

MEMENTOES OF THE JANUARY UPRISING IN RADOM



The uprising broke out on 22nd January 1863 and lasted until the autumn of 1864. It was the biggest national Polish rebellious bid for independence. Representatives of all social classes joined the ranks: nobility and gentry, craftsmen and young people. It met with wide support from international public opinion. It was a guerrilla war in which there were about 1200 battles and skirmishes. Despite initial successes, the uprising ended in failure. Tens of thousands of insurgents were killed, nearly 1000 were executed, about 38,000 were sentenced to penal servitude or sent down to Siberia, and about 10,000 emigrated. One of the positive effects of the uprising was the enfranchisement of peasants which was carried out more radically than anywhere else in this part of Europe.

Although the time goes by, a lot of traces of dramatic events from that period have been preserved in Radom.

Sightseeing route: the Bernardine church and monastery - St. Wacław's church. – the Market - M. Reja Street - J. Malczewskiego Street - 72 Infantry Regiment Square – Warszawska Street

St. Catharine's church and the Bernardine monastery

S. Zeromski Street



*The Bernardine church and monastery complex
- a view from S. Zeromski Street*

The Bernardine monastery complex in Radom is the most precious monument of Radom. It was built in 1468 and its establishment is attributed to Casimir Jagiellon. It was extended in the 16th century by adding St. Anne's chapel and later in the 19th century St. Agnes' chapel. In the years 1911-1914 the monastery was rebuilt according to Stefan Szyller's project. Then the two chapels were combined into one, creating a side nave, and a tower with the stairs leading to the choir was built

together with two porches. In 1959, a fire destroyed a part of the church, particularly a rafter framing and polychromes inside. In 1998, a thorough renovation and conservation of the building began.

Inside the church many valuable relics have been preserved. The most valuable are: the passion group from Veit Stoss school, the early-baroque side altar with the image of Our Lady with the Child and a number of epitaphs and stalls from the 17th century in the chapel of the Mother of God.

The Bernardine monastery has been an important religious, as well as cultural and patriotic centre since the beginning of its existence. Before and during the January uprising it was the conspiracy centre in Radom. For their patriotic activities the Bernardine monks were sorely punished. On 12th July 1863 the monastery buildings were occupied as the prison in which 109 people were held, and on 8th November 1864, on the tsarist ukase the Benedictine order in Radom was closed and its property was confiscated for the Treasury of the Kingdom of Poland. Moreover, 4 fathers were exiled to Siberia, 6 monks were transferred to other monasteries for disciplinary reasons, and other monks and clerical students were deported to a regular monastery in Wielka Wola.

The mementoes of the January Uprising outside the church - the figure of Our Lady

In front of the stone statue of Our Lady (set in 1858 by Anthony Plewiński, following a dogma of the Immaculate conceiving) there used to be citizen gatherings with religious and patriotic songs. On 19th May 1861, they turned into a huge demonstration. The stone sculpture was decorated with wreaths and flowers, and a triumphal arch with a Polish eagle with a golden crown was placed there. In the evening, a gathered crowd began to raise anti-Russian cheers. Then, the army took action and dispelled the assembled crowd. A dozen people were arrested.

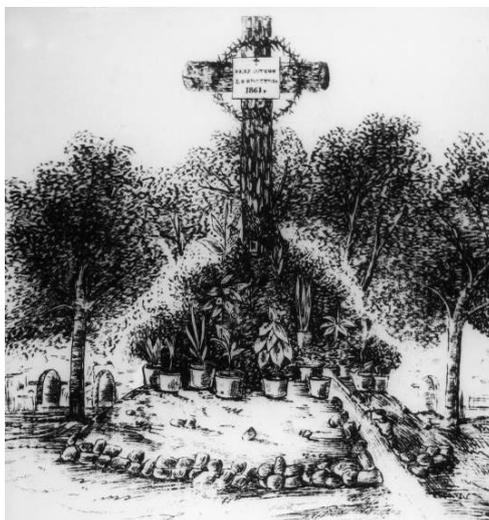


The figure of the Mother of God, founded in 1858 by A. Plewiński

- a stone cross

On 8th August 1861, at the old church cemetery, in reference to the bloody events in Warsaw in February and April 1861, a mound was built “with the hands of the city's inhabitants, regardless of a social class” and a wooden cross with a crown of thorns was put.

