





The partitions of Poland and the incorporation of Galicia into the Habsburg monarchy resulted in the closure of a number of religious orders in Lemberg and the transfer of their buildings, book collections, and other materials to newly created educational institutions. Lemberg University opened in 1784 at a large building complex formerly belonging to the Trinitarian monastery, northwest of the market square, as indicated by the yellow circle on the map on page 10. The new university operated with state oversight. It was secular and multicultural in its faculty, curriculum, and admissions policies.

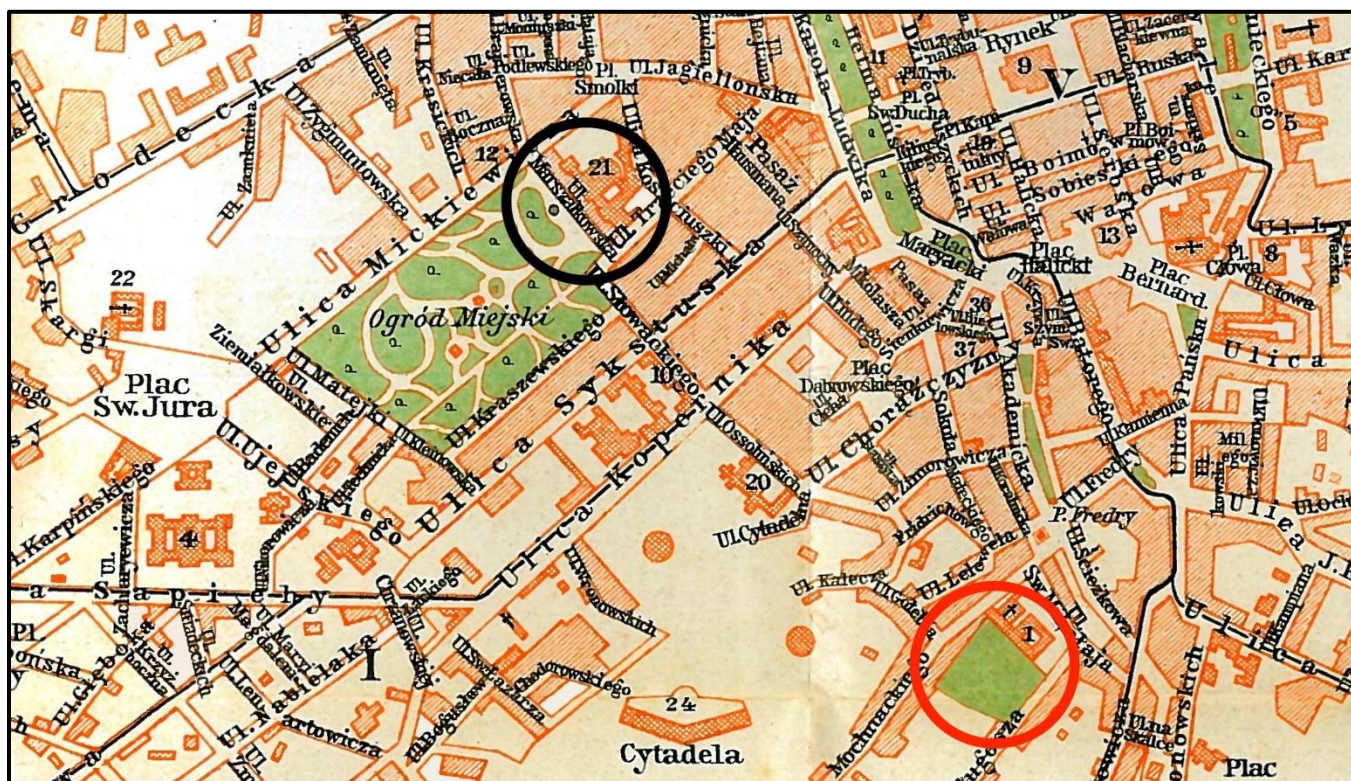
State control became heavier, and starting in 1817, instruction was only in German. The Austrian monarchy struggled with rising national sentiments, and the empire was struck hard by the mid-century Spring of Nations. With Lemberg engaged in the turmoil, the university was damaged as the Austrian army retook the city. Its library collection

of over 50,000 volumes and its academic archives were consumed by fire. Classes were disrupted, and the university was closed for a year.

