

Manda Horvat

Ministarstvo mora, turizma, prometa i razvitka
Odjel za selektivne oblike turizma i razvojne projekte
Zagreb
manda.horvat@mmtpr.hr

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Katica Mutak

Ministarstvo kulture
Uprava za zaštitu kulturne baštine
Zagreb
katica.mutak@min-kulture.hr

Graditeljstvo otoka Lastova

U sklopu redovnog programa "Istraživanje i utvrđivanje stanja etnološke građe na području Republike Hrvatske", konzervatori Ministarstva kulture, Uprave za zaštitu kulturne baštine iz Zagreba i Konzervatorskog odjela iz Splita proveli su tijekom listopada 2003. inventarizaciju etnološke građe na otoku Lastovu.

Ranijih sustavnih istraživanja nije bilo, izuzev onih za određene potrebe, odnosno izradu Urbanističkog i Prostornog plana općine Lastovo, 1983., Izmjene i dopune plana, 2000. i za izradu Programa integralnog razvoja lastovskog otočja

Ključne riječi: narodno graditeljstvo, Lastovo

Geografska obilježja otoka

Lastovo je najudaljeniji i najjužniji naseljeni hrvatski otok. Površine je 46,9, dužine 11, a širine oko 6,5 km. Između vapnenačkih bregova s najvišim vrhom Humom (417 m), smještena su brojna krška polja, od kojih su najznačajnija Prgovo, Pržina, Lokavje i Vinopolje. Šumom je pokriveno 60 posto otoka, a čine je uglavnom makija, alepski bor i zimzeleni hrast crnika.

Zbog svoga zemljopisnog položaja na otvorenoj pučini bio je dio plovnoga puta koji je od neolita povezivao zapadnu i istočnu jadransku obalu.

Povijest Lastova

Otok je bio naseljen već u neolitu o čemu svjedoče nalazi keramike u špilji Rači (iznad Skrivene Luke) te u Puzavici (između Prgova i Pržine). Na temelju biljnih i životinjskih ostataka u špilji Rača može se zaključiti da su tadašnji stanovnici otoka bili lovci, skupljači plodova, stočari i dijelom poljoprivrednici.

Potkraj brončanog doba otok nastavaju Iliri koji grade gradinska naselja, a prema ostacima na brdu Glavica iznad današnjeg naselja Lastova, zaključuje se da je jedno od tih naselja bilo na mjestu današnjeg Lastova iznad kojeg je bila pretpovijesna utvrda, a drugo na visoravni južno od brda Soznja.

Iako prvi pisani spomen otoka potječe iz 10. stoljeća (u djelima bizantskog cara Konstantina Porfirogeneta), smatra se da su Hrvati otok naselili u ranoj fazi svoga naseljavanja na ove prostore, o čemu svjedoči toponomastika otoka koja je najvećim dijelom hrvatska. Tako se već u djelu Konstantina Porfirogeneta, kada Lastovo najvjerojatnije više nije bilo u sklopu bizantske teme Dalmacije, nego pod vlašću hrvatskih vladara, otok spominje pod hrvatskim nazivom Lastobon, od kojega potječe današnji naziv.

O životu otočana iz Lastovskog statuta

Otočani su živjeli u svojoj slobodnoj seoskoj općini s unutrašnjom autonomijom. Ona im je omogućila da se u drugoj polovici 13. stoljeća dobrovoljno priključe dubrovačkoj općini koja se obvezala da će poštivati sve njihove stare običaje. Statutu, koji je donesen 1310. godine, sve do kraja 18. stoljeća dodavane su nove odredbe. Njime su otočanima bila zajamčena sva prava. Od nekadašnjega slavenskoga plemenskog uređenja, Statutom je sačuvan običaj zajedničkog odlučivanja svih kućnih starješina o svim pitanjima važnim za život zajednice na zboru pred crkvom. Sloj se bogatijih i uglednijih izdvaja i osniva Vijeće, kojega su članovi mogli biti samo rođeni Lastovci, a funkcija je bila nasljedna. Iz njihovih redova birani su suci, blagajnici i kapetan.

Lastovski statut dragocjen je izvor za proučavanje jednog prošlog vremena. Iz njega doznajemo:

“Lastovo je bilo siromašno i imalo mali broj stanovnika. Lastovci su živjeli od poljoprivrede, stočarstva, vinogradarstva i ribarstva. Iako su imali dosta dobre uvjete za razvitak poljoprivrede, nisu se dovoljno koristili plodnošću tla budući da su bili daleko od tržišta. Izgleda da dubrovačka vlastela upravo za to nisu pokazivala jači interes za taj otok, jer nisu od njega mogli očekivati znatniju materijalnu korist.

