

STRATEGIES AND KEYS FOR THE CITYSCAPE SHAPING. VIEW PROTECTION IN ZURICH (CH) AND CRACOW (PL)

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Abstract

The paper presents the problem of landscape and cityscape shaping in the area of Zurich, Switzerland, and Cracow, Poland. These two cities were chosen, because they represent an important urban and visual heritage, both in its central areas as well as in the mentioned postindustrial areas. Besides, in the both cases the evolution of the landscape is distinctly documented along with the planning tools safeguarding it. These documents are still being improved. The purpose of the paper is to analyze these keys, which protect and give shape to the view of these cities. The new element, according to Polish planning reality, is the rule of view protection. This rule and its implementation is missing in the neglected areas. The paper analyses the possibilities of visual perception of the pedestrian. This perception is interesting here for the inhabitants, who walk in the streets and paths having the alternative to observe the “sudden” limited views (terra incognita) and harmonious wide city silhouette as well. The method of the investigations in Zurich and Cracow is the author’s in situ walk and photo documentation as well as the theoretical analysis of scientific books and the relevant development materials received from Swiss and Polish city councils, urban offices, and additionally found on the internet. The results of the paper are to show the need for detailed researches on the protection of the cityscape.

Streszczenie

Artykuł przedstawia zagadnienie kształtowania krajobrazu miasta, a przykładami przeprowadzonych tu analiz są szwajcarski Zurych oraz polski Kraków. Te dwa miasta zostały wybrane, ponieważ reprezentują one ważne dziedzictwo urbanistyczne i wizualne, zarówno na ich obszarach śródmiejskich jak i na wspomnianych terenach przemysłowych. Poza tym, w obu przypadkach ewolucja krajobrazu jest wyraźnie udokumentowana wraz z instrumentami planistycznymi, które go zachowują. Te dokumenty są wciąż udoskonalane. Celem niniejszej wypowiedzi jest przeanalizowanie tychże narzędzi jako chroniących i nadających kształt obrazowi tych miast. Elementem nowym, w odniesieniu do polskiej rzeczywistości planistycznej, okazuje się w tym przypadku zasada ochrony widoku. Brakuje jej zwłaszcza na miejskich terenach zdegradowanych. Artykuł zajmuje się możliwościami percepcji widokowej przechodnia - mieszkańców spacerujących po ulicach miast i po ścieżkach pozwalających na obserwacje zarówno „nieoczekiwanych” widoków ograniczonych w swej formie (terra incognita), jak i harmonijnych rozległych panoram miasta. Metodą badań w Zurychu i Krakowie jest autorski spacer in situ oraz fotodokumentacja a także analizy teoretyczne książek naukowych i ważnych materiałów planistycznych, uzyskanych ze szwajcarskich i polskich urzędów miejskich, biur urbanistycznych oraz dodatkowo z internetu. Wyniki badań ukazują potrzebę szczegółowych badań nad ochroną krajobrazu zbudowanego (kulturowego, miejskiego).

Keywords: Landscape protection; View protection; Cityscape; Public open space; Neglected areas; Legal regulations for landscape and cityscape protection; Visual perception.

1. INTRODUCTION

In Zurich since the 1950's special interest in researching the kinds and efficiency of planning keys is to be observed. These keys shall enable the legal protection of landscapes and cityscapes. Since then until today broad views are possible to be perceived from various places and view paths located throughout the entire city. The landscape values of this area exist mostly because of the legal regulations connected with the obligation of keeping the public open space, as well as of public space organized inside buildings. These public spaces enable the visual perception of the near and distant surroundings. The two rules about landscape and public open space, which are described below, are strongly connected with each other and refer to the entire city area. Moreover, visual axis and other visual urban forms between buildings in the inner-city parts are analyzed in many plans, also for neglected and revitalized post-industrial areas. Such detailed and sensitive research attitude is missing at present in Polish cities, where the esthetics is often neglected and treated as a "side effect", which will be "later taken care of". The reason for undertaking the subject is the meaningful difference in expressing the care about planning studies of view protection in urban areas in these two countries.

