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**Polonika na fotografiach w zespołach i zbiorach Archiwum Ziemskiego w Opawie oraz możliwości ich prezentacji online w Archiwum Cyfrowym**

**Polonics in photographs in funds and collections of the Land Archives in Opava and the possibilities of their presentation online in the Digital Archive**

**Streszczenie**

Fotografie w zespołach oraz w zbiorach Archiwum Ziemskiego w Opawie (dalej ZAO) mają głównie dokumentalny cel i wartość. Polonika występuje przede wszystkim w zespołach dotyczących instytucji administracyjnych i policyjnych. W tych zespołach można najłatwiej znaleźć „polskie” informacje w rozwijającym się Archiwum Cyfrowym ZAO (<http://digi.archives.cz>). Najczęściej są to portrety osób nadzorowanych lub ściganych, dalej poglądy sytuacyjne w kwestiach sporów lub fotokopie ważnych dokumentów. „Schowane” obrazowe polonika znajdują się również w tych jednostkach archiwalnych, gdzie zdjęcia dokumentują topograficznie lub personalnie terytorium osiedlone przez Polaków. Dotyczy to np. zespołów osobistych Józefa Koźdonia lub Rudolfa Fitzę, zespołów różnych stowarzyszeń (np. Śląska Macierz Oświaty Ludowej) oraz organizacji społecznych (np. Czechosłowacki Związek Wychowania Fizycznego – Wojewódzki Komitet w Ostrawie).

Typowym przykładem dotąd jeszcze całkowicie nieudokumentowanych obrazowych poloników jest zawartość kilku znaczących zespołów zakładowych, szczególnie specjalizowanych zbiorów dokumentacyjnych. Najważniejszym z nich jest Zbiór Materiałów Fotograficznych Huty w Trzyńcu, p.p. Trzyniec, 1871 - 1991 z kilkoma tysiącami jednostek, który jest w dużej części opisany i zdigitalizowany. Wiele ze zbiorów, zwłaszcza pochodzących z 2 połowy XX wieku, są to zbiory opracowane tylko częściowo lub w ogóle nieopracowane. Określenie językowe zespołów opiera się przede wszystkim na dokumentach aktowych, a więc elementy językowe dokumentów fotograficznych są mało uwzględnione. O powiązaniu ze środowiskiem polskojęzycznym można często dowiedzieć się tylko z napisów na obrazie fotograficznym (np. w zespole Morawskośląska fabryka wagonów Studénka lub Zbiór płyt fotograficznych Tatra Kopřivnice). Archiwum cyfrowe ZAO umożliwia jednak, jeśli jest to celowe, opublikowanie archiwaliów fotograficznych, bez względu na stan opracowania danego zespołu lub zbioru, w którym się znajdują. Archiwum w ten sposób zdobywa cenne sprzężenie zwrotne ze strony badaczy i społeczeństwa.

Obecnie w pierwszej kolejności są opracowywane dokumenty obrazowe na nośnikach niestabilnych, to znaczy głównie szklane negatywy. W przypadku zwiększonego zainteresowania ze strony badaczy są digitalizowane i publikowane w Internecie także wybrane fotograficzne pozytywy. Najczęściej są to następujące gatunki materiałów: dokumentacja produkcji przemysłowej, weduty i panoramy na budynki firmowe, fasady i wnętrza zakładów produkcyjnych, dokumentacje niezwykłych wydarzeń (awarie, klęski żywiołowe, wypadki, urazy) oraz portrety osób.

**Słowa kluczowe:** Archiwum Ziemskie w Opawie, archiwum cyfrowe, fotografie, zespoły archiwalne, polonika fotograficzne, zespoły policyjne, fotografia kryminalistyczna, zespoły instytucji administracji państwowej, zespoły przedsiębiorstw, archiwa osobiste, zespoły towarzystw

Photographs in the funds and collections of the Land Archives in Opava (hereinafter as ZAO) are primarily of documentary purpose and value.<sup>1</sup> Photographic polonics in these archive files are not numerous and are often difficult to trace, especially in cases where the fund does not have a more detailed archival tool. Moreover, several important funds related to Czech-Polish relations in Austrian Silesia and adjacent regions unfortunately do not contain any photographic documents at all.<sup>2</sup> Photos are also not included in other modern-day funds, in which several documents in Polish language can be found.<sup>3</sup> On the other hand, they are found, for example, in “police” funds. Attractive examples of those are Policejní ředitelství Moravská Ostrava 1854-1945 (1959) [The Police Headquarters Moravská Ostrava] or Policie slezského vojvodství – okresní velitelství Cieszyn 1925–1938 [the Police of the Silesian Voivodeship – the district headquarters of Cieszyn].<sup>4</sup>

In the contents of the above-mentioned funds, it is also easier to find “pol-

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1 This text comes from the author’s presentation at symposium „Fotografia a rzeczywistość: między kreacją a reprodukcją“ held in October 2017 in Częstochowa.

