



Tree avenues in Lithuania: the concern on beauty and identity of place

dr. Giedrė Godienė

19-21 NOV. 2023 | CARGASSONNE - HÔTEL DU DÉPARTEMENT

LA BEAUTÉ ESSENTIELLE DES ALLÉES D'ARBRES
COLLOQUE INTERNATIONAL

THE ESSENTIAL BEAUTY OF TREE AVENUES
INTERNATIONAL SYMPOSIUM

WWW.ALLEES-AVENUES.EU





Vidkiemis village Oaks Avenue

This is our Heritage

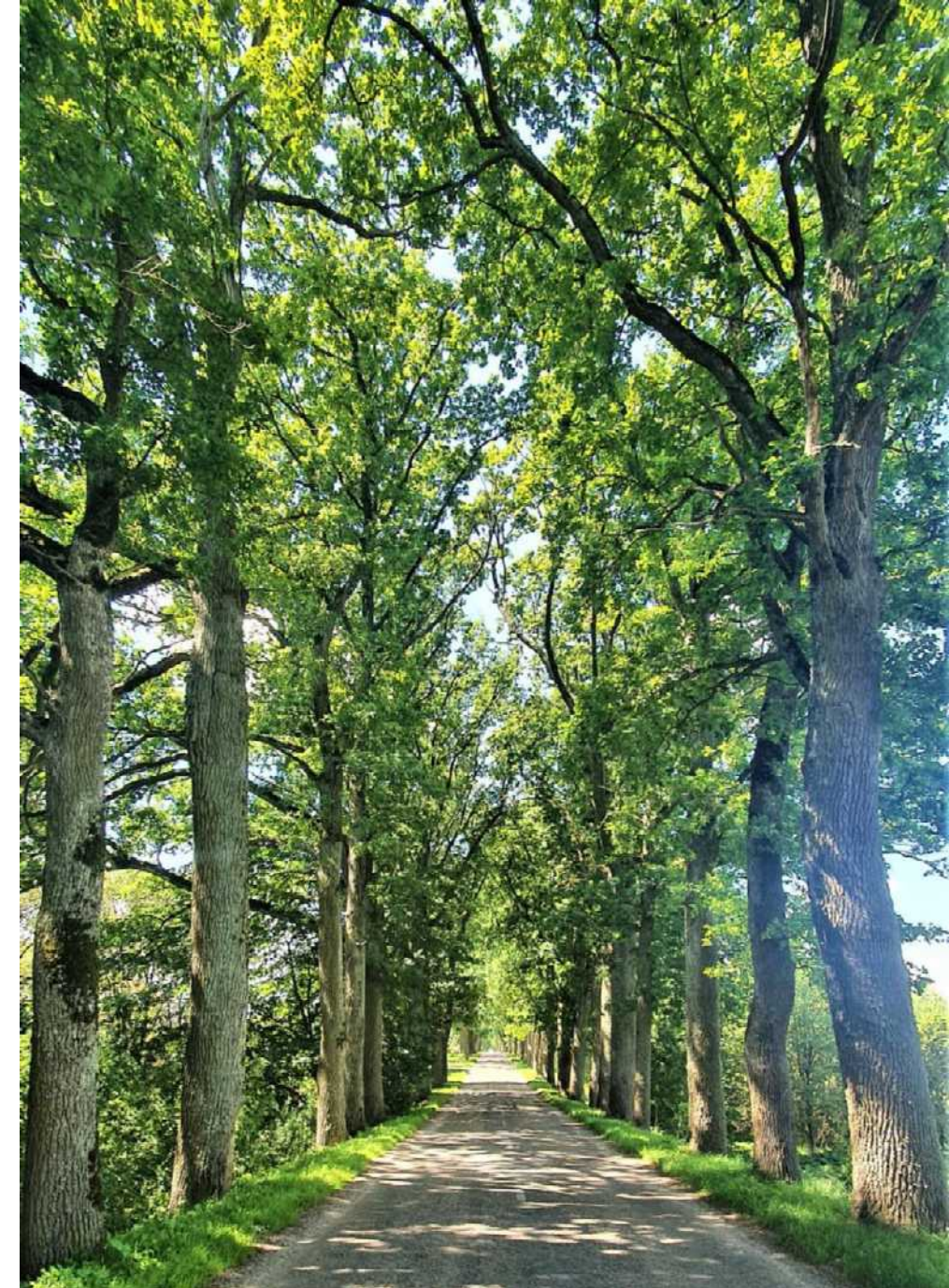
Vidkiemis village Oaks Avenue

Quercus robur

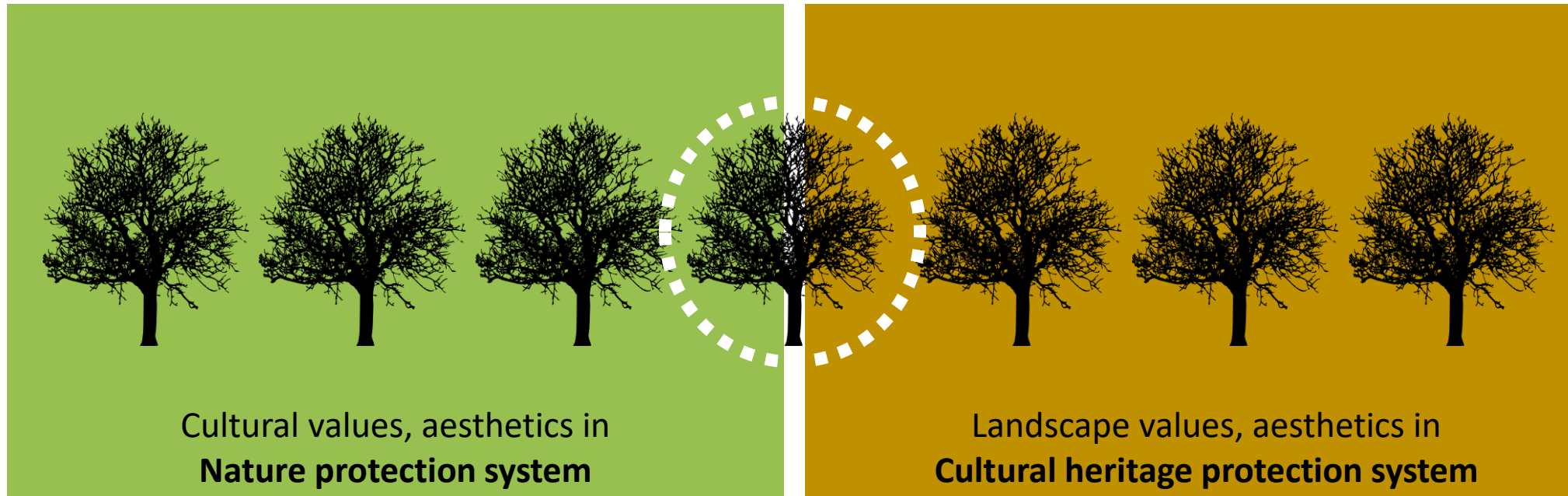
Jurbarkas region, Western Lithuania

The Botanical Natural monument of national importance,
protected by State since 1968.

