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THE STATE OF RESEARCH HISTORY OF THE KAMPINOS FOREST

The extensive forest complex in the northwestern outskirts of Warsaw is most often associated with natural values and environmental issues, as it plays the role of the green lungs of the capital, and the richness of flora and fauna contrasts with the vicinity of a crowded and noisy city. However, the history of this part of Mazovia is not limited to the formation of natural conditions, geological processes or the popular issue of environmental protection today. The history of the Kampinos Forest is also the fate of centuries of settlement and the evolution of human relationships with nature (some places still remember the times of the medieval Mazovian princes). It is also the history of shaping centres of religious life with the oldest churches in Łomna, Brochów and Głusk, as well as younger temples in Kampinos, Leszno, Lipków and other localities of the forest buffer zone. Particularly, in the historical landscape of the area discussed, partisan activities in the era of great national uprisings, and especially the events of the Warsaw Uprising, which testify to the importance of the local forests for the guerrilla movement, which helps the fighting capital are of special importance. Over the centuries, the forest has been a home and a small homeland for many generations of inhabitants, and some of the modern cannot imagine a place to live other than the forest buffer zone, living its own rhythm. And it is the issues related to broadly understood human activity in this area that will find their discussion in the pages of this article. Environmental, ecological and landscape issues, which require separate treatment due to the nature and scope of the research, will be omitted.

For many years the area in question did not attract the particular interest of historians, because it remained more in the shadow of Warsaw and its turbulent history. The revival of research on its history took place with the beginning of the present century. This phenomenon can be observed primarily in relation to settlements, ownership relations, religious life, and above all the events of World War II and related losses in people. Historical research has been conducted and continues to be conducted not only by professional historians, but also by history promoters who want to learn about the history of their small homeland. The first, albeit modest descriptions of the Kampinos Forest appeared in nineteenth-century dictionaries and encyclopedias, and therefore in the work of Jędrzej Słowaczyński entitled *Poland in the shape of a historical, statistical and geographical guide* (Polish title *Polska w kształcie dykcyonarza historyczno-statystyczno-jeograficznego*¹), in addition to *the Universal*

¹ J. Słowaczyński, *Polska w kształcie dykcyonarza historyczno-statystyczno-jeograficznego*, Paryż 1833-1838, p. XXX + 502.

*Encyclopedia of Samuel Orgelbrand*² (*Encyklopedyi Powszechnej Samuela Orgelbranda*) and the *Geographical Dictionary of the Kingdom of Poland and other Slavic countries* (*Słowniku Geograficznym Królestwa Polskiego i innych krajów słowiańskich*), in which previous arrangements in the area of topography of the area, belonging of the localities to particular parishes and ownership relations with determining the number of lans, morgs and rods³. In the field of toponomastics, the dictionary of Adam Wolff and Ewa Rzetelska-Feleszko stands out. entitled *Masovian field names until the end of the 16th century*, (*Mazowieckie nazwy terenowe do końca XVI*) in which the authors collected the oldest information in the field of naming cities and villages in Masovia in the light of available archival sources⁴. Historical geography of primeval forest towns in the second half Of the 16th century, taking into account land ownership relations in the then poviats and parishes, was discussed in the fifth volume of the epoch-making work of Adolf Pawiński: *Poland of the 16th century in terms of geography and statistics (Polska XVI wieku pod względem geograficzno-statystycznym)*⁵.

Bibliographies and bibliographies of bibliography play an invaluable role in scientific research, which make it easier for explorers to get to the literature on the subject. Since 2006 Kampinos Forest has its own bibliography thanks to the efforts of Marek Ferchmin, who undertook the findings of all publications related to the region in question. In the first volume, divided by the author into 2 parts, we find 2149 titles up to the year of 1972 (it also contains earlier lists of Janusz Bobiński and Jadwiga Kobendzina) and 1648 titles for 1973-1990. The next volume covers the years 1991-2000 and contains a list of 2488 studies. All entries were arranged in alphabetical order according to the names of the authors, but without distinguishing between particular scientific disciplines. Their categorisation only appears in the index at the end of each volume⁶.

In the current research on the history of the forest, the issue of settlement in the forest areas transformed for this purpose and in neighbouring areas was raised. Archaeological research conducted by Halina Różańska in the village of Strojec contributed to the discovery of objects from the times of funnel-shaped cups and spherical amphoras. Similar inquiries conducted by Jerzy Pyrgałę in Zamczysko allowed the town to be dated as a defensive area in the 13th century⁷. The issue of the development of the settlement network in the Middle Ages and modern times was introduced to readers by the historian of the Kampinos region Kazimierz Heymanowski. In a pioneering article entitled *The development of the settlement network in the Kampinos estates from the mid-15th to the mid-19th century (Rozwój sieci osadniczej w dobrach kampinoskich od połowy XV do połowy XIX)* the author discussed the issues of settlement and ownership relations in the forest areas in the realities of the emerging farm and serfdom economy. Referring to archival documentation (Crown Record and

² C.f. entries in: *Encyklopedyja Powszechna*, vol. 1-28, ed. S. Orgelbrand, Warszawa 1859-1868.

³ See entries in: *Słownik Geograficzny Królestwa Polskiego i innych krajów słowiańskich*, vol. 1-15, ed. F. Sulimierski, B. Chlebowski, W. Walewski, Warszawa 1880-1902.

⁴ A. Wolff, E. Rzetelska-Feleszko, *Mazowieckie nazwy terenowe do końca XVI wieku*, Warszawa 1982.

⁵ A. Pawiński, *Polska XVI wieku pod względem geograficzno-statystycznym*, t. 5: *Mazowsze*, Warszawa 1892, pp. 142-145, 263-267, 282-285.

⁶ J. Bobiński, M. Ferchmin, *Bibliografia Puszczy Kampinoskiej do 1990 roku*, parts 1-2, Izabelin 2006, p. 234; M. Ferchmin, *Bibliografia Puszczy Kampinoskiej 1991-2000*, Izabelin 2009, p. 140.

⁷ H. Różańska, *Strojec, gm. Kampinos, woj. warszawskie*, „Informator Archeologiczny: badania”, 9 (1975), pp. 49-50; J. Pyrgała, *Zamczysko, gm. Kampinos, woj. warszawskie*, „Informator Archeologiczny: badania”, 14 (1980), pp. 180-181.

Crown Treasury Archive at the Central Archives of Historical Records AGAD) and printed sources, such as inspections of provinces or the Book of Crown Referendaria, he precisely determined the issues of land ownership in each village and provided the approximate number of population with the specification of heads, peasants, farms and population servant on farms⁸. To the same author we owe a series of popular science articles in the journal *Sylvan*, in which he showed the development of building settlement and Bartek economy in the Mazovian forests⁹.

