

WIELKOPOLSKA (GREATER POLAND) MILITARY MUSEUM: HISTORY OF AN UNUSUAL MUSEUM

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The beginning of historical-military museology in Poznan dates back to the mid-19th century and was associated with the Poznan Society of Friends of Learning established in 1857. Its founding members, owing to the lack of possibility of establishing a Polish university in the Polish territories of the Prussian partition, assumed the responsibility to preserve Polish national culture and science threatened with Germanization.

Four faculties were established within the organizational structure, among which the Faculty of Historical and Moral Sciences took the priority. Its goal was to establish the Museum of Polish and Slavic Antiquities in the Grand Duchy of Posen (Poznan). The assumption was for it to deal with: 1. *Objects found in ancient tombs called zale, such as: stone and metal weapons, clay vessels, particularly, urns, lids,, dress accessories, etc.*; 2. *Objects that belonged to pagan rites of the oldest residents of this land, such as statues of deities, etc.; mediaeval weapons and utensils, as well as from subsequent centuries*; 4. *Mementoes of illustrious individuals, such as: autographs, seals, busts, portraits, etc.*; 5. *National mementoes, such as: coins, medals*; 6. *National monuments of fine arts and handcrafts.*¹

Thus one of the fundamental activities of the Society was to *save history monuments*. Next to the activity of a strictly scientific character, the amassing of an archival, library, and museum collection was begun, creating a set of artworks as well as of archaeological and numismatic items. The gathered collection was to be made open for viewing by the public.

As for historic mementoes, they were, for obvious reasons, related, first of all, to Polish war history. The collection grew mainly thanks to donations. The display space was gradually extended, while the collection enriched with next items. In 1882, built with the donation of Seweryn Mielżyński and with public contributions, the Mielżyński Museum was opened; on 19 December 1908, its new edifice featuring on the fronton THE MIELŻYŃSKI MUSEUM, thus commemorating its main founders, was ceremoniously inaugurated.

A press report read as follows: *In the capital of Greater Poland, Poznan, in Wiktoryi Street there is a sumptuous building. It houses the Society of Friends of Learning, a precious collection of our mementoes, and a rich book collection, namely a library. The edifice we can see today has been here for several years only, however, the Society of Friends of Learning to which it is home has operated for some decades now, this year actually celebrating the anniversary of its foundation.*² The report's author encourages readers to visit the exhibition of archaeological pieces³ and a painting gallery, mentioning the works by January Suchodolski: *The 1809 Battle of Raszyn Between the Austrians and Poles and Stefan Czarniecki Dying. Bidding Farewell to His Favourite Horse.*⁴ The militaria in the cultural-historical collection contained, according to the author e.g.: Polish medals and knight's utensils, boardswords and gorgets, *i.e., metal sheets with the effigy of Our Lady, worn on the chest to protect against bullets.*

After Poland had regained independence, in 1923, the collection was transferred to the Greater Poland Museum (today National Museum in Poznan), and in 1926, to the Wielkopolska Military Museum.

The major German museum in Poznan was the Kaiser Friedrich Museum, from 1904 housed at 9 Wilhelmstrasse (currently 9 Marcinkowskiego Street). It was created in 1894 through the transformation of the Province Museum in Poznan (Provinzial-Museum in Posen), operating at the German Historical Society of the Posen Province from 1885. Predominantly an art museum, it also boasted *historical and cultural antiquities from the Poznan Province*.

In 1916, in recognition of the victories of Paul von Hindenburg, an honorary citizen of the city of Poznan as of 1914, a museum of a military character commemorating WW I and called Hindenburg Museum (Hindenburg-Museum)⁵ was founded. Organized by the recently-established Museum Society, it was to be housed in the building at 7 Bergstrasse (7 Podgórna Str) where the Marshal was born. The objection of the building's owner caused that the Museum was temporarily housed in the outbuilding of the tenement house at 7 Wilhelmstrasse (7 Marcinkowskiego Avenue). As a consequence of the Greater Poland Uprising 1918-1919 also the collection of that Museum had to change hands. On 28 March 1919, some members of the Museum Society declared the cessation of the Museum's activity.

