Introduction

In ancient geological times the river Vistula retired its waters stream curving a little to north-east direction. In effect of this drive there were valley-like formations shaped on both sides of the river with high banks as „the crone” of them. Owing that activity the slopes were shaped on both banks of Vistula, each of about 100 m high. Thousand years, the river poured out its water bringing rich composition of earth, sand and biological mixture consistence to the valleys.

Emerged in 13th - 17th centuries some houses and city buildings and in the 16th century, when the capital of Poland was moved to Warsaw, there were built many churches, palaces with the King’s Castle on the crone of the slope. Hence, there emerged the historical objects of the high value with the natural precious monuments. The ecologists qualified effects of the river swings, lasting for ages, as the zone of ecological corridor being unique in this scale of Europe. Warsaw is now in the course of rapid development as residential and financial centre and as the capital of the country as well. This drive is often opposite to the prevention of the ground stability of the slope and of its ecological values. There are many interventions against that issue made by different offices and Warsaw University, Society of Friends of Warsaw and many other societies. (The Study of Spatial Economy of the Slope was worked out in 1998). Unfortunately, the impact of investors and architects seems to be stronger and the idea of rescue the slope is not implemented in practice. The research of the Warsaw Slope is limited to the frontiers of the city Warsaw.

Slope peculiarity

Slope peculiarity results from the importance it occupies in the scenery of the town, its historical development, in the life and consciousness of the inhabitants.

Like scenery - it makes the most distinguishing element of the town location, creates its landscape, determines the peculiarity and identity. Together with accompanying buildings it forms the town characteristic profile from Praga side and
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gives long, panoramic outlook of Vistula valley from Warsaw left riverside. Historically - the location of Warsaw is joined with the slope and with its historical development (Ujazdów Castle, Old and „New” Towns, Royal Track (composed of few avenues), Saxen Urban Axis, Stanislav Urban Axis).

The slope, is also a place to locate prestigious and important for the town development and range of public and residential objects (Royal Castle, Cathedral, Museums - National and Polish Army, Museum of Earth, Museum of Contemporary Art, seats of the Parliament, the Presidential Palace, Belvedere, seats of high schools like Warsaw University, Academy of Agriculture, Academy of Catholic Theology). Events and connected with them contents make at the same time living registration of the town ancient and history.

**Premises of the Slope formation recreational functions**

With the Slope pathway is also a number of objects connected which serve for the rest and recreation, willingly visited by the inhabitants owing to its location and landscape virtues, such as: Lazienki Palace and Park, Ujazdów Park, Botanical Garden, Królikarnia Palace, Central Park of Culture at Powisle, Central Park of Recreation at Powsin, Bielany Forest, centres of sport appliances at Downtown and at Bielany, Mokotów.

Actually, in the region of Mokotowska Slope at Merliniego St., near the Hala Warszawianka arises „Aquapark”, which includes a group of swimming pools, solaria, inhalations, sauna, billiard sales, bowling alleys, bars, restaurants, and which have a chance to be the recreation - sport centre of the capital.

Moreover, the whole road from Lazienki through Ujazdów Av., Nowy Swiat and Krakowskie Przedmiescie, Old and „New” Town up to Cytadela makes one of the most attractive, and beside Wilanów, the most often visited by tourists coming to Warsaw.

**Spatial economy of the Slope**

At the section from Lazienki to the Old Tawn (Stare Miasto) exist, pointed out and passed through the territory, walking over-slope pasway, making it accessible, and through it an access to the resting places cultural museums, and monumental objects situated along the Slope.

The above creates wide possibilities to organize in this area the rest joined with different forms of recreation and interests to spend free time of cognitive, didactic and cultural character.

**Connections with recreational system of suburban zone**

Elongation of over-slope walking track from the Old Town to northern direction through Żoliborz - Bielanski Forest, Młociny creates a possibility to find direct connection and go out of the town into a system of suburban tracks and touristic routes of Kampinos National Park.
Similarly, this track elongation from Łazienki to southern direction through Mokotów, Służewiec, Ursynów to Kabacki Forest creates a possibility of such connection with the valley of Jeziorka and Chojnowski Forest.

**Connections with territories of dwelling houses**

These connections determine the net of town communication roads with stations in the region of the Slope as well as potential walking tracks, determined with the system of different functions municipal greenery, near-street squares and lawns.

