

Manowce Palace



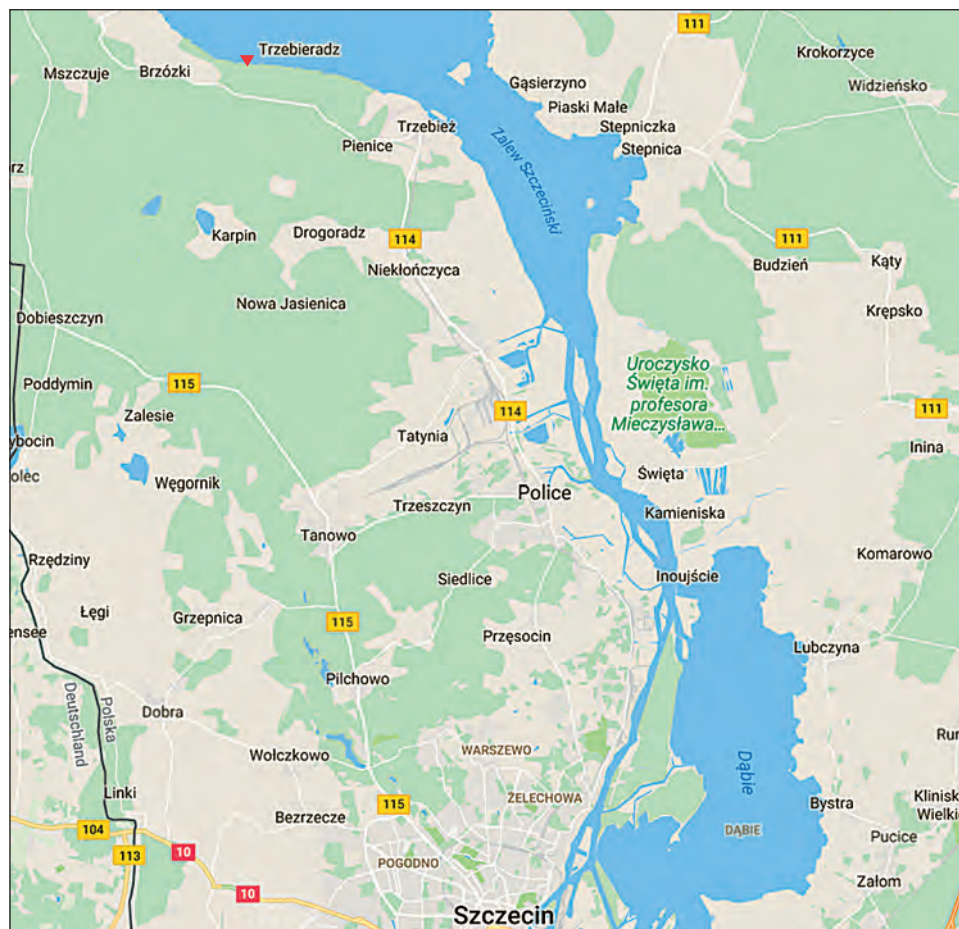


Manowce Palace



Texts written by:

Maria Żuk-Piotrowska
Małgorzata Haas-Nogal



Above: Modern map of TrzebieRADZ. Google Maps (<https://www.google.pl/maps>).

Opposite: Photograph of Manowce Palace by Piotr Krajewski.

✻ THE PALACE ✻



Manowce Palace is one of the most beautifully located historical landmarks in Poland. It is situated at Trzebieradz directly on the shores of Szczecin Lagoon and surrounded by the woods of Puszcza Wkrzańska (Ueckermünde Heath). Until 1945 the village carried the name of Haffhorst, but it was also called Horst. The name Manowce was given to this historic property in 2019.



THE HISTORY OF THE SETTLEMENT

The first mention of Trzebie radz comes from the mid-18th century. In 1754 a wood-tar production site (Teerofen auf der Horst) was established, which belonged to the landed estate in Jasienica (Jasenitz). Here were also located a timber yard and a timber-raft construction site (a so-called *binduga*), from where wood was transported to Szczecin, Świnoujście and Ueckermünde.¹ Problems with constant flooding and with maintaining a stable shore, which were described by Ludwig Brüggemann, did not serve the settlement well during the entire 19th century. A permanent element of the development was the Forester's Lodge, which was erected around the 1850s and belonged to the forestry district of Trzebiez.

In the years 1777-1782 August Friedrich Mattias founded a village, Althagen (Brzócki), about 1.5 km (1 mile) southwest of Trzebie radz. He set up a farm, which served as a hereditary lease.² The village was a linear settlement arranged along the road from Trzebiez to Nowe Warpno. In the beginning it was inhabited by only 10 settlers.

In 1786 the village was bought by Johann Zastrow and Gottfried Krüger. It remained the property of the Krüger family until the 1850s. (Even at the beginning of the 20th century not only the village itself but also much of the surrounding area still belonged to them.) In 1882 Dr Georg Wegner from Szczecin took about 20 hectares (50 acres) of land (fields, meadows and woods) on lease, and later, in 1902, he bought that land. In addition, Robert Stein, a former ship's chief cook, bought 45 hectares (112 acres) of land around the year 1853.³ The plot was adjacent, on the west, to the aforementioned land of Dr Wegner. Two years later, in 1887, Stein built the first residential property in Trzebie radz along with a stable, and afterwards began to farm

1 L.W. Brüggemann, *Ausführliche Beschreibung des gegenwärtigen Zustandes des Königl. Preußischen Herzogthums Vor- und Hinter Pommern*, vol. 1, Stettin 1779, p. 212; after: P. Gut, "Brzócki" (typescript), courtesy of P. Gut.

2 H. Berghaus, *Landbuch des Herzogthums Pommern und des Fürstenthums Rügen*, vol. 2, 1st ed., Anklam 1874, pp. 1061–1063.

3 E. Stein, *My Heimatdorf Althagen*, issue 1, Kiek in de Mark 1995, p. 18; Stein spent many years in Cameroon.

4) Fünf Teerofen.

(1) Der Teerofen zu Disterort 3 Meilen von Stettin, an dem Wege der von Neuwarp über Falkenwalde nach Stettin führet, ist zu Groß-Ziegenort in der Ueckermündschen Synode eingepfarrt.

(2) Der Teerofen bey Falkenwalde 2 Meilen von Stettin gegen Norden, in einer Fichtenheide, nahe bey dem Dorfe Falkenwalde, wozu derselbe in der Ueckermündschen Synode eingepfarrt ist.

(3) Der Teerofen auf der Forst 1½ Meilen von Neuwarp an dem großen Haff, ist zu Groß-Ziegenort in der Ueckermündschen Synode eingepfarrt. Der Besitzer des Ofens ist zugleich Holzauffseher bey der hiesigen Holzablage.

(4) Der Jasenigische Teerofen 1 starke Meile von Pölsig südwärts, mitten in der zu der Jasenigischen Forst belegenen großen Holzung, nicht weit von dem Carpinschen See, ist zu Jasenig in der Ueckermündschen Synode eingepfarrt. Die Fischeren auf dem Carpinschen See und auf dem nicht weit davon auf dem zu dem Amte Ueckermünde gehörigen Müßelburgschen Keviere gelegenen See ist beträchtlich, und von dem Amte an einen besondern Fischer verpachtet.

(5) Der Teerofen Neuhaus 1½ Meilen von Pölsig westwärts mitten im Walde, ist zu Falkenwalde in der Ueckermündschen Synode eingepfarrt.

An extract from Brüggemann's book on Trzebie radz.

Gänse werden wegen mangelnder Weide nicht gehalten. Das Gut hat freie Fischerei im Haff zum eignen Verbrauch, sie wird aber selten, oder fast gar nicht ausgeübt. Fischer von Profession gibt es in Althagen nicht mehr, nachdem früher 2 vorhanden waren, davon jeder mit 12 Blöckchen fischte und davon 15 Sgr. Pacht bezahlte; dagegen gehören 5 Flusssegler, von 180 Lasten Tragfähigkeit, hierher. Auch sind 5 Einwebeistühle vorhanden, welche jedoch nur als Nebenbeschäftigung betrieben werden. Raseneisenstein ist in früheren Zeiten vom Eisenhüttenwerk Torgelow sehr viel gefördert worden, jetzt aber sind nur noch wenige Spuren davon vorhanden.

