

THORN, Altstadt

TORUŃ, Panorama



Kujawsko-Pomorska Digital Library

DIGITISING ACADEMIC RESOURCES FROM

**THE KUJAWY-POMERANIA REGION**

TO MAKE THEM AVAILABLE TO RESEARCHERS NATIONALLY



Rzeczpospolita  
Polska



UNIWERSYTET  
MIKOŁAJA KOPERNIKA  
W TORUNIU

Unia Europejska  
Europejski Fundusz  
Rozwoju Regionalnego





UNIwersYTET  
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Biblioteka Uniwersytecka



CULTURAL AND ACADEMIC HERITAGE



POLISH ÉMIGRÉ PUBLICATIONS



REGIONAL PERIODICALS



POLONICA



WACŁAW GÓRSKI'S COLLECTION

kpbc.umk.pl

The University Library in Toruń and the Kazimierz Wielki University Library in Bydgoszcz offer as many as almost four million items to their users. An important part of their stock includes some relatively rare items which are extremely valuable for academic teachers and researchers, or anyone studying the historical and cultural heritage of the region. A 21<sup>st</sup>-c. library should be a place where tradition meets modernity. Therefore, both institutions decided to digitise with the result that 28 000 items, not previously available electronically, can be found today through the Kujawsko-Pomorska Digital Library - KPDL (kpbc.umk.pl) website. In addition, plans were made to expand an open catalogue through 15 000 electronic bibliographic descriptions to give permanent and free access to a total of 43 000 digital documents and thus increase the libraries' potential value for users.

To achieve this goal, the two libraries launched a digitisation project by securing funding from Centrum Projektów Polska Cyfrowa (Digital Poland Projects Centre), amounting to PLN 4,599,042.05, for its implementation. This sum includes resources from European funds (PLN 3,892,169.28) and from the Polish state budget (PLN 706,872.77). The project was accepted following proposals no. POPC.02.03.01-IP01-00-006 / 17 for Action 2.3 *Digital availability and viability of public sector information under the Digital Poland Operational Programme (DPOP)*. Sub-action 2.3.1 *Digital accessibility of public sector information from administrative and academic resources* (project type II: digital access to academic resources). The project was scheduled to run from August 1, 2018 to July 31, 2021.

The planned process of retro-conversion (converting the printed catalogue of library holdings into machine-readable form) will result in broadening access to electronic information and accelerating searches from both universities. This will be achieved through making available a further 15 000 items in the form of bibliographic descriptions of library resources not currently available.

New items will be added to both libraries' electronic catalogues as well as being sent to the database of the Polish Central Catalogue (NUKAT, nukat.edu.pl) and through it to the global WorldCat (worldcat.org). Item descriptions will be made in the MARC21 format using ISBN cataloguing rules with RDA elements.

In the University Library in Toruń, the staff responsible for the project decided to include items acquired in the 1980s and 1990s as well as some other particularly valuable library resources.

The collection held by the University Library in Toruń includes 72 medieval codices from the beginning of the 12<sup>th</sup> c. to the beginning of the 16<sup>th</sup> c., written in the former Holy Roman Empire, in Italy, Paris, Prague, Teutonic Prussia and also Persia. Under the DPOP, a total of 14 manuscripts were digitised and made available, including 12 Teutonic Order manuscripts, one Dutch prayer book and *Dīvān Hāfiza*, containing lyric verses by Hafez, one of the most famous Persian mystic poets. Each is characterised by a great wealth of content and decorative detail.

The collection of Teutonic Order manuscripts, formerly held at the castle in Tapiaw (today's Gvardeysk), north of Königsberg (Kaliningrad) were brought to the castle library in Königsberg in the 1640s by Prince Albrecht Hohenzollern - the last Grand Master of the Teutonic Order and the first secular ruler of Prussia. Until the beginning of 1944, the most valuable items of the State Library in Königsberg - including the Teutonic and Persian manuscripts - stayed hidden in (the former) East Prussia in Schlobitten (Słobity) and Karwinden (Karwiny) near Preußisch Holland (Paślęk). In the first half of 1946, the collection was secured by the 'School Inspectorate' in Paślęk and in July that year was transferred to the University Library in Toruń. The Dutch prayer book was purchased by the University Library in 1968.



**Prayer book (including Geert Groote's *Vigiliae defunctorum*, *Komuniongebete*)**  
Dutch. Later 15<sup>th</sup> c. Parchment. The Low Countries. Workshop unknown. 16.5 × 11.5 cm. I+39+I leaves. Rps I 153/I

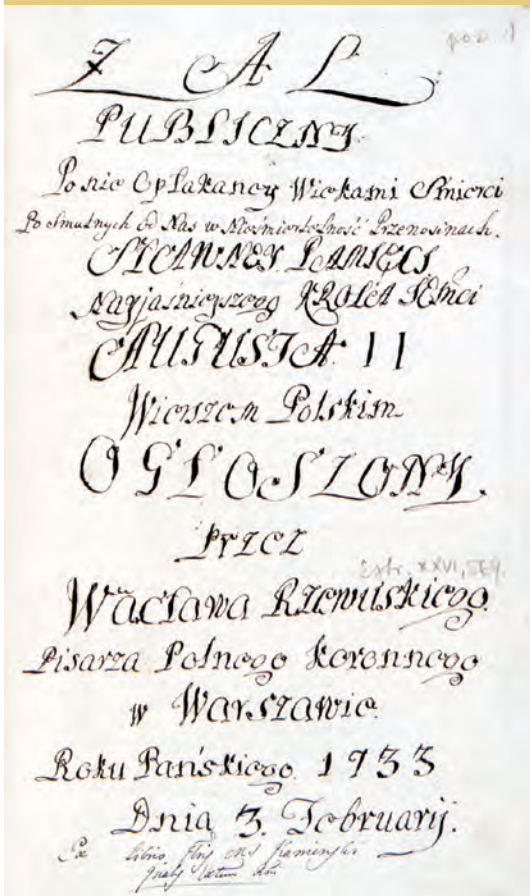
## MEDIAEVAL MANUSCRIPTS



**Heinrich von Hesler, *Apokalypse***  
German. 1370s. Parchment. Malbork? 31 × 23.5 cm. 199 leaves. Rps 44/III.  
*Apokalypse*: a verse paraphrase of the Apocalypse of St. John the Apostle by the Thuringian poet, Heinrich von Hesler



***Dīvān Hāfiza***. Persian. 1513. Paper. 35 × 23 cm. II+135 leaves. Rps 70/III.  
The manuscript contains one of the most famous Persian texts by the poet Muhammad Hafez-e Shirazi, known by his pen name of Hafez (1315-1390)

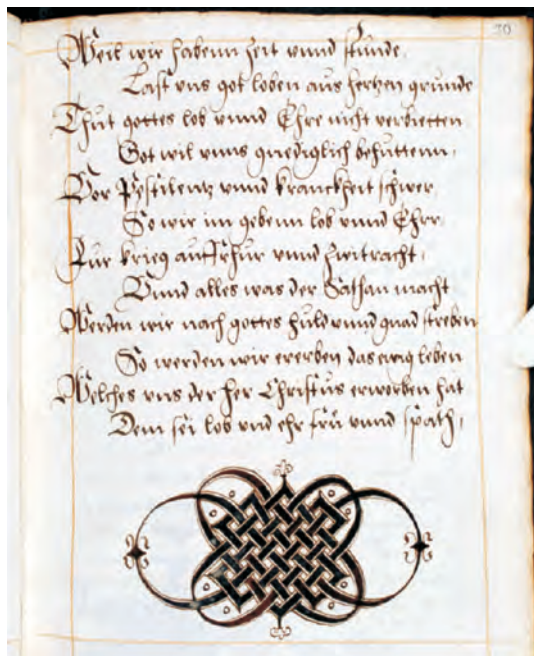


**A volume containing manuscript and printed documents from 1733-1735 relating to political disputes caused by the death of King Augustus II and the following elections of both Stanisław Leszczyński and Augustus III.**

Languages: Polish, Latin. Ca. 1745.

