

06
2013

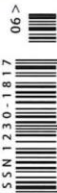
A&B

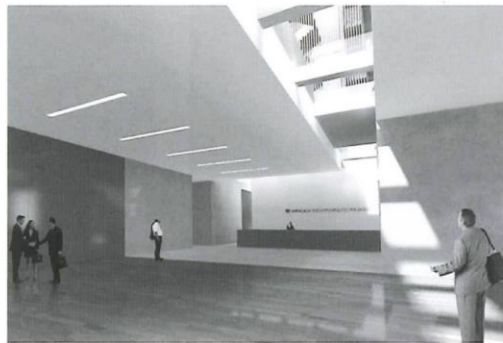
architektura & biznes
www.architekturaibiznes.com.pl

glass

PLN
14.90

INDEX 351008
ISSN 1230-1817
06 >
9 771230 181135





2ND PRIZE

DESIGN:
Wolski Architekci Sp. z o.o.

AUTHORS:
Jerzy Wolski, Jarosław Ambroszkiewicz,
Jarosław Rawerski, Bartosz Wawrzyńczak,
Magdalena Gajda, Cyprian Ozóg-Orzegowski,
Paweł Odwald

JURY OPINION

The work was awarded 2nd prize for its consistent design and clear functional layout for both regular and incidental users of the building. A strong feature of the solution is the disposition of the representative functions and the elegantly resolved form of the open-air reception areas. The design is distinguished by a high degree of discipline, which translates into economical material and operational solutions.

connector – just like it, a tall object of the Willy Brandt Foundation. The commonness and blandness typical of many buildings in East German office architecture is brought to life by the wrought-iron entrance grille, which refers to lime leaves by Fritz Kühn.

The embassy, donated by the Germans in 1964, was relished by the Poles until the late 1990s, when its poor technical condition and the discovery of asbestos in the structure prompted the post to move to a palace in Lassenstrasse (the former Polish military mission) and several other rented offices. At that point, they took the decision to build a new headquarters on the same spot. A competition was held in 1998 for its design, in which the following team of authors won: Marek Budzyński, Zbigniew Badowski and Adam Kowalewski. Their proposal was to retain the existing skeleton of the building, which would receive a new façade at the front, with the first two storeys highlighted by copper cladding and a large state emblem above the main entrance. Three further storeys were to be faced in stone, allowing the top floor to give way once again to copper, which was to be used to cover the superstructure with a high roof – in keeping with the museum building next door. The large inner courtyard was to become an extensive garden adorned with post-modern colonnades, reflected in the glass curtain walls of the building. The

design, which was even given a building permit after alterations and consultations with Berlin officials, could have fit into the surrounding space, but – looking back – we are glad that it was not built. This is because it evokes strong associations with Budzyński's other realisations, including the Supreme Court building, which, while never a masterpiece of form, have aged badly. Finances stood in the way of implementation. In 2004, the Ministry of Foreign Affairs decided not to build a new embassy, at an estimated cost of 170 million zlotys, in order to focus on the renovation of the old building, which also failed to be completed. Years later, the competition design proved to be too large. In 2010, the foreign ministry launched a new competition. It did not, however, award a first prize. Second place was awarded to the consortium of Artur Jasiński and Romuald Loegler from Cracow, who proposed a multifunctional building hidden behind a double façade with the character of a monumental colonnade (the work received 84.77 points out of a possible 100). The lightness of the façade is provided by a highly fragmented vertical division running the full height of the building, crowned diagonally, so as to relate to the neighbouring edifice. Glass, aluminium, sandstone and granite dominated the design. However, the result

of the competition did not satisfy the investor. A third competition was therefore held in March 2012. Their conditions emphasised, among other things, 'the element of uniqueness and originality underlining the building's uniqueness and high rank', as well as 'the dialogue of the new volume with the existing surroundings, its fitting into the existing urban fabric, including above all the relationship of the front elevation to the frontage of the street, the interplay of external and internal spaces'. Thirty-nine works were submitted for the competition. The jury, chaired by the former president of SARP, Jerzy Grochulski, announced the results on 27 November 2012, highly rating the level of the designs. Both the aesthetics and the fact that 'the vast majority of the assessed works used solutions characterised by logical construction and good material dispositions' were appreciated. As intended,