

500 years well-seasoned Tone Wood made from beams of Munich Cathedral

500 years ago, Bavarian farmers cut and donate parts of their forest harvest for the construction of the Munich cathedral in 1468 - 1488. Those trees have been starting growing in the 12th century at an altitude of over 1000 meter above sea-level south of Munich in a valley called Lenggries (Fig. 1).

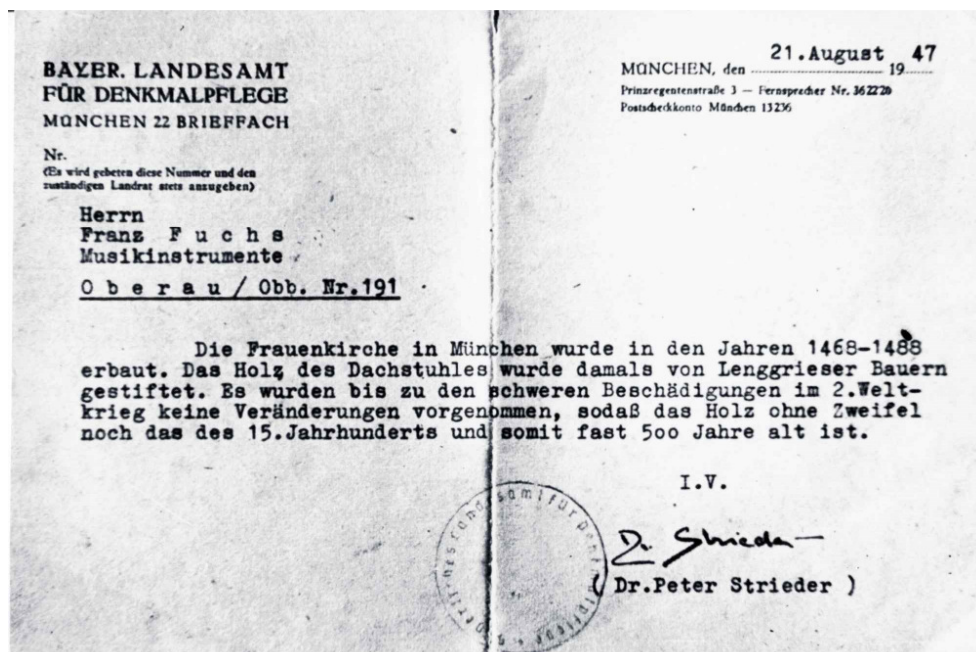


Fig. 1: Certificate of 'Bayerisches Landesamt für Denkmalpflege' stating origin of wood for construction of Munich Cathedral



Fig. 2: Franz Fuchs playing one of his violins

With the cathedral being destroyed in Second World War, a Garmisch-Partenkirchen-based violin maker, Franz Fuchs, discovered the opportunity for using this wood on his violins in 1947 (Fig. 2). Franz Fuchs was a maker of the traditional school of Saxony who was displaced closely to Mittenwald after Second World War. He processed the beams into violin billets (Fig. 3) and used some of it for his violins (Fig. 4).



Fig. 3: Seal of Franz Fuchs on some on his historic tone wood

Franz Fuchs
Music instruments & tonewood
GARMISCH-PARTENKIRCHEN
Breitenau 2, Block 4, Germany

THE CATHEDRAL-VIOLIN

made from resonant wood from the Munich Cathedral, which was felled 500 years ago and discovered by me in 1947.

It is the soloist instrument produced by a perfect masterhand.

It is unique in the world and has been acknowledged as tone-miracle by wellknown artists and connoisseurs.

You may learn more about it from

Franz Fuchs, Garmisch-Partenkirchen
Germany

Fig. 4: Advertisement of Franz Fuchs violins; approx. 1947

Since that time the wood was stored, waiting for the right makers hands to being turned into a violin. We are very happy to offer exclusively a wide range and solid volume of this violin and cello tone wood for historic copies and repairs as well as for your new instruments made from historic wood. There are different types of wood characteristics available, ranging from narrow to wide grain (Fig. 6 to Fig. 15). That's one more reason to visit our warehouse in Markt Indersdorf or our sales spot in Mittenwald to select wood matching your personal preferences (Fig. 5).



Fig. 5: Andreas Pahler in his warehouse in Markt Indersdorf



Fig. 6: No 1 - Tone Wood cut from historic spruce



Fig. 7: No 1, Detail - Tone Wood cut from historic spruce



Fig. 8: No 2 - Tone Wood cut from historic spruce



Fig. 9: No 2, Detail - Tone Wood cut from historic spruce



Fig. 10: No 3 - Tone Wood cut from historic spruce



Fig. 11: No 3, Detail - Tone Wood cut from historic spruce



Fig. 12: No 4 - Tone Wood cut from historic spruce



Fig. 13: No 4, Detail- Tone Wood cut from historic spruce



Fig. 14: No 5 - Tone Wood cut from historic spruce



Fig. 15: No 5, Detail - Tone Wood cut from historic spruce

Franz Fuchs created some 50 violins from his historic spruce between 1947 and 1955 (Fig. 15). Those violins are now played worldwide and we would be glad to learn more about their whereabouts and about their players. Maybe you have seen or heard about one of those violins and could send us more information or maybe even a picture. Franz Fuchs' son, Gerald would very much appreciate your help. Thanks for your kind assistance.

See you soon in Bavaria - or send me an email if you want to get further information on the wood and its characteristics.



Fig. 16: Gerald Fuchs with a 'Domgeige', a violin made by his father Franz Fuchs with wood from the Munich Cathedral