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Landed estates and noble residences in Wojcieszów

Abstract

Wojcieszów is located in the southwestern part of Silesia, in the Kaczawskie Mountains of the Western Sudetes. Historically, it lay within the borders of the Duchy of Świdnica-Jawor. The village is characterised by a multitude of residential buildings that have been in use over the centuries, a consequence of significant land fragmentation and the village's size, i.e., its area and economic potential.

The author aimed to identify medieval and Renaissance noble residences by analysing written sources, historical cartography and architectural research on the Stöckel Palace, as well as conducting field inspections of selected buildings. The discussion focuses on indicating the location of historical farms and manors, presenting data on nomenclature and providing information on changes in land ownership in Wojcieszów.

The results of the presented analyses make it possible to identify the families who owned estates in Wojcieszów, and to date the town's current area to the Middle Ages and the 17th and 18th centuries, when ownership was most fragmented. They also reveal the final changes related to the merging and disappearance of individual estates in the light of the town's industrial development. Based on the information gathered, it is possible to date the existing palaces to the Middle Ages and the Renaissance.

Key words: architecture, Silesia, Middle Ages, Wojcieszów, manor house

Introduction

The location of Wojcieszów in the south-western part of Silesia, in the Kaczawskie Mountains area of the Western Sudetes, was determined by a trade route running from Złotoryja in the north to Kamienna Góra, and then through the Lubawka Pass to the Czech Republic border. Founded under German law, the village has a medieval chain layout, with homesteads situated on both sides of the road running alongside the Kaczawa river. In the 13th century, Wojcieszów was part of the Silesian Duchy and from 1296, it belonged to the Duchy of Świdnica.

The historical span of the village is approximately 8 km in the meridian system. Since the 14th century, Wojcieszów has been divided into three parts: Wojcieszów Dolny (German: Nieder-Kauffung), the northernmost part; Wojcieszów Średni (German: Mittel-Kauffung), the middle part; and Wojcieszów Górny (German: Ober-Kauffung), the southernmost part. These names indicate their geographical location

rather than ownership, as there were more than three knightly estates in the village from the 14th century and onwards. During the period of greatest land ownership fragmentation, which occurred in the 17th and 18th centuries, ten estates were recorded in Wojcieszów (Zimmerman 1786, 376), whereas only three were functioning in the 1930s: Stöckel-Kauffung, Niemitz-Kauffung, and Heiland-Kauffung. Five mansions and palaces have been preserved in Wojcieszów to this day.

The first written mention of Wojcieszów was in 1268 as "Coufunge" (Irgang, Appelt and Menzel 1988, D 127), and around 1300 the *Codex Diplomaticus Silesiae* mentions the name "Woycezdorf" ("Adalbert's village") (Markgraf, Schulte 1889, 125). Documents from 1507–1543 refer to the place as Woiczdorf (Stockmann 1892, 7), which is also recorded as Woitsdorf or Woitzdorf. The term "Kaufung" or "Woiczdorf" is used interchangeably. This makes it possible to conclude that today's Wojcieszów should be identified with both Woiczdorf and Kauffung.

Research purpose and methods

Wojcieszów stands out among other Silesian villages due to the large number of residential buildings that have been

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in use for centuries. This was due to the considerable fragmentation of land ownership and the size of the village, i.e., its acreage and economic potential.

The following considerations aim to identify medieval and Renaissance seats of nobility based on an analysis of written sources, historical cartography and architectural research on the Stöckel Palace, as well as a field inspection of existing palaces in Wojcieszów. The location of historical manors and farmsteads will also be indicated, together with data on nomenclature and information from studies concerning changes in the ownership of landed estates.

The analysis of source publications forming the basis of these considerations focused on accounts of the transformation of land ownership from the 14th to the 17th century, and the subsequent development of noble estates from the 18th to the 19th century. The iconographic sources analysed were primarily Friedrich Bernhard Werner's engraving from the mid-18th century (Werner 1758), as well as archival postcards and photographs available at www.polska-org.pl and www.fotopolska.eu. The most important aspect of the cartographic analysis was to compare historical estate maps with current digital maps. This made it possible to identify changes in the spatial layout of buildings, land use, and the communication network. This analysis enabled elements of historic buildings to be isolated in the contemporary landscape. Numerical terrain model data, created using LiDAR measurement data from airborne laser scanning (ALS), were employed in the study. Based on this, remnants of former cultural landscape elements were identified, including the probable course of the moat at the Nieder estate. The cartographic sources most relevant to the following analysis are Regler's 1860s map and 19th-century German topographic maps.

The architectural survey of Stöckel Palace, carried out in 2023, is an important consideration when evaluating the architecture of lordly residences in Wojcieszów. The results of the survey formed the basis for identifying the construction phases. Based on differences in technology, materials and forms of detail, it was possible to determine the extent of the oldest foundation – likely dating from the late 16th century – and to trace its transformations up to the early 20th century.

Results

Analysis of source materials concerning the transformation of land ownership in the 14th–17th centuries

The Landbuchs of the Duchies of Świdnica and Jawor from 1366–1407 document Wojcieszów from 1367 (Jurek 2004, 17, no. 72), when a document concerning the transfer of the estates to the Kouffunge brothers was issued by Prince Bolko II. Further research into changes in the ownership of landed estates revealed three families, who owned estates in Wojcieszów: Zedlitz, von Redern, and Stumpf. Given the time span (1366–1407), it can be concluded that the properties relate to more than one generation. Despite the lack of information on inheritance, the continuation of the family name (with different first names) testifies to

possession being maintained within one family. Four separate estates can be identified, two of which are described in such a way as to indicate the locations of today's palaces. These locations are also mentioned in 18th-century sources.

