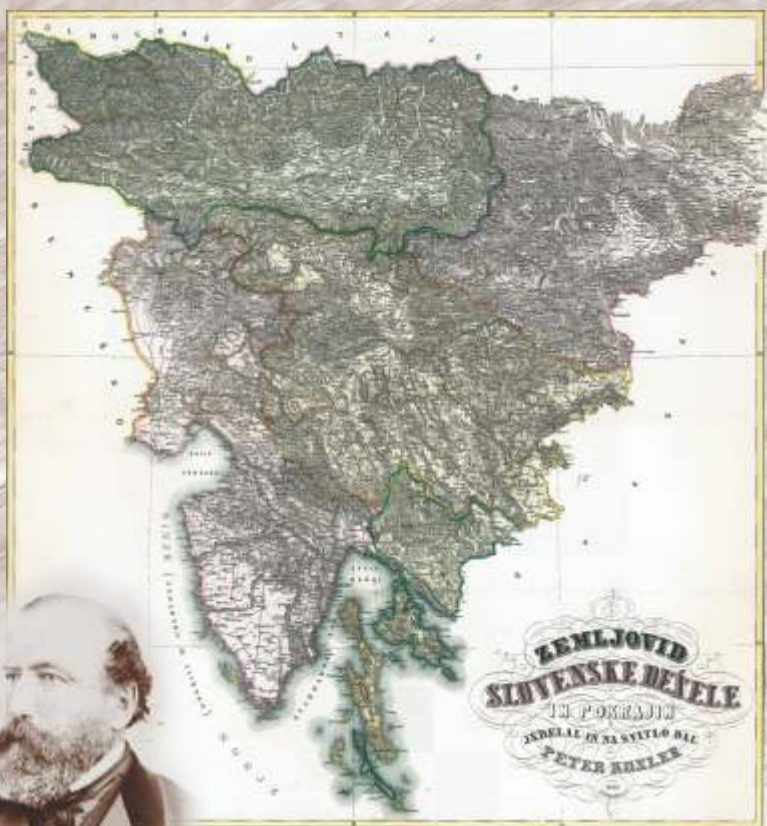


INFORMATIVE GUIDEBOOK OF KOZLER'S ROUTE

PROJECT OF THE SECONDARY SCHOOL
GIMNAZIJA IN SREDNJA ŠOLA KOČEVJE



INTRODUCTION

Kozler's route is a round route with the start and finish points in Kočevje and other stops in the following order: Koče, Kočevska Reka, Ribnica, Ortnek, Hudi Konec, Sveti Gregor. Due to dilapidated buildings there is unfortunately not much to observe at some stops, however, they are all connected with the life and work of the Kozler family, whose presence influenced the area. The trip along Kozler's route is a whole-day excursion which you can go on by bike or by car and use the guidebook and the handy route map as your source of information about the importance of separate stops. However, on a guided excursion you can also enjoy a lively explanation and role play about the life and work of the Kozler family with the emphasis on the most prominent member Peter Kozler.



PETER KOZLER – THE GREAT SLOVENE

There are few who are familiar with the Kozler family and probably even fewer of those who recognise the role and importance of this family in the development of the Slovene national identity. The family's story begins in the Kočevska region. As the family of able merchants they soon stood out, surprisingly, despite the proverbial "periphery" they proved that it was possible to succeed as success does not depend on geographical location but rather on ambition and boldness. Even though this was difficult, especially for families who consistently used the Slovene language, the Kozlers did extremely well. Peter Kozler was the one, who carried the family name outside the Kočevska region and earned recognition in Carniola and even the whole Austro-Hungarian Empire. He surpassed his ancestors in every way, however, apart from financial means and prosperous economy he also inherited from them exceptional respect for the Slovene nation. Although he spent his childhood in the Kočevska region, where German was predominant in his social circles, he willingly learned and used Slovene, and soon joined numerous national awakers in Slovenia. He added an important chapter in the Slovene national history to his economic achievements. He was aware of the fact that every nation is besides its culture and language also defined by two important matters: firstly, the territory that it inhabits and considers its home, and secondly, the national symbols, among which the flag is the most notable. As the prominent member of the circle of Slovene national awakers he participated in the creation of the first Slovene national flag, however, his map of Slovene national territory is considered his pioneering work. Despite all difficulties he succeeded in publishing the first national map, which apart from the presentation of the territory that was in that time inhabited by the Slovenes, also included Slovene place names. He named the map *Zemljovid slovenske dežele in pokrajin* (The Map of Slovenian Land and Regions). Like a true visionary he foretold the future existence of the Slovene state, which we acquired one hundred years later

It is because of his achievements that we are very proud of Peter Kozler in the Kočevska region. He proved that people with clear vision, determination, talent and distinct sense of patriotism can succeed. He therefore has a special place in our hearts, and it is only right that visitors of the Kočevska region also get to know him. The Informative Guidebook of the Kozler's Route offers an exceptional opportunity to uncover the mysteries of sincere patriotism and great achievements. It will guide you through history and reveal genuine love for the Slovene nation, which we all lack nowadays...

Special thanks go to the authors for the effort they have invested into making the guidebook and I hope visitors will engage in active exploring and broadening horizons in connection with Slovene statehood. I am convinced that many a visitor reaching the final stop of the Kozler's route will gain a finer, nobler view of the Slovene nation and might change their attitude towards their home country, now the independent Republic of Slovenia, for the better.

Dr. Vladimir Prebilič
Mayor of the Kočevje Municipality

1 KOČEVJE – THE REGIONAL MUSEUM KOČEVJE

THE MAP OF SLOVENIAN LAND AND REGIONS

The March Revolution of 1848 in Vienna encouraged many Slovenians to take over the leading role in the movement for unification of all Slovenians. Peter Kozler joined them and here he got the idea for making the map Zemljovid slovenske dežele in pokrajin. The society of Viennese Slovenians prepared the political program Zedinjena Slovenija, the most important point of which was the unification of all Slovenians in one country.



Peter Kozler supposedly also determined the colours of the Slovenian national flag. Together with the secretary of the society *Slovenija* Anton Globočnik he chose white, blue and red colours for the Slovenian national flag. These colours were determined on the basis of the regional coat-of-arms of Carniola.



