

# The Sanctuary of St. Mary

ŚWIĘTA LIPKA - POLAND

## KEY FACTS

- One of the oldest places in Poland of the veneration St. Mary
- MAPE-ANTIQUE system was applied to renovate historical facade of the Sanctuary



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Let's present the project...

Święta Lipka is a village in the administrative district of Reszel in warmińsko-mazurskie voivodeship, round 70 km in the northeast from Olsztyn. This landmark holds one of the most popular and known Polish St. Mary sanctuaries. The basilica, surrounded by cloisters, along with monastery buildings consists one of the most important examples of late Baroque architecture in Poland. The first mention regarding the pilgrimage in Święta Lipka dates back to the XIV century and approximately from this period comes the very first information referring to the former chapel which was destroyed during the Protestant Reformation. The fact has not, however, abstained the cult of St. Mary. In the beginning of the XVII century, the restoration works commenced, starting from the chapel's foundations. The site was consecrated in 1619 and handed down to the Jesuits (who act as its custodians until the present day). Between 1688 and 1693, on the Jesuits' initiative, the current church was raised according to a project of an unknown architect. The building is composed from a three-naval basilica, surrounded by a four-side cloisters with chapels and monastery buildings. On the church's high altar there is a painting of the Mother of Christian Unity. Unfortunately, the statuette of St. Mary has not survived, but according to the spoken tradition, as a result of Mother Mary's intervention, it was carved in XIV century by an inmate from Kętrzyn prison. Accordingly to St. Mary's promise, subsequently to the figurine's creation, the prisoner had been released and he hanged the statuette on a linden tree. This event began the St. Mary's cult in this area and gave birth to the name of "Święta Lipka" ("Holy Linden"). In fact, exactly around this tree, the first chapel which constitutes the foundations of the current sanctuary was built. While paying a visit to the Sanctuary of Święta Lipka, it is necessary to draw attention to the organ, dated to 1719-1721. This instrument is featured by an exceptional baroque sound and during concerts it additionally enraptures with mobile elements (the figurines, ornaments).

...and MAPEI contribution

The anticipated renovation works of the Sanctuary area in Święta Lipka included removing old plaster coating and applying new renovation renders, as well as consolidating the wall's structure in crucial spots.

Before MAPEI seized the initiative, some attempts were made with other manufacturer's products. It occurred that previously proposed solutions did not turn out to work for this monumental structure. The render coatings just cracked on the surface.

MAPEI Technical Advisors proposed to carry out the works with MAPE-ANTIQUE renders system for structures of historical interest. This cement-free system is based on the use of ecological pozzolanic ash as a binder which demonstrates high reactivity and has a light color, therefore it is easy to use as a base coat. The content of a special pozzolanic ash makes the MAPEI mortar relevantly porous, the reactivity, in turn, helps the mortar to obtain a morphological structure similar to mortars originally used for the buildings' construction. The macro-porous structure of MAPE-ANTIQUE renders ensures also a rapid evaporation of the humidity contained in the old wall.

The renovation works included the basilica's facade and vast cloisters. The first stage consisted in removing the cracked coating from the facade and in preparing the substrate. Afterwards, a base coat layer could be applied. For this scope, the contractor used a cement-free MAPE-ANTIQUE RINZAFFO mortar which is resistant to salts and based on ecological pozzolanic ash and lime. The surface then was smoothed with MAPE-ANTIQUE FC CIVILE and eventually covered with a lime paint and glaze.

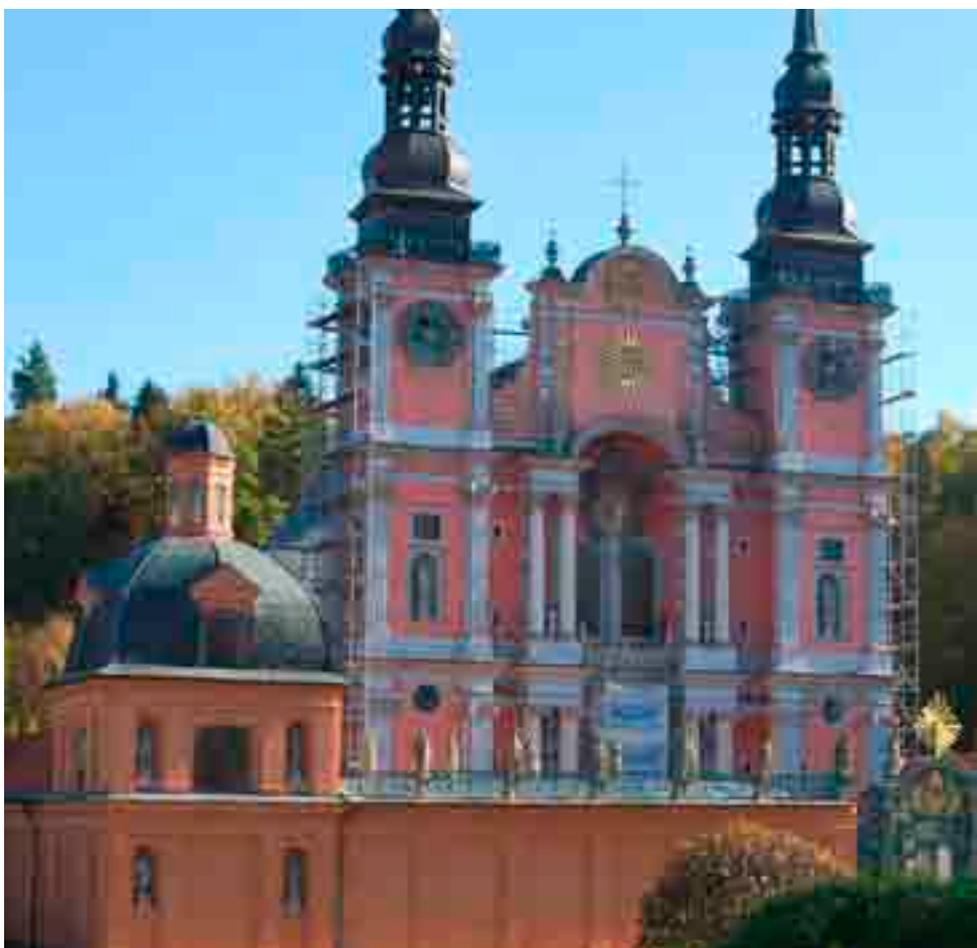
The basilica's frontage is decorated with impressive columns which, however, required equally a thorough renovation because of surface cracks. This time, a repair mortar PLANITOP HDM RESTAURO came with support in combination with MAPEGRID G220, an alkali-resistant fiber glass mesh used for wall structures consolidation. As the next



