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Original scientific paper
Izvorni znanstveni rad

UDC / УДК:
725.1:355(497.5)"17"

DOI:
10.17685/Peristil.66.5

Received / Primljeno:
17. 10. 2023.

Accepted / Prihvaćeno:
8. 2. 2024.



Main Guardhouse — A Military Public Building of the 18th century

Glavna straža — prilog poznavanju vojnih javnih zgrada 18. stoljeća

ABSTRACT

The development of modern public administration in European cities facilitated the construction of various types of public buildings. Among these, guardhouses were a prominent type in the 18th century, used to house the police force under civil or military jurisdiction. Guardhouses were widespread within the Habsburg Empire and were common in the Croatian and Slavonian Military Frontier.

KEYWORDS

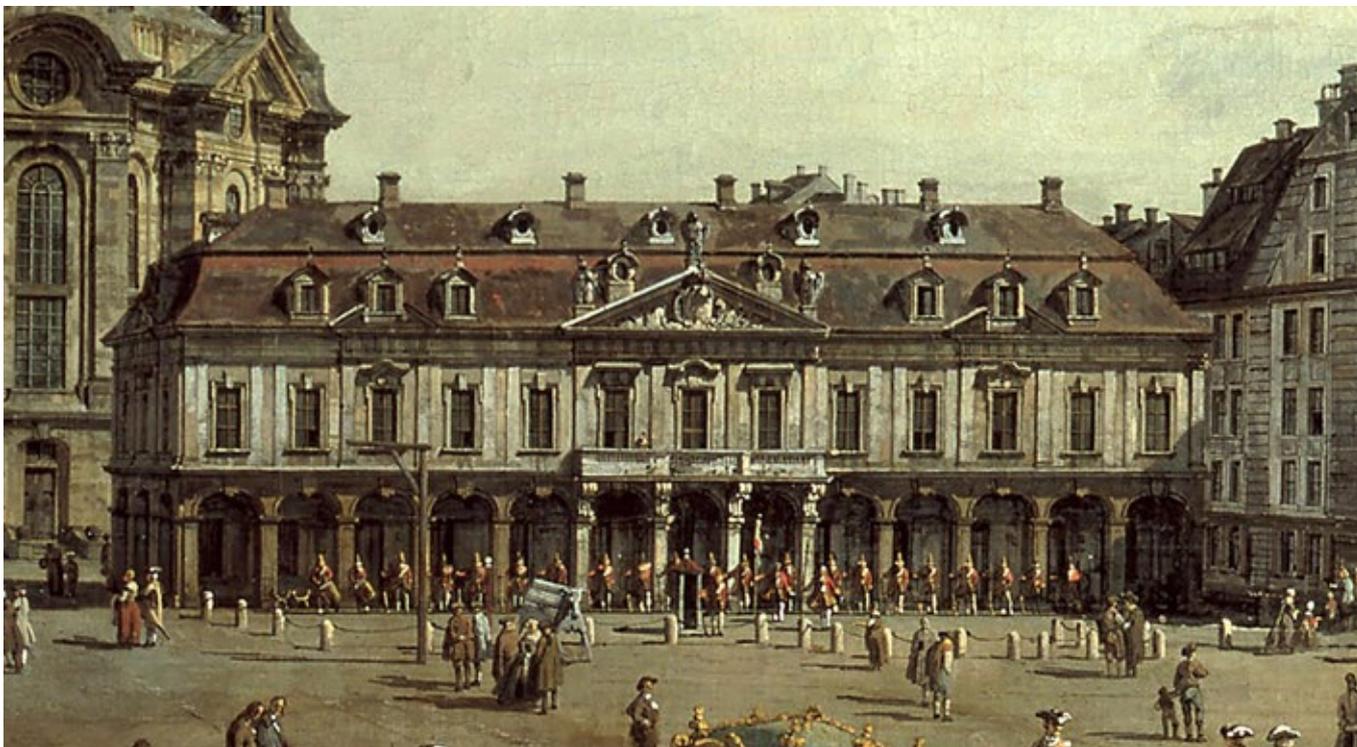
guardhouse, public buildings, baroque architecture, military architecture, 18th century, Military Frontier

APSTRAKT

Reforma državne službe u njemačkim i austrijskim zemljama bit će temelj za uspostavu moderne i učinkovite javne administracije 18. stoljeća, te pojave raznovrsnih tipova javnih zgrada. Među njima se izdvajaju zgrade Glavne straže, namijenjene smještaju policijske službe, bilo u okviru civilnih, bilo vojnih vlasti. Zgrade straža nalazimo u brojnim gradovima Habsburškog Carstva, a posebno u sklopu Hrvatske i Slavonske Vojne krajine gdje je sačuvano ili pak samo identificirano više primjera.

KLJUČNE RIJEČI

Glavna straža, stražarnica, javne zgrade, barokna arhitektura, vojna arhitektura, Vojna krajina



Introduction

The eighteenth century brought a diverse range of building types and spatial solutions in European architecture, each tailored to its intended purpose. This development was driven not only by economic growth but also by advancements introduced through civil service reforms, notably Cameralism in German and Austrian lands. Cameralism laid the foundation for establishing a modern and efficient public administration. One of its components was the police force, with its initial organizational beginnings dating back to the 17th century in major European cities, where paid armed personnel were gradually introduced to maintain public safety and order.¹ The establishment of law enforcement was accompanied by theoretical works from prominent economists, such as Philipp von Hörnigk who was the first to define the term “Polizeiwissenschaft,” or the science of policing, while Johann Heinrich Gottlob von Justi provided guidelines for the development of police in his influential work “Grundsätze der Polizeywissenschaft” in 1756.²

In Vienna, the police force was founded in 1569, but its functioning was improved only in the latter half of the 17th century due to the significant increase in the urban population. Efforts to organize it intensified in the 18th century following civil service reforms, which introduced communal order into cities. Although limited

1

Dresden, Main Guardhouse on the picture by Bernardo Belotto, 1749

Dresden, zgrada Glavne straže na veduti Bernarda Belotta, 1749.

to urban areas, the police had a wide range of authorities, including maintaining security, public order, public health and morality, misdemeanors and crime, regulating market prices, as well as controlling the residence and migration of foreigners.³ In 1776, it was mandated that only military personnel could serve in this capacity.⁴ While the police was typically organized within the civil municipal authorities,⁵ often the military controlled the entire security system in cities, so the police force was part of this system.

Police had designated working spaces within public buildings, usually in the city halls, while purpose-built facilities for this function began to be constructed in the late 17th and early 18th century. They became known as „Main Guard“ or “Main Guardhouse” (German: *Hauptwache*). The term was often used both for the law enforcement and the building housing it. These were often located in key locations within the city, such as main squares, city gates, or busy streets, to ensure swift and accessible interventions in all circumstances. They were considered the most important buildings in the city.⁶ Inside a guardhouse, one would typically find a commissioner’s office (*Wachtmeister*), an interrogation room, where sometimes even the punishment took place, as well as a prison.⁷ A common characteristic of most guardhouses was a covered open space for armed guards at the entrance, often in the form of a portico.

In the existing bibliography, this architectural type has not been thoroughly examined, despite its widespread presence. Historical data on guardhouse buildings are only sporadically found in studies dedicated to the architecture of individual cities. Hence, it seemed necessary to explore their development, from elaborately articulated structures in European cities to more modest examples in the Croatian Military Frontier on the southeastern border of the Habsburg Empire.

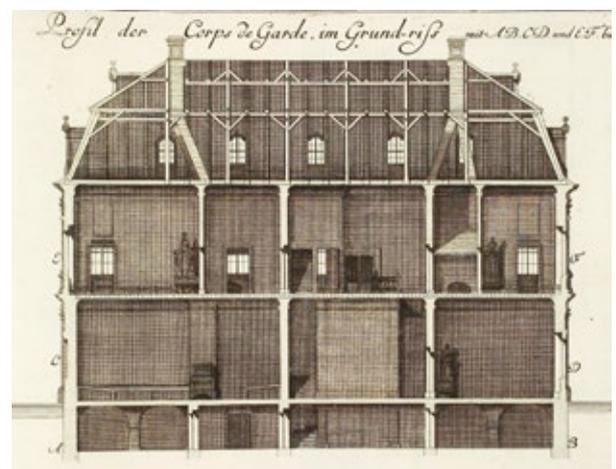
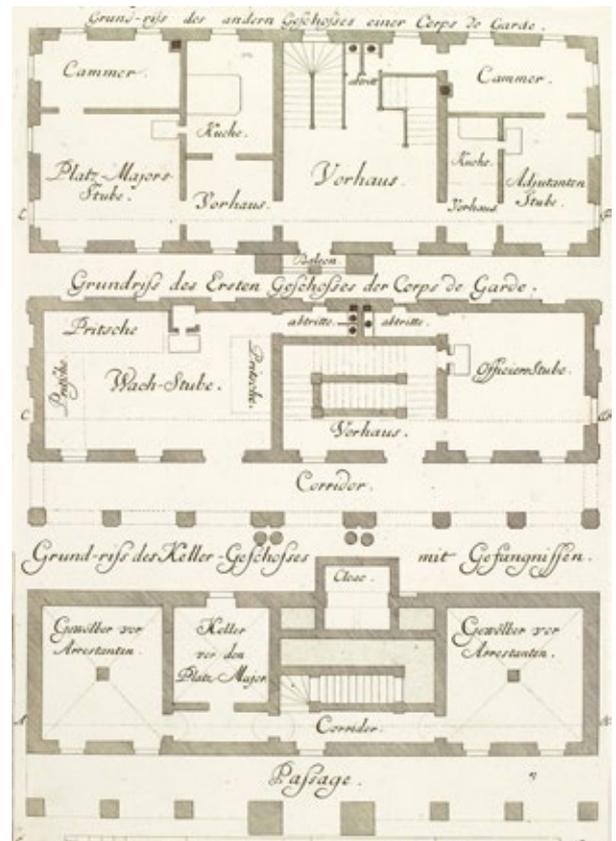
Origins and Context

