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My competition entry was about...

My work focuses on one unique sacral building in Slovakia: the chapel of fir bark situated in the forest Horná Bzová near the village Podkriváň. The aim of my research was to gain a lot of information about this chapel, try to find out its architect and also compile memories of people who lived close to it.



* 1999

Topic of history competition:

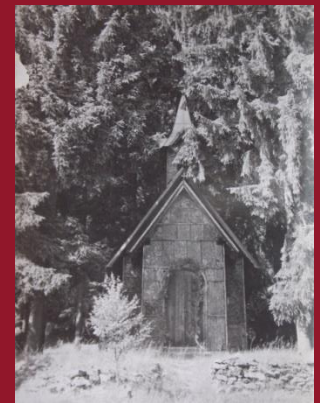
History in Photographs

Year of participation:

2016

Title of your competition entry:

» Chapel of Our Lady of Perpetual Help in Horná Bzová «



How did you decide on your topic ?

When I chose my topic for this year ´s competition, I faced a lack of suitable historical photography. Later, a friend of our family helped me with my topic and due to the fact that I am interested in art and architecture, I chose a picture of her showing the extraordinary chapel. I was curious who built this chapel and its current constitution.



How did you react when you came upon surprising points during your research?

The most surprising point for me was that this chapel covered with fir bark is unique in Slovakia. Additionally, I had many difficulties to determine the architect and the year of its construction, because this information is missing in the chronicles. Thanks to the memories of witnesses, I was able to detect the missing details. In the interviews I found out that the architect’s name was Earl Stephen VI. Zichy and that he had built the chapel in 1910.



Did the research affect you personally?

Thanks to my research, I discovered many Slovak monuments which are unrecognized. In consequence, they are decayed and their maintenance is inadequate. In my opinion, it is important that these monuments become widely known. Furthermore, the Slovak State has to provide financial support as these buildings are part of the cultural heritage of Slovakia.

I based my research

- ...on source material
- ...on interviews
- ...on family history
- ...on literature
- ...on the internet

» Travel to history through your eyes. «

