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KESHILLI I QARKUT KORÇË

Interreg - IPA CBC
Greece - Albania
CLLD-CULTOUR



D.3.1.1 MAPPING REPORT OF PARTNERS' CULTURAL RESOURCES

EXTERNAL EXPERT
PROF.AS.DR. SONELA STILLO



Interreg - IPA CBC Greece - Albania



COMMUNITY-LED LOCAL DEVELOPMENT OF
CULTURAL TOURISM IN GREECE AND ALBANIA

CLLD-CulTour

WORK PACKAGE: WP3: MAPPING & STRATEGY

WORK PACKAGE PB3 – REGIONAL COUNCIL OF KORCE

DELIVERABLE: D.3.I.I MAPPING REPORT OF PARTNERS' CULTURAL RESOURCE

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PREFACE

Cultural tourism is very important for developing tourism in the world. Also, developing cultural tourism has become a key factor for economic development of regions. Through cultural tourism a region can distinguish the difference value of destinations that establish their competitiveness.

Cultural mapping is not only a method for cataloguing the cultural assets of a community it is also a useful tool for community engagement and collaboration. Nowadays, it is known that culture, innovation and quality of the place are very important economic drivers in communities. Creating a map of cultural resources is an initial but important step for developing future economic strategies for the community.

Being a professor of Economic Faculty in Korca has inspired me to contribute for developing more in the economic and tourist aspect the Korca Region. My job is related with reviewing literature on different aspects of the economic field. Reading various studies had introduced me to the benefits of cultural resources mapping as an innovative tool. It is very important for a community to know and to preserve its cultural and heritage assets.

My motivation for carrying out this project was primarily an interest for putting the culture resource mapping in practice. The first step for creating a cultural resource mapping was to understand the most important cultural assets of Korca Region from different sources such as directories of local government, residents and previous studies.

This project will help to identify and describe cultural resources, promote and protect the concentrations of cultural resources, strengthen cultural resource management, support economic development and cultural tourism. Also, cultural mapping creates solid partnerships among partners with common objectives.

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MUNICIPALITY OF KORCE

Name of the cultural resource

EDUCATION MUSEUM

Location



The national museum of education is located in the building where the first Albanian school in Albania was opened.

Architectural description and History

This building is a 150-year-old monument of culture. The first school, Mesonjetorja, was open on March 7, 1887, with the permission of the Ottoman Empire. The museum display stands hold a photocopy on the first Albanian reading primer written by Naum Veqilharxhi (1744) and the second Albanian reading primer written by Kostandin Kristoforidhi. Photos of the illustrious patriots, who contributed to the opening of this school, include Pandeli Sotiri, Petro Nini Luarasi, etc.

Current property and management

Municipality of Korçë

Tourist Guide Availability

From Monday to Friday, 8:00-15.00
Yes

Open to visits

From Monday to Friday, 8:00-15.00

Name of the cultural resource

ORTHODOX CATHEDRAL

Location



The Orthodox Cathedral of Korca, is highly valued for its size and central location in the city.

Architectural description and History

Built in 1994 as one of the largest Cathedral in Albania. Omprising 1800 square meters, the cathedral "Resurrection of Christ", is a concrete building with three floors. It symbolizes the return of religious practices in a county where all religion was banned from 1967 to 1991. This Cathedral has a Byzantine Revival architecture.

Current property and management

Municipality of Korca

Tourist Guide Availability

From Monday to Friday, 8:00-15.00
Yes

Open to visits

From Monday to Sunday

Name of the cultural resource

THE NATIONAL MUSEUM OF MEDIEVAL ART

Location



The National Museum of Medieval Art is a national museum dedicated to medieval art and history in Korça.

Architectural description and History

The National Museum of Medieval Art is one of those places where the modern and the old blend seamlessly together, creating an otherworldly, timeless space. The museum is located on Fan Noli Boulevard in the south-east of the city of Korça. It was established on April 24, 1980, and the building was reconstructed on October 4, 2016. It is an ultra-modern venue, though one which restores life to the Byzantine era. The museum has over 7,000 art and cultural items, mainly icons, stone, wooden, metal and textile works, representing various moments in Albania's iconography development. In the principal hall there are many works from anonymous artists of the 13th-14th centuries and well-known ones including Onufri, Onufër Qiprioti, Teacher Kostandini, Jeromak Shpataraku, David Selenica, and the Zografi Brothers.

Tourist Guide Availability

Tourist Guide Availability
Yes

Open to visits

From Monday to Friday, 8.00-15.00.

Name of the cultural resource

ILIAZ BAY MIRAHORIT MOSQUE

Location



This mosque is the oldest monument of the Korca city and the oldest mosque in Albania.

Architectural description and History

This building dates back to the year 1496, when the city began to function as the administrative unit and named after Iliaz Bay Miraholli. This Mosque is unique for its historical, cultural, religious, and architectural importance. The mosque is painted white inside with some pictures of Mecca and Medina on the wall.

