

THE NORTH SECTION OF PIOTRKOWSKA STREET IN ŁÓDŹ AS AN EXAMPLE OF INTEGRATION AND TRANSFORMATION OF FORM AND FUNCTIONS OF MAIN STREET – URBAN AND ARCHITECTURAL ASPECTS

1. INTRODUCTION

Piotrkowska Street in Lodz is a very interesting and at the same time a specific urban-architectural solution. It is a street which, from the urban point of view, serves as the main street. Its length of several kilometres makes it a public space with a different appearance and diverse architecture in terms of architectural form and functions along the street. The aim of this article is to present the problem of integration and transformation of the form and function of the main urban street in the urban-architectural aspect on the example of the northern section of Piotrkowska Str. (Liberty Square – Ave. A. Mickiewicz and Marshal J. Pilsudski) in Lodz, where technology and art are combined with architecture and urban planning, resulting in synergy in shaping urban space. Architectural and urban qualities of the northern section of Piotrkowska Str. also boasts a variety of tenement houses, their courtyards and lateral streets that enhance the function and form of the street, as well as integrate the street with the center and downtown of Lodz.

2. HISTORICAL VIEW

History of Piotrkowska Str. dates back to 1820, when Rajmund Rembieliński, the President of the Mazovian Voivodship Commission, came to Lodz to create Lodz's plans to transform Lodz into a strong industrial center. "Rembieliński described how the Old Town, the future textile estates, the future of the New Market and the streets to be built in the future, including the future Piotrkowska Str. crossing a straight line with a causeway and a bridge on the river Lodka with a bridge on the river Jasien and then the exit route towards Piotrkow Tryb. Alongside the Piotrkow Road, blocks of one and a half meters of width of 17.5 to 21 meters were designated. They were to be allocated to weaving craftsmen. On-site workshops were built. On the front side they served as a utility workshop, the back was occupied by private space. On the front side they served as a utility workshop, the back was occupied by private space. The workshops were thematically grouped: in the neighbourhood there were manufactures of craftsmen of the same specialty. From today's Liberty Sq. to the south

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was the workshop of the clothers, the weavers - the linen workers, still further south to bleachers and dyers. In the neighbourhood of today's Independence Square, at the southern end of the street, there was a market - today's Gorniak, a place of trade made with fabrics"¹.

Official name of Piotrkowska Str.² appeared on the boards in 1823. Five years later the name was officially confirmed in a government letter and plotted on the settlement plan. Since 1824 the development of the village has been developed on the initiative of the settlers who came mainly from Lower Silesia, the Grand Duchy of Poznan, the Czech Republic, Prussia and Saxony, for which Lodz was to be "promised land". The first wooden houses for newly arrived weavers were erected at 248-268 Piotrkowska Str., and in 1826 the oldest linen factory was put into operation.

In the middle of the 19th century Piotrkowska Str. was the main route linking Lodz and Piotrkow Trybunalski, which served as an internal road, followed by the movement of weaving craftsmen who had their workshops here. Piotrkowska Str. was the center of the New Town beyond which you did not have to go out to exchange intermediates. Location of Piotrkowska St. in the spatial structure of the mid-nineteenth century in Lodz and the predominant function shows the plan of Lodz from that period³.

