

MONASTIC LANDSCAPE KOSTANJEVICA NA KRKI

Cultural Landscape Inventory REPORT



Prepared by:

Kristina T. Simončič,
curator at the Božidar Jakac Art Museum,
Cisterscapes coordinator

Domen Rus,
Institute for the Protection of Cultural Heritage in
Slovenia

Cultural Landscape Inventory of the Kostanjevica na Krki Abbey within the Cisterscapes project – Cistercian landscapes connecting Europe

Contracting authority: Landkreis Bamberg
Ludwigstraße 23
96052 Bamberg

Contractor: Galerija Božidar Jakac
Grajska cesta 45
8311 Kostanjevica na Krki

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*Institute for the Protection of
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1 INTRODUCTION

In 2019, the Božidar Jakac Art Museum in Slovenia, together with the Slovenian Museum of Christianity, joined the international project Cisterscapes - Cistercian Landscape Connecting Europe. As a part of the project, we undertook the research into the monastic landscape and its elements, which over the centuries were created under the influence of the Cistercians from the Kostanjevica na Krki monastery. The research was conducted in cooperation with the Institute for the Protection of Cultural Heritage in Slovenia.

Just a few decades after the Cistercian Order was founded, the sons of St. Bernard had settled on Slovenian soil. Their first foundation in our country was Stična, which played an extraordinarily important role in the economic, cultural and church life of the country. It was founded in 1130; soon after, in 1142, Count Bernard of Spanheim made the only foundation of this Order in Carinthia, at Viktring.

In 1234 the Carinthian Duke, Bernard of Spanheim (1202-1256), founded a monastery of the Cistercian Order near the border of his territory in Lower Carniola, beside his town of Kostanjevica na Krki, below the Gorjanci mountains. In his time the town developed into an increasingly important political, strategic, administrative, economic and colonizing centre for the extensive Spanheim territory along the lower Krka river. The out-of-the-way site near the Gorjanci mountains, covered with luxuriant woods, and the proximity of the clear streams Obrh and Studena, made this a suitable place for a Cistercian monastic foundation, as they usually settle in remote valleys and in the shelter of forests.

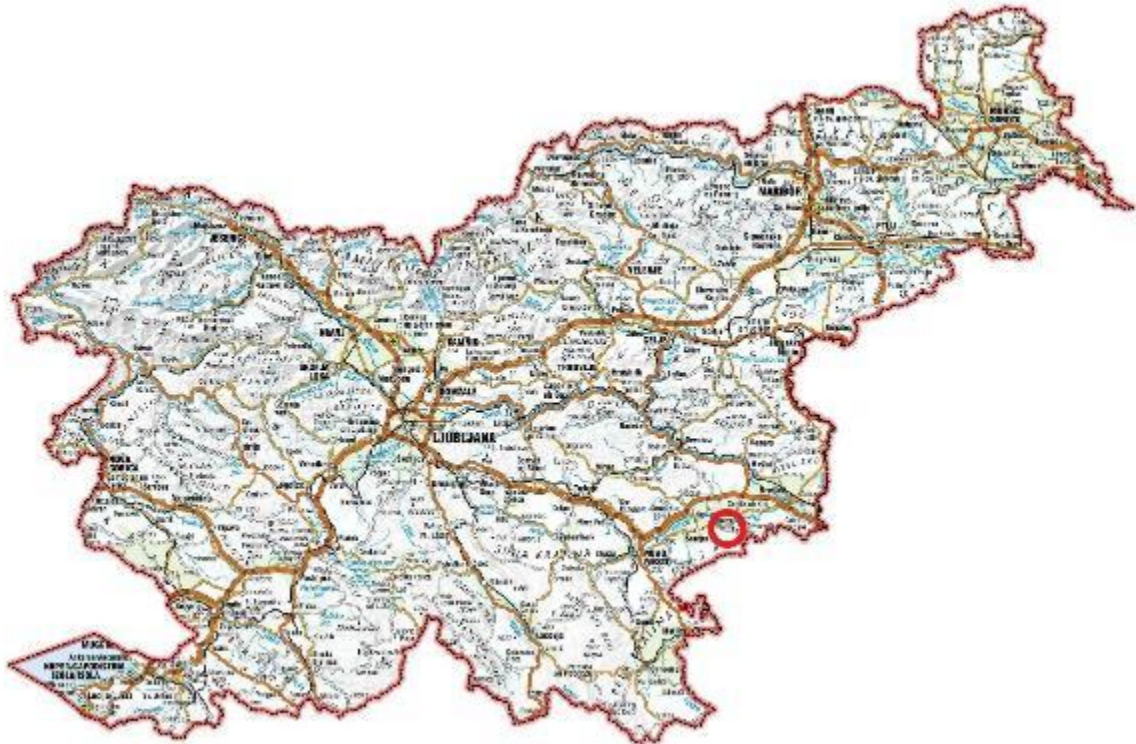
The new monastic settlement beside the Gorjanci mountains, following the example of other Cistercian monastic communities whose churches are consecrated to Mary, was called Mary's Fountain (Fons Beatae Mariae or Mariabrunn). Monks from the monastery of Viktring in Carinthia colonized the new foundation; thus Viktring became the mother-house with the right to make visitations of the monastery, to take part in the election of a new abbot, together with a number of other rights and duties. The monastery of Viktring was founded from the monastery of Villars (Weiler-Betnach), which in turn had come from Morimond; in this way Kostanjevica became affiliated to Morimond.¹

¹ MLINARIČ Jože, Topografija posesti kostanjeviške opatije 1234-1786, Maribor 1972, p. 573.

2 NATURAL AND SPATIAL CONDITIONS

2.1 Placement

Kostanjevica na Krki is located in the southeastern part of Slovenia, between Gorjanci and Krška ravan on the meander of the Krka river. It's located around 95 km away from the capital Ljubljana via highway. It is placed on the only artificial island in Slovenia making it unique and recognizable town on a national level. Monastery is located just south from the town of Kostanjevica na Krki.



Placement in the area of the country Slovenia. (GURS)

Kostanjevica and Šenjernej are the largest settlements regarding the region and are connected by the regional road. Other settlements represent mostly villages that are placed throughout the landscape, mostly close to important connections.



Narrow regional placement of the monastery. (GURS)

2.2 Topography

Regionally and administratively the monastery is located in the Dolenjska region. Relating to the landscape characteristics it is located on a southern part of Krška ravan (Krška plain) which represent the southernmost pannonian world of Slovenia. On the south it is delimited by the massif of the Gorjanci, which represent the dinaric world of Slovenia. The monastery is somehow located in between the Krška ravan and Gorjanci in a topographically dinamic space which combines landscape characteristics from both, pannonian and dinaric worlds.

- The Krška ravan is characterized mainly by a relatively extensive plain world. It is roughly divided into Šentjernejsko polje (Šenjternejsko field), following a wet grassland part of Zakrakovje, which turns into an extensive flooded Krakovski gozd (Krakovski forest). It then continues to the larger Krško polje and Brežiško polje to the east.
- Gorjanci are a plateau hills in southeastern Slovenia. They are divided into a western part, which rises above Šentjernej and west of here, middle part, that extends above Kostanjevica na Krki and Podbočje, and an eastern part above Čatež ob Savi which sinks

to the east under the thick deposits of sand and gravel. The highest point is Trdinov vrh with 1178 m above sea level.



Location of a monastery and surrounding landscape. (GURS)

2.3 Geomorphology & Soils

Around 5 million years ago the Pannonian Sea started receding from the Krška ravan, while individual parts of then landscape subsided. By the end of the Pliocene Epoch Krška ravan subsided and Gorjanci hills raised. Sinking of the landscape attracted river Sava and other smaller streams. Around two million years ago the area around Kostanjevica na Krki also descended. Layers of gravel, sand and clay started deposit on the plain. The region is tectonically active with earthquakes occurring regularly. The deposits that consist mostly of sand and carbonate gravel are located on today's Šentjernejsko and Krško-brežiško polje. On the other half of the Krška ravan clay and silt prevails. This area is covered by wet grasslands and flooded forest.

On the contrary the Gorjanci hills first became dry land in the middle of the Cretaceous around hundred million years ago. Later it sank under the sea level several times. In the middle of the Miocene and after the surrounding landscape sank under the sea level, it became an island

or half-island surrounded by Pannonian sea. In the Pliocene the terrain was formed by neotectonic processes. The Gorjanci hills consist of mostly Triassic and Cretaceous rocks, somewhere also tertiary rocks can be found. Limestone and dolomite prevail with fewer areas of flysch and marl.

2.4 Soils

In the lowlands, the development of the soil was mostly influenced by the river deposits, ground water and rainwater. Clay deposits with high groundwater are typical. In such places, gleys overgrown with wet meadows developed. The Kostanjevica area is characterized by deep riparian eutric soils on clay alluvium. The characteristics of the soil on the slopes of the Gorjanci hills depend almost entirely on the rock base. Rendzina soils, chromic cambisols and brown skeletal soils developed on limestones and dolomites. Where there is more marl, an acid brown soils have formed. Brown chromic cambisols are also characteristic of the elevated parts around Kostanjevica na Krki.

2.5 Hydrology

Sava, Sotla and Krka are three more recognizable rivers that flow along the Krška ravan. Krka is considered to be the longest river in Dolenjska (approximately 111 km), and it represents right tributary of the Sava. The confluence of the two rivers is in the south of the town Brežice. Downstream from the town Novo mesto, the Krka river has an increasingly rain-snow regime with water level predominantly dependent on precipitation. Excess water is in April and November. The lowest flow is in August and January. The waters of the western part of the Krško plain represent small tributaries.

One third of the Krško level is flooded areas. The Krka river as well as its tributaries floods several times a year. Along the Krka river, the floodplain stretches along the river all the way to its confluence with the Sava. The largest floodplains are Zakrakovje and Krakovski gozd, where the flood water stays for more than a week. There is high groundwater in this area thus a large part of the Krakovski forest is swampy. Due to tectonic activity, some geothermal springs are present in the region, which later influenced the development of thermal tourism.

As most of the Gorjanci hills consist of permeable rocks on the surface, the network of watercourses is very rare. Karst springs are present at the bottom of the hills. The headwater streams in the heart of Gorjanci are filled only occasionally during heavy precipitation. In the immediate vicinity of the monastery run two smaller watercourses Studena and Obrh. The karst spring of Obrh is located near the monastery in the southwest. To the east, a few tens of meters

from the monastery, there is another small spring, that fills artificial pond. Due to the monastery's low elevation, high groundwater is present in the vicinity of the monastery. The area is overgrown with wet meadows.

2.6 Climate & Vegetation

Climate

Krška ravan as well as the Gorjanci hills have moderate continental climate. The amount of precipitation decreases from west to east. In comparison, the average amount of precipitation is somewhere between 1100 and 1200 mm. In Gorjanci hills, about 100 mm more. The average annual temperature is about 10° C. At the foothills of the Gorjanci hills, the average daily temperature is around 0° C in January and around 20° C in July. On the outskirts of the Gorjanci hills the inversion is common, so somewhere suitable areas for the vineyards rise above 500 m above sea level.

Vegetation:

Willows, alders, and poplars grow predominantly on all deposits along watercourses and on flood plains. On clay deposits, the most characteristic are common oak and white hornbeam. Higher, where the groundwater is slightly lower, white hornbeam predominates. In Krakovski forest a large area of floodplain forest, common oak prevails. The Krakovski forest, now covering a quarter of the area, once covered most of the Krško plain. At the outskirts wet meadows were gradually established on the forest clearings.

The higher parts of the Gorjanci hills are entirely covered by extensive beech forests, which have been cleared on the karstic plateaus for pastures. However, these pastures are becoming more and more overgrown due to the forest expansion trend. The forest of black hornbeam and beech also thrives on steeper southern locations. Up to a height of 600 m above sea level, especially in the western part, oak forests grow. The outskirts of the eastern part of the Gorjanci hills are overgrown with hornbeam forests. At lower altitudes, a larger number of ash and chestnut trees can be found. It is also necessary to highlight that the primeval forest at higher altitudes (above 800 m) as a remnant of the former mighty beech forests in the middle of the karst world is preserved.

3 CULTURAL LANDSCAPE HISTORY

3.1 General Description of the Landscape

The development of current cultural landscape can be contributed mostly to historical and physical-geographical factors. In geographical aspect, the area is part of the Gorjanci hills – plateau hill range in south-eastern Slovenia which stretches south of the monastery's location. It is characterized by a diverse terrain which gradually descends to the Krško field in the north. Krško field represents the southern part of the Slovenian Pannonian world. Regionally the areas of the Gorjanci hills and Krško field belong to two different landscape-defining units, therefore the intertwining of Pannonian and Karst landscape features is typical.

Due to the suitable position and climate, agricultural landscape developed on slopes characterised by dispersed settlements, fields, orchards and vineyards. Steeper and higher positions are mostly overgrown with forests. On lower plains towards Krško field finely articulated agricultural landscape is preserved consisting mainly of fields and meadows. Another significant factor that influenced the development of landscape is the Krka river with its meanders on Šentjernejsko and Krško field. Floods were regular through history and are occurring even today. North of the Krka river stretches an extensive floodplain forest (Krakovski gozd) which is a protected natural area. Background waters flow from the slopes, therefore many springs are present. They graduate to small streams. Coastal vegetation is present in the form of narrow lines that follow watercourses.

On the flood plains and in the valleys below the Gorjanci hills, areas of wet meadows have been preserved. It is the wet meadows that represent the immediate surroundings of the monastery. Due to the hydrological conditions, the area was uninhabited, which was suitable for the location of the monastery as it was and still is somewhat secluded and dislocated from other settlements.



The view on the monastery and surroundings from the Ivanjše located west, at the foothills of the Gorjanci hills. (ZVKDS)



The view on the monastery and surroundings from the Church of St. Mohor located east from the monastery. (ZVKDS)

Typical landscape patterns:

forest on the hills; agricultural landscape on the hills; agricultural landscape on hills with (dispersed) settlements; vineyards on the slopes; water valleys; wet landscape by streams and rivers; finely articulated agricultural landscape on the plain.



Upper row, left to right: vineyards on slopes, wet landscape with streams and rivers, dispersed settlements on the slopes; Lower row, left to right: finely articulated agricultural landscape on the plain, Kostanjevica na Krki, Krakovski gozd – flooded forest.

3.2 Historical Sources

Main historical source that served as a basis in developing the image of the cultural landscape affected by the Kostanjevica abbey almost directly is a book *Topografija posesti kostanjeviške opatije 1234-1786* (Topography of the Estate of the Kostanjevica Abbey) by Jože Mlinarič, published in 1972 and a book *Kostanjeviška opatija 1234-1786* (Kostanjevica abbey), by the same author. It uses archival material such as urbarium, deeds of donations, different contracts and other historical sources. Regarding the early colonization of the area we used reports from the archaeological researches and other published sources. From the middle ages to the modern times an overall history of the agrarian branches in Slovenia served as a historical

context of general processes of land cultivation. Although these processes were similar in the whole area of today's Slovenia generally speaking, the Kostanjevica abbey being part of them, played a significant role in the region.

For the modern age historical maps allow us an insight to the distribution of different land uses and parcel structure thus allowing us to visualize the image of historical cultural landscape. The oldest and most accurate historical map is Franciscan Cadastral map from 1824 that is about 38 years after the dissolution of the monastery (1786). Older maps are available but range roughly in the second half of 18. century and aren't as accurate as their later successor. After the dissolution the land was redistributed under the land and tax reforms by Joseph II, Holy Roman Emperor. The reforms held impact more in the administrative way and in the tax system and less in the physical landscape, therefore the Franciscan Cadastral map present an accurate general portrayal of the cultural landscape at time of dissolution of the monastery and can be put aside the earlier maps such as First Military Survey (1763-1787) map.



First military survey (1763–1787) under the Joseph II, Holy Roman Emperor. The monastery is located south of the Kostanjevica na Krki – Landstrass. (Mapire, 2020)



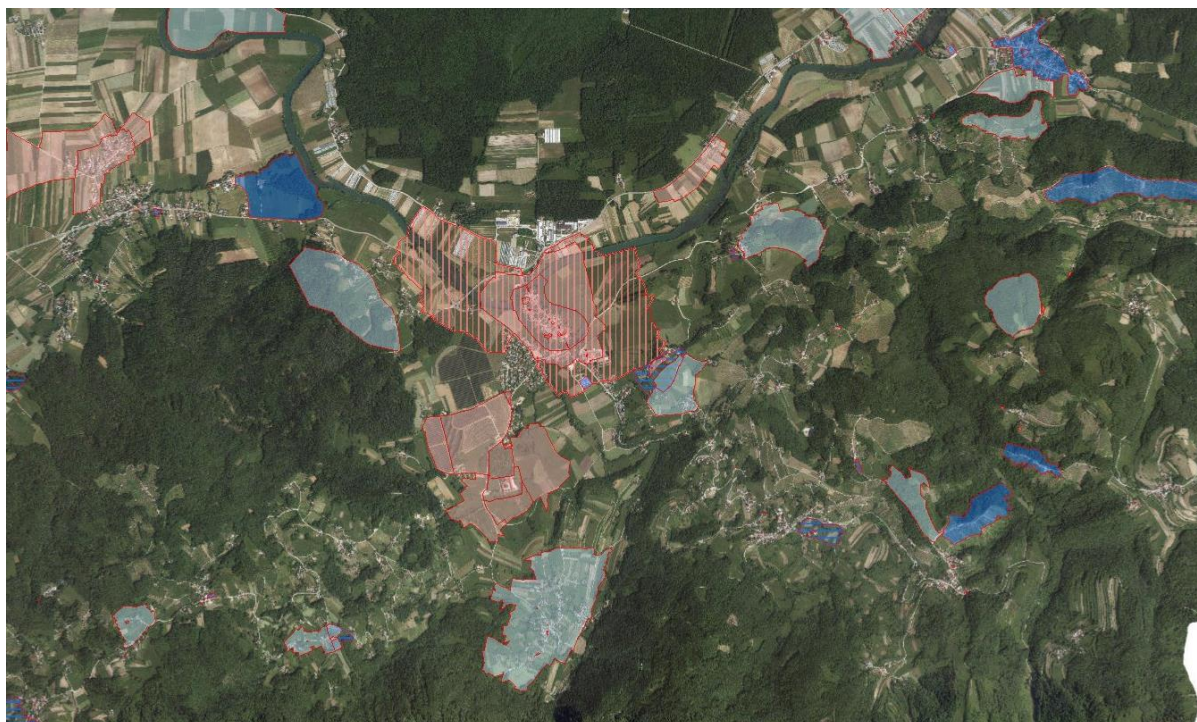
Franciscian Cadastral map (1824) in roughly the same scale as map above. The land use can be seen more clearly. (Mapire, 2020)

It needs to be pointed out that many of the individual objects and property throughout 500 years are not documented in the urbariums and deeds of donations, are missing or not included on the historical maps. This can be attributed to various reasons. First of them is that some of the properties were destroyed, reworked or abandoned in the 500 years of history. An example are the former fishing ponds at the village Imenje that are not shown on any historical map. Studying the Lidar layers exposed the location that held the most potential and was later confirmed the past presence of the ponds. On the location a pasture was established when the monastery was still present and active. Second reason is the purpose of the historical maps. For example, Franciscan Cadastral map served mostly to support law and tax system on the land therefore lacks some of the details, especially symbols that are present on different types of maps (earlier and later). This includes especially symbols that would represent purpose of some built structures for example mills or smithys and smaller religious structures such as wayside shrines, smaller chapels. It is plausible that these structures, especially buildings survived long periods of time and were still present in space by the time more recent maps were developed.

