

House of the armoury scribe at Prague Castle

Dům zbrojního písaře na Pražském hradě

Das Haus des Waffenschreibers auf der Prager Burg

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Im Rahmen der Rettungsgrabung auf dem Georgplatz auf der Prager Burg wurden 1987 verschüttete Kellerräume mit neuzeitlichen Funden entdeckt. Bei der Analyse der Befunde ist es gelungen, diese Keller dem Haus des Waffenschreibers zuzuweisen. Die vorliegende Studie stellt die erste komplette Veröffentlichung dieses neuzeitlichen Befundes dar, einschließlich Keramik, Kacheln, Glas, der Knochenfunde und Kleingegenstände, der etwa auf die zweite Hälfte des 16. und an den Anfang des 17. Jahrhunderts entfällt.

1. Introduction

The planned reconstruction of Jiřské náměstí (Jiřské Square) at Prague Castle in 1984-1989 included an archaeological rescue excavation. The fourth excavation season took place in 1987 in the eastern part of the square, headed by I. Boháčová, J. Frolík, and J. Žegklitz. A total area of 170 m² was excavated. The eastern side of the excavation area bordered the parallel facade of St. George's Basilica, and one-third of the western side was directly connected with an excavation from 1984. The archaeological excavation uncovered numerous features from the Early Mediaeval through to the Early Modern periods.

The Early Modern archaeological situation was mentioned by authors of a preliminary publication on the excavation (Boháčová – Frolík – Žegklitz 1989). The Early Modern period was the subject of a dissertation that not only evaluated the field context but also elaborated its individual finds (Dubská 2002).

2. Field context¹⁾

Within the excavated area two filled cellar spaces of unequal size were uncovered, bordered with mortared arenaceous marl walls, originally vaulted with a barrel vault (*fig. 1*). The larger cellar was 3.6 x 4.1 m in size and the smaller one was 3.8 x 1.5 m. Both cellars were initially connected through a doorway, the sill of which survived, along with the late Gothic door jamb. The top part of the arch stone of the entrance portal was not found. Only part of the arch's haunch remained preserved, found at the base of the fill. The original portal appears therefore to have been partially disassembled even

Note 1:

For a detailed description of the archaeological situation, see Dubská 2001; Dubská 2002.



Fig. 1. View of the area of the archaeological rescue excavation on Jiřské Square at Prague Castle in 1987.
Obr. 1. Celkový pohled na plochu záchranného archeologického výzkumu Jiřského náměstí na Pražském hradě v roce 1987.



Fig. 2. A detailed view, from the north, of the late Gothic portal between the cellars. In the background is the entrance to the Noblewomen's Home.
Obr. 2. Detailní pohled od severu na pozdně gotický portál, umístěný mezi sklepy. V pozadí vstup do Ústavu šlechtičen.

before the cellars were filled. Looking southward, from the area of the large cellar towards the small one, there is clear evidence of rough-hewing of sandstone blocks of the two vertical columns of the portal (fig. 2). This gives rise to the speculation that it may have been set secondarily, and the fact that the portal is located between the cellars seems to support this.

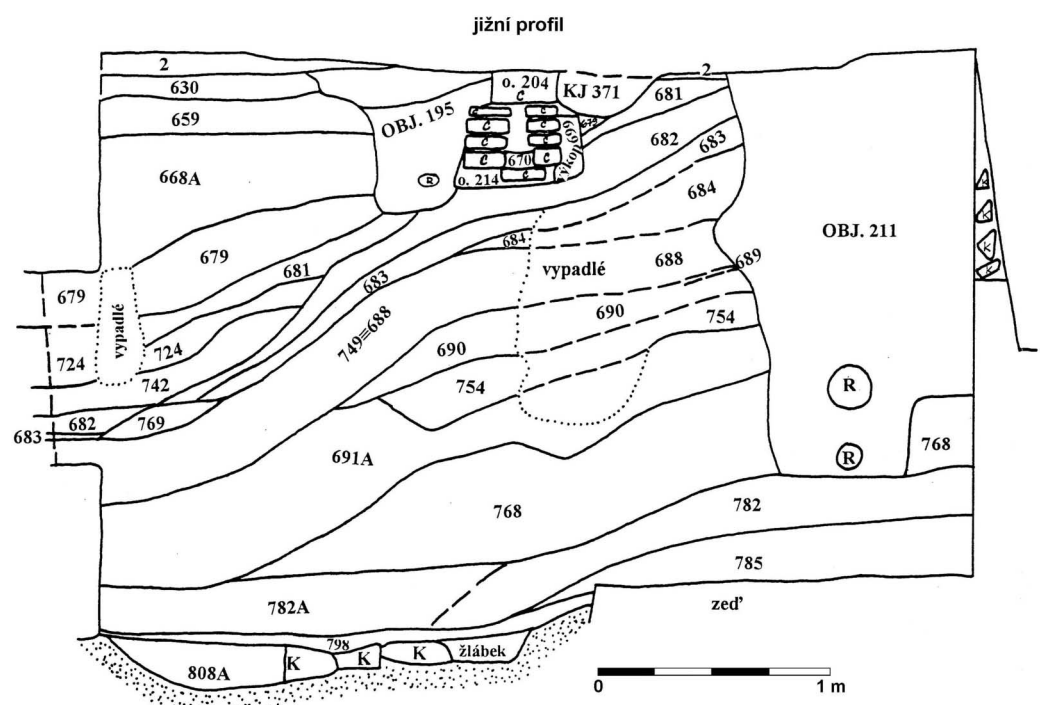
2.1 The smaller cellar

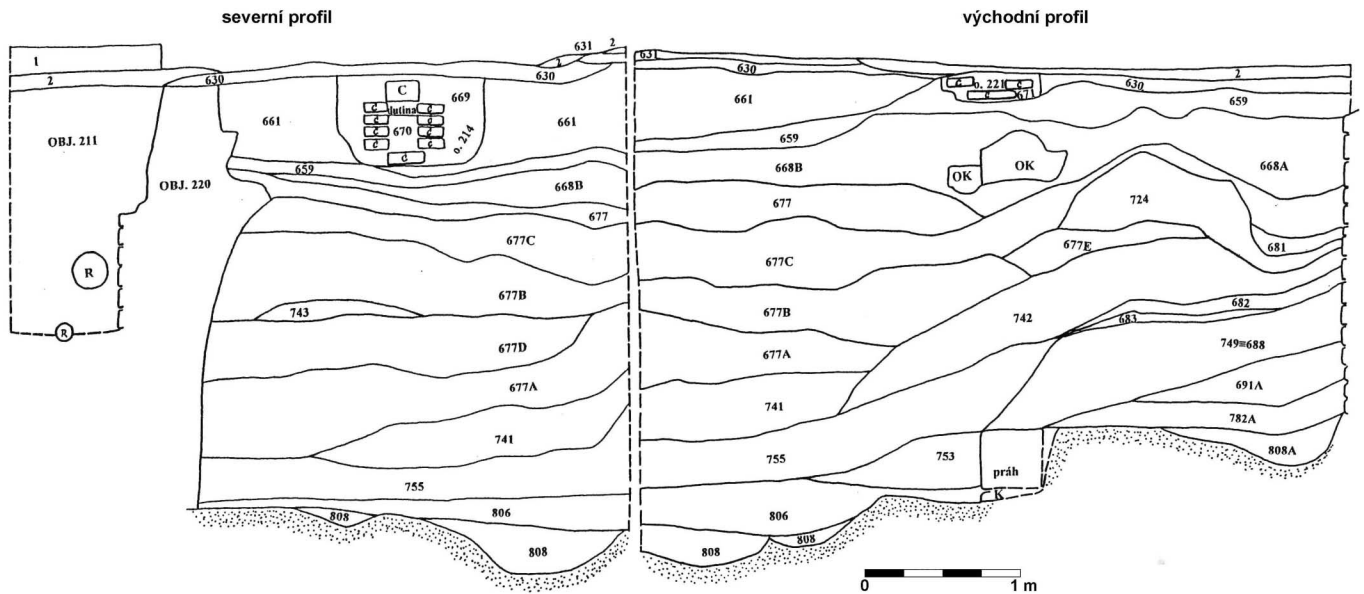
Two vaulted-arch niches of dissimilar size were found in the north and east walls of the smaller cellar. In the case of the north wall, it was a 1.18 m long and 0.88 m high meticulously walled niche, which does not exceed the thickness of the wall (contexts 679, 682, 683, 688, 691A). The entire situation was subsequently covered by a fallen ceiling (layer 807). The niche in the east wall was

substantially smaller, and it was unfortunately not possible to determine its dimensions from the documentation. We only know that it was filled in with secondary destruction debris (layers 679, 724, 742, 682, 688).

The bottom of the smaller cellar was partly lined and reinforced with stones, and the remainder of it was formed out of a layer of clay that, in the original documentation, was described as the floor surface (808A – fig. 3, 4). Roughly in the middle of the smaller cellar a rectangular depression in this layer was detected along with the remains of wood. Above the floor there were layers with a sand-mortar type composition (768, 782, 785), rich in arenaceous marl and stone. Layers 688, 749, 690, and 691A can be joined into a single formation,

Fig. 3. The southern section through the fill of the small cellar.
Obr. 3. Jižní profil zasypu menšího sklepa.





finds from which were in several cases stored under a joint inventory number. We can therefore assume that these are layers that, at first glance, are hard to distinguish between and which could only be clearly separated during subsequent documentation of the section. It is also necessary to mention layer 754, comprised of a clay fired dark brown to black, with an irregular course, wedged between layers 690 and 691A, with a considerably crushed content. This layer contained most of the tile finds²⁾, which may be the source of its dark colouring. The layers richest in finds were nos. 683 and 682. The course of these layers was very slanted, gradually ending off in the area where the door once stood between the two cellars. Both layers were on average 0.24 m thick. Together they contained more than 75% of the ceramic fragments found. They can therefore be considered to have been layers of dumped rubbish. These were followed by three, not very thick, sandy layers (681, 680, 679). The first horizontally laid layer (659) can be regarded as a levelling layer. Layer 668A (sandy with stones) is the first to cover the door jamb, and it enters the area of the larger cellar as layer 668B. The course of layers 679, 680 and 681 was disturbed by more recent interference in the form of an older Baroque water main – feature no. 214 – and the existing water main – feature no. 195 (Dubská 2001, 8).

In the area of the smaller cellar a 2.40 metre deep well, revetted with stones, was discovered beneath layer 785. The deepest part of the well was composed of a muddy, grey, clayey layer with stones (812), just under 0.10 m thick. On top of this layer there settled a reddish-brown to brownish-red sand-clay layer with smaller stones (811) which, together with the preceding layer (812), filled part of the bottom of the well. On top of this layer, the thickest layer of the well fill, at 0.60 m, was identified, characterised as a light-grey, clayey layer with large stones and bricks, and in places mixed with the next adjacent layer 809. The following six layers, with a total thickness of 1 m, are described as brownish-red in colour and primarily clayey in character. Only minor differences were recorded in the presence of raw components. In the case of layer 802, the surface is firmly compacted.

Fig. 4. The northern and eastern sections through the fill of the cellars.

Obr. 4. Severní a východní profil zásypů sklepů.

Note 2:

Tiles were very often used to fill in larger spaces, e. g. Renaissance tiles from the vault fills of the so-called cave-chambers at Točník (Hazlbauer 1989, 9), the fill of the vault of the large hall at Křivoklát (Durdík – Hazlbauer 1994, 266), the vault fills in part of the forecastle in Kostelec nad Černými Lesy (Durdík – Hazlbauer 1993, 290), the vault fill on the grounds of Lobkowitz Palace at Prague Castle (Durdík – Frolík – Chotěbor 1999, 96). The main reason is considered to be the fact that if the tiles survived in large pieces, they represented a form of material that was relatively large in volume but also relatively light, which could be used to quickly fill in the necessary space and would sink very little. Fired ceramic material moreover contains no water and, unlike piles of earth, soaks up very little water from its surrounding environment (Durdík – Hazlbauer 1993, 311).

2.2 The larger cellar

The larger of the two cellars was deepened more pronouncedly into the original terrain. The first layer over the subsoil (808) was a light-grey to greyish-brown clay with stones. In the section it is reflected as a discontinuous layer, interrupted in places by the subsoil. It was also identified in the area of the smaller cellar as layer 808A. The floor layer of the larger scale was designated as layer 806, which abuts against the sill of the portal. Most of the cellar area was filled with more or less horizontally laid sandy to sand-clay layers, with mortar, bricks, and stones mixed in. Based on its character and on the fact that it is a layer containing few finds, it is possible to assume that, for the most part, this involves construction rubble (layers 677A-E – fig. 4).

2.3 Summary of the field context

The ability to learn about the entire archaeological situation of the cellars is limited substantially by the fact that during levelling work on Jiřské Square, which evidently took place soon after the building was demolished, the terrain in the surrounding area was lowered. It was thus not possible anywhere to determine a direct relationship between the cellars and their immediate surroundings. There were moreover recent interferences in the western and eastern walls of the cellars. According to the layout, the excavated cellars were probably part of a two-room, cellared, single-story building. Owing to the destruction of its above-surface parts due to recent disturbances, it was not possible to determine where the entrance to the building was located. The rectangular patterned depression in the ground with the remains of wood, which was detected in the smaller cellar, could possibly be interpreted as the foundation for a set of stairs, connecting the cellar to the residential floor of the building (Boháčová – Frolík – Žegklitz 1989, 199). The stone-lined well discovered in the eastern corner of the smaller cellar evidently served as a water cistern. Given the character of the find assemblage, it seems unlikely that it was used as a cesspit after it lost its original function.

3. Plans

The authors of the excavation identified the described cellars with the house of the armoury scribe (Boháčová – Frolík – Žegklitz 1989, 199). For this they drew on “Wohlmut’s Plan” of Prague Castle³⁾, dating to the period around 1569. The plan depicts the house of the highest scribe with an oblong disposition, which is disturbed on the southeast corner by the construction of a slightly oblong tower (*thurm*), probably built in connection with the second Renaissance reconstruction after 1553⁴⁾. The shorter, southern wall of the tower directly connects to the at that time already stark house of the armoury scribe (*des zugschreiber losement*), with a markedly elongated layout (length to width ratio of 3 : 1). Immediately next to this building, southward towards the square, there is a building that is to be demolished (*dis hause sol [zum] weg kommen*). Between the houses of the armoury and the highest scribe there is a rectangular space of ground for “large pieces” (*der Blatz zum grose ge... hat auch der hautschreiber herre gehabt*), also referred to as a *městiště* – a land plot – belonging to the house of the highest scribe. This land plot stretched northward towards the narrow

Note 3:

The plan of St. George’s Convent and its immediate surroundings, Central State Archives, signature no. ČDKM – IV- P, carton 191, copy in the Archives of Prague Castle. The German markings for particular buildings are taken from Wohlmut’s Plan.

Note 4:

In that year, the highest scribe, Wolf of Vřesovice was granted 1000 groschen to build a house, which would belong to the office of the highest scribe (*Sněmy české 1880, 656*).

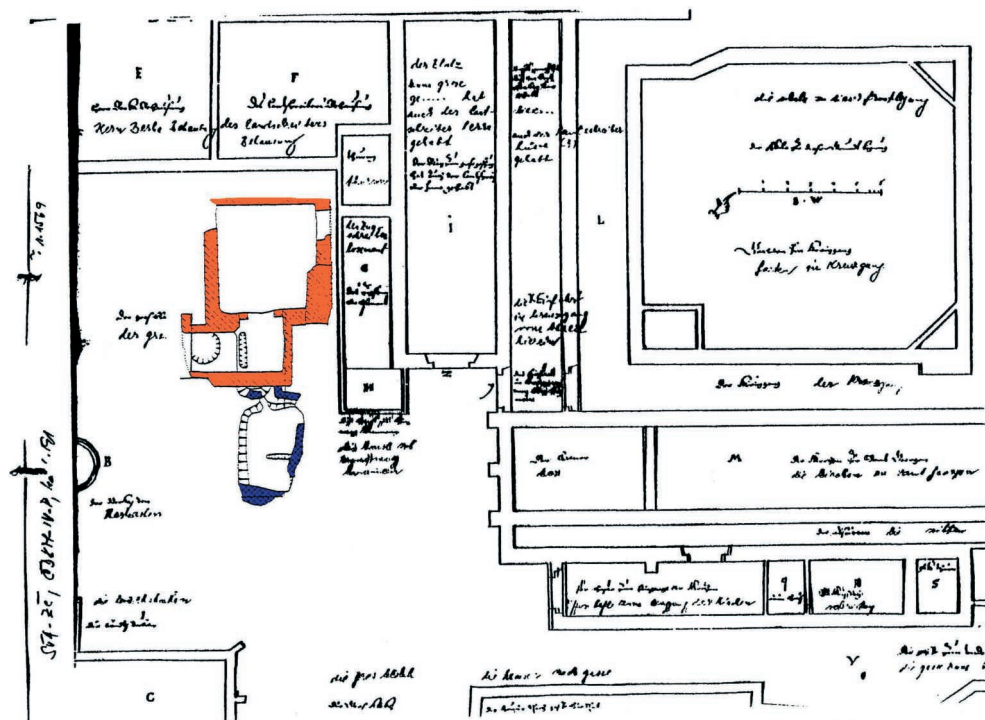


Fig. 5. A comparison of the archaeological field context with a section of Wohlmut's Plan of Prague Castle. The remains of the masonry that was probably part of the house of the armoury scribe are marked in red, and blue indicates the remains of the building that is marked for demolition (adapted according to Boháčová – Frolík – Žegklitz 1989).

Obr. 5. Porovnání zjištěné archeologické situace a výřezu Wohlmutova plánu Pražského hradu. Červeně jsou znázorněny zbytky zdiva, které pravděpodobně náležely domu zbrojního písaře, modře pozůstatky domu, který má být zbořen (upraveno dle Boháčová – Frolík – Žegklitz 1989).

street by the inner walls and southward as far as the entrance into the cloister of St. George's Convent (fig. 5).

A very similar depiction is of the situation on the northwest corner of Jiřské Square in the plan of the grounds of Prague Castle created by an unknown author, contained in the collection of the Uffizi Gallery⁵⁾ and dated at earliest to 1614. This plan emerged from copies of earlier drawings. As in Wohlmut's Plan, it is possible to identify in it the house of the highest scribe and its adjacent tower. At the site where Wohlmut identifies the house of the armoury scribe, it is clear that the individual buildings differ in sizes and proportions, but agree in number.

However, in both cases it is necessary to realise that, while the author has attempted to capture the layout of the built-up area on the square, it is done without a more accurate orientation, thus rather schematic in character. It can therefore be assumed that it was important for the authors to capture the relative position of the buildings without paying attention to accurate measurements. At the same time, it must also be remembered that plans often depict an earlier status, and thus buildings from various, not too temporarily remote periods can appear in the plans as contemporary.

