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Lviv Archaeology at the Turn of the Century: A Historiographical Retrospective

Daria KONIV

Ivan Franko National University of Lviv
Department of Archeology and History of Ancient Civilizations
1 Universytetska str., Lviv 79000, Ukraine
e-mail: dariikoniv@gmail.com
ORCID 0009-0005-5542-3232

The phenomenon of Lviv archaeology constitutes a complex and multilayered field of inquiry, which interweaves the intellectual traditions of the university milieu, museum curatorial practices, heritage preservation initiatives, and the institutional frameworks of the Academy of Sciences. This article undertakes a historiographical reconstruction of archaeological research conducted within the urban space of Lviv between 1945 and 2025, situating it within the broader socio-political and epistemological transformations of the late twentieth and early twenty-first centuries. It argues that the trajectory of Lviv archaeology is best conceptualized through a bifurcated periodization: the Soviet stage (1945–1991), characterized by the institutional consolidation of archaeology within the structures of the Academy of Sciences of the Ukrainian SSR and the rise of “urban archaeology” in the framework of the State Historical and Architectural Reserve, and the post-Soviet stage (1991–present), defined by the proliferation of local research centers in the Institute of Archaeology of the National Academy of Sciences of Ukraine, the Krypiakivych Institute of Ukrainian Studies, Ivan Franko National University of Lviv, and the emergence of rescue archaeological institutions.

Rather than treating “Lviv archaeology” merely as a regional extension of national archaeological scholarship, the article foregrounds its specificity as a form of urban archaeology, conditioned by the challenges of investigating stratified cultural deposits in a living city with continuous architectural development. Excavations within Lviv reveal crucial evidence for early medieval settlement, fortifications, sacred topography, and artisanal production, while simultaneously confronting methodological and logistical difficulties imposed by dense construction, infrastructural modernization, and the urgency of rescue interventions.

Particular attention is devoted to the institutional genealogy of archaeological practice in Lviv. From the late nineteenth century initiatives of the Shevchenko Scientific Society and the contributions of figures such as Isydor Sharankevych and Ivan Krypiakivych, the field underwent a process of institutionalization under Soviet rule, with the establishment of the Lviv branch of the Institute of Archaeology (1940) and its subsequent integration into the Institute of Social Sciences (1951). A significant outcome of this institutional framework was the launch of the periodical series *Materials and Research on the Archaeology of Precarpathia and Volhynia* (MDA PV), which functioned as a crucial platform for disseminating fieldwork results, rescue reports, and synthetic studies. Despite the disruptions caused by ideological control in the 1960s, the series was revived in the 1990s, thereby affirming a continuity of scholarly tradition across political regimes.

Equally significant was the role of the Lviv Historical Museum as a custodian of archaeological collections and a site of knowledge production. Postwar excavations by Oleksii Ratysh (1955–1956) established the presence of early medieval habitation on Castle Hill predating the first chronicle reference of 1256, while systematic campaigns of the 1970s under the aegis of the State Historical and Architectural Reserve expanded the scope of urban archaeological inquiry to include fortifications, sacred complexes, and craft installations.

The emergence of the Rescue Archaeological Service in the 1990s represents a paradigmatic shift, integrating preventive excavation with heritage management and public engagement. By combining urgent fieldwork with interdisciplinary methodologies (archaeobotany, anthropological analysis, geophysical survey, and digital visualization), this institution not only secured the documentation of endangered sites but also embedded archaeology within the civic discourse of heritage preservation. Exhibitions such as *Treasures of Underground Lviv* further underscored the role of archaeology in constructing collective memory and urban identity.

The historiographical perspective adopted in this study demonstrates that the dissemination of archaeological knowledge in Lviv has evolved from fragmentary reports and local antiquarian practices to a sophisticated system of specialized publications, annuals, and cross-disciplinary collaborations. The analysis suggests that Lviv archaeology should not be perceived merely as the continuation of Soviet and post-Soviet traditions, but rather as the consolidation of a distinct urban archaeological paradigm, combining scientific investigation, rescue practice, and cultural representation within the dynamics of a transforming city.

Key words: archaeology, Lviv, history of archaeology, excavations, historiography.

