

WHO IS



HISTORY OF SLOVENJ GRADEDEC

Many archaeological sites near Slovenj Gradec speak of an early presence of humans in this region. The history of Slovenj Gradec is closely linked to the village of Stari trg, where Colatio, a Roman settlement, existed during the Classical period. Above Stari trg there was a medieval castle which was first recorded as Grez ('Gradec') as early as 1093, and it is said to be the second earliest castle in the Slovene Styria and Carinthia.

The original settlement under the hill did not have enough space for growth and expansion, so Berthold V of Andechs, the Patriarch of Aquileia (Patriarchate of Aquileia - in present-day Italy), moved the settlement to the nearby meadows

with a favourable traffic position in the middle of the three tributaries Mislinja, Sudoholnica and Homščica. He named the new settlement Windischgrez, and around the year 1251 the settlement was granted its market rights. At that time, the Slovenj Gradec basin was the most northern estate belonging to Aquileian patriarchs.

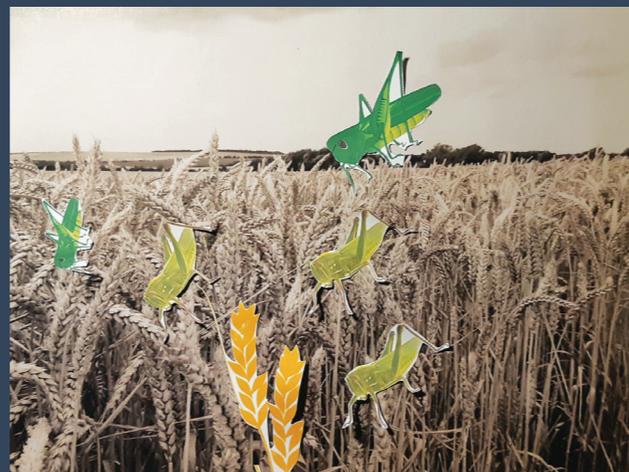
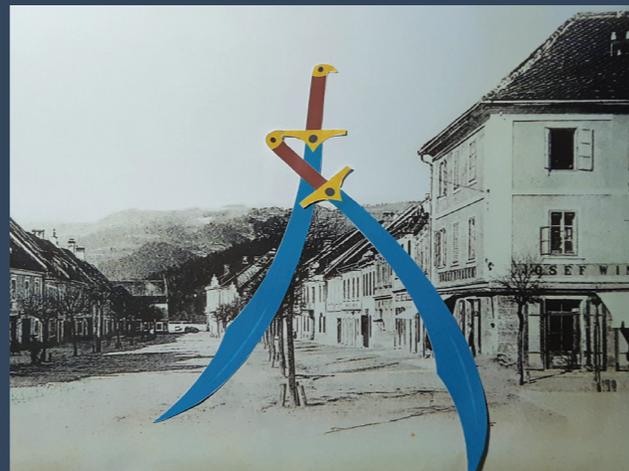
The Duke Ulrich III, Spanheim of Carinthia, granted civic rights to Slovenj Gradec around the year 1267. Dating from this period is also the town seal in the shape of a square, a rarity, as most town seals were round.

Slovenj Gradec already had its own parish, court, fair privileges, customs and the mint of money. The town of Slovenj Gradec began to flourish with various crafts and trades. To protect it, the town walls were built, and the town was granted fair deeds and a mint. A storehouse for salt from the area of Salzburg was built in the town. There was a salt border which ran along the Slovenj Gradec area: the salt from Aussee in Styria was sold to the north of the salt border and the sea salt was sold to the south.

Slovenj Gradec was the centre of a flourishing bourgeois society. Its owners, possessors and renters changed over hundreds of years. The bourgeois landowners had in their feudal system: caretakers, keepers, writers, a governor, many guards, and there were also many ministers.

One of the most important families residing in Slovenj Gradec was the family of Windischgrätz, who arrived from Upper Bavaria as ministerial to the Counts of Andechs.

During the 15th and 16th centuries, Slovenj Gradec faced a lot of difficulties; the country was ravaged by the Turks, in 1480 the valley was devastated by locusts, and in 1489 the town was occupied by the soldiers of Matthias Corvin, the King of Hungary.



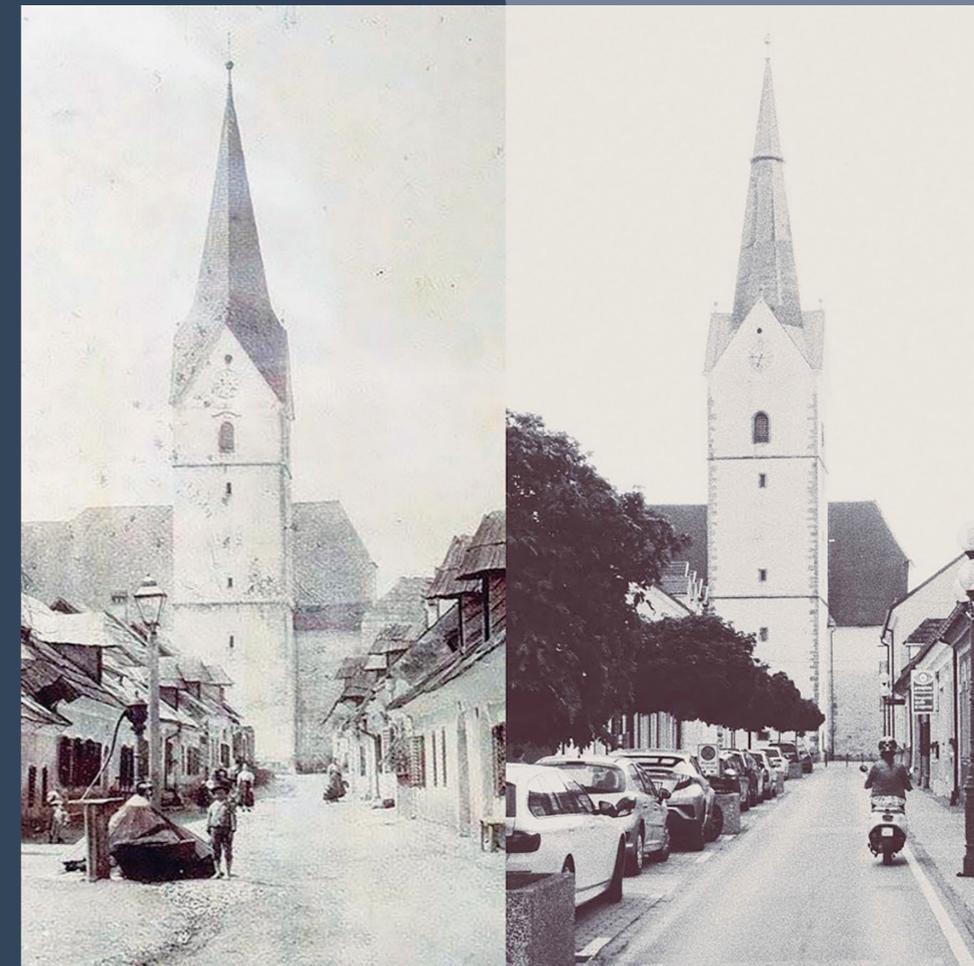
The name of the town, Slovenj Gradec, was first written in Slovene form by Primož Trubar (a leading Protestant and the so-called father of the Slovene language).

