

Dr. Sofia Dyak
Center for Urban History of East Central Europe
s.dyak@lvivcenter.org

Ours, Theirs, Common? Discussionson Heritage in East Central Europe after 1945

This seminar explores ideas and practices of heritage in Eastern and Central Europe between 1945 and now. The course is designed as a set of five meetings, which will include short lecture introductions, seminar discussions, and at the end – practical workshop. Our meetings will be about discussing the texts, addressing cases you will read about or already know. This the seminar will be our common effort in reading, asking questions and searching for answers. Therefore it is crucial that you will read assigned parts of selected texts and also consult texts from the recommended reading list. While reading assigned texts, please keep a short track of your ideas and formulate several questions you will address at the meeting. This will help us to have a dynamic discussion and a fruitful exchange of ideas.

We will start with more general questions: What is heritage - is an object, an idea, a project, or a process? How the concept of heritage is shaped? Who is involved and how stakeholders are defined? To whom heritage belongs, what meanings it contains and what needs it reflects? Does the concept have a history? What does it mean to see heritage critically? What are relations between heritage, politics, and power? What are relations between present and past as reflected through or by heritage practices? If heritage means selection, then what is selected and what is not and why? Can we separate tangible and intangible in heritage and how such division works? Does heritage has only positive meaning and what is difficult and contested heritage?

While keeping these general questions in mind we will turn to specific places and periods in Eastern and Central Europe and ask what are heritage practices in the regions with multi-ethnic and multi-religious pasts marked by wars, genocides, and ethnic cleansing in the 20th century? What is the place of heritage in post-war societies, after destructions, targeted annihilation of people, entire societies and groups, depriving them not only of lives and personal dignity and belongings, but of community ties, objects of pride and history? How heritage is used, mobilized, approached and appropriated in post-war Eastern and Central Europe? How and why attitudes to heritage changes throughout post-war decades in socialist states and societies? Looking at the post-Communist period will question how ethnic and national definitions are reassessed and into how far the ideas of multiculturalism open new approaches and perspectives on heritage and the past or conceal difficult questions?

Our last meeting will be a practical class, and I ask everybody to prepare a short presentation (5-7 slides up to 3 min) about a local building/site which, in your opinion, is “forgotten,” “neglected,” or “Other” and is not considered as “heritage” in Ukraine, but you think that it should be defined as “heritage”. In order to prepare a short overview of local cases in your home city or town, specify its state, reasons why this building/site should be considered as “heritage”, to your mind, and how it is possible to use/revive/save and include it into the contemporary life of a city or a community.

Seminar One

Introduction: “What is Heritage and Why isit Important?”

Obligatory Reading:

David Harvey, “Heritage Pasts and Heritage Presents: Temporality, Meaning and the Scope of Heritage Studies,” *International Journal of Heritage Studies*, 2001, nr 4, pp. 319-338; **assigned pages: 2-8**

D. Fairchild Ruggles, “Introduction: The Social and Urban Scale of Heritage,” in *On Location. Heritage Cities and Sites*, ed. by D. Fairchild Ruggles, New York: Springer, 2012; **assigned pages: 1-13**

Matthew Rampley, "Contested Histories: Heritage and/as the Construction of the Past: An Introduction," in *Heritage, Ideology, and Identity in Central and Eastern Europe: Contested Pasts, Contested Presents*, ed. by Matthew Rampley, The Boydell Press, 2012, **assigned pages: 1-14**

Additional Reading:

G.J. Ashworth, Brian Graham, J.E. Tunbridge (eds), *Pluralizing Pasts: Heritage, Identity and Place in Multicultural Societies*, London: Pluto Press, 2007, "Introduction: Heritage and Plurality," **assigned pages: 1-6**

Monika A. Murzyn, "Heritage Transformation in Central and Eastern Europe," in *The Ashgate Research Companion to Heritage and Identity*, ed. by Brian Graham and Peter Howard, Ashgate, 2008, **assigned pages: 315-341**

Seminar Two

Introduction: "Leaving the War Behind? Destroyed City Centers, Reconstruction, and New Old Heritage"

Obligatory Reading:

Gregor Thum, *Uprooted: How Breslau Became Wrocław during the Century of Expulsions*, Princeton University Press, 2011, chapter "Old Cities New Contexts," **assigned pages: 323-377**

Or in Polish,

Gregor Thum, *Obcemiasto. Wrocław 1945 i potem*, Wrocław: Via Nova, 2005, part „Stara architektura – rekonstrukcja i tworzenie nowych kontekstów,” **assigned pages: 363-413**

Michael Meng, *Shattered Spaces: Encountering Jewish Ruins in Post war Germany and Poland*, Harvard University Press, 2011, **assigned pages: 129-142**, "Erasing the Jewish Past" .

