TIMES OF NO SPATIAL RELATIONSHIPS - RETROSPECTION IN SPACE ON THE EXAMPLE OF MODERN AND HISTORIC SETTLEMENTS IN THE KARKONOSZE

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Abstract
The aim of the work is:
- Presentation of the critical points in management of cities and villages in the system of services institutions, which is essential to the proper functioning of society and the shaping of space. This subject was raised to answer the question whether the new social behavior can affect the classical principles of organization of space? In particular, can one affect the management of settlement units in the facilities of social services? Currently, in fact a man meets some of his needs in an unreal way (e.g., via electronic techniques), without any limits of distance, space (e.g., by means of transport), because of the development of social and economic life.
- Propose planning solutions for mountain villages located in the Karkonosze, presenting opportunities for development or a stable existence. They have been prospering through its history blending with its architecture and arrangement of buildings in the mountain nature exemplary. Currently, some of which are experiencing difficulties caused by, among others, changes in the modern world, so-called fusion of real and virtual space. There are monofunctional or deprived of basic functions settlements not meeting the residents’ needs. The issues were analyzed by the use of case studies method. This led to a selection of specific examples of the phenomenon of the social centers disappearance, shut down of service infrastructure, and on the contrary strengthen their local position. It was assumed that the combination of the contemporary image with their historical forms of settlement can help to find the synthesis of virtual and the real world.
As a result of the analyze, it was found:
- Elimination of the complementary network of services contributes to minimizing the village in the settlement system. New social customs may even intensify this state;
- Gradual modernization of services leads to prosperity of settlement, using new media opportunities;
Reasonable use of potential space of information technology space can contribute to improved well-being and changes in the mountain village.

**The City - creation planned for man - efficient network of social institutions**

Theories, postulates, urban legislation emerged since principles of rational planning has become an important milestone in the history of urban planning. Their goal was establishment of order in the built-up space. The first settlement scheme was spatial structures with central grouped services for the population. Centre formed as a center of social with outstanding architecture was the dominant feature of the city in terms of visual, functional and symbolic.

Cities in their development have achieved different forms. However, the location of service centers remained unchanged, giving the impression of uniformity and compactness.

In the 20th century, the famous bio urban demands, formulated in The Athens Charter, justified the need to equip residential areas in public buildings, small factories, integrally connected with the life of the city. They were to allow the proper formation of housing environment, providing conditions the proper biological development of population and social life of the community. At the time, the service centers took great importance in the planning, reflecting the position of the city, the village in the settlement network hierarchy. A practice of planning service devices according to the normative indications, allowing for optimal equipment of towns and villages became common in those times.

Until today attractive planning solution uses the integrative properties of services areas. These areas initiate interaction, interpersonal communication, attracting customers. A living, flexible, dynamic urban space is created in the way. One produces a vigorous meeting place, combined together with visionary architecture. Hosts of all cities and villages strive for the quality of this space.

**New social behavior**

The future of fundamental, so obvious rules of urban planning may be uncertain in the context of new habits and human behavior. The development of social and economic life made man realizes some of their needs in unreal way. The use of elementary services such as trade, catering, crafts, health care, education, culture, administration, leisure, can be done remotely – using electronic techniques. Customer support is often done from the periphery of the city or from another continent. Convenient solution, which is a threat to the existence of local services. On the one hand, it contributes to creating a new social type of meeting space for Internet users, on the other hand, it contributes to the fragmentation of local ties. Consequently, it may lead to the disappearance or shrinkage of the housing estates. Paradoxically, the situation is exacerbated by the development of motorization. By no means one solves the problems of the residents of the community, resulting from the lack of transport services. Efficient transport is

1 There was a market square, a square with the temple, an agora where a political, religious, commercial life has gone on in the Greek cities of the Classical Period.
organized for the needs of individual providers of specific services with the revised formula, and not used to improve the mobility of residents. This problem is a result of the economic, social processes and years of neglect in the area of program planning in Poland, which are now easily justified by the development of technology. No ordering center – contractual “traditional square” with the architecture of public buildings with the potential of strengthening social bonds, is reflected in the composition of space. The boredom of mono function, the disorder of heterogeneity is characteristic for unrelated other, emerging settlements.

