Pobrane z czasopisma Studia Iuridica Lublinensia **http://studiaiuridica.umcs.pl**
Data: 19/11/2026 00:02:44

Articles

Studia Iuridica Lublinensia vol. 33, 1, 2024
DOI: 10.17951/sil.2024.33.1.249-262

Mateusz Pielach
Maria Curie-Skłodowska University (Lublin), Poland
ORCID: 0000-0001-8035-0366
mpielach88@gmail.com

Structure and Staffing of the Department of Civil Engineering of the City of Lublin 1939–1942

Struktura i obsada kadrowa Wydziału Budownictwa Miasta Lublin 1939–1942

ABSTRACT

The issue of the administrative system in the General Government has not yet been sufficiently studied and developed. This article is of a scientific and research nature. The author presents the structure, competences and staff of the Department of Civil Engineering, one of the main departments of administration of the city of Lublin, the capital city of the Lublin district in the years 1939–1944. The aim of the research was also to show that the entire administrative apparatus in Lublin functioned under the full supervision of the German authorities and was obliged to follow the instructions of the occupier. The issue of territorial and local administration in the area of the General Government definitely requires further research. There are works referring to individual county and municipal administration bodies, but there is a noticeable lack of synthesis taking into account all structural and organizational aspects of administration and containing an assessment of its functioning. The main source of information are archival materials available at the State Archives in Lublin (Files of the City of Lublin 1939–1944). In addition to the characteristics of the Department of Civil Engineering, the article also describes the basics of the administrative system in the General Government and the Lublin district.

Keywords: administrative system; Lublin; occupier; Department of Civil Engineering; General Government; Lublin district

CORRESPONDENCE ADDRESS: Mateusz Pielach, MA, PhD student, Maria Curie-Skłodowska University (Lublin), Faculty of Law and Administration, Institute of Legal Sciences, Maria Curie-Skłodowska Square 5, 20-031 Lublin, Poland.

Pobrane z czasopisma Studia Iuridica Lublinensia **http://studiaiuridica.umcs.pl**
Data: 19/11/2026 00:02:44

INTRODUCTION

The issue of city administration in the General Government (GG) should be much more widely researched and developed. This also applies to the city of Lublin.[1] The purpose of this article is to present the structure and staffing of internal bodies and the competences of one of the main departments of administration of the city of Lublin – the capital of the Lublin district in the years 1939–1944, namely the Department of Civil Engineering, as well as an indication that the entire administrative apparatus in Lublin operated under the control of the occupier – each administrative decision required the approval of German officials. The historical and legal method was used to analyse the issue in the article. The main source are archival documents from the period of occupation from the resources of the State Archives in Lublin, namely the Files of the City of Lublin 1939–1944. The time scope of the discussed topic ends in 1942, when the Jewish Quarter, created in March 1941, was demolished.[2] The issue of the activities of the Department of Civil Engineering in this project and the presentation of the history of the ghetto in Lublin require a separate study. The research part of the article consists of four parts. The first one presents the basics of the administrative system in the GG and the Lublin district. The second part is a characteristic of the Lublin City Council. The third part describes the structure and competences of the Department of Civil Engineering, and the fourth part describes the staffing of this unit.

RESEARCH AND RESULTS

1. The basics of the administrative system in the General Government and the Lublin district

Pursuant to the Decree of the Chancellor of the Third Reich Adolf Hitler of 12 October 1939 "On the administration of the occupied Polish territories", the General Government for the occupied Polish territories was created from lands not incorporated into Germany. The Decree stated that "the areas occupied by the German army, insofar as they are not included in the German Reich, are subject to the authority of the governor general for the occupied Polish areas". On 31 July

[1] A. Wrzyszcz, *Administracja terytorialna w ustawodawstwie okupanta niemieckiego w Generalnym Gubernatorstwie (1939–1944). Część I (1.09.1939–31.07.1940)*, "Z Dziejów Prawa" 2019, vol. 12(20), pp. 617–636.

[2] R. Borowiec, M. Bubicz, K. Dąbrowski, A. Potocki, M. Węcławska, E. Wlazło, *Generalne Gubernatorstwo 1939–1945. Dokumenty archiwalne z okresu okupacji w zasobie Archiwum Państwowego w Lublinie*, Ryki 2015, p. 35.

