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ECONOMIC FOUNDATIONS OF THE PAULINE MONASTERY IN WIELUŃ FROM THE END OF THE 14th TO THE BEGINNING OF THE 19th CENTURIES

ABSTRACT: The subject of this text is the economy of the Pauline monastery in Wieluń. Using the example of this monastery, the author wants to present the principles of economic activity in the monastic estates belonging to the Polish Pauline monks. The following methods were used: descriptive, analytical and comparative.

KEYWORDS: Pauline order, economy, Catholic Church, Wieluń city.

Introduction

The purpose of this text is to analyse the economic foundations of the Pauline Monastery in Wieluń and to present the economic situation of this institution. Above all, the author attempts to discuss the economic activities, sources of income and the economic situation of the monastery in specific periods of its functioning. It should be stressed, however, that the picture of the monastery's economic situation outlined in the text is the result of the state of the sources preserved in the archives.

This text is primarily based on the manuscripts preserved in the Jasna Góra Archives in Częstochowa, where we can find a large number of source materials concerning individual monasteries of the Polish province of the Pauline order, including the order in Wieluń. Manuscripts stored in the Archdiocesan Archives in Częstochowa (AACz.), the Central Archives of Historical Records in Warsaw (AGAD) and other Polish archives and State Archives in Lviv were also used. Additionally, the issues studied were developed on the basis of the literature on the subject. The descriptive analytical and comparative methods served to prepare this publication.

The topic of the establishment of the Pauline monasteries of the Polish province has already been the object of the studies of the Polish historians. We should, however, note the works by a Pauline, Fr. Janusz Zbudniewek.¹ Leszek Wojciechowski discussed the foundation and endowment of the monasteries which were established until 1430.² In turn, Jacek Wiesiołowski presented the circumstances of the foundation of the Pauline monasteries in the 14th and 15th centuries, while Jacek Szpak the economic bases of the Polish Pauline monasteries, yet to a limited extent.³ Agnieszka Osiadacz in her article discussed the circumstances of the foundation and endowment of the monastery in Łęczeszyce.⁴

¹ J. Zbudniewek, *Paulini wczoraj i dzisiaj*, „Studia Claromontana”, vol. 25, 2007, pp. 192-275; J. Zbudniewek, *Katalog domów i rezydencji polskiej prowincji paulinów*, „Nasza Przeszłość”, 31, 1969, pp. 190-228; J. Zbudniewek, *Jasna Góra. Dzieje*, [in:] *Encyklopedia katolicka*, vol. 7, eds. S. Wielgus, J. Duchniewski, M. Daniluk, S. Fity, J. Misiurek, M. Rusecki, A. Stępień, A. Weiss, Lublin 1997, pp. 1072-1073.

² L. Wojciechowski, *Przekazy Długosza o pierwszej fundacji Jasnej Góry*, „Studia Claromontana”, vol. 5, 1984, pp. 264-278; L. Wojciechowski, *Najstarsze klasztory paulinów w Polsce. Fundacja-uposażenie-rozwoj do około 1430 roku*, „Studia Claromontana”, vol. 11, 1991, pp. 5-215; L. Wojciechowski, *Fundacja klasztoru jasnogórskiego*, [in:] *Częstochowa. Dzieje miasta i klasztoru jasnogórskiego. Okres staropolski*, vol. 1, Częstochowa 2002, pp. 146-162; L. Wojciechowski, *Fundacja klasztoru paulinów w Wieruszowie*, „Studia Claromontana”, vol. 24, 2006, pp. 431-448.

³ J. Szpak, *Polska prowincja paulinów od XVII wieku do 1864 roku. Dzieje gospodarcze: klasztor na Jasnej Górze w Częstochowie*, Katowice 2020; *Idem*, *Z dziejów klasztoru paulinów w Konopnicy (1630-1864). Wybrane zagadnienia*. „Rocznik Wieluński” vol. 17 (2017), pp. 133-145; *Idem*, *Dzieje konwentu i parafii paulinów w Leśniowie-Żarkach: 1706-1864*, „Studia Claromontana”, vol. 20, 2020, pp. 487-598; *Idem*, *Dzieje kościoła i parafii w Leśniowie*, „Studia Claromontana”, vol. 21, 2003, pp. 451-510; *Idem*, *Dzieje klasztoru i parafii w Leśniowie*, „Studia Claromontana”, vol. 22, 2004, pp. 405-636; *Idem*, *Działalność gospodarcza paulinów polskich*, „Studia Claromontana”, vol. 27, 2009, pp. 235-274; *Idem*, *Klasztor paulinów w Leśnej 1726-1864. Początki-struktura organizacyjna-życie codzienne-podstawy ekonomiczne*, „Rocznik Białkopodlaski”, vol. 24, 2016, pp. 80-84; *Idem*, *Gospodarstwo folwarczne w klasztorze paulinów na Łąkach Panny Maryi pod Głogówkiem*, [in:] *Środkowa i wschodnia Europa w zwierciadle historii: wielkiej orz codziennej. Księga pamiątkowa dedykowana Profesorowi Sylwestrowi Fertaczowi*, eds. M. Gruszczak, J. Januszewska-Jurkiewicz, L. Krzyżanowski, M. Skrzypek, Bielsko-Biała 2021, pp. 47-56.

⁴ A. Osiadacz, *Rodzina Boglewskich na tle epoki XIV-XVII wieku*, „Studia Claromontana”, vol. 29, 2011, pp. 211-354.

