

ARCHITECTURAL SCHOOL OF LVIV POLYTECHNIC DURING THE WORLD WAR II

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Abstract. The article deals with the functioning of the architectural faculty of Lviv Polytechnic during the period of the Second World War. The activities of professors in the conditions of the formation of Soviet power, as well as in the situation of German occupation, are shown.

Key words: Lviv Polytechnic, Architectural School, Second World War, occupation.

1. Introduction.

The notion of Lviv architecture school has already been defined. Professor J. Lewicki writes, “The group of Lviv circle, which is widely known as Lviv architecture school, should include the architects who worked and were educated in Lviv, who graduated from Polytechnic School, which had existed since 1844, and which was called Lviv Polytechnic in 1918–1939. The notion of Lviv architecture school refers to creators who worked in Lviv, outside it, almost in all Central Europe. The impact of this architecture school was felt everywhere the architects, formed in Lviv, worked” [1].

After the Second World War, the professors and graduates of Lviv Polytechnic University continued their professional activities in different cities of Poland and in other countries of Europe and America. They made a significant contribution to the formation of the post-war architecture of the countries that became their second home after forced emigration from Lviv. This emigration was preceded by several difficult years of reorganization, change of power, occupation. These were the years of the Second World War.

2. Basic Theory Part

The materials of the article are based on the analysis of the materials and information taken from articles and monographs devoted to the functioning of the Lviv Polytechnic during the Second World War. The article analyzes the changes that took place during the study process, showing the difficulties the architectural school faced with at that time.

3. Results and Discussions

On the eve of September 1939

On the eve of September 1939, nothing indicated rapid and drastic changes in the life of Lviv Polytechnic. Professors, associate professors, assistants and students were preparing for the new academic year. The department of architecture in Lviv Polytechnic was one of the most successful in the inter-war period. In 1919, Polytechnic School became subordinate to the Ministry of Creed and General Education of Poland. On January 13, 1921, according to the decree of the Ministry of Religious Recognition and Education, the name of Higher Polytechnic School was changed into Lviv Polytechnic. It meant reorganizing the learning process in accordance with the new political and economic realia [2].

At the beginning of the 1930-s, the Faculty of Architecture included the Departments of General Construction headed by Prof. T. Obmiński; of Statics headed by Prof. A. Kuryłło; of Applied Art and Interior Décor headed by Prof. W. Sadłowski; of the History of Architecture headed for a long time by Prof. J. Zubrzycki, and then by M. Osinski; of Architecture I headed for a long time (until 1929) by Prof. W. Klimczak; of Architecture headed by Prof. W. Minkiewicz; of Utilitarian Construction headed by Prof. W. Derdacki. Right before WWII, the three more departments were created: the Department of Descriptive Geometry headed by Prof. K. Bartel; the Department of the History of Polish Architecture headed by Prof. M. Osinśki; the Department of City Planning, where I. Dreksler and T. Wróbel worked [3]. Apart from the departments, the learning process was catered for by two studios: Sculpture studio, which was created in 1873, headed by L. Markoni, and then – by E. Liepshi; Photography studio [4]. The number of students admitted to the Faculty of Architecture was constantly growing: from 103 students in 1920 to 276 in 1938–1939 [5]. Between 1919 and 1939, 2277 people, including 63 women, obtained the diploma in Engineering of Lviv Polytechnic [6].

The surnames of the heads of the departments spoke for themselves: they were not only educators, theorists, but also well-known architects-experts, which provided the necessary prerequisites for high quality, efficient learning. The period of studying at the Faculty of Architecture lasted four years. Each year was divided into two semesters. A student was supposed to study 60 hours per week. Such big number of hours was predetermined by introducing into the curriculum such new disciplines as Construction using reinforced concrete, History of Polish architecture and Urban Planning. The main subject was Architecture Design, and the list of tasks for design was constantly growing, since the typology of dwelling and public buildings was constantly growing too. So, the idea to increase the period of studying to five years appeared just at that time [7].

