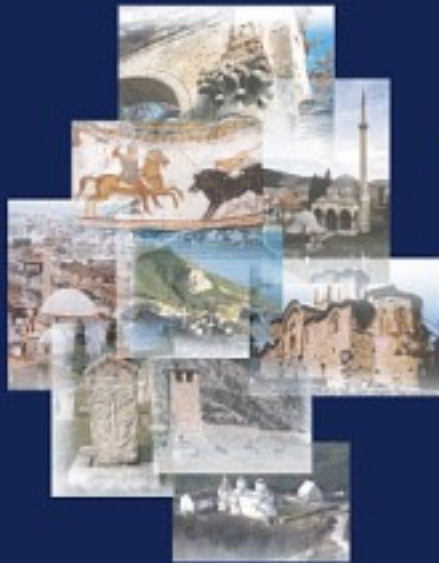


Integrated Rehabilitation Project Plan  
Survey of the Architectural and Archaeological Heritage (IRPP/5AAH)

*Regional Programme for Cultural and Natural Heritage in South East Europe*

Plan pour la mise en œuvre de projets de réhabilitation intégrée  
Evaluation du patrimoine architectural et archéologique (IRPP/5AAH)

*Programme régional pour le patrimoine culturel et naturel dans le Sud-Est de l'Europe*



## Preliminary Technical Assessment (PTA)

**SENJE COAL MINE**  
**Senjski Rudnik**  
**Serbia**  
**(Serbia and Montenegro)**



**INTEGRATED REHABILITATION PROJECT PLAN /  
SURVEY ON THE ARCHITECTURAL AND  
ARCHAEOLOGICAL HERITAGE  
(IRPP/SAAH)**

**Regional Programme  
for Cultural and Natural Heritage  
in South East Europe  
2003 - 2006**

**PRELIMINARY TECHNICAL ASSESSMENT  
OF THE ARCHITECTURAL AND  
ARCHAEOLOGICAL  
HERITAGE IN SOUTH EAST EUROPE**

Document adopted by  
The Ministry of Culture and Media of the Republic of Serbia and  
the Ministry of Foreign Affairs of Serbia and Montenegro  
on 12 September 2005

**SENJE COAL MINE  
Senjski Rudnik  
Serbia  
(Serbia and Montenegro)**



## FOREWORD

In the framework of the European Commission/Council of Europe Joint Programme on the Integrated Rehabilitation Project Plan /Survey on the Architectural and Archaeological Heritage (IRPP/SAAH), the present Preliminary Technical Assessment (PTA) for the Senje Coal Mine in Senjski Rudnik, Serbia and Montenegro, was prepared by local experts Mr. Miroslav Nikolic, Mr. Zoran Jaglic, Mr. Rifat Kulenovic, Ms. Mirjana Andric and Mr. Marko Omcikus headed by Mr. Borislav Šurdić, Project Coordinator, in cooperation with the PTA expert group: Leader Dr. John Bold (United Kingdom); Experts: Ms. Emma Carmichael (United Kingdom), Mr. Giorgio Gianighian (Italy), Mr. Andreas Heymowski (Sweden), Mr. David Johnson (United Kingdom), Ms. Clairy Palyvou (Greece), Mr. Pedro Ponce de Leon (Spain), Mr. Alkis Prepis (Greece).

The Preliminary Technical Assessment (PTA) was adopted by The Ministry of Culture and Media of the Republic of Serbia and the Ministry of Foreign Affairs of Serbia and Montenegro on 12 September 2005



## 1. Introductory page



Map



Senje Coal Mine

- |  |   |
|--|---|
| <b>1.1 Country or Territory:</b>                           | Serbia and Montenegro, (Serbia)   |
| <b>1.2 Name of organisation compiling the information:</b> | Ministry of Culture of the Republic of Serbia, Belgrade, Regional Institute for the Protection of Monuments, Kragujevac and Senje Coal Mining Museum, Senjski Rudnik. |
| <b>1.3 Contact name:</b>                                   | Jelena Milosavljevic, architect, IPM Kragujevac.  |
| <b>1.4 Email address:</b>                                  | heritage.kg@eunet.yu  |
| <b>1.5 Name and address of building or site:</b>           | Senjski rudnik,<br>(Senje coal mine and urban area)   |
| <b>1.6 Inventory reference number(s):</b>                  | Registry number IPM Kragujevac 23,<br>Registry number RIPM of Serbia, SK 606<br>R 66/1, 24.02.1975 IPM Kragujevac   |
| <b>1.7 Monument/Site type:</b>                             | Industrial Heritage Area  |
| <b>1.8 Main dates:</b>                                     | 1853: opening date of the mine,<br>1892: opening of the rail road, opening of the railroad connection with Resavica.  |
| <b>1.9 Current use(s):</b>                                 | Coal mine, still in service, along with the town community that has grown up around the mine.   |

## 2. Executive Summary

Established in 1853, Senje is Serbia's oldest coal mine, complete with shafts, workshops and administrative buildings. The mine is part of an ensemble which also includes houses, a school, a house of culture, a railway station, a church, museum and a hospital, many of which are still in use. This is a typical industrial community of the 19<sup>th</sup>-20<sup>th</sup> centuries, now in economic and physical decline, in need of new sources of income and employment. The mine is still in operation but it is estimated that coal reserves will run out in seven to ten years with a consequent risk of depopulation.

