

***Moise Palace, Cres***

Country or territory:  
Republic of CROATIA

Name of organization  
compiling the information:  
Ministry of Culture,  
Conservation Department in Rijeka

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<u>Name and address of building or site:</u>	MOISE PALACE, CRES, ISLAND OF CRES
<u>Inventory reference number:</u>	180
<u>Building(s) type:</u>	Urban patrician palace
<u>Main date(s):</u>	XV - XVI – XVIII century
<u>Current use(s):</u>	Dilapidated catering space and two sub-standard living quarters

Significance:

The estate owner from Senj of Jewish descent, Moysevich began building in the 15th century a monumental residential palace in the Gothic and Renaissance style. The main facade has an elaborate architectural structure and elements of plastic with a prominent family coat of arms showing a lion holding David's star. The structure was later altered acquiring the characteristics of the baroque period. It has two courtyards of which the Renaissance one is representative with an arched portico, facing West and one of the main streets of the oldest part of Cres, which is a rarity in the typology of palaces of this period. On the East side the baroque courtyard has the characteristics of a farm estate. Today the interior is quite degraded. However the sporadic remains of wall paintings and the original groundplan are still visible although alterations were made at a later date to produce a completely pauperised living space. The palace is the largest among the patrician structures in Cres, and the Moise family is connected through marriage with one of the branches of the most prominent Cres families from the Renaissance period, the Petris family.

Categories of Significance:

Regional importance

Categories of ownership or interest:

The palace is entirely in the ownership of the City of Cres and the two remaining living quarters in it should be vacated in the near future. Integral renovation is required as well as the transformation of the structure into an international education centre with practical tuition, workshops and a dormitory linked to the subject of restoration and conservation. The

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structure should also house the Cres archives and office for the protection of cultural heritage, including civic organisations dealing with the same historical topics. There should be an exhibition space on the ground floor and also a catering facility that would enable the independent financing of maintenance and restoration as well as the functional use of the structure.

#### Documentation and bibliographic references:

The palace has been architecturally surveyed and photographically documented. Complete research of the structure and drawing up of the renovation project are required.

Bibliography: L. Borić, Master's thesis, Faculty of Philosophy Zadar, 2001., J. Čus-Rukonić, Heraldic Cres, Cres, 1998.

#### Condition:

The structure is in poor condition, particularly the interior. Its future use has been determined by the conservation programme.

#### Risk:

The construction of the structure is threatened from the roof to the ground floor due to the deteriorated bearing capacity and frequent alterations of the interior.

#### Condition risk:

The palace is deteriorating quickly and its historical substance is disappearing due to inadequate use and the substandard way of life of the users. In its interior there is a threat from localised caving in and fire due to inadequate and illegally adapted electrical installations. The abandoned parts of the palace are accessible to unauthorised persons. A solution for its future use has been found and ideas exist for its long-term functioning, but the sources of financing are lacking since the structure is not in the state support programme and the local self-government unit does not have enough funds in its budget for such extensive interventions as the restoration of this palace would require.

#### Technical assessment and costings:

In the next five years it is necessary to secure funds for research, additional documentation, design, restoration, renovation and equipping from the Ministry of Culture, the City of Cres and Primorsko-goranska County in the approximate amount of 4,000,000 EURO.

#### Ownership:

It is in the ownership of the unity of local self-government, the City of Cres that is prepared to give the property to the state.

#### Occupation:

The structure is mostly abandoned with only a smaller part in use as rented housing space. The business premises on the ground floor have not been used for quite some time now.

#### Management:

The City of Cres has the actual responsibility, however, due to the lack of funds it is not in a position to maintain and repair the structure. It would therefore like to give it to the competent state bodies. The financial administering would be carried out by the City of Cres and the supervision of all the work by the Conservation Department in Rijeka.

Summary:

The palace is unique in regional frameworks as a monumental residential structure of a Jewish descent patrician. Its architectural forms are of high quality and its future restoration-conservation and archives purposes would be singular in the northern Adriatic region of Croatia and a specific counterpart to the palace in Ludbreg in the Drava River basin which has been adapted for similar use, wholly with the support of the Bavarian government.

Sign and date:

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10 March 2004.