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Historical ruin of a medieval castle – proposal of methodology for comprehensive monument analysis

Abstract

The development of civilisation and the changing needs of users have meant that most historic buildings have lost their original function and have begun to deteriorate as a result of lack of use. For this reason, structures preserved in the form of ruins require a comprehensive approach to solving their conservation, technical and architectural problems.

The article presents the author's method of analysing a ruined building, which takes into account a number of decision-making factors that form the basis for evaluating the structure and determining its further treatment. The proposed analysis is presented from the perspective of a conservationist and is intended to be a comprehensive compilation of knowledge about the monument.

The author emphasises the significance of castle ruins as an important group of monuments that can provide a wealth of information about the history and culture of a site. However, there is currently no standard for analysing and collecting data that is crucial for the preservation of the site. The creation of such a document is therefore an extremely important issue.

Key words: historic ruin, castle, cultural heritage, analysis, survey

Introduction

Reflecting on the history and heritage of our past often leads to the study of castle ruins, which are visible signs of our long history [1]. There are many remains of ancient castles and fortresses in Europe, which are exceptional architectural masterpieces. They are historic defensive structures with high walls, crenellated battlements and distinctive towers, built mainly in the Middle Ages [2]. Castle ruins are not only a physical testimony to the passing of time and changing civilisations [3], but also a key element of national and regional identity. They are living relics of the past that have acquired their significance both from historical facts and from the meanings attributed to them by the societies that surround and use them [4].

These fortified complexes played a dual role, functioning both as residences and defensive fortresses. They were

also symbols of the power, military might and social prestige of their owners [2]. They were once places at the centre of political, social and economic life, and today they constitute a valuable historical and cultural resource that allows us to understand and appreciate our past [3]. As civilisation developed and the needs of users changed, most historic buildings lost their original function. As a result, they began to deteriorate through lack of use [5]. Their function has changed over the centuries and some of them have been irreversibly destroyed by human activity or natural environmental processes [6].

A growing interest in medieval castle ruins can be observed both in Poland and internationally. This phenomenon is part of a wider trend towards recognition of the importance of cultural heritage and its value for modern societies [7]. This issue has been taken up many times, including in the activities of the Polish National Committee of ICOMOS. There are many publications on the topic of permanent ruins, which present a very broad approach to their protection, management and use. The international RUIINS project, in which 6 European countries participated, came to an end in 2020. Its aim was to create international

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standards for the use, management and protection of medieval ruins in Central Europe [8].

With increasing attention being paid to the conservation and presentation of such sites to the public, there is a need to develop a more systematic approach to the analysis and interpretation of these important heritage resources [7]. It is therefore necessary to develop a method of analysis of a ruined site to initiate the discussion of conservation decisions and the continued use of a castle ruin, incorporating a range of decision factors as a basis for evaluating the site, determining further protection and better management of these sites [9].

Methodology and objectives

The aim of this article is to consider, from a conservator's perspective, whether it is possible to specify a process for selecting the future form of a ruined castle. The article focuses on the creation of a model for the analysis of medieval castle ruins. It is a programmatic article that aims to identify the fundamental factors that will support the process of selecting a conservation approach to deal with a monument. This analysis is intended to be useful to those involved in the conservation of monuments and to be used for discussion by the conservation community. As a holistic but concise study, it is intended to provide the basis for an informed and scientifically based prioritisation of the conservation treatment of historic ruins.

The purpose of the analysis presented in this article is to collect and present information about the ruin in a clear manner. By presenting the data in tabular form, a comparative analysis can be carried out once a larger number of monuments have been surveyed. This will make it possible to select the most valuable ruins and, in the next stage, to choose the best way of treating (protecting) them.

The article is the author's proposal of a model for analysing a historical castle ruin. It is based on:

- the analysis of literature sources on the reuse of historical ruins,
- the analysis of the author's own studies on the implementation of strategies for the protection of structures in a state of ruin.

The conservation theory approach to a ruin

According to conservation doctrines, a ruin is treated as a full-fledged monument with autonomous values [10]. There are several doctrinal documents relating to ruins and the reconstruction of monuments. Different doctrines apply depending on the type of structure, its varying condition and the nature of the damage. International regulations and guidelines explicitly discourage the reconstruction of incomplete buildings [11]. Documents developed by ICOMOS and UNESCO provide general guidelines for contemporary interventions on historic buildings [12] and define criteria for their analysis. Their aim is to preserve for future generations the historic value, integrity and, above all, authenticity of monuments, subject to certain limitations.

