was also encompassed by the previous excavations.

When at the intersection of squares XXIII and XXIV grave 17 was found, stretching underneath squares XXIX and XXX, its complete excavation was addressed. The trench started in this way was extended to the north-west, the intention being to establish the direction in which the graveyard expanded, in the expectation that traces of an older church from which the Old Croatian fragments derived might appear. The finding of grave 18 indicated that the graveyard expanded to the north, and that the graves, because of the elevated ground, lay at a greater depth and that future research should be directed northwards from the area investigated. No traces suggestive of the presence of architecture were observed.

For the same purpose as the trench described above, the excavation of one more profile 15 cm west of the church was undertaken. A trench in the north to south direction was placed precisely at the border where the transition from earth surface to the rocky spur was located, the spur on which we had deposited the earth from the dig. The length of the trench was 15 cm, and its width 80 cm. The exploration of it did not provide any positive archaeological results and we were able to ascertain that the graveyard did not, in fact, stretch further off to the west.

#### PLUTEI

**I. Inv. no. 2260 (Pl. I, 1).** Material: limestone. Dimensions: height 96 cm, width 64 cm, thickness 9 cm. The border strip is 21,5 cm high and is two centimetres thicker than the pluteus. Current location MCAM - lapidarium. Discovered: upper part in 1911 (as lid of grave together with pluteus at inv. no. 2262)<sup>101</sup> and the lower part in 1977 (incorporated as spolia into the wall of the church). The cen-

<sup>102</sup> AHSD. Ardalićevo pismo iz Lukačuše od 6. 11. 1911.

<sup>103</sup> Fotografiju unutrašnjosti Muzeja u Kninu snimljenu oko 1930. godine, na kojoj se uz kamene spomenike iz Otresa nalaze i oni iz Uzdoľja, Lepura, Ždrapnja i Ostrovice, objavio je Gunjača 1958, str. 13.

<sup>104</sup> AHSD. Marun, Koncept, 19, 10. 1911.

<sup>105</sup> AHSD. Ardalićevo pismo iz Lukačuše od 6. 11. 1911.

<sup>101</sup> ACAS. Ardalić's letter from Lukačuša of 6. 11. 1911.

ju susjednih kružnica. Na početku i završetku niza smještena je polovica kružnice.

Iznad tako ukrašena polja nalazi se izbočena rubna letva ukrašena nizom polumjesečastih (*peretz*) motiva.

**VI.** Od tog pluteja očuvano je pet ulomaka načinjenih od sitnozrnatog vapnenca, čija debljina (12 - 12,5 cm) i ukras prednjeg polja od paralelnih dijagonalno položenih troprutih vrpca ukazuje da pripadaju istoj cjelini.

**Inv. br. 2001 (T. II, 4).** Veličine: visina 14 cm, širina 11,2 cm, debljina 12,5 cm. Smještaj: MHAS - lapidarij. Nađen: 1911. ili 1912. godine.

Na ulomku je očuvano izvorno glatko naličje i lice koje ukrašavaju tri dijagonalno položene troprute vrpce. Jedna vrpca oštro se lomi, što ukazuje na to da je ulomak pripadao rubnom dijelu pluteja.

**Inv. br. 2267 (T. II, 5).** Veličine: visina 19,5 cm, širina 18 cm, debljina 12,5 cm. Smještaj: MHAS - lapidarij. Nađen: 1911. ili 1912. godine.

Na licu se nalazi ostatak pet paralelnih, dijagonalno položenih troprutih vrpca koje se uz izvornu glatku rubnu letvu oštro lome.

**Inv. br. 2003 (T. II, 6).** Veličine: visina 7,5 cm, širina 16 cm, debljina 12 cm. Smještaj: MHAS - lapidarij. Nađen: 1911. ili 1912. godine.

Ulomak pripada rubnom dijelu pluteja s očuvanim ostatkom bočnog rebra kojim je ulijegao u žlijeb pilastra. Na ulomku je očuvano izvorno neukrašeno naličje i lice s očuvanim tragovima triju troprutih vrpca, koje je sa strane bočnog rebra omeđeno glatkom izdignutom rubnom letvom.

**Inv. br. 2266 (T. II, 7).** Veličine: visina 10,7 cm, širina 13,9 cm, debljina 12 cm. Smještaj: MHAS - lapidarij. Nađen: 1911. ili 1912. godine.

Kao i prijašnji, i ovaj ulomak pripada rubu pluteja, na što upućuje ostatak bočnog rebra. Od izvornih površina očuvano je neukrašeno naličje i lice s vidljivim ostacima dviju troprutih vrpca, od kojih se jedna lomi pri spoju s izdignutom i neukrašenom rubnom letvom.

**Inv. br. 2265 (T. II, 8).** Veličine: visina 20,5 cm, širina 21,5 cm, debljina 12 cm. Smještaj: MHAS - lapidarij. Nađen: 1911. ili 1912. godine.

