

## **INTERIOR DESIGN AND HOUSEHOLD GOODS IN SHPOLA DISTRICT (CHERKASY REGION)**

A detailed study of the history of Shpola district in Cherkasy region has made it possible to examine and describe the features of interior design, architecture and household goods of this area. Shpola district did not have the permanent reign due to its historic development, that's why it did not preserve the architectural monuments and household goods from the pre-cossack period.

The main types of a traditional dwelling of Shpola district were houses made of wood, clay and reeds. They were divided into framed structures and cut structures. The lack of wood resulted in using straw, reed and wicker.

The interior of clay houses had the zoning: the outer entrance hall and the main part, where the areas for cooking, having a rest and sleeping were located.

The interior of churches and landlords' houses was more expressive because it contained many rooms with large windows and high ceilings, giving the room a large scale. These rooms were decorated by wall decor. The furniture in the houses was made mostly of wood and had a traditional Ukrainian ornaments.

Shpola district has preserved clay houses and buildings of the XIX<sup>th</sup> – beginning of the XX<sup>th</sup> century, which were built in the classicism and historicism styles. The buildings such as the Church of the Intercession, the Church of the Ascension, the Church of the Transfiguration and the manor house of Abaza have got the greatest aesthetic value.

The interior design of the national housing was formed on the basis of architectural and art traditions due to specific regional production of household goods and the requirements of the social and economic development of the region. Shpola district borrowed from the Old Russian style and classicism.

The interior of a house was decorative due to the use of fabric, painted stoves, crockery and household goods. A stove was always located in the inner corner to the right of the entrance door of the house. Its slot was directed to the façade wall. The front corner with icons was placed diagonally from the stove. There were several benches and a table in front of the windows. There was a chest to the left of the table. There were wooden shelves for plates and other tableware in the corner by the door. There was a special wooden boarding on the piers which was called a plank-bed. It was used for sleeping at night, but during the day when the bedclothes were taken away it was often used for domestic affairs. The plank-bed consisted of a simple design of a platform made of planks (of boards). A house with such interior was called a Ukrainian hut (“*khata*”) or sometimes “*kurin*”.

The important elements of the culture of Shpola district were household

goods. Household goods used in Shpola district are similar to the household goods of the central part of Ukraine. They included such objects as: chests, benches, tables, stools, etc. Benches, tables, shelves consisted of horizontal small planks and vertical legs and drawers for storing residents' belongings.

Chests (or as local people call it “*skrynia*”) have always been a constant feature of an ordinary Ukrainian house. They were made of wood with several iron fittings and were widely used in Ukrainian households. Craftsmen used to create elaborate designs with various carvings, encrustations and paintings. Chests have been one of the most beautiful traditional interior design items in houses of Shpola district for centuries.

However, there were some unique objects used in Shpola district such as:

- a *shpolyk* (a small scoop for ladling out some water) which was quite strong in the form of a cup with a handle,
- a *mysnyk* (a shelf or place for storing plates and dishes)
- and *hand-made toys* in the form of birds, humans and animals.

### References

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Vor kurzem habe ich eine ziemlich merkwürdige Information gefunden, über die sogenannten Drohnen, die ich eigentlich in meinem Vortrag darstellen möchte. Der Hauptpunkt von diesem System ist ziemlich einfach. Jedenfalls schließt sich die Kontrolle bei der Fahrt in der Kabine vollständig aus und schließt sich nicht