The preservation of a structure in the form of the so-called "permanent ruin" derives mainly from the principles

formulated by John Ruskin in the mid-19th century, when a non-interventionist attitude towards ruins prevailed [13]. The theory promoted by Ruskin gave rise to the English school of ruin conservation, although its origins go back much further. Its assumptions are mainly based on stopping the process of destruction of ruins and preserving them as they have survived to the present day. Only the necessary work can be carried out on the site, excluding reconstruction. All interventions are aimed at strengthening the structure and substance without altering the form of the ruin, as well as preserving the face of the wall and securing its crown. Interventions are mainly limited to cleaning and deconstruction of the monument. For the English school of ruin conservation, the question of exposing the ruin is important.

There are now common standards, documents and international charters that European countries can follow when dealing with ruins. These relate primarily to respect for the authenticity and integrity of the building [14].

The dominant approach is derived from the Venice Charter [15], which is also referred to in the Polish programme declarations [16]. The Operational Guidelines for the UNESCO Convention Concerning the Protection of the World Cultural and Natural Heritage [17] describe issues concerning the reconstruction of monuments with regard to their authenticity. They specify that the reconstruction of the remains of historic buildings is possible only in extraordinary situations and allowed only on the basis of complete documentation. It is not possible to make reconstructions on the basis of conjecture. The Amsterdam Declaration [18] states that the assignment of new functions to historic buildings should be undertaken in a responsible and carefully considered manner in order to preserve the historic and architectural value of the building.

Another document relating to ruins is the Dresden Declaration [19]. It refers to the restoration of monuments destroyed by war and demonstrates the need to document monuments as a means of ensuring their protection in the event of conflict, while also drawing attention to the causes and methods of restoration.

The Burra Charter [20], as revised in 2013, recommends an approach to the preservation and conservation of ruins that involves minimal interference with their original structure and context, while maintaining their integrity and heritage value. According to the document, the approach to ruins should include the management of their historic environment so that their historical and cultural context is preserved and understood by visitors. Ruins should also be protected from further deterioration and destruction through the use of appropriate conservation and preservation techniques.

Another document is *Ruins: A guide to conservation and management*, developed by the Australian Government Department of the Environment and Energy [21] to provide advice on the conservation and management of historic ruins in Australia. It includes a description of the issues associated with the conservation and management of ruins, including preservation, restoration, protection from human activity and environmental impacts. The document also provides practical advice and recommendations for

making decisions about the conservation and management of ruins, including how to make them accessible to the public and tourists to protect them from harm, while allowing them to be enjoyed in a responsible and sustainable way.

The main principles of action for historic ruins are set out in a policy document, the Charter for the Protection of Historic Ruins [10], adopted by PKN ICOMOS in 2012. This document states that the appropriate form of protection for historic ruins is to maintain them as so-called “permanent ruins”. The basic assumption derived from the above-mentioned document regarding the conduct of any action on historic monuments is their reversibility and distinguishability from the historic substance, while maintaining harmony with the surroundings. The form of a historical ruin is an overriding value, and any intervention should not lead to a change in its significance in the landscape.

Another document is the Warsaw Recommendation on the Restoration of Cultural Heritage Destroyed by Armed Conflict and Natural Disasters [22], which is an international policy document. It contains a complete set of rules and guidelines for the process of rebuilding cities and reconstructing historic buildings or sites that have been destroyed by wars or natural disasters.

A relatively recent document that also addresses dilapidated sites is the 2023 study by the German Federal Institute of Research on Building, Urban Affairs and Spatial Development entitled *Resilience and cultural heritage in urban development* [23]. This document focuses on the integration of risk management in the protection of cultural heritage in cities. It highlights the importance of an integrated approach to risk management and heritage protection, particularly in the context of increasing risks such as climate change and armed conflict, as well as risks from natural disasters such as floods and fires. The document highlights the need for cooperation between different factors and to treat cultural heritage as a resource contributing to urban resilience. Special emphasis is placed on the assessment and management of risks related to climate change and urbanisation, using as an example the medieval ruins in the town of Tønsberg, including the ruins of “Tunsberghus” castle.