The Mittel estate, located in the centre of Wojcieszów, was described as follows: [...] *daz vorderwerk bei der kirchen in dem dorfe zu Kouffungen* [transl. the farmstead near the churches in the village of Wojcieszów] (Jurek 2000, 95, no. 466), in an entry concerning the sale of the estate between the Heinrich and Hentschil von Czedelicz, and Jon von Redern brothers. The farmstead was situated within the original village layout, close to the Catholic parish church, which was first documented in 1366 (Jurek 2004, 34, no. 170), as well as the Protestant church. The first recorded instance of property being granted to the Zedlitz family in Wojcieszów was the transfer to Hentschil Coppe von Zedlitz by Duke Bolko II in 1366 “for his faithful service” (Jurek 2004, 17, no. 136).

The Nieder Palace, located in the northern part of the village and described as “Niedervorwerk” (Jurek 2007, 375, no. 1415), was in the possession of Nickel Stumpf in 1403. Stumpf was listed as the possessor of the Wojcieszów estate from 1397 (Jurek 2007, 77, 78, no. 307). In 18th-century sources, the Nieder palace was the only independent estate in the lower part of the village.

The other two estates that appear in the land books come from the upper (southern) part of the village – Oberdorf. As the successive owners do not coincide, it can be concluded that the entries bearing the terms oberste, obirgut and oben am ende did not refer to one estate, but two. The Elbel, Lest, Stimpel and Stöckel estates were included in the “upper” Wojcieszów.

The first of these estates is mentioned in an entry concerning the sale of the highest manor to the south (oberste) by the brothers Ticze and Nickel von Czedelicz to Jon von Redern (Jurek 2000, 95, no. 465). The brothers first appear as owners of the estate in 1368 (Jurek 2004, 42, no. 210). The second estate, located at the upper end of the village – “in dem Dorfe zu Kauffungen oben am Ende” – belonged to the Stumpf family. Heinrich Stumpf first appeared in an entry of 1388, in which he was listed as the holder of rents in Wojcieszów (Jurek 2007, 109, no. 537). Further ownership of the Stumpf family was inherited by the brothers Henric, Wyker and Conrad, who were perhaps the next generation of heirs. Due to the coincidence of the Stumpf [Stompfil, Stumphil] surname with the name of the Stimpel estate present on 18th-century maps, it can be inferred that the estate belonged to this family.

All the data from the land books prove that Wojcieszów had its contemporary acreage and was divided into three parts (upper, middle and lower) by the 14th century, with the estates distant from each other. The southernmost part, Nieder, and the two parts located further north, Ober, were situated at a considerable distance from the village centre, which was located near the churches.

Two further sources, the Register of Military Obligations of the Fiefs of the Duchies of Świdnica and Jawor from 1550 and 1602, showed that the amount of military tax was proportional to the size of the landed estates. The following family names were listed: Rederer, von Reder,

Zedlitz and Sedlitz in 1550 (Rejestr powinności... 1550); and von Reder, von Redern, von Seidlitz and Stimpel in 1602 (Rejestr powinności... 1602). While these surnames overlap with those listed in Landbuch I–III, it is not possible to assign them to specific manors and residences due to the fragmentation of noble properties. Nevertheless, it can be estimated that there were already at least six estates in Wojcieszów at the turn of the 16th and 17th centuries.

*Analysis of publications of source value
from the 18th to 19th centuries*

In the sixth part of his inventory, Friedrich Albert Zimmermann (Zimmermann 1786, 376) presented ten estates and divided the village of Kauffung into three parts: Ober-, Mittel- and Nieder-. Wojcieszów was also included in Johann Gottfried Knie's inventories of villages, settlements and towns in the Silesian province, published in 1830 (Knie, Melcher 1830, 323, 324) and 1845 (Knie 1845, 279). Both publications maintained the division of villages, listing nine estates in 1830 (Tschirnhaus-Kauffung was omitted by mistake) and ten in 1845. Paul Stockmann compiled the chronology of ownership of the ten estates in the Wojcieszów monograph (Stockmann 1892). The entry is annotated to indicate that the information was partly taken from land books, old land registers and from jury books. The list contains ten landed estates and their owners. The nomenclature used in the aforementioned items generally coincides. The Elbel-, Stöckel-, Lest-, Stimpel-, Tschirnhaus-, Heiland-, Niemitz-, Mittel-, Nieder- and Lehngut-Kauffung estates have the same names in both Knie publications (Knie, Melcher, 1830; Knie, 1845) and Stockmann's monograph (Stockmann 1892). For the Elbel-, Lest-, Mittel- and Nieder estates, Zimmermann uses the names of the owners (Zimmermann 1786), while identification of the estates is possible based on ownership data according to Stockmann (Stockmann 1892). Address books from 1857, 1873, 1892 and 1910 and 1912 are less consistent in their descriptions of the ten estates due to ownership changes and mergers. Twenty-first-century publications are much less detailed;

for example, Robert Weber only describes Stöckel-Kauffung (Weber 1909, 31, 32; Tafel 90–91). A contemporary catalogue of art monuments, published in 2006 (Brzezicki et al. 2006), mentions three Stöckel-, Mittel- and Nieder-Kauffung palaces.

Analysis of iconographic and cartographic sources

In the fifth volume of his mid-18th-century lexicon (Werner 1758), Werner included a drawing showing the manor and farmhouse buildings located in the vicinity of the riverbed. The drawing is signed: "Kauffungen. Obere Hof". The text of the manuscript notes the presence of seven noble residences but does not provide additional information to identify the owners of the depicted buildings. According to Artur Kwaśniewski's interpretation (Kwaśniewski 2023), the manuscript presented two manors: Elbel and Lest. The Lest estate was visible in its entirety, while the Elbel estate was depicted as an elongated brick building in the corner. The author of this text interprets Werner's depiction as the Stöckel manor house with an adjoining kitchen on the southern elevation, located on a slope descending westwards towards the Kaczawa stream (Fig. 1).