The foundation of the monastery in Wieluń

Before 25 April 1380, Duke Władysław Opolczyk founded a hospital near Wieluń. Between 1380 and 1388, a church dedicated to St Nicolas was erected next to the hospital. Both institutions were administered by the rector Andrzej, who, on 29 December 1388, voluntarily relinquished the administration of the hospital and the church to the Paulines. The act of relinquishment was undoubtedly in accordance with the will of Duke Władysław Opolczyk. When taking over the hospital and church, the Paulines also took over its endowment, while the hospital was probably liquidated. Between 1389 and 1391 the Duke of Opole also founded a monastery for the Pauline Fathers. The hospital and church and their endowments taken over by the Pauline monks became the basis for its functioning. The monks also took over the pastoral service in St Catherine's chapel in the Wieluń castle and henceforth acted there as chaplains.

In 1391, a war began between Władysław Opolczyk and King of Poland Władysław Jagiełło, as a result of which the Wieluń Land was again incorporated into the Crown.⁵ On 24 February 1393, King Władysław founded the Wieluń monastery again, confirming as well the Jasna Góra foundation. Yet, the King did not include Opolczyk in the issued documents, wishing to emphasise his sovereign right to the Wieluń Land.⁶ Eventually, the foundation of the Wieluń monastery was confirmed by Archbishop of Gniezno Dobrogost of Nowy Dwór.⁷

⁵ *Arcybiskup Jan (Suchywilk) za zgodą swojej kapituły nadaje szpitalowi pod Wieluniem dziesięcinę miodowe ze wsi Sokolniki*, [in:] L. Wojciechowski, *Najstarsze klasztory paulinów...*, pp. 197-198; *Andrzej rektor kościoła i szpitala św. Mikołaja pod Wieluniem rezygnuje tegoż kościoła i szpitala na rzecz przeora paulinów*, [in:] L. Wojciechowski, *Najstarsze klasztory paulinów...*, pp. 201-203; A. Młyńska, *Instytucje kościelne w mieście*, [in:] *Wieluń. Monografia miasta*, ed. A. Szymczak, vol. 1, Łódź-Wieluń 2011, pp. 214, 216-217, 222; 115-119, 176-181; J. Sperka, *Władysław książę opolski, wieluński, kujawski, dobrzyński, Pan Rusi, palatyn Węgier i namiestnik Polski (1326/1330-8 lub 18 maja 1401)*, Kraków 2012, pp. 333-335.

⁶ *Ponowna fundacja klasztoru paulinów w Wieluniu*, [in:] *Zbiór dokumentów zakonu oo. paulinów w Polsce*, vol. 1, 1382-1464, ed. J. Fijałek, Kraków 1938, pp. 64-67; A. Młyńska, *Instytucje kościelne w mieście...*, pp. 214-215; J. Zbudnierek, *Katalog domów i rezydencji polskiej prowincji paulinów*, „Nasza Przeszłość”, vol. 31, 1969, p. 222; L. Wojciechowski, *Najstarsze klasztory paulinów...*, pp. 179-189;

The endowment of the monastery

The endowment of the monastery in Wieluń, according to the decision of Władysław Opolczyk, consisted of the revenues previously belonging to St Nicolas hospital, i.e. the tithe of honey from the village of Sokolniki, the village of Dzierzniki and tithes from Trębaczów, Janiszów, Niwiski and Szczyty, which had previously been the endowment of the Sieradz chancellorship. It is likely that the Pauline friars were granted immunity with the exception of *poradlne* (land tax, J.S.-W.), they were also exempted from the obligation of the monarch station.⁸

When re-founding the monastery, Władysław Jagiełło reduced the peasant burden in Dzierzniki. From then on, peasants paid *osep* (tithe paid in grain, J.S.-W.) to the monastery in the amount of 1 quarter of oat of the Wieluń measurement from each fief. From Trębaczów, predial tithe was collected, from Niwiski 3 bushels of oats from each fief, from Szczyty the monastery collected the tithe of 6 groschen from each fief. However, these obligations were changed into a monetary tribute of 12 groschen from each fief. In 1401 and 1403, Jagiełło excluded tithes from Trębaczów, Janiszów, Niwiski and Szczyty and granted them on the restored Krakow Academy. In return, the Paulines received as yet undetermined compensation.⁹ In 1485 and 1488, Kraków bishop Zbigniew Oleśnicki confirmed the obligation to pay from the provost's farm in Sokolniki. From 5 fief the monastery received 1 *wiardunek*, that is a sum equal to twelve groschen.¹⁰

The land endowments received by the monastery of Wieluń from Władysław Opolczyk were insignificant. We know that there was a monastery manor, to which the land lying around the town belonged.¹¹

Z. Wilk - Woś, *Przyczynek do średniowiecznych dziejów konwentu św. Mikołaja za murami Wielunia*, „Studia Claromontana” vol. 30, 2012, pp. 505-512.

⁷ B. Czwojdrak, J. Sperka, *Biskupi polscy wobec paulinów w Polsce średniowiecznej*, „Studia Claromontana”, vol. 27, 2009, pp. 58-60.

⁸ J. Zbudnierek, *Katalog domów i rezydencji...*, p. 222; L. Wojciechowski, *Najstarsze klasztory paulinów...*, pp. 179-189; Z. Wilk - Woś, *Przyczynek do średniowiecznych...*, pp. 505-512; J. Sperka, *Władysław książę opolski...*, p. 334.

⁹ L. Wojciechowski, *Najstarsze klasztory paulinów...*, pp. 179-189.

¹⁰ Z. Wilk - Woś, *Przyczynek do średniowiecznych...*, pp. 505-512; on the monetary system, see: J. Szymański, *Nauko pomocnicze historii*, Warszawa 2009, p. 567.

¹¹ J. Zbudnierek, *Katalog domów i rezydencji...*, p. 201; L. Wojciechowski, *Najstarsze klasztory paulinów...*, pp. 179-189; Archiwum Jasnogórskie w Częstochowie (henceforth: AJG) ref. 1579, pp. 171, 173, 175.

In 1412, the Pauline Fathers bought the *solectwo* (village) for 20 *grzywnas* (a unit of exchange).¹² In 1513, the monastery received by bequest a garden, called Rusowski, from Jakub Rusch, a townsman from Wieluń. However, the Pauline monks bequeathed the garden to a relative of the testator for 7 *grzywnas*.¹³ Additionally, in 1535, the convent of Wieluń purchased a meadow in Żytniów for 60 groshen.¹⁴ In the following years, the Pauline Fathers also bought a considerable part of Żytniów.¹⁵ These grants were confirmed by the Archbishops of Gniezno, including Mikołaj Trąba and Wojciech Jastrzębiec.¹⁶

Manor economy

The organisation of work in the monastic estates

In the medieval period, the manor performed an auxiliary function. Hired people worked there and its main purpose was to provide sufficient food products.¹⁷ From the very beginning of its existence, the monastery of Wieluń had a manor farm lying near the town.¹⁸ Later, the Pauline Fathers enlarged their property by purchasing part of the village called Żytniów.¹⁹ Eventually, there were two manors in the estates of the Wieluń monastery: the monastic one near Wieluń and the other one in Dzietrzniki.²⁰

The monastic manor functioned until the end of the existence of the monastery. Whereas, the estates in Dzietrzniki and part of Żytniów

¹² L. Wojciechowski, *Najstarsze klasztory paulinów...*, pp. 179-189.

¹³ *Dokument nr 164a, Dokument nr 195b*, [in:] *Zbiór Dokumentów Zakonu Paulinów w Polsce*, vol. 2, by J. Zbudniwek, Warszawa 2004, pp. 348-349, 381-382.

¹⁴ *Dokument nr 485a*, [in:] *Zbiór Dokumentów Zakonu...*, pp. 654-655.

¹⁵ AGAD, Komisja Porządkowa Cywilno-Wojskowa Ziemi Wieluńskiej i starostwa ostrzeszowskiego (henceforth: KPCWZWISO) ref. 9, microfilm (henceforth: mfl.) 12367, b. pag.

¹⁶ Z. Wilk-Woś, *Przyczynek do średniowiecznych...*, pp. 505-512.

¹⁷ J. Rutkowski, *Historia gospodarcza Polski*, vol. 1, *Czasy przedrozbiorowe*, Poznań 1947, p. 120, J. Topolski, *Przełom gospodarczy w Polsce XVI wieku i jego następstwa*, Poznań 2000, pp. 12-13; A. Jęzierski, C. Leszczyńska, *Historia gospodarcza Polski*, Warszawa 2003, pp. 24-26.

¹⁸ J. Zbudniwek, *Katalog domów i rezydencji...*, p. 201; L. Wojciechowski, *Najstarsze klasztory paulinów...*, pp. 179-189; AJG ref. 1579, pp. 171, 173, 175.

¹⁹ L. Wojciechowski, *Najstarsze klasztory paulinów...*, pp. 179-189; *Zbiór Dokumentów Zakonu...*, pp. 348-349, 654-655; AGAD, KPCWZWISO ref. 9, mfl. 12367, b. pag.

²⁰ AJG ref. 1652, pp. 378-381.

were taken over by the Prussian authorities between 1797 and 1801. In exchange, the Paulines received the so-called compensation, that is the annual income for the lost estates.²¹ At the same time, between 1802 and 1815, the Paulines leased the village of Dzietrzniki from the state.²²

Farmers (hosts) worked in the manors. They were recruited from among the peasants and they supervised work and took care of the livestock and tools in the manor farm, e.g. in the years 1740-1776 in the Manor of Wieluń Andrzej Snopczyk took care of the farm.²³ In Dzietrzniki, economic matters were dealt with by the provisor, who was one of the monks delegated from the Wieluń monastery. This function was for instance performed by Fr. Wojciech Gajewski in 1726²⁴ and by Fr. Innocenty Witecki in 1807.²⁵

The number of smokes (houses) in the monastic villages is known only for 1790. At that time there were 27 smokes in Żytniów, of which 21 belonged to the Wieluń monastery²⁶. In Dzietrzniki, in turn, there were 87 smokes.²⁷ Thus, a total of 98 smokes belonged to the Wieluń monastery.

The basis for the functioning of the Dzietrzniki manor was serfdom. We only have data on peasant obligations from 1747. There were four peasants, each of whom was obliged to perform 3 days of serfdom with their own harness per week; the rent for the monastery amounted to 6 zlotys per year from one farm. There were seventeen "semi-agricultural" farms. Six farmers did serfdom with their own harness 2 days a week, and nine 3 days of serfdom with no harness. One half-peasant paid the rent annually in the amount of 7 zlotys, while others were exempted from this obligation. Sixteen half-peasants gave tribute in the form of 1 capon and one farmer was exempted from this obligation. One half-peasant gave 0.5 bushel (henceforth: b.) of linseed,

²¹ AJG 1652, pp. 7-9, 380, 389-391, 395, 397; AJG 1579, pp. 311, 316-317; AGAD KPCWZWiSO, ref., 9, mfl. 12367, b. pag.; AGAD, Centralne Władze Wyznaniowe Królestwa Polskiego (henceforth: CWWKP), ref. 912, pp. 13, 201-202.

²² AJG 1579, pp. 41-50.

²³ AJG 477, p. 65.

²⁴ AJG 1578, p. 7.

²⁵ AJG 759, Actorum Provinciae Poloniae (henceforth: APP), vol. 14 (1797-1801), pp. 347-348.

²⁶ AGAD, KPCWZWiSO, ref. 9, mfl. 12367, b. pag.

