

A geotourism development as a process of transformation of the military district Javorina

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ABSTRACT

Contribution shows the possibility of the geotourism development in Levoča Hills in the part of former military district Javorina, that was closed for the half of century. Identification of point, line and area objects is the base for the direction for further development of this area. Contribution also emphasizes the significance of starting communities for the military district Javorina.

Keywords: military district Javorina, geotourism, development, identification geosites, Levoča Hills

INTRODUCTION

Between 1953 – 2010 the military district Javorina in the north-east part of Slovakia was officially closed for public. On January 1, 2010 it was reopened by the decision of the Government of the Slovak Republic with possibility for potential geotourist development. The area of the former military district was situated in the central part of Levoča Hills. The absence of scientific research of this area currently offers wide-ranging survey of territory from the point of view of different scientific branches. Identification of suitable objects of tourism for this area with its surrounding is prerequisite for the compilation of a local development plan of Levoča Hills with a focus on the long term closed area Javorina. Consequence of closure for nearly half a century consequence was that the area has completely lost its tourist importance.

MILITARY DISTRICT JAVORINA

The military district Javorina was established by order of the Government of the Czechoslovak republic from February 6,

1952, Act No. 169/1949, collection of Laws with effect from February 1, 1952 the name earmarked for the allocated area was Javorina. The act came into validity on January 1, 1953. [3]

The extent of military district Javorina was 316 384 415 m². Of the total area of Levoča Hills military district used to occupy nearly 60%. District was administratively composed of four full catastral municipalities: Blažov, Dvorce, Ruskinovce and Ľubica spa and other parts of the catastral territory of 22 Spiš municipalities: Bajerovce, Holumnica, Hradisko, Ihľany, Jakubany, Jurské, Kežmarok, Kolačkov, Krásna Lúka, Levoča, Lomnička, Ľubica, Nižné Repáše, Oľšavica, Poloma, Stotince, Šambron, Tichý Potok, Torysky, Tvarožná, Vyšné Repáše, Závada (Fig. 1). Villages which catastral area was incorporated into military district by creating military district Javorina were closed. Questions connected with moving citizens and liquidation of villages for this purpose was solved by the committee appointed by government. [3]

Military district used to consist of five catastral areas: Blažov, Ihľa, Levoča valley, Ľubica spa, Sypková.

According to approved plan in the model

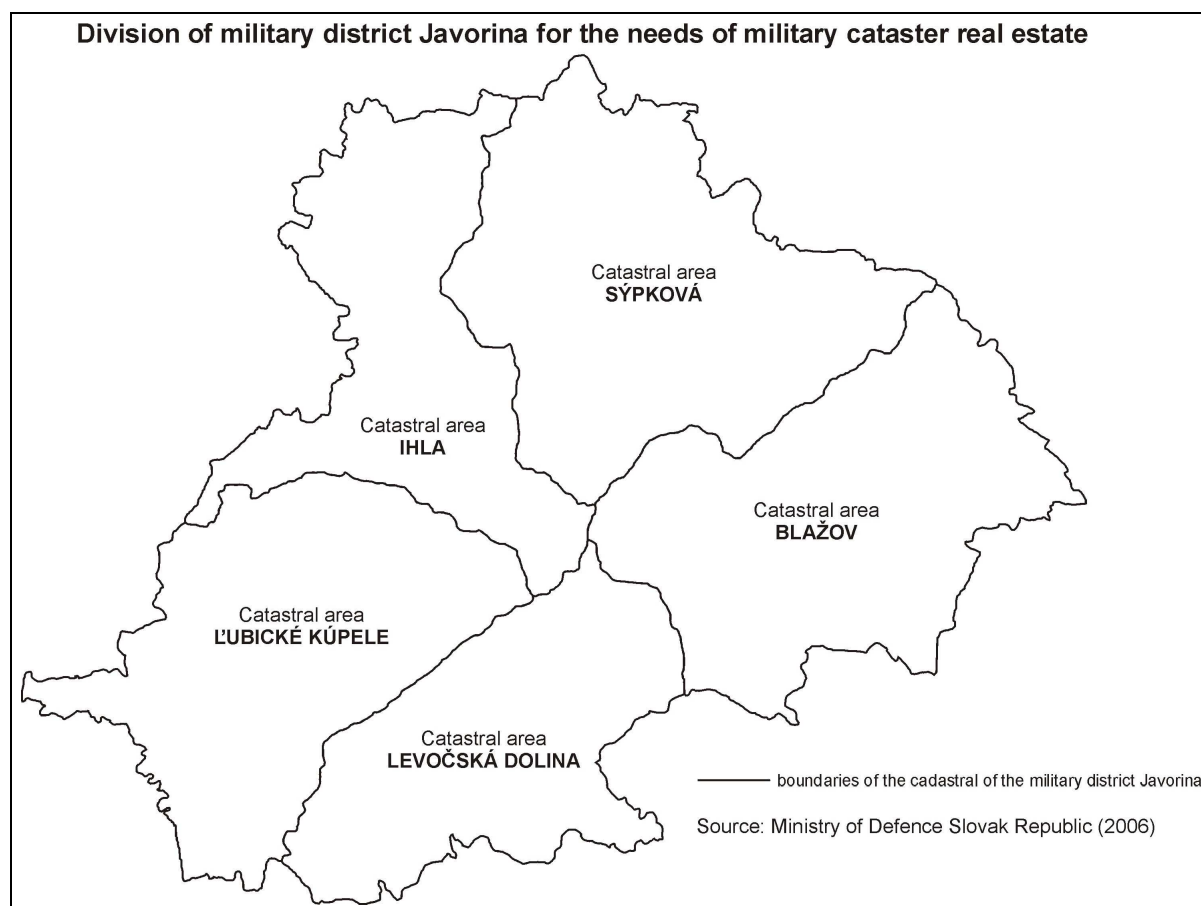


Fig. 1 Division of military district Javorina for the needs of military cataster real estate
Source: Ministry of Defence Slovak republic (2006)

2010 was the military district used until the end of the year 2006. By January 1, 2007 was military district Javorina abolished on the base of project which was for the first time presented in parliament May 29, 2002. Based on the fact that military district is situated on properties of former owners. The government of Slovak republic is trying for property settlement so far 3 296 former property owners have applied for restitution henceforth.

Nowadays, it is abolished military district under administration of Ministry of Defence of Slovak Republic, which reserves the right to administer the area until returning it to former owners.

The biggest problems have been caused by explosive remediation of the area. It is difficult and costly process. Presumption that complete remediation will end in 2010

or 2015. Forest cover will be in care of Military forest and estates until 2017. Between 2007 – 2010 are allowed to enter the former military district State forests Slovak republic, private persons only with permit. Since January 1, 2011 the area is freely accessible.

Division of military area between separate villages according to proposal: „The cancellation of military district Javorina“ elaborated by Ministry of Defence of Slovak Republic shows Figure 2. The largest area military district Javorina has been affiliated on the base of proposition to district Kežmarok, subsequently to district Stará Ľubovňa, Levoča and Sabinov. Official division of military district will finish after the end of restitution proceeding.

