

POTENTIAL FOR DEVELOPMENT OF RURAL TOURISM IN DOLNA PRESPA

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ABSTRACT

The motive for such a study was the valorization and categorization of architectural heritage in some rural areas in Macedonia that are located close to larger urban areas and the possibility of sustainable spatial development as well as the promotion of rural areas through action in areas such as architecture, urbanism, spatial planning, environmental protection, development of the civil sector and development of rural tourism.

For this purpose, we analyzed three rural entities and villages in the Prespa region. We selected the locations because they are located close to larger town centers such as Resen and Bitola and the border with R. Greece and this is the potential for development of rural tourism.

Key words: rural tourism, rural architecture, Dolna Prespa.

DOLNA PRESPA: VILLAGES LJUBOJNO, BRAJCINO, KURBINOVO

METHODOLOGY

Due to our research, the idea of development of rural tourism in our country, we used several methods to prove and develop the project.

- Method of deduction.
- Method of direct measuring.
- Historical method.

MORPHOLOGY, TOPOGRAPHY, HISTORY, CLIMATE

In the southwest part of Macedonia, more precisely in Dolna Prespa, are located the villages of Brajcino and Ljubojno. This site was interesting from the aspect that it is located in the immediate vicinity of tourist resorts (Pretor, Krani, Asamati) and two major centers – Resen and Bitola, beside the bosom of the Baba Mountain, two or six kilometers from Prespa Lake, not far from Greek border. The villages are located on a slightly steep terrain, which descends from the east to the west side and from the south to the north, nine hundred to one thousand and one hundred meters above sea level. Through

the villages of Ljubojno and Brajčino, runs Brajčinska River, aquifer, fast and clear. The river divides the villages into two parts, on the northern smaller and southern major part, and with its serpentine course flows in the Prespa Lake. The villages are interconnected: on the south side with the village Dolno Dupeni, and on the west side are connected with the national road to Resen.

Ljubojno is a hilly mountain village and belongs to villages of compact type, formed as a result of the desire to take as less farmable space. The field contributed to this type of village, because on the south side, it was not possible to spread because of the steep land, on the north side was a bey's possession, and because of this, the spread took place along the river, east-west.

In terms of climate Ljubojno has a modified European continental climate, conditioned by several factors such as latitude and longitude, altitude, the proximity of Lake Prespa, the direction and arrangement of the mountain range, as well as the direction of wind. The spring is characterized by moderately high temperatures, sometimes warm, and sometimes cold days, which depends

largely on the flowering of fruit trees. The summers are mostly warm during the day, although the temperature can rise even higher, yet the nights are fresh. Winter is cold with a snow cover of up to one meter and is kept from December to March. Such a climate, influenced the type of house construction.

In addition to the Brajcinska Reka, in the area of the village there are several wetlands that in spring dry up and create favorable arable agricultural soils. In Ljubojno water was supplied from the wells that they dug in their yards. Almost every house had its own well. The wells dig deep, depending on the place, from six to fifteen meters, they were built with a stone and covered with a wooden cover on the upper side.

Thanks to the mentioned favorable climatic and hydrological characteristics, the area of Ljubojno abounds with rich vegetation. In addition to pastures covered with grass, there are forest species of spruce, oak, beech, and chimney wood, which were used by the local population to build their houses.

The basic occupation of all inhabitants of Ljubojno was agriculture and animal husbandry, followed by some crafts: water mill, terzi and valley. Agricultural holdings were processed primitively with oxen and wooden rails. From the cereal crops, which were the most present in this region, rye, corn, wheat were grown, and later the barley was grown. The large amount of this kind of cereals obtained during the year was processed in the mills that were located along the Brajchinska River. Up to the St. Ilija uprising there were sixteen active mills, of which only one remains today.

The difficult living conditions, the lack of food, from the end of the XIX and the beginning of the XX century, required every family, to have goats and sheep, talking about

the fact that livestock was a second major occupation. Familiar families who owned a large number of small and large cattle were kept in special for them made winter trees, outside the village. The other Ljubancans who owned a small number of livestock were placed in stables located in their yards. Vineyard was also an agricultural branch that was well developed. The grapes made good wine and rakija (grapa).

The village of Ljubojno received its name from the word love. According to some traditions, there was a boy and girl who were very much in love. They originated from two neighboring neighborhoods that did not live in good relations and therefore they should not have been taken. However, they nevertheless decided to take and flee. They settled in a place near Brajcinska Reka, and they lived to live happily. Later on, other families who lived in love moved to this place, and so they called the place Ljubojno.

