

scheiden war und wohlhabende Unternehmer ihre großen Villen getrennt, oft in der Nähe ihrer Fabriken, errichteten.

In der Zwischenkriegszeit wurde das neue Stadtzentrum in der Legionářská-Straße fertiggestellt (siehe oben), 1921 der Neue Friedhof in Deutsch Podhart eröffnet und 1924–1927 das Allgemeine öffentliche Masaryk-Krankenhaus am nördlichen Rand von Tschechisch Podhart gebaut. In den Jahren 1925–1927 gehörte zu den größten Neubauten der Zwischenkriegszeit die Textilgewerbeschule Nr. 132, die einen Teil des Jiří-Wolker-Kais neu gestaltete. Das Tyršovo koupaliště (Tyrš-Freibad) wurde 1931–1932 am westlichen Stadtrand geschaffen. Das Gebäude der ehemaligen Textildruckerei Heinrich Mayer & Sohn Nr. 101 in der Nähe der Kirche wurde von der Stadt gekauft und 1935 wurden diese Gebäude nördlich der Kirche abgerissen, bzw. die Produktionshalle von 1909 als Markthalle umgestaltet. So entstand der neue Platz náměstí Republiky (Platz der Republik). Die Bedeutung der Industrietradition von Königinhof wurde 1936 durch die Textilinä a krajská výstava (Textil- und Landschaftsausstellung) hervorgehoben.

Die Besetzung des tschechoslowakischen, jedoch deutschsprachigen Grenzgebietes, im Herbst 1938 und die danach folgende **Konstitution des Protektorats Böhmen und Mähren** im Frühjahr 1939 legten das Stadtleben völlig lahm. Die deutsche Armee besetzte Königinhof am 15. März 1939. Einige Textilfabriken wurden bald für die militärische Produktion als Filialen der Firma Junkers Dessau umfunktioniert, die hier Flugzeugteile herstellte. Der größte Teil des Gerichtsbezirks Königinhof wurde durch die Besetzung abgetrennt, darunter auch die Ortschaft Silberleut. Der politische Bezirk Königinhof konnte kaum mehr funktionieren, da das Reichsgebiet nun zwischen den beiden Städten Königinhof und Jaroměř lag. Im Jahre 1942 wurde daher der Gerichtsbezirk Jaroměř in den politischen Bezirk Königgrätz eingegliedert, während der politische Bezirk Königinhof neu auch den Gerichtsbezirk Hořice umfasste. Während der Okkupation erschossen oder folterten die deutschen Nazis 42 Bürger von Königinhof in den Konzentrationslagern. Die hiesige jüdische Gemeinde (113 in Vernichtungslagern ermordet) wurde gänzlich dezimiert.

Das **Kriegsende** war in Königinhof sehr dramatisch. Am 5. Mai 1945 brach hier ein Aufstand aus, den die Deutschen noch am selben Tag gewaltsam unterdrückten (13 Opfer). Am 8. Mai 1945 übernahm der Revolutionäre Nationalausschuss die Macht in der Stadt und im gesamten Bezirk und am 10. Mai 1945 kamen sowjetische Truppen in die Stadt. Damals wurden Dutzende Deutsche hingerichtet, die in einem Massengrab begraben und dann 1946 und wiederum 2002 exhumiert wurden. Nach der Befreiung wurden auch alle Grenzveränderungen des Gerichtsbezirks aus den Jahren 1938–1945 für nichtig erklärt, an die Stadt wurde wiederum Sylvárov (zuvor Silberleut) angeschlossen, doch diese Ortschaft wurde im Jahre 1952 aufgelöst. Erneuert wurden auch die Grenzen des Gerichtsbezirkes, die neuerdings auch als Grenzen des politischen Bezirkes bestimmt wurden, da Jaroměř selbst zum Sitz des politischen Bezirkes konstituiert wurde. Durch die Gebietsreform von 1949 wurde der Bezirk Dvůr Králové Teil des neuen Kreises Hradec Králové und sein Gebiet vergrößerte sich zum Nachteil der ehemaligen Gerichtsbezirke Hostinné und Trutnov.

Die **Fabriken** in Dvůr Králové wurden 1945 teilweise **verstaatlicht (nationalisiert)**, der Rest dann nach dem kommunistischen Umsturz 1948. Es gab eine lange Zeit der Exploitation der bestehenden Produktionskapazitäten, der Reorganisierung der Nationalbetriebe (Tiba, Juta) und in einigen Fällen Änderungen der Produktionspalette; die Überlegenheit der Textilindustrie blieb jedoch erhalten. In den Jahren 1950–1957 wurde im südlichen Gewerbegebiet ein Heizwerk gebaut und 1956 hierher der Betriebs-Gleisanschluss vom Bahnhof Dvůr Králové geführt.

Im Jahre 1947 hatte die Stadt nur 13.675 Einwohner (einschließlich Sylvárov, das auch in allen jüngeren Daten enthalten ist), was einen Rückgang von fast dreitausend Menschen gegenüber 1930 bedeutete. Dies war einerseits durch den Abschied der deutschsprachigen Minderheit aus der Stadt, andererseits auf die Nachsiedlung des Sudetenlandes zurückzuführen. Bis 1950 war bereits ein leichter Anstieg (14.190 Einwohner, 1.996 Häuser) zu verzeichnen, der sich auch im folgenden Jahrzehnt nicht änderte. Der Wohnungsbau hat sich mit Ausnahme einer kleinen Kollektion von Mehrfamilienhäusern an der Straße in Richtung Bílá Třemešná praktisch nicht entwickelt. Nach und nach wurde die kontinuierliche Bebauung des Kais Benešovo nábřeží abgeschlossen.

Die 1950er Jahre sind auch von der bewussten Zerstörung des historischen Gedächtnisses geprägt. Der alte Friedhof in Česká Podhart' wurde 1950 aufgelöst und in Sady míru (Friedensanlage) und Verkehrsspielplatz umgewandelt. Der jüdische Friedhof wurde nach und nach von Vandalen demoliert und 1960 samt Zeremonienhalle liquidiert, die Synagoge wurde 1965/1966 wegen des Straßenausbaus abgerissen.

Neumanns Villa wurde zum neuen Sitz des Stadtmuseums bestimmt und 1946 wurde nebenan ein kleiner Tiergarten eröffnet. Der erste Pavillon für exotisches Wild entstand 1950 und die ganze Anlage erweiterte sich dann schnell – 1953 hatte der Zoo bereits eine Fläche von 6,5 Hektar und präsentierte 86 Tierarten. Die neue Entfaltung bezieht sich zum Jahre 1956, als František Císařovský Direktor wurde, und am Umbruch der 1960er und 1970er Jahre nahm der Zoo schon eine Fläche von 28 ha ein. Somit war er der zweitgrößte in der Tschechoslowakei.

