

## **Cartographic image of “wandering streets and their names” in Lublin (in the 20th and 21st century) – verification of a research method**

**Abstract.** The authors’ main goal is to highlight the additional research potential of the method of analysing changes in the routes and names of streets introduced by Paweł E. Wieszpiński in 2012. The proposed method was based on the old city maps of Warsaw and, according to Wieszpiński, described “wandering streets and their names”. Taking the changing routes and names of streets on Lublin city maps from the last century as the research subject, the authors demonstrate that the method can be used to analyse how urban spaces are perceived and how they function in the minds of local residents. The authors propose to modify the method by adding one more important factor – the function of the place or street affected by the “wandering”. They claim that the study of changes in streets’ topography, territorial scope and names should be supplemented each time with an analysis of the administrative, economic or social significance of the place.

**Keywords:** Lublin, city map, street transformation, contested street name

### **1. Introduction**

Urban space can be very diverse. Street pattern, public and religious buildings, museums, stadiums, architectural monuments and residential buildings are just some of the components which together determine the image of a city. The network of streets is one of the most significant attributes of any urban space. Their layout is the core element, the backbone of every city map, depicted – according to the map structure proposed by Serge Bonin (1989) – within maps’ first reading level.

The authors analysed changes in street routes and names visible on the Lublin city maps published in the last century. However, the main purpose of the study was to use the material related to Lublin to demonstrate a possible wider use for the method proposed by Paweł E. Wieszpiński (2012) who first developed on the basis of his analysis of Warsaw’s old city maps in which he studies “migrations of streets and their names”.

An in-depth visual analysis of street pattern presented on the city maps of Warsaw allowed him to distinguish between several types of “migrations”. One of them concerned a street shift, that is, a situation in which the angle of a street route in regard to its surroundings is distorted or some investment changes the modification of this route, assuming that the scope of this modification allows to clearly identify the modified route with the pre-change one. The second type of wandering consisted in changing the length of the street or the territorial range of its name. It was inextricably connected to the investment processes occurring in the city. The third type concerned disruptions of street routes and the territorial range of their names, which often constituted a side-effect of construction of a new street or railway line. The last type of wandering indicated by P.E. Wieszpiński (2012) refers to streets whose names were changed.

The article presents the thesis that the conclusions which Wieszpiński reached when ana-

lysing Warsaw city maps are more universal than he assumed. The analysis of migrations of streets and their names can be used not only for dating old maps, as suggested by the inventor of the method, but can be also helpful in analysing how urban spaces are perceived and how they function in minds of local residents. The city maps of Lublin, once a multicultural city with a complex spatial structure and important functions, were chosen to verify the proposed thesis.

## 2. Historical sources and research method

Two types of sources were used for the study: cartographic, as implemented by P.E. Wespziński, and evidentiary-descriptive sources, treated as equally important as cartographic ones.

The search for sources was conducted in the archival resources of the Lublin City Office, the State Archives in Lublin and the Special Collections Department of the Hieronim Łopaciński Provincial Public Library in Lublin.

The maps used in the study were created in the following years: 1916, 1918, 1926, 1931, 1938, 1940, 1942, 1947, 1957, 1968, 1978, 1982, 1988, 1995, 2001, 2012, and 2014. The most significant of the maps included: *Plan Wielkiego Miasta Lublina* (Map of the Great

City of Lublin) from 1931, a 1:15,000 city map developed by the Regulation Office of the Municipal Council of Lublin (published by the Lublin Branch of the Polskie Towarzystwo Krajoznawcze – Polish Sightseeing Society), a city map from 1942 with a complete set of German street names, and a 1:10,000 city map of 1947 developed by the Measurements Office of the Municipal Council of Lublin (fig. 1). The city maps issued by the Państwowe Przedsiębiorstwo Wydawnictw Kartograficznych (State Cartographic Publishing House) in the Polish People's Republic times proved to be least useful for the study, due to their high levels of content generalisation and geometric deformations resulting from interference of the censorship office. Problems related to information resources and credibility of these city maps have already been extensively discussed in the literature of the subject (W. Nerlo 1986; B. Konopska 2007; A. Ciołkosz-Styk 2009; K. Kałamucki 1994; K. Kałamucki, C. Mazur 2001).

The evidentiary-descriptive sources included foremost official lists of streets made available by the Department of Geodesy of the Lublin City Office, and announcements informing local residents about decisions related to name changes in the city. Printed local press was an additional source of information in this category. The literature on the subject has also been



Fig. 1. A part of the city map of Lublin published in 1947 (source: Lublin, Biuro Pomiarów Zarządu Miejskiego w Lublinie, original scale 1:10,000, Archiwum Państwowe, 1947)

used to supplement the available source data (M. Buczyński 1962, 1966; J. Chachaj 2014; A. Czerny 2011; D. Kociuba 2007).

The authors used the cartographic research method, supplemented by the results of historical analysis of documents and descriptive sources. A visual comparison of Lublin's old city maps allowed for analysing all street route changes, indicating their shifts, shortenings or extensions, and to track changes in the names related – from complete name changes to transfers of individual names to different locations. The analysis of street layouts was also used for comparisons of street hierarchies in individual historical periods. The search for a relationship between a street's "wandering" and its level of importance in the street hierarchy, e.g. its social marginalisation or increased economic significance, was also a significant aspect of the analysis. An Excel table was created to support the visual comparison of city maps.

### 3. Characteristics of the research area

Located in the eastern part of Poland, Lublin is both the capital of the voivodship and a city with poviats rights. It is also an important urban centre with a long tradition and great historical significance. Lublin has changed its borders and spatial organisation many times. In 1918, the city, like many others, felt the effects of war. After Poland regained its independence, the state began to invest in roads, public transport, waterworks, electrification, science, culture, and industry.

In Lublin, the Second World War began with the bombing of aircraft factory on 2 September 1939. Warfare resulted in massive damage to the urban space. Nearly 300 buildings were demolished or damaged (J. Chmielak et al. 2000). The Germans chose Lublin as one of their supply bases and sites of concentration of troops for their planned move to the east. It gave rise to various propaganda efforts aimed at demonstrating the German past of the city, including changes in street names (J. Kasperek 1989). The names of over 90 streets, squares and parks were changed between August 1940 and August 1943.

Lublin was liberated at the end of July 1944. Until February 1945, the city was the seat of the Provisional Government of the Republic of Poland, which was later moved to Warsaw.

Lublin regained its place as the cultural and economic focus point of the area between the Vistula and Bug rivers. After the Second World War, the city gained a third function based on its scientific potential. This contributed to the increase in the number of city's inhabitants and the successive expansion of its area. This process was particularly intensified at the end of the 20th century, driven by the country's political and economic transformation, as well as its administrative reform. At that time, surrounding settlements, villages and agricultural areas, which used to be the city's investment reserve, were incorporated into the city boundaries (D. Kociuba 2007b).

### 4. Research on "wandering streets and their names" in Lublin

In the study, the authors first focused on determining the "wandering streets and their names" in Lublin, in accordance with the guidelines defined by P.E. Wieszpiński (2012). The collected material revealed that the most common changes concerned street names. There are cases where changes can be attributed to more than one type of "wandering". Below, we present selected examples showcasing the additional potential of the analysed method. They are described as case studies.

#### Case 1

The first of the discussed cases is the "wandering" of Północna Street, which used to be a very important route for Lublin despite its location in the city's outskirts. For a long time, this street marked the northern edge of the city limits (fig. 2). The expansion of Lublin's territory moved Północna Street to the contemporary city centre. Once it was moved, it lost its importance. As it was incorporated in the central area of the city, its function and significance was taken over by other streets which now mark the northern limit of the city (fig. 3, 4A and 4B).

The 2014 city map shows the route of Północna Street, which intersects with Generała Bolesława Ducha Street (fig. 3). The route was significantly shifted during the reconstruction. For a short section, it runs parallel to Generała Bolesława Ducha Street, and then, in a gentle curve, leads to the intersection of the streets.

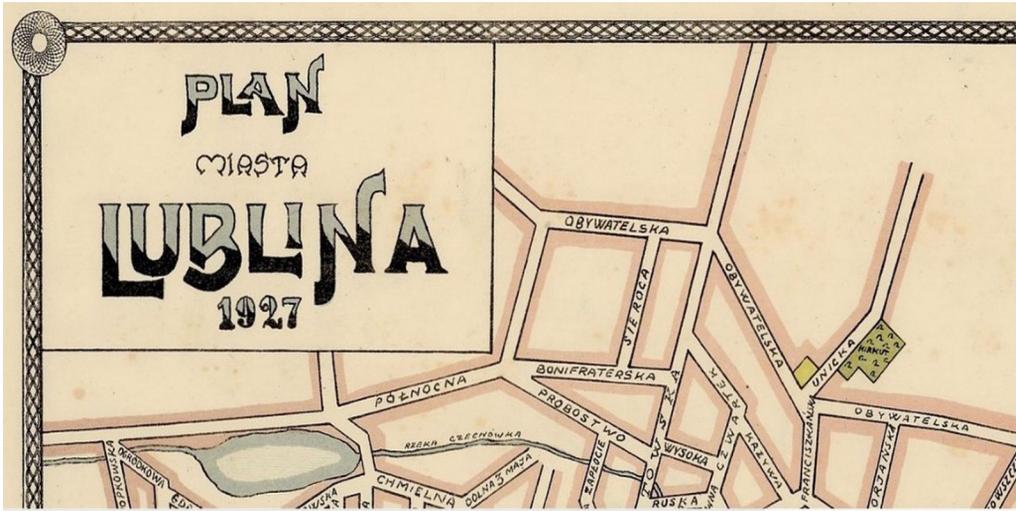


Fig. 2. Północna Street on the city map of Lublin, 1927

(source: <https://lublin.fotopolska.eu/1111895,foto.html?o=b58145&p=1>; access 17.04.2019)

Północna Street was completely disrupted, and currently there is no connection between its first section and the further part, located west of Generała Bolesława Ducha Street (fig. 4A). There was a shift, change of length and disruption of the route of the street in this area. Currently, Północna Street appears twice within

Lublin's urban space. What is more, both parts of the street are separated from each other by noise barriers (fig. 4B), which form a symbolic border, preserved in the minds of Lublin's new residents. Simultaneously, the importance of the "new" part of Generała Bolesława Ducha Street increased, as it became a link between



Fig. 3. Północna Street on the city map of Lublin, 2014

(source: Lublin, original scale 1:15,000, Lublin: Kartpol, 2014)

