

Palamuse O. Luts' Parish School Museum

On a cold day in January, 1987 a museum was opened at Palamuse, in the building of the parish school known from O. Luts' book "Kevade" ("Spring"). The task of the museum is to present the history of school, the past of the nearby area and the life and the work of the writer.

Oskar Luts (07.01.1887 Järvepera – 23.03.1953 Tartu) studied at this school from 1895 to 1899. "Spring" which he wrote influenced by his school memories, was first published 1912 – 1913. By now it has been published 19 times in Estonian and 12 times in Russian. The book has been translated into 13 languages.

At Palamuse a school was founded in 1687. The building of the parish school now operating as a museum, as well as the living quarters of the parish clerk Aleksander Georg Nieländer were erected in 1874. **The schoolrooms and the parish clerk's study** have been restored and furnished following the style of the end of the 19th century.

The exhibits of the **parish clerk's** parlour have been dedicated to O. Luts' childhood and school years and to his most well-known work "Spring".

In the **parish clerk's dining-room** there is an exhibition that gives us a brief survey of the history, cultural life and religious education of Palamuse parish.

A priest of Palamuse (Paldessen) was first mentioned in historical documents in 1234. St. Bartholomeus' church is one of the oldest stone churches in Estonia that has survived.

In the room which once was the **parish clerk's kitchen**, one can learn about older school history.

The classroom where a visitor can see a pulpit, a blackboard, a wall clock, a map of Europe, a picture of the emperor and long benches was big enough for all the students a century ago. In the corner of the classroom there is a unique organ dated from the end of the 18th century, constructed by one of the first Estonian master instrument builders C. G. Thal.

From the classroom the doors open to **the boys' bedroom**, to **the schoolmaster's room** and **the pantry**.

In **the yard of the parish school** the parish clerk's applebarn has survived from the old times. The parish clerk's coach house and the stable have been restored later.

The museum is open

October 15th – May 14th Monday – Friday 10 – 17

May 15th – October 14th Monday – Sunday 10 – 18

Information and booking tel. (077) 60 514

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