The Four Centuries of Polish Books for Land Surveying

A. Łyszkowicz, M. Uradziński

Chair of Land Surveying and Geomatics
University of Warmia and Mazury in Olsztyn, Poland

Introduction

- The main aim of the work:
  - description of Polish geodetic books in the period of 400 years,
- Three periods:
  - First period: begins in a half of XV century and lasts to 1764.
  - Second period: begins in 1764 and lasts to 1815.
  - Third period: since 1815 until 1850.
First period

- First technical book in Poland was from the field of geodesy,
- It was written by Marcin from Żurawica
  - professor of Jagiellonian University in Cracow,
- The book *Geometria* was written in 1450 in Latin,
- The content of the work shows high level of mathematical sciences at the Jagiellonian University in this time.

First period

- First book written in Polish is:
  - *Geometryja to jest miernicka nauka...* (Geometry it is the science of measurements...)
- Published in Cracow in 1566
- Written by Stanisław Grzepski:
  - professor of Jagiellonian University
- Available at:
Statistics of the published geodetic books

Summary

• In Poland since 1450 up to 1850 nineteen books from the field of geodesy were published. First book on geodesy and land surveying written in 1450 was the first technical book in Poland. It was hand written in Latin and we have only two copies from the end of XV century. The remaining eighteen books were printed first in Cracow then in Warsaw and Vilnius.

• The first university in Poland called Jagiellonian University was founded in 1364 by king Casimir III the Great in Cracow. It is the oldest university in Poland and is the second oldest university in Central Europe and one of the oldest universities in the world.

• The second university Vilnius University was founded in 1579 as the Jesuit Academy (College) of Vilnius (Vilna, Wilno). It was the third oldest university in the Polish-Lithuanian Commonwealth.
Summary

• The University of Warsaw was established in 1816, when the partitions of Poland separated Warsaw from the oldest and most influential Polish academic center, in Cracow. Presently it is the largest university in Poland and with Jagiellonian University one of the most prestigious.
• Therefore the first geodetic books (seven) were printed in Cracow, seven books in Warsaw and three books in another places. First book were written in Latin - 5 books, then in Polish – 13 books and one in French.
• Presently old books and manuscripts are scanned and published by the libraries in an electronic way.

Thank you for your attention!