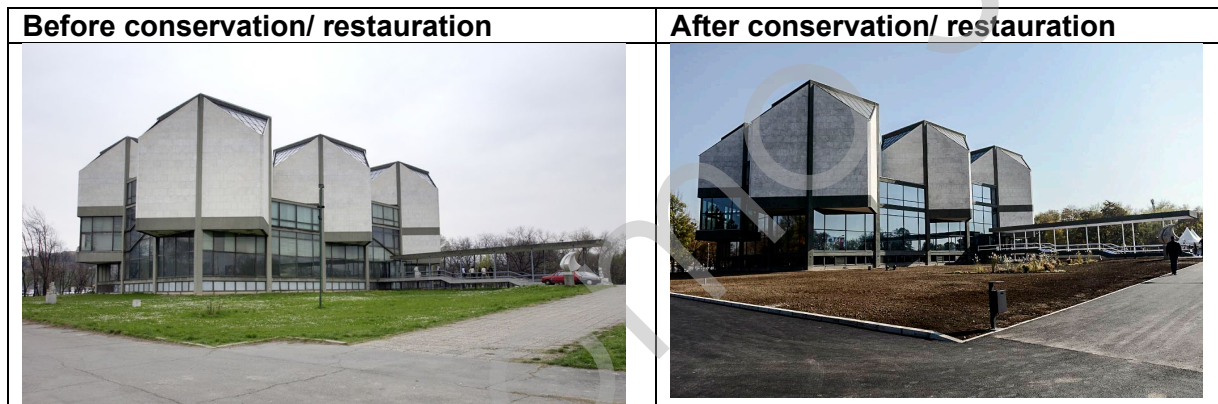


GOOD CONSERVATION AND RESTAURATION PRACTICE FICHE

Composed by working party of:

Docomomo Serbia

0. Name of building/ group of buildings/ urban scheme/ landscape/ garden & picture of before and after



Depicted item: Museum of Contemporary Art in Belgrade

Sources: <http://www.msub.org.rs/zgrada-muzeja-savremene-umetnosti> & Mondo/Stefan Stojanović

Dates: 1959 – competition; 1962 - 1965 - construction; 2007 - 2017 - reconstruction.

- **Other images or documents**

Minimal documentation fiche in English and Serbian

https://www.dropbox.com/sh/9ms34r6975tnwaj/AADMctLwRCNWDyYCuo_-lo3Ta?dl=0

- **Data for identification**

current name: Museum of Contemporary art in Belgrade (MoCAB)

former/original/variant name: From 1958-1965 Modern gallery (MG); upon construction of the new building, Council of Modern gallery takes up new name for institution – Museum of contemporary art (MoCA).

address/ number(s) and name(s) of street(s): Usce 10, Block 15

town: New Belgrade, Belgrade

province/ state: -

post code: 11070

country: Serbia

geographic GPS coordinates: 44°49'10.7"N, 20°26'32.4"E

current typology: REC – recreation: museum

former/original/variant typology: REC – recreation: museum

comments on typology: -

- **Status of protection**

protected by: state, Status of the cultural property, „Gazette no. 16/87“.

grade: Cultural property, elementary level of protection, not graded so far

date: 1987

valid for: building

remarks: brief available on link

http://beogradskonasledje.rs/kd/zavod/novi_begrad/muzej_savremene_umetnosti.html

- **Accessibility**

opening hours: Working hours: from 10:00 to 18:00, Thursday from 10:00 to 22:00
The Museum is closed on Tuesdays. Free admission on Wednesdays.

viewing arrangements: guided tours upon request.

1. History of building(s)

- **Chronology**

Commission/ competition date: 1959

design period (s): 1959-1962

start of site work: 1962-1965

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completion/inauguration: October 20th1965

- **Summary of important changes after completion**

type of change: restoration, renovation, modernization of installations

date(s): 2007-2017

circumstances/reasons for change: worsening of the conditions for exhibiting and keeping the collections, ageing of the installations, disrepair due to age and consequences of bombing in 1999.

effect of changes: The building (exhibition spaces, offices, depots) was modernized, made accessible for people with disabilities, new power block was installed. The original look of the building is mostly preserved.

persons/organizations involved: Ivan Antić and Ivanka Raspopović; Dejan Todorović; supervision Svetlana Marković.