Paper. 33.5 x 19.5 cm. 624+II leaves.

Bound volume. Rps 124/IV



**Book of prayers**

**(1. Benedict Tulling, Ein ermanung an alle vnd jtzliche hohe Oberkeit...; 2. Einn gebete welches mann Inn der Kirche...)**

German. The 1560's (between 1561 and 1568). Paper. 19 x 15 cm. 54 leaves. Bound volume. Rps 18/I

The codex contains a collection of Lutheran prayers.

The Nicolaus Copernicus University Library in Toruń keeps about 330 early-modern manuscripts (from 1521 to 1800). The overwhelming majority of this collection (about 250 manuscripts) come from the so-called 'secured collections', i.e. from former German libraries and archives, in the main from those northern and western territories incorporated into Poland in 1945. These manuscripts were sent to Toruń from East Prussia and Western Pomerania (including the region beyond the Odra in present-day Germany), and, on occasion, from Silesia. The University Library also contains archival material from various German institutions and societies in Livonia brought to Poznań during World War II. The term 'secured collections' also covers manuscripts from some pre-war Polish libraries in Gdańsk Pomerania. Archival materials predominate in the collection of early-modern manuscripts (37%). Of these the most common are those on historical topics (21% of all early-modern manuscripts), religious and theological (13%), legal (6%) and philosophical (5%). A total of 100 manuscripts were selected for the purposes of the project: 14 mediaeval codices and 86 manuscripts produced in the early-modern era. The vast majority of the latter are codices containing texts in German; 16 are in Latin, but only a few in Polish. Certainly, this collection will be excellent source material for historians of both early-modern and mediaeval eras who are studying the histories of Prussia, Pomerania and the Polish state.



## EARLY-MODERN MANUSCRIPTS

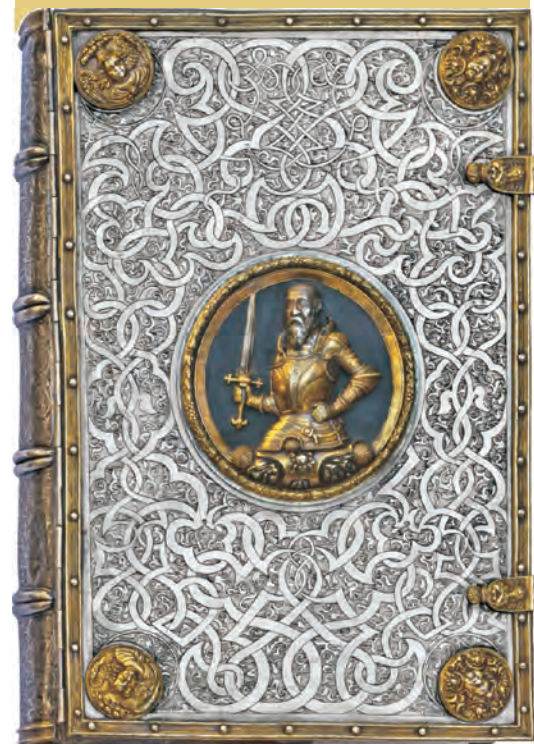


**Heinrich von Reden, Cronica der Preussen**

German. 1626. Paper. 30 x 19 cm. 262+XLI leaves. Bound volume. Rps 61/III

The volume contains over 100 drawings, most of them in colour.

The Silver Library of Prince Albrecht Hohenzollern, the last Grand Master of the Teutonic Order and the first secular ruler of Ducal Prussia (1490-1568), and his second wife Anna Maria, was established in 1545-62. Most of the silver bindings were made around 1555 in the capital of Ducal Prussia, Königsberg (today's Kaliningrad). Originally, the library included 20 silver-bound volumes but today we only know the location of 15, most of which (12 volumes) are held by the University Library in Toruń. The remaining five were lost shortly after the end of World War II and nothing is known as to their fate. The silver bindings are considered the pinnacle of Königsberg goldsmithing, a craft which owed its heyday mainly to Albrecht Hohenzollern. Against the backdrop of European goldsmithing the Silver Library is a unique phenomenon. Distinguished by its high artistic value, the collection is one of the most valuable goldsmithing achievements of the Renaissance era, and forms a unique library and museum resource on a world scale. There is simply no other such large known collection of books completely bound in silver. The silver bindings collection has been digitised using 3D imaging techniques and made available at [kpsc.umk.pl](http://kpsc.umk.pl)



**Attributed to Hieronymus Kösler in collaboration with Gerhard Lenz.**

Ref. no. Ob. 6.III.703-704. Binding dimensions: 315 x 227 x 80 mm. Production date: probably 1555

## THE SILVER LIBRARY



**Hieronymus Kösler, probably in collaboration with Gerhard Lenz.** Ref. no. Ob. 6.III.711. Binding dimensions: 342 x 232 x 88 mm. Production date: probably 1555

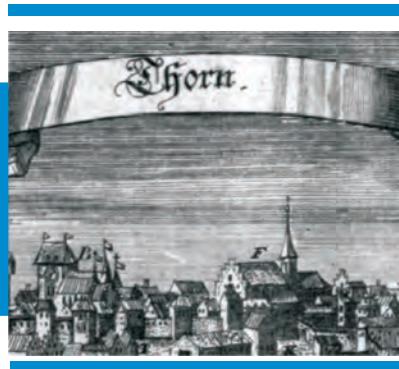
**Hieronymus Kösler, probably in collaboration with Gerhard Lenz.** Ref. no. Ob. 6.III.712. Binding dimensions: 330 x 221 x 63 mm. Production date: probably 1555





**Johann Benjamin Dragheim (1700-1761). Vita Jacobi Henrici Zerneckii, Præconsulis Thoruniensis: Scriptis, ... Franc. Et Lipsiæ (Frankfurt and Leipzig) [Gdańsk]:Apud Bibliopol. Georg. Marc. Knochium, 1733.**  
Copperplate portrait of Mayor Jacob Heinrich Zerneck (1672-1741) - frontispiece, 198 x 157 mm. Ref. no. 265488

The collection of early printed books amassed by the University Library contains almost 50 000 items, including 106 incunabula (books printed and published before 1501). The beginning of this collection is related to the takeover of the 'secured collections' found in the territories incorporated into Poland after World War II. Their provenance is diverse, as it is directly related to the turbulent histories of Royal and Ducal Prussia, as well as Western Pomerania, where the majority of the collection comes from. The largest part includes printed works of Königsberg provenance from its State, University and Municipal Libraries. Other items thus acquired come from the book collection of the University Library in Greifswald, those of school libraries (gymnasia) from Chełmno, Chojnice, Głubczyce, Paczków, from the Lehndorff family estate in Steinort (Sztynort) and the Dönhoffs in Groß Wolfsdorf (Drogosze), as well as church, school and private collections from Szczecin and Koszalin. Among collections of Polish provenance, items from the Potocki family library in Tulczyn as well as some from the book collections of Count Czesław Lasocki and Count Zygmunt Pułowski should be mentioned. The Sczaniecki family 'deposit' from Nawra (near Toruń) is also very valuable. Linguistically, the Toruń collection of early printed books is predominantly in German and Latin. Nevertheless, the Polish language is represented by very rare works, such as the *Catechismus to iest nauka Krzescianska* of Jan Malecki (Königsberg 1546) and *Cantional albo księgi chwal Boskich* (Königsberg 1554). About 200 early printed books from the resources of the University Library in Toruń have qualified for the DPOP project. Before being approved for digitisation, each of these books underwent a conservation status assessment.