The Slovenian national flag, a gift of the society Matica slovenska to Peter Kozler, around 1870
Narodna in univerzitetna knjižnica, Ljubljana, photo Milan Štupar, 2012

Peter Kozler's greatest work for Slovenians is The Map of Slovenian Land and Regions. Already in May 1848 he began establishing national borders and started systematically assembling material for the cartographic depiction of the Slovenian ethnic territory. When drawing the borders he couldn't make use of the existing maps. His only help was a bilingual map of Carniola made by the Slovenian cartographer Henrik Karl Freyer. For other Slovenian regions he had to check the names of about 4000 Slovenian place names, for which at the time no Slovenian



Henrik Karl Freyer (1802 – 1866), Special-Karte des Herzogtums Krain, 1844 – 1846 (*Map of Carniola*)
Zemljepisni muzej, Geografski inštitut Antona Melika, ZRC SAZU



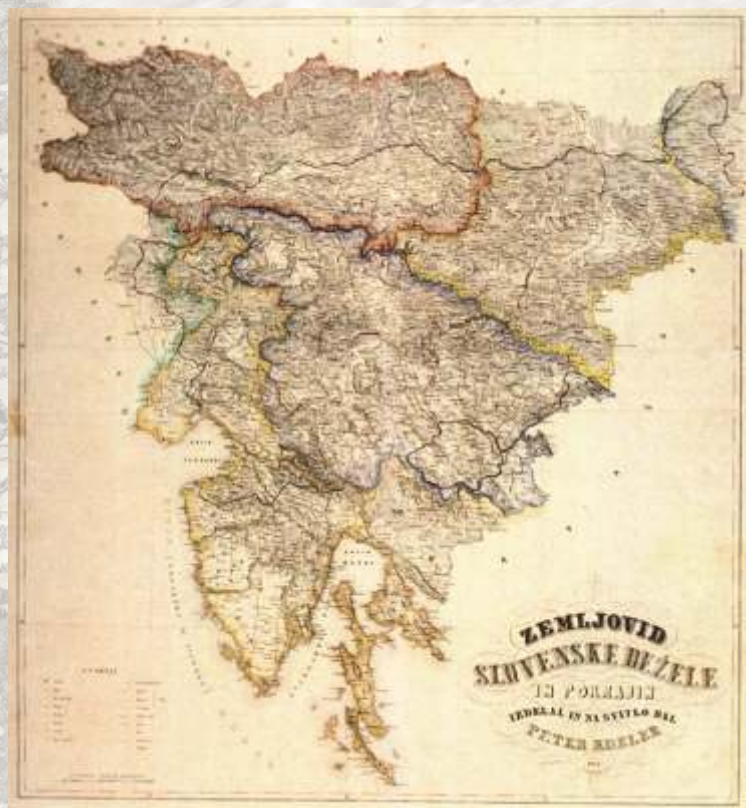
Peter Kozler, Zemljovid slovenske dežele (*The Map of Slovenian Land*), 1849, the oldest test print
Arhiv Republike Slovenije, AS 1069, Zbirka kart in zemljevidov (*Collection of charts and maps*)

maps existed. Peter Kozler acquired a copy of the statistics of Karl Freiherr, a Czech historian and statistician. The statistics was performed in 1846 and 1851 and Kozler used it while discovering the course of national borders. In autumn of 1848, on the basis of the known and assembled material, the copperplate engraver E. printed a test impression which was only a drawing of the map. Kozler cut up a few test copies of the map into sections and sent them to his acquaintances, friends and mostly priests, to enter and draw their remarks, changes, and additions into the map. At the same time they were also sent detailed lists of places with German names with space provided for the entry of the Slovenian names, national circumstances, and language of religious services. During the Viennese October Revolution of 1848 the copperplate engraver I.E. suddenly disappeared into the unknown together with the brass plate and the manuscript. In 1851 the plate was found and Peter Kozler could continue his work. At this point he entrusted the graphic version of the map to the engraver Anton Knorr from Vienna. He completed the works on the copperplate and printed a test print in 1852, which is also the second oldest preserved test print of Kozler's map, which reveals the last errors before the completion of works on the plate.

20th November 1852 Peter Kozler published the call about the possibility to order the map in advance in the newspaper Novice and other newspapers. Well-known personalities of the Slovenian cultural and political life of the time were among the first 73 people who purchased the map. Some of them ordered several copies of the map. But on 20th December 1852 Kozler was informed that Austrian military authorities confiscated and sealed off all 422 already printed maps and a thousand sheets of seals of Slovenian lands at the printer's since these supposedly represented a non-existent political entity. He had to stand a trial before the military court. In May 1853 Peter Kozler was acquitted of all charges. The confiscated material was handed over to further care of the police in Vienna. He again asked for the permission to sell the map and proposed even to change the title but still the map could not be sold, not even under the title The Map of the Illyrian Kingdom. In August 1853 the court agreed to hand over the material on Kozler's special request, but confirmed the ban on the "circulation" of the map in April 1854 upon the new written application. The governmental ban on publication and selling of the map was revoked at the end of 1860. Instead of 422 the box contained only 318 copies of the map. Kozler ordered the printing of the missing copies of the map at the Ljubljana printer Jožef Blaznik and handed them to the bookseller Georg Lerher to be sold. The sale was banned again and the ban was lifted only in 1861.

Kozler's map with the year 1853 did not appear in public until 1861. Kozler's "great Slovenia" on this map significantly exceeds the territory of the present-day Slovenia, which encompasses only 87 per cent of the marked territory on Kozler's map. In comparison with the contemporary borders Peter Kozler went significantly deeper into Austria, at the south included entire Istria and a great part of Kvarner with Rijeka and the nearby islands, and at the southeast he attributed Bela krajina and Gorjanci to Croatia. Kozler's map includes Carinthia, Carniola, and the Primorska region together with the Kvarner islands. The map is made at the scale of 1:576 000 and format 50 x 54,7 cm. For the expression of relief the technique of shading was used. We can find cities, boroughs, villages, postal stations and mines all drawn on the map. The rivers, roads, and rail networks, mines, borders and

places are drawn with military topographic symbols in black. The small scale and various names reduce clarity of the map, so the author subsequently decided to use colours to mark the borders and regions. All place names within the Slovenian ethnic territory are written in Slovene. Part of the first edition of Kozler's map in 1853 was supposed to be the *Kratek slovenski zemljopis in pregled politične in pravosodne razdelitve Ilirskega kraljestva in Štajerskega vojvodstva s pridanim slovenskim in nemškim imenikom mest, trgov, krajev itd.* The brochure with the introduction from 1852 was added to the map in 1864. In it he described the Slovenian ethnic border and supported it with statistical data. He also added a sheet with coat-of-arms of Slovenian lands and a list of place names.



Peter Kozler, *Zemljovid slovenske dežele in pokrajin* (*The Map of Slovenian Land*), 1853
Pokrajinski muzej Kočevje, photo Tomaž Lauko, 2012

In 1864 Matica slovenska was founded. This was the first all Slovenian society for the publication of scientific, popular, and other books in the Slovenian language. In the first year of its existence the society had nothing to give to its members with the exception of the Slovenian calendar for the 1865 (*Koledar slovenski za leto 1865*). Kozler came to the rescue and offered to donate the map and the appended list of place names for all new members. But he only had 400 copies of the map on stock. He decided for a special reprint to which he added the text To partners of the society Matica slovenska, at the end of 1864. He donated altogether 707 maps and 470 lists of place names to Matica slovenska. At the end of the 1860s Kozler donated the original plate and all copyrights to Matica slovenska. In this time the

need for a new edition arose. Matica slovenska published the fourth edition with a few corrections.

There were many reprints of Kozler's map in 20th and 21st centuries. After 1871 there hadn't been a reproduction for precisely 104 years. Since then 11 reprints and fascimiles have been made. Every publisher made their own reproduction of the map. In the summer of 1989 Marko Skubic self-published Kozler's Map of Slovenian Land and Regions (*Zemljovid slovenske dežele in pokrajin*) after the reprint of the publisher Cankarjeva založba from 1975. In 1992 and 1993 Peter Amalietti printed a reproduction of Kozler's Map of Slovenian Land and Regions after the reprint from 1975. He also added the calendar with old Slovenian and English names of the months to the edition from 1993.

Two Reprints matching the original in size and paper colour are: the publishers Založba Nova revija and the Regional museum Kočevje. All reproduced reprints and fascimiles of Kozler's map until 2012 were made after the original from 1853.

2 KOČEVSKA REKA – THE BIRTH VILLAGE OF JANEZ KOZLER II.

JANEZ KOZLER II. – THE FOUNDER OF THE KOZLER FAMILY



Kočevska Reka, view from the south, around 1930
Župnijski urad Kočevska Reka

Janez Kozler II was born on 7th June 1780 in Kočevska Reka and was christened on the same day. He was the sixth child of the landowner Matevž Kozler and Helena whose maiden name was Stampfl. It was because of Janez Kozler's accumulation of wealth that the Kozler family is still considered wealthy today. At the beginning he was a peddler and an exotic fruit merchant. In a short period of time he made a

fortune, which he invested into real estate. He became the owner of several estates and houses in Vienna, Ljubljana, Trieste and Rijeka, where his leather factory was located. He also owned the family house in Koče, which represented an important starting point for his children and the whole family. At birth of his first son he bought the castle in Hudi Konec near Ribnica in the Dolenjska region at auction in 1820. He could afford it because he was a privileged merchant in Vienna. In 1848 he also bought Kozler Palace in Ljubljana. Undoubtedly he was one of the wealthiest people in Carniola at the time maybe even the wealthiest. After his death he left his heirs 800,000 florins in cash. Janez Kozler II was also known as an expert for installation of water cisterns. Because of his knowledge and credits he was a member of Kranjska kmetijska družba (Carniola agricultural society) in Ljubljana since 1834. He died on 23rd February 1864 because of gangrene on his leg. He was buried in the family tomb at the cemetery Sv. Križ in Ljubljana.



Unknown author, Janez Kozler II (1780–1864), father of Peter Kozler, around 1889, copy of the original by Matevž Langus in MG ML – Mestni muzej Ljubljana privately owned, Hubert Kosler sen., Ljubljana, photo Exportprojekt, 1995

3 KOČE – THE BIRTH VILLAGE OF PETER KOZLER



KOČE IN KOZLER'S TIME

The village Koče is a Gottscheer village and in Kozler's time it had 24 numbered houses with 51 building plots and a church of Mary's Assumption. The population grew till 1880, when it reached 129 people.

The village spread along the road that ran in a straight line from north to south. Houses were built on both sides of the road and were serried in the western side of the village. Due to its location the eastern side was divided into smaller parcels of land rounded up by orchards. The southern side of the village concluded with Kozler's house. Above the house, on the hill there was a church. The houses were serried on longitudinal parcels of land right along the road facing it with their narrow sides. Water from the roof was accumulated in cisterns, some of which were located right next to the house, others a bit further away. Outbuildings were located behind the houses followed by gardens and orchards. In the village there were different types of outbuildings such as stable sheds, drying houses, woodsheds, cisterns and water tanks.



Koče, view from the north, around 1930
Gottscheer Gedenkbuch, New York, 1948

THE BIRTH HOUSE OF PETER KOZLER – THE GOTTSCHER HOUSE

Skeleton construction was typical of Gottscheer houses. They were built by German immigrants. Size and architectural composition were similar to residential houses of Slovenian farmers. In the last two centuries stone or brick houses were predominant. They were partially or completely wooden. In the mountains the houses were even stony or wooden. The roofs were steep with timber or tile

roofing. House shape was longitudinal with the hall and kitchen in the middle, a small bedroom and pantry on the right and the main living area called "hiša" (house) on the left. The arrangement of the houses was suited to the territory. There were two types of houses – the ones with the living area above the basement and the others with the living area above the barn. These houses were built on hill slopes. Both types of houses had a barn, a hayrack, a granary, a pigsty and sometimes also a bee house and a well. Many of the typical farmhouses were rather small due to the poor economic situation in the region. Only some of the houses' facades were decorated and some had white rimmed windows.

