

Michał Krupa  orcid.org/0000-0003-0093-2249
michal.krupa@pk.edu.pl

Institute of Urban Design, Faculty of Architecture, Cracow University of Technology

Mateusz Budziakowski  orcid.org/0000-0002-6258-7244

Doctoral Studies, Faculty of Architecture, Cracow University of Technology

LIPNICA MUROWANA – HISTORIC HERITAGE AND ITS CONSERVATION PROTECTION

LIPNICA MUROWANA – ZASÓB ZABYTKOWY I JEGO OCHRONA KONSERWATORSKA

Abstract

The article presents the cultural heritage of the mediaeval town of Lipnica Murowana, located in Lesser Poland in Bochnia County. This historic town can boast valuable architectonic and urban design buildings. These are the church of St. Leonard; the church of St. Andrew the Apostle; the church of St. Simon; the Starost's House; the Ledóchowski Manor; the school building, relics of town housing and, primarily, the mediaeval urban layout with a market square. The article presents the history of the abovementioned historic buildings and spaces, and analyses their current protection and conservation guidelines.

Keywords: Lipnica Murowana, historic heritage, architectonic monuments in Lipnica Murowana, urban design monuments in Lipnica Murowana, conservation protection

Streszczenie

Artykuł dotyczy dziedzictwa kulturowego niegdysiejszego średniowiecznego miasta Lipnicy Murowanej, położonego w Małopolsce, w powiecie bocheńskim. Ten zabytkowy ośrodek ma na swoim terenie cenne zabytki architektury i urbanistyki. Są to: kościół pw. św. Leonarda; kościół pw. św. Andrzeja Apostoła; kościół pw. św. Szymona; Dom starościński; Dwór Ledóchowskich; budynek szkoły, relikty małomiasteczkowej zabudowy mieszkalnej, a przede wszystkim zachowany średniowieczny układ urbanistyczny z rynkiem. W artykule dokonano analizy historii wymienionych obiektów i przestrzeni zabytkowych wraz z przeglądem ich bieżącej ochrony oraz wytycznymi konserwatorskimi.

Słowa kluczowe: Lipnica Murowana, zasób zabytkowy, zabytki architektury Lipnicy Murowanej, zabytki urbanistyki Lipnicy Murowanej, ochrona konserwatorska

1. Introduction

Lipnica Murowana, a small settlement located in Bochnia county, approximately 50 km from Krakow, is an example of a well-preserved mediaeval chartered town layout, developed in 1326 [1]. For centuries, the former town used to be a significant centre in the region. It was affected by both numerous town-forming factors (such as its location along trade routes, privileges, influx of settlers) and those hindering that development (great fires, wars, floods). Despite its turbulent history, the town, currently degraded to the rank of a village commune, has basically retained its shape and can serve as excellent material for historical, urban and architectonic research.

Besides the orthogonal town layout, Lipnica can boast a relatively large number of historic buildings. They include both monuments of urban design in the form of a mediaeval market square, and of architecture like the church of St. Leonard listed in the UNESCO World Heritage List; the church of St. Andrew the Apostle; the church of St. Simon; the Starost's House; the Ledóchowski Manor; the school building and relics of small-town housing [2].

The goal of this article is to describe the state of the heritage buildings in Lipnica Murowana, determine the forms of their current protection and outline the conservation requirements in this respect.

2. Urban design heritage

The historic urban layout of Lipnica Murowana, which has been very well preserved since the mediaeval period, is of great importance in terms of the voivodeship. The layout is a defined, orthogonal urban structure with a market square, streets running from its corners, inscribed within the oval of the town walls [3, 4]. The houses around the market square are single-family houses, farmhouses and utility buildings, sometimes adapted for trade and service functions. The houses are mostly one-storey buildings with an attic, and multi-storey. A few buildings from the 19th and the beginning of the 20th century have survived till today, but buildings from the inter-war and post-war periods are predominant. The majority of buildings are traditional structures typical for the town, though there are some rescaled buildings with modern details which clash with the historic cultural landscape.

