



The tower regained its former glory

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One of the oldest monuments in Lublin - the Gothic Tower - is now completely renovated. The tower was also subjected to conservation study, the roofing was replaced, and it was enriched with subtle illumination. Today (November 17), the final acceptance of the restoration works was carried out.

- The renovation of the Gothic Tower was a key element of the cross-border project "New life of the old city" implemented by Lublin in partnership with the Ukrainian city of Lutsk. Thanks to it, we were able to thoroughly improve the technical condition of this valuable monument and make it more accessible to residents and tourists. It is a measurable example of how the international cooperation between cities can provide an impulse not only for joint activities of a cultural or social nature, but also for the implementation of investment and infrastructure projects. Cross-border cooperation also gives a greater chance of obtaining European funds for the implementation of projects in the field of monument protection and historical heritage - says Krzysztof Żuk, President of Lublin.

The Gothic Tower, also known as the Half-Round Tower, was included in a comprehensive program of repair works commissioned by the City. As part of the construction works, renovation, supplementation and replacement of the surface in the vicinity of the monument were carried out, as well as a new floor in the interior and maintenance of the roof structure with replacement of the roofing, maintaining the type of tiles. On the other hand, the main emphasis of renovation and restoration works was put on solving technical problems of the building, such as its dampness or delamination of walls.

These works were aimed at desalination, strengthening the structure of bricks and cleaning the walls, replacing the soil inside the tower, preserving and reconstructing stone details, plastering the cornice, as well as filling the defects in bricks and grouting. All works related to the historical elements were carried out on the basis of the technologies recommended in the program of conservation works. The historic building also received new illumination in the form of 5 LED lamps

installed in the floor, special protection against birds and a trellis, thanks to which you can now see inside the tower. The value of performed construction and conservation works amounted to over PLN 850 thousand zloty.

The gothic tower included in the defensive fortifications, located at the back of the building at ul. Jezuicka, is made of burnt ceramic bricks and rocks. The oldest information about the tower itself is the mention of its repair in the city books from 1576, which should be associated with the great fire of the city in 1575. Over the centuries, the tower was rebuilt many times, these changes resulted from the change of the function of the building from defensive to representative. In the 18th century, the way the tower was used changed again. It became a small workshop where candles were made. The present architectural form of the Gothic Tower is the result of renovation works from 1994. The structure is approximately the shape of a half-cut ellipse on the north side, 12.5 m high to the eaves and 21 m to the top of the tower. The building development area is 35 m², the usable area is much smaller and amounts to 12.3 m². There are 9 historic arrowslits in the walls on the south and west sides. The Gothic Tower since 1957 has been entered in the Register of Monuments of the Lublin Voivodeship.

The renovation of historic fortifications in Lutsk and Lublin is the main goal of the jointly implemented project "New life of the old city: revitalization of monuments of historical and cultural heritage of Lutsk and Lublin" implemented under the Poland-Belarus-Ukraine Cross-Border Cooperation Program 2014-2020.

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