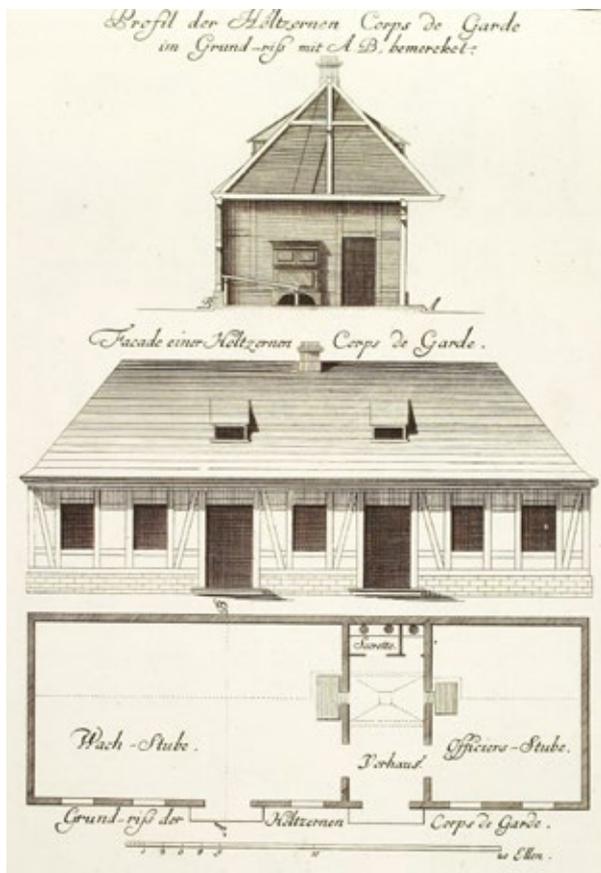
Guardhouses appear all across Europe, from Germany through Poland to Russia in the east and the Balkans in the south, and their tradition continued well into the 19th century. Several grand buildings of this type were constructed in German cities in the 18th century, the most notable ones in Dresden and Frankfurt. The Dresden Old Guardhouse (*Alte Hauptwache*) was erected in 1714–1715 according to the design of military engineer Johann Rudolf Fäsch (1680–1749), and demolished in 1766.⁸ It was an impressive two-storey edifice dominating the main square, with a ground floor portico, a mansard roof, a central balcony, and a pediment with statues (Fig. 1). The interior⁹ had an irregular arrangement, with differently sized rooms in a row, on the ground floor with direct external access: rooms for officers, cadets, a water reservoir, and a large foyer with a staircase leading to the upper floor. On the first floor, there was a central hallway, many small rooms, and two larger ones, one for adjutant and a large interrogation room that had an exit to the central balcony. Despite the perfectly symmetrical facade suggesting a regular floor plan, this was not the case because the central interrogation room was not centered into the projecting block of three axes, but there was another smaller auxiliary room next to it. Interestingly, Johann Rudolf Fäsch was also a theoretician of architecture. In 1724, he defined several design concepts for guardhouse buildings,¹⁰ both for large city guards and for small guardhouses in urban and suburban areas. For large buildings (Fig. 2 a), he recommends the Dresden-like concept with a symmetric composition of the facade and an asymmetric layout of the interior. In the middle, there is a large foyer with a staircase connecting three levels: basement, ground floor, and first floor (Fig. 2 b). The ground floor contains the guardroom and officer's room (*Wach-Stube*, *Officiers Stube*), and on the first floor, two apartments also serve as offices. One is for the chief commissioner (*Platz-Majors-Stube*), with an office, bedroom, kitchen, and foyer, and the other is the adjutant's apartment, similar but smaller in size.

2 a, b, c

Guardhouse design, facade, floor plans, cross-section, Johann Rudolf Fäsch, 1724

Projekt za zgradu Glavne straže, pročelja, tlocrta i presjek, Johann Rudolf Fäsch, 1724.





A cross-section shows the high-scale interior design (Fig. 2 c): plain yet decorative wall finishing, stone balustrades of the staircase, and lavish tile stoves. In the basement, there are two prison cells and a room for storage. For small wooden guardhouses, Fäsch provides three variations of a simple scheme with only two units, the guardroom and the officer's room (Fig. 3). Frankfurt's Main Guardhouse (1729–1733, architect Johann Jakob Samhaimer)¹¹ is a ground-floor building with only a few rooms but with a rich facade featuring a mansard roof, gable, and arcades, conceptually evoking the grand Dresden design.

The Frankfurt and Dresden guardhouses were included in the book *Ausführliche Anweisung zur Bürgerlichen Bau-Kunst* (1744–1748) by the influential architectural theorist Johann Friedrich Penther (1693–1749).¹² Penther covered a wide range of building types and spatial solutions, as well as numerous architectural details, providing essential guidance for experienced and less experienced architects. It is no surprise that his work received significant attention in German-speaking countries.¹³ In his fourth book, he offered recommendations for guardhouses (Fig. 4), depicting a design similar to the one in Dresden, which he praised while criticizing the one in Frankfurt for being a single-story

3

Wooden guardhouse design, cross-section, facade and floor plan, Johann Rudolf Fäsch, 1724

Projekt za drvenu stražarnicu, presjek, pročelje i tlocrt, Johann Rudolf Fäsch, 1724.

4

Wooden guardhouse design, facade and floor plans, Johann Friedrich Penther

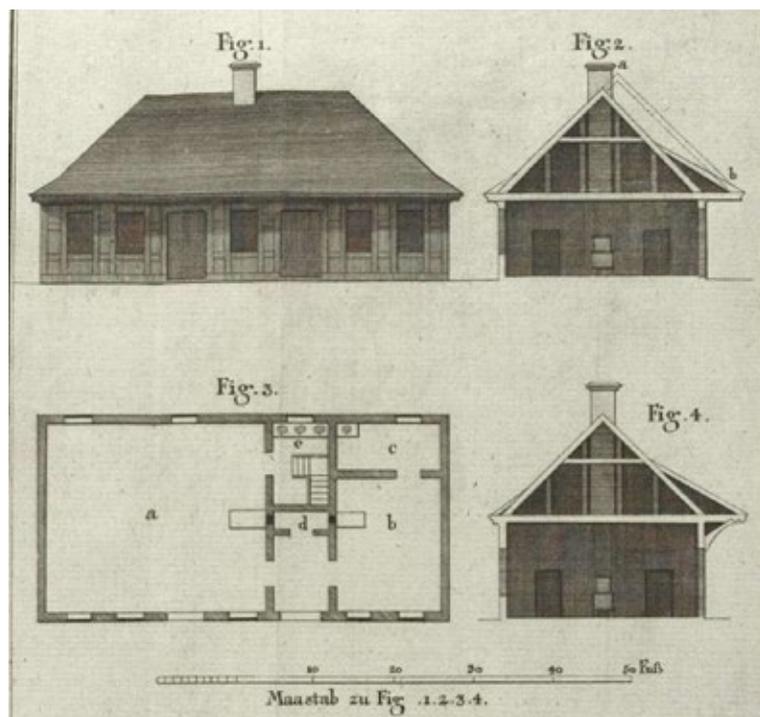
Projekt za drvenu stražarnicu, pročelje i tlocrti, Johann Friedrich Penther

(source / izvor: *Ausführliche Anweisung zur Bürgerlichen Bau-Kunst*, 1744–1748)

structure.¹⁴ For wooden guardhouses, Penther adopts Fäsch's scheme, featuring only three rooms: a guardroom, an officer's room, and a foyer, while also incorporating latrines and a staircase to the attic. Fäsch's designs and Penther's treatise had a tangible impact, as demonstrated by the surviving Main Guardhouse in Bamberg (1772–1774, designed by Johann Georg von Roppelt, executed by Johann Joseph Vogel).¹⁵ This building closely followed the established patterns with an elongated layout of a series of rooms, arched ground floor, a mansard roof, and particularly, sculptural decorations featuring busts and emblems with military insignia.

