Summary
RADOSŁAW GŁIŃSKI/ Medieval and Early Modern burgher house in a small and medium-sized Silesian town - an outline of research problems

The article indicates research problems related with recognition of Medieval architecture of a burgher house in a small and medium-sized town in Silesia and presents the available material with its cognitive evaluation. The architecture of Silesian burgher houses is well recognised only in biggest urban centres: in Wrocław, Świdnica and Głogów. There are numerous towns, however, slightly less significant regarding politics and economy in the Middle Ages, whose housing blocks are poorly examined or not known at all. It seems to be most striking in the case of the Silesian towns situated in the South, in the area of highlands which provide an easy access to stone building material. The research in these centres is difficult as the laid of stone housing blocks, which might have been preserved till today, appeared there quite late, often enough no sooner than in Early Modern period, further rebuilding and repairs rubbed away the potentially preserved Medieval parts. Most often the only preserved Medieval elements of the burgher blocks are cellars of these houses. Thanks to them it is possible not only to recognise the building material and construction of the underground parts but also wear capable of estimating the beginnings of appearance of more stabile burgher house blocks, defining ground divisions and its secondary partitions, situation of a house within the lot, arrangement of the building or confirmation of the existence of arcades. Exceptionally rarely house parts above the ground are recognised, as in case of Paczków, and their preservation in various towns is certified occasionally by architectural details still visible in the houses’ elevations or their floor plans. All the gathered during research information will make up a study describing Medieval and Early Modern burgher houses in small and medium-sized town in the discussed region.