
Collegium historiae artium

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Cultural Rarities and Mass Confiscations: Dispossessed Art and Architecture in the Protectorate of Bohemia and Moravia and Postwar Czechoslovakia

The confiscation of architecture, art and antiques in postwar Czechoslovakia deserves to be studied in its own right, but it also merits being placed within the wider history of the plundering of ethnic “Others” and political outsiders that took place in Central Europe in the years between 1940 and 1950. In this paper I will use the Dobříš chateau in central Bohemia to discuss the multiple and intersecting histories of mass confiscations of cultural rarities that took place in Czechoslovak territories during and after the Second World War. Through this micro-historical approach I hope to shed light on the movement and management of architecture, art and antiques in twentieth-century Central Europe across the 1945-line and advance thinking about ways in which confiscations of cultural property contributed to the historical construction of value and heritage.



Kdy

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