

# Heritage of European landscape transformations

Hans Renes, Vrije Universiteit Amsterdam /  
Utrecht University / [j.renes@uu.nl](mailto:j.renes@uu.nl)

# European Landscape Convention

## Florence, 20.X.2000



"Landscape" means an area, as perceived by people, whose character is the result of the action and interaction of natural and/or human factors [...]

# The word 'landscape'

- Original meaning region: German *Landschaft*; Anglo-Saxon *landscipe*; Dutch (*de*) *landschap*.
- late Middle Ages: pictures of the environment known as 'landscapes'. Dutch: (*het*) *landschap*. Further development: the painted object itself known as 'landscape'. Dutch *landschap* became English *landscape*.
- Always related to perception. Also with human activities (landscape = to shape the land) and with control.





# The word 'landscape' in European languages



# *krajina* V ČESKÉ REPUBLICĚ



During, R. (2008). Nederlands erfgoed in Europees perspectief; planning- en erfgoedculturen in Europa. In: Op historische gronden; erfgoed in een context van ruimtelijk ontwerp, planning en democratie. Belvedere, Utrecht, pp. 105-122.





John Know – Landscape with tourists at Loch Katrine, 1810.



Rondal Partridge, ca 1965.  
*Pave it and paint it green.*





# Landscapes and identities







3-CD SET

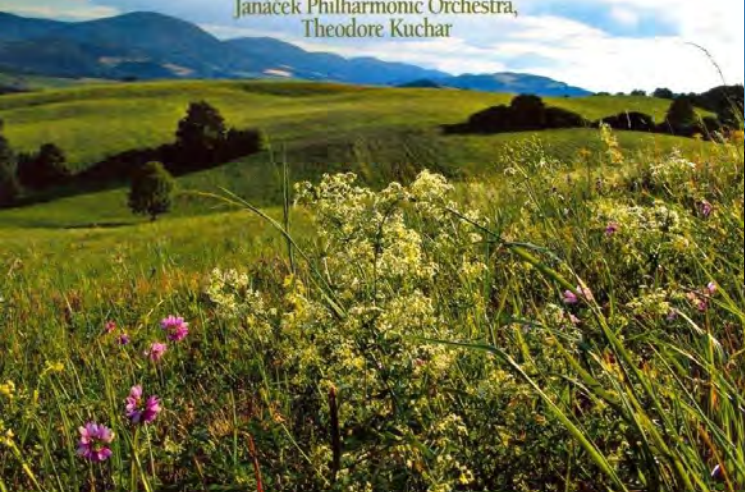
# Smetana

## Ma Vlast

Complete Orchestral Works

Janaček Philharmonic Orchestra,  
Theodore Kuchar

BRILLIANT  
CLASSICS



Hradec Králové  
Philharmonic Orchestra  
Marek Stilek

# Bedřich Smetana Má vlast

EMI  
LA VOIX DE SON MAÏRIE

## Smetana : Ma Patrie

six poèmes symphoniques dont la célèbre "Moldau"  
Dvořák: Rhapsodie slave n°3 & Scherzo capriccioso  
STAATSKAPPELLE DRESDEN • PAAVO BERGLUND



Bedřich Smetana  
**Má vlast**  
Mein Vaterland · My Fatherland  
Ma Patrie  
Boston Symphony Orchestra  
Rafael Kubelik



SMETANA  
**Má Vlast**  
Mein Vaterland · My Fatherland · Ma Patrie  
Boston Symphony Orchestra  
Rafael Kubelik



DDD  
NAXOS

## SMETANA Má Vlast

DDD  
8.550931

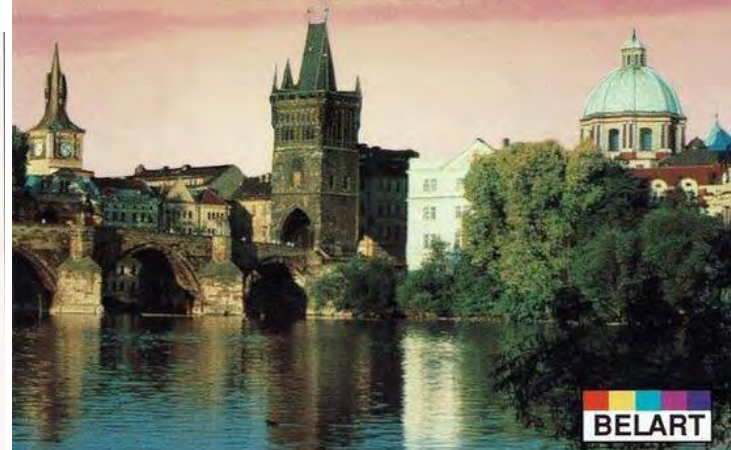
Vyšehrad • Vltava (Moldau) • Sárka  
From Bohemia's Woods and Fields • Tábor • Blaník  
Polish National Radio Symphony Orchestra  
Antoni Wit



## SMETANA Die Moldau

450 060-2

Ma Vlast (My Fatherland) · Mein Vaterland · Ma Patrie  
Wiener Philharmoniker  
Rafael Kubelik



BELART



**YOUR COUNTRY'S CALL**



Isn't this worth fighting for?

**ENLIST NOW**



P. Howard (1991). Landscapes; the artists' vision.

Routledge, London/New York, p. 138. [WW I]

D. Dimbleby (2005). A picture of Britain. Tate, London,

p. 78. [1942]





AMSTERDAM  
VAN DE WYDERSPILLAGEN

DIJKBOUW IN HET IJSELMEER

LE BUREAU GÉNÉRAL DE CONSTRUCTION  
D'INGÉNIEUR-CONSTRUCTEURS





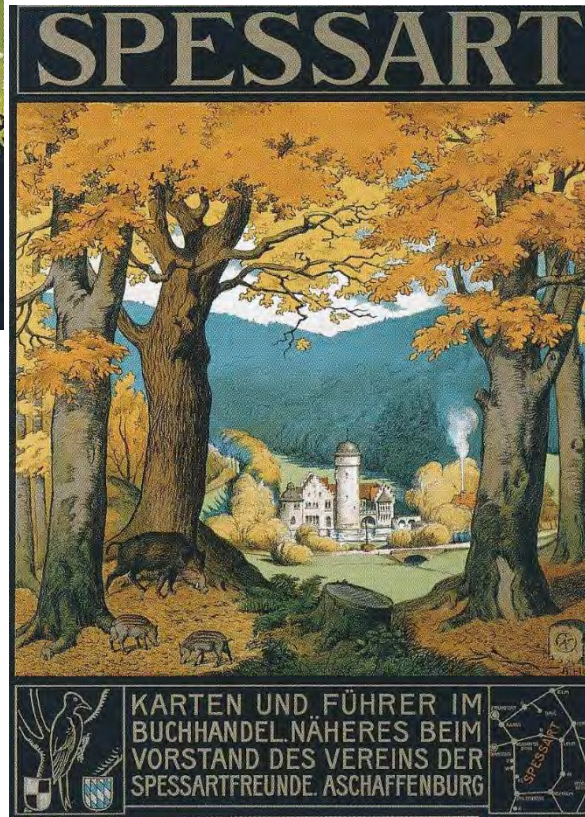
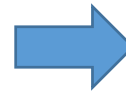
German posters with forests. Some date from the Nazi-period, others are much older

← 1939

1905

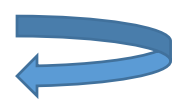


1935



Zechner, Johannes (2011). Von 'deutschen Eichen' und 'ewigen Wäldern'. Der Wald als national-politische Projektionsfläche. In: Ursula Breymayer & Bernd Ulrich (eds.). *Unter Bäumen. Die Deutschen und der Wald*. Sandstein Verlag, Dresden, pp. 231-235.





