ARCHAEOLOGICAL INVESTIGATIONS OF THE PRESIDENTIAL PALACE
Daiva Luchtenienė

In the 14th-15th centuries, the territory of the palace belonged to the domain of Vilnius diocese, and the mansion of bishops stood there. From the year 1795, during the period of occupa-
tion by the Czarist Russia, it was the residential palace of the governor-general. The palace acquired the present look after a reconstruc-
tion in 1823-1835 made according to a classicistic design by Lizunov. Archaeological investigations were started in autumn 1945, after restoration works were launched with a view to reconstruct the then "House of Artists" for the needs of a Presidential resi-
dence. An area of 4021 sq.m. was investigated in 1995-1997. The earliest finds from the courtyard of the palace come from the Bronze and Early Iron Ages. The people who stayed at a tem-
porary campsite at the place which once was a dry sandy hillock left an open fire-place, flint artefacts and potsherds. The cultural layer in the territory of the palace extends 3 m. Its
easiest horizon in the excavated part of the park is dated to the turn of the 16th-17th centuries as well as the 17th century, though there were also individual finds dating to the 14th-15th cent. The layer at the founda-
tion of the palace was disturbed in the result of various repairs and construc-
tions. Later horizons of the cultural layer have not been preserved alto-
gether, as the surface of the courtyard and the present S.Daukantas square was lowered quite a number of times
during the long centuries of the existence of the palace.

Remains of a craftsmen quarter were found in the territory of the park of the president's office, which used to be a manory area for a long time. Workshops of a potter, broommaker, bone crafts-
man, and specialist of non-ferrous metals were localized. This quarter of workshops was in the jurisdiction of the bishop and the craftsmen who stayed there used to work to bishopric orders. It functioned in the 16th-17th centuries, until the year 1655, when the larger part of the Great Duchy of Lithuania, including Vilnius, was occupied by Russian troops. During the occupation, the Palace of Bishops was damaged, the wooden houses of craftsmen as well as their workshops burnt down. This quarter of craftsmen was not rebuilt after the year 1655. Some time later, a few brick houses were built there, the function of which has not been established yet. The dump ground has pre-
served remains of wooden buildings, fences of boards and wick-
terwork, and even curbs of six wells, as well as gougled wooden gutters. Only three of the six wells had been dug on water veins, the others were used for drainage. In the southern part of the park, a 16th century sewage facility and a covered underground gutter made of boards were found. The gutter was separated from the structure enclosure, constructed from carts, by a

- OTHER ASPECTS OF LITHUANIAN ARCHAEOLOGY:

ARCHAEOLOGY IN THE MUSEUMS OF LITHUANIA

Egle Kučinscaite

Secretary of the Association of Lithuanian Museums

Archaeological finds in Lithuania have been collected and accumulated for nearly 200 years. In 1833 the Museum of Antiquities was established in Vilnius, which served as a foun-
dation for the present National Museum of Lithuania. The first professional museum, the Culture Museum of Vytautas the Great (in Kaunas), which collected materials on history and art, was founded in the twenties of the current century. There are 82 state museums in Lithuania today, including 3 national, 15 republican, 52 municipal and 12 departmental museums.

On the basis of their collections, all the museums could be grouped as follows:

National and republican museums which have historical, archaeological and ethnographical exhibitions:

National Museum of Lithuania (Vilnius) Vytautas the Great War Mu-
seum (Kaunas) Šiauliai 'Mautybi' Museum (Šiau-
liai, Šiauliai county) Kernavė Archaeological and Historical Museum-Reserve (Morėnai, Vilnius county) Open-Air Museum of Lithuania (scenic) (Rūmūnai, Kaunas county) Trakai History Museum (Trakai, Vilnius county) Art museums:

Lithuanian Art Museum (Vil-
nius) M.K. Čiurlionis State Art Mu-
seum (Kaunas) Lithuanian Theatre, Music and Film-Museum (Vilnius) Technical museums:

