

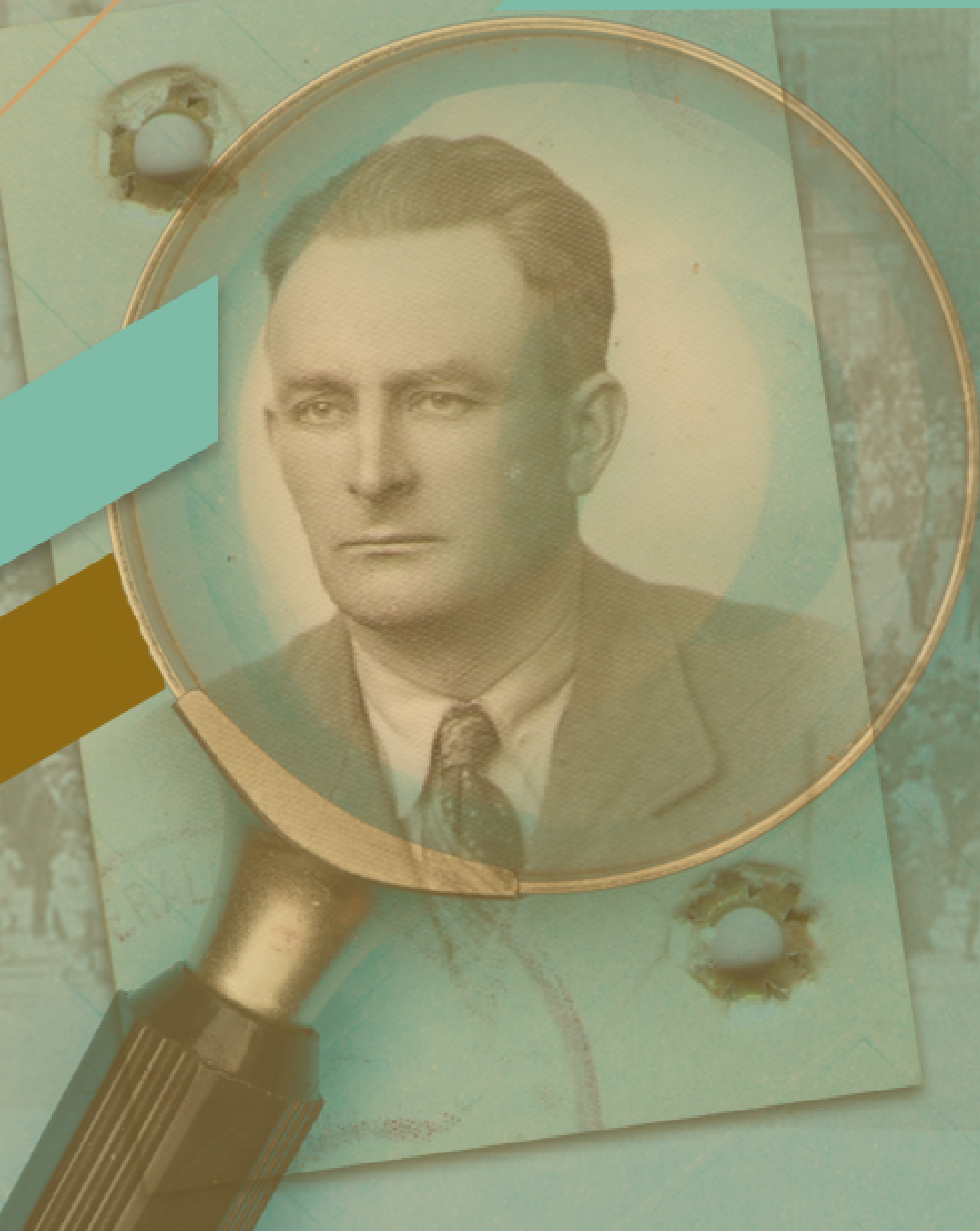


RZESZOWSKIE
PIWNICE

City walking map:

Eye on the city

„Rzeszów by Franciszek Kotula”