The discussed works of archaeologists and historians did not exhaust the topic, and the issues signalled by them demanded further study. Three papers published in 2005 met their needs. Their scope opens with a pioneering article by Stefan Woyda: *Prehistory of the Kampinos Forest (Pradzieje Puszczy Kampinoskiej)*, which traces the trails of the evolution of relationships between man and nature from the Stone Age to the Middle Ages. The aforementioned work is the first synthesis of the problems of the local settlement, developed thanks to the collection and verification of reports and reports from previous archaeological research¹⁰. However, the issue of settlement in the Middle Ages was introduced by Kazimierz Pacuski in the article: *Kampinos Forest in the Middle Ages and at the beginning of modern times (until 1526) (Puszcza Kampinoska w średniowieczu i na początku czasów nowożytnych (do 1526))*. Based on archival sources and available literature, the author discussed the first permanent settlements in the forest area (e.g. Łomna, Brochów, Pęcice, Dziekanów and Leszno, making a distinction in princely, knightly, clerical and monastic property¹¹. The same issues, but for modern times, can be found in the study of the Płock historian Marian Chudzyński (*Kampinos Forest in the 19th and early 20th centuries*), which showed the further development of settlement and farming, not excluding German settlers who intensively in the 18th-19th centuries developed floodplains on the Vistula¹².

A study of local demographics is a study of Mark J. Minakowski, who conducted an analysis of family relationships in the Kampinos parish in the nineteenth century in the light of available marital status records. His results are a valuable contribution to demographic research in Mazovia, especially since the Kampinos parish was comparable to many other average parishes in central Poland¹³.

For many years, there was a lack of a comprehensive synthesis of the history of the Kampinos Forest. This demand was partly met by a monograph by Maria Kann entitled *Faithful Forest* published in 1972. The author, referring to, among others to the chronicles

⁸ K. Heymanowski, *Rozwój sieci osadniczej w dobrach kampinoskich od połowy XV do połowy XIX wieku*, „Kwartalnik Historii Kultury Materialnej”, 17 (1969), no 3, p. 417-429.

⁹ K. Heymanowski, *Dzieje Puszczy Kampinoskiej do połowy XIX wieku*, „Sylvan”, 110 (1966), no 2, pp. 1-15; *ibid*, *Budnicy i holendrzy w dziejach gospodarstwa leśnego na Mazowszu*, „Sylvan”, 113 (1969), no 5, pp. 21-40; *ibid*, *Z badań nad gospodarką bartną na Mazowszu (XV-XVIII w.)*, „Sylvan”, 114 (1970), no 4, pp. 29-54; *ibid*, *Znaczenie gospodarcze bartnictwa (XV-XVIII w.)*, „Sylvan”, 115 (1971), nr 11, pp. 13-36.

¹⁰ S. Woyda, *Pradzieje Puszczy Kampinoskiej*, in: *Kampinoski Park Narodowy: praca zbiorowa*, vol. 3, part 1: *Dzieje Puszczy Kampinoskiej i okolic*, ed. P. Matuszak, Izabelin 2005, pp. 19-172.

¹¹ K. Pacuski, *Puszcza Kampinoska w średniowieczu i na początku czasów nowożytnych (do 1526 r.)*, in: *Kampinoski Park Narodowy...*, vol. 3, p. 1, pp. 173-224.

¹² M. Chudzyński, *Puszcza Kampinoska w XIX wieku i na początku XX wieku*, in: *Kampinoski Park Narodowy...*, vol. 3, part 1, pp. 351-455.

¹³ M.J. Minakowski, *Gęstość sieci koligacji w parafii Kampinos w XIX wieku*, „Przeszłość Demograficzna Polski”, 35 (2014), pp. 65-74.

of Anonim Gallem, Marcin Kromer, the seventeenth-century records of the Głusk and Zakroczym parishes, correspondence, and numerous printed sources, traveled through the history of the most important events in the history of the forest complex, from prehistoric times, through the Polish-Swedish wars and the years of national uprisings, ending with the martyrdom of the nation Polish during the last world war, which is confirmed by numerous cemeteries and mass graves. The colourful descriptions of the hunting exploits of Polish kings, including Zygmunt Stary, Stefan Batory and Jan III Sobieski, draw attention. The value of research also has references to the local noble families: Czosnowski from Czosnów, Lasocki from Brochów, Radziejowski from Kampinos, Wodziński from Zaborówek and Zaborowski and Izbińscy from Zaborów.

For many years, Maria Kann's work was the only general synthesis of the history of the Kampinos Forest, however, far from the holistic approach to her colourful episodes. Collective work which was more adequate to existing needs *The history of the Kampinos Forest and the surrounding area (Dzieje Puszczy Kampinoskiej i okolic)*, which hit the publishing market in 2005 under the scientific editorship of prof. Piotr Matusak. This is the first and only attempt to comprehensively cover the history of the forest from prehistoric times until the end of World War II. The work is the last part of a 3-volume work, published under the joint title: *Kampinos National Park: collective work*. Volume 1. edited by Roman Andrzejewski (*Kampinoski Park Narodowy: praca zbiorowa*) covers only natural issues of the Kampinos National Park. However, the next volume is an analysis of contemporary social life¹⁴. Only the last part contains a collection of extensive historical articles, among which we find, among others a study by a volume editor on the achievements of current regional historiography and an analysis of land relations and economic problems in the 16th-18th centuries by three historians of Mazovia: Henryk Rutkowski, Dariusz Główny and Wiesław Majewski. The researchers used the files contained in the Crown Register and printed sources, among which the adders of the books of that record stand out, as well as lustration of the Mazowieckie and Rawa voivodeships¹⁵. Krzysztof Zwoliński's article, in which he discussed the role of the forest during World War I and the inter-war period, should be considered a successful attempt to fill the existing gaps in the literature on the subject¹⁶.

In the current of the research on the history of the Kampinos Forest, studies related to the topic of national uprisings could not be missing. Relatively little space in the literature on the subject is occupied by the events of the Kościuszko Uprising, which somehow appear on the margins of unrest in Warsaw. Partially meeting the existing demand came the work of Andrzej Zahorski (Warsaw in the Kościuszko Uprising), in which we find residual information about the concentration of Prussian army of General Goetz on the western foreground of the capital and insurgent fighting in the area of the Swedish Mountains¹⁷. More references to the events of 1794 in the Kampinos Forest can be found in two articles by Stanisław Herbst:

¹⁴ *Kampinoski Park Narodowy: praca zbiorowa*, vol. 1: *Przyroda Kampinoskiego Parku Narodowego*, ed. R. Andrzejewski, Izabelin 2003; vol. 2: *Spoleczeństwo, przestrzeń, ekonomia*, ed. R. Andrzejewski, Izabelin 2004; vol. 3: *Dzieje Puszczy Kampinoskiej i okolic*, parts 1 and 2, ed. P. Matusak, Izabelin 2005.

¹⁵ H. Rutkowski, D. Główny, W. Majewski, *Puszcza Kampinoska na przełomie XVIII i XIX wieku*, in: *Kampinoski Park Narodowy...*, vol. 3, part 1, pp. 225-291.

