

Jednota und Pramen, für sie wurden besonders in den Vorstädten mehrere typisierbare Verkaufsstellen gebaut. Von den älteren Betrieben entwickelten sich besonders die Tabakfabrik, Míra, das ehemalige Respo mit den neuen Namen Pragoděv und Triola, die Bierbrauerei und auch Rudné doly Kaňk (Erzbergwerk Kaňk). In den 60er Jahren wurde aus dem Prager Stadtteil Vysočany der Betrieb ČKD hierher übertragen, der seinen Platz auf den fruchtbaren Feldern Na Rovínách fand. In seiner Nachbarschaft wuchsen bald die Silos des Zemědělské zásobování a nákup (Landwirtschaftlicher Versorgungs- und Ankaufbetrieb). Die neue Gewerbezone entwickelte sich in Karlov, wo der Bezirksbaubetrieb sein Domizil aufbaute, und gegen Ende des Sozialismus auch die Reparaturstätte für Militärtechnik, während aus Hlouška im Zusammenhang mit der Sanierung und dem Siedlungsbau ein Teil der Industriebetriebe verschwand. Zu einem der größten Arbeitgeber entwickelte sich der Betrieb Rudné doly Kaňk. Als bedeutender neuer Arbeitgeber setzte sich Ústav nerostných surovin (Institut für nutzbare Bodenschätze) durch.

In der Zeit des Sozialismus veränderte sich wesentlich die soziale Struktur der Stadtbewohner. Noch in den 50er Jahren war Kutná Hora eine kleine Bezirksstadt mit Menschen, die überwiegend im kleinen Gewerbe beschäftigt waren, später in kleinen Industriebetrieben, Ämtern und im Schulwesen. Mit der Inbetriebnahme der Maschinenbaufabrik ČKD und dem Bergbau veränderte sich radikal die Bevölkerungsstruktur und in der Stadt überwogen Arbeiterschichten mit ihrem typischen Lebensstil.

Nach der Eingliederung der Bezirke Čáslav und Ledeč in den Bezirk Kutná Hora im Jahre 1960 entwickelte sich die Stadt gegenüber den ehemaligen Bezirksstädten vorrangig und nach Jahrzehnten stieg wieder die Anzahl der Bewohner. Bereits bald nach dem Februar 1948 wurde mit Kutná Hora definitiv Sedlec und Kaňk trotz Widerstand ihrer Bewohner integriert, zu Beginn der 60er Jahre wurden noch Malín und Poličany angeschlossen und in den 70er Jahren folgten Neškaredice und Perštejnec. So bekam die große Stadt ihr heutiges Aussehen.

Mit der Sanierung von einem Teil des Viertels Hlouška und des städtischen Gaswerkes entstand am Umbruch der 60er- und 70er Jahre Platz zum Bau der Siedlung U Plynárny und nach ihrer Fertigstellung begann man zwischen Kutná Hora und Sedlec die Siedlung Na Studnič mit überwiegend acht Stockwerk hohen Großplattenhäusern zu bauen. Zwischen diese Siedlung und Lorec keilte sich die Enklave von Familienhäusern Šipší ein und mehrere Familienhäuser entstanden besonders in Horní Žižkov und gegen Ende des Sozialismus im unteren Teil von Horní Žižkov. In Horní Žižkov wurden auch Wohnhäuser gebaut, maximal von drei Stockwerken. Trotzdem praktisch in jedem Jahrzehnt ein neuer städtischer Gebietsplan ausgearbeitet wurde, gelangte keiner davon zur Realisierung und besonders der individuelle Wohnungsbau ging ziemlich planlos an den Rändern der bebauten Fläche in allen Stadtteilen weiter.

In der Zeit des Sozialismus entstand nur ein Minimum von neuen öffentlichen Gebäuden. In Horní Žižkov wurde in den 80er Jahren eine neue Poliklinik geschaffen und in der Siedlung Na Studnič eine neue Grundschule. Einen grundsätzlichen Wandel machte das Kulturhaus Lorec durch. Es wurde auch der neue Busbahnhof seinem Zweck übergeben, die Durchfahrt durch die Stadt, 1961 zur städtischen Denkmalzone erklärt, erleichterte wesentlich die sog. Neue Straße – eine Umgehungsstraße, die den historischen Stadtkern meidet. Von Bauwerken kleineren Umfangs wuchsen in der Stadt einige neue Kindergärten oder das neue Postgebäude. Die Stadt wurde fast restlos kanalisiert und in Karlov entstand eine neue Abwasserkläranlage. Eine grundsätzliche Veränderung in der Wasserversorgung brachte zu Beginn der 70er Jahre die Fertigstellung der Talsperre Vrchlice mit der Wasseraufbereitungsstelle U Trojice. Um die Stadt herum wurde durch die Aussetzung von umfangreichen Grünanlagen in der Nachbarschaft des neu ausgesetzten Waldes Na Rovínách, Sukov, Kuklík und Kaňk, in den 70er Jahren der grüne Ring um die Stadt herum vollendet.

Die politischen Veränderungen im November 1989 lockerten die weitere Stadtentwicklung und brachten die Entfaltung sowie von gesellschaftlichen, als auch gewerblichen Aktivitäten mit sich. Erneuert wurden mehrere Vereine und neue wurden ins Leben gerufen. Es entstanden zahlreiche neue und erneuerte Firmen. Manche alte Firmen wie Avia, Rudné doly oder Ústav nerostných surovin gingen jedoch ein. Unter den neuen Firmen überwogen kleine Firmen, die nicht imstande waren, die frei gewordene Arbeitskraft aus den eingegangenen Fabriken zu absorbieren und in Kutná Hora kletterte so die Arbeitslosigkeit über zehn Prozent. Erst im Jahre 2008 kam nach Kutná Hora ein südkoreanischer Investor, der in Nachbarschaft des Betriebes ČKD die elektrotechnische Firma Foxconn baute. Als zweitgrößter Arbeitgeber setzte sich die Firma Philips Morris durch, die den ehemaligen Staatsbetrieb Tabák erwarb, ihn wesentlich modernisierte und erweiterte. Zur Regelung der oft spontanen Baumaßnahmen wurde ein neuer Gebietsplan ausgearbeitet. Mehrere nach und nach akzeptierte Planänderungen verhinderten jedoch einige seine Absichten zu realisieren. Das Aussehen von Kutná Hora in der Zeit nach dem November 1989 veränderte am meisten die Renovierung von Denkmälern und weiteren Privathäusern im historischen Stadtkern gemeinsam mit der neuen Straßenpflasterung und der damit verbundenen Renovierung der Infrastruktur. Im kleineren Ausmaß ging in Regie der Stadt der Bau von Wohnhäusern in Hlouška weiter, alle Vorstädte verzeichnen den Bau von Familienhäusern, der mehrere neue Straßen mit sich brachte. Der Bau von neuen Geschäften und Betriebsstätten verschlang die meisten Häuserlücken zwischen Kutná Hora und Sedlec und zum Teil auch in Richtung Karlov. Bebaut wurden ferner freie Grundstücke an den Hängen des Sukov-Berges und in der Nähe der Dreifaltigkeitskirche.