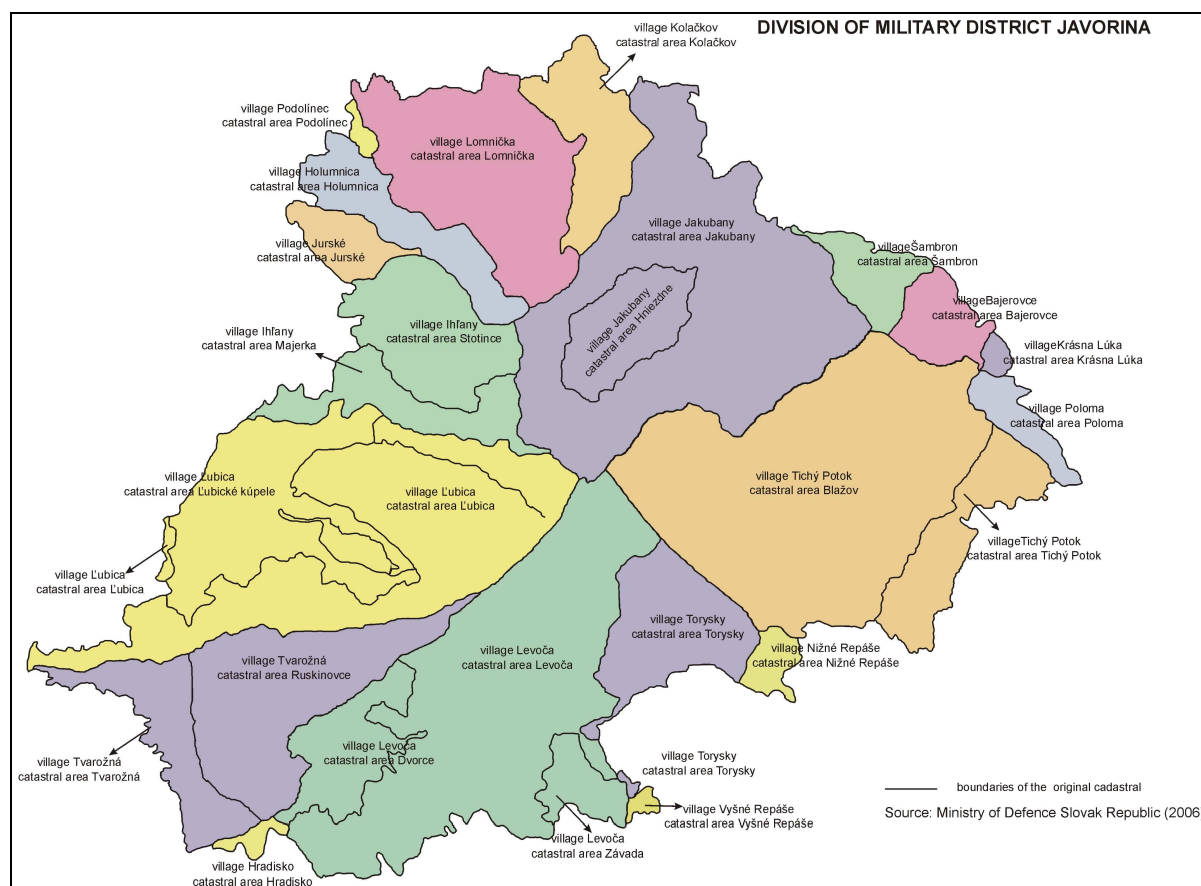


Figure 2 Division of military district Javorina, **Source:** Ministry of Defence Slovak republic (2006)

GEOTOURISTIC OBJECTS IDENTIFICATION IN MILITARY DISTRICT JAVORINA

During identification of objects of geotourism in the studied area it is not appropriate to rely on time data categorization in order that the area of military district Javorina was largely influenced by development after 1953 when great part of information was designated as secret or utterly destroyed. The subject of identification became four types of data for military district Javorina (Tab. 1) which are connected and influence each other:

- Point objects
- Line objects
- Area objects
- Starting communities

Point objects incorporate in themselves important peaks, residences, chalets, wooden shacks, surface water, mining

objects, geological objects, remains after moved villages, caves, shelters and memorials mostly. These point objects were necessary to map as first because they we're influence the second category – line objects.

Line objects are mainly roads, former tourist and cycling routes, historical ways, running routes, rivers, wood roads.

The next category of identification are area objects which serve to create categorization from the point of view of nature based conditions (botanical, zoological, etc.).

The last data category should belong to point objects. Due to the existence of outside military area, but also the specific starting position in the military district Javorina we add starting communities into a special category. This category is specific in attributes going into and out of studied area. It also creates the key tool for connection with tourist areas in Slovakia

(National Park Slovak Paradise, National Park Pieniny, Tatra National Park, Gothic Route).

Identified data of Javorina military district with its surroundings represents Table 2.

