Abstract

This master's thesis examines the shaping of the collective Yugoslavian identity after World War II, utilizing the construction of post-war socialist monuments. The thesis outlines the relationship between monuments and memory politics of the state, focusing on the critical period of modernist memorial construction in the 1960s and 70s. At that time, the monuments were part of an ideological program that sought to create an official interpretation of war events to gain control over society.

The thesis includes the historical context, which describes the development in the construction of monuments from the end of World War II to the disintegration of Yugoslavia. It examines the extent to which the monuments were linked to tourism, leisure, and spirituality, as well as the role of the veteran organization S(U)BNOR. Part of the research is devoted to places that did not resonate with the official narrative. All of the above is then demonstrated on specific examples in Serbia: Kragujevac, Niš, Kruševac, Kosmaj and Kadinjača.