

Lipský, Zdeněk

PRESENT USE CHANGES IN THE CZECH CULTURAL LANDSCAPE: DRIVING FORCES AND ENVIRONMENTAL CONSEQUENCES

Land use and landscape structure of the cultural landscape are changing according to the changes in the society. The paper summarises historical development of the Czech rural landscape since the Neolithic Age till the present, its etapization and a rough typization of the Czech rural landscape according to the length of its historical development. Attention is paid to the deep landscape structure changes during the last 50 years (socialist collectivization) and especially to the present trends in developments of the Czech rural landscape since 1989. Present land use changes are characterised by a decrease in the area of arable and agricultural lands and an increase in the area of permanent grasslands and forests. The results of the research also confirm cogently the trend of remarkable regional differences depending both on natural (climate, soil fertility) and socio-economic conditions. Ecological consequences of the present development of the Czech rural landscape are assessed as positive; however a danger exists of abandoning agricultural lands in marginal regions, breakdown of historical settlement structure and extinction of characteristic features and aesthetic values of cultural landscape.

Havrlant, Jan

THE BESKYDY EUROREGION AS AN AREA OF TRAVEL AND RECREATION

This paper presents an analysis of the Beskydy region as a frontier area and focuses on the current state as well as on the developments in the field of tourism as they are currently viewed. The paper also reflects the functional utilization and provision of service infrastructure in the region. Furthermore, the paper outlines necessary developments of the already existing resort areas and centres in the Beskydy Euroregion and deals with prospects and priorities in the development of tourism, holiday activities and infrastructure that are based on the evaluation of the field survey, questionnaire research. The questionnaire method was used in order to find out broader interactions, specific problems and drawbacks of particular resort centres and social aspects connected with them.

Lach, Janusz

GEOMORPHIC RESULTS OF FLOOD IN JULY 1997 IN THE BIAŁA ŁĄDECKA VALLEY (EASTERN SUDETEN, POLAND)

Catastrophic floods, which affected the Sudeten, SW Poland, in July 1997, have caused substantial changes in the relief of river valleys. In particular, valley-bottoms were altered as a result of erosion, transportation and accumulation processes. Such changes were shown in the Biała Łądecka valley. Researches analysed the erosion and accumulation forms built as a result of the rising torrents of 1997. The documented and described the resulting sedimentary forms arising from the flood deposits, both within the river bed, and along the riverbank flood-plains. The researches also measured the area covered by gravel sedimentation from the flood, together with gravel particle size.

Munzar, Jan

SUMMER FLOODS IN CENTRAL EUROPE IN 1813 - AN ANALOGY TO FLOODS OF 1997

It was found out after disastrous floods in central Europe occurring in July 1997 that there are no comprehensive data available from the watershed of the Morava River and from the Czech part of the Odra (Oder) River that would facilitate a comparison with historical floods before the year 1900. The subsequent investigations revealed that one of possible analogies could be the August floods of 1813, which impacted the territories of today's northern Slovakia, northern Moravia, Czech part of Silesia and southern Poland. An experimental reconstruction of this historical flood is made in supraregional context, which among other meant the beginning of systematic observation of water levels in the Polish part of the Odra R. watershed.

Munzar, Jan - Ondráček, Stanislav

PARADOXIES OF NATURAL DISASTERS (WITH EXAMPLES FROM THE CZECH REPUBLIC)

Natural disasters used to be cruel to concrete impacted persons and regions. However, they can become a source of initiatives for subsequent restoration, an impuls for modernization of towns, etc. The fact that disasters have become an inseparable part of society's everyday life led to efforts aimed at their prevention or post-prevention (insurance) already in the past. The situation occurring in connexion with the most severe natural disaster of the 20th century in the territory of the Czech Republic, i.e. floods in July 1997, was unvaried.

REPORTS

Vaishar, Antonín: THE PRESENT DEMOGRAPHIC SITUATION IN CZECHIA AND ITS TRENDS

In memoriam Professor Francis W. Carter (1938-2001)

Vaishar, Antonín: THE 4TH MORAVIAN GEOGRAPHICAL CONFERENCE CONGEO '01

Vysoudil, Miroslav: ANNUAL CONFERENCE OF CZECH GEOGRAPHICAL SOCIETY "CZECH GEOGRAPHY AT THE TIME OF DEVELOPMENT OF INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY" HELD IN OLOMOUC, 25-27 SEPTEMBER 2001