

SUMMARY

Natural values of the old mansion park in Rydzyna (Leszno district)

A park near the palace in Rydzyna (Wielkopolska Province) was established in the 17th century. In the beginning it was designed in a French style, and in the early 19th century it was transformed systematically into an English style. Today it covers an area of about 6 hectares. In the 20th century the two successive World Wars caused considerable harm in its stand of trees. At present in the described area at least 300 species and varieties have been observed, out of in that number over 60 these are trees and shrubs planted by man. The park in Rydzyna is a precious object with numerous and differentiated flora. It has not only a very great landscape cultural and monumental quality, but also is of a considerable natural importance. As regards its values, noteworthy are interesting individuals of trees and shrubs (some over 4 m wide in diameter), also rare, protected and original plant species (e.g. *Acer campestre*, *Trisetum flavescens*, *Gagea arvensis*, *Dianthus deltoides*, *Convallaria majalis*, *Ornithogallum umbellatum*, *Ribes nigrum*, *Viburnum opulus*, *Hedera helix*, *Cymbalaria muralis* and *Asplenium ruta-muraria*) as well as especially plentiful fruiting population of the *Hedera helix* genus. Ivy climbs and winds round over 2000 trees and bursts into bloom and fruits on 181 of them.