Probably this is a legend recounted by the elderly. But it is true that the inhabitants of this Prespa atate enjoyed love: love for their homeland, their homeland, nature, beautiful ...

The village is mentioned for the first time in the written documents of Tsar Dushan in 1337, when the church of St. Nicholas of the Treskavik Monastery in Prilep confirms. Metoh ou Prjaslija ou Ljuboini Sveti Nikola that gave Nicola Archaeoscope with all the rules.

A second written record mentioning the village of Ljubojno is from 1607, found in the Plum Monastery St. Bogorodica where it is written: "Todor Vlchev from Ljubojno gave money for building the monastery in the village of Slivnica".

According to the architectonical urban point of view, the village resembles a small urban settlement. It represents a village of compact type, with narrow streets, village

square and pretentious architecture. There were shops in which old craftsmen worked. Up to the Ilinden uprising in Ljubojno there were sixteen mills, nine rams for making rakija, and twelve terriers (seamstresses on their costumes). Craftsmanship, with few exceptions, was not the main and only occupation. The educational process is also characteristic of Ljubojno, and because of this, schools were built. The first built school is presumed to have been built in the second half of the XIX century. There are no written sources for this, and according to the old pupils school there were few classrooms. In 1907 a new school was built that was more spacious and on two floors. In addition to these elements, which fully satisfy an urban whole, there are churches that complement the spiritual segment. There are nine churches in the village and around them. All of this provides a functional unit that not only satisfies the functioning of the village, but also a city core.

From all of this, it can be said that the geographical position, the configuration of the terrain, the land, the use of the building material, as well as the occupation of the villagers visibly influenced the formation of the agricultural enterprises, the houses and in general the architecture of the village.

Brajcino is located in the extreme south-eastern part of the territory of the Municipality of Resen, whose atatre rises to the southwestern tip of Mount Baba, where it touches the area of the village. Bistrica, as well as with the state line of the southern neighbor]. The village of Brajcino is a mountain village drawn into the valley of Brajcinska Reka and is located at an altitude of 1000 meters. It is located 6 km from Prespa Lake to the Baba Mountains, and 32 km away from the town of Resen. Through the village flows the clear and lush Brajcinska Reka, which abounds with cold water and at the same time divides

the village into a mountain neighborhood on its left side and a lower sail on its right bank. The mountain slopes around Brajcino are abundant with thick beech and oak forest, and from the village itself, starting from the width of the playground in front of the upper part of the hill, there are several marked mountain paths which, through the thick beech, oak and walnut forests, lead to the peak Pelister (3 hours) and The big lake from the Pelister Eye (6 hours), the mountaineering homes Neolica and Kopanki and the village of Nizhpoyle in Bitola, which are marked with signboards and mountain marking (marking). Brajcino has a rather large arterial area covering an area of 60 km², on which the forests occupy an area of 2788 hectares, pastures 2424 hectares, and arable land 498.1 hectares. Located in Prespa, which is an area with rich historical tradition, especially in the medieval period, the village of Brajcino is quite an old settlement, which is witnessed by many antiques in the village and its surroundings. Based on the medieval written historical records of the Byzantine historian Jovan Skilitza, David, the oldest brother of Tsar Samuil, was murdered in 976 by Vlachs in the area of Beautiful Dabovi on the road from Prespa to Kostur, the contemporary chronicler of Prespa, Kiril J. Jonovski in his book "Prespa – Historical Enigma", assumes that this happened in the immediate vicinity of the village Brajcino in the locality Dabje. Such a presumption, besides the similarity of the name of the landscapes of Beautiful Dabovi and Dabje, Jonovski underlines the fact that from Brajcino is the road from Prespa to Bitola and Kostur, and until recently Vlachs had their own sheepfolds on this road that leads through the mountain Baba. In the village there are the monastery St. Petka and the medieval church of St. Arangel, for which the exact date of construction is not known, but it is known that it has been deserted for some

