

Třebíč




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sv. Prokopa v Třebíči

**History
and monuments**

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History of the Town in Dates



History of the Town in Dates

- 1101 The Moravian Přemyslids Oldřich of Brno and Litold of Znojmo founded a Benedictine monastery.
- 1104 The monastery church of St. Benedict was consecrated.
- 1277 The first mention of the town of Třebíč in a charter of Abbot Martin issued for the townsman Heřman, who is usually considered the locator of the town.
- 1335 Margrave Charles (later Emperor Charles IV) granted Třebíč town rights according to the model of the royal town of Znojmo.
- 1338 The first reliable mention of the presence of Jews in Třebíč, or in its immediate surroundings (in the so-called Nuremberg Martyrology).
- 1405 An important social institution was established in Třebíč - the town hospital, a shelter for the old, poor, and physically disabled townspeople.
- 1406 The first surviving document issued by the Třebíč town council confirms that the founder of the hospital, Janek, bought the so-called Ščukovy spa from Abbot Nacek.
- 1424/1425-1435 The Hussites occupied the Třebíč monastery and the town.
- 1435 Margrave Albrecht V of Moravia Habsburg granted the town the right to hold two annual fairs.
- 1454 Czech King Ladislav Pohrobek confirmed the town's existing privileges and granted Třebíč the right of mileage.
- 146 Czech King George of Poděbrady confirmed the privileges of Třebíč and granted the town the right to collect levies on imported Prague and Svídnice beers and salt.
- 1468 A tragic milestone in the history of the town; the Hungarian army of Matthias Corvinus conquered and burnt the town, then occupied the monastery. The Bohemian-Hungarian wars ended the existence of Třebíč as an abbey town.
- 1490 King Vladislav Jagiellon of Bohemia mortgaged the heavily indebted and diminished property of the Třebíč monastery to William of Pernštejn, one of the richest and most powerful noblemen in the country.
- 1525 The last monks from the Benedictine monastery in Třebíč were expelled by Arkleb Černožský of Boskovice.
- 1556 Vratislav of Pernštejn acquired the Třebíč Abbey and the Meřín Priory from Emperor Ferdinand I and immediately decided to sell them. The core of the former monastery with the town of Třebíč was purchased (1556/1557) by Burian Osovský of Doubravice, who thus laid the foundations of the Třebíč chateau. Třebíč became the centre of patrimonial administration and the residential town of the new nobility.
- 1573 Smil Osovský of Doubravice had a new land registry established, in which 376 houses and 2,600 inhabitants were registered in Třebíč, Podklášteří, and the Jewish Town.
- 1574 Town scribe Eliáš Střelka Náchodský wrote the Chronicle of Třebíč, covering the history of the town from the foundation of the monastery to 1574. This chronicle was stored in the town tower.
- 1583 Smil Osovský of Doubravice issued the townspeople the Town Ordinance, which emphasized the importance of Třebíč as the market centre of the estate but considerably reduced the powers of the town council. Třebíč was increasingly confronted with the growing pressure of the overhead estate.

History of the Town in Dates

- 1592 Třebíč townspeople gained the right of free departure from Smil Osovský of Doubravice.
- 1599 A large fire broke out in Třebíč because of careless handling of dried wheat malt - 113 houses burned down.
- 1607 Smil Osovský of Doubravice granted the Třebíč inhabitants the right to follow the Augsburg Confession and allowed them to bury their deceased at the Church of the Holy Trinity.
- 1618-1648 Period of the Thirty Years' War - compared to other Czech or Moravian towns, Třebíč suffered little damage. Although it was not spared from the oppressive residencies of the troops (especially in the 1720s and 1740s) which led to the indebtedness of the town and individuals, the town was spared from direct military actions.
- 1628 The owner of Třebíč, Catherine of Wallenstein, decided to cede the Třebíč estate to her brother, the Catholic Adam Jr. of Wallenstein, the Imperial Councillor and the highest Prague Burgrave, as she was forced to emigrate with her husband Charles Sr. of Žerotín because of her religious beliefs. The busy Adam of Wallenstein entrusted the administration of the estate to his son Rudolf.
- 1648 According to the record of the chronicler Jan Suchenio, the population of Třebíč fell to 845 after the Thirty Years' War. This dramatic decline was a direct result of both the war and the plague.
- 1657 A census of non-Catholics was taken showing almost half of the families in the inner town were Lutheran, most of them Hussite. In the suburbs 130 non-Catholics were counted.
- 1661 After intensive recatholization, all inhabitants profess the Roman Catholic faith.
- 1671 Elevation of the rectory at St. Martin's to a deanery under parish priest Václav Vojtěch Keil. The act is an important symbol of the success of the Catholic religion in the town.
- 1686-1693 Arrival of the Capuchins in the suburb of Nový Bor, where a Capuchin monastery and the Church of the Transfiguration of the Lord were built on the site of a fraternal congregation.
- 1702 Dean of Třebíč, Martin Josef Matlocius, received the Pope's approval for the establishment of the lay ecclesiastical fraternity of St. Anne, which in a short time gained many members. The recatholization of the town was successfully completed.
- 1704 Jan Karel of Wallenstein had the presbytery of the basilica separated from the rest of the building and established the chapel of St. Procopius, to whom the entire church was later dedicated.
- 1723 The time of the formal establishment of the Jewish ghetto in Podklášteří. Jan Josef von Wallenstein ordered Christian householders whose houses were located inside the Jewish settlement to exchange their properties with Jews who owned houses in the Christian development.
- 1725-1731 Renovation of the severely damaged basilica was underway. Jan Josef von Wallenstein commissioned one of the most famous builders in the Czech lands and creators of Baroque Gothic, František Maxmilián Kaňka.
- 1755 Třebíč lost its power to exercise capital punishment.

History of the Town in Dates

- 1822 A large fire broke out in Třebíč which engulfed the inner town as well as the suburbs (290 houses, the town hall, and both parishes and schools burnt down). The damage was estimated at 1 million guilders. When a few days after the fire the high Renaissance gable on the later inn of the Three Princes collapsed, the regional authority ordered the gables on all the burnt-out houses to be torn down, thus depriving the town of its Renaissance character.
- 1848 This revolutionary year was not dramatic in Třebíč, but the national orientation of the bourgeoisie won out. The political changes of the mid-19th century made Třebíč the seat of state administration (district governorate, district court, tax office, gendarmerie).
- 1871 Establishment of the lower Slavic grammar school in Třebíč, the first Czech secondary school in western Moravia. The Besední dům (later Národní) Meeting House, the organizational centre of Czech cultural life in the town, was opened.
- 1879 František Kubeš founded a soda water factory (since 1925 the famous ZON).
- 1884 The first regional newspaper (Listy ze západní Moravy) began to be published in Třebíč.
- 1886 The town became a part of the transversal railway from the then Boží Požehnutí (today Zastávka u Brna) to Okříšek. The railway also included a railway bridge over the Libušino údolí valley, built in 1885-1886. This is a riveted iron structure on 4 piers, 148 m long, and weighing 320 t.
- 1898 The last of the town gates, Jejkovská, was demolished.
- 1899 The first phase of the electrification of the town was completed. The Budapest company Ganz and Co. built a steam power plant at Polanka.
- 1903 Třebíč became part of the intercity telephone network.
- 1910 The first civic swimming pool was opened, which was later modified according to the design of architect Bohuslav Fuchs.
- 1912 A permanent cinema was established in the town.
- 1928 The hockey club SK Horácká Slavia was founded, which over the years bore various names and in 1991 returned to its original name.
- 1936 The TJ BOPO Třebíč - Boty-Ponožky Třebíč Sports Union was founded. The football section SK Borovina Třebíč was founded, but it ceased to exist in 2022.
- 1939-1945 The period of Nazi occupation was fatal for the Jews of Třebíč, nearly all of whom were murdered.
- 1960 After the abolition of the Jihlava Region, the large Třebíč District (which included the former Moravian-Budejovice District including a number of municipalities from other districts) became part of the South Moravian Region.
- 1948 Thanks to Adolf Novotný, a bowling club was founded at Sokol Klimentovy závody, renamed TJ BOPO Třebíč in 1961.
- 1972 The Třebíč brewery was closed down. Six years later, its buildings were demolished and the prismatic tower, part of the medieval fortification of the town, disappeared with them.
- 1980s The baseball sports club Třebíč Nuclears was founded.
- 1985 The building of the headquarters of the Communist Party of Czechoslovakia (KSČ), today's Forum, was built according to the design of architect Milan Steinhäuser, which now houses the Primary Art School and hosts balls, dances, concerts, and other cultural events.

History of the Town in Dates

- 1997 The first year of the summer cultural open air festival took place in the former Subak tannery in the Jewish Quarter. It is regularly held on the first weekend in June, and since 1998 it has been moved to Podzámecká Niva.
- 1998 In autumn the first Potato Festival was held, a festival with a parade of folklore groups and tasting of potato dishes.
- 2002 The Horácký Football Club Třebíč was founded by merging the clubs FC Slavia Třebíč (founded in 1992) and TJ BOPO Třebíč.
- 2003 The new millennium in the history of Třebíč opened with an event of great cultural and historical significance: the inscription of the Basilica of St. Procopius, a Jewish quarter with a Jewish Cemetery, on the UNESCO list of monuments.
- 2003 Since the spring of this year, the Festival of 2-3-4 Actors has been held regularly; its patron was the actor Miroslav Donutil, with another Třebíč native Oldřich Navrátil serving since 2016.
- 2004 The first annual Shamayim Jewish Culture Festival was held.
- 2005 After many years, the Passage Theatre building was completed and inaugurated.
- 2010 The Jihlava - Třebíč - Raabs cycle path was ceremonially opened.
- 2012 After 40 years, the long tradition of brewing beer in Třebíč was re-established with the opening of the Urban Podklášterní Mini-Brewery in the historical building of the Chateau Distillery.
- 2013 The first Stone of the Disappeared was placed in Třebíč, and since then 48 have been placed. These stones commemorate the fate of those people who were murdered, deported, expelled, or driven to suicide by the Nazis.
- 2014 The opening of the Franta Gallery in the National House (Národní dům), where paintings donated to the town by František Mertl, a renowned painter and sculptor, were exhibited.
- 2014 The Trebitsch Old Town Distillery, which produces Czech whisky, was founded. As of 2018, it is also the first (and so far only) Czech whisky to be certified kosher.
- 2015 The building of the water reservoir at Kostelíček was opened, which after reconstruction serves as a lookout tower with an exhibition of water industry. Nearby, the Alternátor Ecotechnical Centre was also opened in the same year.
- 2017 The Memorial Hall of Antonín Kalina, a native of Třebíč who saved the lives of over nine hundred Jewish children as a political prisoner in a concentration camp, was opened in the Jewish Quarter.
- 2018 The Třebíč Renaissance Chateau (former Benedictine monastery buildings) was also included in the Třebíč UNESCO complex.
- 2021 After long repairs, the wind-powered mill on Kanciborek was opened.
- 2020-2022 The revitalization of Charles Square, which also included a rescue archaeological excavation; this led to the creation of a new exhibition called Disappeared Třebíč.
- 2022 After two years of reconstruction, Charles Square opened. The first annual Pumpkin Harvest Festival took place.

Basilica
of St. Procopius



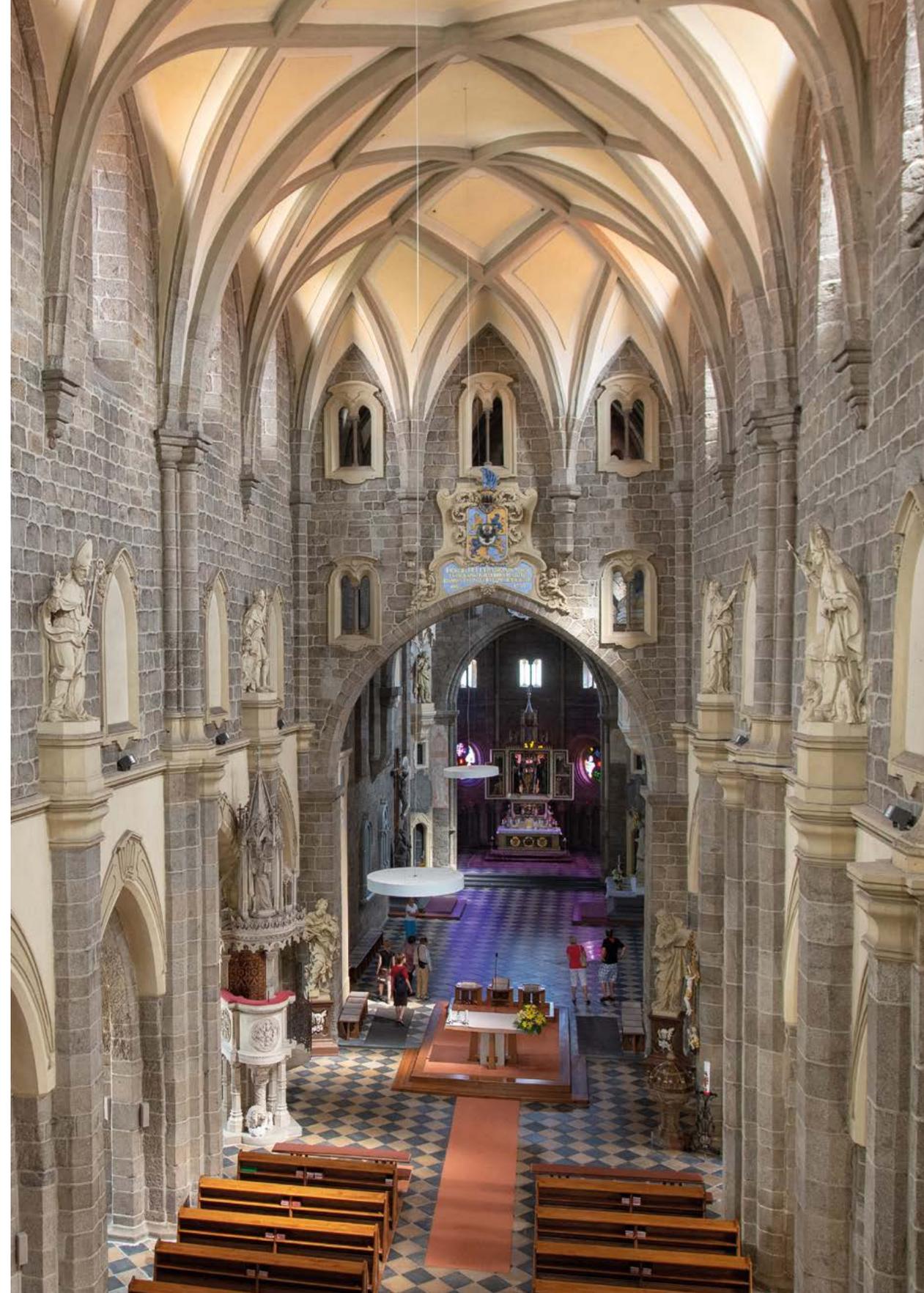
Basilica of St. Procopius

The monastery church in Třebíč is undoubtedly one of the largest and most remarkable building monuments of the 13th century not only in the Czech lands but in the whole of Central Europe.