Im Jahre 1960 wurde der Bezirk Dvůr Králové aufgelöst und im Rahmen des Kreises Hradec Králové in den Bezirk Trutnov eingegliedert. Im selben Jahr wurde die Gemeinde Žirečká Podstráň, 1964 die Gemeinden Zboží und Žireč und schließlich 1981 die Gemeinden Lipnice und Verdek integriert. Die Stagnation der Stadt setzte sich in den 1960er Jahren fort und die Daten von 1970 (2.027 Häuser, 14.758 Einwohner) sind fast die gleichen wie 1961.

In den 1970er Jahren begann in Dvůr Králové ein **Neubau** (seit 1973 nach dem neuem Bebauungs-, bzw. Gebietsplan), insbesondere mit Plattenbauten, so dass die Stadt 1980 mit 2.257 Häusern und 16.271 (ohne Sylvárov 16.081) fast so viele Einwohner hatte wie 1930. Der Wohnungszuwachs setzte sich in den 80er Jahren fort, während die Einwohnerzahl erneut zurückging. In der Stadt gab es keine größeren, konzeptionell gestalteten Plattenbausiedlungen, nur zwei kleinere Standorte: im Westen (an den Jaroslav-Bilina- und Machar-Straßen) und im Nordosten (nördlich von der Parkanlage

Schulovy sady, an den Karolina-Světlá- und Nad-Parkem-Straßen). Darüber hinaus wurden an anderen Stellen innerhalb der Stadt Wohnungen in einzelnen stehenden Plattenbauten geschaffen, wo diese besonders störend sind. Die größten städtebaulichen Mängel waren zwei Hochhäuser zu je 10 Etagen Nr. 2236 und 2235 in unmittelbarer östlicher und nordöstlicher Nachbarschaft der Kreuzerhöhung-Kirche. Ihr Bau war mit der Verlegung des Durchgangsverkehrs auf die neue 17.-listopadu-Straße verbunden, die eine gerade Verlängerung der Legionářská-Straße bis zu der südlichen Elbebrücke darstellt.

In den 1970er Jahren erlangte Dvůr Králové durch seinen **Zoo** am westlichen Stadtrand landesweite Bekanntheit. Seine größte Entfaltung ist mit der Person des Direktors Dipl.-Ing. Josef Vágner, CSc. (als Direktor 1966–1983) verbunden, der rund 2.000 Tiere aus Afrika importierte und auf einer Fläche von 60 Hektar die größte Kollektion afrikanischer Tiere in Europa schuf. Der Zoo hat sich in das Tal des Baches Netfeba ausgedehnt. Unter Jiří Svoboda (1984–1988) wurde er modernisiert und die Basis für den afrikanischen Safari-park geschaffen. Dieser wurde von Pavel Suk (1988–1990) vollendet; er wurde am 24. Mai 1989 eröffnet.

Die Novemberereignisse 1989 in der Stadt begannen mit der ersten Großdemonstration auf dem Marktplatz am 23. November 1989. Im Jahre 1990 wurde der historische Stadtkern und seine Umgebung zur städtischen Denkmalzone deklariert, was den Beginn einer schrittweisen Erneuerung dieses städtebaulichen und architektonisch wertvollen Bereiches bedeutete.

Die Entwicklung der Stadt nach 1989 war von der **Krise der Textilindustrie** durch Billigimporte aus dem Ausland, insbesondere aus Asien, geprägt. Viele Betriebe wurden geschlossen, einige wurden für andere Formen von Geschäftsaktivitäten genutzt, andere jedoch nach 2000 abgerissen und auf einem Teil dieser frei gewordenen Flächen entstanden Supermärkte. Drei weitere Supermärkte mit großen Parkplätzen, z. T. mit der Verkleinerung des Busbahnhofes, prägen die östliche Nachbarschaft der 17.-listopadu-Straße. Von den traditionellen Firmen überlebte nur der Betrieb Juta a. s., der in den Jahren 2002–2015 ein neues großes Werk an der Straße in Richtung Žireč baute.

Mit der **Reform der öffentlichen Verwaltung** wurde Dvůr Králové im Jahre 2003 zum Sitz des Stadtamtes mit erweiterten Kompetenzen (ORP) bestimmt, das einen Großteil der Funktionen des bestehenden Bezirksamtes übernahm.

Bis 2011 war die Zahl der Häuser auf 2.727 gestiegen, die Einwohnerzahl jedoch gesunken (14.308). Im Jahre 2011 verzeichnete die gesamte Stadt 3.205 Häuser und 15.754 Einwohner. Die **Erweiterung des bestehenden Stadtgebiets war nur minimal**. Erst in dieser Zeit (1990–1996) entstand nördlich der Štefánik-Straße eine Plattenbausiedlung als Nachzögling zum sozialistischen staatlichen Wohnungsbau (vollständig vom Staat bezahlt). Zu dieser Maßnahme gehörte ferner ein Kindergarten und eine Grundschule im Stadtteil Strž Nr. 2919, die 1995 als erste neue Schule in der Stadt seit 1912 eröffnet wurde. Im Jahre 1996 wurde in ihrer Nähe eine große Sporthalle gebaut. Die Siedlung wurde danach 1998–2003 in völlig anderer Konzeption und Technologie fertiggestellt.

Zu Beginn des 21. Jahrhunderts wurde 2001 eine weitere konzeptionelle Stadtentwicklung mit einem neuen **Bebauungs-, bzw. Gebietsplan** bestimmt, der 2013 durch einen neuen ersetzt wurde. Er beabsichtigt eine mäßige Wohnungsbauentwicklung innerhalb der Stadt und am Stadtrand. Die größten Veränderungen sind im Straßenverkehr im Zusammenhang mit der geplanten Autobahn D11 beabsichtigt, deren Fertigstellung 2021 Jaroměř erreichte und ein weiterer Abschnitt von der Grenze zu Polen bis Trutnov soll 2022–2027 folgen.

## DVŮR KRÁLOVÉ NAD LABEM

Dvůr Králové nad Labem is a town in East Bohemia situated in the Hradec Králové Region at the upper reaches of the Elbe River, 35 kilometers north of Hradec Králové. It is situated in rugged landscape where the altitude ranges from 290 to 485 meters above the sea level (the altitude of the town centre is 298 meters above the sea level). The town covers an area of 35.82 square kilometres and it is situated in the centre of the Dvůr Králové basin. Such natural conditions combined with the absence of an important trading path prevented the town from growing during the Middle Ages and the Early Modern Era; and that was why, it remained one of the smallest royal towns in Bohemia (the area of the town within the fortification walls was approximately 6.5 ha). Therefore, changes only came with the industrial era. As of 2020, the town population was 15550. Administrative parts of the town are called Lipnice, Verdek, Zboží, Žireč and Žirečká Podstráň.

**Archaeological finds** gathered during surface prospection showed that in the early prehistory there had been a small yet significant settlement enclave north of the town in the area of Choustníkovo Hradiště, specifically in sheltered locations along the Kocbeřský Stream and its tributaries; dense settlement was centred near Jaroměř. The finds of scattered bronze artefacts documented that this area had been used during the Bronze Age or even earlier probably as a transit route to hilly areas at the foothills of the Krkonoše Mountains where sources of various raw materials were available. In the cadastre of Dvůr Králové itself the presence of humans was more distinctively documented by archaeological finds from the Iron Age. Slavs were probably present in this region as early as in the 8<sup>th</sup> century, especially in the settlement area of Choustníkovo Hradiště.

East Bohemia ended up under control of **Přemyslid Princes** about the mid-10<sup>th</sup> century, as a result of territorial expansion of Prince Boleslav I (935-972); the expansion enlarged the original Přemyslid domain situated in the centre of Bohemia. The Hradec castle situated at the confluence of the Elbe and Orlice Rivers became the natural centre of the east-Bohemian region; the site was reachable from a path running from the Dvůr Králové basin further down along the Elbe. However, there have been no reliable written documents about Dvůr originating from times before the early 12<sup>th</sup> century.

As far as historic research based on critical work with sources is concerned, we can go as far as 1110 when, according to information recorded in the *Gesta principum Polonorum* chronicle written by Polish historian Galus Anonymus, an army of the Polish Prince Boleslav III Wrymouth († 1138) passed through the border forest east of the Krkonoše Mountains. Little

hamlets and a guarding tower grew along the path newly made by the army; at a later time, the guarding tower was extended and turned into a **princes' hunting court** which became a direct predecessor of the town of Dvůr. Its name is derived from it (dvůr = court).

A Roman Church of St. John the Baptist (remains of the apse have survived) was built within the court belonging to the royal hunting premises. The town itself was probably established during the rule of Přemysl Otakar II (1253-1278). The **oldest written record** documenting the existence of Dvůr originated from a court trial held in 1270; it dealt with a dispute between priests from Hořice and Miletín regarding borders of their parish districts. Priest Gottfried of Dvůr ("*Gotfridus de Curia*") is mentioned as a witness. However, the document does not explicitly say whether Dvůr existed as a town or whether it was a market hamlet at that time. Priest's German name could be a certain guideline – it might suggest that Dvůr was a developing town with German speaking citizens.

The original court was incorporated in the newly built town situated between the Elbe, or more specifically, between a mill raceway and the Hartský Stream ('*Kacbach*'). The church was rebuilt in the early Gothic style in the second half of the 13<sup>th</sup> century as apparent from the surviving portal. A deanery was probably established at the end of the 13<sup>th</sup> century.

No **medieval castle** is documented in written sources related to the town. Stone fortification walls were probably erected during the reign of Přemysl Otakar II or Wenceslas II. The town was encircled with oval fortification walls with a projection in the north surrounding the cemetery Church of St. John the Baptist. Bastions and four gates were incorporated in the walls; main roads running to Trutnov, Hostinné and Jaroměř passed through them. In the northwest there was the Upper (Horní, Hořeni) Gate, in the northeast there was the Šindelářská Gate (the only one still in existence), in the southwest there was the Lower (Dolní, Dolení) Gate and in the southeast there was the Hradištská Gate. In the east, there was another smaller gate which made the entrance to the town possible. A water moat and an embankment were built outside the fortification walls. The fortification walls served their purpose up until 1785. As late as 1841, they were documented to exist in their original length. Guarding towers were built on the border of the town premises; we know names of two of them – the Vorlešská guarding tower and the Hartská guarding tower.

Four adjoining **suburbs** were named after the town gates: the Dolní, Horní, Šindelářské and Hradištské suburbs. There was a trapezoidal square in the centre of town and main roads ran from its corners to the four towers. Markets were held in the square and buildings surrounding it included the parish, reeve's office and at a later time, as the town councillors got emancipated, also the Town-Hall. Water was brought by wooden troughs from an artificially made watercourse to the fortification walls and from there it was distributed by means of open channels among citizens. At the opposite end of the town, water was brought into a pond and propelled a mill. From there it ran to a millrace of the River Elbe. Because there were watercourses in the suburbs, there must have been bridges and little bridges in places where the water crossed local roads. As far as large bridges are concerned, we know about the Hořeni Bridge and the Dolení (Dolejší) Bridge, both situated close to the gates of the same names.

In 1313, one of the witnesses listed in a document of Jan of Vartenberk, the owner of Trutnov, was Apecco, a reeve from Dvůr ('*Apecco, iudex de Curia*'). In 1316, King John of Luxembourg (1310-1346) pledged the royal **feudal district** with the town of Dvůr and the Trutnov district (except the town and castle of Trutnov) to Půta of Turgov. This is not only the first clear proof of the existence of the royal town of Dvůr, but also of the feudal system which helped to strengthen the military control of the border areas.

In the long litigation over the inheritance from the Brandenburg Margrave Waldemar († 1319) between John of Luxembourg and his relative Henry I, the Duke of Jawor († 1346), the King decided to sacrifice the Trutnov region including the Dvůr region in order to obtain Görlitz. Between 1329-1337, Henry I of Jawor controlled the region as the **mortgage seigneur**. In 1340, as documented by a copy of the original resolution, King John of Luxembourg excluded burghers of the towns of Trutnov and Dvůr, lords, knights and other citizens of Dvůr and Trutnov ('*territorii Trutnoviensis et Curie*') from the authority of regional officers in matters related to executions and court trials; the King did so because of injustice which the citizens had been subjected to. This resolution granted the territory the status of a specific administrative unit which historiography called the Trutnov feudal system; it had its own court, administrative and financial organizations. The King retained the supreme court power, or he delegated it to the land captain. The town of Dvůr applied the Magdeburg law to municipal matters. King John proved to be responsive towards Dvůr citizens ('*civibus et incolis civitatis nostre Curie*') in 1346 when he reduced the annual fee paid by town citizens to 25 threescores of Bohemian groschen. The King made this decision in reference to a destructive fire in 1345 which damaged buildings in the town.

In subsequent decades, Dvůr was pledged again. In 1349, King's brother and the mortgage seigneur of the Trutnov region, the Moravian Margrave Jan Jindřich († 1375) appointed Pešek Krabice of Weitmile, the regional judge and huntsman, administrator of Trutnov, Dvůr and other towns and villages in the region. Between 1355-1362, Ješek (Jura), the Palatine of Sandomierz was the governor of Trutnov and Dvůr. In 1365 Trutnov, Dvůr and the castle of Žacléř were pledged to Princes of Opole, Vladislaus II († 1401) and Bolko III († 1382), sons of Elisabeth († 1348), a sister of Bolko II, the Small, the Duke of Jawor and Świdnica. At that time, the whole region along with Silesian territories was controlled from Świdnica. After Bolko's death in 1368, the town was ruled by his wife Princess Agness of Austria († 1392) who held the life-long right to the regions of Świdnica and Trutnov.

Only after Agness' death, the region of Trutnov including the town of Dvůr went back to the hands of **Bohemian King Wenceslas IV** (1378-1419). At the turn of 1399, Wenceslas IV registered the town of Dvůr along with Trutnov as the dowry property of his second wife Sophia of Bavaria († 1428). The whole region lost the status of a buffer territory of the Czech lands. The region of Trutnov was administered by the Trutnov burgrave appointed by the Queen. Queen widow Sophia relaxed her relationship to the dowry after her departure for Pressburg (today's Bratislava) at the end of

1419, and after having handed over the dowry towns to her brother-in-law Sigismund of Luxembourg († 1437) at the Brno Diet.

Between 1399-1400 the **Dean Church of St. John the Baptist** was built in the high Gothic style. The church had three naves and there was a school in its vicinity. A wooden parish building first stood in the square on the site of today's house no. 2.

Before the Hussite wars, Dvůr retained the status of **the smallest East-Bohemian royal dowry town** whose representatives spoke German. We have no information to what extent reform opinions spread in the town. Dvůr citizens ended up under the influence of the confederation of towns led by the Hussite Prague shortly. After Jan Žižka of Trocnov moved over to East Bohemia, the town was influenced by the newly established brotherhood whose members called themselves orphans after the captain's death in 1424. After the restoration of records in the municipal logbook (a so-called *Parchment Logbook*) in 1426, the records were made in the Czech language. The book clearly documented the gradual transfer from the Magdeburg law to the law of the town of Prague.

After the acknowledgement of Basel compacts and after having made an agreement with Emperor Sigismund, the town surrendered to the new consensus, and on 14<sup>th</sup> September 1436 in Jihlava, the town representatives paid tribute to Sigismund and acknowledged him the King. With regard to the relatively recent change in the ownership situation in the town, the citizens found it very important that the ruler assured them that no one may force them to accept the runaway citizens and clergymen. In February 1437, Dvůr became **a part of the dowry property of Queen Barbara of Cilli** († 1451) and Dvůr remained the royal dowry town forever. The dowry towns provided the Queen with some support for her political ambitions by means of which she planned to oppose her husband and prevent her son-in-law, the Austrian Duke Albert V of Germany from ascending the Bohemian throne. She wanted the Polish Jagiello dynasty to take over the throne instead. One of the reasons why the town of Dvůr supported the Polish royal court was the fact that a member of the important burgher family of Prostředeks had eagerly supported the radical Hussitism and had been executed by hanging in Prague on 9<sup>th</sup> September 1437 along with Jan Roháč of Dubé. However, King Sigismund had managed to thwart all Barbara's plans before his death by having her imprisoned. Two years later, his son-in-law and successor the Roman King Albert II of Germany († 1439) died prematurely and Bohemia ended up in a fourteen-year-long interregnum.

In the country without a king, a significant portion of state power was taken over by police-administrative confederacies called **landfrieds** (from the German word *Landfriede*). The east-Bohemian landfried was managed by noblemen led by Hynce Ptáček of Pirkštejn († 1444) and it united the Kouřim, Čáslav, Chrudim and Hradec regions. After Queen widow Barbara returned from exile in 1441, she took over control of her dowry property and confirmed the independence of the Trutnov region at the beginning of 1443. In the mid-1440s, her influence in the dowry towns weakened and she granted no more privileges. Dowry towns ended up under supervision of the East-Bohemian landfried leader George of Poděbrady who became the land administrator after 1452. At the turn of the 1450s, Dvůr became a stable member of the Poděbrady Union and as its members, Dvůr citizens fought against the Strakonice Union which was supported by the feared Jan Kolda of Žampach. In the course of the fights, Dvůr burned down on 4<sup>th</sup> May 1450.

During the post-Hussite era, the feudal village of Zboží had belonged to Dvůr, however in 1547 it was not a part of the dominion any more. The town also controlled several **villages from which taxes were levied** – the villages of Fidleřovice (later on Filířovice; today the hamlet is a part of the village of Nové Lesy), Lipnice, Nové Lesy (a part of the village of Bílá Třemešná) and Verdek. In 1489, the town acquired the village of Libotov and in 1538 it bought the feudal villages of Bukovina, Kocléřov and Komárov (this one was probably owned by Dvůr for a short time only).

In 1454, King Ladislaus the Posthumous (1453-1457) issued a confirmation for Dvůr by means of which he **confirmed the existing privileges** of the town and, moreover, granted the town the right to organize an anniversary market on St. Ludmila's day (i.e. 16<sup>th</sup> September). Queen Joanna of Rožmitál († 1475), the wife of George of Poděbrady, exercised her right to the dowry property from her coronation in 1458. However, King George of Poděbrady confirmed the administrative specifics of the Trutnov region in 1463 (it is the oldest survived royal charter issued for the town of Dvůr).

Under the rule of Vladislaus Jagiello (1471-1516) several charters were issued in relation to the town and they clearly documented the problems which Dvůr faced. In 1476, the King allowed the town to freely dispose of its property (the right of independent legacy). In the following year, the King reduced the fee levied for having members of the municipal council confirmed by queen's or royal officers to an amount of 5 threescores of Prague groschen. In 1497, upon request of Dvůr citizens, the King permitted another annual market to be held on Thursday before the Pentecost, which was to economically enhance the town. In 1507, the King allowed Dvůr to collect duty on things and animals brought to the town. Only two years later, the King confirmed to the town all the existing rights and freedoms, and allowed the town representatives to seal with red wax and administer the town in harmony with the Hradec nad Labem practice. After the *Vladislaus' Land Ordinance* (1500) was passed by noblemen, Dvůr got involved in the escalating conflict between royal towns and noblemen and joined the union of towns in 1502.

Records about **guilds** originated from the turn of the century even though guilds must have existed in the town much earlier (maltsters, drapers, butchers, weavers, smiths, shoemakers, furriers and tailors were mentioned in documents). Realistic estimates rank the town among the smallest royal towns with maximum of 1200 citizens.

Due to the fact that fief registers from 1480-1539 have survived, close relationships between the town and the **Trutnov feudal court of justice** was documented; one of six judges at the court came from Dvůr. Some court hearings were held in the Town Hall in Dvůr and Dvůr gradually took over some of its agenda. In 1539, fief logbooks were transferred to the Prague court register and consequently the Trutnov region ceased to exist. Administration of the territory was taken over by the Hradec region.

During the Jagiellonian era, the dean church was rebuilt. The oldest surviving municipal seal dates from the post-Hussite times, from 1484. The text says: + S + peczet + miesta + dwora + nad + labem +. The picture in the seal shows the coat of arms of Dvůr. The oldest painting of the coat of arms is glued in the *Collection of religious texts from Dvůr Králové* from 1609 used by members of the association of church singers in the dean church.

During the pre-White Mountain era, Dvůr was controlled by 12 councillors who took turns in the burgomaster's office. The burgomaster of the respective election period was called prime burgomaster. The **municipal council** which also performed competences of the municipal court of justice usually had only one scribe available. Another body of municipal government comprised six senior administrators who were assigned to assist councillors and supervise economic activities of the town.