Pretpostavlja se da su se Lastovci predali Dubrovačkoj komuni kako bi se osigurali od nasrtaja neke druge komune ili države. Dubrovačka komuna je Lastovcima zajamčila poštivanje dotadašnjih starih običaja, a to znači neku vrstu autonomije. Čini se da je već u to vrijeme na cijelom otoku postojalo privatno zemljišno vlasništvo lastovskih zemljoradnika. Po tome, vladajućem mišljenju, Lastovci su bili slobodni seljaci. Zemlja se obrađivala u vlastitoj režiji, bilo da je obrađuju sami seljaci – vlasnici ili uz pomoć unajmljene radne snage, možda katkada i besplatne radne snage onih koji su iz ovog ili onog razloga imali gotovo ropski položaj. Svakako tu se nije pojavljivao agrarno pravni odnos u kojemu bi se obrađivala zemlja plemića i koji bi imao neke karakteristike kmetstva zapadnog tipa. Isto tako tada se zemlja na Lastovu nije u većoj mjeri davala na obradu na naturalnu rentu, recimo na polovicu, ili u novčani zakup pa se nije razvio ni odnos koji obično svrstavamo u tzv. dalmatinski kolonat.” (Lučić, 1974).

Iz Statuta doznajemo i to da su otočani najvjerojatnije mogli na svojim pučkim skupovima donositi opće i utvrđivati postojeće norme:

“Koliko se plaćalo za ukradenu ovcu, kozu, janjca, brava, ovna ili jarca i koliko je od naknade dobio vlasnik za pretrpljenu štetu, a koliko lastovska komuna i čuvari pod uvjetom da se putem njih moglo doznati o krađi. Da se za nekretnine darovane ili dobivene u miraz, zemlju ili vinograd ili kuću, ako se prodaju ili dalje daruju, samo uz notarsku ispravu. Ako je izvršena bez notarske isprave ne vrijedi!

Ako se notarskom ispravom jednom kod udaje dobije imovina očeva ili majčina moraju biti zadovoljni svojom prćijom i ne mogu više zatražiti ništa od imovine.

Ako ženi umre muž, a ona se hoće udati ponovno, ne može sobom odnijeti nešto od dobra osim miraza ili prćiju koju je donijela svome pokojnom mužu.

Svi pašnjaci na otoku moraju biti zajednički svim stanovnicima Lastova, jedino ako bi tko imao određenu zemlju ili vinograd svoje očevine, neka pripada njemu i njegovoj djeci.

Nitko ne smije pasti životinje na vinogradima spomenutog otoka.

Nitko ne smije orati, sijati ni pasti životinje na otočićima koji pripadaju spomenutom otoku pod prijetnjom kazne od 5 perpera za svaki put.

Onaj koji bude lastovskim knezom ne može kupiti kuću ni vinograde ni drugu nekretninu na tom otoku nego samo ono što služi za prehranu njemu i njegovim ukućanima.

Kada budu imenovani pudari za vinograde na poljima čitavog otoka da su oni dužni biti na spomenutim vinogradima dok god svi ne budu pobrani. Ako ode prije dužan je isplatiti vlasniku vinograda štetu ako je nanesena.

Otac je gospodar svojih dobara i pokretnih i nepokretnih i može ih dati kome hoće, a kći ili sin ne mogu se suprotstaviti onome što otac bude činio.”

Statut gubi svoju funkciju padom mletačke vlasti kada je Lastovo ponovno pod Dubrovnikom koji autonomiju sve više sužava i nameće svoje zakone. Na otoku nije više bilo dubrovačkoga kneza niti lastovske autonomije.

Gospodarstvo

Stanovnici Lastova oduvijek se bave poljodjelstvom, stočarstvom, vinogradarstvom, koraljarstvom i ribarstvom. Potkraj 18. i početkom 19. stoljeća jača pomorstvo pa se tada razvija luka Sv. Petar (danas Ubli). I ribarstvo je u tom razdoblju u sponu. Osim za svoje potrebe, usoljenu ribu prodavali su trgovcima iz Apulije i Kalabrije. Koraljarstvom se u to vrijeme prestaju baviti. Uz poljodjelstvo i stočarstvo, bavili su se i šumarstvom (hrastovo drvo prodavalo se brodogradilištima).

U drugoj polovici 19. stoljeća od bolesti su stradali vinogradi. Budući da se na Lastovu zaštita počela primjenjivati kasnije no u drugim područjima, sporije su se oporavljali.

U prvoj polovini 20. stoljeća stanovništvo se najviše bavilo maslinarstvom, vinogradarstvom, voćarstvom, povrtlarstvom. Žitarice su morali uvoziti. Šumarstvo je još uvijek bila važna grana gospodarstva. Ribarstvo se i dalje razvija pa je u Ublima 1931. sagrađena tvornica sardina.

Graditeljstvo otoka Lastova

Razvoj povijesnih događanja i gospodarske prilike utjecale su na razvoj naselja i gradnju stambenih i gospodarskih objekata. Obilježje je jadranske etnografske zone u graditeljstvu kamena kuća koja je *prvobitno* bila vrlo skromna. Građena je od kamena koji je ručno obrađivan, vezan žbukom (vapno i pijesak), a nekad i 'u suho' bez vezivnog materijala. Upotreba drva pri gradnji bila je ograničena na najnužnije – stropne i krovne grede, podove i letve na krovu. Najstarije su kuće pokrivane pločama, gospodarske zgrade slamom, a tek se mnogo kasnije pokrivalo kupom.