We would search in vain for a period consecration to St. Procopius in medieval sources. The monks had the original wooden monastery church dedicated to St. Benedict. In the following century a stone basilica was built and dedicated to the Virgin Mary.

The builders probably started the construction in the crypt, which, as far as the building style is concerned, is already marked by the emerging Gothic style. The basilica is built in the Romanesque style which is represented here, for example, by the northern portal with an anteroom, the dwarf gallery on the apse, the grouped windows, and other characteristic structural elements.

- Eight-part vault over the monks' choir and the chancel.
- ↓ Romanesque grouped windows of the dwarf gallery.





The main source of architectural inspiration for the construction of the basilica in Třebíč seems to be the architecture of imperial domes and large monastic churches in the Rhineland, especially the dome in Worms. Also, based on comparisons with other buildings, experts have concluded that the construction of the basilica began in the 1220s, or at the latest in the 1230s, and a substantial part of the work was completed by the middle of the same century. A unique sacral building was created here. The construction was probably carried out by a construction company from south-western France.

- ↑ Abbot's figure in the north portal.
- ← Detail of rosette – circular Romanesque window.
- ↓ View from the dwarf gallery.



The future fate of the basilica was complicated. The building was damaged many times over the centuries, first during the Hussite wars, then during the siege of the town by the troops of King Matthias Corvinus of Hungary (1468), but also in later times. After the dissolution of the monastery (1525), the basilica was used for secular purposes as a brewery, stables, armoury, and granary. In 1704 the church was rededicated to St. Procopius. The basilica underwent further significant alterations during the Baroque period. Between 1725 and 1731, Baroque modifications were carried out on the damaged basilica by František Maxmilián Kaňka (1674 - 1766). The basilica then acquired its present final form during the modifications supervised by architect Kamil Hilbert between 1924 and 1935. On approaching the basilica, the entrance portal, decorated with floral and geometric motifs and enclosed in a square anteroom, first catches our eye.

→ Frescoes of the Abbey Chapel.

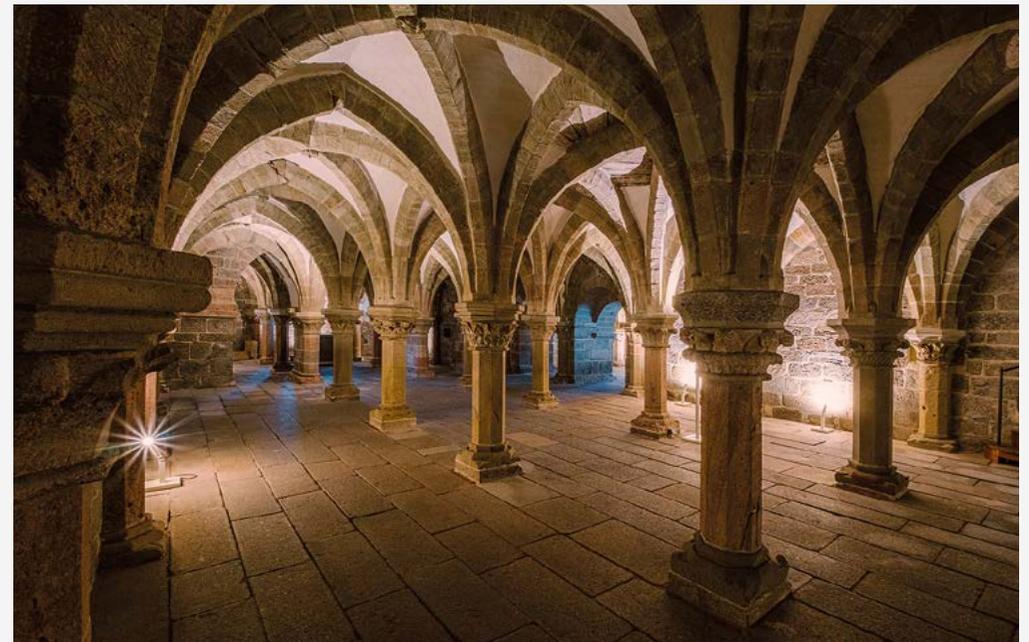
↓ Romanesque arch frieze decorating the outer wall of the Abbey Chapel.





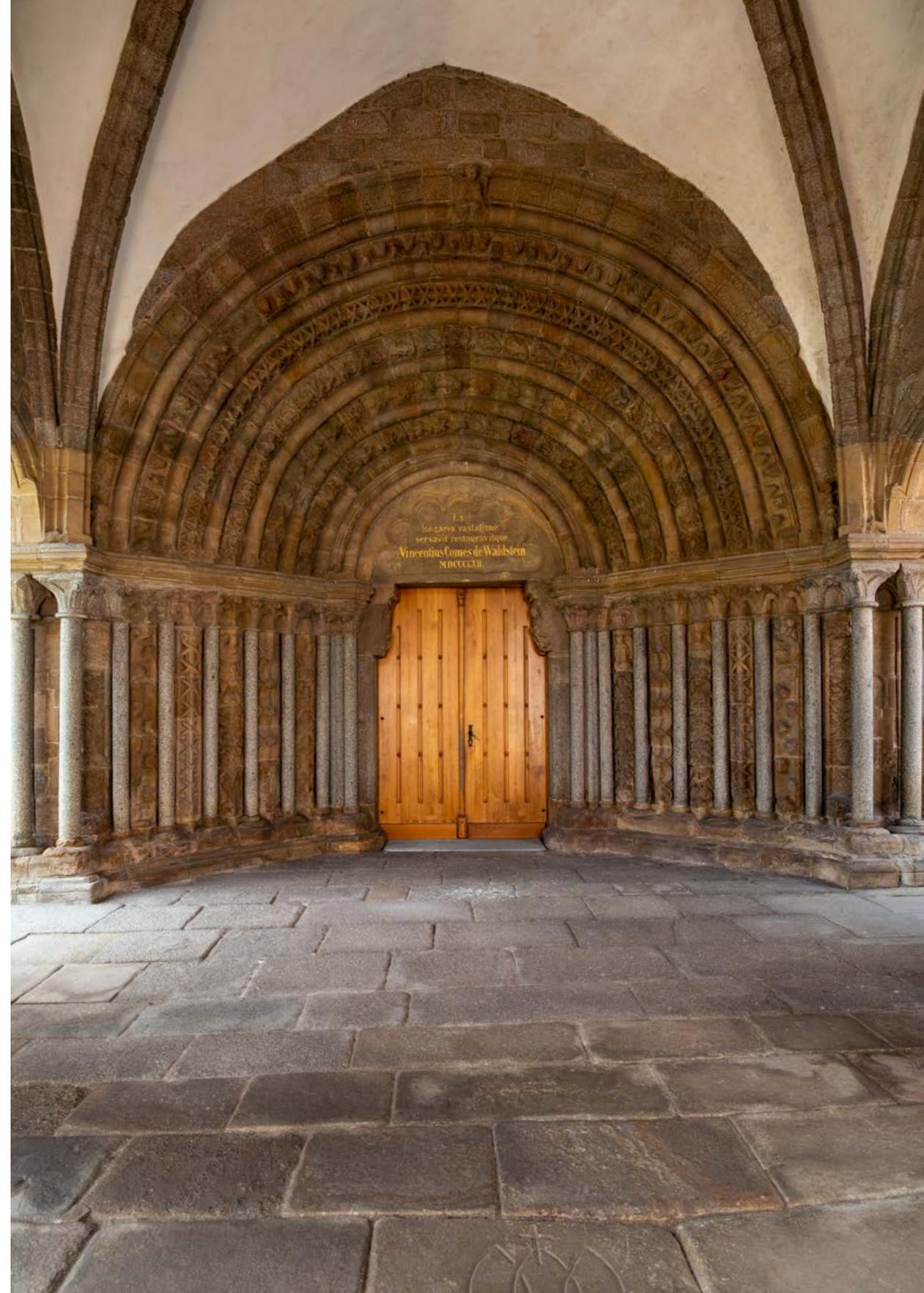
The three walls adjacent to the atrium are formed by two arcades each. Above them are Romanesque windows, and the entire space is vaulted with a seven-part cross vault. Beyond the portal is the church itself, an imposing three-aisled basilica without a transept, built of granite blocks. Granite was also used predominantly in the architectural elements of the decoration, with only a minor part of the decoration being made of sandstone. The main aisle was separated from the side aisles by six broken arcades on piers. The arcades were originally surmounted by Romanesque windows. In later alterations, some of them were bricked up and replaced with narrow tall windows set slightly higher up. The original vaulting has not survived in the western part of the nave. In the north side aisle there is a chapel called the Abbey Chapel, topped with an apse. The decoration of the chapel consists of early Gothic wall paintings which also covered architectural elements.

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- ← West facade of the basilica.
 - ↓ Crypt - Gothic rib vaulting.



The whole church area may have been painted in this way at one time. In the south side aisle we find the so-called processional portal. This served as an entrance for monks coming from the closed residential buildings of the monastery, the cloisters. The western part of the basilica is the most affected by later building modifications. Here we can find the tribune of the choir, which was separated from the main nave by three Baroque-Gothic arcades by F. M. Kaňka. The western facade is completed by two Baroque towers connected by a gable. In the eastern part of the church, the most striking feature is the pentagonal apse with three circular windows. The central Romanesque rose window is accompanied by two side windows with a neo-Gothic flame tracery.

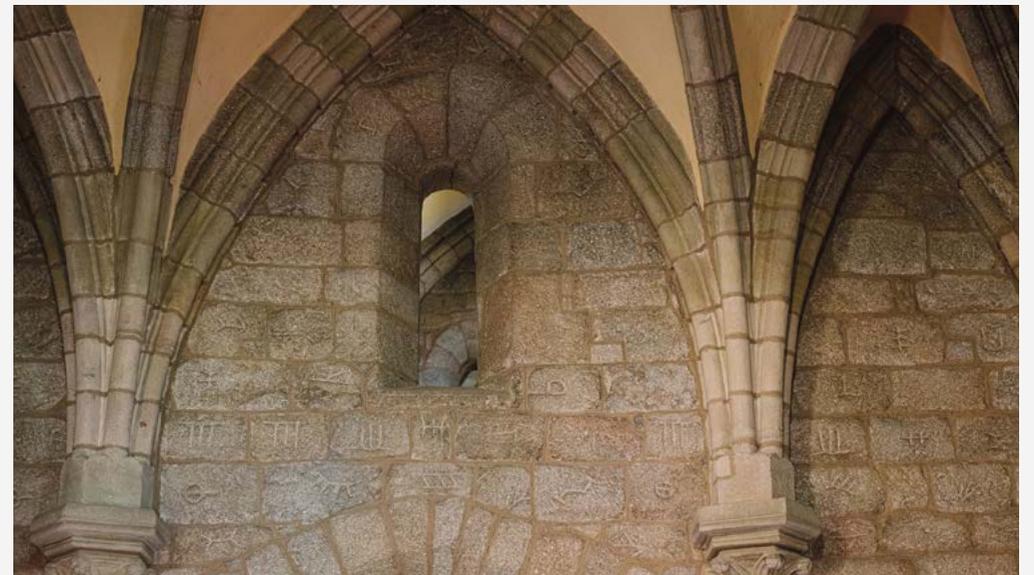
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- St. Procopius Basilica entrance portal.
 - ↓ Detail of column head decoration in the crypt.