Tourist Guide Availability

Tourist Guide Availability
Yes

Open to visits

From Monday to Sunday

Name of the cultural resource

"GJON MILI" MUSEUM

Location



This museum is located on the center of the city in the building called Romanian House, completely renovated and customized for the Gjon Mili Museum, thus returning the great artist to his native town.

Architectural description and History

Inaugurated in the city of Korça, the birthplace of the famous photographer Gjon Mili, the museum dedicated to his work and life, conceived as an experiential museum, spotting the work of the great artist but also as a meeting point for Albanian photography.

The Gjon Mili Museum embodies the mission to bring visitors to photography through the work and life of one of the best artists of the last century.

Tourist Guide Availability

Tourist Guide Availability
Yes

Open to visits

From Monday to Sunday

Name of the cultural resource

OLD BAZAAR OF KORÇA

Location



Old Bazaar is an Ottoman-era bazaar in Korca.

Architectural description and History

Established about 500 years ago, it is composed of old Ottoman and Roman architectonic style buildings which for centuries were used as shops, guesthouses or khans. It is said to be noted for selling goats and handbags. It was mostly rebuilt in 1879 following an extensive fire. The old bazaar comprises 138 first category culture monuments. It is also called as the Bazaar of the Serenades, associated with the music which for centuries was composed and sung by people whilst walking with a guitar on the round cobblestone.

Tourist Guide Availability

Tourist Guide Availability
Yes

Open to visits

From Monday to Sunday

Name of the cultural resource

ARCHAEOLOGICAL MUSEUM

Location



This museum is located in one characteristic house of Korca of the early 19th century, and due to their architectural value is declared a monument of culture.

Architectural description and History

The National Archaeological Museum, established in 1985, became broader and more complete after a re-organization in 1990. It is unique in its kind, starting from the Neolithic period (6000BC) until the Early Medieval (Century IX-century XII AD). The museum contains important documents and artifacts representing prehistoric settlements.

Tourist Guide Availability

Tourist Guide Availability
Yes

Open to visits

From Monday to Friday, 8.00-15.00.

Name of the cultural resource

TOURISTIC VILLAGES

Location



The villages around Korca's City

Architectural description and History

When you visit Korca you should visit its beautiful villages such as: Mborja, Kamenica, Boboshtica, Dardha, Voskopoja, apo Vithkuqi. These villages offer an amazing nature and also they have many cultural values. We can state Tumen of Kamenicen, Ristozi Curch in Mborje, St. Mary Church in Dardha, St.Koll Church, St.Thoma in Voskopoja, all these churches have important historical and architectural values. When you visit these places you can taste traditional food and drinks.

Tourist Guide Availability

Tourist Guide Availability
Yes

Open to visits

From Monday to Friday, 8.00-15.00.

MUNICIPALITY OF POGRADEC

Name of the cultural resource

THE TOMBS OF SELCA

Location



Lower Selca and its five monumental tombs are a great attraction to visit, especially if you are on your way from Pogradec to Tirana. The attraction can be found near the end of Qafë Thanë.

Architectural description and History

The tombs of Selca are part of Lower Selca's cultural values. According to the legend, the daughter of Aries, god of war, and goddess Aphrodite married Kadini and stayed in the Illyrian lands of the "Enkelej" tribe, where they reigned and gave birth to a boy, named Ilir. The legend says that in the moment he was born, the baby was wrapped by a snake that gave him magical powers. After their death, the boy's parents turned into divine snakes and were worshipped as Gods by the Illyrians. This divine snake is noticed in the back of the Illyrian knight, found in the rocky tombs of Lower Selca. The castle, with its dominant and favorable position, has played an important role in the Illyrian-Roman and Illyrian-Macedonian war. The archeological expeditions discovered 5 rocky, monumental tombs, which represent a society of high economic and cultural level of the 4th-3rd century BC.

Tourist Guide Availability

Tourist Guide Availability
Yes

Name of the cultural resource

THE MONASTERY OF SAINT MARENA

Location



The church and monastery of Saint Marena are located in the north of a village called Llenge, part of the Pogradec district. The village, with its favorable location, on the top of the mountain, offers a great view of the Shkumbin river.

Architectural description and History

The church is a small building, 8-12 m tall. The nave and the sanctuary are divided by a magnificent wood iconostasis. The iconostasis is 6 m wide and 4 m tall and has floral engravings. The interior part of the church is covered with murals, painted by the great master of that time and area, Kostandin Shpataraku. The story of how the church was built is actually very interesting. It is told that Marena, the daughter of a pagan father, was trying to spread and preach Christianity. This was not accepted by her father so she left home and moved to the area of Upper Mokra, in the village Llakatund. There she stayed hidden in a cave and when the sun came up she would bathe in a fountain-head, which today is known as Najazme. When the exiles heard about her acts and sacrifices, they decided to build a church for good luck. Today, the church is visited by many local and foreign tourists.

