

Historical Sites

1. Radnice (Town Hall)- facade

Location: Renaissance building adorning the northern side of the square across from the cathedral.

The normally inaccessible interior hall can be viewed on the 1st of April during the Open House held during the event called Apriliáda. Exhibitions held in the ground floor mázhauz and the model of the city are open year round.

The City Hall, the seat of the City Council, will be recognized by most at first glance. It is generally considered a well-built and exquisite building architecturally, suggesting in its beauty the city's level of prosperity. Even the Pilsen councilors concerned themselves with the construction of their seat. The City Hall was built in the years 1554 - 1559 by Italian architect Giovanni de Statia, as it was then modern, if one wanted to show his wealth and importance. During the reconstruction at the beginning of the early twentieth century was unfortunately not possible to restore the original décor and the front facade was decorated with new Sgraffito. Today, you can read in it the proud annals of Pilsen

Midway between the first floor windows you will find the city coat of arms and next to it the images of three rulers who played an important role in Pilsen's history. On the left stands Václav II, the founder of the city. Then there is John I of Luxembourg, who granted Pilsen numerous privileges. Finally, there is the well-known Rudolf II of Habsburg, who even made Pilsen a temporary royal seat and bought a house, which today forms part of the City Hall and is called the Imperial House. The emperor must have been impressed with the place, because after his abdication, he considered permanent resettlement in Pilsen. In a strip above the kings are four inscriptions explaining the individual fields of the coat of quotations from contemporary texts.

Under the second floor windows, we see five other illustrations. On them are young children, called putti, playing the most common occupations of old Pilseners - blacksmiths, brewers, merchants, builders, painters and sculptors, as well as symbols of each activity. In the middle of the top row of Sgraffito is the Allegory of War and Peace and a representation of Rights, Justice and Truth, which must be applied in the village at all times, no matter what happens. And that is why watchful figures are seen at both ends of this strip of Sgraffito-they are the town scribe and headborough. A barely visible strip bearing the inscription 1559 is the only preserved part of the original Renaissance Sgraffito. The new facade decoration was completed in 1910.

2. Žumbera

Location: The statue is located on the first floor of the facade of the Imperial house next to the Pilsen City Hall on the left.

In the early 17th century, the statue of a knight on corbels at the first floor level of the house adjacent to the Pilsen City Hall graced a fountain in the northeast corner of the Pilsen town

square. Originally, a similar statue probably represented the medieval symbol of the law. Whoever came to town, regardless of whether he knew how to read or write, had no excuse for not knowing what rules to follow. It was enough to look at the strict stone figure of a knight standing on a stone pillar. The knight, however, has been called Žumbera only since the nineteenth century. It didn't decorate the Imperial House until 1919. Today's statue, however, is a copy from the second half of the 20th century.

3. Morový sloup a Plzeňská madona (Plague column and Pilsen Madonna)

Location: The Plague column is located in the corner of Republic Square to the left of the City Hall building in Pilsen.

The original Pilsen Madonna decorates the altar inside St. Bartholomew's Cathedral on Republic Square.

Cathedral Opening hours: April to September, Wednesday to Saturday: 10 a.m. to 4 p.m., from October to December, Wednesday to Friday: 10 a.m. to 4 p.m.

Opening hours of the cathedral tower: all year round every day: 10 a.m.-6 p.m.

The famous statue of the Pilsen Madonna originated around the year 1390 and today it can be seen in the Cathedral of St. Bartholomew on Republic Square. The marble Madonna measures 1.34 m and is one of the symbols of the city. Legend has it that the statue was carved by an unknown blind man, who had never been trained as a sculptor. He was urged, to do the work by the Virgin Mary herself, when she appeared in a dream. She even provided him with the tools to create her image. After completion of the work, he was able to see.

Another legend, however, tells of a young monk who supposedly had the statue carved with the features of a girl he was fond of. The narrative perhaps unwittingly reflects the fact that the Pilsen Madonna is one of the famous beautiful Czech type Madonnas, reflecting the artist's effort to find an individual expression of the human face, that is, not only the general scheme of the face, as it used to be.

