

Neva Sulič Urek

Renovation of the castle complex at Negova 2006–2009

Keywords: Negova, castle, renovation, elaboration of project documentation, conservation, restoration, architectural heritage, Gothic architecture, Renaissance architecture, Baroque architecture

The Negova castle complex is one of the largest and best quality castle complexes in Slovenia. It is distinguished by a remarkable setting against the natural backdrop of the gentle hills between Sveti Trije Kralji and Radgona, and by the magnificent late Renaissance architectural details of the Old Castle (the original nucleus of the complex) and the New Castle. The defensive architecture consisting of walls and towers and the two gun platforms in front of the New Castle complements the appearance of the castle complex, which is further enhanced by the castle grounds, with the large outer courtyard and the grassy area between the Old Castle and the walls. The oldest and most beautiful structure is the Old Castle, which is hidden by the mighty New Castle. The entire complex is enclosed by walls pierced by loopholes and punctuated by three towers. An ancillary building stands along the east wall.

The entrance to the outer castle courtyard is next to the south-east tower and passes through a late Renaissance rustic gateway bearing the date 1633 by a prominent volute. Along the lower east side of the large outer courtyard stands a single-storey ancillary building, while the west side is delimited by the long east front of the tall and magnificent New Castle, which hides our view of the Old Castle, the nucleus of the complex. Between the two buildings is the extensive grass-covered courtyard, which we cross to reach the New Castle, from where a covered bridge leads to the Old Castle through a doorway bearing the date 1612.

Without a doubt the oldest building in the castle complex, one that was not included in the first phase of the renovation, is the Old Castle, which certain architectural elements allow us to date to the fourteenth century. We assume that it was built at least a century earlier. The ground plan of the Old Castle has the form of an irregular rectangle with the straight lines of its sides interrupted in several places, the consequence of countless alterations and additions. The four wings of the castle are set round an uneven inner courtyard. In the south-west corner of the courtyard are a picturesque Renaissance oriel and a Renaissance arcaded passage on the first floor. The two-storey building has cellars beneath the north and west wings.

We assume that the first mentions in historical archives of the locality of Negova, famous as the site where the Negau helmets were found, are a reference to Negoinezelo from 1106,¹ and a reference to Negowe from 1265.² The castle at Negova is not mentioned until 1425.³ It originally belonged to Hans von Winden. In 1431 his daughters Anne von Lichteneck and Catherine von Volkersdorf sold the castle to their uncle Wilhelm von Perneck. In 1488 the castle, which was constantly exposed to attacks, passed into the hands of the Hungarians. In 1492, two years after the death of Matthias Corvinus of Hungary, the Emperor Maximilian restored the castle to Bartolomaeus von Perneck, but only as a leasehold. In 1532 Wilhelm von Perneck, the last of the Perneck family, left the castle to his widow Maria von Gutenberg. Ten years later she left it to her sister Catherine, who was married to Adam Trautmannsdorf.⁴ The castle remained in the hands of the Trautmannsdorf family until 1945. For most of the time it was managed by stewards. The family lived on their other estates in Austria and Bohemia and only came to the castle in the summer. Before the Second World War the family, which was divided into Austrian and Bohemian branches, owned 23 castles. Negova Castle was the only castle in the territory of present-day Slovenia that the family kept up to the end of the Second World War.⁵ The castle's land also included the Freudenau estate near Apače, today's Črnci, the manor house by the Negova fishpond, a farm in Iljaševci and a number of other buildings between the Pesnica and the Mura.⁶ The castle in Črnci probably originally belonged to Wilhelm von Perneck and in 1542 passed into the hands of the Trautmannsdorf family together with the Negova estate. In 1635, however, Isabella Trautmannsdorf sold it to Count Ludwig Schwarzenberg.⁷

The Renovation

Before the complete renovation Negova Castle had only undergone a few minor structural interventions which, however, made no significant contribution to improving its appearance. There are few monuments in Slovenia comparable in terms of quality to the castle at Negova, since the castle complex contains a whole range of outstanding Gothic and Renaissance masonry details, not to mention the surviving walls around the entire complex.

It is for this reason that in 2000 we proposed the castle as a monument in State ownership.⁸ Our proposal turned out to be the right one. In 2003 the Ministry of Culture commissioned Elea iC d.o.o. of Ljubljana to produce architectural drawings. Chief project engineer Aleš Šeliga of Tekton d.o.o. of Ljubljana was commissioned to provide construction documentation for structural repairs and an external visualisation of the Old Castle and the New Castle. The project documentation (building permit/project implementation) was drawn up by Tea Šifrer of Projektivni Biro, Kranj. As well as architectural drawings of the Old Castle and New Castle, Elea iC provided architectural drawings of the ancillary building, two of the towers and the walls.

The outline conservation programme for the renovation of the entire complex was drawn up by the Maribor Regional Unit of the Institute for the Protection of Natural and Cultural Heritage (ZVNKD) in 1990.⁹ The conservation programme for the New Castle, which

in addition to reconstruction of the façades included a reconstruction of the ground plan of the ground floor with vaulting, the roof, the external arcaded stairs, the south tower and the covered bridge, was drawn up by the chief conservator in 2003.¹⁰ The ground plans of the missing south tower, the arcaded passages and the covered bridge were created on the basis of archaeological research carried out in 1993 and 1994. The research was led by the conservation consultant Ivan Tušek, who also supervised the protective archaeological work in connection with the excavation of the internal stairs leading to the cellar of the New Castle in 2003.¹¹ Collaborating with the chief conservator, conservation consultant Neva Sulič Urek, on the drawing-up of the project documentation for the structural repairs and external visualisation were conservation consultant Miran Ježovnik and senior conservation technician Smiljan Simerl as representatives of the Maribor Regional Unit of the ZVKDS.

The basic requirement of the monument profession was the preservation of the structural substance and all the high-quality details of the Old Castle and the cellar and ground floors of the New Castle, and the reconstruction of all the missing sections of the ground plan and architectural details of the New Castle. In 2005 Dr Bogomir Kovač prepared the Development and Business Plan of the Complex Revitalisation of Negova Castle, which in addition to conservation-restoration of the architectural heritage envisaged new enterprise-related contents for the castle complex and the revitalisation of the castle for tourism and business purposes. That same year the Ministry of Culture commissioned the outline plan of use documentation for Phase 1 of the renovation, which included the New Castle (building B), the entrance tower (building C), the ancillary building (building D), the south-west tower (building F) and the presentation of the parapet walk of the south wall (building H).