Lviv. Lwów. Lemberg. A city with a deep historical memory, where every street and stone bears traces of the past. Its cultural landscape, formed at the crossroads of European civilisations, has always been sensitive to political and social changes. It was here that archaeology took on a special significance — as a science that reveals hidden layers of history and at the same time reflects the worldview and ideological orientations of its time. Between 1945 and 2025, Lviv repeatedly witnessed major political transformations: from the Soviet post-war period with its centralised scientific policy, through the tragic and at the same time fateful 1990s, which paved the way for Ukraine’s independence, to the present day, when archaeology is emerging as an important factor in the preservation of national heritage and the formation of European identity. All these changes could not but influence the development of archaeology, which in Lviv has always been closely linked to the intellectual and cultural life of the city.

Statement of the problem. In this paper, the term “Lviv archaeology” is used to refer to archaeological research conducted directly within the city of Lviv. Unlike broader regional studies, it refers to excavations and observations aimed at reconstructing the historical development of the city’s urban space from the earliest settlements to the present day. An important feature of these studies is their focus on the analysis of cultural layers associated with the transformation of buildings, the functioning of defensive complexes, religious buildings, craft and trade centres. Thus, “Lviv archaeology” is presented as a specific segment of urban archaeology, the object of which is the material heritage of Lviv, reflecting its centuries-old history and cultural dynamics. Therefore, Lviv archaeology as a field of archaeological research in the territory of modern Lviv should be distinguished from archaeological science in Lviv, which covers a much broader concept and unites a large circle of institutions and scholars associated with the city, place of study or professional activity. Works on the history of archaeology mostly use the second concept, and therefore the proposed study is relevant in its novelty. It should also be emphasised that this article does not concern the history of archaeological research in the Lviv region, but primarily the publication of the results of this research.

Research analysis. This approach is quite risky, given the significant narrowing of the research subject, but at the same time, it is an important attempt to analyse existing publications purely from the point of view of historiography and is a continuation of the works of N. Bulyk¹, L. Matskevych², N. Bilas³, T. Mylian⁴, O. Sytnyk⁵.

Presentation of the main material. Urban archaeology has its own distinctive features that distinguish it from research in rural or other natural landscapes. It focuses on the study of multi-layered cultural formations that have developed over centuries of urban life. Archaeologists conducting urban research face a number of challenges. These include dense modern development, which limits excavation opportunities, as well as constant pressure from infrastructure works. Additional problems are created by the destruction of cultural layers during construction, lack of funding, and the need for rapid research within the framework of “rescue archaeology”. In addition, the interpretation of fragmented finds is complicated, as the urban environment combines materials from different periods and of different types⁶.

In the 19th and early 20th centuries, archaeology in Lviv developed in close connection with European scientific trends and local initiatives. An important role was played by the amateur research of members of the Galician Literary Society and later the Shevchenko Scientific Society, which from the second half of the 19th century became the first Ukrainian academic institution in Galicia. Among the researchers who laid the foundation for the archaeological study of Lviv and the region, it is worth mentioning Izydor Sharanavych, Ivan Krypiakavych, and Yan Pashkevych. They conducted descriptive surveys, recorded their findings, and accumulated private collections, which later became the basis for museum collections⁷.

In 1898, the Galician Music Society in Lviv submitted a request to the “Circle of Conservators and Correspondents of Eastern Galicia” for an archaeological assessment of the Powder Tower in Lviv with a view to its possible demolition and the construction of a Prosvita building in its place. It was architect Yu. Zakhariievych who, at a meeting of the Circle, announced the conclusion about the great [“historical value... of the last remnant of the ancient city fortifications”]⁸. This determined another important feature of the development of Lviv archaeology – most of the research was not concerned with the discovery and study of large areas of settlements, but with architectural and archaeological studies of historical monuments of construction from different periods and of different types within the boundaries of modern Lviv. The objects of such work were primarily the crypts of ancient churches and cathedrals in Lviv and the area around their foundations. Information about the results of the surveys was published in relevant journals, for example,

¹ Наталя Булик, *Львівська археологія XIX – початку XX ст.: Дослідники, наукові установи, музеї* (Львів: Інститут українознавства ім. І. Крип'якевича НАН України, 2014), 304.

² Леонід Мацкевич, *Археологічні пам'ятки Львова* (Львів: Логос, 2008), 224.

³ Наталя Білас, “Археологічна наука у Львівському університеті (XIX – 30-ті роки XX ст.)”, *Археологічні дослідження Львівського університету*, вип. 8 (2005): 46–114.

⁴ Тарас Мільян, “Археологія Львова: витоки, традиції, дослідники”, *Матеріали і дослідження з археології Прикарпаття і Волині* вип. 23 (2019): 325–336.

