



INSTITUTE
OF NATIONAL
REMEMBRANCE

POLAND IN THE HEART OF EUROPEAN
HISTORY

Professional Training for
History Teachers and Educators
17-25 July 2017, Jabłonna Palace, Poland



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ABOUT THE IPN

The Institute of National Remembrance – Commission for the Prosecution of Crimes against the Polish Nation (IPN) was established by the Polish Parliament by virtue of the act as of 18 December 1998. Its actual activity began in the middle of 2000, the moment the first President of the IPN was chosen by the Sejm. This post was taken by a lawyer, Professor Leon Kieres, who held it till December 2005. In 2005-2010 the function was held by Professor Janusz Kurtyka. Since 28 June 2011 until 22 July 2016 Dr. Łukasz Kamiński was President of the Institute. Dr. Jarosław Szarek was appointed President on 22 July 2016.

The resolution on the establishment of the IPN, made by the coalition of parties, stemming from the Solidarity movement (which took over the power from the post-Communist coalition) and having the majority in the Polish Parliament, was connected with an attempt to solve the problem of documents left after the Communist State Security Bodies dissolved in 1990. This concerned the establishment of an institution which was apolitical and independent from the government.

The institution would take control over the archives of the Communist political police which were controlled by Secret Service. It would also make the documents available to people who were objects of invigilation. Earlier, citizens could not acquaint themselves with their own “files”. The collected documents were also to be used in order to check the past of people who hold public positions.

The Institute of National Remembrance is a special institution having the functions of state and justice administration, of an archive, an academic institute, an education centre and (since 2007) of a body which conducts vetting proceedings.

Mission

When in December 1998 the Parliament of the independent Republic of Poland enacted the Act on the Institute of National Remembrance, four principles were considered as the most important reasons for founding of IPN. The principles could be seen as signpost of the Institute of National Remembrance’s work.

The first principle is preserving the remembrance about a great number of victims, losses and damages suffered by the Polish Nation during World War II and afterwards. The second refers to the patriotic traditions of the Polish Nation’s struggles with occupants, Nazism and Communism. Another draws attention to the obligation of prosecuting crimes against peace, mankind and war crimes. Equally important for the legislators was the obligation to compensate all oppressed by the state which had violated human rights.

The summary of these four principles was the belief, that any unlawful actions of the state against the citizens cannot be classified or forgotten.

These words were changed into ten years of arduous work. Its result are hundreds of published books, seminars and conferences concerning issues, which have never been discussed before. Moreover, this work resulted in uncovering the truth about the most difficult but also the most beautiful moments in the history of Poland and Polish Nation. These are also activities which aimed in popularising recent history among the youth e.g. rallies, competitions and a presence in the Internet and social media.

Structure

- The Chief Commission for the Prosecution of Crimes against the Polish Nation
- The Archive of the Institute of National Remembrance
- The Office for Commemorating the Struggle and Martyrdom;
- The Office of Search and Identification;
- The National Education Office;
- The Historical Research Office;
- The Vetting Office.

PROGRAMME

Monday, July 17

The first day of the Poland in the Heart of European History Professional Training in Jablonna Palace will be opened by the President of the Institute of National Remembrance who will present the mission, main goals, activities and achievements of the Institute. The next part of the day will include an opening lecture by prof. Wojciech Roszkowski who will make an overview of Poland's 20th century history in a European perspective. Prof. Marek Kornat will then introduce the participants to the history of the II Polish Republic (1918–1939). Ice-breaking activities with Anna Brojer and a piano concert given by Piotr Nowak will follow. ■

8:15 – 9:00	Breakfast	
9:00 – 9:45	Welcome to Poland in the Heart of European History Professional Training. An introduction to the Institute of National Remembrance.	Jarosław Szarek, PhD President of the Institute of National Remembrance
10:00 – 11:15	Welcome to Poland. A Short Overview of the XX century.	Prof. Wojciech Roszkowski
11:15 – 11:45	Coffee break + group photo	
11:45 – 13:00	The Second Polish Republic. Its Society and Culture.	Prof. Marek Kornat
13:00 – 14:30	Lunch	
14:30 – 15:45	Ice-breaking activities	Anna Brojer
17:00	Piano recital	Piotr Nowak
18:30	Dinner	

BIOGRAPHIES



Dr. Jarosław Szarek (b. in 1963 in Czechowice-Dziedzice) – historian (Ph.D. in history) and journalist. From 1981 he worked with the Municipal Coordination Commission of "Solidarity" in Czechowice-Dziedzice. During martial law he participated in assistance to the internees and imprisoned; he printed and distributed underground newspapers. In 1985-1989 he was

a printer of the Bielski Committee of Social Resistance (and originator of issuing the "Solidarni" magazine) and collaborator of the Civic Committee of "Solidarity" in Czechowice-Dziedzice. In 2009-2012 he was a member of the programming board of Radio Krakow (along with three other members he left it in protest against not granting space on the multiplex for TV Trwam).

A graduate of the Faculty of History at the Jagiellonian University (1991). He obtained his doctoral degree in history at the Department of History and Cultural Heritage at the Pontifical University of John Paul II in Cracow in 2011, on the basis of the thesis "The activity of the Security Service among university students of Cracow in the years 1970-1980", prepared under the guidance of Prof. Ryszard Terlecki, the reviewers being Prof. Andrzej Nowak and Father Prof. Jan Szczepaniak. In 1992-1997 he was an employee of journal "Czas Krakowski", in the following years he published, among others, in "Gazeta Polska", "Nowe Państwo", "Gość Niedzielny", "Dziennik Polski", London-based "Tydzień Polski", "Polonia Christiana" (constant collaborator), "Gazeta Polska Codziennie", "Nasz Dziennik", "Źródło" magazine (member of the editorial board), the bimonthly "Arcana" (member of the editorial board). In 1998-1999 editor-in-chief of *Kronika XX wieku: Polska i świat*.

Since 2000 employee of the Branch of the Institute of National Remembrance in Cracow, author of scientific articles, popular science articles, historical exhibitions, workshops for teachers and young people, historical supplements to the press, organizer of historical competitions, scenarios for programs popularizing history, etc. Co-author of a series of popular science books *Z archiwów bezpieki – nieznanne karty PRL* (2006-2010) and a series of children's books *Kocham Polskę* (2007-2016). In 2007 he was awarded the Gold Cross of Merit for his contribution in documenting the truth about recent Polish history by the President of Poland Lech Kaczyński. On 22 July 2016 Dr. Jarosław Szarek, elected by the Parliament, was appointed President of the Institute of National Remembrance.