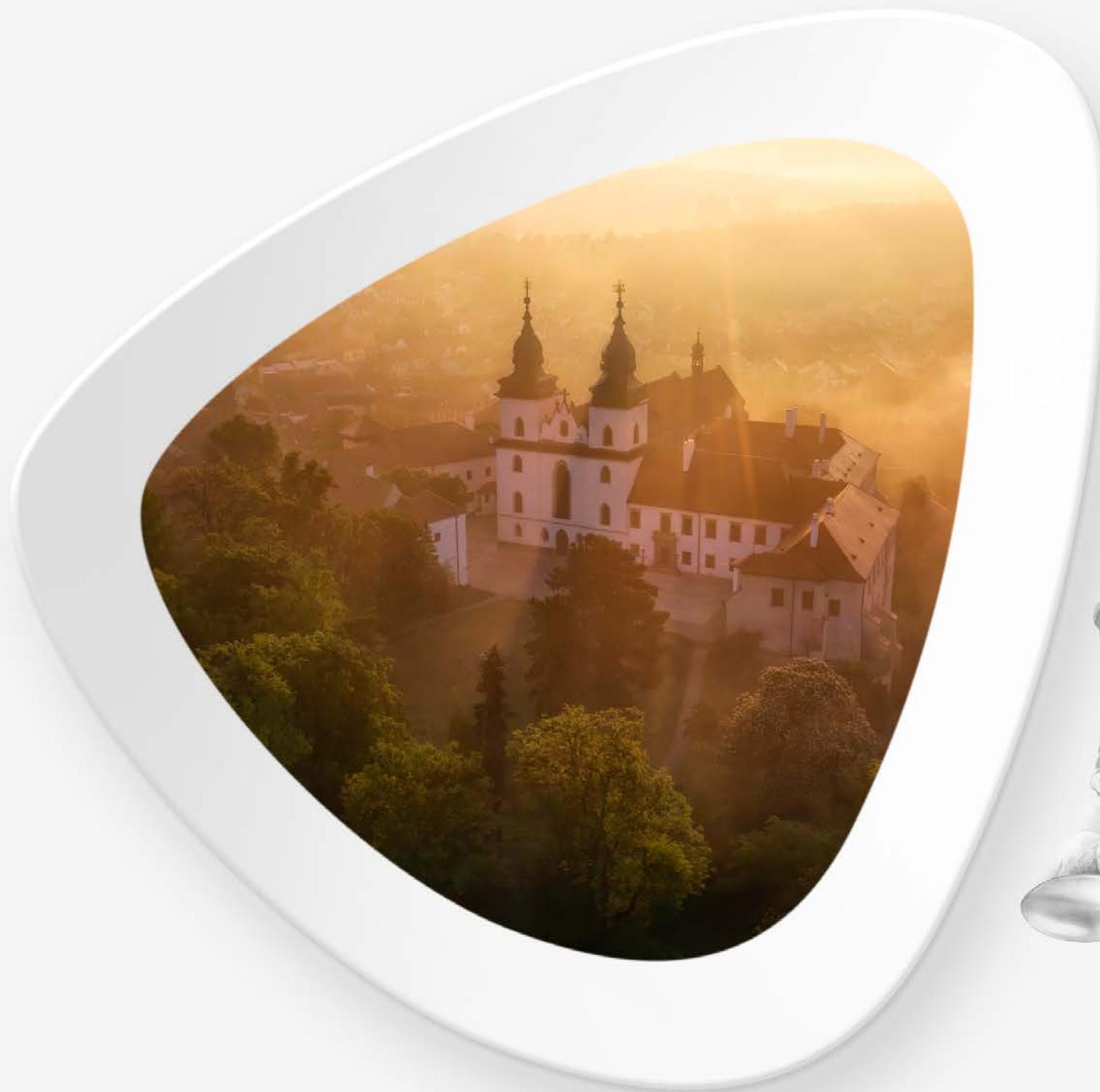


The low Romanesque gallery above the windows is supported by massive arcades. The gallery itself is often referred to as a dwarf gallery. The octagonal vault used to arch the end of the basilica is interesting and is unusual for this area. The decoration is complemented by an odd arcade of thirty-three columns winding along the entire wall. The eastern part of the church, intended for the monks, was separated from the western part, intended for the general public, by a high partition called the lectorium. Under the church in its eastern part there is a crypt, whose three-aisled central part is vaulted with cross-ribbed vaults. In the east, the three-aisle vault is connected to the three-aisle curtain wall. On the north and south sides, the central part of the crypt is flanked by short side aisles, which are topped by apses on the east. After the completion of the whole church, the crypt served as the tomb of the abbots.

← View from the east onto pentagonal apse with circular windows and dwarf gallery.
↓ Markings on the stones.



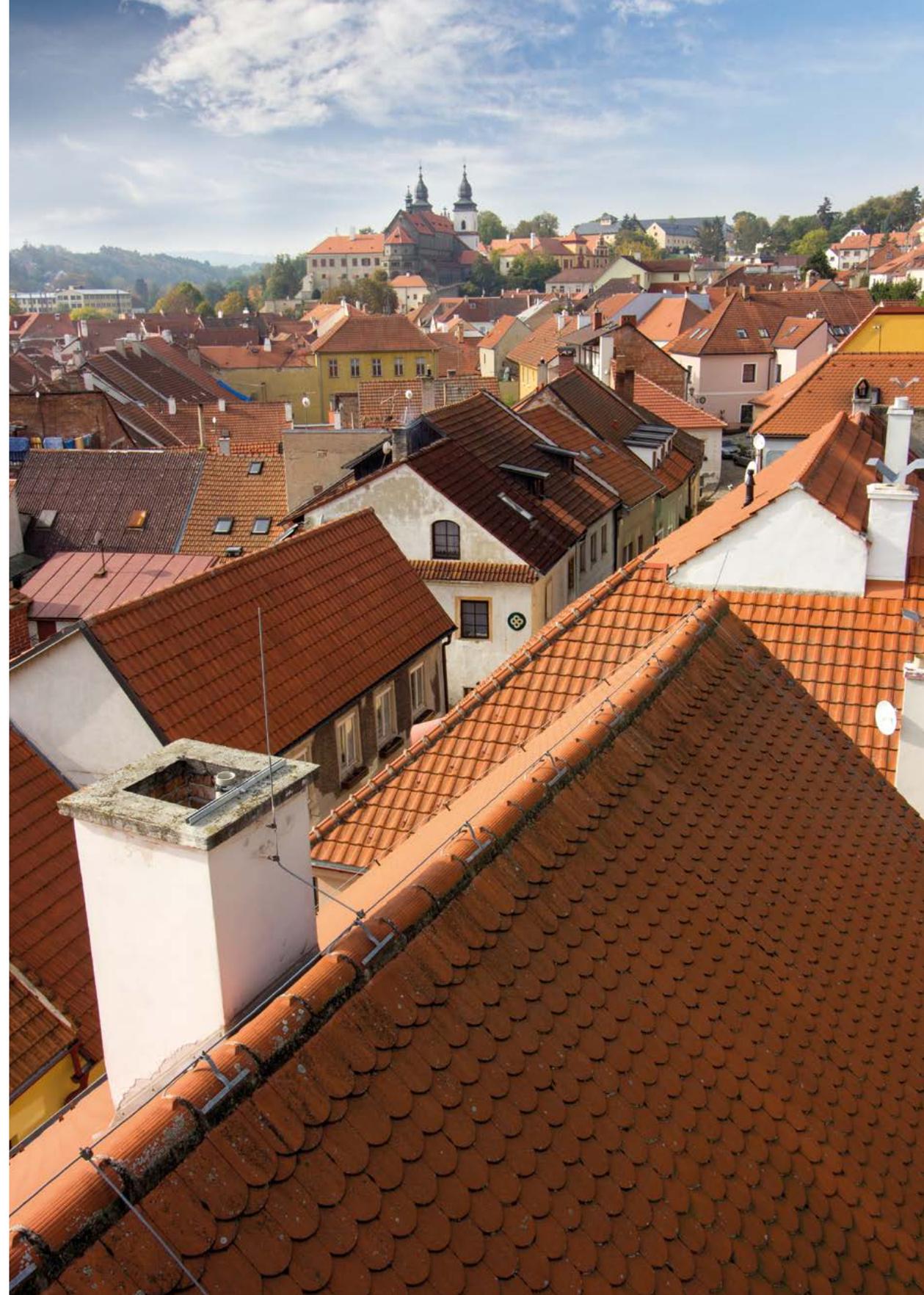
Chateau,
Monastery



Chateau, Monastery

The buildings of the monastery were built gradually since its foundation in 1101. At first, they were wooden buildings and over time were replaced by stone buildings. The most extensive reconstruction, during which the monastery was fortified and became almost impregnable, took place in the 1330-70s. All the monastery buildings except the church were incorporated into the chateau under construction after the monastery's demise. In particular, the cloister buildings adjacent to the south side of the basilica were converted into a chateau. This was the location of the monks' dormitories, the scribe's workshop (scriptorium), the refectory, the chapter house, and the cloakroom (vestiarium). The enclosed monastery buildings also included a kitchen, a bakery, a brewery, a food and drink storage, and probably a prison. These buildings enclosed the "paradise court" – today's inner courtyard of the chateau. There may have been a well or spring here. The cemetery and the well, which were located in front of the end of the basilica, were also closed off from the outside world. Outside the cloister to the north was the abbot's residence, the abode of the novices, and the dwelling for the aged and sick monks (infirmarium). There may also have been the house of the burgrave. At the westernmost

- View onto the chateau grounds across the Jewish Quarter.
↓ Fountain on the chateau grounds.





point of the complex was the dwelling of the groom's family and farm buildings. After the monastery buildings were converted into a chateau, these buildings continued to serve their original purpose. A manor court was created here. The final transformation of the buildings into a Renaissance chateau took place during the tenure of one of the most important owners of the Třebíč estate, Smil Osovský of Doubravice. This supporter of the Unity of the Brethren had the former monastery cloister added by one floor. The south-west wing of the chateau was newly added, and the living quarters were also placed there. The new entrance to the chateau from the north side was probably built during Smil's reign. Stone tombstones from the reign of the Osovský family of Doubravice have been preserved and are now part of the monastery exhibition in the Museum of the Vysočina Highlands. The first two tombstones, of Burian Osovský of Doubravice and his wife Eliška Bítovská of Lichtenburg, were created by

← Aerial view of the chateau grounds and St. Procopius Basilica.
↓ Tombstones of Burian Osovský and his wife Eliška Bítovská of Lichtenburg.





- ↑ Original Renaissance entrance gate with tower.
- ↑ Stone hall in the chateau.
- Baroque Pieta on the bridge at the chateau entrance.





Mikuláš Krk, a master stonemason from Třebíč. The other two, of Smil Osovský from Doubravice and his first wife, were made by an unknown stonemason. Further building modifications took place when the estate was owned by the Lords of Wallenstein. The Baroque reconstruction was started by František Augustin of Wallenstein (1666 - 1684). The building works and modifications lasted until the 1820s. The main changes included the construction of a rectangular hall with a marble floor on the first floor of the west wing. In the same century, the hall was completed with rococo decorations in the form of coats of arms of the owners of the estate and their relatives. The chateau was also affected by the Neo-Renaissance reconstructions, which are visible on the entrance prismatic tower. Further modifications and repairs were made in the 1930-1940s. The facades of the chateau were repaired at this time. In 1944, the chateau acquired its present appearance by applying rusticated sgraffito to the façade of the late Gothic gate. After the estate was confiscated from the Wallenstein-Wartenberg family after the Second World War, the chateau became the home of the town museum, today's Třebíč Museum of the Vysočina Highlands.

- ← Aerial view of the chateau and St. Procopius Basilica.
- ↓ Sandstone relief with the Wallenstein coat of arms and lion figures above the main entrance gate.



Museum of the Vysočina Highlands

The history of today's Museum of Vysočina began in 1894, when the collection of objects for the ethnographic exhibition held a year later in Prague took place in the Třebíč region. In 1898, on the initiative of Professor František Doležal, the Třebíč Museum Association was founded, which focused not only on collecting objects but also on making them available to the public. Later, the museum took over the collection of the defunct Industrial Museum for the south-western part of the Moravian Margraviate in Třebíč, founded in 1903. The museum had no permanent premises, for five years being housed in a former poorhouse on Sirotčí Street, then it was moved to a house on Charles Square, where it stayed until the Second World War, when it was necessary to vacate the house. Then the collection items were packed, placed in boxes, and brought to the already confiscated chateau. At that time, the museum's collection also expanded to include the furnishings of the chateau and the confiscated property of Jewish and evicted German families. In 1953, the town handed over the administration of the museum to the District National Committee, after which it became its facility.

- ↑ Monastery exhibition: The World of Portals and Gates.
- Museum exhibition: People – Places – Fates.
- ↓ Exhibition: The World of Inanimate Nature.





In 1956, the West Moravian Museum was founded, which since 2003 has been called the Třebíč Museum of the Vysočina Highlands. During 2010, the museum's collection was moved to the reconstructed building of the former secondary vocational school on Kosmákova Street. In these premises, in addition to the museum's depository space, there are also offices for professional staff as well as study and library spaces. In 2011-2013, the building of the Třebíč chateau was modernised and four new exhibitions were created.

The first exhibition is the mineralogical exhibition entitled "The World of Inanimate Nature", which presents a mineralogical and petrographical collection and a collection of tektites, especially the unique collection of Moravian Moldavites.

The monastery exhibition entitled "The World of Portals and Gates" is housed in the authentic space of the original Benedictine monastery and features the history of religious orders in Třebíč, the beauty of monastery architecture, and the turbulent fate of the clergy in the 20th century.

The museum exhibition entitled "People - Places - Fates" tells visitors the stories of people and places in the Třebíč region across the centuries in the context of human activities such as "Man invoking - discovering - creating - struggling - working", but also "Man and nature".

← Museum exhibition: People - Places - Fates, collection of nativity scenes.

↓ Museum exhibition: People - Places - Fates.



