



## Unique landscape values occurring on settlement fringe

Zsófia FÖLDI

Department of Landscape Protection and Reclamation  
Corvinus University of Budapest  
e-mail: zsolia.foldi@hotmail.com

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**Abstract:** I categorize the unique landscape values according to their connection to the settlement fringe on the sample territory of Jászberény. I introduce the main types within the different categories and analyze their "new" role deriving from their peripheral situation.

**Keywords:** unique landscape value, settlement fringe, settlement expansion, settlement gate, religious relics

### 1. Introduction

Nowadays dynamic settlement expansion can be observed. Settlement expansion is one of the most threatening factors for the sustainability of unique landscape values. The construction of housing estates, industrial parks, shopping centers cause the disappearance crosses, cemeteries, tumulus. The unique landscape values do not fall under protection. The settlement fringe is the forefront of settlement expansion, thus those unique landscape values situated on the settlement fringe are at most danger. Besides being at risk of expansion these unique landscape values deserve more attention from other aspects as well. Due to their peripheral position their role widens, not only do they enrich the landscape view but they are significant elements of settlement gate view.

## 2. Materials and Methods







I have completed my study based on the examination of settlement expansion of Jászberény and on an assessment done by the Department of Landscape Protection and Reclamation [1]. Jászberény is located in central Hungary, about 100 km from Budapest, on the Zagyva River. It is the market centre in Jász-Nagykun-Szolnok county in Hungary. On the settlement fringe of Jászberény 33 unique landscape values can be found [1]. I group those, related to settlement fringe, into three groups. After the short description of each group, I analyze the role of unique landscape values situated at settlement gates according the method I have worked out. Related to the evaluation I describe how much they damaged due to the expansion of inner landscape and how much is their existence at risk after these changes done in the settlement structure.

## 3. Results and discussions

Due to settlement expansion the land use varies continuously on the settlement fringe, the establishment previously situated on the outer area becomes part of the inner landscape. The examination method of settlement fringe requires reviewing the settlement development in all cases. Through which it is possible to reveal the change of settlement fringe, the degree of change and the original position of establishment placed on the settlement fringe. I am observing the unique landscape values of settlement fringe grouped whether they were directly placed on one-time or current settlement fringe or they become part of the fringe areas due to the settlement expansion. Pursuant to that there are three different categories which are as follow:

1. Unique landscape values established on historical or current fringe.
2. Unique landscape values linked to land use typical for settlement fringe.
3. Unique landscape values ended up on the current settlement fringe.

Table 1: Unique landscape values situated on the settlement fringe of Jászberény

Unique landscape values <i>established</i> on historical or current fringe.	Unique landscape values <i>linked to</i> land use typical for settlement fringe.	Unique landscape values <i>ended up</i> on the current settlement fringe.
 Szobor utcai Kőkép (religious relic)	 Ravatalozó kápolna (chapel)	 Bató kereszt talapzata (cross)
 Kőkép utcai Kőkép (religious relic)	 Szerzetes nővérek sírkert (graveyard)	 Hűtőgépgyári horgásztó (adobe pit)

<p>3 Szent Imre herceg úti Kőkép (<b>religious relic</b>)</p>	<p>3 Nővér kereszt (<b>cross</b>)</p>	<p>3 Szt. Vendel szobor (<b>patron saint statue</b>)</p>
	<p>4 Új temetői feszület (<b>crucifix</b>)</p>	<p>4 Időjóslo Szentek szobor (<b>patron saint statue</b>)</p>
	<p>5 Új temetői harangláb (<b>bell-fry</b>)</p>	<p>5 Felszabadulási emlékmű (<b>public statue</b>)</p>
	<p>6 Védett temetőkert (<b>gravestone collection</b>)</p>	<p>6 Cserőhalmi Kálvária (<b>calvary scene</b>)</p>
	<p>7 Öregkereszt (<b>cross</b>)</p>	<p>7 Új-hegyi feszület (<b>crucifix</b>)</p>
	<p>8 Muhoray kereszt (<b>cross</b>)</p>	<p>8 Szelei úti felújított feszület (<b>crucifix</b>)</p>
	<p>9 Szovjet katonai sírkert (<b>military cemetery</b>)</p>	<p>9 Ludányi kereszt (<b>cross</b>)</p>
	<p>10 Fehértói temetői harangláb (<b>bell-fry</b>)</p>	<p>10 Szent Pál halom (<b>tumulus</b>)</p>
	<p>11 Mizsei kereszt (<b>cross</b>)</p>	<p>11 Szent Pál halmi kereszt (<b>cross</b>)</p>
	<p>12 Ravatalozó emlékszobor (<b>memorial statue</b>)</p>	<p>12 Jákóhalmi úti feszület (<b>crucifix</b>)</p>
	<p>13 Szent Imre temetői kőkereszt (<b>cross</b>)</p>	<p>13 Király Gáspár kereszt (<b>cross</b>)</p>
	<p>14 Szent Imre temetői harangláb (<b>bell-fry</b>)</p>	<p>14 Gémeskút (<b>well</b>)</p>
	<p>15 Szent Imre temetői fakereszt (<b>cross</b>)</p>	
	<p>16 Sírkő gyűjtemény (<b>gravestone collection</b>)</p>	