## EARLY PRINTED BOOKS



**Daniel Ernest Jabłoński (1660-1741). Thorn Affligée: Ou Relation ...A Amsterdam: Chez Pierre Humbert, 1726.**  
Copperplate print depicting the death of Mayor Johann Gottfried Rösner (signed "M. Pool Sculp." - engraver Matthys Pool (1670-1732) - 130f., 158 x 127 mm. Ref. no. Pol.8.II.3929



**Execution of the Mayor of Toruń, Johann Gottfried Rössner, and nine Evangelical burghers on the scaffold in the market square in Toruń on 7 December 1724. St. James's Church (Toruń, Poland); the coat of arms of the City of Toruń**  
Copperplate print: one of the three to be found in a book with reference number 265900 - pasted in by a bookbinder between pages 52 and 53; 183 x 270 mm

The cartographic collection of the University Library includes maps, atlases, globes and cartographic publications. These latter consist of books and magazines on the history and theory of cartography, as well as other auxiliary materials such as geographical and language dictionaries, bibliographies, printed catalogues, biographies and encyclopaedias. The collection's focus is on items related to northern Poland, the Baltic Sea region and areas that belonged to Poland in the past, although the collection itself is not limited by territory, time or language. In chronological terms, these are works from the 15<sup>th</sup> c. to the present day. Thematically, they include not only general maps and atlases but also cartographic works related to astronomy, history, demography and transportation as well as detailed topographic, hydrographic and zoological maps. At the end of 2019 the collection comprised 21 976 inventory items, including 2 024 atlases, 11 732 maps, 8 218 city plans and two globes.

The most valuable and earliest resource of the Cartographic Section, a collection published before 1801 including 74 atlases and 150 maps, may be of interest primarily to cartographic historians as it contains work by Marco Beneventano, Agnese Batista, Gerard Mercator, Sebastian Münster, Abraham Ortelius, as well as Hondius, Blaeu, Hommans and other outstanding cartographers. As part of the DPOP project 50 maps and five atlases from the collection were digitised. The selected items published in the 19<sup>th</sup> c. cover areas located within both historical and present-day borders of Poland. These include Joachim Lelevel's atlases and maps by Leonard Chodźko, Jan Nipanicz and Juliusz Kolberg.

## CARTOGRAPHIC COLLECTION



**Atlas, Sive Cosmographicae Meditationes De Fabrica Mundi et Fabricati Figura** by Gerard Mercator, published in Duisburg in 1595. Ref. no. A-123-V



**Carte générale routière, historique et statistique des Etats de l'ancienne République de Pologne indiquant son étendue territoriale avant le premier partage en 1772 avec le divisions établies en 1815, a l'époque du sixième partage de ce pays, consommé dans le congrès de Vienne dressée par Léonard Chodźko. Paris, 1840. Ref. no. M-6884**



**Histoire de Pologne par Joachim Lelevel: atlas contenant les tableaux chronologiques et généalogiques et les cartes géographiques de différentes époques. Joachim Lelevel. Paris, 1844. Ref. no. A-539-IV**





**Auf der Thorner Strassenbahn. Scherz-Gavotte für Pianoforte Op. 83.**

Thorn, Justus Wallis, [1891]. Ref. no. IV 17776  
 Most probably issued on the occasion of the opening of the first horse-drawn tram line in Toruń (Bydgoskie Przedmieście - Toruń Miasto Railway Station) in May 1891



**Polonaise composed for piano by an excellent and well-known artist. By a fellow countryman. Published posthumously.** Warsaw. Published by and the property of J. Kaufman, lit. W. Szaniawski. I 36. Lithographic workshop: M. Gotz; n° 2 [ca 1869]. Ref. no. III 16093

Frédéric Chopin's juvenile piece: Polonaise in G-flat major was most probably composed in the last years of his stay in Warsaw or shortly after he left for Vienna in 1830. This edition of Frédéric Chopin's Polonaise in G-flat major is the only one available in Poland and - it would seem - anywhere else.

The music collection of the University Library contains manuscripts and printed music, as well as audio and audio-visual materials. As part of the DPOP, 350 music collection items have been digitised and made available. The project covers selected sheet music from the 'secured collections', rare manuscripts and printed materials, *Pomeranica* from the 19<sup>th</sup> c., as well as the handwritten compositional legacy of Zygmunt Moczyński (1871-1940), the doyen of Pomeranian composers. Among the rare publications, the collection of 19<sup>th</sup>-c. editions of Frédéric Chopin's works with 'Chopin-style' pencil annotations is particularly valuable, as is a rare edition of a work by Stanisław Moniuszko. The Chopin collection contains over 70 copies of first editions of his sheet music. Six published works (Nocturnes Op. 9, 15, 27, Mazurkas Op. 41, Sonata Op. 35 and Mazurkas Op. 50) contain the composer's annotations in pencil. These have been subjected to a detailed graphic and qualitative analysis and compared with Chopin's annotations in copies with undisputed authenticity by Dr hab. Paweł Kamiński the co-editor of the *National Edition of the Works of Frédéric Chopin*. Among *Pomeranica*, two music scores composed on special occasions and published in Toruń in the second half of the 19<sup>th</sup> c. deserve special attention. The project team selected printed sheets of music and manuscripts from the 'secured collections' confiscated after WWII from various locations in Northern Poland from Szczecin to Königsberg (today's Kaliningrad) for digitisation. These include sheet music from former German libraries of aristocratic families and book collectors, as well as music scores produced by teachers and composers associated with the Kujawy region and Western Pomerania.



**MUSIC COLLECTION**



**Trois nocturnes pour le pianoforte composés et dédiés à Madame Camille Pleyel par Fréd. Chopin.** Oeuvre 9. Pr. 14 Gr. Propriété des Editeurs. Enregistré aux Archives de l'Union. Leipzig, chez Fr. Kistner. Paris, chez M. Schlesinger. 995. Ref. no. IV 5439

A particularly valuable first print of Nocturnes Op. 9, German edition by Kistner from January 1833, containing Chopin's handwritten annotations in pencil.

The postcards from the Collection of the Department of Graphic Arts at the University Library, made available under the project are only a small fraction of its extensive collection of over 180 000. The 500 postcards selected under the project illustrate the *Kujawsko-Pomorski* and *Pomorski* regions with their historical cities and towns. The earliest are from the end of the 19<sup>th</sup> c. and, along with those printed at the beginning of the 20<sup>th</sup> c., in the interwar period and during World War II, they have been digitised. These constitute invaluable documentation of historical events, places and buildings that may no longer exist or have been completely changed. Among the many interesting examples is a postcard from 1904 showing the *Kurhaus* (later destroyed) with surrounding gardens on *Westerplatte*, and bearing the caption *Seebad Westerplatte. Kurhaus mit Garten* [KP.65]; and a postcard from *Brodnica*, printed before 1921, showing the market square and a war memorial that was later demolished [KP.7]. All the items selected for the purposes of the project not only have major iconographic and documentary significance, but are also of high aesthetic and artistic value. At that time postcards were issued mainly by booksellers, stationery suppliers and the owners of expensive hotels and restaurants (mainly for the purposes of advertising). Until World War I, postcards from this region were generally issued by German publishers from the locations presented. Postcards could also be printed elsewhere however, e.g. in Berlin or Leipzig. In the interwar period, Polish publishers dominated the trade.



**Strasburg (Westpr.): Massurenturm.**  
 Publisher: Richard Apmann. Stettin, [before 1910].  
 Ref. no. KP 11. Postcard. Print: 13.8 x 8.8 cm  
 Brodnica - a framed photo (in a convex oval) of the Masurian (Stork) Tower

## OLD POSTCARDS



**Seebad Westerplatte. Kurhaus mit Garten.** Publisher: Clara Bernthal. Danzig, [1904]. Ref. no. KP.65. Postcard. Print: 8.8 x 13.8 cm  
 Gdańsk - Westerplatte, Kurhaus with gardens

**Inowrocław: Toruńska St..** Publisher: Kunst u. Verlaganstalt Schaar und Dathe Komm. Goose. a. Act. Schaar & Dathe (Trier). Trier, [between 1910 and 1920]. Ref. no. KP.203. Postcard. Print: 8.8 x 13.8 cm



**Gruss aus Culmsee.**  
 Publisher: J.H. Bergmann. Culmsee, [1901].  
 Ref. no. KP. 29. Postcard. Print: 9 x 14 cm.  
 Chełmża - a three-view postcard

**„Państwo Polskie jest wspólnym  
dobrem wszystkich obywateli“**

# OBYWATELE!

**W dniu 6 listopada 1938 r.  
odbędą się wybory do Sejmu**

Pan Prezydent Rzeczypospolitej zarządził wybory do Izby Ustawodawczej, „żeby mogły one w pracy swej dać  
pełniejszy wyraz nurtującym w społeczeństwie prądom“.