²⁷ AJG 1579, p. 31.

seven gave 2 *garnce* (*garniec* = 4 quarters, J.S.-W.), and nine farmers were exempted from this tribute. On the other hand, each half-peasant paid a tribute of 6 *garnce* of flax. Each semi-peasant farm produced 6 eggs per year. There were 23 homesteads, four of which performed serfdom with no harness for 2 days a week, two homesteaders for 1 day each and others were exempted from these obligations. Each homesteader had to pay 1 capon, 1 *garniec* of linseed and 3 eggs per year. The flaxseed tribute ranged from 3 to 6 *garnce* (two for 6 *garnce*, the rest for 3 *garnce*), and linseed from 1-2 *garnce* (four for 1 *garniec*, two for 2 *garnce*). The levy in eggs ranged from 3 to 6 pieces (four for 3, two for 6). There were also 5 farms in Dzierzniki run by free peasants. They paid an annual rent of 100 zlotys, 90 zlotys, 70 zlotys and 33 zlotys; while, one farmer was exempted from rent in favour of the levy consisting of: 1 capon, 6 *garnce* of linseed and 6 *garnce* of flax and 6 eggs per year. Three farmers were obliged to carry beer to the taverns and markets. There were four bailiffs and each made 1 day of serfdom with no harness per week. All were obliged to pay levy in the form of 3 capons per year, 1 *garniec* of linseed and 3 eggs each. In Dzierzniki, there were also three farmers called *kwartnicy* who owned 0.25 of field. They performed 1.5 days of serfdom with no harness per week. All of them were obliged to pay levy in the form of 1 capon per year, 3 *garnce* of flax, 1 *garniec* of linseed and 3 eggs per year.²⁸

Both manors also employed attendants, who came from among the serfs and freemen who came to the estate of the Wieluń monastery in search of work. Records of the employment of attendants come from 1702. At that time they were paid in beer. Unfortunately, there is no information on the amount of money spent for this purpose.²⁹ Around 1716 a shepherd and a maid were employed in Dzierzniki. The former received a cloth, a cap, a belt, boots and linen for shirts once a year. The maid, in turn, received linen for clothes and 4 zlotys.³⁰ In addition to servants, the manors employed church servants, including an organist. In the years 1813-1815 he received a salary of 100 zlotys a year.³¹

²⁸ AJG 1652, pp. 450-453.

²⁹ 29 AJG 1652, p. 1.

³⁰ AJG 1579, p. 255.

³¹ AJG 1652, p. 397.

The acreage of monastery manors

The Wieluń monastery owned one and a half villages. As far as the total acreage of the individual manors is concerned, only the data from around 1665 has been preserved. At that time, the area of the Dzietrzniki estate was 90 morgens (a unit of land measure, approx. 50.5 ha).³² In other periods, the acreage of the monastic manors can be determined from the level of sowing.³³ Based on the information referring to the sowing, it is possible to determine the total acreage of the Wieluń estate at approximately 105 morgens (58.58 ha).³⁴ In this context, it is worth asking what the economic basis of the Wieluń monastery was in comparison with other Pauline monasteries in Poland? This issue is illustrated in Table 1.

Fig 1. The landed property belonging to the monasteries of the Polish Pauline province in 1382-1864³⁵

No.	Monastery	Number of settlement units (towns, villages, settlement)	Total acreage [morgens]
1.	Jasna Góra	127	5976,58
2.	Leśna	16	4907,00
3.	Włodawa	10	1015,00
4.	Warszawa	7	260,75
5.	Łęczeszyce	6	323,50
6.	Konopnica	5½	535,00
7.	Leśniów	5	82,00

³² AJG 1579, p. 9.

³³ The following assumptions were made: the sowing of four basic cereals were as follows: rye – 2.5 b. per morgen, wheat – 2.3 b. per morgen, barley – 2.6 b. per morgen, and oats – 3.3 b. per morgen; 6 b. of potatoes were sown per morga; other sowing amounted to 10% of the sowing of four basic cereals, and wasteland, meadows and pastures amounted to 50% of the sowing, see: J. Szpak, *Polska prowincja paulinów od XVII wieku do 1864 roku. Dzieje gospodarcze: klasztor na Jasnej Górze w Częstochowie*, Katowice 2020, p. 183.

³⁴ Own estimates on the basis of: AJG ref. 1652, pp. 3-5, 7-9, 11, 22; AJG ref. 1579, pp. 33-34.

³⁵ The highest number of estates and acreage has been provided.

8.	Stara Wieś	4	669,20
9.	Łąki Panny Maryi pod Głogówkiem	4	184,80
10.	Beszowa	3	172,79
11.	Wilno	3	33,00
12.	Wieruszów	2 1/3	no data
13.	Skalka	2	313,71
14.	św. Barbara	2	70,00
15.	Horoszki	2	70,00
16.	Niżniów	2	60,00
17.	Krzyszowice	2	30,00
18.	Jazłowiec	2	no data
19.	Brdów	2	no data
20.	Topolno	1 ½	321,00
21.	Wieluń	1 ½	105,00
22.	Pińczów	1	203,52
23.	Norzyńsk	1	59,50
24.	Oporów	1	42,86
25.	św. Zygmunt w Starej Częstochowie	0	34,52
26.	Lwów	0	no data
27.	Wielgomłynny	no data	no data
In total		213,80	15 459,73

