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Abstract	One of the largest Baroque palaces in Hungary, the Godollő Royal Palace represents an outstanding national treasure from both historical and architectural perspectives. In the time of the Austro-Hungarian monarchy, the palace was one of the favorite retreats of Queen Elisabeth (Sissi). The palace has fantastic rooms from both barok Grassalkovich era and nineteenth century when it was used as royal summer residence for king and queen. It is one of the most inviting and exciting institutions and tourist destinations in Hungary today.	
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Godolo Royal Palace Moe Moe Oo *

Abstract

One of the largest Baroque palaces in Hungary, the Gödöll Royal Palace represents an outstanding national treasure from both historical and architectural perspectives. In the time of the Austro-Hungarian monarchy, the palace was one of the favorite retreats of Queen Elisabeth (Sissi). The palace has fantastic rooms from both barok Grassalkovich era and nineteenth century when it was used as royal summer residence for king and queen. It is one of the most inviting and exciting institutions and tourist destinations in Hungary today.

Key Words: Dual Monarchy, Historical Perspectives, Architectural Aspect

Introduction

A beautiful palace to visit that is loaded with history. They encamped around the Royal Palace in the Royal Forest of Gödöll, about 11 miles from the capital of Budapest. The Royal Palace of Gödöll is an imperial and royal Hungarian palace located in the municipality of Gödöll in Pest side, Central Hungary. It is famous for being a favorite place of Queen Elisabeth of Hungary. Over 2000 nights were spent here by Queen Sissi and there is a reason she spent almost 7 years there versus in Vienna during the Hapsburg reign. The Castle setting is divine and manageable. This was historic complex embracing an intimate inner court housed aristocratic, later royal and Governor's suits. The unique architecture of the Palace served as an exemplary model for other Hungarian palaces of the Baroque period. Our tour guide was

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https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/4th_World_Scout_Jamboree

² Boston, 2014, 26

³ See Map-I

⁴ Boston, 2014, 1

⁵ http://www. bu.edu/bhr/ tag/ touring

fantastic and gave a very interesting, informative and even humorous history lesson.

The Data and Methods Used

We visited the Royal Palace of Gödöllö in mid October while staying three months in Budapest. (Visiting Research Fellowship, History Department, Central European University, Budapest, Hungary, 12 September 2015 - 9 December 2015). Primary Data is field survey for observation and interview with tour guide. Based on the field trip sources and Internet Web sites are presented. The descriptive interference method and exploratory method are used in this research paper.

Findings

Sit back and relax on this leisurely 4-hour half-day trip to the stately mansion of Godollo Castle, the world's second largest Baroque castle and the former summer residence of Empress Elisabeth of Austria and Queen of Hungary. Dual monarchy occurs when two separate kingdoms are ruled by the same monarch, follow the same foreign policy, exist in a customs union with each other and have a combined military but are otherwise self-governing. The term is typically used to refer to Austria–Hungary, a dual monarchy that existed from 1867 to 1918.

Discussion

Historical traditions, a variety of cultural events and its wonderfully restored, uniquely impressive complex and surroundings make the Palace one of the most attractive and exciting buildings and institutions in Hungary.

Background History of the Palace

The history of the palace and the people who lived there is very interesting. Step back in time to the height of the AustroHungarian Dual Monarchy.⁶ The building even coined an architectural name: Gödöllö Baroque. The palace was originally built by a leading member of the Austro-Hungarian nobility, Count Grassalkovich I (1694–1771), one of the most notable aristocrats of the 18th century, began construction of the largest Baroque palace in Hungary in around 1735.⁷ After his family died out it had several owners before being bought by the Hungarian government in 1867. Following a quick reconstruction the Palace and the park were placed at the disposal of Francis Joseph and Elisabeth as a coronation gift. Elisabeth first came to Gödöll in 1866, at that time for reasons of protocol. She visited the military hospital in the riding hall of the Palace, 8 where soldiers wounded in the Battle of Königgraz were being cared for. ⁹ (Her decision to find refuge in Hungary with her children, Rudolph and Gisela, during the Austro-Prussian war drew much attention.) She found the villa rented for her in Buda to be too small, while Buda Castle 10 was too hot in the summer. She longed for a Palace in the countryside and her choice fell on Gödöll . 11 The Emperor did not wish to buy a Palace, however, appealing to the difficult financial situation because of the war.

'You can visit the wounded soldiers in Gödöll if you wish, but do not look at it as if we wanted to buy it, because I do not have any money now. In these hard times we must economies. The Prussians have caused terrible damage to our family estates, too. It will take years to recover. (...) Almost half of the horses must be sold and we will be forced to live very modestly.'

He wrote to his wife in the August of 1866. Elisabeth wishes, however, were in line with the intentions of the new Hungarian government. Francis Joseph I was obliged by his coronation oath, taken in 1867, to spend regular periods of time in Hungary. To this end, the Hungarian government wished to please the royal couple

⁶ See Appendix (A), Gulyas, *Hungary History*, 2004, 1; See Map-II

⁷ Fig.1, https://de.wikipedia.org/wiki/ Antal_Grassalkovich_I

⁸ Fig.2, Room-12, See Map-III

⁹ Fig.3, http://www.hultonarchive.nl/detail/foto/hungary-19th-century-elisabeth-of-bavaria-empress-of-tockfotos/84518127

Fig.4, https://www.google.com.mm/search?q=Buda+ castel + photos 1470524

¹¹ Fig.5, https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Gödöll

by placing at their disposal not only the Castle in Buda as political headquarters, but also residences in the countryside suitable for relaxation. Of these, however, only the plan for Gödöll came to fruition.

The second golden age of the building began in 1867. Bought and reconstructed by the Hungarian state, the Palace was presented as a coronation¹² gift to Emperor Francis Joseph I (1830–1916),¹³ and Queen Elizabeth (1837–1898) for use as a residence.¹⁴ The royal family¹⁵ would spend the spring and autumn hunting¹⁶ seasons here. The Palace standing in the middle of the huge park and hunting area met all criteria of the pageantry focused Baroque aristocratic life, and later that of the Royal Court. From then on the era of a teeming court life began: besides the family celebrations great events, hunts and horse-riding contests took place here. The Hungarian equestrian elite,¹⁷ the King did not spend much time on fun or relaxation. Queen Elisabeth often spent weeks and months in Godollo.¹⁸

The Queen spent a total of 2663 days (7.3 years!) in Hungary, of which 2000 were spent in Buda and Gödöll . Her last visit was from the 2nd till the 24th of October 1897. Following her death in 1898, the king visited Gödöll much less frequently. To commemorate their beloved Queen, Hungarians have erected more than 40 monuments and established 100 memorial gardens and groves in the country. The first of these parks was the one in Gödöll , dedicated in 1901 with a full-length statue of the queen. The town is still the number one centre of the cult of Queen Elisabeth.

¹² Fig.6, Coronation Ceremony, http:// www.kiralyikastely.Hu exhibitions/

¹³ Fig.7, https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Franz_Joseph_I of_Austria #/media/File:Franz_Joseph 1865.jpg

¹⁴ See Map-II, https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Godolo Palace

¹⁵ Fig.9, https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Godolo_Palace

¹⁶ Fig.10, www.combermere-restoration.com

¹⁷ Fig.11, http://www.kiralyikastely.hu/ content.116.equestrian culture

https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Gödöll Palace

¹⁹ Fig.12, http://www.kiralyikastely.huexhibitions/

²⁰ http://www. kiralyikastely. hu/page.58. elisabeth_and_godollo

This state lasted until 1918, thus Francis Joseph (1867–1916) and later Charles IV and the royal family spent several months in Gödöll every year. Throughout these decades the cream of the Hungarian and European aristocracy had appeared in the Palace.

From 1920 onwards the Palace served as a summer retreat for Governor Miklós Horthy. ²¹This period ended with the outbreak of World War II. Although the building itself was left undamaged, most of the furnishings were carried away or destroyed by the German and Russian troops invading in 1944.

From 1945 onwards Soviet troops were stationed in the outbuildings, while the main building, classified as a historic monument, became a home for the elderly. These abuses led to a gradual decay of the Palace over the following decades.