Althagen wurde von seinem Begründer, dem Kriegsrath Matthias, laut Contract vom 15. Juli 1786 an Gottfried Krüger und Johann Christian Zastrow verkauft, und war, nachdem letzterer aus der Gesellschaft ausgeschieden war, im alleinigen Besitz des erstern. Nach dessen Ableben ist das Gut auf seinen Sohn, Friedrich Ferdinand Krüger, den gegenwärtigen Besitzer, übergegangen. Demselben ist die polizei-obrigkeitliche Gewalt über Althagen, auch das Patronatsrecht der Kirche und Schule, mit Ausnahme des Mitberufungsrechtes des Pfarrers zu Ziegenort, durch Verhandlungen, welche in den Jahren 1858 und 1859 gepflogen, übertragen worden. Bisher waren diese Gerechtsame beim Amte Jasenig gewesen.

Christianshof, Abzweigung des Erbzingutes Ludwigshof; s. Seegrund-Gegeensee, S. 1070.

Gegeensee, Colonie und Schulzen-Bezirk, Bestandtheil von Seegrund; s. diesen Artikel, S. 1070.

Heinrichsrube, Erbzingut und Dorf, 1½ Meilen von Uermünde gegen Südwesten, an der Berlin-Stralsunder Staatsstraße und der Vorpommerischen Eisenbahn in einer Niederung gelegen, enthält außer dem Herr- und dem Schulhause, 33 Wohn- und 31 Wirtschaft Gebäude, und zählt in 76 Familien 323 Einwohner.

An extract from Berghaus's book, which refers to the village of Brzócki.



The Boarding House "Elsenruh", postcards. Courtesy of Mr Zenon Owczarek.

the land. After 1902 Dr Georg Wegner built himself a grand villa, with a carriage house and a riding hall: Manowce Palace.

Around the same time on the western side of the settlement (which is currently named Popielewo), Richard Bauman built a boarding house "Elsenruh" ["Bird Cherry Retreat"]. The name probably referred to the numerous bird cherry bushes growing in a nearby meadow.⁴ The settlement neighboured Stein's farm and was near to the *binduga*. Slightly later, the Peters family built their own house on a large 5 hectare (12 acre) plot, which they bought from Dr Wegner. Therefore, Trzebieradz before World War I comprised a timber yard; the Forester's Lodge; Dr Wegner's palace itself; the boarding house Elsenruh; and, between them, the farms of R. Stein and B. Peters. After World War I, in 1928, the house of a fisherman, P. Zimmermann, was also erected (all of the neighbouring settlers were relatives of the Stein family).⁵ Also at the same time, a house for Eduard Silbernagel was built (it is currently called "Dworek") between the Wegners' villa and Stein's settlement.

From 1924 onwards the palace and land belonged to Elisabeth Ladwig, resident of the village of Brzózki and later wife of Eduard Silbernagel.⁶ In 1941 Mr and Mrs Silbernagel sold the entire estate to the Nationalsozialistische Volkswohlfahrt Verein [National Socialist People's Welfare organization] for 225,000 Reichsmarks.⁷ The NSV allocated the villa to the *Gauschule* [the ideological school for NSDAP members],⁸ and the rest of the buildings to a *Mutterheim* [single-mother home].⁹ The name of the settlement – "Horst" – remained unchanged until the 1920s.¹⁰

⁴ Ibidem; later, the ownership of Elsenruh passed to Ernst Ackermann.

⁵ The history of the Stein family was recorded by Werner Stein in 2009, a description made available by Mr Bartosz Giluń.

⁶ The matter of ownership will be discussed later in greater detail.

⁷ Bundesarchiv, Berlin, National-socialist files, file reference: NS 37/345.

⁸ Only one training session is confirmed to have taken place – it was advertised in the newspaper *Grenz Zeitung* on 29 January 1943.

⁹ Bundesarchiv, Berlin, National-socialist files, file reference: NS 37/345, k. 2, 15; certain parts of the documents are unclear. In a preliminary description of the plot, Dworek is described as a *Mutterheim* – a home for single mothers. In an NSV internal inventory it is described as *Müttererholungsheim* – so, a rest home.

¹⁰ On a postcard from 1910, Dr G. Wegner signed "Horst / Wahrlang / P", which stand for the modern Polish names of Trzebieradz / Warnołęka / P (Pomorze). The postcard belongs to Mr Zenon Owczarek from Nowe Warpno.

However, a prefix, "Haff-" ["Lagoon"] was added later. As a result, either "Haff-Horst" or "Haffhorst" was used. Most likely, this addition was caused by the activity of the boarding house Elsenruh (which belonged at that time to Ernst Ackermann). Elsenruh was advertised by adding the prefix in order to distinguish itself from a different seaside summer resort, which went by the name of "Horst" (currently, Niechorze).

On 27 April 1945 Trzebierz was taken over by Soviet troops (the 2nd Belarusian Front – the 2nd Shock Army). Although there was no substantial damage, the future of the settlement and neighbouring villages was unclear. This issue was resolved several months later, namely on 20-21 September 1945, due to the Polish–Soviet agreement that settled the Polish–German border. Consequently, the Polish administration took control over the western part of the former Ueckermünde County.

The history of the settlement and its activity until 1945 presented in the previously mentioned studies and literature was based mainly on oral reports with a negligible use of source texts or archives. This situation was, for the most part, due to the scarcity of available sources and, additionally, to the dispersion after 1945 of those sources that did exist. The marking of the Polish–German border on Szczecin Lagoon, which divided the former Ueckermünde County into two parts, as well as the migration of the population in the years 1946-1947, caused a great deal of documents to be misplaced, destroyed or lost. One part of the appropriated German files and sources was transferred to Referat Rolno-leśny Powiatu Szczecińskiego [the Agricultural and Forestry Office of Szczecin County] and another part to the Archiwum Państwowe [the National Archive] in Szczecin. Only in the 1970s were some of the historical files referring to the Ueckermünde district transferred to the archive in Greifswald (current file reference: Rep. Ueckermünde no. 66). Unfortunately, none of the archives contain records of land registration from the former court in Nowe Warpno, cadastral maps or construction documents. In addition, documents and oral reports concerning the history of Manowce in the years 1945-1947 are scarce.

I.

Grundstücksangaben.

LN. _____ E. 21/25

Gau: Pommern Kreis: Ueckermünde

Zweckbestimmung und Lage: NSV.-Gauschule u. Mütterheim, Horst am Haff

A. Allgemeine Angaben:

1. Zweckbestimmung: NSV.-Gauschule und Mütterheim

2. Derwaller: NSV.-Gauhauptamtsleitung Pommern

3. Tag der Eintragung: 27. Oktober 1941

4. Erworben von: Eduard Silbernagel, Ingenieur

B. Zuständige Behörden:

5. Amtsgericht: Neuwarp Grundbuch von: Althagen Band: 2 Blatt: 41

6. Katasterbezeichnung: Gebäude und Län-Steuerbehörde: Althagen

7. Zuständige Gemeinde: Gereien Althagen

8. Gemathung: Althagen

C. Befehreibung:

9. Gesamtgröße in qm: 481 956.00

10. Unbebaute Fläche in qm

a) Hofraum: 2 000.00 b) Spiel- und Sportplatz: -

c) Garten und Park: 25 000.00 d) Nutzgarten: 7 000.00

e) Acker: 95 000.00 f) Wiese: 40 000.00 g) Wald: 311 009,55

11. Bebaute Fläche in qm: 1 946,45

12. Angabe ob Dachziegelbau (bis 1918): Gauschule

„ Bau aus der Zeit 1919–1933: Mütterheim u. landw. Gebäude

„ Bau seit 1933: -

Holzbau: -

Fachwerkbau: Reithalle ist Fachwerkbau

Bachsteinbau: Bachsteinbau

13. Frontlänge: siehe Beiblatt! Tiefe: _____

14. Angabe ob Vorderhaus, Seitensügel, Quergebäude: einzelstehende Gebäude

15. Zahl der Zimmer und Säle: 32 Zimmer 1 Saal

16. Zahl der Keller- und Lagerräume: 14 Kellerräume 7 Lagerräume

D. Wertangaben:

17. Einheitswert: _____ 21. Grundstückshofen' 225000

18. Schätzwert: _____ 22. Bauhofen _____

19. Angabe ob Schenkung oder Kauf: Kauf 23. Kosten nachträgl. Verbesserungen _____

20. Belastungen: _____ 24. Gefamthofen _____

25. abzügl. Belastungen _____

26. Wert am 1.4.1940" _____

Stettin, den 30. 9. 1942

(Ort und Datum)

[Gauamtskellenerwaller]

* Bei Schenkung Einheits- oder Schätzwert
** Abfertigungen sind nicht vorzunehmen

Besprechung der NSV.-Kreisamtsleiter

Die Wichtigkeit der Sozialarbeit im Krieg
Stettin, 29. Januar.

In der Gauschule Haffhorst fand eine Arbeitsbesprechung der Kreisamtsleiter der NS.-Volkswohlfahrt statt.

