

## Abstract

Thinking of the villa quarters of Budapest, Andrásy Road, Svábhegy or the Rózsadomd are the ones that first come to mind of many. These are the most well-known rows of villas of the capital, but in the green zone of the 16<sup>th</sup> district there is a less well-known but yet even more remarkable villa quarter: Mátyásföld.

Mátyásföld was founded in 1887 in the outskirts of Cinkota, part of the eastern agglomeration of Budapest at the time. Every source has recorded the circumstances of its establishment as legendary. However, its founder was a good businessman rather than a character from a fairy tale. He recognised the change of lifestyles typical of the era, and sought business opportunities. It became fashionable at the time that anyone who could afford to do so, created a second, representative home in the green area outside the city, but still within the reach of the centre. In the outskirts of the city, more and more holiday homes and villa quarters were established, and Mátyásföld was created also for this purpose.

The central issue of this dissertation is how Mátyásföld, founded in the agglomeration of the capital, was built and how it managed to fit into the urban development of Budapest, as well as the life of its inhabitants. Beyond its unique geographic and administrative situation, the role in the development of the villa quarter, and the regulatory system of the Villa Owners' Association of Mátyásföld, which controlled the villa quarters, is also represented. Furthermore, how the residents wished to represent themselves and the villa quarter.

Until now, there has not been a thorough urban and social history analysis of Mátyásföld. The aim of my dissertation is to fill this gap, to find answers to the questions it poses, and to serve as a basis for research into other villa quarters. My goal is to make Mátyásföld a memorable part of the city, to make it worth mentioning, just as the other villa quarters of Budapest.