Palace Structure

The double U-shaped,²² 8-winged building²³ was flanked by a church,²⁴ orangery and bath house to the north,²⁵ and stables²⁶ and a riding hall to the south.²⁷

The Palace had 136 rooms altogether, of which 103 were living rooms, 67 of these being for the staff. Royal suites were established in the main building, 28 to the north and south of the ceremonial hall. Comfort rather than grandeur was the main aim.

This Palace looks amazing has lovely grounds but the interior and rooms inside the Palace are wonderful. Visitors can admire the typical royal room and furniture styles²⁹ from the Austro-Hungarian Monarchy, Joseph Ferdinand's sleeping room; work room and many more. The walls of the king's apartment

²⁶ Room-13,14, See Map-III

²¹ http://www.kiralyikastely.Hu exhibitions/ Horthy% 20Banker/

²² Map-III, <u>https://en. wikipedia.org/ wiki/ Godolo_Palace</u>

²³ Map-IV, https://en. wikipedia.org/wiki/Godolo Palace

²⁴ https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Gödöll

²⁵ Room-9,Map-III

²⁷ Room-12, See Map-III

²⁸ (a) Fig.13, Author Collection

⁽b) Fig.14, Author Collection

²⁹ https://en. wikipedia.org/wiki/Godolo

were covered with yellow paneling and grey silk wallpaper. The queen's suite was characterized by her favorite color, violet. Both were later changed to white, red and gold. Elisabeth's suite consisted of a salon and writing, bed, dressing, and reading rooms. A spiral stair case led from the upper floor to the three-room suite on the ground floor. Next to Elisabeth's rooms was the suite of her reader Ida Ferenczy, followed by the rooms of the royal children. The suite of the royal children.

In the writing room we can get to know Elisabeth's Hungarian language and history teachers, while the dressing room gives us a picture of her favourite pastimes: travelling and horse riding. In the bedroom hangs a full-length painting of Maria Theresa, just as it was in the time of Antal Grassalkovich I, who had the Palace built.

The next rooms in the suite, the reading room and the quarters of Ida Ferenczy, the Queen's Hungarian reader, house the Queen Elisabeth Memorial Exhibition with relics connected to the cult surrounding her person. The secret spiral staircase between the bedroom and the reading room led to the three-room suite on the ground floor, decorated with stucco.

The Baroque theatre fells victim to alterations made in the royal period.³² It was replaced by 15 rooms. A building for the major-domo was erected in the south section and the coach-house was extended by further stables. The front garden is accessible through the wooden veranda.

This castle has a long history and said past couple of decades when it was only being an attraction without any renovation after the war. Today most parts of are completely renewed and looks as good as you would expect.

Renovation Work

The protection of the palace as a historical monument started in 1981, when the National Board for Monuments launched

³⁰ Rooms- 4, See Map-III

Rooms-7, 8, See Map-III

³² Fig.15, http://www.kiralyikastely.hu/content.104. more _things_to_see__

its palace project.³³ According to the record showed that the renovation works are as follows:

Table- I Renovation Works

Renovation	Completed Date	Remark
Elisabeth's Room	1996	
Baroque Theater	2003	
Pavilion	2004	
Gisela Wings	2010	EU Support
Rudolph Wings	2010	EU Support
Park	2010	
Riding Hall	2010	
Baroque Stable	2010	
Elisabeth's Porch	2010	
Church		Restore

Source: http://www.kiralyikastely.hu/page.36.the history_of_the_ palace

The room of the violet suite were reconstructed in 1996 based on authentic sources. Beautiful portraits of the Queen can be seen on the walls, together with portraits of the most outstanding politicians of the age who Elisabeth had been in contact with in preparation for the Compromise of 1867.