The village is sited on the River Ravanica, in a hilly and surprisingly unspoiled landscape in central Serbia, south of Belgrade, in the vicinity of two famous medieval monasteries: Ravanica and Manasija. There is considerable potential here for tourism which could be encouraged as part of the regional development programme, through for example the establishing of an eco-museum, the restoration of the industrial buildings (particularly the shafts and the narrow-gauge railroad) and the overall transformation of a dying settlement into a cohesive tourist centre.

The historical significance of the mine is considerable since it is the oldest preserved industrial area in Serbia and in the period from the building of the railway in 1892 until 1941 it was one of the most prosperous industrial regions in the country. The mine shafts themselves - Alexander's Shaft of 1853, the first in Serbia, and the Main Shaft, still in use and retaining 19<sup>th</sup> century steam machinery and head-gear - are of outstanding national importance. Although the condition of many of the buildings at the mine and in the town is bad, and will continue to deteriorate, the majority at least survive. This survival, together with the well-preserved urban structure, the splendid cultural landscape and the solid documentation held in the local museum, joined with the industrial tradition of the population, offers an excellent basis for authentic restoration and the comprehensive rehabilitation of the whole ensemble, from the industrial buildings to the social and commercial. The necessary addition of new buildings for the accommodation of tourists must be done in a manner which respects the existing building pattern and character of the village. Such a project requires not only the full support of the national institutes and professional bodies but for long term sustainability, the rehabilitation must be supported by the local population for whom there must be a great deal of self-help and self-governance.

Senjski Rudnik offers an excellent opportunity to achieve a sustainable development which respects the historic fabric of the mine and the village, and encourages new uses which enable the continuation *in situ* of the long-established community.

### **3. Administrative Information**

#### **3.1 Responsible Authorities**

Direction of Coal mine REMBAS, Resavica, Municipality of Despotovac,  
RIPM of Serbia-Belgrade, IPM Kragujevac

#### **3.2 Building/Site, Name and Address**

Senjski Rudnik, ZIP Code 23437.

#### **3.3 Map Reference**

Latitude: 44° 00'N  
Longitude: 21° 38'E  
Altitude: 500 – 600 m above the sea level

#### **3.4 Type of Monument**

Industrial Heritage Area (mining shafts, auxiliary buildings: workshops, stores, warehouses, residential buildings, school and surrounding landscape).

#### **3.5 Ownership**

State property, (some individual buildings though, are privately owned)

#### **3.6 Statutory Protection/Constraints**

Today the legal protection is limited only to the oldest shaft, Alexander's Shaft, Workshop and Museum in neighbouring area, and dates from 1975. Protected as individual monuments. Under the Protection of the Republic of Serbia as a "property of great importance", 1979. (monitoring of the RIPM of Serbia).



#### 4. Summary of Condition

##### 4.1 Summary of Physical Condition - Very Bad to Good

Considered as an area, it is in a **bad** state. Most of the buildings are in a condition from **very bad** to **bad**. The surrounding landscape is in a rather **good** condition.

##### 4.2 Condition Risk Assessment - Graded A-H

Overall risk is high: C, the risk for individual objects within the area varies from B to G. A more detailed risk assessment will be found in paragraph 7.3 below.

##### 4.3 Priority for Intervention - High/Medium/Low

Medium to high.

#### 5. Existing Information

##### 5.1 Documentary Sources:

Large documentation and sources are available in the Museum, and in the Archives of Serbia.

##### 5.2 Bibliography:

“Sto godina Senjskog rudnika”, Senjski-resavski rudnici mrkog uglja, 1953 (a book celebrating the one hundredth anniversary of Senje Coal Mine)

“Od nezdravog kamena do crnog zlata”, 150 godina Senjskog rudnika (1853 – 2003), Resavica 2004, (a book celebrating the one hundred and fiftieth anniversary of the Senje Coal Mine).

##### 5.3 Fieldwork Already Conducted:

1973: The project of Alexander's Shaft and museum - its restoration was completed in 1975-1980. The Shaft directorate house repaired, but the Shaft has never definitely been cleaned and repaired for visitors.

##### 5.4 Projects in Progress:

No projects.

##### 5.5 Projects Already Planned

A conceptual project of the Rehabilitation of the urban area and restoration of buildings of historical importance, 1973. documentation in IPM Kragujevac.

Partly realized.

The main (executive) Project of the Museum, workshop, and Alexander's Shaft.

There are existing projects for i. e. the restoration of the Work-shop (object no 2 in Appendix 1), near the Alexander's Shaft dating from seventies and the eighties, which, due to political unrest and shortage of funds, have never been executed.

##### 5.6 Financial Estimates Already Made:

Due the numerous denominations, complete transformations of economic systems, financial estimates from the seventies and eighties are nearly totally irrelevant.