The first year of studying was seen as preparatory one, and the course of Architecture Design spanned the next three years and was distributed among the departments according to the tasks. Priceless examples of the topics for course projects are given in two editions of “Zeszytów architektonicznych” (“Architectural notebooks”) published in 1926–1932 and in 1930–1938. The published projects demonstrate the views, formed in Polytechnic, on the modernistic trend in the development of architecture, which dominated among the younger generation [9].

Apart from course projects, the important disciplines included in the curriculum were Descriptive Geometry, Calculus, Statics, Architecture Monuments Conservation, City Planning, Metal and Reinforced Concrete Constructions, Estimates and Construction Industry, Construction Statutes (regulatory and legal framework of design and construction), Building Materials, Physics, Photography, Machinery in Construction, Economics, State and Private Law, Heat Supply and Ventilation, Industrial Hygiene and Safety [10]. History of Architecture (general and Polish), Drawing, Graphics, Perspective, Practice in Elements of Renaissance Architecture, etc. dominated among the artistic disciplines [11].

The whole course of studying resulted in taking a Diploma exam. The prerequisite for taking this exam laid in positive scores in such subjects as Elements of Measurement, Engineering Sciences, Machinery in Construction Technology, Building Materials, City Planning, Art History, Construction Statutes, Heat Supply and Ventilation, Figure Drawing, Ornamental Drawings and Interior Décor. The Diploma exam lasted seven days and consisted of proviso, public defense, as well as oral exam in the subjects selected by the Diploma Examination Board. During the pre-war years, the Examination Board included W. Derdacki, J. Bagenski, M. Osinśki, K. Bartosiewicz, W. Grzymalski, W. Minkiewicz, W. Sadłowski [13].

The professors of the Department of Architecture were well-known architects-experts, most of them worked on building up the Lviv Polytechnic. It is quite enough to mention the building of Lviv Polytechnic Electrical Technical laboratory and Mechanical Department in modern 5 Ustyianovych str. W. Minkiewicz was working on its design and construction from 1912 till 1927. An outstanding achievement of Lviv inter-war Neoclassicism was the building of the Library in 2 Profesorska str., which was designed by T. Obmiński together with W. Minkiewicz in 1929–1931 [14]. Besides, it was planned to develop the construction of the Polytechnic teaching buildings. Therefore, in 1938 in Lviv Polytechnic, there was designed a project for constructing the five buildings of the Mechanic and Electrical Technical Departments in Stryiska str., which was to be implemented in the next three years. On November 26, 1938, a solemn consecration of the cornerstone took place, and the construction works began. In 1939, the whole frame of the Mechanic Research Station and the half of the frame of the Technology and Metal Processing building were completed [15].

The social life of professors-architects was very active. As a matter of fact, the first organization of Polish architects, known as the Circle of Polish Architects, acted as a subdivision of Polytechnic Society, which

after 1919 was known as Polish Polytechnic Society. Under the aegis of the Society, the architectural contests were organized, architecture exhibitions were held, periodicals were published [16].

Altogether, such situation provided adequate preparation of Lviv architects, and, during the inter-war period, Lviv architecture school was one of the strongest in II Rzeczpospolita competing with the capital. Close connection between a real design and studying, social activity and patriotism of students and teachers, which manifested themselves in exceptionally fruitful learning, were the most important features of Lviv architecture school in the inter-war period.

Period between Occupations

On September 1, 1939 at 11.30 am, first bombs fell on Lviv. German troops were bombing the main railway station and the area nearby, Sknyliv airfield. In total, 83 people perished and 100 people were wounded because of German bombing raids on the first day of the war [18]. For some time the Wehrmacht troops were keeping the city under siege, but, on September 22 1939, the Red army came into the city. Lviv became Soviet unbeknownst to its inhabitants. Official records were different. "In the chronicle of struggle (the struggle of the proletariat for social and national liberation), glorious pages are written by the proletariat of Lviv, whose lifelong dreams and desires came true in September 1939," – these were the usual words which characterized the events of those days in the Soviet press [19].

