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ETHNIC CULTURAL BOUNDARIES AND THE LOCALIZATION OF POLESIE REGION

Alevtyna Klyapovskaya

VSU named after P.M. Masherov, Vitebsk, Belarus

Polesie region is a historical, cultural and transboundary region located in Central and Eastern Europe. Depending on the subject of research, scientists define the territory of Polesie according to different principles: historians define on administrative and territorial (historical, political, and cultural), geographers define on natural and geographical zones, linguists define on dialects and ethnologists define on ethnographic criteria.

The main purpose of the work is to study and identify the ethnic cultural boundaries and localization of the Polesie as a historical and ethnographic region.

Material and methods. For research served as historical and archival materials and maps of museums and archives, art-historical, ethnographic, linguistic articles of scientists S. Basik [1], M. Glushko [2], E. Katonova [3], I. Chakvin [5], M. Moroz [5], proceedings of S. Makarchuk [4], B. Rybakov [6], V. Titov [7] and others researchers', who studied the Polesie region in the context of its historical development. In this research, the methods of theoretical, cultural-historical, art criticism and ethnographic analysis were used.

Findings and their discussions. The study of the localization and borders of the Polesie region is necessary for further and more detailed study of its culture and folk art. Polesie is mainly located in the south of Belarus (slightly less than 30% of the country) and the north of the Ukraine (about 19 % of the total territory), but also partially covers the territory of the Lublin Voivodeship of Poland and the Bryansk region, partly covers Orel and Kaluga regions of Russia. The basis of historical and ethnographic zoning of Polesie, according to M. Glushko, are genetically related and similar features inherent in the traditional and everyday culture of a certain ethnic group (ethnic subdivisions, ethnographic groups), formed due to the influence of different geographical, historical, socio-economic, internal and external cultural factors [2, p. 15].

Polesie as an administrative-territorial unit did not exist. The oldest mention of Polesie in the writings of the ancient Greek historian Herodotus (about 485–430 BC), as a wooded and swampy territory «Gilea» – «forest»,

«grove», looks like the name «Polesie», conditionally calling «Gilea the second» – located beyond Borysthenes (Dnieper) in the General area of the Pripyat River basin [6, p. 75-78]. S. Basik noted that in the work of A. Kirkor «Ethnographic view of the Vilna province» (1857) the need for the use of toponymic data for the restoration of ancient ethnic borders was indicated [1, p. 74]. E. Katonova noting that the toponym comes from the Baltic root «pol-/pal-» and reflects not so much «field» as «swamp» semantics [3, p. 213]. For the first time the toponym, Polesie is mentioned in the Galician-Volhynian chronicle (1274), and the name «Polesie» occurs in the chronicle according to the Ipatiev list as «Полѣсье» [5, p. 29]. In the historical cartography of XIV – XVI centuries, this name is cognate to single-root toponyms «Podlesie», «Poliase», «Polese» and the territory is mainly indicated in the area of the basin of Pripyat. Geographical localization of the name «Polesie» is mentioned in the works of Polish chroniclers of XIV–XVI century. Y. Dlugosz, M. Kromer, M. Strykovsky, where Polesie is located between the lands of Russia, Lithuania, Prussia, Volhynia and Mazovia and is divided into two parts – Lubelskaya (actually Polesie) and Lithuanian (or Podlesse) [4, p. 86]. In 1613, G. Garrits published a map of Eastern Europe on which Polesie stretched from Brest to Mozyr and from Pinsk to Dubrovitsa and Volhynia [5, p. 30]. The map of Guillaume de Boplan under the poles means the territory bounded in the north, east and west by the rivers Pripyat and Horyn [5, p. 31]. According to documents of XVII – XVIII centuries. «Polessky edge» called lands to the south of Novogrudok district, the eastern part of Brest region, Turov region, David-Gorodok area, Pinsk region, northern and eastern parts of Lutsk district, Lubna and other Ukrainian lands, further to the east, up to «Kiev Polesie» [4, p. 30]. Toponymic materials about Polesie published in the third volume «Picturesque Russia» (1882), which determined the area of the Polesie region in 33950 square versts. At the beginning of XX century in the dictionary of brothers A. and I. Granat (1913) Polesie is limited by a conditional triangle Brest – Kiev – Mogilev [5, p. 28]. In the Polish encyclopedia of 1927, the region of Polesie is in the second edition it is equal to 270 thousand square kilometers within the boundaries of the Polesie lowland. The characteristic of the Polesie zone is noted in the collective monograph «Polesie. Material culture» (1988) by Belarusian and the Ukrainian researchers. According to scientists, the «core» of Polesie is the Belarusian-Ukrainian area, which covers a broad band on the conventional line of such settlements as Ratne – Ivanovo – Ivatsevichy – Biaroza – Hantsavichy – Starobin – Ptich – Mozyr – Elsk – Slovechna – Olevsk – Sarny – Kostopil – Kovel – Ratne [5, p. 37]. According to some scientists, the «Polish» Polesie is composed of the southern Beresteyschina, as well as Lublin region, Pobuzhye and southern Podlasie. [2, p. 20]. Researchers have identified the historical location of Polesie, which was fixed and has the following boundaries: the western boundary runs along the Western Bug River, the south boundary runs through cities Volodymyr-Volynskyi – Lutsk – Rivne – Novohrad-Volynskyi –