The mediaeval urban layout of Lipnica Murowana is under statutory conservation protection as it was listed in the voivodeship monument register (no A-82) in 1976 [2].

In the authors' opinion, the urban layout of Lipnica with its picturesque market square requires special and well thought-out conservation protection. The market square should undergo complete restoration; ahistorical elements such as the fountain should be removed; the division into plots, the form and dimensions of buildings should be preserved whenever possible. It is also worth considering the possibility of creating a catalogue of building patterns – materials, colours, details – to be used by owners of properties located within the protected zone.



Fig. 1. Bird's-eye view of the mediaeval urban layout of Lipnica Murowana nowadays (photo by W. Gorgolewski)

3. Architectural monuments

Certainly the most valuable building in Lipnica is the cemetery church of St. Leonard, dating back to the 15th century. It is one of the most valuable wooden churches in Lesser Poland [5], owing to which in 2003 it was entered in the UNESCO World Cultural and Natural Heritage List.

The church is well preserved. Recently its grounds have been tidied, the surrounding fence has been modernised, cemetery paths have been paved and a parking lot has been built. Inside the church there is the alleged “Światowid column”. According to local tradition, the church was erected on the site of another one built in 1141, which in turn had replaced a pagan temple of which the “column” was a part. However, radiocarbon dating carried out by Prof. Natalia Piotrowska from the Institute of Physics, Silesian University of Technology, on the initiative of M. Budziakowski, ruled out the pre-Christian origins of the column, dating the time of tree felling to the turn of the 15th and 16th centuries (which corresponds to the assumed time when the actual church was built). The church interior is decorated with paintings from various periods, from the end of the 15th till the beginning of the 18th century. The presbytery is decorated with polychromes depicting the Crucifixion, the Last Supper and the Final Judgement; and the nave – scenes from the Passion and the Decalogue [6, 7].

Naturally, the church is listed in the voivodeship register of immovable monuments, where it was inscribed in 1969, under no A-154.

Writing about conservation guidelines, one has to emphasise the church surroundings where the traditional forms of tombstones ought to be used, ruling out light materials such as pink marble, or not refined enough like terrazzo. Particular care should be taken of characteristic, heavy sandstone slabs, on which inscriptions and ornaments are gradually effaced by weather conditions.



Fig. 2. View of the church of St. Leonard in Lipnica Murowana nowadays (photo by authors)

In the context of protecting the cultural landscape in Lipnica, another valuable building is the parish church of St. Andrew the Apostle. It was founded by King Kazimierz Wielki (Casimir the Great) in 1363 [8]. The church has one nave, a narrowed presbytery, and a tower on massive buttresses which dominates Lipnica. Six altars, a Gothic sculpture of Our Lady with Child from the 14th century, a 17th-century figure of Crucified Christ and two mediaeval baptismal fonts are of considerable cultural value. The church is in good physical condition. A decade ago the roofing of the tower was replaced and the vertical insulation of foundations was made.

The church is listed in the voivodeship register of immovable monuments, where it was inscribed in 1969, under no A-155.

As far as conservation guidelines are concerned, it is necessary to revitalise the church surroundings by restoring the outside stairs.



Fig. 3. View of the parish church of St. Andrew the Apostle in Lipnica Murowana nowadays (photo by authors)

There is one more historic church building in Lipnica Murowana. This is the Baroque church of St. Simon. The building was founded by Stanisław Lubomirski, the Starost of Lipnica, in 1648. The church might have been erected on the site of the family home of St. Simon of Lipnica as a votive church. The building has one nave and a gable roof with a little bell turret. At the entrance, there is a bell-gable, and in the vicinity there stands the statue of King Władysław Łokietek, the founder of Lipnica [9, 10].

The state of preservation of the church can be described as very good. The church furnishings – the altar and pews – were renovated during the last decade.