- 1 Tišťený betlém postavený v láhvi,
J. Procházka, 1884
Printed nativity scene placed inside a bottle,
J. Procházka, 1884
- 2 Skříňkový betlém,
František Hartmann, 1. polovina 19. století
Cabinet nativity scene,
František Hartmann, 1st half of the 19th century
- 3 Ukázka vzniku malované
betlémové figurky
*Demonstration of how a
scene figure is made*
- 4 Hrad z betlémové figurky

The most valuable collection items on exhibit include art historical, ethnographic (including nativity scenes), botanical, and zoological.

The last is the chateau exhibition entitled "The Wallenstein Family in Třebíč", which invites visitors to chateau installations focusing on the presence of the Wallenstein family in Třebíč, especially at the turn of the 19th and 20th centuries. This exhibition also features a collection of pipes.

The museum also houses the Tympanon Gallery, opened in 2017. The first exhibition was dedicated to the paintings and illustrations of Třebíč native, painter, and illustrator Josef Kremláček on the occasion of his 80th birthday.

The Museum of the Vysočina Highlands also includes the Centre of Traditional Folk Culture, located in the Šmeral House in the part of Třebíč called Nové Dvory. The Centre's mission and task is to introduce the general public to the rich folk traditions and unique culture on both sides of the Czech-Austrian border through educational programmes, art workshops, craft fairs, folk music shows, folk food workshops, lectures, and other forms of presentation. The Centre was opened in 2019.

→ Pipe collection.

↓ Chateau exhibition: The Wallenstein family in Třebíč – coat of arms and seal.





Ice House and Chateau Moat

The northern moat was part of the fortification system of the Třebíč monastery. Water was fed into it from the nearby Kuchyňka Pond and the now defunct Obůrka Pond. Over time, the moat lost its original purpose. Thanks to modifications carried out in 2016, it is now open to the public. There is also a maze in the moat, created when a natural labyrinth made of yew bushes was planted by Třebíč Scouts and Sokol members in 2009 on the occasion of Arbor Day. In the western part of the moat is the entrance to the chateau ice house. This underground space with a vaulted ceiling and a floor paved with river pebbles was used to store natural ice and meat for the chateau kitchen. The material was extracted by ice makers from the Jihlava River and the surrounding ponds. At one time it was also used as a shooting range for the people's militia. Nowadays, the ice house serves as a lapidarium of stone artefacts discovered around the basilica.

← Chateau moat.
↓ Ice house.



Herb Garden

Monks in monasteries have always grown and used herbs. Especially for the Benedictines, who were guided by the motto Ora et labora (pray and work), the cultivation of plants, the production of medicinal preparations and writing down their medicinal effects, was an integral part of the monastery's activities. In 2008, the tradition of growing herbs was restored near the St. Procopius Basilica. On 325 m², there were 159 species of plants planted, 71 % of which are plants native to the Třebíč region and 27 % traditional Chinese medicine plants.

→ Herb garden.

↓ Herb garden as seen from the dwarf gallery.





Předzámčí

In the northern part of the chateau grounds, now called Předzámčí or “forecourt”, we can go back in time. There are two exhibitions here: Journeys Through Time and Disappeared Třebíč.

The interactive exhibition “Journeys Through Time” is accompanied by two cartoon characters of the townspeople, the merchant Jan Francesco Calligardi and the chronicler Jan Suchenius. Together with them, visitors will get a glimpse of the masters of medieval construction, discover how the basilica was built, how the town was founded and developed, and discover the beauty of old crafts. In addition to the traditional guided tours, there are lecture programmes for school groups, art workshops, and themed afternoons.

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- ← Interactive exhibition: Journeys Through Time.
 - ↓ Forecourt building and the chateau moat.



Disappeared Třebíč

This archaeological exhibition created from finds from the 12th and 13th centuries presents the life of people in medieval Třebíč. The exhibits, discovered during the reconstruction of Charles Square (2020-2022), are accompanied by a model of the town fortifications and an animated film about the history of the town. At the same time as the exhibition, a book bearing the same title was created which reveals the course and purpose of rescue archaeological research and captures valuable knowledge about the everyday life of people and animals, and the shape of the landscape.

→ Exhibition: Disappeared Třebíč.
↓ Exhibition: Disappeared Třebíč.



Jewish Quarter and Jewish Cemetery



Jewish Quarter

Jews settled near the Benedictine monastery as early as in the Middle Ages. Their presence here is first documented in writing in 1338. The following written information about the Jews of Třebíč refers to the period before 1410.

Jewish families can be found in sources from the end of the 16th century, for example in Stařečka or Podklášteří. It was in the former servant village of the monastery - Podklášteří - that a Jewish town gradually began to take shape. However, the establishment of the ghetto did not take place until 1723. In that year, the then owner of the Třebíč estate, Jan Josef of Wallenstein, ordered the last Christian inhabitants of Podklášteří to sell their properties to the Jews settled among the Christians in Podklášteří.

Four years later, plans were also drawn up for the construction of separation walls. In addition to the orders of the authorities, however, the territorial development of the Jewish ghetto was also determined by natural conditions. The Jewish settlement's centre was in today's Tiché náměstí Square and also extended north above it. Further development was along the course of the Jihlava River, which formed the

→ Jewish Quarter – Blahoslavova Street.

↓ View from the footbridge over the Jihlava River onto the Jewish quarter and basilica.





Jewish Quarter Front Synagogue

natural border of the ghetto. The Hrádek rock massif limited the development from the north. The western edge was defined by Christian houses along the road to the chateau.

The Front (Old) Synagogue is located on the western edge of the former ghetto. It was probably built between 1639 and 1642. The biggest construction modifications took place after a fire in 1857. In the following year, the synagogue building underwent a Neo-Gothic reconstruction. In the same year, the original entrance was also moved from the south side to the west. A surviving plan of the synagogue dates from 1859, according to which there were almost 200 seats in the synagogue - 114 in the men's section and 80 in the women's section. Since the early 1950s, the building of the Front Synagogue has been used by the Czechoslovak Hussite Church.

- ← The Front Synagogue from the south with entrance to the women's gallery.
- ↓ General view of today's neo-Gothic appearance of the synagogue.



Jewish Quarter Rear Synagogue

The Rear (New) Synagogue was built around 1669. The building shows many Renaissance elements (ground plan, outer support pillar, stone entrance portal, shape of windows). However, Renaissance elements prevailed in Třebíč architecture well into the 17th century. The growing number of members of the Třebíč Jewish community forced the construction of another synagogue. At the end of the 17th century, the Jewish community tried to expand the synagogue building. Although it had already received the approval of the Olomouc bishop's consistory, it met with the refusal of the authorities. The latter even ordered the synagogue to be demolished. The demolition did not take place, only the roof was torn off, but the building was in a very bad state of decay. In 1705, the community finally managed to obtain permission from the new authorities to roof the building and use it for worship, but the extension of the synagogue was again refused.

→ View onto the Rear Synagogue.

↓ Rear Synagogue and entrance to the tourist information centre.





In 1705-1707 the building was repaired and the interior decorated with one of the most beautiful Baroque paintings in Moravia. In addition to the name of the Rear Synagogue or New Synagogue, the terms New School, High Synagogue, or Upper Synagogue also appear in the sources that refer to this house of prayer. In the women's gallery of the synagogue there is an exhibition with Jewish themes and a unique model of the Jewish quarter by Stanislav Vrška on a scale of 1:100, showing the appearance of the quarter as of 1850.

- ← Interior painting in the Rear Synagogue.
- ↓ Interior painting – liturgical texts, biblical texts, and statements of rabbis.



Jewish Quarter The Antonín Kalina Memorial Hall and the Children of Antonín Kalina exhibition

The Antonín Kalina Memorial Hall was inaugurated in the Jewish Quarter near the Rear Synagogue on 17 February 2017, the 115th anniversary of Kalina's birth. Two years later, on 21 February 2019, it was expanded to include a section called the Children of Antonín Kalina. In addition to Antonin Kalina, the exhibition explores the fate of several exceptional personalities - photographer and historian Naftali Fürst, writer and Nobel Prize winner for literature Imre Kertész, poet, writer, and playwright Pavel Kohn, Jewish activist Israel Laszlo Lazar, filmmaker Alex Moskovitz, physicist Felix Weinberg, and writer and Nobel Peace Prize winner Elie Wiesel. Deserved attention is also given to Kalin's lifelong friend, the physician and humanist Jindřich Flusser, who was actively and significantly involved in the rescue of the boys at Buchenwald. An integral part of the exhibition is the Tree of Life, a unique artistic forging and tin-smithing work by masters and students of the Třebíč Secondary School of Industry, whose leaves are engraved with the names of the children rescued by Kalina.

- Antonín Kalina – Tree of Life.
- ↓ Righteous Among the Nations Award.





Jewish Quarter Seligmann Bauer House

In the neighbourhood of the Rear Synagogue, a house was built before 1798, which after extensive reconstruction was converted into a Jewish museum, today known as the Seligmann Bauer House. The owners of this cosy house were always obliged to allow Jewish women to enter the Rear Synagogue, or rather its women's gallery. The Seligmann Bauer House, standing next to the Rear Synagogue, is a unique display of Jewish family living conditions in the interwar period. On the ground floor there is a grocer's shop, on the first floor a kitchen, a bedroom, and in an annex in the courtyard there is an exhibition of a butcher's shop. The attic of the building has been converted into a lecture hall.

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- ← Exhibition of Seligmann Bauer.
 - ↓ Seligmann Bauer House.



Jewish Quarter The Jewish Municipal House

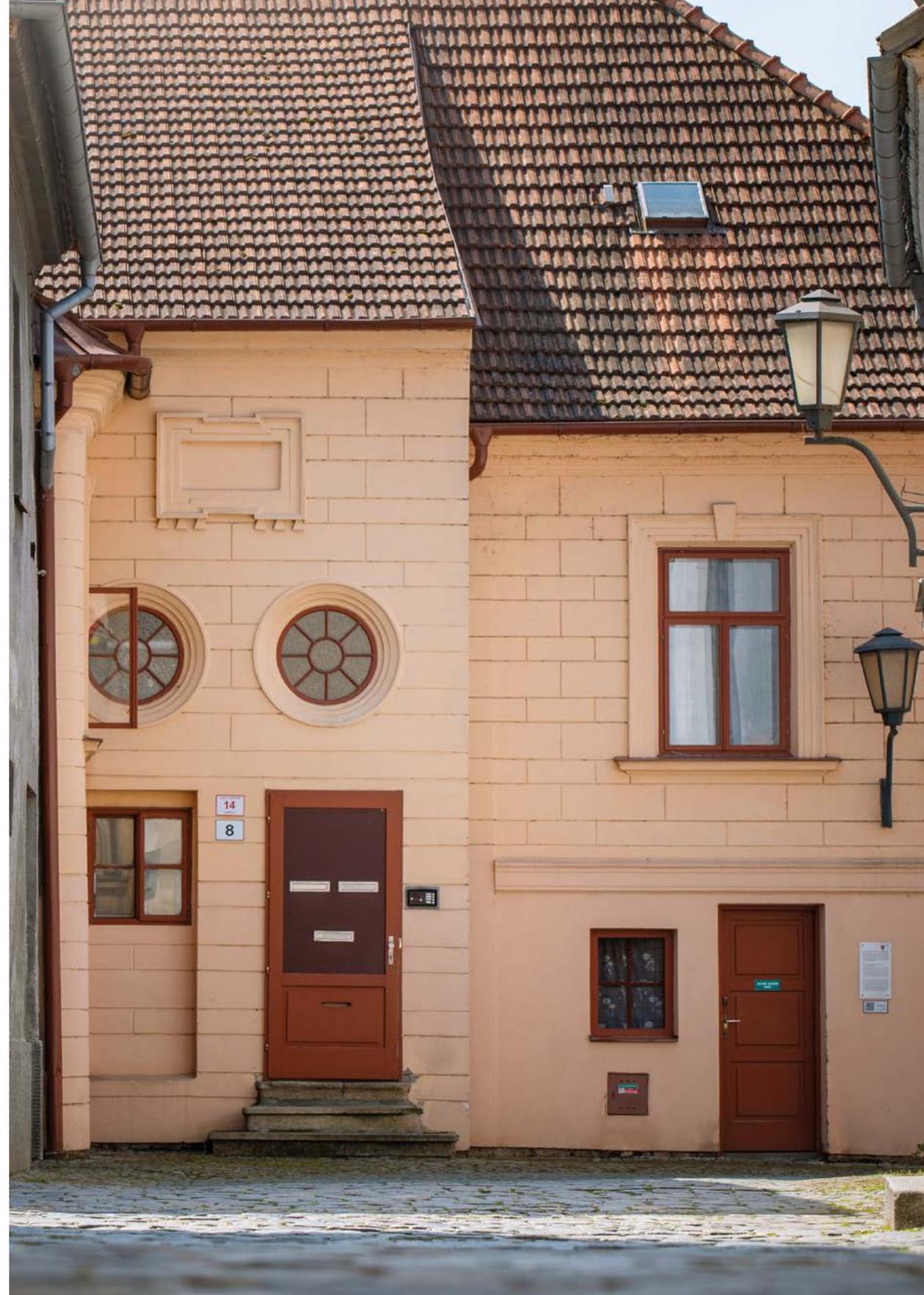
The Jewish Municipal House - the town hall (L. Pokorného No. 8) - was probably built after 1660. Until then, two neighbouring houses served the Jewish community for meetings. However, the town hall did not take on its present appearance until after significant building alterations in 1899. In addition to the meeting place for the community leaders, one room of this building also served as an archive. However, it also housed merchants' shops, a well, and a women's ritual bath (mikveh). The town hall was the most expensive house in the Jewish ghetto. Its price was higher than that of the two synagogues.