Although today the Pilsen Madonna is the central statue of the main altar, it originally stood on a special altar in the presbytery.

A copy of the Madonna can also be found at the top of the Pilsen plague column near the Cathedral. The baby in her arms holds a human skull instead of apples and recalls the difficult times of plague epidemics.

Lost treasures of the Pilsen Madonna.

Old records show that Pilseners often asked their Madonna for help and protection. When their pleas were heard, they expressed thanks with numerous gifts. Pilsen burgher and goldsmith Johann Ernst Stoc lived in Pilsen in the 2nd half of the 17th century. He donated a

silver heart to the statue to show thanks for being cured of a disease which the doctor was unable to treat. Pilsen resident Magdalena Svobodová, after getting rid of chronic headaches she'd had for years, purchased a silver statue lamp that remained lit until her death. Various gifts, the so-called "Marian treasure", piled up by the Madonna. An assortment of valuables, jewels, and even clothes for the statue were held in a total of one hundred and ten boxes. At the beginning of the 19th century, they had to be handed over to the state treasury.

4. Secesní dům v Dominikánské (Art Nouveau house on Dominikánská)

Location: The house is located roughly in the middle of Dominikánská ulice (street), next to the American Center.

During the Art Nouveau period in the early 20th century, Pilsen played an important role in the lives of young artists and architects. Thanks to rich Pilsen entrepreneurs who were open to the emerging trends from other places, many artists were given the opportunity to prove themselves. A good example is the house at Dominikánská 7, which Art Nouveau facade rightly surprises even foreign tourists, not only with its choice of color, but also its architectural variation. Natural motifs, such as a ram's head and body, or the wings and head dragonfly, are reminiscent of the legendary green or wild man whose image was particularly popular in the Middle Ages and the Renaissance. Not even the Art Nouveau left out these sources of inspiration, based on fairy tales, myths and legends. Of course, in every city you can also find a number of people who refuse to accept such novelties, and therefore the former conservative citizens nicknamed this piece after Pilsen architect Karl Bubla "effervescence".

5. Dům u červeného srdce (House by the Red Heart) on the square and Aleš's Sgraffito

Location: The house is located on Pilsen's Republic Square across from the main entrance to the cathedral.

In 1894, the House by the Red Heart on today's Republic Square was decorated by Mikulaš Aleš at the request of builder Rudolph Štěch. The characters recall knights from tournaments and carnivals held in front of the town hall in Renaissance times.

The knights on the House by the Red Heart are reminiscent of tournaments and the birth of love. The Sgraffito is meant to commemorate an event that took place in Pilsen in 1555. That was when the plague broke out in Prague and the then Governor of the Kingdom of Bohemia, Archduke Ferdinand I, temporarily transferred his seat to Pilsen. At the same time "he held an "Archduke tournament", which began on the Pilsen square on Sunday, February 24 (the day of St. Matthew). It was kicked off with a classical event, the so-called "planks", when knights with lances riding on horseback charged each other and tried to unseat their opponents. They were separated by low wooden fences. Although the aim of Renaissance tournaments, reminders of the more famous medieval jousts, was not to harm opponents, injury was not uncommon. Many lords were beaten so badly during the Pilsen tournaments that some even had to be carried by their servants.

6. sv. Bartoloměj (St. Bartholomew)

Location: One of the statues of St. Bartholomew adorns a niche above the main entrance to St. Bartholomew's Cathedral, which stands in the center of Republic Square.

Cathedral Opening hours: April to September, Wednesday to Saturday: 10 a.m. to 4 p.m., from October to December, Wednesday to Friday: 10 a.m. to 4 p.m.

Opening hours of the cathedral tower: all year every day: 10 a.m. to 6 p.m.

Statue on the south wall of the cathedral

Statue on the south side of the cathedral

The face of St. Bartholomew on the sculpture is probably a portrait of one of the builders of the cathedral, Frankfurt native Hans Spiess. He apparently succumbed to temptation and, following the example of his colleagues, had his likeness impressed on the statue. He subtly grins at passersby from the bottom of finials decorating the upper part of the vestibule on the southern wall of the cathedral, which was built in the time of George of Poděbrady.