In November 2005, when the Ministry of Culture requested the elaboration of cultural protection conditions for the renovation of the ancillary building, as the first of the castle buildings of the Negova complex, we began drawing up a conservation programme for the ancillary building.¹² We had already drawn up a conservation programme for the renovation of the south-west tower (building F)¹³ and the walls¹⁴ in 2002, followed in 2003 by an extensive conservation programme for the renovation of the Old Castle¹⁵ and the partial reconstruction of the New Castle. Owing to the extremely demanding project of the reconstruction of the interior of the New Castle, in particular of the first floor, the final expanded form of the conservation programme was only done on the basis of extensive research carried out in 2006 and envisaged the construction of a 23.5-metre-long ballroom on the first floor.¹⁶ On the basis of surviving fixings for the ground-floor walls and the stone threshold leading into the ballroom, the lines of two arcaded passages drawn on the west front and the results of the research contained in the conservation programme,¹⁷ the chief conservator determined the ground plan of the first floor. The outline plan of use with an inventory of the works for buildings B, C, D, F and H was drawn up by Gea Consult d.o.o. of Škofja Loka. The chief planner was Aleš Hafner. Elaboration of the plan of use documentation and the renovation of the first phase in 2006–2009 was financed from the European Structural Funds with a 15% contribution from the Republic of Slovenia.

In the second phase of the renovation we envisage the renovation of the Old Castle (building A) and the north-west tower (building E), and the building up and presentation of the west and north walls (building H). This phase should likewise be financed from the European Structural Funds, with a smaller contribution from the Republic of Slovenia.

The New Castle (building B)

The mass of the New Castle represents an architectural backdrop in front of the entrance to the Old Castle, the original nucleus of the castle complex. Before the renovation, the entrance was only preserved in part and gave the building an unfinished effect. On 28 December 1938 fire destroyed the left half of the roof. Years of neglect and a hostile attitude towards everything connected with foreigners and the castles they lived in, combined with a shortage of money, caused the destruction, after the Second World War, of the roof and the first floor, the south tower, both arcaded passages, the covered bridge connecting the New Castle to the Old Castle, all the vaulting and ceiling joists of the ground floor and the inner part of the brick wall of the south wing. At the south end of the wing the wall is therefore thinner than the wall of the north wing of the New Castle. Before the renovation the most notable features of the main front were the two Renaissance doorways, one large and one small, and the stone window frames of the ground floor with their Renaissance mouldings and wrought-iron grilles. Only a closer inspection gave a hint of the building's former outstanding quality. Loopholes dating from the Renaissance phase of the fortification of the castle in the 16th century were still visible in the north tower of the New Castle. The date 1568 on the front of the north tower confirms the construction phase of the fortification of the towers before the last and most important remodelling in 1615. Only the vaulted cellar level was preserved intact, with the exception of the cellar in the demolished south tower and the filled-in casemates below the entrance gate, filled in in the 1990s on the orders of the then director of the Maribor Institute, Janez Mikuš. Because of the collapse of a vault, the casemates were thought to present a safety risk to visitors. The brick cellar vaults rest on stone walls. The first-floor wine cellar at the south end of the building, which defines the ground plan of the shorter building that existed before the New Castle was built, essentially dates from at least 15th century, while the vaults are from 1612. The upper and lower cellars are accessible through a simple round-arched Renaissance doorway in the passage by the south tower. The lower wine cellar is entered via stone steps by the entrance and so the steps to the lower cellar are covered by a trapdoor that enables normal movement in the upper cellar. The barrel vault of the lower cellar is supported by four stone pillars of rectangular section, which gives the space an additional charm. The barrel-vaulted former upper cellar has three ventilation openings in its brick floor which served to ventilate the lower wine cellar and are set in the crown of the lower cellar's barrel vault. The openings are fitted with stone frames and wrought-iron grilles and are protected by a glass trapdoor. Further ventilation was provided for the lower cellar by two shafts, one of which is set in the west wall of the lower cellar and the other in the east wall.

The casemates in the cellar of the north tower are accessible via stairs in the entrance hall

or directly from the courtyard side. The first large casemate space, reached via a solid wooden staircase, has a vault that is supported by a central brick pillar and a half-pillar against the south wall. From the large space we enter a slightly smaller and lower barrel-vaulted space below the gun platform. The vaulting here was demolished before the renovation. The crown of the vault contains a large ventilation hole with a solid metal grille in a stone frame. A sealed doorway in the south wall until recently led to a third vaulted casemate space, now filled in.

The only surviving features on the ground floor before the renovation were the walls and the window niches with moulded window frames. The north tower also contained partially preserved stone loopholes, supports for the vault that represented a repetition of the supports for the vault of the casements below it, and the foundation of the central pillar.

In the anteroom of the north tower, a former kitchen, and the entrance hall, only outlines of the barrel vault survived. The east wall of the south end of the ground floor contained fixings for two supporting walls. The wall between the north tower and the anteroom (the former kitchen, which still contains the old stone kitchen sink), and the wall between the entrance corridor and the south end of the wing were wider than the wall indicated by the beam on the floor of the south wing between the fourth and fifth window axis. This narrower wall supported the wall on the first floor which divided the south wall of the large ballroom from the room next door. In the west wall of the south wing of the ground floor, the former Gothic building defined by the ground plan of the cellar above, it was possible, before the renovation, to trace the walls of three older openings from the construction phase that coincides with the sealed openings in the east wall of the Old Castle and that we date to the late Gothic period. The Gothic openings were sealed up during construction of the Renaissance arcaded passage which led to the large ballroom on the first floor.

Before the renovation in 2006 the first floor was in a poor state of preservation, as were the arcaded passages and the covered bridge connecting the Old Castle to the New Castle. The ground floor, which was missing vaulting and walls, was covered by a roof made after the Second World War, set atop a concrete cornice.

Most difficulties in the elaboration of the project documentation for the structural repairs to and external visualisation of the Old Castle and the New Castle in 2003 were created by the elaboration of the project documentation for the partial reconstruction of the New Castle. The basic starting point for elaboration of the project documentation was the conservation programme from 2003, which took into account the appearance of the New Castle from the period of the principal remodelling in 1615, an appearance conserved in old prints¹⁸ and photographs taken before and after the fire in December 1938. The once mighty New Castle presented a depressing picture in the period after the war. In the project documentation from 2003 we reconstructed the missing parts of the ground plan from 1615 and, using primary models, determined the load-bearing capacity of the vaults and wooden ceilings. We specified the reconstruction of the first floor and the roof, the south tower, the passage between the south tower and the main wing, the two arcaded