Kozler's house has many features of a Gottscheer house. Its living area is located above the basement and the lower part is made of stone. The roof is quite steep with tile roofing. The house shape is longitudinal, the facade is not decorated, however, the window edges are accented. Water from the roof used to be collected in the cistern. These are all characteristics of the Gottscheer house.



1 Renovated Kozlers' homestead, photo FAJFAR, Simona. 2014.

THE KOZLER FAMILY

The first owner of the house in Koče was Janez Kozler II. He was married twice. In 1807 he married Marija Seemann, with whom he had 3 daughters. All of them were named Marija. Two of them died in the first year of their life. In 1815 Kozler's first wife died and one year later he married her cousin with same name. They had 3 sons: Janez, Josip and Peter. The family lived in the house in Koče till 1821 when they moved to the castle in Hudi Konec. The most important person for Slovenians is Janez Kozler's youngest son Peter Kozler. He was born in 1824, was married to Marija Zorman and had 5 children, two sons and three daughters named Janez, Peter, Marija, Ema and Olga.



2 Family tree

4 RIBNICA- THE CASTLE COURTYARD



CONNECTION BETWEEN THE KOZLER AND RUDEŽ FAMILIES

The Families Kozler and Rudež are connected by two marriages. Peter Kozler's brother, Janez Kozler married Marija Rudež and the daughter of Peter Kozler, Olga Rudež, first married her cousin Johan Kozler in 1891 and then, because of his early death, Anton Rudež in 1901. Anton Rudež continued the main Rudež family line. The name Rudež is of Slavic origin and comes from the words "ruda" (ore) and

“rudeč” (red). The family originates from the Primorska region. The wealth was based on important administrative jobs, mostly at the counts Cobenzl. The family Rudež bought Ribnica Castle, because of the changed situations (Illyrian Provinces) in 1810. Anton Rudež, who had been the keeper of the castle, bought it for a low price from the count Filip Cobenzl. Ribnica Castle is supposed to have been built by the Ortenburgs. In 1935 it was sold to Yugoslav government and after 1945 it was mainly demolished and burned, however, it was later renovated.



3 The town Ribnica and Ribnica Castle. VAJKARD VALVASOR, Janez. 1679

Olga Kozler was born in the Cekinov grad castle in Ljubljana in 1874, as the youngest child of Peter Kozler and Marija Zorman. Occasionally Janez Kozler, Peter Kozler's brother and his wife Marija also resided at the Cekinov grad castle. Their son Janez and Olga loved each other even as children. They got married in 1891. He died young, because of a heart disease. They had three children. Janez's cousin Anton Rudež, had always, adored Olga. They soon got married and moved to Ribnica Castle. They had three children.



4 Ribnica Castle on postcard. Unknown author. 1907

Olga was a remarkable woman and a good landlady. She was cultured, she liked traveling, skiing, she was interested in botany and history, she also played the piano. She drove one of the first cars in Ribnica and was a passionate hunter. Ribnica Castle was sold after her husband's death in 1935 and the family often went on holiday to Kraljevica. Olga had two villas built for her sons, one in Ugar and one in Ribnica, which after World War II used to be a management building of the company Inles for a longer time. During the war Olga lived with her son in Ribnica and wrote a diary about her everyday routines and a hunting journal. Olga's vivacious life was deeply affected by tragedies: the death of her first husband, who died of heart disease, her son Janez, who died of tuberculosis, her daughter Greta, who was accidentally shot during World War I, her second husband, who died of a disease and her son Anton, who committed suicide.



Olga (1874–1952), the youngest daughter of Peter and Marija Kozler privately owned, Hubert Kosler sen., Ljubljana

5 ORTNEK– THE PEKEL MANOR



THE KOZLERS IN ORTNEK

Ortnek is a dispersed village in a valley. It spreads out along the railway and asphalt road Ljubljana-Kočevje and is surrounded by forest. Away from the village center, there is a group of dilapidating buildings, which used to belong to the Pekel manor. Janez Kozler II. acquired wealth by trading during the Napoleon Wars. He bought a lot of real estate, also the castle in Hudi Konec, where he moved with his family in 1826. With time life in the castle became very uncomfortable, so the family moved to the valley in 1848. There they expanded the old building into a new home called 'Pekel'. Before the castle was built in the previous century a homestead with a mill

used to stand there. It is said that the noise “pka pka pka” of the mill wheels, was heard during the night around the homestead and because of those sounds the manor got the name Pekel (*Hell*). People used the biblical connotation of the name and named two more villages in the vicinity: Vice (*Purgatory*) and Nebesa (*Heaven*). Janez Kozler II left the castle in Hudi Konec to his firstborn son Janez Kozler III, who focused on forest management and built a sawmill on his property. In Ortnek he bought all bankrupt and indebted farms, and accommodated his employees in the houses.



The Pekel Manor, postcard, around 1923
Pokrajinski muzej Kočevje

About a half kilometer away from the manor the municipality of Velike Poljane was situated. It didn't have its own school or parish. The Kozlers often financially supported the municipality and they also had an important role in decision making about building infrastructure in Ortnek (direction of the roads or railways). Their influence extended also to the building of the railway in the Dolenjska region. Janez Kozler III gave away his land for free and this way forced the railway through Ortnek. With that he enabled a faster building of the railway, because the builders wanted to avoid any lawsuits, which would be filed because of the land the farmers didn't want to sell for the sake of the railway. The Kozlers contributed a lot to the municipality of Velike Poljane. They helped build a church, the presbytery and waterworks. They knew how to listen and help financially. Janez III helped at collecting building permits for the presbytery and donated building material from the castle in Hudi Konec for its construction.

Janez III had four children. The youngest named Janez Baptist was left the estate in Ortnek in 1892. He then married his cousin Olga Kozler. They had 3 children: two sons and a daughter. After an early death of Janez Baptist, Olga remarried Anton Rudež. The ownership of the estate was then divided among the children equally. However, the children were under-aged, so the estate was run by the manager Goederer together with the relatives. Olga still had the main role in running the estate. With the purpose of keeping one owner of the estate the ownership was then transferred onto Oskar Kozler.