Marek Kornat, Marek Kornat (b. 1971), professor in the Institute of History in Polish Academy of Sciences in Warsaw since 2010 and at the Cardinal Stefan Wyszyński University in Warsaw (since 2008). To his major fields of research belong diplomatic history of the XX-th century, history of Polish foreign policy, the legacies of totalitarian regimes and history of Polish political thought (XIX-XX centuries). Recently he published a monograph *German: Polen zwischen Hitler und Stalin. Studien zur polnischen Außenpolitik in der Zwischenkriegszeit*, Berlin – Brandenburg 2012.



Prof. Wojciech Roszkowski graduated from the Central School of Planning and Statistics (at present Warsaw School of Economics) in Warsaw in 1971. After a scholarship at the Institute of History of the Polish Academy of Sciences, he returned to the Central School as an assistant lecturer at the Department of Economic History. He earned his Ph.D. on the grounds of a dissertation on *The Formation of the State Sector in Polish Industry and Banking 1918-24*, published as a book in Polish in 1982. His next book was *The Economic Role of Large Private Estates in the Polish Economy 1918-39*, published in Polish in 1986, which served as a foundation for his second degree in June 1987. In July 1988 he was appointed Associate Professor at the Central School's Department of Economic History. Since 1977 he has lectured on modern history of East Central Europe to American students coming to Warsaw. From 1985 to 1986 he worked as a visiting researcher at the Georgetown University and from 1988 to 1989 he was Fellow at the Wilson Center of the Smithsonian Institution in Washington D.C. 1989 he was a visiting professor at the Department of History of the University of Maryland. That year his *Modern History of Poland 1918-1980* was published in Polish by the London press "Polonia" under the pseudonym Andrzej Albert. From 1990 to 1993 he was Prorector of the Warsaw School of Economics. From 1990 he has also been head of the East European Program of the Institute of Political Studies at the Polish Academy of Sciences and 1994 - 2000 he was the Director of the Institute. In 1996 he was appointed full professor. From 2000 to 2002 he was the Kosciuszko Chair of Polish Studies at the Miller Center of Public Affairs, University of Virginia in Charlottesville. From 2004 to 2009 Member of the European Parliament.



Piotr Nowak was born in Miastko (Poland) in 1993, and at the age of six he began his music education. He is currently a student of Prof. Popowa-Zydron at the Feliks Nowowiejski Academy of Music in Bydgoszcz. He is considered one of the best young pianists in Poland. Piotr Nowak has been awarded in many piano competitions, including the 5th International Chopin Piano Competition in Hartford, USA (2nd Prize, 2014) and the 17th International Chopin Piano Competition in Warsaw in 2014 (2nd stage finalist). Piotr has performed in USA, Japan, Australia, South Korea, Canada, Switzerland, Italy, France, Germany, Austria, Slovenia. He has played recitals in Warsaw during official visits of the presidents of France, Mongolia, Czech Republic, Armenia and Greece Republic. He has cooperated with orchestras of the Polish Radio, and several polish philharmonic orchestras. He is a scholarship holder of the ministerial project "Young Poland". He was awarded with the "My talent for Poland" Prize by the former Polish president, Lech Kaczyński, as well as received awards from the Minister of Culture and National Heritage and the Mayor of Bydgoszcz.



Anna Brojer – historian, works at the Institute of National Remembrance in Warsaw. Specializes in national and international educational projects for children and adults. She has been the coordinator of the "Poland in the Heart of European History" Professional Training from its very beginning. She is especially interested in social history and history of the Catholic Church.



Wojciech Roszkowski

Welcome to Poland. Introduction to Polish History and Culture. An overview of 20th Century History.

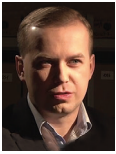
While in the 19th century the Polish generations remembered the glory of old Poland, considered and reconsidered its fall at the end of the 18th century, as well as dreamed about and fought for the rebirth of the nation, in 1918 Poland resurrected as an independent country again. Nevertheless its social nature was entirely different. The old Polish-Lithuanian noble political nation changed into the Polish ethnic nation including peasants and urban classes, while the Lithuanians, Belorussians and Ukrainians emancipated in former eastern provinces and acquired a new national identity. In 1918 Polish independence “burst out” suddenly due to the defeat of Austria-Hungary, Germany and Russia in World War One but it was also fought for by the Poles in many battlefields, including the victorious Polish-Soviet War of 1918-1921. The major problems that new Poland had to solve were: the necessity to unify the social, legal and economic systems of the 19th century partitions, the ethnic tensions - about 1/3 of its inhabitants belonged to ethnic minorities – as well as the political and military pressures from the two hostile neighbors: Germany and Soviet Russia. The disaster of World War Two, started by the German and Soviet invasions of September 1939, destroyed the foundations built in the inter-war period. While the Polish state survived in the shape of the Government-in-Exile and its agencies in occupied Poland, the country was ravaged by the German Nazis and the Soviets. Apart from 3 million Polish Jews killed in the Holocaust, a similar number of ethnic Poles perished during the war. Although Poland had been a member of the anti-German coalition for the whole World War Two and the Polish war effort was close to that of France, Poland was the only “defeated ally”: its frontiers were moved to the west and it was Sovietized without the consent of its government and its people. Forty five years of Communist rule checked the social and economic progress, but the Polish Pope John Paul II and the “Solidarity” trade union largely contributed to the fall of the Communist system in Central Europe. Since 1989 Poland has moved from the command to market economy, from totalitarianism to liberal democracy and has been the architect of its own future, joining the NATO in 1999 and the European Union in 2004. ■

Tuesday, July 18

On the second day of the training in Jabłonna we will be mainly focusing on the brutal story of the Second World War. Tomasz Sudoł will start the morning session showing the unique situation of Polish citizens under German occupation and show the Polish Underground State as a world phenomenon. Magdalena Zapolska-Downar will then deliver a workshop on the attitudes of Poles towards Jews during German occupation. A meeting with Tomasz Ginter will be a chance to listen to the story of Polish soldiers fighting on the numerous fronts of WWII. ■

8:00 – 9:00	Breakfast	
9:00 – 10:15	Fighting Poland exhibition exercises	Anna Brojer
10:30 – 11:45	Polish Citizens under German Occupation. Educational web-site presentation.	Tomasz Sudoł
11:45 – 12:15	Coffee break	
12:15 – 13:45	The Phenomenon of the Polish Underground State.	Tomasz Sudoł
13:45 – 15:00	Lunch	
15:00 – 16:15	Poles Towards the Jews During WWII. Workshop.	Magdalena Zapolska-Downar
16:30 – 17:45	Poles on the Fronts of WWII. Workshop.	Tomasz Ginter, Ph.D.
18:00 – 19:00	Dinner	
19:00	Movie screening	

BIOGRAPHIES



Tomasz Sudol is a historian at the Historic Research Office (BBN) of Institute of National Remembrance (IPN) in Warsaw. He is working on his Ph.D. thesis on war crimes committed on Polish prisoners of war by the German Wehrmacht in September-October 1939. His work concentrates also on various issues concerning the German occupation of Poland. One of his research interests is the case of the Labor Service (Baudienst), a compulsory organization formed by the Germans in so called Generalgouvernement for Polish and Ukrainian male youth.



