

Cultural Heritage Inventory in Lithuania – Role of the Surveyor's

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Key words: professional practice, cultural Heritage, inventory, Lithuania

SUMMARY

The recording and protection of cultural heritage is inevitably related to surveyor's activity. Historical monuments are discovered, described, inventoried, measured and included into the databases. This work has been done with the all strengths of surveyor's and heritage specialists. This professional co-operation in Lithuania is observed since 1959.

Land Survey Institute, Cultural Heritage Protection Centre has huge archives of inventory. It witnesses about vitality of Lithuanian surveyor's tradition to inventory estates, castles and other real estate as far back as XVI century. We have a unique possibility to compare the inventories from old times with data of the end of XX century. Specialists of other sphere have done a lot in this work.

We have an opportunity to create Integrated Cultural Heritage Information system in the XXI century. The database of the Cadastre and other databases can and must be connected with intention to serve for the future researches and preservations. There is a huge role of surveyor.

RESUME

La gestion et la protection du Patrimoine culturel et le travail du Géomètre est toujours en rapport. Le patrimoine culturel trouvé, inspecté, inventorié, mesuré et inscrit dans un dossier ou registre des valeurs culturelles par le géomètre et les autres spécialistes devient le Patrimoine commun de la société, son usage appartient au propriétaire, sa beauté - à tout le monde.

L'institut de la réglementation foncière, le Centre du patrimoine culturel en Lituanie ont les archives ou l'inventaire du patrimoine dressés par les équipes interprofessionnelles. Le géomètre lituanien a travaillé toujours pour l'inventaire du patrimoine. Nous avons une longue tradition, à partir de 16e siècle, pour dresser l'inventaire des manoirs, des châteaux et des autres édifices. Nous avons une possibilité à comparer les inventaires ainsi que suivre l'histoire en équipe interprofessionnelle.

Il faut concevoir un développement durable du patrimoine culturel. Il faut souhaiter de plus d'intégration dans toutes les phases des décisions de la mise en valeur de ce patrimoine, plus d'intégration dans les documents de la planification territoriale. Beaucoup de choses à faire dans le champ d'action sur le système d'information du patrimoine culturel ainsi que sur la mise en valeur des levées de l'inventaire. Le géomètre a beaucoup d travail dans ce domaine aussi.

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1. BRIEF REVIEW OF THE PROTECTION OF CULTURAL HERITAGE IN LITHUANIA

At the end of 19th and in the beginning of 20th centuries, the provisions of czarist Russian law on protection of heritage and territory planning were in place in Lithuania. The meaning of cultural or historical heritage was not explicated. However, surveyor has always been and still is the one who perceives that a property belongs to its owner while its beauty is a possession of general public. Therefore, in the course of either land survey or topographic research, cultural heritage is recorded; in this way assumptions to know better and protect such heritage are created.

During the Agrarian Reform in Lithuania in 1919, the Commission on Archaeology was established to look for the relics of the past. The provisions of heritage preservation were recorded in the 1919 and 1938 local self-government and agricultural reform laws, and the Constitution of 1938. In 1940, the Law on Cultural Monuments Protection and other acts were adopted.

Yet Soviet occupation and the Second World War discontinued the idea and the practice of cultural heritage preservation. During the time of Soviet occupation, cultural values that testified to deep routes of Lithuanian statehood were nationalised or confiscated, some of them even destroyed. Retrospective results of cultural heritage research have shown that since the beginning of the collectivisation almost 60 percent of the entire cultural heritage of the past rotted away, was destroyed or damaged beyond retrieve. The biggest destruction (approximately 80 percent) was experienced by homesteads of manor and *palivark* (a unit in the entire land property, controlled by a manor or estate, which is usually designated for a narrow specialist use, as opposed to the general use of the entire property).

In 1961, the Lithuanian Cabinet of Government confirmed the first list of Architecture and Other Cultural and Historic Monuments. In 1967, the Law on Cultural Monuments Preservation was adopted. However, only a small part of objects of the entire national cultural heritage was included, and even for these no proper preservation was warranted. Being used not according to their primary purpose was damaging buildings, which had a status of cultural heritage.

Thanks to the State Land Survey Institute specialists, in the plans of land usage inventory and some other cartographic documents natural and cultural values were marked; then, the catalogues for these objects and plans were made. Such primary data of the midst XX century was very useful for solving preservation tasks of latter-day cultural landscape in the end of the century.

