

MONUMENT OF HISTORY – PROCEDURES OF RECOGNITION AND SELECTION CRITERIA ON THE EXAMPLE OF THE TOWN OF TRZEBIATÓW, A CANDIDATE FOR THE TITLE

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ABSTRACT: The Mayor of Trzebiatów's application to recognize the Old Town Complex in Trzebiatów as a Monument to History was submitted to the Minister of Culture and National Heritage in April 2011. Trzebiatów is a town located in the poviat (district) of Gryfice, in the Zachodniopomorskie Voivodeship. The basis for submitting the application for the title of the Monument of History was the following:

- Preserved medieval urban layout of the Old Town complex with a clear cadastral division;
- Preserved historical buildings within the defensive walls,
- Entry of the Old Town area into the register of historical monuments;
- 40 objects within the Old Town boundaries are entered into the historical monuments register;
- In the Old Town there is a local spatial development plan in the form of a revaluation plan, adopted by the Trzebiatów City Council in 1996. The outline of the city's history as well as conservation and planning activities are presented, indicating at the same time its material and non-material values. The conclusion expressed the conviction that these values meet the selection criteria set by the Ministry of Culture and National Heritage.

KEY WORDS: History Monument, Old Town, Trzebiatów, Historical Monuments

Introduction

The application of the Mayor of Trzebiatów, prepared by the Field Branch of the National Heritage Institute in Szczecin, to the recognize of the Old Town Complex in Trzebiatów as a Monument of History was submitted to the Minister of Culture and National Heritage via the West Pomeranian Voivodeship Conservator of Monuments in April 2011¹. Questions posed by the Mayor, sent in the following years, were answered with little precision and little explanation.

¹ Letter from ZWKZ dated 11.04.2011, sign: ZN.512.01.2011.MD.

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In 2014, it was reported that: The "Trzebiatów proposal is currently one of the oldest pending (...) applications for recognition as monuments of the history of urban settings are extremely time-consuming and complicated"².

In 2015, it was reported that: "work on the preparation of a substantive opinion on the legitimacy of the above mentioned proposal (entry) is advanced and the procedure should normally be completed. The delay is due to the fact that, at the last meeting in December 2014, the European Parliament and the Council were unable to give their opinion on the substance of the proposal (alert). The Council for the Protection of Historic Monuments decided on the need to modify the criteria and procedures for recognising objects as historical monuments and not to consider applications until the adoption of new regulations"³.

However, it was not specified when this modification will take place.

In 2018, the answer was: "We kindly inform that works are being carried out on a thorough, time-consuming analysis of the application, which is necessary in the case of the issues of historical urban ensembles. A site inspection with the participation of NHI representatives is also planned, which will constitute the final stage of the assessment"⁴.

At the end of 2018, on the occasion of the centenary of Polish independence, 14 more sites were declared Historical Monuments, but not the old town complex in Trzebiatów. There was also no information from the Ministry of Culture and National Heritage concerning the proceedings concerning Trzebiatów.

Recognition procedures and selection criteria⁵

In order to obtain the title of Historical Monument, it is necessary to meet the criteria that are verified according to specific procedures. These two elements are listed below.

Recognition procedures:

- The proposal for recognition as a Monument of History, together with appropriate documentation, is submitted by the applicant to the Minister of Culture and National Heritage via the Voivodeship Monument Conservator after receiving their opinion in the matter;
- The Department of Monuments Protection of the Ministry of Culture and National Heritage submits the application to the National Heritage Institute (NHI) in Warsaw in order to verify the data contained in the documentation and to issue an opinion on the validity of the proposal for recognition as a Monument of History;
- After a positive opinion is expressed by the Council for Monuments Protection, the Department for Monuments Protection submits the application documentation to the NHI, which prepares

² Letter from the Ministry of Culture and National Heritage dated 7 August 2014, sign: DOZ/3906/14, DOZ-SK. IMF-6611/1-4/14.

³ Letter from the Ministry of Culture and National Heritage dated 25.03.2015, mark: DOZ/1266/15, DOZ-SK. MFW-6611/1-4/14.

Letter from the Supreme Administrative Court dated 29.01.2018, mark: NHI-SBOD/806/111/18/AW.

⁵ Based on information available on the NHI website.

a draft regulation for the President of the Republic of Poland with a justification and graphic attachment;

- After the analysis of the draft regulation, the Department of Monuments Protection submits it to the Minister of Culture and National Heritage for final approval
- The Ministry of Culture and National Heritage submits an application to the President of the Republic of Poland for recognition of the object as a Monument of History;
- After the approval, the President of the Republic of Poland by way of issuing a regulation, recognizes the object as a Monument of History defining its boundaries.
- The Regulation of the President of Poland is published in the Journal of Laws.

Selection criteria:

- Recognition of a monument as a monument of History is a special form of ennoblement. You can submit an immovable monument
 - of supra-regional significance,
 - of great historical, scientific and artistic values,
 - of significance to the Polish cultural heritage,
 - preserved in social consciousness,
 - a source of inspiration for subsequent generations.

The object, complex, spatial arrangement or area proposed for recognition as a Historical Monument must be entered in the register of monuments or covered by the status of a cultural park. Local spatial development plans should be adopted for spatial arrangements and areas. In addition, they must be monuments that:

- have retained the original spatial composition or have undergone only slight transformations.
 - are uniform in style or have readable and harmonized layers.
- are properly exposed in the urban space or landscape and have retained the original relationship with the surroundings.
 - are the works of outstanding artists.
 - are well preserved or in a condition that allows them to be restored.
 - are subject to conservation care.

Trzebiatów as a monument of history

Trzebiatów is a town located in the Gryficki poviat, in the West Pomeranian Voivodeship, in the bend of the Rega River, near the Baltic coast, 10 km from the port and the summer seaside resort of Mrzeżyno.

The grounds for submitting the application for the title of a Monument of History were:

- The medieval urban layout of the Old Town complex preserved almost intact;

- Legible former cadastral division based on the Lubeck rod module (4.5 m), preserved [...] during post-war reconstruction or restoration of the frontage (Fig. 1);
- The historical buildings within the defensive walls have been preserved to a large extent, which is a unique phenomenon in Western Pomerania;
- Conservation protection in the form of an entry in the Old Town area in the register of monuments⁶;
- In addition to the Old Town area, there are 40 objects within its borders entered in the register of monuments⁷;
- A local spatial development plan in the form of a revalorization plan for the Old Town, adopted by the City Council of Trzebiatów in 1996, is in force in the Old Town area8.

The area proposed for the title of History Monument coincides with the boundaries of the entry in the register of historical monuments.

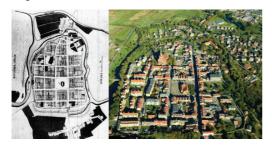




Fig. 1 Trzebiatów. Former cadastral division (drawing from 1730) in comparison with the contemporary bird's eye view, from the western side (photo: Trzebiatów archive)

Fig. 2 Trzebiatów. Old Town Hall with visible medieval relics of the walls (photo: C. Dubiel)

Outline of the history of Trzebiatów^{9,10}

The particular intensification of the settlement in Western Pomerania took place in the early Middle Ages. Favourable conditions for the development of agriculture in the valleys of the Odra, Ina, Rega and Parseta rivers were the basis for rapid development of settlements, especially in the area of Pyrzyce, Trzebiatów, Kolobrzeg, Bialogard, Nowogard, Stargard and Kamień Pomorski.

Archaeological research conducted in Trzebiatów indicates the settlement in the period from mid-11th to mid-13th century, discovering a crafts and trade settlement in the place of location of the later Norbertine monastery, and today's palace with the seat of the Trzebiatów Cultural

⁶ Reg. No. 72, mark Kl.V.-0/54/55 dated 1955-10-29.

⁷ The card of a historical building contains a list of historical buildings individually entered into the register of monuments located within the boundaries of the Old Town in Trzebiatów.

Resolution No. XXIX/210/96 of the Trzebiató1) City Council of 30 December 1996 on the amendment of the local spatial development plan for the city of Trzebiató2) in the form of a plan to revalorise the Old Town, Official Gazette of the Szczecin Voivodeship No. 3, dated 12 March 1997.

S. Latour, 1981, p. 66.

¹⁰ Application to MKIDN for the title of Historical Monument.

Center.

