varsovian memoryscape

a real or symbolic area “in which collective memory is spatialized”

memory is a living thing

memory as a dialogue vs. unified collective memory

collected memory (James E.Young)

does memory create memorials or do memorials create memory?

ignoring the past

memoryescape

preservation
from preservation

memory excess

pamiec nieprzyswojona

the geography of the imagination

emblem: a hole in the ground

Embodiment of The Void

symbolic universe

collective imaginarium

critical tourism

chronotope

doctrine: anastylosis / contrast

monument alive

critical preservation

moving away from the doctrine

conceptual preservation
‘a strategy of respecting the existing not so much to the letter as in spirit’

(restorative nostalgia) - (reflexive nostalgia)

spatialization of memories

spatial conotations - memories of the place

nicknamed buildings

Monuments
and memorials
to fictional characters

the role of urban and architectural space
as a museum exhibit

Interpretation of the monument

street name changes

erasing monuments

Symbolic ruling

sign

trace

stubborn presence of matter containing memories

legends

myths

specificity

place and placelessness

Conservation design

counter historical architecture

commemoration

commemorative culture

scattered
monuments

multiple temporalities in one urban space

memorial landscape

practices of commemoration

memory narratives

ephemeral Warsaw

living memory

conservatorial creativity

modes of memorial transmission

memory work

public historical consciousness

simulated and semantically confusing urban fabric

propagation of historical myths
through 3D reconstructions

rituals

mnemonic modernism

curating public consciousness

musealized memory

materiality

shared vocabulary

retrograde

layered memories

misleading commemorative gestures

musealisation

city's material state

near/total reconstruction

multidirectional memory

battling of narrations

monumentalised gesture

memory space

material dimension of human annihilation

nawarstwianie chronologiczne

recovery of skills

memory rift

conflicted narrative

battle of monuments

defective architecture

monumentalised urbanism

Urban landscape
(urbanscape)

contemporary political and social preoccupations

constructing the narrative

anastylosis
anastyloza

symbolic landscape

materiality of memory

monumentalised zone

totally reconstructed heritage

representation and erasure

intermediate structure

historical skyline

falsification

found object vs. formal monument

floral monument (Escarpment)

cultural hegemony

mimicking

preservation and maintenance

natural reserve

reserve

appropriation of existing cultural forms

claim to authenticity

critical preservation

preserved ruins in the form of arrested decay

commemorative tablet

building negative encompassed by greenery

continuity to remain silent

fantasy made fact

experimental preservation

ruinology
ruinologia

memorial wall

symbolic centre:
monument +
additional memorials (commemorations)

symbols of opression

martyrology

avant guard

manufactured ruin

didactic ruin

monument

language of opression

historical continuity

a-tectonic and a-historical artificiality

artificial ruin

salvaged ruins

abusive socia-spatial practices

contrastive ruin

panorama of devastation

symbolic topography
topografia symboliczna

estate-monument

domestic architectural morphology

continuous ruin

glorious relics

rubble topography

military urbanist decisions

DEMOLITION

transient ruin

rubble-concrete

ruin as faliure to rebuild

topographic monument

practical monument

warchitectural theory

deconstruction

Lapidarium

ruin-like

brick as an image of martydom

the value of the ruin

staged ruins

material transmutations

post-catastrophic ruins

building in dispute

psychologically opressive ruin

topography of ruins

relocation

ruins of modernity

caged ruins

the negation of the spirit of a new era

rubble stratum

hidden ruin

Impromptu Memorial

eternal flame

Critical tourism : Varsovian Memoryscape

The critical tourism series is an evolving guided-tour throughout Warsaw’s memoryscape. The Varsovian memoryscape is a real or symbolic area “in which collective memory is spatialised”. The ideology stems from the awareness that our cities tell our societal, political and cultural stories, but that there is also a great deal of room for manipulation in this mode of storytelling.

It’s important to remain sharp and critical about the ways in which ruling bodies and various stakeholders curate public consciousness with regards to commemoration, representation and erasure.

Our guided walks are oral walkthroughs through place and placelessness of stories, and deal with multiple temporalities in one urban space. We attempt to wade through the battling of narrations in this simulated and semantically confusing urban fabric. Ultimately, our goal is to allow for a more in-depth reading of our heritage beyond the skin of the city and symbolic ruling.

CENTRALA 2017

Is it okay to bring back rocks from...?

souvenirs (parts of the sites)

DARK TOURISM

artifact-ization of normal stuff

relic

‘inautentic experience’

to transmit memory

building as document

authentic power

power of autenticity

spolia

copy as new preservation