In der Zeit nach November 1989 entstanden in Kutná Hora darüber hinaus mehrere öffentliche Gebäude. Darunter gehören besonders das Gebäude der Česká spořitelna (Tschechische Sparkasse) und

des Jiří-Orten-Gymnasiums, von Umbauten dann das Gebäude des Bezirksarchivs in der ehemaligen Schokoladefabrik Lidka. In Karlov wurde ein neues Freibad mit der Bobbahn in seiner Nachbarschaft errichtet. Neue Nutzung erhielt das Jesuitenkolleg, wo Ausstellungen der Galerie středoevropského kraje (Galerie des Mittelböhmischen Kreises) zugänglich gemacht wurden. Die Eintragung der Stadt Kutná Hora und der Kathedrale in Sedlec auf die Liste des Weltkultur- und Naturerbes UNESCO im Jahre 1995 startete die etappenweise Revitalisierung des historischen Stadtkerns und die vollständige Renovierung von bedeutenden Denkmälern, wie z. B. der Corpus-Christi-Kapelle, der Johannes-von-Nepomuk-Kirche, der Barbara-Kirche, der Maria-Himmelfahrt-Kirche in Sedlec, des Wälschen Hofes und mehrerer privaten Bürgerhäuser. Kutná Hora, das in den Jahren des Sozialismus als Industriestadt ausgebaut wurde, veränderte sich in eine Stadt, die ihre Zukunft in der Entwicklung der Dienstleistungen für den Reiseverkehr sieht, ergänzt um rohstoff- und energiearme Industrie.

Kuttenberger Erzrevier

Das europäisch berühmte Kuttenberger Erzrevier erstreckt sich in der Umgebung von Kuttenberg ungefähr von der Straße Kolín (Kolin) – Čáslav (Časlau) im Norden bis Křesetice im Süden und von dem Dorf Hořany im Westen bis Sedlec (Sedletz) im Osten, das ist auf der Fläche von ungefähr 9 × 4 km. Man kann es in den nördlichen und südlichen Teil gliedern. Traditionell wird es in Erzzüge geteilt, wovon die bedeutendsten folgende sind: skalecké (Skaletzer Z.), kuklické (Gutglückz.), gruntecko-hloušecké (Grunta-Hloušchkaer Z.), staročeské (Altböhmischer Z.), turkaňské (Durchgänger Z.) und rejské (Rejsker Z., Rajskeř Z.) im nördlichen Teil des Reviers und grejfské (Greifer Z.), oselské (Eselz.) und roveněské (Roveněř Z.) im südlichen Teil. Der bekannteste ist der Eselzug mit der sagenhaften Eselgrube. Der historische Stadtkern von Kuttenberg liegt ungefähr inmitten des Reviers im nördlichen Teil des Esel- und Roveněř-Zuges.

Im letzten Drittel des 13. Jahrhunderts entwickelt sich riesig im Kuttenberger Revier die Förderung. Noch in der Mitte des Jahrhunderts das praktisch unbekanntes Lager ist an seinem Ende als wichtigstes im Königreich Böhmen und in ganz Europa berühmt. Vor allem für dieses Revier erlässt König Wenzel II. das Berggesetz *ius regale montanorum* und konstituiert hier die zentrale Münzstätte des Königreiches.

Wann, wo und unter welchen Umständen das Lager entdeckt wurde, wird wohl nie mehr ermittelt werden können – traditionell wird die Entdeckung in die Umgebung der Allerheiligen-Kirche gelegt. Um 1300 war wahrscheinlich bereits das Ausmaß des ganzen Silbervorkommens bekannt und es wurden fast alle wichtigeren der Erdoberfläche nahen Erzstrukturen gefördert. In der vorhussitischen Zeit war bedeutender der südliche Teil des Reviers, in der nachhussitischen Zeit steigt die Bedeutung des nördlichen Bereiches. Im 16. Jahrhundert wurde besonders der Altböhmische Zug gefördert, nach dem Dreißigjährigen Krieg der Durchgänger Zug und seit der zweiten Hälfte des 18. Jahrhunderts, nach der Entdeckung und dem schnell ausgehobenen Skaletzer Zug geht die Förderung von Silbererzen nur kümmerlich weiter und in der ersten Hälfte des 19. Jahrhundert dann völlig ein. Die Menge des insgesamt gefördert Silbers im Kuttenberger Revier wird auf die breite Spanne von 800 bis 2500 Tonnen geschätzt.

Die Überbleibsel der Förderung sind auf der ganzen Fläche des Reviers zerstreut. Imposant sind die Halden des Altböhmischen Zuges in Kaňk (Gang), markant ist die Schlackenhalde hinter der Mühle Vrbový mlýn (Wrber Mühle) im Tal des Flusses Vrchlice. Populär ist das zugänglich gemachte Grubenwerk im Eselzug unter dem Jesuitenkolleg, die Mundlöcher von mehreren kurzen Stollen können im Tal der Flusses Vrchlice und des Baches Bylanka besichtigt werden. Bis heute ist der sog. Horní Páček (Ober-Pach, Ober-Bach) funktionsfähig – ein Kunstgraben, der das Wasser den Wasserhaltungsmaschinen (Wasserförderungsmaschinen) im Roveněř Zug zuführte.

Summary

As regards the administrative division, the Kutná Hora micro-region is located in the eastern section of Central Bohemia on the border of the Kutná Hora and Kolín districts which both belong to the higher administrative unit of Central Bohemia. According to the orographic structuring most of the Kutná Hora micro-region is included in the Českomoravská Highlands subsystem, the Upper-Sázava Upland unit, the Kutná Hora Plateau sub-unit, Malešovská Upland district, specifically their sections - the Miskovická, Kutnohorská and Křesetická Uplands. A smaller north-eastern portion of the region reaches into the unit of the Central-Bohemian Lowland, sub-unit Čáslavská Basin, specifically Starokolínská, Mikulášská and Církvická Basin. The geological relief of the region is very rugged in spite of the fact that it covers a fairly small area. The altitudes in individual locations differ significantly. The smallest altitude (about 204 m) is in the flat flood area called Klejnárky, near Nové Dvory and Malín.

In the western direction from the Klejnárky flood area the terrain rises to Malín Hill (220 m.a.s.l.) behind which Kaňk Hill rises (Kalvárie peak 353 m.a.s.l.) separated with a saddle (Pašinka 289 m.a.s.l.) from Sukov Hill (335 m.a.s.l.). The edge of the Kaňkovské Hills continues with Gruntecké Saddle (287 m.a.s.l.), Velký Hill (355 m.a.s.l.) and Malý Kuklík Hill (359 m.a.s.l.) behind which the Kaňkovské Hills change into the so called Vlčí Hills with Miskovický Hill (406 m.a.s.l.), Opatovický Hill (419 m.a.s.l.) and the highest peak of the district, Vysoká Hill (472 m.a.s.l.). The terrain slopes down southwardly from Vysoká Hill towards the River Vrchlice valley. Morphologically the landscape is very rugged, the average altitude of the Malešovská Highlands ranges about 350 m.a.s.l.).

The first proof of human presence dates from the Paleolithic period. However, we have no clear idea what the settlements of Paleolithic and subsequently Mesolithic hunters looked like. During the sixth millennium B.C., during the Neolithic period, the first "farmers" arrived in the Kutná Hora region and settled down in fertile alluvial plains in the flood areas of local streams Klejnárka, Vrchlice, Beránka and Bylanka. We can trace settlement in these areas – with some minor exceptions – even during later periods of the prehistoric ages, i.e. during the Late Stone Age (the Eneolithic period), the Bronze Age, the Iron Age, the Roman Age and to a lesser extent also during the migration of nations. The so far archeologically documented density of settlement in the region ranks among the densest in Bohemia, even though it was much thinner on the territory of the town itself than in its surroundings.