Die einzelnen Referate befaßten sich mit den Maßnahmen, die in der Jugenderholungspflege und der vorbeugenden Arbeit auf dem Gebiet des Hilfswerkes „Mutter und Kind“ durchgeführt werden. Vorträge über die Tuberkulose und ihre Bekämpfung waren Richtlinien für die propagandistische und organisatorische Arbeit auf diesem Gebiet. Die Behandlung wehr- und außenpolitischer Fragen ergänzte das Besprechungsprogramm.

Abschließend sprach der Leiter des Amtes für Volkswohlfahrt, Gauhauptamtsleiter P g. H u b e, und machte den Teilnehmern der Arbeitsbesprechung die Notwendigkeit strafster Sozialarbeit im Kriege klar.

Information in the newspaper Grenz Zeitung about a Gauschule Haffhorst training session in Manowce in 1943.

Archiv für pathologische Anatomie und Physiologie und für klinische Medizin.

Bd. L. (Vierte Folge Bd. X.) Hft. 3.

XVIII.

Ueber hereditäre Knochensyphilis bei jungen Kindern.

Von Dr. Georg Wegner,
Assistenten am pathologischen Institut in Berlin.

(Hierzu Taf. IX.)

Title page of Dr Wegner's article on congenital syphilis in children.

HISTORY OF THE MANOWCE PALACE UNTIL 1945

The whole compound of Manowce Palace was erected in the years 1902-1908 for Dr Georg Wegner. His career, family connections and previous properties all had an effect on the design and character of the palace and its surrounding buildings.

Friedrich Rudolf Georg Wegner (he used the name Georg) was born on 15 April 1843 in Wrocław and died in 1917.¹¹ In 1860 he graduated from the Gymnasium zu St. Maria Magdalena [Mary Magdalene Gymnasium] in Wrocław,¹² and afterwards he began studies at the Humboldt University of Berlin. After graduation he was employed in that city's Charité Hospital, where he also conducted scientific research. The result of his scientific work was a dissertation, which he successfully defended at the Humboldt University in 1876, thus receiving a Ph.D. in the field of anatomy. Until 14 November 1878 he worked as an assistant, and later as a so-called *Privatdozent* at the Institute of Pathology at the Charité Hospital in Berlin, where he continued to carry out his research. It is worth mentioning that Dr Wegner described one of the symptoms of congenital syphilis in children, i.e. osteochondral inflammation, which caused pains that hindered movement of the limbs in the first months of an infant's life. The results were published in an article entitled *Über hereditäre Knochensyphilis bei jungen Kindern*.¹³ It was an innovative study on the diagnosis and treatment of children affected by congenital syphilis.¹⁴

11 J. Asen, *Gesamtverzeichnis der Lehrkörpers der Universität Berlin*, vol. 1, Leipzig 1810-1945, p. 211.

12 See also: <http://www.ahnenforschung-bildet.de/forum/viewtopic.php?t=2760#p16964>.

13 *Archiv für pathologische Anatomie und Physiologie und für Klinische Medizin*, vol. 50, no. 3, pp. 305-322.

14 *Reallexikon der Medizin*, vol. 6, 1974, p. W27; see also: www.whonamedit.com/synd.cfm/770.html.

The first description of this illness was drafted by Swedish doctor Niels Rosén in 1747. It was further developed in 1870 by Dr Wegner and in 1871 by Joseph Parrot from France. It is sometimes called Wegner's Disease or Wegner's osteochronitis. At other times it is named Parrot's pseudoparalysis or Bednar-Parrot Syndrome.



In 1879 the doctor moved to Szczecin. It remains unknown whether his decision was motivated by professional or private reasons. He took the post of Chief Medical Officer and Director of the City Hospital in the (currently named) Pomorzany district. At the time, the hospital was being rebuilt and extended. In the history of the hospital he is described as a “well known surgeon, scientist and pathologist, whose main interest lies in private life and penchants for dogs or horses”.¹⁵ In 1883 he resigned due to a disagreement with the local City Hall.¹⁶ It is worth adding that in the years 1881-1883 another well-known venereologist, Dr Alfred Blaschko, worked for Wegner. After his resignation, Dr Wegner opened a private practice.

As Dr Wegner left the hospital, he was most likely already married to Maria, née Krüger, the widow of Mr Grawitz, who was a merchant from Krzekowo (currently a district of Szczecin).¹⁷ A year earlier, in 1882, Dr Wegner had leased land from the Krüger family in Trzebieradz, as mentioned in the previous chapter.¹⁸

However, before any investments were made on the leased land, in 1884 the married couple bought a villa in Szczecin at what is current al. Wojska Polskiego no. 66 [i.e. 66 Wojska Polskiego Avenue – formerly Falkenwalderstrasse], in the district known at the time as Neu-Westend. The villa was bought from its first owner, a rentier, Hans Quedbach. It had been designed in 1877 by Eugen Decker, who also designed neighbouring buildings.¹⁹ The villa was an example of classical architecture; it was harmonious in its proportions and symmetrical in plan. Its form was emphasized by a central avant-corps, a garden terrace with a staircase, and an entrance to the stairwell



15 T. Zajączkowski and E. Wojewska-Zajączkowska, “Początki Urologii w Szczecinie. Felix Hagen 1880–1962...”, *Roczniki Pomorskiej Akademii Medycznej w Szczecinie* 2010, no. 58, 2, p. 138, www.pum.edu.pl/_data/assets/file/0018/38160/56-02_137-144.pdf.

16 *Ibidem*.

17 Adreß- und Geschäfts-Handbuch für Stettin, die Stadt Grabow, die Ortschaften Bredow, Züllchow, Bollinchen, Frauendorf, Herrenwiese und Gotzlow, 1881.

18 Bundesarchiv, Berlin, National-socialist files, file reference: NS 37/345, p. 5.

19 M. Słomiński, “Szczecińskie wille XIX i początku XX”, in: *Kronika Szczecina* 1996, no. 15, pp. 66-67.

Above: Villa Astoria, Szczecin.

Below: A villa in Szczecin that served as an example for the design of the Manowce Palace. Photographs by Piotr Krywan.



Above: Tympanum of the Manowce Palace.

Below: Tympanum of the villa in Szczecin that served as an example for the design of the Manowce Palace. Photographs by Piotr Krywan.

at the side of the building. Its elevations were decorated with a range of forms and details characteristic of Italian Renaissance architecture.²⁰

The new residents did not alter the original form and external appearance of the building. Nevertheless, they added a carriage house adorned with a turret. Today the villa accommodates a restaurant, the Astoria, in which its original woodwork and interior is partially preserved.²¹

In 1897, on a much larger corner plot, another villa was set up for the Wegners. It is located at the current al. Wojska Polskiego 164. It was designed by Theodor Bless, a builder and entrepreneur from Szczecin.²² By June 1897 the building's shell had already been erected. Next to the villa (at the address Falkenwalder Chausse 3 – presently al. Wojska Polskiego), a stable was built. The whole compound was finished on 21 September 1897.²³ The new villa was also a classical building with neo-Renaissance decorations. It had a central avant-corps at the front and the rear, both of them crowned with a tympanum. Its elegant facade was emphasized by a portico. The main entrance and a stairwell were located at the side of the building. On top of the stable a belvedere was designed. It was screened from direct sunlight with a pergola supported by Tuscan columns on one side and the boundary wall of the property on the other. The wall itself was adorned with *trompe-l'œil* pilasters.²⁴ Unfortunately the villa's original interior has not been preserved.

In 1899 Dr Wegner was still running his private medical practice; in 1902, however, his name no longer figures in the register, which probably indicated that he had retired.

20 Archiwum Państwowe Szczecin, Akta Policji Budowlanej (ANB) [National Archive in Szczecin, construction inspection files], file reference: 7031, p. 1–17.

21 Ibidem, file reference: 7031, p. 23–25.

22 Ibidem, file reference: 4387, p. 1–15.

23 <http://sedina.pl/wordpress/index.php/2009/08/06/edd-willa-wegniera-al-wojska-polskiego-164/>.

24 R. Makala, *Między prowincją a metropolią. Architektura Szczecina w latach 1891–1918*, Szczecin 2011, p. 286, illustration no. 259, 260; I also used Makala's findings on villa architecture in Szczecin and the works of T. Bless.



Additional facts seem to confirm this.²⁵ In 1902 Maria Wegner sold the (first) villa at al. Wojska Polskiego 66, and the married couple bought from Otto Krüger the previously leased land in Horst [Trzebierz].