Sources: AJG ref. 462, pp. 15-21; AJG 463, pp. 11-12; AJG ref. 465, pp. 88-89; AJG ref. 487, pp. 31-33; AJG ref. 490, p. 42; AJG ref. 491, pp. 27-31, 38, 45-46, 49-54, 63-68; AJG ref. 537, p. 347; AJG ref. 545, pp. 285-292, 298-299, 304; AJG 575, pp. 149-154; AJG ref. 595, pp. 147-152, 169, 173; AJG ref. 596, pp. 27-47, 221-223; AJG ref. 926, pp. 43-105, 115-127, 295; AJG ref. 973, pp. 1-10; AJG ref. 974, pp. 2, 81; AJG ref. 1012, p. 3; AJG ref. 1511, p. 47; AJG ref. 1515, pp. 51, 53, 55; AJG ref. 1529, pp. 1-2, 7-13, 18-20; AJG ref. 1530, pp. 7-8, 15-17; AJG ref. 1531, pp. 11-20, 67; AJG ref. 1532, pp. 1-4, 27; AJG ref. 1538, pp. 3-4, 7; AJG ref. 1539, pp. 52-54, 56, 145-151, 162-163, 173, 224, 253; AJG ref. 1544, pp. 1-3; AJG ref. 1545, pp. 15-18, 67-70; AJG ref. 1547, pp. 177-182; AJG ref. 1548, pp. 61-65, 69-75, 77-79; AJG ref. 1549, p. 80; AJG ref. 1550, pp. 44-45, 48; AJG ref. 1554, pp. 97-99; AJG ref. 1565, pp. 78-81; AJG ref. 1585, pp. 9, 11, 27-29, 33; AJG ref. 1603, pp. 1-4, 9-12, 15-18, 19-24, 33-34, 36-37, 43-49, 57-59, 61-66, 187, 192-193; AJG ref. 1607, p. 43;

AJG ref. 1609, pp. 48-53, 51-53, 60, 71, 75-83, 88-89, 195-198, 236-237, 249, 273-275; AJG ref. 1610, pp. 3-7, 13-15; AJG ref. 1611, p. 11; AJG ref. 1614, pp. 44-45, 53-54, 56; AJG ref. 1615, pp. 487-489, 503; AJG ref. 1620, pp. 3-6, 43-51; AJG ref. 1622, pp. 277, 342-343, 353; AJG ref. 1623, p. 54; AJG ref. 1625, pp. 1-3, 5-6, 280, 289, 327-331, 334-336, 353-354, 372-373, 387-389, 402; AJG ref. 1627, pp. 1-3, 23-26, 38, 158, 297-299; AJG ref. 1629, pp. 381-382; AJG ref. 1630, pp. 45-47, 52, 102-103, 107-110; AJG ref. 1639, pp. 1, 43-46, 55, 65-67; AJG ref. 1640, pp. 4-5; AJG ref. 1641, p. 328; AJG ref. 1642, pp. 51-53, 411-413, 419-422; AJG ref. 1645, p. 59; AJG ref. 1658, pp. 49-52; AJG ref. 1661, pp. 231-232, 328; Archiwum Główne Akt Dawnych w Warszawie, Centralne Władze Wyznaniowe Królestwa Polskiego, ref. 849, ppp. 89-91; Archiwum Narodowe w Krakowie, Teki Schneidra ref. 1514, p. 129; Archiwum Państwowe w Bydgoszczy (henceforth: APByd.), Klasztor w Topolnie (henceforth: KT) ref. 1, pp. 8-14, 61-74, 149, 416, 422-428; APByd. KT ref. 9, pp. 11-13; Archiwum Archidiecezjalne w Częstochowie, Księgi Konsystorskie ref. 19, pp. 33-36, 47-55; Centranlnyj Dierzawnyj Istoriceskij Archiv Ukrainy u Lvivi, Fond 453, Opyś 1, Spr. 1551, pp. 6-11, 17; A. Eggerer, *Księga 1 [Obejmująca okres od założenia zakonu do 1663]*, [in:] *Roczniki zakonu św. Pawła Pierwszego Pustelnika*, vol. 1. by L. Chałupka. Częstochowa-Jasna Góra 2008, p. 409; M. Benger, *Księga 2 [Obejmująca lata od 1663 do 1727]*, [in:] *Roczniki Zakonu św. Pawła Pierwszego Pustelnika*, vol. 1, by L. Chałupka, trans. P. Kosiać, Częstochowa-Jasna Góra 2008, p. 652; M. Streska, *Księga 3 [Z uzupełnieniami obejmująca lata od 1727 do 1786]*, [in:] *Roczniki Zakonu św. Pawła Pierwszego Pustelnika*, vol. 2 [Obejmujący lata 1727-1786], by L. Chałupka, trans. P. Kosiać, Częstochowa-Jasna Góra 2008, pp. 31-32; *Regestr diecezjów Franciszka Czaykowskiego czyli właściciele ziemscy w Koronie 1783-1784*. Published by: Sławomir Górzyński. Footnotes and introductionn by: Krzysztof Chłapowski i Sławomir Górzyński. Warszawa 2009, pp. 136, 300-301, 308, 311; A. Osadać, *Rodzina Boglewskich na tle epoki XIV-XVII wieku*, „Studia Claromontana”, vol. 29, 2011, pp. 329-331; *Słownik wiedzy o grójeckim*, ed. Z. Szelać, z. 11, Grójec 2002, pp. 24-25; J. Szpak, *Polska prowincja paulinów od XVII wieku do 1864 roku. Dzieje gospodarce: klasztor na Jasnej Górze w Częstochowie*, Katowice 2020, pp. 77-78, 564; J. Zbudniewek, *Wkład paulinów starowiejskich w kulturę ziemi przemyskiej*, „Studia Claromontana”, vol. 16, 1996, pp. 345-347; K. Szafraniec, *Konwent paulinów jasnogórskich 1382-1864*, Rzym 1966, p. 115; *Katalog zabytków w Polsce*, vol. 10, *Województwo warszawskie*, eds. I. Galicka, H. Sygietyńska, z. 5, *Powiat grójecki*, by I. Galicka, H. Sygietyńska, Warszawa 1971, p. 39; R. Zmuda, *Kasata klasztorów paulińskich na terenie Królestwa Polskiego w 1819 roku*, „Studia Claromontana” vol. 25, 2007, p. 392; J. Zbudniewek, *Katalog domów i rezydencji polskiej prowincji paulinów*. „Nasza Przeszłość”, 31, 1969, pp. 202, 204, 206-207; J. Zbudniewek, *Paulini wczoraj i dzisiaj*, „Studia Claromontana”, vol. 25, 2007, pp. 196, 220, 228, 243; K. S. Szafraniec, *Fundacja paulinów na Skalce*, „Studia Claromontana”, vol. 17, 1997, pp. 318-322; I. Kostrowicka, *Produkcja roślinna w Królestwie Polskim (1816-1864). Próba analizy ekonomicznej*, p. 2, Warszawa 1961, pp. 19-20, 24-25.