Examples of the village – a fusion of real and virtual space

Szlarska Poręba

The village, which origins was recorded in 1366. It obtained the statue of a city 12.31.1959. In interwar period the village was a European power in winter sports. After Second World War, it became the largest holiday resort and winter sports center in Polish part of the Sudety. Currently, it competes with Karpacz for the position of the most important high mountain resort in the Polish Karkonosze. But not only tourism, sport, but other areas of the economy decided about the current statute. Glassworks existed here since the dawn of the settlement. The last one was closed in 1992. Tradition of quartz mining in the Izerskie Garby (near Jakuszyce) dates back to the 13th century. Since the mid 16th century to the early 19th century pyrites has been mined in Lower Szklarska. Until the mid-nineteenth, pyrite has been processed to sulfuric acid. Paradoxically, objects associated with industrial activity become the tourist attraction, during the development of tourism. The population was engaged in agriculture, herding, collecting wood, making charcoal, then weaving. 4 schools, churches, 3 mills, a sawmill, 3 glassworks, 14-16 grindings, 12 paint of glass studios, all branches of trade and basic crafts, a station of hiring guides and porters, an orphanage, taverns, restaurants, hotels, pensions, a park with a concert hall, a cinema, sanatoriums – all they thrived here since the 19th century, at the height moment. Szklarska Poręba prided itself infrastructure of recreation and sports at the highest level:

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2 Date before 1985 has been drawn among others from the following sources:
- Das Schlesienbuch 1942. Dresden: Kurt Gruber Verlag Wirtschaft – Recht, 1942

Current date (26.02.2016) has been get among others from:
- in Commune Offices in Karpacz, in Szklarska Poręba, in Podgórzyn, in Piechowice,
- from mayors of the village,
- in Statistics Office date from 2014:
- by the vision of the local area.
toboggan runs, bobsleigh tracks, ski jumps, ski lifts, ski slopes, tennis courts, swimming pools, a skating rink. The development of the village coincided with the beginning of the 20th century. From this period come most of the buildings forming urban character of resort.

Now, Szklarska Poręba is the varied, extensive city, concentrated in the valley of the Kamienna River. It has a compact development of centrum equipped with the elementary services. It contains distant settlements within its borders such as: Orle, Jakuszyce and deserted areas of forests, meadows, mountain peaks of the Góry Izerskie and the Karkonosze, part of the Karkonoski National Park with the Wodospad Kamieńczyka and Mountain Szrenica, at the same time. Residents make their livings on tourism services, in particular hospitality industry and other closely related to tourism: catering, trad. Complexes of hotel offer occasionally wellness and relaxation service. Services of culture (churches, museums) are complemented by administration (a post office, a municipal office, a point the police – active ad hoc), health and education (1 nursery, 2 elementary schools, 4 middle schools, 2 kindergartens, a children’s home, a library, a care and treatment facility and health center (however it’s hours are incompatible with the needs of activ tourists and athletes).

The glasswork Leśna Huta is the only one noticeable craft center producing limited handmade art glass. There are many registered economic activities in the municipal office but there are no information which of them exist in real. The whole of it is complemented by urban transport services, which, despite the potential (the railway line founded in 1902), by no means is able to serve the residents at a satisfactory level and forces the use of individual means of transport. The city, famous for its sports and tourist grounds, have the infrastructure such as: a stadium, a sports hall, slopes and ski lifts, a skating rink, routs for cross-country skiing, biathlon and cycling, small indoor recreational pools (a larger one with a length of 25 m), a summer toboggan run, sports fields and other small sports equipment in hotels. A number, size, quality of sports facilities seem insufficient and unattractive considering the predisposition of the region and historical traditions. The face of the city gives the impression as it the time stopped in the frame, in some places. The city has about 6829 inhabitants extending over an area 7500 ha. While one had 7368 of population, being a village and embracing smaller area 1468 ha.

