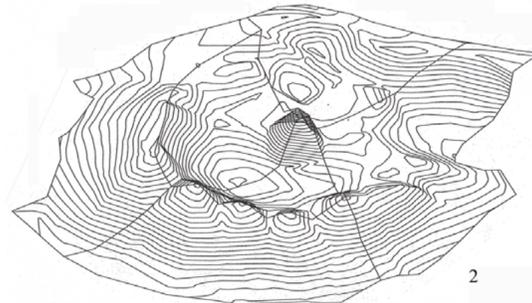
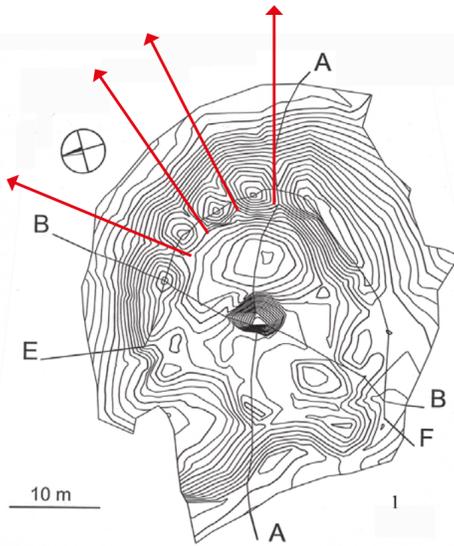
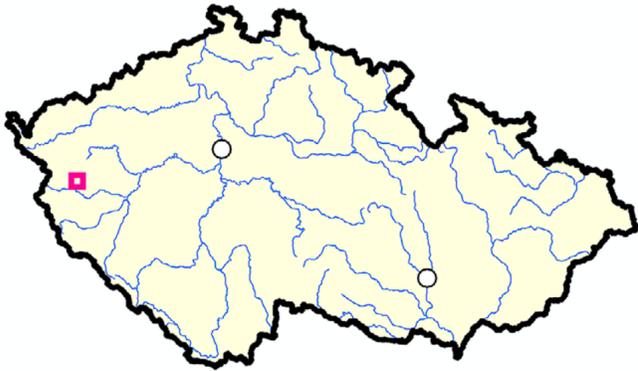


# Swedish rock fortress from 1647 on Hrotek Hill

## West Bohemia, Czech Republic

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At the very beginning of the summer of 1647, the Swedish Army advanced east from Germany toward Bohemia. The Imperial Army stopped the Swedes at the end of August in West Bohemia, near Třebel Castle. The battle lasted three weeks. Both armies built a complex system of field fortifications in the agricultural landscape near Třebel. Seven relicts of the field fortifications of both armies are still preserved today. During the last twenty years, all of them were studied via archaeological methods. In 2014 and from 2016 to 2017, systematic archaeological excavations were carried out on Hrotek Hill. At the end of August and beginning of September 1647, the Swedes constructed a rock fortress on the top of the hill. On the walls of a mediaeval or early modern quarry, the Swedes cut four loopholes and built 2.5-high and 3.5m-wide ramparts for cannons (half cartoon, 24lb. cannons). The result was a half-circle fortress 23m in diameter. The fortress is depicted on the copper engraving of the battle in the 6th volume of *Theatrum Europaeum*.

1 The battlefield by Třebel. *Theatrum Europaeum* VI.

2 3D model of swedish rock fortress

3 Freiberg 1570, Fortress Akershus, Oslo

4 Benfeld 1638, Schweizerisches Nationalmuseum Zürich

5 The Hrotek Hill

6 The archaeological excavation of swedish rock fortress

7–8 Loopholes cuted on rock