¹⁶ K. Zwoliński, *Puszcza Kampinoska w latach 1913-1939*, in: *Kampinoski Park Narodowy...*, vol. 3, part 2, pp. 7-163.

¹⁷ A. Zahorski, *Warszawa w Powstaniu Kościuszkowskim*, edition 2, Warszawa 1985, p. 374.

The battle in the foreground of Warsaw and the Kampinos Forest at the turn of the 18th and 19th centuries (written together with Tadeusz Rawski) (*Bitwa na przedpolu Warszawy oraz Puszcza Kampinowska na przełomie XVIII i XIX wieku*). On the basis of source data and existing literature, the authors presented shielding activities of the troopers' unit on the Kampinos – Leszno – Secymin line and Polish-Prussian clashes near Błonie¹⁸.

The authors were more often interested in the January Uprising than the Kościuszko Uprising during which a vast forest complex was an important center of resistance against the Russian partition. Already in 1913, Stanisław Zieliński collected the documentation of the Polish National Museum in Rapperswil (diaries, correspondence, press releases and newsletters), which he used to develop a specific compendium of insurgent fights in individual provinces. In this way an extensive work was created: *Battles and skirmishes from 1863 to 1864 on the basis of printed and manuscript materials of the National Museum in Rapperswil* (*Bitwy i potyczki 1863-1864. Na podstawie materiałów drukowanych i rękopiśmiennych Muzeum Narodowego w Rapperswilu*), which was reprinted in a new edition, together with a list of battles and skirmishes, prepared by the same author¹⁹. In the area of interest to us, the incidents in Buda Zaborowska and Kampinos were discussed.

The work of the museum librarian inspired subsequent researchers to deepen their research. In the inter-war period, short studies were prepared by Kazimierz Hugo-Bader and Władysław Karbowski, who looked at the insurgent deeds of Maj. Walery Remiszewski and his branch "Children of Warsaw"²⁰. A handful of information about insurgent activities in the forest will be taken from the flagship publication of Stefan Kieniewicz entitled *Warsaw in the January Uprising (Warszawa w powstaniu styczniowym)*, which has several editions²¹. General information about the battle of Buda Zaborowska can be found in a short study by priest Zbigniew Skielczyński²². More contemporary material is brought on the subject by the work of two contemporary researchers: Szymon Bijak and Jarosław Włodarczyk. The first of these discussed the creation of insurgent troops and their basic tasks, while pointing to the important role of Zygmunt Padlewski, Mieczysław Romanowski and clergy from the Kampinos parish in organisational work for the uprising. The author of the study does not overestimate the role of the Kampinos Forest in the days of the uprising, assigning it little importance. The January insurgents, however, lived to see a dignified commemoration at the places of execution, which is clearly demonstrated by the graves of the insurgents in Zaborów Leśny (d. Buda Zaborowska) and the cross at the alleged (though uncertain) burial place of

¹⁸ S. Herbst, *Bitwa na przedpolu Warszawy*, in: *Powstanie kościuszkowskie 1794*, t. 1: *Dzieje militarne*, ed. T. Rawski, Warszawa 1994, pp. 329-344; T. Rawski, S. Herbst, *Puszcza kampinowska na przełomie XVIII i XIX wieku*, in: *Kampinoski Park Narodowy...*, vol. 3, part 1, pp. 293-349.

¹⁹ S. Zieliński, *Bitwy i potyczki 1863-1864. Na podstawie materiałów drukowanych i rękopiśmiennych Muzeum Narodowego w Rapperswilu*, Rapperswil 1913, p. 550. In 2014 it was reprinted with the following title: *Bitwy i potyczki 1863-1864 oraz spis alfabetyczny i chronologiczny bitew i potyczek 1863-1864*, published by Graf_ika Iwona Knechta, Warszawa 2014.

²⁰ Popper, *Spółeczeństwo otwarte i jego wrogowie*, vol. Hugo-Bader, Battle of Buda Zaborowska, "Tygodnik Narodowy", 2 (1933), nos. 3, 4, 5; IN. Karbowski, *From the History of the Warsaw Party of Major Remiszewski, "Infantry Review"*, 12 (1939), 1, p. 1, 83-97.

²¹ S. Kieniewicz, *Warszawa w powstaniu styczniowym*, Warszawa 1954, p. 243; ed. 2, Warszawa 1956, p. 247; ed. 3, Warszawa 1965, p. 185; ed. 4, Warszawa 1983, p. 239.

²² Z. Skielczyński, *Bitwa pod Budą Zaborowską 14 kwietnia 1863 r.*, Izabelin 1992.

Major. Remiszewski in Truskawie²³. On the other hand, Jarosław Włodarczyk, the creator of an extensive monograph entitled *Sketches from the history of the January Uprising in the Kampinos Forest (Szkice z dziejów powstania styczniowego w Puszczy Kampinoskiej)*²⁴. The publication is by far the most insightful study of the events of 1863 in the title area. The author, referring to the nineteenth-century press, diaries, chronicles and contemporary literature, conducted an analysis of events from 150 years ago and emphasised the importance of the forest complex near Warsaw as the main center of concentration of insurgent forces at the will of the National Central Committee. The compendium by Ewa Kłosiewicz and Maria Wróblewska does not contribute much to the state of research, touching in the first chapters the importance of the forest and its inhabitants for the defence of Warsaw, from the Polish-Swedish war (1655-1660), through the Kościuszko and January Uprisings, until the fall of the Warsaw Uprising. However, it is worth reaching for this work, because it organises general knowledge in the field of insurgent issues²⁵.

The largest group of historical works is undoubtedly the study of the history of the last world war, as the wilderness was an area of intense guerrilla activity and a place of execution for several thousand inhabitants of Warsaw and nearby towns. This is confirmed by numerous war cemeteries in the forest, e.g. Palmiry, Wiersze, Laski, Wiktorow and others. The nature of studies in this area is diverse. Some authors limited themselves to a general synthesis of war events with the determination of the correct chronology, while others tried to discuss individual armed formations with the determination of their personal status, thus laying the foundations for prosopographic studies. The forest became a theatre of war operations in September 1939, as soldiers of the "Pomerania" and "Poznań" Army came through, hurrying with the help for the besieged capital. In the group of basic studies for this period, it is worth recalling the work of generals Tadeusz Kutrzeba and Roman Abraham, who, as eyewitnesses of those memorable days, approached the various stages of the September campaign with great accuracy²⁶. The area of the Kampinos Forest and the surrounding area became a resting place of over 9 thousand soldiers of the "Pomerania" Army, as evidenced by numerous cemeteries scattered among the forest wilderness. Among the works on this issue, it is worth paying attention to the publications of Jerzy Ślaski²⁷, Zbigniew Szacherski²⁸ and Jerzy R. Godlewski²⁹, Konrad Ciechanowski³⁰, Jerzy Misiak³¹, Władysław Rezmer³², Paweł Wieczorkiewicz³³ and many other authors.