Tomasz Ginter, Ph. D. Historian, graphic designer, educator. Specializes in history of political culture in XII century Europe and history of Polish Air Forces in 1918-1945. Designer and co-author of several historical exhibitions and board games "7", "111", "303" that have been created in cooperation with Karol Madaj.



Magdalena Zapolska-Downar – historian, educator. Currently employed at Łódź Branch IPN. Author of educational projects (e.g. Janusz Korczak – Upbringing in the ghetto), co-author of "March'68 in Lodz" publication. Her research interests concentrate on the Polish United Workers Party's cultural policy including socialist realism in yiddish culture.



German soldiers tearing off the Polish national emblem from the frontier barrier, September 1st 1939.



A friendly meeting of Soviet and German officers on Polish crossroads, September 20th 1939



British propaganda poster, September 1939

Wednesday, July 19th

On Wednesday the participants will have an opportunity to visit Warsaw, the Polish capital. We will spend the first part of the day in the Katyń Museum to discover the sometimes forgotten story of Soviet repressions and the USSR's inglorious role in the Second World War. We will be presented with a lecture, a workshop and have a guided tour. We will eat lunch at the Old Town and have some time for individual sight-seeing of the city center. ■

8:00 – 9:00	Breakfast
10:00 – 11:00	Katyń Museum. Polish-Soviet Relations 1917-1939
11:15 – 12:45	Katyń Museum. Guided Tour.
13:00 – 13:45	Katyń Museum. The Katyń investigation. Workshop.
14:30 – 15:30	Lunch
15:30 – 19:40	Free time in Warsaw
20:00	Dinner

Ewa Kowalska, PhD

The Katyn Massacre

Katyn is a symbol of a genocide perpetrated on the Polish nation under Soviet occupation, of falsifications, of the conspiracy of silence and of the final victory of truth. It is a symbol of the destruction of the Polish intellectual elite, citizens of the Second Polish Republic of diverse ethnicities and faiths, a symbol of a tragedy on a human, national and state level alike.

At 4:45 am on 1 September 1939, without a declaration of war, German forces launched Operation Fall Weiss by storming the Polish western border along its entire length, and invading the territories of Moravia and Slovakia. Clashes of armed forces were accompanied by war crimes perpetrated by German troops on civilians.

In fulfilling their part of the Molotov – Ribbentrop Pact, the USSR invaded the Polish Republic on 17 September 1939, without a declaration of war. In August 1939, as part of their plan of invasion, Soviet authorities had established procedures for the capture of those who dared to defend the Polish frontier. Order no. 00931 signed by Lavrentiy Beria defined prisoners of war as Polish army and law enforcement officers captured with arms in the course of military operations. After the invasion, they were joined by civilians, primarily by public administration officers, employees of the justice system, doctors, teachers and spiritual leaders of



"Rendez-vous" by David Low. Press cartoon, September 1939.

all persuasions. About 250,000 Polish soldiers and officers of other uniformed services ended up in Soviet captivity. Soviet military authorities, acting in breach of all rules of warfare, by the order of the People's Commissar for Defence Kliment Voroshilov of 19 September 1939 and by orders issued on 20 September by the commanders of the Belarussian and Ukrainian fronts – handed the Polish captives over to the People's Commissariat for Internal Affairs. A number of soldiers and officers of the Polish army were murdered by the Soviets right after disarmament. It is estimated that in September and October 1939 the Soviets murdered between 1,000 and 2,500 soldiers and officers of the Polish Army, Border Protection Corps and state police.

Still, more than 8,200 Polish Army officers imprisoned in special camps in Kozelsk (Russian SSR) and Starobilsk (Ukrainian SSR). Polish policemen, Border Guards, and personnel of the Prison Service, Military Provost and the Border Protection Corps were placed in a special camp in Ostashkov (Kalininskaya Oblast'). The Ostashkov camp was the largest, with almost 6400 inmates – personnel of uniformed services, regardless of rank. All camps were located in former Russian Orthodox monasteries adapted to hold prisoners. But the buildings were not prepared for the number of prisoners they had to receive. In the first weeks of their imprisonment, the inmates had to build their own cots and outhouses, help organise the prison hospital and mess.

By Lavrentiy Beria's decision of March 5, 1940, all prisoners held in the prison camps of Kozelsk, Starobyelsk and Ostashkov, and prisons of western Ukraine and Belarus, were labeled "enemies of the Soviet state". Executions began in April and went on until mid-May. Offic-



German air photo from Katyn graves' excavation in 1943.

ers held in Kozelsk were transported to the forest of Katyń and executed over open pits or in the neighbouring villa occupied by the NKVD. Inmates of the Starobyelsk camp were moved to Kharkov and murdered in the cellar of NKVD offices, their bodies buried in death pits in Piatykhatky forest; POWs from Ostashkov were killed in Kalinin (today's Tver) and buried in mass graves in Mednoye. Bodies of victims from the so-called "Ukrainian list" were deposited in the forest of Bykivnia. The names of about 3870 victims murdered based on the "Belarussian list" remain unknown to this day. Though there are reasons to presume they were buried in Kuropaty, the Belarussian government has been unwilling to allow research and exhumation work to be conducted in that area.

Illegally imprisoned, Polish soldiers and policemen paid the ultimate price for their service to their country. Their families were condemned to a struggle for survival in remote Siberian tundra and in the steppes of Kazakhstan. Those who managed to survive and return to post-war Poland, were doomed to live as second-rate citizens. For decades, they were not allowed to grieve and the Polish nation was forced into silence with regards to Katyń. After the political transformation in Poland and across the world, through the great dedication of the personnel of various institutions, and first and foremost – that of Katyń Families and police associations, the truth of Katyń has found a HOME in the Katyń Museum.