passages on the west front, the covered bridge linking the Old Castle and the New Castle, the partly demolished cellar by the north tower and the gun platform by the east front. We also defined the ground plan of the ground floor. We envisaged the manufacture of the moulded window frames and doorways of the first floor and the restoration of the existing doorways and window frames with wrought-iron grilles on the ground floor and in the cellar. On the ground floor of the north tower we indicated the opening of the sealed loopholes and the transformation of the existing loopholes on the model of the original loopholes. In the reconstructed south tower we envisaged the creation of moulded window frames on the model of the north tower. We preserved high-quality details and the vaulting and reconstructed the missing elements by analogy. On the basis of the data available we reconstructed the vaults of the ground floor and the original walls and ceiling joists. All the presented architectural details are from the late Renaissance. On the cellar level we specified the repairs to the existing cellar vaults, pavements and original walls and the maintaining of the original floor levels. We laid down cultural protection conditions for a light filling material and relieving floors with horizontal tension ties, on the basis of which the vaults would preserve their load-bearing capacity. For the reconstruction of the vaults on the ground floor, the arcaded staircase and the covered bridge, we specified the traditional method of making brick supporting arches. For the paving of the cellar and ground floor, we took as an example the handmade brick paving stones measuring 25 x 25 x 4 cm which we discovered in the north-east corner of the ground floor of the north tower. We laid down cultural protection conditions for the wrought-iron fittings of the windows in the cellar and on the ground floor and first floor, taking as our model the surviving wrought-iron fittings from the Old Castle and Riegersburg Castle in Styria, Austria. In accordance with the typology of the *piano nobile* (the first floor) we requested tinning for the late Renaissance wrought-iron fittings on the first floor, while for the wrought-iron fittings in the cellar and on the ground floor we decided on a protective matt finish. For the moulded window frames of the first floor we specified the mullioned late Renaissance frames that are visible in an old photograph from before the fire and that also survive on the first floor of the Old Castle. We envisaged honeycomb glazing in the windows of the ground floor and first floor. The architect Tea Šifrer worked out all the details of the windows, the wrought-iron window fittings, the arcaded staircase and the entrance doors, and indicated the typology of all the details on the façades.

In connection with the determination of the ground plan of the first floor, the chief conservator upgraded in 2006 the existing conservation programme from 2003 and added starting points for the ground plan of the first floor, including the making of a copy of the elaborately carved grand entrance to the ballroom. A copy of one doorway would be modelled on the original grand entrance kept at the National Museum in Ljubljana,¹⁹ while the original doorway would be installed in its original position in the middle of the south wall of the former ballroom. Renaissance floor panels measuring 150 x 250 cm were specified by analogy with contemporary Renaissance architecture. Ash was chosen instead of spruce, with Slavonian oak for the 7.5 cm-wide edging. The two stone doorways in the west wall of the first floor leading into the ballroom were made to match the two doorways in the Old Castle (N 3 a), as both lead onto the covered bridge connecting the Old Castle and the New Castle and were made at the same time as the two doorways on the first

floor of the New Castle. The correctness of the decision in relation to these doorways was confirmed by the discovery of spolia of the lintels.²⁰

The outline plan of use drawn up in 2006 by the engineering, planning and consultancy firm Gea Consult d.o.o. of Škofja Loka built on the project documentation for structural repairs to and external visualisation of the New Castle drawn up in 2003. The layout of the ground floor was already defined in the 2003 documentation, while the first floor with mansard roof and the treatment of the pitched roof were not defined until the outline plan of use. A constituent element of the outline project was an exact inventory of works, which took into account the cultural protection conditions from the conservation programme.

The chief planner subordinated the use of the ground floor and cellar to the original ground plan from 1615. The toilet facilities on the ground floor, which were initially envisaged in the anteroom of the north tower of the ground floor, were later moved into a space below the north arcaded staircase, thus preserving the totality of the north tower anteroom. He placed a triangular glass lift against the west wall of the north tower. Through the shape and the choice of materials he reduced the mass of the lift, with the result that it is entirely unobtrusive within the large space of the tower. On the first floor he re-established the original ground plan in the large hall and the south tower as per the conservation programme. He used the north tower and part of the main wing between the large ballroom and the south tower as small lecture rooms and offices. In order to ensure the unhindered access of visitors to the first floor, he planned a separate access left and right of the large hall. This made it possible for the remainder of the floor to be used even when the large lecture room, the former ballroom, is occupied. The plan of use documentation for obtaining a building permit was drawn up in April 2008. Plan of use documentation for project implementation was not drawn up.

The plan of use documentation specified the New Castle and part of the first floor of the Old Castle for the purposes of MICE tourism. In the first-floor cellar of the New Castle, the plan preserves the original activity (a wine cellar), while the north cellar, the former casemates, will house an exhibition space. The cellar floor of the south tower will house the castle kitchen, the castle restaurant will be located on the ground floor of the south end of the wing, and the north tower with the lift and anteroom will be a reception room for MICE tourism. The first floor will be reserved for conference rooms, offices and studies for lecturers. In the area of the passage to the south tower, a kitchenette and food serving area are planned. The attic will contain guestrooms, a large living area, a boiler room and a machine room.

The renovation work began in October 2006 with repairs to the cellar vaulting in the north tower and continued in 2007 with the reconstruction of the south tower, which was completed in the summer of the same year. In the passage between the south tower and the central wing, we discovered a cobbled pavement. We continued the renovation in March with the reconstruction of the barrel vault in the anteroom of the north tower and the reconstruction of the barrel vault with triangular niches supported by the central pillar in the north tower. This was followed by the reconstruction of the barrel vault of the passage

leading to the Old Castle and the barrel vault with supporting pillar on the ground floor and first floor of the reconstructed south tower. The barrel vault of the passage connecting the reconstructed south tower with the main wing of the New Castle and leading towards the south-west tower was done at the same time as the reconstruction of the vault of the north tower. We used the traditional method of brick construction in the reconstruction of the vaults. All the vaults of the interior re-established the supporting function of vault structures. Instead of three rows of brick, we used just two types in the construction of the vaults and used the remaining space for insulation material. We used a full brick measuring 25 x 12 cm. Above the traditional vaults of the interior we used a light filling material (expanded clay pellets and brick chips) and made relieving floors around 6 cm thick. For the construction of partition walls and missing sections we used modular brick. On the ground floor we reconstructed all the original walls in brick, while on the first floor we used Knauf boards for the south and north walls of the large ballroom. In this way we reconstructed the original appearance and thickness of the two walls and concealed the ventilation system in the space between the two boards. We opened the sealed-up loopholes and small cellar windows on the façade of the north tower. We reintroduced the old stairs into the north cellar that led from the entrance corridor and barrel-vaulted them in accordance with material evidence.

