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COMPOSITIONAL VALUES OF THE ZAMOŚĆ FORTRESS AS SEEN FROM THE RIVER BOULEVARDS

The Zamość fortress has been an object of careful study for a long time. Academics from different fields of knowledge and of various affiliations discussed the origins of the urban distribution of the Town and its architectural substance, invariably critically observing and interpreting the archeological and architectural findings. However, the problem of interrelation between the town and, generally, waterscape has not received its full attention. The context of water has impacted different aspects of city life. Zamość is not excluded from that general tendency. The authors of the Renaissance treaties such as Scamozzi, Cataneo, Filarete, Martini, to name a few, mentioned a very important connection of built environment with the surrounding landscape, even though the ideal, radial, orthogonal forms of *urbs* they proposed were sometimes merely utopian attempts to tame the vibrant, constantly changing “organism of *civitas*”. The form of the fortress, however inspired and drawn from the famous Italian treaties, if planned for actual creation, had to conform to real physiographic conditions. The town started to open to the landscape by means of different architectural elements. Jan Zamoyski, together with his architect, Bernardo Morando, two ambitious men with vision took the challenge and started building the town which, became a symbol of Renaissance ideals of universality, harmonious proportion and “sincere bow” to natural landscape. The consecutive architects of the town, over the centuries, together with the next Zamoyski family members, continued to shape the town. Over the years, the town had evolved and altered its form, confronting challenges of militarization period of XIX c., then, after demilitarization of 1866, demolish of substantial amount of its architectural substance and gradual restoration of its compositional value. Local Revitalization Programme 2017-2023 and recently introduced Municipal Revitalization Programme 2023-2030 has been carrying on this torch of spatial and social progress. The paper aims to present historical value of the spaces surrounding the Zamość fortress from the south and their key importance in forging a town brand that would be recognised worldwide. Two fragments of the Łabuńka River Boulevards were compared, under physical, urban/compositional, social criteria in order to diagnose specific needs of the terrain and its users. The analysis has practical dimension as the two boulevards and their surrounding are situated within the boundaries of a degraded area of the Town, delimited in the Municipal Revitalization Programme 2023-2030. The Promyk district,

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situated to the south – east of the Old Town is, predominantly, a single – family residential area with its main recreational space being the boulevards.

Keywords: Zamość, fortress, boulevard, brand, composition, riverscape

1. INTRODUCTION

The beauty of urban landscape is manifested by harmonious composition of its different elements. Necessary for the understanding of that beauty is a certain perspective from which the city might be perceived and experienced. General image of the space relies on a series of visual impressions gathered along a continuous pathway within the space. Linear interiors usually have various levels of dynamism while being experienced on the way. There is a direct correlation between the perception of space and the quality and a variety of urban stimuli present in an interior. The mode of arrangement of elements, proportion, curves or straight lines of pathway. The Old Town of Zamość, enclosed with XIX century fortification system (as such, it was included in The UNESCO World Heritage List of Monuments in 1992 and awarded The Historical Monument status) together with their immediate natural and built context form a unique, cultural landscape which deserves the highest standard preservation and thought – over promotion. The analysis of this papers, however, narrows down to the Łabuńka river area, namely, the south and south – east of the fortress most immediate context, which is, administration wise, a part of the Promyk district.

Two terms, in relation to the analysis of a given terrain, have to be presented and explained. Priority landscape and cultural landscape. By definition:

- priority landscape is a type of space which is particularly precious for the society due to its unique natural, cultural, historical, architectural, urban, rural, visual-compositional values which has to be preserved in its original form or specific rules of conditions have to be created to preserve it;
- cultural landscape – a space historically shaped by human interference, with visible outcomes of human civilization and the presence of natural elements. Dz.U. RP, 10.06.2015, poz. 774 [Myczkowski, Marcinek, Siwek 2017].