Na ulomku je očuvano izvorno ravno naličje, jedna bočna strana i lice ukrašeno usporednim, dijagonalno položenim troprutim vrpca. Uz glatku izdignutu rubnu letvu vrpce se blago svijaju, kratko je prate, a zatim ponovno ulaze u mrežu.

tral part is filled with a Latin cross the horizontal arm of which is filled entirely with a band of three stranded braiding, while the same decoration of the vertical arm breaks off precisely here. In the lower part of the pluteus, at each side of the cross, is one palmette, and in the upper part of one swirling rosette with an emphatic centre. Parallel withes that break at right angles fill the triangular space above the arcade in the upper corners of the pluteus. The left side of the decorative field of the pluteus was damaged, probably as a result of the action of plant acids. Above the decorative field there is a protuberant horizontal strip the central part of which is framed with a belt decorated with an interweaving of three triple-stranded strips.

**II.** Three fragments of this pluteus have been preserved (inv. nos. 2012, 2025 and 2263), the first two of which are joined, and together with the third belong to the top right half. On the basis of their thickness, they can be correlated to a pluteus similar to that in the preceding entry.

**Inv. no. 2012 and 2025 (Pl. I, 4).** Material: limestone. Dimensions: height 21 cm, width 19 cm, thickness 8 cm. Currently housed: MCAM - lapidarium. Discovered: 1911 or 1912.

On the face of the fragment, the moulding of the upper part of a pillar has remained, with traces of triple-stranded interlacing on the surface. Over the pillar there is a stylised capital with a formed lily in the centre. Over the capital is the beginning of the arch of the arcade. On the left hand part of the fragment, the remains of two leaves that belonged to a palmette can be seen, while on the right hand side there is an edge strip.

**Inv. no. 2263 (Pl. I, 5).** Material: limestone. Dimensions: height 26 cm, width 14 cm, thickness 9 cm. Current location MCAM - lapidarium. Discovered: 1911 or 1912.

The fragment is decorated with several parallel withelike sharp-edged ribs, breaking at a right angle, and filled the triangular space over the arcade in the right upper corner of the pluteus.

**III. Inv. no. 2261 (Pl. I, 2).** Material: limestone. Dimensions: height 86 cm, width 75 cm, thickness 11 cm. Currently housed: MCAM - lapidarium. Discovered: During excavations of 1911 and 1912.

The pluteus was restored according to 16 joined original fragments, as visible from the damaged archival photograph.

The face is ornamented, with some small differences, like the previous pluteus. The smaller differ-

## PILASTAR:

**Inv. br. 2000 (T. III, 1).** Materijal: vapnenac. Veličine: visina 28,5 cm, širina 18 cm, debljina 14 cm. Smještaj: MHAS - lapidarij. Nađen: 1911. ili 1912. godine.

Na ulomku je očuvano izvorno glatko naličje, desna i donja bočna strana te lice. Površina lica ukrašena je s pet troprutih vrpca koje svojim dijagonalnim isprepletanjem tvore mrežu s rombičnim udubljenjima. Vrpce se na spoju s izdignutom glatkom rubnom letvom blago uvijaju, dok se uz istu takvu donju letvu oštro lome. Pilastru nedostaje druga bočna strana, u koju je bio uklesan utor.

Među ulomke istih stilskih značajki ukrašavanja vidljivog na ulomcima pluteja ili pilastra spada jedan ulomak kojemu ne možemo odrediti pripadnost jer mu nije očuvana izvorna debljina, a pretrpio je i naknadno priklesavanje.

**Inv. br. 1999 (T. III, 2).** Materijal: vapnenac. Veličine: visina 17 cm, širina 16 cm, očuvana debljina 8 cm. Smještaj: MHAS - lapidarij. Nađen: 1911. ili 1912. godine.

Na ulomku je očuvano izvorno lice, s ostacima tri dijagonalno položene troprute vrpce, od kojih se jedna oštrije lomi, što ukazuje da pripada rubnom dijelu pluteja ili pilastra.

## KAPITEL:

**Inv. br. 2004 (T. III, 3).** Materijal: sitnozrnati vapnenac. Veličine: visina 17 cm, širina 15,5 cm, očuvana debljina 9 cm. Smještaj: MHAS - lapidarij. Nađen: 1911. ili 1912. godine.

Na kapitelu je očuvana jedna cijela stranica i manji dijelovi dviju drugih stranica koje pokazuju istovrsno ukrašavanje. U kutovima kapitela smještena je po jedna zavojnica (kaulikul), koja svojom punom stapkom izlazi iz okomito postavljenoga središnjeg tordiranog rebra. Dno rebra i dna stapki imaju svoje utemeljenje u vrhu profiliranoga lista koji je smješten među glatkim uvijenim listovima u donjim kutovima kapitela. Na abaku, koji je dijelom očuvan, vidljiva je okomita profilacija.

## LUK CRKVE NE PREGRADE:

Među kamenim spomenicima osobitu je pozornost privuklo pet ulomaka koji se svojim oblikom, tehnikom ukrašavanja i epigrafskim obilježjem izdvajaju od ostalog materijala. Oni pripadaju dijelu luka crkvene pregrade kojemu rekonstruirani izvorni oblik pokazuje lagano širenje od dna prema vrhu.

ences in the decoration of this pluteus as against the pluteus of inv. no. 2260 are visible in the ornamentation of the cross for, unlike the previous one, the vertical arm of the cross is filled with one-part interlacing and the interlacing of the horizontal beam is divided into two parts. In the empty space between the upper beam of the cross and the arcade there is one seven-petalled rosette. The triangular space in the upper angles of the pluteus is filled with several parallel withes that break at right angles. There is no upper finishing in the shape of a horizontal strip.

