

## PROTECTION AND PRESENTATION OF ARCHITECTURAL ENSAMBLES IN THE ARCHEOLOGICAL SITE OF GAMZIGRAD

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**Summary:** *Late ancient imperial palace of Felix Romuliana (Gamzigrad), the endowment of the Roman emperor Galerius, was built in eastern Serbia, in the valley of the Timok, in a small geographic area of Crna Reka, 11 km from Zaječar. A great number of structures, both monumental which are chronologically connected to original and later fortresses, and various adjoining ones which were later added or they intersect and overlay them, testify on intensive building activities. Due to its Outstanding Universal Value, the archeological site of Gamzigrad was inscribed on the World Heritage List of UNESCO in 2007. The purpose of the work is to illustrate, through the critical analysis and evaluation, the advantages and disadvantages of certain methods of protection and presentation of the remains, the integration of the old - new at the archaeological site of Felix Romuliana, as well as to identify the elements to be incorporated into the future attitude toward protection and presentation of archeological sites in order to change and improve particular methods. This research will make a significant contribution to the objective and critical review of main contemporary methodological approaches and accomplished results in the field of protection, revitalization and presentation of the Felix Romuliana archaeological site, as well as to the future methods to other archaeological sites in Serbia and the region.*

**Key words:** *Gamzigrad, integrative protection, contemporary presentation, preservation of authenticity, method improvement*

### 1. THE HISTORY OF EXPLORATION AT THE ARCHEOLOGICAL SITE OF GAMZIGRAD

Late ancient imperial palace of *Romuliana* (Slavic: Gamzigrad), the endowment of the Roman emperor Galerius, was built in eastern Serbia, in the valley of the Timok, in a small geographic area of Crna Reka, 11 km from Zajecar. This territory was united with the Roman Empire at the beginning of 1<sup>st</sup> century a.d., firstly as a part of Upper Moesia (*Moesia Superior*), and since the year of 272 as a part of inshore Dacia (*Dacia Ripensis*). [1]

Baron von Herder, a Saxon miner master gave the earliest description and professional assessment of Gamzigrad in the book *Bergmännische Reise in Serbie im Jahre 1835*.

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Some time later, a German geologist Breithaupt wrote about Gamzigrad with the same delight, and in the second half of 19<sup>th</sup> century, an Austrian archeologist, historian and travel writer Felix Kanitz was particularly attracted to this place. He visited the ruins of Gamzigrad in 1860 and 1864 and made very important drawings of visible parts of ramparts and towers, as well as of the entire surrounding area, which he described in his works on Serbia. In all his works, Kanitz singled out Gamzigrad as one of the most glorious monuments of the past, and one of the largest and most preserved monuments of Roman architecture in Europe.

The one-time romantic enchantment by Gamzigrad passed at the end of 19<sup>th</sup> century. It was replaced by a simplified interpretation of its remains as remnants of a large military camp (*castrum*) or as a place from which a manager of nearby auriferous mines operated. (*procurator metallorum*). Over the entire first half of 20<sup>th</sup> century, at the time of laying the foundation of archeological science in Serbia and its accelerated development, there were no words on Gamzigrad, which is a kind of paradox. The interest in this unique site was revived in the 50s of 20<sup>th</sup> century, in the period which can be identified as “neoromantism of the Serbian archeology”.

Already in 1950, professor Ђурђе Бошковић constructed a new ground plan of Gamzigrad fortress with the position of the most important structures in its interior, pointing out the need to explore and protect this important late ancient monument. Thanks to the perseverance and commitment of Veroslav Popović, then director of the National Museum in Zajecar, the systematic archaeological research of Gamzigrad began in 1953. The golden age of Gamzigrad began in 1970, when academician prof. dr Dragoslav Srejsović, who ensured Gamzigrad’s prominent place in the world archeology which it rightly claims according to its significance, started conducting archeological explorations. [2]

