



Jacek Puchalski

University of Warsaw

[jacek.puchalski@interia.pl](mailto:jacek.puchalski@interia.pl)

 ORCID 0000-0003-2023-6988

<https://doi.org/10.33077/uw.25448730.zbkh.2022.739>

## Bibliology (book science) and its practical applications in the works of Professor Barbara Bieńkowska (1934–2022)<sup>1</sup>

**Abstract:** Professor Barbara Bieńkowska (1934–2022), among others director of the Institute of Library and Information Science at the University of Warsaw (1981–1987), president of the Polish Bibliological Society (1989–2003, since 2003 honorary president of PTB), member and chairwoman of the scientific and program councils of many scientific institutions and editorial boards, left behind more than 170 articles and books. Among them, there is no shortage of publications of fundamental importance to the development of Polish bibliology, to its achievements, theory and methodology. This article focuses on B. Bieńkowska’s studies of the history of Polish books and historical book collections, research on the losses of Polish libraries during World War II, as well as the scientific registration and documentation of Polish and Polonia’s collections and Polish writing collections remaining outside Poland.

**Key words:** Bieńkowska Barbara (1934–2022) – bibliology – book science – historical bibliology – history of books and libraries – losses of Polish libraries during World War II – Polish and Polonia’s collections and Polonica outside Poland

**Słowa kluczowe:** Bieńkowska Barbara (1934–2022) – bibliologia – wiedza o książce – bibliologia historyczna – historia książki i bibliotek – straty bibliotek polskich podczas II wojny światowej – zbiory polskie, polonijne i polonica poza granicami Polski

---

<sup>1</sup> Being the editor of the journal “Studies into the History of the Book and Book Collections”, I am publishing this (peer-reviewed) text on its pages as an exception. I do so for three reasons: firstly, as a student of Professor B. Bieńkowska; secondly, Bieńkowska founded our journal in 1975; thirdly, primarily because of Bieńkowska’s scholarly achievements, her contribution to the development of Polish bibliology.

Prof. Barbara Bieńkowska (1934–2022) began her scientific work under the guidance of prominent Polish scholars – classical philologist Kazimierz Kumaniecki (1905–1977; supervisor of Bieńkowska’s master’s degree in classical philology, 1955) and historian Stanisław Herbst (1907–1973; promoter of her doctorate in history, 1964). Bieńkowska’s independence and scientific position were confirmed by her habilitation dissertation “Copernicus and heliocentrism in Polish mental culture until the end of the 18<sup>th</sup> century” (“Kopernik i heliocentryzm w polskiej kulturze umysłowej do końca XVIII wieku”), defended in 1970, which included an analysis of the penetration of Copernican theory into public consciousness.

### The role of a book in Polish culture

For the next two decades, as a research and teaching fellow at the Institute of Library and Information Science at the University of Warsaw, in her research B. Bieńkowska focused on the history of books and book collections in the context of their function and socio-cultural significance, particularly studying their role in the development of knowledge. An important inspiration for her were the thoughts on the history of the book as an object of scientific research of another of Bieńkowska’s masters – the historian of science and philosophy, bibliologist and librarian Aleksander Birkenmajer (1890–1967)<sup>2</sup>. B. Bieńkowska’s scientific works has resulted in a number of important studies. Namely, she described the old book culture in Poland in the monograph *The Old Polish World of Book* (*Staropolski świat książek*, Wrocław 1976), while the general coverage of the book’s history and contemporaneity were the joint publications of Bieńkowska and Halina Chamerska (1922–2008)<sup>3</sup> – to date, the only synthesis of the history of the Polish book that has been published in English: *Books in Poland: past and present* (Wiesbaden 1990)<sup>4</sup>, and a popularizing study *A Thousand Years of Books and Libraries in Poland* (*Tysiąc lat książki i bibliotek w Polsce*, Wrocław 1992). The two authors also prepared a synthesis of the book’s general history, published under the title *An outline of the history of the book* (*Zarys dziejów książki*, Warszawa 1987). The last

---

2 See B. Bieńkowska, *Aleksandra Birkenmajera koncepcja historii książki* [Alexander Birkenmajer’s concept of book history], “Przegląd Biblioteczny” 1978, No. 2, pp. 155–162; eadem, *Autorytet Mistrza: wspomnienie o Profesorze Aleksandrze Birkenmajerze w czterdziestolecie śmierci* [The authority of a Master: a memoir about Professor Aleksander Birkenmajer on the 40<sup>th</sup> anniversary of his death], “Roczniki Biblioteczne” 2007, Vol. 51, pp. 35–41.

3 See D. Riabinin, *Halina Chamerska (1922–2008)*, [in:] *Teoretycy i praktycy polskiego bibliotekarstwa* [Theorists and practitioners of Polish librarianship], ed. M. Lenartowicz, Warszawa 2012, pp. 32–35.

4 Ed. and transl. W. Zalewski, E.R. Payne, Wiesbaden 1990.

published work of B. Bieńkowska in this field was *A book throughout history* (*Książka na przestrzeni dziejów*, Warszawa 2005), prepared in collaboration with Elizabeth Maruszak.

Increasingly abundant Polish and foreign bibliological literature has contributed to the creation of the aforementioned studies, representing, according to Bieńkowska's term, both "bibliology sensu largo" (the study of the structure and properties of communication through graphic recording) and "bibliology sensu stricto" (knowledge of the external features of a book, the ability to analyze and describe them)<sup>5</sup>. In the case of the history of the book in Poland, the literature unevenly covered different historical periods, regions, sub-regions and local centers. Research on historical book collections has played a special role in expanding knowledge about the past of the book in Poland, its function and socio-cultural significance. Analyzing these studies, B. Bieńkowska found that many of them belong to the "external" layer of research on historical book collections – many of these works presented the circumstances of the establishment, the conditions of operation and the role of libraries, without an in-depth analysis of the book collections themselves<sup>6</sup>. In order to direct and dynamize research work in this field, B. Bieńkowska established in 1975 at the Institute of Library Science and Scientific Information (since 1997 the Institute of Scientific Information and Bibliological Studies) at the University of Warsaw the publishing series "From the History of Polish Historical Book Collections" ("Z Badań nad Polskimi Księgozbiorami Historycznymi") – since 2005, the magazine published under the title of "Studies into the History of the Book and Book Collections" ("Z Badań nad Książką i Księgozbiorami Historycznymi"). In the introduction to the first issue of the series, she wrote:

Without the most complete possible scientific registration of the centers of book culture, without creating a map of them confronting the maps of other intellectual centers of old Poland, we will not be able to answer the question of what role books played in shaping the intellectual, artistic and moral culture of Polish society in the past. In turn, without this foundation, we cannot determine the function of the book in our society now and in the future. Thus, the current state of knowledge requires, first of all, as extensive and comprehensive as possible, but focused, organized and methodologically disciplined source research, leading to the detection and interpretation of as many traces of the presence of the book in ancient

---

5 B. Bieńkowska, *Bibliologia i okolice* [*Bibliology and surroundings*], [in:] *E scientia et amicitia. Studia poświęcone prof. Edwardowi Potkowskiemu w sześćdziesięciopięciolatecie urodzin i czterdziestolecie pracy naukowej* [*Studies dedicated to Professor Edward Potkowski on the sixty-fifth anniversary of his birth and forty years of scientific work*], ed. M. Drzewiecki, Warszawa-Pułtusk 1999, p. 45.

6 B. Bieńkowska, *Inwentarze księgozbiorów prywatnych jako źródła do badań nad dziejami czytelnictwa* [*Inventories of private book collections as sources for research on the history of reading*], "Studia o Książce" 1989, Vol. 18, pp. 65–76.

Poland. Our historical collections were catastrophically destroyed and dispersed. We currently only have an unknown percentage of the unknown total.

But, paradoxical though it may seem, we are relatively better at knowing what we have lost than what we currently have. This is because not all collections of manuscripts and old prints are yet covered by the basic registration, a negligible number have been examined in terms of provenance, only a few collections have lived to see a monographic study. Particularly important here is the work on specialized information and documentation of collections. But, after all, historical collections can furthermore answer many very complex questions, especially in the field of the reception of ideas and the history of social mentality. The results obtained through the study of book collections by bibliological methods perfectly complement and enrich the knowledge gained through other means<sup>7</sup>.