Sweden, Tuscany (Italy),  
Yellowstone (USA), Switzerland

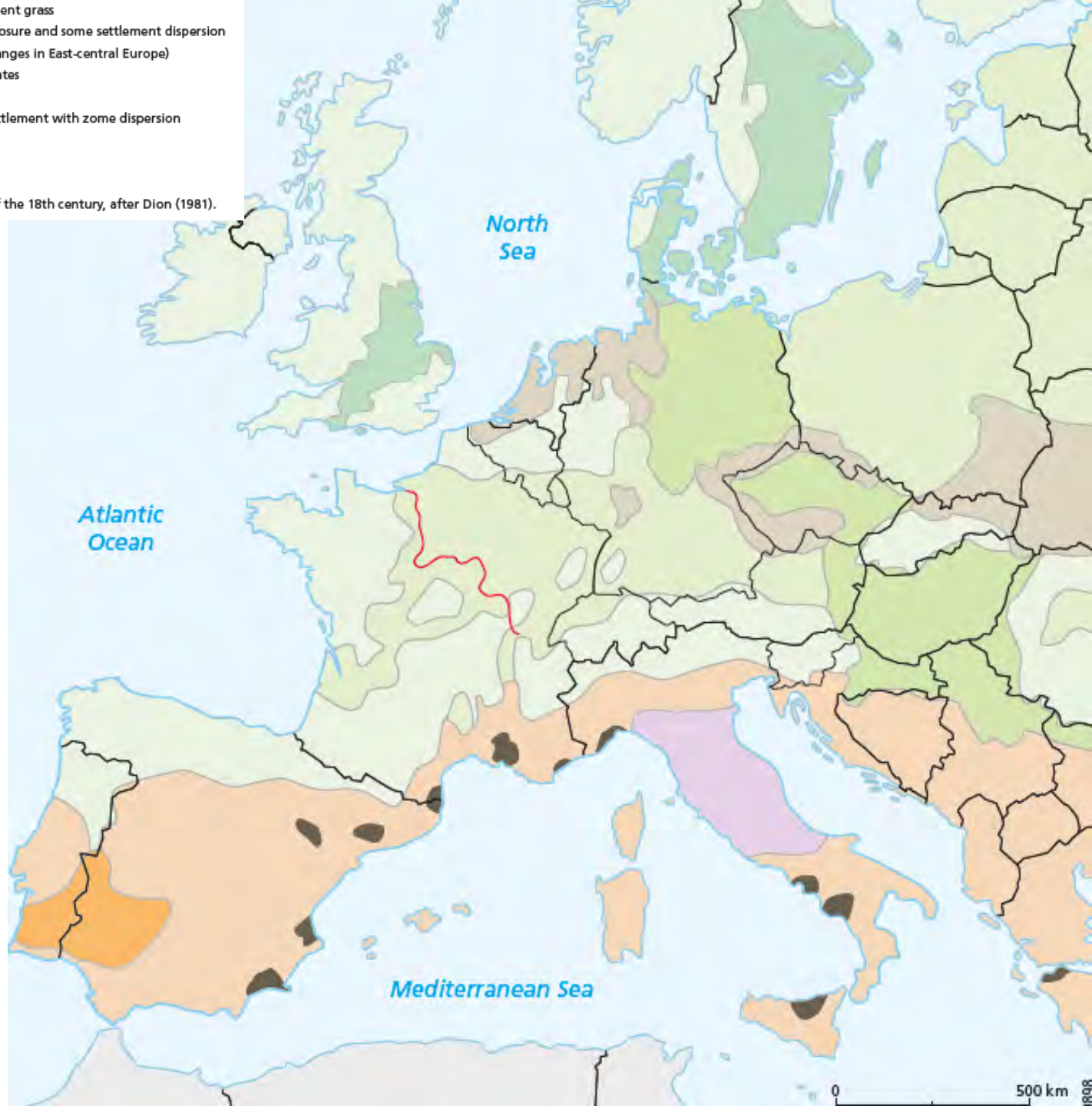




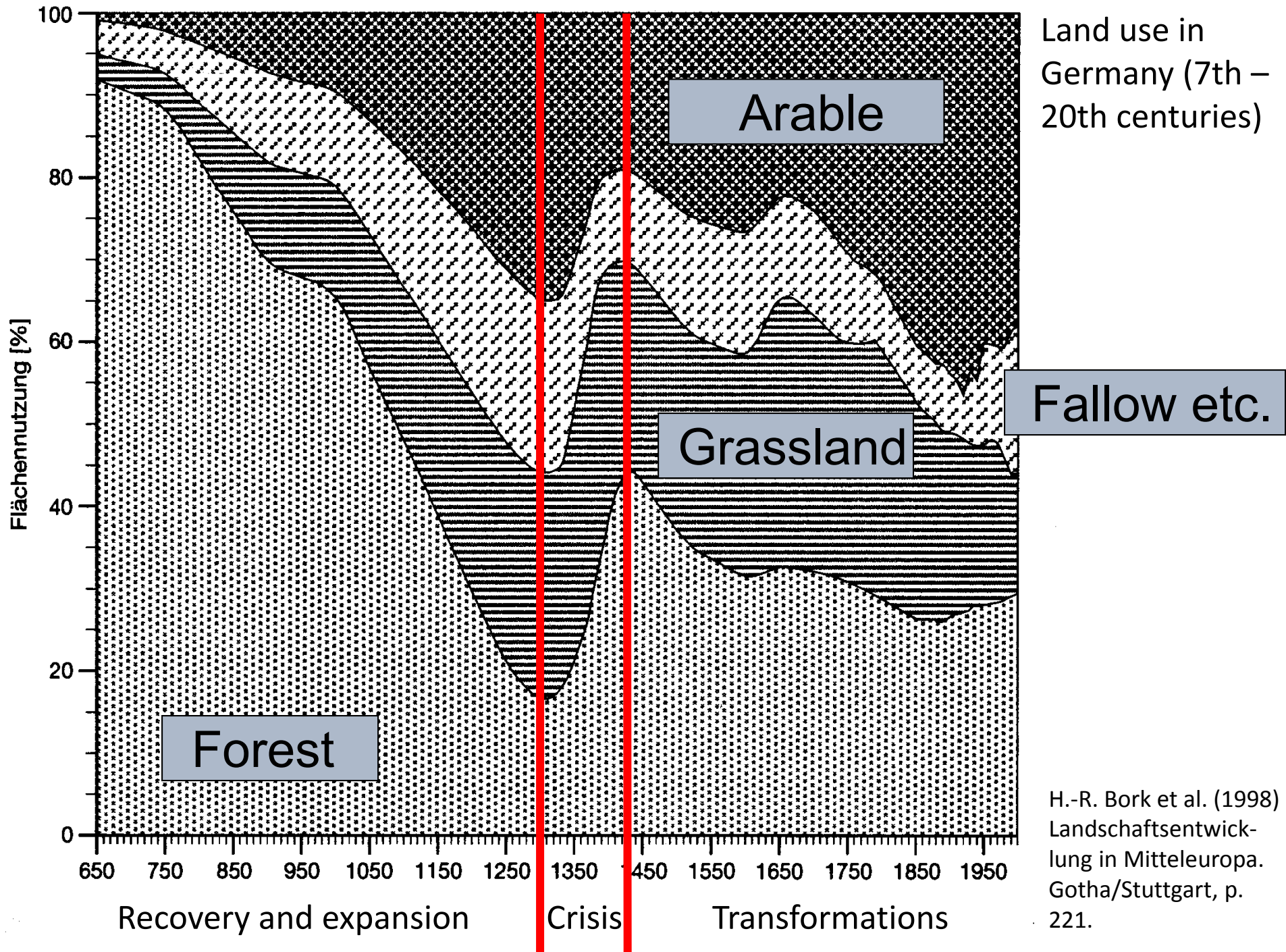
# Landscape types, histories and transformations

- Chronology
- European scale
- Extinct landscapes are rarely extinct

- Enclosed landscapes, dispersed settlement, much permanent grass
- Former openfields, grouped settlement, subsequent enclosure and some settlement dispersion
- Openfields, grouped settlement, much arable (recent changes in East-central Europe)
- Openfields transformed in some formerly Communist states
- Linear settlements, polderland or in forests
- Mediterranean openfields, tree crops, mainly grouped settlement with some dispersion
- Huertas
- Coltura promiscua
- Montado
- Southern border of open fields during the second half of the 18th century, after Dion (1981).

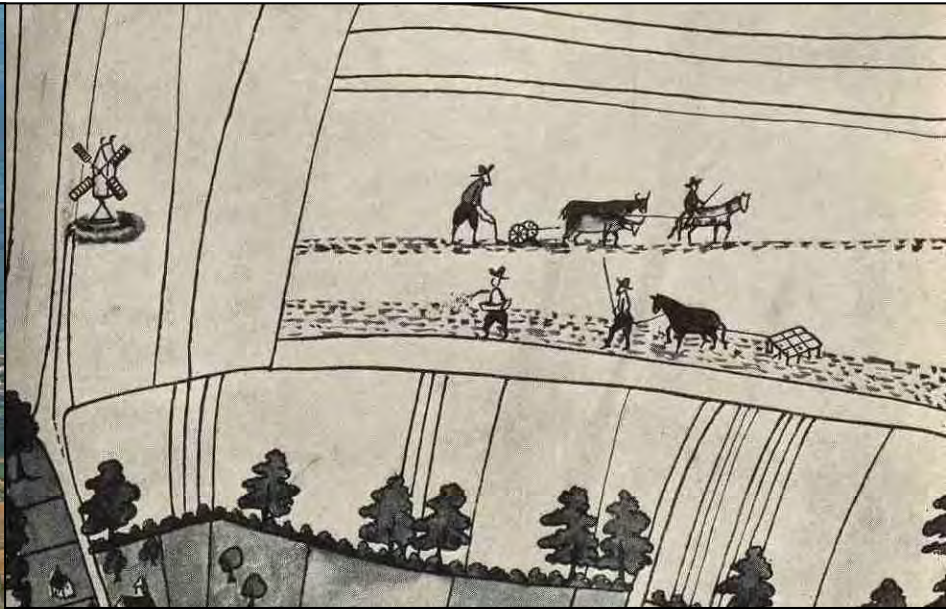








# Open fields: the typical landscape of the High Middle Ages





# Late medieval Europe: towns and open fields







Enclosed landscape near Brest in Brittany (F, 1810, left) and near Winterswijk in the eastern part of the Netherlands (1880, above).

Left: Faucherre et al. (2007). *Les plans en relief des places du Roy*, p. 103.