Today, an invaluable cartographic source is Regler's map from the 1760s (Regler 1763/1770). This depicts several manor settlements, ten of which can be located in places later described as noble estates (see Fig. 2). Based on the sources cited below, the question of the ownership division of the village remains unresolved. One nobleman's estate may include several manor houses and not necessarily contain a lord's house, but recording the names of the estates provides information about the formation of the village structure. From the map, it can be concluded that the Mittel estate, located next to the church, was probably established within the framework of Wojcieszów's incorporation. In contrast, the Ober and Nieder manors were built outside the village structure defined by the manorial layout when there were no more freeholds in the village. The map perpetuates the division into Ober-, Mittel-, and Nieder-Kauffung. Some of the aforementioned estates have signatures: the Niemitz

Fig. 1. Panorama of the upper part of Wojcieszów.

The south-west corner of the Renaissance manor house is visible (source: Werner 1758)

Il. 1. Panorama górnej części Wojcieszowa, widoczny południowo-zachodni narożnik renesansowego dworu (źródło: Werner 1758)

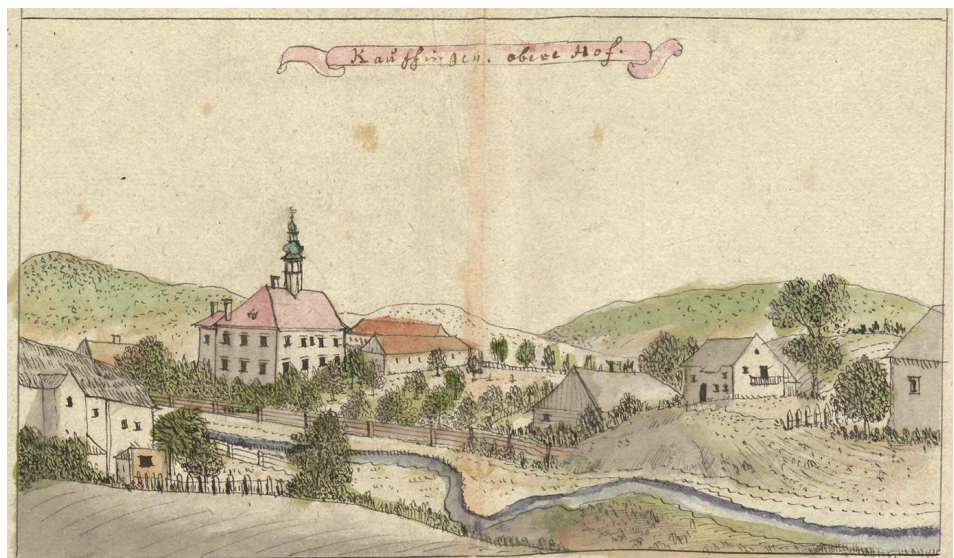




Fig. 2. Regler's map. Location of ten landed estates in Wojcieszów (elaborated by A. Walkowska; source: Regler, 1763/1770)

II. 2. Mapa Reglera, lata 60. XVIII w.

Lokalizacja dziesięciu majątków ziemskich na terenie Wojcieszowa (oprac. A. Walkowska; źródło: Regler 1763/1770)

estate – von Zedlitz; the Stöckel estate – Conrad von Zedlitz; and the Stimpel estate – Stümpfil. These refer to the owners: according to Stockmann's census (Stockmann 1892), the von Zedlitz family was in possession of the Niemitz estate between approximately 1602 and 1803 and the Stöckel estate between approximately 1611 and 1777. Stockmann (1892) and Weber (1909) both record the acquisition of the estate by Conrad von Zedlitz in 1727. Stockmann's publication (1892) confirms the Stümpfil family's ownership of the Stimpel estate, while the property inventory places the Stümpfil family as the initial owners without specifying the time of entry into possession. It can be estimated that this occurred in the late 15th/early 16th century.

An analysis of 19th-century German topographical maps enables the ten estates to be located within the village structure. The Urmesstischblatt of 1824 does not contain descriptions of the individual estates, but the division of the village is maintained and the buildings corresponding to the individual estates are visible. Messtischblatt maps, 1886 edition (Urmesstischblatt 1883–1944) show nine of the estates and illustrate the development of each estate. At this stage of Wojcieszów's development in the 2nd half of the 19th century, two of the estates have already been omitted. Stimpel-Kauffung can only be located based on earlier depictions. Meanwhile, Tschirnhaus-Kauffung can be seen as buildings associated with the railway station and lime



Fig. 3. Map of Messtischblatt, sheet no. 2948, Kauffung, 1886 edition.

The location of ten landowners' estates in Wojcieszów is shown; five of which are marked with crosshatching, are discussed in the article

(elaborated by A. Walkowska; source: Urmesstischblatt 1883–1944)

II. 3. Mapa Messtischblatt, arkusz Nr 2948 Kauffung, edycja z 1886 r.

Lokalizacja dziesięciu majątków ziemskich na terenie Wojcieszowa, pięć oznaczonych zasrafiowaniem zostało omówionych w treści artykułu (oprac. A. Walkowska; źródło: Urmesstischblatt 1883–1944)

works. These buildings do not have a manorial form; they have been adapted for transport. The course of the railway line here is marked together with sidings (see Fig. 3).

Remains of residential and defensive structures in existing palaces (field verification)

The research aimed to locate the remains of residential and defensive structures within the ten estates that have been documented since the 18th century. A comparative analysis was carried out using the latest cartographic representations of the Messtischblatt map of Wojcieszów, the results of the local inspection and numerical terrain models. Five palaces can be identified within the current structure of Wojcieszów and will be discussed in more detail later in this article. However, the location of the other five estates described in 18th- and 19th-century sources is uncertain. These are the Lehnigut estate, which is now home to the Złotoryja Forest District and has a long-standing connection with forestry; the Heiland and Tschirnhaus estates, which were historically linked to limestone mining; the Stimpel estate, which was omitted from the Messtischblatt maps; and the Elbel estate, which, according to Stockmann, was never independent.



