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SVJETLA U MRAKU

LIGHTS IN THE DARK

Muzej grada Zagreba svrstao se u red mnogih svjetskih muzeja u kojima posjetitelj - *in situ* - doživljava nalaze koji najneposrednije svjedoče o prošlosti grada.

The Zagreb City Museum has joined museums around the globe that allow the visitor to experience the exhibition *in situ*, gaining the best possible insight into the history of the city.

stekom ove godine navršit će se 15 godina od početka arheoloških istraživanja koja su značila prekretnicu za urbanu arheologiju grada Zagreba. Riječ je o istraživanjima koja su pratila restauratorske i konzervatorske radove na zgradi današnjeg Muzeja grada Zagreba, a nekadašnjeg samostana klariša. Bila su to veoma zahtjevna istraživanja tijekom kojih su arheolozi i studenti Odsjeka za arheologiju Filozofskog fakulteta u Zagrebu, pod vodstvom prof. Marije Šmalcelj, istražili i dokumentirali sve nataložene povijesne slojeve, počevši od 19. stoljeća pa do prapovijesti. Rezultati tih istraživanja omogućili su bolju spoznaju prošlosti hrvatske metropole, upozorivši na važnost arheoloških istraživanja u povijesnoj jezgri grada. Tako se arheologija, svojom metodologijom, nametnula kao neza-



Rezultati petnaestogodišnjih arheoloških istraživanja omogućili su bolju spoznaju hrvatske metropole

The results of 15 years long archaeological researches have allowed better knowing of Croatia's metropolis' history

Pronađeni su ostaci kuća,
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Findings include remains of
houses, jewelry and tableware,
a loom and tools...



obilazni čimbenik u definiranju čak i novijih povijesnih činjenica. Bila su to prva sustavna iskopavanja u Zagrebu, koja su nalazima i interpretacijom tih nalaza, upozorila kako je potrebno da svaki građevinski zahvat u povijesnoj jezgri grada mora respektirati svu povijesnu slojevitost - od najstarijih arheoloških nalaza do recentnih intervencija u njezinu strukturu. Ali ta su istraživanja, sretnom okolnošću što se Muzej grada Zagreba nalazi upravo na tome mjestu, obogatila njegovu stalnu postavu materijalnim svjedočanstvima gradske povijesti, prezentiranim na mjestu nalaza. Tako se Muzej grada Zagreba svrstao u red mnogih svjetskih muzeja u kojima posjetitelj - *in situ* - doživljava nalaze najneposrednije koji svjedoče o prošlosti grada. Zasluga je to, ne samo arheologa i službe zaštite spomenika, nego i muzeološke koncepcije stručnih muzejskih zaposlenika. Njihova intencija da, sukladno suvremenim muzeološkim trendovima, prezentiraju svu povijesnu i arhitektonsku slojevitost objekta sagrađenoga sredinom 17. stoljeća te da sve arheološke nalaze, ali i predmete iz fundusa muzeja, izlože posjetiteljima kontekstualizirajući ih u izloženoj temi o kojoj svjedoče, rezultirala je modernim muzejom koji je postao nezaobilazna točka na karti kulturnih znamenitosti grada. O kvaliteti te postave, koju je





likovno uprizorio arhitekt Željko Kovačić, svjedoči i podatak da je Muzej grada Zagreba 2000. godine bio u užem izboru za Europski muzej godine, uglednu muzejsku nagradu koju dodjeljuje Europski muzejski forum osnovan pri Vijeću Europe.

Stoga je razumljivo da nakon petnaest godina, od početka tih istraživanja koja su trajala gotovo do otvaranja muzeja 1996./1997. godine, pogledamo što se to, s aspekta arheologije, dogodilo u našem glavnom gradu te da na jednome mjestu predstavimo arheološke nalaze i ono što su spoznali arheolozi Muzeja grada Zagreba i zaposlenici Gradskog zavoda za zaštitu spomenika kulture i prirode, tijekom proteklih petnaest godina, odnosno od početka velikih restauratorsko-konzervatorskih radova na jednoj od najznačajnijih baroknih građevina, ne samo u Zagrebu, nego i u Hrvatskoj.

U tim je istraživanjima ustanovljeno da je na prostoru današnjega Gornjega grada postojalo naselje iz 7. - 5. stoljeća prije Krista, odnosno iz razdoblja halštatske kulture starijega željeznog doba. Pronađeni su ostaci kuća, kulnog ognjišta, nakita i posuđa, ali i utezi za ribarske mreže i tkalački stan te obrtnički alat koji zorno zrcali život onodobnih stanovnika. Nadalje, nalazima trobridnih strelica potvrde-

no je da, kao i u cijeloj sjeverozapadnoj Hrvatskoj, život na lokalitetima toga razdoblja prestaje s provalom nomadskog naroda Skita te da gotovo četiri stoljeća nakon toga nitko nije obitavao na brežuljku Grič sve do druge polovine prvog stoljeća prije Krista. Tada se, vrlo kratkotrajno, vjerojatno samo za vrijeme trajanja rimskih vojnih pohoda u Panoniji, dio nositelja latenske kulture mlađega željeznog doba utvrdio na Griču, napustivši ga neposredno poslije rimske pacifikacije širega zagrebačkog područja.

Iz toga doba otkrivena je metalurška radionica, keltski novčić tipa Samoborca te ukrasne kopče karakteristične za to razdoblje. U antičko doba život se preselio u novu urbanu cjelinu - Andautoniju - današnje naselje Ščitarjevo nedaleko od Zagreba. Andautonija je utemeljena nešto južnije, na Savi, na putu koji je spajao nekadašnja velika antička središta Sisaciju (Sisak), Emonu (Ljubljanu) i Poetovio (Ptuj). Kao svako veliko carstvo u usponu, pa tako i rimsko, obilježeno je sigurnim granicama u vrijeme ekspanzije. Stoga nije postojala potreba da na teško pristupačnom Griču, s jasno izraženim fortifikacijskim pogodnostima, nastaje urbano naselje. U njegovu podnožju, kako svjedoče sporadični arheološki nalazi, postojali su ruralni objekti i naselja, povezani nizom lokalnih (vicinalnih) cesta. Tek nakon osnutka biskupije na Kaptolu (1094.) počinje kontinuirano naseljavanje toga prostora sve do naših dana. To su potvrdile dendrokronološke analize drvenih dijelova podruma srednjovjekovnih kuća otkopanih ispod današnjeg Muzeja grada Zagreba. Osim toga, pronađeni su i istraženi stambeni objekti nastali neposredno pošto je Zlatnom bulom Gradec dobio status Slobodnoga kraljevskoga grada; pronađeno je mnogo kuhinjskoga i stolnog posuđa te uporabnih predmeta iz 13. - 15. stoljeća; definirana je stoljećima tražena granica između Gradeca i kaptolskog posjeda oko Popova tornja - najstarijega zagrebačkoga zidanog objek-

ta datiranoga u 13. stoljeće; pronađeni su zdenci i jame za štavljenje kože iz 16. stoljeća; stakleno posuđe iz 17. i 18. stoljeća, iz doba djelovanja samostana klarisa, a sve je to danas izloženo unutar stalne postave Muzeja grada Zagreba. Stoga ne čudi što se spoznala nužnost provođenja arheoloških istraživanja kako bi dobili nalaze koji pružaju dragocjene podatke o svakodnevnom životu stanovnika Gradeca i Kaptola, za koje pisani povijesni izvori pružaju škrte podatke.

Nakon tih iskopavanja, uz svesrdnu potporu Gradskog zavoda za zaštitu spomenika kulture i prirode, uslijedio je niz arheoloških zaštitnih istraživanja koja su prošlost grada obogatila novim saznanjima.

Nedugo poslije završetka tih istraživanja, 1998. godine, istražena su dvojica srednjovjekovna gradska vrata: Opatička - na sjevernom ulazu u grad, u Opatičkoj ulici, te vrata na južnom ulazu u srednjovjekovni Gradec - Poljska vrata ili Dverce, neposredno uz kulu Lotrščak. Sva gradska vrata, sličnija ulaznom bastionu, srušena su tijekom 19. stoljeća te je od srednjovjekovnih petorih vrata danas moguće vidjeti samo Kamenita vrata. Stoga je nakon istraživanja obaju ulaznih bastiona izveden tlocrtni prikaz njihovih zidova kako bi se posjetitelje i građane Zagreba upozorilo na srednjovjekovno, obrambeno obilježje Gradeca, koji se kasnijom gradnjom potpuno zagubio. Naime, prestankom osmanlijskih osvajanja buknuo je kulturni i gospodarski život u gradu te je tijekom 17. stoljeća Gradec postao golemo gradilište, u kojemu je vladala neprekidna potražnja za građevinskim zemljištem. Takvu građevinsku aktivnost u starijoj povijesti Zagreba bilježimo još samo u 19. stoljeću kad Zagreb postaje kulturno, upravno i gospodarsko središte cjelokupne Hrvatske.

Poslije tih istraživanja, tijekom građevinskih radova na poslovno-trgovačkom kompleksu Centra Kaptol na Novoj Vesi, arheolozi su iskopali radionicu za izradu kaljevih peći iz 15. i

početka 16. stoljeća. Likovnom analizom pronađenih dijelova kaljevih peći - pećnjaka, arheolozi su ustanovili da je radionica izradivala obrtnički vrlo zahtjevne primjerke peći. Među njima ističu se bogato urešeni pećnjaci izradivani u kalupima čije izvorište arheolozi nalaze u kraljevskim radionicama ugarskog Budima, u drugoj polovini 15. stoljeća. Riječ je o, u stručnim krugovima, nadaleko poznatoj peći s prikazom viteza, koja je prvi put postavljena u kraljevskoj palači na Budimu, između 1454. i 1457. godine. Takva je peć, osim osnovne namjene zagrijavanja prostorije, imala izrazitu dekorativnu funkciju. Nedugo nakon prve, kraljevska budimska radionica izradila je mnoge primjerke koji su krasili dvorane vlastelinskih dvorova najvišeg sloja Ugarske toga doba. O njezinoj vrijednosti svjedoči podatak da je, kao kraljev dar, peć bila postavljena u poznate palače u Nyeku i Esztergomu. Ubrzo su se diljem Srednje Europe proširili kalupi za njezinu izradu te je postala modni trend u ukrašavanju interijera. Pojava tih kalupa na ovom području i postojanje radionice za njezinu izradu nedaleko od zagrebačke prvostolnice vežu se uz osobu biskupa Osvalda Thuza. Riječ je o iznimnoj osobi, spretnom političaru i obrazovanom poznavatelju umjetnosti. Osobi, koja je značajno obilježila društvena zbivanja, ne samo na Kaptolu i Gradecu, nego i na tadašnjemu ugarskom dvoru. O važnosti Osvalda Thuza dovoljno govori to što je na Kaptolu došao kao kraljev kancelar, ali iznad svega i podatak da je, nakon smrti kralja Matije Korvina, upravo on položio krunu sv. Stjepana na glavu novoizabranoga ugarskog kralja - Ladislava II. Jagelovića. Važnost pronalaska ove radionice nije samo u tome što je utvrđeno mjesto najstarije obrtničke radionice u Zagrebu, nego u tome da se iz tih nalaza mogu iščitati obrtnički dosezi, kultura stanovanja i mnogi društveno-politički odnosi na području današnjeg Zagreba, u vremenu 15. i 16. stoljeća. I taj je nalaz prezentiran javnosti u dvije



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vitrine s replikama pećnjaka i panoima s objašnjenjem nalaza. Vitrine su inkorporirane unutar modernoga poslovno-trgovačkog centra, nedaleko od mjesta gdje je radionica i pronađena.

Nakon tih, za stručnjake senzacionalnih, istraživanja uslijedilo je arheološko istraživanje na gradilištu novoga Svećeničkoga mirovnog doma u vrtu kurije na Kaptolu 8. Riječ je o lokaciji nedaleko od zagrebačke katedrale i nedaleko od mjesta gdje su u početku 20. stoljeća pronađeni najraniji materijalni dokazi o slavenskoj prisutnosti na užem području Zagreba, datirani u 10. i 11. stoljeće. Premda u tim istraživanjima nije potvrđen taj najstariji sloj slavenskog naseljavanja ovoga područja, pronađeni predmeti i ostaci naseobinskog objekta svjedoče o istančanom ukusu, trgovačkim vezama i zanatskim dosezima onodobnih stanovnika Kaptola. Većinom je riječ o keramičkim izrađevinama, među kojima se ističe pehar tankih stijenka, izrađen od bijele, fino pročišćene kaolinske gline, koji svoje izvorište ima u Alp-skome prostoru te predstavlja uvozni proizvod 14. stoljeća. U ranome 16. stoljeću donešen je na Kaptol i bijeloglazirani vrč, s plavo oslikanim medaljonskim ukrasom s floralnim motivima. Njegovo je izvorište sjeverna Italija i rijedak je i vrijedan primjerak stolnog posuđa toga vremena na prostoru sjeverozapadne Hrvatske. Zanimljiv je i kameni mužjar, datiran u 14. - 15. stoljeću, u kojemu je, vrlo vjerojatno, neki liječnik gnječio apotekarske pripravke za oboljele stanovnike onodobnog Kaptola. Sada su u tijeku završni građevinski radovi na Svećeničkome mirovnom domu, gdje je također predviđena vitrina u kojoj će se izložiti pronađeni arheološki materijal.

Od ostalih istraženih lokaliteta treba istaknuti istraživanje medvedgradskog zdenca, sagrađenog vjerojatno kad i utvrda, u drugoj polovini 13. stoljeća. U zdencu je, uz obilje keramičkog posuđa, pronađena drvena zdjela i željezni nož s drvenom drškom okovanom bron-

čanim limom iz kraja 15. i početka 16. stoljeća. Rekonstruirano je i krunište zdenca na temelju originalnih kamenih klesanaca pronađenih u urušenome materijalu kojim je zdenac bio zatrpan. Riječ je o građevinskoj šuti upalaj u zdenac prilikom potresa 1590. godine, koji je definitivno razorio već oronulu utvrdu. Nešto prije toga potresa, 1574. godine, posljednji stanovnik Medvedgrada Stjepan Gregorijanec preselio se u novosagrađenu kuriju u Šestinama. Temelje te kurije arheolozi su istražili tijekom ovoga proljeća, prilikom realizacije projekta gradnje novoga stambenog objekta na mjestu nekadašnje Gregorijančeve kurije i dvorca grofova Kulmer. Riječ je o dvorcu koji je nadozidan na kuriju sredinom 19. stoljeća te srušen nakon 1945. godine.

Također treba napomenuti da su izvedena sondažna arheološka istraživanja u Parku Grič na zagrebačkome Gornjemu gradu. Pronađeni su temelji srednjovjekovnoga gradskog tornja, koji je izgledao jednako kao i svojevrsni simbol Zagreba-gornjogradska kula Lotrščak. Pronađeni toranj srušen je 1854. godine prilikom uređenja Parka Grič i uskoro bi se zajedno s dijelom srednjovjekovnoga gradskog bedema, prema zamislima arheologa i službe zaštite spomenika, njihovi temelji trebali prezentirati javnosti u sklopu realizacije Projekta krajobraznog uređenja Parka Grič. U parku će se, najvjerojatnije, nastaviti arheološka istraživanja jer arheolozi su pronašli ostatke prapovijesne naseobine iz 8. stoljeća prije Krista.

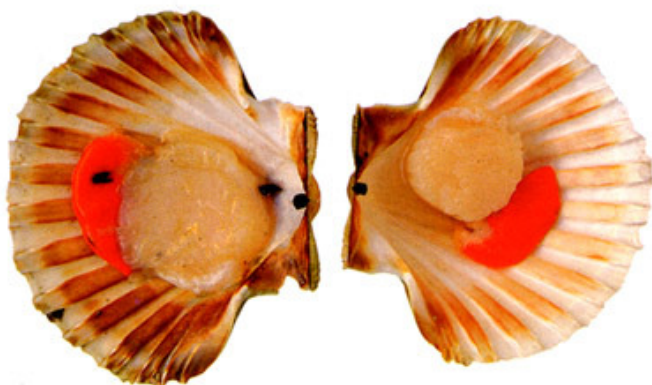
Na poslijetku, ne treba sumnjati da će i istraživanja započeta ovoga ljeta na Vranicanijevoj poljani, zapadno od kule Lotrščak, iznjediti zanimljive arheološke ostatke te da će i ona, kao i prethodna, biti prezentirana na mjestu nalaza kako bi upozorili na kontinuitet naseljavanja, ali i na važnost povijesnog naslijeđa koje baštinimo.

