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MŁYNY WODNE W KRAJOBRAZIE KULTUROWYM  
DOLINY BZURY I ICH PROBLEMATYKA  
KONSERWATORSKA

TOM I

Rozprawa Doktorska  
w dziedzinie nauk humanistycznych w dyscyplinie nauki o sztuce

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## STRESZCZENIE (ANG.)

The work *Water mills in the cultural landscape of the Bzura Basin and their conservation issues* is an attempt at a historical and conservation approach to the milling heritage. Its primary goal was to identify and characterize the impact of watermills on the cultural landscape of the Bzura Basin, which is crucial for the implied conservation policy

The main subject of research were water-driven milling plants preserved in the basin landscape and their mutual impact (the impact of mills on the landscape and vice versa). The territorial scope was the area of the Bzura drainage basin, located within the borders of the Mazowieckie and Łódzkie voivodeships (historically the area of one of the eight voivodeships of the Kingdom of Poland). The time frame was determined by the period in which the plants preserved in the area operated, i.e. from the last quarter of the 19<sup>th</sup> century to the 20<sup>th</sup> century. The issue of the perception of the mill landscape and conservation issues move the final border to the beginning of the 21<sup>st</sup> century.

In the course of research, there were adopted office methods (including archival query, analysis of historical maps, review of literature and data available in public circulation) as well as field methods (journeys during which 206 locations were identified, and 54 of them resulted in revealing preserved watermills).

The dissertation consists of three volumes. The first one is a text part, with five separated chapters. The work opens with an *Introduction* containing a brief history of milling; and the *Materials* on which the study was based, which have been touched upon in *Chapter 1*. *Chapter 2* contains a summary presentation of the main issues related to the research on the cultural landscape (mainly the humanistic trend) and the conservation protection of the mills as such, with an indication of the basic problems and challenges. The historical and analytical part covers the characteristics of the landscape of the Bzura Basin along with a description of the regulatory work carried out on the river and its tributaries in the 19<sup>th</sup> and 20<sup>th</sup> centuries and their impact on the landscape, history and organization of milling in the area. Social issues complete the description. *Chapter 4* presents the characteristics of the studied group of objects and the recognition of their significance from the landscape perspective. The analysis covered the layout, location (including the system of water conditions), architecture and equipment of the mills. Later in the chapter, attention is focused on the role and contemporary meanings of the existing milling plants (as well as their remains), which constitute permanent and important

elements of the region landscape. The last chapter deals with issues related to certain conservation issues, including the state of preservation and protection of the resource. The text part is supplemented by Annexes and List of materials on which the study was based.

The second volume consists of illustrative material. The last of the volumes is a *Catalog* containing 54 cards in alphabetical order prepared for the preserved mills.

Thanks to the conducted research, it was possible to achieve the objectives of the project, including the number of historical water mills preserved in the Bzura Basin and tracing the quantitative changes within this resource over the last two centuries. It was also possible to prepare documentation of the preserved objects (see: *Volume 3 - Catalog*). The collected materials not only made it possible to analyze them, but also allowed for a review and description of historical locations with varying degrees of "legibility", in which the mills have not survived. Interviews with the owners of mills or the inhabitants of the nearby towns were also significant for the project, as they allowed for drawing conclusions about the importance of milling and its place in individual and collective memory. On the basis of field research, the author was able to determine the state of preservation of the studied resource and come up with certain conservation conclusions.

**Keywords:** architecture, the Bzura, heritage, economy, landscape, cultural landscape, mill, milling, industry, monument.