Regarding the land use, historical maps and urbarium express continuous land cultivation with very specific land uses such as fields, vineyards, pastures, grazing forests, ponds etc. Written sources often expressed only general location of the monastery's property (for example »ponds near village Imenje« or »vineyards on Hrvaška gora«) thus some more research work was needed where historical maps played a significant role. It needs to be pointed out that the informations from older written sources were harder to locate on a recent map. Parcel structure helped when determining the locations of dominican land, though we have to bare in mind that the first cadastral map (Franciscian Cadaster) was developed 38 years after the dissolution of the monastery. Therefore, some of the original dominican land was already divided into individual parcels.

3.3 Existing cultural heritage

The monastery complex is protected as a cultural heritage by the Ministry of Culture in Slovenia. Because of its cultural, archaeological, landscape, artistic, architectural, historical and other exceptional features it is recognized as a cultural monument of national importance and combines the former monastery buildings, forma viva and surrounding area of which a part represents archaeological site. Notable cultural heritage is also the nearby town of Kostanjevica na Krki which represents a recognizable and in historical development a qualitative achievement in the design of space with a unique position on an artificial island on the bend of the river Krka. Other individual units of cultural heritage are present such as individual buildings, churches, archaeological sites, settlements etc.



Existing units of cultural heritage registered in a Register of cultural heritage of Slovenia. Bright red areas represents monuments of national or local importance, light blue areas represent archaeological sites and dark blue represent other registered cultural heritage. (Register nepremične kulturne dediščine, Ministrstvo za kulturo, 2020)

3.4 Historical Development of Cultural Landscape

Protohistory and Ancient history

The following text regarding the archeological image of the South-Eastern Slovenia is based on findings of a research project of Institute of Archaeology at ZRC SAZU, South-Eastern Slovenia in the Early Iron age, published in 2007. Sources that regard image of the cultural landscape directly are at this point very scarce. Accurate portrayal of the landscape is therefore based mostly on a study of the natural sources, geographical characteristics, early settlement and agricultural practices.

Settlement of the Dolenjska region from the Bronze age to Hallstatt culture

Present-day south-eastern Slovenia was relatively densely occupied and cultivated even before the appearance of iron. There were numerous settlements uncovered throughout the years of archeological excavations in south eastern part of Slovenia which includes Posavje in the north and the east, Bela krajina in the south and Dolenjska in the west. Upland settlement was prevalent at this time although low-land settlements were also identified.

In the early iron age was a decrease in the number of settlements in general, with an increase in the size of the new hillfort settlements on previously uninhabited areas which indicate new colonisation of the area. Some of the older settlement cores were preserved, one of them located in the hills above Podbočje, near Kostanjevica na Krki. The hillfort was eventually abandoned by the Late Hallstatt. The abandonment of settlements occurred mostly in the lower reaches of the Krka river, in the Gorjanci hills and in Bela krajina.

The settlements also extended *extra muros*. Individual tumuli and small cemeteries of the inhabitants of hamlets and farmsteads were scattered between individual fortified settlements. The arrival of the Celts in around 300 B.C. caused the decline of the Hallstatt culture. Novelties are observed in the burial custom, attire and armour, religious ideas etc. The numbers of settlements remained almost unchanged.

The occupation of elevations and quick construction of fortification walls speak of troubled times, when living in lowland no longer provided enough security. The reason for this should be sought in the expansive strategy of the Roman State, which decisively intervened into south-eastern Alpine area after founding of Aquileia (181 BC). Followed the occupation of the

territory, which was included into the Roman empire. Hillforts were abandoned and life shifted into the lowlands.

Land cultivation

To this day practically no data on the palaeoenvironment of Dolenjska are available, thus only theoretical analysis of the interaction between the agricultural area and the settlements were performed based on composition of parent rock, surface configuration and hydrologic conditions. The majority of today's compact agricultural surfaces can be observed along the Krka river, in the Novo mesto area and on the Krška ravan with the Krško gričevje, where a good third of the Iron Age centres were located. Land farming and cattle breeding were basic means of subsistence in the Iron Age despite new economic activities (iron working). The shape of the fields, their size and cultivation mode are at this point practically unknown. The settlements that persisted in the same ecological niches for several centuries indicate a stable cultural landscape with permanent fields that demanded appropriate cultivation procedures. The latter certainly included crop rotation, fertilization and use of a ploughshare. The extensive floodplains of the Krška ravan weren't cultivated until Roman era.

The cultivated plants mainly included cereals such as barley, oats, wheat, broom-corn millet and rye. The leguminous plants are also relatively well represented, for example vetch, faba bean, pea and lentil. Cultivated vegetables included cabbage, turnip, mustard and kohlrabi. It's important to emphasize that the number of *Brassicaceae* seeds found in Dolenjska is far greater than elsewhere in Europe. The number of useful plants were also identified and include flax, elderberry and blackberry.

Stock breeding included mostly cattle, sheep and goat. Other animal breeding included pig, dog and horse. Grazing was introduced mostly on infertile soils, higher slopes and forests that were suitable for pasture.

Land ownership

As with fire-fallow cultivation and even after the introduction of early ploughshare, arable land was mostly the collective good of groups (parishes, villages). The land was not permanently divided between individual groups, but a group task was required, which also means that it was not permanently divided between different uses or ownership.

Roman empire

After the Roman conquest the entire Dolenjska region belonged first to the extensive Roman province of Illyricum, and after 10 AC to the Roman province of Pannonia. The conditions were favorable which allowed growth of current settlement, some of them becoming important strategic and economic cores. The most important one in the region is certainly settlement Neovidium by today's Drnovo which was granted municipal rights in 79 AD. It served as a river port and included basilica, sewer and water systems, well and thermae. In this period of time the land was further colonised and cultivated. Grasslands and fields expanded by deforestation and by drying the parts of the extensive swamp areas and wetlands in the Krška ravan. Higher slopes were suitable to establish vineyards.

Early middle ages

During the Migration Period (4. – 6. cent.), the area of today's Slovenia suffered invasions of many barbarian armies (Huns, Germanic and Early Slavic tribes), due to its strategic position as the main passage from the Pannonian Plain to the Italian Peninsula. Rome finally abandoned the region at the end of the 4th century. Many cities were destroyed, while the remaining local population moved to the highland areas, establishing fortified towns. The region was later largely settled by Early Slavs.

The new settlers largely related to existing settlements and cultivated land and little additional deforestation occurred. The settlements were positioned mostly on lower hills at the edges of the planes and near water (rivers, lake...). Wetlands or swamps remained unpopulated.

Especially in the ninth century, when the Franks ended the wars with the Abyssinians, there was the first larger migration of the German population to the provinces in the east, which were then incorporated into the Frankish state. A strong influx of German colonists began to pour into the Danube region, Pannonia and even into the Eastern Alps. After 828, a large-scale German colonization pressed mainly into Lower Pannonia, part of which was also area around Kostanjevica na Krki.

It was only with the formation of agricultural properties with a certain amount of land and two-year or three-year crop rotation, when the new agricultural practices could technically miss the previous group work, more permanent, individual use of land came about. These changes were mainly due to the formation of feudalism and the introduction of fief and taxes, which introduced a system of hides² under the Kingdom of the Franks. Uncultivated and other areas (forest, pastures, paths, waters) remained in collective use, but belonged to the lords. It was only gradually, that the economic importance of these areas began to grow (especially forests due to the need for timber), that collective farm ownership was limited. With these changes, the cultural landscape gradually changed in the administrative sense, and then also physically. This process was faster in the area of the lower Pannonia than in other regions of today's Slovenia. The beginnings of the so-called Frankish feudalism in Slovenia is considered to be in the 8th and the beginning of the 9th century.

Hides (*huba*) in today's Slovenia consisted of roughly 15 - 20 ha of land mainly arable land, pastures for breeding livestock, vineyards and forest. Often the area was not precisely measured, rather it was arbitrarily determined based on number of the fields, the amount of crops, the number of livestock or even time that was required to cultivate the land. The latter was strongly present in today's Slovenia. *Huba* was the basic individual economic unit of land throughout the middle ages and was the basis for taxation also. It was an important source of income for the monastery from the beginning to the dissolution as the property of the monastery consisted mostly of arable land.

High middle ages

The introduction of feudalism served as the basis for the further economic development of the region. It should be noted that the area of today's Slovenia was of special importance and was economically interesting due to its distinctly transitional geographical position and connections with the Adriatic Sea in the southwest, the Balkans in the south, the Alps in the north and the Pannonian plain in the east. During this period, the settlement patterns landscape slowly took on the shape we know today. Rare are the settlements that emerged after the end of the 15th century. Development was influenced by the introduction of a new, better way of cultivating the land with three-year rotation with fallow, which significantly increased the yield, thus enabling the life of a significantly larger number of people on the same land. Such cultivation also

² *Huba* (pl. *Hube*) in Slovenian language represents an individual economic unit of land which supported a peasant family. In English feudalism a parallel to the *huba* is *hide*. In German language the expression is *Die Hufe*.

allowed several farmers to settle in the territory already inhabited. On the other hand, a large part of the agricultural land was not yet inhabited, furthermore it was covered with extensive forests. Under the control of the lesser lords the agricultural land of the subservient population (peasants) was rearranged into those shapes and sizes that allowed survival for individual small families. Time from the end of the 10th to the end of the 12th century means the highest rise of medieval colonization in the Slovenian provinces. Extensive existing forests gradually began to shrink, especially along larger already deforested valleys and forested plains. The old settlements grew, among them new villages emerged. Colonization process was carried out under the control of the landlords, mainly by immigrants from densely populated neighbouring areas, or immigrants from old lordships from today's Germany.

At the time of Holy Roman Empire, large feudal estates were given to the German lords. The colonization around Ljubljana, in the valley of the Krka river, in Štajerska (Styria) and Koroška (Carinthia) was led by the Spanheim lords - the founders of the Cistercian monastery in Kostanjevica na Krki.

Late middle ages

Between the end of the 12th and the middle of the 15th century the colonization of Slovenian provinces has retained great importance for the development of the countryside and its cultural landscape characteristics. In the 13th and 14th centuries, the settlement stream turned into higher, hillside and forested areas. The settlement was led by a landlord. In the discussed region, colonization focused mainly on the Gorjanci hills. Relocations of peasant population, also from other regions (Carinthia, Styria) were frequent in the Dolenjska region.

The main role and purpose of the establishment of the monastery as a bearer of colonization under the auspices of the Spanheim lords is clear. Despite the intensification of agricultural land, the process of colonization did not proceed smoothly, which was the result of turbulent social, political and economic changes. This includes, but is not limited to, the outbreak of the plague, the Turkish invasions and the settlement of the Uskoks in the Gorjanci area. As we shall see below, most of the monastic property consisted of the land of the peasant population, especially the *huba* of which the monastery was entitled to certain duties and rights. The extent of land owned by the monastery has increased since its establishment, except during short periods of increased borrowing and sale of the land, which posed as a necessity or due to the wastefulness of the head abbots.

Division and parcellation of arable land

The division of arable land in today's Slovenia was influenced in particular by agricultural tools or techniques of work and agricultural practices, as well as natural conditions, the organizational form of the village and the tradition from previous times. The phenomenon of administratively dividing land is therefore related to a certain level of economic development. Until the implementation of system of individual *huba* (somehow from the 9th to the 11th century), a permanent division of arable land was not yet developed. The old cultural land and the existing natural open areas without forests were cultivated. The earth was mostly divided into clumps of irregular shapes.

Planned colonization led to various forms of dividing arable land in the period up to the 14th century. The strongest result of planned colonization is the systematic and even field division, which at least initially extended to the old way of dividing land into clumps. Gradually, especially after the 12th century, the method of land dividing was decided by the initiative of the landlord, when he had the hides measured according to models that also worked elsewhere. A more advanced tillage technique using a plow supported the shapes of long stripes. Gradually, larger irregular shapes of plots were replaced by elongated strips of land, which in some places also show a gradual penetration into a forest or swamp areas.

The winegrowing land received a special form of division in the middle ages. Especially on the sunny slopes, the vineyards appear as large islands in the wooded hills. They were parceled from top to bottom in narrow long bands. These bands that developed along the hills, which fell under the mountain law, were distributed mostly to domestic and foreign peasant population from close and distant settlements.

Early to the Late modern period

In the period from the 15th or 16th century onwards, cultivation of new land took place, especially in forest areas and in previously uncultivated areas. Many smaller settlements (*Kajžarska naselja*) with more modest and more finely divided fields were formed. They did not have a significant impact in the discussed area. There were also changes in the existing field division on the old cultural soil. In some places, there was either a merging of individual parcels and the formation of complexes, especially with the formation of *granges*, which in the Middle Ages were divided out into smaller hides. In the Dolenjska region, the change in land division was mostly influenced by the divisions of farms. Narrow miniature bands were formed, while the division of larger lumps along the edges of the field repeatedly led to small irregular bands.



Above the three maps show the development of vineyard area in Stari grad pri Podbočju that was largely in abbey's possession. The parcel structure is similar between the Franciscan cadastre and today's structure. Note the atmost west area of vineyards that aren't yet divided on Franciscan cadastre. These vineyards were presumally dominical and cultivated by the monastery. (Mapire, GURS)

In the 18th century, there was a more extensive cultivation of groves (grazing forests), especially after their distribution among the villagers from the 18th century onward. Until that time, the grazing areas and pastures were still a collective good of individual villages. The gradation into the forest led to elongating bands of parcels even further. After the abolition of feudalism in 1848, the changes in the ownership of the land changed radically. Large parcels

were divided further into more or less elongated stripes. This can be observed at the abbey's immediate surroundings. The remaining forests and pastures somewhere remained as clumps of parcels of irregular shapes.

Today

Changes are more notable when regarding the land use and comparing it to the today's state. Although the older parcel structure with division of land into narrow stripes with exception of large irregular parcels is present, much of the less quality agricultural land was again overgrown by forests. This can be observed on grasslands and pastures and even fields laying next to forest areas. The trend that started after the second world war is an on-going trend and a result of strong urbanisation, technological and social changes and is typical in all Slovenia. An exemplary case is a percent of forest area. In 1875 there was 34% of today's Slovenia covered with forests. In 2009 the percentage of forest area was around 60%. Best agricultural land in the region is mostly preserved as can be seen when comparing today's digital orthographic images (aerophoto) and older cadastral maps.



The above comparison shows extensive pasture areas (rare grazing forest) that were almost completely overgrown by dense forest. (Mapire, GURS)



Franciscan cadastre compared to the state today. Subsequent fine division of larger parcels in the immediate surroundings of the abbey is clear. The land use remains generally the same. (Mapire, GURS)

3.5 Conclusion

The historical overview of the colonization of the region and the land division simultaneously serves as an insight into the development of the cultural landscape in a general sense and serves as a context that defines the establishment of the monastery in Kostanjevica in the light of wider historical changes. The ownership structure of the monastery estate is presented in more detail below, the main source of which is the Topography of the Estate of the Kostanjevica Abbey 1234-1786 by Jože Mlinarič, published in 1972.

4 DETAILED OVERLOOK OVER THE MONASTERY'S GOVERNANCE AND OWNERSHIP OF THE LAND

4.1 Administrative Division of Monastery Land

What applies to other land lordships, namely that their administrative body in individual villages or several small villages together is the mayor, also applies to the Kostanjevica abbey as a landlord. As can be seen from the urbarium from the 14th century, which appoints a mayor by the name of *suppanus* or *scultetus*, not every monastic urbarial settlement had its own mayor. It may be noted that seldom without a mayor are those urbarial settlements which have more than five farms, and that few settlements with one or two farms have their own mayor.

Unfortunately, in the case of the Kostanjevica monastery, we do not have preserved sources on the rights and duties of the mayor as the administrative body, such as exist for the Stična abbey. However, we can assume, if we take into account that both religious institutions are of the same monastic order and in the same county, that the mayors of the Kostanjevica abbey had similar duties and rights as the mayors of the Stična abbey.

The following duties of the mayor from the 1600, preserved in the Stična monastery are as follows: he must see to it that the serfs do no harm on the monastery land, that they live in peace and submissiveness, he must interrogate the minor quarrels and try to reconcile the conflicts, he must ensure that the serfs clear the forests, that they regularly drain the swamps, and that the land is inhabited.

To make it easier for landlords to manage their property, they organized it into special units, the so-called offices (*officium*, *ambt*), headed by an official, a caretaker who performed not only economic functions but also lower judicial functions. In the case of a larger estate, a larger number of villages formed an office, and in the case of an estate that was not unified, a smaller number of villages in a certain area could also form an office.

The data on the administrative division of the estates of the Kostanjevica abbey are known from the 16th century. From urbariums from the 16th century onwards it is evident, that all estate except the one near Ljubljana and in the Tuhinjski valley represented one unit until the 18th century. In the first preserved urbarium from the 16th century (1547) it is evident that the monastery considered the estate in the vicinity of Ljubljana and in the Tuhinjski valley as one unit,

to which he included the estate in the villages of Brest, Zavoglje, Gorenje Gameljne, Češnjice and Cirkuše. This was the so-called Gorenjska Office (das ambt in Ober Crain).

The urbarium from 1625 mentions as a special unit - office Brest near Ig with 14 hubs (ambt Vrest in Yger poden), Cirkuše (ambt Zierckhuisch) with six hubs, Češnjice (ambt Kherstetten) with six hubs, while Zavoglje with four hubs (Sanct Vlrich) and Gorenje Gameljne with two hubs (Ober Gambling) are stated separately, without specifying where they belong in administrative terms. Given that there were only about thirty farms in all these villages together, and since the estate was often listed in a separate land register, it is presumed that it formed only one office headed by a special official.

We do not know where the monastic estate in Carinthia belonged in administrative terms. For the estate had already been sold at a time for which we have preserved the land registers.

In the 18th century, the monastery estate near Čatež ob Savi and on Krško polje is considered an independent unit. The administrative centre of the estate was the wine mansion Straža in the village Cerina near Čatež, which included the estate of 39 hubs in the villages on the right bank of the Krka and Sava rivers: Stankovo (2 hubs), Cerina (3 3/4 hubs), Mali Cirknik (1 hub), Dobrava (8 hubs), Žejno (2 5/6 hubs) and on the left bank of the Krka river the villages Pristava (2 hubs), Gazice (4 in pol hubs), Jelše (6 1/3 hubs), Župeča vas (5 7 /12 hubs) and Račja vas (3 hubs). We know from sources that the wine mansion Straža was managed by a special administrator - conventual.

In administrative terms, we also consider the lordships, manors and castles bought by the monastery in the 17th and 18th centuries to be special units. We know that the Kostanjevica seignury and the Klevevž estate were managed by a special monastery caretaker, an administrator - conventual, who lived in Kostanjevica or in the Klevevž castle. The Mehovo-Ruperč vrh castle was managed partly by a lay caretaker and partly by a conventual, who lived in Ruperč vrh castle.

The abbot, however, was the one who held in his hands the highest spiritual and secular authority over the monastery and its land. In spiritual matters the abbot had his assistant in the person of the prior and in economic matters he was assisted by the so-called cellerarius.³

³ MLINARIČ 1972, pp. 129-130.

