

DESCRIPTION FOR THE GENERAL PUBLIC

Cemetery is a specific spatial structure requires for proper implementation of its functions well-thought space [Lehrer 1974]. There have been several investigations examining the impacts of an inappropriate location of cemetery on the environment, cultural landscape and human life [Fisher, Croukamp 1993; Ucisik, Rushbrook 1998; Żychowski 2010; Tudor et al. 2013; Niță et al. 2014].

Researchers agree, that theme of planning and design of cemeteries is a difficult task because they are very different from other types of public services in terms of functionality [Kjøller 2012]. "Civilizations have given cemeteries special protection" [Lehrer 1974, p. 181]. Cemeteries fulfill many functions in society, in addition bury the dead. It is sacred zone, archive, museum and park at the same time [Michałowski 2001]. It is space dedicated to both the dead and the living [Thomas 1991, Kolbuszewski 1996, Długozima 2011].

Important consideration in the location of cemeteries is its relative universality and permanence. That is why the issue of planning location and cemetery design should be the special interest from the general public [American Society of Planning Officials 1950].

Meanwhile, cemeteries are overlooked in the land use planning process. In Polish research issue of planning cemeteries in the existing urban and rural conditions is absent.

It is the lack of contemporary clearly articulated recommendations for planners and designers in form of guide, manual taking into account environmental, aesthetic and landscape, socio-cultural, functional and spatial conditions.

The aim of the research is to determine the state of Polish cemeteries resource designed, built between 2000 and today (2016). Currently, the exact numbers of cemeteries in Poland is unknown because of lack of appropriate database. The researcher will use Polish contemporary cemeteries designed and built between 2000 and today (2016) as a territorial scope of the research. Selected cemeteries administratively belong to all voivodships (it is important because of different historical and cultural conditions of regions of Poland) and are located in landscapes of various anthropopressure degree (countryside/town).

Cemetery is a multidimensional space valuable from socio-cultural, functional, aesthetic and landscape point of view. That is why one of the research objective is to assess the impact of Polish cemeteries location on the spatial order.

Spatial order is defined as target state of spatial management and development so the aim of the research is to examine land use policy in Poland as expressed by their official plans in regards to the planning and design cemeteries. Moreover, contemporary cemetery's models in the aspect of location, management, composition and scenarios of cemetery's spatial development will be elaborated.

Research also aims to develop policy recommendations for spatial planning and design of Polish contemporary cemeteries with respect to the environmental, cultural, social, functional and spatial context. . The intention is to derive appropriate guidelines and requirements for efficient planning and management of cemeteries in urban and rural areas. Project can help improve the quality of space and mitigate the conflicts that emerge when cemeteries are expanded or constructed anew. Project can also improve processes through elaboration of multi-criterial assessment method (site assessment for potential new cemetery development which will be flexible and responsive to potential socio-cultural changes). Planning and design cemeteries in the existing urban and rural structures should be carried out within the framework of integrated planning. Which involves combining actions in different layers of cultural landscape to achieve optimal development that is spatial order. An important feature of spatial order is its multidimensionality. It requires combining harmoniously different aspects: functional, socio-economic, environmental, cultural, compositional and aesthetic. Because of the interdisciplinary scientific workshop (Spatial planning and Landscape architecture) the applicant concentrates on socio-cultural, aesthetic and landscape, functional and spatial issues. Analysis will be carried out in two scales: in the settlement unit scale (context of cemetery) and in the cemetery scale.

Compliance with legal requirements, well-thought location of cemeteries in the existing urban and rural structures, preserves the park features causes that cemeteries will still fulfill many functions. Cemeteries will regarded as a place of rich cultural content, environmental, architectural and landscape values. Cemetery is an important component of the cultural landscape which presence in the landscape can create spatial order.