## Seeking a New Home

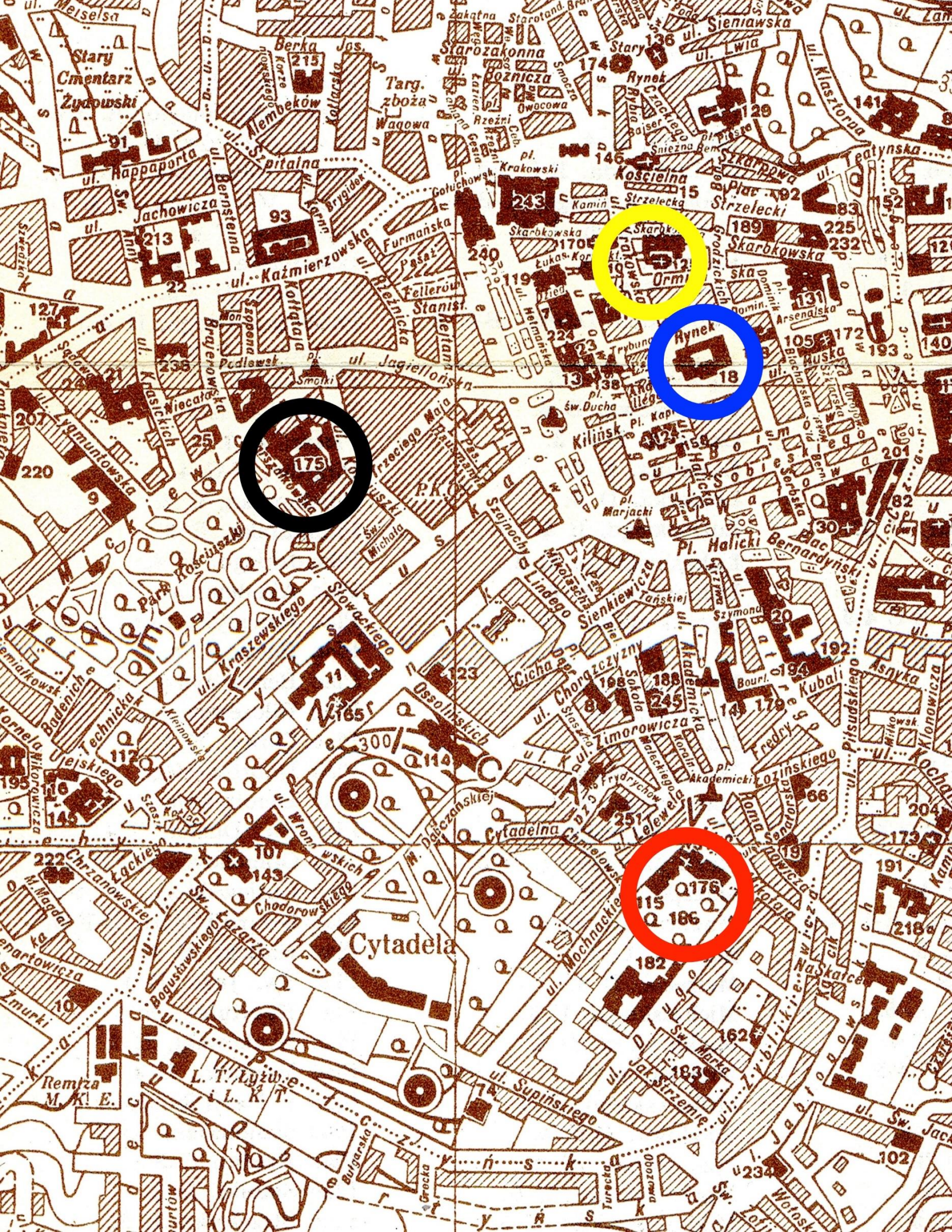
The 1848 revolution led to reforms in university education throughout the Austrian Empire, allowing more local control by university senates. Beginning in 1850, Lemberg University held classes in temporary rooms in the city hall at the center of town. Finally, in the summer of 1851, it moved out to the suburb of Halicz, where a former Jesuit school and one-time military barracks had been reconstructed nine years earlier. This building now served as the center of an expanding university campus in the neighborhood.

Under greater local administration, classes were taught in Polish and Ukrainian, as well as German and Latin. Over the next six decades, the streets flanking the main building saw the construction of



Excerpt from a 1914 map showing the university's post-1851 sites: buildings and garden next to St. Nicholas Church (red circle) and Galician Diet (black circle) (Map image courtesy of Harry Teunnisen and John Steegh)







*Previous page: Excerpt from a 1941 German street map showing all the university locations mentioned in this article (Map image courtesy of Harry Teunissen and John Steegh)*

new classrooms, laboratories, and libraries, and a large open space was developed into a botanical garden. Faculty and student body sizes grew dramatically, from 27 teachers to 169, and from about 700 students to almost 6000 in the 1913/1914 academic year. The red circles on the maps shown on pages 11 and 12 identify the university's location during the period from 1851 to 1923.

After World War I, Galicia became part of the new Second Polish Republic, and the character of Lwów University shifted significantly. The number of students dropped by half and did not rise to earlier levels before the next world war came. But one major change would give the university a foundation to build on: in 1923, the university moved into the former house of the Galician Diet (parliament). Earlier buildings were also retained. The university's locations from its origin through the 1930s are shown on page 12.

### The University Buildings Today

The university, which witnessed difficult times and tragic events from the 1930s to the 1980s, has persevered. Today, in independent Ukraine, Ivan Franko Lviv National University remains centered in the former diet building it moved to almost a century ago. It faces the large one-time Jesuit garden, which has been an open city park since the nineteenth century, and a place where students and professors mingled and relaxed between classes in the interwar period, just as they do now. Beyond the main building, the university still has a presence in many of the buildings it established from 1851 onward. As a modern digitized map on its website shows, the university now occupies nearly two dozen historical and modern buildings, most within walking distance of the main building.

For this study, I used resources on Lviv's architectural history researched for a map project (Lviv Interactive) by Lviv's Center for Urban History of East Central Europe (Lviv Center). I also relied on a detailed history documented by the modern university itself and on the expertise of Andrew Zalewski. Illustrations are from maps on the Gesher Galicia Map Room. Additional historical street maps of Lviv are available from a Lviv Center project called Urban Maps Digital.

## FACES of GALICIA



*Mary Reiss Tinkelman (1889–1947), born in Lemberg, (courtesy of her granddaughter Linda Jones Gibbs, a Gesher Galicia member)*