4.2 Founding of the Abbey and the Period of Bernard Spanheim 1234-1256

In 1234 duke Bernard Spanheim issued the first founding document, and another in 1249. The second document was issued because the monastery had later acquired revenues, possessions and rights and also because the duke himself had changed his seal. In the founding document he says that he founded the monastery in honour of the Mother of God and all the saints, for his own welfare, that of his wife Juta, his sons Ulrik, Bernard and Philip, his daughter Margaret, as well as for the well-being of all his ancestors and descendants. He founded it beside his town of Kostanjevica in a valley called Toplica and near the chapel of St. Lawrence. Bernard laid the title deed to the Cistercian foundation called Mary's Fountain, together with all its rights and possessions, on Our Lady's altar in the monastery of Viktring, thus nominating the latter as mother-house of Kostanjevica.

In the foundation deed there is a record of such land as Bernard had granted to the monastery from its foundation up to 1249: about 220 farms in Lower Carniola, in Žumberk and in Carinthia. Most of the dependent farms were in Lower Carniola and in Žumberk; only 16 of them were near Sankt Veit an der Glan in Carintia.

Almost a third of the farms lay in territory in present-day Croatia, between villages Sošice and Kravljak, with the village Mrzlo Polje as centre. This land was in the monastery's hands until the 16th century, when the monastery had to give it away for the Uskok settlement; it was one of the most powerful centres of the monastery's property.

Another strong nucleus of property lay in the fertile plain of Šentjernej. With its 30 farms, this was the embryo of the future Kostanjevica property between the Gorjanci hills, the Krka river and the village Maharovec to the west, and Dobrava near Kostanjevica to the east. The property in the plain of Šentjernej was very important for the monastery; it increased all the time and remained with the monastery right up to the end of its existence.

The seven farms in Brlog and in Vodenica near Kostanjevica formed the nucleus of the monastery's closest property, which later extended between a line joining Dobe and Vodenica in the west, a line joining Vodenica, Orehovec and Vrtača to the south, and bounded on the east to some extent by the waters of the Piroška stream.

The large number of forests on the Kostanjevica territory enabled the creation of new land. At the time of the monastery's foundation, of course, this was region not at all as well colonized as, for example, the plain of Šentjernej. We can count the village of Mali Cirknik with eight farms in the nucleus of the monastery's property extending along the right bank of the Krka and Sava rivers around Čatež. This core of property was formed for the most part in the 13th century and did not increase much later on.

The property of 16 hides (*huba*) at Gazice along the Krka river was the embryo of the future holdings in the Krka plain, temporarily acquired in the 13th century, and after exchanges of land in the following centuries; 19 farms at Rožek near Dolenjske Toplice in Lower Carniola belonged to the more distant core of the monastery's land, which later was somewhat reduced in circumference, until it was finally sold off in the second half of the 17th century.

The Carinthian holdings with 16 farms near Sankt Veit an der Glan were among the most distant property, and were already given away in the 16th century. Besides the property already mentioned, the monastery had some more farms scattered about in various places in Lower Carniola and near Ljubljana.

Duke Bernard also granted the monastery the right to tithes from some farms, which he held in fief from the Patriarch of Aquileia, and which the latter confirmed to the monastery in 1250. Furthermore, he ratified all the privileges granted to his foundation which the Cistercian Order already enjoyed on his lands, such as those he had received from the Pope or from other Church authorities. He also renounced all kinds of inheritances in favour of his foundation, and exempted his monastic subjects from payment of hunting and forestry taxes throughout his territory. He gave the monastery fishing rights on the Krka and, in all his towns and custom-houses, he exempted the monastery from payment of duty on what they needed, on what they sold or acquired by purchase.

He assured the monastery of 200 marks in cash, which he was to give them in five years, and for which he stood security with his property in Ljubljana. He also assured his foundation of as many years' income as would enable them to acquire 3,000 cheeses, 6 loads of oil and 12 loads of salt a year. Later on, he granted them patronage over the church of St. Jakob in Kostanjevica, together with all the rights it enjoyed up to then.

Right from the beginning, the abbots of Kostanjevica strove to obtain the favour and protection not only of the founder and landgraves, but also privileges from the Pope and the local ordinary

– the Patriarch of Aquileia. In 1247 Innocent IV ordered the Patriarch of Aquileia, Bertold Andechs (1218-51), to protect the monastery from its enemies who were devastating the land, and to inflict them with ecclesiastical penalties. But the patriarchs of Aquileia remained aside at the beginning of the monastery's existence and their support was not worth much. Up to 1280, only one document from the Patriarch Bertold has been preserved in which, in 1250, he acknowledged the monastery's right to those tithes which their founder had granted them. We find the key to such an attitude on the part of the Patriarchs towards Bernard's foundation in the enmity which existed between the Spanheim family and the Patriarch; it was the aim of Bernard's son, Ulrik III, to oust the Patriarch to Kranj and become himself undisputed master of the land.

The Patriarch tried to help the monastery of Kostanjevica chiefly by the association of parishes which brought in a number of rents. Thus, the Patriarch Raimondo della Torre (1273-1299) certified as belonging to the monastery the parish of St. Jacob joined to the town of Kostanjevica. In 1331 the Patriarch Peganus della Torre (1319-1331) confirmed as belonging to the monastery the church of St. Peter in Gorenji Mokronog, which the Austrian Duke Oton had granted to the monastery in the same year. He himself, also in 1331, adjoined the extensive and rich old parish of St. Rupert in Videm on the Sava, later on, in the numerous lawsuits and disputes which the monastery had with disobedient curates of the associated parishes, the Patriarchs were almost always on the side of the monastery.⁴

4.3 Period of Great Growth and Expansion, 1256-1350

The abbey of Kostanjevica attained its greatest growth and quickest expansion in the second half of the 14th century, when it acquired extensive property and rights from the secular as well as the ecclesiastical authorities, which assured a steady existence with the possibility of continued development.

From experience that rounded off property gives the most profit, the abbots' endeavours to concentrate their property around the old nuclei close to the monastery is understandable. Hence, too, their desire to exchange more distant property for closer ones, and to sell off distant territory. The economic policy of the abbots is most clearly seen from the purchases they transacted in this period, especially the land in the plain of Šentjernej.

⁴ MLINARIČ Jože, *Kostanjeviška opatija 1234-1786*, Kostanjevica na Krki 1987, pp. 573-574.

Just like other religious foundations, the monastery of Kostanjevica also acquired its greatest possessions from its founder and numerous benefactors. Among the monastery's benefactors, as well as the gentry, we may also include high foreign nobility, minor provincial aristocracy and, from the end of the 13th century onwards, the middle classes. Bernard's son, Ulrik III, who became lord in Carinthia and Carniola after his father's death, was a benefactor to a number of monasteries, among them Stična and Viktring; in 1256 he granted the abbey of Kostanjevica the right of court jurisdiction in lesser affairs, only reserving to himself jurisdiction in higher matters. In 1261 Ulrik gave the Cistercians the right to receive tithes from some farms belonging to the monastery; in 1265 he further strengthened his father's foundation by granting it a number of properties along the lower Krka, in Čatež and Kostanjevica.

Otokar II Premysl visited the monastery of Kostanjevica in 1270 and confirmed Bernard's foundation deed; on his visit to Stična in the same year he granted it a tithe of all his revenues in the town and in the castle of Kostanjevica. In 1274 Otokar allotted to Kostanjevica for its construction work a sum of 30 marks of silver a year from his mint in that town, and this for a period of 9 years.

In 1317 Henrik, the son of Gorizia-Tyrolean Count Meinhard, who is considered one of the last great benefactors of the monastery, confirmed the Cistercians' privilege in regard to lesser jurisdiction and issued a decree in their favour, according to which the town of Kostanjevica must not admit fugitive subjects of the monastery, but must bring them back at once together with their wealth. Duke Henrik proved himself a benefactor, especially in the period from 1329 to 1333, when the monastery's revenues, as is manifested from the evidence, was reduced by a half because of the numerous invasions from Croatia. In 1329 Henrik donated to the monastery 10 farms in the valley of Tuhinj, and in 1330, by two deeds, tithes from farms near Ljubljana, mining rights and tithes close to the monastery, and five marks a year in rent from his country court in Kostanjevica. In the same year Henrik further confirmed the foundation's patronage over the church of St. George in Vivodina.

The Habsburgs became direct rulers in Carniola in 1335 and so also patrons of the abbey in Kostanjevica; in particular, as landgraves, they confirmed the privileges already conferred. For example, in 1334 Duke Albrecht exempted the monastery's house in Ljubljana from all burdens and taxes. The emperor Frederick III (1452-1493) frequently proved himself a benefactor to the monastery.

We may also number among the benefactors of the Cistercians in Kostanjevica the Hungarian-Croatian King Bela IV (1235-1270), who gave them property in 1258. We must also mention, of course, the Babonići, later Blagay, who between 1288 and 1300 donated a number of possessions to Kostanjevica abbey on the right bank of the Krka river from the castle of Mehovo as far as the lower stream called the Bregana; and on the left bank of the Krka river, land near Klevevž (Klingenfels). Besides dependent land, the monastery also received at this time from the Babonići numerous tithes and mining rights in the area cited. In 1321, Counts John, George, Dyonis and Paul, the sons of Stephen, confirmed the monastery's right to patronage over the church of St. George in Vivodina, and in the same year, in another document, they promised that neither they themselves nor their people would harm the monastery, and would send back immediately, together with their wealth, any fugitive subjects of the monastery.

Some ministerial gentlemen of the Spanheim family in Kostanjevica (Von Landestrost) were very favourably disposed towards the Cistercians. They lived in a fortress in Bočje above Podbočje, and from 1278 to 1314 gave the monastery property along the lower Krka. Some local gentlemen from Raka (von Arch) were also great benefactors of Kostanjevica. Even before 1266, there exist documents which record their first donation deed; two more followed in 1288 and 1320. We may mention as well that the monastery bought a number of possessions from gentlemen in Raka (1301, 1320), and, in 1344, a house in Ljubljana. The monastery had strong connections with the Sicherstains who exchanged some property with them and also made donations (1306, 1308, 1322, 1336).

Benefactors of Stična monastery – gentlemen from Mehovo (von Maichau) presented the Kostanjevica Cistercians in 1322 with eight farms and tithes of wine. Some gentlemen from Svibno (von Scharfenbeerg) donated property to the monastery in 1250, and in 1322 presented them with seven farms in the Šentjernej plain; the from Čretež (Reutenberg) in 1303 exchanged property with the monastery which was more favourable to the foundation; some time before 1317 they donated seven farms also in the plain of Šentjernej. The Pišce family, relatives of those in Kostanjevica, made a present of land to the monks in Žumberk in 1318 and 1345.

The monastery also had close connexions with the townspeople of Kostanjevica, with whom they exchanged land or received gifts of land. The land donated was in the immediate vicinity of the monastery, and thus very favourable to it. Among the monastery's benefactors, too, we find judges from the town of Kostanjevica (1286); the townspeople made gifts of property in

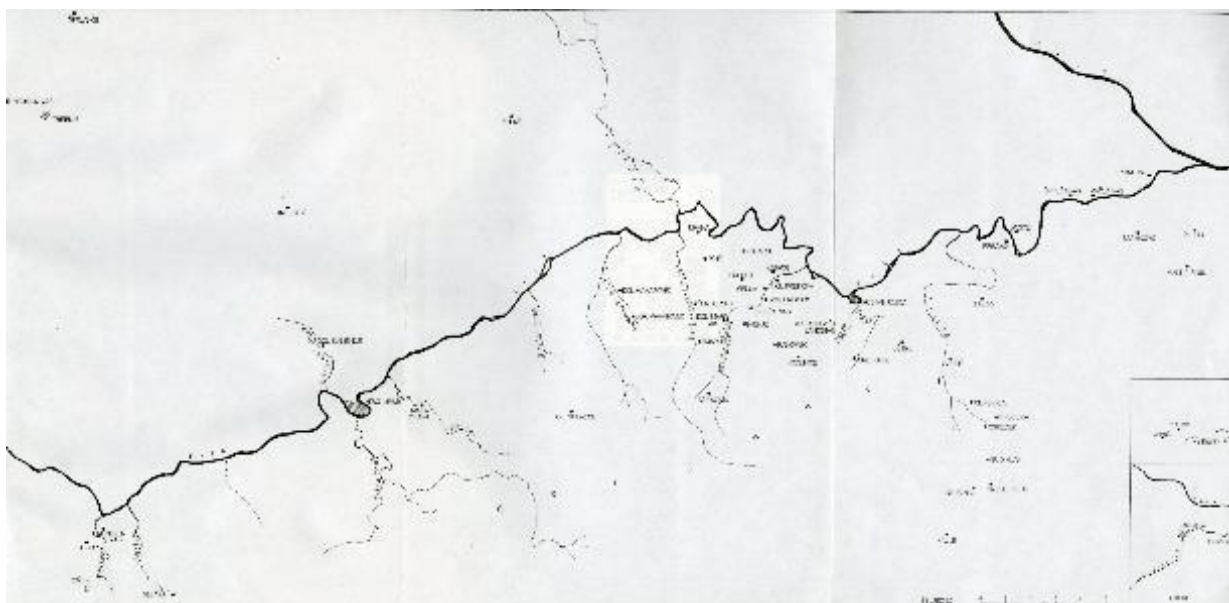
1315, 1317 and 1339. Likewise, the inhabitants of the nearby Freising town, Gutenwerd, remembered the monastery with gifts: in 1320 and 1321, a town judge granted mining rights and tithes in the Hrvaška gora near Šentjernej.

The period up to the second half of the 14th century, from which the first known town records are preserved, is giving us an insight into the state of the monastery's urban possessions, tithes and taxes, was the time of Kostanjevica's most intensive growth. At all events, the middle of the century was the watershed in the monastery's history. Up to this time the monastery increased its property and revenues chiefly with donations, in return for which it bound itself to offer Masses for the donors, and especially that it would celebrate Mass on the anniversaries of the death of the donor, his ancestors and descendants. The monastery also received property and revenues on the promise that it would bury the donor in the monastery; the first known document with this stipulation dates from 1252. From the middle of the 14th century we find ever less donations among the Kostanjevica documents, for they slowly diminished until the end of the 15th century, when they ceased altogether. With the cessation of donations, the extent of the monastery's property near the monastery becomes clear in the main; its economic activity was then restricted chiefly to selling off distant land scattered here and there, and in buying very small property near the monastery and around the nucleus of property already in hand.

Urbariums

The Urbarium from years around 1350 is preserved and allows us an overlook over the monastery's properties in 53 urbarial villages and towns expanding mostly along the upstream of river Krka on the West and in Gorjanci.

purpose	Farms/Hides			Mills
type	Whole	Half	Abandoned	/
number	356	3	12	5



Urbarial estate of the Kostanjevica abbey from the urbarium from the middle of the 14th century (a drawing by Snežana Premažič).

4.4 Period of Economic and Spiritual Stagnation, 1350-1500

Whereas up to that time the monastery had acquired property through rich donations, which were offered to them also through several farms in one urban settlement, from henceforth the legacies were somewhat modest, embracing only individual farms, mills, meadows and vineyards, and no tithes at all. In the following one hundred and fifty years, according to the documents preserved, the monastery received only about ten donations. Of the larger gifts and purchases of this period, we may mention only those of 1367, 1387, 1406 and 1467. In 1367 the monastery bought four farms and mills in the village of Ledeča vas near Šentjernej; in 1387 property within the precincts of Sankt Veit an der Glan in Carinthia; in 1406 it received as a gift four farms in Dobruška vas; in 1406 three farms and mining rights in Škocjan in Lower Carniola.

In the period under consideration, we encounter not just benefactors of the monastery such as, for example, gentlemen from Žumberk (von Sichelberg) who donated money (1382), or donors such as the Duchess from Milano, Viridis, a benefactress also of Stična monastery who, in comparison with the relatively small compensation donated to Kostanjevica from 1401 to 1404, over nine hundred ducats: during this time we also meet those, especially among the nobility, who tried to take advantage of the monastery. Hence the understandably numerous quarrels and the lawsuits which the monastery had to conduct; for example, against Nikolaj of Osterwitz for property in Carinthia; with the steward of an estate in Kostanjevica, especially about fishing in the Krka and Studena streams; and also, with other persons about the cutting of wood in the monastery's section of the Krakov forest near Kostanjevica.

The mortgage of land and annuities, by which the monastery tried to gain financial resources, certainly indicates the stagnation of the monastery's economy; in so doing, they necessarily cut off the source of their annual revenues and thus sapped their economic power. Thus, about the year 1420 the abbot mortgaged as many as thirteen farms in Ostrog near Kostanjevica. That such temporary letting of land was not an isolated case, may be seen from a document of Pope Gregory XI (1370-1378), which appeared against the mortgaging and sale of monastic land. For then the Pope ordered the provost of Zagreb diocese to see that all land which had been taken away from the monastery be given back into their hands.

The Emperor Friderik III (1452-1493) was especially well disposed towards the Cistercians: in 1444 he confirmed all their privileges; in 1478 he exempted the monastery from the payment of bridge tolls in places belonging to the landgraves in Ljubljana and in Carinthia; in the previous year the monastery had been granted municipal rights. In the same year, 1478, the emperor admonished the townsmen of Kostanjevica in a document to send back immediately any fugitive subjects of the monastery, and not to give them shelter. The same year is certainly connected with the increasingly frequent Turkish invasions, when the land subject to the monastery was devastated and its subjects repeatedly led into slavery. For the sake of greater safety, the rural population began to flee to town settlements, which gladly received them because in this way they acquired a labour force which helped them to strengthen the town's fortifications. The reduction in the number of subjects had negative consequences, especially for the Kostanjevica abbey whose land during this period was continually ravaged by the Turks; the monastery's income was greatly reduced.

The Church authorities tried to help the Cistercians of Kostanjevica by the confirmation of their association with parishes. Thus in 1401 Pope Boniface IX (1389-1404) associated the parish of Šentjernej with the monastery, and in the same year exempted it from payment of Papal tithes and other taxes, as he also had exempted Stična monastery. But since this association was not then generally known, in 1459 Pius II (1458-1464) again confirmed the union with the monastery; but it came to nothing: the successor of Pius, Paul II (1464-1471), gave the parish of Šentjernej to the cathedral chapter of Ljubljana, in exchange for the parish of St. Križ near Kostanjevica; included in this judgement also was the branch of St. George in Čatež.

