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## TYPES OF OPEN-AIR MUSEUM (SKANSEN) IN UKRAINIAN CARPATHIANS

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**Abstract.** The problems of preservation of wooden architecture of Ukraine are discussed. The museums under opened air are organized for better preservation of the wooden architecture. The Ukrainian Museums under opened air are described and their use for tourism purposes is analyzed.

**Keywords:** skansen, open-air museum, historical and cultural heritage memorial, art.

Museum – an institution that cares for a collection of artifacts and other objects of scientific, artistic, cultural, or historical importance and makes them available for public viewing through exhibits that may be permanent or temporary.

Kinds of Museums in Ukraine:

- historical;
- ethnographic;
- archaeological;
- local history;
- natural;
- literary;
- memorial;
- art;
- technical;
- industry and others.

Most of the exhibits of ethnographic museums in Ukraine are presented successfully in the open-air museums.

An open-air museum is a distinct type of museum exhibiting its collections out-of-doors. The first open-air museums were established in Scandinavia towards the end of the nineteenth century, and the concept soon spread throughout Europe and North America. Open-air museums are variously known as skansen, museums of buildings and folk museums. A comprehensive history of the open-air museum as idea and institution can be found in Swedish museologist Sten Rentzhog's 2007 book *Open Air Museums: The History and Future of a Visionary Idea*<sup>5</sup>.

Since that time many open-air museums have been created all over the world. The main aim of these museums is to document earlier forms of life, ways of living, and cultural habits, and folk customs.

Compared to other post-Soviet countries and even its Western neighbours, Ukraine has quite a few open air folk museums. Most of them are located in Western Ukraine (Carpathian region), and just two are to the East of the Dnipro River. Carpathian region includes: Transcarpathian region, Chernivtsy region, Lviv region, Ivano-Frankivsk region. These regions have a very long, interesting history. That is why, the open-air museums have a large number of ancient artifacts in Carpathian region.

Understandably, museum specialists have paid particular attention to the Carpathians with their living authenticity. Three other open air museums focus on the life of the highlanders.

An exception is the Chernivtsi Museum of Folk Architecture and Life and Lviv Museum of Folk Architecture and Rural Life, which generally focuses on the lifestyle of people living in the lowlands of Bukovyna and Lviv region. These museums have rich tradition of carnivals, particularly the Epiphany, for which participants come from a number of villages in the region. The lifestyle of the Hutsuls and their neighbours, the Boikos, from either side of the Carpathians, is represented in two open-air museums: one in the village of Krylos near Halych and the other in Uzhhorod. Both are quite compact, but the latter is perhaps the most photogenic, since it is located in a picturesque area under the walls of an ancient castle<sup>1</sup>.

#### *Open-air museum in Chernivtsy region.*

The museum-reserve in Chernivtsy, situated on the slopes of a picturesque ravine has 30 houses, two windmills, a tavern, two smitheries and wonderful churches. These wooden churches – are “visiting cards”, with the help of which you can easily study geography and history of Ukraine. The tiny St. Nicholas’s Church is built from smereka. This church is of a “hut-type”, typical for Bukovina under the sway of Ottoman (16-th – 19-th centuries). At that time it was prohibited for the Christians to construct high churches. That’s why among the village huts another one was built, which in the outward appearance did not anyhow differ from the others and only a cross on the roof marked it out from the ordinary dwelling constructions. Inside the church there is an impressive collection of native sacral art – icons of the “Bukovyna primitive art”. Behind the church there is a construction with a strange name “primaria” – a village board with gendarmerie. At Christmas and Ivana Kupala (Midsummer Day) the owners of the museums and tourists have fun here, making the deserted streets of the village-museum lively, but only for several days.

#### *Lviv Museum of Folk Architecture and Rural Life.*

The old-timer among Ukrainian skansens is the Museum of Folk Architecture and Rural Life in the north – eastern part of Lviv, known as the Shevchenko Grove.

Shevchenko Grove covering 59 hectares, found its location an interesting museum, the Museum of Folk Architecture and Rural Life. The exposition of the Museum was inaugurated for visitors in 1972.