Almost a year after its grand opening on 17 September 2015, we can say that the Katyń Museum branch of the Polish Army Museum is a perfect fit for the Warsaw Citadel. It is a symbolic copestone to the history of the Tsarist fortress built as a means of oppression against the Polish nation, it is its Soviet apex.

The Katyń Museum is a place of remembrance and a tribute to the Victims of the massacre, a place where their Families can remember their loved ones and a place where generations meet. It is a place where young people can meet the elderly who co-create this museum by donating their most precious family keepsakes, such as letters written by inmates to their loved ones. The Katyń Museum is a place where they can meet and speak not only about the past, but first and foremost about lasting values. Our Museum can be said to serve as an archive to Katyń families, as a depository of their heritage of moral and patriotic values which is to serve the memory of

generations. This is not a strictly historical museum, but a place which came from the heart, it is a temple, according to the etymology of the Latin word *museum* or the Greek *museion*, where national relics are kept. By exhibiting artefacts retrieved during the survey and exhumation of the death pits and arranged respectfully in urns forming walls of reliquaries, *we are able to lead visitors down the path of death*, offering them an opportunity to personally connect with the tragic experience of individual officers and their families. This unique arrangement, through its context extending beyond the fate of any one man or woman and his or her family, forms a document of Poland's history – beyond the ethnic or religious differences between her citizens. ■



The Katyń Museum

Thursday, July 20

The fourth day of our seminar will be devoted to the post-war period and the beginnings of the Communist system introduced by force upon Poles after 1945. First, we will listen to a presentation on the losses of Polish Cultural Property during the WWII given by Karina Chabowska and Agata Modzolewska from the Polish Ministry of Culture and National Heritage. Next, Piotr Gontarczyk will be speaking about the way Communists introduced a political system totally new and obscure to Poles. A Q&A session with prof. Krzysztof Szwańczyk, the vice-president of the Institute, on anticommunist conspiracy after WWII and the role and importance of remembrance in the modern world and society will follow. After lunch Magdalena Bogdan will give a workshop on women-soldiers fighting in the underground. The last presentations of the afternoon session will be delivered by our participants who will be speaking about chosen figures, events, memorial places that are as important to their countries' history as they are to Poland. After dinner we will have an exclusive movie screening and a Q&A session with one of its creators. ■

8:00 – 9:00	Breakfast	
9:00 – 10:15	The Aftermath of WWII in Poland and Central-Eastern Europe.	Karina Chabowska, Agata Modzolewska
10:30 – 11:45	The Installment of the Communist Regime in Poland.	Piotr Gontarczyk, Ph.D.
11:45 – 12:15	Coffee break	
12:15 – 13:30	Anticommunist Conspiracy After WWII. Q&A session.	Prof. Krzysztof Szwańczyk
13:30 – 15:00	Lunch	
15:00 – 16:15	Cursed Maids. Women in the Anticommunist Conspiracy. Workshop.	Magdalena Bogdan
16:30 – 18:30	Participants presentations	
18:30 – 19:30	Dinner	
19:30	Movie screening and Q&A session	



Karina Chabowska Chief Expert in Division for Looted Art, Department of Cultural Heritage Abroad and Wartime Losses in Ministry of Culture and National Heritage of the Republic of Poland has been dealing with an issue of wartime losses for over 10 years. In 2006 she graduated history of arts and architecture preservation at Nicolaus Copernicus University in Toruń. Her job is to handle restitution cases. She prepares restitution claims, searches for archival documentation, collaborates with lawyers and investigate authorities. In her work she is devoted to look for new possibilities of legal recovery of wartime losses.



Piotr Gontarczyk graduated from the Faculty of Journalism and Political Science at the University of Warsaw, where in March 2003 he received his PhD. He also studied at the Institute of History of the University of Warsaw. In 1998–2005, he worked in the Office of the Commissioner for Public Interest. Since 2006 he was Deputy Director of the the Office for Preservation and Dissemination of Archival Records of the Institute of National Remembrance. In September 2007 he was appointed Deputy Director of the Vetting Office of the Institute of National Remembrance. He now works at the Public education Office IPN



Magdalena Bogdan is a historian and psychologist, works at the Educational Center of the Institute of National Remembrance in Warsaw. She conducts workshops on contemporary history for pupils from all levels of education and for groups with special educational needs.



Anna Modzolewska Senior Expert in Division for Looted Art, Department of Cultural Heritage Abroad and Wartime Losses in Ministry of Culture and National Heritage of the Republic of Poland has been dealing with an issue of wartime losses for over 7 years. In 2010 she graduated archaeology at the University of Warsaw and since that time she has been working in Ministry of Culture and National Heritage. In her work she is responsible for the only one Polish wartime losses database, she prepares restitution claims and seeks and acquires archival documentation related to lost artworks.



Professor Krzysztof Szwa-grzyk [Krzysztof Szwa-grzyk, Deputy President of the Institute of National Remembrance, assistant professor of humanities. His research mainly focuses on the communist structures of repression in Poland. He conducts search and exhumation of people killed during the Stalinist period in Warsaw, Gdańsk, Białystok, Wrocław and others. Thanks to the efforts of his team finding and identifying remains of legendary commanders – victims of communist terror was made possible. Author and co-author of books and articles on the post-war repression apparatus.

READ SOME MORE

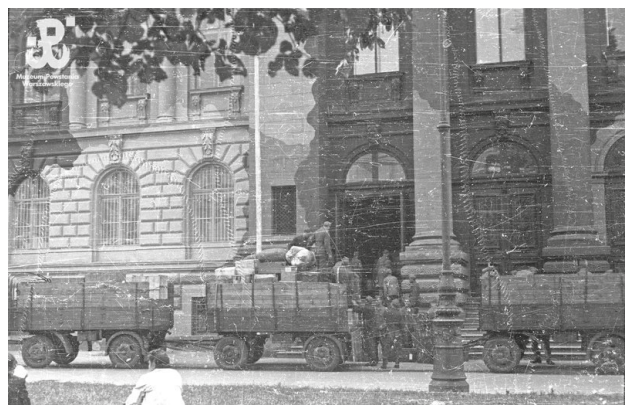
Karina Chabowska

Losses of Polish Cultural Property during the Second World War

The losses of cultural property, which Poland sustained from 1939-1945, resulted both from military action – bombardment of churches, palaces, museums or libraries – as well as from looting by soldiers, the occupying power’s administration, corrupt marauders following the army, or by local thieves exploiting wartime confusion. The land of the 2nd Republic of Poland saw destruction caused by military action several times over – firstly in 1939, from the 1st September from German army aggression, from 17th September from the Soviet army, then 22nd June 1941 when the Germans attacked the USSR and again from the summer of 1944 to May 1945 when German forces were in retreat from the Red Army.

