THE CONSERVATION AREA AND THE REGISTRED LANDSCAPE

Lecture 7. Inventory and evaluation of landscape

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There is a legislative definition of **landscape values** suggesting that they encompass **ecological, esthetical, and cultural values** of the area as well as natural elements developed by forces of nature or as a result of human activity. It is assumed that cultural landscape values include <u>physiognomic features (material value)</u>, which stem from the using natural conditions for creating cultural values, and <u>non-material</u> knowledge about the society that created the landscape.

Moreover, definition of landscape protection provides additional information about landscape valuing. According to the European Landscape Convention, this term covers "actions to conserve and maintain the **significant or characteristic features** of a landscape so as to guide and harmonise changes within social, economic and environmental processes". Approximate scope of assessment criteria is defined by initial information on listing landscapes that have significant characteristic features with high level of aesthetics and harmony.

On the other hand, legislative definition of **landscape protection** covers preservation of characteristic features of a specific landscape, however, as identification of 'characteristic features' is not specified in executive documents, the definition is practically of little avail. Landscape assessment is based on comparing characteristic features of the assessed area and applying appropriate assessment criteria.

Natolin Park in Warsaw, Poland, photo © K. Palubska

Inventory and analysis: understanding of values – UNESCO guidelines

This stage of the process describes the landscape and the factors influencing it – environmental, historical, social, cultural and economic. These data should be analyzed to determine the significant values in the landscape. The conclusion of this stage is a concise statement of heritage values which clearly identifies the outstanding universal values in the defined landscape. Taking a logical, step-by-step approach to landscape analysis and assessment provides a sound foundation for management and is essential for achieving conservation outcomes.

It is important to:

- gather and analyze data about the landscape and its values and describe landscape characteristics – both tangible and intangible,

- document existing site conditions and management,

- define landscape boundaries and identify linkages to the regional context,

- evaluate outstanding universal value and other areas of significance through comparative analysis,

- assess authenticity and integrity, and universal value.

This list is a sequence of integrated analyses designed to lead to an understanding and documentation of a landscape's outstanding universal value – in particular to identify the landscape values and the attributes that represent those values. Any one of these analyses taken individually is not sufficient. Consequently, it is important to keep the entire sequence of analyses in mind when reviewing the case studies that are intended to illustrate only part of the overall landscape analyses. The information gathered during this phase is the foundation for assessing the landscape's significance.

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The research methods for gathering and analyzing cultural landscape information are both complex and site-specific, so it is recommended to use other references for more detailed guidance.

General steps to include:

(1) Identify major themes and important historic periods associated with the landscape to identify associated features and characteristics. The purpose of detailed historical research is to assist in understanding how the landscape components relate to each other in time, space and functional use. Historical research will also help identify how activities and processes (political, economic, technological, social and cultural) relate to the landscape and its features over time, who was involved, and what were the most important landscape-shaping events.

(2) Examine the spatial context and relationships among landscape features and characteristics; consider features as components of the broader cultural landscape. For example, the loss of any one natural or cultural component may reduce the significance others, or indeed the site as well as the whole.

(3) Document the landscape and its features by map, survey or other record of location, description, condition, and threats based on a field assessment. Aerial and satellite photography, as well as recording present conditions, will also assist in revealing patterns of former use. This documentation (where culturally appropriate) creates a permanent record to use for management decisions and establishes a baseline for future reference.

Castle in Janowiec, Poland, photo © K. Palubska

Characteristic features

Characteristic features determine landscape class, condition, and type.

- The landscape class is determined by spatial factors, e.g. landform or land cover.

- The landscape condition is determined by historical factors, e.g. time-based, dependent on civilisation development.

- The landscape type is determined by the function of a specific area. (Palubska K., 2016)

Table 1. Taxonomy of landscape concept (based on Bajerowski).[31]

Landscape		
Class - spatial aspect	Condition - historical aspect	Type - functional aspect
coastal, dune, mountain, river etc.	primeval, natural, cultural, destroyed	forest, agricultural, urban, industrial, recreational etc.

Characteristic features also concern such concepts as **typicality and uniqueness** of a landscape, assuming that landscape typical for a specific local or regional area can become unique at national or even European level.

Hence, the scale of assessed landscapes becomes an important evaluing aspect.

Such approach is deeply rooted in hierarchy of spatial development, which is considered to be the most proper and comprehensive tool for protecting cultural landscape and it comes in three scales: national, regional, and local.

Kazimierz Dolny, Poland, photo © K. Palubska

Features and characteristics of a landscape – UNESCO guidelines

Features and characteristics of a landscape that are important in representing the heritage value of the landscape include:

- land patterns (overall arrangement and interrelationship of forests, meadows, water, topography, built components and other larger landscape components);

- landforms (natural hills, valleys, slopes, plains, geomorphology such as ridgelines, cliffs and coast lines and exposed rock formations and other topographical features; as well as terraces, embankments, and other human engineered topographical changes to the underlying ground plane);

- spatial organization (arrangement in three dimensions of a landscape's component elements, their relationship to each other and their relationship to the overall landscape;

- vegetation and other natural resources and ecological systems (trees, shrubs, herbaceous plants, grasses, vines and other living plant material; forests, woodlands, meadows, planted and fallow fields; individually important plants such as a specimen tree or an avenue of exotic trees; other natural resources such as wildlife, and ecological systems that represent heritage values).

Many landscapes have also intangible associations with these features and components, such as traditional ceremonies, stories and oral traditions about the place, and it is important to identify these associative values as part of the inventory process.

