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Grad Waldenberg – Pusti grad pri Radovljici

Stavbnozgodovinski oris

IZVLEČEK

Na razgledni vzpetini v bližini Radovljice postavljeni Waldenberg je spadal med najpomembnejše srednjeveške gradove na Kranjskem. V listinah je izprisan od leta 1228. Od nastanka do izumrtja leta 1418 so ga imeli grofje Ortenburški, nato pa Celjski in Habsburžani. Grad je nastal v poznem 12. stoletju kot ganerben grad s simetrično zasnovano, obodnim obzidjem, manjšim notranjim dvoriščem in dvema palacijema. Do konca 14. stoletja so ga obdali z obsežnim zunanjim obrambnim obzidjem, ki sta ga ščitila obrambna stolpa in obrambna jarka. Sočasno je grad postal reprezentativna rezidenca grofov Ortenburških. Med letoma 1456 in 1573 je rezidenčno funkcijo izgubil in povečala se je njegova vojaška vloga. Takrat so ga dodatno zavarovali z utrdbenimi sestavinami, zlasti z utrdbenim prizidkom na južni strani grajskega jedra in z utrjenim oborom ob glavnem vhodu v stavbni kompleks.

KLJUČNE BESEDE

grad, srednjeveški gradovi, Waldenberg, Waldenberg, Wallenberg, Wallenburg, Lipniški grad, Pusti grad, Zgornja Lipnica pri Radovljici, Čušperk, arhitektura, arhitekturna zgodovina, kastelologija, stavbni razvoj, romanika, ganerben gradovi, grofje Ortenburški, Waldenberški, grofje Celjski, Habsburžani

ABSTRACT

THE WALDENBERG OR PUSTI GRAD CASTLE NEAR RADOVLJICA A DESCRIPTION OF ARCHITECTURAL HISTORY

The Waldenberg Castle built on the lookout hill near Radovljica was one of the most important medieval castles in Carniola. It first appeared in written sources in 1228. The castle remained in the possession of the Counts of Ortenburg until their extinction in 1418, and then passed into the hands of the Counts of Cilli and the House of Habsburg. The castle was built in the late 12th century as a so-called Ganerbenburg, with the symmetrical layout, arched walls, a small inner courtyard and two palatia. Until the end of the 14th century it was surrounded by an extensive outer bailey and protected by two defensive towers and moats. In this period the castle also became a representative residence of the Counts of Ortenburg. Between 1456 and 1573 it lost its function as a representative residence of higher nobility and strengthened its defensive role. It was further protected with fortification elements, especially a fortified extension on the southern side of the castle core and a reinforced barbican at the main gate into the castle's compound.

KEY WORDS

castle, medieval castles, Waldenberg, Wallenberg, Wallenburg, Lipnica Castle, Pusti grad Castle, Zgornja Lipnica near Radovljica, Čušperk/Zobelsberg, architecture, architectural history, castelology, architectural development, Romanesque Period, Ganerbenburgs, Counts of Ortenburg, Counts of Waldenberg, Counts of Cilli, Habsburgs

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S U M M A R Y

The Waldenberg or Pusti grad Castle near Radovljica. A description of architectural history

The Waldenberg Castle built on the lookout hill above the village of Zgornja Lipnica, near Radovljica and the confluence of the Sava Dolinka and Sava Bohinjka rivers, was one of the most important medieval castles in Carniola. It first appeared in medieval documents in 1228. The castle remained in the possession of the Counts of Ortenburg until their extinction in 1418. Based on the data obtained from medieval documents and its construction features, the castle was most likely built in the late 12th century by Otto II Count of Ortenburg, who appears in

documents between 1141 and 1197. The castle was a so-called Ganerbenburg from the very beginning; in the 13th century it housed a number of Ortenburg ministerials from one or perhaps several families. As a Ganerbenburg, the castle was given a symmetric layout with arched walls, a small inner courtyard and two equal palatia. Before the mid-13th century, the layout was presumably extended to include a separate, exposed defensive tower, built on top of a mound on the castle ridge some 200 metres north-west of the arched layout. By the end of the 14th century the castle had been surrounded by an extensive outer bailey, protected by two square defensive towers and two wide moats. The bailey formed a large outer courtyard, through which ran a snail-shaped path leading to the castle's core. In this period the castle became a representative residence of the Counts of Ortenburg, bearing witness to which are many small artefacts, discovered during the excavations that took place in the early 1990s. On the castle premises was also the Chapel of St. Pancras, mentioned in a written source from 1461. Between 1458 and 1573, when it was in the hands of the Habsburgs, the castle lost its function as a representative residence of higher nobility and strengthened its defensive role. Then, it was further protected by fortification elements, especially a fortified extension on the southern side of the castle's core and a reinforced barbican at the main gate into the castle's compound. After a devastating fire that occurred sometime before November 1573, the castle has never been restored again. Until the beginning of the 17th century or rather until the threat of Turkish incursions completely subsided, the site of fire remained in use solely as a defensive post. Although the Waldenberg Castle has lain in ruins for more than four centuries, its remains still dominate the area, bearing witness to the cultural and historical heritage of this area. Therefore, their historical, archaeological, art historical and architectural significance should be evaluated within the framework of the most important medieval castle ruins in Slovenian territory.