4. Finds

4.1 Ceramics

To evaluate the collection of ceramics processed, ceramics classes were used that were defined on the basis of the technological properties of the potsherds identified macroscopically. In each case the colour, composition, and thickness of the shard was studied, along with the technology of firing, the colouring and position of the glaze, and finally also the type of decoration. Altogether 14 ceramic classes were defined, belonging to Early Modern ceramics, and one class for mediaeval ceramics (tab. 1).

Note 5:

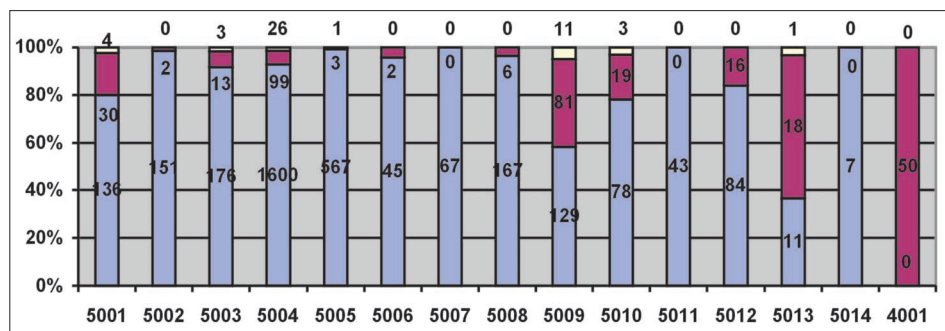
Paper, 329 x 410 mm in format, watermark from 1613-1654 of the paper mill in Benešov nad Ploučnicí, a drawing created in several stages using different techniques. In the first stage, the building plans in the mediaeval radius are drawn on a blank map of squares; fortifications in black Chinese ink and in hard pencil in the left part of the sheet; in the second stage, a sketch of the fortification bastions is done in soft pencil; in the third stage, a signed grid is applied in the central part. In the upper part of the plan, a single inscription is found: "Scala di pessi 20 di..."; the scale of the plan is believed to have been 1: 1750. The photocopy of the plan is deposited in the Archives of Prague Castle.

Tab. 1. Definition of ceramic classes. / Tab. 1. Definice keramických tříd.

	Colour	Non-plastic components	Fracture colour	Firing	Surface	Glaze	Decoration	Thickness of potsherd
5001	grey to light brown grey	up to 2 mm 5-10 % mica	grey to brown grey	reduction; medium hard, sandwich effect	unglazed	none	wheel-pressed decoration	3-5 mm
5002	grey to dark grey	up to 2 mm up to 5 %	grey	reduction; medium hard, smoked	double-sided smoothing	none	wheel-pressed decoration	2-3 mm
5003	light grey to grey	up to 1 mm up to 5 %	grey	reduction; hard; high quality	smoothed in zones	none	wheel-pressed decoration	3-4 mm
5004	light yellow cream to beige	up to 2 mm, 5-10 %	cream to beige	oxidation; medium hard	smoothed	inner; shades – ochre brown, yellow	grooving	2-4 mm
5005	brick to brown red	up to 1 mm up to 5 %	brick to brown red	oxidation; medium hard to hard	smoothed	inner; shades – brown	wheel-pressed decoration	3-5 mm
5006	light yellow cream to light beige	up to 2 mm, 5-10 %	cream to beige	oxidation; medium hard	glazed	inner; shades – ochre, brown, yellow outer; shades – yellow, green	painting; polychroming; marbling	2-4 mm
5007	brick to brown red	up to 2 mm up to 5 %	brick red	oxidation; hard	glazed	inner; shades – brown outer; various shades	painting; polychroming; marbling	3-4 mm
5008	light yellow to beige	up to 2 mm, 5-10 %	cream to beige	oxidation; medium hard	-	none	grooving	3-5 mm
5009	light to dark brick red	up to 2 mm, 5-10 %	light to brick red	oxidation; medium hard to hard	unsmoothed	none	wheel-pressed decoration	2-4 mm
5010	brick to brown red, dark grey	2-5 mm, 10-15 %	dark brick red; core - grey	oxidation; medium hard; sandwich effect	unsmoothed	none	embossed – finger-grooving	5-7 mm
5011	yellow cream to light ochre	up to 1 mm up to 5 %	cream	oxidation; hard	smoothed	white engobe + various colours of glaze	painting	3-4 mm
5012	brick red	up to 2 mm up to 5 %	brick red	oxidation; very hard	glazed	inner – clear outer – white engobe + various colours of glaze	painting	3-5 mm
5013	grey	sintered	grey	oxidation; very hard	glazed	double-sided salt glaze; brown, grey	embossed, wheel-pressed decoration	1.5-3 mm
5014	light yellow cream	up to 1 mm up to 2 %	light yellow cream	oxidation; very hard	glazed	double-sided – opaque cream	painting	6-7 mm
4001	grey	2-5 mm, 5-10 %, mica	grey	oxidation; medium hard; sandwich effect	unsmoothed	none	grooving	5-7 mm

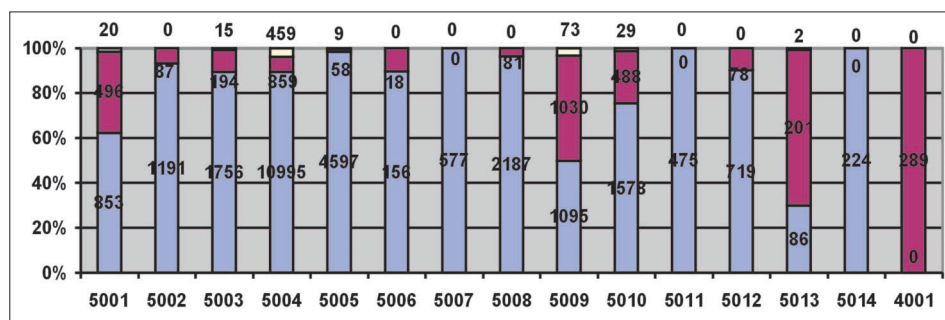
Based on the stratigraphic analysis mentioned above I believe that, with the exception of the layers that lay just above the subsoil (798, 806, 808, 808A), it is impossible to clearly link the unearthed artefacts to the period when the house was in use. The finds from the fill layers will therefore be regarded as secondarily relocated material. For the ensuing processing of individual finds, three sub-horizons were created – sub-horizon A, which encompasses a 2.50 m thick formation, filling the area of the two cellars (layers 681, 682, 683, 684, 688, 690, 691, 691A, 753, 754, 755, 768, 782, 782A, 785, 798); sub-horizon B – the fill of the well – feature no. 234 (layers 788, 794, 795, 796, 797, 800, 801, 802, 809, 810, 811); sub-horizon C – the floor layers of both cellars (layers 806, 808, 808A, 812). When evaluating the finds from all three sub-horizons no significant difference or dividing line was discovered that would suggest any chronological break between them.

The analysis of finds produced several pieces of indirect evidence that sub-horizon A is genuinely made up of waste fill. Despite a relatively meticulous processing of the material, in the final phase only 17 vessels could be reconstructed, and the material was otherwise mainly in very fragmented condition. At the same time, it can be assumed that this fill was created within a very short time frame as, when the vessels were being reconstructed, it was possible to match pieces that were taken from various different layers (682, 683, 688-91).



Graph 1. An overview of the proportion of the various types of ceramic classes in the sub-horizons, by piece. Yellow – sub-horizon C; red – sub-horizon B; blue – sub-horizon A.
Graf 1. Přehled zastoupení jednotlivých keramických tříd v rámci subhorizontů podle kusů. Žlutá – subhorizont C; červená – subhorizont B; modrá – subhorizont A.

A total of 3261 ceramic fragments were taken from the fills of both cellars (sub-horizon A), 339 pieces were taken from the fill of the well (sub-horizon B), and 49 pieces from the floor horizons of both cellars (sub-horizon C). The most persuasive informational value statistically comes from finds that were taken from the cellar fill. These were primarily finds of a light firing ceramic with an inside glaze (ceramic class 5004 – 49 %). The second most numerous ceramic class of finds was a brick-red firing clay with an inside glaze (5005 – 17.5 %). The proportion of reduction fired (ceramic classes 5001-5003), light unglazed (ceramic class 5008), and thin-walled brick-red unglazed goods (ceramic class 5009) was around 5.0 %. Ceramics glazed on both sides (ceramic classes 5006, 5007), ceramic with light-coloured engobe (ceramic class 5011), and so-called Beroun-type ceramics (ceramic class 5012) can be regarded as the least distinctive admixture in terms of percentages (1.4-2.6 %), which however are of significance in chronological terms. Stoneware finds (ceramic class 5013), at just 11 pieces, made up only 0.3 %; 0.2 % of the total were majolica (ceramic class 5014). The proportion of individual ceramic classes in percentages was evaluated on the basis of the number of found fragments but also on the basis of weight (in grams). A comparison (graphs 1, 2) shows that the proportion in the presence of individual ceramic categories in the whole collection varies little.



Graph 2. An overview of the proportion of the various types of ceramic classes in the sub-horizons, by weight in grams. Yellow – sub-horizon C; red – sub-horizon B; blue – sub-horizon A.
Graf 2. Přehled zastoupení jednotlivých keramických tříd v rámci subhorizontů podle gramů. Žlutá – subhorizont C; červená – subhorizont B; modrá – subhorizont A.

The ceramics collection can be divided into basic four groups based on the technology used in their production. The first and largest group is finds of reduction fired or oxidation fired ceramics. The second group contains fragments of stoneware vessels. The third, technologically specific, group is a single find of a majolica albarello. The final, fourth, group is comprised

Note 6:

The name of the group derives from the location of the workshops that operated in Beroun from the mid-16th century until 1639. The production from these workshops represented valuable items in Czech households, and they were evidently used also for decorative purposes (Winter 1895, 114). Indirect evidence that these were valuable goods are the inventory lists of the personal estate of deceased, where alongside tin vessels, paintings, and other valuable items, also a type of ceramics described as "two white clay painted bowls" tends to be listed in the second half of the 16th century.

Note 7:

This corresponds with the conclusion that, based on an analysis of the collection from Strážnice, was put forth by J. Pajer. According to his findings, around 1550 late mediaeval decorative techniques were on the wane and new techniques gradually began to emerge (Pajer 1983, 73, tab. 1).

Note 8:

At present, there is no clear terminology that has been elaborated to describe the rims of ceramics from the Early Modern Age. When identifying individual types I drew on the following authors: Krajč 1997, 1998; Nekuda 1975, 1985; Nekuda – Reichertová 1968; Pajer 1982, 1983; Zápotocký 1979.

Graph 3. An overview of the fragments of particular ceramic shapes in the sub-horizons. Yellow – sub-horizon C; red – sub-horizon B; blue – sub-horizon A. H – pot; Dž – jug; M – deep bowl; T – tripod; TM – flanged bowl; Pk – lid; Ph – goblet; min – miniature and pharmaceutical vessels; alb – albarello; neid – unidentifiable potsherds.

Graf 3. Přehled zlomků jednotlivých keramických tvarů v rámci subhorizontů. Žlutá – subhorizont C; červená – subhorizont B; modrá – subhorizont A. H – hrnec; Dž – džbán(ek); M – hluboká mísa, pernice; T – trojnožka; TM – talířovitá mísa; Pk – poklička; Ph – pohár; min – miniatura, lékárenská nádobka; alb – albarello; neid – neidentifikovatelné střepy.

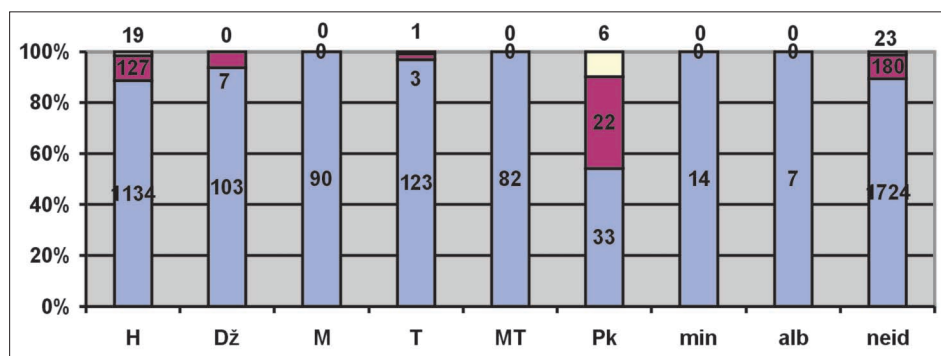
of several fragments of mediaeval ceramics. Both in the case of reduction fired and oxidation fired goods the clay was well prepared, and involves clay that is typical for shaping thin-walled vessels. The only exception to this feature is a brick-red firing clay, strengthened more noticeably with quartz sand (ceramic class 5010), intended for producing large and deep bowls. Beroun-type⁶⁾ ceramics can be identified as a separate sub-group (ceramic class 5012).

The inside glaze on the tableware and kitchenware in this collection cannot be regarded as being a new trend in development and is rather a standard occurrence. Glaze is found exclusively on oxidation fired goods, on pots, tripods, and flanged bowls and deep bowls. Inner glaze adds to the technical quality of the goods, especially in terms of their permeability and the ease with which they can be cleaned. Vessels with an inner glazing are often found with the glaze extending over the rims, to the handle or the grip, and it is not uncommon even to find accidental drops where the glaze has run elsewhere. The colours used in lead glazes are based on the shades of ochre, brown, and green, which merge together or change on various parts of the vessels. In the case of double-sided glaze, one can count on the fact that the glazing has changed from its original functional position to the level of a decorative element. In the case of salt glaze, which is used on stoneware, brown is the predominant colour.

We can generally sum up that the collection at hand is one in which late mediaeval methods of decoration and motifs are on the wane, while Early Modern decorative techniques are already present in the form of painting by paintbrush, marbling, and the use of two-sided glazing⁷⁾.

4.1.1 Kitchenware ceramics

The collection under study is predominated by finds of pots (*graph 3*). In all three sub-horizons a total of 74.3 % of the identifiable pieces were from pots, which is far more than for any other type of vessel. Pot-shaped vessels are found in sizes from cups to large vessels of a storage type. Among the items whose entire bodies could be reconstructed, a slender ovoid shape predominated, with the largest bulge around the upper third of the height of the vessel. The rims were on average around 14-25 cm in diameter, but one with a diameter of 47.2 cm was recorded. Among the rims⁸⁾, the most common in the group of ceramics made of light firing



clay and with an inside glaze (ceramic class 5004) were oval-shaped rims. The second most common type of rim was slatted frill, or the suggestion of one, which can be considered characteristic mainly for the brick-red firing clay with an inside glaze (ceramic class 5005). In addition to these main shapes, there were also pots with folded over, horizontally levelled, upward-stretched, or S-shaped rims.

Based on the relatively numerous fragments of handles, it can be assumed that in most cases these were pots with handles. The strap handle was usually

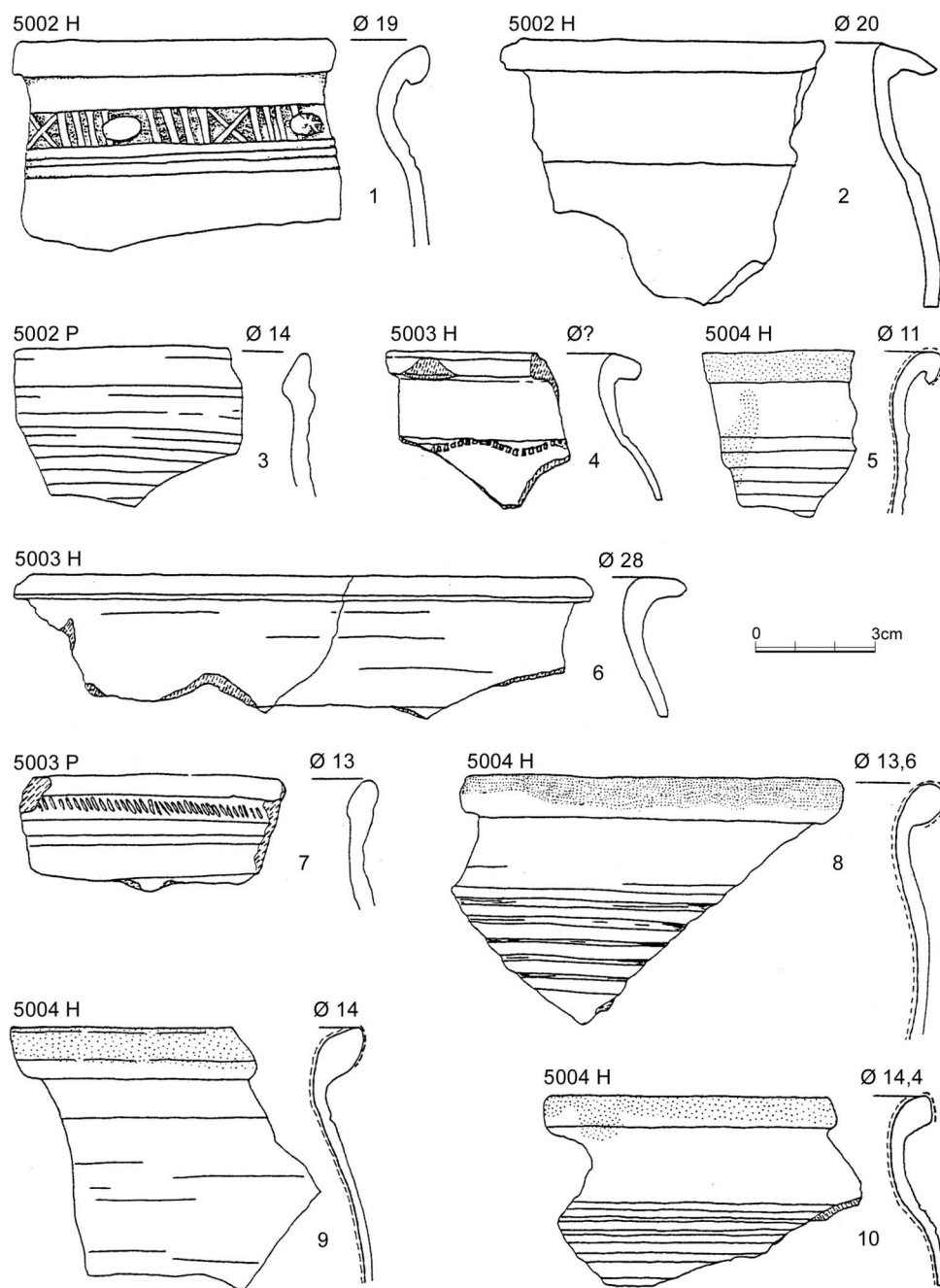


Fig. 6. Ceramic finds – sub-horizon A. A four-digit number (500X) indicates the ceramic class that the vessel belongs to. After the symbol Ø, the rim diameter of the vessel is cited. H – pot; P – goblet; T – tripod; M – bowl; Dž – jug; TM – flanged bowl; láhev – bottle; pekáč – oven pan; trojsrostlík – triple cup (*also applies to the following figures*). **Obr. 6.** Nálezy keramiky – subhorizont A. Čtyřmístné číslo (500X) označuje keramickou třídu, do níž střep nádoby patří. Za symbolem Ø je uveden průměr okraje nádoby. H – hrnec; P – pohár; T – trojnožka; M – mísa; Dž – džbán; TM – talířovitá mísa (*platí i pro následující obrázky*).

