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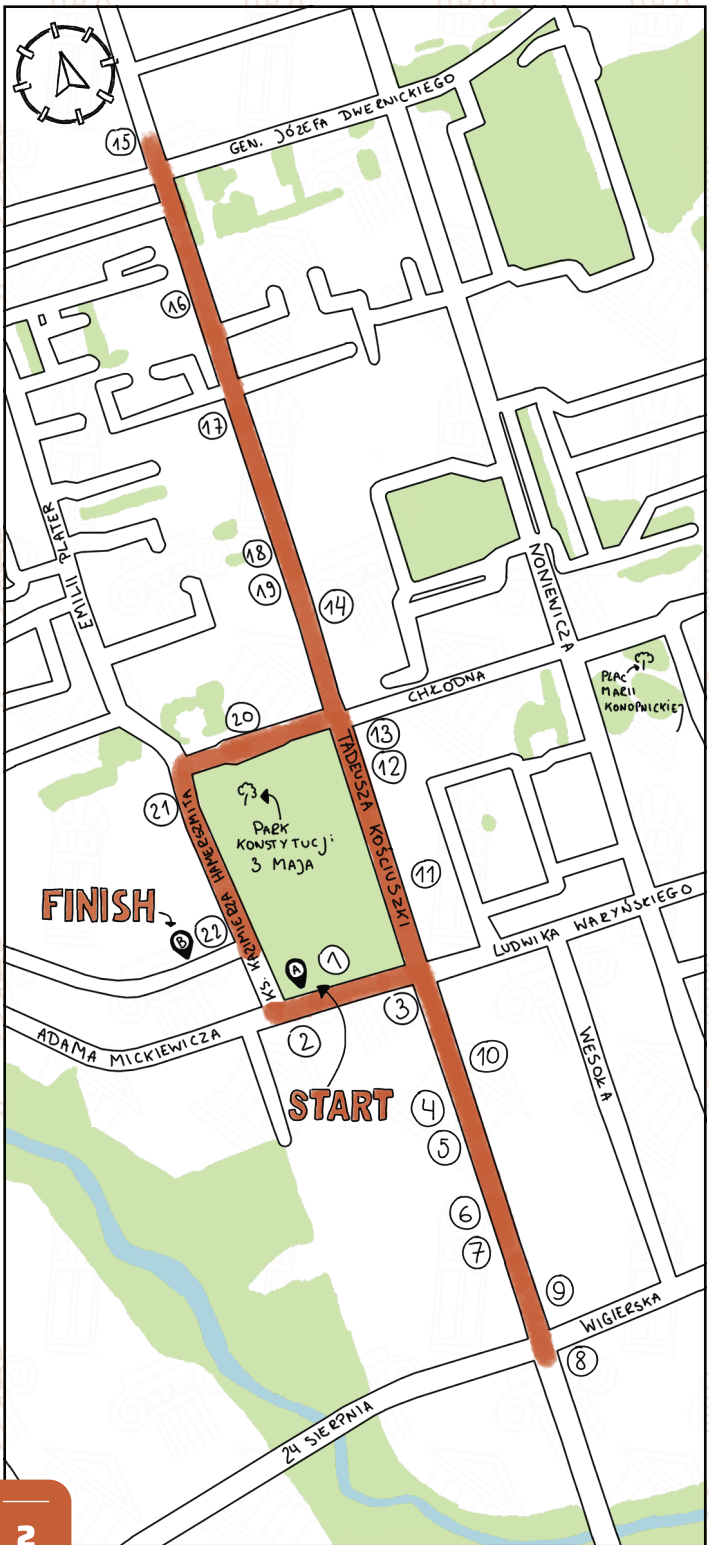
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**FINISH**

**START**

PARK  
KONSTYTUCJI  
3 MAJA

PLAC  
MARII  
KONOPNICKIEJ





## **No.1 The Church of the Sacred Heart of Jesus – 58 T. Kościuszki Street**

The church was built in the years 1838–1840 according to Henryk Marconi's project, based on Konstanty Ton's guidelines (designer of the Sobor of Christ the Saviour in Moscow). Originally it was the Orthodox Church of Dormition of the Virgin (Uspeński Sobor) raised on a Greek cross plan, with the main dome situated in the intersection of naves.

Due to the growth of the number of believers in 1873, the orthodox church was expanded. Therefore, it lost its original block with four small domes on low towers. The current northern part was added and instead of the domes, there were superior towers displayed.

Since 1915, it's been functioning as a Roman–Catholic church. It was rebuilt again in 1923. Despite that, the sanctuary is still characterised by great acoustics relevant to orthodox temples, in which a polyphonic song is considered "the multiple of prayer".

The church served as a ministry for school youth for years.



## **No.2 The former Boys' High School – 3 A. Mickiewicza Street**

The facility was built as a school building in the years 1843–1846 according to Italian architect Antonio Corazzi's project, who was the main representative of the classical era. First, the building served as a boys' gymnasium, now it's a High School of Maria Konopnicka.

51 metres long front elevation presents crucial classical traits – symmetry and harmony of facility plan and precise elaboration of details. The main axis of the building is enhanced by a wide, two-story avant-corps closed by a triangular pediment. The story is decorated with three tall windows surmounted by round arches. The front is closed from both sides by smaller avant-corps, which are also closed by pediments. The main entrance leads to a big, polyhedral hall, which still captures the historic character of the former gymnasium.



### No.3 The Town Hall and Former Guardhouse – 1 A. Mickiewicza Street

The nineteenth century was a period of fast development for Suwałki – in the areas of both economy and architecture. New brick-built town hall, the residence of the new town's authority, was designed in a classical style. The town hall (1843–1844, from Kościuszki street) and the Guardhouse (1834–1835, from Mickiewicza street) were probably designed by Antonio Corazzi and expanded by Karol Majerski in the years 1855–1857. The town hall elevation, just like all the national buildings at the time, was painted bright yellow with white cornices.

The front of the building presents pronounced classical traits: the dominance of straight lines and rhythmic recurrence of elements. Another characteristic feature is preserved four-column entry.



### No.4 Former Treasury Chamber – 47 T. Kościuszki Street

The building was created in the 1930s. Before World War I there were Treasury Chamber and the first weather station in Suwałki.

The tenement preserves principal classical traits: a symmetry of the long, rhythmic 11-axis front and precise elaboration of details. The hallway situated in the centre was accentuated by ionic pilasters.

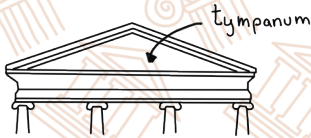




### No.5 Former Posting House – 45 T. Kościuszki Street

In the nineteenth century, the building served as a posting house and played a crucial role in the Warsaw–Petersburg route. During their journey, tsars and other personages stayed in the apartments on the first story.

Built around 1830 (rebuilt around 1900), the facility reflects the rules of classical architecture: harmony and symmetry. Two–storey semi–columns are crested by a grand tympanum.



### No.6 Maria Konopnicka's House – 31 T. Kościuszki Street

Maria Stanisława (née Wasilowska) Konopnicka, an outstanding poet and author, was born on May 23rd 1842 in this house. The author of the fairy-tale „O krasnoludkach i o sierotce Marysi” (“On Dwarves and a Little Orphan Girl Mary”), she spent her childhood there (until 1849). Currently, the tenement is a museum named after the poet.

The architecture of the building with a columned entrance situated on an axis refers to both manor houses and tenement houses from the early nineteenth century.

Exploring the museum takes from 1 to 2 hours.