Guardhouses were common in cities within the Habsburg Empire. In Vienna, several buildings served this function. A municipal guardhouse was located in a street east of Neuer Markt Square, while another was on Petersplatz, next to St. Peter's Church. A new building was erected in the early 18th century (Petersplatz 11) due to the reconstruction of the church,¹⁶ and it was called "Peterswache" or "Rumorwache" (Fig. 5). It was a single-story structure with a portico facing the square, five windows on the lateral facade, and a small inner yard.¹⁷ In the latter half of the 18th century, the headquarters of the Main Guard was located within the *Hofkriegsrat* – the Imperial War Chancellery (Fig. 6) at Am Hof Square (built 1774–1776 by architect Franz Anton Hillebrandt),¹⁸ which had a large front portico for the guard personnel.

In Graz, the police operated within the Town Hall,





constructed in the 16th century. It had a porch, visible in 18th-century views, facing the square, which was named “Hauptwachtplatz” at the time, reflecting the function of the building.¹⁹ A purpose-built guardhouse was documented in Budapest immediately after the Ottomans’ departure in 1686 and marked on a 1696 city map. It was located near the twin city gates on the southern side of the main Buda square, which would be zoned in the early 18th century.²⁰ The original guardhouse was replaced by a revival-style building in the late 19th century. We do not know what the original building looked like, but it had a portico, as indicated on an 1846 map.²¹ The fact that it occupied the central position of the entire Buda plateau underscores the importance of its location.

Guardhouses were common in the architecture of towns along the southeastern border of the Habsburg Empire, which administratively belonged to the Croatian and Slavonian Military Frontier. Their construction in these areas was managed by the military administration.²² Only a few guardhouses have been

documented or preserved, such as in Osijek, which served as the seat of the Generalate, and in the towns that declared the status of *military communities* (*Militär-Komunität*), meaning that the town council was under military governance: Vinkovci, Petrinja, Bjelovar, Stara Gradiška, and Nova Gradiška. They are also to be found in the far eastern part of Syrmia, in today’s Serbia, in Sremska Mitrovica, Petrovaradin, Zemun, and Belgrade. In the following analysis we will try to identify and locate the guardhouses in these cities, and when possible, explore their spatial and design features through written and cartographic historical sources.

Osijek

The construction of the Osijek city-fortress began immediately after the Ottomans’ defeat in 1687, and by the end of the 17th century, a smaller structure of the Main Guardhouse was standing in the middle of the newly planned main square. It seemed to be provisional because it was removed as early as 1715. During three successive fortress construction campaigns, it was decided to build a new guardhouse on the western side of the square. This occurred in the late 1720s when the chief fortress engineer was Johann Friedrich von Heisse,²³ who is also the probable designer of the building. His *Report Plan* on completed works in 1728 and planned construction for the following year states that there is a reserved “place on which I should build the new Main Guard” (*A. ist der Platz wo die neue Haupt Wacht zubauen können solle*).²⁴ Construction apparently took place in 1729 since there was no mention of it in the first subsequent report plan from 1731, and the building was already marked on its present location in the Hungarian map called *Eszek-var* from 1733.²⁵

The two-wing layout of the building could have been the result of its corner position within the block, as was the case with other public buildings within the fortress.²⁶ On the ground floor, there is a portico with masonry columns along the street side, and on the courtyard side, there is a similar arcaded hallway on both floors in both wings. The main wing has a centrally positioned corridor that connects the street and the courtyard. On its sides, there are vaulted rooms, with one large and two smaller rooms on each side. In the lateral wing, rooms are arranged along the arcaded hallway, and they are also vaulted. The first-floor layout is similar to that of the ground floor, except for the symmetrically organized groups of four rooms on each side of the central corridor. At the end of the corridor, there is a room with a staircase leading to

5

Vienna,
Peterswache
Beč, Peterswache

(source / izvor:
Wilhelm Maximilian
Kisch, *Die alten
Strassen und
Plaetze Wien's*)

6

Vienna, Imperial
War Chancellery
and Main Guard,
early 20th century
photo

Beč, zgrada
Carske ratne
kancelarije i
glavne straže,
fotografija s
početka 20. st.

7

Osijek, Main
GuardhouseOsijek, Glavna
straža

8

Osijek, Main
Guardhouse, towerOsijek, Glavna
straža, toranj

the tower, which is reinforced on all four sides with massive walls and illuminated by a single window. The facade (Fig. 7) features five uneven rusticated arches, and a row of nine windows, with the central one in a projection framed by pilaster bundles, which continues into a towering block. There is an observation deck on the tower with a bell turret (Fig. 8). It should be noted that all buildings in the fortress had at most two floors, the ground floor and first floor, including the largest of them all, the General Command Palace (1723–1724), so the original view from the guardhouse tower extended across the entire fortress and the immediate bastion area. All these characteristics of the Osijek guardhouse are visible in 1878 drawings (Fig. 9 a, b, c),²⁷ with the exception that the courtyard arches were already walled up at that time.

The design for this major public building was created in the building office of the Slavonian General Command in Osijek. This can be inferred from its facade design with the characteristic Tuscan pilasters, often found on other military buildings and private houses in the fortress.²⁸ One of them was the General Command Palace, the construction of which was also led by engineer Heisse,²⁹ who thereby established the characteristic design pattern used in Osijek's architecture.

Vinkovci

The Main Guardhouse was also erected in Vinkovci, which was a command-post town (*Stabsort*) and the seat of the Brod Regiment within the Slavonian Military Frontier. Archive sources from the Slavonian General

Command indicate that in the year 1781, the construction of the Main Guard (*die vorkommende Hauptwacht*) was planned,³⁰ and the Commemorative book of Vinkovci Gymnasium mentions that the construction was approved the same year.³¹ In 1782, records in archival registers mention “construction matters regarding the local Main Guard” (*Bauangelegenheiten der dortigen Hauptwache*),³² which unequivocally confirms that the building was under construction at that time. The building has been documented as *Hauptwacht* on three town maps. On Petković's map from 1782 and the identical Balentović's map,³³ it is marked brown indicating a wooden structure, as opposed to red-marked military buildings made in brick. On the undated military cadastre from around 1780, it is marked red like the other buildings, so the map should be dated close to 1782. It appears that the original structure at that location was wooden, like many other buildings,³⁴ but it was replaced with a masonry building in 1782. Franz Stefan Engel, who visited Vinkovci in 1786, mentions it as “newly and modernly built, unlike the others on the square,”³⁵ so it stood out among the prevailing single-storey structures on the main square.

In 1808, the building housed the Main Guard, a prison, and the quarters of the regimental magistrate, border control lieutenant, and regimental prison officer (*Hauptwacht und Stochkaus, Wohnung des Regiments Syndicus, Grenz Verwaltungs Lieutenants und Regiments Profoseris*).³⁶ The headquarters of the Brod Regiment was not located there, as is commonly thought; it was initially in the regimental commander's house

9 a
Osijek, Main
Guardhouse,
facade, 1878 (NSK)

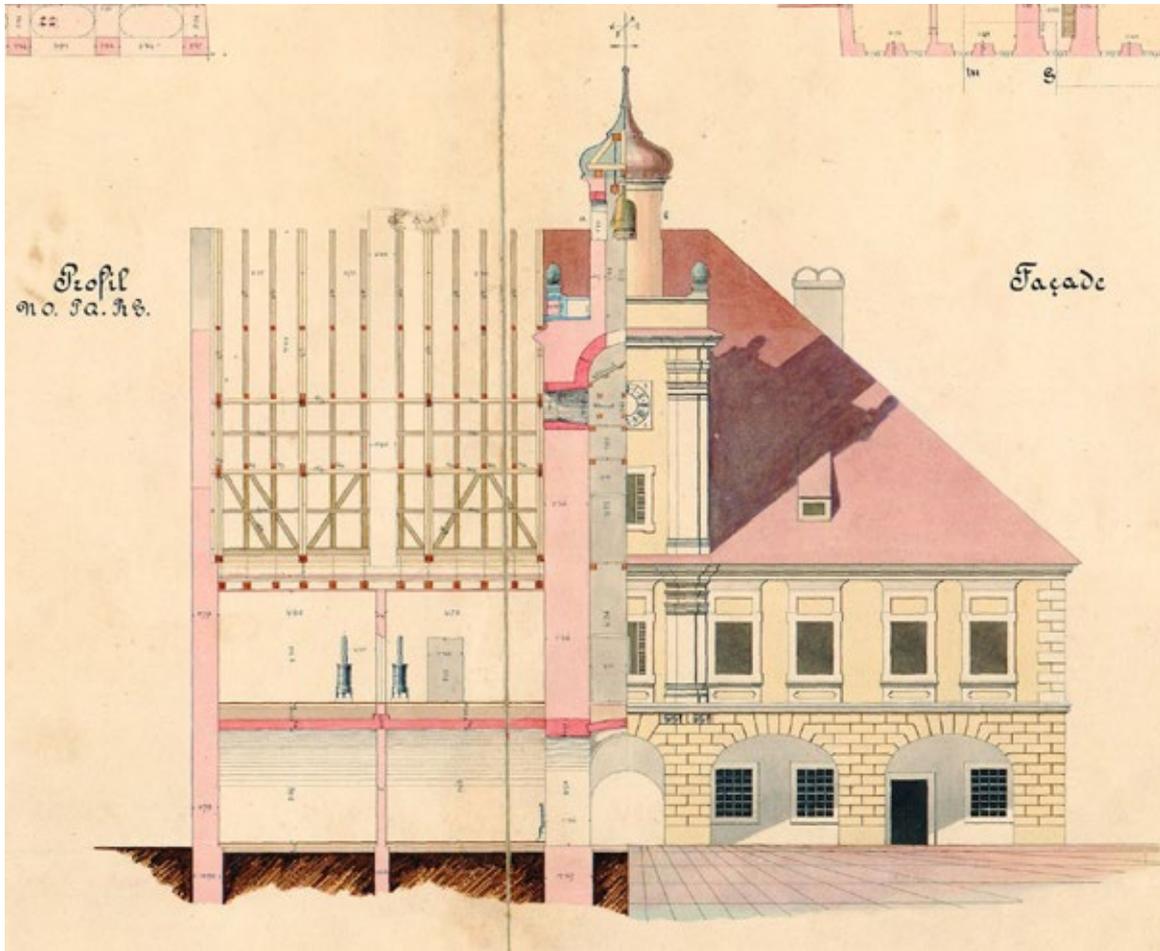
Osijek, Glavna
straža, pročelje,
1878.

