

This paper looks into the evolution of Brdy, a mountain landscape in central Bohemia covered mostly by forests, examining the period from late Middle ages until the end of the Second World War.

From the 15th century it was an important iron production center of whole Bohemia. The region provided all that was needed – iron ore, timber, water and was conveniently located near trade centers. During the industrial revolution (1800-1873) the industry grew. Small plants disappeared and the production was concentrated into emerging industrial centers. The forests, cleared of iron production, started to attract the attention of tourists, youth organizations and tramps. The mountain range with large forest areas drew also the attention of the Ministry of Defense, which decided to establish an artillery range in the area.

The changes of landscape are illustrated by examples of two land registers - Čenkov and Komárov.