

## SUMMARY OF DOCTORAL DISSERTATION

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### **The Contemporary Cultural Landscape of Areas Settled by Polish immigrants in Brazil. The Case study of the Cruz Machado**

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The subject of the work are factors which shape the cultural landscape of areas colonized by Polish peasants in the municipality of Cruz Machado in southern Brazil. The living space of the local Polish community was shaped not only by physiographic conditions, but also by historical processes, which translated into the the current political, economic and social situation.

The considerations presented in this dissertation are based on the field research conducted during two expeditions to Brasil (2013/2014, 2015). The purpose of the trips was to conduct interviews with representatives of the local Polish community, collect an inventory of selected elements of the local landscape and to collect photographs and documents stored in state, church and private archives. The obtained data were verified on the basis of subject literature, statistical studies and data published on the web.

The dissertation is a regional monograph. The introduction discusses the reasons for undertaking the topic, the purpose and scope of the study, the literature review, methodology and editorial issues. The first chapter serves to present an concept of cultural landscape and to sort out terminology associated with it. The second carries basic information about the Polish diaspora in Brazil. The third provides information regarding the natural environment of the Cruz Machado area. The fourth offers the 100-year-old fate of the local Polish community. The next three parts are devoted to the present day: the fifth chapter focuses on political conditions (self-governance and self-organization), the sixth – economic (mainly agriculture), the seventh – social (demography, ethnicity, language and religion). The final, eighth chapter is devoted issues related to the role of architecture in local landscape. The main text was supported by different illustrations, including photos, aerial photographs, drawings, charts and tables. The annex included: a work schedule in the field research, a questionnaire, a list of the most important Polish diaspora centers in Brazil and a glossary of the Polish-Brazilian dialect from Cruz Machado, containing terms related to the landscape.

The research results showed that the most important factors shaping the landscape of the Polish subculture in Cruz Machado are: permanence of settlement, peasant farming, popular Catholic religiosity, orality in the transmission of Polish culture and the presence of the founding myth.

**Keywords:** Brazil, Parana, Cruz Machado, Polish community, Polish settlement, cultural landscape, landscape-forming factors.

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