Nr. 20: Schütze, Johann Friedrich: „Schütze's Humoristische Reise durch Mecklenburg, Holstein Dänemark, Ostfriesland etc. Als Gegenstück zu Baggesens humoristischen Reisen.” Hamburg, Gottfried Vollmer, (1812), S. 25. LU 538

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Konzeption:
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Öffnungszeiten:
Di. 09:30 – 18:00
Mi. 09:30 – 13:00
Do. 09:30 – 19:00
Fr. 09:30 – 18:00
Sa. 09:30 – 13:00

Eintritt frei

Kabinett-Ausstellung
in der Eutiner Landesbibliothek
12.10.2017 – 27.1.2018

„... eine kleine Stadt in Wagrien fast in der Mitten der Holsteinischen Landschaft“

‘a small town in Wagria almost in the center of the Holstein territory’
Historic maps and early printed books of Eutin and Holstein

One of the most valuable treasures among the Eutinian State Library’s precious holdings is a collection of historical maps, many dating back more than three centuries. Today, the collection is one of the most important in Northern Germany, containing approximately 5400 maps from before 1850, obtained either as single sheets or in atlases.

The library’s current collection stems from three acquisitions:

More than 3000 maps were part of the collection of the Estate of the former Grand-Ducal Public Library, founded in 1837, mainly originating from the Duke’s collection, thus dating back to the 17th century. In 2000, the German Research Foundation (DFG) and the Sparkassen-Stiftung Eutin enabled the library to acquire the collection of maps and books of Carl Martin Rohrbach (1861 – 1932), an astronomer and geographer from Gotha, whose collection contains 440 historical maps, most of them considered rare. In 2011 the final acquisition and the most outstanding part of the collection arrived in Eutin: the private collection of Oswald Dreyer-Eimbcke (1923 – 2010), shipbroker from Hamburg, honorary consul of Iceland and Chile, and passionate map collector.

The different origins of the maps lead to multiple key aspects in the merged collection. Having had very close relations to the Russian Czar, the Eutinian Court was able to procure various rare maps from 18th century Russia. Numerous 17th and 18th century maps of Europe stem from the Rohrbach collection and unique maps of Iceland, the Arctic and the Arctic Sea as well as maps of Chile, Patagonia, Tierra del Fuego and the Magellan Road are among the collection of Dreyer-Eimbcke. Thus, all three collections combined offer a wide international scope of regional maps of Northern Germany.

Unearthing the library’s cartographic treasure is an ongoing process; while the vast majority of the precious objects is still unknown to the broader public, the cataloguing is progressing proficiently and the scholarly investigation by the Forschungsstelle zur historischen Reisekultur (Research Center for Historical Travel Culture) is well underway. This exhibition displays a small portion of the collection for the public, portraying Holstein and Eutin, accompanied by the library’s historical travel literature. To honor the most recent acquisition to the library’s collection, only maps from Dreyer-Eimbcke were chosen to be displayed. Dreyer-Eimbcke himself used Hamburg and Schleswig-Holstein as examples in his 2004 publication about the history of cartography.

The first part of the exhibition portrays the cartographic depiction of Wagria and Holstein and the changing position and name of Eutin, shedding light on the development of cartography from the 16th to the 19th century. The second part of the exhibition puts a focus on Eutin: its topographical depiction and description in travel writings. The oldest exhibit (Nr. 1), dating back to 1597, is the only displayed map that does not include Eutin – every map of Wagria and Holstein later shows Eutin in some variation of the name and, admittedly, in many different locations. The first part of the exhibition outlines the history of cartography, showing the development of precise naming (e.g. Fürstbistum Lübeck Nr. 11-13) and high-lighting the changing geographical knowledge during the three centuries (e.g. Nr. 14-16: shape and position of Fehmarn).

The exhibition’s second part puts the focus on Eutin, expanding the view on Wagria and displaying selected writings that are well worth reading. In addition to that, early townscapes of Eutin are presented; some of our visitors are already familiar with them but might now be able to appreciate them from a new and different perspective. The final three exhibits (Nr. 26-28) put the focus back on historical cartography by highlighting the practice of coloring maps and showing that today’s geographical knowledge is almost reached on a map from 1857. Compared to earlier maps, the last exhibit can already be trusted to lead you to the “small town in Wagria almost in the center of the Holstein territory”, in proper style by horse or stagecoach.

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