In the middle of the left side of the pluteus a fragment (inv. no. 2002) that was found later on among the monuments in the lapidarium should be inserted, as has been done on a photographic montage, on which the remains of the stylised capital and the tip of the palmette is preserved.

**IV.** The fourth pluteus, which with its decoration and thickness is the same as the previous one, is extant only in fragments, and the fragments belong to the central part of the bottom and the middle of the left side.

**Inv. no. 2264 (Pl. II, 2).** Material: limestone. Dimensions: height 20,5 cm, width 31 cm, thickness 11.5 cm. Currently housed: MCAM - lapidarium. Found in 1977 in square XXII during archaeological excavations.

The fragment belonged to the middle of the bottom part of the pluteus. Only the remains of a beam of the cross is preserved of the ornamented face, the centre of which was covered with interlacing of a triple-stranded double interlacing. At each side of the cross are traces of a single palmette. The smooth obverse and the lower side of the pluteus are what remain of the original surfaces.

**Inv. no. 2006 (Pl II, 3).** Material: limestone. Dimensions: height 35 cm, width 27 cm, thickness 11 cm. Currently housed: MCAM - lapidarium. Discovered: 1911 or 1912.

The fragment from the middle of the left side of the pluteus is put together of four small fragments. The original smooth back and the face on which a side baluster decorated with triple stranded double interlacing is visible have been preserved. Over them rises a stylised capital filled with slanting incisions. Over the capital the impost of the arch of the arcade is visible, the surface of which is decorated with the same motif as the balusters. On the right side of the pillar the remains of a tip of a palmette is to be seen.



**Inv. br. 2131 (T. III, 4).** Materijal: vapnenac. Veličine: širina 18 cm, širina 27 cm, debljina 11,6 cm. Smještaj: MHAS - lapidarij. Nađen: 17. 10. 1911.<sup>106</sup>

Lice ulomka razdijeljeno je u dva polja. Vanjsko polje ukrašavaju zavojnice polegnute udesno, koje se nižu od dna prema sredini luka. Na početku, ispred najmanje zavojnice, vidljiva je izvorna rubna letva kojom je luk nalijegao na gredu. U polju je očuvano pet zavojnica. Unutrašnjim poljem tekao je natpis od kojeg je očuvan dio teksta ...*RISTIA*... Iza slova *A* slijedi okomita hasta slova iz čijeg se dna ukoso odvaja druga, ukazujući na pretpostavku o postojanju slova *V*. Za razliku od vanjskog polja tu nema izvornog dočeka jer se polje nastavljalo i završavalo u razini dna grede. Moguća restitucija teksta: *(Ch)RISTI AV(lam)*.

ULOMAK ...C...?

**Inv. br. 1990 (T. III, 5).** Materijal: vapnenac. Veličine: širina 19,5 cm, visina 28,5 cm, debljina 11,4 cm. Smještaj: MHAS - lapidarij. Nađen 1896. godine.<sup>107</sup>

Spomenik je spojen od dva ulomka i pripadao je vrhu luka, na što upućuje promjena pravca pružanja zavojnica. Zadnja od četiri zavojnice polegnute udesno, a pripadaju lijevoj polovici luka, naslonila se svojim leđima na leđa njoj nasuprotne zavojnice. Unutrašnjost polja nosi ostatak natpisa ...*ENDO E*... Iza zadnjeg slova, na rubu loma nalazi se kružni duktus sljedećeg slova, koji može pripadati slovima *C*, *G*, *O* i *Q*. Kako se u tom dijelu latinskog teksta radi o završetku glagola u dativu gerunda vjerojatna je restitucija *(faci)ENDO E(go)*.

**Inv. br. 2259 (T. III, 6).** Materijal: vapnenac. Veličine: širina 18,3 cm, visina 21 cm, debljina 11,5 cm. Smještaj: MHAS - lapidarij. Nađen 1911. ili 1912. godine.

Ulomak pripada desnoj strani luka. Njegovo vanjsko polje ukrašavaju tri ulijevo polegnute, dosta oštećene zavojnice. Na unutrašnjem polju očuvao se dio natpisa ...*NUS*..., koji pripada završetku imenice u nominativu, ali ne pruža dovoljno elementa za restituciju.

**Inv. br. 2258 (T. IV, 1).** Materijal: vapnenac. Veličine: visina 19 cm, širina 25 cm, debljina 12 cm. Smještaj: MHAS - lapidarij. Nađen: 1911. ili 1912. godine.

<sup>106</sup> AHSD. Ardalićev pismo iz Lukačuše od 18. 10. 1911.

<sup>107</sup> Marun 1896, str. 124, Marun 1896A. str. 195, 200.

## V pluteus

**Inv. no. 1197, 2262, 2936 (PI I, 3).** Material: limestone. Dimensions: height 102 cm, width 69 cm, thickness 12 cm. Height of the surrounding strip is 20 cm, and it is 2 cm thicker than the pluteus. Currently housed: MCAM - lapidarium. Found: upper part in 1911, together with item inv. no. 2260, as lid of a grave<sup>102</sup> and the lower right corner of it the same or the following year.