Bieńkowska's great concern was the methodological correctness of the studies undertaken, the proper scientific workshop of bibliologists, hence in the pages of "From the History of Polish Historical Book Collections" as editor she published such important texts, such as Maria Sipayłło's article (1975) on the method of provenance research of old prints<sup>8</sup>. This text is constantly referred to by researchers<sup>9</sup> and used in university didactics. B. Bieńkowska herself has also repeatedly published her thoughts on the methodology of bibliological studies. Her articles, such as those published in the second half of the 1980s. – indicating the directions of research on the history of books and historical book collections (1986)<sup>10</sup>, taking into account the need to develop regional studies (1988)<sup>11</sup> – contributed to a number of studies based on properly used source materials, published among others just in the pages of "From the History of Polish Historical Book Collections". The timeliness, vitality of the mentioned texts is evidenced by the fact that they are quoted by contemporary researchers<sup>12</sup>.

7 Own translation, see: "Z Badań nad Polskimi Księgozbiorami Historycznymi" 1975, Vol. 1, p. 5.

8 M. Sipayłło, *O metodzie badań proveniencyjnych starych druków* [On the method of provenance research of old prints], "Z Badań nad Polskimi Księgozbiorami Historycznymi" 1975, Vol. 1, pp. 9–30.

9 See e.g. A. Franczyk-Cegła, *O zadaniach i metodologii badań proveniencyjnych w bibliologii na przykładzie badań nad kolekcją Baworowianum* [On the tasks and methodology of provenance research in bibliography on the example of the study of the Baworowianum collection], "Bibliotheca Nostra. Śląski Kwartalnik Naukowy" 2018, No. 4(54), pp. 69–84.

10 B. Bieńkowska, *Kilka uwag i propozycji w sprawie badań księgozbiorów historycznych* [Some comments and suggestions on researching historical book collections], "Studia o Książce" 1986, Vol. 16, pp. 3–17.

11 B. Bieńkowska, *Badania regionalne w historiografii książki* [Regional research in book historiography], "Studia o Książce" 1988, Vol. 17, pp. 17–33.

12 See e.g. M. Bartoszek, *Woluminy z nieznanymi rękopiśmiennymi dedykacjami dla prymasa Wojciecha Baranowskiego* [Volumes with unknown manuscript dedications to Primate Wojciech Baranowski], "Biblioteka" 2018, No. 22 (31), p. 60; I. Ciborowska-Rymarowicz, *Provenanc-*

In the pages of “From the History of Polish Historical Book Collections” also published articles of students who, under the guidance of B. Bieńkowska, at a seminar conducted at the Institute of Library and Information Science at the University of Warsaw, wrote theses on the history of libraries and home book collections. Methodologically correct and based on rich source material, these articles have been cited by researchers in historical bibliology<sup>13</sup>.

Thanks in part to her contributions to the theory and methodology of the discipline<sup>14</sup>, Bieńkowska was able to state in 2010 that: “Bibliology appears in their [other sciences] light not only as a fully formed independent scientific discipline, but also one that is constantly expanding its scope of competence”<sup>15</sup>, as well as needed for other scientific disciplines. Indeed, bibliological research is interdisciplinary<sup>16</sup> and largely comparative<sup>17</sup> in nature. Therefore, important in the scientific output of B. Bieńkowska are works precisely from the borderline of bibliology and history of science, showing the close relationship between these two disciplines and at the same time their cultural aspect. In them, she pointed out how important a role the book has played in the history of science<sup>18</sup>. According to B. Bieńkowska, historical bibliological studies in particular serve to “not only to their own discipline, but also to other fields of science, especially the humanities and social sciences”. The oeuvre of bibliology must therefore “constitute an essential component of the science of culture and society”<sup>19</sup>, as well

---

*es of Early Printed Books from the Library of the Berdychiv Monastery of Discalced Carmelites*, “Z Badań nad Książką i Księgozbiorami Historycznymi” 2019, Vol. 13, p. 146.

13 See e.g. B., Koredczuk, *Udział inteligencji prawniczej Królestwa Polskiego w kształtowaniu kultury książki (1815–1915)* [*Participation of the legal intelligentsia of the Kingdom of Poland in the formation of book culture (1815–1915)*], Wrocław 2011, p. 14.

14 The importance of Bieńkowska’s work in this area is recognized by other researchers, see e.g. I. Socha, *Nauka o książce w Polsce w latach 1945–2015. Teoretyczne źródła inspiracji* [*Book science in Poland 1945–2015. Theoretical sources of inspiration*], “Roczniki Biblioteczne” 2016, Vol. 60, pp. 41–70.

15 Own translation, see: B. Bieńkowska, *Bibliologia dyscypliną rozwojową* [*Bibliology a development discipline*], [in:] *Bibliologia i informatologia* [*Bibliology and information science*], ed. D. Kuźmina, Warszawa 2011, p. 15.

16 This has been a fairly common view in world bibliology since the 1980s., see e.g. articles from a collective publication: *Histoires du livre: Nouvelles orientations: Actes du Colloque du 6 et 7 septembre 1990 Göttingen*, ed. H.E. Bödeker, Paris 1995.

17 See e.g. J. Pirożyński, *Nowe kierunki w zagranicznych badaniach nad dawną książką* [*New trends in foreign research on old book*], “Historyka” 1996, Vol. 26, pp. 71–87.

18 See among others B. Bieńkowska, *Metody bibliologiczne w badaniach dziejów nauki* [*Bibliological methods in the study of the history of science*], “Kwartalnik Historii Nauki i Techniki” 1989, No. 2, pp. 331–342.

19 Own translation, see: B. Bieńkowska, *Zastosowania i konteksty wiedzy o książce* [*Applications and contexts of book knowledge*], [in:] *Wiedza o książce w nauce i dydaktyce: konferencja Warszawa 16–17 listopada 1999 r.* [*Book knowledge in science and didactics: conference Warsaw November 16–17, 1999*], ed. M. Kisilowska, J. Puchalski, D. Kuźmina, Warszawa 2000, p. 56. See also among others K. Migoń, *Kultura książki. Program dla bibliologii i potrzeba dla studiów bib-*

as the sciences of communication, literature, psychology, sociology and pedagogy, and above all, this body of work is an integral part of historical knowledge, the history of literature, the history of art or culture<sup>20</sup>. The book, “as a carrier of content, a channel for the travel of ideas, a means of influence, also occupies ideologues and politicians of all times and orientations”, Bieńkowska added <sup>21</sup>.

These links of bibliology reflect to some extent the studies offered to B. Bieńkowska in two collective publications – *Bibliology an Integrating Discipline (Bibliologia dyscypliną integrującą*, Warszawa 1993)<sup>22</sup> and *Books have their own history (Książki mają swoją historię*, Warszawa 2021)<sup>23</sup>, which included articles by domestic and foreign authors on the theory and practice of bibliology and library science; the history of books and the press; the history of book collections, libraries and reading; and the history of science.

The body of work in historical bibliology was successfully applied by Bieńkowska and her colleagues in their work on the history of libraries and private book collections during World War II.

### Book collections destroyed, dispersed, relocated and seized – documentation of losses of Polish libraries during World War II

One of the important research areas of historiography is the study of the effects of World War II on culture, including the history and consequences of the devastation and looting of cultural property. Between 1939 and 1945, many libraries of all types were destroyed – under various circumstances, entire libraries or their collections, premises, equipment, documentation were lost. The collections were also subject to displacement. As a result, they were dispersed, collections were broken up, and library inventories and catalogs were lost<sup>24</sup>.

Due to their importance to social life, culture, science and education, libraries in Poland became subject to destruction, carried out by both German and Soviet occupiers. Also contributing to the disorganization of some of the surviving book collections were the post-war actions of the communist authorities in Poland,

---

*liotekoznawczych [Book Culture. A program for bibliology and a need for library science studies]*, [in:] *Nauka o książce, bibliotece i informacji we współczesnym świecie [Book, library and information science in the modern world]*, ed. M. Banacka. Warszawa 2003, pp. 11–20.