The House with the Gable

The House with the Gable probably dates from the 1920s and stands on the site of former Jewish shops.

→ The Jewish Municipal House.

↓ Detail of a facade element on a house in the Jewish quarter.





Jewish Quarter The Rabbi's House

The Rabbi's House (Tiché náměstí No. 4) was one of the oldest in the Jewish housing estate. Its original use had nothing to do with a dwelling for a rabbi. It housed two merchants' shops on the ground floor, and on the first floor there are records of a room, a storeroom, and a kitchen. Since rabbis were not allowed to receive any remuneration for their spiritual and educational activities in the Middle Ages, they had a variety of occupations. Therefore, the community did not need a separate house for them. The oldest known rabbi in Třebíč was Aron Nepole. It was only at the end of the 17th century that the situation changed and the Jewish community began to provide accommodation for its rabbis. We have an idea of the shape of the rabbi's house based on the land register from 1850. The house was two storeys high, with two shops on either side of the entrance which was located in the middle of the ground floor. From the front hall one could walk through a corridor to a small courtyard, where we would have found a toilet at the time. From the hallway, the visitor also took the stairs to the upstairs hall.

House No. 73

House No. 73 was probably originally Baroque and consisted of two parts.

← The Rabbi's House.
↓ House No. 73.



Jewish Quarter The Jewish School

The Jewish School – cheder (Subakova No. 43/3) - also originally did not have a special house. In earlier times, classes were held in private houses. This building, although one of the oldest buildings in the ghetto, was not rented by the Jewish community for the school until the beginning of the 18th century. In fact, only part of the house was used for the school - a room of about sixty square metres, which was accessed by stairs through a hallway shared by all the owners, as well as another room of 22 square metres and a storeroom. In 1993 the house was renovated, and the building was converted into an exhibition hall.

Subak's Tannery

Subak's Tannery - The buildings of the tannery were built gradually over the 18th and 19th centuries, although the original houses mostly date from the 17th century. The foundation of the tannery was a small tannery, owned by members of the Subak family. Leather tanning was a common craft of Jews in Třebíč from the 17th century. The Subak family first built smaller tannery workshops on the site of the later factory, and over time a single factory was established there. Subak's tannery was one of the most important factories not only in Třebíč, but also in the Habsburg monarchy. Under J. H. Subak, the factory was granted a privilege in 1871 and was allowed to have the imperial emblem on its shield. A year later, a steam engine started working here and in 1878 the company even participated in the World Exhibition in Paris. The factory buildings, located at the eastern end of the Jewish Quarter, were converted into a depository for the Moravian Provincial Archives and apartments in the 1990s.

- Subak's Tannery.
- ↓ The Jewish School.





Jewish Quarter

The House of Abraham Nováček

The House of Abraham Nováček (L. Pokorného 2) - as with other Jewish houses in Třebíč, this house located at the entrance to the ghetto has a Renaissance core. Compared to other buildings, the house's archway is supported by three stone columns. The house formed the so-called Jewish Gate and led through a narrow arched alley with a passage to the ghetto. If this entrance was provided with a door or gate, the entrance to the quarter could be closed at this point. Even so, access to the ghetto remained open directly through Blahoslavova Street.

The House of Samuel Ryšavy

The House of Samuel Ryšavy (L. Pokorného 25) - interesting mainly for its Baroque core, classicist façade, and vaults. The balcony on the seven stone corbels above Stinná Street is also worth noting. Another feature is the grooves in the portal lining, which have been preserved to this day. During floods, planks were inserted into them to prevent dirt from entering the house. In the middle of the 19th century the house consisted of three parts. In addition to a common hall, there were seven rooms, three kitchens, two brick toilets, two store-rooms, and two stores. In the 20th century, Leopold Pokorný lived here. He fought as an inter-brigadier in the Spanish Civil War, where he was killed in 1937.

-
- ← The House of Abraham Nováček.
 - ↓ The House of Samuel Ryšavy.



Jewish Quarter

The House of Josef Sklenář

The House of Josef Sklenář (L. Pokorného 5) is a building with a Renaissance core, vaults, and a supporting pillar. This is one of the oldest Renaissance houses in the Jewish Quarter. An interesting element of Jewish construction is the one-column corner bay. As with most Jewish houses, the ground floor served as a shop or craftsman's workshop. The living quarters were located on the upper floor. This house was also divided into several house parts.

The House of Jakob Kopel

The House of Jakob Kopel (10 Blahoslavova Street), also called Koplevský, stands partly in Horní židovská Street, partly in a small square near the Front (Old) Synagogue. It is known as a "condominium", i.e. a real division of the house into several partial owners, both horizontally and vertically (the descriptive numbers are then divided into a, b, c or more). Kopel's house was divided into seven parts and has a Renaissance-Baroque core and a preserved pavilion.

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- The House of Josef Sklenář.
 - ↓ The House of Jakob Kopel.





Jewish Quarter House No. 85

House No. 85 (Blahoslavova 23) - This building served the Jewish community as a poorhouse. The house itself has a Baroque core and is one of the most complex buildings in the Jewish quarter of Třebíč. The house appears in sources as early as the 17th century, and according to these records it is clear that the building was divided into two parts. In 1724 the building was added onto and divided into five separate parts. In 1850 the house was still in private hands, and sometime after that year it was turned into a poorhouse. In 1908 the municipality had the poorhouse re-roofed. The original site was enlarged and consisted of several houses adjacent to Skalní Street.

House No. 108

House No. 108 (Pomezni 23) was used as a hospital. In 1851 the Jewish community commissioned the construction of the house. There was room for 24 patients in the house. The original hospital may have been in the ghetto from the Late Middle Ages, and its purpose was to take care of sick and destitute Jews. The hospital is first mentioned in sources in 1661.

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- ↓ House No. 108 – Krankenhaus.
 - ← House No. 85 – former poorhouse.





↑ Jewish Quarter – courtyard of Seligmann Bauer's house.
↑ Jewish Quarter – Havlíčkovo embankment.
→ Jewish Quarter – Leopold Pokorný Street.





- ↑ Jewish Quarter – facade detail of Samuel Rysavy's house.
- ↑ Jewish Quarter – Blahoslavova Street.
- ← Jewish Quarter – Leopold Pokorný Street.

Jewish Cemetery

Shortly after its establishment, the Třebíč Jewish community had to establish its own burial ground. The original cemetery was probably located on a plot of land near the wall of the monastery. The new cemetery is located about 400 metres from the Jewish quarter on the north side of Hrádek. It is first mentioned in sources in 1636. However, the oldest Jewish tombstone according to current knowledge dates back to the second decade of the 17th century, while the first dated tombstone dates back to the 1730s. Tombstones from the 17-19th centuries are the work of both Jewish and Christian stonemasons. Inscriptions (epitaphs) used to be only Hebrew until the 19th century; later bilingual Hebrew-German and then Hebrew-Czech inscriptions began to appear. On Jewish tombstones one can often see plastic reliefs, which appear in our country from the 16th century onwards. The reliefs depict traditional Jewish symbols (Star of David, a pair of heraldic lions, a crown as a sign of the Torah, a grape as a sign of wisdom and fertility, a treasure box as a sign of charity, etc.), signs symbolising the personal or family name of the deceased (deer, bear, rooster, lion, goose, mouse, etc.), and more.

- Jewish cemetery – detail of a tombstone.
- ↓ Jewish cemetery.





Today the cemetery covers an area of 11,772 m² and is one of the largest Jewish cemeteries in the Czech Republic. It consists of two parts. The older one is located in the northeast and contains the oldest tombstones. Among the most valuable are the Baroque tombstones decorated with rusticated ornamental elements and floral motifs. The older tombstones are made of granite, marble, or sandstone, while the modern tombstones are made of black and light granite and marble. The younger part of the cemetery was added in 1888 and contains tombstones of the most important Jewish families as well as memorials to the victims of World War I and the Nazi genocide. A wagon road built in 1886 connects the cemetery with the nearby Jewish quarter.

- ← Decorated porcelain basin (kiyor) in the niche of the ceremonial hall.
- ↓ Entrance facade of the ceremonial hall built in 1903, with interior decoration and furnishings almost intact. This is the only independently listed ceremonial hall in Moravia.







Stones of the Disappeared

A number of small reminders of Třebíč's Holocaust victims can be found in many places around the town today. One of these is the Stones of the Disappeared.

The life of the Jews, who had lived in Třebíč for centuries alongside their Christian neighbours, was badly affected by the Second World War. In 1942, the Jewish population was deported to Terezín (Theresienstadt) and then to extermination camps in the East. Only a few survived the war, and those that returned were unable to rebuild the Jewish community. What remains today is an exceptionally well-preserved Jewish quarter which is unique in Europe from an urban and historical point of view. In front of some of the houses of the Jews of Třebíč there are the so-called Stones of the Disappeared. These are symbolic paving stones commemorating the victims of the Holocaust. The cube bears a brass plate with information about the disappeared person: name, and date of birth, deportation, and death. The first three Stones of the Disappeared were laid in Třebíč in 2013; two of them in the Jewish Quarter and the third on Charles Square near the Black House. The laying continued in 2016, 2018 and 2019. Due to the coronavirus situation, the 2020 laying was postponed until the following year. Memorial plaques and memorials to the victims of Nazi persecution can be found, for example, in the Jewish Cemetery, in the Rear Synagogue, and the Front Synagogue in the Jewish Quarter, at the gymnasium schoolhouse on Masaryk Square, or on Gorazdovo náměstí Square.

→ Stones of the Disappeared – Lina and David Wittmann.

↓ Stones of the Disappeared – Leopold Schwarz.





Nature Trail “In the Footsteps of Abbots and Rabbis”

The three most valuable monuments are connected by the educational trail entitled “In the Footsteps of the Abbots and Rabbis” which reveals something of the life of both religious communities that lived in close proximity in Třebíč for centuries.

Get to know the most interesting places, the history of Jewish houses, Jewish synagogues, and the Christian Basilica. Take a walk through time with us, go through the centuries, discover the beauty of Třebíč’s UNESCO sites, collect stamps, and get a reward. The brochure and stamps are available at the information centres.

- ← Blahoslavova Street marked with the educational trail “In the Footsteps of the Abbots and Rabbis”.
- ↓ A cartoon map of the educational trail “In the Footsteps of the Abbots and Rabbis”.



Town Fortification System,
Town Tower,
Charles Square,
and Burgher houses



Town fortification system

The town walls were one of the main privileges in the Middle Ages and were also an important feature of the town in later times. The right to build walls was a basic privilege that distinguished the town from the surrounding villages, and Třebíč was granted it in the privilege of Margrave Charles (later Emperor Charles IV) in 1335. The construction of the walls itself, however, was a long-term activity. It is not surprising that the walls were not completed in Třebíč until around the middle of the 14th century. The defence system of the towns did not consist of mere fortification walls but also included various outposts. In Třebíč, these included fortifications on Strážná hora, Hrádek, and probably also Polanka. Only the remaining part of the circular tower with loopholes at Hrádek has survived to the present day. The fortification here may also have been completed by a moat and a palisade. In the 15th century, several repairs were made to the walls after the Hussite Wars and after the end of the wars of Matthias Corvinus and George

- The granite cairn was built in 1924 to commemorate the 500th anniversary of Jan Žižka's death.
↓ Remains of a medieval bastion from the outpost of the town at Hrádek from the mid-14th century.





of Poděbrady. At the end of the 15th century, the original walls were repaired, and the fortifications included two prismatic and two cylindrical towers and 12 prismatic bastions. The town was entered through three gates. Travellers came from the west through the Jihlava (Klásterská) Gate, from the east through the Jejkovská or Brno Gate and from the south through the Vienna (also called Znojmo) Gate. The Jihlava Gate was removed in 1868 mainly because of its small size, as it began to interfere with traffic and the delivery of larger loads. The Jejkovská Gate served until 1897/1898, when the town had it demolished as the last of the Třebíč gates. The Vienna Gate was also demolished because it no longer suited the increased traffic. This already happened in 1840. The moat on the south side of the town was also part of the town fortifications. In the north, the town was protected by the Jihlava River. Even the suburbs could not remain unprotected. They were also fortified and entered through gates. The town gates disappeared during the 19th century as the town expanded.

← Evening over the river.

↓ View onto the city walls on the perimeter of the city centre.



Town Tower

In 1335 Margrave Charles (later King and Emperor Charles IV) granted Třebíč extensive town rights and the related obligation to surround the town with walls. Sometime after this year, the construction of a tower in the vicinity of the Vienna Town Gate was started as part of the town's fortification system. Unfortunately, the exact date is not known.

Mostly the tower was used as a signal tower to warn the citizens of approaching danger as high water, fires, troops, and to sound the regular clocks.

The tower originally stood completely separately from St. Martin's Church, and the two buildings were joined together only in 1716 when St. Martin's Church was extensively rebuilt.

The tower housed the so-called Chamber of All Towns, where important municipal documents and valuables were collected in case of danger. It had such a strong ceiling vault that even three falling bells during the great fire of 1822 did not break through it. It was able to withstand the impact and did not let the fire pass directly into the church's organ loft.

- View of the Town Tower with its 5.5 m diameter dial.
- ↓ The tower's roof, which is open to the public, is 35 m high.





In this fire, however, the entire part of it above the gallery collapsed into Hasskova Street. This part was not repaired until forty years later by the builder Karel Herzán.