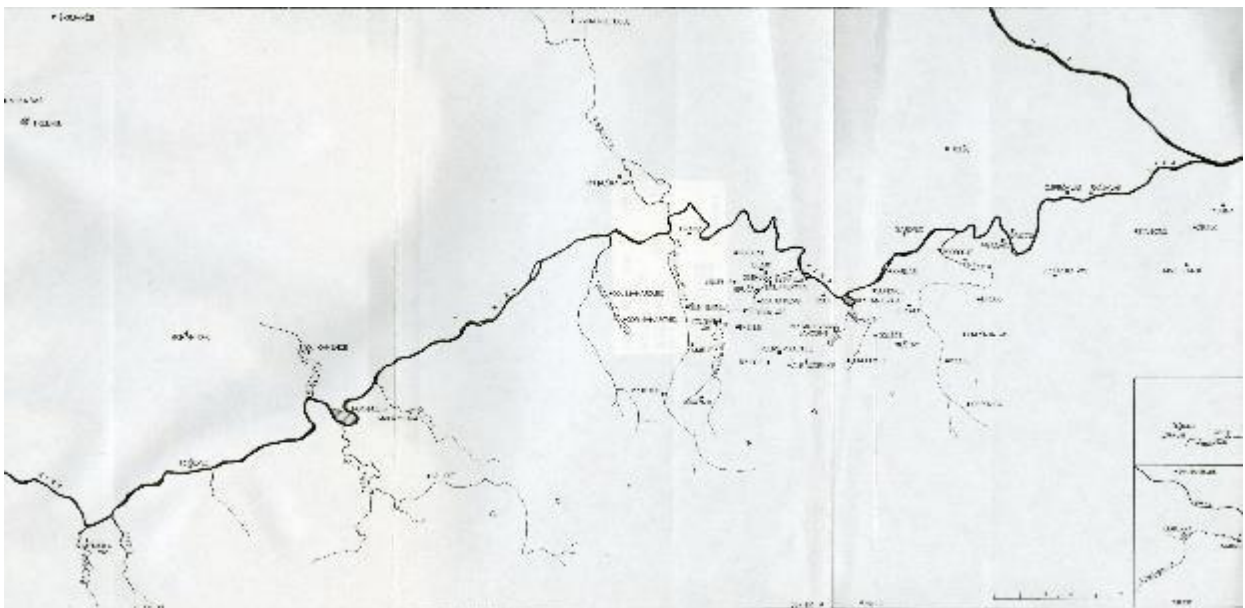
Little is known about the monastic life in the monastery of Kostanjevica in the medieval period. We must build up a picture of life there chiefly by way of analogy. In the case of Kostanjevica, as for the other monasteries in Slovenia, we can assert that, in the 15th century a time of general spiritual and economic crisis, conditions deteriorated, and that the number of members

in the monastery diminished greatly. Thus, about 1480 only one priest monk was living in the monastery. He appealed to the abbot of Viktring to send a spiritual superior to Kostanjevica. Viktring then sent a monk named Konrad and with him, of course, some confreres, for after his death they were able to elect an abbot again in the monastery of Kostanjevica.

Urbariums

The Urbarium from the year 1547 presents us with the following table of properties of the monastery. The land remained in the west and expanded mostly over some of the villages in Šentjernejsko polje and in the Gorjanci hills. By this a lot of property was under mortgage. The reduction in properties can also be attributed to the settlement of Uskoks, which lords granted them properties, especially in the Gorjanci hills.

purpose	Farms/Hides		Estates	Mills	Hutts	Other/ tillage
type	Whole	Half	/	/		
number	292	20	7	9	21	8



Urbarial estate of the Kostanjevica abbey from the urbarium from the 1547 (a drawing by Snežana Premažič).

4.5 Period of Regression, Turkish invasions and Protestantism, 1500-1600

The 16th century was a time of deepening economic and spiritual depression for all Orders. The general economic crisis also affected the abbey of Kostanjevica. The continual Turkish invasions and devastation of the land diminished the monastery's income and undermined its financial foundation. Diminished resources did not allow the maintenance of a larger community; and the decrease in the number of workers – lay brothers necessitated the hiring of an outside labour force. An economically negative effect on the monastery were “loans” made to the landgraves for protection against the Turks, and the confiscation of monastery land for the Uskok settlement.

After the battle near Mohač in 1526, the demands of the landgraves on the Church became ever greater. In the same year, Ferdinand I ordered an inventory to be made of all Church valuables, so that he could have them melted down into money with which to finance the defence against the Turks. The worst loss suffered by the monastery was the confiscation of 107 farms for the Uskok settlement, which were to help in the defence of territory within the Austrian dominion. In 1530 fugitives began to colonize deserted places, especially in Žumberk; they colonized not only the land of secular landowners, but also the land of Cistercians. The new settlers received a number of facilities and privileges from the landgrave, and were not obliged to give anything to the former landlords, the owners of the land. In 1534 the monastery lost 77 farms and, in 1536, 12 farms as well as a number of properties around Žumberk and above Kostanjevica. They also lost the tithes from their associated parishes in Vivodina and Žumberk. The landgrave promised the Cistercians compensation for the lost land, but nothing came of it.

During this time the monastery and superiors felt the pressure of demands for loans from the landgrave in the defence against the Turks. This entailed the mortgaging of property to an extent which we never again encounter. The landgrave gladly gave his consent to the mortgage and sale of property, since it was with this money that the monastery settled its accounts with himself. Whereas in the first half of the 16th century Kostanjevica mortgaged property mostly in Lower Carniola, in the second half of the century the mortgages were above all in the vicinity of Ljubljana and the valley of Tuhinj, especially to the rich family of merchants in Ljubljana, Frankovič, and to Baron Turn from Turn and Križ. The monastery lost most of the land under Abbot Benedict, between 1527 and 1540, when he mortgaged and sold land; some

land also was seized by neighbouring landlords (for example the Mokriški) in view of unsettled accounts.

The spirit of the times and the influence of Protestant ideas, which were not favourably disposed to monasticism, also contributed to the decline of the monastic life. Regular liturgical services, especially the night office, began to be abandoned, and the lifestyle was adapted to the way of life of lay folk. The visitations of Cistercian monasteries at this time, and the resignation and deposition of abbots, also bear witness to the decline of the monastic life. Instrumental also in this state of affairs were the incompetent, worldly-minded and worldly-living abbots of Kostanjevica, such as Lenart Hofstetter (1563-1579). Professed monks of Viktring monastery were successors to Lenart Hofstetter, and some of these made efforts to improve the economic and spiritual life of Kostanjevica. Among these was Andreas Arzt (1584-1593) who tried to convert to cash the land leased many years before and which it seemed, was forever lost to the monastery. The abbot's efforts bore partial fruit; his lack of success is to be ascribed to the poor financial situation of the monastery. From the documents preserved from this period we learn that he even bought five vineyards. Just like his predecessors, Abbot Andrej had to carry on a lawsuit over the associated parishes, which some of his predecessors had leased or which had been confiscated from the monastery because of unpaid taxes. In particular, quarrels and lawsuits arose over the extensive and very ancient parish of Videm.

4.6 Period of Counter-Reformation and Consolidation, 1600-1667

With the end of the 16th century and the advent of the Counter-Reformation era, Kostanjevica, too, slowly, entered a new period: it was a time of improvement in the monastery's economic and spiritual life. In view of the paucity of numbers in the community and clearly incompetent monks in the role of superior, in the following decades professed monks of Stična and Rein were elevated to the abbacy of Kostanjevica. In 1597 the elected abbot Janez, was from Stična where he had previously filled the position of Prior. The abbot of Kostanjevica, George Urbanič (1603-1618) was also a professed of Stična, formerly Prior there, and also his successor, Gregor Aleksij (1619-1621). From 1600 to 1603 a professed of Rein, Jakob Reinprecht was in charge of Kostanjevica, afterwards he was abbot of Stična (1603-1626). Two more monks were his successors at Kostanjevica; from 1621 to 1626; Matheus Majerle, who was Abbot of Stična from 1626-1629 and then Abot of Rein; from 1631 to 1638 Rupert Eckart who was sent to Stična in 1638.

In the period under consideration economic progress was also evident in Kostanjevica, which may be attributed partly to the economic acumen of the monastery's superiors, but also to the

better organisation of economic affairs in general. Although individual abbots mortgaged property in this period as well, it was only a measure adopted in extreme need; as soon as their financial means allowed it, they rescued the property from mortgage. In view of the strict supervision of possessions by the landgrave and the monastic higher superiors, from then on, no further property was left at the mercy of monastery's superiors, as was formerly the case. During his visitation of 1593, Francesco Barbaro ascertained that Abbot Thomas Jernej handled the property as if it were his own. But from then on, the monastery had to get the permission of the landgrave and the regular Visitor of the Order, not only to sell or exchange land, but also if they wished to lease large complexes of land with the right to purchase. In 1608 Abbot George bought a house in Ljubljana; in 1620 Abbot Gregor redeemed from mortgage some property around Ljubljana and the valley of Tuhinj, which had been in other hands from the middle of the 16th century.

After the Abbot George Zagošen (1638-1663), in the first half of the 17th century, a new era began for the monastery both in its spiritual as well as in its economic life. The abbot's account-book, which he kept for years and in which he recorded the smallest expenses, bear witness to his exactitude. Abbot George's economic policy had as its goal the acquisition of the land which his predecessors had mortgaged or had leased with the right to purchase, and also to exchange distant property for that close by. On the occasion of his visitation in 1640, the abbot of Heiligenkreutz Abbey, Mihael Schnabel, praised the monastic life in Kostanjevica. During the visitation of 1652, when the community numbered nine priest monks, a cleric and two novices, this same Visitor ascertained that there were no transgressions in the monastery, his only order being that the abbot should make provision for greater growth.

After 1660 it can be seen that for some time the life of some monks was not in harmony with the monastic rule. Numerous complaints support this assertion, among them the complaint of the town of Kostanjevica to the abbot of Rein. Abbot John, who ruled Kostanjevica up to 1687, was not popular with the residents of the land nor with the Abbot of Stična, Maximilian Mottoch (1661-1680). In 1670 the Abbot of Stična was of the opinion that a visitation of Kostanjevica monastery was necessary "both head and members" (*in capite et in membris*) Maximilian advised Alanus, the Abbot of Rein, to look after Kostanjevica, saying that otherwise it would fall into the hands of the Jesuits of Graz. During the visitation of 1669 the abbey numbered ten priests and two clerics, in 1674 there were already ten monks and novices.

Urbariums

The Urbarium from the year 1625 presents us with the following table of properties of the monastery. At the time the monastery had bought Kostanjevica seigneurie that granted additional income via collecting duties and obligations of peasantry.

purpose	Farms/Hides				Mills	Hutts
type	1	1/2	2/3	1/3	/	/
number	145	99	1	1	8	60



Urbarial estate of the Kostanjevica seignery from the urbarium from the 1625.

4.7 Late period, 1667-1786

From the middle of the 17th century there was almost no further mortgaging of the monastery's property, and then only as a last resort. On the contrary, the abbots bought some more land, especially in the vicinity, and aimed at the rounding off of property and the enrichment of the former nucleus of property. Like the superiors of many monasteries (for example Viktring, Stična, St. Paul), Abbot John was unable to resist the temptation to buy up estates. With the purchase of large complexes of land, the annual revenue increased, it is true; but because of the monasteries fell into debts, some of which were unearthed even in the 18th century. In 1667

Abbot John bought the neighbouring estate of Kostanjevica which had its seat in the castle in the town of Kostanjevica. By this purchase the monastery's property increased enormously, as well as its rights; but so, too, did its obligations, for the estate also held jurisdiction of the rural circuit court. In 1673 this same abbot bought the Draganović manor in Čatež by the Sava river.

Some of John's successors followed his example in purchasing estates. Thus, Abbot Alanus (1708-1719) bought Radeljca castle near Bučka, which, however, Abbot Rudolf sold again in 1728. Abbot Anton Engelshaus (1719-1723) in 1719 bought the Klevevž estate near Šmarjeta from Stična Abbey; Abbot Rudolph (1723-1736) in 1726 bought Mehovo – Ruperč Vrh estate near Novo mesto, and Abbot Alexander Taufferer in 1753 bought the Grundelj (Grundlof) property in Šentvid near Stična.



The abbey's estates with their castles / manors and years of purchase.

The abbots of Kostanjevica collected the money for the purchase of estates in two ways; by loans and especially by selling off less profitable land. Thus, Abbot John borrowed money for the purchase of the Kostanjevica seignury from ecclesiastical and secular lords and, in 1667, as much as 18.000 gold dinars from the cathedral chapter of Zagreb. In 1671 Alanus, the Abbot of Rein, gave permission to Kostanjevica to sell land in Dolenjske toplice, but with the explicit condition that the money was to be used to pay off the debts contracted by the purchase of the Kostanjevica seignury. In 1725 the monastery sold to France Žiga, Count Engelshaus, owner of Turn in Ig fourteen farms with the tithes appertaining to them in the hamlet of Brest near Ig. In the following year the Emperor, Charles VI., allowed the abbot to sell land in the vicinity of Ljubljana and in the valley of Tuhinj. On the strength of this permission, the

monastery then sold, in the period up to 1743, all their land lying on the outskirts, except the land in the village of Gotna was near Novo mesto.

Visitations made in the 18th century show that the number of religious had increased; in 1733 it had attained the figure of twenty-six persons (24 priests, 1 converse brother and 1 novice), From then on the number hovered around twenty-five; however, only a part of the community was living permanently in the monastery, which, of course, was unsatisfactory from the point of view of the monastic life. Some of the community governed the associated parishes as parish priests; others were managers of the monastery's estates and property. In the 18th century Kostanjevica appointed Fathers to the parish of St. Jacob in the town of Kostanjevica and, from time to time also neighbouring parishes (Sv. Križ, St. George in Čatež). Fathers were in charge of the Mehovo –Ruperč vrh estate and the Klevevž estate; the manager of the latter lived in the monastery.

On 29th of July 1736, under Abbot Rudolph Kušlan, the monastery met with misfortune when the Uskoki plundered it; this event can still be seen depicted in the fresco by Franc Jelovšek above the main entrance to the monastery. The robbers came from Bosnia and crossed the Bregana stream at Mokrice. Part of the blame for this successful raid was attributed to the chief officer in Žumberk; but most of the blame lay with the abbey itself: in spite of information about an intended attack, the monks took no precautions and even left the doors of the monastery open. On that occasion the monastery suffered damage of about 2.000 to 3.000 gold dinars, for the raiders devastated the monks' cells and took away valuables, two Fathers and one of the monastery's subjects were killed, as well as many persons wounded.

Partly connected with this raid was the beginning of the last great re-organisation and re-building of Kostanjevica under Abbot Alexander Taufferer (1737-1760). By fortifying the entrance to the monastery with bastions, and by closing up the building complex, the abbot tried to ensure the abbey against eventual new attacks. In 1743, writing to Placid, Abbot of Rein, he said that he had already spent 20.000 gold dinars on the restoration of the monastery: for new buildings and the replacement of articles destroyed or taken away by the raiders. The cutting of stone for Alexander's construction work up to 1754 brought the monastery into debt for a sum exceeding 50.000 gold dinars. Consequently, the landgrave and the populace intervened and a visitation *in temporalibus* (in temporal matters) was carried out. The Visitors were of the opinion that the construction work was unnecessary and, besides, the abbot had not obtained the landgrave's permission for the work. But the Austrian government defended Abbot Alexander and decided that he should be allowed to build gradually. Let us mention

further that in 1738 Abbot Alexander bought a house in Novo mesto and, in 1753, the Grundelj property in Šentvid near Stična.

Under the last of Kostanjevica's Abbots, Leopold Buseth (1760-1772) and Alexander Haller Hallerstein (1772-1786), the state authorities increasingly interfered in the affairs of the monasteries, often justifiably too, especially in the case of unnecessary purchases and construction, since some places fell into great debt. We may mention that Stična, under Abbot Viljem Kovačič was over 220.000 gold dinars in debt, which up to the time of his death the Abbot managed to reduce to 60.000 gold dinars. For this reason, the state authorities became increasingly cautious about the election of a new abbot.



Fortunat Bergant: Abbot Leopold Busset, oil / canvas, 115 x 86cm, inv. št.: NG S 9. Foto: National Gallery of Slovenia. Abbot holds in his hands his plan for renovation of the Kostanjevica abbey.

We must mention also that in the 18th century most of the abbots of Kostanjevica came from the ranks of the nobility, whereas in earlier periods aspirants from among the nobility were in minority. At this time, too, an applicant's education played an important part, for example, the abbot Alexander had a degree from the German College (Germanicum) in Rome, and prepared

the way to the honours of the abbacy for Leopold Buseth: he wished him to study in Rome, but was not successful. It is true, of course, that the level of education of religious rose greatly in the 18th century as a consequence of demands on the part of religious superiors as well as secular rulers. At the time of suppression of the monastery in 1786 three clerics were studying in Graz.

The debt-ridden Kostanjevica added only one single purchase to its property in the second half of the 18th century: the land and rents of the Kostanjevica civic hospital. Under the empress Marie Therese (1740-1780) and her son Joseph II (1780-1790), together with other monasteries it came under increasingly greater state control. Debts and disputes between the Cistercian monasteries of Viktring and Rein over the right to patronage over Kostanjevica, were regular occurrences during the time of the last two abbots.

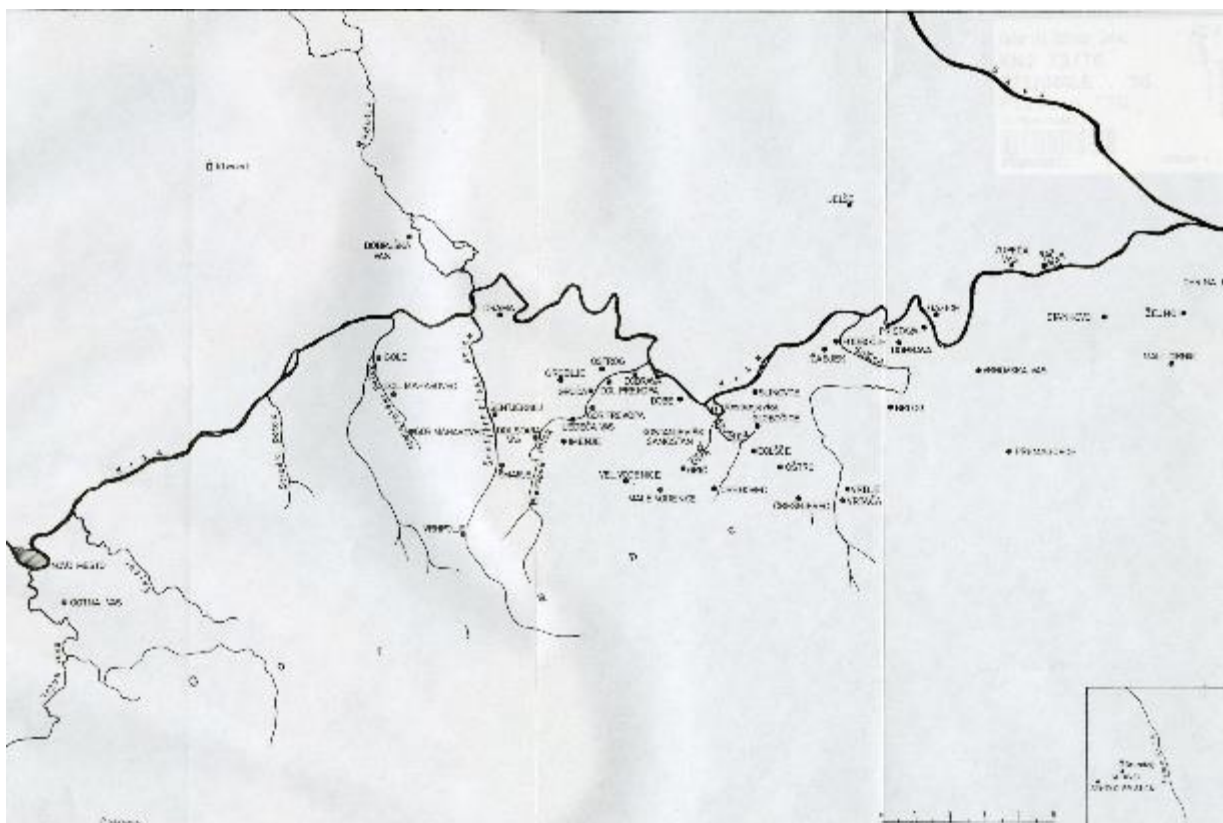
Urbariums

Mentioned before was the fact that in 1667 Abbot John bought the neighbouring estate of Kostanjevica with its seat in the castle in the town of Kostanjevica. The urbarium of the estate from the 1625 is preserved which gives us rather detailed overlook of gained properties by the monastery in 1667. On the contrary from the current estates expanding along the upstream of the Krka river and in the Gorjanci hills, the Kostanjevica seigneuries expanded north beyond the Krakovski gozd reaching Krško gričevje (Krško hills). The farthest village of Jelenik was about 11 km of air distance away from Kostanjevica na Krki.

purpose	Farms/Hides		Mills	Land/tillage
type	1	1/2	/	Abandoned and other additional land
number	97	21	7	72

The estates of Mehovo-Ruperč vrh was bought in 1726 and remained in monastery's hands until the dissolution. The estates again expanded west near today's Novo mesto. The estates consisted of:

purpose	Farms/Hides	Other peasant dwellings	Hutts
number	134 and 1/12	36 and 1/2	4



Urbarial estate of the Kostanjevica abbey from the urbarium from the 1771 (a drawing by Snežana Premažič).