## 2. ANALYSIS AND RESULTS OF FORTRESS EXPLORATION

The configuration of the ground on which Romuliana was built, imposed its irregular trapezoid ground plan of 6.5 ha. The settlement is of a fortified type, built on an uneven terrain, with a rather pronounced inclination towards the east and the north, so that the height difference between the highest part on the south-west end and the lowest on the opposite side, in the middle of the eastern side, is 9.8 m. More precisely, the fortress was erected at the confluence of two streams, one of which flows under the eastern fortress wall, while the other became only a deep springbed on the west side. The structures in the interior of the settlement followed a natural terrain inclination. The immediate surroundings of Gamzigrad was changed only in the part of defensive walls, where, on the northern side, regulation of river flow was carried out and trenches were made. It is assumed that they probably existed around the whole settlement.

The main gate is positioned on the eastern side and the facades of all structures within the ramparts are facing it. The movement in the direction of the east-west represents the only distinct communication – *decumanus*. A great number of structures, both monumental, which are chronologically connected to original and later fortifications, and various adjoining ones which were later added or they intersect and overlay them, testify on intensive building activities. This activity was interrupted by fires and destructions on several occasions, which resulted in the creation of powerful and intricate cultural layer,

with very diverse archeological findings. Romuliana can thus be seen as: imperial palace (the end of 3<sup>rd</sup> and the first two decades of the 4<sup>th</sup> century), the church estate (the second half of the 4<sup>th</sup> and the first half of the 5<sup>th</sup> century), the early Byzantine settlement (middle 5<sup>th</sup> - the first decade of the 7<sup>th</sup> century) and the medieval settlement (11<sup>th</sup> century).



Figure 1. The look of Gamzigrad fortress with its surroundings (Documentation of archeological collection of the Faculty of Philosophy in Belgrade)

The following structures were partially or completely explored in the Galerius palace: western gate and ramparts of the original fortress, eastern and western gate and ramparts of later fortress, a palace in the north-western part, a temple in the northern part, a palace in the south-eastern part, a structure with a corridor, a temple in the southern part, a single nave structure (tribunal ?), a five nave structure (horreum ?), a small palace in the south-western part (Romulin triklinijum), a single nave structure in the south-eastern part and the baths. All mentioned structures, as well as both fortifications, were built of the same material – bricks combined with various types of local stone (sandstone, andesite, limestone, marl) and in the same technique (*opus mixtum*, *opus listatum*). Archaeological findings related to the mentioned structures (mosaics, frescoes, sculptures, architectural decoration, etc.) are stylistically uniform and can be dated to the period from the end of the third to the middle of the second decade of the 4<sup>th</sup> century. The order of structure construction can be assumed based on the position of particular ensembles and their mutual spatial positions. The structures in the north-eastern part, oriented just like the original fortification, were probably the first ones built. Shortly afterwards, the construction of the later fortification and all other structures began. [3]

The original fortification is very similar to the fortification of the Diocletian's palace in Split. Its base was probably orthogonal, but due to the configuration of the terrain, an irregular rhombus with sides measuring about 210x180 m was formed during construction. The western door (*porta decumana*), flanked by octagonal towers, as well as a part of the ramparts with a quadrangular tower and portico, were explored in the original fortress. The western door and octagonal towers are preserved at a height of about 4.5m, which enables a consistent restoration of the look of the original fortress. The two-storey towers had a gable roof and were about 18 m high, while the ramparts and facades of the western door were about 13m high. [4]

The later fortification is much more monumental than the older one. Its present height is between 8 and 20 m. Twenty towers of a circular or polygon shape are distributed along

the defensive walls. The ramparts are 3.60 m thick, and the towers are 23-26 m in diameter. It is assumed that there were additional four towers between the polygonal ones on the eastern and western side, arranged so that two middle ones were closer to each other, while on the north and south there are also four towers, but they are equally distant from each other. Monumental gates in the east and west and a part of the ramparts around them were also explored. The facade of the monumental eastern gate has an arch in the ground plan, and in the lower part it was constructed with ashlar of white limestone and green sandstone, while in the upper part with ashlar and bricks in alternate rows. Both gates are decoratively very richly adorned and it is the very relief decoration which allows for later Gamzigrad fortification to be dated back.



