

## ***LIST OF CULTURAL MONUMENTS IN VLORA REGION***

### ***1- BEQIR GJOKA'S RESIDENCE***

Beqir Gjoka's residence is located in the Village of Drashovica, Municipality of Selenica, and was proclaimed a Category I Cultural Monument upon Decision No. 266/1 of 16 February 1979.

The residence of Beqir Gjoka features a simple interior design, with two sculleries on each floor, except for the ground floor, which has three of them, one of which (the smallest) was the storage area for food produce. The first floor was composed of a cooking compartment and an adjacent sanitary area. The second floor replicated the same design, plus the clothespress unit in the guestroom, which also served as an anteroom to the sanitary facility. The guestroom ceiling used to have a rosette, in the shape of a 6-angle star. The building has two entrances, both on the mezzanine, which can be accessed by the exterior stone stairs. The normal, narrow-side staircases seemed to serve mainly to the guestroom. Interior wooden stairs connected the two inhabited floors. Judging by the treatment of the clothespress with the three-centre arch, one could say that the object should have been built by the end of the XIXth century. The residence is constructed of stonewall retainer construction, affixed with lime mortar. The roof was covered with wood construction and local tiles. The partition of the interior is realized with wooden floors.

### ***2- ISLAM GJONI'S RESIDENCE, WHERE, UNDER THE LEADERSHIP OF ENVER HOXHA, A MEETING TO DESTROY THE FRACTIONIST ELEMENTS WAS HELD***

Islam Gjoni's residence is located in the Village of Tragjasi, Municipality of Vlora, and is Proclaimed a Category I Cultural Monument upon Decision No. 377, of 22 January 1985.

The dwelling of Islam Gjoni is located at the entrance of the Village of Tragjas i Ri. It used to have two floors. Today it is in ruins. The building was proclaimed a monument due to its historical values. What is remained of the building to date are two masonry units, going up to the roof level, built at different times (1, 2) and the wall of room four, located by the chimney side. Doors and windows are missing and the area is full of dead and crumpled arches. The stone masonry corners have been ripped off the walls. The cellar/basement floor has 6 separate environments. Two of them are with vaults (7 and 9). The 9th environment has a collapsed archway. Also, the two sidewalls of environment 11 and the separating wall of environment 8

have been demolished. The building is made of a stonewall of a thickness of 50 centimetres, affixed with lime mortar.

### **3- KUJTIM HAMZA'S RESIDENCE**

The residence of Kujtim Hamza is located at *Rr. Bregut*, in the Village of Kanina, Municipality of Vlora, and was proclaimed a Category I Cultural Monument upon Decision Nr. 2854, of 08 August 1980.

Kujtim Hamza's residence has two floors. The dwelling is known for a large number of compartments, as well as its compositional development. In its ground floor, the dwelling contains a number of auxiliary facilities, such as an animals' shed, a storage area, or other venues connected to one-another by way of a liaison environment, where the staircase leading to the floor above is also located. The first floor is composed of the firehouse and two residential premises. One could reach the first floor chambers via a liaison area, from where the staircases originate. A distinct feature of this dwelling is its woodwork on the ceilings and in the door and window frames. The dwelling is built of a constructive retaining stonewall system, affixed with lime mortar. The building coverage is realized with a wooden roof construction and local tiles. Also, the partition of the mezzanine is realized with wooden beams.

### **4- RESMI QERIM KASAJ'S RESIDENCE**

Resmi Qerim Kasaj's residence is located in Armen, Municipality of Selenica, and was proclaimed a Category I Cultural Monument upon Decision 266/1, of 16 February 1979.

The dwelling of Resmi Qerim Kasaj is centred on a relatively small volume, which has interconnected functions, while the interior staircases are developed within its volume. In this solution, unlike traditional typology, in which external staircases are a common occurrence, the stairs are located internally. The distinct feature of this dwelling is the location of a residential area, called "*the stove*", on the ground floor. This area performs the functions of the firehouse. Its descent on the generally uninhabited ground floor marks an important feature of this dwelling, which could be interpreted as a sign of impact from the civic dwellings. The dwelling is constructed of a stonewall retainer construction, lined with mortar. The roof is covered with wooden construction and local tiles.

### **5- SHEFIKAT BEGAJ'S RESIDENCE**

Shefikat Begaj's residence is located at *Rr. Xhezairaj*, Kaninë, Municipality of Vlora and is proclaimed a Category I Cultural Monument upon Decision No. 2854, of 08 August 1980.

The dwelling of Shefikat Begaj is a two-storey building, made up of the following premises: the ground floor houses the auxiliary facilities -- the shed, the food storage area, the connecting premises and the staircase leading to the first floor. Whereas the first floor hosts the main residence's premises -- namely the fireplace and two other residential areas. Both of the upper floor chambers are reached through a connecting venue, from where the stairs coming from the ground floor originate as well. The hygienic-sanitary nodes are located at the end of each chamber. The dwelling is made up of a constructive stonewall system, affixed with lime mortar. The facility ends with a wooden construction roof, covered with local tiles. Also, the partition of the mezzanine is realized with wooden floors.

## **6- THE RUINS OF THE OLD TRAGJAS VILLAGE**

The ruins of the old Tragjas Village are located in Tragjas, Municipality of Vlora, and are proclaimed a Category I Cultural Monument upon Decision No. 2854, of 08 August 1980 and Decision No. 814, of 25 October 1980.

Documentary sources mention the Village of Tragjas for the first time in 1432. It was burned down by German forces during World War II. It is currently in a ruinous condition. It used to be located on both slopes of a horseshoe-shaped hill. A specific feature of the village are its storeyed houses. These dwellings belong to the most prevalent or rather predominant type, namely to the typology of dwellings located by the sea. They are usually made up of one, two and three areas in the ground floor. The two-environment buildings are the most widespread type.

The simplest type of dwelling is the one with one residential area, which is rarely encountered. Dwelling No. 4 is a typical example. It is formed by the ground floor, an uninhabited environment, and the first floor area, which was inhabited. The inhabited floor is reached via external stone stairs, ending up with a relatively wide platform, leaning on two cylindrical parallel vaults. Closing of the area across the staircases with fittings clearly shows that here we are dealing with a small room, a solution that is well known in Labëria. The shed is reached under one of the main room's archways. The shed's organization represents a unique solution. A good portion of the volume of this area is covered by two cylindrical parallel archways. This solution is dictated by the need to create an unfathomable floor around the fireplace, which seems to have been the focal point somewhere around the centre of the area. The volume covered with archways was also used as a storage area of food reserves. The inhabited area is very simple, as we have already mentioned, the fire seems to have been located around the centre, making the lack of a ceiling quite obvious.

The way in which the sanitary area is organised deserves special attention. It comes out as a separate volume, with direct connection to the chamber. The storeyed building, with two

residential premises, environment No. 8, represents a rather widespread solution in the coastal area. It is rather expansive in composition, having a single shed on the ground floor, and two living environments on the inhabited floor. Sanitary junctions, one for each room, go hand in hand with the prismatic volume of the dwelling. The staircase block, as usual, contains the cylindrical archway, beneath which unfolds the shed. Couple archways are developed throughout the fireplace's surface to ensure a fireproof floor, while in the guestroom they feature a small extension near the chimney. This fact shows of the function of these archways, regarding the creation of a fire free layer. The firehouse used to have a central fireplace. The guestroom has a fireplace chimney. Residences with three residential areas are relatively rare in this area. In dwelling No. 10, the ground floor has a single shed, while the other two volumes are filled. On the inhabited floor, the three environments have direct access from outside, without interconnection. The centre houses the fireplace, with its hearth in the middle, while on its two sides lay two chimney-rising rooms, each having its respective special sanitary area. Their masonry is built of a wall made of stones, affixed by lime mortar. Archways are a widespread element.

## **7- THE CASTLE OF GJON BOÇARI**

The Castle of Gjon Boçari is located in the Village of Tragjas, Municipality of Vlora, and is proclaimed a Category I Cultural Monument upon Decision No. 6, of 15 January 1963.

This castle is formed by a rectangular quadrangle (30x18 m), with two polygonal towers in the north and eastern corner, while the only entrance, 2 m wide, is located in the midst of one of the narrow quadrilateral ribs. The corners have a thickness of 1.80 m and the towers have the same width as well. Also, their height is equal too. The height of the walls, up to the guard's path, reaches 4 m, while the parapet, preserved only as a footprint, is 0.54 m wide. Two pairs of staircases built within the thickness of the northwest and southeast walls, which are placed in the form of letter V, lead to the guards' trail. The towers are completely open from the inside of the fortification, thus being a continuation of the surrounding walls. Their walls, at the bottom, are traversed by firearms turrets, covered with horizontal stone slabs. Such turrets should have also been present in the parapet of the walls and the towers as well, while the full thickness of the corners is covered by only two turrets, located on both sides of the gate. The masonry is made of small and medium-sized stones, lined with mortar.

## **8- KANINA CASTLE**

Kanina Castle is located in Kanina, Municipality of Vlora and is proclaimed a Category I Cultural Monument upon Decision No. 95, of 1 October 1948.

The Castle was built in the IVth Century BC. The Castle extends over an area of about 3.6 hectares and rises in a height of about 380m above sea level. Several construction phases are remarked in the fortification system. The first phase is represented by the Hellenistic period wall ruins, which traces were discovered on all sides of the Castle, indicating the existence of a complete siege in the Antiquity, following the natural landscape of the hill. The isodomic square system was used on the wall dating back in the Hellenistic period.

The surrounding walls of the Castle were rebuilt in late Antiquity. Here we are dealing with a wall constructed with the "*Opus mixtum*" technique. Early Middle Ages (X-XIIth century) witnessed the continuation of the reconstruction and renovation of the surrounding wall. The walls of this phase are not always based on earlier constructions. Subsequently, they are represented by the surrounding wall (13th-14th centuries). Also, a feature of this period was the reinforcement of the surrounding wall with towers. Traces of dwellings, as well as other building elements, such as roads, canals, pits, and the likes are found within the castle. Several construction techniques seem to be used in the fortification walls' system. The walls of the Hellenistic period make use of the isodomic square system. The shape of the blocks discovered on the wall is square, some of them opposed by trapezoidal shapes. The blocks have almost the same width and height. Larger ones are up to 1, 5 m long, while those with average lengths are up to 85 cm. The height of the blocks varies from 35-38 cm. The blocks are placed in dry, in horizontal, regular rows, are well-aligned and have flat front sides. "*Opus mixtum*" construction technique was widely used in late Antiquity, a technique consisting in the use of interchangeable brick and stone rows. The wall thickness is 2 meters, but there are also points where it varies from 1.5 to 1.9 meters. The stones are connected by virtue of strong and abundant mortar. Early Middle Ages (X-XII century) featured walls mainly made of average, unprocessed stones, and reused antique blocks, connected by lime mortar. The walls were reinforced with longitudinal and transverse beams connected between them. Then comes the surrounding wall (XIII-XIVth century). The wall of this phase is stored at a height of 5-9 meters and has a thickness of 1.30-1.65 meters. At an altitude of 0.8 -1 meters, the wall is covered by planks with a round section, 0.15 meter in diameter. During this period, the surrounding wall is also reinforced with towers. There are traces of dwellings within the castle, as well as other building elements, such as roads, canals, pits and the likes.

## 9- SOFA CASTLE

Sofa Castle is located in the Village of Tragjas, Municipality of Vlora, and is proclaimed a Category 1 Cultural Monument upon Order of 08 January 1977.

The Sofa Castle is located in the South of the old Village of Tragjas. To the west lies the road passing through Llogara. This place has strategic importance. The Castle rises above a hill, the upper platform of which presents quite favourable housing conditions. The presence of stone and water and its key position has made this Castle be inhabited since the first Iron Age, as evidenced by several walls built with large blocks of unprocessed stone, going as high up as over 1 meter. In contrast, the mortar walls dating back in late Antiquity occupy only the upper

part of the plateau with a surface of 0.18 ha. The walls of about 1.7 meter wide are built with small stones broken from local formations. Of the towers only one, bearing a rectangular shape, is preserved, but its presence in a nearly perpendicular and almost non-attackable spot indicates that the other sides used to have towers as well. The ceramic fragments found inside it, as well as the construction technique, date back to the IV-VI century. The masonry of late antique period is built with small stones taken from breaking local stone formations, attached to each-other with a highly lime concentrated mortar.

### ***10-TREPORTI CASTLE AND THE ANTIQUE WALL IN THE SEA***

Treporti Castle and the Antique Wall in the sea are located in the Village of Zvërnec, Municipality of Vlora, and was proclaimed a Category I Cultural Monument upon Decision No. 1886 of 10 June 1973.

The settlement at Treport lies on the first hill of the hilltop range that is located northwest of the Bay of Vlora. The hill begins on the southeast side, with a rocky stretch that extends into the sea. In its north-western direction, it elevates to 82 m, while descending further downwards, leaving space for the other hill in the hilltop range. It is made of flush formations. Its slopes on the western and south-western sides are very cramped. On the eastern side of the hill, the slopes are less steeper, with wide and narrow terraces up until they sit on the sandy strip dividing the southern Narta waters from the Adriatic Sea water, and unite the hills at Treport with those in the eastern Vlora. From the researcher data focusing on the settlement in Treport, it is worth pointing out the opinion of Patsch, who seeks to identify it with the ancient centre of Aulona. The settlement was familiar the pre-civility period that began around the XI – Xth centuries BC, when the first traces of life appeared in it, and reaches up to the middle of the IIInd century BC, coinciding with the first encirclement of the settlement. The ruins of the protective walls of the settlement during its pre-civility life have yet to be encountered. Therefore, for that period, we will describe the settlement as open, or unprotected. Ruins of the earliest enclosure walls of the Treport settlement are represented by a tract of 31 m long. The tract has roughly a South-West-North-East orientation. It is 1.26 m high, and the thickness ranges from 1.92 to 2 m. The wall is located on the eastern side of the terrace extending on the back of the hill. It is part of the eastern wall of the fortification. The wall should have continued beyond the North-West edge discovered until now, and then closed the siege on the southern side of the settlement, while on the north-eastern and northern sides it has only confined the surface of the upper hilltop terrace, which does not exceed 0,6 ha. The presence of the steep terrain on its western side has caused the discontinuation of the first fortification on that side. The first surrounding wall of the settlement dates back at the end of the VIth century BC, or in the last decades of the VIth century. Second protecting wall of the settlement. The excavations made proved that the settlement did not remain within the boundaries of the first enclosure, but did instead expand its boundaries in the Vth century BC.

The above-mentioned phenomenon led to the outbreak of the surrounding wall of the first fortification and raised the need for new protective wall. Ruins of the second protecting wall were discovered in some parts of the hill, for example, on its north-western side -- two tracts -- and two other tracts were discovered on the eastern side. On the north-western side, the ruins of the wall are located where the rugged western side of the hill leaves place to less steeper slopes of its north-western and northern sides. Only the blocks of the basement stones are left from the previous wall. The tract has a southwest-northeast orientation. Detached blocks in its north-eastern part prove that the wall encircled the highest peak of the hill and then turned southward, following the edge of a terrace below the fortification, in its eastern side. Part of the Eastern wall of the second fortification are the north-southern oriented tracts. They are about 12 m away from one-another. The northern tract is highly damaged. Only the first row blocks are remained from the initial wall. Its width reaches 2.4 m, and its length does not exceed 3 m. The other (southern) side is the most preserved part of the second fortification of the settlement. It is 5.5 m long and not too high, only 1.5 m. The width of the wall reaches 2.35 m. Further to the southern tract, the eastern wall of the second fortification stretches southward. The second fortification wall dates back to the Vth century BC. Third protecting wall of the settlement. The ruins by the seaside and its nearby areas give the impression that the settlement at Treport was not limited to the hillside and within the second siege. Parts of its ruins are in the sea, not far from the shore, almost parallel to it. They lie apart from one-another at a distance of 600 to 650 m and maintain west-eastern orientation, but angles or turns are also present. The tracts are covered not only by water, but also by centuries-old sand fillings. At eight points of the length of the wall one can easily observe certain phenomena, as discontinuations, which are not incidental and, in some tracts, some partial and full extensions located on the Southern side of the wall. They should have been entry points to the settlement and its protective towers. On the other side of the Southern fortification, in its western side in vicinity of the Eastern slopes of the hill, the protective wall turns northward, and then climbs to the southern slopes of the settlement to close the wall on that part of the settlement. The fortification trails run close to the hillside and the edge of the sea. Only a part of the thickness of the wall and the two upper rows of its outer face have been discovered from the wall overlooking the sea.

The first row of the wall is 1.2 m deep from the sand surface. The height of the first row is 0.37 m and of the second row 0.27 m. The scarce presence of the ruins of the third fortification does not allow for creation of a rough plan of the third surrounding wall. Of the tracts of the third fortification, it is evident that the fortification no longer included the hillside and the hill slopes, neither a part of the lowland extended eastwards. We assume the time when the third fortification of the settlement was built is the end of the IVth century, or the beginning of the IIInd century BC. First protecting wall of the settlement. It is constructed of limestone and pumice stones of average size, with visible unprocessed or slightly processed sides. The core of the wall is filled with small stones and soil. The wall rests on a jamb with a height of 0.3 m. On the same level with the jamb, on the inside of the wall, there lies a ballast layer of about 0.35 to 0.4 m wide. Second protecting wall of the settlement. In the ruins of the wall, on the northwest side of the settlement, the sidewalls of the remaining stone basement blocks are quadrilateral, but poorly hewn. The tract is 3.1 m long and 2.4 m wide. Filling in between two ends is done with unpolished stones. On the basement blocks, one can still distinguish the line within which the first row blocks were placed. Walls on the eastern side overlook the north-southern direction: in

the northern tract, the blocks are quadrilateral, but poorly carved. In the southern tract, the space between its two sides is filled with unprocessed stones and soil. The wall is built on a specially levelled flat basement. The wall sides are built with parallelipedal blocks of stones. The visible block sites are also quadrilateral, but poorly carved. The construction of the wall was made by engraving the longitudinal and transverse block. Their dimensions are different: 1.03 x 0.44 m; 1.12 x 0.43 m and so on. Third protecting wall of the settlement. Part of its ruins are inside the sea. The wall is constructed of parallelipedal blocks, with quadratic, flat, carefully crafted sides. The wall thickness varies from 2.2m to 2.8 m, sometimes reaching up to 3.25 m. Filling between the two sides is made of unprocessed stones of different sizes. Inter-twinning of longitudinal and sectional stones is often visible. On the other side of the southern fortification, on the traces of the fortification on the edge of the sea, the sides of the blocks are quadratic, flat and carefully crafted. From the exposed part of the wall width, one can see that the filling between its two sides is made of unprocessed stones of different sizes.

### ***11-MARMIROI CHURCH***

Marmiroi Church is located in the Village of Orikum, Municipality of Vlora, and is proclaimed a Category I Cultural Monument, upon Decision No. 6, of 15 January 1963.

The Marmiroi Church in Orikum, Vlora, lies behind Pashaliman, in a secluded spot on a hillside, in the southeast corner of a yard. The church is known by the name of Marmiro, a name that is encountered in the historical sources in 1307, and is thought of being associated with the marble quarry nearby. Inside the yard one can easily see the ruined walls of a residential building. Some niches, a chimney, and a window prompt us to think that it was used for residential purposes as well. The Church consists of the naos, with a free cross planning, and the narthex, plagued on its western side. The Church has three entrances: one from the North, one from the South and one from the West. The latter relates to the narthex. Inside, the Church has an unevenly shaped cross. On the eastern wall lies a half-circular apse, illuminated by a small window. On the four pillars formed between the wings of the cross, ending with a stone frame, reside the beams covering the wings of the cross, which, as a protecting archer, with the help of spherical triangles, form the square of the drum and the cupola. Over the square passes a thin frame of stone slabs, over which there are four narrow and high half-roofed windows, placed above the arch. The drum ends with a brick frame while the conical roof of the church is supported over it. On the outside, the church has the shape of a free cross with different wings. The eastern wing is longer, while the northern and southern ones are shorter. The wings of the cross end with frontons. The west wing was also covered with a double-pitched roof that followed the narthex. The narthex, with a rectangular design, is preserved with low-height walls, but the connections with the wall of the naos are clear, which speaks of the simultaneity of their construction.

The silhouette of the church shows of some degree of volume contrast between the naos and the cupola, which gives the church a heavy look, because the cupola looks quite big for the church. For such a construction, the material used – namely the unprocessed stone, has played a crucial role, which would, even in order to withstand the push of the cupola, fall into a large and cylindrical drum. Even the treatment of the building is simple. Interior decoration is completely lacking, the walls of the church are treated simply and flatly. Care seems to have been cast to the apse and to the southern gate covered with vaults and a false arch. The only lines that are perceived are the side ribs, which come repeated in the arms of the cross, emphasizing its verticality through the fragmentation of its sides, but also highlighting the importance of the cupola. The church, built on a rocky location, with small dimensions and simply built walls, not only looks like a single block, but also has a very picturesque effect. In its interior, dominating features are its vertical axis with the dome on the drum and the longitudinal axis,



making the naos not seem as small as it really is. We assume that it is very much probable that Marmiroi Church was built in the XII-XIII centuries. Wall painting. The church of St. Mary, the source of life in Marmiro, is preserved fragmented on some wall surfaces. The footprints of the painting show that the inside of the church has been completely covered with western frescoes and facades, according to Byzantine canon.

The remaining mural paintings constitute a precious work of Medieval Albanian art. Remains of the appearance of Saint Mary are identified amongst them, more specifically between the two angels in the apse, while the composition of the Christ's birth in the southern wall, over the southern entrance, is preserved in a better situation. The execution technique of the wall painting. The interior of the church is decorated with wall paintings, executed by making use of the fresco technique, while the drawing of the scenes is realized by making use of the recording technique. The technique of realizing the preparatory layers and the colour layer is clearly visible through stratigraphy and consists of *arriccione*, *intonaco* and *pelliculas*, which rely on the wall apparatus, built with hewn stones connected with lime mortar. The fresco decorating the interior of the church belongs to a painting phase. In some parts of the sides of the church, one can clearly identify another phase of overpainting, dating back to the XXth century. The technique used for building the wall is the one with irregular stones and pieces of bricks and tiles placed between them. Hewn stones are used to build the corners and gates on both their shoulders and lintels and their thresholds. Only in the apse there are several brick lines, apparently placed for an aesthetic effect. Of peculiar importance is the placement of two vertical bricks, located south of the apse window, which show that the masters building this church knew at least a little about cloisonné. On the four pillars formed between the wings of the cross, lie the beams covering the wings of the cross, which, as an archer, with the help of spherical triangles, form the drum and the cupola.

## **12-DERVISH ALIU'S TOWERS**

Dervish Aliu's towers are located in the Village of Dukat, Municipality of Vlora, and are proclaimed a Category I Cultural Monuments upon Decision No. 266/1, of 16 February 1979.

An example of interest of a fortified residential complex is the one found in the Village of Dukat. Like the towers for the protection of a neighbourhood, or of the whole village, these types of complexes must have had some kind of proliferation in the past, stemming from the mature concept of the example in Dukat, which, although built in a number of phases, cannot be regarded as a unique improvisation, but does instead speak of the existence of a tradition in these types of constructions. The residential fortification complex in the Village of Dukat, named by the locals as "Dervish Aliu's Towers", is related to the name of Dervish Ali, one of the leaders in the great uprising of the peasantry against the Turkish invaders in 1847. In this complex, one can find unified special building units with different functions. As mentioned above, the towers of Dervish Ali are not the result of a single construction phase, but instead of five phases.

Observations on ruins of the dwelling number 1 show that here we are dealing with a typical semi-perpendicular construction. Tower number 2 presents a somewhat special compositional solution, because its volume rises above a village road, having some sort of a tunnel in the entire volume of the ground floor, covered with vault. Regarding its planning, the tower resembles a

square (540 x 530 cm). The enclosed volume of the two inhabited floors is only broken by a small number of small windows and numerous embrasures, especially on the upper floor. The entrance to the middle floor of the tower used to pass from the settlement number 1, while the inner staircase was high and led one to the second floor. The function of this building is that of a guesthouse, which, considering the personality of Dervish Ali, engaged in the war against invaders, could only be a fortified tower-type dwelling. Tower number 2 “is built next to the other end of tower number 1”. It is smaller than tower number 1, and has two entrances, one leading to the ground floor and the other on the first floor, from which, by using the inner staircase, one could get to the upper floor, which has many embrasures. This tower, given the place it has been composed into, its size and treatment, appears to be a watchtower, observation tower, and resistance standpoint.

Dwelling number 3 is formed by two areas – the shed and a living corner above, with the sanitary facility sideways, at the bottom. Dwelling number 4 is also made up of two areas, while dwelling number 5 is composed of two open overlapped volumes. The five buildings are set up one after the other, forming a broken string that closes completely with the surrounding wall, joining tower 2 with dwelling 3. A relatively large yard is thus created, having a single entrance near tower number 2. A small courtyard detaches tower 2 and dwelling 1 from the main courtyard. The origin of this ensemble is, without doubt, the dwelling number 1. Tower 2, 2 was built at a second stage. Dwelling number 3 was built in the third stage, which also presupposes the construction of two surrounding walls that respectively connect it with the two towers. Hence, in the third phase, the ensemble reached its full extent. The last two phases, namely construction phase 4 and 5 happened later. Both towers should belong to the beginning of the XIXth century, whereas dwelling number 1 belongs to the end of the XVIIIth century. The ensemble of Dervish Ali's towers in Dukat, although built in a relatively long period of time, represents a well-done and unique construction. The master builders have respected the forerunning constructions, while masterfully maintaining the unity of work, which is perfectly aligned with the ground. The ensemble is dominated by the three main constructions, which, located in the three corners of a closed contour, clearly shows of the care the builders of this complex have given to protection. After its restoration of 1978-1979, the facility served as a museum for some time. The construction of the Dervish Aliu's Towers, as far as the construction technique is concerned, generally preserves the features of the construction in Labërija region. The masonry of all constructions is made of hewn stones, lined with lime mortar. Towers 2, 2' does not have reinforcements with wood plunks, while other constructions are circled with wood belts, which end flat only in the interior of the masonry. The stones are shaped only on the corners and on the door and window contours. The roofs are of wooden construction, while the dwellings are relatively low. Floors are generally wooden, while only the first floor rooms of the two 2, 2' towers are paved. From inside, all the inhabited areas are plastered. Tower 2 is plastered with two layers, the first consisting of clay mortar, and the second of lime coating, while all the other constructions are plastered with twice with lime mortar. In its exterior, Tower

2 retains traces of lime mortar plastering, while dwelling 3 retains traces of plastering with harasan. The doors are generally covered with stone arches from the exterior, and with wooden beams internally. The exterior staircases are built of stone (dwelling 3), while the interior staircases are built of wood (tower 2, 2'). The volume of ground floor of Tower 2, 2' is covered with cylindrical lintels.

### ***13- St. MARY'S MONASTERY***

St. Mary's Monastery is located in the Village of Zvërneci, Municipality of Vlora and was proclaimed a Category 1 Cultural Monument upon Decision No. 6, of 15 January 1963.

St. Mary's Monastery of Zvërnec is located on an island within the Lake Narta, opposite the village of Zvërnec, surrounded by service areas, with a room on the second floor opening up to the Church.

The Monastery's serving areas are located in the northern, north-eastern and north-western sides.

The church itself is of the cross type, free of dome, with a narthex and exonarthex and an open porch with a colonnade on the northern side. The old part consists only of a free-shaped cross narthex, while the rest is added at a later time. The narthex is rectangular in plan, with the north-south arm being the longest one. The narthex is covered with cylindrical vaults, in the north-southern direction. It directly leads to the naos, with which it is closely bound, because this passage way is a space equal to the western wing of the cross. The east-west vault covering the latter intersects with the narthex vault. The naos has the shape of the cross with its eastern and western wings longer than its northern and southern counterparts. The wings of the cross are covered with cylindrical vaults, serving as drum holders.

On the western side, where the contact of the two walls is clearly visible, is added the exonarthex, covered with cylindrical vaults placed eastwards. The porch with columns occupying the whole northern side dates back in the same period. It is open almost all over this side, with the entry in the middle, opposite the narthex door. The church dates back to the second half of the XIVth century. The masonry structure is built with ordinary stones, containing pieces of tiles in the construction gaps. The porch, with one side supported on stone columns, is covered with a wooden roof. The naos is covered with a dome mounted on a drum, attached to a rectangular basement. The wings of the naos cross are covered with cylindrical vaults, playing the role of holding arches for the dome on the drum, rising above the spherical triangles. The drum is built of stones and pieces of bricks and tile placed between them. The narthex, as well as exonarthex, are covered with cylindrical lentils, made of stone. The roof is made of local tiles.

### ***14- THE HISTORIC CENTER OF THE VILLAGE OF KANINA AND PROTECTED AREA SURROUNDING IT, AND THE REGULATION ON ITS ADMINISTRATION***

The historic centre, the protected area around it is located in the Village of Kanina, Municipality of Vlora, and was proclaimed a Category I and II Cultural Monument upon Decision No. 581 of 13 September 2017.

The protected urban area of the village of Kanina, with its historical and cultural values, is composed of:

- the Historic Centre;
- the Protected Area.

The historic centre is the richest part of the Village of Kanina in terms of its urban planning and architectural values. It preserves various building genres, such as folk dwellings, social constructions and cult objects. These constructions are linked to the traditional town-planning/architectural landscape that is part of the historic centre. The Historic Centre of the village of Kanina consists of the Kanica Castle and the part of the village that expands on its South. The protected area of the Village of Kanina surrounds the Historic Centre and consists of two sub-areas:

- the Protected Sub-Area number I,
- the Protected Sub-Area number II (green area).

As mentioned above, the castle is part of the historic centre. The castle is a fortification building, built in the IVth century BC. The castle extends over an area of about 3.6 ha and has a height of about 380 m above sea level. Several construction phases are observed in the fortification walls' system – namely, the first phase represented by Illyrian wall remnants; Late Antiquity, when the surrounding walls of the castle were rebuilt; and Early Medieval Period (X-XIIth century), which is subsequently represented by the surrounding wall (XIII-XIVth centuries). The castle bears testimony of traces of dwellings, as well as other construction elements, such as roads, canals, pits, etc. Also, part of the historic centre are also cult objects. Part of the historic centre is the urban setting of a tekke in the Village of Madhaj. The tekke as well as the tomb nearby, are located in vicinity of the current village centre. The tekke named after Father Seit, belongs to the helvetic sect and should have been built during the mid XVIIIth century. It is preserved as a building with one voluminous hall and was covered with a wooden structure roof made of slabs. In the eastern wing of the hall, there is a small space used for sacrifices by the believers. Remains indicate that on the front side, the tekke, at the initial phase, used to be an arcade-open porch. The shrine on the west side of the tekke, which is well-preserved, is a one-volumetric space, with square planning covered with a sole dome on the drum. The social construction, with two floors, a construction of socialist realism, has served as a Cultural House. The settlements, one example of which is the house of Sheikh Begaj, was built in the XIXth century. The settlement is of two floors. The ground floor houses the auxiliary facilities. While on the first floor it hosts the main venues, the fireplace and two other residential areas. Kujtim Hamza's settlement. Construction

of the XIXth century. The construction is of two floors. It is distinguished for the large number of premises, as well as its compositional development. On the ground floor, it used to house a number of auxiliary facilities, such as cottages, lodges, or other environments. While on the first floor it contained fireplaces and two residential premises. A specific feature of this dwelling is the woodwork on ceilings and in the door and window frames.

## **15- THE TOWN OF ARMENI**

The Town of Armeni is located the Municipality of Selenica, and was proclaimed a Category I Cultural Monument by Decision No. 1886, of 10 June 1973.

It is located where the hilltop range begins, at the meeting place between Shushica and Vjosa. The town has a very favourable position because it is located by the River Vjosa and can control the movements in the valleys of Vjosa and Shushica. At different times, the road has either followed the valley, or passed by the walls of the Castle at the Pass of Caravans. The hill where the ancient ruins are found is steep only on the north side, while on the other side it continues with a sloping slope. The Town of Armeni (40 ° 32' 24,89" N; 19° 36', 29.63" E) was visited in the '60s by T. Frashëri, and later in the town and in the area around research and excavations were undertaken by V. Bereti, who has published the materials discovered in a cemetery in some distance from the town.

During our observations in this town, we could only see the East side a fragment of the perimeter wall constructed of limestone and stony blocks. A bronze coin of the City of Bylis (Neoptolem with a Corinthian helmet - ΒΨΛ-ΛΙΣ) was found next to it. On the surface there were tiles, bricks and ceramics belonging to the Hellenistic period and Late Antiquity. The perimeter wall, starting from the preserved fragment and the footprints left from the foundations of the wall, has followed the edge of the ridge on the steep side, while it has, on the other side, continued along the gravel lines. The relief shape at the top of the hill indicates of the presence of a fortification of 170 m x 40 m and, stemming from the presence of Late Antiquity tiles, it can be assumed that the fortification is dated during this period. On the western slope, the ruins of a water butt, built with bent bricks, have appeared on the surface, while remnants of a Hellenistic burial ground (40 ° 32' 18.37" N; 19 ° 36' 34,34" E) are found on the Pass of Caravan. Judging from the surface, its positioning and the many resources it used to have, including bitumen mines, one can come to the conclusion that it was ranked among the ancient cities that must have played an important role in the relationships of amantians with the apoloniates and bylians. The Hellenistic Cemetery in Armen. During year 2010, in vicinity of the tombs discovered by V. Bereti, a wall crash led to the discovery of a wall made of Hellenistic tile fragments of 4 meters long, which should have been part of the tombstones. Again, in the village of Armen, in the place called "Bregu i Dushkut", remnants of tombs, built of 6,5 -7 cm thick bricks and ceramic bricks were preserved on the surface. Flint particles were also found in the tomb area. From the fragments of ceramics, it can be assumed that the tombs date back to the Hellenistic Period. Those few wall fragments are made of quadratic dry stone walling.

## ***16- RUINS OF ST. NICHOLAS CHURCH***

The ruins of St. Nicholas Church are located in the Village of Armen, Municipality of Selenica, and are proclaimed a Category I Cultural Monument by Decision No. 6, of 15 January 1963.

St. Nicholas Church in Armen of Vlora, from the planning and volumetric perspective, represents an example of dome-type churches. It is rectangular in shape, with a small apse in the eastern side. It is accessed via a gate on the west side. In its interior, it is divided into three parts by four pillars ending up in the southern and northern walls. The central part was covered by a dome on an elliptical basement, protruded in height. This has happened because the pillars are placed on the corners of a longer-rib rectangle looking north-southwards. The whole dome has been disordered. The keystones of the north-south bearing arches, that are the largest, are the highest peak. From the keystone of the smallest arches, at that level, the wall narrows down with curved surfaces. It is there that the dome -- an elliptical-based paraboloid, has started. Its lower part was built with stones, while the upper part was built with bricks. All retaining arches are constructed of stones. The two parts in the east and north of the dome are covered with cylindrical vaults, with east-west formations. The vaults used to have two layers, while the arches only one. The exterior of the building has the view of a parallelepiped volume, with the drum in the middle. The drum contains a part of the cupola, while the rest is ruined and covered with wooden roofs. Inside the building is quite dark. The building gets light only from a small window. The walls are constructed of pumice and conglomerate stone and lime mortar made of rough sand. Bricks, often used for levelling purpose, are also present. The walls are thick and in the interior they are made of stones, mortar and pieces of bricks. In the northeast corner, traces of the tree trunks are distinguished inside the wall. In the central part, there is a drum, as well as on top of the wooden roof. On the sides, the wall was covered with cylindrical vaults. Walls used to be reinforced with columns.

## ***17- THE CAVE BETWEEN THE VILLAGES OF DUKAT AND TRAGJAS***

The cave between the villages of Dukat and Tragjas is located in the Village of Tragjas, Municipality of Vlora, and is proclaimed a Category I Cultural Monument, upon Decision No. 6 of 15 January 1963.

It is a tectonic-karst cave, suitable for a prehistoric enclosed settlement. It is composed of three terraces that are created by discontinuations of monolithic rocks. It has a wide entrance of about 20m and a height of 5 m. The cave is located at the highest peak of Mount Tragjas and in a very difficult terrain to climb. The visit to this cave should only be realized with the presence of a guide. A stone hammer and some flint stones, dating back to the Neolithic period, have occasionally been found in the cave.

### ***18-KANINA TEKKE***

The Kanina Tekke is located in the Neighbourhood of Madhaj, in the Village of Kanine, Municipality of Vlora, and is proclaimed a Category I Cultural Monuments upon Decision No. 688.

The tekke, as well as the shrine in its vicinity, is located in the Village Madhaj's Neighbourhood, in vicinity of the current centre of the village. They were part of one urban environment, which consisted of the tekke at the centre of the composition, two nearby shrines, one settlement with a yard on its southern side, and concave remains on its southern and eastern side. The tekke, named after Father Seit, belongs to the helvetic sect and should have been built during the middle of the nineteenth century. It is preserved as a building with one voluminous hall and used to be topped with a roof of wooden structure covered by slabs. In the eastern wing of the hall there is a small space used for sacrifices for believers. The footprints indicate that on the front side, the tekke was in the initial stage fore-fronted by an arcade-open yard. The shrine that is well preserved on the western side of the tekke, is a one volumetric object, with a square planning covered with single dome on the drum. The constructive system is with retaining walls. The masonry is made of stones stitched with lime mortar. The tekke roof has been constructed of timber, while the shrine is covered with the dome, made of stone and plaster. The porch that used to exist before, was supported by columns.

### ***19-THE TUMULUS BY THE CHURCH***

The tumulus by the Church is located in the Village of Tragjas, Municipality of Vlora, and was proclaimed a Category I Cultural Monument by Decision No. 6, of 15 January 1963.

Tragjasi's tumuli were mentioned by N. Ceka in an article in 1974, in the form of a note, after he visited them during some excavations in Dukat. He adds that the information about them is found in a material prepared for the Archaeological Map of Vlora District and deposited his notes to the Archives of the Institute of Archaeology. Today this material is not found in the archives of the Institute of Archaeology, while observations made on the ground in the place called the "Church shore", where the tumuli are thought of being located, show no trace of them. These tumuli date back to the Middle Bronze Period and were reused until ancient times, in some cases until Late Antiquity and Middle Ages. Usually they are hill-shaped formations, built with soil and stones on a central tumulus.

### ***20-FERUNI WATER SUPPLY***

Feruni Water Supply is located in the very heart of the Village of Dukati, Municipality of Vlora, and was proclaimed a declared a Category I Cultural Monument by Order of 08 January 1977.

Feruni Water Supply is located near Mount Karaburuni, just above the River Gjinare. The water supply has a width of 1.90 m and a height of 6 m from the water level. The open water ditch is 1 m wide and 0.5 m deep. It is used for irrigation, from the water coming from Mount Llogara. The water supply is with two circular shape or circular segment lentils, as well as a discharge window. The main elements that make up the stone and lentil waterworks are: foundations and supporting walls on the shores, columns, bushes, frontal walls with fillings between them, discharging or facilitating windows (holes), cushioning and the side walls that restrict the canal. The vault is in the shape of a circle, or of circular segment.

## **21- DELVINA CASTLE**

Delvina Castle is located in Delvina, Municipality of Delvina, and was proclaimed a Category I Cultural Monument upon Decision No. 68/7 of 30 May 1970.

It is located in the Town of Delvina. It is set on a rocky stretch, expanding on the West - East direction, with a surface area of 0.17 ha. The eastern side is protected by two rows of walls. Delvina Castle features three turreted towers and an entrance to the northern side. From the outside, the fortification towers reach a height of 10-12 m. The main entrance to the fortress is on its eastern side. The first tower is preserved on the foundation and has the shape of a half ellipse (6,50 x 5,50 m). *Its beginnings.* The castle dates back since late antiquity, and was rebuilt in the XI-XIIth century, taking full shape in the XIII-XIVth century, with further reconstructions even during the Ottoman period. Today, the castle is preserved in average condition, it needs restoration and periodic cleaning from vegetation. The southern and western walls, and partly the northern one, are built on rugged rocks, using the natural protection that the terrain provides. If looked from the inside of the castle, the walls look flattened with the earth, but they inhabit the steep slopes of the hill, guarding it at a height of 2-7 m. The wall width ranges from 1.40 m and 2.60 m. The first tower was built with a wall, with unprocessed stones and tile pieces, arranged in an irregular manner with strong mortar, which defines the tower in the second phase of construction.

## **22- SKLLAPUAS CASTLE**

Skllapuas Castle is located in the Village of Vergo, and is proclaimed a Category I Cultural Monument upon Decision No. 6, of 15 January 1963.

Skllapuas Castle is located to the southwest of the Village of Vergo, where traces of poorly maintained walls and large stone blocks are visible. The wall dimensions are: 1.50 x 0.60 x 0.32 m. It dates back in the III-IInd century BC. Today, ruins of those few remaining walls are likely to disappear due to the mountainous terrain, atmospheric factors, vegetation, etc. The remaining



structures from the Skllapuas Castle consist of dry stone walls and lime mortar walls with altitudes ranging from 0.20 to 1.45 m. Massive stone blocks of 1.50 x 0.60 x 0.32 m can also be found there.

### **23-MEDIEVAL CASTLE OF KALASA**

The Medieval Castle of Kalasa is located in the Village of Kalasa, Municipality of Delvina, and is proclaimed a Category I Cultural Monument upon Decision No. 8, of 18 December 1987.