According to E. Stein, Dr Wegner, in what he himself poetically called the eve of his life, decided to settle in the country.²⁶ This decision might have been influenced by the opening of the railway line from Szczecin to Police in 1898, which was extended to Trzebierz in 1910.

In the years 1902-1908, therefore, a residence for the Wegner family was erected in Trzebierz. The compound consisted of a historicist villa with neoclassical decoration; a stable and a carriage house; a wattle-and-daub riding hall; and a Chinese pavilion, which contained a boiler room and a kennel. The whole compound was surrounded by a high fence with a tall entrance gate. Additionally, the area was protected “from land and sea” by a pack of hounds.²⁷ The compound was surely finished by 1908, as Mr and Mrs Wegner settled in Trzebierz then. A year later they sold their second villa in Szczecin.

At this point, difficulties should be noted with the adequate classification of the Manowce Palace. The main building of the compound is not exactly the “seat” of the owner of a large estate; therefore, it cannot be classified as what in Germany would be understood as a “Schloss”, “Herrenhaus” or “Guthaus”. It is only a villa or small mansion. Similar difficulties were encountered by German scholars as well.²⁸ However, the owner is known and, as has been shown, he was a doctor, a member of a wealthy and educated bourgeoisie. For him the building was supposed to be a stately residence. Even a quick review of the structure reveals that the same solutions were adopted as those found in the two previously mentioned villas in Szczecin.

²⁵ P. Bormer, *Reich Medizinal Kalender für Deutschland*, 1899, p. 113; 1902.

²⁶ Stein, *My Heimatdorf Althagen*, pp. 17-19.

²⁷ According to E. Stein and the written account of E. Jansen – a former resident of Trzebierz – made available by Mr. A. Kowalik from Trzebierz, for which I express my gratitude.

²⁸ M. Barth, *Herrenhäuser und Landsitze in Brandenburg und Berlin*, Görlitz 2012, p. 166 and the following chapter concerning a neoclassical residence, Sommerswalde, near Berlin.



Theodor Bless (in the middle), most likely the designer and builder of the Manowce Palace. Photographer unknown.



The Manowce Palace in the 1970s. Photographer unknown.



Two stone lions were placed on the stairs. The boy in the photograph is unknown. Photographer unknown.



The old entry gate. Photographer unknown. Courtesy of Archiwum Wojewódzkiego Konserwatora Zabytków w Szczecinie [Archive of the Regional Monument Conservator in Szczecin].

Nevertheless, the Wegner residence is a much larger building than these two, owing to the virtually unlimited space in which it sits – a feature that smaller city plots could not offer.

With all certainty, based on the available German documents and publications, it can be denied that the building was originally a sanatorium for sailors of the Kriegsmarine [German Navy, 1935-1945],²⁹ as has often been suggested, or a mid-19th-century hunting lodge.³⁰ There is also nothing to indicate that more sensationalist stories, such as it being a residence for Hermann Göring, are true.

Most likely the designer and builder of the compound was Theodor Bless. This is not explicitly stated in any source texts; however, analysis of the almost identical floor plans of the villas in Szczecin and Trzebieradz as well as the treatment of the facade decoration, which Bless had used on his previous buildings in Szczecin, allow us to assume that he was the author.

Nicolaus Theodor Bless (he used the name Theodor) was a builder, master mason, developer and a city councillor of Szczecin. He built mostly large tenement houses, department stores and apartment buildings (usually for rent). He rarely built single-family houses. Examples of such buildings are the villa for Dr Wegner and another one in the housing colony “Braunsfelde” for a tax councillor H. Krohn, which was erected in 1901-1902.³¹

The Manowce Palace met the highest architectural standards of the time. It was consistently and harmoniously designed, reliably built and boasted a flawless finish. Additionally, modern solutions were introduced to improve the comfort of the residents. The building is located on the western side of an oval-shaped plot, around 50-60 metres (165-200 feet) back

²⁹ Entries in the Heritage Record of Architectural Monuments compiled by M. Opęchowski and C. Nowakowski (2010) and the following publications.

³⁰ J. Jackowski, *Skrócona inwentaryzacja parku wiejskiego w Brzózkach*, 1975 (typescript), courtesy of Wojewódzki Urząd Ochrony Zabytków w Szczecinie (Regional Office for the Protection of Monuments in Szczecin).

³¹ R. Makąła, *Miedzy prowincją a metropolią. Architektura Szczecina w latach 1891–1918*, Szczecin 2011, pp. 58, 209-210, 219-220, 248, 255, 261, 286, 288-290, 302.



from the shore of Szczecin Lagoon. Its main facade faces north. The exit, located beneath a portico, leads out first to a terrace and then to wide steps, from where one can directly approach the lagoon. The southern elevation faces the garden (it is positioned around 150 metres / 500 feet from the main access road). The main entrance to the building is located on its western side. The access road leads through an avenue of limes. West of the palace, and on the other side of the access road, a stable and a carriage house were located (they were laid out on an L-shaped plan), and around 30 metres (100 feet) further north-east was once a wattle-and-daub riding hall (now demolished) with an entrance facing the palace.

The neoclassical palace is set on a rectangular plan with wide, median avant-corps on both its northern and southern sides. It also has a smaller, median avant-corps on its western and eastern sides. The western avant-corps is two-staged and contains an entrance into the stairwell. The main body of the building is only single-storey, with a basement; however, the wide avant-corps on the north–south axis are one storey taller and covered with a gable roof. The single-storey parts of the building are topped with a mezzanine attic and monopitched roofs.

The whole building is grounded on a brick-wall footing with a high plinth (180–220 centimetres/70–85 inches), which accommodates a slight slope to the north. The brick walls are 70–80 centimetres (28–32 inches) thick. The walls and the plinth are faced with ivory-coloured clinker bricks set in Flemish bond. Details such as window and door frames, balustrades and tympana were made in Portland cement.³² The rhythm and symmetry of the facades are determined by the aforementioned avant-corps as well as regular window and door openings (the southern elevation has 5 bays; the northern, 9; the eastern, 4; and the western, with the main entrance, only 2). Window surrounds on the outer bays take the form of pilasters with Ionic capitals surmounted by a pediment. There are two types of pediment: the first forms a Dutch-gable type arrangement, its



³² W. Brönnner writes in detail on decorations and the usage of Portland cement in villa architecture in Germany. He focuses on villas built in Berlin around 1900. See: W. Brönnner, *Die bürgerliche Villa in Deutschland 1830–1890*, Düsseldorf 1987, p. 251 and following.



The Manowce Palace during renovation. Photograph by Roma Wesołowska.

curved sides crowned by a pediment, and is decorated with a central motif depicting a keystone and a handle; the second comprises a larger Dutch-gable form, stretching across two windows and decorated with escutcheons, floral motifs and finials. On the faces of the central avant-corps, the window frames are much simpler – they consist of a decorative band with a central, ornamental keystone and emphasized upper corners. Every non-attic or -basement window at the palace is additionally decorated with a baluster under its sill.

From the elegant northern elevation, which faces the Szczecin Lagoon, protrudes a portico. It is supported by six Doric columns and on top of it a balcony is located. Between the windows on the first floor, Ionic pilasters are placed with a garland-and-wreath frieze running above them. The gable of the avant-corps forms a tympanum decorated with a relief of griffins holding an escutcheon.³³ A similar balcony on the southern elevation is supported by a set of four modillions. The tympanum on the southern side is also decorated with an escutcheon, only this time it is surrounded by floral ornaments. On the western elevation – the one with an avant-corps containing a stairwell – the main entrance is framed by a pair of smooth, Tuscan-style columns with simple capitals. On top of them another, shallow, balcony is located. The top of the avant-corps is decorated with a deep frieze and square corbels. Originally, ceramic acroteria were placed on the apexes of the tympana of the wide northern and southern avant-corps.

Compositional elements of the building – especially the portico with the large balcony, the wide external stairs, the tympana and some elevational decorations – refer to palace architecture. Nevertheless, the interior expresses the bourgeois style of the mid-18th century. Rafał Makąła, in his key work, specifically describes different types of bourgeois villas in Szczecin that were erected in the period.³⁴ This style of interior design was supposed to meet the needs of a daily life in the city – especially the family spending leisure time

³³ The motif is the same as that of the villa in Szczecin at current al. Wojska Polskiego 164.

³⁴ R. Makąła, *Między prowincją a metropolią. Architektura Szczecina w latach 1891–1918*, Szczecin 2011, p 287-291.



and dining together, and also frequently receiving guests – with all this activity concentrated on the ground floor of a property. The large basement of such an urban villa usually contained a kitchen and utility rooms. The first floor usually contained a master bedroom with a wardrobe and a bathroom, and an additional bedroom close to the stairwell.

