

Continuity and Change
Rural Poland 1918-2018
Searching for Sources
of the Present

Maria Halamska

Continuity and Change Rural Poland 1918-2018 Searching for Sources of the Present

Translated by
Joanna Dutkiewicz

Warsaw 2020

IRWIR PAN



1918
CONTINUITY AND CHANGE
2018

Original edition: *Ciągłość i zmiana. Wieś polska 1918–2018.*
W poszukiwaniu źródeł teraźniejszości (2020)

Reviewers: Professor Marie-Claude Maurel, Professor Roch Sulima

Proofreading: David Westacott, Karolina Podlipna

Cover design: Frycz & Wicha

The cover photo by Małgorzata Wójtowicz-Cichoń, *Pasieka in Spring*, shows the vicinity of the author's family home

Publication financed under the programme of the Minister of Science and Higher Education – „DIALOG” in the years 2017–2019

The partner in the project is the Central Statistical Office

The publication was supported by the European Fund for the Development of Polish Villages Foundation and the Rural Development Foundation

Copyright © by Institute of Rural and Agricultural Development,
Polish Academy of Sciences, Warsaw 2020

Copyright © by Scholar Publishing House Ltd, Warsaw 2020

ISBN 978-83-66470-55-2

doi 10.7366/9788366470552

Publisher

Institute of Rural and Agricultural Development
Polish Academy of Sciences
Nowy Świat St. 72, 00-330 Warsaw
www.irwirpan.waw.pl

Partner

Scholar Publishing House Ltd.
Oboźna St. 1, 00-340 Warsaw
tel. 22 692 41 18; 22 826 59 21; 22 828 93 91
e-mail: info@scholar.com.pl
www.scholar.com.pl

First edition

Typeset: WN Scholar (Jerzy Łazarski)
Printed by: Totem, Inowrocław



Ministerstwo Nauki
i Szkolnictwa Wyższego



TABLE OF CONTENTS

INTRODUCTION	9
1. The aim of the monograph and its origins	9
2. The 19th century in the history of rural Poland, or the foundation of the present	10
3. The "longue durée" and ways of analysing it	12
4. Problems of analysis and description	15
1. THE RURAL POPULATION: EVOLUTION OF DEMOGRAPHIC AND SOCIAL STRUCTURES	21
1. Changes in the size and demographic structure of the rural population	21
2. Changes in educational levels and structure	28
3. Changes in the rural social-occupational structure	30
4. The rural population's sources of livelihood	48
5. The rural population: rhythm(s) of evolution	54
2. THE RURAL ECONOMY: FROM AGRICULTURAL TO MULTIFUNCTIONAL	57
1. The rural economy, or... ..	57
2. Agriculture: its development and changing functions	61
3. The rural non-agricultural economy	92
4. The rural economy: mechanisms of change	95
3. RURAL COMMUNITIES	100
1. "Rural territories": village, parish, territory of government	101
2. Residents: "our own" and "the other"	109
3. Institutions "that make the whole internally integrated..."	115
4. "A degree of mental cohesion"	141
4. THE RURALITY OF POLISH SOCIETY	145
1. Rural culture: peasant culture, folk culture, cultural patchwork?	146
2. Rural "politicking"	164
3. Rural space as a frame and moderator of social processes	178
4. Polish people's issues with (their own) rurality	201

CONCLUSION: TIME, CHANGES, CONTINUITY IN THE EUROPEAN PERIPHERIES	203
1. Social time(s)	203
2. Change and continuity	204
3. The “social configuration of agriculture” in Poland’s 100-year history	208
4. Western universality or peripheral uniqueness?	215
BIBLIOGRAPHY	221
INDEX OF NAMES	250