The ruins of this Castle are located in the Village of Kalasa, upstream of the river with the same name, which traverses a rich archaeological area, evidence of population of this territory since the ancient times. Kalasa Castle is mentioned for the first time in 1581 by the name of Kasteli, which is nothing but a Latin variant of Kalasa, and as a village inhabited with 74 houses, it appears two years later, in 1583, in Delvina's defter. Kalasa is described by Çelebiu, who visited the place during his second trip to Albania in 1670. Kalasa was under the administrative dependence of Delvina, and served as the centre of Kurvelesh Sub-Prefecture. The castle has the shape of a pentagram. Three of the angles of the pentagram have been equipped with towers. The first tower is the only circular tower in this fortress. Another characteristic feature of military constructions of this period is the fact that the fortress rises from a very low ground, not to say a lowland, which is not at all a characteristic of the Turkish medieval fortresses. Within it, there were only a few houses, a praying place, and a grocery store. The east was guarded by an iron gate. The *dizdar* (Commander of the Fortress) and 100 soldiers used to stay in the castle. The castle is assumed of having been built around the 1570s, when a situation similar to that of 1537 was created – namely the Venetian-Turkish war and the Albanian insurgency of the Sea Coast (*Bregu i Detit*) region. Today, the Monument preserves only very few fragments of the Castle walls. The pentagram-shape castle was entirely built of stonewalls on a 270 meter radius, including a surface area of less than half a hectare. On isolated spots, the walls are stored at 4 to 6 m height, but most often than not are flattened with the earth. The walls are made of plaster-stoned mortar, and placed in almost horizontal lines. A lot of care has been shown in the masonry of the towers, especially in the second tower, where stones are set in a perfectly regular fashion.

### **24-THE ANTIQUE CITY OF FOINIKE**

The Antique City of Foinike is located in the village of Finiq, Municipality of Finiq and is proclaimed a Category I Cultural Monument upon Decision No. 586, of 17 March 1948, No. 4874, of 23 September 1971, and Decision of the Council of Ministers No. 396, of 31 March 2005.

The Antique City of Foenike is located on the top of the hill of Finiq. Numerous writings of ancient authors (Polibi, Straboni, Tit Livi, Prokopi of Caesarea), in combination with the results of archaeological excavations of recent years, testify to the wealth and the great values of this city, mainly in the Hellenistic period, but also in the Roman and the

Paleochristian periods. Finiqi, as the writings of ancient authors testify, served as the centre of Kaonia, and in 234/2 BC became the capital of Koinon of Epirus. For this reason, and because of its geographical position, it played an important role in the political developments that followed the end of the first Macedonian-Roman war (215-205 BC), with the famous signature of the document called "Peace of Foinika", as testified by Titus Livius. Also, it was favoured by the conditions imposed by Rome's policy. Hence, with the imposition of *Pax Romana*, a series of construction works were carried out in the city, which included the reconstruction of buildings of social character. Then the city's surface surpassed the narrow boundaries of the Acropolis and spread to the bottom of the hill. This intensive construction activity continued until the Justinian era. The Finiqi Acropolis was surrounded by high walls, built in two phases. The earliest wall dates back to the end of the 4th century BC, while the second construction phase dates back to the end of the IVth century up to the Ist century BC. The acropolis environment was formed under an organized urban system. Buildings of social character were discovered in the eastern sector of the acropolis. One of these buildings, the so-called "**Thesauros**", was actually a simple Doric temple of two columns (*distylo*), dating back to the 12th century BC. A Paleochristian Church of Basilica type, which is nowadays preserved in bad condition, was built on this monument. Another monument of great importance to this city is the **City Theatre**, which, according to the specialists, used to have a capacity of 12,000 seats. Today, two periods of its construction, respectively the Hellenistic period and the Roman period, are clearly visible. The settlement called "**Two-Peristyle Settlement**" is a special testimony to the organization of urban planning of the ancient city, as it represents a complexity of areas with a typical planning of the Hellenistic period. Its layout is almost quadrilateral, with two central peristyle yards, one on the East side and the other on the West side, around which different environments were set. From the Roman period up until Late Antiquity, this dwelling was in use, undergoing changes that gradually changed its appearance. An important sector of the findings in Finiq is the **necropolis**, which lies on the eastern part in the hill in the area of the Village of Finiq and, on the west of the hill, in the place called Matomarë. The number of tombs discovered is big and they belong to a period of from the beginning of the IVth-IIIrd century BC, up until the IVth century of our area. These burials have provided very important materials, such as ceramic, ornamental jewellery, mortar stele with epigraphs, and others.

The construction technique of the monuments in the Town of Foinik is different and varies according to the periods. The structures of the Hellenistic period are constructed with rocky blocks of isodomic or pseudo-isodomic shapes of various dimensions, connected in dry, without any mortar to bind them together. The perimeter wall responds to the isodomic system with large stone blocks (first phase) and polygonal and pseudo-isodomic system with average stone dimensions (second phase). Structures of the Roman period follow a construction technique making use of small stones bound with mortar, usually *opus incertum* with horizontal brick lines. Whereas Late Antiquity period's structures follow a construction technique which makes use of stones of various sizes, bound by mortar. Since 2000, the Park of Finiq hosts annual archaeological excavations, under a cooperation agreement reached between the University of

Bologna and the Institute of Archaeology. In recent years, new excavations have focused on the following monuments: Antique Stoa, Roman Terms, Hellenistic Villas, Agora, Great Basilica etc.

## **25- BOUNDARY AND REGULATION OF ADMINISTRATION OF THE ARCHAEOLOGICAL PARK OF FINIQ**

The Archaeological Park of Finiq is located in the Village of Finiq, Municipality of Finiq, and was proclaimed a Category I Cultural Monument upon Decision No. 586, of 17 March 1948, No. 4874, of 23 September 1971.

Finiq Archaeological Area is located in today's Village of Finiq, including a part of the village Blerimas and Buronja. The Ancient City is located on the top of the Village of Finiq, which is the Protected Area "A". Protected Area "A" hosts the ruins of the earlier dwellings since its formation. Starting from the fortification wall, its earliest period dates back to the Vth and IVth century BC, the social objects, the cult and the dwelling within it, which reflect the main periods of the ancient city, the Hellenistic, Roman and Paleochristian periods. Protected Area "B" extends mainly in today's village of Finiq and in a part in the Village of Blerimas and Buronjë. Zone "B" is mainly located in the inhabited area of the Village of Finiq, with over 420 houses. This area includes the necropolis of the ancient city, which lies in the eastern part of the hill in the area of the village of Finiq, and on the west of the hill, in the place called Matomarë. The number of tombs discovered is big. They belong to a period ranging from the beginning of the IVth-IIIrd century BC, up until the IVth century of our area. These burials have provided very important materials, such as ceramic, ornamental jewellery, mortar stele with epigraphs, and others. The area hosts ruins of the Roman period, which are found within today's Villages of Finiq. Outside the inhabited area, in the Eastern side of the village, on the side of the former Saranda-Gjirokastra national road there is a remnant of the Paleochristian period, a monument called the *Justinian Waterworks*. The technique used for building monuments in the archaeological area of Finiq is different and varies according to periods of construction. The structures of the Hellenistic period are constructed with rocky blocks in isodomic or pseudo-isodomic shapes of various dimensions, connected in dry without mortar. Structures of the Roman period follow a construction technique making use of small stones bound with mortar, usually of *opus incertum* kind, with horizontal brick lines. Whereas Late Antiquity period's structures follow a construction technique, which makes use of stones of various sizes, bound by mortar. Since 2000, the Park of Finiq hosts annual archaeological excavations, thanks to a cooperation agreement reached between the University of Bologna and the Institute of Archaeology. In recent years, new excavations have focused on the following monuments: Antique Stoa, Roman Terms, Hellenistic Villas, Agora, Great Basilica etc. Also, numerous conservation interventions are realized for improving the Park's infrastructure, such as: the Ticket Office, wooden infrastructure and walkways, parking lots etc.

## **26- SENICA CAVE**

Senica Cave is located in the Village of Senica, Municipality of Delvina, and is proclaimed a Category I Cultural Monument, upon Decision No. 06 of 15 January 1963.

It is located in the centre of the Village of Senica. It was a natural karst cave, which in the '80s was severely damaged by the mechanical actions it had to suffer because of efforts to open a roadway and the construction of houses in its vicinity. It is well known for its historical values, as it has hosted, respectively in 1610 and on 10 April 1770, the Assembly of Selenica, attended by the heads of the southern regions and whose main purpose was to commit to fights against foreign invaders. On August 15, 2009, the Covenant Memorial was established in this place, as a sign of respect and in memory of the patriotic spirit of the village. No trace of it is found in the place where Senica's Cave was located. A memorial dedicated to the Covenant was built over its rocks. A proposal is issued to remove this site from the list of monuments, since currently it has no trace of any monument.

## ***27- THE CAVE WITH PAINTINGS***

The cave with paintings is located in the Village of Kostari, Municipality of Finiq and was proclaimed a Category I Cultural Monument upon Decision No 68/7, of 30 May 1970.

It is located on the northern side of the Village of Kostar. The church was built at the end of the XVIIIth century. It consists of the naos, narthex, and a small foyer tied between them. On the wall of the church door there is a fresco of Saint Mary and the door has the year 1775 engraved on it, which probably is the year when the painting was realised. On the right of the door lies the staircase which leads to the upper floor, while the fire room is located above the foyer. The fire room features a chimney and has, on the side, two ornamental circles and a baking oven. The fire room has a small window allowing one to mount on the roof of the church, which is located inside the cave. Over the right-hand area, there is another room with a closet on the wall. The naos consists of an architecture that does not adhere to the terrain, while the narthex is linked to the naos. The church has two staircases below. It has a round shape and all the walls are painted, but faded from the smoke of the candles, because it has only one window. The church preserves a very interesting wooden iconostasis, of dimensions of 4.7 meters long and 3.9 m high. Currently, the monument hosts religious ceremonies organized by the locals. It is built on the side of the mountain, supported on a rocky mass, with stones lined with lime mortar, while the roof is made of wooden beams and covered with tiles.

## ***28- THE TOMBS***

The tombs (*Varroshi*) are located in the Village of Vergo, Municipality of Delvina and are proclaimed a Category I Cultural Monument upon Decision No. 266/1, of 16 February 1979.

The tombs are located in the Village of Vergo. They were built in 1827. The tomb in Vergo is of interest from the compositional point of view. This tomb has a rectangular shape. Up to 1.4 m height the masonry is complete. In the upper part, the masonry is interrupted by three spaces in the long ribs and two spaces in the short ribs. The spaces are formed by a semi-circular stone arch. The upper part of the masonry above the vaults is crowned with a masterly stoned frame. *Varroshi's* structure in Vergo is built of stone mortar with lime mortar. The masonry of this structure is built over a regular basis, using hewn stones on its corners. The masonry has a width of 40-50 cm and its height ranged from 1.4m to 2.4m. The end part of the arches rests on the stone pillows, located on the upper part of the cylindrical-shaped stone columns. On the other side, the side arches are supported directly on the corners of the masonry on the vault, crowned by a stone frame. Originally, the tomb was covered by a roof. The monument is not in good condition, hence, it needs restoration.

### ***29- THE STONE BRIDGE OF TATZATI OVER KALASË RIVER, UNDER SHKUMBIN***

The stone bridge of Tatzati over the Castle River, is located in Tatzat, Municipality of Delvina, and was proclaimed a Category I Cultural Monument upon Decision No. 2509/1, of 30 June 1983.

The bridge under the cliff of Tatzati lies between the villages of Kalasë and Tatzat and served to pass the river. This bridge was built on the Kalasa River in the Middle Ages, near the springs, and connected the road from Tatzati to the Sea Coast. The bridge is 34.8 m long. Its cobblestone pavement has a width of 2.40 m, sloping on both sides, with an elevation to the keystone and with a parapet. **It collapsed in 2008.** Just the two left feet are remained from the former bridge. The upper part is replaced with metal profiles by the local residents. The bridge was built of stonewall and stone arch and a rocky cobblestone roadway. It used to have only one arch with a canoe-shaped vault, with a space of about 12 m. The vault with a height of 0.47 cm was followed by a voussoir. It used to have a stone parapet of a height of 50 cm on both sides. It is known for the use of not-so-much processed limestone.

### ***30- JESIRI BRIDGE 200 m FURTHER DOWN TO TATZATI BRIDGE***

Jesiri Bridge, 200 m below the Tatzat Bridge, is located in the Village of Tatzat, Municipality of Delvina, and was proclaimed a Category I Cultural Monument by Decision No. 2509/1, of 30 June 1983.

Jesiri Bridge is located about 200 m below the Tatzat Bridge, towards the south. It was built during Ali Pasha's time. The arch light area is 8.30 m, and the height to the keystone is 3.20 m. The bridge's cobbled roadway is 2.40 m wide, there are pitched areas in the vault's stones and elevations on both sides of the keystone. Traces of a column on the cobblestone sides establish that the bridge used to have a parapet. Today the river is diverted and there is no water under the bridge. The sidewalls of the bridge are made of slightly hewn limestone. The bridge vault is shaped something in between the circular segment and the arch. The bridge is currently

preserved in good condition, its cobblestone roadway and the sidewall on the southern side are slightly damaged.

### ***31- THE STONE BRIDGE OF ÇINA OVER KALASA RIVER, BETWEEN THE VILLAGES OF TATZAT AND KALASA, AND THE COBBLE ROAD IN ITS VICINITY***

The stone bridge of Çina over Kalasë River, between the villages of Tatzat – Kalasë and the cobble road in its vicinity are located in the Village of Kalasë, Municipality of Delvina. It is proclaimed a Category I Cultural Monument upon Decision No 2509/1, of 30 June 1983.

Çina Bridge is located on the medieval Delvina - Coastal road, which cobble roadway is still preserved. It has only one circular segment arch with a steep support. The height above water level is about 5.3 m. The arch thickness varies from the support to the pier and ranges from 47 cm to 53 cm. The width of the bridge is 2.2 m and its cobbled roadway has a stone parapet on both sides, of about 40 cm high, made up of stone columns. The bridge is constructed of large stones laid out irregularly, with the gaps filled with small stones. The stone arch has a light space of 7.6 m and is followed by a voussoir contour, along the decorative frontal arch of 20 cm. The cobbled roadway of the bridge was constructed with limestone rocks, laid out irregularly, interrupted every 80-90cm with staggered streaks. In the current state, a part of the cobbled roadway of the bridge, as well as the cobbled road near the bridge, on its northern side, is damaged.

### ***32- JESIRI BRIDGE BETWEEN QËNDËR AND “FSHATARI” NEIGHBOURHOODS***

Jesiri Bridge between *Qëndër* and *Fshatari* Neighbourhoods is located in the Village of Kalasa, Municipality of Delvina, and is proclaimed a Category I Cultural Monument upon Decision No. 2509/1, of 30 June 1983.

Jesiri Bridge is located in the centre of the Village of Kalasa, and connects the two oldest neighbourhoods of the village. The bridge is 28.6 m long and has 12 m of arch light space. The bridge vault has a height of 0.52 m and is crossed from above by a voussoir frame of 0.20 m. It is paved with cobbled stone with a width of 2.45 m. Jesiri Bridge was built in the period of Ali Pasha. The bridge is maintained in good condition. Its sidewalls are made of limestone. The cobblestone roadway of the bridge was built in two construction phases. The first stage of chalky limestone is easily distinguishable.

### ***33- STONE BRIDGE OVER THE RIVER KALASA, IN VICINITY TO THE MILL***

The Stone Bridge over the River Kalasa, is located in vicinity of the mill, in the Village of Kalasa, Municipality of Delvina, and was proclaimed a Category I Cultural Monument upon Decision No.8, of 18 December 1987.

The bridge is located in the village of Kalasa, in vicinity of the mill, and used to link two neighbourhoods of the village, as well as the roads connecting Kalasa with Nivica. The length of the bridge is 21,8 m and it houses a circular arch-shaped vault allowing 8 m of light space. The bridge height from the water level is about 5 m. The voussoir is 0.45 m thick, has a steep support and is contoured on the top with a stone frame. Its cobbled roadway is 2.70 m wide, features a traditional composition and has no parapet. It was built in the Middle Ages. The cobblestone roadway of the bridge is currently damaged in some places. The bridge is built with an arch. The sidewalls of the bridge are made of limestone. Extremities are made of carved stones. The cobblestone roadway is realized with stones of various sizes.

### ***34- THE OLD WELLS***

The old wells are located in the Village of Dhrovjan, Municipality of Finiq, and are proclaimed a Category I Cultural Monument upon Decision No. 266/1, of 16 February 1979.

The old wells are located in the village of Dhrovjan and were built in the 18th century, around 1780-1800. The need to build these cistern wells in this village is largely conditioned by the lack of surface waters. The wells are 6 m deep, and are dug on the ground. They have a number of windows that served to collect water from the well. Some small arrays are designed to serve for placement of lighteners in the spaces between the windows. The construction of these wells is mainly realised by the Kolonja masters, in the District of Korça. Over time, the stone frame of the shelter, along with the slab-made roof covering, was almost completely damaged. The wells are in poor condition and need immediate restoration. The structure of the wells is made of stone masonry and lime mortar. The thickness of the perimeter walls varies from 65 to 75 cm. The structure of the vaults is made of chiselled stones. The wells are covered with stone vaulted constructions. The masonry of the corners is made of more elaborately carved stones. Also, the masonry between the spaces of the windows from the floor level, preceding the well, from this point up to the beginning of the arch of the windows is constructed of carved stones in a quadrilateral shape, put in regular rows. The upper part of the masonry is made of irregularly shaped rocks and has a beautifully worked stone frame on the rooftop. Over time, the stone frame of the shelter, along with the tile-made roof covering was almost completely damaged. The wells need restoration, as well number one has present numerous vault damage.

### ***35- ST. MARY'S MONASTERY CHURCH***

St. Mary's Monastery Church is located in the Village of Kameno-Kakodhiq, Municipality of Delvina, and was proclaimed a Category I Cultural Monument upon Decision No. 68/7, of 30 May 1970.

St. Mary's Church of Kameno is located northeast of the Town of Delvina, at the foot of Mali i Gjerë (Mount Wide). It was built in 1580 and painted or repainted in 1662 by painter Mihal of

Zerva. It consists of the naos, narthex, altar and the porch. The apse is a cross-shaped dome with an interior size of 7.30 x 6.20 m. The cross arms are not equal. The largest is the eastern arm, which forms the altar area. The constituent parts of this environment end up with apses going outside. The naos relates to the narthex on the west side by way of three spaces. The porch was added to the western side of the narthex at a later time. The belfry is built in the form of a small tower on the front of the western wall of the narthex, whose sides consist of four niches. Only a few traces of the old monastery building are remained nowadays. A two-storey building nestles northwest of the church, the last construction of the XIXth century, containing many architectural and decorative elements made of engraved stone. Today, the church also serves for religious ceremonies. The technique used for its construction is simple -- stones attached with lime mortar. The walls finish with fine brick frames, placed in a saw-shaped form. The window arch covers are built with bricks. The eastern area, which is the alter way, is covered with a cylindrical vault, while the western end with dome. The belltower elements are made of carved stones. The porch opens by way of a triple arcade on thick pillars and used to be covered with a wooden roof, with no ceiling.

### ***36- RUINS OF KAMENICA CHURCH***

The ruins of Kamenica Church are located in the Village of Palavli, Municipality of Delvina, and are proclaimed a Category I Cultural Monument upon Decision No. 68/7, of 30 May 1970.

The church has one nave, with a semi-circular apse with a simple **synthron**. It has an irregular rectangular shape, which may have come due to land movements, or deformation of the walls, which are partially stored to the surface of the terrain. The walls, with a thickness of 0.65 to 0.70 m, are made of pumice, limestone and brick fragments connected with lime mortar and rough sand. The construction of the church structure is carried out with stones lined with lime mortar. The masonry is built on a regular fashion and clay tiles are placed in special sections of the church, in between the stones. The corners of the entrance gate stones are carved. The height of undamaged walls varies from 0.50 to 1.95m. Wall thickness is 50-60 cm. The structure of the masonry is extremely damaged.

### ***37- ST. JOHN'S CHURCH***

The St. John's Church is located in the village of Blerimas, and was proclaimed a Category I Cultural Monument upon Decision No. 156, of 04 April 2002.

St. John's Basilica is located almost 1 km west of the Village of Blerimas (Shijani), in the left flow of the River Kalasa, on top of a small hill with sandy geological composition. It is here that the ruins of a basilica of late antiquity, recognized by the local inhabitants by the name of Saint John are located. The first excavations here were carried out in 1981, only to resume again after a long time in the years 2001-2003, when the monument's full digging was realised and its architecture saw light in full. The Basilica has gone through four phases of construction: the first phase belongs to the Xth century, when a small church with semi-circular nave and apse, with five



entrances, of which the west side equipped with granite columns, was built. The second phase belongs to the end of the Xth century and the beginning of the XIth century, when the Church was transformed into a Basilica with three naves, three half-circular shape apses in the eastern part, a narthex, and a new entrance to the southern side. In the third phase, dating back to the XIIIth century, an exonarthex was added to the Church and the central (naos) environment was divided into three parts. Finally, in the fourth phase, after the Basilica was destroyed, a small chapel was built in the northern part of the narthex. At this stage, the walls are painted with frescoes. Numerous tombs were located in the interior of the church and on its exterior, on the eastern side. In 2010, conservation and restoration interventions were carried on the floor of St. John's Basilica. In 2016, the first phase of the restoration project was completed in this monument, including the consolidation of the church walls, namely of the walls of the central nave and the apse. In a second phase, the implementation of conservation interventions is proposed for the entire monument complex. The structure of the St. John's Church is mainly built of stone masonry, with lime mortar. In the undamaged sections of the masonry of the church's perimeter, one can observe that the masonry was constructed in a regular and uniform manner, using hewn stones. The height of undamaged masonry ranges from 0.20 to 1.10 m, while the thickness varies from 0.50 to 0.65 m. In the undamaged sections of the Basilica floor, one can clearly notice that the floor is constructed with 8-12 cm thick stone slabs.

### **38-ST. NICHOLAS MONASTERY CHURCH**

St. Nicholas Monastery is located in the Village of Mesopotam, Municipality of Finiq, and is proclaimed a Category I Cultural Monument upon Decision No. 586, of 17 March 1948, and Decision No. 4874, of 23 September 1971.

St. Nicholas Monastery Church is located on the south of the Monastery. This church is of a unique type and is the largest of the Byzantine churches preserved in Albania out the churches of the XI-XIVth century. The church has the shape of a cuboid, with the central part rising higher above, and crowned by four domes. The church is thought of being surrounded in three sides with galleries or open porches with arches, which collapsed in 1793. The church consists of the narthex, the naos and the altar. The naos bears a square shape, with a column in the centre. It is separated from the narthex by a four-pillar arch. The church hosts three separate volumes that communicate through the arches. The southern wall and the western wall feature three windows each. Instead, the northern wall features two windows. According to researchers, in 1510, the church was hit by an earthquake, which caused a lot of damage. The church is known for its unique architecture, its brick decoration, for its sculptural reliefs on the exterior façade walls, its capitals, artistic values, the level of construction of the Byzantine style, without excluding any Roman influence. It belongs to the XIIIth century, which is visible from the *Anzhuin* emblem. The exterior walls of the Church consist of three horizontal belts. The lower part of the walls is made of limestone, with relatively large proportions and with the externally chiselled sides. The southern wall is well preserved. The stones are carved well, only on the exterior. The Church is covered with domes and spherical arches, which rise above a quadrilateral network, serving for holding the arches and blind arches. It represents the only

case in the Byzantine architectural world where the 4 domes on the drum are supported on a single 48 cm diameter pillar.

### ***39-ST. TRIADHA'S MONASTERY CHURCH***

St. Triadha's Monastery Church is located in the Village of Kardhikaq, Municipality of Finiq, and was proclaimed a Category I Cultural Monument upon Decision No. 68/7, of 30 May 1970.

It is built on a dominant place. It is composed of the naos and semi-circled narthex on its western side. The naos has one nave, with internal dimensions of 7 x 3.90 m. Three pairs of pilasters are projected from the longitudinal walls, which are connected with arches in the transverse direction, creating 4 spaces covered with cylindrical vaults. A semi-circular apse stretches out in the east. Natural light comes from small windows on the northern and southern walls. An interesting construction was also represented by the narthex. On the south side, it used to be open with an elegant trio arcade over thin stone columns. The internal structure is also reflected in external voluminous composition. The longitudinal roof is interrupted by the higher volume of a transverse nave, covered with a double-pitched roof, creating a cross-shaped roof. From the inscription, we learn that the church was painted in 1827. It is likely that it is a question of a repainting, in which case the construction time is not necessarily reflected. However, based on the typological features, the church should belong to the end of the XVIth century, or beginning of the XVIIth century. The church is not currently in good shape and needs restoration. The church was built with stones lined with lime mortar, ending with a thin stone frame. The apse is constructed with more care. It is decorated with a number of brick arches, which create a narrow frieze in the upper part, while from the above, the masonry is concluded with a frame of carved stones.

### ***40-ST. ATHANASIOS' MONASTERY CHURCH***

St. Athanasios' Monastery Church is located in the Village of Kardhikaq, Municipality of Finiq, and it is proclaimed a Category I Cultural Monument upon Decision No. 68/7, of 30 May 1970.

St. Athanasios' Church is located north of the entrance to the Village of Pec, within the circumference of the village cemetery, about 500 m below the national road. The church has a simple planning shape and is classified as a one-nave church, with a narthex added to the southern part. It was built and painted in 1525. The interior wall is covered with frescoes by the talented artist Ilia Llongoviti. External treatment is very poor and lacks any decorative element. The church is small, 5.80 x 3.50 meters. Currently, the entrance to the church is realised through the southern side, through premises that have been added latter to the initial building. It has no windows, is covered by a wooden roof, lacks a ceiling and is paved with stone tiles. In the original form, it appears that the Church consisted of the naos and one narthex on the western side. The naos is separated from the eastern altar by a low iconostasis, built with a two-entry stonewall. The altar contains circular apses, with an exterior exit and a small niche on the north wall. Traces of the narthex are preserved on its west side, while the gate connecting it to the naos is mured. The masonry is a made up of little hewn stones, lined with lime mortar. The roof with

no ceiling is covered with stone slabs. The floor is made of stone tiles, which are not properly levelled. On the northern and western side, the walls are reinforced, thus increasing the durability of the construction structure. The narthex was covered with a two-pitched roof, rising at the same height as that of the naos. The church needs restoration works.

#### ***41-ST. NICHOLAS' MONASTERY CHURCH***

St. Nicholas' Monastery Church is located in the Village of Dhrovjani i Sipërm, Municipality of Finiq, and was proclaimed a Category I Cultural Monument upon Decision Nr.68/7, of 30 May 1970.

It is located in the village of Dhrovjan. It is a church made up of the naos and the narthex. The naosi has one nave, with a three-coned apse. To the western side, it connects with the narthex and is illuminated by the open windows on the southern wall. The external dimensions of the church are 21,1x12,6 m. The exterior is simple and stripped of decorative elements. The church is distinguished not only for the size, but also for its masterful decoration. The interior is adorned with a beautiful stone-carved iconostasis, dating back in the beginning of the nineteenth century. The three apses are curved on the outside. Given its planning structure, it is thought that the building of the church should belong to the end of the XVIIIth century. It was then rebuilt in 1846. The masonry is made of limestone connected by lime mortar, while the roof is covered with tiles. The walls end with flat cornices on which the roof was built. Today, the church is preserved in good shape.

#### ***42-GJIN ALEKSI'S MOSQUE***

Gjin Aleks's Mosque is located in the Village of Rusan, Municipality of Delvinë, and was proclaimed a Category I Cultural Monument by Decision No. 6, of 15 January 1963 and Decision No. 68/7, of 30 May 1970.

The complex consists of the Gjin Aleks's Mosque, surrounded by 4 polygonal tombs and the mosque's spring.

The mosque is a monument of value in its kind. Two polygonal tombs are placed in front of the mosque's porch, a third tomb is attached to the southern wall of the mosque and the fourth one lies behind the mosque. Part of this complex on the eastern side is an early drinking fountain. The main volume of the mosque consists of a porch, a prayer room, and a minaret. The prayer room is a square of 8 x 8m, whose cubic volume is covered with a spherical dome built of bricks. The cubic section of the hall is visible through a frame, over which the high octagonal drum can be seen. Once one enters the hall, he/she can see a **mafili** supported on the wooden arcade and the wooden floor tracks. In front of the entrance, to the south-eastern side lies a mihrab, treated as a niche. Three-row windows, with arches or architraves, are located on the walls of the main hall. In the present situation, there are few signs of mural paintings and Arabic inscriptions on the inside of the hall. The masonry of the prayer room is made of raw stones of various sizes.

The minaret was built with stones. The porch has a rectangular shape and is divided in the middle by an alley that leads to the main gate of the prayer room. The ceiling consists of a dome system, while the encirclement consists of stone arches supported in 10 columns.

#### **43- URBAN PLANNING COMPLEX AT LEJLA MALO NEIGHBOURHOOD – (Gjer Mahallë)- – (Mosque, Bridge, Drinking fountain, Hammam)**

The urban planning complex at Lejla Malo neighbourhood – (Gjer Mahallë)- – (a mosque, bridge, drinking fountain, and a hammam) is located in Xhermëhallë, Municipality of Delvinë and is proclaimed a Category I Cultural Monument, upon Decision No. 1886, of 10 June 1973.

It is located in the City of Delvina, at Lejla Malo Neighbourhood.

The most important and earliest artefact of the Gjer Mahalla Islamic complex is the mosque, which construction dates back in the XVIth century. The hammam is also constructed in the XVIth century, while the drinking fountains and the bridge belong to the XVIIth century. Finally, the two tombs should have been built during the XVIII-XIXth centuries. The minaret, built of stones and tiles, used to be near the minaret. Today, it is no longer preserved. Judging from the features of the area, the construction technique should be one of the earliest used for construction of complexes, probably at the beginning of the XVIth century. In 2009, this complex underwent a restoration, focusing mainly on the mosque restoration works, in some ruins that are thought of being a school (a Medresse) for religious and public services' personnel, the drinking fountains, and the tomb near the mosque. In 2014, restoration works were carried out in the hammam. Following the restoration works of the first phase, the monument is currently in good condition.

But, the crack in one of the arches of the hammam cupola (at its entrance) is still a problem. In the meantime, the second phase of the restoration, which will include the whole Islamic complex, is necessary. The mosque typically represents the square-sized mosque and is built with stone wall and lime mortar. In its south-western corner, one can see the drum of the minaret, collapsed many years ago. It used to be covered by a four-pitched roof, which in the central part rested on a stone arcade. The tomb near the mosque is built with a stone wall. The polygonal masonry is preserved to the level of the dome foot, which is ruined. The tomb behind the drinking fountains is preserved as a construction, but has no tiling cover. The hammam is built with stone-made walls and a cover, and is domed and tiled.

#### **44- RUINS OF THE VILLAGE OF KAMENICA**

The ruins of the Village of Kamenica are located in the Village of Palavli, and are proclaimed a Category I Cultural Monument, upon Decision of 08 January 1977.

The Village of Kamenica is located 5 km north of Delvina, at the foot of the south-western slope of *Mali i Gjerë*. Kamenica lies on two hills, which are connected by a low pass. The dwellings lie in the high parts of the two hills and in the pass connecting them, called "Pass of the Bazaar", which also serves as the main part of the village. The village of Kamenica has 5 neighbourhoods. The main neighbourhood is named Kamenica (222 households) and the 4 suburb neighbourhoods are those of Makuri (119 families), Vulur (92), Vragoj (89), and Gandaç (84). In the Ottoman census of 1431, Kamenica is mentioned as having 267 dwellings and in the census of the year 1582, it is reported of having with 222 dwellings. Stemming from the composition of the architecture of dwellings, and their plan and volume, one can distinguish two building blocks: those accommodating a higher number of households and with larger premises, and others with the same typology, but more modest in size. The former are built on the tops of two hills and at the *Pass of the Bazaar*, while the latter at the foot of the hillside. Kamenica has so far discovered 12 churches: 9 in Kamenica neighbourhood, 1 in *Fiqt 'e Lape*, 1 in the Jominai area (the Jominai Church), and one in the southwest of the Village of Palavli. Churches are built in all the village neighbourhoods. Most of the churches have their interior decorated with wall paintings. The ruins found today in Kamenica share the same degree of damage. This leads to the conclusion of a collective abandonment, which took place in the early XVIIth century. From the size point of view, Kamenica was ranked second after Delvina and yielded 19,740 acres. From the ruins of the Village of Kamenica, it is estimated that the structure of construction is mainly with masonry stone construction, with lime mortar. The ruins of tower rose to 3.8 meters high, with a wall width ranging from 0.95 m/foundation to 0.65 m. Housing ruins were raised mainly at the height of 2 floors, with a masonry width of 0.7 to 0.8 meters. The monument is not in good shape.

#### **45- STATE DWELLING (FORMER RESIDENCE OF ALUSH DIZDARI)**

The state dwelling (former residence of Alush Dizdari) is located in the Village of Rusan, Municipality of Delvina, and was proclaimed a Category I Cultural Monument upon Decision No. 266/1, of 16 February 1979.

It is located in the centre of the Village of Rusan and was built in 1858. It looks westwards and is part of the category of houses developed on both sides. The compositional nucleus consists of the ground floor, the mezzanine and the first floor. The ground floor is connected to the first floor via stone staircases. In the architectural treatment point of view, the main place is covered by the southern view, featuring the front of the two stretched sides of the building. The first floor has been paved with beech and pinewood, while the ground floor was paved with stone slabs. Below the windows of the first floor, in the exterior side, in its frontline there is a parapet with a limestone-decorated frame, containing small arches attached below it. Today, the dwelling is not in good condition. There is an urgent need for the restoration of the site, because its roof, its front and central part collapsed in 2010. The front part of the residence on both floors is currently preserved, but these parts are at risk of collapse. The masonry of the building is made of stones, lined with lime mortar. The doors, windows and corners are formed of well-cut stone frames on both floors. The roof has realized with beams and wooden planks, and was covered with tiles.

#### ***46- VASIL ZHUPA'S RESIDENCE***

Vasil Zhupa's residence is located in the Village of Dhrovjan i Sipërm, and was proclaimed a Category I Cultural Monument upon Decision No. 266/1, of 16 February 1979.

Vasil Zhupa's residence is located in the Village of Dhrovjan i Sipërm. The residence is a three-storey stone building, covered with stone slabs. It is surrounded with perimeter walls and has undergone few transformations. The dwelling is of interest from the planning-volume development perspective. This specimen is of interest because it is one of the most developed buildings in this area, featuring a three-storey stone dwelling. The one-storey construction, attached to the residence, is of value as well. The residence dates back to 1892, while the yard's front door dates back to 1899. This residence has many windows on the front. The corners of the residence, the window and gate frames are constructed of hewn and good quality stones. The internal staircases connecting the floors are of limestone, while the first floor of the apartment is paved with stone tiles. The second floor features a hard wood floor. The exterior of the building has two vault-covered gateways and is surrounded by a high stone fence. The structure of the residence is made of masonry, made of stone and lime mortar throughout the three floors. The roof is made of wood and is covered with stone slabs. The three-storey building is joined by a one-storey structure, built with a masonry made of stone and lime mortar. The thickness of the stonewall of the residence is 75 cm. The corners of the residence, window and gates frames are built of hewn stones. The residence is not in good condition. It needs restoration, as it is degrading because of lack of interest on it.

#### ***47- EVRO AND AMALIA KOÇOLENI'S RESIDENCE***

Evro and Amalia Koçoleni's residence is located in the Village of Dhrovjan i Poshtëm, and is proclaimed a Category I Cultural Monument upon Decision No. 266/1, of 16 February 1979.

The Koçoleni Family residence is located in the Village of Dhrovjan and was built at the end of the XIXth century. It lies on a mountainous terrain, with its main view looking towards southeast. It is located in a right-angled quadrilateral position. It is a building of interest, belongs to the developed type, and is of a two-storey composition. The ground floor is mainly made up of a shed, mainly serving as a storage area for placing foodstuff and livestock products. The floor is paved with stone tiles. Auxiliary facilities are also put inside the residence, such as outdoor watersheds, huts and walled courtyard, where the exterior door is located. The residence needs restoration because it is in bad condition, at risk of extinction because of continuous degradation. The roof and parts of the interior wall have been demolished. The masonry is in general made of semi-elaborate stones, in some places lined with lime mortar and in some others in dry stone. The roof was covered with stone slabs. The shelters were made of stone, with short stone consoles. The external door is two-leafed, with arched stone architraves, covered with stone slabs.

#### ***48-JORGJI AND KOÇO AGORA'S RESIDENCE***

Jorgji and Koço Agora's residence is located in the Village of Dhvorjan i Sipërm, Municipality of Finiq, and was proclaimed a Category I Cultural Monument upon Decision No. 266/1, of 16 February 1979.

Jorgji and Koço Agora's residence is located in the Village of Dhrovjan i Sipërm and was built in 1900. The residence is a two-storey building. The ground floor of the residence serves as a shed, while the first floor serves residential purposes. On the first floor, a corridor separates the guestroom from the fireplace. The external staircases connecting the two floors are made of stone. The residence is rich in architectural and constructive elements, which indicates the evolution of the two-storey dwellings on the elements mentioned above. Compared to the two-storey residences of this area, the present residence is different from the planning point of view, because the corridor lies in between the two first-floor premises. The structure of the residence is made of stone, connected by lime mortar. The corners of the masonry are made of carved stones, and the gates and the windows are made of stone. The roof is made of wood and covered with stone slabs. The floor and stairs are paved with stone slabs. The stones used for the masonry structure are processed. Their regular form is observed through the corners of the residence, as well as in the doorway and window lintels. The width of the stonewall is 50 cm. The residence's owners have partially replaced the stone tiles of the roof with other material.

#### ***49-FOTO KONOMI'S RESIDENCE***

Foto Konomi's residence is located in the Village of Sirakat and was proclaimed a Category I Cultural Monument upon Decision No. 266/1, of 16 February 1979.

It is located in the Village of Sirakat, is built in the XIXth century and embodies features of civic residences. The residence is a two-storey building, partially rising to three-story height as well. Its composition features a characteristic break in volume. Its composition has mainly been affected by the steep terrain. It dates back in 1864. The ground floor and partly the first floor have served as a shed, while the second floor and partly the first floor is used for residential purposes. The apartment has typological and architectural values. The residence spaces were equipped with functional features such as ovens, chimneys, and so on. The structure of the residence is built of stone masonry, lined with lime mortar. The corners, door and window frames show signs of careful work. The roof is made up of beams and wooden planks, covered with tiles. The interior staircases, which connect the floors of the residence, are made of limestone and the first floor of the residence is paved with stone tiles. The second floor is made of hard wooden floors. The thickness of the masonry is 80 cm. The residence is not in good condition. It needs restoration as it is degrading every passing day, because of lack of interest in maintaining it.

## ***50-ARISTIDH LLOCI AND PEÇO MANELI'S RESIDENCE***

Aristidh Lloci and Peço Maneli's residence is located in the Village of Pecë and is proclaimed a Category I Cultural Monument upon Decision No. 266/1, of 16 February 1979.

It is located in the Village of Pecë and was built at the end of the XIXth century.

It is developed on two storeys. On the ground floor lies the shed, while the first floor serves residential purposes. The corners of the masonry are made of hewn stones and the gates and the windows have stone lintels. The roof was covered with stone slabs. The first floor and the stairs were paved with stone slabs. Judging from the residence's masonry, one can say that it is composed of stone masonry, lined with lime mortar. Thickness of the stone perimeter masonry is 65-70 cm. The residence is damaged in over its half. The residence is not in good condition, it needs a restorative intervention, because it is degrading every day from the abandonment of its inhabitants and the lack of maintenance. The roof has fallen down and the masonry has partially collapsed. The residence is in danger of complete destruction. In the current condition there is no pedestrian route and the soil where it is built is highly damaged too.

## ***51-XHEVAT AND XHAFER XHANGO'S RESIDENCE***

Xhevat and Xhafer Xhango's residence is located in the Village of Tatzat and was proclaimed a Category I Cultural Monument upon Decision No. 266/1, of 16 February 1979.

The residence is located on a high hill and belongs to the XIXth century. It is a one-storey building and represents one of the oldest types of residences in the entire area. The ground floor is made up of two sheds, while the first floor hosts the fire room and contains traces of the oven too. On the other side lies the guest room. The Village of Tatzat itself, with its residences built during the XVIIIth and XIXth century, is a typical medieval village. Its resident houses are generally 10 x 6 m. The residence in question is in a bad shape, as it is degrading by lack of care and abandonment by its owners. It needs urgent restoration, because a part of the roof and masonry have been demolished. The residence is built of stones and lime mortar, its corners, doors and windows are made of hewn limestone. The roof is covered with tiles and is damaged. As a result of degradation, numerous cracks are evident in the structure of the walls. The corners of the walls, doors and windows are made of carved stones. The thickness of the walls is 65 cm.

## ***52-SHEFIKO XHANGO'S RESIDENCE***

Shefiko Xhango's residence is located in the Village of Tatzat, Municipality of Delvina, and was proclaimed a Category I Cultural Monument upon Decision No. 266/1, of 16 February 1979.