Poland lost almost 70 % of its material heritage because of the WW2. The exact number of looted artworks is extremely hard to count. The number which was announced after the war – 516 000 works of art, related only to the main collections from the territories of the „interwar Poland” and hadn’t expressed the scope of the disaster.

Since the beginning of the 1990s, the Ministry of Culture and National Heritage of the Republic of Poland has been gathering data on lost cultural property from the terrain of Poland’s borders after 1945 and also takes action to recover these objects. Currently, the work is continued by the Division for Looted Art in the Department of Cultural Heritage Abroad and War-



Germans loading trucks with Polish artwork at Zachęta building in Warsaw, June 1944



Aleksander Gierymski's *Jewess with Oranges* discovered on 26 November 2010 in an art auction



Raphael's *Portrait of a Young Man*, missing since 1945

time Losses. The main task of the Division is to recover of lost cultural property which has been found in Poland and abroad. The Ministry of Culture and National Heritage utilises a broad spectrum of resources for the recovery of lost Polish cultural property. In recent years, the Ministry maintained close cooperation with the Polish Police and Justice System as well as with entities in other countries such as Interpol or the US Federal Bureau of Investigation (FBI). On numerous occasions the Division has benefited from assistance from Polish diplomatic and consular missions. Second important task is to document cultural losses. The electronic database of Wartime Losses is the only national register of cultural property lost as a result of the Second World War from within the post 1945 borders of Poland. Its main aim is to inventory the best information gathered on the topic of sites, which were plundered as a result of warfare. All the data logged in the database forms the basis of searches for wartime losses and also any restitution activities undertaken by the Division. The Ministry of Culture and National Heritage database is not an official register and has been built up for research and informational purposes. It is also not a full list of cultural property lost during Second World War from the territory of Poland's borders after 1945. The registration of objects occurs on the basis of voluntary notifications whether by institutions, religious organisations or individuals. The gathered information is only verified within basic parameters. The database of Wartime Losses is continuously updated and new records are constantly being added. Currently the Ministry of Culture and National Heritage database has 63 400 records. Sometimes, these records include groups of objects, made up of several or even a few dozen items on one card.

Other activities of the division are popularising the subject of wartime losses by publishing catalogues, running an internet service www.lootedart.gov.pl and involvement in additional projects e.g. The Lost Museum, among others.

Thus far, thanks to the Ministry's efforts Poland has regained 363 lost objects, including the paintings *Jewish Woman Selling Oranges* by Aleksander Gierymski, *The Negress* by Anna Bilińska-Bohdanowicz, *Watch* by Józef Brandt and *Palace Stairs* by Francesco Guardi, sculpture *Diana* by Jean-Antoine Houdon and the Chinese-style cabinet and the rococo lady's writing desk from Wilanów Palace but also the collection of ethnographic objects.

The Ministry of Culture and National Heritage is constantly exploring modern methods in the search for lost cultural property and it registers lost works of art in global internet databases like the Lost Art Register and the database kept by Interpol. This course of action maximizes the visibility of Polish wartime losses, which in turn increases the odds of recovery.

The ArtSherlock project is yet another step towards modernizing and improving the effectiveness of the search for and identification of works of art lost by Poland as a result of World War II. ArtSherlock is an original project of the Communi Hereditate Foundation, developed in partnership with the Ministry of Culture and National Heritage and with funding from the Kronenberg Foundation of Citi Handlowy Bank.

As the first tool of its kind, ArtSherlock is set to completely revolutionize the identification of artworks stolen during wartime. The innovative application can automatically recognize a work of art on the basis of a photograph taken with a mobile device camera, giving users the ability to identify a piece of art anywhere and anytime. The user can take a photo in real time or use one stored in the device's memory, making this a versatile tool ready for any situation. The application supports Polish and English and is available for Android, iOS, Windows Phone and BlackBerry. ■

Kamila Sachnowska

Powązki Cemetery, Lot “Ł”

The “Ł” lot, commonly referred to as “Łączka”(The Field) is located on the southern edge of the Powązki Military Cemetery. It includes lots “Ł” and “Ł II”. During the Stalinist era, it was a burial site for prisoners. Unrecorded in cemetery books and unmarked, the first cases of burying the victims of communist terror took place in “Łączka” in the spring of 1948.

Based on preserved documents, it is estimated that nearly 300 people were buried here. The bodies of the executed people were usually brought from the prison on Rakowiecka Street, as well as from other Warsaw prisons and custody suites.

Bodies were buried in secret, in unmarked graves. Prisoners’ burials were not recorded in cemetery books. The bodies were usually buried directly in the ground itself, or – in rare cases – in wooden crates. While not known for certain, the last secret burials probably took place in “Łączka” in 1956. By this time, there were rumours circulated among the families that “Ł” lot held the remains of the victims of communist terror, but the authorities consistently kept it secret until the fall of Communism.

Throughout 1955-1956, the area of the current «Ł» lot was covered with a more than 1 metre thick layer of soil and rubble; officially – to level out the difference between the military and municipal cemeteries. This way, the remains of the victims of Communism were further concealed. Over time, a composter was placed at their burial site, and then a dumpster. After merging the adjacent necropolises in 1964, Lot “Ł” became part of the Military Cemetery.

At the beginning of the 1980s, burial plots were marked out on a fragment of “Łączka”. From 1982, they began to be filled with graves, mainly of those distinguished in service of the communist regime. New burials covered approximately two thirds of the lot with the northern fragment left free; it had several gravestones and crosses symbolically marking the burial sites of the victims of the communist repressive apparatus.

After the collapse of the communist system in Poland, efforts were made to commemorate the victims of the years 1944-1956. These actions were initiated by the families of those murdered, who hadn’t been able to learn the burial places of their loved ones for years. In 1991, a



Fot. P. Życieński

monument was erected in the central part of “Łączka”, dedicated to the victims of the communist reign of terror buried in secret in this area. It was a red brick wall with a cross, a V-shaped crack and the “Fighting Poland” anchor. Plaques with the names of the murdered – political prisoners executed in Warsaw between 1945 and 1956 – were placed on the wall. At that time, it seemed that only a symbolical commemoration of the victims of the communist regime was possible.

