

REPORTS

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KOŠICE ON HISTORICAL MAPS AND
PHOTOGRAPHS: PROJECT REPORT OF
APVV-16-0383 COMPREHENSIVE MEMORY
PORTAL AND HISTORIC TOWN ATLAS OF
SLOVAKIA (BRATISLAVA AND KOŠICE)

The production of Historic towns atlases has been one of the main outputs of urban history research in Europe for several decades. There are hundreds of such atlases in Western Europe, the publication of which began in the second half of the twentieth century. In the countries of Central Eastern Europe, which joined the trend later (after 1989), the first single publications are now known, but in better cases dozens of atlases have already been published. Slovakia is still without a single such atlas, despite the fact that urban history has long been an important part of local historiography. Therefore, between 2017 and 2021, a project was implemented to create an online platform for a comprehensive memory portal and historical atlases of Slovak cities. This was the first step in efforts to overcome the aforementioned handicap of Slovakia. The two largest cities in the Slovak Republic, namely the capital Bratislava and the metropolis of the eastern part of the country, Košice, were chosen as pilot cities. The idea of the project and its management rested on prof. PhDr. Juraj Šedivý, PhD. from the Department of Archive Studies and Museology of the Faculty of Arts of Comenius University in Bratislava. He and his team prepared the material on Bratislava. Košice was under the charge of a team of researchers from the Department of History of the Faculty of Arts of the University of Pavol Jozef Šafárik in Košice, headed by the head of the department prof. PaedDr. Martin Pekár, PhD. The project was financed through the grant scheme of the Slovak Research and Development Agency (in Slovak APVV), subject to the Ministry of Education, Science, Research and Sport of the Slovak Republic.

The traditional form of Historic towns atlases is the printed form, consisting of a text part and appendices (maps, vedutas etc.). In recent decades, however, the broad possibilities of the Internet have also been used to great effect in this respect. Printed atlases can now also be found, in a limited or even full version, on specialized websites

run by teams of experts who are responsible for the production of these works in each country. The possibilities of the online space are even greater than just making available PDF versions of printed atlases. They provide the opportunity for the multi-layered linking of a large amount of different material (maps, photographs) and data, which can be continuously added to and updated.¹ The Slovak project Comprehensive Memory Portal and Historic Town Atlas of Slovakia (Bratislava and Košice) has taken into account such a new dimension, making historical documentation accessible to the general public, which also reflects the growing interest in the digitization and subsequent visualization of historical sources and knowledge. The main goal of the presented project was therefore to build a basic database of digitized data on (initially the two mentioned) Slovak cities. It is available on the Slovak Comprehensive Memory Portal website: www.pammap.sk. The project was also accompanied by the launch of work on the first historical atlases of Slovak cities, namely Bratislava and Košice, the results of which will also be fully available online in the near future. The ultimate goal is to interlink the atlases with the memory portal.

During the four years of work on the Košice part of the memory portal, it has been possible to obtain around 37,000 digitized documents relating to Košice in the past, of which almost 23,000 are currently available online. Of this total, a large number, around 25,000, were provided by the News Agency of the Slovak Republic (in Slovak TASR). The agency allowed members of the Košice project team to digitally process its files and metadata and make them available on the project website. The cooperation with archives and museums in Košice was essential and fortunately very helpful. The State Archive in Košice enabled our team to scan around 10,000 archival documents from the recent history of the city. The Košice City Archives have so far provided scans of around a hundred valuable medieval documents. Up to 2,000 digitized documents from its

1 See ŠEDIVÝ, Juraj. Map Portals and Databasis of Towns in Central Europe. An Appendix or Substitution for printed Historical Town Atlases? In: *Cittá e Storia*, 2015, vol. 10, pp. 261–280.

collections are shared by The East Slovak Museum. This has created a solid database of digitized documents from professional memory institutions that have agreed to publish them on the portal. Subsequently, the database can be expanded with further additions. Each digitization contains not only the image itself, but also the accompanying data and description, making it a potential object of several thematic searches on the respective website. The digitization was supervised by Mgr. Peter Fedorčák, PhD., with the support of PhDr. Lucia Tokárová, PhD. and PhDr. Richard Pavlovič, PhD. from the State Archive in Košice.