The early medieval settlement of the region smoothly followed up to the early primeval development and mostly copied also its settlement structure. Small rural villages concentrated mostly along small rivers and streams, specifically Bylanka, Vrchlice, Beránka, Křenovka, Klejnárka and Olšanský stream remained typical of the region. Evidence of similarly intense settlement is recorded also at the northern foothill of Kaňk Hill in the south-eastern portion of the neighbouring Kolín Region. On the other hand in the Malešovská Highlands, on the territory of the Bor Forest and in lower Podoubraví there was no settlement until the 12th century.

Beside villages, the region boasted also small administrative centres. In the 9th – 10th centuries there were probably two sites called Cimburk and Sion which were connected with the southern portion of the Kolín Region at that time, namely with the Stará Kouřim hillfort. In the 10th -11th centuries the Malín site became the new centre of the region. Malín had an advantageous location near a long-distance trade path and was first held by the Slavnik family and subsequently by the Premyslid family after 995 who appointed their own administrators and maintained the site as a local support point on the way between Bohemia and Moravia. As far as the current state of research shows there was no connection between the Malín site and silver mining.

A Cistercian monastery in Sedlec established by magnate Miroslav and commissioned by Olomouc Bishop Jindřich Zdík was the key institution in the region since the mid-12th century. Magnate Miroslav provided the new monastery of White Monks with some basic property by transferring a significant portion of his land to the cloister, mostly located on the territory of today's Kutná Hora. We can assume that it formed the basis of an intentionally built and probably at least partly hereditary land property. In some administrative fields the Sedlec monastery was substituted with the Premyslid castle centre in the nearby Čáslav and subsequently also the newly established town of Kolín. Nevertheless, the cloister, as the main land owner, retained the decisive influence on the administration of the region until the town of Kutná Hora was established.

About the mid-13th century the region of the Českomoravská Highlands, in the surroundings of Jihlava (=Iglau), became the centre of large-scale silver ore mining which boosted up the economic development of the whole region. When it seemed that the deposits near Jihlava were nearly exhausted, the region of Kutná Hora, where the Cistercian monastery in Sedlec held the dominant portion of land, became famous. The newly discovered silver deposits exceeded all expectation as early as at the end of the 13th century. Miners from far and wide, even from abroad, started gathering in Kutná Hora. The mining developed so fast that the town which was built right next to the mining pits did not even have time to organize its premises in the traditional way. And this significant feature has been apparent in Kutná Hora ever since.

Kutná Hora soon ranked among significant towns in the kingdom. Even though the period relations speaking about the massive "rush to Hora" and about high numbers of local miners cannot be taken for granted, the concentration of a high number of people brought about high logistic demands. The silver business differed from anything that had been known in the region before as regards the labour force, organizational requirements and the scope of capital expenditure. Rich municipal patriciate with political ambitions became very strong and numerous in Kutná Hora along with the mining and mint business development. In 1300 it was possible to start engraving the so called Prague groschen thanks to the silver from Kutná Hora mines. A mining code issued by Wenceslaus II (1283-1305) with the help of Italian specialists (*ius regale montanorum*) at that time was supposed to control and regulate the silver mining activities.

The renowned wealth of Kutná Hora exceeded the border of the Bohemian Lands and the Roman King Albrecht of Habsburg (1298-1308) even asked the Bohemian King, Wenceslaus II, that he assigned to him a portion of Kutná Hora profit (beside others). In the course of the war which broke out at that time the enemy army arrived close to Kutná Hora in 1294, however, no open battle took place. King Albrecht had to leave without any success eventually.

Kutná Hora had poor relationships with the neighbouring monastery in Sedlec. Together with allies, Prague patricians, Kutná Hora leaders attempted a coup in 1309 aimed at their infiltration into the managing structures in the country and their promotion to the level of noble families. A group of people led by local leaders left Kutná Hora in February 1309, overran the Sedlec monastery and captured the leading noblemen of the kingdom while they were asleep. However, the event which started fairly successfully was soon foiled due to discord among the rebels.

Kutná Hora as a town (in the legal sense of the word) was constituted in the middle of mining settlements in the early 14th century, probably between 1307-1308 under the rule of King Henry of Carinthia. It was probably the royal chief mine officer who located the town on the land

owned by the Sedlec monastery. The town was administered by a village mayor and a council of eighteen sworn councillors. Royal and mining officers, led by the chief mine officer, the mint master and subsequently also the royal steward had significant positions in the society. Various mining officers gradually took over the administration in the royal mint, and probably also miners or ore traders and subsequently also other craftsmen created their own administrative structures. The name of the town reflected its mining background (Hora-Mons-Mount-Berg) and also took advantage of its name from Central Germany - *Kutte* (a shaft, a mining pit, a mine). The mining district had had this name – which probably came from the Freiberg environment - even before the town was established. The town was located on the plots of the Sedlec monastery near the royal castle and the mint in Vlašský Court. Its ground plan was fairly regular and partly respected the older settlement and the road network. The central rectangular square was soon covered with houses. The town whose border was lined with fortification walls included only some of the mining villages and religious structures. The most significant town church was the Church of the Virgin Mary, sometimes also called *Hofejší* ("Upper") or *Vysoký* ("Tall") (today's St. Jacob's Church) established about 1320 and subordinated to the parish church in Malín, under the auspices of the Sedlec monastery, like other churches in Kutná Hora. Kutná Hora was extended by so called Dolní Město (Lower Town) during the 14th century which was also incorporated into the area encircled with the fortification walls. The most significant town gates opened towards the towns of Kouřim, Kolín, Čáslav and the Sedlec monastery. Churches and impressive manors of the richest burghers stood side by side to mining structures, workshops, merchant shops, spas and pubs. A Jewish neighbourhood was not missing either. Rich burgher Štěpán Pirkner established the St. Cross Hospital in front of the Čáslav Gate about 1320. After the mid-14th century the Town Hall was erected and it had its own astronomical clock as early as in 1375. The town was repeatedly visited by Emperor Charles IV; nevertheless, the town became more closely related to the ruler and his court only under the rule of his son Wenceslaus IV. The King had the mint in Vlašský Court rebuilt at the end of the 14th century and he spent lots of time in this impressive manor. In 1403 Kutná Hora was besieged and its surroundings were devastated by the army of Wenceslaus' brother, the Hungarian King Sigismund. In 1409 King Wenceslaus IV issued the so called Kutná Hora Decree, a mandate which unilaterally modified the situation at Prague University in favour of the Bohemian university nation. The revenues from silver mines were gradually decreasing, however, burghers were yet able to fund grandiose construction projects. The new church of the Christ's Body and St. Barbara established in 1388 outside the fortification walls, outside the influence of Sedlec Monastery, was built by the Petr Parléf's court construction company to demonstrate burghers' devoutness and representation; it is fairly possible that the church was designed by Petr Parléf himself. Burghers deposited their property mostly in land which they purchased and many Kutná Hora families managed to acquire large estates, castles and fortresses and thus penetrate among the land nobility. After the outbreak of the Hussite revolution, Kutná Hora clearly supported the King Sigismund of Luxembourg and acted as one of his most significant supporters in Bohemia. In the second half of 1420 it became a temporary seat of the King and his numerous court members. During this short period Kutná Hora had features of a royal town of European importance.