After completion of the first floor in the summer of 2007 reconstruction began of the two external arcaded passages and the covered bridge connecting the New Castle to the Old Castle. The roof with its Renaissance dormers was done in the second half of 2007. For the roof covering we used traditional flat ('beaver-tail') tiles without snow guards and buttoned ridge tiles. All metalwork was done in sheet copper. Dormers were only installed in the central section of the New Castle because on the towers the effect would have been intrusive as a result of the excessive number of hotel rooms and the slightly larger dimensions. In the towers we installed studio windows in the slope of the roof. These are less intrusive than an excessive number of Renaissance dormers designed according to the original model. Reconstructed stone window frames were installed in the window apertures of the first floor, while Mapei lime renovating plaster was used on the façade and in the interior. The plastering of the façade followed the appearance of the coarse lime plaster from 1615 which was documented on the ground-floor section of the façade next to the loophole left of the main entrance. Underneath the coarse plaster from the late Renaissance phase we discovered smooth lime plaster from the Gothic phase. At the request of the planner, iron supports were made for all the rooms with wooden beam ceilings. These are concealed by plywood boards and support the solid wooden beam ceiling. The ceiling design was based on the original Renaissance wooden beam ceiling on the first floor of the Old Castle (N 4, N 6).

In the winter of 2007–2008, the renovation work focused on ventilation, the attics with hotel rooms, and underfloor heating. In the spring of 2008 we repaired and presented the brick structure of the barrel vault with triangular niches in the upper space of the casemates and replaced the worn-out solid wooden stairs with new identical oak stairs. In the lower cellar of the casemates we reconstructed the brick barrel vault on the site of the demolished vault and used the old brick for the pavement. Central heating was not

installed here or in the south wine cellar. Because of safety regulations, metal banisters were installed on all stairs. Following renovation of the two rooms of the casemates, we installed a solid oak door between the lower and upper cellars, thus separating the upper heated cellar from the lower unheated cellar below the gun platform with its ventilation hole in the crown of the vault. We repaired the old stonework opening of the lower casemates that was once needed to ventilate the powder store and made a new wrought-iron grille based on the original. We then glazed the opening to protect it from rain and cold. In the first-floor wine cellar on the south side of the building, which before the renovation was still in a very good condition, we conserved all the plaster and the flooring and washed the vaulting. Without our knowledge the contractor freshened up the walls and vaulting with lime paint, which was sprayed on rather than being applied using the traditional method. We paved the ground floor and the upper cellar of the casemates with brick paving stones modelled on the surviving square paving stones measuring 25 x 25 cm that we discovered in the north tower and the anteroom to the tower. Underfloor heating was installed in all the rooms of the cellar, ground floor and first floor, with the exception of the lower room of the casemates and the south cellar. In the warm months of 2008 we restored the surviving stone window frames on the façade of the ground floor and the two doorways on the main façade. All the restoration materials used corresponded to the highest standards of the restoration profession. Repairs to damaged details of window frames and doorways were carried out using BL-System mineral restoration mortar, which contains no harmful substances and no cement and allowed us to preserve the original substance of the stone to the greatest possible extent. Restoration work on stonework details was carried out by two restoration workers specially trained for this work (Benó Korošec and Dino Kolarič). Owing to the difficulties of restoring the large gateway to the Negova complex and the doorway in the New Castle, the final stages of the work were carried out by the Institute's restorer Vlasta Čobal Sedmak, who also supervised the restoration of all the stonework details. For the new stone window frames on the first floor and the doorways and stone architectural details of the arcaded passages and covered bridge, we used bihacite sandstone. This was as similar as possible to the original fine-grained sandstone that still survives in the Old Castle and New Castle. We repaired the wrought-iron grilles and manufactured the missing ones, taking the originals as a model. The loopholes of the north tower were glazed directly without a visible frame, and we shifted the glass 20 cm into the interior. Throughout the first floor we reconstructed the stone mullioned windows and made larch wood windows based on the Renaissance model with tinned metal fittings based on those that we discovered in 2007 on the shutters of room N 3a in the Old Castle. We used the same type of fittings on the ground floor, with the difference that in accordance with Renaissance practice they were given a protective matt finish. The stone doorways leading into the first-floor ballroom from the arcaded passages and the covered bridge, which are identical to the one leading from the room on the first floor of the Old Castle (N 3) to the covered bridge, were reconstructed from two surviving spolia discovered in a non-original position.

In the main passage leading to the Old Castle and all the rooms of the New Castle, we made two stone doorways, taking as a model a fragment of a stone doorpost in the south wall of the passage. Plans for the oak doors on the ground floor and the larch doors on

the first floor were drawn by the conservator Gorazd Gerlič according to the instructions of the chief conservator. He took as a model for the larch doors on the first floor the doors seen in an old photograph of the ballroom doorway from 1934 and a profile in the upper section of the doorway conserved by the National Museum in Ljubljana. The metal fittings of the windows and doors, which on the ground floor were given a protective matt finish and on the first floor a protective tin coating, were specified on the basis of preserved fittings from the Old Castle. The shape of the locks was based on a lock from the ground floor of the Old Castle (P 11), while the scratch guards and handle were based on the scratch guards from the ground floor of the Old Castle (P 10) and the door of the room in the arcaded extension to the first floor (N 5). All the forged and decorated metal parts were made on the basis of an accurate drawing with the decoration drawn in, done by Bine Kovačič, a specialist conservator-restorer.

For the metal fittings on the doors of the ground floor and first floor we used the fittings from the original Renaissance doors from the first floor of the arcaded extension to the Old Castle (N 5), since these are very similar in form to the original metal fittings from the door leaves of the grand entrance to the ballroom in the New Castle. The decoration on the fittings consists of bearded heads and fabulous sea creatures with long snouts and scaly necks.²¹ The two large ventilation gratings standing either side of the grand carved Mannerist doorway in the south wall of the ballroom are very intrusive. They were made without prior consultation with the chief conservator, who has requested that they be reduced to an acceptable size. In accordance with the project documentation the lights were as far as possible installed in flat sections of the walls. In the lower cellar of the casemates and the double wine cellar, the planner installed the lights in the floor, creating a very subtle atmosphere.

In the summer of 2008 work began on the reconstruction of the pavement of the south gun platform and the reconstruction of the north gun platform with the cordon and the brick parapet above the cordon. The plastered brick wall of the north gun platform was topped, like the south platform, with the sandstone (bihacite) that we used for all the new masonry details in the castle, including the pavements. We laid down cultural protection conditions in connection with the regulation of the levels of the forecourt and the levels of the access along the ramp leading into the New Castle and the Old Castle. Sand-covered paths and lawns were laid out. Small semicircular garden lights were installed on the lawn along the paths. In the autumn the oak doors of the ground floor with wrought-iron fittings were made.

