

Veliki Tabor, Košnički Hum, Desinić

Country or territory:
Republic of CROATIA

Name of organization
compiling the information:
Ministry of Culture,
Conservation Department in Zagreb

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<u>Name and address of building or site:</u>	VELIKI TABOR, KOŠNIČKI HUM, DESINIĆ
<u>Inventory reference number:</u>	R – 58
<u>Building(s) type:</u>	Burg–fortress, residential complex
<u>Main date(s):</u>	16 th century
<u>Current use(s):</u>	Museum in preparation
<u>Significance:</u>	

The burg-fortress Veliki Tabor is a residential, defensive and agricultural complex, built on the flattened elongated hillcrest in the vicinity of the village of Desinić. It is surrounded by a very picturesque hilly landscape dominated by meadows, vineyards and forests.

The greater part of the structure was built in the 16th century according to the Renaissance residential defensive style of construction ending its stylistic development with baroque interventions.

Dominant within the complex is the massive citadel situated on the eastern end of the plateau, surrounded by the outer defensive system. On its western side, the complex ends with a five sided bastion.

The centrally organised polygonal citadel is made up of a series of four sturdy towers linked by short curtinas and the central five-sided structure - the palace. The interior front forms a two-storey arcaded porch. The strong masonry of the mass of the citadel is covered with steep roofing.

Veliki Tabor is an exceptional example of an architectural structure created through a combination of defensive Renaissance architecture and domestic building tradition. It unites the residential, agricultural and defensive functions outside the traditional ground plan and form schemes.

Viewed in its picturesque environment in which forms of natural and cultivated landscape alternate it represents a sculptural synthesis with nature. Its architecture gives the impression of a digested form of the spatial-plastic richness of the landscape.

In the historical and cultural sense Veliki Tabor is an expression of the fear of this part of Europe from Turkish invasion as well as the time of prosperity of the aristocratic family Ratkaj whose home it was as well as the focal point of their large wine-growing estate up to the end of the 18th century.

Categories of Significance:

National importance

Categories of ownership or interest:

Veliki Tabor is significant in the cultural historical sense as a unique built architectural complex, of an exceptionally valuable exposition in the landscape.

Documentation and bibliographic references:

Bibliographic references.

-Veliki Tabor – development and meaning; Andrej Žmegač, master's thesis, Zagreb, 1991.

Conservation documentation

- Architectural survey, 1969

- Veliki Tabor - Historical Development of the Ancient City Zagreb, study, Josip Kolanović, PhD 1990.

(enclosed: list of materials on Veliki Tabor in the CROATIAN NATIONAL ARCHIVES)

- Conservation-restoration research, ideal reconstruction of historical phases, proposed presentation, (Croatian Restoration Institute, 1996)

Condition:

The overall condition is moderately satisfactory. The roofing on the citadel has wholly been repaired. The constructional remediation of the courtyard two-storey arcaded porch is underway. The fronts are dilapidated and local remediation of the wall needed. Likewise, the complete renovation of the palace with the reconstruction of the interior is needed. The original roofing of the five-sided bastion is in poor condition.

Risk:

The structure is not at risk in regard to its ownership, purpose or management.

Until 2003 it was partly at risk from unauthorised used and inadequate interventions on the structure and the outer space of the complex.

Condition risk:

Renovation underway; end-use and user defined

Technical assessment and costings:

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Ownership:

State ownership

Part of the complex (surrounding buildings) in private ownership.

Occupation:

The structure is in permanent, although limited, use

Management:

The management of the structure is the responsibility of the user, the Public Institution Museums of Hrvatsko zagorje

The administration of finances is the responsibility of the Ministry of Culture

Supervision of works is the responsibility of the Conservation Department in Zagreb, Ministry of Culture

Summary:

By its overall architectural formation, its appearance in the landscape and level of preservation of the original substance, Veliki Tabor represents an achievement of exceptional individuality.

The condition of the complex is average on the whole but due to its intended use for museum presentations it requires comprehensive conservation and restoration interventions.

Sign and date: