







CLINK: CULTURAL HERITAGE LINKING DIVERSITIES IN EUROPE

Mapping cultural heritage sites with potential for adaptive re-use: Zavidovići, Bosnia and Herzegovina





Local Democracy Agency Zavidovići May 2020









Mapping of the cultural heritage

The municipality of Zavidovići is located in central Bosnia and Herzegovina, between cities Zenica and Doboj. Zavidovići are located in the three rivers basin: Bosna, Krivaja and Gostović. In such a natural environment an environment suitable for human life has been created. During various historical times, this area is characterized by different cultural and historical heritage that testifies to the life of this region.

Zavidovići as a city settlement was established at the end of the 19th century and the origin of the city is related to the exploitation of natural resources, more precisely wood. With the construction of the Bosanski Šamac - Sarajevo railway in 1879, the city core of the town of Zavidovići was formed. In 1887, the company "Morpurgo & Parente" from Trieste built the first narrow-gauge railway and sawmill in the Gostović river basin, which caused the creation of the first settlement on the right side of the river Bosna. In 1900, the company "Eissler und Ortlieb" built the first sawmill and narrow-gauge railway along the river Krivaja, which caused populate of this region with the necessary professional workers from many parts of Austro-Hungary. At that time, residential buildings, canteens, hospitals, streets, playgrounds, religious places of worship, shops and catering shops were built. The Zavidovićs received the status of an urban settlement in 1910, and the multicultural characteristics and legacy have been preserved to this day.

Different cultural and historical sites are: Stone spheres at the sites of Grab and Podubravlje, Vila Krivaja, stećak tombstones at the sites of Beše, Mramorje and Šadićka Visa, and religious and sacral buildings such as the Vozućica Monastery, the Old Mosque in Rujnica and the Catholic Church in Zavidovići.

An interesting site of stone spheres is inhabited in the area of the municipality of Zavidovići. Two localities stand out namely Grab / Mećevići and Podubravlje. In the settlement of Grab / Mećevići you can find about 30 stone spheres, while in the locality of Podubravlje there is currently the largest stone sphere found in Europe. Both sites are located at a distance of 2km from the center of Zavidovici.



From the mentioned localities, we have chosen three that we can propose for renovation and re-use, and those locations are: Villa Krivaja, stećak tombstones at Beše locality and the industrial museum within "Krivaja" company.

1. Villa Krivaja

Original use

Villa Krivaja is an example of a residential villa from the period of the Austro-Hungarian monarchy and was built at the end of the 19th century. It was originally created as a residential building of the company "Eissler und Ortlieb" in which the director Fritz Regenstreiff lived. The villa at that time was equipped with the most modern plumbing and electrical installations. It has been renovated and restored several times, without significant deviations from the original construction.

Current use

Today, this building adorns the street "Radnička" in Zavidovići with its romantic exterior appearance. It's also built as part of a timber complex and a reminder of the early era of industrialization of Bosnia and Herzegovina. For a long time, it served as the administrative center of the industrial company Krivaja. It is one of the three national monuments of Bosnia and Herzegovina located in Zavidovići. It currently serves as the administrative building of the bankrupt industrial company Krivaja.





Potential use

This significant facility needs to be excluded from the privatization process and transferred ownership to the Municipality of Zavidovići. The facility can be managed by a public institution. The villa can serve as a town house, museum, gallery, etc. Festivities, various events such as ceremonial sessions, receptions of delegations and weddings could also be held there. Such use of this location would enable greater cultural development, enable tourist valorization and would serve the wider community.

2. Stećak site at Beše village

Original use

The stećak is a type of stone medieval tombstone. There are several necropolises of stećak tombstones in the area of the municipality of Zavidovići. There are no visible inscriptions on the stećak tombstones, so it is impossible to determine the exact year of creation.

Current use

In recent years, cleaning and landscaping activities have been carried out because the stećak tombstones are located in the forest. The site in the locality of Beše stands out for the number of some 20 stećak tombstones, their preservation and accessibility. Distance from the town center is 13km and the same location is privately owned. Upon arrival at the site, signposts and an information board are visible. All activities related to the stećak tombstones are extremely important for the need to preserve and promote the cultural and historical heritage of Bosnia and Herzegovina, especially Zavidovići and their tourist valorization.

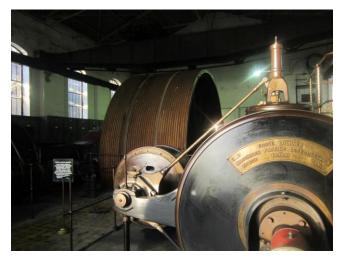




Potential use

The site itself is very suitable for lectures, excursions, as well as some forms art exhibitions such as pop-up galleries. This site can be included in some tourist tours through Zavidovići. Therefore, it is important that the media, young people, local authorities and all citizens draw attention to the importance of preserving and promoting stećak tombstones.

3. Industrial museum "Krivaja"





Original use

It is located within the former industrial company Krivaja. More precisely, the same setting is located in the former organizational unit "Energetika". In that section water pumps and various machines from the Austro-Hungarian period from the end of the 19th and the beginning of the 20th century are located.

Current use

Today, these machines are located within the bankrupt industrial company Krivaja. These machines are no longer in use and without any maintenance.

Potential use

These machines can be set up as a permanent museum display. It is possible to organize visits to for educational purposes. They are also proof of the connection of our city with the industrialization of Europe and Bosnia and Herzegovina.

Final observation

These three locations are of exceptional value for the municipality of Zavidovići. These sites testify to the development of the city, it's recognition and identification. Because of privatization process that has never ended in case of industrial company "Krivaja" the sites within company, Villa and historical machines, are not preserved well and get in worst condition. Because of unsolved situation local public authorities cannot do much in its protection. The Villa has been declared as national monument in Bosnia and Herzegovina we need to support initiatives to transform it to some form of public place.

The Stećak became interesting for tourists although many citizens stil are still not aware of their cultural and historical value. We believe that it is necessary to promote such sites as unique for these parts of Europe.