The second aspect of the creation of the complex memory portal was the start of work on Historic town atlases of Bratislava and Košice. The team of researchers from the Department of History in Košice corresponds to the division into historical periods: doc. PhDr. Lubomíra Kaminská, DrSc. (natural conditions, prehistoric to early medieval); Mgr. Drahošlav Magdoško, PhD. (medieval period), who is also responsible for the overall coordination of the work; Mgr. Peter Fedorčák, PhD. (Early Modern Period); and Mgr. Nikola Regináčová, PhD. ("long" nineteenth century). The texts and appendices of the Košice Atlas cover the period up to 1918. They will meet the standards common to other recognized atlases in Europe. To this end, two workshops were organized with the participation of experts from neighbouring countries who have been involved in the preparation of Historic towns atlases (Austria, Czech Republic, Hungary). Only a small part of the adequate sources can be found in institutions based in Košice: The East Slovak Museum (which, however, owns a nice collection of vedutas), the Košice City Archives and The Regional Monuments Board. Most of the maps had to be obtained from other organizations, especially from abroad, as Košice was part of the Kingdom of Hungary or the Austrian Monarchy (Austro-Hungarian Empire) until 1918. So far it has been possible to obtain maps or vedutas from these institutions: Geodetický a kartografický ústav Bratislava [Geodetic and Cartographic Institute Bratislava, Slovakia], Hadtörténeti Intézet és Múzeum [Military History Institute and Museum in Budapest, Hungary], Magyar Nemzeti Levéltár [National Archives of Hungary in Budapest,

Hungary], Országos Szechenyi Könyvtár [National Szechenyi Library in Budapest, Hungary], Österreichisches Staatsarchiv [Austrian State Archives in Wien, Austria] and Landesarchiv Baden-Württemberg, Generallandesarchiv Karlsruhe [State Archives of Baden-Württemberg, General State Archives Karlsruhe, Austria].

Some maps should be fundamental in the resulting atlas: the Cadastral Map of Košice from 1868 (graphically modified, scale 1:2,500), the First and Second Military Survey from the end of the eighteenth century and beginning of the nineteenth century (scale 1:50,000), the actual topographical map of the city centre (scale 1:5,000), the map of the territorial growth of the city from the Middle Ages to 1912 (scale 1:5,000) and two reconstruction maps of the city, illustrating the state of the city at the end of the Middle Ages and the middle of the eighteenth century. In addition to these appendices, the atlas includes other historical maps, orthophoto maps, vedutas and accompanying pictures.

The work on the Historic town atlas of Košice is hampered by the fact that there is still no scientific synthesis summarizing the knowledge from the last few decades. For example, the description of the topography of Košice in the Middle Ages and the Early Modern period has so far been based on works from the 1960s, which are in some respects surpassed by more recent findings. Therefore, in the preparation of the atlas, especially for the older history of the city, it was not sufficient to process the existing literature, but archival research was necessary. In the case of the Middle Ages, this led to a new interpretation of the development of the suburbs (the origin and location of the streets in front of the walls, the legal relationship to the walled city), along with a refinement of the number and function of the suburban churches; it also succeeded in identifying some hitherto unknown buildings and settlements in the city district, but also, for example, the various market stalls in the centre of the square. While the older historiography described the medieval and early modern phases of the city virtually only on the basis of written sources, we are now able to present a more varied, slightly more interdisciplinary view of the question.

We owe this to recent archaeological and building-historical research. It is true that their number and rate of findings still lags far behind those of several other, better-studied cities. Despite the gaps in the current state of knowledge, however, the Historic town atlas of Košice provides, in effect, the first modern synthesis on the topographical development of this city from the Middle Ages to the early twentieth century. For the successful completion of this work, it is currently necessary to resolve technical issues in the operation of the relevant website.