Udział obywatela w wyborach nie jest tylko jego  
prawnem, jego przysługą — to jest wielki, ale i zaszczytny  
obowiązek.

Jego Eminencja Ks. Kardynał Dr. August Hlond, Prymas Polski  
otwiera:

„Udział w wyborach do Izby Ustawodawczej to akt  
z natury swej obywatelski, polityczny, państwowy. —  
Spełniamy go dla Państwa. Dla tego przy wyborach  
powinniśmy się kierować zasadą dobra Państwa. —  
A Państwo to nie tylko urząd, lecz przede wszystkim  
treść historyczną. Można dysputować o ustroju, nie  
wolno godzić w istotę państwowości.  
Nie można wyśledzić Państwa na jasnej i nieśmiałej łosy.  
Zdrowym rozumem i zyciem państwowym powinni się  
zainteresować wszyscy obywatele w tej mierze, w której  
to możliwe. Trzeba iść do urny z poczucia  
obowiązku patriotycznego.“

**Dlatego wszyscy do urn wyborczych!**

Leaflet issued on 25 October 1938 by Citizens' Election Committees for Inowrocławski, Żniński, Mogileński and Szubiński Poviats

Printed ephemera, documents from the Social Life Section of the University Library, provide a rich resource for understanding every sphere of life including culture, politics, the economy, family, entertainment, education, the army and health. From the collection of about 200 000, over 800 documents were selected for digitisation under the DPOP project including invitations, appeals, proclamations, posters, souvenir programmes and photographs.

The earliest photographs from the turn of the 20<sup>th</sup> c., comprising works produced in European photographic studios in Paris, Vienna and Warsaw, to Toruń, Inowrocław, Grudziądz, as well as Vilnius, Lvov and St. Petersburg, deserve special attention because of their cognitive, documentary and iconographical significance combined with high technical and artistic quality. The photographs give us an opportunity to trace the history of social changes, follow trends in art and fashion as well as technological advances from the 1860s through to 1945.

Another collection well worth a mention contains leaflets from the period of the Second Polish Republic. These documents record very important events in the history of independent Poland: the process of establishing the Polish state in 1918-19, the Polish-Soviet War in 1919-21, the Polish-Ukrainian and Polish-Lithuanian conflicts (in the aftermath of WWI), the assassination of Gabriel Narutowicz, President of the Second Polish Republic, in 1922, and the coup d'état of 1926. This collection can be used as testimony to the social processes taking place while Poland was building its new statehood, i.e. an increased awareness of the potential influence individuals had on the political life of the country. This is manifested in the content of leaflets from the parliamentary elections held in 1922, 1928, 1930, 1935, 1938.



**Prince Leon Sapieha (1809-1978),**  
full-figure portrait, photo by Carl von Jagemann,  
Vienna, 2<sup>nd</sup> half of the 19<sup>th</sup> c. Ref no. f-1831



## PRINTED EPHEMERA



**Chełmno - view of the monastery church on the hill,**  
photo: Edward Mertens (1860-1919), end of the 19<sup>th</sup> c. Ref. no. F-2072

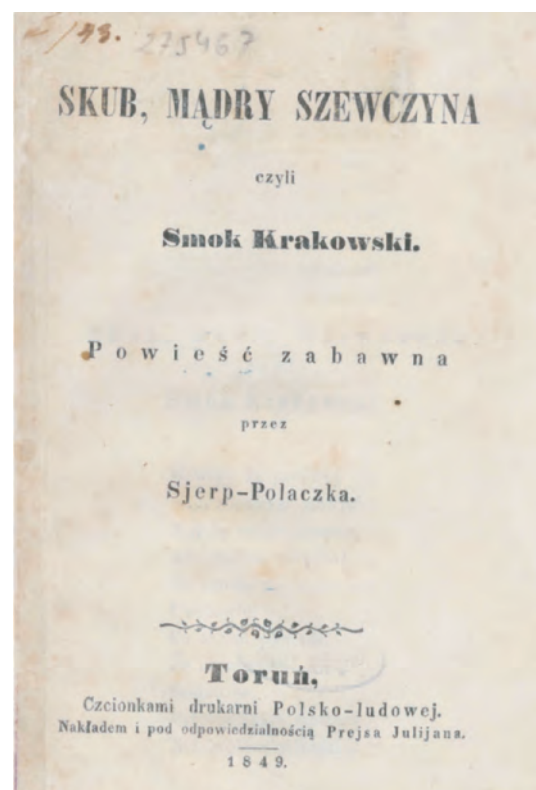
The collection of publications from the 19<sup>th</sup> and the first half of the 20<sup>th</sup> c. is rich in academic and popular publications devoted to the history of places in Pomerania, Warmia and Masuria as well as in the wider Baltic zone (from Szczecin to Tallinn). There are regional publications from the area of Kujawy and the *Land of Dobrzyń*, as well as printed material of documentary, informative and professional value, recording social, political, cultural and religious events. The most significant are Polish-language publications from the former Prussian provinces of *Westpreussen* and *Ostpreussen*, with a special place being held by rare items dedicated to the preservation of Polish language, tradition and customs in the period before 1920. The collection of materials printed in Pomerania in the Prussian period is supplemented by Polish publications from the interwar period issued by Wiktor Kulerski's Printing House in Grudziądz, *Drukarnia Robotnicza* (Workers' Printing House) in Toruń, *Gazeta Kaszubska* from Wejherowo and some departments of the former Pomeranian Voivodeship. No less unique are the items printed by German publishers and which were intended for the Polish-speaking population of post-1918 Free State of Prussia (*Freistaat Preußen*). A large group in this collection contains items which serve as a resource for researchers interested in the history of the Baltic zone. Books published in Königsberg, materials printed in the Baltic states and regional items printed in Pomeranian, Warmian and Mazurian towns are richly represented here. Texts on historical topics prevail presenting families, churches and religious associations as well as information on the functioning of the system of education in Pomerania.



**Reinhold Heuer. Die Werke der bildenden Kunst und des Kunstgewerbes in Thorn bis zum Ende des Mittelalters.**

Thorn: W. Lambeck; Buchdruck: der Thorner Ost. Ztg, 1916. Ref no. 688759

## POMERANICA PRUSSICA BALTICA



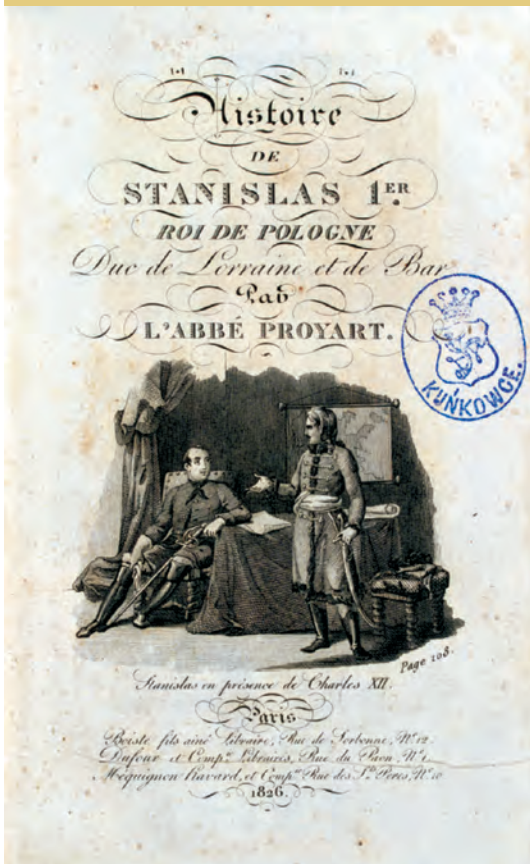
**Prejs Julian Walenty. Skub, a wise shoemaker or the dragon of Kraków: an entertaining novel by Sjerp-Polaczek.** Funded by Julian Prejs and printed in Toruń by Polsko Ludowa (Polish People's) Printing House in 1849. Ref. no. 809904 A rare published work 'for the people' by Julijan Prejs (1820-1904), a national activist and 'father of the people's press in Pomerania' during the partition period



