The Didushytsky Family's Mission in Conservation and Research of Galician Historical and Archaeological Heritage

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Abstract. The purpose of the research is to highlight the contribution of the Didushytsky family to the preservation of Galician historical and archaeological heritage on the basis of archival published materials and scientific papers; to do research on their role in the development of Lviv archeology until the middle of the 20th century. The research methodology is based on the principles of historicism, scientificality, objectivity, systematicity, the use of general scientific (analysis, synthesis, generalization) special and historical (prosopographic, historical and typological, historical and systemic) methods. The scientific novelty is caused by the introduction of archival documents and little-known works of the 19th and early 20th centuries into scientific circulation, which makes it possible to show the contribution of the Didushytsky family to the conduct of archaeological research in the territories of western Ukraine, their role in preservation and exhibition of archaeological finds, etc. The Conclusion. The formation of a powerful scientific centre around the Didushytsky Museum took place owing to the
interest and financial support of individual representatives of the Didushytsky family. From the end of the 19th century far from the last place was occupied by archaeology in the Museum. Volodymyr Didushytsky laid the foundations of archaeological collection and provided it with scientific analysis by “finding” the only professional archaeologist for the Museum in Lviv at that time, Karol Hadaczek. The work of the founder was continued by the second resident, Tadeusz Didushytsky, who supported archaeological research in every possible way, owing to whom the collection increased, the results of fieldwork were published, and the Museum became known among archaeologists in Europe. The successors of Tadeusz Didushytsky, Pavlo and Volodymyr (junior), tried to make some progress in preserving the historical and cultural heritage, but the financial crisis that affected the family in the 1920s and 1930s affected this line of activity as well. At the beginning of World War II, the preservation of historical and architectural monuments receded into the background. Archeology started to belong to the newly established Lviv Historical Museum.

Key words: the Didushytsky family, historical and cultural heritage, archaeological site, prehistoric department.

The Problem Statement. The Didushytsky family belongs to such elite genera, to whom more than one conference is dedicated, many articles and monographs are written, and every time researchers find something new and interesting, which gives rise to new scientific papers. It is known that this is one of the richest and largest noble families, which traced its roots back to the Middle Ages and often emphasized its “Ruske” origin. Until the 19th century the family was completely Polonized.

In the article, we focus on the activities of those representatives of the family, who during the middle of the 19th – the first half of the 20th centuries contributed to the preservation and provided scientific study of historical and archaeological monuments on the territory
The Didushytsky Family’s Mission in Conservation and Research of Galician Historical...

of Galicia. Volodymyr\textsuperscript{1} and Tadeusz\textsuperscript{2} are meant, as well as Pavlo and Volodymyr (junior) Didushytsky. Each of them contributed to the increase and preservation of monuments of the past, including archaeological ones.

**The Analysis of Recent Scientific Papers and Publications.** Various aspects of the Didushytsky family activities and Museum were reflected in the publications of Gabriel Brzęk, Kazimierz Karolczak, Andrzej Abramowicz, Mykola Bandrivsky, Larysa Krushelnytska, Ihor Chornovol, and Natalie Bulyk. The authors of the above mentioned publications focused on the history of the Didushytsky Museum creation and its individual departments (Brzęk, 1994; Lutsyk, & Bulyk, 2022, p. 246), personalities who created this history (Berest, 1998, pp. 77–78; Karolczak, 2001; Bulyk, & Lech, 2009, pp. 59–89; Bulyk, 2013, pp. 278–294), interpreted individual archaeological finds (Bandrivskyi, & Krushelnytska, 2012). However, the monument preservation aspect of this famous family activity remained out of researchers’ attention.

The source base of the research consists of documents of Fund 26 (Conservation Department of Lviv Voivodeship) of V. Stefanyk National Scientific Library in Lviv (Manuscripts Department), archives of the State Museum of Natural History in Lviv, the Archives of Science of the National Academy of Sciences in Kraków, which make it possible to reproduce the contribution of the Didushytsky family to the preservation of antiquities in the territories of western Ukraine.

**The purpose of the research** is to elucidate the contribution of the Didushytsky family to the research and preservation of the historical and archaeological monuments of Galicia based on archival documents and publications on the issue.