The pluteus is restored in the lower part. It was not labelled and was placed among the monuments from Biskupija –Crkvina. During study of the photographic archives it was discovered it had been taken together with monuments from Otres.<sup>103</sup> When on the basis of a confused written information about the finding of two slabs decorated with interlacing in one grave<sup>104</sup> it was stated that one belonged to the first pluteus<sup>105</sup> the assumption that the second pluteus belonged to the same position was accepted with a greater degree of certainty. This was backed up by a check of the dimensions of the fragment, as well as an item of damage in the right hand corner, discussed in the same letter. A final confirmation came after in the stores of the Museum a fragment was discovered with the marking *Ot* on the back; in its decoration and size, this fitted into the lower right hand restored corner of the pluteus, as we inserted it by photographic montage.

The lower part of the face of the pluteus is decorated with three vertical rows of circles joined with a node. Each sequence consists of seven circles that intersect each other in such a way that in their centre there is the node of two neighbouring circles. At the beginning and ending of the series a half a circle is fitted.

Above the field ornamented in this way is the protuberant edge strip decorated with a number of half-moon (pretzel) motifs.

**VI.** Five fragments of this pluteus have been preserved; they are made of fine-grained limestone, the thickness of which (12 – 12.5 cm) and the decoration of the front field of parallel diagonally placed three-stranded bands show that they belong to the same unit.

<sup>102</sup> ACAS. Ardalić's letter iz Lukačuša of 6. 11. 1911.

<sup>103</sup> Photo of the interior of the museum in Knin taken about 1930, in which there are the stone monuments from Otres together with those from Uzdolje, Lepuri, Ždrapanj and Ostrovica, published by Gunjača, 1958, p 13.

<sup>104</sup> ACAS. Marun, Concept, 19, 10. 1911.

<sup>105</sup> ACAS. Ardalić's letter from Lukačuša of 6. 11. 1911.

Ulomak pripada donjem desnom dijelu luka, što potvrđuje rubna letva, na završetku vanjskog polja, kojom je nalijegala na gredu. Unutar polja vidljiv je isti oblik i raspored pet očuvanih zavojnica, kao i na suprotnom dijelu luka. Na unutrašnjem polju uklesan je natpis ...*TESSIA*..., iza kojega se nazire ukošena hasta slova *V*, nakon čega slijedi lom kojim je nestao upravo produžetak polja koje se spuštalo do dna grede.

#### ZABAT:

**Inv. br. 1995 (T. IV, 2).** Materijal: sitnozrnati vapnenac. Veličine: visina 11,5 cm, širina 30 cm, debljina 10,7 cm. Smještaj: MHAS – stalni postav, uklopljen u trabeaciju oltarne ograde. Nađen: ulomak s natpisom 19. 10. 1911., a drugi ulomak te ili prijašnje godine.

Ulomak pripada lijevoj strani zabata oltarne pregrade. Očuvano mu je izvorno naličje i dio luka. Na licu je vidljiv mali dio središnjeg polja bez ukrasa, kojemu je bočnu stranu omeđivao tzv. *peretz* motiv, dok ga je od luka odvajalo polje s natpisom. Od natpisa su ostala samo slova ...*DRA*..., visine 3 cm. Vanjsku, u cijelosti otučenu obrubnu pojasnicu zabata ukrašavao je niz zavojnica.

#### GREDE:

**Inv. br. 1992 (T. IV, 3).** Materijal: sitnozrnati vapnenac. Veličine: visina 19,3 cm, širina 23 cm, debljina 10,5 cm. Smještaj: MHAS – stalni postav, uklopljen u trabeaciju oltarne ograde. Nađen: 1911. ili 1912. godine.<sup>108</sup>

Na ulomku grede oltarne pregrade očuvano se izvorno glatko naličje i lice razdijeljeno u tri polja. Gornje polje ukrašavaju četiri zavojnice pune stapke polegnute udesno. Na dijelu središnjeg polja uočavaju se u gornjem dijelu jače otučena dva tzv. *peretz* motiva. Treće polje, kojemu nedostaje donja polovica, ispunjeno je natpisom ...*DOMNO*... . Visina slova je 4 cm. visina 11,5 cm, širina 30 cm, debljina 10,7 cm. Smještaj: lapidarij. Nađen: ulomak s natpisom 19. 10. 1911., a drugi ulomak (nezavršena riječ, *op. M. P. i A. A.*).

#### Predromanička crkva (*sic!*)

Smještena na zaravnjenom zemljanom brežuljku, na sjevernoj strani bribirsko-ostrovičkog polja, crkva je svojim položajem dominirala nad tom prirodnom kotlinom.

**Inv. no. 2001 (Pl. II, 4).** Dimensions: height 14 cm, width 11,2 cm, thickness 12,5 cm. Currently housed: MCAM - lapidarium. Found: 1911 or 1912.

On the fragment there is a preserved smooth face decorated with three diagonally positioned three-stranded bands. One of the bands breaks acutely, suggesting that the fragment belonged to the edge of the pluteus.

**Inv. no. 2267 (Pl. II, 5).** Dimensions: height 19,5 cm, width 18 cm, thickness 12,5 cm. Currently housed: MCAM - lapidarium. Found: 1911 or 1912.

On the face there are remains of five parallel, diagonally positioned, three-stranded bands that break acutely alongside the original smooth edged strip.

