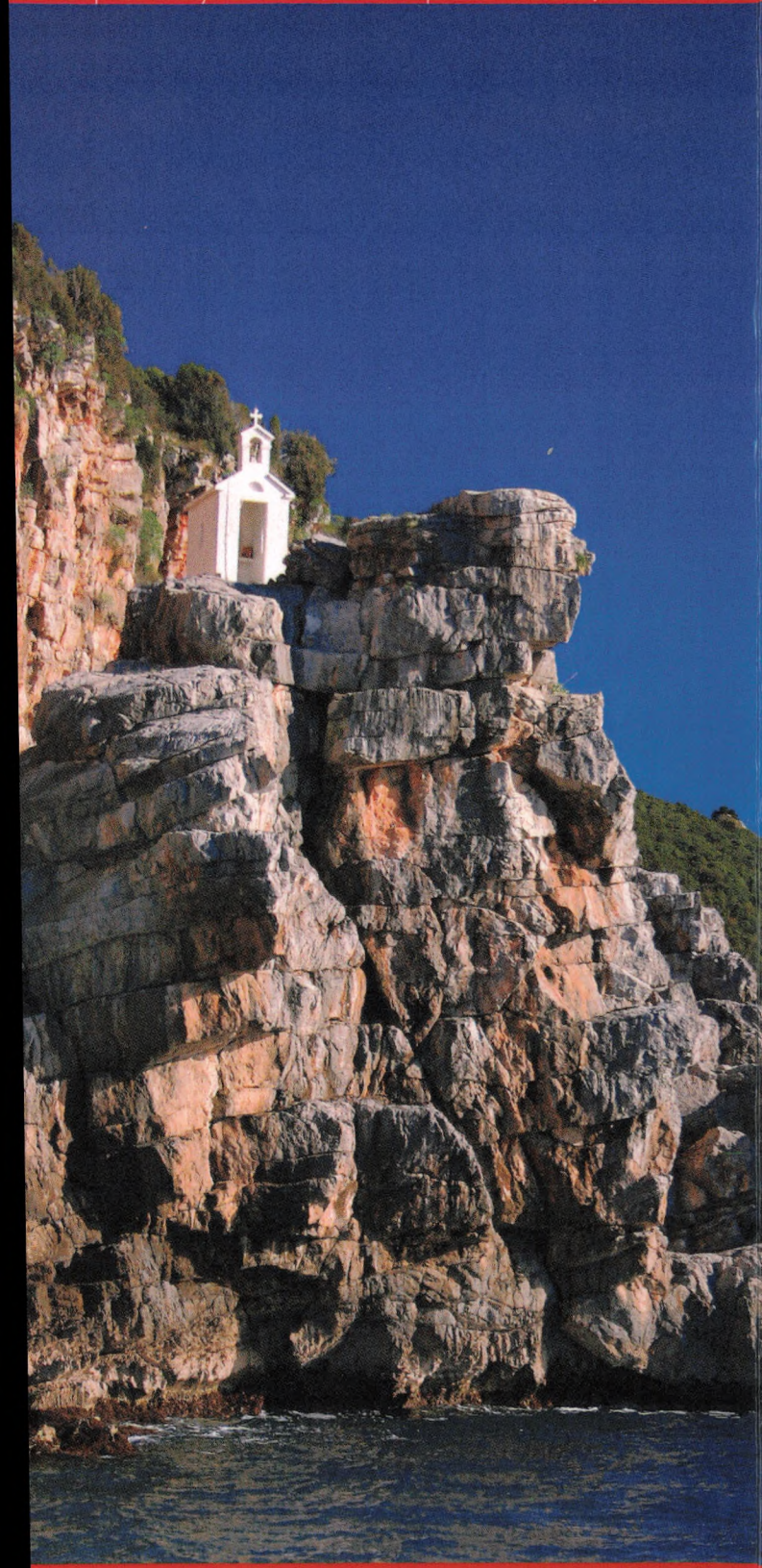




In the part which follows there is a brief survey of the projects of the Association, those ongoing and the ones which are ready to be implemented, but their realization has not yet started. They may be the subject for cooperation of the Association with all those interested in supporting them.