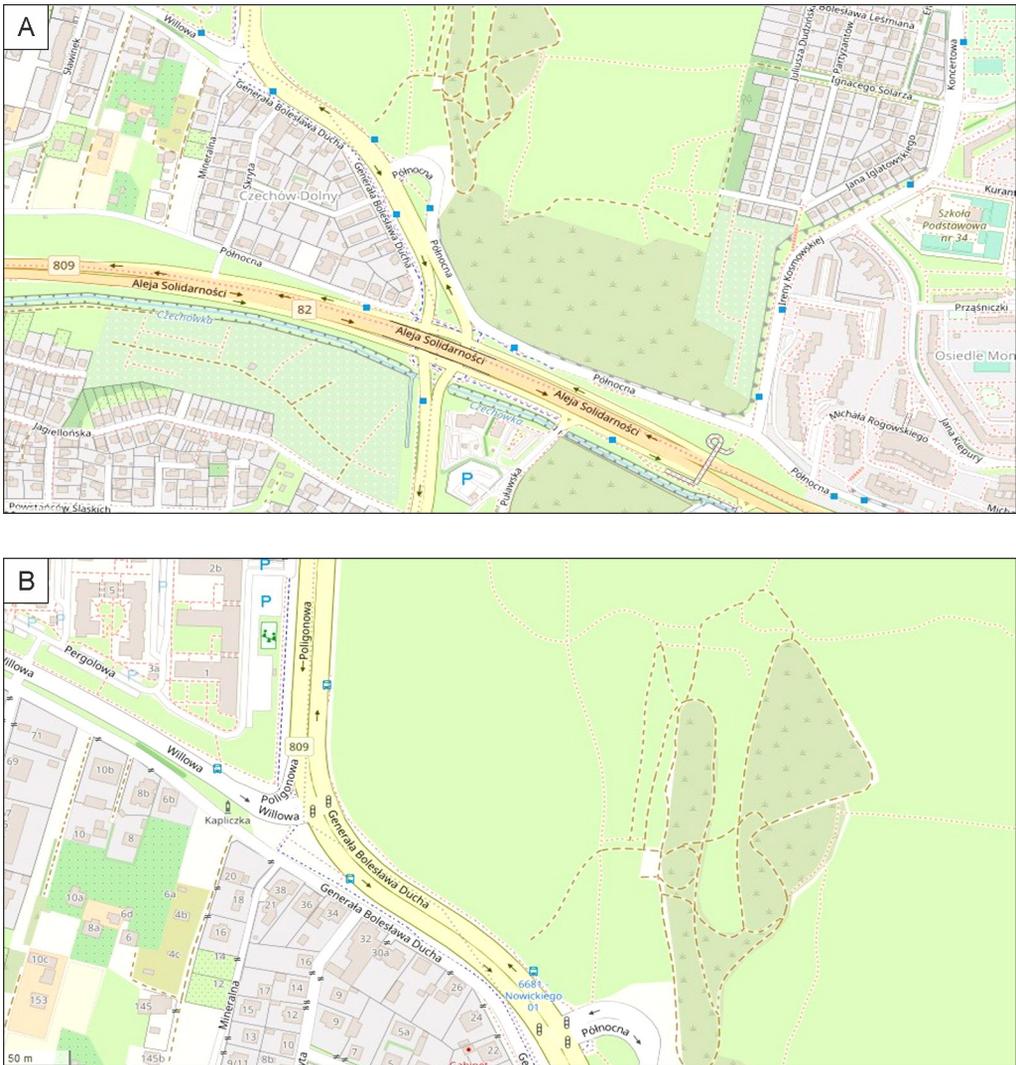


Fig. 4. A – Północna Street, B – Generała Bolesława Ducha Street in 2019  
(source: <https://www.openstreetmap.org>)

two important intersections, while the significance of its “old” part decreased, when it became an internal estate road.

## Case 2

Incorporation of suburbs into the administrative boundaries of the city resulted in creation of interesting research material in the form of then nameless streets, which, of course, required

formal recognition and naming, and streets whose names were the same as the names of streets already existing in Lublin (fig. 5A and 5B). In such cases, it is clear that the nature of the changes depended on the importance of individual places in a given period. For example, in 1923, the Municipal Council of Lublin decided to keep the street names in the city centre unchanged (Mostowa, Niecała, Wesola), and name their counterparts in the suburbs after

