

SUMMARY

The land and *valsčius* (a small self-governing district) till the administrative reform of 1564–1566

/MUSNINKAI. KERNAVE. ČIOBIŠKIS

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The history of the mediaval town and the territorial unit of Kernavė is a contradictory one. Kernavė was an area of the ruler's important residence, Nevertheless after the burning at the end of the 14th century the town lost its importance and the land of Kernavė existed then as a countryside of capital Vilnius. In the late 12th and the beginning of the 14th century Kernavė was certainly the greatest town in the ethnical Lithuania, but in the second quarter of the 14th centuries Vilnius had already got this position. In the 15th–16th centuries Kernavė remained to be a small district and a poor parish (in the 20-ies of the 15th century a church was built). The nobility of Kernavė formed a separate detachment with its own banner in the military organization of the state. The court of the Grand Duchy in Kernavė did not develop into a separate manor. The governors of the small district of Kernavė were not magnates.