2. Summary of restoration

- **Summary of important changes after restoration**

type of change: MSUB was closed to the public in 2007 due to works on the adaptation, reconstruction and upgrading of the building. The first phase of works on reconstruction, adaptation and upgrading was partially completed in 2010. It included arranging the roof, basements (depots, workshops, conservation and economics studios) and relocation of the energy block (substation) from the basement of the Museum to a new facility. The next stage of the reconstruction meant complete interior refurbishment, replacement of installations, renovation of the facade of the Museum and reconstruction of the roof. The access platform was in such a bad condition, it had to be fully demolished and reconstructed per original plans.

With the installation of a modern curtain-wall (structural facade), the building was glazed with reflective glass, which changed the original appearance of the facade and reduced its transparency, one of the main visual features of this building.

The secondary custom cut panels were replaced by panels fully in the orthogonal raster, which changed appearance of the glass facade, rendering the peripheral staircases less visible, which were important for the authors concept of movement through the building. The change was authorised by late Ivanka Raspopović, while she was still working on the reconstruction.

date(s): 2007-2011, 2015-2017

circumstances/reasons for change: The building had no investment since the opening, other than repairs done after the bombing in 1999.

effect of changes: The original look of the building is mostly preserved. With the installation of a modern curtain-wall (structural facade), the building was glazed with reflective glass, which changed the original appearance of the facade and reduced its transparency, which was one of the main visual features of this building. The raster panel is mainly followed by the original raster, with

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the cut-off-cut-out panels and frames that have masked the slope of the staircases on the peripheral staircases, which were located just behind the glass surfaces. These panels were replaced by panels in the orthogonal raster. The bearing frame construction, which is visible and made in natural concrete, is reconstructed in the reconstruction with a finishing layer that is significantly darker than the original appearance of the concrete. The power station, located on the southeast side of the building, right to the main entrance, has been reconstructed so that its roof is used to set up a ramp and platform for access for people with disabilities.

persons/organisations involved: Ivan Antić and Ivanka Raspopović invited by MoCAB; Dejan Todorović, Faculty of Architecture University of Belgrade; supervision Svetlana Marković, Institute for Heritage Protection of Belgrade.

- **Current use**

of whole building/site: Museum of Contemporary Art
of principal components (if applicable): -
comments: -

3. Evaluation of restoration/conservation

Give the scientific reasons for selection for Docomomo documentation.

Intrinsic value

- **Technical evaluation:**

Although many new materials were applied, a lot of energy was invested into finding adequate technical solutions, that would not interfere with the overall concept and design of the museum, as envisioned by the late architects. On the other side, technical solutions and original concepts from 1960s, such as air conditioning or lighting were so outdated, that even back then they did not meet the needs of the exhibition space, and today with the shift in the climate and significant overheating in summers and the rise of humidity, the items in the collection were actually in grave danger, and needed better conditions for keeping and exhibiting. The architects and the conservators put an extra effort, which is a rare occurrence in present day Serbia, to get the adequate stone, concrete and wood to install in the interior and exterior, graded changing a bit the appearance of the building, but nevertheless keeping its original design and features intact, while improving the conditions for keeping and exhibiting the collections, and overall conditions for work in the museum.

- **Social evaluation:**

After 10 years of hiatus in exhibiting in its primary location (MoCAB has 4 exhibition spaces in Belgrade including the building in Ušće) it was of great significance for the audience in Serbia and the region to re-claim and re-visit this space: the exhibition 'Sekvence' was open 24h for a week, and during this time around 25000 visitors had seen the exhibition, testifying to the excitement among the audience for the museums reopening. Another value of this restoration is the fact that the spirit of the original was kept, although some visible changes took place, testifying to the skills of the architects and conservators in charge, but also stating the shift in the attitude towards the masterpieces of Yugoslav modernism, the values of which were kept - in the city and the country

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where the values of this architecture was and still is under a lot of scrutiny and where masterpieces such as Embassy of Germany, Hotel Putnik, Ikarus and many others - were lost.

- **Cultural and aesthetic evaluation:**

It is a significant contribution in field of protection of modernist heritage, especially since this is a recognized masterpiece of Yugoslav, Serbian and Belgrade architecture, and was under a lot of pressure from revisionist circles since the fall of Yugoslavia, as a museum that collected artwork of Yugoslav artists, besides Serbian, and Belgrade artists. In field of heritage protection, every modernist building that is protected and restored without altering the features of original architecture (usually beyond recognition) is considered a major success, given the many negative experiences in previous years.

