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3D Reconstruction of 15th-century Medieval Nieszawa

In 2012, without sinking a shovel into the ground, the precise location of medieval town Nieszawa was determined. The abandoned, fifteenth-century town was located from the air. Then magnetic and electric resistance tests recorded the exact outlines of the houses. Now a 3D reconstruction of the settlement has been prepared by animation authors Jakub Zakrazewski and Stanislaw Rzeźnik in collaboration with archaeological and historical consultants with Lidia Grzeszkiewicz-Kotleska, Leszek Kotlewski, dr. Jerzy Sikora, and Dariusz Osiński.

Today’s Nieszawa is a small town situated on the west bank of the Vistula River, 30 km upstream from Toruń. Its history dates back to the thirteenth century, when it was given to the Teutonic Order by Konrad I Mazowiecki in 1228. Over the next 200 years, the town’s location changed twice. After the defeat at Grunwald, the Teutonic Knights were forced to tear down the Commandery and the castle. However, already in 1424 Władysław Jagałlo founded Mała Nieszawka near Toruń. After 1460, the town was moved several miles up the Vistula, where it remains today.

The reconstruction, a visualization of the appearance of medieval Nieszawa, is an open project. As new archaeological and historical data are obtained, it will be supplemented with new elements. The reconstruction can be viewed HERE.