THE ESTATE IN THE TIME OF OSKAR KOZLER'S OWNERSHIP

The large estates of Oskar Kozler were very dispersed and included 1361,7657 ha of land. The biggest part of the land was located in the Ljubljansko barje swamp, around Ortnek and Karlovica. Most of the estate was covered by forest around Ortnek and Karlovica, but most of farmland was located in the Ljubljansko barje swamp. The main economic activity was forest management – cutting and transporting wood. In 1919 the estate included 5 water-powered sawmills. Oskar then graduated from forestry and made the first plan of forest management for the estate. Because of increased demand, the wood industry spread – different categories of wood were sold to different, domestic and foreign customers. Due to the agrarian reform after World War I, a smaller part of the estate fell into the hands of the surrounding population or the municipality.

In 1927 Oskar married Renata Urbanc the daughter of the wholesaler from Ljubljana. In that year he also rebuilt the Pekel manor in accordance with the bourgeois needs of the time. He installed central heating, electricity and telephone, redecorated the kitchen and other rooms. In front of the castle he planted a beautiful garden with special flowers, a fountain and a garden shed. Outbuildings, barns, storage buildings for farm tools and garages for vehicles also belonged to the manor. Near the manor there was a water sawmill, because a creek flowed between the park and the manor. Oskar had a lot of work with managing the estate and the wood industry, while his wife managed the household.

Relatives were very important to the family. They were deeply aware of their roots and connection. They were a group of people of similar convictions, education and were connected by the professional work and management of the estate. Traditional family hunting was a kind of family meeting. They invited about 30 people and went hunting into their most distant hunting areas. When hunting was over, they cooked goulash from the prey. Christmas was celebrated with Renata's parents in Ortnek and at midnight they went to mass to Velike Poljane. The next day the family got a visit from the Rudež family who came from Ribnica. Relatives also often met at the castle in Hudi Konec, where they had a picnic and discussed their every-day problems.

The principle Oskar followed when employing workers was their diligence and skill. Educated workers had better material positions and did more demanding work. Among those were: manager, teacher, hunting guard, sawmill works manager, and machinist. In Ortnek, Oskar couldn't find educated workers, so he employed them from other Slovenian regions as well from abroad. Some children of educated workers decided to study and were financially supported by Oskar. The estate had permanent and temporary employees. Among the permanent employees were those who worked at the sawmill, hunting guards, managers, servants, farmhands and farmers. They were the main group of employees who made sure the work was done on a daily basis. Temporary employees only worked at the estate when they were needed. Those were: woodcutters, horse wagon drivers, "plank pilers", forest cleaners and extra field farmers. Those workers were organized in work groups depending on the work they did. The wives of those workers also worked on the fields, helped at haymaking or assisted at housework in the manor. Permanent

workers worked 8 hours a day from 7 am until 4 pm with one-hour lunch break. Saturday was also a working day and the working hours of servants and machinists were different because of different nature of their work.

Oskar Kozler practiced two types of payment for the workers: payment on the hour and on the efficiency. Workers received monthly payment. Besides financial payment many of them could also rent apartments or houses with land and for free they got waste wood from the sawmill, overalls and uniforms. The workers were well paid, so if the families carefully handled their income, they could substantially improve their material situation. Workers could also borrow the money from Oskar and buy things on credit at the merchant Urbanc. In case of theft or fraud, members of armed police were called to handle the situation. The working families had three children on average. Depending on the size of a family it moved into a larger or a smaller house. Men went to work and women stayed at home, took care of the children and did the housework. They prepared lunch for their working men every day and when children got older, they went to work as well. Depending on their needs, men also worked in the afternoon to provide extra income.

On special occasions the Kozler family also remembered the children of workers: at confirmation they took over the role of their godparents. On St. Nicholas' Eve, the Kozlers invited the children to the castle, where they gathered with plates and baskets. The following morning those baskets and plates were full with presents such as candy or dried fruit.



5 HRIBAR, M. 2006. The Pekel Manor (Ortnek)



The estate manager Goederer in cooperation with the master Oskar supervised all the work at the estate. Work on the fields was supervised by the agriculture guard. The work itself included different tasks such as: ploughing, bedding, harvesting, hay making, preparation of ice in the ice storage, taking care of the gardens and the surroundings. Work in the forest was supervised by forest guards, who also supervised the hunting fields. They supervised individual areas and received instructions for work in the castle. Oskar himself marked the trees for cutting and the forest guards gave the workers instructions for work, registered workers and helped with measurements for wood management. Work at the sawmill was supervised by the sawmill works manager, who also sold merchandise. Work was divided in to two parts: wood work and taking care of the operation of the steam engine with a turbine and sawmills. The woodwork included carpentering, sawing, processing, drying and selling.

Servants who took care of the family and farmhands who did farm work or transported wood lived in the castle. Servants usually got their instructions from Oskar's wife and farm workers from a special hunting guard. Employees in the castle

wore uniforms: cook, house keeper, "pedentar" who beat carpets, carried bags and served at the table; "ekonom" took care of the groceries; "kučar" or "fijakar" who drove family members; gardener who took care of the park and the vegetable gardens near the castle; farmhands, maidservants and cowmen took care of the livestock and other domestic animals, and also did other agricultural and maintenance work. For these workers, meals were cooked in a special kitchen by the maid. Because of the nature of their work they couldn't be married. This way the Kozlers kept their privacy, and workers could do their work even more conscientiously. Oskar's two children also had their own teacher. When they got older, she would still accompany them to school in Velike Poljane. The children were not supposed to socialize with other village children, because this could lead to unpleasantness between the workers and their employer Oskar. Washing laundry was a part-time job which was mostly done by washerwomen- wives of the workers. In their free time the employees in the castle often visited other workers in the evenings and they also partially blended in the village life. The estate management was situated in the castle, the master and the manager had their own office, where all guards and supervisors came for instructions or consultations.