Note 9:
Cf. Pajer 1982, 63.

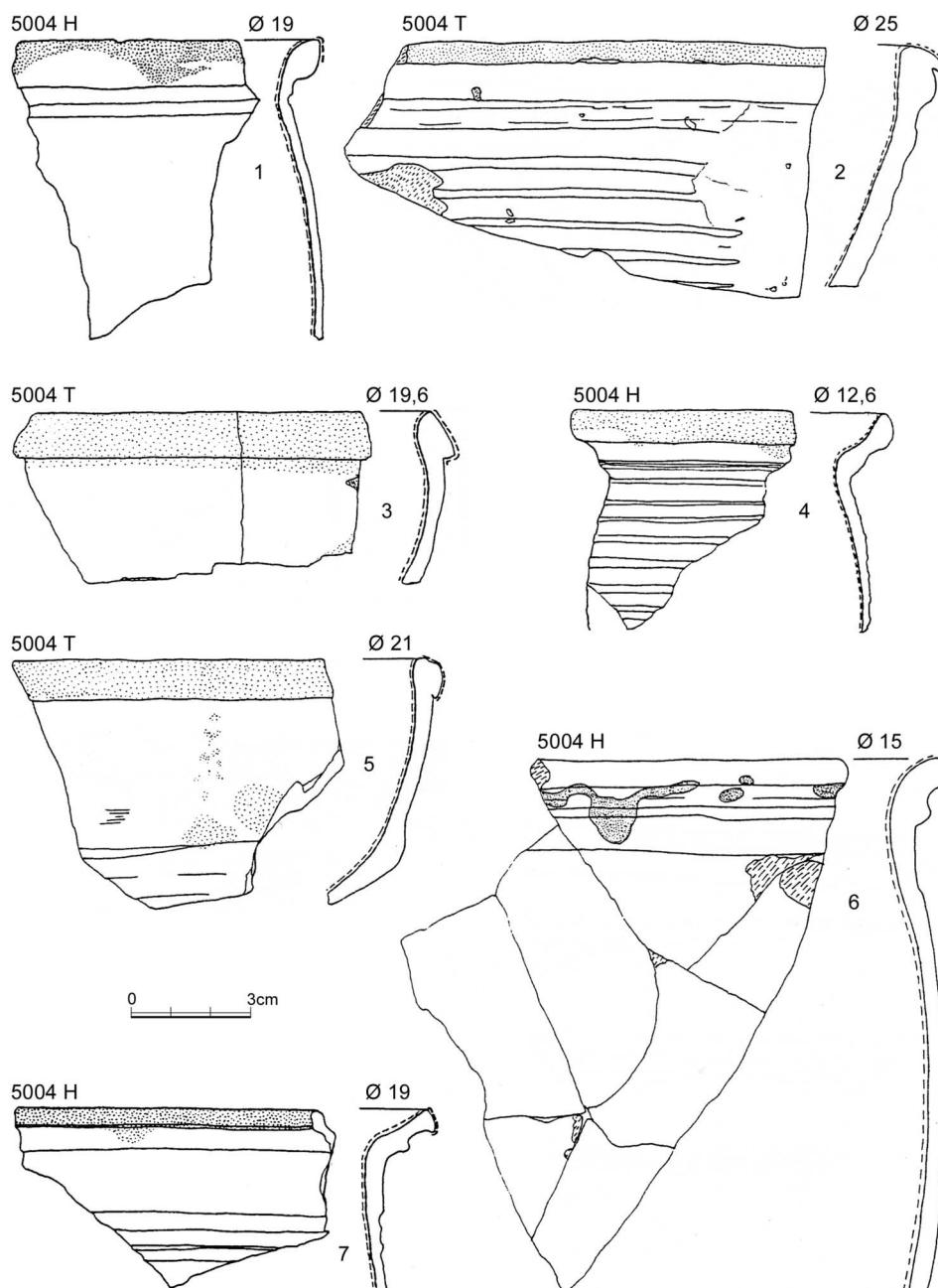
Note 10:
Cf. finds from a cesspit in Tábor from the house of the armoury girdler, house no. 220, layers 3 and 4, dated to the period between the second half of the 16th century to the start of the 17th century, where reduction fired work made up 92.2 % of the total number of finds (Krajč 1998, 175 tab.). From the same geographical area come finds from a well in Soběslav, which are dated to the period between the second half of the 15th century and the first half of the 16th century. This is an earlier period, but even in this case reduction fired ceramics predominate among the finds and make up 90.0 % of them (Krajč 1990, 106).

Note 11:
A typical demonstration of how the body of vessels was articulated at the end of the late Middle Ages – from the middle of the 15th to the middle of the 16th century (Pajer 1983, 64).

attached to the rim and, at approximately the upper third of body, and it usually had an oblong or oval-shaped profile, sometimes with a grooved upper surface. The assortment of common pots also included a handle-less flowerpot (fig. 17: 3). The largest number represented were oxidation fired pots with a transparent inner glaze⁹⁾ (ceramic class 5004 – 58,7 %). Reduction fired pots (ceramic classes 5001-5003) made up 14.2 % of all the ceramic finds¹⁰⁾.

Overall, a wheel-pressed decoration was used on three types of ceramic material. The first is the reduction fired ceramic (ceramic classes 5001-5003 – fig. 6: 1, 4; 17: 6), which is primarily found in the form of a band just below the neck; the same type of decoration is found with the unglazed brick-red firing clay (ceramic class 5009 – fig. 9: 5; 17: 7; 18: 6). In the case of brick-red firing clay, a surface decoration on a large part of the body was found, executed in different variations of a segmented wavy line (ceramic class 5005). In the case of oxidation fired pots, both glazed (ceramic classes 5004, 5005) and unglazed (ceramic classes 5008, 5009), a simple or multiple grooving is found¹¹⁾ (e. g. fig. 6: 5, 8; 7: 1, 4, 6; 8: 2, 4; 16: 1).

Fig. 7. Ceramic finds –
sub-horizon A.
Obr. 7. Nálezy keramiky –
subhorizont A.



The second largest group of ceramic shapes is tripods (7.4 %). It was possible to reconstruct three complete ones (*fig. 16: 5; 18: 1, 2*). Typologically these are later variants, where the height of the feet matches or even just slightly exceeds the height of the body. All of the fragments unearthed were fired in an oxidation atmosphere and all had inner glaze (ceramic classes 5004, 5005, 5007). In one case (*fig. 18: 1*) we find the use of white engobe, with green transparent glaze¹²). By far the most predominant rims were ovoid rims and frills. In terms of decoration, the tripods can be divided into three categories. First, there are tripods with an undecorated body (*fig. 7: 3, 5*), which is found among both the light fired ceramics (ceramic class 5004) and the brick-red firing clay (ceramic classes 5005, 5007). In the case of light ceramics it is possible, as with the pots, to find a very distinctive grooved spiral (*fig. 7: 2*). The wheel-pressed decoration, which covers the entire body of the vessel, is typical for the brick-red firing ceramics (ceramic classes 5005 – *fig. 8: 3; 18: 2*). Among the finds, 28 pieces of broken-off feet with a circular profile were

Note 12:

Analogous use of white engobe in the case of a tripod (*Dohnal – Koucký 2000, 374*). A tripod with a flat bottom tends to be cited as earlier (*Krajčič 1998, 168*).

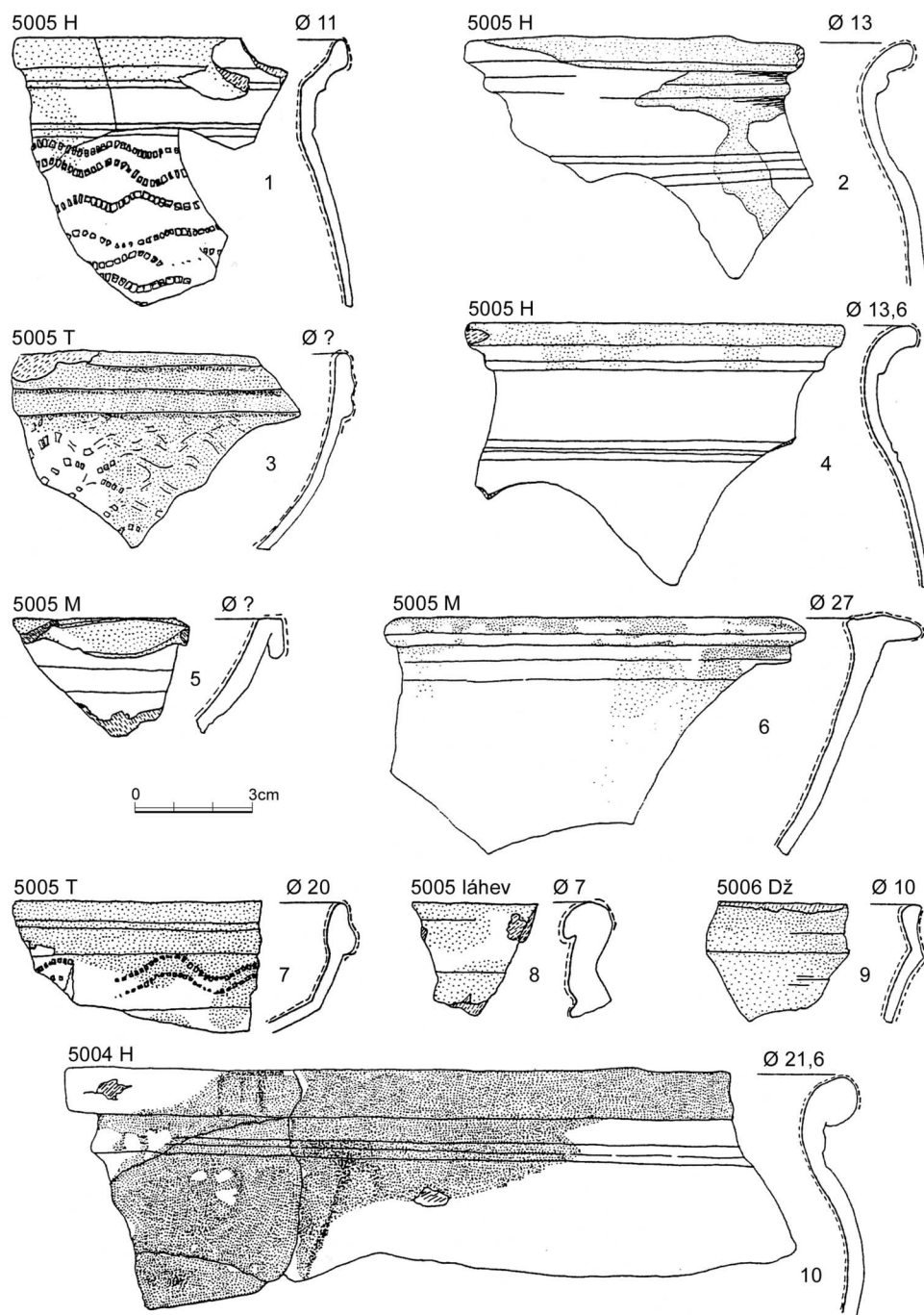


Fig. 8. Ceramic finds – sub-horizon A.
Obr. 8. Nálezy keramiky – subhorizont A.

found, and 10 grips terminating in a narrow collar; both the feet and grips bear traces of glazing.

The finds of lids included 61 pieces¹³) (3.5 %). With the exception of one fragment of the rim of a reduction fired lid, the other cases involved solely oxidation fired goods (ceramic classes 5008, 5009 – fig. 10: 9-12). The modelling and placement of the lid knob is individual. More than half of the lids have a rim diameter of around 12 cm. The second large group is made up of lids with a diameter of around 20 cm. One fragment is of a jug lid (fig. 10: 9).

Identified in the collection of finds were the remains of an oven pan of a semi-cylindrical shape, with a straight rim and a flat bottom¹⁴) (ceramic class 5005), which was evidently made by splitting in half the original bottle-shaped vessel in a semi-shriveled state. A grip was fitted on the shorter, perpendicular side, and it is assumed that the lip was fitted on the opposite side (fig. 18: 7).

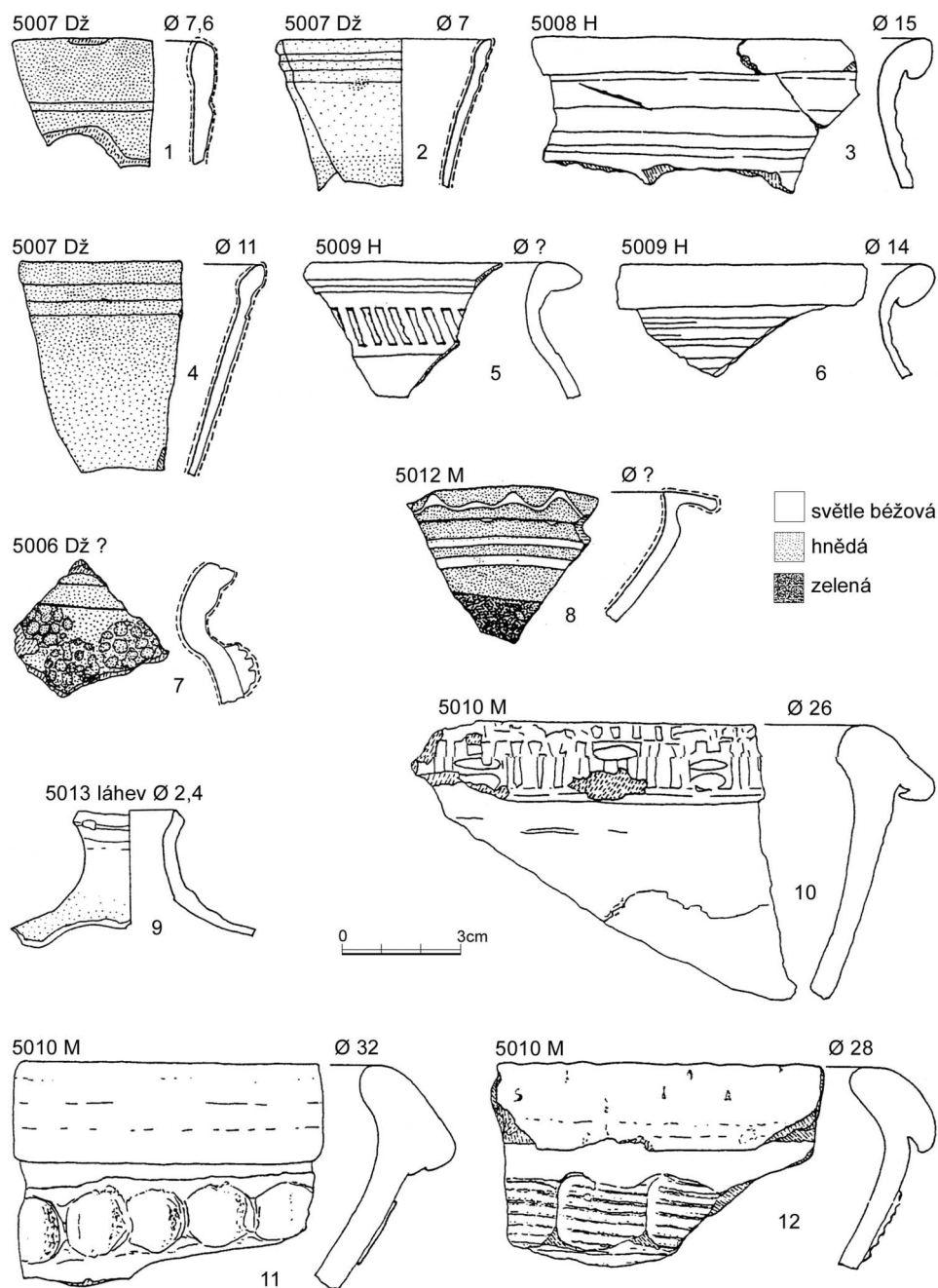
Note 13:

In comparison with other collections, this is the highest percentage of lids in the entire set. In the house of the armoury girdler in Tábor, there were no lids at all found in the latest layers (Krajíc 1998, 168). In the case of the town lot in Sedlčany, a low number of finds of lids is cited, “which is no departure from findings to date in the study of archaeological collections of Early Modern ceramics” (Dohnal – Koucký 2000, 374). Only a ceramic collection from a well in Soběslav, dated to the period ranging from the second half of the 15th to the first half of the 16th century, cites a percentage of lids at 6.1 % (Krajíc 1990, 98).

Note 14:

A similar oven pan was used in the Rudolphine kitchen (Bravermanová – Březinová – Frolík – Hlaváček – Chotěbor – Kubková – Šafránek – Vávrová 1997, V/298/11).

Fig. 9. Ceramic finds – sub-horizon A. White – light beige; light dotting – brown; dark dotting – green.
Obr. 9. Nálezy keramiky – subhorizont A.



4.1.2 Tableware ceramics

Of the total number of 1722 identified pieces, 110 belong to jugs. They thus make up the third largest group of finds (6.4 %). The first from the two reconstructed pieces is a reduction fired, slightly oval-shaped jug, with a gently open out neck (fig. 17: 2). The second reconstructed shape was a jug of an elongated ovoid shape with the largest bulge being on the lower third of the vessel's height; the neck, probably gently conical to almost cylindrical in shape, and the rim did not survive (fig. 15: 2). The body of the jug is decorated with painted, stylised plant motifs in the form of light beige acorn combined with geometric motifs. The style the jug was rendered in, the ceramic material, and the decorative ornamentation are typical of so-called Beroun-type ceramics¹⁵⁾ (ceramic class 5012). Also worth noting is the surviving part of the body of a large-sized jug moulded into a barrel shape, which also belongs to the category of Beroun-type ceramics (ceramic class 5012). The central decorative

Note 15:

For a more detailed description of this ceramic, see Matoušek – Scheufler 1983.

