

Wien / Vienna, March 31, 2022

To
Brno City Museum
Mag. Zdeněk Šolc, director
Špilberk 210/1
662 24 Brno

Hože House / „Villa Arnold“

Dear director Šolc,

After recovering from corona infection, we would like to finally reply to you on that part of your email of December 16, 2021 that refers to the Hože house.

Thank you for sending us the text of [REDACTED] research. We knew it already.

Some information needs to be corrected or supplemented. Ivo has already presented some these additions in his lecture on the Ernst Löw-Beer House, which he gave as part of the Meeting Brno on September 16, 2020 in the Löw-Beer Museum. Unfortunately, neither [REDACTED] nor [REDACTED] were present at this lecture.

1) Ownership

JUDr. Kornelius Hože was undoubtedly a co-owner of the cement works in Maloměřice, which were appropriated by the GESTAPO in October 1939 and placed under "compulsory administration". "Nationalization" followed after 1945 (Petra Svobodová, 2017), at least the communist expropriation after 1948. After 1989, the plant was not restituted, but sold to private owners by the Czechoslovak state and – according to Petra Svobodová – operated until 1998.

The Hože House (Arnold) was expropriated by the GESTAPO in October 1939. Neither Cilly nor her son Max and his wife Bedřiška survived the Holocaust. In 1945-1948 the state took over the administration of the Hože House. Then it was passed to the administration of the city. In 1953, the house entered the land register as property of the state under communist ownership conditions. It was used as a kindergarten and as a small school.

After the abolition of communist ownership in Czechoslovakia in 1989, the Hože family home was not restituted. As you know, Cilly Hože, née Löw-Beer, had 5 siblings, three of them died early (Benno: 1918 in Paris, Eveline: 1925 in Italy, Anna: 1940 in Haiti). Alfred was murdered while trying to escape in April 1939, his body was found on the railway tracks near Stříbro, west of Plzeň. Rudolf survived the Holocaust. Many of their grandchildren (and their partners and descendants) are still alive, albeit scattered on different continents and countries (Eva Colacicco, Joan Musitano, Kitty Schmidt, Martin Löw-Beer, Ernst Tugendhat, Ruth Guggenheim, Daniela Hammer-Tugendhat, Susan Low-Beer, Jane Low-Beer, John Low-Beer, Joan Lowber Berkowitz, Peter Lowber, Margo Ingrassia). The Hože House was listed as national heritage in 2010.

2) Murder

On the fate of the Hože family (after the death of Kornelius Hože, born September 12, 1854 in Brno, died August 19, 1936 in Vienna):

Kornelius' wife, Cecilie Hože (born Löw-Beer on June 11, 1864 in Brno) and her family were undoubtedly murdered by the Nazis.

CECILIE HOŽE

- Address / place of registration in the Protectorate (after March 15, 1939): Prague II, Ječná 18.

- Last residence before deportation: Prague VIII, Klein Holleschowitz/Holešovice 1361

- Transport: Au, No. 875 on May 12, 1942 to Theresienstadt (64 of 1002 people survived)

- Died in Theresienstadt, H IV, room 91, September 7, 1942

Relatives in Theresienstadt: Hože Max, transport no. 565/AW, degree of relationship: son 10/4/1888; Hože Friederike, transport no. 874/Aw, daughter in law.

Marriage: no entry (n.s.); children k. E

Treating doctor: Dr. Horace (?) Tauba

Disease: ENTEROCOLITIS, MARASMUS. INTESTINAL CATARRH, DEGENY

CAUSE OF DEATH: ADYNAMIA CORDIS. CIRCULATORY WEAKNESS

Death inspection: Dr. Erwin Lang, 1 p.m

(Q) <https://www.holocaust.cz/transport/107-au-praha-terezin/strana/2/>

(Q) <https://www.holocaust.cz/zdroje/zidovske-komunita-v-cechach-a-na-morave/boskovice-2/>