## 6. Scope of the PTA

### 6.1 Extent/Nature of the Assessment:

Individuals involved in the PTA work:

Marco Omcikus, Documentalist, Republican IPM, Belgrade  
Rifat Kulenovic, Industrial Archaeologist, Republican IPM, Belgrade  
Borislav Surdic, IRPP/SAAH project coordinator, Ministry of Culture, Serbia  
Andreas Heymowski, Conservation Architect, Stockholm, Sweden  
Miroslav Nikolić, Curator, Senje Mining Museum,  
Mirjana Andric, Conservator, IPM Kragujevac, Director  
Zoran Jaglič architect, Conservator, IPM Kragujevac.

The field work was prepared by Miroslav Nikolić, from the Mining Museum in Senski Rudnik, by Mirjana Andrić from the Regional IPM in Kragujevac, and by Borislav Surdic from the Ministry of Culture, Belgrade. The field work was conducted 17 – 20 October 2004, with a preparatory meeting in Belgrade 17 October, a field visit to Senjski Rudnik 18 – 19 October, and a summarizing meeting at Mr. Surdic's office in Belgrade 20 October.

Because of the limited time and because of the character of the site – a whole town community, with many of its buildings – the assessment of the individual objects could not be conducted as in-depth as if it had been a single object. Hence, the technical description presented in Appendix 1, including 14 individual objects, is very much simplified, giving only an overview of the state of each object.

### 6.2 Limitations of the Study:

Certain objects, like the Alexander's Shaft and the former Railway Station, were impossible to visit due to physical obstacles or a dangerous structure. Most objects were only seen from the outside.

## 7. The PTA

### 7.1 Background: Form, Function and Evolution

#### 7.1.1 Summary Description of the Site

Serbia's oldest coal mine and colliery, complete with shafts, administration buildings, storages and workshops. Situated in a hilly, rural landscape in central Serbia, 150 km south of Belgrade. The mine is surrounded by an old, well-preserved village community, typical for 19<sup>th</sup> – 20<sup>th</sup> century industrial communities. Some typical stages of urban development and technological changes are clearly evident.

#### 7.1.2 Summary Historic Development and Evolution of the Site

The mine was opened in 1853, after Serbia had gained its independence, and with the aid of German engineers. Interpreting local architectural heritage, urban shape and testimonies of industrial culture, one can discover five distinctive stages:

- Establishing a mine and settlement (1853-1892).
- Building of a railway connecting the coal mine with central Serbia (1892)
- The period of the highest economic growth, a zenith of urban and social development (1903 – 1941).
- Further development in a socialist era (1945-1968), and finally,
- The period of decline (from 1970 up to now).

The urban matrix indicates a rich social life, technological transformations, and economic changes. A habitat has been developed around two historically important points: Alexander's Shaft (1853 the first shaft in the history of coal mining in Serbia), and the Main Shaft (1927), the latter equipped with an excellently preserved head gear and a steam engine from the 19<sup>th</sup> century re-sited from Vrdnik, province of Vojvodina, (in 19<sup>th</sup> century in Austro-Hungarian

Empire), still in function. From a very modest beginning the mining town developed, with new shafts, housing, a narrow-gauge railway, hospital, house of culture etc. The mine is still in operation, and the coal reserves are estimated to last some 7 - 10 more years. However the mine buildings and machinery, as well as the town as a whole show many signs of neglect and decline. It is obvious that without revitalization and finding new sources of income and employment for its inhabitants, Senjski Rudnik, in another decade or two, will join a great number of other dead or dying mining communities throughout Serbia and Europe.

## 7.2 Significance

### 7.2.1 Summary Statement of Significance/Historical and Heritage importance.

Senjski Rudnik is the first Serbian coal mine, opened in 1853. It is a birth place of the industrial epoch in Serbia and in a moment, a symbol of modern-age economic rise, prosperity, as well as its decline.

Situated in a picturesque and well preserved natural environment, shaping a cultural landscape unique in Serbia, in spite of a deep economic decline, this is a strong symbol and centre of regional identity, and furthermore, of the identity of miners and workers elsewhere in Serbia. At present time, Senjski Rudnik is an annual meeting point for miners' festivals. The local community is open minded and friendly, living in a traditionally multiethnic area, due to the economic immigration, typical for industrial regions. The place is available for various branches of tourism, particularly cultural. Surrounded by other mining areas (Ravna Reka, Resavica, Sisevac), also interesting but evidently of smaller historical significance, it could be a regional heritage and tourist centre, a place of economic regeneration and a powerful element of social cohesion.

#### Evaluation of the Significance:

<b>7.2.2 Historical:</b>	Outstanding national
<b>7.2.3 Artistic/Aesthetic:</b>	Limited, local
<b>7.2.4 Technological:</b>	International (steam machinery)
<b>7.2.5 Religious/Spiritual:</b>	Local, very limited
<b>7.2.6 Symbolic:</b>	Outstanding national, strong feeling of identity
<b>7.2.7 Scientific/Research:</b>	National
<b>7.2.8 Social/Civic:</b>	National, also outstanding from a regional point of view, as a place of social cohesion
<b>7.2.9 Natural:</b>	Outstanding national, unique cultural landscape in Serbia
<b>7.2.10 Economic:</b>	Outstanding regional, cornerstone site for an urban development project
<b>7.2.11 Character of significance:</b>	As an average, <u>national</u> , although certain parts, like the still functioning elevator machinery from ca 1870, have an <u>international</u> significance, while others are mainly of a <u>regional</u> one (see above).