⁵ Олександр Ситник, *Археологічна наука у Львові. Перша половина XX ст.* (Львів-Жешів: Інститут українознавства ім. І. Крип'якевича НАН України; Інститут археології Жешівського університету, 2012), 365.

⁶ Світлана Іванова, “Деякі аспекти міської археології в історичному контексті (на прикладі Приморського бульвару в м. Одеса)”, *Матеріали і дослідження з археології Прикарпаття і Волині* вип. 23 (2019): 183–198.

⁷ Булик, *Львівська археологія XIX – початку XX ст.: Дослідники, наукові установи, музеї*, 239.

⁸ “Археологія у Львівській політехніці – від другої половини XIX століття до наших днів” [lpnu.ua](https://lpnu.ua/news/arkheolohiia-u-lvivskii-politekhniitsi), доступ отримано 04 вересня, 2025.

in the case of Y. Pasternak's work in the 1930s, in the pages of "Богослов'я" ("Theology")^{9,10}. Also, we would like to note that the leading specialists in this field today are Yu. Lukomskyi, R. Sulyk, M. Bevz etc.

During the interwar period, the centres of archaeological research were the Jan Kazimierz University in Lviv and the Ossolineum. Professors Karol Hadachek, Edmund Bulianda and Yuzef Kotshevskyi worked here, combining archaeology with cultural history and ethnography. The Lviv Archaeological and Geographical Office, where materials from the territory of Eastern Galicia were collected and processed, also made a significant contribution¹¹.

The development of Lviv archaeology in the first half of the 20th century was interrupted by World War II and large-scale socio-political transformations. The change of power led to significant personnel losses – a large number of Polish and Ukrainian archaeologists left the city, and scientific institutions of that time, in particular the Taras Shevchenko Scientific Society, were liquidated. Despite this, scientific centres such as Lviv University, the Lviv Historical Museum and the newly established Institute of Social Sciences of the Academy of Sciences of the Ukrainian SSR, which included a Department of Archaeology, were still operating in Lviv. The activities of the above-mentioned scientific institutions took place within the framework of studying previously discovered monuments in the Lviv, Stanislav (now Ivano-Frankivsk) and Ternopil regions – the Plisnensk settlement, the ancient city of Halych, Slavic settlements, etc.

It should be emphasised that, in fact, until the mid-1950s, no archaeological research was conducted in Lviv, although the construction of military factories, housing, the redevelopment of transport interchanges and many other factors provided sporadic opportunities for archaeological supervision at construction sites. Perhaps the only positive result of the institutionalisation of Lviv archaeology within the Academy of Sciences of the Ukrainian SSR at that time was the financial aspect. In addition to the fact that archaeologists were now full-time employees and received salaries, we also have evidence of fairly good funding for archaeological expeditions¹².

In February 1940, a department of the Institute of Archaeology of the Academy of Sciences of the Ukrainian SSR was established in Lviv, consisting mainly of scholars from Lviv University and the liquidated Shevchenko Scientific Society. Initially, it operated on Sovetskaya Street (now V. Vynnychenko Street), and later in the Prosvita building at 10 Rynok Square. Markiiian Smishko became the head of the aforementioned department of the Institute of Archaeology, and its staff included Yaroslav Pasternak, Stefan Krukovskyi, Ivan Starchuk, and Kazymyr Maievskyi¹³.

The Institute of Social Sciences of the Academy of Sciences of the Ukrainian SSR (hereinafter referred to as ISS), established in 1951 in Lviv, became the main scientific centre for humanities research in western Ukraine in the post-war period. In the same year, the Department of Archaeology of the Academy of Sciences of the Ukrainian SSR was incorporated into the Institute of Social Sciences of the Academy of Sciences of the Ukrainian SSR. It is evident that the establishment of the Institute was part of a broader policy of the Soviet authorities aimed at ideological control over science, but at the same time at integrating the territories of western Ukraine into the all-USSR scientific space. Despite the strict ideological framework, the Institute became the heir to the intellectual traditions of Galician scientific centres, in particular the Shevchenko Scientific Society. At this time, a tradition of regularly publishing the results of archaeological research in specialised publications began. Thus, reports on the research of large expeditions and monuments outside the city were mostly published in print, but nevertheless, this laid the foundation for the tradition of publishing the results of work in the Lviv area.

