



WADOWICE
where it all begins

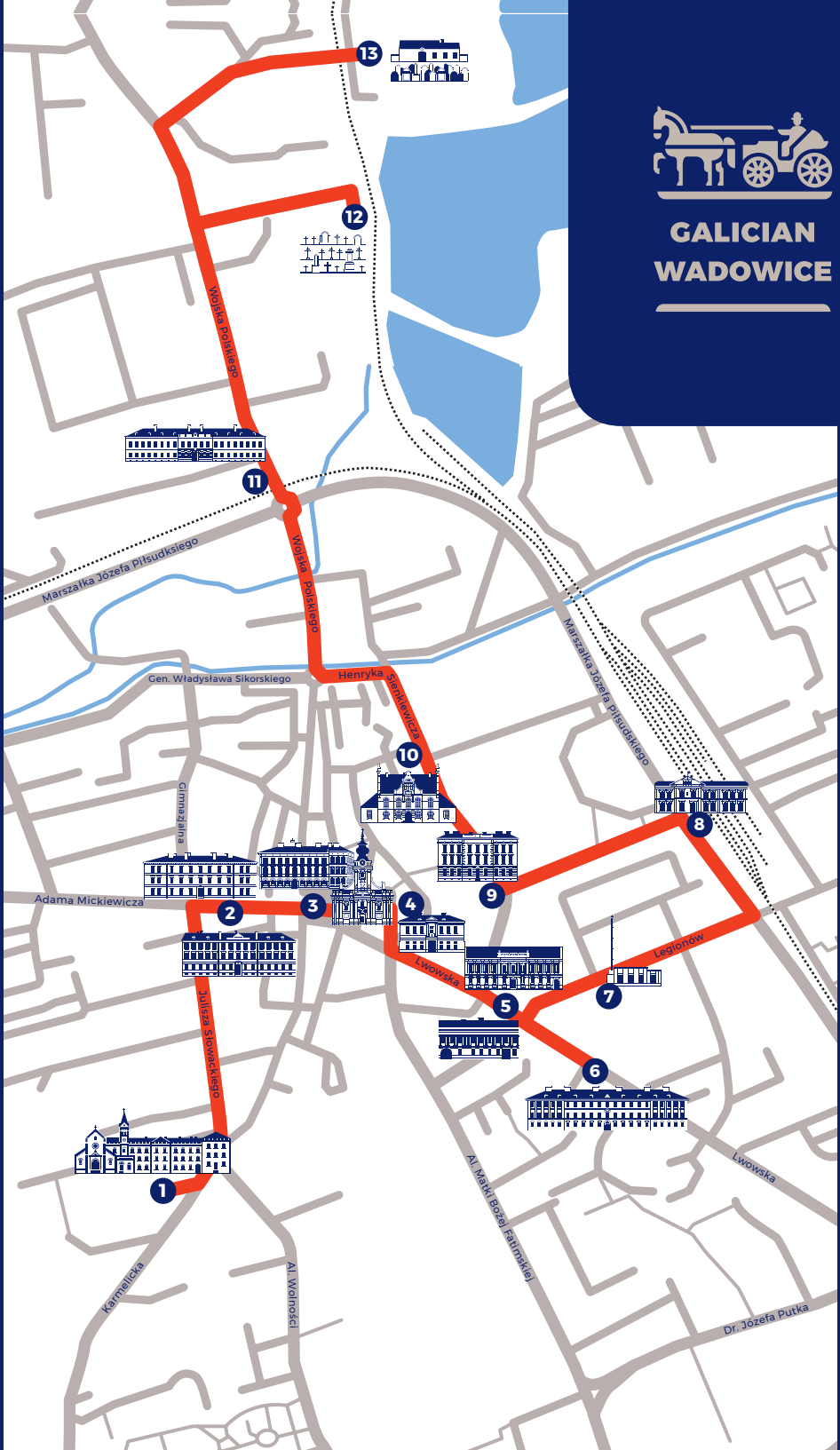


**GALICIAN
WADOWICE**





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As a result of the partitions of the Polish state in 1772, Wadowice found itself under Austrian rule for the next 146 years. Until the turn of the 19th century, it was a town with predominantly wooden buildings and a population of ca. 1.000. Most of the inhabitants were employed in agriculture, or, less commonly, in crafts or trade. The position of Wadowice, located away from the major transport routes, changed in the 19th century due to the building of the Lviv-Vienna trunk road. This development made the town by the River Skawa an important traffic hub and strategic location on the map of Galicia. In 1819, a seat of administration covering a large area was moved here

and soon afterwards a military garrison was located in the town, as well as the district court and a Gymnasium. Those events added new administrative, military and educational functions to the town, which contributed to the increase of its prestige and rank as well as to an economic boom. The Galician times were also marked by a growth in the social activity of the town's inhabitants. At the turn of the 20th century a significant number of associations were established here affecting the cultural and academic life. The processes taking place in the 19th century led to the transformation of Wadowice into a modern European city.



1

Monastery of the Discalced Carmelites



In 1891 the Discalced Carmelites from the monastery in Czerna near Krzeszowice chose Wadowice as a site for their new foundation. The most important criterion for choosing a location was the presence of a Gymnasium in the town. In 1892 the candidacy of Wadowice was announced in Rome, and on 1st August, the first friars settled in the town. Initially, they rented the printer Franciszek Foltyn's house which was situated at the Zatorski Highway (today Wojska Polskiego Street). The Carmelites purchased land for the construction of a temple and the monastic buildings on top of the so-called Górką. It offered a view of the whole Galician town, dominated by the Parish Church, the barracks of the 56th Infantry Regiment, the military hospital, the synagogue and the newly constructed courthouse and adjacent prison. In 1898 the cornerstone was consecrated and laid. The author of the architectural design was Richard Jordan from Vienna; and the site supervisor was Adam Kozłowski, an engineer. A year later, the monastic church was ceremonially

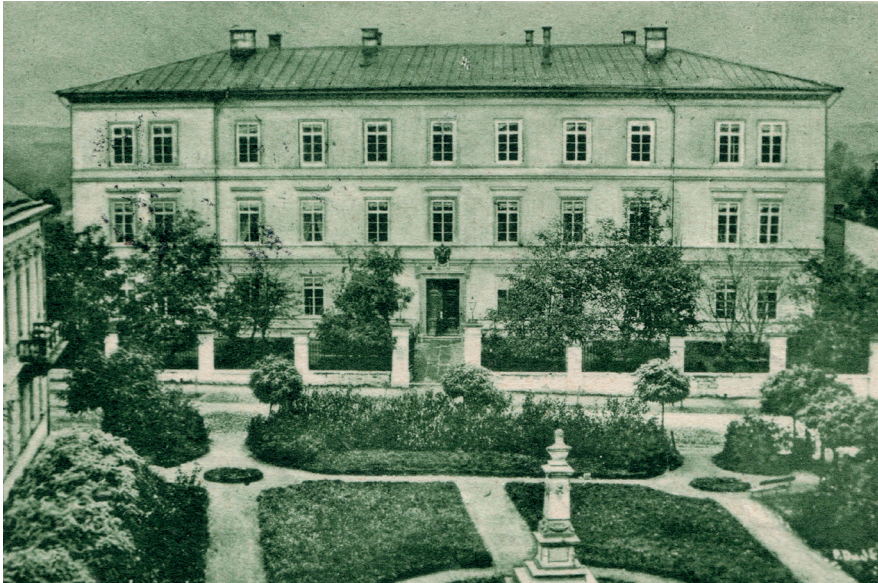
consecrated by the then Bishop of Cracow, Jan Książ Puzyna. His visit to the town was a momentous event for the inhabitants of Wadowice at that time.

One of the initiators of the construction of the Carmelite Monastery was **Father Józef Rybka** (1854-1919) associated with the monastery in Czerna. It was most probably through his mediation that Wadowice was selected as the new seat of the monastery. In 1914 he delivered an impassioned patriotic speech in Wadowice for several hundred members of the Sokół ('Falcon') Gymnastic Society who set off from Bochnia to join the Polish Legions. The Prior of the Wadowice Carmelite Monastery was **St Rafał Kalinowski** (1835-1907). He was born in Vilnius and graduated from the Saint Petersburg Nikolaevsky Engineering Academy. At the rather late age of 42, he joined the Order of Discalced Carmelites and later became its reformer. He died at the Wadowice Monastery at the age of 82. In 1983 Pope John Paul II declared him Blessed, and then Saint in 1991.



2

Judical garden



One of the most interesting urban features found in the Galician town of Wadowice is the garden square situated between the building of the Circuit Court on the southern side, the tenement house of Izydor Daniel on the west, the Gymnasium building on the north and the residential houses of the Leiblers and Andrzej Marekowski on the eastern side. In 1887 a plinth with a bust of the Austrian Baron **Josef Baum von Appelshofen** (1821-1883) was erected at its central point. He was born to a Saxon family which had settled in Poland and made himself known as a local political and social activist. In the 1870s he became personally involved in the advocacy of the establishment of the Circuit Court in Wadowice. The baron's monument became a permanent landmark in the Galician landscape of Wadowice. However, the monument has not survived to the present time.



Building of the Imperial and Royal Gymnasium of Humanities in Wadowice

In 1866, after over 30 years of efforts, the central authorities in Vienna gave permission for the opening of the Gymnasium of Humanities in Wadowice. Until 1895, it was the only Polish Gymnasium in Galicia west of Cracow. For the impoverished young people from the neighbouring counties, education in Wadowice was usually the only viable route to the matriculation examination and then later to medical, legal or theological studies or to a military career. The level of education was very high, which is evidenced by the careers of graduates in those days. Those worthy of a mention include **St Józef Biba Bilczewski** (1860-1923), **General Walerian Czuma** (1890-1962) and the **writer Emil Zegadłowicz** (1888-1941).

Initially, the Gymnasium was housed in the Municipal Office building. The construction of a new headquarters was a prerequisite imposed by the Vienna government for keeping the Gymnasium in Wadowice. The ceremonial opening of the school building took place in 1875 and was attended by the local officials and the school students.