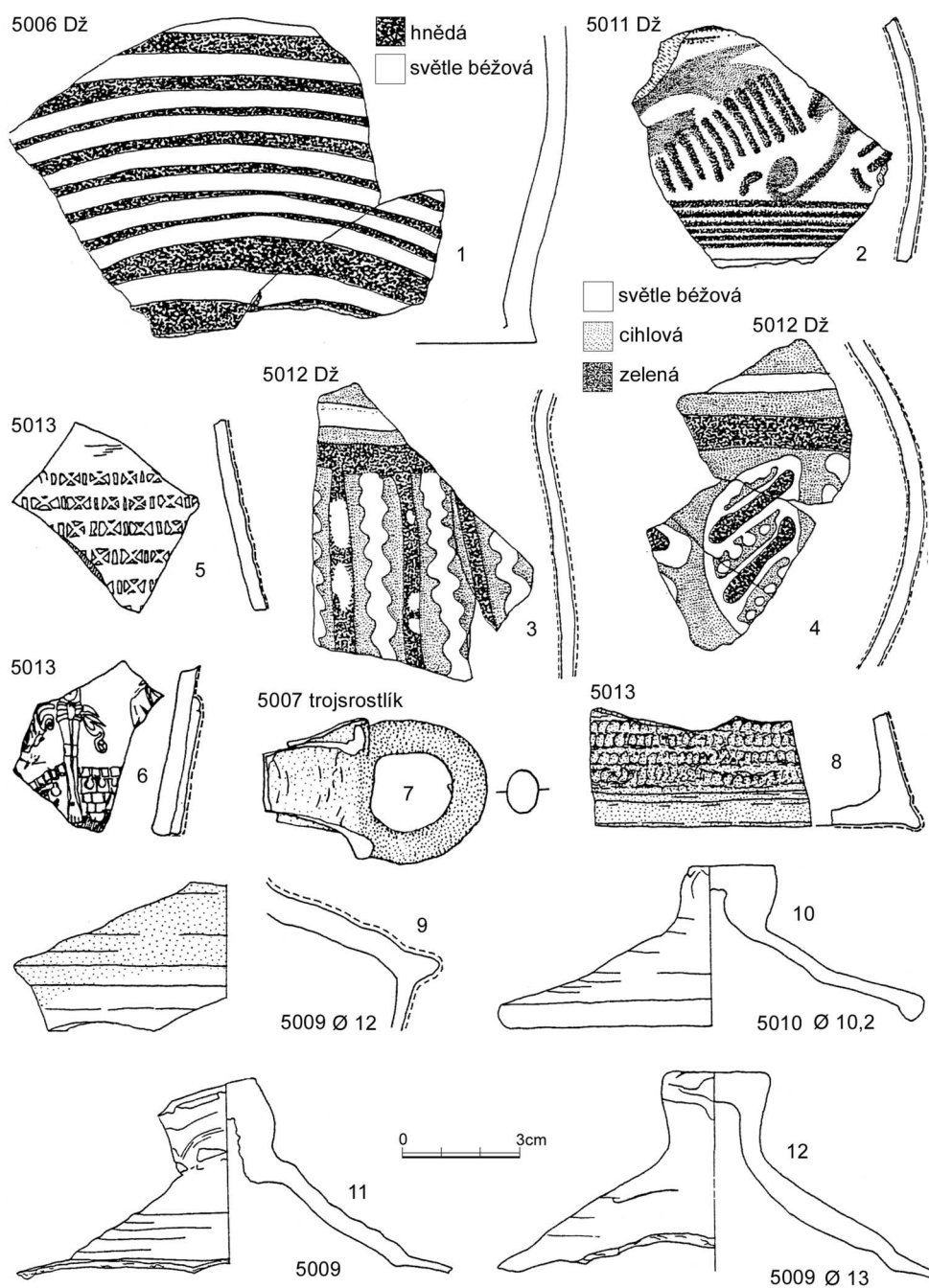


Fig. 10. Ceramic finds – sub-horizon A. White – light beige; light dotting – brick red; dark dotting – brown (1), green (2-4).

Obr. 10. Nálezy keramiky – subhorizont A.

motif is a wide band of stylised plant motifs, pomegranates, decorated with counter-poised volutes (fig. 15: 1) where they join. In addition to these three distinct finds also fragments of rims (fig. 9: 1, 2, 4) and bodies (fig. 10: 1-4) were found. Most of these fragments are of ceramic material glazed on both sides (ceramic classes 5006, 5007). In the case of the rims of jugs, most are upwardly stretched, simply moulded rims, with a diameter between 7 and 11 cm.

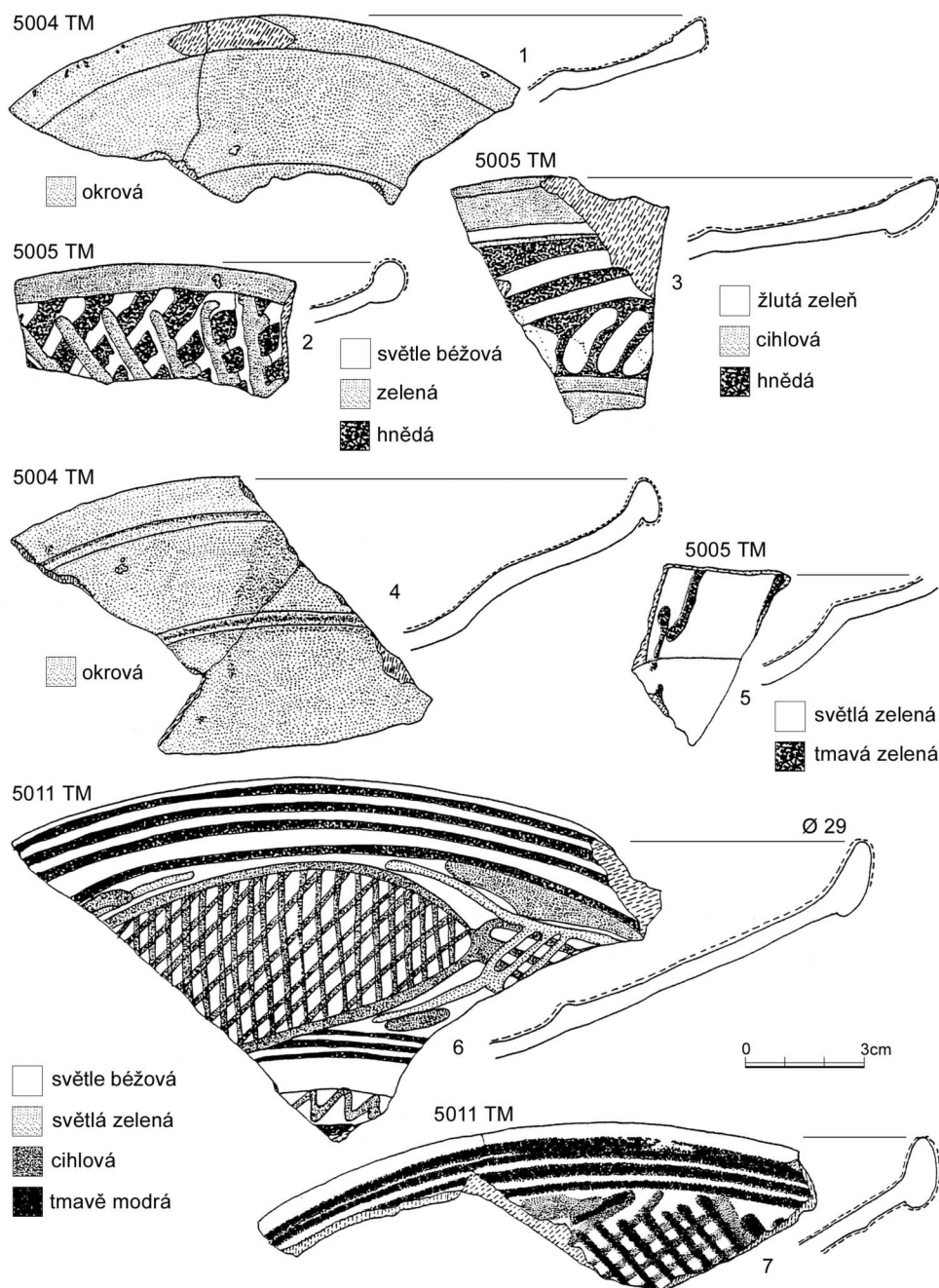
In total, 4.8 % of the identifiable pieces belong to flanged bowls¹⁶). Finds of these bowls are associated with ceramic categories with an inner glaze (5004, 5011, 5012). The shape of the rim is largely predetermined by the overall shape of the vessel. The walls of the bowl open out in a funnel-shaped slant towards the rim, followed by an inner flanging of an outwardly slanting sub-rim, terminating in an almost upwardly stretched, simply shaped rim, sometimes reinforced on the outside. What are decisive for the resulting shape of the bowl is, to a certain extent, the conspicuousness and the placement of the flanging.

Note 16:

J. Pajer refers to this shape as a flanged bowl (Pajer 1983, 30).

Fig. 11. Ceramic finds – sub-horizon A. White – light beige (2, 6, 7), yellowish green (3), light green (5); light dotting – ochre (1, 4), brick red (3), green (2), light green (6, 7); dark dotting – brown (2, 3), dark green (5), brick red (6, 7); black – dark blue (6, 7).

Obr. 11. Nálezy keramiky – subhorizont A.



The best preserved of the shapes that could be reconstructed in most part was a flanged bowl with a simply moulded rim with a pronounced outer edge. The bowl is made of gently washed, white firing clay (ceramic class 5011) and has an abundance of painted decorations. The main theme on the widened sub-rim is a zoomorphic motif of a fish, rendered in contours and filled in with vertical brick-red wavy lines. The area of the bottom is divided into four parts, each of which contains a small red heart (fig. 13). The same ceramic material (ceramic class 5011) as that of the previous shape is also used for the smaller-sized flanged bowl with an almost flat upper part and a simply moulded rim, its sub-rim decorated with alternating geometric motifs and trefoils (fig. 12: 2). The outer side of the body of this bowl bears striking traces of turning on a wheel. An example of so-called Beroun-type ceramics (ceramic class 5012) is the large fragment of a flanged bowl with a simply moulded rim, decorated with a plant motif of climbing plants in a combination of light beige and green glaze (fig. 14: 1). The same ceramic material (ceramic class 5012) was also used to make another flanged bowl, of which only

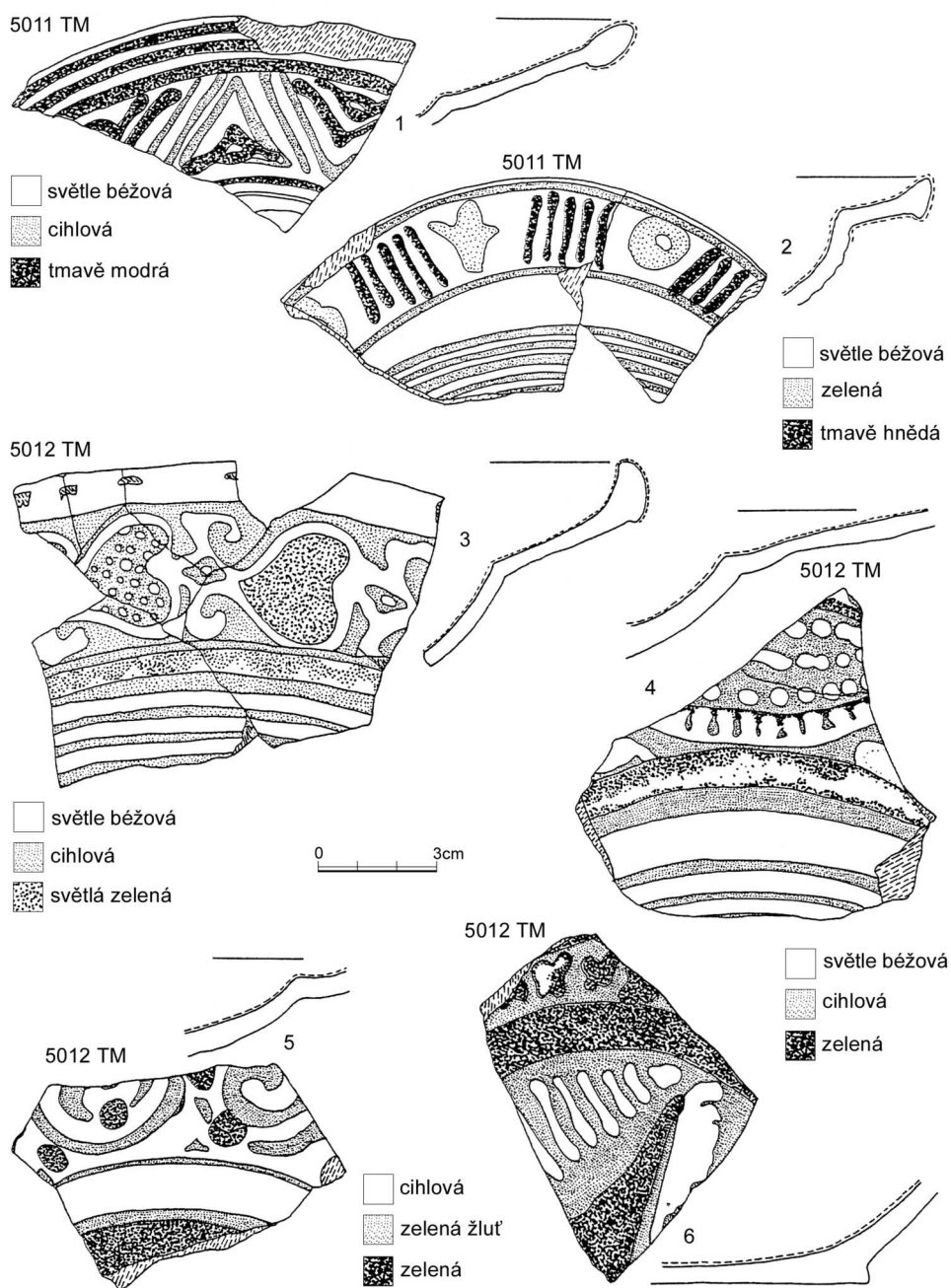


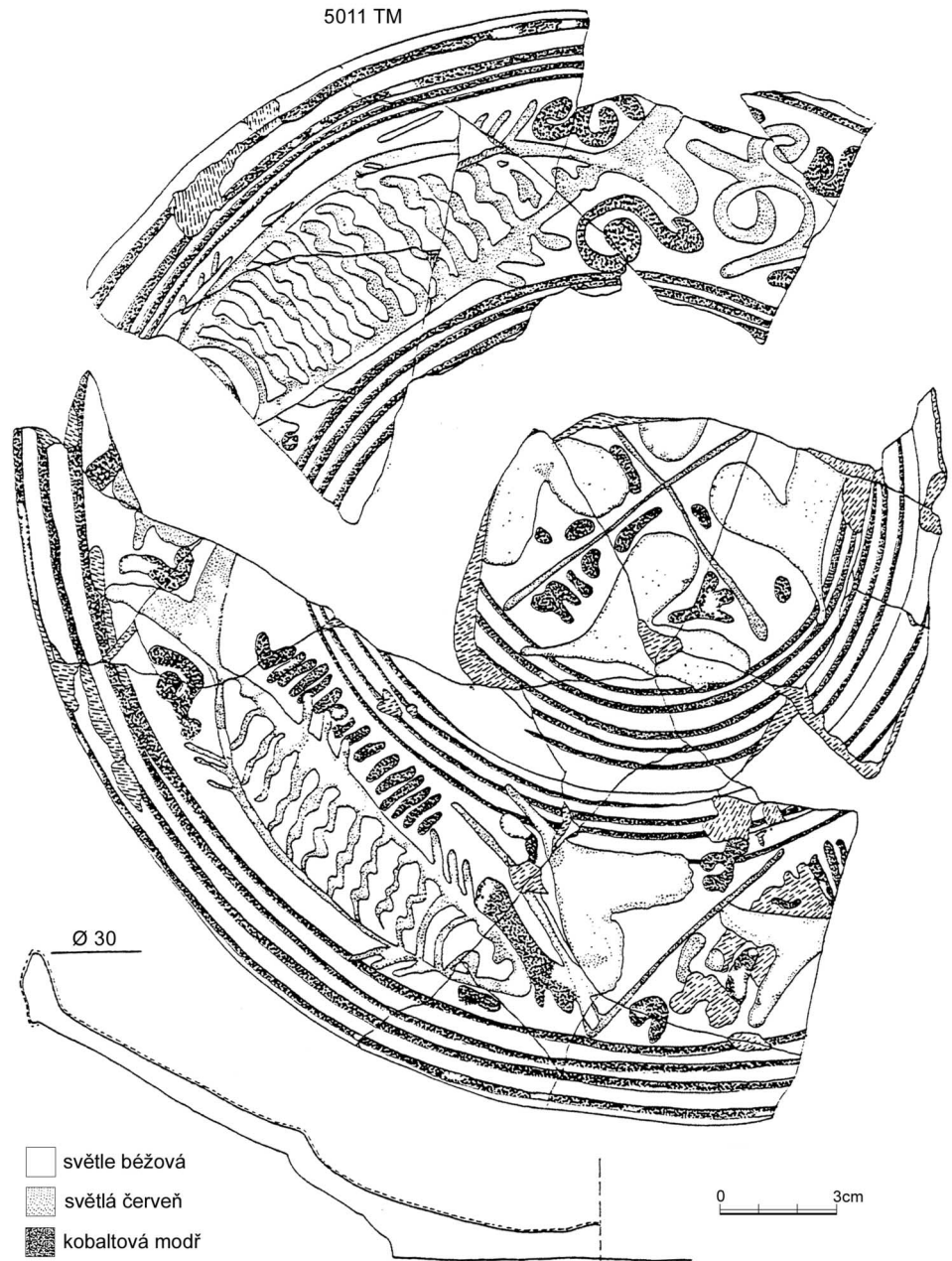
Fig. 12. Ceramic finds – sub-horizon A. White – light beige (1-4, 6), brick red (5); light dotting – brick red (1, 3, 4, 6), green (2), greenish yellow (5); dark dotting – dark blue (1), dark brown (2), light green (3), green (4-6).
Obr. 12. Nálezy keramiky – subhorizont A.

the sub-rim part with a geometric decoration survived (fig. 14: 2). From the other potsherds unearthed it is difficult to identify the original decorative motifs as, in most cases, only fragments have survived (fig. 11; 12).

In the collection studied, it was possible to reconstruct one large, deep bowl¹⁷⁾ with a slightly conical body and a rim diameter of 28 cm. The outer surface of the bowl was decorated with three horizontal bands of finger-pressed decoration with four horizontal ribs in each of the hollows. The rim is oval-shaped, undercut, slightly inturned, decorated on the upper surface with three rows of short, vertical wheel-pressed lines (fig. 18: 3). Also found were several fragments of both rims and bodies of deep bowls (fig. 9: 10-12). All of them were made of brick-red firing clay with a substantial admixture of siliceous grains (ceramic class 5010). Among all the finds, a sandwich effect appeared on the potsherd break, emerging as a result of the excessive thickness of the piece, so that an even firing could not be achieved. The estimated diameter of the rims of these bowls ranges from 26 to 32 cm.

Note 17:
More on its function in Pajer 1983, 46.

Fig. 13. Ceramic finds – sub-horizon A. White – light beige; light dotting – light red; dark dotting – cobalt blue.
Obr. 13. Nálezy keramiky – subhorizont A.



