

Zanikání sídel a proměny krajiny v Sudetech v 2. polovině 20. století

*Settlement desertion and transformations of landscape
in the Sudetes during the 2nd half of the 20th century*

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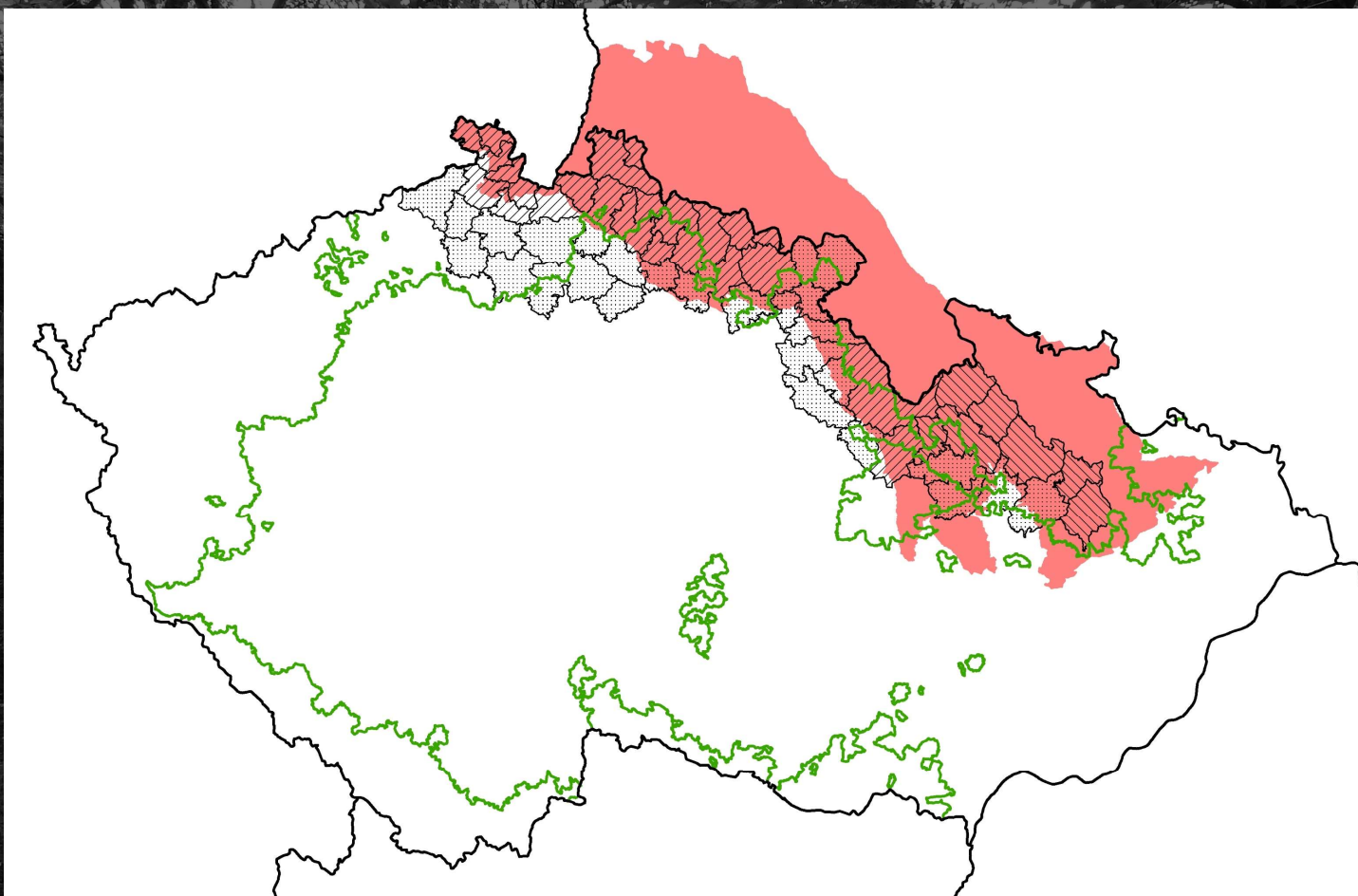
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Geomorfologii*



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Diversity of the Sudetes



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Settlement abandonment is a complex process

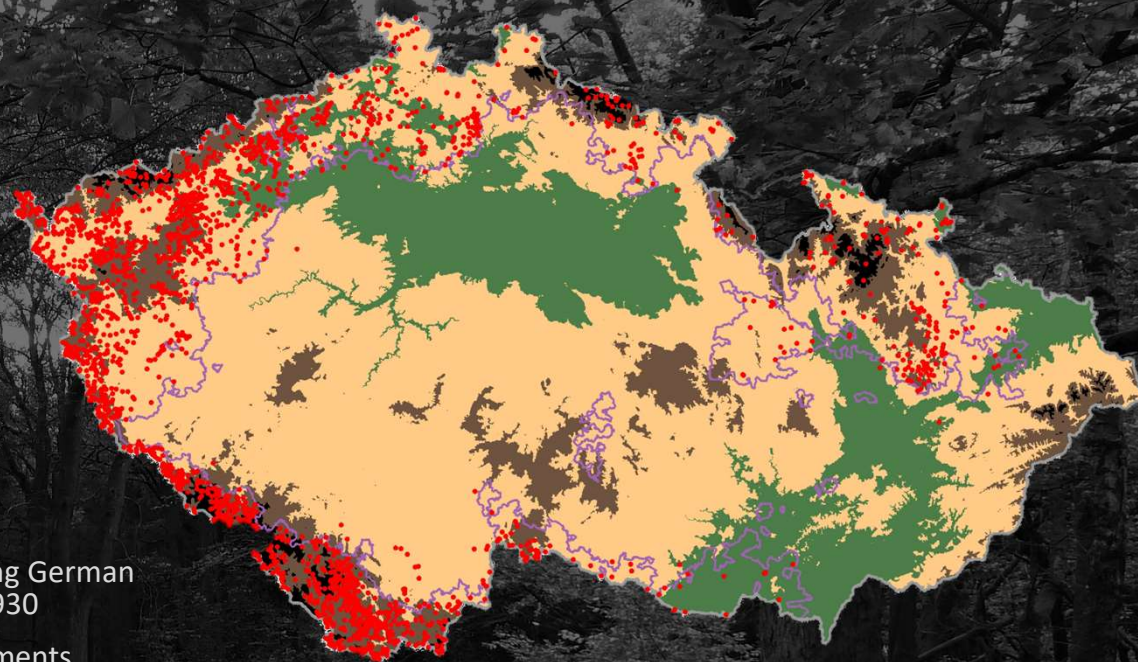
- landscape, place, home(land), heritage, identity
- landscape transformations, settlement desertion, place abandonment
- loss, absence
- memory, nostalgia, remembrance



Settlement desertion is a symbolic process

- radical transformations of landscapes
- radical transformations of the relationship to place

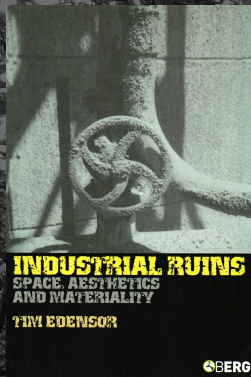
● area of prevailing German nationality in 1930
— deserted settlements



- out of cca 17 000 settlements that existed in 1930 in the Czech borderlands about 2 400 (cca 14 %) with 230 000 (cca 5 %) inhabitants in 1930 were deserted during the 2nd half of the 20th century



Ruins and ruination



Reconstruction after disaster:

- 1) initial emergency work
- 2) brief restoration phase
- 3) period of replacement reconstruction
- 4) commemorative period

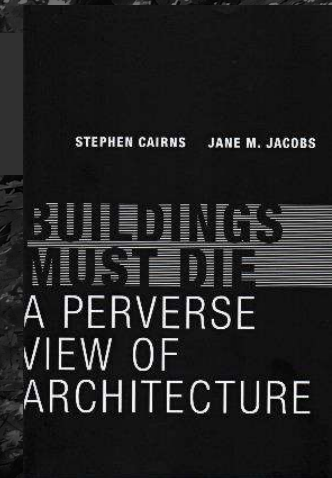
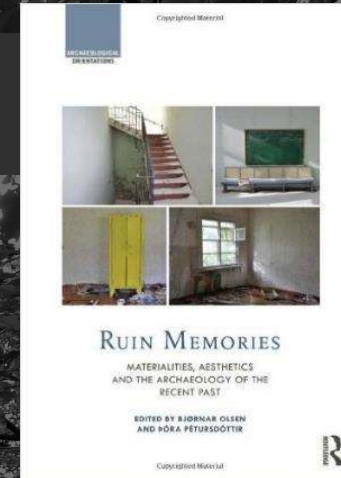
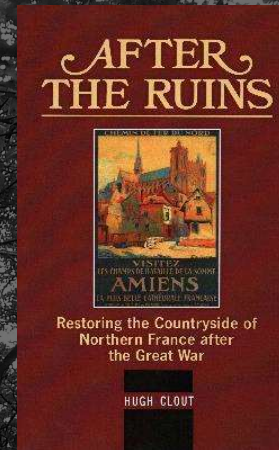
Approaches to ruined buildings (Moshenska 2015):

- 1) removal
- 2) recycling
- 3) repair
- 4) reconstruction
- 5) replication
- 6) replacement
- 7) curation

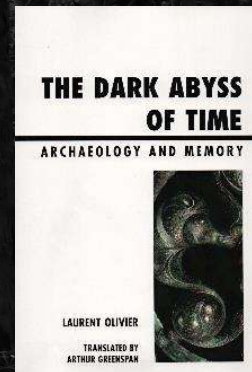


Is change a non-acceptable part of heritage discourse?

- desintegration of the object does not have to lead to the loss of meaning
- decay may be culturally as well as ecologically productive
- it is possible to look behind loss and try to understand the changes



Cycles of memory ruins – loss – discovery – protection

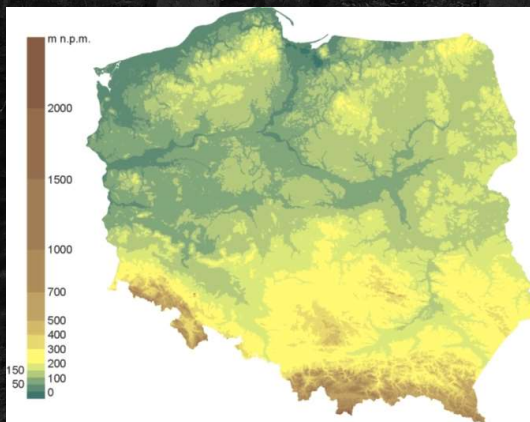
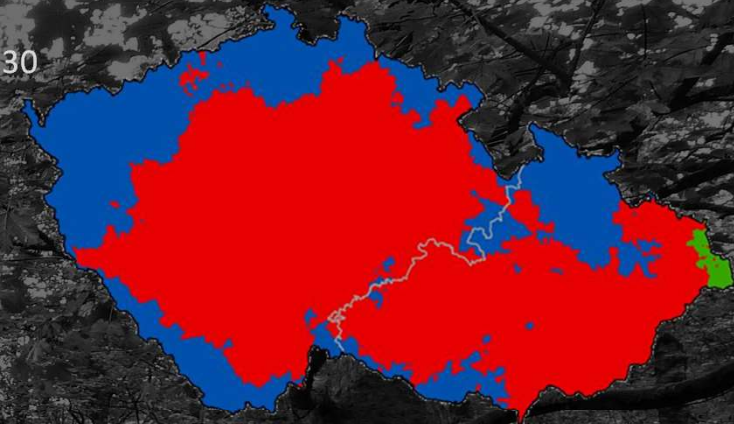


Sudetes as a problem area

- interesting, problematic
- multicultural, changing
- issues of lost identity
- Sudeten vs. non-Sudeten
- borderland landscape = Sudeten landscape?

Prevailing nationalities, 1930

- Czechoslovak
- German
- Polish



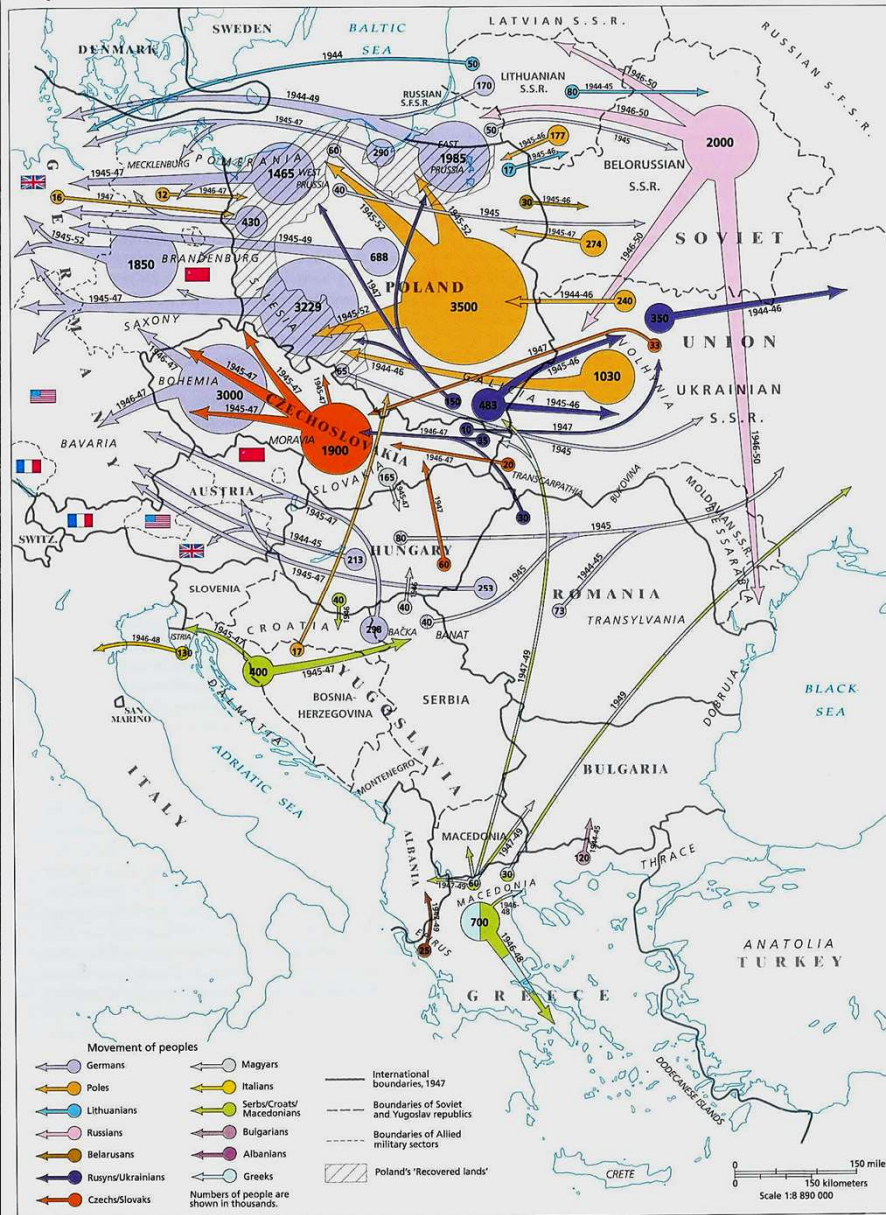
environmental + economic, social and political factors:

- higher areas
- steep slopes
- harsh climate
- poor soils
- change of the state border after WW II
- exchange of population
- nationalization of Polish economy
- restrictions in the border region
- difficult access (orographic barriers)
- large distance from cities
- the collapse of industry and rural crafts
- decapitalization of fixed assets

Key processes

- population movements
- settlement and landscape transformation
- cultural and economic development
- identity transformation

Population movements, 1944-1948



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Sudetes as a home

... as a lost land (*for those who left or were forced to leave*)

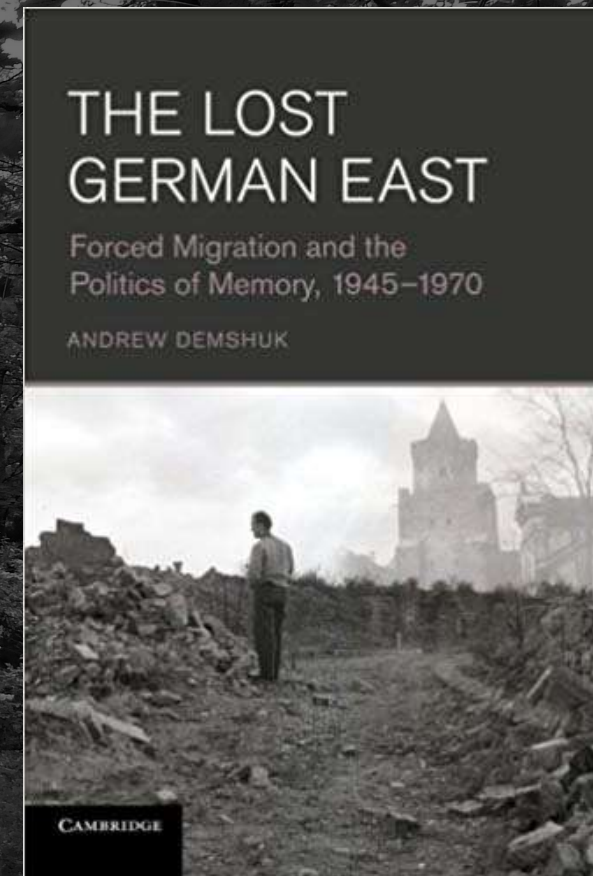
- disruption of the relationship to home, unavoidable creation of home in a new environment
- sustaining identity through: remembrance, meetings, customs and traditions, literature, places
- immediate experience of home replaced by the idea of home

... as a gained land (*for those who came or were forced to come*)

- coping with the new environment
- formation of multicultural communities → new collective identities, relationships to places

... as a continuity (*for those who stayed or were forced to stay*)

- familiar environment in radically new conditions
- significant German minority (until the 1960s); new discussion and reinterpretation after 1989

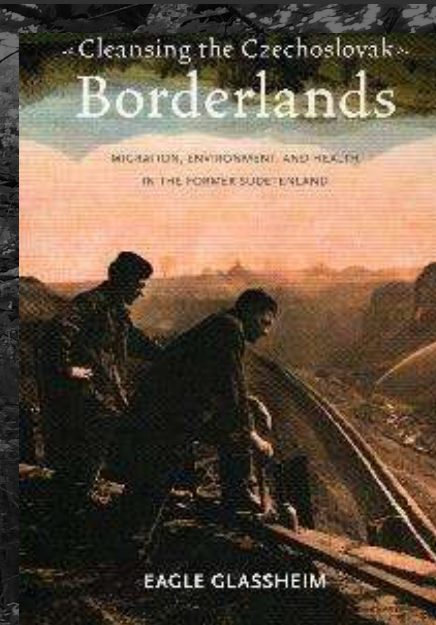


(Border)land key characteristics

- an area defined by absences
- attempts on revitalization of local landscapes and communities

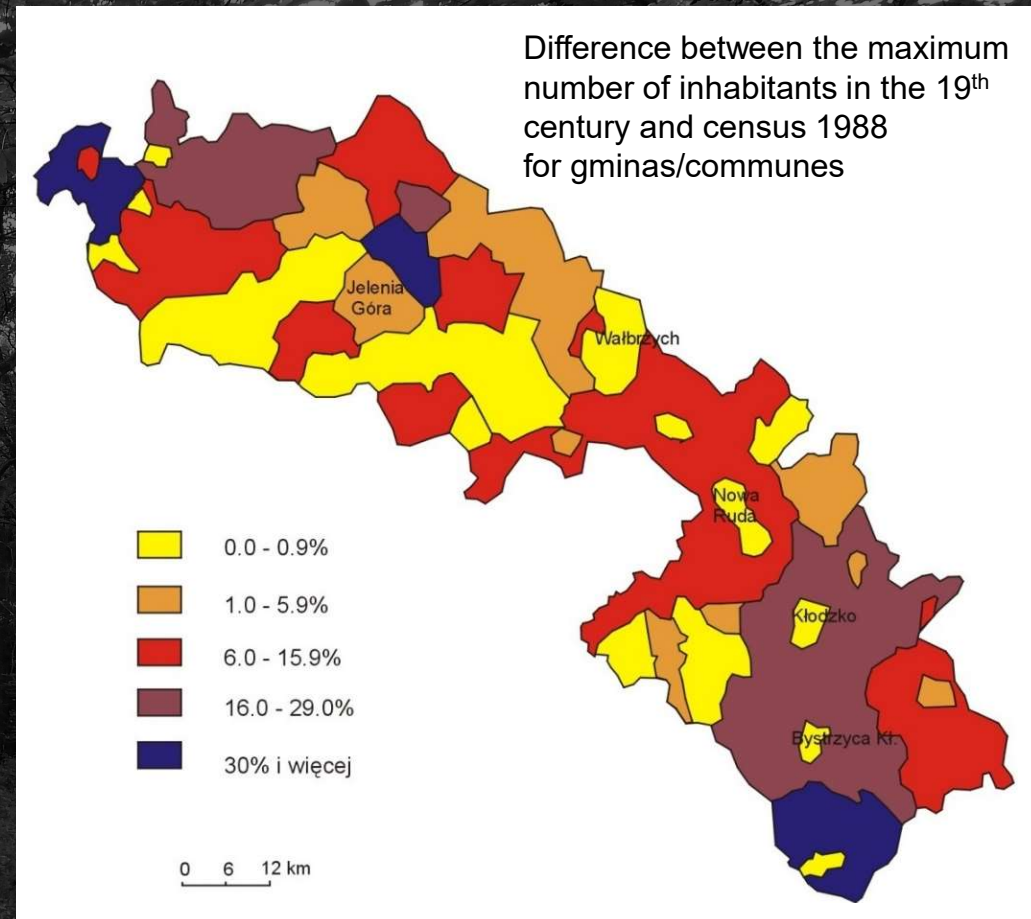
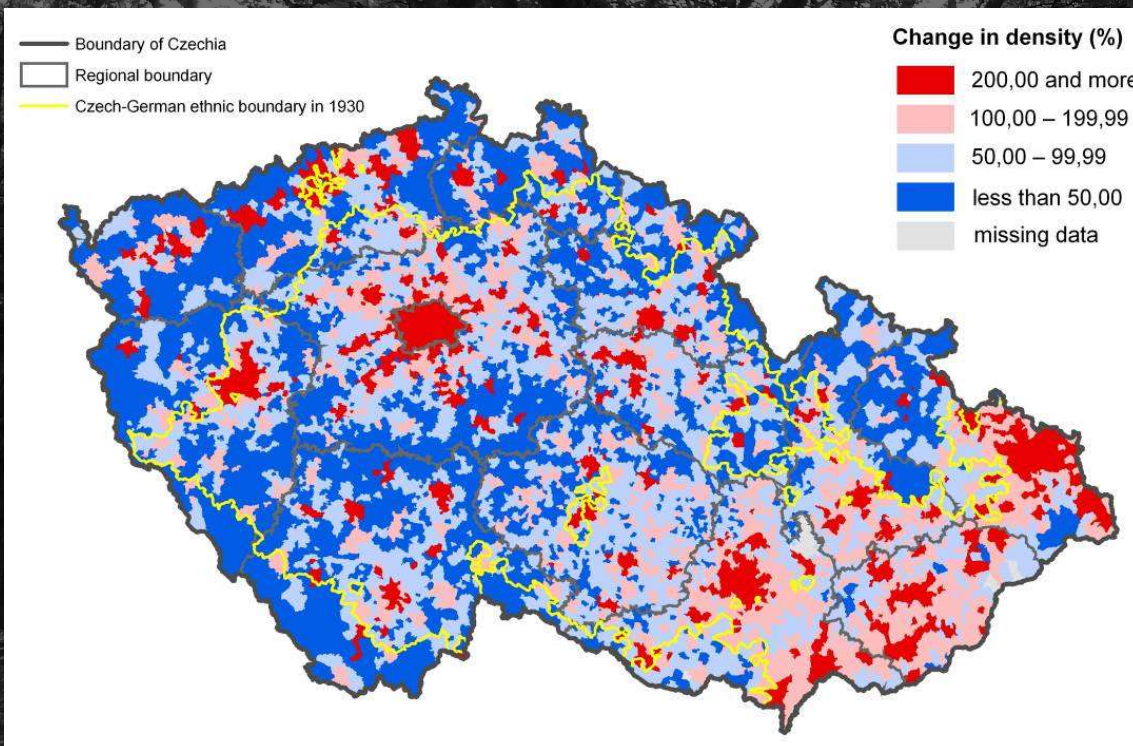


- ❖ deliberate destruction of home against the will of its inhabitants that causes suffering to its inhabitants

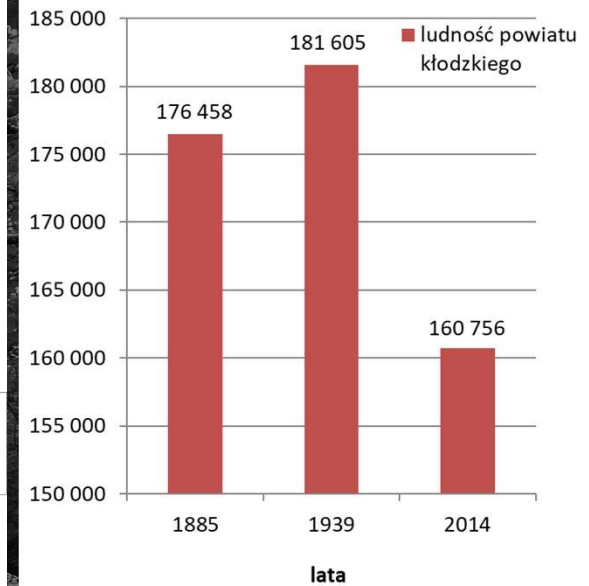
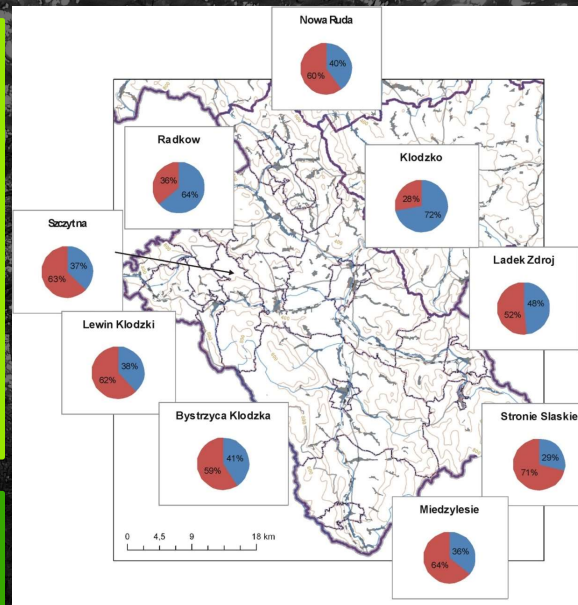
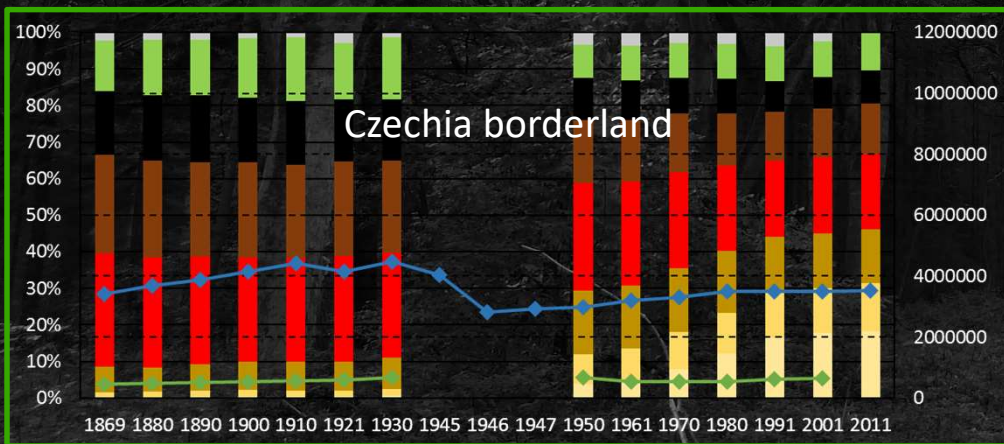
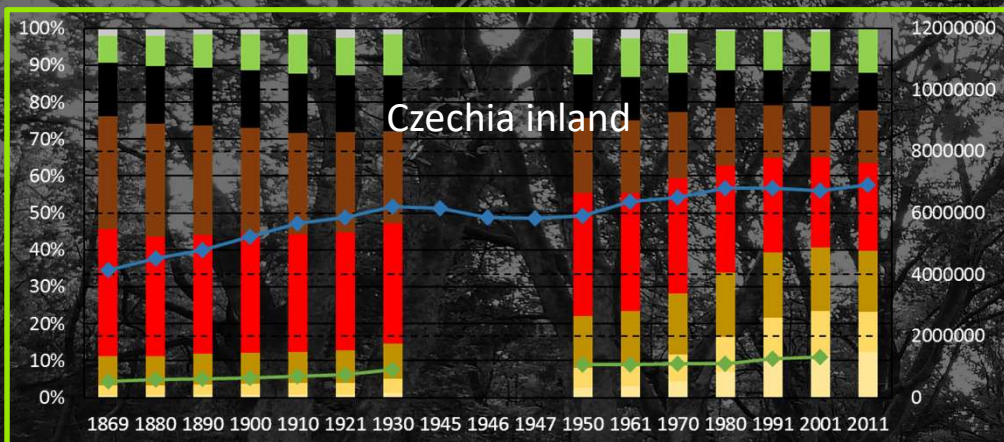