The church is under statutory conservation protection and was entered on the voivodeship register of immovable monuments in the year 1969, under no A-156.

Because of the very good condition of the church it does not require conservation treatment at present.



Fig. 4. View of the church of St. Simon in Lipnica Murowana nowadays (photo by authors)

Besides church objects, there are also valuable monuments of lay architecture in Lipnica Murowana. Among these, one should mention the Starost's House, also known as the Starost's Manor. It was erected after the "Swedish deluge", probably at the turn of the 18th century, from stones obtained from the dismantled town walls. It is a massive, masonry building with arcades. It must have served an administrative function, and was probably the seat of the town steward [...].

The building is entered in the voivodeship register of immovable monuments, where it was inscribed in 1978, under no A-148.

Despite statutory conservation protection, for ten years the object has been under renovation which has not been completed yet. During this period, a new tiled roof covering was made with ahistorical, disproportionate dormers. It is worth mentioning that the analysed object requires a new inventory and current valuation. A possible renovation or conversion should be related to adapting the building to a new function, using traditional forms and local materials.

While discussing the cultural heritage of Lipnica, one cannot ignore the Ledóchowski family manor. This is a manor built in the French style, neo-classicist, recalling the Baroque urban layout in which the composition axis led from the main square to the manor and the manorial garden. The manor was erected at the beginning of the 18th century by Kazimierz Janota-Bzowski, the first owner of Lipnica after the partitions. It is a multi-storey building, with partial basement, and an attic. The interior has an axial layout with 5 chambers (front and 4 on the sides) on the ground floor, and one upstairs.



Fig. 5. View of the Starost's manor in Lipnica Murowana nowadays (photo by authors)

The Ledóchowski Manor is listed in the voivodeship register of immovable monuments, where it was inscribed in 1976, under no A-82.

At present, despite its satisfactory physical condition, the building remains unused, which is a pity because it might house a local museum, a cultural centre or a gallery. In order to do that, besides adapting the structure to a new function, the roof truss and covering would have to be replaced.



Fig. 6. View of the Ledóchowski Manor in Lipnica Murowana nowadays (photo by authors)



Fig. 7. View of the former school building in Lipnica Murowana nowadays (photo by authors)

Another valuable object in Lipnica Murowana is the former school building. It is a one-storey, masonry building. Originally, it housed the town elementary school, and since the second half of the 20th century a regional chamber functioned there, which is closed at present. The former school building is located in the direct vicinity of the parish church.

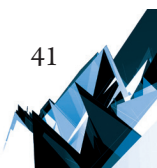
In 2010, the former school building was entered in the voivodeship register of immovable monuments under no A-1190/M.

Its state of preservation is good, yet requires restoration which should include roof repairs and adapting the building to its new function, related, for instance, to tourist services.

Besides the already mentioned well-known historic structures located in Lipnica Murowana, valuable relics of former housing can also be found in this former town. They are one-storey houses from the turn of the 20th century, typical for small, historic towns [10]. Unfortunately, most of them are in poor condition and are gradually falling into disrepair. They certainly require better conservation protection and restoration, as well as listing in the county heritage register. The latter remark refers primarily to the houses surrounding the market square, and those located within the mediaeval urban layout (no: 106, 142, 34, 113, 108, 145, 132, 76 and 134). It is also suggested that selected utility buildings reflecting the agricultural character of the village be protected as well [11].



Fig. 8. View of the historic houses near market square in Lipnica Murowana nowadays (photo by authors)



4. Summary

To conclude these initial considerations on the historic heritage of Lipnica Murowana and its protection and restoration, it has to be said that basically this heritage is well preserved. It consists of monuments of urban design and architecture, which are mostly under statutory conservation protection as they are listed among the immovable monuments of the Lesser Poland Voivodeship. In Lipnica, there is a valid local spatial development plan (LSDP), which reinforces protection with its regulations concerning the protection of the cultural landscape. It is worth noting here that a protection zone for the cultural heritage and modern cultural monuments was created in the LSDP, within which there are a zone of strict conservation protection of historic objects and areas, a zone of partial conservation protection of historic objects and areas, a zone of historic landscape objects and areas, and a zone of cultural documentation. In these zones it is imperative to preserve the existing architectural and urban planning values of a town, to individually protect objects and complexes inscribed in the register and on the monument list including their landscape, natural, viewing and functional conditions within the viewing areas, valuable buildings and historic complexes, and to maintain historical interrelations in the territorial context. In the context of heritage protection, the LSDP assumes that all planning and investment activities will be subordinated to protecting the cultural heritage [12].

An important and valuable initiative is the idea of creating a cultural park in the centre of Lipnica Murowana, which is another statutory form of heritage protection. The park would encompass the centre of the village with the church of St. Leonard, the churchyard and the Ledóchowski Manor.

In the context of these considerations, one should also emphasise the urgent need to preserve the surviving section of the town wall, which is in very poor condition and is not under any form of protection [13]. The structure should be secured as soon as possible, and then should be restored and put under statutory protection.

To sum up, it can be claimed that the cultural landscape of Lipnica Murowana is of special significance for our national culture. It includes both the material value related to the above described heritage, and immaterial values in the form of the tradition of the place and local customs. These features make it one of more unique mediaeval towns in Lesser Poland, which requires particular protection and care. That protection should be carried out with the support of heritage protection services, statutory forms of protection, local government and local communities.

References

- [1] *Lipnica Murowana. Gród króla Władysława Łokietka*, J. Smołuch (ed.), Publ. Akademickie Press, Kraków 2007.
- [2] *Rejestr zabytków nieruchomych woj. małopolskiego*, <https://www.wuoz.malopolska.pl> (access: 01.07.2019).

- [3] Krasnowolski B., *Lokacyjne układy urbanistyczne na obszarze ziemi krakowskiej w XIII i XIV w.*, part II, Publ. WNAP, Kraków 2004, 119–124.
- [4] Berdecka A., *Lokacje i zagospodarowanie miast królewskich w Małopolsce za Kazimierza Wielkiego (1333–1370)*, Publ. Zakład Narodowy im. Ossolińskich, Wrocław 1982, 45, 59, 108.
- [5] Kornecki M., *Kościół drewniany w Małopolsce*, Publ. ODZ, Warszawa–Kraków 1999, 69–70.
- [6] Kydryńska A., *Kościółek św. Leonarda w Lipnicy Murowanej*, *Wiadomości Konserwatorskie – Journal of Heritage Conservation* 5/1958.
- [7] Brykowski R., *Drewniana architektura kościelna w Małopolsce XV wieku*, Publ. Zakład Narodowy im. Ossolińskich, Wrocław 1981, 71, 73, 75, 81, 100, 102, 105.
- [8] Brykowski R., *Lipnica Murowana*, [in:] *Architektura gotycka w Polsce*, T. Mroczko, M. Arszczyński (ed.), vol. 2, Warszawa 1995.
- [9] Kornecki M., *Kościół Lipnicy Murowanej*, *Currenda*, 10–11/1992.
- [10] Dutkiewicz J.E., *Katalog Zabytków Sztuki w Polsce*, vol. 1, *Woj. krakowskie. Powiat bocheński*, Publ. Ministerstwo Kultury i Sztuki, Warszawa 1951, 8.
- [11] Budziakowski M., *Lipnicki słup podcieniowy – identyfikacja przestrzeni miejskiej*, *Wiadomości Konserwatorskie – Journal of Heritage Conservation* 54/2018, 67–73.
- [12] *Miejscowy plan zagospodarowania przestrzennego – Lipnica Murowana*, <http://www.lipnicamurowana.pl/plan-przestrzenny-gminy.html> (access: 02.07.2019).
- [13] Niewalda W., *Badania nad murami miejskimi w Lipnicy Murowanej*, *Teka Komisji Urbanistyki i Architektury* 3/1969, 145–158.