The doctrinal documents presented above are characterised by a rather radical approach to reach. Nowadays, there is a growing departure from orthodoxy. There is an increasing number of buildings in the world that are deliberately destroyed during wars or by natural factors such as earthquakes. A ruin is considered to be of no use or aesthetic value. Owners of buildings and local authorities strive for the complete or partial restoration of monuments. In addition, there is also pressure from the public, who believe that these buildings should be reduced to a more commercial function.

Historic building analysis

There is still no model developed in conservation theory for the analysis of a historical building in order to determine its values (tangible and intangible) [24]. This is important because the lack of standardisation of this type of

documentation leads to significant discrepancies between the materials collected and analysed. In order to carry out detailed research, it is necessary to use various sources of information, including historical documents, photographs, maps, conservation studies and other materials. Artur Kwaśniewski has also tried to create a methodology for analysing a historical building. He also points out the importance of the stage of the analysis of the value of a historical building in the whole research process related to the planning of its preservation and adaptation. His proposal is based on a three-stage, four-aspect analysis. The proposed model of analysis refers to the cultural heritage in general and strictly to the planning of the process of conservation, adaptation and promotion [25]. Unlike Kwaśniewski, the analysis presented in this article relates only to a small group of monuments that are castle ruins and aims to identify the most important features/values of the site.

As part of the research project “Castles in Ruins – Principles of Conservation Practice” (Research project No. NN527 205839 funded from the science budget in 2010–2012 by Warsaw University of Technology and Lublin University of Technology), a “Charter of a Castle in Ruins” was developed. It was intended to provide a comprehensive documentation of the building in ruins, covering both the general characteristics of the building, its architecture and technical issues. Its scope is extremely broad and the development of this charter required cooperation of many specialists. The main aim of the Charter was to collect material that would provide a comprehensive documentation as a basis for decisions regarding the conservation of the site, assuming that the site is maintained as a permanent ruin. However, the charter has not been widely used.

A commonly used system for heritage assessment today is MCDM (Multiple Criteria Decision Making), or multi-criteria analysis. The term MCDM is used for all methods and techniques that involve more than one conflicting criterion used by decision makers to arrive at a preference [26]. There are many types of MCDM (e.g., AHP, ANP, ELECTRE, PROMETHEE) and the choice of the appropriate method depends on the specifics of the problem and the preferences and needs of the decision maker.

To date, there is no single universally accepted model for multi-criteria analysis applied to historic buildings [27]. Multi-criteria analysis supports the evaluation and identification of strategies to transform and adapt sites to contemporary functions. Multi-criteria analysis is a method of evaluating and comparing alternatives in which several attributes are considered simultaneously [28]. These attributes are sometimes referred to as “objectives” or “decision criteria”. They are based on defining criteria that include both tangible and intangible aspects and determining their relative importance to each other [29].

The characteristics selected for analysis are based on the knowledge and experience of conservation and heritage professionals, and on consultation with all stakeholders, such as owners, the local community, investors and public policy makers [30]. The criteria included in the analysis can cover many aspects, both tangible and intangible [27], and are tailored to the purpose for which they are intended. Multi-criteria analysis allows all these factors to be considered

more objectively and comprehensively when making decisions about the adaptation of historic buildings. The aim of multi-criteria analysis is to find the best solution that satisfies all the required criteria, and to select the option that best meets the needs and conservation requirements of the monument. MCDA methods are used to make a comparative assessment of alternative solutions [30].

Multi-criteria analyses often use a scoring system for each of the criteria. Scoring allows for a more objective and accurate comparison of different options and the selection of the best option. Each criterion is scored on a pre-determined scale, and the scores for each option are added together to determine the best option. The scoring process can be supported by IT and mathematical tools that allow more accurate and faster calculation of results.