1,432 km length avenue with 187 individs
250 years old oaks, *Quercus robur*
tree high up to 35 m, girth - up to 4.25 m



Tree avenues as our Heritage





Nature and landscape protection system



This is our Heritage

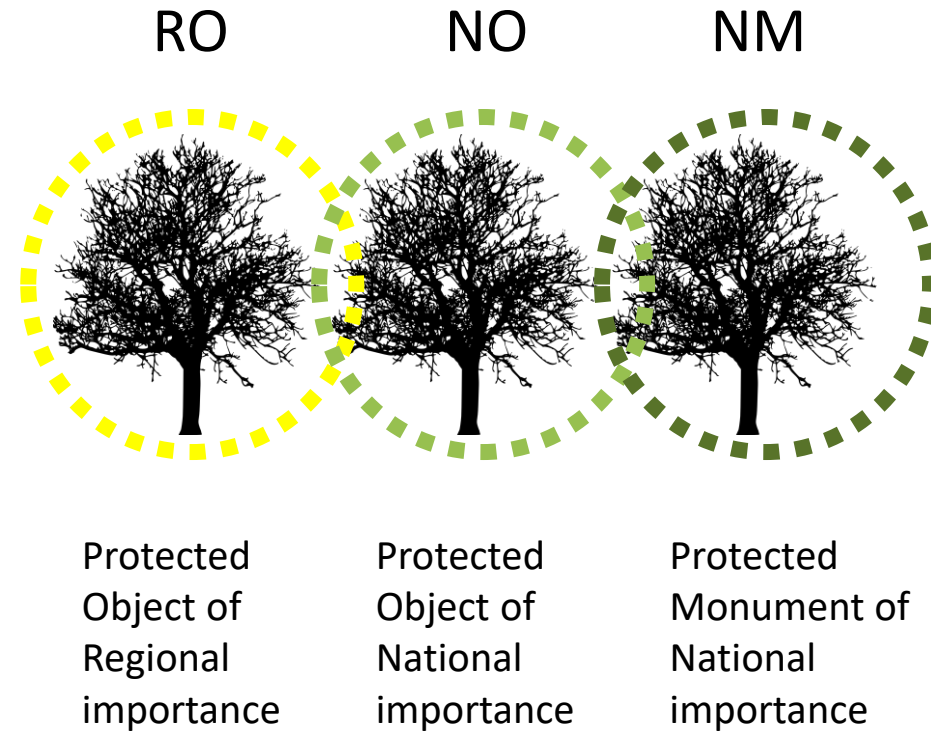
Objects of Heritage are the objects of natural and cultural heritage which could be soliter or form dense groups, these are valuable elements of landscape granted the special protection and use regime by legal acts. **The most valuable** of these are granted **Natural** or Cultural **Monument status**.

Botanical natural heritage objects include trees, bushes which are of **outstanding age, dimensions, forms or are dendrologically and aesthetically valuable**, also it could be origin sites/ habitats of protected flora and fungi species, unique and vanishing flora communities, dendrological collections, dendrologically valuable parks and squares.

*By the Law on Protected areas of the Republic of Lithuania, **Nature and landscape protection system***

This is our Heritage

Objects of Natural Heritage in Lithuania could have National or Regional protection status: protected by State or protected by Region. These are of **individual objects**





This is our Heritage

In 2022, there were 701 natural heritage objects in Lithuania, of which 155 are exceptional natural monuments. 469 protected by the state, 232- by municipalities.

62.2% of all protected objects are botanical

but only 25 (17.5%) in that number have the status of a Monument.

Tree avenue - the ONLY 1

Botanical Natural Monument of national importance -

Vidkiemis village Oaks Avenue, protected by State since 1968.

There are ONLY!!! **11** protected Trees avenues in **LT**:

5 oaks (*Quercus robur*) and 6 lime trees (*Tilia cordata sin.*).

The State protects 6, Regional authorities - 5.

At the state level, alleys were declared protected in 1968, 2005, 2007, 2012, 2016.

Vilnius city municipality: 1996 Vingis park limes alley

Šiauliai region: 2004 D. Zubovo oaks, 2010 - Paežeriai limes, 2015 - Bubių oaks alleys

Skuodas region: 2022 oaks alley

Vidkiemis village Oaks Avenue

Quercus robur

Jurbarkas region, Lithuania

The **ONLY 1**

Botanical Natural Monument of national importance,
protected by State since 1968.

because criteria of natural values
are very high and
it is pressure to make these objects
safe and comfortable for tourism



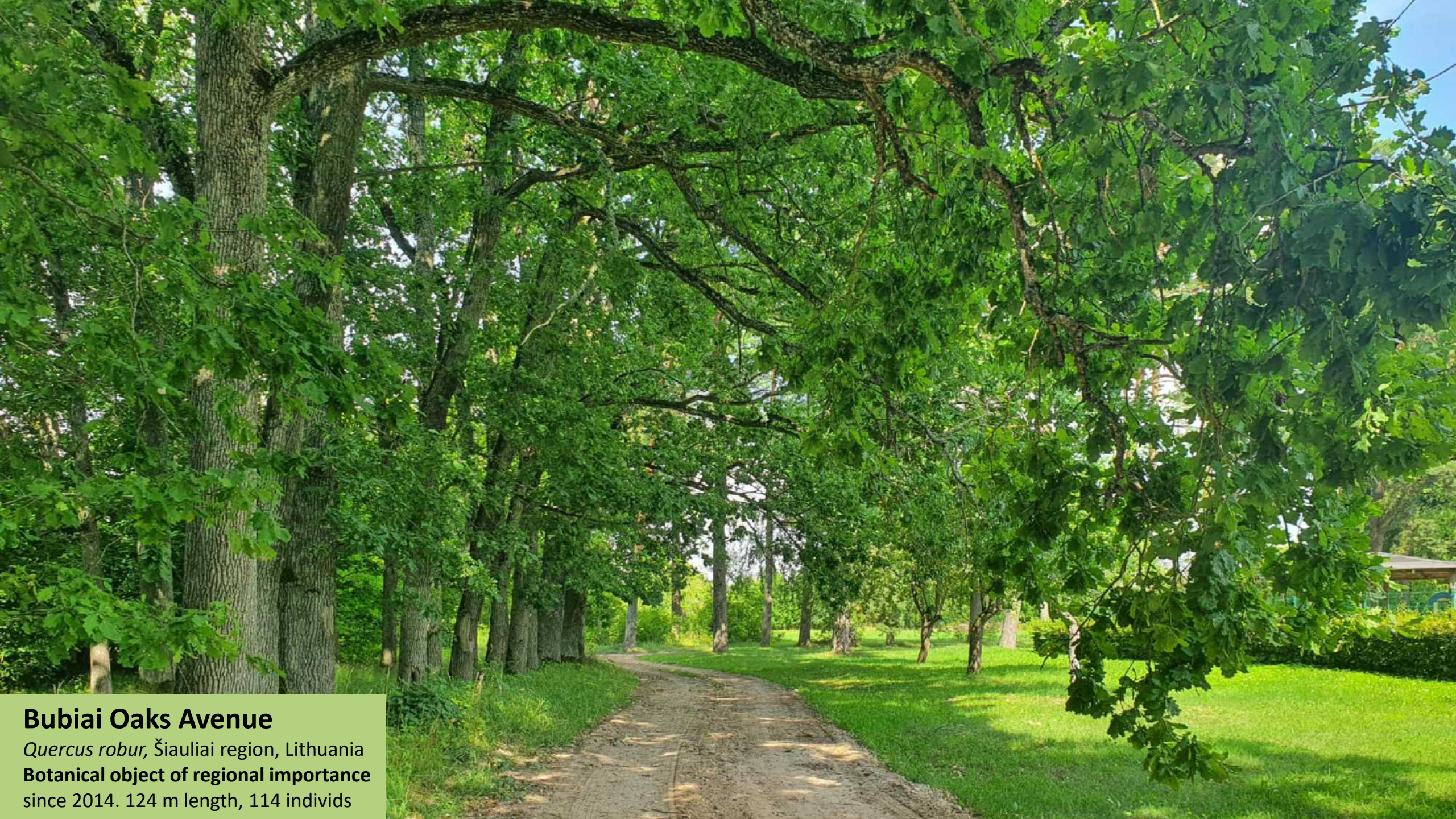


Vilkyškiai Oaks Avenue

Quercus robur, Jurbarkas region, Lithuania

The ONLY 1 Botanical object of national importance,
protected by State.