**Inv. no. 2203 (Pl. II, 6).** Dimensions: height 7,5 cm, width 16 cm, thickness 12 cm. Currently housed: MCAM - lapidarium. Found: 1911 or 1912.

The fragment belongs to the edge part of the pluteus with preserved remainder of a lateral rib with which it fitted into the groove of the pilaster. Preserved on the fragment is the originally undecorated reverse and face with preserved traces of three three-stranded bands, which is bounded at the side rib side with a smooth raised edge strip.

**Inv. no. 2266 (Pl. II, 7).** Dimensions: height 10.7 cm, width 13.9 cm, thickness 12 cm. Currently housed: MCAM - lapidarium. Found: 1911 or 1912.

Like the previous one, this fragment too belongs to the edge of the pluteus, as shown by the remains of the lateral rib. Preserved of the original surfaces is the undecorated reverse and face with visible remains of two three-stranded bands, of which one breaks at the connection with the raised and undecorated edge strip.

**Inv. no. 2265 (Pl. II, 8).** Dimensions: height 20.5 cm, width 21.5 cm, thickness 12 cm. Currently housed: MCAM - lapidarium. Found: 1911 or 1912.

The fragment retains the original flat reverse, one lateral side and a face decorated with parallel diagonally placed triple-stranded bands. Alongside the smooth raised edge strip, the bands bend gently, briefly follow it, and then get into the network again.

#### PILASTER

**Inv. no. 2000 (Pl. III, 1).** Material: limestone. Dimensions: height 28.5 cm, width 18 cm, thickness 14 cm. Currently housed: MCAM - lapidarium. Found: 1911 or 1912.

<sup>108</sup> AHSD. Marun, Koncept, 19. 10. 1911.

Uz proširenje prostora uokolo crkve, gdje smo ustanovili postojanje brojnih ukopa, otvoreni su sondažni radovi sjeverno i zapadno od crkve. Nalaz grobova s priložima (križić - enkolpij, trojagodne naušnice) u sjevernoj sondi ukazao nam je da groblje u Otresu treba tretirati kao veliku srednjovjekovnu nekropolu.

U zapadnoj sondi, pedesetak metara daleko od crkve, ustanovili smo postojanje pravokutnog ugla jedne građevine.

Nastavak radova u 1984. godini provodio se na svim trima sekcijama. Prateći perimetar zidova u zapadnoj sondi, ustanovili smo da pripadaju temeljima jedne pravokutne, gotovo kvadratne srednjovjekovne zgrade. Mjestimično su temelji tog objekta u cijelosti nestali. Urušavanju zidova smještenih na samom hrptu strme kamene kose svakako je pridonijelo slabo utemeljenje postavljeno na nabijenoj zemlji, ali i upotreba nekvalitetne malterne mase s malom primjesom vapna.

U istraživanju unutrašnjosti zgrade pronađeni su ostaci eksedre jedne rimske građevine, koja je u vrijeme izgradnje srednjovjekovne kuće bila zanearena i uništena kako bi se izravnala podloga za izgradnju kasnijeg objekta. Mjestimično su temelj i zid, koji su izgrađeni od manjih kamenih blokova povezanih kvalitetnim malterom s velikom primjesom vapna, očuvani do visine od 50 cm, što ujedno znači da je to bila i razina poda srednjovjekovnog objekta. Uz eksedru, a s vanjske strane kuće, nađene su dvije are na kojima je uočljiv rustični natpis, dok je uokolo nađeno dosta rimskih tegula i srednjovjekovnih opeka.

Širenjem sjeverne sonde, uz već ranije tvrđeno postojanje nekropole, naišlo se na ostatke zidova koji pripadaju dvjema građevinama. Veća zgrada, koja svojim zidovima obuhvaća manju zgradu u svojoj unutrašnjosti, rimska je građevina s temeljima položenima na liticu. Zidovi su joj većim dijelom rađeni pravilno uslojenim kamenim blokovima, premda je mjestimično primjetna upotreba *opus spicatum*. Nalaz malog brončanog novca Konstantina Velikog, koji je ležao uz temelj zida, pomaže nam pri određivanju vremena gradnje tog objekta.

Približno istu orijentaciju zadržao je i kasnije podignuti objekt, smješten unutar zidova rimske građevine. Gradnju zidova karakterizira primjena slabije malterne smjese i nesolidno utemeljenje. Tehnika gradnje ukazuje nam da se tu radi o jed-

Kept in the fragment is the original smooth reverse, the right and lower lateral side and the face. The surface of the face is decorated with five three-stranded bands that with their diagonal interweaving create a network with diamond-shaped depressions. The bands at the join with the raised smooth edge strip bend slightly, while they break sharply at the similar lower strip. The pilaster wants a second lateral side, in which a mortise would have been carved.

A fragment the origins of which we cannot determine, for its original thickness has not been preserved, and it has been subsequently re-carved, belongs among fragments of the same decorative features visible on the pluteus or pilaster fragments.

**Inv. no. 1999 (Pl. III, 2).** Material: limestone. Dimensions: height 17 cm, width 16 cm, extant thickness 8 cm. Currently housed: MCAM - lapidarium. Found: 1911 or 1912.

The fragment has retained its original face, with remains of three diagonally placed three-stranded bands, one of which breaks sharply, showing that it belongs to the edge part of a pluteus or pilaster.

