

## DEVELOPMENT AFTER 1942

After the liberation of Lublin in 1944, the university was the first university in Poland to be reactivated after the war due to the efforts of father Antoni Słomkowski and a group of professors. University buildings were in bad condition at the time of their recovery by the university. The rebuilding of the Main Building after the war was the result of joint efforts of the society and Church authorities.

In spite of numerous repressions, the university was very active. The tenure of Father Mieczysław Krapiec OP (1970-1983), who worked together with vice-rector Stefan Sawicki, was a breakthrough period for the university. During this time, rector Krapiec was granted permission to expand the university building. In 1972, Krystyna and Stanisław Juchnowicz designed new fronton with a two-storey aula, spacious hall and administrative offices. Additionally, the third floor was added, the basement adapted and 60 new lecture halls built at that time. In the courtyard of the Main Building of Catholic University of Lublin a monument – homage to John Paul II and Cardinal Stefan Wyszyński – was erected. It was designed by professor Jerzy Jarnuszkiewicz and unveiled in May 1983.



After the end of Martial law in Poland in 1983, many important buildings were erected, including the 11-storey Collegium Ioannis Pauli II (designed by Stanisław Fijałkowski) for scientific, educational and administrative purposes, university canteen and buildings in other parts of the city.

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## UNIVERSITY AFTER 1989

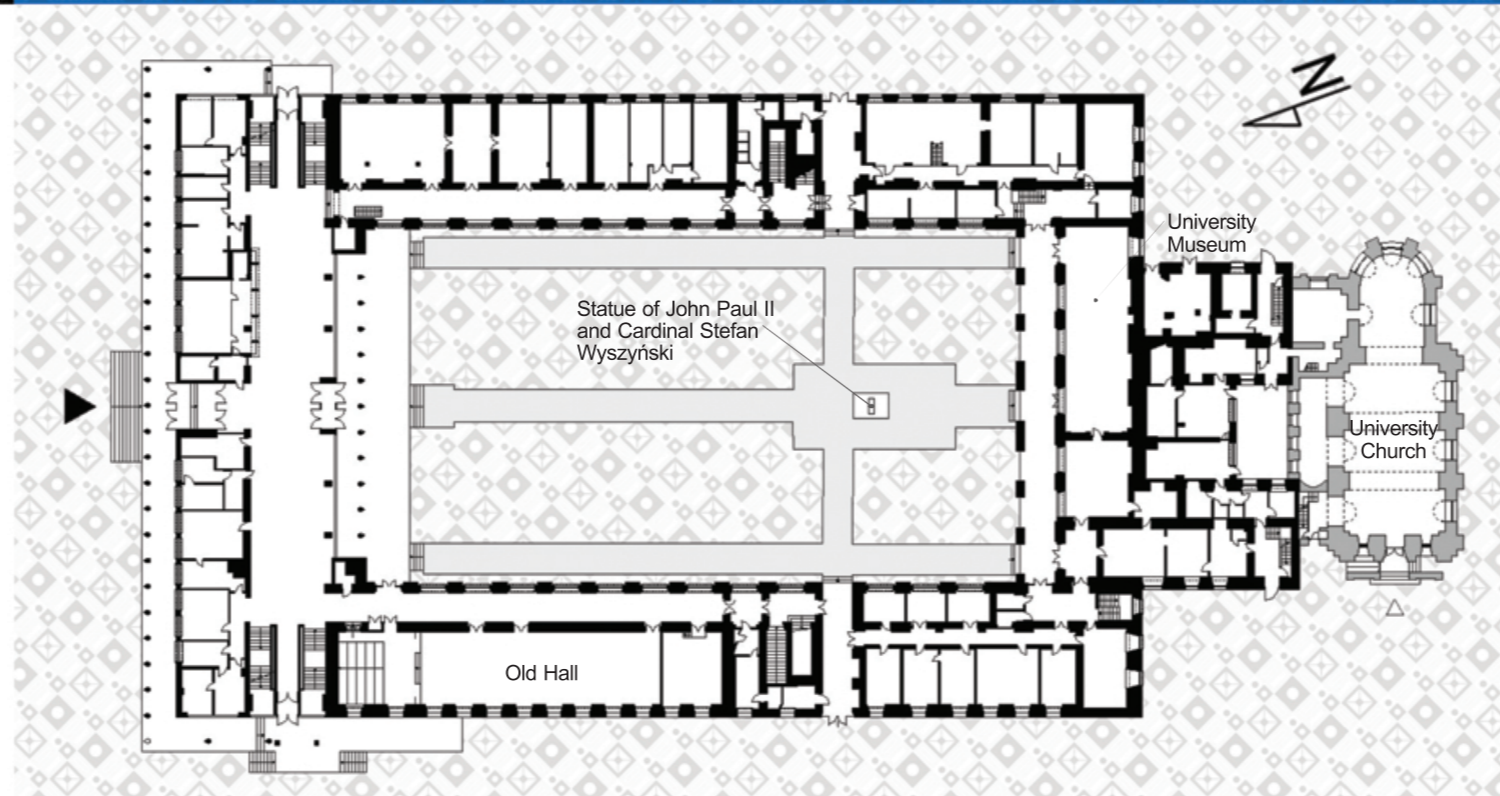
After 1989, with the change in political system, growing inflation and economic recession in Poland, the university was in critical financial situation. Thanks to numerous actions of the then rector, father Stanisław Wielgus, it was possible to save the university from closure and to develop its didactic activity by active cooperation with foreign institutions.

