Due to specific geographical and nature conditions vegetable growers in the territory of Nemunas Delta, northern part of East Prussia, formed a unique agrarian culture.

Local inhabitants of Pakalnė Village were involved in different business activities: the men were mainly fishing and women grew vegetables in the fertile soil with rewording big harvests.

Specific vegetable growing system was developed in this territory. Broad beds of 0.75 m height were formed in early spring to grow together vegetables of several types: carrots, beets, pumpkins, rutabagas with especially valued onions. Potatoes and cabbages were grown separately.

The vegetables were adequately prepared for selling: packed in the reed that grew by the riverside of the Nemunas.

The specific garden market system was developed in the 18th–19th centuries. Vegetables were brought to the town markets by sail boats. Regular steam-boats started to operate at the beginning of the 20th century.

Vegetable growing was a profitable business that allowed to preserve stability in the village.

This effective system operated up to Second World War and later was destroyed by the Soviet occupation. Its former existence has been recorded in historical written sources.

Title of the related panel: Edible Gardens in Rural and Urban Contexts - practices, produce, gender and roles of garden cultivation 1650-1950

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