The **municipal reeve** cooperated with a guard who supervised prisoners in prisons situated in towers by the gates. The execution place used to be located northerly of the town centre near the Vorlešská Guarding Tower up until 1626; from there it was relocated to Malá Drážka, and eventually it was established in the municipal forest near Hartská Tower in the area of today's Nová Podhart. A pillory was placed in front of the Town Hall as a warning, and in 1752, it was relocated to the cemetery gate of the dean church. The territory of the town encircled with fortification walls and its suburbs was divided into eight neighborhoods. Individual neighborhoods were supervised by two captains and two corporals.

The **municipality gradually seized control** of six mills of which four were located on the Elbe drain. The municipality controlled also a sawmill and ponds. The town also owned the municipal forest and brickworks situated behind the Dolní Bridge. Later on, there were three breweries in the town.

The town was punished for the **participation in the estates revolt** in 1547 when land property including villages and their fields was confiscated (the village of Libotov, the feudal villages of Kocléřov and Bukovina and the villages of Fidleřovice, Lipnice, Nové Lesy and Verdek from which taxes were levied). Later on, the ruler returned only Fidleřovice, Lipnice, Nové Lesy and Verdek which retained the status of villages from which taxes were levied. As a part of extension of the dominion, Dvůr acquired a part of the feudal village of Zaboří (today a part of the village of Vítězná). The beginning of farming activities which developed in royal towns as inspired by the nobility is documented by the purchase of the Vorlešský farm in 1553. In 1606, the town of Dvůr purchased the feudal farm of Podhoří. The hamlet of Sylvárov (today a part of Žirecká Podstráň) developed in the vicinity of Podhoří which made the most significant municipal farm. According to a registration list dated 1567, Dvůr reported 153 houses in the inner town and in suburbs.

In 1572, the **whole town burned down** except for the dean church and two houses. The flames consumed also the original wooden Town Hall in the western part of the square (today's no. 84). František Vlach built a new Renaissance Town Hall according to the design of Ulrico Aostalli de Sala in the western corner of the northern side of the square, today's house no. 1. The introduction of the third annual market on the day of the God's Wisdom (17<sup>th</sup> December) was supposed to moderate financial problems of the town. Plaque epidemics afflicted the town in 1582 and in 1599.

Like other non-Catholic towns, Dvůr Králové got involved in the **Bohemian Estates Revolt** (1618-1620). After the defeat at the Battle of White Mountain, representatives of the town administration had to promise to be loyal to Ferdinand II. In 1622, all land property of the town was confiscated and the town was deprived of all privileges (returned in 1627). Citizens as well as the municipal treasury had to cope with armies passing through the town: first the imperial but in the course of time also enemy troops. Compulsory housing, financial and in kind contributions were commonly required.

The introduction of new religious rules boosted by the Renewed Land Ordinance, for Bohemia passed in 1627, which determined Catholicism to be the only permitted religion, was a very sensitive topic. Citizens were under pressure from the first half of the 1620s; to increase the pressure, a Catholic priest was appointed. Some non-Catholic citizens emigrated after having refused the permitted religion.

The difficult situation which Dvůr citizens ended up in, made them write an appeal to the emperor. The ruler obviously met their requirements which is documented by Maria Theresia's confirmation mentioning a lost privilege of the fourth fair. According to a record from the oldest surviving parish register (1627-1648) there was a serious flood in 1635. The town and its suburbs interwoven with water courses must have suffered very serious losses.

The town was not spared of suffering even at the end of the war. In 1639, it was plundered by Swedes led by General Banner. In 1644, there were 1010 people who went to confession and received Holy Communion in Dvůr and 334 more in four villages from which the town levied taxes. However, a majority of the population was impoverished, which is documented by a report of the Hradec Region governor stating that in Dvůr Králové only nine town citizens and two subjects from municipal villages were able to pay taxes. The town was repeatedly plundered by Swedes in 1647, and subsequently famine and epidemics broke out.

One of the smallest royal dowry towns was **impoverished after the Thirty Years' War**. Based on the *List of Subjects according to their Belief*, more than 1100 people, including children, lived in the town; the total population of the town including villages ("Verdek, Novoles, Filířovice, Lipnice, Zaboří"), municipal mills and farms was 1538. A year later a committee concluded that only Catholics lived in Dvůr and its villages and all of them went to confession at Easter.

The *tax assessment* registered in "*Králov Dvůr, a town of her Grace Empress in the role of Bohemian Queen*" 61 <sup>3</sup>/<sub>8</sub> settled, i.e. taxable units which were calculated based on different criteria, and a total of 157 neighbours and 164 settled houses. In addition to that, there were four deserted houses, five houses damaged by fire and 73 urban plots. The committee recorded a total of 246 standing or ruined houses, which might suggest that between the late 16<sup>th</sup> century and the Battle of White Mountain the town experienced a certain boom (probably connected with the development of textile production). Financial problems of towns could be compensated by transferring an urban dominion into a statute labour one. However, Dvůr was surrounded mostly by villages from which taxes were levied and these had a specific legal status.

Villagers ruined by the past war were overburdened, and therefore, they revolted in the 1680s and 1690s.

This formed a good environment for **Baroque pioussness**. In 1671, a wooden chapel was built near a miracle spring. The interior of St. John the Baptist's Church was rebuilt in the Baroque style (the Baroque main altar dates from 1674, the baptistery is from 1706). In 1699, the town was affected by a destructive fire from which only the church and four surrounding houses were saved. Even after the fire, numerous buildings were not built of stone in the inner town. A sculptural group of St. John of Nepomuk on a pedestal (so called Indulgence Sculptural Group or Indulgence Oratorio) today displayed near the Church of St. John the Baptist was made in 1730. In 1738, the Kohoutův Manor (the name was used only from the mid-19<sup>th</sup> century; formerly the name was Bergerův Manor) was built to fulfill the needs of Špork's endowment farm in Choustníkovo Hradiště. The extremely valuable complex of Baroque buildings of which three have survived is the seat of the local museum nowadays. A stone deanery building originates from the 1730s as well. The town presented itself as a Catholic one even though some non-Catholic citizens lived there too. This is documented not only by a visit of eager Jesuite Antonín Koniáš, but also by court trials with several town citizens which took place in the 1740s.

During the **Wars of the Austrian heritage** (1740-1748) and the **Seven Years' War** (1756-1763) the town was repeatedly occupied by the Prussian army (for the first time in 1741, and the last time in 1761) and was forced to pay contributions. In 1749, when Maria Theresia confirmed Dvůr's privileges, significant changes in the system of central and land Habsburg authorities were introduced. Dvůr representatives started to communicate with the royal representation and the chamber beside the chamberlain's office. The chamber turned into gubernium after 1763. The regional authority of Hradec Králové was subjected to the state authority and the role of the regional governor was bolstered.