*Figure 2. The ground plan of original and later fortification ensembles with recovered structures and representation of an ideal reconstruction (Documentation of archeological collection of the Faculty of Philosophy in Belgrade)*

The first plan of Gamzigrad fortress was developed in the middle of 19<sup>th</sup> century. From these early sketches, even before archaeological excavations, it was known that in addition to the fortress tower, there were also small towers in the interior, out of which, three have been recovered. The remains of other inner towers can be identified by visible elevations. Monumental structures within the ramparts create two clearly defined groups, one in the northern and the other in the southern part of Gamzigrad. The centre of each group is dominated by a temple on a high postament. [5]

The monumental ensemble in the northern part consists of: a temple, the palace I, the palace II, and a large structure with a corridor building on them. The remains of the temple in the northern part, consisting of a high podium with a groined crypt and a monumental staircase in front of which the sacrificial altar is located, were explored as an ensemble. The renovation of the temple is possible based on parts of the architectural decoration. The temple belongs to the type of prostyle with four columns, similar to Jupiter's temple in the Diocletian's Palace in Split. The podium, doorposts, column shafts and architrave are made of green sandstone, frieze of white limestone, and figural capitals of white marble.

The palace I consisted of five halls, one octagonal room, three peristyles and a smaller bathroom. Marble walkway and fragments of columns have been preserved at the entryway to the entrance hall (vestibulum) of the palace. The entire floor of the hall is covered by a mosaic with geometric motifs, at the centre of which is the representation of a labyrinth. In the central, probably throne hall of the palace I, the mosaic is

composed of side parts with geometric ornamentation and a central part with hunting scenes. The central part of the floor of the northern hall (triclinium) was decorated with tiles of colourful precious stone (opus sectile), and the part at the entrance was decorated with a splendid mosaic representing god Dionysus. The walls of the palace were coated with sheaths of marble and green porphyry or decorated with frescoes and stucco. The columns of peristyle in the atrium with the fountain had the capitals of white marble. In the centre of the palace II there is a rectangular peristyle, around which the rooms of different sizes and functions are arranged. The main entrance is in the east, and on the opposite side, in the west, a large hall with an apse is placed. The palace II, as well as the large structure with corridor in its extension, has only been partially explored. [6]

The whole southern part of Romuliana is dominated by a large temple. The postament of the temple, wide staircase and walls partially have been preserved. Underneath the temple, the remains of an altar with a narrow staircase have been discovered. In the lower part of the temple a double crypt is positioned; the wall placed to east-west direction divides the crypt into two rooms of rectangular ground plan. A narrow staircase located in the south-east part of cella led into the crypt. Cella is rectangular, with antae forming the porch. The walls and floor of cella have sheaths of marble panels. Based on the fragments of architectural elements, it can be assumed that the temple had two colonnades of columns: higher with Corinthian columns, and lower one with Ionian columns. In the immediate vicinity of the temple, a large number of fragments of white marble sculptures was discovered, most important being the head of Jupiter and the head of Hercules, from which the purpose of the temple can clearly be defined. The structures concentrated around the big temple in the southern part of Romuliana have orthogonal ground plans and are oriented towards the main sides of the world. All are spatially independent. Their facades face the eastern gate or *Decumanus*. Such a spatial conception of structures testifies to their public character and individual purpose. The purpose of these structures cannot be defined, since none of them, apart from the temple, has not been explored in its entirety. West of the temple there is a five nave structure which has certain similarities to the structure in the center of Sremska Mitrovica (Sirmium), so that the same purpose can be attributed – the granary (horreum). To the south of the temple there is a structure which looks like a tribunal. The purpose of the rectangular structure in its neighbourhood is unclear. The building located next to it is claimed to certainly be a public bath (termae). [7]

In the period between 1989 and 1993, to the east of the main gate of Romuliana, at a distance of about 1 km, on Magura hill, the remains marking the place where the emperor Galerius and his mother Romula were buried and deified were discovered and explored. The sacred complex on Magura includes two mausoleums and two tombs in the shape of tumuli. [8]

### 3. APPLIED MEASURES OF TECHNICAL PROTECTION ON THE REMAINS OF ARCHITECTURE

The work on the protection of archeological site of Gamzigrad started in 1953. Protection services involved in exploration and protection of the archeological site are: the Institute for the Protection of Cultural Monuments of Serbia, Archeological institute, National Museum of Zaječar as well as the National Museum in Belgrade. Numerous

professionals from these institutions such as: archeologists, architects-conservators, mosaics conservators and others worked on the site.