In the recent past, the Royal Palace has been enhanced by the addition of a host of new attractions (the palace gardens have been renewed, the Elisabeth Veranda)³⁴ has been rebuilt, the Horthy Bunker³⁵ can be visited, construction of the riding hall and stables has been completed, 3D projections can be enjoyed and there is also a new permanent exhibition: Budapest–Central Danube Region 22 up the suites of the royal couple have been faithfully reconstructed, and there is a Queen Elizabeth exhibition and another presenting the history of the Grassalkovich family that commissioned the palace's construction. A performance in the perfectly renovated Baroque theatre offers a unique experience.

³³ https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Godolo Palace

³⁴ Fig.16, http://www.Kiralyikastely.hu/page.57.queen_elisabeth8217s_roomsgarden and veranda

Fig.17, https://www.google.com.mm/search?q=horthy+bunker

Elisabeth's porch was rebuilt in 2010 in accordance with the original designs.³⁶

Renewal for the building commenced at the beginning of the 1990s and since 1996 the palace has been opened to receive visitors from all around the world. The various periods of the palace's history are presented by a permanent exhibition³⁷ in the museum. Exhibitions attracting 200-250 thousand visitors annually (our permanent exhibition has been visited by 2.5 million people since 1996)³⁸

As a result of this, the first permanent exhibition was opened 39 in 1996: the ceremonial hall and the royal suites. Several new halls have been added to the exhibition since then. Renovation of the Baroque Theatre was completed in 2003 and the Pavilion in 2004.

2010 saw the Gisela⁴¹ and Rudolph wings⁴² named after the royal children) restored to their former splendor with EU support, a section of the Park was renovated and reconstruction of the riding hall and the Baroque stables was completed. ⁴³

It is known almost all over the world (it is a destination for the Sissi route, the 4th most beautiful thematic route in the world, a member of the Association of European Royal Residences, the main venue for the Hungarian EU presidency), it is struggling with the same problems as most cultural institutions. And this is a lack of resources.⁴⁴

Reconstructed Ouarters

The utilization of the main front wings of the palace was designed as a clear and well-developed architectural project. The

³⁶ http://www.Kiralyikastely.hu/page.57.queen_elisabeth8217s_rooms_garden_and_ver anda

³⁷ Fig.18, http://www.kiralyikastely.hu/page.37.permanent exhibition

³⁸ http://www.Kiralyikastely.hu/content.92. sponsorship

³⁹ See Appendix (B), http://gotohungary.com/more-budapest /-/netaview/41703

⁴⁰ Fig.19, https://en. wikipedia.org/wiki/Gödöll _Palace

⁴¹ Room-7, See Map-III

⁴² Room-8, See Map-III

http://www.kiralyikastely.hu/page. 36. the history of the palace

⁴⁴ Fig.23, http://www.Kiralyikastely.hu/content.92. sponsorship

first floor's 23 rooms (nearly 1000 sq. m.) accommodate the interior exhibition. ⁴⁵ The emphasis was laid on the revival of the atmosphere of the royal period and the introduction of the time of the Grassalkovich family.

Still in the 18th century the complex went through several extensions and reconstruction works, and gained its current shape at the end of the 19th century only. Architectural structures and different structures are as follows:

Table-II Reconstructed Quarters

Place Different Structures

Ground Floor: cloak-room, ticket office, tourist information

centre, toilets (also for the disabled), payphone, programmed organization, gastronomic activity

Northern Side: souvenir centre, photo studio

Southern Side: coffee shop, several function rooms

Northern Main façade (Italian bastion, walking ways),

Front Garden: Garden

First Floor: Elisabeth Exhibition, Grand Hall

Inner Court: Resting Place

The castle is not merely a museum – it is also a venue for elegant receptions, historical fashion shows and other events. Visitors may enjoy the café, 46 visit the souvenir shop 47 and it hosts weddings, gala dinners, company events (more than 3000 events so far). Although the Palace is a prominent attraction in the Central-Hungarian Region, its concerts, events and riding competitions 48

The original furnishings were destroyed or removed from this 18th century palace. If you only interested in beautiful and rich interiors you may be disappointed. It was the grandest when built and we were told the unique architecture served as a model for other Hungarian palaces of the Baroque period.