**No.7 Lechosław Marszałek's House  
- 27a T. Kościuszki Street**

Lechosław Marszałek (1922–1991), the author of tales about the most popular animated movie characters for kids Bolek and Lolek and Reksio the dog, was raised in the house situated in the yard of the mansion. Born in Suwałki, the director, animator and screenwriter was one of the prominent creators of the Studio Filmów Rysunkowych (Cartoon Movie Studio) in Bielsko–Biała.

The architecture of the brick annexe is styled like Suwałki's tsarists barracks from the end of the nineteenth century.



**No.8 Evangelical Holy Trinity Church of the Augsburg Confession  
- 12 T. Kościuszki Street**

The church was designed by Wacław Ritschel and built in the years 1839–1841. Inside you can find a preserved altar and a wooden pillar construction supporting matroneums, which are characteristic of the Evangelical churches.

At the turn of the eighteenth and nineteenth centuries, there was a significant growth of Evangelicals living in the Suwałki region. Currently, the church is the only active historic sanctuary in the Podlaskie voivodeship.



The oldest organs  
in the town inside



### **No.9 Alfred Wierusz-Kowalski's House - 16 T. Kościuszki Street**

Alfred Wierusz-Kowalski (1849-1915), a painter and a remarkable representative of the so-called Munich School, lived in this house. He gained prizes and gold medals in Vienna, Berlin and Paris. He remained faithful to the landscapes of the Suwałki Region, where he lived until he was 16.

The building is an example of a typical classical tenement in Suwałki: 7-axis, symmetrical and with a passageway.



### **No.10 Professor Edward Szczepanik's House - 46 T. Kościuszki Street**

Edward Franciszek Szczepanik (1915-2005), a soldier, an economist and a politician, was raised in this house. He went through the combat trail with the general Władysław Anders' army. He was the last Prime Minister of the RP government in exile (1986-1990). On December 22nd 1990, together with President Ryszard Kaczorowski, they gave the president of the III RP Lech Wałęsa the insignia of power.

Classical tenement, two-story, 7-axis.



**No.11 “House under the Columns”  
– 62 T. Kościuszki Street**

The classical tenement was built by Lewin Białostocki in the 1830s. Decorated with an original colonnade with a characteristic portico deep-seated on the second storey supported by six Tuscan columns. In the mid-nineteenth century, there were a bookshop and a printing house run by Leon Hollaenderski (Leib Ben Dawid) – a philosopher, bookseller, printer, writer, translator and political activist. In the annexe, there once was a theatre hall in which migrant bands performed. In the second half of the nineteenth century, the building served as a place for a music school and a public library. Since 1997, it’s been a property of Fundacja Rozwoju Przedsiębiorczości (The Business Development Foundation), which carried out a general redecoration of the antique tenement.



**No.12 Former bookshop  
– 72 T. Kościuszki Street**

Samuel Orgelbrand (1810–1868), one of the most well-known publishers of the Polish Kingdom and the initiator of the 28-volume “Encyklopedia Powszechna” (“Universal Encyclopedia”) (1858–1868), opened a bookshop and a library here in 1841. He was a Polish Jew and an advocate for the cultural assimilation of Jews in Polish society.

The tenement presents neat classical traits: symmetry, rhythmic window arrangement, a peak crested by a tympanum, and a hallway.





### No.13 Former Voivodship Committee and Tribunal – 74 T. Kościuszki Street

One of the first brick buildings of Suwałki in the nineteenth century. Voivodeship and governorate authorities served the office here (1817–1915). However, it was built before the sitting of the Augustów voivodeship residence in Suwałki in 1816. The tenement preserves perfect proportions of the whole 49-metre classical front.



### No.14 Old Pharmacy – 78 T. Kościuszki Street

The pharmacy has been open since the mid-1840s when the tenement was bought by a chemist Mikołaj Zawadzki. Later it was run by his son Jan, and then by Bolesław and Romuald Szwejkowscy. The furniture, medical equipment and photographs from the early twentieth century were preserved. In the inter-war period, there were also a reading room and a bookshop of Stefania and Jadwiga Zielonkówny.

A classical tenement, 9-axis, with a hallway in the centre.



### **No.15 Former Hospital – 101 T. Kościuszki Street**

From the mid-nineteenth century, there had been two hospitals in this complex of buildings: Roman Catholic and Jewish. A doctor and a social worker Teofil Noniewicz (1851–1928) worked here. In 1918, he became the chairman of the first Suwałki City Council in the II RP. One of the main streets of the city is named after him.

The classical building was designed by Józef Gorecki from the left side, and probably by Karol Majerski from the right side.

Currently, there is Karczma Polska (A Polish Inn), a restaurant that serves regional cuisine.



### **No.16 Bank Building – 89 T. Kościuszki Street**

A Russian lazaret was moved to the tenement erected at the end of the 1830s. At the beginning of the twentieth century, Russians gathered around 10 thousand soldiers in Suwałki – it was the second largest garrison in the Polish Kingdom after Warsaw. Before 1939, there was a unit of the Polish Bank.

One of the most grand classical tenements of Suwałki. Affluently decorated front features a wide, hexastyle portico crested by a tympanum.



### **No.17 Former Resursa (Citizen's Club) – 81 T. Kościuszki Street**

The building was built in the years 1912–1913 with the help of social contributions as a residence for Towarzystwo Oszczędnościowo-Pożyczkowe (Saving and Loan Association). It held numerous clubs and associations, a reading room, the “Tygodnik Suwalski” editorial office, a printing house, a restaurant, and a civic club, from which it got its name. In 1919 the civic club was visited by the Head of State Józef Piłsudski.

The architecture of the building was composed of the historical forms of the Renaissance, the Baroque and Classicism. Currently, there's a museum.

Exploring it takes about 1,5h.



### **No.18.Governor's House – 71 T. Kościuszki Street**

A tenement from the first half of the nineteenth century. Since 1852, it had been a government house used as a guest house for the most prominent people and housing for governors. Tsars and their family members and other European “crowned heads” travelling to Petersburg stayed there until 1862. After World War I, it has been a residence for district and municipal authorities.



**No.19 State Archives  
– 69 T. Kościuszki Street**

This representative building was raised in the years 1853–1855 (the front) and 1876–1877 (the annexes and the pavilion). Until 1939, it had performed jurisdictional functions. In 1955, the State Archives was opened here and it has been active since then.

The two-storey building with an avant-corps tipped by a triangular tympanum perfectly suits classical street architecture.



**No.20 The Church of Saint Alexander  
– J. Piłsudski Square**

The church was built according to the project of Chrystian Piotr Aigner in the years 1820–1829 in a classical style – using symmetry, a column portico, and simple decorative art. The temple was rebuilt many times; during World War II it had been severely damaged.

In 1992, John Paul II elevated the church as a co-cathedral in a newly formed Elk diocese.



### **No.21 Miłosz's house – 10 ks. K. Hamerszmit Street**

On the first story of the tenement in the years 1926–1935 lived the Miłosz family: Aleksander and Weronika with their son Andrzej, the younger brother of Czesław, who later became the Literature Nobel Prize winner. The poet visited the Suwałki Region a few times during the 1990s.

An interesting classical tenement, 9-axis, with a three-storey middle avant-corps.



### **No.22 Karol Majerski's House – 5 ks. K. Hamerszmita Street**

Karol Majerski (1800–1870), an architect whose extensive work very much dictated the classical style of Suwałki, lived in this house. In the years 1838–1865, he was a builder of Augustów's governorate. He designed the building or rebuilding of more than 150 places in Suwałki, including temples, tenement houses and public constructions.

A modest one-story building reflects classical traits: symmetry and rhythmic window arrangement.



## No.1 The Jewish cemetery (kirkut) – Zarzecze Street



The Jewish cemetery was established in the early nineteenth century inside a complex of other religious cemeteries and takes about 3,8 ha. After the war survived but few tombstones. The cemetery was destroyed in 1941 by the Germans, stone matzevahs (tombstones) served as a material for building fire tanks and curbs for hardened roads. The oldest of the remaining 20 tombstones dates from 1856. In the 70s of the Twentieth century, the surviving matzevahs were used to build a lapidarium – a 'Wailing wall' commemorating the Jews of Suwałki. To the Jewish cemetery leads an independent gate with a visible Star of David. The size of the cemetery shows, how big and integral part of the Suwałki community were Jews. The cemetery is being taken care of by the Foundation for the Preservation of Jewish Heritage.



## No.2 Abraham Stern's family house – corner of the T. Kościuszki and L. Waryńskiego



Mordechaj and Hadasa – Leja Stern lived in the tenement of the Minc family. In December 1907 their son Abraham was born – later he became a poet, a linguist and a warrior of the uprising of Israel. He was fatally shot by the British police in 1942 in Tel Aviv. Dawid Stern (Abraham's brother), a civil engineer, was a government activist and the chairman of the Engineers Union. There is a plaque dedicated to Abraham Stern on the tenement near T. Kościuszki Street (from F. Waryńskiego Street).



## No. 3 The Jewish middle school – 47 T. Kościuszki Street



It was built in the years 1836–1839 according to Karol Majerski's design. In the interwar period, there was a Jewish middle school in this building. Suwałki's rabbi – Samuel Mohylewer – was a co-founder of the school. Szmul Aaron Liberman, a publisher of the Ho-Emes magazine, was one of the teachers in the school.



## No.4 Adelson's mill – T. Noniewiczza Street (not preserved)

The windmill "Suwalszczyzna" was built by Józef Adelson in 1929 on a plot near Wigierska 45 Street. In her reporting "Darowane życie", Joanna Hoffman-Delbor writes:

„A modern, mechanical, roller mill with gas generator "Suwalszczyzna" was well-known around the whole area. It worked thanks to its portable engine imported from German colonies by Naum's father. It was worth more than the whole building and equipment together. He paid 12 thousand dollars for it. This machine made the mill one of the most modern ones in Poland. It had its power station, which was used for free by the whole of Wigierska Street.”

After World War II, the mill was nationalised. Some of the equipment was moved (the portable engine was transported to Lipsk) and the rest of it was stolen, because the building was not properly secured.



## No.5 Old Brewery – Wigierska Street (not preserved)

The brewery, if still existed would be located on current 65 Wigierska Street, belonged to J. M. Kunc in the years 1888–1896, and then to Waclaw Kunc in 1925. In the same year, it was transformed into Suwałki Share Brewery. It worked in this form in the years 1925–1939; its co-owners were a few wealthy Jews, including Józef Adelson. Waclaw Kunc was still the manager. He would sell his products not only at the local market, but also sent them to Russia, or to the United States during the interwar period.

The brewery was one of the most important businesses of the Suwałki region. In 1928 it employed 40 people, 8 years later – 32, including 25 labourers and 7 office workers. Production minerals mostly came from different powiaty (similar to districts or counties). Brewery had three kinds of beer: light, export (with no sugar) and dark with sugar – each having about 4.5% of alcohol. The annual production was about 12 thousand hectolitres. Malt was exported even to the USA.



## No.6 Beit Yaakov and Chevra Midrash Houses of Prayer – T. Noniewiczza Street (former Jerolimiska Street)

The Houses of Prayer functioned next to the synagogue near the current T. Noniewiczza Street.



## No.7 Synagogue – corner of the T. Noniewiczza and L. Waryńskiego (not preserved)

Classical Main Synagogue was built in 1821 in the former centre of the Jewish neighbourhood called Małe Raczki. Stucco in a light colour, on a project of an interesting rectangle (30x16 metres), it was one of the most valuable monuments of multi-faith Suwałki. After World War II started, the nazis deported Jews from Suwałki to the Lithuania area and wrecked the synagogue. After the war, it became a ruin and was eventually demolished in 1956.



## No.8 Stone of Memory – T. Noniewiczza Street

In the place of the former synagogue, there is a memorial stone dedicated to the Jewish society living in Suwałki. On the plaque, there is an inscription in Polish, English and Hebrew:

„In memory of about 5500 pre-war Jewish inhabitants murdered during World War II as a result of the extermination policy of the German invaders. Originally a synagogue stood in this place. It was demolished by the Germans.”

Stone of Memory was officially uncovered on January 21st 2016. The project was designed by an architect from Suwałki Bartosz Żyliński.



### **No.9 Jewish Old People's Home – 42 T. Noniewiczza Street**



Moszew Zkenim's old people's home was funded by a Jew from Suwałki, a philanthropist Jozua Burak in the second half of the nineteenth century and it was in a building on 42 Noniewiczza Street, which is still preserved today. After 1945, the building served as a residence for Youth Community Centre. Now it performs service and trade functions.



### **No.10 Former Jewish hospital – 101 T. Kościuszki Street**



There are two classical buildings near 101a Kościuszki Street, which are today protected. The first building was erected in the years 1840–1842 parallel to Kościuszki Street; originally it was a hospital for Christians under the invocation of Saint Peter and Paul. The second building was built in the years 1855–1860. Then the older building was handed over for use to the Jewish commune, thus becoming a Jewish hospital, which worked till 1939. Karol Majerski was a designer of the older building.



### **No.11 Samuel Orgelbrand's tenement – 72 T. Kościuszki Street**



There were a bookshop and a library in this tenement formed in 1841 by Samuel Orgelbrand, a well-known publisher and bookseller. He was a Polish Jew and an advocate for the cultural assimilation of Jews in Polish society. He published books in Polish and Hebrew language. In 1858, he started working on the first Polish Encyclopedia, which took him 10 years. As a publisher, he was able to circumvent tsarist censorship problems.



### **No.12 Hollaenderski's House – 62 T. Kościuszki Street**



In the 1830s, Leon Hollaenderski (Leib ben Dawid), a bookseller, lithographer and printer from the Northern Suwałki region, established his plant here in the building called "House Under The Pillars". He was also known as a philosopher, historian and translator. In 1842, Hollaenderski was arrested due to possessing illegal publications in his bookshop. Somehow he escaped prison and emigrated to France in 1843, where he became a patriotic activist. He would convince Jews to publicly support the nationalist effort of Poland, and persuade Poles into "Christian love and openness of heart". In 1846, he published a book about the history of Polish Jews through the centuries.







THE JEWISH TRAIL



2H

Photos





### No.1 May 3rd Constitution Park

The park was formed in the 1820s in order to regulate the spatial layout of the city. Previously there had been the first wooden church in Suwałki of Elevation of the Holy Cross, it was during the Camaldolese period. The church also had a cemetery. Across the northern side, there was a market square with a wooden town hall in the centre. The park is a typical example of a nineteenth-century urban garden project. In the inter-war period, the park was a place of entertainment and recreation. During winter there were rinks, and during summer there would be orchestral (mainly military) concerts. In the park, there are visible some interesting elements of small architecture: a wooden gazebo and a sundial made from cast iron. Many trees and bushes grow in the park, including common ash, small-leaved lime, European larch, and smooth-leaved elm. The most recognisable tree in the park is a pedunculate oak, called "The Liberty Oak", planted in 1923 for the anniversary of signing the 3rd May Constitution.