Očito je da nakon arheoloških istraživanja na prostoru današnjeg Muzeja grada Zagreba

kulturna slika povijesne jezgre Zagreba nije više ista. U proteklih 15 godina promijenile su se njezine vizure i naziru se njezini novi obrisi u kojima povijesna slojevitost ima važnu ulogu u revitalizaciji i promišljanju turističke ponude Gornjega grada i Zagreba u cjelini. Stoga i ne čudi što će se Muzej grada Zagreba, otvorenjem izložbe *Svjetla u mraku* u prosincu 2003., na svojevrsan način prisjetiti i obilježiti početak tih istraživanja. Riječ je o izložbi na kojoj će u muzeju u potpunome mraku biti osvijetljeni samo oni predmeti i arhitektonski detalji vezani za povijest zgrade i lokacije na kojoj se ona nalazi. Oni će, simbolično, biti svjetla u mraku prošlosti, svjedoci vremena u kojemu su nastali, a s pomoću kojih se lakše krećemo u tami prošlosti. ■

This year marks 15 years from the beginning of the archaeological investigation that was the cornerstone of the urban Zagreb archaeology. That research followed restoration and conservation works on the building of the today's Zagreb City Museum, and former nuns convict of the order of Saint Claire. It was a meticulous investigation during which archaeologists and students of the Archaeology section from the Faculty of Philosophy of the University of Zagreb, lead by professor Marija Šmalcelj, studied and documented all the layers formed between the 19th century and the prehistory. The results of their studies have allowed better knowing of the Croatia's metropolis' history, once again proving the importance of such archaeological investigations in historical cores of cities. This way, through its methodology, archaeology has imposed itself as an essential factor in defining historical facts, even those of more recent date.

This research included first organized excavations in Zagreb, and has, through its findings and interpretation of those findings, war-



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ned of the necessity of respecting any and all historical layers - from older archaeological findings to more recent interventions into their structure - when planning any construction within the historical city core. The chance wanted it so that in the under the very Museum were the next contributions to its permanent exhibition, now displayed at the very site they were found. The Zagreb City Museum has this way joined museums around the globe that allow the visitor to experience the exhibition *in situ*, gaining the best possible insight into the history of the city. Not only archaeologist and the service for protection of monuments have contributed to this, but also the concept presented by the Museum's experts. Their intention to, in accordance with latest trends in museum field, present all the historical and architectural complexity of this object, built in mid 17th century, and to exhibit all the archaeological findings, as well as all the objects from the Museum's fond, by putting them into context they characterise, has produced a modern museum that is now a desirable destination on the map of the city's cultural landmarks. The quality of the exhibition, visually designed by architect Željko Kovačić, is confirmed by the fact that the Zagreb City Museum has in 2000 entered the shortlist of the European Museum of the Year Award, a prestigious museum award given by the European Museum Forum with the Council of Europe.

It would be logical to revise now, 15 years after the beginning of this investigation that lasted almost until the opening of the Museum in 1996/1997, what has - from the archaeological aspect - happened in our capital, and to describe the archaeological findings, as well as notions gained by the archaeologists working for the Museum and the employees of the City Institute for Protection of Cultural and Natural Monuments during the 15 years between the beginning of extensive restoration and conservation works on one of the most notable baroque buildings not only in Zagreb, but possibly in Croatia.

