

MODRAVE – POTRAGA ZA TRAGOVIMA PROŠLOSTI U LABIRINTU SUHOZIDA

Modrave –
looking for traces
of the past in a dry
stone wall maze



Između Zadra i Šibenika prostire se jedan neobičan segment jadranske obale. S jedne je strane Jadransko more, a s druge jezero – Vransko jezero, najveće u Hrvatskoj, između je niska kopnena prevlaka. Zračni pogled na taj prostor pokazuje dva različita dijela – na sjeverozapadu je mreža obrađenih i šumovitih parcela, različite veličine, šikare, naselja i putova, na jugoistoku je mozaik malih parcela prekrivenih vegetacijom. Malo ih je obrađenih, mnogo je šikare, poneki objekt i niz linija, rijetko putova, često suhozidina. Taj mozaik, to su Modrave. Nepostojanje naselja i ravna cesta današnjim su putnicima znak da s nogom na gasu mogu proletjeti, a da pritom i ne stignu promisliti što krije mediteranska šikara oko njih. No nije uvijek bilo tako. Mozaik suhozida i zaraslih maslinika napušten je od ljudi, a ipak je prepun tragova njihove aktivnosti iz različitih vremena.



An unusual segment of the Adriatic coast extends between Zadar and Šibenik. On one side is the Adriatic Sea, and on the other is Lake Vrana, the largest lake in Croatia, with a low isthmus in between. An aerial view of this area shows two different parts - in the northwest is a network of cultivated and wooded plots of different sizes, scrub, settlements and roads, in the southeast is a mosaic of small plots covered with vegetation. Few of them are cultivated, there is a lot of scrub, some buildings and a series of lines, rarely roads, often dry stone walls. The toponym Modrave refers exactly to that mosaic. The absence of settlements and straight road are a sign to today's travelers to speed up with the foot on the gas, without even having time to think about what the Mediterranean scrub around them is hiding. But it was not always like that. The mosaic of dry stone walls and overgrown olive



... Kvadratna gomila – jedan od limitacijskih tragova, a u pozadini stari i novi mulovi (foto: J. Šučur)
... Square mound - one of demarcation traces, in the background old and new piers (photo: J. Šučur)



... Ostatci samostana na Sustipancu (foto: J. Šučur)
... Monastery remains on Sustipanac (photo: J. Šučur)

U sklopu institucijskih znanstveno-istraživačkih projekata Sveučilišta u Zadru odvija se i jedan usmjeren upravo na promjene ovog prostora i dinamiku kojom su se odvijale. Projekt *Modrave – kulturni krajolik u povijesnoj perspektivi* pod vodstvom Kristijana Jurana s Odjela za povijest dvogodišnji je projekt u koji su uključeni i Ante Blaće s Odjela za geografiju, Ante Jurić iz Centra za jadransku onomastiku i etnolingvistiku, Marko Rimac s Odsjeka za povijest Filozofskog fakulteta Sveučilišta u Splitu, Mate Bobanović, doktorand na poslijediplomskom studiju *Jadran – poveznica među kontinentima*, Nikola Kurkut iz *Udruge Modrave Murter-Betina*, te autor ovog rada, s Odjela za arheologiju Sveučilišta u Zadru. Iz popisa suradnika vidljivo je kako projekt osim historioografskog aspekta uključuje geografske, onomastičke te arheološke ciljeve. Njihovu ispunjenju doprinijeli su i arheolozi Marko Meštrov i Mate Parica, te će upravo rezultati arheološkog rekonosciranja provedenog tijekom 2022. godine biti prezentirani u nastavku.

Daleko od institucijskih središta Šibenika i Zadra, Modrave su prostor koji još nije našao svoje mjesto u suvremenoj arheološkoj literaturi, dok se i u historioografskoj većinom navode rijetki spomeni istoimenog sela u povijesnim izvorima, te pro-

groves has been abandoned by humans, yet it is full of traces of their activity from different times.

One of the institutional scientific research projects of the University of Zadar is focused on the changes in this area and the dynamics with which they took place. The project *Modrave - cultural landscape in a historical perspective* led by Kristijan Juran from the Department of History is a two-year project which includes the participation of the following collaborators: Ante Blaće from the Department of Geography, Ante Jurić from the Center for Adriatic Onomastics and Ethnolinguistics, Marko Rimac from the Department of History of the Faculty of Philosophy of the University in Split, Mate Bobanović, doctoral student at the postgraduate study *Adriatic - a link between continents*, Nikola Kurkut from the Modrave Murter-Betina Association, and the author of this paper, from the Department of Archeology of the University of Zadar. From the list of collaborators, it is evident that the project, in addition to the historiographical aspect, includes geographical, onomastic and archaeological objectives. Archaeologists Marko Meštrov and Mate Parica also contributed to their fulfillment, and the results of the archaeological survey carried out in 2022 will be presented below.

