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Photogrammetry in the network of politics and entrepreneurship.

Albrecht Meydenbauer in the Province of Posen in 1885 and 1887

The photogrammetric documentation of the chapel St. Prokop in Strzelno and the church of Blessed Virgin Mary in Inowrocław in the Province of Posen (former Wielkopolska, incorporated into Prussia in 1793) could be regarded as the expression of the appropriation of Polish heritage by the Germans, "typical" for German nationalism at the end of the 19th century, because those photos were made by Albrecht Meydenbauer, acting on behalf of the Prussian Minister Gustav von Gossler. However, in my presentation I suggest not to perceive that affair as a manifestation of "commonly shared" national consciousness. I want to consider how and why the connection between the protection of monuments and nationalism was created - without assuming that any relationship between these phenomena was "typical". Referring to the generative model of actions, according to anthropologist Fredrik Barth, I analyze how situations and meanings were produced bit by bit in the relations between actors trying to achieve the desired goals with the means available to them. Meydenbauer had to look for ways to create a convergence of photogrammetry with the interests of those who could support it financially or gain such support - above all with politicians. I present how his arguments with time increasingly exposed national, and not just technical utility of the photogrammetry. On the other hand, Minister Gossler, wanting to obtain a state support for the documentation of monuments using the photogrammetry, had to prove the unprecedented capabilities of this method and its cost-effectiveness. Appealing to the national discourse turned out to be ineffective.

The introduction and popularization of the Meydenbauer's invention is also analyzed in reference to Bruno Latour's research on the mechanisms of development and implementation of scientific innovations. In this approach, the methods of the propagation of the photogrammetry were results of entrepreneurial acquisition of support, that is, mobilization of resources. The national discourse was used as one of the available means.

The purpose of my paper is to present the methods of analysis that I use in the dissertation I prepare. The goal of my PhD thesis is to emphasize that the activities undertaken in the

renovation of monuments were based on complicated relations and transactions, and they were neither problem-free undertakings nor an "incarnation" of nationalism or depersonalized, "widespread" interest in monuments in the 19th century. Detailed tracking of the complex conditions in which the renovation of specific objects took place will allow us to shed a new light on the scope and forms of the Prussian-Polish and state-church cooperation / conflict in the field of protection of monuments. In addition, it will be the basis for demonstrating that it were not architectural or conservation doctrines that were of fundamental importance in the discussed undertakings.