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England and London in The Age of Elizabeth I

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ELIZABETH I**

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Prohlašuji, že jsem práci zpracovala samostatně a použila jen uvedených pramenů a literatury.

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1. INTRODUCTION

This bachelor thesis is concerned with the time of reign of Elizabeth I as seen in the title. The history of English is a fascinating field of study on its own, but it also provides a perspective for understanding of today's culture. The aim of this work is to map the particular period of the reign of Elizabeth I, to approach this issue on the basis of given examples taken from Tudor history and to provide readers with brief introduction especially to the field of society and everyday life.

The thesis is divided into two main sections. The first section is a theoretical introduction of the topic. The first section begins with a general outline of brief introduction to Tudor period. Further Elizabeth I, comes into focus. Followed by chapter Elizabethan Age (society, social structure, culture, architecture) which has been discussed. And the last chapter deals with the issue of England and London in the time of Elizabeth I. In total the first main section has 6 chapters and various subchapters. There might also be some unknown terms which are explained in the chapter of endnotes.

The second main section, the practical part, concerns with mapping of London in the 16th century. The author tries to approach London in 16th century by examples which had been found in several guides. Of course, not all the places could be mentioned, but the author tried to pick up on some of the important ones.

The thesis contains the sort of information provided by printed and internet sources.

The findings of the thesis - to map the period of the reign of Elizabeth I, to approach this issue on the basis of given examples taken from Tudor English and give a brief introduction to the period of the reign of Elizabeth I.

2. BACKGROUND TO THE TUDORS

“The Tudor period or House of Tudor was a European royal house of Welsh origin descended from Prince Phys ap Tewdwr*, that ruled the Kingdom of England and its realms, including the Lordship of Ireland, later the Kingdom of Ireland.”¹“It was a period which lasted from 1485 to 1603 and is one of the most exciting in English history. It was a time when the first Englishman sailed around the world, when the first European settlers sailed the thousands of miles across the Atlantic Ocean to try to start up a new life in America and when Spain tried to invade England. It also has some of the most colourful kings and queens in England’s history.”²

Tudor monarchs of England and Ireland

Henry VII* - 28th January 1457 – 21st April 1509

Henry VIII* - 28th June 1491 – 28th January 1547

Edward VI* - 12th October 1537 – 6th July 1553

Jane* - 1536 – 12th February 1554

Mary I* - 18th February 1516 – 17th November 1558

Elizabeth I* - 7th September 1533 – 24th March 1603

3. ELIZABETH I

“Elizabeth had a long, turbulent path to the throne. She had a number of problems during her childhood, one of the main ones being after the execution of her mother, Anne Boleyn*. When Anne was beheaded, Henry declared Elizabeth an illegitimate child and she would,

therefore, not be able to inherit the throne After the death of her father, she was raised by his widow, Catherine Parr*and her husband Thomas Seymour*, 1st Baron Seymour of Sudeley. After the rebellion of Thomas Wyatt the younger, Elizabeth was imprisoned in the Tower of London. No proof could be found that Elizabeth was involved and she was released and retired to the countryside until the death of her sister, Mary I of England.“³

3.1. Elizabeth´s Reign

“Elizabeth I was probably the most shrewd of the Tudor monarchs. She chose loyal and skilled advisers like William Cecil* and Sir Francis Walsingham*. She took her duties as Queen extremely seriously and didn´t let personal matters override as her father had done.“⁴

“Elizabeth´s government was in no position to impose policies by force and the patronage system was a means of winning the consensus of the political classes. Another means was use of a revived and Protestant chivalry at the service of a queen who was the focus for knightly service. In an age dominated by masculine values, the anomaly of female ruler could be eased by the fiction of a relationship in which traditions of the love-game were sharpened and sophisticated by the influence of Petrarch* and the love sonnet.“⁵

“When Elizabeth came to the throne she was prepared to try to keep both Protestants* and Catholics happy in England for the sake of peace. She was a Protestant, but Catholics were given a fair of freedom and not persecuted in the way that they had been in Edward´s reignor as the Protestants had suffered under Mary.“⁶

“In the reign of Elizabeth I the Puritans* were permitted to build a wooden temple on the site of the site of the saw-pit; then the

Prebysterians migrated to the location, and erected a brick chapel on the same spot.”⁷

“Even though Elizabeth was only twenty-five when she came to the throne, she was absolutely sure of her God-given place to be the queen and of her responsibilities as the ‘handmaiden of the Lord’. She never let anyone challenge her authority as queen, even though many people, who felt she was weak and should be married, tried to do so. The popularity of Elizabeth was extremely high, but her Privy Council, her Parliament and her subjects thought that the unmarried queen should take a husband.”⁸

“Elizabeth, in particular, spent most of her long reign in and around London and Windsor. It is true that she also combined business with pleasure by extensive and almost annual summer progresses through the shires, but she never travelled further north than Stratford, Shrewsbury and Bristol. She was able to rely on her lords president in Wales and the North to control those outlying regions – devoted servants like Sir Henry Sidney* at Ludlow and Henry, earl of Huntingdon at York.”⁹

“Elizabeths’s reign could be viewed as reversing these centralising trends, for on the one hand the queen delegated more and more responsibility to the county officials – lords-lieutenant, sheriffs and justices of the peace – while on the other, local gentry were more often taking concerted political action at the county level.”¹⁰

3.2 Elizabeth’s Life

“She was a striking looking woman, with autburn hair, white skin and pale eyes.”¹¹

“She was very intelligent, very well educated and spoke English, Latin, French, Spanish, Italian, Flemish, Irish, Cornish and Welsh.”¹²

“Her temper was so ferocious that people preferred not to face the Queen in a rage. Even her godson, Sir John Harington* once said that he would rather face the entire Spanish army , “¹³

“She was also very jealous and vain. Ladies at court had to dress in white and silver leaving the Queen to stand out in bright colours. In 1563 she gave an order that she had to approve all portraits of her and as she became older she ensured that they made her look young and beautiful. In 1596 she ordered that all unseemly portraits of her to be destroyed. “¹⁴

“When Elizabeth died she left over 3,000 dresses and headdecorations. “¹⁵

“She never married anyone.” There are many reasons debated as to why Elizabeth never married. It was rumoured that she was in love with Robert Dudley*, 1st Earl of Leicester. This rumour was one of many that swirled around the two’s long-standing friendship. Elizabeth also refused to enter into a foreign match with a man that she had never seen before, so that also eliminated a large number of suitors. “¹⁶