2. HISTORICAL OVERVIEW OF THE ZAMOŚĆ FORTIFICATION SYSTEM, FORTUNATE LOCATION

2.1. Renaissance demands for landscape

Humanistic approach to architecture in the Renaissance era instilled various comparisons of buildings and their elements to the proportions and fragments of human body. Though far-fetched it may appear, it was observed that, in Zamość, there had

been tight, meaningful spatial relations between the public buildings and the elements of fortifications. A vast degree of symbolism present both in the urban layout, architectural plans and ornamentation was supposed to elevate physical form to the highest quality and resistance to time. In the Middle Ages period human dwellings were built to the inside, “carved out” from the landscape, with the strategic aim to provide safety and stability. They were dependent on the terrain and natural features but did not enter into any relations with them. Renaissance opened the estate to the view. Younger Vasari postulated having three kinds of estates at their disposal: one within the urbs, another one on the suburbia, and the third being somewhere in the countryside landscape. The Zamość fortress was a pioneering structure of the XVI century Polish estates since it followed the Italian, demanding in their exact universality, urban order and rules of those times. An observable degree of universality facilitated the understanding of space. Jan Zamoyski aimed at creating an urban space which would facilitate municipal commune to execute their duties regarding work. He wanted them to be autonomous and self – governing. Moreover, he endowed them with a plot of land to carry out their duties as craftsmen and tradesmen as well as exempted them from paying rents for the twenty – five years. The urban municipality was planned to follow the provisions of the Magdeburg laws which means that the citizens were able to hold weekly markets and take part in fairs, established at exact times of a year (three times a year). Within the establishment of the town, Stephan Bathory excluded its territory from the jurisdiction of Polish law. The city was based on asymmetrical hexagonal plan, due to differentiated terrain conditions. The town had a very clear distribution of space with the key terrain of the castle, the “weapon ground” [Zarębska] or, “a place of concentration of spiritual and intellectual life” [Kowalczyk (ed.) 1980] and the merchants’ domain – with a central, representational great piazza space. The first historical data of spatial plans for Zamość reveal the presence of three main market spaces situated alongside of the northern – south compositional axis. Citta Di fortezza, residence of the founder was interconnected with the *urbs*.

2.2. Natural elements that shaped the fortress

In place of the Skokówka castle, on the hill between the rivers Wieprzec and Kalinowica [...]. I have decided to build another new castle of stone and brick on the adjacent solid ground, opposite the old castle, around the pond causeway, and to build and equip a temple there for the glory of God [*Przywilej lokacyjny Zamościa*].

Two dominant functions were stated in the location act, namely, Zamość as a fortified Town, a shelter for the inhabitants of the local villages, settlements, estates circumscribed with a ground embankment and a moat. The second main function, which was strongly articulated in the act related to a strong, reasonable focus on commercial prosperity of the Town – an epitome of Jan Zamoyski’s innovative, but at the same time selfishly driven ambition to put a stamp on his achievements as a prosperous

magnat and successful chancellor, whom he was at the time of Zamość plans for creation. Zamość was also meant to be a dynamically developing Town of craftsmanship and trade. The decision of such a location resulted from the presence of trade router. The founder, Jan Zamoyski, finally, encouraged people of various nationalities to come to the newly established urbs and settle there for the mutual purpose of development and augmentation of wealth. Therefore, he dealt with the King Stefan Bathory to introduce fixed time of fairs and markets as well as guarantee privileges with the aim of facilitating the newcomers a successful start in the Town. That clever entrepreneurship of Jan Zamoyski driven him to force *ius empori* in his Town in order to enhance the chances of settlement of those whose diligence in generating steady and solid profit was of highest levels. The smart investment in merchants, craftsmen, tradesmen, practical people of real work and creativity was Zamoyski's true, undoubted success and sheer ambition. A Noble man but, stepping out of sentimental, courseted canons of old nobility, educated outside the Crown (Padova, Paris), open, foreseeing, independent. He even wanted to give this independence to the settlers, regarding judicial matters. The first reports on the number of inhabitants, from 1590', showed 50% of people engaged in craftsmanship out of the total number settlers – 1375 [Feduszka 2021]