Lithuanian Aviation Museum (Kaunas) Specialized museums:

Vilnius Gaon State Jewish Museum (Vilnius) Lithuanian Genocide Victims' Museum (Vilnius) Lithuanian Ethno-Cosmology Museum (Utena county) Maironis Lithuanian Literature Museum (Kaunas) Lithuanian Maritime Museum (Klaipėda) National Pedagogical Museum (Kaunas) Museum of the Ninth Fort of Kaunas Museums administered by municipalities are usually either local fine museums with historical, archaeological and art exhi-
bitions, or memorial museums. During the recent years, efficient regional museums - cultural centres are being formed, such as Žemaičių Art Museum (Pilrigi, Telšiai county), Rožiūnų Art Museum (Rožiūnai,Panevėžys county), Vilnius hockey Arena Museum (Marijampolė county). Both the network of museums and their activities as well as expositions are changing. Creation of a new legal system on the regulation of museum activities, based on the Law of Museums of the Republic of Lithuania, enforced in 1995, is being finalized. In 1995 Lithuanian museums founded a public professional organization called the Association of Museums of Lithuania which incorporates the majority of Lithuanian museums (with Director of the Lithuanian Art Museum Romualdas Budrys act-
ing as Chairman). One of the numerous fields of activities of the Association of Lithuanian Museums includes accumulation of data on the Lithuanian fund of museums and preparation of an aggregated register of Lithuanian museum funds. Today, it is the only one institution in Lithuania which accumulates data on specialized collections of Lithuanian museums. This work was undertaken by one of the sections of the Association of Lithuanian Museums, i.e., the section on scientific investigation of collections, headed by Birutė Šalinskienė, head of the archae-
ological division of Šiaulių "Mautybi" Museum. Pursuant to the data of January 1, 1998, exhibits kept at Lith-
uanian state museums totalled 4136617, of which 275300 were archaeological finds (about 6.7%). Finds are usually brought to museums from archaeological sites where excavations are carried out. According to the information of the section of scientific investigation of collections, 72% of all the archaeo-
logical finds kept at Lithuanian museums were recovered in the course of archaeological excavations. This is a positive ten-
dency,line with the needs of the archaeological science and the requirements of preservation of monuments. The largest fund of archaeological finds has been collected at the National Museum of Lithuania (over 100 000). Archaeological museums of major Lithuanian archaeological institutions, who carry out excavations of numerous archaeological sites over the country, contribute the finds to this museum. Archaeological excavations are also carried out by scientists of the archaeological division of the National Museum. The division is headed by archaeologist Egle Griciūnienė.
Collections of the museum represented archaeological finds dating from the 10th millennium B.C. to the 16th-17th century. This museum exhibits the most exhaustive and comprehensive exposition of Lithuanian archaeology. At present, arrangement is being prepared of a new archaeological exposition which will be displayed in a new location, the territory of Vilnius castles. Extensive archaeological collections are kept at Vytautas the Great Museum (over 43,000), History Museum of Lithuania Minor (Klaipėda, Klaipėda county, near 28,000), Naušiai Museum (Švenčionys, Vilnius county, 15,000), Kaunas State Archaeological and Historical Museum-Reserve (17,000), Trakai History Museum (1,000), Museum "Stella" of the Birstai Area (Birstai, Panevėžys county, over 7,000), Maišiakalnas Museum (Maišiakalnis, Telšiai county, 6,000), Šiauliai "Aulia" Museum (over 5,000), Dauguvės Cultural History Museum-Reserve (Šiauliai county, over 5,000), Lithuanian Art Museum (over 5,000). During the recent years, more close relations have been established between archaeologist and municipal museums. A commendable tendency has been observed to leave finds with museums located in the area of the find spot. The only one historical and archaeological museum-reserve is situated in Kėdainiai, not far from Vilnius. The museum studies, safeguards and exhibits the archaeological, historical and cultural monuments of Kėdainiai region. There are 48 archaeological and historical monuments in the territory of the reservation (199.2 ha) and its preventive zones, including the largest in Lithuania defensive complex of five hill-forts. Close to the complex a rural traditional town was found, currently excavated by archaeologists of the museum and Vilnius University. The excavations are headed by Dr. A. Aliechuckas, archaeologist from Vilnius University. The site near the town, hill-forts and other sites, recovered during excavations, are attributed to different periods of the Lithuanian prehistory. They are kept at the museum and displayed in an exhibition of "The Prehistory and Middle Ages in Kėdainiai".

