



i town information centre HAVLÍČKŮV BROD

Havlíčkovo náměstí 57, 580 61 Havlíčkův Brod 2

Tel.: +420 569 497 357, 353

Fax: +420 569 497 299

e-mail: icentrum@muhb.cz, www.muhb.cz



Project: To the beauties and history of Havlíčkův Brod,
reg. no. CZ.1.11/2.2.00/02.00554.
This project was co-financed by the European Union.

Photography: Zdeněk Málek - zdenek.malek@sattnet.cz
Graphics, DTP, print: EVERSMILE s.r.o. www.eversmile.eu
info@eversmile.cz, www.eversmile.eu

a benefactor. The town did not acknowledge its significant native till 17th October in 1997 when they dedicated an interesting memorial of polished glass and amphibolite to him in the park Budoucnost. The author is an important native Jan Exnar (1951), a graduate from VŠUP in Prague by prof. S. Libenský. We can find his objects of glass and full colour images in the collections of museums and galleries around the world. He made five pieces of stained glass for St. Adalbert Church in Havlíčkův Brod.

15. THE MEMORIAL TO JOSEFÍNA HAVLÍČKOVÁ

Josefa Havlíčková (1791–1884) outlived her famous son and her funeral became a national demonstration with the participation of leading Czech politicians. However, the bronze bust was not unveiled till 9th May in 1937 at Mother's Day. The Protection of Mothers and Children and the Union of District Youth Care under the auspices of the president's wife organized exposition of the memorial. The granting of honorary citizenship of T. G. Masaryk and E. Beneš was the part of the celebration then the celebration continued by reverent remembrance in the old graveyard and the evening continued by singing and music academies. The exposition of the memorial was held next day attended by a senator V. Klobáček. M. Horáková for the Women's National Council gave one of the manifestations. The author of the work was a sculptor Vlasta Dohnalová-Pešanová from Chrudim, who belonged to friends O. Štáfl. The bust of Havlíček's mother originally stood in the park near the road to the Calvary. During the German occupation it was intended to be destroyed and it returned to Havlíčkův Brod from Prague together with the memorial to K. Havlíček in July 1946. Since 1960 it stands near the pond Oboza, on the site of the memorial to Masaryk at that time destroyed. Her bust should have "disguised" this event.



16. THE MEMORIAL TO KAREL HAVLÍČEK BOROVSKÝ

After 1918 the town publicly acknowledged K. Havlíček who could not be missing in "Pantheon" of national martyrs. Then there appeared first attempts to rename Německý Brod to Havlíčkův Brod. The idea to honour Havlíček by the construction of the memorial "revived" after the coup in 1918, when the town hall "for the citizens' request" wanted to replace the baroque Maria's Column by Havlíček's memorial. The "Committee for the Construction of the Memorial to Karel Havlíček Borovský in Německý Brod", was established on 26th October in 1918, who should have also selected the place to install it. Three options were proposed: the Commission preferred public gardens, the representatives of the town preferred the square but the preservationists disagreed. Personal and party interests reflected the dispute of the position. The opinion of the Ministry of Education became important. In June 1920 the city council noted the resolutions of the Committee about the con-



struction of the memorial in the park and in October the cornerstone was laid. The design of prof. B. Kaifka (1878–1942), a pupil of S. Sucharda and J. V. Myslbek, an author of many sculptures of famous people, was chosen. Naval guns of the Austrian army became the basis of Havlíček's bronze statue (thanks to the Minister of Defence V. Klobáček). The implementation of the memorial took two years, finances were obtained by public subscription. The statue was unveiled on 14th September in 1924 with the participation of many political personalities. The Chairman of Chamber of Deputies F. Tomášek gave the ceremony manifestation. The fate of the bronze memorial was sealed under the German protectorate when the statues were transformed into cannons once again. In 1943 the memorial was removed, taken to Prague and intended for disposal. Thanks to the braveness of people, the statue was rescued and solemnly returned to the town already renamed to Havlíčkův Brod on the day of 6th July in 1946, on the occasion of the Havlíček's celebrations of the 90th anniversary of his death. This time the memorial was unveiled in the presence of President Edvard Beneš and the Minister of Foreign Affairs J. Masaryk.