“Elizabeth’s reign is associated readily enough with a literary golden age, but other artistic and cultural achievements are less widely known. Elizabeth spent her time ‘watching bears and bulls fighting dogs’, grumbled a Spanish envoy in 1576, but it was also the same queen who read Greek daily with her old tutor Ascham whenever he was at court. The Renaissance belief in the complete man prevented any sharp separation between sports and pastimes and more sober pursuits.”¹⁷

4. ELIZABETHAN AGE

“The Elizabethan Age was a time of discovery and exploration, with quests for new and quicker trade routes: European explorers discovered

newlands and riches from the Far East were brought back to England. It was also an era of great buccaneering and piracy, with sailors like Francis Drake* and Raleigh raiding Spanish ships returning from the wealthy American colonies, while Elizabeth turned a blind eye and took a slice of the profits.“¹⁸

“Elizabethans from all walks of life enjoyed games and sport as well as music, dancing and visiting the theatre. Today we could find Elizabethan sport blood thirsty or cruel. A popular pastime was watching a public execution, for example, another crowd-puller was cock fighting. Travelling players visited villages, performing their plays in the open air, and the theatres in London were popular with both rich and poor. The poorer people, known as ‘groundlings’, sat on the ground around the edge of the stage and would sometimes throw things at the actors if they did not like the play.”¹⁹

4.1. Visits

“Many people built grand houses in preparation for a royal visit – but sometimes the Queen never came. Some people who couldn’t face the hassle and expense of a royal visit tried, usually unsuccessfully, to put Elizabeth off visiting.” ²⁰

“A banquet in Elizabethan times was not a huge meal but was more like the pudding or dessert course of a main meal. After the meat courses people would retire to another room to eat their dessert while the main room was cleared for dancing. These smaller rooms were known as banqueting houses and were very fashionable during Elizabethan times. Some were even built away from the house and used for separate dessert parties rather than part of the main evening celebrations.”²¹

4.2. Families and Households

“The basic unit of society was the household or family. The terms were used interchangeably, for all living-in members, including servants, were considered part of the family. Statues, proclamations and by-laws all laid injunctions on householders with the firm understanding that they could speak for their dependants. Youths and young adults remained under the authority of parents or masters until they married and set up families of their own. The mature adult who was unmarried and his own master was a rarity.”²²

“It has been shown that the mean Tudor household was relatively small, and that was typically a nuclear family of husband, wife and children, with or without servants. The large family of many children was rare. Average household sizes conceal a wide range from rich to poor. The houses of gentlemen, yeomen, merchants and the more prosperous husbandmen and craftsmen were places of business as well as homes. The children would be more likely to live at home to help with the estate, farm or family business, while children and youths from other families would live in a servants or apprentices.”²³

“There was not only a social inequality but also a sexual one. A woman was subordinated first to parents (or guardians) and later to husband, and in legal theory it was only as a widow that she could hope to enjoy equality in disposing of her person or property.”²⁴

“The wedding would be arranged by the bride’s parents, at least among the well-to-do, with blood, money and property mind, and the bargaining over settlements and dowries in *The Taming of the Shrew* represented a common reality. The conservative ideal was that children should be married to those of equal rank, although alliance of blue blood and money were often preferred in practice.”²⁵

4.2.1. Marriages and Birth

“As marriage rates and age at marriage are an important determinant of population growth, also the question about marriage should be considered.”²⁶

“The aristocratic norm in Tudor England was for marriages in the late teens or early twenties, while commoners’ marriages took place later still. Although there are still some disagreement over whether or when medieval England may have had a different marriage pattern, but certainly a relatively late age at marriage was normal by Elizabethan’s reign, and so apparently was a high minority of celibates. One-quarter of the women aged between forty and seventy in Ealing in 1599 were still single.”²⁷

“It is misleading to speak of sixteenth-century mortality rates in general, for they varied much more than birth-rates. Heavy mortality gave place to less heavy child mortality and to even lighter adult mortality, but superimposed on the ‘normal’ mortality pattern were the irregular demographic crises which require separate consideration. For example the Cambridge 404-parish sample shows aggregate burials in most years well below baptisms. Expectation of life was 47,5 at birth in the second half of the sixteenth century, but was still 29 at age 30: in other words, a man or woman surviving his or her first 30 years could hope on average to live another 30. However, crowded urban areas could be much less healthy. Expectation of life at birth in some wealthy central London parishes was about 30-35 years, and in the poorer parishes only 20-25.”²⁸

4.2.2. Children

“Children were subject to parents as were wives to husbands. Parents had almost despotic powers over children living at home, and often even after they had grown up and moved away. Grown men were expected to kneel to ask a father’s blessing, and, to stay like mutes and fools bareheaded before their parents. Yet the subordination of children, as of women, had limits in practice. They had some legal rights over the age of majority (21 at common law) and often younger than that. By northern custom a dying parent could nominate a guardian for those ages the orphans could ‘choose their own curators’.”²⁹

“Children of noblemen and gentlemen were often sent at an early age to the households of others for service and education.”³⁰

“The crucial mechanism for transfer of wealth and power between the generations were of course inheritance customs. Primogeniture, in the sense that the bulk of an estate descended to the eldest son and heir, was already the norm among nobles and greater gentry. Some lesser gentry divided their lands more equally, but during the century strict primogeniture spread downwards. Among English yeomen, husbandmen and smallholders, however, inheritance customs varied widely. Primogeniture was apparently usual in areas of open-field cultivation and of strong manorial control, and partible inheritance more common in old-enclosed areas, uplands, woodland, forest and fen.”³¹

“Certainly different from a ‘modern attitude’ to the family was that all subordinates living in a household, whether children, apprentices or servants, were considered members of ‘that’ family, and were all equally subject to the authority of master and mistress.”³²

4.3. Family Life, Living

“Until the beginning in the sixteenth century, country houses had been built to resist attack. This meant that they often were like mini castles, with moats, arrow slits for windows and would look onto a courtyard rather than have a garden. But by the end of the century, people began to feel more confident. The Spanish had failed to invade, the wool trade was prospering, people were better educated, and many had travelled and seen styles of architecture in Europe which they felt like copying on their return to England.”³³

“Houses were becoming a lot more comfortable and pleasant to live in than they had been in the Middle Ages. As windows replaced arrow slits there was more natural light, and proper chimneys were built so rooms were less smoky. Floors were still covered with rushes but they tended to be woven together as mats rather than just lying loose.”³⁴

“Children of wealthy families were often sent to live with families from a still higher class for a couple of years. This was called ‘placing out’. They would have household jobs to do but it was hoped that they would pick up some tips on manners and behaviours.”³⁵