Pobrane z czasopisma Studia Iuridica Lublinensia **http://studiaiuridica.umcs.pl**
Data: 19/11/2026 00:02:44

1940, the name was shortened to the words General Governorate. It was treated as a colony, and the local population was intended to meet the needs of Germany and to exist on a hungry level.[3] A customs, police, exchange and currency border was established between the Third Reich and the GG. The official language was German, Polish was allowed to be used.

The GG was headed by the Governor General in the person of Hans Frank, who, after taking the office, issued the first regulation "On the reconstruction of the occupied Polish areas". The seat of Hans Frank was Kraków. The advisory and executive body headed by the Secretary of State was the Office of the General-Governor, in which appropriate departments were to be created for individual branches of administration. Joseph Bühler became the head of the Office on 1 December 1940.[4] Hans Frank issued the "Second Ordinance on the Reconstruction of the Administration of the General Government" (Ordinance on the Uniformity of Administration), which transformed the former Office of the General Governor into the Government – the chairman was still Joseph Bühler. The Government consisted of the Secretariat of State and the following departments: Administration, Justice, Finance, Internal Affairs, Food, Labour, Civil Engineering, Post, Railways, Science and Education.[5] Frank was also subordinate to the senior SS and police commander, the commander of the riot police and the commander of the police and security service.

Pursuant to the Ordinance of 26 October 1939 the GG was divided into four districts: Kraków (Krakau), Lublin, Radom and Warsaw (Warschau). The fifth district – Galicia – with its capital in Lviv was annexed in 1941. Districts were managed by governors, called district heads until 1941. The executive bodies at the district level were the offices of governors with heads and a structure analogous to the Government. The administration of counties was managed by county and city governors, who were representatives of the Government. In larger counties, the so-called rural commissariats with commissars were created, while in cities that were not city counties or the seat of counties, city chiefs were appointed and

[3] W. Kozyra, *Okupacyjna administracja niemiecka na ziemiach Rzeczypospolitej Polskiej w latach 1939–1945*, "Annales UMCS sectio G (Ius)" 2013, vol. 60(1), p. 42; A. Weh, *Prawo Generalnego Gubernatorstwa w układzie rzeczowym z objaśnieniami i szczegółowym skorowidzem*, Kraków 1941, A100, Decree of the Führer and Chancellor of the German Reich of 12 October 1939 on the administration of occupied Polish areas; J. Dziobek-Romański, *Organizacja administracji władz okupacyjnych na ziemiach polskich w latach 1939–1945*, "Roczniki Nauk Prawnych" 2012, vol. 22(3), p. 278.

[4] W. Kozyra, *op. cit.*, p. 43.

[5] *Ibidem*, pp. 46–47.

Pobrane z czasopisma Studia Iuridica Lublinensia **http://studiaiuridica.umcs.pl**
Data: 19/11/2026 00:02:44

mayors were subordinated to them. The administrative body at the commune level was the mayor, and in collective communes the mayor who appointed the mayors.[6]

In the GG, "the law hitherto in force remained in force, provided that it does not oppose the assumption of administration by the German Reich".[7]

The Lublin district included the area of the pre-war voivodeship, but the Siedlce district and part of the Łuków district were separated from it, and four communes from the former Lviv and Kraków voivodeships (Bełz, Bełżec, Ulanów and Cieszanów) and the area north of Puławy (from the Garwolin district) were added. The total area of the district was approx. 26 km² and approx. 2.5 million inhabitants.

The first head of the district (later called the district governor) was Friedrich Schmidt. His term of office was solemnly inaugurated on 1 November 1939 and he held the function until February 1940. He concentrated all power in his hands and was responsible for the functioning of the district. He supervised not only the administration, but also the SS and the police, and to fulfil his function he had at his disposal a district office with the Head of the Office and heads of the following departments: Internal, Administrative, Food and Agriculture, Economy, Finance, People's Education and Propaganda, Road Construction, Overground Construction, Labor, Forests, Justice, Veterinary and Personnel. His jurisdiction also included the customs office, the prosecutor's office, the post office, the archive, the railway. At the turn of 1939 and 1940, these units had their heads. The office consisted of 51 Germans. The district after Friedrich Schmidt was headed by Dr. Ernst Emil Zörner (from March 1940 to 22 April 1943), Ludwig Fischer – Governor of Warsaw (acting until 28 May 1943), Dr. Reinhard Wendler (from 28 May 1943 to the end of the occupation).[8]