Shefiko Xhangos's residence was built at the end of the XIXth century, with its main view overlooking down the east. It is a residence of a tower type, containing two venues. The ground floor serves as a shed for animals, while the first floor serves residential purposes. The two floors are connected with external stone stairs. The residence has typological values. The treatment of



the exterior of the building, especially the main image, raises an architectural interest. In this area, this residence carries the features of the above-mentioned type. The dwelling is built of stones and lime mortar, while its corners, gates and windows are made of carved limestone. The roof used to be covered with stone slabs. The residence is in a poor shape. It is degrading by lack of care, as it is abandoned by its owners. It needs urgent restorative intervention due to its degrading state.

### ***53-THE OLD ALBANIAN SCHOOL***

The Old Albanian School is located in the village of Senica, Municipality of Delvina and is proclaimed a Category I Cultural Monument upon Decision No. 266/1, of 16 February 1979.

It is located in the centre of the Village of Senica. The construction time, year 1862, is carved on a stone engraving. The residence built on a rugged mountainous terrain is a two-storey building. The ground floor served as a shed and the first floor (one room) served as a classroom. Communication was realised from the outside. Earlier, this building used to be one of the two churches of the Village of Senica, which in 1919 was restored by the patriot Spiro Gjika and was turned into the first Albanian School of the Region of Rrëzoma. Before the entrance, it used to have a roofed terrace and two stone staircases, which have collapsed over years and are covered by soil. The monument is not in good condition. It needs restoration because the roof has been demolished and is exposed to damaging atmospheric factors. The material used for its masonry is limestone, attached with lime mortar. The door, the windows, the corners and the parapet on the roof are formed of slab frames. The roof was made up of beams and wooden planks, covered with stone slabs. The floor on the ground floor is paved with stone tiles.

### ***54-PROTECTED AREA OF MESOPOTAMI MONASTERY***

The Protected Area of the Mesopotami Monastery is located in the Village of Mesopotam, and was proclaimed a Category I Cultural Monument upon Decision No. 72, of 03 March 2008.

St. Nicholas Monastery is located south of the Mesopotami Village, over a small hill between the two Bistrica riverbeds. It was built at the time of the Byzantine Emperor Constantine Monomachus (1042-1054). The church, the guesthouse, and ruins of the Monastery walls have survived. Along the wall line, some rooms are also present, but mainly in the form of ruins. Outside the northern part of the wall, there is a small cemetery. The main structure of the complex mainly dates back to the 6th century, with a significant reconstruction during the eleventh century. In the surrounding area, on the walls of the Medieval building, there are various building materials and Roman architectural elements. Among the scattered materials, one can see the axles of the pillars, a monolithic pillar, and a granite pillar. The Monastery used to have two entrances, where the largest was an arch-covered tower on the eastern side of the walls, and the other was located on the western side. Oral and source records speak of a fortified, very old Monastery built on a pagan temple attributed to Poseidon. The protected area around the Mesopotami

Monastery was proclaimed a Cultural Monument by the Ministry of Education and Science (the Minister) by Decision no. 72, of 03 March 2008. The public cemeteries of the Village of Mesopotam are located within the protected area. What is preserved to date from the Monastery are the ruins of the surrounding walls, which reach a territory of 100 m long, 80 m wide and are controlled by 7 rectangular towers. The belfry is preserved on its western side (one of its sides) at a height of 10 m. The protective walls are older than the existing Church. The Monastery chambers, which no longer exist, were built at a later phase. Archaeological excavations for uncovering the church's surrounding premises were realised during the years 2015 - 2016 in the area around the bell tower. Archaeological findings have been uncovered in the western part of the church. Auxiliary facilities have been built in the western part of the village cemetery. A part of the western perimeter wall has been consolidated.

### ***55-ST. MARY'S CHURCH IN PECË***

St. Mary's Church of Pecë, is located in the Village of Pecë, Municipality of Finiq, and was proclaimed a Category I Cultural Monument upon Decision No. 342, of 21 November 2014.

St. Mary's Church has one nave, with dimensions of 9,10x4,40 m. Its constituent environments are the naos, narthex and an open porch, which has been added to the main construction at a later stage. On the eastern side of the naos lies the altar, in which centre is the half circular apse from the inside, with the prothesis and of the diaconicon niches in its side and in the northern wall. The narthex and the porch stretch respectively to the west and to the south, and communication with the naos is done through two small entrances. The interior of the church was illuminated through small windows in the end and southern walls. The masonry is stripped of any kind of decorative work, except for the apse, which is treated with shallow decorative niches and with a thin frame, made of large rocks. Observations of the church masonry shows traces of use of ceramic wall tiles, which were integrated into the civil or religious building masonry for acoustic or decorative purposes. St. Mary's Church is built with stone masonry lined with lime mortar. Lightly carved stones are used for the masonry construction technique. The church corners are made of hewn stones. The roof is covered with tiles. Damage to masonry is observed as a consequence of degradation over the years. The naos is covered with a cylindrical vault, supported by four pairs of pillars tied to the arches.

### ***56-ST. ATHANASIOS' CHURCH***

St. Athanasios' Church is located in the Village of Muzinë, Municipality of Finiq and is proclaimed a Category I Cultural Monument upon Decision No. 344, of 21 November 2014.

St. Athanasios' Church represents a simple, one nave church, with an interior dimension of 7.5x4.0 m. Only the naos is preserved from the church, while the narthex on the western side has completely collapsed. On the eastern side of the naos lies the altar, consisting of semi-circled apses from the outside, with the prothesis and diaconicon niches on its sides and on the north. The interior of the church was illuminated by two narrow windows, on the southern wall, and

a small window beneath the apse wall. The entrance to the church was realized by the gate on the north side, while on the west it was linked to the narthex through a gateway between the two large windows, which cannot be identified nowadays, due to the collapse of the western wall of the naos. Stones connected by lime mortars were used to build the church. Its masonry is stripped of any kind of decorative workmanship, and ends with a thin stone frame. The building was covered with a triple-pitched roof, covered with stone slabs. Stones, lined with lime mortar, were used to build the church. Its masonry is stripped of any kind of decorative workmanship, and ends with a thin stone frame. The masonry is built by making use of the two-wall technique, with fillings between them, with dimensions of 65 cm. The connection between the two walls is generally realized with 2 x 12 x 12 wood belts, which are placed every 1.10 m, starting from the quota of 1.10 m. Cracks appear in the upper part of the masonry.

### 57- EPIGRAPHS OVER THE ROCK GRAMATA

The epigraphs over the Rock Gramata are located in the Karaburun Peninsula, Municipality of Vlora, and were proclaimed a Category I Cultural Monument upon Decision No. 95 of 16 October 1948 of the Institute of Sciences, Decision No. 6 of 15 January 1963 of the Rectorate of the State University of Tirana, and Decision No. 1886, of 10 June 1973 of the Ministry of Education and Science.

The Bay of Grammata, or the Bay of Gramma (the *Bay of Letters* in Greek), is located at the foot of the western slope of Karaburun, in an uninhabited area. In antiquity, the bay has originally served as one of the largest quarries of Karaburun Peninsula, which has been exploited since the VIth century BC. In this quarry, the cliff has been exploited at an altitude of 130 m and at a width of 100 m. After abandonment of the quarry, starting in the IIIrd century BC, over the flat sites created by cutting and removing the rocky blocks, sailors or travellers have engraved their prayers to survive from the storms. This tradition of prayer recording has continued throughout the Middle Ages, but it is afterwards dedicated to Christianity up until the XIXth century. The epigraphs are engraved in quadratic, oval, circular frames, in *tabula ansata* with an edicule in some cases. Most of the epigraphs in ancient Greek are addressed to Dioscuri -- Castor, and Pollux, who were the saviours of the sailors. During the Hellenistic period, the Bay served as an open sanctuary devoted to these Gods. The epigraphs contain also names of historical figures, such as those of Cnaeus Pompeius, the Byzantine Emperor John V Paleologus, and Marcus Antonius. The number of epigraphs is estimated to be around 1500. The flat rock sides, where the epigraphs are engraved, were opened during the time when the Bay was used as a quarry. The stone blocks were taken by opening channels on both sides, by use of wedges and disengagement of top-down blocks. The epigraphs are, in most cases, realized through the use of sharp chisels.

### 58- ST. MARY'S CHURCH

St. Mary's Church is located in the District of Vlora, Municipality of Himara, and was proclaimed a Category I Cultural Monument upon Decision No. 6 of 15 January 1963 of the Rectorate of the State University of Tirana, Decision No. 68/7, of 30 May 1970 of the Ministry of Education and Culture, and Decision No. 1886, of 10 June 1973 of the Ministry of Education and Science.

St. Mary's Church is built over a hill, about two hours east of the Town of Himara. According to an inscription on the entrance gate, the church was completed on April 10, 1795. The church is a three-nave-style basilica of 10,10 x 5,10 m. The naves are divided by columnar arches, which create quadrilateral nuclei due to their connection to the sidewalls, which are covered with cylindrical vaults, opening to the central nave. The altar space is separated with the three entrances by a fairly high-walled iconostasis. On the front of the central wall rises the belfry, while in the east it ends with a cylindrical apse. In today's state, the naos is covered with a usual top roof and has no ceiling. However, it is thought of having had a wooden ceiling, while the existence of the frescoes on the ceiling height and eleven buttresses surrounding the sidewalls are a sign showing that the church once had a cylindrical vault. The naos and the altar are painted with frescoes and inscriptions of important artistic and historical values. A semi-ruined Monastery building lies on the wings of the church. It is a two-storey building, the lower floor of which served as a shed, while the upper floor was used for residential purposes. The church has a regular masonry, with corners and frames embroidered with hewn stones. The apse masonry, which ends with a stone frame, consisting of a saw-shaped row between two straight rows, is as well made of hewn stones. The two-pitched roof, with a cut on the eastern side, is covered with tiles.

### ***59-LILO LLAZARI'S RESIDENCE***

Lilo Llazari's residence is located in Himara, Municipality of Himara, and was proclaimed a Category I Cultural Monument upon Decision No. 2854, of 08 August 1980, and Decision No. 814, of 25 October 1980.

The residence is located on a slope in the southern part of the Himara Castle. Its location is the reason why the frontal volume of the residence rises above the road, ensuring a free passage through a relatively long cylinder. The ground floor, which floor is almost at the level of the street layer, is formed by the volume of the **sterra** in the forehead and a pre-frontal area covered with two cylindrical vaults, in continuity of each-other, but with different spaces. The damaged soil, as well as the surface on the tunnel-shaped vault covering the road, allows one to pass to the first floor, which is partially a ground floor. The added volume caused due to the use of premises is divided by a longitudinal wall, by covering the first volume with a vault. This place has served as a storage area for food reserves. The second floor, the only one habited, has a compressed plan, more or less with a configuration resembling the square. Between the two end

facilities, respectively the firehouse on the right, and of the cooking/oven area on the left, lies a connecting corridor to avoid the passage from one room to the other. **Note:** We could not visit the interior of the residence, since its owner was not in Albania. However, despite of it, it is clear that the integrity of the residence is compromised, because a concrete structure serving as a balcony, is added to the façade, while the interior has been altered, since the floors are paved with majolica tiles and the walls are plastered with mortar. For utilizing the steep rocky slope, which is difficult to be handled, the concept of the mezzanine floor is widely applied, giving significant volume breaks and development to the altitude of the residence, with partly two and partly three storeys. This residence resembles the residences in the Neighbourhood of Mangalem, City of Berat.

### ***60-PETRO ZHUPA'S RESIDENCE***

Lluk Petro Zhupa's residence is located in Dhërmi, Municipality of Himara, and was proclaimed a Category I Cultural Monument upon Decision No. 266/1, of 16 February 1979.

It is a three-storey building. The first floor has a storage area for keeping various agricultural and fruit products. On the second floor, which is accessed via external staircases, there is a premise subjected to a differentiated treatment with architectural elements, such as floors, ceilings, ornaments, etc. The place near the windows, benefitting a better lighting, from where picturesque views are offered, paved with a hardwood floor, decorative ceiling and wall cupboards, served as a sitting place. This floor features a portico, an element we encounter most often in the civic dwellings, built on a system of stone vaults and columns. The third floor is functionally organized in a hall and a waiting room. Its treatment and furnishing is considered to be one of the best ever not only for Dhërmi, but also in the whole Coast. The interior architectural design, with many decorative elements of peculiar ornamentation and the way it was organized resembles that of good rooms of civic houses. **Note:** Because the residence owners have been abroad for a long time, and due to the high-wall yard, it was impossible to photograph anything from the building. However, some photos taken from the inspection of Summer of 2017 are inserted here, focusing on the ceiling, the shed, and sculleries of the first floor. The exterior of the residence is simple, not complicated with architectural elements. The images show of generally plastered venues. The corners and the spaces of the windows, contoured with carved stones, are as well a distinct feature. However, the dwelling needs some conservation interventions over the walls, the wood elements, and restoration of its roof.

### ***61-MINELLA GJIKI'S RESIDENCE***

Minella Gjika's residence is located in Qeparo, Municipality of Himara, and was proclaimed a Category I Cultural Monument upon Decision No. 266/1, of 16 February 1979.

It is a platform type three-storey building, held by a cylindrical vault on the first floor level. The shed is also covered with cylindrical vaults. The first floor space is connected to the second floor via a wooden staircase, which emerges from the end of the building. The second floor chamber has a decorative ceiling, which, from the treatment point of view, is very rarely encountered in the area. It is decorated with a six-pointed rosette, and the corners of the ceiling are arranged with the typical three-centre arch. The dwelling is 8.70 x 6 m. From the construction point of view, the house is similar to many other dwellings along the coast. It contains elements that are typical for the area, such as the shed built with cylindrical vaults, the carefully crafted corners of the house, the plastered facades and others.

## ***62- RUINS OF ODISE KASNECI'S FORMER RESIDENCE***

The ruins of Odise Kasneci's (former) residence are located in the Village of Vuno, Municipality of Himara, and are proclaimed a Category I Cultural Monument upon Decision No. 2854, of 08 August 1980 and No. 814, of 25 October 1980.

This complex is built over three construction phases, reaching a closed contour, partly formed by the constructions, and partly by the surrounding walls. Building I is broken in plan; one of its sides is composed in a semi-floor. Building II is a typical one-floor construction. The ground floor has two pairs of vaults supporting each-other. A **stere** is built along with building II. Building III, similar to building II, is escalated in height, due to the steep soil. A description of the interior of this dwelling is provided by Edward Lear in 1848: "The walls are covered with wood and a clothespress, and surrounded by ottomans ... The central part of the ceiling is masterfully decorated with a bunch of dry grapes, regular motifs ... The windows are very small and there was a range of turrets on the walls." In addition to the vegetation and the soils accumulated inside the various areas, there is also burning signs on the walls of the shed. The construction is known for the corners and window frames made with hewn stones, as well as the widely used arches in the vaults and entrances of the building.

## ***63- RESIDENCE OF WRITER PETRO MARKO***

The house of the Albanian renowned writer, Petro Marko, is located in Dhërmi, Municipality of Himara, and was proclaimed a Category I Cultural Monument upon Decision No. 807, of 29 July 2008.

This dwelling is located in vicinity of the central square of Dhërmi, in Ninaj Neighbourhood. In its exterior treatment it is distinguished for a precise composition of images, which, in this case, are plastered and contoured with plastering frames. Despite large volumes, treatment with many great features gives all the necessary transparency to this type of residence. The symmetric

external treatment is also reflected in the interior. The house premises are located around the central corridor on both floors. The writer Petro Marko was born and lived in this dwelling. According to his testimony, the house was constructed by masters coming from Ioannina and Konica. The masonry of the house is made of stone walls of 70 cm. The existing floors are made of wood planks. It features a triple-pitched roof, with local traditional tiles. The internal staircase from the ground floor to the first floor is made of wood, with wooden chassis and wooden balustrade.

#### ***64-TANO JORGJI GOROS'S RESIDENCE***

Tano Jorgji Goros's residence is located in Himara, Municipality of Himara, and is proclaimed a Category I Cultural Monument upon Decision No. 8, of 18 December 1987.

This residence is part of the typology of houses with one floor and it has two sculleries. In order to use the limited land within the surrounding fortification walls, as in the case of some other dwellings, it is partially built over the road, raising a cylindrical shutter over it, which enables the passage underneath. In its planning, the house does not have a regular rectangular shape (14x8 m), because of the sloping slope of the right side wall planning.

The volume beneath the vault, which belongs to the street, has functionally divided the ground floor into two units, two sheds with different sides. The inhabited floor was made up of two residential buildings, the firehouse on the right, and the guest room on the left. Entrances to the premises used to be separate, having also interconnections between them. On the façade, one is struck by the replacement of the windows' wooden shutters, with aluminium-skeleton windows. The house was built of stones of small and medium size, connected by lime-mixed mortar. Floors and ceilings have been constructed of wood materials. The windows are built in two phases. In the first phase, the windows were smaller in size and were covered with a semi-circular arch. In the second phase, the windows get magnified and get a square form, covered with stone architraves.

#### ***65-NUSHI BROTHERS' MUSELUM HOUSE***

The Museum House of Nushi Brothers is located in the Village of Vuno, Municipality of Himara and was proclaimed a Category I Cultural Monument upon Decision No. 1886, of 10 June 1973.

It rises in the residential neighbourhood on the motorway of the Village of Vuno and is a typical home of the beginning of the XXTH century. It is a two-storey building with rectangular volume and a plastered façade. The house is covered with a double-pitched roof and the windows are closed with wooden shutters from the outside. In the interior, it used to have two sculleries

in the first floor and two others on the second floor. The two floors were connected with wooden stairs with direct access to the entrance and there were two side entrances to the first floor. The ceilings and floors were made of wood. From 1973 to 1990, has functioned as a Museum of the Nushi Family. Currently the dwelling has lost its function as a museum and is being used by its owners. Windows and entrances have lintels, while the ceilings are simple, carrying no decoration. The building preserves its authenticity and is in a good condition.

## **66- CHURCH OF ALL SAINTS**

The Church of All Saints is located in Himarë, Municipality of Himara and is proclaimed a Category I Cultural Monument upon Decision No. 68/7, of 30 May 1970 of the Ministry of Education and Science, and Decision No. 1886, of 10 June 1973, of the Ministry of Education and Science.

The Church is located on the east of the Himara Castle and, according to an inscription on its northern gate, it was built in 1826. It is a three-naved basilica (15.8x31 m), with the **gyneconite** and naos separated from the altar by a wooden iconostasis. It has two entrances, one from the south and one from the north. Columns are reinforced with wooden ties, backed on the sidewalls and on one-another. The ceiling is of wood and has various ornamental elements with rosettes and geometric motifs. The church's only frescoes are visible in the interior of the apse and in the chamber on its right side. The iconostasis of the church, made of wood material and decorated with zoomorphs and floral motifs, carries important values. It used to have about 16 carved wooden columns with various motifs and arches placed on its icons. The iconostasis used to have 4 doors. The engraving reaches 7-8 cm deep, especially in the cylindrical columns. The church's belfry represents a special interest as well. The part of the cupola where the bells were kept is alienated. The decorative iconostasis pieces have been robbed several times, the latest case being in 2013. The Church walls are made of small and medium stones, while entrances are made of arches and rocks. The church corners are as well made of carved stones.

## **67- ILIASI CASTLE**

Iliasi Castle is located in the Village of Ilias, Municipality of Himara, and was proclaimed a Category I Cultural Monument upon Decision Nr. 1886, of 10 June 1973.

### **Iliasi (Pirgu's) Castle**

This fortress is located on the right side of the Vlora-Himarë motorway, over the hill, at the place called "Qafa e Pirgut", near the Village of Ilias. On the surface of this hill there are traces of an ancient settlement, from where some fence remnants are preserved, built with unprocessed



stones of average size. The wall follows the hill relief, its thickness reaching up to 2.30 m. This fortification forms a circular plan with a diameter of 25 m. On the western side, the wall is preserved in a length of 70 m, has a width of 3 m, and a height of 0.50 m. On the eastern side, at 50 m, the wall abandons the rushing hill line and, at the northern end, takes a rectangular turn. On this side the wall is 2 m wide, and maintains a height of 1.80 m. From the construction technique the walls are similar to those of the Badhra in Borsh, which date back to the Late Bronze period. On both sides, the wall is constructed evenly, without gaps, while the crevices featuring there are filled with small stones and ballast. The entrance walls are more regular, with the hammer-shaped stone sides, put longitudinally follow to the line. This technical line resembles Gajtan in Shkodra and Cfirin in Cakran. The remaining part of the circular wall features no hewn stones and small stones are placed between the two layers.

### **68 - Lluk Gjideda's Residence**

Lluk Gjideda's residence is located in the Village of Ilias, Municipality of Himarë, and was proclaimed a Category I Cultural Monument upon Decision No. 6, of 18 January 2016.

The tower is about 8 m high and is made up of the shed, the intermediary and the upper environment. It has a rectangular shape of 5.50 x 5.50 m, with external dimensions of 6.90 x 6.90 m. The first floor raises above the shed, which leads to the external staircase via a door located on the northern side, while the second floor is accessed via a wooden staircase located in the eastern corner. The first floor served as a fire room, as it contains a single chimney and a clothespress and wooden cupboards. The second floor served mainly as a guest room. The rooms lack ceilings, while they are paved with hardwood floors. On the sidewalls of the tower, a number of turrets for rifle shooting are easily observed. Two small stone-arched windows are located on the second floor, respectively on the west and east side, letting light enter into this floor. In the later years, when the tower lost its role as a fortified dwelling, windows with significant dimensions of 1.35 m high and 75 cm wide were opened on the first and second floor. The walls are made of stones connected by mortar, and their thickness varies from 70 cm for the shed, up to 60 cm for the upper floors. The corners of the building are carefully presented, while the façade has been plastered with stucco, which traces are still fresh.

### **69- RUINS OF SKUTARA ST. MARY'S MONASTERY**

The ruins of Skutara St. Mary's Monastery are located in the Village of Vuno, Municipality of Himara and are proclaimed a Category I Cultural Monument.

The ruins of Skutara St. Mary's Monastery are located over the Hill of Skutara (Coordinates N 40 ° 07'49.6, E 19 ° 43'07.7) east of the Village of Vuno, in the territory of the Municipality of

Himara, at an altitude of about 500 m above sea level. The Monastery is located on the square that is built on the hillside. Its premises are almost all in ruins, with the exception of the Church, whose walls occupy a height of 4 m. The 11.60 x 6.20 m church is located on the north side of the complex. It has one nave, with a stone iconostasis that separates the altar from the naos, while the apse in the east has a shift to the southern wing. Currently, the entrance to the Church is located southwards, along with a window, while another entrance, placed in the west, is closed. It is on this side that one of the Monastery wells, which was filled through gutters with rainwater deposited via the roof of the church, is located as well. The church was surrounded by a vault, hence the walls were reinforced with pillars and countertops. Wall paintings cover the interior of the church. Residential facilities and other Monastery facilities are located to the East and to the South, while the enclosure of its courtyard was made via the walls built to the west and north-west, where its only entrance is located as well. First-floor premises served to keep food reserves. The Monastery must have been built in the XVIIIth century. The walls are constructed of stones connected by mortar, which thickness ranges from 60 cm to 90 cm. The façade of all the buildings are made of stone, arranged in a regular pattern.

#### ***70-ST. MICHAEL'S CHURCH***

St. Michael's Church is located in the Village of Vuno, Municipality of Himara, and is proclaimed a Category I Cultural Monument upon Decision No. 6, of 15 January 1963 of the Rectorate of the State University of Tirana, and Ordinance of 08 January, 1977 of the Ministry of Education and Culture.

St. Michael's Church is built in the lower quarter of the Village of Vuno, and its painting dates back to year 1783. The only entrance and the window are located on the north. It is comprised of the naos, which is separated from the altar with a wall iconostasis. The apse roof footsteps on the eastern side show that once the Church was covered with stone slabs. Mural paintings are preserved in the iconostasis, in the altar and apse, as well as on the sidewalls of the naos. Serious breaks are observed in the central part of the iconostasis. The masonry was built of stones, which gaps are smoothened with lime mortar. It ends with a simple stone frame. The corners and shoulders of the door, the windows made of hewn stones and the saw-shape apse frames are the only elements worked with care.

#### ***71-ST. NICHOLAS' CHURCH***

St. Nicholas's Church is located in the Village of Vuno, Municipality of Himara, and was proclaimed a Category I Cultural Monument by Decision No. 368, of 09 October 2015 of the Ministry of Culture.

The Church of St. Nicholas was built at the highest part of the Village of Vuno, as the church of one neighbourhood, composed, inter alia, of the Ndrenika and Anagnosti Family. It has one nave, with a wall iconostasis separating the naos from the altar premises. The northern entrance is built of arch-shaped stones. On the sidewalls, wall paintings are preserved on the iconostasis and the altar environment. At present, the Church lacks the roof. It has two entrances, one to the west and the other to the south. A crack, in vicinity of the apse, is noticeable. The masonry was built of stones, plastered well with lime mortar. The archway doorframe and the saw-shaping apse frame are handled with care.

## **72-KASTELI**

Kasteli is located in Qeparo, Municipality of Himara, and was proclaimed a Category I Cultural Monument upon Decision No. 1886, of 10 June 1973.

Karos Castle (ilias Kasteli Castle) belongs to a more advanced phase of prehistoric settlements of Kaonia. It is located in the old Village of Qeparo, in the place called "*Gradishta*", and is set on a rocky hill of 450 m, located 3.5 km from the sea shore. Karos' fortification system consists of three wall rows and a parapet wall. The exterior surrounding wall is 340 m long, has the shape of an arch following the terrain configuration, with the edges closing on the edge of the abyss. On its eastern side there is an entrance, which is the only one that is stored in the entire external surrounding wall. The second perimeter wall of 225 m lies almost parallel to the first and encloses a smaller surface. It has a narrow entrance. The third external wall, in the shape of a semicircle, at a length of 40 m and radius of 13 m, closes the top of the hill. Even in the Karos, the planning concept is based on an arched line that shapes the wall in accordance with the terrain. Entrance no. 4, about 1.5 m wide, 1.70 m high and a corridor of 5.70 m long, is preserved at a good stage. The fortification system in Karos is realized in two different construction periods. At the beginning was built the fortification of the second row of walls, called Karos I. Resemblance of Karos 1 to Badhran, from wall construction and ceramics technique, make one think that it dates back to Late Bronze. Phase two belongs to Early Iron. The surrounding walls vary in width and elevation according to the terrain configuration. They range from 2-3.5 m up to 4 m wide and up to 2 m high. The walls are constructed of large, non-carved, solid stones. It has two sides, and for the construction of the external side the masters have chosen large stones, placed along the longest part of the wall, which increases the resistance on the steep terrain. The joints are not filled, thus creating gaps. This is the method of construction for the first stage. In the second phase, the wall façade is constructed of beautifully adorned slabs, in order not to leave any gaps, and the stones are chiselled with hammer.

## **73-HYPAPANTE CHURCH**

The Hypapante Church is located in Dhërmi, Municipality of Himara, and was proclaimed a Category I Cultural Monument upon Decision No. 6/of 15 January 1963 of the Rectorate of the State University of Tirana, Decision No. 68/7, of 30 May 1970, of the Ministry of Education and Culture, and Decision No. 1886, of 10 June 1973, of the Ministry of Education and Culture.

The Church has an extended shape in planning, with dimensions of 12.80x3.60 m. The altar space is separated from the naos by a two-door wall iconostasis. The bema has a semi-circular apse, which is big in size. Its ceiling is made of wood material and is decorated with rosettes and frescoes. The naos and altar walls, as well as the iconostasis, are painted with frescoes as well. Because rainwater penetrates from the roof, the ceiling has degraded and some of its parts have been damaged. A concrete brick on the walls has been built in order to carry the ceiling, which, with its weight, influences further damaging. The church is covered with double-pitched roofs. The masonry was built of stones, lined with lime mortar, without regular placement and devoid of decorative treatment.

#### ***74-ST. DEMETRIUS' MONASTERY CHURCH***

St. Demetriu's Monastery Church is located in Qeparo, Municipality of Himara, and was proclaimed a Category I Cultural Monument upon Decision No. 6/of 15 January 1963 of the Rectorate of the State University of Tirana, Decision No. 68/7, of 30 May 1970, of the Ministry of Education and Culture, and Decision No. 1886, of 10 June 1973, of the Ministry of Education and Culture.

It is built inside an ensemble, where the school building and the church personnel were located. The naos has the shape of the cross with a dome, with interior dimensions of 7.50x4.60 m. The wings of the cross are not equal, where the eastern and western wing are longer and higher than their counterparts in the northern and southern sides. The angular pieces are covered with cylindrical vaults that open to the central nave, which is wider than the two lateral naves. The central nucleus is covered by way of building curved crossings. A wooden iconostasis separates the naos from the altar, which has a large space. The external volume composition is simple, it consists of the prismatic volume of the Church, covered by a double-pitched roof, above which the central cylindrical drum rises in over a broad base. The stone-made masonry surfaces are flat and without decorative interventions. The only decorative element is the ending of walls with saw-shaped frames.

#### ***75 – ST. SAVIOUR'S CHURCH, WHERE ÇERÇIZ TOPULLI AND MIHAL GRAMENO USED TO EXERCISE THEIR ACTIVITIES***

St. Saviour's Church, where Çerçiz Topulli and Mihal Grameno used to exercise their activities, is located in the Village of Vuno, Municipality of Himara, and is proclaimed a Category I Cultural Monument upon Decision No. 266/1, of 16 December 1979.

St. Saviour's Church is located in the south-east of the Village of Vuno, by the side of the wings leading to the Bay of Jali. It is a simple church of 4.4x9.5 m, with the naos separating from the altar with a simple wall iconostasis, with two entrances. Inside the apse, and in the chapel next to it, there are traces of the only mural fresco, which once adorned the interior walls of the church. The church carries important historical values, since on May 19-29, 1907, Mihal Grameno with other members of Çerçiz Topulli's brigade, propagated the Albanian language through textbooks, using as a shelter the St. Saviour's Church. For this reason, the church was preserved as a monument of important historical values. The only remnants left from the frescoes are the parts inside the chapel in the altar premises. The Church's masonry is currently covered with plaster and painted with lime, hence making it difficult to distinguish what construction technique was used back then. However, what can be said is that it is a question of a simple construction with medium and small stones, connected by lime mortar. The corners are carved carefully, while the roof, as evidenced by the remaining apse parts was covered with stone slabs. From the standpoint of the structure, the church is preserved in very good condition.

#### **76-ST. SPYRODON'S CHURCH IN VUNO**

St. Spyrodone's Church in Vuno is located in the Village of Vuno, Municipality of Himara, and is proclaimed a Category I Cultural Monument upon Decision No. 6/of 15 January 1963 of the Rectorate of the State University of Tirana, Decision No. 68/7, of 30 May 1970, of the Ministry of Education and Culture, and Decision No. 1886, of 10 June 1973, of the Ministry of Education and Culture.

St. Spyrodone's Church was built in 1778 and has interior dimensions of 19.80 m. It is divided by two arches over stone columns in three nave lengths, while a cross-sectional arch in the western part separates the double endonarthex. The side parts of the naos are too narrow, giving more space to the central nave. The naves and the naos used to be covered with wooden ceilings. The altar space is separated from the naos by a wall iconostasis. The church has access to the West, South, and North. On the west side, the church is preceded by a square-shaped porch with dimensions of 6.30x9.50 and 3.80 m high. The porch is open on three sides, with arches on thin stone columns. On the eastern side, the basilica ends with a semi-circular apse. The church is covered by mural frescos, painted by Jani and Vasil from Gjirokastra. The ceiling used to be painted as well, but it was burned down in 1998. The Church was restored following a fire that burned all its timber, along with its roof, in 1998. In 2014 its roof was ruined. Its restoration ended in 2015. In 2017, the northern walls of the Church, which carried a lot of wetness, was isolated. The Church's masonry is built of stones and is coated with a thin plaster coat, pointing

out the corners of the walls and the shoulders of doors and windows, adorned with carved stones.

### ***77-ST. STEPHEN'S CHURCH***

St. Stephen's Church is located in the Village of Vuno, Municipality of Himara and, is proclaimed a Category I Cultural Monument upon Decision No. 6/of 15 January 1963 of the Rectorate of the State University of Tirana, Decision No. 68/7, of 30 May 1970, of the Ministry of Education and Culture, and Decision No. 1886, of 10 June 1973, of the Ministry of Education and Culture.

St. Stephen's Church is a chapel built on the ruins of a trinity basilica. The new chapel is built using old parts of the old apse and is part of the interior of the central nave. The actual chapel has a simple structure, with the altar that is separated by the naos by a three-entrance iconostasis. Because the apse of the basilica has been used for the construction of the chapel, the apse has no clear separation from the rest of the walls, but is instead their continuum. Pieces of fresco are still preserved over the walls of the church. The church roof is depreciated and is likely to be ruined. The apse wall is built of river stones, connected by lime mortar. As part of the plaster which fills in the gaps, one can find broken tiles as well. In some places there are aslope positioned tiles as well.

### ***78-KUMI'S TOWER***

The Kumi's Tower is located in the Village of Dhërmi, Municipality of Himara, and was proclaimed a Category I Cultural Monument upon Decision No. 266/1, of 16 February 1979.

It is a three-storey building, 7.6x7 m, and is made up of the shed, and the intermediate and upper environments. The roof had a separate entrance and four windows in the shape of turrets. The external staircases lead one to the intermediate floor. On its southern side lies the chimney with a simple treatment along with the fireplace. The room is illuminated by four windows. A pair of internal staircases leads one up in the upper floor, where good lighting is features, enabled by eight windows, one window per each side, which are similar to the windows of the mezzanine floor. Wood elements in the interior of the tower have depreciated. The roof has been restored. The prismatic volume of the tower is simple, without the architectural aspect of views, treated with wood or stones, which is characteristic of the towers of Northern Albania. Flat surface of the view treated with stone masonry, with small, infrequent windows and numerous turret, give the tower a monumental look.

## **79-ALI PASHA'S TOWERS**

Ali Pasha's towers are located in Qeparo, Municipality of Himara, and are proclaimed a Category I Cultural Monument upon Decision No 2854, of 08 August 1980, and Decision No. 814, of 25 October 1980.

Ali Pasha's tower, otherwise known as Vlashajve tower, is located in the Village of Qeparo, about 1 km in its North. It is thought of being constructed at the beginning of the XIXth century from the Vlashaj Family, who were supporters of Ioannina Pasha. This is the reason why it is recognized as Ali Pasha's Tower. The three-storey tower (4.8x8 m) is developed by the side of the middle of the two-storey building (5.45x8.60 m). In the ground floor, the complex has three premises, of which some sort of a liaison hall as well, where the staircases for the floor are developed, in addition to the two-storey staircases, which also leads to the upper floor. The first floor of the dwelling has a single pass only, which is connected with the intermediary floor of the building. The latter is connected to the second floor by interior stairs. The floor of the second floor of the dwelling was kept by arches over stone columns. This construction is known of its careful work, characteristic stone frames with known arcade motives, as well as framing of windows with hewn stones, which add value to the view of this construction.

## **80-TOWER IN THE VILLAGE OF VUNO**

The Tower in Vuno is located in the Village of Vuno, Municipality of Himara, and is proclaimed a Category I Cultural Monument upon Decision No. 226/1, of 16 February 1979.

It rises at the lower part of the Village of Vuno. The pronounced vertical composition is formed by three overlapping volumes, forming a prism with a rectangular base. The ground floor is occupied by the shed. One can reach the mezzanine floor via the exterior stone stairs with cylindrical vault, while the interior stairs lead one to the upper floor, where a large smoke roll on one of the longitudinal walls strikes out. Numerous turrets for rifles are particularly placed in the construction corners. Later, a new one-storey building was attached to the tower. Because it is surrounded by a yard and the surrounding residential areas are uninhabited, access to it is very difficult. There is plenty of vegetation inside the tower. The roof is in the process of restoration. Generally, the size of the stones used for the side walls are small in size and are flat on the façade. The side stones are of an average size and of an angular shape. Their placement one over the other in an L-shape, has created the corners of the tower. The windows are small in size and have stone arch overlays.

## **81-VRETOS' TOWER**

Vreto's Tower is located in the Village of Dhërmi, Municipality of Himara, and was proclaimed a Category I Cultural Monument upon Decision No. 266/1, of 16 February 1979.

The tower is in ruins, with masonry at the level of two floors. The ground floor is made of the shed, with an entrance from the outside. This environment has no windows for lighting, but just two turrets, one in the north and the other on the west. On the mezzanine floor, where the wooden stairs lead one up, there are spaces of three windows and plenty of turrets. On the western side is the place of fire, which indicates the function of this floor as a fire room. Only the roof has been restored. The construction masonry is built of mortar and small stones. Medium-sized rectangular stones are set at angles. Wooden belts are placed in the walls to increase elasticity.

## ***82-ST. MARY'S SLEEPING CHURCH AND RUINS OF PANAGIA MONASTERY***

St. Mary's Sleeping Church and Ruins of Panagia Monastery are located in the Village of Dhërmi, Municipality of Himarë, and are proclaimed a Category I Cultural Monument upon Decision No. 6, of 15 January 1963 and Decision No. 211, of 09 October 2015.

The church was built at the highest peak of Village of Dhërmi, and was once part of a monastery. It consists of two distinct parts, a rectangular plan on the west side, currently serving as the church's naos (14.40x8.10 m), and a chapel on the eastern side. The first part is a late addition. The chapel is quadratic in plan and covered with a dome on the drum. On the eastern wall there are circular apses and two niches on its side. A distinct feature of this church is that the drum does not rely directly on the side walls, because this would hinder the balance of propulsion forces due to the small thickness of the walls. It is exactly this way of building which has made the church have a pronounced sense of verticality from the inside. The external walls are flat and end with frontons. The interior of the naos wall is painted with frescoes. The northern wall of the chapel of the XIII-XIV century has been cracked. The ruins and surrounding walls of the Monastery are located around the church. The Monastery walls in the eastern part are ruined. The church walls finish up with frames of brick rows, placed in a saw-shaped position. In every frontal area, one can see a cross with striking proportions drawn with bricks. Even the cylindrical and low drum ends with a line of bricks. The church walls are made of stones and lime mortar. Rarely, one can also distinguish bricks placed one above the other in between the stones.

## ***83-PORTO-PALERMO'S CASTLE***



Porto-Palermo's Castle is located in Qeparo, Municipality of Himara, and is proclaimed a Category I Cultural Monument upon Decision No. 586, of 17 March 1948 and No. 4874, of 23 September 1971.

Porto Palermo's Castle is built on a strip of land in the heart of the Bay of Palermo, a bay which is mentioned since the ancient period. At the end of the XVIIIth century and beginning of the XIX century, Ali Pashambasi took the entire Ionian coast, from Butrinti to Vlora, to control and fortify the strategic points of the coastline, to build some castles, one of which was the Porto Palermo Castle. The castle has the shape of a triangle with three sharp bastions in the corners and a yard that opens towards the west. It is completely covered and a lot of turrets for cannons are located on the parapet surrounding the terrace. Inside the Castle there are numerous halls, storage rooms and various sculleries. A pair of stone stairs, built on the central part of the Castle, lead to the terrace. All the rooms are covered with stone lintels. Particular care has been shown to protect the entrance, which is located in the middle of one forefront, between the two bastions. From the inside, it is controlled by a sidewall covered with rifle turrets, and a turret wall is built on the inside as well, opposite the entrance. In the bastions and in the corners of the yard, on the west wing there are about five observation sites. As far as the exterior treatment is concerned, the castle is known for the hewn stones used in its façade, for its monumental entrance treatment, as well as for the plain stone horizontal frames. It has regular geometric planning designs, with equal altitudes of polygonal bastions. As far as the exterior treatment is concerned, the castle is known for the hewn stones used in its façade, for its monumental entrance treatment, as well as for the plain stone horizontal frames. The wall thickness reaches up to 4 m.

#### ***84- THE HISTORICAL CENTRE OF THE VILLAGE OF DHËRMI AND THE REGULATION FOR ITS ADMINISTRATION AND THE ADMINISTRATION OF THE SURROUNDING PROTECTED AREA***

The Historical Centre of the Village of Dhërmi and the Regulation for its Administration and Administration of the Surrounding Protected Area is located in the Village of Dhërmi, Municipality of Himarë, and was proclaimed a Category I Cultural Monument upon Decision of the Council of Ministers No. 29, of 20 January 2016.

Source records mention Dhërmi for the first time in a document of 1581, while the churches of the XII-XIIIth centuries indicate that the village is built much earlier. In 1693, it was mentioned as a developed centre with 1850 inhabitants. Its location along the slope of the altitude, softening towards the sea, is made to save the arable land and for security purposes. In this village, this facility is the main architectural building element. It is divided into two units. Dwellings since the known beginning up until the second half of the XIXth century are part of the first unit, while dwellings of the period from about the second half of the XIXth century up to the first quarter of the XXth century belong to the second unit. The latter are cut off from traditional constructions. The first unit is divided into two groups – namely in the dwellings with protective

features and in those without protective features. Part of the first group are a number of dwellings perpendicular to the ground and with a floor. The second group of fortified dwellings is divided into towers and dwellings with towers. The roads are paved with cobblestones, and underpasses are as well used in some cases also. Stonewall masonry was affixed with lime mortar. Arches and lintels are also widespread elements. The corners are worked carefully, while the façade is plastered.

#### ***85-THE HISTORICAL CENTRE OF THE VILLAGE OF HIMARA AND THE REGULATION FOR ITS ADMINISTRATION AND THE ADMINISTRATION OF THE SURROUNDING PROTECTED AREA***

The Historical Centre of the Village of Himara and the Regulation for its Administration and Administration of the Surrounding Protected area is located in Himara, Municipality of Himara, and was proclaimed a Category I Cultural Monument upon Decision of the Council of Ministers No. 20, of 20 January 2016.