Tradicijsko graditeljstvo otoka Lastova znatno je razvijenije od bilo kojeg ruralnog područja u Hrvatskoj. Razlozi tome nisu nepoznati jer se od druge polovine 1. st. pr. Krista, otkada Rimljani zaposjedaju otok, na njemu grade *vilae rusticae*, uz rubove plodnih polja i u uvalama. Otada je Lastovo doživjelo mnoge promjene i promijenilo razne vladare.

O graditeljstvu na otoku prije 15. stoljeća ne zna se mnogo, ali se, na osnovi sakralnih srednjovjekovnih građevina, može suditi da se kultura stanovanja njegovala od ranih vremena (to potvrđuju najstarije kuće Antice, Rešić i Antičević).

Tijekom 15. i 16. stoljeća naselje se širi, grade se reprezentativni stambeni objekti, mnoge crkve, kaštel, novi knežev dvor. Već u 14. stoljeću na Lastovu su postojale privatne pučke škole.¹ Godine 1652. naselje je imalo 200 kuća i više od 1.000 stanovnika.

Zbog napada turskih gusara, pljački i odvođenja u ropstvo, na Lastovu su od 16. do 18. stoljeća organizirane straže koje su obavještavale o pojavi neprijateljskih brodova.²

Prestankom gusarske opasnosti sredinom 18. stoljeća Lastovci se sve više približavaju moru. U uvalama im je dopušteno graditi jedino skloništa od suhozida, a magazine za preradu ribe samo u Lučići.

Gospodarske mogućnosti diktirale su razvoj Lastova i razvijenost graditeljstva. Prema istraživanjima C. Fiskovića, mnoge lastovske kuće imaju stilska obilježja gotike i renesanse, koja se očituju u načinu izrade i obrade vrata, prozora, pucala (krune

¹ Te prve škole vodili su svećenici, kasnije svjetovnjaci. U njima se školovao i svjetski poznati tiskar Dobrić Dobričević koji se, osim tiskarstvom, bavio i diplomatskim poslovima za Veneciju.

² Sjećanje na gusarske napade zadržalo se u pokladnim običajima tijekom kojih se spaljuje maurska lutka kao simbol svih gusara koji su bili prijateljni otoku, od Katalonaca u 15. stoljeća, do Turaka, Arapa i Maura.

bunara – *šterni*), kao i u dijelovima kamenog namještaja koji se održao do današnjih dana.

Naselje se amfiteatralno razvijalo. Kuće su građene na kosinama, dok su u dolini polja, vrtovi, maslinici i vinogradi. Najčešći je tip kuće jednokatnica građena na kosini. Zidane su klesanim kamenom, a pokrivane kupom. U prizemnom se dijelu kuće nalazi konoba s prostranim vratima koja gledaju u dvorište ili na ulicu. Ako nije građena na strmini, kuća ima dvorište. Dovratnici, doprozornici, konzole s prstenima (ušima), zidni vijenci i oluci za vodu klesani su od lastovskoga bijelog kamena – *škrpjela*, s otočića Arženjaka. Klesali su ih po narudžbi i korčulanski te gruški majstori. Terasa – lastovski *sulari*, prostranije su i bolje opremljene negoli u ostalim dijelovima Dalmacije, te imaju izuzetnu važnosti u stanovanju Lastovaca. Razlog je tome što se zna da je Lastovo potkraj 16. stoljeća imalo 30-40 kuća građenih po uzoru na ladanjske kuće u dubrovačkom kraju, iako su u njima živjeli lastovski seljaci, ribari i moreplovcu.³ Razlog je i umješnost tadašnjih graditelja i klesara koji su u te kuće unosili graditeljske elemente kneževih palača i ljetnikovaca.

Pronašavši kuće s autentičnim stilskim elementima tog vremena i u rubnim dijelovima naselja, Cvito Fisković uočava kako se površina sela nije povećavala od kasnoga srednjeg vijeka. Najstarije sačuvane kuće na Lastovu potječu iz 15. stoljeća, a one ranije, iz vremena romanike, spominju samo pisani izvori. Danas su ostali još vidljivi dijelovi kuća iz razdoblja gotike (15. i početak 16. stoljeća), renesanse (16. i početak 17. stoljeća) i baroka (17.-18. stoljeća).