17. THE MEMORIAL TO THE KILLED

It is located in the park Budoucnost under the statue of K. H. Borovský. After six years of German occupation, the town lived to see liberation. Nevertheless, the joy of freedom was mixed with sadness because the last days the World War II in Německý Brod were tragic. On 5th May in 1945, after the reports of the Prague uprising, the newly established revolutionary national committee of the Czechoslovak Republic announced taking over management of the town and its renaming to Havlíčkův Brod. After initial negotiations with the German occupiers SS troops surrounded the town hall and martial law was declared in the town. The reprisals against the armed patriots began, which lasted until 8th May, when the Germans began to retreat. The town was liberated by coming troops of the second Ukrainian front of marshal Malinovsky on 9th May. The discovery of mass graves of the hostages however soured the celebration of victory in Lázníčkova hillside and in Hurtova Lhota by Věž. The human remains of the tortured were reverently buried on 14th May in 1945 with the participation of the whole town in public gardens, in places of the planned memorial dedicated to war victims. A. Štůba, a chairman of the town national committee, had a merit in the construction of the memorial. With regard to the post-war situation, the memorial was not unveiled till 11th May in 1947, a year later than Havlíček's memorial. The architect František Marek designed the arc of polished granite with the names of citizens from Havlíčkův Brod who died in two world wars. Their list disappeared in 1975 because some of them did not comply with the communist ideology and the bronze reliefs (1977) replaced them. The names of the dead did not return to the memorial till the changed political situation and they were accompanied by the names of Jewish citizens who did not return from concentration camps.

18. THE MEMORIAL TO MIROSLAV TYŘS

The Sokol's Unity in Německý Brod joined the nationwide celebrations of the 100th anniversary of the birth of Dr M. Tyrš in 1932. It paid a tribute to him by the construction of the memorial in the park on the proposal of A. Šoub. The bronze plaque was made according to the model of Antonín Lhoták (1897–1975), an academic sculptor and a medallist, a student of O. Španiel, in Prague. The memorial was unveiled on 28th September in 1932, together with the cer-



emonial procession, mass meeting of people in the square, sports events and amateur performances, the lanterns parade to the Calvary with a firework, the bonfire and the concert of Jasoň. The "memorial fire", flaming on 17th September on the hills of the whole republic, impressed magnificently.

19. THE HNÁT'S STONE

The stone, walled in the railing of the bridge over the river Sázava, is associated with a watcher Hnát who reportedly betrayed and gave the town to the inhabitants of Jihlava (1472) – that is also reminded by the "Grim Reaper of Havlíčkův Brod". The unhistorical legend shows the traditional rivalry of two adjacent, ethnically diverse towns and the time of wars. Since 18th century the stone has been associated with Hnát. Because of landscaping (floods, building the stone bridge) it has been transferred for several times. In the early 20th century it was damaged by a wagon so it was located in the basement of the grammar school where it was found under coal at the end of the 30's. It was returned back after rebuilding of the bridge in 1946, walled into the railings but in the opposite direction than previously. It belongs so-called cross-stones (peace crosses) built between 14th and 16th century in the place of a crime as part of a peaceful settlement of the perpetrator with the victim's family. Little readable Czech inscription dating back to 1513 or 1613 when a man was probably killed by a carpenter's ax near the Dolní Gate. Who they were, fell into oblivion, the citizens eventually joined the legend about Hnát with the current peace stone.



20. THE HEART OF EUROPE

Number places apply for the the centre of Europe, we can find two of them in Havlíčkův Brod, both from the ideological workshop of fictional genius Jára Cimrman. A "portable" one in the town hall, the work of Jan Exnar, the other one in the garden of the café "U Notáře". The funnel-shaped object from painted steel of respectable size (diameter 2.6 m, height 3.5 m) collects rain drops, the energy of which flows into the "Heart of Europe". It is the work of the artistic blacksmith Martin Šteller (born in 1962), a graduate of Applied Arts School in Turnov, who lives and works in Chlístov near Havlíčkův Brod. His metal sculptures and projects are found across Europe.



21. THE MILLENIUM PAVILION ALIAS TŘI GRACIE (THREE GRACES)

The wooden garden pavilion with figures of three charming Graces is found in the old hospital park as one of the many wooden sculptures in the area of a district hospital. It is the work of an artist from Havlíčkův Brod Radomír Dvořák (born in 1959), a graduate of the Faculty of Education in Hradec Králové. The pavilion's composition represents the smallest possible delimitation of space by means of three points while it points at the most popular topics of the author, a figure of a woman and his favourite



material – wood. The garden pavilion was festively opened on 27th October in 2000. Other author's works brighten up not only to the public hospital facilities but also the entire city.