Archaeological finds are being exhibited in practically all the museums of a historical or folklore profile. Archaeological exhibitions are being staged both in Lithuania and abroad. The first exhibition of Lithuanian archaeological finds organized in a foreign country was arranged by the National Museum of Lithuania (1989, Pavia, Italy). The number of Lithuanian museums which have the potential to organize and carry out archaeological excavations is continually increasing and now encompasses national museums - the National Museum of Lithuania, the Lithuanian Art Museum, republican - Trakai History Museum, the Kaunas Archaeological and Historical Museum-Reserve, dailūtis "Maišiakalnis" Museum, Vytautas the Great War Museum, municipal - museums of Alytus, Kidainiai, "Naušiai", Panevėžys, Utena, Biržai, Kėdainiai, Maišiakalnis, Lithuania Minor (Klaipėda), and the Žemaitija Museum "Alužius".

Pursuant to the information of the section of scientific investigation of collections in the association of Lithuanian museums, archaeological collections in all the Lithuanian State museums are handled by specialists with higher education. Approximately 70% of archaeological finds kept in museums have been conserved. Most of the archaeological finds are conserved at a branch office of the Lithuanian Art Museum, Pranas Guadyns Centre for Restoration of Museum Artefacts (Vilnius). This restoration workshop was established in 1946 and has by now developed into a centre which provides services to all the Lithuanian museums. In 1965, an archaeological division was set up at the centre. The division is headed by Liutma Vaidickienė, restorer of the highest category. Most of the archaeological restorers in Lithuania are pupils of this division. In 1995, a new specialty, conservation of archaeological finds, was introduced at the Department of Archaeology of Vilnius University.

The changing world forces to modify the attitude towards museum visitors, especially young people and children. The personnel of Lithuanian museums believe that it is necessary to use the historical and cultural evidence collected in the deposits of museums and displayed in exhibitions, as well as the knowledge of specialists working at museums, for the education of the growing generation.

Special educational programmes are being arranged for this particular group of visitors. They are coordinated with school curricula, and favourable conditions are worked out to help young people and children gain a better understanding of the history of Lithuania and their own locality, as well as the sources of the country and its cultural heritage. This undertaking is coordinated by the information, publishing and education section of the Association of Lithuanian museums, headed by Nidaė Žarokaite, head of the art cognition centre at the Lithuanian Art Museum.

Photographing of archaeological sites from aeroplanes in Europe began immediately after World War II. General V. Nagevosčius, then director of the Vytautas Magnus War Museum in Kaunas, was the first to employ this novelty in his country in the years 1931-34, while excavating Apokašis and Irušė hill-forts in north-western Lithuania. Following World War II, aerial photography in Lithuania were not photographed in a comprehensive manner.

The rest of Europe however made substantial progress in this area. After World War II, centres of aerial photography were set up at a number of west European universities and institutions involved in preservation of ancient monuments which to date have accumulated archives containing millions of photograph negatives. In Lithuania comprehensive photographing of archaeological sites from the air as a means of monument preservation has only commenced recently. In 1996, the Centre of Cultural Heritage of the Department of Cultural Heritage Protection allocated funds for implementing a programme of aerial photographing of archaeological sites.

The main objective of this programme is a search for new archaeological monuments and accumulation of additional data on monuments that are already known. Another important feature of the programme consists in dechipping and matching the aerially photographed archaeological monuments with the use of state-of-the-art computer technologies.

