

The thesis deals with the construction of local identities in the border village of Maříž. The research was conducted in the form of semi-structured and biographical interviews, from which the data collected was explored through narrative analysis. The narrators approached included primarily permanent residents of the village as well as a wider circle of occasional residents who either had deeper ties to the place or were involved in village life. Aside from the current situation, the interviews were directed to the region's past, either to the expulsion of the original German inhabitants or the reality of the past regime that resulted in Maříž being closed off behind the national border fence. In the analysis of the narratives, the thesis explores the relationships and interpretation of these key formative events of the place. There is also a particular focus on the physical imprints of historical turbulences on the local landscape, in the example of the state border and the Maříž Castle as sites of memory. As a result of the analysis, the place was found to have developed a certain core identity over the last thirty years of its development, which works strongly with identification with the place and, although it does not take a form of a classic village community, has the potential for future continuity. At the same time, the analysis identified narratives of perceived threats such as cottagers and tourism, but also opportunities such as intense cultural life and again ambivalent tourism.

Keywords: local identity, borderland, reanimation, repopulation of the border zone, Maříž