Dividing cornice of the western façade of the later Gamzigrad fortress has not been preserved in its entirety. Its restoration and anastylosis was undertaken, which means that combined methods were applied. The same material and the same processing were used. Out of semi-circular niches that flank the entrance, only one part and the beginning of the arch, as well as the upper apse of the arch, have been restored. Based on this, restoration of parts was undertaken. It was an extremely complicated procedure since it is an arch construction on a spherical ground plan. In the approach to each object, a viewpoint was adopted for the constructed and shaped parts to be restored completely thus forming secure constructive ensembles.



*Figure 3. The look of the western façade of the later Gamzigrad fortress after the restoration (photo: M. Nikolić)*

The largest work was performed on the northern polygonal tower. The works were carried out by architect-conservator Milka Čanak-Medić. The tower has a spacious semi-circular section, vaulted by a semi-circular vault whose lower layer fell entirely, so that only riprap covering the vault was preserved. Part of the missing vault was restored. The entrance vault in the tower was restored based on the remaining parts, the slanted vault and vault above the staircase landing which led to the tower floors, as well as the staircase themselves, all based on reliable clues were also restored. The columns in the centre have been preserved to a certain height, without the front of the wall in the upper part, so it has been restored and a protective structure has been placed above to cover the peripheral part of the tower and form a space for the exhibition of decorative ensembles. The protective structure is steel, and the cover is a wavy plexiglass.

According to the same principle, the towers of the original fortification system, discovered in the interior of the palace, were partially restored. Wherever there were remains of arched, vaulted structures or only their bearings, they were completely or partially restored. The same was undertaken on restoration of windows and decorative niches, and more important architectural parts, such as the arch between the two octagonal towers of the western original fortification, were emphasized. Since the walls were severely damaged, the cornice of the walls in all segments along with the outside part of the wall was restored. Everything was built in lime cement mortar, with original materials and bricks of the same format, as ancient ones. The final layer of the cornice

both on the fortification and on the preserved parts in the parter, was done in a cement mortar, which was necessary due to severe climatic conditions in Eastern Serbia.

In regard to the structures recovered inside the fortress, the most extensive work was undertaken on the residential palace. Upper parts of all walls which were crumbling were removed and built anew, however the final layer was done in cement mortar – only conserved, built on as much it was taken off. The same material was used but with a new mortar. The front of the wall had to be taken off, since it was built with limestone which crumbled and disintegrated at the surface. The ensemble consists of a peristyle, from which layers of stylobate partially *in situ*, and partially muddled were recovered, fragments of two types of base, column shafts, Ionian capitals and one Corinthian capital. These same remains were recovered in the neighbouring atrium. Based on the recovered parts, first theoretically a former ensemble of portiko, peristyle was made, and afterwards the original parts were returned in their place by the method of anastylosis in the peristyle and in the atrium.

A standpoint was reinforced that all parts had to be examined and on that basis, theoretical ideas of an ideal reconstruction of the ensemble, which would be achieved by the methods of restoration and anastylosis, were given. The completion of column shafts and bases were done with artificial stone made of quartz sand and white cement. Two methods were used. In the first, based on the original a negative is made in the stone of the same type and for that region the negative has to be cut out in regular geometric forms. When connected, a front is carved up on the additional part. However, new parts proved to be slow in patination, so there occurs difference with the original. In the second method, missing parts of artificial stone are added. They can correspond to the original in their colour nuance.