In the early 1950s, the Institute of Social Sciences created a special publication, "Наукові записки Інституту суспільних наук" ("Scientific Notes of the Institute of Social Sciences). The first volume of the notes was devoted to issues of literary studies, while the second volume, which launched the series "Матеріали і дослідження з археології Прикарпаття і Волині" ("Materials and studies on archaeology of Sub-Carpathian and Volhynian area"), devoted to archaeologists and became a platform for publishing

⁹ Ярослав Пастернак, "Звіт з археологічних дослідів у підземеллях катедри св. Юрія у Львові", *Богословія* 10, номер 4. (1932): 312–315.

¹⁰ Ярослав Пастернак "Крипта під церквою Св. Духа гр.-кат. Богословської Академії у Львові", *Богословія* 16, номер 2–3. (1938): 158–160.

¹¹ "Історія музею" museums.lnu.edu.ua, доступ отриман 03 вересня, 2025. <http://museums.lnu.edu.ua/archeology/museum-history/>

¹² Наталя Булик, "Історія відділу" *Інститут українознавства ім. І. Крип'якевича НАН України: історія, імена, ідеї*, ред. Ігор Соляр (Львів: Інститут українознавства ім. І. Крип'якевича, 2021), 91.

¹³ Булик, "Історія відділу", 89.

the results of field excavations, rescue research, and generalised works. The first issue, published in 1954 under the editorship of Ivan Krypyakevych, was entitled “Матеріали і дослідження по археології УРСР” (“Materials and studies on archaeology of the Ukrainian SSR”), and he also headed the editorial board of the next two issues. The fourth and fifth volumes, edited by Markiiian Smishko, completed the first period of irregular publication: the second volume was published in 1959 under the current title “Materials and studies on archaeology of Sub-Carpathian and Volhynian area”, and the third, fourth and fifth in 1961, 1962 and 1964¹⁴.

The first issues of the collection mainly included works by archaeologists from the Institute, but the fifth volume already featured articles by researchers from Kyiv, Luts'k, Moscow, and Minsk, in particular about the Kachinsky treasure and a unique glass workshop in Komariv, Chernivtsi region, which significantly expanded the geography and subject matter of the publications. From the mid-1960s, ideological pressure on the Institute's activities and its publications intensified, leading to the dismissal of individual scientists and the de facto cessation of a number of series, including “Materials and studies on archaeology of Sub-Carpathian and Volhynian area”.

After more than three decades of interruption, publication was resumed in 1996 in independent Ukraine, retaining its name and continuous numbering, which emphasised its historical continuity with the pre-war and Soviet periods. In the 1990s, the collection was published irregularly due to economic difficulties, and only three volumes were published during the first decade after its resumption.¹⁵ Since 2005, the publication has been released annually, significantly changing its format, structure and volume, as well as expanding the circle of authors by attracting scientists from different countries. In its current form, the collection publishes articles in Ukrainian, English and Polish, continuing the tradition of systematically documenting archaeological research in Western Ukraine and promoting the integration of local science into the international academic context. Researchers such as M. Smishko¹⁶, O. Ratysh¹⁷, L. Matskevych¹⁸ and others have published the results of their research in its pages. Special mention should be made of the special issue “Figures of Ukrainian Archaeology” (Lviv, 1998), which collected biographies and information about the work of scientists who conducted research in the Lviv region – Izydor Sharankevych¹⁹, Volodymyr Hrebieniak²⁰, Ihor Svieshnikov²¹.

With the start of Taras Milian's scientific activity, the “Materials and studies on archaeology of Sub-Carpathian and Volhynian area” became a platform for his scientific publications. Important information about the state and prospects of rescue archaeological research in the city is presented in his article from 2015²².

When discussing scientific institutions directly involved in archaeological research in Lviv, one cannot fail to mention the Lviv Historical Museum. It was founded at the end of the 19th century on the initiative of Aleksandr Cholovskiy, who combined the city's archival and guild artefacts into a single museum collection. At first, it was kept in the Lviv Town Hall, and later in the Korniakt House (1908, 6 Rynok Square, Lviv) and the Black House (1926, 4 Rynok Square, Lviv), which became the main centres of museum activity. In 1940, the Soviet authorities merged the Lviv Historical Museum and the King Jan III National Museum into the Lviv State Historical Museum. World War II led to significant losses of collections, but the institution resumed its activities in a new format, undergoing both withdrawals and additions to its holdings. Yaroslav Pasternak was appointed as the first director, which became a key moment for the development of archaeological studies at the museum. At the same time, in 1940, the Department of Archaeology was established at the museum, which until 1992 was called the “Department of the History

¹⁴ Володимир Петегірич, “Двадцять випусків періодичного видання “Матеріали і дослідження з археології Прикарпаття і Волині””, *Матеріали і дослідження з археології Прикарпаття і Волині* вип. 21 (2017): 463.

¹⁵ Петегірич, “Двадцять випусків періодичного видання “Матеріали і дослідження з археології Прикарпаття і Волині””, 464–465.

¹⁶ Маркіян Смішко, “Археологічні дослідження в західних областях України за роки радянської влади”, *Матеріали і дослідження з археології Прикарпаття і Волині* вип. 2 (1959): 5.

¹⁷ Олексій Ратич, “Підсумки досліджень древньоруських археологічних пам'яток на території Галицької і Волинської земель”, *Матеріали і дослідження по археології УРСР* (1954): 5.

¹⁸ Леонід Мацкевий, “До питання про найдавніше заселення території сучасного Львова та його околиць”, *МДАПВ* вип. 6 (1995): 47.

¹⁹ Микола Бандрівський, “Археологічна діяльність І.Шараневича”, *МДАПВ* вип.7 (1998): 95–97.

²⁰ Микола Бандрівський, “Все ще недооцінений археолог Володимир Гребеняк (1892–1915)”, *МДАПВ* вип.7 (1998): 79–81.

²¹ Леонід Мацкевий, “Багатогранність таланту Ігоря Свєшнікова”, *МДАПВ* вип.7 (1998): 53–54.

²² Тарас Милан, “Рятівна археологія в Україні: тенденції розвитку і традиції”, *МДАПВ* вип. 19 (2015), 360–368.

of Primitive Society”. The museum did not have its own printed publication until 1993, when the “Наукові записки Львівського історичного музею” (“Scientific Notes of the Lviv Historical Museum”) were launched.

It is important to note that in the early years of the newly organised museum, its employees, particularly archaeologists, were forced to restructure museum exhibitions in accordance with the requirements of “Soviet museology”. This included both designing signs and exhibitions in accordance with party ideological requirements and working in propaganda committees. Despite this, the museum still managed to organise archaeological expeditions in Lviv and neighbouring regions.

One of the first archaeological studies of Lviv after the war was the work of Oleksii Ratych, an employee of the Archaeology Department of the Institute of Social Sciences, who carried out excavations on Zamkova Hill and Pidzamche in 1955–1956. Although only fragments of late medieval ceramics were found in Pidzamche, the research on Zamkova Mountain yielded rich material from the medieval period: glass bracelets, metal items, enkolpion crosses, and ceramics with princely marks. The dating of the materials to the 10th–11th centuries suggests that the settlement existed here long before the first mention in the chronicles.

The 1970s were a turning point for urban archaeology in Lviv. In 1975, a resolution was passed to create a State Historical and Architectural Reserve in Lviv, which provided a regulatory and administrative basis for the protection of monuments, restoration work, and archaeological research in the city centre. The creation of the reserve led to the organisation of stationary expeditions and the widespread involvement of archaeologists in restoration and field projects. The reserve acted as a catalyst for systematic excavations in the central parts of the city, in particular on Zamkova Hill, Rynok Square and Ivan Pidkova Square; the results of this work were regularly recorded in annual reports and national publications.

In 1975, the Ancient Rus detachment of the Lviv expedition of the Institute of Social Sciences of the Academy of Sciences of the Ukrainian SSR, led by O. Ratych, together with employees of the Lviv Historical Museum – Roman Bahrii and Ivan Sveshnikov – continued the research of Zamkova Hill, initiated by O. Ratych. On the western part of Zamkova Hill, the remains of the foundations and south-western defensive stone tower with south-western walls from the 12th–13th centuries were discovered.

In the following years, excavations continued on the western terrace at the foot of the hill, between the churches of St. Nicholas, St. Onuphrius, St. Anne, and St. Paraskevia Pyatnitsa. Two excavations were carried out on Tatarska Street, which allowed for the study of several stone structures from the 16th–17th centuries. In 1977, archaeologists from the Lviv Institute of Archaeology studied the corner of Ruska and Pidvalna Streets, where they recorded the remains of walls, including bastions from the 14th–17th centuries. During 1977–1978, excavations were carried out on Ivan Pidkova Square in collaboration with the Lviv Expedition of the Institute of Archaeology of the National Academy of Sciences of Ukraine and the State Historical and Cultural Reserve of Lviv. The need for regular reporting and publication of the scientific work of Lviv archaeologists in order to familiarise the general public with new achievements led to frequent short reports being published in the journal “Археологические открытия” (“Archaeological Discoveries”), which began publication in 1966 in Moscow as an annual publication of the Institute of Archaeology of the USSR Academy of Sciences. Its main task was to briefly inform the scientific community about the results of the most important archaeological research conducted in the USSR during the year. The collection published reports on new monuments, expeditions, rescue excavations and key scientific discoveries. The results of the Lviv expeditions of the 1970s were also published there. Among them, the lion’s share belonged to R. Bahrii^{23, 24, 25, 26} and A. Kos^{27, 28}.