Stilskim elementima uglavnom su ukrašeni profilirani nadvratnici i doprozornici, a iznad krovova dižu se dimnjaci (*fumari*) različitih oblika karakterističnih upravo za ovo mjesto. Važno je istaknuti da naselje nije nastalo planski, već spontano, prateći teren na kojem je svaka kuća nastojala ostvariti funkcionalnost tlocrta.⁴ (Turnšek, 2005)

Lastovo se širi tijekom 18. stoljeća pa i ranije. Stare gotičke i renesansne kuće dobivaju nove oblike dogradnjama i pregradnjama. Grade se nove stambene i gospodarske zgrade, a predvorja i ulice sužavaju. Kuće su prislonjene jedna uz drugu, dograđuju se po vertikali i povezuju svodovima (*voltama*) terasa (*sular*, *taraca*). Nadsvoduju se i ulični prolazi kako bi se dobili prostraniji *sulari*. Mnogi tadašnji Lastovci bili su vješti u obradi kamena te su sami gradili i dograđivali svoje kuće, a imućniji su i dalje plaćali strane majstore – zidare da im grade nove ili dograđuju stare kuće. Nema više pretjerane raskoši u graditeljstvu, a kao nov detalj koji obilježava 18. stoljeće pojavljuju se dimnjaci koji svojim izgledom podsjećaju na minarete te predstavljaju znak raspoznavanja imućnijeg domaćina. Pretpostavlja se da je takva gradnja utjecaj sa suprotne talijanske obale iz sela regije Puglia (C. Fisković).

O graditeljstvu na otoku saznajemo i iz kazivanja dunda Petra Pavla (1915.):

³ Iz arhivskih podataka poznata su prezimena obitelji koje su živjele u pojedinim dijelovima naselja, ali ne znamo njihova zanimanja.

“U staro doba kad želiš graditi kuću dobio si dozvolu za gradnju od vlasti. Kamen su ‘brali’ uz sv. Iliju, na mazgama i tovarima nosili na plac za gradnju kuće. Kamenje, klak (vapno) i pržinu (pijesak) dognali bi godinu prije gradnje. ‘Klačine’ – jame za vapno gorile su oko Lastova. Brali su šumu za loženje ili razmjenjivali šumu za klaku. Klaka se gasila u manjim jamama koje su bile uz kuće. Pijesak, pržina se vadio na središnjem dijelu otoka, a pržina i klaka bili su osnovni vezivni materijal za kamen.

Prve kuće, najstarije na Lastovu, grade braća zajedno s ocem, kasnije se dijele kao i ostalu imovinu – zemlju, vinograde, masline.

Kuća se gradila izvana velikim isklesanim kamenom, a unutrašnjost zida od sitnijeg kamena. U temelj kuće majstor je uzidao ‘butiju’ vina, bokal vode i dvije čaše – za sreću, neka bude vina u kući. Kad se kuća dogradila do lastavice na nju se stavljala kita masline za glavnog majstora.

Krovna konstrukcija je od drva – kupovali su ga na Korčuli ili Dubrovniku.

Konzole za vrata i prozore, ‘škrpiele’ naručivali su u Korčuli, a kupa se najviše dovozila iz Italije. Stolariju su radili Korčulani.

U prizemlju kuće bila je konoba – ‘stranj’, dobra konoba mora imati vrata na sjever, da bude uvijek hladna, iste temperature jer se u njoj drži ulje, vino i ostala hrana. U konobama su ‘kamenice i pitari’ za ulje, bačve za vino, košare i alatke za obradu vinograda i polja.

Na katu je ‘sala’ – velika soba za ukućane i kuhinja – ‘komin’ u kojoj je bilo ognjište sa napom za odvod dima – ‘kominata’. U kominati je bila i krušna peć. Dim iz kominata i krušne peći izlazio je kroz fumar – Lastovci su gradili fumare kakvih nema nigdje u Hrvatskoj. U kuhinji su bile klupe – banci sa sandukom za sočivo, police za posude, a u prozoru kameno ‘lastovsko pilo’ za pranje posuda. Svaka kuća je imala ručni žrvanj.

Skalama se dolazi na tavan – ‘šufit’ gdje su dvije sobice – ‘kamarice’ (ovisno o veličini kuće).

Stare lastovske obitelji su Antica, Lešići i Čučevići, Dražimić, Kokot, Đivoje. Iz najstarijih obitelji potekli su kapetani, svećenici, moreplovci.“

Umjesto zaključka

Kulturno-povijesne i prirodne vrijednosti otoka Lastova nalažu veću brigu za njegov razvoj i očuvanje. Razvoj otoka bit će moguć jedino povećanjem brojnosti žitelja čiji se broj smanjuje još od Prvoga svjetskog rata kada se iseljavalo u Južnu Ameriku i nakon Drugoga svjetskog rata kada se iseljavalo u Australiju i Ameriku. Prema podacima iz 1991., na Lastovu su popisana 734 stanovnika, što je upola manje u odnosu na 1948. kada su zabilježena 1.562 stanovnika.

Nedostatak radnih i životnih mogućnosti bez razvojnih perspektiva pokrenuo je proces emigracije, posebno mladeži, u ostala područja Hrvatske i u druge zemlje. Na otok se doseljavalo malo stanovnika s drugih otoka. Uglavnom su to bile djevojke koje su se udavale na Lastovo. To nije bio velik broj jer je na Lastovu uvijek bilo puno

žena. Preostalo mlade stanovništvo djelomično se raselilo radi školovanja i zaposlenja, a starije obitelji bave se svojim osnovnim zanimanjima i gospodarskim privređivanjem za osobne potrebe koliko im to starosna dob omogućuje.