4.8 Dissolution

The Emperor Joseph II's measures in connection with the suppression of the monasteries were just the logical consequences of what had been developing ever since the 16th century. The Enlightenment also contributed to the monastery's fate, and was even less favourable to the idea of monasticism than Protestantism had been. The demand of the landgrave after the handing over of the monastery's wealth in 1526, shows the new attitude adopted by the ruler in regard to religious foundations. In 1561, and several times afterwards, the rulers interfered also in the sphere or the election of new superiors. The landgrave, moreover, exercised an ever-greater control over the life of the monasteries; in some instances, he deprived the superiors of the right of administering the monastery's property, and handed over this administration to an appointed commissar. Before the dissolution of the monasteries in the 18th century, decrees concerning the reception of novices, their age, education were issued that even limited the number of novices.

The suppression of a number of monasteries in 1785 also affected the Kostanjevica monastery, which was abolished by a court decree of October 2nd, 1785, and on December

15th, the Inner Austrian Governorate appointed Count Ursini pl. Blagajski, who was appointed assistant to the accountant of the Carniolan provincial estates Filip Jakob Elsner. On January 3rd, 1786 the abolition was proclaimed to the monks of the Kostanjevica monastery. At that time there were twenty monks in the convent besides the abbot, three of whom were clerics studying in Graz.⁵

For five months after departure from the monastery their maintenance was assured at the rate of 300 gold dinars a year, and 1640 gold dinars a year for the abbot. The monks dispersed throughout the land and most of them took on pastoral activity. The last of them, Avguštin Sluga, died only in 1842 as a dean in Carniola.

At the time of its suppression the Abbey was reckoned to be the richest ecclesiastical foundation in the land, having great fixed and movable assets. Its wealth amounted to the sum of 168,758 gold dinars. An extensive inventory speaks of considerable stores of corn and wine, and of great quantities of movable property. A precise inventory of the church shows the wealth of the Abbey. The fixed assets were taken over for church funds; the movable assets of the church were sold off; the church, at first intended for parochial use, was later closed. The church furniture, altars, pulpit and organ were sold by auction and divided among the neighbouring churches, where they remained to this day.⁶

4.9 From Dissolution through WWII to today

With the dissolution of the monastery under Emperor Joseph II in 1786, the decay of the monastery complex and the monastery landscape began. The property was transferred to the Carniolan religious fund, the church equipment was sold at auction, and the church was desecrated. After the departure of the monks, the outbuildings first collapsed and then the monastery equipment gradually disappeared.

In 1790, the Landstände in Carniola asked Emperor Leopold II to restore the Kostanjevica abbey. The request, however, did not find a response from the emperor. In 1893, Abbot Lawrence and monk Gregor Miller from the Mehrerau Monastery visited the former Stična and Kostanjevica monasteries with the intention of resettling one of them. The Mehrerau opted for Stična, which was revived by its monks in 1898.⁷

⁵ MLINARIČ 1987, pp. 489-491.

⁶ Ibid, p. 583.

⁷ Ibid, p. 491.

The Kostanjevica monastery became the seat of the forest administration and the notary's office, and a large number of inhabitants settled in it. New occupants of the premises, such as various offices, for example: the district court, the notary, prisons, the administration of state estates, the forest administration and the residents, maintained the buildings only as much as was necessary. The monastery church began to deteriorate catastrophically. In 1820, Baroque equipment was completely alienated. At that time, secular and ecclesiastical authorities even agreed that it would be best to demolish the monastery church. However, the demolition, for unknown reasons, did not occur. Later in the 19th century, some money was first allocated for the repair of the roof on the bell tower, the church portal, and the north side nave. At that time, the Vienna Central Commission for the Research and Preservation of Art and Historical Monuments, established in 1850, was already operating. According to the assessment of the commission and others began more serious initiatives to fully preserve the architectural heritage of the monastery with special emphasis on the church.

In the period between the two world wars, first major investments in the revitalization of the monastery began, which now has a profane function. In the beginning, there were mainly maintenance interventions. Thus, in 1921, the tin roof on the bell tower was repaired, which got a simple shallow four-pitched roof. The walls of the baroque church facade were also protected with tin metal. Ten years later, in cooperation with the forest administration, a plan was made for the most urgent repairs of the monastery buildings. They undertook the restoration of the roofs and the bell tower again, placed concrete reinforcements and plastered some of the walls. A scientific approach to the restoration of the monastery began only in 1931. A thorough research of the church, its architectural and historical value, building history, was conducted under the leadership of the conservator dr. France Stele. An architect from Ljubljana, Hugo Schel, was in charge with the first restoration works.⁸

During World War II, the monastery was badly damaged and partially destroyed. For some time, the Italian army occupied the monastery complex. Much damage occurred when the monastery was set on fire by partisans in 1942. The destroyed roofs above the church caused leakage of water, and as a result, on March 30, 1944, the arches above the main nave collapsed, damaging the south arcade wall of the side nave.

⁸ VARDJAN France, Cistercijanski samostan Santa Maria a Fontes v Kostanjevici, Njegov stavbni razvoj s poudarkom na samostanskem mlinu, 2003, neobjavljen tipkopis, dokumentacijski arhiv Galerije Božidar Jakac, pp. 51-52.

After the Second World War the building complex was used by companies, such as Agrokombinat, Labod and Iskra. During post-war time, there was a shortage of building materials and the monastery became a convenient “quarry” for the local residents.

Renovation

In the summer of 1946, the Institute for the Protection of Monuments organized the removal of ruins and the storage of valuable pieces of architectural elements. More active and serious restoration work began after 1956 when suddenly a year prior, the bell tower collapsed. At that time, the plans for the monumental revitalization of the church and the monastery were slowly brought to realization. It was decided to preserve and present the aesthetic coexistence between Gothic and Baroque architecture - between the oldest appearance and the last ambitious renovation of the church and the monastery complex.⁹ The restoration of the monastery complex is still in progress today.

Founding of the Božidar Jakac Art Museum

In 1989 the former monastery was proclaimed a cultural monument of national importance and is thus classified among those monuments to which the state devotes particular attention. The buildings of the former monastery and their surroundings offer ideal conditions for the organisation of cultural events, concerts and theatrical and operatic performances. In 1974 the Božidar Jakac Art Museum moved in the premises at the former monastery. The Božidar Jakac Art Museum is today one of the largest museums in Slovenia due to the size of its exhibiting area, presented material and fine art collection.

⁹ VARDJAN 2003, pp. 52-53.

5 ELEMENTS OF THE CISTERCIAN MONASTERY LANDSCAPE

5.1 Monastery complex

The Kostanjevica monastery was officially founded in 1234 by the Duke of Carinthia Bernard Spanheim (1202-1256) and his wife Jutta. It was founded on the basis of a vow tied to victory in the battle over Bishop Ekbert of Hamburg. It is believed that the construction of the monastery began soon after the battle of 1226. The choice of a place in a secluded valley surrounded by forest and the springs of the Obrh stream below the Gorjanci hills satisfied Cistercian religious rules. The monastery was named Mary's Well after the nearby source of the Obrh stream (german: Mariabrunn, latin: Fons Beatae Mariae).

The selected area was quite swampy at the beginning of the construction and the Obrh stream meandered along the valley, surrounded by wetland vegetation. Later sources, especially those from the visitation records, describe the valley with a lot of humidity and with an unbearable climate in the summer.

It is logically assumed that, as it was during the building of other monasteries, that the monks-builders and construction leaders with appropriate craft knowledge came to Kostanjevica first. According to the Cistercian religious plan, they first built a sacral building-monastery church, which faces east with an altar and then buildings around it.¹⁰

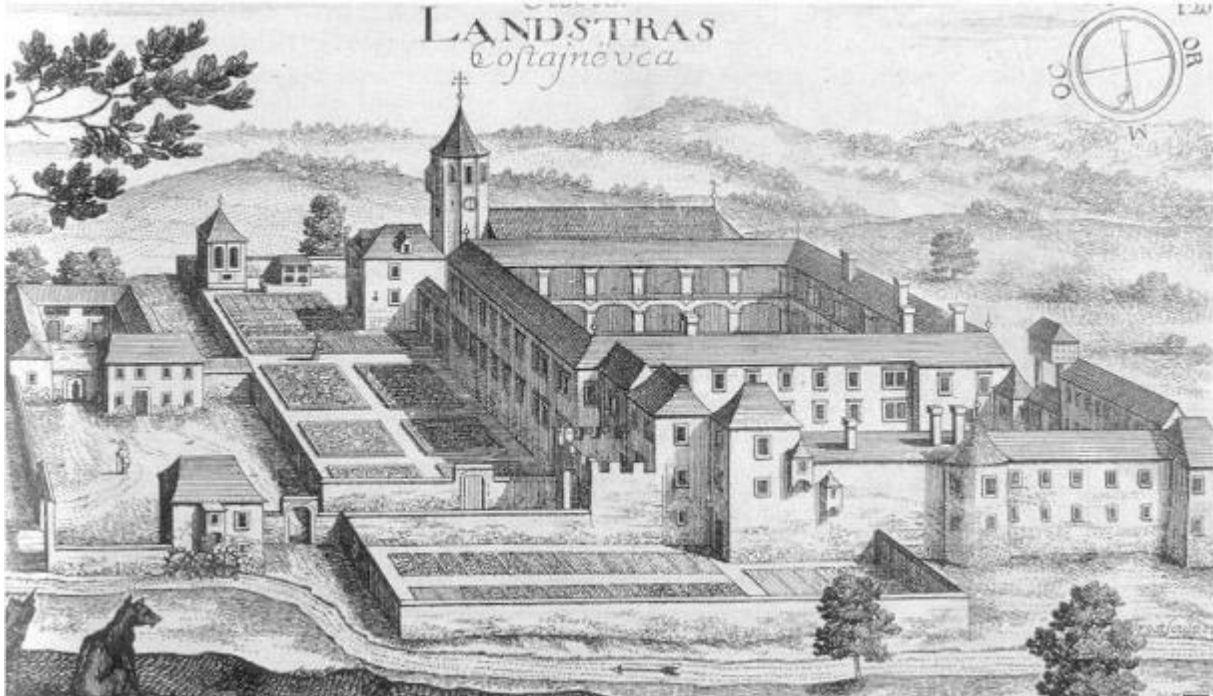
Monastery Church

The monastery church was built in the shape of a Latin cross with a Bernardine floor plan. It has three naves in the basilica height ratio. The main and transverse naves are the same width and height with a square intersection in the middle. Along the length, the nave was ritually divided into two parts, which were separated by a low transverse partition. The eastern part was intended for monks, who had the main direct access to the church from the cloister, and the second through the stairs from the bedrooms on the first floor. The western part was intended for lay brothers or converts, who also had separate access to the church.¹¹ In the 13th century, the original church was for two bays longer than it is today. It was shortened from original five to three bays in the 15th century due to static instability, probably due to

¹⁰ Ibid., p. 20.

¹¹ Ibid., p. 25.

earthquakes. It was renovated and once more consecrated on July 26, 1461. In 1632, in the time of Abbot Rupert Eckart (1631-1638) an octagonal bell tower was built. With the alterations, a new building design of the front façade was created, which is shown in the graphic plate of Valvasor's depiction of the monastery from 1679.¹²



Janez Vajkard Valvasor: *Topographia Ductus Carnioliae modernae*, 1679, graphic plate no. 126.

Cloister

After the completion of the church, construction of other basic and standard architecture began, that were attached to the south wall of the church. Cloister was originally wooden and covered to protect the monks from the weather. Later in Gothic era, it was vaulted and arcaded.

East wing

How the other rooms from the church to the south followed each other is still not entirely clear. Probably immediately behind the church wall was the first monastery library, where the sacristy is usually located. From the remains of a Gothic stone door frame in the eastern wing, it can be argued that it is the entrance to the chapterhouse. The chapterhouse should be followed by a passage to the west courtyard where the original cemetery is supposed to be located in the area around the presbytery. During the renovation of the courtyard in 2001, no remains of graves were found there. The monastery's graves were archeologically proven in 2002, about

¹² Ibid., p. 25.

80 meters southeast of the presbytery. The original cemetery, so far away, is a surprising and an unusual solution. Especially since it was simply abandoned during the Baroque transformation of the monastery and the western wing of the arcaded courtyard built above it. At the entrance to the adjoining courtyard next to the capital hall, there should be stairs to the common bedrooms of the monks, followed by a living room for monks, a large arched room also called a *frateria*. It was intended for conversation and setting daily tasks, as well as a kind of study room. The first floor of this tract was entirely dedicated to a one-room bedroom for monks - a *dormitory*. At the southern end of the bedroom was a toilet, actually a latrine with an exposed pier, beneath which ran the Obrh stream, which washed away the faeces. Later, a defensive tower was built in the area of the latrine, the foundations of which were proved in 2002. The discovery of a tower measuring 9.00 x 9.00 m confirmed the authenticity of Valvasor's graphic depiction of the monastery from 1679.

South wing

Parallel to the church, a south wing was built around the cloister. For now, the assumption remains that the first room that leaned against the wall of the living room for monks was a heating room - a *calefactory*. In winter, it was the only heated space. The heating room is to be followed by a dining room for monks - a *refectory*. According to the results of the non-destructive georadar survey, it was about 8 meters long. The next room was kitchen. Since the supposed dining room had a central position in the south wing, it is quite logical that there was also a lavatorium in the cloister opposite it. A lavatorium was possibly formed around a well, that has not yet been found in the Kostanjevica monastery. It was compulsory that the monastery had a well with lavatory as the monks had to wash their hands before eating. In keeping with the ideal design of the Cistercian monastery, a separate fraternal dining room should be sought further west. The assumption is that the kitchen for monks and lay brothers was the same, as the monastery, at the time of its creation, was of more modest dimensions. But there is no trace of the fraternal dining room, let alone of the fraternal celarium in the south or west wing. From the oldest period, the wall of the south wing is adorned with an extremely beautiful Gothic portal, next to it is a Renaissance one. On the west wall there is a Gothic semicircular door, and above it on the second floor there is a bifora. The presented bifora proves that the south wing was also single-storey high. Perhaps there was a bedroom for the lay brothers on the first floor, but with no access to the cloister. How they came from the bedroom to the church can only be guessed, perhaps via a wooden bridge or a wooden corridor positioned on the west wing of the monastery.

West wing

It is believed that the original monastery did not have a built west wing. There was only a high wall that supported the arcades and the roof of the cloister. On the southern part of the west wall there was already mentioned semicircular Gothic door, the stone frame of which is partly preserved. Undoubtedly, the monastery was entered through them from the open space (economy), and the bifora above the door defines the external facade.¹³

In the 16th century, the economic situation improved and the monastery was modernized. It was a time of spiritual and architectural zeal, a time when medieval architecture was enriched by Renaissance style. Thus, in 1555, a west wing, called the prelature, was built next to a gate from the Gothic period.¹⁴

Perpendicular to the prelature, a ground-floor southern Renaissance building is formed, which had primarily an economic purpose. On the ground floor, in addition to the cellar for wine and vegetables, pantries for various types of meat, cheese and fat, there was also a bakery, which was built in 1644, and even a dungeon and armory. In this part of the monastery the same year a stable with one chariot and four riding horses is mentioned.¹⁵ The so-called **second economic yard** in Kostanjevica gets a square shape with the construction of the prelature and the ground floor south wing. A special connecting emphasis of this courtyard is in the two arcaded corridors on the east and south parts. We mentioned that in this yard there was at first a stable for horses, which were at the disposal of the monks. Later, this barn was moved to the baroque part of the monastery. It is worth emphasizing that the Obrh stream was led through the so-called second courtyard already at the time of the monastery's construction, and that in later period a later water supply in wooden pipes was brought to the courtyard.¹⁶

From the very beginning, the **third economic courtyard** was located in the west part of the monastery complex at the main entrance, where the grange, the mill and the monastery garden were located. The grange is first mentioned in 1579. The first information about the construction of a new grange dates back to 1581. A more serious reconstruction of the exterior of the grange is possible only on the basis of Valvasor's graphic depictions from 1679 and 1689.¹⁷ After 1760, a great tragedy occurred, namely a fire that completely destroyed the

¹³ Ibid., pp.28.

¹⁴ Ibid., p.31.

¹⁵ Ibid., p.32.

¹⁶ Ibid., pp. 33-34.

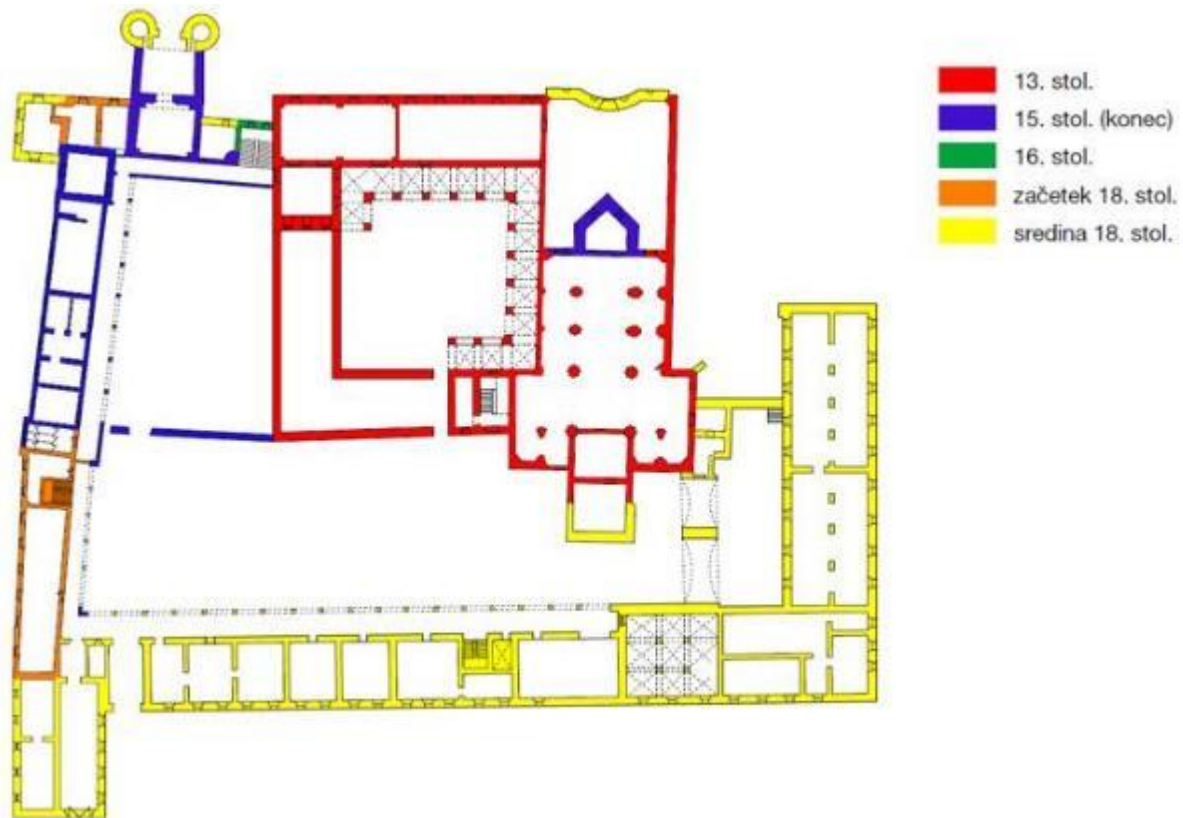
¹⁷ Ibid., p. 43.

monastery grange. In the fire, the monastery lost all livestock, grain and other supplies, all annual crops and church linen.¹⁸

The current appearance of the monastery complex largely belongs to the Baroque era. The Great Baroque rebuilding dates back to the first half of the 18th century. Certainly, the greatest dominant masterpiece is the preserved arcade system of the newly built south and east wings, that enlarged the co called second economic yard. Alexander Taufferer (1736 - 1760) was one of the most successful builders of the Kostanjevica monastery. Among the first constructions under his leadership was the strategic reinforcement of the main entrance with two defense towers, that were built after the Uskoks attacked the monastery in 1736. In 1742 a new baroque church facade was erected and in 1743 and later on, the Gothic church gets renovated. It gets new cross vaulting, extendent baroque presbytery and nine marble altars. Today the altars can be seen in various churches in Kostanjevica, Šentjernej, Novo mesto and Golo nad Igom, where the main altar is located, as well as the pulpit carried by the Atlantean - forest man from the mythological story of founding of the Kostanjevica monastery. In the western part of the main nave, a new organ was erected, which is today located in the parish church in Raka near Krško.¹⁹

¹⁸ MLINARIČ 1987, p. 469.