Building of the old Circuit Court in Wadowice

A special place in the public urban space of the 19th-century Wadowice was occupied by the building of the courthouse and prison. In 1876, the Presidium of the Imperial and Royal National High Court in Cracow, with the consent of Emperor Franz Joseph, established the Circuit Court in Wadowice. The town was obliged to prepare a seat for the court. The Town Councillors made the decision to erect a new, modern building. The construction was completed in 1881, and a year later the ceremonial inauguration of the court took place. The town gained the status of a seat of the Circuit Court and thus became the most important judicial centre west of Cracow. From that moment its jurisdiction covered one County Court in Wadowice as well as eleven subordinate courts in Andrychów, Biała, Jordanów, Kalwaria, Kęty, Maków, Milówka, Myślenice, Oświęcim, Ślemień and Żywiec, and, from 1892, also in Zator. The location of the seat of the court in Wadowice was a sign of the prestige and high status of the town in the urban structures of Galicia in those days. At the turn of the 20th century, some famous trials were held here and were followed with great interest by the public not only in Austria but also across Europe.



The famous trial of **Wanda Krahelska-Dobrodzicka** (17-18.02.1908)

Krahelska was a member of the Revolutionary Faction of the Polish Socialist Party and in August 1906, took part in a failed bomb assassination attempt on the Russian Governor-General of Warsaw, gen. Jerzy Antonowicz Skakon. Wadowice was chosen to be the venue of the trial. The Polish jury acquitted Krahelska of the charges brought against her. Outside the courthouse, crowds of town inhabitants and gaping onlookers, who had come to Wadowice especially for this occasion, were waiting for the Polish heroine. Outside the entrance a makeshift wooden triumphal gate was erected, and Krahelska was carried through it upon leaving the courthouse. Krahelska's defence lawyer was the Wadowice-based advocate, **Stanisław Łazarski** (1849-1938). Participation in this trial brought him fame as a lawyer. On recommendation of Józef Piłsudski, he was honoured with the Order of Polonia Restituta and the Cross of the Legions.

The tenement houses of the Leiblers and Andrzej Marekowski

The Courthouse Garden is adjacent, on the east side, to the Leiblers' tenement house, which was connected into one structure with the house (closer to the courthouse) belonging to a local advocate, Andrzej Marekowski - a participant of the 1863 January Uprising. Due to the location of Marekowski's house, some law offices had their seats in it. The people whose lives are associated with the house include the writer and dramatist **Adolf Nowaczyński** (1876-1944) and most famously, **Stefan Kotlarczyk** (1874-1931), a local cultural activist and the father of **Mieczysław** (1907-1978) - the founder and manager of the famous Teatr Rapsodyczny (Rhapsodic Theatre) in Cracow.

Izydor Daniel's house

The growing affluence among the towns people of Wadowice meant that brick houses and tenements became a permanent feature of the Galician town towards the close of the 19th century. They were erected not only in the market place but also along the major streets diverging from the town centre. Some of them have remained landmarks of Wadowice until the present day and form the jewel of bourgeois architecture of the Galician period. One such house is the freestanding building in the western part of the Courthouse Garden, in Mickiewicza Street, formerly Wiedeńska (Vienna) Street. It was constructed by a local advocate, **Izydor Daniel** (1852-1917/1918) - one of the most distinguished citizens of Wadowice in those days.



3 Wadowice Market Square



The spatial arrangement of the Wadowice Market Square was initially shaped in the late Middle Ages. In the 16th century, the town was extended along the north-south axis. After the First Partition of Poland (1772) and the establishment of Galicia, the spatial arrangement of the town was markedly transformed. The Vienna-Lviv trunk road was built through the central point of Wadowice. From that moment onwards, the town developed along the main road from the west towards the east. At that time, work was begun to improve the appearance and functionality of the Market Square. The ditch that divided the square into two parts was backfilled, and in the early 19th century the graveyard surrounding the parish church was removed.

The spatial arrangement of the Market Square was also affected by the last great fire in the town in ca. 1818/19. As a result of this, the eastern frontage was completely destroyed. Then the square space in the shape of an equilateral quadrilateral ceased to exist. The Market Place was 'opened' towards the church and so it has remained ever since.



Every Thursday in Galician times, Wadowice transformed itself into a huge fair. Crowds of traders occupied nearly all the streets diverging from the Market Square. The central square in town was also the main point of trade. In the 19th century, it was commonly believed that you could buy and sell basically everything at the fair. Therefore, alongside the sumptuous stalls and the overfilled carts of the wealthy traders and artisans at the Wadowice fair, there were also small no-frills stalls run by petty retailers offering junk.





Church of the Presentation of the Blessed Virgin Mary in Wadowice

Among the most important public buildings in 19th century Wadowice were sacral buildings. The first mentions of a parish church in the town date as far back as the 14th century. In the mid-18th century, the original wooden structure of the sanctuary was replaced with a brick construction, which was later on extended. In the late 19th century the church façade was remodelled together with the clock tower according to the design of the Cracow-based architect Tomasz Pryliński. At that time, the façade was adorned with figures of saints by Zygmunt Langman. They represent the Mother of God with St Adalbert and St Stanislaus, the patron saints of Poland.



Municipal Office building

The prestigious character of the town and its demographic development motivated the authorities to adapt their seat to the new circumstances. On the northern side of the Market Place, to the left of the church, the building of the Magistrate's Office was constructed in 1846 and replaced the worn-out wooden Town Hall. Initially, also the County Court, the Gymnasium and the main state school had their seats here. The distinguished Mayors of the town that are worth mentioning include **Tadeusz Starzewski** (1860-1931), Doctor of Law and member of the Department of the County Savings Fund, and **Franciszek Opydo** (1856-1923), a physician and a deputy to the State Council in Vienna.