The Programme "Protection of cultural landscape in Poland" shall be mentioned, which includes safeguarding and conservation of historic cultural landscape of the country [8]. Its purpose is the creation of cultural parks, identification of culture spaces in the areas intentionally protected environmentally. This activity is coordinated by Polish Ministry of Culture and National Heritage (Ministerstwo Kultury i Dziedzictwa Narodowego), Ministry of Environment (Ministerstwo Środowiska) and representatives of the Area Nature 2000 and Cultural Parks. Their purpose is the foundation of National Programme of Integrated Protection of Cultural and Environmental Heritage and Landscape (June 2011). Though, most of researches connected with landscape protection were referring to natural and not urban areas.

However, close to the chosen matter of view protection, understood as cityscape element, are the rules written in documents about spatial solutions and planning for Cracow. Here relevant elaboration is: Local Land-Use Plan of Cracow (with changes dated 3.March 2010) and an example of Master Plan containing aspects of environment and landscape protection as well as a project of revitalization of the

(post)industrial district Nowa Huta in the city, considering especially cityscaping aspects.

2. PLAN OF VIEW AND LANDSCAPE PROTECTION IN ZURICH

The view plan [1] and landscape protection [3] has been prepared for Zurich. Since 2011 the plan protecting landscapes (Landschaftsschutz) exists next to the Zone Plan (Zonenplan), and it is a separate graphical document. Moreover, in the Zone Plan in the legend description the area of "view protection" [4] can be seen. The protected landscape has been analyzed within the entire city and it is preserved mostly on the outskirts of Zurich – around its centre (cf. Fig. 1), including rivers, the lake, and views open towards the inner-city, which can be perceived from the surrounding hills.

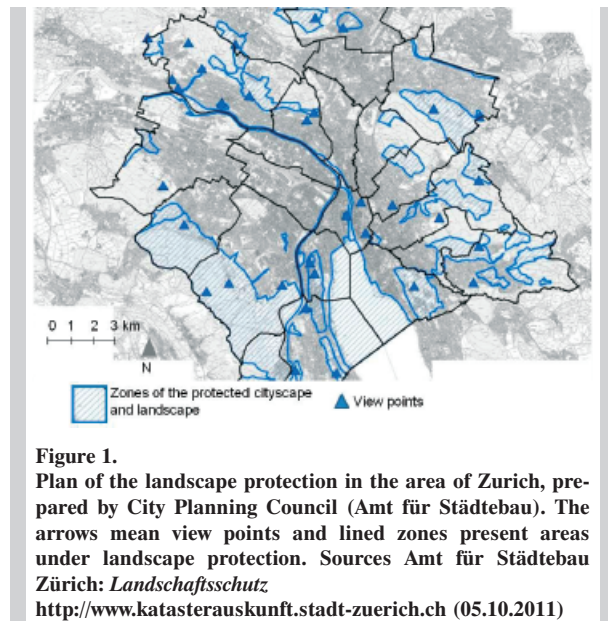


Figure 1. Plan of the landscape protection in the area of Zurich, prepared by City Planning Council (Amt für Städtebau). The arrows mean view points and lined zones present areas under landscape protection. Sources Amt für Städtebau Zürich: *Landschaftsschutz* <http://www.katasterauskunft.stadt-zuerich.ch> (05.10.2011)

Some of the appointed places of the safeguarded landscape are placed in unbuilt land, on and next to hills as well as below them, near forests, by the rivers Sihl and Limmat and by the Zurich Lake (cf. Figs. 2-3). These are environmentally valuable and not urbanized areas, and from there the built centre and districts of Zurich between hills may be observed.

Besides, the other part of these spaces of protected landscape embraces the overbuilt land, placed between the hills of Zueriberg, Juetliberg, Hoenggerberg, and Kaeferberg. These areas contain mostly the inner-city, localized on the east side of the



Figure 2.
The protected open space of the Limmat river in Zurich.
Photo: The author



Figure 3.
The safeguarded space of the view by the Zurich Lake. Photo:
The author



Figure 4.
The landscape and cityscape of Zurich seen from a view path of the Kaefenberg hill looking south-east. Photo: The author

rivers Limmat and Sihl, they are connected with the rivers and the open space between the hills. Based on the map mentioned above (cf. Fig. 1), it can be concluded, that the landscape in the city is under special

care on the hills, where single-family-houses are being built. Standing on these hills we can see the view of the entire city (cf.: Fig. 4). Particularly, looking to the south-east from the Hoengerberg hill,

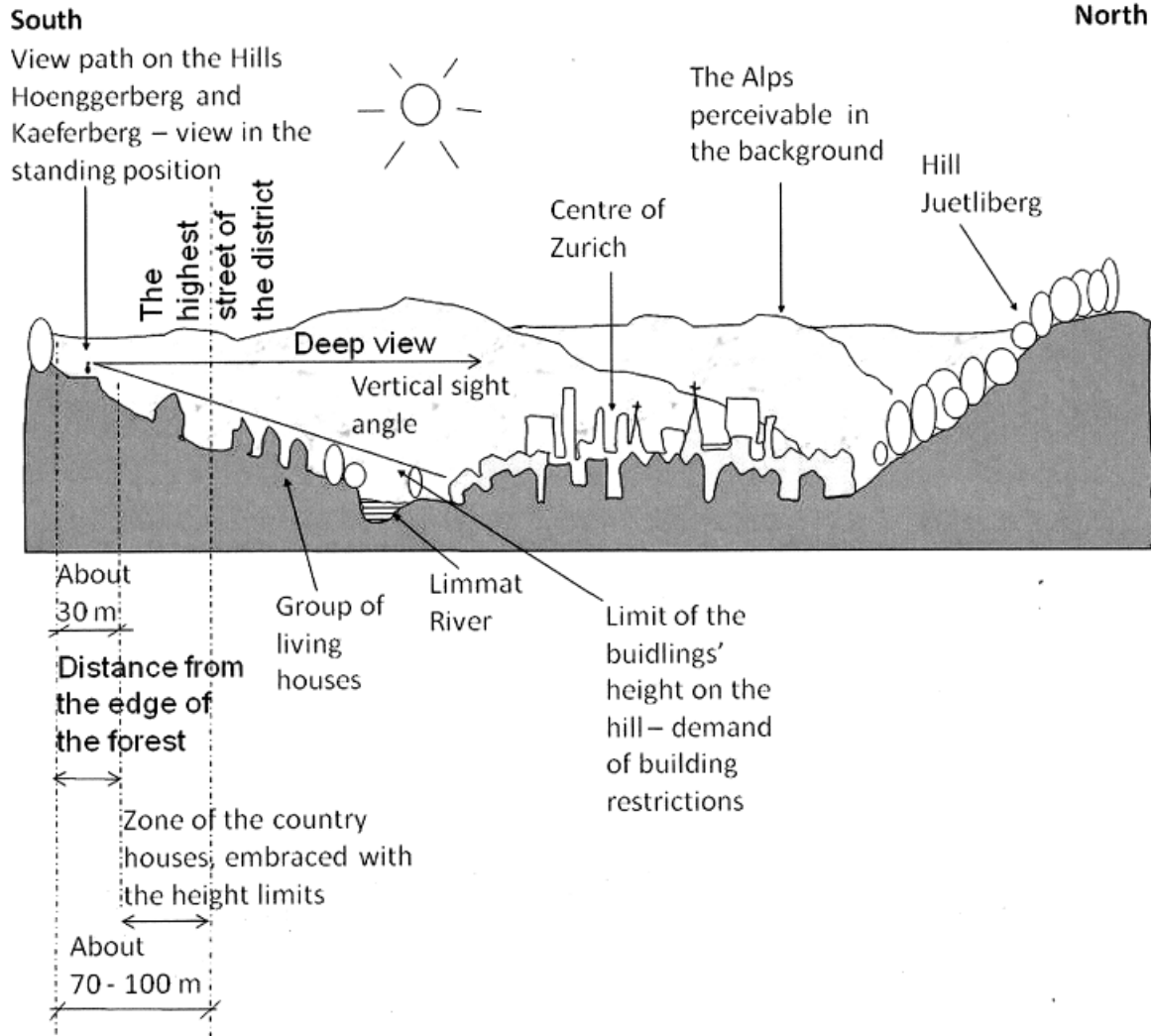


Figure 5. Analysis of the view seen from the hills surrounding Zurich – the view observed in the standing position. Sources: The authors' sketch in 2012 based on ORL-Institut ETHZ: *Richtlinien zur Orts-, Regional- und Landesplanung*, ETHZ, Zurich 1967

placed on the north-west of Zurich, where among others one can find the Swiss Federal Institute of Technology (ETH), which also includes Departments of Architecture, City Planning, and Landscape Planning, to observe is the nearby image of dense but low inner-city structures with a few church towers, city hall, and office buildings. The farther views of the city, the open space of the mentioned lake as well as the far-away Alps, during cloudless weather can be seen from here. On the Hoenggerberg hill, going down towards the city, the small historical houses with sloping roofs on the lower parts of the hill are to be observed. These houses have been built at the end of 19th and beginning of 20th century. Instead, in the upper parts of Hoenggerberg and the neighbouring

Kaeferberg, the structures are up to a certain extent bigger, modern, of cubic shapes and flat roofs, constructed since the end of 20th century until today.

