

Traditional Architecture of the rural areas: Case study of the Zeta Valley, Montenegro

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Traditional Rural Architecture is a historical bridge connecting past with the modern times, holding them together for the future. The main goal of this research is to present the design philosophies of the main constructional elements of the traditional architecture in the Zeta Valley, Montenegro with the idea to propose it for the innovations. The buildings that are studied were constructed by local master builders on the end of the 19th century during the period when this area was a part of the Ottoman Empire.

The objective of this research is to present the recent Zeta valley region history and demography with overall analysis of the local traditional architecture and construction systems in order to contribute to the future restoration of this important architectural heritage. The study is mainly based on an in-situ research undertaken in the period 2018-2020, which included field visits with the detailed photographic recording, transformation of drawn information into descriptions of construction work of the remaining traditional buildings in 22 settlements of the Zeta Valley of Montenegro. The research included the documentation of some representative buildings in selected settlements on the territory of the Zeta, Montenegro.

From the collected data, conclusions concerning the typology, the form, the construction techniques and the materials of the buildings are drawn. This leads to the formulation of a series of design principles, which characterized the architecture of the past and can be applied as guidelines for the restoration of existing buildings, as well as for the construction of new ones.



42°18'47.7"N 19°11'18.0"E; 42.313252, 19.188345



42°18'47.7"N 19°11'18.0"E; 42.313250, 19.188333

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