The Historical Centre of Himara rises above a 240 m high hill. From the northeast and southeast, the abyss serves as a natural protection. The ancient and medieval settlement is set up on a settlement of the late Bronze Age. In ancient medieval prehistoric area, the settlement has been fortified and is known as the Castle of Himara. The antique walls are of polygonal type, intertwined with trapezoidal, which surrounds the hill from the northeast, leaving the abyss's part rising above the Stream Visha unfortified. From the northeast, after a slight turning and indentation, the wall continues in a straight line along a length of 140 m. At the southeastern edge, the wall makes a steep turn to continue towards a 6.3x3.7 m tower, featuring a height of 4 m. The medieval entrance adjacent to it shows that the tower served for the protection of ancient entrance. On the northeast side, the ancient wall reaches up to 2.50 m high. The medieval wall phase rises precisely on the antique phase. The medieval entrance to the Eastern side and a round tower on the northwest side, which is 4 m high, are preserved in a good condition from the medieval times. At the beginning of the XIXth century, the castle loses its defensive character and the dwellings are built outside its surrounding wall, reaching today's dimensions. The road network inside it is formed by the narrow cobbled streets, where, in some cases, they pass down vault underpasses. The dwellings of this centre are of the ground-floor type, with half perpendicular mezzanines, and one floor dwellings. The wall construction technique varies from one period to the other. The antique walls are made of trapezoidal, polygonal, triangular and multilayer blocks of respectively 1x0.90 m, 1.05x0.60 m, 0.85x0.50 m, 0.90x0.90 m. In the Middle Ages, the walls are made of small stones, attached with mortar and tiles between them. Moreover, it is noticed that grouting of plaster and tiles have, in some cases, filled and the crevices in the antique wall.

## ***86- THE HISTORICAL CENTRE OF THE VILLAGE OF QEPARO AND THE REGULATION FOR ITS ADMINISTRATION AND THE ADMINISTRATION OF THE SURROUNDING PROTECTED AREA***

The Historical Centre of the Village of Qeparo and the Regulation for its Administration and the Administration of the Surrounding Protected Area is located in the Village of Qeparo, Municipality of Himarë, and was proclaimed a Category I Cultural Monument upon Decision of the Council of Ministers No. 363, of 7 September 2016.

Like in the case of many other villages along the Coast, Qeparo's name appears for the first time in the Ottoman cadastral records, in the years 1431-32. The village is set up on the site of a high hill that dominates the Valley of Kudhësi. Qeparo was built with the typical architecture of coastal villages. The dwellings of this centre are of the ground-floor type, with perpendicular mezzanines and one-floor dwellings. Also, there are no fortified residences. Qeparo's dwellings are stone-walled buildings covered with roof tiles, while under the first floor lies the area for the storage of foodstuff. The vicinity of dwellings to one-another and the limited area over which the village was built, has conditioned a good use of its features, creating a dense road with underpasses created by the vaults of the houses built over them. The overwhelming majority of village dwellings look towards the south. Stonewall masonry was affixed with lime mortar. Arches and lintels are also widespread elements. Special attention was also paid to the design of corners.

## ***87- THE HISTORICAL CENTRE OF THE VILLAGE OF VUNO AND THE REGULATION FOR ITS ADMINISTRATION AND THE ADMINISTRATION OF THE SURROUNDING PROTECTED AREA***

The Historical Centre of the Village of Vuno and the Regulation for its Administration and Administration of the Surrounding Protected Area covers a territory located in the Village of Vuno, Municipality of Himarë, and was proclaimed a Category I Cultural Monument upon Decision of the Council of Ministers No. 30, of 20 January 2016.

The Village of Vuno first appears in the Ottoman cadastral records in the years 1431-32, while in the records of 1693 it is mentioned as a settlement with 660 inhabitants. The village is set up on the slope of a side of the Mount Vetëtima, with an arch-shaped extension. The compactness of its buildings, the perfect connection to the ground and their escalated placement, make them appear clear, without stealing the light from one-another, thus creating a picturesque ensemble. The compactness of buildings is conditioned by the intention to utilize the land as best as possible. The buildings are located very close to one-another, thus creating a dense road network, which generally follows the level lines, just like the buildings themselves. In some cases they pass down the underpasses of the dwellings. The dwellings of this centre are of the

ground-floor type, with perpendicular mezzanines, and one-storey dwellings. Also, fortified dwellings are also present. The dwellings are always surrounded by walls, but, often times, tightness of the space has caused the dwellings to come up to the road with one, two or even three sides, even with the frontal side. Vunoï's dwellings are made of stone, which is the main building material in the area, collectable in huge amounts near the village. The stone wall masonry does in many cases integrate wood belts as well. Arches and lintels are also widespread elements. Special attention was also paid to the construction of corners.

## **88- THE ILLYRIAN CITY OF AMANTIA**

The Illyrian City of Amantia is located in the Village of Ploçë, Municipality of Vlora, and was proclaimed a Category I Cultural Monument upon Decision No. 95, of 16 October 1948, of the Institute of Sciences, Decision No. 6, of 15 January 1963 of the Rectorate of the State University of Tirana, and Decision No. 1886, of 10 June 1973, of the Ministry of Education and Culture.

The ancient City of Amantia is located on the east of the City of Vlora, in the village of Plocë, 34 km far from the city. The excavation stratigraphy and monuments discovered there prove that the City has existed for about 1000 years. Amantia is first mentioned by Pseudo Skylaxis in the middle of IVth century. IV BC. According to Stephanous Byzantus, Amantia was an Epirius city. It is mentioned in the epigraphic sources of the middle, on the list of the theories of Delphi, as a city participating in the Pythian Games. By mid IIIrd century, it issues its III own currency with AMANTON emblem. The fortification surrounds the Acropolis, which occupies an area of about 19 ha. Outside the fortification, a number of public buildings were constructed, as the likes of the Antique Stadium of the IIIrd century BC, the Hellenistic Temple known as the "Aphrodite Temple", the Paleochristian Basilica, as well as a variety of structures, probably dwellings located over terraces. The distinct feature of this City is the necropolis with a large number of monumental graves, which stretches from the hills and plains surrounding the hill, where the city is located. The Hellenistic tombs are mostly of the "Macedonian" type, but other types have been discovered recently as well, as is the case of grave 107, part of the "constructed tomb" type. About 6 entrances, most of which located in the central part, are counted in the fortification. The best preserved is entrance no. 6, having an arch. The perimeter wall construction technique is of polygonal and isodomic type, with quadratic blocks. Tombs and entrances are widely used.

## **89- THE ILLYRIAN CITY OF ORIK**

The Illyrian City of Orik is located in Orikum, Municipality of Orikum, and was proclaimed a Category I Cultural Monument upon Decision No. 95, of 16 October 1948, of the Institute of Sciences, Decision No. 6, of 15 January 1963 of the Rectorate of the State University of Tirana, and Decision No. 1886, of 10 June 1973, of the Ministry of Education and Culture

According to the archaeological data, the City of Orik is established in the middle of the VIth century BC, while historical sources make mention of it since the Vth century BC from Herodotus and Hekath of Miletus, as a harbour of Epirus. It is a city mentioned for its significance in the battles between Macedonia and Rome, at the end of the IIIrd century BC, as well as in the civil war between Caesar and Pompey in year 48 BC. In ancient sources, Orik is mentioned for the last time in the IInd century of our area, while according to archaeological data, life there has continued there until Late Antiquity and Medieval times. The surrounding wall, still preserved in the area, have a few tracts belonging to antiquity and late antiquity. The town's footprints are almost all engraved on the hill rock and have different dimensions, ranging from 7x9 m to 4x4 m. They are one or two storeys and date back at about IIIrd century. III BC. From the city entrances mentioned in Caesar's memories, what is preserved nowadays is the Northern entrance, which has two construction phases, dating respectively to the Hellenistic period and late antiquity, with dimensions of 14.50x11.20m and a height of 2m. The wall and entrance of the acropolis is also preserved from the fortification of the city. The acropolis has the following dimensions: 39.6 m long, 0.42-0.60 m high and up to 3.25 m long. The acropolis wall dates back to Late Antiquity. Among the monuments attached after the archaeological excavations are: the Monophter type building on the eastern hillside. This dwelling dates back around the III-II century BC and is destroyed in the middle of Ist century. The monument is 6.40x6.40 m and was discovered in 2012.

In the period of from 1958 to 1960, an altar with a 3x3.45 m quadratic shape was discovered, which in the present state is disintegrated. The central monument of Orik is its Monumental Fountain, which dates back to the Hellenistic period and was abandoned around the Ist century BC. Its architectural components are the semi-circular staircase, which has a framed podium with denticulations reaching to 1.57 m high. It is made up of two rectangular-shaped venues, the southern one, 5x12.60m, and the northern one 3.7x17.4. In its centre, during the excavations of 2013, a 7m long channel of 2m deep and 80cm wide, was discovered. Five stone-made stairs lead to its rocky floor. At the back of the hill, above the fountain, lies a staircase, which is preserved in a good condition. It is also made out of a rock, with legs of 0.40 m wide and 0.10-0.12 m high. The necropolis lies to the southwest of the ancient city, over a plateau and some hills. The construction technique of the monuments in the City of Orik is different and varies according to periods of construction. The walls of the monuments, but also those surrounding the city during the Hellenistic period, were built of limestone blocks, put symmetrically, arranged in a dry-stone wall. During Late Antiquity, the city and monuments' walls were built making use of a different technique, with reused stone blocks, often taken from Hellenistic Period dwellings, which basement and a part of the walls are built by processing the natural hill rock, adding mud-connected bricks over the floor. Wells or cisterns opened in rocks, which depth ranges from 8 to 10 m, are found in some of these dwellings.

## **90- SHANE KOKA'S TOWER-BASED RESIDENCE (RUINS)**

Shane Koka's tower-based residence is located in the Village of Vuno, Municipality of Himara and was proclaimed a Category I Cultural Monument upon Decision No. 2854/ of 08 August 1980 and Decision No 1793, of 22 May 1980 of the Ministry of Education and Culture.

This residence is built over two construction phases, which date back respectively in 1785 and in 1787. The first phase, which constitutes a classic example of a tower house, extends over the road, to a part of the volume of the road, rising with two vaults over it to enable passage of people or animals. The shed is also covered with a cylinder-shaped vault. The exterior stone staircase leads to the two entrances to the first floor premises, which includes a volume and the respective space. The addition of 1787 is very well connected with the first construction. The entrance from the road leads to a sort of porch, under which a huge **sterë** was built. Above it raise two residential premises, built one upon the other. Underpass arches and vaults are widely used in this dwelling. The stones used for construction are of average size for the vaults and corners, and small for the walls. Stone window lintels over the consoles were also widely used.

## **91- RUINS OF ST. ANDREW'S CHURCH**

The ruins of St. Andrew's Church are located in Himara, Municipality of Himarë and are proclaimed a Category I Cultural Monument upon Decision No. 2854, of 08 August 1980 and Decision No. 814, of 25 October 1980.

The church is located over a small hill, about 1 km southwest of the Himara Castle. It is a small chapel, which used to be covered with a cylindrical vault. It has a rectangular structure and is constructed with walls of 90 cm thick. On the eastern side it ends with a semi-circular apse, built in a primitive way and a little stretched beyond the wall. The church is accessed from the only gate, positioned on its West side, over which there is a narrow window. The only traces of the old former mural are preserved in the interior of the apse and in a space on the north-eastern side of the naos. The naos is 4x10 m. The church is currently filled of concrete. The church walls are made of unprocessed stones and one can very rarely see a tile. The upper parts of the western wall and the areas near the northern and southern walls are rebuilt at a later time and have tiles as well.

## **92- ST. NICHOLAS'S CHURCH**

St. Nicholas's Church is located in Qeparo, Municipality of Himara and is declared a Category I Cultural Monument by Decision No. 95, of 16 October 1948.

The church is located down Vlora-Saranda motorway, at the beginning of the land strip where the Porto Palermo Castle is located. The church, as well as the castle, is mentioned for the first time in the beginning of the XIXth century by the French Consul François Pouqueville. The wall construction technique, similar to that of Ali Pasha's Castle, suggests that they are built in the same period. It has three naves and is divided by three columns in each anise. The arcades over the columns bear the weight of the ceiling, built on three vaults, of which the main vault is higher. The naos shelters four round-shaped columns, while the altar area of the naos is separated by two quadratic columns. The original iconostasis is not preserved, but it is assumed of being made of wooden, as there is no trace of any wall iconostasis. The apse on the east is multifaceted. The altar and the naos are illuminated by small windows. The roof cover used to be made of stone slabs, as was the case with the cover of the Castle's guards hut. The walls of the church are made of medium and small size stones. The wall thickness is 90 cm. The construction technique is similar to that of Ali Pasha's Castle. In some of the joints, besides mortar, tiles were also used.

### ***93-ST. MARY'S MESODHIA CHURCH***

St. Mary's Mesodhia Church is located in the Village of Vuno, Municipality of Himara, and was proclaimed a Category I Cultural Monument upon Decision No. 6, of 15 January 1963.

It is established in the south-eastern neighbourhood of the Village of Vuno. It is a simple one-nave church, with a rectangular shape design, with an interior of 11,20x3,80. It is covered with a wooden roof, and has no ceiling. The entrance is located in the Western side and is the only space the church can get light from, because it has not even a single window. The naos is separated from the altar with a wall iconostasis. The apse is displaced a bit on the right hand-side, and is covered by stone slabs, which attests to the fact that it used to be the authentic cover of the church. It was painted in 1783. The church walls are built of stones, connected by lime mortar, ending with a frame formed by two rows of stone tiles. The only entrance is covered with a stone arch.

### ***94-SPILE CAVE***

Spile Cave is located in the Municipality of Himara, District of Vlora, and was proclaimed a Category I Cultural Monument upon Decision No. 6, of 15 January 1963 of the Rectorate of the State University of Tirana, Decision No. 10 June 1973 of the Ministry of Education and Culture and Decision No. 142, of 08 March 2007 of the Ministry of Tourism, Culture, Youth and Sports (Cultural Heritage Department).

Spile Cave is located in the Town of Himara, in the Bay with the same name. The cave has internal dimensions of 7.40x28 m and an entrance of 8.50 m wide. It was excavated for the first time in 1939 by the Italian archaeologist L. Cardini, discovering archaeological material that proves that it has been inhabited since the Neolithic period and during the Classical, Hellenistic and Roman periods. The cave was dug again in 2002-2003 by I. Gjipali. The process ended in uncovering of materials that show traces of it being used as a settlement since the Mesolithic period. The has not served as a permanent residence, because no remains of durable structures were found, but has, instead, been used as a place for short-term stays. The imported ceramic found there belongs to the Classical and Hellenistic period and proves that Himara has had contacts with the centres of the Greek and Italian world.

#### ***95-STRATI ZHUPA'S RESIDENCE***

Strati Zhupa's residence is located in Dhërmi, Municipality of Himara and was proclaimed a Category I Cultural Monument upon Decision No. 266/1, of 16 February 1979.

This three-storey building has a clear functional interior amongst the floors, similar to the residence described above. The first floor, with side entrances, serves as a venue for preserving different produce. The second floor, with entry from the outside, is the eating and sitting area, while the third floor serves for receiving guests and for sleeping. Use of architectonic and ornamental elements is rare. Of interest in this regard is only the main entry, realized with a carved stone arch, with figures and floral motifs. A balcony with arches over the columns is built on the backside of the building at a second phase. **Note:** We could not photo the interior of the house, because its owners do not live in Dhërmi. The exterior treatment is simple, whereas interior symmetry is reflected in the contours of the corners made of carved stones.

#### ***96-THE DECORATIVE CEILING IN PIRRO GJIKOPULLI'S RESIDENCE***

The decorative ceiling in Pirro Gjikopulli's residence is located in the Village of Dhërmi, Municipality of Himara, and was proclaimed a Category I Cultural Monument upon Decision No. 266/1, of 16 February 1979.

The ceiling is located in Ninaj Neighbourhood, inside the two-storey house of Piro Gjikopulli. It belongs to XVIIIth century. This ceiling is of a rosette type, in the shape of the star with eight corners, and its field has a circular shape, containing transversal decorative elements, placed from the periphery towards the centre of the ceiling. The decorative motifs used are florals, while the colours used are red, yellow, green and brown. It is 5x6 m in dimensions, with its diameter of 1.20 m. Because the roof is depreciated, the ceiling has been exposed to atmospheric agents, mainly to rain and is, because of this, totally depreciated.



### **97-BRIDGE OF GJIPE**

The Bridge of Gjipe is located in the Village of Ilias, Municipality of Himara and is proclaimed a Category I Cultural Monument upon Decision No. 6, of 18 January 2016.

The bridge is composed of an arch-shaped voussoir and a discharge window (55 x 65 cm) in its east, which served to avoid damage over the bridge wall in cases of heavy flows from the torrent. The voussoir is built of stones, and its height reaches to about 2 m, while the maximum width of the arch legs, which are supported on the rock, is 4.80 m. The width of the bridge roadway is 1.20 m, while its length reaches 16 m. The bridge lacks the parapet, whereas the cobbled layer is damaged. Mortar is used as a connecting means, made of river sand mixed up with lime. The arch has suffered a horizontal cracking in its western side.

### **98-PROCIOPUS BRIDGE**

The Prociopus Bridge is located in Himara, Municipality of Himara, and was proclaimed a Category I Cultural Monument upon Decision No. 477, of 14 July 2017, of the Ministry of Culture.

The Prociopus Bridge is located east of the historical centre of the Town of Himara, over the stream that divides this centre with the opposite neighbourhood, where St. Prociopus Church is located, from which it has taken its name. The characteristic bridge and cobbled pavement was built in 1878 by Himara inhabitant Vjero Kosta. The bridge is a solid construction with an arch of about 4 m high. Its legs are supported on the side creek cliffs. Its overall height is about 6 m and the cobbled roadway width, along with the parapet, is 3.80 m. The overall length of the bridge roadway is 17.50 m. It is constructed of medium and small-sized stones, carved in the façade and affixed with mortar. The most monumental part of the bridge is its arch, where a better working technique than in the rest of the building is identified.

### **99-BUKURIE ABAZI'S RESIDENCE**

Bukurie Abazi's residence is located in the Village of Gjormi, Municipality of Selenica and was proclaimed a Category I Cultural Monument upon Ordinance of 08 January 1977.

Bukurie Abazi's residence is formed by two building blocks, built one after the other. The eastern block is an old building and the other block is a later construction. The whole residence belongs to the simple typology, with one floor, a type of building that is extensively used in the Labia area. They are composed of the shed in the ground floor and the guestroom on the first

floor. The dwelling retains many elements of its original shape. The corners of the walls, doors and windows are made by applying the engraving technique. A very special element with architectural value is also the porch, which is supported on two cylindrical stone columns and a vaulted door. A concrete construction is added in the western part and some other subsequent interventions that have alienated the type and elements of its architecture are made at latter times.

The dwelling is built with a holding stonewall, lined with lime mortar. A concrete addition is attached to the main construction at a later time. Its coverage is realised by a wooden roof with local tiles, and partially with tin.

#### **100- *MURAT XHELILI'S RESIDENCE***

Murat Xhelili's residence is located in the Village of Dushkarak, Municipality of Selenica, and was proclaimed a Category I Cultural Monument by Decision No. 377, of 22 January 1985.

Murat Xhelili's residence is a one-storey building in the Village of Dushkarak. It used to be roofed with local roof tiles, which today are totally collapsed. The structure in the present condition retains only wooden elements and parts of tiles serving as part of the roofs. The support walls are stonewalls, attached by lime mortar, which currently are in a degraded condition. In a degraded state are also the anti-seismic wooden walls. In the main façade, a part of the masonry is missing and it is evident that the walls need consolidation. The access was made via the external stone stairs. The residence is divided into four rooms -- a kitchen, a bathroom and a veranda. Murat Xhelili's residence, which is currently collapsed, has lost its architectural values and it is proposed to be removed from the list of cultural monuments.

#### **101- *PETRIT DERRI'S RESIDENCE***

Petrít Derri's residence is located in the Village of Bashaj, Municipality of Selenica, and was proclaimed a Category I Cultural Monument upon Ordinance of 08 January 1977.

Petrít Derri's residence is a simple one-floor building, contoured with a vault. Once it used to be divided into two environments, in the fireplace room and in the guestroom. It has a quadratic shape, with its façade overlooking southwards. The corners of walls, windows and doors were made of carved stones. The residence used to be covered with a roof, made of slabs. The residence is in a critical condition, as almost half of the retaining masonry is collapsed and the remainder has structural problems. The roof and the mezzanine are completely collapsed and a high presence of vegetation is noticed. Intervention is needed to repair the existing part and to collect all the collapsed material that will serve for completing the restoration process. The

dwelling is constructed with a construction system made of stone masonry wall, put together by lime mortar. A very slim concrete bend is remarked in the head of the masonry. The roof, the mezzanine, and a good portion of the walls are collapsed and the remainder is likely to collapse under the effect of possible seismic vibrations.

#### **102-        *QANI ZERA'S RESIDENCE***

Qani Zera's residence is located in the Village of Mavrova, Municipality of Selenica and is proclaimed a Category I Cultural Monument upon Decision No. 266/1 of 16 February 1979.

The dwelling is built over the ancient walls of the Olympia Castle. It is a two-storey residence, preserves a unique architectural value, and its premises are set at a symmetrical position. The ground floor has served for winter food storage purposes, while the first floor is represented by the intermediate space that leads to the guest room and the fire chamber. The building corners, gates and windows are made of hewn stone and arches. The first floor is accessed via a pair of 6-inch interior stone staircases. The building is at risk because its masonry has serious problems. A part of it is already collapsed, while deep structural cracks are observed as a result of problems with its foundation, its architraves, or as a result of the masonry's inclination. The roof, the mezzanine floor, the doors and the windows are completely collapsed. In the helm of the masonry, one can see a very rigid concrete belt. The dwelling is built with stonewall, affixed with lime mortar. The dwelling appears to be in critical condition regarding the stability of its structural elements. There are fractures in the masonry, and a total collapse of the roof and the floor.

#### **103-        *ZIGUR LELO'S RESIDENCE***

Zigur Lelo's residence is located in the village of Mesaplik, Municipality of Selenica, and was proclaimed a Category I Cultural Monument upon Decision No. 202, of 23 March 2007.

Zigur Lelo's residence is a characteristic one-storey dwelling of Labëria Region, which is located in the Village of Mesaplik. It is composed of the guestroom, the resident area of the householder, the firehouse, chests of drawers, and auxiliary constructions, such as the auxiliary areas, such as the food storage area, the baking area, the shed, etc. The object has an "L" shape, the corners are covered with stone tiles, the rooms have decorative wood ceilings, the floor is paved with a cement cover. The roof of the building is the local roof, made of stone slabs, doors and the windows are made of timber, while the banisters are alienated as an element. The residence is in a good structural condition, there are no problems regarding its keeping elements.

**104- THE RESIDENCE WHERE HYSNI KAPO WAS BORN**

The residence where Hysni Kapo was born is located in the Village of Tërbaç, Municipality of Himara, and was proclaimed a Category 1 Cultural Monument upon Decision No. 266/1, of 16 February 1979.

The house where Hysni Kapo was born is a two-storey developed dwelling for Labëria Region, made of stone masonry, with lime mortar, plastered from the inside and the outside. The top of the house is its roof, made of local tiles. Also, the mezzanine was made of wood. The floors were connected to each other by the external staircases. The ceilings were decorated with floral motifs. Only the support walls, containing no visible structural fractures, are currently preserved from the former house. The roof, the windows and the ceilings are totally collapsed, and there are no traces of wooden elements in the building. The doors and windows are missing and plaster damage is noticed in certain parts of the masonry. The stone masonry is generally in good condition, but needs consolidation in certain parts. Most of the plaster surface is degraded. It should be broken down and redone. Consolidation of the architraves, reconstruction of the roof, of the mezzanine and the ceilings after the original version is necessary.

**105- TWO-STOREYED RESIDENCE – IN RUINS**

The two-storeyed residence, in ruins, is located in the Village of Mesaplik, Municipality of Selenica, and was proclaimed a **Category II** Cultural Monument upon the Decision No. 521, of 14 September 2006.

It represents a two-storey house of the Region of Labëria. It features many architectural elements, such as corners, door and window arches, made of carved quadratic stone. The dwelling is in ruins and has lost its architectural values. The walls have structural problems, while its roof and flooring are completely distorted. It is high time to complete the relevant documentation to propose removal of this object from the list of cultural monuments. The dwelling was built with the constructive wall supporting system, affixed with lime mortar. The building was covered by a wooden-made roof, covered with stone slab. The entrance to the ground floor was realised via lintel-covered door, leading to the shed. The residence is in desperate condition.

**106- BODERI CASTLE**

The Boderi Castle is located in the Village of Smokthina, Municipality of Selenica, and was proclaimed a Category I Cultural Monument upon Ordinance of 8 January 1977.

Boderi Castle is located on the east of the Cerje Castle, on the left side of River Smoktina, over a hill, about 360 m above sea level. The hilltop is flat and the perimeter wall encloses its entire circumference of about 250 m, creating a polygon. The fortification has two quadrilateral towers, one on the north-west side, which is not preserved in good condition, and the other on the southern side. The surrounding wall thickness reaches up to 1.90 m, while its maximum height is saved up to 4 m in two fragments, on the southern and eastern side. The construction technique applied makes use of medium and small, unfinished stones, which are linen with lime mortar and tile between them, typical for late antiquity constructions. Boderi Castle is built with an irregular average stonewall around its perimeter. The Castle belongs of the Late Antiquity period. Its walls surround the highest part of the hill and form an irregular polygon with a perimeter of 270 m and a maximum height of 4 m. Parts of a quadrilateral-shaped tower, by dimensions of 5x4 m, are preserved in the southern corner of the castle. The surrounding wall is 2 m wide.

#### 107- *CERJE CASTLE*

The Cerje Castle is located in the Village of Velçës, Municipality of Selenica, and was proclaimed a Category I Cultural Monument upon Decision No. 1886, of 10 June 1973.

**The Ancient Town of Cerje** is located on the southern side of a hill, about 250 m above sea level, on the right bank of the River Shushica. In general, the entire fortification line is preserved in one to two rows of blocks. It is only in the northeast and southwest that two wall fragments, of up to three blocks height, are preserved. The fortification plan is almost rectangular, adapting to the terrain. On the west and south side, right-angled turns are used in the longer lines, while the northern, north-eastern and western edges are reinforced with quadratic and circular towers. The fortification should have had three entrances, one in the northwest, one in the east, and one in the southwest. The surrounding area features traces of dwellings. A small quadrilateral-shape fortification was built on the top of the hill in Late Antiquity. The technique used for building the fortification walls was that of the isodomic type, with quadratic blocks of about 62 cm high. The wall had two layers, filled with smaller stones. *Diatone* transversal blocks were used to consolidate the link between the two sides of the wall.

#### 108- *MAVROVA CASTLE*

Mavrova Castle is located in the Village of Mavrova, Municipality of Selenicë, and was proclaimed a Category I Cultural Monument upon Decision No. 6, of 25 January 1963.

The Ancient Town of Olympes lies on the Siege Hill (284 m), partly occupied by the houses of the Mavrova Village, located in Vlora District. From there, one could control a part of the middle

valley of Shushica and the branches of the natural paths passing through the valley towards Koania, or ascending to the top of the hill, where Olympe stands, to continue towards Amantia. The ancient town stretched between the two hilltops on its western slope, while on the eastern side it rests on an impregnable rock fall. Two construction periods of two different wall lines are distinguished in the town's fortifications. The first encirclement only surrounds the southern part, leaving the impenetrable rocky part open. The wall is made of large limestone blocks of trapezoidal shapes, with flat sides, set in escalated lines. The first fortification period in Olympe dates back to the end of the Vth century, or the beginning of the IVth century BC. The encirclement extends in double the surface, with a 1500-meter-long wall. The 3.30-meter-wide wall is of an emplocton, quadrilateral isodomic type, with regular rows with an equal height of 0.6 m. This construction period is introduced around the middle of the IVth century BC. Some tombs have been dug out of the town's necropolis. They are reported of belonging to the cyst type, made of large limestone slabs, just as in Amantia. The inventory was relatively rich, featuring the use of large amphorae, produced specifically for this purpose, as well as the Apolloniate coins of the IIIth – IInd century BC.

#### **109- VRANISHTI CASTLE**

Vranishti Castle is located in the Village of Vranishti, Municipality of Himara, and was proclaimed a Category I Cultural Monument upon Decision No. 6, of 15 January 1963.

The castle in the Village of Vranisht is located at the exit of the village in question and is a construction of the Ottoman period. The castle has a hexagonal shape and represents a field castle of the military garrison type. The southern perimeter wall is located at a 1.5 m height, while a quadrilateral tower is preserved in middle of it. Ruined military buildings, built during the Communist era, are found in the surrounding perimeter. After clearance from vegetation, there is a need for going through a stone verification and collection process, which once used to be part of the castle. The castle is partly built with pumice and the riverbank shingles, put in horizontal lines. They are lined by lime mortar. The wall width varies in different parts, averaging 1.5m. The area needs cleaning from vegetation and removal of excessive materials.

#### **110- QEREM HADËRI'S HUTS**

Qerem Hadëri's huts are located in the Village of Amonica, Municipality of Selenica, and are proclaimed a Category I Cultural Monument upon Decision No. 266/1, of 16 February 1979.

Amonica's huts are part of the dwellings of the ethnographic area of Topalltia. It represents a simple ground floor dwelling, developed horizontally. The particularity of these types of constructions is that, within one site, each area is built on its own, such as, for instance, the

guesthouse, the firehouse and auxiliary services area. The huts used to be built of withes, plastered with mud. The cover (roof) was made of wood construction and straw. Floors were paved with mud. The entire area was surrounded by a withe fence.

#### **111-        *PIERS OF THE ANTIQUE BRIDGE, UNDER CERJA CASTLE***

The piers of the antique bridge, under the Cerja Castle, are located in the Village of Brataj, Municipality of Selenica, and were proclaimed a Category I Cultural Monument upon Decision No. 1886, of 10 June 1973.

Bogdani Bridge is located under the Cerja Castle, about 70 m before the turn of the river, at the foot of the hill. A ford and a cliff in the middle of the riverbed are used to build the bridge. The bridge is thought to have been about 30 m long, with 5 piers, about 7 m apart. The piers should have reached up to 4 m high. The bridge was used to connect this hub with the centres of the Kaon Coast of Himara and Borshi, as well as with Panormi's pier. What is preserved of it nowadays is one pier of the southern side and the basement of the second pier, placed opposite the first pier. The masonry of the bridge piers is built of the same isodomic technique, as is the case with the fortification wall of Cerje, but connected with molten iron pegs. Its roadway was made of wood and was supported over stone-made dry walls.

#### **112-        *THE TOWER BUILT IN ALI PASHA'S AREA***

The tower built in the time of Ali Pasha is located in the Village of Gumenica, Municipality of Selenica, and was proclaimed a Category I Cultural Monument upon Decision No. 266/1, of 16 February 1979.

The dwelling built in the time of Ali Pasha Tepelena is located in the Village of Gumenica and is of a tower type. It is a two-storey building, where the ground floor plays the role of a shed, while the upper floor is the living area. The tower is surrounded by stonewall, also to be separated from the main entrance gate, which is covered with a lentil and some slabs above it, serving as a shelter. The façade is plastered, except for a small portion on the southern edge. Features of the façade are its vaulted windows and the turrets. The perimeter masonry has retaining purposes, as with other dwellings of a tower type, the mezzanine and the ceiling are made of wood, and the roof is covered with slabs in four different heights. In 2008, the tower underwent complete restoration. The tower should have been built around the end of the XVIIIth century, with the primary function of protecting the village from a certain direction. It is built with the contribution of the whole neighbourhood. The sanitary area is developed beyond the prismatic volume of the tower. The numerous turrets on its southern side, from where eventual attacks were most likely, coincide with its function. The constructive elements

of the tower appear in good condition, there are no problems that could affect their sustainability, even because of the intervention that took place in 2008.

### **113- THE MOSAIC IN THE PLACE CALLED “BREGU I QISHË MURAJVE”**

The mosaic in the place called “Bregu i Qishë Murajve” is located in the Village of Mesaplik, Municipality of Selenicë, and was proclaimed a Category I Cultural Monument upon Decision No. 266/1, of 16 February 1979.

The mosaic was discovered in the spring of 1978 in the Village of Mesaplik, at the foot of Smoktina Hill, in the place called “Bregu i Kishës”. The excavations carried out on a surface of 180 m<sup>2</sup> revealed a Paleochristian basilica of 13.80 x 11, placed in the east to west direction, with three naves. Of particular interest in this basilica is its mosaic panel floor. The three corners of this basilica were paved with a multi-coloured mosaic. Various shapes were used with multi-coloured cubes, usually 1 x 1 x 1 cm, cut from different coloured limestone rocks. The most common mosaic colours are white and azure. The mosaics of each side have compositions of different motifs. The floor panels are separated from the plastered wall by a ribbon of a 0.06 - 0.08 m wide. The mosaic is no longer in the discovered place, but instead, a part of it is preserved at the Regional Directorate of National Culture of Vlora, and a part of it at the National Historic Museum. In the northern side, the mosaic panel is 10.30 x 2.25 m. It is stored in good condition. The portrait in the profile embodies a man's features. In the central side, the mosaic is seriously damaged and difficult to recompose. In the southern part, the mosaic is generally in good condition and has a size of 11.40 x 2.4 to 2.5 m.

### **114-ST. GEORGE CHURCH RUINS**

St. George Church ruins are located in the Village of Brataj, Municipality of Selenica, and are proclaimed a Category I Cultural Monument upon Decision No. 2854 of 8 August 1980.

St. George Church represents a ruin, whose walls are stored up to 2-3 m in the naos, while very little trace is found of the narthex at the ground level. Inside the church there are four pilasters, with an almost square cut. Half-circular arches, which apparently hold the church's vault, pass through the naos, narthex, as well as the sidewalls. The church dome and drum should have been placed in its centre. Judging from the entirety of support arches, as well as the remnants close to them, one can think that the angular parts and the cross arms were supported on cylindrical vaults. The eastern side, which belongs to the altar area, contains a half-circled apse, both in the interior and in the exterior, which is ruined. The church can be accessed via the only gate located on its western side, which used to connect it with the narthex. Judging based on the architectural type and the construction method of the apse walls, it is believed that the church



belongs to the XIII-XIVth century. Superficial observations around show of many ruins that could be identified with a fortified monastery, with an area of about 0.7 ha. The monastery was built in a clump rising above the surrounding territory, full of big rocks of 3-4 m. The area is surrounded by walls built with big stones, set in dry. Inside this encirclement, in its centre, is the chapel, while in the southwest and west lie the ruins of the rooms. On the southeast, there is another wall of 1.4 m thickness, built with stone lined with mortar, which separate an enclosed area. The walls of the church are built of stones and lime mortar. In the apse, one can occasionally see tile bricks in between the stones. At the bottom of the walls, one can see large blocks of carved stones, most probably taken from the ancient building.

### ***115-VELÇA CAVE***

Velça Cave is located in the Village of Velça, Municipality of Selenica, and was proclaimed a Category I Cultural Monument upon Decision No. 586 and Decision No. 4874, of respectively 17 March 1948 and 23 September 1971.

Velça's Neolithic Cave, otherwise known as Velça Caves, is located on a rocky site on today's village holding the same name, at a height of about 490 m above sea level, on the motorway connecting this village with the Village of Ramica. Along the rocky site lie some caves suitable for prehistoric settlements, which also contain archaeological findings, but the monument status of the cultural monument is enjoyed only by the cave that the locals call "the Castle", designated by L. Cardini, otherwise identified as cave no. 4. The caves were identified and then excavated by Italian prehistory expert Luigi Cardini, between 1936 and 1937. The cave called "the Castle", or Skota's Cave, was excavated after World War II by the archaeologist Myzafer Korkuti. Excavations in the area have led to deposits of prehistoric materials from the late Neolithic period, including lytic materials consisting of stone hammer, flint tools, such as spear heads and bone tools. Ceramics is typical for Late Neolithic and Eneolithic Age. Ceramic materials have also been found in Late Bronze and Iron Age, which proves that the cave has been used until this period. It is a karst cave, consisting of an open space and other karstic corridors, leading to the secondary entrance of the cave. The cave consists of two floors, the castle and the overpass. Its entrance is closed by a building with characteristic architecture for the area.

### ***116-FETI ELMAZI'S RESIDENCE, HOSTING THE NATIONAL LIBERATION COUNCIL OF THE REGION OF VLORA***

Feti Elmazi's residence, which has hosted the National Liberation Council of the Region of Vlora, is located in the Village of Ramica, Municipality of Selenicë, and was proclaimed a Category I Cultural Monument upon Decision No. 1886, of 30 May 1973.

The residence of Feti Elmazi is a two-storey building, with interior staircases. It used to have a roof made of slabs. From the point of view of architectural values, the building is recognized of

the stones of the wall and window corners, carved with figures, and the interior gate vault, which is made of carved stones. In 2006, the dwelling went through a full intervention, which altered many of its original elements. Currently, the roof is tiled, the helm of the masonry is topped by a stern concrete layer, which is harmful for the holding perimeter masonry and is, therefore, considered as an interference with the previous technique. It has used cement mortar. Also, it is necessary to intervene in the roof wood material, in the mezzanine, in the doors and windows, as they are highly depreciated. The building is built with the wall-retaining construction system, lined with lime mortar. The building is covered with a wooden frame roof, filled in with tiles. Also, division of the levels of the building is realized with wooden floors.

### **117- THE ANTIQUE BATHS**

The antique baths are located in the Village of Rexhepaj, Municipality of Selenica, and are proclaimed a Category I Cultural Monument upon Decision No.6, of 4 April 2006.

The design of the building is related to more or less a rectangular shape, of 8,4x11,2 m, with an apse from the west. There are some divisions, of which four are rectangular and two are semi-circular. Comparing this object with settlements of same nature, such as *Ad Quintum* and Butrinti settlement, one can reach to the conclusion that it consists of these functional environments: *the apodyterium*, in the form of a 4x5 m square; *the frigidarium*, or cool room that has the shape of a horseshoe; and *the tepidarium*, which is thought of consisting of two areas. In one area, the walls of bathtubs are preserved in good condition and plastered with mortar mixed with shamot particles and the other area is thought of performing the function of the drying room, which was accessed by passing again to the dressing room. An important bathroom area is that of the furnace, put as an addition to the north side. It could be accessed from the outside, where the water pipelines supplying the two areas of the tepidarium are distinguished. The walls were built by the technique of fusing small stones and mortar, combined with brick layers placed in three rows. The wall width varies from 50 to 70 cm. The tiles are generally of dimensions of 29x29x5 cm and 30x30x5 cm and circular bricks have a diameter up to 20 cm. Construction materials belong to III-IVth century.

### **118-VRANISHTI'S WATERWORKS**

Vranishti's Waterworks is located in the Village of Vranisht, Municipality of Himara, and is proclaimed a Category I Cultural Monument upon Ordinance of 8 January 1977.

The monument belongs to the time of Ali Pashe Tepelena (beginning of the XIXth century) and is known for the construction values of a waterworks, built by local masters. It consists of two

parts, one canal-bridge, referred to as canal-bridge no. one, which was supported on 6 arches and 5 relief windows, two with horizontal tracks, and canal-bridge no. two, which was partially demolished in 2008 and in 2015, as a result of heavy water flows of the River Shushica. Nowadays, it is a useless object. Meantime, measures should be taken to remove the pipeline located in the remainder of the canal-bridge no. two, to facilitate the network from overload. The National Restoration Council has issued Decision No. 186, of 25 September 2015 for this purpose. Alternatively, the water supply also needs consolidation and conservation interventions to prevent its further degradation and to enable preservation of the part that can (still) be preserved. These interventions can be accomplished during the summer season, when feeds are at a minimum level. The water supply is built with river rocks, affixed with lime mortar, according to the construction technique of the time. The structure presents problems due to the presence of vegetation, degradation of mortar in crevices, lack of stones in certain parts, etc. Consolidation of the two legs left from the canal-bridge no. two with masonry pillars, following the same technique used for building this monument, is a must.

### ***119-BRATAJ'S BRIDGE***

The Brataj's Bridge is located in the Village of Bratajt, Municipality of Selenica and is proclaimed a Category I Cultural Monument upon Decision No. 6, of 15 January 1963.

The bridge rises above a large main arch and two smaller arches, supported by a massive monolithic rock, located on its two sides. The bridge has a vault, with a horizontal roadway connecting the two shores of River Shushica, in vicinity the Village of Brataj. In 2016, the bridge benefitted from the restoration of the damaged parapets and reconstruction of the roadway in the places it was damaged. The bridge is in a good structural condition, however, it needs intervention for cleaning the low vegetation and mosses. Cleaning should be done mechanically, without using chemical elements. Also, the plaster in the crevices between stones has degraded in certain parts of the bridge, particularly in its side vaults. The intervention is proposed to be applied by making use of the mortar injection technique, with the original mortar of the structure. It is constructed of a double-row vault, has a horizontal-lined roadway, and is paved with river rocks. Brataj Bridge is known for its architectural and engineering values, and is currently used as a bridge by the local residents.

