



ARHEOLOŠKO ISTRAŽIVANJE NA LOKALITETU JEZERA – CRIKVINA NA SJEVERNOM VELEBITU

Archaeological excavations at
the site of Jezera – Crikvina in
northern Velebit

Tijekom rujna 2022. godine nastavljena su arheološka istraživanja na lokalitetu Crikvina na predjelu Jezera (sjeverni Velebit). Istraživanje je nastavak probnih arheoloških istraživanja započetih 2019. godine unutar suhozidnog objekta koji je u usmenoj predaji poznat kao pastirska crkva posvećena sv. Anti.

Lokalitet se nalazi na 1470 m n. v., a smješten je na glacijalnom platou Jezera, nekadašnjem visokogorskom pašnjaku Primoraca i Krasnara. Prema usmenoj predaji, na Jezerima su nekoć živjeli „Grci“, a suhozidna struktura Crikvina povezuje se s ostacima njihove crkve (Glavičić 1968: 282; Pleterski 2009: 30). Objekt veličine 10,4 x 7,5 m, izgrađen je u tehnici suhozida od pločastog vapnenca. Objekt se sastoji od glavnog prostora i proširenja na jugozapadnoj strani desno od ulaza. Unutar objekta živa stijena iskorištena je za oltar.

Osnovni cilj arheoloških istraživanja bio je definirati starost i stratigrafiju objekta. Iskopavanje je provedeno na sjeverozapadnom dijelu objekta na površini od 14 m², a sonda je obuhvatila središnji dio objekta, bočnu prostoriju te ulazni prostor.

I u ovoj istraživačkoj kampanji potvrđeno je postojanje popločanja objekta (SJ3A) koje je ustanovljeno i u ranijim istraživanjima. Popločanje se rasprostire po središnjem dijelu objekta, a potpuno

Archaeological excavations continued at the Crikvina site in the Jezera region (northern Velebit) in September 2022. This is a continuation of archaeological trial excavations started in 2019 inside the dry stone wall building, which is known in oral tradition as the shepherd's church dedicated to St Anthony.

The site is located at 1470 masl, on the Jezera glacial plateau, former high-mountain pasture of the residents of Primorje and Krasno. According to oral tradition, "Greeks" once lived in Jezera, and the dry stone wall structure of Crikvina is associated with the remains of their church (Glavičić 1968: 282; Pleterski 2009: 30). The building, measuring 10.4 x 7.5 m, was built of platy limestone using the dry stone wall technique. The building

consists of the main area and an extension on the southwestern side to the right of the entrance. Inside the building, bedrock was used for the altar.

The main goal of the archaeological excavation was to define the age and stratigraphy of the structure. The excavation was carried out in the northwestern part of the building on an area of 14 m², and the trench covered the central part of the building, the side room and the entrance area.

This research campaign attested the existence of the paving of the building (SU3A), which was


Vedrana GLAVAŠ
vglavas@unizd.hr



Pogled na sjeverni Velebit (foto: V. Glavaš)
View of the northern Velebit (photo: V. Glavaš)





... Lokalizet Crikvina na Jezerima (foto: V. Glavaš)
 ... The site of Crikvina in Jezerima (photo: V. Glavaš)



... Ostatci popločanja SJ3A (foto: V. Glavaš)
 ... Remains of the paving SU3A (photo: V. Glavaš)

izostaje na ulaznom dijelu. Na mnogim mjestima umjesto ploča iskorištena je živa stijena.

U središnjem dijelu objekta pronađen je grob odrasle osobe. Osoba je sahranjena na leđima s rukama položenima na prsa. Kostur je izrazito loše sačuvan. Arhitekturu groba čini živa stijena te kamen u funkciji grobne škrinje. Pokojnik je na prstima imao srebrno prstenje te krunicu zamotanu oko ruku. S obzirom na nalaze, grob preliminarno možemo datirati u novi vijek.

Iako točna datacija groba još nije poznata, njegovo postojanje potvrdilo je da je riječ o pastirskoj crkvi. Ostali nalazi nisu datibilni te za sada ne pružaju mogućnost preciznije datacije objekta osim u novi vijek.

also found in the earlier excavations. The paving spreads over the central part of the building, and is completely absent at the entrance. In many places, bedrock was used instead of slabs.

A grave of an adult was found in the central part of the building. The person was buried on his back with hands on his chest. The skeleton is extremely poorly preserved. The grave construction consists of bedrock and stone functioning as a burial cist. The deceased had silver rings on his fingers and a rosary wrapped around his hands. Considering the finds, we can offer preliminary dating of the grave to the Modern Period.

Although the exact dating of the grave is yet unknown, its existence confirmed that it was a shepherd's church. The other finds are not datable and for now do not provide the possibility of a more precise dating of the building than to the Modern Period.

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