The Lublin district was divided into 10 districts (*Kreishauptmannschaft*): Biała Podlaska, Biłgoraj, Chełm, Hrubieszów, Janów Lubelski, Krasnystaw, Lublin, Puławy, Radzyń, Zamość. Each of them was headed by a starost. In addition, the so-called land commissariats were established in larger counties to facilitate field work. Lublin, as the largest urban centre, was separated and created a municipal governorate. Boards of cities that are not the "seat" of counties have gained the name of "expositions" of starosties as the so-called city police stations, headed by city commissioners.[9] The districts were divided into communes (approx. 250). In the area of the district, 7,318 different towns were registered. The smaller units

[6] M. Pielach, *Administration of Cities in General Government 1939–1944 in the Regulations of the German Occupier*, [in:] *Naděje právní vědy 2020. Právní věda v praxi*, eds. V. Knoll, J. Hablovič, V. Vnenk, Plzeň 2021, pp. 1045–1046.

[7] A. Weh, *op. cit.*, A 100, § 4.

[8] Z. Mańkowski, *Między Wisłą a Bugiem 1939–1944. Studium o polityce okupanta i postawach społeczeństwa*, Lublin 1978, p. 85; W. Ćwik, J. Reder, *Lubelszczyzna. Dzieje rozwoju terytorialnego, podziałów administracyjnych i ustroju władz*, Lublin 1977, p. 155.

[9] Z. Mańkowski, *op. cit.*, p. 86.

Pobrane z czasopisma Studia Iuridica Lublinensia **http://studiaiuridica.umcs.pl**
Data: 19/11/2026 00:02:44

were headed by mayors, while the wojts managed the municipalities. The district in this administrative structure lasted until the end of the occupation.[10]

Particular attention was also paid to the creation of an efficient network of all Nazi police services. On 9 November 1939, Himmler appointed Odil Globocnik the commander-in-chief of all SS and police forces in the district. He can undoubtedly be described as criminal No. 1, having a significant impact on the drastic fate of the Lublin region. His successor was Jakub Sporrenberg, who, according to the assessment of the administrative authorities of the GG, was a balanced, calm and experienced man in the matters of the eastern lands.[11]

2. Lublin City Council

Lublin during the occupation was characterized by German street names, flags with swastikas, *nur für Deutsche* premises and the smugness of the German population. Everyday life took place in two directions: official and underground – existing against the will of the Third Reich, but considered by Poles to be the only true one. From the beginning, the capital of the Lublin district was proclaimed by the Germans as the eastern bastion of Germany. The city housed the headquarters of the occupation authorities of the German administration as well as the SS and police headquarters.[12]

The outbreak of World War II caused that representatives of the city authorities in Lublin, headed by President Liszkowski, were forced to evacuate abroad on 9 September 1939 for fear of repression. Roman Ślaski, who previously served as the Head of the Finance Department, became the new president. The Germans took over the city of Lublin on 18 September 1939. The city was under military administration, which gained extensive competences in the management of the city, and its end was put by the adoption of the Decree on the administration of the occupied Polish areas. The occupier recognized Ślaski's nomination for the President of Lublin.[13]

It should be emphasized that President Roman Ślaski tried to maintain the validity and respect of the provisions of the Merger Act of 1933 (entering into force on 13 July, it led to the unification of the system of self-government of rural and urban communes and poviat self-government associations throughout the Republic, with the exception of the Silesian Voivodeship). He intended to continue the pre-war scheme of city management. As for the internal organization of the Municipal

[10] *Ibidem*, p. 87.

[11] *Ibidem*, pp. 87–88; W. Ćwik, J. Reder, *op. cit.*, p. 155.

[12] B. Oratowska, J. Polańska, *Okupacyjna codzienność Lublina 1939–1944*, Lublin 1994, p. 1.

[13] M. Szewczak-Daniel, *Zarząd miasta Lublina w latach 1915–1939. Zasady organizacji i funkcjonowania*, Lublin 2021, p. 275.

Pobrane z czasopisma Studia Iuridica Lublinensia **http://studiaiuridica.umcs.pl**
Data: 19/11/2026 00:02:44

Board, it should be noted that during the occupation most of the departments of the Municipal Board in Lublin continued their pre-war activities. The main tasks faced by the Magistrate were related to the reconstruction of Lublin from war damage and the reconstruction of its infrastructure. It should be noted that all activities undertaken by the City Council in this respect required the approval of the occupying authorities. The following departments operated in the City Hall, chaired by Ślaski: Provisional, Financial, Civil Engineering, Economic, Department for Jewish Population, Accommodation and War Benefits, as well as the Food Office, the Distribution Department and the Municipal Professional Fire Brigade.[14]

The then City Council operated relatively dynamically until mid-1941 when the town governor Saurmann, who was very hostile to Poles, deprived Silesia of its competences and created the position of the mayor of the commissary. It should be noted that the City Council in Lublin provided material support to the Polish population throughout the entire period of the occupation.[15]

3. Structure and scope of competences of the Department of Civil Engineering

The Civil Engineering Department of the Lublin City Council has been operating from 1916 (until 1933 it was the Construction Department – the name was changed after the entry into force of the Organizational Statute of the City Council). It was one of the most extensive, as evidenced by the preserved files of this department.[16] Its main tasks were:

- construction and maintenance of roads and bridges;
- regulation and maintenance of rivers;
- construction inspection;
- city measurements;
- city development;
- construction of urban buildings.[17]

The above-mentioned Organizational Statute of the City Council of 1933 reorganized the internal structure of the department (under the Organizational Statute of the Municipality of Lublin of 1920 it consisted of: the Secretariat, the Architecture Department, the Construction Inspection Department, the Municipal Engineering

[14] *Ibidem*, pp. 275–276; State Archives in Lublin, Files of the City of Lublin 1939–1944 ref. no. 78 and 79 *Internal Orders 41–42 and Files of Works Commissioned and Performed on Behalf of the Starosty 40–41*, p. 133.

[15] B. Oratowska, J. Polańska, *op. cit.*, p. 2.

[16] M. Szewczak-Daniel, *op. cit.*, pp. 240–242.

[17] State Archives in Lublin, Files of the City of Lublin 1939–1944, ref. no. 78 and 79 *Internal Regulations 41–42*, p. 138.

Pobrane z czasopisma Studia Iuridica Lublinensia **http://studiaiuridica.umcs.pl**
Data: 19/11/2026 00:02:44

Department, the Measurement Department and the Municipal Technology Department). It was divided into:

- Road and Water Department;
- Construction Inspection;
- Department of Measurements and Buildings.[18]

In 1941 the structural division of the Department of Civil Engineering was as follows:

- Department Office;
- Road and Water Department;
- Building Inspection Department;
- Measurement and Control Department;
- Sections in the Department.[19]

The Department Office dealt with the development of regulations and various letters. It kept a logbook and expeditions. Its competences also included the economy and the management of a printing depot. The employees of the Office determined the amount of municipal fees and prepared payment declarations for municipal fees. The Office prepared reports, applications and contracts for the supply of materials and entrusting the execution of works. It also dealt with keeping the internal control book and internal regulations of the department. The Office clerks prepared employment contracts, payrolls, advances and applications for the Labour Office. They controlled episodic reports and ordered the payment of bills and payroll.[20]

The Road and Water Department prepared payrolls for employees and seasonal workers. It dealt with the construction and maintenance of roads and bridges, as well as the purification and regulation of rivers and the drainage of rainwater. The competences of the section also included the development of an investment program and keeping a record of streets and roads.

The Building Inspection Department covered the scope of its competence to approve plans for new buildings. It inspected the construction police and dealt with cases of the Extraordinary Reconstruction Commission. It kept a real estate file and considered the matters of the Expansion Committee. The employees of the department prepared conclusions on the construction policy and construction projects for urban needs.

The Measurement and Control Department included matters related to the works on the planning and development of the city as well as measurement works. In addition, this branch was responsible for preparing a general development plan

[18] M. Szewczak-Daniel, *op. cit.*, pp. 240–241.

[19] State Archives in Lublin, Files of the City of Lublin 1939–1944, ref. no. 78 and 79 *Internal Regulations 41–42*, p. 138.

[20] *Ibidem*.

Pobrane z czasopisma Studia Iuridica Lublinensia **http://studiaiuridica.umcs.pl**
Data: 19/11/2026 00:02:44

for the city of Lublin. It performed work in the field of parcels and field policy as well as supervision over the development of areas falling within the sphere of the city's interests.