### ***120-FRENCH'S BRIDGE***

French's Bridge is located in the Village of Gjormi, Municipality of Selenica, and was proclaimed a Category I Cultural Monument upon Decision No. 266/1, of 16 February 1979.

The bridge is located between the Village of Lepenica and Gjormi, in vicinity of the River Shushicë. French's Bridge is a XVIth century construction, proclaimed as a Category I Cultural Monument in 1979, and is supported on both sides of the stream. The bridge rises above a voussoir, and on both sides has discharge windows, where one is functional and the other is blocked, as a result of its blockage by concrete, realised at the time when the bridge was used to connect the riverbank villages. In 2015, it underwent a restoration, which consisted in sewing the damaged roadway masonry. The bridge has problems in its voussoir, because of the presence of vegetation and trunks that need to be cut carefully, so as not to cause further damage. Also, specific segments of the voussoir suffer of mortar degradation and lack of stones. In places where mortar is degraded, it needs to be removed and replaced with new mortar, while the missing stones should be replaced as well. There is also a need to clear out the track from the material that has been thrown as a result of works on the road, so that the bridge's cobbleway becomes visible. It is a bridge with a double bend, with an arch in the shape of a canoe with two discharge windows. It features a double vault and two discharge windows. Interventions for the consolidation of its vault are proposed.

### ***121-SLAPI BRIDGE***

Slapi Bridge is located in the Village of Mavrova, Municipality of Selenica, and was proclaimed a Category I Cultural Monument upon Decision No. 236, of 17 May 2010.

It is located in the Village of Mavrova, in the District of Vlora. Slapi's Bridge is an XVIIIth century building, proclaimed a Category I Cultural Monument in 2010. The bridge rises over a main arch, with a double vault and has two discharge windows on both sides of the arch. In 2016, it went through restoration, entailing the parapets, cleaning from vegetation and filling of the roadway masonry. The bridge encounters problems in the events of heavy rainfalls and maximum flows of the river, due to failure of operation of the discharging windows, since they are blocked, and because the material, the vegetation and the trunks brought along the river flows do not clear away, thus creating an increase of the hydrostatic pressure on the bridge sides. Therefore, what is proposed in this case is to open the bridge's discharge windows and clean them of the materials and vegetation brought by the river flows, especially in the rainy seasons, in order for these windows not to stop the flow of water. Low vegetation on the bridge sides and the surrounding environment should be cut off. Consolidation by virtue of the injection technique, where necessary, should also apply. The bridge was constructed by some masters coming from Korca. The construction was made with stones, coated with lime mortar. In the late Medieval period, this bridge was part of the caravan route, connecting the inner parts of the area with the Himara coast.

## **122-TRACES OF VLORA CASTLE IN THE FOUNDATION OF CITY'S SPORTS PALACE**

Traces of Vlorë Castle in the foundations of the Sports Palace are located at Ismail Qemali Boulevard, Pavarësia Neighbourhood, in the Municipality of Vlorë, and are proclaimed a Category I Cultural Monument upon Decision No. 266/1, of 16 February 1979.

Vlorë Castle is located near the present day pier of the city, about 150 m from the seashore, where the stadium of the city is located. The castle was built pursuant to the orders of Sultan Suleiman, who came to Vlorë in 1531, to consider it as a military base and as a construction site for military ships, for landing in Puglia of Italy. The castle's layout has the shape of a regular octagon with ribs of 90 m. A polygonal tower, covered with a prismatic roof, lied in the corners of the octagon. No trace is currently preserved from Vlorë Castle, because back in 1906 its stones were used to pave the Vlorë-Skela road. The design of this fortress, according to the sketches of the time, was that of a regular octagonal shape, with a rib length of about 90 m.

The castle covers a surface of 305 ha. The outside wall was protected by a water ditch, surrounding the castle by land, while it was interrupted by the seaside. It is thought that two separate sleeves, which provided the water needed to fill the ditch, stretched in the sea direction. The walls between the towers of the castle were 15 m high and 7.5 m wide. Buttresses were placed in the middle of each wall and they were found in each and every piece of wall.

The main entrances to the castle were two: one in the south, and the other in the north. Beside these entrances, in the middle of the southwest rib, there was another entrance, in front of the main tower. The main tower was located southwest of the inner part of the castle, detached from its walls. According to the engravings, it used to have a cylindrical shape, with a large diameter, a height of 7 floors and was covered with lead dome, over which a long spear for flag lifting was hoisted. The castle is octagonal in shape. It is surrounded by two walls and a water ditch. The walls are constructed of stones and mortar. Wooden belts are interwoven inside the stone structure, both in the horizontal and vertical directions, thus creating an inner wooden skeleton. Under the walls, the floor is reinforced with wooden plots.

## **123-ISMAIL QEMALI'S MONUMENTAL TOMB**

Ismail Qemali's monumental tomb is located at "Ismail Qemali" Street, District of Vlorë, Municipality of Vlorë, and was proclaimed a Category I Cultural Monument upon Decision No. 6, of 15 January 1963.

The tomb of Ismail Qemali was completed in 1932. Originally, Ismail Qemali's tomb was placed in Kanina in 1917, and was later moved to the centre of the City of Vlorë, close to the residence of the Vlorë Family. It was designed and built by sculptor Odise Paskali. The base of the tomb is built of stone blocks taken from the *Cold Water* area, and above it is placed the sculpture of *Flamurtari*, representing the figure of a warrior, dressed in the national costume, watching over the tomb of the Father of the Nation. The monument is surrounded by a low hem. Inside it is the stoned grave, as well as the sculpture, on top of it, built by the famous sculptor Odise Paskali.

The tomb is surrounded by a concrete hem and is made of stone blocks. The sculpture is built in bronze and rises above a plinth.

## **124-MURADIE MOSQUE**

Muradie Mosque is located at Ismail Qemali Boulevard, Hajro Çakëri Neighbourhood, District of Vlora, Municipality of Vlora, and was proclaimed a Category I Cultural Monument upon Decision No. 586, of 17 March 1948 and Decision No. 4874, of 23 September 1971.

The mosque consists of cube halls and the minaret, while what is remained of the old portico are the traces of the northern wall and its foundation. The walls are constructed of stones and bricks, placed in a regular fashion, two rows of engraved stones that are interchanged with two rows of bricks. The building is covered with a dome. The mosque is accessed from the north. It was built in the second half of the XVIth century (in 1542). The design project and the realization of the mosque were carried out by the Albanian Architect Sinani (Mikelanxhelo of the Orient), who was one of the most important mosque builders in the first period of the Ottoman Empire. It was built at the time when Suleiman the Magnificent supervised the construction of Vlora Castle and prepared for the campaign in Puglia.

Muradie Mosque (Lead Mosque)

Status of the object: Muradie Mosque got the status of the Category I Cultural Monument by the Institute of Sciences of Albania, upon Decision No. 95, of 16 October 1948.

Construction year/time: Year 1542.

Location: City of Vlora.

Description: From the medieval and well-known City of Vlora, what is currently preserved in its centre is only the Muradie Mosque. According to Turkish traveller, Evliya Çelebi, it was built upon the orders of Sultan Suleiman, who visited Vlora in 1537, when preparing to attack the Italian coast and to go to Puglia. It was designed by Architect Mimar Sinani (of Albanian origin), one of the most prominent architects of the Ottoman Empire, also known as the "Mikelanxhelo of the Orient".

According to an inscription that was placed on the entrance, its construction was completed in 1542. In the middle of the XVIIth century, Celebiu describes the mosque as one of the most beautiful mosques, with a carved stone dome, a lead cover, and a heavy minaret. We inherit this mosque from centuries, with partial reconstructions in the minaret, the dome and the portico. Its portico was preserved until the beginning of the XXth century, as proven by photographs of the time. Despite these changes, from the architectural point of view the monument preserves its authentic monumental values quite well, serving at the same time as one of the first evidences of the history of this type of construction genre in our country. Until the 1920s, it was called the Lead Mosque (because the dome was made of a lead overlay), and later it was called the Muradie Mosque due to the name of the neighbourhood where it was located. After World War II, it became a museum of architecture for the City of Vlora. The public knows it as the Museum of Vlora's Cultural Monuments, because it used to display, in its interior venues, sketches, photographs, plans, maps, paintings and manuscripts --the most distinguished monuments of the District of Vlora. Nowadays it has been restored and is used by the City's Muslim believers.

Muradie Mosque is of a dome type and consists of a prayer room and a minaret. One can access the prayer room via the only gate on the north, which is covered by a low arch. In front of the entrance gate, in the prayer room, there is a semi-circular cut mihrab, with stalactites in the upper part and surrounded by a rectangular frame, while a minbar lies on its right handside. In addition to the northern entrance, serving access purposes, on the other three sides the hall is illuminated by five windows on each side. The two lower windows are larger than the others and are covered with a sharp arch in the bottom. On the outside, the cubic volume of the prayer room is a fairly regular construction. The masonry, made of stones and bricks, is masterly crafted. It consists of two well-rounded rows of stones, interchanged with two rows of bricks. This construction technique is unique for our country and resembles Istanbul's mosques constructed by Architect Sinani. The transition into the twelve-sided drum with a dome is straightforward, without any shrinkage, forming part of a triangular roof in the corners. The minaret is quite elegant, is built with carved stones, and has a large, well-crafted kettle in its décor. Particularly worthy of note is the good-quality construction work, with stonework in the shape of stalactite of the console part of the kettle, representing one of the most accomplished examples in our country.

Function: Cult object, architecture museum, currently a cult object.

Muradie Mosque uses the retaining wall construction technique. The walls are constructed of stones and bricks. The building is covered with a spherical dome of stone material.

### **125-JUSTIN GODARD'S ROAD ENSEMBLE**

Justin Godard's Road Ensemble is located at "Justin Godard" Street, District of Vlora, Municipality of Vlora and was proclaimed a Category I Cultural Monument upon Decision No. 249, of 1 July 1980.

Justin Godard's street ensemble is composed of a street, on both sides of which constructed buildings, representing characteristic Vlora dwellings, are developed. Some of them also have the status of the Category I Cultural Monuments. Among the buildings of historical character, one can mention, *inter alia*, the building where Marigo Posio embroidered the national flag. Before the '90s, this street served for state-owned commercial activities and was inhabited by old civilian families. After the 90's, it was used by the inhabitants dealing with the trade the used clothes. This road consists mainly of one and two-storey buildings, known for their stylish façade and decorated with unique architectural elements. The roofs of the buildings are mainly made of local and Marseille tiles.

Small balconies with stylish parapets stretch beyond the building façades. The monument's condition is mixed. On the one hand, there are the old inhabitants who have been constantly caring for the maintenance of their properties, while, on the other hand, there are the newly arrived residents, whose lack of care has led to degradation of the buildings. The buildings have damages in their façades, balconies, doors, windows, construction, railing, roofs etc. This road is currently part of the "Requalification in the Urban Protected Area" Project, in vicinity of the centre of the City of Vlora and, as such, is benefiting from on-going restorations. It is currently in the process of being restored. The road consists of buildings with the same construction

method – i.e. a retaining wall structure, lined with lime mortar. The coverage was realized with roofs covered by local tiles, or Marseille tiles. Separation of the floors is realized with wooden construction. Certain buildings feature as well mix systems, namely construction with stonewall, plus reinforced concrete construction, and brickwork and wood construction.

#### ***126-THE BUILDING OF ISMAIL QEMALI'S PROVISIONAL GOVERNMENT IN SKELA, VLORE***

The building serving as the headquarter of Ismail Qemali's led provisional government, in Skela, Vlora, is located at Kristo Negovani Street, Pavarësia Neighbourhood, District of Vlora, Municipality of Vlora, and was proclaimed a Category I Cultural Monument upon Decision No. 6, of 15 January 1963.

The National Independence Museum in Vlora, with all its exponents, constitutes a complex of authentic values for both domestic and foreign visitors. It counts seven pavilions and two halls, where many objects and documents with special historical values are stored and exhibited. The Museum of Independence is the last building of the XIXth century. In its beginnings, the building served as a military quarantine, and in 1913 it served as the headquarters of the Vlora Government.

In 1936, the first Albanian archaeological museum was inaugurated in the premises of this building. Today, it serves as the National Museum of Independence. It is home to dozens of objects, documents and artwork devoted to Albania's Independence. The museum is visited by thousands of local and foreign visitors. It was restored in 2012 on the occasion of the 100th Anniversary of Independence. The monument has been built resorting to a retaining wall construction system. It is covered with a wooden and tiled roof. The building has hardwood floors and wooden hanging ceilings.

#### ***127-HALIM XHELO'S RESIDENCE, WHERE THE YOUTH REGIONAL COMMITTEE WAS ESTABLISHED***

Halim Xhelo's house, where the Youth Regional Committee was established, is located at "Drashovica" Street, District of Vlora, Municipality of Vlora and was proclaimed a Category I Cultural Monument upon Decision No. 1886, of 10 June 1973.

It was built in 1919. Up until 1944 the building served as the headquarters of the prefecture. In the first years after 1944, it served as a local administration. In the '50s, it was transformed into a block of flats for many households. The building features an Italian style architecture, known for its columns, decorated ceilings and the use of arches. At the end of 2012, the façade of the building was restored. The building is built with a wall retaining construction system, lined with lime mortar. It is covered with a wooden roof in a dome-shaped structure, with local tiles.

#### ***128-HOUSE WHERE 'LABËRIA' PATRIOTIC CLUB WAS ESTABLISHED IN 1908***



The house where “Labëria” Patriotic Club was established in 1908 is located at “Perlat Rexhepi” Street, District of Vlora, Municipality of Vlora, and was proclaimed a Category I Cultural Monument upon Decision No. 6, of 15 January 1963.

Labëria Club is a Category I Cultural Monument, located in the City of Vlora, in its very center. This is a construction of the beginning of the XIXth century. The object represents the typology of constructions of this period, assigned initially with a dwelling function. Today the object has undergone changes in its function. The building is two-storeyed, a villa type, with a quadrilateral yard, in the center of which lies the attic area. Today this building serves as the Ethnographic Museum of the city and, as such, it is open every day for numerous visitors to show them a piece of culture and cultural heritage of Albania. It exhibits different pieces of objects that carry great historical values and mostly heritage of non-material culture. The monument is currently part of the “Rehabilitation of the Historic Center of Vlora” Project and, hence, will be restored, focusing mainly on the painting of its façade. The construction is of a retaining wall structure. It is covered with a tiled roof. The first floors are paved with stone tiles, and the middle floors are paved with wooden layers. All the three floors have wooden ceilings.

### ***129-THE JEWISH ROAD***

The Jewish Road is located at the street with the same name, District of Vlora, Municipality of Vlora, and was proclaimed a Category I Cultural Monument upon Decision No. 525, of 14 September 2006.

The complex where the Jewish community lives is composed of 20 blocks of flats, in a road, which is 46 m long and 4.5 m wide. Once, the road was paved with stones. Nine blocks of flats are located on the left side of the road, put in two-storey buildings, in a linear architecture. The building dates back in the beginning of the XIXth century and preserves the characteristic features of the architecture of the time.

Its first floor is used for housing purposes. To the right of the road, 11 apartments are distributed in a 3-storey building, built during the Second World War. With regards to architecture, pseudo-eclectic style prevails, due to various legal and illegal constructions. The Jewish Road was restored a few years ago and today is in relatively good condition. This road is part of the “Requalification in the Protected Urban Area in Vicinity of the Vlora City Centre” Project. The building is constructed with concrete columns. Its coverage is realized with concrete slabs, plus a wooden roof, aligned with local tiles. The walls are made of bricks and are plastered with lime mortar.

### ***130-FORMER PREFECTURE HOUSE***

The Former Prefecture House is located at “Avni Rustemi” Street, No. 48, District of Vlora, Municipality of Vlora, and was proclaimed a Category I Cultural Monument upon Decision No. 654, of 09 November 2006.

The Former Prefecture House, due to its prominent architectural and construction values, is proclaimed a Category I Cultural Monument upon Decision No. 654, of 9 November 2006. The building is located near the centre of the City of Vlora, opposite the Muradie Mosque, one of the most important monuments of architecture in this city. Western and southern façades are visible from Vlora – Skela Boulevard. The Former Prefecture House was built around 1919. During this period, the City of Vlora had a development, which, after the imposition of the borders in 1913 and the discontinuation of the traditional trade routes, turned it into an important transit point. The urban and architectural development of this period was conditioned by the achievements of the previous period, stemming from the requirements to expand the range of construction genres and to respond to the new economic and social developments.

The buildings of the time sought the experience of specialized architects, both national and foreigner. One of the genres, which impact was felt during this period in Albania, was eclecticism, which at the time still prevailed in the other cities of the Balkans and Europe. The first manifestations of this type of architecture are encountered in England in the XVIII-XIXth century and at the beginning of the XXth century. The trends towards eclecticism appeared not only in some constructions designed by foreign engineers, but also in the constructions designed by local engineers and architects. Manifestations of this period were transient and were, hence, not widely spread. This architecture was followed by the penetration of the neoclassical architecture, especially with the '30s and the '40s architecture. The Former Prefecture House is representative of the eclectic and neoclassical architecture. Constructions of this period with similar architectural elements in the City of Vlora are the buildings of the Municipality, and the Museum of War. A distinct feature of the appearance of the monument is the great decorative load on the external treatment and the plastic processing of architectural elements, which have almost covered all the area of the second floor of the building.

External plastering serves as a very suitable tool for decorating the building that is easily applicable and creates a variety of decorative shapes and motifs. Such processing does extensively enhance the decorative appearance of the façade, and to avoid overloading, clean floor plans are created, helping in highlighting the elements in the relief and make the light-shade game more effective. The top of the triple window is the most decorated frame, with an eyebrow shape above the window space. Pilasters with decorated capitals emerge from both ends. The elements applied are intricate motifs, such as flowers, leaf styling, imitations, antique denticulations, etc. Placement of the decorative frames in the relief, below the window space, by creating horizontal belts, breaks the vertical stretch of the façade.

A powerful decorative element is the under-roofed shelter with a carved tail, which comes as a result of efforts to introduce the national spirit through styling of elements borrowed from folk architecture. The decorative elements, prepared in advance during the construction of the masonry, were plastered and then were given the shape of elements as desired. The design solution is very relevant, thanks to a clear functional grouping. At the end of 2012, an

intervention was realised in the restoration of the façade, doors and windows. The construction technique of this building, in relation to previous constructions, marked not only a qualitative improvement in technology, but also an enrichment of construction structures. A distinct feature of this period is the external plastering of the building, use of anti-seismic bends, use of Marseille roof tiles, and use of entirely brick-made masonry, both for the retaining walls and the dividing walls. The use of bricks opens up opportunities for a wide area of application of decorative elements in plaster. The foundations of the building are built with mortar-affixed stones. All the masonry walls, as well as the partition walls, are built of bricks, with cement mortar (bastard mortar) serving affixing purposes. The roof is of a wooden construction, covered with Marseille tiles.

### ***131-THE RESIDENCE AT ISMET ÇAKËRRI STREET***

The residence at Ismet Çakërri Street is located at “Ismet Çakërri” Street, District of Vlora, Municipality of Vlora, and was proclaimed a Category I Cultural Monument upon Decision No. 654, of 9 November 2006.

The residence was built in the XIXth century with traditional materials, such as stone, wood and local tiles. In the entrance section, the building used stone columns, on top of which the second floor rose. After the dictatorship period and up until year 2000 the building was used as a collective dwelling and was, as a result, degraded. After abandonment, the building suffered even worse degradation and nowadays it is in total collapse. Only one pile of inert materials lies in the place where it was built, also illustrated in the pictures below. The building was constructed with a retaining wall construction system, lined with lime mortar. The coverage was realized with a wooden frame construction, topped with local tiles.

The building is totally demolished nowadays and nothing is remained of it.

### ***132-THE FIRST SCHOOL***

The First School (School No. 1 is located at “Ismet Çakërri” Street, District of Vlora, Municipality of Vlora, and was proclaimed a Category I Cultural Monument upon Decision No. 654, of 9 November 2006.

The building was built in the XIXth century. In 1851-1908 the building functioned as a *mejtep* (a religious school). On 7 August 1908, the First Albanian School was opened there. The building is a two-storey construction with a rectangular plan. On its main façade, one can see two stairs, leading to the second floor of the building. The main entrance on the ground floor is designed in the centre of the two staircases, has an arch shape on the upper part, as is the case with the entrance of the first floor of the building. The windows are rectangular and curved in their upper part. The building is covered with a tiled roof. Nowadays the building is used as a 9-year school. Window and door corners are covered by lintels. The building was restored in 1994. It is constructed with the retaining wall construction technique, affixed with lime mortar. The cover is realized with a four-pitched roof, making use of local tiles.

### **133-RADHIMA FAMILY'S RESIDENCE**

The residence of Radhima Family is located at "Ismet Çakërri" ("Xhuvel Xhuveli" Street), District of Vlora, Municipality of Vlora, and was proclaimed a Category I Cultural Monument upon Decision No. 654, of 9 November 2006.

It was built in the middle of the XIXth century. The dwelling preserves historical values (used as the headquarters by the Provisional Government of Vlora). It is a two-storey construction, covered with a roof made of local tiles, while its windows, doors and gates are made of carved and arched stones. It preserves the construction features of the time it was built. The monument has undergone big alternations since 1968. It has two main entrances of a portico type, but a total of 5 different entrances showing the design and façade changes the building has undergone due to the division of its relevant owners. There is very little left of the architectural elements specific for this building, like vaulted doors, clothespresses, red-cemented floors and hardwood floors. The southern façade of the building is in good condition, while the other side has suffered major changes with reinforced concrete. The dwelling is constructed with a retaining wall construction system, lined with lime mortar. Its covering is realized with a wooden roof of local tiles. Also, the partition of the mezzanine floor is realized with wooden beams.

### **134-THE COMMERCIAL BANK**

The Commercial Bank is located at "Ismail Qemali" Street (the Independence Square), District of Vlora, Municipality of Vlora, and was proclaimed a Category I Cultural Monument upon Decision No. 654, of 9 November 2006.

The building was built in the '20s of XXth century. It was designed by Italian architects. Its first function was that of the Albanian State Bank -- the B.K.T. It is a three-storey building, and has a good urban solution of straight lines that fit the area and the site where it is built. It is distinguished for its decorated and stylish façades with a décor that enhances the architectural values of this object. The windows are unified and designed with decorative frames. The main entrance of the building is positioned opposite the square and it stands out because of its stylish capital, which continues upwards with a glass arch on the second floor of the facility. These details make the building more grandiose and give it a lot of value. The windows of the first floor are larger and with more details, both in terms of the capitals in the upper part, as well as the decorations on their sides. This building underwent restoration after 1997. Nowadays, it continues to have the same function, serving as the National Commercial Bank, and is one of the buildings in best condition, be it from the architectural point of view as well as the construction point of view. It is constructed by making use of a retaining stonewall construction method, lined with lime mortar. The cover is realized with a dome-shaped wooden roof using local tiles.

### **135-THE HISTORICAL MUSEM**

The Historical Museum is located at “Perlat Rexhepi” Street, District of Vlora, Municipality of Vlora, and was proclaimed a Category I Cultural Monument upon Decision No. 654, of 9 November 2006.

The building was built in 1918 by the masters of the time. Up until 1939, it served as the City Hall of Vlora. In the period of 1944-1970, mass organizations worked in the premises of this building. After 1970, it was transformed into the Historical Museum of the District. It is well known for its historical and architectural values. The facility has a two-storey rectangular composition, fitting to the layout of the area where it was built. The windows are unified and designed with decorative elements, which add into the value of this object. The rectangular and linear decorative element sparkle on the façade of the building, as well as a decorative balcony on the second floor, which also plays the role of the entrance’s shelter. In 2017, a part of the facility was restored. The construction of the building is realized with retaining walls and columns in its interior. The building is partly covered with a roof of a wooden construction and tiles, and partly with a terrace. Beams and brick vaults are used for the construction of the terrace.

### ***136-RESIDENCE IN VICINITY OF “LABËRIA” CLUB***

The residence in vicinity of “Labëria” Club is located at “Perlat Rexhepi” Street, District of Vlora, Municipality of Vlora, and was proclaimed a Category I Cultural Monument upon Decision No. 654, of 9 November 2006.

The building is a civic residence of the XIXth century, located in the northwest of the “Justin Godard” Street Complex. Prior to declaration of Independence, it served as an administrative building and, later, as the headquarters of “Labëria” Patriotic Club. Subsequently, the building has carried out other functions. It has, for instance, served as a hotel and as a residential house. From the construction side point of view it represents the characteristic residential house with three floors and an attic. A specific feature of this house is the architectural solution with an internal courtyard. The staircase, located in the yard, lead one to the first and second floor. It is a three-storey building with balconies with an iron parapet. The construction system is that of stone-retaining walls, while the partition walls are made of adobe. The roof construction is made of wood and covered with tiles.

### ***137-FORMER ARTS GALLERY***

The Former Arts Gallery is located at “Perlat Rexhepi” Street, District of Vlorë, Municipality of Vlora and was proclaimed a Category I Cultural Monument upon Decision No. 654, of 9 November 2006.

The building is a civic residence of the ‘30s of the XXth century. The shape of the building is adapted to the urban settlement of the city. This building used to house the Art Gallery and the shopping mall of the city. Today, the first floor is used for commerce, while the second and third floors are partly used for housing purposes. Along with the other complexes located in its

vicinity, it creates the old shopping centre of the City of Vlora. It is three-storey building with a rectangular shape. Its façade features decorative elements, mainly in the windows. The angular parts of the building are decorated as well. This facility is now part of the “Requalification of the Historic Centre of Vlora” Project and, as such, will soon be restored. The restoration will focus mainly on the façade and in other areas. The building is constructed with a construction system making use of reinforced concrete columns. Its coverage is realized with a terrace made of reinforced concrete, plus a wooden roof covered with local tiles. The walls are made of bricks and are plastered with lime mortar.

### **138-BUILDING OF YEAR 1925**

The building of year 1925 is located at “Perlat Rexhepi” Street, District of Vlora, Municipality of Vlora, and was proclaimed a Category I Cultural Monument upon Decision No. 654, of 9 November 2006.

The building was built in 1925. It is known for its architectural values, with a façade of Baroque style. The first floor has served for commerce purposes, while the second floor is used for housing. The building has a façade rich in decorative elements. The windows and balconies are decorated with decorative elements, which enhance the many architectural values of this building. It is a three-storey building covered with a terrace, with small balconies with stylish iron parapets on its front part. The windows and its glass façade are rich in architectural elements. The building today is part of the project being implemented for the requalification of the urban protected area, near the centre of the City of Vlora and, as such, will be completely restored. The building is three-storeyed, with a beam-pillar construction system. The façade’s plaster has considerable damage. Balconies contain damage affecting their durability. Some windows are missing and those existing are damaged. Before the ‘90s the building was inhabited, whereas today it is totally abandoned.

### **139-TWO-STOREY BUILDING AT ZOGU I I STREET (No. 11, according to the Institute of Cultural Monuments’ map)**

The two-storey building at Zogu I I Street (No. 11, according to the Institute of Cultural Monuments’ map) is located at “Perlat Rexhepi” Street, District of Vlora, Municipality of Vlora, and was proclaimed a Category I Cultural Monument upon Decision No. 654, of 09 November 2006.

The building was built in the ‘30s of the XXth century. Its shape and layout are adapted to the regulatory plan of the City of Vlora. It was primarily used for commercial functions. It is known for its architectural values due to its stylish façade decorated with a beautiful décor, which enhances the architectural values of the building. It is a two-storey building. The first floor of the building has large decorated windows in the upper part, which continue along the line of the

entire complex, appearing as if they are merged together. In the upper part, the façade ends with a parapet decorated with linear elements. The second floor of the façade of the building has smaller, decorated and unified windows. The building is built with a construction system of reinforced concrete columns. Its coverage is made of a reinforced concrete terrace, plus a roof of local tiled. The walls are made of bricks and are plastered with lime mortar.

#### **140-TWO-STOREY BUILDING AT ZOGU I Street (No. 11, according to the Institute of Cultural Monuments' map)**

The two-storey building at Zogu I Street (No. 11, according to the Institute of Cultural Monuments' map) is located at "Perlat Rexhepi" Street, District of Vlora, Municipality of Vlora, and was proclaimed a Category I Cultural Monument upon Decision No. 654, of 09 November 2006.

The building was built in the '30s of the XXth century. Its shape and layout are adapted to the regulatory plan of the City of Vlora. It was primarily used for commercial functions. It is known for its architectural values due to its stylish façade decorated with a beautiful décor, which enhances the architectural values of the building. It is two-storey building. The first floor of the building has large decorated windows in the upper part, which continue along the line of the entire complex, appearing as if they are merged together. In the upper part, the façade ends with a parapet decorated with linear elements. The second floor of the façade of the building has smaller, decorated and unified windows. The building is built with a construction system of reinforced concrete columns. Its coverage is made of a reinforced concrete terrace, plus a roof of local tiled. The walls are made of bricks and are plastered with lime mortar.

#### **141-THE MUNICIPALITY**

The Municipality is located at "Halim Xhelo" Street, District of Vlora, Municipality of Vlora, and was proclaimed a Category I Cultural Monument upon Decision No. 654, of 9 November 2006.

The building was built in 1918. Its design and implementation were realised by Italian experts. Up until September 1943, it served as the Italian Consulate. After 1944, it was used for local government functions. The building is one of the most beautiful buildings of Baroque style architecture in the city. Since many years now the building has been used as the City Hall. In 2017 it was completely restored and is currently one of the most beautiful monuments of great architectural value in the city, enjoying very good construction conditions. The building is made of 3 floors, plus the attic. It stands out for its superbly decorated façade with Baroque architectural elements. The main entrance of the building is known for its decorated and very inviting hall. The windows and the façade are all decorated with architectural elements, which are rich in a combination of linear and arched elements. New structures and technologies, such as reinforced concrete, are introduced in this building. It is made of retaining masonry. Its covering is partially realized with a wooden constructed roof, and partially with a terrace.

## **142-THE FORMER PROSECUTION BUILDING**

The former prosecution building is located at "Isa Boletini" Street, District of Vlora, Municipality of Vlora, and was proclaimed a Category I Cultural Monument upon Decision No. 654, of 9 November 2006.

The building was built in the '30s of the XXth century. Up until 1965, the building used to have two storeys, while a new storey was added to the existing structure in 1965. Initially, it used to serve as a collective residence, later as a hotel, and afterwards as the Prosecution Office of the City of Vlora. Today, its owners have ownership problems. The building is of three storeys and its façade is designed and decorated with linear decorative elements. The windows are all decorated and unified, balconies are mostly small with stylish railings, while its corners are decorated with architectural element. The building shape is in harmony with the-then plan of the centre of City of Vlora. The building makes use of new technologies, such as reinforced concrete, and connectors of the construction elements are made of Portland cement. The building is covered with a terrace.

## **143-HOUSE WHERE THE 1920 GOVERNMENT WAS ESTABLISHED**

The house where the 1920 Government was established is located at "Dalan Dadani" Street, District of Vlora, Municipality of Vlora, and was proclaimed a Category I Cultural Monument upon Decision No. 654, of 9 November 2006.

The building was built in 1908. In its first years, its first function was that of a school and baby care centre. It is a two-storey building covered with a rectangular-shape roof. It features the characteristic architecture of the '30s, where a striking element is its main gate, designed with decorative elements with arch-shaped floral motifs, and its façade decorated with decorative elements. The second floor contains some small balconies decorated with parapets of linear elements. A distinct feature of this building is the architectural solution with an internal courtyard, where the staircases of the building are located, leading to the first and second floors. It is built with a 50 cm retaining walls construction system, made of bricks and stones. Its coverage is realized with a roof.

## **144-"SAHATI" COMPLEX**

"Sahati" Complex is located at "8 Marsi" Street, District of Vlora, Municipality of Vlora, and was proclaimed a Category I Cultural Monument upon Decision No. 654, of 9 November 2006.

The complex was built in 1918. It was built upon the personal interest of Mr. Ali Asllani (Mayor at that time) and was funded by the city's merchants. Beside its functional aspect, the object has also great architectural value. The market and *Sahati* were designed by Italian architects. It has served as a landmark for the city and its commercial centre. This building makes use of newly introduced structures and technologies of the time, such as reinforced concrete and Portland cement connection. In 1996 the building was restored both in its interior venues, and in the exterior façade. A great architectural value in this monument is added by the presence of



ornamentation in the frames and the rosettes of patriotic motifs, from which it would be worth mentioning Scanderbeg's portrait in the front of the building, and the east-facing two-headed eagle. The building is constructed with a reinforced concrete construction system. It is covered with a reinforced concrete terrace, plus a roof made of local tiles. The walls are made of bricks and are plastered with lime mortar.

#### ***145-COMPLEX AT THE MUSEUM***

The complex at the Museum is located at "Isa Boletini" Street, District of Vlora, Municipality of Vlora, and was proclaimed a Category I Cultural Monument upon Decision No. 654, of 9 November 2006.

It was built in the '30s of the XXth century, adapting to the city's regulatory plan. The craftsmen of the city have exercised their activity here. Trade represents the functional aspect of this complex. As far as urban and construction values are concerned, they are the same as in the other commercial complexes of the city. At present, this complex appears alienated, given the interventions of some years ago, which have affected the originality of the construction, both with regards to the typology of construction and its volume. The interventions were made around 1992-2003, before it was proclaimed a Cultural Monument. This complex is currently part of the Requalification Project in the urban protected area near the centre of the City of Vlora and, as such, shall be restored, mainly in its façade. The complex consists of one-storey buildings that are harmoniously connected to one-another. The façades of the shops are distinguished for their Italian style decorative elements. The shop windows of the complex are large and with designs on their front views. The building is constructed with reinforced concrete columns. It is covered with a reinforced concrete terrace, plus an wooden structure roof of local tiles. The walls are made of bricks and are plastered with lime mortar.

#### ***146-THE COMPLEX OVER THE MUSEUM***

The complex over the museum is located at "Isa Boletini" Street (8 Marsi), District of Vlora, Municipality of Vlora, and was proclaimed a Category I Cultural Monument upon Decision No. 654, of 9 November 2006.

The complex was built in the '20s of the XXth century, according to the City's planning map. This complex is surrounded by roads in all its sides, and its commercial premises are all positioned by the street. It is a one-storey complex, although in its actual shape it has undergone numerous additions that have reduced its architectural values. The façades of the shops that make up the complex are large windows, some of which with decorated columns on the front. The façades of the complex are designed with decorative and linear elements, realising a harmonious connection of all the shops' exterior. The craftsmen of the city have exercised their activity here. The functional aspect of this complex is trade. As far as urban and construction values are concerned, they are the same as those of other commercial complexes of the city. The complex is expected to undergo restoration in the context of the implementation of the "Qualification in the Protected Urban Area near the Centre of the City of Vlora" Project. The

complex is constructed with a construction system of reinforced concrete columns. Its coverage is realized with a reinforced concrete slab construction + wooden roof tiles. The walls are made of bricks and are plastered with lime mortar.

#### ***147-THE TWO-STOREY BUILDING***

The two-storey building is located at 2 “Gjergj Kastrioti” Street, District of Vlora, Municipality of Vlora, and was proclaimed a Category I Cultural Monument upon Decision No.654, of 9 November 2006.

The building has a special layout, since it was built and adapted according to the city's regulatory plan in 1944. It is a two-storey building, covered with a roof and located very near to the road. The building features a unique architecture, with unified windows with decorative elements, adding great architectural value to it. This building used to serve as a residence and was distinguished for the great architectural values of the time because of the decorated façades, whereas today it is used as a centre for vocational courses. The monument is constructed with a retaining wall construction system. It is covered with a wooden and tiled roof. Floors are paved with hardwood and ceilings are decorated.

#### ***148-BUILDING AT “GJERGJ KASTRIOTI” STREET***

The building at “Gjergj Kastrioti” Street is located at the District of Vlora, Municipality of Vlora, and was proclaimed a Category I Cultural Monument upon Decision No. 654, of 9 November 2006.

The building was built in 1924 with a shape adapting to the then city's regulatory plan. By 1944, it was used as a residential house. Later, it served as the District Court and as the City Planning Office. After 1993, it was restituted to its former owners. It is a two-storey building and carries great architectural value due to its façade, which is rich in decorative elements in the window sections and in the corners of the building. In the main façade, the building has a balcony, which is decorated, and a designed plaque on its upper part. The internal areas still contain fragments of wall paintings, which enhance the value to this monument. Floors are made of wood and are decorated. It is built with retaining walls. The terraces are made of reinforced concrete construction. The building has hardwood floors.

#### ***149-THE JEW'S HOUSE***

The Jew's House is located at “Lef Sallata” Street, District of Vlora, Municipality of Vlora, and was proclaimed a Category I Cultural Monument upon Decision No. 654, of 9 November 2006.

The building was built in 1928. Up until 1944 it used to be the residence of the Matathia Family. After this year, it was used as the headquarters of the District Party Committee. Later it served as the City Library. After restitution to its owners in the 90's, the building has undergone restoration and one storey has been added to the previous structure. It is currently used as a non-public school. The building is valued for its Baroque style and features a façade of great

architectural value. It is a three-storey building and is covered with a tiled roof. Two main entrances are located in the main façade of the building, which can be accessed through two stairs that lead to a hall, decorated with decorated parapets. The windows are all decorated with elements of Baroque style, which gives greater architectural value to the building. The first floor decorated balcony serves also as the shelter to the main entrance of the building. The building is built with a construction system making use of retaining stonewalls, lined with lime mortar. It is covered with a wooden frame construction dome-shaped roof, aligned with local tiles.

### **150-EQEREM BEY VLORA'S HOUSE**

Eqerem Bey Vlora's house is located at "Lef Sallata" Street, District of Vlora, Municipality of Vlora, and was proclaimed a Category I Cultural Monument upon Decision No. 654, of 9 November 2006.

Up until 1925 it was shaped in the form a big building, with another smaller building in front of it, amidst a large 40000 m<sup>2</sup> park, surrounded by eight-meter high walls and two gates on both sides. It was the Vlora Family house, composed of the *harem* (the place for women) and the *salamllek* (the place for men). Whereas the people just called the place by the name of "The Bey's Saraya". Latter, at the beginning of the XIXth century, the building present today was built in the area. It is the residence of the famous Vlora Family. The building is of two storeys and the roof is covered with ceramic tiles. The building is used for exhibiting historical and ethnographic objects. After 1944, it served as a house of culture, library and museum. The building is currently returned to its owners, who use it as a private residence. The building is constructed with a retaining stonewall construction system, lined with lime mortar. It is covered by a wooden dome-shaped roof structure, aligned with local tiles.

### **151-THE CATHOLIC CHURCH**

The Catholic Church is located at "Kristo Negovani" Street, District of Vlora, Municipality of Vlora, and was proclaimed a Category I Cultural Monument by Decision No. 654, of 9 November 2006.

The building was built around the 1800s by Italian masters. Up until 1967 it served as a Catholic Church. From 1967 to 1990 it was used as the puppet theatre of the city. After 1990, the building was restored to its original function. It is a building of classical architecture with capitals, frames and arches of Roman style. The church has one nave, is covered with a wooden double-pitched roof and a hanging ceiling. The part of the altar is clearly highlighted by the exits of the pilasters from the sidewalls. At the entrance there are two pilasters and the gate, thus creating an anteroom for the nave. The construction system is made of retaining walls, reinforced with pilasters. The pilasters are also used for the interior. The roof is double pitched and covered with tiles.

### **152-RESIDENCE OF THE HOXHA FAMILY, IN FRONT OF THE CHURCH**

The residence of the Hoxha Family is located at "Kristo Negovani" Street, District of Vlora, Municipality of Vlora, and was proclaimed a Category I Cultural Monument upon Decision No. 654, of 09 November 2006.

The residence has served as an Italian Consulate in the '20-30s of the XXth century. Afterwards it has served as a residential building for a long time, whereas today the building is in poor condition, with almost no resident living there and has undergone many changes due to the many additions made on its main façade. It was built in the XIXth century. It is a two-storey building, with stonewalls and thin dividing wall that are characteristic of constructions of this period in the City of Vlora. The building has an attic and is covered with a double-pitched roof. The construction of the building is that of retaining walls. Its cover is made of tiles and is supported on its wooden construction. The exterior masonry is made of stone, while the dividing walls are made of adobe.

### **153-ARCHAEOLOGICAL SITE A AND B IN THE CITY OF VLORA**

The Archaeological sites A and B for the City of Vlora are located in the District of Vlora, Municipality of Vlora, and are proclaimed a Category I Cultural Monument upon Decision No. 729, of 01 September 2010.

The archaeological site of type A houses ruins of the ancient castrum of Aulona, from which a tower fragment was recovered in 1910. The archaeological site A includes the entire area where the ruins of the ancient fortification are thought to be. Archaeological site B, surrounding site A, is thought to contain the settlements outside the fortification walls, as well as the ancient necropolis. The archaeological Skela site is related to the existence of the medieval castle built by Sultan Suleiman, whose ruins are thought to be located in the area around the current stadium of Vlora. Aulona's walls are constructed with *opus-mixum* and one fragment of the fortification is reinforced with towers. Vlora's octagonal castle is an Ottoman era building, constructed with the technique of the time.

### **154-AULONA SURROUNDING WALLS**

Aulona's surrounding walls are located at Ismail Qemali Boulevard, District of Vlora, Municipality of Vlora, and are proclaimed a Category I Cultural Monument.