#### CAPITAL

**Inv. no. 2004 (Pl. III, 3).** Material: fine-grained limestone. Dimensions: height 17 cm, width 15.5 cm, extant thickness 9 cm. Currently housed: MCAM - lapidarium. Found: 1911 or 1912.

Preserved on the capital is the whole of one side and smaller parts of two other sides that show the same kind of decoration. In each of the corners of the capital a coil is located, which with its full stem emerges from the vertically placed central twisted rib. The bottom of the rib and the bottoms of the stems have their founding in the tip of the moulded leaf that is located among the smooth bent leaves in the lower corners of the capital. On the abacus, which is partially preserved, a vertical moulding is to be seen.

#### THE ARCH OF THE ROOD SCREEN

Among the stone monuments, particular attention was attracted by five fragments that in their shape, technique of decoration and epigraphic characteristics are distinguished from the other material. They belong to part of the arch of the rood screen the original shape of which has been reconstructed, showing a gentle widening from bottom to top.

noj srednjovjekovnoj zgradi, za sada nedefinirane namjene. Između zidova srednjovjekovnoga i antičkog objekta nađena je velika količina rimskih tegula, s pečatima radionica i srednjovjekovne opeke.

Najznačajniji nalaz učinjenih arheoloških istraživanja svakako su ostaci gornjeg dijela oltarne pregrade koja je ukrašavala starohrvatsku crkvu u 9. stoljeću, a naknadno su bili upotrijebljeni kao građevinski materijal pri izgradnji obložnica i uzglavnice jednoga groba.

Na ulomku lijeve grede, desnoj strani zabata i cijeloj desnoj gredi, koje je ukrašavala iznimno kvalitetno izvedena pleterna dekoracija, očuvan je i posvetni natpis s imenima sedmorice titulara crkve.

Nastavljajući istraživanja na površini uokolo romaničke crkve, ustanovili smo postojanje dubokog sloja grobova oblijepljenih glinom. U jednom od njih bile su uz pokojnika položene velike jednojagodne srebrne naušnice s pozlatom, koje su do sada jedini primjerci te vrste među inim nakitom na toj nekropoli.

#### Položaj srednjovjekovnog sela

Nalaz ostataka predromaničke i romaničke crkve te temeljni zidovi dvaju stambenih srednjovjekovnih kuća u njihovoj neposrednoj blizini upućuju na zaključak da se na istraženom arheološkom lokalitetu nalazilo središte značajnog srednjovjekovnog naselja Otres. S obzirom na osnovne gospodarske grane kojim se bavilo njegovo stanovništvo, a one su u prvom redu ovisile o zemljopisnim uvjetima, pa su to poljodjelstvo i stočarstvo, bilo je očekivano da selo nije urbanistički kompaktno, nego da se u skladu s ekstenzivnom privredom i ono formiralo u zaselcima ili duž prometnice.

tegula s pečatima radionica i srednjovjekovne cigle (*nedovršeno, op. M. P. I A. A.*)

Najznačajniji nalaz učinjenih arheoloških istraživanja svakako su ostaci gornjeg dijela oltarne pregrade koja je ukrašavala starohrvatsku crkvu u 9. stoljeću,

**Inv. no. 2131 (Pl. III, 4).** Material: limestone. Dimensions: width 18 cm, width 27 cm, thickness 11.6 cm. Currently housed: MCAM - lapidarium; Found: October 17, 1911.<sup>106</sup>

The face of the fragment is divided into two fields. The outside field is decorated by coils laid to the right, which are sequenced from the bottom to the middle of the arch. At the beginning, in front of the smallest coil, the original edge strip is visible, with which the arch fitted onto the beam. Five coils are preserved in the field. Around the interior field ran an inscription of which only the letters ...*RISTIA*... have been preserved. After the "A" comes the vertical stem of a letter from the bottom of which a second separates, suggesting that there was once the letter V here. Unlike the outer field, there is no original continuation for the field continued and finished at the level of the bottom of the beam. A possible restitution of the text is: (*Ch*)*RIS-TI AV(lam)*.

#### FRAGMENT ... C...?

**Inv. no. 1990 (Pl. III, 5).** Material: limestone. Dimensions: width 19.5 cm, height 28.5 cm, thickness 11.4 cm. Currently housed: MCAM - lapidarium. Found in 1896.<sup>107</sup>

The monument has been put together of two fragments and once belonged to the apex of the arch, which is suggested by the change in the direction of the coil. The last of the four coil lain to the right, belonging to the left half of the arch, rested with their backs on the backs of the opposite coil. The interior of the field bears the remainder of an inscription... *ENDOE*... After the last letter, on the edge of the break is a circular stroke of the next letter, which might be either C, G, O or Q. Since in this part of the Latin text we are dealing with the ending of a verb in the dative of a gerund a probable restitution would be: (*faci*)*ENDO E(go)*

**Inv. no. 2259 (Pl. III, 6).** Material: limestone. Dimensions: width 18,3 cm, height 21 cm, thickness 11,5 cm. Currently housed: MCAM - lapidarium. Found: 1911 or 1912.