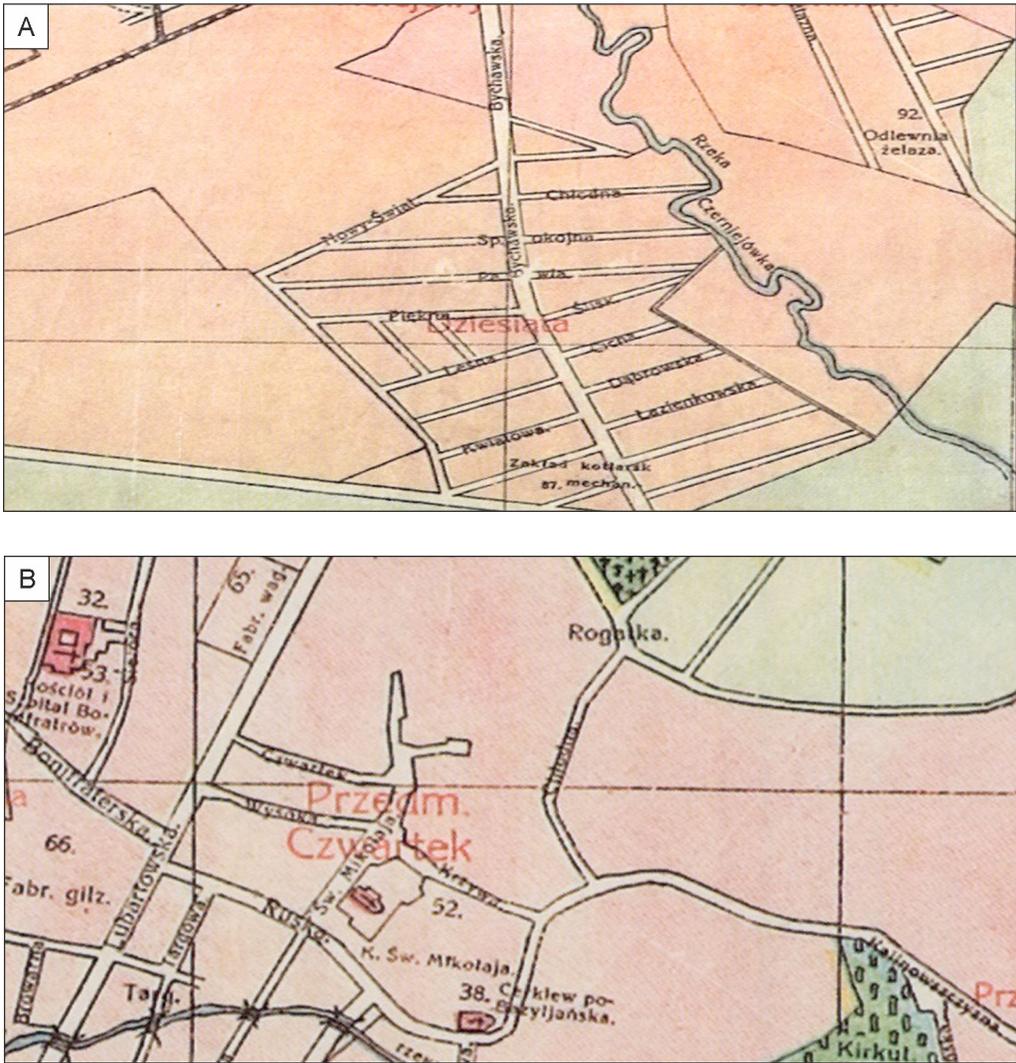


Fig. 5. Chłodna Street on the city map of 1918: A – in Dziiesiąta district, B – between the Czwartek Hill and the Kalinowszczyzna Street (source: *Lublin*, 1: 8400, litogr. and print A. Jerzyński in Lublin, 1918)

the towns and cities to which they led, e.g. Biłgorajska Street from Biłgoraj, or Chełmska Street from Chełm.

### Case 3

Before the Second World War, Podzamcze Street was located on the southern side of the Castle Hill. After the war the name of the street was given to a different route. The current

Podzamcze Street is located in the immediate vicinity of the Czwartek Hill and the Main Bus Station, constituting the border between two districts (Śródmieście and Kalinowszczyzna). The name Podzamcze means the lower castle area and the castle referenced in the street's name is located south of it. The current Podzamcze Street used to be called Franciszkańska Street before the Second World War. Now,

a city thoroughfare, it was much less important for the city under its former name (fig. 6). Franciszkańska Street became Podzamcze Street on the basis of an administrative decision of 1951, and the city authorities abandoned the old name without any regrets. The described case highlights the way the street name functions in the minds of Lublin's residents, emphasising that the name did not actually relate the topography (location of the castle), but to the place's specific level of importance for the city (it's rank in the street hierarchy).

#### Case 4

Another interesting case showcases the connection between the name and the significance of the street (its rank). Marshal Józef Piłsudski is closely associated with the political history of Poland and first became the patron of an important street in 1934. After the country's change of political system, Piłsudski Avenue lost its significance, regaining it years later when the street returned to its place of origin, i.e. a prominent area of Lublin. This return was a two-stage process which perfectly reflected the transformation period of the second half of the 1980s and the beginning of the 1990s. Józef Piłsudski became a patron of a significant artery once more in 1991.