20 B. Bieńkowska, *Metody bibliologiczne... [Bibliological methods...]*, op. cit.

21 B. Bieńkowska, *Zastosowania i konteksty... [Applications and contexts...]*, p. 56.

22 A special volume of the series “From the History of Polish Historical Book Collections” published under the editorship of Marianna Mlekicka.

23 Ed. J. Puchalski.

24 On this topic, see, among others, B. Bieńkowska, *Księgozbiory rozproszone, przemieszczone i przejęte. Problemy zabezpieczenia, dokumentacji i informacji [Dispersed, displaced and seized book collections. Problems of preservation, documentation and information]*, “Z Badań nad Polskimi Księgozbiorami Historycznymi” 1993, Vol. 15, pp. 5–12.



such as the relocation and parceling out of collections and the destruction of parts of them<sup>25</sup>.

Wartime library losses were the subject of documentation and research aimed at estimating them even during the occupation of Poland. This work continued immediately after the end of the war. However, according to B. Bieńkowska:

especially with the end of the 1940s and the beginning of the 1950s, this task could no longer be accomplished according to accepted scientific principles. The primacy of unilateral, ad hoc political goals has derailed the possibility of objectively determining the size and qualitative rank of the lost libraries. The data established at that time were «accepted» in the [Polish] literature and were not later verified. Admittedly, they were no longer needed in political practice, as the possibility of compensating for the damage diminished year by year with the diminishing chances of signing a peace treaty with Germany in which the problem could be resolved. On the other hand, the nature of [the Polish People's Republic's] relations with the other perpetrator of the damage, the USSR [Union of Soviet Socialist Republics], precluded the possibility of officially addressing the issue at all<sup>26</sup>.

Only the changes of the late 1980s and early 1990s, that is, the disintegration of the so-called “Eastern Bloc” consisting of the countries of Central and Eastern Europe that were in the USSR's sphere of influence, created an opportunity in Poland to undertake work aimed at a reliable and definitive analysis of the war losses suffered, including by libraries. In 1990, the Plenipotentiary of Poland's Government for Polish Cultural Heritage Abroad was established at the Ministry of Culture and Art in Warsaw. The Plenipotentiary began cooperation with the Polish Bibliological Society (PTB, founded in 1989 among others on the initiative of B. Bieńkowska<sup>27</sup>), of which Bieńkowska was president at the time. The PTB attached great importance to the issue of library collections destroyed, seized and displaced as a result of World War II. Therefore, at the inspiration

---

25 See among others P. Buchwald-Pelcowa, *Powojenne wędrówki starych druków w Polsce* [Post-war wanderings of old prints in Poland], [in:] *Symposia bibliologiczne. Dokumentacja księgozbiorów historycznych – współpraca krajowa i międzynarodowa. Skutki II wojny światowej dla bibliotek polskich* [Documentation of historical book collections – national and international cooperation. The effects of World War II on Polish libraries], ed. H. Łaskarzewska, A. Mężyński, Warszawa 1995, pp. 151–159.

26 Own translation, see: *Straty bibliotek w czasie II wojny światowej w granicach Polski z 1945 roku. Wstępny raport o stanie wiedzy* [Losses of libraries during World War II within 1945 Polish borders. Preliminary state of the art report]. Parts 1–2, ed. A. Mężyński, Warszawa 1994, p. 13.

27 A. Mężyński, *Polskie Towarzystwo Bibliologiczne. Szkic historyczny* [Polish Bibliological Society. Historical sketch], [in:] *Książki mają swoją historię. Studia ofiarowane Profesor Barbarze Bieńkowskiej* [Books have their own history. Studies Donated to Professor Barbara Bieńkowska], ed. J. Puchalski et al., Warszawa 2021, pp. 52–76. See also B. Koredeczuk, *Badania nad książką, biblioteką i informacją w kręgu towarzystw naukowych* [Book, library and information research in the circle of scientific societies], Wrocław 2021, pp. 87–88.

of B. Bieńkowska and as a result of the Society's efforts, in 1990 the Book Collections Documentation Workshop was established at the National Library in Warsaw, which was to among others collect data on historical book collections in Polish libraries, on Polish historical book collections in foreign libraries, and to keep records of these book collections<sup>28</sup>. A year later, in November 1991, the Office of the Plenipotentiary of Poland's Government for Polish Cultural Heritage Abroad (BPD) began work, among others to undertake the registration of wartime Polish cultural losses. In February 1992, a workstation for library documentation was created in the Office, and in time a Library Team working under the leadership of B. Bieńkowska. His task was to prepare a summary of the losses of book collections caused by the German occupiers in the territories of Poland within the 1945 borders, using primarily the achievements of bibliology and its methodology<sup>29</sup>. In creating the Library Team, they drew on the experience of the PTB community and the Book collections Documentation Workshop, already having a track record of documenting historical book collections and researching the history of libraries<sup>30</sup>.

The result of the BPD Library Team's work was presented in a preliminary report published in 1994: *Losses of libraries during World War II within 1945 Polish borders (Straty bibliotek w czasie II wojny światowej w granicach Polski z 1945 roku*, Warszawa 1994), compiled with the participation of B. Bieńkowska and published under the scientific editorship of Andrzej Mężyński<sup>31</sup>. The data from this report has been corrected in the *Guide to the Loss of Libraries and Household Book Collections in Polish Occupied Territories in 1939–1945 (excluding the Eastern Territories)*<sup>32</sup>, published in 2000 in Poznan under the scientific editorship of Bieńkowska. In the end, the amount of losses in library collections in central and western Poland under German occupation during the war, documented by the BPD Library Team, amounted to more than 22 million

28 H. Łaskarzewska, *Pracownia Dokumentacji Księgozbiorów Historycznych w Dziale Zbiorów Specjalnych Biblioteki Narodowej* [Book collections Documentation Workshop in the Special Collections Department of the National Library], "Z Badań nad Polskimi Księgozbiorami Historycznymi" 1993, Vol. 15, p. 13.

29 B. Bieńkowska, *Zastosowanie bibliologii w pracach Biura Pełnomocnika Rządu do Spraw Polskiego Dziedzictwa Kulturalnego za Granicą* [Applications of bibliology in the work of the Office of the Plenipotentiary of Poland's Government for Polish Cultural Heritage Abroad], "Roczniki Biblioteczne" 1998, Vol. 42, pp. 21–36.

30 See H. Łaskarzewska, *Polskie Towarzystwo Bibliologiczne. Dwanaście lat działań na rzecz bibliologii polskiej* [Polish Bibliological Society. Twelve years of activities for Polish bibliology], "EBIB" 2002, No. 11(40), [online] <http://www.ebib.pl/2002/40/laskarzewska.php> [Accessed 14.11.2022].

31 See also B. Bieńkowska, *Losses of Polish libraries during world war II*, [transl. K. Cękańska], Warszawa 1994.

32 *Informator: o stratach bibliotek i księgozbiorów domowych na terenach Polskich okupowanych w latach 1939–1945 (bez Ziem Wschodnich)*.



volumes, including more than 5 million in specialized libraries (among others scientific libraries). It is estimated that this was about 70% of the total library holdings that existed in the area before the war. To this must be added the demolition, burning or damage to library buildings documented by the BPD Library Team, the destruction or devastation of their equipment, and the loss of library documentation, including inventories, catalogs and directories. Poland also lost more than 5,000 libraries with some 9–10 million volumes, including at least 621 specialized libraries that ended up outside its borders, in the republics of the USSR, after the war. Their list, along with data on the state of the collections before September 1939, was published in the guidebook *Libraries in the Eastern Lands of the Second Polish Republic (Biblioteki na wschodnich ziemiach II Rzeczypospolitej*, Poznań 1998), also compiled by the BPD Library Team under the scientific editorship of B. Bieńkowska.