⁴⁵ Fig.20, https://www.tripadvisor.com/ Attrac-tion_Review-g754049-d1767605

⁴⁶ Fig.21, http://www.kiralyikastely.hu/content. 140. our_offer

⁴⁷ Fig.22, Author Collection

⁴⁸ https://en. wikipedia.org/wiki/Gödöll Palace

Do not expect to find a palace as grand and imposing as the imperial palaces in Austria or France, or filled with spectacular artwork and furniture and interiors as you might find in a large English country house like Chatsworth or Castle Howard. 49

Public Transport

The trip from Budapest to Gödöllö took 45 minutes by train. Take the Red Line Metro to Ors Vezer Ter. Walk under the road and up the other side to the HEV Suburban railway. We will need a ticket which can be bought on board for 370 forint. All EU citizens over 65 years old can travel for free in public traffic, also in trains to Gödöllö. Get out at Godollo Szabadsag Ter. Exit the train to the Right. Go to the crosswalk and cross the road. The Palace is situated very near the station by name Gödöll Szabadság tér. The train from Budapest stops directly across the street from the palace and there are more stores & shopping in the area is a nice half day trip.

Conclusion

Gödöllö is a nice place for people that are at an early stage of castles visits. The interior visit in the beautifully renovated Palace will bring you closer to the times of the Austro-Hungarian Empire and the royal couple's everyday life. This beautiful little palace, small in comparison to the larger grand palaces of Europe is a charming view into the life of a noble Hungarian. The Palace is small. There is not much original stuff, but you can see changes of the Palace across the time. If you are interested in Hungarian and Austrian history you can find there something for you. But this castle brings a fantastic experience of Hungarian history.

⁴⁹ www.jorvik.co.uk

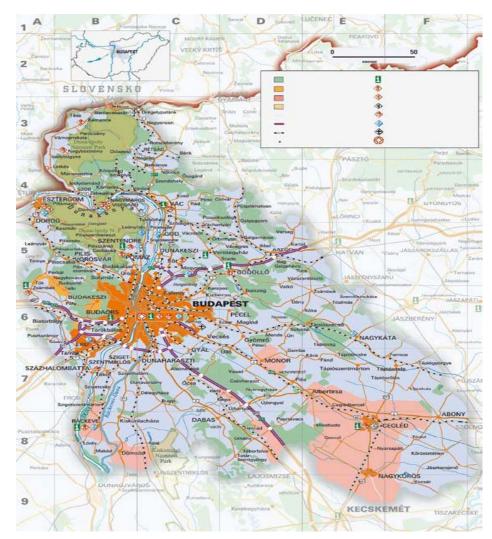
⁵⁰ Fig.24, https://www.google.com.mm/search?q = Train+

Terminal+godolo+Map+photos

Acknowledgement

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Map-I Godolo Map



Tourist Area of the Budapest and Central Danube Region, Talent for Entertaining, Hungary, Published by: Hungarian National Tourist Office – Budapest and surroundings Marketing Division 2006 www.hungarytourism.hu, www.hun

Map-II Austro - Hungarian Empire



This map shows the boundaries and major cities of the Austro-Hungarian Empire at the time it entered the First World War in August 1914.

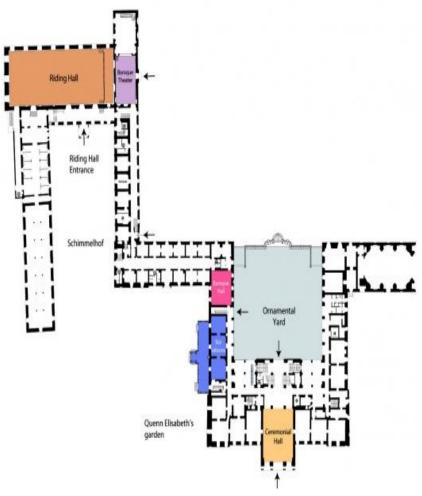
http://www.nzhistory.net.nz/media/photo/map-austro-hungarian-empire-1914