22. THE MEMORIAL TO M.D. FRANTIŠEK ZAHRADNICKÝ

The statue of M.D. František Zahradnický, the first head physician of the "General District Hospital of the Emperor and King Franz Joseph I of Austria" dates back to 1897 and stands in front of the hospital (1867–1930). Německý Brod was one of the first Czech rural towns where a modern medical institution was founded. M.D. Zahradnický had a great merit in it. He was not only a good surgeon but he also played a leading role during foundation of the Masaryk's League against tuberculosis. He worked in the hospital almost for 30 years, the town made its farewell of him by granting of honorary citizenship to him in 1926. The administrative commission approved the construction of the memorial on the occasion of the 40th birthday of the hospital in 1937. The memorial was ordered by a sculptor and a medallist J. Pelikán from Olomouc (1887–1969), an author of the Smetana's statue in the park. The hospital as well as medical associations put together financial resources for a marble above-lifesize statue. With regard to the political situation, the festive unveiling was not held until 21st May in 1939, in the presence of representatives of local authorities, doctors and grateful patients. The keynote speech was given by the initiator of the memorial construction, a head physician M.D. P. Trnka.



23. TO BUILDERS OF SHRINES

The monumental sculpture of ac.sculpt. Roman Podrázský (1943–2001) with the name Stavitelům chrámů (To Builders of Shrines) stands near the new building of the district hospital. It was festively unveiled on 11th March in 1997 on the occasion of the completion of this building and on the 100th anniversary of the district hospital. The motto of the sculpture is a tribute to "all these builders whether of real shrines or in the metaphorical sense". The native of Přebyslav, a sculptor and a painter, he focused mostly on figurative sculptures. His works are scattered throughout the Czech Republic, many of them have Christian themes. We can find his largest work – the Memorial to Victims of Evil – in the meditation garden in Pilsen, the largest collection of works is found in Přebyslav where an educational path connects his sculptures.



4. havlíčkovobrodské zastavení



Statues and Commemorative Plaques of Havlíčkův Brod



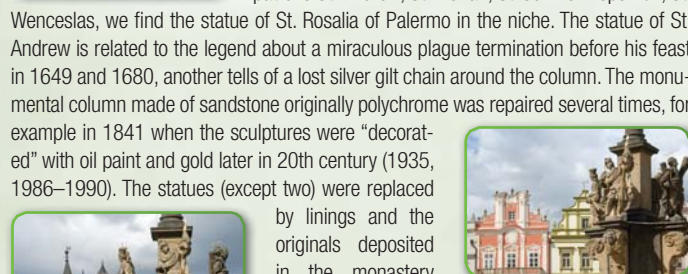
Gothic fountain, which the medieval town water system (one of the first in the country) led in, performed this function before. The owners of the city, the Lords of Lipa, enabled the reeve Michael to set up the significant technical work by a deed from 26th June 1362. The expert in water mine works with the experience from silver mining built the perfect water supply system. We do not have much information about the younger fountain. Its origin dates back to 18th century (1704–1795). We do not know the author of the sculpture but according to a similar fountain in Jihlava is attributed to the sculptor Jan Václav Prchal (1744–1811). Also we do not know how it came to the name of Koudela's, it always used to be referred to as the "stone one". There is a dishonest baker Koudela in legends of Havlíčkův Brod, who had to build it for punishment. We can only assume that Koudela contributed to the construction or the statue was similar to him and the name became popular.



Monuments, memorials and commemorative plaques beautify each town or park. The same is true about our town where these "witnesses of the past" remind us of the baroque religiousness and the craftsmanship of our ancestors, famous natives, personalities as well as tragic events.