The mentioned history of the stronghold (castrum) of Tribetov dates back to 1170, when the Casimir I Duke of Pomerania-Demmin issued a foundation document for the Order of Norbertine monks who came to nearby Białoboki from Lund¹¹. Around 1187, Princess Anastasia, daughter of the Polish Prince Mieszko III the Old, wife of Prince Bogusław I, mother of Casimir II and Bogusław II, received the widow's pension in the form of Trzebiatów and the surrounding villages. In 1224 the duchess issued a document giving the women's monastery of the Trzebiatów women with an inn and a church. However, the castle was not taken over, and the nuns settled then in nearby Wyszków, where they stayed until 1285. Anastasia's grandson, Warcisław III, sold Trzebiatów to the Norbertines in 1242¹². At that time, the town had at its disposal the waters of the Rega River up to its mouth, which was of considerable importance for its development. In 1277 Barnim I and his son Bogusław IV granted Lubeck town charter to Trzebiatów. In 1281 this location was confirmed and the inhabitants were granted customs and trade rights. Apart from its agricultural and trade functions, Trzebiatów played a significant role in the defense system of the West Pomeranian Duchy both in the 12th century and after its division into the Szczecin and Wolo-Slupsk Duchies. This was fostered by the excellent natural defensive conditions created by the floodplains of the Rega River and extensive swamps in its vicinity. The defensive significance of the city's towers is reflected in the permission granted in 1299 by Prince Bogusław IV for the townsmen to erect a defensive system of brick construction, which was supposed to replace the previous wooden and earth embankments¹³. In the first half of the 14th century, a full ring of walls with four gates was built, reinforced with a system of towers and lookout points. They provided protection against attacks by "knights - robbers" or envious inhabitants of neighboring Gryfice and Kołobrzeg, which were organized against the background of economic and trade disputes. Thanks to these fortifications, the sieges of the Brandenburg armies were repelled twice - in 1631 and 1637. A significant increase in the wealth of the townsmen from the 14th century (at that time the town belonged to the Hanseatic League) to the 16th century consisted of income from land cultivation, breeding, brewing and fishing (including sea fishing). Grain trade on an international scale played a special role. The right to store goods floated by Rega in 1303, its own sea fleet of 22 ships, its own port in Redzeujście and the exemption from customs duty on fishing on the Baltic coast in the area from the mouth of the Swina River to the mouth of the Rega River, obtained in 1309, made Trzebiatów a strong center maintaining trade contacts with Gdańsk, Rugia, Bornholm, Lübeck and Copenhagen. The increase in the affluence of the inhabitants was marked by a rise in the construction industry. It was then that the town hall was established (Fig. 2), as the seat of the city authorities, a parish church, a three-nave hall, hospital buildings with chapels, and numerous brick bourgeois houses. The area of the town within the medieval

Foundation document issued by Casimir I. The document mentions, among others, the patronage over the church in Trzebiatów. K. Ślaski, *Podziały terytorialne na Pomorzu w XII-XIII w.*, Poznań 1960, p.109.

Warcisław III sold it to the monastery in Białoboki: "vicum Trebetove cum taberna et villam in Stresko et villam Cricuz, et aquam liberam usque ad potrum maris [...], Pommersches Urkundenbuch, Szczecin, vol. I, p. 322.

¹³ This results from the content of the document "Libertarimas civitatem nostram Treptov ...", Pommersches Urkundenbuch, Szczecin, vol. I, p. 358.

fortifications was 35 ha. It gained a regular, clear chessboard layout (Fig. 1), with quarters divided into narrow, deep plots, built up from the front with brick tenement houses, often positioned sideways to the street. Two quarters were used for public buildings, i.e. the town hall and the church, the third one was occupied by the monastery and later by the palace. The market square with dimensions of 96 by 105 m was moved to the center of the establishment in a south-western direction. The relics of the 15th-16th century buildings are still visible in some elevations and in the basements of the existing buildings.

In 1534, in Trzebiatów, the Sejm (Polish Parliament session) was held, during which the princes Barnim XI and Philip I decided to accept the Reformation in the Pomeranian Duchy. This had its consequences in the form of confiscation of church and monastery property for the benefit of the duke's estate. The property of monasteries in Białoboki and Trzebiatów was also taken over by the rulers. The Norbertine monks from the Trzebiatów monastery were allowed to use the buildings for life. In 1618, the monastery buildings were occupied by Princess Sophie, who, as the widow of Philip II, left Szczecin and in 1619 adapted the building for her residence.

