

The Role of Ukrainian Libraries in Preserving Cultural Heritage during Wartime

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Consequences of Russo-Ukrainian War (Feb.24, 2022-Present)

Total casualties - 354,000 persons (U.S. Defense Intelligence Agency, April 2023)

- Russians ~ 189,500–223,000,
 - 35,500–43,000 killed;154,000–180,000 wounded
- Ukrainians ~124,5000–131,000
 - 15,500–17,500 killed; 109,000–113,500 injured

Damage to cultural heritage ~ \$2.6 billion (UNESCO, 2023)

- Total objects affected, 2023 1,582 (Ministry of Culture and Information Policy)
 - Libraries: 40% of affected 598

Affected public libraries, 2023 - 2,361

fully destroyed - 160 ((Y. M. National Library of Ukraine, May 2023)



Chernigiv. Regional Youth Library (constructed in 1902; partly destroyed in March 2022)



Pidhaine, Kiev region. Village library destroyed in March 2022

Barvinkove, Kharkiv region. Village library destroyed in March 2022



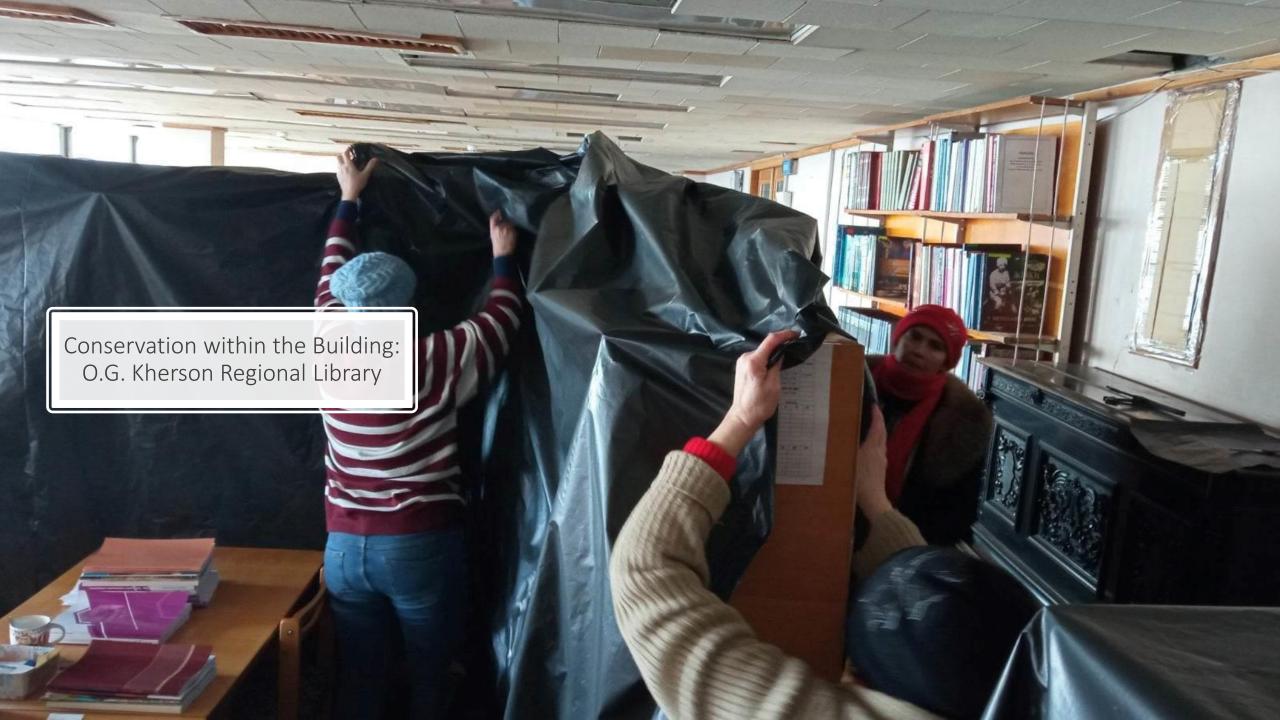






Evacuation of Cultural Heritage

wrapping materials in craft paper; packing them in boxes; creating inventories; bringing boxes to secure areas



Protecting Buildings

Taping windows to prevent glass from shattering in all directions

Placing black-out curtains on windows, to make it difficult to identify the buildings from the air

Using sandbags to protect from flood and/or fire







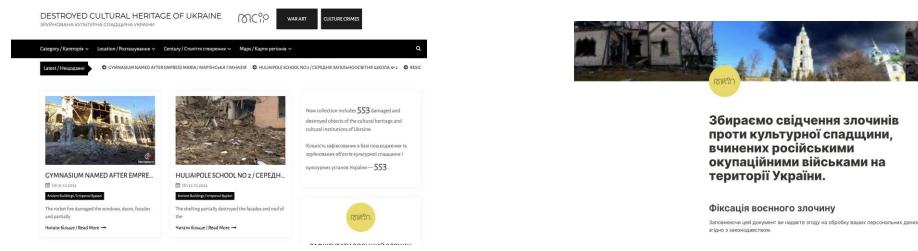


Lviv, 7/03/2022



Documentation of War Crimes

Ministry of Culture and Information Policy



National Historical Library of Ukraine

Cities and Villages of Ukraine: Losses of War Time

Житомирська область

Харківська область, Частина 2: Харківщина

Харківська область, Частина 1: м. Харків

Київська область

<u>Чернігівська область</u>

Сумська область

Monographs:

- list of cultural objects of the cities and villages, by place;
- list of sources documenting crime,
- pictures, when available



Bucha, Kiev Region Destroyed archive of Viacheslav Chornovil





Digitization

Saving Ukrainian Heritage Online (SUCHO) donated digitization technology to over 35 libraries, offered unlimited free cloud storage



National E-Library (NEL)



access to cultural heritage for all

preservation of cultural heritage for the next generations

Current Developments: Issues

- Types of collections (paper/text or mixed)
- 2. Participants (national libraries, 9)
- 3. Technology
- 4. Standards (description; cataloging)
- 5. Library management platform

Image © SUCHO, Chytomo



Thank you!

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