However, it should be emphasized that the value of the aforementioned publications was not limited to the quantitative data contained in them. In fact, they caused a discussion among Polish bibliologists<sup>33</sup>. Some scholars have pointed out, namely, the need to undertake research into the fate of the so-called “secured” collections after the war, including post-German and manor houses<sup>34</sup>, as well of the problem of restitution of cultural property and the history of libraries of religious associations and national minorities – Jewish, German, Ukrainian, Belarusian and Lithuanian<sup>35</sup>. And indeed in the following years such studies were produced<sup>36</sup>. That the documentary work of the Team

33 See among others B. Bieńkowska, *Wokół raportu o stratach bibliotek polskich w czasie II wojny światowej. Problematyka bibliologiczna* [Around the report on the losses of Polish libraries during World War II. Bibliological problems], [in:] *Symposia bibliologica...*, pp. 85–92.

34 See among others P. Buchwald-Pelcowa, op. cit.

35 Z. Jaroszewicz-Pierśławcew, *W poszukiwaniu księgozbiorów historycznych mniejszości narodowych istniejących przed 1939 r.* [In search of historical book collections of national minorities existing before 1939], [in:] *Symposia bibliologica...*, pp. 55–61.

36 E.g. J. Plis, *Księgozbiory rozproszone. Problemy prawne i biblioteczne* [Dispersed book collections. Legal and library problems], “Archiwa, Biblioteki i Muzea Kościelne” 1996, Vol. 66, pp. 405–445; H. Łaskarzewska, *Zbiory przejęte i przemieszczone w bibliotekach polskich po drugiej wojnie światowej. Problemy własności, przykłady rozwiązań* [Collections seized and displaced in Polish libraries after World War II. Problems of ownership, examples of solutions], [in:] *Własność a dobra kultury* [Property versus cultural assets], ed. G. Czubek, P. Kosiewski, Warszawa 2006, pp. 15–47; R. Nowicki, *Rola katowickiej Zbiornicy Księgozbiorów Zabezpieczonych w powojennej ochronie zbiorów bibliotecznych w Polsce* [The role of the Warehousing Centre for Protected Book Collections in Katowice in the post-war protection of library collections in Poland], Bydgoszcz 2015; D. Matelski, *Losy polskich dóbr kultury w Rosji i ZSRR. Próby restytucji: archiwa – księgozbiory – dzieła sztuki – pomniki* [The fate of Polish cultural property in Russia and the USSR. Attempts at restitution: archives – book collections – works of art. – monuments], Poznań 2003; Z. Gębołyś, *Losy księgozbiorów niemieckich w Polsce po II wojnie światowej. Rekonesans badawczy* [The fate of German book collections in Poland after World War II. A research reconnaissance], [in:] *Księgozbiory rozproszone. Losy księgozbiorów historycznych po II wojnie światowej. Materiały z konferencji naukowej zorganizowanej przez Muzeum Zamkowe w Malborku 19 października 2012 roku* [Dis-

can be helpful in researching the history of libraries in particular regions and localities has been proven, for example, by the publications of scholars working with it on the wartime fate of Lviv libraries by Maciej Matwijow (1996)<sup>37</sup>, Krakow libraries by Piotr Lechowski (1999)<sup>38</sup>, or Warsaw libraries by Andrzej Mężyński (2010)<sup>39</sup>. Problems with estimating wartime losses of Polish libraries also made researchers aware of the need for an in-depth look at the sources for the history of libraries in the first half of the 20<sup>th</sup> century, especially documentary records of various types, so far rarely used, although there was an awareness among Polish and foreign historians of their usefulness<sup>40</sup>. On the subject of source science problems (the massiveness of the sources and at the same time their lack of their typology, external and internal criticism) that arose during the work of the BPD Library Team and on the conclusions arising from these problems, important for bibliological research, wrote B. Bieńkowska herself<sup>41</sup>, and her students and colleagues, often inspired by her<sup>42</sup>.

---

*persed book collections. The fate of historical book collections after World War II. Materials from a scientific conference organized by the Castle Museum in Malbork on October 19, 2012*], ed. A. Siuciak, Malbork 2015, pp. 157–172; S. Iwaniak, *Ziemiańskie dobra kulturowe w województwie kieleckim (1944–1946)* [*Landowners cultural property in Kielce voivodeship (1944–1946)*], Kielce 1996.

37 M. Matwijow, *Walka o lwowskie dobra kultury w latach 1945–1948* [*The struggle for Lviv's cultural assets in 1945–1948*], Wrocław 1996.

38 P. Lechowski, *Biblioteki Krakowa w okresie okupacji niemieckiej 1939–1945* [*Libraries of Krakow during the German occupation of 1939–1945*], Kraków 1999.

39 A. Mężyński, *Kommando Paulsen. Grabież polskich dóbr kultury podczas II wojny światowej* [*Kommando Paulsen. Looting of Polish cultural property during World War II*], Wrocław 2000; *Biblioteki naukowe w Generalnym Gubernatorstwie w latach 1939–1945. Wybór dokumentów źródłowych* [*Scientific libraries in the General Government 1939–1945. A selection of source documents*] = *Wissenschaftliche Bibliotheken im Generalgouvernement in den Jahren 1939–1945. Ausgewählte Quellendokumente*, ed. A. Mężyński with co-pr. H. Łaskarzewska, Warszawa 2003.

40 See e.g. L. Byberg, *Library history revisited: research areas and methodology*, [in:] *Conference proceedings. 65th IFLA Council and General Conference Bangkok, Thailand, August 20 – August 28, 1999*, [online] <https://archive.ifla.org/IV/ifla65/papers/132–84e.htm> [Accessed 14.11.2022].

41 B. Bieńkowska, *Potyczki ze źródłami bibliologicznymi (na przykładzie urzędowej dokumentacji strat bibliotek w Polsce podczas II wojny światowej)* [*Skirmishes with bibliological sources (on the example of official documentation of losses of libraries in Poland during World War II)*], “Roczniki Biblioteczne” 2001, Vol. 45, pp. 3–28.

42 Among others J. Plis, *Źródła dotyczące strat bibliotek w czasie II wojny światowej. Ocena ich wiarygodności* [*Sources on library losses during World War II. An assessment of their reliability*], [in:] *Symposia bibliologica...*, pp. 139–150; U. Paszkiewicz, *Wybrane problemy dokumentacji zbiorów bibliotecznych na wschodnich ziemiach Rzeczypospolitej do 1939 roku* [*Selected problems of documentation of library collections in the eastern lands of the Republic until 1939*], “Roczniki Biblioteczne” 2001, Vol. 45, pp. 55–90; J. Szymański, *Trudności z identyfikacją bibliotek na ziemiach polskich w I połowie XX wieku* [*Difficulties in identifying libraries in the Polish lands in the first half of the 20<sup>th</sup> century*], *ibidem*, pp. 41–54; J. Puchalski, *Źródła do historii bibliotek w Polsce w latach 1918–1947. Studium bibliologiczne* [*Sources for the history of libraries in Poland in the years 1918–1947. A bibliological study*], Warszawa 2007.

## Polish and Polonia's collections – heritage at risk

While researching the history of Polish books during World War II, the BPD Library Team also took an interest in Polish libraries and book collections operating outside the country after 1939: book collections that “migrated” from Poland during the war; libraries that were established by branches of the Polish Armed Forces in the West and agencies of the Polish Government in Exile; libraries that functioned in political and economic emigration circles.

The result of these works was the guidebook *Polish Libraries outside the country in the years 1938–1948 (Biblioteki polskie poza krajem w latach 1938–1948)*, which was edited by B. Bieńkowska and published in 2005 in Poznań<sup>43</sup>. The study by Urszula Paszkiewicz and Janusz Szymanski has a high documentary value, as pointed out by Oskar Stanisław Czarnik, who deals with the history of the press, books and reading among soldiers of the Polish Armed Forces in 1940–1946<sup>44</sup>. At the same time, this guide was the starting point for research (inspired by B. Bieńkowska) at the Ministry of Culture and National Heritage in Warsaw (MKiDN) on the current state of Polish and Polonia's collections held abroad.

