Summary

MARTA KALUCH–TABISZ/ Conservator's creation on the example of Baroque polychromed ceilings from a rectory in Pracze Odrzańskie

The term “conservator's creation”, used interchangeably with the expression conservator's arrangement, is not a new one. It appears in every situation, in which the range of works performed on a monument (work of art, architecture or artistic crafts) exceeds the limits indicated for conservation and restoration works. Conservator's creation is the opposition to preservative conservation, which aims at upholding historic material in its original form, even if composition is illegible or comes as inadequate to our times.

The meaning of the term can be approached by the example of conservation works led on two timber painted ceilings in a Baroque rectory in one of Wrocław districts – Pracze Odrzańskie. Before the conservation both ceilings (together with polychromy dated at 1626) were in a very poor condition; painterly ornamental decorations were seen only as a negative, the composition was preserved only partially. Except for standard conservation and restoration of fragments of polychromy, reconstruction, composition filling and arranging together with reconstruction of colours have been made.

The work resulted from the performed actions may differ from the original one but providing we do not know the authentic appearance of polychromy, the conservator's works leading to complete the composition have become justified.