step, the surface was smoothen-up with a fine-grain MAPE-ANTIQUE FC CIVILE mortar for leveling renovation renders' surfaces. The lime paint and glaze was applied another time as the finishing coat.

The last stage consisted in cloisters' restoration. This zone required the usage of a cement-free mortar under the name of MAPE-ANTIQUE STRUTTURALE NHL. This product is a high-performance, hydraulic lime and ecological pozzolana-based mortar, especially recommended as a render or a consolidating layer for strengthening stone and brick walls. In the basilica's cloisters, MAPE-ANTIQUE STRUTTURALE served for both applications. At first, the substrate required a scrupulous cleansing, filling cavities and grouting, and subsequently MAPE-ANTIQUE STRUTTURALE NHL with its half-liquid consistency served as a base coat. On such prepared surface, a proper render layer was applied of the same MAPE-ANTIQUE STRUTTURALE NHL mortar. On the cloisters' structure there are visible remains of murals. To restore these areas of remarkable historical value, MAPE-ANTIQUE F21 was used. This binder is a cement-free compound of hydraulic lime and ecological pozzolana, with high flow for consolidating renders detached from the substrate, particularly useful for structures with murals on. Another binder, MAPE-ANTIQUE LC was used to rebuild masonry fragments.

**MAPEI PRODUCTS:** MAPE-ANTIQUE F21, MAPE-ANTIQUE FC CIVILE, MAPE-ANTIQUE LC, MAPE-ANTIQUE RINZAFFO, MAPE-ANTIQUE STRUTTURALE NHL, MAPEGRID G220, PLANITOP HDM RESTAURO.



## TECHNICAL DATA

- **Name of building intervention:** Sanctuary of st. Mary - the Chapel in Święta Lipka / Poland
- **Type:** PUBLIC (CHURCH)
- **Period of construction:** 1688 – 1693
- **Period of MAPEI intervention:** 2011
- **Intervention by MAPEI:** renovation of historical facade
- **Customer:** Roman Catholic Parish of Święta Lipka
- **General contractor:** Pracownia Konserwacji Zabytków „STIUK” Szymon Konecko
- **MAPEI Coordinators:** Krzysztof Pogan, Michał Molenda.

MAPEI PRODUCTS	MATERIAL INSTALLED	SUBSTRATE	QUANTITY OF PRODUCT	SURFACE	INSIDE/ OUTSIDE	NEW/ RENOVATION	PRODUCT LINE
	DO NOT COMPLETE FOR BUILDING PRODUCTS						
MAPEGRID G220			278 m	5 000 m <sup>2</sup>	OUTSIDE	RENOVATION	PRODUCTS FOR MASONRY REPAIR
PLANITOP HDM RESTAURO			2 850 kg		OUTSIDE	RENOVATION	PRODUCTS FOR MASONRY REPAIR
MAPE-ANTIQUE RINZAFFO			50 080 kg		OUTSIDE	RENOVATION	PRODUCTS FOR MASONRY REPAIR
MAPE-ANTIQUE FC CIVILE			17 325 kg		OUTSIDE	RENOVATION	PRODUCTS FOR MASONRY REPAIR
MAPE-ANTIQUE STRUTTURALE NHL			15 500 kg		OUTSIDE	RENOVATION	PRODUCTS FOR MASONRY REPAIR
MAPE-ANTIQUE LC			260 kg		OUTSIDE	RENOVATION	PRODUCTS FOR MASONRY REPAIR
MAPE-ANTIQUE F21			68 kg		OUTSIDE	RENOVATION	PRODUCTS FOR MASONRY REPAIR

