

SUMMARY

Water mills and ponds of the Kvédarna region

/KVEDARNA

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Water-powered mills of the Lithuanian rural district of Kvédarna from historical and technological points of view are discussed in the paper. The first water-mills in Lithuania were mentioned in the Middle Ages, the first known records concerning Kvédarna mills reach as early as 1593. The mills, data on which are available in the archives of Lithuania, are described from the oldest records up to their state at present. Most water mills in the period between the 1st and the 2nd World Wars were converted into the electric power stations, which were destroyed after the World War II following the Soviet centralized power policy. The evidence concerning the latest decades of the former water mills is based on the interviews with the local residents. The paper is illustrated with the figures from the archives and pictures of localities of former stations at present. Schemes depicting the architecture of some water-powered mills are presented.