**The Results of the Research.** Historical and archaeological sites could not fail to attract the attention of Didushytsky, because from the middle of the 19th century there was a fashion for antiquities, and the entire intellectual elite of Europe began to collect and exhibit them (Sklenář, 1983, p. 78; Bulyk, 2014, pp. 39–42). Preservation and popularization of monuments of the past took place in several directions at that time, namely, the formation of Museum collections, exhibition activities, conducting archaeological research and scientific processing of the obtained results, protection of architectural monuments, etc. The creation of various institutions, in particular, the Pedagogical Society in Lviv, which sought to unite Galician scholars, educators, employees of cultural institutions and the intellectual elite of society, was of great importance to the establishment and development of monument protection work in Galicia in the second half of the 19th century (Berest, Berest, Pasichnyk, Zachepa & Zubko, 2020, pp. 373–379). The Didushytsky family concentrated their activities around the museum, which played an important role in the cultural life of Lviv from the middle of the 19th century and was famous for one of the richest collections in Europe.

The foundation of the Archaeological Department of the Didushytsky Museum was laid in the middle of the 19th century by Count Volodymyr Didushytsky and worthily continued by the second resident, the son-in-law of the founder, Tadeusz Didushytskyi (an ordinate in 1899 – 1918). After his death, the Museum was inherited by his sons – Pavlo (an ordinate for several months in 1918) and Volodymyr Jr. (1918 – 1939).

In 1857, the founder of the Museum moved his collections from Potorytsia to Lviv and placed them in the main estate of the Potorytsia-Zaritska Ordinance in St. Kurkova 15, and

\textsuperscript{1}Volodymyr Didushytsky (1825 – 1899) is a philanthropist, collector, naturalist, political activist and creator of the Natural History Museum in Lviv.

\textsuperscript{2}Tadeusz Didushytsky (1841 – 1918) – Doctor of Law at Lviv University, a curator of the Didushytsky Museum in 1900–1914.
since 1869 he had placed them in a specially purchased, restored and adapted for a Museum building in Theatre street, 18. Since 1873, it had been open to visitors once a week (Brzęk, 1994, p. 36). From this time, the scientific organization of the Museum began. In the autumn of 1880, during the visit of Emperor Franz Joseph I to Lviv, the Natural History Museum became available to Lviv residents and guests of the city (Dzieduszycki Włodzimierz, 1999, pp. 131–132).

Collecting of prehistoric exhibits began later than natural exhibits, however, this did not prevent the Didushytsky Museum from having one of the richest archaeological departments. Archeology was located in two halls on the second floor (Wiczkowski, 1907, p. 524). The pearl of the Museum's prehistoric collection was the Mykhalkivsky treasures, discovered in 1878 and 1897. Vladyslav Zontak, the curator of the Museum for many years, was responsible for their purchase. In 1900, for the safe keeping of the treasures, they were transferred to the Mortgage Bank in Lviv.

V. Didushytsky well understood the need to popularize Galician antiquities. In 1873, at the World Exhibition in Vienna, the count organized the Galician part of the Exhibition (Bulyk, 2016, p. 197). It should be mentioned that the event management did not agree to the creation of a separate Galician section of the Exhibition. V. Didushytsky created the concept of his part of the exhibition in such a way that its Galician origin was clearly visible (Karolczak, 2001, p. 108).

In 1878, at the Exhibition in Paris, V. Didushytsky acted as the head of the exposition of the entire Austro-Hungarian monarchy. The brought exhibits were published in the official catalogue, in which we find an important comment: “The exhibited items come from the ethnographic Museum of V. Didushytsky, selected to draw analogies (…) between past prehistoric times and modern home crafts” (Catalogue, p. 72). Archaeological artifacts were also well represented there. The most striking part of the collection was, without any doubt, the Mykhalkivsky treasure, brought by V. Didushytsky and the curator V. Zontak. This is evidenced by a short report by T. Nechuy-Ziemientskii (Ziemięcki, 1878, 16, p. 409; 22, p. 554). The Didushytsky Museum presented such a number of exhibits that it was second only to the hosts of the event (Abramowicz, 1974, p. 91).