Additional Reading:

Piotr Majewski, *Ideologia i konserwacja. Architektura i zabytkowa w Polsce w czasach socrealizmu*, Warszawa, Wydawnictwo TRIO, 2009, **assigned pages: 29-34, 50-72**

Seminar Three

Introduction: "Ruins after the Catastrophe: Jewish Sites in post-war Eastern and Central Europe"

Obligatory Reading:

Michael Meng, *Shattered Spaces: Encountering Jewish Ruins in Post war Germany and Poland*, Harvard University Press, 2011, **assigned pages: 46-57, 60-63, 69-84**, "Clearing Jewish Rubble

Ruth Ellen Gruber, *Virtually Jewish. Reinventing Jewish Culture in Europe*, University of California Press, 2002, part "There Is No Future without Memory," **assigned pages: 75-85**

or in Polish,

Ruth Ellen Gruber, *Odrodzenie kultury żydowskiej w Europie*, Sejny: Pogranicze, 2004, part „Nie ma przyszłości bez pamięci,” **assigned pages: 93-107**

Additional Reading:

Monika Murzyn, *Kazimierz. The Central European Experience of Urban Regeneration*, Krakow: International Cultural Center, 2006, **assigned pages: 121-141** (both in English and Polish)

Beata Chomątowska, *Stacja Muranow*, Wołowiec, Wydawnictwo Czarne, 2012, **assigned pages: 13-22, 47-53**

Seminar Four

Introduction: "Heritage Turn": Ideology and Preservation Practices in the Soviet Union and Eastern Europe

Obligatory Reading:

Steven Maddox, "These Monuments Must Be Protected! The Stalinist Turn to the Past and Historic Preservation during the Blockade of Leningrad," *The Russian Review*, vol. 70, 2011, **assigned pages: 608-26**

Brian Ladd, "Socialist Planning and the Rediscovery of the Old City in the German Democratic Republic," *Journal of Urban History*, vol. 27, no. 5, July 2011, **assigned pages: 584-600**

Seminar Five

Introduction: "Jewish Heritage in East Central Europe after 1989 and 1991: Re/Imagining, Re/Working, Re/Thinking"

Obligatory Reading:

Ruth Ellen Gruber, „Poza wirtualną żydowskością... próba osiągnięcia równowagi pomiędzy miejscami rzeczywistymi, surrealnymi i naprawdę wyimaginowanymi,” y *Przywracanie pamięci. Rewitalizacja zabytkowych dzielnic żydowskich w miastach Europy Środkowej*, підред. Monika Murzyn-Kupisz , Jacek Purchla, Krakow: Międzynarodowe Centrum Kultury 2008, **assigned pages: 63-80**

or English,

Ruth Ellen Gruber "Beyond virtually Jewish... balancing the real, the surreal and real imaginary places," in *Reclaiming Memory, Urban regeneration in the historic Jewish quarters of Central European cities*, ed. by Monika Murzyn-Kupisz , Jacek Purchla, Krakow: International Cultural Center, 2008, **assigned pages: 63-79**

Omer Bartov, "White Spaces and Black Holes: Eastern Galicia's Past and Present," *The Shoah in Ukraine. History, Testimony, Memorialization*, ed. by Ray Brandon and Wendy Lower, Indiana University Press, 2008, **assigned pages: 319-343**

Additional Reading:

Gregor Thum, "Wroclaw and the Myth of the Multicultural Border City," *European Review*, volume 13, Issue 2, 2005, **assigned pages: 227-235**

Monika A. Murzyn, "Heritage Transformation in Central and Eastern Europe," in *The Ashgate Research Companion to Heritage and Identity*, ed. by Brian Graham and Peter Howard, Ashgate, 2008, **assigned pages: 330-334**