Tourist Guide Availability

Tourist Guide Availability
Yes

Open to visits

From Monday to Sunday

Name of the cultural resource

THE BEAR'S CAVE

Location



This is a touristic attraction, located 61 km west of Pogradec.

Architectural description and History

Those tourists who admire mountains will be fascinated by the natural beauty of the Bear's Cave. The karst process has created many stalactites and stalagmites, which give the cave a magnificent character.

Tourist Guide Availability

Tourist Guide Availability
Yes

Open to visits

From Monday to Sunday

Name of the cultural resource

THE HOUSE OF LASGUSH PORADEC

Location



The house of the well-known poet Lasgush Poradeci, is located in the historical center of the city of Pogradec.

Architectural description and History

His home is a great representative of Lasgush's art and masterpieces. It is a great place to read his most beautiful poems.

Tourist Guide Availability

Tourist Guide Availability
Yes

Open to visits

From Monday to Sunday

Name of the cultural resource

DRILON'S NATIONAL PARK

Location



It is located 5 km east of Pogradec, next to the touristic village of Tushemisht.

Architectural description and History

Drilon, or Voloreka, as it is called by the locals, is one of the most attractive natural wonders. Drilon is a karst source, including 3 water lines that end in the south-east coast of the lake, only a few meters away. The main water line creates a big water basin, which gives the opportunity for a boat ride and has an amazing flora and fauna.

The large variety of trees, including alders, planes, watering willows and reed, make the air fresh and crisp. One of the most beautiful features are the swans and other birds, that give more grace to this attraction.

Tourist Guide Availability

Tourist Guide Availability
Yes

Open to visits

From Monday to Sunday

Name of the cultural resource

POGRADEEC

Location



It is located on a narrow plain between two mountain chains along the southwestern banks of the Lake of Ohrid.

Architectural description and History

The Pogradec district has been inhabited since the period of the late neolith (6000-2000 BC). Near Buqeza, 20km north of Pogradec, there are prehistoric palaphites built over the surface of the water. The residents of the area are mythological. The monumental tombs of Selca e Siperme speak about their high developed life. Our region has also been inhabited during the Roman time taking a special strategic importance along the road Via Egnatia. According to ancient sources, this area has been inhabited by the Illyrian tribes of Erkelean and Dessaret. In their areas, by the end of 5th century BC, was established a powerful Illyrian state with series of settlements and castles around Ohrid Lake such as Enkelana, Lychnidos, Pelion, Sation, Baos etc. On the hill near to the city of Pogradec is located the place called KALAJA E POGRADECIT (POGRADEEC CASTLE). The castle was inhabited in the fifth century BC. This was an Illyrian settlement with walls and different types of huts. In this area it was only the castle at the beginning and later it was inhabited until the 10th century. After that the inhabitants went down the hill at the place called Gradishte. You can enjoy the beautiful landscape from the top of the hill.

Tourist Guide Availability

Tourist Guide Availability
Yes

Name of the cultural resource

LINI

Location



Lin is a small peninsula on the western shore of Lake Ohrid with a beautiful village of the same name.

Architectural description and History

The houses are made of stone and bricks on the sides of the narrow streets shadowed with grapes. At the south of Lin, near Buqeza, there are some palaphites into the lake in the depth of 2-3 meters. It is a settlement of the lacustrine type built on the surface of the lake. There are opinions that once the peninsula of Lin has been a beautiful island with blooming vegetation. The inhabitation of the peninsula of Lin began in the first period of the Iron Age and life there has continued till the early medieval time. During the archaeological excavations an Early Christian basilica with extraordinary floor mosaic from the forth-fifth century of our era was discovered. The mosaics have some beautiful figures such as fish, birds etc.

Tourist Guide Availability

Tourist Guide Availability
Yes

Open to visits

From Monday to Sunday

Name of the cultural resource

CHURCH OF SHEN BITRI

Location



The medieval church of Shen Bitri, as the locals use to call this St. Demetrios' church, is several hundred meters away from the village Potkozhan.

Architectural description and History

This small stone building, roofed with stone tiles is very unique because of its two apses on the eastern side and very specific wall painting in its interior. Although the frescoes are damaged, you can still admire the beauty and mystery of the saints pictured on its walls.