4

The Gedl Family Tenement House



Brick tenements appeared in the town's landscape as late as at the turn of the 19th century. One of the oldest, a classicistic building in the style of a city manor house, was erected ca. 1800 at No. 291 Kościelna Street (today it is No. 4). Over the years, the house, as well as the neighbouring buildings and other properties in this part of the town, were owned by renowned and wealthy families of Wadowice – the Schwarzs, who came from Silesia, and the Gedls. Among the citizens of the town were **Albert Gašiorowski** (1840-1888), a Gymnasium teacher, and **Julian Feliks Morelowski** (1850-1916), a doctor of law. However, the vast majority of the population was made up of peasants, shoemakers, drapers, tailors, carpenters, butchers and servants. In 1919 **Jan Moskała** (1868-1944), doctor of All Medical Sciences, became the owner of the house. He donated his possessions to fund financial support for students of the Jagiellonian University. Nowadays, No. 4 Kościelna Street houses the Town Museum and Tourist Information Office.



5

Building of the Poviatic Council and the Poviatic Savings Office and building of the Teofil Wysogład Restaurant



The Lviv-Vienna highway was for Wadowice the main transport hub from the very moment the road was routed. In the 19th and early 20th centuries, urban development followed the routing of the road in the west-east axis. In the following decades the most important public buildings were erected along this road.

Building of the former Poviatic Council and the Poviatic Savings Office

A visible symbol of the construction boom in Wadowice in the 1890s was the building of the Poviatic Council and the Poviatic Savings Office (1896), which is still today one of the architectural gems of the town. The building was erected according to the design of the Cracow architect, Ignacy S. Sowiński (1858-1917). At the turn of the 20th century, one of the wings of the building was occupied by the Poviatic Savings Office. It was the first such institution at the county level in Galicia (1873) and it was responsible for granting loans and keeping accounts. It was also in charge of the regional branch of the National Bank of Lviv. Before the outbreak of the First World War, the building also housed the base of the First Scout Troop named after S. Żółkiewski, among the active members of which were **Józef Herzog** (1902-1983)





and **Wincenty Bogdanowski** (1894-1982). Herzog was a soldier of the Polish Legions (from 1915) and then of the 56th Infantry Regiment of the Austrian army (from 1917). When the battle for the borders of the Second Republic of Poland was over, he served in the Polish Army. During the period of communist rule, he founded the secret Union of Polish Legionnaires in Cracow. As a student of the Wadowice Gymnasium, Bogdanowski served in the function of Team Leader in the First Scout Troop of Wadowice. In later years he was the Vice Mayor of Cracow and an activist of the Polish Peoples' Party.

Teofil Wysogład's restaurant, hotel and theatre cinema

Opposite the Savings Office building, a posthouse was built (1805); later on, it was rebuilt (1900) and housed T. Wysogład's restaurant. At the rear, the Clerks' Reading-Room, also named the Official (Municipal) Casino was established. In January 1915 this place

was visited by Józef Piłsudski, who was travelling via Wadowice with his legionnaires. The 'U Wysogłada' ('At Wysogład's') was a venue for events on various festive occasions, such as student balls ('Studniówki', i.e. the traditional balls held approximately a hundred days before the school-leaving examinations); also theatre plays were performed here. During the First World War, the inhabitants of Wadowice wanted to create at least an impression of 'normality'; and so, around late 1915 and early 1916 a cinema-theatre was established at the restaurant. The repertoire included films such as, *Quo vadis* (1915), *Alexander* (1916), *Matyl* (1917), *The Last Days of Pompeii* (1917) and *Cleopatra* (1917).

A regular visitor to the Clerks' Reading-Room was **Jan Dorosiński** (1862-1942), a professor and director at the Gymnasium in Wadowice. It was there that he followed his passion for chess. In 1908, in Cracow, he won (as the only one) a game against the later American chess champion, Frank Marshall.

6

Wadowice barracks

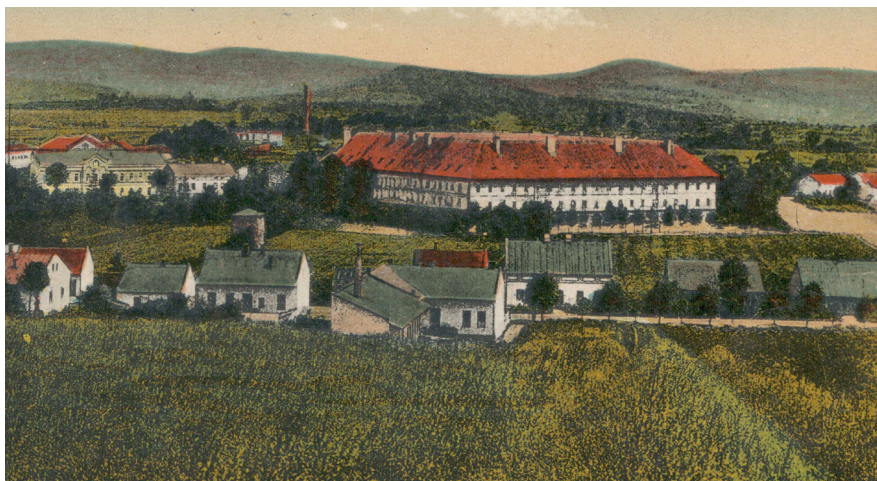


Until the 1770s, the major transport routes bypassed Wadowice; hence, the town did not have any strategic or military importance. This situation changed fundamentally with the 'arrival' of the Austrians. As early as 1790, the Austrian command, fearing war with Prussia, decided to deploy troops along the road connecting Wadowice with Sucha in order to safeguard the traffic moving towards Hungary. But it was the routing of the highway connecting Vienna with Lviv that turned out to be decisive. It was then that Wadowice became an important point on this route.