Sfinansowano w ramach reakcji Unii na pandemię COVID-19

Zadanie jest finansowane z Europejskiego Funduszu Rozwoju Regionalnego w ramach Regionalnego Programu Operacyjnego Województwa Podkarpackiego na lata 2014-2020

INTRODUCTION

April 22, 2023 was the 40th anniversary of the death of Franciszek Kotula, regionalist, folklorist, founder of the Rzeszów museum, journalist, publicist, author of dozens of books and countless press articles and field research notes. In 1985, one of Kotula's best-known works, at least to Rzeszów residents, was published. It was titled "Tamten Rzeszów, czyli wędrówka po zakątkach i historii miasta" ("That Rzeszów - a journey through the city's corners and history"). And it is this book that will be the main theme of this guide which we place in your hands. The city walking map is intended to be a sentimental journey to THAT, i.e. old Rzeszów. Our great-grandparents, grandparents, and parents' city. The Rzeszów as remembered by Franciszek Kotula, who came here in the 1930s. Finally, the Rzeszów Kotula observed, researched, noted and described.

Through this guide, it is planned to visit several points on the map of the city, which of course appear on many pages of Kotula's "Tamten Rzeszów" ("That Rzeszów"). To capture the unique atmosphere of Rzeszów as vividly portrayed by Kotula, it is important to use names that were once in use. Consequently, we have Paniaga, Wygnaniec, Psiarnisko, Rudki, Kalinowszczyzna, Żabnik, Jezioro Bernardyńskie, Małpi Gaj, Czerwona Brama, Wasserturma, Dwie Pompy and other original Rzeszów toponyms, most of which are no longer in use. The city walking map and tour which is realized through it, is intended to remind us once again of their existence in the everyday language of Rzeszów residents. These locations hold their own unique histories, associated with numerous individuals who have resided there, as well as urban anecdotes that Kotula captured in his book. In many instances, he heard these tales directly from eyewitnesses or even the protagonists themselves.

INTERACTIVE MAP

Click on the selected point to go to the description



POINT COORDINATES

1. Market Square.

50.03756981109606, 22.004371974124666

2. Paniaga.

50.037542042742146, 22.001773188211757

3. The castle.

50.03249246459693, 21.99986037586336

4. Kalinowszczyzna.

50.03673770278347, 21.999326107973623

5. Jezioro Bernardyńskie (Bernardine Lake).

50.039180580581714, 21.998634483881997

6. Czerwona Brama (The Red Gate).

50.03982637418556, 22.00260783465589

7. Nowe Miasto (New Town).

50.03961605416887, 22.00826091075441

8. Old cemetery.

50.037485474085074, 22.00985977746075



1. MARKET SQUARE

This area is among the city's oldest and most significant parts, played a central role in Rzeszów since the days of King Casimir the Great and subsequently when Jan Pakosławic of Stróżysko, the progenitor of the Rzeszowski family, took control of the city in 1354. It was here where trade took place, and it was here where the town hall, mentioned in sources for the first time in 1427, was erected, and where the town council sat, deciding on the most important matters relating to the centre. Finally, an east-west road ran along the northern edge of Rzeszów's Market Square, linking the Ruthenian lands, Lesser Poland, Silesia, and the German territories.

With the monumental Town Hall, the symbol of the city. Our interest at the moment is primarily in the square itself, once the Ringplatz, which was given an irregular, quadrilateral shape at the very beginning, guided by the topography of the area. Its enclosure has changed many times over the centuries. It took on its present architectural appearance after the great fire of 1842 (26-27 June - JP). In later years, as old photographs and postcards testify, houses were overbuilt and their facades changed; in various styles, which was fashionable in the late 19th century.”

“Since 1894, the statue of Tadeusz Kościuszko has played an important role in the Old Market Square. It was called 'Kościuszek', especially in the Jewish language. In the inter-war period, the only Pole in this market! For all the houses - the town hall does not count, as it was shared by the whole town community - were owned by Jews. It seems that only one of the Rzeszów bakers had some part in it. Even the famous apothecary Karpiński, on leaving Rzeszów, sold his beautiful house in the market square to Jews.”