In 1996, the last reconstruction of the tower was carried out by a descendant of the Třebíč builder Karel Herzán Ing. arch. Lubor Herzán, and the gallery was opened to the public.

The total height of the tower from the ground to the top of the cross is 75 metres. The tower is located at a height of 35 metres. The largest mounted tower clock in the Czech Republic is located above the gallery. The diameter of the dial is 5.5 metres, and the height of the numerals is 60 cm. The large hand is 234 cm long, the small hand 174 cm. The cross at the top of the tower is 4 metres high. The tower has a square ground plan with dimensions of 11.5 x 11.5 metres. In total, there are 162 steps in the tower.

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- ← View of the Town Tower, connected to St. Martin's Church at the beginning of the 18th century.
 - ↓ The bell tower below the apartment holds the memorial bells. Two have been preserved from the former fraternal congregation in Jejkov. The third one, named Svatopluk, was rang for non-Catholics.



Charles Square

At the turn of the 1260-70s, a marketplace was laid out on the same scale as you can see today. Three fountains stood here, fed by water from local ponds. In 1887, the fountains were removed for health reasons. With an area of 2.2 hectares, a width of 60 m and a length of 400 m, Charles Square is one of the largest in the Czech Republic. Specifically, it ranks 6th in terms of total area, although some sources place it 3rd – it depends on how one compares it.

→ Sculpture of Cyril and Methodius on Charles Square.
↓ View onto Charles Square from Jihlava Gate.





Model of Třebíč

In the gallery of the Passage Theatre, there is a model from the workshop of Stanislav Vrška, a Třebíč modeller and patriot, depicting the appearance of the town in 1835. The 1:100 scale model occupies almost 27 m².

Charles Square was choked with dirt, every house had cattle, soapmakers and tanners flourished, and geese swam in the river behind the square.

Stanislav Vrška used old maps, pictures, and engravings as the main source of information about the appearance of the town in 1835. These documents and meticulous work made it possible to work out even the smallest building elements in detail. The local patriot captured even the smallest details, such as linen flapping in the wind, animals, carriages, the town's inhabitants, tiny entrance doors to houses with handles, flower beds, and stacked wood sticks.

← Detail of the city tower from the 1835 town model.

↓ Detail of the western part of Charles Square (town hall building) of the town model.



Kaiserpanorama

The Painted House on Charles Square holds a unique exhibition entitled "Kaiserpanorama", which was the forerunner of the cinematograph.

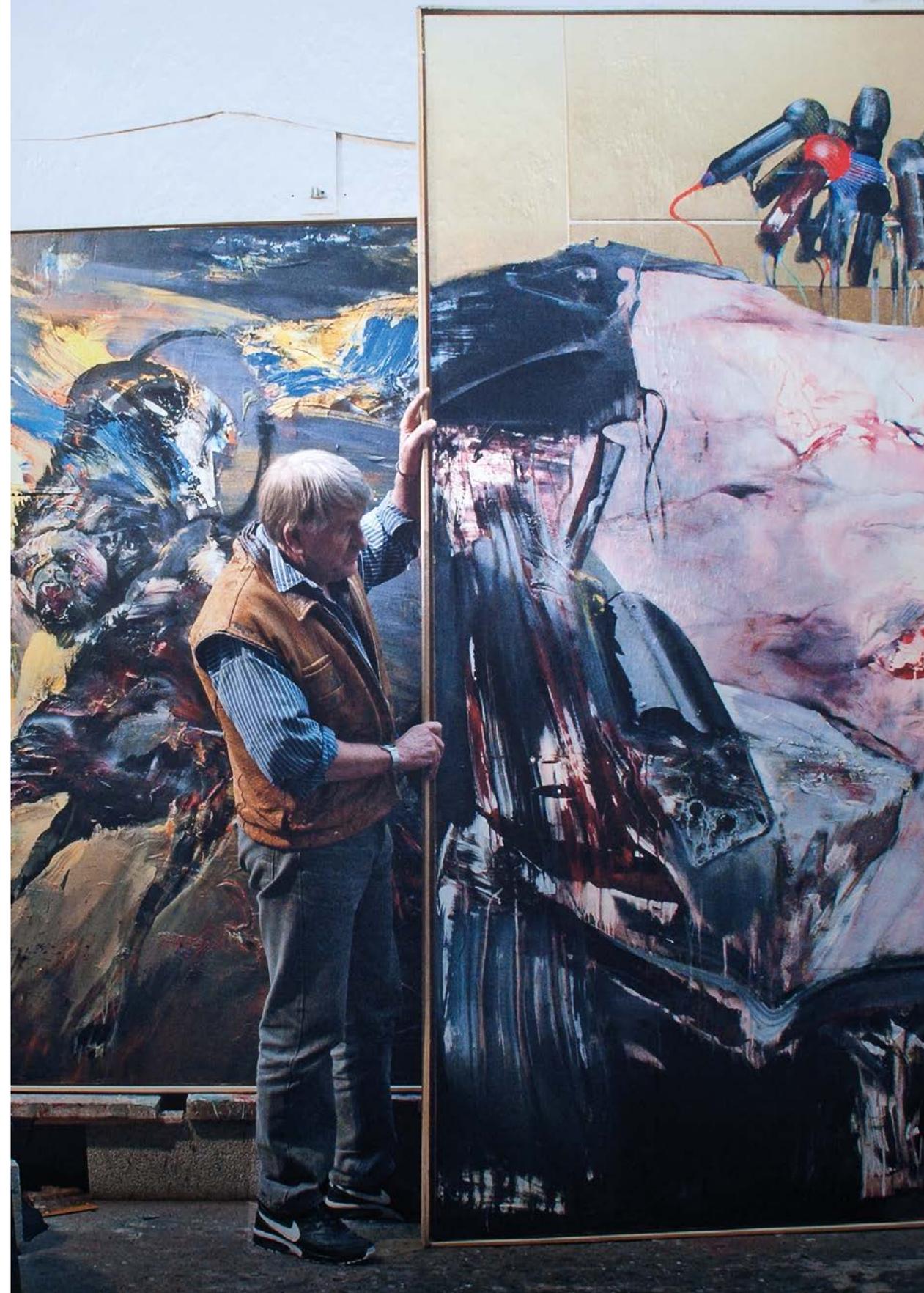
The Kaiserpanorama is a historical stereoscope - an optical device for plastic and perspective vision of flat photographs. It was used for the mass display of stereoscopic photographs at the beginning of the 20th century.

The exhibition features the exterior of this device, assembled from half of the original plates, with modern digital technology installed inside the instrument. By peering through the eyepieces, one can see projected photographs.

Franta Gallery

This permanent exhibition of his own work, donated by František Mertl, a native of Třebíč, under the artistic name FRANTA, consists of a cross-section of the artist's lifelong work. FRANTA is an important Czech artist who has earned an exceptional position on the international art scene.

- Master Franta.
- ↓ Kaiserpanorama.





Painter, sculptor, graphic artist, and above all an exceptional person, František Mertl was born in Třebíč. He was so attracted to painting that he enrolled at the Higher School of Art Industry in Brno and continued his studies at the Academy of Fine Arts in Prague in the studio of Professor Miloslav Holý.

His life was fundamentally changed by a study stay at the Academy in Perugia in 1956, where he was introduced to Italian Renaissance art, the free world, and where he met Jacqueline, a student of Italian and art history, and his future wife. In 1958, Franta followed Jacqueline to Nice, France, and settled in the south of France. In his paintings and sculptures, he responds to the disturbing events in the world and the tensions manifested in today's society, protesting against blind violence, human cruelty, destruction, and alienation from harmony and peace, which, on the contrary, he tries to find and show. The works, located in the FRANTA Exhibition in the courtyard of the National House on Charles Square in Třebíč, are a symbolic return of the artist to his hometown. The exhibition of Franta's works is intended for present and future generations of Třebíč residents and visitors.

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- ← Witness – reproduction.
 - ↓ Master Franta in the studio.



Burgher houses The Black House

The first mention of the house dates back to 1612, when the house was bought by the soapmaker Jan Rábl. He had the house completely rebuilt in 1619, and in 1637 the wall facing the square was covered with sgraffiti.

The sgraffito on the house was painted in 1862 and only in 1925 was it professionally repaired.

The sgraffito depicts individual human virtues: faith, love, hope, justice, wisdom, and glory, as well as hunting scenes and portraits of the Roman emperors Vespasian and Titus.

- Detail of sgraffito on the Black House.
- ↓ Sgraffito on the Black House.





Burgher houses The Painted House

This Renaissance Painted - Franciscan House was built at the end of the 16th century by the Venetian merchant Francesco Calligardi.

Francesco used to come to Třebíč with his father to do business, and one day he fell in love with a girl named Albina, but his father did not approve of their love. When Francesco's father fell ill, Francesco came alone and never left. He married Albina and had a Renaissance house built with rich sgraffito decoration (saints, biblical and hunting scenes, ornamental floral decoration).

The sgraffito was whitewashed in the 19th century and restored in 1903 by Josef Kozlanský, a professor at the Třebíč gymnasium. In the 1980s the dilapidated house underwent a thorough reconstruction. The inner vault, the bold colonnade, the inner terrace with arcades, the atrium, and a number of rooms were restored.

- ← Painted house with oriel window on the corner of Charles Square from the end of the 16th century.
- ↓ The painted house has figural sgraffito decoration.



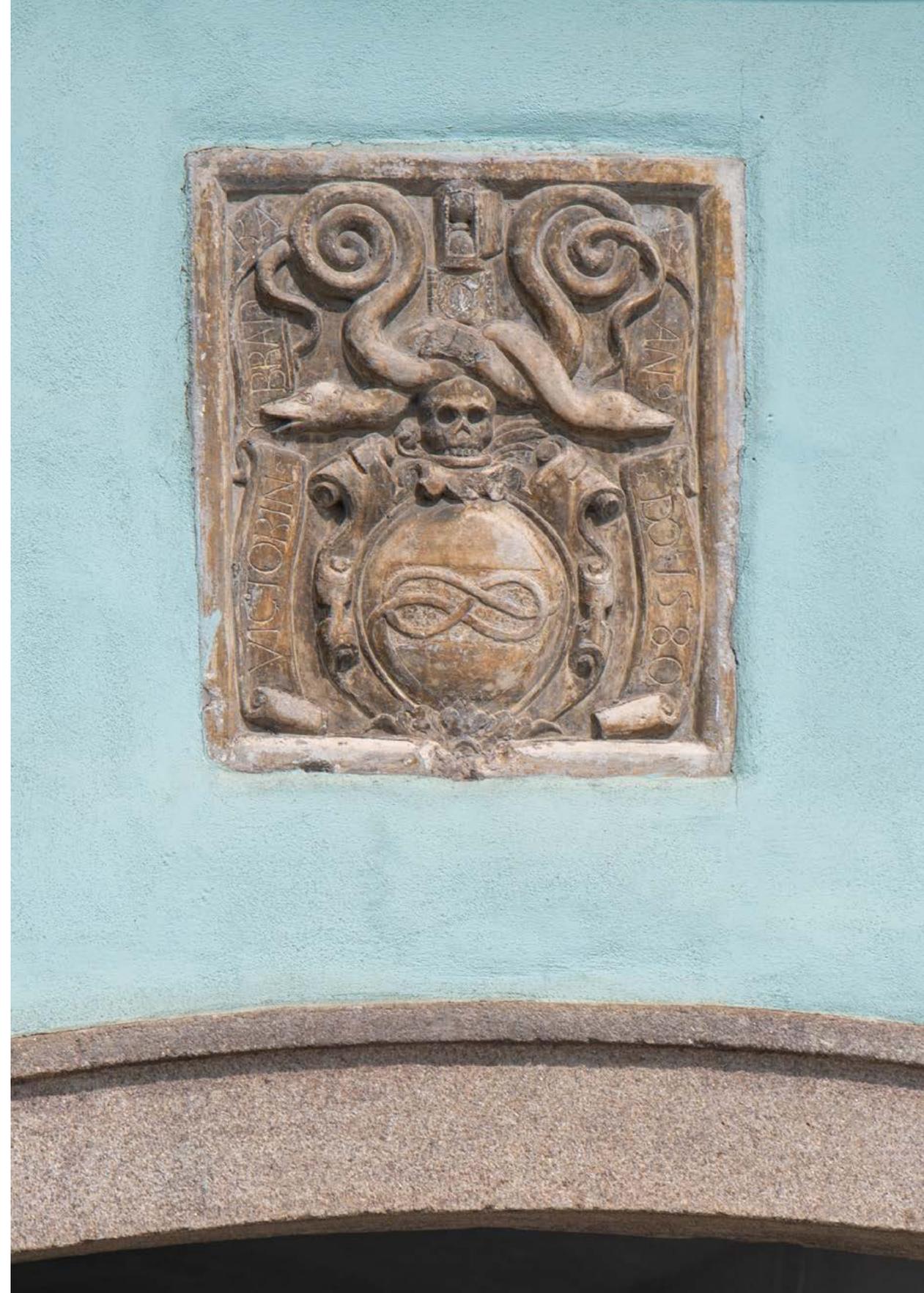
Burgher houses House at the Fortification Walls

The oldest sgraffito façade on this house consists of typical Renaissance writing in two decorative bands, dating from 1563 and uncovered in 1969. The name of the house (U Hradeb) comes from the proximity of the original remnant of the walls as part of the fortification of the town. This part of the walls is located between the bank of the Jihlava River and the end of the courtyard adjacent to this house.

