

lected income which had belonged to the king. In 1423 after Žižka's victory by Strachův Dvůr, Jaroměř left the Prague Municipal Association and joined Tábor Hussites; after Žižka's death they became a part of the military organization called orphans. Jaroměř burghers fought on the part of orphans up until the fatal battle of Lipany. Even after that Jaroměř opposed Sigismund and surrendered only on 14th August 1436 at the Jihlava Diet.

Sigismund gifted Jaroměř, along with other dowry property, which was partly pledged, to his wife Barbara of Celje († 1451) by means of a deed dated probably 11th February 1437. The property was presented along with all privileges and incomes the way these had been used by Queen Sophia of Bavaria from the time of her coronation († 1425); Queen Sophia interrupted her contacts not only with Jaroměř by her departure for Pressburg at the end of 1419 and by subsequent submission of the property to Sigismund. Jaroměř burghers resented especially the fact that Sigismund issued a deed sometime in 1436–1437 by means of which he pledged the monastery villages of Doubravice, Malý Třebešov and Říkov including a mill and a river, six ponds, one and a half fans of groves, meadows and the Mnichovec forest to George of Chvalkovice, the former captain of east Bohemian Hussites († after 1437) for 400 threescores of groschen; when George died the property was transferred to his sons.

After the death of Albert II of Germany anarchy spread around the Bohemian Lands again; it soon affected the dowry towns as well and order was re-established only after Barbara of Celje returned to Bohemia in 1441. After 1440, during these anarchistic times, the country was controlled by regional landfrieids (regional defensive confederacies which were to enforce a legal order). After some hesitation, Jaroměř eventually joined the Hradec landfried which was incorporated in the union of East-Bohemian landfrieids led by Hynek Ptáček of Pirkštejn. **A large-scale dispute burst out between Barbara and Jaroměř in 1444.** The whole issue started because Jaroměř burghers refused to hand in the reeve's office along with all property that pertained to it. On 4th January 1445 the queen issued two deeds by means of which she attempted to rectify the situation. While councilors were willing to compromise, representatives of the general municipal assembly led by Husite priest Pavel protested and seized the Town Hall. Some councilors were killed, some were forced to leave. Queen Barbara who lacked sufficient military forces pledged the town to George of Poděbrady on 24th April 1445 (for 1000 threescores of groschen, and in case of his increased costs and capital expenditures for 1500 threescores of groschen) asking him to reestablish order in the town. The queen required that a new coat of arms (a she-lion enwound in a crown of thorns) be assigned to the town to punish it. The new coat of arms replaced the original coat of arms with a double scale. The queen's influence in the East-Bohemian towns became even weaker after these events: having handed over the administration of dowry towns to George of Poděbrady, she lived in Mělník and was satisfied to receive money levied from the towns. As a result of that the dowry towns participated in all important events in the country. It is impossible to find out whether the restless events of 1445 were related to the destructive fire on 20th June 1446 which seriously damaged buildings in Jaroměř. It was probably this fire during which the oldest Jaroměř municipal written documents – received as well as recorded in the town – burned down. Jaroměř deed dated 5th October 1448 reports that rebels were punished by expulsion from the town after George of Poděbrady conquered Prague in September and those who were willing to solve the issue amicably were allowed to return back. Jaroměř burghers promised to respect George of Poděbrady and they undertook to pay 80 threescores of groschen a year up until the pledge was paid off by the king or queen. At the same time the scope of property which belonged to George was defined. The survived deed also documents that a late medieval castle was situated near the Prague gate; the castle had been made of a provost house (today's house no. 38), however, we do not know its look.

On 28th August 1454 Ladislaus the Posthumous **confirmed Jaroměř its privileges** and determined that an anniversary market be held on the holy day of Pentecost. Ladislaus also issued a deed acknowledging the pledge of 1000 threescores of groschen in favour of George. George subsequently intervened and asked the new King Ladislaus to pledge the Jaroměř Castle with the mill under the church in favour of Vaněk of Valečov, his faithful colleague, and for some time also the burgrave of the Jaroměř Castle and the royal vice-chamberlain; the pledge was issued for 300 threescores of groschen by means of a deed dated 16th October 1454. In 1458 George of Poděbrady took over the throne and the dowry property was taken over by Queen Johana of Rožmitál († 1475). However, the situation was difficult in Jaroměř, which was why the king issued a deed on 26th June 1464 by means of which he formally guaranteed to the vice-chamberlain his right to the property pledged in his favour; the municipal property was supposed to be ceded to the queen. Jaroměř and Valečovský agreed on 22nd November 1465 that the castle and the Podkostelní mill were to be transferred to the town. Both the buildings remained in the hands of the municipality and only later on were taken over by private entities. To secure Jaroměř's privileges George issued a confirmation deed on 5th March 1466 which documented again that the influence of Bohemian queens on the dowry towns kept decreasing. Jaroměř, which was a part of the old-town legal group, received a confirmation of the existing habit of appointing town councilors. The reeve's office was bought out by the village and the office, renewed every year, was held by a municipal reeve.

Under the rule of Vladislaus Jagiello, affected not only by an increase of estates' power and decrease of ruler's power, but also by disputes between the nobility and royal towns, Jaroměř citizens received several deeds that clearly documented problems and worries which they had faced. At the same time these deeds documented the **gradually perishing relationship between Bohemian queens and dowry towns.** Thanks to a number of such privileges (beside others the right to levy customs duty on goods, organizing a new annual market on the Epiphany holiday) the income of the town increased significantly and the support of market activities contributed to the development of crafts and trade. An inscription 1511 is to be found on the St. Nicolas' Church, which refers to construction works that could be performed as a result of an increase of municipal income; the church could finally get a roof after many decades.

Jaroměř entered the beginning of the Middle Ages with an ambition **to build a dominion (a municipal farm) in the surroundings of the town.** Disregarding the temporary ownership of the monastery property, these ambitions – supported by an idea that land property meant power and magnified by competition with the nobility on several levels – had originated from the Jagiello era. As of 1547 Jaroměř, which was surrounded by several large noble manors, controlled seven villages, some forests and ponds as recorded in the period land register; property owned by the hospital was registered separately. At that time Jaroměř administered a medium sized dominion comprising 12 villages and approximately 169 settlements. Based on a complex analysis of a long period of time we assume that Jaroměř citizens did not transform villages from which taxes were levied to directly owned ones as many other towns had done; they did so with regards to the size of the hill on which the 'town' was located, i.e. the area of full municipal law that

was in fact one street which formed the Jaroměř square. The number of families which could aspire to forming the local municipal elites was very limited. That was probably the reason why also people from taxed villages that had a truly specific relationship to Jaroměř (people from these villages were even members of the brotherhood of church singers) were allowed to buy houses. The size of the hill was an obstacle which – in spite of the fertile lowland by the confluence of rivers – made Jaroměř a small town with a limited cultural potential, low population and economic activities that concentrated mostly on the local market.

In consequence of the unsuccessful anti-Habsburg resistance movement Jaroměř was affected by **king's political and economic sanctions** in 1547; a royal reeve was appointed, appeals from the municipal court had to be heard by the appellate court from 1548, the municipality lost its land property and had to pay a fine of 2000 Meissen groschen. Soon afterwards the Bohemian Chamber sold the Jaroměř municipal property, which had been registered in the land register, to Jan of Pernštejn; only the parish and hospital property was returned to Jaroměř already in 1547. Another part of the former municipal property was returned to the town in 1549, however, under the condition that income coming from this property would be primarily used for 'education of priests, pupils and the poor', and only the remaining money could be allocated for the settlement of municipal debts, repairs of town buildings and other necessary municipal matters. In consequence of the political development, or specifically subsequent sanctions, and also due to the existence of large noble dominions in the surroundings, Jaroměř permanently ranked among the smallest municipal dominions as far as its property was concerned.

With regards to **changes in economy of towns** in the 2nd half of the 16th century we can notice systematic purchases of farms which specialized in plant and animal production both within the town premises and in villages owned by the town. During the pre-White Mountain era Jaroměř owned always only one farm, from 1588 the Klouzkov farm (the Dolany farm was owned by the town only from 1674). Wheat, rye, barley and oats were grown in the surroundings of Jaroměř; grapevines and fruit were grown in Brdce and on the marlstone hill. Vegetable gardens were situated for example in Ostrov. Except for fertile fields there were also meadows near the town, especially in lowlands by the river. Rye and oats were grown in surrounding villages situated in higher altitudes. As regards municipal companies and buildings, we know about the municipal malthouse which was situated under the St. Nicolas' Church where the municipal mill was also located (a water treatment plant became a part of it during the Thirty Years' War); we can find a municipal spa behind the Long Bridge (sold in 1662) and also a municipal brickworks which ceased to exist during the 17th century. We assume there was also a municipal weighing machine since it was mentioned in reports from the times of the Thirty Years' War.

The 16th century also brought several destructive **fires**. On 9th August 1523 both Jaroměř suburbs burned down; some sources reported 82 destroyed houses, some even more. We have no information whether the fire destroyed the cemetery Church of St. Jacob; however, its renovation was completed in 1530: after the renovation it was a single nave late Gothic structure with a tower in the front façade (two portals of the Saxon type have survived). Another strong fire came on 12th September 1548; it affected the Church of St. Nicolas (beside others, the south-western tower burned down), the parish office, the school and the Town Hall where an unknown amount of official written documents was destroyed; new municipal books which have been the oldest survived official sources from Jaroměř date back only to 1549. Information from the renewed official records documenting barren places in the town for several years following the fire suggests that structures on the northern side of the square were predominantly made of wood, which was also reflected by the local name the 'Wooden side'. The southern side was mentioned in records up until the early 17th century as the 'Stone side'. Renaissance trends arrived in the town only in the late 16th century when the Town-Hall was newly built; only cellars have survived till today. The fire also seriously damaged the complex of fortification walls which gradually lost its protective function due to lack of municipal money needed for regular maintenance.

The pre-White Mountain Jaroměř has been also remembered as the site of the **willful murder of the Lithuanian Prince Dmitrij Luhartovicz Sanguszko**. The story started at the Polish royal court where Dmitrij was brought up and where he met Elisabeth, a daughter of the late Elias Ostrozecy of Volhynia. Due to a number of intrigues the lovers ran away to Bohemia where they were chased by a Polish troop and detained. On the way back the group was stopped in Jaroměř upon an order of regional captains because the arrival of the troop in Bohemia was considered an intervention and violation of rights and peace. Polish captors were afraid they might be forced to release Dmitrij, and therefore, they murdered him on 3rd February 1554 in a local pub. In spite of their protests, his body remained in Jaroměř where the corpse was buried in the church at municipal costs (the tombstone is located in the wall of the northern church aisle).

Superstitious people subsequently believed that the strong **plague epidemics** which spread around the town and its surroundings in 1555 was the punishment for the above described events; unless records exaggerated, 1100 people died in the town during the epidemics. This is the first historic report which at least partly specified the number of Jaroměř citizens. As of 1568 Jaroměř reported the following property to the Bohemian Chamber for the purpose of determining taxes: a parish, a school, a municipal farm and 303 houses (of which 61 in the inner town plus 99 and 60 in two suburbs – the Jakubské and the Pražské, and the rest in other parts of the town). As regards the **number of houses**, Jaroměř was the 16th largest royal town while for example Čáslav, Kolín or the nearby Dvůr Králové were smaller. Approximately 2000 people probably lived in Jaroměř; they performed the basic range of crafts and trade activities and also produced agricultural products especially to fulfill the needs of the local market.

Beside various troubles citizens of royal towns were more and more burdened by taxes and after 1567 the tax burden was even more significant. The tentacles of the **credit system** gradually grabbed not only the municipality, but also its citizens: they were not only creditors but also debtors or stood surety for someone else's debts or borrowed things. This frequently resulted in disputes and court petitions. A decision of the municipal council from 1596 which confirmed the credibility of official records documented that the municipal district where Koldín's municipal rights had applied from 1579 was in a complete mess because some people ignored their being summoned to the municipal court where the council made decisions or being required to be heard by the reeve or they did not respect the credibility of records in municipal books or in cut up charters. This proved a rather low cultural level in the context of the period royal towns. However, we know from randomly survived records that even Jaroměř burghers had bookcases in their homes (even though we are unable to find out how many books and how valuable ones they possessed). Several people who graduated from universities came from Jaroměř; some of these educated men wrote verses which we rank among humanistic poetry. From the religious point of view, Jaroměř ranked among traditional bastions of the Utraquist belief; before the mid-16th century the Lutheran philosophy spread there too.

Like most non-Catholic towns Jaroměř joined the **estates uprising** in 1618 as a passive participant; the town contributed large amounts of money based on orders and provided the estates army with in-kind support. After the Battle of White Mountain the town ranked among the punished ones: Jaroměř's real property was confiscated in 1622, and it was returned back only six years later when the town, having been subjected to strict coercive actions and emigration of a number of non-Catholics, presented itself as a Catholic town; after 1627 it even had Catholic administration. Jaroměř was first saved from the direct negative influence of the war, but most citizens as well as the municipality were affected by the regular as well as extraordinary financial contributions and their standard of living, which had been burdened by pre-White Mountain financial problems, started deteriorating. Jaroměř households were obliged to provide housing for soldiers and also to submit in kind contributions. Not only imperial soldiers required contributions, but also Swedish troops which seriously damaged and plundered the town four times (1639, 1645, 1646, 1648). These adverse events resulted in a serious decrease of town citizens.

While many other towns started gradually flourish during the post-war years, Jaroměř stagnated. Changes came only in 1666–1667 when the municipal council **sold deserted plots in Jaroměř square**. This increased the income the town obtained from its citizens, and there were more people to levy taxes from (the taxes included a broad range of contribution duties) and to pay back the town's debts which have not been settled yet like in other towns. We can see lots of construction activities in the town in the late 1660s. However, **the fire which burst out on 8th August 1670** resulted in fatal consequences for the town's citizens. Two thirds of houses in the town, a part of the fortification system – both of the 'Varta (Guards)', almost the whole Svatojakubské suburb and some of the houses under the fortification walls were reduced to ashes. The fire spread over a roofed wooden bridge spanning the Elbe to the other side of the river. The fire destroyed a total of 124 houses and shelters, the Renaissance Town-Hall (subsequently rebuilt in the Baroque style), the Church of St. Nicolas (in consequence of the damage to the building, pillars on the southern side were reinforced, the northern watchtower was lowered and some side altars were added) and the Church of St. Jacob (which burned down to the level of the presbytery and its tower was rebuilt in the Baroque style), the deanery (a wooden house up until 1780), the school, the municipal mill with the water treatment plant and the municipal malthouse. The period municipal scribe claimed that the fire was divine retribution for debauched life of local citizens (he mentioned drunkenness among others). Land authorities introduced various systematic measures to establish order on the official level; these land authorities were to become the ones to address various administrative matters. At the turn of the 18th century they were also involved in a dispute between the town and the taxed villages which resulted from complaints raised by villagers who thought that some serf duties were unfairly assigned to them. Even though the disputes were eventually decided in favour of the town and confirmed by registration of the decision in the land register, we can see from the survived archival documents that disputes which had originally been more of legal cases rather than anarchistic resistance were still addressed by state authorities in the early 1790s.

While attempting to enhance royal towns and win control over their economy, **revenue authorities were established** in most royal towns including Jaroměř. Their officers were employed by the state and they were also assigned to levy taxes. In 1719 Queen Eleonora required an inspection of the dowry towns and as a result of that officers discovered frauds in parish and hospital accounts and also in accounts of brotherhoods of church singers; money was loaned without mortgages, sometimes even without obligations and sometimes no interest was charged. It was also discovered that regular construction maintenance was not performed, which resulted in subsequent greater expenses. Unacceptable behaviour of some councilors who breached non-disclosure obligations was pointed out. Insufficient supervision over butchers, bakers and pub owners who cheated on their customers was also pointed out. The committee said that Jaroměř beer tasted like a harmful wish-wash. The town was also reprimanded for the debt as of 1716 about which no information was given to the vice-chamberlain's office. Inspectors were also dissatisfied with accounts of toll collectors and with the state of the fountain. The municipal council did not even keep a council manual in which minutes of council meetings were to be recorded. The municipal scribe, who was the only one in the town, was reprimanded for being too lazy. Jaroměř citizens were asked to remedy all the identified problems if they wanted to avoid a fine. The town where qualified doctors appeared as late as in the early 18th century (people had been treated by barbers by then) and the first pharmacist was there in 1681 (the pharmacy was in the Jakubské Suburb) continued to lag behind in a number of aspects. This was also documented by a complaint by the vice-governor's office and by regional captains from 1725 who claimed that Jaroměř citizens who performed all basic crafts did not hold the Tuesday market and repeatedly also failed to organize a market on St. Bartholomew's day.