²³ Sz. Bijak, *Rok 1863 w Puszczy Kampinoskiej*, in: *Śladami powstania styczniowego. Aspekty historyczne i krajoznawcze*, ed. J. Partyka, M. Żochowski, Warszawa 2014, pp. 69-76.

²⁴ J. Włodarczyk, *Szkice z powstania styczniowego w Puszczy Kampinoskiej*, Izabelin 2014, p. 114.

²⁵ E. Kłosiewicz, M. Wróblewska, *Puszcza Kampinowska*, Warszawa 1979, p. 3-12.

²⁶ T. Kutrzeba, *Bitwa nad Bzurą 9-22 września 1939*, Warszawa 1957, p. 196; ed. 2, Warszawa 1958, p. 196; R.A. Abraham, *Wspomnienia wojenne znad Warty i Bzury*, Warszawa 1969, p. 380; ed. 2 revol., Warszawa 1990, p. 317.

²⁷ J. Ślaski, *Polska walcząca*, third extended edition., vol. 1-3, Warszawa 1999.

²⁸ Z. Szacherski, *Wierni przysiędze*, Warszawa 1966, p. 344; 2nd ed., Warszawa 1968, p. 338.

²⁹ J.R. Godlewski, *Bitwa nad Bzurą: historyczne studium operacyjne*, Warszawa 1973, p. 234.

³⁰ K. Ciechanowski, *Armia „Pomorze” 1939*, Warszawa 1982, p. 394.

³¹ J. Misiak, *W gajówce patriotyzmu*, Izabelin 2009, p. 271.

³² W. Rezmer, *Armia „Pomorze” w kampanii polskiej 1939 roku: bitwa nad Bzurą*, Bydgoszcz 2014, p. 87.

³³ P. Wieczorkiewicz, *Ostatnie lata Polski niepodległej. Kampania 1939 roku*, Łomianki 2014, p. 403.

Mass executions of civilians near the village of Palmiry, reflecting the darkness of the German occupation, have become an icon of the fate of many Poles. In the group of works devoted to this issue, the work of Władysław Bartoszewski entitled *Palmiry*, in which the author presented the tragic circumstances of the murders of Germans on Polish citizens, referring to their own war experiences, memories of survivors of death transports, underground documentation and exhumation protocols. The fruit of his research is the biographies of people distinguished for the political, social and cultural life of the country, which were annihilated as part of the planned destruction of the Polish elites³⁴. The nature of the synthesis of the problem is the work of Beata Lipińska entitled *Kampinos-Palmira*. Its author focused primarily on the Palmir cemetery, showing it as a symbol of the martyrdom of the Polish nation, and also a synonym of Nazi crimes, but did not omit other war cemeteries in the Kampinos National Park³⁵. A short guide by Karol Loth is one of the studies related to the history of the Palmir cemetery³⁶.

In a wide range of publications devoted to war, we can see detailed elaborations on the subject of soldiers of the Home Army Group “Kampinos”. Particularly important, because opening the way to an in-depth knowledge of the history of this grouping, proved to be a monograph by Capt. Józef Krzyczkowski *The underground and uprising in Kampinos 1944* (Warsaw 1962, pp. 532) (*Konspiracja i powstanie w Kampinosie 1944*). The group’s commander made detailed accounts of his actions and the most famous military actions, e.g. the attack on the Bielany airport (where he was wounded himself), the fights at Pociecha, Trusia and the attack on Dworzec Gdański (Gdansk Railway station) in Warsaw. He did not omit the bloody crimes committed by the Gestapo in Zaborów. Krzyczkowski’s work since it managed to capture personal details served subsequent researchers in attempting to recreate the composition of the “Kampinos” Group. This fact takes on special significance when we look at the later historiography of the communist era, which did not sacrifice the discussed military formation of its proper place, condemning it to diminish significance or total oblivion. The books of Jerzy Kirchmayer³⁷, Stanisław Podlewski³⁸, Adam Borkiewicz³⁹ and Władysław Ważniewski⁴⁰ contain a discussion of the events of the Warsaw Uprising in the capital and on its outskirts, but the authors’ critical attitude towards decision makers of the uprising and the Home Army command is visible, thus the image of the “Kampinos Group” is distorted and even reduced. One of the first authors who, after the fall of communism, attempted to verify the findings and restore the memory of the heroes, was veteran Jerzy Koszada. In 1998 he published a study entitled *The Kampinos Group. A partisan grouping of the Home Army fighting in the Warsaw Uprising* (*Grupa Kampinos Partyzanckie zgrupowanie Armii Krajowej walczącej w Powstaniu Warszawskim*), in which he devoted attention to the birth of this formation, the main directions of its military operations in protecting the fighting

³⁴ W. Bartoszewski, *Palmiry*, Warszawa 1976, p. 107.

³⁵ B. Lipińska, *Kampinos-Palmiry*, Warszawa 1977, p. 137.

³⁶ K. Loth, *Palmiry: przewodnik po cmentarzu i Muzeum*, Warszawa 1993, p. 38.

³⁷ J. Kirchmayer, *Powstanie Warszawskie*, Warszawa 1984, p. 576.

³⁸ S. Podlewski, *Przemarsz przez piekło*, Warszawa 1949; 2nd ed., Warszawa 1957; 3rd ed., Warszawa 1971; *ibid.*, *Rapsodia Żoliborska*, Warszawa 1957; 2nd ed., Warszawa 1979.

³⁹ A. Borkiewicz, *Powstanie warszawskie 1944: zarys działań natury wojskowej*, Warszawa 1957; 2nd ed., Warszawa 1964; 3rd ed., Warszawa 1969.

⁴⁰ W. Ważniewski, *Na przedpolach stolicy 1939-1945*, Warszawa 1974.

capital and the circumstances of its breakup by enemy forces. He did not ignore the important issue of repression and harassment which the soldiers of the Polish and Soviet security services subjected to after the war, who decided to erase them from national memory. The factual graphical layer of the book is supported by documentation taken from the author's private resources and the State Archives of the Capital City of Warsaw⁴¹.

Jerzy Koszada's work answered many questions posed by the author, but also showed some inaccuracies. Mieczysław Groblewski looked at the above issue again, and the result of his inquiries was a 4-volume typescript. In the light of available sources in the form of surveys, declarations and lists, and in addition, records prepared by Capt. Józef Krzyczkowski, immediately after the war, the author determined as close as possible personal data and the number of soldiers of the "Kampinos" Group, participating in the Warsaw Uprising. It would be useful if this typescript appeared on the normal book market and was introduced as a publication into scientific circulation. Certainly it would significantly fill a gap in regional historiography⁴². A more apologetic dimension has a book by Zygmunt Sawicki entitled "Collar" in the underground and the Warsaw Uprising. *History of the Home Army in the outskirts of Warsaw („Obroża” w konspiracji i Powstaniu Warszawskim. Dzieje Armii Krajowej na przedpolu Warszawy)*. The work is not only the fruit of searching for new information about the deeds of the Kampinos insurgents, but also a response to publications that distorted or marginalised the significance of war struggles of Home Army soldiers in the 7th District of the "Collar" of the Warsaw District⁴³.

