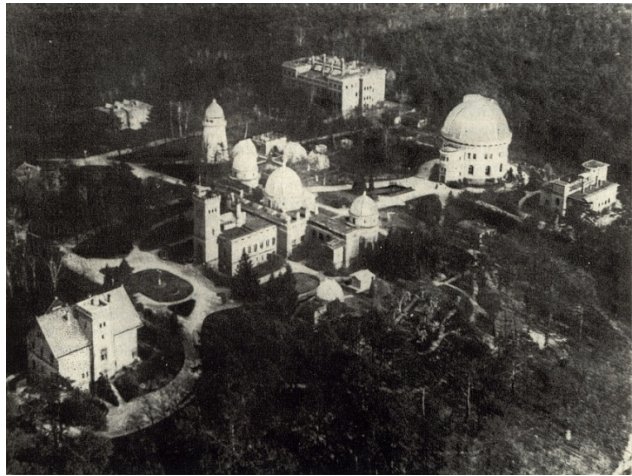# 150 Years of International Cooperation in Geodesy:

Anniversary Assembly of the International Association of Geodesy

In 1862, the Prussian General Johann Jacob Baeyer initiated the Central European Arc Measurement ("Mitteleuropäische Grad-messung") project. By the end of that year fifteen countries had affirmed their participation, and in 1864 the first General Conference was held in Berlin. In 1870 the Prussian Geodetic Institute was established and entrusted with the operation of the Central Bureau. General Baeyer's project is considered the forerunner to today's International Association of Geodesy (IAG). IAG will celebrate its 150th anniversary with a Scientific Assembly in Potsdam from 1 to 6 September 2013. The IAG is a foundation association of the International Union of Geodesy and Geophysics (IUGG), established in 1919.

Potsdam, Telegrafenberg, end of the 19th century

Potsdam, Telegrafenberg, today

The local organisation of the Assembly is being undertaken by the German Research Centre for Geosciences (GFZ), scientific successor of the Geodetic Institute, located at Potsdam, 30 km from Berlin. Potsdam is undoubtedly one of Germany's most beautiful cities with a magnificent diversity of architectural monuments and gardens, and offers a fascinating range of attractions, such as the Babelsberg Filmpark and boat tours on the Havel River. Potsdam's key attractions are the Sanssouci Palace, summer residence of King Frederick II, and Cecilienhof Palace, venue of the 1945 Potsdam Conference.

Hundreds of scientists from all over the world are expected to attend the Assembly. The scientific sessions will be held in the 4-star Hotel Dorint Sanssouci in Potsdam City.

A session on IAG's history will be followed by a walk-through of the historic buildings at the Telegrafenberg, site of the past Geodetic Institute and of the GFZ today.

An exciting programme of presentations will highlight the contributions of Modern Geodesy to science and society. Details see http://www.iag2013.org.

Sanssouci Palace, Potsdam (Source: Wikipedia)