The destiny of Lviv turned out to have been determined earlier than September. On August 23, 1939 in Moscow, German Minister of Foreign Affairs Joachim von Ribbentrop and the Head of the Council of People's Commissars, People's Commissar of Foreign Affairs of the USSR Viacheslav Molotov signed a Non-aggression Pact between Germany and Soviet Union. Secret additional protocol defined the spheres of mutual interests of the two states in Eastern Europe and the division of Poland between them after the expected German invasion of Poland. Galicia, with its centre in Lviv, was included in the zone of Soviet interests.

September events, the decline of Polish state and the first Soviet occupation created new conditions in which Lviv Polytechnic started to exist. There appeared a complicated issue of how to treat the newly arrived Lviv "inhabitants" that included the military of different ranks and civil servants with their families. The attitude to this problem was not mono-semantic. It varied from hostility with uncompromising fighting to downright collaboration and could be noticed within the walls of Polytechnic, too. The events that were taking place there for two years showed the model of social relations functioning in Lviv and in all occupied areas in general.

In May 1939, Edward Sucharda was elected the rector of Lviv Polytechnic, but he, however, refused to take the post. So, this post was taken over by Antoni Wereszczyński [21]. He held this post when World War II began. The first step that he took was to organize civil defence and a hospital. Student subdivisions of Person's selfdefence started to be organized in Polytechnic. Their headquarters were located in Polytechnic library. It is the fact that, during German raid on Lviv on September 12, the officer cadet Andrzej Lauterbach, an architecture student, firing a 75 calibre canon, destroyed German tanks that were located near St. Elizabeth church [22].

But the destiny of Lviv was determined – on September 22, the Red army occupied Lviv and all the institutions were supposed to start work immediately. Rector A. Wereszczyński ordered to begin the studying process (although the hospital continued working on the territory of Polytechnic). At the beginning of October, Rector called for the general meeting of the professors of Polytechnic. It took place on the main staircase. The main person in this meeting was comrade Yustymov, who introduced himself as the commissar of Polytechnic. Comrade Yustymov claimed that the educational institution would operate according to the Soviet standards just from now. Jarosław Żaba, the assistant of the Department of Chemistry, who turned out to be an undercover member of a communist cell, made a speech that shocked everyone. He spoke about happy future for the state, about class struggle and congratulated everyone on their liberation. Bronisław Bochenek, a student of the Department of Mechanics, turned out to be a secret representative of a student communist organization. The meeting ended with signing a compulsory resolution and Polytechnic became a Soviet educational institution [23].

Soon Lviv Polytechnic was reorganized into Lviv Polytechnic Institute (LPI). In December 1939, Maksym Sadovskyi, a former director of Kyiv tram trust, was appointed the director of the Institute, professor Volodymyr Krukovskyi was appointed the deputy. In November 1939, a commission came from Moscow to check the academic level of the professors and lecturers. All academic degrees and titles were confirmed. It is a well-known fact that, at the end of August and at the beginning of September 1940, Lviv Polytechnic professors were invited to Moscow to get familiar with the achievements of Soviet science. Witold Minkiewicz, professor of the Department of Architecture II, Dean of the Faculty of Architecture in 1926–1927, Rector of Polytechnic in 1930–1931, was among those invited. He, together with many other Polytechnic professors, was granted the

academic degree of Doctor of Technical Sciences and was allowed to work at his Department of Architecture II by the Soviet government.

So, the academic process in Polytechnic resumed in October 1939, although its principles changed according to the requirements of Soviet education. Admission regulations changed. The most important factor for a prospective student to be admitted was his/her social background. The results of the entrance exams were not taken into account. The preference was given to those who came from the country or had a working class background. The number of students did not decrease. On the contrary, it increased because of those who came from Poland occupied by Germans. They were mostly Jews, who hoped to escape the Nazis.

Polish remained the main language of teaching, since most students knew only this language. Apart from this, there was the lack of lecturers who could teach in Ukrainian or Russian. Professors and lecturers in Polytechnic, including the Faculty of Architecture, almost did not change. The number of people that emigrated was insignificant and it had no impact on the academic potential of the higher educational institution. According to the standards of the Soviet education system, all professors and associate professors who had no academic degree had to undertake writing doctorate thesis immediately (this particularly referred to the Faculty of Architecture, where a lot of architects-experts, who had no academic degrees, worked). In addition, all professors were obliged to attend lectures in Party history and take part in seminars [24].

New subjects – Marxism-Leninism and Party history taught in Russian – appeared in the curricula for every specialty. The curriculum of the Faculty of Architecture was also revised. For example, the list of objects suggested to design for students was changed (in particular, the design of sacral buildings was excluded). Introducing the specialties such as Monumental Architecture, Urban Planning and Construction was a new thing. Students did not quite understand what this division meant, that is why, there were problems with admitting students for the specialty “Constructions”, which no one wished to be enrolled. Professor Emil Łazoryk, who was the Dean at that time, had to distribute students himself. Students of the fourth year of studying were preparing to do their diploma projects according to earlier regulations. In 1940, defence of diplomas according to the old standards was already impossible [25].

Rather strict rules for attending classes were introduced: the prefect wrote a report signed by the lecturer, where he/she recorded the presence of students, every day. Students that did not attend classes could be expelled and their names were sent to the military registration and enlistment office, which automatically meant enlistment in the Red army. Studies gave an opportunity to postpone military service [26].

Despite the fact that the academic process had been resumed, the situation in Polytechnic was not calm. Everyone was learning to live in the atmosphere of suspiciousness and fear. Repressive machinery was gradually gaining momentum – freedom of meetings and societies was abolished, secret arrests and executions were beginning. All students and professors were under constant and watchful eye of the NKVD (People’s Commissariat for Internal Affairs) agents. To ensure total control in Lviv, as in all Soviet Union, new organizational forms of activity were being introduced. This was reflected in the practical work of architects of that period.

Immediately after Soviet troops occupied Lviv, a whole group of architects from Soviet Ukraine was sent there. According to their leader, later Chief Architect of Lviv, O. Kasyanov, who came from Kharkiv, this group was supposed “to transfer Lviv city planning to Soviet fashion”. Transformations began with organizing architects into one single Union, which was to become a component of Ukrainian Union and the Union of architects of the whole USSR respectively. This was done immediately and, in autumn 1939, Lviv organization of the Union of Soviet architects was founded [27].

H. Holovko, Head of the Committee for construction and architecture of Ukrainian Soviet Socialist Republic, came to Lviv for this occasion. The work of the first meeting went according to the numerous developed scenarios: organizing committee was elected at this meeting. It included local architects-Ukrainians – Lviv Polytechnic alumni – Mykola Mykula, Yevhen Nahirnyi and M. Perfetska. This committee started admitting membership of the Union. However, the same O. Kasyanov was elected the first Head of the Board for Lviv branch. The Union had almost 200 members, most of them were the local architects. All in all, architects were able to pursue their professional career officially only being members of the Union. At the same time professional work of architects was being restructured. Private design bureaus were substituted by branches of centralized design institutes. In January 1940, Lviv branch of the State Design Institute of Ukrainian Soviet Socialist Republic was founded on the basis of Kyiv and partly local architects. The same O. Kasyanov became its Chief Architect [28].

It is clear that Soviet government appointed for the leading posts non-local professionals, who were not trusted and who were feared.

In June 1941, Lviv was occupied by Nazi Germany and it became the centre of Galicia district as a component of General Governorship organized on the territory of former Poland. On the eve of July 4 1941 on Vuletski Hills, dozens of scientists were shot by Germans, Polytechnic professors among them – S. Pilat, W. Stozhenko, W. Krukowski, K. Vaihel, A. Lomnicki, R. Witkiewicz. On July 26, Kazimerz Bartel, professor of the Faculty of Architecture, who had been teaching Descriptive Geometry to students-architects for many years, died in Gestapo basemen. Lviv Polytechnic was closed and during 1941–1942 the institution did not work. A hospital was organized on the premises again. Professors at that time were left without jobs and livelihood. However, in 1942, there arose a need to resume work of some educational institutions, since there was lack of professionals. That is why, in March of the same year, enrollment for courses was announced and studying was to begin on April 15 1942. Courses of Mechanical Engineering, Civil Engineering, Geodesy, Architecture, Hydrotechnology, Industrial Chemistry, Agriculture and Forestry were set up. Representatives of the Occupation government supervised the courses [29].