The military advantages of the town had already been noted at the turn of the 19th century. By 1820 a provisions warehouse was built for the army in the western part of Wadowice in Wiedeńska (today Mickiewiczza) Street. Soon after, the seat of administration of the district was moved to Wadowice (1819), the first military troops began to be redeployed to the town. These were reserve units of the 56th Infantry Regiment of Myślenice, which arrived in Wadowice in 1823.

Barracks of the Imperial and Royal 56th Infantry Regiment

In 1825 Wadowice was chosen to be the permanent base of the 56th Infantry Regiment (Kaiser und Koenig Infanterie Regiment). At present, the three-storey building (from 1827) is considered as one of the better preserved buildings of this type in Poland. The barracks were constructed on the 'Imperial Highway' (approx. 600 m from the town centre) so that the army could use the main transport route of Wadowice and Galicia whenever it was convenient. Until the mid-19th century, Wadowice remained the most important point on the military map in western Galicia. The local garrison not only fulfilled the functions of police and defence, as during the November Uprising, but was also a considerable force in suppressing the Cracow Uprising (1846). In the latter half of the 19th century, the military status of the town began to decrease, which followed from the change made by the army command in





Building of the 'municipal barracks' of the 54th National Defence Regiment

In the mid-19th century, the garrison was strengthened by the addition of cavalry troops. For this purpose, in 1854, the buildings situated opposite the main infantry barracks were appropriately adapted. The other barracks, together with the stable facilities at the back of the building, could house at least a cavalry squadron. In order to satisfy the needs of the army, huge swathes of land stretching towards the River Skawa (eastwards) and towards the Łozówka field (north-westwards, as far as Młyńska (currently Legionów) Street, were taken over. In the cavalry barracks, referred to as the 'municipal barracks', the 54th National Defence Regiment (Landwehr) was stationed. Then, in 1901, it was moved to Cieszyn where it was incorporated into the 31st National Defence Regiment. In the first few years of the 20th century, the land occupied until then by the cavalry troops, the National Defence Regiment and the artillery was converted into the industrial district of Wadowice, which still exists today. In 1871 command over the local Landwehr (National Defence) Regiment was taken over by Józef Baum's elder brother, **Antoni Baum** (1819-1888). He took part in one of the biggest battles of the 19th century, the Battle of Königgrätz (1866), which was the decisive battle of the Austro-Prussian War.

the tactics as well as the fortifying of the strongholds in Cracow and in Przemyśl. When Poland regained independence, the place of the 56th Austrian Regiment was taken over by the 12th Infantry Regiment, which from 1924 bore the title of the 12th Infantry Regiment of the Territory of Wadowice.

The 56th Austrian Infantry Regiment could boast its own signature piece of music. The score *Potpourri fur Militar Musik* was composed by an infantry soldier and member of the regiment band, **Josef Dawid**.



7 Municipal power plant



The first plans regarding the construction of a power plant appeared as early as 1905. It was then that the authorities of Wadowice, headed by the Mayor Jan Iwański, concluded an agreement with the Vienna company owned by Johann Holzer. During the period of construction, the entrepreneur was given a rent-free lease for the post-military buildings situated in Młyńska (currently Legionów) Street.

The contract provided for a so-called 'lighting calendar' which described in a detailed manner the schedule of supplying electricity to illuminating lamps. Individual customers were obliged to settle accounts in the form of lump



sum payments depending on the number of electricity meters installed.

The start-up of the Wadowice power plant was delayed because the entrepreneur from Vienna terminated the contract. Towards the end of 1905 a new agreement was concluded with the Vienna-based company Kraft und Lichtenlager Gesellschaft und A. Brauner und Comp. Wien. Under the new agreement, the company agreed to supply electricity to 130 incandescent lamps, 25 smaller lamps and 3 large arc lamps. The municipal authorities were guaranteed a revenue equal to 50% of the company's profits. The power plant was finally opened in 1906, and a year later it was already serving 147 customers in the municipality.

The power plant in Wadowice (one of the first in Galicia) was a marker of the civilizational development that was accomplished by the town at the turn of the 20th century. The electrification made up the foundation for further development of the industrial town, which became intensified just before the outbreak of the First World War and immediately thereafter.



Railway Station of the Emperor Ferdinand Northern Railway



The inclusion of Wadowice to the railway network of Galicia, and indirectly to Austro-Hungary, opened the way for the town's inhabitants to travel to Cracow, Lviv and even Vienna. This decision meant that the army would stay in the town, which had an economic significance and contributed to the economic development of the region.