In his activities, V. Didushytsky did not neglect the protection of historical monuments. This is evidenced by the cooperation with the Krakow Scientific Society, which began in the 1860s. Correspondence with the head of the society, Józef Mayer (1808 – 1899), was preserved among the archival documents, the main topic of which was the reconstruction and preservation of the cathedral in the town of Zhovkva. In order to ensure the preservation of the mentioned monument in 1862, a special committee was created, and V. Didushytsky acted as a deputy chairman and actually managed the entire process (Archiwum Nauki PAN i PAU, TNK 80, k. 125).

Volodymyr Didushytsky also contributed to scientific research. Among the employees of the Museum, there stands out the future Professor of archeology Karol Hadaczek (Berest, 1998, pp. 77–78; Bulyk, & Lech, 2009, pp. 59–89; Bulyk, 2013, pp. 278–294). K. Hadaczek met the Didushytsky family in the 1890s, and from that time a young archaeologist collaborated with the Museum. K. Hadaczek introduced the Mykhalkivsky treasures into scientific circulation; he conducted a number of excavations, he replenished the Museum's funds; he organized the archaeological collections and eventually compiled and published a guide to the Archaeological Department. Since 1903, K. Hadaczek was an official employee of the Museum (Karolczak, 2001, p. 197).
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The Didushytsky Museum entered the 20th century with a new ordinate. In 1899, Tadeusz Didushytsky became Ordinate II of the Poturytsko-Zaritska Ordinance, who continued the deed of his father-in-law, took care of the scientific level and quantitative growth of the collections during the entire residency. An important moment in his activity was the involvement of museum workers (Karol Hadaczek, Maryan Lomnitsky) in scientific expeditions that brought new exhibits. One of the first works under the leadership of T. Didushytsky was the archaeological research on the multi-layered monument in Neslukhiv, which was carried out in 1898 – 1899. The expedition was led by K. Hadaczek, who often visited these places in his student years. Financial expenses were fully covered by T. Didushytsky. Archaeological objects were located partly on the territory of the palace. In the report on archaeological research, which was included in the “Teka Konserwatorska” collection, K. Hadaczek noted that he excavated 18 residential and a number of economic buildings of the Cherniakhivska culture (Hadaczek, 1900, pp. 71–86).

In August of 1900, the archaeologist conducted research in the southern part of Borshchiv district in Ternopil region. In a report published in the collection “Anthropological, Archaeological and Ethnographic Materials” (in Polish – Materyały Antropologiczno-Archeologiczne i Etnograficzne) K. Hadaczek wrote that the main goal of the research carried out with the support of T. Didushytsky was “to resolve scientific riddles of Mykhalkivsky treasures” (Hadaczek, 1903, p. 27). During the excavations, K. Hadaczek discovered two burials. In one of them, “ten delicate silver plates in the form of a diadem are laid out in a row on the forehead” (Hadaczek, 1903, p. 33). In general, during this scientific trip, K. Hadaczek examined 13 archaeological sites. This is far from a complete list of discovered and explored archaeological sites that were related to the Didushytsky Museum and were financially supported by the family.

For the Museum, the beginning of the 20th century is connected with a significant event – in 1904, K. Hadaczek’s work on Mykhalkivsky treasures was published (Hadaczek, 1904). The album is very well illustrated, the illustrations were made by the best contemporary artists of Lviv and Kraków. Among the documents, a positive review signed by a well-known art historian, a museologist Felix Koper from Kraków, was preserved, dated June 3, 1902, which states: “The description of the Mikhalkivsky treasures planned to be included in the introduction to the publication of the finds from Mykhalkiv, which are in the Didushytsky Museum in Lviv, was prepared by Dr. Karol Hadaczek in such detail that this description deserves to be published” (Scientific archive of the Department of Archaeology of I. Krypiakevych Institute of Ukrainian Studies of NAS of Ukraine. Papiery po prof. K. Hadaczku)4.

The aforementioned M. Lomnitsky replenished paleontological collections with his expeditions. In particular, in the autumn of 1907, in the village of Starunia, Ivano-Frankivsk region, the body of a mammoth embalmed in ozokerite was discovered, which was transported...

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3 In 1879 Tadeusz Didushytsky married a distant relative Anna (a daughter of Volodymyr Didushytsky). His granddaughter, a daughter of his son Stanislav, is Anna Didushytyska-Makhnik – the wife of a famous archaeologist, Professor Jan Makhnik, archaeologist.