In the winter of 2008 we presented the rooms of the north tower, the rooms between the large hall and the south tower and the room of the south tower with uniform parquet. For the floor of the large grand hall we reconstructed the Renaissance wooden floor surface using ash floor panels measuring approximately 110 x 160 cm, bordered by a 7.5 cm band of darker oak. In the other rooms of the first floor we used metre square floor panels, also bordered with oak. All the fixtures were protected with tung oil and wrought-iron fittings. In January 2009, workers from Mizarstvo Zlatorog installed magnificent doors with pewter fittings on the first floor. The doors were modelled on the original wooden doorway of the former ballroom which is kept at the National Museum in Ljubljana.

In the spring of 2009 two Mannerist wooden doorways based on the original Negova doorway from the National Museum in Ljubljana (linden wood for the carved section of the doorway, pine for the profiling below the top section and spruce for the door leaves and doorposts) were installed in their original position in the south and north walls of the large ballroom on the first floor.²²

The large stone doorways of the arcaded passages were not included in the first phase of the renovation but we plan to include them in the second phase.

The Entrance Tower (building C)

The south-east tower, which marks the most exposed part of the castle complex, stands on terrain that descends sharply towards the east in the direction of the former castle moat. A two-storey tower on an almost square base, it is covered by a steep pyramidal roof with a pitch of around 60°. Below the roof runs a late Baroque profiled crowning cornice. The façade of the ground floor is separated from the first floor by a brick cordon which transitions into a reinforced stone section at the corners. The loopholes of the ground floor are lined in stone like the stone loopholes on the ground-floor level of the surrounding wall, while the first-floor loopholes are brick.

In 1995, on the basis of the cultural protection conditions laid down previously and research carried out during renovation, we restored the exterior of the entrance tower to its appearance from the last phase of the fortification of the castle, carried out in the second half of the 16th century and remodelled in the first third of the 17th century. Owing to a lack of funds, the interior of the tower was not renovated. In the inventory of works from 2006, which represented a constituent part of the outline plan of use by Aleš Hafner, the planner followed the previously laid down cultural protection conditions for the renovation of the interior, envisaging a tourist information office in the tower.

The renovation of the entrance tower in 2006–2008 was limited to the interior, with the exception of the partial renovation of the façade plaster. In October 2006 archaeological research led by the conservation consultant Ivan Tušek revealed a floor level approximately half a metre lower, paved with brick of an old-fashioned format (30 x 15 x 7.5 cm). Along the east wall was a band of slightly lower terrain which was also paved and presumably served as a water outflow when the tower was presumably still open, without a roof. Parallel to the north wall ran a secondary wall with a transition into a section lying almost two metres lower down next to a key-shaped loophole. We plastered the interior with a lime renovating plaster. The restored and newly made loopholes were fitted with frameless glass and sealed with silicone. Because the floor surface of the ground floor was almost half a metre lower, the planner decided on a landing which at the same time leads to the first-floor stairs. In the lowest section we preserved the beaten earth floor. Underfloor heating was installed on the ground floor and first floor. In 2008 the ground floor was paved with brick paving stones measuring 25 x 25 cm, while in the winter of 2008 a solid floor of larch planks of different widths was laid on the first floor. In the spring of 2008

new smooth lime renovation plaster was applied to the façade of the tower up to the level of the cordon.

The Ancillary Building (building D)

Owing to its exposed position at the eastern edge of the castle complex, the ancillary building is the first castle building that is visible from the Gornja Radgona–Negova road. It is set in a south–north direction and is dug into the slope of the castle hill. From the east it is visible as a tall fortified building resting on the outer wall. On the courtyard side, where the entrance is, it is a single-storey building. A heavily moulded crowning cornice runs below the roof, which has a pitch of 45°. With its shorter wing the building abuts the north wall, while its longer wing abuts the east wall. The external north and east elevations of the ancillary building are set atop a tall, sloping stone rampart above steeply dropping terrain. The stone part of the former defensive wall is separated from the brick ancillary building by a stone cordon. The north-east corner is fortified by a rectangular tower. The courtyard front features moulded window frames and doorways. Two doorways are noteworthy, one of them marked with the year 1642 and the other with the letters MGZT.

The outline plan of use and the inventory of works from 2006 followed the conservation programme in which we laid down cultural protection conditions in written and graphic form (see note 23). In the graphic appendix we drew the changes to the ground plan and elevations into the architectural drawing produced by Elea iC d.o.o. of Ljubljana in 2003 and set out the final appearance of the building following renovation. We specified probes, planned demolitions, the sealing and reconstruction of door and window openings, and the re-opening of sealed-up window openings, and on the basis of all the data determined the original ground plan. In the locations of the non-original doorways on the shorter courtyard front and the first and eleventh axes of the east courtyard front, we envisaged the reconstruction of the original window apertures with moulded stone frames. On the west and south elevations of the building (i.e. the ends of the two wings) we specified the re-opening of two sealed-up window apertures. On the outer façade of the shorter north wing we envisaged the reconstruction of two missing window apertures with moulded frames. We fitted all the stone window frames with metal grilles and specified repairs and a matt protective finish for the surviving original grilles. We installed four dormer windows in the east wing and two in the shorter north wing and specified the shape of the mid-17th century chimneys by analogy. For the roof covering we chose flat ('beaver-tail') tiles without snow guards, ridge tiles with a nose or button, snow guard panels and sheet copper for the guttering. In the interior we specified the repair of all the vaulting and the beamed ceiling in the former stables and requested that the original level of the floor be retained. For the floor surface we specified handmade brick paving stones. We laid down cultural protection conditions for a light filling material and relieving floors with horizontal tension ties, on the basis of which the vaults would preserve their load-bearing capacity. We specified the repair of plastered surfaces and, in the case of worn-out plaster, the manufacture of new smooth lime plaster modelled on the original. For the injecting we requested an injection compound based on limestone and pozzolans. We

elaborated cultural protection conditions for the making of the herringbone oak outer doors and specified wrought-iron fittings. We drew up a proposal for internal coffered larch doors with fittings from the mid-17th century. Underfloor heating was specified for all the rooms.

The uses of the ancillary building were decided in accordance with the wishes of the local community and the Municipality of Gornja Radgona. The building will contain a multipurpose space, a lecture room, the castle shop, the local community office and a kitchenette. All the ground floor rooms except the shop will serve the purpose of revitalising the activities of the local community.

