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The Institute was created as a branch of the State Institute of Archaeology, which was founded in 1942 in Brno. After incorporation into the Czechoslovak Academy of Sciences in 1953, it became a Section of the Archaeological Institute of the Czechoslovak Academy of Sciences (CSAS) in Prague and, in 1970, an institute of the CSAS. In 1993, the work of its branches engaged in rescue archaeological research was transferred to the Ministry of Culture of the Czech

Republic. Pursuant to Act No. 341/2005 Coll., the Institute became a public research institution as of 1 January 2007.

The Institute is responsible for basic research covering the time period from the Palaeolithic up to the Middle Ages, with special emphasis on the hunting and gathering societies of the Upper Palaeolithic, their relationship to the environment and the evolution of technology from primeval times up to the early Middle Ages, the Roman military and cultural impact, the formation of early Middle Ages cultural and socio-political relations. This research is conducted in areas in Moravia and the Czech part of Silesia, and takes into account also evolutionary trends in the area along the Danube.

The Institute currently is developing a scientific information system including central files and documents on archaeological and historical sites, and also an extensive collection of specialised literature. It will also provide conservation and reconstruction of archaeological finds for a wider range of interested parties.

The Institute publishes the monographic editorial series, *Publications of the Institute of Archaeology ASCR in Brno*, the periodicals, *Survey of Investigations*, and *Studies of the Institute of Archaeology ASCR in Brno*.

More detailed information about the organisational structure of the Institute and its research and specialised units can be found at the following URL:
<http://www.iabrno.cz>