

Photogrammetric Map of the Tatra Mountains (1934) as an Example of Local Adaption of Swiss Style Cartography

Rafał Jońca
RJ Carto, Poland

The photogrammetric map of the Tatra, published in 1934, was the first attempt at modern mapping for the area. Earlier, Austro-Hungarian maps were obsolete by the late 1920's. Finally this map covers only the Polish part of the Tatra Mountains in detail.

The Ministry of Infrastructure and later the Military Geographical Institute directed the map work. Work started in 1924 as part of the demarcation of the boundary between the new states of Poland and Czechoslovakia. Terrestrial stereo-pairs formed the foundation of the map work. Future plans included using the map to establish the Tatra National Park.

The map was produced at a detailed scale of 1:20,000. The shaded relief and rock drawings are similar to what is often called the Swiss cartographic style.

Three map versions were published: A - topographic, B - scientific and C - a winter edition for skiers. Here only version C is presented.

Only the Polish side of the Tatra area was fully mapped. The northern part, outside of the Tatra and the Slovakian part were mapped in a simplified way. For the Slovakian side, Czechoslovakian maps were used.

Rocks were sketched on the basis of field measurements. Also, stereopairs of rocky features were used as a helpful aid. As a next step, cartographic instructor Rudolf Schreiner drafted the actual rock drawings. The rock drawings were sketched on previously prepared and drafted contour lines. The illumination for the shading was cast from a northwest direction.