As seen from the table, of 27 Pauline institutions of the Polish province, it was possible to establish the number of settlement units for 26 monasteries. In this list, together with the monastery in Topolno, the Wieluń monastery occupied the twentieth position. However, as far as the total acreage is concerned, the Wieluń estate ranked seventeenth among 22 monasteries for which the acreage was determined. The acreage of the Wieluń monastery property accounted for 0.68% of the total acreage belonging to the monasteries of the Polish Province of the Pauline Fathers. Therefore, the economic potential of the Wieluń monastery was not large. It should also be remembered that the economic situation was influenced by various factors, such as wars, epidemics, difficult atmospheric conditions, natural conditions in the area or the skills of the administrator.

Plant economy

In the estates of the monastery in Wieluń, between 1703 and 1817, the following crops were cultivated: spring and winter rye, spring and winter wheat, barley, oats, buckwheat, peas, millet and flax. The highest proportion of rye was sown (up to approx. 38% of sowing), oats (up to approx. 26%), buckwheat (up to approx. 14%), barley (up to approx. 11%) and wheat (up to approx. 7%). The sowing of these crops accounted for as much as 96% of all sowing. Thus, the other crops did not play a major role.³⁶

Data concerning crops in bushels are scarce and come from the years 1703, 1707 and 1815. Rye was harvested in largest quantity (464.11 bushels, 58.04%); oats (112.50 bushels, 14.07%); buckwheat (75.81 bushels, 9.48%); barley (65.30 bushels, 8.17%) and wheat (54.05 bushels, 6.76%). In total, the crops of five cereals amounted to 96.52% of the total recorded crops.³⁷ On the basis of the preserved data, it should be noted that in the estates of the Wieluń monastery, the smallest quantity of crops was harvested in 1707, which coincides with the sowing data. This crisis was resultant upon the destruction caused by the armies participating in the Northern war. The overall crops, measured in bushels, increased slowly in 1703, 1707 and 1815.

³⁶ The author's own estimations: AJG ref. 1652, pp. 3-5, 7-9.

³⁷ AJG ref. 1652, pp. 3-5, 7-9, 11, 22, 342, 349, 393-394; AJG 1579, pp. 33-34.

However, the data is of rough orientation, because the preserved material is incomplete.

The efficiency from one bushel can only be measured for 1815. One bushel of rye sown gave 1.95 bushels; one bushel of grains of other crops gave: 2.26 bushels of spring wheat, 3.95 bushels of barley, 2.39 bushels of oats, 3.07 bushels of buckwheat and 2.90 bushels of peas.³⁸

The data concerning the disbursement of crops are only preserved for 1703 and 1707, with the largest amounts spent on consumption at the monastery (96.25 bushels, 31.74% of the grain disbursed), on sowing (77 bushels, 25.39%) and on propination production (71.00 bushels, 23.41%). 34.75 bushels, or 11.46% of the grains spent were allocated for sale; 17 bushels, which amounted to 5.61%, were spent on *obroks*; and 4.25 bushels, that is 1.40% of the grains spent, were allocated for military contributions in 1707.³⁹

Livestock management

In the estates of the Wieluń monastery, oxen, horses, cattle, dairy cattle, sheep, pigs, goats and poultry (chickens, ducks, turkeys, capons) were grown. It is worth noting that the monastic farms held a significant number of oxen used for field work. Part of the oxen, however, were destined for meat. A significant role was played by dairy cattle, sheep, pigs and poultry. The smallest role was performed by goats, which appeared in the records only in 1747. Poultry was used for local consumption, as were pigs.⁴⁰ The animal husbandry played an auxiliary role. It was to provide fertiliser, labour and meat for the monastery's table and the manor farm.

Manor industries

Brewery and distillery functioned in the Wieluń estates. One brewery was in the monastic manor, and the second in Dzietrzniki. The range of the production is only known for 1702, when 320 barrels were produced. Part of the production was consumed in manors and monasteries,

³⁸ AJG ref. 1579, pp. 33-34.

³⁹ The author's own estimations: AJG ref. 1652, pp. 3-5, 7-9.

⁴⁰ The author's own estimations: *ibidem*, pp. 15, 17-18, 23, 27-28, 131-133, 169, 172, 224, 227-228, 340-341, 347, 348, 373, 379-381, 389-391, 395.

and part was sold in the inns. Yet, no data has been preserved concerning the quantity of the drink sold. Distillery functioned in Dzietrzniki. In 1702, 131 *garncze* of spirit was sold.⁴¹

There were also mills in the monastery estates. Their existence was confirmed at least since 1546, when a new mill was erected on the Grabowa River in the village of Dzietrzniki.⁴² It operated until 1772, when the Prussian army destroyed it.⁴³ The mill was leased for a certain amount of annual rent. In 1632, the rent was 11/06 zlotys, and, in 1640, it increased to 112 zlotys per year. In 1643, on the initiative of the then prior, Father Augustyn Kordecki, another mill was erected on the Warta River in Dzietrzniki. A year later, with the consent of the Provincial Father Andrzej Gołdonowski, Walenty Strudnik became a leaseholder, who paid an annual rent of 80 zlotys. In turn, in 1689, the provincial chapter gave permission for a new mill to be erected, also in Dzietrzniki. The rent amounted to 9/18 zlotys per year.⁴⁴ As evidenced in the preserved sources, the monastery in Wieluń was the owner of three mills in the village of Dzietrzniki.