*Figure 4. The look of remains of the residential palace after the restoration  
(photo: M. Nikolić)*

The floors, stone walkways were restored and wherever the clues showed more luxurious floors in a technique *opus sextile*, they were completely or partially restored. All mozaics in the residential palace were conserved. Since the mortar went bad, they had to be taken off, after which they were returned into the new mortar. It was made with hydrated lime and breccia with a touch of cement. There was a suggestion to put the mozaics under a roof structure. However, it was abandoned for the lack of financial means and archeologists who did not agree on the application of protective structures. For this reason, mozaics are protected only by a layer of sand.

A small pagan temple out of which only a postament has been recovered represented a special problem. High core of the wall of a former stereobat and imprints of stone blocks forming the front of the wall were conserved. Pieces of the final cornice and two blocks from the vertical part of the stereobat were also recovered. Based on these data, the stereobat has been completely restored. There were traces of stairs coming out on the platform of the temple on the remains of the postament and based on the data, they were also restored using gamzigradite stone. It is a kind of granite which was discovered around Gamzigrad. Restoration of the vaults in crypts and windows in the great temple was carried out. Restoration of the vaults was a very complicated process, because only the core was preserved, and the bricks which had been used to build the vault fall or were missing, so that the two long vaults had to be made in the lamellae. Especially complex was the execution of conical windows, due to the conical shape in the arched part of the vault which was at the right angle in relation to the cone. The stairs to the crypts have also been restored. In the upper part, in the cella of the temple, the perimental walls are slightly elevated and flat finished.

During the technical protection of archaeological remains, stone and bricks were used. The brick is new, but identical to the ancient ones. For some time the bricks were also made of artificial stone, because there was no quality soil for bricks. Artificial stone bricks are made of cement mortar and appropriate oxide paint, but this method is abandoned when it comes to bricks that are prepared and baked in ancient formats. A certain amount of used stone comes from the hinterland of Gamzigrad - the so-called tufo sandstone. The limestone which is being quarried near Negotin was used, from where it was brought to the site. The bricks had to be whole, because only fragments were found from the old ones. In the protection of archaeological remains, lime cement mortar consisting of lime and a bit of cement and stone was used. A cement which has a dark colour was always used to be even with the original. [9]



*Figure 5. The look of remains of a small temple and a big temple after the restoration (photo: M. Nikolić)*

In order to better represent the western gate of the later fortress, the conservation of the southern tower was initiated during 1994, and only on its outer sides. Since 1994, the head of the works has been Branka Stojkovic-Pavelka, architect-conservator at the Institute for the Protection of Cultural Monuments of Serbia. On the outside, the tower is twelve-sided, and on the inside it is circular and by its spatial position, it is basically the same as the northern tower of the same gate. The walls are preserved up to a height

of 6-8 m, but in the upper zones they are uncovered without a front so that only riprap which made the filling is visible. In the parts where the front is preserved, it is noticed that it was built the same as the north tower. The base is constructed with ashlers, sandstone or tufo sandstone, and in the upper zone, above 1.0 m there are alternating layers of brick and stone in the technique *opus listatum*. The mortar is made of fine-grained sand with plenty of lime, but it began to crack and fall out in several places.

Until the discovery of the eastern gate, this structure was completely unclear. When the eastern gate towers were cleaned from debris, it was found that above the fourth layer of bricks on the opposite sides, there started to emerge a brick structure which protruded from the walls at the height of the fourth brick layer. Since the bricks were set slanted, it was established that it was the beginning of an arch, and as the same construction was located on both towers, it was concluded that it was an arch connecting them. The structure of the arch was carried out with two rows of tilted bricks in relation to the inner curve. On the base of this, it could be assumed that a similar arched structure existed on the western gate, and that the traces which exist on the southern tower represent the beginning of that arch.

