

THE WORK OF THE KRAKÓW SCIENTIFIC SOCIETY IN THE FRANCISCAN CHURCH AND MONASTERY FOR THE MONUMENTS OF THE PAST

The Kraków Scientific Society was established in 1815. The society studied the history of Polish art, but also started working in the maintenance of national monuments. Many monuments were destroyed during the fire that ravaged Kraków in 1850, especially in the Franciscan and Dominican churches.

This study illustrates the society's commitment to and work on the renovation of many monuments of the past,

particularly those belonging to the Franciscan Church. Furthermore, the society made an inventory of destroyed medieval statues and undertook their restoration, for example the statues of Prince Władysław and of Mateusz from Kraków. Many other memorials located in the Franciscan Church were also restored. The society also worked on the renewal of portraits of Kraków ecclesiastics in the Bishops' Gallery located in the monastery's cloisters.