The seizure of the Museum by the insurgent forces was confirmed on 27 March 1919 by the General of the Infantry Józef Dowbor-Muśnicki, commander-in-chief of the Armed Forces in the former Prussian partition. In his order he declared that among the tasks of the Scientific Section at the Headquarters, forming part of the reorganized Ib Department, there was that to *Establish a historical-military museum and to collect in it historical military mementoes (paintings, photographs, etc.)*.⁶ The same order contains another instruction: *I hereby order for all the materials of historical military character related to Polish-German struggles and able to serve as mementoes for future generations, or as materials for history of the struggle for independence, as well as combat activity logs to be submitted by respective Commands of Fronts at the Headquarters by 1 May of this year (Ib section). These materials and logs should cover the combats from 7 January to 1 April of this year.* The task of the Scientific Section at the Headquarters was first of all collecting and providing army troops with regulations and army textbooks, founding permanent and moveable libraries, conducting cultural and educational projects in the army: securing the supply of the press and brochures, holding lectures, etc.

Another piece of information appeared on 9 May 1919. *At the Scientific Section at the Headquarters a historical-military museum is created, whose task will be to collect and preserve mementoes of historical-military content. All the officers and soldiers who own any kind of ancient arms, gear, standards, badges, medals, documents etc., as well as mementoes of the world war are asked to donate them to the historical-military museum. The Museum's office is located at the Mylius Hotel, 23 Marcinkowskiego Avenue, first floor.*⁷

The actions of the Scientific Section at the Headquarters were visible first of all among military units and institutions, however, shortly the Museum also became noticeable



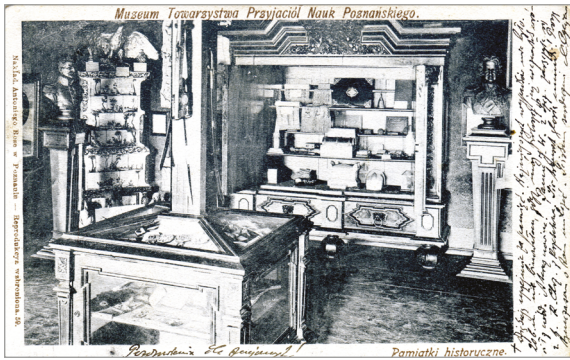
1. Mielżyński Museum of the Poznan Society of Friends of Learning, a postcard

within the social realm of Poznan and Greater Poland. This is testified to, for example, in the announcement that a gallery was planned to commemorate fallen officers and soldiers of the Greater Poland troops *who heroically gave their life for the Polish cause* published in the Poznan press in August 1919. On that occasion an appeal was addressed to the families to send in photographs of the victims.

Despite running works connected with amassing the inflowing items, the collection was displayed to those interested well before the official opening of the Museum. It is known that the participants of the First Congress of Education Department Heads of the Greater Poland Army, held in Poznan on 2–6 October 1919, had the opportunity to see it.

Regrettably, the Museum did not enjoy convenient conditions for its operations, since the rooms on the second floor of the outbuilding in Wilhelmstrasse adjacent to the home to German art and propaganda, i.e., the Kaiser Friedrich Museum, were not extremely sumptuous, and could not fit many items.

The ceremonial opening was performed by Poland's Chief of State and Supreme Commander Józef Piłsudski on 27 October 1919 in the course of three-day celebrations of integrating liberated Greater Poland into the remaining territory of the revived Polish state. However, the opening



2. 'Historical Mementoes', one of the several postcards issued by the Museum of the Poznan Society of Friends of Learning (issued by Antoni Rose in Poznan)



3. Opening of the Military Museum in Poznan by Chief of State Józef Piłsudski on 27 October 1919

of the Museum to the public took place only in December 1920; it was open daily from 10 am to 4 pm, and on Sundays and holidays at 10 am–2 pm.

In late 1920 and early 1921, the orders of the then Commander of the Poznan General District were issued in which Lieutenant General Kazimierz Raszewski instructed the management of officer's messes as well as barracks and formations, offices, and military enterprises for objects connected exclusively with the Prusso-German tradition (first of all paintings) to be delivered to the Military Museum; the purpose was for the *Polish government in case of negotiations with the German government to possess as big as possible a number of mementoes to exchange them for Polish ones looted in the late 18th and early 19th century.*³

In 1922, the Museum Director Lieutenant-Colonel Antoni Seyda, former head of the Scientific Section at the Headquarters, was replaced with the 7-grade military official Antoni Liske who enriched the collection with his private collection of military badges, distinctions, medals, and medallions.