**Jacob Gottlieb Leonhard Napierksy. Die Erbebücher der Stadt Riga 1384-1579.** Riga: N. Kymmel's Buchhandlung, 1888. Ref. no. 10135



**Siemiński Lucjan. Evenings under the linden tree: a History of the Polish Nation as told by Grzegorz of Racławice and his son - containing additional information on the Constitution of 17 March 1921.** Grudziądz: Wiktor Kulerski Printing House, 1922. Ref. no. 729 097



**Liévain Bonaventure Proyart. Histoire de Stanislas I<sup>er</sup>, roi de Pologne, duc de Lorraine et de Bar.** Paris: Boiste fils ainé Libraire [etc.]; de l'Imprimerie de Crapelet, 1826. Ref. no. 316185  
Biography of Stanisław Leszczyński (1677-1766), King of Poland, published in Paris in 1826.

The *Polonica* collection, containing materials published originally after 1800, is placed in the *KPDL* as part of the *DPOP* project. This contains digital copies of mainly non-serial publications from the period of the 'nation in captivity' and, although fewer in number, from 1918-39 as well. The digitisation project incorporated books published by Polish printing houses operating outside Poland and some by foreign publishers who printed books in Polish by Polish authors or on topics related to Poland.

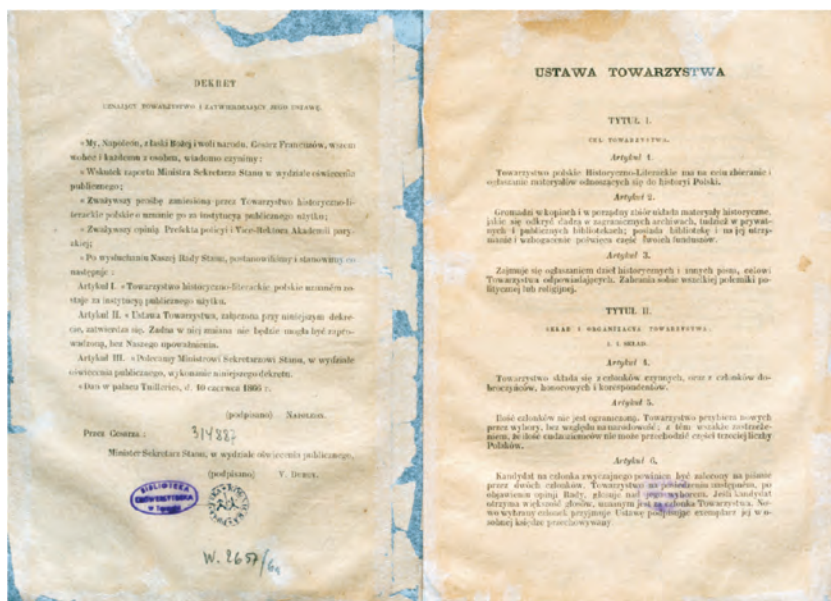
Most publications are related to the Great Emigration (1831-70). Digital copies of printed materials are made available testifying to the endless discussions held in exile on the 'Polish issue', the causes of the failures of past uprisings, the international situation, the role of Polish émigrés and the problems they were facing. There are also literary works by Polish authors who worked abroad, research papers mainly on historical issues on the history of the Polish nation and biographies of historical figures associated with Poland. In a more modest number, there are also examples of publications by the partitioning powers intended for a Polish audience and religious texts for the Polish faithful printed by foreign publishers. Printed materials in foreign languages constitute a large proportion of the books from 1800-1939 made available under the project. This group includes translations of works of Polish literature into various European languages, academic works on Poland, as well as features and articles by foreign journalists.



## POLONICA



**The Miners' Cause.** London: Publishing House of the Socialist Party in partitioned Poland - Prussian part; printed by Al. Dębski, 1896. Ref. no. 814627. A rare socialist propaganda leaflet printed at the end of the 19<sup>th</sup> century



**Statute of the Historical and Literary Society in Paris.** Paris: Société historique et littéraire polonaise, [ca 1866]. Ref. no. 314887  
A leaflet from after the January Uprising in 1863 containing the statute regulating the activity of the Historical and Literary Society, one of the most important institutions of the Great Emigration

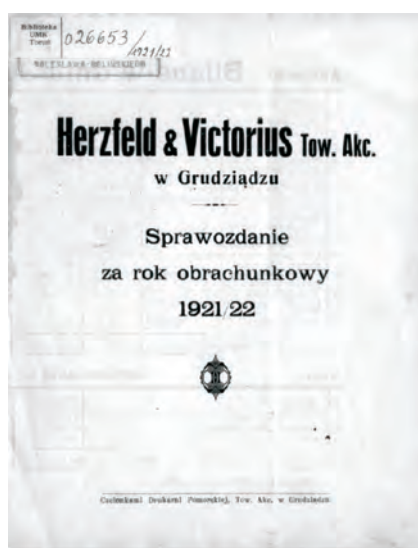
Periodicals are an important element of library collections, in academic libraries in particular. The resources of the University Library amount to over 50 000 journal titles and almost 650 000 volumes. In addition to current academic and more popular journals, which are indispensable for academic work, early periodicals play an important role as a valuable research resource covering many disciplines. The University Library has a rich, though incomplete, collection of regional and local periodicals published in the 19<sup>th</sup> c. and the first half of the 20<sup>th</sup>. The parts of the collection that deserve special attention are those of the daily press and reports of institutions operating in this period in Toruń and the area broadly recognised as the Pomeranian region.

Publications of this type selected for digitisation and made available in the KPDL include 1800 issues of regional newspapers, 500 official reports of institutions operating in the region in the 19<sup>th</sup> and the first half of the 20<sup>th</sup> c., and 70 reports of the Toruń Society of Arts and Sciences (*Towarzystwo Naukowe w Toruniu*) from 1947-2016. The first sub-group includes *Dzień Pomorski*: a non-party daily newspaper, published in Toruń from 1929 to 1936 by the Pomeranian Publishing Cooperative established in 1929. The reports and budgets of administrative institutions from many towns and cities in the region (e.g. Brodnica, Chojnice, Grudziądz, Toruń and Tuchola) are included along with those of social and cultural institutions and lists of functionaries and officials. Reports from industrial plants operating in the region from the 19<sup>th</sup> to the first half of the 20<sup>th</sup> c. also merit attention.

