

## HISTORY

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### THE MUSEUM CASE IN THE CHERKASY REGION IN THE CONTEXT OF THE DEVELOPMENT OF HISTORICAL LOCAL HISTORY IN THE 20S AND 30S OF THE 20TH CENTURY

*The Purpose of the Study* is theoretical substantiation of the contribution of museums to the deployment of historical and local studies of Cherkasy region in the 20s and 30s of the XX century. **The Methodology.** The following methods were used for the study: historical methods, comparative-historical, problem-chronological, and retrospective methods were used, which provide an opportunity to reconcile the events and facts under investigation, to present the material in a clear chronological sequence and logical completeness. **The scientific novelty.** Of the first time, an attempt was made to comprehensively analyze the process of development of historical local history in the Cherkasy region in the 20s and 30s of the 20th century by means of museums. In chronological order, the processes that took place in local history during the researched period were analyzed. The range of local history work of museums is considered. **The Conclusions.** The trend of the development of local history had a rather positive direction because new museums were opened all over Ukraine and in the territory of Cherkasy region in particular. A peculiarity of the museum business in the Cherkasy region

*is the filling of museums with exhibits from other regions, as this territory was part of other regions during the research period (Cherkasy Oblast was formed in 1954).*

**Keywords:** *museum business, local history, museums, historical memory, historical-local history movement, museum funds, expositions, museum exhibits.*

**The Problem Statemen.** Nowadays, the study of the history of Ukraine and historical regional studies as a historical discipline is relevant and important, since the country is currently in a total war with the Russian Federation. There is an attempt to destroy Ukrainian statehood, culture and historical memory during the war. The Ukrainian historical knowledge and regional history is extremely important and necessary.

The period 1920–1930 marks the rise of the local history movement, which acquired a mass character and covered the territory of Ukraine as a whole. Cherkasy was no exception in the development of the local history movement and needs detailed study and research. There was no comprehensive analysis and assessment of the local history process in Cherkasy in 1920–1930. The study of the local history movement of the specified period should enrich scientific research with factual material and provide local history researchers the opportunity to study local history activities of museums, archival institutions, educational institutions. The study of features that gives characteristic of the local history movement of Cherkasy should take place in the context of general historical events, trends in the development of regional history. It is important to note about the territorial boundaries of Cherkasy during 1920–1930. The reason was current boundaries of Cherkasy region created in 1954. The territory of right-bank Cherkasy became part of the Kyiv region, and the left-bank region became part of the Kharkiv region in 1929.

Left-bank Cherkasy region was transferred to the newly created Poltava region in 1937. Kamianskyi and Chihyrnyskyi districts were transferred to Kirovohrad region in 1939. It is important to consider the development of the local history movement in these areas for researching local history. According to the authors opinion it is necessary to pay attention to local history formation and development on territory of Cherkasy region in the specified period. Chronological boundaries from 1923 – the beginning of “Ukrainization”, characterized by the active development of the museum business, the revitalization of the historical

and local history movement after 1933 – the collapse of “Ukrainization”, the beginning of oppression of the local history movement.

**The Analysis of Sources and Recent Researche.** There are still no general studies dedicated to this problem because the history of the development of local history in Soviet Ukraine and its regions has been studied quite fragmentarily. R. Mankovska's research is devoted to the development of the museum business in Ukraine. The activities of museums of Cherkasy region are dedicated by L. Nabok (Nabok, 2013), O. Barvinok (Barvinok, 2016), N. Nagornaya (Nagorna, 2004), O. Troshchinska.

