

History of Pyatyhory*

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In the southwestern part of Kiev district is the picturesque village of Pyatyhory (formerly known as Trinozhyn). The village landmark is the *Sviato-Uspenskaya* (Holy Assumption) church, which was built in 1798. The history of the village dates back 400 years. At one time, Pyatyhory was a part of Bratslav territory, later becoming part of Kiev Gubernia under Russian rule. Today it is part of Ukraine. The village of Odaypil is now incorporated into Pyatyhory. The latter has a twin town in India – Udaypur – in the state of Rajasthan. The last three letters in the names of these twin towns have the same meaning: ‘town,’ formerly ‘fortress.’

From 1545 to 1599 the owner of Trinozhyn was the magnate from Volyn, Ivan Kransnoselsky. In 1599 he sold Trinozhyn to the dukes Ostrozskys (Ostrogski). The Ostrozskys were the most famous princely family in Volyn, descendants of dukes Gedymynovychi. They ruled Bratslav and Vinnitsa provinces between 1497 and 1539. Pyatyhory remained in Ostrozsky ownership from 1599 until 1629.

At one time, Pyatyhory was the *volost*¹ (or parish) center. It was lively, and crafts were developed there. It even had its own brick factory. In 1913 Landlord Lipovsky, who owned Pyatyhory, wrote a book “My Memory” in which he devoted a section to this village. The book provides several versions of the origin of the name of the village. The first one explains that the village had been burned five times. The second version is more peaceful; the village was situated on five hills. (Five in Ukrainian is Pyat.)

There are archeological sites from the Copper, Bronze, and early Iron Ages in the area of the village. East of the village is a place called 'Gorodische', which was the Slavic settlement of the Cherniachiv culture from the first to the third century. South of the village are remnants of ancient tombs. In the middle of the fourth century there were thirty-six of them. Earlier, it was the settlement of the Ulich² tribe, and Pyatyhory itself was part of *Kievan Rus'*³ during the tenth to the twelfth century.

The first documentary mention of Pyatyhory was in 1579 in a document about the division of the estate of landlords Krasnopolskys. Pyatyhory belonged to one of them - Yuhno Krasnopolsky. It was called Trinozhyn at that time. Four sons of Yuhno Krasnopolsky had to sell their inheritance to powerful Duke Yanush Ostrozsky (Janusz Ostrog) in 1596. The latter renamed the village “Pyatyhory”. He built fortifications to defend the village from Tatars. Beginning in 1649, Cossacks from the Bila Tserkva Regiment deployed in Pyatyhory, fortifying it with a moat. In 1665, not far from the village, in

¹ *Volost* – the traditional administrative subdivision in Eastern Europe. From the end of the 14th century, *volost* was a unit of administrative division in the Grand Duchy of Lithuania, Poland, Muscovy, and lands of modern Latvia and Ukraine. Since about the 16th century, it was a part of provincial districts that were called *uyezd* in Muscovy and later in the Russian Empire. Each *uyezd* had several *volosts* that were subordinated to the *uyezd* city. Wikipedia

² The Uliches were a tribe of Early East Slavs who, between the eighth and the tenth centuries, inhabited Bessarabia and the territories along the Lower Dnieper, Bug River and the Black Sea littoral. The Uliches long struggled against Kievan princes for independence, until a Kievan commander captured their capital around 940. Wikipedia

³ *Kievan Rus'* was a loose federation of East Slavic tribes from the late ninth to the mid-13th century. The modern peoples of Belarus, Ukraine, and Russia all claim *Kievan Rus'* as their cultural ancestry. Wikipedia

Dryzhyopol, there was a great battle⁴ between the troops of Bohdan Khmelnytsky and Vasily Sheremetev and the Polish troops and Tatars. The battle was so fierce that, according to the words of one chronicler, the Cossacks were fighting day and night. After three days, Hetman used guns and infantry to attack the Polish camp. After suffering heavy losses the Tatar troops retreated.