Karpacz

Płóczki was the first settlement which gave rise to Karpacz. It was founded in the 15th century. It has established the village merging with numerous surrounding hamlets and separate, scattered villages. It became a town in 31.12.1959. In interwar period the village was the most popular tourist center of the Karkonosze. After Second World War, it became the largest holiday resort and ski station in the Eastern Karkonosze. Currently it is competing, as already

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mentioned, with Szklarska Poręba for a position as the leading high mountain and ski resort in the Karkonosze.

Initially, the population made their living on: farming, herbal medicine, precious stones gathering, herding, collecting wood, making charcoal for steel mills of Kowary, mining (extraction of lead and silver). There were: a school, a mill, a mine, a paper mill, 2 brickyards, 7 balacksmiths, 4 looms, 35 craftsmen, a post office, a telegraph, a sawmill, an inn of court, a herbalist, a bathing facility, inns, pensions, rent guides and porters of litters, a tourist company, in the period of intensive development, and so from the first half of the 19th century. At the turn of the century, a number of services with a focus on the growing tourist and sports traffic were created: a municipal doctor, a pharmacy, spa, a church, a city park with a pavilion for concert, as well as many sports facilities: bobsleigh and sledge tracks, ski jumps, a ice rink, a skating rink on the dam, an outdoor swimming pool, tennis courts, playgrounds, areas for cross-country skiing and for rowing, and fishing. At the time, character of the resort was developed, mainly thanks to the new, magnificent, touristic buildings.

After the war, the sports station was supplemented with lifts and ski pistes. The hotel base was expended yet.

Now Karpacz is a functioning resort located in valley of the Łomnica River and its tributaries. In the city limits, there are: vast areas of forests, mountains tops of the Karkonoski National Park (including Mountain Śnieżka), in addition to fairly compact city center and residential areas. Residents are engaged in tourism services and complementary ones: catering, retail, banking, crafts. Craft services are often no longer part of consolidating the community, among other things, due to the location. They are primarily made out of cottage industry system. There are cultural institutions (churches, museums) and the administration one (a post office, a tourist office, a council), health and education services (3 schools, 2 middle schools, 3 kindergartens, a health center open only in weekdays, a pharmacies no round-the-clock). The city cultivates the historical traditions, without giving up the infrastructure and sports facilities and expanding that places (ski pistes and ski lifts, a skating rink, a short cross-country for skiing and cycling, small indoor pools in the hotel complexes (about 5, including 2 ones lengths 25 m), a summer toboggan run, a city stadium, sports fields and other small sports facilities in sports hotel complexes. An urban transport to a certain extent provides support for residents and tourists. Annually 80,000 persons use tourist accommodation. Currently, Karpacz has 5,007 inhabitants, with an area of 3900 ha. Around 1942 the population accounted 2209 persons, when its surface was 468 ha.

**Przesieka**

The village was established from the settlement of charcoal makers in the 17th century. Currently, it is located within the community of Podgórzyn. Initially, farmers, landless peasants breeding cattle including goats, cultivating vegetables, fruits, including apples (bred local

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6 Przerwa p.273
species), flax (which was used for making clothes by the end of the 19th century). The boom of the village as the resort is assumed since the second half of the 19th century, when the painter Adolf Dressler popularized this place. There were a smithy, a bakery and a mill, a school of Protestant and Catholic, an inn of court, shops, a photographic studio and other craftsmen (hairdressers, butcher, shoemaker), a chapel, a tourist outpost. Hotels, inns, pensions and following sports facilities arose: several small ski jumps\(^7\), one of the most important toboggan routs, an outdoor swimming pool, a ski lift, ski slopes, routs for cross – country skiing, a natural ice rink.

In the years 1884 – 1903, Przesieka even competed with Karpacz\(^8\). The climate allowed practicing all winter sports i.e. : snowshoe hiking, skiing, ice skating, sledding, skijoring\(^9\), ski jumping, which brought fame to Przesieka. Ski instructors, the guides of trips by horned sleighs were available in the village. Resort was also recommended by doctors due to the purity of air. After 1945 Przesieka became the largest holiday resort of the Center Karkonosze. A lot of holiday houses were active here. People were skiing using the pre-war sports infrastructure. The crisis, political changes of the late eighties, nineties years suppressed the dynamic center. Investments (taverns, the modernization of historic buildings) revived somewhat the mountain village in the early 21th century. The chapel is under construction. There are no sports facilities yet. Currently, the surrounding, wild nature is the main attraction of the village, situated in the valley of the rivers: the Czerwień, the Podgórna, the Myja, on the northern slopes of the hill of the Golden View. Once mountain meadows dominated in the landscape of the village – now forests. Layout of the village resembles sockets grouped along the serpentine of streets. There are no researches on employment, activities of inhabitants. From the relations of mayor of Przesieka, the most of residents are employed in tourism. There are about 495 permanent residents. This number has decreased compared to 1942, when the village was inhabited by 785 persons.