At the time when the **Baroque pioussness** flourished during the first decades of the 18th century several structures were erected. These included mainly the Marian column situated in the square (today there is a copy; the original is in bastion no. 1 in Josefov) made by Matyáš Bernard Braun and his pupil Řehoř Thény who is buried in the crypt of the dean church and probably designed also the peak Baroque sculpture of St. John of Nepomuk in Jakubské Suburb (the original is placed in the stone collection museum). Braun arrived in Jaroměř when he married Marie Alžběta Miseliusová, a daughter of an important Jaroměř burgher, in 1719 whom he met while he executed orders in the Kuks Castle. Braun's tombstone the 'Weeping women' dates from about 1730; he made it for his mother-in-law Anna (a copy of the tombstone is in the municipal cemetery and the original in the stone collection museum). An equestrian sculpture of St. Wenceslaus dates from 1707; the sculpture was commissioned by Anna Marie, a daughter of imperial reeve Václav Kosiště, to commemorate her father; she had it placed on the gate by the church. A decorative stone relief sculpture depicting the municipal coat of arms dates from the same year; it is located on the town gate (and a belfry at the same time) which had adjoined the church since the Renaissance times. In front of this gate there was another tower (gate) called The Virgin as written sources from the 17th century indicate. Several houses in the square which date from the time of the long-term renovation of the town after the destructive fire boast Baroque features.

From the point of view of **road network**, Jaroměř was fairly unimportant up until the 18th century; there was only a marginal road from Hradec Králové along the western bank of the Elbe River. The main road from Hradec Králové to Lower Silesia ran along the eastern bank of the river, via Skalce. In Ples (on the site of Josefov) the road crossed the Metuje River and continued to the Jakubské Suburb which was why it bypassed not only the town centre, but also the square by the St. Jacob's church. The road continued north-easterly to Dolany where it branched off to a road heading towards Trutnov and Silesian Landshut (Kamienna Góra) and to a road to Náchod (the road from Hradec to Klodzko). In the third quarter of the 18th century this road network

was substituted by straight imperial roads. In the direction from Prague there was a road from Chlumec nad Cidlinou and Kukleny to Hradec Králové. Another road started at the Pražské Suburb in Hradec and ran north-westerly to Úlibice; a new road branched off this road near Plotiště, ran to Jaroměř, passed through the centre of the town and continued to Náchod along the original route which had been straightened up (the road connecting Kukleny and Plotiště was only built after 1950).

In 1780 the **Josefov stronghold** was established south of Jaroměř, on the site of a village called Ples (completed 1790). The most serious consequence of the establishment of the stronghold was the **restriction of construction development due to the fortification (artillery) safety zone**. To ensure as short connection as possible between the Hradec and Josefov strongholds the old road which ran along the left river bank via Skalice and ended at the outer western gate of the stronghold was renovated. To connect the stronghold with Dvůr Králové and Trutnov a road encircling the western side of the fortification walls and heading to the area south of the Chapel of St. Anna in Pražské Suburb was built. At this site it crossed the road to Prague and continued north along the western edge of Cihelny to Dvůr Králové. A connecting road was built from the northern gate of the stronghold to the above described bypass road which made the shortest route from the stronghold to Jaroměř.

The establishment of the stronghold caused a significant change in the settlement structure of the Jaroměř conglomeration. The village of Ples was almost completely destroyed including the church and the farm and only its eastern quarter was retained and made a 'new' village called Starý Ples. The most western part of the village also survived and was turned into a settlement called Dolní (or Vodní) Ples. The necessity to accommodate many people from the destroyed parts of Ples resulted in the construction of two brand new villages behind the border of the stronghold – Nový Ples and Rasošky in 1781. The settlement network around Jaroměř expanded also in consequence of so called 'Raabization' – a reform by means of which seigniorial estates were distributed among farmers (Jezbiny, Dolní Dolce, Horní Dolce). Another new settlement – Polcovský farm – comprised only farm buildings divided into dwellings. All the mentioned villages were situated quite far away from the town and only Jezbiny became a part of the town at a later time. However, the new village of Cihelny grew right next to the developed areas of the Pražské Suburb. It comprised detached houses whose plots were separated from large settlements.

In 1753 Jaroměř lost its landmark – the town bellfry by the Church of St. Nicolas which collapsed in that year. However, otherwise the town flourished during the second half of the 18th century – between 1757 and 1785 the **number of houses** in suburbs grew two and a half times as compared to the situation in 1757 (the whole town of Jaroměř had 438 houses in 1785). During this time the so called Velká Obec (between the Chapel of St. Anna and the town) and the Malá Obec (south of the town) were filled up with houses. The built-up area of Jaroměř did not expand for further hundred years (the development only became denser). In 1778 artillery stations were built in the hilly terrain westerly and northerly of the Elbe (between 1780–1790 gunpowder storage facilities for the Josefov stronghold were built northerly of Jezbiny). A new deanery building was built in the inner town between 1785–1786. In 1788 a regulated magistrate was established in the town. Jaroměř was not affected by cancellation of religious institutions during Joseph's reign. The first half of the 19th century was the time of **destruction of fortification walls** in Jaroměř like in other towns – it is said that the outer Pražská Gate was pulled down in 1820 and probably so was the eastern gate with the Virgin tower on the 'Varta' (only a bridge has survived), while the inner Pražská Gate existed up until 1840. A **chain bridge** – the third oldest one in the Bohemian lands – spanned the Elbe in 1831 (it existed up until 1884). A school (house no. 3) was built by the Church of St. Nicolas between 1840–1842.

