

SUMMARY

The 1662 Inventory of Papilė Town and Valsčius

/PAPILE II, III

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In 2004 the Versmė Publishers issued *the Papilė* monograph (Part I) with *The 1637 Inventory of Papilė Town and Valsčius* in olden Polish and Lithuanian translation attached. There are two Papilė Valsčius inventories (the years of 1637 and 1662) stored in the Manuscript Dept of M. Mažvydas National Library of Lithuania. Both they were bound at the same time as the inventories of Žemaičiai Bishop's possessions. Now they are considered to be the earliest historical sources reflecting the history of the township and the areas surrounding it.

The inventories of possessions make an important part of written material culture heritage presenting information about the daily lifestyle of people in a certain time period. Translated into Lithuanian and presented with explanations, the inventory of a township, a manor or a district becomes available for a wider circle of readers, not only to a small group of researchers.

The 1662 inventory was compiled after two major cataclysms: occupation by Swedes and the 1657–1658 plague. It shows that in 1637–1662 the Papilė township population decreased just slightly, however, due to new settlers. The town had not hosted markets (except for the days when salt had been brought), and inns reduced in number. The economic decline of Papilė township and area is seen in taxes collected in 1662, which reduced nearly by a quarter if compared to those in 1637.

Although the township and the area suffered losses due to war and plague, the church managed to keep teacher Andrius Petelčis, who was called the Bachelor.

The Lithuanian version of the 1662 inventory has been compiled basing on the rules applied to the publication of written sources.