After the Lithuania's Independence Declaration in 1990, all state control mechanisms were reformed; with the system of management of state records being subjected to equal change. Lithuanian society keeps gradually perceiving cultural heritage as one of preconditions for further life, economic, social, and regional development, and tries to prevent it from menacing decline and deterioration. A need for inventory of forgotten and derelict values of cultural heritage has occurred, as well as for analysing and systemising the information and accumulating it in the registers in order to make it available to future generations. A new legal framework to stipulate preservation of cultural heritage is being created.

A system of screening to assure that cultural values get their architectural, landscape, archaeological, ethnographic, urbanite and other preservation that would satisfy the historical as well as present value, which is covered in the rules of law, was needed.

The results of national process of recording of protected values of cultural heritage are shown in Figure 1.

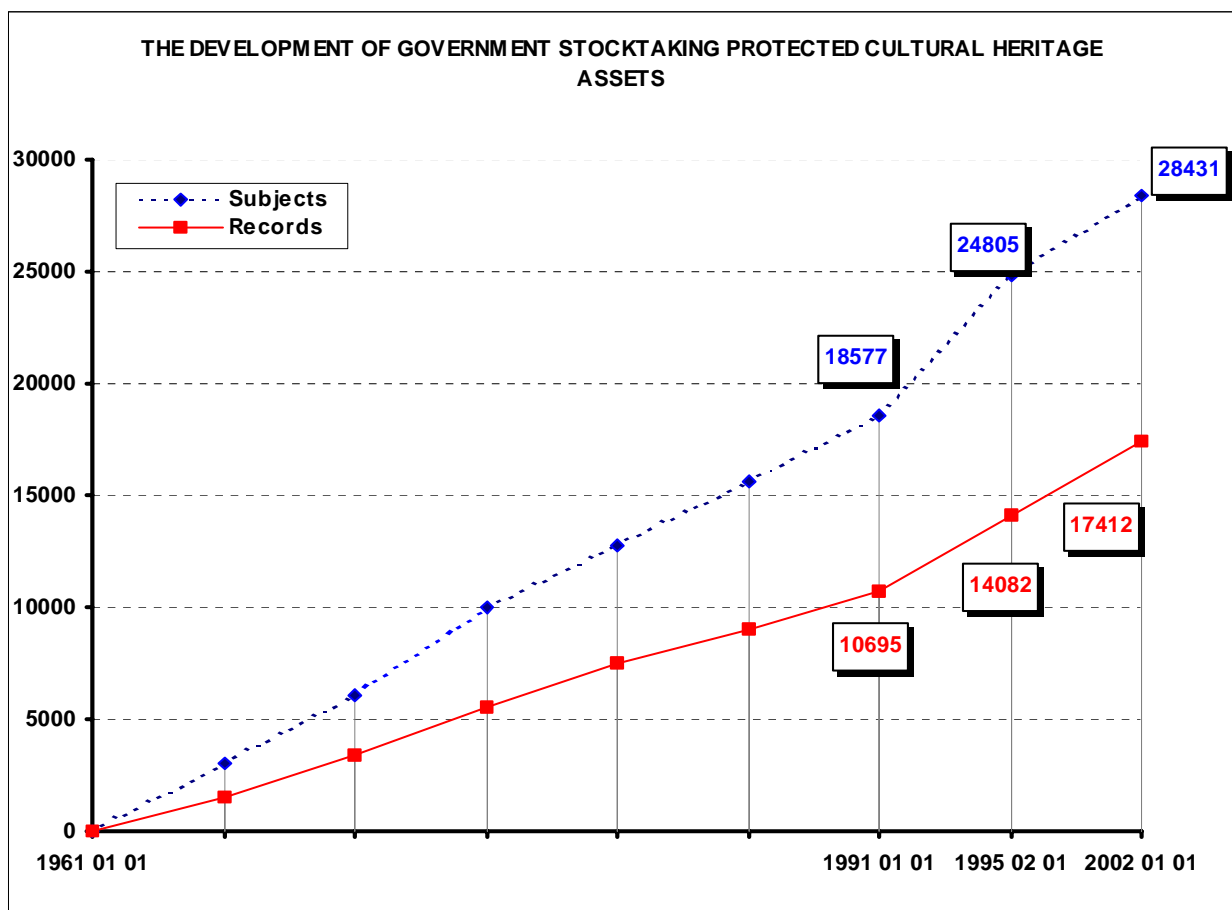


Figure 1: The Results of National Process of Recording of Protected Values of Cultural Heritage