The financial situation of the Wieluń monastery

In the medieval period the monastery received its income from the endowment belonging to St Nicholas Hospital, from rents paid by the peasants of Dzietrzniki and from tithes.⁴⁵ However, Władysław Jagiełło converted the rents from Dzietrzniki into *osep*. In the years 1392-1403, the monastery continued to collect monetary tithe from Trębaczów Janiszów, Niwiski and Szczyty. After its loss, the Pauline monks received some unknown income of the losses incurred.⁴⁶ Additionally, the bailiff paid rent in the amount of 12 groschen.⁴⁷

⁴¹ AGAD, KPCWZWISO, ref. 9, mfl. 12367, b. pag.; AJG 1579, pp. 1, 3-5, 7-9, 229, 255, 347, 378-381.

⁴² Zbiór Dokumentów Zakonu..., pp. 844-845.

⁴³ AJG ref. 477, pp. 30, 39-40.

⁴⁴ AJG ref. 742, APP vol. 2 (1641-1658), pp. 21-23, 29-32, 214-217, 247.

⁴⁵ J. Z b u d n i e w e k, *Katalog domów i rezydencji...*, p. 222; L. W o j c i e c h o w s k i, *Najstarsze klasztory paulinów...*, pp. 179-189; Z. W i l k - W o ś, *Przyczynek do średniowiecznych ...*, pp. 505-512.

⁴⁶ L. W o j c i e c h o w s k i, *Najstarsze klasztory paulinów...*, pp. 179-189.

⁴⁷ Z. W i l k - W o ś, *Przyczynek do średniowiecznych...*, pp. 505-512; about the monetary system, see: J. S z y m a Ń s k i, *Nauko pomocnicze historii...*, p. 567.

The preserved data referring to the sources of the income in the Wieluń monastery in the modern period testify to the fact that they came from remuneration from the estates confiscated by the state (10897/08 zlotys, 39,62% of the fixed amount), debts to the monastery (7847/16 zlotys, 28,53%), rents (3200/00 zlotys, 11,64%), repurchases⁴⁸ (3113/15 zlotys, 11,32%), tithe (2143/07 zlotys, 7,79%) and return of the borrowed money (300/00 zlotys, 1,09% of the fixed amount). It should, however, be emphasised that insignificant number of the materials has been preserved that refer to the structure of the income. They only date from 1723, 1747, 1749, 1789, 1801, 1809 and 1815 and have a random character.

The accounts from 1801 and 1815 constitute an exception, where the revenue from all sources was listed.⁴⁹ We shall as well remember that not all income was paid on time to the monastic treasury, for instance until 1815 the Paulines received outstanding tithe from the years 1808-1815.⁵⁰ On the basis of the financial data, it appears to be difficult to state what the main source of the monastery's income was in the time of its functioning.

When it comes to the financial balance, the data also has a random character and comes from 1722-1723, 1750-1753, 1795-1798 and 1801. According to the reports found in the monastic books, the monastery usually generated profit, only once there was small deficit (1722-1723) in the amount of 53/03 zlotys. In the remaining periods, from which we have statements, profit was noted: the highest in 1801 (904/00 zlotys), the lowest in the period of 1795-1798 (181/20 zlotys). Whereas in years 1750-1753, profit amounted to 550/23 zlotys. The average income in the years for which data has been preserved amounted to 4161/00 zlotys, the average expense to 3881/00 zlotys, and average profit to 280/00 zlotys.

⁴⁸ A repurchase was a kind of loan where, in exchange for a sale with the right of repurchase, the borrower paid an annual rent, which was the equivalent of the percentage on the loan obtained. Repurchases were divided into three types: 1) perpetual, which fell to the heirs and could not be redeemed, 2) lifetime, which ceased on the death of the purchaser, 3) redeemable, which the debtor could redeem, see: J. B i e l e c k a, *Kontrakty lwowskie w latach 1768-1775*, „Roczniki Dziejów Społecznych i Gospodarczych”, No. 36, Poznań 1949, pp. 62-63.

⁴⁹ AJG ref. 1579, p. 293, 311, 316-317; AJG ref. 1652, pp. 134, 344, 376, 397, 450-453; AGAD, CWWKP ref. 912, pp. 13, 201-202.

⁵⁰ AJG 1652, p. 397.