With Ukraine gaining independence, the function of the “Archaeological Discoveries” was taken over by the annual publication “Археологічні дослідження в Україні” (“Archaeological Research in Ukraine”), which is a specialised publication of the Field Committee of the Institute of Archaeology of the National Academy of Sciences of Ukraine. In addition to reporting information, since 2015, the collection has included a separate section devoted to the application of natural science methods in archaeology, reflecting current trends in interdisciplinary research.

²³ Роман Багрій “Исследования во Львове и у с.Коропуж”, *Археологические открытия* 1983 (1984): 258.

²⁴ Роман Багрій “Исследования во Львове”, *Археологические открытия* 1984 (1985): 212.

²⁵ Роман Багрій “Исследования на территории Онуфриевского монастыря во Львове”, *Археологические открытия* 1987 (1987): 254 – 255.

²⁶ Роман Багрій “Исследования средневекового Львова”, *Археологические открытия* 1978 (1979): 291.

²⁷ Кос А. “Крепостные стены Львова XIV–XVII вв.”, *Археологические открытия* 1977 (1978): 337.

²⁸ Кос А. “Архитектурно-археологические исследования во Львове и Львовской области”, *Археологические открытия* 1977 (1979): 360–362.

The early 1990s in Lviv archaeology were notable for several important projects, information about which remains largely unpublished in the form of a thorough study. This makes small publications containing information about monuments in the city all the more valuable. Between 1990 and 1993, Oleksandr Ovchynnikov conducted research within the Zamkova Hill-Velyki Kryvchytsi ridge, during which he discovered well-preserved remains of an ancient Slavic cult settlement. The complex dates back to the 7th–10th centuries, and the preserved toponym “Svyatovytove Pole” can be classified as a temple of the probable supreme god of the Central and Western Slavs, Svyatovyt. Information about this was published²⁹. It is also worth noting the contribution to the development of Lviv archaeology made by Mykola Bandrivskyi, who conducted research into the topography of princely Lviv, proposing the location of the cathedral church of the Rus princes (Mehale Ekkleziia) on the site of the later Dominican monastery. Based on a comprehensive study of written sources and architectural and archaeological analysis, he was the first to raise the question of the functional purpose of the three-nave hall with white stone columns, which is now part of the Lviv Museum of the History of Religion, interpreting it as a chapel-burial vault. This approach not only clarified the location of the oldest cathedral centre within the city walls, but also broadened the understanding of the nature of sacred architecture in the princely period. In this way, the author laid the foundation for further discussions on the topography and evolution of the sacred space of medieval Lviv, combining historiographical analysis with archaeological issues³⁰.

A brief but extremely important report on the work in Lviv in 1992 was published by V. Ivanovskiy³¹. In connection with the continuation of architectural and archaeological research, an article by R. Mohytych on excavations at Ivan Pidkova Square in Lviv has been published³².

Publications in local media played an important role in familiarising city residents and a wider audience with the results of excavations and chance finds in the city. As early as the 1890s, articles about the finds were published in “Діло” (“Dilo”) and other leading Lviv newspapers. The publications were written in approximately the following style: [“...Yesterday, the remains of a mammoth skeleton were unearthed in a brick factory behind Stryiska Rogachka in Lviv, which were deposited in the Didushytskyi Museum in Lviv... This is the first case of mammoth remains being unearthed in Lviv.”]³³. In the first decades of independence, Lviv archaeologists also published the results of their research in the pages of the publication “Галицька брама” (“Galician Gate”)^{34, 35}.

The invention of the Internet and the creation of online publications has been a real boon for the publication of news about archaeology in Lviv. News portals such as “Суспільне: Львів” (“Suspilne: Lviv”), “Твоє місто” (“Your City”), and relevant sections on the websites of Lviv Polytechnic, LNU, and other institutions regularly publish news about discoveries in our city.