Tourist Guide Availability

Tourist Guide Availability
Yes

Open to visits

From Monday to Sunday

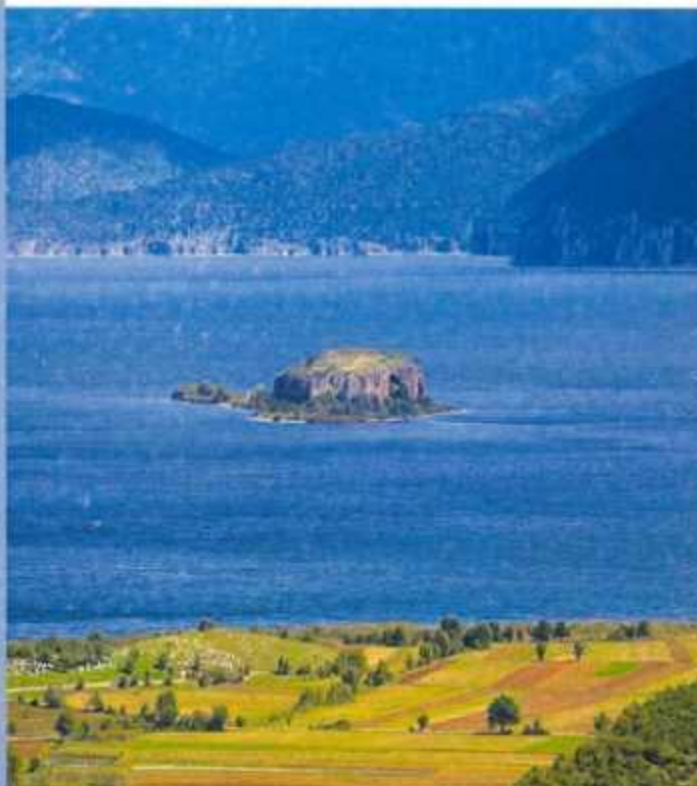
MUNICIPALITY OF PUSTEC

Name of the cultural resource	PREHISTORIC RESIDENCE IN (KALLAMAS) TUMINEC
Location	 <p>Prespa prehistoric settlement in Tuminec, is located on the shore of Prespa's Lake and it has a stretch of 7 hectares.</p>
Architectural description and History	<p>This settlement dates back to the 5th millennium BC and it belongs to the Middle and to the Late Neolithic. Materials found during the excavations are represented by tools, ceramics, works in stone, anthropomorphic figurines type, etc. Also, it is very interesting the discovery of a workshop where work tools were prepared.</p>
Tourist Guide Availability	Tourist Guide Availability Yes
Open to visits	From Monday to Sunday

Name of the cultural resource

MALIGRAD ISLAND. NATURAL MONUMENT

Location



Maligrad Island is located in the Lake of Prespa. The island has an area of about 16 hectares.

Architectural description and History

Archaeological discoveries state that the island was inhabited by XVII century BC and until the Middle Ages. Many graves and various ceramics have been found on this island. Inside the northeast side of island there are walls of a building that served as a holiday home for King Samoill in XI century. Inside Maligrad Island there is the Saint Mary church (Mala Bogorodica). The island has many caves. Many monks lived in these caves during the time of "Sv. Kliment "and" Sv. Naum '.

Tourist Guide Availability

Tourist Guide Availability
Yes

Open to visits

From Monday to Sunday

Name of the cultural resource

PALEOCHRISTIAN BASILICA IN (GORICA KINGDOM)
GORNA GORICA

Location



Paleo Christian Basilica is located in the new neighborhood of the village of Gorna Gorica.

Architectural description and History

There exist old structures that are recognized by the toponomy "vakefceto" or "monasteries". It is also found a higher intensity of fragments of the building, roof tiles, bricks of the late antique period (century.VI e.s.), and the presence of fragments of vessels tables. Also on the surface there are identified lines of walls, and based on the construction technique, and tiles used for their level, it is thought to belong to late antiquity. The orientation of the walls (east-west), the surface of the expansion of monument trail (approx 400m²), as well as fragments of tiles belong to the VI century

Tourist Guide Availability

Tourist Guide Availability
Yes

Open to visits

From Monday to Sunday

Name of the cultural resource

CAVE ON SAINT MARY CHURCH (ST.MARIJA)
TUMINEC. CULTURAL MONUMENT

Location



Saint Mary's Cave on Glluboko is located in the east of Tuminec village, on the lakeside.

Architectural description and History

It keeps in good condition its murals pictures, which epigraphic data attribute to Partheni monk and all the monks. The cave is an important expression of birth and organization of monastic life on the shores of Great Prespa while her paintings represent an important stage of transition towards a more advanced style of Byzantine visual arts, held at the beginning of the fourteenth century.

Tourist Guide Availability

Tourist Guide Availability
Yes

Open to visits

From Monday to Sunday

Name of the cultural resource

GLLOBOÇENI TOWER. CULTURAL MONUMENT

Location



The tower is located on top of a hill facing the village of Glloboceni around 1 km away in the north of it.

Architectural description and History

It's built with masonry stone in the form of rectangular blocks of quarried limestone in the shape of parallelepiped. The tower size is 9 * 7.80 m and walls have a thickness of 0.70m. The tower walls maintain a height of about 4-5m, and in some places shorter. The tower from its geographical position has served to control the passage along the route and approach control from the lake. From the constructions of the tower it dates to the end of eighteenth century.

Tourist Guide Availability

Tourist Guide Availability
Yes

Open to visits

From Monday to Sunday

Name of the cultural resource

SAINT MARINA MONASTERY "ST. MARINA" TUMINEC

Location



The monastery dedicated to "Sv. Marina" is located about 150 m away from the shore of Prespa's Lake and east of the village Tuminec.