9 b
Osijek, Main
Guardhouse,
ground floor plan,
1878 (NSK)

Osijek, Glavna
straža, tlocrt
prizemlja, 1878.

9 c
Osijek, Main
Guardhouse, first
floor plan, 1878
(NSK)

Osijek, Glavna
straža, tlocrt
prvog kata, 1878.



10

Vinkovci, Main Guardhouse, reconstruction of the original state, floor plans

Vinkovci, Glavna straža, rekonstrukcija izvornog stanja, tlocrt prizemlja i kata

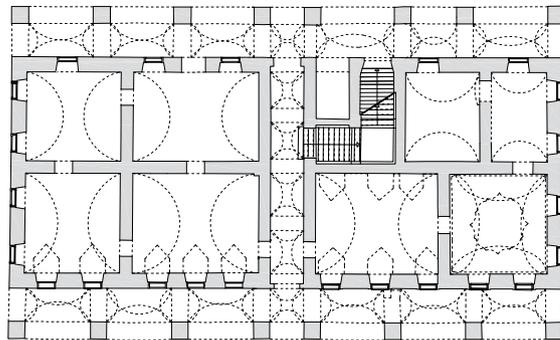
(Petar Puhmajer, Ivana Popović, Emilie Augustinović Jurič, HRZ)

11.

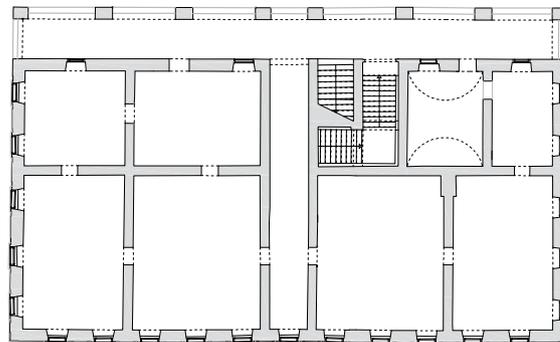
Vinkovci, Main Guardhouse, reconstruction of the original state, facades

Vinkovci, Glavna straža, rekonstrukcija izvornog stanja, pročelja

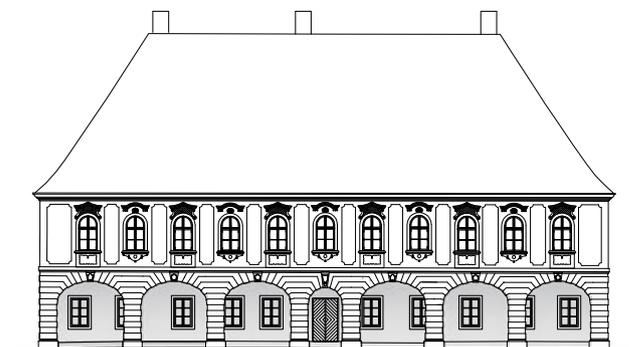
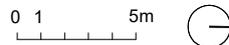
(Petar Puhmajer, Ivana Popović, Emilie Augustinović Jurič, HRZ)



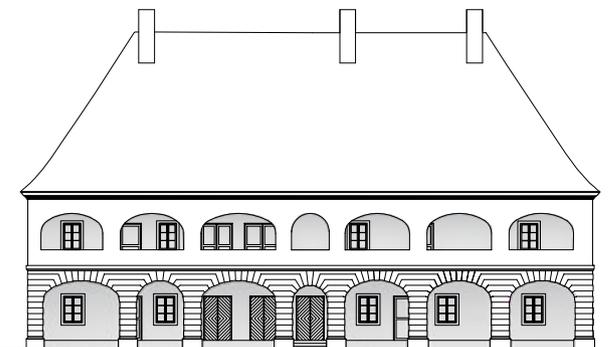
prizemlje



prvi kat



Istočno pročelje



Zapadno pročelje



on the south side of the square, and a new building was erected for that purpose around 1807 on the north side.³⁷ Furthermore, in 1826, the guardhouse began to house the newly established Building Directorate (*Baudirektion*) in Vinkovci.³⁸

The building was originally smaller, as in the third quarter of the 19th century, it was expanded towards the north. Town maps from the late 18th and the first half of the 19th century show that the building did not extend to the northern edge of the plot, as it does today, while a conservation probe of the building's structures confirmed the subsequent extension.³⁹ The layout (Fig. 10) was initially determined by a centrally positioned corridor, with groups of four rooms on each side.⁴⁰ It has been very similar to the Osijek guardhouse, suggesting a possible common model. The front facing the square had a ground floor portico, while the rear facade had arcaded hallways on both floors. It is not known whether the Vinkovci guardhouse had a tower like the one in Osijek or perhaps only a bell turret, which could be accessed from the first-floor central corridor. The facade in Vinkovci (Fig. 11) showcases intricate details, including alternating lambrequins, cloth fringe, and seashell ornaments on the windows, giving it an elegant, palatial appearance.

Stara Gradiška

In the fortress of Stara Gradiška, which was constructed in several phases during the 18th century, the Main Guardhouse was built between 1732 and 1739, and it was first marked on Thomas Barmeyer de Barienkoffen's map.⁴¹ At that time, it was located in a block near the northern town gate. However, due to the re-parcellation of the fortress, with the complete removal of private houses and the construction of solely military buildings, a new guardhouse was erected in 1765 on the main square, alongside the command office.⁴² This new structure was demolished during the second half of the 18th century, and the 1823 map shows no building in that function.⁴³

Nova Gradiška

The town of Nova Gradiška was founded in 1748 and developed as a *Militär-Komunität* starting in 1765. Reportedly, the original guardhouse on the main square was made of wood,⁴⁴ after which the construction of a large brick arcaded building followed (Trg kralja Tomislava 5), likely around 1770. This is mentioned by traveller Franz Stefan Engel, who stayed in the Regiment during the following decade.⁴⁵ The elongated two-story structure has been preserved until today. The floor plan layout consists of a sequence

of rooms in an enfilade. Its facade features a portico with nine arches, supported by masonry columns with sloped bases and prominent capitals, and it originally had plastered corner rustication, window frames and horizontal strips, as seen on an old photograph (Fig. 12).⁴⁶

Bjelovar

The foundation and construction of Bjelovar began in 1756 as a planned military town,⁴⁷ with streets laid out at right angles in an orthogonal grid. In the center of this layout was the Parade Square with military buildings. The Main Guard was located in the military command building on the northwest side (Fig. 13), which served a dual purpose (*Commando Haus samt der Haupt Wacht*) and was already documented as such on the town map from 1772.⁴⁸ The exact date of construction has not been determined, but it must have occurred in the late 1760s. This is evident in an initial town plan with marked functions from 1765 that shows two separate buildings,⁴⁹ one for the Križevci Regiment and another for the Đurđevac Regiment, on opposite sides of the square, each occupying half the width of the town block. However, in the end, a single building was erected for both regiments, including the main guard.⁵⁰ Perhaps the multifunctional nature of the building was why it was constructed as a three-story structure, which is a unique case,⁵¹ given that the largest buildings in military towns, even the Slavonian General Command Palace in Osijek (1723–1724), had originally only two floors.⁵² In Bjelovar, the first and second floors could house the commands of two regiments, while the ground floor would contain the Main Guard.