Saint Bartholomew shows off his own skin

Location: The Baroque statue of St. Bartholomew, showing off his skin to passers-by, is located on the upper left side of the portal to the Education and Research Library of the Pilsener Region, near the so-called 'Branka', or gate when entering the park ring.

Saint Bartholomew is an inseparable part of Pilsen. He is the city's patron saint and the cathedral bears his name. The saint is often shown a knife, the tool with which he was martyred. He is also sometimes displayed with a Bible in hand. That's because he was one of the twelve apostles of Jesus Christ.

During the Baroque period, from which this statue comes, artists began to depict the saint in a harsh way, reminiscent of his unusual death. St. Bartholomew was painted or carved holding his own skin in his hand, or, in some cases, as the executioner skins him alive. The statue, which can be seen today on the upper left part of the portal of the Study and Research Library of the Pilsener Region on the street ul. Bedřicha Smetany, is just one of such impressive Baroque portrayals of the saint.

7. Muzeum strašidel (Museum of Ghosts)

Location: The house is located on Pilsen's Republic Square across from the main entrance to the cathedral in the basement of the Central Hotel

Museum Opening hours: April to October daily from 10 a.m. to 6 p.m., November to March closed on Mondays, other days from 10 a.m. to 6 p.m. Tours starting as early as 9 a.m. can be booked in advance.

Admission: 50 CZK Children, adults 80 CZK, organized groups of children, schools, kindergartens 40 CZK/pers.

The Museum of Ghosts opened its doors at the beginning of the tourist season in 2008. We find it in the basement of the Hotel Central, which was built on the site of an earlier inn. The

historic cellars have become home to ghosts from Pilsen legends. Here, we can find not only Jíkala, the black lady, and Radouš, but also the camel that became part of the Pilsen coat of arms.

8. U Zlaté lodi (By the Golden Ship)

Location: The house stands on the corner of Republic Square and Riegrova (street) across from the Hotel Central.

Golden Ship indicates golden treasure

If we look up in front of house no. 206, with its main facade facing the square and side facing Riegrova, we can see ornamentation in the form of a golden sailboat.

As the house sign indicates, our ancestors used to know it as the Golden Ship. At the end of the 19th century, a legend explaining the origin of the name began to spread. One of the former owners of the building, apparently a well-known Pilsen merchant, once undertook a journey across the sea. While sailing, the ship was attacked by a storm so violent that even the experienced captain began to lose hope. Then the merchant promised the Virgin Mary that he would donate a small boat made of real gold to a church at the place of his safe landing. When the ship was finally rescued, the wholesaler kept his promise and even had the facade of his house decorated with a golden ship.

9. U Zlatého soudku (By the Golden Barrel) - Statue of Prosperity

Location: This statue decorates the side of the house facing the square on the corner of Prešovská and Bedřicha Smetany.

Over the entrance to the house on Smetana hangs a small copper barrel. In the 19th century, it was also called the House by the Golden Barrell. During the Art Nouveau period this house was decorated with an eye-catching statue of a mysterious lady, placed at the top of its facade. The statue is an allegory of business, finance and trade, and bears a wand with a serpent wrapped around it, a feature typically used to represent Mercury, the Roman god of trade and travel. During the period before the Second World War, a Pilsen Bank was headquartered here. The house, however, bears the name of a prominent and wealthy Pilsen burgher with brewing rights called Edvard Fodermayer.

10. U Zlatého slunce (By the Golden Sun)

Location: This palatial house stands approximately halfway down Prešovská ulice (street) on the corner of Prešovská and Sedláčkova, across from the travel agency Čedok.

Opening hours: Tours of the building can be booked in advance with the Department of Promotion and Public Relations of the National Heritage Institute in Pilsen.

Blacksmith cursed the house by placing a mysterious number in the Baroque bars

When she was in Pilsen in 1530, a certain Dorota Žáková was punished for "putting up with filth," and challenged to "remove such wretched refuse" from her home. Few would have guessed then that a place of such dubious reputation would later be known as one of the

most beautiful buildings in Pilsen. A pub tucked away in one of the corners of the city eventually transformed into an exquisite palace on one of the main arteries in the center of Pilsen. After an extensive reconstruction in 1775, the house got a new name: By the Golden Sun, thanks to a gilded stucco sun surrounded by rays and ornamentation reminiscent of peacock feathers on the facade of the building at Prešovská 7. The oldest preserved parts of the building indicate that it was originally a Gothic house. It gained its present beauty thanks to new owner Antonín Říha and his wife Alžběta. The exquisite facade was further beautified with the addition of a deep niche covering two floors. The top part is decorated with a house sign in the form of a golden sun, which rays were also gilded in the year 1777.

The balcony above the passage was protected by decorative Rococo bars in which forged curls is the enchanted number 169. It may refer to the original numeric designation of the house. Today it is home to Pilsen historical preservationists.

11. Humorous pictures on house - Prešovská 8, Dům U Zeleného stromu (The House by the Green Tree)

Location: The house is located on Prešovská ulice (street) near the travel agency Čedok.

The decoration of this house from 1906 is influenced by Art Nouveau, and therefore the facade is decorated with humorous frescoes. A cheerful elf sitting on a barrel, a man and woman innkeeper, and a drunken man with a faithful dog at his feet recall the pub tradition of the house. Its name is revealed by the so-called inscription strip: The Green Tree.

12. U Kotvy (By the Anchor), Bezručova 30.

Location: The house is located near the intersection of Bezručova and Sedláčkova.

The entrance to the passage U Kotvy is on the ground floor of the building.

The decoration on the facade, which also covers the u Kotvy passage, is a simple anchor created in plaster. We do not know if it was the sign of a merchant or the symbol of happiness and hope. The street itself, due to the presence of a Dominican monastery, was once called Andělska ulice (Angel Street). The legend tells of a beautiful seamstress, who was falsely accused of stealing because she did not want to succumb to the temptations of a certain bourgeois dandy. The anchor appears to proclaim that even at the worst moment, the seamstress didn't lose hope that the truth would prevail.

13. Aleš's Sgraffito - Cingrošův dům (Cingroš House), Bezručova 31

Location: The house is located near the intersection of Bezručova and Sedláčkova. In the building next door is the entrance to the passage u Kotvy.

The house was built for the famous Pašek brothers by stonemason Jan Cingroš, whose work is artistically rendered on many tombstones in the Plzeňský ústřední hřbitov (Pilsen Central Cemetery). The decoration of the house was carried out by architects Skřivánek and Rudolf Stech along with Mikoláš Aleš, who is credited with the artwork on the facade. The theme is patriotism, and thus you will find the image of sv.Václav (St.Wenceslas), the Czech patron saint, and St. George the Dragon-Killer, as well as the Saint Wenceslas eagle. The composition is complemented by Wenceslas the weapon bearer and the essential attribute to St. George, the dragon. The figures of both riders measure over six and a half meters.

14. Dům s andělem (House with an angel), Bezručova 24

Location: The house stands on Bezručova ulice (street) across from the Education and Research Library of the Pilsener Region, a former Dominican monastery.

This house was built in 1903 by Frantisek Němec and is decorated by a relief of an angel with feminine features and huge wings. The ornamentation is complemented by light blue ceramic tiles. During his studies in Pilsen from 1841-1843, the young Bedřich Smetana lived in the older building which stood here prior to this house.

15. Klášter dominikánek (SVK) (Dominican convent)

Location: The statue adorns the upper part of the entrance portal of the former Dominican monastery building on Bezručova ulice (street), today home of the Education and Research Library of the Pilsener Region, near the church of St. Anne.

American saint watching over Pilsen's pedestrians.

If we walk along Pilsen's Bezručova ulice (street), passing the walls of today's Study and Research Library, a statue of a charming young woman crowned with roses can be seen looking out at passersby from a portal in a building adjacent to the Church of St. Anne. The statue represents the first saint born in the Americas, Rose of Lima, the patron saint of Peru, who, despite her beauty and parents' wishes decided to become a nun.

16. Kostel Sv. Anny (The Church of St. Anne)

Location: The church, located on the corner of Bezručova and Bedřicha Smetany, is a continuation of the former monastic buildings, which are now used by the Education and Research Library of the Pilsener Region.

Today's Pilsen Education and Research Library owes its location to the former Dominican monastery, which was founded in Bohemia in the early 18th century according to plans by famous architect Jakub Auguston. Shortly after that, the abbey church was completed, bearing the name of its patron saint St. Anne and the important Dominican saint Rose of Lima.

The main consecration of the church is found in the form of a statue of St. Anne, the mother of the Virgin Mary. We see the statue high up in a niche inside the church. The church conceals a unique fresco decoration.

Since roughly the mid-twentieth century, the church has been used by the Orthodox Church for worship and thus has a different interior (Orthodox iconostasis, different division of worship space), though it has preserved the original Baroque decoration. This creates an interesting fusion of various concepts of church decor.

17. Františkánský kostel (Franciscan Church) - tower sign

Location: The sign can be found on the church tower of the Franciscan monastery, the seat of the Diocese Museum. Although the tower is not accessible, both it and the sign can be

seen from Františkánská ulice (street) from the sidewalk across from the main entrance to the church.

Diocese Museum: Rare set of Gothic, Renaissance and Baroque religious sculptures and the Chapel of St. Barbara with unique frescoes. Opening hours: April-October: Tuesday to Sunday: from 10 a.m. to 6 p.m.

The Gothic Františkánský klášter (Franciscan monastery) is topped by the so-called Black Tower, the completion of which is attributed to leading burghers, Mr. and Mrs. Hauff. A memorial to their patronage can be seen on the western side of the tower on a plaque bearing the family signs and the initials of the spouses. Matthew Hauff was a master baker, who, thanks to his diligence and skill, gained a place among the important burghers and became the Mayor. It was during his term that construction of the Pilsen City Hall began.

18. Dům U Kolečka (House by the Wheel)

Location: The house sign is placed high up under the roof on the corner tower decorating the corner of Františkánská and Zbrojnická. The symbol faces the square.

The 3-storey corner house at no. 116 can be found on the corner of Františkánská and Zbrojnická. The side facing the square is adorned with an exquisite spire completed with an ornamentally-shaped high roof. In the balcony railing a keen observer can see a simple circle, evoking an ordinary wooden wheel with spokes, the kind that was commonly used in past centuries. We know that the house was also called By the Wheel, wheel-mentioned forms a sort of house signs. The name of the house, however, probably dates from the early twentieth century, and it is difficult to say whether it reflects some older house name.

One of the prominent owners was housemaster Simon Plachý of Třebnice, who owned the house from between 1587-1592, and who would go on to become Mayor of Pilsen. Pilsen is grateful to Simon Plachý for his chronicles, called Memories of Pilsen.

19. U Zlatého růžence (By The Golden Rosary)

Location: The house stands on the corner of Republic Square and Dřevěná ulice (street) near the Ethnographic Museum. The house sign faces the square.

Ethnographic Museum: Exhibition on ethnography documenting the Pilsen area, thematic exhibitions. Opening Hours: 9 a.m. to 5 p.m.

The facade of the Pilsen house By the Golden Rosary includes in its gable a house sign with the motif of a large angel and small little boy, so-called putti, holding a cartouche with gold beads and a cross. From the corner of the building at the second floor level a sculpture of a soldier with a halberd in armor from the time of the Thirty Years' War. A dragon, grinning beneath the feet of the hostile warrior recalls the sad date – November 21, 1618, when Pilsen was conquered for the first time in its history and was occupied by the victorious Protestant army divisions led by Arnošt of Mansfeld, who passed house no. 104. They had managed to penetrate Pilsen's defenses just at the end of Dřevěná ulice.