Population changes

❖ population change 1869–2001



Settlement structure

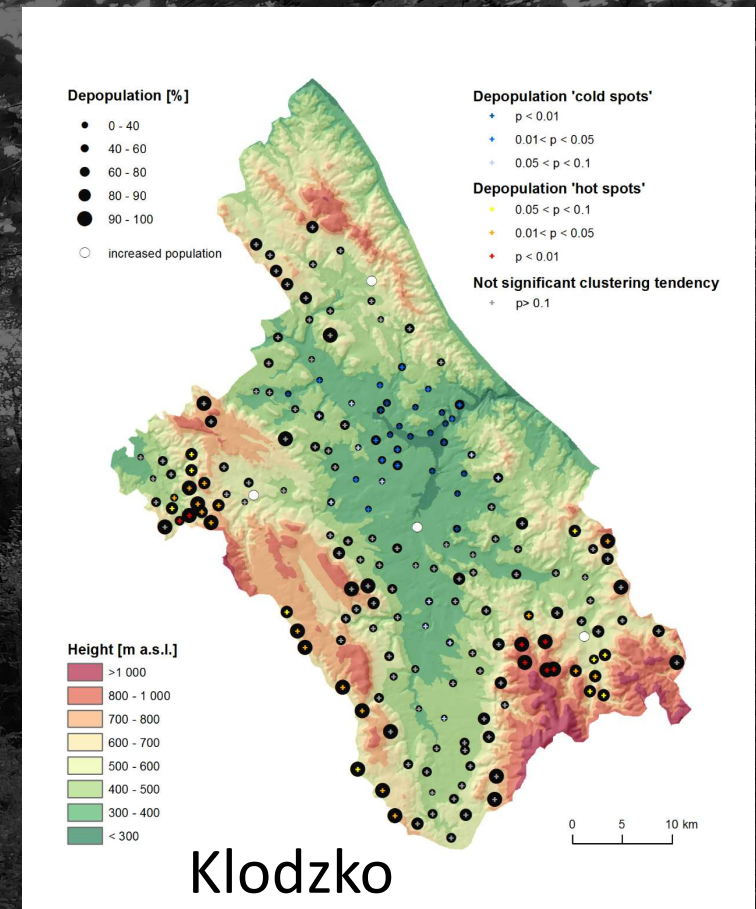
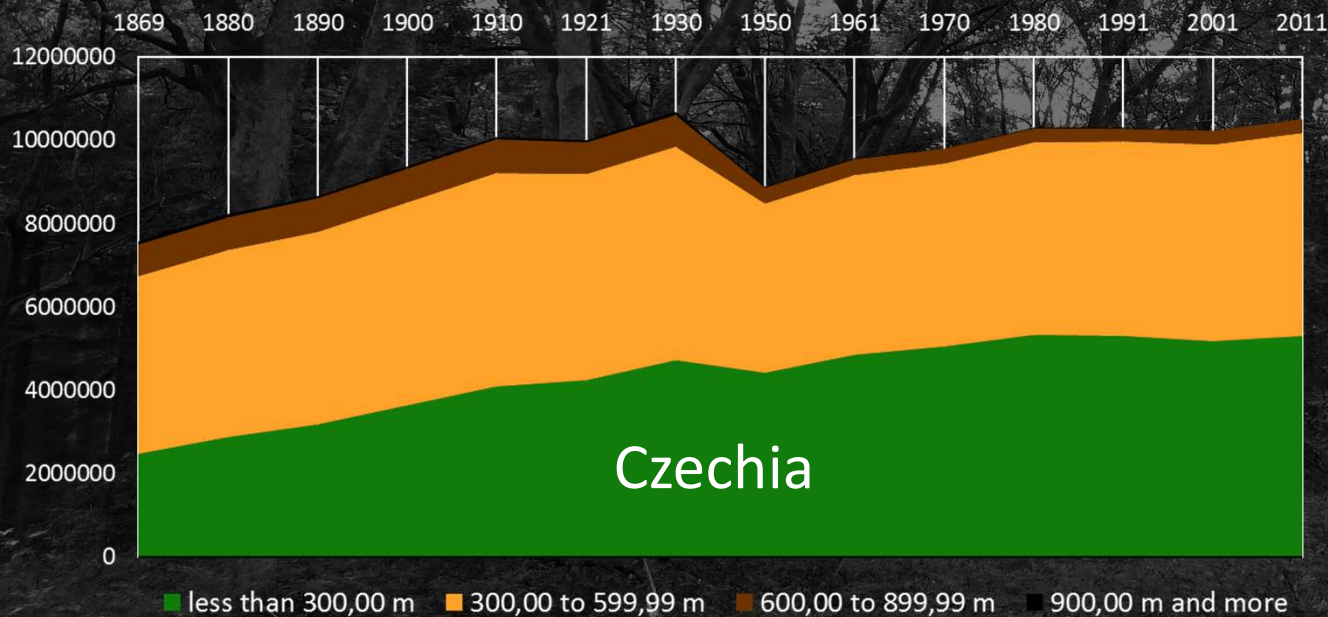


- méně než 25
 - 25 až 49
 - 50 až 99
 - 100 až 249
 - 250 až 499
 - 500 až 999
 - 1000 a více
 - nezjištěno
- obyvatel
— domů

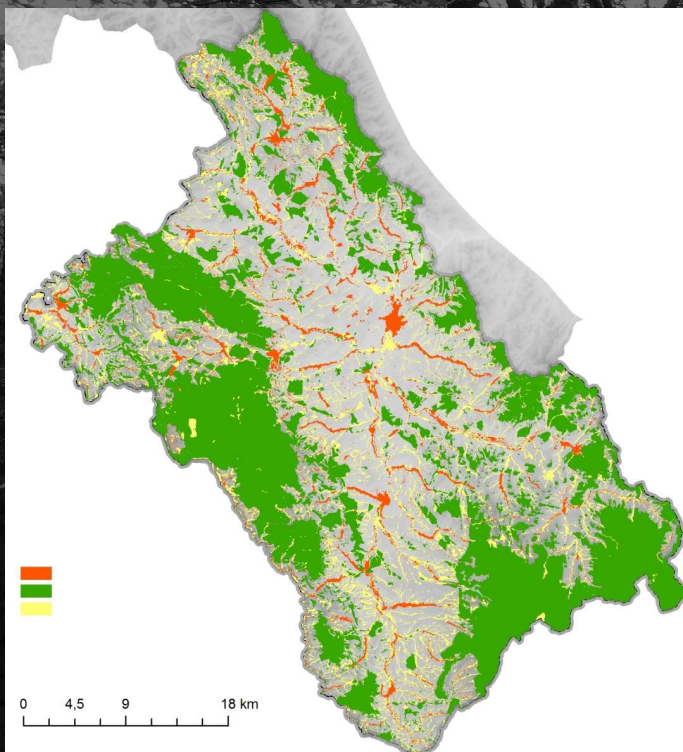
❖ polarization of settlement structure

Environmental factors

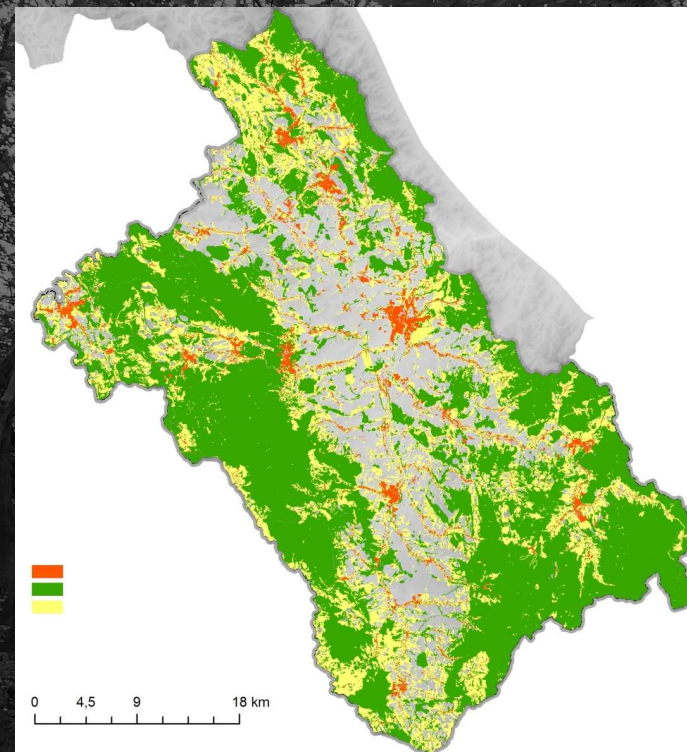
Population development in relation to altitude



Land use changes = rewilding = nature protection



Arable land – 50%
Forest – 36%
Grassland – 9%
Built-up area – 5%



Arable land – 23%
Forest – 48%
Grassland – 24%
Built-up area – 5%



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Settlement landscape transformations

➤ Abandoned buildings and decline in settlements

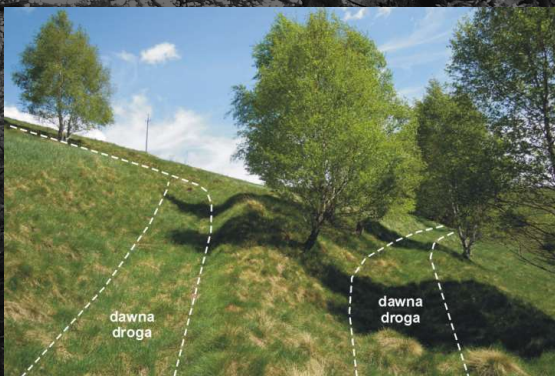


➤ Former agriculture



Changes in infrastructure

➤ Old roads



➤ Water management

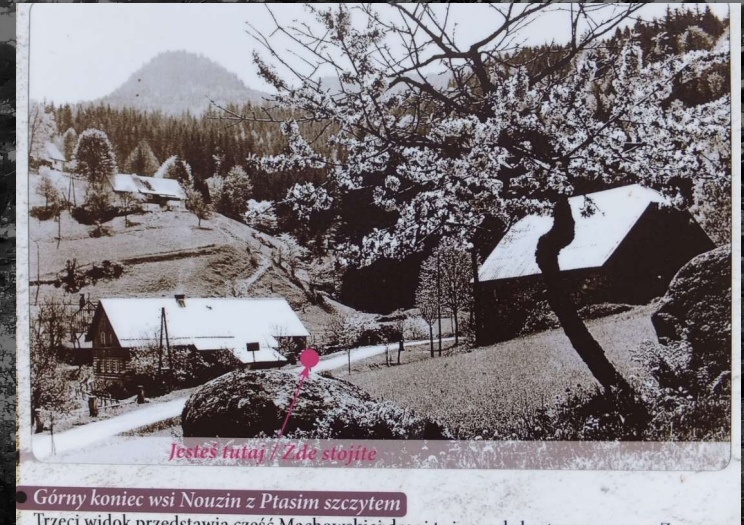


➤ Industrial activities



Heritagezation from below

- ❖ memory in its place vs. memory out of its place
- ❖ part of the search for a relationship with certain historical and intergenerational continuity to the inhabited landscape
- ❖ recognized as a part of local heritage
- ❖ related to identities of former inhabitants and their descendants



Why deserted settlements?

- process of settlement desertion is part of settlement development (worldwide)

The study of deserted settlements helps to:

- 1) understand present landscape as well as its past transformations
- 2) understand significance of landscape inertia
- 3) cope with ephemerality of place (in relation to heritage practice)
- 4) reflect, understand and discuss our own identities and heritages as well as those of others



New phase of abandonment?

- A project to built numerous, large-scale dry reservoirs (flood protection) in Klodzko region
- Evacuation of 1200-2000 people



- Wariant WB2
1. „BOLESŁAWÓW”
 2. „GOSZÓW”
 3. „RADOCHÓW”



Landscapes living, lived, and vanished



Thank you for your attention!