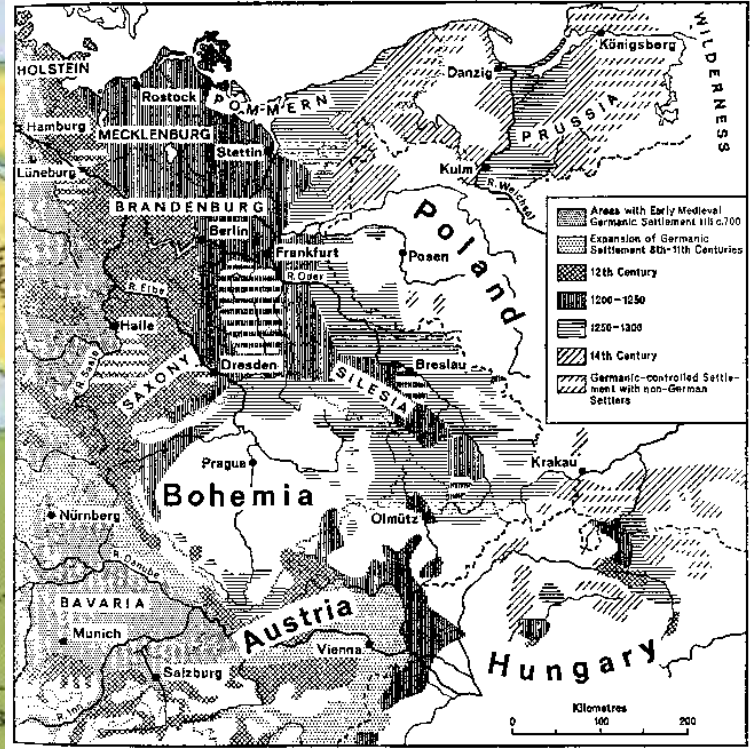
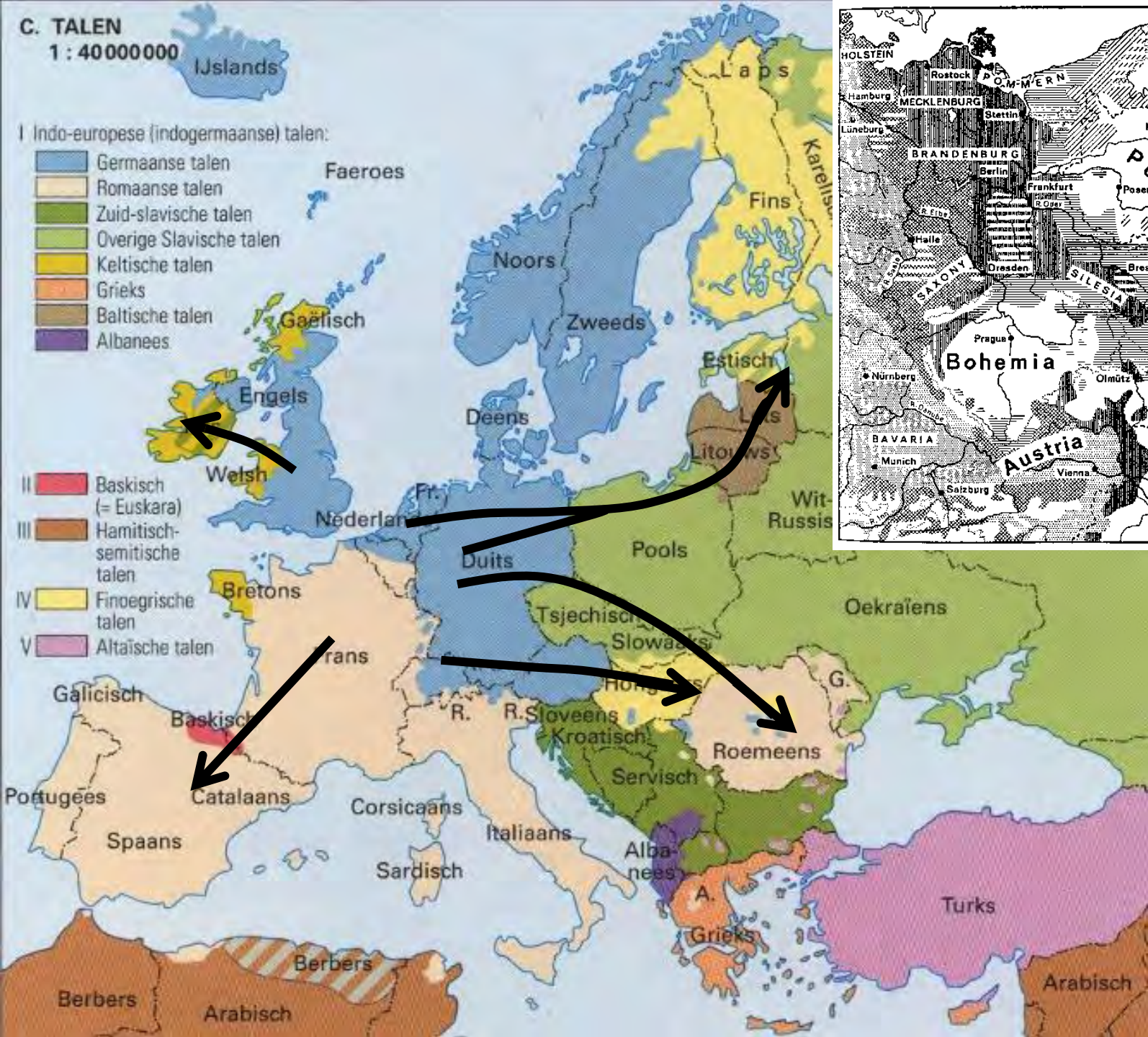


**C. TALEN**  
1 : 40000000

I Indo-europese (indogermaanse) talen:

- Germaanse talen
- Romaanse talen
- Zuid-slavische talen
- Overige Slavische talen
- Keltische talen
- Grieks
- Baltische talen
- Albanees

- II Baskisch (= Euskara)
- III Hamitisch-semitische talen
- IV Finoeigrische talen
- V Altaïsche talen





# High medieval colonisation

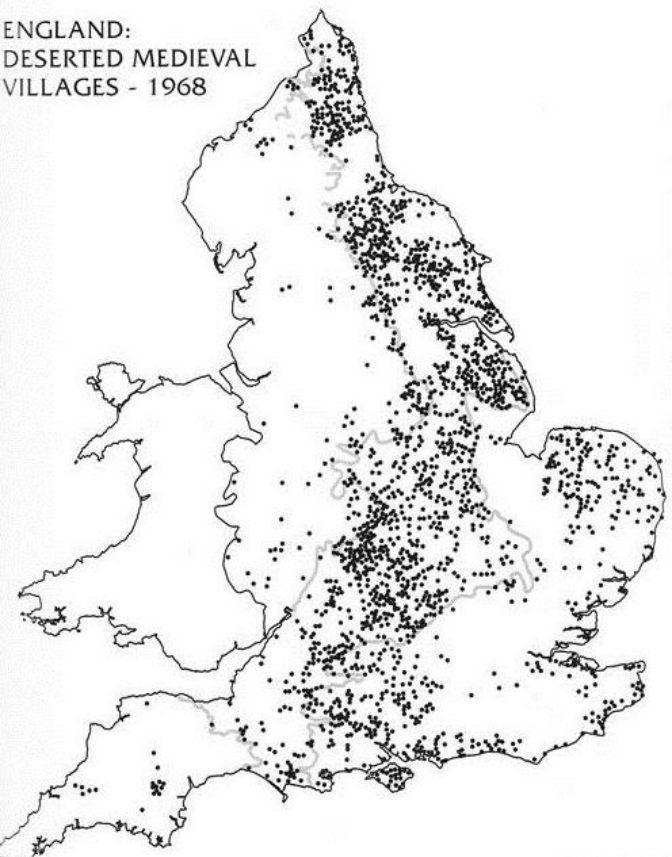
Forest reclamations in Silesia (Poland, below) and in the Black Forest (Germany, right)





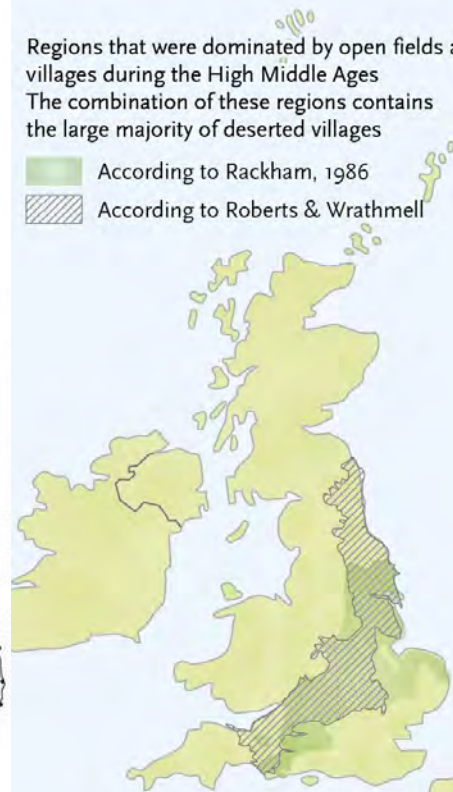
# The late medieval crisis

ENGLAND:  
DESERTED MEDIEVAL  
VILLAGES - 1968



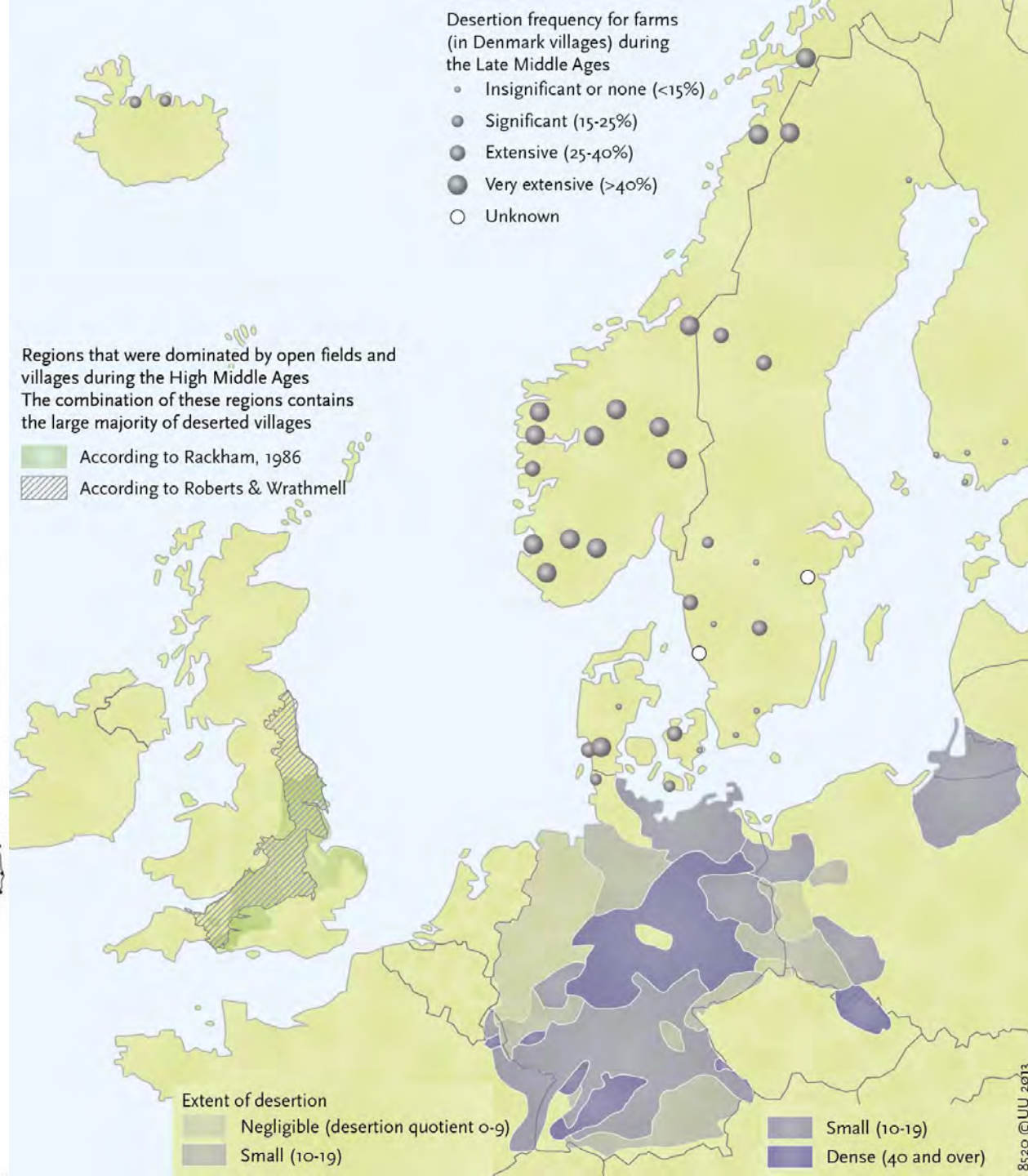
Regions that were dominated by open fields and villages during the High Middle Ages  
The combination of these regions contains the large majority of deserted villages

- According to Rackham, 1986
- According to Roberts & Wrathmell



Desertion frequency for farms (in Denmark villages) during the Late Middle Ages

- Insignificant or none (<15%)
- Significant (15-25%)
- Extensive (25-40%)
- Very extensive (>40%)
- Unknown



- Extent of desertion
- Negligible (desertion quotient 0-9)
  - Small (10-19)
  - Small (10-19)
  - Dense (40 and over)





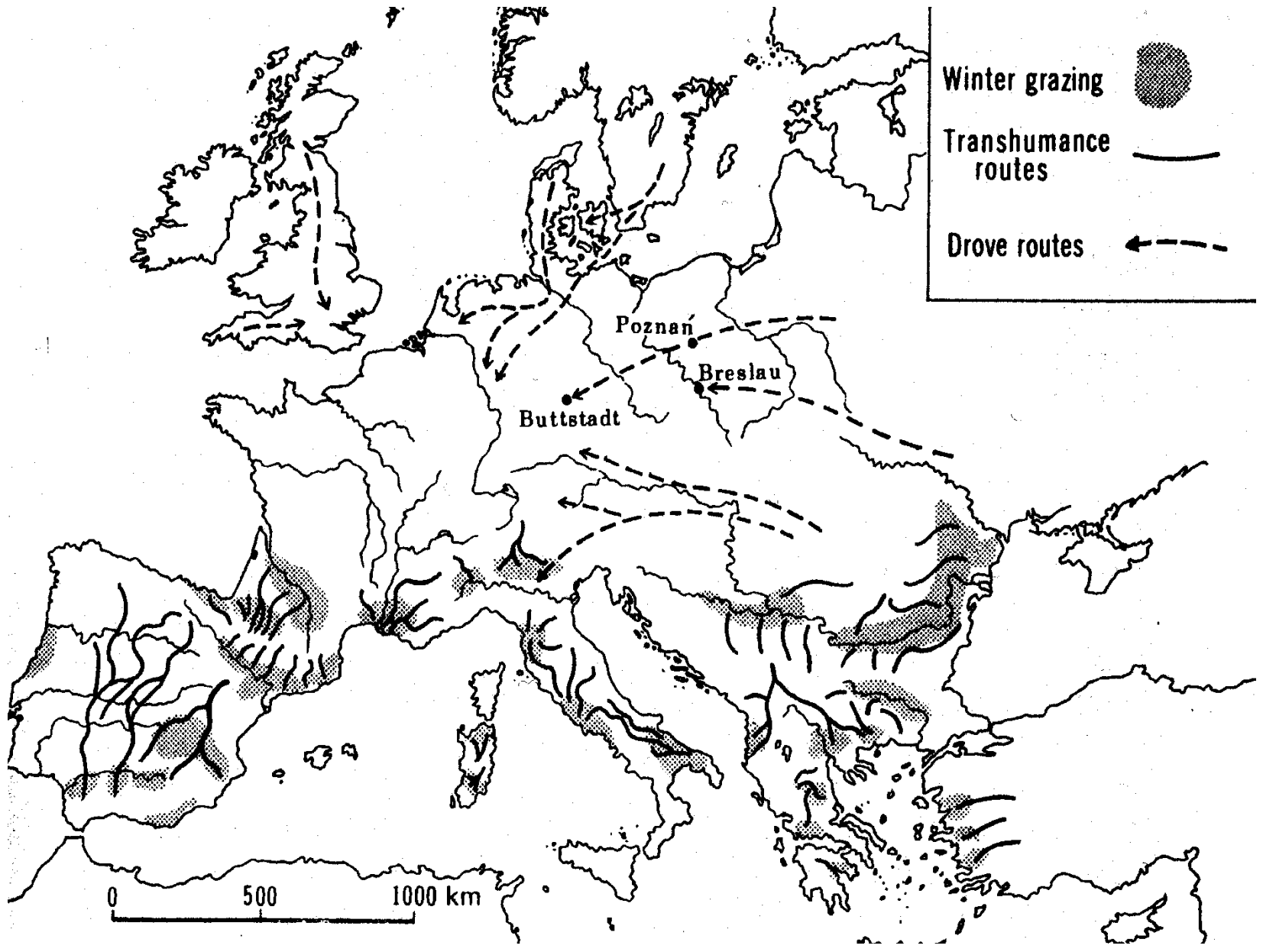
Treboň





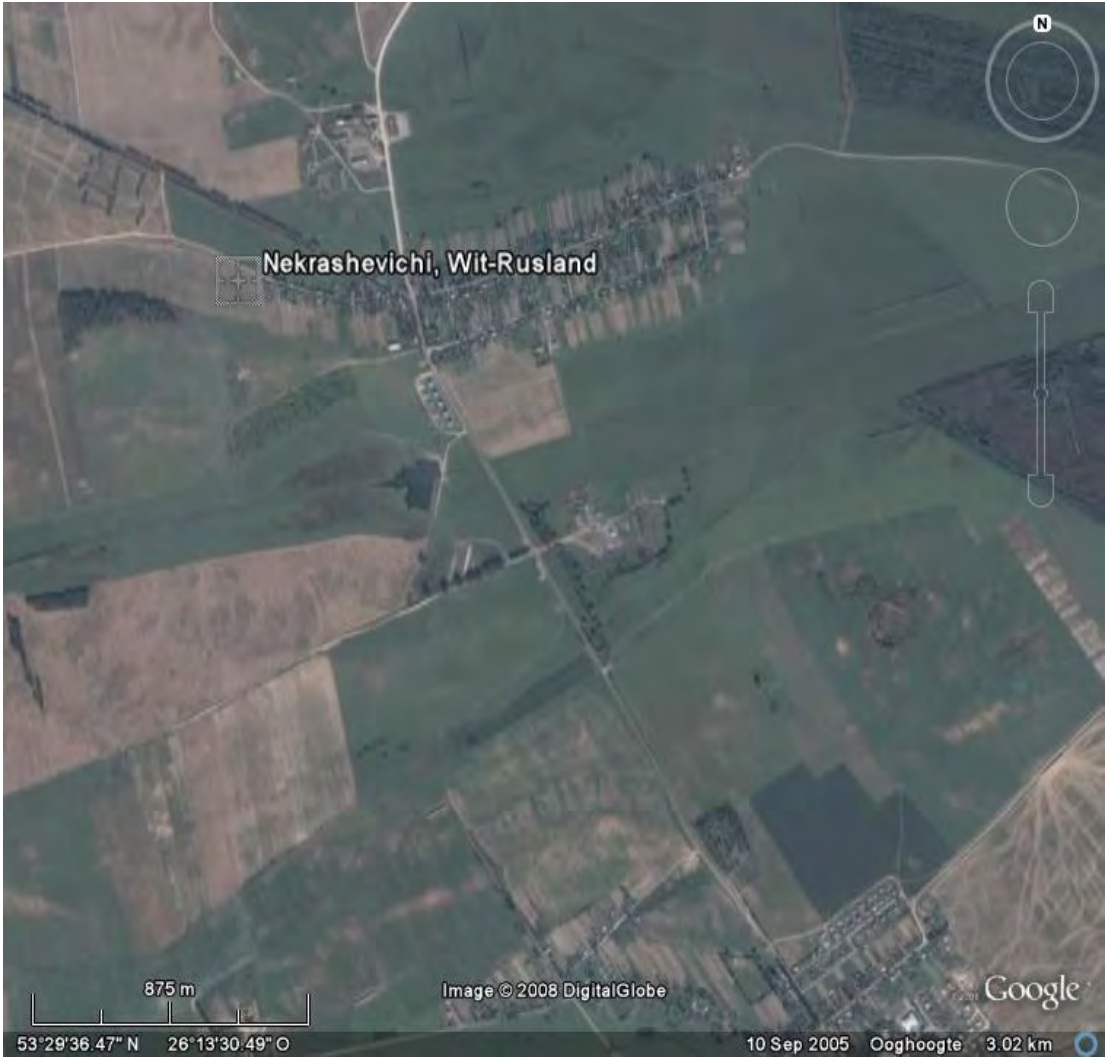
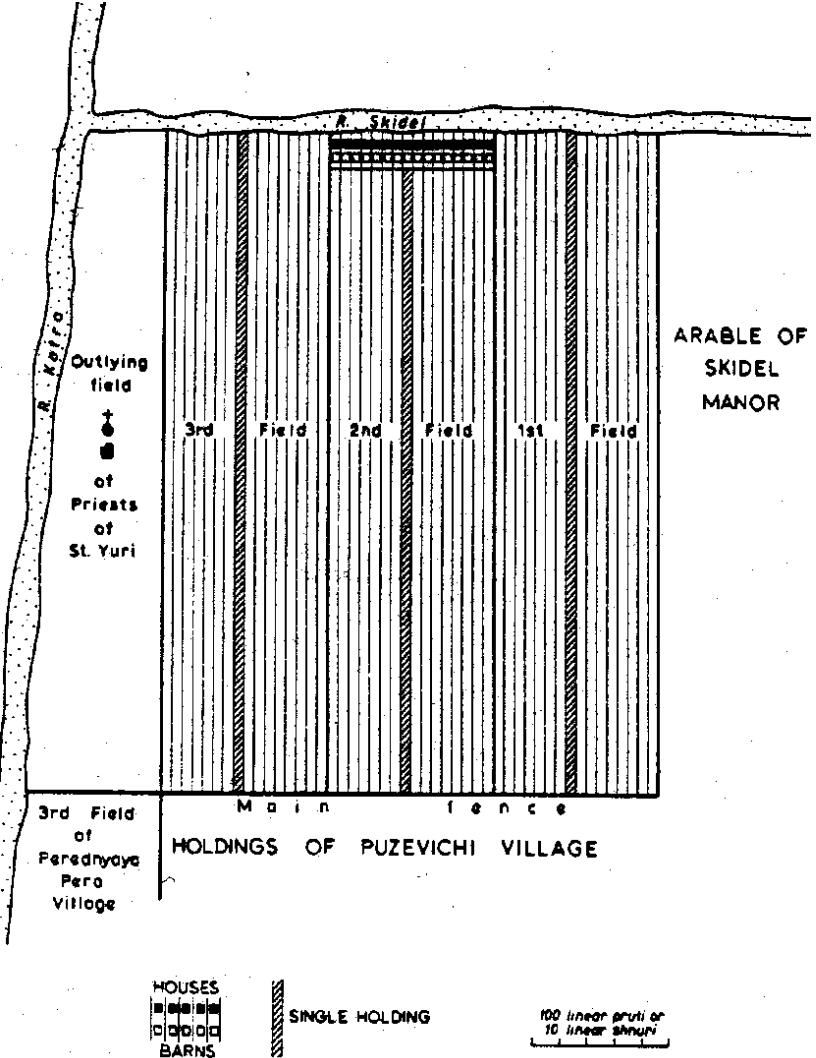
Land-use in regions around the Northsea and the Baltic during the 17th century. From: Nitz, 1993, p. 67.