House at the Black Eagle

There used to be an inn here. This house had the largest signboard on the square, depicting the imperial double-headed eagle. Above the entrance to the house is the emblem of the barber Viktorín Bradka and the year 1580. The year 1822 commemorates the great fire of the town.

- House at the Black Eagle.
↓ House at the Fortification Walls.





Burgher houses National House

Formerly known as the Meeting House (Besední dům), it was bought by the town of Třebíč and ceremonially opened in 1871. The house became the centre of the patriotic movement in Třebíč. In 1891, the first civic credit union in Třebíč was opened on the ground floor. During the First World War it was a military infirmary, with conscription ceremonies held here and the Sokol trained in the hall upstairs. According to historical data, under the building there are cellars carved into the rock which stretch all the way to the Church of St. Martin. The building has always been a cultural centre, with concerts, theatre performances, and other events still taking place here today.

Čapek's House

This two-storey townhouse was structurally connected to the former Jejkovská Gate. The Renaissance building was built on Gothic foundations and acquired its present facade at the beginning of the 20th century. On the northern side of the house there is a sgraffito depicting the original form of the Jejkovská Gate.

← Čapek's house in the eastern part of Charles Square.
 ↓ National House.



Statues and Sacral Buildings





Sacral Buildings Church of St. Martin

The construction of St. Martin's Church began in the late 1360s, but the church originally stood outside the town. It was not incorporated into the town proper until around the middle of the 14th century. The original form of the church was Gothic, but only the chancel and two bays of the cross vault have survived. The iron doors in the sacristy also date from the late Gothic period. On it we can see the emblem of one of the families that owned Třebíč - the Lords of Pernštejn. In the 16th and early 17th centuries, the Utraquists celebrated their masses here. Apparently from 1630, however, it passed into the hands of Catholic clergy. In 1671, this and other events resulted in the parish church of St. Martin being elevated to a deanery. In the 1740s the church underwent Baroque renovations. At the same time, the parish priest Václav Bures oversaw the construction of the altar of St. Wenceslas and the organ. Further building modifications took place at the beginning of the 18th century, when the chapels of St. Anne and St. Joseph were added. The church was also connected to the adjacent town tower. In 1990, underfloor heating was installed in the church. The church underwent extensive interior renovation and fresco restoration in 2002. The church received a new organ made by the Kánský-Brachtl organ company, which was installed in 2018.

- ← Dean's Church of St. Martin.
- ↓ Church altar.



Sacral Buildings

Holy Trinity Cemetery Church

Built in the middle of the 15th century in the Gothic style, then in 1564-1573 it underwent a Renaissance reconstruction. The building underwent further alterations in 1661, which involved repairs to the tower and the roof. Sixteen years later, the church was consecrated by Bishop J. J. Breuner of Olomouc. The new consecration of the church was one of the Baroque celebrations aimed at consolidating the position of Catholicism in the town. In 1701 a tower with an onion dome was built next to the church. This was done with the help of the owner of the Třebíč estate, Karl Ferdinand of Wallenstein. At this time the church also acquired two bells. In 1775, the church underwent further modifications – the windows were enlarged and the interior with a mounded lunette vault of the nave was modified. In 2000, restoration work was carried out, which included a full-scale removal of the façade, during which Renaissance sgraffito was uncovered, preserved, and hidden again under new plaster. Two years later the church briefly became a parish church – this was during the extensive reconstruction of St Martin's Church.

- Interior of the Holy Trinity Church with early Baroque furnishings and altar.
↓ View onto the entrance to the cemetery church.





Sacral Buildings

Church of St. Wenceslas and St. Ludmila

There is also an Orthodox church in Třebíč, the Church of St. Wenceslas and St. Ludmila. The construction of this church was built between 1939 and 1940, and the building has a ground plan of an isosceles cross. The author of the design and the decoration was the priest, designer, and painter O. V. Kolomacký. The building was constructed by the company of J. Herzán. Kolomacký himself made the icons and paintings on the walls of the church and the so-called iconostasis - a wall with three entrances separating the altar area from the worshippers' area in Greek Catholic and Orthodox churches. Until the construction of the church, members of the Třebíč Orthodox community held their services in the old school, later in the trade school, the apprenticeship school, and sometimes also in the Evangelical church. On the landing of the entrance staircase, a stone plaque was set into the wall in memory of Vladyka Gorazd, who was the first bishop of the Czech Orthodox Church and was executed by the Nazis in 1942. An apartment for the parish priest was built on the ground floor of the church. An interesting fact is that the church tower is covered with gold leaf.

- ← The Orthodox church on Gorazdovo náměstí Square imitates Byzantine-Slavic church buildings of this kind in its layout, internal construction, and external appearance, e.g. the roofing of the dome and the gilding of the top of the tower.
- ↓ Inside the Orthodox church.

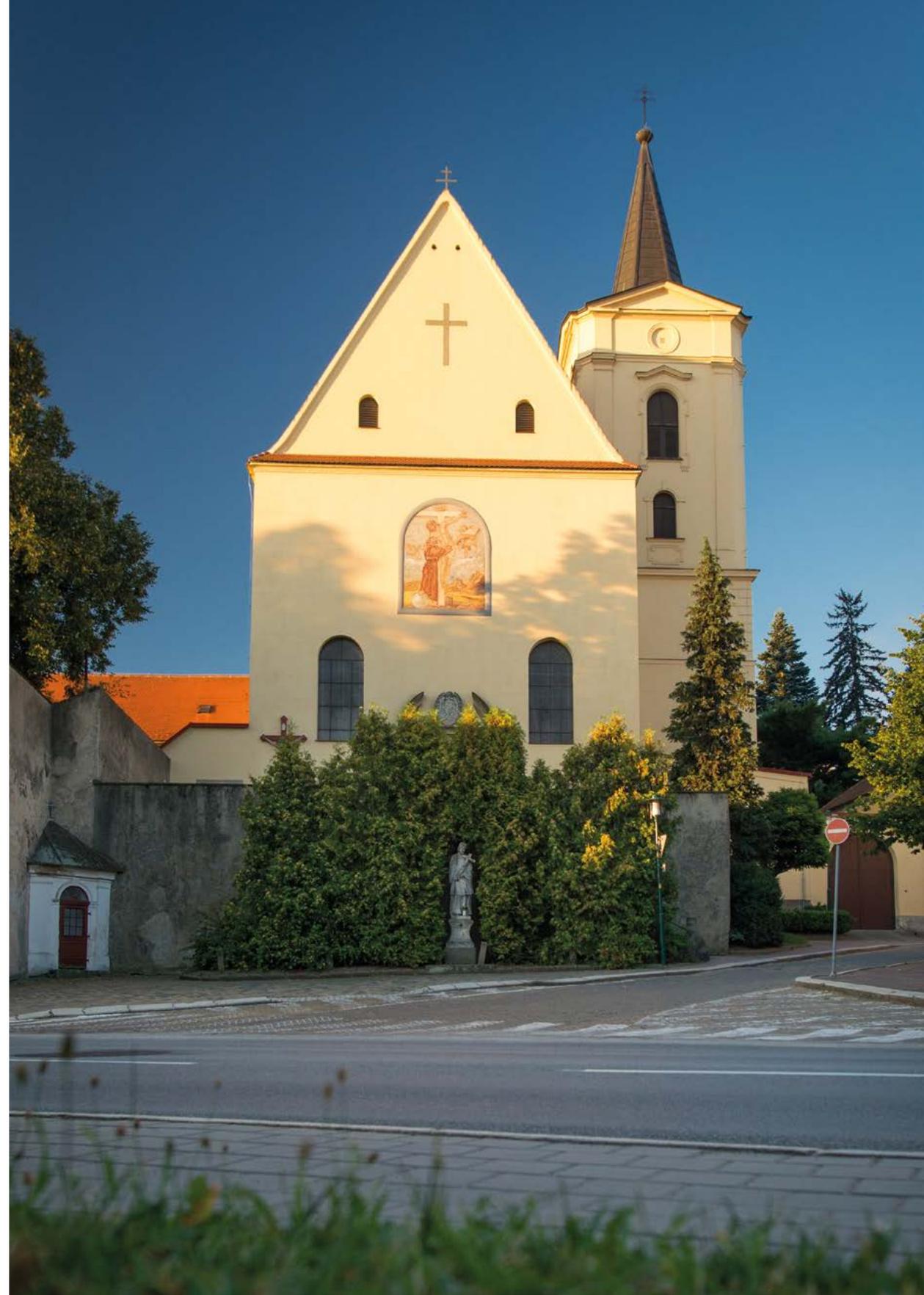


Sacral Buildings

Capuchin Monastery

The Capuchin monks came to Třebíč as part of the recatholization efforts in 1686, and four years later their monastery was completed. Construction work on the church continued, however, until 1693. The Church of the Transfiguration is a monastery and parish church. As part of their mission of spreading the Catholic faith, the Capuchins could not have chosen a better location for their monastery than the area of the Jejkov suburb. It was in the place where the monastery is located today that the congregation of the Unity of Brothers used to stand. No trace of the activity of the Bohemian brothers was to remain, so the Baroque garden of the new monastery completely covered the older Renaissance garden and burial ground of the Unity of Brothers. The monastery and church were built by the Capuchin monks in the traditional (and not very artistically demanding) Capuchin style. In 1784 a rectory was established next to the church. One hundred and twenty years later, another element was added to the church, rather untypical for the Capuchin order and its buildings - a tower on the west side of the church. Of its decoration, the paintings are certainly worth mention. Both the painting of the main altar and the paintings from the life of Christ are attributed to the painter J. Ceregheti (1722 - 1799). A seraphim school was founded at the Capuchin Convent in 1934. In the 20th century, the monastery garden was destroyed and partly covered by the ice rink. After 1950, the monastery buildings continued to serve public purposes. In addition to part of the hospital, the military administration also took refuge here. Since 1963, the convent buildings have housed the Secondary School of Mechanical Engineering. Nowadays, the Capuchin buildings are used by the Catholic grammar school.

- Street view of the Church of the Transfiguration.
- ↓ Inside the Church of the Transfiguration.





Sacral Buildings Evangelical Church

The Art Nouveau building of the Evangelical Church was built on Bráfova třída and consecrated on 15 August 1910. The author of the design of the building was Croatian architect Zlatohlávek, originally from Zagreb and working in Vienna. The funds needed for the construction were collected by the Brotherhood Unity Association. In the same year, the house opposite the acquired land was purchased and adapted as a temporary house of prayer. The construction of the church began in 1908. By 1910, a single-nave structure with a tower over the west front entrance was completed. The interior of the church is simply furnished, with pews in three rows and the pulpit located opposite the entrance. A small organ dating from the 18th century was placed in the choir. In 1928 the so-called Hus House, i.e. the parish building, was added next to the church.

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- ← Art Nouveau Evangelical Church on Bráfova třída.
 - ↓ Entrance to the Evangelical Church.



Sculptures Cyril and Methodius

This sculpture was created by Bernard Seeling. A public collection was announced, and the sculpture was unveiled in 1885. The statue was transported to Třebíč by train. The two statues of the saints travelled separately and were joined into one sculpture on the spot. Both Thessaloniki brothers are depicted in bishop's robes, although Cyril was only a monk. On the left, Cyril clutches a cross, while Methodius holds a scripture and his foot rests on the head of a pagan idol as a sign that paganism was banished with the arrival of the brothers. During the reconstruction of Charles Square in 2021, a time capsule was discovered in the base of the statue.

St. John of Nepomuk

The Baroque statue of John of Nepomuk, set on a plinth with the carved coat of arms of Wallenstein, is located on Žerotínovo náměstí Square near the Podklášterský Bridge over the Jihlava River. As the patron saint of bridges, fishermen, and crafts that have to do with water, St. John of Nepomuk is often placed near streams and bridges. The saint is depicted life-size and dressed in a canon's robe with a biretta on his head, a crucifix in his arms and five stars above his head which symbolize the five wounds of Christ.

- St. John of Nepomuk on the Podklášter Bridge.
↓ Sculpture of Cyril and Methodius on Charles Square.





Sculptures

St. Sebastian, St. Florian, St. Wenceslas

Numerous Baroque statues completed the face of the town in the 18th century. The author of the statues of St. Wenceslas, St. Sebastian, and St. Florian is the sculptor Štěpán Pagan. The statues originally stood on Baroque fountains in the square. The statue of St. Sebastian adorned the fountain in front of the town hall and bore the town emblem and the year 1730. The statue of St. Wenceslas stood on the middle fountain, which was repaired in 1854 by the mayor Martin Hassek. The statue of St. Florian stood on the fountain on the eastern side of the square by the Jejkovská Gate. Unfortunately, the fountains no longer exist today. They were removed in 1887 during the modernisation of the town's water supply system and so the mid-18th century statues had to be moved. St. Sebastian was erected on Stařečka (now V. Nezval Street). Between 1995 and 1999, the statue of St. Sebastian was restored and newly placed on Martin Square next to St. Martin's Church. The statue of St. Wenceslas was placed on today's Purkyňovo náměstí Square to the left of the original entrance to the hospital. During the extensive reconstruction of the hospital in 2020, the statue was moved to a depository, and a suitable location is currently being sought near the historic town centre. The statue of St. Florian originally stood on Martin Square. After the restoration, it was placed in the park on Masaryk Square against the wall of the parish garden.

Statue of Music

The sculpture Music by the academic sculptor Zdeněk Řehořík from 1991 was originally intended for the area near the Na Kopcích kindergarten and primary school. Eventually, however, it was placed in the park on Masaryk Square.