Architectural description and History

The church was built in advance but a complete restoration of this monastery was made in 1888. The Konaks have been restored after the 1990s. The monastery is located in the field and the place is surrounded by trees like (*Juniperus excels*) known by the residents with the name (foja). Believers attend this place constantly and when it is the day of name of the saint's name they sleep there for health and prosperity in the family.

The feast of "Shen. Marina" is celebrated on July 30 and it is a place of pilgrimage not only for residents of Prespa but also for visitors and tourists. The monastery can be reached by boat or by land.

Tourist Guide Availability

Tourist Guide Availability
Yes

Open to visits

From Monday to Sunday

Name of the cultural resource

CHURCH "ARHANGELLOT"

Location



The hermit church "Arhangellot" is located on the shore of Prespa's Lake on the side of the mountain Kallogjeron southeast of Pustec.

Architectural description and History

The church consists on two parts. The lower part was the cell where the monk lived, and in the upper part was built the chapel and inside it has wall paintings. Naosi is 5-6 m². The ceiling of the cave is the one that covers it. Only the west side was built with stone walls closing with lime. Inside the altar are paintings of Sv. Marija with her son Jesus, Arhidhaku Stefan, Simeon and grit of Agnec-Melismos. There are iron ladders, to climb the thirty meters chapel.

Tourist Guide Availability

Tourist Guide Availability
Yes

Open to visits

From Monday to Sunday

Name of the cultural resource

STERJO SPASE

Location



Tourists can visit the statue of the writer Sterjo Spasse in the village of Glloboçeni.

Architectural description and History

The municipality of Pustec is known for its culture. Prespa has issued great intellectuals such as university professors, doctors, officers, as the great writer Spasse Sterjo from the village of Glloboçeni (Gollomboç). Since, there is the Macedonian minority in Pustec, it has a traditional culture embedded in the folklore, in clothing, religious holidays, language, customs, traditions, tales, legends, etc. Sterjo Spasse was and is one of the most prominent writers of the XX century, one of the most powerful connector bridges between the Albanian and Macedonian nations, and a modern writer who worked for peace and harmony among nations.


Tourist Guide Availability

Tourist Guide Availability
Yes

Open to visits

From Monday to Sunday

MUNICIPALITY OF DEVOLL

Name of the cultural resource	NIKOLICA
Location	 <p>Nikolica is located in the top of the valley of Devoll, in the upper Devoll, in the feet of the mount Gramoz, in the north, about 1230 m above the sea level, next to the main branch of the Devoll river that flows out some kilometers from the river. Nikolica is located 33 km in the South-West of the city of Bilsht, and 12 km in the South of the touristic village of Dardha. The area where this village is located is surrounded by high mountains over 1800 meters (the highest peak is 2050m), in a land covered by high and dense forests of beech and pine. Nikolica is the key village that connects the province of Devoll with that of Kolonja through the mountain of Gramoz.</p>
Architectural description and History	<p>According to the legends, the village took his name by merging the two names of its first citizens: the couple Niko and Lica. Referring to the Turkish register of Korca in 1431, the village of Nikolica has had only 7 houses. In the Codic of Korca and Selasfor, it is said that: "Until the first half of the XVIII century, Nikolica has been a city with 6000 citizens, it had a metropolitanate, beautiful churches, and even in the present day the villagers show the ruins of the metropolitanate and the cathedral church of Saint Koll.</p>
Tourist Guide Availability	Tourist Guide Availability Yes
Open to visits	From Monday to Sunday

Name of the cultural resource

THE CAVE OF TREN

Location



The Cave of Tren in the District of Devoll, is located in the West side of the lake of the Small Prespa and it dates from 6000 BC. The Cav of Tren is studied for its historical and natural values. Except the colonies of bats that are very important, in the Cave of Tren are found some insects and other nonvertebrals, charachteristic for the biotope of this cave.

Architectural description and History

The cave has been a prehistorical settlement of the early man, from the ancient neolith, until the era of Iron. On the inside, the cave is carved with extraordinary mural prehistorical pictures mainly with hunting schenes.

It is visited according to the motor way Korçë – Bilisht – Tren – Lake of Small Prespa.

Tourist Guide Availability

Tourist Guide Availability
Yes

Open to visits

From Monday to Sunday

Name of the cultural resource

THE CASTLE OF VENTROKUT

Location



The castle of Ventroku is located to the opposite side of the castle of Trajan.

Architectural description and History

The residence back to the late bronze. There are also ceramic remains of the first and second era of iron.

Tourist Guide Availability

Tourist Guide Availability
Yes

Open to visits

From Monday to Sunday

Name of the
cultural resource

THE CASTLE OF GRADISHTA

Location



Architectural
description and
History

The castle of Gradishta is a base which was inhabited only in dangerous cases of the population living nearby.