Transhumance and drove routes in the 16th century (Pounds, 1990, p. 233). The map shows different systems. Transhumance comes from the wish to make optimal use of different ecosystems. The drove routes connect regions specialising on animal-breeding with the urban markets.





The village of Nekrashevichi (district of Grodno, Belarus) in 1558, showing the standard layout of the *voloka*-transformation (French, 1983b, p. 75).

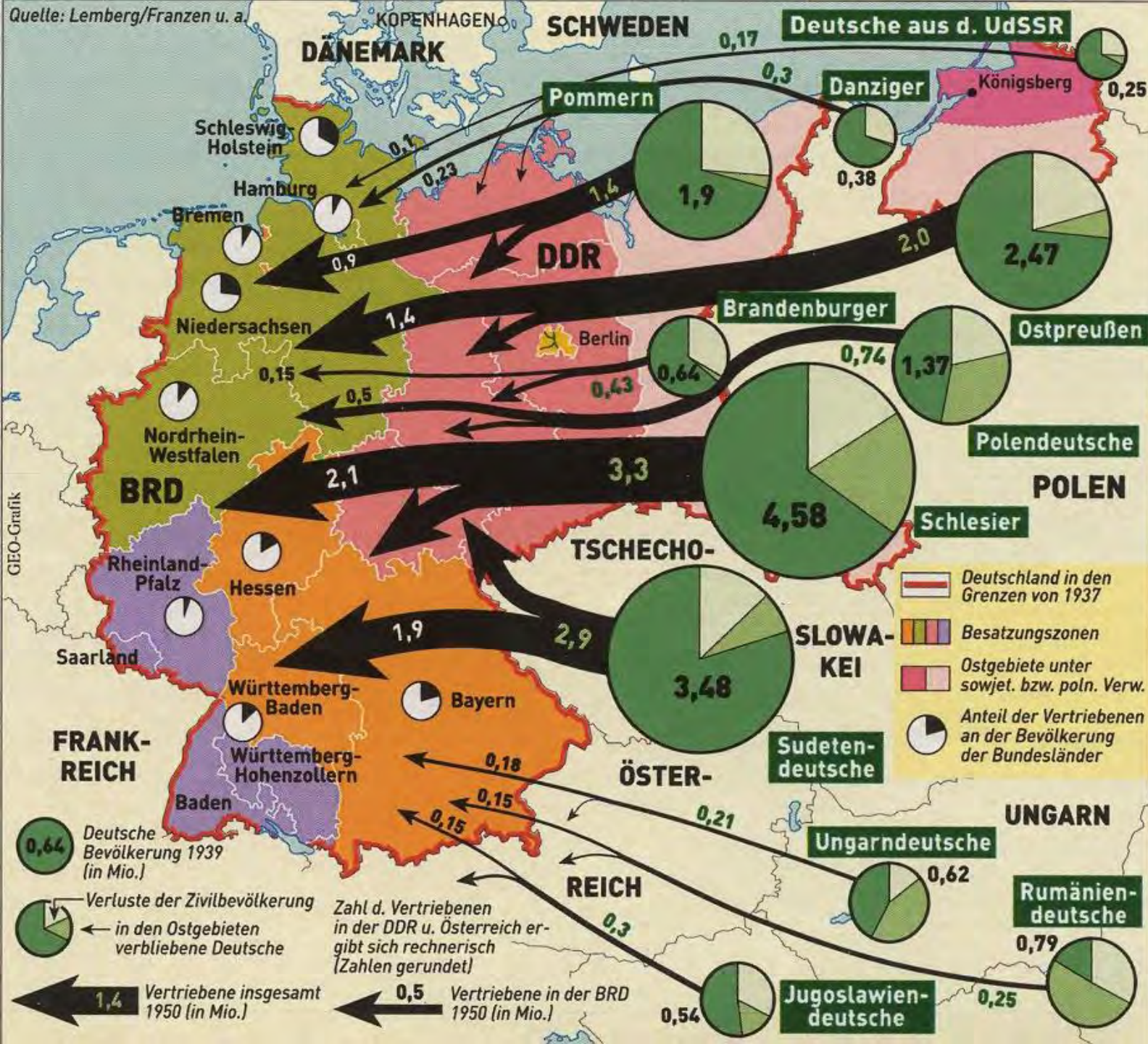




Former open fields southwest of Cherbourg (Normandy) and east of Neumünster (Sleschwig-Holstein) after piecemeal geleidelijke enclosure

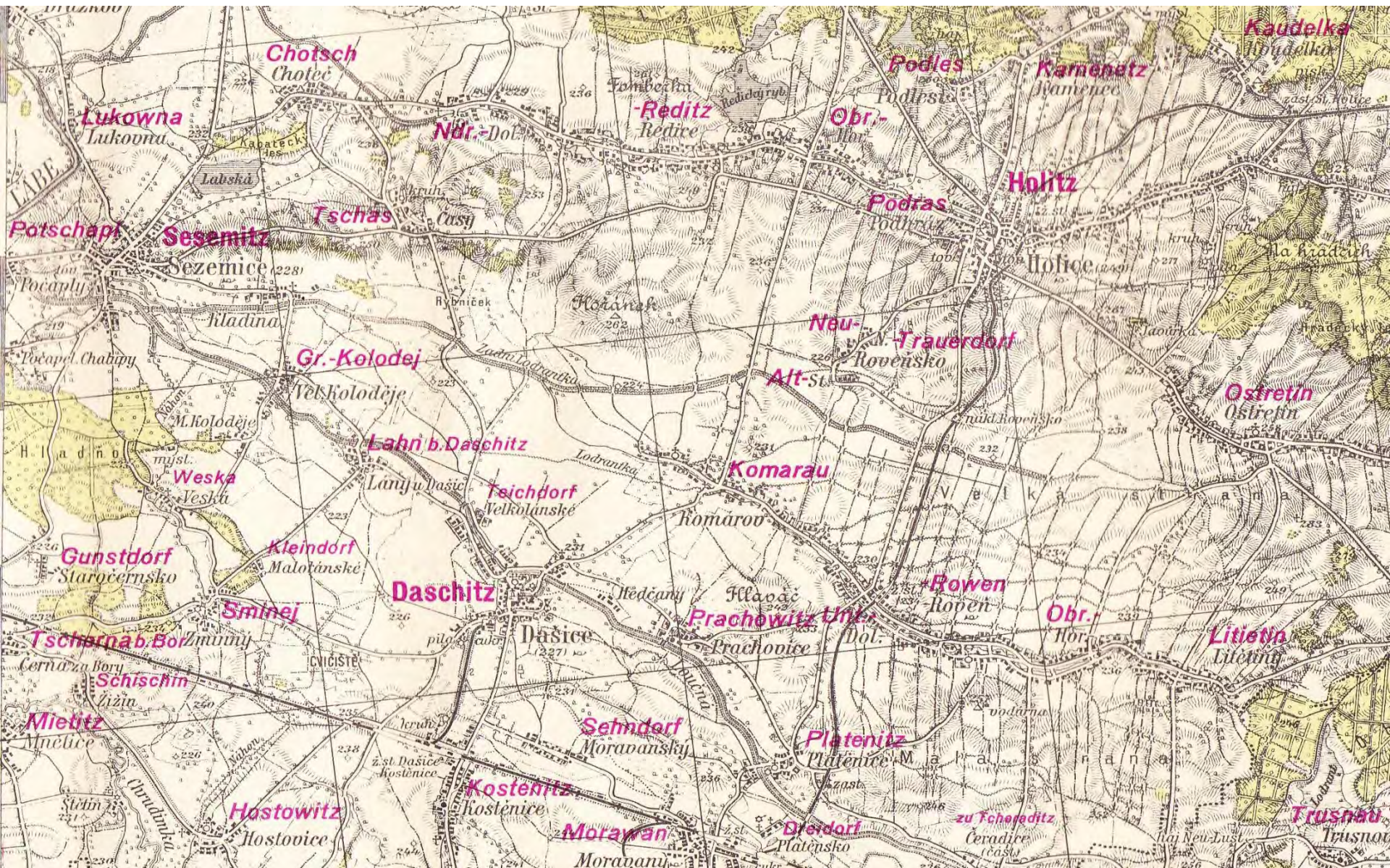


Quelle: Lemberg/Franzen u. a.



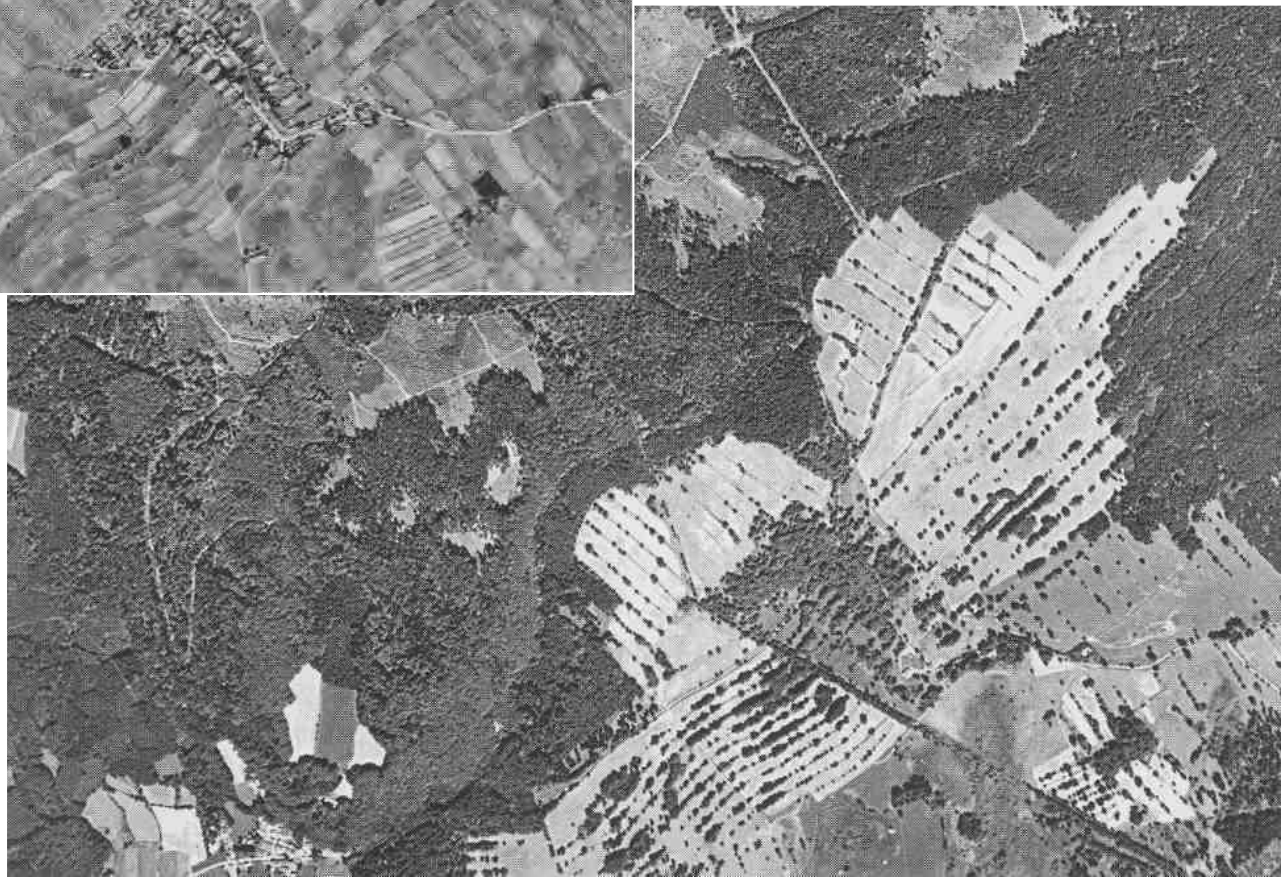
Between 1944 and 1950 a large part of the ethnic Germans from Eastern Europe (were) moved to Germany (Saller, 2002, p. 57)







Ples (former Plöss) in  
1952 (left) and 2000  
(below)







Stallupönen: 1938 Ebenrode,  
1947 Nesterov

Lawischkehmen: 1938  
Stadtfelde, 1947 Petrowskoye

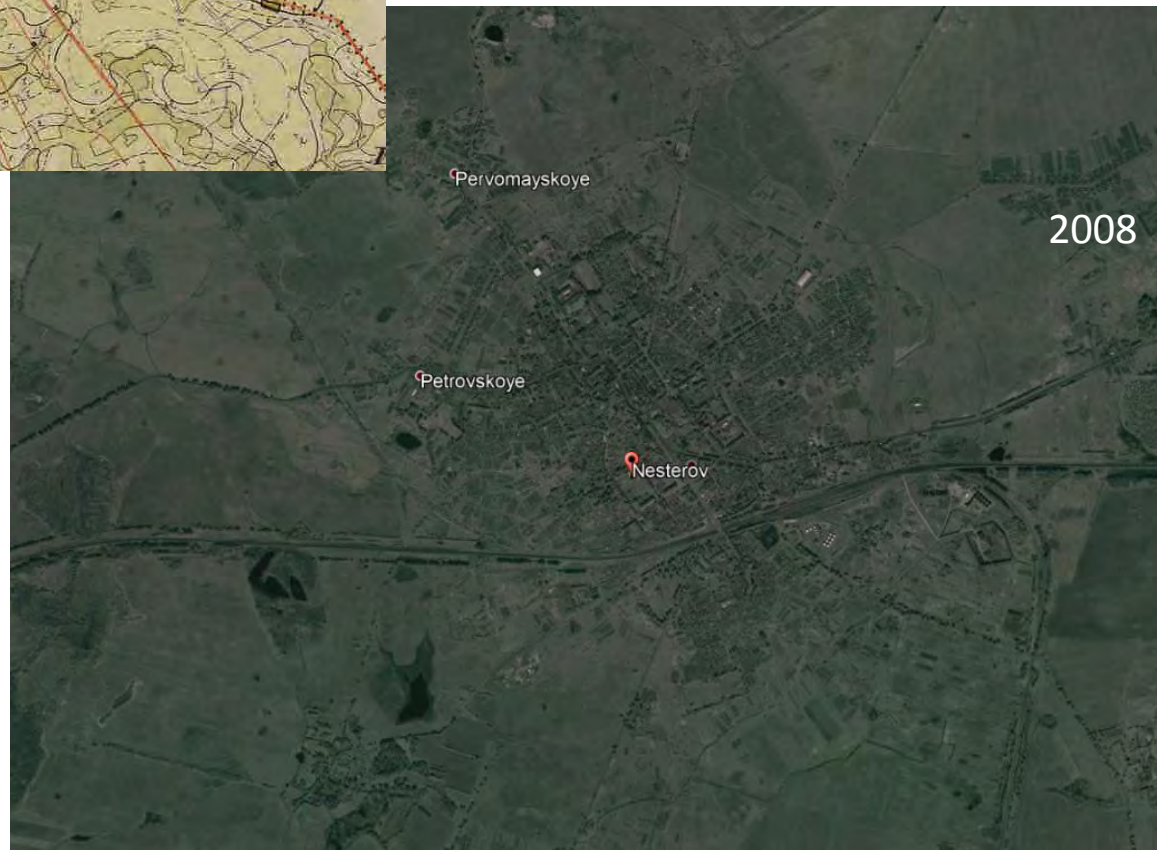
Bareischkehmen: 1938 Baringen,  
1947 Perwomaskoye

