

## ANNOTATION

### **Garden of Rudolf II.**

Today's resemblance of a garden will not tell us a lot about the original design. The garden was founded in 1534 by the emperor Ferdinand I. in renaissance style. When the landscape adjustment and delimitation of boundaries were done the king started to focus on building a folly, which stood on the eastern end and was detached by a wall with a gate into the garden. When a Ball Game Hall was built the main single disposition changed on the cross one. Rudolf II. assumed the garden in this resemblance. Rudolf's concerns can be divided into two groups. The first one are the main routes and bowers around and the second group are stone buildings, which the emperor ordered to build in the garden.

The emperor's secret way to the garden started in attic of a Dusty bridge and ended in a house-top of a house in a bridgehead. The emperor always entered to the garden by this secret entrance which is conserved until these days. Similar lay out of passage from garden to a castle is in Brandýs nad Labem, where at the end was an orangery. Wooden bower in the Prague's garden leads to a secret entrance in front of Singing well. Giardinetto around the well gained its final resemblance in 1593.

Stone buildings founded by Rudolf II. are extraordinary for our surroundings because of their purpose. Rudolf's building of a Lion's yard replaced a wooden one from the period of Ferdinand I. The construction has square ground plan with central yard, where were from hutches let out animals. The orangery was built by Rudolf II. for plants from abroad. There are different opinions about its resemblance and a place of establishment in literature.

We can find in an old literature that there were grotts, sculptures, vats and fountains on different places. However these statements are not verified and there is still a question about their location in the garden.

There was a King's park not far from the Prague's castle and the emperor was interested in it. Similar like King's garden he let the core of the folly to twine by arcade gallery. He joined a slim tower which used to be a view terrace. Beneath the folly the emperor let to extend a pond which was supplied by an adit and this is a unique technical piece of work of their times. There is a farmer estate in the neighbourhood of emperor's park which was rebuilt in manneristic area. The most interesting well preserved object in the area is a grotta carved out into a hill Pecka. We can see on the grotta Italian architectonic influence by Palladio or Sansovini who used stone bossage in the interior. There are artificial stalactites in

a bubeneč grotta according to Italian grottas.

The resemblance of Rudolf's gardens evokes a lot of unanswered questions. Finding answers demands a proper research of the topic in wider context. A question still remains if in this era is possible to find an answer which would accommodate everyone.

**Key words:**

Mannerism, garden, Prag, Rudolf II., architecture

**Number of words:**

14 840