The fortress was built on a relatively even terrain adjacent to the river and the great water basin, situated from the south – west. However, the north side differed, topographically, from the south part of the terrain, therefore, the fortification outline diverts from symmetrical, regular order in order to fit into the natural landscape. The form of the fortress is not idealistically rigorous as one might observe in ubiquitous Renaissance Italian treaties of Vasari, Cataneo, Martini, Scamozzi. In the letters of Jan Zamoyski to the lead architect Bernardo Morando, especially the one from 3rd of October [*Archiwum Jana Zamoyskiego* 1904: 367] where Jan Zamoyski asks Mernardo Morando to prepare for him the plans of Zamość. Some alterations to the natural landscape, such as dikes (the one leading to Żdanów, and the other to Poskie – “pod Zdanowem”; “ku Płowskiemu” [Kowalczyk (ed.) 1980] had to be introduced to control the natural water flow and create necessary communication knots. The dike “ku Płowskiemu” was built in 1582-1585, as a consequence, a “Great Lagoon” was formed to safeguard future fortress from the south [Noga, Szczygieł, Żygawski 2024]. Hydrographic conditions of the elevation constantly had to be taken care of, namely, drainage and restoration works introduced. Not until XIX c., after the “Great Lagoon” waters had lowered and the “Little Lagoon” had turned into marshy meadow, was the new channeling for the Łabuńka river created, which surrounded the fortress from the south. Originally, according to the plans prepared by Bernardo Morando, there were built two little bastions in the south – west part of the fortress, at the turn of XVI and XVII but due to marshy terrain of meadows, at the end of XVII, Jan Michał Link modernized it into one big bastion after introducing pole foundations to stabilize the ground underneath it. [Banasiewicz-Szykuła (ed.) 2017]. The end of XIX and the beginning of XX c. brought some changes in the channel of the Topornica river was moved to the west.

3. MUNICIPAL REVITALIZATION PROGRAMME 2023-2030. AIMS FOR BOULEVARD LANDSCAPE ADVANCEMENT

It has been observed that the central spaces of towns and cities have been undergoing some sort of crisis, therefore, revitalization practices are predominantly targeted at the centres of cities, especially those ones which has long history and represent culturally unique, and important urban developments [Jarczewski, Kułaczowska (ed.) 2019].

It is very important to build the institutional capacity of the municipality to perform revitalization actions based on expert knowledge of officials and local leaders in cooperation with external professionals / Ważne jest budowanie zdolności instytucjonalnej gminy do prowadzenia działań rewitalizacyjnych rozumiane jako bazowanie na wiedzy eksperckiej urzędników i lokalnych liderów przy wsparciu zewnętrznych ekspertów [Jarczewski, Kułaczowska (ed.) 2019].

Aims:

- the spaces of boulevards, due to their location near the fortification systems, could play a crucial role in the promotion of Zamość urban landscape unique values;
- creation of functionally differentiated zones alongside the boulevards could attract more groups of people to visit that part of Zamość;
- changes in paving structure of sidewalks and bicycle routes could provide safe, more universal access to the boulevard;
- creation of shadowed spots on the way, distanced within a walking pace from each other.

3.1. Main characteristics of the Programme

The revitalization process of Zamość has been consequently continued since the beginnings of the XXI c. Though the formulated postulates for the introduction of changes were officially included within the Local Revitalization Programme 2017-2023. It encompasses various spheres of intervention: spatial, social, economic. The municipal program is equipped with the schematic map showing specific locations for spatial interventions. These are the projects for completion within an estimated time span. Within the content of The Municipal Programme there are the following points of interest: thorough diagnosis of the types of problems observed in a delimited area of revitalization, the scale and main characteristics of the revitalization needs, the aerial scopes of revitalization districts within the Town. In the mission of Zamość formulated for the Strategy for the development of Zamość for 2020-2030 there is information on the general directions of the arrangement of public spaces around the Old Town.