That very year, the Museum was moved to the so-called House of Polish Soldier on the premises of the 58th Greater Poland Infantry Regiment located in Grunwaldzka Str in Poznan. The move was necessary because of the growing number of exhibits and shortage of space at the previous location.

In early 1923, upon the decision of the military authorities the Museum was granted the building at 1 Artyleryjska Str (today Powstańców Wielkopolskich), previously housing the Central Artillery Depot in Poznan; the opening of the new seat took place on 22 April 1923. The local press extensively and favourably informed about it, while in the Order Log of the Command of the 7th Corps District the statement of Major-General Kazimierz Raszewski was issued: *Greater Poland Military Museum. 12618/III. On 22 of April, I conducted the act of opening the Greater Poland Military Museum. The ceremonial consecration and benediction were delivered by His Eminence Cardinal Primate Dalbor. The above Museum should become a temple and a treasury of mementoes so dear to every soldier's heart. However, what has so far been collected in the Museum rooms as a result of tedious and dedicated work of the Museum's Director does not exhaust the historical picture of the development of the Polish Army. Desiring to achieve the possible perfection and magnificence of the collection of the Museum, I wish to unite in it all the mementoes: standards, trophies, photographs, etc., testimonies to the glory and power of the Polish troops from the period of the December Uprising combats against the Germans, the Polish-Ukrainian and the Polish-Soviet campaigns, as well as from the past of the Polish Army. With this purpose in mind I am addressing all the commands and officers with a fervent appeal to provide much friendly support to the Museum authorities, helping them complete the collection, either by depositing with them the collections they have in their respective formations or single objects of historic value. In particular, I am calling for depositing standards currently not used in the service.*⁹

The author of the first in the country permanent historical-military display modelled after the French military museum exhibitions was reserve Lieutenant Rudolf Tarczyński. The room on the first floor was thematically divided into presentations in wall stalls. The main wall on the building's axis was decorated with paintings, busts, and weapons.



4. Opening of the next seat of the Wielkopolska Military Museum by the Commander of the 7th Corps District Major-General Kazimierz Raszewski on 22 April 1923



5. Room on the first floor, wall of fame featuring paintings, sculptures, busts, and weapons, with thematic displays on the sides



6. Room on the ground floor, so-called field display, showing arms; in the foreground a lancer (First Regiment of Greater Poland Lancers) on horseback, further on models of sapper fortifications, finally 'Polish Air Force'

Soon, on the occasion of the fifth anniversary of the Greater Poland Uprising 1918–1919, another section of the display was opened presenting on the ground floor of the building weapons and military equipment, including the only in the inter-war period display of military aviation. The central wall on the first floor was decorated with a symbolic painting by Leon Wróblewski showing an allegory of the victory of the Greater Poland insurgents. Valued assistance in the arrangement of the interior was provided by units of the Poznan Military Garrison, first of all the 7th Regiment of Greater Poland Sappers and the 3rd Aviation Regiment. What is more, the arrangement of the second floor of the building was begun. The Museum was open daily from 10 am to 2 pm. Its activity was secured thanks to the soldiers on duty, most generally selected from among the newly-enrolled ones.

The Great Poland (Wielkopolska) Military Museum soon became one of Poznan's flagships, popular with visitors; visited not merely by militaries and veterans, it also welcomed many illustrious individuals, including Poland's President Stanisław Wojciechowski on 7 March 1924.

In 1926, after the outstanding Poznan sculptor Władysław Marcinkowski had become the Museum's Director, the display on the first floor was altered, while the second floor

also housed temporary exhibitions. Cooperation with the Museum of Greater Poland was started, and militaria from the collection of the Poznan Society of Friends of Learning were taken over; moreover, exhibition catalogues were published.¹⁰

Until 1939 the Wielkopolska Military Museum served as the venue for temporary exhibitions, displays commemorating various anniversaries, education of Polish Army soldiers, and for veteran meetings; moreover, it was a visit destination of civilians and individual visitors. Next to the Army Museum in Warsaw, it was the second military museum in the country. It boasted its own bookplate designed by Rudolf Mękicki back in 1921.

The activity of the Wielkopolska Military Museum was interrupted by the assault of the Third Reich on Poland. Anticipating the possible outbreak of a war, the most precious collection parts were evacuated eastwards with a military transport. They reached the vicinity of Rawa Ruska (today Ukraine) where they were plundered by German troops and the locals, or the Red Army; the further vicissitudes of those museum exhibits have remained unknown. The items left behind in Poznan were inspected by German museum curators. Some were taken to the recreated Kaiser Friedrich Museum, others to other German military museums, while those which commemorated the history of the Polish military were simply destroyed. The building resumed its genuine function, and was taken over by German troops. Museum's 20-year legacy was entirely devastated.

When very briefly summing up the inter-war activity of the Wielkopolska Military Museum what has to be emphasized in the first place is the incredible enthusiasm for



7. Bookplate of the Military Museum in Poznan, Cat. No. 'RUDOLF MEKICKI, F, 1921'



8. Building of the new seat of the Wielkopolska Military Museum in the middle of the Old Market Square in Poznan, 1962

creating a Polish historical-military museum in Poznan. Although under extremely challenging conditions of building the state, enough energy was found to create an institution whose worth and impact was noticed also by the highest military command. The organizers did not allow the transfer of the collection to the Warsaw Army Museum, though such plans were made, and information on attempts to do it appeared in the Poznan press.¹¹

The Museum was not only created in response to an order, for military troops and institutions, but also as willed by society. This being confirmed by a multitude of donors, founders of museum facilities, reaction to the press appeals.

It goes without saying that the Wielkopolska Military Museum was created as a temple of national mementoes and the site of glory of the Polish army. It was believed that it would serve to patriotically educate society, particularly young soldiers and school students. It was meant as a place of reflection over the fate of the old and revived Poland. It was to be a destination for tourists coming to Poznan from different parts of the country: with the latter in mind a post-card featuring the main Museum room was issued.

Despite being a military institution, throughout almost all the time of its existence the Museum was open to everybody wishing to become acquainted with its collection. Very limited staff were able to amass and prepare for public viewing sizeable collections, successfully extending and changing the permanent display, organizing temporary exhibitions and shows. Furthermore, works on respective items were conducted, while experts in given fields were employed to help study the collection. Cooperation was established with the leading cultural institution in Poznan,

namely the Museum of Greater Poland, for instance, in commemorating anniversaries of important events in the history of the Polish nation.

It can thus be said that the Wielkopolska Military Museum was a universal institution, of open character, working for the local and national community, operating within social space. It certainly must have been a major asset of Poznan and the region, since a similar collection of 'historical and military mementoes', of a similar size, was nowhere else in Poland available to the public, except for the Warsaw Army Museum.