After the death of Pope John Paul II, in 2005 the Senate of KUL passed a resolution concerning the change of name from the Catholic University of Lublin to the John Paul II Catholic University of Lublin. Memory of the Pope, the head of the Department of Ethics at the Faculty of Christian Philosophy in the years 1954-1978, is still vivid at the university.



Photograph by Tomasz Koryszko.

## UNIVERSITY FLOOR PLAN



In the early 1990s „Galeria 1” (Gallery 1) was established by a student of art history, Bogusław Słomka. The gallery replaced the earlier „Inops” gallery which functioned at the Department of Art History, KUL. Thanks to the enthusiasm and ingenuity of Bogusław Słomka, but also of Ewelina Koźlińska and Kamila Salwowska who worked with him, „Galeria 1” quickly became an interesting and recognised gallery exhibiting mainly young artists who were mostly students (although there were also exhibitions of great painters such as Stefan Gierowski). In recent years, „Galeria 1” has undertaken activities outside the university walls. In cooperation with the Faculty of Art at Maria Curie-Skłodowska University, the gallery curators organise exhibitions of students’ works in main galleries of Lublin.

In 2006, Collegium Norwidianum building at Aleje Racławickie was transferred into use. A year later, on 4 June 2007, the statue of Cyprian Kamil Norwid by Gustaw Zemło was unveiled. In May 2008, the University Museum was ceremonially opened. The Museum aims to preserve memorabilia connected with the history of the university since its foundation in 1918 to present day. Its goal is also to create a place where knowledge about university, its mission, current activities and importance in the history of Poland will be disseminated.

The university is constantly expanding its premises and is still developing, as evidenced by the new building erected next to Collegium Ioannis Pauli II, the Centre for Knowledge Transfer, which was transferred into use in 2015.

## ARCHITECTURE

The Main Building of the university has a monumental body composed of three wings and contemporary fronton added from the north, all covered with gable roof. Multi-axial external elevations of the western and eastern wing have scarce decoration with cornice separating the floors and cornice crowning. The horizontal divisions of internal elevations are also articulated by means of cornice between floors and multi-setoff cornice crowning. It is worth noticing the courtyard windows in slightly recessed semi-circular arcades.

The windows on the first and second floor have half-balustraded balustrades as window sills, and on the ground floor rectangular moulded panels. The windows are modern but imitating historical forms.



**Cornice** – architectural element in the form of a horizontal ledge protruding from the wall, which protects the facade against the rainwater; frequently with an ornamental function.

**Baluster** – a vertical element of a balustrade which supports the handrail, in the form of a profiled post, made of stone or wood.