## 7.3 Vulnerability/Risk Assessment

### 7.3.1. Natural Threats

Building (1) very endangered by the landslide.

Building (2) and (13), without doors and windows, opened for the immediate influence of rain, snow and humidity from atmosphere.

The roofs of buildings (8) and (10) particularly endangered during winter months due the heavy snow.

Decay of materials evident on many objects.

### **7.3.2. Development – Demographic Growth**

The town very endangered by potential depopulation due the economic collapse of the colliery.

### **7.3.12. Ownership and Occupation**

No systematic measures in spite of a present social awareness about problems. Some buildings, like (4), (12), (13) and (14), are threatened by the absence of an owner, or (like (8) and (10)) by nobody taking responsibility for maintenance.

### **7.3.14. Resources**

Lack of finance for maintenance and repair, as well lack of skills for project management are evident, at this moment.

## **7.4 Technical Condition**

The overall technical condition of the 14 buildings on the list in Appendix 1 may be summarized as structurally mainly sound, most of them being traditional masonry buildings. Maintenance, however, has in most cases been gravely neglected for many decades, resulting in damages particularly to vulnerable wooden details, like doors, windows and in some cases even floor constructions and roofs.

## **7.5 Outline Summary of Required Repairs**

All the buildings on the list, with the exception perhaps of the church, are in urgent need of repairs, ranging from ordinary maintenance measures to full-scale reconstructions of windows, floors etc, like in the case of the Workshop or the Railway Station. In order to establish the priority order, according to which the restoration works should be undertaken, a more detailed assessment of the damages and needs of each individual objects must be done.

Besides the renovation of the individual buildings, resources must be set apart for a general revitalization of the community as a whole. This includes renovation of residential and other buildings not put up on the list, of the infrastructure (roads, sewage, electricity, cell-phone and computer networks) and of nature surrounding the community. In the long-term perspective a reconstruction of the narrow-gauge railway might prove a boost to tourism (two steam engines from the railway have been saved and are kept in the town of Resavica).

## **7.6 Conservation/Rehabilitation Policy and Proposals**

### **7.6.1 Summary of the Vision for the Site**

The general idea is to take advantage of the history and present state of the place (an old, well-preserved industrial heritage, complete with auxiliary functions, set in a beautiful landscape full of other historical monuments from various times). The aim is to create an eco-museum as a national industrial heritage centre, comprising the entire community, as an enriching complement to existing nearby mediaeval monasteries, walk-paths etc.

The desired result will hopefully be a revitalization of the whole community, creating a sustainable future for itself, and adding a new, fascinating attraction to the wealth of museums and scenic landscapes existing in Serbia, attracting tourists wishing to learn more about the country's history and development. Some ideas could be founded on best practices from other European countries, but mainly the revitalization must be based on the feeling of identity of the local community.

### **7.6.2 Conservation Philosophy**

Senjski Rudnik is fortunate in having most of its old buildings and equipment preserved, even if partly in a bad shape. This allows for a restoration and renovation with a high degree of authenticity. In order not to spoil this authenticity it is essential that the individual restorations are conducted using traditional methods and material, according to best international standards and practice. Regarding authenticity, however, a certain flexibility is needed, so that buildings today out of use are subject to a minimum degree of alterations,

while i. e. residential buildings and buildings in modern use must be adapted to the demands of contemporary life (leaving as much of the old fabric and character unchanged) in order to ensure a sustainable and comfortable life for the town and its inhabitants. Necessary additions of new buildings, such as accommodation for potential tourists etc, must be made in such a way that the building pattern and the character of the town are not violated.

### **7.6.3 Level of Intervention**

As stated in 7.6.2 above, the level of intervention, in most cases will be repair and restoration. In some cases more far-reaching reconstructions of lost parts are justified. This goes for the burnt-down Railway Station and for the railway tracks to the nearby town of Cupria.

### **7.6.4 Preliminary Proposals for Appropriate Uses**

The revitalization of Senjski Rudnik involves all aspects of social life, commerce, work opportunities, housing, spiritual life etc. Many of the buildings on the list already are, or will be part of the eco-museum, while others will remain in ordinary uses of various kinds. This means that some of them will retain their present use, while others must be adapted to a new use. Suggestions as to the use of the individual buildings are to be found in Appendix 1.

### **7.6.5 Opportunities for Social Uses and Sustainable Development**

The project aims at creating an alternative to the diminishing and in the long run vanishing mining industry, and thus at enabling the village to survive.

### **7.6.6 Broad Assessment of Priorities**

As stated in paragraph 7.5 above, a more detailed assessment of the damages and needs of each individual objects must be done before priorities concerning the order of repairs etc can be settled.

