

An aerial photograph of a rural landscape in Islam Grčki, Croatia. The foreground and middle ground are dominated by agricultural fields, some of which are brown and appear to be recently plowed, while others are green. There are several small, dark ponds or depressions scattered throughout the fields. In the background, there are rolling hills and a small town or village. The sky is blue with some light clouds.

PROBNA ISTRAŽIVANJA NEOLITIČKOG NALAZIŠTA U ISLAMU GRČKOM

Trial excavations
of a Neolithic site
in Islam Grčki



Tijekom listopada i studenoga 2021., te veljače i lipnja 2022. godine, Odjel za arheologiju Sveučilišta u Zadru proveo je probno arheološko istraživanje na položaju Graduša – Lokve u Islamu Grčkom. Riječ je o položaju gdje je šezdesetih i sedamdesetih godina 20. stoljeća površinski prikupljena bogata arheološka građa pripisana srednjem i kasnom neolitik. Arheološku građu objavio je Š. Batović (Batović 1987), a na nalazištu nisu vođena arheološka istraživanja. Probno arheološko istraživanje provedeno je s ciljem utvrđivanja potencijala neolitičkog nalazišta za buduća sustavna arheološka istraživanja. Istražene su dvije sonde – sonda A i sonda B. Objekte sonde postavljene su na položajima na kojima su zahvaljujući snimkama dobivenim snimanjem bespilotnom letjelicom tijekom proljeća 2021. uočene tamne površine, a poviše kojih je prikupljena raznovrsna arheološka građa (ulomci keramičkih posuda, artefakti od rožnjaka i opsidijana, ulomci žrnjeva i dr.) uglavnom tipična za srednji neolitik.

Najprije je istražena sonda A veličine 17 m². Na istraženju površini pronađen je rov presjeka u obliku slova U. Rov je ukopan u sterilnu zdravicu

The Department of Archeology of the University of Zadar conducted archaeological trial trenching at the site of Graduša - Lokve in Islam Grčki in October and November 2021, and February and June 2022. Numerous archaeological finds attributed to the Middle and Late Neolithic were collected on the surface of this site in the 1960s and 1970s. The archaeological finds were published by Š. Batović (Batović 1987), but no archaeological excavation has been conducted at

the site. Archaeological trial trenching was undertaken with the aim of determining the potential of the Neolithic site for future systematic archaeological research. Two trenches were opened - trench A and trench B, both placed in positions where dark surfaces were observed owing to the images obtained by a drone in the spring of 2021. A variety of archaeological material was collected above these surfaces, including pottery sherds, artifacts made of chert and obsidian, quernstone pieces, etc., mostly typical of the Middle Neolithic.

First trench A with a size of 17 m² was investigated. A ditch with a U-shaped section was found in the excavated area. The ditch was dug into sterile


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... Predzdavični sloj i jame ukopane u vrh zapune rova u sondi A (foto: L. Bogdanić)
 ... Layer above the virgin soil and pits dug into the top of the filling of the ditch in trench A (photo: L. Bogdanić)

do dubine od 2 m. Rov je bio zapunjen s nekoliko superponiranih kulturnih slojeva. U vremenski posljednji od njih ukopane su jame. Sveukupno su evidentirane 22 jame – njih 20 unutar zapune rova i 2 izvan. Većina jama kružnog je tlocrta i ukopana do zdravice. U zapunama jama prikupljen je bogat repertoar nalaza. Svi nalazi pripadaju srednjem neolitik, tj. danijskoj kulturi. Istoj kulturi pripisan je i materijal prikupljen u ostalim slojevima zapune rova.

Sonda B postavljena je 30-ak metara jugoistočno od sonde A. Veličina sonde iznosila je 6 m². U sondi je već ispod površinskog i potpovršinskog sloja otkriven plitki ukop širine oko 1 m i dubine oko 50 cm koji se pružao u pravcu sjeveroistok-jugozapad. U njegovim dvjema zapunama prikupljena je velika količina keramičkih ulomaka tipičnih za kasni neolitik, odnosno

virgin soil to a depth of 2 m and it was filled with several superimposed cultural layers. The pits were dug into the last of them in terms of chronology. A total of 22 pits were recorded - 20 inside the trench filling and 2 outside. Most of the pits

have circular ground plan and they are dug to the bedrock. Pit fillings yielded a rich repertoire of finds which all belong to the Middle Neolithic and the Danilo culture. The material collected in the other layers of the ditch filling was attributed to the same culture.

Trench B was placed about 30 meters south-east of trench A. The size of the trench was 6 m². In the trench, under

the surface and subsurface layers a shallow burial about 1 m wide and about 50 cm deep was found, extending in the northeast-southwest direction. Its two fillings produced a large amount of pottery



... Ulomak danijske posude iz sonde A (foto: L. Bogdanić)
 ... Fragment of a Danilo vessel from trench A (photo: L. Bogdanić)



... Obrisi jama i plitkog ukopa u sondi B (foto: M. Šimičić)
 ... Outlines of pits and the shallow burial in trench B (photo: M. Šimičić)





Sonda A iz zraka (foto: L. Bogdanić)
Trench A, air photo (photo: L. Bogdanić)

sherds typical of the Late Neolithic, i.e. Hvar culture. Mostly these are undecorated fragments of dark colors and sherds decorated with shallow incisions. Some animal bones were collected as well. A total of 18 pits with a circular ground plan were found under the burial and next to it. Some were dug into the cultural layers discovered under the shallow burial, and some in the virgin soil. Ceramic sherds belonging to the Hvar culture and few an-



Nalazi iz sonde A (foto: L. Bogdanić)
Findings from the trench A (photo: L. Bogdanić)

imal bones were found in the fillings of few pits, while the fillings of the other pits did not yield any archaeological finds. An elongated cut feature similar to a smaller ditch, with a U-shaped section, was found beneath the pits in the south-eastern part of the trench, at a depth of 145 cm. This cut feature extends in the northeast-southwest direction, and it was dug into a sterile virgin soil recorded at a depth of 220 cm. The filling of the burial consisted of several layers, two of which are particularly interesting - the one with a large number of carbonized seeds and the other with a deer mandible and an antler.

pravcu sjeveroistok-jugozapad, a ukopana je u sterilnu zdravicu evidentiranu na dubini od 220 cm. Zapuna ukopa sastojala se od nekoliko slojeva, od kojih su posebno zanimljiva dva – onaj s mnoštvom karboniziranih sjemenki i onaj s mandibulom i rogom jelena.

LITERATURA / BIBLIOGRAPHY

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hvarsku kulturu. Uglavnom je riječ o neukrašenim ulomcima tamnih boja i ulomcima ukrašenim plitkim urezivanjem, uz koje su prikupljene i životinjske kosti. Ispod ukopa i pored njega otkriveno je ukupno 18 jama kružnog tlocrta. Neke su ukopane u kulturne slojeve otkrivene ispod plitkog ukopa, a neke u zdravicu. U zapunama manjeg broja jama pronađeni su ulomci keramičkih posuda hvarske kulture i malobrojne životinjske kosti, dok u zapunama ostalih jama nisu pronađeni nikakvi arheološki nalazi. Ispod jama u jugoistočnom dijelu sonde, na dubini od 145 cm otkrivena je izdužena ukopana tvorevina nalik na manji rov, presjeka u obliku slova U. Ta se ukopana tvorevina pruža u



Nalazi iz sonde A (foto: L. Bogdanić)
Findings from the trench A (photo: L. Bogdanić)