The Department's facilities dealt with the management of warehouses, supplying the concrete plant with raw material and exercising control over its work. In addition, the scope of their competences included the storage and use of inventory, reparation of tools and production of the necessary equipment and items.[21]

The Civil Engineering Department operated very dynamically, as evidenced by the actions taken immediately after the occupant entered Lublin. The list of buildings destroyed and damaged as a result of the use of incendiary and intoxicating bombs by the Germans was very extensive and was divided into 274 sections. According to the statistics of the Municipal Construction Inspectorate, 260 buildings were destroyed or demolished, including 60 residential buildings. In this number, 101 buildings were destroyed to the extent of 60–100%, 56 buildings – in 20–60%, and 117 buildings – up to 20%. The following buildings required reconstruction: the main building of the magistrate, the arrest building, the fire station of the Fire Brigade, the Krakow Gate from 1342, the school in the Kalinowszczyzna region, the cathedral built in 1582, the Potocki palace, the museum and the Lublin Catholic University building, the Red Cross depot, houses at Kościuszki, Chopin, Narutowicz, Krakowskie Przedmieście and others. From 30 September 1939 to October 1939,[22] 850 workers were employed in 23 sections of the work. The scope of works included, in addition to the reconstruction of buildings, among others: embankment of the Bystrzyca River and sports stadium, removal of debris from Jezuicka Street, construction of a bridge on Pawia Street and a road in Czechow, backfilling anti-aircraft ditches in the Municipal Garden. The number of workers began to grow steadily from October 1939 (as of 30 November it was 5,143 workers), and this was related to the commencement of further work by the Department of Civil Engineering.[23] In winter, the Department's work focused on clearing the city and outlet roads of snowdrifts, and the number of employees was decreasing (also due to their departure to work in the Third Reich). The Department of Civil Engineering also dealt with the grubbing up of trunks in the city park and the installation of a toboggan run there, as well as collecting and arranging materials from the aircraft factory and various small works, e.g. setting up bird feeders, removing baskets

[21] *Ibidem*, pp. 138–139.

[22] State Archives in Lublin, Files of the City of Lublin 1939–1944, ref. no. 87 *Report on the Works Performed in the Construction Department*, pp. 113–119; R. Moszyński, L. Policha, *Lublin w okresie okupacji (1939–1944). Na podstawie badań sądowych Miejskiej Komisji Badania Zbrodni Hitlerowskich*, Lublin 1964, pp. 19–20.

[23] State Archives in Lublin, Files of the City of Lublin 1939–1944, ref. *Settlements*, p. 13.

Pobrane z czasopisma Studia Iuridica Lublinensia **http://studiaiuridica.umcs.pl**
Data: 19/11/2026 00:02:44

from lantern poles or cleaning the swimming pool. In 1940,[24] work continued on the construction of the bridge in Pawia Street, the vaulting of the Czechówka River or the demolition of the bridge in Bystrzyca. The pavement on Lubartowska Street was constructed from the remaining rubble and storm chambers and canals in the city were cleaned, walls in buildings at risk of collapse were dismantled, e.g. at Tatarska and Kościuszki Street No. 1 and minor works were carried out for the German authorities (cleaning and minor repairs in military barracks).[25]

According to the minutes of the conference held in the office of the Head of the Municipality, on 23 January 1941, a project of investment works for the years 1941–1942 was prepared. The Department of Civil Engineering was obliged, among others, to reconstruct Racławickie Avenue and Wieniawska Street and Startowa Street, to continue the reconstruction and renovation of Lubomelska, Drobna and Lubartowska Streets. In addition, earthworks at Pawia Street, the construction of Wodopojna Street, as well as the execution of design works at the Market Hall at Nowy Plac Targowy and the construction of a bridge to Mickiewicza Street were to be maintained.[26]

It should also be mentioned that the management of the Department of Civil Engineering took care of its workers, who were paid allowances ranging from PLN 7 to 14. In addition, they received cash benefits (paid in German currency), and the wage standards for its payment were as follows: bachelor – 3.5 marks per week, married man 4 marks, married with one child 4.5 marks per week. Moreover, the worker received 50 pfennigs for each child they had. It is worth adding that they received help in the form of fuel and food, e.g. at the end of October 1939 they could redeem a voucher for free coal (a worker with a family of three up to 150 kg, and for those living with over three people in a household – 250 kg). They also received salt, rye and wheat flour, sugar or 1 liter of kerosene. The distribution campaign was undoubtedly conducive to the quality of work performed by the workers, despite the fact that it was performed for the occupier.[27]

4. Staffing of the Department of Civil Engineering

As far as personnel is concerned, it is necessary to indicate the guidelines for education that should have been held while holding the most important positions and the basic scope of duties, and only then the names of specific officials.

[24] *Ibidem*, p. 68; State Archives in Lublin, Files of the City of Lublin 1939–1944, ref. 89 *Report on Works for 1940*, pp. 5–7.