However, these are only indicative figures, as incomplete material does not allow for precise calculations.⁵¹

The financial income received and the agricultural and livestock production in the manors permitted the maintenance of an average of 3 Pauline monks and 3-4 labourers. Thus, a total of 6 to 7 people stayed at the monastery. It should be noted, however, that at times the monastery employed as many as 6-7 monks, not counting the attendants, for instance in 1728 and 1765.⁵²

The liquidation of the monastery in Wieluń

The monastery in Wieluń was liquidated by the authorities of the Kingdom of Poland in 1818, still before the cassation decree of 1819 was passed. On 17 August 1818, the commissary of the Wieluń region, Stanisławski, demanded that the Paulines donated the monastery to the Bernardine sisters. The demand was repeated on 18 and 24 August and 18 October 1818. However, the then provincial Fr. Eugeniusz Lachowski categorically refused to do so. As a result, the administrative authorities turned to the Krakow consistor who supported the demand. In consequence, the Paulines left Wieluń, and the endowment of the monastery and the church was transferred to Jasna Góra in Częstochowa.⁵³

Conclusion

The organisation of work in the estates of the Wieluń monastery looked very similar to that in other monasteries. The basis of work in the modern period was serfdom with and with no harness, as well as levy and rents. In addition, peasants were obliged to perform various

⁵¹ AJG ref. 1579, pp. 311, 316-317; AJG ref. 1652, p. 134; AJG ref. 537, APP vol. 7 (1719-1731), pp. 479-480; AJG ref. 758, APP vol. 10 (1745-1758), pp. 483-484.; AJG ref. 759, APP vol. 14 (1797-1807), p. 44.

⁵² AJG ref. 1652, p. 397; AJG ref. 535, APP vol. 5 (1677-1703), pp. 675-676; AJG ref. 536, APP vol. 6 (1703-1719), pp. 320-322, 676-678; AJG ref. 537, APP vol. 7 (1719-1731), pp. 356-366, 888-906; AJG ref. 540, APP vol. 11b (1759-1771), pp. 124-125, 218-225; AJG ref. 543, APP vol. 13 (1789-1797), pp. 16-18, 205-207; AJG ref. 759, APP vol. 14 (1797-1807), pp. 48-50, 347-348; R. Z m u d a, *Kasata klasztorów paulińskich na terenie Królestwa Polskiego w 1819 roku*, „Studia Claromontana”, vol. 25, 2007, pp. 420-422; A. M ł y ń s k a, *Instytucje kościelne w mieście...*, p. 216.

⁵³ R. Z m u d a, *Kasata klasztorów paulińskich...*, pp. 420-422.

services, for instance referring to transport. A similar situation occurred in the Konopnica monastery estate or the Jasna Góra estate.⁵⁴

The extent of serfdom obligations varied greatly and depended on the needs and possibilities of the serfs. In addition to serfdom in the monastery estates, attendants were employed, who worked on the manors for remuneration, as in other monasteries, e.g. in Konopnica and in the Jasna Góra estates.⁵⁵

In the Wieluń farm, the same crops as those sown in other properties of the Pauline monasteries in the territory of the Commonwealth were grown.⁵⁶ The level of sowing and crops, both in the estates of the Wieluń monastery in a given year and in those of other monasteries, depended on numerous factors, such as the weather, the possibilities of cultivating sufficient amounts of land, or the economic needs of the year.⁵⁷ The spending of crops depended on the economic needs. Expenses in Wieluń looked similar, for instance in the estates in Łęczeszycy in 1723 plant production was spent on sowing, sales, consumption or animal fodder.⁵⁸ Breweries, distilleries and mills operated in all Pauline properties that have been examined so far. The purpose of these plants was to process plant production. Such plants functioned in the monastery estates of Konopnica, in the Sieradz province, in the Jasna Góra estates located in the Krakow province, and in the monastic estates in Leśniów, also located in the Krakow province.⁵⁹

⁵⁴ 54 AJG ref. 1614, s. 220-222; J. Szpak, *Z dziejów klasztoru paulinów w Konopnicy (1630-1864)*. Selected issues. „Rocznik Wieluński” vol. 17 (2017), pp. 137-140; J. Szpak, *Polska prowincja paulinów...*, pp. 99-166.

⁵⁵ J. Szpak, *Polska prowincja paulinów...*, 99-112; AJG 1614, pp. 44-45.

⁵⁶ AJG ref. 1614, pp. 1-3, 23-28, 34-37, 52, 56-60, 150-151, 155, 218-219, 276-277, 289; AJG ref. 1539, pp. 54, 145-149, 211, 239, 253; AJG ref. 487, pp. 31-33; AJG 491 pp. 27-31, 38, 45-46, 49-54, 69; AJG ref. 926, p. 295; AJG ref. 1511, pp. 47-48; AJG ref. 1512, pp. 64-65; AJG ref. 1511, p. 47; AJG ref. 1627, pp. 1-3, 23-26, 38, 158, 297-299; AJG ref. 1629, pp. 381-382.

⁵⁷ AJG ref. 1614, pp. 1-3, 23-28, 34-37, 52, 56-60, 150-151, 155, 218-219, 276-277, 289; AJG ref. 1539, pp. 54, 145-149, 211, 239, 253; AJG ref. 487, pp. 31-33; AJG ref. 491 pp. 27-31, 38, 45-46, 49-54, 69; AJG ref. 926, p. 295; AJG ref. 1511, pp. 47-48; AJG ref. 1512, pp. 64-65; AJG ref. 1627, pp. 1-3, 23-26, 38, 158, 297-299; AJG ref. 1629, pp. 381-382.

⁵⁸ AJG ref. 1627, pp. 23-26.

⁵⁹ AJG ref. 1614, pp. 1-3, 54-55; AJG ref. 1539, pp. 145-149; AJG ref. 1627, pp. 1-3; J. Szpak, *Polska prowincja paulinów...*, pp. 361-391; J. Szpak, *Dzieje klasztoru i parafii w Leśniowie*, „Studia Claromontana”, vol. 22, 2004, pp. 526-527.

As can be seen, the Wieluń monastery did not differ in the sphere of economics from other Polish monasteries of the Pauline province. Admittedly, the quantity and quality of the land and financial records were diverse, but the essence of the economic organization in the modern era remained identical. The foundation was provided by estate and agricultural economy. It should as well be stated that the Wieluń monastery possessed economic basis, which enabled the functioning of this institution until its liquidation conducted by the Kingdom of Poland in 1818.

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