Just an image instead of a map?
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Most of the maps offered by the Internet, especially the old ones, are simply available in certain image file formats. What does it mean?

- Ø First, the user cannot modify the map scale on its own computer.
- Ø Second, the belonging direct indexes cannot be used.
- Ø Finally, the large scale of the sections of maps defines the size the user can view at a given moment.

What has determined this way of development?
A significant need for online issues turned up in all fields. On the one hand, this demand could have been easily met by scanned maps, while on the other hand the scanned maps enabled raster maps to gain dominance on the World Wide Web. Widely spread browsers support only some image ‹file› formats like GIF, JPG, PNG, thus the above mentioned maps cannot be edited well. If someone wants to utilise the content of these old maps in an interactive way, then it would cause a considerable expense for the supplier of the maps because this is new need that should be satisfied quickly. That is why we believe that image-like maps will be still available on the Internet for a fairly long time.
On the last year's convent in Győr, I tried to summarise the reasons and actual limits of this topic but now I am going on and will try providing some answers how to solve the problems of the different free-of-charge services listed above.