Annals of Warsaw University of Life Sciences – SGGW Horticulture and Landscape Architecture No 42, 2021: 75–88 (Ann. Warsaw Univ. of Life Sci. – SGGW, Horticult. Landsc. Architect. 42, 2021) DOI 10.22630/AHLA.2021.42.4

The heritage of the monastery complex of the Capuchin Fathers in the context of the transformation of the landscape of Lubartów

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Abstract: The heritage of the monastery complex of the Capuchin Fathers in the context of the transformation of the landscape of Lubartów. The monastery complex in Lubartów is an interesting structure. Despite the monastic dissolution in Poland and Europe in the 18th and 19th centuries, the monastery complex retained its original function and, to a large extent, compositional layout. Its construction took place in the first half of the 18th century, and since then, it has undergone many transformations adapting the layout to the needs of the city's inhabitants. The dissolution of the monastery in 1866 and the return of the monks who live in it and conduct cultural activities until now, after 112 years, should be emphasised. The article presents the nature of these transformations and the contemporary resources of monastery gardens against the city's changing spatial arrangement. After the Second World War, Lubartów entered a new path of urban development, following industry development. Contemporary transformations should not threaten the historical resources. The more so as the complex of the monastery gardens in Lubartów is an important and unique element of the urban greenery system while simultaneously performing important cultural functions.

Key words: Lubartów, Capuchin Order, monastery in the city landscape, monastery gardens

INTRODUCTION

From the Middle Ages on, monks settled in the Lublin region, establishing their seats under the rule – in the centre or nearby of developing cities. Each time, the complex of monastic buildings was accompanied, depending on the terrain availability and the needs of the monastic community, larger or smaller gardens, often constituting one of the first green plantations in cities. One congregation that played an essential role in developing the described area was played by the Capuchins. Mikołaj Krzynecki, the treasurer of Trembowla and a colonel of the Polish army, proposed to found a new Capuchin monastery in 1735, intending to settle the monks in Łuszczów near Lublin. However, because he did not have sufficient funds to build a church and a monastery, the role of a co-founder was assumed by Prince Paweł Karol Sanguszko, the Grand Marshal of Lithuania. The latter had founded the Capuchin monastery in Lublin. The seat of the Sanguszko--Lubartów family was chosen as the

place of the new foundation, and the formal act of foundation took place in 1736¹. Constructing the Capuchin monastery on the municipal land of Lubartów was preceded by the purchase and partly exchange of land originally owned by the townspeople, which is confirmed by the preserved archival documents. The complex was situated in the southern part of the city, locating it right next to the main road (Lubelska Street) on the west side, as if at the end of the axis marked by the Sanguszko residences. It is worth adding that the rule of mendicant monasteries, to which the Capuchins belonged, programmatically assumed that the community would survive solely on society's generosity. It resulted in some characteristic differences in the spatial arrangements of the monastery foundations. Monasteries became a meeting place for townspeople and a centre of social and political life in the city (Majdecki 2008). Placing the monastery in the structure of the city was not accidental. It had a broader meaning both for its founders and for the community that the order was to serve. The heroic activity of the monks of Lubartów, especially when Poland fought for independence, proved the rightness of the decision to found the monastery and the prominent place of its location.

Contemporary transformations of the monastery complex resulting from the urban development of Lubartów mean that surrounded by a cluster of old trees among the increasingly dense urban buildings, it is a green enclave. Besides its undeniable cultural values, it has a significant natural value in the city landscape. The described architectural and garden complex has become a permanent element of the dynamically developing structure of the urban unit, keeping it still alive because it is used not only by monks but also more widely – by the city community – the traditional monastic heritage.

MATERIAL AND METHODS

The paper presents the results of detailed field studies (dendrological inventory and land inventory), archival and study research carried out in 2012-2013 and supplemented in 2018. The query was based on materials collected in the Provincial Conservator of Monuments archives and the State Archives in comparison with the relics of the preserved historical layout, reconstructed during field measurements. These were primarily inventory studies of the monastery building and historical and urban studies of Lubartów. They made it possible to analyse archival materials, including plans from different periods of the monastery, including contemporary measurements on a modern map of the main area of the study and an orthophotomap. Based on the rich documentation, the character and territorial scope of contemporary changes were determined, and elements that have not survived to modern times, with the simultaneous indication of new functions performed by the area originally belonging to the Capuchin monastery complex. Thanks to

¹ http://www.lubartow.kapucyni.eu/historia-klasztoru [accessed February 2021].

the relictly preserved layout and archival drawings, and historical plans showing depletion of the Capuchin monastery's historical area in Lubartów, it was possible to collect material that would support a compositional analysis of the premises. Summarising the above analyses, it was possible to determine the preservation of the historic substance of the monastery complex and its transformations against the background of changes in the urban structure and its importance in the city's cultural landscape. The above analyses made it possible to evaluate the preservation of the traditional composition of the complex in the context of the contemporary landscape transformations of Lubartów, which should be considered to a significant extent in the city development plans.

Characteristics of the research area – the urban context of the monastery complex

Lubartów is a town founded in the medieval spirit, although its beginning dates to the middle of the 16th century. That it was founded on a raw root on the route from Lublin to Siedlce may prove that the decisive factor in its creation was trade, bringing fees from the socalled road compulsion, or the right of storage, but also certain defensive conditions (the nature of the first residence) (Böhm 2006). The founding town was established based on the privilege of King Zygmunt August, issued to Piotr Firlej, Lublin voivode, on 29 May 1543 (Kurzątkowska 1967). This privilege assumed granting the city the Magdeburg law and a specific layout according to a regular arrangement with the market in the middle, the size of which was probably adjusted to the needs of trade. The initial, spacious square, with streets leading from the corners, was later divided into Market Square I and II along the western frontage. Peculiar borders of the city were the residential complex with the parish church to the north and north-east of the square and the Capuchin monastery in the southern part. It significantly determined the spatial development of the city, especially in the 18th century, when Lubartów flourished for the second time (Fig. 1).

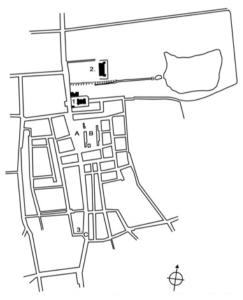


FIGURE 1. A situational sketch made based on an overview drawing "Plan miasta Lubartowa": A – marketplace I, B – marketplace II, C – new marketplace (location of the Capuchin monastery), 1 – parish church, 2 – mansion, 3 – monastery of the Capuchin fathers (Brykowski and Smulikowska 1976)

The contemporary composition of Lubartów follows the axis marked by the longitudinal Lubelska Street, which is part of a supra-local communication system leading south to Lublin and north to Radzyń Podlaski (Fig. 2). Along this city artery, objects important for the compositional and functional layout of Lubartów were located. The key building in Lubartów's composition is the Sanguszko Palace from the 18th century, which serves as the seat of the County Office. This property owes its present form to the rebuilding of the property in 1705, after the destruction caused during the Northern War². Another object is the basilica of St. Anna, built in the Baroque style in 1733-1738 according to the design of Paweł Antoni Fontana. It is a dominant feature of the historic city centre. The Church of St. Lawrence and the Capuchin monastery built in 1737--1741 by the architect mentioned above and the Baroque style are important recognisable elements of the city's urban lavout. At the Basilica of St. Anna, there used to be a sixteenth-century market square in Lubartów surrounded by low one-story buildings. Later, buildings were built in their surroundings, which changed the form of the square dating to the Renaissance period, changing its shape and character. A departure from the linear composition of the city is the communication route leading from the Sanguszko Palace to the estate in Kozłówka. This road was planted on both sides, with linden trees forming a long avenue. Before the First World War, the Lubartów railway station was built south of the city centre, on the Lublin-Łuków line. It was located more than 1 km south of the monastery complex of the Capuchin Fathers. Thus, there was an additional

determinant of the linear development of the city. In the 1950s, an attempt was made to expand the town of Lubartów, marking the axes of communication development perpendicular to Lubelska Street and locating industrial facilities next to them. The difficulties in developing Lubartów in perpendicular directions are influenced by the Wieprz river floodplain on the eastern side.

On the other hand – the railway line was built during the Russian partition. Industrial plants located mainly on the western side of the city, behind the railroad route, were part of today's Lubartów. Simultaneously, along the eastern border, delineated by the floodplain of the river, mainly residential buildings were built. Because of the described planning decisions, in the 20th century, a new urban layout was drawn, referring to the idea of a linear city by Arturio Soria. In this very modern layout, the monastery of Capuchin Fathers, despite passing centuries, has retained its cultural potential and an important place in the city landscape (Iwanek 2019).

Due to the relatively extensive preserved gardens and, to a large extent, overgrown with old trees, the monastery complex is an important element of the city's natural system. Thanks to the slight depletion of the historical territory and the maintained tradition of using the monastery garden, it is (besides the palace and park complex) one of the largest green areas, which determines the maintenance of a balanced proportion between builtup areas and biologically active areas. In the compositional structure of the

² https://zabytek.pl/pl/obiekty/lubartow-zespol-palacowy [accessed 02.2021].



FIGURE 2. A photo showing the spatial structure of Lubartów with the parish church (1), the palace (2), and the Capuchin monastery complex, which is a specific closure of the oldest, earliest-formed composition of the city (3). The axis of Lubelska Street, where the facility is located, is marked. The eastern border of the town is the Wieprz river valley (https://lubartow24.pl/galeria/276/13073/lubartow-z-lotuptaka, accessed February 2021)

city, it is subdominant, combining the compositional and spatial structure of the former palace with the parish church and the market square on the southern side of Lubartów. Historically, the front elevation of the church optically closed the street (Fig. 3) that led to the so-called Nowy Rynek (Kurzątkowska 1967).

RESEARCH RESULTS

Characteristics of research area – the monastery complex

The founder of the Lublin Capuchins was Prince Paweł Sanguszko, who offered the order to settle in Lubartów. The location was most likely the result



FIGURE 3. The church and monastery of the Capuchin fathers. As of the second half of the 19th century. Reprint (Wereżyński 1885)

of the second commercial centre's proximity in Lubartów in the so-called New Town. The construction was carried out in 1737–1741, under the supervision of Paweł Antoni Fontana. In the temple, according to the Capuchin doctrine, the architecturally modest and four-sided monastery with a patio came with an extensive utility and decorative garden with a walking area for monks (Michalska and Studzińska 2008).

The complex is in the southern part of the city, right next to the main road (Lubelska Street) on the west side and north of Nowodworska Street. It was only in the interwar period that the natural development of the city was traced to new cemetery, running along the western border of the monastery gardens. The composition of the garden was based on the plan of the cross, with its arms pointing to the sides of the world (Kseniak and Marczak 1977). By arranging the monastery grounds, a fairly regular, trapezoidal plan was obtained, in which the eastern part was designated for development - grouped in two complexes. The first was a church with an oval, fenced driveway at the front and a monastery with a garden on the west side: the second one includes farm buildings with a large internal courtyard. The entire part was separated from the garden by an internal wall with a longitudinal course. There was a brick two-storey connector, connected by a narrow covered passage with the monastery (no longer existing) and a smokehouse and stables. The economic part was also separated from the church part, leaving the passage in the internal fence. The vast garden was divided into quarters with intersecting two main avenues. At the ends of the alleys running north and west, by the fence wall, there are chapels of the Mother of God and St. Lawrence, the patron saint of the church (Fig. 4).

A quiet place in the south-west part of the complex was arranged for a walking and contemplative garden for the brothers. Here the most numerous examples of magnificent old trees have survived until now, although this part of the garden has lost the legibility of the old composition (Fig. 5). From the founding of the monastery with the entire accompanying garden



FIGURE 4. Capuchin monastery garden in Lubartów in 1866. Reprint of the archival plan (Plan posiadłości oo. Kapucynów z 1866 r.)



FIGURE 5. Former Capuchin monastery garden and the range and spatial structure of the newly created urban development in Lubartów at present (own elaboration base on orthophotomap)

complex until 1866, the general appearance and the compositional and spatial arrangement did not change significantly (Figs. 4 and 5). After the January Uprising, the sequestration of religious property brought about a change in using buildings and land and even introducing new buildings. The division of the area among several users initiated breaching the imposing external fence and multiple changes during internal fencing, and the rank of individual connections of the internal communication network (Michalska and Studzińska 2008).

Until independence was regained, the church and monastery gradually deteriorated. So is the garden. During this period, the surrounding wall was significantly damaged. In 1926, the church and monastery were renovated. Still, a part of the garden separated for the former poviat board's needs was taken over by the starostwo, located in a building erected on this area. In 1938, the Capuchins returned here again. After the rest of the former complex was handed over to them, a border wall was erected between the district's plot and the property of the monks. After 1944, the part formerly used by the starostwo was taken over by the Citizens' Militia. Almost the entire building of the monastery was seized at that time by the County Court. However, the church with the northern wing of the monastery and the garden were still in the hands of the Capuchins.

In the post-war years, the old farm buildings were demolished, and the area of the plot, which was the economic part of the complex, was sold by the Capuchins to construct a new commercial pavilion. During this period, the stand on the side of Lubelska Street was largely depleted of centuries-old linden trees, which, due to natural conditions, were entering the period of death (Kseniak and Marczak 1977). Not until 1978 did the entire monastery be handed over to the order.

Monastery complex compositional layout analysis

The conducted research has shown that the composition of the garden remained regular, despite large changes that took place over 230 years. The alleys in the usable (central) part still intersect at right angles. They are subordinated to the main communication routes running through the entire garden – from the north to the south and from the monastery - from east to west, constituting a continuation of the compositional axis defined by the church's buildings and monastery (Michalska and Studzińska 2008). In the western part of the complex, directly adjacent to Lubelska Street, there is the church of St. Lawrence, with a small representative square facing the street. On the axis of the church, there is a foursided chapel of St. John Nepomucene on the facade axis, surrounded by picturesque chestnut trees, included in the fence wall.

The monastery courtyard is part of the gardens that could not be entered due to the existing enclosure. The analysis of orthophotomap showed that it had retained its original location and range, but it was impossible to determine its contemporary layout and development on that basis. According to Majdecki (2008), the patio was the dominant feature in the garden program of mendicant orders due to the small space enabling the establishment of gardens. With establishing

Lubartów Capuchins, it is a marginalised element. It is possible that due to a fairly extensive program of decorative and contemplative gardens occupying a fairly large area, the small patio could only be a symbolic green courtyard for the monks, maintaining a reference to the *hortus conclusus* tradition.

The decorative garden near the church and monastery building, on the west side, is a small enclave with ornamental plantings. In this part of the garden, there are also the remains of the former fence, separating the usable part of the garden and a well from the time of the monastery. The fence is planted with varieties of euonymus (Euonymus sp.) and grapevines (Vitis sp.). There are also several species of conifers and flowering shrubs, such as lilac (Syringa vulgaris) or smoke tree (Cotinus coggygria). This part of the garden's northernmost element is a fragment with a brick gazebo intended for relaxation. However, it is also used as a roof for tools necessary for gardening. An alley planted with Japanese magnolias (Magnolia kobus) leads through the historic fence to the utility garden. The axis of the avenue running towards the west is closed by a chapel, and a statue of the Mother of God surrounded by lower thives (Thuja sp.). In 2004, an attempt was made to reconstruct the flower bed around the Virgin Mary's free-standing statue, placed in front of the historic chapel, on the main axis of the garden path (with a gravel surface). The second chapel of St. Lawrence, on the axis of the longitudinal alley, no longer exists. There are greenhouses in this place.

The utility garden is the most extensive element of the garden program of the Lubartów Capuchins. Among the crops, covering over a hectare of the entire area of the estate, there are orchards and a vineyard re-established in the place of the old one, recorded during the inventory in the 1980s, the cultivation of fruiting shrubs, such as currants (Ribes sp.) anFhodo raspberries (Rubes sp.), and an extensive vegetable garden and greenhouses. The monks became famous in Lubartów as gardeners, selling seedlings of perfect tomatoes (Solanum lycopersicum) and vegetables obtained from a vegetable garden. Although the need to expand pastoral work is not conducive to gardening, the monks try to maintain the old tradition. We can also distinguish a spacious cultivation garden in the usable part from where the monks obtain potatoes (Solanum tuberosum) for the monastic table.

The promenade garden is in the southwestern part, and it is also where the oldest and most valuable trees grow, and even exotic species such as the Amur cork tree (Phellodendron amurense). The entire complex from the north, west, and partially to the south is surrounded by an old eighteenth-century wall, which required a thorough renovation after the monks returned to Lubartów. Along this wall, on the north side, there is a row of hawthorns (Crataegus sp.), which in the later spring provides an excellent aesthetic effect. Further, to the west, it becomes a beech (Fagus sp.) line. A part of the walking garden is intended for recreational purposes. There is a place for a bonfire and a smaller sports ground, used by young people who like to spend time in the monastery, both on weekdays and during the occasional cultural events that attract many residents of Lubartów. In such circumstances, a larger playing field is used, bordering to the south with a modern commercial facility in the former monastery gardens.

One of the many adverse effects of the ownership and utility changes was removing the baroque arched fencing of the driveway in front of the temple. However, these are not all the losses of the historic substance of the representative front of buildings. The old divisions and the monastery facade's architectural decoration, still visible in archival photographs, have disappeared today (Michalska and Studzińska 2008). South of the church, in the former farm part, which is now on the northern side of the complex, there is a small garage, which was not recorded during the record work in the 1970s. It is a contemporary element, a setting that is related to contemporary needs monks

Comparing the contemporary layout of the monastery complex with the historical one, documented on the plan from 1866, we can conclude that it has not changed significantly. Only the southern and south-eastern part of the complex has undergone transformations resulting from the change of owner and the way of use. The farm part of the monastery farm has not survived, on the site of which there is now a commercial pavilion of the "Biedronka" chain with an accompanying parking lot, and a fragment of a walking garden, separated after dissolution for the needs of the starostwo, where at the beginning the 1930s, a brick building with administrative functions was built. Despite the disturbance of the spatial arrangement, the garden composition with a division of plots and garden alleys intersecting at right angles is



FIGURE 6. Compositional analysis of the Capuchin fathers' monastery complex in Lubartów – own study based on an orthophotomap of the area covered by the study (own elaboration)

well-preserved. According to the monks, the stand was significantly damaged because of unfavourable weather conditions, e.g. storms and diseases. First, elms (*Ulmus* sp.) and lindens (*Tilia* sp.) in the southern and eastern parts, and rows of hornbeam (*Carpinus* sp.) fell out. Even at the end of the 20th century, there were mulberry (*Morus* sp.) lines and fragments of a walking avenue stretching along the south wall, and a linden (*Tilia* sp.) gazebo hardly legible today (Kseniak and Marczak 1977).

Because the garden is currently located in the city centre, next to a busy transport artery connecting Lublin with Biała Podlaska and further with Białystok, this complex is important as an element of the city's natural system, influencing its microclimate and an important element of the structure of a recreational nature in green areas of the city. It is now a natural buffer zone that fits in with the green setting of the historic monastery buildings. It allows for preserving the existing historical landscape values of the entire complex against the backdrop of a spatially developing city.

