

FRIED Palace

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The picture “Fried Palace” depicts my parents and my aunt property located in Uzhgorod, Zakarpatska Oblast, Ukraine. Present address is 10 Petöfi Square. During the war it was in the Hungarian town Ungvár and address of Koshuth Ter 10.

My grandfather Ignác FRIED built the house after the turn of the 19th century and even today it is known as the FRIED Palace. Until World War II it was the largest private building in town. I lived with my parents in the house until the German occupation of Hungary in March 1944. My aunt was in a sanitarium and my father was appointed her guardian.

The House had 24 apartments and 18 stores. Except for two of the occupants, all were Jewish. The Germans needed a regional Headquarter for the Gestapo and they selected our house. So two weeks after the Germans entered Hungary and two weeks before the Jews were taken to the Ghetto, together with all other Jewish occupants, we were evicted and my family had to relocate overnight to my uncle who lived in another part of the town.

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After the war I came back as the sole survivor of my family. My aunt Irén FRIED, apparently died during the war. She was a divorcee and had no children. I found our house occupied by the Russian secret police. I did not enter the building and shortly after that I left with my uncle Bertalan (Berti) GOTTESMAN for Hungary.

At present the house is again an apartment building.

Paul Gottesman