Complex analysis of the historical castle ruin

One method of preserving historic ruins is to protect them in the form of a “permanent ruin”. From a conservation point of view, this is the correct way to protect a historic ruin. However, practical and technical aspects show that the maintenance of a permanent ruin is highly problematic. An example of this is the deliberate omission of roof structures in ruined castles in order to preserve the authenticity of the buildings. In the context of the Lipowiec Castle in Babice and the Helfštýn Castle in Týn nad Bečvou, the “permanent ruin” approach to conservation involves a conscious decision not to reconstruct the roofs of the castle wings and towers. This decision, while respecting the historical authenticity and aesthetics of the ruins, may lead to long-term maintenance problems for these structures. The lack of roofing means that the structures are directly exposed to weather conditions such as rain, snow and frost, which can accelerate the processes of erosion and deterioration of the building material. The decision to maintain these structures as “permanent ruins” without roofs is a step towards protecting their historical value, but it also poses conservation challenges and restrictions on their use. The cost of maintenance and conservation work is usually higher than the income generated by making the site available for tourism. A permanent ruin is not socially acceptable due to its lack of utilitarian qualities, low tourist attractiveness and problems in reading the architectural form [31]. The views of local government officials, regional activists and tourists themselves differ significantly from those of conservationists. Rebuilding or new construction of this type of building is a condition desired by the public [32].

The preservation of such buildings is extremely important as they are valuable witnesses to history. Castle ruins have long since lost their original function, so various interventions are needed to maintain the site and keep it functioning. The preservation of the architectural heritage includes its continued use. It is also closely linked to constant monitoring of the state of the building, regular maintenance and ensuring the safety of users [33]. Re-use, by giving the ruins a new function in relation to the current spatial context, is the only way to preserve a monument and it can contribute to achieving a balance between economic,

environmental and socio-cultural development [34]. Sometimes it is also necessary to add new volumes to a ruin [29]. However, the most desirable condition is their reconstruction [33], [35]. In 2017, in line with the idea of restoring cubic forms to ruins, the intention to rebuild the castles of Kazimierz Wielki [Casimir III the Great] appeared in Poland. These are not new ideas, as they were already in existence at the beginning of the 20th century, and some of them have already been partially realized.

In order to avoid undocumented reconstruction and the falsification of history, it is necessary to compile all information into a single document. Therefore, a comprehensive analysis of a historical ruin is extremely important and requires a certain amount of systematisation. The adaptation process of architectural heritage buildings is extremely complex. It should be preceded by a broad recognition of the site, which will include various types of issues that affect both the conservation of the site and the realisation of its social, economic and cultural potential. The increase in tourism, the adaptation of the ruins to current standards of use and the introduction of new functions not only involve the adaptation of existing elements for visitors, but often also the design of new volumes within the historic site.

This analysis is therefore concerned with features and factors that affect the future of the site, but which have been shaped in the past as well as in the present. It includes these aspects because, taken together, they provide a broader view of the site. It is important for the planning and conservation process, as it allows the identification of further opportunities for its protection and conservation, and the selection of an appropriate direction for its revitalisation and development. The analysis provides a holistic view of the property in a synthetic manner. This information, which makes a case for the structure’s conservation, serves as a basis for further discussion and debate about the building’s future.

The analysis of a building is crucial to its understanding and protection, as it allows the value and conservation needs of monuments to be accurately determined. A comprehensive analysis should be carried out by conservation experts.

With relevance and temporal reference in mind, as shown in Figure 1, the analysis of the criteria for assessing a historic ruin was divided into three main factors:

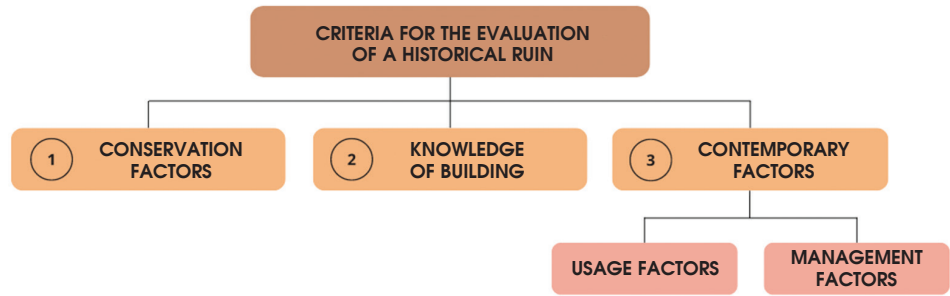
1. Conservation factors.
2. Knowledge of the building.
3. Contemporary factors.

These factors, assigned to each group, are different in nature. They are all important for the full understanding, conservation and appropriate use of historic ruins as important cultural heritage. They reflect the three main aspects that need to be considered when managing a heritage site: the practical aspects of conservation, the historical and cultural understanding of the site, and current contextual issues.