¹⁹ VARDJAN 2003, pp.36-38.



Ground plan of the cistercian monastery in Kostanjevica na Krki with marked construction phases.

5.2 Hydraulic system and ponds

Due to the flat world, the Obrh stream has some meanders and floods during heavy rains. It flows into the Studena stream, which is very similar in quantity of water to Obrh. It also has a short watercourse, both of which flow into the Krka under the bridge in Kostanjevica. The Obrh stream consists of several springs. Two stronger ones are about 350 meters from the monastery, in an area where the valley narrows to 30 meters. The third is by the road to the village Orehovec. The springs are also situated on the north side of the stream. These fill a carp pond, which is still in use today. Here the water never dries up. The spring area is a nature reserve. Even today, the Obrh and Studena streams are a reserve for trout (*Salmo sp.*) and grayling (*Thymallus sp.*), fish that were highly valued by the monks.²⁰

The Studena stream is mentioned several times in sources. Mainly due to a disputes relating to fishing. The emperor Frederik III showed special affection for the monastery on February

²⁰ Ibid., p. 23.

20, 1468 when he ordered that the right to fishing belongs to the monastery on the grounds that the stream originates on the monastery land and flows through the monastery territory. This is an interesting proof of the combined economic estate in the arable and swampy plain, which is formed by both streams at the foot of the Gorjanci hills.²¹

To the west of the monastery, in the area of Obrh springs two ponds were built, which have been preserved for a long time. Today there is one pond located in the same area, that is used by the Angling Club of Kostanjevica. In all probability, the two original ponds were created immediately after the founding of the monastery and on the model of ponds from the mother monastery in Vetrinj.²²

The abbey had its fish pond also in the vicinity of the Imenje grange. The urbarium from 1743 states that the big meadow was turned into fish pond only to be reestablished back in the meadow in 1731.²³ The embankment is still recognizable on Lidar image and in physical space.



²¹ Ibid., p. 57.

²² Ibid., p. 21.

²³ MLINARIČ 1972, p.75.

Imenje (Ladendorf) on the Franciscan cadastre, 1824. A patch of the meadow with waterstream is recognizable southeast of the village Ladendorf. (GURS)



Lidar image and orthoimage of the former ponds near Imenje. The embankment can be recognized on the northwest side of the area. (GURS)

The Obrh stream with its tributaries played a special role for the Kostanjevica monastery. It filled the pond, operated the mill, and served as drinking water for cattle near the stables. It once ran directly along the old core of the monastery and carried faeces falling into it from the toilet (latrine) at the end of the dormitory on the first floor. During the renovation of the arcaded courtyard in 2001, humus-rich soil was discovered, which defined the direction of the stream through the monastery complex. The embankments next to the two ponds and the position of the mill stream are even today clearly visible.²⁴

In the accounting book of Abbot Jurij we find the information that in 1653 a moat was built "under the church above the monastery". In all probability, like the existing moat, it drained excess water, which pressed on the monastery buildings from the north. But it could also be a defensive ditch, similar to the one in Vertrinj monastery.

Abbot Leopold Buseth (1717-1772) erected a baroque fountain in the monastery courtyard, in which the year 1765 is engraved. The wooden plumbing pipes brought drinking water to the fountain in the courtyard. The water flow had enough pressure to spring from the center of the fountain into the stone bowls. During the renovation of the monastery courtyard in 2002, a water supply system was found. The oak drilled pipes had a metal plug with a diameter of 7

²⁴ VARDJAN 2003, p. 21.

cm at the joint. The wood was roughly carved with visible remains of branches. The length of one pipe was about 3 meters.

An arched brick tunnel was documented under the well, but no technical devices other than a drain, such as lead pipes in the core of the fountain, were found. The fountain is depicted in Fortunat Bergant's portrait of Abbot Leopold Buseth (abbot from 1760 to 1772). In his hand he holds a panoramic view of the monastery, where a fountain is clearly visible in the courtyard.²⁵

5.3 Granges and Estates

Monastery Grange

The monastery grange was situated in the west part of the monastery complex at the main entrance. The grange is first mentioned in 1579. The first information about the construction of a new grange dates back to 1581. A more serious reconstruction of the exterior of the grange is possible only on the basis of Valvasor's graphic depictions from 1679 and 1689.²⁶

It is not known how the grange was organized, but we can determine for how many animals there needed to be space if we look the data from the year 1600. It is stated that there were 14 cows, a pair of oxen, 18 goats and lambs, 72 pigs, 25 geese, 8 ducks and 20 capons and hens. In the garden was a beehive with twenty-one hives. In 1631, during the time of Abbot Rupert Eckart, the number of the animals did not change significantly. At that time, there were 23 cows, 17 calves, 8 oxen, 44 pigs, 10 sheep and many poultry.²⁷

After 1760, a great tragedy occurred, namely a fire that completely destroyed the grange. In the fire, the monastery lost all livestock, grain and other supplies, all annual crops and church linen.²⁸

Imenje grange

The estate at the village Imenje in the basin of Šentjernej was originally probably a grange, which was later divided into seven farms. In the 18th century, the farms were deserted, some of the land was set aside for pastures and later turned into a stockbreeding estate, and some for fish ponds near the village Ledeča vas. In 1731, the estate was divided into four farms.

²⁵ Ibid., pp. 60-61.

²⁶ Ibid., p. 43.

²⁷ Ibid., p. 44.

²⁸ MLINARIČ 1987, p. 469.

Oštrc grange

Another grange was located in a village Oštrc above Kostanjevica on the slopes of Gorjanci hills, where they mainly breed sheep (about 70 sheep and goats).²⁹

Dobrava pri Kostanjevici grange

The Dobrava manor first appears in sources in 1536. The manor also included an estate with a mill, which was located on Prekopski stream. The estate was leased by the monastery from the 16th century onwards until the 18th century, when the estate was cultivated by the monastery. On the Dobrava estate, the monastery usually had three hides of land and for some time also a mill, which stood on the Prekopa stream. For the year 1589, we have information that the estate, which was leased included, in addition to the manor and 1 hide, 5 fields, 2 meadows, a garden and a house near Dobrava, and the right to enjoy the forest, pasture and common land.³⁰

Wine mansion Straža in Cerina

One of the oldest monastery's manors is wine mansion Straža in the village Cerina near Čatež. Here was the seat of the administrative unit of the estate, which included the area east of Podbočje, part of the Krško field, the direct area between Čatež and Mali Cirknik. There were vineyards in the vicinity of the mansion (on Cerina), which still exist today. Here the grapes were pressed, the must was received from the serfs and tenants and then the wine was produced. A part of the mansion is also a chapel of St. Mihael.³¹

From the second half of the 17th century to the middle of the 18th century, many castles and manors were bought, and many monastic buildings were redecorated in the Baroque style. At this time, many superiors of monasteries became immersed in debt. The secular authorities supervised the work of abbots and priors even more strictly. Superiors of noble birth, in particular, tended to spend too much on castles and extravagant dwellings. In 1667, Abbot Janez bought a nearby estate Kostanjevica with a manor in the centre of town. Later, in 1714, his successor, Abbot Alanus Miliner, bought another manor, Radeljca near Bučka. This estate was sold by Abbot Rudolph in 1728. Abbot Anthony Baron Engelshaus bought the castle and surrounding estate of Klevevž near the village Šmarjeta. His successor, Rudolph, bought the

²⁹ VARDJAN 2003, p. 49.

³⁰ MLINARIČ 1972, p. 93.

³¹ VARDJAN 2003, p. 50.

manor of Mehovo-Ruperč vrh near town Novo mesto in 1726. Abbot Alexander Taufferer acquired the manor of Grundelj near Šentvid in 1753.³²

Kostanjevica manor and estate

The Kostanjevica seignury with the parish had its seat in the manor in the centre of Kostanjevica. The monastery bought it in 1667 and was managed by one of the monastery's administrators. It was owned by the monastery until its dissolution. Although Kostanjevica is in the immediate vicinity of the monastery, the lands were in addition to those on the island itself and in its vicinity, also in the Krakovo forest and at the Old Castle near Podbočje. They reached high to Gorjanci hills in the vicinity of Podbočje, even to the highest peak of the Gorjanci Hills, Trdinov vrh (1178). In the west, the border was the Radulja stream, in the north the Raka estate area, a part of the Kostanejvica estate was also the Krško plain around the village Podlog. Much of the land in the north was a wine-growing district. With the acquisition of the Kostanjevica seignury, the monastery gained also a higher judiciary rights on its own land. Kostanjevica manor was the administrative and economic centre of the estate, with a parish church and outbuildings around it. It is interesting to note that in 1702, when the new abbot Friderik Hofstetter took his position, there were 120 measures of wheat, 140 measures of rye, 160 measures of millet, 130 measures of buckwheat, 400 measures of oats and 12 measures of other cereals in the granary - a total of about 26,900 kg, which is quite a lot for the month of March. If we add 4 oxen, 4 dairy cows, 12 calves and 18 pigs, then this monastery island grange was not small.³³

Estate and castle Klevevž

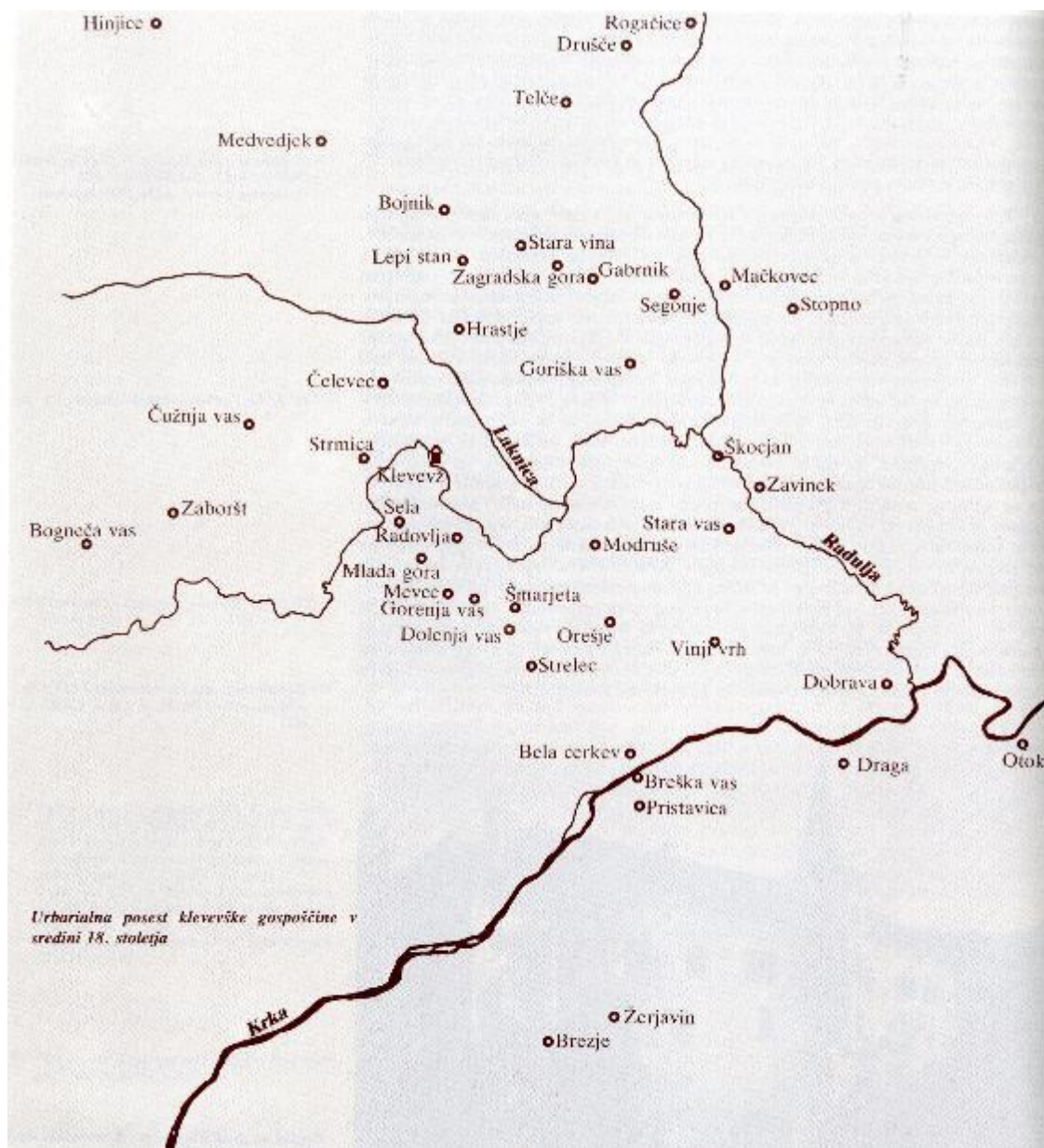
In 1719, Abbot Anton bought the Klevevž castle from the Stična monastery with the associated estate, which also had its administrator. The dominant two-storey castle stood on a rocky terrain on the bend of the Radulja stream. The multi-winged building had a large arcaded courtyard with a fountain in the middle. The castle had a basement, on the ground floor were rooms for maids, pantries and cellars. There were a lot of living areas upstairs. In addition to the castle, outbuildings, a garden next to the castle, 6 vineyards and a mill are described. It is written that the mill was by the Radulja stream, a quarter of an hour's walk from the castle. The mill building had three water wheels, and the roof was thatched. Compared to the layout of the

³² Kulturna dediščina meniških redov / The heritage of monastic orders, [uvodni tekst Silvester Gaberšček; Srednjeveška monastična arhitektura v Sloveniji Marjan Zadnikar [in] Gospodarska dejavnost cistercijanskih samostanov in kartuzij na Slovenskem Jože Mlinarič; teksti Mojca Arh Kos ... [et al.]; urednica Jerneja Batič, Ljubljana, 1996., p. 48.

³³ VARDJAN 2003, p. 50.

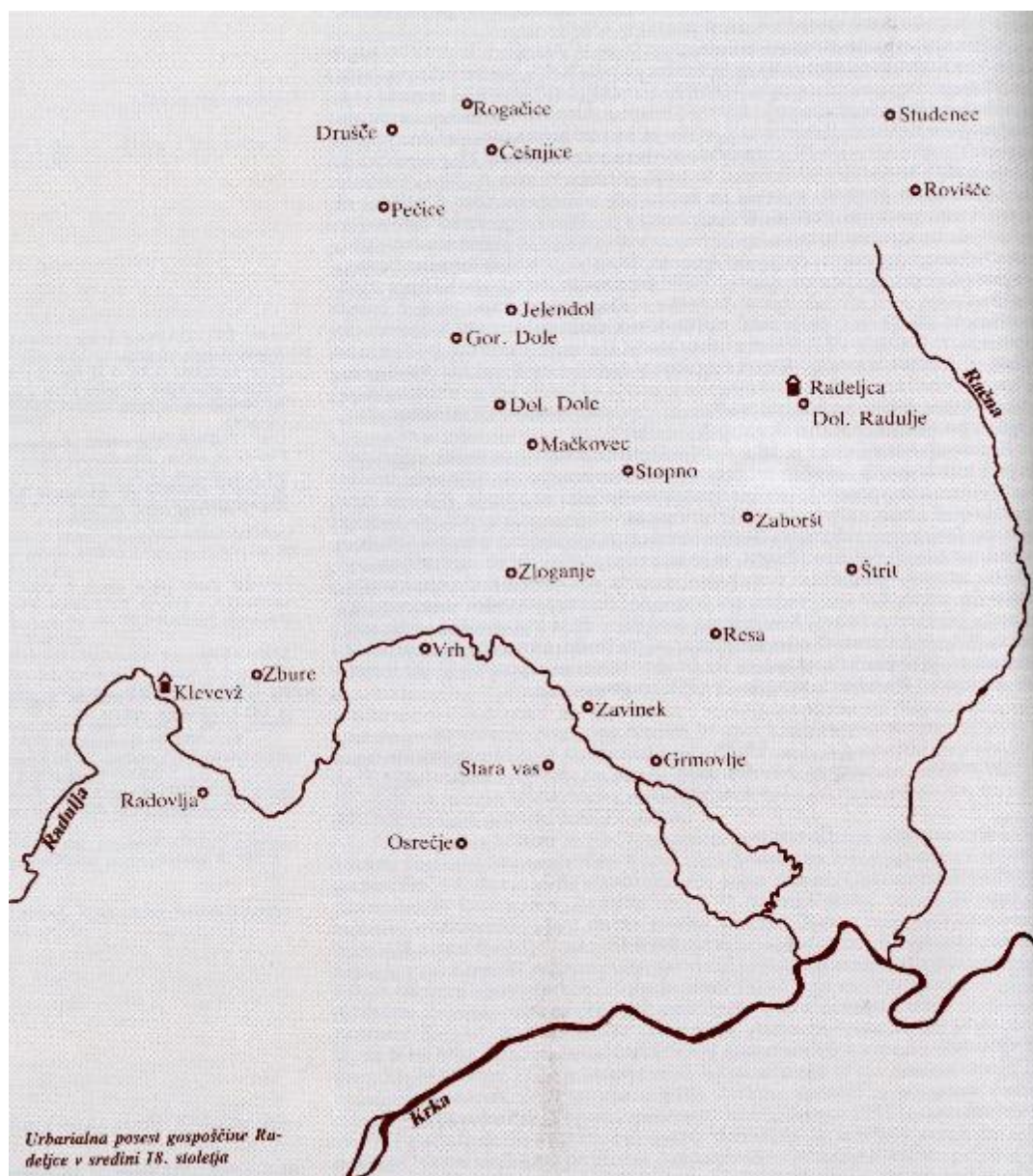
outbuildings in Kostanjevica, which are mostly in front of the entrance to the monastery, the buildings around the Klevč castle are similarly designed. On the left side in front of the castle was a horse stable, an ox stable, a pig stable and next to it a storage room for carts. On the right side of the entrance to the castle was a large building with apartments for servants, a cow barn and a parma. There were also two rooms, one for a blacksmith and one for a barrel maker, which were an usual accompanying part of the economic activity. A little further on was a hay barn and then as many as seven haystacks. The majority of the estate was in a distinct wine-growing area. The vineyards on Vinji vrh, Štumbleh or at Bojnik usually had exemplary vineyard cottages with an arched cellar, and a modest residential part above it. A small barn, most probably for a horse-drawn carriage, was also leaning against some of the vineyard cottages. The estate consisted of over 150 farms with a total of 345 serfs. The castle was burned down during World War II.³⁴

³⁴ Ibid., pp. 48-49.