“In Tudor times babies from rich families would often have ‘wet nurses’. These were women from poorer families who were paid to breastfeed babies – their own baby might have died or they might have been feeding two babies at once. Babies were swaddled at birth. This meant they were tightly wrapped from neck to toe in a long band of material about three metres long. This was supposed to make their legs and arms grow straight and children spent the first few months of their life in this uncomfortable wrapping. Babies had a pretty rough time of it and were sometimes hung up in their swaddling bands from a hook on the

wall. When babies were baptized, salt was put on the tongue and oil on the forehead. Children often wore a piece of coral which was supposed to be good luck and keep away evil and illness. ³⁶

4.3.1. Diseases and Mortality

“The medical causes of most mortality are likely to remain uncertain. Parish clerks seldom noted causes of death, except for striking and untypical cases or during epidemics. The London bills of mortality list total burials and ‘plague’ deaths but do not distinguish other fatal diseases before 1629. Poor diet, lack of hygiene, injuries from accidents or assaults, primitive medicine, scarcity of medical services, and perhaps a deteriorating climate, must all have increased susceptibility to a wide range of diseases and ailments, many of which have been eliminated from Britain or have ceased to be fatal. Diseases known to have been prevalent in Tudor England, or plausibly suggested to explain cryptic contemporary references, include bubonic plague, influenza, typhus, dysentery, scurvy, smallpox, measles, syphilis and even malaria. Admittedly, some had a high morbidity but a low mortality rate, though they probably debilitated men and weakened their resistance to other diseases. For example, a ‘new strange sickness’, probably influenza was widespread throughout northern Europe in 1580.” ³⁷

“High mortality inevitably broke up many families by removing one parent or other while their children were minors. ³⁸

4.4. Tudor society as a Ladder of Ranks

“Tudor society is often described as a ladder of ranks or classes descending from Crown and nobles to paupers, vagrants and bondmen. It is a traditional form of description which was widely current at the time:

Harrison and Smith, for instance, both divided the population into six: queen, nobility, gentry, citizens, yeomen and artificers or labourers.”³⁹

4.4.1. Social Structure

“The Elizabethans were the first Englishmen to anatomise their society, just as they were the earliest to explore and map their country systematically. William Harrison*, writing in or by 1576, was the first to analyse clearly the orders of society: his account was copied and revised by Sir Thomas Smith*in *De Republica Anglorum*, and Smith in turn was drawn on by Harrison when revised his own work for publication in 1577. The monarch formed a separate ‘estate’ by himself: this was a recognition that the wearer of the Crown possessed so much authority and power as to be in a class of his or her own. Smith, listed among the monarch’s powers the sole right to make war and peace, to choose the Privy Council, to make decisions on foreign affairs, to invoke martial law, to fix and alter the currency, to grant pardons and dispensations from the laws, and to fill all the chief offices of Church and state.”⁴⁰

“Next came the lay peers, those ‘brave halfe paces between a throne and a people’ in Fulke Greville’s phrase. They numbered only 48 in 1547, 56 in 1553, 57 in 1558 and 55 in 1603. These few men were unique in English society because admission to their ranks was controlled entirely by the sovereign, and their continuance was secured by hereditary succession. Henry VIII had created many new titles, but Elizabeth created or recognized only eighteen peerages in all her long reign. The consequence was that a raw new peerage was given time to acquire the patina of age. When she came to the throne, almost half of the peers were first or second generation, when she died, the proportion

had fallen to less than one fifth. She also prevented too wide a disparity in dignity among the peerage.”⁴¹

“Next to the peers ranked the gentry, but to distinguish nobles from gentry is to imply a sharp line between two quite distinct groups, as there was in France or the Empire, but not in England.”⁴²

“Nobles had a superior legal and social status to other gentlemen, and that was all. Since the only the eldest son and heir of a peer succeeded to his title, all his other sons were untitled gentlemen, again in contrast to much of the Continent. It is true that peers sat apart in parliament, but their younger brothers and sons often sat in the Commons, and there was no sharp social divide between the two Houses. The fundamental unity of the order of gentry must be stressed, since much of the recent debate about social mobility has hinged on an alleged distinction and even class hostility between nobles and gentry.”⁴³

“Precedence among the gentry belonged to the knights, whose military origin was fading. They could still be dubbed by commanders in the field as well as by the sovereign, but they were now created. Elizabeth was generally sparing in her grants of knighthood, and she created only 878 knights in all. The total numbers at any time have been estimated by Stone at 600 in 1558, 300 around 1580, and 550 in 1603, figures which may well be much too high.”⁴⁴

Merchants, artificers or labourers created the 6th group of the classification.

4.4.2. Beggars

“In the sixteenth century first emerged ‘brotherhoods’ of beggars, who went by such names as the Roaring Boys, the Bonaventoes, the Quarters and the Bravadoes. They collected Whitefriars and Moorditch and Hoxton, the field of Lincoln’s Inn and the porch of st Bartholomew the

Great, the last two locations are still used by vagrants today. All of them smoked pipes, as an emblem of their status, and were well known for their violence and their drunkenness. The beggars haunted 'the Bancke and such like naughtie places'; they were to be whipped, or burned, or imprisoned upon a diet of bread and water. But nothing could stop their coming. The pace of enclosures in the countryside left many unemployed and homeless, and the return of soldier from foreign wars increased that turbulent element. To these were added the native unemployed or unemployable, 'maisterless men' as thwere called, to denote very firmly the fact that they were not part of the social fabric established upon hierarchy. In 1569 some thousands of 'maisterless men' were imprisoned, and in the same year the citizens manned their gates in order to prevent the entry of and groups of beggars."⁴⁶

"It has been supposed that the beggars' brotherhoods of the sixteenth centuries were quite formal affairs with their own rites of initiation, ceremonies and rules of procedure. Each beggar was given a nickname on joining their fellowship – Great Bull, Madam Wapapace, Hye Shreve and so on – and recited a list of beggar commandments. These included such admonitions as 'Thou shalt share all winnings' and 'Thou shalt not divulge the secret of the cantind tongue'. This tongue was not in fact unknown to Londoners, incorporated some of its terms into Cockney*, but it was unique nevertheless. It was composed of various tags and terms from other languages – Welsh, Irish, Dutch, Cockney and Latin among them – so it was in one sense as international argot. The canting tongue was said to have been invented somewhere."⁴⁷

"By 1600, it was estimated that there were 12,000 beggars inhabiting the city: a large group of disaffected people who alternately cajoled or threatened the other citizens."⁴⁸

4.4.3. First black slaves

“Sixteenth-century trade with Africa, and the arrival of the first black slaves in London in 1555, mark their irruption into the city’s consciousness. They became the object of fear and curiosity. Although relatively few in number, most of them watched and controlled as domestic slaves or indentured servants, they were already a source of anxiety. In 1596 Elizabeth I despatched a letter to the civic authorities complaining that ‘there are of late diverse blackamoors brought into these realms, . . . , and a few months later the queen reiterated her sentiment ‘that these kinde of people may be well spared in this realme, being so populous’. Five years later a royal proclamation was announced, in which ‘the great number of begars and Blackmoores which are crept into this realm were ordered to leave. Yet, like all such proclamations touching upon London and London’s population, it had little effect. The imperatives of trade, particularly with the islands of the Caribbean.’”⁴⁹

5. CULTURE, ARCHITECTURE

5.1. Culture

“Popular culture in Tudor England has been much less studied than learned culture. Sport and pastimes varied widely between different regions and social groups.”⁵⁰ “Hawking and hunting were passions with many gentlemen. The favourite sport of the aristocracy was hunting. Everyone could hunt hare but only gentlemen were allowed to chase deer, and manor houses used to be surrounded by deer parks. This meant that poaching was quite common.”⁵¹

“The existence of a rich and varied repertoire of ballads, songs and stories is well-established, but these activities were in the main confined to the world of oral transmission and were either ignored or treated with contempt by literate observers.”⁵²

5.1.1. Theatre

“The traditional dramatic entertainments were originally performed in the open air, by occasional ‘actors’ to fluctuating audiences. By the 1570s the strolling players were beginning to form themselves into regular companies attached for patronage and protection to prominent noblemen: such a company, known as the Queen’s men, was formed by Elizabeth’s Master of the Revels in 1583. Already, James Burbage had established one of the conditions of the new drama when, as a leader of the Earl of Leicester’s men, he built in 1576 The Theatre, the earliest construction of its kind in England, an open field near Shoreditch. In spite of the opposition of the authorities of the City of London, fearful of possible disorder and moved by Puritan prejudice against dramatic performances, other permanent theatres rapidly followed: The Curtain, also in Shoreditch, in 1577, the Rose, on the South bank of the Thames, about 1588, the Swan in Southwark, around 1595, and the Globe Theatre, to become associated with Shakespeare*, in 1598.”⁵³

5.2. Architecture

“The architecture of the reign of Elizabeth I is called Elizabethan. The characteristic of this Elizabethan style that combines Renaissance features, such as symmetrical fenestration, with all manner of fantastic decorative flourishes, notably turrets with cupolas, pinnacles and fanciful chimney stacks, to create a highly original concoction that has been aptly described as the ‘prodigy house’. Inside, the long galleries, ornate plaster ceilings and rooms lit by huge windows containing a riot of carved wood work express all the enthusiasm and invention of the Elizabethan era. It is best exemplified by the great country houses of the period, e.g. Longleat, Kirby Hall, Burghley House, Wollaton Hall, Hardwick Hall, etc.”⁵⁴

5.2.1 Interiors

“In the sixteenth century for the first time, it is possible to describe the decorative art of the English in more than general terms, there is a profusion of written details as to the material culture, and a wealth of objects, also from the most luxurious articles commissioned by aristocrats to the humble pots and treen made for the poor. These objects, whether tapestries, jewels, armour pots or plate could be seen.”⁵⁵

“The sixteenth century was the golden age of the pictorial tapestry, the finest, of silk, wool and gold thread. On the walls hung sets of tapestries or in lesser homes painted clothes. Every horizontal surface was concealed – stools and windows – sills with cushions, cupboards and buffets with plain woven cloths and damask runners at mealtimes, the tables again with clothes.”⁵⁶

6. ENGLAND AND LONDON

6.1. England

“England in 1547 was a second-rank European power with considerable potential economic resources but thinly populated, beset by social and economic problems, at odds over religion, and increasingly isolated from its traditional allies and trading partners.”⁵⁷

6.1.1. Industry

“England was industrially backward in the early sixteenth century in comparison with her European neighbours. It was only gradually, from about 1540 onwards, that she began to catch up by establishing many new industries and by putting others on a commercially significant basis for the first time. These included copper-mining, glass-making and paper-

making, gunfounding and the manufacture of gunpowder, alum and copperas, the weaving of silk, cotton and linen. Also products which were meant to transform the lives of the mass of the population – products like soap, stockings, pins and needles, and pots and pans.”⁵⁸

“Elizabethan era saw a positive leap forward, English shipbuilding expanded dramatically, as did the native carrying trade, both coastal and long distance into the Mediterranean, the East Indies and the Americas. The trigger was to find new markets.”⁵⁹

6.1.2. Agriculture

“England was very fertile, especially in pasture for sheep, and producing excellent wool. It was rich in tin, lead and other metals, much of which was exported to Antwerp. Wales had much fertile meadow land, but worse cultivated, as the Welsh were even lazier than the English and addicted to theft. England imported sufficient wine and oil, but could dispense with these imports by substituting native beer, butter and rape oil. Salt was extracted in several places, and was not taxed; and firewood, vegetables, saffron and fish were all abundant. Soranzo saw England as enjoying a temperate climate, producing sufficient grain for the home market, and capable of producing more for export. Beer was general drink, brewed with hops from Flanders. White salt was abundant, and black salt was imported from Normandy. A little olive oil was imported, but generally English butter was used for food and imported rape oil for cloth-working. A huge number of sheep provided the wool to manufacture 300,000 pieces of cloth annually, as well as 2,000 tons of unwrought wool for export. There were lead and tin mines in Cornwall, iron mines in Derbyshire, and coal mines in the north towards Scotland.”⁶⁰

“England was gradually moving from local and regional economies towards an integrated national economy, a transition which had been in

progress for centuries and which was not to be completed until the nineteenth century. It is important not to fall into the opposite errors of exaggerating the isolation and self-sufficiency of Tudor communities or of anticipating their fusion into a national market.”⁶¹

“It would be generally true to say that England was more unified and homogeneous in 1603 than in 1547.”⁶²

6.1.3. Government in England

“In Tudor England the monarch ruled by hereditary right, though the exact order of succession was not undisputed in the absence of a legitimate son of the sovereign. The monarch after the abolition of papal supremacy in 1534, was head of the Church in England as well as the state. He or she had very extensive powers by royal prerogative, including the decisions to make war and peace, to coin money of any weight, value and quantity, and to appoint all important offices in Church and state. He or she was assisted by a Council on all important decisions, and increasingly from the 1530s by a small inner ring which became known as the Privy Council; but the Council could only advise the sovereign, who might or might not accept that advice.”⁶³