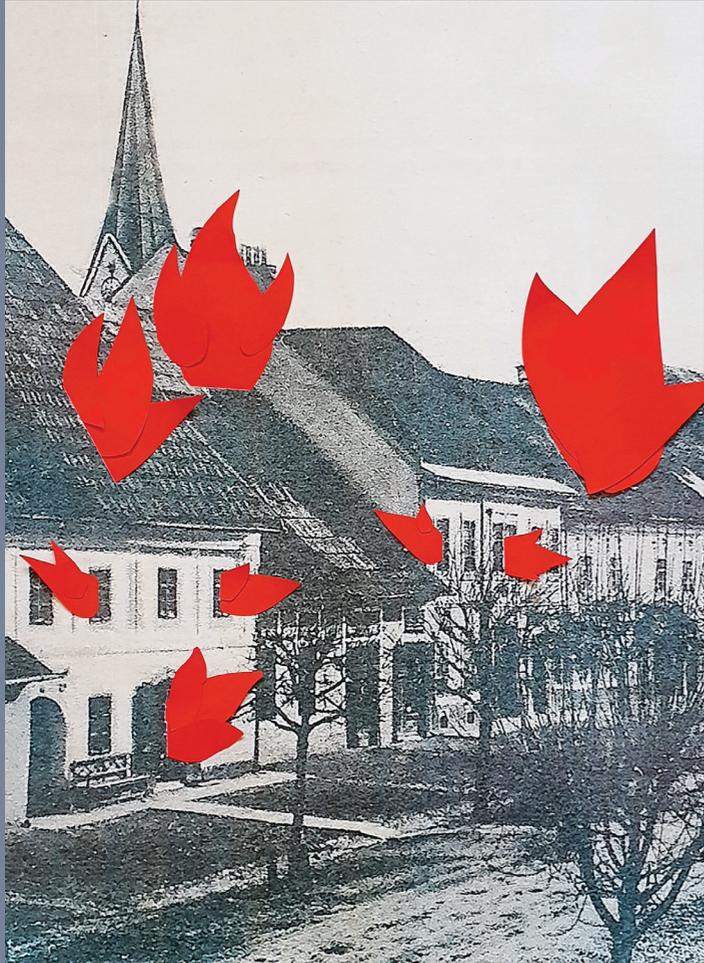
In the 17th and 18th centuries, Slovenj Gradec became a significant centre of crafts and arts.

In the Middle Ages the houses were mostly wooden and that is why the fires often broke out. The last devastating fire in 1903 completely ruined Meškova (at that time Church) street.

In the 19th century Slovenj Gradec started getting the image that is known today.

During the 19th century, Slovenj Gradec developed into a town in the modern sense of the word. The houses acquired a more modern appearance and some of them have been preserved to the present day despite





the numerous fires. A new hospital was built in 1898 and an electric lighting powered by its own plant was introduced as early as 1903. Slovenj Gradec got its first traffic lights in 1965 (in front of today's Post Office).

On the threshold of the 20th century, Slovenj Gradec mostly had agrarian production. Slowly trades, companies and workshops started to appear, some of which later progressed into industrial enterprises. The oldest companies were Tovarna kos (factory of mowing devices from 1773), Tovarna usnja (leather factory from 1850) and Tovarna meril (factory of measuring sets from 1904). The road through Huda Luknja (1829) and the rail link (1899) also contributed to the economic and social development of the city.

During the Second World War, the German Gestapo (Secret State Police) had a list of Slovene people whom they wanted to get rid of and whom they wanted to exile. It is a well-known fact that the document had been written a long time before the Germans invaded our country because the Germans were also looking for already deceased people.

Up to 45 families were locked up, a total of 130 family members, starting on the 15th of April 1941.

The families were confined in the presbytery in Šmartno for one month, then moved to Maribor, and from there exiled to Serbia, Croatia or Bosnia. Many of our people were exiled to Gornji Milanovac, Serbia. There they were taken in by Serbian families.



To commemorate this act of kindness and humanity, the current municipality of Slovenj Gradec is twinned with the Gornji Milanovac municipality, and a document of cooperation and partnership was signed by both municipalities

on the 8th of June 1972 in Slovenj Gradec.

In 1989 the Secretary-general of the United Nations, Perez de Cuellar, granted Slovenj Gradec the honorary title Peace Messenger City.



