

# **Assessment an impact of vineyards on an aesthetic of rural landscape, based on View Evaluation Method**

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## **Abstract**

Different kinds of rural landscape and spatial relation between their natural and cultural elements created models of rural landscape. The existence of the most important features of the rural landscape model proves its aesthetics, which determined the appearance of it. Importance of landscape's appearance is increasing with the density of observers in the landscape. One of the methods use to studies on landscape appearance is View Evaluation Method (Potyrała, et al., 2012). This method has been used to assess the impact of vineyards on an aesthetic of rural landscapes, which was performed by comparing traditional vineyard region, which was Obermoeschel village in country of Germany, and new one, which was Miekinia village, Lower Silesia Province in country of Poland. Comparison of new with traditional regions has made, because of global warming affects is influencing on localization of vineyards in landscapes where they haven't existed before. In a case of the Miekinia vineyard, which has existed since 2000 A.D., the landscape is more differentiation than the Obermoeschel. It's visible especially in biodiversity which has measured by criterion of different groups of plants in a view. The rest in four criterions have the same number of values.

Key words: vineyards, landscape, rural landscape, aesthetic of landscape

## **Introduction**

Your decision from which kind of vineyard You prefer to buy, which You like to visit most and to protect, have an influences on quality of landscape also. Because of the global changes nowadays vineyards are localizing in central and even in northern Europe, but decision about localization of new vineyards should be proceed also, besides of economic and effectiveness analyses by landscape one (Stepień, 2012). An influence of a vineyard on

a landscape depends from viticulture methods and type of new vineyard and also from features of landscape. Viticulture methods and type of new vineyard should fit together in harmony with a landscape and its variations which one example is rural one (Ciolek, 1964; Bogdanowski, 2000). Spatial relation between existing natural and cultural elements of rural landscape affect on its functions and structure elements. A structure of landscape determines its appearance, which is one area of research about landscape, whose an importance is increasing together with the density of observers in the landscape. This paper compare two different vineyard landscapes, traditional and new one. The compare has done because of location new vineyards in a landscape often involve conflicts in ecological, cultural and aesthetic landscape values. Assessment the impact of vineyards on cultural and aesthetic values is needed especially in the cultural landscape. An example of the new vineyards located in the rural landscape, is actually the largest winery in Poland. By comparing the view of the landscape, in which that winery exists with a views of the vineyards located in the traditional landscapes, has assessed their impact on the aesthetics of rural landscape.

### **Material and Method**

The research has been done on two different views made by digital camera. Both of them contain a view on vineyards located in different landscape type. View nr 1 is located in Obermoeschel village and country of Germany (Pic. 1). View nr 2 is located in Miekinia village, Lower Silesia Province and country of Poland (Pic. 2). Both of these pictures have made from an outside from vineyards points of views, places where the view has the biggest range, but not the most often visited by people.

**Pic. 1 View nr 1, Obermoeschel, Germany.**



**Pic. 2 View nr 2, Miekinia, Poland.**

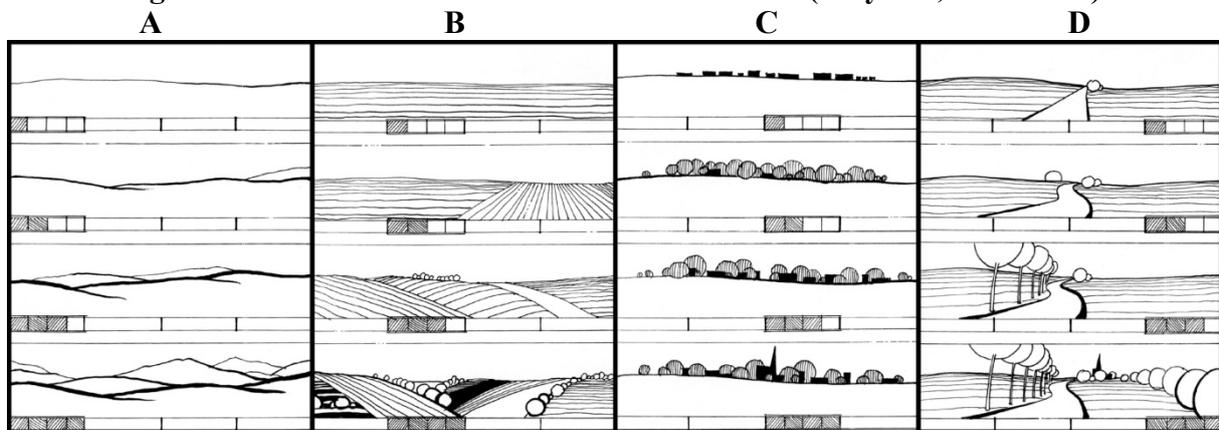


Both of these views has evaluated by View Evaluation Method (Potyrala, et al. 2012), according to it, increasing number of landscape's structure elements in a view and their harmony composition, increasing its aesthetic value. This method has four criterions (Fig.1):

- criterion A means a number of plans in the view,
- criterion B is a number of different kind group of plants,
- criterion C means a number of different kind groups of human activities,
- criterion D is direction of space.