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THE HISTORY OF UPJŠ AND THE HISTORICAL DIGITAL ARCHIVE OF UPJŠ (HiDA) II–III: PROJECT REPORT

Introduction

University history is one of the topics in Slovak historiography that is not at the centre of scholarly interest. Perhaps with the exception of the systematic history of the University of Trnava, the impulse to research the history of a particular institution is usually an academic anniversary. Thanks to the management of the Pavol Jozef Šafárik University (UPJŠ) and its interest in researching university history in Košice, through the scheme of goal-oriented research projects (VVGs – PCOV), since 2019 the Department of History of the Faculty of Arts of the Pavol Jozef Šafárik University in Košice has been systematically researching sources on the history of the University of Košice and its academic successors, the history of the present-day Pavol Jozef Šafárik University, and the issues of the university's tradition and its historical continuity. The pilot project, focused on research in archives and other memory institutions, was greatly affected in its results by the limitations due to the COVID-19 pandemic.¹ This project

has been followed up by other projects in the above-mentioned scheme, which have succeeded in building on and extending the original objectives of the project.² Following the relaxation of pandemic measures, side events became part of the project's output, allowing the results of the university history research to be presented to a wider academic audience.

Methods

Research on sources for university history is often limited to written sources. The second project in the VVGs scheme focused on researching a wider range of sources, which included architectural monuments, works of art and objects relating to university history. Such an interdisciplinary approach enabled the findings of art history and architectural research to be used and integrated into the research on university history. In addition to the traditional methods of historical research – analysis, synthesis, comparison, direct and indirect methods – the research of the sources also made use of the knowledge of the auxiliary historical sciences, and of procedures known from urban history and the history of education (the history of institutions and the history of ideas). A separate area is the digitization and subsequent processing of digitized data in the form of metadata. This is an effective tool for creating a database of sources on the history of university education, which can be used as a resource for basic research or by digital humanities tools.

Objectives

The objectives of the 2020–2022 projects were as follows:

- further research of sources on the history of the University of Košice, its academic successors and UPJŠ, following the first project of the VVGs
- digitization of these sources
- creation and launch of a digital repository (Historical Digital Archive), storage of the digitized materials and creation of metadata

1 VVGs 2019 – 1206 Dejiny UPJŠ a Historický digitálny archív (HiDA) I. Duration of the project: 1. 7. 2019 – 31. 10. 2020.

2 VVGs 2020 – 1661 Dejiny UPJŠ a Historický digitálny archív (HiDA) II. VVGs 2022 – 2112 Dejiny UPJŠ a Historický digitálny archív (HiDA) III.

- publication outputs on the university history and presentation of the project results in the academic environment

Considering the objectives set, it can be stated that they have been met and the release of the pandemic measures has enabled the implementation of scientific and popularization activities on a much larger scale than defined in the projects. In terms of further research on sources, research was carried out during the years 2020–2022 on the sacred architectural monuments the University Church (now the Premonstratensian Church of the Holy Trinity) and the Church of St Anthony of Padua (the original Franciscan Church), their artistic decoration and works associated with the University's activities. The original Jesuit College building is now in the care of the Premonstratensian Order, who do not allow access to its premises. Further research, focusing on artefacts and works of art related to the university's history, was carried out at the East Slovak Gallery in Košice and the East Slovak Museum in Košice. A survey in libraries (the State Scientific Library in Košice, the Historical Collections Department, the Library of the Premonstratensian Order in Jasov) was focused on Jesuit prints; – while in the case of the State Scientific Library in Košice these prints are professionally processed and their catalogue is available, the library in Jasov is still largely uninventoried and the survey revealed Jesuit prints, the dating of which may be of crucial importance for determining the exact date of the foundation of the Jesuit College in Košice. During the third project of the VVGS, research was also carried out in the Austrian State Archives in Vienna [Österreichisches Staatsarchiv, Haus-, Hof- und Staatsarchiv] in the Allgemeine Akten, Ungarische Akten fonds, focusing on written sources relating to the University of Košice. In addition to research on the older history of the university, archival research was also carried out on sources relating to the founding of Pavol Jozef Šafárik University in the Slovak National Archives in Bratislava and the National Archives in Prague.