In the years 1618-1648, the Thirty Years' War, the Swedish occupation and later the Brandenburg occupation contributed to economic decline and significant impoverishment of the inhabitants. In 1679 fire caused the final destruction. Since then, the town has not returned to its former significance.

In 1725, Prussian King Frederick I of Prussia established Trzebiatów as a garrison town. Since then, a regiment of dragoons was stationed in the post-convent buildings.

Another great fire consumed the town in 1747, after which it was slowly rebuilt until the end of the 18th century. However, the new buildings were already poorer, with more modest architecture. The buildings, once brick, were constructed as a timber structure, even in the front buildings. Medieval gates, which lost their defensive function, were disassembled, embankments and moats were turned into vegetable gardens. In the nineteenth century, there was a development of industry in the form of a building ceramics and faience factory, a furniture factory, and a canvas packaging factory. The development of the industry was accompanied by the construction of a railway line and a network of beaten roads. At that time, however, no significant development of buildings was recorded, which in the 20th century until the Second World War reached only the suburbs of Gryfice and Kolobrzeg. The 20th century was also the time of discovering the health effects of sea baths, which caused the development of coastal towns and indirectly influenced the development of tourism in Trzebiatówo. The town came out of the war with a defensive hand and was the only one in this area to preserve almost all valuable public buildings and a significant number of bourgeois residential and economic buildings. The buildings as a whole constitute a valuable urban complex of clear compositional values, enriched with dominants, with preserved objects being a testimony to the shaping of the level of material culture in Pomerania. For this reason, in 1955 the Old Town complex in Trzebiatów was declared a historical monument.





Fig. 3 Trzebiatów. The palace, originally a monastery, now the seat of the Trzebiatow Cultural Center (photo: C. Dubiel)

Fig. 4 Old Town Square in Trzebiatow, in the back of the church of the Motherhood of the Blessed Virgin Mary (photo: C. Dubiel)

Within the boundaries of the proposed entry there are 40 monuments entered individually into the register, among which there are: the Church of the Motherhood of the Blessed Virgin Mary (Fig. 4), city fortifications, chapel of the Holy Spirit, town hall, palace, bourgeois houses and tenement houses, seventeenth-century graffito on the facade of the tenement house at the market, monuments of technology: hydroelectric power plant and farm mill. In addition, there are more than 100 objects protected by the municipal register of monuments.

The war damage and reconstruction of the cities of Western Pomerania

Trzebiatów is a unique example of a north European medieval town of medium size preserved in its authentic structure to such an extent. In Western Pomerania, the destruction of many cities during and after the Second World War has blurred their original image. Destructions ranging from 75 to 100% affected city centers in Szczecin, Goleniów, Kamień Pomorski, Stargard, Nowogard, Pyrzyce and Gryfino¹⁴. After the war, these cities were transformed on the basis of urban plans, the characteristic feature of which was the abandonment of the principle of reconstruction and preference for new buildings, subordinated to the existing formal and economic restrictions.

Their primary objective was to strive for a constant reduction of construction costs, which was achieved by introducing detailed regulations and norms that cyclically changed in the next five-year periods. This consisted mainly in the compulsory use of typical projects, catalogues, of normative sizes and structures, situated in accordance with contemporary requirements concerning the lighting and ventilation of apartments, mutual distance between buildings, accompanying greenery and recreational areas. The necessary basic services were to be provided on separate plots of land in the form of pavilions¹⁵. Examples of the implementation of the above principles include the Old Town in Pyrzyce, which practically ceased to exist as a result of warfare, as well as Kamień Pomorski, in which the Old Town Hall and one market tenement house have been preserved, or Gryfice, which have been preserved within its boundaries, next to the church and a significant part of it.

¹⁴ S. Latour, 2005, p.12.

¹⁵ S. Latour, 2005, p.16.

