

Summary

ROMUALD KACZMAREK / The Sadebecks' House in Dzierżoniów, its congress hall and portal

The building described in the article was a seat of the merchant family of Sadebecks, exceptionally meritorious for Dzierżoniów (German Reichenbach im Eulengebirge). The proceedings of Prussian-Austrian peace congress in 1790 took place in the house interiors. The building was, however, demolished at the end of 1960s. Its owner and the initiator of its rebuilding at the turn of the 18th c. was Friedrich Sadebeck (1741–1819), a merchant and an entrepreneur, known widely beyond the city and even beyond the region of Silesia borders. He purchased a former late Renaissance house and made it modern. A rather conservative rebuilding in the spirit of Zopfstil was performed around 1781.

The house can be seen in two F.B. Werner's views of Dzierżoniów (of 1738 and 1765), as well as in the etchings following Friedrich's son F.A. Sadebeck's drawings. He is also the author of two representations of the building itself, its outside and inside view. They were created short after 1790 to commemorate the place of the congress proceedings. In view of the very house not being preserved and lack of documentation from the time before its demolition, the etchings together with descriptions originating from the end of the 19th c. and few photographs come as the only source to recreate representation of this historic building. The only fragment of the house preserved till today is its portal transferred, most surely in the 1920s, into the central block of the Market Square.

The memorial congress hall, preserved by Friedrich Sadebeck's descendents in an unchanged form until the end of the 20th c. and later on till the second World War, was a local place of interest. Its furnishing, outfit and family mementos, however, dispersed or were destroyed after 1945, and a cabinet from the second half of the 18th c., which originally equipped the house, did not survive the war in the museum in Wrocław.