Table 1 Identification of military district Javorina data with neighborhood

category	Point objects	peaks, wooden shacks, surface water, mining objects, geological objects, remains of former villages, caves, shelters, memorials
category	Line objects	roads, tourist trails, cycling routes, running routes, wood roads, rivers
category	Area objects	botanical areas, zoological areas, relief
category	Starting municipalities, <i>extinct municipalities</i>	Starting municipalities in the Javorina military district – Levoča, Vyšné Repáše, Nižné Repáše, Torysky, Olšavica, Tichý Potok, Brezovica, Ľubica, Tvarožná, Poloma, Krásna Lúka, Bajerovce, Šambron, Jakubany, Kolačkov, Lomnička, Podolíneč, Holumnica, Hradisko, Jurské, Ihľany, <i>Ruskinovce, Dvorce, Ľubické spa, Blažov</i>

Table 2 Data identification of the military district area with surroundings

Order	Object title	Data	Notation
1.	Cave in Predná Kohútovka	Point	
2.	Derežová cave	Point	
3.	Židová cave	Point	
4.	Čugaňa cave	Point	
5.	Jazvečia cave	Point	
6.	Trojuholníková cave	Point	
7.	Trojvchodová cave	Point	
8.	Veľkonočná cave	Point	
9.	Prvá cave	Point	
10.	Ľadový dych cave	Point	
11.	Nikova cave	Point	
12.	Cave in the Javorinka	Point	
13.	Cave under Spišská	Point	
14.	Cave under Jankovec	Point	
15.	Chalet Tymec	Point	
16.	Chalet Ľubica spa	Point	
17.	Chalet Hanigovská	Point	
18.	Chalet Dvorce	Point	
19.	Chalet Vinná	Point	
20.	Chalet Gehuľa	Point	
21.	Chalet Sokolská	Point	
22.	Chalet Kameň	Point	

23.	Chalet Čierna Hora	Point	
24.	Chalet Zimná studňa	Point	
25.	Chalet in of valley of Ľubica river	Point	
26.	Chalet at the top Ihla	Point	
27.	Chalet in Peklisku	Point	
28.	Chalet Granseif	Point	
29.	Chalet Hrby	Point	
30.	Chalet Chmeľov	Point	
31.	Chalet Lomnička	Point	
32.	Chalet of the gamekeepers from Hniezdne	Point	
33.	Ruin of the Sklenár chalet	Point	
34.	Ruins of the Dlugoš house	Point	
35.	Fire-fighting reservoir Hitler well in the Ľubica valley	Point	
36.	Lake – Ozero (Baňúr)	Point	
37.	Two fire-fighting tank in the area Ľubica (military part)	Point	
38.	Sulfur spring in Ľubica	Point	
39.	Water area in Retňak	Point	
40.	Gravel pit in Retňak	Point	
41.	The water area in the Jakubany area (military part)	Point	
42.	Water area in Hradisko above the displaced community Ruskinovce	Point	
43.	Inoperable water area under Krížový peak	Point	
44.	Two water areas in the Romančiná valley	Point	
45.	Two water areas near the chalet Hrby	Point	
46.	Water area in the Hómer valley	Point	
47.	Gravel pit above village Torysky	Point	
48.	Wooden cascades	Line	
49.	Stone cascades	Line	
50.	Panel cascades	Line	
51.	Sandstone layers	Point/Line*	*in case that they are along the river or road
52.	Worked sandstones	Point	
53.	Blast furnace	Point	
54.	Bišar (981,4 meters above sea level)	Point	
55.	Čierna Hora (1289,4 meters above sea level)	Point	
56.	Čierna Hora (1090,6 meters above sea level)	Point	
58.	Ihla (1282,6 meters above sea level)	Point	
59.	Javorina (1224,9 meters above sea level)	Point	
60.	Javorinka (1074,0 meters above sea level)	Point	

