The Chateaux

Object no. 30 | Zámecké náměstí (Chateaux square), Teplice

This Classical building is home to the Regional Museum of Teplice today. There used to be a Romanesque convent of Sisters of Saint Benedict there founded in the 12th century by Queen Judith, the second wife of Czech King Vladislaus II. During the Hussite wars the convent was plundered and the sisters left it. The chateaux's history begins in the 16th century when Volf of Vřesovice gained Teplice's estate and he decided to build a noble seat here. Further owners, the Vchynskýs family lost the estate with the chateaux by confiscation during the Thirty Years' War and field-marshal Jan Aldringen became its new lord. The family of Clary-Aldringens held Teplice's estate in its possession from 1634 till the end of the World War II. They had quite an important position at the emperor's court and attempted to develop the social life in Teplice. They built the Baroque west wing with stables and the Garden house and the Ball hall, all in Baroque style. A vast Chateaux garden behind the castle was established, first according to the fashionable French style – with rare flowers, mazes, fountains and artificial caves and later the garden was rebuilt into an English park. You can see the coat of arms of Clary – Aldringens in the Classical portal above the entry to the chateaux.

Teplice's Museum's collections mainly consist of private collections bought by the Museum Society founded in 1894. Apart from the collections the Museum Society dealt with archaeological findings which were almost daily found during coalmining in the area surrounding Teplice.

You can see the permanent exposition of balneology, archaeology, ceramics and china, Gothic and Baroque art or you can see the Chateaux interiors. The new Romanesque wing with the exposition called "Following the tracks of defunct convents in Teplice" was recently opened. You can also visit the crypt in the former basilica. The bones of Queen Judith were found close to this place in the independent northern side chapel.