Among the finds, 25 pieces of rims could be identified, which belonged to deep bowls (fig. 8: 5, 6). In the majority of the cases, the rim was horizontally levelled. All of the identified fragments have inner glaze on a white engobe. Worth noting in more detail is the find of part of the rim of a deep Beroun-type ceramic bowl (ceramic class 5012 – fig. 14: 3). Part of its horizontally levelled rim survived, and on its upper surface part of the inscription RONIEM is preserved, executed in light fine clay. The inner and outer surfaces of the bowl were decorated with beige horizontal lines.

The find collection also includes two rim fragments of reduction fired goblets (ceramic classes 5002, 5003), which we regard as typical component of mediaeval pottery collections (fig. 6: 3, 7).

4.1.3 Technical ceramics – pharmaceutical vessels

Pharmaceutical vessels belong to the category of technical ceramics, which began to appear at the start of the Early Modern Age. They mainly include small shapes with wide bottom, conical body and a simple out-turned rim.

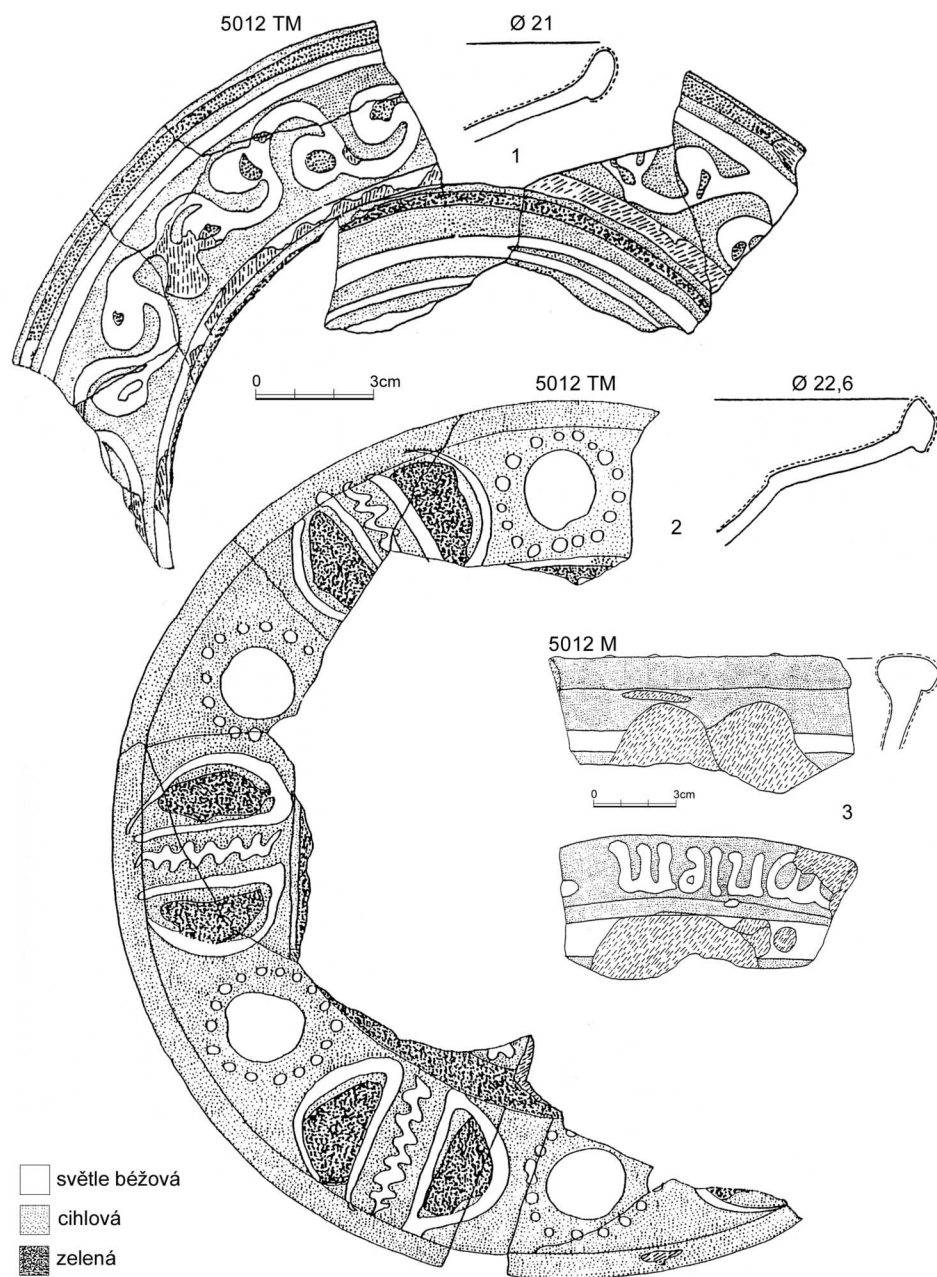


Fig. 14. Ceramic finds – sub-horizon A. White – light beige; light dotting – brick red; dark dotting – green.
Obr. 14. Nálezy keramiky – subhorizont A.

Note 18:

This shape comes from the Orient. In the 15th, and especially the 16th and 17th centuries, it became widespread in Italy, where it became one of the most typical shapes used in pharmaceutical collections.

These are primarily cylindrical majolica vessels, with a slightly narrowed shape at the centre, a wide neck, and an indented foot, sometimes slightly profiled. Lids were not used for these shapes, instead they were covered with rings of paper or parchment, which was fastened around the neck with string (Kube 1976, 10). In a walled cesspit in Lübeck, dated to the 15th-18th centuries, which belonged to the town hall pharmacy and contained pharmaceutical waste, there were three finds of albarello that originated in the Netherlands (Meckseper 1985, 655).

In the Czech lands, albarello began to appear with the products of the Anabaptists (Braunová, 1985, 414; Pajer 2001, 92).

Note 19:

We find decorations in cobalt blue on products coming from workshops in Venice dating to the 16th century (Kube 1976, tab. 26). Two albarellos, which are decorated with tiny plant motifs rendered in cobalt blue, form part of the collection of the museum in Faenza and they are said to have originated at the end of the 15th or the beginning of the 16th century (Ronchetti 1982, slide 1/22).

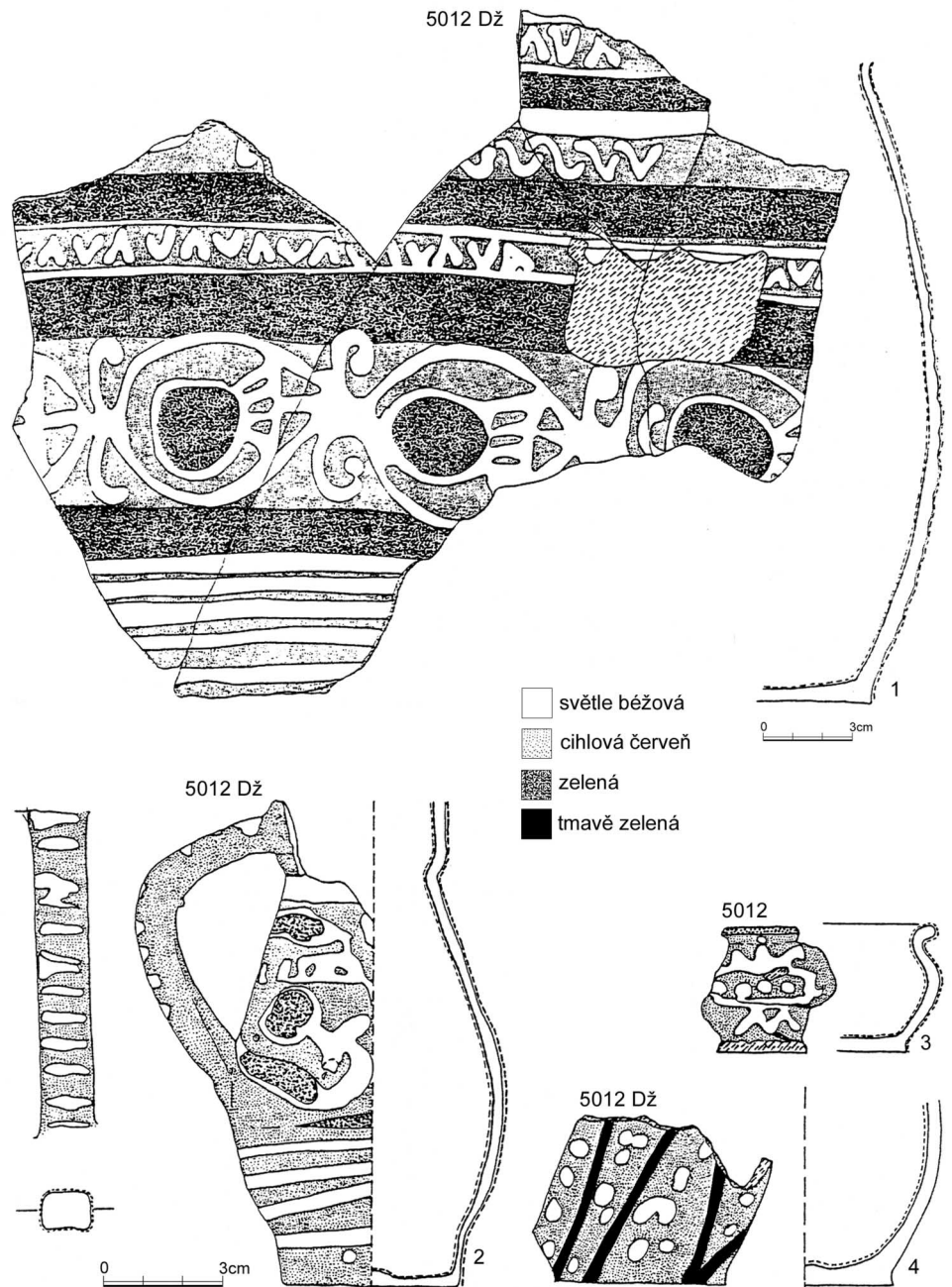
It is assumed that they were used to store various types of oils and ointments. Fragments of miniature pieces, which can be regarded as part of the pharmaceutical vessels, make up 0.8 % of the total finds, from which it was possible to reconstruct one complete shape (ceramic class 5004 – fig. 16: 6). The pharmaceutical vessels also included part of a bottom and a body of a majolica albarello¹⁸). The outer surface of the body was painted with cobalt-blue decorations in the form of short, slanted lines bordered on both sides with horizontal lines, followed above by minuscule decorations¹⁹) (fig. 18: 5).

4.1.4 Fragments of unidentified shapes

In total, 2151 ceramic fragments of various sizes were found, for which it was not possible to identify the form they originated from. In the studied collection, these fragments make up 53.3 % of the total finds. Some of these are nonetheless worth noting. Among them is a fragment of a body with part of the lower neck of what was probably a jug (ceramic class 5007), the outer surface of which

Fig. 15. Ceramic finds – sub-horizon A. White – light beige; light dotting – brick red; dark dotting – green; black – dark green.

Obr. 15. Nálezy keramiky – subhorizont A.



Note 20:

This decorative motif comes from the Rhineland, but we also encounter it in Lower Austria in Enns, and in Hungary in Buda (Holl – Parádi 1982). Three small fragments with raspberry prunts were found during the excavations of the deserted village of Konůvky in Ždánický Forest (Měchurová 1997, tab. XL: 9). The same decorative technique was also applied on a fragment of what was probably a small goblet, which was found in cesspit B, unearthed in the direct vicinity of St. Vitus Basilica (in the processing stage).

is decorated with raspberry-shaped prunts, positioned alternately in a sharp zigzag, two of which are green glazed and one yellow²⁰⁾ (fig. 9: 7).

In the entire collection, 30 pieces (0.9 %) of fragments were found of stoneware bodies, the shapes of which could not be determined. All the fragments are made of gently washed clay with an exterior surface covered with a brown salt glaze. The most interesting find is a fragment of a body with a wheel-pressed decoration and with figuration decoration in relief. Only part of the original motif has survived – the lower half of the body of Christ on the cross, with town walls in the background (fig. 10: 6). It is very probable that this was produced in Waldenburg in Saxony around the year 1570 (Horschik 1978, 106, Fig. 3). Another fragment of a body with a strips of wheel-pressed decoration, is also from the same Saxony workshop, evidently from the second half of the 16th century (fig. 10: 8; Horschik 1978, 107, Fig. 5).

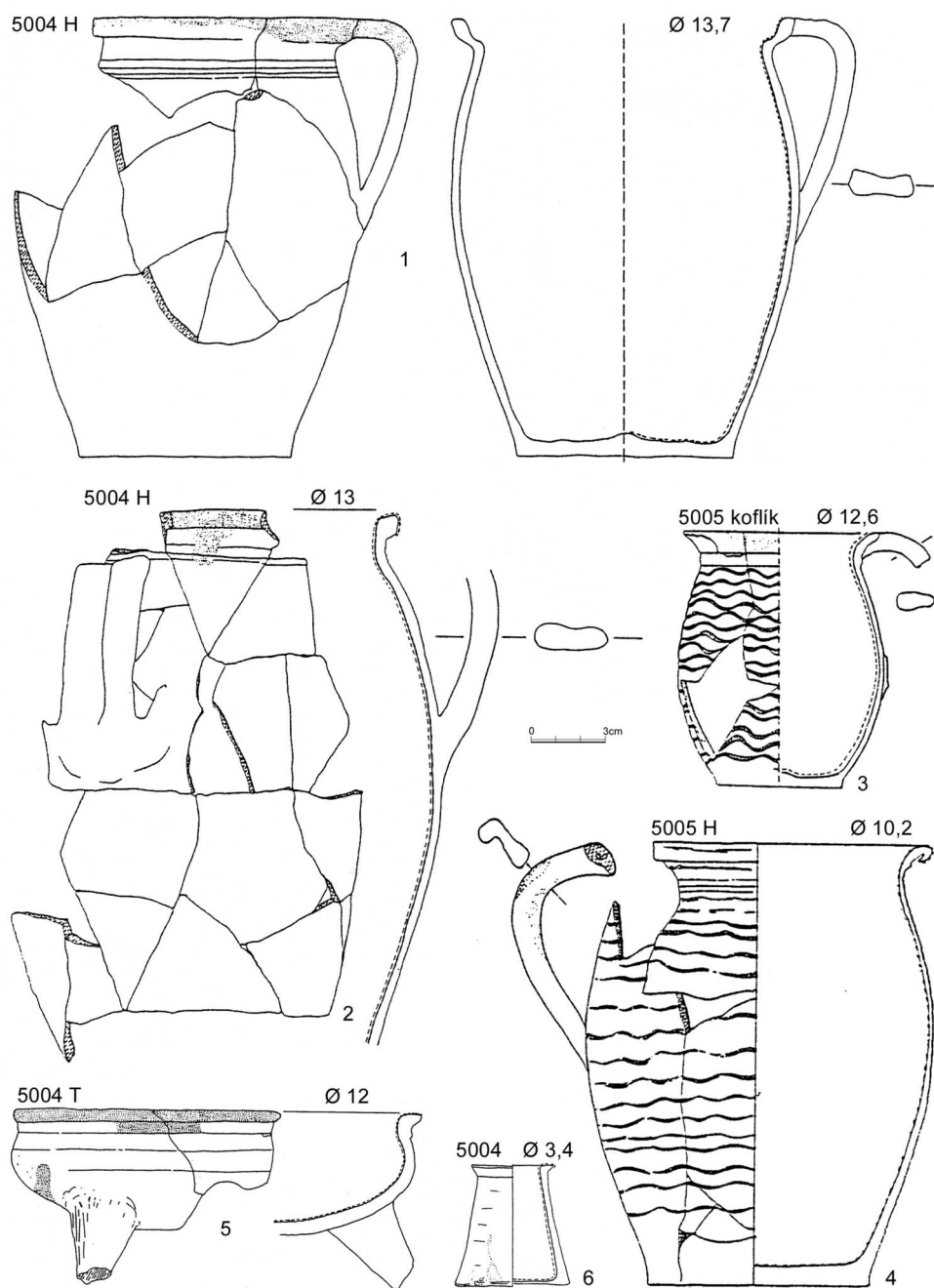


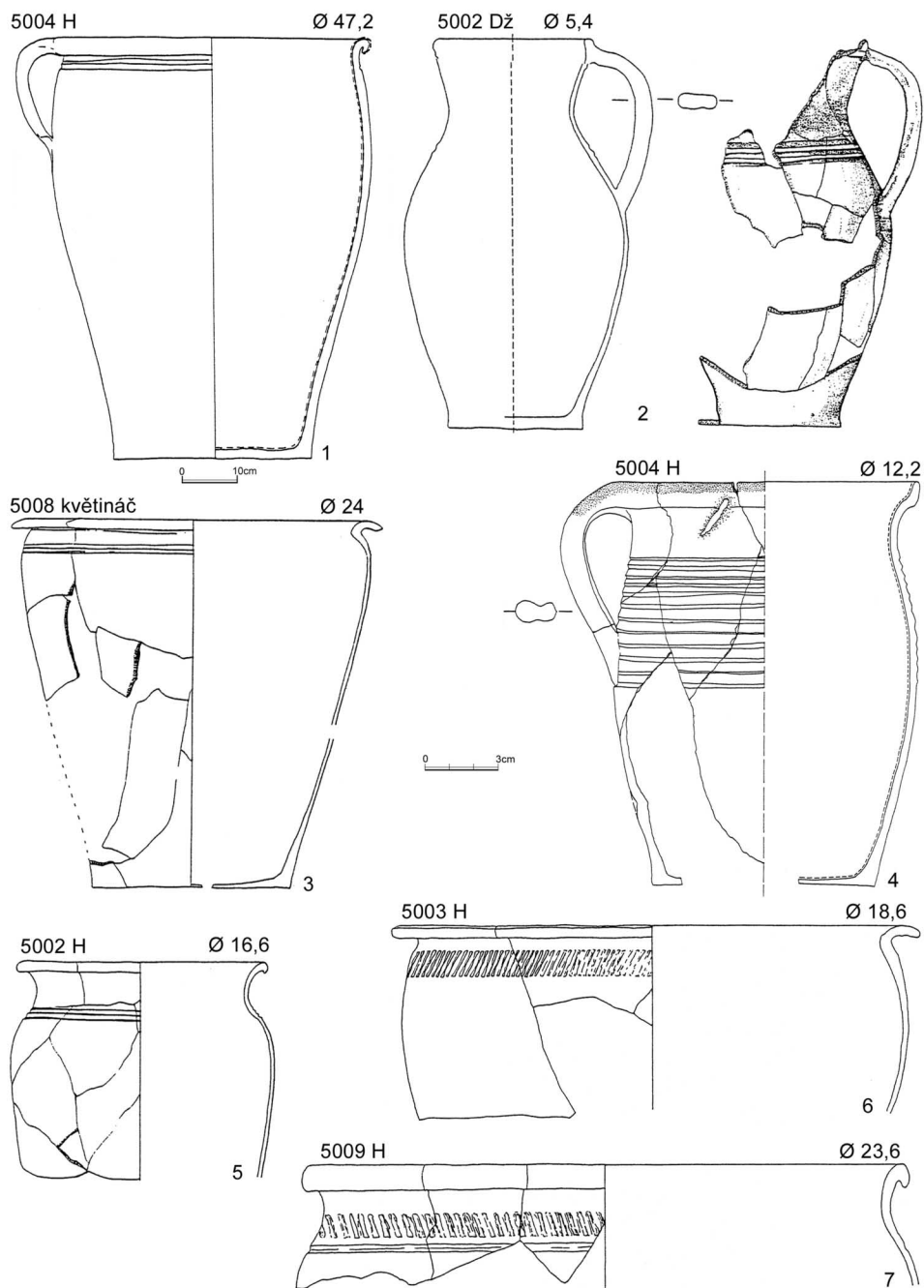
Fig. 16. Ceramic finds – sub-horizon A.
Obr. 16. Nálezy keramiky – subhorizont A.

