

Abstract of Aleksander Strojny's doctoral dissertation - "Tourist's Guides to Lviv, from the oldest to 1991. Memory Culture."

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The dissertation deals with Lviv tourist guides, issued until 1991. The aim of the dissertation is to analyze the contents of the guides' corpus, to follow the development of the genre and to show how they could shape the memory of the city's history among its readers. Taking into account the above-mentioned research goal, the main research question was formulated: What are the ways of the presence of history in tourist guides to Lviv? However, other problems have been taken into consideration: Where should one look for the beginnings of a tourist description of Lviv? What was the evolution of the species? What influence did the changing Lviv historical realities have on Lviv guides? Who were the guide's authors? In order to learn the answers to the above questions, the research on collective memory was used and the notion of a memory carrier (for which a tourist guide was recognized) and memory cultures (in line with the definition of Ch. Cornelißen) were used.

The work consists of two parts: a theoretical and a fundamental one, discussing the guides in a chronological order. The whole completes the ending, bibliography and list of tables. The first part, divided into seven chapters, explains and organizes basic terminological issues. It contains reflection on the definition and typology of book-guides, genesis of the genre, its history and place in historical and mnemological research. The second part, divided into seven chapters, is expressed by an analysis of the content characteristics of the guides. The first and second chapters of this section describe the beginnings of the description of the city from the 16th century onwards. The next five chapters show the process of reaching a fully formed modern tourist guide and the fluctuations resulting from the course of history (the Galician period, World War I, interwar period, World War II and the period of existence of the USSR were discussed separately). The main objective of the work was carried out based on a selected text corpus of over one hundred guides describing Lviv, supplemented with other printed and manuscript sources. In this way, an image of the formation of the memory of Lviv's past, the appearance of conflicts of memory and attempts to destroy it in the era of totalitarianism (1939-1991) were obtained.