Hussite wars were fatal for both, the town and the Sedlec monastery. During the victorious campaign of the Hussite army in 1421 the Cistercian monastery in Sedlec was captured and burned down. The town was held by Praguers until June 1424 except for a short period at the turn of 1422 when it was re-acquired by Sigismund. After the battle of Malešov, Kutná Hora was annexed by Jan Žižka. In the course of these wars the town was afflicted with two large fires. The first broke out in January 1422 upon the escape of Emperor Sigismund from the town and the other when Kutná Hora was annexed by Jan Žižka in June 1424. The fires destroyed the municipal structures from the 14th century and the period churches. The town was also paralysed by the departure of Catholic citizens, namely German miners. However, it was not a demographic catastrophe. The economically significant Kutná Hora recovered quickly.

Kutná Hora of the Jagiello era fulfilled all favourable conditions for cultural, political, religious, economic and traffic development. As a seat of the royal court it attracted not only local citizens but also foreigners. The election of Vladislav Jagiello for the King which took place in Vlašský Court in May 1471 was a new significant impulse for the town. It soon became a dignified royal residence where important government matters were frequently decided. The stays of the ruler and all his court required construction modifications which were to enhance the manor. Beside this, Vlašský Court still fulfilled its original purpose – it was the central mint of the Bohemian State.

Since the mid-15th century the outer fortification walls were gradually reinforced and as of 1490 all of the main gates were completed. Also many small gates were made in the fortification walls, but we know very little about them. These included for example Podhrádecká, Hloušecká, Nová, Katova, Leflířská, Žižkova, Novomlýnská or one small passageway with a typical name Mousehole.

During the period when the town was renovated after the Hussite wars partial modifications to the ground plan of house blocks and the construction of burgher houses played an important role. Houses were erected on the remains of the pre-Hussite development on narrow long plots along streets and market squares. Ordinary buildings were complemented with mighty palace-type houses or separately encircled courtyards. A complex system of cellars comprising several floors was typical of the local houses. The ground plan of the ground floor was

based on a so called "hall-type house"; a bedroom used to be on the first floor, usually lined with logs on the inner side which provided good thermal insulation; by the street front there was a large living room called "mázhaus". The street fronts of houses were decorated with arcades, gables, home signs and more significant houses had also an oriel window on the street side. Long lines of houses had arcades which could be documented in Kollárova, Šultysova and Husova Streets or in Václavské or Komenského Squares.

Secular as well as religious structures in the town of Kutná Hora underwent unseen architectural development during the Late Middle Ages. Due to rich revenues from Kutná Hora mining, the St. Barbara's Cathedral could be completed. A new St. Barbara's ironworks was built by Prague stonemason Hanuš. After his death Matěj Rejsek was invited from Prague by the town council and he continued working on the cathedral until his death in 1506; the St. Barbara's chancel became his masterpiece. A new period in the construction of the St. Barbara's Cathedral (1512-1534) came with the arrival of the royal builder Benedikt Ried of Prague. Ried created a three-aisle hall topped with a double-curved rib vault upstairs in the cathedral.

Kutná Hora of the Jagiello era was controlled by patriciate, whose members were mutually related, had noble predicates and made decisions about political positions. The prerequisite for this was the flourishing business in the field of mining, metallurgy and trading. Kutná Hora copper trading became very profitable. Burghers with their own coats of arms introduced elements of the renaissance lifestyle in their impressive households and costly renovation of their houses. Unique palace-type houses were built in Kutná Hora (for example Jan Smíšek's Hrádek, the Stone House of the Mine Stewart Prokop Kroupa of Chocemice or the house of goldsmith Beneš of Trnice).

Minor art crafts flourished hand-in-hand with profusion, luxury and splendour in Kutná Hora. Goldsmiths, who ranked among the richest people in the town, illuminators, painters, wood-carvers, sculptors, bell founders (the Klabals and Ptáček), veil makers, dressmakers and embroiderers or stove makers are recorded in written materials from that time. The chief officer was the steward who reported to the ruler. In the early 16th century mining officers established an institution, a mining authority, which held regular meetings to discuss technical and administrative matters. The activities of Kutná Hora mint were controlled by the chief mint master whose office was established in 1462. He resided in Vlašský Court and was supposed to supervise all gold and silver mines in Bohemia. But along with the economic development the social tension was increasing. Wage labourers from all fields, mainly miners, responded to such a situation with riots which broke out between 1494-1496. Educated people were the ones who significantly contributed to the fact that the economic operation of the town continued in spite of difficulties. Written materials show that in the 16th century Kutná Hora boasted both private schools and municipal ones where reading, writing and mathematics were taught. There were two municipal schools – the three-grade-school of St. Barbara and the Vysokostelská particular school where pupils could obtain higher education including some basic Latin. Secular choirs uniting educated burghers were frequently established at schools. These choirs performed one-voice and multiple-voice songs.

The Land Diet held a meeting in Kutná Hora in March 1485. It declared religious peace between the Catholic and the Utraquist Church based on the re-acknowledged Compactata. Since Utraquists did not appoint their own bishop, priest applicants had to leave for abroad to be ordained. The situation temporarily improved when two ordaining Italian priests - Augustin Lucian de Bassariis and afterwards Filip Villanuova were present in Bohemia. At the beginning of the 16th century, the so called Kutná Hora independent Utraquist consistory was established in the town.

The municipal council had its seat in the Town Hall. Kutná Hora lost its oldest Town Hall during the Hussite wars and up until 1499 it did not have a permanent Town Hall building. Only after that time several burgher houses were rebuilt to form the largest Town Hall in Bohemia of that time; between 1504-1510 it was gradually improved.

Thanks to the prosperity of individual fields of the mining business, the town acquired even larger land property. Kutná Hora gained control over lots of land and a number of villages in the near and distant surroundings. Kutná Hora entered the 16th century as a town full of life and work turmoil, but lots of things indicated that such development was not to last long. Jan Willenberg drew Kutná Hora at the turn of the 17th century in his sketch notebook. His sketch shows that as a whole the town retained its Gothic features and Renaissance only added some details to it.

After Ferdinand I was voted for the Bohemian King in 1526, Kutná Hora retained its position of the second most significant royal town and its representatives could be missing neither from the electing diet nor from other events related to the arrival of the first Habsburg in the Czech throne. 1526 did not bring any significant changes to the town citizens, however, starting from the 1530s the town was gradually afflicted with political and economic crisis, even though trade and craft seemingly flourished and the town had rich cultural life. The construction activity in the town, which was proportionate to the prosperity of mining, stagnated. The construction activity of this period was represented with the Vysokostelská school from 1594-1595. Its impressive design as well as the quality of teaching could bear comparison with the most prestigious Prague schools. Jan Kampanus Vodňanský worked as a teacher there between 1600-1603.

Kutná Hora also developed as a land owner. Before 1620 it owned 4 fortresses, 22 whole and 7 parts of villages. At the turn of the 17th century the town started to operate at its own expense as inspired by noble farms. In 1589 the town took over the control of the Lorenc

brewery. The expansion of the land property was mostly related to the development of mining which developed fairly vigorously for the last time at the turn of the 16th century. The principles on which the municipal administration developed did not change as compared to the previous periods. In 1538 the committee of eight municipal judges was constituted in Kutná Hora; these judges decided on minor disputes and were able to fine culprits up to 10 three-scores of groschen, while competences exceeding this amount remained in the hands of councillors.

The town was sentenced to temporary loss of privileges as a punishment for its participation in the anti-Habsburg uprising. Unlike most rebelling towns, Kutná Hora's land was not seized since Ferdinand knew very well that Kutná Hora did not rank among active rebels. One of the consequences of curtailing the municipal administration was the fact that a royal mayor was appointed to control the town. The first royal mayor was appointed in Kutná Hora only in 1551, his name was Ondřej Křivoláček and he was supposed to watch the ruler's political and economic interests. At first burghers took turns in the role of royal mayor, but since the 17th century mayors were appointed for a longer period of time by rulers. Ondřej Křivoláček's son, a writer and a poet, renaissance nobleman Mikuláš Dačický of Heslov became the most popular representative of literature in Kutná Hora during the pre-White Mountain and the White Mountain period.

The Chief Mint Master, Vilém Vřesovec of Vřesová, arrived in the town in 1613 and along with him the first Jesuits came. Vřesovec, an ardent Catholic, self-confidentially promoted the Catholic belief and even interfered in the composition of the municipal council. In spring 1618 the estate uprising broke out in Prague. The estates appointed thirty directors to administer the country. These included also Kutná Hora Mayor Jan Šultys of Felsdorf. However, the town itself was very reluctant to provide financial contributions for the anti-Habsburg campaign even though it was trying to gain as much profit as possible from it. Kutná Hora was interested in purchasing the seized estates of the Sedlec monastery, Sedlec, Malín and Habrkovice which the town acquired at very advantageous prices at the very beginning of the uprising. The purchase was concluded when an amount of 30,000 threescores of Meissen groschen was paid. The unpopular Mint Master Vilém Vřesovec of Vřesová was forced to leave the town for temporary exile.

The suppression of the anti-Habsburg revolt and devastation of the town during the Thirty Years' War deepened the crisis of Kutná Hora. The town was indebted, the mining activities were restricted, and re-Catholicization controlled the political and cultural life. In 1626 Jesuits accompanied with soldiers arrived in the town in order to promote re-Catholicization. They soon became the main cultural force and their activities influenced almost all spheres of the town life. Jesuits took over the administration of some confiscated town farms, of the St. Barbara's Cathedral, which was used by them as a college church, and the St. George's Church. There was a German village, decayed between 1621-23, around the church. Jesuits took full control over the school system; it enjoyed good reputation and high-level discipline and modern teaching methods were typical of it. In 1686 the town yielded Hrádek to Jesuits and they moved the grammar school over to that building.

The relationship between Kutná Hora Jesuits and the municipal authority was not idyllic and problem free. Jesuits had a number of disputes for example regarding the income of the town hospital or beer tapping in the college. The removal of the broach roof from the cathedral and its replacement with a saddle roof with three Baroque cupolas was strongly resented by Kutná Hora citizens. Jesuit colleges were not only the rampart of the belief, art and science, but also administrative centres supervising large land property and production and commercial entities. The college in Kutná Hora was established in 1624 by Emperor Ferdinand II upon request of Vilém of Vřesovice, the chief mint master and reformation commissioner of the Čáslav region. In 1625 the emperor assigned confiscated estates to the future college. Beside them the order acquired also land in the town, in the area between the St. Barbara's Cathedral and Hrádek. Jesuits started building their college in 1667 according to a design by Italian early Baroque architect Giovanni Domenico Orsi. The construction works lasted for almost eighty years and the original Orsini's design kept changing during the long construction period. One of the most famous architects of the Czech Baroque period, Kilián Ignác Dientzenhofer, worked on the college shortly before its completion. The artificially created terrace in front of the college was decorated with twelve sculptures and vases on a stone sill wall. The monumental building of Kutná Hora Jesuit college permanently changed the skyline of the town.

Many significant members of the order – playwright Karel Kolčava, Antonín Koniáš, Bedřich Bridel, Jan Kořínek, whose life is connected with Kutná Hora through his work "Old Kutná Hora Memoirs" published in 1675, stayed in the college. Čáslavský's veduta of Kutná Hora was enclosed with the book. The Jesuit order became famous through its construction activities. Jesuits invited famous Prague artists to work on the most significant tasks (painters Jan Karel Kovář, Jan Jiří Heinsch). Jesuits also brought up their own artists and craftsmen in their workshops (for example their painting workshop was led by Ignác Raab). In the first quarter of the 18th century the sculptural studio of builder, stonemason, carpenter and sculptor František Baugut produced artistic artefacts.

Plague was brought to the Czech Lands in 1679 from Vienna. The first patient came down with plague in Kutná Hora as early as in the early 1680. Approximately 1500 people died in the Kutná Hora parish. Such significant decrease in the population seriously disturbed the

town economy. Mining works were discontinued, annual markets and Christmas carols were forbidden and the town was forced to establish a hospital. While diligently serving the sick, Jesuit poet Bedřich Bridel got infected and died. At the very beginning of the 18th century the Bohemian Lands went through the last plague epidemics in the history. It arrived from Hungary, in 1713, and afflicted Austria and Bohemia. It left permanent traces – plague columns which were erected in squares of towns. The plague column in Kutná Hora comes from the workshop of František Baugut.

The architectural environment of Kutná Hora of the early 18th century was enhanced with structures of peak Baroque – the newly built municipal church of St. Jan Nepomucký and the Ursuline cloister. St. Jan Nepomucký's Church was built between 1734-1752 according to a design by Prague architect František Maxmilian Kaňka. At that time it was the largest construction project funded by the town itself. F.X. Paika, the renowned period painter, was tasked with decorating the church. Nuns from the Ursuline order arrived in the town in 1712 as per the invitation by countess Eleonora of Trautmansdorf and they focused on upbringing of girls. It took them several years to find a suitable site for the construction of their cloister in the area encircled with fortification walls. As per Jesuits' recommendation, plans for the monastery were prepared by architect Kilián Ignác Dientzenhofer. The construction started in 1733 and only a portion of the original impressive Dientzenhofer's plans was eventually implemented. In spite of that, the construction of this monastery complex changed the features of the lower portion of the town.

The Sedlec monastery was another religious institution connected with the life of Kutná Hora. The monastery community lived in a temporary residence near the St. Philip and Jacob's Church. That was why Sedlec Cistercians concentrated on large-scale renovation of their monastery since the late 17th century, and did not care much about the town and its re-Catholicization. The renovation launched in 1700 under Sedlec Abbot Henry Snopek is mostly connected with the name of extraordinary architect Jan Blažej Santini-Aichel. He first applied his personal style, later called Baroque Gothic, in the renovation of the former monastery church. Prague sculptor and wood-carver Matěj Václav Jäckel enhanced the monastery with stone plastic sculptures and carved works. The interiors were decorated by the best painters of that time, namely Petr Brandl who died in Kutná Hora in 1735. He was buried in the Church of the Virgin Mary in Náměf. The Sedlec monastery was closed down in 1783.

In 1770 the centre of town was afflicted with a large fire which destroyed the former late Gothic Town Hall. Five years later its remains were removed and the freed area was turned into the main Kutná Hora square.

