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## THE ROLE OF VOIVODESHIP CONSERVATOR OF MONUMENTS IN PROTECTION AND MANAGEMENT OF HISTORIC MONUMENTS ON THE EXAMPLE OF WARSAW AND MAZOVIA

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**ABSTRACT:** The text discusses the role of the Voivodeship Conservator in the protection and management of a Historic Monument on the example of activities in Warsaw and Mazovia region. The most important role of a Voivodeship Conservator of Monuments is to carry out supervision over objects of heritage located within the area of a Historic Monument. By doing so, the VCM can promote high standards of conservation work and create examples of protection and conservation projects in an area, as well as conduct promotional activities. Presented here are all objects registered as Historic Monuments in the Mazovia region, as well as the submitted applications and the listed monuments that deserve to be bestowed the rank of the Historic Monument. Despite the restrictions imposed by law, the VCM may actively work for the protection of Historic Monuments and be the executor of the national heritage policy. It can also very efficiently combine sustainable development considerations of the areas of Historic Monuments with the requirements of conservation, development, as well as protection and adaptation to the changing needs of life.

**KEY WORDS:** Historic Monuments, Warsaw, Żyrardów, Płock, Pułtusk, Czersk, Abbey near Sieciechów, Krasne, Brochów, Sulejówek, Czerwińsk nad Wisłą, Radom, Węgrów, Iłża, Szydłowiec, Porzecze Mariańskie

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The Voivodeship Conservator of Monuments can perform various functions related to protecting and managing a Historic Monument. Its most important role is to carry out conservation supervision activities concerning monuments located in a relevant area. Therefore, it can create examples of protection and conservation efforts in a given area. It may also undertake works for the protection and conservation of Historic Monuments and initiate actions for recognition of an object as one. In order to exhaustingly discuss the role of the Voivodeship Conservator of Monuments, the Historic Monuments of Mazovia and their conservation problems are first presented. Next, a list of applications submitted at the initiative of the Mazovia VCM for

recognition as Historic Monuments is presented. Finally, assemblies that should be considered as Historic Monuments in Mazovia are also presented. The summary of the paper comprises some remarks on the role of the MVCMM in the protection and management of the Historic Monuments. Activities in these areas, where conservation protection is combined with the development and adaptation of these areas to the changing needs of life, were emphasized.

### Historic Monuments in Mazovia

As of the beginning of June 2019, there are 6 historic monuments in Mazovia. These are:

- The historical city complex with the Royal Route and Wilanów in Warsaw was declared a Historic Monument on 8 September 1994<sup>1</sup>. According to the justification for the recognition of the Royal Castle, Old and New Town as a historic monument, Krakowskie Przedmieście was the location for the most important historical events. The spatial arrangement is a wealth of architectural solutions, horticulture, sculpture and artistic craftsmanship in architecture, sculpture and monuments. They bear witness to the high artistic level of urban planners, architects, artists and craftsmen who have been active in the capital city over the centuries<sup>2</sup>. The entire ensemble requires constant conservation supervision, and the renovation and conservation work carried out in this area must be of the highest standard.

- Żyrardów - a 19th-century Factory Settlement declared a Historic Monument on January 4, 2012<sup>3</sup>. (Fig. 1)



Fig. 1 Żyrardów, 19th c. factory settlement, as of 2014, workers' houses. Photo by J. Lewicki

<sup>1</sup> Regulation of the President of the Republic of Poland dated 8 Sept 1994 on recognition of an object as historic monument, „Monitor Polski”, 1994, no 50, item 423.

<sup>2</sup> [https://www.nid.pl/pl/Informacje\\_ogolne/Zabytki\\_w\\_Polsce/Pomniki\\_historii/Lista\\_miejsc/miejsce.php?ID=317](https://www.nid.pl/pl/Informacje_ogolne/Zabytki_w_Polsce/Pomniki_historii/Lista_miejsc/miejsce.php?ID=317), website visited 15 V 2019.

<sup>3</sup> Regulation of the President of the Republic of Poland dated 4 Jan 2012 on recognition of 'Żyrardów - 19th c. Factory Settlement' as historic monument, Journal of Laws Dz. U., 2012, No. 11, item 59.

The justification states that the factory settlement in Żyrardów is an extremely valuable testimony to over a hundred years of linen traditions of the town and an example of its links with the textile industry in the Kingdom of Poland. The uniqueness of the urban and architectural concept of Żyrardów is reflected in its authenticity. The original spatial composition and most of the buildings have been preserved. In the light of the recent history of the linen industry and considering the inexorable mechanisms of economy - repurposing the factory buildings has become a way of protecting the urban fabric of Żyrardów, allowing us to preserve its original structure as a historical industrial centre<sup>4</sup>. The whole complex requires comprehensive protection against transformations, which particularly concerns the buildings of the city and of the former industrial plants.

- The Complex of Filter Stations in Warsaw by William Lindley was declared a Historic Monument on January 4, 2012<sup>5</sup>. The Complex of the Filter Stations in Warsaw by William Lindley is the only one of its kind in Poland. As stated in the justification, the complex is unique in Europe due to its excellent condition of preservation and contemporary use in accordance with its original purpose. It is an outstanding technical monument testifying to the high level of innovative technical thought. The technological and architectural solutions of the buildings making up the Filter Station, the interesting spatial composition, and above all, the durability of the substance, the preservation of its functions and the perspective character of this project prove its phenomenal highest historical values<sup>6</sup>. The complex requires comprehensive protection as well as very careful renovation and conservation works.

