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Space syntax is helpful in describing and analyzing the configuration at both the building and the urban level. It is thus concerned with various spatial problems such as: how can we measure the configurational properties of spatial systems? What is the role of configuration in movement, co-presence and higher-order social phenomena? What is the nature of the relationship between social organization and spatial configuration?

This paper is an attempt to apply the space syntax concepts for the study of larger spatial scales entire landscapes. Although traditionally developed and used on a building or urban scale, I argue that the same conceptual apparate and tools can be applied on a landscape scale in order to understand the landscape as a spatial configuration and measure its topological properties. I argue that tools developed by space syntax can help us to better understand the cognitive import of physical properties of the landscape like complexity, visibility, legibility, and intelligibility.

The case study is focused on the Iron Gates Mesolithic-Neolithic transition as the specific character of the material culture and is often attributed to the particular geomorphological, ecological and spatial features of the Iron Gates gorge. I explore the role of landscape configuration in the understanding of complex social processes during the Mesolithic-Neolithic transition in the region, discussing the visual connectivity, legibility of the landscape and the role of spatial configuration in aggregation patterns and movement during the Mesolithic-Neolithic transition.

THE USE OF SPACE AND INTERNAL ORGANIZATION OF THE LATE NEOLITHIC SETTLEMENT AT DRENOVAC, SERBIA

Abstract author(s): Dimitrijevic, Ivana - Obradović, Djurdja - Perić, Slaviša - Bajčev, Olga - Savić, Ružica (Institute of Archaeology, Belgrade)

Abstract format: Oral

The site of Drenovac in central Serbia has been extensively researched through several projects from the 1970s to present. In recent years, application of geophysical survey significantly changed a course in the investigation of the use of space and spatial patterning. It provided means for targeted excavations and research of specific features – houses, non-domestic buildings, ditches, etc. Comparing different lines of evidence obtained through recent systematic excavations and geophysical surveying, we will present the complex history of the settlement and its internal organization.

Drenovac is a large and long-lived settlement inhabited in the Early (6100-5900 BC) and the Late Neolithic (5300-4700/4500 BC), with thick cultural deposits and complex stratigraphy. Detecting changes in size and internal organization of the settlement during this long occupation proved to be a difficult task. While data on the earlier phases of occupation are still limited, extensive research of the latest building horizon (Vinča-Pločnik phase) provided valuable data for research of the settlement's spatial organization and architecture. Thus the focus of this presentation will be on this phase. On the macro level, we will discuss the settlement's size, layout and internal organization. We will evaluate both natural and cultural factors that could affect the specific patterning of different features. On the micro level, we will turn to the individual houses and their immediate surroundings, and make some observations about space division and use.

3 BUILDING THE VILLAGES, BUILDING THE SOCIETY- LATE NEOLITHIC SETTLEMENT NETWORK IN SLAVONIA (EASTERN CROATIA)

Abstract author(s): Kalafatic, Hrvoje (Institute of Archaeology, Zagreb) - Šošić Klindžić, Rajna (University of Zagreb) - Šiljeg, Bartul (Institute of Archaeology, Zagreb)

Abstract format: Oral

Neolithic settlements (6th/5th millennium BC) encircled by ditch were widespread throughout Europe, including eastern Croatia, on which there is an extensive bibliography. Research conducted over the last several years have confirmed the existence of thus far unrecorded settlement types in eastern Croatia – twin enclosure settlements and multiple enclosure settlements. This new type of settlements was ascertained by means of remote sensing and magnetometry, while the results of field surveys of the sites so discovered have confirmed that they were generally multi-layered, long-term and attributed to the Sopot culture, so that they may be generally dated to the 5th millennium BC.

Recent progress in research last year which combined several methods that include the use of predictive modeling in GIS, remote interpretation and field survey, several settlement structures from the late Neolithic of circular and oval layout were discovered south of Bračevci village. The newly discovered settlements were observed in the context of the hitherto known network of late Neolithic settlements in eastern Croatia.

The settlement is located 6 km away from the complex of the circular Neolithic settlement in Preslatinci. The Ražište site in Podgorač is about 6.5 km away. It is about 10 km away from the complex of Neolithic settlements Gorjani Kremenjača and Topole.