2 For example in Land archives in Opava (hereinafter as ZAO): Fund Ústředí slezských sborů starostenských Orlová (1904) 1907–1934 (1941) [Silesian Mayor Corps Headquarters in Orlová]; Okresní národní výbor Orlová 1918–1919 [District National Committee in Orlová]; Mezinárodní správní komise Karviná (1916) 1920 [The International Administrative Commission of Karviná]; Zemská komise pro agrární operace ve Slezsku, Opava (1870) 1901–1927 [Land Commission for Agrarian Operations in Silesia, Opava]; Místní komisař pro agrární operace ve Slezsku, Opava 1895–1909 [Local Commissioner for Agrarian Operations in Silesia, Opava] or Evakuační komise Místek 1938–1939 [The evacuation committee in Místek].

3 In ZAO for example: Mezistranický výbor polských stran v Československu, Moravská Ostrava 1929–1934 [Inter-Party Committee of the Polish Parties in Czechoslovakia, Moravská Ostrava]; Polský pedagogický spolek ve Slezsku, Těšín 1902-1921 [Polish Pedagogical Society in Silesia, Těšín], Svaz polských spotřebních družstev ve Slezsku, Moravská Ostrava 1922–1938 [Union of Polish Consumer Cooperatives in Silesia, Moravská Ostrava]; KSČ - krajský výbor mládeže Moravská Ostrava 1925–1933 [Communist Party - Regional Youth Committee Moravská Ostrava]; Velkostatek Kyjovice 1623–1949 [Large Estate of Kyjovice]; Reitter Emerich a syn, přírodovědecký ústav, Opava (1869) 1920–1946 [Reitter Emerich and son, Institute of Natural Sciences in Opava]. Lists of funds do not include those administered by the Olomouc branch of the Land Archives in Opava.

4 Much less photographs associated with the territory of present-day Poland are in the funds of the administrative institutions. For example fund Zemská vláda slezská Opava (1747) 1850–1928 (1938) [The Provincial government of Silesia in Opava] contains photo documentation of the regulation of the border watercourses. In particular, it is an album of photographs from the regulation of the border river Olešnice near Zlaté Hory from 1909–1911 under inventory number 2640a.

onist” information in the evolving digital archive of the Land Archives in Opava, accessible at <http://digi.archives.cz>. This online archive accessory is available to researchers in the Czech, German, English and Polish language environments. However, the data itself is, of course, only in Czech (Figure 1).

A typical example of the fund, where many text and photographic information about people from today’s Polish territory can be found online, is the Police Headquarters Moravská Ostrava (hereinafter as “PŘMO”), where the presidential and federal agenda is made available in the form of a detailed catalogue, containing the abbreviated contents of individual documents. In the police collections, photographs are most often represented by identification portraits of watched or prosecuted persons – so-called mug shots (Figure 2, 10) – or field documentation from the investigation of incidents and crimes or from police reconstruction (Figure 3). In addition, there are situational views of crime spots in disputable matters (e.g. border incidents) or photocopies of important documents handed over to senior political institutions. Fund Policie slezského vojvodství, okresní velitelství Cieszyn [The Police of Silesian Voivodeship, the Cieszyn District Headquarters (shortly OVP Cieszyn)], then contains a similar material to the PŘMO. However, the content of individual writings to which portrait photographs are attached is not captured by registers (summaries of content), and the archive tool does not contain references to the presence of photographic material. However, this problem can be solved by digital cataloguing, i.e. digitization of photographs and adding information about them to the online application of the Digital Archives of ZAO.

The “hidden” picture polonics are also found in those archives where the photographs document topographically or personally the territory inhabited by the Poles. That is the case of, for example, the personal funds of Silesian politician Josef Koždoň 1897–1948 or the German archivist Rudolf Fitz (1839) 1905–1989. In Koždoň’s estate we can find many photographs documenting the Czechoslovak-Polish dispute over Těšínsko

and the role of the so-called “Šlonzáci/ Ślązacy” in this conflict.<sup>5</sup> Fitz’s personal fund includes series of pictures from Warsaw (Warszawa/Varšava) and Lwów (Lviv/Lvov/Lemberg), which are probably related to his deployment in archive management on the so-called General Gouvernement of the Second World War.<sup>6</sup>

