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URBAN RENEWAL PLANNING CRITERIA FOR SMALL HISTORIC TOWNS IN CROATIA

KRITERIJI ZA PLANIRANJE URBANE OBNOVE MALIH POVIJESNIH GRADOVA HRVATSKE

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The dissertation has 385 pages, 33 images, 16 tables, 3 diagrams, 2 cartographic representations, and 54 catalog entries. The dissertation is equipped with 791 footnotes. The Appendices has 392 bibl. entries, 91 documentary sources, and 65 online sources.

Small historical towns are an important factor in the spatial identity and urban tradition of Croatia. Croatia is a country with a long urban tradition developed continuously from ancient times to the present day. Today, numerous small historical towns are faced with the deterioration of their historical, urban and architectural features, and consequently with changes in their urban identity. According to the spatial planning legislation and the Ordinance on Spatial Plans, there is no obligation to create an urban development plan for cultural and historical entities that also include small historical towns. The hypotheses of this research are: small historical towns differ according to their identity characteristics, that is, their urban character; the criteria for planning the urban renewal of a small historical town, apart from the general ones, depend on the identity characteristics of an individual town, and by applying the criteria for urban renewal planning, the identity characteristics of small historical towns can be preserved and improved.

The main goal of the research is to analyze and supplement the existing criteria for planning the urban renewal of cultural and historical entities to which small historical towns belong by preserving their identity features and heritage values. Other goals are the conceptual definition and determination of criteria for recognizing small historical towns in Croatia and their listing; systematization of methods of assessment (evaluation) of identity features of a small historical town and systematization of criteria for urban renewal planning based on the assessment of the state of identity features. In the scientific and research process, which fulfills the research objectives and proves the set hypotheses, inductive and deductive methods, archival research, field research, model-making methods, mathematical and statistical methods, comparative analysis methods and synthetic interpretation methods are used.

In the first chapter, by analyzing bibliographic units and documentation sources of international organizations that deal with cultural heritage and urban planning, basic data is researched in order to more precisely define

terms related to definitions and criteria for recognizing and evaluating urban character (identity features) in the context of urban morphology. Contemporary approaches and theoretical starting points for methods of protection, planning and management of historical cities are explored, especially within the framework of the concept of historical urban landscape.

The second chapter analyses bibliographic units that research international and domestic examples of urban heritage protection in the period from the second half of the 19th century to the present day. The research is focused on the analysis of applied methods, procedures and planning criteria in the period after the establishment of the institutional heritage protection system. Examples of plans for the regulation and restoration of historical parts of cities created during the last century, as well as recent urban renewal plans and management plans for European and Croatian historical cities, are investigated. Through a comparative analysis of applied models and methods of protection and restoration of urban heritage, the goal is to determine their general principles and approaches as one of the starting points for the proposal of criteria for planning the protection and restoration of small historical towns in Croatia.

The third chapter deals with the determination of small historical towns in Croatia. Although it is often used, there is no unequivocal definition of the term small historical town, nor are they clearly recognized or mentioned in the legislation. The initial research was to determine the criteria for determining a small historical town and to determine a list of small historical towns. The proposed multi-criteria model for the recognition of small historical towns includes the verification of administrative, functional, size, conservation, historical and structural and morphological factors.

In the fourth chapter, the criteria for identifying the identity features of small historical towns are proposed, established on the theoretical basis of urban morphology and his-

torical urban landscape. The model of recognition and evaluation of the degree of significance of their identity features was carried out for forty-four small historical towns in Croatia, which are analyzed and evaluated according to the degree of physical, evident identity: spatial-landscape, visual-morphological, urban-architectural and heritage. The analyses are focused on the physical appearance of the city and its material forms in three dimensions and within the framework of its historical development as a historical identity. The proposed model of recognition and evaluation of the city's identity features according to selected criteria based on quantification indicators results in a synthesis evaluation of the degree of identity significance, which is evaluated within the following categories: high, medium/moderate and low. Korčula, Motovun, Ston, Labin, Motovun, Pag, Rab, Buje, Buzet, Grožnjan and Oprtalj were assessed as having a high degree of identity significance.

In the fifth chapter, in the example of the cities selected according to the criterion of the degree of significance of identity features, the criteria important for planning are analyzed, namely the indicators of the assessment of the state of: structural and morphological, socio-economic, spatial, landscape and ecological and planning and urban criteria. Indicators of danger (threats) and potential (opportunities) for development are added. Depending on their assessment, the following criteria are foreseen in future planning: preservation and maintenance, improvement and advancement of identity features and introduction of new structures and content. The application of an intersectoral model of planning and management of urban heritage is also proposed, and must be integrated into the broader framework of development planning as well as the model of integral planning and the connection of urban planning and preservation of urban heritage. It is concluded that it is necessary to oblige the creation of an urban development plan for the area encompassing cultural and historical entities, also including small historical towns.