[25] State Archives in Lublin, Files of the City of Lublin 1939–1944, ref. 89 *Report on Works for 1940*, p. 9.

[26] State Archives in Lublin, Files of the City of Lublin 1939–1944, ref. 82 *Minutes of the Report from the Conference with the Authorities*, p. 1.

[27] State Archives in Lublin, Files of the City of Lublin 1939–1944, ref. *Settlements*, pp. 13–15.

Pobrane z czasopisma Studia Iuridica Lublinensia **http://studiaiuridica.umcs.pl**
Data: 19/11/2026 00:02:44

According to the Articles of Association of the Department of Civil Engineering of 29 August 1941 a person with higher education, preferably in the field of civil engineering, with at least 5 years of professional experience, could become the head. His main task was to exercise superior power in the department, control of subordinate units. The clerk – the head of the department office should have a minimum secondary education and also 5 years of local government practice – dealt with the management of the office as well as budgetary matters and referencing letters. Translator – secondary education and fluent knowledge of German. Buchalter should have graduated from business school, but he was mainly involved in budget and credit control. Chancellors – secondary education, they helped in running the department office. Control and statistics officers were obliged to have legal education – they issued legal opinions and headed the sections. The typewriter – secondary education and knowledge of German spelling, dealt with transcription of correspondence and letters. The janitors and cleaners needed only lower (primary) education. The clerk in the Civil Engineering Department of the Head had to be an architectural engineer, he exercised construction supervision in the field. Construction technicians had secondary technical education and helped in the design of plans and cost estimates.[28]

The Head of the Road and Water Department had to demonstrate higher technical education and 5 years of professional practice, he held general management over the branch. Road and water technician had at least technical secondary education – he prepared cost estimates, projects. The measuring of school graduation was enough for a surveyor – he carried out measurements in the field. The Head of the Road and Water Department Office had secondary education and local government practice. He dealt with, among others, keeping records of seasonal workers and organizing the work of the department office. For the chancellor in this branch general secondary education was sufficient – he was in charge of running the department office. In turn, the supervisor – secondary or lower education – assisted the section managers and supervised the work. The caretaker, sewer and messenger could have had lower education.[29]

For the workshop manager, it was enough to have secondary education – he kept inventory and workshop accounting. Masters with professional education – they dealt with the professional management of the workshops. The locksmith, blacksmith, carpenter and joiner had to graduate from a vocational school.[30]

The Head of the Measurement and Regulation Department should have had 5 years of experience in local government work and graduation from higher technical studies. He dealt with the development of city development plans and issued

[28] State Archives in Lublin, Files of the City of Lublin 1939–1944, ref. 76 *Cases of the Organization of the Department of Civil Engineering*, p. 64.

[29] *Ibidem*, p. 65.

[30] *Ibidem*, p. 66.

Pobrane z czasopisma Studia Iuridica Lublinensia **http://studiaiuridica.umcs.pl**
Data: 19/11/2026 00:02:44

construction opinions. The Head of the Measurement Office, the Officer of Basic Measurements and the Officer of Implementation of Development Plans dealt with carrying out measurements in the field and drafted development plans – they were obliged to have higher technical education and 5 years of experience. Current Affairs Officer – also with higher education, carried out plans and outlines for the needs of the authorities and parties.

Supervision over the concrete plant was exercised by a manager with a minimum of secondary technical or commercial education, who had a warehouseman, a worker and a guard (with professional education) to help him. In addition, accounting matters were supervised by a bookkeeper who should have graduated from a commercial school.[31]

The Head of the Construction Inspection Department was obliged to obtain a higher polytechnic education or/and demonstrate professional and local government practice. He exercised general management over the work of the Department and issued decisions on matters dealt with by individual departments. He had field inspections and construction police to help him. The senior clerk managing the branch office had to have higher education and office practice. To help him, he had a clerk and archivist with a requirement to graduate from secondary school, as well as an interpreter who had to prove his knowledge of German. Office clerks of districts I, II and III dealt with the supervision of existing buildings and new constructions, demolition of buildings, supplying the city with boards with street names. All they needed was a high school diploma and professional practice. In the Registry Office, the referent supplemented and updated the files by introducing ownership changes. To help the branch manager, there was also the Office of the Extraordinary Reconstruction Commission – the head of this office should have polytechnic education, and his main competence was to organize and participate in commission damage surveys, manage measurements and photos of destroyed buildings of the Old Town. Construction technicians – technical secondary schools, kept a register and accepted notifications about destroyed buildings.[32]

The letter to the Head of the General Department of 8 July 1941 included a list of intellectual and physical employees of the Department of Civil Engineering. The Department Office and the Road and Water Department consisted of 36 white-collar employees and 33 manual workers.[33] Department of Construction Inspection had 16 white-collar and one blue-collar workers. The Municipal Concrete Plant consisted of two white-collar workers and four manual workers, and the Department

[31] *Ibidem*, p. 67.
[32] *Ibidem*, p. 37.
[33] *Ibidem*, p. 2.

