

# Evaluation and preservation of historic buildings in Osijek

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## Evaluation and Preservation of Historic Buildings in Osijek

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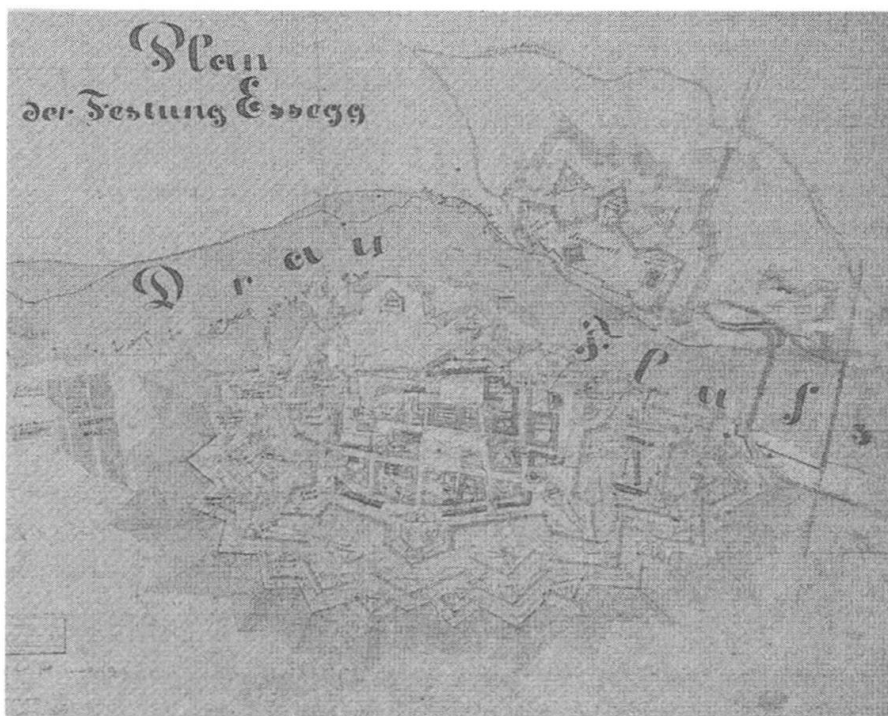
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### Summary:

Tvrda is an old part of town Osijek, built at the beginning of the XVIII century on the ruins of the old fortress from the XIII and an oriental Turkish center from the XVII century. It was a center of civil and military rule, religious and cultural midpoint and an important craft and trade center.



The building started immediately after the liberation from the Turkish rule in the year 1689 and was mostly finished by the 1722 year. The outer walls were from that time continuously strengthened and the inner ward was continuously remodeled. At the 20<sup>th</sup> years of this century most of the outer fortifications were destroyed.

*Fig. 1 Tvrda in the XVIII century*

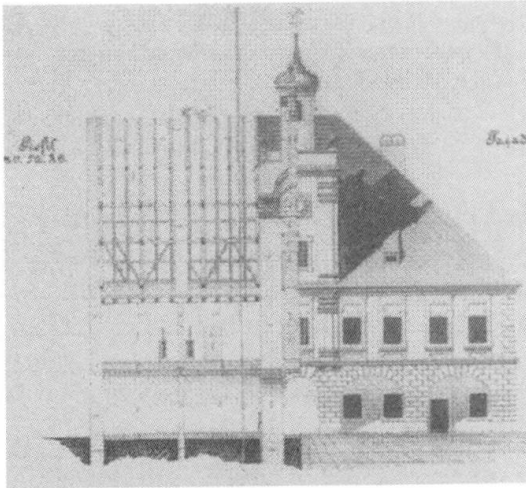
Tvrda presents a specific complex of the baroque architecture and is one of the most important Croatian cultural monuments. Therefore a broad study has been undertaken in order to properly estimate its value as cultural and civilization phenomena and to deepen our understanding from their stylistic and artistic values. Studies, analysis and systematization of the old structures remaining in Tvrda, according to their usage, structural type and materials used, has enabled the recognition of their true historic value, contributed in their preservation and choice of an adequate restoration.

**Keywords:** Osijek, castle, building types, systematization, restoration, preservation

## Tvrda's building types

There are more than a hundred different buildings which are a living witness of the old structural types, crafts and materials.

The biggest buildings in Tvrda, according to their size, number and area which they cover are military fortifications, namely: eight bastions, seven towers, inner and outer wards, keeps, gate houses, buttresses, battlement parapets, palisades, defense dikes and trenches, approach roads, ditches and moats.



Second group consists of other army structures: keeps, barracks, depots, powder-houses, hospitals and so on. They were mostly large elongated buildings built directly by the fortification line.

The third group are sacral buildings: churches and monasteries. They typically have broad naves with high walls and big ceiling spans.

*Fig. 2 Tvrda's main keep building*

The most numerous were administrative and civilian buildings in the Tvrda's inner ward. They differed in their use, size and erection time.

Thanks to the military fortification which has caused Tvrda's isolation and solitude from the other town parts, the historic treasure, their typology, architecture, ambient and structural characteristic is preserved. In order to preserve their authenticity and historic value, it is necessary to evaluate, systematize and validate the buildings in their whole and particularity (materials used, construction technology, structural type).



*Fig 3. Main Tvrda's square*

By knowledge of all of these data it is possible to chose the correct structural strengthening method and use of the latest technologies and materials so not the diminish the buildings' historic value.