In cooperation with the University's Centre for Information and Communication Technologies, a Historical Digital Archive was created within the System for Support

of Scientific Research in the Medical Science Park of UPJŠ through a software solution from the company VSL. This system allows the storage of digitized sources of various natures – from archival documents to historical photographs. The structure of HiDA is created according to the provenance principle and respects the current storage of archival documents and other sources in individual institutions in Slovakia and abroad. Digitized documents from archival, museum or library collections are uploaded to the repository, and metadata is maintained for each document, the structure of which is as follows: record name, description, record type, signature, location, publisher, subject, formal description, digitization data, URL, date, location, language, and scan. As the system is currently in test operation, the metadata structure and repository parameters will be adapted to the requirements of the administrators.

In the current phase, HiDA consists of selected archival documents from the Hungarian National Archives,³ especially those of particular importance for the history of the university (Golden Bull of Leopold I, foundations, privileges). From Slovak archives, it will contain documents from the Košice City Archives, Archivum dioecesis Cassoviensis, the State Scientific Library in Košice and the East Slovak Museum in Košice. After further research and the acquisition of digitized material, the database of sources will be supplemented with further digitized material. The gradual uploading of digitized sources and the creation of metadata are only the first phase of a long-term plan to create a digital archive of university history, at the end of which there should be a functional user interface, linked to the university website, which would provide the academic and professional public with the possibility of selecting sources on university history and the results of their research.

³ Magyar Nemzeti Levéltár, Országos Levéltára, Magyar Kamara Archivuma, E 152, Acta Jesuitica.

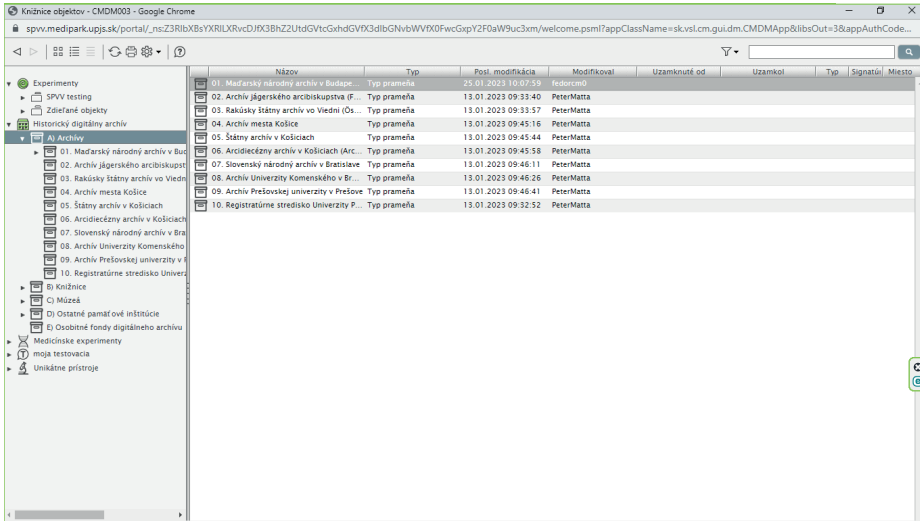


Figure 1: Example of HiDA structure.