MAX HOŽE

<https://www.holocaust.cz/database-obeti/obeti/95407-max-hoze/>

Born October 4, 1888

Last place of residence before deportation: Prague VIII

Address / place of registration in the Protectorate: Prague VIII, V Podvrší 2/1361

Transport Au, No. 565 (May 12, 1942, Prague -> Theresienstadt)

Transport Ay, No. 662 (May 17, 1942, Theresienstadt -> Lublin)

Ay (May 17, 1942, Theresienstadt -> Lublin)

total deported persons: 1000 (died: 999, survived: 1)

murdered on June 23, 1942 in Majdanek

FRIEDERIKE HOZE / BEDŘIŠKA HOŽEOVÁ

<https://www.holocaust.cz/en/database-of-victims/victim/95405-bedriska-hozeova/>

Born December 15, 1896

Last place of residence before deportation: Prague VIII

Address / place of registration in the Protectorate: Prague VIII, V Podvrší 2/1361

Transport Au, No. 874 (May 12, 1942, Prague -> Theresienstadt) (1002 deported, murdered 938, survived: 64)

Transport Ay, No. 663 (May 17, 1942, Theresienstadt -> Lublin) (1000 deported, murdered 999, survived 1)

murdered in Majdanek

3) Designation of the Hože / Arnold House (Drobneho 26, Hutterova 40) and the park of the House

As it is known (see [REDACTED] 2009 for the following informations), the house Drobneho 26 / Hutterova 38 was built in 1862 by the well-known architect of Bavarian origin, Josef Arnold, according to his own plans in the historicist style in the vineyard above Augarten (Lužánky). Josef Arnold, an employee in Heinrich von Ferstl's studio, worked in Brno as an architect, town planner and member of the Brno City Council from 1851 until his death in 1887.

Josef Arnold and his wife Katharina Arnold, who had owned the house for 20 years and had lived in it, sold the house and garden at Hutterstrasse 38 to Mrs. Charlotte Martini in September 1883.

A month later, in October 1883, according to the land register, a plan for the conversion of the house for "Mr. Lange" was drawn up, which apparently was not carried out.

If Mr. Lange did not manage to renovate the house, then at least he was the builder of the stable and carriage house with the caretaker's apartment in the lower part of the property, near Drobného Street. The author of the L-shaped ground floor building from January 4, 1895 was the master builder Carl Hemsak. Carl Lange (!) is named as the builder.

After 13 years, on July 17, 1896, Charlotte Martini sold the villa to Albertina Antonia Lange (purchase agreement: "Lange").

After another 13 years, on March 23, 1909, Cecilia Hože bought the house with all the accessories (garden, stables, garden furniture, central heating and wiring) through the middleman Alfred Pollak (a brother of Evelines husband Theodor?). In the next years, the couple Cecilie and Kornelius Hože realized the extension and modification of the villa in the Art Deco spirit with elements of Art Nouveau. Cecilia lived there for 30 years.

So far, the known facts.

Although the designation of the house as Haus Arnold is common today, this designation has only been used since the publications by [REDACTED] i. e. since 2010 (perhaps already by Pavel Zatloukal 2006)

This designation does not correspond to the usual international standards for the designation of houses.

As usual, all the houses in the area are named after the owners who are significant for their existence and not after the architects, however important they may be. The house of Alfred Löw-Beer is named after him, that is Alfred Löw-Beer, and not after the previous owner Moritz Fuhrmann, and also not after the architect Alexander Neumann. The Tugendhat house is also named after the name of the family for which it was built and not after Ludwig Mies van der Rohe and Lilly Reich.

So, it would be fair and appropriate to rename the so-called Vila Arnold as **Vila Hoževová**, as Hože House. This renaming, which the members of the Tugendhat family and the Löw-Beer family propose, would also be a sign of sensitive memory of the cruel fate of Cilly Hože and thus probably also in the sense of the efforts of MEETING BRNO and thus the City of Brno.

Of course, it would also be conceivable to call the park around the house Hože Park.

With best wishes, in the name of members of the Tugendhat family and the Löw-Beer family

(Daniela Hammer-Tugendhat)

(Ivo Hammer)

CC: