

Map Corner

House Numbers and Building Parcels: Research with the Rozdół Cadastral Map of 1850

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IN ADDITION TO ITS GREAT BEAUTY, the 1850 cadastral map of Rozdół—today Розділ (Rozdil) in western Ukraine—is also an excellent example of how historical property registers can link vital and civil records to the locations of family residences and businesses in Galician towns.

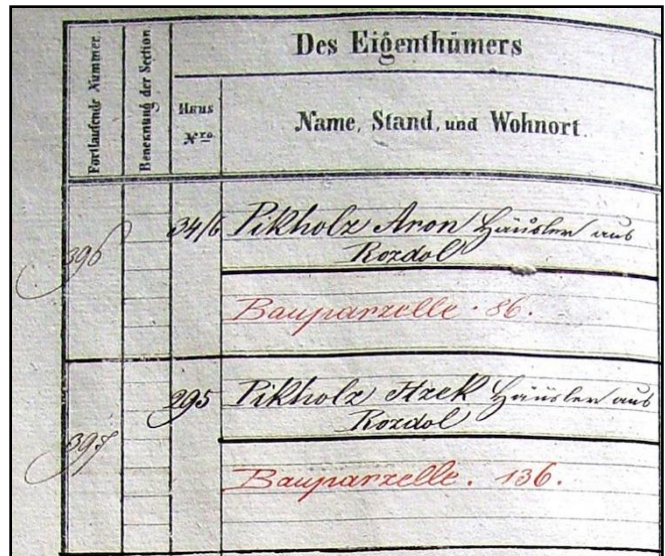
As past articles in this journal have described, property maps of individual towns in the Austrian Empire were developed through several stages of refinement, from rough initial field sketches to lithographed and very accurate cadastral maps. Annotations and property numbering on these maps also changed as the surveyors and cartographers refined a town's property records. While early- and intermediate-stage maps typically label buildings with house numbers (the "address" recorded on vital and other records), final-stage cadastral maps show only building parcel numbers for those same buildings.

Surviving property maps for Galicia may exist in only one of the several development stages. In the online [Gesher Galicia Map Room](#), we have well over a hundred cadastral maps, with examples in every stage of development. If the best available map is a final-stage imperial print, then other records are needed to link house numbers to the building parcels shown on the map.

Brian J. Lenius, Gesher Galicia's long-time adviser and President Emeritus of the [East European](#)

[Genealogical Society \(EEGS\)](#), has described the progression of cadastral map development and property annotations in very helpful detail in a recent issue of the Society's journal, the *East European Genealogist* (Vol. 24, no. 3, Spring 2016: 7–17). Here we will only consider one aspect of that evolution, with illustrations: the 1850 Rozdół map is a beautiful model of the final lithographed stage of imperial map-making, but it lacks house numbers; only parcel numbers mark the building and land plots.

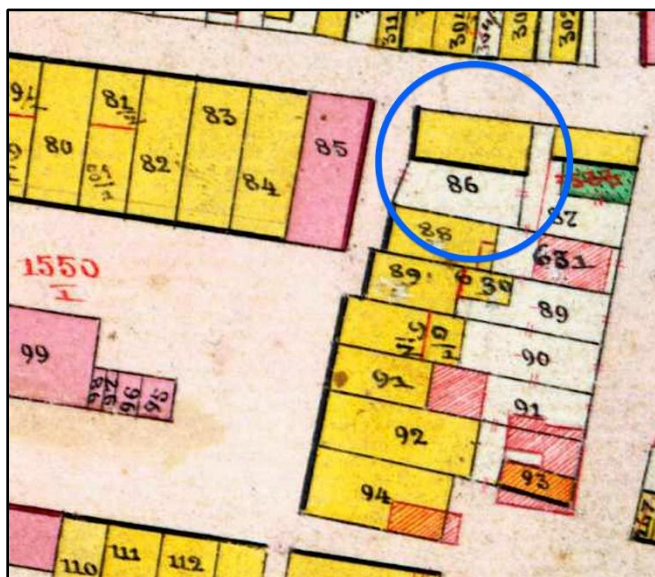
In this case, we are fortunate enough that property registers for the town have survived, and we can associate house numbers to building parcel numbers. The indexes in Gesher Galicia's online [All Galicia Database \(AGD\)](#) correlate the two number types in an 1850 register of property owners in Rozdół. A single excerpt from the register will demonstrate how this works.



An image of the original property register, showing the record for Aron Pikhholz (and below it, that of his likely relative Itzek). Source: TsDIAL.

Searching the AGD for the name Aron Pikhholz in Rozdół yields an entry from the 1850 Homeowners List for house number 34/b and building parcel 86. Vital and other records may or may not have shown Aron's family at this same house

number, but Aron is a recorded owner of the property, and in addition, the link between the house number and the building parcel number is important. On the map, building parcel 86 is just northeast of the town square, and in 1850, the house there was made of wood (indicated by its yellow color on the map), as shown in the detail image here.



A detail from the 1850 cadastral map, with a blue circle added to highlight the Aron Pikhholz property. Source: TsDIAL and the Gesher Galicia Map Room.

The AGD also allows reverse searches; for example, searching on house number 34 in Rozdół yields two entries, and explains that the building on parcel 86 was split between Aron Pikhholz and Mechel Reiter (at house number 34/a) in 1850.