Within the content of The Municipal Programme there are the following points of interest:

- methodology of establishing degraded and revitalisation areas;
- thorough diagnosis of the types of problems observed in a delimited area of revitalization;
- the scale and main characteristics of the revitalization needs;
- the aerial scopes of revitalization terrains/districts within the Town;
- identification of the potential of the whole Zamość and delimited revitalization terrain;
- strategy for the development of Zamość for 2020-2030.

The Municipal Revitalization Programme 2023-2030 shares common goals with the Spatial Development Conditions and Directions for Zamość [Uchwała nr XXXVIII/565/2021 Rady Miasta Zamość z dnia 29 listopada 2021 r.] in relation to the preservation and further development of cultural heritage of the Renaissance structure of the Town.

Identification and strengthening of the qualities which deliver cultural identity of the town – preserved monuments being examples of world heritage. The study also postulates clarification and rehabilitation of the urban structures which follow Renaissance building canons described in the location act. That aim is to be achieved by restructuring and ordering of urban disposition, shaping a characteristic image of the town and stressing the composition of the Zamość fortress landscape with special care of public and prestige spaces of the central part of the Town, namely, compositional axes, recreational and residential district areas [Gminny Program Rewitalizacji Miasta Zamość na lata 2023-2030].

The study lists three main cultural zones into which Zamość is divided. The revitalization Programme covers some parts of the two out of three zones. Within those three zones there are several structural units, including: The Old Town area and the post – fortification area. Both terrains are the candidates to fall under the protection of the cultural park requirements.

Worth noticing is the fact that Zamość has two types of revitalization programmes which for that region of Poland is very beneficial, especially for the lubelskie region, although the greatest number of cities with revitalization programmes are situated in the southern and south – western parts of Poland [Jarczewski, Kułaczowska (ed.) 2019].

3.2. Guidelines for compositional, aesthetical characteristics of the overall surroundings of the fortress as stated in the Programme

The Programme describes the existing situation of the green areas located to the south of the fortress as well as the residential district of Promyk with Schwabisch

Hall Boulevard. The arrangement of the boulevard with recreational facilities is insufficient. The description of the existing situation, as provided in the Programme, is as follows:

In the southern part of the revitalized area, The Łabuńka river floats through the area. It is the main river of Zamość. On both sides of the river, there are pavements where, within the edges of Lipska St. and H. Sienkiewicza St. Schwabisch Hall Boulevard (Schwabisch Hall is one of the Twin Cities of Zamość) was created. Some of the squared area of the Promyk district is covered with garden allotments as well as green areas which are connected to the fortress green areas [Gminny Program Rewitalizacji Miasta Zamość na lata 2023-2030].

One of the characteristics of that type of document is its substantially general statements. In order to formulate specific directions for the project or diagnose the problems occurring in the area, research studies related to specific terrain have to be executed. Therefore, research studies that tackle very concrete problems of public spaces providing carefully analysed and carried out research feedback could serve as a complementary amount of data to the Programme, the tool and specific guidelines for future public investments. The second strategic aim refers to the area of boosting the Town potential and the amount of resources. The Programme states that one of the examples of the potential is cultural heritage of the Old Town. However, the location of events provided in the Programme relates to the interior parts of the fortress, such as The Great Market Square or green spaces, next to the Town Park. Cultural institutions have their headquarters within the fortress walls. Moreover, there is a group of events which take place around the areas of the boulevard – historical reconstruction, dating back to XVII c., although recent years have shown that coordination and overall organisation of such events requires greater financial investment and more diligent, mutual participation of both non – governmental communities and local authorities. The map materials presented in the Programme, show the main recreational areas of the revitalized terrain where the Schwabisch Hall Boulevard has got the biggest squared area.