His first term in this prominent function lasted from 1934 to 1948, when the new authorities replaced J. Piłsudski with Karol Świerczewski, a general who was as important to the authorities of post-war Poland as Piłsudski was for the authorities of the interwar period. The political associations of both names are intertwined with the prestige of the prominent street's location. Both of the above-mentioned names could be found in Lublin during the political changes of the late 1980s. K. Świerczewski was at that point still the patron of an important artery in the city, while Piłsudski was commemorated in a name of a newly created street which had no urban or emotional significance for the residents. Only after the fall of communism in 1989, Józef Piłsudski Avenue was returned to its former, prestigious place in urban space on the basis of the Municipal Council's resolution issued in April 1991. The former Piłsudski Street became an extension of Krafcowa Street, while K. Świerczewski disappeared from the city space completely.

#### Case 5

It might seem that street names with clear political associations are most likely to change, but the history of Lublin indicates that neutral names, and seemingly non-controversial pa-

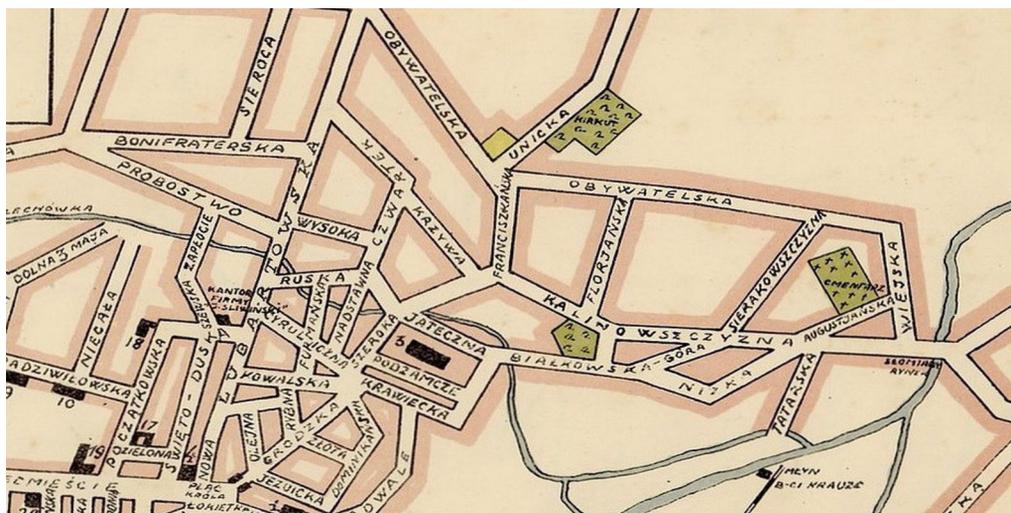


Fig. 6. Podzamcze and Franciszkańska Streets on the city map from 1931

(source: *Plan Wielkiego Miasta Lublina*, Biuro Regulacji Magistratu m. Lublina, original scale 1:15,000, Archiwum Państwowe w Lublinie, 1931)

trons, are equally susceptible to modifications. The drive to restore pre-communist names of 1990–1993 resulted in changes of many neutral street names, which temporarily disappeared from the urban space. However, the city did not forget about them completely and returned to them in the following years, when the continued spatial development led to creation of new streets. Such was, for example, the case of a street named after Sebastian Klonowic, a local scholar, poet and composer from the 16th century. During the People's Republic of Poland, S. Klonowic became the new patron of Dominikańska Street whose name contained an inconvenient reference to the Dominican Order. The original name of the street was restored in 1990. The Municipal Council's resolution of 14 November 1996 assigned the name of S. Klonowic Street to a new street in the Abramowice district, located some distance away from its original place. The story of Szymonowic Street is similar. In the People's Republic of Poland, Szymon Szymonowic, a Renaissance humanist and poet became the new patron of Misjonarska Street (the original name referred to religious missionaries). Currently, both streets are located near one another and constitute part of the city's thematic naming order, as the majority of the names in this part of Lublin commemorate Polish poets and writers.

#### Case 6

Another type of migration – changes in the length of streets and the size of area covered by their names – is mainly associated with the spatial development of the city. Most of such “wandering” should be treated as natural movements, but this category is also not devoid of unusual cases. For example, the unique case of a “spatial monument” commemorating an event important for the history of the city. Jan Paweł II Street, named after Pope John Paul, was first known in the Polish People's Republic's times as Przełom Street.

