The evolution of the architectural thought in the sacral buildings from the area of the Archdiocese of Szczecin - Kamień

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Summary
The evolution of the architectural thought in the sacral buildings from the area of the Archdiocese of Szczecin - Kamień.

The doctoral dissertation carried out at the Faculty of Civil Engineering and Architecture of West Pomeranian University of Technology in Szczecin under the direction of prof. dr. Eng. Arch. Adam M. Szymski.

The subject of research covered by this dissertation is the analysis of the development of contemporary sacred architecture of the second half of the twentieth century within the Archdiocese of Szczecin-Kamień. For the study assumed the period 1945-2005, dividing it into three sub-periods 1945-1971, 1971-1989, the years after 1990. A number of events of the analyzed period influenced the progress and development of sacred architecture. With the most significant the reforms of Vatican II (1962-1965) should be mentioned, which influenced the change of historical pattern of cultural Roman Catholic Church as well as the establishment of the Diocese of Szczecin-Kamień (28 June 1972) in the Western Lands, which enabled the development of a network of parishes and the construction of new religious facilities, following the political breakthrough in 1989, the Catholic Church gained freedom in the field of the realization of architecture and sacral architecture. The paper presents a detailed list of buildings created in the considered period, 101 churches were analyzed, from them to further study 40 buildings were selected. For selected churches index cards were developed, which contain the building data, the diagrammatic plan, the description of the church and the architectural analysis. On the basis of the adopted research methodology it was possible to identify the common characteristics of analyzed buildings, taking into account spatial and compositional conditions, which also allowed to specify the distinctive features and aspects of the buildings among the analyzed churches. This allows to make a choice of the most representative sacral buildings. For further development 14 churches were selected. Detailed analysis, the characteristics of the mold, interior design and symbolism was conducted.

The main aim of this work is to confirm the thesis that due to civilizational - cultural changes, which occurred in the twentieth century, within the meaning of the sacred concept and the related functions of the church building, especially taking into account the doctrinal changes which introduced II Vatican Council in the architecture of sacred buildings of the Catholic
Church, many architects also in Poland made an attempt to seek "the contemporary canon" corresponding to the council assumptions, aimed at the most acceptable way to fulfill the guidelines contained in the documents indicating the need for a new understanding of the sacred concept. Considering the above and the fact that in Western Pomerania (as in other regions of the country in 1945-2005) a significant number of new religious facilities was created, there are sufficient reasons to try to confront the creative achievements with what became the basis for carrying out the research.

In order to prove the thesis the resulting buildings were analyzed. In the first chapter, approximated the area of research, concluded the methodology and discussed the state of knowledge. The second chapter discussed the history of the churches construction and the transformation of sacred architecture in the Western Pomerania. In the third chapter highlighted the organization of the structure of the Church after the Second World War and the development of post-war architecture in the era of civilizational and cultural in the world and in Poland. The next two chapters are devoted to the discussion of the events surrounding the first emerging churches, conducted a detailed analysis of the formal - aesthetic selected buildings and summarized the years 1972-1989 in the field of the evolution of architectural form. The sixth and seventh chapter is devoted to III pre-period of the study, analyzed the events that led to the formation of sacred buildings. Conducted the detailed description of selected churches and summary of the creative achievements after 1990. In the eighth summary chapter, presented the results of the research, on the basis of them discussed features of the forms of created contemporary churches in the Archdiocese of Szczecin-Kamień and formulated conclusions. In the ninth chapter card facilities were included, and tables and diagrams containing f. ex. compilations and data of analyzed buildings.

On the basis of conducted analysis of buildings, conclusions contained in the individual chapters and research results, the aim of the work was achieved and discussed in the conclusions. Conclusions showed that although the authors undertook a clear attempt to seek "the contemporary canon," and despite many perceived similarities in shaping the body of the church, a new canon that could be considered as a canonical model of the church did not develop, and ultimately confront creative activities, with what became the basis of undertaking exploration, created only a few churches that can provide artistic value.