Other sources of photographic polonics are the funds of associations, especially the documentation of Slezská Matice osvěty lidové [the Silesian National Association for Folk Education], based in Slezská Ostrava. Here we find documents collected by the information service of this association, giving information on the anti-Czech activities of Poles and Germans in Těšínsko (photographs, newspaper cuttings, leaflets, reports of suspected persons). Among the photographic material there are many footage of documenting nationally motivated attacks on buildings of Czech institutions, especially schools or memorials associated with Czech culture and history (e.g. in 1935 the monument of the Czech anthem in Kanská-Kanada). Further forms of provocation in public are documented here, such as mocking flyers and posters or the erection of the Polish flag on the territory of Czechoslovak part of Těšín Land.<sup>7</sup>

From “Socialist Era” funds, a very popular sporting theme is Československý svaz tělesné výchovy – krajský výbor Ostrava 1948–1990 [the Czechoslovak Union of Physical Education – the Regional Committee in Ostrava]. The vast fund documents not only all aspects of controlled physical education activities after 1950, such as planning and management of sports facilities or activities of individual sections according to sport disciplines, but also mass sport and “spartakiad events” (Figure 9) and international sports contacts. In particular, especially valuable are photographs of buildings and sport objects, athletes and documentary photographs of sporting events and matches, including international ones. A typical example of the still undocumented picture polonics is the content of several important corporate funds, especially the content of special-

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5 ZAO, fund Koždoň Josef, inv. no. 73, Archive box 47.

6 ZAO, fund Fitz Rudolf, Inv. no. 336, Sign. 227.

7 ZAO, fund Slezská matice osvěty lidové Slezská Ostrava [Silesian National Association for Folk Education in Slezská Ostrava], Inv. no. 463, Archive box no. 65.

ized documentation collections of industrial plants. The most significant collection of this type is the *Sbírka fotografického materiálu Třineckých železáren, s. p. Třinec, 1871–1991* [Collection of photographic material of the Ironworks in Třinec] with several thousands of units, which is largely described and digitized. It documents the development of the Ironworks in Třinec, especially the area of investment construction, technical development, production and metallurgical equipment. The collection captures, as with other corporate funds, a wide range of products. The photographic negatives and positives show also the daily life of the metallurgists in the “Werk” (work shots of individual operations, workers’ group, pictures from expert conferences, several visits to the Ironworks, from important celebrations, footage from holiday centres). The town of Třinec and Třinec region were visibly remarked by The Ironworks as it became an integral part, influencing all the aspects of life. This is shown in the collection by footage from the construction of the city as well as from the area of culture and sport.

Many of the documentary collections, especially for the second half of the 20th century, are still partially or completely disorganized. Since the characteristics of the language of these archival collections are primarily based on the texts of the documents, the insufficiently described and determined photographic documentation is not taken into account from a linguistic point of view. It is often possible to find a connection with the language Polish environment only from the inscriptions captured in the photograph, for example in the *Moravskoslezská vozovka Studénka, 1928-1945* [Moravian-Silesian wagon works in Studénka] (Figure 5-6) or in *Sbírka fotodesek Tatra, kombinát Kopřivnice 1890–1990* [Collection of Tatra photo plates, Kopřivnice co-plant].<sup>8</sup> The ZAO digital archive, however, allows, if it is expedient, to publish photographic archives, regardless of the status of the funds and collections in which they are located. The archive thus gains valuable feedback from researchers and the general

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<sup>8</sup> In this fund, we find, for example, pictures of railway wagons for passenger transport ordered from Lodz in the Russian occupation-part of Poland. ZAO, *Sbírka fotodesek Tatra, kombinát Kopřivnice*, [Collection of Tatra photo plates, Kopřivnice co-plant], Sequence number 6.1.

public. One example is the publication of a photo album of Válcovny kovů in Moravská Ostrava in 1933 [the Metal Welding Plant in Moravská Ostrava] in the Digital Archives of the ZAO. Although the photo album is stored in the unprocessed part of the fund, it is still accessible online and we can find here, for example, photographs of a branch of the company in Dziedzice, Poland (Figure 7). In some cases, the valuable, but insufficiently described photo files are digitized, which will be provided by the ZAO Digital Archive for field experts to increase the likelihood of additional identification. In addition to simply publishing the digitized image, the digital archive also allows sending a permanent link (a permalink) to a photographic document or a thematic selection link (a searchlink). An example of this is the online publication of several dozen photos of the owners and production sites of Mathias Salcher and sons in Bílovec, including a press agency documenting the participation of the Jablunkov/Jablonków branch at the Poznań Trade Fair in 1939 (Figure 8).