Lviv Museum of Folk Architecture and Rural Life is an open-air museum containing 120 monuments of folk architecture including six wooden churches. Hardly any museum in the world can boast so many religious buildings. The open-air museum is located on a 50-hectare land plot in the picturesque part of the city – Shevchenkivsky Hay (Shevchenko Park). Unbelievably beautiful wooden houses and churches of the past ages create a genuine atmosphere of Ukrainian villages from different regions of the country - the lands of Boykos, Lemkos, Hutsuls, as well as Bukovyna and the Transcarpathian Region. In dwelling and utility houses you will find items of everyday use and farm implements. The churches, chapels and belfries have an authentic look.

The oldest monument to be found in the open-air museum is a house from the Carpathian village of Lybokhora dating back to 1749. The exposition includes wooden churches from the village of Kryvka (1763) of Turka District and the village of Tysovets (1863) of Skole District in Lviv Region, remarkable for the uniqueness of their shape. The church from Kryvka is a folk architecture masterpiece of European importance.

Folklore-ethnographic ensembles stage their performances on the museum's territory. The annual folklore festival called From the Folk Source (Z Narodnoyi Krynytsi) enjoys great popularity among the visitors. Liturgies are performed at churches, and especially impressive among them are the divine services at the Lord's Wisdom Church (the church from the village of Kryvka) held at Christmas and Easter.

The task of the museum is to collect, study and widely present to view the most typical features of rural architecture of the Western Ukraine. It is called upon to give a comprehensive idea of the life and traditions of various strata of the Ukrainian population from the end of the 18th century beginning of the 20th century.

The territory of the Museum is divided into 8 exposition sectors – “Boikivshchyna”, “Lemkivshchyna”, “Gutsulshchyna”, “Bukovyna”, “Podillya”, “Polissya”, “Lvivshchyna”, “Volyn” which are to represent ethnographical and historico – geographical zones of the Western Ukraine. Today the museum exhibits 124 monuments of folk western region of Ukraine.

The Shevchenko Orchard quite successfully competes with Kyiv’s Pyrohovo in terms of the number of events it hosts and has the major advantage of being centrally located. It is within walking distance of Lychakivska Street and the Lviv High Castle (Vysokiy Zamok).

***Transcarpathian museum folk architecture and life.***

The TransCarpathian Museum of Folk Architecture and Life is located in the ancient city above the Uzh at the foot of the Zamkova Mountain; here among fruit and ornamental trees there are over 30 unique sights of folk architecture of XVIII – beginning of XX cc. representing the building and life of different social and ethnic groups of Ukrainian: plain and piedmont areas – Dolinyany, mountain – Boyki, Hutsul, as well as housing of Hungarian and Romanian population of Transcarpathia. The museum was opened on June 27, 1970 during the celebration of the 25<sup>th</sup> anniversary of reunification of Zakarpattia and the Soviet Ukraine.

The best samples of folk architecture of this land perfectly complied with the natural environment. The street form of rural settlements usually met in the region is put on the basis of museum planning. The composition centre of exposition is a square where such public buildings as church, school and korchma are concentrated. It seemed to come back a few centuries in the past. Each of the museum units is implementation of traditions of many generations of artists, so ordinary household things are real masterpieces combining natural beauty and appropriateness, perfection of form and practicality.

Dolinyany represent six estates in the museum. Two of it – the houses of the village of Orihovytsya, Uzhhorod District and the village of Tybava, Svalyava District – are samples of folk architecture of the late XVIII c. One can see the building culture of Transcarpathian Hutsul in terms of estate-grazhdi of the village of Stebnyy and house of the village of Yasin (settlement of Keveliv), Rakhiv District. Grazhda is open top, but closed on the perimeter yard. It is a complex of residential and household buildings surrounded by high wall-felling, which includes housing, boxes for sheep, stables for horses and cows, barns, drovitnya, etc. The life of Boyki represent houses of the village of Rekity, Mizhgyrya District, villages of Guklavyy, Volovets District and Gusnyy, Veleky Berezny District. Building and life of local Hungarians is represented by house, built in 1879 of the village of Vyshkovo, Khust District. Transcarpathian Romanians have own traditions of building of the yard and living premises. The monumental entrance gate attracts special attention. The splendour and sophistication is a feature for interior and exterior finishing of Romanian house. The colourful carpets, festive chamber, bright elements of traditional dress, glass icons indicate national artistic traditions of Romanian peasants.

