



ŽELEZARSTVO

IRON MAKING

- norec • *waterwheel-powered hammer*
- plavž • *blast furnace*
- fužina • *iron foundry*
- vigenjc • *forge*
- žebelj • *nail*

Svet pod Ratitovcem
The land beneath Ratitovec



Zgodovina železarstva v teh krajih sega davno nazaj v halštatsko dobo (800–400 pr. n. št.). Arheološki ostanki kažejo, da so se ljudje v tem obdobju na hribu Štalca nad Železniki ukvarjali z železarsko dejavnostjo.

Sredi 14. stoletja so na področju današnjih Železnikov ob reki Selški Sori v času loškega gospostva (973–1803) osnovali modernejšo železarsko dejavnost. Kot prve srednjeveške strokovnjake za predelavo železove rude so zemljiški gospodje, freisinški škofje, v te kraje poklicali Furlane. Ti so postavili objekte za taljenje železove rude – dva plavža, objekte za predelavo železa – fužine in kovačnice – vigenjce. Na višku železarstva so v kraju delovali dva plavža s fužinama, fužina z valjarno, pet manjših fužin – cajnaric in kar 62 vigenjcev – kovačnic žebeljev.

Glavni izvozni kovaški izdelek so bili žebliji, ki so jih naložene v sode fužinarji prodajali trgovcem v večjih pristaniščih ob Jadranskem morju. V okoliških vaseh so delovali številni obrtniki (rudarji, oglarji, tovarniki, sodarji), ki so dopolnjevali uspešno železarsko zgodbo.



The history of ironworking in the region dates back to the Early Iron Age, also known as the Hallstatt Period, (800–400 BC). The archaeological findings tell us that in those times iron was smelted on the Štalca hill above Železniki.

In the mid-14th century, in the period of the Škofja Loka nobility (973-1803), a more up-to-date ironworking activity was established in the area of the modern-day Železniki, along the river Selška Sora. The landowners, the Bishops of Freising, sent for the Friulian people, who were the first medieval experts in iron ore processing. The Friulians put up structures for iron ore smelting – blast furnaces, for iron processing – iron foundries, and nail forges called "vigenjc". In the peak of the iron industry, there were two active blast furnaces with iron foundries, an iron foundry with a rolling mill, five smaller iron foundries, and as much as 62 nail forges.

The principal forged product that was exported to distant places was nails, which were put into barrels and sold by ironworkers to merchants in major ports along the Adriatic Sea. During this period numerous tradesmen could be found in surrounding villages (miners, charcoal burners, load carriers, coopers), who only complemented the successful ironworks story.





Plavž

V starem delu Železnikov stoji plavž, visoka peč, iz sredine 19. stoletja, ki je na tem mestu nadomestil staro talilno peč iz 15. stoletja. Plavž, 21 metrov visoka peč, je bil del fužinskega obrata, kjer so iz železove rude pridobivali surovo železo. Proizvodnja surovega železa se je končala leta 1902, s tem pa je bilo končano tudi dolgo obdobje uspešnega železarstva.

Od leta 1941 je plavž zavarovan kot tehnični spomenik, obenem pa je pomemben simbol in spomin na nekdaj močno železarsko središče v Selški dolini.

Blast furnace

In the old part of Železniki proudly stands a blast furnace, a high smelting furnace from the mid-19th century, which replaced the old smelting furnace from the 15th century. The blast furnace, 21 metres high, was once a major part of the ironworks plant for the production of pig iron from iron ore. The production of pig iron ended in 1902, which also marks the end of the long and successful ironworking era.

In 1941 the blast furnace was declared a protected technical monument, while it is also an important symbol and a reminder of the once strong ironworks centre of the Selška valley.





Ali veste, da ...

- ... zgodovina ukvarjanja z železarstvom v Selški dolini sega več kot 2.500 let nazaj?
- ... sta včasih rudo v Železnikih talila dva plavža?
- ... so kovačnico imenovali vigenjc?
- ... so v Železnikih zaradi velike nevarnosti požarov in drugih nepravil poznali nočnega čuvaja, ki je opravljal redne nočne obhode po kraju?
- ... so canali communi, terni tratti, terni grossi imena za želblje furlanskega izvora?

Nočni čuvaj

Ura je polnoč odbila
v turnu svetega Antona:
mirno spite kot v raj,
saj vas varje vaš čuvaj.

Did you know...

- ... that the history of ironworking in the Selška valley dates back more than 2,500 years?
- ... that in the past iron ore in Železniki was smelted by two blast furnace?
- ... that a nail forge was called "vigenjc"?
- ... that Železniki had a night watchman, who made regular night rounds of the town to prevent any risk of fire and other inconveniences?
- ... that canali communi, terni tratti, terni grossi are names for nails of Friulian origin?

Night watchman

The clock struck midnight hour
on the St. Anthony's tower:
sleep tight like in paradise
under the vigilant night guard's eyes.



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OBCINA
ŽELEZNIKI

