

ABSTRACT

The aim of this thesis is to point out the various contributions (cultural, economic, political, entrepreneurial, etc.) of the aristocratic family Hildprandt von Ottenhausen for Blatná region. At the beginning, various views on the determination of the Blatná region are compared. The history of the family line is also reviewed. Most attention is given to the activities of the Hildprandt family which were beneficial for the Blatná region. Hildprandts von Ottenhausen contributed to the development of the Blatná castle, they also remade the adjacent forest to a park. Thanks to them, industrial activities (sugar industry, distilling industry or beer industry) flourished in this region and many people became employed in these companies or on the farm owned by the Hildprandts. Many prominent persons visited Blatná, as guests of the noble family, amongst these persons was Franz Ferdinand d'Este, heir to the Austrian monarchy, or an Indian maharaja. Hildprandts employed some of the Czech patriots (Jan Evangelista Purkyně and Antonín Jaroslav Vrt'átko), those patriots taught next generations of the family love for their country. Some members of this family enriched Blatná with their artistic talent through their creations (painting, sculpture or writing activity). In political sphere, their patriotic thinking was demonstrated by father and son, Robert and Ferdinand Hildprandt, who defended Czech nation with their opinions while risking persecution. This thesis proves that the house of Hildprandt was an asset for Blatná region in important fields, but they also acted as a moral support in times of chaos and difficulty.

KEYWORDS

Hildprandt von Ottenhausen, Blatna, Blatensko region, castle, park, regional history