Zamość – a sustainable town with good – quality, modern infrastructure

Operational goal: 2.2. Increased protection and respectful maintenance of natural environment as well as reasonable usage of natural resources available within the area of Zamość. Indicator of effectiveness relates only to the amount of removed sewage tanks, coal – based heating systems or renewable resources facilities installed on public buildings.

2.5. Further thought – over organisation of public spaces in Zamość according to the demands of urban/spatial order and good – quality, optimally accessible infrastructure facilities. The Programme The advancement and implementation of the

Programme is to be monitored throughout the given time 2023-2030. Proposed indicator of implementation of the programme to the aforementioned operational goal seems inadequate as the basis for evaluation is only metric value, not the quality value: "Powierzchnia wyremontowanych/odnowionych przestrzeni publicznych na obszarze rewitalizacji (ha) – squared meters of renewed/modernized public spaces within the area of revitalization" [Gminny Program Rewitalizacji Miasta Zamość na lata 2023-2030]. The quality of space factor is omitted while such evaluation, in aspects of functionality and aesthetics is more important than quantifiable measures.

Strategic aim 3: Strengthening of an attractive, transregional image of Zamość; sustaining and development of tourist attractiveness of the Town.

A suitable method of preservation of the fortification system of Zamość might be the creation of a cultural park. The aims of the Municipal Revitalization Programme are congruent with the directions included in the Study.

One of the projects enlisted on the map covers the revitalization of green areas in the Promyk residential district – creation of a multifunctional pitch for team sports such as volleyball, football, basketball.

4. COMPOSITIONAL VALUES OF THE ZAMOŚĆ FORTRESS AS SEEN FROM THE RIVER BOULEVARDS – CASE STUDY

4.1. Theoretical description of the method and its levels of credibility

The comparative method is used to evaluate the compositional quality of space, landscape basing on the analysis of the following criteria and physical, urban, natural features, presented in the chart:

- degree of landscape diversity,
- degree of landscape degradation,
- saturation with infrastructure/sufficient presence of infrastructure,
- level of harmony/harmonious juxtaposition of all the landscape elements,
- individual impressions/feelings about the space.

It relies on data accumulated in particular spots on a planned causeway. For the purpose of the study, the area is partitioned into sectors, either by means of characteristic, linear elements/ edge elements situated in the analysed space (e. g. road, street, etc.) or theoretically marked. In the course of the experiment, each criteria is evaluated with the use of the same spectrum of points: 0-5.