After the collapse of the January uprising, the mound was demolished and the cross was chopped and burnt. The current stone cross refers to those events.



A drawing representing the mound with an oak cross put in 1861, and the current cross commemorating those events.

The mementoes of the January Uprising inside the church

The church used to hold prayers for the homeland, and the monastery refectory was a place of meetings, courses and military training for young people. Here arrived the later uprising dictator - Marian Langiewicz, (supposedly disguised as an organ-grinder) and reviewed the preparations and weapons.

On 22nd January 1863, at 8.00 in the Bernardine church father Paulin Domański celebrated a mass and blessed the insurrectionist departing to fight.



A refectory in the monastery - a place of secret meetings of insurgents and a view of the choir in church

Inside the church there are mementoes dedicated to the heroes of those events.

- Col. Zygmunt Chmielenski epitaph plaque



Zygmunt Chmielenski was a graduate of the Cadets Corps and War Academy in St. Petersburg and an artillery lieutenant of the tsar's army in Warsaw. In 1861, he left the service in the army and emigrated to France, and later to Italy. After the outbreak of the January uprising he returned to the country and joined the ranks of general Marian Langiewicz army. Soon he was appointed the chief of general Joseph Hauke-Bosak staff and the commander of the uprising in the Krakow voivodeship. During the battle of

Bodzechów he got captured by the Russians and he was imprisoned in Radom. Having been brought to a military court, he heard a double sentence – a demotion and 10 years of penal servitude for desertion in 1862 from the Russian army, and the second - death by shooting. The sentence was executed on 23rd December 1863 at the barracks in Radom.

The unveiling and consecration of the plaque (carved with a spelling mistake in his surname) was held on 22nd January 1928, at the 65th anniversary of the death of Colonel.

- father Justyn Lada's epitaph



Fr. Justin Łada was ordained a priest in the Greek-Uniate rite. He was in the ministry in Rejowiec and then in Kopyłów (the Lublin voivodeship). During the January Uprising he was involved in patriotic activities: he was a member of a political organization and raised money for the insurrectionary purposes. He was arrested for his work and given explicit police custody. In 1874, as part of the fight against the Greek-Uniate church he was removed from the parish in Kopyłów. Together with the family he lived in Radom and remained there until his death.

- Dionizy Czachowski Sarcophagus

Colonel Dionizy Czachowski was the commander of war of the Sandomierz voivodeship and the commander of insurrectionary troops in the region of Radom. He died on 6th November 1863 at Jawor Solecki. Originally, he was buried in Bukowno, and his tomb has been razed to the ground.



A ceremonial funeral of Col D. Czachowski in 1938 and the mausoleum in front of the Bernardine church

In 1938, 75 years after the death of Czachowski, there was the second and this time more solemn funeral. The coffin with the remains of the commander was placed in the mausoleum, in front of the Bernardine church. During World War II, German invaders ordered to pull down the monument. The coffin with Czachowski's ashes were hidden in the basement of the Bernardine church.



A subsequent of funeral Col D. Czachowski in 1981 and the current resting place of the hero.

The subsequent, third funeral of the insurrectionary hero of the region of Radom took place on 21st March 1981. This time the remains of the commander were laid in a marble sarcophagus located in the Adoration chapel of the Bernardine church.

'White Eagle' Pharmacy

5 S. Żeromskiego Street



A part of polychrome on the ceiling of the pharmacy

The building was designed by Stefan Baliński and built around 1835. The first owner was Stanislaw Kwasniewski and later Antoni Podworski who opened the pharmacy. On his initiative a Romantic and classical plafond depicting a white eagle was painted on the ceiling. The eagle is presented in flight, in the skies. It is holding a sceptre in its claws – the symbol of reign and justice. Effigies of the bird also appeared on

the pharmacy equipment and labels.

