

History of the building hotel ARIGONE

The first mention of this house No. 234 on current Univerzitní ulice (University Street) dates back in Nather's "Chronicle of Houses" to 1522, when a Nereteiner was stated there as the owner of the house. Leonardo Jaschke is mentioned there among many other owners before 1583. After 1583, Jakub Nereteiner (in addition to Oldřich Gelner and Jakub Wildvogel) is named as the owner of the house in then Věžeňská ulice (Prison Street). After Jakub Nereteiner's death in 1602, the house was bought for 1,100 guilders by Jiři Handl, a printer, who printed - among other things - Protestant books there. Matyáš Handl inherited the house (between 1617 and 1618), but soon (already in 1635) another letterpress printer, Mikuláš Hradecký, was mentioned as the owner.

Martin Johel bought the house after Hradecký's death (in 1635) for 1,100 guilders. The building was presumably dilapidated because Simon Albrecht, a blacksmith, bought it just for 52 guilders and 30 mites (in 1665). The same year, it was sold to Jiři Lovatia, a servant at the townhall, who repaired the house. When he died (1686) his wife Mariana sold it to an Austian friary in Jevíčko for 800 guilders. Austian friars kept the building only till 1699 when they sold it to Kryštof Antonín Kyrbis for 360 guilders. However, he died the same year and his widow, Anna Marie, sold the house to an Italian painter, Francesco Arigone (1710).

The neighbouring Ztracená ulice (Lost Street) burned down in 1709 but luckily the fire did not spread up to this house. The house was owned by two more painters, Filip Huber and Johan Adam Buchstadter, respectively. Huber bought the house for 910 guilders (in 1717) and Buchstadter for 1,300 guilders (in 1733). Zuzana Buchstadterová (1746) is mentioned as the owner of the house, which then had a brewing right. Johan Adam Buchstadter, a painter and probably a son of the previous owner, had the house between 1752-1776. The value of the building was estimated at 750 guilders in 1774. Nevertheless, after Buchstadter's death the heirs gained the house for 3,400 guilders.

Pavel Buchstadter is mentioned as the owner in 1788. It was one storey house then. The owner used a front room and a pantry with a cellar on the groundfloor. Antonín Klesner lived in a room at the rear of the house. Another room together with a small pantry and a kitchen belonged to Johan Schmidt, a labourer. On the first floor, there was another flat consisting of two rooms, a garret and a kitchen. A soldier's widow lived there. There was one more room that was vacant.

In 1791, when Pavlína Zeidlerová owned the house, the house was valued at 2,000 guilders, but soon (in 1793) its value rose to 5,182 guilders. It can be concluded that building repairs had valorized the house. Antonín Schater bought the house for 8,000 guilders in 1810. After his death (1822), the house of the same value (in convetional currency) was inherited by Oldřich, Anna and Josef Schater. In 1837, the house was registered to Anna Schery (8,900 guilders) and to Františka Christová for the same price in 1858. After Karolína Nagy (1885), Alois Nagy became a part owner of the house. The house was

then valued at 5,000 Austro-Hungarian guildens. Theodor Nagy inherited the house at the end of the 19th century.

All the above mentioned information about owners and the fluctuating prices of the house has been taken from Nather's "Chronicle of Houses".

Documentation on renovation during the last decades of the 19th century starts with a repair of facade in 1895, followed by a conversion of a woodhouse in the court (1923), and continues with building repairs connected with a creation of an inn in the house. The room on the right-hand side of a gateway was turned into an inn in 1924. In 1928, vaults in the rooms downstairs were removed and the inn room was enlarged by additional building in the court (1931). In regard to the bad condition of the building, ceilings on the first floor were changed (1926) and also the gable, fixed by iron anchors, was disrupted (1935) (see plan).

In the post-war period, in 1962, alternations and renewals of a flat on the first floor were accomplished. New facilities were built up and therefore the parting walls and doorways also had to be changed (see plan). The roof truss underwent a reconstruction and a demolition of the court subway was put forward in 1969 (see plan, Building Department, Municipality, Olomouc, file of the house no. 235).

The building was in a very bad condition in 1980s. This is documented in numerous complaints made by tenants about the owner - PBH (Housing Economy Office) during 1982 and 1985. In the complaints, there are mentioned, among other things, emergency conditions of all windows and doors, leaking ceiling, damp walls threatening to collapse, and demolished common welfare facilities in the corridor. PBH decided about provisional repairs of the facilities (without the need of moving out the tenants) and a repair of a facade and a wall in the court (1982). A committee consisting of members of the Building Department of the Municipality and PBH came to the conclusion that the house was in a considerably bad condition; some wood-work and outdoor plasters were worn-out, plasters on the ground floor and in corridors were flaking, and the roofing needed replacement. Due to these facts, the committee proposed to convert the flats (at that time there were four flats inhabited) into non-residential premises. The Building Department of Municipality recommended using the house as the headquarters of OÚNZ (District Healthcare Office) which were then moving out from a building on nám. Hrdinů (Heroes Square). Nevertheless, the house remained inhabited, which is proved by other complaints made by tenants and addressed to PBH (1985, 1987, and 1990). In 1990, one flat on the second floor was turned into a studio. The rest of the second floor was completely damaged - floors and waste pipes were pulled out, there was rubble and faeces. This state was found out and described by the Building Department Committee as inhabitable. On the first floor, there were still two flats and a shoe stock.

In December 1992, District Court in Olomouc made a decision on an eviction of a flat on the first floor. The appraisal of the expenditures necessary for an overall reconstruction of the house was figured out

at 3,900,000Kcs. Emilie Křížová, then owner, did not show any interest in starting repairs in the house and therefore decided to sell it.

Contemporary owners started an overall reconstruction of the building in April 1998. In December 1999, the restaurant was opened and the hotel was dedicated in May of the following year. The hotel was named after one of his previous owners - an Italian painter Francesco Arigone, who hold the house between 1701 and 1718.