Projects of the Association for the restoration of Podlastva monastery

- Restoration of Podlastva monastery.** The 1979 earthquake heavily damaged Podlastva monastery. The vaults of the monastery church of the Nativity of Virgin Mary collapsed, and remaining monastery buildings were half or completely destroyed. Until now, the monastery church and the western konak (shelter) have been restored. It is necessary to restore the southern konak and to equip the konaks.
- Publishing of the collection of scientific works from the scientific meeting Grbalj through centuries.** Following the scientific meeting Grbalj through centuries, held in 2001, the Association started the publishing of works presented in the meeting in the form of a book – collection of works. On the occasion of the scientific meeting Grbalj through centuries, the following fields were treated: Church and spiritual life; archaeology; history; legal life; ethnology; famous persons from Grbalj; education; language and literature; architecture; arts; natural values and development plans. In total, 54 papers were presented, and 44 papers were submitted in written form of scientific papers. The publishing of these works, apart from the contribution to science and culture, could be very important for planning of future development of Grbalj. The preparation for printing of the Collection has been completed; now, the funds are missing for the printing of the same.
- The restoration of the church of St. Nicholas on the cliff, Krimovice.** The 1979 earthquake completely destroyed the church of St. Nicholas on the cliff, Krimovice. According to tradition, the church was built by a Greek seaman who managed to survive a shipwreck on that spot. The restored stone church of St. Nicholas was made on a concrete base, on land. Then, it was transferred and put on the cliff by means of the navy vessel-crane. Finishing works still have to be done.

← Reconstructed church of St. Nicholas on the cliff, Krimovice, Grbalj.

Projects of the Association for the restoration of Podlastva monastery in preparation

- Drafting of the Strategy for the preservation of heritage and sustainable development of Grbalj.** Drafting of development plans for Grbalj area is of great importance for the preservation of its heritage and in accordance with that for planning the sustainable development there. The Association adopted starting basis for drafting of the Strategy, given in the document Elements of the Strategy for the protection of heritage and sustainable development of Grbalj. Together with the Committee of Grbalj local community the Association submitted this project to the USAID/IRD programme. The project has already passed several estimates and its final approval is expected soon.
- Publishing of the publication: Grbalj and its natural and cultural heritage.** Grbalj as the area does not have a guide through its natural and cultural heritage. Illustrated publication on 64 colour pages of 16×24 cm format would be sufficient to present basic natural and cultural heritage, in Serbian and English languages. Its publishing would have both cultural and tourist importance.
- Youth and Heritage.** The aim of this project is to present natural and cultural heritage of Grbalj to the elementary school children of Grbalj through the series of lectures held on the sites of natural beauties and cultural monuments.

ASSOCIATION FOR THE RESTORATION OF PODLASTVA MONASTERY GRBALJ ≈ BOKA KOTORSKA Montenegro, Serbia & Montenegro

Manastir Podlastva, 85317 Lastva Grbaljska, Boka Kotorska, Crna Gora, Srbija i Crna Gora
telephones: +381-(0)69-571-800, +381-(0)69-344-066
fax: +381-(0)82-325-073
e-mail: podlastva@cg.yu
web: www.grbalj.com

© 2004, Društvo za obnovu Manastira Podlastva, Grbalj

Churches of Holly Trinity and St. Nicolas at Pelinska Rudina, Grbalj. →



Друштво за обнову Манастира Подластца Требаљ

ASSOCIATION FOR THE RESTORATION OF PODLASTVA MONASTERY GRBALJ ≈ BOKA KOTORSKA Montenegro, Serbia & Montenegro



EUROPA NOSTRA





Друштво за обнову Манастира Подластва Требаљ

ASSOCIATION FOR THE RESTORATION OF PODLASTVA MONASTERY GRBALJ ≈ BOKA KOTORSKA Montenegro, Serbia & Montenegro

About Grbalj

The Association for the restoration of Podlastva Monastery acts in the area of Grbalj, the area in Boka Kotorska Bay which is situated among the towns of Kotor, Tivat and Budva (Montenegro, Serbia and Montenegro). Grbalj consists of several fertile fields, plateaus and hills with total surface of 95 km² marked off by the coast of the Adriatic Sea in the length of 20 km and the slopes of Mount Lovćen. Around 3500 inhabitants live today in its 20 villages, and another 1000 live in the neighbouring settlements of Boka Kotorska Bay.