During the January Uprising the pharmacy performed the functions of a “contact box”, and after the collapse of the uprising, the owner of the pharmacy was ordered to remove the polychrome with the eagle (it was painted over) and to destroy all equipment with the image of the eagle.

From 1985 to 1989 renovation works took place which brought the polychrome to its original splendour.

St. Waclaw church

13 Old Town Square



St. Waclaw church

St. Waclaw church was built in 1216 on the foundation of Leszek Biały, and then it was endowed by Bolesław Wstydlivy. It was extended in 1340, at the time of Casimir the Great. In 1802, it was changed by the Austrian authorities into a place to store flour. At the time of the Duchy of Warsaw there was a military storehouse here.

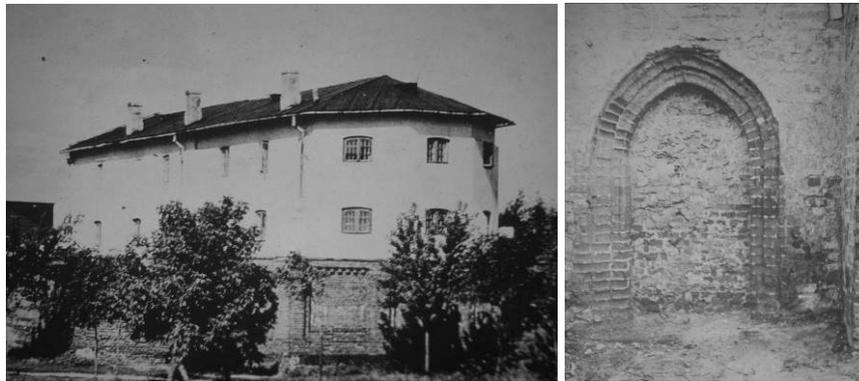
In the second half of the 19th century the church building was changed by the Russian authorities into a regular prison.

During the devastating adaptive alteration the original architectural form of a temple was completely destroyed (Gothic windows and portals were walled in, the interior was divided into cells, the roof was changed). During the January Uprising the exiles were deported from here to Siberia. Today, two things remind of those events: the light colour on the floor indicating the size of a cell, and a painting on a southern wall panel *Mother of God appearing to a prisoner (Matka Boska ukazująca się więźniarce)* painted by J. Witowski based on A. Grottger's drawing.



Inside the church: light plates on the floor indicate the size of the former prison cell; painting done by J. Witowski based on themes of A. Grottger drawing.

In the years 1920-1927 an epidemic hospital, and then a shelter for mentally ill, were established here. The church performed also the functions of: a psychiatric ward of the city hospital (1945-1965) and the seat of the Polish Academy of Sciences (PAN) Excavation Expedition (1965-1978).



St. Wacław church turned into hospital – the first half of the 20th century

In 1978 the building was given in perpetual lease to the bishop's curia and reconstruction of the temple began, under the supervision of professor Victor Zin from Krakow. The first holy mass in the restored church was conducted on 9th June 1985.

The interior designed by professor Victor Zin is a kind of panoramic view of the history of Poland presented in the stained glass windows, pictures and wall paintings.

The former Piarist College

11 Rynek Street



Former Piarist College, now Jacek Malczewski Museum

The Piarists arrived in Radom in 1682 establishing the school which was located in two tenements in the Market. In 1737 the university rector was priest Antoni Konarski, Stanislaw's brother. On his initiative a new complex of college buildings was built according to the design of Antoni Solari. After the collapse of the January uprising, the college was closed and the Men's Government Gymnasium, and then after the dissolution of the Piarist order in 1864, a Province Gymnasium were established in the building. A lot of famous Poles were the students of the school, for example Tytus Chaubinski and

Walery Przyborowski.

Although the gymnasium was the government school and the subjects were taught in Russian, the students and teachers were actively involved in patriotic activities. After the outbreak of the January uprising 63 students left school. More than 40 of them joined the insurrectionary ranks. Among them there was the later novelist and historian Valery Przyborowski.