DISCUSSION

The spatial and economic development of Lubartów is closely related to very aggressive urbanization processes. The historic monastery complex's location on one of the main access streets, not far from the city centre, caused quite a strong pressure on the monument (Hodor 2012). The change in developing neighbouring plots also affects the changes in soil and water relations, thus on the monastery gardens' condition and the most valuable tree stand. Based on the legal provisions related to protecting the historic complex, its surroundings should not become so much closer in the future by introducing new urbanization forms.

Both in the study of the conditions and directions of the city's spatial development and the local plan (Uchwała nr XLIII/321/06 Rady Miasta Lubartów), a provision was introduced regarding the conservation protection zone³ (symbol SOK1), which includes, among others, the Capuchin monastery complex and the strongly transformed south-western part with pavilion buildings and a car park. The local plan indicates that the existing garden character of the area adjacent to the church and monastery should be maintained within the boundaries of the establishment, without the possibility of introducing new buildings in the monastery garden. It is also prohibited to thicken the buildings, the prohibition of the superstructure of the existing commercial pavilion with the recommendation of its

³ By decision of 22 January 1969, the monastery complex of the Capuchin fathers, including: the church with interior fittings, the monastery, and the tree stand within the boundaries of the church cemetery, was entered in the register of monuments under No A/387. On 23 July 1978, the garden of quarters and walking areas at the monastery and the Capuchin church in Lubartów was entered into the register, with later changes to the protection boundaries, due to the change in the purpose of individual plots. At present, the Order of the Capuchin Fathers of the Warsaw Province includes plots of land Nos 816/3, 817, 821 with a total area of 2.5393 ha. The entire monastic area is surrounded by a brick fence with a varied chronology of formation (Kseniak and Marczak 1977).

reconstruction or replacement with an object of higher architectural value, and also maintaining the area adjacent to the monastery wall as undeveloped, with the possibility of its development maintaining the active exhibition of the monastery complex (Uchwała nr XLIII/321/06 Rady Miasta Lubartów). It would seem

this would help to protect the valuable heritage of Lubartów Capuchins.

However, in the Study of the conditions and directions of spatial development of the Lubartów city, prepared in 2018, it is noticeable that the value of the monastery garden is marginalised as an important element of the city's

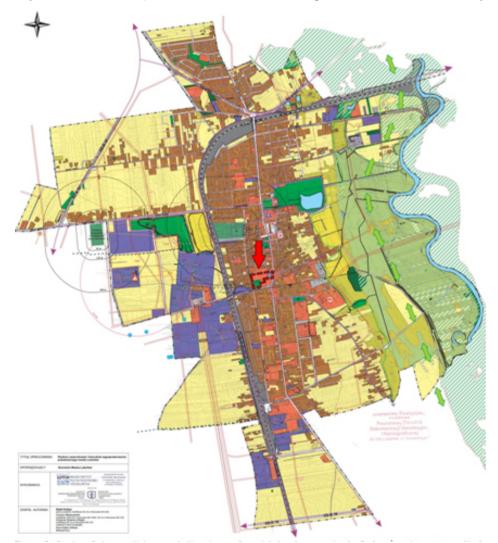


FIGURE 7. Study of the conditions and directions of spatial development in the Lubartów city – Appendix 1. Conditions; indicating the area of the monastery garden (https://umlubartow.bip.lubelskie. pl/upload/pliki//02018.02_zal.2.1_SUiKZP_Lubartow_Uwarunkowania.pdf, accessed June 2021)

natural system. Although there is still a provision regarding the conservation of the object, in Annex 1 (Conditions) the garden to a large extent obtained the status of a service function (Fig. 7), while Annex 2 (Directions) completely omits the natural character of the assumption, which in the future may lead to drastic changes in the form of land development (Fig. 8), depriving the site of such an important garden context, and the city – depriving the city of an ecologically valuable area, supplying the city's natural system

