ABSTRACT: The article discusses issues concerning the choice and difficult selection of historic buildings from the area of the city of Przemyśl, which were put forward for inclusion in the list of Monuments of History. Due to geographical and historical factors, it was decided to place the main emphasis on the military value of the city. In the application for the list of monuments of history, apart from the old town within the remnants of the city walls, the list of objects was extended to include castellated Carmelite, Franciscan (FPOs) and Benedictine monasteries, in Zasanie, whose fortifications supported the defense of the city. The buildings of the barracks of the Fortress were also selected. All these elements made up a very large area, “insularly” scattered around the city and neighboring communes, with a varying degree of preservation of the historical substance. The text discusses the problem of the extent of the entry on the list of Historical Monuments, landscape, historical and artistic values of the city, the issues of protection and increasing the tourist value, and also poses a question about further prospects for the development of the city and the Fortress.

KEY WORDS: Przemyśl, Twierdza Przemyśl, fortyfikacje

On the centenary of Poland’s regaining independence, as a result of the efforts of the Mayor of the City of Przemyśl and the Chairman of the Board of the Union of Fortress Communities of Przemyśl Fortress, with the support of the mayors of fortress communities and the Starost of Przemyśl, the City of Przemyśl and the Przemyśl Fortress have been recognized as a Monument of History. This ennobling distinction marks the beginning of a new stage in the history of the town on the San River and Przemyśl Fortress. Above all, it opens new perspectives for further development of Przemyśl as a tourist city with enormous potential and outstanding landscape values. Suffice it to say that over a thousand years of history have been reflected into statistical data.

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1 Piekarz T., Panorama of Przemyśl, "Renovations and Monuments", 2014, no. 2 (50), pp. 36-43.
Przemyśl has the biggest number of monuments per inhabitant and per unit of area in Poland. Due to the above factors, the city authorities in the person of the President Robert Choma, with the support of the Podkarpackie Voivodeship Conservator of Historical Monuments in Przemyśl, Ms. Beata Kot, made efforts to prepare documentation enabling them to start the bid to include Przemyśl on the list of Historical Monuments. When, at the beginning of 2017, the then Mayor of the City approached me with a proposal to prepare an application, the basic problem that arose was its scope. Of course, the city authorities at that time wanted to include as much as possible in the application; the second condition was to include the Przemyśl Fortress. Such requirements seemed to be impossible to implement, mainly due to the territorial scope, problem in delimitation of boundaries and lack of substantive justification. It proved necessary to formulate the application in such a way as to make it possible to include the city and the Fortress as two separate but connected elements. Due to the historical and geographical factors, the military value of the city was the connecting element between the two groups. Taking into account also the multicultural character of the city, the final subject of the entry was formulated, which, taking into consideration its unique character, made it possible to determine the elements of the entry and to set its boundaries, which constituted a coherent whole. Finally, the subject of the entry was: Przemyśl. City-fortress. The Old Town Complex and the Przemyśl Fortress. The heritage of the Central European nations (Tab. 1).

The basis for the entry was the Old Town part of the city within the remnants of modern era city walls with the castle hill (Fig. 1) and the so-called Kazimierzowski Castle and the castellated, modern church and monastery complexes, whose fortifications played an important role in strengthening the defenses of the city (Fig. 2). First of all, the complex of the church and monastery of the Discalced Carmelites should be mentioned, with the best-preserved fragments of the defensive walls incorporated in the system of modern era city fortifications, then the complex of the church and monastery of the Franciscans, located just behind the former city walls at the former Lviv Gate, and the complex of the church and monastery of the Benedictines located in Zasanie, guarding access to the crossing on the San River. The entry also includes the early 20th-century complex of the Carmelite Church and Monastery, located within the boundaries of the city’s earth fortifications, whose clearly distinguishable fragments have survived in the monastery area.

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2 Kot B., 1st stage of the project entitled “Development of the historic complex of the Przemyśl Fortress in order to make it accessible for cultural tourism”, the path to the ennoblement of the monument as a Monument of History of the Republic of Poland”, [in:] Dawne fortyfikacje dla turystyki, rekreacji i kultury, ed. L. Narębski, Toruń 2018, p. 73.

Tab. 1 "Przemyśl - the city fortress. The Old Town and the Przemyśl Fortress. The heritage of the nations of Central Europe". Schematic plan with meaning of historical elements included in the list of Historical Monuments, elaborated by the authors of the book "The Old Town and the Fortress of Przemyśl - The Heritage of the Nations of Central Europe". R. Nestorrov, rys. J. Ochalski
Fig. 1 The castle in Przemyśl with a bird’s eye view from the northwest. Below the hill, looking from the left, the most important churches: Roman Catholic cathedral with a bell tower, Franciscan church, Jesuit church (now a Greek Catholic cathedral), Carmelite friars church and Carmelite nuns church. Photo from the collection of the Municipal Office in Przemyśl.

Fig. 2 Przemyśl, the old town part, the bird’s eye view showing the terraced layout of the buildings. Photo from the collection of the Municipal Office in Przemyśl.
Most questions and doubts concerned the Przemyśl Fortress (1854-1914). This was related both to the state of preservation of post-fortheistic objects and, above all, to the area, territorial extent and fragmentation of individual smaller and larger fortress works (Fig 3).

There was also an open question about the vast number of objects located in the city, mostly located outside the Old Town area, which make up the base of the fortress. Apart from the technical buildings (barracks, warehouses, etc.), which were less important in terms of artistic value, there remained a significant number of barracks or buildings occupied by the command of particular military formations, the headquarters of the commander-in-chief, the garrison hospital, the headquarters of military institutions, the officer's casino, and also the entire technical facilities in the form of a railway station, aqueduct, production facilities, etc., the most important of which were located outside the old town. In addition, a unique complex of military cemeteries from World War I on Przemysława Street, a war cemetery on Zasanie on B. Śmiałego Street and the main cemetery on the slopes of Zniesienie, with numerous tombstones of the fortress inhabitants made by the best local stonemasonry workshops, as well as numerous artisans from Lviv or Krakow have been preserved in the city.

Bearing in mind the above difficulties, it was decided that despite the vastness of the area of the Przemyśl Fortress ring, it could not be taken into account selectively, limiting the choice to only a dozen or so selected objects or components, e.g. the inner ring. Conversely, it needs to be treated as an inseparable whole (with the obvious exclusion of a small fragment of the Fortress currently located on the

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The historical complex of the former Przemyśl Fortress is situated in a clearly distinguishable fortified landscape, as a complex of forts connected by a system of roads, with groups of camouflage greenery, in purposefully shaped buildings and forest complexes, with large barracks and storage complexes located in the city of Przemyśl. The uniqueness of the Przemyśl Fortress, among other European fortresses, is determined primarily by the clear fortified landscape, understood also as a landscape of a great battlefield. The testimony of the bloody battles for the Przemyśl Fortress are the war cemeteries preserved in the city. It was also assumed that it is not possible to deprive the fortress of its facilities in the form of buildings located in the city. In this case, due to their number, varied degree of preservation of the historical substance and location within the current boundaries of the city, it was decided to make a choice based primarily on the state of preservation, authenticity of the historical substance and the artistic value. Among the many preserved buildings of the Przemyśl Fortress, it was decided to take into account the best-preserved barracks complexes (established in 1880-85; modernized in 1895-1914) due to their urban and landscape values: barracks complex at 89 J. Słowackiego Street (barracks complex no. IV "Baraken-Lager No. 4"), complex of a crew hospital at 4. Słowackiego, barracks complex no. 1 and 2 at 29 Listopada Street (barracks complex of 45 Infantry Regiment), barracks complex in S. Okrzei Street (barracks complex of 10th Pioneer Battalion), and also the railway station complex (Fig. 4), whose construction (1859-1860) and thorough expansion (1895) were connected with the construction of the Fortress and urban development of the city. The narrative adopted in the application, according to which the issue of defense was the decisive factor shaping the history and urban development of the city from the moment of its foundation, was also complemented by the inclusion of a fragment of the so-called Molotov Line fortifications in the form of concrete battle bunkers (BSB) added to the inner ring of the fortifications in the years 1940-41.

