

## SUMMARY

### The history of Seredžius church

*/SEREDŽIUS*

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The first church mentioned in 1579 must have been still a gothic one. The one built in 1648 was a renaissance church. Its clearer view is presented in the visitation of 1748. The church built in about 1779 was a baroque one. Its situation is shown on the map of Veliuona district (1793). After an ordinary flood (1823) the church was rebuilt in a dominating then neoclassicism style. It was a decorative sanctuary though not for a long time: the icebreaking of 1829 destroyed it. A new church was established in a higher place, in the land of new sponsor M. Žilinskas, at the Dubysa river, where the cemetery was, and it existed there till its burning down (1908).

The building of a new masonry church was the matter of honour of already free peasants and citizens what they perfectly proved not saving neither their money nor their work.

The foundation remnants of the churches built in 1779 and in 1823 show that the foundations were strengthened by raising them up seeking to protect the church from the floods. The church on the bank of the Nemunas was the main sign of the town, besides the manor and the market place. The new church built in the upper part of Seredžius became a spiritual center of the whole surrounding space.