

Birgmann's Barn Rauffer's House

History...

Master tailor Max Rauffer recognised the signs of the times and no longer trusted in his craftsman's skills alone: in 1888, he opened a specialist shop in the town for men's and boys' ready-made garments, which was a success.

In 1891, Max and Karolina Rauffer purchased brewer-innkeeper Ferdinand Birgmann's brewery barn and had a stately residential and shop building constructed, according to plans by the Munich architect Jakob Heilmann (1846–1927). A statue of the Virgin Mary, which had already adorned Birgmann's barn, was re-erected in a recess above the entrance to the shop. Modifications were made to the building in 1978 and 1988. In 1986, "Rauffer's House" was listed.

In 1998, the courtyard was redesigned with sculptures by Ignaz Taschner (1871–1913), Christine Stadler (1922–2001) and Hans Wimmer (1907–1992), among others.



Clothes make the man: Tailor Max Rauffer Sr in the role of the "Spendthrift" in the eponymous play by Ferdinand Raimund. The play was performed by the Catholic Journeymen's Union in "Birgmann's Hall" in 1906.

... and a story

From October 1894 to April 1897, Bavarian writer Ludwig Thoma (1867–1921) was one of the first tenants of the new building. The young lawyer opened his first solicitor's office here. His work left him enough time for studying the social life of the peasant population. The resulting short stories were published in 1897 under the title *Agricola*, the author's first work.

As the last direct descendant of the Dachau family of tailors, Heinrich Rauffer ran the clothes shop and was a Dachau town councillor for 30 years. As rapporteur for the arts, he conceived and established the Master Concerts at Dachau Palace.



Developed from a *peculiarly large barn*: "Rauffer's House", built in 1892, photographed around 1900

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.