



Old city maps and views of Prague

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Attempts to represent view and situation of towns in the Czech lands came in the beginning of the modern period. Primarily it was a view (vedut) or a prospectus usually made from an uphill place above the town, which is relevant to appearance of a perspective in a painting. The first known illustration of the Prague is the Prospectus from the Vyšehrad hill in the Schedel's World Chronicle from 1493. Other important views are for example Sadeler's prospectus from 1606 and Hollar's prospectus from 1650.

The real planimetric plans were made from the beginning of the 17th century. They were usually based on some type of field-measurement and used orthogonal projection. There were some attempts in the 16th and 17th century made by royal land surveyors (Šimon Podolský and his successor Samuel Globic), but they have not been preserved. The first one, which has been kept up to date, is the Mueller's plan. It was made as a part of the Mueller's mapping of the Czech lands during 1712-1720. Interesting is its orientation to the north-west. Next important plans are for example Huber's plan, which was made during the I. military mapping of Austria-Hungary Empire, and Herget's plan from 1790.

A really revolutionary plan was made by Josef Juettner in 1816. It is the first plan based on geodetic measurement. Juettner, an artillery officer with the experience with astronomical and trigonometrical measurement, was well prepared to make the most precise plan of Prague made till his time. The plan in the scale 1 : 4 320 was published in black-white and colored version. It was many times reprinted, remade, copied, and it was used as a pattern for other plans of Prague.

With no doubt the Juettner's plan is the right object of the on-coming research.