During World War II Oskar Kozler took over the role of a mediator. He saved destinies of workers and sawmills by maintaining a good relationship with the occupier and materially helping the Partisans at the same time. Life on the estate was very tough during the war, because of the lack of food, and arsons of sawmills and outbuildings. Because of battles and arsons large areas of forest were destroyed.

After the war, all Kozler's assets were nationalized with the agrarian reform in 1946. The family was allowed to stay in the estate manager's house and take only few valuable belongings from the castle. Oskar applied for a public job. Despite his high education he was only able to get work as an appraiser and later as a forest technician. Later work at the sawmill in Ortnek continued for a while, however, in 1952 the sawmill burnt down and was not restored.

6 HUDI KONEC NEAR ORTNEK

THE CASTLE IN HUDI KONEC – ORTNEK CASTLE



The castle in Hudi Konec (Ortnek Castle) was one of the most fortified Ortenburg's castles in the Dolenjska region. It was built on the rocky edge, and was well secured against possible enemies. It consisted of many two-storeyed tracts. It had an atrium courtyard and mighty towers in the corners. The entry to the castle was in the eastern wall and was semicircular. The castle had a bridge with a fence made of stone and also a fence-secured garden. Today the castle is in ruins. The core of the castle design doesn't show Romanic features. A firm residential tower with strong outer walls was built on a ground platform. The castle was probably built in 13th century. At first it had two floors, but later two more floors were added. In the Middle Ages, the tower was built in the wall. The ground plan of the castle is in the shape of a triangle.



6 Ortnek castle, Wikipedia

The castle was first mentioned in 1335. In that year the the Ortenburgs were the owners. In 1418, the Courts of Celje inherited the castle. The next owners were the Habsburgs, who pawned it. In 1462, Jurij Lamberg rented it and in 1544 Jožef and Wolf pl. Lamberg became the owners. The Lambergs kept the ownership until 1589 and then were followed by the Moscons. They owned the property until the middle of 17th century. After that, the Lichtenbergs owned it until 1820, when Janez Kozler II bought it and paid 56 000 florins for it. His family owned the property until the end of World War II.



Old Ortnek Castle, postcard, around 1920
privately owned

The chronicle of Velike Poljane says the last owners were the Kozler family and owned the castle from 1820 to 1948. Janez Kozler was a travelling exotic fruit merchant. When he was travelling on business he passed the castle in Hudi Konec. He liked the castle very much and he decided to buy it in case he got a son. At birth

of his first son, he kept his promise and bought the castle. Janez didn't spend much time at the castle, because he saw the castle mainly as an investment of capital in real estate. When closing the deal, he rented the management of the castle to Matevž Logar, so Logar and his family spent a lot of time at the castle. In his second marriage Janez Kozler had two sons. The Kozler family lived in Koče, but in 1826 they moved to the castle. The chronicle of the Velike Poljane region reports that the castle was the target of the farmers' attack during the revolution. They broke the windows. Around 1881 Kozler moved to the valley, where he had a water mill, which he expanded into a manor known as the Pekel Manor. Reasons for moving were manifold: life in the castle was uncomfortable mainly because of the castle's inaccessibility and high position, there were also economic reasons. Janez Kozler often financially supported the municipality of Velike Poljane. He also donated building material of the castle to the residents of Velike Poljane to build the presbytery. It was built in 1881 and this was the tragic destiny of the castle in Hudi Konec.

7 SVETI GREGOR



PETER KOZLER AS A PATRIOT AND NATIONAL AWAKENER

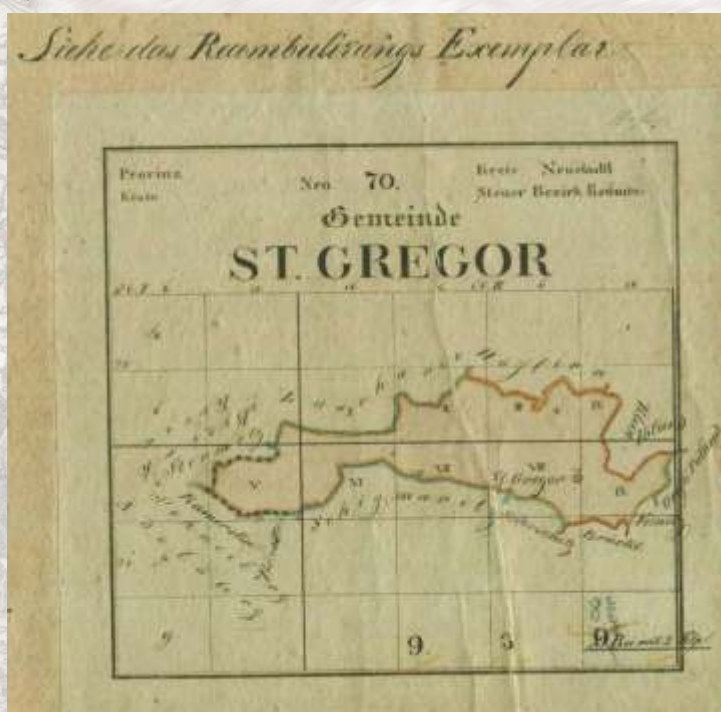
Peter Kozler was a man with great intellectual range. The same as all educated people, he started his educational journey as a young boy. The Kozler family lived in Koče near Kočevska Reka. His family was of Gottscheer German origin and therefore the first language that he learned was German. Until his seventh birthday he didn't know any other language. At that age, his mother sent him to Sv. Gregor near Velike Lašče to be educated by Jakob Jerin, the exposit. He stayed there until October of 1831. Apart from receiving general education (reading and writing) he also learned the basics of Slovene.



Sv. Gregor near Velike Lašče, panorama, around 1907
privately owned

He continued his education in Ljubljana, namely at the ordinary school (1832-1834), then at the four-year grammar (1835-1838) and humanities school (1838-1840). One of his most known teachers was Franz Xavier Heinrich in grammar school and Luka Martinak, the great patriot, in humanities school. All these years, during his education in Ljubljana, Peter stayed with the lyceum professor Janez Kersnik, where his love for the Slovene language and people even strengthened. However, Peter's father wanted him to learn Italian, so the seventeen-year-old Peter continued his journey to Italy, where he studied logic and physics in Padua and Pavia. After he finished his studies in Italy, Peter went to Vienna in 1843 to study law and finished his studies after three years.