Analisis of topografic covers of Janowiec Podlaski, © A. Wolska
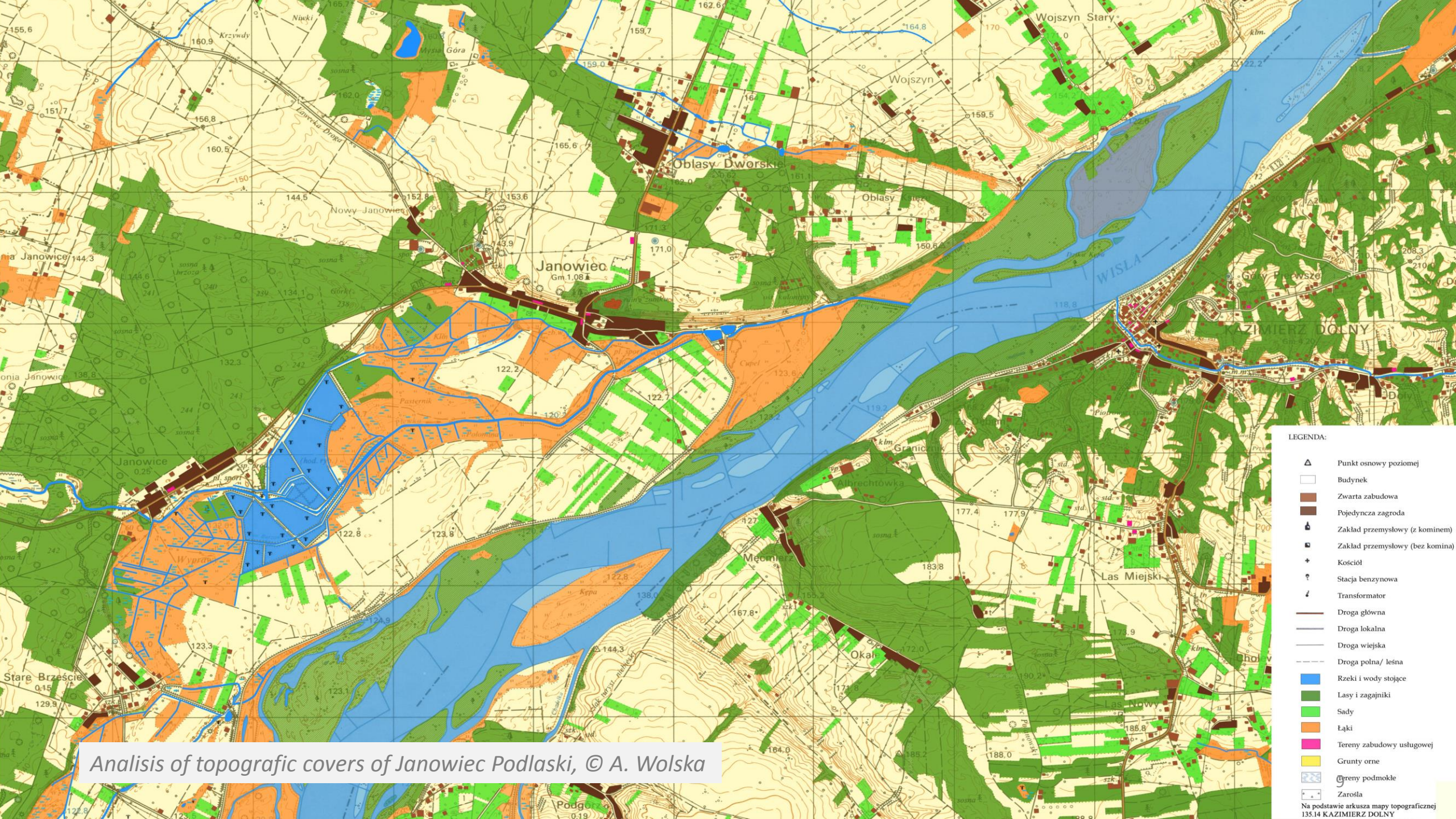
LEGENDA:

- △ Punkt osnowy poziomej
- ▢ Budynek
- Zwarta zabudowa
- Pojedyncza zagroda
- Zakład przemysłowy (z kominem)
- Zakład przemysłowy (bez komina)
- Kościół
- Stacja benzynowa
- Transformator
- Droga główna
- Droga lokalna
- Droga wiejska
- Droga polna/ leśna
- Rzeki i wody stojące
- Lasy i zagajniki
- Sady
- Łąki
- Tereny zabudowy usługowej
- Grunty orne
- Tereny podmokłe
- Zarośla