HOUSES OF SLOVENJ GRADEČ

HOTEL POHORJE

The history of Hotel Pohorje dates back to 1865, when people were still riding horses and cart riders looked for a lodging house. In 1899, a married couple named Johann and Maria Schuller from Topolšica decided to purchase the house and open a butcher's shop, however they soon expanded it into a restaurant called "Zum Sandwirth". The hotel was later taken into possession of the Schuller's sons who ran the hotel until the end of the Second World War.

At the end of the Second World War the hotel was proclaimed as people's property and continued as such until the denationalisation procedures. In the 90s the hotel was returned to the Schuller's heirs and they left the hotel to deteriorate. Fortunately, a few years ago the hotel finally got its new and present owners who renovated it and brought it to life. They named the hotel "Vila Pohorje".



ROTENTURN

The Rotenturn manor rose from a former Schulthauinger's tower and from a part of the city wall. It is located at the very edge of the city centre. The tower of the manor was first mentioned in 1361. In the 15th century it was mentioned as "der Turen zu



Wyndischgratz". Between the years 1470 and 1483, it was the property of Ilij Schulthauzinger. In the year 1494 Franz Prager rebuilt the tower into a well-formed manor, which served the purpose of defending the city and keeping the Turkish raids at bay. At the same time, it also became the headquarters of the Slovenj Gradec area. Since 1542, the manor was called Rottenthurn. The tower was supposedly named after the family of Rottenberger. The manor got its present look with the arcade courtyard in the 18th century, when it was in the property of the Kulmer family. Above the main portal there's a stone with their coat of arms.

From the years 1901 to 1967, the manor housed a Slovene district folk school. In recent years the manor has been renovated and refreshed into its previous glory and beauty. Whilst renovating, it was very noticeable that the manor has, in its inner core, the original walls of the first tower from the Middle Ages. In front of Rotenturn, there's a beautiful fountain, which offers a special feeling of tranquillity in the hot months of summer.

Today it houses the offices of the Municipality of Slovenj Gradec and the mayor.

ŠPITAL (THE CITY HOSPITAL)

The City hospital, formally established by the wealthy man named Janez from Loka (Johannes von Lakh) in 1419, is located next to the Church of St. Elizabeth. After moving to Slovenj Gradec from Carniola, Janez found himself a job with the Slovenj Gradec nobility. The Church of the Holy Spirit (Chapel of St. Duh) was built soon after, next to the City hospital, and its appearance was inspired by the Chapel in Rome, built by the Pope Inocenc III in 1204. Janez from Loka also provided the material basis. After his passing, all of his properties belonged to the hospital, which expanded and continued its work also with the help of various donors.

CHURCH OF THE HOLY SPIRIT

The establishment of the Church of the Holy Spirit testifies to the importance of the City hospital. The chapel's appearance changed through the years due to demolition and upgrading. Frescoes, made by Andrej from Ottig, stand out among the various intertwined arts like Baroque, Renaissance and Gothic. The corridor used to connect the hospital and the chapel. The hospital was run by townsfolk, a judge and a caretaker, who

were both nominated for one year. The Church of the Holy Spirit/Chapel of St. Duh is still standing today, while the City hospital was last mentioned in 1900.

The tombstone on the church is a damaged part of a Roman memorial from the 2nd century. It is inbuilt on the eastern wall of the church. This piece of marble was allegedly found in the 19th century on the Galenhofen castle, in Legen. After WWII, the military depot with weapons in the castle exploded, which is why the present day remains of Galenhofen can only be found in a preserved wall and some planted trees near the Church of St. George/ Church of St. Jurij. Initially there was a figure of a woman on the left side of the tombstone, but that part vanished after the explosion in 1945. The tombstone represented the bust figures of a husband and wife, the husband dressed in the Roman attire.

The interior of the Church of the Holy Spirit/St. Duh Chapel is adorned with frescoes, which were whitewashed in the 17th century. That is the cause for their late discovery in 1901. They generally represent the life of Jesus Christ. They were most likely used as an illustration to the reading of passion, which occurred every Sunday. Next to the frescoes, by the triumphal

arch, there is a figure of a woman and a man. They are looking up at the frescos with their hands crossed. The mysterious man and woman are believed to be the founders of the hospital- Janez from Loka and his wife.

What furthermore confirms these beliefs can be seen in the clothes they are wearing, which fit the usual clothes of the 15th century. Above this painting, there is a quote which says: TU QUI PASSUES ES PRO NOTBIS MISERERE NOBIS. This translation goes by the lines of "Mercy on us, you, who suffered death for us."



CHURCH OF ST. ELISABETH

In the centre of the old town core of Slovenj Gradec stands the Church of St. Elizabeth, which is the oldest building in town, consecrated in the 13th century. The Patriarch of Aquileia, Berthold V of Andechs, dedicated the church in honour of his niece St. Elizabeth in 1251.

The church consists of two Baroque chapels, a church spire, a gothic sacristy, a chapel, a Romanesque rectangular nave and a presbytery. Its foundation was a Romanesque nave that was gothicised around 1400.

The main altar, made in 1731-1734, was designed by the court sculptor Janez Jakob Schoy. The painting of St. Elizabeth Among Beggars, a masterpiece made by Franc Mihael Strauss, a painter from Slovenj Gradec, can be seen in the central part of the church. The side altars and a pulpit were made by Janez Jurij Mersi in 1770. The two paintings decorating the left altar were made by Janez Andrej Strauss. The image of St. Catherine's Engagement was painted by Mihael Skobl, a town's magistrate and an esteemed citizen. Several family tombstones can be found in the church originating from the

Renaissance period, the most notable would probably be the tombstone of the family of Cristoph Gaisruck from 1566.

It depicts the entire family kneeling before the Holy Trinity. A baptismal font dated from 1643 can be found at the entrance to the sacristy. Jakob Soklič (1893 – 1972), a town's priest, later added many elements to the church, the organ pipes and chandeliers being some of them.

Who was Saint Elisabeth?