From 2012 until 2017, the IPN team headed by prof. Krzysztof Szwaagrzyk were searching “Ł” lot for the burial sites of the victims of communist terror. Their work was a breakthrough – a final confirmation that Lot “Ł” had been used by the communist security apparatus as a secret burial site for prisoners such as the soldiers of the independence underground.

The first stage in 2012 confirmed speculations that the 1991 monument was located on top of the former prison burial ground. The remains of 109 people were found within four weeks. Further searches were conducted in 2013, 2014, 2016, and 2017, gradually discovering burial pits containing the remains of more than 200 people. An exact number is difficult to establish, as it turned out during the exhumations of 2016 and 2017 that many original burial pits were destroyed during the 1980s when part of Lot “Ł” had been prepared for new burials. The skeletons were mixed with soil, many loose bones were discovered, sometimes immured into the foundations of new graves. While studying the remains, many cases of the Katyn method of execution were found – a shot to the back of the head.

So far, 51 victims of communism whose corpses have been hidden in “Łączka» have been genetically identified, including the legendary leaders of the anti-German and anti-communist underground – Major Zygmunt Szendzielarz “Łupaszka” and Major Hieronim Dekutowski “Zapora”.

A Pantheon – Mausoleum was unveiled on the 27th September 2015 – the Polish Underground State Day. The ceremony began with a solemn mass in Pilsudski Square in the Warsaw center. On this day, the first rediscovered victims were buried in the Pantheon – 35 heroes fighting for free Poland. ■



This weekend our participants will do some sightseeing, intensive learning and will have time for some relaxation in one of the most picturesque regions of Poland.

Friday

We will visit the birthplace of Fredric Chopin, one of the greatest music artists of all time to see his home and take some time out at the beautiful park listening to classical sounds of the piano. We will then visit Toruń, one of Poland's oldest cities, the hometown of Nicolaus Copernicus and a place famous for its tasty gingerbread which is one of many Polish UNESCO World Heritage Sites.



Saturday

We will head for Gdańsk, one of the first cities attacked by Germans on September 1, 1939 and the legendary place where the Communist system began falling. We will have a guided tour of the newly opened Museum of the Second World War and see the Old Town.



Sunday

The last day of the trip will include a study visit at the Former Nazi German Stuthoff Concentration Camp and sightseeing of the marvelous XIV century Malbork Castle



Monday, 24 July

Monday morning will be devoted to the underground publishing movement in Poland and Eastern Europe. We will listen to a lecture of Jan Olaszek and have an opportunity to ask questions to a history whiteness - one of the members of the movement. After lunch Karol Madaj and Tomasz Ginter will conduct a workshop showing how board games can be used in history education. Another set of participants' presentations will end the day. ■

8:00 – 9:00	Breakfast	
9:00 – 10:15	Poland and the Communist Block in 1956. Workshop.	Mateusz Marek, Ph.D.
10:30 – 11:45	The Underground Publishing Movement in Poland and Eastern Europe.	Jan Olaszek, Ph.D.
11:45 – 12:15	Coffee break	
12:15 – 13:30	History whiteness Q&A session	
13:30 – 15:00	Lunch	
15:00 – 16:30	Games in History Education. Workshop.	Karol Madaj, Tomasz Ginter, Ph.D.
16:45 – 18:00	Participants' presentations	Anna Brojer
18:30	Dinner	



Mateusz Marek – PhD historian, teacher and educator. His thesis was devoted to craftsmen in small towns of Western Galicia in the 2nd half the 19th century. He is interested in the socio-economic history of the 19th and 20th century in Poland and Europe. He is employed at the National Education Office of the Institute of National Remembrance



Karol Madaj – educator, board game designer. Creator of popular educational games: "Queue" and "ZnajZnak" Together with Tomasz Ginter he created a series of aviation historical games "303", "111" and "7. Defending Lviv". Co-author of the educational set on Poles rescuing Jews during WWII and a book "Proboszcz getta" about father Marcei Godlewski and a roman-catholic parish in the Warsaw ghetto. His hobby is playing modern board games with his wife and three daughters and reading about Jewish and patristic exegesis of the Book of Genesis.



Jan Olszek Doctor of Philosophy in History, works at the Historic Research Office of the Institute of National Remembrance, Member of the Management Board of the "Archiwum Solidarności" Association. Author of "Nieliczni ekstremiści. Podziemna 'Solidarność' w propagandzie stanu wojennego" and "Rewolucja powielaczy. Niezależny ruch wydawniczy w Polsce 1976-1989" as well as many other publications on the history of opposition in the Polish People's Republic.

READ SOME MORE

Jan Olszek

Censorship and the Independent Publications Movement in the Polish People's Republic

Control of information distribution was one of the key elements of the communist system in each of the countries it was introduced in. It was also the case for communist Poland. Censorship covered, *inter alia*, all newspapers and books.

Since 1945 a special administrative institution operated in Poland exactly for that purpose, namely the Main Office for the Control of the Press, Publications and Performances. Its operations theoretically aimed at preventing attacks on the government and political system, disclosure of State secrets, infringement of the duration of Polish People's Republic's alliances, violation of law or good manners and misleading the public. In practice, the presence of censorship allowed the governing party to eliminate all content that seemed inappropriate for its political goals from publication. The authorities introduced so-called *censorship focus* on the names of specific artists or specific topics.

In the Polish People's Republic censorship was preventive in nature. Finished new issues of magazines, as well as any other publications, were filed for approval. At the same time, editors of respective newspapers undertook unofficial negotiations with the censors. For many years operation of the censorship office was not legally sanctioned. For quite a long time, it operated purely on the basis of a decree adopted in 1946. The fact that all materials were subject to censorship contributed to the emergence of the phenomenon of self-censorship. The level of the authorities' interference with the content published in the media varied over time, but the one constant element was that all texts criticising the authorities were blocked.

A breakthrough came in 1976 with the emergence of the independent publishing movement in the Polish People's Republic. Democratic opposition evolving at that time had taken on the creation of uncensored magazines and books as one of the main forms of its operation. At first, they were simply re-typed on a typewriter, later they were copied using copiers. Despite the fact that editing, printing and distribution of texts that were not subject to censorship was very highly sanctioned, the movement was developing very quickly in Poland. It was especially visible after the emergence of "Solidarność" in 1980. It has also survived the repressions during the Martial Law in Poland.

