

The villa was built as staff accommodation in 1931 for the Żabiński family. The road to it led through the Ratuszowa gate. It is surrounded by a garden where director Żabiński himself planted a particularly spectacular ginkgo.

In this house, also known as “Villa under an Insane Star” or “Noah’s Arc”, the Żabiński family gave shelter to many survivors from the ghetto, among them sculptress Magdalena Gross and her husband Maurycy Fraenkel, a lawyer, as well as writer Rachela Auerbach. The building was the only one not destroyed during the war and only minor changes have been introduced to this day.

In recognition of that, in 1965 Jan Żabiński and his wife, Antonina Żabińska, were recognized as Righteous Among the Nations.