U posljednjem desetljeću pojačan je razvoj turizma na koji se može ubuduće gledati kao na značajnu granu privređivanja za koju interes pokazuje mlade stanovništvo otoka. Uz dobru organiziranost turističkog razvoja, ovo bi trebala biti nova prilika da Lastovo oživi kroz očuvanje krajolika, graditeljske baštine, oživljavanje tradicijskih običaja i svetkovina, tradicijskog načina privređivanja. Uz razvoj tradicijskog privređivanja, pogotovo bi se trebala voditi i veća briga za obnovu i adaptaciju na stambenim objektima i ribarskim kućicama, kao i briga oko namjene i prenamjene građevina.

Izgradnja bi trebala biti zaustavljena, dok bi se stare vrijedne kuće trebale što primjerenije koristiti da ne izgube kulturna i povijesna obilježja građenja po kojima se otok Lastovo prepoznaje, a to je visoko razvijen oblik graditeljstva s prepoznatljivim *sularima*, bogatim gotičkim i renesansnim detaljima na građevinama, te vrijedna sakralna i arheološka baština.

Najvrednije, ujedno i najstarije kuće doživjele su promjene pregradnjama i neprijemnim dogradnjama, napuštene su ili nedovoljno održavane, ali su svjedokom visoke razine stanovanja već od 16. stoljeća, potvrđujući to i danas svojim izgledom.

Politiku razvoja otoka i brigu oko njegovog očuvanja ponajprije treba voditi lokalna zajednica i županija kroz razvojne državne programe. Nekada su "vijećnice, škole, župni uredi, gostionice" tvorile materijalne i nematerijalne pretpostavke "samostalnog" života u naselju. Ova tradicionalna okupljališta uglavnom su nestala. Obrtnici i ribari su odselili, druga mjesta se zatvorila, nedostaju uglednici i pojedinci koji bi služili kao uzor. Na Lastovu djeluje već nekoliko godina udruga građana pod nazivom "Spasimo Lastovo" koja je svojim dosadašnjim radom pokazala da se može postati "uglednikom" jer svojim zauzimanjem za nove djelatnosti otoka kroz svoje programe nastoje čuvati i spašavati prirodnu i kulturnu baštinu otoka.

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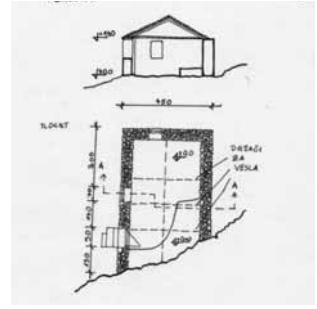
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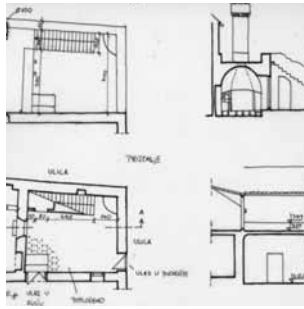
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Manda Horvat, ethnologist, conservator
Ministry of the Sea, Tourism, Transport and
Development
Zagreb
manda.horvat@mmtpr.hr

Katica Mutak, B.A. in history, conservator
Ministry of Culture
Administration for the Protection of Cultural Heritage
Zagreb
katica.mutak@min-kulture.hr

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Architecture of the Island of Lastovo

As part of the regular program 'Research and evaluation of the ethnological material in the Republic of Croatia', the conservators from the Ministry of Culture, Administration for the Protection of Cultural Heritage from Zagreb, and from the Conservation Institute from Split, carried out, during October 2003, an inventory of ethnological heritage of the Island of Lastovo.

Prior systematic researches were not conducted, except for the ones which were carried out for specific purposes, i.e. for the design of the Urban Development Plan and Physical Plan of the Lastovo County in 1983 and Amendments to the Plan in 2000 and for the writing up of the Program of Integral Development of the Lastovo region.

Key words: rural architecture, Lastovo

Geographical characteristics of the island

Lastovo is the remotest and the southernmost Croatian island. Its area is 46.9 km²; it is 11 kilometers long and around 6.5 kilometers wide. Between peaks of mountains composed of limestone, the highest peak being Hum (417 m), there are many Karst valleys, of which the most important ones are Prgovo, Pržina, Lokavje and Vinopolje. Forests cover around 60% of the island, and are mostly composed of macchia, Aleppo pines and evergreen Holm-oak.

Because of its geographical position out in the open sea, the island was an integral part of sailing routes connecting Western and Eastern coast of the Adriatic Sea from Neolithic times.

History of Lastovo

The island was inhabited in the Neolithic period, which could be established from the archeological finds of pottery in the Rača cave (above Skrivena Luka) and in Pužavica (between Prgovo and Pržina). From the animal and plant remains in the Rača cave, it could be concluded that the inhabitants of Lastovo from that period were hunters, gatherers, cattle breeders and, partly, agriculturalists.

At the end of the Bronze Age, the island was inhabited by the Illyrians who built hill-fort settlements, and according to the archeological finds on the hill of Glavica situated above the town of Lastovo, it seemed that one of these settlements was situated on the site of today's Lastovo, above which there was a pre-historic fort, and the other was situated on a plateau south to the Soznja hill.