Counteracting communism using free speech was not a Polish invention, however. Russian dissidents came first. The Czechs were also going this way far before such movement de-



Fot. Ze zbiorów Ośrodka KARTA

veloped in Poland. It was Poland, however, that the movement developed the most. There were almost five and a half thousand independent magazines in the Polish People's Republic. There were much fewer such titles in other Soviet bloc countries. In the USSR a little over three hundred such publications ever saw a light of day, in Czechoslovakia – almost eighty, while in Hungary – around forty, in the East Germany – only thirty. In Bulgaria there were only two independent newspapers, and in Romania there were none. In fact, only in the Polish People's Republic advanced printing techniques were used on a large scale, which allowed the publishers to produce large circulations. The use of copiers was characteristic only for the Polish opposition. This way, independent publications in Poland reached not only closed circles of oppositionist elites, as in other countries of the Bloc, but also to a wide group of the general public.

Independent publications shaped the ideological identity of the oppositionists and members of "Solidarność" and showed positive and negative attitude patterns. This way, members of the Union from smaller centres knew how to act in specific situations. The independent press played also an important role in breaking through the monopolistic approach of the Polish People's Republic authorities to information and culture. Had there been no underground publishing movement in Poland, Communists would have had it much easier to manipulate

the general public. Polish readers would not have known many fundamental works of foreign authors touching upon the world of ideas or evaluation of totalitarian systems. A whole social movement developed around the underground publishing phenomenon. The mere fact of the existence of independent publishing proved just as important as the content of the uncensored publications. Anyone who was ready to act would have found their own place within the independent publishing movement. ■



Fot. Ze zbiorów Ośrodka KARTA

Karol Madaj

Board Games in Historical Education

Board games are as old as the oldest civilisations. Right from the beginning of their existence they have also played an educational function. Legends have it that the oldest of the most popular board games, *Go*, was designed for a retarded son of a Chinese emperor. There are many more examples of an educational use of games since ancient times up to the present day. Recently, as number of people who tend to swap the computer screen for more socialising entertainment has been on the rise, we are witnessing a phenomenon called “the renaissance of board games”. The most popular board games are published in millions of copies. Wooden pieces, cards and a cardboard surface can be encountered more and more frequently not only in cultural centres or day-care rooms but also in cafes and at domestic social events. Board games cease to be perceived as an entertainment exclusively for children but become a rightful and rapidly developing segment of the entertainment market located somewhere between the book market and that of computer games. Where the storyline of a game is set in a historical context, the board, the cards and the instruction manual become a carrier of historical knowledge. In times when only a small fraction of population shows interest in historical books, for many people a historical board game and the subject matter it renders are often the only contact with historical knowledge. Players learn – frequently unwittingly – while having a good time.

A team of educators from the Public Education Office of the Institute of National Remembrance (IPN) has so far designed 12 board games which can be used in the educational process. Information on all of them is available at www.ipn.gov.pl/gry. “Awans. Zostań Marszałkiem Polski” (*The Promotion. Become a Marshal of Poland*) provides information on the pre-war Polish military ranks. “Pamięć 1939” (*Remembrance 1939*) teaches players about the September 1939 Campaign. “303” shows the role of No. 303 Polish Fighter Squadron in the Battle of Britain. “Kolejka” (*The Queue*) with its supplement “Kolejka: Ogonek” tells a story of the economic situation during the declining phase of the Polish People’s Republic. “ZnajZnak” (*Know the Symbol*) is very effective in teaching over a hundred symbols connected with the history of Poland between 1918 and 1989.

Following the success of the above-mentioned games, the IPN has grouped its games into sequels. Thus, another two aviation games “111” and “7. In the Defence of Lwow” have been designed, this time depicting the anti-aircraft defence of Warsaw in 1939 and the defence of Lwow from the Bolsheviks in 1920. “ZnajZnak - Pamięć” is a memory game for younger players. There are also two more games basing on the rules of earlier mentioned and very popular among teachers and pupils “ZnajZnak”. “ZnajZnak – Monte Cassino” tells the story of the famous 1944 battle, “ZnajZnak- Sport” shows main Polish sportsmen and sports clubs from the pre-war period. Among the latest games, there are also “Reglamentacja: Gra na kartki” (*Rationing. The Card Game*), completing the picture of how people did shopping in the Polish People’s Republic, and “Polak Mały” (*The Little Pole*), a game teaching the youngest players the words of the Polish National Anthem.

The experience accumulated during educational work with board games clearly shows that modern board games can be effectively used in historical education and can have a real impact on the historical awareness of players. ■



Tuesday, July 25

The last day's morning will include a visit to the Institute of National Remembrance's Archive where we will have a guided tour and a workshop with Kornelia Banaś showing what the Archives actually hide and how we may use them in education about totalitarian states. Next, we will have another guided tour of the Museum of Political Prisoners of the Polish People's Republic, a former criminal prison and a place where many great patriots were tortured and murdered. We will evaluate the whole seminar with Anna Brojer and then have a well-deserved gala dinner. ■

7:00	Departure for Warsaw	
8:30 – 13:30	IPN Archive. Guided tour and workshop.	Kornelia Banaś
14:00 – 15:00	Museum of Political Prisoners of the Polish People's Republic. Guided tour.	
15:30 – 16:30	Lunch	
16:30 – 17:30	Evaluation	Anna Brojer
18:30	Gala dinner	



Kornelia Banaś is a philologist and historian, since 2001 employed in the Historical Education Section at the Branch National Education Office of the Institute of National Remembrance in Katowice. She is the originator and coordinator of the nationwide project "What is in the Archives of the Institute of National Remembrance?"

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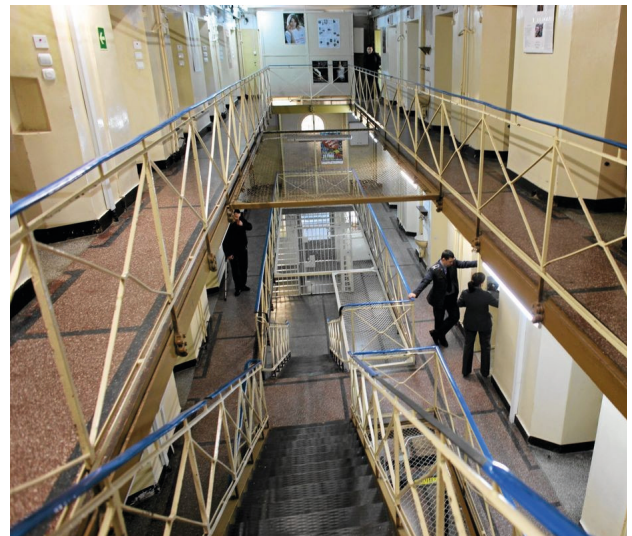
The Archive of Institute of National Remembrance

gathers and processes files of the Communist state security services as well as documents produced by the German occupation authorities of the World War II period. The IPN makes those documents available to the victims of repressions, researchers and journalists. ■



