

Appendix A Biography of Julian Walenty Szychowski

Julian Walenty Szychowski, the third child of Julian Szychowski and Rosalie Krajewska was born 16 Aug 1876 in Lippinken, Kreis Löbau, Westpreußen, Prussia, Germany (now Lipinki, Gmina Biskupiec, Nowe Miasto County, Warmian-Masurian Voivodeship, Poland.)

Julian was to become an attorney, eventually establishing his own practice in Grudziądz. Julian became active in many social and political groups, and after the establishment of the Second Polish Republic, served in numerous political offices, eventually being elected to the national senate for the province of Pomorze

The bestowal of the title “Honorary Citizen of Grudziądz” was instituted in 1923, when the City Council awarded it to Marshal Ferdinand Foch supreme commander of the Allied armies in World War I. In 1932, the title was awarded to Julian Szychowski. In 1938, the City Council awarded the title of Honorary Citizen to Damazy Klimek, for his work on social issues, Aloysius Ruchniewicz, industrialist, and Polish Marshal Edward Rydz Śmigły, Commander-in-Chief of Poland's armed forces, painter, and poet. The award lie dormant during World War II and the People's Republic of Poland, to be resurrected in 1990. Only the tenth individual to be so honored, Pope John Paul II, was selected for the title in 2003.

The following is taken from an address by Andrew Wisniewski, City President of Grudziądz in 2003.

The title of Honorary Citizen [of Grudziądz] was received in 1932 by Julian Szychowski. He was born on 16 August 1876 near Jabłonowo Pomorski [actually in Lipinki.] He belonged to the secret *Związku Filomatów Pomorskich* [Philomatic Society of Pomerania]¹ After completing his studies in 1900 he studied law as well as economics at the universities of Wrocław, Berlin, and Krolewo. During the time of his studies he was a member of secret self-study student organizations. After graduation he worked in the German courts in Marburg, Frankfurt am Main, and Kassel. In 1909 he came to Grudziądz, and established a law practice. He defended primarily Poles before the Prussian courts in numerous lawsuits, including the editors of *Gazety Grudziądzkiej*. From the year 1910 he was a member of the singing society *Lutnia* and its first board president. He joined the Polish Industrial Society, the People's Society, and the *Sokół* gymnastic society. In December 1912 he was one of the founders of the Society Circle of Singers of West Prussia in Grudziądz and became vice chairman of its board. In the year 1913 he joined the National People's Party in Bydgoszcz and was a member of the National Council in Poznań.

During the First World War he lived in Grudziądz. After the war he was a member of the Polish National Council for the city of Grudziądz, organizer and leader of the People's Guard, delegate to the Polish District Sejm [Parliament] in Poznań (5 December 1918), alternate delegate to the Polish government for the vicinity of the Grudziądz municipality, as well as chairman of the Commission to

welcome the Polish Army to Grudziądz on 23 January 1920. [On that date, in accordance with the Treaty of Versailles, Grudziądz became part of the newly created Polish Republic, although a majority of the inhabitants were ethnic Germans.]² In the interwar period he was for many years president of the City Council in Grudziądz, and also Speaker of the Provincial Assembly of Torun. On 6 November 1922 with the arm of the National Workers Party he was elected to the senate for the province of Pomorze [Pomerania.] In 1928 he was decorated with the Officer Cross of the Order of the Rebirth of Poland, and in 1932 he received the title of Papal Chamberlain. He was also a papal cavalier of the Order of St. Sylvester. After the outbreak of the Second World War, he left for Canada. He died 24 September 1951 and was buried in the cemetery in Brandford (sic) [Brantford, Ontario.] His wife Zofia Pałubicki Szychowska was murdered by the Germans in Grudziądz, 11 November 1939 on Księżych Górach [east of Grudziądz.]³

A 22 Dec 1929 letter from Julian's sister, Olympia Szychowska, to her cousin Walenty Tejkowski recounts a recent visit from her home in Lipinki to Julian in Grudziądz. It mentions that Julian has three children. The oldest son had recently graduated high school and joined the army. The younger son and daughter (aged 16) and daughter were both still in high school. Interestingly, the letter is written on Julian's office stationery, which gives his law office address as: Szychowski, Attorney and Notary, Grudziądz, Mickewicza 1.⁴



Figure 1

Placing wreaths on the coffin of the Polish poet and patriot Juliusz Słowacki by Mayor Józef Włodka and Senator Julian Szychowski (fourth from left) (June 1927)^{5 6}



Figure 2
Julian Szychowski
Date Unknown⁷

Julian died 20 Sep 1951 in Waterford, Townsend Township, Norfolk County, Ontario, Canada. It appears he was residing with his daughter at the time. According to his death certificate, from information provided by his daughter, Julian had resided in Canada for three years as of the time of his death. He was buried 22 Sep 1951 in St. Joseph Cemetery, Brantford, Waterford, Ontario, Canada.



Julian's portrait, along with the other Honorary Citizens of the City was installed in the Grudziądz city hall in 2010.⁸ Portraits, by artist Maja Wolf of Torun included: Pope John Paul II, Marshal (of France and Poland) Ferdinand Foch, Julian Szychowski, Damazy Klimek, Aloysius Ruchniewicz, Marshal (of Poland) Edward Rydz-Śmigły, Salome Sujkowska, Captain John Ładoś, Bronisław Malinowski, Fr. Zdzisław Peszkowski, and Dr. Louis Rydygier.

Figure 3
Julian Szychowski Portrait
Grudziądz City Hall

¹ The Philomathic (Love of Learning) Society of Pomerania was the name used for clandestine youth associations operating at the Prussian secondary schools (gymnasiums), mainly in Gdańsk and Pomerania between 1830 and 1920. When Pomeranian Philomath activity was discovered by the Prussian government in 1900, police arrested and brought to trial dozens of students and clerics. The Philomathic movement originated in Vilnius in the Russian partition in 1817. Originally the interest of the Society was self-education, but it was to eventually take a more active role in restoring Poland's independence, and new social and political goals emerged.

<http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Philomaths> <http://www.kohr.kujawsko-pomorskie.pl/Dzieje-regionu/Wazne-wydarzenia/Dzialalnosc-filomatow-pomorskich>

² <http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Grudzi%C4%85dz>

³ http://www.gruziadz.kik.opoka.org.pl/tkch04_cz3b.html (Polish, translation by Emil J. Tejkowski.)

⁴ Olimpia Szychowska, Letter, to Wicek [Wincenty] Tejkowski, Lipinki, 22 Dec 1929. (Polish, translation by Krystyna K. Matusiak.) S25

⁵ Likely photographed on the Vistula River near Grudziądz. **Słowacki's** (d. Paris, 1849) body was repatriated from France, transported up the Vistula, and reburied in Krakow.

⁶ <http://www.audiovis.nac.gov.pl/obraz/29010/>

⁷ <http://www.gruziadz.pl/porta1.php?aid=120521976847d631b872493>

⁸ <http://blog.majawolf.pl/index.php/2010/09/portrety-honorowych-obywateli-w-urzedzie-miasta-gruziadz/>