

gall. quart. 113

**Binding:**

Original binding made of blue paper, devoid of any embellishments.

**History:**

On the basis of writing's characteristics we may assume that the manuscript was made in the 17<sup>th</sup> century. The pot watermarks characteristic of French manufactories and the language indicate that the manuscript was copied in France. Fol. 1r<sup>o</sup> includes a note in faded ink saying: *[Ex libris Illustrissimi et] Excell[enti]s[si]mi D[omini] D[omini] Henrici Guilielmi S[acri] R[omani] I[mperii] Comitis a Staremberg*. So the manuscript belonged to Heinrich Wilhelm Starhemberg (1593-1675), on whom Ferdinand II conferred the title of Reichsgraf in 1643 in recognition of his services. On the spine of the manuscript there is a catalogue number *I. 129*. Similar catalogue numbers can be found, among others, in mss. hisp. fol. 25, ital. oct. 7, gall. oct. 29. All the manuscripts used to be part of the collection of counts von Starhemberg from Eferding. The Königliche Bibliothek purchased the whole library and entered it to the acquisition register on the 4<sup>th</sup> of April 1889.

**Content:**

The manuscript contains a text entitled *Compendieux traité de l'art de fortification et des choses qui conviennent à un ingénieur*. It is an anonymous treatise divided into three parts. The first part includes presentation of the basic terms used in geometry. In the second part the author expounds the rules of fortification construction. The third part contains explanations of the basic cartographic notions. It seems that the text has never been published in print. No other manuscripts containing the text have been found. With reference to the manuscript cf. Lemm, p. 21.