The selection of factors for the historical analysis of castle ruins was based on the analysis of various materials on different castle ruins. It is also the result of an improved form of presentation of information about the monument, used by the author to prepare studies on conservation strategies for castle ruins.

Fig. 1. Criteria for the evaluation of a historical ruin (elaborated by K. Drobek)

II. 1. Kryteria oceny ruin historycznych (oprac. K. Drobek)



Conservation factors

The first part of the analysis, dealing with conservation factors, is crucial because it focuses on the value of the ruin as a historical work. This part is crucial because it allows for an in-depth understanding of the monument and the identification of the most important elements for its preservation.

Table 1 presents the elements related to the arguments of the monument, i.e., the factors that are absolutely related to the building under discussion. The conservation factors provide a basis for identifying the most important elements to be protected. It allows the historical, morphological, material and technological aspects of the fabric to be studied. The ruin is presented as a valuable educational and comparative tool, and the study of these remains can provide important information about their construction.

This information is the key to defining appropriate conservation and design strategies.

Knowledge of the structure

The second part of the analysis presented in Table 2 concerns factors related to knowledge of the structure. It refers primarily to the quantity and quality of information available about the historic ruin. Any information about the documentation of the site and its research (archaeological, conservation, architectural, etc.) helps to increase knowledge about the building. This is particularly important in the case of work on the monument and planned reconstructions of the ruin, which should be based on the research carried out on the site. The availability of this information is crucial in order to make the right decisions regarding the conservation and presentation of the ruin as a cultural heritage

Table 1. Criteria for the evaluation of a historic castle ruin regarding conservation factors (elaborated by K. Drobek)
Tabela 1. Kryteria oceny zabytkowej ruiny zamku w nawiązaniu do czynników konserwatorskich (oprac. K. Drobek)

Criteria for the evaluation of a historical castle ruin		
Conservation factors	authenticity	defined as the current representation of a structure’s original form (state of preservation of the historic substance) from the time of its construction, showing its history
	integrity	defined as the homogeneity of the monument and whether the structure is fragmenting, as well as how much authentic substance has been lost and what has been recently added to it
	value of the building	defined as the cultural, historical or artistic significance that the building has. The value of a listed building derives from its association with the past, history, culture, science or art. It may be related to a specific historical period, exceptional artistic value or rarity of the structure
	primary status of the building/ former status of the building	defined as the level of historical, artistic and scientific significance that the site had when it was built
	structure related to the terrain and location of the building	defined as the spatial form of the site related to its location (e.g., lowlands, hills, mountains)
	size of the building	defined as the space inside and outside the castle walls
	historical function	determining the function, role and significance of a monument in the context of past events
	contemporary function	defined as the function that a monument has today. In the case of monuments, this may include museum, residential, commercial, tourist, cultural, educational or scientific functions
	historic form	defined as the original form of a structure and any changes to its form over the centuries
	state of preservation	defined as the state of preservation of the historical substance of a building in relation to its original form; it includes an assessment of its structural integrity, the originality of its materials and components, and the state of preservation of its decoration and architectural details
	historical material	the material of construction of the building

Table 2. Criteria for the evaluation of a historical castle ruin regarding knowledge of the castle ruin (elaborated by K. Drobek)
Tabela 2. Kryteria oceny historycznej ruiny zamku dotyczące wiedzy na temat ruiny zamku (oprac. K. Drobek)

Criteria for the evaluation of a historical castle ruin		
Knowledge of the structure	monument documentation	the type of archival material present (e.g., iconographic sources, photographs, illustrations, historical descriptive documentation and conservation documentation relating to the site)
	monument rebuilding/ extension phases	defined as the changes in structure, form and function that the monument has gone through over the centuries
	research and conservation work conducted on the monument	documented research and conservation work they had on the site
	impact of previous conservation work/additions/adaptations to the current state	identification of the impact of the works carried out on the site and how they have improved the conservation status of the monument or had a negative impact on its condition. In the case of the addition of new elements, it is also important to consider whether the reversibility of the conservation work carried out has been ensured
	technical condition of the structure	refers to the overall physical and functional condition of the structure

site. Without comprehensive knowledge of a structure, it is difficult to take effective action to protect and conserve the building. This includes information on the effectiveness of the measures taken to protect it from deterioration and the quality of the conservation work carried out.

