

A Village from Stone to Stone
(Narratives about the Village History of Zimnitza, the Region of Yambol)
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(Summary)

The article traces the basic tendencies in the narratives and storytelling about the history of the Thracian plane village. The oral narratives are compared to the published narratives on the village history of Zimnitza as the accents are differentiated as well as the specificity of the storyteller/compiler. The author delineates the parameters of the national history in the narratives about the local history. Both the oral and published narratives on the village past tell about special events, toposes, and colourful villagers. The narratives about the hardships of slavery dominate, also about the march of Dibitch, the nationalization, the Turkish water spring...

The narratives about the village history of Zimnitza tell about the good and traumatic periods in which the village community was well off or experienced hardships in Bulgaria...

The author analyzes the narratives on stone: the water spring, memorial plates, sculptures... The stone symbolism is strongly enforced – durability, endurance, timelessness. The stone plates and figures along with the published village records represent a kind of materialized memory within the boundary of the village community.