## MONASTERY

Gmach Główny (The Main Building) of the Catholic University of Lublin was the only teaching place the university had until the 1990s. It is a building with a rich and complicated history, during which it was rebuilt many times, resulting in the present monumental character. The history of the area where the university is situated today begins with the wooden church of the Holy Cross whose existence is confirmed by the documents from 1511. The church was built by the high road to Cracow, outside the city walls and near the gallows. In the 17th century, the church was rebuilt in brick and probably in the so-called Lublin renaissance style.

In 1697, a branch of the reformist movement of the Dominican order called the Bertrandists settled in the city. In 1710, the erection of a monastery building started near the church of the Holy Cross. The monastery was surrounded by gardens from the north and east, and by cemetery from the side of the church. The cemetery was later wiped out.

The monastery itself was a brick building partially plastered, with three one-storey pavilions and internal cloister. The monastery was simple, modest and functional, which was consistent with the rule of the Order.

*Philipp Dombeck, Wjazd gen. Zajęczka do Lublina w 1826 r., detail showing Świętokrzyskie Barracks, original of Urząd Miasta Lublin.*



## BARRACKS

Under partitions, Austrian authorities dissolved the monastery and abolished the Order in 1800, taking over the ruined monastery building with the view to transform it into a military hospital. Two years later, the great expansion of the building began, resulting, among others, in the demolition of parts of the buildings and the addition of the second storey to the western (from the 18th century) and eastern pavilions. The northern wing of the monastery was demolished. In its place a new one was built, which was longer than the southern wing. Typical elements of the barracks included monotonous rows of exterior facade windows and three storeys of arcades around the inner courtyard. It was an architectural structure of

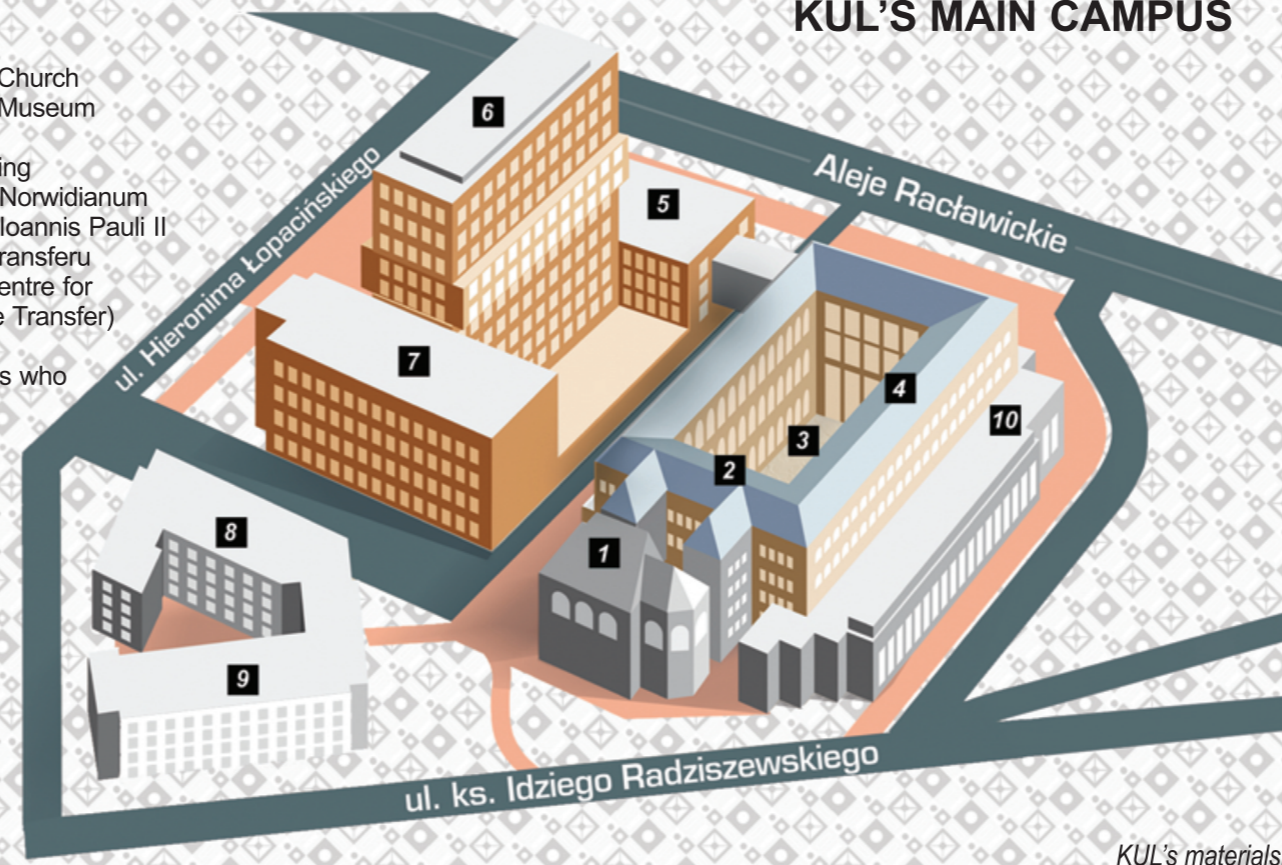
an impressive cubic size, even for a barracks building.

