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MODERN AGE CHURCHES IN THE COASTAL AREA OF KAŠTELA: TYPOLOGY, STYLE AND PROTECTION

NOVOVJEKOVNE CRKVE U PRIOBALNOM POJASU KAŠTELA: TIPOLOGIJA, STIL I ZAŠTITA

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Date of public defense: October 10, 2023

The dissertation has 553 pages, 8 chapters, 38 sub-chapters, 350 illustrations, 776 footnotes, 194 bibliographic units, 38 internet sources, 18 tables and 17 catalogue units.

The dissertation focuses on the architecture of modern age churches in the Kaštela coastal area. Research in terms of space covers the coastal part of the city of Kaštela, namely the area around Ivana Pavla II Street, i.e. between the main highway and the sea. This area is where several churches that are the subject matter of research in this dissertation are located.

The timeframe of research covers the period of the modern era because this is when the topography of the Kaštela coastal area underwent considerable change. Due to the permanent threat of Turkish invasions, the inhabitants of medieval villages on the slopes of Kozjak relocated to the coast in the 15th and 16th century. Fortifications were built on the coast, and afterwards in the immediate vicinity of fortified villages churches were constructed. The research covers 18 churches classified chronologically according to their time of construction or according to the first recording in visitations.

The dissertation generally aims at determining the basic features and qualities of modern age liturgical architecture, presentation by means of catalogue and definitions within the Central Dalmatian context, as a quality basis for its preservation and protection. The integrally carried out research considers the urban development of towns, the beginning and genesis of liturgical architecture, its typological and stylistic classification, its position in the image of the city, but also in a greater Central Dalmatian context. The dissertation considers the impact of historic and ecclesiastic circumstances on liturgical architecture, namely the Council of Trent (1545-1564). Changes in liturgy throughout history imposed a new structure of space. Considering modern age historic and ecclesiastic circumstances in general, the focus was set on historic and ecclesiastic circumstances of Kaštela lying on the boundaries between the Split archbishopric and the Trogir bishopric. The urban form analysis has shown that nearly all modern age churches except one, are located outside the fortified towns. They have also shown that churches generated the

urban development as part of the image of the town, within which they bear spatial and urban value.

Seven criteria were established for the analysis of liturgical architecture comprising the situation-relation between the church and the actual tissue at the time of construction and presently, now with the emphasis on the church contact zone, history most often based on archbishops' visitations, description of the building, type and structure, reconstructions, stylistic features, elements of architecture, church interiors, liturgical elements, and finally, constructive solutions and building techniques. Based on these criteria, a genealogy of liturgical buildings in the Kaštela coastal area was established. After a detailed description, the type and structure of churches was defined and based on previous knowledge, presumed reconstructions/layers of church constructions over time. Further, stylistic features were determined based on the analysis of architectural elements. Church interiors were analyzed considering the spatial disposition of liturgical elements with an emphasis on the spatial idea at the time of construction, taking into consideration the guidelines stipulated at the Council of Trent. Finally, the constructive solutions of churches were analyzed. At the end of the genealogical analysis of each church, the collected extensive documentation was systematized and a new one was created for the churches where it did not exist.

Aisleless longitudinal churches proved to be dominant, and a proposed classification within the group was given. Other types of churches were analyzed separately. Aisleless longitudinal churches were classified as follows: churches with a smaller square or rectangular apse (16th c.), church with added chapels (16th c.) – isolated example, churches with a larger square or rectangular apse (17th and 18th cc.), church with added chapels within the nave (18th and 19th cc.) Neo-Palladian type – an isolated example and the only church in the coastal Kaštela area built following a foreign pattern. Other types of churches built in the 19th and 20th cc. are: two longitudinal aisled churches, one central,

one longitudinal with an inscribed Latin cross and one aisleless church with added chapels.

Comparisons of medieval and modern age liturgical architecture determined that churches from the 16th c. retained traditional ground plan-spatial solutions of the medieval liturgical architecture. Analyses of liturgical architecture of the 17th, 18th and 19th cc., show the presence of builders and their families active in this area, making modern age liturgical architecture, unlike the medieval one, an achievement of the author. The dissertation brings an overview of activities of builders' families: Macanovic, Scotti, Keršovani and Aviani in Dalmatia, with reference to their activity in Kaštela. The modern age liturgical architecture of Kaštela is compared with simultaneous architecture in Central Dalmatia, which has led to the conclusion that it has the same or similar features as churches from Split, Trogir and their surroundings, as well as from the Dalmatian hinterland. The differences are evident compared to churches on Central Dalmatian islands where they are larger, often aisled and more elaborate. It may be concluded that the liturgical architecture of Kaštela fits into the Central Dalmatian context as its integral part.

The end of the dissertation brings the catalogue as a starting point and contribution to further research. It contributes to the systemization of abundant documentation, publication of facts unknown so far about unaccomplished reconstructions of two churches, a systematic analysis of modern age liturgical architecture of Kaštela, architectural survey of certain churches as a contribution to the documentation, evaluation of the contribution of modern age architecture of Kaštela in the broader Central Dalmatian context, as well as its catalogue presentation.

In conclusion, the research method of the modern age liturgical architecture of Kaštela in this dissertation may serve as a template in the research of simultaneous liturgical architecture in other cities as well. Its results may also serve as the basis for a quality renovation and protection of modern age liturgical built heritage of Kaštela.

[Translated by Lada Laura]