Since 1989, many Polish and Polonia's libraries operating outside Poland have been and continue to be liquidated. The size and content of their collections are also changing, among others as a result of other institutions taking over the resources of closed libraries and the selection of materials carried out on this occasion. There is an acceleration of the process of dispersal and fragmentation of often very valuable library collections, and sometimes their complete destruction. Thus, the stock of sources potentially useful not only for historians of Polish book and libraries abroad, but also for researchers of the history of Polish diaspora and Polish emigration is shrinking. B. Bieńkowska described this state of affairs as follows: “collections that are national heritage (scientific, historical) are and will continue to be neglected or gradually liquidated for lack of custodians, funds, interest”<sup>45</sup>. At the same time, she said that in this situation

---

43 See also B. Bieńkowska, *Dziesięć lat z życia bibliotek polonijnych [Ten years in the life of Polonia's libraries]*, “Z Badań nad Polskimi Księgozbiorami Historycznymi” 2002, Vol. 20, pp. 79–88.

44 O.S. Czarnik, *W drodze do utraconej Itaki. Prasa, książki i czytelnictwo na szlaku Samodzielnej Brygady Strzelców Karpackich (1940–1942) oraz Armii Polskiej na Wschodzie i 2. Korpusu (1941–1946) [On the Way to the Lost Ithaca: The Press, Books and Reading Rates on the Combat Trail of the Polish Independent Carpathian Brigade (1940–1942), the Polish Army in the East and Polish 2nd Corps (1941–1946)]*, Warszawa 2012, p. 17.

45 Own translation, see: B. Bieńkowska: *Wstęp [Introduction]*, [in:] *Współczesne księgozbiory polskie za granicą. Informator [Contemporary Polish book collections abroad. Information guide]*. [Vol.] 1: *Polskie i polonijne księgozbiory instytucji [Book collections of Polish and Polonia institutions]*, ed. B. Bieńkowska, E. Maruszak, J. Puchalski, Warszawa 2009, p. 14.

their registry is necessary, which on the one hand will be a form of documentation of these collections, and on the other hand should function as a source of information about collections, ensembles and objects that are often forgotten, unknown and therefore not used by researchers, although they deserve it.

Accordingly, B. Bieńkowska developed the assumptions of the program “Registration of the Polish Collections Aboard, with special consideration for our threatened heritage” and from 2006 to 2015 managed its implementation in the Department for Polish Cultural Heritage Abroad of MKiDN (since 2016 Department of Polish National Heritage Abroad and War Losses). The program’s primary goals were scientific and documentary. It was also assumed that its implementation would revive foreign interest in Polish and Polonia’s collections, both in Poland and in the countries where they are kept. B. Bieńkowska was convinced that the implementation of the program would deepen the understanding of the fundamental importance of polonica for Polish culture and facilitate contacts between the owners of these collections and institutions in Poland, which will foster joint initiatives (among others, digitization of collections) and thus may contribute to the protection and popularization of this part of Polish cultural heritage<sup>46</sup>.

The first stage of the program was completed with the publication of the volume *Contemporary Polish book collections abroad. Information guide (Współczesne księgozbiory polskie za granicą. Informator*, Warszawa 2009), compiled by B. Bieńkowska, E. Maruszak and Jacek Puchalski. The publication contains information notes on 746 libraries from 65 countries, belonging to Polish or Polonia’s organizations or institutions. This is a register of only some of the establishments that existed in 2006–2009<sup>47</sup>; although now outdated<sup>48</sup>, it is of great historical and documentary value. Describes collections of various types, numbers, and significance held in stand-alone specialized and public libraries, as well as non-self-standing libraries – from establishments with scientific book collections affiliated with the Permanent Conference of Polish Museums, Archives and Libraries in the West<sup>49</sup> to the book collections of secular and church institutions and organizations, including institutes, museums,

46 On this subject see J. Puchalski, *Program “Rejestracja zbiorów polskich za granicą ze specjalnym uwzględnieniem dziedzictwa zagrożonego”* [Program “Registration of the Polish Collections Aboard, with special consideration for our threatened heritage”], [in:] *Kultura książki i prasy polonijnej. Dziedzictwo narodowe i światowe* [The culture of the Polonia’s book and press. National and world heritage], ed. M. Kalczyńska, D. Sieradzka, Z. Małecki, Katowice 2009, pp. 112–126.

47 Of the 1,499 libraries registered in 2006–2008, 284 were deleted as no longer existing or being liquidated, see B. Bieńkowska: *Wstęp* [Introduction], [in:] *Współczesne księgozbiory polskie... [Contemporary Polish book collections...]*. [Vol.] 1, p. 7.

48 After 2009, a number of Polish and Polonia’s libraries registered in the *Information guide* were liquidated.

49 See [online] <<http://mabpz.org/>> [Accessed 19.11.2022].

archives, homes and centers, organizations, Polish<sup>50</sup> and Polonia's schools. In 2009, commissioned by the Department for Polish Cultural Heritage Abroad of MKiDN, with the substantive support of B. Bieńkowska a report was written by J. Puchalski and E. Maruszak on the resources and condition of Polish and Polonia's libraries abroad and the support (financial, organizational and substantive) they received from Poland<sup>51</sup>. The report was addressed to the Senate and the Ministry of Foreign Affairs (MFA) of the Republic of Poland responsible for supporting Poles abroad. The authors of the report argued, among others, that the threat to the analyzed collections stems from their underutilization, pointing to the need to create and implement a tool for sharing them. Soon, in 2012, as part of the project of the Ministry of Foreign Affairs "Cooperation with Polonia and Poles Abroad", Polonia Digital Library (Polonijna Biblioteka Cyfrowa – PBC) was established. The reason "for establishing PBC and its main aim is the preservation of the collections of Polish diasporas organizations worldwide, having resources for digitalization of Polonica, their presentation and provision on the Internet"<sup>52</sup>. It allows the use of materials previously unavailable to the public (0.5 million downloads of PBC materials by the end of 2021)<sup>53</sup>. The PBC contains, among others, a manuscript of a *Course in Bibliography (Kurs bibliografii)*<sup>54</sup> – a lecture on bibliology prepared in 1831 for students at Warsaw University by historian, folklorist, translator, publisher and librarian Lukasz Gołębiowski (1773–1849). This manuscript was found in the Ilia Chavchavadze National Parliamentary Library of Georgia in Tbilisi during the implementation of the program "Registration of the Polish Collections Aboard, with special consideration for our threatened heritage". In 2017, it was published under the inspiration and scientific editorship of B. Bieńkowska<sup>55</sup>. *Course in Bibliography* contains a lot of valuable information, among others on medieval codices once kept in Polish libraries and lost during World War II. Therefore, it has become a subject of study for Polish scholars<sup>56</sup>.

50 Schools owned by the Polish state.

51 *Współczesne biblioteki polonijne i polskie poza krajem. Raport [Contemporary Polish and Polonia's libraries outside the country]*, ed. E. Maruszak, J. Puchalski, Warszawa 2010.

52 *Polonia Digital Library*, [online] <http://www.pbc.uw.edu.pl/information.html> [Accessed 19.11.2022].

53 On this topic, see, among others. D. Kuźmina, *Zasoby Polonijnej Biblioteki Cyfrowej: czasopisma polonijne w Rosji [Polonia Digital Library resources : Polonia periodicals in Russia]*, "Roczniki Historii Prasy Polskiej" 2020, Vol. 23, No. 3 (59), pp. 143–162.

54 See [online] <http://www.pbc.uw.edu.pl/7715/> [Accessed 17.11.2022].

55 Ł. Gołębiowski, *Kurs bibliografii, 1831 [Course in Bibliography, 1831]*, ed. E. Maruszak, J. Puchalski, B. Bieńkowska, Warszawa 2017.

56 See e.g. J. Kaliszuk, S. Szyller, *Badanie rękopisów średniowiecznych według Łukasza Gołębiowskiego [A study of medieval manuscripts according to Lukasz Gołębiowski]*, "Analecta" 2020, Vol. 29, No. 1, pp. 7–69.