62.	Repisko (1250,8 meters above sea level)	Point	
63.	Spišská (1056,5 meters above sea level)	Point	
64.	Strieborná Hora (951 meters above sea level)	Point	
65.	Čierna Kopa (1180 meters above sea level)	Point	
66.	Krížový vrch (1080,8 meters above sea level)	Point	
67.	Gehuľa (1050,0 meters above sea level)	Point	
68.	Kamenná hora (957,2 meters above sea level)	Point	
69.	Jankovec (1159,4 meters above sea level)	Point	
70.	Hradisko – Levoča valley – Ofšavica	Line	Walking trail
71.	Levoča – Zbojnícka lúka	Line	Walking trail
72.	Levoča – Kúty	Line	Walking trail
73.	Spiš castle hill – Ofšavica	Line	Walking trail
74.	Tichý Potok – Nižný Slavkov	Line	Walking trail
75.	Šambron – Kýčery – Jakubany	Line	Walking trail
76.	Jakubany – Ihľany	Line	Walking trail
77.	Jakubany – Tichý Potok	Line	Walking trail
78.	Jakubany – Levoča	Line	Walking trail
79.	Jakubany – Ľubica	Line	Walking trail
80.	Jakubany - Torysky	Line	Walking trail
81.	Jakubany - Ofšavica	Line	Walking trail
82.	Levoča – Ľubica	Line	Walking trail
83.	Nižné Repáše – Tichý Potok	Line	Walking trail
84.	Ofšavica – Tichý Potok	Line	Walking trail
85.	Levoča – Tichý Potok	Line	Walking trail
86.	Torysky – Tichý Potok	Line	Walking trail
87.	Kolačkov – Jakubany	Line	Walking trail
88.	Kolačkov – Ihľany	Line	Walking trail
89.	Lomnička – Holumnica	Line	Walking trail
90.	Šambron – Tichý Potok	Line	Walking trail
91.	Šambron – Nižné Repáše	Line	Walking trail
92.	Šambron – Ofšavica	Line	Walking trail
93.	Bajerovce – Kuligura	Line	Walking trail
94.	Krásna Lúka – Kuligura	Line	Walking trail
95.	Poloma – Čierna Hora	Line	Walking trail
96.	Blažov valley	Line	
97.	Ľubica valley	Line	
98.	Valley of the river Jakubianka	Line	
99.	Levoča valley	Line	
100.	Spa valley	Line	
101.	Rear valley	Line	

102.	Probstner historical route	Line	Walking trail
103.	Levoča valley – Tichý Potok	Line	Cycling trail
104.	Levoča valley – Jakubany	Line	Cycling trail
105.	Tichý Potok – Ľubica	Line	Cycling trail
106.	Levoča valley – Ľubica	Line	Cycling trail
107.	Kežmarok – Levočská dolina – Brutovce – Horná Lehota	Line	Cycling trail
108.	Lipany – Krásna Lúka - Šambron	Line	Cycling trail
109.	Bišar	Area	Botanical area
110.	Valalská voda	Area	Botanical area
111.	Uhliská	Area	Botanical area
112.	Bajerovce	Starting community	
113.	Holumnica	Starting community	
114.	Hradisko	Starting community	
115.	Ihľany	Starting community	
116.	Jakubany	Starting community	
117.	Jurské	Starting community	
118.	Kolačkov	Starting community	
119.	Krásna Lúka	Starting community	
120.	Lomnička	Starting community	
121.	Ľubica	Starting community	
122.	Nižné Repáše	Starting community	
123.	Ofšavica	Starting community	
124.	Podolíneč	Starting community	
125.	Poloma	Starting community	
126.	Šambron	Starting community	
127.	Tichý Potok	Starting community	
128.	Torysky	Starting community	
129.	Tvarožná	Starting community	
130.	Vyšné Repáše	Starting community	
131.	Levoča	Starting community	
132.	Dvorce	Extinct community	

133.	Ľubické kúpele	Extinct community	Part of Ľubica, now ongoing litigation with the village Ľubica for the recognition of a separate community
134.	Ruskinovce	Extinct community	
135.	Blažov	Extinct community	Settlement Blažov valley and Čertež

STARTING COMMUNITIES OF LEVOČA HILLS FOR MILITARY DISTRICT JAVORINA

Starting communities of Levoča Hills in the former military district can become important part for development of the accessible area. Important function can be fulfilled mainly from the point of preconditions feasibility (transport, catering, accommodation, places for services and business, sporting and technological facilities, special facilities) and artificially created presumptions (cultural-historical monuments and buildings, cultural-social events, sport events and similarly) geotourism. Important role perform also social-economical presumptions and political or selective presumptions. Starting communities could become places providing information for Levoča Hills territory (military district Javorina) could also possibly use 21 starting communities (Fig. 4):