time, and its fresco-painting dates from the XII or XIII century. At the beginning of the 20th century during the glorious Ilinden uprising in 1903, as a token of revenge, the Turkish army and bashibuzuk burned Brajcino and Ljubojno, with only 2 churches remaining in Brajcino. According to the composition of the village atar Brajcino there is a mixed agricultural function. The main and most developed economic branches of the inhabitants and within the village are agriculture, forestry, livestock and especially in recent times tourism. From the livestock breeding the most common is the growing of goats and large cattle (cows, oxen) for their own needs. Agricultural production is also predominantly for its own needs and the most commonly grown steep cereals such as wheat, rye and corn, and in very small amounts of garden crops. As in other Prespa villages and in Brajcino there is also orchard cultivation, and on smaller scale cherries, plums, pears, walnuts. Due to dense forests and flower meadows, there is a lot of development of beekeeping and honey production, which is occupied by several residents and owners of weekend houses. Particularly significant is the development of tourism for which the mountain is used, the proximity of Prespa Lake, the village itself with its interesting architecture and church temples. The village itself lives only from the development of rural tourism. The majority of visitors come from the Republic of Macedonia, while the rest are mainly from the European countries, America and Australia. Bright, cool and clear Brajcinska Reka just above the village under construction is a small hydropower plant for the production of electricity, irrigation and drinking water. According to the 2002 census, Brajcino lived 134 inhabitants, and currently the village has about 150 inhabitants, all Macedonian. Due to the mountainous area and the distance, as well as the long-

standing migrant tradition, the village Brajcino noted a sharp decline and a significant decrease in the number of its inhabitants. In 1961 in the village lived 795 inhabitants, while in 1994 the number fell to 212 inhabitants.

CULTURAL AND HISTORICAL MONUMENTS

In the villages and in their surroundings there are many cultural and historical monuments from different periods. Particularly interesting are the sacral monuments: the church "St. Nikola" – the main village church in Brajcino, the church "St. Ilija", known for its first cellary school (1874–1876), the monastery church "St. Five", the Church "St. Mother of God", the Church "St. Atanasij" and the Church "St. Archangels". It is very important that the villagers have made sure that all buildings have well-marked road signs and paths, as well as organized walks and mountain tours to every facility.

In the immediate vicinity about three kilometers above the village Kurbinovo, in the bosom of Baba is one of the pearls of Byzantine art in Macedonia, the church "St. George". It was built in 1191 and was the largest single-nave basilica in Macedonia. The simple orthogonal structure (17 x 7 m) of stone and brick is located on a mountain plateau that provides a fantastic panorama of the Prespa Lake. The fresco painting in the church is a true masterpiece of the Byzantine folk masters and is one of the most valuable works of that period, together with the fresco painting in the church "St. Panteleimon" in Nerezi near Skopje.

ARCHITECTURAL SPECIFICS OF THE FACILITIES IN LJUBOJNO AND BRAJCINO

The occupation of the population certainly influenced the formation of objects

that were closely related to their lifestyle habits. In addition to the house for living, we encounter a series of buildings that served to store food for people and livestock, barns, baskets, baskets; then, objects for livestock, auras, hen houses; an object in which food was prepared, called a cookery, or a kind of summer kitchen, which was always descended from an oven in which bread and other baked goods were baked. The oven was located near the cookery.

Usually the village yard is enclosed with a high fence – ape. It was divided into two parts. The part where the aura, the barn, and the coop were most often enclosed with a low fence, to make differentiation from the house yard. Around the yard there was a small flower garden. The rest of the house yard was paved with stones where the cooking house, the oven, the well and the pot was located. In some yards there is also a part for growing fruits and vegetables, as well as a place where the carts were housed. Of course, there were also yards in which there was no strict separation of the yard from the house yard, that is, without dividing the yard into a separate yard and a separate yard for livestock. This was influenced by the size of the yard, or on what ground it was.

According to some travelers who passed through in the 15th century, stables in western Europe were more beautiful, cleaner and more comfortable for living than local houses at that time. Also, we get a picture of the Macedonian house from the XV, the XVI and the XVII century from a French traveler who went through in 1665.

He says that the typical local village house was built from a plate and covered with rhizomes, and it entered from one hole, which at the same time represented a window.

Of all these written sources, from the objects that still exist and from the statements

of the old lovans, the oldest houses were similar to the above mentioned. They were one-piece ground-floor houses, with a proper rectangular shape. In it people and cattle lived together, separated by a low fence made of wicker or beech wood. Somewhere, the barrier was made of a platter or for this purpose the barn was used. People lived in the "house" and the place where the cattle were called, called aur.

In the "house" where the fireplace was located, all functions related to living itself were performed, such as cooking, dining, sleeping and reception of guests. The fireplace was in the middle of the room, and the smoke came out of an opening called a bagha. It was coming from a bigger door, there was a window, which night covered with a wooden lid. The floor was earthy, the material that was used for their construction to a certain height was the stone, and above it a plinth was placed above it. Over time, the fireplace was dislocated and was placed beside the wall with some kind of impromptu chimney. There are two-storeyed ground-floor houses where there was a separate entrance for people and livestock, and here the fireplace is by the wall. These are examples of houses from the eighteenth century.

