

Jan Havrlant

CHANGES IN THE USE OF SECOND HOUSING FACILITIES IN THE MORAVIAN-SILESIAN BESKIDS MTS.

One of the phenomena occurring in the Beskids Mountains (Moravskoslezské Beskydy Mountains) in the hinterland of the Ostrava agglomeration, namely a specific form of tourism and recreation developed in the second half of the last century – second housing facilities in individual recreation: cottages and summer houses - is analyzed in this article. This phenomenon significantly influenced some natural landscape elements, as well as the settlement structure in the territory of the Beskid Mts. The paper studies specificity of the development and other potential changes in utilizing numerous properties for second housing, against the background of political-social and socioeconomic transformation in the years 1948 and 1989.

Franciszek Kłosowski, Radim Prokop, Jerzy Runge

TERRITORIAL SOCIO-ECONOMIC SYSTEM OF BORDERLAND IN THE SILESIAN REGION AND MORAVIAN-SILESIAN REGION AND STRATEGIES OF ITS DEVELOPMENT IN THE PERIOD OF POLITICAL AND ECONOMIC TRANSFORMATION

Some of the cross-border relations in the Silesian and Moravian-Silesian regions - the euroregion of Těšínské Slezsko/Cieszyn Silesia - are discussed. In this borderland, the process of transformation following the social and political changes after 1990 triggered some integration trends in the co-existence of the developing multi-ethnic society. Such trends are influenced by public activities in the most varied spheres of economic and social life on both sides of the border.

Jan Munzar

EXTREME DROUGHTS IN CENTRAL EUROPE IN THE PREINSTRUMENTAL PERIOD

The two disastrous floods occurring in the territory of the Czech Republic within a time span of merely five years (July 1997 in the watersheds of the Odra and Morava Rivers, and August 2002 in the watersheds of the Vltava and Labe Rivers) underlined the fact that the study of hydrometeorological extremes should not be undervalued. However, there is another weather extreme at an opposite pole, viz. a drought, which also represents a risk of atmospheric origin. This fact was demonstrated not even one year after the flood in August 2002, with the occurrence of an extraordinary spell of drought not only in the Czech Republic but also in a number of other European countries in 2003 (Demuth, 2003).

In order to analyze the long-term occurrence of drought extremes – spells of drought – it was possible to obtain, from the grant project of I. Sládek (2002), a series of selected, homogenized and processed precipitation data from eight precipitation stations, but for a period starting “only” from the end of the 19th century to the year 2003. Therefore, possibilities were checked of using proxy-data for the documentation of extreme drought occurrence for the period before the beginning of instrumental precipitation measurements. Primary attention was paid to the documentation of drought occurrences from the 16th century to the end of the 19th century. There are five “model” years chosen from this period of time, in which extraordinary spells of drought affected not only practically the entire territory of the current Czech Republic but also parts of some neighbouring central European countries. The model years for which weather characteristics are presented are 1540, 1590, 1616, 1790 and 1842.

Evžen Quitt

TOPOCLIMATIC PROCESSES IN THE LOWER BOUNDARY ATMOSPHERE LAYER OF THE JESENÍK SPA (CZECH REPUBLIC)

The Jeseník Spa (Lázně Jeseník) is the most prominent climatic spa resort in the Czech Republic. Increased interest in the possibility of using topoclimatic processes occurring in the lower boundary atmosphere layer in balneotherapy is, therefore, quite logical. The paper is accordingly focused on the possible development of microadvection or microcirculation as a function of the character of the active surface, its slope or orientation aspect. Attention is also paid to the measure of patients' comfort, which is considerably affected by pleasant or unpleasant feelings of temperature or humidity. Individual sections are illustrated with thematic maps and graphs.

Pavel Trnka

LANDSCAPE MICROSTRUCTURES AND THEIR FATE IN THE CENTRAL PART OF THE BOHEMIAN-MORAVIAN UPLAND

The role of small-area landscape structures (microstructures) in the agricultural landscape, which originated in the period of small-scale production and extensive management as a "secondary product", is examined in this paper. Such structures represent striking elements peculiar to the landscape and frequently determining its original character. At the same time, they function in the landscape as a fine web of stabilizing effects, as a valuable testimony to the efforts of whole generations before us. Therefore, their presence or absence can be one of the criteria in evaluating the condition of our cultural landscape. Comparison of two model areas in the region of Vysočina (Upland) can document their often diametrically different fates.

REPORTS

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