Note: The unique landscape values' names are in Hungarian, their types are in English.

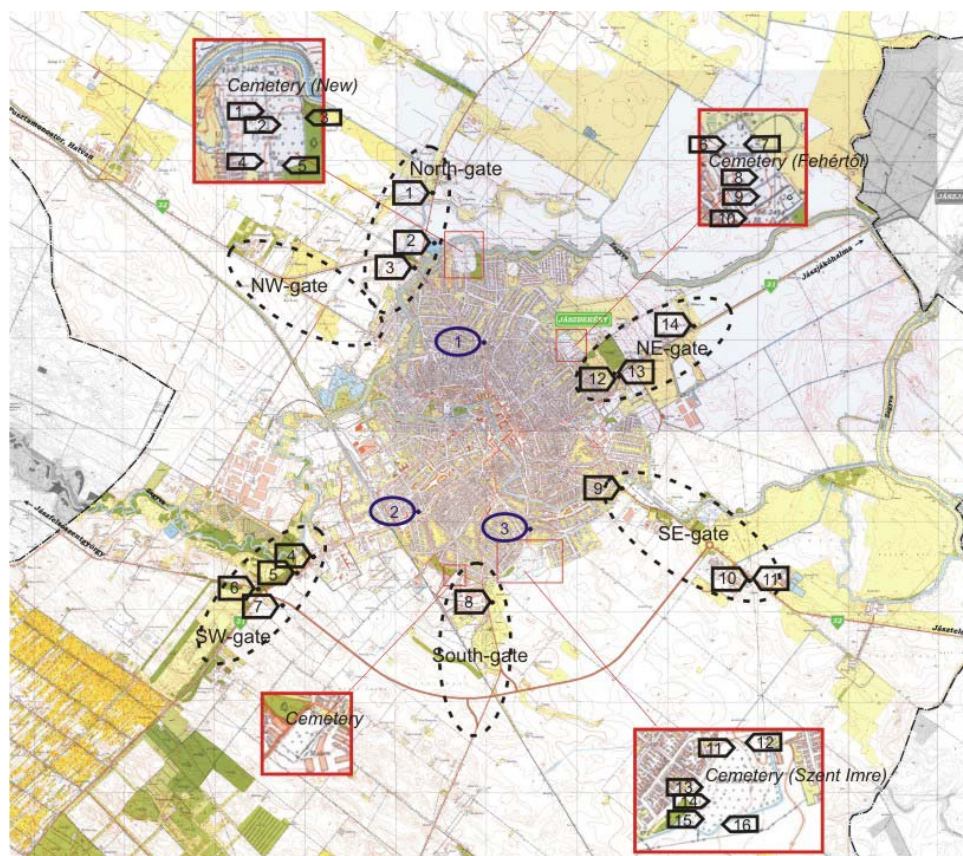


Figure 1: Examined unique landscape values situation

Unique landscape values established on historical or current fringe.

- were directly placed to the settlement fringe;
- the position of settlement fringe is an important aspect;
- their primary function is to indicate the border of the inner landscape.