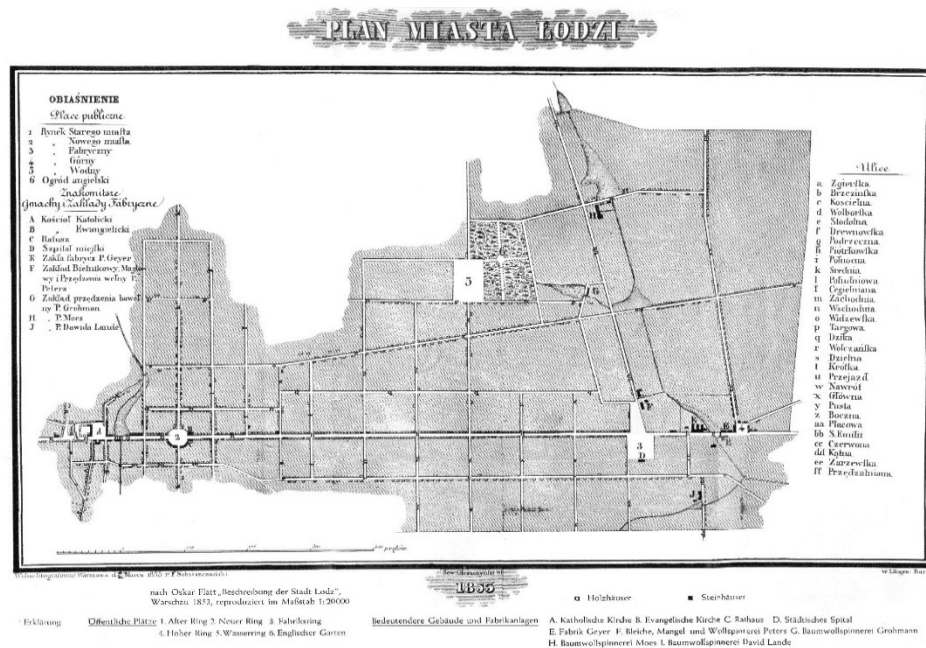


Fig. 1. Plan of Lodz from 1853⁴

¹ [6].

² Originally called "Piotrkowska Street", only the northern part of the road, i.e. today's Nowomiejska St. to the initial section of Zgierska St. The street, which we call today Piotrkowska, did not have a name. She gained it when it was decided to unify the name along the entire length of the route.

³ Ibidem.

⁴ Ibidem.

In the second half of the 19th century, Piotrkowska Str., like all the old center of Lodz, experienced dynamic development. At the outskirts of the New Town there were large factories displacing small manufactures. Lots were bought at Piotrkowska. The street began to change its character to become more and more representative. Handicraft workshops were supplanted by service establishments. "After the year 1863 and the liquidation of self-governmental bodies, urban planning of Lodz was ceased. The city began to develop very rapidly in a rather unplanned manner. Still, on Piotrkowska and its blocks, the old planning thought is perfectly visible"⁵. Location of Piotrkowska Str. in the spatial structure of the city of Lodz shows Figure 2.



Fig. 2. Location Piotrkowska Str. in urban space of Lodz (source: arr. by author, Google map underlay [access: 05.05.2017])

3. CHANGES IN INFRASTRUCTURE AND TRANSPORTATION SERVICE OF PIOTRKOWSKA STREET

In 1876 the whole Piotrkowska Str. was paved so-called "cat heads". The December 23, 1898 at Piotrkowska Str., i.e. 22 years later, started the electric tram line. In the period after World War II in the northern section of Piotrkowska Str., whose length is 1920 m and the width between the lines of the building is 25-27 m, was made numerous transformations of the cross-section, equipment and transport services of the street, which was connected with changes in functions in the streets and reconstruction of cross streets. In the second half of the sixties, on the stretch of the street from Liberty Sq. to cross the streets of F. Żwirki and S. Wigury was closed tram tracks in the middle of the street. Ten years later, a very modern, traffic-restricting solution to street traffic was introduced, as it was possible to move the car only between neighbouring streets, which, according to the author, was one of the first solutions to calming traffic in the city center. Transformations of the traffic organization system were accompanied by the transformation of the cross street into one-way streets, which has been maintained until now. The intersection of Piotrkowska Str. and Piłsudski Ave. that to this time was looked like a typical downtown the crossroads, where the streets had fronts, and at each corner was a corner house. The building of was Mickiewicz Ave. and Main Str. was demolished, as a result of the decision to expand and build the East-West Route, linking Retkinia District in the West with the Widzew District in the East of Lodz.

⁵ *Ibidem*.

At the turn of the eighties and nineties of the twentieth century on the stretch between Liberty Sq. and the line of A. Mickiewicz and Marshal J. Piłsudski Avenues were closed for traffic and a pedestrian zone was created (also available for bicycles and access to property and delivery) and the cross streets were transformed into a system of three pairs of one-way streets. This solution (Fig. 3) was, according to the author, the implementation of one of the precursors of sedation - one of the SCAFT⁶.

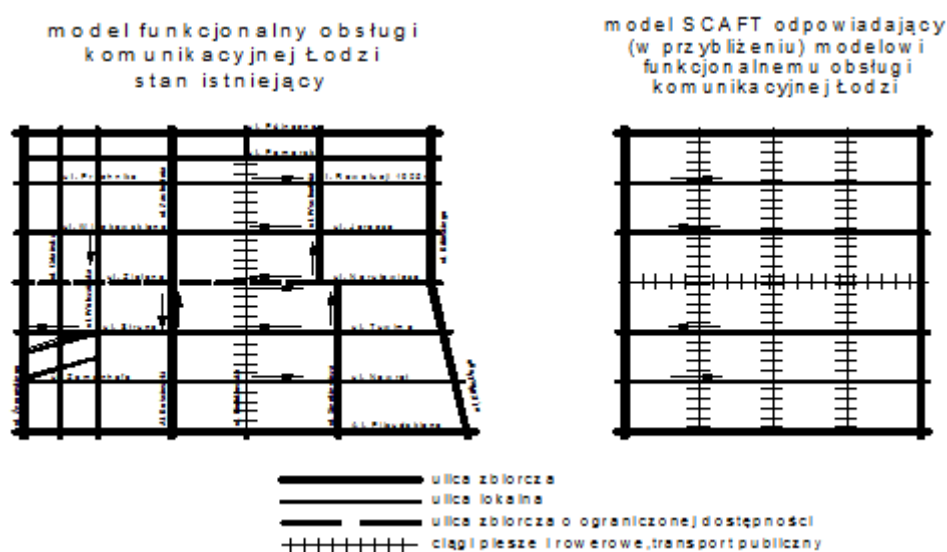


Fig. 3. Transportation accessibility of Lodz Centre- state 2010 (source [4,10])

In the period after 1989, the renovation of the northern part of Piotrkowska Str. was completed twice. In the early nineties of the 20th century, on the initiative of the then president of the town Palka, a pedestrian zone, in the section from Tuwim to Roosevelt with a uniform surface, new surfaces and lighting was established. The first pedestrian area "Palka" was created on the so-called "beagle" 300 meters from Tuwim Str. to Nawrot Str. with the pavement in a colourful cube. The privatizations of shops and transformations of the function of street frontage were taken. Townhouses were restored and beautifully illuminated. The street came to life. Cafes and shops were established in summer. Many restaurants, bars and pubs were created in the frontages and courtyards, and in the summer street gardens (Fig. 4). From the point of view of the development of the commercial function it was the golden period of Piotrkowska St. According to the data of the City Hall, on the discussed section street, after renovation in the front tenements at Piotrkowska Str. there were about 280 shops in this period. Along the E-W route at the junction of Piotrkowska Str. with Mickiewicza - Piłsudskiego Ave. underground passages for pedestrians and access to tram stops was built. In the underground passages are small shops, service points, kiosks. The solution, considered very modern in the seventies, was to improve the safety of pedestri-

⁶ [2,10,12].

ans. In fact, it was an extremely uncomfortable solution for pedestrians and was not adapted to the mobility of people with disabilities and cyclists. The passage was liquidated in the second decade of the 21st century with the reconstruction of the W-Z route: construction of a tunnel along the Mickiewicz - Piłsudskiego Ave. and reconstruction of this avenue, among others in connection of construction of a central interchange stop over the tunnel (Fig. 5) and extension of the tram track in Piotrkowska Str. from Wigury St. to E-W route.

Since 2015, at the junction with Piotrkowska Str. in the west direction on the section to Kosciuszko Str. is the mentioned interchange station, which in transportation terms is a favourable solution, because it makes easy to keep track of people travelling by tram in the directions East-West and North-South. In terms of the architectural form, the vast transfer tramway station known by the residents as "stable of unicorn", designed by arch. J. Gałęcki, chosen as a result of the competition, arouses constant controversy. Simultaneously with the significant limitation of traffic in the northern section of Piotrkowska Str. In 1993, a traffic rickshaw (Fig. 6) was introduced, which due to the length of this section and the lack of typical transport public along its axis, has largely taken over the passengers traffic.