255 m length, 39 indiv. of 120-180 years



Bubiai Oaks Avenue

Quercus robur, Šiauliai region, Lithuania
Botanical object of regional importance
since 2014. 124 m length, 114 individs



Grafo D.Zubovo ąžuolų alėja 2009-08-13 (4) (G.Mikalausko nuotr.)



Grafo D.Zubovo ąžuolų alėja 2005-10-20 (V.Lopetos nuotr.)

The Oaks Avenue of count D. Zubov. *Quercus robur*, Šiauliai region, Lithuania. Botanical object of regional importance since 2004
245 length, 79 indiv. age >80 years, in the forest. Photo: G. Mikalauskas, 2009 08 13, State Cadastre of Protected areas



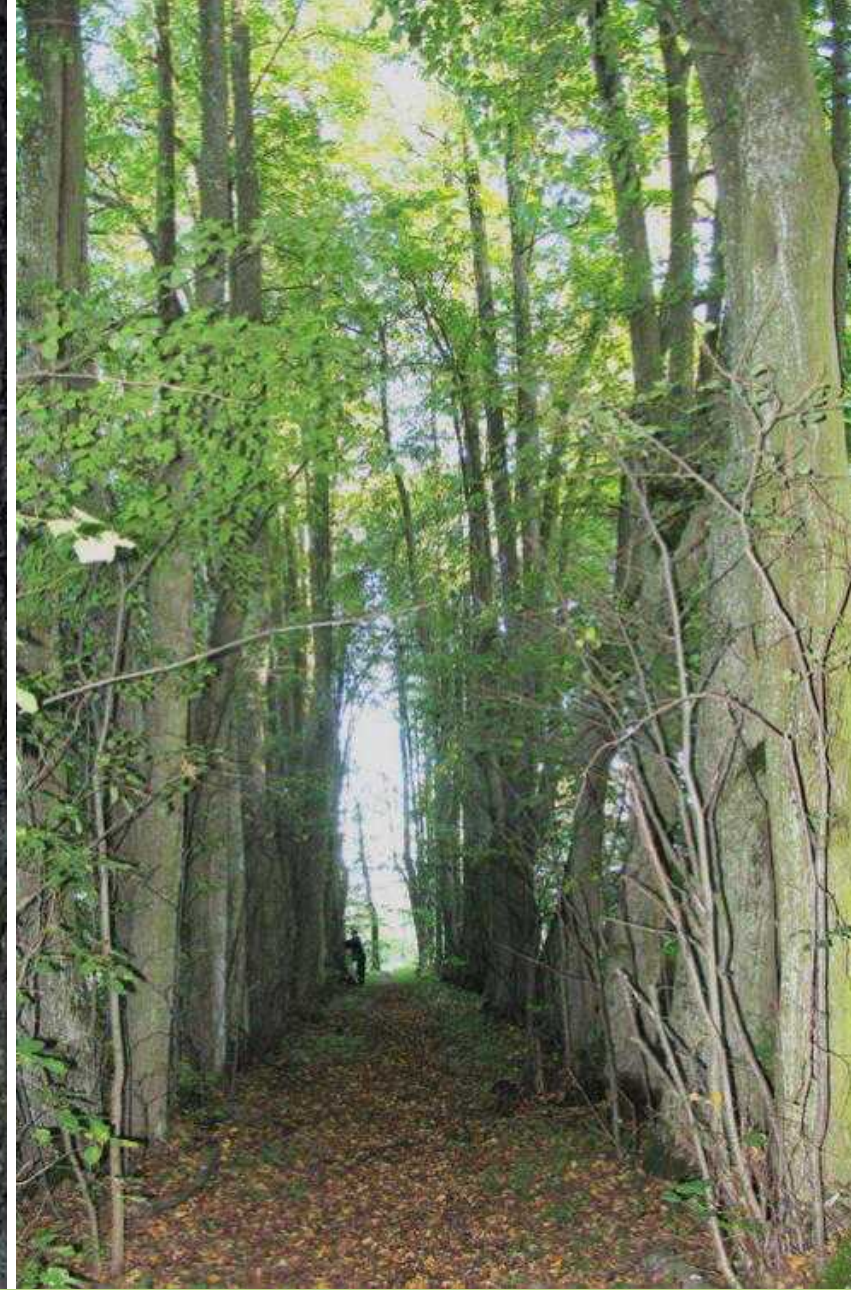
Gandlaukė Oaks Avenue. *Quercus robur*, Skuodas region, Lithuania

Botanical object of regional importance since 2022. 22 indiv., the the thickest 4,7 m. Photo: G. Jakumaite, 2023 09



Daniliskis Lime avenue, Panevezys region. BO of national importance since 2007.

270 m. length, 23 m high. *Photo: Hugo.Arc*



Daniliskis Lime avenue, Panevezys region. BO of national importance since 2007.

270 m. length, 23 m high. *Photo: D. Jurevičius, 2023; G. Mikalauskas, 2006 09 21, State Cadastre of Protected area; Vilensia photo*



Barklainiai manor Lime Avenue. *Tilia cordata*, Pasvalys region, Lithuania

BO of national importance since 2016 . 232 m length, 31 m hight, 22 indiv. Photo: G. Mikalauskas, 2015, State Cadastre of Protected areas



Julinai manor Lime Avenue. *Tilia cordata*, Raseiniai region, Lithuania

BO of national importance since 2012 . 150 m length. Photo: G. Mikalauskas, 2015, State Cadastre of Protected areas