It should be emphasized here that the functional layout of the Manowce Palace is almost identical to that of the villas at al. Wojska Polskiego nos. 66 and 164 (where the owners lived previously, and which have already been discussed), which is also significant for attempts to adequately classify the building. Accordingly, this layout will now be briefly described. The main entrance was located at the side of the building; it led to a lobby and a stairwell. The stairs led either to the basement or to a small vestibule, behind which ran a corridor. Next to a stairwell on one side were located a wardrobe and a bathroom, and on the other a guest room. In the central part of the ground floor, inside the northern avant-corps, a large drawing room was placed. It had an exit leading to the terrace. On the other side of the building a dining room and a pantry were located. Between a drawing room and a dining room there was a narrow corridor (in one of its corners a dumb waiter was located, which connected the basement, ground floor and the attic). This corridor led to three living rooms in the eastern part of the building. One of them was most likely a *Herrenzimmer* – the study of the master of the house, which served as a private leisure room. Next to it were located a library and a boudoir – the private room of the lady of the house. These rooms served as private, personal spaces, either for leisure or for receiving guests without the need to trouble the rest of household members. This kind of typical functional layout could be easily rearranged into one large space simply by opening sliding doors.

Unfortunately, no depiction or report of the original interior of the Manowce Palace survive. Some of the furniture and decoration, mostly the permanent fixtures, survived until the end of the 20th century.³⁵ An example of this is the moulding



³⁵ Archiwum Wojewódzkiego Konserwatora Zabytków w Szczecinie [Archive of the Regional Monument Conservator in Szczecin] stores additional photographic documentation from the 1980s-1990s.



Interiors of the Manowce Palace in the 1970s. Photographer unknown. Courtesy of Archiwum Wojewódzkiego Konserwatora Zabytków w Szczecinie [Archive of the Regional Monument Conservator in Szczecin].

on the ceiling in some of the elegant rooms (it consisted of floral patterns – i.e. flowers, palmettes, wreaths and bows – or the type of geometrical patterns typical of neoclassical ornamentation). A set of photographs from the 1970s illustrates the original woodwork – most prominently, two sets of wooden stairs: a grand staircase that led to the ground floor and a second, smaller staircase with a baluster railing and a profiled handrail, which led to the first floor. Different types of windows have also been documented: in the basement and the attic there were single side-hung windows, and on the ground and first floors double side-hung windows with internal wooden blinds. Moreover, the photographs catalogue in detail external doors, balcony doors, internal panelled doors (double doors with panel reveals, fluted architraves and wood-carved headers) and sliding doors, which slid in and out of the walls. The floors were also reportedly wooden. The ground floor was laid out with an oak parquet, and the upper storey had a timber floor. From the very beginning, the palace had plumbing and central heating thanks to the boiler room in the Chinese pavilion. Moreover, the drawing and dining rooms were equipped with decorated, free-standing, cast-iron fireplaces.³⁶

AUXILIARY BUILDINGS

A stable with a carriage house was located southwest of the palace. The two are connected and form a single building with brick and plastered walls. The longer side of the stable faces the avenue of limes that leads from the gate to the palace. The stable itself originally consisted of two separate parts connected by a smaller compartment, which served as a feeding room with storage for feed in the attic. The other two parts were reserved either for thoroughbreds or for draught horses, with two separate entrances. The stable building has two avant-corps with ornamental Dutch gables adorned with recessed panels, which were originally high-level openings for the loading of fodder.

³⁶ Report of Mr. Michał Wojtysiak.



The carriage house is placed perpendicular to the stable. It is a brick building and it used to have three separate gates (one each for a carriage; a wagon; and, optionally, a sledge). It was connected to the stable by a small wing, which contained a harness room, utility rooms and a staircase that once led to servants' quarters on the upper floor of the carriage house. The westernmost part of the building served as storage for feed and firewood.

Some time after World War II, both buildings were adapted to contain housing and storage rooms. However, it is not known exactly when this happened.

North of the carriage house, a wattle-and-daub riding hall (now demolished) was erected. It had the simple form of an elongated rectangle covered with an arched roof, which was based on its wooden roof truss. The gates of the riding hall faced the palace. They were specifically tall enough to permit a rider to enter the hall on horseback.

Mr and Mrs Wegner led a peaceful and idyllic life, close to nature and surrounded by their favourite dogs and horses, until 1917, when Mr Wegner passed away. For the following years Mrs Wegner continued to live in the villa along with her servants. Her way of life sparked some curiosity or even “unsettling” awe. The then residents of surrounding villages were struck by her ghostlike appearance as she rode through woods on a white horse, wearing black, with flowing blond hair and surrounded by hounds.³⁷ She used to ride to go shopping in Trzebież accompanied by three enormous hounds. The village folk called her “Gardebalde”.³⁸

At the turn of 1923/1924 an entry was made in the land and mortgage register, in which Elisabeth Ladwig from Althagen [Brzózki] was listed as the owner of the estate.³⁹ Soon after that she married an engineer, Eduard Silbernagel. It is not known whether she bought the property or received it as a gift from Maria Wegner, who retained a lifelong right to use the palace. The agreement was naturally terminated in 1936, when Maria



³⁷ Record of Mr. E. Jensen from Trzebież.

³⁸ “Gardebalde” is a combination of *Garde* – to guard, and *balde* – futile.

³⁹ Bundesarchiv, Berlin, National-socialist files, file reference: NS 37/345, p. 4.

The stable (on the left) and the riding hall (on the right). After World War II they were changed into a kitchen and cafeteria. Summer camp facility “Syrena” in the 1970s. Photographer unknown. Courtesy of Archiwum Wojewódzkiego Konserwatora Zabytków w Szczecinie [Archive of the Regional Monument Conservator in Szczecin].



Dworek on a pre-war postcard. Courtesy of Mr Zenon Owczarek.



Dworek, present state (2017). Photograph by Roma Wesółowska.

Wegner passed away. However, in 1928 she was still listed in the address book as a resident of Gross Ziegenort [Trzebież].

Mr and Mrs Silbernagel in the second half of the 1920s built themselves their own residence (“Dworek”) along with a barn. Its compound was located west of the palace. The need for the additional residence was probably occasioned by the aforementioned entitlement of Maria Wegner to continue using the palace itself.

In 1941 the Silbernagels sold the Manowce Palace, their new residence and auxiliary building, along with livestock and equipment. The buyer was NSV Verein [National Socialist People’s Welfare organization], who bought the compound for 225,000 Reichsmarks.⁴⁰ The contract itself; the haste with which it was signed; and the very detailed list of inventory, livestock and mortgage debt suggests that the agreement was not entirely voluntary on the part of Mr and Mrs Silbernagel. The subsequent fate of the Silbernagels remains unknown to me. Perhaps the strategic location of the property, i.e. close to the lagoon and between two militarized ports, created enough pressure on the Silbernagels to sell the compound along with about 40 hectares (100 acres) of land.

The NSV designated the palace a *Gauschule* [a school for party members] and the remaining houses a *Mutterheim* [single-mother home]. The palace was, however, only occasionally used.⁴¹ During World War II, child refugees from the then bombed Hamburg found shelter in the apartments above the carriage house and in neighbouring Dworek.⁴² According to former residents, in 1945 German refugees from the east were housed here.

⁴⁰ Bundesarchiv, Berlin, National-socialist files, file reference: NS 37/345.

⁴¹ Only one training session is confirmed to have taken place. It is documented by a newspaper, *Grenz Zeitung* on 29 January 1943.

⁴² Report of Mr Michał Wojtysiak, who for many years was a manager of the summer-camp facility “Syrena”. He based his opinion on conversations with former German residents who visited Trzebież.



THE HISTORY OF THE MANOWCE PALACE AFTER 1945

In 1945 the territory of Brzózki and Trzebierz became a part of the Soviet Enclave of Police, and so the Russians resided there. In 1946 the compound served as a base for a border patrol, and the villa was used as an observation outpost to monitor the Szczecin Lagoon. From the summer of 1947 onwards the compound was used by Towarzystwo Przyjaciół Dzieci [the Association of Children's Friends], which organized summer camps. During the years 1966 (1968?) to 1989 the palace and the neighbouring buildings were used by a summer-camp facility of Warsaw City Hall under the name "Syrena" [Mermaid]. The City Hall renovated the compound in 1975. The central-heating boiler was replaced and some of the rooms were changed into restrooms. The stable and carriage house were renovated. The riding hall was converted into a canteen; its wattle-and-daub walls were replaced with brick, and a front porch and terrace were added. In addition, next to the former riding hall, an underground storage compartment was built. In front of the palace on the southern and western side (along the way which led to Dworek) a number of wooden camping bungalows were set. In the process, the old park must have been rearranged.