Similarly, in the south part of Zurich there is the Juetliberg hill, composed mostly of forests, especially from the north side. On this side a viewing-tower has been built. From there the entire city can be seen when looking to the northern direction. Here the landscape protection near the green areas has been also implemented.

In Zurich, already since 1960's the landscape analyses have been prepared [7]. This landscape has been researched, as it can be seen from the mentioned hills surrounding the city. In one case it presents the view, which is observed by a pedestrian in the standing

position from the path on the hill looking down – towards the center of the city. His visual line contains another two paths, with no high elements covering the view within this line. Trees or houses shall be low enough, not to disturb the cityscape perception. This way of shaping the view point embraces the open space of a few footpaths, located in given order, each of them lower within about 70 to 100 meters, enabling a remote view. Such view is formed due to the restrictions for high buildings within the line of sight of the pedestrian. The visual radius here is shown by the horizontal upper view line, as well as upper height of limit for buildings, which is determined by the lower arm of the line of sight angle. Such a view is assigned by the so called vertical line of sight angle. In this case high buildings are to be constructed in the centre and right next to it (cf.: Fig. 5).

Similar definition of the vertical line of sight angle demanding the restrictions for high building within the view line shows the form of the view point accessible from the sitting position. In this case, a bench is placed on the edge of a forest and it is possible to see from here the view down the hill towards the centre of Zurich. Nevertheless, it is necessary to keep the mentioned rules about the height limit of buildings or about its restrictions, if the lower arm of the line of sight angle would cross this height. Moreover, while constructing single houses it is necessary to adapt them to the building line and to preserve the view between them, so that it is possible to perceive the remote landscape from the path next to the buildings. The distance between these buildings and the edge of the neighbouring forest shall not be less than 30 meters, where after this length the view path is placed. Similar regulations apply to groups of houses in Zurich. The above mentioned analyses have been carried out by Institute ORL – Institute of Local, Regional, and Land Planning at the Swiss Federal Institute of Technology ETH Zurich (Institut für Orts-, Regional- und Landesplanung) in the second half of 20th century, though they are binding until today.

Since 2011 in Zurich there exist three areas, in the district Witikon, Affoltern, and Wollishofen, which are included in the view protection regulations [1] (which differ from the previously analyzed landscape protection, thematically similar to the view protection – but described in separate documents). These researches refer to the two spaces distinguished on the hill, near the view path. In the first space, by the path, without buildings, their parts or groups of trees cannot exceed the height of 580 meters above sea level. However, in the second space, measuring from

the footpath into the deep view, none of the mentioned elements can exceed a six percent line of deflection from the mentioned level of 580 meters above sea level (cf. Fig. 6). These regulations have been prepared between 1991 and 1998 by the Parish Council in Zurich, and they have been implemented between 1998 and 2001. The view protection described in such way (cf. Figs. 5-6) seems to be an interesting method for formulation of a cityscape, which could be used, adapting it appropriately, in Polish conditions. Here the attention shall be paid to the care about visual perception, received by the pedestrian.

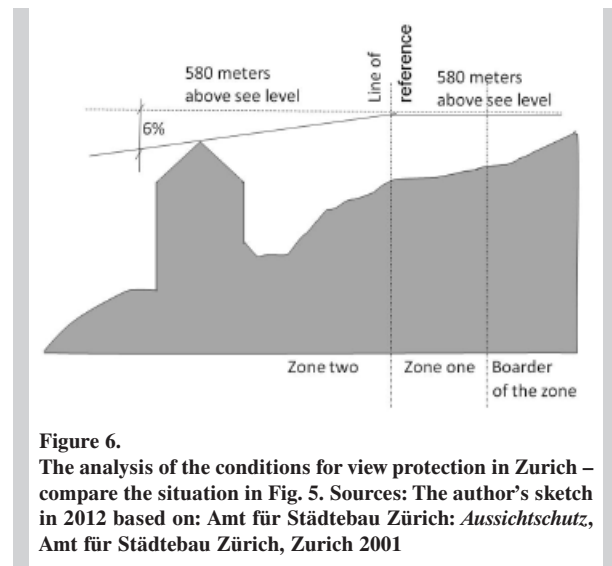


Figure 6.
The analysis of the conditions for view protection in Zurich – compare the situation in Fig. 5. Sources: The author's sketch in 2012 based on: Amt für Städtebau Zürich: *Aussichtschutz*, Amt für Städtebau Zürich, Zurich 2001