- The complex of historic religious cemeteries in Powązki borough in Warsaw, recognized as a Historic Monument by the decree of July 3, 2014<sup>7</sup>. The justification states that these cemeteries are characterized by unique historical and artistic values. The concentration of historical cemeteries of Christianity, Judaism and Islam is a unique phenomenon on a European scale and clearly shows the richness of the Polish cultural heritage. The ensemble is a large gallery of sculptures reflecting the history of the development of visual arts from late 18th century to the 20th century in the forms of the tombstones<sup>8</sup>. All the cemeteries require constant conservation supervision, and conservation work must be of the highest standard.

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<sup>4</sup> [https://www.nid.pl/pl/Informacje\\_ogolne/Zabytki\\_w\\_Polsce/Pomniki\\_historii/Lista\\_miejsc/miejsce.php?ID=324](https://www.nid.pl/pl/Informacje_ogolne/Zabytki_w_Polsce/Pomniki_historii/Lista_miejsc/miejsce.php?ID=324), website visited 15 V 2019.

<sup>5</sup> Regulation of the President of the Republic of Poland dated 4 Jan 2012 on recognition of 'Warsaw - Williama Lindley's Flter Station' as historic monument, Journal of Laws Dz.U., 18 Jan 2012, item 64.

<sup>6</sup> [https://www.nid.pl/pl/Informacje\\_ogolne/Zabytki\\_w\\_Polsce/Pomniki\\_historii/Lista\\_miejsc/miejsce.php?ID=318](https://www.nid.pl/pl/Informacje_ogolne/Zabytki_w_Polsce/Pomniki_historii/Lista_miejsc/miejsce.php?ID=318), website visited 15 V 2019.

<sup>7</sup> Regulation of the President of the Republic of Poland dated 4 Jan 2012 on recognition of 'Warsaw -complex of historic religious cemeteries in Powązki' as historic monument, Journal of Laws Dz.U., 21 Jul 2014, item 956.

<sup>8</sup> [https://www.nid.pl/pl/Informacje\\_ogolne/Zabytki\\_w\\_Polsce/Pomniki\\_historii/Lista\\_miejsc/miejsce.php?ID=2398](https://www.nid.pl/pl/Informacje_ogolne/Zabytki_w_Polsce/Pomniki_historii/Lista_miejsc/miejsce.php?ID=2398), website visited 15 V 2019.

- Tumskie Hill in Płock was recognised as a Historic Monument 20 April 2018<sup>9</sup>.

As stated in the justification, Płock is one of the oldest and most important urban centres in Poland, described in the 11th century by Gallus Anonymus as "sedes regni principalis", or centres where the rulers resided. During the reign of Władysław I Herman and his sons Zbigniew and Bolesław III the Wrymouthed, Płock became the main residence of the monarch in the country, at the same time the place of princely and church foundations, and the Płock Cathedral became the necropolis of sovereigns. After a period of feudal fragmentation following the Wrymouthed's last will, Płock remained the capital of the district duchy of Mazovia and was the burial place of subsequent Mazovian princes. The city was also the seat of the highest church authorities. In 1075, Bolesław Śmiały established a bishopric here and founded the first cathedral<sup>10</sup>. The ensemble is subject to continual conservation works.



Fig. 2 Płock, Tumskie Hill, as of 2018 . Photo. J. Lewicki

- The Collegiate Church of the Annunciation of the Blessed Virgin Mary in Pułtusk was declared a Historic Monument on December 10, 2018<sup>11</sup>. As emphasized in the justification, the collegiate church is a monument of particular importance for the Polish heritage, one of the most valuable among the Renaissance era sites in Poland. It belongs to the Mazovian temples of the Pułtusk group and is its best-preserved example of this type. The particular historical value of the temple is confirmed by the fact that the basement of the church was the final resting place for wealthy nobility and the bishops of Płock, while the outstanding artistic value is evidenced by the

<sup>9</sup> Regulation of the President of the Republic of Poland dated 20 April 2018 on recognition of 'Płock-Tumskie Hill' as a historic monument, Journal of Laws Dz. U., 24 May 2018, item 1003.

<sup>10</sup> [https://www.nid.pl/pl/Informacje\\_ogolne/Zabytki\\_w\\_Polsce/Pomniki\\_historii/Listy\\_miejsc/miejsce.php?ID=3753](https://www.nid.pl/pl/Informacje_ogolne/Zabytki_w_Polsce/Pomniki_historii/Listy_miejsc/miejsce.php?ID=3753), website visited 15 V 2019.

<sup>11</sup> Regulation of the President of the Republic of Poland dated 10 Dec 2018 on recognition of 'Pułtusk - collegiate church of the Annunciation of the Blessed Virgin Mary', Journal of Laws Dz. U., 29 Dec 2018, item 2462.

original architectural solutions and rich painting decoration. Its most characteristic feature is the original 60 m long barrel vault stretching along the entire length of the nave and presbytery covered with unique painting decoration in terms of scale and content-ideological design. (Fig. 3) It is complemented with Renaissance, illusionistic frescoes inside the chapel built in 1553-1554 for bishop Andrzej Noskowski. The sixteenth-century polychromies preserved on the vault and in the chapel are the largest complex of Renaissance paintings in Poland and are perfectly preserved<sup>12</sup>. The collegiate church has been the subject of conservation works for a number of years.