Currently Piotrkowska Str. and the center of Lodz is served by the 100 rickshaws throughout the year. Lodz is one of the few cities in Europe where transport



Fig. 4. 97 Piotrkowska Str. – summer garden (source: photo by author 2014)



Fig. 5. Transfer tramway station in the A. Mickiewicza Av. and J. Piłsudski Av. between intersection of Piotrkowska Str. and T. Kosciuszko Str. (source: [3])



Fig. 6. Rickshaws on the northern stretch of Piotrkowska Str. (source: photo by author 2014)

of rickshaws is a permanent and practical transport, not just a tourist attraction⁷.

4. URBANISM AND ARCHITECTURE OF THE NORTH OF PIOTRKOWSKA STREET

Piotrkowska Str. at the turn of the 19th and 20th centuries became a reservoir of Art and Art Nouveau architecture. Today, the street is an architectural style of the Art Nouveau houses, although some modernist buildings have appeared in some places. They testify to the level of culture and development of the art of building during this period. The width of the northern section of the street in the demarcation lines is 17 - 25 m.

Piotrkowska Str. at the end of the second decade of the XXI century is a conglomerate of various architectural forms. In the northern section between Liberty Sq. and J. Pilsudski Avenue, with a decisive advantage of buildings constructed in the late nineteenth and early twentieth century in eclectic style. The function of this section of the street has almost always been a central function, and for many years it has functioned as a center of linear character for many years to come.

Commercial - service - administrative function of the street is also maintained today, but the attractiveness of the street as a center of trade has definitely fallen, first after opening in the late nineties located at Pilsudski Ave. - the Gallery of Lodz and at the beginning of two thousand years - the center of Manufaktura north of Liberty Sq. Many of the chic elegant shops were transformed into restaurants, pubs, and bars. Many of them are also located in extensive townhouses and now represent the identity of the street. Some shops have significantly lowered the standard of their offerings. Few post-industrial facilities have been transformed into entertainment, gastronomy and culture.

Piotrkowska Str. from north closes Liberty Square, which was laid out in 1823 as a market for the settlement. Twice a week he changed into a market. Liberty Sq., formerly known as New Market Square, gained its present name after Poland regained its independence. In the middle of the square there is a 17-meter statue of Tadeusz Kosciuszko (Fig. 7).

The square is characterized by a unique, octagonal shape. It's surrounded by important buildings, including the Church of Pentecost and the former town hall (now the seat of the Lodz branch of the State Archives). There is a tramway track around the square, which is a combination of tram routes running along Staromiejska Str. (extension to the north of Piotrkowska Str.) and perpendicular to the Legionow - Pomorska Streets. The plans of the city authorities anticipate the reconstruction of Liberty Sq., which, according to the author of the article, seems to be a discussion of the transformation of the space of the square.

Townhouses – on the Piotrkowska Str. many of the buildings built in the period from the middle of the 19th century works until today. At the end of the 20th century and at the beginning of the 21st century, many of the buildings were completely renovated and their facades restored. Buildings created during that period are generally multifunctional. At the stage of the project, the apartments were designed for commercial and service functions, and the higher floors for residential functions, as a rule, as luxury apartments of tenement owners. Particu-

⁷ *Ibidem*.

lar attention should be paid to the buildings located on the corners of streets with crossing streets. Extremely interesting are the solutions of the facade, where you can see a mixture of architectural styles of past eras. Townhouse at 11 Piotrkowska Str. one of the most interesting Art Nouveau buildings on the street. The facade covered with Neo-Romanesque, neo-Gothic and neo-Renaissance motifs, and the roof top of the corner in the form of a bayonet covered with decorative helmets, and set on the peaks of two pseudorysalites with bas-reliefs of dragons and dolphins townhouse at the 2 Piotrkowska Str. is distinguished (Fig. 8).

