**To the history of the city:**

The first written mention of Česká Kamenice dates back to 1352, but most publications state that the town was founded already before 1283. Owners of the town included e.g. [**Jan of Michalovic**](https://cs.wikipedia.org/wiki/Jan_z_Michalovic)**e** or [**Hynek Berka of Dubé**](https://cs.wikipedia.org/wiki/Hynek_Berka_z_Dubé) and the **Kinsky family**. Česká Kamenice witnessed both the [Hussite troops](https://cs.wikipedia.org/wiki/Husitská_vojska) and the horrors of the [Thirty Years' War](https://cs.wikipedia.org/wiki/Třicetileté_války), yet the city began to flourish and its growth in the [19th century](https://cs.wikipedia.org/wiki/19._století) resulted mainly from the development of the textile industry.

After World War II, most of the [local people](https://cs.wikipedia.org/wiki/Sudetští_Němci) were [displaced](https://cs.wikipedia.org/wiki/Vysídlení_Němců_z_Československa) and the city's glory started to decline. In 2005, Česká Kamenice won the Historical City of the Year Award, thanks to the unspoiled historical heart of the city.

**Famous natives and personalities**

Česká Kamenice is the birth place of **Johann Klein** (1681-1762), Czech mathematician and creator of the astronomical clock as well as the director of the Department of Mathematics at Prague's Klementinum; **Johann Baptist Pohl** (1782-1834), a medical doctor and university professor of botany in Prague.

Famous people born in the city also include the painters **Emanuel** and **Josef Hegenbarth**. Česká Kamenice was the birth place of an important scholar and pastor **Jakub Frint** (1766-1834), who became the bishop of St.Pölten in 1827, or the poet, writer and legends collector **Raimund Klaus** (1812-1838).

The textile industrialist and the patron **Franz Preidl** (1810-1889), who was promoted to the noble state as "**Edler von Hassenbrunn**" in 1882, had a significant influence on the development of the city, too. The city's surroundings were captured in the paintings of the academic painter and illustrator **Karel Liebscher** (1851-1906).

The future rector of the General Seminar in Prague, the director of the Theological Faculty in Vienna and the court council **Augustin Zippe** (1747-1816) earned considerable merit in the care for the poor in Česká Kamenice.

Two music composers also spent a part of their youth in Česká Kamenice. In 1720-1728, a significant German early classical composer and reformer, **Christoph Willibald Gluck** (1714-1787), lived in the town. His father Alexandr worked as a forester on the local estate. One of our most important composers, **Antonín Dvořák** (1841-1904), visited the local bourgeois school from autumn 1856 to the summer of 1857, in order to improve in German. He stayed with Josef Ohm in the no longer existing Upper Mill in Horní Kamenice, and he received lessons from the director of the church choir and an organ player, František Hantschke, to perfect his musical theory skills and organ play.

**To the history of the cinema:**

The cinema in Česká Kamenice was built in 1912 by Berta and Josef Seiche in just four months. The Seiches did not consider film performances to be merely a [cultural](https://d.vvbox.cz/vv_show_url.php?idk=93120&idc=6375965&ids=5820&idp=90131&url=http%3A%2F%2Fwww.pamatkyziji.cz) affair, but also a means of increasing tourism in the city. Berta Seiche was a prominent figure, after having graduated from a film-screening school, she started to work in that profession. However, her activity was opposed by local authorities, that pointed out that she occupies a job reserved for men.

The Seiches couple had also other problems. In the winter of 1912/1913, a nomadic theater company settled in Česká Kamenice, with its three to four performances a week, creating a great competition for the cinema. The cinema gradually began to decline and the Seiches had to sell it less than a year after its opening.

However, the cinema continued to operate, the last significant intervention came at the turn of the 1980s and 1990s. The city's management decided to rebuild the old cinema according to new trends, increasing the gradient of the auditorium. The intervention began at the end of November 1987 and lasted until December 1992. During the reconstruction, people used a temporary cinema - to the restaurant Na Zastávce in Horní Kamenice. The construction works included, inter alia, the removal of the balcony and thus the boxes. This intervention also changed the cinema foyer, removing a beautiful box office and a representative staircase to the former balcony. At present, there are rather steep inconvenient stairs leading to the cinema hall.