**Food processing and textile industry** prevailed in the town. In villages, people earned living mostly by weaving. Textile production helped to overcome the rather unfavorable natural conditions. The town controlled the following ponds: Hluboký, Dub, Pazderně, Čep, Močidlo, Prořfený. The municipality also owned two farms of which the Sylvárovský one remained the most important one. There were also five mills: on stable water (raceways) there were the Horní mill with two wheels, the Dolní mill with two wheels and the Pilní mill with two wheels and a sawmill; in addition to that, there were two mills on unstable water, the Koreční mill with one wheel and the Podhart with one wheel and a sawmill. A municipal fulling mill was in operation by the Elbe; a municipal brewery was incorporated in the fortification walls.

Another construction project, beside the Marian Column (1754) funded by donors, was the construction of a stone, late-Baroque Church of the Advancement of St. Cross (probably in 1752). Jan Václav Bergl (1719-1789), a native of Dvůr and a court painter of Maria Theresia, painted 14 pictures for the Way of the Cross and presented them to the church.

The reduction of the number of places entitled to execute death penalties in Bohemia was **a significant intervention in the municipal administration**. From then on, Dvůr had to apply to the court of justice in Trutnov. As a result of that, the town did not need a blood scribe who made records in the book of testimonies any more. For contribution purposes, house numbers were introduced in 1770, and ten years later, surnames were enacted by law. The oldest surviving register of births and marriages of the parish originated from 1627-1648.

High contributions in favour of **educational activities** were recorded, which suggested that the situation in the town was not good. Since the town neighbored on Jesuits, we can assume that talented burgher sons enrolled in Jesuit grammar schools. After the Jesuit Order was abolished in 1773, Maria Theresia issued a charter on 12<sup>th</sup> February 1774 by means of which she reorganized municipal schools. In 1778, the construction of a new school started. In the same year, Emperor Joseph II was accommodated in the town. At that time, the so-called War of the Bavarian Heritage was waged between the monarchy and Prussia. That was why many soldiers stayed in the town at that time. Fortunately, the Cieszyn Peace was signed in 1779 and the dispute was terminated.

Dvůr Králové was a **centre of crafts and trade** in the 18<sup>th</sup> century as well. Weaving and dyeing was widespread in the town since flax had long been grown in the vicinity of the town. Cotton started to be used from the end of the 18<sup>th</sup> century, and it eventually substituted flax in the 19<sup>th</sup> century. In spite of the fact that textile crafts were on a very advanced level in the town and they were even encouraged by a cotton market granted by Maria Theresia (along with two new annual markets) in 1775, not many manufactures were established in the late 18<sup>th</sup> century and the putting-out system was more broadly applied.

The town became famous when on 16<sup>th</sup> September 1817 Václav Hanka, a university teacher, Czech writer, poet, linguist, literature historian and librarian 'discovered' the **Manuscript of Dvůr Králové** in the tower of the Church of St. John the Baptist; it comprised 14 songs and he declared it the oldest Czech text originating from the 13<sup>th</sup> century. In spite of the fact that the manuscript was most likely forged and Hanka had written it along with his friend, poet Josef Linda and probably other people, the work significantly influenced the atmosphere within the Czech national revival community.

**Great fires** in 1776, 1777, 1790 and especially in 1791 resulted in the architectural change of the inner town when most of the traditional wooden houses disappeared. A tower was added to the suburban Church of the Advancement of St. Cross in 1784. Between 1871-1819, a municipal water distribution system was built. In 1827, the town was afflicted by fire again. Cholera epidemic in 1831 made it necessary to establish a new cemetery (today called Old Cemetery) in Česká Podhart.

The town **grew quickly** in the second half of the 18<sup>th</sup> century. While in 1757, there were 261 houses, by 1790, their number grew to 343, and by 1843, to 634 (and the population was 5148). In 1783, houses in suburbs covered a fairly large area. Northwesterly of the town, there were three groups of large settlements or manors. Rare settlements were scattered north of the town and these gradually developed into Česká Podhart, or Podhartské Suburb. All five suburbs had their own administration.

Before 1843, the built-up area in suburbs expanded only slightly. The increase in the number of houses resulted from two facts: the existing de-

velopment in the town became denser and new carpet diffusive housing development covered peripheral areas of the cadaster. This was a feature which had not appeared in any other Czech towns. Scattered houses in Nová Podhart' (before 1945 Německá Podhart) were built along Nová Tyršova and Krkonošská Streets between 1818-1848. New buildings were constructed also in the neighboring cadasters of Lipnice, Sylvárov and Žirecká Podstráň. A map of the stable cadastre (1841) shows prevailing wooden structures in the eastern section of the inner town. Another fire damaged the town in 1857. In suburbs, the ratio of burnable and unburnable houses was approximately the same in 1841, and the same situation was in new diffusive sections of the inner town. The Hoření Gate was pulled down in the 1830s and substituted with pillars which have survived till today. In 1841, only the Dolení Gate, the one with tall cylindrical towers at the end of Josefa Hory Street, and the Šindelářská Gate in Havlíčkova Street existed out of all town gates. The Šindelářská Gate has existed until today. The Dolení Gate was pulled down in 1856-1857 and remains of the Hradištská Gate were removed in 1857 and 1867. Only small sections of the town fortification system have survived until today even though in 1841 most of it existed.

The 1848 revolutionary events resulted in the **termination of the patrimonial administration**. In 1850, the regional importance of Dvůr Králové was confirmed by the establishment of a judicial and political district (which controlled also the judicial district of Jaroměř); Dvůr Králové remained a district capital until 1960.

The 40<sup>th</sup> anniversary of the 'discovery' of the Dvůr Králové Manuscript was commemorated by the installation of a neo-Renaissance statue of Zábaj on the fountain in the square in 1857. In 1861 a singing association called Zábaj was established (the second oldest in Bohemia) and in 1862/1863 the Sokol sport association was established in Dvůr Králové. Some other associations were established.

A **railway** was built near Dvůr Králové in 1858. The train station situated in the village of Sylvárov, accessible from the road to Hořovice, is rather far from the town centre because of objections the town raised at that time.

In 1866, the life of the town as well as the whole region was seriously disturbed by the Prussian-Austrian war. Dvůr Králové is situated between two main battlefields – the battlefield near Trutnov, the only place where the Austrian army won on 27<sup>th</sup> June 1866, and the battlefield near Chlum (Hradec Králové) where Austrians, on the other hand, suffered the final defeat on 3<sup>rd</sup> July 1866. In the meantime, there were fights directly in the town, and after the battle of Hradec Králové, Dvůr became a Prussian army hospital.

Patriotic and educational activities culminated in 1873-1874 when a cultural house and theater was built – neo-Renaissance Hanka's House no. 299 (Josef Zitek's design) situated outside the fortification walls, northwesterly of the former Dolení Gate.