Pažibai village Lime Avenue. *Tilia cordata*, Panevėžys region, Lithuania

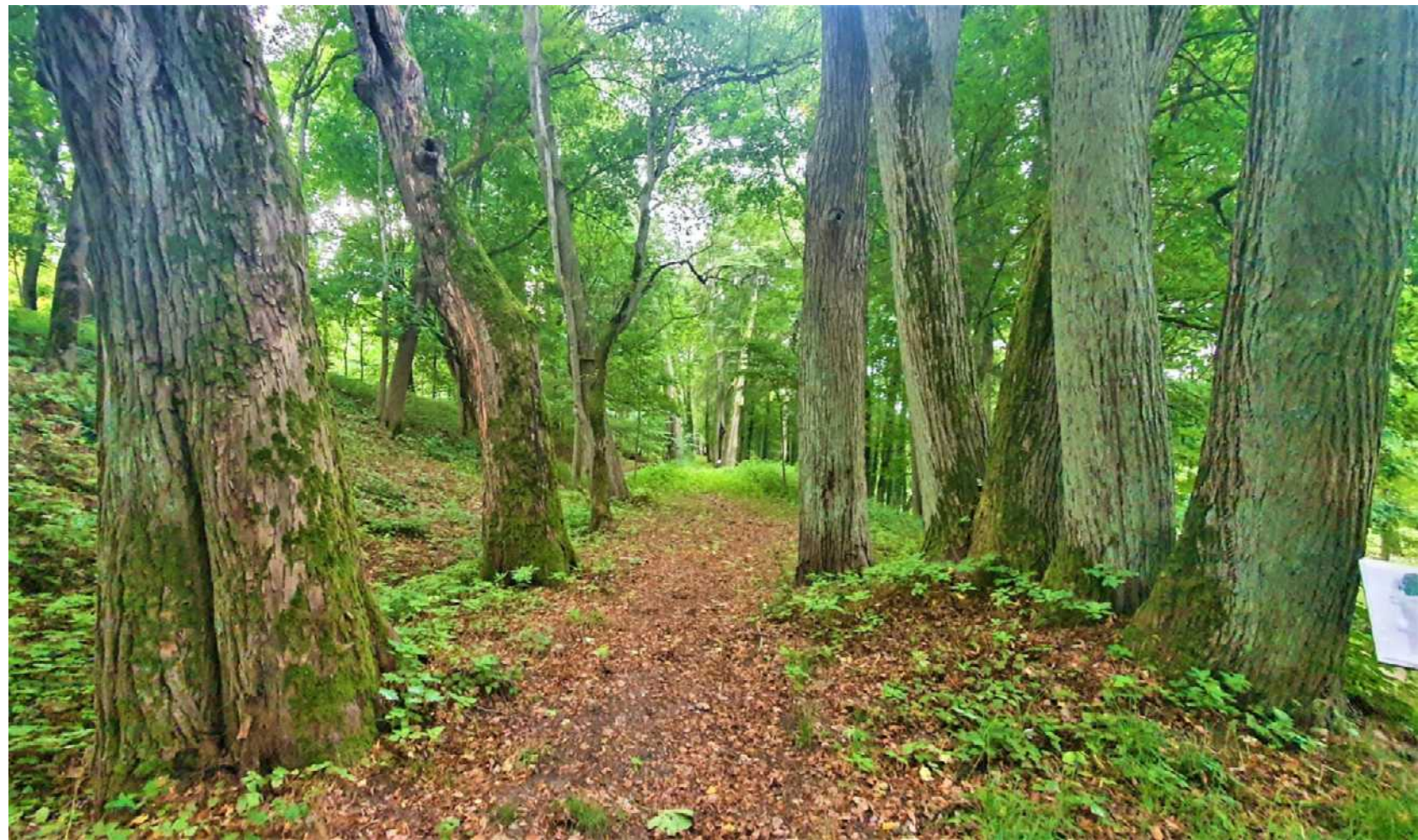
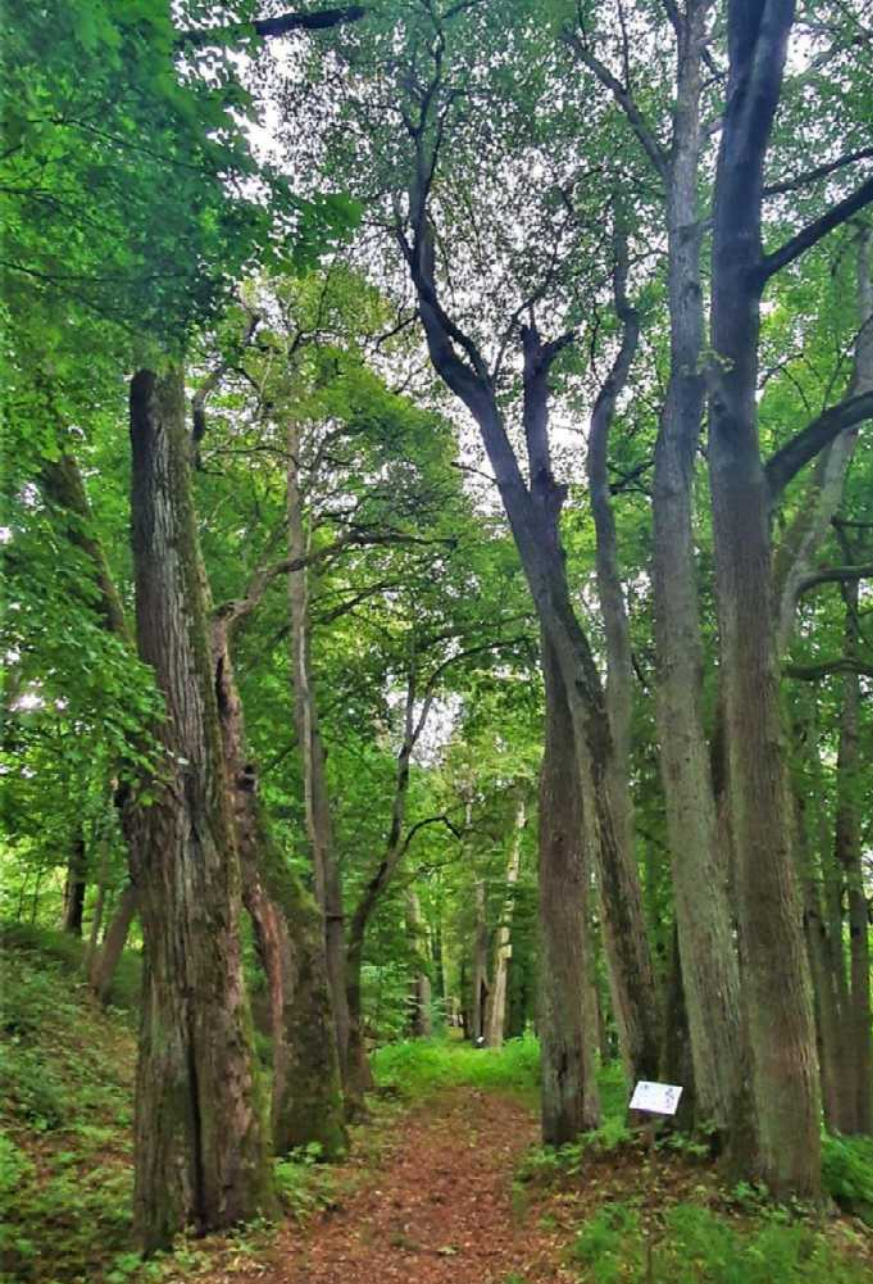
BO of national importance since 2016 . 135 m length, 18 m height. Photo: G. Mikalauskas, 2015 06 02, State Cadastre of Protected areas

Paežeriai Lime Avenue

Tilia cordata, Šiauliai region, Lithuania

Botanical object of regional importance





Vingis park Lime avenue, Vilnius city. BO of regional importance. 41 indiv., >200 years old. *Photo G. Godiene, 2023 07*



- Žemėlapis**
- Išrašas apie patekimą į saugomą teritoriją
- Išrašas apie LR STVK objektą
- LR STVK erdviniai duomenys
- Statistinė informacija
- Istorijos
- Švieslentės



Pažibų liepų aleja 2015-06-02 (08)
(G.Mikalausko nuotr.)