## No.2 Boulevards by the Czarna Hańcza River and the Old Bathhouse

Boulevards by the Czarna Hańcza River are suited between 24th Sierpnia and Adama Mickiewicza. It's a remarkable terrain comprising pedestrian and bike paths and recreational wharves. In the immediate neighbourhood, there is an art gallery, "Old Bathhouse", that belongs to Suwalski Ośrodek Kultury. It is placed in a renovated antique building of a former bathhouse. Originally, the building had been a bathhouse for citizens since 1945, but it was built at the end of the nineteenth century in a Russian style.

The gallery organises lessons and workshops in the areas of cultural, art, ecological and sport education, pedagogical–sociological and streetworking activities, and also meetings, debates, spectacles and outdoor concerts. There is also a possibility to rent recreational equipment or visit a cafe in the building.



## No.3 Cemeteries of Seven Faiths

In the beginning, the cemetery lay where the 3rd May Constitution Park is located, next to the now non-existent old wooden church. Around 1820, due to regulatory work, the old cemetery was abolished and it was moved beside the Czarna Hańcza River. Soon the other cemeteries were built. At the Roman Catholic cemetery, there is a brick-built Chapel of Transfiguration from 1854. In its old part, there are many interesting tombs and grave figures. What brings attention to Orthodox cemetery is a small, wooden Orthodox Church of All Saints from the early twentieth century. Unfortunately, many of the necropolis' tombs were irreversibly damaged. During World War II, Germans wrecked the Jewish cemetery. It was restored after the war, and parts of the broken tombstones were composed into a so-called "Wailing Wall". Behind the Jewish cemetery, there is a small Mahometan cemetery.



| A TOWN WALK



| 1H

| NOS. 1-3



#### No.4 Arkadia Lake

An artificial reservoir lake was built at the beginning of the eighteenth century in the Czarna Hańcza river bend for a Camaldolese windmill. In the nineteenth century, the lake became a place of recreation. In 1911, there was a Theatre Arkadia built nearby. In 1927, a complex of sports buildings was formed. During World War II, the lake was covered by Germans, and after the war, it was rebuilt by Polish sappers.

Within easy reach of the lake, there is Suwalski Ośrodek Sportu i Rekreacji (Center of Sport and Recreation), in which we can find a climbing wall, a swimming pool and a gym. We can also find a swimming equipment rental, a street workout, a parkour park, an outdoor tennis courts, 3 volleyball courts, a football pitch, a skate park, a cafe and a playground. In the centre of the lake is a lovely small island, which can be accessed by a bridge.



#### No.5 The bridge on the Czarna Hańcza River

Originally, the bridge welcomed travellers from Warsaw. In 1816, Suwałki became the capital of the voivodeship and an important stop on the Warsaw-Sankt Petersburg route. Across the compositional axis visible from the bridge, a spatial urban system was developed with a row of classical buildings. The layout, designed by the most prominent architects of the Polish Kingdom, is one of the most well-preserved urban complexes from that period.





## No.6 Maria Konopnicka Square (former New Market Square)

The square was marked out at the beginning of the 1820s. It was called the New Market as there were fairs and markets moved from the former market square near T. Kościuszki Street, where the park was built. In the 1960s, the square was transformed into a garden square full of trees, where Jan Bohdan Chmielewski built a sandstone memorial of Maria Konopnicka in 1963. The current bronze sculpture was unveiled in 2010 during the 100th anniversary of the death of the poet. In 2014, after the renovation, the former New Market Square was reopened as the Maria Konopnicka Square.

2022  
Rok Marii  
Konopnickiej



## No.7 Chłodna Street

Suwałki City is called the Polish Pole of Cold. Although summer is warm here, as the temperature reaches 35 Celsius degrees, frosty winter lasts from the end of November to early April. Chłodna Street can be translated directly into Cool Street; it owns its name to the cold climate coming from the constant shadiness and western winds. The street is surrounded by antique tenements, from which the house with the number 16 is easily recognisable by its classical front. The promenade also became the alley of the Blues Stars, where we can admire memorials from the previous Suwałki Blues Festival editions or have a rest on a special bluesman's bench. The bluesman is not supposed to represent any particular musician; it only represents the soul of the blues.

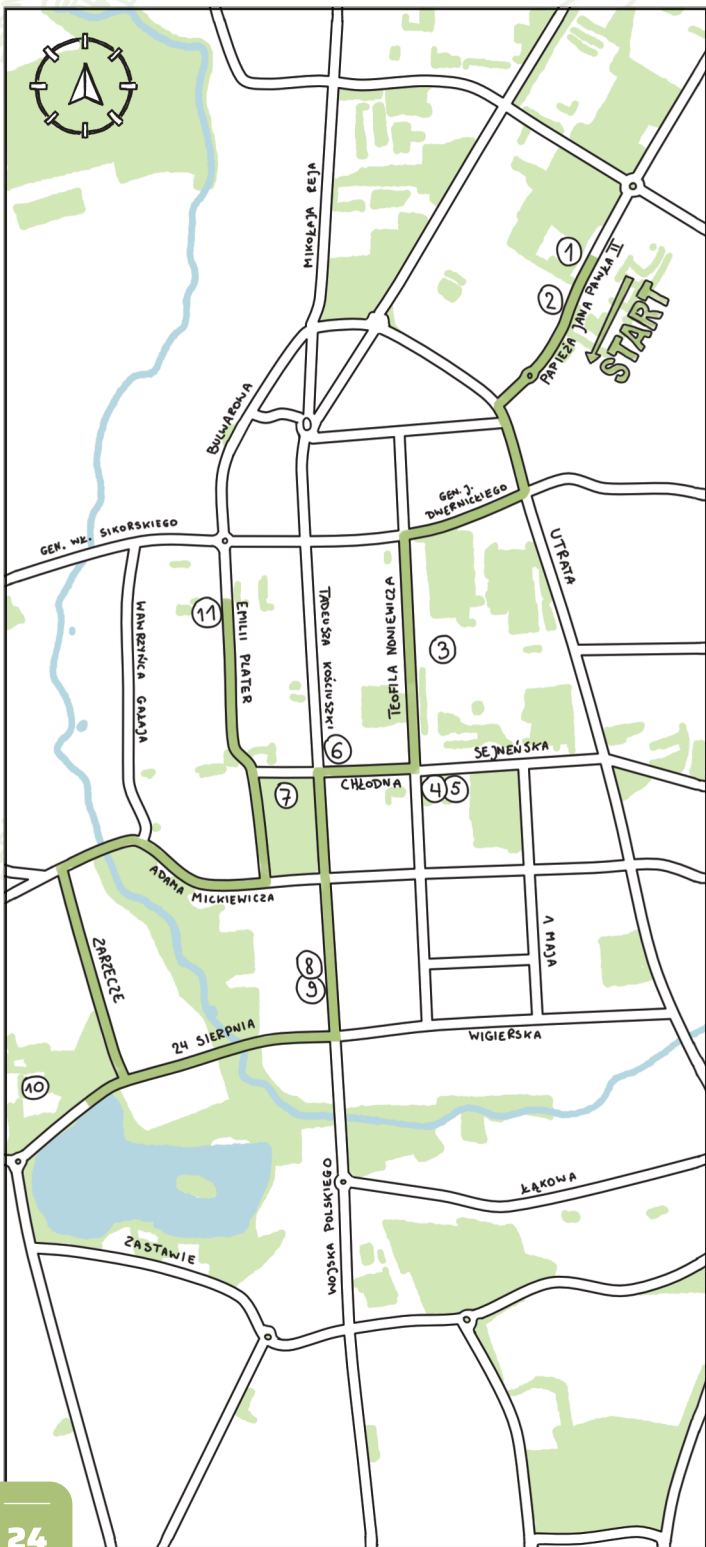


A TOWN WALK



1,5H

NOS. 4-7







## No.1 Pietrzyk – Sports lover

**Location:** Entrance to the Aquapark, 7 Jana Pawła II Street

„And as careful as Pietrzyk from burdock came out of the weeds Podziomek, with a finger over his mouth.