The Radeljca manor was also owned by the monastery, in the period ob 1714 - 1726. The inventory lists empty barrels, presses, plows and other things agricultural utilities that belong to the inventory of the farm.³⁵

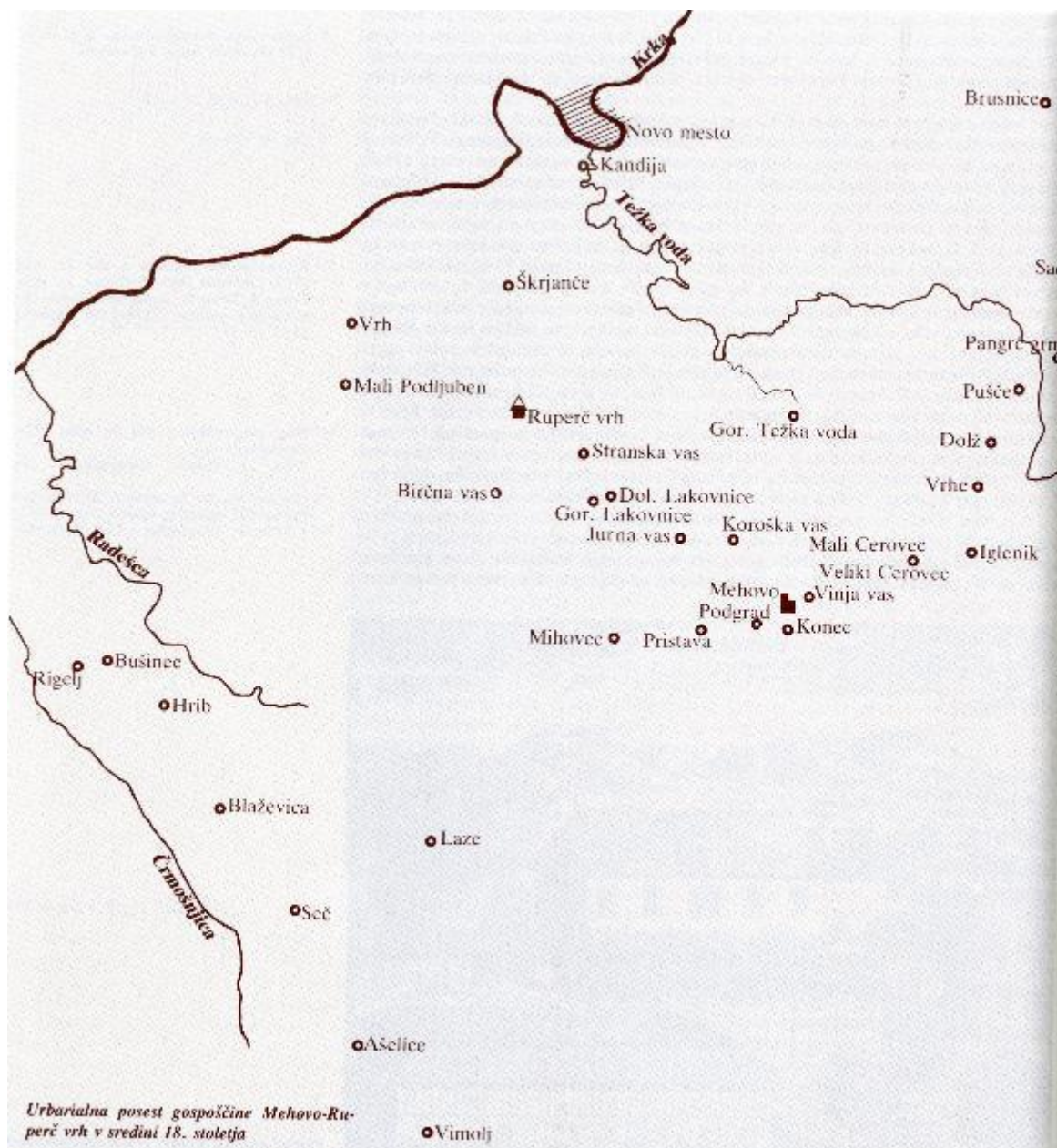
³⁵ Ibid., p. 49.



Mehovo-Ruperč vrh castle and estate

With the earnings from the sale of the Radeljca manor, the Mehovo - Ruperč vrh castle with a manor at Stranska vas near Novo mesto was bought in 1726. The big two-storey building had a rectangular ground plan with an added Baroque chapel. Today, the castle is in ruins as it was burnt down by partisans in 1942. The estate, which was located south of the Krka river and reached deep into the slopes of Gorjanci hills brought in high income from over 130 farms with 259 serfs.³⁶

³⁶ Ibid., p. 49.



Grundelj manor

In 1760, the Grundelj estate is mentioned, in the middle of which are today's ruins of Grumlof Castle. It was quite far from Kostanjevica and was located near Stična and the Stična monastery. The estate consisted of villages Šentvid pri Stični and Šentpavel and the nearby area of the Temenica stream.³⁷

³⁷ Ibid., p. 49.



5.4 Agriculture & Livestock

The rules regarding the monastic economy since the creation of the monastery are unambiguous. The land was donated by the founder and comprises a complex of land that the monks are able to cultivate themselves with the monastery's serfs. This includes a rule that the monks must live from the work of their hands. The greatest value was that land which was in the immediate vicinity of the monastery. In Kostanjevica, part of the land in the area of the newly established monastery had yet to be prepared for cultivation. It was a swampy and wooded area; therefore, a lot of effort was put into acquiring arable land. Thus, already after its establishment, a complete independent monastic estate with its own organized agriculture was created. The cistercian rules stipulated that the monastery must be separated from the outside world with the wall and the wall must be at least ten times longer than the length of the monastery church. Inside the walled space, we know a lot about the monastery church and cloister, and unfortunately, much less about the outbuildings.³⁸

Subsistence by manual labor, according to the cistercian rules, commanded all monks to physical activity regardless of their position in the community. They were engaged in agriculture, livestock production, crafts and also milling. The original strict rules of the Cistercian order even forbade income that would be generated by foreign labor, including from

³⁸ Ibid., pp.17-18.

economic establishments. Among the non-profit facilities are included mills, which were integral part of the cistercian monasteries since their beginning. This is especially true for the period up to the 13th century, and then the strict mindset, which forces modesty lessens. Earnings and gifts are then allowed, tithes and other privileges are collected.

It is believed that among the innovations introduced by the Cistercian monks in Slovenia was the modernization of agriculture. New and resistant types of grain and fruit are believed to be brought from abroad. The Cistercians are also credited with replacing the wooden plow with an iron one, which was slowly adopted by farmers, enabling deeper plowing and better yields. They also brought other more practical and advanced field tools.

In economic terms, the Cistercians contributed to a turnaround that was influenced by their example. They contributed to better land use and higher crop production, livestock farming, viticulture and other, including beekeeping. Their example is related to orderly organised farms, livestock breeding, cultivated fields with the introduction of modest crop rotation, profitable meadows, regulated ponds and streams. In order to provide their own income for a decent living and maintenance of facilities and devices, the Cistercians had to have a solid and economically stable management system.³⁹

Kostanjevica, the second Cistercian monastery in Lower Carniola, was established about a hundred years later than Stična. By then, some of the strictest rules concerning the establishment and management of monasteries had been moderated. In the 13th century, granges started deteriorating, land was divided into plots and these were rented to peasants. During its existence, Kostanjevica had several estates, on which they raised cattle and stored their crops.

The estate at the village Imenje in the basin of Šentjernej was originally probably a grange, which was later divided into seven farms. In the 18th century, the farms were deserted, some of the land was set aside for pastures and later turned into a stockbreeding estate, and some for fish ponds. In 1731, the estate was divided into four farms.

Kostanjevica also had wine houses (in village Raka, wine manor Straža in the village Cerina, and near the monastery itself) on their vine-growing territory along the Krka. The oldest land register, from the middle of the 14th century, shows 357 inhabited farms and twelve abandoned

³⁹ Ibid., p.19.

farms. It should be remembered that Bernard donated 220 farms in 1249. The land register from 1625 shows only 303 farms, in spite of many donations and purchases. From the second half of the 15th century on, many farms were abandoned because of the devastation caused by Turkish raids. In the first half of the 16th century, the monastery had to hand over more than a hundred farms to the prince of the province, who gave them to the Uskoks - settlers who helped defend these parts in times of war.⁴⁰

5.5 Monastery Mountain Law Land and Dominical Vineyards

Throughout the history of the Kostanjevica na Krki Monastery, viticulture has been a very important economic sector. The entire monastery estate on the right bank of the Krka, with the exception of the estate on Šentjernejsko polje, lay on a distinctly wine-growing world. That this world was planted with vines early on, in addition to historical sources, is also proven by the name Vinji vrh, which we meet twice in the vicinity of Kostanjevica na Krki at an early age. On the neighboring Freising estate, we come across the name Vinji vrh ("Wine Hill") at the first mention of the estate in the 11th century. The founding document already mentions the rights of the monastery in the vineyards lying on the property that the monastery received at that time. However, considering that the vineyards on the left bank of the Krka are attested to the neighboring Freising estate as early as the 11th century, it is quite clear that the hills on the right bank of the Krka river were also planted with vines long before the 13th century.

The monastery's dominical vineyards and mountain law lands, as well as mountain law lands on which the monastery had the right to only a wine tithe or a part of the wine tithe, stretched on the right bank of the Krka from village Ledeča vas near Šentjernej to village Ponikve near Mokrice, and on the left bank of the Krka only at villages Gazice ob Krki, at Zbure near the Klevevž castle and at Gorenje Dole near Škocjan. The vineyards, with the exception of those in Žumberak, which lay in higher altitudes, were on land at an altitude of between 200 and 400 meters.

A more or less clear picture of the locations of monastic mountain lands, their size and the mountain lands, on which the abbey collected a wine tithe, can be created only for the period from the second half of the 16th century onwards when we have preserved the first mountain registers. For the time before the 16th century however, we can only determine from individual preserved documents when the abbey acquired individual mountain law lands.

⁴⁰ Kulturna dediščina meniških redov 1996, pp.42-43.

Among the oldest monastery mountain law lands and vineyards, as far as can be seen from the documents, are those around Kostanjevica, near Gazice and Čatež, which the monastery received in the middle of the 13th century. This was followed by the acquisition of mountain tax and wine tithes and the right to mountain judiciary from the vineyards near the village Ledeča vas between 1266 and 1367. The monastery had on the area later named Hrvaška gora, acquired its rights either by purchase or by donations, mainly from the lords of Raka, from the townspeople from the town Otok (Gutenwerth) and from the noble Gall family.

Back in the 13th century we can record the acquisition of mountain tax from the vineyards at village Zbure near Klevevž castle, a gift from the Slavonian ban Štefan. The vineyards and mountain law lands with the right to mountain tax and wine tithes in the immediate vicinity of the monastery, somewhere along the middle course of the Studena stream, were acquired by the monastery between 1315 and 1330.

In village Bočje near Podbočje, which is close to the Kostanjevica, the monastery later had a numerous mountain law lands and the right to a wine tithe from its own and also from foreign lands. There the monastery got its first mountain tax in 1317 and in 1382. The monastery had acquired the right to a wine tithe at village Rakovnik near Kostanjevica in the 14th century. In the 15th century the monastery acquired the mountain tax at village Gorenje Dole near Škocjan. For the following centuries onwards, however, we have only records of purchase for individual vineyards or mountain land.

Mountain registers testify to the monastery's mountain law lands also in other places that are not attested in documents. We must take into account that we do not have all the documents that would give us as an accurate insight into the time of acquisition of these lands or rights to the mountain tax and wine tithes on them, and that the vast majority of mountain land lies in the area owned by the monastery, therefore these lands were mountain-law in their character when the monastery acquired them together with the hubs.

The monastery had, following the example of other landlords, ordered a part of the land, usually a forest, on the outskirts of the villages to be turned into vineyards, which were then divided among his subjects as well as other interested parties, subjects of foreign landlords, or free persons. Such lands did not belong to the hubs, but were leased by the monastery under mountain law.

For the mountain-law lands which were leased by monastery under mountain law, was the monastery given an annual duty of the so-called mountain tax, that was given to the monastery

exclusively in wine must. The monastery collected wine tithes on its own as well as on foreign mountain law lands, which it was rarely collected in full, but usually in two thirds or even only in one third. In addition to the fees that the monastery received annually from the beneficiaries of mountain law lands, the monastery also had the right and duty as a mountain lord to conduct the so-called mountain lawsuits.

We know that the monastery did not have much dominical land, that he would cultivate on its own. Yet we know for some dominical vineyards, which were cultivated under its own direction, as is evident from the urbarium from the 14th century and from the serf registers from the 16th century. According to the above-mentioned urbarium, the monastic serfs of some villages in the vicinity of the monastery had to do forced labor in the monastery vineyards (picking grapes, transporting must to the monastery cellars, etc.) or giving a certain number of wooden stakes annually. Only know where these vineyards lay (in the villages Bočje, near Stari grad at Bočje, in Vodenice and in Globočice) only from the 18th century sources. Let us mention that the monastery acquired many mountain vineyards and also some dominical vineyards by purchasing estates and manors in the 17th and 18th centuries (Kostanjevica, Radelca, Klevevž, Mehovo-Ruperč vrh).⁴¹

5.6 Forestry

The basic sources for locating and describing the forests previously owned by the monastery was the Map of the Kostanjevica Economic District dating from 1985, the Forest Management Plan of the Kostanjevica Forest Administration from 1882-1891, as well as the Franciscan Cadastre for the Land of Carniola dating from 1824. After the abolition of the monastery in 1786, its property became state property. The monastery forest estate was assigned to the Carniolian Religious Fund, and through it it became a part of the Kostanjevica Forest Administration, which was established in 1878. It managed three larger (1410 ha in total) and five smaller dislocated forest areas. Roughly speaking, this was the forest estate of the Kostanjevica monastery at the time of its abolition.

In the second founding document from 1249, Duke Bernard Spanheim gave the Kostanjevica monastery an extensive forest area located along the right bank of the Krka river, which stretched across the Gorjanci hills to the Croatian side. Around the village Mrzlo Polje In today's Žumberak on Coratian side of the Gorjanci hills was one of the strongest centers of the monastery estate till 16th century.

⁴¹ MLINARIČ 1972, pp. 114-116.

This large forest complex was through centuries gradually reduced by the monastery serfs, who gained permission for deforestation and creation of new farms were on the clearings. Of the 220 farms that the monastery received from the founder, 68 were in Gorjanci hills in a distinctly forested and hilly landscape.⁴² The deforestation process took place in a way that a piece of forest was fenced off and attached to the farm. Such a plot was called a "savod". Hence the probable origin for the mycrotoponym name of the village Zavode, which is situated east of Kostanjevica. In the autumn, when the leaves fell from the trees, they let them dry and then burned them. Afterwards, they cut down the trees and prepared a plot for a pasture or field. If the wood was immediately used, then they cut and stacked it in piles and then burned it when it dried. In this way they obtained ash with which they fertilized agricultural areas. On the depleted areas, the overgrowing process began again. They grazed livestock on these areas for a while, and then the once cleared land became overgrown with forest again. The ravines and clearings were only at the edge of the woods. However, areas of land deemed unsuitable for agriculture was left intact as a forest.⁴³

The monastery forest later consisted of three complexes according to the types of trees that predominated in it. In monastic and other land registers, the following are mentioned: oak, chestnut and beech forest. Due to the borders and rights to use wood from forests, there were big disputes between the Kostanjevica abbey and the neighboring landlords, especially with the Pleterje Charterhouse.⁴⁴

With the purchase of the Kostanjevica seignury in 1667, the forest areas owned by the monastery increased significantly. The newly acquired Krakovo forest complex, as well as the forest near Prežek Castle, brought high incomes from foreign and domestic subjects every year: it was necessary to pay for the right to timber and for forest pasture, for deforestation due to the making of trenches, for the right to hunt, especially dormice, and to graze pigs in oak

⁴² MLINARIČ 1987, pp. 137-142.

⁴³ PUSTOSLEMŠEK Mojmir, Zgodovina gospodarjenja z gozdovi na območju Kostanjevice na Krki. Vekov tek, Kostanjevica na Krki 1252-2002, Zbornik ob 750. obletnici prve listinske omembe mesta, Kostanjevica na Krki 2003, p. 374.

⁴⁴ MLINARIČ 1987, p. 142.

and beech forests.⁴⁵ Among craftsmen taxes for the use of the forest were paid by potters for the right to the wood they needed to burn pottery kilns, either in cash or in pottery.^{46 47}

5.7 Commerce, Transportation, Mills

In order to be as self-sufficient as required of them, the Cistercians had to develop their own economy. Since there was a lot of manual work to be taken care of, only little time could be devoted to religious duties (*opus dei*). Religious duties were thus left to the pious monks, manual labor to laymen (converts). But even monks had to lend a hand at times of sowing, planting, harvesting, and constructing new buildings for the monastery. The division of the community into monks and laymen did not have any social significance at first, it was merely practical. Converts were people from lower social strata, peasants and craftsmen. This is understandable, because they came from an environment in which life was oriented almost entirely around manual labor. These workers brought to the monasteries certain skills that people of a higher social origin lacked.⁴⁸

Being able to manufacture basic handicraft products was very important for the independence of the cistercian monasteries and rationality. Thus, among the lay brothers, we meet bakers, tanners, shoemakers, tailors, weavers, blacksmiths, wheelwrights, carpenters, masons and other “professions”. By making simple clothes and footwear, the necessary tools for agricultural and household tasks, processing wood and making their own bricks, lime and stone from their quarry, the Cistercians created complete economic units.⁴⁹

At first, the Kostanjevica monastery economically covered in the following areas: the oldest part around the church and the cloister had only cellars and pantries, the original grange in front of the main entrance was initially modest and wooden. The economic existence of the monastery was mainly tied to servants' duties and gifts of the nobility.

Greater economic activities are known in later periods and around the so-called second economic courtyard. Here were located craft workshops, as well as a bakery, wine cellar, and armory and a dungeon. There was also a horse stable, a carriage, a hayloft, as well as a storage room for carriage and horse equipment.

⁴⁵ Ibid., p. 394.

⁴⁶ Jože Mlinarič, *Kostanjeviško gospostvo po urbarju iz leta 1624*, Ljubljana 1970, p. 75.

⁴⁷ The section on forestry was prepared by a historian Mladen Bačić, a curator-documentalist of the Božidar Jakac Art Museum.

⁴⁸ *Kulturna dediščina meniških redov* 1996, p. 38.

⁴⁹ VARDJAN 2003, p. 42.

