

Contents

Introduction

1. The Start of Settlement and Construction /Zdeněk Dragoun /8

2. The History of the Old Town Hall and Prague's Municipal Government from Medieval Times to the Present

/Václav Ledvinka /14

The Start of Municipal Government /14

Founding and Building a Town Hall /15

A Czech Municipality, The Town Hall Burns /20

The Town Hall under the Hussites /21

A Golden Age for Municipal Government /22

The Era of Monarchical and State Absolutism /25

The Site of Modern City Government /29

Capitol of a New Republic /34

3. Burgomasters, Mayors and Lord Mayors of The City

/Václav Ledvinka /37

The 'Primases' of the Old Town of Prague who made their imprint in history before Prague's four towns were joined /38

Burgomasters (after the 1880s mayors) of the Royal City of Prague (unified Prague) in the period 1784–1918 /39

Lord Mayors of the City of Prague (Greater Prague) in the period 1918–2018 /49

4. The Architectural Development of the Old Town Hall in Medieval Times /Klára Benešová /57

No. 1/I /57

No. 2/I /67

5. The Gothic Statues in the Council Hall /Jan Chlábec /71

6. The Old Town Hall from the 16th to the 18th Centuries

/Pavel Vlček, Jiří Roháček /74

7. The Old Town Hall in the 19th Century /Petr Urlich /82

8. The Old Town Hall in the 20th Century /Petr Urlich /87

9. The Old Town Hall in 1945 in Josef Sudek's Photographs

/Katarína Mašterová /98

10. Art Collections and Furnishings /Josef Hájek /111

Furnishings in the Office Spaces and Historic Halls (Group 1) /113

Artistic and Decorative Items, Acquired Collections (Group 2) /118

Other Heritage Items That Form Part of the Building (Group 3) /125

The Fire in 1945 /126

11. The Prague Astronomical Clock /Petr Skála /128

12. Current knowledge of the Building – the Restoration Project, Digital Measurements, Restoration Investigations, Realisation of Heritage, Restoration 2017–2018

/Petr Malinský /137

The Tower /139

The Chapel /144

The Astronomical Clock /149

13. Report on the Restoration of Stone Elements of the Old Town Hall /René Tikal /152

The Sculpted and Carved Decoration of the Astronomical Clock after Restoration /Jiří Podrazil /158

Appendix: The Burial Ground of Czech Architecture – History of the Competition for the Enlargement of the Old Town Hall and Selection of the Most Interesting Designs

/Vladimír Šlapeta /164

Selected Sources and Bibliography /190

Register of Names /194