

The Monuments of the Opawskie Mountains

*Waldesruh – an example
of the Opawskie Mountains' cultural heritage.*

The first mentions of buildings located by the Upper Pond in Głucholazy date back to the 1890s. The pension was built by Heinrich Ertelt and has attracted many tourists from all over the world since its foundation. It was particularly famous thanks to the delicious cuisine and fabulous scenery. The place was bought in 1908 by Count Francis von Ballestrem (a Silesian industrial magnate and the president of the Reichstag in the years 1898-1906). The resort was destined to accommodate miners and employees of other work establishments of the Ballestrem family. Since then, it has served as a rehabilitation and holiday resort. What is more, there was a forest school for the children of miners and steelworkers employed by the Ballestrem's enterprises. After World War II, the facilities were taken over by the Worker's Holiday Fund (Fundusz Wczasów Pracowniczych) which run a holiday resort under the names: "Miner's Holiday," "The Miner," "Calmness" and "Polonia 4" ("Wczasy Górnik," "Górnik," "Zacisze," "Polonia 4").



In 1908, a boulder was placed near the health resort building to commemorate the golden wedding anniversary of the count couple (21 June 1858-1908), which took place in the year of founding the resort. The boulder had a commemorative medal on it with the following inscription: "Franz Graf and Hedwig Gräfin Ballestrem." The author of the medallion was Professor Joseph Limburg (1874-1955) from the Academy of Arts in Berlin.

During the revitalization of the park adjacent to the buildings, which was carried out in 2015 and 2016, the commemorative boulder returned to its original location on the slope by the Upper Pond.