Led by B. Bieńkowska, the team was obviously aware that particularly valuable collections and objects relating to Poland and Polonia are also found in foreign libraries, primarily in scientific libraries (national libraries, university libraries, organizations, scientific research centers and institutes) and in large public libraries. Collections and particularly valuable individual polonics held in foreign libraries were included in the 2011–2015 registration, as there are legitimate concerns for their future as well – are often not even initially identified<sup>57</sup>. And yet, they are not only an important part of the Polish national legacy, complementing and multiplying the resources of Polish libraries and archives in Poland and abroad, but often belong to the common heritage of European countries. As a result of the registration work, the second volume of the *Information guide* was published under the title *Polonica in Foreign Libraries (Polonica w bibliotekach obcych, Warszawa 2016)*. It contains informative notes on polonics in the collections of 470 institutions from 54 countries. In 392 cases, these are descriptions of materials in whole or in part identifiable as special collections, important for cultural heritage – manuscripts, old prints, cartography, iconography, music collections, archives, works of art or historical memorabilia<sup>58</sup>. Of course, the volume describes only a portion of the actually existing holdings of foreign polonics. Polish and Polonia’s collections, or their fragments or single objects are extremely numerous in world collections.. At the same time, they are scattered and varied in value, and library storerooms probably hide “many more secrets and hard-to-predict finds”<sup>59</sup>. They prove, as B. Bieńkowska stated, “a much wider area of influence of the Polish book, both geographically and chronologically and materially, than it seemed so far”<sup>60</sup>. Most foreign libraries have escaped such tragic fates as those that befell Polish libraries in the past. It would seem, then, that the Polish book collections and polonica stored there are assured existence. However, their situation has been changing for the worse for several decades. Poland’s liberation from Soviet domination in 1989

57 On this topic see J. Puchalski, *Program of the Department of Cultural Heritage of the Ministry of Culture and National Heritage of the Republic of Poland*, transl. M. Kisilowska, “Slavic & East European Information Resources” 2013, Vol. 14, Issue 4, (Special Issue: Hungarian, Czech and Polish Diaspora Collections in the US and in the Homelands and Guide to East European Resources in the New York Metropolitan Area), pp. 242–251.

58 B. Bieńkowska, *Wstęp [Introduction]*, [in:] *Współczesne księgozbiory polskie za granicą. Informator [Contemporary Polish book collections abroad. Information guide]*. [Vol.] 2: *Polonica w bibliotekach obcych [Polonica in Foreign Libraries]*, ed. B. Bieńkowska, E. Maruszak, J. Puchalski, Warszawa 2016, p. 17.

59 Own translation, see: B. Bieńkowska, *Polonica w bibliotekach obcych: potrzeby i możliwości badawcze [Polonics in foreign libraries: research needs and opportunities]*, [in:] *Dawnych ksiąg niesyty. Tom studiów dedykowanych profesorowi Januszowi Tondelowi na siedemdziesięciolecie urodzin [Hungry for old books. A volume of studies dedicated to Professor Janusz Tondel on the seventieth anniversary of his birth]*, ed. I. Imańska, A. Wagner, Toruń 2016, p. 42.

60 Own translation, *ibidem*, p. 36.



led to a decline in Western countries' interest in events in Central and Eastern Europe, and consequently in writing related to our country. Other trends have also intensified, threatening the security of Polish collections abroad. They result, among others, from socio-demographic changes among Poles settled abroad. All these phenomena are intertwined with the crisis of books and reading, and thus librarianship in the world.

In this situation, B. Bieńkowska believed that the most important and urgent task was the further, planned and systematic, methodologically correct, properly using diverse sources, registration and documentation of polonics, especially those stored in non-library institutions, such as archives and museums – for they have collections, ensembles, individual, often extremely valuable polonica, least recognized so far. It is therefore necessary to expand, deepen and coordinate research on polonics in foreign collections. It will this superbly facilitate the search for Polish collections and individual writing objects in libraries, archives, foreign museums, also in private collections. Equally important is the digitization of the developed most valuable objects and their assemblages, as well as the inclusion of polonics in national and international databases and digital libraries. This will facilitate the development of international cooperation, among others including the exchange of organizational and methodological experience, the exchange of specialists, joint editorial and digital projects. B. Bieńkowska was convinced that it would be to the mutual benefit of GLAM institutions (galleries, libraries, archives, museums), because works of this kind make an important contribution not only to the historiography of the Polish book, but also to the history of libraries, librarianship and more generally – the culture of the book in other countries<sup>61</sup>.

## Conclusion

The merits of B. Bieńkowska for the development of Polish bibliology cannot be overestimated, both in terms of her contribution to the body of work and to the theory and methodology of the discipline. Equally important was B. Bieńkowska for the practical application of bibliology for the documentation and therefore preservation of cultural heritage at:

- local scale, by managing library special collections (manuscripts, old prints, cartography, iconography, music collections, archives, works of art or historical memorabilia);

---

61 For more on this topic see B. Bieńkowska, E. Maruszak, J. Puchalski, *Registration of the Polish Collections Aboard, with special consideration for our threatened heritage, the endangered heritage in particular (2006–2015)*, transl. M. Kisilowska, “Z Badań nad Książką i Księgozbiorami Historycznymi” 2017, special volume, pp. 25–39.

- regional scale; an example is Bieńkowska's initiative and active participation in the program to save Cieszyn's historical book collections, culminating in the establishment of the Cieszyn Library (Książnica Cieszyńska) in 1994<sup>62</sup>;
- nationwide, for example, through the work initiated and undertaken by the PTB during Bieńkowska's presidency (1989–2003) or carried out on behalf of the MKiDN in Warsaw;
- Internationally, for example, the implementation of the program "Registration of the Polish Collections Aboard, with special consideration for our threatened heritage" in 2006–2009 "was one of the factors that influenced the development of cooperation between Polish and American librarians and influenced the founding of the Polish American Librarians Association – PALA in 2009"<sup>63</sup>.

With a high degree of certainty, one can express the conviction that the works of B. Bieńkowska will be a point of reference for many researchers and will find their continuators, and bibliology itself, which in 2018 lost the status of an independent scientific discipline according to the Polish ministerial classification of sciences, will remain a vital and "developmental" field of research according to Bieńkowska, occupying, as Bożena Koredczuk put it, "its rightful place in the structure of the sciences of social communication and media"<sup>64</sup>.

## Bibliography

Bartoszak M., *Woluminy z nieznanymi rękopiśmiennymi dedykacjami dla prymasa Wojciecha Baranowskiego*, "Biblioteka" 2018, No. 22 (31), pp. 49–64.

*Bibliologia dyscypliną integrującą. Studia ofiarowane Prof. B. Bieńkowskiej*, special volume "Z Badań nad Polskimi Księgozbiorami Historycznymi" 1993.

---

62 See B. Bieńkowska, *Wstęp [Introduction]*, [in:] *Cieszyńskie księgozbiory historyczne. Materiały z sesji naukowej, Cieszyn, 18–20 listopada 1991 [Cieszyn historical book collections. Materials from a scientific session, Cieszyn, November 18–20, 1991]*, ed. H. Łaskarzewska, Warszawa 1993, pp. 5–11; eadem, *Problemy ochrony bibliotecznych zbiorów zabytkowych w regionie [Problems of preservation of library historical collections in the region]*, [in:] *Ogólnopolskie seminarium i warsztaty na temat ochrony zbiorów zabytkowych w regionie. Cieszyn 20–22 września 1995. Materiały [National seminar and workshop on the preservation of historical collections in the region. Cieszyn 20–22 September 1995. Materials]*, ed. B. Bieńkowska, A. Nowicka, Cieszyn 1995, pp. 9–15.

63 Own translation: Statement on the program of the Ministry of Culture and National Heritage: "Registration of Polish book collections abroad with special attention to heritage at risk" in 2006–2014", Chicago, December 3, 2021, signed by Małgorzata Kot managing director of the Polish Museum in America – in possession of the author.

64 B. Koredczuk, *Bibliologia dyscypliną rozwojową/integrującą czy adaptacyjną/zintegrowaną? [Bibliology a developmental/integrative or adaptive/integrative discipline?]*, [in:] *Książki mają swoją historię... [Books have their own history...]*, p. 48.