In the early 19th century Kutná Hora ranked among ten largest towns in the Bohemian Lands, not only as for the number of citizens, but also as for the number of houses and the area it covered. From the economic point of view, it belonged among towns with very little industry, a fairly rich craft structure and a wide farming background; it was a town which supplied only the local market with its craft products. Its medieval fame was gone forever and the town did not differ from much smaller serf towns except for the size of its historical and namely religious buildings.

The long-term lack of maintenance of the disused town fortification system resulted in the collapse of Kouřimská Gate in 1813 and subsequently in the act of pulling down the upper section of Čáslavská Gate. The absence of town funds was apparent also from scarcely paved narrow town streets, repeatedly postponed construction of a new Town Hall and also many burghers were poor and could not afford to repair their impressive medieval houses.

In 1823 a fire broke out in the town and swallowed up one hundred and fifty houses which needed to be repaired. The municipal authority took advantage of this situation and introduced a number of regulatory interventions – straightened up the streets, had new streets paved and before that, sewages were dug and water distribution lines laid in the streets. The town also started installing street lights. The construction of new houses was subsidized. The renovation of the destroyed portion of the town was combined with its redevelopment and as a part of that project the remains of the fortification walls and town gates were removed.

The town boasted fairly strong textile industry represented by Breuer's calico printing mill at that time. The printing mill grew and eventually employed 1200 people. There were also two small spinning mills in the town. In 1812 another plant was established in the nearby Sedlec pod Kaňkem – the state-owned tobacco company was moved over to the town from Prague and Golčův Jeníkov and it ended up employing 1500 people. Other craft companies in Kutná Hora were mostly family-owned types of businesses.

The upper social class was fairly numerous in Kutná Hora in the early 19th century and it was expanded with German speaking army officers from the Kutná Hora garrison and clerks from growing authorities in Kutná Hora. The first Czech patriots started arriving in the 1830s led by medical doctor Josef Jaromír Štětka and the organ loft headmaster Petr Miloslav Veselský who succeeded in establishing a centre of the Czech National Movement in "U Ptačových" pub. In 1842 patriots organized a celebration of the 100th anniversary of the death of painter Petr Brandl and the following year an amateur theatre ensemble was introduced in Kutná Hora. At that time there were also the first attempts to establish a public library, a public hospital and the first Czech chorus.

Changes in the society were also reflected in the architectural picture of the town - new public buildings were constructed and the existing ones were renovated. The establishment of the regional court

required the construction of a court building; the army acquired the former residence of the Jesuit order and modified it significantly for their own needs. The increasing number of people who needed social care initiated the establishment of a new town hospital in 1839 on the site of the closed down St. Bartholomew's Church.

The thought of the 1848 revolution was supported by approximately one fifth of citizens in Kutná Hora, namely the poorer ones. These people also gathered two troops which set off to help Prague in spite of protests by the Kutná Hora guard, but the troops were routed near Běchovice and the only outcome of that year's events was the establishment of the "Slovanská Lípa" association. It was disbanded soon after the revolution, but the "Měšťanská Beseda" was created on its foundations. It became the basis for the national party in the 1880s. The Young Czech Party members gathered around the Kutnohorské Listy newspaper. A serious dispute broke out in 1883 when a monument to Karel Havlíček Borovský was unveiled and the Old Czech Party members refused to contribute to its erection. Members of the Old Czech Party gradually ended up in a defensive position and the Young Czech Party members gained the majority in the Měšťanská Beseda. Old Czech Party members moved over to the building of the local shooting association with a renowned "V Lorci" pub. At the end of the 19th century the Old Czech Party ceased to exist in Kutná Hora. The Young Czech Party was supported mainly by the Podvysocký Political Association. At the turn of the century other political parties emerged in Kutná Hora.

At the end of the 1860s a number of associations emerged in Kutná Hora – the re-established amateur theater and singing clubs and also new clubs the most significant of which was the Sokol sports association. The construction of new public buildings is related to the activities of these clubs – in 1884 a Sokol gym was built. Amateur actors used the gym in the new grammar school originating from the 1850s, but after the school was taken over by the town the theatre hall was closed down and actors started making effort to have a theatre built.

In the second half of the 19th century a number of new schools were built in Kutná Hora. The first one was the craft school, after that the farming school which had a new building constructed at the turn of the century; at the same time a new grammar school building, a teachers' college and also two primary schools were built. In the 1880s another significant public building was erected – the town hospital in the vicinity of the old one; later on a department for contagious diseases was added. At the same time the Town Savings Bank was built. The development of public life affected Churches as well. Members of the Evangelic Church had their chapel built in Jiřího z Poděbrad Street and at the turn of the 20th century Jews constructed their temple; in the early 20th century a church enhanced the St. Ursula's convent.

The picture of Kutná Hora in the late 19th and the early 20th centuries was significantly influenced by the renovation of Kutná Hora sights and monuments initiated mostly by the Vocel Association. All main Kutná Hora religious sights and also the Vlašský Court were gradually rebuilt in the period purist style. In many cases such interventions significantly decreased the historical value of the restored buildings, but on the other hand the repairs significantly helped to increase the awareness of Kutná Hora – not only among Czech people but also among foreigners and, therefore, tourism started flourishing in the town since then. Renovation of public areas was usually connected with rebuilding of historic sights and at the beginning of the century public parks started to appear for example around St. Barbora's Cathedral and around Vlašský Court; smaller parks appeared in other areas of the town and also in the newly established neighborhoods.

The general and growing trend of inflow of country people into towns became apparent also in Kutná Hora in the late 19th century when the population of the town kept growing. People found jobs in the calico plant and also in the nearby tobacco factory and in the 1850s another significant employer arrived in the town – the Teller's sugar refinery. The refinery was built in the 1930s from the former Karlov Hospital of St. Cross; in the 1870s a joint stock company was established in Hlouška, however, it went bankrupt and was subsequently bought by entrepreneur Teller. The sugar refinery employed hundreds of people during the peak season.

Some of the small family-owned businesses developed into larger industrial plants in the late 19th century. The factory producing clothes and uniforms owned by Emanuel Bělský established a number of affiliated plants. The greatest industrial development connected with the establishment of new companies which occurred in some other towns, such as Liberec, in the 1870s, took place in Kutná Hora two decades later and lasted until the First World War. At that time the following was established: Strakosch' shoe factory, Švarc's and Šolc's printing works and two organ businesses – Tuček's and Melzer's ones, Růžička's cement goods factory, F. Vaníček's, and subsequently T. Aupeka's, casting plant and Krupička's vinegar plant. In addition to these privately owned companies there was a new round brick mill of the town of Kutná Hora from the 1880s and the town brewery in Lorec renovated twice in the 1860s and much more thoroughly in the 1890s. At the end of the century there were enthusiastic attempts to revitalize the mining activities. However, most of them failed or encountered problems with underground water.

The establishment of new companies was significantly reflected in the construction of new production halls out of which only very few were established on the territory of the historical town. They were mostly built in suburbs, whereas the best location was the flat area in Hlouška. This neighbourhood started to develop into a new industrial neighbourhood in the second half of the 19th century. In the 1860s businessman Hartman built one of the first villas in Bohemia near Lorec. The industrial development required the construction of apartment buildings for factory workers. And it was again Hlouška

where residential houses started growing replacing gardens along the main road, today's Masaryk Street.