### **7.6.7 Public Access**

The whole idea is to make the village, including parts of the mining shafts, accessible to the public. However, this must interfere neither with the possibility to continue the mining activities for as long as possible, nor with the ability for the inhabitants to secure a private life for themselves.

### **7.6.8 Other Benefits**

The notion of an eco-museum involves more than the industrial heritage in itself. It should comprise the surrounding, surprisingly unspoilt landscape, using its beauty in order to attract other groups of tourists, interested in trekking. Scenic foot-paths and an infrastructure around them should be created in order to make Senjski Rudnik as broadly attractive to tourism as possible. The tourist coaches, now merely passing through the village in order to get to the nearby monasteries, must be encouraged to stop and give the tourist a wider picture of Serbian history than what the monasteries alone are able to.

## **7.7 Finance**

### **7.7.1 Broad Assessment of Budgetary Needs and Phasing**

Phases:

- I. Immediate repairs and protection of the most important individual buildings. Cost estimates, comprising: project design, construction works, supervision and taxes, done in Appendix 1. Total cost approximately: **2 494 500 €**.
- II. New, wider protection of the site (concept, plans, preparing study supporting legal acts). Cost approximately: **20 000 €**.

- III. The town infrastructure repairing works, narrow gauge railroad, cleaning the abandoned pits and preparing for a mining museum in situ, tourist accommodation facilities, etc. This phase is long and the most expensive, for project design, documentation, construction works, conservation works, cost approximately **4 750 000 € - 5 000 000 €**. A great part of works could be done through activities of a coal mine, and special investment projects.
- IV. Establishing an eco-museum, concept, project design, management study, equipment, education programs and public awareness programs for inhabitants, cost approximately **800 000 €**.

#### **7.7.2 Assessment of Possibilities for Attracting Investments**

There is no exact study or official assessment. There are some funds in the state budget assigned for development project in economically endangered areas, funds for the development of employment etc. There are also some funds for the development of tourism. The Ministry of Culture supports part of the conservation works. But partnership of local authorities, republic ones and maybe foreign investors could give a stronger impact.

#### **7.7.3 Assessment of Possibilities for Recovering Investments**

No official assessment has been done. But in preparing the feasibility study for the rehabilitation of the site, it could be such an assessment, including the interministerial level.

#### **7.7.4 Have you already tried to raise funds for this site or monument?**

No

#### **7.7.5 Have you already received funds for this site or monument?**

A grant for the urgent protection of Alexander's Shaft was allocated by the Ministry of Culture in 2005. Money for the study of legal protection will be provided by the same fund.

### **7.8 Management**

This rehabilitation project is of a much broader scope than the usual ones, done by the existing responsible parties, belonging to various Ministerial Departments and Institutes for Monument Protection.

This project has to be approved at the national level, and implemented through an interministerial consultation and decision procedure (involving the Ministries of Culture, Environment, Energy, Local Self-Government, Capital Investments, Trade and Tourism, Labour and Social Protection), since the local community could hardly be able to provide the total support of the project. However it must be included in the consultation procedure.

The management structure and procedure and shared responsibilities should be established on the basis of a Management Plan. The making up of such a Plan should be guided by independent group of experts, and approved, on the level of the Republic authorities, as well as the local level. Sustainability could be ensured by the forming of an extraordinary public service or trust.

## **8. Documentation**

Large documentation (plans, drawings, photos, documents), is available in the Senje Coal Mining museum and the Archives of Serbia, IPM in Kragujevac (see paragraph 5.5 above).

Extracts attached to the PTA

1. Map of the site
2. Historical photos of buildings
3. Present-day photos of buildings, landscape panoramas

## 9. Feasibility Studies

As Senjski Rudnik ought to be a project of high priority, on grounds both of its importance as an industrial heritage, and of the urgent need to find alternative sources of income for its inhabitants, it is highly desirable that it be subject to a feasibility study. Some of the ingredients in such a study have already been mentioned above; like in-depth assessments of the damages and needed interventions on the individual buildings. But as the project concerns the entire life of a whole community, a much broader outlook than the mere technical and architectural/aesthetic must be taken. This involves experts on economy, city-planning, nature and ecology, sociology, tourism, infrastructure etc. The feasibility study should be to a greater extent a part of the social cohesion and development project, rather than a monument restoration. This is the reason why it is essential to open a procedure of preparing a heritage site management plan, with time phasing, definition of short, medium and long term aims, and sharing responsibilities.

In order to continue with a feasibility study the crucial step should be a political co-decision at all levels of authorities, based on expert assessments and statements. International expert assistance should be welcomed.

**PTA carried out by:** Borislav Surdic , Ministry of Culture of the Republic of Serbia

**Sign and date:** 28.06. 2005

## PTA Appendices

### APPENDIX I

#### A. TECHNICAL CHECKLIST – Buildings and Ensembles Comments on the Individual Buildings Inventoried in October 2004

##### Content

- General Remarks
- 1. Alexander's Shaft
- 2. Work-shop and Smithy
- 3. Mining Museum
- 4. Restaurant
- 5. Village Administration Building
- 6. Old Mining Company Administration Building
- 7. Old School
- 8. Residential House in Engineers' Street
- 9. Mining Elevator with Machinery
- 10. Workers' Street
- 11. St Porkpie's Orthodox Church
- 12. Sokolski Dom (House of Culture)
- 13. Railway Station
- 14. Bratinska Blagajna (Miner's Hospital)

##### **General remarks**

Since the Senjski Rudnik object differs from most architectural PTA-objects in that it is a whole town, with many different buildings, the standard PTA-form for Appendix 1 is to a large extent not applicable. It was impossible, within the given time-frame, to assess all building components as thoroughly as required etc.

