



Publisher of Historic Gardens Review

**Gradski Perijovi Hrvatske, by Bojana and Mladen Scitaroci.
Scitaroci, Zagreb. 265 pages. ISBN 953-97121-3-0.**

Mladen and Bojana Scitaroci have devoted their lives to recording Croatia's crumbling manor houses and the gardens attached to them. Now this husband-and-wife team have joined up with various colleagues to consider public parks in that country's towns, spas and tourist resorts – Split and Lipik, for instance.

The sites are described in the context of public parks of the same period in other parts of the Hapsburg Empire and in other European countries, including England. Maksimir Park in Zagreb, for instance, "can be compared with the best-known European landscaped-romantic parks of the nineteenth century, such as the Englischer Garten in Munich..., London's Regent's Park..., or the Bois de Boulogne in Paris."

Most readers will have to rely on the abstracts of the text in Italian, German and English, but the picture captions are comprehensible and the theme important. Given the way that modern tourism is ruining the towns along Croatia's coast, it can only be a matter of time before her inland heritage also comes under pressure. The authors lament the way many once-splendid parks have deteriorated. Let us hope their valuable book does not record too many that are going to disappear completely.

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