O. Barvinok studied the activities of the Uman Museum of Local History in the context of changes in the ideological concepts of museum work in Ukraine. The author identified the priority areas of the museum's activity as an important center of scientific-methodical and regional studies of the region. L. Nagorna studied the Uman Museum and analyzed the museum's exposition and funds in detail as well. L. Nabok analyzed the activities of museums in Cherkasy region and make a conclusion: museums were actively created and developed. O. Troshchynska, I. Chepurna were engaged in the activities of the Chigyrin Historical and Local History Museum. The authors investigated the prerequisites for the creation of the Chigyrina Historical and Local History Museum and its activities. The archive funds of the State Archive of the Cherkasy region were processed and put into circulation. Used during the writing of the publication: fund 131, description 1, file 14, sheet 14, which contains information about the activities of the museum in Chigyrin. Fund 131, description 1, file 19, sheet 9 which contains information about visiting the museum in Cherkasy as of 1920. Fund 131, description 1, case 23, sheet 60 where the minutes of meetings on the protection of cultural monuments and the description of the exhibits of the Cherkasy District Museum are placed.

**The Purpose of the Article** is to show the level of study of the role of Cherkasy region museums in the development of historical local studies in the 20s and 30s of the 20th century. The realization of the set goal involves the following tasks: to analyze the process of creation and the main directions of museum activity in the region in the 20s and 30s of the 20th century; to investigate and characterize the contribution to

Gymnasium was opened in the city. B. Grinchenko (Barvinok, 2016, p. 274). P. Kurinny compiled and published the “Index of the Historical Museum of the Uman Region in 1918”. It provides an overview of the exposition of all five departments of the museum, describes the exhibits and names their sizes. (Nagorna, 2004, p. 367).

The museum's funds were replenished, and the transition of the gymnasium to a new building made it possible to deploy a permanent exhibition for the first time. From the report written by P. Kurinny “The current state of the historical museum of the Uman Region”, compiled on the 20<sup>th</sup> of May 1921. It is known that the museum occupied one hall in which historical and archaeological collections were exhibited, and 6 rooms and a corridor were adapted for a picture gallery (Nabok, 2013).

The museum received state status and the name – District Social and Historical Museum of the Uman region, moved to a new spacious premises in 1923 (according to other data, in 1924). This area is occupies nowadays. The museum has the following departments: the archaeological department has many materials from the Tryplian, Cimmerian, Gothic, Scythian, and princely cultures during 1924. Department of social struggle with subdivisions: a) old times; b) history of Umanshchyna; c) new times. The picture gallery, which contains works by Italian, Flemish, and Dutch masters of the 16th and 16th centuries, as well as many unsystematized items of Western European art, engravings, etchings, and lithographs. The department of old prints includes literature from the libraries of tycoons. There are Venetian editions of the 16th century, a description of wars by B. Khmelnytskyi, written 30 years after the last war, acts and documents mainly from the saved library of the Polish historian Hotkevich among others development positions. The cartographic department where the most valuable exhibit is Simpson's Atlas of Europe of the 17th century were taken place. The numismatic department includes, in addition to a large numismatic collection, a collection of sphragistics (seals) and dacteliotics (rings). (Nagorna, 2004).

From the analysis of archival sources, it was established that in 1935, the Uman District Museum of Local Lore was reorganized into the Inter-district Scientific Research Museum of Local Lore, which was supposed to cover 15 surrounding districts for museum work. This indicates that

historical local history on the basis of museums is developing and acquiring a systemic character.

The idea of creating a museum in Chygyryn was not new. Local historians tried to create a historical museum was made in the 20s of the 20th century. The idea belongs to P. Yaremenko. The decision to create a museum was made in 1921 (Troschynska, 2011, p. 37). The first director of the museum was L. Rvachev. He was a local teacher who was interested in and studied the history of the Cossack state. Later he, headed the Society for the Protection of Monuments. The first exhibits of the museum were the archaeological collection of P. Yaremenko, which collected near the village of Yarmarky in the floodplain of the Tyasmin River not far from the village of Novoselitsy on this territory. He investigated the settlements of primitive man and the settlements of later times. (Chepurna, 2004). P. Yaremenko cooperated and corresponded with the Ukrainian Academy of Sciences. The Chygyry Historical Museum received an appeal from the Expedition of the Ukrainian Academy of Sciences on December 4, 1921. No. 362. The appeal stated: to submit an official statement to the Chygyryn district department about the personal composition of the museum. Otherwise, the duties and the requirements that can describe department demand from creative department the approval of these persons as employees from the time of election to work. The museum should add that the regional department agreed with all the candidates, submit a copy of the said statement in two copies for signature to Gubkomi and Vukopis. It could be taken decisive measures to take possession of the museum building, take the library out of Kamianka. Among them: two pieces of books that have been written off and are in school no. 1. At the same time, to take measures to remove the property from the Krasynskyi house in the village of Nesvyatkovo, which is necessary for furnishing the museum, to dig up the chest with manuscripts and correspondence collected in 1919 by P. Kurinny and F. Glenenko. Chihyrynsky Museum in the Regional Department of Education was take as a, registration of libraries and the establishment of a scientific library at the H. Steletsky museum.

