

ABSTRACT

This diploma thesis deals with the topic of (neo)classical castle architecture in the Hradec Králové Region. Its aim is to examine the listed castles in the region built in the (neo)classicist style based on predefined criteria, which it places in the context of generally accepted architectural theory. There is a large amount of (neo)classical architecture in the region that could not be covered in the thesis, and therefore, also due to the continuity with the bachelor thesis, only castle architecture is chosen.

The work is interdisciplinary in nature and extends in the historical, architectural and educational fields. The present study uses the method of comparison based on my own field research and the study of contemporary photographs and postcards. One of its sub-objectives is to come to terms with the concepts of classicism, empire and neoclassicism and to take its own position on them. The castle is first placed in its historical context and provides an overview of the events that led to the (neo)classical reconstruction or new building. A detailed architectural analysis is included into the generally applicable (neo)classical theory or architectural elements typical of the style. These facts are then compared and analysed in order to observe their similarities and differences and to find certain specifics that can be utilized to the area of the Hradec Králové District.

An important question for comparison becomes whether the quality of the building is shaped by previous building styles or whether the new buildings are more "valuable". The thesis investigates their current state and the role of the regional administration in their functioning.

The thesis includes a methodological and didactic chapter, which presents "universal" material for teachers and cultural educators and aims to develop a relationship with cultural heritage and heritage conservation. The research proves that (neo)classical palaces in the region are not given enough attention and reaffirms that (neo)classical architecture is neglected in the Czech environment, for example by the Baroque. A common indicator of the individual castle builders was education, albeit from different positions. The chateaux can be evaluated as valuable from an architectural point of view, but they also have a great educational potential, which none of the chateaux has yet exploited. Based on current trends in education, the final chapter proposes a 'universal' material, usable with the necessary adaptations in all the castles studied, and aims at working with and relating to concepts and cultural heritage.