

Does it make a difference to be on the west or on the east side?

One could consider that wooden commercial facilities were probably rather evenly distributed on all sides of the Market Square – meaning in practical terms evenly distributed on the *west* and *east* sides of the Cloth Hall. (Fig. 33).

On this schematic map of the Market Square (based on a 1803-1804 plan) and once one knows which edifices are wooden constructions, one could suppose that there are a little more edifices on the west side. But no indication is given here on the type and density of transformations, on how and when the edifices were built and destroyed, *etc.*

By contrast, the following visualisation, called *evolution field* (Fig. 34), helps weighing precisely the density of objects on both sides of the Cloth Hall (as well as the overall number of transformations and of alternatives, the durations of life, the temporal patterns for construction and destruction time). Wooden commercial facilities on the west side outnumber by far those on the east side, some emerge earlier in time, their process of decay and demolition stand out as harder to date precisely – in fact activity as such appears as far greater on the west side.

The visualisation can also highlight specific events – here reports of fire are represented as little horizontal red lines, and distributed in time. A spectacular dissymmetry appears between the two sides: a large number of fires on the west side, particularly during the 16th century, only one fire suspected on the east side.

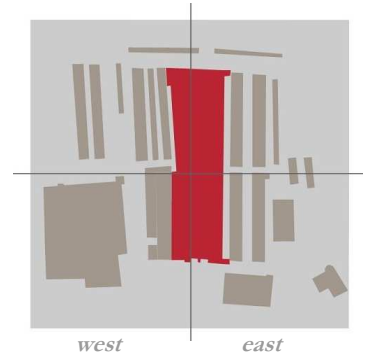
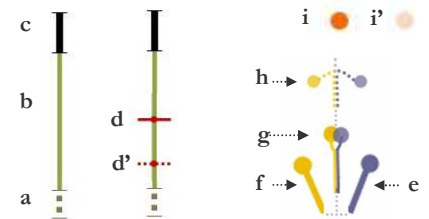


Fig. 33 The Cloth Hall, by its dimensions, implicitly splits the Market Square into two “halves” – that we name here by convention *west* and *east*.

Fig. 34 The *evolution field* visualisation underlines west/east density and ‘knowledge patterns’.

- a - possible period of construction
- b - artefact’s overall lifetime
- c - possible period of demolition/dismantling
- d/d’ – confirmed/suspected fire
- e - definite morphological transformation
- f - definite recurrent transformation
- g - unknown results of a confirmed transformation
- h – potential transformation
- i - artefact identified during archaeological survey
- i’ - archaeological remains not clearly attributed to the artefact



West side:

- 1) post-chart construction, 2) officers’ house, 3) food supplies and general retail stalls, 4) gingerbread stalls, 5) stalls near the Town Hall, 6) salt stalls, 7) butter stalls, 8) bread benches and bakers’ stalls 9) glass stalls, 10) pottery and lard stalls, 11) fish stalls, 12) Oszacki house, 13) cookshops

East side :

- 1) hatters’ stalls, 2) ‘Lithuanian’ stalls, 3) stalls ‘under Providence’ and traders’ stalls, 4) iron stalls (parts of this artefact could be built of stone and brick), 5) soap stalls, 6) stalls near the minor traders’ hall, 7) glass stalls near St. Mary’s Basilica cemetery