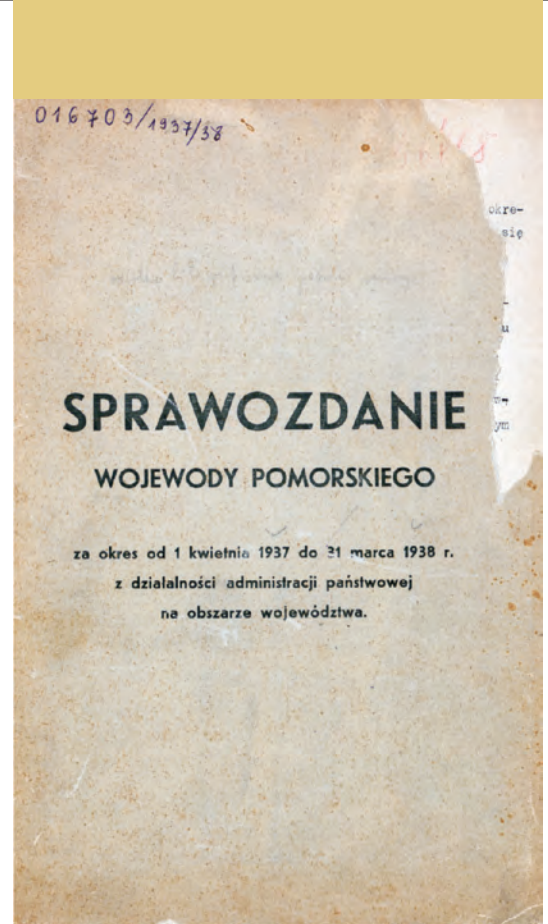
## REGIONAL PERIODICALS



**Toruń Society of Arts and Sciences: report for 1947-1948.**  
 Publisher: *Towarzystwo Naukowe w Toruniu*, Toruń, 1949. No. 1. Ref. no. 09050



**Herzfeld & Victorius in Grudziądz: report for the financial year 1921-1922.**  
 Publisher: *Drukarnia Pomorska Tow. Akc.* in Grudziądz, 1921-1922. Ref. no. 026653



**The Pomeranian Voivode's official report on the activities of the local state administration for the period from 1 April 1937 to 31 March 1938**  
 Publisher: Pomeranian Voivodeship, 1937-1938. Ref. no. 016703



**The 'Daily Pomeranian': not affiliated to any political party.** Publisher: *Pomorska Spółdzielnia Wydawnicza*. Toruń, 1931. Vol. 3. no. 3. Ref. no. 06602



During World War II, as a result of the enforced stay of Polish soldiers and civilian refugees in various parts of the world, it was necessary to publish books that would improve their knowledge of the country in which they were staying. These were historical and geographical studies, guides with descriptions of places and sites of historical interest, bilingual dictionaries containing necessary phrases and the names of key offices and organizations. Both during and after the war, Polish schools needed books, both textbooks and literature - mainly Polish classics. The books were printed by the military, government agencies and small private publishers scattered around the world. The graphic design of these publications was modest, resulting either from war conditions or post-war poverty. The focus was on general education and vocational training to eliminate gaps in education as well as preparing for life in an independent Poland.

In the aftermath of World War II, Poles scattered all over the world found themselves in a new reality. On 5 July 1945, the Western Powers withdrew recognition for the Government-in-Exile of the Republic of Poland and recognized the Provisional Government, newly established in Poland itself. From then on, Poles had the right to return to Poland at any time, emigrate to other countries, enlist in the British army or take up a job. Some Poles decided to remain in exile. Many left Europe and went to the USA, Canada or Australia to earn their living. Brochures were published describing living conditions as well as opportunities there. Among the items digitised as part of the DPOP project, there are unique literary works. The majority (of over 160) are stage plays published for the Polish-American community in Chicago at the beginning of the 20<sup>th</sup> c.



**Leon Łomiński. Holy Week Celebrated by Poles in Jerusalem: to commemorate the Easter of 1941 spent by Polish war refugees in the Holy Land.**

Jerusalem: Ognisko Polskie 1941. Ref. no. 1385193

## PUBLICATIONS OF POLISH ÉMIGRÉS AND THE POLISH DIASPORA



**Stanisław Dobrzyński. Sein Kampf: 41 cartoons.** Jerusalem: "W drodze", 1944. Ref. no. 361569



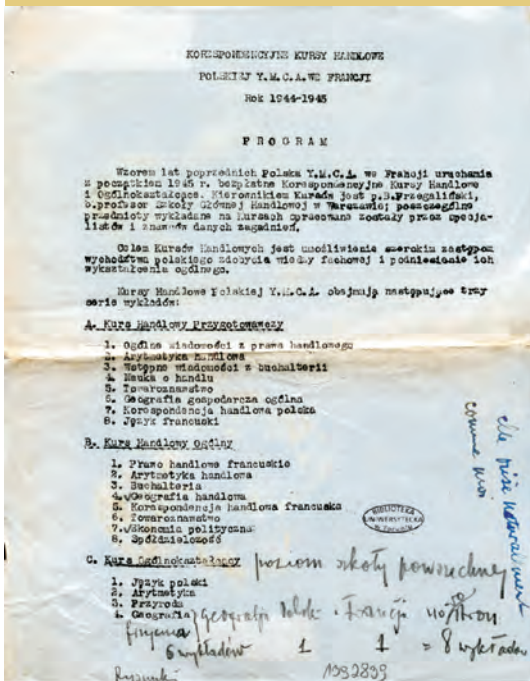
**Z. B. C-i. Finding employment in exile.**

London: Związek Inwalidów Wojskowych Armii Polskiej w Wielkiej Brytanii, 1946. Ref. no. 1382153

**Józef J. Sitkowski. 'I'm in the army now': a patriotic comedy in four acts.**

[copyright. 1944]. Published in Adams, Massachusetts by Polonia Plays and The White Eagle Printing Co., Ref. no. 940884





'As in previous years, at the beginning of 1945 the Polish YMCA in France is launching (...)' Business Studies by Correspondence Courses: 1944-1945 programme. [France]: [Polish YMCA in France], [1944]. Ref. no. I 392839

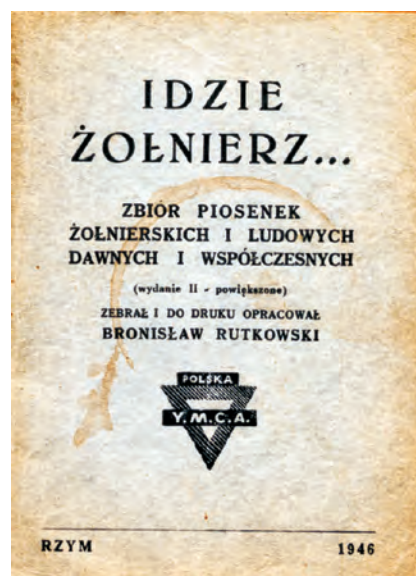
During World War II, a wave of Polish refugees left the country. Among those who were hit hardest were children and adolescents who were largely orphaned and without a roof over their heads. One organization that made an effort to provide not only material but above all cultural and educational aid, was the YMCA (Young Men's Christian Association) of Poland. This organization had been established in the interwar period and its aim was to support the spiritual, physical and mental development of young people under the motto 'to serve Poland through character, health and knowledge'. On the initiative of the Head Office of the Polish YMCA in France, a special department was established whose task was to promote culture by organizing a system of travelling libraries and touring arts events. An important aspect of the Polish YMCA's activity was to disseminate knowledge and the organization of free correspondence courses. The first Polish initiative of this kind outside Poland was undertaken in France. The Polish YMCA's materials, presented on the digital platform of the KPDŁ, are a rich source of knowledge about cultural and educational activities targeted at Polish soldiers and civilians in exile, with a special focus on Polish young people, and they give an idea of the amount of effort put into this work. Promotion of science, education and teaching were particularly difficult, given the fact that there was a shortage of textbooks and teaching aids. The digitised material is unique because these publications, mostly in the form of typescripts reproduced on poor-quality paper, have been dispersed, seriously damaged and, for the most part, destroyed.



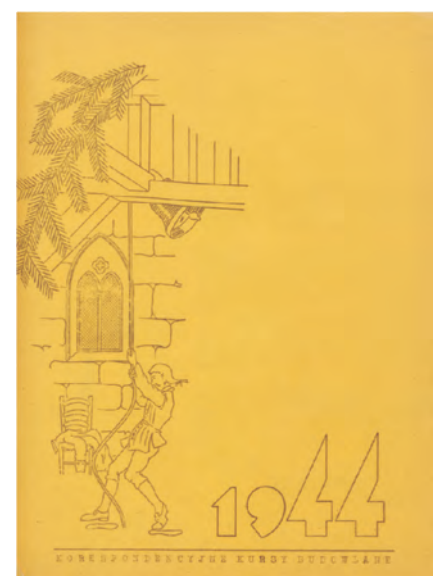
A typical YMCA common room was well lit and large enough to accommodate a library and also a reading room where many events were held, e.g. lectures, meetings, performances, foreign language classes, concerts and games (such as dominoes, chess, checkers) and dances.