Kiev – Nizhyn along the river Seym to the modern borders of the Ukraine with Russia. To the east of the border in the Bryansk region to the Central Russian Upland lies the territory that geographers and ethnologists call the Bryansk-Zhizdrinsky Polesie. The northern border of Polesie is formed by a line that goes from the north of the settlements of Brest, Kobryn, Hantsavichy, Slutsk up to the Berezina River and on the left bank of the Dnieper in the Sozh River basin [5, p. 38]. The beginning of definition of ethnographic territories of Polesie as historical and ethnographic region in the territory of Ukraine belongs to the middle of XX century. Polesie of the Ukraine is a historical and ethnographic region, which is divided into three ethnographic regions: Eastern Polesie (Novhorod-Siverskyi, Chernihiv and Sumy), Middle Polesie (Volyn (Rivne), Zhytomyr, Kiev) and Western Polesie (Volyn) [2, p. 33]. M. Glushko notes that according to the «Atlas of the Ukrainian language» (1990) I. Matviyas established: the southern border of the northern (Polessky) dialect runs approximately along the line Volodymyr-Volynskyi – Lutsk – Rivne – Novohrad-Volynskyi – Kiev – Pryluky – Konotop and further along the Seim River to the border with the Russian language [2, p. 30]. Such same borders describes S. Makarchuk, but more widely: from the west to the east the border lies to the north of cities Vladimir-Volynskyi – Lutsk – Rivne – Korets – Zhytomyr – Kiev to Dnepr River, and to the east of Dnepr River – Kiev – Kozelets – Nizhin – Bakhmach – Konotop – Hlukhiv, borders of Sumy region until Bryansk region of Russia [4, p. 88]. In Belarus, the boundaries of Polesie were clarified in the researches of V. Titov in 80-90-ies of XX century. The territory was defined as a historical and ethnographic region, which is divided into two ethnographic regions – Western and Eastern Polesie. The historical region includes the southern part of Belarus from the Dnieper in the east to the state border in the west (the territory of Brest region, major part of Gomel region and the southern outskirts of Minsk region). The Northern border of Polesie passes through the Zhlobin–Luban – to the north of Hantsavichy – on the Biaroza–Ruzhany–Pruzhaný and further along the Yaselda River to the state borders of Poland [7, p. 5].

Conclusion. Polesie is a historical and ethnographic region and represents the transition and growth from the south and north of Belarus, from the north to the south of the Ukraine, and covers some regions of Russia and Poland. However, historically, the traditional household features of the regional Polesie are most pronounced on the Ukrainian-Belarusian ethnic borders. The analysis of scientific materials shows that the historical and geographical area of Polesie meant different lands, which were localized very differently, but always referred only to the total area of the Pripyat River basin. Polesie is a historical concept, as well as a historical and cultural region with ethnographic zones. Such a large area has never been homogeneous either geographically or in terms of language, identity, life and culture. Defining the boundaries and localization of the

Belarusian-Ukrainian Polesie makes it possible to identify more specifically the general and local features in the folk traditional art of the Polesie region.

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BYELORUSSIAN TILES

Irina Kovaliok

VSU named after P.M. Masherov, Vitebsk, Belarus

Tiled tiles as a finishing material have been used for many centuries and today is the actual material. Each tile is separately an independent work of decorative art. But the tiles, which were only part of a large ornamental composition, were also widely used.

The first known stove tile on the territory of Belarus dates back to the beginning of the 14th century: the earliest stove tiles were found by archaeological researches in Polotsk and date to 1308.

The production of tiles in Belarus goes beyond regional significance. Tseninniki from Mstislavl, Orsha, Kopys, Shklov, had a significant impact on the development of not only Belarusian, but also Russian tiled art. The names of Belarusian masters of the 17th century are widely known in Moscow: Stepan Ivanov (Polubesa) from Mstislavl, Ignat Maksimov from Kopys and others [1].

Purpose: to study the characteristics of development of the tiled art.

Material and methods. The research materials were historical and archaeological researches, exhibits, photos and documents of ethnographic museums. Used methods: research, descriptive and generalization method.