4. Documentation

- **Archives/written records/correspondence etc: (state location/ address)**

Historical archive of Belgrade, Palmira Toljatija 1, 11070 Novi Beograd, Serbia

<https://www.dropbox.com/sh/gt5gta3dixm0djv/AABTZOswyFVaF7DxcjkB3dmca?dl=0>

- **Principal publications (in chronological order):**

1. Anonymus: the competition for the Modern gallery building in Belgrade. Architecture and Urbanism no. 1, Belgrade, 1960, pg. 33.
2. Novi Beograd / Ville Nouvelle 1961. Belgrade: Direction pour la Construction de Novi Beograd [Direction for construction of Novi Beograd], 1961.
3. Minic, Oliver: Modern gallery in Belgrade. Architecture and Urban no. 16, Belgrade, 1962, pg. 33-41.
4. Protic, B. Miodrag: *Музеј савремене уметности у Београду*. Belgrade: Annual of the city of Belgrade, book XI-XII, pg. 361-374, 1964-1965.
5. Minic, Oliver: *Jedna nova prostorna koncepcija muzeja*. Arhitektura urbanizam no. 38, Belgrade, 1966, pg. 17-21.
6. Straus, Ivan: *ARCHITEKTURA JUGOSLAVIJE 1945 – 1990* (updated 2nd addition). Sarajevo Green Design, Sarajevo, 2013.
7. Popadic, Milan: ARCHITECTURE OF THE MUSEUM OF CONTEMPORARY ART IN NOVI BEOGRAD. Heritage X, 33SKGB, Belgrade, 2010, pg.159-178 (<http://scindeks-clanci.ceon.rs/data/pdf/1450-605X/2009/1450-605X0910159P.pdf>, access on 25.12.2015.)
8. Sretenovic, Dejan: *Prilozi za istoriju Muzeja savremene umetnosti*. MSUB, Beograd, 2016.

- **Visual material (state location/ address)**

original visual records/drawings/photographs/others:

Museum of contemporary art Belgrade, Ušće 10, 11070 Novi Beograd, Serbia

https://www.dropbox.com/sh/qagwvu8eww6l75s/AAD5Bj6i_X66eR7gQNKjmtdsa?dl=0

Museum of Belgrade, Zmaj Jovina 1, 11000 Beograd, Serbia

<https://www.dropbox.com/sh/5wbv3qjaqvq2xbr/AACTZCtm8iYmDJh8lhgg01nPa?dl=0>

Miloš Jurišić collection, Baba Višnjina 2, 11000 Beograd, Serbia

https://www.dropbox.com/s/an1mrnyr2iv5zn5/4.10.2010%2011-51-07_0001.jpg?dl=0

Post restoration photographs and survey drawings: upon request from MoCAB and the author

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film/video/other sources:

Video N1: <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=YWp00SjreSw>

Audio, Grad, Radio Beograd: <http://www.rts.rs//page/radio/sr/story/24/radio-beograd-2/2902572/grad.html>

Video, Art zona, RTS: https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=f7xOzi29_4o

- **List documents included in supplementary dossier**

A) historical photography

B) plans:

- 1) Competition work, Arhitektura urbanizam no. 1, Belgrade, 1960, pg. 33.
- 2) Details of the construction, Arhitektura urbanizam no. 16, Belgrade, 1962, pg. 39-41.
- 3) Built condition, Arhitektura urbanizam no. 38, Belgrade, 1966, pg. 18-19.
- 4) Plan of surface uses according to the Regulatory Plan from 1961, Novi Beograd / Ville Nouvelle, pg. 31
- 5) The situation according to the Regulatory Plan (not executed), Technical documentation Historical archive of Belgrade
- 6) Design project, Technical documentation Historical archive of Belgrade
- 7) Object and environment model, Novi Beograd / Ville Nouvelle, pg. 42, 44

Fiche report

rapporteur: Jelica Jovanović

date of report: 29.06.2018.

Examination by DOCOMOMO national/regional section

approval by working party co-ordinator/registers correspondent (name): Dobrivoje Lale Erić
sign and date: 29.06.2018.

examination by DOCOMOMO ISC/R

type of ISC Registers/Urbanism/Landscape/Gardens:

name of ISC member in charge of the evaluation:

comment(s):

ISC approval:

Sign and date:

Working party/ID n°:

date:

NAi ref n°:

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