The fragment belongs to the right hand side of the arch. Its outer field is graced with three left placed and fairly damaged coils. Part of the inscription is preserved in the inner field: ...*NUS*..., which is the nominative ending of a noun, but does not offer enough elements for restitution.

<sup>106</sup> ACAS. Ardalić's letter from Lukačuša of 18. 10. 1911.

<sup>107</sup> Marun 1896, p. 124, Marun 1896A. p. 195, 200.



Trabeacija oltarne ograde s Otresa (foto: Z. Alajbeg)  
*Trabeation of the rood screen from Otres (photo: Z. Alajbeg)*

**Inv. no. 2258 (Pl. IV, 1).** Material: limestone. Dimensions: height 19 cm, width 25 cm, thickness 12 cm. Currently housed: MCAM - lapidarium. Found: 1911 or 1912.

The fragment belongs to the lower right hand part of the arch, as shown by the edge strip, at the end of the outer field, with which it fitted onto the beam. Inside the field the same shape is visible and the arrangement of five extant coils, as on the opposite part of the arch. In the interior field the inscription ...*TESSIA* is carved, after which the slanting stroke of the letter V can be discerned, after which comes a break with which the extension of the field that went down to the bottom of the beam disappeared.

#### Gable

**Inv. no. 1995 (Pl. IV, 2).** Material: limestone. Dimensions: height 11,5 cm, width 30 cm, thickness 10,7 cm. Currently housed: MCAM – permanent exhibition, incorporated in the trabeation of the Otres rood screen. Found: fragment with inscription on October 19, 1911, the other one in 1911 or 1910.

The fragment belongs to the left side of the gable of the altar screen. Its original reverse and part of the arch are still in existence. On the face a small part of the central field, without decoration, can be seen, the lateral side of which was bounded by what is called a pretzel motif, while it was separated from the arch by a field with an inscription Only the letters ...*DRA*..., 3 cm in height, have remained of the inscription. The outer perimeter zone/belt, which has been entirely chipped away, was ornamented by a sequence of coils.

#### Beams

**Inv. no. 1992 (Pl. IV, 3).** Material: fine-grained limestone. Dimensions: height 19,3 cm, width 23 cm, thickness 10,5 cm. Currently housed: MCAM - permanent exhibition, incorporated in the trabeation of the Otres rood screen. Found: 1911 or 1912.<sup>108</sup>

On a fragment of the architrave of the altar screen the original smooth reverse and the face divided into three fields have been preserved. The upper field is ornamented by four coils of a full pedicle placed to the right. In the part of the central field in the upper part two rather strongly chipped off pretzel motifs can be seen. The third field, which is missing the bottom half, is filled with the inscription...*DOMNO*... Letter height: 4 cm.

height 11.5 cm, width 30 cm, thickness 10.7 cm. Currently housed: MCAM - lapidarium. Found: fragment with inscription, 1910 or 1911, and other frag – word unfinished – eds.]

#### Pre-Romanesque Church (sic)

It is located on a flat earthen hillock, on the northern side of the Bribir-Ostrovica polje, the church with its position dominates this natural basin.

Alongside the expansion of the space around the church, where we established the existence of numerous burials, probe operations were started north and west of the church. The find of graves with goods (cross – medal, three-bead earrings) in the northern probe showed us that the graveyard in Otres should be treated as a large medieval cemetery.

<sup>108</sup> ACAS. Marun, Concept, 19. 10. 1911.

In the western trench, fifty or so metres distant from the church, we determined the existence of a rectangular corner of a building.

The continuation of the works in 1984 was conducted in all three sections. Keeping up with the perimeter of the walls in the western probe, we established that they belonged to the foundations of a rectangular, practically square, medieval building. In places the foundations of this structure had completely vanished. Certainly contributing to the collapse of the walls located on the very edge of a steep stone spur was the weak foundations placed on rammed earth, as well as the use of poor quality mortar with a small admixture of lime.

In the exploration of the interior of the building, the remains of the exedra of a Roman building were found, which at the time of the development of the medieval building were ignored and destroyed so that the builders could level the base for the building of the later structure. In places the foundation and the wall, built of small stone blocks bonded with high quality mortar with a lot of lime are preserved up to 50 cm in height, which also means that this was the level of the floor of the medieval feature. Alongside the exedra, on the outer side of the house, two arae were found, on which a rustic inscription can be seen, while all around plenty of Roman tegulae and medieval bricks were found.

Enlarging the northern trench, with the earlier established existence of a necropolis, the remains of walls were found that belonged to two buildings. The bigger building, which encompassed with its walls a smaller building in its interior, is a Roman building with foundations placed on the bedrock. The walls are mostly made with stone blocks put down in regular courses, although in places the use of *opus spicatum* can be seen. The find of a small bronze coin of Constantine the Great, which lay alongside the foundation of a wall, helps us to determine the time of the building of this structure.

The later built structure retained more or less the same orientation, located as it was within the walls of the Roman building. The walls show the use of a weak mortar mixture and unsound foundations. The building technique shows us that this was a medieval building, the purpose of which has not yet been established. Between the walls of the medieval and the Antique building a large quantity of Roman tegulae was found, with the stamps of the workshops, and medieval bricks.

The most important find of the excavations conducted was certainly the remains of the upper part of the rood screen that graced the Old Croatian church in the 9<sup>th</sup> century and were later used as building material in the building of the lining and headstone of a grave.