- Biblioteki na wschodnich ziemiach II Rzeczypospolitej: informator*, U. Paszkiewicz [et al.], ed. B. Bieńkowska, Poznań 1998.
- Biblioteki naukowe w Generalnym Gubernatorstwie w latach 1939–1945. Wybór dokumentów źródłowych = Wissenschaftliche Bibliotheken im Generalgouvernement in den Jahren 1939–1945. Ausgewählte Quellendokumente*, ed. A. Mężyński with co-pr. H. Łaskarzewska, Warszawa 2003.
- Biblioteki polskie poza krajem w latach 1938–1948. Informator*, U. Paszkiewicz, J. Szymański, ed. B. Bieńkowska, Poznań 2005.
- Bieńkowska B., *Aleksandra Birkenmajera koncepcja historii książki*, “Przegląd Biblioteczny” 1978, No. 2, pp. 155–162.
- Bieńkowska B., *Autorytet Mistrza: wspomnienie o Profesorze Aleksandrze Birkenmajerze w czterdziestolecie śmierci*, “Roczniki Biblioteczne” 2007, Vol. 51, pp. 35–41.
- Bieńkowska B., *Badania regionalne w historiografii książki*, “Studia o Książce” 1988, Vol. 17, pp. 17–33.
- Bieńkowska B., *Bibliologia dyscypliną rozwojową*, [in:] *Bibliologia i informatologia*, ed. D. Kuźmina, Warszawa 2011, pp. 13–22.
- Bieńkowska B., *Bibliologia i okolice*, [in:] *E scientia et amicitia. Studia poświęcone prof. Edwardowi Potkowskiemu w sześćdziesięciopięciolate urodzin i czterdziestolecie pracy naukowej*, ed. M. Drzewiecki, Warszawa-Pułtusk 1999, pp. 41–47.
- Bieńkowska B., *Dziesięć lat z życia bibliotek polonijnych*, “Z Badań nad Polskimi Księgozbiorami Historycznymi” 2002, Vol. 20, pp. 79–88.
- Bieńkowska B., *Inwentarze księgozbiorów prywatnych jako źródła do badań nad dziejami czytelnictwa*, “Studia o Książce” 1989, Vol. 18, pp. 65–76.
- Bieńkowska B., *Kilka uwag i propozycji w sprawie badań księgozbiorów historycznych*, “Studia o Książce” 1986, Vol. 16, pp. 3–17.
- Bieńkowska B., *Książka na przestrzeni dziejów*, wit co-pr. E. Maruszak, Warszawa 2005.
- Bieńkowska B., *Księgozbiory rozproszone, przemieszczone i przejęte. Problemy zabezpieczenia, dokumentacji i informacji*, “Z Badań nad Polskimi Księgozbiorami Historycznymi” 1993, Vol. 15, pp. 5–12.
- Bieńkowska B., *Losses of Polish libraries during world war II*, [transl. K. Cękańska], Warszawa 1994.
- Bieńkowska B., *Metody bibliologiczne w badaniach dziejów nauki*, “Kwartalnik Historii Nauki i Techniki” 1989, No. 2, pp. 331–342.
- Bieńkowska B., *Polonika w bibliotekach obcych: potrzeby i możliwości badawcze*, [in:] *Dawnych ksiąg niesyty. Tom studiów dedykowanych profesorowi Januszowi Tondelowi na siedemdziesięciolate urodzin*, ed. I. Imańska, A. Wagner, Toruń 2016, pp. 29–43.
- Bieńkowska B., *Potyczki ze źródłami bibliologicznymi (na przykładzie urzędowej dokumentacji strat bibliotek w Polsce podczas II wojny światowej)*, “Roczniki Biblioteczne” 2001, Vol. 45, pp. 3–28.
- Bieńkowska B., *Problemy ochrony bibliotecznych zbiorów zabytkowych w regionie*, [in:] *Ogólnopolskie seminarium i warsztaty na temat ochrony zbiorów zabytkowych*

- w regionie. *Cieszyn 20–22 września 1995. Materiały*, ed. B. Bieńkowska, A. Nowicka, Cieszyn 1995, pp. 9–15.
- Bieńkowska B., *Staropolski świat książek*, Wrocław 1976.
- Bieńkowska B., *Wokół raportu o stratach bibliotek polskich w czasie II wojny światowej. Problematyka bibliologiczna*, [in:] *Symposia bibliologica. Dokumentacja księgozbiorów historycznych – współpraca krajowa i międzynarodowa. Skutki II wojny światowej dla bibliotek polskich*, ed. H. Łaskarzewska, A. Mężyński, Warszawa 1995, pp. 85–92.
- Bieńkowska B., *Wstęp*, [in:] *Cieszyńskie księgozbiory historyczne. Materiały z sesji naukowej, Cieszyn, 18–20 listopada 1991*, ed. H. Łaskarzewska, Warszawa 1993, pp. 5–11.
- Bieńkowska B., *Zastosowanie bibliologii w pracach Biura Pełnomocnika Rządu do Spraw Polskiego Dziedzictwa Kulturalnego za Granicą*, “Roczniki Biblioteczne” 1998, Vol. 42, pp. 21–36.
- Bieńkowska B., *Zastosowania i konteksty wiedzy o książce*, [in:] *Wiedza o książce w nauce i dydaktyce: konferencja Warszawa 16–17 listopada 1999 r.*, ed. M. Kisilowska, J. Puchalski, D. Kuźmina, Warszawa 2000, pp. 53–69.
- Bieńkowska B., Chamerska H., *Books in Poland: past and present*, ed. and transl. W. Zalewski, E.R. Payne, Wiesbaden 1990.
- Bieńkowska B., Chamerska H., *Tysiąc lat książki i bibliotek w Polsce*, Wrocław 1992.
- Bieńkowska B., Chamerska H., *Zarys dziejów książki*, Warszawa 1987.
- Bieńkowska B., Maruszak E., Puchalski J., *Registration of the Polish Collections Aboard, with special consideration for our threatened heritage, the endangered heritage in particular (2006–2015)*, transl. M. Kisilowska, “Z Badań nad Książką i Księgozbiorami Historycznymi” 2017, special volume, 25–39.
- Buchwald-Pelcowa P., *Powojenne wędrowki starych druków w Polsce*, [in:] *Symposia bibliologica. Dokumentacja księgozbiorów historycznych – współpraca krajowa i międzynarodowa. Skutki II wojny światowej dla bibliotek polskich*, ed. H. Łaskarzewska, A. Mężyński, Warszawa 1995, pp. 151–159.
- Byberg L., *Library history revisited: research areas and methodology*, [in:] *Conference proceedings. 65th IFLA Council and General Conference Bangkok, Thailand, August 20 – August 28, 1999*, [online] <https://archive.ifla.org/IV/ifla65/papers/132-84e.htm> [Accessed 14.11.2022].
- Ciborowska-Rymarowicz I., *Provenances of Early Printed Books from the Library of the Berdychiv Monastery of Discalced Carmelites*, “Z Badań nad Książką i Księgozbiorami Historycznymi” 2019, Vol. 13, pp. 145–162.
- Czarnik O.S., *W drodze do utraconej Itaki. Prasa, książki i czytelnictwo na szlaku Samodzielnej Brygady Strzelców Karpackich (1940–1942) oraz Armii Polskiej na Wschodzie i 2. Korpusu (1941–1946)*, Warszawa 2012.
- Franczyk-Cegła A., *O zadaniach i metodologii badań proveniencyjnych w bibliologii na przykładzie badań nad kolekcją Baworovianum*, “Bibliotheca Nostra. Śląski Kwartalnik Naukowy” 2018, No. 4(54), pp. 69–84.