As early as in 1990, the Department of Heritage Management under the auspices of Building and Urban Development Ministry was established. The network of preserved territories was

under concern of the Ministry of Environment and other institutions. The work of creating an inventory of cultural values was carried on by the experts of the Cultural Heritage Centre, the State Land Survey Institute, and the Monument Restoration and Designing Institute. In 1994, the Law on Immovable Cultural Property Protection which regulates Lithuanian real cultural heritage protection was adopted; as the Law on Movable Cultural Heritage Protection was in 1996.

In 1995, the Department of Cultural Values Protection was established under the auspices of the Ministry of Culture (DCVP), becoming the governmental institution in charge of protection of cultural values. This institution took over the functions of the Heritage Management Department as well as other institutions in establishing cultural value records (inventory) and a policy for heritage protection. The financial support for cultural values protection program of the Cultural Values Protection Department keeps increasing each year as private investment in cultural heritage objects is encouraged, as is the partnership between governmental and private interests.

The record and promotion of cultural values is organised and managed by one of the Cultural Values Protection Department's divisions, which is Cultural Heritage Centre. Cultural Heritage Centre, since the day of establishment, has accomplished a huge inventory and knowledge sorting work in the field of cultural heritage (Figure 2).

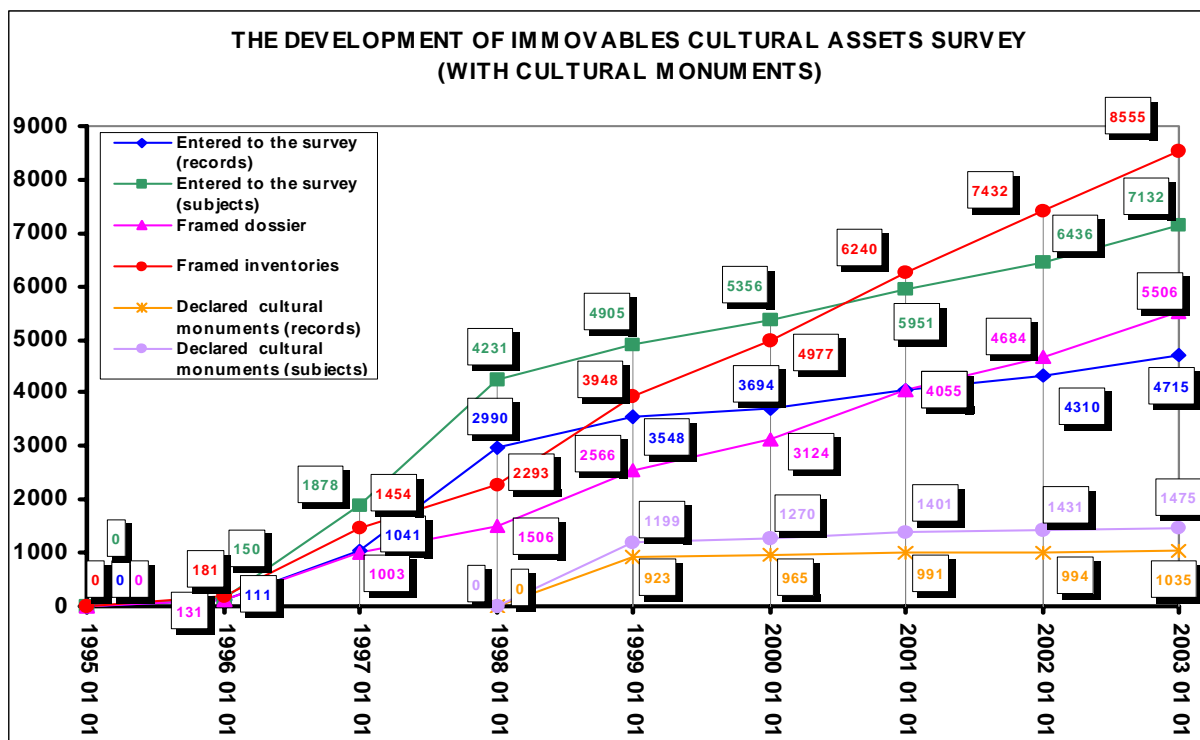


Figure 2: The Development of Register of Real Cultural Heritage (with Cultural Monuments)