“The members of parliament developed a sense of continuity and political importance which was never forgotten. Admittedly, parliaments were called generally for short periods and only at the will of the sovereign; they sat, for example, for a total of under three years during the forty-four-year reign of Elizabeth. Nevertheless, their influence and powers could not be ignored. The House of Lords included all peers and bishops, and the Commons a rising proportion of the more important gentlemen, lawyers and merchants. Its membership was steadily increased from 349 at the death of Henry VIII to 462 at the death of Elizabeth, making it the largest representative assembly in Europe, not only

proportionally to population but absolutely. It was already accepted constitutional practice that no new sources of royal revenue could be exploited without the assent of the House of Commons.”⁶⁴

“Elizabeth’s official biographer characterized England on the death of Henry VIII as a land ‘groaning to see its wealth exhausted, its money debased with copper, its abbeys demolished...and the land embroiled in a war with Scotland’.”⁶⁵

6.1.4. Inhabitants

“England and Wales probably contained about 3 million people in 1547, rising slowly and erratically to 4.3 million in 1603 – a total of the order of modern Denmark or Norway. Yet the land contained some 9, 400 separate parishes, and almost as many villages and hamlets as there are today, so that the size of the average settlement was naturally small. The average population of twenty-three Norfolk parishes in 1557 was only 216; and at the end of the period, after considerable population growth, the large Middlesex village of Ealing contained only 404 souls. The largest provincial towns, Norwich, York and Bristol, had between 10, 000 and 20, 000 inhabitants, and only London, with perhaps 200, 000 in 1603, was a large city by European standards.”⁶⁶

6.1.5. Living Standards

“The great inflation of the sixteenth century did not increase all incomes equally, and the Crown was not the only sufferer. In general, landlords and tenants prospered as food prices outstripped other prices, although the exact distribution of the surplus between lord and tenant varied greatly with the conditions of tenancies and leases, while landless and the wage labourers may have fallen behind. Very few people, at least

in the countryside were without at least a smallholding or common rights to cushion them against rising food prices, but the rising standards of living clearly evident among many sections of the community did not benefit everyone.⁶⁷

“Wealth in Tudor England was distributed very unequally, both geographically and socially. The country was divided sharply between a prosperous South-east and poor North-west, a pattern that held good until the industries of the West Midlands and the North developed in the late seventeenth and eighteenth centuries. Middlesex was easily the richest shire thanks largely to presence of London. The other counties with high assessments at both dates were Essex, Suffolk, Berkshire, Huntingdonshire and Somerset. The North and West Midland counties were the poorest assessed, together with Lancashire and Yorkshire.”⁶⁸

“Tudor period, though there are no satisfactory tax assessments to prove it. The Henrician tax records also demonstrate a concave pyramid of wealth distribution in every county, ranging from a few very wealthy taxpayers to a large mass assessed at the minimum and an even larger group exempt altogether. Of some 5,000 Wes Riding taxpayers in 1546, nearly half were assessed in the minimum category of between £ 5 and £ 9 in goods.”⁶⁹

“The lay peers were still, as a group, the richest subjects in the kingdom, though they did not constitute a majority among the great landowners. Their mean income was estimated at £ 2,200 a year net in 1559 and £ 3,020 net in 1602. In 1559 the six poorest peers had gross annual rentals of under £500, while the richest was the fourth duke of Norfolk with £ 6,000 in rent alone, besides extensive profits from commerce, industry and direct farming. The peers, never a financially homogenous group, overlapped with the richer gentry, as did the poorer gentlemen with the richer yeomen.”⁷⁰

“The wide variations in income of nobles and gentry reflected mainly the size of their landed states. Long-term economic prosperity depended on landed wealth, either inherited or acquired by marriage, although government office and business ventures might enlarge landowners’ incomes for short periods sufficiently to enable them to buy more land. The possession of productive farmland was particularly crucial between 1520s and 1640s, when food prices were generally rising ahead of other prices and wages. Other sources of income were generally modest.”⁷¹

6.1.5.1. Dearth

“There were two widespread dearths in 1586-88 and 1596-98. A bad harvest in 1586 was followed by widespread mortality over the next two harvest years. There is an evidence for high mortality in Essex, Devon, Staffordshire, Lancashire, Yorkshire and Cumbria, and no doubt elsewhere, often rising to two or three times the annual average.”⁷²

6.1.5.2. Migration

“Clark and Souden distinguish between ‘local’, ‘chain’, ‘circular’ and ‘career migration, a convenient schematisation of a complex reality. Much migration was always local, as men and woman pursued work or marriage partners. At the other end of the scale, career migration took some far away from their birthplaces – especially those apprentices to crafts and trades, and also lawyers, clergy and other professional folk. Somewhere between the two came those who left their home areas only to return after a series of moves, notably chapmen, labourers and servants. Clark and Souden suggest that in the sixteenth century poorer, ‘subsistence’ migrants often travelled great distances to stay alive, either to marginal agricultural areas or to the larger towns, while ‘betterment’ or

career migrant, especially urban freemen, tended to travel against too clear-cut a distinction between the two groups.⁷³

“Large towns, with their often unfavourable demographic balance, had to attract immigrants just to remain the same size. Since most towns increased their size in the second half of the century, rural-urban migration was substantial, and since the larger the town the greater the natural surplus of burials, the greater was the degree of immigration also.”⁷⁴

“Foreign immigrants were a permanent element of considerable economic and cultural importance, especially in London and in towns on or near the south-east coast. Skilled aliens had long been encouraged to settle in England, but their numbers were swollen by religious as well as economic motives after the Reformation. By 1547 there were perhaps 5 to 6,000 foreigners in London, amounting to between 5 and 8 per cent of the population, and by 1553 their numbers had risen to perhaps 10,000 or some 10 per cent. Another influx came over between 1567 and 1572, fleeing persecution in the Netherlands, France and Germany, and even Spain and Italy. Altogether, perhaps as many as 40 to 50,000 foreign refugees came to London between 1550 and 1558, though many moved on elsewhere, and the total in Elizabeth’s reign seems never to have equalled the 10,000 peak of 1553. The second largest immigrant community was in Norwich, where it formed a much higher proportion of the total population. The Privy Council authorised thirty families of ‘strangers’ to settle there in 1556, but their number had risen to some 3,000 persons in 1569, 4,000 in 1571, and 6,000 in 1579, yet by 1583 their community had recovered to 4,679. Other towns were licensed by the Privy Council to receive smaller communities, but it is not possible to give a total of immigrants for the country as a whole. These ‘strangers’ were to play a vital part in England’s social and economic development, and they

formed a striking example of that mobility which was so general a feature of the Tudor population.⁷⁵

