

At the Cooper's

History...

The Thirty Years' War left its mark on the town of Dachau as it did in many other places. From 1632, in particular, the townsfolk kept suffering Swedish soldiers repeatedly passing through the town, pillaging and plundering. The butcher Michael Schweizer faced such hardship that he was no longer able to raise his daughter's dowry of 50 guilders. He complained that the enemy... had taken all of his meat and money. After the war, the property was acquired by the saddler Georg Steigerle.

Finally, in 1711, the cooper Johann Schädli purchased the property, which then acquired the house name "at the Cooper's". The cooper's craft was practised here for over 230 years. In 1919, the first floor contained the offices of the Dachau and District Trade and Agricultural Bank, founded by local craftsmen (*now Volksbank-Raiffeisenbank Dachau eG*). The monthly rent was 40 marks, and the offices even had their own telephone.

On the ground floor, alongside the cooperage, the owners operated a vinegar and spirit shop. After the Second World War, the Liepold family discontinued the cooperage and shop. The present-day residential and office building was built in 1986.

... and a story

In 1886, the property along with the workshop was purchased by the cooper's couple Matthäus und Kreszentia Liepold. The couple had met in the nearby *Unterbräu* brewhouse: while Matthäus Liepold, then a journeyman, was lodging there, Kreszentia Kugler, a farmer's daughter from Günding, was apprenticed as a cook in the inn's kitchen.

As a wife, she continued to attend morning mass at the nearby St James's parish church every day. To this day, one of the pews features the Liepolds' name plate.

The master cooper was also in charge of the key for the fire station opposite. If he was not at home, the firefighters knew where the key was hidden behind the window curtain.



The manager and staff in front of "Matthäus Liepold's cooperage and vinegar shop", around 1920

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.