The new design of the cinema was received by the public, but after a few years, voices began to echo about it being reckless, and people started to recall the beauty of the cinema in its historical design. The 1990s brought video-recorders and the traditional cinema was no longer an attraction for the public. As a result of that, the cinema operation became loss making and the city decided to close it in 2006. And it has remained that way.

Despite the long period of being closed, the cinema´s interior is surprisingly in good condition and the locals appreciate its retro appearance, the surprisingly comfortable seats and the quality acoustics.

The building is located in an urban monument zone, declared by the Ministry of Culture of the Czech Republic in 1992. In 2005, Česká Kamenice also became the Historic City of the Year.

Currently, the cinema is owned by the city, but it is entrusted to the local school. After reconstruction, it should serve both the school (kindergarten, elementary school and art school) and the public (for example, amateur theater).

The school presumes that there will be a full-day program: in the morning (before classes) it will serve the pupils and students. In the course of the day, it will be a rehearsal hall. At the same time, the school will be able to use the space for its meetings and parties (the school does not have its own assembly hall). In the evening, it will serve for theater performances, cinema screening or concerts. There will be organized performances of the Art School students, etc.

**The City of Three Protected Landscape Areas:**

It is interesting that the town is the only one in the Czech Republic located on the border of three protected landscape areas (PLA), namely Labské pískovce, České středohoří and Lužické hory. The landscape around the city thus has three distinct characters in different directions. The municipality is also one of the gateways to the youngest Czech National Park, České Švýcarsko.

**Construction program:**

**The cinema building**

Entrance foyer with a café. In this section, the inviting party (in the tender) assumes the possibility of borrowing a book and connecting to the Internet. Students can spend time here after the classes.

There will be exhibitions.

Inside the entrance foyer there will be space for the cloakroom.

A multi-functional hall, capacity of up to 350 seats, including an optional balcony.

Space for the film screening operator – director of theater performances. It does not have to be a separate room, just a defined space in the auditorium or on the balcony (if it is designed in the project).

The auditorium may maintain the present gradient, or it may be reduced even to a flat-floor hall. Given that there is a second flat-floor cultural hall in the city, the inviting party expects rather a solution with a sloped auditorium. This would maintain the possibility of choosing halls for different types of events in the city.

In the hall, we assume the possibility of screening (digital projection from a projector hanging on the ceiling – without a screening cabin). Another possible use is for theater performances (it is necessary to add service space for the actors and staff – cloakrooms, toilets in the background, possible access with equipment for the stage setting), and for concerts.

There are apartments in the building. 3 apartments on the 1st floor and 1 in the attic. The apartments will be maintained, changes of layout and reconstruction can be proposed. The apartment in the attic can either be preserved as it is or extended into the attic space or a new apartment can be built in this space. The entrance leading to the apartments must remain separate.

Toilets corresponding to the number of seats in the auditorium are a must.

Technical facilities will be in the basement (boiler room, warehouse).

In the case of a suitable interconnection of the basement and ground floor, toilets can be placed here, with the exception of barrier-free (accessible) toilets.

**Garden –** it should be more closely related to the operation of the building. It is assumed that the garden may be used as an access route for supplying the hall in the future. There is a garage on plot no. 683, in the direction of the neighbor (plot number 310/9). The inviting party expects the removal of the garage – thus creating a possible supply route along the eastern edge of the plot.

There should be a sitting area in the garden, a scattering area next to the hall. For example, a gazebo can be placed here (possibility of sitting even in unfavorable weather).

In general, the inviting party assumes greater interconnection of the hall and the garden.

The surrounding of the building in the wider area – the whole wider area should include indications of possible places to park, modifications to the roads, interconnection of the building with the surroundings.

Palackého street in the solved territory - greenery, calmer traffic, parking. In front of the building entrance, the road should be modified to allow a safe crossing. The inviting party assumes that most of the required parking spaces will be located just outside the solved territory, at the intersection of Palackého street and Lipová street, the plot number 223 - owned by the city, the cadastral territory of Česká Kamenice.

Plot 290/3, which is partly in the wider solved territory, is administered by the school. A Linden tree was planted on this plot last year to commemorate the anniversary of the founding of the state. The tree is marked on the situational maps and it will be maintained.

The remaining part of the plot and other land adjacent to the school serve as a space reserve, for the time being. In the future, the school assumes for example the construction of a gym that they do not have at present.