Selected elements made up a very large area, located in an insular manner in the city and the neighboring communes, with a different degree of preservation of the historical substance (Tab.1). As a result, during the preparation of the application many problems arose, starting from the necessity to complete the entries in the register of monuments of the unaccounted fragments of the Fortress, verification of the location of the unpreserved parts of the city fortifications, or determination of the boundaries of entries of the Fortress components and its surroundings. It was no less difficult to prepare over a hundred graphic annexes, not to mention the historical aspects of such a diverse and extensive ensemble, whose complex issues were difficult to fit in the rigid framework of the application.

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The development of such a wide-ranging application, covering the vast area of the Przemyśl Fortress located in the area of nine communes of the Przemyśl district (poviąt), would not have been possible without the Association of Fortress Communes of the Przemyśl Fortress, established in 2008, associating nine communes of the Przemyśl district\(^7\). The establishment of the Association made it possible to implement a project of unique scale of developing a part of the Przemyśl Fortress. In the years 2007-2013, the first stage of the project "Development of the historic complex of the Przemyśl Fortress to make it available for cultural tourism" was completed. The cost of the project was 22 071 887.89 PLN, including the amount of eligible costs 20 761 471.39 PLN. The project included works on 24 objects of cultural heritage. Based on forecasts, it was predicted that over 14 thousand tourists would visit the facilities annually. As a result of the project, approximately 20% of the Przemyśl Fortress was made available. These activities were appreciated in 2016 in the competition of the Minister of Culture and National Heritage and the General Conservator of Monuments – Monument Well Cared-for, at which the Association of Fortress Communes of the Przemyśl Fortress was awarded a distinction in the category of revaluation of cultural space and landscape\(^8\).

The completed project of making a part of the Przemyśl Fortress complex accessible to the public was the first step towards the recognizing of the monument as a Monument of History. The next step may be gaining a UNESCO WHL cross-border entry of the Austro-Hungarian

\(^7\) http://www.fortytwierdzyprzemysl.pl.
fortifications. This idea appeared already in 2003 during the International Day of Monuments Protection in Cracow, and was resurrected again in 2010 at the meeting of the Committee for World Heritage in Warsaw.

In 2017 a meeting of the Mayors of Cracow and Przemyśl and the Voivodeship Monument Conservators of Małopolska and Podkarpackie regions (voivodeships) took place in Cracow. The initiative was presented and accepted at the meeting of the presidents of the parliaments of the Visegrad Group in Przemyśl last year. The potential entry creates a great opportunity for the development of tourism not only in the area of the Fortress but also in the city of Przemyśl.

As Beta Kot, the Podkarpackie Voivodeship Conservator of Monuments, rightly pointed out: "The fortress is described as a unique phenomenon in Poland and even in Central Europe, because it meets the conditions of the so-called "exceptional and universal value". "Exceptional" because nowhere else in Poland is there such a large urban and defensive complex, which is at the same time a reflection of the technical achievements of the epoch and a battlefield of strategic importance for European history. "Universal" because it is a testimony of not only the history of the region but also of Europe and the world. Moreover, due to the well-preserved "fortified landscape" of the Fortress, Przemyśl fulfils the condition of combined protection of cultural and natural assets adopted in the world heritage system. What is important, the fortifications of the Przemyśl Fortress, located mostly on the territory of Poland, with a small fragment located in Ukraine, should not be treated individually but as an important element of Austrian and Austro-Hungarian fortifications constituting an important element of the heritage of Central, Southern and Eastern European countries (Italy, Austria, the Czech Republic, Poland, Slovakia, Hungary, Ukraine, Romania, Serbia, Montenegro, Bosnia, Croatia and Slovenia). The Austro-Hungarian Fortification fulfils the universality criterion as a perfect example of a review of most schools and varieties of European fortifications. Ring strongholds present a unique concept of a modern fortified camp as a result of the engineering thought of the nineteenth century, technical solutions that were the legacy of many European nations. The diverse state of preservation of the Austro-Hungarian fortifications is a record of war events, as was the case with Przemyśl Fortress. The projects carried out in the Fortresses of Przemyśl, Cracow, or Italy (Folgaria-Lavarone) and Ukraine (Komarno Fortress) are aimed at the preservation and proper adaptation of fortification monuments and their availability for European tourism.

The specificity of the fortifications requires numerous cross-border entries in the UNESCO World Heritage List. This has already had its precedents, e.g. in the entry of Vauban's fortifications or the cross-border entry of Venetian defense facilities from the 16th and 17th centuries. The inclusion of Austro-Hungarian fortifications on the World Heritage List may be

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10 Kot B., op. cit., p. 82.
a continuation of the already started process\textsuperscript{12}. The Austro-Hungarian fortifications can be seen as a cross-border and transnational complex heritage, and due to local differences, including the state of preservation, they can be grouped as a heritage trail (the European Trail of the Austro-Hungarian Fortifications). Against the background of the European ring strongholds, the uniqueness of the Przemyśl Fortress development project carried out in 2013-2015 should be emphasized once again, as it considerably contributed to increasing the value of the complex, improved the state of its preservation, enabled sustainable development by cultural tourism, and above all emphasized the unique and universal value of the landscape of the 19th century ring strongholds as an important element of world heritage.

Within this article, it is impossible to at least briefly present the complex historical and artistic issues that make up the rich heritage of Przemyśl and the Przemyśl Fortress. One can only attempt to point to the most important elements of the material and immaterial heritage of Przemyśl and the Przemyśl Fortress. - The cultural heritage of Przemyśl is a testimony to the power, colourfulness and cultural diversity of the former Republic of Poland, clearly visible in the landscape, monuments and preserved genius loci of the city.

- The city with well-preserved historical substance, whose harmonious layers are a testimony to the centuries-old, multicultural and multinational history of over 1000 years.
- A unique complex of rotunda and palatine on the castle hill from the early Piast times and the emerging Christianity on the lands of contemporary Poland.
- Preserved, clear spatial layout of the city with fragmentarily preserved sections of the city walls, the course of which is visible in the structure of the urban development. - The terraced location of the city over the San river valley and the density of historical buildings make up a unique, picturesque panorama of the city, which has survived almost unchanged in its form for over 250 years.
- The shaping of the city along with the accumulation of monuments of sacral architecture, primarily Baroque churches as well as church and monastery complexes earned Przemyśl the name of "little Rome".
- The strategic location of Przemyśl determined the transformation of the town (1854-1914) into one of the main strongholds in the empire, the largest in Galicia, the third largest in Europe, as the only one besieged three times, distinguished by the longest siege detached from the permanent front (173 days).
- Przemyśl Fortress is a coherent complex of fortification remains from World War I with preserved buildings of the fortress infrastructure and supply facilities (barracks, military hospital, railway stations, etc.) and a complex of cemeteries from World War I. An element distinguishing the complex of the Przemyśl Fortress from other Polish or European fortresses is the well-preserved diversified fortified landscape in the area of the outer ring of fortifications.