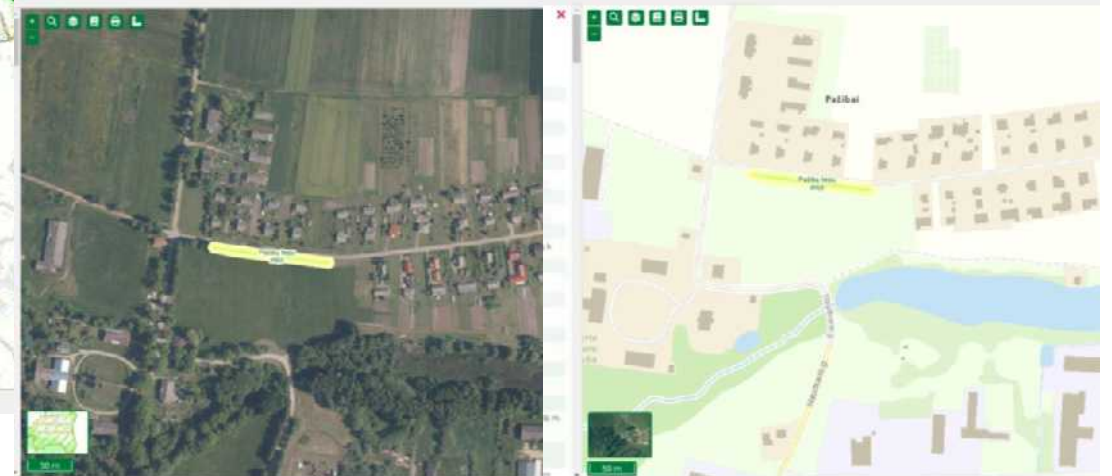
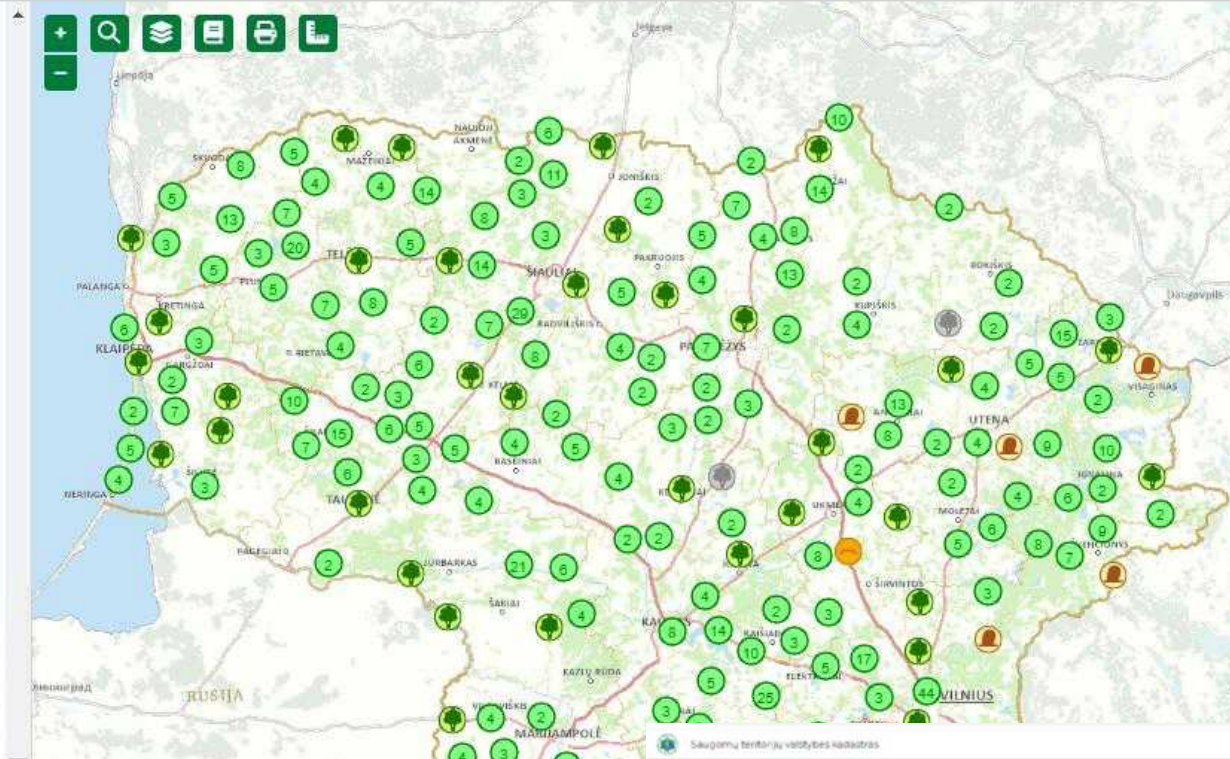
Pažibų liepų aleja 2015-06-02 (09)
(G.Mikalausko nuotr.)



Pažibų liepų aleja 2015-06-02 (11)
(G.Mikalausko nuotr.)



Pažibų liepų aleja 2015-06-02 (12)
(G.Mikalausko nuotr.)





Cultural heritage protection system



This is our Heritage

Objects of Heritage are the objects of natural and cultural heritage which could be soliter or form dense groups, these are valuable elements of landscape granted the special protection and use regime by legal acts. **The most valuable** of these are granted Natural or **Cultural Monument status**.

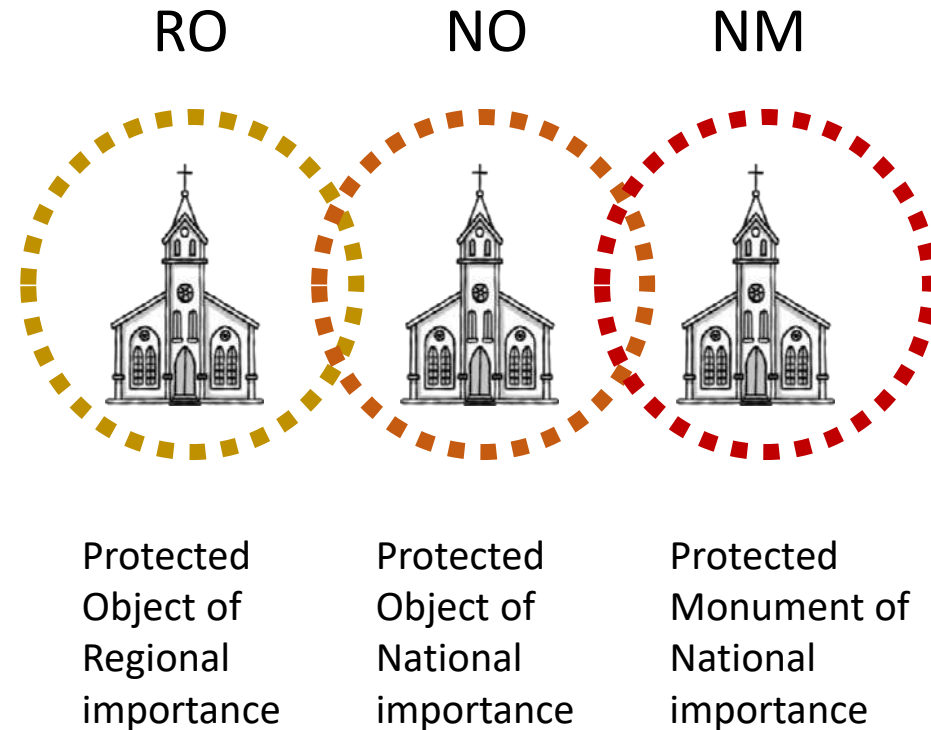
Cultural heritage objects - individual, complex or complex objects, registered as immovable cultural assets, i.e. i.e. buildings or other immovable objects located on land plots, parts of plots, water, forest areas or their parts, which have valuable properties and together with the territory assigned to them are separate objects of real property rights or can be such.

*By the Law of Immovable cultural heritage protection of the Republic of Lithuania, **Culture protection system***

This is our Heritage

Objects of Cultural Heritage in Lithuania could have National or Regional protection status: protected by State or protected by Region.

Trees avenues are not individual objects, but components or properties of individual CH objects and sites





Almost all XVIII-XIX cnt. parks have trees avenues or their fragments, but trees avenues are considering not as the individual valuable objects, but as the properties, the constituent parts of the cultural site, complex

At the beginning of XX cnt., there were about 4000 **manor homesteads** in the territory of present-day Lithuania.

The survey of 1989-1993 indicated 823 manor homesteads

Édouard François André

In 2018 - **579** such objects of National Register of Immovable cultural heritage **Among the there are 32 parks of National importance** with special historical, architectural, cultural, scientific, aesthetic, ecological and dendrological value (state property)

These are parks which were established or reconstructed in XVIII- XX cnt. by famous park architects projects

Historical and dendro-researches of Manor homesteads and their parks, alleys

In progress...

Antanas Tauras
Martynas Purvinas
Kęstutis Labanauskas
Laimutis Januškevičius
Indrė Kačinskaitė
Steponas Deveikis
Vaiva Deveikienė
Dainius Labeckis
Algis Davenis
etc...

Šereitlaukio dvaro sodybos situacija XX a. pr. - XXI a. (planinė – erdvinė struktūra išlieka)



1936 m.



1952 m.



1995 m.



2015-2017 m.



1952



2017

Alėja 1



**Šereitlaukis (Šereitlaukis)
Manor farmstead study on
Historical gardens and
plantations,
*Sigitas Algis Davenis,
Dainius Labeckis,*
Vilnius, 2019**

(Rambynas regional park,
Pagėgiai region)



Authenticity - the preserved properties of a cultural heritage object or site, including the original or historically developed purpose, expression and unique physical form of the object, used materials, constructions, planning, technology, environment.