The Cultural Heritage Centre gathers the information about movable, as well as real cultural heritage properties. The archives that are available, and the knowledge from previous inventory, give an opportunity to have at disposal various facts and descriptions. Till 1999,

cultural values were listed and cultural values' registers compiled under an extensive effort. Having accomplished the biggest part of this work, the effort has been focused on analysing the available data, making descriptions, and compiling files for individual properties (Figure 3).

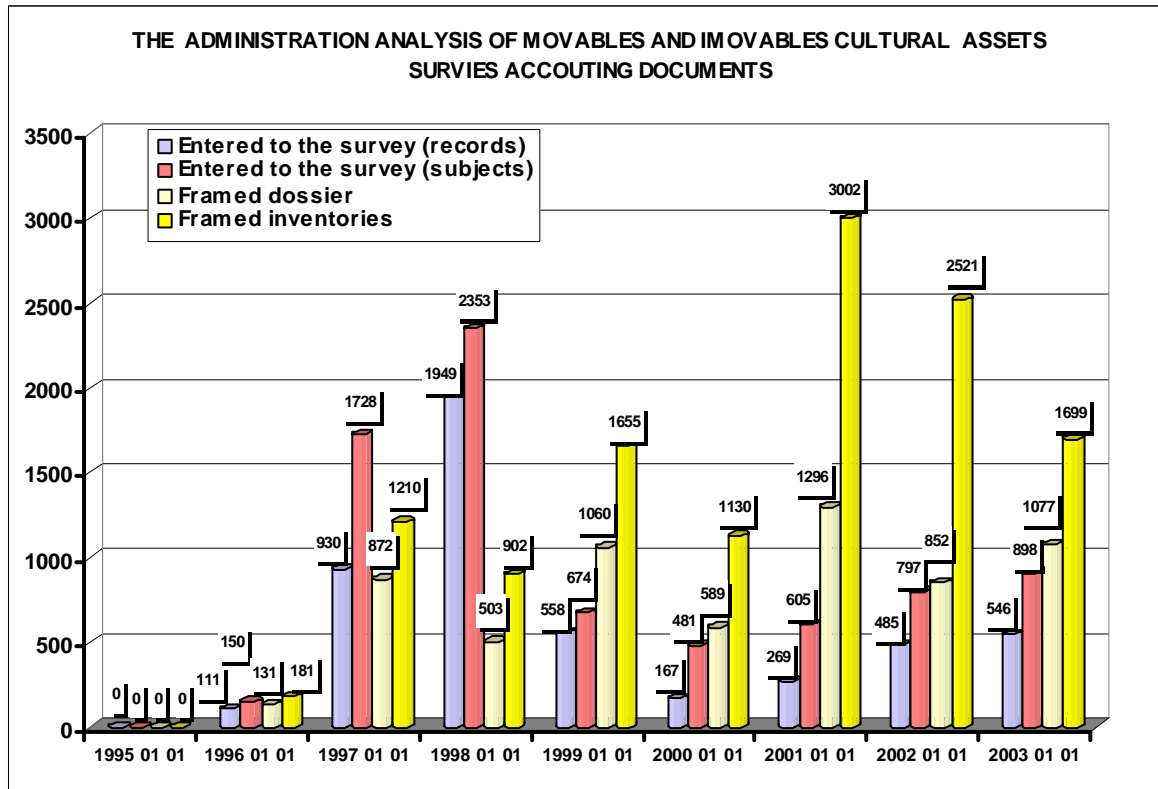


Figure 3: The Analysis of Documentation of Recording of Movable and Real Cultural Properties.

This work has not been finished yet. Beside architects and historians, land-surveyors have been and shall continue to be extensively involved in the effort.

2. LEGAL AND METHODOLOGICAL FRAMEWORK

Today, the following legal instruments directly regulate the recording, protection, usage, and management of cultural heritage in the Republic of Lithuania:

- The Law on Protected Areas of the Republic of Lithuania (1993, 2001). This law regulates natural and cultural values' protection according to the regime of natural reserves, national and regional parks, and other protected areas. It is a law on protection of landscape values also.
- The Law on Immovable Cultural Property Values Protection of the Republic of Lithuania (1994, including subsequent corrections and revisions). It regulates the protection, usage

and management of cultural heritage areas and individual sites according to their cultural weight.