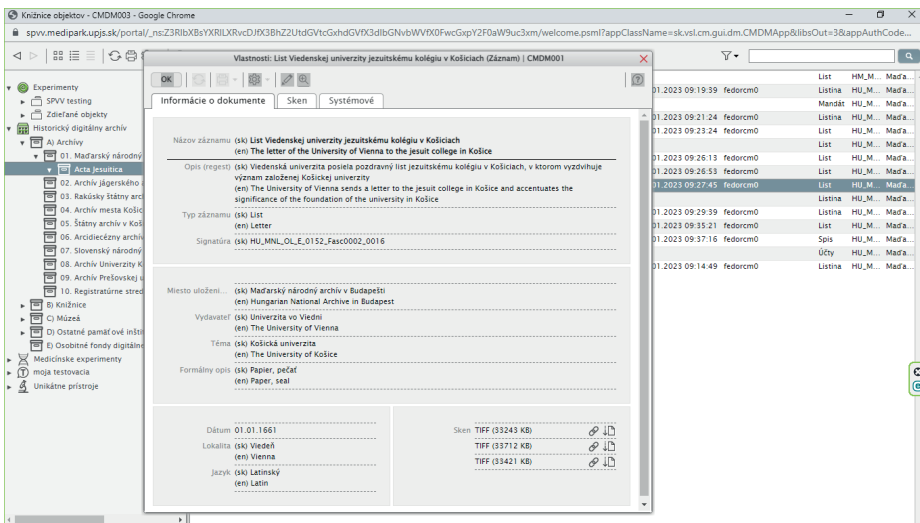


Figure 2: Example of the metadata structure of the selected digitization.

In the presentation of the results of the research, the members of the research project managed to prepare two publications of a representative character on the history of the University of Košice and on the history of the Faculty of Arts of UPJŠ.⁴ Other publication activities of the project team members were related to the university history and the history of UPJŠ.⁵ In the preparation phase is a professional publication on sources on the history of Košice University and a dissertation on the history of higher education after the Second World War and the founding of Pavol Jozef Šafárik University.

In terms of events that presented the selected area of project research to the wider academic public, we can mention the scientific conference for PhD students, the Meeting of Young Historians XII, which took place on 12 October 2022 and its topic relating to the issues of working with historical sources, archives and digitization.⁶ The conference was attended by nine PhD students working at universities in Slovakia, the Czech Republic and Germany.

The presentation of university history to the academic and broader professional public was realised through a series of lectures on university history, which began in October with a lecture by PhDr. Gabriel P. Hunčaga, OP, PhD. from the Faculty of Theology of the University of Trnava under the title “The Medieval University as an Educational Innovation”. In November, PhDr. Henrieta Žažová, PhD. from the Institute of History of the University of Trnava brought to light in her presentation “Sapientia aedificavit sibi domum: The University of Trnava in the History of Higher Education in Hungary (1635–1777)” important sources on the history of the first Jesuit University in Hungary. Both lectures were met with interest from academics and students and represent a good start for further events that will bring university history research to a wider academic community.

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4 FEDORČÁKOVÁ, Mária. *Universitas Cassoviensis a tradícia univerzitného vzdelávania v Košiciach pred vznikom UPJŠ*. Košice: Vydavateľstvo ŠafárikPress UPJŠ, 2021. FEDORČÁKOVÁ, Mária – FILČÁKOVÁ, Miriama. *Filozofické vzdelávanie v Košiciach v kontinuite a diskontinuite historického vývoja*. Košice: Vydavateľstvo ŠafárikPress, 2022.

5 FILČÁKOVÁ, Miriama. Formovanie vysokého školstva po druhej svetovej vojne. Rozdiely vo východoeurópskom a západoeurópskom priestore. In: *Jarná škola doktorandov 2020: Zborník príspevkov zo 7. ročníka*. Košice: Univerzita Pavla Jozefa Šafárika v Košiciach, 2020, s. 159–167. FILČÁKOVÁ, Miriama. K niektorým aspektom vývoja vysokého školstva v kontexte bipolarity sveta. In: *Hranice v priestore a čase. Stretnutie mladých historikov 10*. Košice: Univerzita Pavla Jozefa Šafárika, 2021, s. 111–135. FILČÁKOVÁ, Miriama. Univerzita Pavla Jozefa Šafárika v kontexte politických dejín poznania. In: *Poznanie, spoločnosť, dejiny. Stretnutie mladých historikov 11: Zborník príspevkov z vedeckej konferencie*. Košice : Vydavateľstvo ŠafárikPress UPJŠ, 2022. FILČÁKOVÁ, Miriama. The University and the City: The Potential of Urban History Approaches in Tertiary Education Research. In: *Dějiny - Geschichte - Dejiny : Portal der Deutsch-Tschechischen und Deutsch-Slowakischen Historikerkommission*. 2022, vol. 2, no. 5, pp. 1–16.

6 *Stretnutie mladých historikov XII. Historický prameň v súčasnosti – archívy, inovácie, zdieľanie*. Košice, 12 October 2022.