As the story goes...Saint Elizabeth of Hungary, also known as Saint Elizabeth of Thuringia, was a princess of the Kingdom of Hungary, Landgravine of Thuringia, Germany, and a Catholic. She was born in 1207 to King Andrew II of Hungary and Gertrude of Merania. She was given a Christian education, loved to pray and was always happy to help the poor. At the age of four, Elizabeth's father got her engaged to the 11-year-old Louis of Thuringia. From then on she had to live with him. They got married when she turned 14. The next year she gave birth to her first son Hermann, two years later to a daughter Sophie and three years later to her second daughter Gertrude, who was born after her husband's death. His death left Elisabeth devastated. She was forced to leave the castle and move to a

small village Eisenach, where nobody wanted to give shelter to her and her three children. She and her children had to move to a pigsty.

Circumstances improved after her deceased husband's fellow soldiers returned and forced her relatives to give her her rightful share. She returned, but in spring 1228 left the castle again, this time willingly. She moved to Marburg in Hessen. She put her children up for adoption and completely devoted herself to the sick and the poor. She lived very humbly as a nun.

She had a hospital built in Marburg and there she gathered the poorest patients and took care of them patiently. Her confessor, Konrad from Marburg, who wrote her first biography, praises her as a comforter of the poor and a healer of the hungry. She died in 1231, only 24 years old. The next day after her funeral miracles started to happen on her grave, therefore the Pope George IX declared her a saint in 1235. One of Elisabeth's miracles:

Miracle of the roses:

It was a cold winter and Elisabeth was walking down the snowy path, carrying bread for the poor in her cloak, when she met her husband. She looked suspicious, so he asked her to show what was in her cloak. He thought she was stealing treasure from the castle, but Elisabeth confidently responded that she was carrying roses so that Ludwig would not stop her from helping those in need. At that moment, her cloak fell open and revealed beautiful red and white roses. She knew instantly that she was protected by God.

SLOVENJ GRADEC HOSPITAL

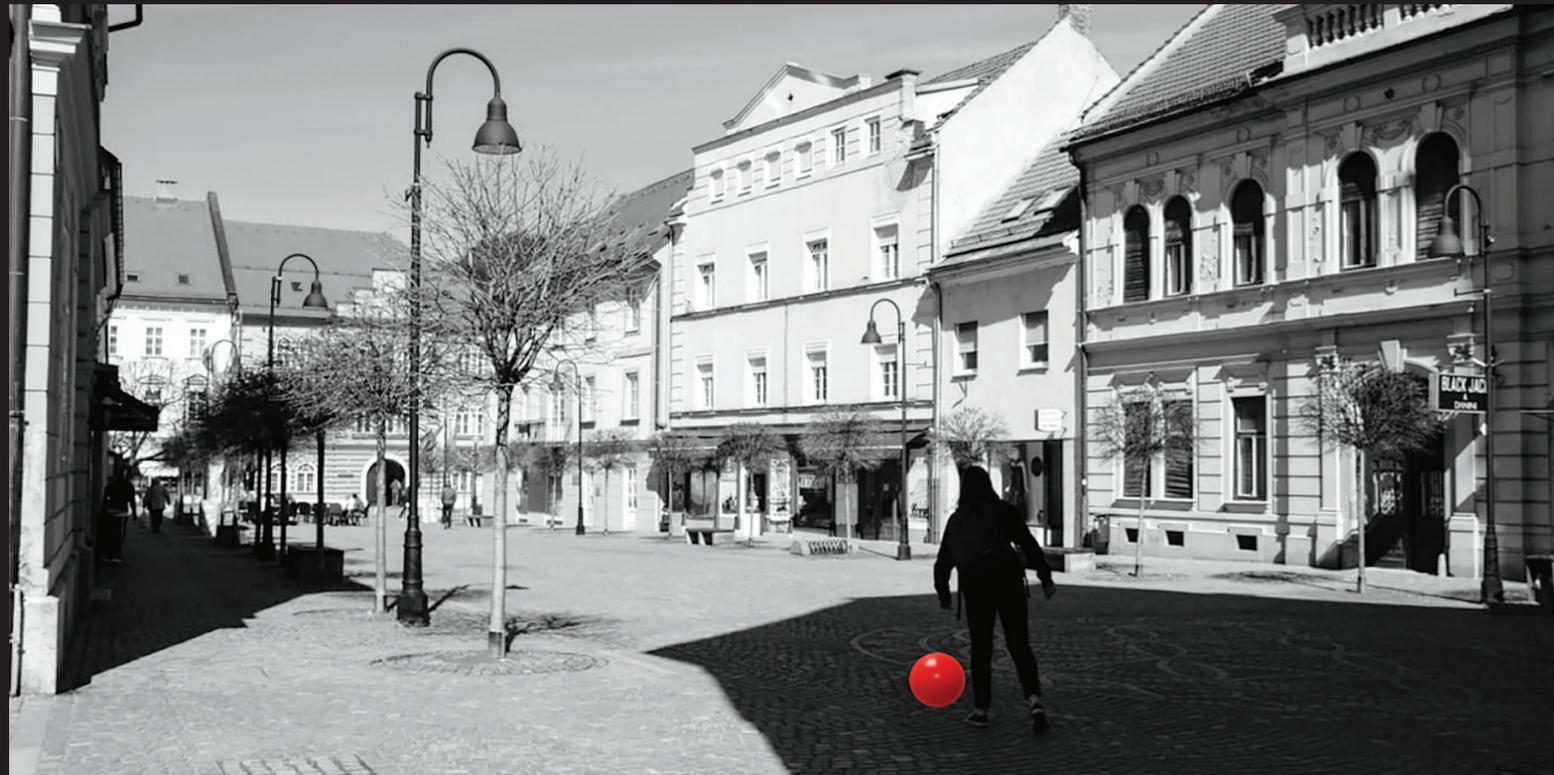
The hospital of Slovenj Gradec was officially established in 1898, however, before the hospital there had been other health facilities. The first known was an institution named Slovenjgraški Špital (Slovenj Gradec Hospital). In the year 1419 it was established by Janez from Loka. The first established hospital was built on February, 26 in 1898. In the following year it employed its first permanent doctor. During the Second World War the hospital got help from the Sisters of Mercy and they got a radio connection. After the war was finished the sisters



