



*DOPOLNITEV OPREME HIŠE SLOVENCEV
V MILWAUKEE PUBLIC MUZEJU*



Skupni Projekt – a Joint Project of

Slovencev in njihovih potomcev ○ *the Wisconsin Slovenes and
iz Wisconsina* *their descendants*

Milwaukee Public muzeja ○ *the Milwaukee Public Museum*

Slovenskega etnografskega muzeja ○ *the Slovene Ethnographic Museum*

Svetovnega slovenskega kongresa ○ *the World Slovene Congress-*

-Konferenca za Slovenijo *Conference for Slovenia*

Ministrstva za kulturo ○ *Ministry of Cultural Affairs of*

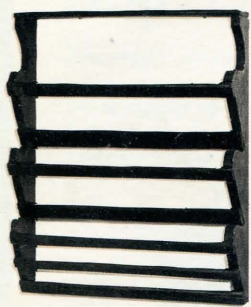
Republike Slovenije *the Republic of Slovenia*

Napis na tramu slovenske kmečke hiše z alpskega območja je tako poveden, da smo si ga izposodili za moto pričujoče zgibanke, ki jo skupaj s predmeti za opremo hiše namenjamo rojakom daleč v širnem svetu, katerih predniki so pred desetletji zapustili domovino; kot P.I., ki je poln pričakovanj pri triindvajsetih letih že sredi prejšnjega stoletja odšel v Ameriko in to z napisom ovekovečil na tramu svojega doma.



Ne vemo, koliko njemu podobnih je za vedno zapustilo svoje domove in si ustvarilo nove v daljnem svetu z drugačnimi navadami, drugačno kulturo, z drugačnim načinom življenja.

Njihovim potomcem gotovo veliko pomeni, da se v Evropski vasi v Milwaukee Public muzeju v družbi trintridesetih hiš različnih narodov, katerih predniki so se iz Evrope preseljevali v Ameriko, nahaja tudi hiša Slovencev. Zaradi njene neverbalne sporočilnosti - v tem prostoru se namreč zlasti Slovenci in njihovi potomci soočajo s svojo preteklostjo in s svojimi koreninami, ostali njeni obiskovalci pa se seznanjajo s slovensko



tradicionalno kulturo in jo primerjajo s kulturo drugih narodov - se nam je zdelo prav, da njeno opremo dopolnimo.

V obdobju največjega preseljevanja s starega kontinenta, od zadnje tretjine devetnajstega in prve tretjine

dvajsetega stoletja, sta bili arhitektura in stanovanjska kultura Slovencev še močno regionalno obarvani.

Domačije v alpskem svetu so bile precej drugačne od tistih

na primorskem ali panonskem delu Slovenije, kar je bila posledica različnih gospodarskih, zgodovinskih in kulturnih razmer.

Hišo Slovencev v Milwaukee Public muzeju predstavlja kmečki dom z alpskega območja Slovenije, z zidanim pritličjem in lesenim nadstropjem, ki ima na čelni strani lesen hodnik - gank, krašen z izrezljanimi okraski.

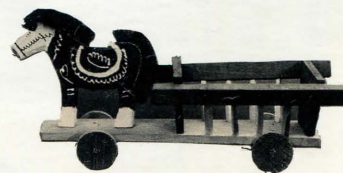
Oprema hiš s slovenskega alpskega območja je bila v tem času relativno skromna in maloštevilna, vendar v veliko primerih (čeprav se je oblika podrejala funkcionalnemu vidiku) tudi dekorativna. Med značilne predmete notranje opreme, ki pričajo o načinu življenja in o ustvarjalni oblikovni moči kmečkega prebivalstva v tem obdobju, sodijo predvsem: skrinje, zibelke, mize, klopi, stoli, skledniki... Nad mizo, ki je običajno stala diagonalno nasproti peči, je bila v kotu polica, pogrnjena z vezanim prtičem, na njem pa razpelo, o božiču jaslice, na vsaki strani pa so visele slike na steklo ali druge podobe.

Delček tega slovenskega izročila bo odslej na ogled v prenovljeni hiši Slovencev v Evropski vasi v Milwaukee Public muzeju.

Želimo, da bi bila ljubezen do našega skupnega izročila kulturna vrednota, ena tistih temeljev, ki nas povezujejo in ki naj bi povezovali tudi prihodnje rodove.

Irena Keršič

kustodinja Slovenskega etnografskega muzeja



P.I. left for America in 1855

This laconic but pregnant inscription comes from a beam of a Slovene homestead in the alpine region and is the motto of the present brochure. It is dedicated, together with the objects for the Home of the Slovenes, to our fellow Slovenes out in the world whose ancestors left in the old country many decades ago. As, indeed, did twenty-three-year-old P.I. who before leaving for America way back in the 19th century - undoubtedly nourishing high hopes - made the inscription on a beam of his home to go down in history.

How many other P.I.s left their homes for good and made themselves new ones in a far away world with different customs, a different culture and a different way of living?

We do not know but to their descendants it certainly means a lot that the Home of the Slovenes is featured among thirty-three homes of different nations dedicated to the ancestors who emigrated from Europe to the USA. Though silent, the home communicates a twofold message: to the Slovenes and their descendants it tells the story of their past and roots; and it introduces other visitors to traditional Slovene culture so that they can compare it with other nations. It is for this reason that we decided to enrich its furniture.

During the period of the major immigration waves from the Old World - between approximately 1870 and 1930 - the architecture and style of living of the Slovenes still differed widely from region to region. The homesteads in the alpine world had little in common with those in the Coastland or in the Pannonian Plain due to the different economic, historical and cultural conditions.

The Home of the Slovenes in the Milwaukee Public



Museum represents a home from Slovenia's alpine region; it has a stone first floor and the wooden second floor highlights a wooden, carved corridor balcony - the so-called "gank".

Furniture was sparse and simple in the homes of the Slovene alpine region of that time but though the shape of the objects was determined by their function they were often quite decorative as well. The way of living and creative power of the peasant population is epitomized by the following objects: chests, cradles, tables, benches, chairs, bowl shelves and the like. In the corner above the dining table which usually stood diagonally opposite the tiled stove there used to be a shelf with an embroidered tablecloth and crucifix - or a crib over Christmas - framed by paintings on glass or other pictures. A small part of the Slovene heritage will from now on be on view in the renovated Home of the Slovenes of the European Village in the Milwaukee Public Museum.

We sincerely wish the love of our common heritage to become a cultural asset, one of the foundations that brings us together and will continue to do so in the generations to come.

Irena Keršič

senior curator, Slovene Ethnographic Museum



P.I., 23, left for America in 1855

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ADDITIONAL FURNITURE FOR THE HOME OF SLOVENES
IN THE MILWAUKEE PUBLIC MUSEUM