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**Koupališť? Zábrdovice [Swimming Pool
Zábrdovice]**

Czech Republic

Zábrdovická 158/13
Brno-město (District), Jihomoravský (Region) 615
00 Brno

Commission

1929

Completion

1931

Original name

Městské lázně Zábřovice [City baths at Zábřovice]

Original use

Culture/leisure/tourism/balnearies, spa

Current use

Culture/leisure/tourism/balnearies, spa

Architects

Bohuslav Fuchs

Concrete by reinforcement

Reinforced concrete

Construction method

Cast-in-place concrete, in-situ concrete

Architectural concrete

Architectural concrete

Structural types

One-dimensional/concrete frame

Description

In the early 20th century, only one-third of the houses in the city of Brno had their own bathrooms. As the hygiene standards among the population increased, the municipal government created a network of public bath houses.

In 1929, the architect Bohuslav Fuchs was entrusted to design a large-scale bath house with an innovative program: in addition to fulfilling the function of hygiene, it would also provide recreational and sporting uses for residents to enjoy. The complex, located in an enclave with access to a natural hot springs, is divided into a summer area and a winter area, which form an architectural whole.

The winter building was designed with a clearly industrial aesthetic: its structure of reinforced concrete beams and girders is revealed on the façade, framing exposed brick panels, an innovative solution for the time. The program is characteristic of a spa and bath house: showers, saunas, Turkish baths, heated swimming pools, along with beauty parlors, barbershops and massage parlors, etc. Its immense scale – the complex covers 23,000 m² – makes it a huge thermal apparatus, whose complex building systems are successfully integrated into the design. The summer area, with leisure zones and outdoor swimming pools, is characterized by a large two-story building that holds more than 5,000 private booths and lockers, which are accessed through

hallways and exterior paths. The roofs of the building, paved with wood, were once used as terraces for sunbathing.

The winter section of the complex has been abandoned since the 1980s, but the summer area remains fully operational following a renovation at the end of the last century.

Links

[BAM Brno Architecture Manual](#)

[Archiweb](#)