Each from these four criterions have four degrees of value, which are marking by symbol of grey squares on the example. The value in each of the criterions is increasing together with evaluating criterions in the view. The maximum value in each of the criterions is four squares.

**Fig. 1 Four criterions of View Evaluation Method (Potyrala, et al. 2012).**



### Results and discussion

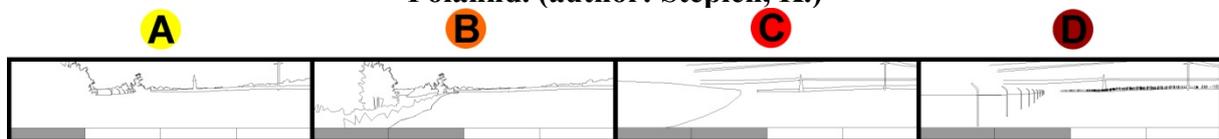
In the view nr 1 (Fig.2) vineyards are influencing on criterion A by one plan only, which is the hill with plots of grapes, so there is one number of grey squares on the bottom of the picture. Because of the vineyard nr 1 is existing in the landscape, criterion B which is the number different kinds group of plants in the view, is bigger by grape plants only, than value in this criterion equals one degree. The value of criterion C has the second degree because of vineyards are influencing on the view by its roads and construction of rows. Vineyards in the view nr 1 are influencing on the criterion D by vertical lines of rows and horizontal-lines of roads between plots of grape plants. Horizontal and vertical lines are static and they stop brief.

**Fig. 2 Evaluated criterions A, B, C, D, on the view nr 1, Obermoeschel, Aurtria. (author: Niedźwiecka-Filipiak, I.)**



The vineyard in the view nr 2 (Fig.3), in criterion A is influencing on one plans only by grape plants and rows construction, so the value is one degree only. The fence isn't influencing on the criterion A because it's a part of the first plan. The same is with trees and shrubs on the left side of the view. Because of the vineyard in the view nr 2 is existing in the landscape, the number different kind group of plants in the view is bigger by two values, grass and grape plants. The value of criterion C has the second degree because of the vineyard is influencing on the view by its fence and construction of rows. The vineyards in the view nr 2 is influencing on the criterion D by its vertical lines of fence, horizontal border lines between grass and grape plants and also by vertical lines of rows construction. Because of the fence is containing from open-work material it isn't so impressive.

**Fig. 3 Evaluated criterions A, B, C and D, on the view of vineyard nr 4, Miękinia, Poland. (author: Stepien, K.)**



The differences between traditional and new vineyards aren't so visible, because the view nr 1 has got six values from all of the criterions and the view nr 2 has been evaluated for seven values. The different existing only in criterion B, which is the number different group of plants. The different equals one degree of value only and it's a result of observer location or bigger range of view in this criterion, which depends from terrain especially.

### Conclusions

To recognize an influence of a location of new vineyards on the landscape is important especially in landscapes where vineyards haven't existed before, so it's a reason why this research has been done by comparative new Polish vineyard with traditional one. Especially now when the area of vineyards in northern and central part of Europe, for example in Czech Republic (Vaishar et al. 2011) and Poland (Karwowski, 2012) is increasing. In the middle-ages climate optimum, vineyards were common in Poland (Myśliwiec, Sękowski, 2002; Lisek, 2007), what is proved by gardens (Ciołek, 1964; Bogdanowski 2000) and also by paleo-climatic researches or history of fine art (Weinert, 2013). Since XVI and XVII centuries, when has started the little ice age vineyards almost disappeared from those landscapes. So it's the reason why location of vineyards in these landscape, but not only should be proceed by evaluation of its influence. Especially if vineyards haven't been existed before in the landscape and if it's use often by people. Especially they have right and need to

participate in creating landscape (European Landscape Convention 2000; Stepień, Pochwała, 2011). To know the influence of vineyards on the landscape is important for:

- promoting and creating individual features of products for being well recognized
- interesting more consumers, visitors and tourists
- supporting activities or investments which taking care about nature and culture.

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