There are not many examples of this type of house. And those who are left no longer serve for living.

A larger change in the houses in a positive sense took place in the XIX century. Houses began to be built on the ground floor and the floor, where there was a difference regarding the layout of the premises. Livestock and people split, the former were usually on the ground floor, and people were placed on the floor.

The oldest type of this category are the chardakli houses where on the ground floor there was the aurorat, the sculpture and the fireplace, and the rooms were located on the

floor. There are, however, houses of chardacles in which differentiation of livestock premises from those for people has been carried out, in vertical terms. So in these houses, the ground floor was the porch, which houses the stairs. Through the porch was entered the aura and the scandal. On the upper floor was the loggia through which the "house" was located in the rooms. This type of house will be illustrated with the following example. On the ground floor there is a porch which is not enclosed, but is limited only by tree trunks, which are pillars that hold the loggia. From here it enters the aura and the scandal, which in this case are in the same room. On this floor there are several small openings for lighting and ventilation of the opening. On the upper floor enters the stairs, made of wooden planks, inserted into two tapes. A roughly fenced fence is placed around the staircase around the stairs. Right next to the stairs is the door through which it enters the "house". There are some bigger windows here, and this is logical because it represents a room in which the family resides. Because the balcony occupies the entire length of the house and has only one door, in addition to its communicative function, it is used as a place for delay, summer rest, as well as for performing daily tasks.

If we take the above-described, conditionally basic type of houses in this category, then its variations must also be described. In addition to this type, there are also types of houses in which the porch, that is, the balcony is not the entire length of the house, but occupies two thirds. In the first type 1, the balcony is thrown out in front of the house itself with a length of three quarters and freely stands in front of it, while while in the second type 2, the loggia occupies the same length, with the difference that from one side it is limited by the size of the hook itself. The

loggia in this case, because it has been reduced, and there are two doors for entrance into two rooms, is reduced exclusively to meet the needs of communication and connection. Of course, the loggia also holds some other functions, but with reduced possibilities.

Also, according to the number of premises there are several types of houses chardaklija. Besides the simplest type, where the ground floor and the floor are located in one room, there are also examples where two rooms appear on two levels or more on the floor. In some cases, the aura does not enter within the ground floor, so it is used as a warehouse, that is, the barn is also located there. The aura is located in the courtyard or outside it.

SPATIAL FUNCTIONAL AND TYPOLOGICAL ANALYSIS

Due to the configuration on the ground there are houses in which one part, the one on the main street is composed of one floor, and the one from the courtyard of two floors. Here it is characteristic that two entrance doors, one from the street, and the other from the yard are coming. The porch was closed on both sides with chambers.

The houses in Brajcino and Ljubojno, except for a few, suffered a complete change after the Ilinden uprising when they were burned. Strong swing in this period takes also the migration, which significantly affects the architecture of the houses. The most widespread and most characteristic form of houses from this period are the houses on the ground floor and the floor, symmetrically determined. The closed porch is centrally located in these houses. Side by side is the "house", and on the other side, a room of the same dimensions as "the house". This room was used as a syral if the house did not have a basement, otherwise it was used as a room.

On the floor, above the porch through the stairs, you can reach the salon or what is called a sofa, from where it enters the chambers that are planned in the same way as the lower ones. There was an open or closed balcony on the couch itself.

In terms of terraces, they can either be open, enclosed only by a wooden fence or completely enclosed by a platter and windows. In addition to being able to be placed from the front or back of the house, the balcony is sometimes placed in the side chambers for a better view, in the concrete case the balcony has a view of the village square.

Due to the unevenness of the terrain there are houses with two entrances one directly from the main street through the sofa, and the second entrance through the yard from the ground floor. So on the front of the house looks on two levels, and from the back to the courtyard on three levels.

But we also find houses on the ground floor and the floor, which are used by two brothers who live separately with their families, called brotherly houses, or divided houses. Thus, for these needs, often the larger old houses are divided into two parts, so that each part is a functionally functional one. But they can be built as brothers' houses.

An example of this type is the brother-in-law of the Condévi family. So a sofa, porch and entrance stairs are divided into two parts. Each section is a separate functional unit that meets the needs of every single family. One of the most interesting types of houses in this category are the houses with a store in the ground floor. Their base is the same, with the fact that instead of the room there is a shop on the ground floor.

There are houses in which porch and sofa do not appear on the base of the plan on the first floor. The sofa only appears on the second floor. This space is used as a passage through which it goes into the yard. The house of the Petrevski family, as a characteristic example, is taken because the first floor has a loggia, which extends along the entire length of the house, and in one part it is expanded. The basis of the house is the same as the previously worked out examples, but with that change, which instead of a balcony has a loggia. The cellar does not appear at the base of the house, so the chamber appears on the ground floor, and in the summer time the loggia for this function was used.

Exceptions to this type of houses are those in which symmetry is displaced. For example, the sofa as a central part of the house connects two rooms of different sizes. One is bigger and the other smaller in houses that have a basis in the form of the letter "L", where it is deviated from the rectangular shape.

From the presented, in terms of the functional solutions of individual groups of rooms and their interconnection, one can see that the peasant master succeeded in forming functional units corresponding to the needs of the peasant's life. In most cases there is a separate night stay, which is an expression of a developed housing standard. Constant logic in the connection of the premises, their grouping in separate units, certainly functionally justified. All this is an expression of a meaningful functional composition of the base, which is, in turn, a result of the life experience and building traditions that have been very richly developed in our country.

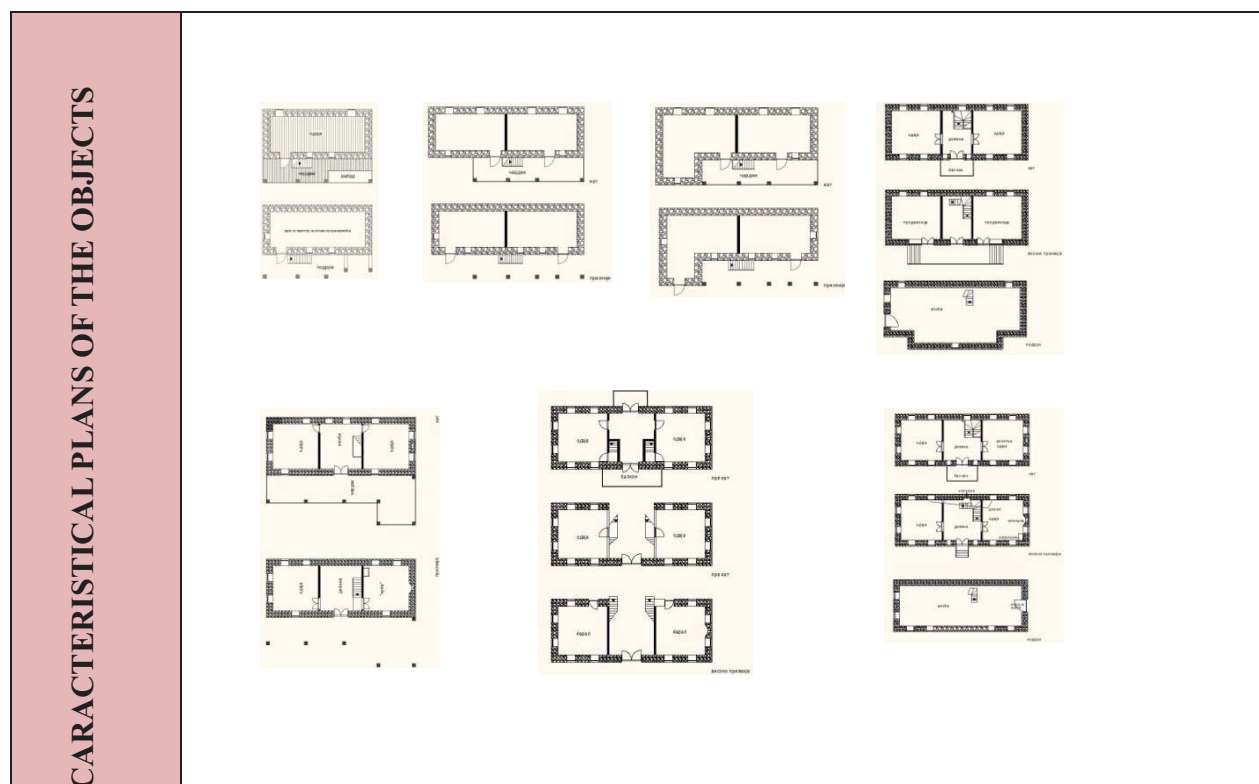


Figure 1:

The houses that were built after the Ilinden uprising are completely built of stone. At certain heights, a wooden belt is laid out of chamois or poplar timber. The stones used are tacit, especially those located at the very corner of the house, which contribute to the greater aesthetic value of the building and to the inclusion of the house. The stones were cut along with mud and lime lime, which gives more toughness in the masonry. Obesity usually ranged from 50 cm to 70 cm. The same way was used during the construction of the air and commercial buildings.

The inner and outer construction was made of wooden beams, boards or oaks. According to telling the villagers that the tree that was supposed to be used during the construction of a house was cut at a certain period of the year and the day, and if they acted contrary the tree wept. It can be said that to some extent this fact has logic, which is due to the moisture that contains the wood and the techniques of drying at that time, which were

primitive. They cut the tree in summertime, when it's actually the fastest to dry.

The editing of the premises was solved very simply. In the "house" there was a fireplace, which was usually semi-open. It was cooked, the heat was dry. It was placed opposite the door. In the semi-open hearths there is an outlet in the upper part most often ovaly solved with small objects. "The house" was a central place in the house, here besides preparing meals, eating, sitting, that is, most of the day was spent in it. In the winter months she sometimes slept in the "house".

The rest of the rooms served either for the disposal of objects or for the milling. They were very simply resolved. The floor was from the ground or planks, depending on the type of house, plastered in white. Bedding beds were laid, and later beds. Semi-open hearths in the form of fireplaces are encountered in the rooms. On one of the walls were built embedded cupboards. The guest room, unlike the rest of the chambers in some

houses, differs in that it was plastered in different colors or compositions, due to the reputational character that it had.

In addition to the built-in equipment, which only appears in the form of cupboards, the houses also encountered certain old items that are mobile furniture. The old furnishings were taken care of by wood, with wooden wedges connected to separate parts, as well as with wooden wooden joints. Items will be described as much as today can be found in the houses.

It was sitting on trunks, and it was eaten on soft seeds. A knife, a wooden circular device, was used for kneading bread, which was the same as the but with larger dimensions. Water was drank from stomachs and from a bouquet made of spruce wood, which was placed on the stomach. The coffin was used to store bed and clothes.

And when making housework, the peasant showed the ability for practical solution, in the creation of a functional whole.





Pictures 1:

POTENTIAL FOR DEVELOPMENT OF RURAL TOURISM

We met one of the best examples of rural tourism in the villages of Ljubojno and Brajčino in Prespa. The beautiful edge that is present in all the analyzed sites, here is used very appropriately, although it can certainly be improved and improved. First of all, this refers to the road infrastructure that leads to the villages. The fact that lives in these villages is a great contributor, the locals can seriously understand the benefits of tourism and to perceive the values offered by the site itself. We met several buildings that have been working for commercial purposes for several years, the houses are adapted and restored, offering accommodation for guests, traditional cuisine with local specialties, healthy food and products prepared by the hosts, organized mountain tours and visits to important cultural and historical monuments that are found in the surroundings of the countryside. The facilities are on the tourist map of Macedonia, offer arrangements abroad and included offers on the Internet through social networks.

That can not be said for Kurbinovo. The road infrastructure through the village is in dire condition and the access to the Church "St. Giorgi "(ruined road barely 4 meters wide) is really inadequate. A billboard in front of the church itself is really too small for an object of this kind.

VALORIZATION

Based on the comprehensive analysis carried out in terms of the specific and anthropological values in the regions, it is necessary to perform valorization. Valorization represents the first step towards finding new modern solutions to the opportunities for the development of rural tourism in the region.

"Tourist valorization is an assessment of natural and anthropogenic values that are of great importance for the development of tourism in a certain area."

After the detailed field surveys were completed, a data archive was created over which sections were made in terms of architecture and interior arrangement, but also briefly and in the history and tradition of the regions and its villages. The performed valuation was performed in terms of the acquired

situation and on the basis of the future potential for its revitalization.

In order to determine whether there are real opportunities for the development of rural tourism, the tables shown below are made. They present and evaluate certain key values that are one of the main indicators that clearly

determine the very opportunity for the development of rural tourism. The evaluation of the criteria is done through five grades, the weakest being labeled with the word insufficient, while the highest is with the word excellent.

Valorization of indicators in some villages in Dolna Prespa									
Cultural values					Quality of space				
Historical					Quality of drinking water				
Artistic					Quality of communal infrastructure				
Architectural					Air quality				
Wealth of content					Quality of information exchange				
					Quality of road infrastructure				
					Quality of organization of housing and settlements				

Figure 2:

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