**But Pietrzyk, being by nature very lively and uncontrollable, began to jump and shout joyfully:**

– It was a success! It worked!

– Hush, you freak! – Podziomek hissed, grabbing his hand. – You scream as if you were here alone!“ He could hear you...”



„Soon Pietrzyk, who was extremely cheerful, and always accepted good and bad with equal encouragement, began to jump around the cart, singing eagerly:

A lump of earth underfoot,  
And above your head a patch of sky –  
For a little dwarf,  
What more do you need, brothers?

Others shouted at him to be quiet, because this is no time for jokes, and an increasing buzz of dissatisfied voices arose. And then the morning star lit up on the east with a blue, very brilliant fire, and then came the dawn.”

Illustration by Ludomir IllinicZ–Zajdel





## No.2 Modraczek – Lover of music and flowers

**Location:** Near the fountain in front of the Suwałki Cultural Centre, the intersection of Brzostowskiego and Jana Pawła II

*„Modraczek, who was extremely helpful, jumped after the cricket leaving with the magic violin and seized him by the flap of his brown cloak, then he began to beg for the notes of this wonderful song, the echoes of which still trembled all around in the herb fields and dewy grass.*

*– We have a very talented frog, – said Modraczek – and we would like to make her the court musician of His Majesty, our gracious lord. The King, in his old age, is subject to various longings and sorrows, and such an excellent musician would help him escape this melancholy.”*



## No.3 Koszałek Opatok – Chronicler

**Location:** Grande Synthe Passage, opposite the Arkadia shopping centre

*„He, as usual, was sitting over a huge book in which he described everything that had happened in the Dwarfs' country since ancient times, where they came from and what kings they had, what wars they waged and how they fared in them. What he saw and heard he recorded faithfully; and what he did not see or hear, he concocted so beautifully that while reading this book, everyone's hearts swelled.*

*He was the first to prove that Dwarfs, barely a span long, were actually giants, only shrinking so that they had less cloth to spend on spencers and cloaks, for everything was expensive now.*

*The dwarves were so proud of their chronicler that if anyone found any weed, he would immediately weave a wreath and put it on his head so that the wreaths wiped away the rest of his sparse hair and he was bald as a knee.*



„ It was spring.

She walked so close to Koszałek–Opalek that her linen robe, dancing in the warm breath of the wind, touched him, and close to him smelled of violets, tucked into her fair hair. But the learned chronicler was so busy calculating how, when, and where spring would come into the world that he did not see her passing. He only sniffed the sweet, ephemeral scent with his long nose, and still, bent over his huge book, diligently wrote down his every wrong calculation.”

Illustration by Ludomir Illinicz–Zajdel



#### No.4 King Błystek

**Location:** Near Maria Konopnicka Statue on Maria Konopnicka Square

„But the King Błystek could not dress so poor and so plain. In winter and summer he had to wear the purple robe, the same one the Dwarf Kings wore for centuries, now so worn out that the wind whistled through it. What’s more, even when new, this robe was never very warm, since it was woven from the yarn of those red spiders that roam the beds in spring it was as thick as a poppy leaf.

So the king trembled fiercely, blowing over and over on his hands, which became so stiff that he could no longer hold the sceptre in them.”





### No.5 Kocie Oczko – Chancellor

**Location:** Near Maria Konopnicka Statue on Maria Konopnicka Square

*„In front of the steps of the courtroom stood the crown prosecutor, the bright Kocie oczko; right behind him, Mikula and Pakula in their parade uniforms; all around, but at a certain distance, the Dwarfs crowded, and all eyes were on the accused. (...)*

*It was the eloquent Kocie Oczko, having finished presenting the guilt of the accused, who demanded a severe punishment: at least hanging him on the highest branch of an oak tree and reimbursing the losses and costs of the trial.*

*During this discourse, the honourable prosecutor became hoarse and panted loudly while wiping his sweaty brow with his cravat.”*



### No.6 Podziomek – Gourmand

**Location:** On the lamp post on Chłodna Street

*„King Błystek liked Podziomek, whom he had in his favour and looked at him, the eternally hungry man, with a merciful eye.*

*And Podziomek also loved the king very much and often sat at the king's feet, sometimes warming his chilled legs with his breath, sometimes playing songs on the pipe, which seemed to warm up the Crystal Cave a little.*

*But when it came to food, Podziomek forgot everything, having bread in mind only, and not letting anyone in front of him to the bowl and the spoon. When someone opposed him in this, then he fell into fierce anger and was ready to stand alone against the whole team.”*



„The cat snatched a sausage drying in the small window on the roof and was stealthily scurrying down the eave, when Podziomek fell on his back from above and grabbed his fur with his hands. Frightened Mruczek, thinking that the old woman was holding him by the scruff of his neck for a bad deed, run with all his might. (...)

Podziomek, however, did not let go of the cat's neck. The nettles stung him, the thistles scratched him, but the smell of sausage was so pleasant that he decided not to part with it.”

Illustration by Ludomir IllinicZ-Zajdel



### No.7 Sikorek – Bird-lover

**Location:** Near the fountain in May 3<sup>rd</sup> Constitution Park

King Błystek is freezing cold, so he asks his servants to look outside and tell him if spring is coming.

„(...) the poor old king was chattering with what teeth he had left, waiting for spring with the greatest impatience. (...)

The king nodded his head, and after a while nodded again and said:

– Sikorek! Maybe you could look?

But Sikorek didn't want to expose his nose to the frost. Then he said:

– King, my sire! It's not my time until the wagtail starts chirping. And it's not happening soon! ...”





### No.8 Pakula – Guardsman

**Location:** In front of the entrance to the Museum of Maria Konopnicka

*„That night Mikula and Pakula, two brothers, had guard duty. King Blystek made them his court police by giving them beautiful helmets made from bellflower for their heads, and sabres made of sword lilies, fiery flowers, just like uhlan lances with red flag, which shoot high from the leaves, narrow and long, like swords.”*



### No.9 Mikula – Guardsman

**Location:** In front of the entrance to the Museum of Maria Konopnicka

*„Mikula stands stiff as if he had swallowed a stick, and Pakula stands straight as if carved from a tree, both turn their eyes around so that nothing escapes them.*

*Everything sleeps in the Nightingale Valley: a blue stream and grasses, and herbs; flies and birds, and choirs of frogs, and water lilies, and that old oak under which Mikula and Pakula faithfully keep guard. All sleep.”*



### No.10 Żagiewka – Herb lover

**Location:** In front of the entrance to the administrative and social building in the football stadium

*„But it gave very little warmth, so little that the poor old king was chattering with what teeth he had left, waiting for spring with the greatest impatience.*

*– Żagiewko – he said to one of the royal courtiers – my faithful servant! Look at the world, isn't spring coming?*

*Żagiewka humbly replied:*

*– King, my sire! It's not my time until nettles under the peasant's fence start to turn green. And it's not happening soon! ...”*