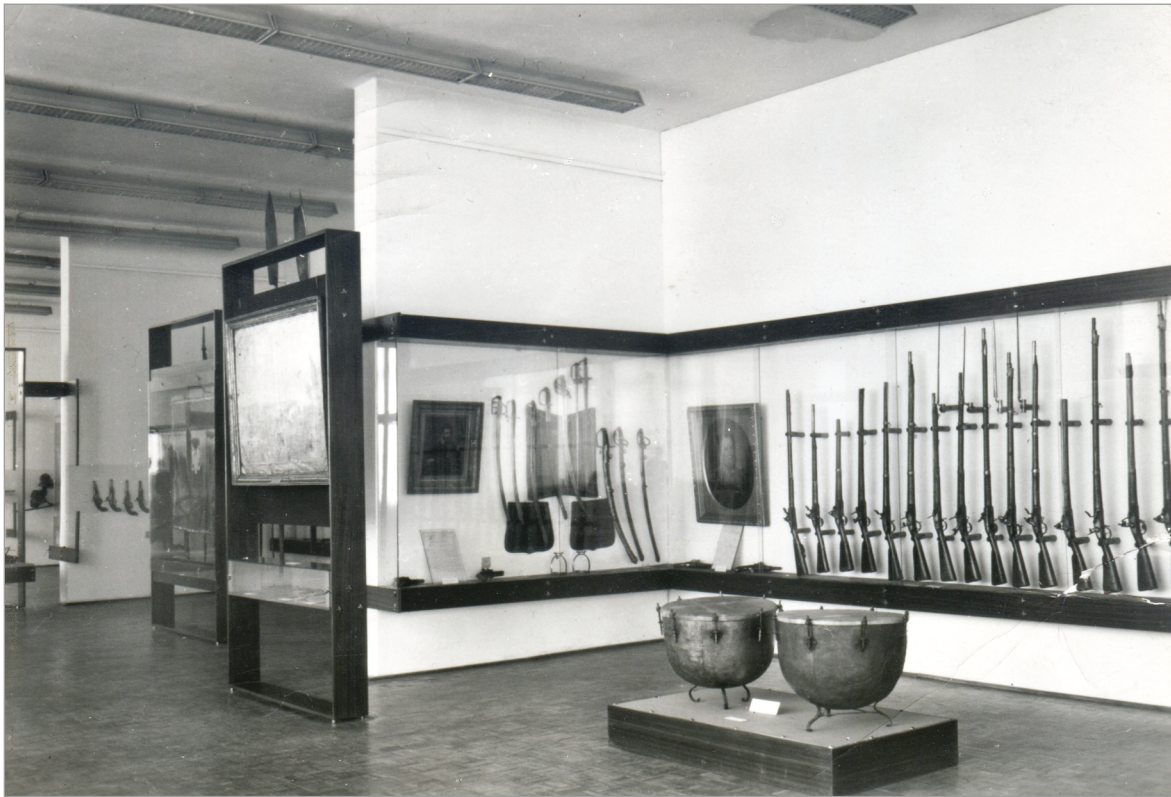
The sad, and actually tragic confirmation of this opinion is to be found in the war vicissitudes of the collection amassed with so much effort and so many means, also of the dedication of the residents of Greater Poland. As already said, the most precious exhibits, inventory books, and the archive were all packed into 36 chests, and on 1 September 1939, transported by railway out of Poznan. They were stuck near the village of Dziewięcierz, some dozen kilometres from Rawa Ruska. There, they were all looted, and nothing is known of their whereabouts. The exhibits remaining on site were taken by the Nazi authorities to the recreated Kaiser Friedrich Museum, but also to museums in Berlin, Vienna, Leipzig, and Nuremberg. After the Polish heritage had been destroyed, military workshops were placed in the building.

This erasing of all the possible traces connected with the Polish military in Greater Poland incorporated into the Third Reich concerned also Polish historical-military mementoes kept in private collections. Punishment, up to death penalty, was administered for possessing them. This led to irreparable losses in Polish national culture.

Regrettably, the situation did not significantly improve in the post-WW II reality. The attempts at re-establishing the Museum undertaken once the warfare had ceased failed. Only after the memorable 1956 events which altered the socio-political situation in Poland was it possible to continue trying again. It was the painter Stefan Pajęczkowski who put forth the proposal to recreate the old military museum. On



9. Opening of the Wielkopolska Military Museum by the Commander of the Operational Air Force in Poznan Brigadier General Pilot Jan Raczkowski on 22 February 1963



10. One of the first postcards released by the 'RUCH' Publishing Office with an erroneous caption *POZNAN MUSEUM OF THE POLISH ARMY, display fragment* (on the first floor – JŁ), *Photo A. Zborski*

20 October 1956, in the Poznan 'Głos Wielkopolski' daily he offered his expertise in *military costumology and arms*. His offer was favourably received by the management of the National Museum in Poznan who permitted to recreate the collection of the Wielkopolska Military Museum, albeit already as a civil institution. The efforts to re-establish the Museum were supported by the National Council of Poznan who also went through the motions of reactivating the pre-war *military-historical museum institution*.

The response to the letter of the Presidium of the National Council of Poznan dated 11 February 1957 came already in early March that year from Brigadier-General Marian Spsychalski. With the decision of 12 March 1957, he instructed for the former seat to be given back to the reactivated Museum. However, the building was not regained, since after the Polish Army had moved out, the Municipal authorities moved in, placing there their institutions.

The efforts to promptly organize the Museum were contributed to by the academic circles of the Adam Mickiewicz University, Society of Friends of Learning, and various organizations: Society of Fighters for Freedom and Democracy (ZBOWiD), League of Soldiers' Friends, or Polish Tourist and Sightseeing Society (PTTK). Stefan Pajęczkowski, who was employed as of 1 November 1957 as a curator of the Military Department at the National Museum in Poznan, was allowed to leave for London in order to acquire exhibits related to the Polish Armed Forces in the West.

