

**UKRAINIAN PARALLELS OF GEOMORPHOLOGICAL  
AND HISTORICAL PROCESSES OF MODERN VIEW FORMATION  
OF GEDIMINAS LIFT HILL IN VILNIUS  
AND THEIR USE IN TOURIST SPHERE**

The originality and specifics of Gediminas Lift Hill in Vilnius are determined not only by the location of the Upper Castle but also by the process of its formation as an isolated positive relief. Originally being a well-morphologically pronounced cape-like protrusion of the right bank of the Neris, it was cut off from the root bank and formed as its isolated remnant. We note that it ended in the late medieval period when the area of this cut was directed to the main channel of the Vilna. The issue of the ratio of natural and anthropogenic factors of this process needs to be considered thoroughly. The above-mentioned actions determined the further development of the whole of Vilnius not in the direction of the high right bank, where it was destroyed by the Crusaders in 1390. The Crooked Castle was no longer restored but in the opposite direction of the plain river floodplain. Under the cover of the Upper Castle, the Lower Castle developed, where the main residence of the *Grand Duchy of Lithuania* was located.

The above-mentioned factors have determined the specifics of the attractiveness of the main tourist attractions of the capital of the Republic of Lithuania. On the one hand, most of the famous sights of the city can be seen from the Upper Castle, which is located on Gediminas Lift Hill, and on the other hand, the Hill itself with the castle can be easily seen from the city. Such a visual connection facilitates the formation of an observer's fuller idea of the historical topography of the city and its spatial development.

The understanding of the course of the spatial development of Vilnius will be strengthened even more if examples well known to observers from previous experience are used in its coverage. At the same time, you should rely on well-known attractions that are objects of mass tourism, or on large cities, where large groups of tourists come from. The use of such parallels will contribute to a better understanding of the spatial structure of both Vilnius and the examples of other cities, including Ukrainian ones, the memorization of information, and, ultimately, will stimulate the desire to visit such monuments.

Due to the intensive attendance, Kyiv Castle on Zamkova Hora Hill or Kyselivka can be included in this group. It is historically associated with the Upper Castle in Vilnius, as both were built and operated in the Grand Duchy of Lithuania. Located on the remains cut off from the root bank, it dominates Podil, although it is not separated from the root bank by a constant watercourse. The only significant disadvantage of Kyiv Castle for this scientific and methodological construction is that it did not leave behind attractive objects, except for the last one (Kyselivka Mountains), which is difficult for visitors. However, the process of natural cutting off of Kyiv Zamkova Hora Hill from the native shore can be easily shown from the observation deck on the edge of Starokyivska Hill.

The process of cutting off the arrow of the cape, which already housed a medieval castle, takes place in our time in the village Litovezh, Volodymyr-Volynskyi district, Volyn region. Here the castle of the Lithuanian period was located on the cape of the first floodplain terrace of the right bank, formed by the meandering bend of the Western Bug River. Over the last century, the riverbed at the base of the meandering bend intensively destroyed the area of the first floodplain terrace and gradually converged. In the future, the castle and sub-castle of medieval Lithuania will be on the remains of the first floodplain terrace, taken from it by the new riverbed. In this case, we have an almost complete analogy to the relevant processes in the formation of Gediminas Lift Hill in Vilnius.

From the point of view of tourist attractiveness, Lithuania can interest visitors from Lithuania not only with the original earthen castle but also with its name, coat of arms and flag, historical role as the possession of one of the branches of the Czartoryski princes.

The process of allocating the island among the floodplain of the Styr River, on which the castle and the original city of Lutsk, the historical center of Volhynia, later stood, had obvious parallels with the formation of Gediminas Lift Hill in Vilnius. It is well known that the city played a significant role in the Grand Duchy of Lithuania, especially during the reign of Vytautas the Great. Lutsk brick castle on the island was built by Prince Lubart Gediminovich. Currently, Lutsk is a regional center, has great tourist potential, which is actively implemented.

The island, which at the end of the I millennium located a city, and in the XIV century a brick castle was built, in the past it was widened by the lower edge of the cape on the right bank of the first floodplain terrace of the Styr river. Later, it was cut off from the terrace by the riverbed, or its Glushets Street. As

the area was taken away was large, the Okolny (Lower) one was formed on it together with the Upper Castle. This is exactly what happened in Vilnius.

According to a similar scheme, only with the predominance of anthropogenic factors, the arrow of the cape, on which the medieval Vladimir castle was located, was cut off. The passage of the Smocha riverbed through the arrow of the cape took place in the XIV century when a brick castle of Casimir the Great was built on it.

At the same time, the new castle appeared on a separate arrow of the cape together with the former city, which from that time began to perform the functions of the Okolny (Lower) Castle. And again, almost a complete analogy with Vilnius.

The search for such examples can be continued, but it is already clear that a similar natural environment, a common historical destiny within the Grand Duchy of Lithuania, has caused many similar features in the development of castle building between Lithuania and Ukraine. Focusing on such points will help restore awareness of the common historical destiny of two folks.

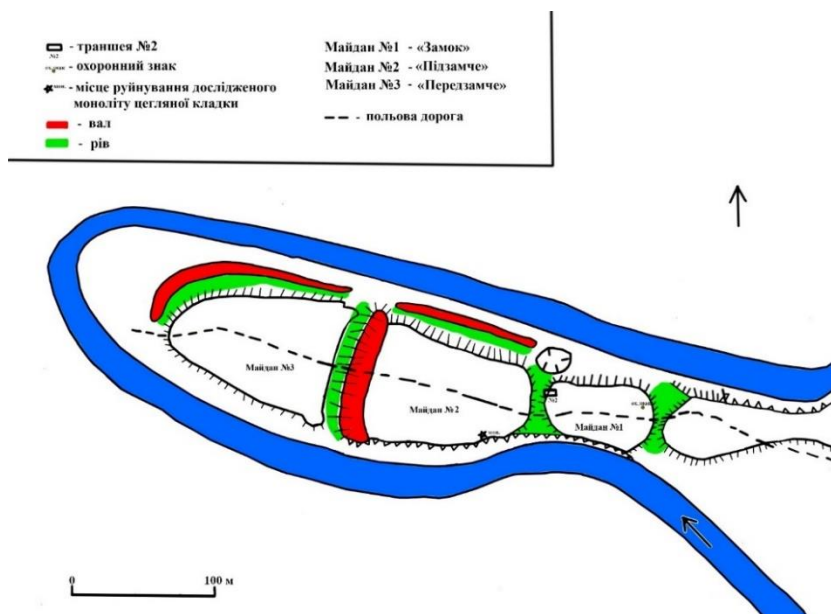


Photo 1. Plan of a medieval castle in the village Litovezh