Despite the creation of many works aimed at presenting the war history of the Kampinos Forest, there was still a lack of a comprehensive study of the rich events of 1939-1945. A comprehensive attempt to completely describe the war history of the area in question turned out to be an extensive article by Piotr Matusak and Krzysztof Zwoliński entitled *Kampinos Forest in 1939-1945 (Puszcza Kampinoska w latach 1939-1945)*, which was published in 2005. Thanks to the abundant source base, derived primarily from the resources of the Archives of New Files and the State Archives in Warsaw, the authors managed to conduct an in-depth analysis of the war years and thus fill some of the issues that were waiting for their historians⁴⁴. Instead, a brief synthesis of the events of 1944, taking into account the circumstances of the creation and functioning of the unique creation, which was the Independent Republic of Kampinos with the center in Wiersze, is a brochure by Przemysław Wywiał. We will find in it a brief description of the beginnings and development of the underground in the forest⁴⁵.

⁴¹ J. Koszada, *Grupa Kampinos. Partyzanckie zgrupowanie Armii Krajowej walczące w Powstaniu Warszawskim*, Warszawa 1998, p. 163; 2nd ed. revised and updated., Warszawa 1999, p. 169.

⁴² M. Groblewski, *Próba ustalenia liczby żołnierzy „Grupy Kampinos” AK uczestniczących w Powstaniu Warszawskim*, Warszawa 2002, pp. 4-170, typescript; vol. 2: *Stan liczebny i straty osobowe „Grupy Kampinos” AK w Powstaniu Warszawskim 1944 roku według różnych źródeł*, pp. 174-221, typescript; vol. 3: *Stan liczebny i straty osobowe oddziałów wojskowych „Grupy Kampinos” AK bez Zgrupowania Stołpecko-Nalibockiego*, pp. 222-324, typescript; vol. 4: *Ostateczne wyniki prac analityczno-weryfikacyjnych przeprowadzonych w czasie od 1997 roku do pierwszej połowy 2002 roku, nad stanem liczebnym i stratami osobowymi „Grupy Kampinos” AK*, pp. 325-388, typescript.

⁴³ Z. Sawicki, „Obroża” w konspiracji i Powstaniu Warszawskim. *Dzieje Armii Krajowej na przedpolu Warszawy*, Warszawa 2002, p. 374.

⁴⁴ P. Matusak, K. Zwoliński, *Puszcza Kampinoska w latach 1939-1945*, in: *Kampinoski Park Narodowy...*, vol. 3, part. 2, pp. 165-421.

⁴⁵ P. Wywiał, *Konspiracja w Puszczy Kampinoskiej i Niepodległa Rzeczpospolita Kampinoska 1944*, Warszawa 2012, p. 22.

Among other studies dealing with the above issues, the accounts and memories of commanders and members of individual armed formations should be detailed. This is the nature of the memories of Adolf Pilch in the work entitled *Partisans of the three forests* (*Partyzanci trzech puszczy*) as well as of Marian Podgóreczny's *Doliniacy*⁴⁶, who fought alongside him. Both memoirs bring the reader to memorable days of 1944. The authors, as eyewitnesses of events, traverse the most important combat stages of the so-called Doliniaków, recollecting the creation of the Independent Republic of Kampinos and support for the fighting capital, as well as the circumstances of the collapse of the offensive and the dispersion of the entire grouping. The listed works did not remain on the margins of historical research, although they can certainly be better used in deepening the study of the primeval forest guerrilla movement, while maintaining an appropriate method of evaluation and use of this type of relationship.

The Battle of Jaktorów (September 29, 1944) turned out to be a symbolic end to the Independent Republic of Kampinos, in which the Germans crashed the main forces of the "Kampinos" Group, trying to break into the Świętokrzyskie Mountains. The circumstances of the German Sternschnuppe anti-Antarctic operation, retreat of Home Army units from the wilderness, and severe defeat near Jaktorów were discussed by Szymon Nowak in one of his newer studies entitled *Puszcza Kampinowska – Jaktorów 1944* (Warsaw 2011, pp. 290; Warsaw 2014, pp. 83).

Valuable information about the war episodes of the Kampinos Forest is also provided by publications by Jan Gozdawa-Gołębiowski⁴⁷ and Jan Smoliński⁴⁸. Two articles by Tadeusz Swat showing the legacy of military operations on the western outskirts of the capital in the form of crosses, memorial plaques and war cemeteries⁴⁹ should not be overlooked. Also, some popular articles in local poviats and commune magazines deal with the above issues in order to preserve the memory of the insurgents' deeds and to cultivate the tradition of Polish weapons.

An interesting – though requiring in-depth research – issue are noble families living in the vicinity of the Kampinos Forest. The nobility in the region was not abundant, but it marked its presence in its ownership and social structures. The most significant property was in Tułowice in Rawskie province., located in close proximity to the Kampinos wilderness. Wanda Puget examined this issue in the article: *Tułowice – Dwór*, presenting the history of the estate and its rapidly changing owners from the families of Lasocki, Linowski, Orsetti, Zabłocki, Górski, Boski, Ostrowski, Bolechowski and finally Domaszowski. The study does not exhaust the subject, but nevertheless is an important supplement to the history of the region's coat of arms and their family alliances⁵⁰. In the field of research on the noble estate in this part of Mazovia, a guide that is important is *After the palaces and manors of Mazovia (Po pałacach*

⁴⁶ A. Pilch, *Partyzanci trzech puszczy*, Warszawa 1992, p. 394; M. Podgóreczny, *Doliniacy*, vol. 1-3, Gdańsk 1991-1993.

⁴⁷ J. Gozdawa-Gołębiowski, *Obszar warszawski Armii Krajowej*, Lublin 1992, p. 621.

⁴⁸ Jan Smoliński, *Region Błonie w walce z okupantem hitlerowskim*, Błonie 1994.

⁴⁹ T. Swat, *Pamiętki września w Puszczy Kampinoskiej*, „Niepodległość i Pamięć”, 6 (1999), no 2, pp. 177-206; idem, *Kapliczki i krzyże Puszczy Kampinoskiej*, in: *Kultura Ludowa Mazowsza i Podlasia: studia i materiały*, vol. 5, ed. A. Kołodziejczyk, A. Stawarz, Warszawa 2002, pp. 81-99.