At first, the building had only one wing facing the square, and the side wings were added in the 19th century. The ground floor featured a portico, with the main entrance in the center. The central corridor was flanked by two double-flight staircases, and rooms lined up along the wings in a double sequence. On the first and second floors, large rooms were arranged along a wide longitudinal vaulted hallway facing the courtyard. However, in the 19th century, radical changes took place, establishing a central corridor with a series of rooms on either side. The façade, with as many as 17 window bays, is articulated by an arcaded ground floor and windows on the upper floors, separated by stuccoed pilasters. Although the pilasters are divided by a cornice, their bases are on the first floor and their capitals on the second floor, which makes an architectural principle called “giant order”.⁵³



12

Nova Gradiška,
Main Guardhouse,
cca 1900 (GMNG)

Nova Gradiška,
Glavna straža,
oko 1900.

13

Bjelovar,
Command and
Main Guard House

Bjelovar, zgrada
vojne komande i
glavne straže

Petrinja

Petrinja also had the *Militär-Komunität* status and its Guardhouse was located on the north side of the main square, at the site of the current building at Trg Franje Tuđmana 15. The guardhouse was first depicted on a 1783 map as a three-winged structure facing the square and marked as a “neu erbaute Hauptwacht,”⁵⁴ which means it was built in the early 1780s.

In Petrinja, the organization of law enforcement was regulated in 1787 and operated as part of the civil town council. The chief commissioner resided in the town hall, while the guardhouse was used by the guard who numbered four in 1798.⁵⁵ With the establishment of two judicial institutions in Petrinja, the municipal and regimental courts, according to some sources, the office of the Second Ban’s Regiment Headquarters moved into the Guardhouse in the early 19th century.⁵⁶ However, an 1822 map indicates that it housed the regiment prison, Main Guard, and accounting office (*Regiments Stockhaus, Hauptwacht*



und Rechnungskanzley),⁵⁷ and not the regiment command. The building served similar functions until the mid-20th century and was demolished in 1958.

The appearance of the Petrinja guardhouse is known from several early 20th-century photographs (Fig. 14). It was a two-story structure with seven windows and massive arcades framed by plaster bands with projected keystones. The *Plattenstil* rectangular recessed panels, adorned the sections in between the arcades suggesting that the axes might have continued into the first floor as pilasters, but the plastered decoration was reduced over time.

Petrovaradin

In 1778, a traveler Johann Wilhelm von Taube mentioned the Main Guardhouse in the „lower fortress“ of Petrovaradin, located „on the large square with many beautiful houses“ (*die Hauptwache welche an einem grossen mit schönen Häusern umgebenen Platze liegt*).⁵⁸ The building stood in the western part of the present-day Vladike Nikolaja Square and was depicted on the town and fortress map from 1750.⁵⁹ The guard later moved to the building of the East Town Gate, known as the Belgrade Gate, and the old guardhouse was demolished. On top of the Petrovaradin fortress, there were several other guardhouses but only the *Small guardhouse (Mala stražara)* still exists today. It was built in the early 18th century⁶⁰ and contains two rooms and a vaulted portico of three arches adorned with simple plaster decoration (Fig. 15).

Sremska Mitrovica

One more preserved guardhouse in the eastern Srymia can be found in Sremska Mitrovica (No. 3 Vuka Karadžića Street).⁶¹ The architectural history of this

building is not known, but it was clearly marked on town maps in the 18th century in its current location. From that period could originate the central part of the building with five arcades on the ground floor, which are now walled up, while the side parts, were seemingly added later. Given the very similar five-bay façade in Osijek and Vinkovci and the mention of the building's conversion into a post office after 1881, it can be assumed that the central projecting block constituted the portico of the original guardhouse. However, without conservation and historical research, this remains a conjecture.

Belgrade

Belgrade was under Habsburg rule from 1717 to 1739. That brief period saw the construction of the fortress, mainly according to the designs of engineer Nicolas Doxat Demoret (1682-1738). The Main Guardhouse⁶² was situated in the middle of the fortress plateau, surrounded by two elongated infantry barracks. On Doxat's fortress plan from 1723, the building is presented in bird's-eye perspective (Fig. 16),⁶³ as a two-story structure with a hipped roof and a projected porch in front. It appears that the facades were made of visible brick, given the red dots on the plan, which was otherwise typical for the fortification masonry. The building's foundations have been excavated, showing its overall size of 16 x 16 meters, including a vaulted basement with two rooms.⁶⁴ The building was documented on the 1738 plan,⁶⁵ just a year before the Ottomans reoccupied Belgrade, and had it converted into a mosque. It was demolished in the 19th century.

14
Petrinja, Main
Guardhouse, 1958
(MKM)

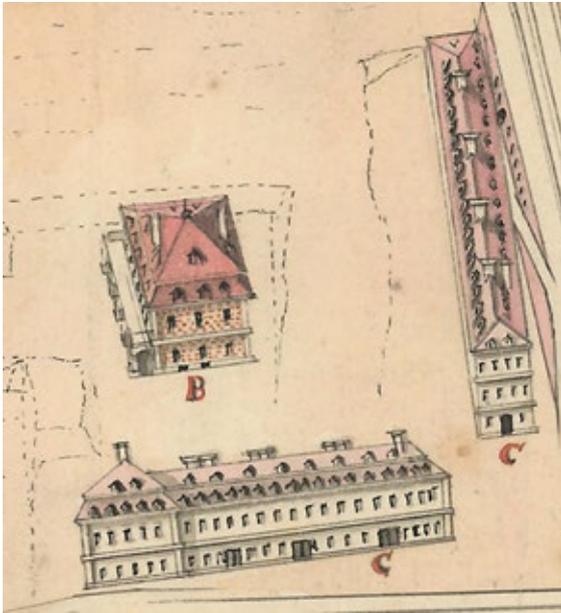
Petrinja, Glavna
straža, 1958.

15
Petrovaradin,
Small Guardhouse

Petrovaradin,
Mala stražara

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Wikimedia)





16
Belgrade, Main
Guardhouse and
army barracks,
perspective view,
by Nicolas Doxat
Demoret, 1723
(AT-OeStA)

Beograd,
Glavna straža i
vojarna, crtež
u perspektivi,
Nicolas Doxat
Demoret, 1723

17
Zemun, Main
Guardhouse,
project design,
1769 (AT-OeStA)

Zemun, Glavna
straža, projektni
nacrt, 1769.

Zemun

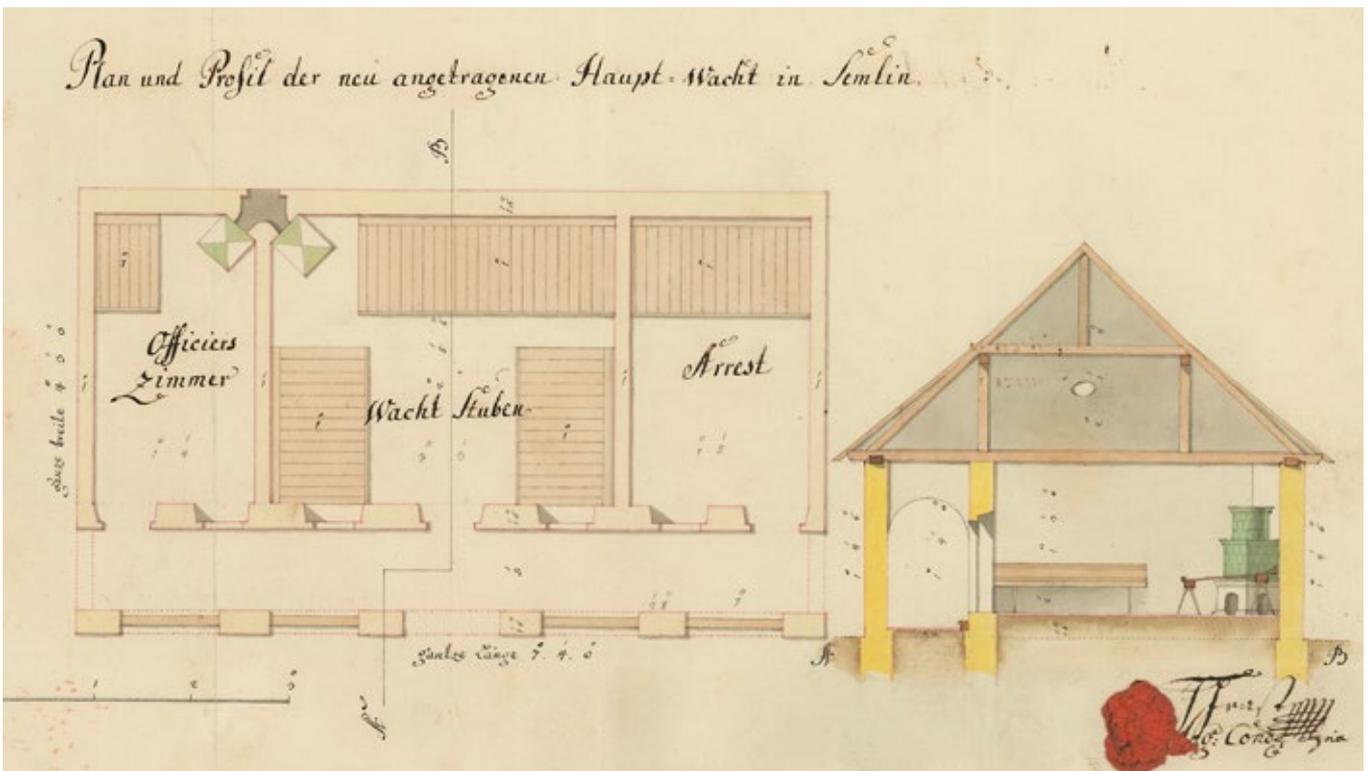
During the 18th century, Zemun was divided into civilian and military sectors,⁶⁶ with the military area serving as a large quarantine for the frequently passing troops in the proximity to the border and Belgrade, which had permanently come under Ottoman control in 1739. In the quarantine area, there were large barracks, houses for administrators and workers, a vast stable, and, at the very southeastern end, a small

