

DUTCH CABINET

Historical names:	Dutch Cabinet (17th century), Middle Hall/Third Middle Room (18th century), Middle Room/Parlour by the Garden (19th century), Dutch Reception Room/Dutch Cabinet (20th century).
Years of origin:	1677-1679
Architect:	Agostino Locci - 17th century, Johann Sigmund Dyebel - first half of the 18th century
Artists:	Johann Samuel Mock [?], Louis de Silvestre - workshop [?] - plafond, 1732, Louis de Silvestre [?] - mythological paintings on 18-century overdoors, Anton Kern - paintings on biblical themes, 18th century.

Description:

The Dutch Cabinet owes its name to the original 17th-century artistic decor. In the time of Jan III, the interior was decorated similar to the cabinets of Dutch art enthusiasts. The walls were covered with works by Dutch masters. The room served as a living room and simultaneously a corridor between the king's and queen's apartments.

In 1729, Zofia Denhoff, daughter of Elżbieta Sieniawska, considerably enlarged the Cabinet at the expense of the Grand Vestibule, which was also transformed at that time. The reconstruction design was prepared by Johann Sigmund Dyebel. The side door to the Grand Vestibule was removed, creating a wide, centrally located passage, while the 17th-century furnaces were replaced by fireplaces. At that time, the room was decorated with wainscotting and mirrors.

Around 1730, the walls were covered with velour, patterned Genoese-style fabrics, white wainscotting and mirrors in gilded frames, typical of the Saxon period.

The present furnishings and interior decor date back to 1720-1733, when the palace belonged to Elżbieta Sieniawska. Then, the palace passed into the hands of Maria Zofia Donhoff and leased by Augustus II the Strong.

The living room is dominated by an illusionistic plafond depicting *the Apotheosis of Science, Art and Prosperity in the Saxon Times and the Permanence of the Republic Edifice Erected on a Solid Foundation* by Johann Samuel Mock (1732).

Selected literature:

Fijałkowski Wojciech, *Wnętrza pałacu w Wilanowie*, Warsaw 1986, p. 91.