Front elevation with Mercury head surrounded by foliage and plant ornaments and facade decorated with lions head and masculine and feminine masks has a townhouse at 29 Piotrkowska Str. Plant decorations so characteristic of the turn of the century are the form of the elevation "a tenement under the chestnut" located at 43 Piotrkowskiej Str. The typical eclectic style in Lodz, which is the strongest, but the French Renaissance renders a tenement at 53 Piotrkowska Str. The characteristic bay window is held by two atlantis. Caryatids are placed on the upper floors and the roof of the building is crowned with a four-sided helmet. Property at 104 Piotrkowska Str. is occupied the palace of the "King of wool" Juliusz Heinzel Baron von Hohenfels, which is the largest and most representative building (according to the project of Gerring) in this street. The palace combines commercial, representative and residential functions. The elevation refers to the Italian Renaissance. Full of dignity, the seven-axis building full of dignity received a rich decor. The raised and leveled façade of the ground floor sits on a higher level, with two bay windows topped with balustrade balconies. The final building in the form of an attic with a central sculpture, presents the personified Liberty, Industry and Commerce. Currently the building has an administrative function - it is the seat of the City Hall of Lodz and the Lodz Voivodship Office.

Townhouse at 107 Piotrkowska is distinguished by the cornice, between the windows of the last floor with distinctive decorations in the form of eagles spread out wings and braids from laurel leaves, wreaths and animal shows, among oth-



Fig. 7. Place Wolności – view to the North of Piotrkowska Str. (source: Google Earth; access [4.05.2017] [1])



Fig. 8. Townhouses – 11 and 12 of Piotrkowska Str. (source: Google Street; access [6.05.2017])

ers. as snakes and skulls of bullocks and mules. Townhouse at 128 Piotrkowska Str., by the author, is considered by many to be the most spectacular building with a stylized form of Viennese secession. The facade is decorated with a variety of plant motifs and geometric shapes. The Kinderman Palace at 137/139 Piotrkowska Str. is an example of the design of the Italian Renaissance, which resembles Florentine residences. On the façade, a mosaic frieze underneath the cordon cornice. There are a number of characters that refer to the history of cotton trade. "Townhouse on the property at 143 Piotrkowska Str., built in the years 1898-1899 and then rebuilt in the first half of the twentieth century. It is distinguished by huge wall polychrome on the façade, dominated by animal motifs (e.g. dragons, birds, butterflies) and plants" [6].

Frontages of the townhouses of the Piotrkowska in the northern section also fill modernist buildings created in the years after World War II with a very debatable architectural form. According to the author of the article, the most interesting are: the houses of SASPOL - shopping center at 97 Piotrkowska Str. and the building on the corner of Zamenhofa Str., which fit very well in the landscape of the Piotrkowska Str.

Blocks, courtyards, passages and piercings – also affect into the character of Piotrkowska Str. numerous blocks, courtyards, passages and as well as piercings, which affect the layout and spatial connections of streets in the center of Lodz. At the north section of intersections with streets crossing perpendicular to Piotrkowska Str. is twelve. A special distinction from the point of view of this article is located at a distance of 860 m from street itinerary of 6 August - R. Traugutta Streets. In 2014 the section of 6 August Str. between Piotrkowska and The West Street was rebuilt, bringing the calming effect of the traffic in the form of woonerf or urban backyard (Fig. 9 and 10).