Fig. 3 Pułtusk, Collegiate Church of the Annunciation of the Blessed Virgin Mary, interior as of 2013. Photo by J. Lewicki

With the number of six historic monuments, Mazovia is one of the last among other provinces. Only Podlaskie and Zachodniopomorskie Voivodships have fewer historical monuments. This is somewhat inconsistent with the large number of registered objects of heritage in Mazovia: the region comes second after the Lower Silesian Voivodship in this respect. Many more historic monuments are located in the neighbouring provinces of Świętokrzyskie, Łódzkie and Małopolskie Voivodships. This proves that the importance of local monuments is underestimated and indicates the necessity of undertaking intensive efforts to obtain the status of a Historical Monument by other valuable buildings in Mazovia.

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<sup>12</sup> [https://www.nid.pl/pl/Informacje\\_ogolne/Zabytki\\_w\\_Polsce/Pomniki\\_historii/Lista\\_miejsc/miejsce.php?ID=3934](https://www.nid.pl/pl/Informacje_ogolne/Zabytki_w_Polsce/Pomniki_historii/Lista_miejsc/miejsce.php?ID=3934), website visited 15 V 2019.

### Historic Monuments in Mazovia – candidates

When I took the position of the Mazovian Voivodeship Conservator of Monuments, I undertook efforts to prepare applications for recognition of all outstanding monuments from Mazovia, which are of high historical value, as a Historic Monuments. The applications were submitted to the Ministry of Culture and National Heritage. These are:

- The Evangelical-Augsburg Church of the Holy Trinity in Warsaw. The application of 21 November 2016 was submitted by the Evangelical-Augsburg Parish of the Holy Trinity in Warsaw. The application was submitted to the Ministry of Culture and National Heritage on 5 December 2016.

The church was built in the 4th quarter of the 18th century. On January 15, 1777 the Evangelicals received a royal privilege to build the church, and King Stanisław August Poniatowski personally chose the design of Szymon Bogumił Zug, and it was subsequently carried out. The inspiration for the architect Szymon Bogumił Zug was the Roman Pantheon and the Church of the Blessed Virgin Mary in Dresden<sup>13</sup>. Despite the war damage and post-war reconstruction, the church has preserved its shape and all the valuable elements of decoration. Despite its seemingly good condition, the building requires conservation work. It is necessary to repair the dome and other elements of the interior.

- The castle of the Mazovian Dukes in Czersk. Application dated 1 September 2017 was submitted to the Ministry of Culture and National Heritage on 21 November 2017.



Fig. 4 Czersk, Mazovian Dukes Castle, general view as of 2018. Photo by J. Lewicki

The castle is located in the southern part of the province. The ruins are entered into the register of monuments by decision of 25.01.1958 (register no. A-1009/116). Two cylindrical towers (southern and western), a gate tower (Fig. 4), northern and western castle walls and fragments

<sup>13</sup> The Evangelical-Augsburg Church of the Holy Trinity in Warsaw, Warsaw 1976.

of courtyard buildings are still legible today. The castle was built at the turn of the 14th and 15th centuries<sup>14</sup>. Rebuilt several times, even after the middle of the 18th century, the castle underwent some repairs (1762). In 1904 the ruins of the castle were transferred to the Society for the Care of the Monuments of the Past [Towarzystwa Opieki nad Zabytkami Przeszłości, TONZP]. Between 1907-1911 the TONZP carried out conservation works at the castle, under the supervision of the architect and conservator Kazimierz Skórewicz. Their aim was to secure the walls of the building. In the interwar period, in 1927, Antoni Karczewski conducted archaeological research, and the architect Jan Łukasik managed the conservation works at the gate tower. Further research was carried out several times in the interwar period, which already at the beginning of the 1960s allowed to establish the chronology of the monument. At that time, several projects were carried out to protect the walls, and fragments of the walls were overlaid with new bricks<sup>15</sup>. In 2011, the road leading to the castle was repaired. In 2012 and 2013, the walls of the castle as well as the southern and western towers were restored. The castle remains in the form of a permanent ruin open to the public. In the coming years, it will be necessary to carry out extensive works to protect the walls and strengthen them. The ruins of the castle require work that will protect the walls of the building and that will ultimately shape its accessibility and the exhibition of the ruins without affecting the historical substance. Undoubtedly, this will require detailed supervision by the MVCMM.

- The post-Benedictine complex in the Abbey near Sieciechów. Application dated 29 September 2017 submitted by the District Starost Office in Kozienice and the Parish of the Assumption of the Blessed Virgin Mary in the Abbey was submitted to the Ministry of Culture and National Heritage.

The Benedictine Abbey was founded in the second half of the 11th century by King Bolesław II the Bold. In the years 1739-1748 and 1749-1767, and later until 1770, the church and monastery were rebuilt and reconstructed<sup>16</sup>. A polychrome was also made in the interior of the church.

