

RESTORATION OF THE MUSEUM OF RAINIS AND ASPAZIJA

Project description: The project “Restoration of the Museum of Rainis and Aspazija” envisages reconstruction and restoration of three museum units:

1. Reconstruction and restoration of the **memorial house “Rainis and Aspazija summer cottage”** on Jāņa Pliekšāna iela 5/7, Jūrmala.

The summer cottage, consisting of three buildings characteristic to the Jūrmala wooden constructions, was bought by Rainis and Aspazija in 1926 and they spent summers in the house from 1927 to 1929. On September 12, 1929 Rainis died in this cottage.

In the summer of 1949 a Museum of Rainis was opened in the cottage, but in 1969 the present-day museum ensemble was created that also includes the cottage garden.

2. Reconstruction and restoration of the **Museum of Rainis “Tadenava”** in the Jēkabpils region, Dunava district.

The museum has been created in a place where the poet has spent the first three years of his life. The sauna where Rainis, or Jānis Pliekšāns by his real name, was born, is located at a 1 km distance from the house, with a memorial stone. The most important objects of the museum ensemble are the half a manor dwelling house and the shed, both built in 1865 by the poet’s father. The ensemble also consists of a countryside sauna, a basement and the dwelling house of the new farm “Dāboliņi”, built in 1920s.

3. Reconstruction and restoration of the **Rainis and Aspazija house** on Baznīcas Street 30, Riga.

These buildings are a part of an important wooden architecture heritage of Riga centre. Both the two-storey street house and the one-storey house in the yard with a small inner forecourt create a unique historical ensemble. The house on Baznīcas Street is one of the most authentic memorial places of Rainis and Aspazija, one that hasn't been under any important rebuilding process since their time. This is the house the poets lived in from September 15, 1926 to September 12, 1929 until his death by Rainis, and to spring 1933 by Aspazija.

Project activities:

1. Experience exchange with project partners in Norway;
2. The renovation work of Rainis and Aspazija museum buildings;
3. Improvement of the museum, including creation of exhibitions;
4. Project administration;
5. Publicity.