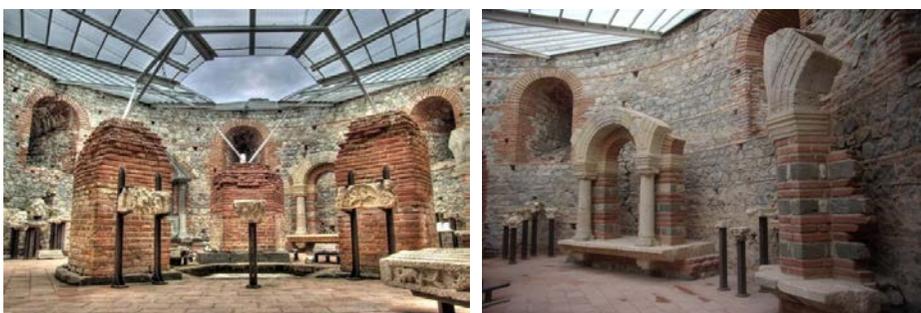
Since there is no trace of a similar construction on the northern tower of the western gate, a problem of how to present the recovered part arises. The front of the wall could not be built the way it was carried out in the northern tower, since the existence of the recorded structure would be neglected. Also there was no possibility of reconstruction of the beginning of the arch in the same manner as the one in the eastern gate because it would not be clear where it led since there was no similar structural element on the opposite side. A decision was reached to leave the front of the wall undone in width matching the change of construction manner, in order to be clear that there was a structure there on whose look there was no reliable data. The surrounding front of the wall was expanded up to a height of the recovered core. [10]

During 1996, restoration of the entrance to the southern tower of the western gate was undertaken. The vault above the space preceding the entrance has been relatively well preserved. The smaller vault above the very entrance was destroyed and only the bearings remained of it. For this reason, a vault over the entrance was constructed as a start of tower reconstruction. Continuing the work on the outer part of fortification, the restoration of the next southern ten-sided tower was undertaken in order to continually restore all towers, one by one, to the restored heights. Firstly, research works were carried out while the restoration works stopped. The conservation of the baths was carried out. The conservation of the walls was accomplished, but the presentation of the floors and other devices of the baths was not finalized. [11]

#### **4. APPLIED MEASURES OF MONUMENT PROTECTION ON THE REMAINS OF ARCHITECTURE**

The presentation of archeological remains of Gamzigrad began with a thought to present construction ensemble and its third dimension during conservation, partial reconstruction – restoration and anastylosis in the best possible manner. The aspiration was to make consistent structural ensembles during the restoration of structural elements. In order to complete the picture of former affluence and the beauty of structures, floors, walkways, mosaics and decorative elements in the lower region were conserved. Decorative

elements from the upper region were exhibited in the lapidarium by the method of anastylosis. Thus, the presentation included care of decorative ensembles and all sculptural decorations exhibited in the exhibition rooms – lapidarium which is located in the northern tower of the western gate of the later fortification or systematized and arranged in one of the towers of the original fortification which got a roof and whose interior was used for the exact purposes. The new protective roofs of plexiglass over the exhibition space and depo were lowered underneath the wall cornice in order not to be visible from the outside and not to be in the way when looking at the archeological remains. Thanks to a comprehensive presentation of archeological remains, it is possible to exit by the reconstructed staircase on the wall cornice in the northern tower of the western gate of the later fortress – lapidarium, from where the whole archeological ensemble is visible and which provides an amazing view to the surroundings.



*Figure 6. Northern tower of the later Gamzigrad fortification (lapidarium) after the restoration (photo: M. Nikolić)*

Within the residential palace presentation, perystyle and portico are also presented by the method of anastylosis. With the small pagan temple, the presentation of the temple postament with a staircase was carried out, and with the big temple, the presentation of the staircase toward the crypt, the crypt itself as well as the part of the wall within the cella was accomplished.

As for the technical equipment of the site and the accompanying contents related to the presentation of archaeological remains, Gamzigrad is not in the best condition. There is no adequate parking space or toilet area with modern equipment and installations. There is a small shop that sells souvenirs, brochures, but it is also a ticket office. Of course, it is not adequate in appearance and purpose too. In recent times, info-points with notice boards and information in front of appropriate remains, road signs etc. have been installed which is very good for the purpose of improving the presentation of architectural remains. Within the area of the old lapidarium, there is a model of fortress in the appropriate proportions, but according to Milka Čanak-Medić, it is not accurately represented. Also, there is no adequate space for tourists in the form of cafes, restaurants, etc. What is also extremely poor, is a place for associates, experts, an administration which is not on the proper level. It's a temporary object. However, today in technical, sanitary and hygienic sense, the building certainly does not meet the needs of people.