BACK TO MAP



2. PANIAGA

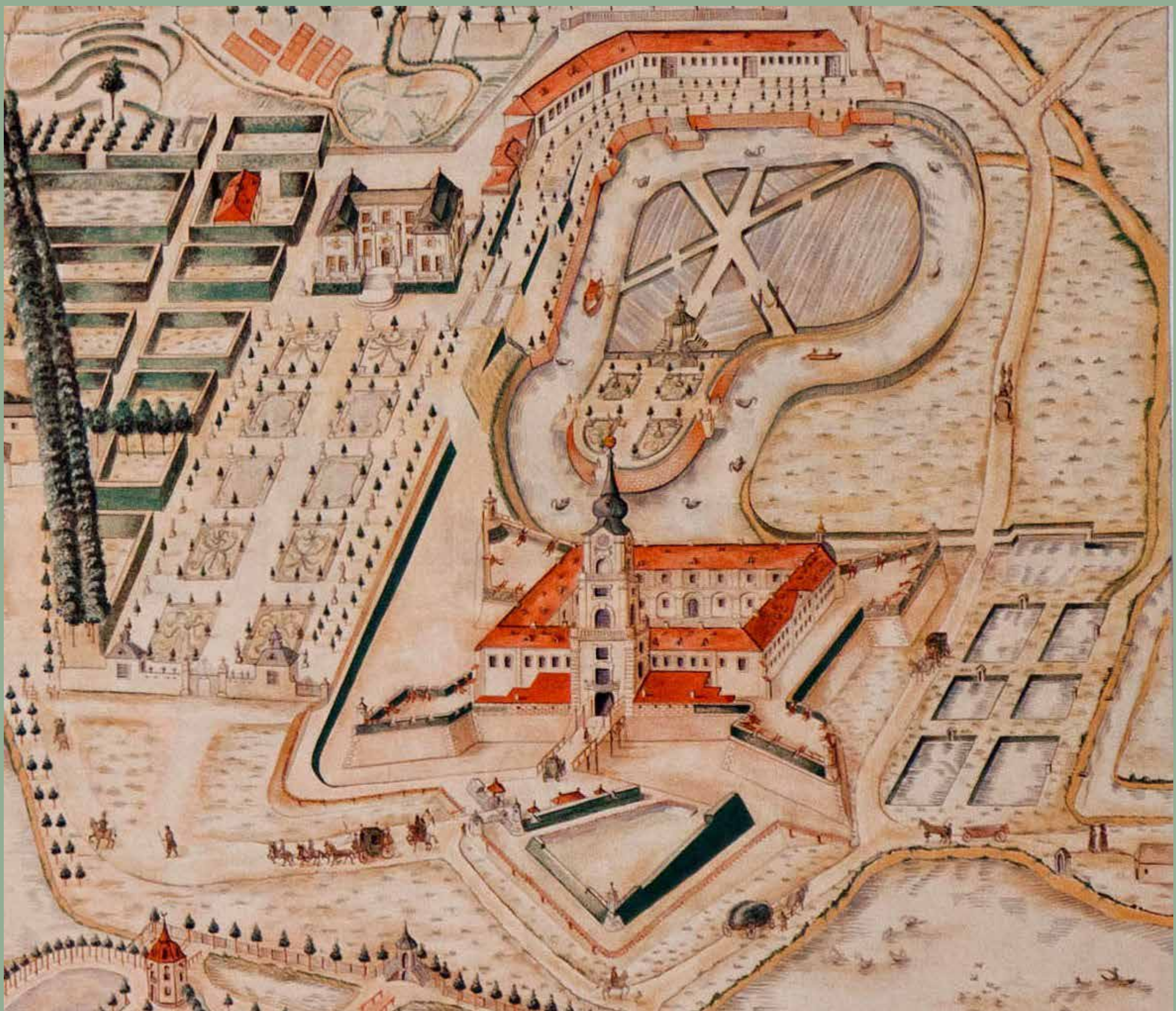
Paniaga is the urban name describing the current main promenade of Rzeszów, and once one of the most important routes, 3rd Maj Street. It is a north-south street, and its origins date back to the 16th century. Its main role, apart from allowing visitors from the south to enter the city, was to connect the lord's estate with the city. When, at the turn of the 16th and 17th centuries, in the area of today's Rzeszów castle, Mikołaj Spytek Ligęza formed his Rzeszów lair, originally in the form of a defensive manor house with a gate probably situated on the north side, this route was of key importance as it enabled communication with the parish

