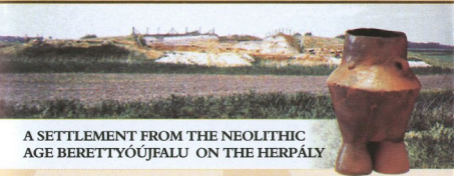


BIHARI MUSEUM



BERETTYÓÚJFALU



A SETTLEMENT FROM THE NEOLITHIC AGE BERETTYÓÚJFALU ON THE HERPÁLY

Herpály, one of the name-giving settlements of the Tisza-Herpály-Csőszhalom culture complex, was established in the Neolithic age (4900-4400 B.C.) along the bank of a former branch of the Berettyó River. During the archaeological excavations of 1977-1982, a three-metre thick Neolithic layer was exposed on a hill, which consisted of 5 main levels of settlement.

The most important findings of the Herpály excavations were the traces of the storied houses found on the lower Neolithic levels. Pre-eminent among these findings was house no. 11, rich in artefacts, with a base area of approximately 12 x 6 metres, which consisted of 3 rooms and had an entrance facing East. In the house, plastered clay seats, grinding stones, ovens, clay altars, large-sized food storage pots, smaller vessels, as well as stone and bone tools were also unearthed.



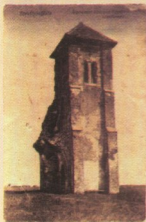
THE TARDYS AND BERETTYÓÚJFALU

György Tardy (1862-1949), a local landholder, was a prominent personality of Berettyóújfalú in the period between the two world wars. In addition to some pieces of furniture he carved and painted himself, family photographs and personal belongings of the Tardys are also on display in the exhibition.



György Tardy

György Tardy was instrumental in saving the Csonkatorony [Ruined Tower] of Herpály, situated on his estate. The three-aisled, two-towered monastery church of Herpály was built after 1170 in Roman style and was most likely owned by the Benedictine order, and Tardy had the southern tower of the monastery church, which was the only tower still standing in 1880, renovated on the basis of his own plans in 1904.



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LIFE IN THE WATER-WORLD

The exhibition presents a bygone world, in a large part with the help of the drawings and other works of Sándor Szűcs, a prominent scholar of the Sárrett region. The visitor can get acquainted with the life of the marsh-dwellers, their dwellings, special boats, and tools of fishing. The flora and fauna of the water-world is also on exhibition: the most important plants, such as reed, bulrush, water-chestnut and the various ways of using these.



“I AM A GOOD HOUSEWIFE INDEED”

Women's domestic chores



Among traditional peasants' work, special importance was reserved in the Bihar region up until the 1950s to hemp processing, almost all phases of which were the task of women: they were responsible for spinning yarn from the hemp produced, and then for weaving the basic pieces of clothing, as well as some of the indispensable tools used around the household, in cropgrowing and animal-husbandry activities.

As part of the exhibition, a kitchen and room interior evoking the 1910s provides the background for introducing other chores traditionally carried out by women, such as bread-baking, cooking and child-raising.

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Sinka István



Nadányi Zoltán



Szabó Pál

GLEANINGS IN THE LITERARY HISTORY OF BIHAR

The collection of the Bihar Museum includes many artefacts related the rich literary life of the Bihar region. The multitude of manuscripts, books and literary relics allow a glimpse into the past. From among these, the exhibition features objects related to Zoltán Nadányi, Imre Nagy, István Sinka, József Erdélyi, and Pál Szabó.



Bessenyei György

MILITARY HISTORY IN TOYS



One of the gems of the permanent exhibition is awaiting visitors on the gallery area of the large hall.

This exhibition evokes the memories of the "kriegspielen" once played as real games, the history of Hungarian military wear and uniforms, and the "splendid military life" of the recruiting songs. There are no battle scenes on display, but there is a miniature first-aid station, a parading unit, resting troops, signal corps, etc.

The various, characteristically Hungarian military attires, the cavalry and infantry uniforms of the past 500 years are shown in drawings and on toy soldiers as well.



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LISZTES RESTAURANT

Three generations of the Lisztes family have served the cause of hospitality in Berettyóújfalu. The grandfather, Imre Lisztes, transformed a public house called Kőpince into a restaurant, which his son, Lajos, rebuilt and added a hotel to in 1925-26. In addition to various pieces of the tableware with the inscription "Lisztes Restaurant" the room furniture of the hotel is also on display.

BERETTYÓÚJFALU, COUNTY SEAT

After World War I, on 30 April 1920, Berettyóújfalu became the county-seat of the truncated Bihar County. Large-scale development commenced from 1922: electrification, school and road construction, and this is also when several major public buildings of Berettyóújfalu were erected. The town centre was built and a series of stores opened their doors.

One of the most important stores was the hardware store of the father of György Konrád, located behind the synagogue. The "Nyíri" steam-mill is worth mentioning from among the industrial facilities built around that time. It is also worth noting that in 1926 Kálmán Makk, the father of film director Károly Makk, opened a cinema called "Apollo" in Berettyóújfalu.



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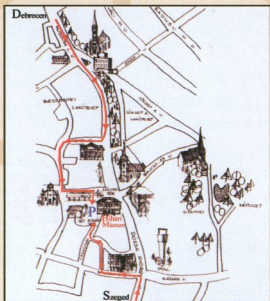
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The Bihari Museum, founded in 1974, moved to the main square of Berettyóújfalu in 2001, into the former town hall building dating back to 1874. The new permanent exhibition was opened in 2003-2004, with the title:

THE LAND AND THE PEOPLE
From Herpály to the village-town.

The exhibition is open:
from Tuesday to Saturday, 10 a.m. to 4 p.m.



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