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**CHOPIN'S GODMOTHER, ANNA WIESIOŁOWSKA, NÉE SKARBEEK:
NEW BIOGRAPHICAL FINDINGS**

This article seeks to explain the place and circumstances of the death of Chopin's godmother. After marrying Stefan Wiesiołowski, in 1820, she moved to her husband's estate in Strzyżew, in the Grand Duchy of Posen (now Poznań), in the Prussian partition, where she gave birth to four children; in 1861 she became a widow. Until recently, we did not know where she died. The only clue was information that a commemorative plaque in her honour was to be found in the parish church in Janina, in the county of Busko, but no death certificate was found in the parish records. Matters were further obscured by the fact that Janina lies 320 kilometres from Strzyżew, and it was hard to account for the presence of the commemorative plaque in Janina. Yet a systematic search through the parish books revealed the presence of the family of Roman Byszewski, son of the eldest daughter of Anna Wiesiołowska (née Skarbek); he was no doubt behind the commemoration of his grandmother in Janina church.

Further research uncovered Anna Wiesiołowska's death certificate. She died on 6 May 1873, in Wiśniowa, in the neighbouring county of Staszów, in the home of her youngest son, Hipolit Wiesiołowski. We still do not know where she was buried: perhaps in Wiśniowa, perhaps in Janina.