*Sosnówka*

The village in the commune of Podgórzyn was founded at the end of 13th century. There were 3 churches, 2 schools, 2 mills in the 18th century. The village expanded yet by 29 cotton weaving workshops and 67 linen ones (30 years later there were 250 looms for the manufacture of damask), 53 craftsmen, 7 inns, a factory of vodka, a weaving mill, the station of the rent of guides and porters and riding horses, an information autpost of tourist society and hotels, pensions. At the beginning of the 20th century a small industry (bakeris, grinderis of crystals) was spawned. There were also sports facilities: a ski jump\(^10\), a natural ice skating rink, a swimming pool. It is visible the division into two parts in the fragmented catenary village. The

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\(^9\) Riesengebirge, p.129-30

\(^10\) Przerwa, p.210
upper part is situated on the slopes of the Podgórze Karkonskie. The lower part is located around the Sośnik River in the Kotlina Jeleniogórskal. After the war, the tourist nature of transforming historical buildings on a large holiday complexes of enterprises (including the swimming pool) was retained, particularly, in upper Sosnówka. The landscape of the village was significantly changed by Sosnówka reservoir and water dam, built in the years 1986 – 2001.

Currently, the unique complex of services is prospering in Sosnówka: a school, a fire brigade, a sports center, a community room. There are shops, a sports court, the center of integration, churches, a social welfare home, a headquarters of the transport company. Now, the village has 1078 persons – less than in 1942, when it was inhabited by 1412 persons.

Miłków

The village in the commune of Podgórzyn, mentioned in written sources in the 13th century. The catenary village is located in the valley of the Miłkowska River. In the 18th century, 44 artisans, 2 schools, 2 churches, 4 mills, a paper mill and herbalists were recorded here. In the 19th century, 2 mills, a sawmill, 2 brick factories, a manufacture of peat, a metallurgical plant, 60 artisans, 17 merchants, 6 looms, the judicial inn, a bleaching plant, a nail factory and a lot of inns. The 20th century initiated the development of the village as a summer resort. An outpost of tourist society, small hotels, guesthouses, a tobogganing track were started their businesses. After the war, industrial activities (Karkonoskie Paper Plant, the branch of Metal Polar Plant in Wrocław), rural activities (Agricultural Cooperative of Production Consent), the commercial, service, sports, touristic infrastructure were developed (holiday camp centers, horse riding centers, a sports court, a camping and a swimming pool).

Currently, the village is famous for the former magnate residence of von Matuschka and the ruins of the Evangelical church. The economic activity has slowed down. The factories, the establishments, the cooperative, a post office, the several recreational centers and railway (which brought a revival in 1895) disappeared. Residents complain about the lack of a bank and other services, including a craft. There are several shops, a church, a health center, a primary school, a swimming pool, a camping. Despite the frustration of the population of the community, current population – 1897 persons, compared with the number of 1893 from 1942, is almost unchanged. The favorable statistics can affect the distance to the center of big city (Jelenia Góra), less than in the other analyzed villages.

Jagniątków

The catenary village was founded by Czech religious Protestants refugees in the 17th century (since 1962 was incorporated into the city Sobieszów, then Piechowice and now since 1998 is within the boundaries of Jelenia Góra). Since the beginning of the 19th century was known as a popular summer and wintering resort. Currently, it makes an impression of a lost settlement in the forests of mountain in the valley of the Wrzosówka River.