1. MARIAN COLUMN IN THE SQUARE

Marian plague column is the viewpoint of the square probably dating from 1702–1717. Its construction was associated with the termination of plague epidemics in Bohemia (1713–1714) and the gratitude of burghesses in both regional and urban patrons for the ending of disasters like the plague, famine, wars, fires and floods and also as a protection against them in the future. The author is unknown but the work is attributed to Giovanni Battista Bulli who is a sculptor of Italian origin from Chrudim. The column was funded from the legacy of the former mayor K. Müller and the city council. The Virgin Mary Immaculate stands at the top, surrounded by the patrons St. Andrew, St. Florian, St. John of Nepomuk, St. Wenceslas, we find the statue of St. Rosalia of Palermo in the niche. The statue of St. Andrew is related to the legend about a miraculous plague termination before his feast in 1649 and 1680, another tells of a lost silver gilt chain around the column. The monumental column made of sandstone originally polychrome was repaired several times, for example in 1841 when the sculptures were "decorated" with oil paint and gold later in 20th century (1935, 1986–1990). The statues (except two) were replaced by linings and the originals deposited in the monastery church. The viewpoint of the square was endangered after the coup in 1918 when the symbols of catholic religion and Habsburg rule were removed and destroyed. The statue of K. Havlíček was supposed to replace the column in Havlíčkův Brod. The column was kept on its original site thanks to the Museum Society, Heritage Office, the Ministry of Education and National Revival as "an integral part of the square."



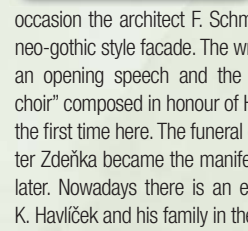
The baroque sandstone fountain with a statue of the ancient god Triton with his attributes, dolphins and shells in the middle decorates the square. Before that a late-

2. KOUDELA'S FOUNTAIN

The baroque sandstone fountain with a statue of the ancient god Triton with his attributes, dolphins and shells in the middle decorates the square. Before that a late-

3. THE PLAQUE OF KAREL HAVLIČEK BOROVSÝ

The citizens of Nemecký Brod signed up to the political legacy of Havlíček up to the year 1860. The first national demonstration took place on the eve of the plaque exposition in Borová (1862). At that time there was a procession passing through the town led by representatives of the Prague Sokol. No less famous event took place in Nemecký Brod on 14th August in 1871. There was a metal medallion revealed in front of the house of Havlíček and on this occasion the architect F. Schmoranz designed the neo-gothic style facade. The writer K. Sabina made an opening speech and the Smetana's "Festive choir" composed in honour of Havlíček sounded for the first time here. The funeral of Havlíček's daughter Zdeňka became the manifestation event a year later. Nowadays there is an exhibition devoted to K. Havlíček and his family in the Havlíček's house.



4. MARIAN COLUMN IN FRONT OF THE DEAN CHURCH

Marian columns belong to the typical sights of the Czech baroque of 17th and 18th century. Originally they were colourful and the attributes of saints were shining gold. There is a subtle sandstone statue of the Virgin Mary with Jesus at the entrance



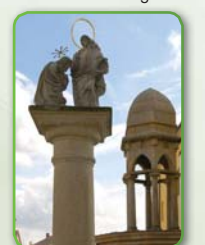
5. THE PLAQUE OF J. V. STAMIC

A marble plaque indicates the native house of a composer Jan Václav Stamic (1717–1757) since the time the First Republic. Not only Jan Václav but also the whole Stamic family was characterized by significant spiritual and artistic abilities for three generations. Their father Antonín Stamic was one of the most important personalities of their family. Although he was a merchant he was invited to the city as an organist and a choirmaster in the beginning of the 18th century, he worked as a painter, as a city councilman for 40 years. His oldest son Jan Václav Stamic worked for the elector palatine as a concertmaster in Mannheim and later as a court conductor. He belongs to the founders of the so-called Mannheim instrumental school. His children were following the footsteps of J. V. Stamic but have not reached his reputation. During operations in Mannheim the composer visited his hometown on the occasion of the promotion of Antonín's brother Tadeáš (1722–1768) to the dean of Nemecký Brod (1749). Still, the other brother Josef František (1719–1791) inherited his father's painting talent. His son Antonín Florián became a painter (1760–1804).