Contemporary factors

The final, third part of the analysis presented in Table 3 relates to contemporary factors associated with the present and future use of the site. It includes all the variables that influence the perception and use of historic ruins in the contemporary social, cultural and economic context. The factors related to contemporary conditions are further divided into two parts, namely usage factors and management factors. Usage factors, in the case of this analysis, are intended to indicate the current use of the site. They include information about the space, its adaptation to tourism and its potential in this area. It is also important to remember that the surroundings of the site are an integral part of the castle ruin. All the spaces around the building, i.e., squares, parks, gardens, are important in terms of use considerations. It is also necessary to take into account issues related to supporting infrastructure, such as car parking.

Management factors (mainly ownership issues) have a significant impact on the protection and preservation. They also affect the availability of funds for its maintenance and conservation. The financial issues are clearly different for private and public ownership. First and foremost, this affects the issue of raising funds for the maintenance of the monument. If there is an appropriate manager, he or she will be able to obtain funding for the monument.

Compared to the previous two parts of the analysis, the factors identified as contemporary can be volatile. They also present challenges in terms of maintaining authenticity and an authentic visitor experience. It is important to consider these factors in order to balance heritage conservation with meeting contemporary public needs and interests.

These factors, assigned to each group, are different in nature. They are all important for the full understanding, conservation and appropriate use of historic ruins as important

cultural heritage. They reflect the three main aspects that need to be considered when managing a heritage site: the practical aspects of conservation, the historical and cultural understanding of the site, and current contextual issues.

Application of the analysis model

This analysis aims to structure the information and knowledge about the building. It presents a variety of arguments concerning the monument. It is made from the point of view of the conservator, who is authorised to make decisions on the protection of the monument. For this reason, the data concerning the preservation of the historical element should be given priority. They are arguments for the protection of the building and provide a basis for further discussion about the future of the monument. This material should be used extensively when presenting proposals for action at the site and for discussion in the wider community (e.g., with stakeholders).

The model for the analysis of structures in the form of a ruin presented in this article does not give value to the particular arguments. It is used as an analytical method to help understand and organise all the criteria, which are the same for every historical ruin. Each of these criteria is applicable to any medieval castle ruin. Only the amount of information included will vary. The system deliberately does not assign a value to the arguments and stops before scoring because it is extremely difficult to compare the data. It is not possible to give a weighting to each of the factors, as they are numerous and very different in nature. There are several main reasons for this approach:

1. Difficulty in comparing data: Ruin sites often vary considerably in their characteristics, size, state of preservation, historical significance, and other aspects. As a result, comparing them using standard criteria can be extremely difficult and inaccurate. In addition, it will be completely biased to evaluate, for example, sites that may be of great regional significance but of much lesser value at the national level.

2. A multitude of factors: The analysis of buildings in the form of ruins requires consideration of a wide range of

Table 3. Criteria for the evaluation of a historic castle ruin in relation to the contemporary conditions of the site (elaborated by K. Drobek)
Tabela 3. Kryteria oceny zabytkowej ruiny zamku w odniesieniu do współczesnych uwarunkowań obiektu (oprac. K. Drobek)

Criteria for the evaluation of a historical castle ruin			
Contemporary factors	usage factors	location	identify the location of the monument in its closest surroundings; location of the monument in relation to other places, such as the nearest urban centre, neighbourhood, river, etc.; in addition a description of the location in its historical context
		surrounding area	definition of the site's surroundings in the context of the surrounding landscape, urban layout and other elements influencing the perception of the monument and the relationship of the site to its surroundings
		accessibility	defining information on the accessibility of the site, e.g., whether it is easily accessible to tourists and how to get to it (connection to roads, public transport, etc.)
		immediate surroundings of the site	defined as the adaptation of the immediate environment to accommodate its wider use, including the supporting infrastructure that is key to making the ruins accessible to the wider public, such as squares, car parks and green spaces
		volumes	defined as historic and contemporary indoor spaces (rooms) that allow for the introduction of functions and the organisation of exhibition and technical facilities
		open spaces	defined as open areas that can be used for outdoor activities (e.g., courtyards, castle forecourts) to enhance local heritage or tourism
		use and development of the building with an evaluation of the impact on the monument	identification of the potential effects that may arise from activities related to the use and development of the site on the heritage value
		tourist accessibility	defined as the degree of accessibility for tourism and the elements available to visitors, taking into account, among other things, footpaths, information boards, whether the facility is adapted for people with reduced mobility
		functional-adaptive potential	defined as the capacity of a monument to be used and adapted to new functions while retaining its historic and architectural value
		social conditions	defined as the significance of the monument for the local community and the general public, taking into account its role as a symbol, source of knowledge, place of worship and tourist attraction
	management factors	state of preservation	defined as the state of preservation of the historical substance of a building in relation to its original form; it includes an assessment of its structural integrity, the originality of its materials and components, and the state of preservation of its decoration and architectural details
historical material		the material of construction of the building	