Fig. 9. 6 August Str. in the flowering cherry trees Kanzan – woonerf section between Piotrkowska Str. and Zachodnia Str. – May 2017 (source: [7])



Fig. 10. R. Traugutt Str. in the flowering cherry trees Kanzan – woonerf section between Piotrkowska Str. and Sienkiewicza Str. – May 2017 (source: [7])

The traditional height division between the road and the pavements was eliminated. One common stone pavement was built, in which pedestrians, cyclists and cars could walk together. In such a transformed space were introduced elements of small architecture: benches, trees, bicycles stands, and in the area

of catering premises are provided space for summer gardens and designated few parking places to allow short-term delivery of guests. Despite the initial scepticism of the architectural and urban environment of Lodz, woonerf in 6 August Str. saw the landscape of the Center of Lodz and gained the sympathy of Lodzian. The reconstructed section became the venue for the organization of cultural outdoor events. As a result of these actions, the reconstruction of the same type of section on the other side of Piotrkowska Str. in Traugutta Str. from Piotrkowska Str. to Sienkiewicz Str. (Fig. 10), as well as the woonerf projects in other parts of the city. **Backyards** - courtyards of townhouses are places where various urban functions are located and create a local specific climate. At 102 Piotrkowska Str., in 1996 the most popular pub "Lodz Kaliska" in the city was created. In the halls, whose industrial climate creates equipment made of metal, are visible, among others. Architectural details have been moved from the facades of tenement houses, secession doors and furry pillar. Courtyard of the property at 89 Piotrkowska Str. is filled with beautifully arranged greenery (Fig. 11).

A pair of trees with two lawns and a scaler with a small fountain in the back creates an unusual backyard composition that surrounds the restaurants and bars situated in the outbuildings. The surface of the pavement is arranged in patterns harmonizing with the surroundings. Backyards of townhouses 40 and 89 Piotrkowska Str. distinguish themselves by unique verandas - "kuczki", i.e. Jewish prayer balconies, and their wooden constructions strongly contrast with the interiors of backyards. Courtyard of the building at 134 Piotrkowska Str. creates a unique garden (Fig. 12). Crossed out in the outbuilding is a unique architectural solution on the main street of the city. The whole property along the garden is one of the most interesting examples of early modernism in the thirties, when more attention was paid to the comfort of life. You should also mention passages and piercings. Particular attention should be paid to the so-called Schiller Passage, which is a representative place in the city center, and its width allows you to organize cultural events, events and gatherings urban residents. Another extremely interesting is the building of the 3 Rose Passage Piotrkowska, which in recent years has been revitalized under the 1000 City Townhouses and has a combination of the Kosciuszko Street.

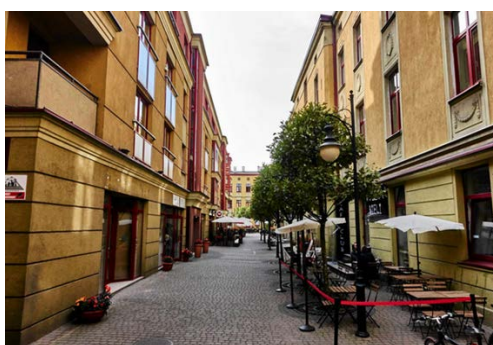


Fig. 11. 89 Piotrkowska Str. - One of the most attractive courtyards of townhouses in the this street (source [6])



Fig. 12. 134 Piotrkowska Str. - Garden courtyards in the this street (source [6])

5. SMALL ARCHITECTURE IN THE NORTH SECTION OF PIOTRKOWSKA STREET

Northern section of Piotrkowska Str. after the introduction of restrictions in road traffic, especially the section between 6 August Str. and Roosvelta Str. is a place where the architecture and floor have a significant influence on the street-position and the cultural heritage of Lodz. Belong to them:

- **Monument to the Lodzian Turn of the Millennium** (Fig. 13), which was built in Lodz in the years 2000 - 2003 and is a symbol of the externalization of active and positive attitude of the inhabitants to their city. In the years 2000 - 2003, and after the reconstruction of the street to the floor of the Piotrkowska Str., as many as 13 454 named cubes, extending from Schiller's waist to Nawrot/Tuwima Streets. According to [6] as many as 17 thousand were added to the floor of Piotrkowska Street and created The Lodzian Monument.
- **"Avenue of Stars"**- located between the Passage of Rubinstein and the street of 6 August (Fig. 14). It begins in front of the famous Grand Hotel (the 72 Piotrkowska Str.), which was almost the most elegant in Lodz. "Avenue of Stars" in Lodz is modelled on the "Avenue of Stars" in Hollywood. The first star on 28 May 1998 unveiled the first star to commemorate outstanding directors, actors, screenwriters and operators of characters related to the Polish film. Today in Lodz "Avenue of Stars" is filled with more than 60 names. Unveiling next stars is a cultural event on a national scale.