Fig. 1: High Tatra / right part of the map



Fig. 2: West Tatra / left part of the map

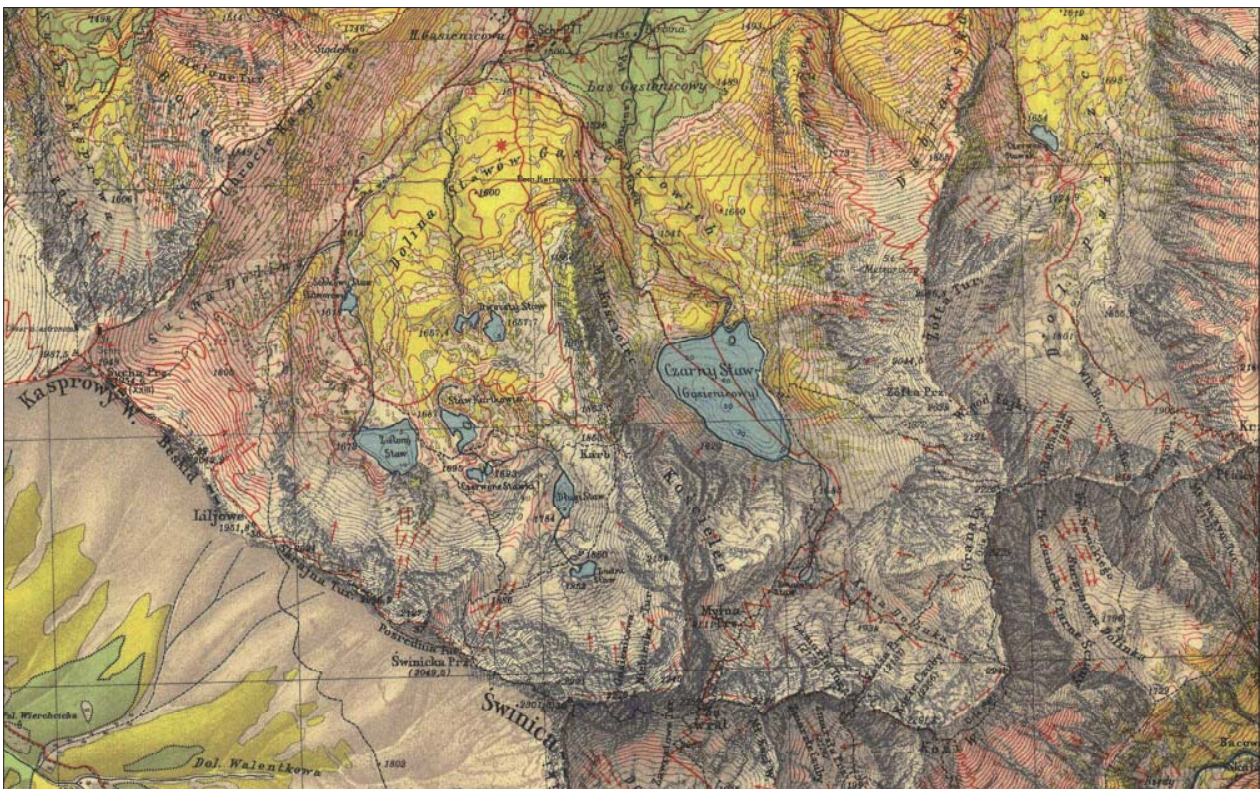


Fig. 3: Rocky part of High Tatra / Gąsienicowa Valley. Note the rock drawing

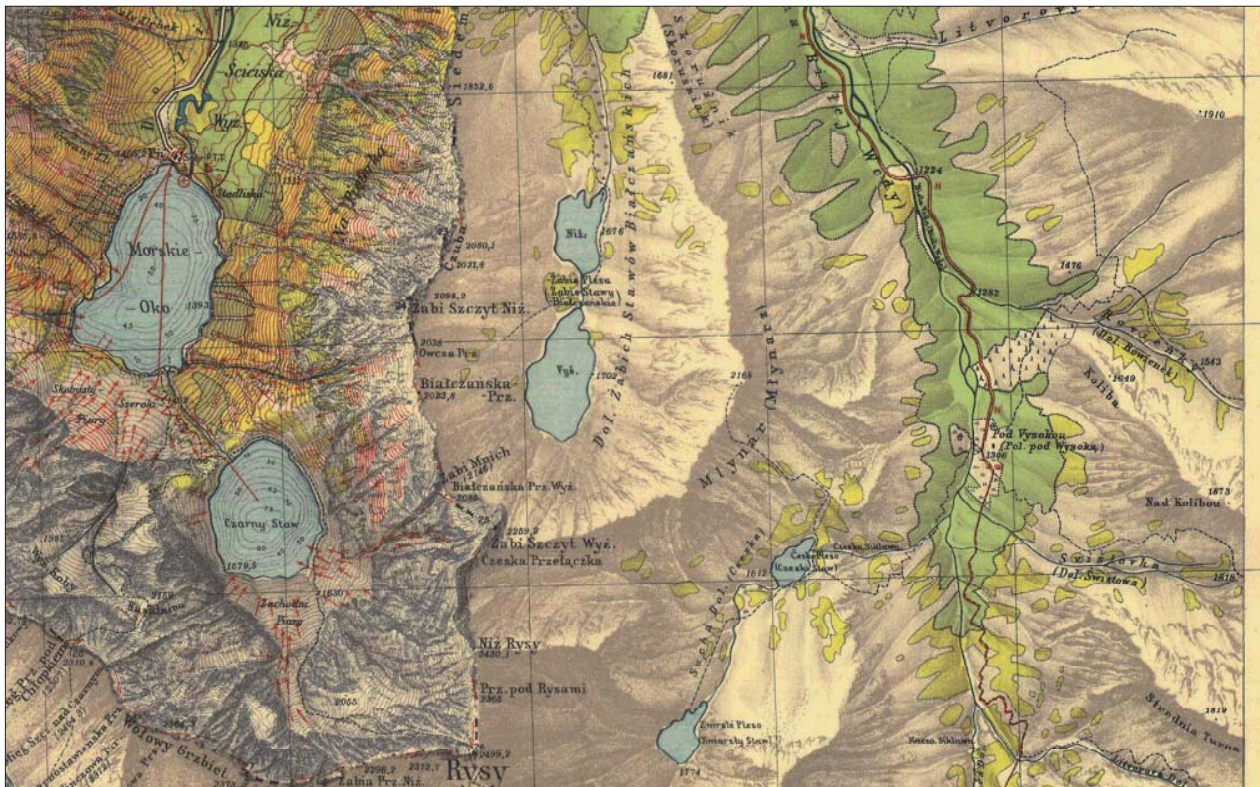


Fig. 4: High Tatra – Rysy peak area. Polish Tatras on the left and Slovak on the right