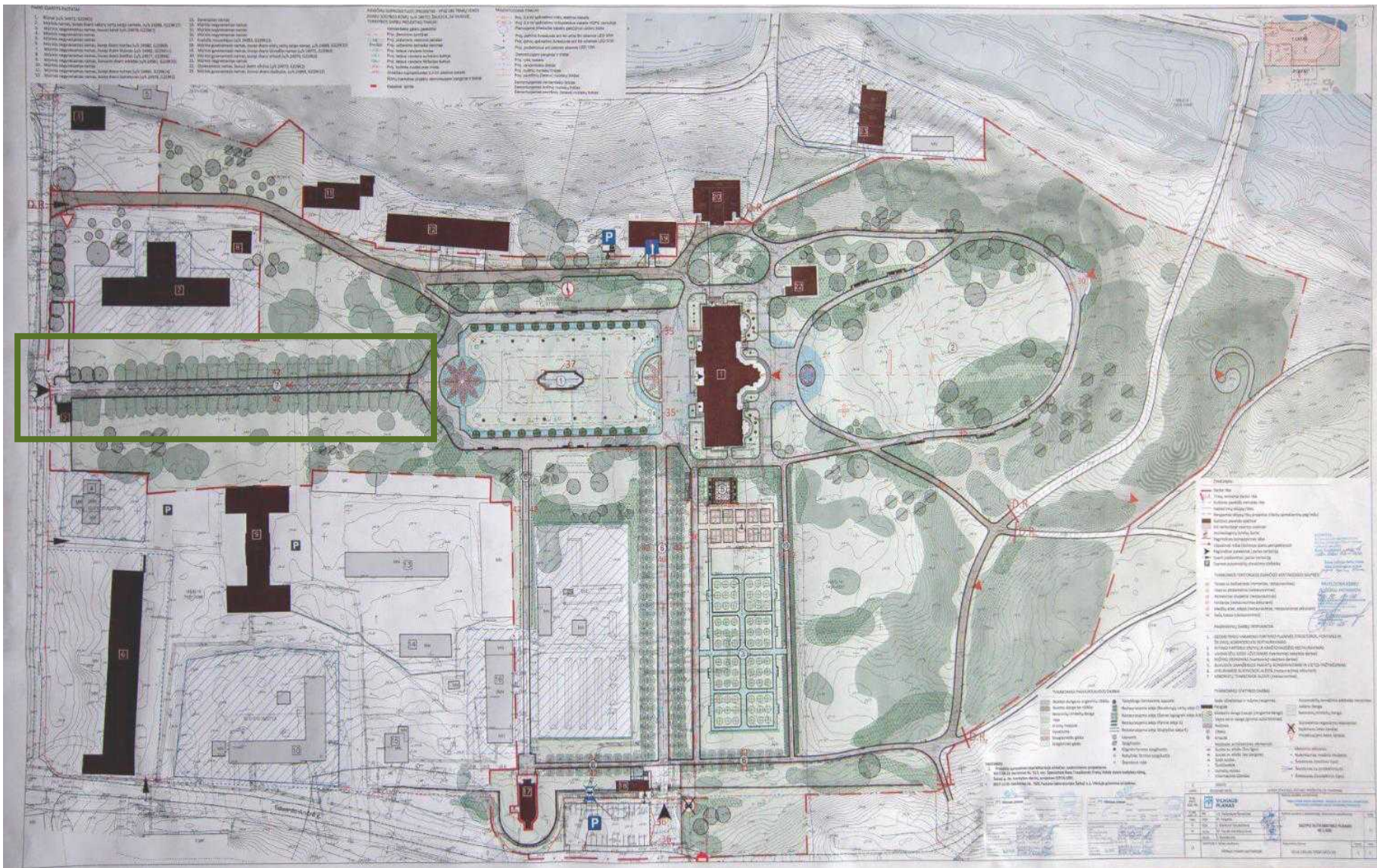
*By the Law of Immovable cultural heritage protection of the Republic of Lithuania, **Culture protection system***

Trakų Vokės manor, Trakai region, Lithuania

The ensemble of the **Traku Vokė manor homestead** with historical buildings, a park, alleys, and ponds was formed in the XIXth century.

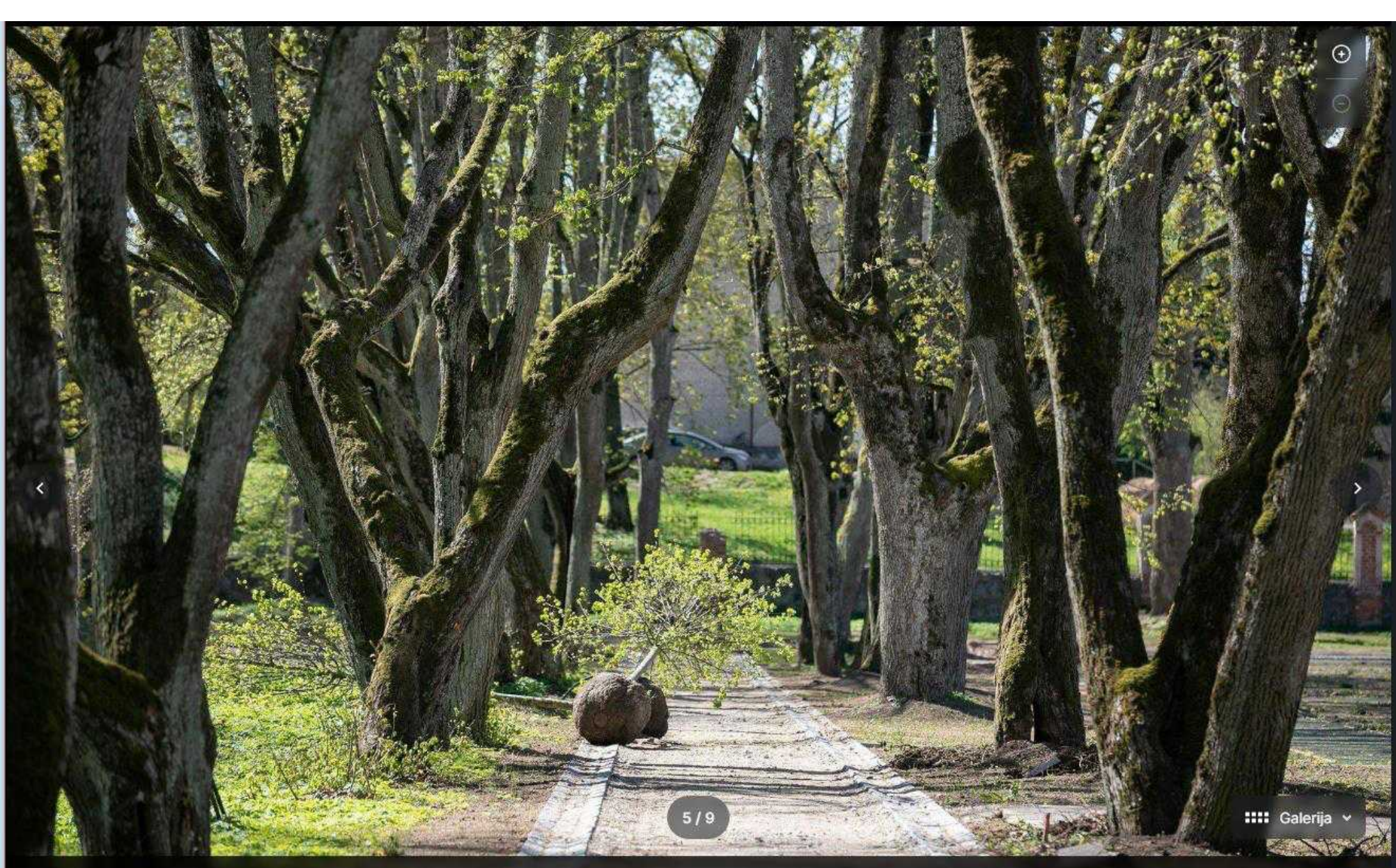
The Italian architect L. Marconi then designed an impressive neoclassical palace and the famous landscape architect **Édouard François André** - a park.