In the Baroque period in the middle of the 18th century, the monastery acquired new east wing with vaulted rooms on the ground floor. Here, a new horse stable with a square floor plan stands out, where the cross-vaulted ceiling is supported by four beautifully designed stone pillars. In it was room for at least six horses. During the same period, a new three-storey granary was built in the northern part of the extended courtyard that was 49 meters long and 12.5 meters wide.⁵⁰

During the time of the abbot Jurij Zagošen in the 17th century, the monastery's economy was also successful in selling its products, which is evident from the abbot's account book. From it it is evident that the monastery sold a lot of wine in Ljubljana, including spirits and other foods, grain, even castrated rams. Wheat was sold mainly to Novo mesto, twice also to Rijeka in Croatia. Among the customers were also merchants from Karlovac in Croatia, who bought various foods for the army in Vojna Krajina.⁵¹

Monastery's Town Houses

Ljubljana

Before the year 1344 gifted Henrik z Rake (von Arch) to the Kostanjevica monastery a house on the Stari trg (Old Square) in the centre of Ljubljana.⁵² This was the first house in Ljubljana in the monastery's possession, that had to be given to the Jesuites for their school around the year 1600.⁵³

On February 29th 1608 the abbot Jurij Urbanič bought for the monastery a house in Ljubljana which was located in the square opposite of the Franciscan monastery (am plaz gegen franzischkhaner khloster heriber) next to the house of Tomaž Reinger in the centre of the city. This house stood on today's Vodnik Square and beside the former city hospital. The monastery had this house until 1672, when it was exchanged with Neža Grošelj for another house on the same square.⁵⁴ On February 4th 1684 the monastery sold this house and bought another for which we do not know the exact location. That the monastery had in its possession a house in Ljubljana after the year 1684 is evident from the later documents.⁵⁵

Novo mesto

⁵⁰ Ibid., p. 43.

⁵¹ Ibid., p. 40.

⁵² MLINARIČ 1972, p. 19.

⁵³ Ibid., p. 99.

⁵⁴ Ibid., p. 99, Kostanjevica AS (not. MHK II, 1847, str.88).

⁵⁵ Ibid., p. 110. Document ddo. 1786, junij 21., Graz (Fasc. 33).

In 1738, the Kostanjevica abbot Aleksander Tauferer bought a large house with land and a garden with a hay barn (today this part of the estate is separated with Vrhovčeva ulica, and the hay barn has been converted into a gallery). From the visits of the provincial prince we learn that the abbot completely renovated the house in 1746, but without the consent of the prince. The house was owned by the monastery until 1762. The purchase of the house was probably related to the abbot's poor health, as there was a pharmacy in the house next door at that time, so he was well provided with medical and pharmacy care. However, given the allegations that he had a mistress, it is possible that he even bought the house for his family. The house at the time was probably one-story and consisted of three rooms on the main square and three on the courtyard.⁵⁶

Mills

The monastery mill

The monastery mill from the 13th century is a unique example in Europe in terms of shape and location. It was placed in the walled area of the monastery on the Obrh stream near the monastery grange and the entrance to the monastery. It is distinguished by partially preserved stylistic elements in the walls of Gothic, Renaissance and Baroque periods. Architecture elements from different periods, prove its residential, defensive and even sacral function. In appearance, it is comparable to Valvasor's graphic depiction from 1679. In technical terms, wooden mill devices from the 19th century have been preserved, dating from 1861.⁵⁷

The oldest data on the monastery mills in Kostanjevica

For the time being, the oldest written mention of the monastery mills is still the data from the account book of the abbot Jurij Zagošen (1638-1664). As a good and conscientious master, he states in the accounting book, which records annual expenses, that in 1650 the mill on the Studena stream was rebuilt and the monastery mill on Obrh was renovated.⁵⁸

The monastery mill on the nearby Studena stream is mentioned as early as the 13th century. The Studena stream comes to surface below the entrance to the Kostanjevica cave, less than a kilometer away from the monastery. In 1286, the Kostanjevica town judge Oto gifted the monastery with the estate by the Studena stream together with the mill. In this way, the land around the monastery was united into a single and complete area. The most successful in this endeavor was Abbot Janez (1288 - 1310), who extensively rounded up and increased the

⁵⁶ Raziskovalno-dokumentacijski center JAS, Konservatorski načrt, Novo mesto – Hiša Glavni trg 2, EŠD 8534, Ljubljana 2017, p.26.

⁵⁷ VARDJAN 2003, pp. 1-2.

⁵⁸ Ibid., p. 56. Sam.All, knjiga št.8, Arhiv RS Ljubljana.

monastery's estate and thus his annual income. Soon the monastery had on both streams, Obrh and Studena, as many as three mills. The third was gifted to the monastery by the townspeople Friderik and Ivana Grule on June 15, 1315, after their deaths.

Monastery mills outside of Kostanjevica

In the past, there were many mills on the Sušica stream, which flows into the Krka near Podbočje. The oldest information about the mill is, that it was supposedly given to the monastery as a gift in 1376. It was abandoned in 1454, but then rebuilt by the Cistercians in 1547. The precise location of the mill is unclear – it could be the still operating mill called Hribarjev mlin in Podbočje or a demolished mill that stood in the centre of the village, or an abandoned mill that is located outside of Podbočje, near village Šutna. However, the Sušica stream has constant water, enough for water supply and fish farms, and it is not surprising that the land register from 1574 lists as many as four mills.

The sources also mention the quarries near the village of Šutna. Abandoned monastery sandstone quarry used by the Cistercians and still functioning quarry of reddish limestone are mentioned. However, through the analysis and observations from various historical maps and lidar images the location of the two quarries could not be determined.

One of the oldest sources on the acquisition of a monastery mill is the information in the purchase contract from 9.3.1320, which states that Abbot Janez bought quality land in Dolenja vas near Šentjernej and a mill on Prekopski (or Lačni) stream. Like the Sušica stream near Podbočje, the Prekopski or Lačni stream with its tributaries was occupied with monastery mills, if we look at the inventories of the monastery estates, such as the oldest urbarium from the period of Abbot Lavrencij around 1350 and urbarium from the time of Abbot Wolfgang Neff. In the 14th century there were three mills on Prekopski or Lačni potok, namely in villages Ledeca vas (bought in 1367 and located near the church of St. Ana), in Gornja Prekopa and in Dolnja Prekopa. We learn from the oldest land register that there was also be a mill on the river Krka in Straža and one on Bršljinski stream in Dolenje Kamence near Novo mesto. The farthest monastery mill was in Carinthia at St. Vid ob Glini owned by the monastery around 1378. The mill in a village Dolenja Stara vas near Šenjernej on Vratljanski stream is also mentioned in 1373.

Subsequent data confirm a similar arrangement of mills that were known two hundred years before and the acquisition of new ones. The land register of Abbot Wolfgang from 1547 lists all the land belonging to the Kostanjevica monastery, with its income, and lists nine monastic mills. Four mills were positioned on the Sušica stream, three on Studena near the monastery

and two on the Prekopski stream. The mills at that time were not independent economic units. They could belong to a farm or to the mayor, who were granted a privilege from the monastery and could improve their economic position by having a mill in their possession.

In 1625 the urbarium of the Abbot Matej Majerle, when the monastery had 303 subservient farms, speaks of eight mills. All mills except for one were located in monastic urbarial settlements. The mills were positioned as follows: one mill was in village Dolenja Prekopa and one in village Dobrava (both of them on Prekopski stream), one was on Sušica stream and one in the village Podbočje, and two more on Studena stream. In 1625, the monastery bought the Kostanjevica seignury and thus acquired as many as five mills. There was a mill on the Račna stream near village Smednik, in village Dolenja vas and in village Dolenje Površje. In village Zameško there was a mill on the Sajevec stream, and in village Gržeča vas on the Krško field was a mill on the Velikovaški stream. The monastery mill in village Šmarje pri Šentjerneju, on the Kobilica stream, still stands today. It is no longer operational and the building is privately owned.

The Cistercians became the owners of a mill in village Videm in 1680. Sources state that the mill was located at the bridge, probably on a stream below the Libna hill.

Among the data on the monastery's property with the mill is the inventory of the Klevevž estate, which was conducted in 1749 by the administrator, monk Danijel Mordax. The mill was built on the Radulja stream, it had three mill wheels and a thatched roof.

It seems that the last monastery mill was bought in 1763 by Abbot Leopold. It was located near the village Dolenja Brezovica close to Šentjernej, on the Kobilica stream and was positioned a little lower down the stream than the mill in Šmarje.⁵⁹

5.8 Sacred landscape

Chapel of St. Lawrence

Among the only buildings in the valley Toplica before the construction of the monastery was the former chapel of St. Lawrence, which is mentioned in the charter document, as a place where the monastery will be built (*inxta capellam sancti Laurentii*). There are no traces of this chapel today. It is assumed that it stood in front of the monastery, probably in the area of the main entrance till second half of the 16th century, when it was most probably demolished by protestants, according to the visitation of Bishop Paul Byzantium.⁶⁰

Parish churches

⁵⁹ Ibid., pp.56-59.

⁶⁰ Ibid., p.22.

In 1321 the Counts Babonići gifted the monastery the patronage rights over parish St. Jurij in Vivodina. Besides this parish the monastery obtained also the patronage over church of St. Jakob in Kostanjevica. The patronage over parish of St. Peter in Gorenji Mokronog was gifted to the monastery from Austrian duke Oton in 1331. In 1333 king Henrik gave the Kostanjevica monastery patronage rights over parish of St. Janez Krstnik (St. John the Baptist) in Kovor near the town Tržič.⁶¹

The Patriarchs of Aquileia tried to help the monastery of Kostanjevica chiefly by the association of parishes which brought in a number of rents. Thus, the Patriarch Raimondo della Torre (1273-1299) certified as belonging to the monastery the parish of St. Jacob in the town of Kostanjevica, which was confirmed in 1392 by the Patriarch Janez.⁶² In 1331 the Patriarch Pegasus della Torre (1319-1331) adjoined the extensive and rich old parish of St. Rupert in Videm on the Sava.⁶³ In 1330 Henrik, the son of Gorica-Tyrolean Count Meinhard, further confirmed the monastery's patronage over the church of St. Jurij in Vivodina.⁶⁴ In 1401 Pope Boniface IX (1389-1404) associated the parish of Šentjernej with the monastery, but since this association was not carried out, Paul II (1464-1471), gave the parish of Šentjernej to the cathedral chapter of Ljubljana, in exchange for the parish of St. Križ near Kostanjevica; included in this judgement was also the branch of St. Jurij in Čatež. We should mention that the association of parishes in Styria, Lower Carniola, Žumberk, Vivodina and in Upper Carniola not only brought profit to the monastery, but also involved it in a lot of unpleasantness. The local landed gentry also meddled in the rights of the associated parishes; thus, we know about the dispute between the monastery and some gentlemen of Reichenburg over the parish of St. Peter in Brestanica which passed out of the hands of the monastery in the 16th century.⁶⁵

Some of the monastery's community governed the associated parishes as parish priests. In the 18th century the Kostanjevica monastery appointed Fathers to the parish of St. Jacob in the town of Kostanjevica and, from time to time also to neighbouring parishes (sv. Križ, St. Jurij in Čatež). The abbots of Kostanjevica were like archdeacons to their associated parishes and received the respect due to this office, but it also brought them cares and duties. After the abolition of the Patriarchate of Aquileia in 1751, after many centuries, radical changes took place in the ecclesiastical administration in its former territory. New parochial places sprang up on the territory of the Kostanjevica parishes; in 1751 a new settlement withdrew from the

⁶¹ MLINARIČ 1972, pp.16-17.

⁶² Ibid., p. 17.

⁶³ MLINARIČ 1987, p. 575.

⁶⁴ Ibid. 576.

⁶⁵ Ibid. 578.

ancient parish of St. Rupert in Videm, with its seat in the church of St. Martin in Sromlje; in 1765 a new pastoral centre arose in Our Lady's church in Dobova, formerly a branch of the parish of Brežice.⁶⁶

The following associated parishes belonged to the Kostanjevica monastery (with the years of accession):

Kostanjevica na Krki (St. Jakob)	1249
Vivodina (St. Jurij)	1321
Gorenji Mokronog (St. Peter)	1331
Videm ob Savi (St. Rupert)	1331
with Brežice, Rajhenburg, Sevnica and Sromlje (1753) and Dobova (1765)	
Kovor (St. John the Baptist)	1333
Žumberk (St. Mihael)	before 1405
Podbočje (St. Križ)	1474
(with Čatež) ⁶⁷	

Pilgrimage churches

The Kostanjevica monastery built two pilgrimage churches. The first is the Pilgrimage Church of Mary, Consolation of The Afflicted in a village Male Vodenice in Kostanjevica, that was built in the 14th century. In the core gothic church consists of a square nave, a gothic presbytery with a bell tower attached to the north side and an entrance shed from 1811.⁶⁸

The second church is Pilgrimage Church of Mary, Mother of Good Counsel. A large baroque pilgrimage church with two bell towers was built above the village of Globočice by the last abbot of the Kostanjevica monastery, Aleksander Haller pl. Hallerstein. The architect was Lovrenc Prager. The church was built in 1777 and consecrated in 1778. Until 1786 it belonged to the parish of St. Cross (Podbočje).⁶⁹

Both churches are in the vicinity of the monastery and form visually attractive panoramic axis.

⁶⁶ Ibid. pp.582-583.

⁶⁷ Ibid., p. 40.

⁶⁸ SMREKAR, Andrej: Kostanjevica na Krki. Cultural and Natural Monuments of Slovenia, Ljubljana 2015, pp. 101-102.

⁶⁹ SMREKAR, Andrej: Kostanjevica na Krki. Cultural and Natural Monuments of Slovenia, Ljubljana 2015, pp. 104-107.

5.9 Settlement Structures, Land Forms, Village & City

It was mentioned before that the *huba* was the basic individual economic unit of land and represented a form of property of the monastery the most. Although the landscape underwent certain historical changes and trends, that had an impact on the landscape's structure and image, there are also structures, landscape patterns and forms that are preserved and originate from the time of the monastery. The development of landscape was a broader, general process of which the monastery was a part of. The landscape is therefore a result of broader legal, economical, technological, social, and cultural trends and natural features. In example we can find similar land division patterns such as long stripes throughout all the Slovenia. The biggest impact the monastery had was in terms of colonizing new land especially in Gorjanci and over to the today's Croatia and also by managing existing arable land in the plain. The monastery therefore served as the accelerator of colonising and cultivating land.

Evidence of individual structures or landscape patterns and forms that could be linked to the monastery directly is not yet known. Either the authentic built structures are missing or were completely modified. The historical sources often do not mention the exact location of built structures regarding individual hides as the number was quite high and they represented somehow less significant structures compared to granges, tithe houses etc. However, by understanding the role of the monastery and also findings based on historical sources we can assume the impact of the monastery in the region. In example existing settlement in Gorjanci where the monastery had its vineyards, dislocated and dispersed settlement that persists from time of colonization of the Gorjanci. On the plain the finely articulated agricultural landscape and division on long stripes gradually developed in the plain. The division originates from the Middle ages and is still visible when comparing Franciscan cadastre and today's parcel structure. It forms particular and clearly seen landscape patterns. The general floorplans and original settlement structures with old village cores can be identified. Many of them represented urban settlements in the time of the monastery. To connect the historical sources and today's landscape and identify these structures even more certainly, extensive analysis of the urbanisms, historical maps and land registry should be carried out.



Above, left to right: Vineyards on slope in Bočje, Dispersed settlement on foothills in Gorjanci, Finely articulated land in the plain near Groblje. (GURS)

Below: Former urbarial settlement of Groblje today and on Franciscan cadastre. (GURS)

5.10 Defense

The main entrance to the monastery with the prelature was one of the defensive structures. In the free-standing, almost square building, similar to a defense tower, the firing lines are still visible. Interestingly, some of the firing lines visible today are very low, almost at the ground level, as after 800 years, the terrain has risen for about 170 cm. The walled defensive vestibule leaning against the main gate had an internal bypass corridor accessible from the first floor of the prelature. In the Baroque period, in 1737, two round defensive towers were added at the corners, which have been preserved to this day. The solution is very similar to the former solution in the Vetrinj (Viktring) monastery, but unfortunately the fortified entrance there has not been preserved.

The second defensive tower was leaning against the south façade. Its foundations are today presented on the ground floor of the southern Renaissance wing and prove the authenticity of

Valvasor's graphic depiction from 1679. The defensive character of the southern part of the monastery is also presented in a three-storey building extension to the east.

In 2001, the foundations of the defensive tower on the south-eastern corner of the original monastery core were discovered during the restauration of the arcaded courtyard. The foundations of the defense tower are 9.00 x 9.00 meters in size and the building leaned against a slightly exposed living room for monks, above which was a bedroom. Despite the destruction of the foundations, the stone extensions are still visible. They protrude from the building line of the oldest part of the eastern and southern wings. Valvasor on a graphic sheet from 1679, a good 400 years after the creation of the monastery, accurately proved the corner building in the shape of a tower. The depictions of the Kostanjevica abbey on Valvazor's prints are quite accurate and authentic, so we can believe the third depiction – a drawing of the monastery from the north side from around 1679 where the two towers can be seen.



Janez Vajkard Valvasor: Drawing of the Kostanjevica abbey from the north side, ca. 1679. (E-Heritage)

In addition to the above mentioned, additional security was provided by the walls in front of the main entrance on the west side of the monastery, which first framed the ornamental garden with a pavilion and the vegetable garden. The second wall in the west surrounded the grange and outbuildings where a free-standing mill took on a special defensive role. The firing lines at the mill are presented.

The monastery was securely walled and strategically prepared for Turkish invasions, riots or peasant uprisings. When the Carniolan provincial governor Ivan Turjaški visited the

Kostanjevica monastery on March 30th, 1515, he found that there were strong fortifications in the monastery and that not even 3,000 men could easily capture it.⁷⁰

In 1600 there were many firearms in the armory, including five rifles with very long barrels (arquebuses), thirty-nine ordinary rifles, twenty-one double-edged axes, twenty-four ordinary axes, nine sabers, eighteen halberds, seven armors with helmets, five pieces of armor, gunpowder, a few bullets of various sizes, and a military tent.⁷¹

5.11 Free time

We have only scarce written sources about the free time and leisure activities of the Kostanjevica monks.

Due to the swampy area on which the monastewry was built, the air was very humid. Therefore, due to very harmful air in the valley (*aer valde nocivus*), sensitive monks were sent for treatment to Mokronog or Videm. The visitor of the monastery in a document also states that the water from the stream was also of bad quality (*parum valoris*) and therefore allows the monks to drink wine in moderation during the heat in order to maintain health (*ad sanitatem conservandam*), which meant that the monks could drink considerably more wine than what was normally allowed.

The cistercian monks have also had time for recreation. On Tuesdays and Thursdays, the monks were supposed to have a group walk nature, but they had to return by the evening time. Conventuals were allowed to walk in a landscaped garden and meditate and walk in a monastery garden as well. It was ordered that a special garden in the cloister (*Klausurgarten*) should be arranged, preferably with a garden shed.⁷²

On the Klevevž estate, not far from the castle building, there was and still is a natural spring of thermal water, which was a popular place among monks for relaxing and bathing in natural warm and healing water. Abbot Alexander Taufferer, who was in poor health, often went to this spa for treatment, where he stayed in Klevevž Castle for a long time in 1747, 1748 and 1752, as is evidenced by a series of letters.⁷³

⁷⁰ VARDJAN 2003, pp. 30-31.

⁷¹ Ibid., p.32.

⁷² Ibid., p.39.

⁷³ MLINARIČ 1987, p. 464.

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