After Poland had regained its independence, Jan Kochanowski Gymnasium and Titus Chałubiński Gymnasium were established in the building. Today Jacek Malczewski Museum is housed here.

The monument of Legions Act

Market Square



The history of the pre-war monument: unveiling ceremony, a memorial in all splendour and demolition done by the occupant

During the January Uprising in the centre of the market a gallows was set up which was used to hang the insurgents. There, among others, Matwiej Bezkiszkin was executed, the chief of the border guards staff.

After Poland had regained its independence, major Michal Tadeusz Brzek-Osinski, a cavalry captain of the I Cadre Legions Company (I Kompania Kadrowa Legionów) put forward a proposal to set up a monument of Legions Act in the place of the former gallows. He introduced this idea to Joseph Piłsudski. The marshal rejected all the subsequent projects but he gave Osiński a small statuette of a legionnaire with a gun at his leg, whose author was a sculptor from Krakow, I Legion Brigade officer Włodzimierz Konieczny. The sculpture was made in the trenches at Kostiuchnowka in Volhynia, where he made it by immortalizing one of the soldiers. The next day, both the author of the statuette and the soldier died in the battle, and the figure went to the hands of Piłsudski as a name day gift from the legionnaires. The monument on the market square in Radom is an enlarged copy of this figure. Its ceremonial unveiling took place at the 9th Congress of the Polish Legions in 1930. In 1940 the monument was destroyed by the Germans, but in 1998 a copy of it return to the previous location.



The monument "Deeds of Legions" - a contemporary view

Walery Przyborowski's house

4 Reja Street

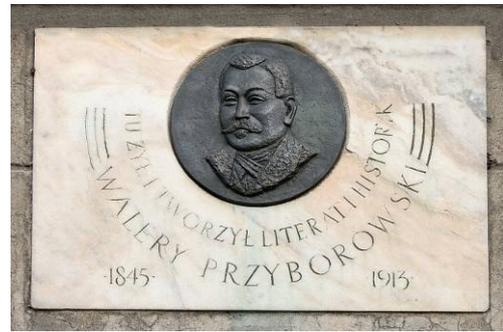


M. Reja Street with Valery Przyborowski's house

Radom in 1900, and started to work as a teacher of history and literature at the School of Economics. He wrote historical novels. The best known are: *Szwedzi w Warszawie* (The Swedes in Warsaw), *Bitwa pod Raszynem* (Battle of Raszyn), *Szwolężer Stach* (Light cavalryman Stach).

On the 80th anniversary of the birth of Valery Przyborowski, in 1925, a plaque commemorating the place he lived in and his creative work was placed on the wall of the building. The current plaque was set up on 12th May 1970, on the 125th anniversary of the birth of the writer.

In this house lived and worked Valery Przyborowski (pen name Zygmunt Lucjan Sulima), a participant and later historian of the January Uprising. He attended school in Kielce, and Radom, and then he went to the uprising. He served in Gen. Marian Langiewicz and Col. Zygmunt Chmieleński's troops. He took part in the Battle of Małogoszcz. He was wounded and treated in Krakow. He returned to



A memorial plaque on the wall of the house at 4. M. Reja Street

Resursa Obywatelska cultural centre

12 J. Malczewskiego Street



The building of Resursa Obywatelska cultural centre

Resursa Obywatelska was built in 1851 to the design of Ludwik Radziszewski. It is a single storey building with a two level central section. The front is decorated with a tympanum with a bas-relief presenting personified Caritas – Charity. There are three statues of muses at the top – Euterpe, Melpomene, Clio.

Here, there used to be a number of balls, concerts and theatrical performances. Money raised during these events was donated to charity, especially for St. Casimir hospital.