4.2 Tiles

The largest set of finds is tiles, 6604 fragments of which were identified. With the exception of three fragments, all the finds come from the fills of the cellars (sub-horizon A, especially layer 691A – 82.1 %). All of these are tiles made of light yellowish-white to white firing clay, with a just a small amount of tiny siliceous grains. The tiles were first given a white engobe covered by a transparent green, lead glaze. The vast majority of the tiles in this collection have traces of sooting on the back of their front side – evidence of their having been set into functioning stoves. A large portion of the found tiles have a more or less evident imprint of a rough fabric on the back of a front side, which was typical for this period and is the result of the technique used to produce the tiles²¹). In terms of time, style, and technology, finds of tiles make up a homogenous collection, most of which dates to the second half of the 16th century.

Note 21:
For a description of the technique of producing Renaissance tiles, see Dymek 1995, Tab. XXXVII.

Fig. 17. Ceramic finds –
sub-horizon A, B.
Obr. 17. Nálezy keramiky –
subhorizont A, B.



Note 22:

Tiles with a similar type of relief at the front side are relatively common in the Czech lands. Individual finds vary only in terms of the specific plant motif used (e. g. *Durdík – Hazlbauer 1994*, fig. 9: 1; *Hazlbauer 2001*, fig. 6: 4, fig. 9: 1, 7, 9; *Pajer 1983*, fig. 44, 45, 49, 50).

Note 23:

This type of tile with transparent green glaze is already known from finds at Prague Castle, from the so-called Multifunctional hall (*Boháčová – Frolík – Žegklitz 1988*, fig. 1) and from Lobkowicz Palace (*Durdík – Frolík – Chotěbor 1999*, fig. 77: 2), and from Křivoklát (*Durdík – Hazlbauer 1994*, fig. 9: 3, 4). Similar tiles, with an unglazed front side, have also been found in a large number of other sites, for example, from the central Elbe River area (*Hazlbauer – Špaček 1986*, fig. 7: 1), Točnick (*Hazlbauer 1988*, fig. 16: 3, 5) or from Nové Strašecí (*Hazlbauer 1989*, fig. 2: 10,11).

4.2.1 Basic row and corner tiles

The find collection is clearly predominated by tiles with a central bowl-shaped medallion, either square or rectangular in shape, dating to the second half of the 16th century (*Hazlbauer – Špaček 1986*, 157). Most of the finds are square tiles with a leafwork motif placed in the corners²²). The length of the sides of the tiles is 26.4 cm and they are 7.3 cm deep. There are at least 70 tiles of this type in the collection (*fig. 20: 1*). The second numerically large group of finds is made up of parts of rectangular tiles with a central bowl-shaped medallion, the front side of which is decorated in relief with a female and male figure (Atlas) and putto figures²³) (*fig. 19: 1*). The height of these tiles is 29.1 cm, the width 18.5 cm, with a depth of 7 cm. There are at least 34 tiles of this type in the collection. It was also possible to identify at least three basic row rectangular tiles with a central bowl-shaped medallion, decorated in relief in the upper corners with two standing lions holding a festooned medallion with

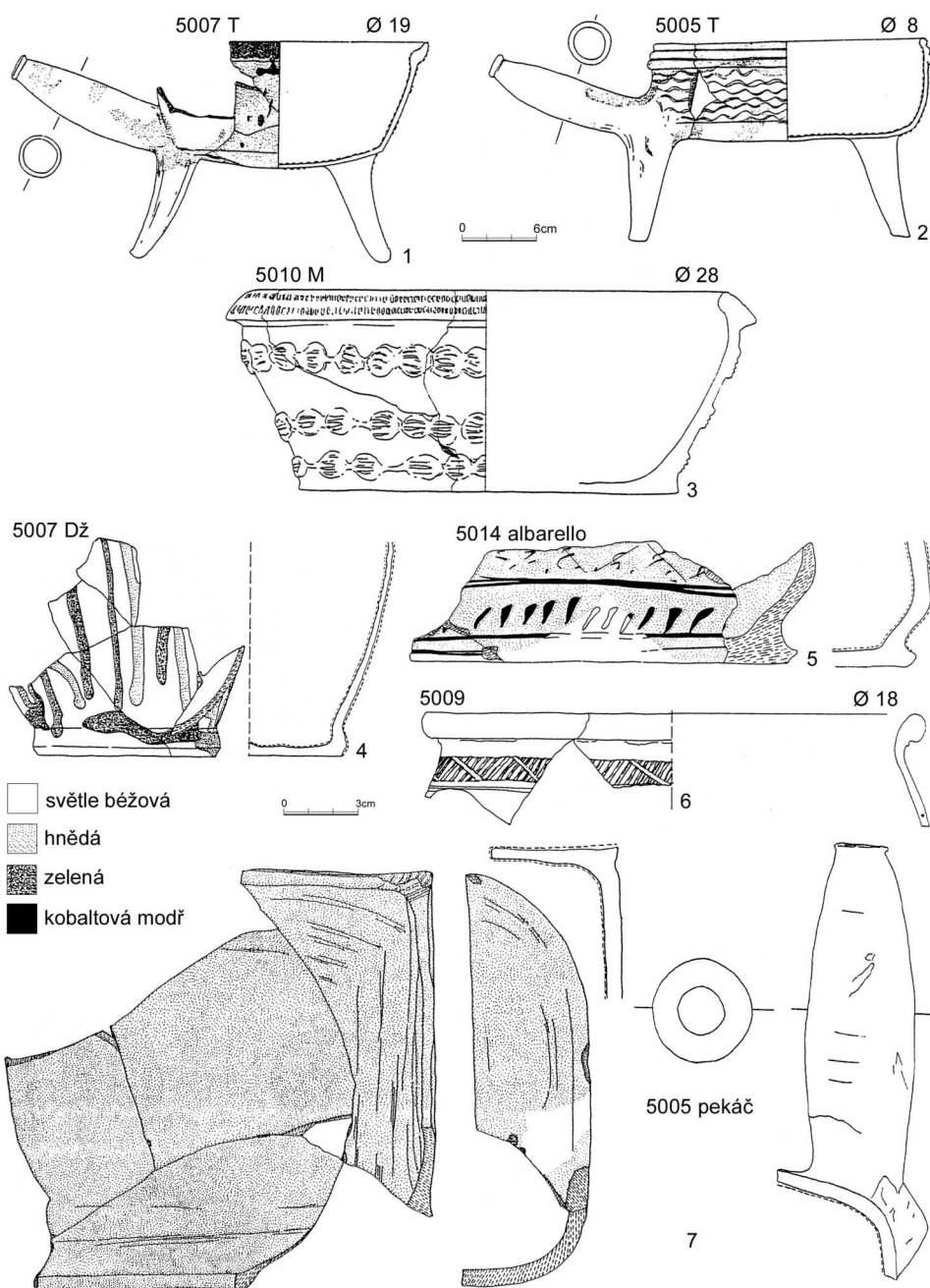


Fig. 18. Ceramic finds – sub-horizon A. White – light beige; light dotting – brown; dark dotting – green; black – cobalt blue.

Obr. 18. Nálezy keramiky – subhorizont A.

a lion's head. In the centre of the lower part there is a mascaron face, from which stylised Lily-of-the-Valley blossoms extend into both corners²⁴⁾ (fig. 19: 2). The height of the tiles is 28.9 cm, the width is 17 cm, and the depth is 7 cm.

The remaining five motifs depicted in relief on the front side of the tiles were found at one piece each. An uncommon find is a tile with the Biblical motif of Hagar being driven into the desert. Depicted in relief are the figures of Hagar and Ishmael, Abraham and Sarah with Isaac in her arms. All of them are dressed in Renaissance clothing, and there are palm leaves in the background. The entire scene is framed along the sides with pillars and half-columns and above with two horizontal rows of leafwork, which are separated by a strip of small squares²⁵⁾ in relief (fig. 19: 3). Unlike the previous tiles, which had a shallow, frame chamber, the tile has a conical chamber with a circular rim in the shape of a lightly grooved collar. The height of the front side is 19 cm, the width is also 19 cm, and the depth is 13.7 cm. The tiles with this theme are dated to around the middle of the 16th century.

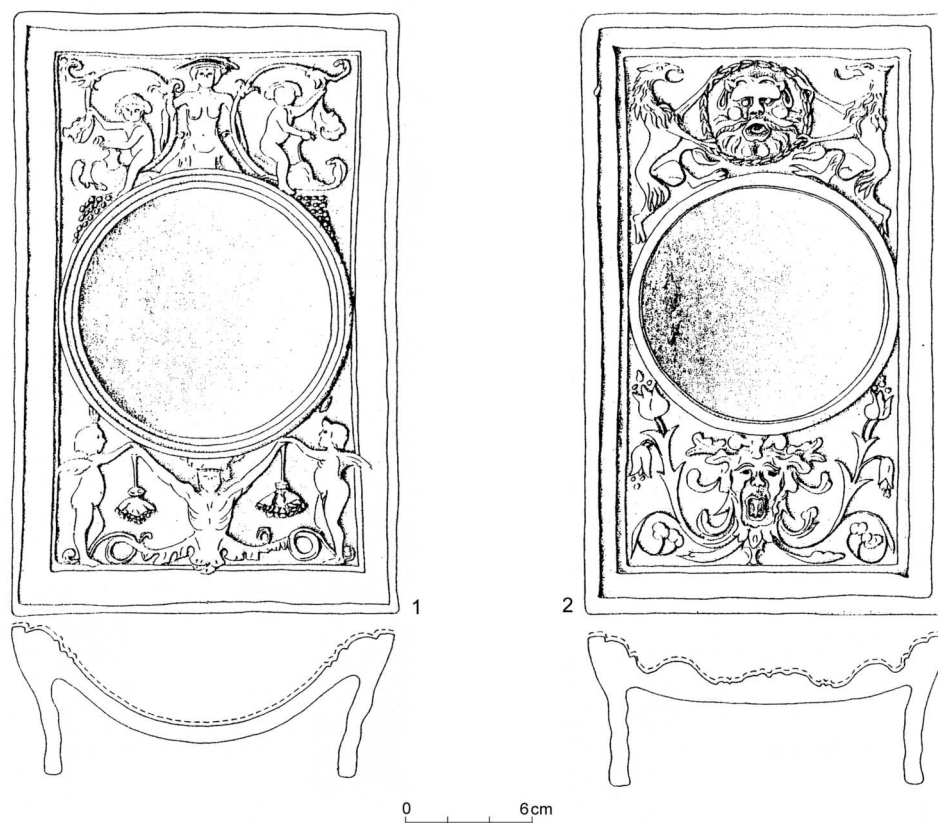
Note 24:

An analogy of this tile, but in unglazed form, originates from Nové Strašecí (Hazlbauer – Špaček 1986, fig. 7: 1).

Note 25:

From analogies, we know of a green glazed fragment of a tile (Strauss 1972, Taf. 89: 4) and two coloured-glaze specimens from central Germany (Franz 1969, 212), and from workshops in Cologne (Strauss 1972, 116: 2).

Fig. 19. Tile finds –
sub-horizon A.
Obr. 19. Nálezy kachlů –
subhorizont A.

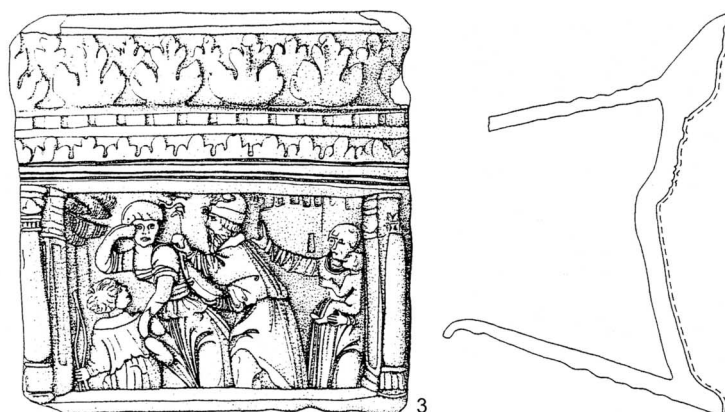


Note 26:

There is an analogical find dated to the first half of the 16th century from a workshop in Nuremberg (Franz 1969, 205).

Note 27:

Double-portrait tiles were a very common and a widespread type of tile, which is evident not just from the large number of finds from various locations in Prague, for example, from the Na valech Gardens below Prague Castle, and from Lobkowicz Palace, Ungelt, and Jungmann Square (Brych – Stehlíková – Žegklitz 1990, cat. no. 202-7, 220; Durdík – Frolík – Chotěbor 1999, fig. 75: 2; Richterová 1982, 62: 1-3), but also from the various types of modifications of the front sides of a tile, ranging from an unglazed surface to single- or multi-coloured glazes.



In one example, part of a row chamber tile with a rectangular shape was found, with the motif of a griffin lying down, with its head raised and its tongue sticking out, surrounded by a triple moulding²⁶⁾ (fig. 21: 3). Also found in fragmented form was part of an originally dual-portrait, so-called noble tile. This is a chamber, mantel, crown-type (?) row tile with the left profile of the half figure of a noblewoman. The woman is wearing a Renaissance dress with puffed sleeves, on her head a beret with three feathers, and jewels around her neck. The relief is bordered on the outside with half of a polygonal pillar and half-column, and the lower edge is made up of a twisted rod²⁷⁾ (fig. 21: 4). Like in the case of the tile with the griffin motif, the heating chamber did not survive.

A separate part of the collection is made up of finds of so-called mosaic tiles. Two related varieties of relief decoration of their front sides were discovered. This is a combination of an S-shaped limbs, which divides the embossed front side into separate fields, which are filled with a trefoil on a stem. A total of 21 fragments were found with a transparent green glaze and one entire mosaic

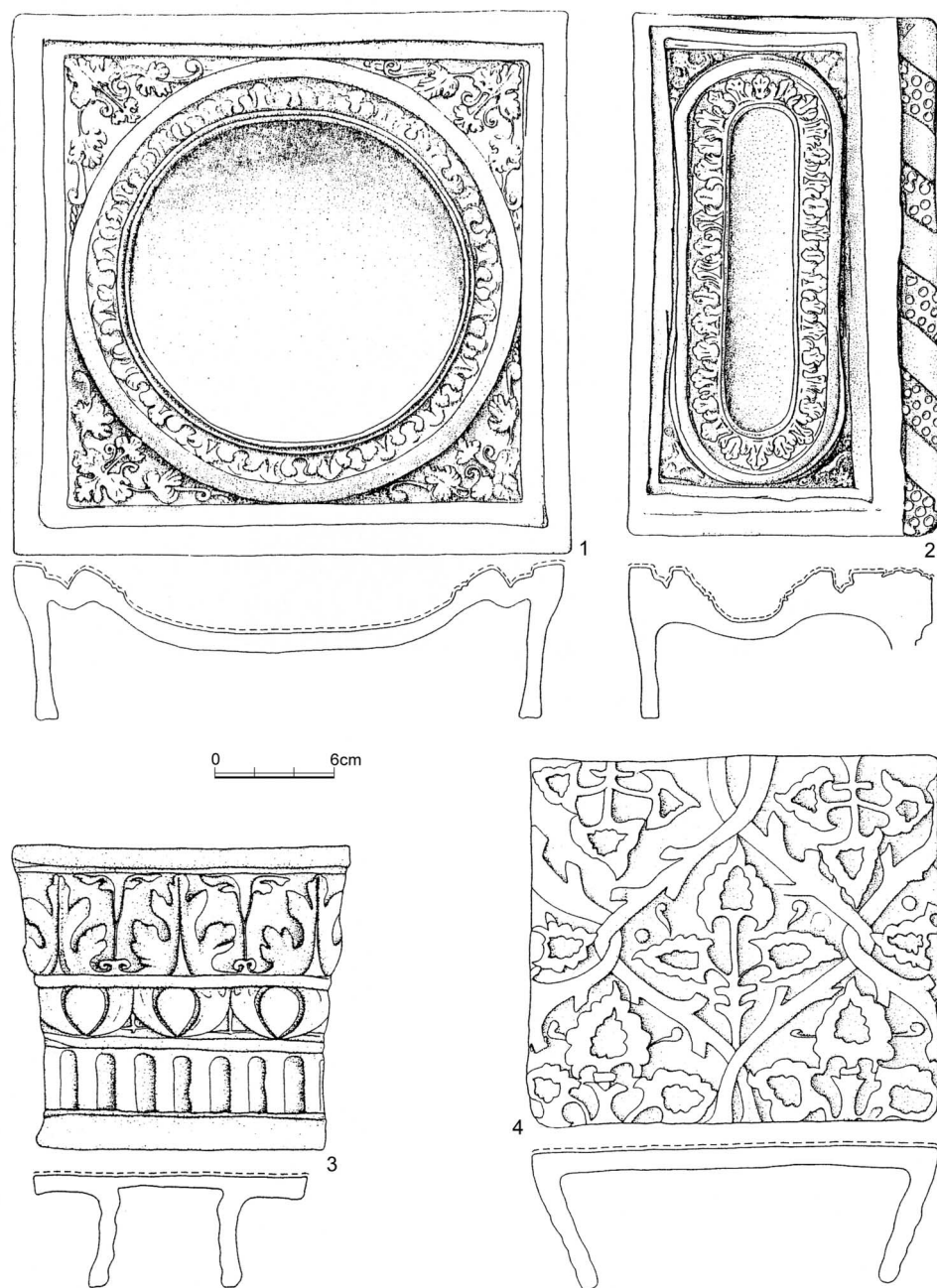


Fig. 20. Tile finds –
sub-horizon A.
Obr. 20. Nálezy kachlů –
subhorizont A.

