

The diploma thesis, which is based on terrain oral-historical research, presents the phenomenon of chateau owners who bought the property from a town government or restituters after 1989 and therefore became the new lords. The issue presented in the title of the thesis is interpreted from eleven stories of selected owners - specifically what motivation the owners had to buy the property, whether it was their dream or a business plan, or whether they wanted to make altruistic deeds. Not only is this study focused on the motivation of the owners to buy a chateau, but the attention is drawn as well to financial issues, state recognizing the property as cultural inheritance, the meaning and future of the castle in the twenty-first century, the matter of the next generations inheriting the property, or pondering about a likely establishment of a new Czech noble class. The result of this work is a complex summary presenting what it takes to own a chateau in the twenty-first century.