### No.11 Krężotek – Court page

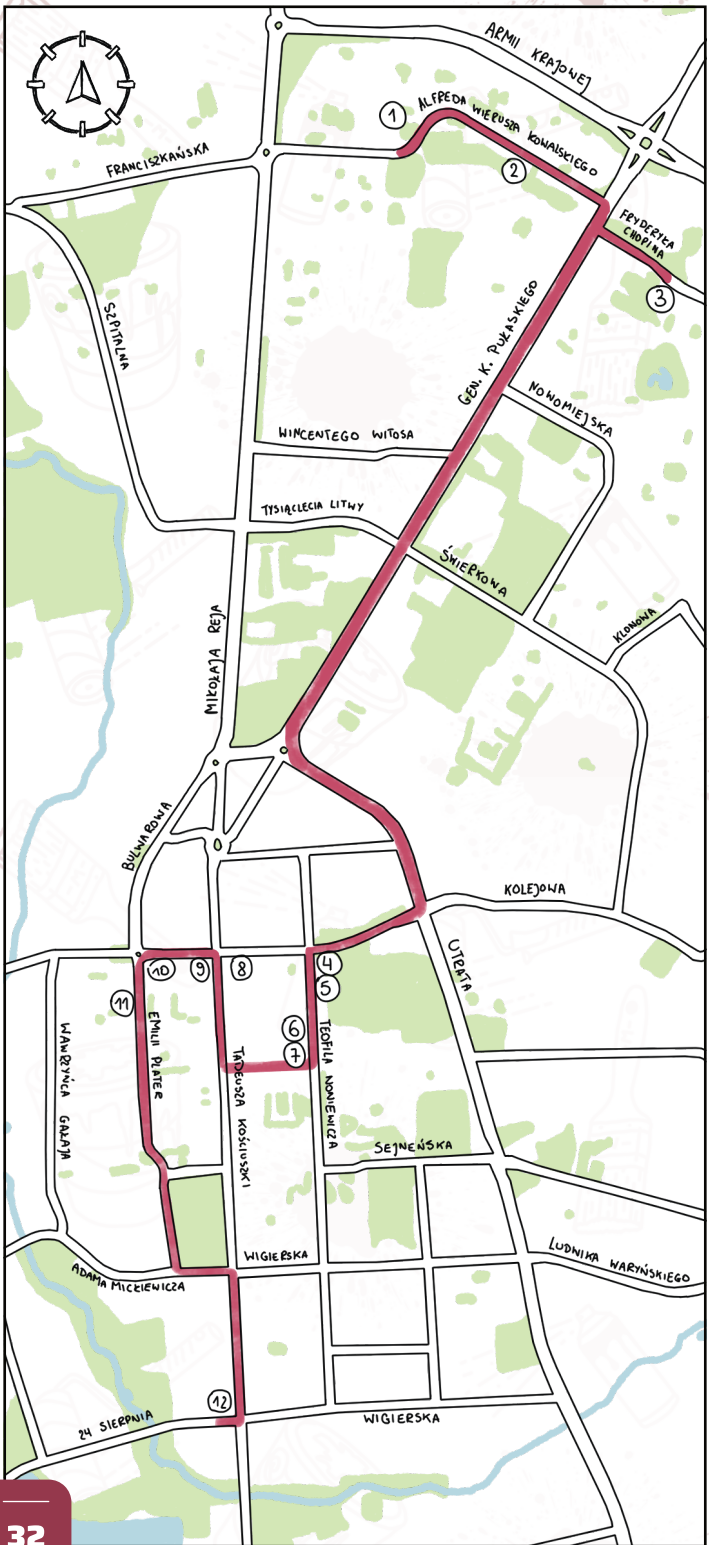
**Location** In front of the Maria Konopnicka Public Library on Emilia Plater Street

*„But getting inside was not easy at all. The purple cloak clung to the wicker cart, the sceptre caught on wooden supports, the crown almost fell off the king's head, and the red slippers woven with gold were lost in the hay.*

*The king scrambled as best he could, but the greatest hindrance to him was the court page, Krężotek, who, like a heavy block, could barely turn around, stepped on the king's cloak, then dragged the cloak along with the king, looked for slippers in the hay, fell on the king and was so tangled under everyone's feet like the fifth wheel of a chariot.*

*The king had a patience of a saint, because he kept such a nincompop with him!”*





FRANCISZKAŃSKA

ARMII KRAJOWEJ

1 ALFEDA WIERUSA KOWALSKIEGO

2

FEJDYTA CHOPINA

3

SZPIRLIŃKA

GEN. K. PUŁASKIEGO

NOWOMIEJSKA

WINCENTEGO WITOSA

TYSIĄCLECIA LITWY

ŚWIERKOWA

KLONOWA

MIKOŁAJA REJA

BULWA BOJA

KOLEJOWA

UTRĄĆ

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7

5

WAWRZYŃCA GALAJNA

EMILII PLATER

TADEUSZA KOŚCIUSKI

TEOFILA NOWOMIENICZA

SEJNEŃSKA

6

4

WIGIERSKA

LUDNIKA WARTYŃSKIEGO

ADAMA MICKIEWICZA

24 SIERPNIĄ

12

WIGIERSKA





## No.1. Mural commemorating Alfred Wierusz-Kowalski, an outstanding painter born in Suwałki

**Location:** 18 Alfreda Wierusza Kowalskiego Street, Północ II District (eastern wall of a tall building)

The painting shows the figure of Alfred Wierusz-Kowalski accompanied by a palette of colours and two wolves – one of the leitmotifs of his paintings. Over 30 metres high, it is the largest wall painting of its kind in the Podlaskie voivodship. The mural was created as part of the project "Cultivating the tradition and culture through modern art, i.e. street art". It was unveiled in 2015 – The Wierusz-Kowalski's Year celebrating the 100th anniversary of the artist's death.

## No.2 Wigry Football Club Mural

**Location:** 9 Alfreda Wierusza-Kowalskiego Street

An investment partially financed by funds from the public budget. The mural was painted in 2022 as a celebration of the 75th anniversary of the Club.

## No.3 Mural on Kaczy Dołek (Północ District)

**Location:** 6a Chopina Street, (southern wall of the building)

The mural shows old backyard games in Suwałki. The authors of the mural project are Andrzej Padniewski from Toruń and a group of seniors from Suwałki Senior Club.

## No.4 Mural Suwałki Blues Festival

**Location:** 48 Noniewiczza Street

The theme of the mural refers to blues music and aims to promote the Suwałki Blues Festival. The mural depicts a bluesman, and its integral parts are also blue images of birds and a stork's nest, which symbolises the cyclical character of the festival and is a kind of good omen for future editions. The author of the mural is Andrzej Pągowski, an outstanding Polish graphic and poster artist, known and appreciated all over the world. The mural bears Andrzej Pągowski's original signature.

The Blues Festival was first held in 2007. In 2017, it celebrated its 10th anniversary, and in 2022 – its 15th anniversary.



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## No.5 Mural Angel Wings

**Location:** 48 Noniewiczza Street

In May 2021, the Angel Wings graffiti appeared on the wall of 48 Noniewiczza Street. Kamil Raczkowski, Youth Assembly of the Podlaskie Voivodeship Counsellor initiated the project. The author of the graffiti is Thomas Krzyżewski.

The project promotes Suwałki by including the logotype Pogodne Suwałki by the wings. Suwałki President supported the initiative by handing over the paints. Suwałki Housing Association shared the wall for the graffiti.

The mural is a good place for taking pictures, which will enrich your social media accounts.

## No.6 Mural commemorating Dr Teofil Noniewicz, Suwałki physician and community worker

**Location:** 87 Noniewiczza Street (northern wall of the building)

The mural is dedicated to Teofil Noniewicz, a medicine doctor and social activist who lived and worked in Suwałki at the turn of the 19th century, it was unveiled on the 165th anniversary of his birth. Noniewicz was one of the founders of the Suwałki Medical Scientific Society. In 1918, working on a voluntary basis, he became a manager of the Suwałki hospital, gaining the respect of the people of Suwałki. In 1924, one of the town's main streets was named after him. The mural was designed by Bartosz Żyliński.

