Introduction

Rudolf II of Austria
(July 18, 1552 – January 20, 1612)

Prague court of Emperor Rudolf II. and its support of scientific and artistic disciplines still excites our imagination and attracts the interest of the general public, historians, writers and investigators of mysterious phenomena. How about him in his time, wrote Daniel Eremita, a member of the Tuscan delegation: "The Emperor was known for his amazing knowledge of all things, mature judgments and experience. His friendliness, firmness in faith and moral integrity achieved him popularity. On these pillars is based his great and wondrous rule, which get him admiration around the world."

This well-known patron of science and art in a short time managed to make from Prague an important center of scientific and artistic events and gather here not only famous scientists and artists, but also an alchemist. However, the results of their experiments, we can only speculate. According to the rules of Albert Magnus and due to fear of the Holy Inquisition, most of the masters of hermetic science did not talk too much about the results of their research. Their laboratories were hidden and their notes were encrypted so well that many of them, as for example the manuscripts of John Dee, is not possible to decipher until now.

Unverified reports from the chronicles state that after the death of Rudolf II. was discovered in his collection ash-gray color tincture, eighty-four hundredweight of gold fused in the form of bricks and sixty hundredweight of silver fused in the form of bricks, placed in the inventory as a result of the alchemical experiments of production of gold and silver by transmutation. Location of alchemist’s workshop in this part of Rudolf’s Prague is quite pragmatic. The Jewish religion was more friendly to magic and the occult sciences than Christianity.

As can be seen from the papers of his estate, even the Emperor Rudolf II. risked hostility of the catholic clergy because of his support for the hermetic science and acquisition of Kabbalistic writings.

Reveal with us the time of late medieval and early modern times, when science and mysticism are closely linked, and researchers are looking for a higher purpose and harmony of the spheres, which would help them discover the secrets of nature.

Historical milestones in the House of the Alchemist.
House number 795/1, Old Town Prague

900 AD
The first documented written record of the buildings on the site.

1412 AD
The surviving records of the price of the house where was listed market price of this strategically important real estate on the left side of the river Vltava as 30 groschen.

1579 AD
A written description of the mysterious phenomena in the surrounding of the house which was stinking fire goats-drawn carriage.

1591 AD
A written record of sales miraculous medicinal ointments and potions in this house.

1689 AD
Damage of a house by fire so called French, which burned the whole Prague's Jewish ghetto. During the repairs were made signiﬁcant changes to the building by baroque style rebuilding.

1702 AD
A written description of the extent of repairs and new state of building by the Royal taxing.

1729 AD
In the plans of builder Mr. Vesely it has been described as a four-wing building with an inner courtyard (persisted until the present).

1769 AD
In Hubert’s Panorama (draft), the house number 795 has a four-axis façade with the middle passage and a pair of hipped roofs.

1790 AD
They are drawn plans of this building by builder Mr. Hubera.

1812 AD
There is an estimated price of the property as 12,000 gold coins.

1829 AD
There has been made plans how to remove the harmful parts of the building construction by builder Mr. Heger.

1831 AD
There was completed removal of the harmful parts of the building construction. Langweil model of Prague from 1826-1827 which was gradually completed up to the year 1831 already shows the building after the reconstruction.

1896 AD
House was included to the demolition plan of the Prague Jewish ghetto.

1900 AD
The house was because of unknow reasons omitted from demolition of the Jewish town. Demolition ended left from the house (elevated street) and continued on right from the house (elevated street).
House of Rabbi Löwe
The idea of turning back the clock, to resurrect the magic atmosphere of old Prague and to show the roots of spiritual, scientific and cultural advancement of the Czech nation, which reach deep into the past, resulted from the fact that about our history has the most of the foreign visitors only minimal knowledge, which usually do not interfere farther than to the totalitarian era. House in Haštalská Street No. 1 has a unique atmosphere, because it is one of the few houses in this area which kept the original architecture after demolition of the Jewish town. It is therefore an appropriate place where we want to use interesting way how to introduce to visitors of Prague history, culture and traditions of the Czech nation, which is based on ancient myths and legends, and try to raise their awareness of the history of our country.
The first mention in the chronicle of the building house number 595 / 1 dates back to the year 900. The whole corner, always called Goat ground is associated with many legends. One of the most famous legend tells about a fire goats-drawn carriage, which sometimes appeared and then disappeared into the ground before this house. The legend that has come down from generation to generation, describes the phenomena accompanying the alchemical workshop, the smell and the occasional burst of fire in a failed attempt, when the flames reach the surface through the slots of the secret passage which led from the house under Goat ground towards Old Town Square. Immediately after the explosion subsided back to the observer flames mysteriously disappeared underground.

Alchemical laboratory was equipped with several types of furnaces. Auxiliary vessels of glass and stone were placed in the sand on top of the furnace. It was a different types of retort and flask. If necessary, they were assembled.
Ground floor space to the left of the entrance was used to sell products from the Alchemist and glass production. At the back is flat and a study of alchemist. The library in his office hides the entrance to the underground. After running a sophisticated mechanism the secret entrance opens to the catacombs of Prague. Alchemy workshop from 16 centuries with unique magical atmosphere, hidden from unwanted eyes of passers-by, visitors learn about the activities of medieval alchemists, on which are based many current scientific fields.
It is historically documented that for unknown reasons ended demolition exactly on the border of the house, although it was included in the demolition of the Jewish town. However, in the neighborhood were demolished more architecturally valuable buildings. Why this site was maintained, no one could answer until now. Discovery of Rabbi Löwe’s alchemist workshop in the catacombs of the house explains the mystery. The magic power which Rabbi Löwe put into activating of Golem in this alchemist workshop still works positively and beneficially to the environment and protects the house. Simply visiting place, which has such a strong positive magical energy, has a positive effect on the visitor. In addition, drinks which are prepared according to recipes founded here, for example “the elixir of eternal youth”, have an unusually beneficial effects.
According to the preserved writings worked in this alchemist workshop many famous men, including Tadeáš Hájek z Hájku, Edward Kelley, John Dee, Michal Sendivoj, Bavor Rodovský z Hustitran and other.
Alchemist tools

c - pelikán
j,k - alembik
m - retorta
y - matrass