

Abstract

This thesis explores the history of Přísečnice, a no longer existing village in the district of Chomutov, which had to give way to a construction project for a drinking water reservoir and dam of the same name in the early 1970's. The first part of the thesis briefly describes the history of Přísečnice up until 1945; the second part focuses on the village developments after World War II until its destruction. The latter part describes how the village evolved in the 1940's and 1950's, and depicts the municipal life in the 1960's as well. It also discusses the reasons why a decision was made to create the reservoir, traces back the construction project negotiations and the issues that arose at that time due to the plan to ruin Přísečnice and the surrounding settlements. This part also describes the actual process of destroying the village, which started by eliminating the cemetery early in 1970 and ended with the demolition of the last houses in 1974. The third part of the thesis reports on the lives of Přísečnice's former inhabitants after their relocation and looks at their current feelings toward the location where they had spent longer or shorter periods of their lives. The thesis has been written based on a comprehensive study of currently available archive materials and oral history narrations. Not only does the thesis describes the viewpoints of the institutions that ordered the reservoir and dam to be built and organized the village demolition in the flooding area, it also looks into the experience of Přísečnice's inhabitants with their forced relocation. It contrasts the publicly proclaimed interests of the entire society in having a sufficient supply of drinking water available with the fates of the villagers who had to yield to this public interest.

Keywords

Přísečnice, dam, liquidation, district of Chomutov, oral history