In the 19th century there were the following services in its coverage: a school, a forester, a sawmill, 5 merchants, an autpost of tourist society, about 3 swimming pools, a ski jump, toboggan runs, as well as hotels, guesthouses and inns. Tourist building, mainly from the second half of the 19th century and the beginning of the 20th century, with rural cottages created a picturesque arrangement which is characteristic for holiday resorts of the Karkonosze.

After the war sports and tourist heritage was continued. There were: swimming pools, 3 ski lifts, holiday houses, a camping, 2 sports courts. A church was built in a character of Podhale, however which neatly inscribed in the landscape of the village. Mining research was conducted in order to extract uranium. Around 1942, Jagniątków having an area of 414 ha centered 934 residents. Currently, in Jagniątków, the range of services is much more modest: city museum, pensions, a store and the aforementioned church, the guide of the Sudety, eventually small cottage industry activities. Population of Jagniątków is 641 persons. Although Jagniątków was absorbed by large urban organism, it does not change its peripheral location.

Michałowice

The village was founded by religious refugees from Czech in the 17th century (in the middle of the 18th century it was included to Piechowice). Currently, the village is part of Piechowice. Initially, residents were engaged in agriculture, cottage industry (including manufacturing of wood), herding, weaving. In the second half of the 19th century, the village took on the vacation character. There were: an inn, pensions, an autpost of tourist society, 2 swimming pools, a ski jump, toboggan runs and ski pistes.

After the war the village has remained an intimate holiday resort, a scout base, the seat of the theater “Teatr Nasz”. In 1988, the chapel was built here. To this day, there is a palpable atmosphere of the resort of the Karkonosze, thanks to the surviving in part the architecture of cottages and pensions of the Sudety, from the turn of the 19th and 20th century. Residential buildings dominated here, scattered on the slopes of a vast clearing of the valley of the Michałowicki Stream. About 1942 Michałowice was inhabited by 406 persons. Currently, the number of inhabitants decreased to 321 persons.

Borowice

The village in the commune of Podgórzyn was founded in 1644 by a Swiss carpenter (a religious refugee). In the 19th century, a school, inns, pensions were arisen here. The village from the agro-pastoral one transformed into a small summer resort.

In recent years, a small swimming pool, a church were constructed. The resort based on a historical building is loosely scattered in the Dolina Pięciu Potoków. People seeking escape from civilization can find their refuge here, but all of them must dispose of their own reliable transport. Always the small village, consisting of 230 persons in 1942, is decreasing yet. Now, 145 residents are living in Borowice.
Zachełmie

The village was founded in the 17th century as a colony of Przesieka. Then it was inhabited by refugees from Czech. Originally, it was a foothold of woodcutters, shepherds, farmers. The cultivation of cherries was the local specialty. A school, mills, a sawmill, an inn were established here in the 18th century. Little by little Zachełmie became the fashionable, intimate holiday resort and winter sports station. A swimming pool, a youth hostel, an outpost of tourist society were built. Ski runs were marked.

After the war, people were engaged in agriculture, tourism. Holiday houses and houses of enterprises were prosperous.

Currently, the small dispersed settlement, situated in the valley of Zachełmiec River, preserves a peaceful character of the resort. In winter, a small ski lift is open. Lack of the elementary services is compensated by extraordinary activity of the community of Zachełmie. Educated residents lead activities in the field: automotive, construction, medicine, as well as manufacturing (but especially in nearby cities) and tourism. They contact on Facebook. They organize rural meetings of neighborhood, funs, concerts, bonfires, actions of cleaning, sports tournaments. The meeting place is a new playground or local pensions. The mountain village counts 354 inhabitants – slightly less than in 1942, when it was inhabited by 397 persons.

Summary

The villages of area of the Karkonosze are diverse in terms of geological and their location in the structure of the settlement. They are linked by the surrounding geographical environment, cultural heritage, economic conditions, which allow to draw conclusions on the contemporary processes of urbanism.

Originally, the region was famous for its large and diverse economic activity, based on trade, crafts, mining, manufacturing plants. The villages were equipped with the necessary service infrastructure - public buildings such as: schools, shops, churches, workshops, businesses adapting to the nature and function of settlements and typical at the time land use planning.