A legend dating back to 1879 tells us that a little girl who was neglected by a naughty philandering maid who should have been watching her was looked after by a snake wearing a glistening crown with studded jewels. When it spotted adults, it quickly fled through a

crack in the floor, but left a beautiful golden rosary there. This would then always be passed from mother to daughter. It was in memory of this event that the house was called the House of the Golden Rosary.

20. Gerlachovský dům (The Gerlach House)

Location: Unmistakable building located approximately in the middle of Dřevěná ulice across from a hair salon. Part of the Ethnographic Museum. Access from Republic Square.

Ethnographic Museum: Exhibition ethnography documenting the Pilsen area, thematic exhibitions. **Opening Hours:** Tuesday to Sunday: from 9 a.m. to 5 p.m.

When walking along the short Dřevěná ulice (street), one can not miss the wonderful historic house no. 344, called The Gerlach House. In 1912 the city of Pilsen purchased the building, one of the city's most beautiful structures, so that it could be repaired. The Ethnographic Museum was then moved here. In 1839 music teacher, dance and calligraphy Joseph Gustav Gerlach got married in this beautiful house. A spiteful source gleefully noted that the bridegroom was twelve years younger than his bride, the widow of tax collector John of Nepomuk Jelinek. Gerlach thus married into a house which first floor could be used for dance lessons. For rest, the Gerlachs and their numerous guests were served by a raised garden to the second floor above the former parkán in today's vacant lot. The man credited with the design of the house was plasterer and builder James Auguston the younger, who bought the building in 1696.

21. Theatrum mundi v tzv. Proluce (Theatrum mundi in the so-called vacant lot)

Location: Modern painting adorning the wall of a house facing a vacant lot in Křižíkovy sady (park). The gap between buildings reveals a preserved section of the medieval city walls bearing portholes.

The mural portrays prominent personalities connected with the history of the city. There is also a plaque with a description of each person shown, including biographical data and their employment, occupation or role they played in the city's history.

22. Masné krámy a řeznický dům (Meat market and butcher's house)

Location: Unmistakable 1-storey building decorated with Neo-Gothic gables, standing at the end of Pražská ulice across from the Black Tower.

Exhibition halls of the West Bohemia Gallery in Pilsen. Thematic painting exhibitions.

Meat market: Opening Hours: 10 a.m. to 6 p.m., Saturday: 12 p.m. to 6 p.m.

Across from the meat market on the corner of Pražská and Perlova stands Exhibition Hall "13".

Exhibition halls of the West Bohemia Gallery in Pilsen. Thematic painting exhibitions.

Meat market: Opening Hours: 10 a.m. to 6 p.m., Saturday: 12 p.m. to 6 p.m.

Approximately halfway down Perlova ulice (street), inside a house with a protruding upper floor supported by decorative pillars, is the entrance to the Pilsen Historical Underground, an 800-meter-long tour of Pilsen's underground passages.

Opening hours: from June to September: Tuesday - Sunday, 9 a.m.-5 p.m., April-May, October to November: Wednesday to Sunday: from 9 a.m. - 5 p.m.

The meat market was located on the edge of the medieval city for reasons of hygiene, as the filth from the adjacent slaughterhouse caused epidemics in the town. Meat Market is now used as an exhibition space for the West Bohemia Gallery. Right next to the gallery on Pražská ulice is a Gothic house with asymmetrical convex shields. If we look at the portal, we see two figures of lions holding an ax, a typical symbol of a butchers' guild. Legend has it that this was a gift from King John of Luxemburg to Pilsen's butchers. It was his way of saying thank you for their help during a military campaign during which they displayed great bravery and loyalty.

23. U tří zlatých zvonů (Three gold bells)

Location: The house is located approximately halfway down Pražská ulice (street) near the famous restaurant U Salzmannů. In the courtyard of the house there is a pastry shop.

Under the seventh stair lies a treasure!