Instead, the comments below, give a brief description of each building and its condition, as well as its significance in the town context. A rough cost estimate has also been done for each object.



1.



Name:

**Alexander's Shaft (including Entrance Building)**

Important dates:

In 1853 this shaft was opened, as the first modern coal mine in Serbia. In 1860 an entrance building was erected right above the shaft opening. In its present state the entrance building is allegedly a reconstruction from around 1975.

Original use:

Coal mining shaft.

Present use:

Closed.

Foundations:

The opening of the horizontal shaft is round and clad with limestone. It serves as a foundation for the entrance building on top of it.

Structure:

From its outer appearance the entrance building is a half-timber construction, probably with brick between the timber, but as the building is largely a modern reconstruction, another structure, e. g. concrete, is possible.

Façades:

The supporting walls on each side of the opening are clad with limestone. The façades of the entrance building have wooden framework, with white plaster in between.

Doors and windows:

The entrance door is wooden as are the windows.

Roof:

The roof is clad with flat roof-tiles.

Significance:

The opening and the house on top of it are of very high importance, as the emblematic and symbolic heart, not only of Senjski Rudnik, the village that grew up around the mine, but also of the whole coal mining industry in Serbia.

General remarks:

The shaft is presently blocked some 50 meters away from the opening, and is impossible to visit. If the shaft is cleared an old connection with the existing elevator shaft can be re-opened. The entrance building is in need of repair, especially the roof. Inside not visited.

Possible existing documentation from the 1975 restoration ought to be identified and used as source of information.

Estimated cost:

Clearing of the shaft and preparing it for tourist visits (lighting, emergency exits etc),  
repair of the entrance building: **24 500 €**

2.



Name:

**Work-Shop**

Important dates:

Built in 1922. A restoration was begun in the 1980s and the roof was repaired, but following lack of funds all further work has been stopped.

Original use:

Workshop and smithy

Present use:

None

Foundations:

Unknown.

Façades:

Half-timber construction with brick walls.

Doors and windows:

Missing or totally destroyed.

Roof:

The roof is clad with flat roof-tiles.

Significance:

The building is the only remaining one of a whole number of auxiliary buildings that grew up around the shaft opening. It is essential that it be preserved, both as a good example of the architecture and construction of these industrial buildings, and as a future work-shop and/or museum shop.

General remarks:

The roof is OK, but the building has no glass in the windows and no doors. Practically all the plaster has fallen off, both on the outside and on the inside. Lots of the plaster and other rubbish is lying on the floors. Some rusting machinery and the smithy's hearths remain.

Possible existing documentation from the restoration in the 1980s ought to be identified and used as source of information.

Estimated cost:

**183 200 €**

**3.**Name:**Coal Mining Museum**Important dates:

Built around 1930, Addition made in the 1950s or 60s. Transformed into a mining museum in 1980, when the addition was removed.

Original use:

Mining warehouse

Present use:

Mining museum

Foundations:

Unknown.

Structure:

All-concrete construction, with concrete pillars carrying concrete floors and roof-slabs. Structurally in good condition

Façades:

Covered with rose-coloured plaster. In rather good condition, except for back of the building, where a leakage from the slanting roof has caused some damage and cracking.

Doors and windows:

Wooden, in working condition.

Roof:

The slanting, concrete roof is covered with underfelt and/or asphalt and appears to have a water leakage near the back façade of the house.

Significance:

The museum is important both as an industrial building from the period between the World Wars and as an example of the popular interest in the history of mining and of Senjski Rudnik. The museum staff are chiefly old miners.

General remarks:

Interesting modernistic architecture with a classical touch on the exterior. The building in itself must be renovated and the museum ought to be modernised and made interesting to the younger generation. This could be done by multimedia presentations etc. The local engagement in the museum must not be lost.

Possible existing documentation from the 1980 conversion into a museum ought to be identified and used as source of information.

Estimated cost:**173 400 €**

**4.**Name:**Restaurant**Important dates:

Built around 1900. Refurbished and outwardly redecorated in 1975 in a mock “national” style.

Original use:

Restaurant

Present use:

Restaurant closed in 2003. No alternative use. In the far end of the building there is a small, grocery shop (still open) and a pharmacy which is now closed.

Foundations:

Unknown

Structure:

Unknown, probably brick walls with wooden floor beams. Inside not visited. One storey.

Façades:

Covered with grey plaster. Largely in good condition.

Doors and windows:

Wooden. Need repair and maintenance.

Roof:

The roof is clad with flat roof-tiles. Some leakage problems.

Significance:

The house is an important architectural element on the main street. However its original look appear to be somewhat changed by the 1975 reconstruction. A new renovation could give it back its original façades.