In the second half of the 20th century, against the backdrop of rapid urbanisation and large-scale infrastructure projects, there was a growing need in the scientific community for specialised structures capable of protecting archaeological sites in situations where there was a threat of their destruction. In Lviv, where the concentration of cultural heritage is particularly high, this need was especially acute. In response to these challenges, the Research Centre “Rescue Archaeological Service” of the Institute of Archaeology of the National Academy of Sciences of Ukraine was established, which became one of the first institutions in Ukraine to systematically combine scientific research with the practice of protecting archaeological monuments.

Since its foundation, it has taken on the functions not only of conducting archaeological surveys and excavations in emergency situations, but also of comprehensively documenting and processing the materials obtained. Its scientists have been actively involved in rescue research in the central districts of Lviv, in the territories of ancient settlements and burial complexes, as well as in areas of new construction where archaeological objects could be lost forever. Among the most significant discoveries are the discovery of a 7th-century settlement of the Prague-Korchak culture on Vesela Street, research into the medieval quarters

²⁹ “Святылища Львова”, sribnovit.com, доступ отримано 05 вересня, 2025, <https://sribnovit.com/kultura/svyatylshcha-lvova/>

³⁰ Микола Бандрівський, “До проблеми локалізації “Мегале Екклезія” і руських князів у Львові”, *МДАПВ* вип. 16 (2012): 216–238.

³¹ Василь Івановський “Археологічні дослідження Львова у 1992 р.”, *Studia archaeologica* вип. 1 (1993): 74–75.

³² Роман Могитич “Розкопки на площі Підкови у Львові”, *Вісник інституту “Укрзахідпроектреставрація”* вип. 8 (1997): 67–71.

³³ “Археологія найдавнішого Львова”, ntsh.org, доступ отримано 04 вересня, 2025. <http://ntsh.org/content/arheologiya-paydavnishogo-lvova>.

³⁴ Василь Оприск, Лек О. “Найновіші археологічні розкопки княжого Львова”, *Галицька брама* вип. 9-10 (2001): 81–82.

³⁵ Василь Оприск, Лек О. “Король Данило та його син Лев”, *Галицька брама* вип. 9-10 (2001): 30–31.

of Lviv, and a series of discoveries that have allowed for a new understanding of the development of urban space from the princely era to the early modern period.

In the 1990s and early 2000s, the activities of the Rescue Archaeological Service became an important factor in shaping a new approach to archaeology in the urban environment. The Centre initiated cooperation with cultural heritage protection agencies, architects, and construction companies, which allowed archaeological research to be integrated into urban planning practices. At the same time, the Service developed its scientific component: materials from rescue excavations were systematised and introduced into scientific circulation through publications in professional journals, in particular in “Materials and studies on archaeology of Sub-Carpathian and Volhynian area” and the annual “Archaeological Research in Ukraine”.

Since the 2010s, Rescue Archaeological Service has been actively implementing interdisciplinary methods – archaeobotanical, anthropological, geophysical, and chemical research — that allow for a more comprehensive reconstruction of the past. An important area of its work has been the popularisation of archaeology: organising exhibitions, in particular “Врятовані скарби підземного Львова” (“Rescued Treasures of Underground Lviv”), creating digital 3D models of finds, participating in international projects and grant programmes.

Finally, it should be noted that sporadic information about the results of excavations in Lviv can also be found on the pages of “Археологічні дослідження Львівського університету” (“Archaeological Research of Lviv University”)^{36, 37, 38}.