Presumably, the monumental building performed several functions: barracks, military and civilian offices, and military hospital. Austrian barracks were called Świętokrzyskie from the name of the church of the Holy Cross which was also adapted for military purposes. From 1809 the barracks were taken over by the army of the Duchy of Warsaw, and later by the tsarist army until the outbreak of World War I. At the turn of the 1930s, infantry regiment of the Polish Army built the northern wing which formed a closed courtyard with the rest of the buildings. Probably in 1832 the Russians built the arcades of the western and eastern pavilions, and finished the front part.

## KUL'S MAIN CAMPUS

### Legend:

1. University Church
2. University Museum
3. Courtyard
4. Main Building
5. Collegium Norwidianum
6. Collegium Ioannis Pauli II
7. Centrum Transferu Wiedzy (Centre for Knowledge Transfer)
8. Dormitory for students who are priests
9. Students' canteen
10. Mensa



*KUL's materials.*

## THE BEGINNINGS OF UNIVERSITY

After World War I, the buildings of Świętokrzyskie Barracks, where the isolation hospital was located at the time, became the property of the Catholic University of Lublin. The founder of the university was father Idzi Radziszewski, rector of the Spiritual Academy in Petersburg, and the first rector of Alma Mater Lubliniensis. The need to renovate and adjust the buildings to university work arose. The task was entrusted in 1921 to professor at the University of Warsaw and architect, Marian Ludwik Lalewicz.

## LALEWICZ AND EXPANSION

Lalewicz appreciated aesthetic and historical value of the preserved buildings, giving them neoclassical character. After restoring the previously walled up arcades, he placed large windows in their clearances. The windows repeated the shape of a round arch. On the ground floor, the windows were supported by solid window sills, while on the first and second floors half-balustrated balustrades were added. On the ground floor of the southern wing there was an open gallery of arcades which gave lightness to the building.

In 1926, further work was undertaken to improve the university venue. The kitchen and the canteen were completed, as well as staff housing. The courtyard was cleared and since 1927 new lecture halls were systematically built. The main renovation works finished in 1929.

Dormitory for students who are priests was built on university premises in the years 1930-1931. It was designed by the architect Bohdan Kelles-Krauze. In 1953, the building was developed by the architect Czesław Doria-Dernałowicz. During this time two new wings and the third floor were added. During the inauguration of the academic year 1932/1933 the University Museum was officially opened. It was created out of father Jan Władziński's passion for collecting. He was a famous patriot and social worker as well as one of the co-founders of the Lublin Museum.



## GERMAN OCCUPATION



*KUL's archive materials.*

In 1939, Germans entered Lublin and adapted the Main Building of KUL for military hospital. They began the robbery and the destruction of university property. The occupants arrested many teachers and students, imprisoned them and transported to forced labour and concentration camps. Several dozens of people associated with the university were shot dead, which is commemorated by a memorial on the facade of the university church.

Despite these repressions underground education was organised by father Antoni Szymański who managed it until his death in 1942.

*The Main Building of KUL.*

*Photography from the inter-war period. KUL's materials.*