Na podstawie arkusza mapy topograficznej
135.14 KAZIMIERZ DOLNY
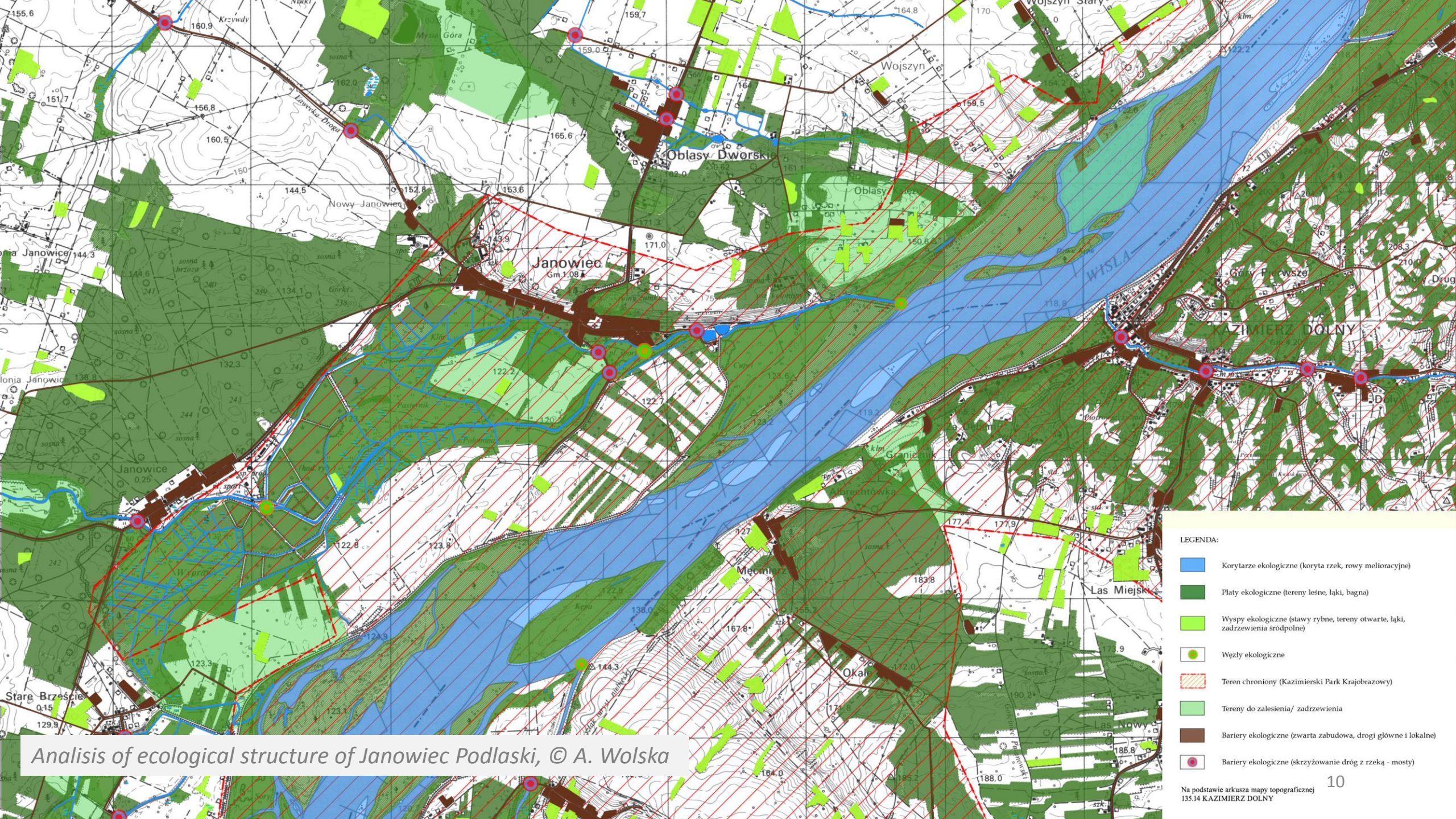
Analisis of ecological structure of Janowiec Podlaski, © A. Wolska

LEGENDA:

- ▬ Korytarze ekologiczne (koryta rzek, rowy melioracyjne)
- ▬ Płaty ekologiczne (tereny leśne, łąki, bagna)
- ▬ Wyspy ekologiczne (stawy rybne, tereny otwarte, łąki, zadrzewienia śródpolne)
- ● Węzły ekologiczne
- ▨ Teren chroniony (Kazimierski Park Krajobrazowy)
- ▬ Tereny do zalesienia/ zadrzewienia
- ▬ Bariery ekologiczne (zwarta zabudowa, drogi główne i lokalne)
- ◉ Bariery ekologiczne (skrzyżowanie dróg z rzeką - mosty)

Na podstawie arkusza mapy topograficznej
135.14 KAZIMIERZ DOLNY

10

Aspects that are taken into consideration in cultural landscape assessment

- landscape <u>form</u> – aesthetic value,
- landscape <u>content</u> – information, historic, integration, symbolic value,
- landscape <u>function</u> – economic value.

Whereas **landscape form** determines its mutual relations, e.g. composition, condition in which next stages of area development and planning are preserved, **landscape content** consists of information about the environment as well as about regional culture, i.e. identity which stems from characteristic language schemata and patterns. Additionally, landscape meaning consists also of historic values, i.e. evidence of tradition, historic events, and pace of changes occurring in a specific place. Moreover, cultural landscape content is influenced by symbolism and uniqueness of landscape, which attach values integrating people with landscape by creating a sense of identity and a so called 'familiarity.'

In practice, we always deal with complex landscapes that combine different types in terms of form, content as well as function. (Palubska K., 2016)

The main categories of cultural landscape evaluation

- natural features (biotic and abiotic elements of a landscape),

- historical and political features (anthropogenic elements such as property boundaries, administrative divisions, political systems, legal and administrative systems)

- social and economic features (anthropogenic elements such as settlement systems, forms of ownership, social structure of residents),

- cultural and aesthetic features (non-material aspects of a landscape: construction models, architectural styles, tradition, inventions, symbolic culture - customs, beliefs, religion).

Variable relation has been confirmed by analysis of over 50 landscape studies conducted in Europe. It shows that more than 50% is based on identifying landscape type by applying nature criteria (considered to be the most objective ones), less than 30% - by applying social and economic and technical criteria, and only a few percent use cultural and aesthetic criteria (recognized as the most subjective in judgement).

