

Dariusz WÓJCIK
Krzysztof KRZYŻANOWSKI
Marek FURMANKIEWICZ

THE KSIĄŻĘCA ADIT IN ZŁOTY STOK

The authors present the history and contemporary state of the dewatering adit called Książęca, located in one of the mountains near Złoty Stok, a mining object which history started probably before 1501. Once the most important facts from the history of the town are presented, the article discusses the meaning of the dewatering adits. Then, the reconstruction of the adit's history and its usage is made on the basis of the mining literature, archival cartographic materials and other documents.

The history of the adit begun probably in the end of the XV century and at the beginning it only had a dewatering function. Some documents mention the adit in XVI century. For the first time the name of the *Fürsten Stollen* adit (Książęca) is used by Heintze in 1817, with reference to XVI century mining fields. The adit is then mentioned in 1674 by Hoffman giving us the precise location of the excavation. More evidence comes from the XVIII century. We also learn that in 1769 the adit collapsed. More detailed information can be found on mining maps which were drawn in 1776 (Fischer), 1802 (Frommelt) or 1817 (Heintze). At the beginning of the XX century the adit changed its function and was used for tourism while its previous function was abandoned. The adit was also used after the 2nd World War, most probably until the early 1960s.

The current condition of the adit is very good, although it cannot be used safely by tourists as it is too narrow. It was verified by the authors during the exploration of the adit in 2013 and 2014. The adit is inhabited by different species of bats and is part of NATURA 2000 European area. It is also officially enlisted as a mining relict.