The planner realised almost all of the conditions from the conservation programme. He preserved the sealed-up window at the end of the short north wing, against which he placed an external staircase giving access to the attic. In this way he preserved intact the barrel-vaulted space of the north wing that will hold the castle shop. At the request of the local community, which wanted a large space for gatherings, the planner made one room out of the original two rooms at the north end of the east wing. The effect is somewhat awkward because the window niches of the east wall in what was originally two rooms are at different heights. Contrary to the starting points of the conservation programme, the planner did not take into account the positioning of lights on the flat part of the wall in all rooms. For the time being the attic is unused, except for the toilets. When the purpose of use of the attic is decided, it will have to be something that maintains intact the appearance of the roof with its dormer windows. The planner located disabled toilets by the stairs leading to the attic.

The choice of the ancillary building as the first building to be renovated in the process of the thorough renovation of the entire complex was no coincidence, but was dictated by its position next to the entrance to the castle complex. The wish of the local community to be as involved as possible in the revitalisation of the castle was respected and its role underlined. This is something of great importance in such a large and demanding project.

Construction work began in 2006 with repairs to the stone outer wall with its cordon, on which the brick ancillary building stands. The probes carried out along the outside wall of the building showed that it stands on well preserved foundations that reach down a metre and a half. Research carried out by the very dilapidated and unstable north-west tower of the ancillary building, however, revealed foundations only around 60 cm deep. We therefore underpinned them with concrete to a depth and width of half a metre, thus consolidating the most problematic part of the wall with the ancillary building from the static point of view. The stonework of the former outer wall on which the ancillary building stands is separated from the brick structure by a cordon. The mortar in the stone wall was already very loose and parts of the wall were missing. We removed the roots that had penetrated deeply into the stonework, washed the stone and brick walls, and filled the apertures with original material. In the stone wall we filled the gaps with renovating plaster without added cement and plastered the frontage with Mapei renovating plaster based on lime and pozzolan. At the south end of the outer wall we installed pipes to enable

the drainage of water from the embanked terrain on which the ancillary building stands. We installed earthquake ties around the entire circumference of the building and made a concrete tie in part of the attic. We carried out drainage and foundation work on the courtyard front and regulated the drainage of rainwater.

Inside the ancillary building we removed the worn-out plaster. We determined the floor level on the basis of probes. In the section of the ancillary building that will serve to provide access to the local community office and disabled toilets, we preserved the unimpeded access to the interior. We removed all non-original partition walls and in this way re-established as far as possible the original ground plan. Dilapidated original partition walls were replaced by new brick walls on new foundations. In accordance with the project documentation we made a new partition wall for the room with the cloakroom and, on the courtyard side, opened the sealed-up window in the south wall. On the long west front and short north front we walled up two non-original doorways and in their place re-established the original window openings. At the north end of the longer east wing we removed the wall between the two original rooms because the new purpose of use made it necessary to create a larger hall in this section of the ancillary building. Monument-friendly injection of the walls and vaulting was done with Mapei injecting compound containing no cement additives, and continued in 2007.

In the spring of 2007 a new supporting structure for the roof was made to replace the old, worn-out structure. For the roof covering we used flat ('beaver-tail') slates and ridge tiles with buttons. In the attic of the short north wing and the longer southern end of the east wing we installed a reinforced concrete tie before reconstructing the roof. At the northern end of the longer east wing of the ancillary building we made new metal ties. These latter replaced the old wooden ties and prevented static instability of the ancillary building built on top of the medieval outer wall. Work in the interior of the building included the laying of a concrete basement slab (2006), waterproofing, a reinforced concrete floor and underfloor heating. Contrary to our instructions, the contractor PG Ptuj raised the floor level by around 20 centimetres. This is noticeable above all in the large room with the metal ties, which because of the higher floor level are now slightly too low and have an intrusive effect. A blacksmith repaired the existing wrought-iron window grilles and manufactured the missing ones on the basis of the originals, and fitted them in new stone window frames. On the courtyard front of the ancillary building and in the interior, just as on the outer wall, Mapei lime renovating plaster replaced the worn-out lime plaster. The solid larch door made from vertical boards with wrought-iron fittings was, like the double windows with wrought-iron fittings and the internal larch doors, protected with tung oil.

South-West Tower (building F)

The tower at the south-west corner of the surrounding wall has an irregular square ground plan, with its east side slightly narrower than the other sides. The two-storey tower is covered by a pitched roof with stepped gables on the model of Gothic buildings. The ridge of the roof runs parallel to the south wall in an east–west direction. The loopholes on the

outer side of the wall are of stone on the ground-floor level, with the exception of the key-shaped loophole on the north front. The loopholes on the first-floor level are brick. Both types represent a continuation of the loopholes of the south wall. Before renovation, the first floor of the tower was only accessible via external stairs on the east side. Following the renovation access is also possible from the south parapet walk. Inside the tower, the ground floor has a barrel vault, while the first floor has a flat ceiling.

The outline plan of use of the tower was created on the basis of the conservation programme drawn up in 2002 (see note 14) and partly amended in 2006. The graphic part of the programme included an architectural drawing, the planned interventions and the situation following the interventions, both on the ground plan and on all the elevations. We indicated the demolition of non-original walls on the ground floor and first floor and the removal of the concrete slab on the ground floor. In accordance with established practice we requested archaeological supervision of the work on the floor surface of the ground floor. We envisaged the reconstruction of both entrances and the window openings, which are presumed to have been altered after the Second World War. In the reconstruction of the window and door openings that had been enlarged and were impossible to define on the basis of material data, we specified window niches with wooden frames into which a wrought-iron grille was fixed, by analogy with the north-west tower which, like the south-west tower, underwent alterations in the late Baroque period. Both the towers, which in the Renaissance period were open on the inner (castle) side, were later (in the late Baroque period) built up on the inner side and protected by a roof. We defined all the interventions in the tower in accordance with its Baroque appearance and specified the opening of the sealed-up loopholes in the outer wall on both floors. If we had not discovered the original pavement, we would have used handmade brick paving stones measuring 25 x 25 cm for the ground-floor pavement and solid oak planks for the first floor. We laid down cultural protection conditions for a light filling material and relieving floors with horizontal tension ties, on the basis of which the vaults would preserve their load-bearing capacity.

For the façade on the outside of the wall, we specified smooth lime plaster. Coarse lime plaster was specified for the Baroque additions inside the wall. An injection compound based on lime and pozzolan was specified for the injection process.