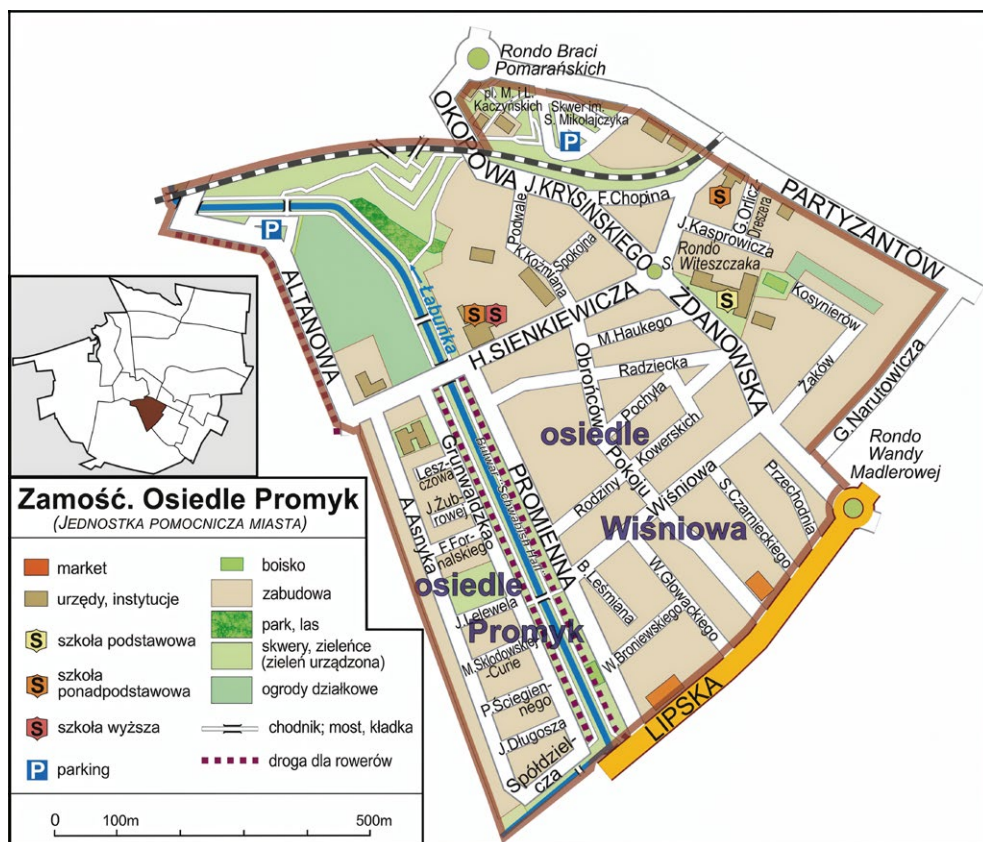


Fig. 1. Delimitation of the Promyk district with the outline of two analysed boulevards divided by H. Sienkiewicza St. [Wikipedia]

4.2. Case study

The two Boulevards are situated in the Promyk residential district with 2107 people living within its boundaries [Gminny Program Rewitalizacji Miasta Zamość na lata 2023-2030].

The boundary which divides two spaces, H. Sienkiewicza St., separates two functionally different parts. The disposition of the town skyline as seen from the river boulevard in the south results from carefully planned urban interior within the fortress walls. Hierarchical and yet democratic division of space with the strategic importance placed on vertical and horizontal dominants proved that the outline/arrangement of Zamość met the standards of the highest artistic quality. The function of the buildings is marked by their form. Tenement houses have two to four levels, including attic interiors, whereas public buildings, such as the town hall, churches, church towers have the proportions of vertical dominants. Picturesqueness of the

urban skyline can be observed from various parts of the boulevards. The sidewalk pathway within the boulevards continues on both sides of the Łabuńka river. The terrain was divided into segments where the boundaries of each segment were linear, urban elements of the analysed terrain. The following schematic map shows the distribution of segments together with their lengths. The border points were given unique symbols. The segmented pathways were ranked according to the enlisted criteria. The analysis of separated points is a subject of the next paper, but the introduction of the two spaces of the boulevards together with the important historical and spatial context of the fortress is a subject of this paper.