The investigation has established that on the location of today's Upper Town a settlement existed between 7th and 5th century BC, that is in the Hallstatt culture of the old Iron Age. Findings include remains of houses, fireplaces used for religious purposes, jewelry and tableware, as well as weights for fishing nets, a loom and tools, all depicting genuinely the life of the settlement's inhabitants. Furthermore, findings such as arrow tops with three cutting edges have confirmed that in this area, just like in the entire northwestern Croatia, incursions of the nomadic Scythic people ex-

tinguished life in localities of this era, and for the next four centuries the Grič hill wasn't repopulated, until the second half of the 1st century BC. Then, for an apparently short period of time and probably only during Roman military campaign in Pannonia, a small part of carriers of the Latin culture of the early Iron Age has established their quarters on Grič, abandoning it immediately after the Roman pacification of the larger Zagreb area. From that era archaeologists have found a metalurgic shop, a Celtic coin of *Samoborac* type and decorative buckles characteristic for the age. In the Antic era life was moved to a new urban site - Andautonia, today the village of Šćitarjevo near Zagreb. Andautonia was founded south from Zagreb, by the Sava river, on the road connecting big Antic centers of Siscia (today Sisak), Emona (Ljubljana), and Poetovio (Ptuj). As any empire on the rise, the Roman Empire had secure borders during its expansion; therefore there was no need for a urban settlement on the Grič hill, difficult to approach and easy to defend. At its foot, as

Očito je da nakon arheoloških istraživanja na prostoru današnjeg Muzeja grada Zagreba kulturna slika povijesne jezgre Zagreba nije više ista. Obviously, after archaeological explorations on the location of the Zagreb City Museum, the cultural impression of the old core of Zagreb has changed.

confirmed by sporadic archaeological findings, existed rural objects and settlements, connected by several local (vicinal) roads. It wasn't until after the foundation of the Kaptol Diocese in 1094 that the continuous settlement of the area started, as was confirmed by dendrological analyses of wooden parts in cellars of medieval houses found beneath the Zagreb City Museum.

Another confirmation of this theory was the finding and exploration of residential objects built almost immediately after Zagreb was granted the status of a free royal city by the Golden Charter. Other than helping after centuries of research define the border between Gradec and the Kaptol estate around Popov toranj - the oldest non-wooden construction, from the 13th century - those objects presented the archaeologists with many kitchenware, tableware and everyday objects dating from between 13th and 15th century; pits and wells used for leather tanning from the 16th century; glass kitchenware from 17th and 18th century, the time when Saint Claire's monastery stood there, all of which is now on display on permanent exhibition in the Zagreb City Museum. This all made it very clear that such archaeological investigations can give

insight into everyday life of inhabitants of Gradec and Kaptol, not so well illustrated by written documents.

After these excavations and with support of the City Institute for Protection of Cultural and Natural Monuments, archaeological investigations were started with the goal of preserving the findings and giving further information of the city's past.

Soon after those investigations ended, in 1998, archaeologists started exploring the city's two medieval gates: *Opatička* on the northern entrance to the city in the Opatička Street, and *Poljska Gate*, also called *Dverce*, on the southern entrance to the medieval Gradec, by the Lotrščak Tower. All the city gates, looking very much like a bastion, were destroyed in the 19th century, and from the five medieval gates, the only one still standing is the Stone Gate. After the exploration of both bastions, a blueprint was created outlining their walls, to inform the inhabitants and the visitors of the medieval defense character of Gradec, lost in later constructions. When

the Turk invasions ceased, Gradec concentrated on its cultural and economic life, and during the 17th century literally was one big construction site, characterized by constant demand for more land to build on. The history of Zagreb only noted similar building activity during the 19th century, when it became the cultural, administrative and economic center of the entire Croatia.

During the construction of the business and shopping complex Kaptol Centar on Nova Ves, archaeologist found remains of a factory that apparently made furnaces and fireplaces, dating back to the 15th or 16th century. Graphic analysis of found remains lead the archaeologists to conclude that the factory was making very intricate models of furnaces. Standing out among them are luxuriously decorated furnace covers made in moulds probably originating from royal factories of the Hungarian Budim, of the second half of the 15th century. Such fireplace showing a knight, well known to experts, was first used in the king's palace in Budim between 1454 and 1457. In addition to its original heating function, these furnaces also were a decoration. Soon after the first was made, the royal factory of Budim made many similar pieces that later ador-

ned halls of richest aristocratic Hungarian palaces of the era. Serving as evidence to how highly appreciated they were, is the fact that two such fireplaces were presented to the owners of palaces in Nyek and Esztergom as the king's gift. Moulds for making such furnaces soon spread all over Europe and became a real fashion trend in interior decoration.