factors that may affect their value. These may include historical and cultural value, condition, location, restoration potential, as well as aspects of current value.

3. Variability over time: The valuation of buildings in the form of ruins can change over time. The state of preservation and historic value may change due to natural factors, human actions or other events. This makes a standardised approach to valuation even more difficult.

4. Subjectivity of evaluation: The evaluation of ruins can depend heavily on the individual preferences, experience and knowledge of the person making the evaluation. A particular site may be a valuable monument to one person, but of less importance to another.

Given the above factors, it is understandable that the model presented avoids attempting to give specific values or scores. This can lead to significant simplifications and misinterpretations. By analysing the ruin using this model, the focus can be on providing as much information as possible about the site. This allows users to make their own

assessment and evaluation, taking into account their own priorities and understanding.

Of course, regardless of the model used, the analysis of ruin sites will always remain challenging and requires a balanced approach that takes into account the multifaceted nature of these sites. Thanks to its comprehensive and thorough nature, it allows the creation of a detailed picture of the monument, which enables its effective protection and appropriate use for the needs of the community.

Conclusions

The analysis of the historical castle ruin presented in this article is a comprehensive compilation of knowledge about the monument. The information about the building is presented in a structured way. This is crucial for its understanding and conservation, as it allows the value and conservation needs of historic ruins to be accurately determined. The paper proposes a three-factor framework for

analysis, including conservation factors, knowledge of the site and contemporary factors. This analysis can influence the development of a conservation programme that balances conservation with adaptability to changing needs and interests.

The preservation of historical ruins in the form of a so-called “permanent ruin” is a conservative way of protecting ruined buildings. However, the desirability of maintaining buildings in this state is increasingly being questioned due to the high maintenance costs. In addition, the state of ruin is socially unacceptable because of the public’s different attitudes to the restoration and renovation of monuments.

It is therefore important to carry out a comprehensive analysis of structures protected as “permanent ruins” in order to determine in detail their value, conservation needs and potential for social, economic and business use. The adaptation process requires recognition of different types of factors that influence the conservation of a building and its social and economic potential. The increase in tourist numbers, the adaptation of ruins to current standards of use and the introduction of new functions often require the design of new volumes within the historic site.

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Streszczenie

Historyczna ruina średniowiecznego zamku – propozycja metodologii kompleksowej analizy obiektu

Rozwój cywilizacji i zmieniające się potrzeby użytkowników sprawiły, że większość zabytkowych obiektów utraciła swoją pierwotną funkcję, a w konsekwencji zaczęła niszczyć. Z tego powodu obiekty zachowane w formie ruin wymagają kompleksowego podejścia do rozwiązywania ich problemów konserwatorskich, technicznych i architektonicznych.

W artykule przedstawiona została autorska metoda analizy zrujnowanego obiektu, która uwzględnia wiele czynników, będących podstawą do oceny obiektu i określenia dalszego postępowania. Zaproponowana analiza jest przedstawiona z pozycji konserwatora zabytków i ma stanowić kompleksowe zestawienie wiedzy dotyczącej zabytku.

Autorka podkreśla znaczenie ruin zamków jako ważnej grupy zabytków, które mogą dostarczyć wielu informacji na temat historii i kultury danego miejsca. Obecnie brakuje jednak standardu analizowania i zbierania danych, które są kluczowe dla ochrony obiektu. Dlatego stworzenie takiego dokumentu jest niezwykle istotną kwestią.

Słowa kluczowe: historyczna ruina, zamek, dziedzictwo kulturowe, analiza, ankieta