The programme is aimed at setting up a centralised archive of aerial photopraphic negatives of Lithuania's archaeological monuments. The data of the archive could be used for purposes related to artefact preservation and for illustrating scientific and popular publications.

• Protection of Archaeological Sites

Remonas Kraupalis

Interest in the protection of Lithuanian archaeological sites arose only in the 19th century. In 1855, due to the initiative of Count E. Tinkūnaitis (1818-1883), the founder of Lithuanian archaeology, the Vilnius Temporary Archaeological Commission and the Museum of Antiquities were founded. The Commission, which, among other undertakings, was also engaged in registration of archaeological sites, was influential and popular organization, but its activities were cancelled after the uprising of 1863.

In the period when Lithuania was part of the czarist Russian Empire, archaeological sites were within the responsibility of the Imperial Archaeological Commission, founded in 1859, which controlled archaeological excavations in the Russian Empire, and the Archaeological Society of Moscow, founded in 1864. On the initiative of the latter, archaeological conventions were arranged in different cities of Russia. Three conventions, arranged in Vilnius in 1893, had a very significant impact on protection of archaeological sites in our country. Prior to the convention, a special questionnaire for description of archaeological sites was prepared and sent to teachers and authorities in the peripheral areas. Replies to the questionnaire combined with other collected information, enabled V. Nagevosčius to publish his first works on Lithuanian prehistoric topography. In 1893, Gardai (1893) and Kaunas (1899) provinces. In 1908, a map of Lithuanian archaeological sites covering East Prussia and some monuments in western Lithuania was published by E. Höfliger. After restoration of independence, protection of archaeological sites was undertaken by the State Archaeological Commission under the Ministry of Culture, founded in 1919, and later transferred to a special division for protection of monuments at Kaunas Vytautas the Great Museum of Culture. The two institutions accomplished a lot in organizing archaeological excavations and recording monuments. In this connection, a very significant undertaking was the catalogue and map of archaeological sites, Archaeological Material of Lithuania, published by P. Turauskis in 1928. Protection of archaeological sites in pre-war Lithuania was aggravated by a few factors - the absence of relevant legislation on protection of cultural monuments and attribution of a large number of archaeological sites to the ownership of private inalienable land. The first Lithuanian law on protection of cultural monuments, the bill of which had been drafted in independent Lithuania, was passed only in 1940, when Lithuania had already been invaded and occupied by the soviet army. In the soviet post-war Lithuania, protection of cultural monuments was regulated by special laws enacted in 1967 and 1977. The work of protection and supervision of cultural monuments was placed by the Board of Findings of Cultural Monuments under the Ministry of Culture, as well as special divisions of relevant executive authorities in districts. The soviet law of protection of monuments was based on the contract of commitment, which then was an archological site (collective-farm, forest administration, etc.) was forced to sign. From the year 1967, registration of archaeological sites was undertaken by the Scientific Methodological Council of Protection of Cultural Monuments. In 1972, archaeological associations of the Council prepared and published a register of archaeological sites of Lithuania (the sites were divided into objects of republican and local significance), and some time later they cartographed and defined the territories and protection zones of most archological monuments, marked them on maps and on location. Nevertheless, the soviet pyramid administration system, and public (collective) land ownership with no direct accountability, enabled the authorities to make drastic decisions regarding cultural monuments (a very obvious illusion being the project of the then government of soviet Lithuania to establish the so-called Friendship Museum of Nations of the USSR in the territory of the cities of Vilnius, which had not been investigated by archaeologists yet. When perestroika started, the movement for protection of monuments, as well as the green movement which had just started at that time, were especially active, and it was due to this particular reason, that an inter-departmental inspection for Protection of Cultural Monuments, which at last was subordinate to the Parliament of the Republic, was created after restoration of independence with a view to ensuring direct public control in