Reconstruction:
restoration of
authenticity.

2019 04 15 - The Manor and park Reconstruction project: the contraversion among those, who would like to save old trees and those, who want replant alleys with new seedlings get to the court.



"The trees
are "tired"
and the
alleys are
ugly. "

"The trees
are soviet"

Photo:
Saulius Žiūra



Only the 1 alley survive

More than 300 old trees were removed

New alleys: Red gate - 132 *Tilia cordata* „Boehlje“, Straight alley - 47 „Corzan“,
The Capel alley - „Low Window“.



and landscape protection

Cultural heritage protection system
CITY

Laisvė Alley, Kaunas, Lithuania

The identity of City



Photo: A. Aleksandravičius

Laisvė Alley, Kaunas, Lithuania

The identity of City



Freedom Alley, Kaunas, Lithuania

The identity of City

length 1,621 km,
width is 24-27 m.

577 trees in the alley:
567 lindens,
6 chestnuts,
4 acers.

>50 years old - 350 indiv.
30-50 years old - 150 indiv.
<30 years old - 77 indiv.



2019: 100th anniversary of Kaunas Freedom alley

1847 Car Nikolaj pr.
1918 Kaiser Vilhelm str.

1919 **Alley of Freedom**,
Kaunas - the capital of
Lithuania

1940, 1946 m. Stalin's pr.
1961 **Alley of Freedom**

<https://m.kauno.diena.lt/naujienos/kaunas/miesto-pulsas/zvilgsnis-i-100-mete-laisves-aleja-905221>



**Freedom Alley,
Kaunas, Lithuania**



Laisvė Alley, Kaunas, Lithuania, The identity of City

22th of February, 2019



<https://www.delfi.lt/grynas/gyvenimas/uzfiksuota-kaip-kaune-darbininkai-be-gailescio-kapojo-medzio-saknis-80434933>

2023 10 13 Kaunas Municipality:

"25 lime trees of critical condition will be removed and replaced by at least 10 year-old trees at least 6-8 meters high and at least 45-55 cm in diameter. These works are planned to be carried out this fall or next spring.

"Even before the reconstruction of avenue, about a 1/3 of linden trees were affected by chronic diseases. "It was decided to save long-lived trees as much as possible and to replace only those in critical condition with new ones, - *the chairman of the Lithuanian Society of Dendrologists Arvydas Rutkauskas.*"



Tree avenues near the roads



Tree avenues are the landmarks of traditional Lithuanian landscape

Tree avenues are historical relics of previous political and administrative divisions, legal norms of land management of different states and rulers, they are associated with the roads and settlements network, remind us land ownership, possession borders. They lead us to homesteads and manors, which are now extinct.

Tree avenues are the landmarks of traditional Lithuanian landscape

Historically tree avenues were

- element of representative, wealth and recognition
- artistic tool to focus eye, mind and movement to the significant objects - churches, chapels, manors, entrances etc.
- help indicate paved roads tracks in flooding areas
- landmark in war periods
- prevent winds and give shade in agricultural lowlands



Have no special protection status. Trakai historical national park area, *Tilia*



Have no special protection status.

Kazlų Rūda region. Agricultural lowlands with alleys of *Populus*



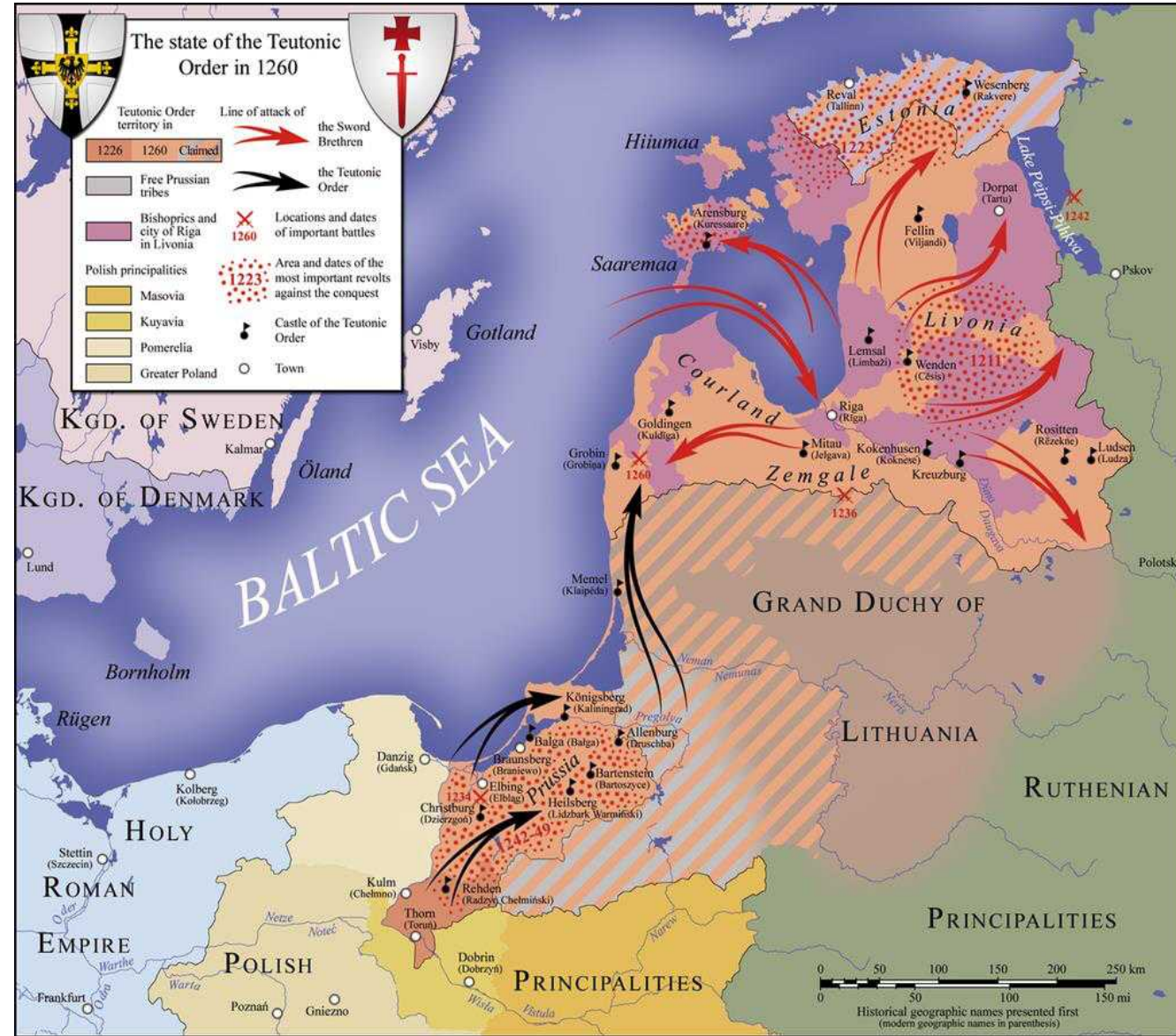
Have no special protection status. Biržai region - agricultural lowlands. *Tilia*

Traditional land management and traditional landscape

Western part of LT - Mažoji Lietuva, Prussian rule
 Northern part of LT - Teutonic influence
 Southern part of LT - Užnemunė, Prussian rule

UŽNEMUNĖ 1795-1807 after the Third Partition of the Polish-Lithuanian Commonwealth, Sūduva (also part of Poland with Warsaw) went to Prussia, it was called Užnemunė, part of New East Prussia. 1807-1815 belonged to the Duchy of Warsaw, 1815-1915. For the Kingdom of Poland (in the Russian Empire). 1816-1837 was in Augustava Voivodeship, 1837-1867. – in Augustava province, and in 1867-1915 entered the Suwalki Governorate, as a result of the 20th century In the 1st half, it started to be called Suwalkija.