difficult to find out which name came first - Polish or German. In my opinion, it was the second one. I have previously shown from sources that 'our' street was first called Pijarska Street (Piarists), then - on a map from 1826 - Expiaristengasse, which means Popijarska Street (Ex- Piarists), and finally - on a map from 1828 - Herrengasse. Let us remember that this occurred during the initial half-century of the Austrian partition, during which the Austrian authorities aimed to Germanize Galicia and Lodomeria. German-ness was leaving its mark on all aspects of life, and I am convinced that it was either an Austrian German official or, as there were some, subservient Poles who assigned this name. But why 'street of lords'? Could it be to be a contrast to the opposite Dziadowski Ogród (Pauper's Garden)?"

"Over afternoon tea in the gazebo, grandmother Jaśkiewicz would tell the children of both families old stories that were strongly engrained in the children's imagination. What particularly struck this grandmother when she and her husband first arrived in Rzeszów in 1850? On both sides of the roadway of 3rd Maja Street there were drainage ditches, and over them hung bridges over which one could descend to the gates and hallways dividing the houses into two parts.

The same wide hallways were used to enter the courtyard and garden. There were no stone pavements. They were laid only at the beginning of the 20th century by mayor Jabłoński. The roadway was paved with wooden beams across it. Identical to how sandy or swampy roads were paved during the First World War. Huge areas of woodland went to such 'cobbles'. When stone cobbles were laid on the roadway of 3rd Maja Street, the beams were not removed, but were covered with sand and then the cobbles were laid. This old 'cobblestone' was encountered when the water and sewerage system was being built. When digging ditches, it was difficult to cut through the hardened 'fir' mud. According to tradition, which prevailed in the mid-19th century, such a pavement was still laid in 3rd Maja Street by the Lubomirski family so that they could drive safely to services at the Piarists or Bernardines. The swamps were a danger."

BACK TO MAP



3. THE CASTLE

The origins of Rzeszów Castle date back to the reign of Mikołaj Spytek Ligęza, who chose to relocate his former manor house from Staromieście to the southern part of Rzeszów, where he initiated the construction of a fortified manor house known as 'Ligęzów'. It is worth mentioning that already some of the last Rzeszowski tried to build another fortified manor there, preparing the area for a strategic purposes. When the Lubomirski family came to Rzeszów, they

a complete reconstruction at the beginning of the 20th century. South of the Rzeszów castle lay a district of the city commonly known as Wygnaniec ('Expellee').

Franciszek Kotula on the castle:

"The original Rzeszów castle was built by the Lubomirski family in the middle of the 17th century. The construction was started in 1620 by Mikołaj Spytek from Borek Ligęza, Castellan of Sandomierz, founder of the Bernardine church, a great philanthropist. The Lubomirscy also built a summer palace on the north-eastern side of the castle, called Kostheimówka, and, as evidenced by Captain Wiedemann's plan of the 18th century (to be precise, from 1762), kept in the municipal archives, they also established the duke's manege, a fruit garden and a French garden with cut rows, terraces and statues.

The castle was single-storey on the front, that is, the west side, while the other wings were two-storey and formed a square with a court in the middle, the size of which is still preserved today. The entrance tower, which remains today with a slender spire and zygmont eagle, had two additional top stories and a copper roof added. The fortress walls encircling the castle, following the Vauban system, have been faithfully pre-

served and restored, featuring embrasures at the four corners and cavaliers with four bastions, each with its distinctive patron. Outside the fortress walls were water moats, with a drawbridge in front of the castle tower.