Tourist Guide
Availability

Tourist Guide Availability
Yes

Open to visits

From Monday to Sunday

Name of the cultural resource

TROJAN CASTLE

Location



Architectural description and History

Trojan castle, held the name of an emperor of Ilirian origin of ancient Rome.

Tourist Guide Availability

Tourist Guide Availability
Yes

Open to visits

From Monday to Sunday

Name of the cultural resource

THE HOUSE-MUSEUM OF MARIGO

Location



Without reaching the church of Saint Anargjendevë or Satrivac, rises the house-museum of Marigo Positos.

Architectural description and History

She is the embroiderer of the albanian flag. The house of Marigo and Jovan Pozio is rebuilt and turned into a museum by their descendents. In the House-Museum, everything is placed carefully, Violeta enriched it not only with important historical materials, but also with characteristic elements.

Tourist Guide Availability

Tourist Guide Availability
Yes

Open to visits

From Monday to Sunday

Name of the cultural resource

THE RIVER OF DEVOLLI

Location



Devolli is a river in southern Albania. It is one of the source rivers of Seman. Its source is in the southwestern corner of the Devoll municipality, close to the Greek border.

Architectural description and History

The river of Devolli, which flows from the mountain of Gramozi is truly a miracle to visit and in the bottom it connects with other shrines that come from the red mountain, and then flows through the field of Devoll.

Tourist Guide Availability

Tourist Guide Availability
Yes

Open to visits

From Monday to Sunday

MUNICIPALITY OF MALIQ

Name of the cultural resource

GRADISHTA OF SYMIZA

Location



The ruins of Gradishta of Symiza are found on the top of a pyramid-shaped hill, in the north of the city of Maliq.

Architectural description and History

The first informations about this settlement comes from a soldier, who during the First World War had noticed a necropolis up in the hill of Symize. There were two funeral rituals. One of them consisted with burning the bones placed in urns and the other one the bones were covered with roof tiles and burned. The tombs contained evidence of the Medieval Times, including a bronze necklace with a cross figure and a silver coin of the Doge of Venetia, Francesco Dandolo (1329-1339). Archeological researches, conducted in 1973-1975 found many evidences such as, ceramic and numismatics materia, dating from the late bronze era till Medieval.

Tourist Guide Availability

Tourist Guide Availability
Yes

Open to visits

From Monday to Sunday

Name of the cultural resource

THE CROW'S SHADOW

Location



Architectural description and History

On January 1982, in the place that we today recognise as the Crow's Shadow, was found a treasure with antique coins. The hill where the treasure was found is near the city of Maliq, on the left shore of Devoll river. Based on the strategic location and area, this place is thought to hold the ruins of the antique Illyrian city, Desarete. The treasure has 618 coins, dating from the IV century BC (tetrachmms from Athens) till the III century (coins from Antioch Hieraks, of Seleucid Empire). There are two types of coins found in the treasure: tetrachmms and drachms, coming from cities and kings, such as Athens, Alexander the Great, Philip III.

Tourist Guide Availability

Tourist Guide Availability
Yes

Open to visits

From Monday to Sunday

Name of the cultural resource

THE FOREST OF PHEASANTS

Location



The mixed forest of Maliq, otherwise known as the Forest of Pheasants, is found on the village of Lower Drithas. The village used to be part of the commune of Libonik, but today is part of the town hall of Maliq. The Province of Goro-Opar, located in the highlands of Maliq, is a touristic attraction.

Architectural description and History

The forest is 813,5 m above sea and has an area of 46 acres. It was declared a natural monument in 1960. The main trees of the forest are poplar, willow, linden, pine and spruce. Unfortunately, over the years, the wild animals, such as the roe, gazelle, rabbit, wolf, fox, including the pheasant, the symbol of the forest. Despite all the problems, this natural attraction offers the ideal place for peace and relax.

Tourist Guide Availability

Tourist Guide Availability
Yes

Open to visits

From Monday to Sunday

Name of the cultural resource

PALACE OF CULTURE

Location



Palace of Culture is in the center of Maliqi.

Architectural description and History

One of the biggest prides for the city has been the Palace of Culture, which for years has had plentiful cultural and artistic activity. In 1971, this building was honored with the “Naim Frashëri” order for the biggest artistic achievements. There, music, theater, concerts, dramas and comedy courses were also held. It’s worth mentioning here the drama “Këneta” of the well-known director and professor Dhimitër Crgocka, whose name the institution holds today.

Tourist Guide Availability

Tourist Guide Availability
Yes

Open to visits

From Monday to Sunday

Name of the cultural resource

SUGAR PLANT

Location



Sugar Plant is located in the periferi of Maliqi.

Architectural description and History

The sugar plant of Maliq was the first big enterprise for the former food industry of Albania, which also marks the birth of this small city. It was founded in 1951 and consisted of the factory of powdered sugar, that of the drying of fruit, thermal power plant and the mechanical shop.

In 1960, the first reconstruction was done to increase the sugar output, fruit drying and the TEC. At the same time the alcohol, bread yeast and carbon dioxide factories were created.