Pobrane z czasopisma Studia Iuridica Lublinensia **http://studiaiuridica.umcs.pl**
Data: 19/11/2026 00:02:44

of Regulation and Measurement consisted of eight white-collar workers and one blue-collar worker.[34]

The Head of the Civil Engineering Department with its registered office at 3 Staszica Street was engineer Henryk Zamorowski.[35] In addition to the head, among the most important employees of the Department office and the Road and Water Department, referents should be indicated: Zbigniew Fijałkowski and Tadeusz Schutty, engineers – Mieczysław Napiórkowski, Władysław Łaparewicz, clerks and chancellors – Stefan Kotłowski, Irena Porzycka, Eugeniusz Plewiński, Seweryna Trawińska, and technicians – Feliks Żytkowski, Henryk Szukiewicz, Jan Kumornicki, Stanisław Marek.

In the Municipal Concrete Plant, the white-collar employees were the accountant Witold Jaworski and the warehouseman Jan Rywka.

Zbigniew Oleś was the Head of the Construction Inspection Department. Apart from him, Henryk Bajszczak was a Reporter of the Extraordinary Reconstruction Commission, Piotr Szlachetko was a Regional Reporter of the First District, Marian Pliszczyński was a Regional Reporter of the Second District, Bolesław Gajewskia – a Regional Reporter of the Third District, Daniela Stefańska – a Secretary of the Inspector, Czesław Ptaszyński – the Head of the File Department.

In the Measurement and Control Department, the Head of the Regulatory Office was Czesław Gawdzik, the Head of the Measurement Office – Władysław Mikulski, measuring engineers – Alfons Janowski and Tadeusz Sadownik, building technicians – Eugeniusz Jung and Wiktor Zacharzewski.[36]

CONCLUSIONS

The administration of the city of Lublin in the years of occupation 1939–1944 is a topic that definitely needs to be explored. The purpose of this article was to present only general assumptions regarding the structure, personnel and operation of one of the seven administrative departments operating in the Lublin City Council in the period 1939–1942 and draw attention to the issue of strict control of the occupier when making administrative decisions. After reading the part of the file concerning the Civil Engineering Department, I can conclude that it performed its tasks very efficiently, despite the fact that it operated under the supervision of the German authorities. Its resilient operation was influenced by

[34] *Ibidem*, pp. 2–5.

[35] State Archives in Lublin, Files of the City of Lublin 1939–1944, ref. 78 and 79 *Internal Regulations 41–42*, p. 143.

[36] State Archives in Lublin, Files of the City of Lublin 1939–1944, ref. 76 *Cases of the Organization of the Department of Civil Engineering*, pp. 2–6.

Pobrane z czasopisma Studia Iuridica Lublinensia **http://studiaiuridica.umcs.pl**
Data: 19/11/2026 00:02:44

the large number of Poles employed in this institution. Communication in Polish between the Department management and physical workers enabled a faster flow of information about orders and their smoother implementation. The number and regularity of works carried out by individual bodies of the Department indicates the high involvement of this unit in the reconstruction of the city destroyed by the Germans in September 1939. This is also evidenced by material support and taking care of its Polish employees. This care was also manifested in the fact that many complaints about their work made by the Germans were overlooked by the management. The participation of the Civil Engineering Department of the City Council in the process of displacing the Jewish population from the suburbs of Lublin–Wieniawa in May 1940 definitely requires a separate discussion, and thus the destruction of Jewish property (over 100 residential houses were destroyed), as well as in the process of demolishing the ghetto and destroying over 300 buildings in its area (in the autumn of 1942). These events undoubtedly leave a deep scratch in the overall assessment of the Department's work. The extensive range of materials related to the discussed issue, located in the State Archives in Lublin, allows for a much broader analysis of the work of the entire administrative apparatus during the occupation in the city of Lublin. I hope that the article will contribute to broadening knowledge about the functioning of the lowest-level administration in Lublin during the German occupation. In addition, it should be helpful for historical studies on the economic and sociological aspects of the location of various social groups under Nazi occupation.

