

Citizens among artifacts

The Herman Ottó Museum as a home for communities



Tóth Arnold

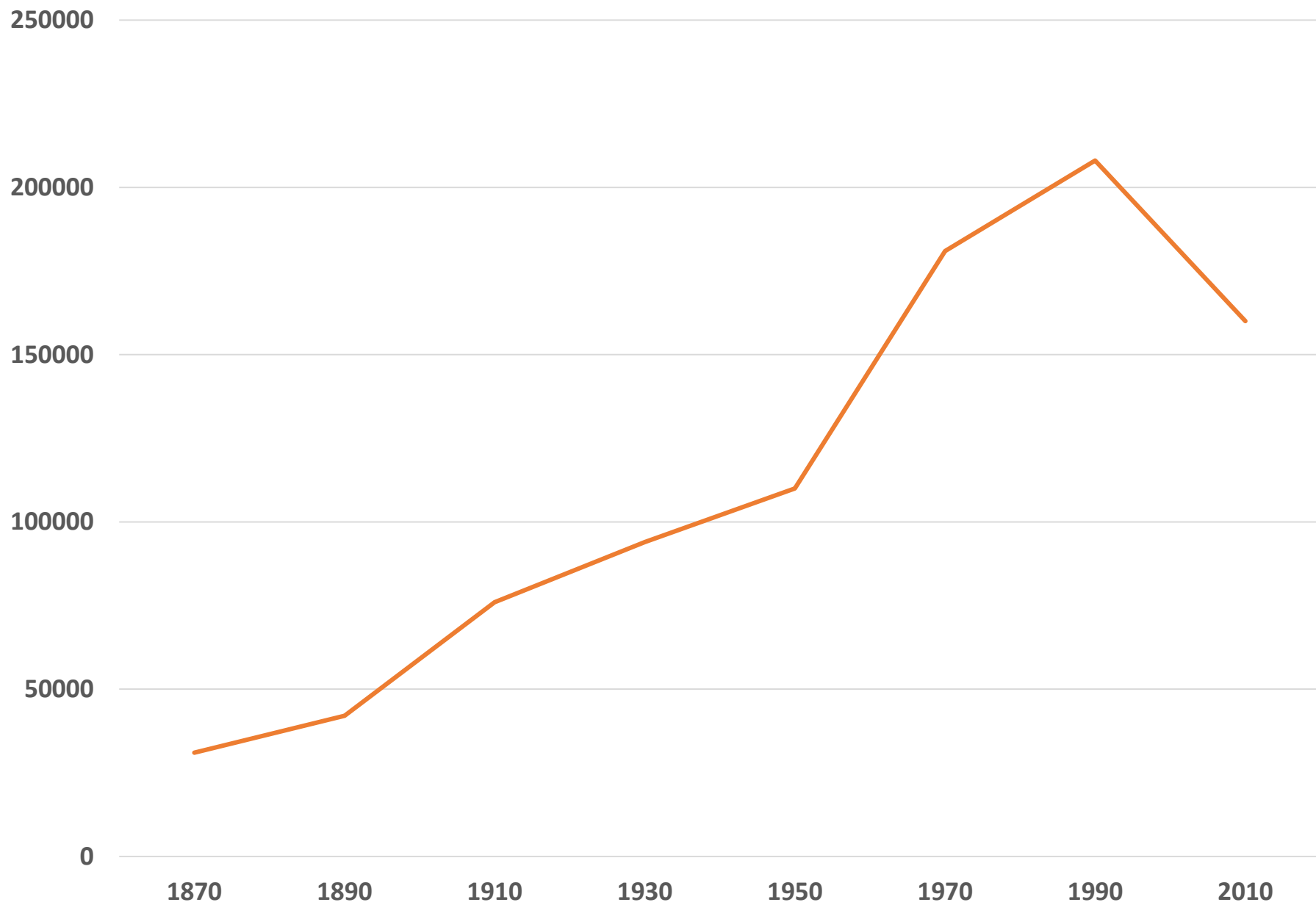
Herman Ottó Museum
Miskolc, Hungary

Keywords

programs for volunteers
voluntary participation
new aspects for museums
involving the local community



Population of Miskolc, 1870-2010

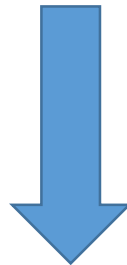


**How can you involve the locals
and their communities into museum activities,
in a decreasing society?**

**- lack of finances:
museum free of charge**

**- high number of elderly citizens:
lifelong learning and lifewide learning**

**- isolated individuals: „The third place”
the museum as a meeting point and open space**



VOLUNTARY PROGRAMS

1. Voluntary programs in the Feledy-house



Gyula FELEDY (1928-2010), graphic artist – permanent exhibition and temporary rooms

A Foundation (Múzsák Kertje Alapítvány) was established in 2010 – cooperating voluntary partner of the Museum

- Exhibitions
- Concerts
- Lectures
- Courses
- Community activities



2. Training course for elderly volunteers



- Started as a pilot project in 2009-2010
- 80-100 members, 10-15 newcomers each year
- Lectures, workshops, excursions conducted by museum professionals
- The volunteers join the frontline staff, and take part in the collection management



A group of volunteers are visiting the archeological site at Diósgyőr Castle, 2017.

3. „Stadium project” – new topics, new audiences



October 2016 – December 2017

- Safekeeping the physical objects, photo documentation and collect the memories
- 8 interviews, story-telling
- Exhibition and talk-shows with the interviewees
- Volunteers work together with volunteers – new audiences



**Volunteers work with volunteers in the museum:
members of a civil youth organization are interviewing an old football player**

Summary

Keywords of our voluntary projects:

- **Participation**
- **Involving the local communities**
- **Creating new museum roles**
- **Learning the aspects of our volunteers**

The future of the museums:

Public memorial space, as a useful „third place” for the local communities

Thank you for your attention!

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