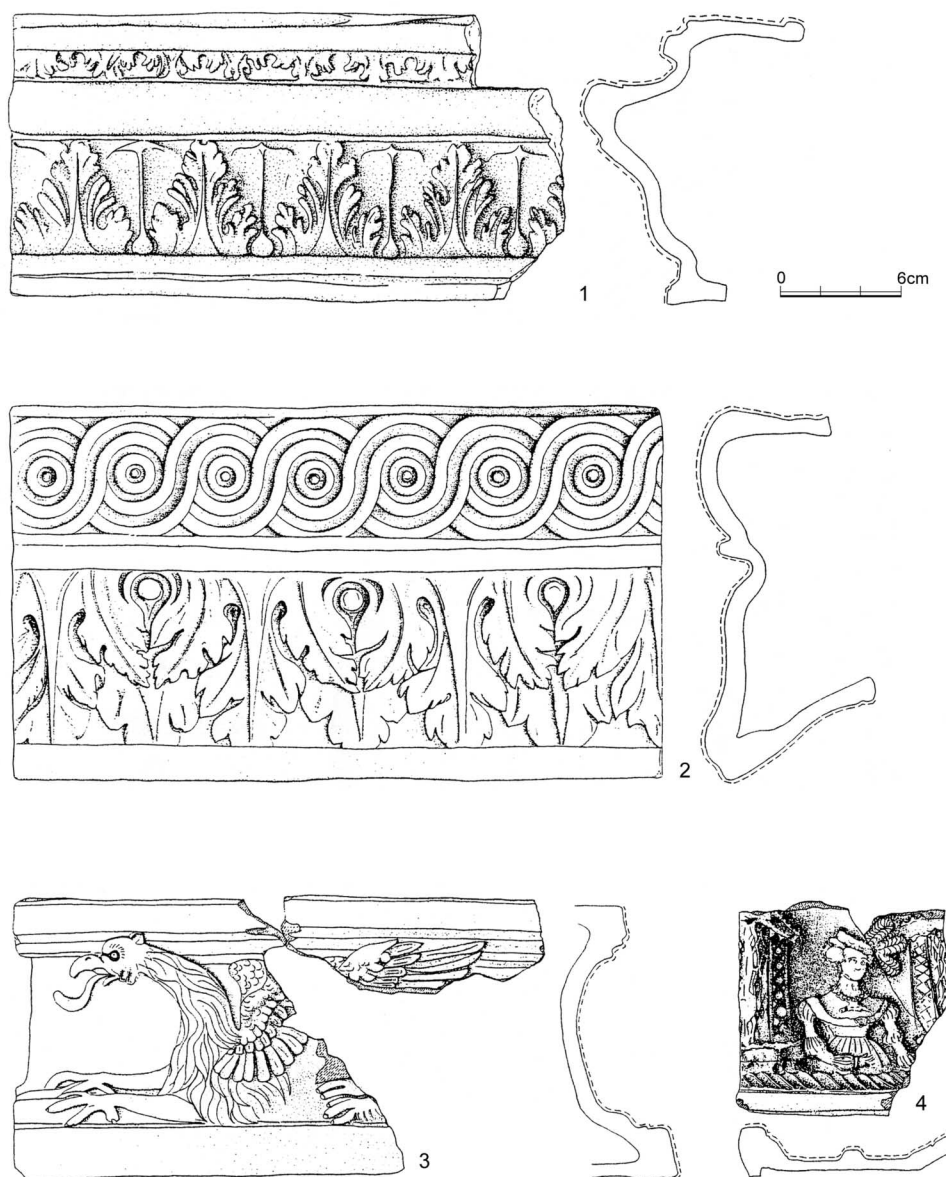
tile done in a yellow-white base colour combined with blue, green, and brown colours (fig. 20: 4). The chamber of this tile is low, framed, and with a suggestion of a conical closing. The rim of the chamber is oval-shaped on the outside, and on the walls of the chamber there is distinctive grooving. The length of the side is 21.5 cm, and the depth is 7 cm.

The find collection contains a single variant of a basic, corner tile. This is an asymmetrical tile with a rectangular shape and with a central oval-shaped medallion, bordered with a leafwork motif. In the free corners of the side wall there is a stylised motif of a leaf with shoots. The corner moulding is decorated with embossed twisting (fig. 20: 2).

4.2.2 Mantel tiles

As with the basic tiles, several different shapes of mantel tiles were discovered. It can generally be summarised for these tiles that all the types and variants discovered date to the broader period of the 16th century (Brych – Stehlíková – Žegklitz 1990, cat. no. 355, 363, 365).

Fig. 21. Tile finds –
sub-horizon A.
Obr. 21. Nálezy kachlů –
subhorizont A.



A horizontally divided tile, decorated with leaves and unrollings, is an example of a mantel, base (?), row and corner tile (fig. 21: 1). Another type of mantel tile again survived in both a row and corner version. This is probably a chamber crown-type tile, the embossed front side of which is divided up and bordered with horizontal mouldings. In the upper part, there is a fret motif, in the lower part there is lobedly moulded leafwork. The two parts of different size are separated by a distinctive recess (fig. 21: 2). The collection contains at least seven pieces of both mantel crown-type tiles and base tiles.

One piece of a mantel tile survived, the front side of which bears an isosceles trapezoid that is divided into strips by horizontal grooving. The upper part contains a leafwork motif, the centre contains the motif of an astragal, and the lower part contains short, vertical flutes²⁸ (fig. 20: 3). Only several fragments come from the latest type of mantel, crown-type, corner (?) tile, the overall shape of which cannot be accurately reconstructed. As in the previous case, the embossed front side is divided up by horizontal grooving into strips, and again, with just a subtle variation in style, the alternating motifs of leafwork, astragal, and short, vertical flutes repeats.

Note 28:

In addition to finds from Prague, these tiles have also been observed in the finds collections from the central Elbe River area (Zápotocký 1979, tab. 75: 3), in Nové Strašecí (Hablbauer – Špaček 1986, fig. 3: 5), and even in Moravia in Ivančice (Šebela – Vaněk 1985, tab. 34: 3).

4.2.3 Acroterium

It was possible to uncover in the find collection several fragments belonging to a mantel apex, a so-called acroterium. In the first case, there were a pair of opposing acanthus leaf decorations, supporting a bowl, above which is the figure of a standing shield-bearer in Renaissance attire, who in his left hand holds a divided shield. Putto figures are seated on both sides of the acanthus leaves. The second case involves a pair of sets of decorative acanthus leaves, supporting a bowl, out of which a stylised blossoming plant is growing²⁹). The last building element of the tile stoves present in the collection is a top chapter.

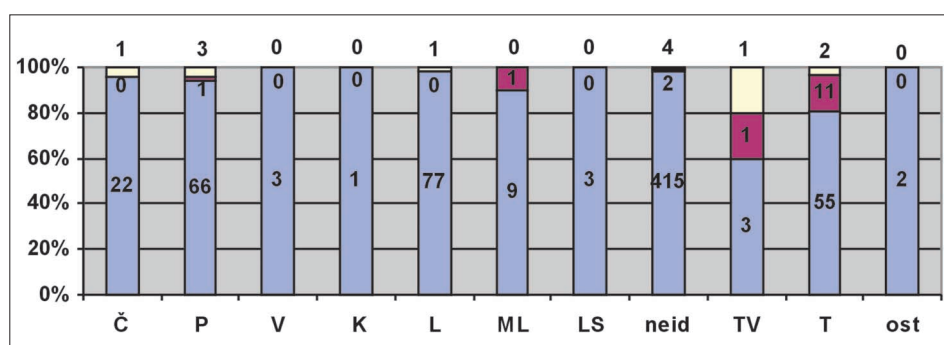
4.2.4 Summary

Stove tiles unearthed may come from a stove, the base part of which was made of square tiles with a bowl-shaped medallion, and the upper part was made of rectangular tiles³⁰) (Pajer 1983, fig. 64). Unfortunately, based on the situation uncovered, we are unable to decide whether the assumed tile stove comes directly from the house in whose cellar it was found, or whether it stood somewhere else on the grounds of Prague Castle. The amount of square tiles with a bowl-shaped medallion (at least 70 tiles) suggests that these may actually be the remains of two stoves. In any case, it is possible to consider the several fragments of mosaic tiles as belonging to a different tile stove.

4.3 Glass³¹)

In all three sub-horizons together, 685 fragments of glass were found, of which 610 were fragments of hollow glass (89.1 %). The material was mostly fragmental, indicating the quantitative proportions of finds found and providing an opportunity for a statistical overview (graph 4). The largest group of glass finds was discovered in sub-horizon A – 657 pieces (95.9 %), with 60 % of finds coming from layers 677 and 755. No chemical analyses were performed that could have determined the composition of the individual types of glass material. The glass finds were therefore evaluated only on the basis of macroscopic observations. All the finds were made of transparent glass, the vast majority in a light green shade, typical for potassium lime glass produced in Central European glassworks. Due to the decoration and shapes of products it can be said that the finds correspond to trends in Czech Renaissance glassmaking from the second half of the 16th to the first third of the 17th century.

The collection contained 23 fragments of beakers – large beakers, small beakers, and slightly conical beakers. The vast majority of them are from large beakers on a bell-shaped foot³²) (19 pieces – fig. 22: 9), two are from small beakers



Note 29:

From the grounds of Prague Castle, we know of these two acroteria found – better-preserved – in an archaeological excavation in Na valech Gardens in 1986 (Brych – Stehlíková – Žegklitz 1990, cat. no. 400) and from Lobkovic Palace (Durák – Frolík – Chotěbor 1999, fig. 75: 1).

Note 30:

This type of tile stove is assumed to have become widespread in the second half of the 16th century (Hazlbauer – Špaček 1986, 157).

Note 31:

I am grateful to my colleague Jana Veselá for her extensive help in processing the glass finds.

Note 32:

Large beakers are found in the majority of collections of Early Modern glass, in Olomouc (Sedláčková 1998, 69, 71, 85-7), in Nymburk (Sedláčková 1997, no. 1), and in Pilsen. There are finds from Prague of undecorated large beakers from Lichtenstein Palace on Malostranské Square (Podliska 2003, 26) and from Prague Castle (Veselá 2003, tab. 1).

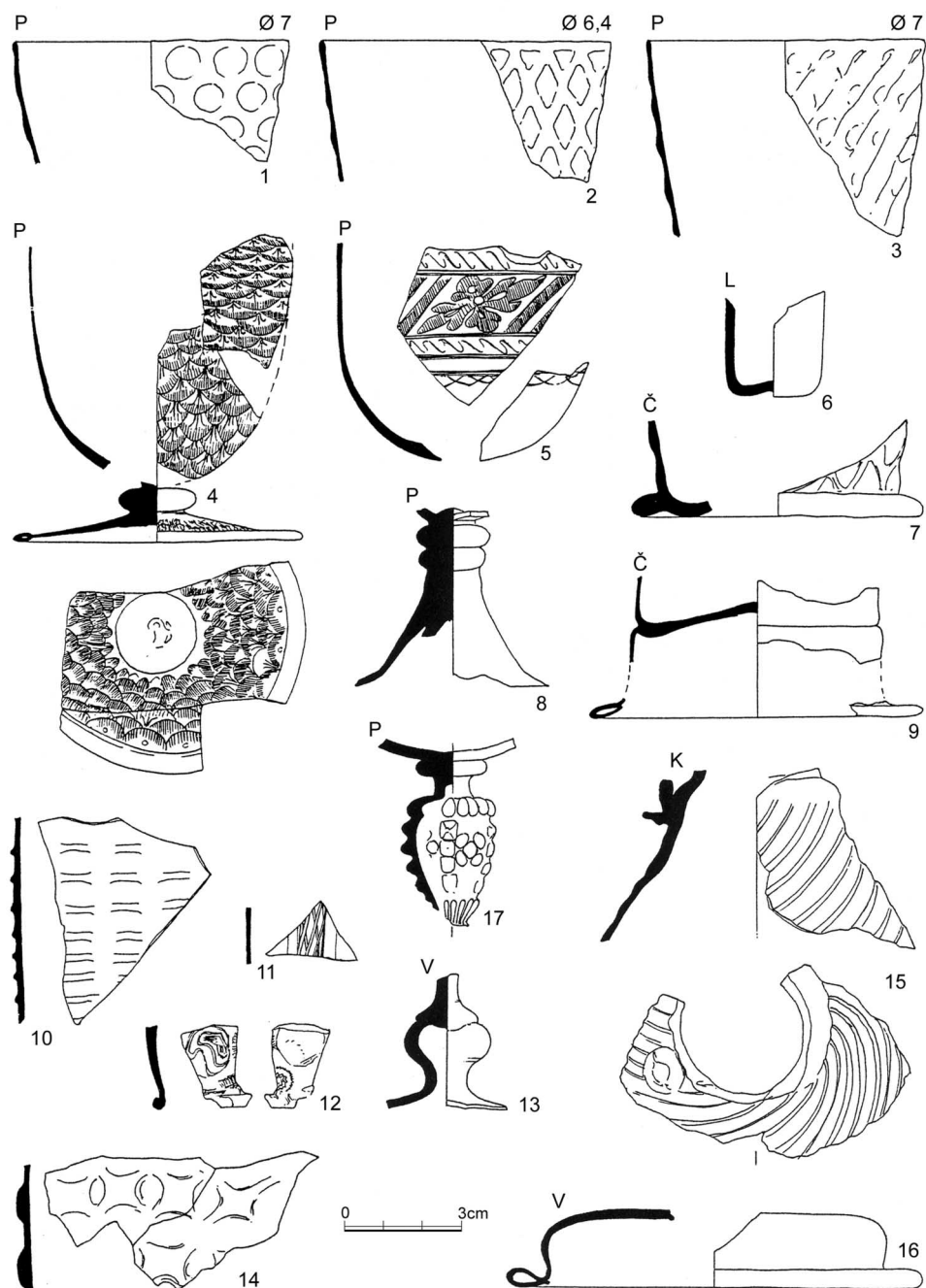
Graph 4. An overview of the fragments of particular glass shapes in the sub-horizons.

Yellow – sub-horizon C;
red – sub-horizon B;
blue – sub-horizon A.
Č – beaker; P – goblet; V – lid;
K – tanhard; L – bottle;
ML – small bottle;
LS – laboratory glass;
neid – unclassifiable glass;
TV – triangular pane;
T – window disc;
ost – other glass.

Graf 4. Přehled zlomků jednotlivých skleněných tvarů v rámci subhorizontů.
Žlutá – subhorizont C;
červená – subhorizont B;
modrá – subhorizont A.
Č – číše; P – pohár; V – víko;
K – konvice; L – láhev;
ML – lahvička; LS – laboratorní sklo;
neid – nezařaditelné sklo;
TV – trojúhelníková výplň;
T – okenní terčik;
ost – ostatní sklo.

Fig. 22. Glass finds – sub-horizon A, B, C. P – goblet; Č – beaker; K – tankard; V – lid.

Obr. 22. Nálezy skla – subhorizont A, B, C. P – pohár; Č – číše; K – konvice; V – víko.



Note 33:

There are whole or reconstructible shapes from Prague Castle (*Veselá 2003*, tab. 1), Nymburk (*Sedláčková 1997*, cat. no. 5, 7-9), Olomouc (*Sedláčková ed. 1998*, cat. no. 17.2-12), Opava (*Štěrbová – Pavelčík 1997*, fig. 5: 1), and Strachotín (*Sedláčková 2002*, cat. no. 167).

with optical decorations³³) (fig. 22: 7), and the remaining fragments are from beaker with an applied fibre – so-called *wafelmuster* (fig. 22: 14).

A total of 36.0 % of the finds belong to goblets, some with a semi-ovoid bowl and some with a fusiform bowl. Most goblets were decorated with ribbed optical decorations, impressed or embossed rhombuses, and lentil patterns (fig. 22: 1-3). A more interesting find was a goblet with a semi-ovoid bowl on a low foot with a single ringlet where not just the entire bowl, but also the foot is covered with a thick and very carefully rendered engraved decoration. This involves the motif of fish scales, which is well known from Italian enameled works from the beginning of the 16th century (*Lanmon – Whitthouse 1993*, 38-45). There is no other known analogy of this motif in Czech production (fig. 22: 4). Decorations engraved with diamond were used even on a bowl with a stylised flower motif (fig. 22: 5). In addition to fragments of goblet bowls, it was also possible to identify several different models of feet. The largest group was made up of stem

with full double ringlets and a bell-shaped base (fig. 22: 8). In layer 691A, part of a foot was found that was blown into a mould with the motif of plant shoots³⁴) (fig. 22: 17).

Most of the identified fragments were from glass bottles (88 pieces). Just less than two-thirds of the finds were fragments of tetrahedral bottles (fig. 22: 10). Miniature bottles made up 10 % (fig. 22: 6), and the remainder were fragments of oval bottles or parts of bottles that could not be determined in detail. Two fragments come from a lid (fig. 22: 13, 16), and also identified was a fragment of the lower neck of a tankard decorated with an optical decoration of slanted ribbing (fig. 22: 15). Three fragments of laboratory glass were found in the collection. In the first case, one fragment is probably part of a distilling apparatus, the second case represents two fragments of a low cylindrical small bowl³⁵), made of a transparent, light-grey glass.

A total of 69.0 % of the collection of glass is made up of finds that cannot be categorised as belonging to a particular shape. However, these fragments are of significance in terms of their number and in several cases they fill in the spectrum of decorations used. On two fragments a decoration painted in enamel was discovered. Also found was a fragment of filigree glass (fig. 22: 11), where a filigree decoration was used in combination of *vetro a fili* with *vetro a retorti* (Henkes 1994, 170). What can be regarded as a more unusual find is a fragment, evidently of a beaker made using the technique of *millefiori* (Ricke 1995, K. 126; fig. 22: 12).

90.7 % of the finds of window glass (75 pieces altogether) were from window discs with a folded-over rim. In sub-horizons A and B there were two finds of window discs with traces of a fire. Only five fragments come from a triangular window panel. The relative proportion of window glass to hollow glass is 1 : 17.

4.4 Osteologic material

A collection of animal bones from all three sub-horizons was submitted for an osteologic analysis. In total 2451 bones were analysed³⁶), of which 914 pieces were identified (37 %).

The results of the analysis indicated the presence of a relatively large proportion of cattle (183 of the identified bones) and sheep and goats (158 of the identified bones). In most cases, from the butchery point of view, the bones were from the valuable parts of the animals and they often bear marks of knives or other sharp instruments. A total of 191 of the identified bones come from domestic fowl and geese. The preliminary analysis did not include a full analysis of bird bones, the proportion of which was unusually high. The list also includes a find of dog bones, which evidently came from a single animal. In addition to the above-mentioned types, the collection also contained some not too numerous finds of game (deer, roebuck, partridge, hare) and fish.

Especially worth noting is the find of three bones identified as coming from a wild turkey (*Meleagris gallopavo*), which came from fill layer 683. This is one of the oldest finds of turkey bones in the Czech lands recorded in findings of osteologic material from the Early Modern Age.