The lack of building and difficulties stemming from the attempt to create the Museum as a separate branch of the

National Museum in Poznan could hardly inspire any optimism. The premises offered by the Municipality away from the city centre were not appropriate. Despite the difficulties, the collection was being amassed all the time, with the first inventory entry having been made on 17 February 1958.

Not deterred by the difficulties, the management of the National Museum in Poznan reiterated appeals to citizens in Poznan and Greater Poland, with (...) *an earnest request to all who cherish in their hearts the glorious history of the Polish army and independence fights to cooperate and help amass the collection. Historic items and mementoes from the oldest times to the recent years, such as: arms, armours, paintings and portraits from different eras, uniforms, soldiers' and guerrilla fighters' equipment, standards, orders, badges, documents, leaflets, photographs and all personal mementoes of soldiers and commanders: may they all reach the Museum collection where they will find the place they deserve and protection for future generations. The aspiration of whole society should be for all the historic items to become the national property and to be able to speak with their history in museum rooms. The items can be given to the Museum as donations or deposits, or can be sold. All the declarations of item submission should be addressed to the National Museum in Poznan at 9 Marcinkowskiego Avenue.*¹²

The interventions to resolve the stalemate in the efforts to find a venue for the new Museum went on until May 1961, when the Presidium of the National Council of Poznan decided to assign to the Museum one of two



11. Current view of the Wielkopolska Military Museum, entrance from the west



12. Display fragment on the ground floor of the Wielkopolska Military Museum



13. Display fragment on the first floor of the Wielkopolska Military Museum
(Photos 1, 2, 7, 10 – private collection; 3, 4, 5, 6, 8, 9 – National Museum in Poznan; 11, 12, 13 – J. Łuczak)

modern pavilions (in the place of the old Cloth Hall) having just been completed amidst the Old Market in Poznan being rebuilt after the WW II destruction. On 22 July 1962, Prof. Zdzisław Kępiński, the then Director of the National Museum in Poznan, received the keys to the new facility.

In the press report from the guided tour of the Museum facility it was observed that the Museum would show the generally defined struggle of the Greater Poland people for freedom. The building's ground floor was to be allocated to the exhibits related to the military from the beginning of the Polish state until the partitions, whereas on the first floor plans were made to focus on the combats of the Greater Poland Uprising 1918–1919 and liberation struggles, including WW II. In total, plans were for displaying about 3.000 exhibits.

The first assumed date for the opening of the Museum on the 44th anniversary of the outbreak of the Greater Poland Uprising 1918–1919 was not kept. The next one proved a bit more realistic. The new Museum was inaugurated on 22 February 1963, on the eve, as emphasized in the report, of the 18th anniversary of the city liberation. In the presence of Jerzy Kusiak, Chairman of the Presidium of the National Council of Poznan, who in the name of the city authorities handed it over to the community of Poznan, the ceremonial opening was conducted by the Commander of the Operational Air Force in Poznan Brigadier General Pilot Jan Raczkowski. Among numerous representatives of the authorities and society there was also Colonel Kazimierz Konieczny, Director of the Museum of the Polish Army in Warsaw. The institution was first opened as the Museum of the Army, to be later called Museum of the Arms, and as of 16 July 1966 Regulation No. 91 of the Minister of Culture and Art finally confirmed it being a Branch of the National Museum in Poznan, restoring its historical name: Wielkopolska Military Museum.

The first permanent display was based on the own collection of the National Museum in Poznan and exhibits acquired as deposits from the Museum of the Polish Army in Warsaw. Following the chronological order as originally planned, the ground floor displayed exhibits related to the army from the beginning of Polish statehood to the 18th century, while the first floor was dedicated to the period of national uprisings and the Polish military of the 20th century. With minor changes the arrangement has survived until today. Out of necessity, temporary exhibitions are held mainly in the first part of the ground-floor room, while displays to commemorate certain occasions are mounted at other spots of the permanent exhibition. The next Museum Director was Tadeusz Jeziorowski (1973–2012). His work is continued by the Author of the present paper.