The person who played a big role in founding the factory for making of furnaces and moulds near the Zagreb's cathedral was bishop Osvald Thuz. A remarkable personality, a skilled politician and an art connoisseur, Thuz was an important person not only in Kaptol and Gradec, but also on the Hungarian court of the era. He was the king's chancellor on Kaptol, and his significance is well proven by the fact that it was exactly he who put the Saint Stephan's crown on the head of the newly elected king Ladislav II Jagelović, after the death of the old king Matija Korvin. The importance of the finding of this factory lies not only with the positioning of the oldest craft workshop in Zagreb, but also in that way gaining an insight in the accomplishments in crafts, the culture of house decoration and many socio-political relations of the 15th and 16th centuries in Zagreb. These findings are also on display in form of two glass boxes holding replicas of furnaces and explanations of these findings, both incorporated into the modern business and shopping center near the location the factory was originally found. Those findings, sensational to experts, were followed by archaeological investigations on the construction site of the new retirement home for church officials in the garden of the curia at 8 Kaptol Street. This location is in the proximity of both the Zagreb Cathedral and the site where the earliest material evidence of Slavic presence in the Zagreb area, dating back to the 10th and 11th cen-

tury, were found in the 1900s. Although those investigations did not produce any further evidence of the oldest Slavic colonization of the area, found items have still testified to good taste, trade relations and accomplishments in crafts of the Kaptol inhabitants of the era. Most of those findings are ceramic items, among them a fine jug made of purified white kaolin clay, apparently coming from somewhere in the Alps, and therefore an imported item from the 14th century. Dating from the early 16th century is a white glazed pitcher decorated with blue painted medallion and floral ornaments, imported from northern Italy; a rare and valuable piece of tableware of the northwestern Croatia of the time. Also interesting is the stone mortar dating from the 14th or the 15th century, probably used by some physician to mill medicines for the ill of the Kaptol of the era. At the present moment the retirement home is being finished, and upon its construction a glass exhibition box will be on display there, holding these materials. Another archaeological site worth mentioning is the one on the Medvednica hill, where a well was unearthed, probably built around the same time as the fort there, in the second half of the 13th century. In the well, other than various ceramic dishes, a wooden vessel was found, as well as an iron knife with a wooden and bronze handle from the late 15th or the early 16th century. Building stones found on the bottom of the well - covered by other stone remains that crumpled into the well when the earthquake of 1590 destroyed the already run-down fort - made it possible to reconstruct the well structure above the ground. The last inhabitant of the fort Stjepan Gregorijanec moved to a newly built curia in Šestine not much before the earthquake, in 1574. Archaeologists explored the foundations of that curia last spring, during the construction of a new residential object in the place of the curia and the castle of the counts of Kulmer, build upon the curia in the mid 19th century and destroyed after 1945.

Not to be forgotten are archaeological probe investigations in the Grič Park in Zagreb's Upper Town. There, foundations of the city's medieval tower were found, that resembled one of the still standing city's symbols, the Upper Town Lotrščak Tower. The found tower was destroyed in 1854 when the park was created, and very soon its foundations and parts of the medieval walls surrounding it should be presented to the public as part of the realization of the Landscape regulation of the Grič Park project, and according to ideas of the archaeologists and the monument protection service. Archaeological explorations in the park will most probably continue, because lately the archaeologists have found prehistoric settlements dating to the 8th century BC.

And finally, this summer explorations that began on the Vranicani Lane, west from the Lotrščak Tower, will no doubt produce some interesting archaeological findings, and they - as the findings before them - will be presented on the very site to illustrate the continuity of colonization of the area and the importance of historical legacy.

Obviously, after 15 years and numerous archaeological explorations on the location of the Zagreb City Museum, the cultural impression of the old core of Zagreb has changed, and new the contours that can be seen signal the important role of history in revitalization and creation of the tourist sights of the Upper Town and Zagreb in general. It is therefore not unusual that the Zagreb City Museum will, in December 2003, remember and in a way commemorate the beginning of those explorations with the opening of its *Lights in the dark* exhibition. During that exhibition all the museum's lights will be off, and the only lit objects and architectural details will be those associated with the history of the building and its location. They will be a symbol of lights in the dark of history, witnesses of their times that help us walk easier through that dark. ■

