

This diploma thesis deals with the formation and development of self-government in the small Central Bohemian town of Nové Benátky during the reign of Francis Joseph I. The research focuses on the functioning of the municipal government on the background of the process of modernization (for example Democratization). The thesis wants to capture the everyday and the extraordinary challenges the self-government faced and how it tried to solve them. In relation to that, the town management and administration of communal property is analyzed. Attention is also paid to people who participated in the government and in how they are transformed into local elites. The thesis is trying to place this regional theme in the context where the self-government played a significant role in the Czech emancipation movement. The aim is mainly to analyze the work of self-governments on the background of societal changes.