3. THE ZONE PLAN OF ZURICH

The Zone Plan of Zurich, which is comparable with Polish study land-use plan, though different in scale (drawn in scale of 1:12500), accents the protection of views, considering the entire city, as well as public open spaces. Moreover, the Legal Building Regulations for Zurich, added in the form of a written description to the Zone Plan, specify a few zones for the entire city [2]: From two- to seven-storey buildings, industrial areas, industrial areas connected with commerce and services, public buildings, conservation zone, inner-city, recreation zones, areas keeping the open space, economical zones, free areas (spatial reserves). Another zone plan prepared in the scale of 1:5000 can be compared with the Polish master plan, showing the divisions into the above mentioned zones and their uses. Moreover, the Zone Plan is complemented, among the others, with the

following plans: The plan of the inner-city in the scale of 1:2500 for the historical part of the city and the surrounding areas, the detailed plan in the scale of 1:1250 obligatory for the farther city zones, the plans for the protection of monuments in the scale of 1:5000, the plans of forests, rivers and Zurich Lake with their borders in the scale of 1:1000. Here we can also find the view protection plans in the scale of 1:1000.

4. KEYS OF THE ZONE PLAN OF ZURICH 2010

The Zone Plan in Zurich is constructed as a set of remarks connected, among the others, with accessibility of remote views. Next to it described is the way of image creation (in the Land-Use Plan of Cracow it is called "city silhouette"). This "image" includes roofs, facades, number of levels in a building, open space between buildings, cubature correlations referring to architecture, as well as colours and materials used. Among the detailed regulations [2] referring to the landscape a notation can be found about the height of buildings, which are allowed to be from 40 to 80 meters in height. Moreover, general regulation for building in the areas states that flat roofs in the entire city are to be used as green roofs, unless they are used as terraces. This greenery shall be planted if it is sensible designed and if it can be accommodated technically and economically. In case of main building erection, it is necessary to cover with greenery the equivalent of the ground surface: In living zones at least two thirds, in historical zones at least half, and in central areas at least one third of the ground, which is not occupied by a building. Some ways to use the given part of the ground are playgrounds, rest areas or gardens to spend free time as well as floral gardens. We can demand the creation of such gardens in case of existing housing estates, if there is a need for it and if such a creation is technically and economically possible to be realized. Other regulations, connected with sustainable development of the landscape policy refer to the shaping of high roofs in living zones and in the center of the city. Any kinds of openings in a roof as well as creating different forms of it are permitted only on the first roof level. Whereas, on the second roof level it is permitted just to place windows within the surface of the roof, chimney stacks, solar panels, photovoltaic elements, as well as small additions which are technically conditional. Furthermore, the total surface of windows cannot exceed one tenth of the floor surface of the

given room belonging to the attic. The regulations for the monumental and central areas set the conditions for shaping the roofs. The Zone Plan demands the keeping of such housing superstructure, creating roofs and their forming as well as the placing of windows within the roof surface, which matches with the line of roofs in the given surroundings. Nevertheless, if in the historical area monumental mansard-roofs, as well as similar sloping forms of roofs existed before and still exist, and additionally the dimensions of most of the buildings reach the permitted height, in this case it is allowed to exceed the roof level, if it is not higher than the historical buildings.

The analysis of the character of architecture and the image of districts has been carried out in other areas where monuments exist. Some of the historical zones differ from each other by the kind of building complex on the both sides of the street. These buildings are shaped mostly as closed quadrangles of houses in urban tissue. These structures were created in the late 19th and beginning of 20th century. The open space of such districts presents a significant view of streets, and court-yards or conditions to create such court-yards. The areas placed in the farther part of the city, are placed deeper behind the structures looking from the street. The above mentioned yards possess around them varied intensity of architecture or they are characterized by broad open spaces. Facades of structures placed by the street and of representative functions have usually four to five full floors of a significantly shaped plinth storey and area of eaves. Not representative facades, which are to be found in the depth of court-yards, are mostly much more simply shaped. The rules of the Zone Plan are determined for all of the inner-city zones keeping the specific image of these zones. By completing or rebuilding of houses or parts of them, the form of cube within the line, which preserves the profile (image) is to be kept as well as these completed or rebuilt structures are to be matched to the external look of existing houses. For using the large buildings, such as for example factories' halls, stores and similar architecture, which are several stories high, the amount of present aboveground floors may be exceeded, unless there are regulations protecting these buildings. The so-called protection line of image of row of houses allows for building annexes to the given house as far as its meaningful external silhouette will not be disturbed due to these annexes. This rule refers to forming of buildings according to the policy of sustainable development and taking care about the landscape and cityscape. Moreover,

the depth of a structure shall not cross twenty meters, measuring from the frontline of the row of houses. Nevertheless, the builder may propose, if his urban and architectural solutions are appropriate, to exceed this distance, as far as there is no suspicion about any unfair advantage.

In Legal Building Regulations [2] describing the Zone Plan there can be found the definition of “assimilation of the image”, which refers to the rebuilding of houses. These houses or their parts, if they are replaced or rebuilt within the line of image assimilation, they shall become similar to the neighbouring structures, as far as the height of their eaves line and their massiveness is concerned. The regulations applying to overbuilding allow adding the sloping roof level to the building, which till now had a flat roof. It is necessary to obtain building permission, if the investor wishes to change the façade. This permission is important in the case of material choices, deciding about the method of rebuilding as well as painting the house new colours. Demolishing of buildings or their parts needs such permits as well. This permission is issued, if the character of the area and the neighbouring protected structures will not be destroyed, or if the creation of an admitted project is declared. Many of these principles of shaping the architecture in Zurich is similar to the rules of planning in urban areas in Poland.

5. VIEW PROTECTION IN CRACOW AND NEGLECTED AREAS

According to the mentioned Local Land-Use Plan of Cracow (changed in 2010) “the principle of spatial policy of Cracow is the integration of acting connected with protection and shaping the cultural values with acting for protection and shaping of natural environment values. The subject of this policy are urban forms, settlements and buildings under legal protection basing on the specific regulations (which are mentioned in monumental register and in the List of National Memory in Poland) as well as other forms, representing high cultural values, included in conservation record” [12]. The zone of cultural values protection has been assigned for Cracow. This zone keeps the exceptional cultural values of urban settlements, built areas, single houses, or green areas, as well as it enables the creation of “new, precious components of cultural environment”. Within this area the monumental inner-city, historical urban compositions, and safeguarded legally individual buildings exist, which are relevant for the identity of

the place and balanced culturally and historically. The document mentions also the three categories of settlements under protection: domination, revalorisation, and integration. These categories refer to conservation of architecture of high monumental values. Only in the case of the “integration” aspect, related to structures of serious technical degradation level, there is the possibility for safeguarding the parts of the city, which create rich visual forms. These views, however, may “disappear” – may be hidden behind the new houses or may be changed, if the given district, or its part, will be renovated without architectural and urban sensitivity.

One of directions of cultural value protection is creation of conditions for integrated safeguarding of environment and cultural heritage, as well as formation of new cultural and environmental values of the city. Thereby the regulations resulting from common law are to be applied. These regulations are:

- protection of buildings listed in the monuments’ register,
- protection of places included in the List of National Memory,
- protection of archaeological positions written in the register,
- protection of monuments included in conservation files,
- protection of nature and landscape”.

Mentioned elements are related to representative spaces in Cracow. However, “new cultural values” could refer to the neglected city areas, which are not monumental. There, many destroyed, ageing houses and parts of them, are appointing a characteristic image of the given surrounding. In such way different cityscape forms visual breaks, cityscape windows [10] are being created in various parts of the city. These view possibilities make many urban areas accessible for pedestrians. Therefore, many kinds of cityscape perception exist for inhabitants. These perceptions create our field of vision, depending on the architectural structures or its parts, limiting this field of vision. In the Local Land-Use Plan of Cracow the zone of protection of the city silhouette has been assigned (cf. Fig. 7). This protection embraces only the monumental and historically important spaces as hill *wzgórze Wawel* with river bend of *Wisła*, historically shaped Inner-city, districts of *Kazimierz* and *Stradom*, the city areas of *Stare Podgórze*, *Stare Dębniki*, characteristic hills of Cracow (*Zrąb Sowińca*, *Wzgórze Tynieckie*, *Pogórze Bodzowa* and *Kostrza*, *Krzemionki Podgórskie*) as well as the direct

foregrounds of these hills (the west part of Wisła river valley, Chełm, Wola Justowska with the Rudawa river valley).