In the over 50-years' activity of the presented Museum over several dozen exhibits have been acquired: in their majority coming from individual donors. Many exhibitions and displays have been held, several dozen publications have been released, and many educational activities have been conducted, continuing what was initiated in 1919.

Many of the activities have aimed at recalling the rich legacy of the Museum, in 2003, opening the exhibition: 'Guarding Memory. On the 40th Anniversary of the Opening of the First Permanent Display at the Wielkopolska Military Museum'.¹³ Ten years later the National Museum in Poznan issued a set of 13 postcards with photos of the pre-WWII

display commemorating the 90th anniversary of launching the first in the country permanent historical-military display.¹⁴ The following year, a similar set of postcards commemorating 95 years since the establishment of the Museum was released.¹⁵ The latter featured photographs documenting the first permanent exhibition in the post-war history of the Museum. On 27 October 2019, the jubilee Exhibition 'Wielkopolska Military Museum 1919–2019' was mounted

accompanied by a catalogue presenting a brief history of the Museum and its achievements; furthermore, selected items from three factual sections of the Museum were presented: the Weapon Section, Section of Uniforms and Military Signs, and the Historical Documentation Section.¹⁶

The Wielkopolska Military Museum is today the only existing institution stemming from the Greater Poland Uprising 1918–1919.

Abstract: The beginning of historical-military museology in Poznan dates back to the mid-19th century when the Poznan Society of Friends of Learning assumed the responsibility to save historic monuments, and began to establish the Museum of Polish and Slavic Antiquities in the Grand Duchy of Posen (Poznan). The task was to collect archival, library, and museum materials, including militaria. As a result of these efforts, in 1882, the Mielzynski Museum was established which boasted an exquisite painting gallery, containing historical painting, a rich archaeological and military collection, and a sizeable collection of so-called historical mementoes: weapons, orders, decorations, etc.

In the aftermath of the Greater Poland Uprising 1918–1919, the Hindenburg Museum founded in 1916–1918 was transformed into a Military Museum. The ceremonial opening was held on 27 October 1919 by Józef Piłsudski, Poland's Chief of State. The quickly growing collection was moved from Marcinkowskiego Avenue to the barracks in Bukowska Street, and subsequently to a new seat at 1 Artyleryjska Street in Poznan. The solemn opening of the Wielkopolska Military Museum was held on 22 April 1923 by the Commander of the 7th Corps District Major-General Kazimierz Raszewski. In 1939, anticipating the threat of war, the most precious

objects were evacuated eastwards, and looted there. The items which stayed behind ended up in German museums. The mementoes connected with the history of the Polish military were destroyed, and the Museum was wound up.

The first attempts at reactivating the Museum following WWII failed. It was only with the 1956 revolt that civil and military authorities changed their approach, The National Museum in Poznan undertook the first efforts. The Museum did not go back to its pre-WWII seat, but found home in a modern building in the Old Market Square in Poznan, to be ceremoniously launched on 22 February 1963 by the Commander of the Operational Air Force in Poznan Brigadier General Pilot Jan Raczkowski.

Having recreated its collection, the Wielkopolska Military Museum, already as a Branch of the National Museum in Poznan, has held many exhibitions and shows. Moreover, it has released many publications, and run a broad range of educational activities. Among other projects, it has also made reference to the pre-WW II Museum. On 27 December 2019, a new jubilee exhibition 'Wielkopolska Military Museum 1919–2019' recording the 100-years' history of the oldest historical-military museum in Poland was inaugurated.

Keywords: museum, historical-military museum, Greater Poland and Poznan.

Endnotes

¹ A. Wojtkowski, *Historja Towarzystwa Przyjaciół Nauk w Poznaniu* [History of the Society of Friends of Learning in Poznan], in: 'Roczniki Poznańskiego Towarzystwa Przyjaciół Nauk' 1928, Vol. 1, *Towarzystwo Przyjaciół Nauk w Poznaniu w latach 1857-1927* [Society of Friends of Learning in Poznan in 1857-1927].

² A.K., *Przechadzka po Muzeum Mielżyńskich w Poznaniu* [Walking across the Mielżyński Museum in Poznan], in: 'Przewodnik Katolicki' 15 April 1917, No. 1, pp. 134-136.