Since there was a need not for professionals with higher education, but for technical workers, on the basis of the abolished higher educational institution, German Occupation authorities opened Engineering courses (Staatliche Technische Fachkurse Lemberg), which, of course, did not provide a higher education diploma. Obviously, the need for professionals in Architecture was predetermined by great ambitious plans of German authorities to transform Lviv in terms of urbanization and architecture. German urbanists took the reconstruction plan of Berlin from 1942, designed by Albert Speer, as their sample. German urbanists that worked in the Central Technical Department in Krakow (Technisches Zentralamt Krakau) saw Lviv exactly in such context, transforming it into a German city. The basis of a new space organization lay in a reconstructed network of streets, adapted for busy traffic (streets were widened by demolishing historic buildings). Also, a new ring road, from which there had to be viewing axes on the “city crown” complex – a monumental complex of administrative and government buildings in Citadel – was to be built [30]. Such plans called for experts.

Polish underground government wished to use the opportunity of educating the youth to preserve a high level of teaching and integrity of the educational institution. At that time, secret rules of the courses functioning were defined. They implied the following:

- all courses continue secret existence of Polytechnic as a higher educational establishment;
- academic level of learning will be realized on the basis of 1939/1940 curriculum;
- after the occupation, this education will be equal to the education in a higher educational institution;
- formal learning, which is obvious to the occupant, in fact, will be covered by a system of secret learning;
- all specialities and separate institutes continue to provide an integral union of Lviv Polytechnic and are governed by Polish private and public law.

Thus, during German Occupation (until 1944), the Faculty of Architecture started to function again, although it was located not in the main building: the Faculties of Engineering and Architecture had to vacate because a hospital was organized there. They took shelter in the building of the Machinery Laboratory, in the Library, but mostly in the building which was located in a former Mary Magdalene monastery (modern building 14). The language of studying was German. Professors Jan Bageński, Kazimierz Bartosiewicz, Władysław Lam, Władysław Derdacki, Emil Łazoryk, Witold Minkiewicz, Marian Osiński, Antoni Plamitzer, Zbigniew Wardzała, associate professors Angrzej Frydecki, Adam Mściwujewski, Tadeucz Wróbel, Eliaz Zielski, assistants Michał Paszkiewicz, Julian Duchowicz, Tadeusz Teodorowicz-Teodorowski continued their work teaching architecture subjects. Emil Łazoryk was Dean of the Faculty of Architecture during the period of German Occupation [31].

After Nazi Germany capitulated and Lviv became again part of the Soviet Union, serious changes happened in the life of Lviv Polytechnic. New arrival of Soviet administration in July 1944 was accompanied by a wave of new repressions and arrests. During the period of five days – from January 3 till January 8–approximately 17,300 people were arrested, among them there were professors of Lviv higher educational institutions, many well-known doctors, as well as engineers and artists [32]. At that time, NKVD agents arrested professors of the Faculty of Architecture W. Minkiewicz and E. Łazoryk. They were accused of co-operating with Germans and at the beginning of February taken to Donbas to Krasnodon, to a filtration camp No. 0310. W. Minkiewicz was released in June 1945 after prosecutor’s checks, and E. Łazoryk did not live to his release, – he died on February 11 1945 in the camp [33].

In 1944 Lviv Polytechnic Institute started working again. The changes in its functioning which occurred this time were drastic and connected with mass emigration of ethnic Poles from Polytechnic. On December 6

1944 at the meeting with Lviv intelligentsia, Ivan Hrushetskyi, Secretary of Lviv committee of the Communist party, informed that those professors who wished to teach in Polish had to leave and those who stayed had to accept the fact that Lviv was Soviet and governed by Soviet legislation [34]. Most people then did not fully believe that the changes were inevitable. But in January 1945, Lviv Polytechnic professors received first invitations to move to Gdansk to develop Gdansk Polytechnic. On February 13, local newspaper “Chervonyi Prapor” printed the results of Yalta Conference, where the eastern borders of Poland along the so called Curzon line were fixed: Lviv appeared on the territory of Soviet Ukraine. After German capitulation, repatriation bureaus were opened and ethnic Poles were encouraged to move to the territory of Polish People’s Republic [35]. Polytechnic employees had a tough choice: to stay or to leave...

The choice was made almost unanimously – to leave. It was decided at the general meeting of Lviv Polytechnic professors that all academic staff would move to Gdansk to continue their work in an educational institution called Marine Polytechnic. However, Warsaw sent a rejection on the grounds of the fact that Lviv Polytechnic professors had to reinforce higher educational institutions not only in Gdansk but also in other cities of Poland – Wroclaw, Gliwice, Krakow [36].

Real exodus began at the end of spring in 1945. First group of the already former Polytechnic professors set off from the railway station Persenkivka to Krakow, Gliwice and Gdansk. Then next group left for Krakow, Gliwice, Wroclaw, Poznan and Gdansk on October 28. Last group set off to Poland in June 1946. [37]. Starting from 1945 only the professor Jan Bageński and former lecturer of the Faculty of Architecture of Polytechnic Marian Nikodemowicz continued working in Lviv Polytechnic Institute. Not only professors of the Faculty of Architecture but also students and practicing architects left Lviv. In several months there were practically no ethnic Poles, whose work and life was somehow connected with architecture, left in Lviv.

From archive sources we know that in 1944 the Faculty of Architecture consisted of two departments: the Department of Drawing, Painting and Sculpture (in 1944–1945 it was headed by A. Mściwujewski, who emigrated in 1945, and in 1945–1946 – by Ukrainian artist Ivan Boichenko) and the Department of Architecture and the Fundamentals of Architecture Composition (in 1944–1945 it was headed by Yevhen Nahirnyi, and in 1945–1947 – by I. Bahenskyi). In 1947, the two departments were combined into one and called “Architecture” It was headed by I. Bahenskyi until 1957. At that time the Faculty of Architecture had already been eliminated (in 1945). However, the Department also faced the elimination, as, according to Khrushchov’s struggle against excessiveness, it was decided in Moscow that Soviet country did not need architects. After red tape in Moscow Ministry of Higher Education, the former Head of the Department of Architecture prof. I. Bahenskyi managed to receive a permit to open a speciality “Furniture and Interior Design” (FID) in autumn of 1959 but merely with a part-time study. Only in autumn of 1961, LPI resumed a full-time study. The Department of Architecture Design was the part of Engineering and Construction Faculty until 1971, after that the Faculty of Architecture was opened [38].

Thus, we can be grateful to I. Bahenskyi for preserving uninterrupted architecture education within the walls of Polytechnic. It is evident that thanks to the personality of professor I. Bahenskyi, it became possible to preserve the spirit and traditions of academic architecture education based on profound theoretical knowledge [39], combined with practical work, love to the motherland and city, respect for people, within the walls of Lviv Polytechnic. I. Bahenskyi, during the period of his teaching, had nurtured approximately 370 architects, among them the famous constructors and researchers, professors of Architecture Andriy Rudnytskyi, Roman Lypka, Iryna Rusanova, Tetyana Maksymyuk. He was a member of several public organizations in Lviv, namely, Lviv Branch of the Union of Architects of Ukraine and Regional Council for Architecture. Thanks to I. Bahenskyi, the tradition of designing and constructing the new buildings of Lviv Polytechnic Institute lived on. He supervised the group which designed building 1 in 2/4 Karpinskyi str. in 1960 [40].

Marian Nikodemowicz as a student of the Polytechnic School in 1912–1914 worked in a construction company created by W. Minkiewicz and W. Derdacki. In 1915 he obtained an engineer-architect diploma with distinction, and in 1916 he became a senior assistant and later associate professor of the Department of General Construction (headed by T. Obminski). Working actively, apart from Lviv Polytechnic (where he taught until 1928), he worked at Lviv State Industrial School in 1927–1936 teaching Construction and Drawing. During World War II, he worked at different institutions which dealt with the reconstruction of damaged buildings. After the war, due to the lack of staff, he was invited to work in LPI, where he had been working until 1950 teaching Perspective and Descriptive Geometry [41].

