



DEFENSIVE WALLS In the 50's of fourteenth century, the city was surrounded by a ring of fortifications, mainly from the north and west. From other sides, Lidzbark is protected with natural barrier - Lyna river. The mighty walls running along Hoza, Kajka, Reja, Kasprowicza streets, were further strengthened with three city gates, bastions and a wide dry moat in front of it. Initially, the wall reached a height of over 5 meters, with several construction compounds within each section. In the lower parts of the towers, shooting slots are preserved. Later, the wall was increased by 2 m, reaching to the parapet with shooting slots. Bastions allowed for flank fire. Over the years, small houses for poor people were constructed by the wall. Two of them, XV century houses have been preserved, including parts of fortification along Hoza street.



THE HIGH GATE The town used to have three gates, named: Dobromiejska, Mlynska and Wysoka. Only Wysoka Gate fragments have been preserved – the Fore-gate. The fore-gate is made by impressive building of Gothic style, dating 1352. It has semi-circle bastion sides, joined with the main gate frame. The central part of the fore-ground is the lancet drive. Brick Facade is decorated with a frieze on the outside. It displays four blends (bricked up windows) and four shields. To commemorate the siege of 1520 and fierce exchange of artillery fire, stone balls were bricked in the walls of the bastion. Inside, the decoration of the building is modest. At the end of the nineteenth century the Prussians arranged a city prison in the high gate. The structure resembles the gate in Frombork. In summer, the gate is occupied by Tourist Information Point.



ORTHODOX CHURCH The wooden church is an outstanding masterpiece of Protestant Architecture in Warmia. It was founded by Fryderyk Wilhelm III, the king of Prussia, and erected between 1818-1823 on the stone basement. The construction of the church was based on the project of Deputation Building prepared at the University of Berlin, headed at that time by Karl Friedrich Schinkel. The building is made in the half-timbered wood and sand-painted to resemble a brick. This was to serve the visual enrichment of the first in the history Protestant church in the Catholic Warmia. The building was meant to look impressive. The temple was built for the Protestant population. After World War II, it was allocated to the Orthodox church and is now adapted for Eastern liturgy. Inside you can admire the modern icons. On December 17, 1957, the Orthodox Church, of the Holy Apostles Peter and Paul, was listed in the register of the historical monuments.



LIDZBARK WARMIŃSKI

LIDZBARK WARMIŃSKI is located in the north-western part of the warmińsko-mazurskie province. It was originally a Prussian settlement Lecbarg, until being conquered by the Teutonic Knights in 1240 and three years later became a part of the newly established diocese of Warmia. In 1308 the settlement was conferred civic rights by bishop Eberhard. Since 1350, when Lidzbark Warmiński had become the seat of bishops, the town started developing rapidly. Fortifications, the town hall, hospital and church were erected. Waterworks were constructed and works on a brick castle were commenced. In June 1440 Lidzbark Warmiński joined the Prussian Confederation and was integrated under the rule of Poland, hence freeing itself from the Order's power. After the Second Peace of Thorn, Lidzbark Warmiński and the entire region of Warmia was incorporated into the Republic of Poland. In 1497 the town was almost completely devoured by fire. In 1656 Lidzbark Warmiński was besieged by Swedish and Brandenburgian armies, and in 1672 one of the Swedish attacks was repulsed successfully. Between 1703-1709 the enemy troops were occupying the town. Between 1767-1795 its bishop was Ignacy Krasicki. After his death the bishops' seat was moved to Olsztyn. In 1807 one of the largest battles of that region was held – the Battle of Heilsberg, where Russian, Prussian and Napoleonic armies struggled. Between 1821-1823 the first evangelic church in the Warmia region was built. The largest changes in the Old Town development followed the fire of 1865, when the town hall and part of the Old Town were burnt down. The new town hall was built in 1902. Lidzbark Warmiński was conferred back to Poland in 1945, burnt down and ruined. The historic part of the town was built up with large panel buildings. In 1999 Lidzbark Warmiński became a city with powiat rights again.



WARMIA BISHOPS' CASTLE

The Castle called "Wawel of the North" is one of the most precious Gothic monuments in Poland, a symbol of the Town. Built on a narrow strip of land at the confluence of two rivers, Symsarna and Lyna. It is surrounded by a moat, with Fore-Castle on the other side. Solid Structure with a colossal tower, corner towers, the Gothic cloisters of courtyard with frescoes of the fourteenth century, vaulted and colorful polychrome interior of chambers, and cellars with Gothic arches, delight spectator with their splendor. The castle is related to many celebrities. Known inhabitants of the castle were Nicolaus Copernicus and the poet of the Enlightenment Period - Krasicki, who, as the last bishop of Warmia, made the castle to look prince residence. He accumulated here a huge collection of paintings, sculptures and literature. Near the Castle and Orangery, he founded the gardens of English style. During the reign of Prussian authorities, the castle was used for different purposes, and during the Napoleonic wars, served as a barracks, a hospital and a warehouse. At present the castle has been designed for museum purposes.



FORE-CASTLE Once the Fore-Castle was occupied by administration, housing and business. The eastern wing was the residence of the mayor of Warmia. The south wing was occupied by the coach house and apartments, while the west one was for stables and granary.

The most impressive is the east wing, reconstructed into a square during the first half of XVIII century by the bishop Grabowski. The central place of the Fore-Castle Courtyard is taken by the baroque monument of St. Katarzyna, founded by the above mentioned bishop in 1756. In the south - eastern corner, there is cylindrical tower of the sixteenth century, while in the central part of the southern side, the gate tower of the fourteenth century are well preserved. After the war, the Fore-Castle provided different kinds of service for many years. It was occupied by flats, Municipal Guards and reading room. Fore-Castle was renovated and now is occupied by the four-star Krasicki Hotel. During the gala of International Best Hotel Awards in 2012 held in London, the hotel won in the category of "Best New Hotel Construction & Design", as the best hotel in the world.



GOthic CHURCH This is a late Gothic Church and was erected in the second half of the fourteenth century near the defensive wall with 70 m high tower and the flag bearing Bishop Potocki's crest. The three-nave church has a starry vault. Inside, there are a lot of valuable paintings, a baptismal font from the fourteenth century, a chandelier of 1604 and a classical pulpit

made in 1880. Placed before the main altar are two figures of angels dating from 1761, they come from a non-existent altar founded by Bishop Grabowski. On the north side of the church preserved is the carved statue of the Virgin Mary with the Child from 1709 and the Baroque gate from 1760. Between 1870-1876 substantial renovation was conducted. Some buildings from an earlier period have been preserved: the parsonage, presbytery, the Katarzynki convent and the former monastery, a half-timbered building of the seventeenth - eighteenth centuries. The Gothic church is a remarkable complementation of the remaining fortifications.



KRASICKI ORANGERY The Orangery was once the center of so-called landscaped bishop's gardens, located on the right bank of Lyna river. It was destroyed during Swedish Wars. Summer Palace reconstruction was undertaken by Bishop Teodor Potocki, but it was mainly Krasicki who

made the place more attractive. He transformed a small, baroque and neoclassical Orangery, raised on a rectangular plan, into the building of architectural masterpiece. The rebuilding included: the construction of the extreme fine Tuscan columns, making the oval windows of the main room and harmonization of external facade. Quite well-preserved is octagonal central hall, covered with a seemingly flattened dome. Inside, there is exposed part of the wall paintings from the time of Krasicki, representing an allegory of the seasons. The Orangery is one of the most unique buildings in Warmia. Today the building is being revitalized. The plans also include the development of nearby park being an important, historical, public space.