## No.7 Mural on Noniewiczza Street

**Location:** 81 Noniewiczza Street (northern wall of the building)

The mural depicts a little girl sitting at the window and looking out on a fairy-tale world with Suwałki in the background. The characters in the mural come from the author's famous comic book entitled "Łauma". The author of the project carried out within the "21-Century Suwałki" competition is Karol Kalinowski, an artist, cartoonist, illustrator and comic scriptwriter from Suwałki.

## No.8 Mural portraying Aleksandra Piłsudska

**Location:** Crossroad of T. Kościuszki and Dwernickiego (on the wall of the School Complex no.8)

The mural commemorates Aleksandra Piłsudska, a native of the town, accompanied by her husband Marshal Józef Piłsudski. Aleksandra Piłsudska (1882–1963) nee Szczerbińska, was an independence activist who served in the Polish Legions and the Polish Military Organisation. She is the patron of School Complex No.8 in Suwałki. The mural was unveiled in 2018 to mark the 100th anniversary of Poland's independence.

9



## No.9 Mural dedicated to Marian Piekarski aka "Rys"

**Location:** 97 Kościuszki Street (northern wall of the building)

The mural commemorates Marian Piekarski aka "Rys" – a heroic Suwałki scout, soldier of the Home Army and the Citizen Home Army, a member of the Freedom and Independence Association, who became famous for daring action of freeing several Home Army soldiers from prison in Suwałki in 1945, for which he was sentenced to death. The erection of the mural was initiated and designed by Marian Piekarski's 1st Suwałki Scout Troop „Baszta“.

10



## No.10 Mural of Reksio the Dog

**Location:** 30 Emilii Plater Street

Suwałki's most popular mural depicts Reksio, the character from the cult bedtime story cartoon created by Lechosław Marszałek, a Suwałki-born director and scriptwriter of animated films. The animated television series with Reksio was broadcast on Polish television from 1967 to 1990. Reksio is an exceptionally charming character. He has even earned his own postage stamps and many references in books and magazines.

11



## No.11 Mural on the wall of the M. Konopnicka Public Library

**Location:** 33a Emilii Plater Street

The "Library with Taste" mural encourages people to read books and use the services of the Maria Konopnicka Public Library in Suwałki. The author of the project is Marta Taraszkiewicz.

12



## No.12 "Suwałki for Independent Poland"

**Location:** 24th Sierpnia Street (on the wall of the building at 19 T.Kościuszki Street)

The mural commemorates the 100th anniversary of the liberation of Suwałki, it refers to the town's road to independence, as well as values related to its heritage and history, emphasising also its multicultural character. Featuring in the centre of the mural is the figure of the Chief of State Józef Piłsudski and his quotation: "Today your land is free". The person on the right is Walery Roman, a person connected with the independence of Suwałki, a plenipotentiary of Marshal Piłsudski, who strove to have the Suwałki Region included within the borders of the Second Republic. The author of the mural project, Piotr Topczyłko, has also updated some elements depicting the Sejny Uprising and the Suwałki Rifle Regiment.



SUWAŁKI'S MURALS



2H

NOS. 5-12

35



Wooden Architecture Trail is a subjective guidebook for the wooden architecture of Suwałki from the interwar period. Its aim is to show that wooden objects – although rarely associated with modernism or antiquity – are an inseparable and unique part of the legacy of the town by the Czarna Hańcza River. The buildings presented on the map, which were built or rebuilt in the 1920s and 1930s, bring attention with their unique construction, shape and decorative details that are not always seen immediately.

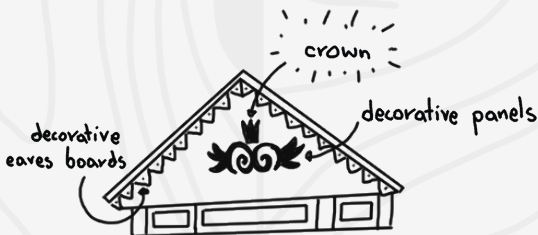
The publication and the trail were made as a part of the programme “The Infrastructure of Independence: The Architecture of Polish Powiat Modernisation Projects” organised by Narodowy Instytut Architektury i Urbanistyki (National Institute of Architecture and Urbanism).

## No.1 52 Bakalarzewska Street

A house building from 1936 with a veranda – a characteristic element of the wooden architecture from the interwar period. The big popularity of verandas during that time could be caused by the economic way of DIY building. It contributed to the creation of a unique effect and the only asymmetrical window arrangement in Suwałki.

## No.2 19 Filipowska Street

A house building from 1920 with an asymmetrically positioned veranda on the front wall with a small floral decoration with a crown, decorative panels and eaves boards at the peak.



## No.3 7 and 9 Filipowska Street

This house building in a style of a country cottage from 1930 still preserves various elements of wooden architecture, including so-called Polish windows with huge panel shutters, decorative fascia board, and a corner decorated with vertical fluted lines across the whole building.



## No.4 1 Łanowa Street

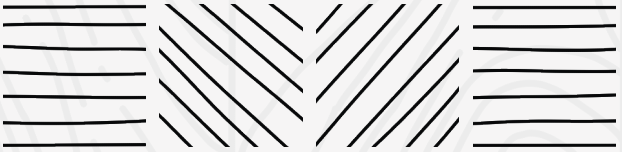
A house building from 1930 in a style of a mansion. The atypical block is complemented by a massive mansard room – the biggest structural construction of that type in Suwałki. A nearby wooden house, on 3 Łanowa Street, is in very good condition and is worth seeing.



### No.5 15a Łanowa Street

A house building from 1930. It has visible ornaments on both sides: from the street – two decorative slats, from the other side decorative layout of timber cladding at the top part and a piece of a decorative slat around the windows.

decorative timber cladding layout



### No.6 16 and 18 Kamedulska Street

A house building was built in the years 1920–1925, although a part of the timber cladding could imply an earlier date of the construction. An example of a richly decorated pre-war house with a veranda with a sun motif on the front.

### No.7 87 Gałaja Street

A house building from 1934. It preserved an ox-eye window and two-colour panel door painted in a way that highlights the decorations.



### No.8 115 Gałaja Street

A house building from 1936 with massive ceiling joists protruding from the wall, a timber cladding made from vertical panels and low-set windows due to the rising of the pavement level. The asymmetrical panel door is also remarkable.



### No.9 42 Plater Street

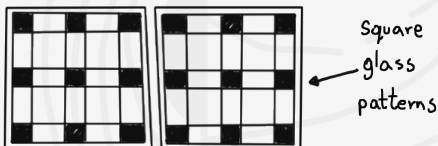
A house building from 1926. What makes it remarkable is its wall plate extending far from the edge of the building framework, located on the northern side and decorated with gradual scorings.

## No.10 46 Plater Street

A house building from 1932 was built completely with wood. The bottom part, from the ground to the roof, was most probably plastered after the war. Worth looking at is a well-preserved panel door decorated with wooden slats.

## No.11 49 Reja Street

A house building from 1930, in which the door is unusually located from the south. It has one of the biggest old verandas in Suwałki, which main decorations are patterned windows made with square glass panels.



## No.12 7 Żeromskiego Street

A building from 1934. The veranda was decorated with numerous ornaments cut out in wood and colourful windowpanes. This house and the one nearby (located on 5 Żeromskiego Street) are the only traditional wooden buildings with exhibited dates of their build in Suwałki. Inscribing dates of the build was a tradition in both city and rural constructions. The date can be seen on the top part of the veranda.



## No.13 14 Żeromskiego Street

A building house from the 1930s. Apart from the glass-panelled door of the veranda with its original handle, we can notice delicately scored corners – panels that function both as a decoration and as a prevention from atmospheric deterioration.