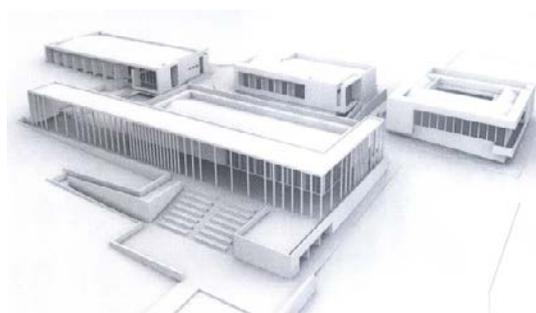
On the other hand, a new concept project for the visitor centre which will be located about 500 m away from the site, has been made. The project was designed by prof. arh.

Dejan Miletić from the Faculty of Architecture in Belgrade, and the investor is the city of Zaječar. The site itself belongs to the wider zone of protection. The Gamzigrad archaeological site centre complex represents an ensemble which is conceived as the accompanying service of the archaeological site. From such a spatial concept, a need emerged for the creation of a structure that does not jeopardize a significant spatial ensemble which is in the immediate vicinity. The visitor centre is set up to maximally use and open view over the archaeological site.

The complex is designed so that individual functional ensembles are located in independent facilities. The project task defines three different functional ensembles: the centre for visitors – facility A, the accommodation segment - facility B, the research centre - facility C and the accommodation segment for the researchers - facility D.

The visitors' center (facility A) contains: a spacious hall for reception of guests (a glazed room with mountable/demountable glass panels for the winter/ summer period), souvenir shop, ticket office and sales of information material, office with a book depository, security, technical staff and guides room, multipurpose hall, tavern, sanitary block and technical rooms. The accommodation segment (facility B) contains double rooms with a bathroom. The research centre (facility C) contains: research part with workshops, lecture and workshops presentation room (conservation of archeological plastics, mosaics, ceramics) and sanitary block. Accommodation segment for researchers (facility D) contains: ten rooms for accommodation, dining room with a pantry, studio for architects and a hall.

The project also took into account the exterior design in front of and around the center. There is a parking for buses and passenger vehicles, access roads and pedestrian paths, and numerous green areas are designed. A large terrace with amphitheater and tourist facilities during the summer season has been planned in front of the center.



*Figure 7. Concept project of the visitor centre, model (Private documentation of prof. arh. Dejan Miletić)*

The minimalistic form of the building has a clear relation to the context in which it is located. The neutral form of newly designed facilities based on primary geometry, without decorative plastics, is consistent with its function and subordination to the archaeological site. Accentuated horizontality enhances the connection of the building to the terrain. A special place in the design has a motif of the porch, treated in different ways, but most often in the function of the transition zone between the outside and inside space, as an accent and motif of the whole ensemble. The connection between house and

nature was also established at the level of selection of natural materials in the processing of facades - stone, wood and plastered surfaces. A stone is used - *travertine romano*, which is combined with sheaths of wood, while the windows and doors were made of anodized aluminum profiles combined with wooden sheaths.

The building fully meets the requirements of modern design in protected areas, which is reflected in the relation of the new facility to the environment and archaeological site, its position in the wider zone of protection, as well as in the application of new materials, structures, etc. [12]

## 5. CONCLUSION

The archeological site of Gamzigrad was inscribed on the World Heritage List of UNESCO in 2007. The main problem related to the methods of protection and presentation of archeological sites in Serbia, including Gamzigrad, is the question of attitude towards preservation of authenticity of monuments and their values. An important issue to be considered during the protection and presentation of archeological sites in terms of preservation of authenticity is how and in what manner to connect structures that used to be part of a whole but are now in ruins.

The problem of preservation of the integrity of a place, the state it has acquired over time, is also particularly evident in archeological sites. Therefore, their protection and presentation is a complex and dynamic process which has to include all stakeholders in the planning and management. A certain balance between the current condition of the site and contemporary interventions related to its protection, presentation and use in modern conditions should be established.

