

# 02\_ DRAGA, 1953

## Edvard Ravnikar, Boris Kalin



SLO

Grobišče talcev v Dragi • Draga pri Begunjah, Slovenija • Arhitekt: Edvard Ravnikar • Kipar: Boris Kalin •  
Material: kamen • Status: kulturni spomenik državnega pomena • Fotografije: Miran Kambič •  
Besedilo: Aleš Vodopivec

War victim burial site in Draga • Draga near Begunje, Slovenia • Architect: Edvard Ravnikar •  
Sculptor: Boris Kalin • Material: stone • Status: cultural monument of national importance •  
Photographs: Miran Kambič • Text: Aleš Vodopivec



V graščini Katzenstein v Begunjah so bili v času nacistične okupacije gestapovski zapori, v katerih so bili zaprti in mučeni pripadniki odporiškega gibanja. V delu stavbe je urejen muzej talcev, v parku ob graščini in v bližnji Dragi pa sta bili po načrtih Edvarda Ravnikarja urejeni grobišči 667 talcev. Spominski prostor v Dragi je zasnovan z zadržanim in izjemno subtilnim posegom v slikovito naravno okolje ozke doline, ki se vije ob potoku Begunjščica, obdajajo pa jo strma pobočja Karavank. Grobišče 161 talcev, ki leži med cesto in gozdom, je od okolice ločeno le s tremi segmenti nizkih kamnitih parapetov. Množice kamnitih monolitov v obliki tristranih prizem so v gruclah, kakor skupine žrtev, postavljene na valovit travnat teren. Različne višine in orientacije kamnov, razporejenih v nepravilni geometriji, poudarjajo individualnost posameznika. Na kamne so vklesana imena žrtev z letnicama njihovega rojstva in smrti ter krajem njihovega bivanja. Med kamni raste avtohtono zelenje z barvitim cvetjem. Ob spominskem obelisku ob vhodu na območje je manjši zbirni prostor. Izvedba spomenika z uporabo lokalnega kamna je bila tehnično nezahtevna in materialno skromna, vendar ustvarja presenetljivo bogat svet miselnih asociacij, metafor in prispodob. To intimno, a obenem izjemno poetično delo odlikuje »razložena plastična tvorba, ki se nadaljuje v naravnem okolju ...«, kar je bila Ravnikarjeva temeljna težnja pri vseh spominskih obeliskih; ta so vedno del pejsaža. Ravnikarjevemu projektu je bil ob gozdu dodan kip talca, delo akademskega kiparja Borisa Kalina. Grobišče talcev v Dragi vzdržuje Občina Radovljica.

Castle Katzenstein in Begunje was used as a Gestapo prison during the time of Nazi occupation with members of the resistance being held and tortured there. Today, part of the castle houses a Museum of the Victims while in the park by the castle and in nearby Draga, two burial sites for 667 victims were laid out by Edvard Ravnikar. The memorial space in Draga is designed as a restrained and exceptionally subtle intervention in the picturesque natural environment of the narrow valley rolling along stream Begunjščica, enveloped by the steep Karawank slopes. The burial site of 161 victims located between the road and the forest is separated from its surroundings only by three segments of low stone parapets. Multitudes of stone monoliths shaped as three-sided prisms are placed in the undulating grassy terrain in clusters, like groups of victims. The different heights and orientations of the stones, arranged in an irregular geometry, emphasise each person's individuality. The victims' names, birth and death years, and places of residence are chiselled into the stones' sides. Between the stones, there is indigenous vegetation with colourful flowers. There is a small gathering space by the memorial obelisk, by the entrance to the area. The execution of the monument using local stone was technically undemanding and materially modest, but it creates a surprisingly rich world of mind associations, metaphors, and allegories. This intimate but at the same time extraordinarily poetical work is distinguished by a "spread-out plastic formation which projects into a natural environment [...]", which was Ravnikar's fundamental striving in all his memorial monuments, which are always a part of the landscape. By the forest, a statue of a victim, a work by sculptor Boris Kalin, was added to Ravnikar's project. The war victim burial site in Draga is maintained by the Municipality of Radovljica.

