

SUMMARY

Papilė Valsčius in the early months of German occupation in 1941

/PAPILE II, III

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Based on historiography and archive data, two issues are discussed in the paper: (a) Papilė during the June Rebellion, and (b) Genocide of Papilė Jews in summer and autumn of 1941. Till now the studies of these events in Papilė Valsčius (Šiauliai County) by historians were rather fragmental. Now carrying on investigations on the Papilė Rebellion events, the battle actions of local partisans against the Soviet activists have been revealed and data about the persons killed by Red Army soldiers and Papilė Soviet activists, as well as their killing circumstances have been presented. Moreover, it is shown which Lithuanian government institutions were restored in Papilė at the start of the war, as well as the subordination of these institutions to higher Lithuanian powers and German occupational administration revealed. The studies on Genocide of Papilė Jews were based on peculiarities of that period in Lithuania. Two stages of the Genocide are distinguished. During the period of German military administration (end of June and July, 1941), at the command of Nazi authorities on July 22, the Papilė policemen and parapolice members in Šiaudinė forest shot down about 45 Jewish men, which before execution were held in Šiaudinė and Kalniškės manors, where the Jewish ghetto was established in early July. On the same day, nine Lithuanians, former Soviet activists, were also executed. During the period of the German civic administration (by end-July), the Jews (women, men, children) from Papilė ghetto were moved to Žagarė ghetto. Then, on October 2, 1941 they were shot down in Žagarė Naryškinas Park together with Jews from other Šiauliai County areas. This was the day when the existence of Papilė Jewish community stopped.