In connection with the **revolutionary events of 1848** a militia troop was established in Jaroměř. An association of patriotic readers called Slavic Lime Tree strove to enhance the national life in this town situated close to the ethnic border. The importance of Jaroměř grew when a district court of justice was established in the town in 1850; this court was subjected to the district authority in Dvůr Králové nad Labem up until 1885 and then again from 1868. On 28th August 1850 the municipal committee was elected and on 31st August 1850 the municipal board was elected. František Bolech was appointed the first mayor. The administrative reform required rebuilding of the Renaissance Town-Hall in 1851 because new imperial authorities moved in there.

In 1856–1857 a **railway line** from Hradec Králové was built; in the following year the line was extended via Dvůr Králové to Trutnov; it disturbingly ran right across the Pražské Suburb. In 1859 a railway line to Česká Skalice and Malé Svatoňovice was opened, and in 1868 extended to Poříčí.

In 1858 Josef Etrich started a business in the Hubrykovský Mill no. 25 (Pražské Suburb) in the curve of the Elbe by the northern edge of the Pražské Suburb. In 1863 he built a flax mill and became the first businessman in the Czech Lands to process jute. Various community associations were established in the town as a result of a more relaxed political situation after 1860; (the Sokol Sports Association was established in Jaroměř in 1862 which made it the second oldest one in Bohemia – preceded by Prague only). During the Prussian-Austrian war in 1866 the Josefov stronghold made intense preparations for defense and in connection with that all alleys situated far and wide were cut down. The stronghold eventually did not participate in the fights at all. In 1873 the Bažantnice (Pheasantry) forest situated east of the Jakubské Suburb was cut down. The period up until approximately 1880 can be described as a transient one when pre-requisites for subsequent turbulent events gradually developed. This is reflected by statistical data as well. In 1836 Jaroměř had 510 houses and 3417 citizens. By 1880 the number of houses hardly increased (533) while the number of inhabitants grew rapidly (5877).

Real **modern urban development of Jaroměř** started only in the 1880s when Mayor Antonín Vodák was in the office; he was substituted by Karel Lánský in 1891. The first and at the same time the most significant project was the construction of an impressive neo-Renaissance building of the Municipal House (the Na Ostrově boys' school) no. 4 (Pražské Suburb) in 1884–1885; the building was designed by Arnošt Jenišovský and is situated on the southern part of Ostrov between the Elbe and the mill raceway. It became an integral part of the town skyline since a street was built from the southern side of the square to the new prominent structure across a new bridge spanning the river; the bridge was built in 1884 as well. In 1885–1890 a park covering the whole Ostrov was established. An Italian-style neo-Renaissance villa no. 180 (Pražské Suburb) of Doctor Jan Náhlavský built in 1888 according to a design by František Hellman was incorporated in the park; nowadays there is a library in the building. Other significant structures were built about the mid-1880s: in 1884 a public hospital no. 83 (Pražské Suburb) was built, in 1885 barracks for the militia no. 221 (Jakubské Suburb), and between 1887–1888 a new cemetery was established.

The **cancellation of Josefov's fortress status** in 1888 was the key prerequisite for further urban development of the town. In spite of

the fact that this restriction was cancelled, the growth of the town was not very significant by the end of the 19th century. The number of houses grew (1880–1900) by four only, the population by 473. The most significant industrial plant was the expanded factory of Josef Etrich. The factory for processing leather and production of belts in building no. 101 (Pražské Suburb) situated between Husova Street and the railway line to Turnov was established by František Václav Polický in 1882. Several natural disasters disturbed the life of the town – in 1896 a part of the square burned down and the damaged houses were rebuilt or replaced with new two-story ones with historicizing façades. In 1897 the town was affected by a devastating flood which seriously damaged the Ostrov Park. In 1901 banks of the Elbe were modified and between 1902–1907 the Elbe and the Úpa Rivers were regulated in the urban area.

In the early 20th century **Jaroměř industry** experienced an unprecedented development. Factories of Josef Etrich and František Polický expanded again and new premises were established; their location was picked fairly randomly and caused problems in conceptual urban development of the town. Municipal power plant no. 47 (Jakubské Suburb; Na Valech) was established in 1908 and it required closing of (and subsequently even filling up) the long northern mill raceway.

The town assigned Jaroslav Čermák to create a **regulation plan in 1902**. In 1906 Dušan Jurkovič made a regulation plan of the Na Ptákách villa neighborhood (south of the town). The construction activity was concentrated primarily in this neighbourhood: 1901–1903 a Neo-Renaissance – Art Nouveau gym of the Sokol Association no. 240 (Pražské Suburb) was built according to a design by Josef Podhájský (it was soon turned into a theatre); 1905–1906 a Neo-Renaissance secondary school of crafts no. 260 (Pražské Suburb) and no. 243 (Pražské Suburb) designed by František Hellman was built; in 1913–1914 an Art Nouveau girls' school no. 352 (Pražské Suburb) designed by Ladislav Skřivánek was erected and between 1912–1913 a modernistic villa of Otakar and Karla Čerychov no. 321 (Pražské Suburb) designed by Vladimír Fultner and Oldřich Liska was built. Beside these landmarks, smaller but architecturally interesting villas were built in the town. This neighbourhood ranks among the most remarkable urbanistic complexes originating from the early 20th century in the Czech Republic. Sumptuous villas were built at other places of Jaroměř before the 1st World War. The most valuable modern structure was built in the Pražské Suburb – the Wenke & Son department store no. 295 (Pražské Suburb; nowadays there is a museum in the building); it is an extraordinary modern architecture structure with cubistic features where a concrete-iron frame was used for the first time in the country outside Prague and a glass curtain wall for the first time in continental Europe; the building was designed by Josef Gočár in 1908 and it was built between 1910–1911. From 1880 till 1910 the number of houses increased from 533 to 618 (and by 1921 the number grew to 673, while a larger portion of houses was built before the war). The population grew from 5 877 to 7 859. The whole conglomeration expanded from 707 to 842 (953) houses and from 12 462 to 13 861 inhabitants.

