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Architecture of Jesuit colleges in Polish and Lithuanian provinces.

Summary of the doctoral thesis

Jesuits' activity had an enormous influence on a wide world spread of their educational mode. As well as that it played an important role in cultural development including shaping architectural landscape. In order to provide the space for the ministry and teaching the Society built elaborated complexes, which influenced the interior of towns and cities with their baroque architecture carrying the idea of Counter- Reformation.

This thesis covers the architectural development of Jesuit colleges in Polish-Lithuanian Commonwealth from 1564, when Jesuits were brought by bishop Stanislaw Hozjusz until 1773, when the Society was cancelled. There have been numerous studies devoted to educational and architectural activity of the Jesuits with the focus on church architecture and shaping urban complexes of colleges. However, the principles concerning teaching and the way of living established by strongly hierarchic Society and their influence on architectural shape of colleges have never become the subject of research. The purpose of this thesis is to trace what assumptions were taken into consideration while complex, multifunctional colleges were designed as well as to what extent they were derived from strict rules adopted by the Society.

The rules concerning architecture, way of teaching and organisation of monastic life in colleges accepted by General Congregations and introduced by the General of Society were analysed in introductory part. The curriculum based on the way The University of Paris and Renaissance Humanities School functioned was also considered as it determined spacial needs of Jesuit schools.

The rule of accommodation *pro regionum, temporum, personarum varietate*, that is to different place, times and people (their expectations and customs) was commonly employed in all Society's enterprises. That is why architectural complexes built in various circumstances were shaped in different ways, even though they were designed to have the same functions. Therefore characteristic features of colleges in different European provinces were briefly described as a background to analysis of factors influencing adapted solutions.

The goal of the main part of the thesis is to examine the shaping of the college architecture with regard to urban scale, special and functional relations of the complexes, special arrangements of particular buildings, façade décor and interior decoration. The above was examined with

regard to both buildings themselves as well as their complexes. Finding most common special patterns, changing throughout the time, which appeared on the area of Polish and Lithuanian provinces was the result of the analysis.

The comparison of the architecture of Polish colleges with those built in other European provinces resulted in finding common features visible in all Jesuit educational buildings. These features were called as *modus noster*. Also *modus noster polonicus* representing characteristic features, and their conditioning, of Polish and Lithuanian colleges was presented.

Key rules of the Jesuit order and the school practice resulted in unification of architectural features of colleges, which was shown thanks to the analysis of the objects and the conventual law. The thesis ends with summary which emphasises two contradictory factors being reflected in the architecture of Jesuit colleges, that is the unity of order and organization of conventual life and the rule of accommodation – adjusting to the condition of certain place in order to be more effective.

Catalogue of drawings showing designs, measurements, and views of 53 colleges from Polish and Lithuanian provinces which were the base of the analysis is the appendix to the thesis.

Key words: Society of Jesus, Jesuit colleges, baroque architecture in Polish-Lithuanian Commonwealth, accommodation, *Ratio Studiorum*.

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