

# Architecture Gems in Brno





...and the main landmarks from a bird's eye view...



Špilberk castle

St. Peter and Paul

...and the main landmarks  
from a bird's eye view...

An aerial photograph of Brno, Czech Republic, showing a dense urban landscape with a mix of historic and modern buildings. A large green park area is visible in the upper left. The Špilberk castle is situated on a hill in the upper center. The city center is filled with multi-story buildings with red-tiled roofs. The St. Peter and Paul church is a prominent Gothic structure in the lower center. The text labels are in red.

Špilberk castle

St. Peter and Paul

"Old Brno"

City center

...and the main landmarks  
from a bird's eye view...



# Symbolic map of Brno center





# Brno 'veduta' in 1617





# Brno 'veduta' during conquest by Swedes at the Thirty Years' War



# The “second medieval dominant” - St. Jacob's church

Pure High Gothic



# The “second medieval dominant” - St. Jacob's church

Pure High Gothic

Center of German population

Competition in tower height  
with the “Czech” Petrov

(photo from 1897)



Basilica of the **Assumption of Our Lady** in Old Brno Abbey  
First brick Gothic in the region (Flemish or North German influence)

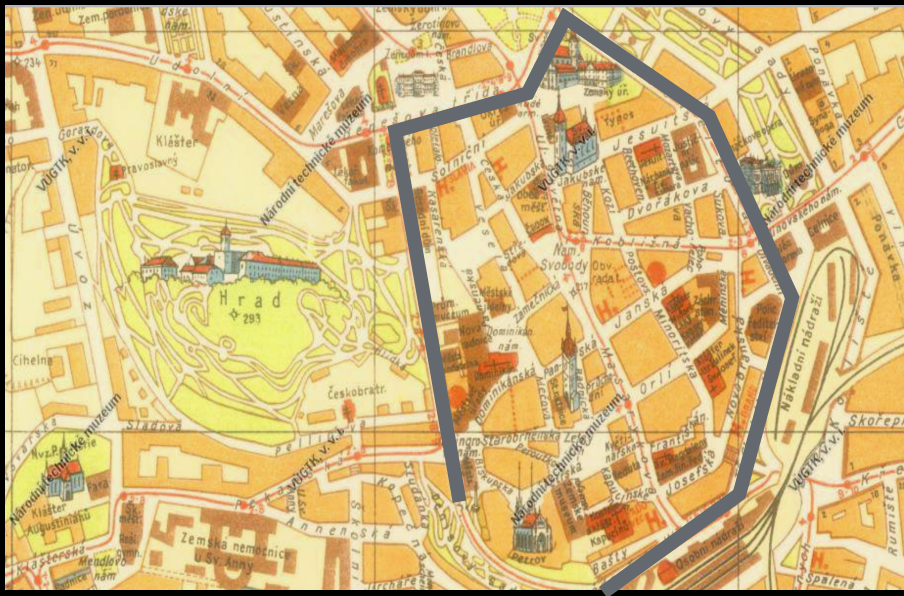


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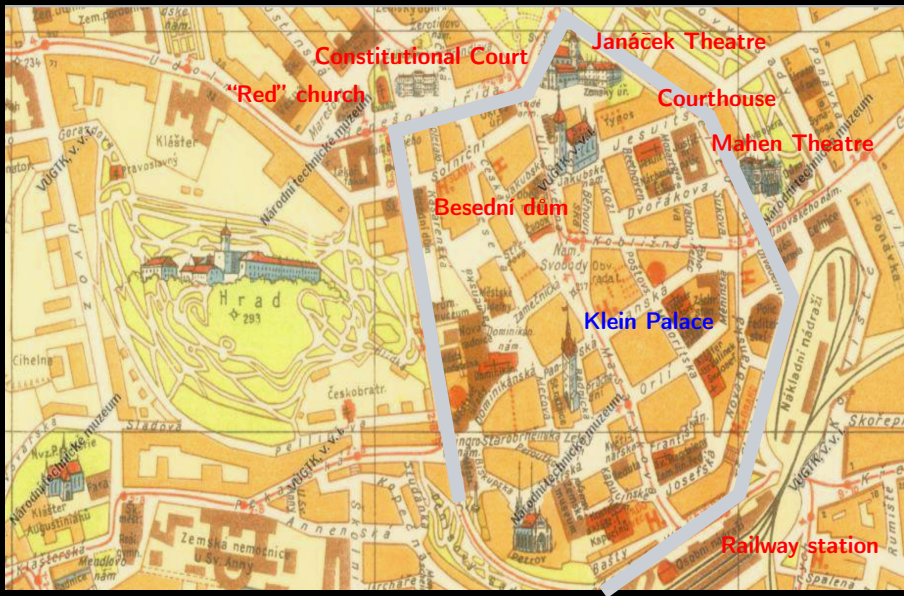


Augustinian abbey associated with notable personalities of the region:  
**Gregor Mendel**, priest **F.M.Klácel**, composers **Pavel Křížkovský**, **Leoš Janáček**, etc.

# Building the "Ringstrasse" after the year 1850



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Magnificent public houses built along the “Ring” in late 19th century  
Original “Municipal House”, 1855-1860





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“Besední dům” (architect Theofil Hansen), 1872-1873



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**Constitutional Court** (original “Moravian Regional Parliament”), 1875-1880



Magnificent public houses built along the “Ring” in late 19th century  
Original “Palace of Justice” (now the Regional Court), 1898-1904



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“Old” **Mahen Theater** (1876-1882) and **Palace Včela** (1895-1897)



Magnificent public houses built along the “Ring” in late 19th century  
“New” Janáček Theater (early 60s of 20th century)



The **Klein's Palace** (1847-1848)  
Ludwig Förster & Theo Hansen

The Klein family - large  
producers of iron and  
railway builders

First use of **iron structures** for  
facade arches, stairs, etc.,  
(at least in Austria-Hungary)



Just for an interest:

Architect Theofil Hansen  
was also the author of  
**Athens observatory** in 1846



Brno **Art Nouveau** (Jugendstil) period in the early 1900s  
“Tivoli” Houses at Konečného Square (Franz Pawlu, 1900)





Brno **Art Nouveau** (Jugendstil) period in the early 1900s  
Villa **Löw Beer** on Drobného street (Alexander Neumann, 1904)  
In 1st four decades of the 20th century, Brno's architecture was significantly initiated by wealthy families of textile manufacturers



Brno **Art Nouveau** (Jugendstil) period in the early 1900s

Private house of architect Dušan Jurkovič (**Jurkovičova vila**), 1906,  
in the city district Žabovřesky

Unique and remarkable synthesis of Art Nouveau, British modernism  
and Central European folk architecture



1920s - path to **Modernism** and **Functionalism** -  
Brno became one of the “world leaders” in functionalist architecture

Major pioneer of Brno modernism in 20s - **Ernst (Arnošt) Wiesner**:  
**Villa Stiassni** in Brno-Pisárky (1926-1928)



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**Mourning Hall** with Crematorium in Central Cemetery (1926-1929)



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Brno was one of the centers of Modernism in Europe

**Brno Exhibition Centre** was opened in 1928

**Pavilion A (Industrial Palace)** (J. Kalous & J. Valenta, 1926-1928)



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**View Tower** (1928) and **Pavilion Z** (1958)



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**Villa Tugendhat** (architect Ludwig Mies van der Rohe, 1928-1930)





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Last thirty years can be characterized as a period of searching  
However, good quality individual buildings or complexes have appeared  
I can mention, for example, the reconstruction of this Observatory:



Time will show if any of those works can establish a new common trend

Thank you