

FORTIFICATIONS IN PRESHEVA AND ITS SUBURBS

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Abstract

Field studies and materials gathered show that in terms of fortifications, our suburban areas, not only stay behind other Albanian and Balkans territories, but they appear with their own special features, that besides the creative formation of external influences, contributed greatly to the common treasure of European architecture. The purpose of this paper is to provide a systematic presentation of our creativity in centuries, claiming disclosure of a part of our creative values in the common treasure of Dardan heritage consolidation. Based on genuine archaeological garbage, fortifications were not seen as isolated, or just as constructions of defensive character, but as a reflection of the economic, social and political conditions of different society formations in our country. Traces, ruins and constructions partially preserved, enable the creation of full opinions that besides its architectural and historical value, define the area as one of the most important geostrategic regions of Dardan ethnicity. In the land of Presheva and its suburbs, many archaeological exhibits have been discovered, which by their cultural values, present worthily the Illyrian-Dardan substrate and through genuine construction remains from the field, demonstrate life and cultural continuity of our ethnos in centuries. Cultural heritage of Presheva, its geostrategic position and routes of antiquity and other subsequent periods, along with its mineral resources, make this land a center or rather a vital artery for the establishment and development of Dardania. This study claims to give an outline of creative authenticity, the unique creative features in Dardan-Illyrian territories, based on the presentation of archaeological field survey results and the limited data on the scripts (regarding the land in question) for this category of monuments. At the same time, the article is an analysis of building typology in question with other areas in the region and beyond, using the comparative method. This paper claims to provide an overview of the results from studies made to date in this regard, based on authentic materials and field research conducted recently.

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