In 1967, to the Sugar Plant were added the factories for production of starch and glucose. In 1979 another reconstruction was done, increasing the daily production output 3.7 times compared to that of 1951. Nowadays the plant still functions, though at a greatly reduced capacity.

Tourist Guide Availability

Tourist Guide Availability
Yes

Open to visits

From Monday to Sunday

Name of the cultural resource

STILT HOUSE

Location



Architectural description and History

In Soyjan, stilt houses have been found in addition to other objects of great archaeological importance. In this region “late macroremains” of plants cultivated in the Neolithic. These are the first cultivated plants found described in an archaeological site in Albania.

Tourist Guide Availability

Tourist Guide Availability
Yes

Open to visits

From Monday to Sunday

Name of the cultural resource

THE TEKKE OF MELCAN

Location



It is located on the top of a hill, on the west of Korca.

Architectural description and History

The Tekke of Melcan is one of the oldest tekkes of southeast Albania and maybe the only fortified one still standing. Next to the Tekke used to be the old road Korca-Pogradec. "Baba" Abdullah Melcani was the first to gather the Bektashij believers in the Tekke, 400 years ago. The place used to be the cultural and historical centre of southeast Albania. This Tekke carried strong values of belief, culture and Albanian history. It was rebuilt on the ruins of the old Tekke, which was destroyed by the Communist regime. A few years ago, the Tekke regained its identity and is now the most beautiful Tekke in Albania.

Tourist Guide Availability

Tourist Guide Availability
Yes

Open to visits

From Monday to Sunday

Name of the cultural resource

THE PROVINCE OF GORE-OPAR

Location



The Province of Gore-Opar, located in the highlands of Maliq, is a touristic attraction.

Architectural description and History

Eventhough, since the 90s, only 1/5 of the people are left, there have been a lot of investments made in agro tourism and hotels. The locals are known for their high values of bravery and loyalty. The province is a beautiful place with welcoming people, great land, water and climate.

Tourist Guide Availability

Tourist Guide Availability
Yes

Open to visits

From Monday to Sunday

MUNICIPALITY OF ERSEKA

Name of the cultural resource

THE HISTORICAL MUSEUM OF ERSEKE

Location



The Historical Museum of Erseke is located in a two-storey building in the city center of Erseka.

Architectural description and History

The Historical and Ethnographic Museum of Erseka was opened in 10th of February 1962. In this building, which is noticed from the basorelief in the main fascate, there are many objects that witness the history and tradition of the regions of Kolonja: from different archeological excavations and findings, to atelier where is settled the tradition of the Kolonjar building techniques, interior design of the bedrooms and livingrooms, from the bells and different house objects, to the musical instruments and typewriters brought from outside the country and used from different individuals. It is a part of Albania that is worth being known by everyone.

Tourist Guide Availability

Tourist Guide Availability
Yes

Open to visits

From Monday to Sunday

Name of the cultural resource

THE GLACIAL LAKE OF GRAMOZ

Location



The Glacial Lake of Gramoz is located in the latitude 2400 m of the mountain, near the village of Starje in the municipality of Qender.

Architectural description and History

The lake is placed in a glacial circle and is surrounded by dense herbaceous vegetation. It has scientific, hidrologic, esthetic and touristics values. It is visited according to the motor way Ersekë-Starje- The Lake of Gramoz.

Tourist Guide Availability

Tourist Guide Availability
Yes

Open to visits

From Monday to Sunday

Name of the cultural resource

REHOVA

Location



Rehova is located only 2 km outside the city of Erseka.

Architectural description and History

Rehova is definitely one of the most beautiful villages of the South-East. This is witnessed by its architecture and its geographical position. The tradition, the culture, the cleanliness are, are prominent in this village and this is a known fact by everyone who has ever visited it. Rehova has become an important turistic attraction. 'The street of the Doors' in the historical city center is the cultural destination that shouldn't be missed by any visitor. The doors built masterly by the people of Rehova in the 20th century, still preserve their historical value. The narrow streets of the village inspire and turn you back in time. The architecture leaves you speechless. All houses are made of stone. Rehova remains the evidence of the civilization in Kolonje and further.

Tourist Guide Availability

Tourist Guide Availability
Yes

Open to visits

From Monday to Sunday

Name of the cultural resource

THE CATHEDRAL CHURCH OF SAINT KOLLI

Location



The Cathedral Church of Saint Kolli is located in the center of the village.

Architectural description and History

The Cathedral Church of Saint Kolli must be built a long time before the year 1820. This is proven by the cover of a Gospel published in 1748, in the pages of which are two notes: one in the old Greek language with the date 1771 and the other in the new greek language that dates 08.09.1838. The catholic church had a length of 21 m, the width of 17 m and a latitude of about 8m at the dome. The ayodhyama is split from the platea with a big ikorostas. A very beautiful part of the church's architecture is its main entrance, the hayat of the church. Its stones are carved by the master of the village, and the columns of the entrance are tightened with iron rods. Over the lower arch rises the column of the bell, which exits a few meters above the roof of the church. In the top of it is placed a beautiful metal cross decorated with blue and rec glass. Over the arch of the entrance, Father Jorgji (who at the time was not a priest) in 1910 has carved masterfully over a stone a beautiful cross.