In case of Jászberény the so called 'Kőképek' (religious relics), which were erected in 1699 belong to this category. It was constructed for commemorating the glorious liberalization from the Turkish invasion, which indicates the boundary of the inner landscape. Thus in 1699 Jászberény spread until this point [2]. Their present positions (Fig.1.) depict clearly the two-decade expansion of the settlement. It can be tracked down that the settlement was more intensely built in to the Northern direction while to the South barely any establishments pass the 'Kőképek'.

### Unique landscape values linked to land use typical for settlement fringe

- periphery land use defines their location;
- according to that when placing them the position of the settlement fringe is to be taken into account indirectly;
- the topmost examples are the unique landscape values in the cemetery situated on the fringe areas.

Jászberény has four cemeteries (*Fig.1.*) all of which are situated on the settlement fringe. The unique landscape values in this category are burying and religious remembrances.

### Unique landscape values ended up on the current settlement fringe

- when placing them the position of settlement fringe is not an aspect,
- their primary function is not being border mark;
- most of them become part of the fringe areas due to the settlement expansion;
- their function widened due to their periphery position (e.g. important elements of the settlement gate).

I introduce an evaluation system of the unique landscape values, situated on the current settlement fringe near the vehicular settlement gates, in respect of their function in the landscape vision.

The evaluation is objective only in that case if each value is monitored according to the same aspects and I get numerical data in the end. In order to that they are comparable and an average idea could be drawn about the settlement gates. The defined factors of the evaluation aspects are as follow:

Evaluation could be done by taking into account whether the settlement expansion determines their importance or not. The expansion has a determinant effect on the unique landscape values if the newly constructed objects cover them or they are pulled down due to construction. Pursuant to the land use of their direct environment could be evaluated. It could be positively valued if the original territory use is adopted in their direct environment. Since it proves that the expansion has no negative impact on them. Should there be a measure of changes regarding the land use, there could be an examination on how much is there existence is at risk by the present land use. I evaluate the unique landscape values territorial expansion, which depicts the dominance of remembrance at the settlement gate sceneries. Furthermore I look at the distance between the boarder of the inner territory and the road, which could be connected with the human presence

intensity. The closer they are to the inner territory boarder and to the road, the more important elements they are of the settlement gate. Supposedly this type of situation of theirs helps their sustainability due to the intense human presence. Visibility should almost be handled as an absolute ground for refusal, as the predominance of the unique landscape values being covered is limited at the settlement gate scenery. Besides that their culture –historical importance is limited as well. Favorable and unfavorable scenery element in the surroundings of the unique landscape values could strengthen or weaken their role at settlement gates. In this case the unfavorable scenery elements are mainly the high voltage cables, illegal waste landfills, abandoned buildings, build-ups. While the favorable scenery elements are mainly the green surface elements. The state of the unique landscape values determines effectiveness of their role at settlement gates. The dying unique landscape values are unfavorable elements of the settlement gate scenery. I introduce the examined factors and their scoring which are shown in the *Table 2*.

*Table 2: The examined factors and their scoring*

	3 points – dominant element	2 points – determinative element	1 point – less dominant, the negative effect of expansion is felt
Land use	Original	Changed but its existence is not at risk	Changed and its existence is at risk
Territorial extension	large	lined	point wise
Distance from inner landscape	within 50 meters	within 50 - 200 meters	within 200 -1000 meters
Distance from road	within 7 meters	within 7-15 meters	within 15-50 meters
Visibility	Visible for arrivals and departures.	Visible for arrivals or departures, overlaid.	It is invisible, overlaid.
Direct surrounding	Favouralbe visual elements are dominant	Favourable and unfavourable visual elements are balanced.	Unfavourable visual elements are dominant.
State	Good, looked-after	Sufficient	Dying, damaged

I have examined six settlement gates according to the direction of possible approach (*Fig. 1.*). It could be reached on road number 32 from North-West and South-East, and on road 31 from North-East and South-West. Besides these the town could be approached from the direction of Jászárokszallás and Farnos. For a

long time the settlement could be reach from North-West direction only through the road crossing Hatvan. The road number 32 is a new possibility with which the road from Hatvan lost its settlement gate role. No unique landscape value could be found in this settlement gate, which is mainly due to the inner land expansion and the construction of the new road section. In case of Jászberény there are 14 values near the settlement gates (*Fig 1.*). Most of the unique landscape values (10) falls into the religious relic category. Not only is the predominance of religious relics significant at the settlement gates but also within the territory as well. That is because religion plays an important role in the life of Jászság. From denomination point of view it is one of the most uniformed territories of the Plain Region [3]. The religious relics generally depict the human movements. Primarily, they were erected at the significant point of the settlement, along roads, at more important crossings [4]. Most usually crucifixes and crosses are found at the settlement gates. Besides those, statues of patron saints could be seen as well. At the settlement gates of Jászberény near the main roads besides of religious relics four other types of relics can be found.