In the early 1870s, the authorities of Wadowice initiated efforts aimed at routing the railway line from Bielsko through Wadowice to Kalwaria, and on to Cracow. The first train arrived at the Wadowice railway station in 1887. The railway station was intended to be located on the periphery of the town, which was a common trend in provincial towns; another important factor guiding the choice of location was the proximity of the railway station facilities to the military barracks and the whole infrastructure belonging to the Imperial and Royal Army. At the end of 1887 the construction of the railway station infrastructure commenced. The station that was then built has remained until this day a prime example of the Galician railway architecture of the 19th century. The building had areas for passengers, a telegraph (later on also a telephone exchange) and even flats for railway personnel. In 1888, a water tower was constructed within the station

premises, as well as two cranes that were used to fill steam locomotives with water. In the early 20th century, a zone concentrating some bigger industries began to form around the railway station. The industrial district stretched along Młyńska (currently Legionów) Street. Before the First World War, the former military facilities were converted into, among other things, the municipal power plant (1906), the first Galician workshop producing Christmas wafers (1909) and a branch of the factory belonging to the H. Cegielski Stock Company in Poznań (1913).



9

The Franz Joseph I Girl's Department School



The development of education in the latter part of the 19th century, and especially the rapid growth of the number of primary school pupils, was the main reason why the authorities of Wadowice erected a magnificent edifice for the female faculty school. Design and architectural work started in the mid-1890s. Among those who entered the competition for the architectural concept was the excellent Wadowice-born Cracow-based architect, Franciszek Mączyński. However, the school building in Długa (today Sienkiewicza) Street was built, in 1899-1901, most probably according to blueprints borrowed from the construction of a similar school in Rzeszów. The two-storey school pavilion had 18 rooms, of which 10 were intended for classes.



The Agricultural and Industrial Exhibition

In 1907, Wadowice hosted a large agricultural and industrial exhibition which attracted several thousand visitors from Galicia and other parts of Austro-Hungary. The exhibition was divided into several sections depending on the category of products being exhibited. The exhibitors included businesses, associations and schools from across the Wadowice county, a lot of companies from Cracow and even from outside Galicia. After the closing of the official part, a festival took place at the exhibition grounds and several hundred people took part in it. *Whoever went to Wadowice yesterday in order to have a close look at the exhibition did not regret having gone there on that day and not on any other, because on that last Sunday, Wadowice was not Wadowice but rather, due to the commotion which prevailed there, a tiny piece of Vienna, Paris or London. Until midday it was still quite okay in the exhibition grounds but soon after the first afternoon train,*

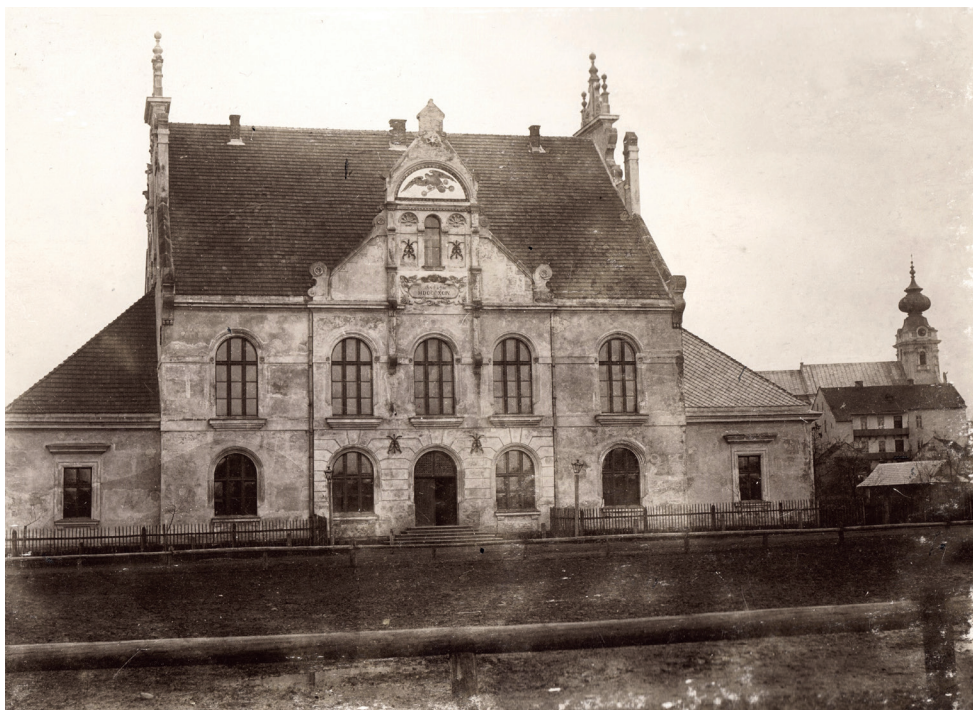
i.e. from Cracow, had arrived, all the corridors and rooms in the exhibition hall were at once filled with a crowd of visitors, and suddenly this spacious building was as overcrowded as if it were at the church during the High Mass. One can only imagine what was going on after the arrivals of the trains from the directions of Bielsko and Sucha. Nowa Reforma ('New Reform') daily (No. 402, 3rd September 1907).