In 1866, there were 328 craftsmen associated in 15 guilds in the town, however, the future was about **factory production**. Before World War I, the greatest number of cloth printing works in the Czech lands was established in Dvůr Králové, and the town was called Czech Manchester. This process started in 1861, however, the largest factories started to grow later. Before WWI, there were 15 Jewish and only 5 Czech businessmen in textile industry in the town.

The first factory in the town was a brewery built in 1859-1862 (in Legionářská and Dukelská Streets); the brewery was extended in 1897 by František Klazar. It was situated in an almost bare territory between the eastern side of the former fortification walls and the Hartský Stream. The textile factory Heinrich Mayer & Son no. 101 (Fügenerova Street) which was built in the immediate vicinity of the St. John the Baptist's Church was even more inconsiderate from the urbanistic point of view. The development of other textile factories at various places in the town and along the Elbe where a linear industrial zone developed in the last third of the 19<sup>th</sup> and the early 20<sup>th</sup> centuries was also urbanistically uncontrolled.

Turbulent **industrialization** obviously resulted in the growth of population – in 1890, the population was 8635. However, the housing construction lagged behind the demographic development – the number of houses grew only to 748. The situation started getting better only after the 1890s, and became most dynamic between 1900-1910 when the number of inhabitants grew to 15051 and there were 1124 houses. Dvůr Králové was (but only in 1910) the most populous town in northeastern Bohemia.

The **new housing construction** was equally unrestrained as the development of factories. New houses grew at various locations in suburbs, specifically in the Dolejší suburb – in its old part as well on the slope northerly of the street running to the train station. Even in these areas, where nothing prevented a rather conceptual development, various sections of fields were sold and new buildings constructed on them disregarding the development in neighbouring plots. Because of that, there were rows of houses and empty areas among them.

**Social and cultural life** flourished during this period. The population of Dvůr Králové was mostly Czech (90%) as well as the town government, however, the town was situated in a small Czech-language 'promontory' surrounded with German-language areas. The tension between Czech and German citizens in the town culminated when František Šíp held the mayor's office (1882-1885); an open conflict broke out during the Turners' festival on 23<sup>rd</sup> August 1885. The mayor was imprisoned for three months and removed from office, the municipal council was dissolved and a committee of 12 curators was assigned to manage the town; it operated from 10<sup>th</sup> November 1885 until 14<sup>th</sup> January 1886.

In 1888, the vocational weaving school was relocated to the town from the town of Polička, and in 1890, a Czech Grammar School was established; between 1893-1895 a new building was constructed for the school according to Václav Kaura's design. In 1908, a business school was established in the town as well.

In the 1890s, the **conceptual urbanistic completion of the central part of the town** started. A new neo-Roman synagogue was built in Roosveltova ring road in 1890-1891; its dome became a new landmark. The grammar school building balanced the Hanka's House, and along with that, delineated a new square in the suburb. In 1895-1896, a neo-Renaissance building of the

Sokol sports association no. 828 was built on the eastern side of the square. Afterwards, the attention was focused on the historic centre of town where the Church of St. John the Baptist underwent renegotiation based on a František Schmoranz' design. About 1900, a new Town Hall no. 38 was built in the middle of the eastern side of the square. In the middle of the northern side of the square an Art-Nouveau Municipal Savings Bank no. 3 was built between 1908-1911 and it was extended at a later time.

New schools and other public buildings were situated in an almost bare territory in the eastern vicinity of the historic centre, around the newly established park (Legionářská Street). This small area comprised architecturally significant buildings representing various styles of the late 19<sup>th</sup> century and the first half of the 20<sup>th</sup> century because buildings were built here until the mid-20<sup>th</sup> century. On the eastern side of the square, there was post office and telegraph office no. 406, district office no. 407, primary and secondary school no. 1235 and the Industrial Bank no. 561. On the western side of the square there was the Austro-Hungarian Bank no. 1234, community house of the Czechoslovak Hussite Church no. 1311 built between 1924-1925 and the District House no. 400 originating from 1920-1924. The development could not continue southwardly since the Klazar's Brewery was situated there.

In the slope easterly from Legionářská Street, a large Schulzovy sady Park was established by writer and playwright Antonín Schulz (1852-1922). Schulz worked as a judge in the town from 1895 and he is to be merited for research and protection of local sights; in addition to that, he organized the municipal archives and helped to develop the municipal museum.

As for other significant houses built before WWI, we can mention Gustav Deutsche's villa no. 1029 (Štefánikova Street) built in 1905-1906 (designed by Franz Sobotka) or the neo-Renaissance Workers' House no. 829 built in 1911.

In 1897, the town was damaged by a serious flood which resulted in the regulation of the river and the construction of the Les Království dam lake over the town (built between 1910-1919). Its dam wall with romantic towers ranks among Czech most valuable industrial structures designed in the historicizing style. In 1907-1908 a new municipal water distribution system was built.

More than 180 people died in World War I. A cubistic memorial to the Resistance Movement erected in front of the grammar school in 1922 ranks among the most interesting ones of its kind. It was created by Jaroslav Horec of Prague and František Bílek of Hořice under architectural supervision of Vilém Kvasnička.

The post-war crisis combined with a significant population decline was over, and the town experienced prosperous times. In 1925, there were 22 factories with 6200 employees in Dvůr Králové. In the 1920s, three new factories were established. In 1924, Sylvárov became a part of the town. The promising development was interrupted by the 1929 depression which terribly influenced the local factories when all of them had to restrict or even stop their production.

During the **inter-war period**, the town experienced the greatest general growth ever; in 1930, the population was 16235 and there were 1663 houses and the growth continued. The extensive urbanistic style consisting in covering bare areas with detached houses did not change in this period. A working class colony where workers from the Sochor Company lived grew up in the southern part of the town. The Deutsch Company built houses for its employees in Vorlech. No large villa neighbourhood developed in Dvůr Králové since middle-class people rarely built large houses and rich businessmen would build large villas near their factories.

A new centre was completed in Legionářská Street (see above) during the inter-war period; in 1921, the New Cemetery was opened in Německá Podhart and between 1924-1927, the Masaryk General Public Hospital was built in the northern edge of Česká Podhart. The textile secondary school no. 132 became one of the largest interwar construction projects in the town; it was built between 1925-1927 and it newly delimited a part of Jiří Wolker Waterfront. Tyršovo swimming centre was built on the western edge of the town between 1931-1932. The town bought the building of the former Heinrich Mayer & son textile factory no. 101, and in 1935, they had the buildings northerly from the church pulled down and the hall originating from 1909 was converted into a municipal marketplace. A new square called Republiky Square was established in this area. The importance of the local industrial tradition was accentuated by the Textile and Ethnographic Exhibition in 1936.