had to leave the hospital. Due to the lack of staff, the hospital held a course for medical training and hired the participants. Later the hospital became the state property. The next important innovation came in 1972 in the form of a wireless telephone system. With its help, the hospital became more efficient in interventions and emergencies. The next year, the hospital got a central sterilization system which enabled the staff to meet strict hygiene requirements. In the year 1978 they introduced computer systems. In 1982 "Koroško zdravstvo" was published, a magazine with health-related themes. In the Slovene War for Independence in 1991, the hospital got an award for sacrifice in combat. In 2010 they started with the reconstruction and building of new modern hospital departments.

THE ŽELEZNIKAR HOUSE

The two-storey palazzo type building was rebuilt after the great fire of 1903 by Dr. Vinko Železnikar, the founder of The Sports Association Sokol.



THE PRESBYTERY

The building was given its current appearance in 1884. The ground floor contains a memorial room dedicated to the writer Franc Ksaver Meško (1874-1964) while the first-floor used to house the museum collection of a parish priest Jakob Soklič (1893-1972). The collection was relocated to Slovenj Gradec Museum.

THE WINKLER HOUSE

The insignia and the date 1862 which can be found on the balustrade of the house show that in the 19th century the house belonged to an officer of the Austro-Hungarian navy from Pula.

THE SOKOL BUILDING

The former Sokol building was built already in 1929 but finally opened in 1936. The Sports Association Sokol was founded in 1919, later on it went by the name Partisan. In 1983 the building was renovated and converted into the Theatre and Cinema with a multipurpose hall.



CARINTHIAN GALLERY OF FINE ARTS / SLOVENJ GRADEC MUSEUM

The oldest building in Slovenj Gradec, rebuilt in 1885, used to be a town hall. Since 1957 it houses the Carinthian Gallery of Fine Arts (first floor) and Slovenj Gradec Museum (second floor).



GOLLOV ŠTEKL

In the cellar of the building the foundations of the medieval Trapp's Tower, which stood in the south-west corner of the town walls, can still be visible. The Neo-Renaissance building from circa 1890 belonged to the Goll family. After the Second World War it was used as a school boarding house and later on the secondary school of economics. Today it houses several small enterprises.



MEDIEVAL WALLS

Medieval Slovenj Gradec fortified itself with a surrounding wall and a self-defensive ditch. Some parts of the wall are still visible. On the Eastern side of the old town centre, behind the two churches, the course of the walls is shown by the elevation of the surviving foundations.