- From district Stará Ľubovňa – Podolíneč, Lomnička, Kolačkov, Jakubany, Šambron
- From district Sabinov – Bajerovce, Krásna Lúka, Poloma, Tichý Potok, Brezovica
- From district Levoča – Levoča, Vyšné Repáše, Nižné Repáše, Torysky, Olšavica
- From district Kežmarok – Hradisko, Tvarožná, Ľubica, Holumnica, Ihľany, Jurské

While analyzing spatial and administration distribution considering number of villages in the districts and number of villages homogeneity can be observed in terms of cardinal directions.

Starting communities which have been mentioned belong between margined villages of the district as well as Slovak Republic. Development of these villages currently lags behind. Development of the area could help to improve development of these areas.

The size structure of the villages is an important criterion for village development. Starting communities have important role in Levoča Hills development considering an area or a locality, which used to be closed for public for long time. Starting communities can be divided into three groups:

- Large villages which have own potential and infrastructure for development
- Medium villages which on the base of mutual cooperation could enormously participate on Levoča Hills development
- Small villages that from the long time point of view of the change in the number of population could be added to dying out villages

From the graph (Figure 3) can be stated that the layout of the village in terms of size is the same at the commune level up to 300 and over 1200 residence. In the remaining

size categories is the number of municipalities about the same. Central role in the development can have large villages. Large villages with prospect of development are Ihľany, Jakubany, Ľubica a Podolíneč. Village Lomnička belongs to villages with high natural increase caused by Romani majority and from this point of perspective Levoča Hills development can be difficult because of the maladjustment of citizens.

Village which level from 301 to 1200 residents can rely on microregion cooperation. In villages smaller than 300 residents (Hradisko (-7,3%), Nižné Repáše (-30,8%), Olšavica (-21,2%), Vyšné Repáše

(-33,8%), it is possible to monitor decrease in population. In this case from the point of view of development monitoring of residence number in these villages it is possible to think about dying villages. Although they can not be excluded from development of Levoča Hills. Such communities are now becoming cottage areas of urban inhabitants.

Starting communities in Levoča Hills area (Fig. 4) shows quantitative and qualitative increase of opportunities for development of Levoča Hills. Overview of potential objects in the starting villages is given in the Table 3.