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<sup>14</sup> Karczewski A., *Czersk*, Warsaw 1939; Zagrodzki T., *Czersk. Zamek i miasto historyczne*, Warszawa 1988, p. 128-135; Guerquin B., *Zamki w Polsce*, Warsaw 1984, p. 132-134; *Architektura gotycka w Polsce*, ed. T. Mroczko and M. Arszynski, Warsaw 1995, V. 2, *Katalog zabytków*, p. 51-52, 304, 371; Kajzer T. L., Kołodziejski S., Salm J., *Leksykon zamków w Polsce*, scientific ed. L. Kajzer, Warsaw 2012, p. 140-143; *Czersk Wzgórze Zamkowe Badania 1974-1983*, P. Urbańczyk (ed.), Warsaw 2016.

<sup>15</sup> Description of works according to conservation reports and documentation available at Voivodeship Heritage Monuments Protection Office Archive in Warsaw [Archiwum Wojewódzkiego Urzędu Ochrony Zabytków w Warszawie].

<sup>16</sup> Gacki J., *Benedyktynski klasztor w Sieciechowie według pism i podań miejscowych przez...*, Radom 1872; Wiśniowski E., *Z dziejów opactwa benedyktynskiego w Sieciechowie (XIII-XVII w.)*, „Roczniki Humanistyczne KUL”, t. 7: 1958, v. 2, Lublin 1960, p. 23-120; Brykowska M., *W sprawie architektury zespołu pobenedyktynskiego w Opactwie-Sieciechowie*, „Kwartalnik Architektury i Urbanistyki”, XV: 1970, v. 2, p. 203-211; Miszczak D., *Późnobarokowy kościół pobenedyktynski w Sieciechowie-Opactwie*, „Rocznik Muzeum Świętokrzyskiego”, IX: 1975, p. 367-383; Wojciechowski A., *Sieciechów – studium historyczno-urbanistyczne*, PKZ Lublin 1982, mps; Zdon W., *Świątynia jako miejsce na granicy przemijania i wiecznej szczęśliwości, czyli o znaczeniu campanulli w architekturze kościoła opackiego w Sieciechowie*, [in:] *Obraz i przyroda*, ed. M. Mazurczak, J. Patyra, M. Żak, Lublin 2005, p. 549-559; Zdon W., *Dydaktyka zbawienia na sklepieniach pobenedyktynskiego kościoła w opactwie sieciechowskim*, „Arteria – Rocznik Katedry Sztuki Wydziału Nauczycielskiego Politechniki Radomskiej” 2008, no 6, p. 33-38.

The decoration includes a complete articulation of the interior with decorations of the vaults and apart from the religious, moral and didactic subjects, it also features an extensive historical scheme for the enjoyment of the monastery community. The painting decoration was created in several phases: rococo (main altar and shield wall of the facade dated 1770) and early classicist (vaults and side walls of the interior, choir parapet dated 1779). The author of the second phase was probably Szymon Mańkowski (ca. 1724-1788), who in the following years worked mainly as a painter-decorator for the king in Łazienki Park and for the magnate elite in their Warsaw residences<sup>17</sup>, but there is no data on the author of the first one. The paintings went through complex restoration in 1926 and 1943-1946. Around the church there are preserved remnants of the monastery buildings. The church and the remains of the monastery will require comprehensive conservation work (Fig. 5).



Fig. 5 Sieciechów Abbey, post-Benedictine complex, general view as of 2016. Photo by J. Lewicki

- The parish church of St. John the Baptist and the Elevation of the Cross in Krasne. Application dated 19 January 2018 was submitted by the Roman Catholic Parish of St. John the Baptist in Krasno and submitted to the Ministry of Culture and National Heritage.

Krasne was the ancestral location for the Krasinskis of the Korwin/Ślepowron coat of arms. The brick church in its present form was built only in the years 1739-1746 or in 1749 on the initiative of the then owner Błażej Jan Krasieński, the starost of Opinogóra, probably according to a design of a Warsaw-based architect Jakub Fontana (1710-1773)<sup>18</sup>. (Fig. 6) At that time,

<sup>17</sup> Prószyńska Z., *Mańkowski Szymon*, [in:] *Słownik artystów polskich i obcych w Polsce działających. Malarze – rzeźbiarze – graficy*, v. 5, ed. J. Derwojeda, Warszawa 1993, pp. 338-340.

<sup>18</sup> Gawarecki W. H., *Opis kościoła w Krasnem, i w nim będących nagrobków rodziny Krasieńskich*, [in:] *idem, Pamiętnik Historyczny Płocki*, V. II, 1830, p. 100–139; Dzierżwicki P., Bieniewska B., Liczbiński A., *Prace konserwatorskie w województwie warszawskim w latach 1953-1954*, „Ochrona Zabytków”, 8: 1955, v. 1, p. 62.



under the direction of the builder Marcin Wiśniewski, a new nave was erected, articulated with Tuscan pilasters and lunettes, and a magnificent sacristy with a treasury upstairs. The interior is decorated with a painting decoration by Sebastian Eckstein, a frescant-painter from Bern, who painted in mixed technique the architectural divisions of the walls and vaults, as well as a large cycle of 11 paintings related to the history of the Holy Cross in the main nave and illusionistic altars in the side aisles<sup>19</sup>. Inside, there are several seventeenth-century epitaphs placed on the internave pillars, as well as Krasieński monuments, including the epitaph of Jakub Krasieński (d. 1737, made on 1747) and Marianna née Czarnowska (d. 1745). The church was renovated and modernized from 1870, and then conserved in the years 1956-1957 by a team of Prof. Karol Dąbrowski from the Academy of Fine Arts in Warsaw. Since 2010 the group under the direction of professor Paweł Marek Jakubowski from the Academy of Fine Arts in Warsaw has been continuing the conservation work. After 17 years, 40% of the preserved frescoes were preserved and the guidelines for the unveiling and restoration of their successive parts were prepared. The works are expected to be completed in 2021.