“Tudor men and women lived in a land where the ecclesiastical authorities, and after 1559 the state, expected everyone to attend church. Prayers, homilies and biblical passages must have become deeply imprinted on the minds of the congregations.”⁷⁶

6.1.6. Education

“Education was still dominated by the international language of scholarship. Most instruction in grammar schools and universities was in Latin. Scholars and senior clergy habitually wrote, and probably composed in it. The influential works of literature and history first published in Latin included Polydore Vergil’s *Anglica Historia*, Foxe’s *Rerum in Ecclesia Gestarum ... Narratio* and Camden’s *Britannia and Annales*. It is true that spoken Latin was in decline, and that some works, like Foxe’s, were quickly translated for the benefit of the growing number who were quickly translated for the benefit of the growing number who were literate only in English; but number of printed works available solely in Latin was considerable. The decline of colloquial Latin left diplomacy without a universal language, and most international dealings were conducted in French, Italian or Spanish.”⁷⁷

6.1.7. Language

“However, travel and education were slowly reducing local differences. The gentry were coming to speak a standardised English by the end of the century and the gaps between the dialects of commoners seem to have been reduced as printing popularised a common norm. The Cornish language, still generally in use in 1549, was by the early seventeenth century, according to Norden, largely confined to the west.

Even there, he said, most Cornish were bilingual, unless it be some obscure people, that seldom conferr with the better sorte.”⁷⁸

“The role of language in later Tudor England deserves altogether more study form historians. Men’s use of language affects their perception of the world as well as vice versa, but there is a deep gulf between Tudor historians and students of Renaissance literature which deters all but the hardiest. It is recognised that everyday speech was a less hightened form of the English of Shakespeare and the Authorised Version, but complicated by the existence of a wide range of accents and dialects. What is less often appreciated is that polite society was multilingual and not, as today, monolingual.”⁷⁹

6.1.8.Travelling

“Increased travel and geographical awarness went hand in hand with the publications of the first English maps, plans and guidebooks, in what Rowse has happily called the Elizabethan discovery of England.”⁸⁰

6.2. London

“London was without question one of the great European cities, and growing larger.”⁸¹

“London was the only really large city, and the only one growing rapidly. The effect of increasing trade and commercial farming was reflected in a richer diet for the well-to-do. They enjoyed plentiful meat, fish, dairy produce, wheaten bread, beer and wine. It may have been a diet too rich in animal fats, but by the end of the century fruits and vegetables were also abundant.”⁸²

6.2.1. London As a City of The Young

“In the reign of Elizabeth I “London was already far and away the wealthiest urban centre“^{.83}“There was a surfeit of silk shops, selling everything from gold thread to silk stockings, and at the time of her accession it was reported that no country gentleman could ‘be content to have eyther cappe, coat, doublet, hose or shirt....but they must have their geare from London.”⁸⁴

“If London had become the centre of fashion, it had also become the centre of death. Mortality was higher than in any other part of the country, the two great harvester being the plague and the sweating sickness. In poorer parishes life expectancy was only between twenty and twenty-five years, while in the richer it rose to thirty or thirty-five. These fatal infections confirm the evident truth that sixteenth-century London remained a city of the young.”⁸⁵

6.3. Other English Towns

“No one challenged the wealth or importance of London, but continental Europeans tended to dismiss other English towns out of hand, and with reason.”⁸⁶

“One recent estimate suggest that 8 per cent of the English population dwelt in towns of over 5,000 people by about 1600, but 5 per cent in Gloucestershire and 26 per cent in Norfolk and Suffolk. Ye ti is not at all clear that towns other than London were expanding their share of the population. Towns, then, were small, and with few exceptions were not industrial centres divorced from an agrarian economy. The smaller ones relied heavily on servicing their hinterlands through markets, fairs and shops. Even the larger ones had often lost their medieval textile industries

and shifted their interests to trade and servicing, while much Tudor industry was located in the countryside.⁸⁷

7. PRACTICAL PART

“With the death of Henry VIII in 1547 the supremacy of The Crown as an architectural force effectively came to an end and was not to be revived until the accession of King James in 1603.⁸⁸

“As there were events, such as devastating fire and aerial bombardment, the city was destroyed and only few interesting places and buildings remained until now. “The Great Fire of London was a major conflagration that swept through the central parts of the English city of London, from Sunday, 2 September to Wednesday, 5 September 1666. The fire gutted the medieval City of London inside the old Roman City Wall. It threatened, but did not reach, the aristocratic district of Westminster, Charles II's Palace of Whitehall, and most of the suburban slums. It consumed 13,200 houses, 87 parish churches, St. Paul's Cathedral and most of the buildings of the City authorities.”⁸⁹

“That’s why the best place where we could start our tour through London in the 16th century is Westminster.”⁹⁰

“**Westminster** was London’s second city to be born and became its second power centre. In the eighth century, an abbey was established on a marshy spot about three miles upstream and round a southward bend from the London port founded By Emperor Claudius 700 years or so before. This had been a carefully selected spot. This was more haphazard. But by the mid-eleventh century Edward the Confessor had built a bigger abbey and begun the Palace of Westminster. Soon

Westminster was the seat of royal rule for governing England, then Britain, then a globe-encircling empire. Kings were patron of the abbey, where they began and ended their rule with coronation and burial. Their governments quarreled and shouted nearby. And their successive palaces, corridors buzzing with gossip and intrigue, were built further and further from the muddy river bank, leaving the decision makers beside the water.”⁹¹

“**Westminster Hall** was built in 1097-9, it was 240 feet long, 68 feet wide and had six foot thick walls. Then it was rebuilt by Richard II. This hall used to be country’s administrative centre. William II’s brother, Henry I, called his first Grand Council here and initiated its use as a law court. In the thirteenth century, the Model Parliament met here in 1295 and the hall became the official Law Courts (until 1882).”⁹²

“**Whitehall** was a part of ancient thoroughfare linking Westminster to the City then it was renamed it Whitehall Palace by Henry VIII and it was him who added grand halls, gardens, orchards, a bowling green and two bridges over the public thoroughfare to the royal entertainment centre: four tennis courts, a cock-pit and a tiltyard for tournaments and bearbiting.”⁹³