The size of the castle was testified to by the chapel - next to the entrance by the gate - dedicated to the "The Descent from the Cross", at which Jerzy Lubomirski founded a vicarage for the castle's inhabitants in 1740"

Franciszek Kotula on Wygnaniec:

"The term Wygnaniec ('Expellee') certainly comes from exile, banish. When I asked the oldest people about Wygnaniec a long time ago, they could not tell me the tradition or explain the origin of the name. Could it have been some kind of accidental origin? I only found an explanation in written sources, in the town's law books from the 17th century. Going back to the end of the 16th and beginning of the 17th century, this is the image and explanation I have created of this physiographic term. [...] the term, both physiographical and onomastic, has not only fallen out of use, but even out of memory almost completely. It is still understood by the oldest, authentic Rzeszów's residents. Yes, it can also be heard outside Rzeszów, from

the mouths of those who served in the Austrian or Polish army in Rzeszów. For them, 'Wygnańiec', or more commonly 'Na Wygnańcu' ('On Exile'), is associated with military service and the vast barracks built back in the 19th century. At first, the famous Austrian 40th Infantry Regiment was stationed there, in which many Lasowiak people from the districts of Rzeszów, Kolbuszowa, Tarnobrzeg, Nisko and Leżajsk served. The 40th was one of the finest Austrian regiments. And not surprisingly; descendants of prisoners of war from the 16th and 17th centuries of various nationalities served in his ranks. The barracks, however, were constructed not in Rzeszów, but in Drabinianka."

BACK TO MAP



4. KALINOWSZCZYZNA

The name of this part of the city came from the nearly hectare-long land estate of Wojciech Kalinowski. These were located to the west of 3rd Maj Street and included areas from Farny Square to Jagiellońska and Zygmuntowska Streets. Interestingly, Wojciech Kalinowski married into the family of the pharmacist Edward Hübel. The very same person under whom the novice pharmacist Ignacy Łukasiewicz, creator of paraffin, the paraffin lamp, owner of the world's

first oil well in Bóbrka near Krosno, and founder of the Polish oil business, practised. Kalinowski's estate consisted mainly of green areas, gardens and orchards. Later, the city bought up this land and used it, among other, to arrange Jagiellońska Street, at one time an exceptionally representative street, leading west from 3rd Maja Street.

Just next to Kalinowszczyzna in Rzeszów there was a region commonly referred to as Żabnik ('Frog Pond'/'Frog Place'). It was a marshy, swampy and boggy area, fed by the Mikośka stream flowing from the west. The Żabnik reached as far north as today's Jagiellońska, Zygnuntowska, Lisa-Kula and Moniuszki streets. These bogs were part of what used to be Bernardine Lake.

Franciszek Kotula on Kalinowszczyzna:

"Kalinowski's estate to the south bordered the significant estate of the Skrzyński family, who, at one point, acquired the Podzamcze manor and resided in a historic one-storey manor house, adorned with their emblem above the driveway porch. To the west stood a soap factory, positioned over a branch of the Mikośka, neighboring the estate of the Potialskich from Przewrotne on the left bank of the Mikośka. To-

wing all around, and in the spring it was quivering with croaking frogs. That's why Żabnik ('Frog Pond'/'Frog Place')! Huge poplars grew here, blackened by rooks. That was the district. And this street, I mean Jagiellońska, today such a principality, was literally built on rubbish and debris; only after the First World War."

BACK TO MAP



5. JEZIORO BERNARDYŃSKIE (BERNARDINE LAKE)

It was one of the most mysterious and at the same time spectacular places on the map of old Rzeszów. Located in the north-west and west of the city, where its borders lay, were marshes, swamps, and the Mikośka stream. This terrain was ideal for defense and was utilized as such, notably by Mikołaj Spytek Ligęza who fortified the town against Tartar invasions. He strategically capitalised on the natural location surrounding the wetlands and the meandering Wisłok River on the opposite side. In the northern and western parts, Ligęza fo-

tificial channel, above which rose exceptionally high earth ramparts with fences, supported by brick towers. And the water of the "artificial" Mikośka flowed out of the Lake through a special quasi-sluice.