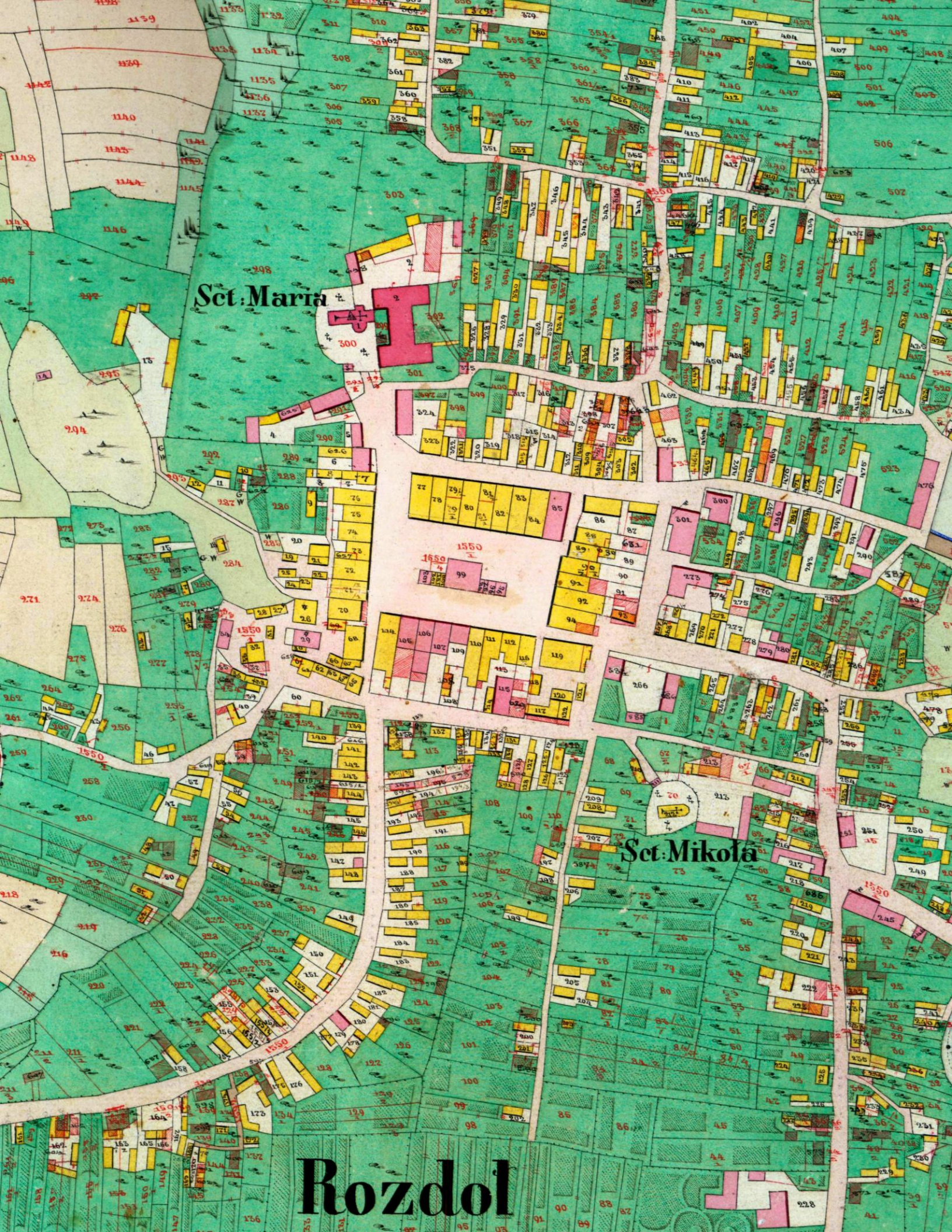
There are even more clues in the surviving records: the map detail shown here includes a red line between building parcels 86 and 87, and red hash marks on two black property lines. These are revision marks by an imperial surveyor to indicate changes in property boundaries some time after the town was originally surveyed in 1850 for the lithographed cadastral map. The owner of building parcel 86 at the time (perhaps still a member of the Pikhholz family) gained

buildable space from his neighbor at parcel 87; who was that neighbor? An AGD search of Rozdół without names or house numbers but with the keyword "87" yields the result that the 1850 owner of building parcel 87 (house number 385) was one Luser Samueli. Like the Pikhholz family, the Samueli family owned more than one property in town, and it could be interesting to explore the connections between the families, at least through real estate.

Keyword AGD searches on the other neighboring properties seen on the map could also be interesting, and potentially fruitful. For example, was there more than a chance connection between Aron Pikhholz in our focus house and the families of Jakob and Wolf Wehrmuth, who owned the house at building parcel 88 (across the courtyard)? And what about the separate owners of the (red-colored) masonry building on parcel 85 across the street: Pinkas Princ, and Lipa and Moses Weinstock? The heavy black lines at the west and south faces of the house on building parcel 86 tell us that there were entrances to the house there, so whether related or not, the residents of these houses would have seen each other every day.

We hope this brief example will highlight how genealogists can use the tools and data on the Gesher Galicia website to correlate register entries and map locations, and learn useful ways to study family properties and spatial relationships in Galician towns. Look to the Map Room for more examples of map-based family research in 2017.

Next page: A larger detail from the 1850 cadastral map of Rozdół, showing the entire town center. Source: TsDIAL and the Gesher Galicia Map Room.



Sct. Maria

Sct. Mikola

Rozdol