Even though the island was mentioned for the first time in a written text in the 10th century (in the works of the Byzantine emperor Constantine Porfirogenet), it is believed that the Croats inhabited the island in the early phase of their arrival to these regions, and this can be partly confirmed by place names found on the island which are mostly of Croatian origin. Hence, already in Constantine's work, when Lastovo, most probably, was not any more a part of the Byzantine Dalmatia, but was under the government of Croatian rulers, the island was mentioned under the Croatian name of Lastobon, which is an older variant of today's name.

Life of the islanders according to the Lastovo Statute

The islanders were organized in a free county with internal autonomy. This enabled them to voluntarily join, in the second half of the 13th century, the County of Dubrovnik, which promised to allow them to preserve all their old customs. New amendments were being added to the Statute, which was passed on 1310, until the end of the 18th century. The Statute guaranteed the islanders all their rights. From the old Slavic tribal organization, the Statute preserved the custom of joint decision-making of all the house lords on all the questions significant for the life of the community, on an assembly in front of the church. A class of richer and more influential citizens separated themselves from the rest and founded a Council, the members of which had to be Lastovo born, while the position in the Council was inherited. Judges, treasurers and captains were selected from their ranks.

The Statute of Lastovo is a valuable source for the study of a past time. From it we can learn the following: *'Lastovo was rather poor and the number of inhabitants was small. The people of Lastovo lived from agriculture, cattle breeding, wine growing and fishing. Even though the conditions for the development of agriculture were quite good, they did not take too much advantage of the fertile soil, because they were far away from the market. This seems to be the reason why Dubrovnik aristocrats never showed any interest for the island, because they could not expect to gain any material profit from it. It is assumed that the people of Lastovo sur-*

rendered themselves to Dubrovnik County so as to protect themselves from an intrusion of some other county or state. Dubrovnik County guaranteed to the people of Lastovo a preservation of their old customs and laws, and that meant a certain type of autonomy. It seems that already at that period the people of Lastovo were the private landowners. According to that prevailing opinion, the people of Lastovo were free peasants. The land was cultivated under their supervision – whether the owners themselves cultivated the land or by the help of hired day laborers or sometimes even by free laborers who had, for one reason or another, the status of slaves. Here we could not talk about agrarian-legal relationship in which the land of the aristocrats was cultivated and which would have had certain elements of the Western type of feudalism. Furthermore, the land on Lastovo was not usually leased to tenants who would pay in, for example, half of the products, or in any kind of money lease, so the relationship which is usually referred to as the Dalmatian colonat, was also quite unknown here' (Lučić 1974).

From the Statute we can also find out that the people of Lastovo could pass and confirm general laws and regulations on their public gatherings:

'How much it was paid for the stolen sheep, goat, lamb, ox, ram or kid and what was the amount of compensation the owner received for the damage, and what was the amount received by the Lastovo County and the officers if they reported the theft.

That the real estates begotten or received as a dowry, land, vineyards or house, if sold or given to a third party, can be done so only with a notarial certificate. The transaction is not valid without the certificate!

If someone is given, while entering a marriage, a part of mother's or father's property through notarial certificate, they have to be satisfied with the received and should not ask any part of the property in the future.

If a woman's husband dies, and she wants to remarry, she cannot take with her anything apart from her own dowry which she brought to the late husband's household.

All pastures on the island have to be common property of all the inhabitants of Lastovo, only if someone should own a certain land or vineyard inherited from his father, this should belong to him and to his children.

No one should graze their cattle on the vineyards of the island.

No one should plough, sow or graze the cattle on the little islands belonging to the county of Lastovo, or will be fined by 5 perpers for each time.

The one who will be the governor of Lastovo will not be permitted to buy a house or vineyards or some other property, besides what is needed for subsistence of him and his family.

When vineyard guards will be appointed in the vineyards of the whole island, they are obliged to remain on the vineyards until all the grapes will be picked. If they leave before that, they will have to pay damages to the owner of the vineyard.

The father is the owner of all property, movable and immovable, and he can give them to whomever he wants, and a daughter or a son can not oppose him.

The Statute lost its function with the fall of the Venetian government, when Lastovo again became the part of Dubrovnik County, which repressed the autonomy of Lastovo and imposed its laws. After that, the island saw neither the Rector of Dubrovnik nor its own autonomy.

Economy

The people of Lastovo engaged in agriculture, cattle-breeding, wine-growing, coral industry and fishing. At the end of the 18th and the beginning of the 19th century, a shipping industry and trade were on the rise, and the port of St. Peter (today Ubli) developed in that period. Fishing was also important in this period. Besides for their own use, they used to prepare salted fish and sell it to the tradesmen from Apulia and Calabria. Roughly at that time, they abandoned coral industry. Next to agriculture and cattle-breeding, they engaged in forestry (they sold oak wood to the shipyards).

In the second half of the 19th century plant disease struck vineyards. Since they started protecting their vines from this disease later than in other regions, their vineyards took longer time to recover.