At present, several thousand image documents are preferentially digitized as they are on fragile and unstable media, especially glass photographic negatives and slides. A large proportion of plastic negative plates and slides on glass or plastic are also scanned. The following genres appear here: documentation of industrial production, company visions and panoramas, exteriors and interiors of production facilities, documentation of extraordinary events (accidents, natural disasters, accidents and injuries) and portraits of persons. It can be assumed that these sources will expand the content of the online database “Fotografické dokumenty (obrazové) / Dokumenty fotograficzne (obrazowe) / Photographic (visual) documents” within the digital archive of ZAO in the coming months and years. In the case of increased research interest, selected photographic positives on a paper pad will also be digitized and published.

## **Bibliografia**

Zemský archiv v Opavě / Landarchives in Opava  
fund Policejní ředitelství Moravská Ostrava 1854–1945 (1959) [The Po-

- lice Headquarters Moravská Ostrava]
- fund Policie slezského vojvodství – okresní velitelství Cieszyn 1925–1938  
[the Police of the Silesian Voivodeship – the district headquarters of  
Cieszyn]
- fund Zemská vláda slezská Opava (1747) 1850–1928 (1938) [The Provin-  
cial government of Silesia in Opava]
- fund Moravkoslezská vozovka (vagonka) Studénka [Moravian-Silesian  
wagon works in Studénka]
- fund Salcher Mathias a synové, a.s. Bílovec 1850–1946 [Salcher Mathias  
and Sons, Bílovec]
- fund Válcovny kovů in Moravská Ostrava in 1933 [the Metal Welding  
Plant in Moravská Ostrava]
- Sbírka fotografického materiálu Třineckých železáren, s. p. Třinec, 1871–  
1991 [Collection of photographic material of the Ironworks in Třinec]
- Sbírka fotodesek Tatra, kombinát Koprivnice 1890–1990 [Collection of  
Tatra photo plates, Koprivnice co-plant]

### Summary

This article focuses on selected funds and documentation collections of the Land Archives in Opava (without its branch in Olomouc and subordinate district archives), where photographs geographically or personally connected with Poland can be found. Particular examples of individual types of archive units containing photographic polonics are gradually listed. At the same time, there is a description of how these photographs are or will be presented in the application accessing the online digitized archive resources of the Land Archives in Opava.

### Key words:

Land Archives in Opava, digital archives, photographs, archive funds, photographic polonics (ie. photographs showing the Poles or territory inhabited by Poles), police funds, criminalistic photographs, funds and collections of state administration institutions, corporate funds, personal funds, association funds



The screenshot shows the digital archive interface. The search bar contains 'foto' and 'polsk'. The results list several records, including:

- KRAJSKÝ VÝBOR ČESKOSLOVENSKÉHO SVAZU TĚLESNÉ YČHOVY V OSTR...** • NAD 799 • č. pom. 717 • inv. č. 1225 1954-1963
- KRAJSKÝ VÝBOR ČESKOSLOVENSKÉHO SVAZU TĚLESNÉ YČHOVY V OSTR...** • NAD 799 • č. pom. 717 • inv. č. 1234 1956-1957
- RUDOLF FITZ (1839)1905 - 1989** • NAD 373 • č. pom. 1494 • inv. č. 329 • sig. 227 1932
- OBCHOVNÍ A ŽIVNOSTENSKÁ KOMORA OPAVA. OCHRANNÉ ZN...** • NAD 36 • č. pom. 1434 • inv. č. 1884 • sig. XV a 1 1935
- POLICEJNÍ ŘEDITELSTVÍ V MORAVSKÉ OSTRAVĚ - SV. II/1. PRESL...** • NAD 67 • č. pom. 875 • inv. č. 744 • sig. 3229 1897
- POLICEJNÍ ŘEDITELSTVÍ V MORAVSKÉ OSTRAVĚ - SV. II/1. PRESL...** • NAD 67 • č. pom. 875 • inv. č. 7138 • sig. 199 1913
- POLICEJNÍ ŘEDITELSTVÍ V MORAVSKÉ OSTRAVĚ - SV. II/1. PRESL...** • NAD 67 • č. pom. 875 • inv. č. 7708 • sig. 468 1915

The right sidebar contains filters for 'TYLKO Z DIGITALIZOVANÝMI ZALÁČNÍKAMI', 'BAZY DANYCH', 'ARCHIVA', 'DATY I MIEJSCA', and 'SZCZEGÓŁOWY FILTR JEDNOSTEK INWENTARZOWYCH'.