dtv

Marion Gräfin Dönhoff

## Namen die keiner mehr nennt

Ostpreußen –  
Menschen und Geschichte





Czechia: landscape of collectivised agriculture

Slavonice

Austria: small-scale landscape

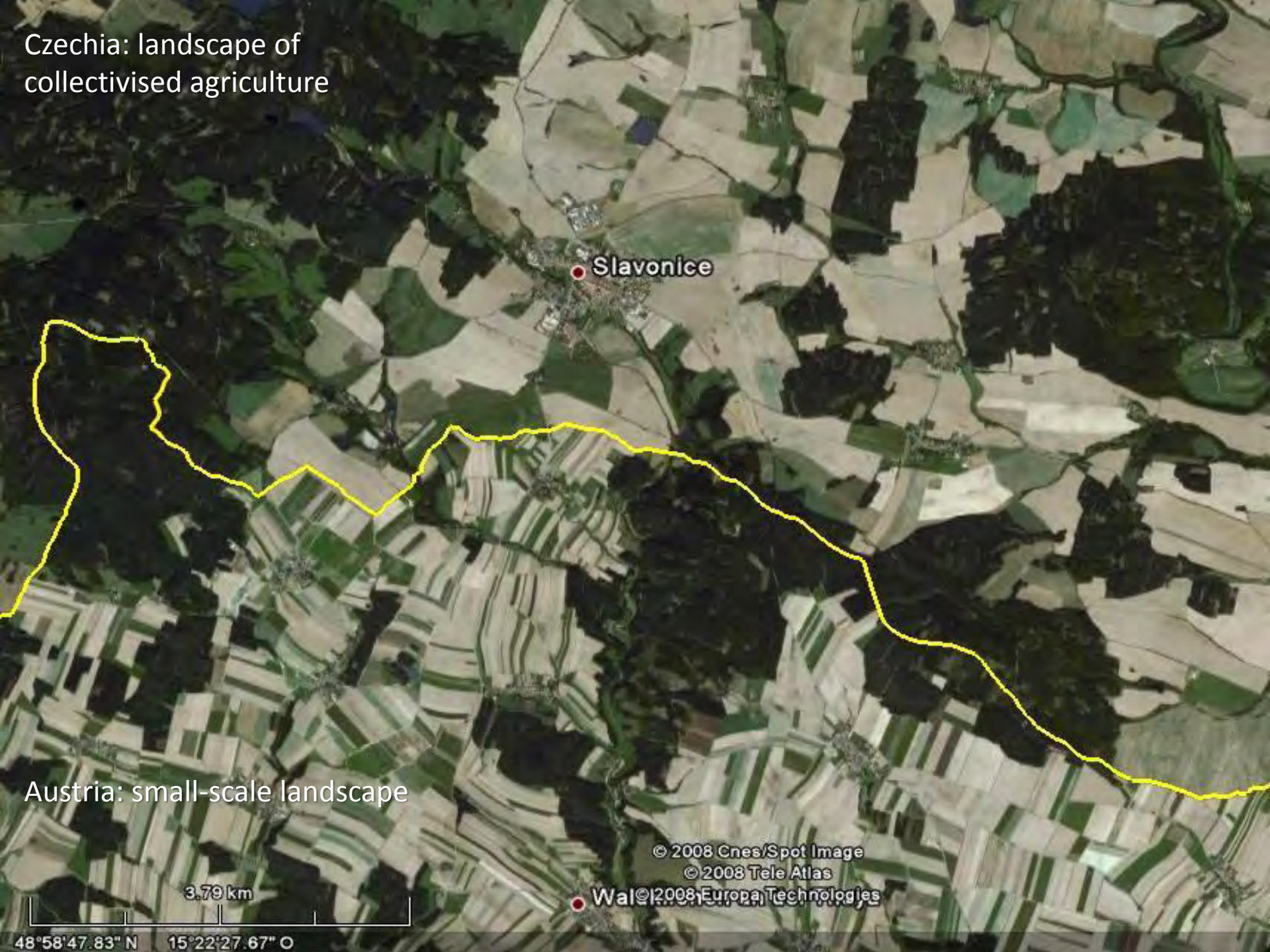
© 2008 Cnes/Spot Image

© 2008 Tele Atlas

Wal © 2008 Europa Technologies

3.79 km

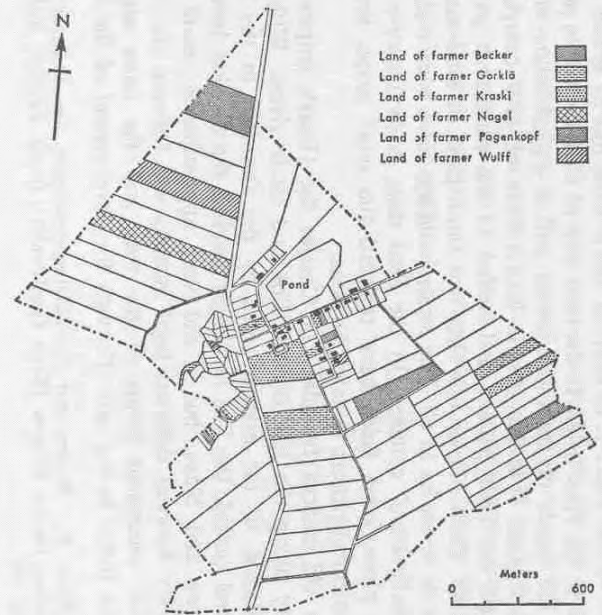
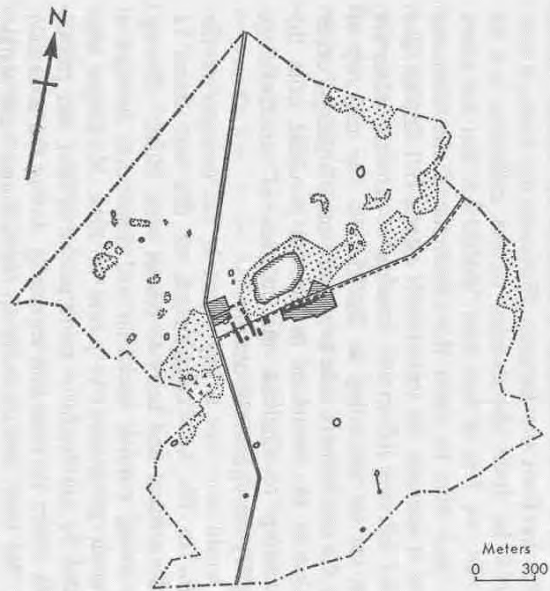
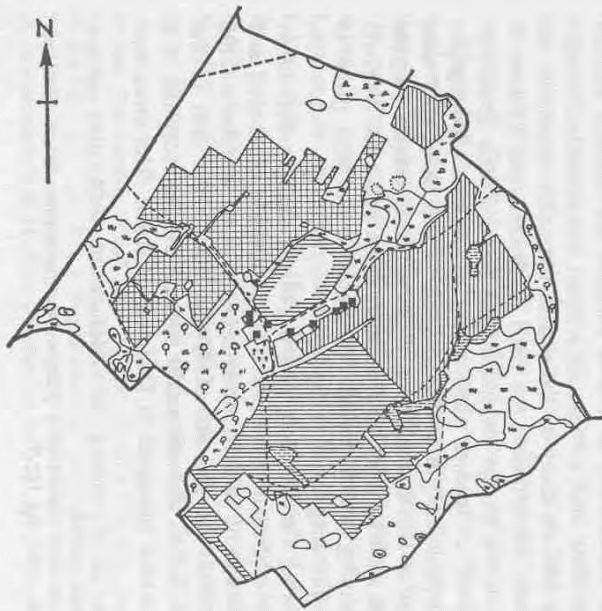
48°58'47.83" N 15°22'27.67" O





# Stresow (Vorpommern) in 1694, 1900, 1946 and 1960-'61.

From: Mayhew, 1973, pp.  
196-197 (after Benthien)





# Oudeschans and the Westerwoldse Aa in 1918 and recent





Königswalde (Ore  
Mountains,  
Germany)

In marginal regions  
transformations  
have often been less  
drastic









Landscapes of  
desertion

Extinct landscapes  
are rarely extinct





Deserted settlements (Germany): loss and identity



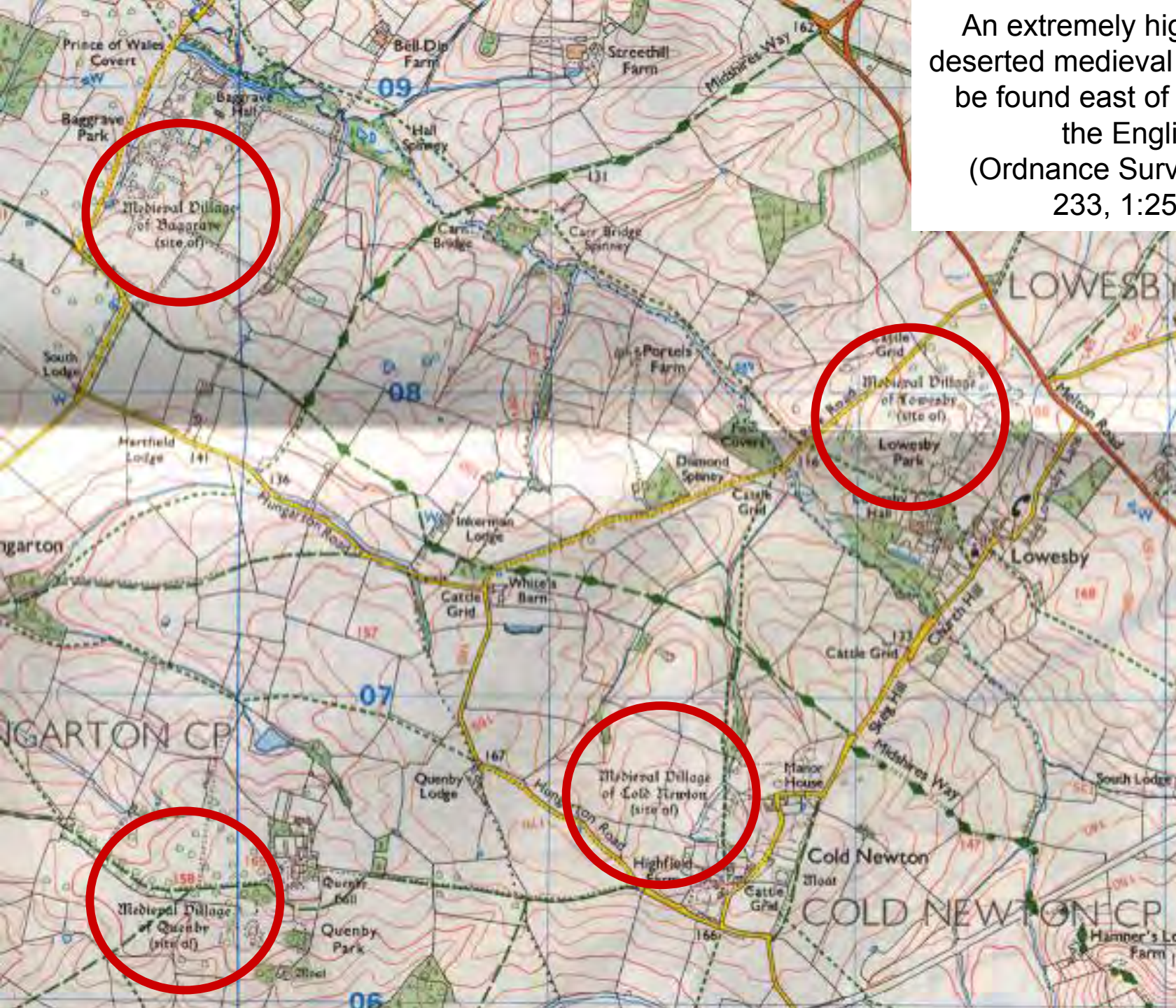








An extremely high density of deserted medieval villages can be found east of Leicester, in the English Midlands (Ordnance Survey, Explorer 233, 1:25,000, 2000).

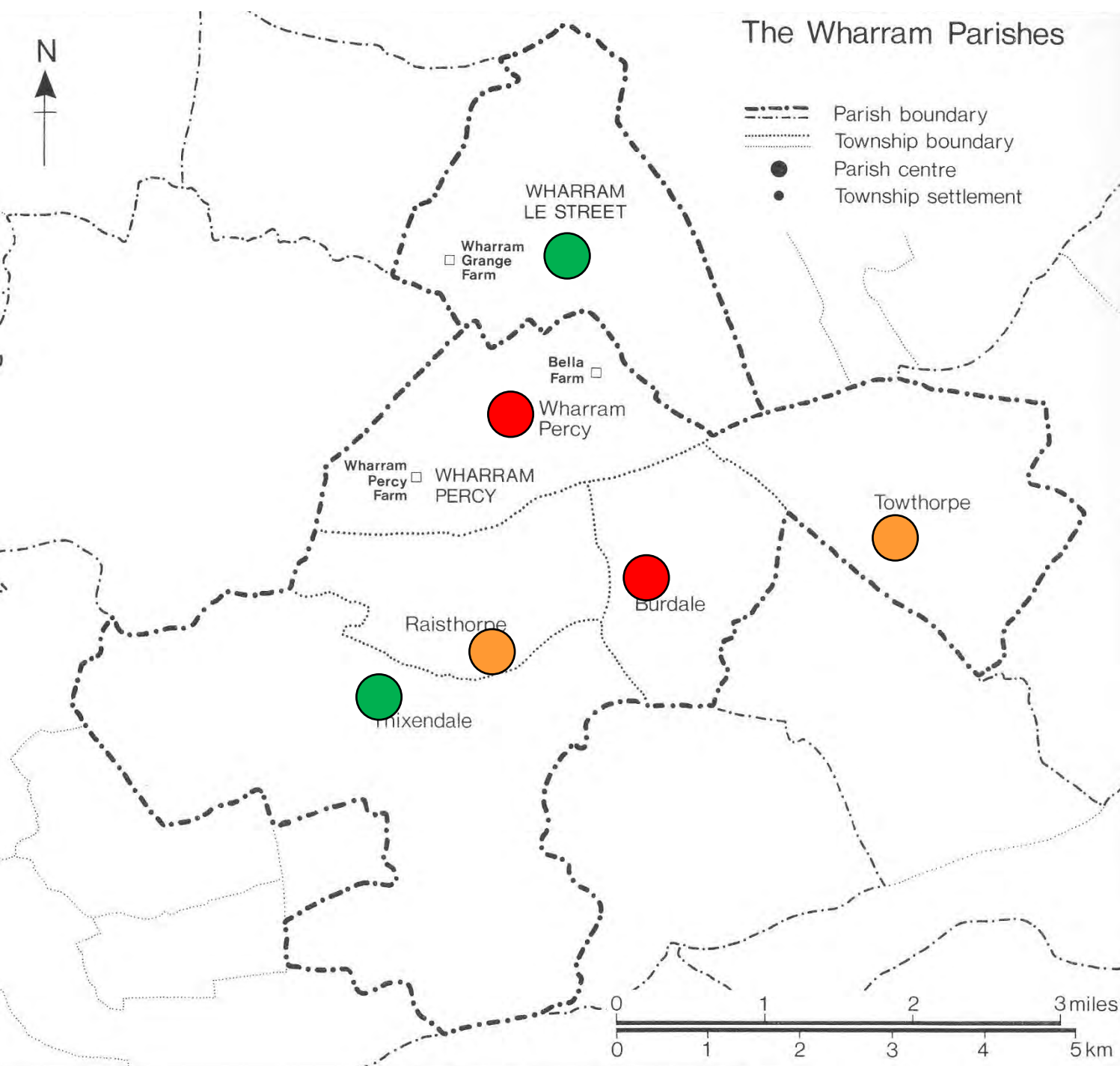






Onley (DMV), Northamptonshire





- Existing village
- Village deserted ca 1500
- Village deserted end 17<sup>th</sup> C

