

Summary

BOŽENA GRZEGORCZYK / Some remarks on Freemasonry in Wrocław and the seat of “Frederic at the Golden Sceptre” Lodge

The development of Freemasonry in Europe in the 18th c. has also an impact on the capital city of Silesia. “The Three Skeletons” was the first lodge in Wrocław and started to operate in May of 1741. “Frederic at the Golden Sceptre” was the next one in the city established in 1776. After 40 years of its activity it was given its own seat in 1816 in św. Antoniego Street. Its architecture, not to be seen today as it has not lasted till present, was designed by Carl Ferdinand Langhans and it still inscribes among exceptionally enigmatic settings. The core of this article is an attempt to indicate the genesis of an architectural form of the original building. It seems that what influenced most both the architectural form and room disposition with their decoration was the discussion led in the 17th c. in The Republic of the United Provinces. The discussion was aroused both by Villalpando’s work and Josephus Flavius’s considerations. As Carl Gotthard Langhans had had the opportunity to get acquainted with some edifices following the pattern of Salomon’s Temple (Marekerk and Hofje van Broukhoven in Leiden and a town hall in Amsterdam among others) we can presume that he passed this knowledge on to his son, who later created the seat of the lodge “Frederic at the Golden Sceptre” following these patterns.