Conclusions. Thus, Lviv archaeology, as the history of archaeological study of diverse archaeological sites within the administrative boundaries of modern Lviv, occupies an important place in the history of archaeology in Ukraine. Since the city of Lviv is densely built-up, it is mostly impossible to carry out large-scale archaeological work on its territory, and excavations are limited to rescue work or supervision of construction work and redevelopment within the city. This, in turn, determines the peculiarities of archaeological materials – they are scattered, from different periods and often, despite their exhibition or scientific value, remain unpublished. That is why the proposed study attempted to analyse the history of archaeological work in Lviv from the point of view of the publication of its results. It has been determined that, despite the fact that archaeology in Lviv originated and developed in line with trends in European archaeology in general, the publication of the results of excavations in Lviv was sporadic. At the beginning of the 20th century, and especially in the interwar period, there was a revival in the publication of the results of the work of A. Shnaider, A. Petrushevych, I. Sharanavych, not only in the form of presentations at professional or museum gatherings, but also in the form of articles. The main objects of research were areas with industrial buildings. Subsequently, an architectural and archaeological direction of research also crystallised. The results of excavations in church crypts and research on the territory around religious buildings were published by Ya. Pasternak, R. Bahrii, R. Lukomskyi, V. Vuitsyk and others. With the start of the Archaeology Department, the “Materials and studies on archaeology of Sub-Carpathian and Volhynian area” became the main place for publishing the results of excavations in Lviv. This is where the research of T. Mylian, N. Bulyk, V. Voinarovskiy and others was published. Brief but important reports on the current state of research in Lviv can be found in the pages of the Soviet journal “Archaeological Discoveries” for 1977–1986. Later, the tradition of publishing reports was continued in “Archaeological Research in Ukraine”. Another important feature of Lviv archaeology is that since the end of the 19th century, the local press has become a platform for reporting on the results of chance discoveries and research in the city. In the Internet age, archaeologists willingly give interviews and prepare reports for news portals such as “Суспільне: Львів” (“Suspilne: Lviv”), “Твоє місто” (“Your City”), “Четверта студія” (“Fourth Studio”), “ZBRUC.EU”, “Варіанти” “Variants”, “Фотографії старого Львова” (“Photographs of Old Lviv”), “Львівський портал” (“Lviv Portal”), “Гал-Інфо” (“Gal-Info”) and others.

One way of informing residents and visitors to Lviv was an exhibition of stands about archaeological finds in the Lviv city community on Rynok Square and the exhibition “Treasures of Underground Lviv”, based on materials from archaeological excavations carried out in Lviv from 1999 to 2011 by employees of the Scientific Research Centre “Rescue Archaeological Service” of the Institute of Archaeology of the National Academy of Sciences of Ukraine. A valuable record of this research is the exhibition catalogue published in 2011³⁹.

³⁶ Микола Шніцар, Ткач Є. “Новий комплекс празької культури зі Львова”, *АДЛУ* вип. 18 (2014): 273–279.

³⁷ Наталія Білас “Археологічна наука у Львівському університеті (XIX – 30-ті роки XX ст.)”, *АДЛУ* вип. 8 (2005): 46–114.

³⁸ Наталя Булик “Охорона археологічних пам’яток у Східній Галичині у XIX ст.”, *АДЛУ* вип. 9 (2006): 58–66.

³⁹ Скарби підземного Львова : кат. вист., авт.-упоряд.: Т. Милян, О. Лазурко, М. Шніцар, Н. Войтович, В. Шишак. НДЦ “Рятувальна археологічна служба” Інституту археології НАН України. Львів, 2011. 132.

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ЛЬВІВСЬКА АРХЕОЛОГІЯ НА ЗЛАМІ ЕПОХ: ІСТОРІОГРАФІЧНА РЕТРОСПЕКТИВА

Дарія КОНІВ

Львівський національний університет імені Івана Франка
аспірантка кафедри археології та історії стародавніх цивілізацій

вул. Університетська, 1, Львів, 79000, Україна

e-mail: dariiakoniv@gmail.com

ORCID 0009-0005-5542-3232

Львівська археологія — багатшаровий феномен, що поєднує університетські традиції, музейні практики, заповідну справу та підрозділи академічних інститутів. Історіографічно її розвиток у ХХ ст. доцільно поділити на два великі етапи: радянський (від 1945 до 1991 рр.) і пострадянський (від 1991 р.). Перший визначався інституціоналізацією археології в структурі Академії наук УРСР та посиленням “міської археології” у межах Державного історико-архітектурного заповідника у Львові; другий — розбудовою локальних археологічних осередків у рамках Інституту археології НАН України, Інституту українознавства ім. І. Крип’якевича НАН України, ЛНУ ім. І. Франка та появою інституцій рятівної археології. Саме тому пропонується говорити не лише про радянський та пострадянський періоди з їх характерними особливостями, а про творення абсолютно нової традиції ведення археологічних досліджень. У запропонованому дослідженні на підставі широкого кола джерел висвітлено історію розкопок у Львові у світлі історіографії. Огляд спирається на відомчі історії інститутів, нормативні акти УРСР/України, корпус періодичних збірників (“Матеріали і дослідження з археології Прикарпаття і Волині”, “Археологічні відкриття”), праці провідних дослідників і сучасні узагальнення.

Ключові слова: археологія, Львів, історія археології, розкопки, історіографія.