There were not enough professors, that is why, practicing architects, such as Yevhen Nahirnyi, were invited to work there. In 1912, Yevhen Nahirnyi graduated from Polytechnic School. During the inter-war

period, he designed a lot, founded his own architecture bureau, which functioned until 1940. During German Occupation, he headed State Industrial School. From 1944 till 1945, during the period of transition for Polytechnic, he headed the Department of Architecture Design, and since 1947 he also taught in Lviv State Institute of Applied and Decorative Art. Y. Nahirnyi was an extremely fruitful architect: 300 objects, out of 500 designed, had been realized.

Immediately after Soviet power was restored in Lviv, in July 1944, Lviv Branch of the Union of architects of Ukraine resumed its work. Architects from different cities of Ukraine and Soviet Union were sent to Lviv. The staff of the post-war Faculty became completely different than before the war: there were, practically, no local professionals left and it was formed by “new arrivals”. Thus, in 1946 in Lviv, there were 49 architects – the members of the Union, in 1947 – 45 members, and the total number of architects was 75 [42]. Apart from the above mentioned Yevhen Nahirnyi, the architects Jerzy Gölis, Mykola Mykula and Valerian Sahaidakivskyi – graduates of Lviv Polytechnic also stayed in post-war Lviv.

Jerzy Gölis, after graduating from Lviv Polytechnic, worked as a scientist at the Department of General Construction of the Faculty of Architecture, where in 1929 – 1930 he held the post of assistant, and in 1933–1934 – constructor. After the war, he worked as a practicing architect. The building of the Institute of Radioelectronics in Chuprynka str. (1950-ies) is among his most outstanding post-war objects.

Mykola Mykula entered the Faculty of Architecture of Lviv Polytechnic in 1930 and completed his studies in 1935. However, he defended his diploma only in 1939. In 1938–1940 he worked in O. Mukha’s design bureau. Since 1944 he worked in Lviv “Regional Project” as Head of the architecture-construction section. He also worked on reconstructing the architecture monuments. He designed many dwelling and administrative buildings. The design of the LPI laboratory buildings of chemistry problems was recognized as one of the best buildings in Ukraine of the first post-war decade.

The experience, accumulated by architects during the inter-war period, was used in a design practice of the post-war years. An illustrative example is constructing the estate dwelling houses. This practice was renewed for a short period of time in Lviv at the end of the 1950-ies. M. Mykula, J. Gölis, V. Sahaidakivskyi were the ones who created designs of individual dwelling houses taking into account the experience of Lviv inter-war functionalism: flat roofs, corner rounded balconies, combination of brickwork and metal lattice in balcony fencing. These features were noticed and later strictly criticized by the ideologists of Soviet architecture. In the article by N. Ivanchenko and M. Tsapenko it was written, “However, it is necessary to outline defects ... They are the results of the author’s mistakes, his admiration for formal composition tools of constructivism” [43].

4. Conclusions

The years of the Second World War have become a real challenge for Lviv Polytechnic. They were associated with the repression, lack of work and struggle for elemental survival. Despite the difficult conditions of the Lviv Polytechnic School of Architecture during the Second World War, the teachers and professors managed to preserve the traditions of architectural education, a high level of teaching, love and a responsible attitude to their profession. Due to this, the professors and students of Lviv Polytechnic who were compelled to move to Poland and other countries in the postwar years made a significant contribution to the development of the post-war architectural education and practice in their new homelands.

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(to be continued)

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АРХИТЕКТУРНА ШКОЛА ЛЬВІВСЬКОЇ ПОЛІТЕХНІКИ У РОКИ ДРУГОЇ СВІТОВОЇ ВІЙНИ

Анотація. У статті розглянуто питання функціонування архітектурного факультету львівської політехніки у період Другої світової війни. Показано діяльність професорів в умовах становлення радянської влади, а також у ситуації німецької окупації.

Ключові слова: Львівська політехніка, архітектурна школа, Друга світова війна, окупація.