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There are many residential buildings in the frontages of the market square and along the streets. In Pyrzyce only the ring of the defensive walls, the body of the church of St. Maurice and the church of the Holy Spirit remained of the old town substance. The reconstruction of the town meant the introduction of new modern and typical buildings into the old town area, cleared of the rubble, thus creating a housing estate that did not respect the old divisions into quarters and within them cadastral divisions and frontage buildings. In Kamień Pomorski also new buildings of typical forms were erected. However, an attempt was made to restore the market square frontage around the historic town hall, but one frontage was left unbuilt, opening the northern side of the Kamienski Lagoon. In Gryfice, on the other hand, the situation was quite different, because they preserved a large part of the original buildings, but the one that was not subject to current renovation and neglected, was in decline. As the town was a poviat administrative center, it was necessary to revalorize it quickly. As a result of the projects adopted in the 1960s, in view of the opinion that the restoration of the existing buildings is unprofitable, the historic buildings were completely removed from the area of the old town by introducing typical multi-storey buildings with a flat roof, situated in a random manner. As a result, the Old Town is a collection of buildings scattered throughout the city, which do not form any coherent composition, and one of the market frontages was demolished and filled with a modern administrative building intended for the seat of the district authorities¹⁶.

Trzebiatów revalorization

The above described actions have not, to some extent, omitted Trzebiatów, where part of the old town, although small in comparison with other centers, has been destroyed. This applies to four outer quarters (out of a total of 23 within the defensive walls), which since 1970 have been filled with new blocks of flats. Fortunately, after the first two five-storey buildings with a flat roof had been completed, this type of development was abandoned in favour of lower high-roof buildings located parallel to the defensive walls. Thanks to this, although the cadastral division within the quarters was disturbed, the panorama of the city did not suffer as a result of this project. The objects are also not visible from the market square of the old town. At the same time, planned renovation works were carried out, taking into account conservation guidelines, based on individual projects. Market square frontages, several tenement houses on Wojska Polskiego Street, defensive walls, a palace (Fig. 3) and a town hall (Fig. 2) were renovated. The western frontage at the market square was reconstructed, of which one corner tenement house has remained. It was decided to rebuild it retaining the former ownership division in accordance with the medieval cadastral division and the form of, 2.5 storey-high gable front tenement houses covered with a steep gable roof. Unlike solutions in other cities, this reconstruction resulted in the restoration of the market's original scale and general urban form.

¹⁶ S. Latour, 1981, p. 54.

Cooperation with the Szczecin University of Technology

Trzebiatów, as well as other cities in the region, has become a matter of interest for both conservation services and the Institute of Architecture and Spatial Planning of the Szczecin University of Technology. Thanks to the agreement between the university and the city authorities in the design studio of the Department of Theory of Architecture, History and Conservation of Monuments, projects of revalorization of the city as a whole and individual quarters or objects were created (Fig. 5).



Fig. 5 Trzebiatów. Colour design of the frontage from the side of Wojska Polskiego Street of the quarter subject to revaluation in the 1970s. (archive of the Latour family)

Trzebiatów also became a practice ground for architecture students, who, as part of their internships organized in the 1970s, carried out inventories of buildings located within the boundaries of the Old Town, which helped to assess their condition and prepare conservation studies¹⁷. Tasks related to the revaluation of the Old Town quarters were also the subject of diploma projects.

The local zoning plan for Trzebiatów

The revitalisation plan for Trzebiatów was prepared in 1996 by a team of designers from the Institute of Architecture and Spatial Planning of the Szczecin University of Technology under the direction of Stanisław Latour¹⁸. The development of the plan was preceded by the recognition of all conditions, i.e. a detailed urban inventory, architectural inventory, landscape study, study of protection and panorama shaping, physiography with a detailed inventory of greenery, assessment of the technical condition of buildings, recognition of the structure of land ownership, communication study. Detailed conservation guidelines have been developed, dominant functions for individual areas have been established, a method of management of individual fragments of the Old Town has been formulated, protective rigours have been established and the order for transformation of degraded areas has been issued. Conservation protection zones were determined, objects entered into the register of monuments and those selected for entry were indicated. It was proposed to divide the city into plots in individual quarters, which allows the City to conduct a proper policy of land trade. This study became the basis for the amendment of the local development plan adopted by the Trzebiatów City Council on September 3, 1996.

¹⁷ S. Latour, 2005, p.18.

¹⁸ E. Kulesza-Szerniewicz, 2016.