- The Law on Movable Cultural Property Values Protection of the Republic of Lithuania (1996, 2003). This law regulates the protection and management issues related to movable cultural property. This is not a law falling within the domain of land-surveyor activity, although cultural heritage property complexes, for example manor houses, sometimes have some movable cultural property as a constituent part.
- The Law on Building (1996, 2003). It stipulates organisation and implementation of building processes, defines the sequence of project preparation and implementation, as well as the requirements for process participants, including land-surveyors.
- The Law on Land (1994, 2004). It stipulates the tenure of land, the relations in management and usage of land, as well as management and administration processes related to land. The latest edition of the law largely focuses on land administration, land-management, and appropriation of land for public use, land consolidation.
- The Law on Spatial Planning (1995, 2004). The law regulates the issues of territory planning, sets forth the requirements for the contents of spatial planning provisions and the requirements imposed in respect of planning documentation. The process of preparing solutions for implementation of protection for individual areas or sites involves also preparation of the sets of spatial planning documentation. A land-surveyor is a major role-player in this process, responsible for a significant input in this work.

The majority of these laws come in updated editions co-ordinated with the EU Treaty and the *acquis communautaire* requirements. It makes the preservation of cultural heritage in Lithuania an integral part of the process and the network of management and preservation of heritage on the European level.

The Republic of Lithuania has ratified or equally approved the cultural heritage protection provisions of the UNESCO Cultural Heritage Protection in a Conflict of Arms (Hague) Convention, the World-wide Culture and Natural Heritage Protection Convention (1972), the Convention of the European Council on the Protection of the Architectural Heritage of Europe (Grenada, 1985), the revised European Archaeological Heritage Protection Convention (Valletta, 1992), the European Landscape Convention (Firenze, 2000), as well as some other international conventions and treaties. Development or adoption of any new legislation in the field of cultural heritage protection is based on the priority of the requirements stipulated in the above mentioned instruments.

The Law on Immovable Cultural Values Protection of the Republic of Lithuania lacks stipulation of differentiated protection of values. The legislative instruments stipulating the processes of implementation of the protection, as well as investment, are inadequate. No mechanism to entice owners or users to contribute to protection of cultural heritage properties has been enacted in law.

3. THE AMOUNT OF WORK AND COLLABORATION AMONG PROFESSIONS

The function of a land-surveyor is to inspect the location and the site, and provide a description comprising textual, mapping, photographic and / or topographic components. Therefore, a land-surveyor is at all times the one who accumulates topographical information, and carries out the process of inventory. This is a tradition in Lithuania having its root in as early as the middle of 16th century whereas the reform of *valakas* (a measure of land instilled for taxation purposes, equal to 21.368 hectares in size) was implemented (1557), as well as additional land management and administration tasks.

In the middle of the 20th century, land-surveyors, topography experts, and the specialists of the State Land Survey Institute made notes on air photographs in M 1:10000 format on natural and culture objects under preservation. They also filled out description cards. This information helped to make cartography and to organise protection of all cultural heritage objects. The work started in 1959. It did not pass unnoticed, and received an acknowledgement on governmental level, and allowed organising protection systems for natural and culture heritage. The list of cultural heritage monuments was created at the beginning of the sixties, which encouraged for a more in-deep analysis and inventory process in respect of the heritage sites, as well for establishment of the territories, and protection strips of the monuments.

Workgroups involved in cultural heritage inventory process must inevitably engage and be based upon co-operation of specialists professing in a variety of fields, like archaeology, architecture, landscape design, topography, land management, history, etc. This kind of teamwork is only available provided a certain clear work procedure is followed. For a long time, as the main manual for such work, the guidance for identification, description and cartography of natural and cultural heritage sites, developed by the State Land Survey Institute, and approved by relevant institutions of environmental protection, culture, and building supervision, has been utilised.

Cartography sources and archive materials have enabled proper planning and implementation of work not only at the State Land Management Institute, but also the Monument Restoration Institute and the Cultural Heritage Centre (formerly the Scientific Methodical Council for Cultural Sites). Establishment of the territories of cultural monuments (as well as natural ones), the areas subject to restricted building activity and those of protected landscape, has, to a certain degree, taken place but on paper. In practice, the implementation of protection requirements was too difficult to supervise.