guardhouse, as shown on several town maps, including the quarantine map where the buildings' layouts were sketched.⁶⁷ On the 1799 map, the structure was only schematically marked.⁶⁸

The small Zemun Guardhouse was built in 1769, as evidenced by the project design (Fig. 17).⁶⁹ It was a single-story structure with a vaulted portico featuring five arches on the entrance side and three rooms. The central room was labeled as a guard's room (*Wacht-Stube*), in which there were three wooden beds and a stove, an officers' room (*Officers Zimmer*) had one bed and stove, while a prison (*Arrest*) only had a bed. Various 18th-century maps show many guardhouses located on the road along the Danube in the surroundings of Zemun, most likely similar or rather modest wooden structures.

Conclusion

The identification of guardhouses in the Military Frontier has shown a wide range of structures, from small brick-laid and wooden buildings to large houses with rich exteriors in prominent urban locations. The buildings in Osijek and Vinkovci exhibit high architectural quality, evident in their well-organized layouts with groups of office rooms, and decorative facade design. The Osijek house features early Baroque elements such as massive pilasters, while in Vinkovci, there is an elegant, late-Baroque lace-like decoration.



Somewhat simpler buildings in Nova Gradiška, Bjelovar, and Petrinja had rooms connected in a row, and a series of repetitive arches, while the applied decoration of stucco bands and pilasters exhibits an early Neo-classical vocabulary. The square-shaped building in Belgrade, with a hipped roof, somewhat evokes traditional concepts of oriental housing, however, based on the excavated remains, it can be assumed that its interior had a symmetrical layout with a central corridor and the adjoining rooms, similar to Osijek and Vinkovci. In Zemun, the Main Guardhouse was a single-story structure with three rooms, reflecting the templates of simple wooden guardhouses, although it had a brick-vaulted front portico.

The similarity in the design of these buildings, especially the portico, was most probably the result of the standardized plans created within the state institutions of the Habsburg Empire responsible for the construction of public buildings. These emerged as early as the 16th century with the establishment of the *Hofbauamt* in Vienna, in charge of the imperial construction, which eventually evolved into the *Hofbaudirektion*,⁷⁰ an extensive cross-state civil service during the reigns of Maria Theresa and Joseph II. Some of its authority was transferred to the Aulic Chamber, a department that supervised and financed economic activities. It had independent headquarters in all of the Hereditary Lands, such as the Hungarian Aulic Chamber in Bratislava, which was in charge of Hungary and Croatia. There was a building office where engineers designed plans for public and infrastructure buildings.⁷¹ These designs were then further developed by lower-ranking local authorities, such as county offices for land survey and construction.

The Military Frontier, on the other hand, had its own building offices within the generalates and regiments, employing engineers who worked on fortifications, but also on buildings and infrastructure owned by the military, including guardhouses. The Building Directorate for the Slavonian Military Frontier (*Slavonische Gränitz Bau Direktion*) was located in Osijek, where it operated until 1783 when it was moved to Petrovaradin.⁷² In the 1720s and 1730s, the chief engineer was the aforementioned Johann Friedrich von Heisse, who managed the construction of the Osijek fortress and, as we have seen, is the probable designer of the guardhouse. Since the designs for all military buildings were generally created in building offices, there is no reason to doubt that the designers of the guardhouses were other than the military engineers.

The designers used models from treatises and drawing books, such as those of Fäsch or Penther. These

resources included, as seen in the case of the guardhouses, designs that varied from grand structures to modest facilities. Regardless, the design of purpose-specific buildings required a study of its functions and the adaptation of the aesthetic design, which was also somewhat determined at the conceptual level. Adhering to standardized solutions was a common practice in the 18th century. It did not mean a less creative process for an architect, on the contrary, it provided the basis for a new creation tailored to the scale of the city, the client's needs, and the architectural styles of time and place. Given that, the Main Guardhouses built along the southeastern border of the Habsburg Monarchy, in Croatia and Serbia, while only partially preserved, constitute a valuable contribution to Central European architectural culture in the 18th century.

Translation into English provided by the author.

This paper has been supported in part by the Croatian Science Foundation under the project HRZZ-IP-2018-01-3844, *Eugene of Savoy (1663 – 1736) and Fortress-Towns on the South-Eastern Borders of the Habsburg Monarchy*.

NOTES

- 1 Krunoslav Mikulan, *Povijest policije u Hrvatskoj*. Varaždinske Toplice, 2003., 15; Željko Karas, "Povijesni razvoj redarstvenih vlasti," *Hrvatski ljetopis za kaznene znanosti i praksu (Zagreb)* 23, 1 (2016): 156-159, 175.
- 2 Heinrich Gottlob von Justi, *Grundsätze der Polizeywissenschaft, in einem vernünftigen, auf den Endzweck der Policey gegründeten, Zusammenhange und zum gebrauch academischer Vorlesungen abgefasset*, vol. I (Göttingen, 1756).
- 3 Alexander Buczynski, "Organizacija policije i pravosuđa u Vojnoj krajini," *Povijesni prilozi* 13 (1994): 78-81.
- 4 Mikulan. *Povijest policije*, 21-22; Karas, "Povijesni razvoj," 162.
- 5 Mikulan. *Povijest policije*, 252.
- 6 Martina Thomsen, *Zwischen Hauptwache und Stockhaus. Kriminalität und Strafjustiz in Thorn im 18. Jahrhundert* (Marburg, 2005), 3, 59.
- 7 Thomsen, *Zwischen Hauptwache*, 147, 148, 153, 185, 206, 208, 261. In the records of the Osijek city council during the 18th century we find numerous pieces of information about the unlawful activities of citizens, including thefts and other criminal acts, as well as violations of public order and peace, for which the suspects were taken to the Main Guardhouse. Stjepan Sršan, ed., *Zapisnik općine Osijek-Tvrđa od 1745. do 1770. godine* (Osijek, 1987), 57, 262; Stjepan Sršan, ed., *Zapisnici općine Osijek od 1786. do 1794* (Osijek, 1996), 291; Stjepan Sršan, ed., *Dopisi općine Unutarnji grad (Tvrđa) Osijek 1772. – 1777. godine* (Osijek, 2004), 147, 153. "Wacht" is also used for the service that conducts detaining or arrests. See further in: Sršan, ed., *Zapisnik općine Osijek-Tvrđa*, 82, 90, 94, 124. We can observe the same in Vinkovci. Josip Matasović, *U Vinkovcima prije jednog stoljeća: kulturnohistorijska crtica* (Osijek, 1937), 21.