In the first half of the 20th century, the people of Lastovo engaged mostly in olive growing, vine growing, as well as growing fruits and vegetables. They had to import cereal crops. Forestry was still an important branch of economy. Fishing industry was on the rise as well, so a sardine factory was built in the town of Ubli in 1931.

Architecture of the island of Lastovo

Historical events and economic circumstances have influenced the development of settlements and the ways of building of houses and farmsteads. The characteristic element of the traditional architecture of the Adriatic area is the stone house which, initially, was very modest. It was built from stone which was processed manually and connected by mortar (lime and sand) or sometimes even bound together without any connective material – ‘dry’ technique. The usage of wood was limited only to the most elemental parts – ceiling and roof beams, floors and roof laths. The oldest houses were covered by panels and farm buildings by straw, and only later the houses were covered by tiles.

Traditional architecture of the island of Lastovo is more developed than in any other rural region in Croatia. The reasons for this are not completely unknown, because from the second half of the 1st century B.C., when Romans invaded the island, many *vilae rusticae* were built on the island, on the edges of fertile valleys and in attractive coves. Since that period, Lastovo has survived many changes and many different rulers.

Little is known about architecture of the island of Lastovo in the period before 15th century, but we can conclude, on the basis of the medieval sacral objects that the culture of housing was important from the earliest times (this is confirmed by the appearance of the oldest houses Antice, Rešić and Antičević). During the 15th and the 16th century, the settlement was growing in size and many representable houses were built, together with churches, a castle and a new governor's residence. Private elementary school existed on the island of Lastovo as early as the 14th century.¹ In 1652 the settlement had more than 200 houses and more than 1000 inhabitants.

Because of the attacks of Turkish pirates, frequent lootings and taking people away into slavery, from 16th to 18th century, guards were organized on the island of Lastovo which would warn the people about approaching enemy ships.²

When the danger from the pirates stopped in the middle of the 18th century, the people of Lastovo turned towards the sea. They were allowed to build only drywall shelters in the coves, and fish manufactures in the region of Lučica.

Economic circumstances have influenced the development of Lastovo and its architecture. According to C. Fisković's research, many houses in Lastovo have Gothic and Renaissance stylistic elements, which can be observed in the shape and decorations of the doors, windows and wells – *šterni*, as well as in the parts of stone furniture preserved till today.

The settlement was spreading in the form of an amphitheatre. Houses were built on slopes, while fields, gardens, olive and vine yards were situated in the valleys. The most common type of house was a one-storey house built on a slope. They were built from chiseled stone, and covered by tiles. On the ground floor there was a cellar (*konoba*) with large doors overlooking the yard or the street. Houses which were not built on slopes usually included a yard. Door-posts, window-sills, consoles with rings, wall cornices and gutters were chiseled out of the Lastovo white stone – *škrpjel*, which was found on the small island of Arženjak. They were chiseled to the order by the craftsmen from Korčula and Gruž. Terraces, called *sulari* in Lastovo, were more spacious and better equipped than in other regions of Dalmatia, and they were very important in the architecture of Lastovo. The first reason stems from the well-known fact that at the end of the 16th century there were around 30 to 40 houses in Lastovo which were built on the model of country houses from the Dubrovnik region, even though the peasants, fishermen and seamen of Lastovo lived in them.³ Another reason is the skill of the builders and stone-masons, who deliberately introduced architectural elements of the aristocratic houses and cottages to these houses.

¹ These first schools were initially organized by priests, later by lay people. A world famous printer Dobrić Dobričević, who, besides printing business, engaged in diplomacy for Venice, went to school here.

² Memory of the pirates' attacks is preserved in carnival customs, during which a Maori doll is burned as the symbol of all the pirates which threatened the island, from the Catalanians in the 15th century, to the Turks, Arabs and the Maori.

³ From archival data we can obtain information about the last names of the families who lived in specific parts of the settlement, but we do not know their occupations.

After finding houses with authentic stylistic elements from that period on the outskirts of the settlement, Cvito Fisković concluded that the village area was not expanded since the late medieval times. The oldest preserved houses on Lastovo were from the 15th century, and the ones from earlier periods, from the Romanesque period, were mentioned only in the written sources. Today we can still find remnants of the houses from the Gothic period (15th and the beginning of the 16th century), Renaissance (16th and the beginning of the 17th century) and Baroque (17th- 18th century).

Stylistic elements were mostly used for decoration of door-posts and window sills, and on the roofs we can observe chimneys (*fumari*) of various shapes, which are characteristic for this region. It is important to point out that the settlement was not built according to a plan, but that it was created spontaneously, following the configuration of the ground, where each house tried to achieve the functionality of the ground-plan (Turnšek, 2005).