The First World War (1914–1918) disrupted the development of Jaroměř; 180 men from Jaroměř and 38 from Josefov died in battlefields. A camp for prisoners of war was established in Josefov, and on 6th October 1915 martial law was declared and lasted until the end of the war. After the war Jaroměř managed to continue its pre-war prosperity. Most of the local factories were modernized and enlarged. New factories were built between Nádražní Street and the railway by the confluence of the Úpa and Elbe Rivers. In 1927–1928 the town skyline obtained a new landmark – a water tower (designed by František Janda) – a part of a new water distribution system in the town.

In the 1920s and 1930s the **territorial growth of the town peaked**. Significant public buildings were erected in the 'Na Ptákách' neighbourhood during the second half of the 1920s; between 1925–1928 a grammar school no. 423 (Pražské Suburb; designed by Oldřich Liska); between 1927–1928 a temple of the Czechoslovak Hussite Church no. 424 (Pražské Suburb; designed by Bohumil Kubeček); between 1926–1928 the Tyrš' gymnasium of the Sokol Sports Association no. 556 (Pražské Suburb; designed by Bohumil Kubeček) located near the stadium built in 1921; in 1926 a District health insurance company no. 191 (Pražské Suburb; designed by Milan Babuška) and in 1928 the folklore-style timbered building of Bouček's puppet theatre no. 238 (Pražské Suburb). The above list shows that an extraordinary number of public structures was constructed during a short period of time (while emphasizing the celebration of the tenth anniversary of the establishment of Czechoslovakia in 1928). During that time the town was managed by Mayor Karel Višňák (1919–1926) and his successor František Libřický (1926–1931). More architecturally valuable villas were constructed in the 'Na Ptákách' neighbourhood. New houses grew also in the southern part of the neighbourhood, along Jiráskova Street. After 1928 the intensity of construction works decreased and since there were large undeveloped plots between both parts of the neighbourhood, a regulation plan for these areas was created, however, the construction did not continue in the 1930s. A similar, but smaller, neighbourhood called 'Na Ptákách' as well developed also southerly on the territory of the town of Josefov. However, a railway line made it impossible to merge both the residential areas.

No new construction projects were implemented in the inner town during the inter-war period, and so **it has retained the historic look**. The only large structure was the Public Savings Bank no. 38 from 1932–1935 (designed by Jaroslav Rössler). A shop of the Bata Company was built next to it in 1936. In 1933–1934 a bypass of the historic centre running from the eastern end of the new Tyršův Bridge (originating from 1931–1933) along the northern side of Jaroměř promontory was built. A block of Art Deco apartment houses no. 119 (Jakubské Suburb) was built by the Church of St. Jacob in 1923–1924 and house no. 120 in 1924–1925 (designed by Bohumil Kubeček), and easterly of the church a large school no. 142 (Jakubské Suburb) was built. A large neighbourhood of residential houses organized on a grid street plan was established in 'Na Vrších' location northerly of the Jakubské Suburb. Numerous high-quality funeral plastic sculptures were made for the Jaroměř cemetery during the inter-war period.

The basic **outline of a grid street plan for individual construction** was also marked out in the Pražské Suburb on a triangular territory south of the Na Špiči road junction. The largest number of houses was built along Na Studánkách Street. However, this area did not get fully developed during the inter-war period either and large free plots remained there. Beside individual renovations, no new construction projects were implemented in the old part of the Pražské Suburb. The most significant building was the Art Deco Community house no. 378 (Pražské Suburb) from 1924 (designed by Bohumil Kubeček) in Husova Street. The premises of Jaroměř hospital expanded significantly.

The number of houses grew from 673 in 1921 to 880 in 1930, however, the number of houses in 1950 (1031) is more important – the increase originated mostly from the inter-war period. The number of inhabitants grew from 7401 to 8127 (1930). The whole conglomeration grew from 953 to 1283 (1535) houses and from 14 171 to 16 420 citizens, which was the historic maximum resulting mostly from the large number of soldiers in Josefov army barracks. As the 'Na Ptákách' neigh-

bourhood in Josefov and the Na Studánkách Street in Jaroměř expanded, both **the towns architecturally merged** in the 1930s.

The **Munich Treaty (1938)** paralyzed the town. Villages by the northern border of the district were occupied and annexed to the Nazi district of Trutnov. Jaroměř was linked with Dvůr Králové only via Nazi Germany or via a long detour. The first German occupational troops arrived in Jaroměř on 15th March 1939. In 1942 the Jaroměř court district was incorporated in the political district of Hradec Králové. The life in Jaroměř during WWII did not differ from the life in many other towns in the protectorate. Many men from Jaroměř left the country to fight for freedom.

The first allied troop to arrive in Jaroměř was the American military mission on 8th May 1945, however, the town was liberated by the Red Army only on 10th May 1945. After **the liberation** the pre-Munich district border was re-established and Jaroměř hosted a new political district. After 1945 there was a significant population drop resulting from settling territories originally inhabited by German-speaking people. While in 1930 the population of Jaroměř was 8127, the number dropped to 6753 by 1950, i.e. to 83%. **Large industrial factories were nationalized** right in 1945 and the rest continued after the Communist coup in 1948. Between 1947–1950 the large Jaroměř Pond was built. In 1949 the Jaroměř district was expanded, however, Jaroměř retained the status of a district town till 1960 only when it was subordinated to the Náchod district (the southern part of the district including Smiřice was attached to the Hradec Králové district). In 1948 the **town of Josefov was integrated with Jaroměř**.