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| <p>DPUH
66/2023</p> | <p>Peristil
61-76</p> | <p>Petar
Puhmajer</p> | <p>Main Guardhouse
– A Military Public Building of the 18th century</p> |
|-------------------------|---------------------------|---------------------------|---|
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- 8 Stefan Hertzog, *Hauptwache und altes Gewandhaus am Dresdner Neumarkt* (Dresden, 2004), 14–15. The most famous depiction of the building is the picturesque but not so accurate veduta by Bernardo Bellotto from 1749. Andreas Schumacher, "The Neumarkt from the Jüdenhof, Dresden." *Canaletto: Bernardo Bellotto Paints Europe*. Ed. Andreas Schumacher, Bayerische Staatsgemäldesammlungen, Alte Pinakothek (München, 2014), 232–233.
 - 9 The function of the rooms is shown on the 1760 plan presented by Cornelius Gurlitt, *Stadt Dresden. Beschreibende Darstellung der älteren Bau- und Kunstdenkmäler des Königreichs Sachsen* (Dresden, 1903).
 - 10 Johann Rudolf Fäsch, *Joh. Rudolph Fäsches ... anderer Versuch Seiner Architect. Wercken. Bestehend in allerhand Grund-Hauptrissen u. Profilen unterschiedener Vestungs Gebäuen*, Bd. 3 (Nürnberg, 1724).
 - 11 Heinz Schomann, Volker Rödel, Heike Kaiser, *Denkmaltopographie Stadt Frankfurt am Main. Teil 1: Baudenkmäler* (Frankfurt am Main, 1994), 24.
 - 12 Johann Friedrich Penther, *Vierter Theil einer ausführlichen Anleitung zur Bürgerlichen Bau-Kunst worin von publiquen weltlichen Gebäuden...* (Augsburg, 1748), 82–84.
 - 13 The architectural drawings were disseminated in many ways. Interestingly, one copy of Penther's treatise is preserved in the Museum of Arts and Crafts in Zagreb, which certainly suggests that it was owned by a nobleman or perhaps even used in domestic builders' circles in the 18th and 19th centuries. Muzej za umjetnost i obrt, knjižnica, sign. X – C – 1a, inv. no. 281.
 - 14 Penther, *Vierter Theil einer ausführlichen Anleitung*, 82–83.
 - 15 Denis André Chevalley, Hans-Wolfram Lübbecke, Michael Nitz, *Denkmäler in Bayern. Band IV. Oberfranken*. Ed. Michael Petzet, Bayerisches Landesamt für Denkmalpflege (München, 1986), 17.
 - 16 Wilhelm Maximilian Kisch, *Die alten Strassen und Plaetze Wien's und ihre historisch interessanten Hauser : ein Beitrag zur Culturgeschichte Wiens mit Rücksicht auf die vaterländische Kunst, Architektur, Musik und Literatur* (Wien, 1883), 156.
 - 17 Kisch, *Die alten Strassen und Plaetze Wien's*, 157, fig. 54.
 - 18 György Kelényi, *Franz Anton Hillebrandt (1719–1797)* (Budapest, 1976), 54–55.
 - 19 *Österreichische Kunsttopographie, Band LIII: Die Kunstdenkmäler der Stadt Graz. Die Profanbauten des I. Bezirkes* (Wien, 1997), 165–167.
 - 20 Károly Magyar, "A budavári Szent György tér és környékének kiépülése. Történeti vázlat 1526-tól napjainkig," *Tanulmányok Budapest Múltjából* 31 (2003): 60, 120–121; Zoltán Bencze, " Régészeti kutatások a Dísz tér 17. sz. alatt : előzetes jelentés," *Tanulmányok Budapest Múltjából* 31 (2003): 191, 202.
 - 21 Magyar, *A budavári Szent György tér*, 60, 120–121; Bencze, "Régészeti kutatások," 191, 202.
 - 22 In Civil Croatia, for example in Zagreb and Varaždin, the police were included in the town councils' jurisdiction, but the buildings for that purpose were never constructed.
 - 23 Mira Ilijanić, Marija Mirković, "Prilog dokumentaciji o građevnoj povijesti osječke Tvrđe na prijelazu sedamnaestog u osamnaesto stoljeće." *Godišnjak zaštite spomenika kulture Hrvatske 4–5* (1978/1979): 102; Ivo Mažuran, "Tri komorska grada," in *Od turskog do suvremenog Osijeka*, ed. J. Martinčić (Osijek, 1996), 29; Ivo Mažuran, *Grad i tvrđava Osijek* (Osijek, 2000), 72–73; Katarina Horvat-Levaj, Margareta Turkalj Podmanicki, *Palača Slavonske Generalkomande u Osijeku* (Zagreb – Osijek, 2019), 29–30, 43; Zlatko Uzelac, "Vrhunac razvitka osječkih baroknih fortifikacija, treća projektna faza 1727. – 1731. – doprinos Nicolasa Doxata de Démoreta," *Osječki zbornik* 35 (2019): 27–46.
 - 24 The plan was published in: Mažuran, *Grad i tvrđava Osijek*, 76, 93. In Mažuran's article from 1996, an incorrect reference is given for the data on the Main Guard, namely, the report drawing for the completed works in 1731, in which it is not mentioned. Mažuran, *Tri komorska grada*, 30; Österreichische Staatsarchiv, Kriegsarchiv, Kartensammlung (AT-OeStA/KA, KS), Inland K VII 110 E.
 - 25 The plan was published in: Mažuran, *Tri komorska grada*, 42.
 - 26 Horvat-Levaj, Turkalj Podmanicki, *Palača Slavonske Generalkomande*, 149.
 - 27 Nacionalna i sveučilišna knjižnica, Zbirka zemljovida i atlasa (NSK-ZZA), XI-SK-J-165, *Plan des Hauptwach Gebäudes*, Cajetan Kressnik, 1878.
 - 28 Petar Puhmajer, "Gradska stambena arhitektura baroka," in *Slavonija, Baranja i Srijem: vrela europske civilizacije*, vol II, ed. Vesna Kusin, Branka Šulc (Zagreb, 2009), 258; Petar Puhmajer, Ratko Vučetić, Ivana Haničar Buljan, "Građanska arhitektura 18. stoljeća u osječkoj Tvrđi: stambeno-trgovačke katnice," *Radovi Instituta za povijest umjetnosti* 45 (2021): 197–199.
 - 29 Horvat-Levaj, Turkalj Podmanicki, *Palača Slavonske Generalkomande*, 137, 141; Katarina Horvat-Levaj, Margareta Turkalj Podmanicki, "A Symbol of Habsburg Military Power: the Slavonian General Command Palace in Osijek (1723)," *RIHA Journal* 0245 (2020): 1–35.
 - 30 Hrvatski državni arhiv, fond Slavonska Generalkomanda (HR-HDA-430), Repertorium, knj. 58–59.
 - 31 Landeka, Marko, ed. *Povijest vinkovačke gimnazije* (Osijek, 2002), 5.
 - 32 HR-HDA-430, Slavonska generalkomanda, *Repertorium*, knj. br. 61, Vinkovcze Militärort.
 - 33 NSK-ZZA, ZN-VMS-XVIII-PET-1782. Országos Széchényi Könyvtár (OSK), sign. TK 1 213, *Plan von dem Stabs Quartier des löblichen Brooder Regiments Winkowcze*, signed as: *Copiert durch den M. Ballentowich*. Further reading: Ante Grubišić, "Plan von dem Stabs Quartier des löbl[ichen] Brooder Regim[en]ts Winkowcze," *Osječki zbornik* 27 (2004): 78–80; Damir Filipović, "Najstariji, do sada nepoznat plan Vinkovaca," *Prostor* 2–4 (1993): 281–288.
 - 34 Petar Puhmajer, Stjepan Prutki, "Izgradnja Vinkovaca u doba Vojne krajine," *Radovi Instituta za povijest umjetnosti* 46 (2022): 84. In the report of the Slavonian General Command to the Imperial War Council in 1778, it is explicitly stated that the construction of military buildings "had been stopped for several previous years, and many of the buildings, constructed from wood in 1752 and 1753, mostly deteriorated because they were built without solid foundations." HR-HDA-430, 1778–66–21.
 - 35 Franz Stefan Engel, *Opis Kraljevine Slavonije i Vojvodstva Srema* (Novi Sad, 2003), 55; Grubišić, *Plan von dem Stabs Quartier*, 80.
 - 36 Državni arhiv u Vukovaru, fond Brodska graničarska pukovnija, Gruntovni ured Vinkovci (HR-DAVU-VK-200. BGP-GUV), Knj. 80, reg. list 708.
 - 37 Puhmajer, Prutki, *Izgradnja Vinkovaca*, 84. According to Krunoslav Tkalc, there was a large and a small guard building in Vinkovci, and the regiment headquarters was located in the small guardhouse, although we don't know the specific period or which buildings this refers to. On a city plan from around 1850, with marked military buildings, apart from the one on the square, there is a guardhouse marked with 1 south of the Bosut River (*Wachthaus beim Bau-Depot*), and another with a number 43 in the northern part of the Meraja square (*Wachthaus dasselbst*). These small buildings did not exist in the late 18th century. Krunoslav Tkalc, "Vinkovci kao sjedište sedme Brodske regimente i devete kumpanije," *Godišnjak ogranka Matice hrvatske Vinkovci* 55 (1966/1967):