6. THE SCULPTURE OF CHRIST'S BAPTISM

A marble plaque indicates the native house of a composer Jan Václav Stamic (1717–1757) since the time the First Republic. Not only Jan Václav but also the whole Stamic family was characterized by significant spiritual and artistic abilities for three generations. Their father Antonín Stamic was one of the most important personalities of their family. Although he was a merchant he was invited to the city as an organist and a choirmaster in the beginning of the 18th century, he worked as a painter, as a city councilman for 40 years. His oldest son Jan Václav Stamic worked for the elector palatine as a concertmaster in Mannheim and later as a court conductor. He belongs to the founders of the so-called Mannheim instrumental school. His children were following the footsteps of J. V. Stamic but have not reached his reputation. During operations in Mannheim the composer visited his hometown on the occasion of the promotion of Antonín's brother Tadeáš (1722–1768) to the dean of Nemecký Brod (1749). Still, the other brother Josef František (1719–1791) inherited his father's painting talent. His son Antonín Florián became a painter (1760–1804).



7. THE MEMORIAL TO T. G. MASARYK

Not only people but also memorials have dramatic stories. An example might be a statue of T. G. Masaryk reflecting the political image of the last century. The idea of its creation was born in the legionary organisation and the exhibition of a sculptor Jan Štursa (1880–1925), a native of nearby Nové Město n. M., a student of J. V. Myslík and one of



the founders of modern Czech sculpture became an impulse. His memorial exhibition in Nemecký Brod raised the great interest. Its focal point was a bronze statue of President Masaryk from the years 1920–1921. The economic crisis confronted ordinary people as well as the town hall with other problems, too. The initiative came from teachers and school children that organized the memorial collection. The park in front of the St. Catherine Church was chosen as a decent place after transplanting "Hus's Lime Tree" and the park adjustments. In early October 1933, under the auspices of the Minister of Education I. Dérer and attended by the entire city, especially children and their teachers, the monument was unveiled. It remained at this point until 1940 when it was removed. However, the statue was found in Hostivař after liberation, the employees of a scrap yard saved it by caching it to the ground. It did not return back to the original place because the new bridge over the river Sázava changed the disposition of the park and the political situation was changed, too. Repeated location of the statue has already taken place without major celebrations in front of the school building in the park. Then the figure of T. G. M. became undesirable and finally it was removed in 1960. Unknown vandals broke it at night on 8th March. The bust of Havlíček's mother quickly "filled" the vacancy. After 1989 they decided to place the memorial of the first president back. The newly cast sculpture is situated in Štáflova Street in front of the building of former district office (now Office of the State in matters of property). It was solemnly unveiled on 15th June in 1991. Prof. Milan Machovec and Vít Tajovský, an abbot of the Želiv monastery gave the keynote utterances.

8. THE MEMORIAL TO VICTIMS OF COMMUNISM

There is a memorial dedicated to victims of communism standing in front of the former district office. The author of the work is an academic sculptor Martina Hozová (born in 1971), a graduate of AVU in Prague, living in Hořice. A young sculptor and a conservator inspired with ancient motifs and medieval art in her works, she often draws from themes from confrontation of Christian ideology with the feelings of a contemporary man. The headless statue of an angel with tied wings is a testimony symbolizing the suffering. The memorial from red sandstone was created thanks to the Confederation of Political Prisoners and was unveiled near the statue of T. G. Masaryk on 17th November in 2001.

9. THE PLAQUE OF BEDŘICH SMETANA

A composer connected a part of his student life with the Grammar School in Nemecký Brod where he studied with his brother Antonín (1836–1839). He found his feet in the friendly atmosphere of the grammar school town and participated in the vibrant student life. The year 1924 became a national year of Bedřich Smetana and Nemecký Brod joined the celebrations. The choir Jasoň had merit in the plaque as well as the celebrations. A bronze relief of a distinguished sculptor and a medallist Otakar Španiel (1881–1955) was unveiled at the former school



building on 31st August in 1924. A concert was held by Jasoň in the evening before, the music of the 4th infantry regiment with the officer corps took part because the military manoeuvres were held in the surroundings of the town. An expert in Smetana's work and a music historian J. Theurer gave a keynote utterance.

