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Rajko Ložar - Director of the Ethnographic Museum 1940–1945

Rajko Ložar, the wartime director of the Ethnographic Museum in Ljubljana and an archaeologist by education, was also active as an art historian, ethnologist and literary critic, and he was a prominent figure in the country's cultural life before the Second World War. This article presents the period in which he was the museum's director, based on his autobiographic notes. In these notes Ložar sheds light on the beginnings of the ethnographic collections in the National Museum, the work of the museum's first director Niko Županič, and the staff who worked in the museum in the difficult wartime conditions after Županič became a university professor and his place was taken by Ložar, who until then had been a curator at the National Museum for 12 years. Beside collecting objects in the field, purchasing and taking over individual collections, the museum's activities centred around publishing *Narodopisje Slovencev* (The Ethnology of the Slovenes) and the journal *Etnolog*, and its co-operation in the project *Obnova slovenske vasi* (Renovation of the Slovene village). In 1945 Rajko Ložar was forced to withdraw into exile.

Links

[1] <https://www.etno-muzej.si/>

[2] <https://www.etno-muzej.si/en/etnolog/revija-etnolog>

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