The confiscation of the German-language border areas in autumn 1938 and the subsequent establishment of the **Protectorate of Bohemia and Moravia** in spring 1939 completely paralyzed the whole town. The German army occupied Dvůr Králové on 15<sup>th</sup> March 1939. Some textile factories were turned into military production plants soon, and became branches of the Junkers Company from Dessau which produced aircraft components. A large portion of the Dvůr Králové judicial district including the hamlet of Sylvárov was separated after the occupation. As a result of that, the Dvůr Králové political district could hardly function since the Nazi territory spread between Dvůr Králové and Jaroměř. That was why, the Jaroměř judicial district was incorporated in the political district of Hradec Králové in 1942 while the political district of Dvůr Králové newly included the judicial district of Hořice. During the occupation, the Nazi executed or tortured to death in concentration camps 42 citizens of Dvůr Králové. The local Jewish community was annihilated (113 citizens were murdered in concentration camps).

The **end of the war** was very dramatic in Dvůr Králové. On 5<sup>th</sup> May 1945, a revolt broke out; on the same day the revolt was violently suppressed (13 victims). On 8<sup>th</sup> May 1945, the Soviet Army entered the town. At that time dozens of German people were executed; their bodies were buried in a mass grave, exhumed in 1946 and later on again in 2002. After the liberation, all territorial changes introduced between 1938-1945 were annulled; Sylvárov became a part of the town again (after 1952 the hamlet did not exist as such). The border of the judicial district was reestablished and it newly became the border of the political district because Jaroměř became the capital of the political district. After the territorial reformation in 1949, the district of Dvůr Králové became a part of the new Hradec Králové Region and the district spread out over some parts of the former Hostinné and Trutnov judicial districts.

**Some factories in Dvůr Králové were nationalized** in 1945, the rest was nationalized after the Communist coup in 1948. A long period of exploitation of the existing production capacities started; some national companies were

reorganized (Tiba, Juta) and some factories started making different products, however, textile industry remained the prevailing field. A heating plant was built in the southern industrial zone between 1950-1957, and in 1956, the operation on the shuttle train connecting the heating plant and the local train station was launched.

In 1947, the population of the town was only 13675 (including Sylvárov that had been included in all earlier data), which meant a decline by almost three thousand people as compared to 1930. This resulted from the expulsion of the German-speaking minority from the town and from the resettlement of people to Sudetenland. In 1950, there was a slight population increase (14190 citizens, 1996 houses), and it continued during the subsequent decade. No residential houses were built, the only exception was a small group of apartment buildings along the road to Bílá Třemešná. Houses were gradually built along the Beneš Waterfront.

Intentional destruction of cultural heritage was typical of the 1950s. The old cemetery in Česká Podhart was closed down in 1950 and converted into the Míru Park and a children's traffic playground. The Jewish cemetery was continuously demolished by vandals, and in 1960, it was liquidated including the ceremony room; the synagogue was pulled down in 1965/1966 to give way to a widened street.

The municipal museum moved over to the Neumann villa, and in 1946, a small Zoo was opened nearby. The first pavilion for exotic animals was built in 1950 and the premises kept growing quickly – in 1953, the Zoo covered an area of 6.5 hectares and 86 animal species were on display. The new development started in 1956 when František Čiřavský was appointed manager. At the turn of the 1970s, the Zoo covered an area of 28 hectares and became the second largest in Czechoslovakia.

In 1960, the district of Dvůr Králové was cancelled and its territory was incorporated in the Trutnov district. In the same year, the village of Žirecká Podstráň was integrated in the town; in 1964, the villages of Zboží and Žireč followed, and eventually in 1981, the villages of Lipnice and Verdek became a part of the town. In the 1960s, the stagnation of the town continued and the 1970 numbers (2027 houses, 14758 citizens) were almost identical with the ones from 1961.

In the 1970s, **new houses**, especially prefabricated apartment buildings, **were built** in Dvůr Králové (in 1973 a new zoning plan was approved); in 1980, there were 2257 houses and 16271 citizens (16081 without Sylvárov), i.e. almost the same number of inhabitants as in 1930. The increase in the number of houses continued also in the 1980s while the number of inhabitants started decreasing again. No large conceptually designed housing estate was built in the town; there were only two small residential districts: one in the west (along Jaroslava Biliny and Macharova Streets) and another one in the northeast (north of the Schulzovy sady Park, along Karoliny Světlé and Nad Parkem Streets). In addition to that, individual prefabricated apartment buildings were built at various places of the town and many of them look rather inappropriate. The most disturbing ones are two ten-story houses no. 2236 and 2235 in the immediate vicinity of the Church of the Advancement of St. Cross. They were constructed when transitioning traffic was diverted to the new 17 Listopadu Street which continued Legionářská Street and ran all the way to the southern bridge spanning the Elbe.

In the 1970s, Dvůr Králové became broadly renowned due to its **zoological garden** situated on the western edge of the town. Its greatest development was linked with one of its directors – Josef Vágnér (in office 1966-1983) who brought about 2000 animals from Africa and created the largest European collection of African animals on an area of 60 hectares. The Zoo spread towards the valley of the Netřeba Stream. When Jiří Svoboda managed the Zoo (1984-1988), its premises were modernized and an African safari started to be designed. This project was completed by Pavel Suk (1988-1990) and opened on 24<sup>th</sup> May 1989.

The Velvet Revolution started in the town by a large demonstration in the square on 23<sup>rd</sup> November 1989. In 1990, the historic centre of the town was classified a municipal heritage zone thanks to which this architecturally valuable territory was gradually renovated and repaired.

The development of the town after 1989 was impacted by the **textile industry crisis**, which was a result of cheap import from abroad, specifically Asia. Many factories were closed down, some were used for other types of business activities and many of them were pulled down after 2000; some of the emptied areas were covered with supermarkets. Three more hypermarkets with large parking lots and a bus terminal were constructed in the eastern vicinity of 17 Listopadu Street. Out of the traditional brands only Juta a.s. survived; in 2002-2015 a new large production plant of this company was built by the road to Žireč.

After the **reform of public administration**, Dvůr Králové became the seat of a municipal authority with an extended scope of competences and took over a large portion of functions previously administered by district authorities.

By 2011 the number of houses grew to 2727, however, the population decreased (14308). The whole municipality reported 3205 houses and 15754 citizens in 2011. **The developed area of the town was extended only very little**. Very late (1990-1996), a prefabricated housing estate grew north of Štefánikova Street – it was a posthumous offspring of socialist residential construction (fully paid by the government). This construction project included also a kindergarten and the primary school no. 2919 in Strž which was opened in 1995 and made the first new school in the town since 1912. In 1996, a large sports hall was built in the vicinity. The housing estate was subsequently completed in harmony with a completely different concept and technology between 1998-2003.

In the early 21<sup>st</sup> century a **new zoning plan** defining further development of the town was approved (2001); it was substituted with a new one in 2013. The plan expects the construction of some residential houses in the town centre as well as on its edges. The largest changes are expected in traffic, in connection with the construction of the D11 highway which reached Jaroměř in 2021 and another section from Jaroměř to Trutnov is expected to follow in 2022-2027.