THE POLISH YMCA 1939-1945



Bronisław Rutkowski. 'Here comes a soldier ...': a collection of old and new military and folk songs. The Polish YMCA in association with the APW/ Polish Army in the East, 1946. Ref. no. I 385196



Building the future: Cultural and Educational materials. Series 7. Wiedza praktyczna (Practical knowledge). [Paris]: Poland.YMCA, 1944. Ref. no. I 392819

The legacy of Waclaw Górski, an outstanding Toruń photographer, includes a collection of unique photographs, invaluable for general historians and those specialising in art, students of conservation and restoration of artworks, of museology and the protection of cultural property as well as artists themselves. The materials donated to the University Archives are from 1960-2002 and amount to over 5000 inventory items of photographic negatives in various formats (35 mm, 6 x 7 cm, 8 x 11 cm, 9 x 12 cm).

A documentary photographer and a history graduate of the University of Toruń, Waclaw Górski worked for the Institute for the Study and Conservation of Cultural/ Historical Monuments from 1972 to 2002. From 1980 to 2002 he ran the Documentary Photography Section there. Like Jan Bułhak from Stefan Batory University in Vilnius, Waclaw Górski taught documentary photography to students of conservation, museology, and the protection of cultural property for many years. During these classes, he used the documentation he had prepared himself while working for the Ministry of Culture and Art, Monuments Documentation Centre, for example photographs and measurements taken while compiling an inventory of goldsmithing items produced in Pomerania. The documentation submitted to the Archives includes photographs of monuments of architecture from various parts of Poland and photographs of protected buildings in Czechia, Moravia and Ukraine, presenting bishop's palaces, churches and monasteries and their facades, accompanied by detailed documentation of their interiors and furnishings. The negatives also include photographic documentation of the Augustów Canal, the Jewish cemetery in Lesko, Teu-



Radzyń Podlaski. Palace, 1978

**COLLECTION**  
OF PHOTOGRAPHIC NEGATIVES  
BY WACLAW GÓRSKI



tonic castles (in Działdowo, Barczewo, Bierzgłowo, Człuchów, Kwidzyn) and some museum and library items of historical interest from elsewhere.



Tykocin. Statue of Stefan Czarniecki by Pierre de Coudray, funded by Jan Klemens Branicki, 1980



Barczewo. Franciscan Church of St. Andrew the Apostle. Tombstone of Andrzej and Baltazar Batory, 1986



Chojna. Remains of Mariacki Church: the nave, 1973



A team of experts from the Department of Conservation and Protection of the Library's Collections, consisting of five qualified conservators and restorers of works of art, and a technical consulting engineer, were entrusted with the task of preparing the University Library material selected by its staff for digitisation under the DPOP project. The variety of items in terms of techniques employed in their production, condition, rank, uniqueness and the number of surviving copies (in the world) meant that the task was a real challenge even for a team that had considerable experience in conservation alongside a sound knowledge of the collection and the condition of its individual items. Specific work programmes were developed to enable the safe production of a digital copy of each historical item, taking into consideration its individuality. Many items were dirty and text blocks were damaged; in many cases the bindings either did not fulfil their function or were missing, and at times it was hardly possible to open a book because the pages were stuck together. For some of the historical items it was the last chance for rescue (acidic paper in the case of printed material from the 19<sup>th</sup> c.), while for others it was a favourable opportunity to slow down natural ageing processes. The conservators used their knowledge as well as a wide range of techniques and specialist materials to significantly secure and improve the condition of the items which later found their way onto the KPDŁ website, freely available through the internet in accordance with the project's objectives, meaning they will be preserved for future generations in this form. Besides being a convenient way of protecting library collections, a digital copy broadens the scope of research

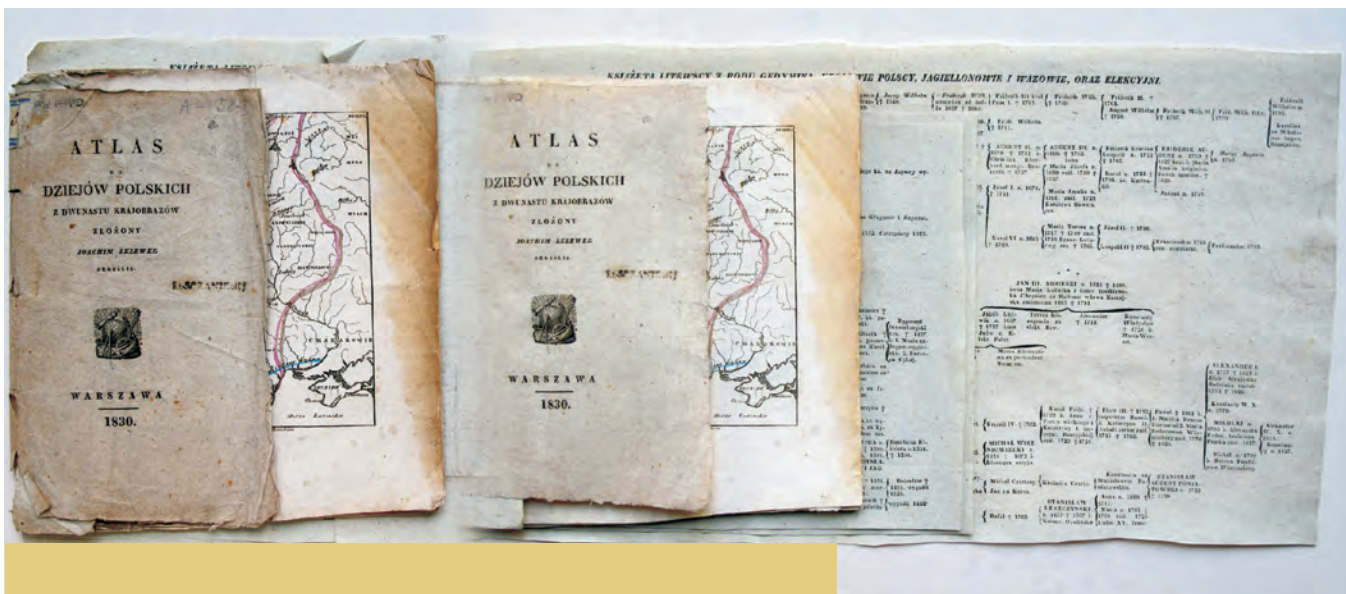


## CONSERVATION WORK

material availability. It should be remembered however that making one does not relieve the collection's custodians and conservators from their responsibility to preserve the original. The conservation works carried out under the project mean fulfilling part of this obligation.

Mediaeval manuscript (Rps 156/III, 15<sup>th</sup> c.): a. its binding before conservation; b. its parchment leaves subjected to mechanical cleaning. The item is kept in a special protective box following conservation.