It is a fact that as long as the water around the town actually defended it from attacks, it was under special protection. Similar to the embankments. But when both lost their defensive qualities, they were condemned to liquidation. The ditch was simply filled with rubbish, soil from the foundations and cellars, rubble of all kinds... There is more than enough evidence of this. You can imagine what these former water bodies looked like, especially with the level of hygiene at the time. All sorts of dead things were drowned in the water or in the marshes, all sorts of filth and dirt were poured away. As people remember, such a stench came from the Mikośka that it was difficult to stand near it in summer.”

BACK TO MAP



6. CZERWONA BRAMA (THE RED GATE)

For centuries, the city of Rzeszów was a private centre, and a centre of trade and commerce. It was here that numerous fairs and markets were organised, bringing together visitors from far away, but also local people from villages and towns. These took care of all their business in the town, but sometimes had to stay longer. For this purpose, inns were used, which offered horse and cart stops, food and accommodation. Such was the role of the Red Gate inn, which was located in the northern part of the town, by the old road leading from Lublin, Sandomierz or Głogów Małopolski to the town on the Wisłok

River. Notably, the nomenclature 'gate' is thought to have its roots in the proximate entry gate of the city, which can be clearly observed on Wiedemann's 1762 plan.

The Red Gate was highly favoured as a spot for visitors travelling to Rzeszów from northward areas. The gate stood on Głogowska, subsequently renamed Sandomierska, before being ultimately renamed Grunwaldzka St. after 1910, long after the gate's disappearance. Its exact location was more or less at the intersection of Grunwaldzka and Kopernika Streets, right on the bank of the Mikońska River, which centuries ago formed the city's northern moat as well as its borders. So the Red Gate inn already stood outside the city borders, on Kłapkówka, near the wetlands. The structure stood until the 1960s, even though the socialist realist WRN building, currently the Provincial Office, was constructed very close to it.

Franciszek Kotula on the Czerwona Brama (The Red Gate):

“Mostly the Red Gate came into consideration. Thousands of people from a wide area knew this place. It was simply a spacious inn on what used to be Głogowska Street, then Sandomierska, and

finally Grunwaldzka Street. But not the kind of inns that were found by the roadside - long buildings, mostly already made of brick, with a hallway through which you could pull up with a cart and horses for the night. Nobody drove into such inns for the day. The Red Gate was different. As late as the end of the 18th century, Rzeszów from the north ended at Mikośka. At that time, there was an authentic gate here, and further on stretched an area called Kłapówka. Manor houses, burgher gardens, orchards and vegetable gardens were located here. If someone was able to accumulate several of them, he became the owner of a piece of land, built himself a manor house and set up a household. Through Kłapówka ran the Old Road, dating back to the Middle Ages, leading towards Sandomierz and Lublin. By this road, an inn was built a long time ago for those who had to stay in town for a longer period of time. In a brick building there was a sort of hotel for wealthy visitors. Behind it - a huge wooden building for carts and horses. And also with a room for carterers. So it was something like a 'guarded parking'."

BACK TO MAP



*Rzeszów. — Nowy rynek w dniu targowym.
Rzeszów. — Neuer Ringplatz am Markttage.*