Beresford, M. & J. Hurst (1990). Wharram Percy, deserted medieval village. Batsford, London, p. 26.









# Landscapes of the Highland Clearances (Scotland)



Strathnaver





Before



Tsjernobyl

After





Can lost landscapes  
become a resource  
for the future?







Windmills in Scotland











A stream valley in the north-eastern Netherlands. In 1902/1916 (left) a small stream in a varied landscape. Centre: the stream remade into a discharge canal. Right: the stream after renaturation: again meandering but isolated from the surrounding landscape.



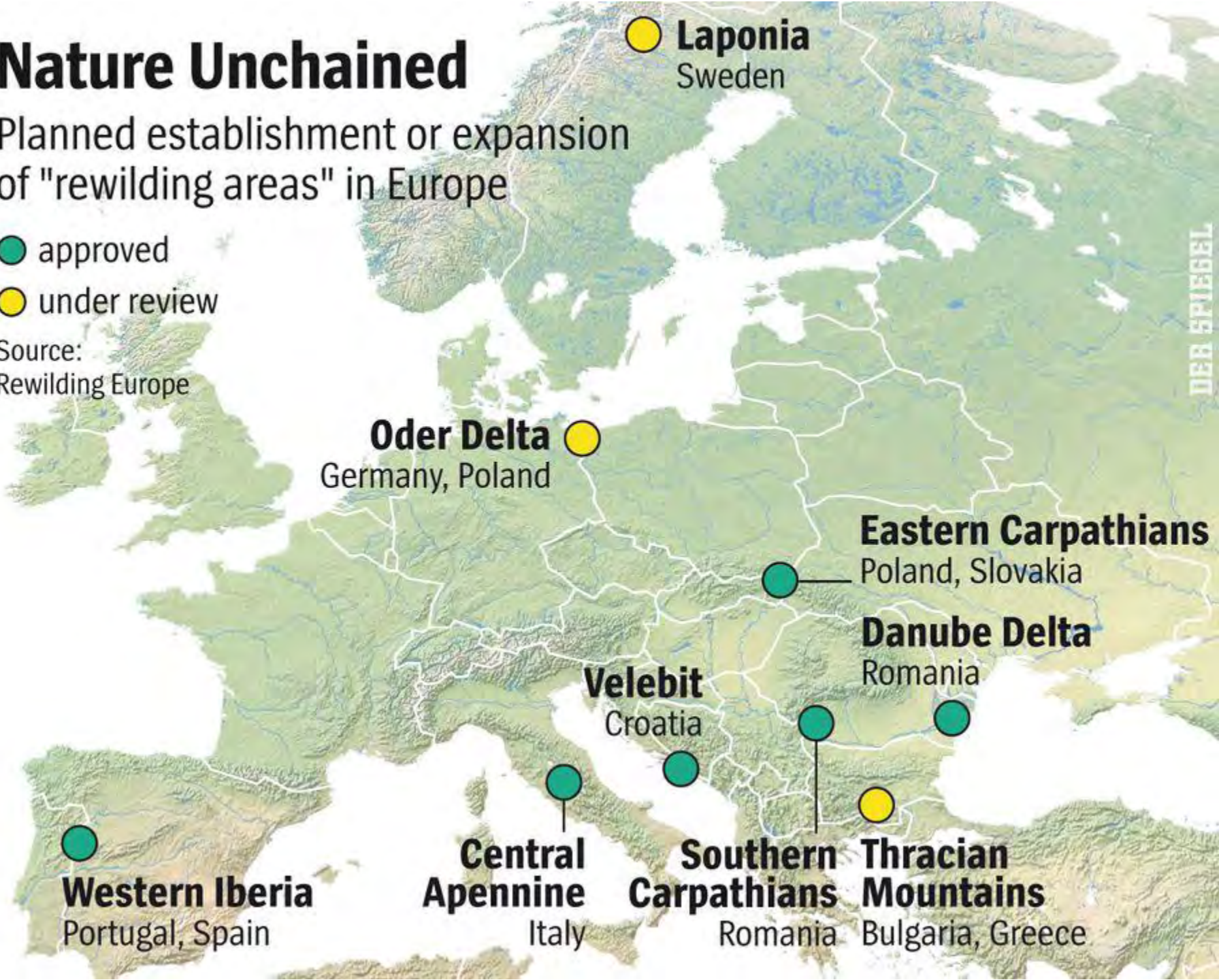
# Nature Unchained

Planned establishment or expansion of "rewilding areas" in Europe

● approved

● under review

Source:  
Rewilding Europe



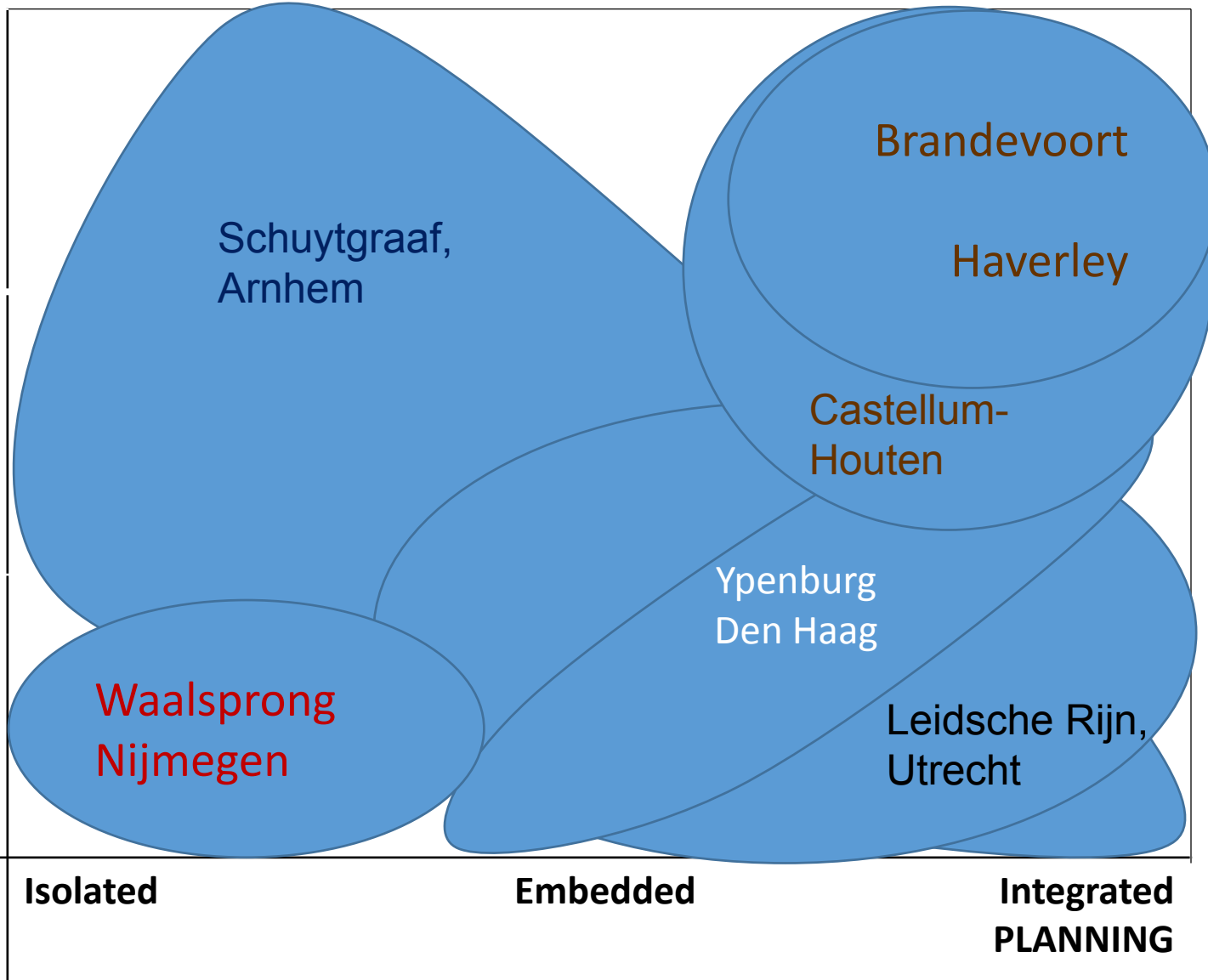


**HERITAGE**

Inspired

Transformed

Preserved



**Isolated**

**Embedded**

**Integrated  
PLANNING**









© Aviodrome

Dutch proposal  
for rebuilding  
hedgerow  
landscape for  
landscape and  
biodiversity

Verkaveld landschap zonder...

...en met Deltaplan.







[http://www.greeneuropeanjournal.eu/wp-content/uploads/2012/09/Croatia\\_landscape.jpg](http://www.greeneuropeanjournal.eu/wp-content/uploads/2012/09/Croatia_landscape.jpg)



I thank you for  
your attention