

History of Dresden Fortress

around **1170**

Dresden is supposed to have been founded as a royal residence town, protected by a solid fortress at the ford on the left Elbe River bank.

1206

Dresden is first mentioned in records.

1216

Dresden is first mentioned as »civitas«, town.

1299

The existence of the town walls is proved by documents for the first time.

1427

The foundations of a fortified wall are laid.

1519

Duke George builds a rampart. The settlement of the *Frauenkirche* suburb is incorporated into the town.

1545

Duke Maurice starts to build a fortified bastion on the right Elbe River bank in old Italian manner. *Altendresden* on the right Elbe River bank is incorporated.

1546

Duke Maurice starts to build a fortified bastion on the side of the residence town. (the left river bank)

1555

After ten years of construction time, the works on the fortress are completed.

1567

A foundry is set up in the small bastion by Wolfgang Hilger.

1590 – 1592

Paul Buchner extends the small bastion to the north-east. This part becomes known as the Virgin Bastion.

1632

The construction of the Dutch bastion fortification starts around *Altendresden*.

1748/49

The Virgin Bastion is renamed Venus Bastion and redesigned into a garden estate under Count von Bruehl

1759/60

Altendresden is destructed in the Seven Years' War.

1809

The razing of the fortification begins and is only interrupted by the battle on 26 and 27 August, during which the French reformed the town by earthworks.

1814

The fortifications in the area of Bruehl's Terrace become accessible to the public.

1815 – 1830

The fortifications above ground are finally razed.

1945

Parts of the fortress are used as air raid shelter.

since **1965**

Monumental preservation works are carried out in the course of which the fortress area is unearthed.

since **1989**

Unearthing works continue, this time carried out by the registered association *Bruehlsche Terrasse e.V.*

1993

Dresden Fortress becomes part of the newly founded castle operations *Dresden Castles and Gardens*.