

Obraz ziemi lidzkiej na mapach XVI-XVIII w.

**The representation of the Lida region in Polish
maps of the 16th-18th centuries**

SUMMARY

The study of ways that the Lida region was represented in Polish maps of the 16th-18th centuries serves to exemplify, on the basis of a selected and restricted area, the development of the cartography of the Grand Duchy of Lithuania.

The name of Lidia appears as early as 1507-1508 and 1513 in maps which were based on the map of Nicholas of Cusa and still had some mediaeval features. Later maps were influenced by the cartographic works by Bernard Wapowski of 1526-1528: they include maps by Waclaw Gródecki and his successor Andrzej Pograbka, as well as maps by Strubicz and Sarnicki, which were drawn in connection with the wars fought by king Stefan Batory, and the map by Gerardus Mercator of 1595, which was a synthesis of many earlier cartographic works. These maps did not show the borders of the Lida region, and of the localities contained is they only name Wasiliszki, Szczuczyn, Rózanka and Raduń, while Lida was depicted (for the time in seventy years) only on the map by Sarnicki.

A new stage in cartography of the area was opened by the Radziwiłł-Makowski map, which has been preserved in its 1613 edition. This map was the first to show western and eastern border of the Lida region with the natural borders: southern (on the River Niemen) and northern (on the River Solcza) remaining unmarked. There were seven rivers and twenty one localities named in the region. This map influenced maps drawn in the 17th and the first half on the 18th, such as those by Mikołaj and Wilhelm Sanson, Jakub Sandrart, Karol Allard and Willhelm Delisle. A special role was played by the 1749 map of Jan Nieprzecki, which for the first time showed the full borders of the Lida district and marked the end of this stage in the development of the region's cartography.

The last stage of the development of the Lida region's cartography in the pre-partition Commonwealth of Poland and Lithuania was characterized by emergence of two major cartographic works, based on many years of work by their authors. One was the map of Poland by Karol Perthées, and the other the Jabłonowski-Zannoni map, published in the form of an atlas in 1772. Both contained a much richer and more precise representation of the Lida region (including about one hundred localities) than any of the previous maps, but even those two maps were not free of mistakes and inaccuracies, removed only much later, following detailed topographic research.