REFERENCES

Archival sources

State Archives in Lublin, Files of the City of Lublin 1939–1944, ref. no. 76–89.

Literature

Borowiec R., Bubicz M., Dąbrowski K., Potocki A., Węcławska M., Wlazło E., *Generalne Gubernatorstwo 1939–1945. Dokumenty archiwalne z okresu okupacji w zasobie Archiwum Państwowego w Lublinie*, Ryki 2015.

Ćwik W., Reder J., *Lubelszczyzna. Dzieje rozwoju terytorialnego, podziałów administracyjnych i ustroju władz*, Lublin 1977.

Dziobek-Romański J., *Organizacja administracji władz okupacyjnych na ziemiach polskich w latach 1939–1945*, "Roczniki Nauk Prawnych" 2012, vol. 22(3).

Kozyra W., *Okupacyjna administracja niemiecka na ziemiach Rzeczypospolitej Polskiej w latach 1939–1945*, "Annales UMCS sectio G (Ius)" 2013, vol. 60(1).

Mańkowski Z., *Między Wisłą a Bugiem 1939–1944. Studium o polityce okupanta i postawach społeczeństwa*, Lublin 1978.

Pobrane z czasopisma Studia Iuridica Lublinensia **http://studiaiuridica.umcs.pl**
Data: 19/11/2026 00:02:44

Moszyński R., Policha L., *Lublin w okresie okupacji (1939–1944). Na podstawie badań sądowych Miejskiej Komisji Badania Zbrodni Hitlerowskich*, Lublin 1964.

Oratowska B., Polańska J., *Okupacyjna codzienność Lublina 1939–1944*, Lublin 1994.

Pielach M., *Administration of Cities in General Government 1939–1944 in the Regulations of the German Occupier*, [in:] *Naděje právní vědy 2020. Právní věda v praxi*, eds. V. Knoll, J. Hablovič, V. Vnenk, Plzeň 2021.

Szewczak-Daniel M., *Zarząd miasta Lublina w latach 1915–1939. Zasady organizacji i funkcjonowania*, Lublin 2021.

Weh A., *Prawo Generalnego Gubernatorstwa w układzie rzeczowym z objaśnieniami i szczegółowym skorowidzem*, Kraków 1941.

Wrzyszcz A., *Administracja terytorialna w ustawodawstwie okupanta niemieckiego w Generalnym Gubernatorstwie (1939–1944). Część I (1.09.1939–31.07.1940)*, "Z Dziejów Prawa" 2019, vol. 12(20), **DOI: https://doi.org/10.31261/ZDP.2019.20.36**.

ABSTRAKT

Zagadnienie ustroju administracyjnego na terenie Generalnego Gubernatorstwa nie zostało dotychczas dostatecznie zbadane i opracowane. Niniejszy artykuł ma charakter naukowo-badawczy. Przedstawiono tu strukturę, kompetencje i obsadę kadrową Wydziału Budownictwa – jednego z głównych wydziałów administracji miasta Lublin, pełniącego rolę stolicy dystryktu lubelskiego w latach 1939–1944. Celem badań było również ukazanie, że cały aparat administracyjny w Lublinie funkcjonował pod pełnym nadzorem władz niemieckich i był zobligowany do wykonywania poleceń okupanta. Problematyka administracji terenowej i lokalnej na obszarze Generalnego Gubernatorstwa zdecydowanie wymaga prowadzenia kolejnych badań. Pojawiają się prace odnoszące się do poszczególnych organów administracji powiatowej i gminnej, jednakże odczuwalny jest brak syntezy uwzględniającej wszelkie aspekty strukturalne i organizacyjne administracji oraz zawierającej ocenę jej funkcjonowania. Głównym źródłem informacji są materiały archiwalne dostępne w Archiwum Państwowym w Lublinie (Akta Miasta Lublina 1939–1944). W artykule, obok charakterystyki Wydziału Budownictwa, opisano także podstawy ustroju administracyjnego w Generalnym Gubernatorstwie oraz w dystrykcie lubelskim.

Słowa kluczowe: ustrój administracyjny; Lublin; okupant; Wydział Budownictwa; Generalne Gubernatorstwo; dystrykt lubelski