Moreover, the public space, connection with this space with remote views analysed in landscape studies, accenting of streets and corners of the quadrangles of houses with squares and various architectural forms, assigning limits of building height, creation of inner court-yards with greenery compositions in urban settlements, defining avenue character of public space, keeping of existing greenery with high environmental and composition values are considered in the Master plan of III. Campus of Jagiellonian University [5]. This area was included in the analysis, because it is embraced with the landscape/cityscape protection zone of the open city in connection with regulation of general spatial land-use plan for Cracow prepared in 1994. This regulation is caused by the attractive location of the Campus, where the main role plays the historical view of the centre of the city with hill Wawel, monastery on Bielany and Kopiec Kościuszki. Similarly as in the Local Land-Use Plan here also the attention is paid to urban representative areas.

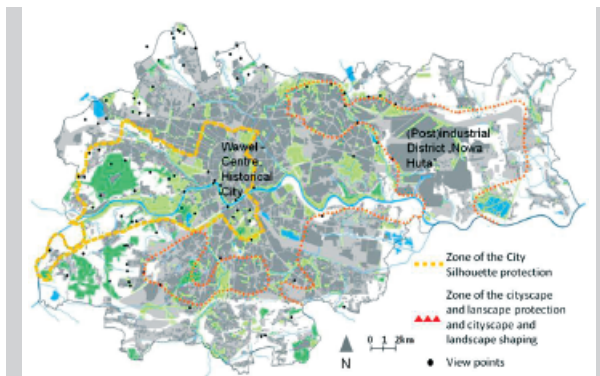


Figure 7.
Protection of the silhouette, landscape and cityscape of Krakow. Local Land-Use Plan of Krakow. Sources: *Zmiana studium Uwarunkowań i kierunków zagospodarowania przestrzennego miasta Krakowa*, http://www.bip.krakow.pl/?dok_id=27732&sub_dok_id=27732, (15.09.2012), p.163-166

6. POST-INDUSTRIAL CITYSCAPE

In 2000 the European Landscape Convention was implemented. This document states that the landscape is an important element of human life wherever we live. In this case not only spaces of “special beauty”, but also “common” and “neglected” places

are taken into consideration [6]. With this kind of background it seems to be justified to mention the cityscape of postindustrial areas and their public open spaces in Zurich.

In Zurich, in the revitalized district Zurich-West, which is part of the Industriequartier adjacent to the city center, visual axes, running through the middle of the district were implemented [11]. Visual gaps between larger structures can be observed due to these axes. These gaps allow views into the remote landscape on the other side of the Limmat river and on the Kaefenberg hill. Moreover, new niche architecture is shaped here, which diversifies the already rich section of streets, where greenery, lamps, benches and other street furniture are placed (cf. Fig. 8).



Figure 8.
A public open space near the post-industrial area of Zurich-West – Turbinenplatz. Photo: The author

The same way landscape windows and visual breaks are significant for the perception of the converted cityscape in the human scale in Zurich-West (cf. Figs. 9-10). Besides, the aforementioned Zone Plan in Zurich assigns twenty to thirty percent of the public open space to be kept in the urban tissue in certain zones, especially considering the post-industrial areas. This regulation is a sign of taking care of the sustainable development of Zurich and it affects its attractive cityscape shaping.

Nevertheless, in Cracow in 2012 an international competition “Nowa Huta of the Future” took place. The task was to design the revitalisation process of the (post)industrial district. In frames of this Competition one of the projects suggested to keep the existing landscape and cityscape elements and to enrich the district with new ones [9]. The spatial solutions and the Scheme of Landscape and Cityscape Elements (cf. Fig. 11) considers the rule of urban



Figure 9.
The landscape window formed by an arch placed under the bridge right next to the Limmat river in the Zurich-West transformed industrial district. Photo: The author



Figure 10.
The visual break shaped by the street above and the path below. The view is to see in the Wipkingenpark – post-industrial area recovered as a green space in Zurich-West. Photo: The author