Furthermore, it has been noticed that the more frequent application of anthropogenic criteria made automated criteria impossible. Thus, experts applied intuitive interpretation and assessment of values. It confirms that the more accurate the scale of study is, the more frequently subjective criteria are applied in comparison with objective criteria. (Palubska K., 2016)

# Analysis and cultural landscape value assessment model (based on U. Myga-Piątek 2012, in: Palubska K., 2016).

Criteria groups	Detailed criteria	Description of value
Use value	economic value	Landscape is used according to its innate nature values; traditional ways of area use are predominant; landscape use is a basic form of income for mankind
	financial value	
Information value	content	Landscape is a carrier of complex information, which unambiguously identifies a specific element or feature
	antiquity	
	historicity	
	authenticity	
	representativity	
	uniqueness	
	difference	
Aesthetic value	nobility	Landscape is a source of aesthetic feelings attributed to spatial composition values; most frequently it refers to visual assessment
	beauty	
	harmony	
	naturalness	
	diversity	
Emotional value	familiarity	Landscape evokes particular emotional states in a person; as a result of landscape perception, strong bonds between a person and a place are created; features usually concern aesthetic and symbolic values
	tradition	
	identity	
Symbolic value	symbolism	Landscape represents features that illustrate deeper meaningful levels of the content; ambiguous prosperities which allow recipients to interpret landscape in their own, unrestricted way
	sacrum	
	genius loci	

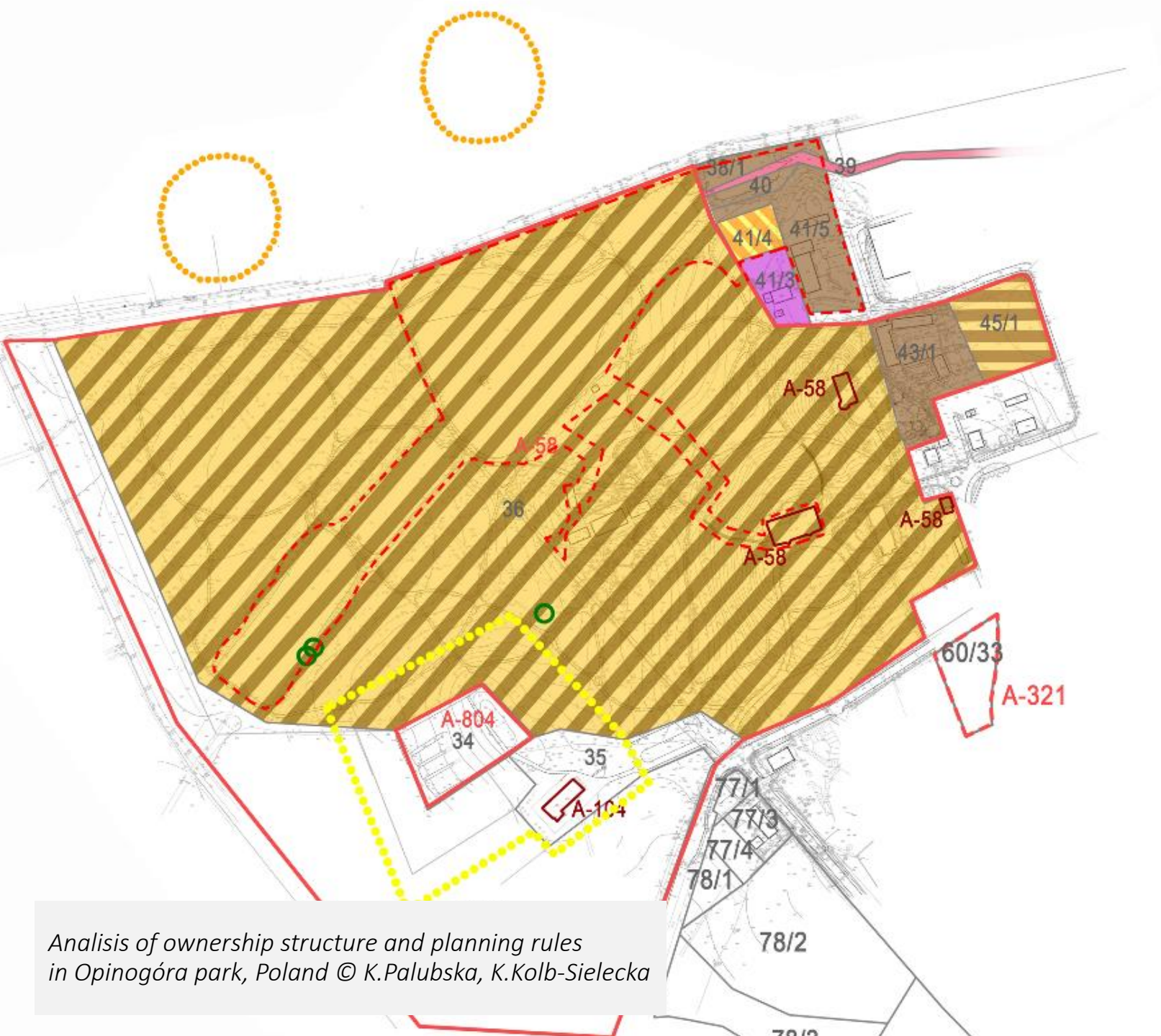# Objective and subjective criteria and the scale of the landscape

The diagram shows relations of identified and valued features depending on spatial scale of a study. This relation intuitively indicates that the greater the scale of the identified landscapes is, the more significant natural, especially abiotic features are, e.g. soil type, climate, hydrographical conditions. Moreover, the more the scope of study (location scale) is narrowed, the more important cultural (anthropogenic) factors become. (J. Solon 2013)

The local scale is recommended individual method worked out on the basis of field studies and historical analysis, which takes more important than universal criteria of evaluation on a wider scale recommended by ELC. (Palubska K. 2016)
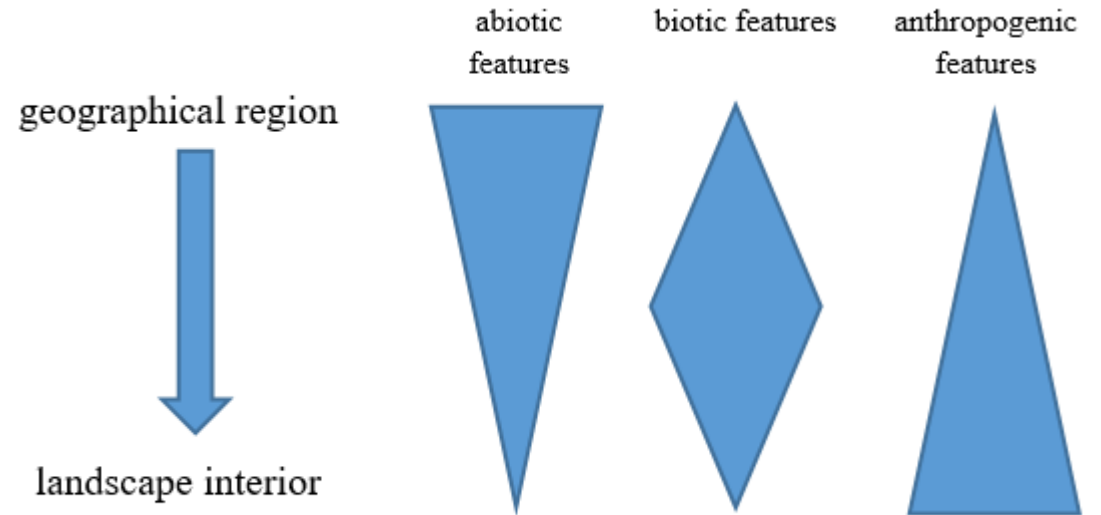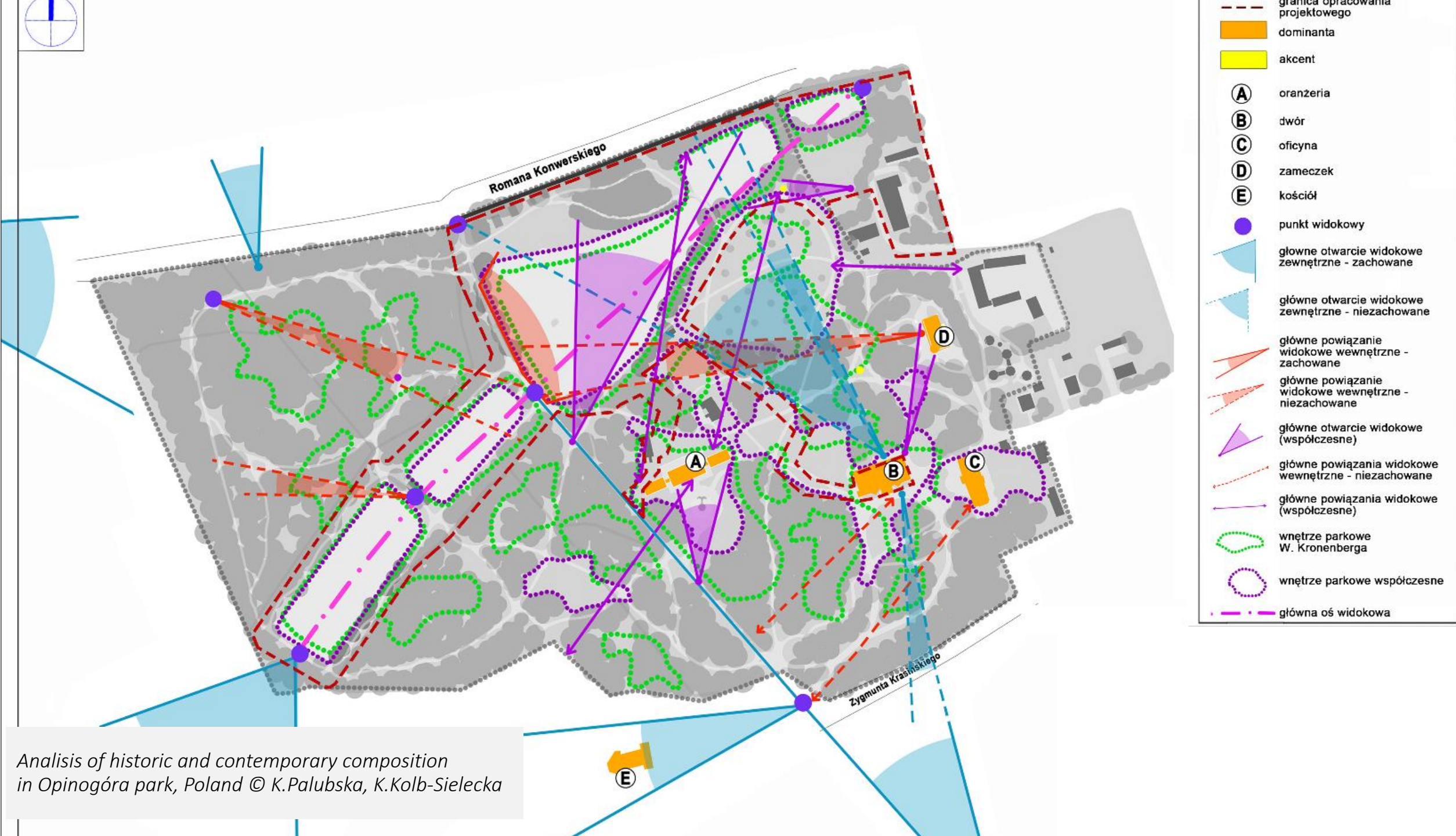
Analisis of historic and contemporary composition in Opinogóra park, Poland © K.Palubska, K.Kolb-Sielecka

