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From State Farm to Golf & Country Club: Transformation(s) of Everyday Life Structures in the Former Polish State Farm Village Paczółtowie, 1981-2004.

My research focuses on the restructuration of former state farm villages in the course of transformation processes in Poland in the 1990s and its impact on everyday life of rural dwellers. The purpose of my dissertation is to trace transformation from below in rural spaces where changes usually occur very slowly. The abrupt liquidation of state farming in 1991 was one of Balcerowicz's shock therapy reforms. Former state farm villages changed rapidly into remote, dull and lost spaces ruled by unemployment, boredom and lack of perspectives. Those villages were remnants of a socialist work collective that gradually merged into the landscape of poverty of Polish rural communities with its characteristic social issues. I will present a case study of my dissertation: the former state farm village Paczółtowie where state farm land was restructured into one of Europe's biggest golf clubs. I argue against the deterministic narrative of Polish state farm workers as static homines sovietici / losers of the new system and emphasise their agency in the phase of restructuration of the former state farmland. My main sources are Oral History interviews primarily with former state farm workers and their family members.