Fig. 4. Nieder Palace:

- a) ground floor plan with the eastern range marked. Probably dating from the Middle Ages or the early modern period (elaborated by A. Walkowska, source: Sawińska, Sawiński, 1992b),
 b) depiction on von Regler's map (Regler 1763/1770), c) depiction on the Kaczawa River regulation map (Mapa regulacji rzeki Kaczawy 1908),
 d) numerical model of the area with the probable course of the moat marked (elaborated by A. Walkowska)

II. 4. Pałac Nieder:

- a) rzut parteru z zaznaczonym pasmem wschodnim, prawdopodobnie powstałym w średniowieczu lub wczesnej nowożytności (oprac. A. Walkowska, źródło: Sawińska, Sawiński 1992b),
 b) przedstawienie na mapie Reglera (Regler 1763/1770), c) przedstawienie na mapie regulacji rzeki Kaczawy (Mapa regulacji rzeki Kaczawy 1908),
 d) numeryczny model terenu z zaznaczonym prawdopodobnym przebiegiem fosy (oprac. A. Walkowska)

The **Nieder Palace**, the second estate in the lower part of Wojcieszów, was built in its current form at the turn of the 17th and 18th centuries. It was preceded by a late Renaissance building, traces of which can be found in the form of cross and barrel vaults with lunettes in almost every room on the ground floor (Fig. 4). This building was probably created by extending an even older castle-manor house, probably medieval (Sawińska, Sawiński 1992b). The oldest part can be identified as the eastern, tripartite range of the building, which has an elongated, rectangular ground plan measuring approximately 22.5×9.5 m in external outline. This is quite typical of one-aisle lord's houses¹ from the Middle Ages and early modern period.

¹ In the 14th–16th centuries, single-bay castle or manor houses were quite common in Silesia, with an elongated rectangular plan measuring $9\text{--}10 \times 20\text{--}30$ m. The popularity of the first dimension resulted from the optimization of the length of the ceiling beams ($7\text{--}8\text{ m} + 2 \times \text{thickness}$

The inability to carry out opencast excavations at ground floor or basement level in the present palace does not provide a basis for verifying this thesis. However, it is plausible in view of the very early references already cited (Jurek 2007, 375, no. 1415), as well as the historical cartography. This shows the remains of the moat ring, which are visible on both the Regler map (Regler 1763/1770) and the

of the external walls of 1.0–1.5 m each). The second dimension resulted from the length of the curtain wall, to which the residential wing of the building was added. These houses were two- or three-part. Examples of such layouts include: Bolków Castle, tripartite northern house (B1–B2) (Chorowska 2003, 112), Chudów Castle, southern house (Nocuń 2019, 70, Fig. 2), Grodno Castle, southern wing (Chorowska 2021), Jazwina eastern manor, northern and southern houses (Błonieński, Chorowska 2023a), Kamionna, southern house (Adamska et al. 2024), Siedlimowice Castle, eastern wing (Błonieński, Chorowska 2023b), Słupice, eastern wing (Błonieński, Chorowska, Czarnecka 2023).



Fig. 5. Mittel Palace:

- a) semi-circular doorway with thin chamfer and propeller constituting an opening frame in situ,
 - b) rectangular opening frame mounted secondarily in Renaissance window stonework with fascia profile
- (photo by A. Walkowska)

Il. 5. Pałac Mittel:

- a) półkolisty otwór drzwiowy z cienką fazą i śmigłą, stanowiący obramienie otworu in situ,
 - b) prostokątne obramienie otworu zamontowane wtórnie w renesansie z kamieniarki okiennej o profilu fascjowym
- (fot. A. Walkowska)

Urmesstischblatt of 1824. The outline of the defensive wall is also shown on the 1908 map of the Kaczawa River regulation (Mapa regulacji rzeki Kaczawy 1908) (Fig. 4).

The **Mittel Palace** is located in the centre of Wojcieszów. This rectangular, single-storey building has a mansard roof. It was probably erected in its present form at the turn of the 18th and 19th centuries, in the Baroque style with elements of Classicism, on the site of a much older building dating back to at least the 16th century. This is evidenced by the introduction of lunette barrel vaults with clearly visible seams, which are preserved on the ground floor rooms (Kwiecień 1992). In the basement, in the northern part of the building, there are two doorways: one frames the original opening, while the other was added later (Fig. 5). The breakthroughs in the walls of the northern part of the basement reveal broken stone and hard, heavily lime-based mortar, characteristic of walls erected in the 16th century. The basement rooms are cradle vaulted in an east-west direction. The building originally had a basement only on the north side, which suggests that it was an extension to an older, probably medieval, non-basement structure. However, the lack of access to the walls at ground and first floor level (the building has recently been renovated) makes it impossible to verify this hypothesis.