1. Example of full-text search in the Polish-language version of the Digital Archives of the Land Archives in Opava (hereinafter as DA ZAO) – given the roots of the Czech words „foto” and „polsk” into the browser



2. Viktor Bałanda from Lvov, student of law at Krakow’s university and socialist agitator in the Ostrava region. Identity portrait of the person prosecuted in 1896, made by the state authorities in Krakow. Technique: using the mirror placed above the right-hand shoulder of the portraited person, the front (en face) and profile viewing is achieved in one image. (ZAO, fund Policzejnı ředitelství Moravská Ostrava [Police Headquarters Moravská Ostrava] archive box no. 89, Signature 3249)



3. Consulate of the Republic of Poland in Moravian Ostrava in 1930 - a photograph taken in connection with communist protests against the then political regime in Poland (ZAO, fond Policejní ředitelství Moravská Ostrava [Police Headquarters Moravská Ostrava], archive box no. 310, Signature 1679)



4. The Polish forester Jan Delong of Orlová was tried for the anti-Czech riots in Těšín by the Regional Court in Moravská Ostrava in November 1935 - reportage photo from the court hearing (ZAO, fond Policejní ředitelství Moravská Ostrava [Police Headquarters Moravská Ostrava], archive box no. 408, Signature 1/22)



5. Railway wagon produced by the Moravian-Silesian road (railway wagon) in Studénka for the Galician market - glass negative scan and the same film published on the DA ZAO registration card in the Polish language environment (ZAO, fund MSV Studénka, Inv. No. 197, Signature 4)

Archiwum cyfrowe Archiwum Ziemięskiego w Opawie

ZNALEZIONE REKORDY PRZEGLĄDANY REKORD PRZEGLĄDANIE INWENTARZA

INWENTARZ (ELEKTRONICZNY) Archiwum Ziemięskiego w Opawie

Nazwa: MORAWSKOSZLESZKÁ VOZOVKA, AKCIOVÁ SPOLEČNOST STUDÉNKA (1900)1928 1945(1953)

Numer inwentarza: 56/1 Zakres czasowy: (1900) 1928 - 1945 (1953)

261 Całkiem : 2 193

ROZDZIAŁ: y, jiny materiál b) Fotosezálor Nákladní voz

Numer: 197

Inwentarzowy: 4

Signatura: 4

Zakres czasowy: (1900) pr

Zawartość: Kotlejový vůz 2-náprav. 14200 litrů typu "R", 18x24 cm, zach.

Uwagi: Pol.č. 2

Data aktualizacji: 2014-04-10 13:16:51

MORAWSKOSZLESZKÁ VOZOVKA, AKCIOVÁ SPOLEČNOST S...  
NAD 928 • č. pom. 56/1 | (1900) 1928 - 1945 (1...  
Moravskoslezská vozovka, a.s. Studénka • NAD 928  
MSV Studénka | (1900) 1928 - 1945 (1...

Zawartość inwentarza

I. Úřední knihy | 1

1. Správní knihy | 2

2. Provozní knihy | 19

II. Spisový materiál | 39

1. Spisy | 40

a) vedení a správa | 41

b) ránkřiznací | 108

6. Railway wagon produced by the Moravian-Silesian road (railway wagon) in Studénka for the Galician market - glass negative scan and the same film published on the DA ZAO registration card in the Polish language environment (ZAO, fund MSV Studénka, Inv. No. 197, Signature 4)



7. View of the metal rolling mill in Dziedzice from the south (ZAO, the unsorted fond of Válcovny kovů, a.s. Moravská Ostrava-Prívov 1851–1945 [Metal Welding Factory, Moravská Ostrava-Prívov])



8. Trade Fair in Poznań / Międzynarodowe Targi Poznańskie – Presentation of MASSAG Branch in Jablunkov, 1938–1939 (ZAO, fund Salcher Mathias a synové, a.s. Bílovec [Salcher Mathias and Sons, Bílovec], Inv. No. 435)



9. Shot of the Spartakiad 23rd May 1965 in Trinec, when the procession arrived at the stadium Borek (ZAO, Sbirka fotografického materiálu Trineckých železáren, s.p. Trinec 1871-1991 [Collection of photographic material of Trinec Ironworks], Sign. 179, serial number 9-05)



10. Identity photographs according to the principles of the criminologist Alphonse Bertillon (the so-called mug shot), a picture of the Těšín barber Jan Krupa, arrested in summer of 1936 on the border bridge for spying in favor of Czechoslovakia. In 1937 he was sentenced to eight years in prison. (ZAO, fund Policie slezského vojvodství, okresní velitelství Cieszyn [Police of Silesian Voivodeship, Cieszyn District Headquarters], archive box no. 8, Inv. No. 57)