Note 34:

The massive nodes with decoration in relief are among the types of glass produced in Venetian style (Sedláčková 1997, 25). From the collection of Renaissance glass from Prague Castle, this is the first find with this motif (personal communication by J. Veselá).

Note 35:

They have been identified, in larger numbers, mainly in Prague (Podliska 2003, 29; Veselá 2003, tab. 2), but they have also been found in Moravia (Sedláčková 2003, 44).

Note 36:

The analysis was carried out by ARCHEOS, the unit for archaeology and ancient monuments (Šamata –Kováčiková 2001).

Note 37:

A numismatic assessment was carried out by J. Militký (*Militký 2001*).

4.5 Coins

Eleven coins were found in the studied part of the excavation, two jettons and several small fragments of unidentifiable coins³⁷. Five coins were found in the fill of the well (sub-horizon B). The latest of the identifiable coins was a white coin from the time of the reign of Ferdinand I, Holy Roman Emperor (1526-1564), which was found in the upper part of the fill of the well (layer 794). The second, historically earlier coin, having a value of a haler, from the period of the reign of Ludwig Jagello (1516-1526), came from the lower layer no. 800. In the case of the remaining three coins, we unfortunately have no more precise idea about when they were minted. One is a coin minted in Silesian Vratislav (layer 796), another a coin of the Salzburg archbishopric under John II (layer 797), and a coin of Saxon origin, but from which mint it originates is unknown (layer 795).

The coins found in the fill of the cellars (sub-horizon A) date over a relatively long time span. In it were found coins minted in Kutná Hora under the reign of Vladislav II Jagello (1471-1516), Ludwig Jagello (1516-1526), Ferdinand I (1526-1564), and Maxmilian II (1564-1576). In layers 690 and 754, two pfennigs were found from Meissen in Saxony. Both jettons (layer 682 and a collecting from layers 688, 679, 668A, 681, 742) come from Nuremberg, and they originated at the end of the 16th and start of the 17th centuries. The chronological distribution of individual coin finds does not correspond to their stratigraphic position.

4.6 Minor finds

The list of minor finds is neither very long nor very diverse. The vast majority of these finds come from the fill of the cellars (sub-horizon A) and only three ones were found in the fill of the well (sub-horizon B, layer 799). The find collection of minor finds can be divided into four basic groups according to the material used to produce them. The largest part comprises products made of bronze, followed by objects made out of bones, technical accessories made of lead, and worked antler. It can generally be summed up that these are objects that have no clear chronological signs and they occur continuously.

There were several buttons made of bronze, consisting of two hemispheres, three small bronze strips from leather strap, part of a triangular-shaped bronze strip, three bronze circular-shaped cases, originally from a thin metal strip rolled into a tube, a wound fine wire, and numerous small pins. We do not know what the function was of one bronze object in the shape of a miniature spur (*fig. 23: 12*). Two bronze pins, appliqué in the form of a moulded bouquet, and finally a slightly wrought thimble (*fig. 23: 20*) were found in sub-horizon B.

The second group contains four objects made of bone material. First, there is part of the facing of a knife handle, broken into four pieces (*fig. 23: 18*). A related find is an entire short bone handle, probably from a cutlery knife, with two rivets with a long six-angled profile (*fig. 23: 17*). An uncommon find is that of a composite button made of bone and formed out of two parts fitting together and thus forming a cone. The outer surface of the button is decorated with engraved, concentric circles. A fine wire runs through the entire height of the button, which on one side evidently terminated in an eye that was used to sew the button onto clothing (*fig. 23: 19*). The last bone-material find is a classic

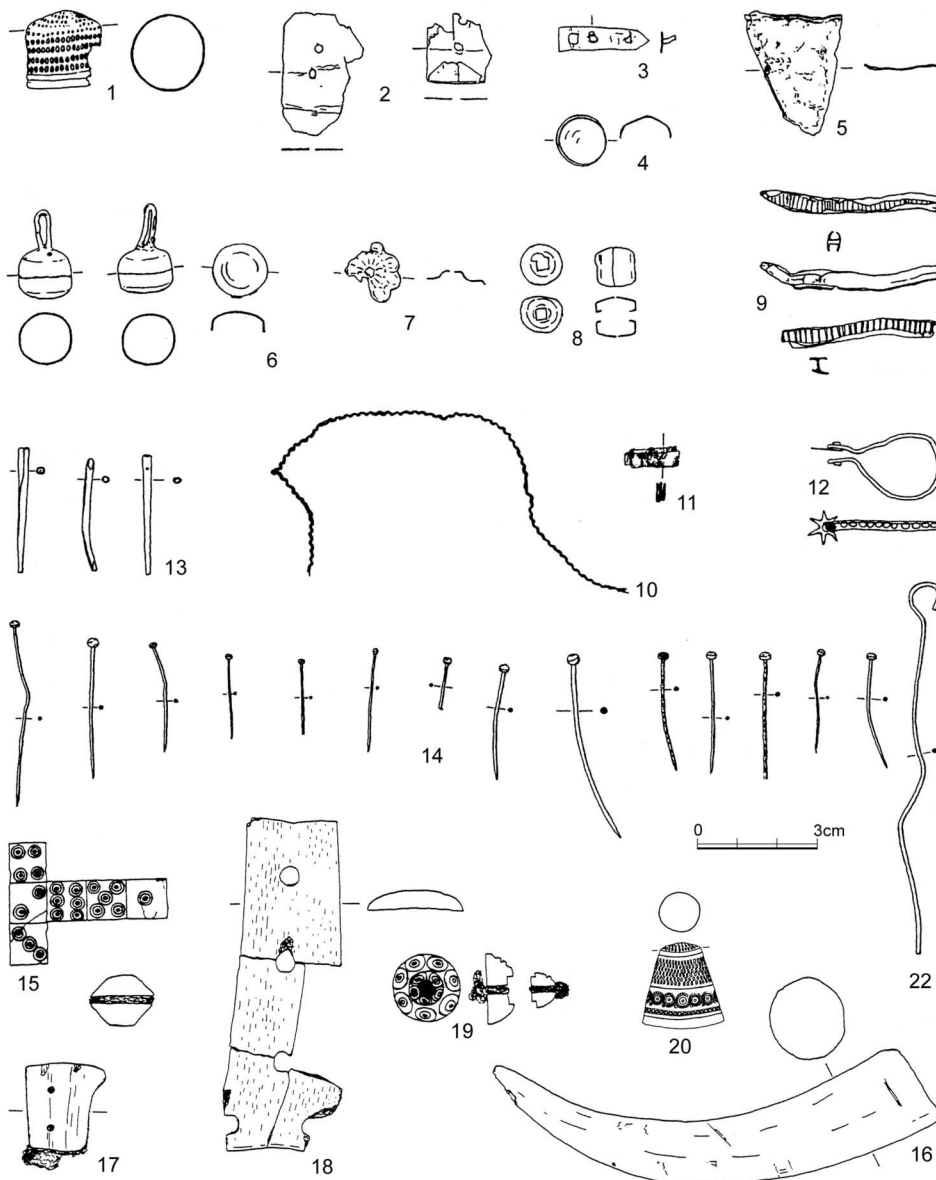


Fig. 23. Finds of small objects – sub-horizon A, B.
Obr. 23. Nálezy drobných předmětů – subhorizont A, B.

six-sided playing dice. The individual points of the six numbers are depicted with three concentric circles (fig. 23: 15).

The group of finds is rounded out by two finds of part of a lead bonding for a window pane in the shape of the letter “H” with grating inside (fig. 23: 9).

5. Conclusion

What we have learned from the archaeological excavation and their subsequent analysis can be divided into two separate units, but we cannot clearly define the relationship between them. The first unit is formed by the walled cellars, the second represents their fill. From the analysis of the fill of the cellars, it can be assumed that the house of the armoury scribe did not cease to exist after some unfortunate accident or fire, but that it was a planned and prepared demolition of the building, which was already deserted at the time of Wohlmüt’s Plan. There are several reasons for this claim. At first, there is an absence of any noticeable and omnipresent fire layer and generally the minor presence of fire traces on particular finds. This also agrees with the relatively

small proportion of window glass in the collection. The version of subsequent filling of the cellars is supported by the partial disassembling of the Gothic portal between the cellars. The quick and relatively rapid one-off filling of the empty areas, which occurred by the breaking up of the vault of the cellars, was proved in a laboratory analysis of the finds, where – in several cases – fragments from one vessel were found in different, sometimes relatively remotely situated, layers. Evidence that the cellars were filled over a short period of time is also found in the finds of coins, the stratigraphic positions of which – although they range in date from between the third quarter of the 15th century to the start of the 17th century – do not correspond chronologically.

A comparison of the layout of the archaeologically excavated cellars and both historical plans of Jiřské Square indicates that very probably the described cellars were genuinely part of the house of the armoury scribe. Unfortunately, the field context does not allow us to say anything more about life in this house. An evaluation of the finds showed that even on a site like Prague Castle, objects known also from other urban sites were used on a large scale. We can also state that common goods considerably outnumber luxury items, which were often imported from other parts of Europe. However, we must bear in mind the fact that of each of the particular types of finds, at least one object that has no analogy in the Czech lands as yet was uncovered.

To conclude, we can say that – based on written sources and a general dating of the varying sorts of archaeological finds – it is estimated that the cellars of the house of the armoury scribe were filled in the second half of the 16th century, more precisely, probably after the third quarter of the century.

Resumé:

Součástí plánované rekonstrukce Jiřského náměstí na Pražském hradě byl v letech 1984-1989 předstihový záchranný archeologický výzkum, který se v roce 1987 soustředil do prostoru severovýchodní části náměstí.

V rámci zkoumané plochy byly objeveny dvě nestejně velké zasypané sklepní prostory, vymezené na maltu zděnými opukovými zdmi, původně sklenutými valenou klenbou (*obr. 1*). Oba sklepy byly původně spojeny dveřním otvorem, ze kterého se zachoval práh a pozdně gotické ostění dveří (*obr. 2*). Menší z obou sklepů byl rozdělen na dvě části. Přibližně v jeho polovině byla zachycena terénní deprese obdélníkového půdorysu se zbytky dřeva, kterou je možné interpretovat jako základ pro schody, spojující sklepy s obytným patrem domu (*Boháčová – Frolík – Žegklitz 1989, 199*). Pod úrovní vrstvy 785 ve východním rohu menšího sklepa byla zjištěna kameny obezděná, 2,40 m hluboká studna, nepřilíš nálezově bohatá. Větší ze sklepů se do původního terénu zahluboval výrazněji a byl vyplněn vrstvami charakteru stavební suti.

Možnost poznání celkové situace zkoumaných sklepů byla výrazně omezena skutečností, že při zarovnávacích pracích na Jiřském náměstí došlo v minulosti ke snížení jeho okolních terénů. Podle zjištěné půdorysné dispozice byly zkoumané sklepy pravděpodobně součástí dvouprostorového, podsklepeného, jednopatrového domu. Studna, objevená v menším sklepě, zřejmě sloužila jako cisterna na vodu.

Již autoři výzkumu ztotožnili popisované sklepy s domem zbrojního písaře. Při této úvaze vycházeli z tzv. Wohlmutova plánu Pražského hradu, datovaného do období kolem roku 1569. Na tomto plánu je ve východním rohu Jiřského náměstí zakreslen zřejmě již pustý dům zbrojního písaře – *des zugschreiber losement*. Bezprostředně k tomuto domu, jižním směrem do náměstí, je přisazen dům, který má být zbořen – *dis hause sol (zum) weg kommen* (*obr. 5*).

Na základě rozboru stratigrafické situace se domnívám, že s výjimkou vrstev, které leží těsně nad podloží (798, 806, 808, 808A), není možné jednoznačně spojit nalezené artefakty s obdobím fungování domu. Nálezy pocházející ze zásypových vrstev jsou tedy považovány za druhotně přemístěný materiál. Pro následující zpracování jednotlivých

nálezů byly vytvořeny celkem tři subhorizonty: subhorizont A – zásyp obou sklepů; subhorizont B – zásyp studny; subhorizont C – podlahové vrstvy obou sklepů.

Při zpracování souboru keramiky bylo na základě makroskopicky postižitelných technologických vlastností definováno 14 keramických tříd pro novověkou keramiku a jedna pro středověkou (Tab. 1). Při vyhodnocování náleзовých souborů z jednotlivých subhorizontů nebyla zjištěna žádná hranice, která by naznačila chronologický odstup mezi nimi. V souboru převažoval střepový materiál, rekonstruovaných tvarů bylo pouze 17. Statisticky jednoznačně nejpresvědčivější vypovídací hodnotu poskytly nálezy, pocházející ze zásypu sklepů (3 261 kusů). Zde převládaly nálezy světle se pálicí keramiky s vnitřní glazurou (keramická třída 5004 – 49 %). Druhou náleзовě nejpočetnější keramickou třídou byla cihlově červeně se pálicí hlína s vnitřní glazurou (keramická třída 5005 – 17,5 %). Zástupců ostatních tříd bylo méně než 5,0 % (graf 1 a 2). Z hlediska technologického zpracování můžeme keramický soubor rozdělit na čtyři skupiny. První a nejpočetnější skupinu tvoří nálezy redukčně nebo oxidačně pálené keramiky, vyrobené z jemně plavené hlíny, určené pro modelaci tenkostěnných nádob. Ve druhé skupině jsou zastoupeny zlomky kameninových nádob. Třetí technologickou skupinu představuje jediný nález majolikového albarella. Poslední, čtvrtou skupinu tvoří několik zlomků středověké keramiky. Za samostatnou podskupinu je možné považovat keramiku tzv. berounského typu (keramická třída 5012).

74,3 % určitelných střepů náleží hrncům (graf 3). U jedinců, u kterých se podařilo rekonstruovat celý průběh těla, převažuje štíhlejší vejčitý tvar s největší výdutí kolem horní třetiny výšky nádoby. Mezi okraji byla zjištěna převaha ovalených okrajů a lištovaného okruží. Dále se můžeme setkat s přehnutým, vodorovně vyloženým, vzhůru vytaženým nebo esovitě profilovaným okrajem. Na základě poměrně četných fragmentů uch je možné předpokládat, že se ve většině případů jedná o hrnce s uchem. Druhý nejpočetněji zastoupený tvar kuchyňské keramiky představovaly trojnožky. Jedná se o typologicky mladší varianty, kdy výška nožek odpovídá výšce těla nebo ji nepatrně převyšuje. Počet nálezů stolní keramiky oproti kuchyňské byl výrazně nižší. Ze zjištěných tvarů můžeme jmenovat džbány, džbánky, talířovité a hluboké mísy. K malovanému zboží domácí produkce počítáme nálezy keramiky tzv. berounského typu. Kromě jednotlivých střepů se podařilo rekonstruovat část džbánu, džbánku a několik talířovitých mís. Za importy můžeme počítat zlomky kameniny, která pochází ze saského Waldenburgu (Horschik 1978) a část majolikové lékárenské nádoby typu albarella, jehož původ je možno hledat v Itálii (Kube 1976, tab. 26; Ronchetti 1982, slide 1/22).

Co do počtu nálezů nejrozsáhlejší soubor představují kachle, z nichž bylo identifikováno celkem 6 604 zlomků. Tvořily časově, stylově a výrobně jednotný soubor, jehož převážná část spadá do druhé poloviny 16. století. Nejpočetněji byly zastoupené čtvercové kachle s miskovitým zahloubením (70 ks, obr. 20: 1). Druhý nejpočetněji zastoupeným tvarem jsou obdélné kachle, jejichž reliéfní stěna je zdobena mužskou a ženskou postavou a postavami putti (34 ks, obr. 19: 1). Oba tyto typy kachlů jsou v provedení se zelenou glazurou. Stejně technologické provedení má nejméně po sedmi kusech římsových, korunních a patečních kachlů (obr. 21: 1, 2). Tyto kachle by mohly pocházet z jedněch kamen, ale bohužel nejsme schopni rozhodnout, zda stála přímo v domě, v jehož sklepech byla nalezena, nebo někde jinde v areálu Pražského hradu.

Zbývajících pět námětů reliéfní stěny kachlů, datovaných do první poloviny 16. století, bylo nalezeno v jediném exempláři. Jedná se o obdélný kachel s motivem ležícího gryfa (obr. 21: 3), čtvercový římsový korunní kachel s motivem vyhnání Hagar do pouště (obr. 19: 3), který pochází z oblasti středního Německa (Franz 1969, 212; Strauss 1972, 116: 2), část dvojportrétního kachle s reliéfem ženy v renesančním oděvu (obr. 21: 4). Samostatnou složku souboru tvoří nálezy tzv. mozaikových kachlů, jejichž reliéfní plocha je členěna esovitě prohnutými ostrvemi a trojlísty na stonku (obr. 20: 4).

Soubor skla obsahoval 610 zlomků skla dutého a 75 kusů skla okenního (graf 4). Díky výzdobným charakteristikám a tvarové náplni lze konstatovat, že nálezy odpovídají trendům českého renesančního skla od druhé poloviny 16. do první třetiny 17. století. K nejzajímavějším nálezům patří pohár na nízké patce s polovečítou kupou, zdobenou rytým šupinovým dekorem, který v dosavadních archeologických souborech z českého prostředí nemá obdoby. Druhý málo častý nález představuje zlomek zřejmě číše, při jejíž výrobě byla užitá technika tzv. *millefiori*. Z ostatních nálezů jmenujme části číši a pohárů, dva zlomky víka, části konvice se spirálovitě stáčeným optickým dekorem, zlomek nitkovaného skla, nodus dofouknutý do formy s motivem rostlinných úponků a konečně i část kupy poháru s rytým motivem (obr. 22).

V souboru byl proveden osteologický rozbor kostí, který zjistil vysoké zastoupení skotu, ovcí a koz na úkor zvěřiny a ryb. Současně byl zaznamenán nezvykle vysoký počet kostí ptactva. Za nález mimořádného významu pak můžeme považovat identifikované pozůstatky krocana, které představují jeden z nejstarších nálezů v českém prostředí.

Ze sledované části výzkumu bylo získáno 11 mincí, dva početní peníze a několik drobných zlomků neurčitelných mincí. Časový záběr zahrnuje mince kutnohorské ražby od vlády Vladislava II. Jagellonského (1471-1516) až po vládu Maxmiliána II. (1564-1576). Oba početní peníze pocházejí z přelomu 16. a 17. století z Norimberku. Nejpočetnější zahraniční složku tvoří ražby saské. Chronologické rozložení nálezů nekoresponduje s jejich stratigrafickou polohou.

Přehled drobných nálezů není ani příliš rozsáhlý, ani různorodý. Lze je rozdělit na čtyři základní skupiny. Nejpočetnější tvoří výrobky z bronzu, následují kostěné předměty, technické doplňky z olova a jeden nález opracovaného parohu (*obr. 23*). Obecně lze shrnout, že se jedná o předměty, které nenesou žádné jasnější chronologické znaky a jejich výskyt je průběžný.

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