10 “Sokolnia” in Wadowice



The Sokół ('Falcon') Gymnastic Society became the symbol of the social activity of the inhabitants of Wadowice. The idea of 'falcon' societies was born in Habsburg Bohemia, whence it reached Austrian Galicia in 1867. It was in 1887 that inhabitants of Wadowice established their own falcon organisation. The goal of the association was promoting kinetic gymnastics and conducting educational activities. The majority of the 31 founding members were advocates and teachers. The construction of the Wadowice 'Sokolnia' ('Falcon House') was completed in 1889. However, the new building turned out to be insufficient for the needs of the association. Later that same year it was

reconstructed according to the concept of the excellent architect, Teodor Talowski. In 1897 there were noisy celebrations of the tenth anniversary of the activity of the Society in Wadowice; it was also an opportunity to organise the First Regional Jamboree of the 'Falcons'. Activities organised by the 'Falcon' were attended by pupils from local schools, among these students from the Gymnasium. Apart from gymnastic activities, the society also offered an amateur drama club and a choir as well as cycling, fencing, tennis and bowling. From the beginning of the 1890s, members of the 'Falcon' would prepare an ice rink in winter. An important area of





activity were also classes in shooting. After 1912 the Falcon Field Team had up to 160 shooters. In September 1914 the shooters from Wadowice were incorporated into the organisation of the Polish Legions. The head of the 'Falcon's nest' was **Mieczysław W. Gedl** (1852-1901). He was born in Vienna but chose to live in Wadowice. He moved to Wadowice in 1877 and started his medical practice.

His duties with respect to the town included being the court and prison doctor as well as a town councillor. From December 1888, he was an ordinary member of the Society. On his initiative, the committee for the construction of the 'Falcon House' was established; and due to his efforts, he was appointed director (1890-1901).

The famous Migration Trial (1889/1890)

For four months, in late 1889 and early 1890, the famous 'migration trial' was held at the Wadowice Circuit Court. In the dock were 66 members of a criminal group headed by Jakub Klausner. For several years, this group had been involved in migration fraud, extortion of money from people who tried to obtain work in the USA and forcing women into prostitution. Due to the scale of the trial and the number of journalists present, the trial was moved to the largest hall in the town, i.e. to the 'Sokół' ('Falcon'). A total of 439 witnesses were summoned during the trial. Over 400 intercepted documents, letters and accounting books were analysed. The trial ended with only partial success for the prosecutors as the sentences of imprisonment were only diminutive.

11 Military hospital at the Zator Highway



In 1830, a two-storey military epidemic hospital was constructed. For sanitary and epidemiological safety reasons, it was located at the Zatorski Highway (today Wojska Polskiego Street) at a considerable distance from other town buildings. In the late 19th and early 20th centuries, the hospital personnel very frequently were in the forefront of the battle against the rapidly spreading epidemics of cholera, typhus, dysentery and Spanish flu. During the First World War, the facility was overcrowded as there were as much as several thousand people staying on the premises. At that time wooden huts with 'patient rooms' were constructed at the back of the hospital. In the town itself, several major public buildings were seconded to serve as field hospitals. Among the patients at the epidemic hospital were also prisoners of war serving in the Tsar's army, and later on Ukrainians, Lithuanians and Bolsheviks. In 1833 a hospital for civilians was launched opposite. It fulfilled this function until the mid-1890s when a new hospital building was commissioned in the neighbourhood of the Discalced



Carmelites' monastery.

It was in that hospital that the military doctor **Samuel Taub, MD** (1869-1933) had his medical practice. He was the father of **Henryk Taub** and the first Jewish physician in town. During the years of WWI, he served in the Stanisławów-based 20th National Defence Regiment, which was stationed in Wadowice as an auxiliary formation. After the war, he stayed in Wadowice together with his family. Taub was a benefactor of the Wadowice association Bikur Cholim, the members of which provided free medical care for impoverished Jews.



12 Cemetery of the Nations



As a consequence of building the military hospital, a cemetery was located in its vicinity. The first burial took place in 1849. Up to the outbreak of the First World War, 1.500 soldiers of different nationalities from within the multi-ethnic Habsburg Kingdom were buried in the military necropolis.

In 1914-1918 it became the place of rest for at least 1.200 people who died in the Wadowice military hospitals from their wounds, and above all due to the epidemic diseases. In 1915, this cemetery was incorporated into the war burial system of Austria-Hungary (Military Cemetery No. 473). At the same time, the section of Jewish soldiers buried at a nearby Jewish cemetery was given the number 474B. During the war, the cemetery No. 473 was extended because there was not enough space to bury all the deceased. It was still used after the end of the Great War due to

the presence of a POW camp in the town. In 1918-1921, during the wars for the borders of the Second Republic of Poland, over 2,100 soldiers were buried here. Among those buried were Poles, but also, among others, Bolshevik soldiers (including Belarussians and Ukrainians), Lithuanians and Ukrainians serving in the armies of the West Ukrainian People's Republic and Ukrainian People's Republic. In the 1930s, some of the bodies were exhumed and reburied in collective graves thus decreasing the area of the necropolis. After the Second World War 1.399 Soviet soldiers were exhumed from makeshift war cemeteries in several locations within the then Wadowice County and transferred to the military cemetery in Wadowice. Soldiers buried in collective graves also included German soldiers killed in Tomice and Wadowice in January 1945.