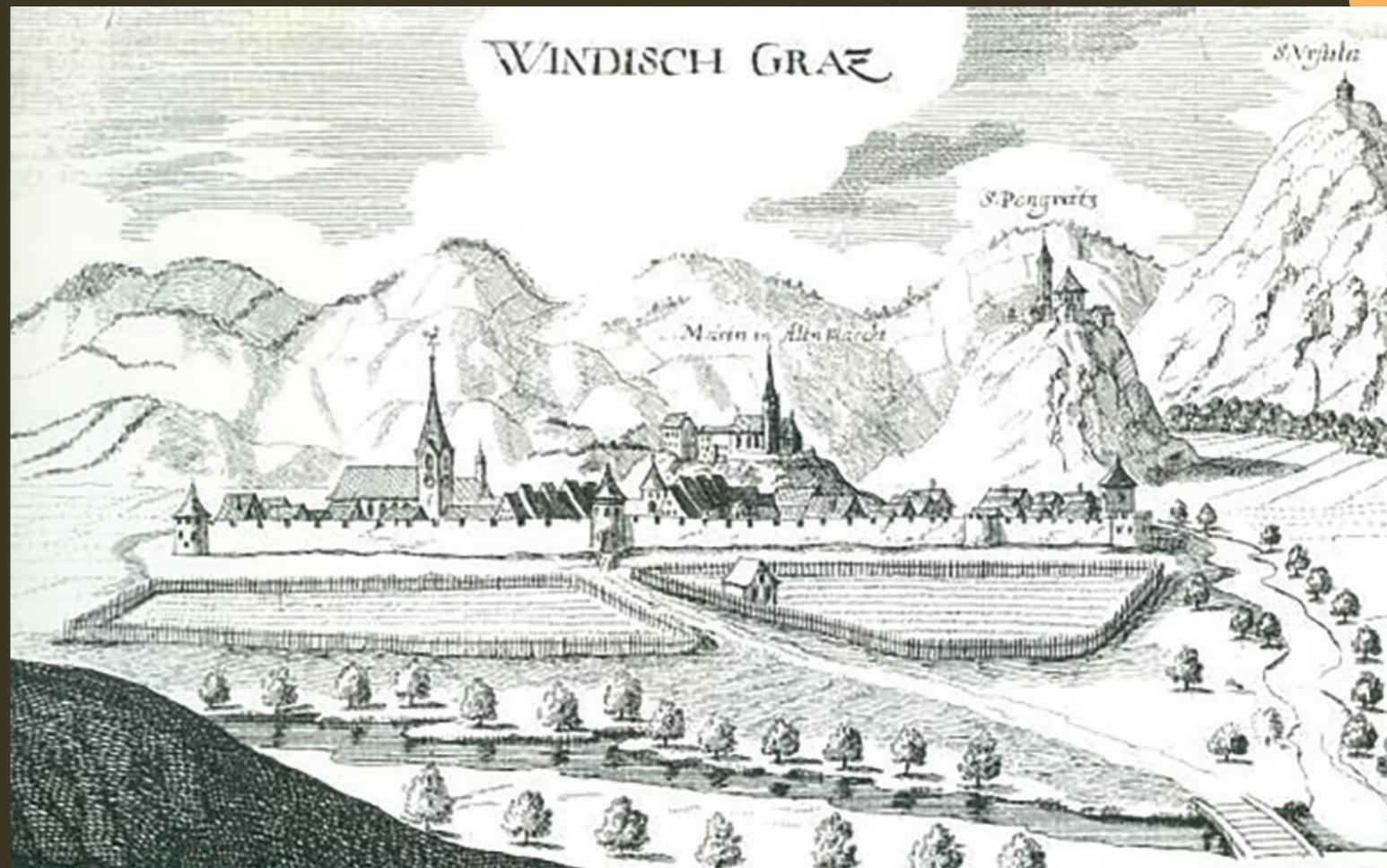


CASTLES OF SLOVENJ GRADEDEC

SAINT PANKRAT / PANKRACIJ / WINDISCHGRATZ:

Saint Pankrat/Pankracij is one of the most important historical monuments in Slovenia. It is also unique in Europe. As Gradec (Graz) it was first mentioned in 1091. It is supposedly the second oldest castle in the Štajerska (Styria) and Koroška (Carinthia) regions.

The church of St. Pankrat/Pankracij is presently located on the hill where used to be the castle from the 11th century. Nowadays only the belfry, which used to serve as a defence tower, is preserved. It is separated from the church, and its walls at the base are almost three and a half meters wide. The ground plan of the residential part of the castle was square shaped and is still visible now. The sides of it were 15 meters long. It was remade into a chapel after 1228. The Turks took over the castle in 1473, and after that it frequently changed ownership. 15 years later, the Ogres ravaged the castle. By the end of the 15th century, the castle was remade into a church, the destroyed castle walls were fixed, and the whole facility was secured with defensive walls and towers. The castle was transformed into a big anti-Turk camp. At the foot of the hill a village was created. It was named after the castle – Windischgratz, but it is now known as Stari trg.

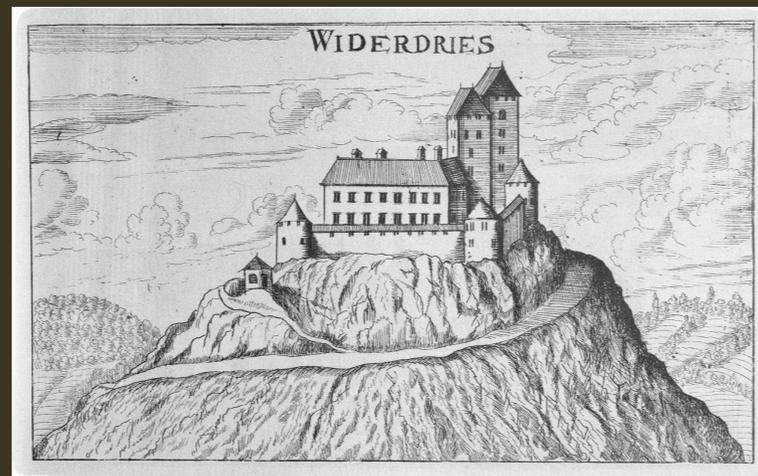


VODRIŽ CASTLE / WIEDERDRIESS:

The castle was built by feudal knights from Slovenj Gradec named Hebenstreit at the beginning of the 14th century. The Hebenstreit family used to control the medieval transport road through the Mislinja valley. The gothic castle is located on a ridge which is protected by steep slopes on three sides. Since the ridge south of Pohorje is difficult to access, the ruins of the castle are well preserved. The castle was protected by a deep moat and a drawbridge. At first only a residential defence tower was built on the highest point of the ridge, but the land around it was quickly built up. The whole complex was then protected with a meter and a half thick wall. In the Renaissance era the castle was reinforced and a defence wall with towers was built.

The Vodriž castle was first mentioned in 1338 as the property of the Widerdreizz family. Henrik, Bertold and Friderik Hebenstreit then divided the castle into three parts. In 1436 the castle was owned by the Habsburg family, which built a chapel. The owners were quickly changing in the 18th century and the castle was in a very bad condition. In 1766 the castle burnt down and was never inhabited again. It was falling apart

rapidly, but individual gothic details remained well preserved. The ground plan of the residential part of the castle was square shaped and it was located between two rectangle towers. The towers were connected with the defence wall which was protected with four defence towers. The walls of the buildings and towers were two meters thick and built with chiselled stone. Today, the ruins of the rectangular residential part, square - defence towers, and the chapel can be seen. The castle is known as one of the most beautiful and well-preserved castle ruins in Slovenia.



GRADIŠČE / GRADISCH:

The Gradišče/Gradisch mansion stands on a domed hill east of Slovenj Gradec. The primary mansion was built by Žiga Wolf Gaisruck between 1588 and 1595. He moved the seat from Slovenj Gradec to Gradišče. After 1629 the ownership of Gradišče changed frequently, and after 1820 it was given to farmers.

The Gradišče mansion was rebuilt many times, most recently in the 19th century. Despite all of the renovations the primary



Renaissance design is still preserved. The mansion is a unit of single-storey buildings, that are connected to each other in the shape of a letter T. It has a big, enclosed courtyard.

Today the mansion is in a bad condition and it is not being maintained. It was placed on the list of the most endangered castle inheritance by Milko Kos Historical Institute.

HAJNŽIČE CASTLE/HAINSCHITZHOF:

The castle is located near Stari trg in Slovenj Gradec. It was first mentioned in 1629 as a property of Andrej Tavčar. After many other owners it was bought by Baron Kulmer who merged it with Rotenturn. Today it houses an old but disused inn Pri Anžiču and is unrecognisable.