Museum of Political Prisoners of the Polish People's Republic

The Museum's headquarters is the area of the former Warsaw-Mokotów Detention Center at 37, Rakowiecka Street. The location of the future Museum is not accidental. The Rakowiecka Prison served as the main political prison since 1945 and throughout the Stalinist period when the most important members of the independence underground were detained there. This is where people like Gen. August 'Nil' Fieldorf, Major Zygmunt 'Łupaszko' Szendzielarz ps. , Major Hieronim 'Zapora' Dekutowski, Cpt. Witold Pilecki were imprisoned. In addition to the military, civilians and representatives of the Catholic Church were also imprisoned in Mokotów. The prison was not only a place of seclusion, but also a place of martyrdom, called the Golgotha of the Polish Nation. There were more than 350 death sentences executed here, and the number of people killed during brutal interrogations remains unknown. During the following years of the Communist regime, thousands of people were detained at Rakowiecka for political reasons. After the introduction of martial law in December 1981, dozens of activists of the Solidarity movement were brought to Rakowiecka. Throughout the 1980s activists of underground pro-democratic structures were detained in the Mokotów prison. Now, after years of this story being forgotten, Poles are creating a museum devoted to all who suffered here in the name of values like freedom, independence and faith. ■



THE JABŁONNA PALACE



In the beginning of the Middle Ages Jabłonna was the property of the Bishops of Płock, who built a summer residence here in the 15th century. In 1773 the brother of the King Stanisław August – Michał Poniatowski, then Bishop of Płock and later the primate of Poland, bought the property in Jabłonna with the intention of turning it into an elegant palace-and-park residential complex. In 1774 he commissioned the royal architect, Dominik Merlini, to design the new residence. The construction of a three-building complex was proposed: a one-storey palace, which was intended to be the residence of the owner, was to be situated in the middle and flanked on both sides by separate three-storey pavilions.

The pavilion on the left was named Royal, because it served as the residence of the King Stanisław August. The pavilion on the right was intended for guests and a two-storey annex attached to it – for the primate’s chancellery personnel. A scenic English-style park was developed in the 1770s and 1780s, based on the design of architect Szymon Bogumił Zug. The same architect also constructed a series of pavilions, of which three still remain today: the Grotto, the Orangerie and the Chinese Pavilion.

Originally, the central palace combined the austerity of the classical style with the baroque picturesqueness. The first manifested itself in the massively uplifted central part, the second in the front elevation, which was enlivened by a quadrangular turret crowned with a sphere. Inside, a round living room formed the centre of the interior. It was significantly higher than the rest of the rooms on the ground floor. The room was decorated with stucco ornaments by Antonio Bianchi (added in 1775) and with painted decorations by Szymon Mańkowski (added in 1777). The entrance to the living room was through a right angle vestibule, from which on the left side one had access to the stairs leading to the tower, and on the right an access to the antechamber. On both sides of the living room other important rooms were situated: on the right the dining room, and on the left – the winter garden. Private apartments consisting of bedrooms and dressing rooms were located in distant parts of the building. Inside the palace there were also underground rooms that were used for social occasions in the summer. These contain decorations painted in 1776 by Antonio Tavelli.

In 1794 Jabłonna was inherited by the Prince Józef Poniatowski, the nephew of the primate, who was frequently present here from 1798 to 1806. His personal apartments were

located on the ground floor of the right-hand annex. After Józef Poniatowski's tragic death in the battle of Leipzig, Jabłonna became the life-estate of his sister Teresa Tyszkiewicz. In 1822 the residence was inherited by Anna Dunin-Wąsowicz of the Tyszkiewicz family – primo voto Potocka, secundo voto Dunin-Wąsowicz. Anna who was both an art collector and talented drawer, immediately began the process of transforming the estate into a centre memorialising the Prince Józef Poniatowski. She erected a triumphal arch bearing the inscription "In memory of Poniatowski", she also gathered the memorabilia and she had installed a commemorative tablet embedded in the north wall of the palace. It reads: *"This Hero's secluded spot, having decorated it carefully and with full respect for the original relics. I, hereby hand down to posterity"*. Monuments and relicts devoted to national heroes and expressing patriotic feelings were, at that time, a typical characteristic of Polish scenic landscape parks. In 1837 a gateway with two granite columns was placed at the park entrance. The columns had been transported from the castle of the Teutonic Knight's Order in Malbork. In the same period the watch-towers for doorkeepers were built near the gateway and decorated with the inscription SALVE.

In 1837 the palace was rebuilt according to the design of Henryk Marconi. On both sides of the central projection of the facade additional quarters were built: on the right – a dressing room and bedroom and on the left – a pantry and corner room. The middle part of the elevation was divided by a sequence of Ionic pillars. The niches in the side wings were decorated by sculptures and on the park side some iron verandas were built. Inside the palace only the living room remained unchanged. The winter garden chamber was redecorated in the Moresque style. On the right side of the palace, the bedroom and the dressing room had been connected in order to form a large library room. Outside the palace, on its north side a columnar pergola was added, where a lapidarium was established. Among some preserved pieces of sculptures one can find a Roman medallion exhibiting the bust of Emperor Nerva and a relief presenting a bust of a bearded man. The relief was carved by Baccio Bandinelli in the 16th century.

After Anna Dunin-Wąsowiczowa had owned the palace, also the park had been transformed. The trees were grouped into huge clusters and the yard in front of the palace was planted with new trees and shrubs. In addition, following the Henryk Marconi's design, a few new buildings were erected, along with large stables and coach houses.

Jabłonna was owned by the Potocki family until 1945. In 1944 the palace was burned by the German army. Since 1953 Jabłonna has been owned by the Polish Academy of Science. Under its auspices the palace was transformed into the conference and recreational centre. The reconstruction of the palace was executed according to the design of Mieczysław Kuzma, the reconstruction of the park according to the design of Gerard Ciołek. In the course of this renovation, the central part of the palace was restored to look as it did at the end of the 18th century, while its side parts, added in the first half of the 19th century, retained their original appearance. Only their elevations were changed. Further, the cast-iron decoration in the Moresque chamber was removed, allowing the chamber and other rooms to regain their classical character. The furnishing and decoration of the palace interior was completed after 1945. The representative halls and chambers of the palace were decorated with old furniture and paintings from the end of the 18th and the first half of the 19th centuries.



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