EXCAVATIONS AT BATURYN IN 2016-2017: CERAMIC ADORNMENTS OF HETMAN ARCHITECTURE

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War and economic problems in Ukraine have complicated but not interrupted the annual excavations conducted by the Canadian-Ukrainian archeological expedition in the town of Baturyn, Chernihiv Oblast since 2001. This is thanks largely to the sponsors of the Baturyn historical and archeological project: the Canadian Institute of Ukrainian Studies (CIUS) at the University of Alberta, the Pontifical Institute of Mediaeval Studies (PIMS) at the University of Toronto, and the Ucrainica Research Institute in Toronto. Prof. Zenon Kohut, distinguished historian of the Hetman state and former director of CIUS, serves as the academic advisor of this undertaking. Crest Stets, M.A., managing director of the

The 17th-century fortress citadel of Baturyn with the Resurrection Church and the earliest hetman residence within the bailey. Reconstructed on the basis of archaeological research in 2008. Photos by V. Mezentsev.

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araminta of the Hetmanate. Although, in 1704, the Russian Empire abdicated this Hetmanate, Baturyn continued to reconstitute and redevelop the town, promoting its economic growth until his death in 1683. After this last upsurge, the former hetman capital fell into decline; but it has begun to revive in independent Ukraine. Since 2005, with the reconstruction of the impressive fortress citadel, hetman palaces, the state treasury house, court hall, and churches, as well as the establishment of several modern museums of antiquities, Baturyn has become a popular tourist attraction. Over the past few years, the influx of visitors to the town’s museums and historical sites from Ukraine and abroad has increased, reaching up to 150,000 sightseers in 2016. In 2016-17, archaeologists con-

Mazepa’s palace in Honcharivka, the suburb of Baturyn. Hypothetical reconstruction by V. Mezentsev, computer graphic by S. Dmytriienko.

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The W. K. Lypynsky East European Research Institute Inc. in Toronto awarded a generous grant for the archaeological in-

In 2016, nearly 70 students in 2016. 264 rosettes were mounted on the palace facade. Specialists have pointed to the perfect technical and artistic qual-

In 1625, when the Chernihiv-Sievskoye land was under Polish rule, the Baturyn castle, the nu-

The excavation of the remains of Mazepa’s palace in 1995-2005, many fragments of such rosettes were found. These plate-

The suburb of Baturyn. In 2016-17, the hornet’s nest was made of an old, abandoned residential building in Kiev which was occupied by a few people. In the 17th and 18th centuries, in

Several of the glazed ceramic rosettes from the facade decoration of the Honcharivka palace prior to 1700. Hypothetical reconstructions by V. Mezentsev and S. Dmytriienko, computer graphics by S. Dmytriienko.
In 2016, within the fortress, archaeologists unearthed half of a small flat rectangular ceramic stove tile discovered at Rozumovsky's palace-museum in Baturyn. The first time in Baturyn, archaeologists unearthed a portion of a tiny porcelain figurine of a gentle - man in 18th-century European attire. This statuette was meticu - luciously fashioned in a realistic manner and painted in blue, red, green, dark-brown, and black colours. I believe that it was a product of the porcelain factory in Meissen, Saxony, and brought to Baturyn during Rozumovsky's time. The figurine could have stood on display in the house of either a Cosack officer (starshyna), a member of the gentry (shliakhta), or a well-to-do burgauer, and served as a child's toy. These finds of valuable Ger - man porcelain sculptural and Dutch-style glazed ceramic stove tiles provide insight into the Eu - ropean commercial and cultural connections of Baturyn, as well as the Westernization and pro - perly of its elite during the last two centuries. Rozumovsky's time. Tyutyun published an impor - tant article this year about the excavations by our expedition of cemeteries in the Baturyn out - skirts. He argues that most of the burials in the second part of the 18th century were found. They feature

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This year, archaeologists partly excavated the foundation of some last hitherto unknown destroyed brick structures at Mazepa's manor in Horodochivka. Its investigation and identification will be com - pleted next summer.

The 2016 excavations in the former fortress and the southern suburb of Bataryn discovered remnants of wooden dwellings of the burghers and Cossacks, 11 silver and copper Polish and Russ - ian cross fragments, copper cup - rings, four copper buttons, four bronze and brass clasp and six decorative appliques from Cossack leather belts, sabrets, and horse harnesses, a fragment of a bronze saber hilt guard, four lead musket bullets, four fine pieces from flint-lock rifles, an iron horse stirrup, a lead seal, and a ceramic game chip of the late baroque Dutch style.

Rozumovsky likely imported the lead from a long-distance trade. In 18th-century Bataryn, he broadened his chances of palatial residences and of - ficiens of hetman administration. He could have also used some cheaper imitations of the fash - ionable Dutch tiles manufactured in Russia from the early 18th century, and possibly locally imitated designs (1708). Concisely, the flat tiles glazed ceramic stove tiles provide insight into the Eu - ropean commercial and cultural connections of Baturyn, as well as the Westernization and prosper - ity of its elite during the last two centuries. Tyutyun published an impor - tant article this year about the excavations by our expedition of cemeteries in the Baturyn out - skirts. He argues that most of the burials in the second part of the 18th century were found. They feature

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