ABSTRACT

This thesis deals with guide reality during the normalization era and the time right after, because the trends that started there continued even further. The aim of the work is to explore, what the guiding tours at the castles and palaces were like and what the visitors encountered when they took a guided tour at the time. Various aspects of the presentation of the monuments are captured. Attention is paid not only to the guide himself, but to the character of interior installations and exhibitions and also to the content of the interpretation. At the same time the thesis also occupy with feedback from the visitors of the monuments at the time, popularization of the monuments by the media and the laws of the monument care together with the government resolutions that affected presentation of the monuments in any way.

For the thesis, a multi-stage research of primary and secondary sources of various types and origins was carried out including researches and audiovisual sources. Individual sources were subjected to criticism, analyzed and compared with each other. At the same time, a guided interview with the contemporary witness of monument care of the normalization era was also carried out for the purposes of the research. Some findings about the presentation of monuments during the normalization era were also compared with the results of recent research regarding the current form of interpretation.

Three hypotheses were verified as part of the research. The first is the premise that the presentation of monuments during the normalization era was influenced by the political-idea direction of Czechoslovakia at the time. Besides other things the thesis also outlines the ways in which guided tours were affected by this. This is directly followed by another hypothesis, which relates to the assumption that out of all aspects of the guided tours, most affected by propaganda were guide interpretations, because of the ideal means of its dissemination. The last hypothesis works with the assumption that the normalization guided tours had stereotypical problems which we have still associated with guided tours nowadays. I mean long boring lists and descriptions of individual exhibits on the route or a number of successive different colour-coded lifeless drawing rooms.

KEYWORDS

guide; castle; palace; tour; guide sylabus; normalization period; interior installation