On a fragment of the left beam, on the right side of the gable and the whole of the right architrave, which was decorated with extremely nicely produced interlacing decoration, a dedicatory inscription with the names of seven dedicatees of the church is still in existence.

Continuing the rear in the area around the Romanesque church, we established the existence of a deep layer of graves daubed in clay. In one of them, alongside the deceased, were large one-bead silver gilt earrings, the only examples of this kind among the other jewellery at this necropolis.

#### The position of the medieval village

The find of the remains of a pre-Romanesque and Romanesque church and the foundation walls of two residential medieval houses in their immediate vicinity suggest the conclusion that at this archaeological site there was the centre of the important medieval settlement of Otres. Because of the basic branches of the economy that the population dealt with, and they depended primarily on geographical conditions, consisting of arable farming and stock-rearing, it would be to be expected that the village would not be compact in its design, rather in line with the extensive nature of the way they earned their livings, formed either in small hamlets or along the road.

tegulae with stamps of workshops and medieval bricks (*incomplete*, M. P and A. A.)

The most important find of the excavations conducted was certainly the remains of the upper part of the rood screen that graced the Old Croatian church in the 9<sup>th</sup> century.

(G. M.)

TABLA I (PLATE I)



1



2



3



4



5

TABLA II (PLATE II)

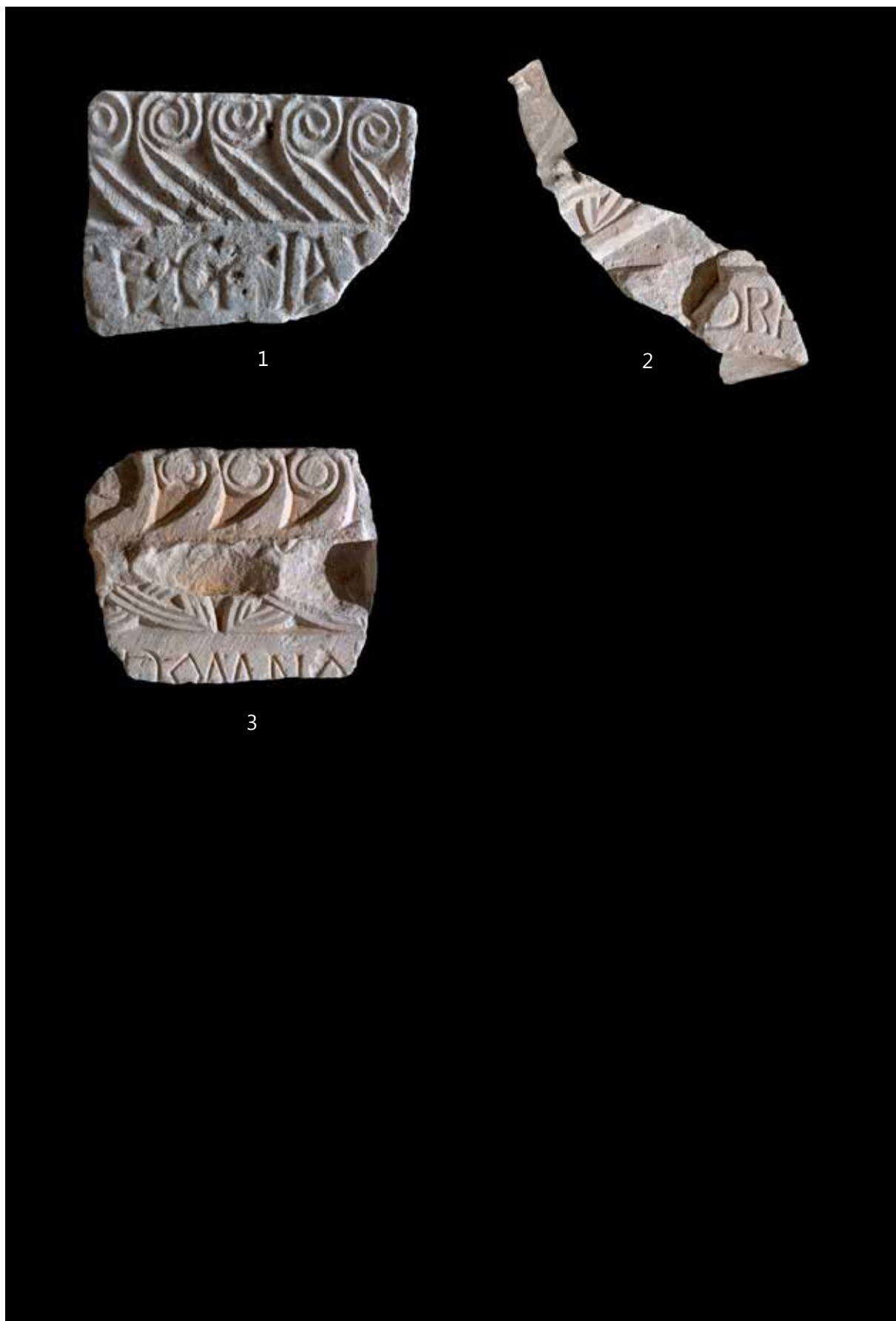




TABLA III (PLATE III)



TABLA IV (PLATE IV)



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(foto/photo: Z. Alajbeg)