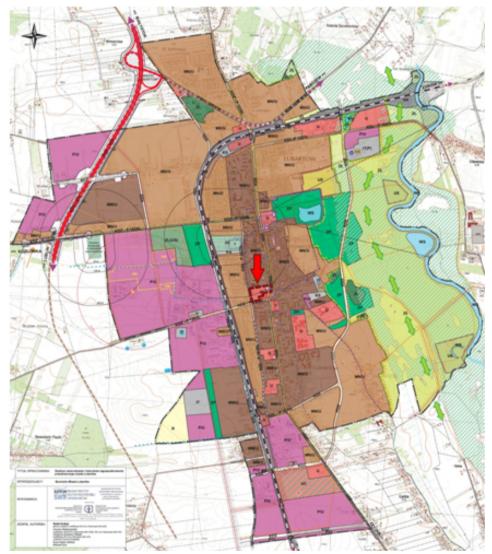


FIGURE 8. Study of the conditions and directions of spatial development of the Lubartów city – Appendix 2. Directions; indicating the area of the monastery garden (https://umlubartow.bip.lubelskie. pl/upload/pliki//02018.02_zal.2.2_SUiKZP_Lubartow_Kierunki.pdf, accessed June 2021)

(Uchwała nr VII/45/2019 Rady Miasta Lubartów).

CONCLUSIONS

The entire monastery complex in Lubartów is under conservation protection, which proves not only its unique natural and landscape values, but most of all, cultural values. The founding of the Capuchins has become a permanent element of the urban landscape due to the religious pastoral activity, especially missionary and retreat and work for young people. It all adds up to the essence of the culture-forming functioning of the monastery in the city. The Capuchin monastery garden in Lubartów is one of the most valuable examples of this type of building in the Lublin region. Despite the dissolution of the monastery and the takeover of the monastery property to the State Treasury and subsequent parcelling, it was possible to maintain the character and composition of this establishment largely. Contemporary transformations resulting from developing the urban structure make the garden a green enclave among dense urban buildings. Besides its unquestionable natural values, especially due to the abundant over 100-year-old tree stand in the southern part of the complex and nearly two hectares of annual and perennial crops, it has a genuine historical and cultural value, which is crucial in the city's landscape. This element has become a permanent element of the constantly changing urban unit structure, maintaining the traditional monastic heritage. What is more, due to the constant need to expand missionary and pastoral activities, it is a perfect place to meet the inhabitants of the city and guests. They came to it because, during the annual festivals organised by

Capuchins, hundreds of people gather in the garden. The monastery itself becomes a real cultural centre at that time.

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Streszczenie: Dziedzictwo zespołu klasztornego oo. kapucynów w kontekście przekształceń krajobrazu Lubartowa. Zespół klasztorny w Lubartowie jest interesujacym obiektem, który pomimo kasat klasztornych, jakie objeły Polske i Europe w XVIII i XIX wieku, utrzymał swoją pierwotną funkcje i w znacznym stopniu układ kompozycviny. Jego budowa przypadła na I połowe XVIII wieku i od tego czasu uległ wielu przekształceniom dostosowującym założenie do potrzeb mieszkańców miasta. Należy podkreślić kasatę klasztoru w 1866 roku i po 112 latach powrót do niego zakonników, którzy nadal w nim mieszkają i wciąż prowadzą działalność kulturową. W artykule przedstawiono charakter tych przekształceń oraz współczesne zasoby klasztornych ogrodów na tle zmieniającego się układu przestrzennego miasta. Po II wojnie światowej Lubartów wszedł bowiem na nową drogę rozwoju urbanistycznego, podażając za rozwojem przemysłu. Istotne jest, aby współczesne przekształcenia nie spowodowały zagrożeń dla historycznych zasobów, tym bardziej że zespół lubartowskich ogrodów klasztornych stanowi ważny i unikatowy w swej formie element systemu zieleni miejskiej, jednocześnie pełniac ważne funkcje kulturowe.

Słowa kluczowe: Lubartów, zakon kapucynów, klasztor w krajobrazie miasta, ogrody klasztorne

MS received: 12.04.2021 *MS accepted:* 24.06.2021

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