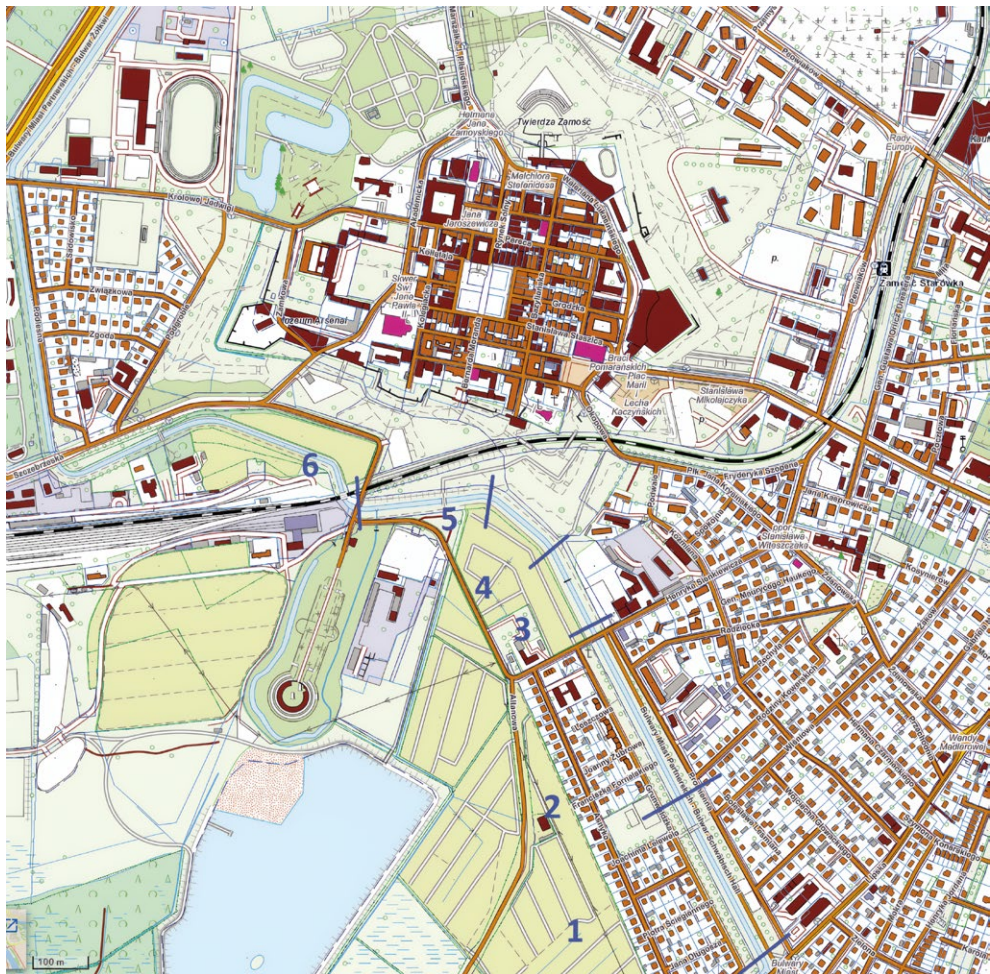


Fig. 2. Spatial representation of the two analysed boulevards [Geoportal]

	Boulevard no 1 – the immediate green area situated to the south of the fortress	Boulevard no 2 – Schwabisch Hall Boulevard
Physical features		
Approximate Length of each boulevard	550 m	670 m
Width (between two pavements)	33 m	33 m
Topography	Flat terrain	Flat terrain
Height of development	Varied, historical substance, public and residential buildings	Low – rise, max. Two – storey multiresidential buildings, single – family one to two levels – groundfloor + residential attic space
Urban features		
Functions (urban development plan)	Terrains of arranged low – rise greenery with the exposed fortification elements and; terrains of inland water channels; green allotment areas; a small fragment of the area – residential and services; full, A – marked zone, cultural heritage protection; B – marked zone; K – marked zone; parking spaces	Terrains of natural low – rise greenery with sports services; service, educational
Types of landmarks – external, visual references [K. Lynch]	Iconic public buildings – Town Hall tower, the towers of the churches	
Types of nodes [K. Lynch]	linear	linear
Types of development	Fortification elements, allotment furniture and housing; multi – family residential buildings	Single – family housing; low – rise, multi – residential buildings
Urban openings	Panoramic, architectural, landscape, wide	Architectural, medium narrow
Natural features		
Shape of the boulevard	curved	Straight – lined
Greenery	Low – rise greenery; single examples of preserved trees; garden greenery of allotment areas	Low – rise greenery (grass), rows of trees; densely grown rows of trees from Lipska St. to the first bridge over the Łabuńka river
Technical features		
Technical quality of pavements	Poor technical quality	Poor technical quality
Elements of landscaping, their quality		
Accessibility	Uneven surfaces of pavements	Uneven surfaces of pavements