General remarks:

If Senjski Rudnik should become the centre of an eco-museum, dealing with the mining industry, there will hopefully be a need for a restaurant to cater for tourists and locals again, and this is a given location for such a restaurant. Incidentally, the interior of a restaurant was made up to look like a mining shaft, with wooden beams etc.

Possible existing documentation from the 1975 restoration ought to be identified and used as source of information.

Estimated cost:**185 200 €**

**5**Name:

Local Village Administration Office

Important dates:

Built in the Post WWII period.

Original use:

Office for the local administration

Present use:

Office for the local administration. The building also housed a now closed Post Office.

Foundations:

Unknown.

Structure:

Unknown, probably brick walls with wooden floor beams. Inside not visited. One storey.

Façades:

Covered with grey plaster. Good condition.

Doors and windows:

Wooden. Need repair.

Roof:

The roof is clad with flat roof-tiles. Some leakage problems.

Significance:

As one of the village's few remaining buildings which retains its original function as the centre of political self-governance, this is an important building.

General remarks:

The building should be renovated and kept as the administrative centre of the village.

Estimated cost:

**64 800 €**

6.



Name:

Old Mining Company Administration Building

Important dates:

Built 1910. Ceased to be company office 1960. Adapted to school use 1961.

Original use:

The mining company's administration building

Present use:

Primary school

Foundations:

Structure

Unknown, probably brick walls with wooden floor beams. Inside not visited. Two storeys with a cellar.

Façades:

Covered with grey plaster. Good condition.

Doors and windows:

Wooden, working condition

Roof:

Covered with flat roof-tiles.

Significance:

Important as the mining company's first office, although the appearance of the building has been altered.

General remarks:

Perhaps not a high priority building in the Eco-Museum project.

Estimated cost:

**208 400 €**

7.



Name:

Old School

Important dates:

Built 1896. Façades altered 1930. Ceased to be a school 1963.

Original use:

The village's first primary school

Present use:

Grocery store and sports club office.

Foundations:

Unknown.

Structure:

Unknown, probably brick walls with wooden floor beams. Inside not visited. One storey.

Façades:

Covered with grey plaster. Condition OK.

Doors and windows:

Wooden. Need repair.

Roof:

Covered with flat roof-tiles.

Significance:

From an architectural point of view this building has no great value. Its façades were probably renovated and simplified around mid 20th century. But as the old village school it has a symbolical meaning, valuable to the community. This is also marked by a black stone plaque on the façade, bearing the year when the school was first used.

General remarks:

Given a public use and perhaps with façades restored back to their original appearance, the building could become a part of the Eco-Museum.

Estimated cost:

**89 500 €**

8.



Name:

**No particular name. Residential building situated in the “Engineers’ Street”.**

Important dates:

Built 1898-1900

Original use:

Residential block of flats for the company’s engineers and higher officials.

Present use:

Residential.

Foundations:

Unknown.

Structure:

Unknown, probably brick walls with wooden floor beams. Inside not visited. Two stories.

Façades:

Covered with brown plaster with many decorations from plaster and brick. Presently in a very dilapidated state.

Doors and windows:

Wooden, nicely decorated. In bad need of repair.

Roof:

Covered with flat roof-tiles. In very bad condition.

Significance:

Together with the other residential houses in the Engineers’ street and with the “Workers’ Street” houses (see below), this house illustrates the living conditions of different social strata in this industrial community.

General remarks:

A lavishly decorated and architecturally elaborated building. Ought to be restored to its former outward splendour.

Estimated cost:

**200 000 €**



**9.****Name:**

Mining Elevator with Machinery

**Important dates:**

Building erected 1922-1924, steam engine from 1878.

**Original use:**

Transport of mining workers to and from the ca. 175 metres deep, Main Shaft.

**Present use:**

Transport of mining workers.

**Foundations:**

Unknown.

**Structure:**

Both the elevator building and the machinery house have a brick structure, one storey high. The elevator building is completed by a steel truss tower.

**Façades:**

Both the elevator building and the machinery building have yellow plastered walls. Condition fairly good. The elevator tower's naked steel truss is painted green.

**Doors and windows:**

Wooden doors, steel-frame windows. Need repair.

**Roof:**

The elevator building has a corrugated sheet roof, rather rusty. The machinery house has flat roof-tiles, in good condition.

**Significance:**

Along with the Alexander's Shaft the elevator tower – visible from all around the higher parts of the town – is its most emblematic structure. It symbolizes both the past and the present, with its ancient machinery to this day transporting a new shift of mining workers every 8 hours.

**General remarks:**

This elevator is a little technical museum in itself. The steam engine, driven by steam transported in leaking pipes from the nearby electrical power plant, was produced by the firm J. Körösi in Graz, Austria in 1878. The wires of the twin elevator baskets are moved by giant cog-wheels. The wheels are from steel, but the cogs are made of oak, so as to be both silent and exchangeable. The communication between the elevator house and the machinery is maintained by a talking-tube. Both the engine and the elevators run smoothly, but lack modern safety measures.