Since the 19th century tourism infrastructure was successively expanded in connection with the development of tourism. At the end of the 19th century the sports function revived the region once again. The villages were reinforced with the network of sports facilities according to the new needs. The region developed gradually. The second half of the 20th century and the beginning of the 21st century were characterized by volatility fate:

- from the significant growth of tourism in the sixties and the subsequent decades of the eighties – to poverty and suppression work places related to sports and tourists investments of the eighties;
- from new projects and modernization of the existing infrastructure the late nineties - till the years of free market economy, a recession in the band of holiday centres and shelters;
- from the increase in the number of hotels – to the decapitalisation of infrastructure.

There is a noticeable regularity, over the years. The villages tend to reduce population and loose economic resources, based only on one of the sectors of the economy (Przesieka,
Jagniątków, Michałowice, Zachełmie, Sosnówka, Borowice). The service facilities are limited in the field of education, culture, health, commerce, trade, transport, sports, there. The buildings are ageing followed by depopulation. New social behavior exacerbated underdevelopment of services in different areas. Antisocial creations are emerging. The old historical arrangements defend aesthetic values: figure, layout in the landscape, yet. The thinnings in the building, the losses in the composition of settlements are not as severe as the loss of them indicative center.

By contrast, there is observed relative stabilization in the places where the historical network of services is nurtured, expanded, or modified (Karpacz). Primarily, the trend is reflected in the population, as well as the scale, the type of building (not necessarily related to the specificity of the region). The use of the news media favors the prosperity additionally. Comparative examples from the Alps confirm that the development strategy is based on at least two complementary disciplines of the economy. (e.g. sport, tourism) with the support of marketing can contribute to unprecedented success13.

Thus, the new reality, understood as a medium of communication, can deepen the processes of urban planning. It can also counteract the negative trends. Currently, the residents of the villages of the Karkonosze accept with understanding the bankruptcy of another service points. Apathy, resulting perhaps from fear of unfortunate investments, uncontrolled development, is compensated activity in the virtual world – on Facebook. Valued idea initiated in Zachełmie is transferred to the real world: sports, tourist events, etc., which saves the condition of the settlement. The examples from the Alps also justify the possibility of the use of the achievements of technology to improve the life of the mountain villages. Web information supporting the functioning of the tourist centers, public buildings partially supported by advanced technology, such as tourist information points, outposts of banks, wi-fi14, telephon boxes, etc. – they are advantages. They are also pretext “to go out”. Properly designed, along with the traditional service facilities can co-create the center.

The demand for the traditional center is noticeable, despite the technological revolution that is changing our lives. This confirms the international architectural competition for young professionals Europan – the type of survey. The authors of the awarded works between 2001 and 2015 generally promote multifunctional attractive urban space that integrate relationships. Once we would like to get lost in a multicolored crowd and touch, smell, taste. Currently, we have the image of an artificial reality. Take advantage of the new medium to improve living conditions.

13 Sölden – Alpin ski resort offers a specialized type of service, primarily in for tourist and athletes. Services are the highest level. The village seeks to organize: the annual opening of the FIS World Cup ski competitions and Adrenalin Cup. The presence of sports, film, music stars. In this way it ensures the popularity of taking 2 million visitors a year.

14 A small settlement – Huben in the Ötztal valley, is equipped with a system of essential services available round the clock.
Figure 4. Map of Szklarska Poręba

Figure 5. Map of Miłków

Figure 6. Map of Sosnówka
Figure 7. Map of Przesieka

Figure 8. Map of Jagniątków

Figure 9. Map of Zachełmie

Figure 10. Signes

Legend:
- Black circles: Sports and leisure services (major recreation centers)
- Grey circles: Services: commercial, gastronomy, craft, culture, educational, health, sport, administration and production
- White circles: Non-existing services and production
- Light grey circles: Service centers in some cases, historical centers only
Notice
*The above symbols of activities don’t reflect the real impact on a population in a specific village. For example some of them are active temporarily only, in a consequence are not fully satisfactory for the inhabitants. While tourism and recreational services originally destined to quests can also serve the local community and enhance social integration of a village.

** Plans do not always represent the towns and the villages in the current administrative boundaries.

*** All drawings by author.

References