CASTLE / MANSION ZAVLAR / FELDENHOFER:

It stood in Stari trg near Slovenj Gradec. There is no mention of the mansion in the medieval times. In the 16th century the property was owned by the Hautz family and the 17th century brought the ownership of the Sauer family, among others baroness Kristina Suzana. Today the one floor building that has a perpendicular ground plan has been remade into several apartments. The east turret and the edges have vanished.



CASTLE LEGEN / LECHEN:

There is no mention of the castle in the medieval times but we know that by the end of the 16th century it was owned by the Leyssers. After the year 1659 the mansion was in the possession of the countess Marija Schrottenbach. The Count Žiga Thurn-Valsassina inherited it in the year 1737. The mansion was a stout two floor building with a square ground plan, a steep pyramidal roof, four turrets at its edges, and a



baroque portal. After the year 1920, the count Vincenc Thurn exposed the roofs of the mansion and it was a complete wreck long before the Second World War. In the present day a farm is situated on the grounds of the fallen mansion.

CASTLE GALENHOFEN / GALLENHOFEN:

Next to the St. George/ St. Jurij church, in the area called Legen, stood a mansion called Galenhofen. It stood there until the Second World



War. It was built-up by Hans Gall of Pukštajn in the first half of the 16th century (before the year 1542). The Galls owned the mansion before the year 1471, when the Galenhofen was first mentioned. The mansion consisted of four-sided floor buildings with quadrilateral edge towers on the front façade and a balcony on the side. After the Second World War it was used as a military depot of explosives, which eventually exploded (in 1945) and demolished the building.

CASTLE CASTELL:

The Castle of Castell was mentioned in the year 1375 in the land registry of Stari trg. It is said to be located on a steep hill before the base of the gorge Radušnice near the hamlet Raduše, south of Slovenj Gradec. Turf-covered square shaped foundation buildings and a defence ditch can still be visible from the hill. It might have been from the early-medieval times of »hausberg«, or perhaps it was a noble residence of Friderich from Castell.

THE WELLS

The wells were public monuments, the legacy of the town's trade, containing one of the most precious possessions - water. The first well in Slovenj Gradec dates back to 1380. Later there were four wells on the Main square, a few on the Cankar and Meško street, in front of Špital, on today's Voranc square, in front of today's Gimnazija and one in the courtyard of the Rotenturn manor. Some townsfolk even had their own wells in their basements and backyards.

Today only three wells stand on their original locations. The three wells were made by a Slovene sculptor Mirko Bratuša and represent Fons vitae – the well of life.

The spring – in front of Hugo Wolf's house; The walk – in front of NLB bank; The obelisk – at Mladinska knjiga.



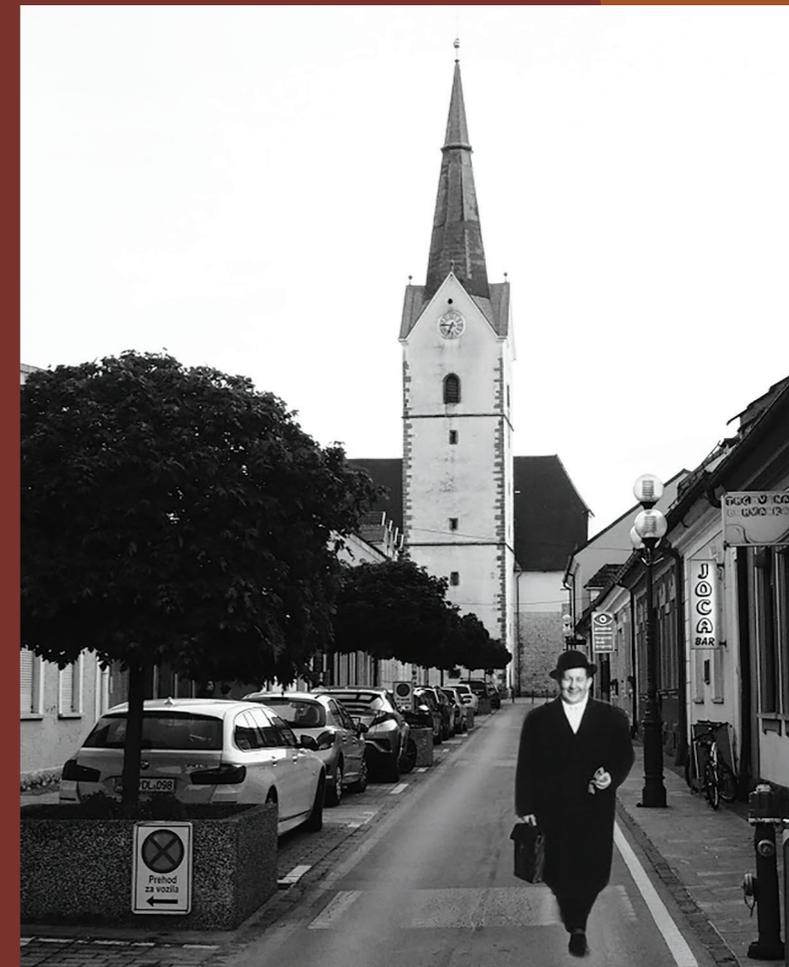
WHO WAS SLOVENJ GRADEC?

Hugo Wolf spent his childhood in Slovenj Gradec, where even as a child he was praised by everyone for mastering the violin. He completed elementary school, but dropped out of high school in Maribor and Gradec. Realising that his gift and interest was only in music, he started attending the Conservatory in Vienna. He lived there between 1875 and 1877 and moved back to Slovenj Gradec after being expelled. In the summer of 1877 he wrote his first choral composition. In November, he returned to Vienna, where he contracted syphilis. Hugo Wolf died on February 22, 1903.



Franc Ksaver Meško was born on October 28, 1847 in Gornji Ključarovci near Ormož. He was a poet, writer and a priest. He studied theology and became a priest in 1898. While working as a priest throughout the Koroška region, he was also writing books with primarily religious content. He left his biggest mark by writing 6 stories for the young titled "Mladim srcem" that were published between 1911 and 1964. He died on January 11 in 1964.

