



# Advancing Sustainable Transition and Resilience in post-mining Areas

IO3 1st Case Study

**Poland**

**Fundacja Ad Meritum**



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## The Wilson Shaft Gallery

**Place:** Katowice, Silesian Voivodeship, Poland

The Wilson Shaft Gallery is the biggest private art gallery in Poland.

### Positioning coordinates:

50°15'03.4"N 19°05'01.4"E

### Extracted materials:

- Bituminous coal

### Anthropological information

Nowadays, the Wilson Shaft is a privately owned contemporary art gallery with wide range of collections including paintings, sculptures and art installations. It is a place dedicated to young, bold Polish and international artists who want to brighten up post-industrial area of Katowice. The Wilson Shaft Gallery is also a home to annual Art Naif Festival.

### Sociological information

In 1826, the last ordinate of Mysłowice, Aleksander Mieroszewski along with chief commander Daniel Henryk Dalibor, acquired the right to mine 100ha of land, which was called "Morgenroth" (Dawn). Then in 1833-1835, a company from Wrocław bought most of the shares. Finally, after World War the second in 1945 the name was changed to "Wieczorek" to commemorate Józef Wieczorek, a miner and worker activist, pre-war member of parliament in the Silesian Parliament, who

died in the camp in Auschwitz-Birkenau.

In 1864, two twin panes were erected on the premises of today's Gallery: Richthofen and Hulda, in 1935 renamed Wilson I and Wilson II. It is named after the President of the United States, Woodrow Wilson.

### **Sustainable tourism insights**

The Shaft completely changed its use from industrial to art sector. The gallery offers wide range of activities for kids and adults. It gives an opportunity to young artists and creative movements to showcase their art and social movement. It also gives their spaces for rental and commercial use for events.

### **Environment sustainability**

The Wilson Shaft Gallery was given the Award of the Marshal of the Silesian Voivodeship in the field of culture



## Environment sustainability

The history of mine changes from industrial production plant to regional tourist destination. In 2015, the Old Mine was awarded the prestigious title of “Well-kept Monument” by the National Heritage Institute, emphasising the uniqueness and scale of the revitalisation works.





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