The economic-production buildings add the museum exposition. It is rural smithy characterizing the state of blacksmith's handicraft of the second half of XIX – beginning of XX cc., water-mill, mortar-fuller and feller for woollens working. The small architectural forms as gate, wicket-gates and fences play important role in constructive building of museum village. They give architectural-artistic perfection and unique colour to the states.

Today the museum owns over 16 000 exhibits, including almost 4 000 sights of material culture are located in the open air.

***Museum of Folk Architecture and Life Carpathian located near the village Krylos.***

The museum of folk architecture and way of life in Prykarpattia was founded in 1982. This wonderful island of folk architecture is located on the first lines of the defensive ramparts of the ancient city of Halych. It’s a very picturesque place of the ancient settlement opposite Prokalyiyv Garden. It attracts the interests of numerous tourists from different countries. In 1994 the museum was included to the “National Preserve of Ancient Halych“. The territory of the museum occupies an area of 6,9

hectares, exhibits eleven architectural monuments and so-called micro villages belonging to four ethnographic regions of Ivano-Frankivsk: Pokuttya, Hutsulshchyna, Boykivshchyna and Opillya. Each of the ethnographic areas of Ukrainian Prykarpattia is skillfully located in micro relief of the locality, equipped by the small architectural forms. In the interiors of sights there are lots of ethnographic relicts and objects of household way of life of our ancestors. Buildings which are located on the territory of the museum testify to originality of the Ukrainian folk architecture and at the same time say about the indissoluble copulas with the traditions of a building culture of Slavonic people.

True to say, a small display area stipulated the row of differences from the analogical types of the museums. In particular, a lot of architectural exhibits are given not as farmsteads but dwelling-production complex of rural building of the past times, and as single, typical standards of housing, economic and production buildings. Presently in the museum there are eleven architectural sights which present different types of housing and economic buildings.

The region of Pokuttya is presented by the traditional pokuttya farmstead of the end XIX<sup>th</sup> and the beginning of the XX<sup>th</sup> century transported from the village of Torhovytsya Horodenka district, which consists of a house hutch, hovel, well-crane and a fencing. In the pokuttya house there is a collection of tableware things such as plates, dishes, pots, jugs, bowls etc. In addition, in this display there is also a production structure such as an oilcan of the XIX<sup>th</sup> century, from the village of Olesha district of Tlumach.

From the ethnographic region of Hutsulshchyna to the museum two houses-grazhda are carried from the village of Usteriky of Verkhovyna district of the end of the XIX<sup>th</sup> century and the typical hutsul house of 40's the XX<sup>th</sup> century, which was brought from the town of Vorokhta, district of Nadvirna. It is three-chambered habitation, which consists of a house-hut for living, barn and two rooms which were typical for the building of that period. In the Vorokhta house there is an operating loom on which hutsul made carpets and clothes.

Hutsul'ska grazhda is the reserved building with a house, barn, closing rooms that were characteristic for housing building of that period. It enables to find out the row of traditional habitations of Hutsulshchyna. The main building of the court is the house, which consists of two apartments, parted by mansions in Ukraine is called "khoromy". A basic building material is wood. A roof of the house is covered with wooden thin pieces called "dranytsya"<sup>4</sup>.

Boykivshchyna presents traditional house of 1878, the date testifying about it is on the log of the hut over the door. This house is transported from the village of Polyanitsa, Dolyna district. It is a three-chambered house without chimney and the room for a weaving loom. The display of one class school is designed in one of the rooms is called "dyakivky". There are the most numerous collections of folk fabrics, (embroideries and clothes).

For the future development of open-air museums should solve a number of important issues.

The authors feel that this topic raises some important questions for future research on open-air museums, especially in light of this report's descriptive scope. First, what exactly encourages visitors to return and to recommend museums to others? Which factor of the museum is important for this: the type and degree of interactivity, the interior and/or interior design and the story it tells in relation to its contained objects, or the presence of advertisement in other media, especially online? Second, in light of possible answers to the aforementioned question, how might advertisement strategies develop to more effectively attract both new and returning visitors? And finally, how will museums in the future balance the increasing trend (and degree) of interactivity with its authoritative role and with its need to tell coherent stories about people, the past, cultural trends, and art?

One of the future development of the museum is its popularization by the experience of other museums of this kind, especially such as increasing the assortment of services it provides.

Also it is necessary attracting educational institutions to work with museums. They will help to familiarize students and pupils with the life and traditions of its own people.

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