Ljuba Prenner was born on June 16, 1906 in Prevalje, but she moved to Slovenj Gradec with her family when she was 8. Until 1939 she worked as a solicitor in Slovenj Gradec, then she moved to Ljubljana. In the capital she wrote the first Slovenian crime novel titled "Neznani storilec", and she also joined the Slovenian Writers' Association. During the occupation she was very active, as she spent a lot of time helping imprisoned citizens. Due to her free-spirit and problems with the authorities, she lost her job and was expelled from the Slovenian Writer's Association. She regained her job as a solicitor after spending time in a work camp for women Ferdreng in Kočevje. She died in 1977 in Ljubljana.



Jože Tisnikar was a Slovenian painter. He was born on February 26, 1928 in Mislinja. He had a difficult childhood. After his father's death, he got his job at the cardboard factory, where he worked until he was drafted to the army. After completing his service, he returned to Slovenj Gradec, where he got a job in the hospital's pathology. He died in a car accident on October 30, in 1998.

Tisnikar was a self-taught painter. He depicted the mortality

of human life. He got his artistic inspiration from his living and working environment. In 1970 he received the Prešeren Fund Award for the paintings, exhibited in 1969. His artistic opus is best known for his depictions of a raven and dark images. He created the drawings and paintings in various techniques, especially in the technique of hot wax painting.

Karel Pečko was born on September 29, 1920 in Vuhred. In 1954 he graduated from the Academy of fine arts in Ljubljana.

In 1963 he became the headmaster of a primary school, he also led the Carinthian Gallery of Fine Arts in Slovenj Gradec for many years. His rich artistic heritage is primarily known for his numerous depictions of Uršlja Gora. Pečko was entitled an honourable citizen of the municipality of Slovenj Gradec and was the first recipient of the Berneker Award in 1975. Besides painting, his artistic work also included ceramics and graphic design, and the scenery in the puppet theatre. He died on May 2, 2016.

Bogdan Borčič was a Slovenian painter, graphic designer, and teacher, who was born on September 26, 1926 in Ljubljana. He was one of the fine artists, having begun his artistic education even before the Academy of Fine Arts in Ljubljana was established, soon after the Second World War. During the war, he studied at the private schools of Matej Sternen and France Gorše, but in 1944 he suffered the tragic experience of internment in Dachau, from where he returned after the war. He graduated from the Academy of Fine Arts in Ljubljana in 1950. In 1980 he moved to Slovenj Gradec where he lived with his family. He died in April 2014.

The development of his painting was exposed by the

influences of the contemporary art world in three main directions: Abstract Expressionism, Informalism and Geometric Abstraction. In 2005, he won the Prešeren Award for his lifetime achievements. His works are mainly accessible in two public collections. His primary gallery is the Carinthian Gallery of Fine Arts in Slovenj Gradec where he is represented by a permanent collection of his paintings. In Božidar Jakac Gallery in Kostanjevica na Krki, they keep a comprehensive review of his graphics and many of his drawings.

Igor Šentjerc was a Slovenian journalist and writer, born on January 31, 1927 in Slovenj Gradec. After World War II, he worked as a journalist for a sport newspaper called 'Polet'. His work quickly became famous in his hometown. Owing to some political issues, he moved to Germany where he wrote his work in German. He died on January 27, 1996.

Ernst Goll was a poet, born on March 14, 1887 in Slovenj Gradec. His father was a senior postal official, innkeeper, the owner of the hotel Goll (today Hotel Vabo) and one of the richest citizens. Ernst attended high school in Maribor and moved to Graz in 1905. There he first studied law, and after a while changed his major to Germanic studies and French. In



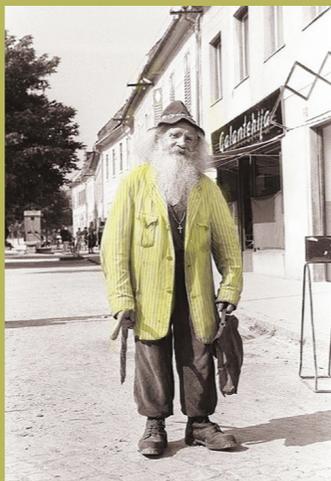
1922, he committed suicide. He was buried in the family tomb in Slovenj Gradec. While still living, he published one poem in a local newspaper. His first collection of poems *Im bitteren Menschenland* was published a month after his death, edited by Schültz. His poetry was translated into Slovene fifteen years ago by Vinko Ošlak.

Franc Berneker was a Slovenian sculptor. He was born on October 4, 1874 in Legen. He started gaining his first sculptural knowledge in art workshops and then studied at the Vienna Academy of fine arts. He created his best works in Vienna, but after returning to Slovenia he lived under meagre circumstances, fell into oblivion and died in poverty on May 16, 1932 in Ljubljana.

Jakob Soklič was a priest, cultural worker and collector. He was born on May 7, 1893 in the village of Ribno, near Bled. He attended primary school in Bled, Diocesan Classical

Gymnasium in Šentvid and then Ljubljana, where he was ordained a priest in 1917. He worked in different locations in Slovenia. He came to Slovenj Gradec in 1937 and in the same year presented his collection to the public on the presbytery premises and named it the Soklič Museum. In the forty years of his activity, he had a very important task: he was the keeper of the moveable cultural heritage, therefore he was known as the first museum worker in Slovenj Gradec. His collection included more than 1300 objects from archaeological, ethnological, cultural-historical and historical objects, a numismatic collection, a fine collection of older art, a collection of contemporary art of the 20th century, a collection of objects from Southeast Asia, an African collection, and a collection on Hugo Wolf. An important part of his collection is the exhibited library, inherited from Franc Ksaver Meško after his death. He died on December 21, 1972 in the Slovenj Gradec Hospital.

WHO ELSE IS SLOVENJ GRADEC?





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