

Summary

WOJCIECH GRUK / A book review: Joanna Macalik, „Tak oto stoję”. Dawny kościół imienia Marcina Lutra we Wrocławiu [‘Here I Stand’. The Former Martin Luther Church in Wrocław], Wrocław 2011

Joanna Macalik’s book is the first monograph of the not preserved Martin Luther Church, which was situated till 1945 in Przedmieście Szczytnickie [Szczytnickie Suburb] in Wrocław. The discussed temple was a jubilee church erected in 1883 to celebrate the 400th birthday anniversary of the Father of the Reformation. The book presents possibly complete picture of the church, what has been achieved by the analysis of the temple placement in the city topography, the analysis of its architectural form, style and iconography of the building, also thanks to combining the subject of studies with a wide historical, social, political and religious background of Wrocław at the end of the 19th and the first half of the 20th centuries. The study makes a satisfactory use – occasionally for the first time – of the written records kept in Wrocław and Berlin archives. The author also made an attempt to move the considerations from the city context onto the wider, all-German background by characterising the selected jubilee churches from the area of Germany in one of the chapters. Therefore the discussed elaboration is an important study in terms of art history, but also for the history of Wrocław – especially 19th-century religious culture and its meaning in changes that the city underwent in this century. The reviewed book is the ninth volume in the series ‘Biblioteka Dawnego Wrocławia’ [‘Library of Old Wrocław’] edited by Prof. Jan Harasimowicz.