He first worked as a probationer at the criminal and civil court. In the revolutionary year 1848 he passed his judicial exam and got a job as a trainee at his Carniola fellow countryman, the Viennese lawyer Dr Ferdinand Župančič. He only held on to the job for a year then he left it and returned home. He became a state employee and worked as a legal scribe in Rovinj and Labin (1850) and as an auxiliary official in Vodnjan (1851).



7 Old map of Sv. Gregor (Gemeinde. St. Gregor)

At first, his political belief and public action didn't interfere with his ambitious career. He was highly qualified, an excellent jurist as well as a polyglot, as he spoke fluent Slovene, German and Italian. He was promoted to the state prosecutor's deputy in Pazin (1851) and Tolmin (1852), and after that to the head of the State Prosecutor's Office in Gorizia (1854). His glamorous career was full of ups, but was also marked by downs. It all started with the publication of the famous Map of the Slovenian Land and Regions (*Zemljovid slovenske dežele in pokrajin*), which deeply

affected his career as a state employee. In 1855, he was reassigned to a lower position of a secretary at the state court in Trieste. The next year he resigned from this job and became a notary in Sežana and worked there until 1863.

His activity as a politician is also worth mentioning. The March Revolution in Vienna in 1848 pulled him into the centre of the Slovenian political life. As a member of the national political society of Viennese Slovenians, he enthusiastically embraced the preparation of the political programme *Zedinjena Slovenija*, which included three important points of the Slovenian national programme: the unification of Slovenians into one country with its own parliament, the implementation of the Slovenian language into offices and schools, and the objection to the incorporation into the German state.

Peter acquired his Slovenian national awareness and patriotism during his education in his youth, first from the exposit Jakob Jerin, and later from the famous lyceum professor of physics Janez Kersnik in Ljubljana. Here he also met the renowned poet France Prešern and became his huge admirer. His love of Slovenia also followed him to Vienna, where he met other Slovenians who lived there. And so Peter Kozler became one of the most passionate fighters for the rights of the Slovenian nation. He worked with many esteemed Viennese Slovenians such as the linguist Fran Miklošič, the linguist and lawyer Matej Cigale and the lawyer Matija Dolenc.

He also fought for Slovenian national demands as a publicist. When he was a student in Vienna, he signed pro-Slovenian articles with the pseudonym P. Slemenski, which he took from the name of the mountain ridge where the village of Sv. Gregor is located. Presumably it reminded him of his youth and also affected his ideas and views. In the revolutionary year 1848 he gave up the pseudonym and started publishing his articles under his real name in the Slovene language.

In the newspaper *Kmetijske in rokodelske novice* he published his idea for the introduction of the Slovene language into administration and schools. He criticized the supporters of the German language in the national assembly. This way he triggered a series of newspaper polemics and open letters about the position of the Slovenian nation and language, and this way achieved his goal. He was also a regular correspondent of the first Slovenian political newspaper *Slovenija*, in which he informed the public about political events in Vienna, sessions of the national assembly. In his essay *Domorodne misli* he discussed cultural and political issues.

In 1849 he published the first open and extensive discussion about the Slovenians in Hungary under the heading *Slovenci na Ogrskim* in four consecutive numbers of the newspaper *Slovenija*. This article was a detailed description of their situation. Apparently, it was the result of his findings in connection with the Map of Slovenian Land and Regions. With his article he wanted to stress the importance of the present-day Raba region.

For the general public he published his patriotic articles in German newspapers. The purpose of all these articles was also to prepare the ground for the upcoming map. One of the articles was entitled *Die Diöcesen in Slovenien und die slowenischen županije und Dekanate in Kärnten*. It was published in the German

newspaper Allgemeine slawische Zeitung. In it, he defined the language border in Carinthia and demanded that deaneries match the municipalities in size. In another known article, Die Slovenen in Italien, published in the weekly magazine Illyrisches Blatt, he wrote about his wish that the Italian Slovenians join the district of Gorizia for strategic and national reasons.

His most important publicist work, which openly stated all his demands, intentions and views regarding Slovenia as an independent country is Das Program der Linken des österreichischen Reichstages mit Rücksicht auf Slowenisch- und Italienisch-Oesterreich (program of the left wing of the Austrian National Assembly regarding Slovenian and Italian Austria). It was a brochure about the delimitation between the German, Slovenian and Italian units of the Austrian state. It was written in 1848, and published in January 1849. It was in German, and without hesitation speaks about Slovenian Austria as a real state, equal to others in nationally federalised Austria. Peter Kozler also participated in implementation of many cultural and public events which were prepared by the Viennese Slovenians. When he was barely 20 years old, he represented Slovenians in the committee for the first Slavic ball, which was held in the Viennese theatre Theater in der Josefstadt.



8 Sveti Gregor on the Slemena mountain ridge

8 KOČEVJE – TOURIST INFORMATION CENTRE KOZOLEC



PETER KOZLER AS AN ECONOMIST

After his father's death in 1864 Peter Kozler left his job as a notary and took over his father's trade with exotic fruit in Vienna. However, he soon sold it and returned to

Ljubljana. In November 1865 he bought the mansion and vast belonging property Cekinov grad in Spodnja Šiška at the outskirts of Ljubljana together with his brothers and his sister. The property had a first-class water source, suitable for production of beer, so in 1866 they decided to build a brewery and founded the company named Kozler Brothers (Bratje Kozler) to secure the assets inherited from his father. The company's starting capital was 246.000 florins which they got by selling father's shop in Vienna.



9 The Cekinov grad castle

On 9th February 1867 the brewery was entered in the commercial register under the name Kozler Brothers – production of beer and alcoholic beverages (Bratje Kozler – proizvodnja piva in alkoholnih pijač). The brewery started its operation in June 1867 and in winter of the same year brewed the first beer which was out for sale at the beginning of 1868. The brewery was run by Peter Kozler. He had an important role in the development of the brewing industry and was therefore posthumously awarded the title of the brewery master by the Brewery Academy in Worms in 1883.

