Iconographic Sources of Swedish Campaign in 1647 in Bohemia

Results and perspectives of an interdisciplinary research

Ing. Tomáš JANATA
Ing. Růžena ZIMOVÁ, Ph.D.

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Czech Technical University in Prague
FCE, Dept. of Geomatics
What will be discussed

Introduction of an interdisciplinary project.

Engravings of 1647 thirty-years-war Swedish campaign.

Available cartographical sources.

Involved methods of cartography and cartographical visualization during the research.

Contents of the engravings, their genesis and technical properties.
Subject of interest

Co-operation of CTU in Prague, Faculty of Civil Eng. with Charles University, Faculty of Humanities.

Project focused on systematic research on historical engravings of Thirty Years’ War depicting battlefields or historical towns in Czech lands 1618–48.

Documentary appendices in works Theatrum Europaeum and Topographia Bohemiae, Moraviae et Silesiae.

In oblique view – conceptually between a ground plan and a veduta; apart from landscape and settlements, also military and fortification elements captured.

A map or only a picture?
localities of thirty-years-war fights in engravings of
Theatrum Europaeum and Topographia Bohemiae, Moraviae et Silesiae
The siege of Cheb 1647
Battle under the Třebel castle 1647
Battle by Teplá 1647
Methodology

• Description of the engraving basic data, historical context;
• Comparison with other depictions of the loc. in available cartographic sources – morphology of terrain, hydrography, road network, vegetation, settlements and important objects; military and fortification elements;
• Possible ways of genesis of templates existence of period (carto)graphical sources or fortification plans, estimation of location of probable observational points suitable for the area depicted, utilization of dig. terrain model for determination of visibility options, approximate scale number estimate;
• Vectorization of selected elements of the engraving’s content and their visualization over DTM.
Theatrum Europaeum

- about 720 engravings in total
- each volume 400 to 1500 pages, in German
- published 1617 to 1738
- J. P. Abelin, J. G. Schleder, M. Meyer, D. Schneider
- extensive factography and presentation of political situation of the then period
cut-outs of engravings
Imperial mandatory imprint of map of the Stable Cadastre
centre of Cheb (Eger) on DMP 1G – digital surface model
solution of visibility from estimated elevated localities
Vizualization of selected elements of the content
Further heading

Situating the set into context of the then possibilities and status quo of cartographic creation.

Processing the exact methodology of scale estimation of such works.

Verification of the hypothesis, whether it is more about maps or mere documentary images.
Thank you for your attention

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Transformed land: interdisciplinary research on influence of the Thirty Years’ War on rural landscape of Bohemia