1808-1840 The Napoleonic Code was in force in Užemunė.



Traditional land management and traditional landscape

LT - the part of Russia Empire:
 From 1795 until the First World War, when in 1915 Lithuania was occupied by Germany, the greater part of Lithuania was annexed to the Russian Empire, and Užnemunė to Prussia.



Traditional land management and tree avenues landscape

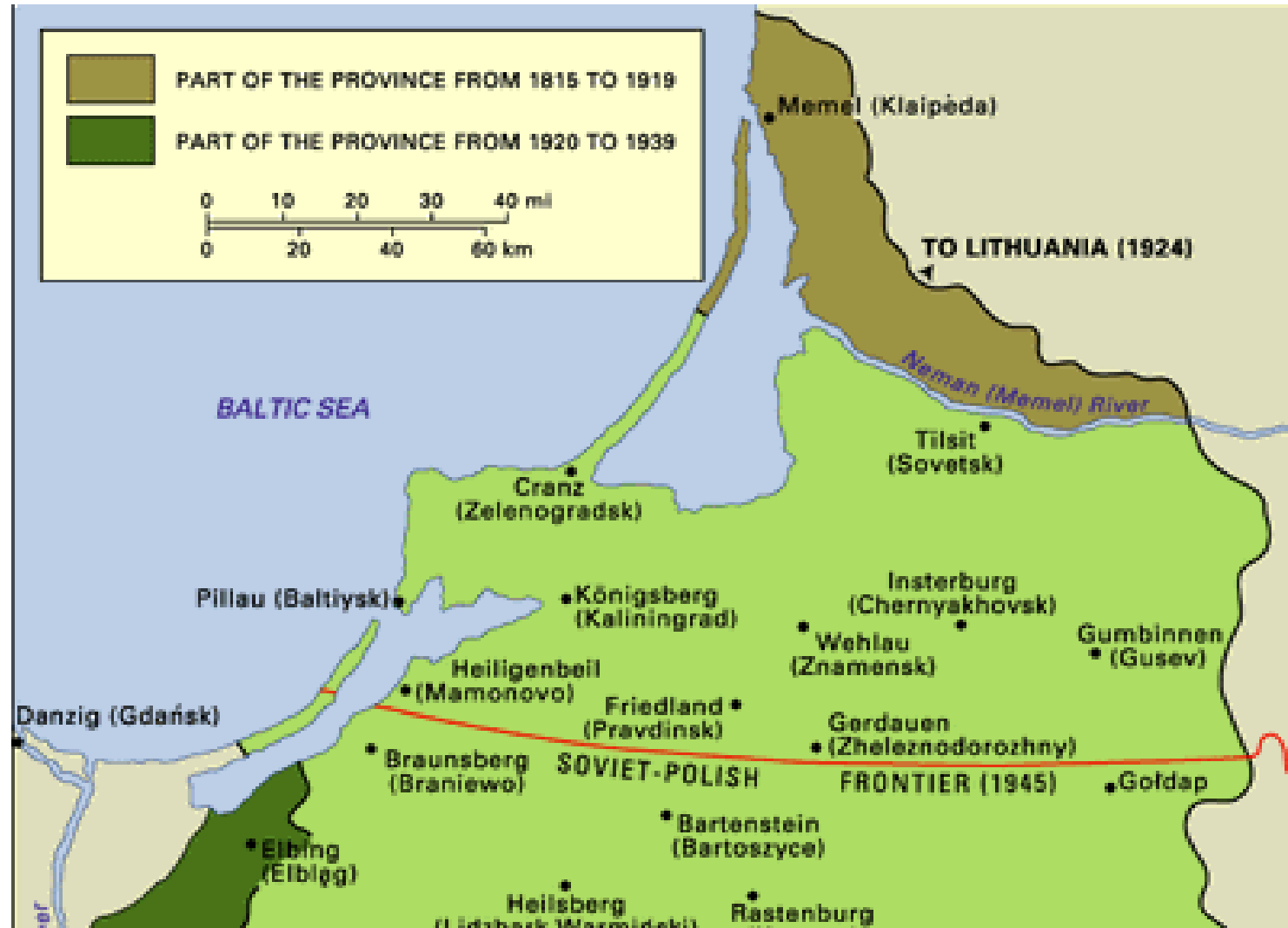
Western part of LT -

Mažoji Lietuva with Memel,

Prussian rule from 1773 to 1829 and again from 1878 (with the Kingdom itself being part of the German Empire from 1871); following World War I it formed part of the Weimar Republic's Free State of Prussia, until 1945.

On behalf of the Entente in 1920-1923, the French army was there.

Memel and Lithuania minor joined the Lithuania country in 1923.



Traditional land management and traditional landscape

Eastern part of LT - Vilnija, Polish rule in 1919-1939



Tree avenues are the landmarks of traditional Lithuanian landscape

Even the tree species indicate fashions and passions of different times:

- 1) native species of East Prussian - oaks (*Quercus robur*) and linden (*Tilia cordata*),
- 2) introduced in Russian Empire poplar (*Populus*) also planted in soviet time
- 3) nowadays - other species

The preferences about particular tree species still asociated with history

The most popular tree species in tree avenues near the roads in Lithuania... native



Tilia cordata



Quercus robur



Betula pendula



Fraxinus excelsior L.

The rare tree species in roads tree avenues in Lithuania



Populus



Acer platanoides



Sorbus



Malus



Širvintų rajono savivaldybė
15 val. · 🌐

...

⚠️ Senos, pavojų keliančios, po stipresnio vėjo skylančios, lūžinėjančios senosios tuopos.

Ir krašto identiteto dalis, ir problema.

Deja, metams bėgant vis gilėjanti ir kelianti didesnę grėsmę.

❌ Nepriklausomų specialistų atlikta inventorizacija kalba apie šių senų medžių blogą būklę.

Todėl priimtas sprendimas 39 senas, pavojingas tuopas, augančias ties Plento g. Širvintų k. bei mieste, šalinti.

Darbai prasidės rytoj ir vyks lapkričio-gruodžio mėnesį.



Inconvenient: *Populus*

Quick growing, spectacular in height, but short aged, sometime called “russian style tree” is NOT LISTED in the list of “important tree species”, which are safeguarded in LT





“Beautiful, we would like to grant it protection status...”

“Incompatible with road safety standards, need to be cutted down”

Populus avenue
near the region road,
Anykščiai region,
2020

photo G. Godiene



“Beautiful, we would like to grant it protection status...”

“Incompatible with road safety standards, need to be cutted down”

Populus avenue
near the region road,
Anykščiai region,
2023

photo A. Juozapaityte

Avenue of now invasive tree species -
Robinia - was considered as decorative
introduced in 1975, Vilnius, LT
Now replanted by
Robinia x margaretta 'Pink Cascade'





"Not only priority is the traffic safety and the convenience of the road itself, but environmental protection is also very important in this case in preserving the heritage and ensuring that the Green Course continues to develop," explains **Aivaras Vilkelis**, the **representative of the Directorate of Motorways**.

<https://www.lrt.lt/naujienos/lietuvoje/2/2002177/isvenge-vilniaus-scenarijaus-susivienije-anykstenai-issaugojo-miestelio-pasididziavima-simtameti-azuola>

<https://www.anyksta.lt/praso-issaugoti-simtameti-azuola/>



How many
tree avenues
present in
Lithuanian
landscape?

NO INVENTORY



Avenue leads us in uncertainty



Thank You
g.godiene@gmail.com