**Estimated cost:**

**144 200 €**

**10.**

Name:  
"Workers Street"

Important dates:  
Built 1898-1910

Original use:  
Mining worker's residential area, a street with small, simple, one-storey buildings.

Present use:  
Residential

Foundations:  
Unknown.

Structure:  
Unknown

Façades:  
Plastered in different colours, mainly white.

Doors and windows:  
Wooden, mostly in poor condition.

Roof:  
Clad with flat roof-tiles in varying condition.

Significance:  
Depicts the conditions of life of the mining workers, and is therefore an important part of the town. Apart from that it offers a picturesque view and is partially built along a stone paved road from the Ottoman period. The first house on the right side used to be the residence of the parish priest.

General remarks:  
The houses ought to be restored and modernised in a careful manner, in co-operation with their inhabitants, so as not to spoil their authenticity.

Estimated cost:  
**636 000 €**

11.



Name:

St. Prokopie Orthodox Church

Important dates:

Built 1900, restored 1987.

Original use:

Parish church for the Serbian Orthodox Parish of Senjski Rudnik.

Present use:

Parish church

Foundations:

Natural stone walls.

Structure:

Brick walls, probably with wooden floor beams, Not visited inside.

Façades:

Covered with multi-coloured plaster. Good condition.

Doors and windows:

Wooden. Good condition.

Roof:

Clad with flat roof-tiles. In need of repair.

Significance:

A building of great symbolical and spiritual significance to the community, still retaining its original function.

General remarks:

The building is in rather good condition, and is obviously being maintained and taken care of, which is not the case with most of the other buildings.

Estimated cost:

Roof, night-atmosphere lightning, moisture and frescoes:

**37 900 €**

**12.**Name:

"Sokolski Dom"

Important dates:

Built 1930

Original use:

Workers' House of Culture. Meeting place, cinema, ballroom etc.

Present use:

A small part of the building is used for a dwelling. The rest is abandoned. The people living in it are not paid to look after it, but fill some kind of guardian function through their mere presence.

Foundations:

Unknown

Structure:

Probably brick walls and wooden floor beams. Two storeys.

Façades:

Covered with red plaster. Rather good condition.

Doors and windows:

Wooden. Need repair.

Roof:

Clad with flat roof-tiles. Rather good condition.

Significance:

This house, by its position near the church, by its former function as the cultural and social centre of village life, and also by its architecture, is of the utmost importance to the community.

General remarks:

The structure of the building appears to be sound, but inside it is rapidly deteriorating. Some window panes are broken, paint and plaster is falling of the ceiling and walls in the non heated parts of the building.

With a new, tourist future for Senjski Rudnik the Sokolski Dom again has the potential to become a vital part of village life. With its big hall it could be the place for tourists to attend lectures and watch films about coal mining and about the unique natural surroundings of the village. And for new generations of towns-people, hopefully it would once more become their cultural meeting point.

Estimated cost:

**250 000 €**

**13.**Name:

Senjski Rudnik Railway Station

Important dates:

Built along with the narrow gauge railway from Cupria to Senjski Rudnik, 1890-92. The railway was taken out of service in the 1960s and the station building was converted into a house for the elderly. It was destroyed by a fire in the 1980s and never rebuilt.

Original use:

The terminal passenger station of the railway (the line continued up to the mine, but carried no passengers that far).

Present use:

Abandoned. Private property.

Foundations:

Unknown.

Structure:

Brick walls. Floor- and roof-beams gone.

Façades:

Simple, covered with light yellow plaster. Used to be more decorated.

Doors and windows:

Mostly destroyed

Roof:

Non existing.

Significance:

The station building has a symbolic value, as the reminder of a period when Senjski Rudnik was a lively, important spot with good communications. If the railway could be restored, wholly or in part, as a tourist attraction and communication link, the station would again become an important building. Even if this is not done, the station has significance as a witness of the town's past.

General remarks:

The standing walls are still repairable, although cracks and other damages are showing. As a first step the building ought to get a provisional roof covering and boards in its openings, so as to protect it from further deterioration. A reconstruction and conservation could later be done, giving it back its original façade architecture.

Estimated cost:

**100 400 €**

14.



Name:

**Bratinska Blagajna**

Important dates:

Built 1930-

Original use:

Miners' Hospital

Present use:

Abandoned. After the wars in the 1990s it served as a Red Cross house for refugees.

Foundations:

Unknown.

Structure:

Brick walls with wooden floor-beams. Two storeys with a cellar.

Façades:

Covered with whit and rose plaster. In rather good condition.

Doors and windows:

Wooden. In rather good condition.

Roof:

Clad with flat roof-tiles.

Significance:

The hospital is symbolical for the emerging power of the working class in general, and the miners in particular at the beginning of the 20th century. The diseases caused by the work in the mine had earlier been the affair of the individual workers themselves, but now the Mining Company admitted its responsibility and provided their workers with good medical care.

General remarks:

A big, solid structure, located at the outskirts of the town. One of the first buildings you meet entering Senjski Rudnik. Depending on future needs it could serve as a hotel or for some other public purpose, or better still, retain it as a hospital.

Estimated cost:

**197 000 €**



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