⁵⁰ W. Puget, *Tułowice – Dwór*, in: *Palace i dwory w dawnym województwie rawsko-mazowieckim*, ed. W. Puget, vol. 1, Warszawa 1995, pp.137-150.

i dworach Mazowsza) written by Tadeusz S. Jaroszewski and Waldemar Baraniewski. The authors gave basic facts in short notes about the establishment, functioning and revitalisation of family houses under the tutelage of often changing heraldic owners in Kampinos, Leszno, Łazy, Strzyżewo, Tułowice, Zaborów, Zaborówek, Zielonki and Żelazowa Wola⁵¹. The topic of hunting in the wilderness, which Agnieszka Samsonowicz (*Hunting in Poland of the Piasts and Jagiellons; Łowiectwo w Polsce Piastów i Jagiellonów*)⁵² discussed, found a marginal discussion in the literature of the subject. Referring to royal regality and protection of wild game, the scholar found some facts about hunting entertainment in the forests around Jaktorów and Wiskitki during the reign of the last Jagiellons.

The history of each region is inextricably linked to the activities of people distinguished to promote its historical, cultural and natural heritage. Prof. Roman Kobendza (1866-1955) was an outstanding person in the history of the Kampinos Forest, he was a great botanist and initiator of the creation of the Kampinos National Park. Unfortunately, the well-known nature lover did not receive any monograph about himself, which is a clear lack in the historiography of the region, demanding reliable fulfilment. The memories of Maria Zanowa, enriched by a list of 166 publications of the late scientist, only partially met these demands⁵³. Residual information about the relationship of the professor with the Kampinos Forest is also found in Magdalena Kamińska's account of the ceremony of giving the school in Sadowa the name of Jadwiga and Roman Kobendz⁵⁴.

In a completely different field she was of service to the regional history of Elżbieta Róża Czacka from the Congregation of Franciscan Sisters Servants of the Cross – the founder of the facility for blind children in Laski near Warsaw. The nursing home organised by her for the blind has permanently entered the landscape of this part of the forest buffer zone. The above issue is introduced by extensive publications by Jadwiga Stabińska⁵⁵, Michał Żółtowski⁵⁶, Ewa Jabłońska-Deptuła⁵⁷, and Alicja Gościmska⁵⁸. A significant impact on the spiritual and intellectual direction of the work of Róża Czacka was made by a priest Władysław Korrałowicz (1884-1940), permanently living in Laski from 1930. The charismatic personality of the priest found writers who wanted to develop his biography. They were: Teresa Landy⁵⁹, Rut Wosiek⁶⁰, Emilia Janina Niszczota⁶¹ and cardinal Stefan Wyszyński⁶².

⁵¹ T.S. Jaroszewski, W. Baraniewski, *Po pałacach i dworach Mazowsza: przewodnik*, Warszawa 1995, p. 200 + XXXIvol.

⁵² A. Samsonowicz, *Łowiectwo w Polsce Piastów i Jagiellonów*, Warszawa 2011, p. 537.

⁵³ M. Zanowa, *Prof. dr Roman Kobendza: (wspomnienie)*, „Zeszyty naukowe Szkoły Głównej Gospodarstwa Wiejskiego. Leśnictwo”, 1958, c. 1, pp. 30-42.

⁵⁴ M. Kamińska, *Szkoła z puszcą w tle*, „Parki Narodowe”, 2008, nr 2, p. 18-20.

⁵⁵ J. Stabińska, *Matka Elżbieta Róża Czacka*, Poznań 1981, p. 319; 2nd revised and updated edition, Laski 1989, p. 356.

⁵⁶ M. Żółtowski, *Blask prawdziwego światła: Matka Elżbieta Róża Czacka i jej dzieło*, Lublin 1999, p. 332.

⁵⁷ E. Jabłońska-Deptuła, *Matka Elżbieta Czacka i Dzieło Lasek*, Lublin 2002, p. 260.

⁵⁸ A. Gościmska, *Torowała nowe drogi niewidomym. Róża Czacka – Matka Elżbieta jako tyflog i wychowawca*, Laski 2014, p. 262; *Laski w czasie okupacji 1939-1945*, Warszawa 1987, p. 175 (co-authored by Michał Kamiński).

⁵⁹ T. Landy, *Ksiądz Władysław Kornilowicz*, Kraków 1978, p. 269; 2nd ed., Warszawa 2003, p. 325.

⁶⁰ R. Wosiek, *Ksiądz Władysław Kornilowicz – kapłan wśród ludzi*, Laski-Warszawa 2009, p. 307.

⁶¹ E.J. Niszczota, *Ojciec wszystkich poszukujących: Sługa Boży ks. Władysław Kornilowicz – spowiednik, kierownik duchowy i wychowawca*, Warszawa 1998, p. 517.

⁶² S. Wyszyński, *Nasz Ojciec: ksiądz Władysław Kornilowicz*, Warszawa 1980, p. 107.

Mother Róża Czacka and father Korniewicz benefited from the help of Antoni Marylski, who devoted most of his life (before the priesthood) to the service of the Society for the Care of the Blind. His sacrificial work was reflected in the book by Jacek Moscow⁶³, while a large group of people co-creating the laser center were discussed in extensive sketches, edited by the efforts of Tadeusz Mazowiecki in collaboration with authors of memories, letters and poetry, among others Bohdan Cywiński, Jan Lechoń, Mieczysław Jastrun and priest Jan Twardowski⁶⁴.

Nowadays, among the historians and promoters of history, there is an increased interest in church issues in the area. Although historiography still lacks a study that would comprehensively discuss the whole of local church relations, several authors have attempted to discuss certain specific issues, among which the monographs of individual parishes should be mentioned first. Particularly noteworthy are two publications of priest Zbigniew Skielczyński, introducing readers to the history of two parishes in the buffer zone of the Kampinos Forest: Górki Kampinoskie and Dawny Brochów. In the first of these the author contained valuable information on the eighteenth-century settlement of the builder and the history of the construction of the parish church in Górki in the communist period adverse to this investment. The author's invaluable contribution to the region's current historiography is a list of parishioners murdered in World War II, for which the lists of villages and reports collected during the Christmas carol visit to individual households were necessary⁶⁵. In the second book, the author discusses the history of the Brochów parish against the background of the beginnings of the settlement, the developing religious life and the relations of church rulers with the heraldic heirs of the Brochowski and Lasocki families⁶⁶. The Brochów parish was also discussed several specific issues initiated by Marta Przygoda-Stelmach, which showed the functioning of the community under the rule of parish priests in the 19th and 20th centuries, not ignoring the then popular brotherhood of St. Roch⁶⁷. The cycle of short articles by priest Skielczyński in the "Wiadomości Archidiecezjalnych Warszawskich", where the outlines of the history of the parishes in Kampinos, Głusk-Leoncin, Łomna and Zaborów appeared⁶⁸.