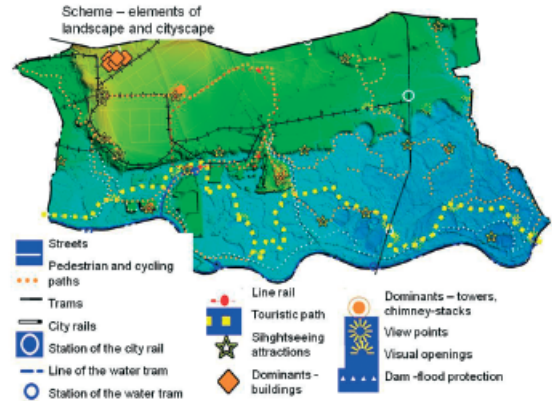


Figure 11.
Cityscape analysis “Scheme – Elements of Cityscape” for the district “Nowa Huta” in Cracow. Project prepared for the International Competition „Nowa Huta of the Future” Cracow 2012. Sources: W. Strabel, Arch-Urbs Katowice, Poland

of areas of already finished production. These spaces present possibilities of visual depths into the characteristic cityscape, which shall be adapted to new urban conditions by improving these spaces technically and functionally and at the same time keeping its specifics and the existing visual features (cf. Figs. 12-14).



Figure 12.
The cityscape of the industrial district Nowa Huta in Cracow, Poland: Plac Centralny (The Central Square) – built landscape with elements of greenery. Even though this public space is surrounded by monumental communistic grey architecture from 1950s the place is frequently visited as well as used by inhabitants everyday. Photo: The author, 2014

interiors’ composition, visual axes, location of view points and visual openings, thematic parks, dominants in form of towers, chimney-stacks and high buildings.

The present situation of the district is composed of partially still functioning industrial areas and partially



Figure 13.
Plac Centralny (The Central Square) in Nowa Huta in Cracow, Poland, is a big public space of monumental character paved with grey concrete plates. The long distance from the city centre (about 30 minutes with the public transport) makes the cityscape of this “ghost” of steelworks history very particular. Photo: The author, 2014



Figure 14.
The natural green landscape in the city of Cracow, Poland: The public park in the area of the Nowa Huta industrial district. A moment for taking deep breath right next to the concrete environment reminding of the communistic past on Plac Centralny – The Central Square. Photo: The author, 2014

7. CONCLUSIONS

The analysis of the presented material can lead to the conclusion that the landscape protection, appointed by the Zone Plan and the accompanying documents in Zurich refers to broad views. These views of nature may be observed from the view points in the mentioned spaces, such as hills, view paths, areas near forests, open spaces of rivers and lakes, viewing towers. Similarly, the situation in Cracow refers in the Local Land-Use Plan to protection of urban representative settlements of meaningful cultural and historical values. However, this protection does not take into consideration the views limited by buildings, so typical urban views in the neglected post-industrial areas such as cityscape windows or visual breaks,

which appear in many places not only in the inner-city, but also in many other districts, in post-industrial areas as well. Such views, often appearing in ruins of walls, in narrow interspaces between buildings, between architectural elements, or trees, in the areas without monumental protection are being destroyed because of lack of care or changes in urban character of a given district. Therewith the original genius loci – the urban stability of many city spaces, which without view protection will not maintain its identity – is being lost. The urban walk in the streets and the accompanying visual perception of a pedestrian in such places will be poorer because of missing remote and near views of various visual forms.

It may be concluded that the analysed documents do not prove, that the cityscape and views of neglected and revitalized urban spaces in Zurich and Cracow are protected. They are not connected with nature as well as they are not monumental areas, but exist as product of human’s industrial activity, being beyond the definition of “protected landscape”. In Poland glorious exceptions are the presented examples of landscape and cityscape analysis and studies, which are basis for spatial solutions adapted in the mentioned projects as the Local Master Plan of III. Campus of Jagiellonian University in Cracow and the Competition Project for the (post)industrial district Nowa Huta.

Cities, created by people, include elements of large visual potential but are rarely shaped in a cityscaping way. Only after many years it is protected from the cityscaping and landscaping point of view. Such cityscape shaping refers in the Zurich mostly and in a broader sense, to the elements of nature and their admiration and in Cracow to historical parts of the city (among others to Wawel hill). Although, apart from the mentioned insufficiency in the subject “view protection” in the process of visual perception of a pedestrian we can take example from the protection of cultural values in Cracow and rich landscape analysis of Zurich. The Swiss analyses embrace namely also planning of public open spaces in neglected post-industrial areas and they express care about the sustainable development of the city as far as the visual aspect in concerned.

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