The development of the town and its industry would not be possible without the development of the infrastructure. Water power was unable to cover the needs of the developing industry and that was why the town, being the wealthiest investor, built a town gas plant near the sugar refinery in Hlouška in 1881 and the municipal power plant by the town train station in 1912. In 1884 the railway was brought to the town. Worth mentioning is the fact that this large capital expenditure project was funded by businessman J.B. Teller and not by the town which lost its chance to build railway in 1868-9 due to its reluctance when the North-Western track touched the edge of Sedlec. Teller brought the railway into both his refineries in 1883, but permitted also public transport on this privately owned railway. In 1905 the railway was extended to Zruč nad Sázavou and as a part of this large project, which modified the look of a part of the Vrchlice neighbourhood on the right bank of the river, a new town railway station was built on the site of numerous houses which needed to be pulled down. The establishment of a train stop in the suburb and the development of brick production in the new town brick mill launched construction activities in Dolní Žižkov; Dolní Žižkov grew into a new suburb and subsequently into a town neighbourhood which was later connected to Horní Žižkov.

The First World War deteriorated the flow of supplies and in many families all men were recruited. Social life was restrained significantly and hospitals were established in schools. At the end of the war social commotions broke out as a result of the poor supply chain.

The demographic development of the town peaked in the early 20th century. The first town apartment building was built in Kollárova Street on the site of a pulled down meat market. At that time it was a controversial project due to its excessive height. "Colonies" of detached houses for workers and administrative staff from local industrial plants were built; many of them were funded by the Town Savings Bank. This construction activity lasted also during the 1920s when it peaked in spite of the fact that the population was not growing any more. A new neighbourhood of detached and semi-detached houses was established in Na Špici site in Hlouška. Others were established around Šichovo Square – which does not exist any more – in Hlouška, and in the area between the Ursuline convent and the farming school. Mostly workers' houses grew also in Karlov and on the other hand clerks' villas started growing first along Kouřimská and Na Kolovrátku Streets in Horní Žižkov and afterwards also in the adjacent gardens. These were the first ones in the subsequently developed "white-collar" neighbourhood. These new neighborhoods were built according to a plan; before the construction, gardens were networked with straight streets crossing each other in the right angle, and rows of family homes were subsequently erected along them. New Šichovo Square was also established in Hlouška; the square was surrounded with regular rows of family homes.

Unlike the second half of the 19th century the inter-war period was fairly poor in terms of construction of new public buildings, however, the ones which were erected overshadowed older structures by their impressiveness. In the vicinity of the teachers' college the Land Industrial School and next to it a chapel of the Unity of Brethren were built and opposite these the Tyl's theatre was built after many years of effort made by the local theatre group. Another primary school was built in Hlouška and just before the war, apartment houses for army employees were added. Very little development took place in the historic centre. As for public buildings, only the Modrý Kříž cinema, the District Authority building and just before the war also a new building of the Municipal Savings Bank were built. A so called summer Sokol gym and also a town poorhouse were built in Žižkov; the poorhouse was later incorporated into the building of new hospital which was built during the Second World War.

The sewage system was built in Hlouška during the inter-war period and its construction was launched in Žižkov as well; in addition to that the first very simple waste water purification plant was built. Potable water supplies were provided from the water treatment plant in the deserted "Na Ptáku" mine and the potable water distribution system was renovated. The network of street lights was extended and gas was replaced with electricity. In the mid-1930s a new large public park in Breuer's Garden was established.

Planning of urban development of the town was a new feature during the inter-war period. Architect Rudolf Hřaba submitted the first regulation plan of the town in 1929. His vision of a historic town surrounded with colonies of residential and family homes with secondary centres comprising public buildings that also included Sedlec with the main train station into the body of the town has not been exceeded yet. Unfortunately it has never been implemented either.

During the inter-war period some new plants were built in the town. The largest of them was the Koukol-Michera factory producing candy and chocolate in the suburb of Hlouška. On the other hand the Karlov brewery was closed down right after the war and the same happened to the Teller sugar refinery in Hlouška during the great economic crisis. The largest employers in Kutná Hora were two factories called Respo producing knit-work owned by Reiniger brothers which were built in the 1920s. A new field was the production of photographic boards by a company called René and owned by Reiner brothers in Hlouška. Krupička's mustard factory boasted an impressive building. The wood processing industry flourished; it was represented by two mills in the town – Peteřikova and Marouškova saw mills - and a furniture plant in Sedlec owned by V.Exner. The town brewery was upgraded and modernized.

At the beginning of the inter-war period Kutná Hora reached its demographic peak and since 1920 its population started decreasing

gradually. Kutná Hora was a town full of vigorous cultural, social and sport life which was represented mainly by several dozens of clubs and associations. The negative side of club life was their involvement in politics – most of them were somewhat connected to a political party. Socialist parties remained in the Town Hall for most of the inter-war period – first the town was controlled by the National-Social Party and since the early 1930s by Social Democrats who remained in the municipal bodies until the Nazi occupation. The development of public life was accompanied with the construction of some buildings which served the cultural and sports life. The first of them was the cinema called Modrý Kříž established by R. Beneš, a war veteran, subsequently the building of summer sports centre funded by the Sokol sports association and eventually, after many years of delay, also the Tyl Theatre which resulted to be the largest inter-war capital expenditure project in Kutná Hora.

The Second World War brought about pain and suffering to town citizens who lost their Jewish neighbours forever. A small portion of Kutná Hora citizens actively participated in the Nazi resistance movement and only very few people actively participated in the Nazi government. The map of the town changed significantly. Sedlec and Kaňk were temporarily incorporated in the town. The Nazi restored mining in Kaňk. Social activities were suppressed, however, did not cease to exist.

The three years after the war were characterized by competition between the National Socialists and Communists. The National Socialists retained their offices in the Town Hall and in other bodies till February 1948 and Communists did not even succeed in nationalizing the only large local company – Respo. Social and cultural life was strongly politicized and some organizations were gradually united. Another private textile company called Koukolíkova Mira was established in the Vrchlice neighbourhood which had been neglected by then. Several significant projects were launched – the preparation of a new urban plan and also purchase of land for the creation of a green belt around the town. A public swimming pool was built.

Large scale changes occurred in Kutná Hora after February 1948. All people in the Town Hall were replaced and so were leaders of all important social organizations and political parties. In the early 1950s most associations were dissolved and replaced with organizations uniting working people and supervised by the Communist Party. Political court trials were aimed at subjugating citizens of different political opinions. A few people believed the made-up petitions; however, such trials mostly resulted in complete undermining of all and any public activities and initiatives of people. Social life was revitalized only in the late 1960s; the process of revival was disrupted by the arrival of Polish tanks. The two decades of normalization which followed brought about further inhibition of public activities or rather their focusing on compulsory fulfilment of task assigned by the Communists. New public structures were built – for unified sports activities football pitches were built and in the 1970s an ice-hockey stadium and tennis courts were added; in the 1980s a swimming pool was built. The unified culture controlled by the Municipal Cultural Centre and factory clubs of working people took over the Lorenc Working People's Club.