In the beginning the brewery's capacity was 27.500 hl (hectolitres) a year. It was powered by a steam engine and employed 29 workers (farmhands and drivers were not included). Because of the stock market crash in 1873 the company couldn't prosper for a while, even though it sold its products all over the world. The brewery evolved into one of the biggest industrial plants in Carniola. After 1894, when the young generation took over the management, after the death of Janez Kozler III, they changed the name of the company to "J. Kozler jun. & Co". Janez. Kozler jun. (1856- 1933) became the financial manager, and Peter Kozler (1858- 1938) the technical manager, and then the company prospered. In accordance with the trend of industrial companies, the company emerged with other local breweries (Auer's and Perles's in Ljubljana, Stare's in Mengeš, Frolich's in Vrhnika and Ferles's in Kočevje) into stock company "Pivovarna Union d.d." in 1909. Among the owners were also brothers Kozler. Because of the takeover of the Ferles's brewery in Kočevje this part of the city is still today called Pri Unionu.

Pivovarna Union brewery spread quickly and bought all breweries in Carniola. Its nominal value reached 1,000.000 crowns. The brewery was modernized soon after World War I. This quickly increased beer production which reached 116,150 hl in 1925. At the time the brewery employed 26 clerks, 12 foremen and 225 workers. At the same time two more factories were established within the group of the brewery buildings: a spirit plant with annual capacity of 2100 hl, and a yeast plant with annual capacity of 1,800.000 kg. In 1933 the company produced 1,024.130 hl of beer and 3723 t of yeast, employed 450 workers. Till this day it has gone through ups and downs and now produces different kinds of beer, non-alcoholic beverages, refreshing drinks and yeast.



10 The brewery Pivovarna Union; 1927

However, Peter Kozler wasn't only the owner of the biggest brewery in Carniola, but also one of the founders of the Trbovlje mining company (*Trboveljska premogokopna družba*), which was also present in Kočevje because of the opencast mining of brown coal in the location of present-day Lake Kočevje. Peter Kozler was also a member of the board of directors in the Carniola construction company (*Kranjska gradbena družba*) and together with his brother Johann a member of the Carniola banking company (*Kranjska eksomptna družba*). Upon the founding of the stock company National printer's (*Narodna tiskarna*) he was the vice president of the Carniola founding committee (1871) and later a member of the first board of directors (1872). He was one of the leading bankers, promoter of railroad construction, and of progress in agriculture. He advised on the use of manual threshers, and proposed the construction of an agricultural museum as a member of the head committee of the Carniola agricultural Society (*Kranjska kmetijska družba*) in 1871. He also wrote instructions on how to build wells and rainwater containers, and how to accumulate and keep drinking water clean (*Navod, kako naj se napravljajo vodnjaki in kapnice, in pouk, kako naj se nabira, hrani čista pitna voda*).

He also tried his hand in politics. In the regional parliament he was a member of the commission for the care for the mentally disturbed, a member of the land registry committee and a member of the commission for regulation of the land tax between the years 1870 and 1874. He financially supported various societies and he sent free prints of his map to municipality and libraries.

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Family tree:

- Unknown author, Janez Kozler II (1780–1864), father of Peter Kozler, around 1889, copy of the original by Matevž Langus in MG ML – Mestni muzej Ljubljana. Privately owned, Hubert Kosler sen., Ljubljana, photo Exportprojekt, 1995
- Unknown author, Marija Kozler, born Seemann (1796–1879), mother of Peter Kozler, around 1830. Privately owned, Hubert Kosler sen., Ljubljana, photo Exportprojekt, 1995.
- Janez (Johann) Kozler III (1819–1898), the oldest son of Janez Kozler II. Privately owned, Hubert Kosler sen., Ljubljana.
- Josip (Josef) Kozler (1822–1917), son of Janez Kozler II with his wife Antonia. Privately owned, Hubert Kosler sen., Ljubljana.
- Matevž Langus, Peter Kozler (1824–1879), the youngest son of Janez Kozler II around 1850. Privately owned, Hubert Kosler sen., Ljubljana, photo Exportprojekt, 1995.
- Marija Kozler (1836–1927), wife of Peter Kozler. Privately owned, Hubert Kosler sen., Ljubljana.
- Olga (1874–1952), the youngest daughter of Peter and Marija Kozler. Privately owned, Hubert Kosler sen., Ljubljana.

- Marija Mary (1864–1952), daughter of Peter and Marija Kozler.
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- Johann – Giovannin (1856–1933), the oldest son of Peter and Marija Kozler.
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JANEZ KOZLER II – THE FOUNDER OF THE KOZLER FAMILY

KOČE IN KOZLER'S TIME

THE BIRTH HOUSE OF PETER KOZLER – THE GOTTSCHER HOUSE

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Gotenica

Koče



Kočevska Reka

Štalcerji

ABOUT THE PROJECT

The informative Guidebook of Kozler's Route was formed within an extensive intersubject project at Gimnazija in srednja šola Kočevje in the school year 2014/15. The students of three different education programmes (grammar school, economic school, salesperson) participated in the project and several subjects within each programme. Considering the demands of the curricula of individual programmes the mentor teachers prepared project assignments for different groups of students who co-designed the common final product: tourist product Kozler's Route. This apart from already mentioned informative guidebook in Slovene and English also includes a trifold brochure with an informative map in both languages, an exhibition about the brewery Pivovarna Union and the students' work on the project. The students prepared presentations for the stops on the route, performed as tour guides on the excursion Kozler's Route and this way added practical value to the tourist product.

The students and their mentors have invested a lot of time and energy into this project and we managed to reach our ambitious goal by successful cooperation. We would like to thank the regional museum Kočevje and the Municipality of Kočevje for all their help and support. We hope that the excursion and the reading materials about Kozler's Route will bring you new insight in the uniqueness of our hometown and encourage you to become even more proud of it.

Ana Mihelič,
project coordinator