Fig. 6 Krasne, parish church of St. John the Baptist and the Elevation of the Cross as of 2018. Photo by J. Lewicki

- The Basilica of St. John the Baptist in Brochów. Application dated 8 March 2018 was sent directly to the Chancellery of the President of the Republic of Poland, which was a violation of the previous procedure. The local office in Płock received only a copy of the application, no documents were submitted to the office of the Mazowieckie Voivodeship Conservator of Monuments in Warsaw. The Gothic-Renaissance church in its present form was built in 1551-1561, and the author of the reconstruction was Jan Baptist from Venice. (Fig. 7) The temple was rebuilt, mainly after 1655 and after the First World War. It was thoroughly renovated in the years 2008-10 and this is when the Renaissance polychromies of the vaults were reconstructed.

<sup>19</sup> Osiecka-Samsonowicz H., *Freski Sebastiana Ecksteina w kościele w Krasnem*, „Mazowsze”, 1996, no 1, pp. 31–36.



Fig. 7 Brochów, St Hohn the Baptist Basilica as of 2016. Photo by J. Lewicki

- Villa "Milusin", ul. Oleandrów 5 Street in Sulejówek. Application dated 22 June 2018 was submitted by the Józef Piłsudski Museum in Sulejówek. The application was submitted to the Ministry of Culture and National Heritage on 6 August 2018. The "Milusin" manor house was designed by Kazimierz Skórewicz. It was a house for the Piłsudskis family purchased by Polish soldiers for the Marshal. In the vicinity of the "Milusin" manor house, a modern museum and educational building is being built, combining exhibition, educational and animation functions. The former garden will also be a part of the museum.

- Bank Gospodarstwa Krajowego, Aleje Jerozolimskie 7 in Warsaw. Application of 11 December 2018 was filed by the Department of Logistics and Administration of BGK. The application was submitted to the Ministry of Culture and National Heritage on 20 February 2019.

The bank was erected in the years 1928-1931 according to Rudolf Świerczyński's design for Bank Gospodarstwa Krajowego. It was decorated with bas-reliefs by Jan Szczepkowski. Wojciech Jastrzębowski (stained glass) and Felicjan Szczęsny Kowarski, Waclaw Borowski and Romuald Kamil Witkowski (painting) worked together on the interior design. The building was not destroyed during World War II. A comprehensive renovation of the interiors with original decoration is planned, which will require thorough conservation supervision.

- The Romanesque Abbey in Czerwińsk nad Wisłą, ul. Klasztorna 23 Street. The application of 6 March 2019 was submitted by the Roman Catholic Parish of the Basilica of Annunciation N.M.P. The application was submitted to the Ministry of Culture and National Heritage on 10 April 2019.

The former abbey of regular Lateran canons in Czerwińsk nad Wisłą is the largest monastery in the historical Mazovia region. (Fig. 8) The monastery church was erected before 1155, partially transformed in the first half of the 13th century, rebuilt after 1328, 14/15th century, around 1500

and before 1538 and 1630-1633, renovated before 1765 and in 1768-1775<sup>20</sup>. Restoration works were carried out under the direction of arch. Stefan Szyller on the initiative of TONZP. It is the most valuable Romanesque building in Mazovia, also the largest monumental painting complex from the Middle Ages and modern times. In the interiors of the Romanesque-Gothic-early Baroque conventual church of the Annunciation of the Blessed Virgin Mary and the former abbot's capitular and lower hall in the representative eastern wing, called the abbots' palace, there are preserved paintings *al fresco* and *al secco* from as many as twelve different historical layers from the twelfth to the second half of the eighteenth century. The church and monastery still require complex conservation work.



Fig. 8 Czerwińsk nad Wisłą, cloister church as seen from the courtyard, 2016. Photo by J. Lewicki

- Żoliborz Warsaw district. The application was sent to the Ministry of Culture and National Heritage with the omission of the Office of the Mazowieckie Voivodeship Conservator of Monuments, which constituted an infringement of the regular procedure.

- The Monument Cemetery of Heroes of the Warsaw Uprising, Żoliborz, Warsaw. The application was sent to the Ministry of Culture and National Heritage with the omission of the Office of the

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<sup>20</sup> Dąbrowski K., *Konserwacja malowideł ściennych w Czerwińsku: odkrycie romańskiej polichromii*, „Ochrona Zabytków”, 4: 1951, no 3-4, pp. 127-132; Świechowski Z., *Ścienne malowidła romańskie w Czerwińsku*, „Biuletyn Historii Sztuki”, 15: 1953, no 2, pp. 64-74; Dąbrowski K., *Problemy konserwatorskie romańskiej polichromii w Czerwińsku*, „Biuletyn Historii Sztuki”, 15: 1953, no 2, pp. 75-76; Bieniewska B., Liczbiński A., *Prace konserwatorskie w województwie warszawskim w latach 1953-1954*, „Ochrona Zabytków”, 8: 1955, v. 1, pp. 57-62; Bieniewska B., *Zakres i problematyka prac konserwatorskich (1945-1958)*, „Biuletyn Konserwatorski Województwa Warszawskiego”, Warszawa 1958, pp. 7-64; Mroczko T., *Czerwińsk romański*, Warszawa 1972; Stawski M., *Opactwo czerwińskie w średniowieczu. Opactwo kanoników regularnych w Czerwińsku w średniowieczu*, Warszawa 2007; Omilanowska M., *Architekt Stefan Szyller 1857-1933*, Warszawa 2008; Nowiński J., *Czerwińsk*, Warsaw 2012.