According to initial analysis, the following tracks are distinguished:

- **When the construction is terminated, final Metro station - Mlociny Forest, Kampinos National Park.**
- **Chomiczówka - walking track in the greenery at Nocznickiego St., along garden allotments and forest territories, Sport Centre „Hutnik” - the Slope.**
- **Wawrzyszew walking track along the St. Aspekt, Wolumen (metro Bielany, Forest Linde - Park Culture, Bielany Forest - AWF - the Slope.**
- **Kolo Forest, Powązki Cemetery (Tatarska, Powązkowska St.), square at Slonimskiego St., Scholar Park im. Kusocinski, Park im. R. Traugutta - the Slope.**
- **Markethouse Mirowska - the green track at Zelazna Gate Housing Estate, Saxen Garden, Krakowskie Przedmiescie, green square along Karowa St. - the Slope.**
- **Pole Mokotowskie, Metro, Batory St., Lublin Union Square, Bagatela, Lazienki.**
- **Służewiec - Horse Courses, Służewska valley - the Slope.**
- **Ursynów - Metro Imielin - green square at I. Ganhi St., Nugat St. - the Slope.**
- **Multispecialistic, attractive programmed Passage of Natolin, joining Metro Natolin with the Park at Natolin and Kabacki Forest.**

**Idea of walking track realisation at the Slope like „Warsaw Green Saloon”**

Existing under ground line has trought nearer and included the Slope’s region into a zone of good accessibility and in the sphere of general town interest connected with the area of rest and free time organization, Warsaw as the whole. Good connection of the slope with individual quarters through public transport, as well as appropriate programming and arrangement of the above listed walking tracks give large possibility to organize different forms of recreation, cognitive and educational tourism, meetings in the slope area.

These can be for example, subject to time and interests, family, group or individual:

- **Short 1-3 hour walks or longer half-day wanderings joined with a rest, cognitive interests (visit to exhibitions, museums, monumental objects ), different forms of society meetings ( clubs, coffee houses) and hobby interests, or the landscape contemplation and silent rest in town limits in contract with Nature and attractive surrounding.**
• Further wanderings (sightseeing tours) profiting connections of slope track with the region of Kampinos National Park and Kabacki Forest and next with suburban system of area of rest and Warsaw circular road.

The whole slope track consequent realisation and its proper arrangement will integrate objects existing along the slope in one system, and making its new quality. Completion of such a program, like e. g. permanent exhibition of Warsaw history development and planning, exhibitions of new town planning and architectural assumptions, museum of Vistula river integrally joined with Warsaw, gastronomic objects with viewing area, viewing points connected with places of silent rest and the landscape contemplation, specialities of regional cuisine served in adjusted to visit them characteristic interiors and construction of the village Wolica and Kabaty etc. together with appropriate greener frame surrounding the whole track have a chance to create in this area an attractive “Warsaw Green Saloon”.

The realization of these plans should make at the same time a continuation, historically fomed and consistent with values of the place, function and forms of the Slope spatial economy, and could, in symbolic date at the turn of the century just falling Warsaw 700-year anniversary of foundation and 400-year of town capital, be significant and attractive share given by the town authorities to the inhabitants in their Capital shape and development.

Conclusions

Recently, many investments has been located on the top (the crone) of the Slope. These are mainly apartment and office buildings of very great cubature. That causes the demolition of the ground and deep foundation of the Slope. On the base of that few conclusions can be noted.

• The legal regulations related to the defence of the Warsaw Slope should be issued as soon as possible. I mean the edition of appropriate act and executive proscriptions. But it wouldn’t be sufficient as regards to coming its law into operation, until the right office is created fully entitled to undertake the decision linked with the new investments settled on or nearby the Warsaw Slope.

• For six years, an office of the Chief Architect of the city of Warsaw does not exist. Decision makers concerning spatial economy and architectural solutions are the chiefs of architectural departments in particular communes of the city. This status quo creates numerous errors in territorial management.

• Taking into account the survival of the Warsaw Slope, it seems necessary to establish one office of the Chief Architect with privilege and duty to decide on details concerning investments alongside the Warsaw Slope. That would mean that the appropriate man will be decision maker for all 4 communes of Warsaw city, located alongside the right bank of the Vistula, thus alongside the Warsaw Slope.

• The above proposal will create a possibility to take advantage by the Chief Architect of all analysis made for the sake of the preservation Warsaw Slope and for better knowledge of all physical, historical and building methods, applied in passed ages, worked out by study centres for the favour of the slope.
Four main goals have been established to create Warsaw Slope survival:

- Stability of the ground and foundation of the Slope.
- To rescue the Slope as the monument of the Nature.
- To save the present localisation of the representative and historical buildings (the King’s Castle, palaces, churches, etc.).
- To secure Warsaw inhabitants the possibilities to take rest and recreation in natural environment and in isolation from city noise and technical clatter.

References

3. Some information contain in the B. Król paper were turned to the account of this paper.