The renovation of the tower should have followed the graphic part of the conservation programme from 2002, but in view of new findings in the autumn of 2006 we drew up a slightly modified graphic conservation programme for the presentation of the tower elevations. The modifications regarded in particular the window apertures. The new appearance was computer-processed by the conservator Gorazd Gerlič. During the first phase of the renovation we removed non-original partition walls and re-established the original single rooms on the ground floor and first floor. Archaeological research led by the conservation consultant Ivan Tušek in the autumn of 2006 revealed a floor level approximately half a metre lower, dating from an earlier building phase, in which the openings for a wooden podium structure were still clearly visible. We did not find the expected cellar floor and therefore decided to present the construction phase of the tower

from the period of the last major construction phase in around 1800, when the tower was built up on the inner side and converted for residential use. We presented all the late Baroque window openings, all the surviving carved stone openings on the ground floor and first floor, and the brick loopholes on the first floor. A late Baroque window opening with a surviving wrought-iron grille in the north courtyard elevation served as a model on the basis of which we reconstructed the other frames with window grilles in the late Baroque window openings of the ground floor of the south and west elevations. The fixing of wrought-iron grilles into solid oak frames was modelled on the surviving Baroque window with solid oak frame in the east elevation of the north-west tower. On the first floor we opened the sealed-up brick loopholes that were modelled on the loopholes in the upper level of the south wall. At the ground-floor level we opened a key-shaped loophole in the west elevation and a vertical carved stone loophole in the north elevation. The latter was only sealed up from the inside. We reconstructed the lower part of the inside of the key-shaped loophole in the east elevation, which had been visibly damaged during renovation. In the west wall of the first floor we opened a passage onto a projecting wooden gallery supported by corbels, the original walls of which were still partly preserved and were similar to those on the ground floor of the south-west tower. We laid a concrete floor on the ground floor and, on the first floor, a relieving floor above the ground-floor vaults. Underfloor heating was installed on both floors. The large and obtrusive window openings dating from the 20th century were walled up. On the ground floor we laid a pavement using brick paving stones measuring 25 x 25 cm. An oak floor was laid on the first floor. All the loopholes were glazed directly, using silicone to fix the glass, while single windows were fitted to the Baroque windows on the first floor. The Baroque windows with wrought-iron grilles on the ground floor were protected by removable windows in thin wooden frames fixed by catches on one side.

We reconstructed the sgraffito decoration of the north-east corner on the courtyard side and the sgraffito rim around the three open oval fields of the attic that served to provide ventilation. In accordance with probes from the late Baroque period, when the tower was given its present appearance, we painted the exterior in ochre, which contrasts nicely with the unplastered sgraffito work. On the west front we reconstructed a projecting wooden gallery resting on the original stone corbels. We protected the wooden structure with tung oil. We connected the wooden landing of the entrance to the first floor with the parapet walk of the south wall.

The South Wall (building H)

The south wall represents the most visible, longest and best preserved section of the wall surrounding the castle complex and extends between the south-east and south-west towers. The section of the wall by the New Castle is fortified by a gun platform, just as it is on the north side. The section of the wall between the entrance tower and the gun platform is brick and has a single row of loopholes at the ground-floor level. Immediately below the top of the wall is a brick cordon, which however only extends along the section of wall between the gateway and the gun platform. This section of the wall was renovated

in 1999. The gun platform projects from the wall. Its lower fortified section is of stone while its upper section is brick. The boundary between the stone and brick sections of the wall is marked by a stone cordon. The brick parapet of the gun platform is topped by a stone coping inclined slightly towards the interior. Unlike the west and north walls, the section of wall between the gun platform and the south-west tower was intact before the renovation in 2006. All the stone loopholes at the ground-floor level and the brick loopholes at the first-floor level are preserved or reconstructed originals. The damaged and missing section of the wall by the gun platform was reconstructed in 2000 as part of a Ministry of Culture restoration campaign. The height of the wall is just over 4 metres on the courtyard side and over 6 metres on the outer side. The lower section of the outer part of the wall is of stone and represents a surviving fragment of an older fortification. On the inner (courtyard) side it is brick.

During renovation the gun platform was restored, missing sections of the coping were made and the old coping stones were partly restored. Despite the request of the planner to increase the height of the platform wall, it was retained at its original height at the request of the chief conservator. The entire surface of the south platform, like the north platform, was consolidated, isolated and paved with sandstone paving stones with sides measuring between 40 and 60 cm and a thickness of 8 cm.

The outline plan of use of the south wall with the reconstructed parapet walk followed the precisely detailed conservation programme for the presentation of the south wall drawn up in 2002. The parapet walk was drawn with all its details by the senior conservation technician Smiljan Simerl.

In 2008 we presented the parapet walk on the south wall. This was done in accordance with the detailed graphic representation in the conservation programme. In contrast to the inventory of works, only the supporting section of the wall parapet was made of oak. The other sections were made of spruce. The roof of the parapet walk was given a triple covering of 50 cm larch shakes (split shingles). The presented parapet walk in the section between the New Castle and the south-west tower connected the parapet walk to the south-west tower. In its original defensive function it was level with the south-west tower, which at that time was open on the courtyard side. In around 1800, when the tower was converted to residential use and closed up on the inner, courtyard side, steps were built on the south side to bridge the difference in level between the preserved level of the parapet walk and the new level of the first floor of the tower, raised during the conversion to residential use.

Architectural supervision of the renovation was carried out by chief planner Aleš Hafner, construction was supervised by Jože Misson of Gea Consult d.o.o. and conservation was supervised by conservation consultant Neva Sulič Urek. Coordination of work for the Ministry of Culture was carried out by senior conservator Damjana Pečnik of the Restoration Centre in Ljubljana. Archaeological research during the renovation was led by conservation consultant Ivan Tušek of the Maribor Regional Unit of the ZVKDS. Plan of use documentation for the purpose of obtaining a building permit was drawn up towards

the end of the renovation in the spring of 2008, which on several occasions made it impossible for the chief conservator to have an accurate view of the renovation, particularly in terms of the detailed treatment of the interior. Detailed plans of the metal fittings and doors in the ancillary building and the New Castle were drawn by the conservator Gorazd Gerlič on the instructions of the chief conservator; life-size drawings of the original metal fittings were drawn by the restoration-conservation consultant Bine Kovačič; restoration supervision was led by senior conservation restorer Vlasta Čobal Sedmak; construction supervision was led by senior conservation technician Branko Ramšak (all from the Maribor Regional Branch of the ZVKDS).

The construction work, which began in the autumn of 2006 and was not completed (including all corrections) until the spring of 2009, was carried out by a consortium consisting of Givo of Ljubljana, Pomgrad of Murska Sobota and Granit of Slovenska Bistrica.

Metal elements (wrought iron grilles, balustrades, steel ties) were made by Kovaštvo Mir of Ivanjci near Negova, stonemasonry work was by Gradom d.o.o. of Limbuš, carpentry and joinery were by Mizarstvo Zlatorog of Maribor, locks and metal door and window fittings were made at the forge in Desternik near Ptuj, and earthmoving work was by GP Ptuj. Plasters were made by Map Trade of Slovenska Bistrica. Reconstruction of the vaulting in the New Castle was carried out in the north tower, the room next to it and the passage by workers from Jimi d.o.o. of Ljubljana, and in the south tower and the passage between the south tower and the central wing by workers from GP Ptuj. Ventilation was installed by Ferlinc d.o.o. of Maribor and electrical installations were by Petek s.p. of Radenci. Roofing work was carried out by Lončarič of Spodnji Ivanjci near Negova.