³ *Przewodnik po zbiorach przedhistorycznych Muzeum im. Mielżyńskich. Z 12 tablicami ilustracji i planem działu przedhistorycznego* [Guide to the Pre-historic Collection of the Mielżyński Museum. With 12 Plates with Illustrations and Plan of the Pre-historic Section], Poznań 1918 – with the financing of the Museum Society, and fonts of the Winiewicz Brothers (owner: Józef Winiewicz); it contains descriptions and photographs of many specimens of cold steel and protective arms.

⁴ *Katalog galerii obrazów w Muzeum im. Mielżyńskich Towarzystwa Przyjaciół Nauk w Poznaniu* [Catalogue of the Painting Gallery at the Mielżyński Museum of the Society of Friends of Learning in Poznan], B. Erzepki (Comp.), Poznań 1912 – with the fonts of the 'Dziennik Poznański' Printing House; mentioned as items 561 and 565.

⁵ Z. Kaczmarek, *Sprawa Paula von Hindenburga. W 80. rocznicę nadania obywatelstwa honorowego miasta Poznania* [The Case of Paul von Hindenburg. On the 80th Anniversary of Conferring on Him Honorary Citizenship of the City of Poznan], 'Kronika Miasta Poznania' 1995, No. 4, pp. 377-388.

⁶ Daily order of the Headquarters of the Armed Forces in the former Prussian partition No. 82, 27 March 1919, Art. lb. § 8.

⁷ Daily order of the Headquarters of the Armed Forces in the former Prussian partition No. 125, 9 May 1919, Art. lb. § 2.

⁸ Order of the Command of the General District of Poznan No. 25, 29 January 1921, Art. 16.

⁹ Order Log of the Command of the 7th Corps District, No. 61, 2 May 1923, Art. 8.

¹⁰ *Katalog wystawy powstania listopadowego* [Catalogue of the Exhibition Dedicated to the November Uprising], Wielkopolskie Muzeum Wojskowe, Poznań 1931 – published by Wlkp. Muzeum Wojskowe, with fonts of the Drukarnia Mieszkańska Tow. Akc. in Poznan; *Katalog wystawy*

powstania 1848 roku [Catalogue of the Exhibition Dedicated to the 1948 Uprising], Wielkopolskie Muzeum Wojskowe, Poznań 1933 – published by Wlkp. Muzeum Wojskowe in Poznan, with the fonts of Drukarnia Mieszczańska S. A. in Poznan.

¹¹ 'Dziennik Poznański' 4 March 1923, No. 51.

¹² 'Głos Wielkopolski', 29 October 1959, No. 257.

¹³ T. Jeziorowski, *Na straży pamięci. W 40. rocznicę otwarcia pierwszej po wojnie stałej ekspozycji w Wielkopolskim Muzeum Wojskowym, Muzeum Narodowe w Poznaniu, Wielkopolskie Muzeum Wojskowe, luty – czerwiec 2003* [Guarding Memory. On the 40th Anniversary of the Opening of the First Permanent Display at the Wielkopolska Military Museum. National Museum in Poznan Wielkopolska Military Museum, February–June 2003], Poznań 2003.

¹⁴ *Wielkopolskie Muzeum Wojskowe. W 90. rocznicę otwarcia pierwszej w kraju stałej ekspozycji historyczno-wojskowej. 22 kwietnia 1923–22 kwietnia 2013, Muzeum Narodowe w Poznaniu* [Wielkopolska Military Museum. On the 90th Anniversary of the Opening of the First in the Country Historical-Military Permanent Exhibition. 22 April 1923–22 April 2013, National Museum in Poznan] (a set of postcards with a text inside the jacket), Poznań 2013.

¹⁵ *Wielkopolskie Muzeum Wojskowe 1919-2014, 95. rocznica utworzenia muzeum, Muzeum Narodowe w Poznaniu* [Wielkopolska Military Museum 1919-2014. The 95th Anniversary of Establishing the Museum. National Museum in Poznan] (a set of postcards with a text inside the jacket), Poznań 2014.

¹⁶ *Wielkopolskie Muzeum Wojskowe 1919-2019* [Wielkopolska Military Museum 1919-2019], Catalogue J. Łuczak (ed.), Muzeum Narodowe w Poznaniu, Poznań 2019.

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