13 Jewish cemetery



Jews were a part of the Wadowice community in the Galician period. Most of them engaged in trade and crafts. In 1880, they constituted over 8% of the total population of the town (404 people), and on the eve of the outbreak of the WWII, approx. 20% (2.000). With the growth of the Jewish community in Wadowice, the Jewish Municipality built a brick synagogue in the style of modern Western synagogues (1885-1889, Gimnazjalna Street, designed by Karol Korn).

The Jewish Cemetery was established in 1892, in the neighbourhood of the military cemetery. The Jewish Community had begun efforts for its location as early as 1876. Eventually, some plots right behind the soldiers' necropolis were purchased. At the entrance gate to the cemetery was a funeral home, Beit Tahara ('house of purification'). Opposite was the caretaker's house. The issues of burial were handled by the Wadowice religious organisation Chevra kadisha.

Apart from the inhabitants of Wadowice and the neighbouring villages, among those buried here were also soldiers of the Mosaic faith who served at the local garrison or died in any of the local hospitals. During the Great War, 42 soldiers were buried here, most of whom served in Austrian regiments

and in the ranks of the Hungarian National Defence; and in 1919-1920 the number was 11, mostly from the Bolshevik army.

The cemetery survived the period of German occupation almost intact. After 1945 the cemetery was restored thanks to the efforts of the religious community of Cracow. Currently, it is under the management of the Jewish religious community in Bielsko-Biała. The last burial took place in 1990. Among those resting at the Jewish cemetery in Wadowice it is worthwhile mentioning Baruch Thieberg (deceased in 1902) and Henryk Taub (1898-1919).

Baruch Thieberg was a participant of the 1863 January Uprising and the first Jew to settle in Wadowice having escaped from the Kingdom of Poland. Following that event, a rapid influx of Jews to the town began. **Henryk Taub** was the son of Samuel Taub. After Poland regained independence, he associated himself with the Wadowice 12th Infantry Regiment. As a company commander, he took part in the Polish-Czechoslovak War over the territory of Cieszyn Silesia and Zaolzie where he was wounded with a bayonet thrust to the chest (1919). He was buried at the Jewish cemetery in Orłowa, and in 1939 his remains were brought to Wadowice.



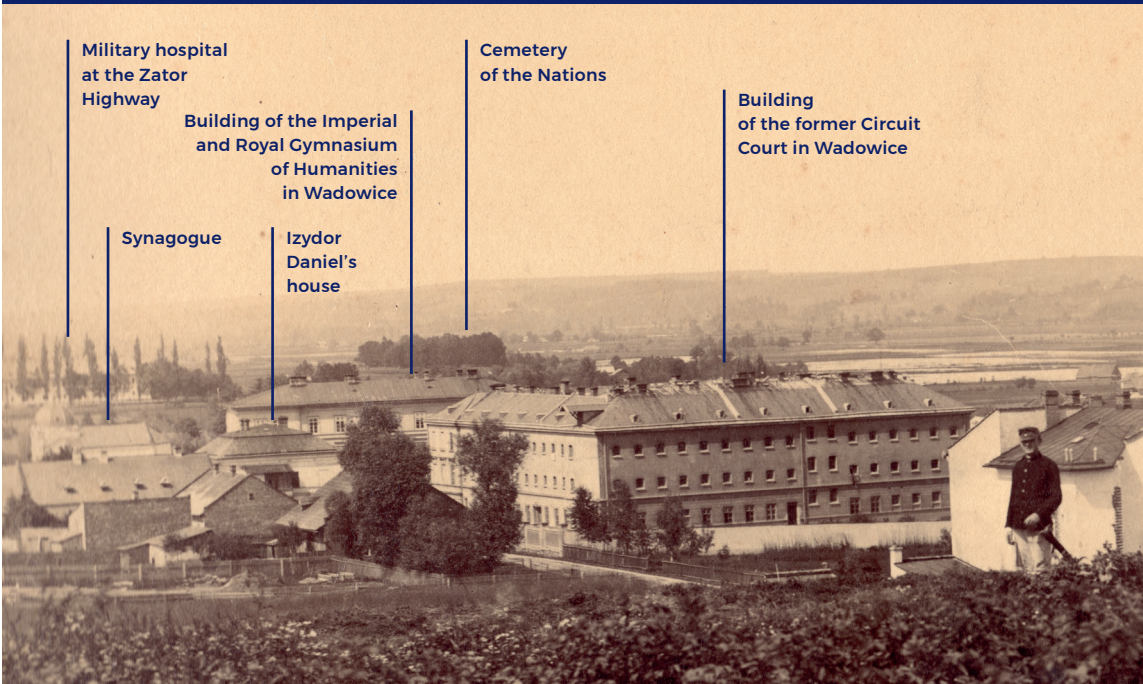
View from the Monastery of the Discalced Carmelites ca. 1880/1890



Municipal Office building

Church of the Presentation of the Blessed Virgin Mary in Wadowice

The Gedl Family Tenement House



Military hospital at the Zator Highway

Building of the Imperial and Royal Gymnasium of Humanities in Wadowice

Synagogue

Izydor Daniel's house

Cemetery of the Nations

Building of the former Circuit Court in Wadowice

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