

## We discover the Świętokrzyskie region - Krzelów

NEWS FROM KIELCE 20/04/2012, 04:00

14 PHOTOS

Janusz Kedracki

• Krzelów (Sędziszów commune), 19th-century manor house with a semicircular southern side (Photo: Jarosław Kubalski / Agencja Wyborcza.pl)



KRZELOW

WE DISCOVER THE  
ŚWIĘTOKRZYSKIE  
TOURISM IN KIELCE

**H**ere you can see the remains of a medieval knight's castle and a 19th-century manor house with outbuildings. One of them contains a tiled stove, which is said to bear Masonic symbols.

All that remains of the castle is a small mound of rubble overgrown with grass and bushes. It is located among fish ponds in the Mierzawa River valley, on a small island, distinguished from a distance by a maple tree growing on it. The castle was built in the 14th century by the Sandomierz voivode Mszczuj Koziegłowski from Krzelów, of the Lis coat of arms. Until 1427, it belonged to Niemierz, also from the Lis family, canon of the cathedral and custodian of the St. Florian collegiate church in Kraków. Later, together with the surrounding estates, it passed into the hands of Jan Skrzelowski, of the Topór coat of arms. The castle was probably destroyed during the Swedish Deluge. A plaque placed near the island contains

information that as late as the 18th century it was inhabited by the Ossolińskis. Krzelów belonged to this family, also using the Topór coat of arms, until 1756. At that time, Michał Ossoliński, father of Józef Maksymilian, founder of the Scientific Institute of Ossoliński family in Lviv, he sold these assets to Dominik Wielowieyski.

REKLAMA

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Probably during the Ossolińskis' reign, a manor or palace was built on a hill located a few hundred meters south of the castle, on the fragments of which a new one was built in 1831. At that time, Krzelów was taken over by Jan Count Ledóchowski from his wife Joanna née Wielowieyska. He did not enjoy it for long, because for his major contribution to the vote in the Sejm to dethrone Tsar Nicholas I and for his participation in the November Uprising, the estate was confiscated from him. In 1889, it was acquired by Zygmunt Andrzej Wielopolski, son of Margrave Aleksander, who, like his father, was an advocate of submissiveness to the Tsar and Russia. His second wife Elżbieta née Niezabitowska spent summers in Krzelów. From the "Historical and Economic Monograph of the Jędrzejów District" by Seweryn Borkiewicz and Zygmunt Linowski, we learn that she arranged a park and a large garden here, which were famous for their beautiful flowers, plants and fruit. The last heir of Krzelów was Alfred Wielopolski, son of Zygmunt.

After the war, part of the manor estate was taken over by an agricultural school (currently the Maciej Rataj Continuing Education Centre Complex of Schools). Its auxiliary farm includes former farm buildings and, among others, a 19th-century steward's house. The manor itself has a private owner who plans to turn it into a hotel and catering facility. The single-storey building with an attic and a semicircular porch on the southern side is currently being renovated. Remnants of decorative elements have been preserved on its elevation, with shells and flowers above the doors and windows drawing attention. Galleries connect the manor with two outbuildings. The eastern one has already been renovated. In the western one, which is waiting for renovation, there is a preserved stove with tiles on which coats of arms and mysterious symbols are visible. - One of the historians said that these are Masonic symbols - informs the owner Henryk Herman.

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## How to get there

Krzelów is a village in the Sędziszów commune, access from Sędziszów by road to Mstyczów. The manor house with a park is located on its southern side (50° 33' 26" N, 19° 59' 38"), access to the

island with the remains of the castle by a causeway between ponds from the road from Krzelów to Bugaj (50o 33' 34" N, 19o 59' 12").



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