

# Marcin Gawlicki

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## Dear Readers!

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Artykuł został opracowany do udostępnienia w internecie przez Muzeum Historii Polski w ramach prac podejmowanych na rzecz zapewnienia otwartego, powszechnego i trwałego dostępu do polskiego dorobku naukowego i kulturalnego. Artykuł jest umieszczony w kolekcji cyfrowej [bazhum.muzhp.pl](http://bazhum.muzhp.pl), gromadzącej zawartość polskich czasopism humanistycznych i społecznych.

Tekst jest udostępniony do wykorzystania w ramach dozwolonego użytku.

*Dear Readers!*

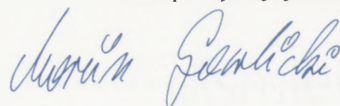
*For over a year the National Heritage Board of Poland has been conducting work associated with a verification of the register of historical monuments. In this way, we wish to assist voivodeship conservators of monuments in bringing up to date data contained in the register of historical monuments and preparing a resource of information accessible on digital carriers, which is then introduced into an electronic database. An important element of this process is devising a standard of a contemporary description of historical values. We would like to carry out this process upon the basis of a wide spectre of such values as well as to benefit from experiences connected with the protection of sites included onto the UNESCO World Heritage List. The most recent issue of "Ochrona Zabytków" presents a fragment of this complex problem, exemplified by an important domain of the historical heritage, i.e. the monuments of technology. I am firmly convinced that the rules presented in the copious article on the topic can be applied also to other domains of the historical resource. In addition, I draw attention to the extensive gamut of assessments and the necessity of devising such a method of conduct that in praxis will make it possible to reach an objective assessment of the value of historical resources and its precise description, and thus will allow a significant improvement of the practical standards of the protection of historical monuments.*

*A prominent supplementation of the mentioned undertakings can include a frequently unnoticed area of civic activity, which should effectively support the protection of historical monuments. We discuss this question upon the basis of experiences connected with the Foundation for the Development of Local Democracy. The titles of the awarded projects: "Neighbours for neighbours" and "Open gardens" demonstrate the status and values of local cultural space.*

*Traditionally, we have tried to portray secrets concealed behind the walls of numerous Polish highest rank monuments. This time, I would like to invite you to the Bernardine monastery in Leżajsk. The discovery of murals embellishing the walls of the novitiate cells comprises a fundamental principle of the necessity to carry out professional research preceding all planned conservation initiatives. Under more than ten layers of paint, for centuries patiently placed by the inhabitants of the monastery, researchers perceived and unearthed excellent murals. Today, we may admire the beauty and expression of the depicted figures, the emblems of death, Satan and the angels as well as many other images carrying a stirring spiritual message. The walls of the cells depict sprawling landscapes as well as floral and geometrical ornaments. Since interiors continue to serve the residents of the monastery, it seems even more worthwhile to profit from our publication and to take a look into the formerly closed cells, even if for only a moment. It gives me pleasure to invite you to become acquainted with the presented issue.*

*I wish you very pleasant reading.*

*Respectfully yours*



*Marcin Gawlicki*



*Director of the National  
Heritage Board of Poland*