“The only surviving section of Whitehall Palace we can see is **Banqueting House**” which in its heyday was the largest royal palace in Europe. The palace started life in the fourteenth-century as one of the Archbishop of York’s homes, but was seized by Henry VIII in the 1520s and extended dramatically. Henry VIII also built tennis courts, a tiltyard and other facilities on land opposite the palace.”⁹⁴

“**Westminster Abbey** is a building at the core of British history and every ruler has been associated with it.”⁹⁵ In about 1500 there was founded by Henry VIII an almshouse at Westminster Abbey and in the following year

established a friary within the grounds of Richmond Palace. He also made provision in 1508 for the foundation of an ambitious hostel to provide overnight accommodation for 100 poor men and women close by Charing Cross, in a Cruciform building known as the Savoy Hospital.⁹⁶

“To the right, just beyond the Abbey’s north transept, is **St Margaret’s** which was built in 1480-1523. Officially Westminster’s parish church.”⁹⁷

“Leaving the Abbey through Cloisters we come to **Dean’s Yard**, where the monastery Gave refuge to fugitives from the civil law until it became such a mire of thieves and murderers that James I closed it. In Dean’s Yard, MPs and Westminster School jostle for office space. In 1461, the Abbey’s school was moved into no. 19, then it was part of the monastic guest house, and given its first lay headmaster. At the Dissolution in 1540 it went secular. In 1560 Elizabeth I endowed it. In the east side of the square” 80 here we can find the main school buildings on the Little Dean’s Yard “ The building which can most attract people is **Henry Yevele’s College Hall**.”⁹⁸

“Along Dean Bradley Street and right into Horseferry Road, Lambeth Bridge leads over the Thames to **Lambet Palace**, London home of the Archbishops of Canterbury since 1207.”⁹⁹

“The **Mercers’ School** was a private school in the City of London, England, with a history going back to at least 1542. After the disestablishment of the Hospital of St Thomas of Acon in 1538, the hospital's land was bought by the Mercers' Company (Worshipful Company of Mercers), and the school was founded in 1542 under a deed of covenant with King Henry VIII.”¹⁰⁰

“**St Michael, Cornhill** is a medieval parish church in the City of London with pre-Norman Conquest parochial foundation. The medieval

structure was lost in the Great Fire of London, and replaced by the present building, traditionally attributed to Sir Christopher Wren. The church of St Michael was in existence by 1133.¹⁰¹

“Extensive rebuilding works were carried out at the royal houses of Woodstock, Langley, Woking and Hanworth. From the period between 1494 and 1507, and Henry’s VII riverside palaces at **Richmond** and **Greenwich**, which were an influence on the form of the palatial house for several decades to come.”¹⁰²

“**Richmond Palace** was a royal residence on the right bank of the River Thames, upstream of the Palace of Westminster. It was erected c. 1501 within the royal manor of Sheen, by Henry VII of England, formerly known by his title *Earl of Richmond*, after which it was named. It was occupied by royalty until 1649.”¹⁰³

“**Hampton Court** is the eldest Tudor Palace in England. “Originally Hampton Court had been built for Cardinal Wolsey who acquired the manor in 1514. By its size and form Wolsey’s Hampton Court symbolized great power, and with its 280 rooms permanently prepared to receive guests it was designed to provide the formal hospitality which underpinned that power.¹⁰⁴ Elizabeth added the Horn Room behind the Great Hall and a triple-storeyed building near Wolsey’s rooms. A keen gardener, she tended exotic delights brought from distant lands, such as tobacco and potato, presents from Raleigh, Drake and others. And she made Hampton Court renowned for its masques and merriment, banquets and balls.”¹⁰⁵

“There are few spots in London in today’s upper river street where, within a very limited and strictly-defined space, so many historical events have happened, as on **Old London Bridge**. It was a battle-field and a place of

religious worship, a resort of traders and a show-place for traitors' heads. Its Nonsuch House was one of the sights of London in the reign of Elizabeth; and the passage between its arches was one of the exploits of venturous youth, down to the very time of its removal. Though never beautiful or stately, London Bridge was one of those sights that visitors to the metropolis never forgot."¹⁰⁶

"Among the great mansions and noblemen's palaces that once abounded in this narrow river-side street, we must first of all touch at **Cold Harbour**, the residence of many great merchants and princes of old time. In 1553 its name was then changed to **Shrewsbury House**."¹⁰⁷

"Under Elizabeth, patrons wishing to establish their reputations by exploiting the sense of degree implicit in the tomb market employed prestigious London masons. Some of the best London masons were able to specialise in funeral monuments, but the provincial carvers relied upon a more general trade."¹⁰⁸

"Vintners' Hall it acquired the right to sell wine without a licence, and it became the most powerful company in the wine trade. However, in 1553, it lost its right to sell wine anywhere in the country."¹⁰⁹

"If we walk over Southwark Bridge and we turn to the right, **Bankside** stretches to Blackfairs Bridge."¹¹⁰ "When theatres were banned from the City in 1574, this became the local entertainment centre with theatres, bear-baiting, brothels and taverns until the Puritans put an end to fun by closing the playhouses."¹¹¹ "If we walked on the South bank of the Thames that time, we could see **the Rose** theatre, which was built in about 1588, **the Swan** in Southwark, built around 1595, and **the Globe Theatre** was associated with Shakespeare."¹¹²

“**Tower of London** – with the king based away up at Westminster, such lavish displays of wealth and power by the merchants needed to be dampened with a local show of brute military strength and the Tower of London was the answer, built right by their source of wealth, the docks, and between them and the open sea. Construction began in 1066 by William I and it was completed in about 1307 by Edward I.”¹¹³

“**St Katharine's by the Tower** has a full name **Royal Hospital and Collegiate Church of St. Katharine by the Tower**—was a medieval church and hospital next to the Tower of London. The establishment was founded in 1148 and the buildings demolished in 1825 to build St Katharine Docks, which takes its name from it.”¹¹⁴

“Going back to the City centre we could pass by **the Royal Exchange** in London that was founded in 1565 by Thomas Gresham to act as a centre of commerce for the City of London. The site was provided by the City of London Corporation and the Worshipful Company of Mercers, and is trapezoidal, flanked by Cornhill and Threadneedle Street which converge at Bank junction.”¹¹⁵

