

CONTENTS

Introduction 9

- I. Warsaw in the time of the Duchy of Warsaw and the Congress Kingdom (1807–1831) 21
 - Images and symbols 21
 - The inception of the Congress Kingdom 26
 - The last years of the Congress Kingdom 31
 - The cultural achievements of the Congress Kingdom 36
- II. The establishment of the University of Warsaw 41
 - Plans for founding a University in Warsaw at the turn of the eighteenth century 41
 - The Nobles' Academy of the Corps of Cadets, or the School of Chivalry 43
 - The founding of the University 53
 - The emblem and banner of the University 58
 - The inauguration of the University 59
 - The functioning and organization of the University 64
 - Rector Wojciech A. Szweykowski 68
 - The University and the Society of Friends of Learning 71
 - The role of Stanisław Kostka Potocki and Stanisław Staszic in organizing education in Warsaw 73
 - The monument to Nicolaus Copernicus 75
- III. The Faculty of Science and Fine Arts – education and art 81
 - The programme of teaching of the “Fine Sciences” 81
 - The historic precinct of the University (the Campus) 83
 - The Botanic Garden and Astronomical Observatory in Aleje Ujazdowskie 96
 - Outstanding Professors of the Faculty of Sciences and Fine Arts 100
 - Fryderyk Chopin's university studies 105
- IV. The Fine Arts Department and its role in shaping the artistic culture of Warsaw 111
 - The impact of the royal collection of sculptures at the turn of the eighteenth century 114

The creation of the scientific and artistic collections of the University	121
The functioning of the Fine Arts Department	127
The scholarship policy of the University	129
The University's exhibitions of Fine Arts	130
The impact of the University's academic circles and of its collections of plaster casts and prints on artistic culture in Warsaw	134
The history of a certain competition topic	138
The amphitheatre, or the painting studio at the University of Warsaw	142
V. The period between the Uprisings and the legacy of the first University of Warsaw	153
The dissolution of the University and the fate of its buildings to the mid-nineteenth century	153
The School of Fine Arts 1844–1862	155
The seat of the School of Fine Arts and its professors	157
On some works of art of mid-nineteenth-century Warsaw	163
VI. The Main School and its legacy	175
Positivist Background	175
The political situation in the Congress Kingdom in the 1860s	176
The organization of the Main School, its structure and functioning	178
The University buildings in the time of the Main School	182
The legacy of the Main School	188
The January Uprising and the students of the Main School	189
The closure of the Main School and opening of the Imperial University	191
The University gate	194
VII. The University of Warsaw in the years 1915–1945	203
On the road to independence and rebirth	203
The functioning of the reborn University	212

The tragedy of the Second World War, the Underground University and the Warsaw Uprising	224
VIII. The University of Warsaw in the People's Republic of Poland (1944/1952–1980)	239
Post-war reconstruction	239
Concerning old photographs, the University's banner and the Rector's insignia	243
Eminent scholars and international congresses	247
Some thoughts on the University Library Print Room	249
March 1968	250
IX. The Solidarity Decade and the rise of the Third Republic	259
Signs of freedom, important visits and new University buildings	268
X. New infrastructure and scientific achievements of the University of Warsaw in the years 2005–2017	285
Epilogue	309
Appendix 1 The Chopins' apartment at the University campus	315
Appendix 2 Stanisław Kostka Potocki. The Founder of the University of Warsaw Museum of the Fine Arts	325
Appendix 3 Letter of artists – professors of the Fine Arts Department of the Royal University of Warsaw	334
Appendix 4 Egyptian mummies and sarcophagi. The University of Warsaw deposit at the National Museum in Warsaw	341
Appendix 5 Nobel Prize laureates linked with the University of Warsaw	345
A calendar of the University of Warsaw's history	354
Bibliography	375
Index	395
List of illustrations	421