In 1990 the holiday centre was closed and the whole compound was municipalized. Thus, the Borough of Nowe Warpno became the new owner of the estate. The permanent fixtures of the villa – i.e. its stairs, doors, windows, floors and window blinds – remained unchanged until they underwent modern refurbishment. During the intervening time the building was unused, but secured and guarded. The only change involved the roof on the northern side, which was damaged by a falling tree.

In 1997 the borough of Nowe Warpno gifted the villa, stable, carriage house and riding hall to Saga company from Szczecin. Shortly after that the company began to renovate the villa with plans to open a restaurant. Moreover, an underground tunnel, which would connect the villa with a riding hall, was planned. The riding hall was supposed to accommodate a swimming pool. The construction works began as soon as required permits were



Summer-camp facility "Syrena" in 1961. Above: auxiliary buildings near the palace; below: Dworek. Courtesy of Mrs Małgorzata Chocianowska and Mrs Anna Tarocińska.

acquire and the initial step was the dismantling of the original woodwork- doors, windows with blinds, and floors. The old wooden staircase was also dismantled and replaced with a new concrete one. The internal plaster was removed. Unfortunately, the original interior was completely destroyed. The original ceramic roof tiles were removed and replaced with modern Braas-type roofing tiles. Furthermore, the construction of the tunnel between the villa and the riding hall damaged the western wall. In part of the palace, new PVC windows were installed. However, the renovation halted since the owner of the company involved, Saga, passed away and the firm subsequently went bankrupt. New windows were removed, and this time the building was left abandoned and unguarded.

In 2010 a real estate development company, Handwit, from Szczecin bought the compound (the palace, stable and riding hall) from the bailiffs. The company designed a new revitalisation plan. Nevertheless, the construction works never began. Handwit sold the estate to the current owner, who in 2017 finished renovation of the building and part of the surrounding park.

Maria Żuk-Piotrowska

ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS

I would like to express my deepest gratitude to all those who helped me gather sources and information, without which this publication would not have been possible. First of all, I would like to thank all the people who wrote on Manowce on the online forum Wirtualne Police – most of all, Mr Zenon Owczarek from Nowe Warpno, who shared a great deal of information, pointed out new leads and helped me to contact former residents of the region (especially Mr Werner Stein from Dresden, whom I would also like to thank). I would also like to express my gratitude to Mr Uwe Malz from the Landesarchiv in Greifswald, whose help in finding the right archives was invaluable; Mrs Undine Beier from the Bundesarchiv in Berlin; Mrs Iwona Bykowicz from Biblioteka Instytutu Zachodniego (the Library of the Institute for Western Affairs, in Poznań); and many others not mentioned here by name.

Opposite: Photograph of the Manowce Palace in its grounds by Piotr Krajewski.

❧ THE PARK ❧



The park in Trzebieradz is one of the most valuable parks in all of Pomerania. It was developed out of a 19th-century plant nursery and contains many rare species of trees, bushes and other plants. It is situated right next to the shore of Szczecin Lagoon.



COULD SOMEONE WHO LOVES HORSES, DOGS AND OPEN SPACE NOT LOVE TREES?

Different sources claim that the park in Trzebieradz is one the most valuable arboreta in Pomerania. Some very rare trees grow there: European holly, Sitka spruce, Grand fir, Greek fir and Nordmann fir, European larch and Japanese larch, shagbark hickory, Caucasian walnut, sessile oak, silver maple, copper beech, Nootka cypress and other exotic species. In the ground cover one can find an endangered fern – namely, the royal fern.

Such a park could only be created by people with a passion for trees and plants. The creators of this particular park were Georg Wegner and, perhaps, an anonymous forester who had previously laid out a collection of trees and ornamental shrubs next to his Forester's Lodge. A postcard depicting the lodge suggests that it accommodated a restaurant, which would fit the then-popular idea of tourism development.

Dr Georg Wegner, described as “a well known surgeon, scientist and pathologist, whose main interest lies in private life and penchants for dogs or horses”, moved to Szczecin in 1879. He married Maria née Krüger, the widow of a merchant Grawitz. Thanks to contacts with his wife's family, Dr Wegner bought a piece of land in Trzebieradz, which was very scenically located just next to Szczecin Lagoon. By 1882 he was already leasing land from the Krügers. He probably carried out the first plantings at that time.

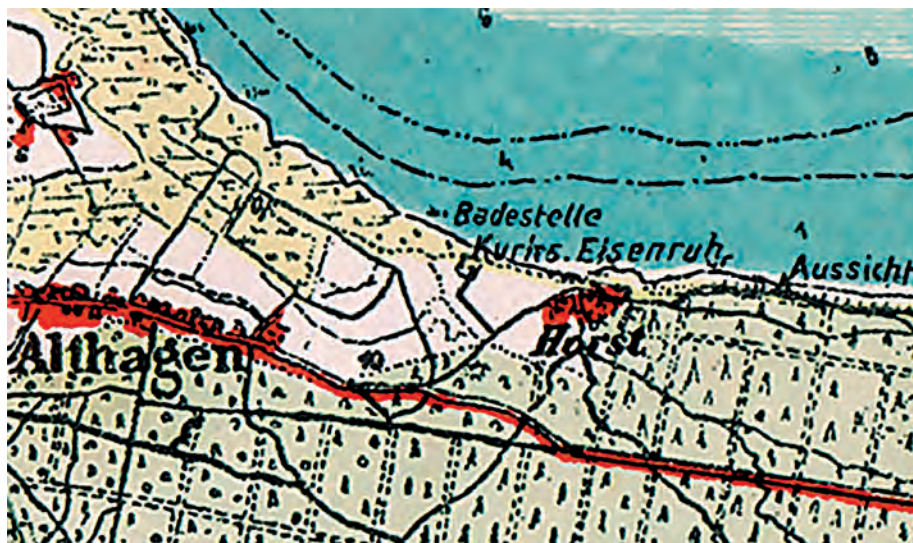
A map from 1892 shows the Forester's Lodge with accompanying auxiliary buildings. The area west of the road leading to Brzózki (labelled “Althagen” on this map) is open, with relatively scarce tree planting. The cliffs on the shore of the lagoon are clearly marked.

In 1897 Mr and Mrs Wegner built for themselves a stately villa in Szczecin, in the district of Pogodno. It was designed by Theodor Bless, an architect and developer from Szczecin. The villa is located in middle of the plot and is surrounded by an equally grand garden

Dr Wegner had previously lived in a villa at what is currently al. Wojska Polskiego in central Szczecin. However, he sought to move out of the city centre and desired to settle in a quieter,



Map of Trzebieradz from 1892.



Map of Trzebieradz from 1914. Publisher: Hermann Saran, Stettin.

Opposite: Postcard from 1936 depicting the Forester's Lodge in Trzebieradz. Courtesy of Mr Zenon Owczarek.



Försterei Horst b. Wahrlang

newly developed, residential area full of villas, which is currently named Pogodno. Like his previous villa, his new residence was also surrounded by a large garden. Afterwards Dr Wegner began to look for an attractive, scenic piece of land where he could settle for retirement.

In 1902 the Wegners bought a previously leased piece of land in Haffhorst. The plot had a cliff on its eastern side; direct access to the water via a beach; and, most likely an existing arboretum. According to a former local resident (E. Stein), Dr Wegner had fully embraced the idea of settling in the country. Accordingly, he built not only a villa but also a stable and riding hall, designed a large park and raised horses and dogs.

On a map from 1914 one can see a forest southeast of Trzebiernadz (here: “Horst”); a boarding house, “Elsenruh”, in a village that is currently named Popielewo; and a viewing point (“Aus-sicht”) on top of a cliff. A map from 1936 shows a wood-tar production site (“Holzablage”) next to the Forester’s Lodge, and more building to the west around Elsenruh.

In the years 1902-1908 the Wegner’s neoclassical villa was erected in Trzebiernadz along with the aforementioned stable with a carriage house, the riding hall, and the Chinese pavilion – the last of which housed a boiler room and a kennel. Around the buildings, a park was planted. The size of the original park has not been determined – nor is its designer known with any certainty. Nevertheless, it can be assumed that it was Theodor Bless who designed the villa and the layout of the compound (i.e. the road, firewood-storage points, etc.). However, the designer of the park remains unknown. As mentioned above, the buildings were erected next to an existing park or tree nursery, which, based upon the age of the trees, must have been planted in the second part of the 19th century. It could be the case that the forester, out of his own passion, created an interesting arboretum there. It can be compared to the modern arboretum in Glinna (in the Borough of Stare Czarnowo). The latter was based on a previous, private nursery that had been set up in 1823, and which in 1870 became part of Forestry District Śmierdnica (the collection was created by Carl Ludwig Genne).

