Mapping historical landscape changes with the use of a space-time cube

In this contribution, we introduce geographic concepts in the humanities and present the results of a spacetime visualization of ancient buildings over the last centuries. The techniques and approaches used were based on cartographic research to visualize spatio-temporal information. As a case study, we applied cartographic styling techniques to a model of the Royal Castle in Warsaw and its different spatial elements, which were constructed and destroyed during their eventful history. In our case, the space-time cube approach seems to be the most suitable representation of this spatio-temporal information. Therefore, we digitized the different footprints of the castle during the ancient centuries as well as the landscape structure around, and annotated them with monarchies, epochs and time. During the digitization process, we had to cope with difficulties like sources in various scales and map projections, which resulted in varying accuracies. The results were stored in KML to support a wide variety of visualization platforms.

Stichworte:
digital humanities, space-time cube, Google Earth, KML