Legend:

granica opracowania projektowego

dominanta

akcent

(A) oranżeria

(B) dwór

(C) oficyna

(D) zameczek

(E) kościół

punkt widokowy

główne otwarcie widokowe zewnętrzne - zachowane

główne otwarcie widokowe zewnętrzne - niezachowane

główne powiązanie widokowe wewnętrzne - zachowane

główne powiązanie widokowe wewnętrzne - niezachowane

główne otwarcie widokowe (współczesne)

główne powiązania widokowe wewnętrzne - niezachowane

główne powiązania widokowe (współczesne)

wnętrze parkowe W. Kronenberga

wnętrze parkowe współczesne

główna oś widokowa

LEGENDA

- - - - - granica opracowania projektowego

FORMY WŁASNOŚCI:

- własność Skarbu Państwa
- własność województwa mazowieckiego
- własność Muzeum Romantyzmu w Opinogórze Górnej
- własność prywatna
- własność gminy Opinogóra Górna

FORMY WŁADANIA:

- użytkowanie wieczyste: Muzeum Romantyzmu w Opinogórze Górnej
- dzierżawca: Muzeum Romantyzmu w Opinogórze Górnej
- trwały zarządca: Szkoła Podstawowa w Opinogórze Górnej

41/3 numer ewidencyjny działki

FORMY OCHRONY PRAWNEJ:

- obszar/zespół wpisany do rejestru zabytków
- obiekt wpisany do rejestru zabytków
- prawdopodobne granice wpisu zespołu do rejestru zabytków

A-804 numer obszaru/zespołu w rejestrze zabytków

A-104 numer obiektu w rejestrze zabytków

○ pomnik przyrody

FORMY OCHRONY MPZP:

- strefa ochrony sanitarnej wyznaczona przez MPZP
- strefa ochrony konserwatorskiej wyznaczona przez MPZP - stanowisko archeologiczne

Analisis of ownership structure and planning rules in Opinogóra park, Poland © K.Palubska, K.Kolb-Sielecka

Two main concepts of landscape evaluation

- **Universal assessment - a**scribing values to selected landscape features, aims at setting values according to survey description approach.

- **Landscape valorisation** is understood as classification used for different purposes and is universally applied as, e.g. a tool for making planning decisions, which facilitates selection of the best variant of using elements of the environment (used in, e.g. reports on and evaluation of the influence of investments on the environment). The value of a specific segment depends on its aesthetic values, physical features as well as on the intended purpose and way of <u>using it in accordance with social needs and legal constraints</u>.

Consequently, whereas universal methods applied in landscape valuing aim at assessing attractiveness of selected area units, methods orientated towards particular undertakings valorise landscape in terms of their usefulness for a specific function/investment.

Partially, valorisation methods compile utilitarian value assessment methods and investment appraisal methods. They are based on <u>superior criteria</u> that determine performance of <u>preferred functions</u> (use, ownership forms, planning determination etc.). Only at the next stage, do the said methods assess values of a specific landscape which are recognized as <u>subordinate criteria</u> <u>determining function type/specificity</u>.

Landscape evaluation method – example

Valorisation of suitability of Warsaw Fortress's objects to recreational functions (Palubska K., 2009)

OVERRIDING CRITERIA CONDITIONING RECREATIONAL FUNCTIONS	SUBORDINATE CRITERIA FOR UNDERCONDITIONING TYPE OF RECREATION		
SUITABILITY OF INVESTMENT	**HISTORICAL VALUE**	**NATURAL VALUE**	**ADDICTIONAL**
➢WAY OF USE ➢TRANSFER OF FUNCTION – SPACIAL CONDITION ➢FORM OF OWNERSHIP ➢AVAILABILITY OF AREA (NO MILITARY)	➢SPECIAL VALUE (UNIQUE) ➢LEVEL OF PRESERVATION ➢LEGIBILITY OF STRUCTURE AND SYSTEM	➢CHARACTER OF COVER ➢DIVERSITY OF COVER ➢SIZE OF AREA ➢LINKS WITH OTHER OPEN / GREEN SPACES	➢TRANSPORT ACCESSIBILITY ➢SURROUNDINGS ➢THREATS
14 features deciding	11 features deciding	13 features deciding	8 features deciding

