

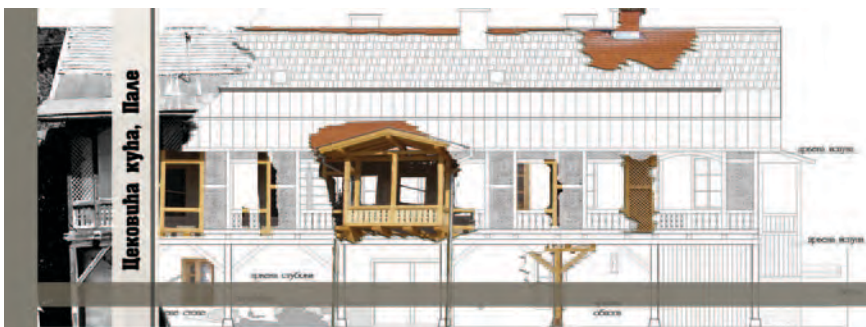
The joint efforts of the Office for Protection of Cultural-Historical and Natural Heritage of the Republika Srpska, the local community and municipality of Pale, the owner (the Serbian Orthodox Church), the Metropolitan of Dabar-Bosnia and the Government of the Republika Srpska found the best solution. The result is that care services funded by the Government of the Republika Srpska, the Serbian Orthodox Church and the local community carried out conservation and restoration work and that the owner assigned part of the building to the community. Cekovica house – a residential building which had been donated to the Serbian Orthodox Church by the former owner (Figure 1) – was adapted to new purposes.

## History and description

Cekovica house, one of the most valuable architectural heritage buildings in Pale, was built in 1902 as a summer house for a prominent Serbian family (Figure 2). It is situated on the southern side of a slope, and the house is an integral part of the building. It was built in the autochthonous style in wood with elements of imported alpine architecture. It consists of a basement, a ground floor and an attic. The most distinct part of the building is the wooden porch on the southern side, facing towards the street, with its upper part richly decorated with wooden profiles and secondary elements. Two wooden entrance porches are located on the west and the east sides.

The basement was built of stone blocks of irregular shapes, using lime mortar as bonding. The foundations are made of smaller pieces of stone laid in lime mortar, which follow the configuration of the terrain. The first floor is constructed in timber framing with adobe filling. The floor consists of wooden boards placed over wooden beams. The basement ceiling is made of wood and the ground, or first floor, ceiling consists of treated cane placed over wooden coverings. The roof structure is wood, made from double joggle joined beams with spars and crown tiles as the roof covering.

Cekovica house was listed as a national monument of Bosnia and Herzegovina in 2004. It is considered a part of cultural heritage because of the date it was built; the composition and proportions of the building; its formal value; and what it tells us about the typical lifestyle of the period, meaning the structure and layout of the town. The last owner,



**Figure 1.** A poster for the opening of the house, designed by Vanja Sotra Dursun.