Cultural heritage of Grbalj

Grbalj had been inhabited ever since the earliest times. Its most ancient monuments are certainly the *tumuli* – the Illyric necropolises which were present in a considerable number in Grbalj area. The Illyrians had inhabited it in the period from the 3rd century BC to the year 168 BC, when the Romans take it over. Most *tumuli*, which have not been sufficiently explored yet, date back to



Služabnik (Missal), third quarter of the 14th century, church of St. Demetrios in Nalježići, Grbalj.

that period. The settlement of *Grišpoli*, which used to be in the area of the present day village of *Bigova*, where the remains of a Roman villa were found – *villa rustica* with the remains of mosaics, dates back to the classical and

lateclassical period.

Other mosaics were found in the floor of St. Andrew's church in Krimovice, as well as in the floor of Podlastva Monastery in Laštva Grbaljska. In Podlastva

Monastery a baptistery was found from the 3rd or 4th century AD, which means that Laštva Grbaljska, the place where the monastery is located, used to be an important settlement of the times. Certainly, the greatest part of the preserved cultural heritage are 62 Grbalj churches and one active monastery – already mentioned Podlastva Monastery. These churches date back to the late classical – early middle ages ones up to those constructed in the 19th century. Among them the fresco-painted ones are particularly interesting: Podlastva Monastery, St. Nicholas's church on Rudina and St. George's church at Šišići. In the treasures of these churches numerous icons are conserved, liturgical objects, books, documents and other things important for history and culture of Grbalj. Characteristic traditional village architecture determines the looks of Grbalj villages and certainly re-



Fresco of Marry and Christ from the 17th century in the apse of St. George church, Šišići, Grbalj.

presents particular cultural value. Two preserved Austro-Hungarian 19th century fortresses: *Grabovac* and *Goražda* are worth examples of military architecture in Grbalj.

Association for the restoration of Podlastva Monastery

The Association for the restoration of Podlastva monastery (hereinafter referred to as the Association) was established in May 1996, with the aim of restoring Podlastva monastery. Association works, as well, on the protection of natural and cultural heritage of Grbalj. The Association sees its mission today in the restoration of values; renaissance; preservation, cherishing and improvement of historical, cultural, educational, custom and spiritual tradition of Grbalj and Podlastva monastery. Also, the Association acts in the field of creation of prerequisites for sustainable development of Grbalj, as the basis for its further development. Assotiation is the member of *Europa Nostra*, Pan-european Federation for Heritage.

Activities of the Association for the restoration of Podlastva Monastery

1. Restoration of Podlastva monastery and the restoration of other sacral and cultural heritage of Grbalj. The Association took an active part in the resto-

ration of the Monastery shelter, as well as in the restoration of other Grbalj churches. Most remarkable is certainly the restoration of the church of St. Nicholas on the cliff.

2. Organization of scientific researches and meetings. The Association organized various scientific researches of Grbalj, together with scientific institutions from Montenegro and Serbia. Thus, together with the NGO EXPEDITIO (Kotor), two summer schools of architecture were organized: Sutvara 1998 and Zagora 2000. In the year 2001, together with Dr. Vojislav Korać, the academician of the Serbian Academy of Sciences and Arts, the sacral architecture of Grbalj was examined. In cooperation with the Philosophical faculty in Belgrade researches were done from the field of archaeology (September-October 2000 and March 2001), ethnography (May-August 2000, January and March 2001), ethnomusicology (July-August 2000), as well as from the field of art history (May-June 2000 and October 2001). The association organized the scientific meeting entitled *Grbalj through centuries* in October 2001.
3. Publishing activity. The Association published a series of publications and reprinted editions of books and scientific papers related to Grbalj.
4. Preparation and help in drafting urban plans of Grbalj. The future development of Grbalj represents an area of activity of the Association. Because of that, it adopted *The Basis for Strategy of Preservation of Heritage and Sustainable development*, as a starting document for development of Grbalj.
5. Organization of traditional manifestations of Grbalj. The preservation of traditional manifestations is a significant part of the activities of the Association.

The Association obtained funds for its activities from voluntary donations of its members and supporters. Also, the Association participated, alone or together with other organizations, in competitions for projects of non-governmental organizations, thus acquiring the funds from: Kotor and Budva Municipality, Department for public works of the Republic of Montenegro, Parliament of the Republic of Montenegro and USAID/IRD.



Preromanesque capital found during the archeological excavation in Donja Laštva, Grbalj.