Mazowieckie Voivodeship Conservator of Monuments, which was a violation of the regular procedure.

Not all applications were up to the expected standard. Some of them contained errors suggesting lack of professional background. Dates of construction, style identification and even incorrect basic terminology in the field of art history were often wrong, even though the most important criterion for recognising an object as a Historic Monument was supposed to be its artistic value. Moreover, other documents or incomplete applications were submitted to the office of the Mazovian Voivodeship Conservator of Monuments. They were:

- The St. Bernard ensemble in Radom. Application of 9 February 2018 was to be corrected, which was done.

Founded in 1468, the ensemble is one of the best preserved monastery complexes in Poland. The brick church and monastery were built in several phases<sup>21</sup>. The Bernardines themselves purpose-built a brickyard where they fired gothic bricks. First of all, a chancel with a sacristy was built, which was to serve as a treasury (currently the chapel of Our Lady of Angels). Then the southern wing of the monastery was erected. The next stage was the body of the church completed in the late 15th century. Lastly, the remaining wings of the monastery were erected, connected by a covered one-storey cloister with a small tower in the northeastern corner, characteristic for medieval Bernardine monasteries. The church was extended and rebuilt after 1506, before 1602, 1630-1633. The gothic character of the temple was restored between 1911-1914 under the direction of Stefan Szyller<sup>22</sup>. (Fig. 9) For a number of years it has been the subject of comprehensive conservation works.



Fig. 9 Radom, Benedictine church and monastery, as of 2016. Photo by J. Lewicki

<sup>21</sup> Luboński J., *Monografia historyczna miasta Radomia*, Radom 1907, pp. 122–130; Wiśniewski J., *Dekanat Radomski*, Radom 1911, pp. 237–368; *Katalog zabytków sztuki w Polsce*, Tom III, Województwo Kieleckie, volume 10, powiat radomski, Warsaw 1961.

<sup>22</sup> Efreń Obruśnik OFM, *Zespół kościoła i klasztoru Ojców Bernardynów w Radomiu*, „Biuletyn Kwartalny Radomskiego Towarzystwa Naukowego”, XXXIX: 2004, v. 1-4, pp. 109-128; Krawczyk M., Stan W., *Bernardyni radomscy. Zarys dziejów*, Radom 2013.

- Węgrów, church and monastery of Reformed Franciscans. I personally encouraged then procedure due to the fact that it is the best-preserved historical complex in Węgrów. The application was submitted by the Roman Catholic Parish of St. Peter and Paul in Węgrów. A draft version of the document was received and comments on the proposal were sent by letter of 24 October 2018.

Jan Dobrogost Krasiniński erected this magnificent brick Reformed Franciscan Conventual Church in Węgrów in the years 1693-1706<sup>23</sup>. The design was made by Tylman van Gameren and Carlo Ceroni. (Fig. 10) The interior paintings were made by Michelangelo Palloni between 1707 and 1711 and have been preserved in a very good condition, unlike the parish church, where they were heavily repainted. Also in the cloisters of the monastery, the wall painting decoration was detected, urging the need to expose and preserve them. The church is undergoing renovation and conservation work, and an even wider range of work in the coming years will involve the monastery and its decoration.



Fig. 10 Węgrów, Reformed Franciscans church, as of 2016. Photo by J. Lewicki

In addition, letters were sent to the owner of the church in Mariańskie Porzecze and to the owner of the settlement complex in Podeblęcie, encouraging them to apply for the status of a Historic Monument.

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<sup>23</sup> Karpowicz M., *Działalność artystyczna Michelangela Palloniego w Polsce*, Warszawa 1967; Karpowicz M., *Sztuka oświeconego sarmatyzmu*, Warszawa 1986; Karpowicz M., *Sztuka Warszawy czasów Jana III*, Warszawa 1987; *Węgrów: dzieje miasta i okolic w latach 1441-1944*: praca zbiorowa, ed. A. Kołodziejczyk, T. Swata, Towarzystwo Miłośników Ziemi Węgrowskiej, Węgrów 1991; Karpowicz M., *Cuda Węgrowskie*, Węgrów 2009; Słowiński K., *Bogu i ludziom: parafia i kościół p.w. Wniebowzięcia Najświętszej Marii Panny w Węgrowie w XV-XXI wieku*, Radom 2011.

## Proposals for new Historic Monuments in Mazovia

As a result of many years of negligence in the submission of Historic Monument applications, efforts have been made to foster the process of preparing the relevant documents. In my opinion, the following objects should be awarded the status of the Historic Monument:

### 1. Iłża, the castle and the city

I conducted talks with the Mayor, Mr. Przemyslaw Burk, regarding the preparation of an appropriate application. I believe that this is one of the most valuable historical complexes in Mazovia. The castle as well as the most important buildings of the city within the defensive walls should be considered a Historic Monument.