These surrounding walls were mentioned for the first time by the Alexandrian geographer, Ptolemy, in the II<sup>nd</sup> century, and used to serve the function of a road station to the southern branch of Egnatia Road, whereas in the Paleochristian period it served as the seat of a bishop. The fortification system was erected in the IV<sup>th</sup> century or our area, and further structures were added to it respectively in the VI-VIII<sup>th</sup> and XIV-XV<sup>th</sup> centuries. It also features quadrangle

reinforcement towers. A solid wall, from a construction point of view, surrounded a part of the centre of today's City of Vlora and formed a fortified settlement of *Castrum* type. The last phase of excavations was realised in 1986-1988, which highlighted the traces of the perimeter wall of the city's ancient and medieval periods, as well as many archaeological remains, such as ceramics, glass objects, work tools etc. Another excavation happened in 2011, followed by a restoration that highlighted the perimeter wall extending in the east-west direction, with a length of 63.8 m.

Its thickness varies from 3.30 to 3.37 m, while in its interior, it is 1.40-1.55m high. This wall consists of two parts and was previously thought of belonging to two different building blocks: **Phase I: the external wall** 1,30-1,37 m thick, the earliest, built with the *opus mixtum* technique, with three rows of bricks of 30, 31, 32, 33x3, 35-4 cm.

**Phase II: the interior wall**, which construction technique is similar to that of phase I; it attaches itself to the front side of the first wall, following the same line, and creating a construction unity.

### **The tower**

On the eastern side of the surrounding wall, the excavations carried out uncovered a square-shaped tower, 4,20x4,20 m, positioned in the interior of the wall.

### **Traces of dwellings**

On the interior of the surrounding wall, appear the ruins of the two walls, which probably belong to a simple dwelling, and next to them lies a layer of bricks.

### **Sewerage system**

During excavations on the interior and near the surrounding wall, the discoveries continued with a corridor, with a brick layer of dimensions of 3.25 m and 1.80 m, as well as a east-west wall; this wall is 6.65 m long, 0.57 m thick and 0.60 m high and is made of medium stones, lined with lime mortar. The earliest phase of the wall is constructed by making use of the *opus mixtum* technique.

## ***155-THE HISTORICAL CENTER OF THE VILLAGE OF KANINA AND PROTECTED AREA SURROUNDING IT, AND THE REGULATION ON ITS ADMINISTRATION***

The historical centre, the protected area around it is located in the Village of Kanina, Municipality of Vlora, and was proclaimed a Category I and II Cultural Monument upon Decision No. 581 of 13 October 2017.

The protected urban area of the village of Kanina, with its historical and cultural values, is composed of:

- the Historic Centre;
- the Protected Area.

The historic centre is the richest part of the Village of Kanina in terms of its urban planning and architectural values. It preserves various building genres, such as folk dwellings, social constructions, and cult objects. These constructions are linked to the traditional town-planning/architectural landscape that is part of the historic centre. The Historical Centre of the Village of Kanina consists of the Kanica Castle and the part of the village that expands on its south. The protected area of the Village of Kanina surrounds the Historical Centre and consists of two sub-areas:

- the Protected Sub-Area number I,
- the Protected Sub-Area number II (green area).

As mentioned above, the castle is part of the historical centre. The castle is a fortification building, built in the IVth century BC. The castle extends over an area of about 3.6 ha and has a height of about 380 m above sea level. Several construction phases are observed in the fortification walls' system – namely, the first phase represented by Illyrian wall remnants; Late Antiquity, when the surrounding walls of the castle were rebuilt; and Early Medieval Period (X-XIIth century), which is subsequently represented by the surrounding wall (XIII-XIVth centuries). The castle bears testimony of traces of dwellings, as well as other construction elements, such as roads, canals, pits, etc. Also, part of the historical centre are also the cult objects. Part of the historical centre is the urban setting of a tekke in the Village of Madhaj. The tekke as well as the tomb nearby, are located in vicinity of the current village centre. The tekke named after Father Seit, belongs to the helvetic sect and should have been built during the mid XVIIIth century. It is preserved as a building with one voluminous hall and was covered with a wooden structure roof made of slabs. In the eastern wing of the hall, there is a small space used for sacrifices by the believers. Remains indicate that on the front side, the tekke, at the initial phase, used to be an arcade-open porch. The shrine on the west side of the tekke, which is well-preserved, is a one-volumetric space, with square planning covered with a sole dome on the drum. The social construction, with two floors, a construction of socialist realism, has served as a Cultural House. The settlements, one example of which is the house of Sheikh Begaj, was built in the XIXth century. The settlement is of two floors. The ground floor houses the auxiliary facilities. While on the first floor it hosts the main venues, the fireplace and two other residential areas. Kujtim Hamza's settlement. Construction of the XIXth century. The construction is of two floors. It is distinguished for the large number of premises, as well as its compositional development. On the ground floor, it used to house a number of auxiliary facilities, such as cottages, lodges, or other environments. While on the first floor it contained fireplaces and two residential premises. A specific feature of this dwelling is the woodwork on ceilings and in the door and window frames.

Several construction techniques are observed in the fortification system, such as the use of the square isodomic system, "*Opus mixtum*" construction technique; walls built mainly of average,

unprocessed stones and reused antique blocks. In the urban environment, the construction system of retaining walls was used. The tekke roof was built of wood, while the tombstone was covered with a dome. The porch which existed before used to be supported by columns. It is a social construction, where reinforced concrete structures are used. The residences, such as that of Shefikat Begaj or Kujtim Hamza, are constructed with the retaining wall construction system. The buildings were covered with a roof, with wooden construction and local tiling. Storey separation was done wooden floors.

#### **156-ALI PASHA'S CASTLE IN THE PLACE CALLED MAHALLA, IN VICINITY OF THE MARKET**

Ali Pasha's Castle in the place called *Mahalla*, in vicinity of the market, is located in the village of Qesarat, Municipality of Finiq, and was proclaimed a Category I Cultural Monument upon Decision No.586, of 17 March 1948 and Decision No. 4874, of 23 September 1971.

It is built on a low hill, on the right hand side of River Pavlla in the south of the Village of Qesarat. The castle has a trapezoidal shape. It has four rectangular towers in the corners, with a height of about 7 m. The first floors of the towers have rifle turrets and a small window, while the upper floors served residential purposes and were illuminated by wide windows. A building was built inside the castle. Mahallah Castle is different in quality from the other fortifications of Ali Pashe Tepelena, because it is one of his first constructions, but also because of the goals and circumstances it was built for and into. It was built in 1797 within a short period of time.

Ali Pashe Tepelena built this castle in order to be closer to the events taking place in Butrinti, after the liquidation of the Venetian Republic and the French invasion of the Ionian Islands, and to have a respite against any attack by Mustafa Pashe Delvina, who was his enemy at the time. The castle was built to resist the attack of a small power and light weapons. The deep and isolated position of the castle, on the other hand, hid the goals of the Pasha of Tepelena for the invasion of Butrinti before Turkey entered into war with France. It is a weak castle, built with used materials with walls 0.75 m wide and 3.5 m high. All the towers were covered with a wooden construction roof. Today, the castle is not in good shape. It needs restoration and its walls should be consolidated, because it is degrading from lack of maintenance. A fragment of the northern wall has longitudinally fallen down.

#### **157-ALI PASHA'S CASTLE IN VRINA FARM**

Ali Pasha's castle in the Vrina Farm is located in the Village of Vrina, Municipality of Konispol and was proclaimed a Category I Cultural Monument upon Decision No.586, of 17 March 1948 and the Decision of 23 September 1971.

The castle is a typical garrison-type fortress, built on a field. It is located on the left bank of the Vivari Channel, opposite Butrinti. It has a triangular shape, with round towers in all three angles and with a rib length of about 50m.

The walls are preserved at almost full height and have many turrets. The interior part of the Vivari Castle is occupied by numerous one-storey small dwellings, supported on the western and eastern walls. There are two entrances: the main one lies in the middle of the southern wall and the other on the northern wall. In the middle of the yard, there is a circular-shaped building, covered with a spherical dome and no window, which has served as a weapons' depot during the Ottoman period. The walls are crowned with a 1.5 m high parapet, accompanied by numerous turrets. The guard trail is accessed by a staircase supported on the inner side of the southern wall, in vicinity of the main entrance. The construction of the Vivari Castle has passed under three phases: the first phase belongs to the XIII-XIVth century, consisting of a wall of about 2.40 m thick, which surrounded a triangular-shape territory, protected by two rounds of turrets. Its internal facilities such as: the gate, the balcony, the roof etc. were made of wood. The second phase dates back to the XIVth century, where a Venetian style tower with canon turrets was built on the ground floor, while the second floor was used for residential purposes and used to have small windows, chimneys and turrets for small arrows.

The buildings of the third phase were realized in the XVIIth century, when two other wooden-floor towers were built. Four canon turrets were built on the first floors, while the second floor was used as a garrison and used to have fireplaces and small holes for lighting purposes. Other interior spaces were added to the place, and new turrets were opened for firearms. In 1995, the towers, vaults, stairs and a part of the walls of the castle that were in need of restoration were restored. In 2015, the restoration of the castle continued, including the conservation of all its surrounding walls, the interior of the tower and of the castle, pavement of the roadway with stone slabs up to the entrance of the castle, stone pavement of the interiors of the castle, while new windows and fence banisters were also placed at the main tower.

The castle walls are made of small, untreated rocks, lined with lime mortar, with thick filling. The wood belts are not distinguishable because there is in no place a wall crack to allow for them to be seen. The main gate on the upper part is covered with a cylindrical vault, while the upper part is covered with an stretching arch, built of carefully laid stone blocks. The gate's lintels are made of quadrangular stones. A balcony, supported on a stone console, stretched over the gateway. The two sides of the gate have two hollows, covered with cylindrical vaults from the outside. The internal staircase is made of stone. The resting area in between the staircases is supported on a cylindrical vault. The walls of the rectangular area near the northern wall were built with mortar-lined stones, where pieces of bricks were occasionally inserted as well. This area was covered with a wooden roof, with a single pitch towards the castle yard. The second floor of the tower no.1 was covered with a double-pitched roof, made of a wooden structure, veiled with tiles. Its walls are built of semi-treated stones, placed in rows and carefully connected with strong mortar. The walls of tower II and III were built with stones slightly larger than those used in other parts of the fortification. The stones have an almost quadrangular shape and are placed in rows. From the inside, the walls are reinforced with wood bands. The walls of the interior of the castle are built of small stones lined with mortar, placed irregularly on the row. Carved stones are used for the construction of door arches and vaults.



Ali Pasha's Castle in Butrinti, on the left of the channel, is located in the Village of Vrinë, Municipality of Konispol, and was proclaimed a Category I Cultural Monument upon Decision no. 6, of 15 January 1963 of the Rectorate of the State University of Tirana, and Decision No. 1886, of 10 June 1973, of the Ministry of Education and Culture.

The castle is located near the Ionian Sea spill to the Vivari Channel. It was built in 1807-1808 by Ali Pasha Tepelena, to stop the deployment of the French Corfu Army, which asked Ali Pasha to hand Butrinti over. It has a rectangular shape, measuring 28 x 36 m (including the walls), with four towers located in its corners and a residential area on its northern side. The two towers looking by the sea have circular designs, while the other two, on the opposite side, are quadrilateral. Amongst the latter is the main vaulted gate, looking over the east. The thickness of the walls, designed to protect from the artillery hits, reaches 2.80 m, while the towers are 1-1.20 m high.

A specific feature of this castle is that besides the towers protecting it from the outside, it also contains an internal fortification system. When entering the castle, up to the yard, there are four rifle turrets: one for protecting the gate, the other three on the east wall served to wreck the enemy as it had blown up the gate. Protection from the sea was realised by the two powerful towers with thick walls of 2.80 m wide and 5 m high, also featuring large turrets for canons. The towers across the hill were protected with rifle turrets, thick 1-1.20 m. The castle has two gates: one is in the middle of the eastern wall, and the other in the middle of the northern wall. The latter communicates directly with the Vivari Channel, as the castle wall on that side is only 1 meter away from the latter. The castle walls are constructed of small stones, lined with lime mortar. The western side, looking over the sea, is built with more care, with stones in almost quadrangular shapes. The first and second tower were covered with conical roofs with wooden construction. The ground floor of the tower is covered with vaults. The walls of tower IV, from the outside, starting from the middle of their height, fall over the terrain with a slope of about 30°. The gate located in the middle of the eastern wall used to be covered with cylindrical vaults, with an externally decorated stone arch. In 2015, the whole fortress was restored according to a project approved by the National Restoration Council. Restoration included cleaning of the high and medium height vegetation throughout the castle area, conservation of its walls, seaming of the cracks on its walls, laying of the entire interior of the castle with a large layer of sand to avoid presence of water in its interior venues, construction of a small boat pier and laying of stone slabs all the way down to the entrance to the castle.

### 159- **ST. GJINI'S** CASTLE

St. Gjini's Castle is located in the Village of Karroq, Municipality of Finiq, and was proclaimed a Category I Cultural Monument upon Decision No. 6, of 15 January 1963.

It is located on a hilltop in the Village of Karroq. The ancient site is situated on a small plateau, bordered on three sides by surrounding walls, while on the northwest it is connected to rock formations. Dh. Budina, during the '60s, speaks about a rectangular castle of 80x40m, built with parallelepipedic wall blocks, with a thickness of 2.20 m; the trapezoidal wall tracts appear to create a cap on the northwest side.

However, visibility is very bad due to high vegetation, but also due to destruction and later constructions. The thickness of about 2.20m, as indicated by Dh. Budina, is confirmed by its remains, which are still visible in the village. Within the fortified area, the terrain continues to be very rocky, not allowing for the discovery of many ceramic materials. Neither the second construction phase, which has to do with structures of small blocks, using mortar, is very clear. This is the reason why these structures seem to rely upon and use older structures as foundations; however, in part they are built independently. Given the fact that there is still a small kiosk of Orthodox worship on the same location, it is possible that these structures are nowadays completely hypothetically related to a small church, which is almost completely ruined. The site's oldest phase is difficult to interpret too. Judging by the reduced size of the fortified area and by the substantial absence of structures within it, it can be said that the St. Gjini's site does not appear in the settlement. Moreover, from the topographic point of view, its appearance, though spectacular from the nature point of view, does not seem to be of great strategic importance: it has visibility over a very limited area that is difficult to access. The Valley of the Muro Stream is in fact deep, escalated, not passable, and enclosed. The same can be said for its southernmost area, too. Therefore, the site interpretation is difficult to be determined in the absence of deeper research, but a hypothesis is that it was used as a small sheltered place, or even as an area with a sacred function. It belongs to the IIIrd century BC, but it has continued its existence during the Roman period, Late Antiquity up until the Middle Ages. Today, the monument is not in good condition due to atmospheric agents, mountainous terrain, and high shrubs. The castle was built with stone walls. Stemming from its ruins, it is not possible for us to determine the other elements of its structure.

### **160-ÇUKA E AJTOIT CASTLE**

Çuka e Ajtoit Castle is located in the Village of Çiflik, Municipality of Konispol, and was proclaimed a Category I Cultural Monument upon Decision No. 6, of 15 January 1963.

Çuka e Ajtoit Hill, on top of which the ruins of the castle are found, is located in 8 km west of Konispol, over the Village of Çiflik.

It has the shape of a sharp-ended cone and is located at the altitude of 350m above sea level. The first excavations were carried out in 1936, initially by Ugolini, and later by Marconi. It is the second important centre of this region. It rises at the south-eastern edge of the region, on the left bank of the River Pavlla. On the north, it features a sharp rocky decline, while the terraces suitable for housing purposes unfold on the southwest. It has an overall area of over 5 ha and a wall that is 1400 m long. The top of the hill is encircled by a wall, containing no towers inside, which functions were carried out by frequent wall line curves and the encirclement by a terrace from the west. The residence has 6 entrances located on the south. It dates back to the IVth century BC. A Late Antiquity castle lies within ancient fortifications on the 1/3 surface of the ancient city and has the shape of an irregular hexagon with a nearly 700m long wall, totalling to 1.3 ha. The wall is longest on the northern side of the castle, about 280m. The wall reaches a height of nearly 2 m and the width ranges from 1 - 1.10 m to 1.90 - 2.10 m. The entrance to the castle is in the same place as the ancient entrances to the south side used to be. The gate corridor

is 1.70 m wide. The castle is fortified by three towers with different layouts (triangular, rectangular and semi-circular). The highest part of the castle, being separated by a wall, creates the imitation of an acropolis. It is thought that medieval castles were built in Late Antiquity, around the IV-VIth century of our area. The surrounding wall of Çuka e Ajtoit is polygonal, formed by two side wings with massive stone blocks and the nucleus made of ballast. It is 3.2m wide. The medieval fortress is built by applying the same technique and it is built in a single construction period. The castle wall is made of medium and small limestone, mixed with sand-blasted mortar, reaching up to 1m wide. The acropolis wall is 1.20 to 1.50 m thick in diameter, built of average-size stones, lined to lime mortar.

### **161-CASTLE IN MOUNT ILIAS**

The castle in Mount Ilias is located in the Village of Malçan, Municipality of Finiq, and is proclaimed a Category I Cultural Monument by Decision No. 6, of 15 January 1963.

The ruins of the castle are visible in the surface, in the southeast of the village of Malçan. On the western side, natural cliffs form fortifications. The wall is 3.50 m high, is reinforced with 16 towers and intersected by two entrances. It dates back at the end of the IVth century B.C. The town has an almost circular design and occupies an area of about 10 ha. The northwest slope of the hill is formed by five terraces, while on the opposite side lie two natural terraces, suitable for residential purposes. Traces of the perimeter wall appear on the north-eastern side of the hill. The width of the wall does not exceed 3.50 m and in the rocky part, in the west, it narrows up to 2 m. The state of its preservation is not good, and, in some places, what is left of the wall is only piles of stones, however, it can be traced at all its length. The wall is formed of two layers. The space between the two layers is filled with small and average stones. The outer layer is formed with large blocks of solid shape of regular trapezoidal shapes. The stone blocks are 0.85 x 0.27 m; 1.25 x 0.24m in dimension. The terraces are reinforced with supporting walls, built with limestone, not in very large proportions.

### **162-VAGALATI CASTLE**

Vagalati Castle is located in the Village of Vagala, Municipality of Finiq, and was proclaimed a Category I Cultural Monument upon Decision No. 586, of 17 March 1948 and Decision of 23 September 1971.

The castle is located on the right side of the Saranda-Konispol motorway, almost on the top of Mount Mile, over the Village of Vagalat. From this peak, one can see a wide horizon from Cuka e Ajtoit to Finiq and Rripes. The castle dates back to the IIIrd century BC. In 1930, the castle was visited by Ugolini, who later made a small excavation. The castle consists of a tower, which, on its western side, encounters a wall, 26 m long, with a thickness ranging from 3.50 to 4.50 m. The tower has the following dimensions: 9.50 m long and 6.65 m wide. In the north-east corner of the room, the maximum height of the wall from outside reaches up to 7.10 m. On the site south-east side of the site appears a door, about 1.30 m wide and 2.30 m high. The entrance parapet is 0.10 m above the current floor level. Three turrets are opened in the three interior walls of the

fortress, each 1.50m long and 1m wide. Apparently, the tower has served as an observation point for Bogazi's Gorge. The monument is currently maintained in good condition. The wall is constructed of large blocks, with dimensions of: 1, 20 x 0, 35 x 0, 50 m; 1, 60 x 0, 45 x 0, 50 m etc.; the wall blocks are built with the same construction technique as the tower. The wall thickness is 1.20m. Their external sides are constructed with blocks of stones with regular parallelepipedic shapes, with dimensions of 1, 20 x 0.35 m. The stone blocks are finely carved on the sides, with frontal sides swallowed, while the wall concavity forms regular horizontal and vertical lines.

### ***163-BORSHI CASTLE***

Borshi Castle is located in the Village of Borsh, Municipality of Himara, and is proclaimed a Category I Cultural Monument upon Decisions No. 6, of 16 January 1963.

Sopoti Hill, over which the castle stands, is located north of Borshi Village, 500 meters above sea level. Borshi Castle consists of its surrounding walls in the shape of a closed circuit. An acropolis in a triangular shape is located inside it. It has a surface layout, on the west side the mountain forms some natural terraces, where remnants of medieval buildings are visible. Known otherwise as Sopoti Castle, the castle stands in the heart of the ancient City of Borshi. The castle was built at the end of the XIIth century and the early XIIIth century. The castle is divided into two parts by a transverse wall, while two entrances appear, one on the east and the other on the west. The towers are built on the western side in the XIV-XVII century, when artillery was used within the castle. It also houses Ali Pasha's constructions from the beginning of the XVIIIth century. Prior to the Vizier of Ioannina, the castle was also owned by the Despotate of Ioannina, the Angwins and the Turkish invaders. In 2011, the south-eastern tract of the castle wall and the mosque dome were damaged by lightning. The castle walls are constructed with quadrangular stone blocks and horizontal concavities. The exterior is built by making use of the hammer chiselling technique. The width of the walls exceeds 3.5m.

### ***164-CASTLE IN VILLAGE OF KARALIBEJ***

The castle in Karalibej is located in the Village of Dritas, Municipality of Finiq, and was proclaimed a Category I Cultural Monument upon Decision No. 6, of 15 January 1963.

It is located 7 km south-east of Saranda, between Mount Mile and Lake Butrinti, on a high rocky hill, from where Vurgu lowland, Cuka Channel and Ionian Sea can be seen. The south-west wall, 30 m long and 3.5 m wide, is preserved nowadays. Traces of walls are also preserved on other sides of the hill, while its rocky part was prepared for the placement of rocks. At the foot of the hill there are large untouched blocks of stones, in almost parallelepipedic shape, which should have been used for the wall that rises above the natural rock. This is a fortified settlement of the Prasaibs, which secured the protection of their territory. The wall sites are not easily distinguished due to high vegetation. This wall was built with large blocks (1.9x0.7-0.8m), (1.4x0.8m), and block of other sizes. The stones are of a parallelepipedic shape, slightly carved on the sidewalls and connected in dry. The wall is damaged.

### **165-CASTLE IN KALIVO**

The castle in Kalivo is located in the Village of Kalivo, Municipality of Konispol, and was proclaimed a Category I Cultural Monument upon Decision No. 586, of 17 March 1949, and Decision No. 586, of 23 September 1971.

It is located 3 km east of the ancient city of Butrinti, on the other side of the lake, where a not-so-high hill rises, which is surrounded by water in almost three sides, thus resembling the shape of a peninsula. The hill is covered with very dense vegetation. Ruins of antique walls rise above the surface of this hill. These ruins were first visited in 1930 by Ugolini. Traces of surrounding walls are visible on the eastern side, and a few others on the northern side. There are no traces of walls on the west and north side, because the hill ends sharply over Lake Butrinti. It has two frontal entrances, each 2.20 m wide. It belongs to the proto-urban period, IVth century BC. The upper part of the hill was used as a settlement during the Bronze Age. Footsteps of a perimeter wall with massive stone blocks are preserved in the site. The southern section is the most impressive segment of the perimeter wall. The monument is not currently in good shape due to atmospheric factors, vegetation (high shrubs), etc.

It is built in a single period of construction with polygonal stone blocks and large dimensions enclosing a surface of 16 ha. The wall ruins reach a length of 1300 m, while width of the walls is about 3.5 m.

### **166-CASTLE IN QESARAT**

The castle in Qesarat is located in the Village of Qesarat, Municipality of Finiq, and was proclaimed a Category I Cultural Monument upon Decision No. 6, of 15 January 1963.

It used to be built in vicinity of the Village of Qesarat, in the southern slope of Mount Malina and is currently in very bad shape. A few damaged wall segments, with blocks of small stones connected in dry, are currently remained of the former castle. The castle is thought of being built in the Early Medieval time. Currently, the castle is in a very bad condition. It is almost inexistent, because its stones are taken by the villagers to build up their houses (during the communist time). No construction description of the castle can be issued given the remained ruins.

### **167-MALATHRE CASTLE**

Malathre's Castle is located in the Village of Mursi, and was proclaimed a Category I Cultural Monument upon Decision No. 586, of 17 March 1948 and Decision No. 4874, of 23 September 1971.

Malathre Castle is located near the Village of Mursi, at the footstep of Mount Mile, over a not so high hill that is circular and barren. In 1930, it was first visited by Ugolini and later by Marconi. It was in the same year that the first archaeological excavations were carried out. It dates back from the IVth-IIIrd century BC until the IIIrd-IVth century AD. First period: the castle features

a square design of 15 x 15 m, with a central square yard of 8.50 x 8.50 m. It has four towers with dimensions of 5x2.50 m at the entrance, intersected by a cut of 1.40 m. Second period: the castle features a quadrilateral planning of 35 x 34 m, starting with 1.50m. The castle occupies an area of 1200 square meters. The castle walls are made of large blocks, in a parallelepipedic shape, with dimensions ranging from 0.86 x 0.40m to 1.30 x 0.50m. They are carefully crafted on the sides, whereas on the front the blocks fit very well on top of one-another and are set in dry, in regular horizontal rows. Wall thickness is 1.20 m. The two western towers are preserved in a better situation than the other two. The wall is 1 m thick, built in two rows of regularly put blocks. In recent years, the walls of the southern and western towers have been damaged, as well as the entrance gate of the Castle. The castle has never been restored and is, consequently, in dire need of restoration.

### ***168-CASTLE IN THE CITY OF SARANDA***

The Castle in the City of Saranda is located in the heart of the City of Saranda, and was proclaimed a Category I Cultural Monument upon the Ordinance of 08 January 1977.

The Castle of Onhezmi (name of the site) has its ruins in the centre of the City of Saranda. It belongs to Late Antiquity and is built in three different phases. The first phase belongs to IV-Ist century BC, the second phase belongs to the I-IVth century AD, and the third phase belongs to the IV-VIth century AD. The castle has the shape of a horseshoe and surrounds 5.45 hectares of land, lies opposite the sea, where the entry Gate to the Castle is also situated. Twenty towers are built along the surrounding walls, of which only 8 have been discovered. They come in circular, rectangular and pentagram shapes, completely stretched out of the perimeter wall. The northern tower with higher walls is currently preserved. The wall is 2-2.50m thick and its height reaches up to 6.50m on the north, which is also the best preserved part of the remained castle. A "Basilica-Synagogue" is discovered within the walls of the Castle. The monument is a Paleochristian basilica of three naves, with an apse, a naos, a narthex and two northern and two southern naves dating back to the IVth-Vth century. At the end of the Vth century and the beginning of the VIth century it is thought of being transformed into a synagogue. Following restoration, the Monument is currently in good shape. Part of this encirclement is also the fragment of the wall that is preserved at the beginning of the Saranda promontory, known as the fragment of the entrance gate of Onhezmi. The condition of this fragment is good as it has been preserved in 2016. A protective belt has been built around it, however it continues to be endangered by the floodwaters, which sometimes reach the height of the fragment. The castle wall is made of stones of various sizes, connected by lime mortar. It is a massive wall of up to 2.5m wide.

### ***169-BADHRA CASTLE***

Badhra Castle is located in the Village of Borshi, Municipality of Himara, and was proclaimed a Category I Cultural Monument upon the Ordinance of 8 January 1977.

Badhra Castle is located in the southwest of the Village of Borsh and has the shape of an irregular ellipse. The castle, from the wall construction technique point of view, features a 2 m height (with untreated stones) of medium and small sizes, connected in dry, and from the archaeological material point of view, represents one of the earliest phases of the establishments of fortified settlements of the Late Bronze Age, 1500-1200 years BC. The wall line is winding, irregular, insecure, adapting to the terrain, protected from the south by the rock falls, as a gradually built construction. The surface inside the walls is partially rocky and has no residential traces. The fortification is not planned for a long time, but only to cater for resistance against robbers. These data provide the physiognomy of a residential (blood-related) settlement, where the patriarchal community is in a suitable territory for breeding of livestock.

In the southeast side there is an entrance that is thought of being the main entrance to the castle, given its position and the castle's design solution. It is 2.20 m wide and extends in the form of a 4.80m long corridor, until it meets the rock, by turning later westward and creating a solid protection. The width of the wall at this point is 2.0 m. The wall construction technique is of medium-sized untreated stone, lined up in dry. The structure of the wall is irregular, without stone wedges in the crevices created by the joints. The crevices in the gap between the two sides of the wall are filled with stones of small and medium size. The wall is 2.00 - 2.30 meters thick.

## **170-LËKURËSI CASTLE**

Lëkurësi Castle is located over Lëkurësi Hill, Municipality of Saranda, and is proclaimed a Category I Cultural Monument upon Decision No. 68/7, of 30 May 1970.

Lëkurësi Castle is located between the ruins of the abandoned Village of Lekurës in 1878, on top of a high hill rising in the shape of a pyramid. The castle has a square design of 42 m x 44 m, with two rectangular towers on the western wall. From the towers, the southeast corner tower, which reaches up to 7 m high, equal to the height of the second floor, is preserved in the best situation. The rectangular tower is located on the western wall. The first floors of the circular towers have served for storage purposes and used to have sequential turrets, about 1.20 m apart from one-another. From the placement of the towers, it is clear that the direction of the castle control was by the sea. The height of the walls reaches 6.70 m - 7 m and their thickness up to 2 m. Lëkurësi Castle used to hold a garrison with about 200 soldiers and its construction belongs to the XVth century. It may have been constructed in 1537, when Sultan Suleiman attacked Corfu and the control over Saranda pier and the Saranda-Butrinti area became a necessity, as the latter was attacked by the Venetians. The footsteps of a fresco belonging to a church are preserved in the eastern part of the castle, very close to its entrance. It is believed to date back at the end of the XVth century and beginning of the XVIIth century. Figures of evangelism, St. Michael, and so on are remarked in it. The castle is currently preserved in good condition, restored in 1994 to 1995 by the current lessees. Many of its parts have also been restored during 2002.

Many restorations have happened in the following years, such as that of the southern wall, the parapet of its western part has risen from 80 cm to 100 cm, the top of the wall is consolidated maintaining its regular line, the wall is isolated against water, etc.

- Restorations of the eastern wall have been carried out, as well as on the southern part in several places at the height of the gate.
- The wall lines have been cleared from degraded mortar along almost all the walls and are filled with fresh mortar.
- The northwest tower in a circular shape has been completed according to the existing track;
- In the rectangular tower, its northern wall is built, other walls are completed and the top of the brick walls is isolated against water.
- The Castle Gate and the main entrance are completely restored. What are taken into account during the architectural formulation of the gate are both its size and shape, the entrances of the fortifications of the XVIIIth century and the entrance of the southeast tower. The walls of the Castle are made of carved stones, lined with lime mortar and reinforced with wood bands. The walls are 6.7 m - 7m high and up to 2m thick. They are circled by a parapet, accompanied by turrets for canons. The turrets are 0.50 m high, have an interior width of 0.35 m and an exterior width of 0.04 to 0.06 m. In the frontal part, the turrets are covered with slabs, which are placed horizontally. The above technique resembles the techniques used for building of XVII-XVIIIth century houses in Gjirokastra.

## **171-RRIPËSI TOWN AND CASTLE**

Rripësi Town and Castle is located in the Village of Zminec, Municipality of Finiq, and was proclaimed a Category I Cultural Monument upon Decision No. 6, of 15 January 1963 of the Rectorate of the State University of Tirana and Decision No. 1886, of 10 June 1973, of the Ministry of Education and Science.

Rripësi Hill, with a quote of 510 m above sea level, is located about 3 km southeast of Zminec Village, on the right hand-side of the upper stream of the River Pavël. The geographical conditions, strategic defence and dominant role in the surrounding area led to the establishment of this town. The 3 hectares habitation area extends into two natural terraces suitable for construction. Its design is developed in roughly quadrilateral shape, where the steep natural rock alternates with the fortification of the southern and eastern side of the hill. Rripësi town lacks an acropolis and towers, but does instead extend along a 200 m long straight and long path, having a relatively small number of protective and functional features. The wall track follows the terrain through wide and right-angled curves, quite far from each other to the east, northeast, and southeast. The western side is not fortified due to the rugged and steep terrain. The main entrance of the town lies on the southeast side, in the direction of the pass where the main road transverses. It is located in the middle of the southeast wall length. It features deep corridors realized by the extension of two walls, one in its interior and the other in the exterior, of about 1 m wide. Architectural elements speak of a similar entrance to the *Gate of the Lake* and the *Lion's Gate* in the Ancient City of Butrint.

A second entrance of about 1 m wide and 3 m deep, served in the northeast wall for limited movement, or as an attack gate. It is frontal and has a corridor equalling the width of the wall. The first construction period is represented almost throughout the fortification planning. The



second period is represented by a bastion (tower) built on the outside of the wall, at the northeast corner of the town. It has a half circle shape with a diameter of 20m. The walls, about 1.70m wide, surrounding the small square of the top of the town without being constructively connected with the encirclement wall, are built at the same time. The southeast, outside of the surrounding wall, features the same structure. The abovementioned encirclement created perhaps a place for the ultimate protection of the inhabitants of the town, in the shape of a small acropolis. A part of the southwest wall of the town belongs to this period as well. Architecture and construction techniques speak for a later period of the II<sup>nd</sup>-I<sup>st</sup> century BC. The fortification, archaeological and numismatic material date Ripësi back to the end of IV<sup>th</sup> century BC. Currently, the condition of the monument is not good due to weather agents, vegetation (high shrubs), etc. The best preserved tract is located on the southeast side, over a length of about 125 m, 50 - 3 m thick, while the height ranges from 0.70 to 4 m. The wall is formed by two parapets with carved limestone blocks and filling of small and medium sized stones. The façade is made of trapezoidal and very rare polygonal blocks, placed in rows, which horizontal lines are constantly broken due to the uneven height of the blocks. Stemming from the wall technique, similarities can be identified with the other Epirus fortifications, such as that of Çuka e Ajtoit, Paleomanastra etc., which date back to the end of the IV<sup>th</sup> century BC.

## **172-ANTIQUITY CITY OF BUTHROT**

The antique city of Buthrot is located in Butrinti, Saranda, Municipality of Saranda, and was proclaimed a Category I Cultural Monument upon Decision No. 586, of 17 March 1948, and Decision of the Council of Ministers No. 82, of 2 March 2000.

Butrinti, the Ancient Buthrotum, lying about 3 km from the Strait of Corfu, is situated on a small hill, surrounded by the waters of Lake Butrinti, linked to the Ionian Sea by the Vivari Channel. Because of its strategic location, Butrinti is mentioned in the history of the Mediterranean since the First Peloponnesian War in the 5<sup>th</sup> century BC, up until the Napoleonic wars in the 19<sup>th</sup> century. Its monuments, built during various historical periods, reflect this long and complex history. About 18,000 years ago, the relief around Butrinti was very different from what it is today. The sea level was much lower and the Island of Corfu was merged to the continent. After 9,000 years, perhaps by tectonic movements, the sea level rose and the surrounding hills, as the likes of Xarra, Shëndëllia, Shënmitri and Kalivo, were turned into small islands.

The discovery of stone and flint tools on these islands proves that this area has been inhabited since the Paleolithic era. Butrinti, as a town, has five main parts -- the acropolis, the town extending mainly from the north, overlooking the lake, the agora on the lower part of the southern side, a neighbourhood beyond the Vivari Channel, and the necropolis, or cemetery, on the opposite hill slope, on the west side. The acropolis is the highest part of the city, where a fortification of the middle of the 7<sup>th</sup> century BC, with an area of 0.7 ha, is located. On its foundation, a real town was formed around the end of the V<sup>th</sup> century BC, surrounded by a wall of large polygonal and trapezoidal blocks, with a length of 700m. Agora is the social area, where the most important monuments are located, such as: the theatre, Temple of Asklepi, Prytaneion, Stoa, etc. and later, during the Roman period in this area, baths, forums and gymnasiums were *inter alia* constructed. The Byzantine centre is located at the far east of the forum, with monuments such as the palace of the tricycle, the baptistery, and the great basilica. Written

sources refer to Butrinti for the first time in the 6th century BC, in the book "Europe" of Greek geographer Hekateu of Miletus. In its beginnings, it was part of the Kaon Community, and later was part of the State of Epirus. At the time of Julius Caesar and Augustus, it was turned into a Roman colony. Later, it became part of the holdings of Venice, from which it got detached by Ali Pashe Tepelena. With the collapse of the Ioannina Pashalik, Butrinti passed under the Ottoman rule, which situation lasted up until 1913. In 1435, the Italian humanist Qiriako d'Ancona, who went through some of the monuments found on Earth, was the first to appreciate Butrinti for its importance as an archaeological centre.

It was the Italian archaeologist, Maria Luigi Ugolini, who, in 1928, realized in his very first campaign sensational discoveries, such as: the Gate Skea, Junia Rufina Well, Roman Baths, Baptistery and, above all, the theatre, where he found the sculpture of Dea's Head in Butrinti. The earliest settlement in Butrinti is likely to be located on the Acropolis hill, a small Late Bronze Age nucleus may have occupied the site and the highest eastern hill peak. Later, during the Hellenistic period, when Butrinti and Kaonia became part of Epirus, the city became a self-governing *koinon* called Prasaihs. Inscriptions provide a wealth of information about the way the city was governed, as well as the ethnic affiliation with Butrinti residents. During most of its ancient history, Butrinti operated as a cult centre dedicated to Asclepius, the God of Health. Many of these objects were discovered during excavations made at the shrine in the late 1920s.

Recent archaeological excavations have shown that, during the Roman period, the city expanded and extended to the Vrina Field, beyond the Vivari Channel. The new neighbourhood was built according to an urban plan. Butrinti was connected with the new neighbourhood by a bridge and the aqueduct on the upper floor, a real architectural work that enabled Butrinti's supply with water from Xarra. In Diaporit, on the outskirts of Lake Butrinti, a magnificent villa was built, with luxurious environments and gardens overlooking the lake. Inside Butrinti, at the Trikonka Palace, excavations testify to a home from the 3rd century AD. At the end of the fourth century and onwards, various reconstructions were carried out at the Trikonka Palace. But, in the 5th century AD, Butrinti fell prey to destructive vandalism. A new fortification wall was built extending across the channel, perhaps due to the vandal or Ostrogoth attacks. In Butrinti, the Baptistery and the Great Basilica were built in the second quarter of the 6th century. At the beginning of the 7th century, it was just a small village on the ruins of the Greek-Roman city. Instead of occupying the acropolis, Butrinti fortress seemed to be located in the two towers on the west side of the lower town, opposite the channel. Both towers were burned down and collapsed, sealing a small amount of objects dating back to year 800. During the 9th and 10th centuries, among the ruins of the ancient city, wooden houses and church complexes were found. Reorganization and reconstruction seems to have occurred during the Byzantine Middle age, when an administrative centre was set up in a rebuilt church complex in the area of Vrina. In the last decades of the 13th century, the leaders of the time were worried about the history of Butrinti and, as a result, establishment of new fortifications and restoration of the existing ones became a necessity and took off. In this context, the suburban wall of the lower city, the western wall and the acropolis castles were re-fortified. After the death of King Karl the IIIrd, Butrinti was bought by the Venetians in 1386, who held the town hostage up until the end of the 18th century.

Butrinti was occupied by Napoleon's soldiers in 1796. The lands around Butrinti became part of the Ottoman Empire's properties and continued to be "Turkish" until 1912. Ali Pashe Tepelenabuilt a castle at the entrance to Vivari's Channel in 1807 in order to prevent attacks from the west. Almost all the fortification lines of different periods in the acropolis are built with large coarse limestone blocks. The dwellings of the Hellenistic period are constructed with polygonal limestone blocks, connected in dry. The monuments of the Roman period use bricks and stonework lined with mortar. The structures of the Roman period follow a construction technique with small stones attached by mortar, while several construction techniques, mainly *opus incertum* with bricks in horizontal lines, *opus reticulatum*, etc. are encountered. Whereas Late Antiquity structures follow a construction technique of stone of various sizes and different shapes of mortar. Some medieval walled mosaic tracts in one of Prytaneon's premises are also used in Late Antiquity. The fortification system is very complex, because it has traces of all periods of Butrinti development.

At first, or perhaps in the middle of the early Iron Age, a square to the left of the hill may have had a protective wall. It was built with big blocks of broken ends, so they could be joined to one-another. This part was partially reconstructed later in the 1st century BC. The blocks used in this reconstruction have large dimensions (about 2x1 m) and are very heavy (4-5 tons), but are carefully cut. The sides are flat, whereas the blocks have regular polygonal shapes. For better protection, the straight line of the wall is interrupted by turrets and buttresses. The development of the city and its extension to the south in the beginning of the 3rd century BC asked for a building on a flat surface of a new wall in order to increase the city's space. This wall, built with stone blocks of rectangular shape of the same height, surrounds the area of the Temple of Asklepi, the Theatre, the Agora and continues to the Tower Gate of the Hellenistic period. About the end of Vth century, beginning of the VIth century, a new perimeter wall was built along the southern and southeast outskirts of the peninsula leaving the neighbourhood of Vrina Fushë, which in the Roman period served an integral part of Butrinti, outside the urban area of the town. The construction of the wall in Late Antiquity features a variety of construction techniques. The western fortification walls are distinguished by rows built with limestone blocks, slightly latched, connected by mortar. The Water Gate masonry is characterized by the lack of rows due to the shapelessness of the stones used, similar to the Basilica and Baptist style. The arches of this arcade are built by combining two-three tiles and a stone, the same as in the arch of the northern gate. In many tracts, the wall rises over the traces of the Hellenistic enclosure wall. The segments of the south wall of the Acropolis are built with a construction style where the thickness of the mortar bed and the generally uniform size and shape of the stones are striking. The medieval technique (end of XIth century) is known for the regular rows of limestone, slightly hewn and of average size, obtained from the earlier *spolia*. Another distinctive feature are the series of large and reused blocks, placed in a repetitive fashion, in order to create markers on the Acropolis's surrounding wall. The quadrilateral shape of the towers is another characteristic feature of Byzantine Fortifications, which continues the tradition of Justinian's fortifications. In the second quarter of the XIIIth century, the stones are combined with fragments of bricks and tiles, the frequency of use of which significantly distinguishes this technique from the previous one. All the interventions along the suburban wall of the lower town are distinguished by special features, such as the use of three or five tile fragments as filling between the stones. The irregular shape of the stones required the use of this filling technique,

as well as of abundant layers of mortar. In all cases, the masonry of this period is characterized by the presence of circular holes, which are interpreted as holes created to hold scaffolds during the wall-building process.

