

THE MODEL OF THE TOWN HRADEC KRÁLOVÉ 2000

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The work on this model is a unique case not only with regard to its extent but predominantly to the implementation of the most up-to-date model production technologies developed on the basis of research activities in the Institute of Model Design, Faculty of Architecture, Czech Technical University in Prague.

The construction of the 2000 HK model was ordered on the basis of tender by the Municipality Office of Hradec Králové – Department of the Architect on occasion of the 775th anniversary of the town's foundation.

The model of Hradec Králové, which was mentioned already in 1225 by the document of the King Přemysl Otakar I., is worked out in the scale of 1:500 and depicts the state of the town on the break of the century and millennium. It consists of twelve parts, each with dimensions 1500 x 1250 mm. The total size of the model is 6, 0 x 3, 75 m. Such a planar extent within the chosen scale is in a sense exceptional and even the style of the workout corresponds with this fact. The stylization of buildings, the amount of detail and the chromaticity are chosen in a way supporting the visual perception and enabling the spectator to understand the magnificent plan of the town concept. The end of the 19th and beginning of the 20th century is significant thanks to the unusually strong artistic raise of our architectural creation and the town of Hradec Králové and it is also from this point of view called "the Salon of the Republic".

The authors of the model emphasize the exceptionality of the town's historical core and the ingenious foundation of the new town parts, as a result of modern town-planning concepts in the second half of the 19th century and of the municipal representatives' enlightened policy.

The historical core of the town in the extent of the sight conservation area is elaborated in detail including particular facades of the historical buildings, with clerical buildings emphasized in violet colour. The buildings of extraordinary architectural significance and connected with outstanding personalities of our 20th century architecture are elaborated in white colour with the respective details as well. The other buildings are depicted in the mass way in beige colour and the new contemporary structures in the basic gray colour. In the broken grayish white shade the building constructed in the 90s of the 20th century are emphasized. The model construction was preceded by a rather demanding period of collecting and classifying the work papers, which were, of course, for disposal in the municipal archive, including the digital maps, orthophoto maps of the town and aerial photos. It was, however, necessary to carry out the visual exploration and digital photo documentation of all buildings, which represented several hundreds of snapshots.

The model was, with regard to its exact character and extent of the work, supplied to the place where it is now exhibited, i.e. in the Old Town Hall, N.1 in the historical square, in two stages and it is possible to state that the response to the exhibited work was extraordinary. On a press conference on occasion of the official handover of the model the Mayor of the town declared it as unique. This appreciation is, of course, a motive for further activities of the Institute.

During the model construction the latest knowledge gained from the study of model-making and technologies of the model work-out was utilized. The facades of hardened polystyrene are elaborated by special, computer-controlled cutters, the basis of the buildings is made of MDF plates, the roofs of special polyurethane mass of Dulux and for the parterre the foil of PVC Vikunyl was used.

This work is a selected example of the final model category.

Produced by:

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