The economy changed most significantly in this period. Private businesses ceased to exist and were replaced with socialist national companies which frequently failed to provide such a broad range of products and services as former entrepreneurs did. That was why, terms such as "lacking goods" and "under-the-counter sale" became widely used. Several new factories grew up in the town. On the site of a pulled down chocolate company Lidka a State-owned plant producing spare parts for Praga and Avia cars was built. Small service shops were incorporated in the Municipal Service company, and construction businesses were integrated to form a District Building Company. Private groceries were replaced with Jednota and Pramen chains which had a number of shops built according to the same design in various suburbs.

As for older companies the following ones continued and developed further: the tobacco company Mira, the former Respo, newly called Pragodév and Triola, the brewery and also the ore mines in Kaňk. In the 1960s the ČKD engineering company was relocated from Vysočany, Prague, and had a production hall built on fertile fields in Na Rovínách location. Silos of the Agricultural Procurement company were soon built in the vicinity of the plant. A new industrial zone started to develop in Karlov where the District Building Company was established and towards the end of the Communist era military repair shops were added. On the other hand some industrial plants disappeared from Hlouška in connection with the construction of a housing estate in this area. The ore mines in Kaňk became one of the largest employers in the town. The Institute of Mineral Resources in Sedlec employed many people as well.

The social structure of the town population changed a lot during the socialist era. Kutná Hora was a small district town in the 1950s where most people were employed in small family-owned businesses and subsequently in small service shops, offices and schools. After the arrival of the ČKD company and along with the development of mining the composition of the local population changed radically and blue-collar workers with their typical life-style prevailed in the town.

After the Čáslav district and a part of the Ledebč district were incorporated in the Kutná Hora district in 1960 the town started developing vigorously as compared to the other former district towns and the population started growing after many decades. Soon after February 1948 Sedlec and Kaňk were permanently incorporated into Kutná Hora even though the local people resented it and at the beginning of the 1960s Malín and Poličany were connected with Kutná

Hora and these were followed with Neškaredice and Perštejnec in the 1970s. And the large Kutná Hora got its current appearance.

By pulling down a part of the Hlouška neighbourhood and the town gas works at the turn of the 1970s, an area for the construction of "U Plynárny" housing estate was created. After this one was completed, another housing estate called "Na Studních" comprising mostly eight-storey houses was built in the area between Kutná Hora and Sedlec. Some detached houses were wedged in between this housing estate and Lorenc and many detached houses grew in Horní and later also in Dolní Žižkov. Some apartment buildings of maximum three storeys were built in Horní Žižkov as well. In spite of the fact that a new urban plan was prepared for the town in every decade, none of them was implemented and specifically detached houses were built randomly along the edges of the developed area in all parts of the town.

Very few new public buildings were built during the socialist period. A new outpatient medical centre was built in Nový Žižkov and a new primary school grew in Na Studních housing estate in the 1980s. The Lorenc cultural house was rebuilt. A new bus terminal was erected and the transit through the town, which was listed for its cultural heritage in 1961, was facilitated by a so called New Street – a bypass road avoiding the city centre. As for smaller structures – several kindergartens or a new post office are worth mentioning. The sewage system was almost completed and a new waste water purification plant was built in Karlov. When the valley dam lake Vrchlice with the U Trojice water treatment plant was completed in the early 1970s the water supply system was improved notably. The green belt encircling the town was completed after parks and newly planted forests in Roviny, Sukov, Kuklík and Kaňk started growing in the 1970s. The political changes after November 1989 made further development of the town possible and private social and business activities started developing. Many associations were revitalized and some were newly founded. A number of new or renovated companies emerged. Some old companies such as Avie, Ore Mines or the Institute of Mineral Resources were closed down. Newly established companies were mostly small and were not able to absorb all the released labour force from bankrupt companies which resulted in unemployment exceeding 10%. Only in 2008 a South-Korean investor arrived in Kutná Hora and built the Foxconn company producing electronics. The second largest employer was the Philip Morris company which took over the former Tabák state company and upgraded and extended it. A new urban plan was prepared to streamline the frequently disorganized construction activities. However, numerous changes to the plan which are gradually approved make it impossible to implement the plan in full. The picture of Kutná Hora in the post-November period was notably changed due to renovation of historic sights and other private houses in the city centre, new paving of streets and relocation of utility networks. The town organized the construction of several residential houses in Hlouška but many more privately owned detached houses were erected in all suburbs creating thus new streets. The construction of new stores and service shops covered up a large portion of gaps between Kutná Hora and Sedlec and partly also Karlov; the development also covered the so far free plots on Sukov slopes and near the St. Trinity Church.

Several new public buildings enhanced Kutná Hora during the post-November era. These include namely the Czech Savings Bank and Jiří Orten's Grammar School; the building of the former chocolate company Lidka was rebuilt into the District Archives. A new swimming pool and a nearby bob-sleigh track were built in Karlov. The Jesuit College building was opened to the public displaying pictures from the Central Bohemian Gallery. The act of listing Kutná Hora and the Sedlec Cathedral on the UNESCO cultural heritage list in 1995 started off gradual renovation of the historic centre and general revitalization of important cultural sights such as the God's Body Chapel, St. Jan Nepomucký's Church, St. Barbara's Cathedral, the Church of the Assumption of the Virgin Mary in Sedlec, the Vlašský Court and numerous other private burgher houses. Kutná Hora which was built as an industrial town during the socialist era turned into a town focused on tourism, related services and industry undemanding of power and raw materials.

The Ore Field in Kutná Hora

The renown Kutná Hora ore field is situated in the vicinity of Kutná Hora, covering an area bordered with the Kolín-Čáslav road in the north, with Křesetice in the south, with the village of Hořany in the west and with Sedlec in the east, i.e. it covers a rectangle of approximately 9 by 4 kilometers. It can be divided into the northern and southern section. It has been traditionally divided into ore zones out of which the following were the most important: Skalecké, Kuklické, (Gruntecko-) Hloušecké, Staročeské, Tukaňské and Rejské on the northern side of the district and Grejfské, Oselské and Roveňské on the southern side.

In the last third of the 13th century mining developed very vigorously in the Kutná Hora mining district. A deposit which had been hardly known in the mid-century became the most significant one in the Bohemian Kingdom and renown all over Europe at the end of the century. King Wenceslaus II issued his mining code "Ius Regale Montanorum" mainly for this region and established the central mint of the kingdom.

We will probably never find out when, where and under what circumstances the deposit was discovered – a tradition has it that it was found in the vicinity of the Church of All Saints. About 1300 the scope of the whole deposit was probably known and almost all ore structures located close to the surface were extracted. During the pre-Hussite period the southern portion of the field was the most important, during the post-Hussite era the importance of the northern portion started growing. The mighty Old-Bohemian zone was extracted in the 16th century, the Turkaňské zone was the main location after the Thirty Years' War, and after the mid 18th century, when the Skalecké zone

was discovered and extracted quickly, the silver ore extraction did not flourish any more and disappeared completely in the early 19th century. The total amount of silver mined in the Kutná Hora field is estimated to range somewhere between 800 and 2500 tons.

The remains and traces of the mining activity have been scattered all over the mining field. The piles of the Staročeské zone in Kaňk are impressive, and worth noticing is also the pile behind Vrbový Mill in the valley of the Vrchlice. The mine in Oselské zone under the Jesuit college is open to the public and very popular; in the valley of the rivers Vrchlice and Bylanka one can notice the outlet of a number of mining galleries. The so called Horní Pách – a water race which brought water that drove mining machines in the Roveňské zone – has been in operation till today.