### **173-TOWN OF PALEOMANASTRA**

The Town of Paleomanastra is located in the Village of Karroq, Municipality of Finiq, and was proclaimed a Category I Cultural Monument upon Decision No. 06, of 14 January 1963.

The Town of Paleomanastra is located between the villages of Zminec and Karroq. It was built on the upper part of a rock (looking in the north-eastern direction), over which peri-urban roads passed, bordering Kaonia with Thesprotia. Paleomantra's Castle, with a surface of 4 ha, has a quadrilateral plan, which largest slope is the abyss, all impassable and not surrounded, whereas the other two slopes are surrounded by walls. In the west the slope is greater, whereas in the south the terrain is milder. In the middle of this side, between the two columns lies the entrance gate to the castle, while the second gate lies in the middle of the southern side. The most protected wall is that of the southern part. A small acropolis is located within the castle, in the interior areas, where the contours of some dwellings and a water drift are remained. The purpose of this castle was to control the passage from Zmineci to Karroq. Construction time dates back to the IVth century BC.

On the southern side of the hill, about 3.3 m from the first turn lies the main entrance of the castle, 2.20 m wide. The entrance is of a corridor shape, on both sides of which rise two walls. From these two walls, the one on the right handside is preserved in a better condition, reaching a maximum height of 2.26 m. From the remaining traces, it appears that the higher entrance is arched on the top, similar to that of Irmaj and Cuka e Ajtoit. Another entrance is located on the southeast side of the hill. It is 1.70 m wide, its western side is 2.38 m long and the southern side is 2.10 m long. On both terraces of the hill, debris of several platforms appear, over which surface a number of dwellings were established. The findings are scarce, with fragments of massive pithoi, Hellenistic amphorae fragments, rages of yellow coloured amphorae made of mature clay, and oval-shaped and Roman-profile cutlery. Of the different findings, the most prevailing are those of Roman times. The monument is currently in average condition, as damaged stone blocks and collapsed wall tracts are encountered. This is due to weather agents, vegetation, etc. The towers and some corner front sides are chiselled by skilled craftsmen.

In Late Antiquity, in the IVth-VIth centuries, the southern side of the castle was repaired using mortar and small stones. Tracts of the perimeter wall are distinguishable on the south and west sides. The south wall has a length of several tens of meters, is currently in a very good condition, and is 2.40 m thick and 2.50 m high. It is constructed of large, but thin blocks of stones of parallelepipedic shapes. These walls are slightly different from the walls of other castles. The blocks are not that big. Cervices between the blocks do regularly follow the horizontal and vertical lines. One particularity that distinguishes these walls from the other walls and which we do not encounter in any other settlement is the fact that, after three or four rows of large, parallelepiped rocks, come three rows of parallelepiped stones, but thinner than the former,

followed again by blocks of big stones. While descending, the wall pursues the relief of the place, making seven turns which play the role of buttresses. The entrance walls are built with the same blocks as the tract of the wall. The entry floor is paved with limestone of medium and small dimensions. The other entrance is also built with large blocks of stones. The platforms on which various dwellings have been established are constructed with dry slatestone blocks, placed one on top of the other.

#### **174-ANCIENT WALLS IN VICINITY OF THE ST. GEORGE'S MONASTERY IN DEMA**

The ancient walls in St. George's Monastery, in the place called Dema, are located in the Village of Manastir, Municipality of Saranda, and are proclaimed a Category I Cultural Monument upon Decision No. 6, of 15 January 1963.

The Wall of Dema was first discovered by Ugolini during excavations made in the ancient city of Butrinti in 1930. This wall belongs to the IVth-IIIrd century BC. It is located at the narrowest point of the Ksamili Peninsula, on the hill of St. George. The Hill of St. George's Monastery, on the one side, is bordered by the Ionian Sea and, on the other side, by the Lake Butrinti. The hill is generally rocky. The wall starts off from the seacoast, near a small natural harbour, which climbs up the hill top, passes below the Monastery and then descends to the other shore of Lake Butrinti. The wall was built in two construction phases, belonging to different periods. In general, the ancient wall has not been preserved in good condition, except for the sea side, while the medieval wall is better preserved. The ancient wall is 4 m thick and its height is equal to three rows of blocks placed one over the other in dry. The Wall of Dema was built again in the Late Antiquity (IV-I century AD). The masonry contains ancient stonewall blocks, used for a second time. It seems that the wall has served as a barrier to protect Ksamili Peninsula, both in ancient times and in the Middle Ages. Near the Ionian Sea coast, it ends with a tower with a frontal length of 9 m and a height of 8 rows of stone blocks, totalling to 5.60 m. The tower was built with the same technique used for building the wall. Today, the ancient walls near St. George's Monastery and the Tower at its end are not in good shape, needing restoration and wall consolidation works. The ancient wall is 4 m wide and it is built with dry stone blocks, placed one on top of the other. It is finely worked, from all sides. The crevice between blocks form regular horizontal lines. The structures forming the blocks are arranged in a regular manner, with different sizes of 2.20 x 0.75; 0.88 x 0.77. Due to the damage, the wall has a varying height, ranging from 0.20 m to 1.10 meters from the land quota. The medieval wall has a thickness of 1.80 m. It is built with small stones and lined with lime mortar.

#### **175-ANCIENT WALLS**

The ancient walls are located in the Village of Çukë, Municipality of Saranda, and are proclaimed a Category I Cultural Monument upon decision No. 6, of 15 January 1963.

The ancient walls (the site) are located in the Village of Çuka. A tower with a quadrilateral design rises in vicinity of the house of the peasant Jani Çami. The walls of this tower are well preserved on three sides, while the fourth side is totally missing. They are built with large stone

blocks. The blocks adhere well to one-another and form a regular horizontal row between them. In some places, the wall reaches a height of 4 m, while its thickness is equal to the thickness of the stone block. Traces of murals are also evident in the houses of the villagers Vangel Vroni and Thoma Papa. These walls are also constructed with large blocks of stones placed in a parallelepipedic format. Judging from the construction technique and the various findings, this settlement was established around the IVth-IIIrd century BC. The walls of this tower are constructed of large blocks, connected in dry, with dimensions ranging from 0.60 x 0.53 to 1.42 x 0.60 m. The stones are carved and the wall is constructed in a regular fashion. A part of the ancient wall is damaged.

### **176-ANCIENT WALLS IN THE VILLAGE OF HUNDËCOVË**

The ancient walls in the Village of Hundëcovë are located in the Village of St. Vassilius, Municipality of Himarë, and are proclaimed a Category I Cultural Monument upon Decision No. 6 of 15 January 1963 of the Rectorate of the State University of Tirana, and Decision No. 1886, of 10 June 1973 of the Ministry of Education and Science.

They are located on the left side of Borshi-Saranda road, about 5 km after passing Lukova, in front of the ruins of the Village of Hundëcova, in the place called *Qafa e Pazarit*. The topology of these ancient walls is also called Hundësove. On the slope of Mount Shebenik, over the highway lie three ancient wall terraces, placed parallel to one-another. The first wall is about 60 m long, looking over the east-west direction, 3, 50 m thick and 1.60 m high. About 4 m above it, there is another 3 m long terrace wall, 3.20 m wide and 1- 1.60 m high. Parallel to these walls is a third 30m long and 2.7m wide wall. Perpendicular to the second terrace wall lies another 2.5 m long and 3 m thick wall. To the southwest of these walls lies another wall, which is 10 m long and 2.8 m thick. But, wall tracks of buildings and Hellenistic pottery, and Hellenistic and Roman tiles are also found in the area. We are dealing with a small settlement, or, perhaps a road station dating back to the IVth-IIIrd century BC. The structure of the walls is made up of stone blocks with different shapes and sizes placed on a regular fashion. The first wall is constructed of limestone blocks of white trapezoidal shape.

### **177-ANCIENT TEMPLE**

The ancient temple is located in the Village of Metoq, Municipality of Saranda, and is proclaimed a Category I Cultural Monument upon Decision No. 6 of 15 January 1963 of the Rectorate of the State University of Tirana and Decision No. 1886, of 10 June 1973 of the Ministry of Education and Science.

It is located in the right handside of Saranda-Delvina road, over one of the hills of the Village of Metoq. Traces of the temple are present on the hillside (or a rural fortified villa of the Hellenistic period), built with big stone blocks, with a good work quality from the exterior sides and puffed up from the front side. The stone blocks are arranged in dry, fitting well on one-another. The wall thickness equals the block thickness, 0.90 m, while the protected height reaches to 1.30 m. The temple has a quadrilateral design, of dimensions of 10x10,5m. Traces of walls are also visible

around the Temple, which, apparently, are related to it. Fragments of different dishes, such as looms and Hellenistic and Roman amphora ends are also found on the surface of the hill. The Temple walls are made of massive stone blocks, lined in dry, and placed in a regular fashion from the construction point of view. The wall thickness reaches to 0.90 m, while in different places, its height is 1.30 m. Nowadays, parts of the walls are damaged and the stones have been displaced from their initial position.

### ***178-MOSAIC AT THE END OF 1 MAJI NEIGHBOURHOOD***

The mosaic at the end of 1 Maji Neighbourhood is located at 1 Maji Neighbourhood, Municipality of Saranda, District of Saranda, and was proclaimed a Category I Cultural Monument by Decision No. 1886, of 10 June 1973.

Different constructions are made over years in the place where the mosaic was initially located. In that place, there are no traces of the mosaic. The National Culture Sector of Saranda has asked for striking this monument off the list of immovable monuments of cultural heritage.

### ***179-MOSAIC AT THE POST OFFICE***

The Mosaic at the Post Office is located within the archaeological museum, District of Saranda, and was proclaimed a Category I Cultural Monument upon Decision No 1886, of 15 January 1963.

The mosaic is located in the first floor of the former Post Office building.

It was discovered in 1968 by the archaeologist Dhimosten Budina.

It dates back to Late Antiquity. This hall was discovered during the construction of the Post Office building (the old building). It has seen light in fragments and represents the premises of a construction of the IIIrd century of our area. According to the archaeologists in charge of the discovery, the mosaic features traces of interventions to transform it into a cult object (Basilica of the VIth century of our area). The mosaic is 12.8 m x 11 m and is composed of three parts: the emblem, the frame and the side motifs. It is built of small stones and lime mortar. In some places the mosaic is damaged and distorted; the eastern part varies from the western part, mainly featuring geometric figures (arches, squares and spirals) and birds, the most beautiful of which is the "Peacock drinking water from the glass". Apparently, 1-2 centuries after the first decoration phase, the mosaic's masters have found themselves confronted with new ideas, mainly related to the new functions of the building. In 2009, the mosaic was restored by experts of the Institute of Cultural Monuments and Bologna University in Italy. The mosaic is currently in good condition. The mosaic is currently located within a hall built of stone walls in its three sides, and with columns in the southern side, in order to get the maximum lighting. The cover of the hall is realized by an a/b caisson type construction.

### ***180-ST. MARENA CAVE IN MOUNT BOGAZ***

St. Marena Cave in Mount Bogaz is located in the Village of Vagalat, Municipality of Finiq, and was proclaimed a Category I Cultural Monument upon Decision No. 6, of 15 January 1963 of the Rectorate of the State University of Tirana, and Decision No. 1886, of 10 June 1973, of the Ministry of Education and Science.

St. Marena Cave is located over Bogazi Pass, in one of the peaks of Mount Milesë, looking south-eastwards. It is 6 m high x 3,50 m wide x 7 m depth. It dates back in early Paleolithis. It is made up of two escalations of a difference of about 2 meters, where two areas are created. It was discovered at Bogazi Pass by the Italian archaeological mission in the '30s. First excavations were realised in 1939 by L. Cardini. During the excavations, Cardini saw that the cultural remnants were divided into two layers. In the first layer, the soil was friable and mixed with fragments of ceramics of late periods. In the second layer, the soil was condensed and, according to Cardini, objects dating back to upper Paleolithic were discovered there, namely two flint scrapers, one with a wider head, which were overly consumed because of their frequent and long use. In addition, bones of a wild goat and fire ashes were also discovered. A Medieval saint is painted on the left handside of a flat rock, but it has been damaged of trikes by a stern object. After the '90s, representatives of the Autocheapalous Church have intervened in the monument by building a wooden staircase in order to facilitate access to the place. It is a characteristic cave formed by lime formations.

#### **181-ST. GEORGE'S CAVE**

St. George's Cave is located in the Village of Dhivër, Municipality of Finiq, and was proclaimed a Category I Cultural Monument upon Decision No. 6, of 15 January 1963 of the Rectorate of the State University of Tirana, and Decision No. 1886, of 10 June 1973, of the Ministry of Education and Science.

It is located north of the Village of Dhivra, on the mountain side. Built in the XVII-XVIIIth century on a rocky stone, St. George's cave, apparently, must have served as a chapel for the hermits. The chapel in question consists of the naos (4,35 x 2,00 m) and two bumps on the eastern side, engraved on the rock, of which one is larger (2,10 x 1,60 m) and the other, smaller (1.35 x 1.20 m), while the narthex is 5.40 x 2.5 m. Over the largest bump lies a prothesis niche (0.54 x 0.45 m), which is carved on the rock and is vaulted in its upper part. The interior sides of the chapel, almost for the most part are plastered and covered by mural paintings. The chapel has a door, which is in good condition, and two windows. It has not been restored during the recent years. All the walls are painted, but darkened by the candle smoke. Saint George's chapel is built on a mountainous side, supported over a rock. On the western side, it is knotted by a wall, partly supported by a rock and partially by a wooden roof. The roof used to be covered with slate blocks and tiles, while nowadays it is covered with a damaged tin. In the present situation, a part of the wall on the southern side is damaged and the protective metal gate is removed.

#### **182-BRIDGE IN LESHNICË E SIPËRME**



The Bridge in Leshnicë e Sipërme is located in the Village of Leshnicë e Sipërme, Municipality of Finiq, and was proclaimed a Category I Cultural Monument upon Decision No. 266/1, of 16 February 1979.

The bridge is located in the village of Leshnicë e Sipërme, above the River Leshnica, adjacent to St. George's Church. The bridge dates back to the XVII-XVIIIth century. The bridge consists of a small circular arch and a facilitating window on its right. The facilitating window has a circular arch above itself, with a 1-meter lighting space. Arched bridges are the most prevalent type of bridges in Albania. Depending on the line that aligns the cobblestone level of bridges with their vault, be it semi-circular, segmental, or arrow-shaped, from the architectural and functional treatment point of view, these bridges are ridged or bumped on the keystone and have a flat cobbled roadway level. The bridge in question belongs to the same type of bridges as well. This bridge is used to connect the village neighbourhoods with its centre. The bridge is built of a stone vuossoir. It is 9.45 m long and 2 m wide. The structure of the bridge is realized with stone masonry and lime mortar. The radius of the large bridge's arch is 2.3m and its stone ring is made of thick limestone. This arch is constructed with chiselled stones, placed symmetrically. The bridge's cobblestone width is 2m. It was made of irregular-shaped river stones. Currently, the bridge is in good condition.

### ***183-BRIDGE IN LESHNICË E POSHTME***

The Bridge in Leshnicë e Poshtme is located in the Village of Leshnicë e Poshtme, Municipality of Finiq, and was proclaimed a Category I Cultural Monument upon Decision No. 266/1, of 16 February 1979.

It is located at the end of the Village of Leshnicë e Poshtme, on the right side of the motorway. It used to serve to cross the Leshnica Stream to the village. It features an arch with a light space of 6 m. The bridge is 11 m long and rises 4.5 m high above water level. The bridge cobble way is 2 m wide, staggered on both sides. On the left, the cobbleroad is flat, while on the right side it declines. It was built in the XIXth century.

The bridge is preserved in good shape, with only its pavement a little damaged, thus needing restoration. The bridge underwent interventions, with the installation of the sidewalks (in an arch shape), fixed over concrete bands. It is built with stone and polished vaults, with sloping supports. It consists of only one arch, of a broken type. The cobbleway is made of pumice, as are the shore walls. The cobblestone is made of pumice stones.

### ***184-BRIDGE IN VILLAGE OF CERKOVICA, OVER THE RIVER THEOLOGOS***

The bridge in the Village of Cerkovica, over the River Theologos, is located in the Village of Cerkovica, Municipality of Finiq, and was proclaimed a Category I Cultural Monument upon Decision No. 266/1, of 16 February 1979.

It is located in the Village of Cerkovica. It was built in the XVIIIth century.

The road connecting Cerkovica, with the centre of "Partizani" area, and with the mountainous villages of Grazhdan, Zminec and other neighbouring areas, passes over this bridge.

The bridge's cobbleway, which is 37 m long, 2.6 m wide and with a maximum height of 5.6 m above the water level, is curved, with two pitches on both arches' keystones, and with a descend from the centre and the coast sides. It was made of irregular stones rocks. In the curved part, in the distance of 1 meter there are belts of slab stone placed vertically on the cobblestone. The bridge of Cerkovica is of interest from the construction and architectural point of view. The structure of the bridge is made of a stone construction, lined up with lime mortar, with two half-circular arches of different sizes. The big arch is 5 m and the small one is 4,4 m. The voussoir is made of horizontally aligned limestone slabs, connected with lime mortar. On the front side, the arches are bordered (from above) by a stone frame. The middle support in between the two arches, is in the shape of an irregular prism with a triangular basis of 3 m. The bridge's filling walls are built with round-shaped river stones.

### ***185-REMAINS OF XARRA WATERWORKS IN THE VILLAGE OF XARRË***

The remains of the waterworks in the Village of Xarrë are located in the Village of Xarrë, Municipality of Konispol, and were proclaimed a Category I Cultural Monument upon decision Decision No. 6, of 15 January 1963 of the Rectorate of the State University of Tirana, and Decision No. 1886, of 10 June 1973, of the Ministry of Education and Science.

Xarra Waterworks mark one of the greatest architectural engineering works of the Roman Empire ever undertaken in the territories of Illyria and Epirus and represents a rare development in its territories. During the excavation campaign, Ugolini had noticed the ruins of the two feet of a Roman waterworks near Lake Butrinti, in the area of Xarra. The dense forest and the surrounding marshland did not allow him to trace any further. In 1962, as a result of the deforestation and land reclamation in this area, conditions occurred for the performance of another archaeological tracing. The waterworks tracks are present across the whole area of Vrina (the area of ancient Kestrina), up to the hill above which the Village of Xarra rises. Butrinti's waterworks has a southeast – northwest direction, with a small deviation eastwards. The waterworks have not been preserved for the most part, and the remaining traces are heavily damaged by agricultural works. The best preserved part of the waterworks is that passing between the Hill of Shëndëllia and that of Dhimitri. During the tracing work, 38 other feet were discovered, in addition to the two feet that were discovered before. An aqueduct, collecting water from many surrounding springs, is built on the northern side of the Xarra Hills. The water flowed by gravity in ceramic pipelines of large dimensions over the duct bends. The distance from the supposed sources of the Xarra Hill to Butrinti (straight line) is not more than 3 km. As a result, stemming from the distance of 4.5 m of from one foot to the other, it can be assumed that Butrinti waterworks should have had 66 feet and arches. Also, judging from the engineering technique and from a coin issued at the time in the City of Butrinti, it is possible that this monument was built during the rule of the Roman Emperor Augustus. The waterworks were built with arches. The distance between the two feet forming the waterworks arch is 4.5 m. The feet are built of bricks and limestone slabs, connected by a thick layer of mortar. The monument

is currently not a good state, as only four feet are still remained and six others are to the foundation level.

#### **186-THE WATER SPRING**

The water spring is located in the Village of Pllakë, more specifically in the entry of the village, in the District of Saranda, and was proclaimed a Category I Cultural Monument upon Decision No. 266/1, of 16 February 1979.

In the place where the water spring was located, in the Village of Pllakë, no traces of it are inherited nowadays. The National Cultural Sector of Saranda has asked for this monument to be stricken off the list of the monuments of immovable cultural heritage. The monument is completely damaged and no traces of it do currently exist.

#### **187-QUARRY IN SHKALLA HILL, KONISPOL, AND THE SURROUNDING PROTECTED AREA**

The quarry over Shkalla Hill, Konispol, and the protected area surrounding it, are located in the Village of Shkalla, Municipality of Konispol, and were proclaimed a category I Cultural Monument upon Order No. 463, of 08 January 1977, and Ordinance of 17 November 2009.

It is the first of its kind in Albania. Its traces were found on the southwest edge of the hill, to the left of the River Pavel, which, according to the archaeologist Dhimosten Budina, is called by locals as "Brezi i Shkallës". There, some carved canals for splitting blocks of stones, of varying proportions, were found. The canals are opened in straight parallel lines between them, perpendicularly interrupted by other canals identical to the former ones. Elipsoidal pits, 0.16 - 0.18 m apart, and of a diameter of 0.06 - 0.08 m, 0.14 - 0.15 m, are open inside the canals. The depth of the holes reaches to 0.18 - 0.20 m from the surface of the rock.

These canals were found open on the surface of the 4th and 5th layer rocks. On a small square, there are some large untreated blocks of rocks, placed one on top of the other. They are placed as they were extracted from the quarry. Given the short distance of the quarry from the town to Çuça e Ajtoit, we think that the quarry has served this ancient city. It is also assumed to have served the Malathres Villa and the Town of Butrinti, located on its west. These monuments date back to the IVth-IIIrd century BC, which coincides with the time of operation of this antique quarry. The monument is currently preserved in average condition, since some of it has been damaged during the construction of the automobile road from the "Aegek" Company. Its geological formation consists of limestone layers, located one above the other.

#### **188-ST. GEORGE MONASTERY**

St. George Monastery is located in the Village of Çuka, Municipality of Saranda, and was proclaimed a Category I Cultural Monument upon Decision No. 6, of 15 January 1963.

The monastery is situated on a hill rising to the narrowest strip of land dividing the Ionian Sea with Lake Butrinti, at the top of the Ksamili Peninsula. The church and three buildings are remained from the monastery. The monastery is surrounded by a tall, strong stone wall, where many turret openings are located. A building is located southeast of the church, near the perimeter wall, at the highest point, from where a wide view opens in all sides. Its position and its enclosed shape should have served for observation and protection purposes. Connection between the floors is realized with an exterior stone staircase that ends on a verandah, supported on a vault. Another two-storey and open building is located on the south-western side of the church. On the ground floor, the gallery opens with an arcade over thick stone columns, while on the upper floor it is more elegant and rises over stone columns. The naos, narthex and altar are preserved in their full form in the church. The naos has one nave, with dimensions of 8.20 x 5.40 m. The altar area is separated by a wall iconostasis with three entrances. It contains the broad apse, stretching outwards, the bema and the diakonikon prothesis' niches. The structural solution dates the church back at the end of the XVIIth century, beginning of XVIIIth century. Currently the Monastery and the Church are preserved in very good condition, after being completely restored in 2008 by Metropolia Gjirokastra. The masonry of the building on the south-eastern side is built of stones connected with lime mortar and is reinforced with wood belts, which cannot be seen from the outside. The naos hall is divided into three parts. The centre section featuring a square configuration is covered with a dome on the drum, while the two sides are covered with cylindrical vaults. Composition of the interior space reflects the exterior volume composition. The pyramid-shaped composition features the drum holding the dome at the centre, which rises above the cubic volume of the central part.

### ***189-ST. MARY'S MONASTERY***

St. Mary's Monastery is located in the Village of NIVICA, Municipality of Himara, and was proclaimed a Category I Cultural Monument upon Decision No. 06, of 15 January 1963.

It is built on a rocky shore, in a protected and picturesque natural setting, where a wide view of the coastal landscape opens up. The church, the tower, and a building with a reception room are nowadays preserved from the Monastery. The church, painted in 1672, is a cross-shaped-type construction, with a drum and interior dimensions of 7.90 x 4.40m. The naos's protracted proportions have led to an uneven development of the wings of the cross. In the central part, the dome rises over a high drum. The angular sections are covered with cylindrical vaults that open up to the central niche. The altar area is separated by a stonewall iconostasis, with three entrance spaces. In the exterior view, both the apse and the drum are multifaceted. The interior is illuminated by the windows, open to the north and south wall, as well as the narrow windows in the apse and the drum. The roof is double-pitched, interrupted in the centre by the drum. The belfry, associated with an arched space, rises on the front of the western wall.

The building with a porch was built in 1762, and it is a two-storey construction. The tower, or the fortified building, is a three-storey construction of a closed character, with small and rare lighting spaces. The monastery's courtyard was paved with stone slabs. Currently, the monument is not in good shape. It needs restoration. The masonry of the church is made of stone

and lime mortar. It ends with a thin stone frame. The apse and the drum are plastered with a thin layer of mortar. The roof is covered with stone slabs. On the second floor of the building comes a gallery supported on the vault, which opens to the forefront with a row of wooden pilasters. The entry of the second floor of the tower, or of the fortified dwelling, is realized with an external stone staircase over the cylindrical vault.

### **190-ST. MARY'S MONASTERY**

St. Mary's Monastery is located in the Village of Kakome, Municipality of Himara, and is proclaimed a Category I Cultural Monument upon Decision No. 6, of 15 January 1963, of the Rectorate of the State University of Tirana, Decision No. 68/7, of 30 May 1970, of the Ministry of Education and Science, and Decision No. 1886, of 10 June 1973, of the Ministry of Education and Science.

The Kakome Monastery, a XVIIIth century construction, is located about 10km away from Saranda, along the Coast Road, 1 km from the bay with the same name, located on the Ionian coast. The monastery has a fortified tower on the northeast edge of the yard. In the centre of the complex lies the church of Saint Mary, a XVI-XVIIth century construction, with a host area on the west side and with interior wall paintings. The Monastery's areas are currently preserved only in the shape of ruins. The Church belongs to the group of churches having three developed apses, both from the architectural and the structural aspects. It consists of the naos and the altar area, separated from one-another by a wooden iconostasis of no artistic value. The naos is of a cross-shaped type, with a dome, three apses, with interior dimensions of 6.80 x 3.70 m. The naos is illuminated by 4 windows along the aisle apse, while the altar space has 3 small windows. It is painted in 1672 by the painter Mihal Jerma. It was restored in 2010 by *Metropolia Gjirokastra* (phase I). The church walls are constructed on a regular fashion, with untreated limestone of horizontal tendencies, affixed with lime mortar. In the upper part, they finish with two-tiered stone frames. The roof is covered with tiles, is double-pitched, with the higher part on the south and north ends of the cross, resembling dome basilicas. The angular sections are covered with cylindrical vaults, which open up to the central nave. In the interior of the church, the square nucleus on which the 8-faceted dome with the drum rises, is placed over four columns.

### **191-RUINS OF FOURTY SAINTS MONASTERY**

The ruins of the Forty Saints Monastery are located in the Village of Gjashtë, Municipality of Saranda, and are proclaimed a Category I Cultural Monument upon Decision 68/7, of 30 May 1970, of the Ministry of Education and Science, and Decision No. 1886, of 10 June 1973, of the Ministry of Education and Science.

The Forty Saints Monastery is located east of the City of Saranda, on the top of the Gjashta Hill, in its most dominant part. The Monastery belongs to Late Antiquity, VIth century. It is 40 m long by 24 m wide. The Monastery has been built and rebuilt over hundreds of years. On the ground floor, it consists of a large hall, a church with seven apses and two narthexes, three large

doors and two rows of windows built on its façade. On the underground floor lie the galleries, vault galleries, double vaults, Byzantine frescoes, water cisterns and tombs. Today, the underground floor is kept in somewhat good condition, whereas the groundfloor has been severely damaged during the Second World War by bombardments of the British aircrafts. It needs consolidating and restorative interventions. The interior basilica has a unique design; it is a seven-cone figure, with three columns to each nave and an apse stretched to the eastern façade. The construction with such design should have had a magnificent roof with crucified vaults, supported on the half-domes of the seven apses. Two narthexes or yards are located on the west and south side of the construction. It houses two arcade corridors, with lodges in each of them, offering panoramas of the Bay of Saranda and the Strait of Corfu. The double arches are made of stones, handled as if they were bricks. The eastern apse was illuminated by three grandiose windows and, further on, at the same low level, there was another window for each eastern wall. These eastern walls were interrupted on the ground floor by vaulted openings, which could have been either two doors, or one door and one niche. At the entrance leading to the underground longitudinal area, covered with a unique vault, lie two large catacomb overlapping vaults, one on top of the other, in two storeys, incorporated under the big exterior vault, with the lower vault serving entrance into the underground basilica. In the part of the underground chapels there are series of mural paintings starting from the cross, palm trees, various trees, figures of saints and monks etc.

## ***192-EPISCOPATE BASILICA AND THE PROTECTED AREA***

The Episcopate Basilica and the protected area are located in the Village of Nivicë, Municipality of Himarë, and was proclaimed a Category I Cultural Monument upon Decision No. 211, of 18 May 2009.

The Episcopate Basilica is located in the southeast of the Village of Nivica. It is a three-nave basilica with three apses, a narthex and an altar area. The sanctuary, the prothesis, and the diakonikon, each equipped with apses, are clearly divided between them. The basilica's dimensions are 16 m x 12.4 m. The interior apses are the same, all semi-circular, whereas on the exterior they are different. The central apse is three-sided, while the northern and southern apses are semi-circular. The naves, along with the altar premises, are separated from each other by arches supported over two walled columns of the same length of 2 m. Each nave communicates with the narthex with an entry (1.25 m, 1.12 m, 1.10m). The floor is paved with the *opus sectile* technique, making use of river stones and geometric motifs.

A treasure of 149 pieces of coins with a small percentage of silver was found on the site. They are all emissions of the Despot of Epirus, Jon Orsini (1323-1335). Its destruction and abandonment is related to the events of 1336, when Andronicus the IIIrd undertook an expedition to Illyria and Epirus. The construction date may be the XIIth century. The time when this small basilica started to be used as an episcopate headquarters by the Bishop of Butrinti cannot be determined; neither can the reasons for its use (be determined) due to the complicated situation during the XII-XIVth century. The monument is currently preserved in good condition. The building technique of the church is with stone and brick belts, connected with light brown mortar. The stones have irregular shape. On the wall of the central apse and on the better preserved northern

wall, the bricks are placed in a horizontal row across the entire thickness of the wall. The tiles used for the floor are of stone, while sandstone is used for the detailed work as well.

### ***193-ST. NICHOLAS MONASTERY CHURCH***

St. Nicholas Monastery Church is located in the Village of Dhivër, Municipality of Finiq, and is proclaimed a Category I Cultural Monument upon Decision No. 6, of 15 January 1963, of the Rectorate of the State University of Tirana, Decision No. 68/7, of 30 May 1970, of the Ministry of Education and Science, and Decision No. 1886, of 10 June 1973, of the Ministry of Education and Science.

It is located on the top of Dhivër Village. It is a one-naved and three-apse church, with exterior dimensions of 5.08x17m. It has the shape of an elongated quadrilateral with a central dome, followed by two lateral sides. It consists of the naos, the narthex and the altar. The narthex is added to the naos on the western side in a later period. The naos is divided into three parts by two couples of pilasters in the northern and southern walls. The hall is divided into three parts through two pairs of pilasters: in the central part, covered with a dome mounted over a drum, and in the two side parts, with cylindrical vaults raised over the drum. The drum is eight-sided and has windows covered by a brick arch in each side. The narthex has an extended quadrilateral shape, and is connected to the naos with an arched space. The altar space contains an apse extended beyond the bema, and the prothesis and diakonikon niches. The church was built in the XVI-XVIIth century. It has gone through later different building periods, but has nonetheless retained the previous structure. It was painted in 1736. The church is built with limestone masonry and lime mortar. The roof is constructed of wooden construction and covered with tiles, while the part of the dome on the naos is covered with stone slabs. The drum rests on the vaults of the side parts and on the small cones of the side apse. The narthex is covered with a double-pitched wooden roof, which is lower than the church roof. The stone masonry thickness is 50-60 cm. The corners of the gates and windows are constructed of untreated stone. The murals and the apses end with a lightly profiled stone frame.

### ***194-MAVRODHIVRI ST. MARY'S MONASTERY CHURCH***

St. Mary's Monastery Church in Mavrodhivri is located in the Village of Dhivër and is proclaimed a Category I Cultural Monument upon Decision No. 6, of 15 January 1963, of the Rectorate of the State University of Tirana, Decision No. 68/7, of 30 May 1970, of the Ministry of Education and Science, and Decision No. 1886, of 10 June 1973, of the Ministry of Education and Science.

It is located about 3 km above the Village of Dhivër. It was built at the end of the XVIth century. It consists of the naos, the narthex and the altar. The first is 7,30 m x 4, 80 m and is divided into three naves, of which the central nave is higher than those of the two sides. The naos is illuminated by small windows and gets connected to the narthex on the western side. The altar

area contains the prothesis niche and the bema apse. The church was painted in 1604 by Mihali and Kostandini, from the Village of Gramoz. It counts 5 windows, all in poor condition. In 1998, the Regional Directorate of Cultural Monuments of Saranda restored only its roof. Currently, the Church is not in good shape, the roof is damaged, as are the exterior door and the windows. Its frescoes are damaged at the bottom, 1 meter from the floor, while the upper part is in good condition. The church is of a basilica type, covered with a vault system.

The masonry is built with stones lined with lime mortar. The windows are small, with brick arches made of hewn stones. From the outside, what is striking is the elongated volume covered with a double-pitched roof. The roof construction is of two types; the naos with a stone vault, and the narthex covered with a wooden construction roof. Characteristic feature are the pilasters located on the longitudinal walls, connected between themselves with arches in a transverse direction.

### ***195-KRIMANOVA ST. MARY'S MONASTERY CHURCH***

Krimanova St. Mary's Monastery Church is located in the Village of Piqeras, Municipality of Himara, and is proclaimed a Category I Cultural Monument upon Decision No. 6, of 15 January 1963, of the Rectorate of the State University of Tirana, and Ordinance of 8 January 1977, of the Ministry of Education and Science.

It is located in the Village of Piqeras and has a wide view to the sea. The church constitutes the compositional centre of the monastery, built in 1672, which is preserved today in a semi-collapsed state. It consists of the naos and the narthex on the western side. The naos is of a basilica type, with a three-apsidal dome with inner dimensions of 8.30 x 4.60 m. Two rows of columns divide the naos into three longitudinal naves. On the western side, the naos is linked to the two-storey narthex. Entrance into the second floor of the narthex is realised via exterior staircases, which also serve the purpose of accessing the monastery's inns. The drum in the central part of the double-pitched roof and the low apses' volumes have failed to give dynamism to the volume composition.

The masonry is made of stone and lime mortar. Plastering was done at a later time and covered the brick frames, as well as external apse shapes. The central nave is covered with a cylindrical vault that is interrupted in the central part by the dome rising on a high drum. The columns are connected to the adjacent walls by arches and, with the side naves, have created a series of isolated nuclei, covered with cylindrical vaults that open up to the central nave.

### ***196-ST. MARY'S CHURCH***

St. Mary's Church is located in the Village of Malçan, District of Saranda, and was proclaimed a Category I Cultural Monument upon Decision 68/7, of 30 May 1970, of the Ministry of Education and Science, and Decision No. 1886, of 10 June 1973, of the Ministry of Education and Science.

It is located in the Village of Malcan in Dhivër. It is a post Byzantine Church, with a cross-shaped structure, and with a dome, built at the end of the XVIth century - early XVIIth century. It



consists of the naos and the narthex on the western side. The naos is of a cross shape, with a dome, with interior dimensions of 6.60 x 5.90 m, but its compositional features and structural construction are still not brought together. The altar area, which is divided with a wooden iconostasis, supported on the eastern pair of the columns, features the bema and the apse, extended outside, and only a niche for the prothesis. On the western side, the naos is connected to the narthex. The interior structure is reflected in the church's exterior view. In the central part rises a drum that holds the dome, which is detached through a basement elevated from the roof of the cross wings. A dynamic voluminous and escalated composition is thus created.

Unlike the barren church masonry, the drum is highly decorated. It features 12 escalated niches and windows, covered with brick arches, over which a flat frieze decorated with tile bricks is developed. The drum finishes up with a very extended frame, consisting of brick rows placed in a saw-shape format, and of three rows of slabs.

The church was built with stones, aligned in thin mortar. The masonry ends with a saw-shaped frame. Four heavy columns limit the central part of the naos, covered with a dome on a drum, which, with its relatively small dimensions, could not prevail in the interior space. The wings of the cross are covered with a cylindrical vault, approaching it to the basilica with a drum-type construction. The narthex is simple, covered with a roofless wooden roof. The church is currently preserved not in good shape, as the roof leaks. In the western part, there is a vertical fracture of the masonry, near the entrance gate.

### ***197-ST. MARY'S MONASTERY***

St. Mary's Monastery is located in the Village of Nivice, Municipality of Himara, and was proclaimed a Category I Cultural Monument upon Decision No. 06, of 15 January 1963.

It is built on a rocky shore, in a protected and picturesque natural setting, where a wide view of the coastal landscape opens up. The church, the tower, and a building with a reception room are nowadays preserved from the Monastery. The church, painted in 1672, is a cross-shaped-type construction, with a drum and interior dimensions of 7.90 x 4.40m. The naos's protracted proportions have led to an uneven development of the wings of the cross. In the central part, the dome rises over a high drum. The angular sections are covered with cylindrical vaults that open up to the central niche. The altar area is separated by a stonewall iconostasis, with three entrance spaces. In the exterior view, both the apse and the drum are multifaceted. The interior is illuminated by the windows, open to the north and south wall, as well as the narrow windows in the apse and the drum. The roof is double-pitched, interrupted in the centre by the drum. The belfry, associated with an arched space, rises on the front of the western wall.

The building with a porch was built in 1762, and is a two-storey construction. The tower, or the fortified building, is a three-storey construction of a closed character, with small and rare lighting spaces. The monastery's courtyard was paved with stone slabs. Currently, the monument is not in good shape. It needs restoration. The masonry of the church is made of stone and lime mortar. It ends with a thin stone frame. The apse and the drum are plastered with a thin layer of mortar. The roof is covered with stone slabs. On the second floor of the building comes a gallery supported on the vault, which opens to the forefront with a row of wooden

pilasters. The entry to the second floor of the tower, or to the fortified dwelling, is realized with an external stone staircase over the cylindrical vault.

### **198-ST. MARY'S MONASTERY**

St. Mary's Monastery is located in the Village of Kakome, Municipality of Himara, and is proclaimed a Category I Cultural Monument upon Decision No. 6, of 15 January 1963, of the Rectorate of the State University of Tirana, Decision No. 68/7, of 30 May 1970, of the Ministry of Education and Science, and Decision No. 1886, of 10 June 1973, of the Ministry of Education and Science.

The Kakome Monastery, a XVIIIth century construction, is located about 10 km away from Saranda, along the Coast Road, 1 km from the bay with the same name, located on the Ionian coast. The monastery has a fortified tower on the northeast edge of the yard. In the centre of the complex lies the church of Saint Mary, a XVI-XVIIth century construction, with a host area on the west side and with interior wall paintings. The Monastery's areas are currently preserved only in the shape of ruins. The Church belongs to the group of churches having three developed apses, both from the architectural and the structural aspects. It consists of the naos and the altar area, separated from one-another by a wooden iconostasis of no artistic value. The naos is of a cross-shaped type, with a dome, three apses, with interior dimensions of 6.80 x 3.70 m. The naos is illuminated by 4 windows along the aisle apse, while the altar space has 3 small windows. It is painted in 1672 by the painter Mihal Jerma. It was restored in 2010 by *Metropolia Gjirokastra* (phase I). The church walls are constructed on a regular fashion, with untreated limestone of horizontal tendencies, affixed with lime mortar. In the upper part, they finish with two-tiered stone frames. The roof is covered with tiles, is double-pitched, with the higher part on the south and north ends of the cross, resembling dome basilicas. The angular sections are covered with cylindrical vaults, which open up to the central nave. In the interior of the church, the square nucleus on which the 8-faceted dome with the drum rises, is placed over four columns.

### **199-RUINS OF THE FORTY SAINTS MONASTERY**

The ruins of the Forty Saints Monastery are located in the Village of Gjashtë, Municipality of Saranda, and are proclaimed a Category I Cultural Monument upon Decision 68/7, of 30 May 1970, of the Ministry of Education and Science, and Decision No. 1886, of 10 June 1973, of the Ministry of Education and Science.