Map-III Double U-Shape



Source: https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Godolo Palace

Map-IV 8-winged Building



Source: https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Godolo_Palace

Appendix (A) The Austro-Hungarian Dual Monarchy

Chronology

- 1867 : Austro-Hungarian Engagement
- 1879 : Alliance of Austria-Hungary and the German Empire
- 1882: Italy joins the alliance
- 1907 : Comes into force the universal suffrage for every man older than 24
- 1907 : First elections in Austria. New engagement between Austria and Hungary
- 1908 : Annexion of Bosnia-Herzegovina
- 1912 : Serbia and Bulgaria make an alliance against the Austro-Hungarian Empire
- 1914: The archduke Franz Ferdinand is murdered in Sarajevo. The war declaration of Austria-Hungary to Serbia causes pile-up war declarations initiating the First World War.
- 1915: The Austro-Hungarian Empire declares to be determined to give in the region of Trieste.The treaty of London is signed, secret in the United Kingdom, France, Russia and Italy. Italy change sides obtaining Trieste as incentive.
- 1916: In the middle of the war the Emperor dies after 69 years of reign.
- 1918 : Charles sends to William II of Germany a telegram announcing the end of the alliance
 - October 28th, the Checoslovaquian Republic is proclaimed.
 - November 1st, Secession of Hungary.
 - November 3rd, Armistice between the Austro-Hungarian empire and his allies.
 - November 16th, the Republic of Hungary is proclaimed.

1919: The Austro-Hungarian Empire gets absolutely dissolved after the signing of Peace Treats in Trianon.

Source: Gulyas, Hungary History, 2004, 1

Appendix (B) Rate Information

Open from: January 01 Open till: December 31

Opening hours: 01/04-26/10: Mon-Sun: 10:00-18:00 27/10-31/12: Mo-Fr: 10.00-16.00, Sat-Sun: 10:00-17:00

27/12-04/01:10.00-17.00

Admission: Adults: 2.500 HUF

Students: 1.250 HUF Family ticket: 5.200 HUF Disabled accessible: partially Function: cultural institution

Professional guidance: Can be asked in English, German, French,

Italien

Payment facilities: Erzsebet-card, Szechenyi Card

Phone number: +3628420331

Services: souvenir shop, café, buffet, toilet/WC, cloak-room Architectural style: Baroque Type: memorial place, historic

memorial, fortress, castle, palace, mansion

Attend ability: during opening hours, by booking, optional guiding

Address: 2100 Gödöllő, Grassalkovich Kastély

View on map Latitude and longitude: N 47° 35' 46", E 19° 20'

52"

Phone number: +3628410124

Email: informacio@kiralyikastely.hu

Web: http://www.kiralyikastely.hu/main_page

http://gotohungary.com/more-budapest/-/netaview/41703;jsessionid

<u>=CBC78377 A622BC2C280F30BB5F004EC1</u>

Photos



Fig.1, Antal Grassalkovich I



Fig.2, Riding Hall



Fig.3 Care for Wounded Soldiers



Fig.4, Buda Castel



Fig.5, Old Godolo Structure



Fig.6, Coronation Ceremony



Fig.7, Francis Joseph



Fig.8, Queen Elisabeth



Fig.9, Royal Family



Fig.11, Equestrian Culture



Fig.13, Main Entrance(Outside)



Fig.15, Baroque Theatre



Fig.10, Side-saddle on a hunter



Fig.12, Queen Statue



Fig.14, Main Entrance (Inside)



Fig.16, Elisabeth Veranda



Fig.17, Horthy Bunker



Fig.18, Permanent Exhibition



Fig.19, Pavilion



Fig.20, Interior Exhibition





Fig.22, Souvenir Shop



Fig.23, lack of resources



Fig.24, Red Line Metro to Ors Vezer Ter

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Author Collection

Fig. 13, Main Entrance (Outside) Author Collection

Fig. 14, Main Entrance (Inside), Author Collection

Fig.9, Royal Family, Author Collection

Fig.12, Queen Statue, Author Collection

Fig.21, Café, Author Collection

Fig.22, Souvenir Shop, Author Collection

Fig.23, Lack of Resources

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 $\underline{http://jezebel.com/the-most-miserable-princess-ever-sisi-empress-elisab-princess-ever-sisi-empress-ever-$

1671950113

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