Notes

- 1 Hans Pirchegger, *Die Untersteiermark in der Geschichte ihrer Herrschaften und Gulten, Städte und Märkte*, Munich 1962, p. 50. The name itself appeared for the first time in the medieval land register of the province of Styria in connection with a deed of gift signed by Margrave Engelbert von Spanheim, who in 1107 gave an estate to a monastery at Sankt Paul im Lavanttal, Carinthia in exchange for two estates in the valley of the river Gurk in Carinthia. The author is not sure whether Negoinezero, 'the place of Negoy', is really Negova. Ivan Stopar mentions Negoinezero as the original name for Negova in his work *Grajske stavbe v vzhodni Sloveniji*.
- 2 Johannes Zahn, *Ortsnamenbuch*, p. 353.
- 3 Pavle Blaznik, *Historična Topografija Slovenije II, Slovenska Štajerska in jugoslovanski del Koroške do leta 1500*, Maribor 1988, p. 12. Blaznik does not mention the castle at Negova until 1425 ('vest Negaw').
- 4 Hans Pirchegger, op. cit., pp. 50–51.
- 5 Their other possessions in Styria were the estates of Trautmannsdorf, Gleichenberg, Burgau, Thal, Trautenfels, Wagna, Trautenburg, Kirchberg am Wald, Raggitsch, Rosenhof near Graz, Retzhof, Birkfeld, Schahenturn, Neuweinsberg, Liebenau, Neuhof, Adelsbühel, Messendorf and Mühleck (Karl Schmutz, *Historisch Topographisches Lexikon von Steyermark*, Part 4, Graz, 1823, pp. 208–209).
- 6 Jože Mlinarič, 'Gospoščina Negova na začetku 17. stoletja', *Ptujski zbornik* IV, Maribor 1975, p. 202.
- 7 See Hans Pirchegger, op. cit., p. 49.
- 8 The Decree on the Proclamation of Negova Castle as a Cultural Monument of State Importance was published in the Official Journal of the Republic of Slovenia No 8/1999 and 55/2002.
- 9 Marlenka Habjanič, Neva Sulič Urek, *Negova – grad, Konservatorski program obnove grajskega kompleksa*, ZVNKD, Maribor 1990.
- 10 Neva Sulič Urek, *Negova – grad, Konservatorsko restavratski program obnove Novega gradu (Objekt B)*,

- ZVKDS, OE Maribor, SU – 924/03, Maribor 2003.
- 11 The conservation consultant Ivan Tušek gave a report on the excavations in the area of the Negova castle complex in the article 'Arheološka preteklost negovskega kraja, gradu in okolice', published in *Negovski zbornik, Negova skozi čas*, Negova, August 2006, pp. 23–44.
 - 12 Neva Sulič Urek, *Negova – grad, Konservatorsko restavratorski program obnove gospodarskega poslopja (Objekt D)*, ZVKDS, OE Maribor, SU – 4112/05, Maribor 2005. The text consists of 13 pages followed by photographic documentation of the ancillary building from 2005 and 18 pages of graphic representation of the renovation, including details of the windows and metal fittings. The graphic part of the conservation programme was prepared by the conservation technician Smiljan Simerl.
 - 13 Neva Sulič Urek, *Negova – grad, Konservatorsko restavratorski program obnove jugozahodnega stolpa (Objekt F)*, ZVKDS, OE Maribor, SU – 5048/02, Maribor 2002. The text consists of 25 pages, photographic documentation of the tower from 2002 and 18 pages of graphic representation of the renovation. The graphic part of the conservation programme, including the architectural drawing, was prepared by the conservation technician Smiljan Simerl.
 - 14 Neva Sulič Urek, *Negova – grad, Konservatorsko restavratorski program obnove južnega obzidja (Objekt H)*, ZVKDS, OE Maribor, SU – 2932/02, Maribor 2002. The graphic part of the conservation programme, including the architectural drawing, was prepared by the conservation technician Smiljan Simerl.
 - 15 Neva Sulič Urek, *Negova – grad, Konservatorsko restavratorski program obnove grajskega jedra (Objekt A)*, ZVKDS, OE Maribor, SU – 5084/02, Maribor 2002. The graphic part of the conservation programme was prepared by the conservation technician Smiljan Simerl, who also took the photographs. The photographic documentation was computer-processed by the conservation consultant Neva Sulič Urek.
 - 16 Neva Sulič Urek, *Negova – grad, Konservatorsko restavratorski program obnove Novega gradu (Objekt B)*, ZVKDS, OE Maribor, SU – 924/03, Maribor, 2006. The photographs were taken by the conservation technician Smiljan Simerl and the photographic documentation was computer-processed by the conservation consultant Neva Sulič Urek.
 - 17 The ground plan of the first floor was reconstructed on the basis of all the available data, including a photograph of Negova Castle after the fire in 1938 in which the south wall of the first-floor ballroom is visible. The most important data for determining the size of the first-floor ballroom were the positions of the two entrances on the landings of the external arcaded passages leading into the large ballroom and a surviving stone threshold. The ground plan of the rooms in the two towers was dictated by the ground plans of the towers themselves and the supporting walls of the ground floor.
 - 18 Old prints of Negova Castle Stare have already been shown in the article on the elaboration of the conservation programme and project documentation for the Old Castle at Negova and therefore for reasons of space I have not included them here.
 - 19 The owners of Negova Castle, the Counts Trautmannsdorf, donated the doorway to the National Museum in Ljubljana in 1934.
 - 20 One spoliom of a late Renaissance lintel identical to those from rooms N 3a and N 2 in the Old Castle was discovered in the wall of the room below the steps of the arcaded passage of the Old Castle, and the other was discovered during renovation of the entrance tower in 1995 when we removed the steps leading to the first floor of the tower.
 - 21 It was not until towards the end of 2008, after the first-floor doors together with their metal fittings had already been made, that staff at the National Museum discovered the doors from the Negova doorway that everyone believed to be lost. The reconstructed profile of the coffers on the doors is slightly higher because we based it on the profile of the field in the top section of the doorway. The metal fittings, which we reconstructed taking surviving fittings from room N 5 in the Old Castle as a model, are identical in shape but the decoration is much more ambitious than that on the fittings of the original doors from the New Castle ballroom.
 - 22 Reconstruction of the doorways was carried out by the Kavčič workshop in Šentjošt nad Horjulom.