5. CONCLUSION

The center of the city attracts the greatest number of cultural, recreational events while, at the same time, generating greatest measurable profits. However, the image of the city, as experienced and promoted only from within streets and piazzas, lacks showing its full potential. The boulevard spaces, located to the south of the fortress have the potential for being representative, ecological zones of the town which offer the most up-to-date water management and ecological solutions, best-quality pieces of street furniture design, broader, cultural offer. The counterbalance for the overload of the Great Market Square, as the central recreational and cultural space of Zamość, should be targeted at the green spaces around the fortress in order to promote the silhouette of the town. Zamość is a town of unique urban form and innovative ideas of its founder – Jan Zamoyski. The approach to strengthening the town residents' values and promoting learning on every stage of life were virtues that Jan Zamoyski propagated. The skyline of Zamość, as seen from the south side of the boulevard, symbolically, reflects the founder's aspirations.



Fig. 3. Boulevard no 1, view to the south side of the Zamość fortress [author's photo]



Fig. 4. Boulevard no 1, view to the green areas of the Zamość fortress [author's photo]



Fig. 5. Boulevard no 2, Schwabisch Hall Boulevard view towards the Zamość fortress [author's photo]



Fig. 6-7. Boulevard no 2, Schwabisch Hall Boulevard view of the multiresidential buildings, [author's photo]

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WALORY KOMPOZYCYJNE TWIERDZY ZAMOŚĆ Z PERSPEKTYWY PRZESTRZENI PUBLICZNYCH BULWARÓW NADRZECZNYCH

Streszczenie

Twierdza Zamość była tematem wielu opracowań naukowych, aczkolwiek stosunkowo mało uwagi poświęcano do tej pory jej relacjom przestrzennym z terenami nadrzecznymi Łabuńki, a ten bardzo ważny kontekst przestrzenny wpływał zasadniczo na wiele aspektów życia miejskiego Zamościa. Autorzy renesansowych traktatów podkreślali nierozdzielny związek miasta z kontekstem naturalnym, mimo że owe radialne czy ortogonalne, często utopijne, formy miejskie – geometrycznie powściągliwe *urbs* – nie potrafiły wziąć w karby jaskrawo żywego „organizmu *civitas*”. Zamość, choć inspirowany owymi traktatami, powstał, ponieważ jego wizjonerzy – fundator Jan Zamoyski oraz architekt Bernardo Morando – zdecydowali się wpisać formę w istniejący teren, umiejętnie korzystając z renesansowych kanonów tamtych czasów, ale i inteligentnie wykorzystując zasoby ówczesnego krajobrazu dla stworzenia miasta, idealnego w swej uniwersalności. Przez lata kolejni przedstawiciele rodu Zamoyskich oraz budowniczowie kontynuowali dzieło. Zamość ewoluował, aby w XIX w. stać się obszarem wojskowych aż do roku 1866, kiedy został zdemilitaryzowany i – w dużej mierze – zniszczony. Kolejne lata XX wieku przynosiły kolejne etapy odbudowywania i zabezpieczania zabytkowej substancji miasta. Ostatnie lata przyniosły bardzo ważne dokumenty dotyczące rewitalizacji miasta: Lokalny Program Rewitalizacji na lata 2017-2023 oraz Gminny Program Rewitalizacji Zamościa na lata 2023-2030. Artykuł ma na celu wskazanie walorów kompozycyjnych twierdzy z perspektywy terenów nadrzecznych Łabuńki, biorąc pod uwagę również zapisy Gminnego Programu Rewitalizacji Zamościa na lata 2023-2030. Niniejszy tekst jest zaledwie początkiem dyskusji na temat aspektów budowania marki Zamościa, prezentuje dane wyjściowe do dyskusji, zakładając tezę o budowaniu międzynarodowej marki Zamościa na podstawie przestrzeni nadrzecznych jako strategicznie ważnych dla wszechstronnego rozwoju miasta.

Słowa kluczowe: twierdza Zamość, bulwar, marka, kompozycja, rewitalizacja, tereny nadrzeczne