In the central space of Piotrkowska there are also monuments depicting the city's meritorious lodzians, which comprise:

- **Gallery of the Great Lodzians**⁸ – The first monument - Tuwim Bench (Fig. 15) - was unveiled in 1999 before the City Hall. In subsequent years, more sculptures were created. They were: Rubinstein's Piano (2000) (Fig. 16), Reymont's Kuom (2001), Lodz's Industrial Buildings (2002), Jaracz Armchair (2006) and Lampnik's Monument (2007). The monuments were made in such a way that the pedestrians could sit in the places next to the figures presented on the sculptures. Their presence at Piotrkowska Str. was accompanied by considerable controversy.
- **Figurine of Teddy Bear** is complemented the gallery, which is depicted as a tourist with a backpack stuffed with a backpack and one of the paws holding a city map. A Teddy Bear measuring less than a meter tall and weighing 60 kg of bear stands in front of the Tourist Information Center at Piotrkowska 87. It is the only fairytale sculpture creating the so- fabulous Lodz connected with the Lodz film industry (series for children and films Se-ma-for), which is located on the representative street of Lodz.

Despite the fact that the sculptures introduced in the local artistic environment have mixed reflections, the Gallery of the Great Lodz has permanently integrated itself into the character of Piotrkowska Str., as its integral elements of development. Therefore, the monuments returned to the most famous street in Lodz after the renovation in 2014.

⁸ The artist of Marcel Szytenchelm was the originator of the gallery.



Fig. 13. Piotrkowska Str. – Monument of the Lodzian of the Millennial Turn – section Nawrot / Tuwima Streets' - Schiller's passage in the form of clinker cubes with memorial plaques with the names of Lodzian in the middle of the pavement (source: photo by author 2014)

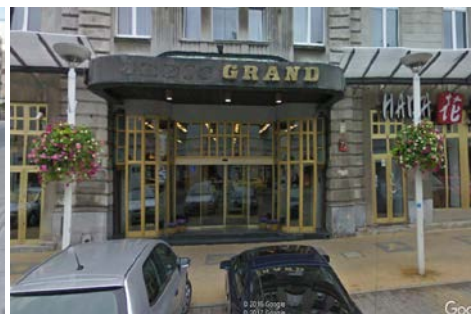


Fig. 14. Piotrkowska Str. - Avenue of Stars and Grand Hotel (72 Piotrkowska Str.) with the pavement visible in the "stars" of Polish theatre and film makers; (source [1])



Fig. 15, 16. The Gallery of Greater Lodzians in public space of Piotrkowska Str. – banc of Tuwim and Fortepiano of Rubenstein (source; photo by author 2014)

With intangible activities taking place on the analyzed section of the Piotrkowska Str. and which regularly take place in the public space should be the memories of Light Move Festival - is held since 2011.

The program of the Festival consists of artistic and architectural illuminations of buildings, laser shows, concerts in unusual arrangements, lighting installations, large format projections in 2D and 3D mapping technology and even scientific conferences (Fig. 17 and 18). Other activities on Piotrkowska Str. using the public space is a number of annual city events. Birthday and the Songwriter Lodz Festival - a street festival of jazz music, whose beginning and place is connected with the introduction of woonerfu on August 6 Str.

Some attractive in terms of development in the elements of small architecture is the section from August 6 and Traugutta Str. to Schiller's Passage and recently August 6 Str., where the development and development of street space create a friendly social and cultural atmosphere during favourable weather

conditions. In the north section of Piotrkowska Str. is active in the third dimension of public space. There are characteristic features in the pavement, which show the importance of Lodz in the cultural development of Poland and its attractiveness of tourism and sightseeing.