Social research - aesthetic evaluation of 19th c. forts in Warsaw, Poland (Palubska K., Melaniuk K., 2009)
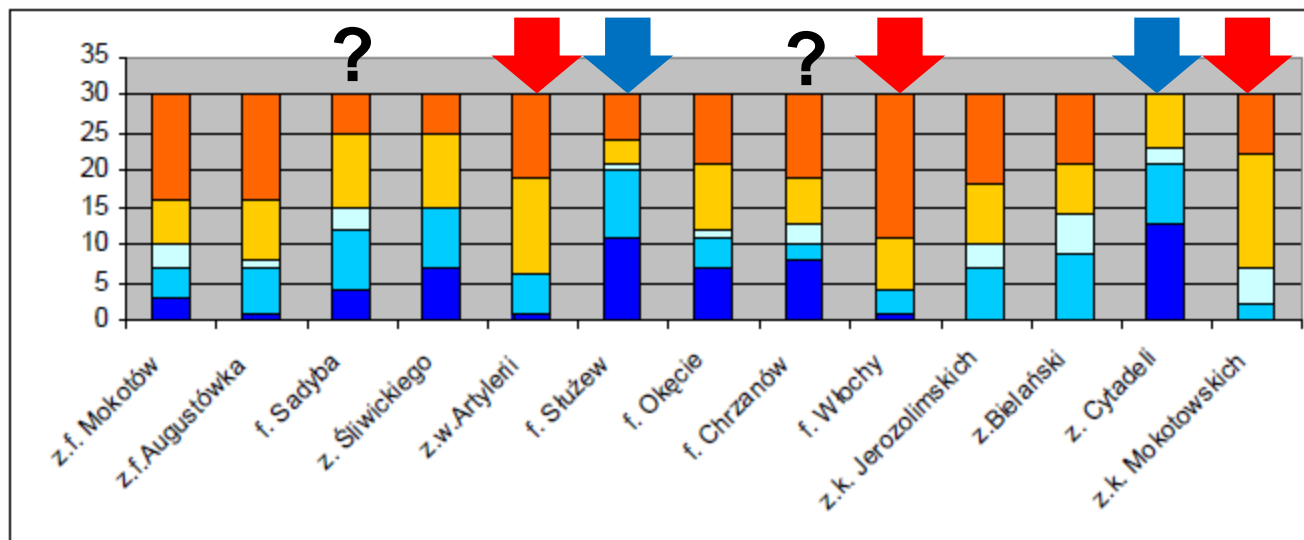

*Fort Parysow in Warsaw, Poland, photo © K. Palubska*

Social research - emotional evaluation of Warsaw Fortress
(Palubska K., Melaniuk K., 2009)
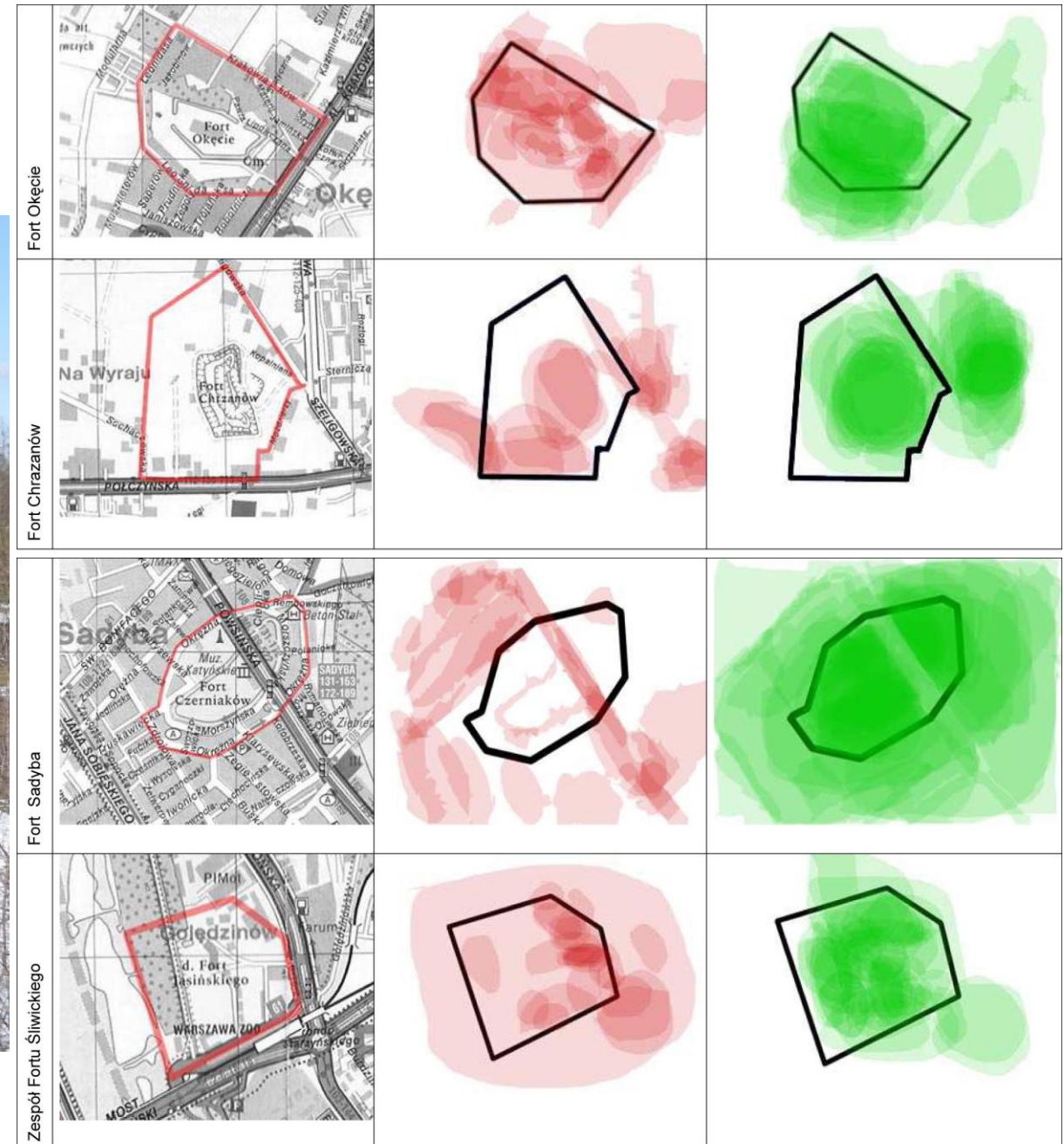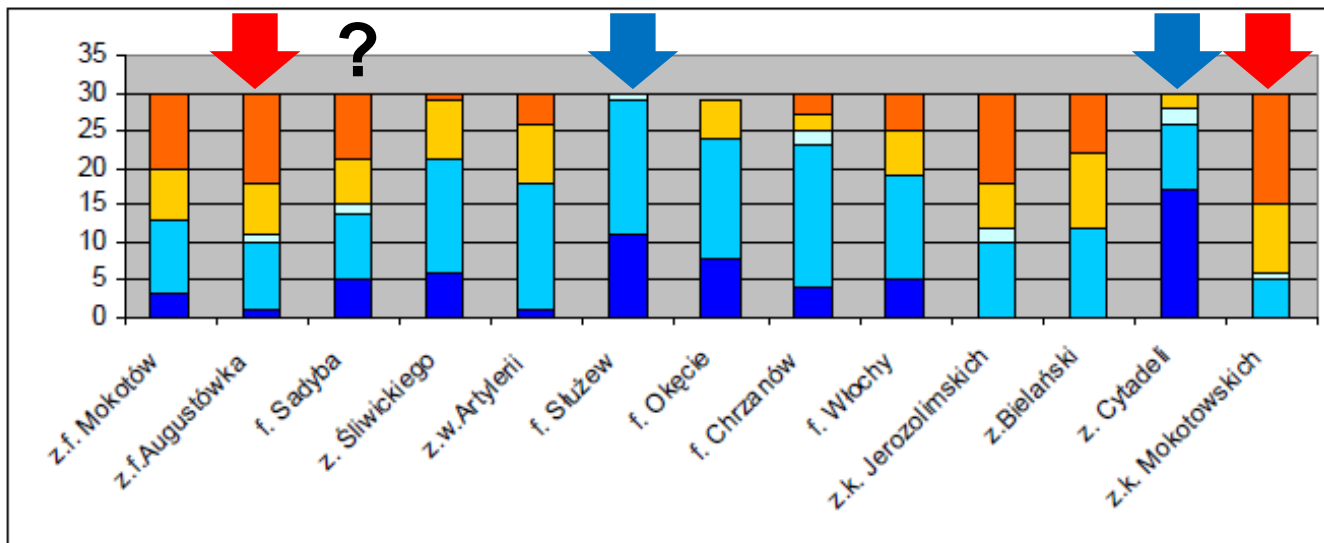
Wykres 21. Wiedza na temat historii badanego terenu (?Czy Pan/Pani zna historię tego terenu/co tu się kiedyś znajdowało?")