The Zolotonsky Museum of Local History was created in 1920. The act of inspection of the museum was drawn up in October 1925 by O. Oleksandrov. The authorized representative of the Air Force Academy of the Academy of Sciences of the Cherkasy region. With the accession of

the city of Zolotonoshi to the Cherkasy District, the Zolotonoshi Museum became dependent on the Cherkasy Okrpolitovsit. During the liquidation of the Zolotoniska district in July, the museum found itself without funds for financing. In 1925–1926, the Regional Inspectorate contributed funds to the budget for the maintenance of the city of Zolotonosha. It must be mentioned that, later this decision was canceled. The museum was handed over by O. Denysenko to the supervision of the head of the Zolotonosha Pedagogical Technical College, according to the resolution of the District Executive Committee in September.

The museum was handed over to the Pedagogical College and moved to the second building with 6 rooms on Cherkaska Street, building number 17 on the 20<sup>th</sup> of September. It is situated opposite the building of the Pedagogical College. Head of Zolotonyskiy R.V.K. Mr. Kravchenko and the director of the Pedagogical College, Mr. Denysenko, proposed that the museum be headed by Mr. Balyura. He was in charge of a demonstration school at the Pedagogical College without separate maintenance, only for an apartment at the museum. (Nabok, 2013).

The most interesting of the exhibits is the art gallery. There is a painting by Titian – Cupid and Psyche, which is an old copy, and among them there are portraits of local landowners and artists Bryullov, Borovykovsky, Kiprensky. There are copper cannons in the Military Department, a Tatar mace also. The library of the museum housed printed books in foreign languages from the 16th century (Nabok, 2013).

The museum was under the District Archives Office in Korsun, in 1922–1924. The main fund consisted of a collection of icons collected by schoolchildren in the village. Zhurlyntsy, and the rest of the art gallery of the former owners of the Lopukhin-Demidov estate, staffed by Comrade Efimov et al. Shevchenko. Archaeological materials discovered during sand mining in the quarry near Voronov Horodyshe were also kept (Nabok, 2013).

So, from the given historical facts, we can come to the following conclusion: the formation of museums in the Cherkasy region reflects the natural process of development of historical local lore, acquiring specific features taking into account socio-political features.

**The Conclusions.** The development of historical local lore in the studied period is heterogeneous, but consistent in the direction of the accumulation of museum exhibits and their research.

The tendency to expand the number of museums and their contents had a positive direction, because new museums were opened throughout the territory of the Cherkasy region.

The peculiarity of the museum business in Cherkasy region is that many museums have started their activities for the first time. Expositions and funds were filled with exhibits that were from other regions. It was made since during the researched period the territory of Cherkasy was part of other regions, and the region was created in modern boundaries in 1954. The development of the museum business in the region contributed to the development of the local history movement in Cherkasy region. It formed interest the public in studying the historical past of the region. But the curtailment of “Ukrainization” in the 1930s had a negative impact on the development of the museum business and historical regional studies in general, as the mass curtailment of the regional studies movement began. It was caused by a break in social and historical sciences and repression against local studies scientists.

The 1920s and 1930s went down in history as the “golden time” of Ukrainian local history. This topic is relevant and needs further study, since local history is an important component of historical science. In general, the scientific problem of studying local history of Ukraine in the 20–30s of the 20th century needs detailed study and broad scientific discussion.

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