Thanks to the comparison of modern cadastral maps, forestry maps and the 1936 map, it is possible to mark precisely the



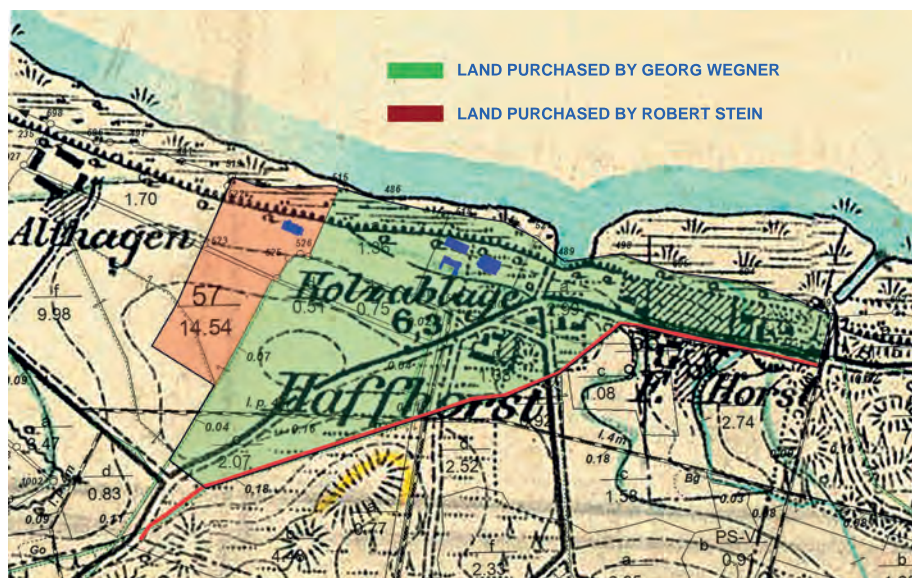
border of the area that was cultivated by Dr Wegner. The maps could be easily calibrated since Lasy Państwowe [State Forests] have preserved the pre-war administrative division of forestry districts. It is highly probable that Dr Wegner bought the large piece of land west of the road to “Holzablage”, along with the wood-tar production site located there. He would not build a villa next to a smoking industrial facility, so the area was cleared. It remained partially forested and later served as a paddock for horses. Dr Wegner also bought a strip of land to the east, between the road and the shore of Szczecin Lagoon – this area most likely belonged previously to the tree nursery. On the map from 1936 one can see that on the easternmost part of that plot more buildings were located along with some agricultural areas (gardens and orchards). This settlement served as an auxiliary facility for the palace and as a small port. It had a canal, which allowed small vessels to enter directly from the lagoon. It was additionally equipped with a transverse dam and reinforced wharf, thanks to which the boats could enter a hangar.

As the ownership of different plots in Trzebieradz changed, so did the roads – a road to the Foresters Lodge, and further to Trzebież, became necessary (it is still in use today). Creation of this new road served to solidify local land ownership. The western border of the plot belonging to Wegner, and later to Silbernagel, was the same as the western border of Dworek. It is marked by plantings of ornamental trees such as copper beech.

Dr Wegner passed away in 1917 and his wife Maria in 1936. Mr and Mrs Silbernagel, who bought the estate in the 1920s, built their own residence – Dworek – west of the palace. Both facilities were rearranged to form one estate. In 1941 both of them were sold to the Nationalsozialistische Volkswohlfahrt Verein [National Socialist People’s Welfare organization]. The Manowce Palace became a school for Party members, and the rest of the buildings were assigned as homes for single mothers. The whole estate consisted not only of the buildings but also of 40 hectares (100 acres) of land, which gives an idea of how large Dr Wegner’s landholdings were.



Map of Trzebieradz from 1936.



Land most likely bought by Dr Wegner (green) and Robert Stein (red). Developed by Małgorzata Haas-Nogal.



Steps leading to the lagoon, 1976. Photograph by Andrzej Smolny.
Courtesy of Pracownia Fotograficzna PKZ Szczecin [Photography Workshop PKZ Szczecin].



An arbour near the Manowce Palace in the 1970s. It no longer exists. Photographer unknown.
Courtesy of Archiwum Wojewódzkiego Konserwatora Zabytków w Szczecinie
[Archive of the Regional Monument Conservator in Szczecin].

HOW THE PEOPLE'S REPUBLIC CUT DOWN LARGE PARTS OF THE PARK (FORTUNATELY, ONLY ON PAPER)

After World War II, in the years 1945-1948/9, the Manowce Palace found itself in the area taken over by Soviet troops. A mobile border-patrol base was located there as well as an observation point, which was placed on the highest spot in the area – an enormous spruce. Two such trees used to grow next to the palace. Only one remains, the other probably collapsed in 1996 due to high winds. This fallen tree was processed into logs totalling 6 cubic metres (over 200 cubic feet) in volume, which gives an idea of what a huge specimen it must have been.

From 1947 to 1990 the whole compound was used as a summer-camp facility. It was fenced and separated from the park. New elements were introduced, such as an arbour and concrete stairs that led down to the beach.

In 1975 a record was created, *Skrócona inwentaryzacja parku wiejskiego w Brzózkach gmina Nowe Warpno* [A Concise Catalogue of a Village Park in Brzózki, Borough of Nowe Warpno]. The author was Dr Eng. Jerzy Jackowski. On this basis, the park was listed in the Polish Heritage Register under no. 862 (Decision of 26 July 1979 KL.I.5340/27/79). However, the author used only an economic map of the Office of Forestry District Trzebież and the summer-camp facility site plan.

After analysis of archival maps and the history of the place, it is easy to conclude that it is insufficient to limit the park to the borders of the summer-camp facility. The area of the park listed in the heritage register is only 6.66 hectares (16.5 acres) (see red colour on author-prepared map). Despite that, another 7.87 hectares (19.5 acres) should be legally protected according to the heritage-protection regulations (yellow colour on same map). Both areas give a total of 14.53 hectares (36 acres).

In 1997, due to the reorganization of the summer-camp facility, the whole compound was assigned to the Borough of Nowe Warpno. Afterwards, it was sold. The plot with Dworek and the plot with the Manowce Palace went to different buyers, and the land between the two buildings was given to Lasy Państwowe [State Forests]. Unfortunately, such division did not serve the park well.



THE LAST 70 YEARS

Sadly, there are no maps that depict the original layout of the park created by Dr Wegner. Its main asset was the scenic view of the lagoon – all other elements, including the buildings, were determined by it. The layout of the remaining trees allows the assumption that the original composition was that of a landscape park. Main roads were emphasized either by tree-lined avenues or by single rows of trees. The rest of the layout was formed by scattered, multi-layered and multi-species groups. A large percentage of these comprised evergreen plants. Near the palace, a grotto was found. It was definitely a part of the romanticized decoration. An avenue of limes, which led from the gate to the palace, today extends towards the south all the way to *nowa droga* [the new road]. However, the extension consists of chestnuts and spruces.

Since the buildings were not damaged during the war, their functional and communicative layouts remained clear and formed the basis for a summer-camp facility. Nevertheless, the layout of lanes and the whole composition of the park was later destroyed. Some parts were totally rearranged, such as the area where wooden camping bungalows (see “The History of the Trzebieradz Palace after 1945” section, above) were set up. As a result, the park was divided into completely new sections.

Skrócona inwentaryzacja parku wiejskiego w Brzózkach, gmina Nowe Warpno – the document written by Dr Eng. Jerzy Jackowski in 1975, in preparation for adding the park to the Polish Heritage Register – lists the species of trees and bushes growing there (in total, 73 species: conifers – 26, deciduous – 36 and bushes – 11).

The park’s conifers consist of: Canadian hemlock, European yew, Douglas fir, European silver fir, Grand fir, Greek fir, Nordmann fir, white fir, Veitch’s fir, European larch, Japanese larch, Scots pine, Jack pine, Weymouth pine, Swiss pine, Norway spruce, blue spruce, Engelmann spruce, white spruce, Sawara cypress, Lawson cypress, Nootka cypress, Japanese cypress and Thujaopsis.

Its deciduous species are: silver birch, Crispa silver birch, common beech and red common beech, copper beech, common



Borders of the park in Trzebieradz in the map attached to the Polish Heritage Register. Courtesy of Archiwum Wojewódzkiego Konserwatora Zabytków w Szczecinie [Archive of the Regional Monument Conservator in Szczecin].