After the 1667 Treaty of Andrusovo⁵ Pyatyhory remained under Polish rule. At that time, the owners of the village were Sanguszkys, Leduchovskys and Ostrozkys. In 1711, after the Prut Peace Treaty,⁶ the majority of the residents tried to escape the oppression of the Polish gentry by moving to the left bank of the Dnieper River. In 1728 there were fourteen houses in Pyatyhory. By 1740 there were 140. Two years later there were two churches and a cathedral built in the village. In 1768, there was a big battle in the village between the Haidamaks⁷, Baba detachment, and a Russian detachment led by Lieutenant Colonel Brynko.

At the end of the eighteenth century, Pyatyhory was under the rule of landlords Leduchovskys who met Polish King Stanislaw August Poniatowski [last King and Grand Duke of the Polish-Lithuanian Commonwealth] in the village in 1787. After the Second Partition of Poland (1793), the territories of the right bank of the Dnieper River were joined to Russia. At this time Kiev Gubernia was established in Russia, which included twelve district centers called *povit*.⁸ In 1797 Pyatyhory was absorbed into Kiev Gubernia, and became a *povit* center.

In the village there was a Catholic church, St. Vincent Ferarsky, built about 1827. Also there was a church, St. Nikolas, which was built in 1742 and burnt in 1850. The Sviato-Uspenskaya Church in Pyatyhory was built in 1798, and rebuilt in 1821. It is located on the hill in the center of the village.

Since 1830 Pyatyhory belonged to the Lipovsky family. The last of them, Leon, considered himself to be not only a rich person but also an outstanding public figure, as well. He built a sophisticated house on the hills overlooking the River Molochna. The house was surrounded by a beautiful park. There was a bathhouse, garden and hothouses. Having profited from the arable land and forest, Lipovsky built a brick-tile plant there.

In 1900 there were 4,530 residents in the village. The main work in the village was agriculture. Some people made items from sheepskin and sewed clothes. At that time there was a brick-tile plant, six mills, six blacksmiths, two carpentry workshops, six inns, a hospital with one doctor, two nurses, an

⁴ See Battle of Okhmativ: [http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Battle_of_Okhmativ_\(1655\)](http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Battle_of_Okhmativ_(1655))

⁵ The Russo-Polish War of 1654–1667, also called the War for Ukraine, was a major conflict between Tsardom of Russia and the Polish-Lithuanian Commonwealth. Peace negotiations dragged on from 1664 until January 1667, when civil war forced the Poles to conclude the Treaty of Andrusovo, whereby the Polish-Lithuanian Commonwealth ceded to Russia the fortress of Smolensk and Ukraine on the left bank of the Dnieper River (including Kiev), while the Commonwealth retained right-bank Ukraine. Wikipedia

⁶ The Treaty of the Pruth was signed on the banks of the Pruth River between the Ottoman Empire and the Tsardom of Russia in July 1711, ending the Russo-Turkish War of 1710–1711. Among other Treaty stipulations, the Tsar pledged to stop interfering in the affairs of the Polish-Lithuanian Commonwealth which the Russians increasingly saw as under their sphere of influence. Wikipedia

⁷ The haidamak movement was comprised mostly of local free Cossacks, peasantry, and rebels waging war mainly against the Polish nobility and Roman Catholics. Three major haidamak rebellions took place in 1734, 1750, and the largest in 1768. Wikipedia

⁸ *Povit* (also *Uyezd*) was an administrative subdivision of the Russian Empire and was in use from the 13th century. *Uyezds* for most of Russian history were a secondary-level of administrative division. On Congress Poland territory, the *uyezd* was known as *powiat* or *povit*. Wikipedia

*Excerpt from (in Ukrainian) <http://pyatigori.at.ua/index/0-2>

ambulance, a church school, a public grade school, an Orthodox church, and a Roman Catholic cathedral. Every second Sunday a large bazaar was held.