

PRINCESS LUBOMIRSKA'S GOLDEN BEDROOM

- Historical names: Bedchamber (18th century),
Green Bedchamber/Dining Room (19th century),
Dining Room/Princess Lubomirska's Bedroom (20th century)
- Years of origin: First third of the 18th century?, fourth quarter of the 18th century
- Architects: Giovanni Spazio? Józef Fontana? - construction of a single-aisle south wing, first quarter of the 18th century,
Johann Sigmund Dyebel? - extension (south wing widening), 18th century, 1730-1733
Simon Gottlieb Zug - conversion of the northern part of the room (sleeping niche), fourth quarter of the 18th century
- Artists: Simon Gottlieb Zug - room decor, fourth quarter of the 18th century,
Szymon Mańkowski? - painting compositions on plaster, 1793 - not preserved,
Langierd Śmieciński(master bricklayer), Jan Cybulski (carpenter),
Wojciech Kiciński (painter), Guma and Lachapelle (gilders) - decoration of the room after the fire of 28 December 1824. - not preserved,

Description:

The room is located in the south wing of the palace, which was built at the beginning of the 18th century. The layout of the walls of this part of the palace was significantly modified over the century. In the last quarter of the century before 1793, when the inventory of the interiors was made, the interior was converted by Simon Gottlieb Zug, commissioned by Izabela Lubomirska.

The biggest changes were made in the northern part of the interior, where a monumental sleeping niche was created, opening up with semicircular sides to the rest of the room. Two wardrobes and a study were created at the back of the sleeping niche. Bedroom walls were decorated with English *white tapestry imported from Paris in 1791, with patterns in various arabesque colours, painted in vases and Chinese people* and similarly as in the parlour overdoors with Chinese people painted on the walls. The ceiling was plain, enclosed by a frame painted *al fresco*. These paintings were probably made in 1793 by Szymon Mańkowski, following a design by Simon Gottlieb Zug.

Bulging walls of the niche were upholstered with yellow damask. Draperies in the niche, canopy over the bed and furniture upholstery were made of the same fabric. Doors leading to wardrobes were given a painting decoration in the shape of oriental landscapes, which have not been preserved to the present day, and above them in overdoors there were paintings of unknown content and technique.

In the room there was a white carved fireplace, above it a mirror in a white woodcarving frame and analogous mirrors above the corbels on the inter-window walls. White varnished wainscoting and patterned oak flooring complemented the décor.

In the 19th century, the interior was converted twice. In the days of Stanisław Kostka Potocki and his wife Aleksandra the walls, previously covered with white tapestry with Chinese motifs, were painted beige and bordered with *en grisaille decoration*. The prominent cornice and frieze were decorated with a similar technique. On the ceiling of the sleeping niche a composition with a lion propped up on a sphere was made. The second conversion, made before 1834, was to give the whole room a green colour scheme. The white marble fireplace is the work of Ludwig Kaufmann from 1840. Before 1867 the room was converted into a Dining Room by removing the niche with the bed.

At the beginning of 1870s, during restoration works carried out in the former Princess Lubomirska's rooms, many 18th-century decorations were removed: frescoes on plasterworks were painted over or scraped off, the stucco decorations, cornices, etc., were partly removed. During the first post-war restoration works, the remains of paintings found on the ceiling and cornice from the times of Stanisław Kostka Potocki were removed.

As a result of post-war preservation carried out in the 1950s and 1960s, bedroom décor from the times of Izabela Lubomirska was restored. The 18th-century decoration did not survive, so that it was reconstructed on the basis of archival materials, arranging the interior with authentic furniture from the end of 18th century, including a bed belonging to Izabela Lubomirska.

Selected literature:

Fijałkowski Wojciech, *Wnętrza pałacu w Wilanowie*, Warsaw 1986, pp. 112-118, 127, 137, 149, 153, 175.

Fijałkowski Wojciech, *Vademecum Wilanowa*, Warsaw 2011.