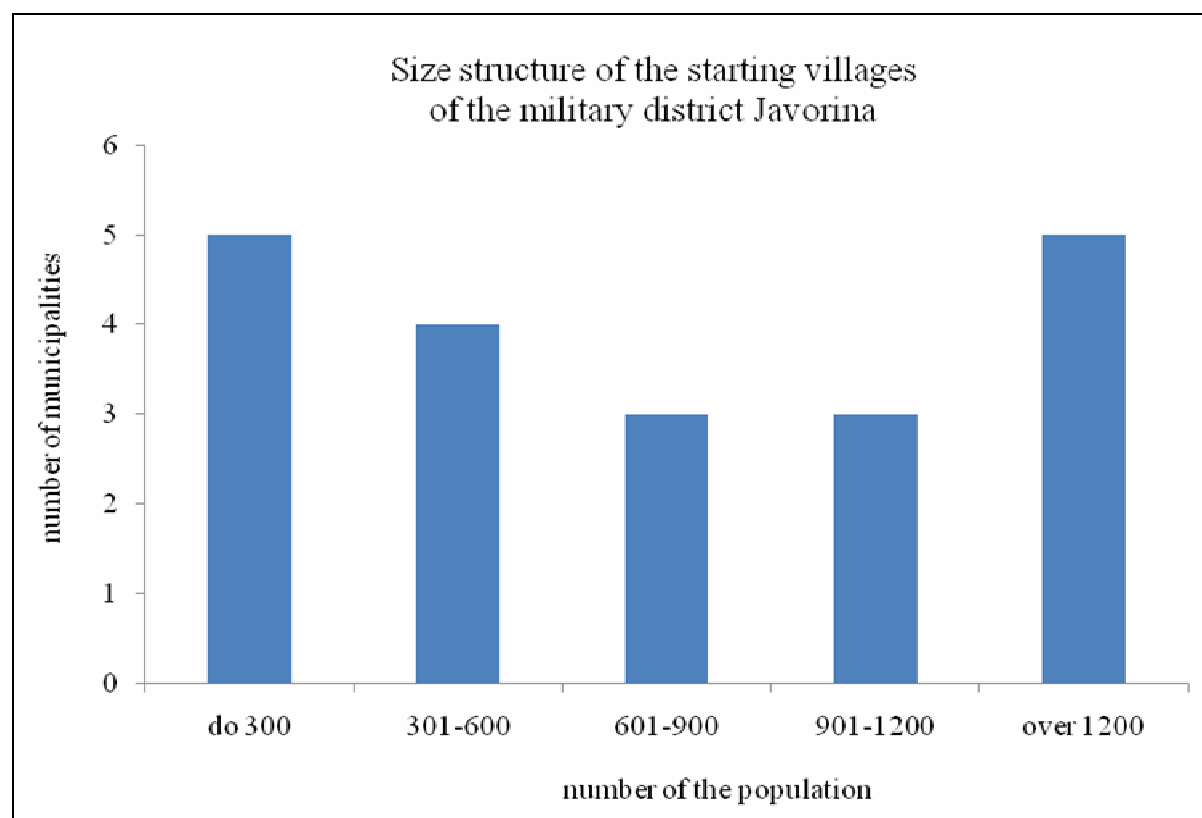


Fig. 3 Size structure of the starting villages of the military district Javorina

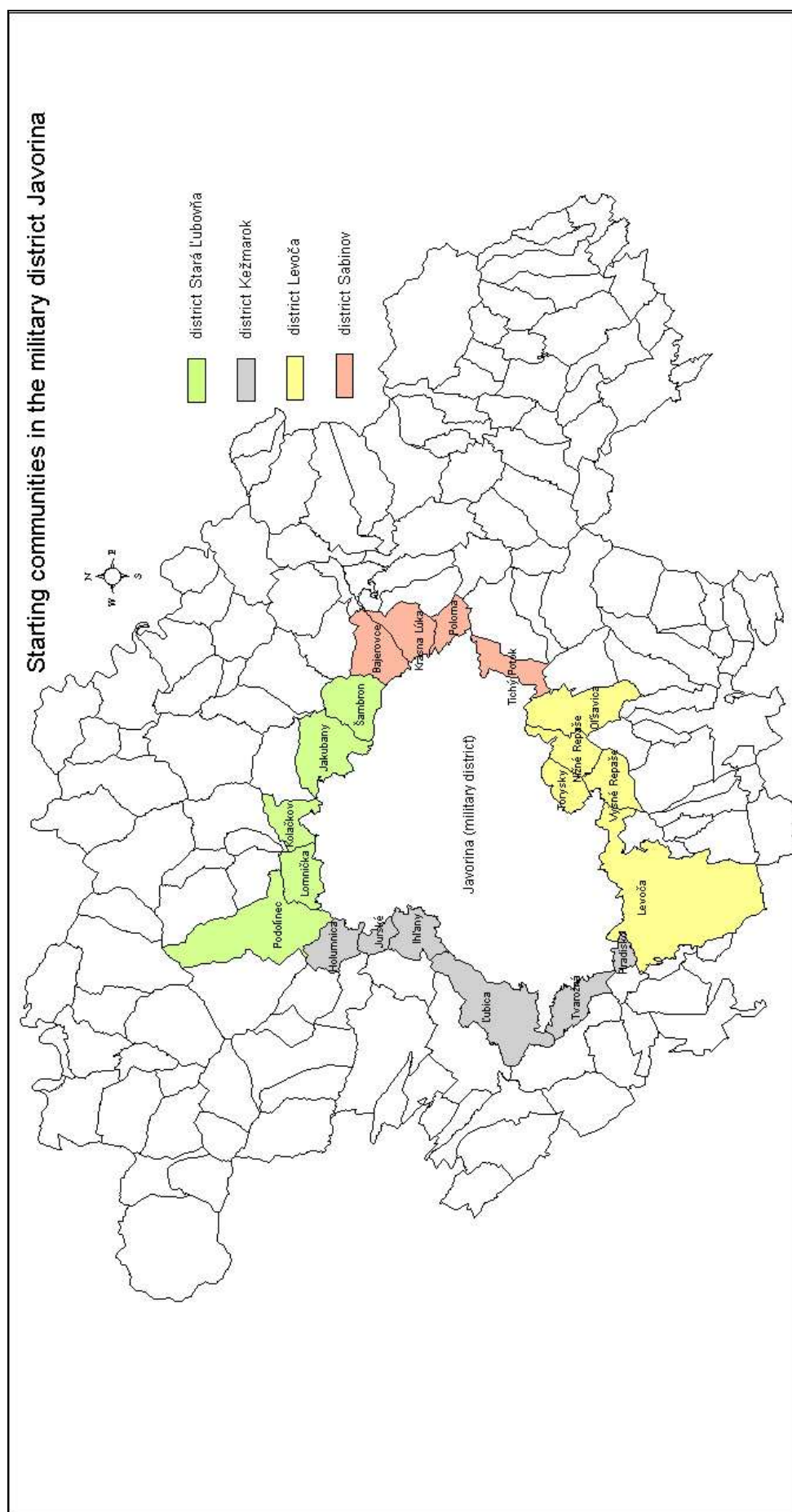


Fig. 4 Starting communities in the military district Javorina

Table 3 Potential tourism object in the starting communities in the military district Javorina

Village name	Object
<i>Bajerovce</i>	100 years old lime natural reserve Valalská voda houses from the 1st half of the 20th century
<i>Holumnica</i>	castle ruins
<i>Hradisko</i>	original folk houses
<i>Ihľany</i>	Master Pavol from Levoča relief
<i>Jakubany</i>	classical Probstner family mansion original architecture – wood houses bench laid sandstones along the road to military district Javorina
<i>Jurské</i>	-
<i>Kolačkov</i>	-
<i>Krásna Lúka</i>	mineral spring Master Pavol's of Levoča late gothic sculptures
<i>Lomnička</i>	-
<i>Lubica</i>	the largest roman catholic church in Spiš region with Master Pavol's of Levoča sculptures the highest Marian column burgher houses, some types of craftsmens' and peasants' houses working fire syringe from the 16th century
<i>Nižné Repáše</i>	original architecture – wood houses
<i>Olšavica</i>	Gerčák mill original architecture – wood houses sacral monuments (bell Nikolaj from 1893, crosses – seven wood crosses and six stone crosses)
<i>Podolíneč</i>	conservation reserve established on 11th June 1991
<i>Poloma</i>	village with the highest altitude in Šariš
<i>Šambron</i>	-
<i>Tichý Potok</i>	stone houses original architecture
<i>Torysky</i>	original architecture
<i>Tvarožná</i>	the oldest pulpit in the Spiš region stained glass baroque column with a statue of Immaculate renaissance houses
<i>Vyšné Repáše</i>	-
<i>vada (časť Levoče)</i>	-

CONCLUSION

Progress of the Levoča Hills region including military district has not been fully accessible so far so this may be an appropriate contribution for organizations that address the progress of this site. It is necessary for Levoča Hills strongly consider the importance of tourism. Based on a target planning to direct development in the right direction. According to the basis of the facts may be set up a project to

further advance of the area. Creating the project with links to surrounding areas National Park Tatras, National Park Pieniny, national Park Slovak Paradise, Gothic Route has the opportunity to bring the character of an international project in particular with Poland. Properly prepared projects can bring a new area of tourism to Slovakia, which is currently very little known and has the opportunity to provide space for demanding tourist and boost development of active tourism. Necessity of

solution Levoča Hills area becomes actual on 1 January 2011 when the territory becomes accessible to the general public.

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