I rank the 14 unique landscape values situated at the settlement gates according to the 7 criteria. I evaluate them from 1 to 3 points and calculate an average out of their points. The evaluation is as follows:

3 points: the element is dominant in the landscape,

2 points: the element is determinative,

1 point: the less dominant element, at risk in case of expansion.

I introduce the defined criteria system of the unique landscape values in *Table 3*.

*Table 3:* The defined criteria system of the unique landscape values

	Age	Land use	Territorial extension	Distance (road- inner landscape average)	Visibility	Direct Surrounding	State	Total→ average
<b>SW-gate (Nr. 31 road)</b>								
Új-hegyi fészület (crucifix)	1870	3	1	1	2	2	2	11→1,8
Felszabadulási emlékmű (public statue)	1970	2	1	2	2	2	3	12→2
Időjósító Szentek (patron saint statue)	1745	2	1	2	2	1	3	11→1,8
Cserőhalmi	1790	3	1	2	3	3	1	13→2,2



Kálvária (Calvary scene)								
<b>South-gate (from Farmos )</b>								
Szelei fesz. (crucifix)	1900	1	1	3	2	1	3	11→1,8
<b>SE-gate(Nr. 32 road)</b>								
Szent Pál halmi kereszt (cross)	1808	3	1	1,5	2	2	1	10,5→1,7 5
Szent Pál halom (tumulus)	?	1	3	1,5	2	2	2	11,5→1,9
Ludányi kereszt (cross)	1814	3	1	3	2	1	1	11→1,8
<b>NE-gate (Nr. 31 road)</b>								
Gémeskút (well)	Over 100 years	3	1	2	2	2	2	12→2
Jákóhalmi úti feszület (crucifix)	2010	3	1	3	2	1	3	13→2,2
Király Gáspár kereszt (cross)	1903	1	1	2	1	1	1	7→1,1
<b>North-gate (from Jászárokszallás)</b>								
Bató kereszt talapzata (cross)	1794	3	1	2,5	2	2	2	12,5→2,1
Hűtőgépgyári horgásztó (adobe pit-lake)	1960	2	3	3	2	2	2	14→2,3
Szent Vendel szobor (patron saint statue)	1866	3	1	3	2	2	3	14→2,3

It could be seen from *Table 3* that none of the unique landscape value can prevail fully. There are two main reasons behind that fact. One is that the appearance of industrial territories are revealing at all gates except for the Northern gate. A result of which is that most of the unique landscape values have been built-in to the industrial areas, territories of commercial establishments or a plant was established around them. The other reason is that these unique landscape values are 'lost' due to overlaying or distance. Dominance is affected negatively as they all



have point wise appearance except for two landscape values. Having ranked them it could be seen that the state of landscape values vary.

It could be stated that scenery importance of those unique landscape values, which were effected by the settlement expansion and went under significant environmental changes (1st quality category), could be strengthen by drastic interventions (liquidation of industrial area for instance). As the role of such unique landscape values can not be strengthen, drawing attention to them, preserving their state and protecting the are highly important The cross of Király Gáspár is among those. The role and scenery significance of the rest of the unique landscape values situated at the settlement gates of Jászberény could be strengthen by conservation and environment arrangement.

#### **4. Conclusion**

From the evaluation result the following conclusion can be drawn: up to the present the settlement development ignored the location of the unique landscape values in several cases with that their landscape dominance decreased significantly. At the same time their preservation, reconstruction and maintenance are the proof of maintaining the traditions and cultural heritage protection. The evaluation tries to reveal that certain unique landscape values could be handled together due to their uniform characteristics and location. Their special location make it possible to expand their role (they could become element of the settlement gate), which could strengthen the significance of preserving them.

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