The main objectives are set out in the introduction:

- 1) protection of the preserved cultural values of the Old Town space and restoration of lost values to degraded spaces;
- 2) ensuring spatial order, protection of landscape values and natural environment;
- 3) ensuring proper standards of housing conditions;
- 4) providing the City with an instrument for conducting proper land trade policy.

Intangible assets

In Trzebiatów, a peculiar genius loci makes itself known, something that makes this place unique. It is influenced by intangible assets as an inseparable coexistence of tangible assets of the place. They are made up of both historical and contemporary values.

- 1. Historical values:
- The presence of significant figures influencing the city to which they belong:
- Princess Anastasia, daughter of Mieszko III the Old, wife of Prince Bogusław I, who brought Norbertine nuns to Trzebiatów;
- Prince Barnim I and his son Bogusław IV, who granted the city the Lubeck $\,$ city location rights;
- Jan Bugenhagen, promoter of Luther's teachings, rector of the Trzebiatów city school, participant of the Trzebiatów Sejm in 1534,
- Princess Sophia, widow of Philip II, who took over the Ponorberta monastery and rebuilt it into her residence;
- Princess Maria Anna Czartoryska, wife of Prince Frederick Ludwig of Württemberg, whose uncle was King Frederick of Prussia;
- Lyonel Feininger, an American painter and graphic artist who admired the seaside town of Mrzeżyno and Trzebiatów and left a mark on his work;
- Stanisław Latour, an architect, professor at the Szczecin University of Technology, author of a project to revalorise the Old Town in Trzebiatów and head of a team preparing a report on Trzebiatów on behalf of the Ministry of Culture as part of the program "Rescuing Historical Cities" 19;
- Special historical events 1534 Trzebiatów Sejm, during which by decision of Barnim XI and Philip I and the representatives of the Pomeranian states, the adoption of the Reformation in the Pomeranian Duchy was passed.

The report on the course of the process of revalorisation of the city of Trzebiatów was prepared within the framework of the Ministry of Culture and Art departmental program commissioned by the Voivodeship Conservator of Monuments in Szczecin by a team of authors from the Institute of Architecture and Spatial Planning of the Szczecin University of Technology: Stanisław Latour, Helena Freino, Anna Borkowska-Koniewicz, Agnieszka Latour, Waldemar Marzęcki, Kazimiera Kalita-Skwirzyńska; in the author's archives.

2. Contemporary values:

- Meetings of four candles a meeting place of four cultures and religions: Roman Catholic, Greek Catholic, Orthodox and Evangelical, held in the Trzebiatów Cultural Center²⁰.
- Pomeranian Meetings annual meetings of scientists, art historians, archaeologists, representatives of cultural and artistic circles and Trzebiatów enthusiasts organized by the Trzebiatów Culture Center at conferences devoted to Trzebiatów and the Trzebiatów region²¹.
- Active participation of residents in cultural events broadening the knowledge about the history of the city and the region, proving their identification with it and deep awareness of its heritage.

Monument of History - expected prospects for the city

- Raising the prestige of the city, increasing its value and significance, which may have an impact on the development of some of its areas, e.g. tourism;
- Reason for the pride of the residents and greater understanding of the need to protect the historic area and at the same time strengthen the protective attitude towards it;
- Enhanced care of conservation services the Voivodeship Office for Monument Protection and National Heritage Institute, implemented through the planned program of monitoring Monuments of History;
- Additional points for external funding.

Conclusion

It is undeniable that eight years of waiting for the decision of the Ministry of Culture, even if it requires additional investigation, is a very long time. Especially since it is not finished yet. The applicant is not informed at what stage of the application examination is taking place and for what reason it takes so long. Questions are answered in general terms. Due to lack of communication, it is not possible to influence the decision in the form of e.g. supplementing the application. This indicates an imperfection in the procedures for awarding the title, which may need to be reviewed and corrected. In the opinion of the author, the city of Trzebiatów, due to its special values, meets the criteria for Monuments of History. It is not inferior to such cities - Monuments of History as Paczków or Stary Sącz, although this comparison cannot be treated literally due to the different nature and genesis of the listed monuments. The value of Trzebiatów lies in its almost intact medieval urban layout, clear cadastral division and historical urban tissue preserved on an unprecedented scale in Western Pomerania. For these reasons, it is worthy of this special ennoblement.

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