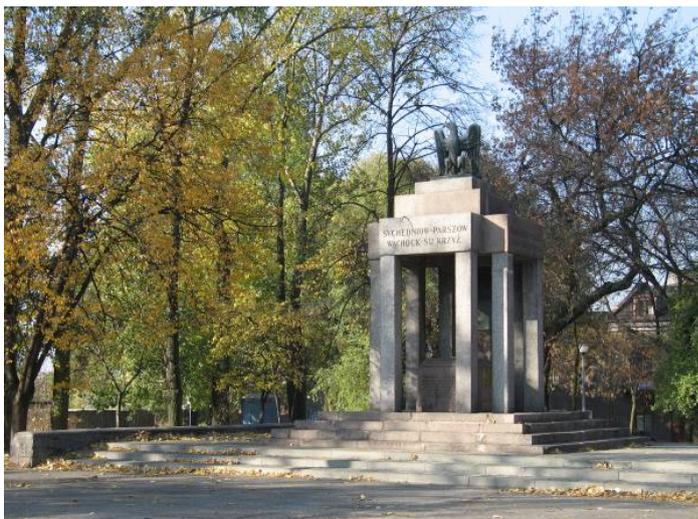
In 1861 (during the January Uprising) the building was

occupied by the war chief Uszakow with two teams of Mohylewski Infantry accommodated in the ballroom.

During World War I, Resursa Obywatelska was turned into a hospital. At the time of the Second Polish Republic (interwar Poland) it was a cultural centre again, and then during World War II a “Deutches Haus” was located here. After the war the building served as a cultural and educational advice centre, later as the cinemas “Friendship” and “Generation” and since 1991 the Regional Culture Centre. Nowadays it houses the Art and Cultural Centre “Resursa Obywatelska”.

The Mausoleum of Col Dionizy Czachowski

72nd Infantry Regiment Square



The mausoleum of Col Dionizy Czachowski in 72nd Infantry Regiment Square

In the square there is the Mausoleum of Col Dionizy Czachowski which was created in 1938 under the initiative of father Jan Wisniewski to commemorate the heroic leader of the January Uprising, and to preserve his remains brought from the original resting place in Bukowno. It was designed by architect Kazimierz Prokulski and built of granite and marble in the form of a baldachin. Originally it was situated in front of the Bernardine church.

In 1940 the German occupation army ordered the destruction of the monument. Thanks to the heroism of the citizens of Radom each element of the mausoleum was hidden. The mausoleum was rebuilt and situated in 72nd Infantry

Regiment Square on the hundredth anniversary of the death of Col Dionizy Czachowski, however without the coffin with his remains. Instead, an urn with the soil from the regiment's battlefields of World War II was buried and a cast – iron commemorative plaque was placed here. In place of the cross, which before the war was on top of the mausoleum, an eagle was mounted.

A cross at Warszawska Street



*A cross in the place of executions
at Warszawska Street*

During the January Uprising in the military barracks at Warszawska Street executions by shooting were carried out. In total, 29 insurgents were executed, including August Jasiński, the commander in an attack on Szydłowiec, and Zygmunt Chmieleńskiego, the Chief of Gen Józef Hauke-Bosak Staff and the commander of the uprising in the Krakow voivodeship.

During the solemn celebration of the 53rd anniversary of the January Uprising, on 6th February 1916, to commemorate the memory of col. Zygmunt Chmieleński and other people executed by firing squad, a wooden cross was set up, which was solemnly moved from St. Mary's church.

The current, iron cross was set up in 1933 during the celebration of the 70th anniversary of the January Uprising.

Table of contents:

St. Catharine's church and the Bernardine monastery

The mementoes of the January Uprising outside the church

- the figure of Our Lady
- a stone cross

The mementoes of the January Uprising inside the church

- Col. Zygmunt Chmielenski epitaph plaque
- father Justyn Lada's epitaph
- Dionizy Czachowski Sarcophagus

'White Eagle' Pharmacy

St. Waclaw's church

The former Piarist College

The monument of "Deeds of legions"

Walery Przyborowski's house

Resursa Obywatelska cultural centre

The Mausoleum of Col Dionizy Czachowski

A cross at Warszawska Street

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