The area of the park entered into the Polish Heritage Register is 6.66 hectares/16.5 acres (red). After analysis, I suggest adding another 7.87 hectares/19.5 acres of land (yellow). In total the park would comprise 14.53 hectares/36 acres. Developed by Małgorzata Haas-Nogal.



Remnants of an old lane, present state (2017). Photograph by Małgorzata Haas-Nogal.



Next to Dworek grow enormous common oaks (*Quercus robur*), over 200 years old, present state (2017). Photograph by Małgorzata Haas-Nogal.

oak, “Fastigiata” English oak, sessile oak, northern red oak, pin oak, scarlet oak, common hornbeam, honey locust, European ash, rowan, horse-chestnut, red horse-chestnut, Norway maple, sycamore, “Esk Sunset” sycamore, Tatar maple, silver maple, small-leaved lime, American linden, large-leaved lime, shagbark hickory, Caucasian wingnut, American tulip tree, white poplar, wych elm, mahaleb cherry, wild cherry, Japanese cherry, apple tree, black locust.

And the park’s bushes comprise: European yew, European holly, common hazel, elderberry, red elderberry, common hawthorn, midland hawthorn, forsythia, spirea, honeysuckle and common snowberry.

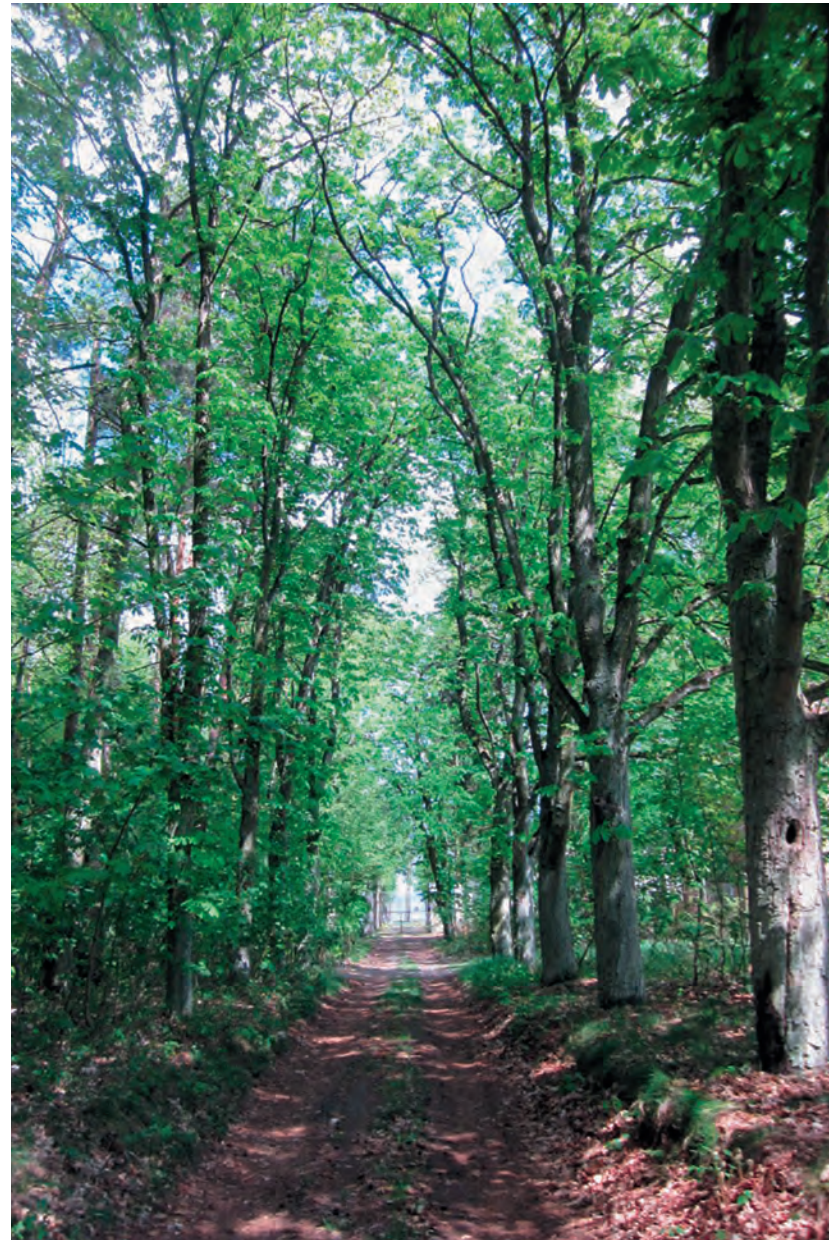
The list created by Dr Eng. Jackowski is the only such document that refers to the park as a whole (even though the author, unwittingly, limited significantly the area of that park). All other following lists referred only to certain parts of the park.

In 1976 Biuro Projektów Budownictwa Komunalnego w Szczecinie [the Bureau of Public Housing in Szczecin] created another list, which sought to describe the arboretum in the summer-camp facility of Warsaw City Hall in Brzózki. The author (Krystyna Węcłowicz) referred to the area near the Manowce Palace and another area near Dworek. The area between, she classified as a pine forest with a large addition of deciduous trees and a rich undergrowth of bushes and self-seeding plants. Apart from the Scots pine, she listed such species as Norway spruce, European yew, common beech, Norway maple, sycamore, silver birch, field maple, sessile oak, bird cherry, large-leaved lime, rowan and horse-chestnut. Among bushes, Węcłowicz counted: common hazel, elderberry, red elderberry, common lilac, mountain currant, shadbush, spirea, mahonia and hawthorn. In the southern part of the park she also listed trees – Canadian hemlock, Douglas fir, black locust – and bushes: juniper and common snowberry.

Węcłowicz also mentioned that close to the building (areas catalogued in detail – 271 trees and bushes were listed), one can find a large number of rare and ornamental trees. The most important of them are: copper beech, Schwedler Norway maple, Canadian hemlock, Nordmann fir, silver lime, white fir, Lawson cypress, Nootka cypress, red horse-chestnut, Swiss pine,



Oak, over 200 years old, present state (2017).
Photograph by Małgorzata Haas-Nogal.



An avenue of chestnuts that leads to the Manowce Palace. It is located in the area not yet entered into the Polish Heritage Register, present state (2017).
Photograph by Małgorzata Haas-Nogal.



An avenue of limes next to the Manowce Palace, present state (2017).
 Photograph by Piotr Krajewski.



Deteriorating grotto, a historical element about which sadly little is known, present state (2017).
 Photograph by Małgorzata Haas-Nogal.

weeping ash, white upright cherry, common hazel . In total, 63 species of trees and bushes were listed.

Of particular interest is the difference in the number of specific species in the two aforementioned inventories. The first document was created in 1975, and the second only a year later. It could mean that 10 species not listed in the second inventory were located in the area that was gifted to Lasy Państwowe [State Forests]. It is also possible that mistakes were made while identifying certain species.

Modern inventories, including the most recent one from 2013 (which considered only the area around the palace), confirm a loss in the number of species. Lack of proper care has led to a significant deterioration in the old trees. The eastern part of the park is becoming increasingly wild and overgrown with self-seeding plants. Therefore, a map and a detailed inventory of trees and bushes is necessary. Such documentation should precede any restoration.



RESTORATION OF THE PARK AROUND THE MANOWCE PALACE

In 2015, commissioned by the owner, I designed a plan of restoration for a part of the historical park (plot no. 383/1). By the autumn of 2015 the works were already finished.

The project involved comprehensive works on the trees: necessary cutting and sanitary pruning. I also designed the recomposition of plantings. In the southern part of the plot, a fountain was placed among flowerbeds bordered with boxwood hedges.

In the place where the demolished riding hall used to be, an ornamental vegetable garden is now placed. It is equipped with a trellis, and on the western side it is closed by a wall fountain. Due to the lack of any original example, the design of the vegetable garden was based on architectural details on the palace's elevation and other gardens of similar character. I sincerely hope that the metamorphosis of the park around the Manowce Palace will be an inspiration to all those who seek to revitalize and unify the whole park.

As to whatever else the park might reveal about itself and its creators, only time will tell...

Małgorzata Haas-Nogal



The garden next to the Manowce Palace. Photograph by Małgorzata Haas-Nogal.



The vegetable garden next to the Manowce Palace. Photograph by Piotr Krajewski.



Photograph by Piotr Krajewski.

Cover design, typography and typesetting: Patrycja Wojkowska

Cover photograph: Piotr Krajewski

“The Palace” copyright © by Maria Żuk-Piotrowska

“The Park” copyright © by Małgorzata Haas-Nogal

Translated by Adam Szczęsny

Publisher: Eikon

Published for Pałac Manowce S.A.