- 26; HR-HDA-905, Zbirka građevnih nacrti, I.43, *Plan des Stabortes Vinkovci*, cca 1850.
- 38 HR-HDA-430, Slavenska Generalkomanda, Opći spisi, kut. 79, 1826-R1-56.
- 39 Petar Puhmajer, *Vinkovci. Zgrada Gradskog muzeja. Elaborat konzervatorsko-restauratorskih istraživanja* (Zagreb: Hrvatski restauratorski zavod, 2022), 15–16, 306–309.
- 40 The northern part of the building, where such regular symmetry was disrupted and arcades were omitted on the rear side, is clearly shown to be a later addition. A more substantial intervention occurred on the first floor, where the central hallway was eliminated, connecting its eastern part with the adjacent room. Puhmajer, *Vinkovci. Zgrada Gradskog muzeja*, 304–305.
- 41 Josip Kljajić, "Stara Gradiška u 18. stoljeću," *Peristil* 46 (2003): 68.
- 42 Kljajić, *Stara Gradiška*, 72.
- 43 AT-OeStA/KA, KPS KS, G I h, 211–1, *Plan des inneren Raumes der kaiserlich königlichen Grenzfestung Alt-Gradiska*, autor: Ingenieur Leutnant von Gartlgruber, 1823. The plan was published in: Vladimir Bedenko, "Urbanistička prošlost Stare Gradiške," *Godišnjak zaštite spomenika kulture* 2–3 (1976–1977): 114.
- 44 Dragica Vidmar, ed., *Nova Gradiška: u povodu 250. obljetnice osnivanja grada. Izabrane teme* (Nova Gradiška: Poglavarstvo grada, 1998), 106.
- 45 Engel, *Opis Kraljevine Slavonije*.
- 46 The photo courtesy of the Nova Gradiška Civic Museum. Special thanks to Ms. Ana Pavleković Žeruk.
- 47 Mirela Slukan Altić, *Povijesni atlas gradova: Bjelovar* (Zagreb, 2006), 29; Hrvoje Petrić, Željko Holjevac, Željko Karaula, *Povijest Bjelovara* (Zagreb-Bjelovar, 2013), 143–145.
- 48 Slukan Altić, *Povijesni atlas gradova*, 34.
- 49 Petrić, Holjevac, Karaula, *Povijest Bjelovara*, 146.
- 50 The guard remained in it until the dissolution of the Military Frontier in the second half of the 19th century, as indicated in a plan from around 1860. This plan documents that, in addition to the main guard, there was also a military school (*Hauptwache und Regiments Schule*) in it. See further in: Slukan Altić, *Povijesni atlas gradova*, 56.
- 51 The appearance of the building was earliest recorded in a drawing by Thomas Roichevich from 1834, titled "Das Commando Haus in Belovar pro 1791," supposedly based on the condition of 1791. See further in: Slukan Altić, *Povijesni atlas gradova*, 123.
- 52 The Palace of the Slavonian General Command was added second floor around the middle of the 18th century. Horvat-Levaj, Turkalj Podmanicki, *Palača Slavonske Generalkomande*, 84–86.
- 53 That is if the decoration has been accurately reconstructed in the recent restoration, considering that the original plaster had been completely removed from the facade in the 20th century.
- 54 The plan was published in: Ivica Golec, *Povijest grada Petrinje 1240.–1592.–2014.* (Petrinja 2014), 93–95.
- 55 Golec, *Povijest grada Petrinje*, 235–236.
- 56 Golec, *Povijest grada Petrinje*, 240.
- 57 Nenad Lipovac, *Petrinja: prostorno-povijesni razvoj grada očitano sa starih grafika, planova i karata* (Zagreb, 2010), 97–99.
- 58 Friedrich Wilhelm von Taube, *Historische und geographische Beschreibung des Königreiches Slavonien und des Herzogthumes Syrmien*. III. Buch (Leipzig, 1778), 91.
- 59 It is present-day Bishop Nikolaj Square (Trg Vladike Nikolaja), which was reduced to one-quarter of its original size during the 20th century due to the construction of access roads for the bridge over the Danube. The building is marked with the number 10 as *Haupt-Wacht*. *Hadtörténeti Intézet és Múzeum (HIM)*, G I h 3859, *Relations Plan der Festung, Horn-werckh, und Stadt Peterwardein wie auch deren Nahe liegenden Mayer-Hoeffen wie sich solche den 1-ten Martii 1750 im Stande befunden*, 1750.
- 60 Donka Stančić, et al. *Umetnička topografija Novog Sada (Novi Sad: Matica Srpska, 2014)*, 753.
- 61 Today it houses the Sirmium Historical Archives.
- 62 Marko Popović, *Beogradska tvrđava* (Beograd, 2006), 228; Marko Popović, "Beginnings of Baroque Military Architecture in the Belgrade Fortress," in *Baroque Belgrade* (Beograd: Arheološki institut, Muzej grada Beograda, 2019), 98, 101; Nika Strugar Bevc, Vesna Bikić, *Barokni Beograd. Preobražaji 1717.–1739.* exhibition catalog (Beograd: Muzej grada Beograda, Arheološki institut, 2019), 24–25.
- 63 AT-OeStA-KA, KPS, Landesbeschreibungen K I f 23–71, *Pläne und Profile der Festung Belgrad aus welchen man deutlich ersehen kann was diese Jahr 1723 gearbeitet worden* (Ingenieur Doxat, 1723).
- 64 Popović, *Beginnings of Baroque Military Architecture*, 101.
- 65 OSK, TK 2087, *Plan de Belgrade a' la fin de l'année 1738*, 1740.
- 66 Željko Škalamera, *Staro jezgro Zemuna, knjiga I, Istorijski razvoj* (Beograd: Zavod za zaštitu spomenika kulture grada Beograda, 1966), 7; Željko Škalamera, *Staro jezgro Zemuna, knjiga II, Graditeljsko nasleđe*. (Beograd: Zavod za zaštitu spomenika kulture grada Beograda, 1967), 14.
- 67 *Magyar Nemzeti Levéltár (HU-MNL)*, Delineationes aedilium, T 1 No. 619/b, *Plan von der Millitar Cassarm und Contumaz in Semlin*, M. B. Wisser.
- 68 HU-MNL, Delineationes aedilium, T 1 No. 619/b, *Plan von der Millitar Cassarm und Contumaz in Semlin*, M. B. Wisser.
- 69 Österreichische Staatsarchiv, Finanz- und Hofkammerarchiv (AT-OeStA-FHKA), SUS KS, Ra 0235, *Plan und Profil der neue angetragenen Haupt-Wacht in Semlin*, 1769.
- 70 Dubravka Botica, *Četverolisne crkve u srednjoj Europi – problem tipologije sakralne arhitekture 18. stoljeća* (PhD Diss, University of Zagreb, 2007), 157.
- 71 János Kapossy, "A magyar királyi udvari kamara építészei Mária Terézia és József korában," *Századok* 58 (1924), 586.
- 72 Đurđica Cvitanović, "Idejni nacrti za gradnju tipiziranih crkava u Vojnoj krajini," in *Vojna krajina: Povijesni pregled – historiografija – rasprave*, ed. Dragutin Pavličević (Zagreb, 1984), 411–429; Dubravka Botica, "Odredbe o gradnji i oblikovanju crkava na području Vojne krajine u Hrvatskoj u kontekstu 'državnog arhitektonskog identiteta' Habsburške Monarhije," in *Arhitektura in politika. Arhitekturna zgodovina 3. Zbornik povzetkov znanstvenega simpozija*, ed. Renata Novak Klemenčič (Ljubljana, 2016), 36.

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SAŽETAK

Glavna straža

— prilog poznavanju vojnih javnih zgrada 18. stoljeća

Slijedom razvoja kameralnih znanosti i reforme državne službe, posebno u njemačkim i austrijskim zemljama, koji će biti temelj za uspostavu moderne i učinkovite javne administracije 18. stoljeća, došlo je do pojave raznovrsnih tipova javnih zgrada predodređenih njihovom namjenom. Među njima se izdvajaju zgrade Glavne straže, arhitektonski tip koji upravo u 18. stoljeću doživljava svoj vrhunac zahvaljujući postupnoj organizaciji policijske službe u europskim gradovima, bilo u okviru civilnih, bilo vojnih vlasti. Zgrade straža nalazimo u brojnim gradovima Habsburškog Carstva, a posebno u sklopu Hrvatske i Slavonske Vojne krajine gdje je sačuvano ili pak samo identificirano više primjera: u Osijeku, Vinkovcima, Staroj Gradiški, Novoj Gradiški, Bjelovaru, Petrinji, Sremskoj Mitrovici, Petrovaradinu, Zemunu i Beogradu. Projekti za zgrade Glavne straže, kao i za sve vrste vojnih zgrada, nastaju u okviru građevinskih ureda Vojne krajine, a inženjeri koji ih projektiraju djelomično posežu za tipskim obrascima u arhitektonskim traktatima i knjigama crteža.

PETAR PUHMAJER, PhD, graduated with degrees in Art History and English Language from the University of Zagreb and attained a doctoral degree in 2012 with a dissertation theme on baroque architecture. Since 2002 he has been working as a conservator at the Croatian Conservation Institute in Zagreb. His research interests include 17th to 19th-century architecture in Central Europe and the Mediterranean.

Dr. sc. PETAR PUHMAJER diplomirao je povijest umjetnosti i anglistiku na Filozofskom fakultetu Sveučilišta u Zagrebu. Doktorirao je 2012. s temom iz barokne arhitekture. Od 2002. radi kao konzervator u Hrvatskom restauratorskom zavodu u Zagrebu. Istraživački interes mu je arhitektura od 17. do 19. stoljeća u srednjoj Europi i na Mediteranu.