The Forty Saints Monastery is located east of the City of Saranda, on the top of the Gjashta Hill, in its most dominant part. The Monastery belongs to Late Antiquity, VIth century. It is 40 m long by 24 m wide. The Monastery has been built and rebuilt over hundreds of years. On the ground floor, it consists of a large hall, a church with seven apses and two narthexes, three large doors and two rows of windows built on its façade. On the underground floor lie the galleries, vault galleries, double vaults, Byzantine frescoes, water cisterns and tombs. Today, the underground floor is kept in somewhat good condition, whereas the ground floor has been severely damaged during the Second World War by bombardments of the British aircrafts. It

needs consolidating and restorative interventions. The interior basilica has a unique design; it is a seven-cone figure, with three columns to each nave and an apse stretched to the eastern façade. The construction with such design should have had a magnificent roof with crucified vaults, supported on the half-domes of the seven apses. Two narthexes or yards are located on the west and south side of the construction. It houses two arcade corridors, with lodges in each of them, offering panoramas of the Bay of Saranda and the Strait of Corfu. The double arches are made of stones, handled as if they were bricks. The eastern apse was illuminated by three grandiose windows and, further on, at the same low level, there was another window for each eastern wall. These eastern walls were interrupted on the ground floor by vaulted openings, which could have been either two doors, or one door and one niche. At the entrance leading to the underground longitudinal area, covered with a unique vault, lie two large catacomb overlapping vaults, one on top of the other, in two storeys, incorporated under the big exterior vault, with the lower vault serving entrance into the underground basilica. In the part of the underground chapels there are series of mural paintings starting from the cross, palm trees, various trees, figures of saints and monks etc.

### ***200-MAVRODHIVRI ST. MARY'S MONASTERY CHURCH***

St. Mary's Monastery Church in Mavrodhivri is located in the Village of Dhivër and is proclaimed a Category I Cultural Monument upon Decision No. 6, of 15 January 1963, of the Rectorate of the State University of Tirana, Decision No. 68/7, of 30 May 1970, of the Ministry of Education and Science, and Decision No. 1886, of 10 June 1973, of the Ministry of Education and Science.

It is located about 3 km above the Village of Dhivër. It was built at the end of the XVIth century. It consists of the naos, the narthex and the altar. The first is 7,30 m x 4, 80 m and is divided into three naves, of which the central nave is higher than those of the two sides. The naos is illuminated by small windows and gets connected to the narthex on the western side. The altar area contains the prothesis niche and the bema apse. The church was painted in 1604 by Mihali and Kostandini, from the Village of Gramoz. It counts 5 windows, all in poor condition. In 1998, the Regional Directorate of Cultural Monuments of Saranda restored only its roof. Currently, the Church is not in good shape, the roof is damaged, as are the exterior door and the windows. Its frescoes are damaged at the bottom, 1 meter from the floor, while the upper part is in good condition. The church is of a basilica type, covered with a vault system.

The masonry is built with stones lined with lime mortar. The windows are small, with brick arches made of hewn stones. From the outside, what is striking is the elongated volume covered with a double-pitched roof. The roof construction is of two types; the naos with a stone vault, and the narthex covered with a wooden construction roof. Characteristic feature are the pilasters located on the longitudinal walls, connected between themselves with arches in a transverse direction.

### ***201-KRIMANOVA ST. MARY'S MONASTERY CHURCH***

Krimanova St. Mary's Monastery Church is located in the Village of Piqeras, Municipality of Himara, and is proclaimed a Category I Cultural Monument upon Decision No. 6, of 15 January 1963, of the Rectorate of the State University of Tirana, and Ordinance of 8 January 1977, of the Ministry of Education and Science.

It is located in the Village of Piqeras and has a wide view to the sea. The church constitutes the compositional centre of the monastery, built in 1672, which is preserved today in a semi-collapsed state. It consists of the naos and the narthex on the western side. The naos is of a basilica type, with a three-apsidal dome with inner dimensions of 8.30 x 4.60 m. Two rows of columns divide the naos into three longitudinal naves. On the western side, the naos is linked to the two-storey narthex. Entrance into the second floor of the narthex is realised via exterior staircases, which also serve the purpose of accessing the monastery's inns. The drum in the central part of the double-pitched roof and the low apses' volumes have failed to give dynamism to the volume composition.

The masonry is made of stone and lime mortar. Plastering was done at a later time and covered the brick frames, as well as external apse shapes. The central nave is covered with a cylindrical vault that is interrupted in the central part by the dome rising on a high drum. The columns are connected to the adjacent walls by arches and, with the side naves, have created a series of isolated nuclei, covered with cylindrical vaults that open up to the central nave.

## ***202-ST. GEORGE'S CHURCH***

St. George's Church is located in the Village of Leshnicë e Sipërme, Municipality of Finiq, and is proclaimed a Category I Cultural Monument upon Decision No. 6, of 15 January 1963, of the Rectorate of the State University of Tirana, Decision No. 68/7, of 30 May 1970 of the Ministry of Education and Science, and Decision No. 1886, of 10 June 1973 of the Ministry of Education and Science.

It is located in the Village of Leshnicë e Sipërme. It is a simple one-nave church, built on a steep terrain at the entrance of the village, dating back to the XVth century. It is among the first churches built after the Ottoman conquest. It has internal dimensions of 5.30 x 2.90 m. It consists of the naos, the porch and the altar area, which contains the circular apse stretching outside the naos and a simple wooden iconostasis. It is covered with a wooden roof, with no ceiling and windows, and with floors paved with stone slabs. It is painted by Ilia Llongoviti (1525) from the Llongo Village, in Dropulli, who also painted St. Athanasius Church in Pecë. The paintings of these churches are the oldest in Albania. Today, the church is maintained in good condition after the roof has been restored in 2010 by the village's Orthodox Community. But, the encirclement and the stone stairs have not been finished yet. The exterior walls are constructed with irregularly arranged stones and lime mortar. The roof is covered with stone slabs. The porch is open, houses a stone column and is covered with stone slabs as a roof.

## ***203-"SHËN E PREMTE" CHURCH***

“Shën e Premte” Church is located in the Village of Lukova, District of Saranda, and was proclaimed a Category I Cultural Monument upon Decision No. 8, of 8 January 2015.

The Church of Shën e Premte is located in Lukovë-Saranda. It is a basilica-type trefoil-dome church of dimensions of 12.6 x 6.3 m. The columns dividing the naves are connected between them and have northern and southern walls with arches in the transverse direction. In the central nave, the arches create sustainability ribs for the cylindrical vault covering it, while in the lateral naves the arches limit the nucleicovered with the cylindrical vaults opening to the central nave. The second space from the east is covered with a dome, which rises above a high drum. The altar area expands by exiting the bema area. The church has a direct external entrance from the south and the west. The church lacks a narthex and a porch, which is a feature encountered even in other churches along the coast.

The interior is poorly illuminated by narrow windows, in the form of turrets opened on the southern and western walls and on the drum. The church was built with stones lined with lime mortar, placed in regular rows of masonry. Crevices are well flattened with mortar, which creates clean surfaces of masonry. The masonry finishes with a simple stone frame. In contrast to the rest, the apse is built with curved niches from above, giving more relief to its masonry. It features a double-pitched roof, which is interrupted only in the central part by the eight-sided volume of the drum. In the absence of epigraphic data, drawing parallel lines with the other churches of the coast, we think that the Lukova Church should have been built by the end of the XVIIIth century. The object appears in a very serious condition, with an immediate need for intervention for ensuring static stability. This object is mainly threatened by the almost organic inter-twinning of the vegetation with the structure. The roots and branches of trees have penetrated directly into the stability of the object, loading it and creating unavoidable dependency. In certain places there are cracks that reach up to 20 cm. Reconstruction and conservation of this monument is subject to detailed study. During January 2018, a series of emergency interventions were implemented to somehow help prevention of collapse of any part of the church. They include support struts and cleaning of the area from vegetation.

#### ***204-ST.ATHANASIOS CHURCH***

St. Athanasios Church is located in the Village of Sopik, Municipality of Finiq, and was proclaimed a Category I Cultural Monument upon Decision No. 6, of 15 January 1963 of the Rectorate of the State University of Tirana, and Ordinance of 8 January 1977 of the Ministry of Education and Science.

The church is built on one of the hilltops in the centre of Sopik Village. It consists of the narthex, the naos and the apse. On the north side of the church there is a porch with a one-pitched roof. In today's state, the church appears to be a construction of the XVIIIth century, while it is thought of being raised on the foundations of an earlier construction. In its interior, the church has no exposed fresco, which very much probably is due to the fact that the wall was painted with lime in the dictatorship period. Today, the Church is in good shape, as it is functional and hosts religious services. The construction material used in the masonry is stone lined with lime mortar, whereas the roof is made of wooden planks covered with stone slabs. The floor is paved with

stone slabs as well. St. Athanasius Church in Sopik has a distinct dome, a naos roof with stone vaults, while in the narthex the roof is of wooden construction.

### ***205-RUINS OF ST. MICHAEL'S CHURCH***

The ruins of St. Michael's Church are located in the Village of Kostar, Municipality of Finiq, and are proclaimed a Category I Cultural Monument upon Decision No. 344, of 21 November 2014.

What is remained of St. Michael's Church are its ruins, preserving most of its walls at the height of the past. From an architectural point of view it is a small one-nave chapel, rectangular in design. A small circular apse is located in the eastern wall, with an extension on the outside, and the prothesis niche. On the northern wall, in the altar area, there is a small niche. Based on the construction characteristics and archaeological material discovered in the territory of the monument, we think that the church dates back to the XII-XIIIth century. The church is constructed with easy workable stones, affixed with abundant lime mortar, while the use of brick pieces, placed in between the stones, is also noticed. The only decorative treatment of masonry consists of a frame, realized with the cloisonné technique. In many of its parts the masonry is degraded and abandoned. The masonry is 60 cm wide. Most of its perimeter maintains its original height. No masonry connection is present in some sections of the church. Deep cracks are remarked in the exterior walls, currently at risk of being aggravated.

### ***206-CHURCH RUINS, ÇIFLIK***

The church ruins in Çiflik are located in the Village of Çiflik, Municipality of Konispol, and are proclaimed a Category I Cultural Monument upon Ordinance of 8 January 1977.

The ruins are located on the hill of Mallahuna, in vicinity of the Village of Ciflik, between Çuka e Ajtoit and the westside of the village. It was discovered in the early XXth century and was built at the end of the XVIIIth century. Its basilica used to have three naves, measuring 17m x 12.6 in width. It consisted of the naos and the narthex, together with the altar turn (damaged). The altarpiece was made up of a large and tall bema, a prothesis and a diakonikon, separated by a low arch. The middle apse is three-sided, followed by a double-sided window and a smaller one below it, currently mured. The narthex on the western side was divided into three parts, with each part joining the respective nave. It was damaged more in the beginning of the XIXth century, when a religious conflict occurred on the site. Brick, stone and mortar walls have similarities to the Church of Mesopotami. The eastern and western sides are preserved at an almost complete height, while the other parts are preserved at a lower level. The window arches and the two apses are mainly built of bricks. The church walls are made of limestone, linked with mortar, with a special way for filling the crevices. They are filled with an ochre lime paste and flattened with a special gadget. The church was covered with a double-pitched roof. The wall is 0.80 m thick and the tallest height is reached by the apse, at 7 m.

### ***207-ST. SERGIUS' AND ST. BACCHUS' CHURCH***

St. Sergius' and St. Bacchus Church are located in the Village of Himarë, Municipality of Himara and was proclaimed a Category I Cultural Monument upon Decision No. 6, of 15 January 1963 of the Rectorate of the State University of Tirana, Decision No. 68/7, of 30 May 1970, of the Ministry of Education and Science, and Decision No. 1886, of 10 June 1973, of the Ministry of Education and Science.

The church was built in the highest peak of the village, on its southwest side, near the castle walls. In the northeast corner of the church there was a walled stone slab where the date 786 was written, which has already been robbed. It is likely that this slab, assumed to show the date of the founding of the church, is a record of some old rumour about the ancient origins of the church, while the preserved construction belongs to the XIst century. It has long served as the seat of the Bishopric of Himara, which was proclaimed as such in 1020. A document of year 1577 confirms that the church was burnt and rebuilt. It is divided into the altar area and the naos area by a wall iconostasis. The church walls retain traces of numerous reconstructions. The church has been built during two main phases of construction. The initial construction has focused on the naos, with the lower parts of the walls, because the upper parts are built several times. An auxiliary facility on the western side, where the water tank is also located, was built later. The iconostasis frames are decorated with floral motifs. The naos is accessed via an entrance on the west side and one on the south side, leading to the church's courtyard. The fresco of the church is preserved more in full on the interior sides of the big semi-circular apse. In its southeast corner, there is a tower bell, of about 6.10 m high. A vault, where two eagles are carved, is walled at the northern entrance of the secondary area. The old church walls are made of limestone of medium and small sizes. The special feature of the old wall is the presence in it of the pieces of tiles, placed one above the other, in between the stones, or even in short segments between the rows of stones.

### ***208-ST. ATHANASIOS' CHURCH MONASTERY***

St. Athanasius' Monastery Church is located in the Village of Kardhikaq, Municipality of Finiq, and is proclaimed a Category I Cultural Monument upon Decision No. 68/7, of 30 May 1970.

St. Athanasius' Church is located north of the entrance to the Village of Pec, within the circumference of the village cemetery, about 500 m below the national road. The church has a simple planning shape and is classified as a one-nave church, with a narthex added to the southern part. It was built and painted in 1525. The interior wall is covered with frescoes by the talented artist Ilia Llongoviti. External treatment is very poor and lacks any decorative element. The church is small, 5.80 x 3.50 meters. Currently, the entrance to the church is realised through the southern side, via premises that have been added at a later stage to the initial building. It has no windows, is covered by a wooden roof, lacks a ceiling and is paved with stone tiles. In the

original form, it appears that the Church consisted of the naos and one narthex on the western side. The naos is separated from the eastern altar by a low iconostasis, built with a two-entry stonewall. The altar contains circular apses, with an exterior exit and a small niche on the north wall. Traces of the narthex are preserved on its west side, while the gate connecting it to the naos is mured. The masonry is made up of little hewn stones, lined with lime mortar. The roof with no ceiling is covered with stone slabs. The floor is made of stone tiles, which are not properly levelled. On the northern and western side, the walls are reinforced, thus increasing the durability of the construction structure. The narthex was covered with a two-pitched roof, rising at the same height as that of the naos. The church is currently in an average situation and needs restoration works.

### ***209-ST. MARY'S CHURCH IN PECË***

St. Mary's Church of Pecë, is located in the Village of Pecë, Municipality of Finiq, and was proclaimed a Category I Cultural Monument upon Decision No. 342, of 21 November 2014.

St. Mary's Church has one nave, with dimensions of 9,10 x 4,40 m. Its constituent environments are the naos, narthex and an open porch, which has been added to the main construction at a later stage. On the eastern side of the naos lies the altar, in which centre is the half circular apse from the inside, with the prothesis and of the diakonikon niches in its side and in the northern wall. The narthex and the porch stretch respectively to the west and to the south, while communication with the naos is realised via two small entrances. The interior of the church was illuminated through small windows in the end and southern walls. The masonry is stripped of any kind of decorative work, except for the apse, which is treated with shallow decorative niches and with a thin frame, made of large rocks. If observed with care, the church masonry shows traces of the use of ceramic wall tiles, which were integrated into the civil or religious building masonry for acoustic or decorative purposes. St. Mary's Church is built with stone masonry lined with lime mortar. Lightly carved stones are used for the masonry construction technique. The church corners are made of hewn stones. The roof is covered with tiles. Damage to masonry is observed, as a consequence of degradation over the years. The naos is covered with a cylindrical vault, supported by four pairs of pilasters tied to the arches.

### ***210-ANCIENT TEMPLE OF DOBRI***

The Ancient Temple of Dobri is located in the Village of Dobër, Municipality of Finiq, and was proclaimed a Category I Cultural Monument upon the Ordinance of 8 January 1977.

It is located in the Village of Dobër, on the right side of Saranda-Konispol road, built on a gentle hill. On the surface of this hill, one can clearly see some wall tracts, built with large blocks of parallelepipedic shape, belonging to this temple. The temple is preserved on its eastern side over a length of 15.75 m and a width of 0.50 m. Two full rows of stone blocks and three blocks above them, forming two other rows, are preserved to this day. The stone blocks are in a parallelepiped



shape and are carefully crafted, resembling the works in Butrinti. Its presence was signalled for the first time by Ugolini (Italian archaeological mission) in the 1930s. In 1962, following a cleaning operation on the monument, one of the sides of this temple came into light.

The front side of the blocks is engraved by a triangular tooth with a height of 0.09 m and a triangle width base of 0.10 m, similar to the teeth that were found in the Butrinti Temple, and in Finiq Thesaurus. On the surface of the hill one can encounter fragments of dishes with a black varnish cover, Hellenistic and Roman tiles, and pottery fragments of daily use. According to the construction technique and drawing an analogy with the Butrinti Temple, the temple of Dobër belongs to the IVth century BC. Ugolini, in his work, besides the temple, refers also to the finding of two marble statues. They lack the heads and the four limbs of the body. From their garments, it appears that these two statutes represent two female figures (Demetra and Artemida). Now they are exhibited in the Butrinti Museum. The ruins of a structure, which is thought to belong to a fortified villa of the Hellenistic period (like that of Malathres, Metoq and Cuka), are preserved higher up in the hill. This villa is thought of dating back to around the 3rd century BC. The temple wall is escalated. Its first line is 0.31 m above the upper row, formed by large blocks of stone, with regular parallel forms, with dimensions varying from 0.84 x 0.76 m to 0.93 x 0.76 m. The blocks are beautifully crafted from all the sides. The second line, placed over the first one, is formed by two rows of stone blocks. The stone blocks are of the same shape and are carved as masterfully as the blocks in the first line. They are connected to one-another by lead pouring from a channel prepared specifically for this purpose.

### ***211-THEOLOGOS MONASTERY TOWERS***

Theologos Monastery Towers are located in the District of Cerkovina, Municipality of Finiq, and are proclaimed a Category I Cultural Monument upon Decision No. 266/1, of 16 February 1979.

They are located between the Villages of Partizan and Malçan. Currently, the Theologos Monastery Towers are almost completely damaged.

The church in vicinity of this tract is preserved in medium conditions, given that cracks have appeared in the masonry thus rendering restoration a necessity. The monastery towers have been constructed with stonewalls. Stemming from the existing ruins, one cannot determine the other elements of their construction.

### ***212-GJIK GJIPALI'S RESIDENCE***

Gjik Gjipali's residence is located in the Village of Çorraj, Municipality of Himara, and was proclaimed a Category I Cultural Monument upon the Ordinance of 8 January 1977.

Gjik Gjipali's residence is located in the Village of Çorraj. It is a two-storey building, but has undergone changes due to later constructions. The building dates back to the XIXth century. The residence is built not proportionate to the terrain. The ground floor is made up of an interior area of 4,2 x 5m, which is connected to the first floor via an external staircase. The first floor

consists of two areas, with separate entrances from a veranda. These two areas communicate simultaneously and between them with an internal door. It is currently abandoned and in serious danger. The roof and most of the masonry have collapsed. The masonry is built with stones and mortar. The collapsed roof used to be made of timber and stone slabs.

### ***213-GAQO PAPAI'S RESIDENCE***

Gaqo Papai's residence is located in the Village of Sopik, Municipality of Finiq, and was proclaimed a Category I Cultural Monument upon Decision No. 266/1, of 16 February 1979.

It is located on one of the hilltops in the centre of Sopik Village. It was built in the XIXth century (about year 1870). The main element of the composition of this building is the two-cornered part, consisting of the guestroom in the first floor, and the kitchen built over the rock. The two-storey volume may have been constructed later and consists of a shed and a sofa above it. The residence consists of three habitable areas and the shed. Each room has separate entrances connected with the side of a large corridor. The shed and the stairs are paved with limestone and sand slabs of a brown colour. The main view, overlooking the west, is the most striking one with regards to handling of special construction-architectural elements. In the upper part, the view is bordered by a stone-built shelf. Popular craftsmen were mainly from Korca, mainly masters from Sopik, Leshnica and Konica. The residence is restored after 1990. The residence is built of limestone and sandstone affixed with lime mortar. The corners of the masonry are built with carved limestone. The minimum thickness of the wall is 60 cm, with the maximum thickness reaching to 80 cm. The corner and window frame cornices are covered with stone lintels, over which a stone vault is also placed. The roof is covered with tiles. Currently, the residence is not in good condition, especially the roof. It is at risk of collapsing at any time.

### ***214-KRISTO MITROPULLI'S RESIDENCE***

Kristo Mitropulli's residence is located in the Village of Rumanxa, Municipality of Finiq, and was proclaimed a Category I Cultural Monument upon Decision No. 266/1, of 16 February 1979.

Kristo Mitropulli's residence is located in the centre of the Village of Rumanxa, on an almost simple terrain and was built in 1915. The dwelling, judging from its planning and volume formulation, belongs to the tower-type residences with exterior entrances. It is a two-storey residence, with one area for each floor. The ground floor served for cooking, whereas the upper floor as a guest/reception place. At the height of 1.8 m, the room is encircled by a wooden cabinet, where household appliances are stored. This building does clearly indicate the differentiation of the social class of its households and differs from the towers, both from planning and volume composition point of view, and the architectural treatment and construction technique. No traces of turrets are evident in its walls, and the windows of the ground floor are large in size, which makes us think that it mainly resembles the simple two-room residence, rather than the protecting-type towers.

The masonry is built of stones, connected by clay mortar, with wooden bends from the exterior. The stones are not treated, except for the corners, gate and window frames, and the roofs. It is covered with roof tiles, in the upper part, while the shelters, stretching up to 1.2 m, are covered with stone slabs. The residence is not currently in good shape. It needs restoration, because no one resides in it, hence lacking maintenance of any kind. Under these circumstances, its condition is not good. It suffers from damage to a large extent on the roof, while the masonry has begun to show signs of damage as well, whereas as the entrance gate is almost completely damaged. The interior floor and the ceiling are completely rotten. The doors and windows are severely damaged.

#### ***215-THE STATE OWNED PROPERTY (SHOP IN THE VILLAGE OF VAGALAT)***

The state owned property in question is located in the Village of Vagalat, Municipality of Finiq, and was proclaimed a Category I Cultural Monument upon Decision No. 266/1, of 16 February 1979.

The tower dwelling is located in the village of Vagalat, District of Saranda, built on a highly mountainous terrain, with the main view south-eastwards. It is a quadrilateral shape design with two-storeys, with a usable area on each floor. Its construction dates back in the second half of the 19th century. In the frontal view there are three rifle turrets, and two other turrets are built on its side. On the ground floor, one's attention is drawn by a door that is closed with a stonewall, communicating with an unlit depot, serving for storing food items from exposure to light and for keeping them fresh. The second floor is illuminated for each opening from two windows, under which the rifle turrets are located.

The fortified tower-type residence has suffered from degradation of some of its technical elements. The tower residence is constructed of a stone construction masonry with lime mortar at the height of two stories. The roof has completely collapsed and the material has fallen all over the floor area. Windows on the south side are closed with dry stonewalls. What is remained of the other windows is only frames of rotten wood. On the south wall, a portion of it, of about 110x 120 cm, has fallen down. In today's situation, the monument is at risk of collapsing, putting at risk even the lives of the local residents. Restoration work and emergency consolidation should be provided as soon as possible in order to prevent collapsing of the existing masonry and the overall ruining of the monument.

#### ***216-GARUFO KOÇINI'S RESIDENCE***

Garufo Koçini's residence is located in the Village of Rrahullë, Municipality of Finiq, and was proclaimed a Category I Cultural Monument upon Decision No. 266/1, of 16 February 1979.

In the place where Garufo Kocini's residence used to be located there are no traces of it at all. The National Culture Sector of Saranda has asked for striking this monument off the list of immovable monuments of cultural heritage. The monument is completely damaged and there are no traces of it.

### ***217-PETRO SHEKA'S RESIDENCE***

Petro Sheka's residence is located in the Village of Leshnicë e Poshtme, Municipality of Finiq, and was proclaimed a Category I Cultural Monument upon Decision No. 266/1, of 16 February 1979.

The residence was built in the XIXth century. Its roof has fallen and the masonry has collapsed because of abandonment and lack of maintenance. A part of its sidewalls are preserved. The interior dividing walls have completely collapsed and bushes and trees have sprouted instead. The residence is currently at risk of extinction because its degradation continues. From the remaining traces of the residence, one can notice that its structure is made of limestone masonry, attached with lime mortar. The angular corners of the residence and of the windows are built with carved stones. Stone masonry is 60 cm thick.

### ***218-JANI'S TOWER***

Jani's Tower is located in the Village of Janjar, Municipality of Konispol, and was proclaimed a Category I Cultural Monument upon Decision No. 266/1, of 16 February 1979.

It is located in the Village of Janjar, built on a mountainous terrain. The locals call it Jani's tower. It is a three-storey building, with a quadrilateral shape. What is remained of it today is only a part of the ground floor. According to the local residents, it is blown up with dynamite during communism. Today, the part left from the monument is not in good shape, since it has been completely damaged. There is a need for immediate restoration. The tower was built with stone wall. Judging from the ruins we cannot determine the other elements of its structure.

### ***219-RUSHIT OMERI'S RESIDENCE***

Rushit Omeri's residence is located in the Village of Vërvë, Municipality of Konispol, and was proclaimed a Category I Cultural Monument upon Decision No. 266/1, of 16 February 1979.

The residence is located in the Village of Vërvë and was built at the beginning of the XXth century. The residence is developed in two storeys. Two sheds are located on the ground floor, one of which illuminated by two windows, while communication is realized with simple wooden stairs. From the shed, through a door, one enters an unlit space, once used for storage of food articles. The stone staircase leads to the upper floor. The kitchen is located in the central part of the house, above the shed, and connects to the other two rooms via the respective doors. The residence is surrounded by a high stone wall and a vaulted gate. The first floor is paved with limestone tiles. The corners of the residence, the vaulted doors and windows, are made of limestone blocks, chosen and treated with care. The residence consists of two rooms and a corridor on the second floor. The frontal view of the residence looks towards the southeast. The

masonry of the residence, at the height of two floors, is realized with stones and lime mortar, and is as well as plastered with a thin layer of mortar. The roof is made of wood and covered with stone slabs. The residence is not in good condition after being abandoned by its residents and is in a constant degradation state. On the exterior walls the masonry has cracked, the doors and windows are severely damaged, and the roof is damaged as well. The building needs restoration.

### ***220-AZBI SHERETI'S RESIDENCE***

Azbi Shereti's residence is located in the Village of Dishat, Municipality of Konispol, and is proclaimed a Category I Cultural Monument upon Decision No. 266/1, of 16 February 1979.

It was built on the top of a hill, in the centre of the Village of Dishat, at the beginning of the XXth century. The residence has a parallelepiped shape, with two façades, and interior spaces divided symmetrically, because it was used by two brothers. The building features two entrances, one on the east and one on the west, serving a defence strategy. All windows have beautifully worked vaulted windows. The first floor is paved with stone slabs and houses the auxiliary areas of the residence, while the stairs are made of limestone. Two rooms with two couches are located in the second floor, while the ceilings are made of lightweight wooden material. Today, the residence is in poor condition, damaged in the central axis, where its roof has been demolished, and its doors and windows are damaged, too. It needs restoration, because it is degrading every day. The structure of the residence is built with stone masonry, attached with lime mortar. Carved stones, placed in a regular manner, are used in the corners of the residence, its windows and doors. The thickness of the perimeter wall of the residence is 80 cm. The roof is made of wood and is covered with thin stone tiles. The residence is currently in poor condition, damaged in the central axis, where the roof has fallen, and its doors and windows are damaged. It is damaged by about 60%. In addition to the perimeter wall of the residence, all other structures are damaged as well. The residence needs restoration as it is degrading each passing day.

### ***221-ALUSH MYRTO'S RESIDENCE***

Alush Myrto's residence is located in the Village of Shala, Municipality of Konispol, and is proclaimed a Category I Cultural Monument upon Decision No. 266/1, of 16 February 1979.

It is located in Barç Neighbourhood, in the Village of Shala, and was built at the beginning of the XXth century. The residence is of two-storey type, developed on one side. The first floor and the interior stairs are paved with stone slabs. The second floor consists of a spacious living room and a corridor. It is all covered by hardwood floors. The gate is characteristic, made of the vault and three rows of hewn stones. The façade of the residence contains a stone slab with the note 1911. After 1997, its owner has added a new part to the existing building, on its northwest side, and a storehouse on the first floor, on the front of the building, without damaging its shape. The structure of the residence is made with stone masonry, with mortar, at the height of two floors.

The masonry is plastered with a thin layer of mortar. The masonry is plastered with a thin layer of mortar, while the corners, made of finely hewn stones, are left outside. The roof is realized with a wooden structure, covered by tiles. The housing masonry is 60 cm thick. The gate is characteristic, formed of the vault and three rows of hewn stone. The residence is currently in good condition, as a family resides there.

### ***222-SHABAN XHEMALIU'S RESIDENCE***

Shaban Xhemaliu's residence is located in the Village of Shala, Municipality of Konispol, and was proclaimed a Category I Cultural Monument upon Decision No. 266/1, of 16 February 1979.

It is located in the Mesmehalla Neighbourhood, in the Village of Shala, and was built in the second half of the XIXth century, with dimensions of 16m x 7,5 m. It is of two-storey building, developed on both sides and inhabited on both sides. The windows are with large arches across the upper floors. They contain detail work and are decorated, especially in the bottom part, containing architectural elements and a basement for placing flowerpots. The residence is accessed in the direction of the main façade. The residence has hardwood floors, no ceiling, is plastered, and with plenty of lighting. Three areas are located on the ground floor: the shed, the kitchen, and the storage area. On the upper floor there is a guestroom on the right side and the fire room on the left. The guestroom has a wooden ceiling, hardwood floors, and plastered walls. The windows are double-sided with horizontal movement, and the architrave part is covered with an elaborate stone vault. The building has a built-in protective tower with three floors with turrets. The connection between the residence and the tower's floors is realized with wooden stairs. The owner of the residence has substituted the main part of the depreciated wooden windows with aluminium windows. The masonry construction technique is that of untreated stones, lined with lime mortar. In the internal areas, it makes use of wood bends to increase its solidity. The corners of the walls and window frames are elaborate and carved, maintaining regularity in their placement, not plastered, while the rest of the walls are plastered. The wall is 60 cm thick. The roof is covered with local tiles, but the part that ends up with a 1.2 m wide shelter is covered with stone slabs to resist against strong storms during winter.

### ***223-BUJAR LAMÇE'S RESIDENCE***

Bujar Lamçe's residence is located in the Village of Shala, Municipality of Konispol, and was proclaimed a Category I Cultural Monument upon Decision No. 266/1, of 16 February 1979.

It is located in the Kurunë Neighbourhood, Village of Shala, and was built at the end of the XIXth century, with dimensions of about 10 x 9 m and with some breaks on the plan. It was a unique construction of its kind, built with stonewalls and lime mortar. The cube-shaped balcony is built on the second floor, over two arches of about 7 m high. The first floor has served as a cot. The exterior stone staircases, with two resting areas, lead to the second floor on the east side of the residence. The second floor consisted of three areas; the corridor, the room and the eating area. The residence had also a water fountain in the yard, located in a separate area, along with

the depot. After 1985 the residence has collapsed. What is remained today is one arm of the damaged entry gate and its foundations up to 1 m altitude. The ruins of the residence show that the construction technique is alternated, containing a mixture of stone masonry with lime mortar and masonry stone built in dry. It is also noted that the entrance gate structure is constructed of lime mortar. The housing structure is damaged at 95%. Just a few wall tracts are preserved from it.

### ***224-HAME TAKA'S RESIDENCE***

Hame Taka's residence is located in Shehat Neighbourhood, District of Saranda, Municipality of Konispol, and was proclaimed a Category I Cultural Monument upon Decision No. 266/1, of 16 February 1979.

It is located in the Shehat Neighbourhood, Konispol. It was built at the beginning of the XXth century and is a two-wing U-shaped building. It has three storeys, with doors and windows crafted with stone arches. The two upper floors consist of the corridor and the rooms. From the front side, the two upper floors have three vaulted windows, whereas one can get from one floor to the other via the stone staircases. The ground floor is paved with stone tiles, while the remainder of the building has hardwood floors. The roof is covered with tiled wood panelling. The doors, windows and ceilings are not in good shape. After the '90s, on the west side of the building, the owners have built a new building, damaging a developed wing of the original building. The residence is built at the height of three floors with stone masonry, lined with mortar, while its window and door frames are made of hewn stone. The perimeter wall have some noticeable cracks on its surface. The ground floor stairs are made of stone masonry, while the second and third floor ramps are of wood construction. The dwelling is surrounded by an irregular stonewall of ~ 35 cm, lined with mortar, with a height of ~ 2 m. In its entrance, the building is plastered over a surface of 15 m<sup>2</sup>.

### ***225-BEQO ZENUNI'S RESIDENCE***

Beqo Zenuni's residence is located in Buar Neighbourhood, in Konispol, District of Saranda, Municipality of Konispol, and was proclaimed a Category I Cultural Monument upon Decision No. 266/1, of 16 February 1979.

It was built on the northern slope of the Buari Hill, at the beginning of the XXth century. It is a simple residence, with no developed architecture, with one mezzanine floor and a residential floor. It is 10 m long x 5.40 m wide. Its frontal side looks to the west and consists of two areas and one corridor. From the front view, the building has one window, whereas in the north it has two windows. The masonry of the residence is in good condition, made of stonewalls, lined with mortar. The residence is currently in habitable condition, because it is maintained by its owner. The residence is built with stone masonry with mortar in the height of two floors. The southern part of the façade of the residence is plastered and painted with lime, the ground floor is paved with ceramic tiles, whereas the mezzanine has a b/a cover. The roof is built with wooden

structure and covered with tiles. It is damaged in different places. The exterior staircase is built with stone and mortar. The residence is surrounded by a stone wall, connected by mortar, with an average height of 1.5 m.

### ***226-KOQINI BROTHERS' RESIDENCE***

Koqini Brothers' residence is located in the District of Saranda, Municipality of Konispol, in Shehat Neighbourhood, and was proclaimed a Category I Cultural Monument upon Decision No. 266/1, of 16 February 1979.

The dwelling is built in the centre of the Shehat Neighbourhood at the beginning of the XXth century, overlooking the north. In today's state, the central part, with a northeast-southwest orientation, is preserved without harm. On the ground floor, it featured the storage area and the animals' place. A wooden staircase lead to the first floor, featuring a corridor, the main chamber with a decorative ceiling, the winter (fire) room and the kitchen. 60% of the dwelling is plastered and painted with lime. In the front, between the floors, there are ornamental decorations in the shape of small arches, made of limestone. The second floor has three windows looking towards the northeast and the first floor features a window. The frames of the four windows are made of hewn stone. The residence is currently in use and is maintained in good condition. The residence is built of stone masonry, lined with lime mortar. At the height of two storeys, in specific areas, the masonry suffers surface cracks. The corners of the residence are built with carved stones. Currently, the interior staircase is made of metal construction. The mezzanine is a b/a-type structure. The roof is built of a wooden structure, covered with tiles. The ceiling cover is made of wood and tamburato fibres. The residence is damaged, because after the '90s, the owners have carried out new constructions on its eastern and western sides.

### ***227-STATE PROPERTY (ALUSH TAKA'S FORMER RESIDENCE )***

The state property in question (Alush Taka's former residence), in located in Shehat Neighbourhood, District of Saranda, Municipality of Konispol, and was proclaimed a Category I Cultural Monument upon Decision No. 266/1, of 16 February 1979.

The residence is built in the centre of the Shehat Neighbourhood, on top of the hill, at the end of the XXth century. It is surrounded by perimeter walls, which are well marked on the north side, where the two gates of the yard are located, and the reception area, which served for accommodating the guards of the owner and second-hand guests. The residence consists of three floors and many areas. It is developed on both sides and has large entrance doors in all three axes. The nucleus of the residence's composition (the old part) is the corridor of the shed, the corridor of the first floor and the corridor of the second floor, leading respectively to the relevant areas in each of the floors. A three-storey volume, which differs from the construction of the first phase, has been added to the old part of the residence (on the left side) at a later phase. The residence is built with a stone masonry, connected by mortar, up to the height of three floors. The building's corners are made of carved stone. The roof is constructed of a



wooden structure, covered with tiles. The ground floor is paved with stone tiles. The upper floors, respectively the second and the third floors, have hardwood panels. The ceilings and the stairs connecting the floors are made of wood. There are two exterior doors with stone lintels. The dwelling is depreciated by 75%. After the '90s, the west and the central sides of the residence have collapsed. Currently, only the eastern side of the residence is preserved and is habitable.

### ***228-MAZE GOXHAI'S RESIDENCE***

Maze Goxhaj's residence is located in Shehat Neighbourhood, District of Saranda, Municipality of Konispor, and was proclaimed a Category I Cultural Monument upon Decision No. 2509/1, of 30 June 1983.

This building is built in Shehat Neighbourhood at the end of the XXth century. It has a frontal view overlooking north-eastwards, and is of a two-wing type building. Currently, the central and western axes are undamaged. It is a two-storey building. The frontal part of the building has three windows in each of the floors. On the west side of the second floor, there are two bathrooms. The first floor and the stairs are paved with limestone tiles. On the second floor there is a salon and two rooms. The entrance door to the building and the exterior door are built with stone arches. The residence is surrounded by a high stone fence. After the '90s, the owner has built a new structure on the east and the south of the existing building. The part remained from the old building is currently uninhabited and in average condition. The residence is built on the height of two floors, with stone masonry and mortar, and the corners are made of carved stones. The door and window frames are made of hewn stones. The roof is covered with tiles, and the part of the façade from the eastern side of the object is plastered. The ground floor is paved with stone slabs, whereas the upper floor features hardwood floors. The ceilings are constructed with wood. The object is surrounded by a stonewall, lined with mortar, of about 2 meters high.

### ***229-BUILDING, STATE PROPERTY (CITY'S HOSPITAL)***

This building (the City's Hospital), is located in the District of Saranda, Municipality of Konispol, and was proclaimed a Category I Cultural Monument upon Decision No. 266/1, of 16 February 1979.

It was built on the top of a hill, in the east of Shehat Neighbourhood, Konispol, at the end of the XIXth century. It consists of the main building, a two-storey dwelling with development on both sides. The ground floor hosts the service areas. The ground floor is paved with stone slabs. Connection to the second floor is realized via a stone staircase. The second floor consists of a corridor, three rooms and the eating area. The entrance door is 1.60 meters wide and 2.25 high, formed by three limestone frames. On the backside of the building, in the east, lies a three-storey tower, with turrets. The service building of two-storeys high is located opposite the main building. Three service areas were located on the ground floor. The first floor consisted of two rooms, the eating area and a large veranda. The dwelling is built at the height of two floors with stone masonry lined with mortar. The corners are built of hewn stones, as are the door and the

window frames. The roof is covered with tiles. The part of the rooftop on the southeast side has completely collapsed. The perimeter wall of the tower has surface cracks and is covered with stone slabs. The ground floor is paved with stone slabs, whereas the other building level features hardwood floors. The ceilings are constructed with processed wood. The object is surrounded by a stone wall of 2 meters high.

### ***230-EQEREM MYRTO'S RESIDENCE***

Eqerem Myrto's residence is located in the Village of Markat, Municipality of Konispol, and is proclaimed a Category I Cultural Monument upon Decision No. 266/1, of 16 February 1979.

The owner has built a new house in the place where the monument was located. The old residence has been destroyed. However, there are no traces of the former residence in that place. The National Culture Sector of Saranda has requested the removal of this monument from the list of cultural heritage monuments. The monument is completely damaged and there are no traces of it after being alienated by the owner.

### ***231-DINO OMERI'S RESIDENCE – STATE PROPERTY***

Dino Omeri's residence, a state property, is located in the District of Saranda, Municipality of Konispol, and is proclaimed a Category I Cultural Monument upon Decision No. 2509/1, of 30 June 1983.

The residence was built at the side of the Buari Hill, at the end of the XXth century, with frontal view from the north, with dimensions of 20 m long x 9.4 m and 6.0 m wide. This building belongs to another type, with no developments, but has a three-storey parallelepiped shape, with many windows in its front. The inner staircases connecting the floors are of limestone and the ground floor is paved with stone tiles. The first and the second floor have three rooms each, one after the other, which are connected to a long corridor, and each room has its own fireplace. The ground floor houses the auxiliary facilities. The building has two exterior doors, with a vault, and is surrounded by high stone arches. In 2006, the roof has been demolished. The building is, therefore, uninhabited, and is constantly being degraded because of the lack of restoration interventions. The residence is built with stone masonry, lined with mortar, at the height of three floors. The corners of the building and the window and door frames are built with hewn stone. The building is about 85% amortized.

### ***232-YARD GATE OF HAKI OSMANI'S RESIDENCE***

The yard gate of the residence of Haki Osmanit is located in the district of Saranda, Municipality of Konispol, and was proclaimed a Category I Cultural Monument upon decision No. 266/1, of 16 February 1979.

It is located in Llanxat Neighbourhood, City of Konispol. The vaulted gate was built on the northwest side of the residence, at the end of the XIXth century. The gate's dimensions are: 3.60 m wide, 3.70 m deep and 2.20 m high. The ceiling section over the four lintels and two side arches is damaged. The gate's pavement is made of cobblestone. The monument is currently at risk and requires immediate restoration. One of the side arches and the upper cover of the gate have collapsed. The walls and arches of the gate are made of stones and lime mortar. The gate consists of four arches, where two arches are the main ones, allowing for the entrance to the courtyard, being higher and larger than the other two arches. The construction structure is the same for all the four arches.