10. THE MEDIEVAL WALLS – PLAQUE BY ŠTÁFLOVA BAŠTA

Defensive walls used to be found in the emblem of the medieval town. The same was true about Nemecký Brod especially when a rapid development of the town was associated with the mining of silver in the 13th century. Urban and upper rights were confirmed by the document of the Lords of Lichtenburg (1278). The paradox of history is that construction of stonewalls did not start before the beginning of 14th century (after 1310) when the town already got over the biggest mining boom. The construction of walls was costly and long-term so the town, the Church and the rich burghers had to bring together significant financial resources. Building-up lasted for half a century. The half-cylindrical bastions with loopholes and four corner towers were part of the walls of a length of about 400 x 300 meters (only the so called Štáflava has preserved). After the year 1472 the walls were reinforced with new mounds over the moat. It has partially maintained around the historic town core. The Upper and Lower Gate and two less gates were the part of the town walls. The moats fed by water from the river Sázava and from the system of ponds belong to the defensive system. In the 17th century the walls lost their original function, Swedes destroyed a part of them during the Thirty Years' War. Then they stopped to be maintained and in the 19th century the walls were partially demolished.



11. THE MEMORIAL AT ŠTÁFLOVA BAŠTA

The Second World War also tolled of children. Nemecký Brod, a town with a military airport, was not spared from air raids of deep fighters of allied troops. Nearby Štáflava bašta in the park we can find a small memorial of polished granite with the names of boys from primary school, who died during an air raid on 15th November in 1944. J. Heřmánek (1932), Z. Málek (1931), Z. Nováček (1932) and A. Veselý (1930) died during the compulsory paper collection in an unexpected air raid near the school. A dummy of a bomb and a memorial plaque were situated in the place of the accident after the war. The bombs also caused the extensive damage to schools and medieval walls. We can also find a maquette of the projectile from the World War II at the intersection of the streets Dolní and Žižkova on the second floor above "Hrušková" confectionery. It is an imitation of the Soviet Army artillery projectile from the time of the town liberation on 9th May in 1945. It damaged also the opposite house, demolished after the war.



12. THE MEMORIAL TO BEDŘICH SMETANA

Both the plaque and also the marble statue in the park Budoucnost remind B. Smetana and his stay in Nemecký Brod. The idea was born in the exhibition of two artists from the Highlands, a painter J. Jambor and a sculptor J. Pelikán in Nemecký Brod in 1934. The exhibited bust of the composer took the members of Jasoň so much that they wanted to buy it for the occasion of the 200th Anniversary of the grammar school in Havlíčkův Brod. As the church already had to pay off a bronze plaque from 1924, the problem was money. The women's chorus got it from royalties and yields from concerts, the male choir joined afterwards. A sculptor Julius Pelikán (1887–1966), a native of Nové Veselí, was a favourite author of memorials and busts of famous personalities in his time. The bust was unveiled on 24th May in 1936 in the town park during the national event called National Song with the participation of the choral society Jasoň and with a major manifestation of V. Helfert, a musicologist and Dean of the Faculty of Arts in Brno.



13. THE CORNERSTONE OF THE PARK BUDOUCNOST

Already in the late 19th century our ancestors had the feeling that thanks to the "accelerating pace and increasing job responsibilities" they were getting estranged from the nature. That is why an association "Future for Embellishment of the Royal Town Nemecký Brod and its Surroundings" (1886) was founded. Two persons – a teacher Josef Bureš and a district judge D.C.L. Konrád Prušák – were the souls of the entire project. They were planning cultivation of the surroundings of ponds Rantejch, Has-trman and Obora. At the same time with searching for money to buy the land, the association began with the arrangement of the park along the popular road from the Holy Trinity to the Calvary with where the first trip led with the help of the "sponsor" – the burghers' brewery. The members of the association helped to improve the park for free (e.g. Šupich's wooden pavilion). The tennis courts as well as the skating rink became its part in the beginning of the 20th century. The association could not cope with the maintenance of the park so it became the town property in 1919. After 30 years of existence the association built up wonderful "public gardens" close to the busy centre. In memory and appreciation of the efforts a stone plaque at the entrance to the park has been dedicated to the association (1919) and later also a plate carved into the rock below the pond Rantejch dedicated to J. Bureš and K. Prušák.

14. THE MEMORIAL TO VOJTECH WEIDENHOFER

Vojtěch Weidenhoffer (1826–1901) was one of the significant citizens and celebrities of Nemecký Brod in the 19th century. He was known as a successful entrepreneur and a promoter of new technologies in the field of potato-growing and starch industry. He became a member of city council, county council and member of the Imperial. He was a Czech patriot, a friend of K. Havlíček, a member of Czech associations, a known patron and