The parish of the Nativity of St. John the Baptist in Leszno found its historian in the person of priest Waldemar Wojdecki. Reaching the state and church archival resources enabled the author to prepare the publication entitled *The history of Leszno and the Kampinos Forest (Dzieje Leszna i Puszczy Kampinoskiej)*, presenting the fate of the parish against the background of the history of Mazovia and the Kingdom of Poland. The set of church stewards is valuable, starting with the one mentioned in 1440. Marcin, and ending with the author of the monograph. Not all parish priests were discussed there, so this work requires more in-depth

⁶³ J. Moskwa, *Antoni Marylski i Laski*, Kraków 1987, p. 306; 2nd ed., Warszawa, p. 300.

⁶⁴ *Ludzie Lasek*, ed. T. Mazowiecki, Warszawa-Kraków 1987, p. 603; 2nd ed., Warszawa 2000, p. 567.

⁶⁵ Z. Skielczyński, *Górki Kampinoskie*, Warsaw 1990, p. 52.

⁶⁶ Z. Skielczyński, *Dawny Brochów*, Leszno 1993, p. 39.

⁶⁷ M. Przygoda-Stelmach, *Bractwo parafialne św. Rocha przy kościele w Brochowie na Mazowszu w latach 1854-1881*, „Saeculum Christianum”, 20/2013, pp. 149-155; eadem, *Proboszczowie parafii Brochów na Mazowszu od XIX do XX w. w świetle źródeł z archiwum parafialnego*, „Saeculum Christianum”, 21/2014, pp. 223-229.

⁶⁸ Z. Skielczyński, *Parafia Kampinos w 1777 roku*, „Wiad. Archid. Warszawskiej”, 65/1983, no 11-12, pp. 515-517; *Dzieje parafii Głusk-Leoncin*, „Wiad. Archid. Warszawskiej”, 66/1984, no 9-10, pp. 331-336; idem, *Dawne dzieje parafii Łomna*, „Wiad. Archid. Warszawskiej”, 73/1991, no 11, pp. 18-25; idem, *Parafia Zaborów*, „Wiad. Archid. Warszawskiej”, 74/1992, no 2, pp. 120-128.

research⁶⁹. Particularly noteworthy are the publications of priest Waclaw Kurowski, who turned out to be an advocate of the parish of St. Roch in Lipków. A longtime priest of this parish prepared a work entitled *Lipków sienkiewiczowski*, which was published for the first time in 1984, and is now resumed with the biography of the clergyman under the pen of Łukasz Karczmarek. The author discussed among the many issues the first mention of the village, the functioning of the farm under the rule of Józef Paschalis Jakubowicz and the creation and development of the parish of St. Roch⁷⁰. In the second work under the modest title: *Diary of the priest from Lipków (Pamiętnik proboszcza z Lipkowa)*, the parish host placed his memories of the years of the German occupation in Warsaw, the moving experiences of the Stalinist period and the taking over of the destroyed court church in Lipków, which he was to make a dynamic center of religious life⁷¹. History of the parish The Nativity of the Blessed Virgin Mary in Secymin-Nowiny was discussed in K. Jaworska's publication (*Dzieje parafii w Secyminie* trans. *History of the parish in Secymin*) and priest Józef Mandziuk's (*Sanktuarium Matki Boskiej Radosnej Opiekunki Przyrody w Secyminie-Nowinach* trans. *Sanctuary of Our Lady of Joyful Protector of Nature in Secymin-Nowiny*). The author of the first study presented the beginnings of settlement in the village of Secymin, including Dutch builders and Protestants (Mennonites) fleeing religious persecution in Western Europe in the seventeenth century, then moving on to the various stages of the development of religious life in this area. The above issues were recollected and confirmed in the argument of priest Józef Mandziuk, who expanded it with the history of the image of Our Lady of Joy and his worship in the Secyminium sanctuary⁷². The album by Alina Petrowa-Wasilewicz is dedicated to the young parish of St. Francis of Assisi in Izabelin and her first parish priest Aleksander Fedorowicz (*Uśmiech księdza Alego: dzieje parafii św. Franciszka z Asyżu w Izabelinie* trans. *Father Ali's smile: the history of the parish of St. Francis of Assisi in Izabelin*)⁷³.

Undoubtedly, publications where a collective synthesis of the history of several towns and their parishes has been made are invaluable. Such is the collective work entitled *Stare Babice throughout history* (trans. *Stare Babice na przestrzeni dziejów*) prepared by Ewa Pustola-Kozłowska. Using archival materials, press and literature on the subject of six authors, she traversed the history of Stare Babice and settlements belonging to the present commune of the same name. It does not omit the brief historical outline of the church in Borzęcin, which has not been published until today⁷⁴. In 2014, the extensive work of Fr. Grzegorz Kalwarczyk titled *Przewodnik po parafiach i kościołach Archidiecezji Warszawskiej* (trans. *A guide to*

⁶⁹ W. Wojdecki, *Dzieje Leszna i Puszczy Kampinoskiej*, Leszno koło Błonia 1998, p.118.

⁷⁰ W. Kurowski, *Lipków sienkiewiczowski*, Stare Babice 2014, pp. 5-158; cf. Ł. Karczmarek, *Waclaw Kurowski*, in: idem, pp. 159-181.

⁷¹ The diary was first published in 1990 in the form of a typescript (211 pages of text and 16 pages of illustrations). In 2010, it was reprinted by priest Zbigniew Godlewski in the publication *Two stories*, i.e. *Warszawskie Łagiewniki*, Warsaw-Koło 2010, pp. 190-321.

⁷² K. Jaworska, *Dzieje parafii w Secyminie*; J. Mandziuk, *Sanktuarium Matki Bożej Radosnej Opiekunki Przyrody w Secyminie Nowinach*, Secymin-Nowiny 2006, p. 61.

⁷³ A. Petrowa-Wasilewicz, *Uśmiech księdza Alego: dzieje parafii św. Franciszka z Asyżu w Izabelinie*, Warszawa 2001, p. 112.

⁷⁴ See articles in: *Stare Babice na przestrzeni dziejów*, ed. E. Pustola-Kozłowska, Stare Babice 2013: Ł. Karczmarek, *Pradzieje*, pp. 11-33; K. Pacuski, *Średniowiecze i okres do połowy XVII wieku*, pp. 35-67; E. Pustola-Kozłowska, *Schylek I Rzeczypospolitej oraz czasy zaborów*, pp. 69-133; S. Fijałkowski, *Walki o wyzwolenie*, pp. 135-151; M. Łada, *Lata II Rzeczypospolitej*, pp. 153-177.

the parishes and churches of the Archdiocese of Warsaw), and his first volume was devoted to the history of parishes outside Warsaw. It includes a brief overview of the parishes that are part of the current deanery of Laski and Kampinos, i.e. Blizne, Borzęcin, Buraków, Czółków Mazowiecki, Dąbrowa Leśna, Dziekanów Leśny, Górki Kampinoskie, Izabelin, Kazuń, Laski, Leoncin, Lipków, Łomianki, Łomna, Secymin, Stare Babice, Wiersze, Zaborów and the parishes of Kampinos and Leszno from the Błoński deanery. The outline is supplemented by lists of identified parish priests from the moment each parish was founded to modern times⁷⁵.