In his monograph on the defensive foundations in Silesia, Kurt Bimler included a description of the remains of fortifications in Mittel-Kauffung when mentioning Wojcieszów, interpreting them as a remnant of a “primitive defensive system of a land estate” (Bimler 1943, 85, 86). The monument charter, drawn up by Adam Kwiecień (Kwiecień 1992), suggests that the remains of Mittel’s original defensive establishment are two towers located in the palace park, which were rebuilt in the 19th/20th century. The larger of the two towers is located to the south-west of the palace. Its walls are built of broken stone and fine brick with marls, with a fine, light, loose mortar containing a high proportion of dusty lime. The building is tall and has three storeys, with remains of beamed ceilings and window openings visible in the masonry. The mortar used in the construction of the building, the size and shape of the bricks, and the form of the window recesses with flattened bows, allow us to date the construction of this tower to the 1st half of the 17th century. The second tower, which is smaller and currently used for domestic purposes, is located behind the manor house on the north-eastern side. It is similar in size, as indicated by the construction techniques and materials used. Taking into account the conclusions drawn from the analysis of historical cartography, including Regler’s map

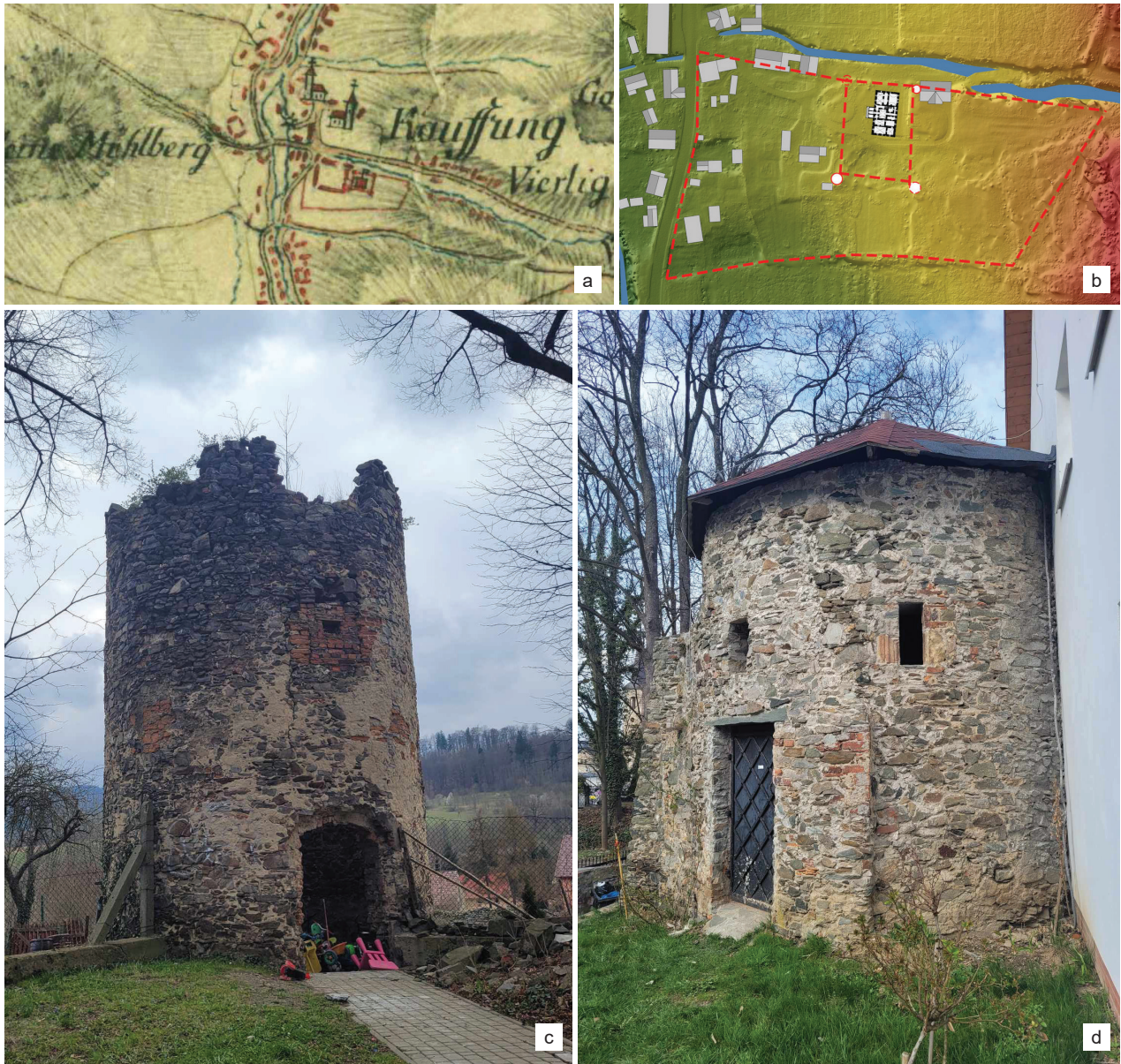


Fig. 6. Mittell Palace:

- a) Regler's map showing the manor's development schematically, indicating two encircling walls: an inner wall with "accented" corners and an outer wall (Regler 1763/1770),
- b) numerical model of the area outlining the two wall rings: an inner quadrilateral wall with corner towers and an outer wall encircling the entire manor development area,
- c) the south-western tower, d) the north-eastern tower (elaborated and photo by A. Walkowska)

II. 6. Pałac Mittel:

- a) mapa Reglera przedstawiająca zabudowę majątku w sposób schematyczny, ale wskazujący, że istniały dwa mury okalające – wewnętrzny z narożnymi „akcentami” oraz zewnętrzny (Regler 1763/1770),
- b) numeryczny model terenu z naniesionym obrysem dwóch pierścieni murów, wewnętrznym, czworobocznym, z basztami w narożnikach, oraz zewnętrznym, okalającym całą powierzchnię zabudowy folwarku,
- c) baszta południowo-zachodnia, d) baszta północno-wschodnia
(oprac. i fot. A. Walkowska)

and Messtischblatt maps, on which the Mittel seat is shown within a walled defensive perimeter of a square design with corner towers, it can be assumed that such a wall existed in the 1st half of the 17th century, providing the building with defensive capabilities (Fig. 6).

The **Niemitz Palace** is located in the central part of Wojcieszów, further south, on the left bank of the river and about 600 m from the village centre. The palace is a com-

pact and massive structure. The two-storey building has a full basement and a habitable attic and is covered with a hipped mansard roof topped with an openwork turret and pointed cupola. The building's current form dates from its reconstruction following the 1816 fire, which destroyed several outbuildings along with the palace. The date on the wind chime is connected to the Neo-Gothic reconstruction of the building in 1863–1864 (Sawińska, Sawiński 1992a).



Fig. 7. Niemitz Palace: a) ground plan of the palace, 1 – hallway, 2 – passageway, 3 – probable location of the kitchen (elaborated by A. Walkowska, source: Sawińska, Sawiński 1992a), b) representation of the Niemitz-Kauffung estate on the Regler map (Regler 1763/1770), c) numerical terrain model showing the buildings of the estate (elaborated by A. Walkowska)

II. 7. Pałac Niemitz: a) rzut przyziemia pałacu, 1 – sień, 2 – przechód, 3 – prawdopodobna lokalizacja kuchni (oprac. A. Walkowska, źródło: Sawińska, Sawiński 1992a), b) przedstawienie majątku Niemitz-Kauffung na mapie Reglera (Regler 1763/1770), c) numeryczny model terenu przedstawiający zabudowę majątku (oprac. A. Walkowska)

During this reconstruction, the front was probably turned towards the road and the entrance axis was strengthened in the form of towers. As the palace is privately owned, it is not possible to carry out an on-site inspection of the interior. An additional description in the white paper was therefore used for dating purposes: [...] *on the first floor, the vestibule and rooms in the eastern wing to the south have barrel vaults with lunettes and cross vaulting (two southern rooms); the northern corridor is also vaulted* (Sawińska, Sawiński 1992a, 5). The complete basement of

the building may also indicate the homogeneity of the present block's origin. The plan shows that the wide hallway originally led to a narrow passageway. The front was where the hallway is now, overlooking the manor yard, and the back was where the passageway is now, overlooking the road. It is likely that during the rebuilding in 1863–1864 the front was turned towards the road and the entrance axis was reinforced with towers. Presumably, the large hall to the left of the hallway, which has a pillar in the middle, may have been the kitchen, with the bottle chimney having been removed during the rebuild (Fig. 7).

The **Stöckel Palace** was built on a roughly rectangular plan, with a tower in the south-west corner. The two-storey body of the building is covered with a gable roof and has façades. The north-facing front elevation contains the main entrance, which is framed by a three-axial risalit, topped with a triangular gable.

In March 2023, an architectural survey of the Stöckel Palace was carried out², made possible by the almost total absence of plaster and the extensive damage to the walls of the front elevation, battered external and internal plasterwork, and dismantled window frames. The research identified four phases of the building's transformation, the first of which dates back to the late 16th century (Fig. 8).

The earliest building phase is characterised by the use of a distinctive stone weft, with broken stone and slate employed in the levelling layers. The courthouse was built on a roughly rectangular plan, measuring approximately 27×15 m at its outer edges. It was divided into two sections running the length of the building: a wide section at the front facing north, and a narrow section at the back facing south. The longer elevations faced north (front) and south. The building was designed as a three-storey structure with a residential attic on the third storey and a basement. The building was sufficiently well preserved, and the unplastered walls were clear enough to allow the functional layout of the individual storeys to be reconstructed. The uppermost third storey, which was partly under the roof, contained two bedrooms on the east side, as evidenced by the remains of two latrine bays (Fig. 9). The roof, as indicated by masonry relics, probably had two dormers on the main axes of the longer elevations. Chambers may have been located there.

On the first floor, at the centre of the plan, there was an upper vestibule. On both its eastern and western sides were two flats, which were almost symmetrically distributed in relation to the vestibule. Each flat consisted of two rooms: a large, heated chamber with windows facing north, and a narrow chamber containing a toilet bay. Remnants of one of these flats, including a passageway that had been bricked up in the rear perimeter wall of the building, were discovered in the eastern suite chamber. On the ground floor, the large room at the front of the passageway was occupied by the main hallway. At the centre of the extension of the vestibule, there was a two-legged tunnel staircase, with a narrow passageway leading outside the manor house or to the south extension next to it. Relatively little is known about

² The research was carried out on the basis of a survey and drawing inventory; A. Kościuk, Pracownia Architektoniczna ARCHIKON, concept for the reconstruction of the palace in Wojcieszów, 2019.

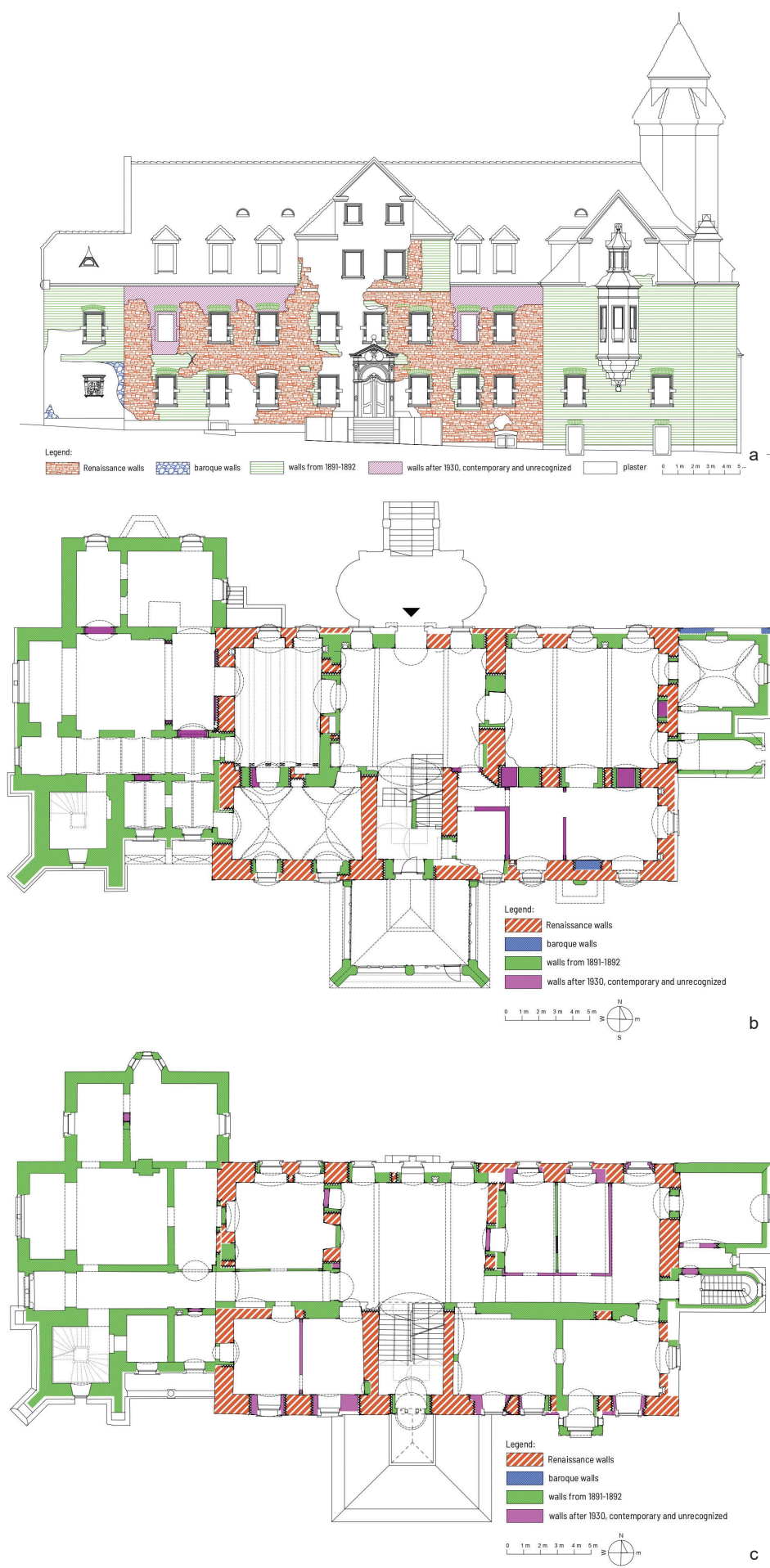


Fig. 8. Stöckel Palace,
chronological stratification:
a) northern front elevation,
b) ground floor projection,
c) ground floor projection
(elaborated by A. Walkowska)

II. 8. Pałac Stöckel,
rozwarstwienie chronologiczne:
a) elewacja północna, frontowa,
b) rzut parteru,
c) rzut piętra
(oprac. A. Walkowska)



Fig. 9. Stöckel Palace, preserved remains of two latticework bays together with the battered frame of the passage through the east gable wall (photo by A. Walkowska)

Il. 9. Pałac Stöckel, zachowane pozostałości dwóch wykuszy latrynowych wraz z ciosowym obramieniem przejścia przez wschodnią ścianę szczytową (fot. A. Walkowska)

the function of the ground floor rooms as no clear relics have survived to indicate the location of the kitchen.

In the Baroque period, probably at the end of the 17th century, a two-storey basement annex was added to the eastern façade (a buttress is visible on the front façade). The annex had a ground plan measuring roughly 5 m² and was probably three storeys high with a basement. Minor interior alterations involving the use of brick were found, which appear to have been ongoing repairs and adaptations to changing operational conditions.

On 4th July 1891 the estate was passed to Richard von Bergmann, who rebuilt the building in the German Renaissance (Neo-Renaissance) style between 1891 and 1892. The project was commissioned from Wilhelm Rhenius. The reconstruction significantly altered the appearance of the Renaissance manor house. A wing with a high tower was added to the west. The eastern annex was enlarged, and a veranda was added. The building was also covered with a high roof featuring high gables. On 2nd July 1930, the palace partially burnt down. The roof of the main body and the tower's spire were destroyed. The subsequent renovation resulted in the reconstruction of the building in its current, simplified form.

It is significant that the ground plan of the Niemitz palace and the original foundation of the Stöckel palace – the Renaissance palace – are essentially the same. This coincidence may indicate that the two palaces were constructed around the same time. Excluding later additions, these are late Renaissance designs that are highly developed in terms of function and space³. In both cases, Stockmann's prop-

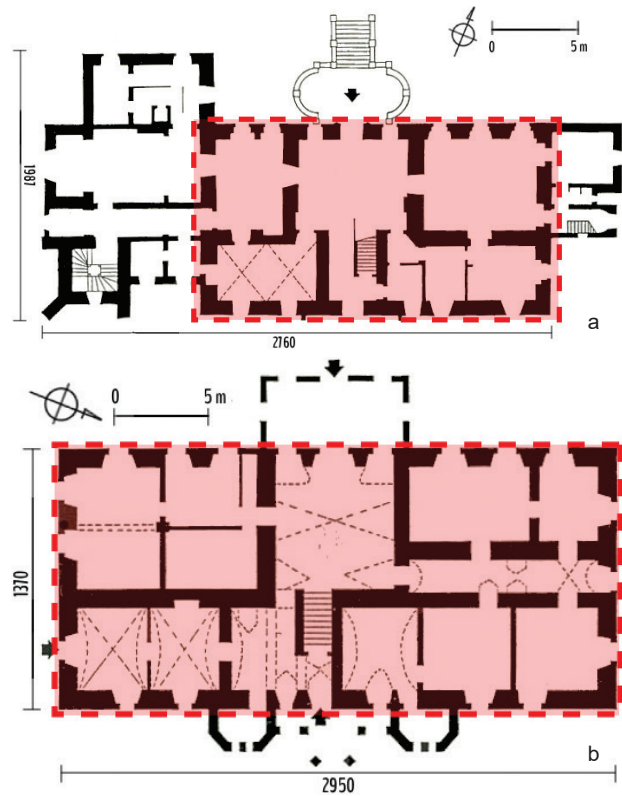


Fig. 10. Comparison of ground plans of the Stöckel palace and the Niemitz palace.

Both have a rectangular plan with proportions of approximately 1:2, set up as a two-bay, three-bay layout with a hallway on the axis (in the case of Stöckel it is shifted slightly towards the west elevation), with a staircase located on its extension and continuing into the rear exit (elaborated by A. Walkowska; source: Sawińska 1991; Sawińska, Sawiński 1992a)

Il. 10. Porównanie rzutów przyziemia pałacu Stöckel i pałacu Niemitz. Oba mają plan prostokątny w proporcjach około 1:2, założony jako dwutraktowy, trójpasmowy z sienią na osi (w przypadku Stöckel przesuniętą nieco w kierunku elewacji zachodniej), z klatką schodową umieszczoną na jej przedłużeniu oraz dalej przechodzącą w wyjście tylne (oprac. A. Walkowska, źródło: Sawińska 1991; Sawińska, Sawiński 1992a)

erty inventories list the first owners of the estates as the 1st half of the 16th century. However, the inability to carry out an architectural survey of the Niemitz Palace means this thesis cannot be verified (Fig. 10).

The **Lest Palace** is located at the southern end of the village. It was probably built in its current form around 1870, and the eastern gable of the building bears the initials of its founder, Traugott Busse. The palace's body is compact, reg-

³ The advanced nature of their plans was expressed in the doubling of tracts, which in the case of Silesian castles and manor houses was generally in an evolutionary manner in the 2nd half of the 16th century. Wide single-arched buildings could be rebuilt by dividing the outermost rooms in half, while the central part with the function of a hallway remained undivided. An example of this was found in the case of the manor house in Komorowice near Wrocław (Chorowska 2021). Narrow single-tract

buildings were given a second tract, whereby it could be about half the width of the front tract. In the Wojcieszów manor house the whole layout was found to be single-phase and a functional distinction of rooms was noted, with a hallway, hall, passage, a separate tunnel staircase vaulted chamber with almaria(?) function and heated chambers on the ground floor and chambers with latrine bays on the floors.

ular and symmetrical. It is a two-storey building with a basement and usable attic, covered with a mansard hipped roof. Originally, the building was constructed on a rectangular plan with stocky proportions and a small, pillar-shaped, rectangular entrance portico enclosing the axial main entrance. In the 19th century, two side risalits were added to the garden façade, connected by a central columned portico with an axial entrance. Today, after the garden portico was walled up for the second time, the building has an almost square footprint (Sawińska, Sawiński 1996). Of the aforementioned 18th- and 19th-century sources, only the 1845 village inventory contains the notation “1 h. Schloß” [transl. one palace]. It is difficult to identify the building as having been constructed on the remains of an earlier structure. The ground floor plan contained in the white sheet is probably a sketch rather than an accurate inventory of the building’s dimensions, including proportions and wall thickness. An in situ architectural survey is severely limited by the building’s excellent state of maintenance, with regular repairs and no loss of plaster.

Summary

Based on an analysis of source publications alone, it is possible to identify the families that lived in Wojcieszów, and date the area to the medieval period. This was a time

of great fragmentation of ownership, continuing through to the 17th–18th centuries. It was also a period of final transformations, connected with the merging and disappearance of individual estates, in the light of the town’s industrial development. Further field research on the palaces may reveal information about earlier buildings and how palace and manor spaces were formed. Based on the research and analysis carried out, it can be concluded that two of the five existing palaces in Wojcieszów were probably built on the remains of medieval buildings: Nieder and Mittel. Conclusions as to the extent of the original foundations require a full architectural survey, which would be very difficult given the current state of the buildings. The buildings are in good to very good condition; a non-invasive in situ survey might not have yielded the expected results. A comparative analysis of the Stöckel and Niemitz Palaces reveals similar architectural features, suggesting that both estates originated at the end of the 16th century. In contrast, due to the regularity of its layout and the lack of irregularities typically associated with structural expansion, it is difficult to determine whether the Lest estate was built on an earlier (medieval or early modern) foundation.

Translated by
Mateusz Walkowski

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Streszczenie

Majątki ziemskie i siedziby szlacheckie w Wojcieszowie

Wojcieszów położony jest w południowo-zachodniej części Śląska, na obszarze Gór Kaczawskich w Sudetach Zachodnich. Historycznie znajdował się w granicach księstwa świdnicko-jaworskiego. Wyróżnia się wielością obiektów rezydencjonalnych funkcjonujących na przestrzeni wieków, co było następstwem znacznego rozdrobnienia własności ziemskiej, jak również pochodną wielkości wsi, tj. arealu i potencjału gospodarczego.

Celem autorki artykułu była próba identyfikacji średniowiecznych i renesansowych siedzib szlacheckich na podstawie analizy źródeł pisanych, kartografii historycznej, badań architektonicznych pałacu Stöckel i lustracji terenowej wybranych obiektów. Istotą rozważań jest wskazanie lokalizacji historycznych folwarków i dworów, przedstawienie danych na temat nazewnictwa oraz informacji z opracowań dotyczących przemian własności majątków ziemskich w Wojcieszowie.

Wyniki przedstawionych analiz umożliwiają rozpoznanie rodów posiadających dobra na terenie Wojcieszowa oraz datowanie obecnego arealu miasta na okres średniowiecza, czasu największego rozdrobnienia własności na XVII–XVIII w. oraz końcowych przemian związanych z łączeniem i zanikaniem poszczególnych majątków w świetle rozwoju przemysłowego miasta. Na podstawie zgromadzonych informacji możliwe jest datowanie istniejących pałaców na czasy średniowiecza i renesansu.

Słowa kluczowe: architektura, Śląsk, średniowiecze, Wojcieszów, dwór