When selecting a method of protection of remains of the architecture of Gamzigrad, preservation of monument authenticity and its values was partially taken into account. In the course of application of restoration methods, there is no clear separation of the new from the old, which leads to compromising this principle. Modern age and the need for revitalization and the use of space, increasingly demand more active approach and a partial or complete restoration of structures, as well as construction of new structures in order to facilitate their more active use. Educational importance and "authenticity" of area restored to its former appearance is achieved through a partial or complete restoration of structures. It is necessary to find ways to highlight, even on archeological sites, intangible aspect of authenticity related to the significance of the place and purpose of area, tradition, rituals etc. as well as its natural characteristics and values.

A very significant issue in the methods of protection and presentation of archeological sites in Serbia is the lack of adequate strategy related to the presentation for the purpose of involvement of the site into contemporary life and development, and consequently the lack of strategy related to contemporary construction within the site. Therefore, it is necessary to use international charters and recommendations, as well as world's best examples from Italy, Germany, Spain, Greece (for example The Museum of New Acropolis in Athens – protective structure, eg. Badenweiler from Germany, Aquincum site near Budapest etc.) in order to develop a successful strategy for the future. In the last few years, great attention has been paid to the designing and construction of visitor's centres within sites. Construction of visitor's centres which involves adequate attitude towards heritage, application of contemporary materials and structures in the

preservation and presentation, inclusion of new media and technologies in presentation, makes it possible to involve sites into contemporary life and develop cultural tourism. Not one of these methods has been applied in order to present archeological remains in the archeological site of Gamzigrad.

Nowadays, archeological heritage has been regarded in integration with its natural surroundings as one of basic components of regional development plans and plans in general of some countries. More significant involvement of sites into contemporary development trends can be achieved by affirming the role they as elements of cultural landscape have within sustainable development of a region, and which will be based on balanced and harmonious relations between needs of small and large communities, industry activities and environment. Therefore it is necessary to observe archeological sites not only on regional but also on the local level to influence and affirm local communities. Creation of non-governmental organizations which would deal with the protection and presentation of archeological sites could make way to raising the awareness of the local population towards cultural heritage.

It is exactly through the revival of archeological sites by skilled science-based approach to the relation between the old and new, as well as their involvement into contemporary life that the connection between cultural and natural heritage can be emphasized as the foundation of identity of a certain place.

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### ЗАШТИТА И ПРЕЗЕНТАЦИЈА АРХИТЕКТОНСКИХ АНСАМБАЛА НА АРХЕОЛОШКОМ НАЛАЗИШТУ ГАМЗИГРАД

**Резиме:** *Касноантичка царска палата Felix Rotuliana (Гамзиград), задужбина римског цара Галерија, саграђена је у источној Србији, у долини Тимока, у малој географској целини Црна Река, на 11 km удаљености од Зајечара. О интензивној градитељској делатности сведочи велики број грађевина, како монументалних, које су хронолошки повезане са старијом и млађом фортификацијом, тако и разних грађевина које су уз њих касније прикључене или их пресецају и наслојавају. Због својих изузетних универзалних вредности археолошко налазиште Гамзиград уписан је на Листу светске културне и природне баштине Унеска 2007. године.*

*Циљ рада је да се кроз критичку анализу и валоризацију укаже на предности и мане појединих приступа заштите и презентације остатака, интеграције старо – ново на археолошком налазишту Felix Rotuliana, али и да се препознају елементи које треба уградити у будући однос према заштити и презентацији археолошких локалитета како би се поједини приступи променили и унапредили. Ово истраживање даће значајан допринос објективном и критичком сагледавању главних савремених методолошких приступа и достигнутих резултата у области заштите, ревитализације и презентације археолошког налазишта Felix Rotuliana, као и будућим приступима на другим археолошким локалитетима у Србији и региону.*

**Кључне речи:** *Гамзиград, интегративна заштита, савремена презентација, очување аутентичности, унапређење приступа*