Rozprawa doktorska:

Sacral model characteristics wooden architecture of Upper Silesia based on analysis of preserved objects

Summary

The buildings of wooden sacred architecture are a great testimony of both, history and the craftsmanship of the former builders. Most of them are of a regional nature, reflecting a number of architectural and design features specific to a certain geographical and cultural area.
Due to unstable construction material, they are unfortunately exposed to various threats, including fires and biological corrosion which may lead to some damage or even complete destruction.
Furthermore, over the centuries, the buildings have undergone various types of reconstruction, modernization and renovation, often changing the original architectural form and interfering with construction solutions. The possibility of recreating (real or virtual) the original form of individual objects and tracing the modifications makes it really valuable.

Upper Silesia was selected as the geographical and cultural area covered by the dissertation, within its historical borders, which were determined on the basis of an analysis of historical sources. In such a selected area, 115 preserved wooden sacred buildings (112 churches and 3 chapels, which are in fact small churches) were identified and included in the research.

The possibility of determining the typical architectural and constructional features of the examined objects, forming a kind of model of a wooden church in Upper Silesia was adopted as the thesis of the dissertation. The analysis of the architecture and construction (as well as history) of all the objects, based on own research and on a wide review of available sources was conducted. The result of the above was a quantitative analysis of a number of selected architectural and construction features which allowed to find the most popular solutions. The analyzes were based on the available research material, and they lack the data of numerous non – existent objects. Nevertheless, considering the sample of 115 objects, they can be considered representative. As part of the research, a subsidiary study in the form of catalog cards was prepared.

Based on the knowledge obtained in the field of the model solution, it has been shown to be useful not only in terms of the possibility of recreating non-existent objects (based on residual data about their form and size) nut also in terms of assessing the often unfavorable changes introduced in the objects preserved until today and the possibility to find the most probable original solutions. The usefulness of the model solution in creating digital images of individual wooden churches was also indicated.

Due to the breadth of the topic, it is planned to gradually create digital models of selected, non-existent wooden churches and models depicting structural and architectural changes in some buildings which have been preserved.

mgr inż. arch. Magda TUNKEL

Promotor:
prof. dr hab. inż. Jacek HULIMKA
Promotor pomocniczy:
dr hab. inż. arch. Tomasz BRADECKI