When reviewing bibliography on the topic, it is impossible to omit tourist guides, which develop the readers' passion for sightseeing. We can find in them short historical notes in popular terms – important from the perspective of ordering and making available the existing knowledge. The guide to the former province is considered the first attempt to develop such a guide. Warsaw, being a collective work of Tomasz Chłudziński, Tadeusz Maczubski, Krzysztof Rutkowski and Janusz Żmudziński. In the publication, which had two editions in the sixties of the last century, the authors discussed numerous attractions located in the Vistula valley, not ignoring the matters concerning forest nature and history⁷⁶. In the same years, Tomasz Chłudziński's publication entitled *Kampinos Forest* appeared: a tourist guide that was only published in 1964. It is a detailed discussion of the forest region itself⁷⁷. Among the publications of this type, the guides of Lechosław Herz were unrivalled, and one of the first was the *Guide to the Kampinos Forest*, introduced to the publishing market in 1971.⁷⁸ A few years later, the same author published a guide titled *Kampinos i Kampinoski Park Narodowy* (trans. *Kampinos and Kampinoski National Park*) (Warsaw 1976), which in the second edition of 1979 received a shorter title: *Kampinoski Park Narodowy* (trans. *Kampinoski National Park*) (Warsaw 1979)⁷⁹. The latest studies include: *Kampinos National Park and Kampinos Forest: a guide* that has three editions. The first of them is an album of photos, enriched with short historical descriptions of the places presented⁸⁰. In the second edition, information about natural paths is interspersed with descriptions of places of national remembrance, military operations during the Second World War, e.g. the battle of Łomianki, as well as the history of monuments located on the outskirts of the forest, i.e. the parish church in Brochów, the Zakarya parish church and the former monastery of regular canons in Czerwińsk on the Vistula⁸¹. Among the latest works, the following stand out: *Przyroda i historia Puszczy Kampinoskiej: przewodnik po ekspozycji*, (*Nature and history of the*

⁷⁵ G. Kalwarczyk, *Przewodnik po parafiach i kościołach Archidiecezji Warszawskiej*, vol. 1: *Parafie pozawarszawskie*, Warszawa 2014, p. 1029.

⁷⁶ *Województwo warszawskie: przewodnik*, Warszawa 1961, ed. T. Chłudziński et al., Warszawa 1961, p. 555; 2nd revised and updated edition, Warszawa 1965, p. 426.

⁷⁷ T. Chłudziński, *Puszcza Kampinoska: przewodnik turystyczny*, Warszawa 1964, p. 111; Warszawa 1966, p. 263.

⁷⁸ L. Herz, *Przewodnik po Puszczy Kampinoskiej*, Warszawa 1971, p. 306; 2nd ed., Warszawa 1980, p. 273; 3rd ed., Warszawa 1990, p. 281. L. Herz, *Przewodnik po Puszczy Kampinoskiej*, Warszawa 1971, p. 306; 2nd ed., Warszawa 1980, p. 273; 3rd ed., Warszawa 1990, p. 281.

⁷⁹ L. Herz, *Kampinos i Kampinoski Park Narodowy*, Warszawa 1976, p. 72; 2nd ed. as: *Kampinoski Park Narodowy*, Warszawa 1979 p. 87.

⁸⁰ L. Herz, *Kampinoski Park Narodowy*, Warszawa 1993, p. 96.

⁸¹ L. Herz, *Puszcza Kampinoska: przewodnik*, Pruszków 2002, p. 350; 2nd ed., Pruszków 2006; 3rd ed., Pruszków 2012, p. 360.

Kampinos Forest: a guide to the exhibition) by Grzegorz Okołów, and *Puszcza Kampinowska i okolice (Kampinos Forest and its neighbourhood)* by by Marcin Zamorski⁸².

The study attempts to show the state of research on the history of the Kampinos Forest in the context of broadly understood human activity. In the past fifty years, many dissertations and studies were created, in which they discussed specific issues, e.g. settlement, national uprisings, armed formations operating in the Kampinos Forest, the history of individual parishes and religious groups, as well as valuable syntheses showing the whole of human activity throughout history. The last fifteen years have turned out to be particularly abundant in the formation of scientific dissertations, in which readers received papers that deepen their inquiries into the problems of settlement and demography, the role of forest areas during national uprisings and their importance for the activities of guerrilla movements during the last war, and especially during the Warsaw Uprising. The last of these issues is represented in the literature of the subject in a particularly expressive way, as the memory of the events of 1944 is still alive among living veterans and elderly inhabitants of the forest villages who cultivate insurgent traditions, wanting to save them from oblivion. The list of regional historiography is, for obvious reasons, incomplete and does not exhaust the title issue. Only the most important works were discussed out of necessity, which due to the nature of the research conducted by the authors significantly contributed to fill the gap in region observations and became a kind of impulse for subsequent explorers intending to continue their research based on the available source base and the achievements of their predecessors. It is with satisfaction to note that there is no shortage of historians and lovers of regional history who are trying to meet existing needs by promoting the history of this unique area⁸³.

The state of research history of the Kampinos Forest Summary

Kampinos Forest, also known as the Kampinos National Park, is a large forest complex located north-west of Warsaw. This is a unique natural heritage resource full of various forms of wildlife and many types of animals. In this remarkable natural monument are also to be found traces of human activity. Forest areas remained untouched for a long time, but since the 15th century people have begun the first settlements and villages. Within a few hundred years there has been created in this area many towns, parishes and centres of agricultural and forestry. During the Polish uprisings of the 19th and 20th centuries, the forest terrain was favourable to guerilla actions and is now a place of burial for several thousand people who are buried in military cemeteries. These topics were studied by historians, who wanted and still want to show the area of human activity and the evolution of the relationship between nature and man. The Kampinos Forest is seen in many publications as the place for daily life

⁸² G. Okołów, *Przyroda i historia Puszczy Kampinoskiej: przewodnik po ekspozycji*, Izabelin 2010, p. 24; M. Zamorski, *Puszcza Kampinowska i okolice*, 3rd ed., Warszawa 2012, p. 128.

⁸³ It is worth mentioning last year's grassroots initiative of the young editorial team, which established the popular-science magazine "Nasza Puszcza". In the authors' intentions, the content of the magazine is to promote regional history and culture among the inhabitants of the Kampinos Forest and its supporters. The first issue of the magazine edited by Ewa Gruszka was published at the turn of 2015/2016, and next issues are planned to be published in the future.

of inhabitants from the Middle Ages to the present day. This article is an attempt to discuss the current trends of historical research in this part of Mazovia. It also shows the perception of events by the authors. The issues of nature, landscape formation, geological processes and environmental protection are not included, because they belong to other fields of science and have a separate research methodology.

Keywords: The Kampinos Forest, Mazovia, settlement, Polish uprising, The Independent Republic of Kampinos

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