- Gębołyś Z., *Losy księgozbiorów niemieckich w Polsce po II wojnie światowej. Rekonesans badawczy*, [in:] *Księgozbiory rozproszone. Losy księgozbiorów historycznych po II wojnie światowej. Materiały z konferencji naukowej zorganizowanej przez Muzeum Zamkowe w Malborku 19 października 2012 roku*, ed. A. Siuciak, Malbork 2015, pp. 157–172.
- Gołębiowski Ł., *Kurs bibliografii, 1831*, E. Maruszak, J. Puchalski, ed. B. Bieńkowska, Warszawa 2017.
- Histoires du livre: Nouvelles orientations: Actes du Colloque du 6 et 7 septembre 1990 Göttingen*, ed. H.E. Bödeker, Paris 1995.
- Informator o stratach bibliotek i księgozbiorów domowych na terytoriach polskich okupowanych w latach 1939–1945 (bez Ziemi Wschodnich)*, U. Paszkiewicz, J. Szymański [et al.], ed. B. Bieńkowska, Poznań 2000.
- Iwaniak S., *Ziemiańskie dobra kulturowe w województwie kieleckim (1944–1946)*, Kielce 1996.
- Jaroszewicz-Pierślawcew Z., *W poszukiwaniu księgozbiorów historycznych mniejszości narodowych istniejących przed 1939 r.*, [in:] *Symposia bibliologiczne. Dokumentacja księgozbiorów historycznych, współpraca krajowa i międzynarodowa. Skutki II wojny światowej dla bibliotek polskich*, ed. H. Łaskarzewska, A. Mężynski, Warszawa 1995, pp. 55–61.
- Kaliszuk J., Szyller S., *Badanie rękopisów średniowiecznych według Łukasza Gołębiowskiego*, “*Analecta*” 2020, Vol. 29, No. 1, pp. 7–69.
- Koredczuk B., *Badania nad książką, biblioteką i informacją w kręgu towarzystw naukowych*, Wrocław 2021.
- Koredczuk B., *Bibliologia dyscypliną rozwojową/integrującą czy adaptacyjną/zintegrowaną?*, [in:] *Książki mają swoją historię. Studia ofiarowane Profesor Barbarze Bieńkowskiej*, ed. J. Puchalski et al., Warszawa 2021, pp. 37–51.
- Koredczuk B., *Udział inteligencji prawniczej Królestwa Polskiego w kształtowaniu kultury książki (1815–1915)*, Wrocław 2011.
- Książki mają swoją historię. Studia ofiarowane Profesor Barbarze Bieńkowskiej*, ed. J. Puchalski, Warszawa 2021.
- Kuźmina D., *Zasoby Polonijnej Biblioteki Cyfrowej: czasopisma polonijne w Rosji*, “*Roczniki Historii Prasy Polskiej*” 2020, Vol. 23, No. 3 (59), pp. 143–162.
- Lechowski P., *Biblioteki Krakowa w okresie okupacji niemieckiej 1939–1945*, Kraków 1999.
- Łaskarzewska H., *Polskie Towarzystwo Bibliologiczne. Dwanaście lat działań na rzecz bibliologii polskiej*, “*EBIB*” 2002, No. 11(40), [online] <http://www.ebib.pl/2002/40/laskarzewska.php> [Accessed 14.11.2022].
- Łaskarzewska H., *Pracownia Dokumentacji Księgozbiorów Historycznych w Dziale Zbiorów Specjalnych Biblioteki Narodowej*, “*Z Badań nad Polskimi Księgozbiorami Historycznymi*” 1993, Vol. 15, pp. 13–15.

- Łaskarzewska H., *Zbiory przejęte i przemieszczone w bibliotekach polskich po drugiej wojnie światowej. Problemy własności, przykłady rozwiązań*, [in:] *Własność a dobra kultury*, ed. G. Czubek, P. Kosiewski, Warszawa 2006, pp. 15–47.
- Matelski D., *Losy polskich dóbr kultury w Rosji i ZSRR. Próby restytucji: archiwa – księgozbiory – dzieła sztuki – pomniki*, Poznań 2003.
- Matwijów M., *Walka o lwowskie dobra kultury w latach 1945–1948*, Wrocław 1996.
- Mężyński A., *Kommando Paulsen : grabież polskich dóbr kultury podczas II wojny światowej*, Wrocław 2000.
- Mężyński A., *Polskie Towarzystwo Bibliologiczne. Szkic historyczny*, [in:] *Książki mają swoją historię. Studia ofiarowane Profesor Barbarze Bienkowskiej*, ed. J. Puchalski et al., Warszawa 2021, pp. 52–76.
- Migoń K., *Kultura książki. Program dla bibliologii i potrzeba dla studiów bibliotekoznawczych*, [in:] *Nauka o książce, bibliotece i informacji we współczesnym świecie*, ed. M. Banacka. Warszawa 2003, pp. 11–20.
- Nowicki R., *Rola katowickiej Zbiornicy Księgozbiorów Zabezpieczonych w powojennej ochronie zbiorów bibliotecznych w Polsce*, Bydgoszcz 2015.
- Paszkievicz U., *Wybrane problemy dokumentacji zbiorów bibliotecznych na wschodnich ziemiach Rzeczypospolitej do 1939 roku*, “Roczniki Biblioteczne” 2001, Vol. 45, pp. 55–90.
- Pirożyński J., *Nowe kierunki w zagranicznych badaniach nad dawną książką*, “Historyka” 1996, Vol. 26, pp. 71–87.
- Plis J., *Księgozbiory rozproszone. Problemy prawne i biblioteczne*, “Archiwa, Biblioteki i Muzea Kościelne” 1996, Vol. 66, pp. 405–445.
- Plis J., *Źródła dotyczące strat bibliotek w czasie II wojny światowej. Ocena ich wiarygodności*, [in:] *Symposia bibliologica. Dokumentacja księgozbiorów historycznych, współpraca krajowa i międzynarodowa. Skutki II wojny światowej dla bibliotek polskich*, ed. H. Łaskarzewska, A. Mężyński, Warszawa 1995, pp. 139–150.
- Polonia Digital Library*, [online] <http://www.pbc.uw.edu.pl/information.html> [Accessed 19.11.2022].
- Puchalski J., *Program “Rejestracja zbiorów polskich za granicą ze specjalnym uwzględnieniem dziedzictwa zagrożonego*, [in:] *Kultura książki i prasy polonijnej. Dziedzictwo narodowe i światowe*, ed. M. Kalczyńska, D. Sieradzka, Z. Małecki, Katowice 2009, pp. 112–126.
- Puchalski J., *Program of the Department of Cultural Heritage of the Ministry of Culture and National Heritage of the Republic of Poland*, transl. M. Kisilowska, “Slavic & East European Information Resources” 2013, Vol. 14, Issue 4, pp. 242–251.
- Puchalski J., *Źródła do historii bibliotek w Polsce w latach 1918–1947. Studium bibliologiczne*, Warszawa 2007.
- Riabinin D., *Halina Chamerska (1922–2008)*, [in:] *Teoretycy i praktycy polskiego bibliotekarstwa*, ed. M. Lenartowicz, Warszawa 2012, pp. 32–35.



- Sipayło M., *O metodzie badań proveniencyjnych starych druków*, "Z Badań nad Polskimi Księgozbiorami Historycznymi" 1975, Vol. 1, pp. 9–30.
- Socha I., *Nauka o książce w Polsce w latach 1945–2015. Teoretyczne źródła inspiracji*, "Roczniki Biblioteczne" 2016, Vol. 60, pp. 41–70.
- Straty bibliotek w czasie II wojny światowej w granicach Polski z 1945 roku. Wstępny raport o stanie wiedzy*. Parts 1–2, ed. A. Mężyński, Warszawa 1994.
- Szymański J., *Trudności z identyfikacją bibliotek na ziemiach polskich w I połowie XX wieku*, "Roczniki Biblioteczne" 2001, Vol. 45, pp. 41–54.
- Współczesne biblioteki polonijne i polskie poza krajem. Raport*, ed. E. Maruszak, J. Puchalski, Warszawa 2010.
- Współczesne księgozbiory polskie za granicą. Informator*. [Vol.] 1: *Polskie i polonijne księgozbiory instytucji*, ed. B. Bieńkowska, E. Maruszak, J. Puchalski, Warszawa 2009.
- Współczesne księgozbiory polskie za granicą. Informator*. [Vol.] 2: *Polonika w bibliotekach obcych*, ed. B. Bieńkowska, E. Maruszak, J. Puchalski, Warszawa 2016.