Wykres 24. Wiedza na temat przynależności badanego terenu do systemu Twierdzy Warszawa („Czy wie Pan/Pani, że teren, o którym rozmawiamy, jest częścią większego systemu obejmującego całą Warszawę?")
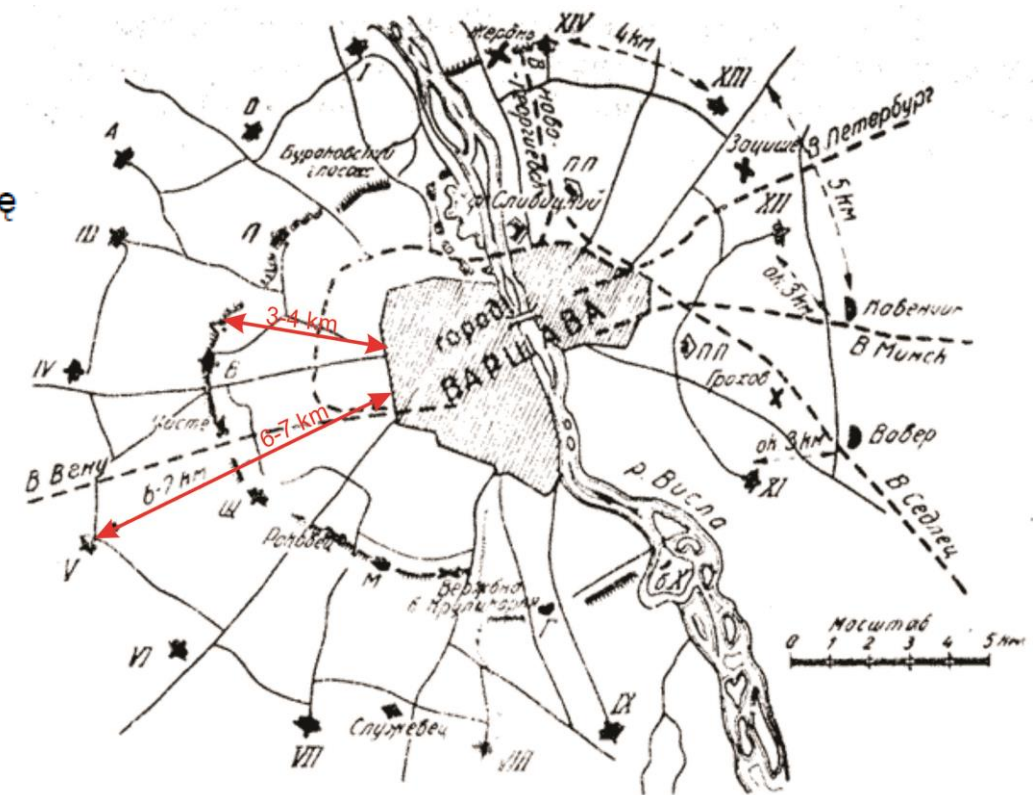
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- Palubska K., Melaniuk K., 2009. Project of the protection plan for the cultural park of the 19th century fortifications complex of the Warsaw Fortress, a scientific and conservation study commissioned by the Municipal Office of the Capital City of Warsaw. Print

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