Industrial factories were subjected to various reorganizations in the 1950s and 1960s and also new companies were established: the East-Bohemian Poultry Company (1957), KARA Jaroměř – a company growing rabbits, minks and foxes (1966). As regards residential buildings, at the turn of the 1950s only a few houses were built in Bavlňáská Street and a complex of residential buildings at the junction of Svatopluka Čecha and Na Zavadilce Streets.

The development of the town followed the **overall development plan** prepared by the Stavoprojekt Hradec Králové Company; this plan was subsequently substituted with a new urban development plan. The first **prefabricated housing estate** (called Czechoslovak-Soviet Friendship) was built in the first half of the 1960s in the Pražské Suburb on the site of the so called Velká Obec. In connection with it the southern raceway (1963) was filled up and the Ostrovský Mill (1969) was pulled down. After the housing estate was completed, the Na Ostrově Park was renovated. The Na Ptákách housing estate grew from the mid-1960s on the undeveloped territory between two parts of the 'Na Ptákách' neighbourhood. Along with the housing estate, a multi-story building – today's Community centre for children and young people no. 176 (Pražské Suburb) – was built. It was inconsiderately located in a park in front of the secondary vocational school no. 260 (Pražské Suburb) and 243 (Pražské Suburb). Due to both the housing estates the population kept slightly growing (7687 in 1980). Beside flats, new public amenities were also built in the town. From the second half of the 1970s till the 1980s a housing estate was built also in the Zavadilka neighbourhood. There was also a limited number of individual construction projects in Jaroměř which primarily filled up free plots on the town premises.

In the second half of the 20th century a new factory was established (nowadays GUMOTEX Automotive) between the Polického factory and Na Klouzkové Street. To avoid heavy traffic transiting through the town, a new road via a new bridge over the Elbe was built in 1978–1982; the new road significantly disturbed the urban structure in the vicinity of the Tyršův Bridge. Especially due to the construction of apartment buildings the population in Jaroměř increased to historic maximum. As per the census performed in 1991 the population of Jaroměř was 9012 and there were 1159 houses (the whole conurbation had 12125 people and 1736 houses).

The municipal authority in Jaroměř was promoted to an authorized municipal authority and in 2003 the town became the centre of an administrative district of a municipality with extended competences. A branch of the Heritage Conservation Bureau with competences all over the Hradec Králové region has been seated in Josefov since 2003.

In the 1990s some companies in the old industrial zone went bankrupt, however, two new industrial premises were established: by the confluence of the Úpa and Elbe Rivers and on the western edge of the town. Large supermarkets were built in the town at the beginning of the 21st century. Only very few individual construction projects (for example the ones in U Nemocnice Street) were implemented at that time. The number of houses increased to 1295 by 2011. The number of inhabitants decreased both in Jaroměř (8381) and in the whole conglomeration (11 953) by 2011. The construction of a new neighborhood of detached residential houses started in the Jakubské Suburb behind the cemetery about 2012. Future development of the town shall respect a new urban development plan dated 2017. The completion of the D11 highway from Prague to Wrocław is expected to be one of the key moments. The section connecting Hradec Králové and Jaroměř started in 2018 and is supposed to be completed in 2022 (the completion of the section connecting the Czech Republic with Poland is planned for 2024). A northern bypass (proposed 2021–2023) is a prerequisite for calming down traffic in the town. A southern bypass that is expected to be connected with the road to Třebechovice pod Orebem will take transiting traffic away from the center of Josefov.

Josefov Fortress. During the Seven Years' War (1756–1763) when Prussian armies repeatedly attacked Bohemia and Moravia arriving via Saxony, Silesia and Kłodzko army authorities of the Habsburg-Lorraine monarchy found out that it would be necessary to fortify the new northern border of the lands of the Bohemian crown. New permanent fortification systems were to prevent enemy armies' operations. The period doctrine required that new strongholds block both rivers as well as roads. Based on that the best locations were by confluences of rivers and by road junctions. In east Bohemia there were two locations which corresponded with this requirement – Hradec Králové and a bit more northerly the Na Plese site by the confluence of the Elbe, the Úpa and the Metuje Rivers; at this site an old Polish road was crossing the Metuje and the Elbe and headed towards Jaroměř while a road to Trutnov branched off from it. As early as in 1764 plans for various options for the construction of new strongholds were prepared; these strongholds were to become not only supporting military bases, but also supply sites for field armies. Design for the Na Plese stronghold was made by French engineer Claude Benoit Duhamel Querlonde. Based on a decision from 1765 a new stronghold was built between 1766–1778 in Hradec Králové. The War of the Bavarian Succession (1778–1779) during which a line of field strongholds was situated westerly of Jaroměř made it apparent that Hradec Králové was situated too far from the border. After the end of the war renovation of the Hradec Králové stronghold started and the construction of the Na Plese stronghold was launched.

The single-row colonization village of Ples was situated on the left bank of the Metuje River over the edge of the river valley. The construction of the stronghold started in 1780 after the dominion of Smiřice – which also controlled Ples – was bought out. People who lived in the central part of the village of Ples had to sell their houses

and move over to new villages of Rasošky and Nový Ples established outside the planned stronghold. Some people left for Rozběřice at the southern edge of the Smiřice dominion and others settled down on the western edge of Jaroměř. During 1780–1790 a new bastion-type stronghold of Ples (from 1793 called Josefov) was built according to theoretical presumptions of Marshall Vauban, Louis de Cormontaigne and the French stronghold school in Mezières. Along with Terezín (Theresienstadt) it ranked among **masterpieces of the French fortification architecture** of the 18th century. Querlonde continued implementing his design from 1764 up until the end of 1783. After that he was substituted by Lieutenant Colonel Franz Lauer who introduced some simplifications in a sophisticated and generally demanding project. The stronghold was ready to be used in 1787 and its completion is dated 1790, however, construction works continued up until the early 19th century. The construction of the stronghold was completed only when the Church of the Lord's Ascension was built between 1805–1811. In 1807 and 1813 the defensive power of the stronghold was increased by two advanced lunettes situated in the northern forepost and one lunette in front of the Hradecká gate. In 1851 another lunette was placed in front of the Brdce redoubt.

The **stronghold comprised three sections** – an upper stronghold situated over the left bank of the Metuje, a so called Korunní stronghold protecting the paths crossing the river and the Brdce redoubts (*Przeberg*) located on a hill between the Elbe and the Metuje. The fortification comprised the main bulwark with bastions and curtain walls, a moat with ravelins and an outer fortification structure with a covered path with assembly points and a sloping down forepost under which two levels of listening, mine and connecting corridors were situated.

The stronghold comprised casemates intended for defensive firing, storing goods and accommodating people. The fortification walls were strongest on the south-eastern side from where an attack was presumed. Approximately 10 000 soldiers were supposed to stay in the stronghold and supplies stored in there were intended not only for the garrison, but especially for the field army. Soldiers were accommodated in army barracks and in case of a war also in casemates, burgher houses and on free areas in the Korunní stronghold. The presence of civilians was planned in the fortress from the very beginning since they were expected to fulfil needs of soldiers during peaceful times as well as during a war.

Josefov which was built on a 'green field site' could fulfill **requirements for a perfect town**. The upper stronghold had a grid layout. The main square was located at the junction of the central street connecting Jaroměřská and Novoměstská Gates with the perpendicular street running towards the Hradecká Gate; three smaller squares were situated outside the town gates. In large blocks in the protected northern section of the stronghold the following buildings were built: army barracks, the headquarters, buildings where army officers stayed with their families, an ammunition warehouse, an army hospital and buildings for procurement and civil engineering authorities. Burgher houses were gradually built in smaller blocks. Large burgher houses were built along the northern and southern side of the main square and along the northern side of the street running towards the Hradecká Gate. The town was supplied with water from wells and waste water was drained through a rinse-up sewage system which has been in operation till today. Deceased people were buried in an exemplary Josephinian cemetery established south-westerly of the stronghold on the cadaster of the village of Rasošky.

Emperor Joseph II declared Ples and Terezín **royal towns** in 1781. Future builders enjoyed a number of advantages, however, their houses had to comply with strict construction rules. The first civilian house was built by stronghold stonemason Johann Rumpelmayer in 1791. Construction activities in the stronghold were controlled by the civil engineering authority. Most buildings were built during the first two thirds of the 19th century and the town became legally independent in 1833. By that time its matters had been administered by the Jaroměř municipal authority. The town community would always take advantage of yields from the brewery and from spirits production which supplied the army, and between 1840–1844 moved over to newly built houses in the southern part of the town. Approximately 3000–5000 soldiers and 2000 civilians lived in the town.

Three peace-time ammunition warehouses situated over Jezbiny and over the eastern part of Semonice were part of the stronghold. A **demolition zone** of 600 fortification fathoms was delimited around the stronghold; only houses subjected to demolition reverse could be built within this zone. Their owners had to undertake to remove their structures within three weeks upon a request from military authorities. The demolition zone restricted construction activities on the 'Na Ptákách' location and around the intersection of imperial roads called Na Špici up until its cancellation in 1888. A similar zone of 400 fortification fathoms, which has not been formally cancelled till today, encircled the peace-time ammunition warehouses and reached all the way to fortification brickworks situated along the road to Trutnov. In front of the Jakubské Suburb in Jaroměř there was a fortification system comprising four lunettes and two bulwarks which probably disappeared after the construction of the Brdce lunette in 1851. South of the railway line a sugar refinery was established by the edge of the fortification forepost in 1871; at a later time it was turned into Čerych textile factory.

A large garrison remained in Josefov even after the stronghold status was cancelled in 1887; the garrison stayed there up until the end of the 20th century. Shortly after cancellation of the stronghold status the demolition of the fortification system started and new buildings were built on the emptied plots. At the end of the 19th century **Jaroměř and Josefov started merging** gradually; buildings were constructed north-erly of the railway crossing along the Ke Špici Street. South of the railway, near the Čerych factory, houses for workers and army warehouses were built in the early 20th century. One of five camps for prisoners of war operating in Josefov was established in this area during the First World War; the camps were liquidated in 1926. In 1924 the town of Josefov obtained most fortification plots and new buildings replaced the pulled down fortification structures. Josefov street network north of the Elbe did not extend the generous Jaroměř axis running along Na Ptákách Street and further down towards the Josefov bridge over the Elbe. The first buildings to be built in this area were thirteen semi-detached houses constructed shortly after 1924; construction activities in this territory were completed only at the end of the 20th century.

Citizens of Josefov had always competed with Jaroměř. The unequal competition between the two municipalities ended in 1948 when **Josefov was merged with Jaroměř** by means of an official resolution. The army has always been the decisive element in the life of Josefov; between 1968–1991 there were also Soviet soldiers beside the Czechoslovak ones. Josefov, as an **authentic Classicistic fortified town**, has been listed as a national heritage site since 1971. The intact historic centre of Jaroměř became a municipal heritage zone only in 1990, however, its historic value had been respected since the 1970s. After the departure of the Soviet army and massive reduction of the Czech

Army between 1993–1995 Jaroměř obtained most of the military buildings and plots. With the departure of the army Josefov lost its main employer and the former town-fortress has been waiting for its better future; it might for example become a residential centre for people from the nearby Hradec Králové.