Three gold bells on a blue field above the entrance to the historical building no. 88 on Pražská ulice seem to contradict the bad reputation the a house had in the second half of the 17th century due to its profligate owner Sylvan Frydrych Feldštejn. Jan Perner, a bellmaker, who bought the house in 1722, was a man of integrity, and his family retained its property throughout the nineteenth century. On the right side, in the courtyard, in the place of today's sweetshop, there used to be a foundry. The houses portal House, dating from a reconstruction in 1803, imitates the Baroque style. The portal is embellished with a so-called "talking" house sign, indicating the owner's occupation. In the Perner family, it was said that one of their ancestors had-out of fear during a war-hidden treasure somewhere in the house. The legend, however, does not mention the exact spot where it is supposed to have been hidden. It only mentions laconically that the valuables are kept "under the seventh stair."

24. Dům U Salzmannů (The House by the Salzmanns)

Location: The house is located approximately halfway down Pražská ulice across from the tram stop. The restaurant U Salzmannů is on the ground floor of the house.

Few would guess that if it weren't for the idea of a certain enterprising Pilsen carter, the city wouldn't necessarily be considered the capital of beer nowadays. In 1860, after the nearly fifty-year-old carter Martin Salzmann had had the misfortune of losing his leg when it was run over by a heavy carriage, the enterprising man founded in own brewpub. He remembered how he had once taken two Pilsner beers to his friend, a tailor in Prague, so

that he could try it, and how the tailor had almost immediately become an innkeeper and owner of a well-known pub. The glorious amber nectar from Pilsen thus began to spread throughout the world.

In 1871 Salzman moved the business to the prestigious Pražská ulice address near the center of the city, where the inn U Salzmannů has remained to this day. He eventually established such a good name that it was included next to the city's sights in guidebooks. The fame and reputation of U Salzmannů eventually overcame a long closure in the 20th century. It was closed from 1970 until 1995.

In 1582 the house was owned by Italian architect Jan Merlián, called Škarpalín. It is from this period that the entrance portal with a lion in a decorative cartouche with the Latin inscription: "If God is for us, who can be against us" comes. The second inscription, written in Italian, says: "Love God and do not cheat, do good and let others speak".

25. U Božího oka (The Eye of God)

The house stands on Republic Square near Pražská ulice. The shield is decorated with the so-called "God's eye". The building houses ČSOB Bank.

The symbol of the all-seeing eye of God in a golden triangle surrounded by rays of sunshine sometimes raises the question of whether building no. 96 in the row of houses on the eastern side of Republic Square in Pilsen was once a church. The ornamentation chosen probably reflects the religious fervor of the builder. At the time of the Renaissance, the house was owned by known Pilsen resident Mathias Bachelor of Sonnenberk, originally a teacher, who died in 1612.

26. náměstí (Square). The bars on the eastern side of the cathedral - the head of an angel - Osahánek or Vošmak

Location: The angel's head forms part of protective bars called Oliveta, located on the outside part of the chancel of the Cathedral of St. Bartholomew. Near the bars is an oversized cross. The shiny silver angel's head is the eleventh from the left.

The angel's head, also called by locals Osahánek or Vošmak, is part of lovely Baroque bars protecting a statue group representing Jesus Christ praying on the Mount of Olives in Jerusalem.

The eleventh angel from the left is immediately recognizable by its smooth silver head. Locals believe that if one touches the angel's head and at the same time intently wishes for something, the wish will come true.

Legend has it that in 1739, when he married the daughter of Rakovník executioner John Hus Dorotka, he was not permitted to enter the church because of his bloody and dirty craft. A chaplain stood in for him at the altar during the wedding ceremony. While the executioner had to wait he knelt before the sculpture called Oliveta to pray. In doing so, he gripped the bars. He saw some chatty old hags, and because each executioner was also someone who knew a lot about healing and mysterious forces, they told him that if he touched the angel's

head with his left hand, the angel would bring happiness. And so this popular superstition remains in Pilsen today. Many students, however, swear that the angel's head has really helped! Especially when they had studied diligently.