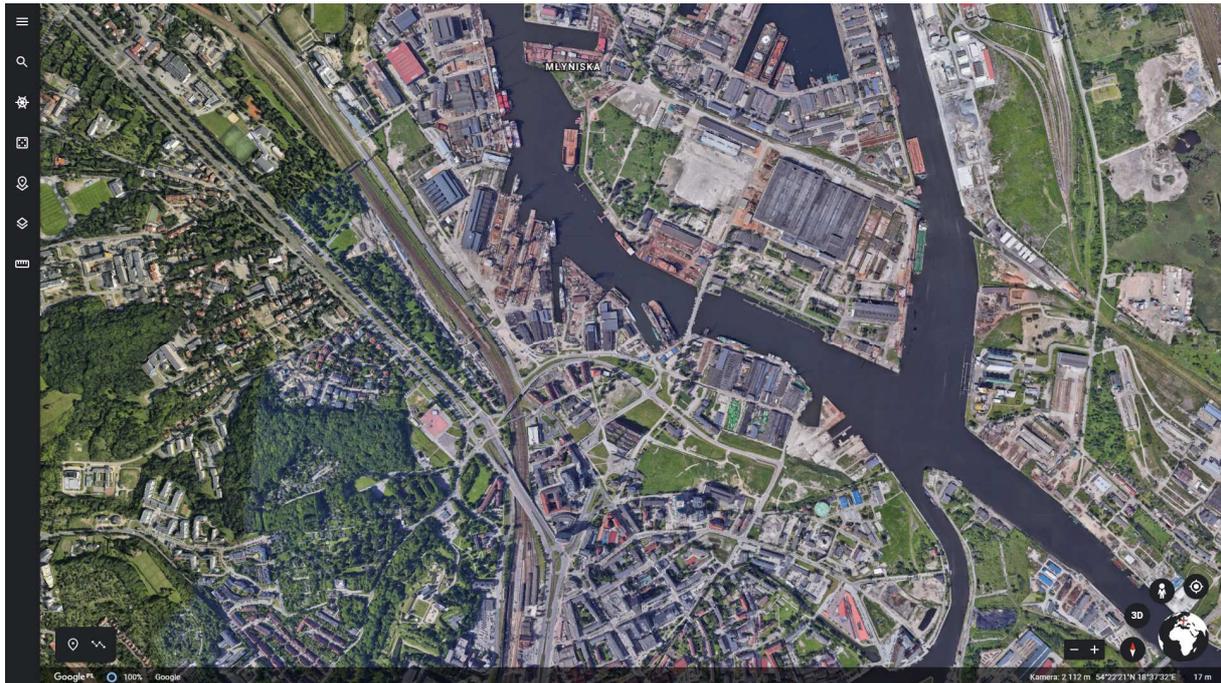


Group 4: Heritage and identity



The word shipyard is synonymous with Gdańsk, primarily due to the social and political phenomenon that was the Solidarity trade union movement in the 1980s. Since then, the name of the city for many has conjured up images of a mass of striking workers and the giant shipyard cranes. Although work connected to ship building and maintenance continues in many parts of the shipyard area today, the bulk of what was its original area has slowly been rotting away since the fall of communism. The business-driven land-use planning process, initiated in 2000 largely ignored issues of both cultural heritage protection as well as public discussion about the future of this area. Many historical buildings were demolished, and new investments did not fit in with the spirit of the place. However, thanks to bottom-up artistic activity, public attention has been drawn to the importance of Gdańsk Shipyard's cultural landscape. There are advance attempts to inscribe the site on the UNESCO World Heritage List. In 2013 a group of developers announced their plans to build a combined

residential, business, cultural and entertainment complex featuring offices, apartments, bars and restaurants, a hotel and conference centre. However, the renewal and the inevitable commercialisation of the former shipyard does not go hand in hand with plans for landscape and green infrastructure.

Our working group 4 will focus on local identity codes and industrial vegetation cover types. We will try to formulate a general vision for a green infrastructure strategy that could naturally fill in public spaces and help to stop the loss of biodiversity and enable the local ecosystem to deliver their many services to people and nature.

Our guiding questions will be: (1) how can green infrastructure bring together old and recent history of the shipyard area? (2) how can this heritage be further developed and protected in such a way that it contributes to the well-being and prosperity of the inhabitants of the area? (3) how can artists and local communities participate in the nature-driven revitalisation of the old shipyard area?