Fig. 11 Iłża, castle and city as of 2018. Photo by. J. Lewicki

In the Old Polish period, Iłża acted as an administrative centre and a often a residence of the Cracow bishops<sup>24</sup>. Funded by Bishop Jan Grot, a castle was built on a hill overlooking the city (ca. 1340). (Fig. 11) The castle frequently hosted successive bishops of Cracow and was rebuilt many times. The building consisted of a main tower and irregular residential buildings adjacent to the medieval fortified area. It was also there that the representative and residential rooms were located. Below, there were farm buildings surrounded by modern fortifications, which made up the lower castle. Numerous reconstructions of the castle and its interiors took place in the second half of the 17th and 18th centuries. In 1909 the area of the castle was handed over to the Society for the Care of the Monuments of the Past [TONZP], which from that time on

<sup>24</sup> Lewicki J., *Dzieje i architektura zamku w Iłży. Problematyka badawcza i konserwatorska* [in:] *Siedziby biskupów krakowskich na terenie dawnego Województwa sandomierskiego*, ed. L. Kajzer, Kielce 1997, pp. 57-83; *Z dziejów budownictwa rezydencjonalno-obronnego na ziemi iłżeckiej*, ed. D. Kalina, R. Kubicki, Kielce-Iłża 2011; Nowakowski P., *Iłża miasto kościelne*, Radom 2012; *Miasto w nowej odsłonie. Monografia Iłży*, v. 1, *Od czasów najdawniejszych do 1945 roku*, ed. S. Piątkowski, Warsaw 2014.

has been carrying out conservation work. It was then that the first inventory of ruins was taken (drawings of the walls, as well as photographs). From 1969, for a number of consecutive years (1969-1978), complex archaeological-historical research was conducted by a team of architects from the Wrocław University of Technology. The outcome was a set of partially completed designs aiming at securing the castle ruins. Several times was the upper castle cleared of rubble and the top of the walls was secured. Research and conservation works have been carried out intensively in recent years. The castle is located in the southern part of the voivodeship. The ruins are entered into the register of monuments by decision of 24.03.1947 (register no. A-23), decision of 23.06.1967 (register no. A-156) and decision of 18.03.1981 (register no. A-96). Additionally, included in the register of monuments is the park on the castle hill (decision of 24.03.1947, Reg. No. A-23).

The local parish church of the Assumption of the Blessed Virgin Mary with the Szyszkowski family mausoleum chapel dating back from 1629-1630, featuring decoration by Maciej Reichan represents some high historical value. Selected fragments of the town's buildings also have supra-local historical values. The whole complex requires complex conservation works.

## 2. Szydłowiec, the castle and the town

I believe that this is one of the most valuable historical complexes in Mazovia. The church and castle of the Szydłowieckis family are highly valuable. The parish church, the castle, as well as the most important buildings of the city and the Jewish cemetery should be considered a Historic Monument.



Fig. 12 Szydłowiec, castle, general view as of 2007. Photo by J. Lewicki

The castle in Szydłowiec together with the castle garden and the moat<sup>25</sup>, currently used as a museum and cultural centre, is entered into the register of monuments by decision of 11.02.1947

<sup>25</sup> Guerquin B., *Zamki w Polsce*, Warsaw 1984, pp. 298-300; Kajzer L., Kołodziejowski S., Salm J., *Leksykon zamków w Polsce*, scient. ed. L. Kajzer, Warsaw 2012, pp. 483-487.

(registration no. 19/A/47, decision of 23.06.1967) and decision of 18.03.1982 (registration no. 394). Located on an island, this lowland castle was built in the years 1470-1480 on the former site of the Żarnów and Radom castellan Stanisław Szydłowiecki's castle. Thanks to his great-grandson, the Great Treasurer of the Crown Mikołaj Szydłowiecki, the building was rebuilt between 1515 and 1526 into a magnificent Renaissance residence with defensive features. Further modernization works were carried out by successive Nieśwież princes Krzysztof Mikołaj "Orphan" and Albrecht Stanisław Radziwiłł in the years 1609-1610 and 1619-1629<sup>26</sup>. After nineteenth century's neglect and in attempt to prevent demise of the castle in the first half of the twentieth century, the first renovation of the castle was carried out between 1950-1952, and then in the 1960s and 1970s and then in 2013-2015. The castle has been completely rebuilt. (Fig. 12) Fragments of the building were reconstructed and supplemented with contemporary elements. However, the historical silhouette of the building has been preserved. The castle has a contemporary function - as a community centre and a museum. The Szydłowiec Castle was the subject of comprehensive renovation and conservation works in 2013-2015, which followed the earlier architectural concept and introduced only minor changes to it.

The municipal parish church was built in two phases from 1493 to 1509 by foundation of Jakub Szydłowiecki, and then in the years 1515-1532. Selected fragments of the municipal buildings and the Jewish cemetery also have supra-local historic values. The whole complex of urban buildings requires complex conservation works, the castle and the church are in good condition.

### 3. Warsaw, MWRiOP Building, Aleja Szucha

This object of heritage represents very high historical, artistic and scientific value for the city of Warsaw. It should be therefore recognised as a Historic Monument.

The building was designed by Zdzisław Mączyński. The construction began in 1927. It was one of the first ministerial residences built from scratch in the Second Republic of Poland. The building was built in less than three years and was characterised by classicist forms. In 1928, an interior design competition was held. It was won by Wojciech Jastrzębowski, professor at the Warsaw School of Fine Arts and director of the Art Department at the Ministry of Agriculture and Rural Development. During World War II, the building was a place of interrogation, martyrdom and death of many Poles. The building is carefully protected and the decor is continually conserved.

### 4. Porzecze Mariańskie, wooden church building

I believe that this is one of the most valuable wooden churches in Mazovia, and as such should be considered a Historic Monument.

The local church belonged in the years 1699-1864 and again since 1966 to the Marian Fathers' Congregation, serving at the same time as the sanctuary of the miraculous image of Our Lady

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<sup>26</sup> Dumala K., *Studia z dziejów Szydłowca*, „Rocznik Muzeum Świętokrzyskiego”, 4: 1967, p. 177-260; Puget W., *Z dziejów zamku w Szydłowcu*, „Rocznik Muzeum Świętokrzyskiego”, 4: 1967, p. 261-302; *Zamek szydłowiecki i jego właściciele*. Materiały sesji popularnonaukowej 24 lutego 1996 roku, edit. J. Wijaczka, Szydłowiec 1996, p. 125-152; Zdon W., *Zamek w Szydłowcu – wyniki i wnioski z „badań” architektonicznych*, [in:] *Zamek szydłowiecki i jego właściciele*. Materiały sesji popularnonaukowej 24 lutego 1996 roku, edit. J. Wijaczka, Szydłowiec 1996, p. 21-35.



of Częstochowa (known as the Mother of God of Goźle) given by the founder of the Order, Father Stanislaw Papczyński (1631-1701). The complete late-Rocococo classicist illusionistic decoration of the interior has been preserved. (Fig. 13) The present, second church in the shape of a transept basilica with a two-tower façade was built of wood in 1776, while the time for the decoration itself was in the last years of the 18th century. A prominent member of this order, Fr Jan Niezabitowski (1744-1804), is considered to be the presumed author of the illusionistic decoration<sup>27</sup>.

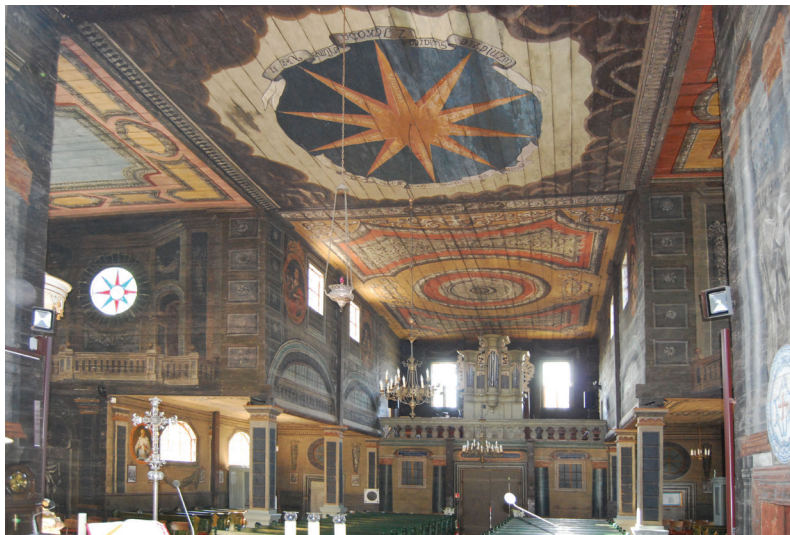


Fig. 13 Porzece Mariańskie, wooden church as of 2016. A. Façade; B. Interior. Photo by J. Lewicki

### **The role of the Voivodeship Conservator of Monuments in the protection and management of Historic Monuments**

The most important role of the Voivodeship Conservator of Monuments is the conservation supervision over the objects of heritage located within the area of a Historic Monument. In this way, the VCM can promote high standards of conservation work and create examples of protection and conservation efforts in this area, as well as conduct promotional activities. Another extremely important role is to initiate activities aimed at recognising an object as a Historic Monument.

Despite legal restrictions, the Voivodeship Conservator of Monuments may actively strive for the protection of Historic Monuments. They can also act as the executive body concerning implementation of the state's national heritage policy. The function can efficiently combine sustainable development of areas involving Historic Monuments with conservator's protection and development effort and adaptation to the changing needs of living conditions.

<sup>27</sup> Piwocki K., *Restauracja malowideł w kościółku drewnianym w Goźlinie*, „Biuletyn Naukowy”, 1933, no 4, p. 237; Piwocki K., *Kościół w Goźlinie i jego polichromia*, „Sprawozdania Towarzystwa Naukowego we Lwowie”, 1934, no 1, p. 37–39; Galicka I., Sygietyńska H., *Jan Niezabitowski - malarz mariański*, „Biuletyn Historii Sztuki”, 36: 1974, no 3, pp. 269–280; Galicka I., Sygietyńska H., *Odkrywanie sztuki. Sztuka odkrywania*, Warsaw 1994.

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