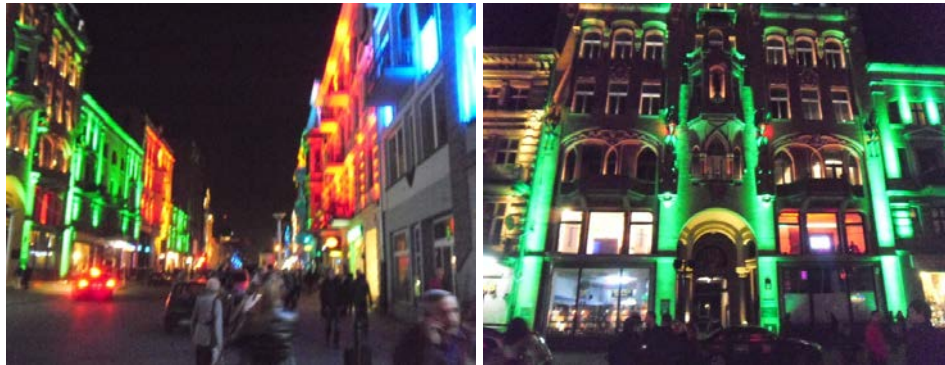


Fig. 17, 18. Piotrkowska Str. – illuminations of townhouses during The Light Move Festival 2011 (source: photos by author 2011)

6. SUMMARY AND FINAL CONCLUSIONS

The above analysis of transformations of functions and management of the northern part of Piotrkowska Str. shows the specificity of this street and the changes that have taken place and take place over the space of more than 100 years of this street. Technology and art are combined with architecture and town planning, resulting in synergy in shaping urban space. In development and in functions Piotrkowska Str. is very clearly divided into two parts of the street of similar length, which differ in form of development and functions. These are the north section between Liberty Sq. and the junction of A. Mickiewicz and Marshal J. Pilsudski Ave. junction to Independence Square. The northern part, with the function of the linear city center, is a very interesting street, with numerous and distinguished buildings in the street Art Nouveau buildings with outstanding architectural and construction values, whose construction solutions are masterpieces of the technique of the period in which they were created, and façades are often works of art. Analysis of Piotrkowska Str. shows that this is the cornerstone of the crystallization of the city plan integrating the functional and spatial structure and management of the Center of Lodz.

Over the years, the ways of handling street transport have changed considerably. The street has a modern, modern surface. In the second half of the 20th and 21st centuries, the North Section of this street is in practice a pedestrian zone with authorized bicycle, delivery traffic and access to the property. The section has been designed to emphasize the special character of this part of the city by laying the floor, setting lighting lanterns and other elements of the small architecture, which refer to the cultural heritage of the city of Lodz. Such a design of street space is conducive to the organization of various cultural, sporting and gastronomic events in the northern part of Piotrkowska Str.

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THE NORTH OF PIOTROWSKA STREET IN ŁÓDŹ AS AN EXAMPLE OF INTEGRATION AND TRANSFORMATION OF FORM AND FUNCTIONS OF MAIN STREET – URBAN AND ARCHITECTURAL ASPECTS

ABSTRACT. The article presents the problem of integration and transformation of the form and function of the main street in the example of the northern section of the Piotrkowska Str. (Liberty Square - A. Mickiewicz and Marshal J. Piłsudski Avenues) in Lodz, where technology and art are coupled with architecture and urban planning, resulting in synergy in shaping urban space. The architectural and urban qualities of the city are enhanced by numerous Art Nouveau tenements, whose construction solutions are masterpieces of techniques, and facades are works of art, courtyards, cross streets and stone pavements, antique lighting and as well as elements of the small architecture that refer to the cultural heritage and integrate the street with the city center of Lodz. Analysis of the street structure shows that this is the crystallization element of the city plan and integrating the functional-spatial structure and management of the Center of Lodz. Over the years, street transport has significantly changed. The northern section, rebuilt in the turn of XX and XXI centuries, is currently a pedestrian zone with bicycle, delivery and commute access.

Key words: Lodz, City Center, Piotrkowska Street, transformation of public space, development of street frontage, transportation service.