7. NOWE MIASTO (NEW TOWN)

The name of this part of Rzeszów may cause consternation. Well, it is not the New Town district behind the Wisłok, which was formed in the 1970s and 1980s. It is about the location north and north-east of the Old Town with the central part belonging to the Market Square - this part of the city should be called New Jewish Town. It is a fragment of the city covering the present-day area of Plac Wolności and its nearest neighborhood, up to Gałęzowskiego, Mickiewicza, Bożnicza, Plac Ofiar Getta, Okrzei and Sobieski Streets. It used to be a separate town, alternative to Rzeszów, inhabited by a Jewish community,

which arrived permanently near the city probably during the reign of Mikołaj Spytek Ligeza. In time, this community lived to have as many as two spacious synagogues, a school called a cheder, a mikvah and even its own market square, which many years later became the largest place of its kind in the city, called Rynek Nowomiejski (New Town Square). In the early 18th century, the border ramparts which separated Old Rzeszów from New Town were demolished, leading to the integration of this area into Rzeszów city. Consequently, a Jewish district was established, offering the community the opportunity to reside in other neighborhoods' of the city. There was even a necropolis located in the New Town, which included the area of today's Plac Ofiar Getta (Square of Ghetto Victims). During the Second World War and the German occupation, this area was the heart of the ghetto, serving as a Rzeszów Umschlagplatz¹. From here, Jewish individuals were transported to the extermination camps in Bełżec and Auschwitz.

Franciszek Kotula on Nowe miasto (New Town):

“How to define it.... What to call it? - Simply

a concern. The Jewish district? - No; after all, Jews lived all over the city. The Jewish Acropolis of Rzeszów - perhaps that would be most accurate. "We're going to school" - that's what Jews themselves often said as they made their way to the synagogue for services. Jews have long been an essential part of our city's landscape. To a large extent determining its overall character. The symbol of this landscape was the synagogue district, and this - as I stressed above - can be called not so much a district as a Jewish Acropolis. In the Jewish "old cemetery" in Rzeszów, totally destroyed by the Germans, there were tombstones from the beginning of the 16th century. It can therefore be assumed that Jews settled in Rzeszów at that time. Or, to be more precise, near Rzeszów, outside the city, as such a law was still in force from the Middle Ages. The Jewish district was located to the north and north-east of the city, on the Kraków-Lviv trade route. In the 17th century, an authentic Jewish town was established here, twinned with its own self-government and its own institutions.

BACK TO MAP



8. OLD CEMETERY.

The oldest Christian necropolis in Rzeszów was the cemetery encompassing the parish church (known as Kościół Farny), which should be dated to the middle of the 14th century, i.e. the period of the city's formation during the Kasimir times and the takeover of power in the city by Jan Pakosławic from Stróżyska. It was in the area of today's Plac Farny, at the corner of 3 Maja Street, Kościuszko Street (formerly Farna Street) and,

to the 15th century, at least in terms of its location.

Franciszek Kotula on the Old Cemetery:

“At the time when I started visiting the Old Cemetery, in a utilitarian sense it was actually no longer one. For the strangers, it was a real charming place, while for the locals, it was still a cemetery. It was neatly maintained, for there were many people who considered it their duty to look after the tombs, graves and headstones. They did so with sentiment or even reverence for their loved ones or just close ones. Or even those who were unknown, but close to them, if only because they rested in this very cemetery. It was a kind of sacred place for the town, for its inhabitants. As they entered through the gate and headed for any of the roads or paths, carefully maintained, they hushed their voices, walked more slowly so as not to disturb the cemetery silence, which had some connection with eternity.”

BACK TO MAP

Idea for a walk and substantive development:

Jakub Pawłowski

Concept, graphic design and implementation:

Joanna Gawryłowicz-Kostecka

Translation:

Karolina Przebieradło

If you are interested in the history of the city:

<https://rzeszowskiepiwnice.pl/czy-wiesz-rze/>

If you are interested in visiting Rzeszów Cellars:

<https://bilety.rzeszowskiepiwnice.pl/>

If you are interested in taking tour around the city:

<https://rzeszowskiepiwnice.pl/aktualnosci/odkryj-miasto-z-rzeszowskimi-piwnicami,art215/>

Festivals in Rzeszów:

<https://estrada.rzeszow.pl/nasze-imprezy/>



Oko na miasto Europejski Rzeszów - spacery dziejami miasta. Zadanie jest finansowane z Europejskiego Funduszu Rozwoju Regionalnego w ramach Regionalnego Programu Operacyjnego Województwa Podkarpackiego na lata 2014-2020.