\textsuperscript{12} Wielgus K., Środulska-Wielgus J., Wyjątkowe i uniwersalne wartości dawnych krajobrazów warownych, „Teka Komisji Urbanistyki i Architektury PAN, Oddział w Krakowie”, T. XLVI, 2018, pp. 431-477.
• Due to the strategic location of Przemyśl, the decisive factor for the development of the city was its defense, starting with the early medieval town, then the brick castle, the complex of fortifications and castellated monasteries, Przemyśl fortress, and ending with the Soviet bunkers of the Molotov line.

• The eclectic and secessionist buildings of the town from the turn of the 19th and 20th centuries harmonize with the Baroque facades of churches and monastery complexes and make up a picturesque whole.

• Unique elements of temple decoration, and above all the late baroque woodcarving masterpieces of the Lviv style, one of the largest and most important ensembles within the borders of present-day Poland.

• At the turn of the 20th century, the city was a vibrant centre of cultural and social life of Eastern Małopolska, the monuments of that period document the interpenetration of cultures and the richness of references to European inspirations.

• The location of the city meant that Przemyśl played a significant role in the history of Poland, especially in both World Wars. In terms of material and non-material heritage, it is a testimony of Polish way to independence and threats affecting our country.

Undoubtedly, the recognition of Przemyśl and the Przemyśl Fortress with two separate entries on the list of the Monuments of History is not only a distinction, but also a way to promote both historic complexes, and a chance to revitalize cultural tourism in the city and region. The city’s tourist attractions will be enhanced by ongoing conservation works, including the monumental facade of the Franciscan Church, which is a prominent feature of the city’s panorama (Fig. 1 and 2), and above all, the works on the opening of the St. Nicholas rotunda under the chancel of the Przemyśl Cathedral, which will be the crowning achievement of works related to the already opened cathedral basements and the exhibition of funeral artefacts. An even more spectacular undertaking is the ongoing project to enlarge the underground tourist route (made available in 2015) under the Market Square. The project, which is to be implemented in 2019-2021, is being carried out by the Municipality of Przemyśl in cooperation with the National Museum of Przemyśl Land. The project is financed under the Regional Operational Programme of the Podkarpackie Voivodeship for 2014-2020, Priority Axis VI Spatial and Social Cohesion, Measure 6.3 Revitalization of regional space. Its total value is PLN 13,052,469.76, and the subsidy will amount to PLN 8,726,313.37. The project is aimed at a modern presentation of the city from the turn of the 17th century, i.e. the time of its greatest prosperity. An additional attraction is to be the passage through the nineteenth-century sanitary collector and an added link to the branch of the National Museum in the tenement house located at 9 Rynek square/7 Serbańska street.


It can be hoped that the ongoing works on making the next forts of the Fortress more readable and accessible will also contribute to increasing their tourist value\textsuperscript{16}.

The inclusion of Przemyśl on the list of Monuments of History has stimulated the local authorities to take action to protect and utilize the city’s greatest potential, which is its centuries-old heritage. In February this year, the current Mayor of the City Mr. Wojciech Bakun signed a decree appointing a team to work on the establishment of a Cultural Park in Przemyśl, whose proposed territorial area is larger than the scope of the Old Town’s entry on the list of Monuments of History. The next step towards the creation of a cultural park was a conference organized on 8 May this year in the National Museum of the Land of Przemysl as part of the social campaign "Landscape of my city" organized by the National Heritage Institute\textsuperscript{17}.

Hopefully, the honoring of the town and Przemyśl Fortress with two separate entries on the list of Monuments of History will strengthen the sense of pride and responsibility for the surrounding heritage, which should be the most important element for the development and revival of the entire region.

\textsuperscript{16} Środulska-Wielgus J., Wielgus K., 
\emph{Twierdza Przemyśl. Wariowny krajobraz turystyczny, „Renowacje i Zabytki"}, 2014, nr 2 (50), s. 114-123.

\textsuperscript{17} https://przemysl.pl/53836/odbyla-sie-konferencja-w-ramach-kampanii-krajobraz-mojego-miasta.html.
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