“On the same side of river there we could see a magnificent church called **St Paul's Cathedral** which is today's fifth church dedicated to London's patron saint to be built on the spot of the first English cathedral which was built many centuries ago. “ The first St Paul's was wooden, founded by King Ethelbert of Kent. After a fire it was rebuilt in stone. Another fire in 1087 Old St Paul's with its long Norman nave was finally dedicated in 1240. By 1313 a new, fashionable Gothic choir made the cathedral the largest in Europe apart from Sevilla and Milan.”¹¹⁶

“In early Tudor England, most church images were designed to show the piety of the user.”¹¹⁷

“Another churches or its ruins we could see are for example : **All Hallows Staining** is a little but the tower remains from this early church, believed to be one of the first built in the City of London. It was in existence in the 16th century, for Princess Elizabeth, later Elizabeth I, donated new bell ropes to the church, as she said that the church bells had been music to her ears during her imprisonment at the nearby Tower of London. One of those famous bells, dated to 1458, is preserved at Grocers Hall, London. All Hallows Staining collapsed in 1671, but the tower remains from this early church, believed to be one of the first built in the City of London. “¹¹⁸

“**St Mary-at-Hill** is a Church of England church on Lovat Lane, a cobbled street off Eastcheap in the ward of Billingsgate in the City of London. It was originally founded in the 12th century and it was first known as "St. Mary de Hull" or " St. Mary de la Hulle. “¹¹⁹

8. ENDNOTES

Anne Boleyn - was Queen of England from 1533 to 1536 as the second wife of Henry VIII of England and Marquess of Pembroke in her own right.**

Catherine Parr was queen of England as the last of the six wives of King Henry VIII of England, whom she married on 12 July 1543.**

Cockney is a rym slang of English, which is spoken by Londoners living in East London.

Edward was King of England and Ireland from 28 January 1547 until his death. He was crowned on 20 February at the age of nine.**

Francis Drake was an English sea captain, privateer, navigator, slaver, and politician of the Elizabethan era.**

Henry VII was King of England and Lord of Ireland from his seizing the crown on 22 August 1485 until his death on 21 April 1509, as the first monarch of the House of Tudor.**

Henry VIII was a son of Henry VII and the king of England from 21 April 1509 until his death.**

Henry Sidney was brought up at court as the companion of Prince Edward, afterwards King Edward VI, and he continued to enjoy the favour of the Crown, particularly throughout the reign of Queen Elizabeth I.**

Jane Grey was an English noblewoman and *de facto* monarch of England from 10 July until 19 July 1553.**¹

Mary I was very strong Catholic and wanted to make England a Catholic country. Mary had the support of the country when she came to the throne but because of her intension to make England a Catholic country again, she managed to lose it soon. *¹

Petrarch was an Italian scholar and poet, and one of the earliest humanists. Petrarch is often called the "Father of Humanism

** <http://en.wikipedia.org>

*¹ Investigating The Tudors

Prince Phys ap Tewdwr - was a king of Deheubarth in Wales and member of the Dinefwr dynasty.**

Protestants were one of the major divisions within Christianity.**

Puritans were a significant grouping of English Protestants in the 16th and 17th centuries, including, but not limited to, English Calvinists.**

Robert Dudley was an English nobleman and the favourite and close friend of Elizabeth I from her first year on the throne until his death.**

Shakespeare was an English poet and playwright, widely regarded as the greatest writer in the English language and the world's pre-eminent dramatist. His extant works, including some collaborations, consist of about 38 plays, 154 sonnets, two long narrative poems, two epitaphs on a man named John Combe, one epitaph on Elias James, and several other poems. His plays have been translated into every major living language and are performed more often than those of any other playwright.

Sir Francis Walsingham was principal secretary to Queen Elizabeth I of England from 20 December 1573 until his death, and is popularly remembered as her "spymaster".**

Sir John Harington was a courtier, author and master of art, popularly known as the inventor of the flush toilet.**

Thomas Seymour was an English nobleman and politician who married Catherine Parr, widow of King Henry VIII.**

Thomas Smith was an English scholar and diplomat.**

William Cecil known as Lord Burghley from 1605 to 1623, was an English peer.**

William Harrison was an English clergyman, whose *Description of England* was produced as part of the publishing venture of a group of London stationers who produced Raphael Holinshed's *Chronicles* (London 1577). **²

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11. CONCLUSION

This bachelor thesis deals with chosen issues of the the reign of Elizabeth I during the period in 16th century. Its main focus was to approximate particular aspects of given issues.

The thesis was introduced by a short overview of the background to the Tudors which had impact on the English history. Apart of the chapters concerned with the Queen Elizabeth I, there are also mentioned the issues of social life, social structure, culture, evolution in England and its capital London and other towns. All mentioned issues belong to the theoretical part. The practical part deals with mapping of London in that time in 16th century. Of course, there couldn't be mentioned all monuments and places existing in 16th century. That's why the author has tried to choose the most important or the most mentioned while reading the sources.

To make the theory well-arranged, the thesis was divided into main chapters and their various subchapters. And there are interesting places in bold in the practical part for better orientation.

Although several printed sources were used for aims of the thesis, not all of them supplied the relevant information. '*The Age of Elizabeth 1547-1603*' and '*Investigating the Tudors*', on the contrary, were a great guides and they are ones of the most frequently cited sources.

The findings of the thesis – the main aim was to map the period of the reign of Elizabeth I. The mapping focused especially on social life rather than historical events. The goal was fulfilled. Not only the theory is stated but also several expamples of interesting places are mentioned in the 2nd part of this thesis.

12. RESUME

Bakalářská práce se zabývá historií datované do období vlády Alžběty I. Předmětem této práce je popsat období v letech 1547 – 1603, období panování této panovnice. Práce je zaměřená především na fakta o životě z této doby a jsou zde také zmíněny změny během jejího panování. První, teoretická, část, je teoretická a má za úkol čtenářům nastínit pozadí 16. století. Druhá, praktická část, se pak snaží čtenáře provést tehdejším Londýnem a poukázat na zajímavá a často zmiňovaná místa. Bakalářská práce se tímto snaží přispět k ucelení si představivosti, jaký byl život v Anglii v 16. stol.

13. ABSTRACT

This bachelor thesis is concerned with the study of the period of the reign of Elizabeth I. The aim of this thesis was to describe the period between 1547 - 1603, the period of Elizabeth's government. The thesis deals especially with facts about social life of that time and also some changes of sociality during her reign are mentioned. The first, theoretical part concerns with mapping of sixteenth century. The aim of the second, practical, part is to guide a reader through London in 16th century and point out important and interesting places. The thesis may contribute to revealing the life in sixteenth century.