Its name was changed on the basis of the Municipal National Council's resolution of 27 February 1990 to commemorate the Pope's visit in the district in 1987. Twenty years later, in 2008, the length of Jan Paweł II Street was extended, as is often the case, in connection with a large investment. It was connect with Kraśnicka Avenue, an important Lublin route.

Its extension and new connection with Kraśnicka Avenue, increased the importance of Jan Paweł II Street in the street hierarchy, turning it into a section of the city's beltway.

This case of honouring the Pope in the street name is a perfect example of a street name commemorating an important event. The scope of the area covered by this name and the current significance of the street create a “spatial monument” reminding Lublin's residents of the Pope's visit to the city in 1987.

The extension of Solidarności Avenue (fig. 7A), which became the main communication artery of the city when it got connected with its beltway (fig. 7B), is another example of the same type of “wandering”. The extension allowed the name commemorating the historic social movement and the prestige of the place to become one and the same (fig. 7C).

#### Case 7

The last type of migration consists in disrupting the route of the street or the scope of area covered by its name. This category of “wandering” contains several sub-categories. Sometimes the topography of the street is not changed, but the scope of length covered by its name is changed by renaming only a part of the original route of the street. Another sub-category concerns cases in which the route of the street and the territorial scope of its name is disrupted by another investment. It may result in a disappearance of a street section and its name or, in extreme cases, elimination of the entire street. Small remnants of the former route often remain intact, but there are not always legible to younger generations.

The history of Szeroka Street, commonly known also as Żydowska Street (Jewish), is a good example of a street which was first disrupted and then disappeared completely. The street was the centre of the former Jewish quarter and was located in the place of today's Zamkowy Square (fig. 8). In 1941, it was the main street of the Lublin ghetto. In the spring of 1942, Jewish residents were displaced from the tenement houses, and all buildings were later demolished. Only a huge pile of debris remained from Szeroka Street. This is why the street was not depicted on the city maps of Lublin, although it formally existed. The final liquidation of the street took place in 1954,



Fig. 7. Solidarności Avenue on maps of Lublin: A – Solidarności Avenue on the city map from 2001 (source: *Lublin*, original scale 1:20,000, PPWK, 2001); B – the planned extension of Solidarności Avenue on the city map from 2014 (source: *Lublin*, original scale 1:15,000, Kartpol, 2014); C – the extended part of Solidarności Avenue in 2019 (source: <https://www.openstreetmap.org>)

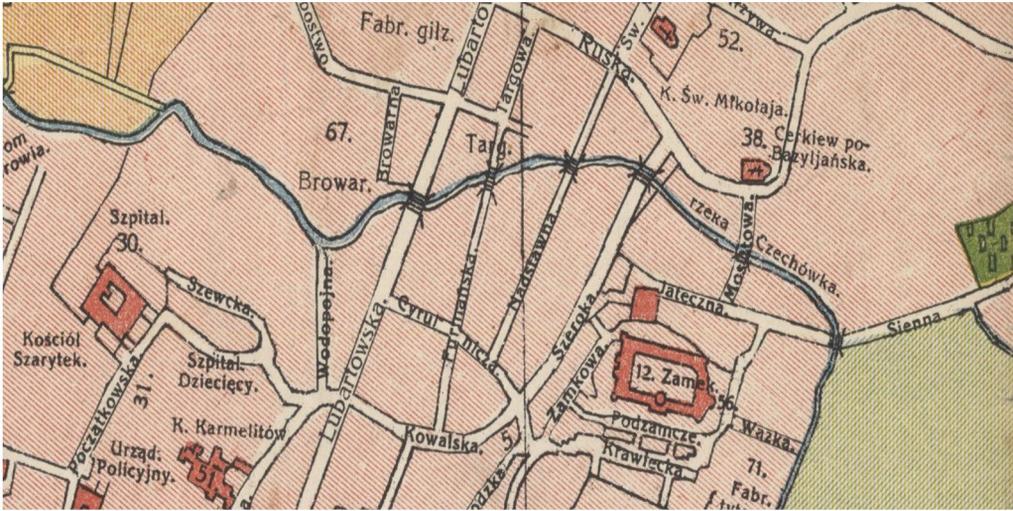


Fig. 8. Szeroka Street on the city map of 1918  
 (source: Lublin, 1: 8400, litogr. and print A. Jerzyński in Lublin, 1918)

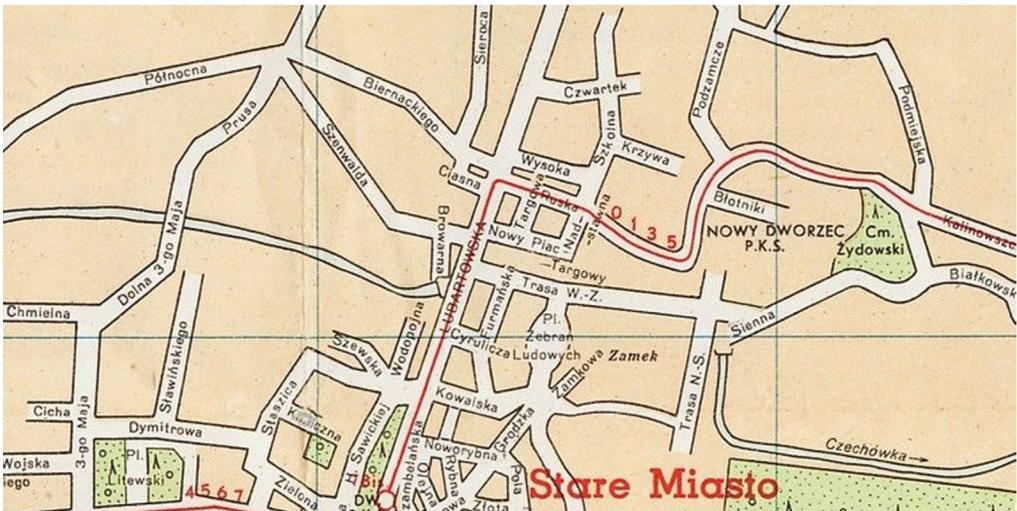


Fig. 9. Zebran Ludowych Square in the place of the old route of Szeroka Street  
 (source: *Plan Miasta Lublina*, without scale data, Warszawa: PPWK, 1957)

when Zebran Ludowych Square was created in its place (fig. 9). The name of the square was changed by the XIV/120/91 resolution of the Municipal Council of 25 April 1991 to Zamkowy Square. Still, a trace of the old street remained in the urban space in the form of a stone drainage well.

## 5. Summary

In the attempt to analyse the additional potential of the method for dating Warsaw city maps proposed by P.E. Wesziński (2012), the authors of this article suggested in its introduction that the conclusions which P.E. Wesziński

reached in his work are more universal than he assumed, and that the analytic method itself, based mainly on cartographic sources, may be successfully used in multi-faceted studies in the field of broadly understood historical geography.

The collected source material demonstrated that the method created by P.E. Wieszpiński can be successfully applied also to the old city maps of Lublin. However, as already mentioned, the aim of the authors was to investigate to what extent the method of analysing "wandering streets and their names" can be helpful in the study of e.g. how urban space is perceived and what role it plays in the minds of residents of a once-multicultural large city which used to fulfil important functions and retained a complex spatial structure.

Selected examples concerning Lublin clearly indicate that the method has a much greater potential than originally assumed. Its usefulness is not only obvious in such cases as dating of city maps, but also in the studies conducted in the field of historical geography – for example concerning reproduction of changes in the urban pattern. Enriched with the results of the analysis of individual categories of migration, as well as their locations and time of occurrence, the method allows to draw additional conclu-

sions regarding the city's residents, who are, after all, the creators and implementers of these changes. An in-depth analysis of the "wandering" reflects quite clearly the way urban space functions in the mentality of local residents. It not only reveals local attitudes towards important places, but allows also to use said attitudes to spaces to analyse the residents' thoughts and feelings about changes and determine political moods in the national context.

After concluding the study, the authors feel justified to note that the method allows to analyse one more important factor – the function of the place or street affected by the "wandering". According to the article's authors, the study of changes in street topography, the territorial scope of street names and the names themselves should be supplemented each time with an analysis of the administrative, economic or social significance of a given place, as this importance is the motivating factor of the migration.

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