The information about cultural heritage inventory processes has been stored at the State Land Survey Institute archive as well as the archives of a number of other institutions. This information has become a firm base, and an important constituent of spatial planning stipulation. Cultural heritage areas and territorial complexes (small towns, manors, mounds, and antique cemeteries) effect land usage, as well as development of building, and economical growth in a certain way. The relations developed between land management specialists, urban planners, and architects, as well as their teamwork solutions have prepared

the ground for extensive work in the field of cultural heritage inventory and the analysis in terms of spatial structure.

Urban heritage analysis in Lithuanian towns (pr. Dr A. Miškinis), countryside landscape development analysis (pr. Dr. Bučas), analysis of architectural objects like castles, churches, manors (J. Glemža, N. Kitkauskas, V. Levandauskas, S. Pinkus, and others), manors and their analysis in complex programs (R. Stulpinas, and others) as well as other achievements in archaeology landmarks investigation and inventory have all involved a contribution from land-surveyors. This has allowed to obtain knowledge of cultural heritage as a whole picture, including not only topography, but also in terms of public opinion, and economic development, and provided a grounds for incorporation in the land management projects within the land reform, as well as other spatial planning documentation, evaluation of such sites so as to integrate them in the environment of the contemporary economy, and social life.

The national sustained development strategy approved in September 2003, in the field of preservation of cultural distinctiveness, incorporates the provisions encouraging the efforts towards revival of cultural heritage. To achieve the goal, it is necessary to integrate preservation and management of cultural values in every and each strategy, program or spatial planning instrument adopted by the State, so as to improve recording of cultural values by making it embrace the materials of the inventory of heritage areas and sites, and to develop a network of locally preserved cultural values.

The Cultural Heritage Centre, in it's action plan for 2004, has provided for preparation by it's experts of evaluation of the most important cultural heritage sites and the relevant documentation of their records. The sites have been selected according to several categories, i.e. such real property, which faces a danger of extinction, which is under repair works, which in the process of privatisation, or in the process of being enrolled in the register. It is expected that the process of preparation of the documentation of the records for historical and cultural heritage sites might be completed in 2005.

The main basis for evaluations of cultural heritage as a whole, which provides information for preparing territorial planning, is the Cultural Heritage / Cultural Values Register.

4. CULTURAL HERITAGE REGISTER

The information about cultural heritage inventory and records has been systemised and occurs in special registers. Cultural Heritage Centre has developed the following registers – the register for movable cultural values (926 files) and the register for immovable cultural property (Figure 4).

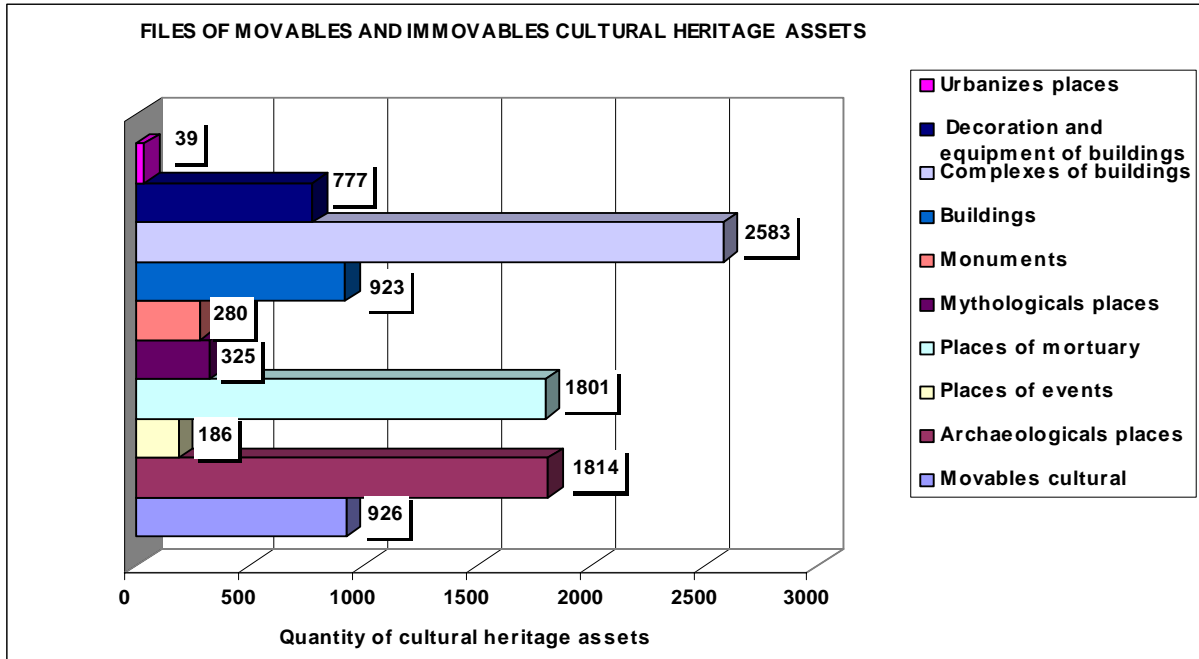


Figure 4: Movable and immovable cultural heritage registers in Cultural Heritage Centre in Lithuania

The register for immovable cultural property, including:

- The list of archaeological sites (1814 files)
- The list of sites of important events (186 files)
- The list of burial grounds (1801 files)
- The list of mythology locations (325 files)
- The list of monuments (280 files)
- The list of buildings (923 files)
- The list of building complexes (2583 files)
- The list of building decorations and outfit (777 files)
- The list of urban development achievement sites (39 files)

The lists comprise the main information on the sites: the address, the location, the date of establishment, building or coming into existence, the value, identification number, and date of inventory. A search system is provided, helping to readily locate the information on any site of interest.

Meanwhile, the source data on inventory of heritage remains deposited with the institutions in charge of preparation, i.e. the Land Survey Institute and other archives. Land-surveyor offices have been also storing some interesting information in their archives. This information should be adequately safe kept, published as required and moved to up-to-date storage media.

5. MANOR HERITAGE PRESERVATION PROGRAM AND THE ROLE PLAY OF LAND-SURVEYORS

As the authors have been largely involved in the field of preservation of manor heritage, some of the following thoughts shall be concerned specifically with this issue. Preservation of the Lithuanian manor houses, as a heritage of culture, has been a subject of intense research and debate since the eighties of the last century, with both the State Land Survey Institute (S. Deveikis and others), and the Monument Restoration Institute (R. Stulpinas, K. Labanauskas and others) actively involved in the process.

Legislative provisions (decrees of the Government of the Republic of Lithuania of 1992 and 1993), guidance materials (R. Stulpinas, 1993), the subject-focused activity of the State Heritage Preservation Commission (the Conference on Lithuanian Manors, 2001) have created the necessary prerequisites for development of the following instruments:

The Concept on Preservation of the Lithuania's Manors' Heritage and its Integration in Social Life (resolution no. 87 of 13 September, 2002, of the State Monument Preservation Commission); and

The Program on Protection of Manor Heritage and the Action Plan for its Implementation (decree no. 481 of 18 April 2003, of the Government of the Republic of Lithuania).

The Concept on Manor Heritage Preservation deals with general issues, the concept of manor in the light of historical development of Lithuania, the concept of manor heritage adopted by the Government, physical state of this kind of heritage, the tools for implementation of the strategy for protection of this heritage and its integration in social life, and the expected results. The measures for implementation of the strategy on heritage protection comprise scientific research as a continuation of the inventory (recording) effort, legal framework, real property cadastre and registers, spatial planning and land reform, regional development solutions, fiscal policy solutions, a network for encouragement of investment.

The program of manor heritage protection provides for evaluation and inventory process of manor houses, which already appear, on the lists of protected sites, as well as those manor sites, which currently stay outside of the existing lists (provided any such sites are discovered in the process of inventory). As the outcome of expert evaluation is summarised and adjusted as necessary, a final list of valuable, in terms of culture, manor sites is to be prepared and the suggestions developed concerning the protection status to be granted.

On the basis of the data obtained through the process of inventory and upon completion of compiling of the documentation of records of the manor sites, the Register shall be updated accordingly. According to the suggestions, the manor sites included in the lists of the sites protected by the State (till 1994), which have lost any cultural weight or have been physically deteriorated, are to be omitted from the Register.

It is expected that the completion of development of the records of the manor sites would yield approximately 300-500 manor houses to be enrolled in the register of cultural values,

including approx. 50 to be granted a status of cultural monument. The projected scope of work comprises the efforts to look for and investigate archaeological sites of the manor heritage (manor sites, manor homesteads, *palivark* sites, antique burial grounds, etc.), and compiling the documentation of their records.

It is very important that land parcels and other real property sites are established as soon as possible in accordance with the applicable procedure as it is only then when it is possible to file with the Real Property Register any restrictions on the activity applied towards owners or holders of manor heritage property.

To assure that manor heritage preservation requirements are integrated in spatial planning documentation and adequately co-ordinated with the process of landscape management, a special action plan for preservation, management, and usage of the manor heritage of the Republic of Lithuania should be developed. Complete inventory data is necessary as a basis for the development of such a plan.

The following measures have been provided for implementation of the manor heritage identification and recording program:

- Development and implementation of annual programs for identification and recording of manor homestead and *palivark* sites;
- Development and implementation of annual programs for identification and recording of manor heritage archaeology sites;
- Supplementing the complexes of manor homestead and *palivark* properties with other constituents of manor heritage in accordance with the data of scientific research on manor heritage.

The program is to be implemented by the end of 2007. The financial aid for this program is allocated in the budget of the Republic of Lithuania.

6. CONCLUSIONS AND SUGGESTIONS

What cultural heritage protection starts with is inventory and documenting. It is a landscape specialist or a land-surveyor in Lithuania who is primarily involved, in a professional manner, in the process of identification and marking on cartography materials of cultural heritage sites. In co-operation with other professions, like historians, architects, landscape designers, surveyors develop descriptions of the subject sites, carry out necessary survey measurements, and input the relevant data in the data banks. Interdisciplinary collaboration through establishment of joint commissions between various public agencies is a factor assuring that best practice in the management of cultural heritage properties registers is adhered to.

Heritage identification provides a basis for legal protection of the heritage. Legal and methodical framework in the field of protection of cultural heritage properties is a subject of ongoing enhancement. International conventions, especially the latest one, i.e. the European Landscape Convention (2000), provide a new focus for recording, protection, usage, and

management of cultural heritage. The projects of land reform and other territory planning instruments help identify cultural heritage sites in Lithuania, and are based on cultural heritage inventory data. The available inventory data allows for integration of heritage protection requirements in the programs of territory development. Land-surveyors participate in this process by providing a contribution of an ever-growing significance. What surveyors must know, indeed are cultural heritage, the tools and the nature of its usage and preservation.

The Concept on Protection of the Lithuania's Manors' Heritage and its Integration in Social Life and the action plan for its implementation provide for exhaustive cultural heritage research, development of the cadastre and the register, as well as additional tasks in the implementation of which the surveyors of Lithuania would inevitably take part. The work is closely related to land-surveyors and their ongoing assignments. Newly created methods, GIS, 3D cadastre give an opportunity to save and to share information that is important for social requirements thus assuring that sustained development solutions are adopted on either national, regional or local level. There is no cultural heritage but such related to landscape and making an influence on the adoption of sustained development solutions. To know landscape and to participate in its development, and decision making, is a serious task for a land-surveyor.

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BIOGRAPHICAL NOTES

Steponas Devikis, Dipl. Eng. (1978), President of the Lithuanian Association of Property Valuers (since 2000); vice-president of Corporation “Matininkai”; a member of the Lithuanian Association of Surveyors (since 1994); member of the Lithuanian Union of Land and Water Management Engineers (since 1989); lector in Vilnius Gediminas Technical University (since 2001).

Born 18.11.1955 in Lithuania. 1973-1978 studies of Forestry Engineering at the Lithuanian Academy of Agriculture; 1986-1989 post-graduate course at Lithuanian Institute of Construction and Architecture; 1995 a short-term post graduate course (6 months) at Jean Moulin University in Lyon (France).

Professional experience in the field territorial planning and land management, historical and cultural heritages inventories, environmental systems development, consulting and legislation. Various publications, legislative works and lectures in the area of urban and rural land regulation and property valuation, reports at International Conferences, guidance notes and newspapers.

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Professional experience in sustainable housing programme development and Lithuanian housing strategy; spheres of current research: building economics and policy, innovation management and marketing.

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