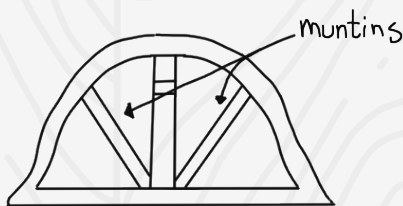
## No.14 3 Narutowicza Street

A building house from 1935. The former veranda was decorated with a relief of two cockerels. We can also see a decoration in the form of a sweep-sawed board tacked to one of the doors..



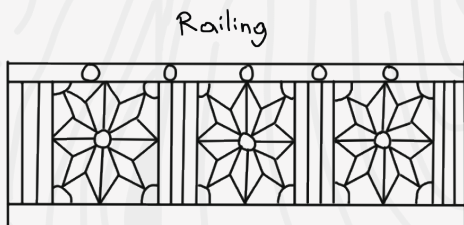
### No.15 19 Narutowicza Street

A house building from 1936. It has a large veranda with a shed roof with a few ox-eye windows with most probably original, but rare in this case, muntins – slats that divide the window into smaller parts.



### No.16 27 Narutowicza Street

Freshly renovated dwelling house from 1933 that preserved a typical shape of an urban mansion. It has a front with narrow windows set vertically on both sides of the balcony door and a railing with floral motives.



### No.17 37 Narutowicza Street

This house building from the interwar period is differentiated by its veranda with a shed roof. Through its walls with built-in windows, we can see a panel door decorated with a few ribbons sculptured in wood and crowned with a floral motif.

### No.18 5 Kolejowa Street

A house building from 1930. On both sides of the building, there are preserved porches raised and decorated with floral accents, typical for the interwar period. The one on the front looks like it was later renovated. The second porch still has characteristic semicircular slats. On the roof of the house, just above the porch, there is an ox-eye window.

### No.19 27 Wylotowa Street

A house building from 1935. Due to numerous renovations, only the top from the original design was preserved. It has a decorative wooden facade with a rhombus motif, which forms a chequerboard, and a single piece of chevron design at the bottom.



## No.20 17 Przytorowa Street

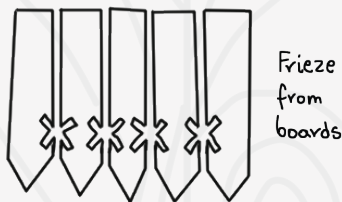
A house building from the interwar period decorated with elements, including an "urban" type of wooden facade (the top part of the building has a horizontal facade, the bottom part has a less common angled facade), large panel shutters adjusted to the Polish windows' sizes, and decorative boards on the porch. There is also a small mansard room.

## No.21 27a Szkolna Street

A house building from 1935. An interesting porch with windowpanes (some of them are in an unusually tall and narrow shape) framed with profiled slats with semicircle ends. The door to the veranda is partially glass-panelled and decorated with slightly ornamented slats at the top. The house also has decorative, completely preserved eaves boards with a pointed triangular motif.

## No.22 1 Utrata Street

A railway building from the 1930s, formerly used as a school. An unusual object due to its size, unique shape, proportion of the roof to the framework and its small pitch angle. Across the whole length of the elevation, on the top edges of the walls, there is a frieze made from pointed vertical boards with an X decoration cut out in each of them.



## No.23 8 Utrata Street

A house building in a style of a mansion from 1938. Decorated with tall pinnacles above the mansard room and the gable and wind girder cut in the shape that resembles sea waves. The mansion also has a veranda with a panel door and a mansard room with a wooden facade and a balcony that has a railing made from delicate wooden balusters.



## No.24 10 Utrata Street

A house building from the 1930s was built almost at the same time as the mansion nearby (house nr 8). Due to numerous renovations, it lost almost all of its original traits of the style. Some of the characteristic elements were preserved: profile ends of the roof beams, bottom parts of the wind girders and the only large door decorated with slats forming a lattice on the glass-panelled part in Suwałki.



**No.25 27 Wigierska Street**

A house building from 1915 with a veranda added in the interwar period. Three of the slats that decorate the veranda were not set in one plane but as their height decreases they "rear" deeper into the building, which gives a unique artistic effect. The triangular top of the peak wall was decorated with rhombuses composed of boards.



**No.26 26 Wigierska Street**

A house building from 1900 with unusual proportions – it is both narrow and tall. The peak wall from the south is brick-built to the edge of the roof, which was supposed to prevent hypothetical fire from spreading from the neighbor. It is one of two examples of this protection in the wooden architecture of Suwałki. It has a veranda in typical for the interwar period shape and with details that also relate to that time.

**No.27 25 Noniewiczza Street**

Formerly a Jewish Talmudic school built in 1934 and functioning before World War II. Currently a house building. A unique, wooden storied building with large multi-panel windows and a big door in the centre of the wall from the yard.

**No.28 6 Noniewiczza Street**

A large wide-fronted house building from 1900 with an almost completely preserved set of traditional wooden elements: a panel door, an eaves board, window crowns, corners, timber cladding and wind girders (currently just remains of it on the top of the northern part of gable wall). Some of the decorations were most probably made in the interwar period. Characteristic iron handles that were preserved in the window frames prove that earlier windows had shutters. A timber cladding is vertical at the bottom and horizontal at the top part of the walls, which means that the house is typical for urban development.

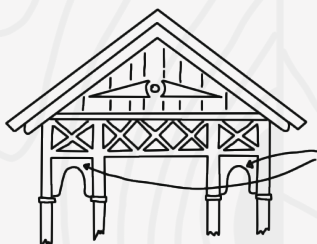


**No.29 19 Polna Street**

A house building from 1930. Currently a vacant building. A panel door was decorated with a slat cut out in small squares and the door frame was decorated with numerous deeply engraved lines. The elevation was painted in two colours, which emphasises the "urban" way of timber cladding the front walls characteristic of the houses from that period.

### No.30 16 Wojska Polskiego Street

A house building from 1925 with a huge ornate porch supported on 6 posts and a panel door. Formerly completely wooden, the building is plastered today, which contrasts with the well-preserved wooden porch and the door.



Ornaments



### No.31 50 Wojska Polskiego Street

A building house from 1930. Formerly most probably narrow-fronted, which can be seen from the differences in the timber cladding. The jerkinhead roof was embellished with decorative slats. At the gable, there are two so-called Polish windows and two small semi-circled holes, which bring light to the attic. On the roof slope from the northern side, there is a small dormer window with an unusual shape that expands at the top and a unique diamond-shaped decoration above the window.



### No.32 60 Wojska Polskiego Street

A building house from 1930 that has a facade with two doors and a central chimney. Above one door there are remains of the ornaments: three rectangles. The second door has a traditional veranda with timber cladding made from pointed narrow slats. There is also a well-preserved ox-eye window, wooden pilaster and a wall plate decorated at the end.

### No.33 59 Raczkowska Street

A house building from 1934. The only wooden mansion in a modern style preserved in Suwałki.



Trails made by:

**Neoclassical and Town walk paths** Pastwisko.org Association

**Murals** TIC Suwałki

**Timber Architecture Trail** National Institute of Architecture  
and Urbanism

The guide is available in:

Tourist information centre in Suwałki  
[www.pogodnesuwalki.pl](http://www.pogodnesuwalki.pl)

Kostroma Association [www.kostroma.pl](http://www.kostroma.pl)

and

selected tourist information centres.



Wydawnictwo opracowano według projektu  
„Promocja tras turystycznych po Suwałkach – EN”  
współfinansowanego przez Miasto Suwałki