The extention and the renovation of the church was made in 1910 with the expenses of the church itself and with the help of the religious. Many carvings of corners, crosses and dates in the inner surroundings are done by the masters of the village: Kole Jorgji Qirici, Kostë Prifti, Papa Jorgji etc. The last date of the reparat on of the church was in 1927, when it took the final form as a Cathedral Church. Most of the equipment of the church were brought from the Sacred Mountain, as for example the big bell, petrails, many icons, lamps, manales, crosses, books, etc. A part of the books were in greek, most of the books were in Albanian. The most valuable things of the church were the gospels translated by Fan Noli, the icon of Anargends and especially the iconastas. The book of the church was a very valuable document.

Tourist Guide Availability

Tourist Guide Availability

Yes

Open to visits

From Monday to Sunday

Name of the cultural resource

THE CHURCH OF SAINT PJETER AND SAINT ILIAS

Location



This church was located about 500m in the east of the village, in the first hill on the feet of Gramoz.

Architectural description and History

In the church of Saint Pjeter are made the liturgies for Saint Ilias, Saint Pjeter and Saint Paul. In the church documents, this church is named as a 'monastery'. It probably was built there from the end of the XIX century and beginning of the XX century. The church had a surface of 200m. It was about 12 m long, 6 meter wide and 4 m tall. From the south, it had 3 small windows. The equipment were simple, but it had all the necessary means for making the liturgies.

Tourist Guide Availability

Tourist Guide Availability
Yes

Open to visits

From Monday to Sunday

Name of the cultural resource

BOROVA

Location



Architectural description and History

Borova is a symbol of the sacrifice of the people during the World War II. In 6th of July 1943, in the village of Borova of Kolonje, was made the massacre from the nazis as a response to the rezistence that the people of Borova and the Allies made to a nazi division that entered in Albania frm Greece. It is the first biggest massacre that the nazis made to the civil popullation in Albania in the period of WW2. They razed the village of Borova and killed 107 people, of which many women and children under 16 years old, seniors and unprotected people. In memory of the rezistance and the sacrifice of the people of Borova, is build the simbolic museum of this heroic war.

Tourist Guide Availability

Tourist Guide Availability
Yes

Open to visits

From Monday to Sunday

Name of the cultural resource

GËRMENJ-SHELEGUR NATURAL RESERVE

Location



The Gërmenj-Shelegurit Natural Reserve is a touristic place, located in the district of Kolonja in the motorway of Leskovik, surrounded by mountains and an untouched very picturesque nature.

Architectural description and History

This is a border area in the South-West of the city of Erseke, where are harmonized the deep valleys, creeks, and dense forests that resemble the fairytales. One of the most interesting beauties of the area is the lake of Shelegur. A beautiful view, which is combined with the peaks of the ridges of Nemercke. On the road to this touristic place, through the deep canions, is located the waterfall of Leskovik, which is a miracle of nature. Also in this area there are old Illyrian roots, with high historical value, which are located about 1 km in the south of the forest of Gërmenj.

Tourist Guide Availability

Tourist Guide Availability
Yes

Open to visits

From Monday to Sunday

BENEFITS OF CULTURAL RESOURCE MAPPING:

- ✓ Provides an organized and strategic database for presenting cultural resources information
- ✓ It is a great visual tool for presenting cultural resources and has a strong impact
- ✓ Illustrates present cultural resources and their condition
- ✓ Provides information which may be used for future planning in tourism sector or economic development
- ✓ It may help investments in local resources .

CONCLUSIONS

From this cultural resources mapping of Korca Region there are some messages that should be kept in mind:

- 👉 Cultural Resource Mapping needs to be planned
- 👉 Cultural Mapping is widely recognized as an effective tool for developing and planning
- 👉 Building a Cultural Resource Database is first and foremost about finding and consolidating the existing sources of data
- 👉 To create a strong Cultural Resource Database it must gather information from different sources
- 👉 This information needs to be update overtime
- 👉 Cultural Resource Mapping can be used by local government, residents, visitors, etc.
- 👉 Cultural Mapping is a useful methodology towards sustainable development and financial income
- 👉 Cultural Mapping engage people in cooperative actions, maintain cohesion, preserve practices, raise the sense of belonging and lead to new strategies

- 👉 Cultural mapping creates a unique relational space, resulting in an integrated vision of heritage
- 👉 Cultural mapping enables us to understand and share culture, to re-think history and to promote creativity and development.
- 👉 The process of mapping by itself draws attention to the existence and importance of cultural resources
- 👉 Cultural Mapping is an attention –getter, and your map can be used to tell your story to different types of interest groups in an innovative way.