

CERAMICS PRODUCTION IN LUBYCZA KRÓLEWSKA, SIEDLISKA AND POTYLICZ – THEIR HISTORY, PRODUCE AND DESIGNS

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ABSTRACT

This paper presents the issue of ceramics created in Lubycza Królewska, Siedliska and Potylicz (ukr. Potelych), three towns located on the current Polish-Ukrainian borderland. It mainly discusses the history of the establishment and further fate of the manufactory in Lubycza Królewska, which is the most documented of those three places. It operated at the turn of the 19th and 20th centuries, and brought to life one of the most interesting examples of pottery in this part of the modern day Poland. This article shows the variety of decorations resulting from the ethnic and religious diversity in both towns. The combination of the design traditions of the Ruthenian and Jewish populations, who were the majority of the inhabitants of the mentioned areas, led to the creation of motifs that merged elements of folk plant decorations, geometric patterns, and references to the practices of followers of the Jewish faith. The paper summarizes the university project, which aimed to research, understand and recreate the ornamentation used in the Roztocze region. It also serves as an introduction to further exploration of the issue of Galician ceramics, conducted through the examination of collected samples. It's aiming at further collaboration with local institutions and historians in order to promote, and bring back to life those forgotten traditions of pottery in that region.

Keywords: clay, historical ceramic, faience, Jewish culture, Ruthenian culture, Lubycza Królewska, Siedliska, Potylicz, Potelych

INTRODUCTION

Faience is one of the lesser known products of the ceramics art in Poland. Unlike porcelain, which was used only by the people from upper classes, faience vessels were produced mainly for ordinary people. Especially interesting examples of this craft were made at the turn of the 19th and 20th century in three towns currently located on the Polish - Ukrainian borderland – Lubycza Królewska, Siedliska and Potylicz (ukr. Potelych). Two mentioned towns are located in Poland, while the last one is now part of the Ukraine. Unique cultural landscape of this region, formerly being inhabited mostly by Rusyn and Jewish populations, resulted in forms and decoration of those vessels being an unprecedented blend of both of these cultures. It is considered to be an unparalleled phenomenon in the global scale [1].