Far from the institutional centers of Šibenik and





Uvala (Mala) Zečica s pregradnim zidom (foto: J. Šučur)
 (Mala) Zečica cove with a dividing wall (photo: J. Šučur)

ces širenja murterskih posjeda na kopno (Stošić 1941: 220–228; Anzulović 2017: 161–162; Juran 2017: 62–67).

S obzirom na karakter terena – gustu mrežu suhozida, kamenih gomila, neobrađenost većine parcela kao i financijska sredstva, arheološki se dio aktivnosti odvijao na ograničenom prostoru, ciljano, s jasno definiranim zadacima. Rekonosciranje je provedeno u dvije faze – u proljeće i jesen 2022. godine. U proljeće smo se fokusirali na kopneni segment gdje smo pokušali pronaći materijalne ostatke starijeg razgraničenja između Pakoštana s jedne strane te Betine i Murtera s druge strane. Naime, širenje murterskih posjeda, nužno s obzirom na ograničenost otočnih resursa, na kopnenom dijelu nije prošlo bez otpora susjednih zajednica. Razgraničenje iz 1751. godine očuvalo se do danas kao granica Zadarske i Šibensko-kninske županije, a vidljivo je i u spomenutoj razlici u načinu i intenzitetu korištenja prostora, no na ranonovovjekovnim kartama ostalo je zabilježeno i ono ranije. Tako je na karti iz fonda *Mape Grimani* Državnog arhiva u Zadru naveden niz orijentira – kamenih gomila i uklesanih križeva – koji su označavali granicu, a postavljeni su 1734. godine (HR-DAZD-6, 293). Na još jednoj karti uz

Zadar, Modrave is an area that has not yet found its place in contemporary archaeological literature, while the historiographical literature mostly contains rare mentions of the village of the same name in historical sources, and of the process of the expansion of the Murter estates onto the mainland (Stošić 1941: 220–228; Anzulović 2017: 161–162; Juran 2017: 62–67).

Considering the character of the terrain - a dense network of dry stone walls, stone mounds, the uncultivated nature of most plots as well as financial resources, the archaeological part of the activity took place in a limited area, targeted, with clearly defined tasks. The survey was carried out in two phases - in the spring and autumn of 2022. In the spring, we focused on the land segment where we tried to find material remains of the older demarcation between Pakoštane on the one hand and Betina and Murter on the other. Namely, the expansion of the Murter estates, which was necessary considering the limited resources of the island, on the mainland did not pass without resistance from the neighboring communities. The demarcation from 1751 has been preserved to this day as the border between Zadar and Šibenik-Knin counties, and it is also visible in the aforementioned difference in the manner and intensity of use of the area, but

kamene gomile granica dijeli i selo s toponimom *Modrave grande*. Kako među brojnim gomilama definirati one koje su dio razgraničenja, a nisu samo posljedica krčenja? Kako pronaći kamen živac s urezanim križem u potpuno zapuštenom krajoliku mediteranske šikare ili na preobraženoj obali? To je samo dio problema pa ne možemo jednoznačno odrediti tragove razgraničenja, no s obzirom na pružanje obale i smjer razgraničenja, najvjerojatnije smo u prostoru uspjeli prepoznati krajnje dvije kamene gomile, te na tom pravcu uočiti zanimljivo nizanje dodatnih kamenih gomila. Uočeni su i ostatci suhozidnih objekata na mjestu gdje smo očekivali ostatke sela, ali je u blizini pronađen samo jedan ulomak engobirane keramike, pa će potvrdu trebati potražiti arheološkim istraživanjima.

Druga, jesenja faza rekognosciranja usredotočila se na obalni dio. Osnovni cilj bio je pregled svih uvala od Lučice na sjeverozapadu do Prosike i otočića Sustipanca na jugoistoku. Pri tome smo posebno pazili na stara пристаништа – mulove jer su oni točka koja je Murterinima omogućavala komunikaciju s Modravama. Upravo na tim mjestima nađen je velik broj ulomaka keramičkih posuda što je razumljivo jer su to točke ukrcaja/iskrcaja

the earlier demarcation was also recorded on the early Modern Period maps. Thus, on the map from the Grimani Maps Collection of the State Archives in Zadar, one can see a series of landmarks - stone mounds and carved crosses - that marked the border and were erected in the year 1734 (HR-DAZD-6, 293). On another map, next to the stone mounds, a village with the toponym *Modrave grande* is divided by the border. Among the many mounds, how to define those that are part of the demarcation and are not just the result of land clearance? How to find a bedrock with an engraved cross in a completely neglected landscape of Mediterranean scrub or on a transformed coast? This is only part of the problem, so we cannot unambiguously determine the demarcation traces, but considering the shape of the coast and the direction of the demarcation, we were most likely able to recognize the last two stone mounds in the area, and to notice an interesting row of additional stone mounds in that direction. Remains of dry stone wall buildings were also observed in the place where we expected the remains of a village, but only one fragment of pottery with engobe was found nearby, so we will have to look for confirmation through archaeological research.



Hrid Splitskiac, brončanodobno nalazište na obali nasuprot Murteru (foto: J. Šučur)
 Splitskiac islet, Bronze Age site on the coast across Murter (photo: J. Šučur)





pri čemu su se nesreće vjerojatno često događale. Od ostalih zabilježenih ostataka vrijedi spomenuti zid koji pregrađuje uvalu (Mala) Zečica (Mala luka) i predstavlja ostatak solane, hrid Spličak (Spličac/Kalebić) u čijem se podmorju nalaze brojni fragmenti brončanodobnih keramičkih posuda i životinjskih kostiju te na krajnjem jugoistoku otočić Sustipanac. Od svih evidentiranih lokaliteta jedino je Sustipanac dosad zabilježen kao arheološki lokalitet. Samostan na otočiću kao i rimske ostatke zabilježio je još Alberto Fortis u 18. stoljeću. Crkvu i druge objekte na otočiću darovao je franjevcima trećoredcima glagoljašima Petar Draganić 1511. godine, a zbog opasnosti od Osmanlija i siromaštva samostan je cijelo vrijeme bio zapušten, te je početkom 19. stoljeća potpuno napušten i na kra-

The second, autumn survey phase focused on the coastal area. The main objective was to survey all coves from Lučica in the northwest to Prosika and the islet of Sustipanac in the southeast. At the same time, we paid special attention to the old piers because they are the point that allowed the residents of Murter to communicate with Modrave. It is in exactly these places that a large number of fragments of ceramic vessels were found. This is understandable because these are the loading/unloading points where accidents probably happened often. Among other recorded remains, it is worth mentioning the wall that divides (Mala) Zečica (Mala luka) cove and represents the remains of the salt pan, the Spličak (Spličac/Kalebić) cliff whose seabed hides numerous fragments of Bronze Age ceramic vessels and



• Kamene gomile u nizu i mogući položaj ostataka sela Modrave grande (HR-DAZD-6 Mletački katastar. Mape Grimani, Druga izmjera zadarskog i drniškog područja, sv. 1, br. 17 - Pakoštane)
• Stone mounds in a row and possible location of the remains of the village of Modrave grande (HR-DAZD-6 Venetian cadastres, Maps Grimani, vol. 1, no. 17)

ju je za francuske vlasti otočić prodan. Uz ova dva horizonta, zabilježen je i ranokršćanski, pa je prva crkva najvjerojatnije nastala još u kasnoj antici (Stošić 1941: 148–150; Milošević 1992: 53–54; Juran, Sorić 2010: 111). Ostatci su još i danas vidljivi na najvišoj točki otočića, a pojedini su zidovi očuvani i do 2 m visine. Uz ostatke glazirane i grube keramike iz vremena djelovanja samostana na južnim padinama, na zapadnoj i sjevernoj obali su brojni ostatci keramike i drugih tragova iz rimskog vremena što upućuje na duži kontinuitet obitavanja na lokalitetu i čini ga jednom od najzanimljivijih točaka koje smo obišli u našim lutanjima i upoznavanjima modravskog krajolika.

animal bones, and the islet of Sustipanac as the most southeasterly point. Of all the recorded sites, only Sustipanac has been recognized as an archaeological site so far. The monastery on the islet and the Roman remains were recorded by Alberto Fortis in the 18th century. The church and other buildings on the islet were donated by Petar Draganić to the Glagolitic Franciscans of the Third Order in 1511, and due to the danger from the Ottomans and poverty, the monastery was neglected all the time, and at the beginning of the 19th century it was completely abandoned. Eventually the islet was sold during French government. In addition to these two horizons, an early Christian one was also recorded, so the first church was most likely built in Late Antiquity (Stošić 1941: 148–150; Milošević 1992: 53–54; Juran, Sorić 2010: 111). The remains are still visible today at the highest point of the island, and some walls have been preserved up to 2 m high. In addition to the remains of glazed and coarse pottery from the time when the monastery was active on the southern slopes, on the western and northern shores there are numerous pottery sherds and other traces from Roman times, which suggest a longer continuity of habitation at the site and make it one of the most interesting points we visited in our wanderings through the Modrave landscape.

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