- ← Statue of St. Wenceslas.
- ↓ Statue of Music.



Industrial Buildings of the 19th Century and Interwar Architecture



Interwar Architecture River Baths

The functionalist architect Bohuslav Fuchs was commissioned not only to build the town savings bank in the 1930s but also to design the construction of the town swimming pool. The wooden changing room building is certainly worth a look, as the colours used are particularly striking. The individual colours - yellow, blue and red - are distinguished from each other by the infill and supporting elements. Interest in the river baths has been declining since the late 1950s. In 1976 the river baths were replaced by three pools with heated water and sanitary facilities. In the early 1990s, the Games without Borders were held in the swimming pool area, which the Třebíč team won on its home turf. Since 1994, younger visitors in particular have been using the swimming pool's water slide.

↓ → River Baths.





Interwar Architecture Rondo Cubist building of the UP Plant

The Rondo Cubist building of the UP Plant was built in 1926. Its construction is associated with the name of Josef Gočár, one of our most important interwar architects. The architect J. Vaněk, the owner of Uměleckoprůmyslové závody (UP Plant), was the commissioner of the building. The building served his furniture factory. It is a four-storey building with a rectangular ground plan. The roof of the building is flat, with a broken roof cornice above the northern facade. The entire building is completed by geometric shapes in the exterior and interior. We can only guess how the whole building would look in its intended colour combination of red, white, and blue.

The former spořitelna savings bank

The former spořitelna savings bank on Charles Square is inextricably linked with the name of the architect Bohuslav Fuchs, who also designed other functionalist buildings in Třebíč. The building of this municipal savings bank was built on the site of the original corner Renaissance house between 1932 and 1933. The architect Fuchs tried to preserve all the elements typical of functionalism in his project. Both the consistency of the internal structure and the external appearance were maintained, as well as the use of contemporary materials (glass, reinforced concrete, ceramic tiles). The use of a special compositional element - light - was to play a particular role. The exterior appearance and part of the interiors have been preserved to the present day. Today, however, the building does not serve its original purpose. The building is a listed heritage building.

- ← Northern facade with broken cornice above the roof.
- ↓ Unique Rondo Cubist elements applied to the facade of the building.

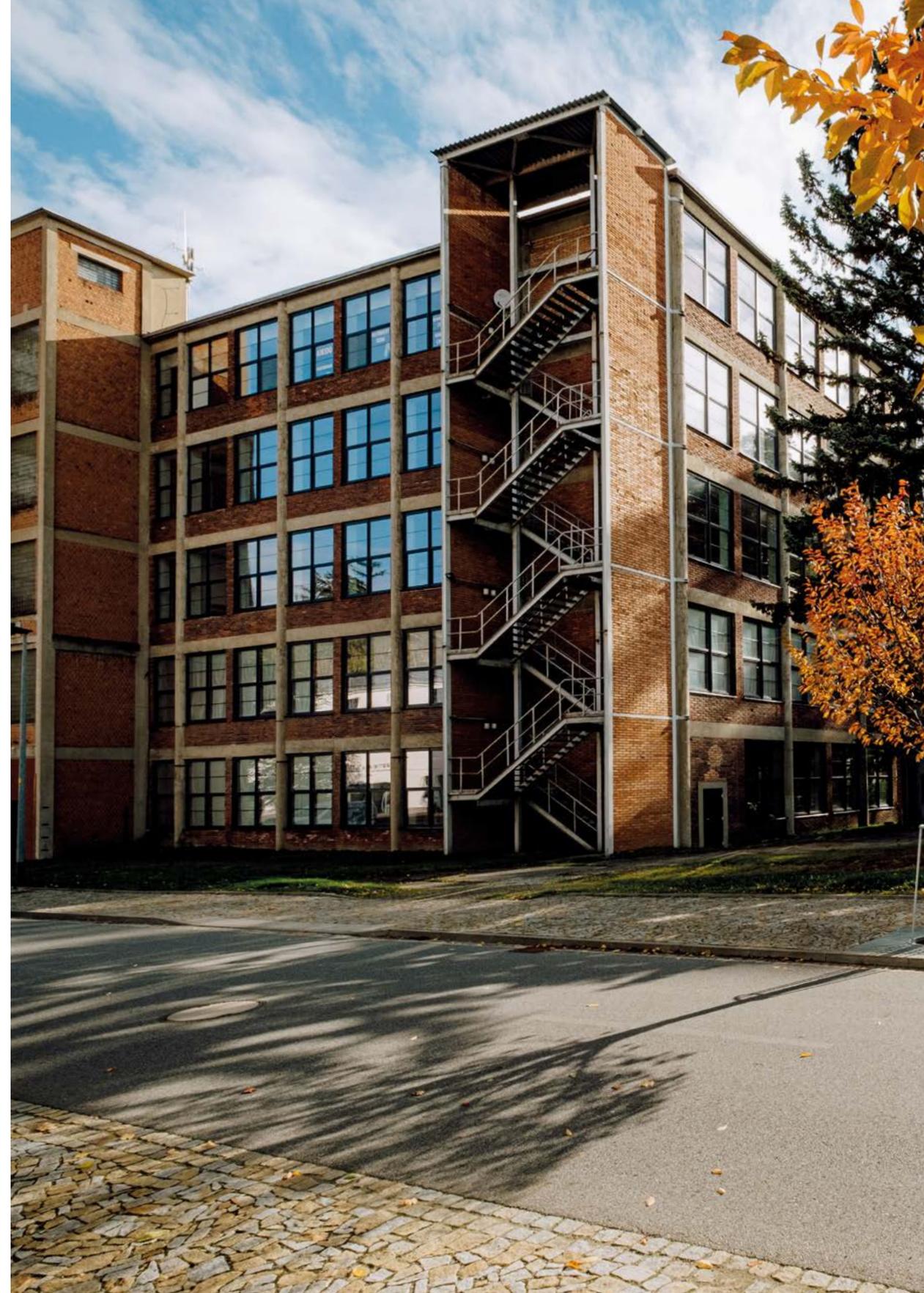


Interwar Architecture Borovina industrial plant

Třebíč has a long tradition of tanning and shoemaking. In the 19th century, the shoemaking and tanning firms of K. and F. Budischowski, M. Hassek, and J. H. Subak flourished. Industries such as leatherwork and weaving were pushed into the background. Tomas Baťa continued the shoemaking tradition in the town with his factories. The Borovina factory was bought by Tomáš Baťa in 1931. The construction of the Baťa factory building was completed in 1936. Today, we can still see two five-storey buildings where shoemaking and hosiery production took place. The combination of reinforced concrete frame, large glazed areas, and solid brickwork gives them a still modern look. The design of the buildings of the Borovina factories was developed by Vladimír Karfík, who was the head of Baťa's Zlín design office. From the moment when Baťa bought the factory, the construction of family houses also began. The houses were built in the factory colony and their construction was based on the experience of building such a colony in Zlín. The Borovina family houses are still in use today, although they were originally intended to serve their function for only twenty years.

→ Detail of the Baťa Factory building.

↓ Entrance gate to the complex – this building was built in the 19th century by the Budischowsky company.





Interwar Architecture The windmill at Kanciborek

The windmill at Kanciborek was built in 1836 for the needs of the Budischow factory and was used to grind spruce and pine bark into so-called tanning bark. This was used by tanners to tan hides. The tannery gave the leather its stability, elasticity, stiffness, and water resistance, and it also dyed it.

The original intention was to build a wooden mill, but eventually it was decided to build it of stone and brick, the so-called Dutch type. The mill served its original purpose until the 1890s. In 1929, it was long abandoned and bought by the municipality, which set up emergency housing for the municipal poor in the mill. Three small flats were built on each floor. The last tenant of the windmill moved out in 1977. The mill then underwent minor exterior modifications, but it did not receive the necessary total reconstruction. It was not until 2018 that the new town administration decided to start a general overhaul. The original technological equipment for grinding the tannins could not be completely restored. Nevertheless, using the original materials and manufacturing processes, functional wind blades driven by an electric motor were realised. The other floors of the mill house museum exhibitions to remind us both the famous era of the Třebíč tannery and the fate of the simple people who lived there.

ZON

“ZON” - in the second half of the 19th century, the production of table waters refreshed with carbon dioxide, later flavoured with fruit syrups, began to develop in Central Europe. Mr. Ferdinand Kubeš was one of the first to establish the production of these beverages in Třebíč as early as May 1879. In 1901, a trademark in the form of a star with the initials F.K. 1879 was registered, which is still used to mark the products today. In the same year, the products were exhibited at an international exhibition in Paris, where they were awarded a gold medal. The factories were expanded several times afterwards and, especially after the First World War, production and sales were greatly modernised and services improved. In 1926, the new company name “ZON” was registered as an abbreviation of Health Refreshment Drinks (Zdravotní Osvěžující Nápoje), which also became the second trademark. At that time, the 0.33 litre “ZON” bottles were introduced which are still in use today.

- ← Windmill at Kanciborek.
- ↓ Buildings of the ZON company.



Viewpoints
Town Parks



Town Parks

The first written references to the establishment of urban greenery date back to 1835, when the reforestation of Strážná Hora in the south of the town took place. At the end of the 19th century, the Mácha Gardens in the centre of the town and the park at Polanka in the Jihlava River floodplain were established. In 1924-1926, the Tyrš Gardens were established on the southern edge of the town centre, Masaryk Gardens (Hrádek) on the north, while park landscaping was carried out on Masaryk Square in front of the gymnasium. On 7 September 2022, a statue of the first Czechoslovak President Tomáš Garigue Masaryk was unveiled in the Tyrš Gardens.

The park of the Wallenstein family seat, three cemeteries in Třebíč (the old and new town cemeteries and the Jewish Cemetery at Hrádek), and the forest parks in Třebíč (Lísčí, Libušino údolí, Lorenzovy sady, Krajíčkova stráž) can be counted among the town's greenery. The forest parks were equipped with resting places and benches, and gazebos were built at viewing points. The Týn Valley with its cascade of ponds stretching to the centre of the town is quite valuable. The town often cooperated with the landscape architect Josef Kumpán in the creation and design of the parks. Thanks to its many parks, Třebíč can now be called a green oasis.

→ View from Tyrš Gardens.

↓ Libušino údolí valley.





Geopark and Dendrological Trail in Tyn Valley

Rocks typical of regional geology and characteristic of western Moravia can be seen near the Jewish Cemetery. They are brought not only from active quarries in the Třebíč region, but also from surrounding regions, from the districts of Znojmo, Břeclav, Brno-venkov, Vyškov, Žďár nad Sazavou, and Jihlava, while some samples are from the Pardubice region. The heaviest one weighs almost 4 tonnes. Blocks of stones are arranged according to their origin - under the trees you'll see magmatites (igneous rocks), metamorphites (transformed rocks), then cross the meadow and around the path you can see sedimentary rocks. Visitors can find out where each block was imported from on the map to the right of the text. The attached timeline gives a clue as to how old the rocks are or when they were formed. And now there's nothing left to do but to stroll around the exhibition and take a closer look at the individual rocks. Look for polished surfaces, and you will find that every rock can be decorative. The QR codes placed on the stones provide something more about the stone, but you can also find a photo of the place you are supposed to find on the stone.

In ancient times, the Celts lived on the territory of today's Europe. They were famous for their close relationship with nature, which was sacred to them and from which they drew wisdom. They believed that trees had magical powers, and they worshipped and admired them. The Celtic reverence for trees was manifested, for example, in that before a tree was felled, people would ask its forgiveness. They also believed that a person who destroyed a tree for no reason would be severely punished by the gods. The Celts compared human qualities to those of selected trees, and even made horoscopes based on them. Each person belongs to one of the tree signs according to his or her date of birth and may have certain characteristics according to his or her tree. The Celts included 21 trees in their calendar, which is why there are the same number of stops in the Tyn Valley. At each of these stops, visitors can learn interesting facts about the tree and information about the possible characteristics of people born under the corresponding sign. Each tree has an assigned number and a QR code, which, when scanned, displays the information. The tree calendar also includes a fun "quest" that is available at the information centres, or you can retrieve it using the QR code at the beginning of the trail.

Viewpoints

Kostelíček Water Tower

This reinforced concrete structure located above the town on Strážná hora near Kostelíček, at an altitude of 480 m above sea level, was begun in 1936.

The water tower served as a water supply for the town. The water was obtained from the Heraltice forests, from where the western part of the town is still supplied and used to produce the Třebíč soft drink "zonka" (ZON). The water tower served until the turn of the 1970s and 1980s. Then it ceased to have a sufficient capacity and was replaced by a connection to the water supply system from Mostišťe and Vranov.

At present, the reservoir serves as an exhibition of the development of the Třebíč water industry, and the former water tank has a projection room. The observation platform, located 20 metres above the ground, offers a unique view of the town.

Masaryk's Lookout

The stoney Masaryk Lookout viewpoint stands on a rocky slope of the Hrádek Forest Park. A path and stairs lead to the viewpoint. It was built by the local Ornamental Society in 1930 on the occasion of the 80th birthday of President Tomáš Garrigue Masaryk. The front of the monument is decorated with a bronze round medallion with the president's likeness and the inscription "T. G. Masaryk zasloužil se o stát" (For meritorious service to the state). During the second half of the 20th century, the relief was lost twice, and in 2012 it was returned to its original location for the last time. There is a nice view of the town along the Jihlava River. You can see as far as the Basilica of St. Procopius - a UNESCO monument.

-
- Kostelíček Water Tower.
 - ↓ Masaryk's Lookout.





History and monuments

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