Lastovo begun to grow during the 18th century, as well as in earlier periods. Old Gothic and Renaissance houses acquired new forms by building of new wings or making alterations. New houses and farmsteads were built and halls and streets were becoming narrower. Houses leaned on each other; they were expanded vertically and connected by vaults (*volte*) of the terraces (*slar; tarace*). Vaults were built over street passages, so as to enlarge the existing terraces. Many contemporary inhabitants of Lastovo were skilled in processing of stone, so they would build and improve their houses themselves, while the rich house lords would continue to pay foreign craftsmen – masons to built new or alter the old houses. The excessive decorations were gone, and the new element which marked the 18th century were the chimneys which, through their appearance, reminded of minarets, and symbolically represented the houses of rich villagers. It is assumed that this type of building was an influence which came from the neighboring Italian coast and the villages in the region of Puglia (C. Fisković).

About the architecture on the island we can find out from the accounts of the Uncle Petar Pavao (1915):

'In the old times, when you wanted to build a house, you had to obtain permission from the authorities. The stone was 'picked' next to St. Ilija, and carried on mules and donkeys to the place where the house would be built. Stone, lime and sand were brought over a year before the house was built. Lime pits were burning around the village of Lastovo. They collected wood for burning lime, or exchanged wood for lime. Lime was extinguished in smaller pits which were situated near the houses. The sand was obtained in the central part of the island, and lime and sand were the basic connective materials for stone.

First houses, the oldest in Lastovo, were built by brothers together with their father, and they were later divided, together with the other property – land, vineyards, and olive yards. The outer part of the house was built from large pieces of chiseled stone, and the interior walls from smaller pieces of stone. In the foundation of the house, the builder would built in a bottle of wine, a jug of water and two glasses – for luck and so that there would always be wine in the house. When

the house was built up to the roof, a cluster of olive twigs was placed on the construction, for the main builder.

Roof construction was made of wood – which was bought in Korčula or Dubrovnik.

Consoles for doors and windows, škripele, were ordered in Korčula, and tiles were mostly imported from Italy. Carpentry was done by Korčula craftsmen.

On the ground floor there was a cellar, konoba or stranj, the door of which had to face north, so as to ensure that the konoba was always cold, of the constant temperature, since oil, wine and other foods were kept in it. Containers, in which oil was kept, kamenice and pitari, were also placed in the cellar; together with the wine barrels and different tools for cultivation of vineyards and fields.

On the first floor there was a sala – a big living room and a kitchen –komin, which contained a fireplace with a fireplace hood, kominata, for the drainage of the smoke. Baker's oven was also situated there. Smoke from kominata and baker's oven was leaving the house through a chimney – fumar – and the people of Lastovo used to build chimneys that could not be found anywhere in Croatia. Several benches were present in the kitchen, as well as the chests for the storage of lentils, some shelves for the tableware, and by the window, a sink, lastovsko pilo, for washing the dishes. Each house had a grindstone.

Stairs were leading to the attic – šufit – with two small rooms (depending on the size of the house).

The old families from Lastovo were Antica, Lešići, Čučevići, Dražinić, Kokot, Đivoje. Many captains, priests and seamen were from these oldest families.'

Instead of a conclusion

The development and preservation of cultural-historical and natural treasures of the island of Lastovo deserve better care. The development of the island will be possible only if the number of inhabitants will increase, and their number is diminishing since the First World War when many emigrated to the South America and after the Second World War when people emigrated to Australia and America. According to the data from 1991, there were 734 inhabitants on Lastovo, which is half the number of 1562 inhabitants who were registered in 1948.

The absence of job opportunities and life choices, with no developmental strategies, has started a wave of emigration, especially of young people, to other parts of Croatia and abroad. Small number of people immigrated to the island. These were mostly girls who married Lastovo men. But even these were few, because there were always enough women on Lastovo. Young people who remained on the island partly emigrated because of jobs or continuing education, and small number of older families engage in their primary occupations and economic survival for their own needs, as much as their old age allows them.

In the last decade, tourism has started to develop which, in the future, could be viewed as an important branch of economy for which younger generations have shown significant interest. With good organization of the tourist sector, this could be the chance for Lastovo to revive again, through preservation of natural resources, architectural heritage, revival of traditional customs and festivals and traditional economy. Together with the development of traditional economy, special emphasis should be placed on the renewal and adaptations of traditional objects and fishermen's houses, and to their (new) functions.

New building should be stopped, and the old houses should be used in the way which is most appropriate for the preservation of their cultural and historical architectural features which represent the island of Lastovo, and this is the highly developed style of building with recognizable *salari*, elaborate Gothic and Renaissance stylistic elements, and valuable sacral and archeological heritage.

The most valuable houses, which were also the oldest, survived many changes in annexes and inappropriate adaptations, or they were simply deserted or inadequately taken care of; however, they are the witnesses of the high culture of housing from as early as the 16th century, and still confirm this by their appearance.

The politics of the development and preservation of the island should be primarily organized by the local community and county through various developmental state projects. In the past 'the city halls, schools, parish houses and pubs' used to create the material and non-material basis of the 'independent' life of a community. These traditional gatherings have now mostly disappeared. Craftsmen and fishermen have moved away, other places were closed down; there are no distinguished individuals who could serve as a model. For several years now, a citizens organization called 'Save Lastovo' is active on the island, which showed through their previous activities and projects that they can become 'a model', because they are trying to save and preserve natural and cultural heritage of the island.

Translated by Tanja Bukovčan