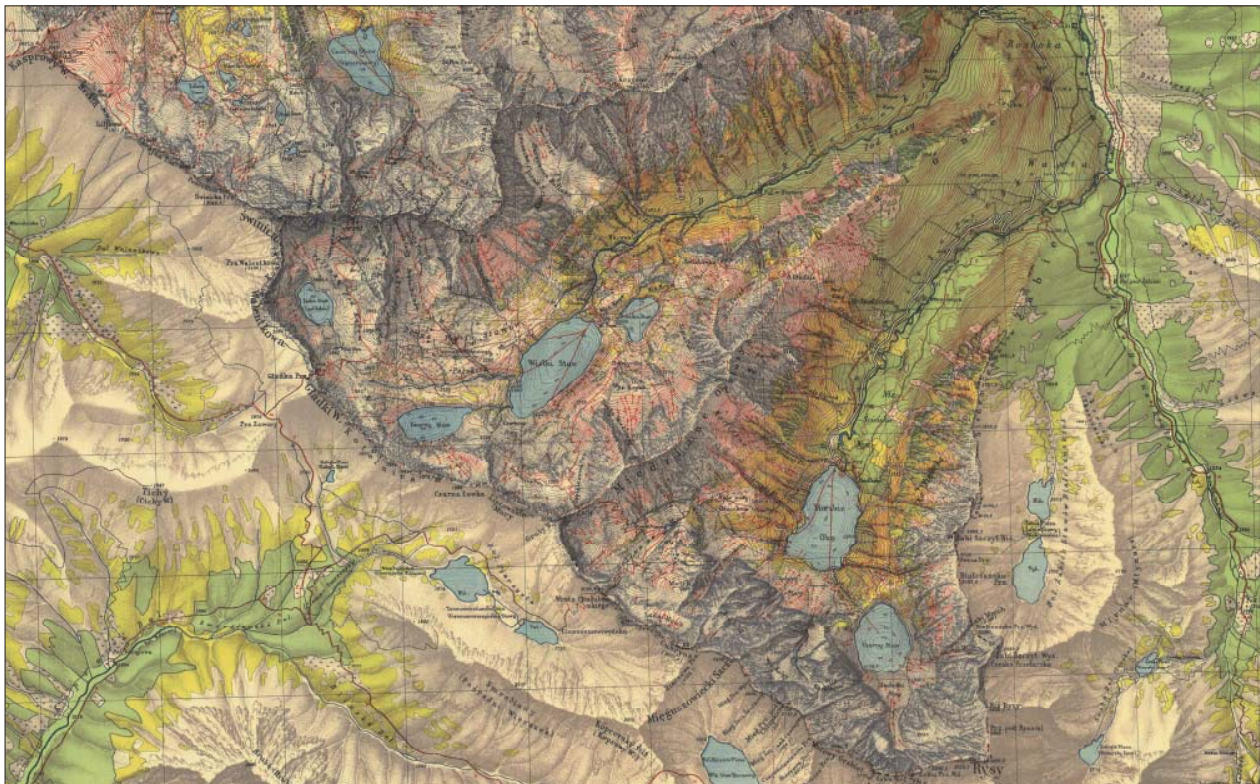


Fig. 5: High Tatra. Note the yellow tint for dwarf pine ground cover

Reference

Zawadzki, A. and Dobrzański, T. : Prace nad zdjęciem mapy Tatr.