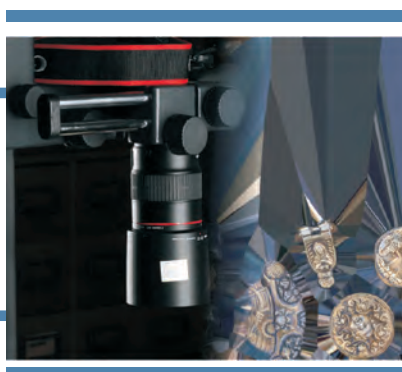
Atlas before and after it underwent conservation treatment



Creating a digital item from a real one and making it available through the internet is done in several stages: selection, conservation, digitisation using a specific technique, developing relevant metadata, sharing through access to the Digital Library and, finally, archiving. The physical item is sent to the digitisation department after it has been assessed as to its conservation status and a decision has been made if and by what method it can be digitised. There are two principal methods to choose from: scanning and photographing. Most care and time are devoted to early printed materials and historical manuscripts which are the most demanding items for digitisation. This is due to conservation recommendations that take into consideration its condition and this determines the way it should be digitised. The most frequently chosen route is photography but this requires much more work than scanning. The original files are stored in RAW format, which records raw data on the camera's image sensor. This 'digital negative' is then converted to a presentation format that contains much less information but can be distributed and viewed on the internet by users who only have a browser at their disposal. Large-format scanners allow a digital image of paper originals to be created with high accuracy and precision. A scanner resolution above 2000 ppi allows details of the texture of the paper to be seen on the screen. However, the current maximum usable scanner resolution is ca 400 ppi. Large-format items, such as archival maps, are a special case. They are scanned using a special high-resolution scanner, and thanks to a special design, one of the two dimensions of the item can be as large as wanted. In order to make online viewing of such large items reader-friendly, the resulting files, due to their size, need to be converted into a special

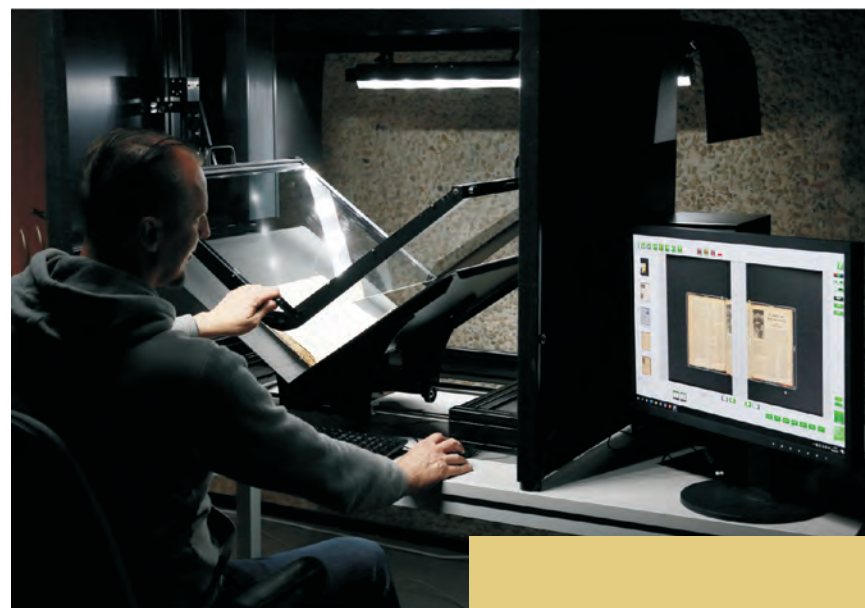


## DIGITISATION



format, the so-called Pyramid TIFFs. Scans of printed materials need to go through one more stage: they are subjected to a process of optical character recognition (OCR). This adds an overlay text on top of the image in the output files which allows readers to search the content of the digitised publications; if this step were to be omitted, such a search would be impossible. If the print quality is good, recognition accuracy is practically 100%. Digital images processed in this way are sent to KPDŁ - [kpsc.umk.pl](http://kpsc.umk.pl).

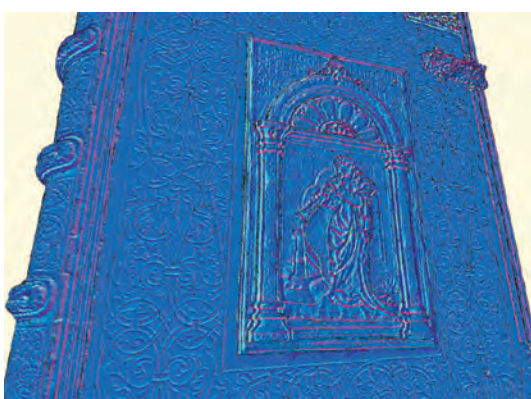
Valuable negatives, e.g. those from Waclaw Górski's collection, are scanned using a 2400 ppi resolution scanner. The scans are then subjected to digital processing which involves converting negative into positive and adjusting contrast and brightness.



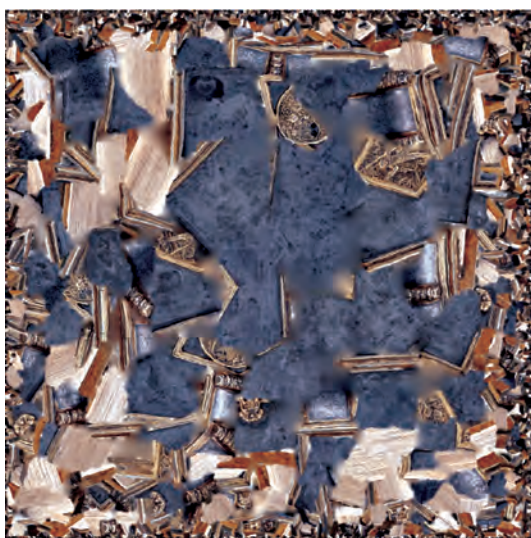
The Lizard *Book2Net* scanner for large items. The book cradle and the glass plate are V-shaped, which makes it easier to digitise books which, due to their poor condition, cannot be fully opened.



The textured surface provides information about the colour, texture, reflected light and other features.



It takes many hours of calculations to create a 3D model describing the shape of an item in the form of a mesh of points and polygons. The 3D model includes coordinates of all the mesh vertices.



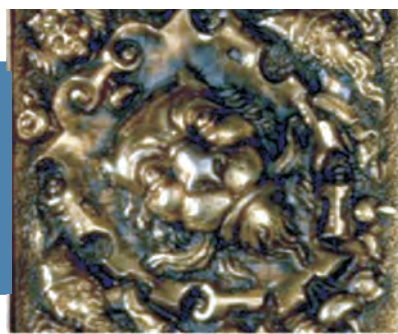
Textured surface as a mosaic: on the basis of a series of several hundred photos, the software selects the best parts.

One of the most valuable resources of the University Library is the collection of books bound in silver from the Silver Library of Prince Albrecht Hohenzollern and his second wife Anna Maria.

As part of the project, these unique relics of Renaissance bookbinding were digitised using 3D technology, and photogrammetry 3D models were created by the *Restauro* company (*restauro.pl*) from Toruń.

The first part of the task was to take a series of high-resolution photogrammetric images, a technique that allows for the re-creation of the shapes of items. Photographs were taken from all sides and angles and for each item about 400-600 were taken, each of which is about 300MB in size. Then a special software program analysed a series of photographs, finding characteristic points in each of them and matching them together. The next stage is the most time-consuming: based on the characteristic points selected, a point cloud that almost looks like a real item is built and then converted to a polygon mesh model. The 3D model is a file containing the coordinates of all mesh vertices.

The final step is to create the surface/texture as a mosaic and the best parts are selected from all the photos. Texture provides information on such qualities as colour, reflected light and details on the surface of the item. For shiny items like the Silver Bindings, an additional difficulty is caused by the surface strongly reflecting light which is a real challenge for the photographer.



## DIGITISATION SILVER BINDINGS IN 3D TECHNOLOGY

The end result of working on a single item is a 3D model containing the coordinates of more than tens of millions of vertices which, with the texture added, make up a total file of over 7GB. Therefore, in order to present the items on the internet and thus allow wider access to them, the 3D models of the Silver Bindings have been reduced to approx. 100MB files. Depending on the software available to users they can adjust light levels, and change the colour or the item's position. 3D multimedia presentations have been made available in the *KPDL*.





## Search in collection

COLLECTIONS subcollections | Collections (15)



Books (before 1945)



Maps



Ephemera



Graphics



Music notes



Cimelia Pelplin



Wanda and Karol Poznański Archive

The Cultural Heritage of Poland's former Eastern Borderlands



The family archive of Józef Szügyi Trajtler

Reminiscences from Bydgoszcz inhabitants

UKW's special collection



Official school inspection reports from the 19<sup>th</sup> and 20<sup>th</sup> centuries

Collection of the Museum of Education in Bydgoszcz

UKW repository





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Partner: Kazimierz Wielki University in Bydgoszcz

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