

Fleischmann's House

History...

For centuries, this property was a residence and workshop for a number of different craftsmen. Furriers, locksmiths, glaziers, coopers, book-binders, and shoemakers lived here and made their living in the town, some better, some worse.

Towards the end of the 19th century, shoemaker Alois Fleischman opened a shoe shop to remain able to compete with cheaper, mass-produced shoes. Shoes made by hand and to order were now an exception. Most of the time, he had to content himself with repairing shoes.

The house was renovated in 1998.



Shop and workshop of the shoemaker Alois Fleischmann and his wife Magdalena (in the window) in Wieneringerstrasse, around 1900

... and a story

In his spare time, the master shoemaker was a passionate singer and in 1879 was a co-founder of the "Dachau Choral Society", the oldest mixed choir in Dachau.

His only child, Aloys Georg (1880–1964), seemed to have inherited his musical talent. Supported by the Ziegler family of brewers and innkeepers and the town's parish church, he was able to study music at the Munich Music Academy. At the age of only 22, Aloys Georg Fleischmann became the choirmaster at the local parish church. He founded a music school, where Dachau residents could learn all types of orchestral instruments and sing in various choirs.

Together with the artist Hermann Stockmann (1867–1938), he created the much acclaimed "Dachau Christmas Plays" and, beyond his home town of Dachau, became known as the composer of the musical nativity play "The Night of Miracles". Following his marriage to pianist Tilly Swertz, of German extraction, in 1905 he became cathedral choirmaster in Cork on the south coast of Ireland. As a composer and music teacher, Aloys Georg Fleischmann had great influence on sacred and secular choral music in Ireland during the first half of the 20th century.

His son Aloys "Og" Fleischmann (1910–1992) also studied music in Munich. He worked as professor of music at Cork University College, as conductor of the Cork Symphony Orchestra founded by him in 1934, and as co-founder and long-standing director of the Cork International Choral Festival founded in 1954. He is regarded as one of the most prolific Irish composers of the 20th century.

The picturesque old town of Dachau with its 1200-year history features many sites of historical interest. Special buildings of prominence in the townscape are marked by these historical plaques.

Dachau historical plaques are a joint project by the town of Dachau and the Dachau District Museum.