4 This document is stored in the archive of I. Krypiakevych Institute of Ukrainian Studies of the National Academy of Sciences of Ukraine among the documents of Leon Kozlovsky in a small folder marked “Roman Khoroshkevych 15.XI.1922”. In total, the folder contains 4 documents, which were combined after the death of Karol Hadaczek (for details about L. Kozlovsky, see: Woźny, 2021, pp. 243–278).
to the Didushytsky Museum on November 7 of the same year. At the same time, a large fragment of an embalmed rhinoceros was also excavated. They were transferred to the paleontological finds and placed in one of the largest halls of the second floor. M. Lomnitsky’s work also includes archaeological finds. A famous archaeologist Yaroslav Pasternak mentions the excavations of the director of the Didushytsky Museum on the territory of Lviv “in Levandivka, between the main courtyard and the Yanivska horn. Already at the end of the previous century Lviv geologist prof. Lomnitsky found prehistoric hearths there, and near them there were many small deciduous forest cuttings and flint chips. In 1910, a flint ax was excavated there, which is exhibited in the Didushytsky Museum” (Pasternak, 1932, p. 2).

Compilation of guidebooks was an integral part of the Museum scientific work. An important role is given to the Prehistoric Department. In 1907 the author of this section was K. Hadaczek. Among other exhibits, materials from his own excavations took an important place. As the author of the guidebook noted, describing Hall XIV: “on the left there are objects obtained from urn burials discovered by Professor K. Hadaczek near the village of Hats” (Hadaczek, 1907, pp. 90–100).

During the war, the Museum experienced difficult years. One by one, Karol Hadaczek and Maryan Lomnitsky passed away, and on August 5, 1918, Tadeusz Didushytsky died. In fact, all three played an important role in the research and replenishment of the historical and archaeological heritage in the Museum. For a few months, Tadeusz’s eldest son Pavlo took over the functions of the ordinate, and after him – Volodymyr Didushytsky (junior).

V. Didushytsky (junior) was an ordinate without management skills. Perhaps this is connected with the difficult post-war period (we should not forget that those were the post-war years and there was economic crisis), but he did not manage to continue the development of the Museum. Moreover, to some extent we can talk about the decline of the Museum in those years. This is evidenced by a number of documents, which we will discuss below.

During the interwar period, the Museum experienced far from the best times. In 1925, the Ordinance got into a difficult financial situation, the payment of employees became irregular, some of them had to stop their studies (Vasyl Stefanyk National Scientific Library of Ukraine in Lviv (Department of Manuscripts) – VSNSLUL (DM), f. 26, c. 42, vol. 1, p. 35). On the pages of Lviv periodicals, there began to appear reports about scientific decline, as well as about the critical condition of the Museum building. The Museum was closed to visitors, employees were fired, there was no heating in the building, there was not even money to pay the watchman (VSNSLUL (DM), f. 26, c. 42, vol. 1, p. 17). At that time, one walk-through Museum room was used for the needs of the Archeology Department of the Lviv University, and Professor Leon Kozlovsky conducted classes in it (Bulyk, 2018, p. 430).

It is worth mentioning that at that time all sights, as well as the Museum collections, were under control of conservators. In the spring of 1932, the issue of the proper condition of the Didushytsky Museum and the preservation of the Mykhalkivsky treasures arose rather acutely. A number of publications appeared on the pages of the Kraków and Warsaw press about the threat to the exhibits due to the critical condition of the Museum building (VSNSLUL (DM), f. 26, c. 42, vol. 1, p. 17). A court decision was sent to the voivodeship government, according to which the Department of Culture and Art of Lviv Voivodeship had to check the situation with the building, as well as the condition of the treasure and its integrity. The commission included, among the others, Professor E. Bulianda and Dr. O. Cholovsky. The meeting took place in the premises of the Museum on April 25, 1932, after examining “the Museum funds and the state of the building, the commission came to the conclusion that the rumor about
the danger threatening the collections is greatly exaggerated” (VSNSLUL (DM), f. 26, c. 42, vol. 1, p. 16). In July, the commission drew up an expert opinion, which noted that not everything was as neglected and critical as it was described in the newspapers, it was noted that in a difficult economic situation, V. Didushytsky invested a lot of his own funds to keep the Museum afloat (VSNSLUL (DM), f. 26, c. 42, p. 1, p. 20).

One of the most important recommendations of the commission focuses on the art monuments that were kept in the Didushytsky Palace in Kurkova street. It was proposed to move them to the main building of the Museum, and the Potorytska library remained in Kurkova street. The condition of the Prehistoric and Ethnographic Departments received minor comments. However, the general conclusion of the Archeology Department was quite comforting “the Prehistoric Department is not in danger, but it requires inventory reconciliation of numbers and designation of locations” (VSNSLUL (DM), f. 26, c. 42, vol. 1, p. 20). For this purpose, it was recommended to introduce the position of a scholarship holder who could conduct an inventory in a short period of time (VSNSLUL (DM), f. 26, c. 42, vol. 1, p. 21).

However, during the inspections, it was not possible to find out the fate of the Mykhalkivsky treasure. The only description remained was the document of 1900, which presented all the finds, indicated their number (42 units) and weight (3321 gr.) and indicated the place of storage: “The Mykhalkivsky treasure” is under the preservation of the Galician Mortgage Bank, and the keys to them are in the hands of Tadeusz Didushytsky” (VSNSLUL (DM), f. 26, c. 42, vol. 1, pp. 10–12). Ordinate V. Didushytsky (junior) did not provide any information about the Mykhalkivsky treasure and could not even indicate whether it was still kept in the Mortgage Bank in Lviv. The only thing that V. Didushytsky (junior) reported was that during World War I, the treasures were hidden by a certain person loyal to the Didushytsky Ordinance in order to prevent their removal. V. Didushytsky (junior) was obliged to find out where the treasure was and report on the state of its preservation within 60 days (VSNSLUL (DM), f. 26, c. 42, vol. 1, p. 23). There is no information on the issue how the search ended. But we have evidence that as of 1933, the Mykhalkivsky treasures were in the Didushytsky Museum. In the document addressed to Lviv Voivodship “Origin, Current State and Significance of the Didushytsky Museum in Lviv” there is a date on the postmark of May 2, 1933 (VSNSLUL (DM), f. 26, c. 42, vol. 1, p. 32). In it, an ordinate t Volodymyr Didushytsky describes in detail the situation in the Museum since 1925 and offers, in exchange for financial support, to give the Mykhalkivsky treasures to the state (VSNSLUL (DM), f. 26, c. 42, vol. 1, p. 37). From the further fate of the treasure part that belonged to the Didushytsky family, it is known that in 1940 it was taken to Moscow (Pasternak, 1961, pp. 440–441). Ya. Pasternak’s words are confirmed by the letter of an academician, a long-time director of the Hermitage Borys Piotrovsky to Lviv archaeologist Ihor Sveshnikov dated September 2, 1964, in which we read the following: “I wish you success in the work on the Mikhailivsky treasure, before the war I saw it in the State Funds of the USSR and touched all the wonderful objects, treasure’s further fate is unknown to me” (according to: Pavliv & Petechyrych, 2003, p. 62). Modern researchers assume that it is kept in St. Petersburg (Brzęk, 1994, p. 88). Nowadays, the treasure is considered to be lost, since it is not even known for certain whether the items stored in the Mortgage Bank in Lviv on the eve of World War II were authentic or a well-made gold copy (Bandrivskyi & Krushelnytska, 2012, pp. 139–144).

As of January 1, 1937, in the Prehistoric Department of the Museum there were 8,055 exhibits including fund materials. In fact, since 1907 the number of exhibits had not increased,

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5 It is stored in the Archives of the Department of Archeology of I. Krypyakevych Institute of Ukrainian Studies of the National Academy of Sciences of Ukraine.
or new arrivals had not been inventoried, which is more likely. In such a situation, the Didushytsky Museum was caught up in the changes that were looming over Lviv museums.

The Conclusion. Thus, we note that, based on the example of the activities of only a few representatives of the family, it should be mentioned that the Didushytsky left a noticeable mark on the history and culture of Galicia. The Didushytsky Museum, being, according to the founder’s main idea, a Natural History Museum, joined the matter of accumulating, preserving and scientifically studying archeology monuments in the first half of the 20th century. This institution not only collected and exhibited archaeological exhibits, but also concentrated around itself scholars who ensured the scientific level of the Prehistoric Department. The events of the war years, as well as the interwar unstable economic situation, led to the gradual decline of the Museum, which caused the absence of Archeology Department.

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