



GLASS IN BRNO
AND MORAVIA CA. 1200–1550
CATALOGUE OF GLASS
HEDVIKA SEDLÁČKOVÁ

II.

ARCHAIA
BRNO
z. ú.



MUSEUM OF
DECORATIVE
ARTS IN PRAGUE

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Volume II

Catalogue of Glass

Hedvika Sedláčková ed.

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Introduction



Work on a catalogue of medieval glass from Brno started in 2001. First consideration was given to the completion of an inventory of finds from excavations up to 1991, held in the Brno City Museum. This collection amounted to about 700–800 specimens of glass from the 13th–late 14th centuries. To make computer cataloguing easier, a classification system of vessels was produced at this stage into which the (chiefly) imported vessels were placed according to their shape, decoration and function. [1] Once collaboration with the Archaia Brno z.ú. association was under way, the list was supplemented with finds from new excavations in Brno, which brought in new types and extended its scope into the mid-16th century. The original system was thus continuously expanded. This caused, in a number of cases, quite justifiable objections based on the inconsistent arrangement of finds. However, major changes were no longer feasible in this phase of research. [2]

The basic cataloguing distinguishes between high-quality imported glass and “domestic” glass markedly affected by corrosion. In the majority of cases, the original visual demarcation was confirmed by the analyses of Katharina Müller, Dana Rohanová (see Vol. I., chapter 7.1) and Karl Hainz Wedepohl (see Vol. I., chapter 7.2 and 7.3). “Domestic” glass is currently considered as comprising products of Central European origin including vessels from Moravian and Bohemian glassworks, as well as the output of glass factories on German territory including lead glass, [3] i.e. the entire repertoire of glass of non-soda composition manufactured north of the Alps.

The catalogue contains over three thousand specimens of vessels represented either by an identifiable fragment, a series of related fragments, or a body fragment. The catalogue features a complete list of finds from Brno acquired by the summer of 2009. Glass from other locations, originally collected as comparative material for Brno, was partially processed on the basis of authentic sources, partially on the basis of publications. These resources, not always exhaustive, prove sufficient for creating a realistic picture of the typological and chronological spread of glass in the whole of Moravia in c. 1200–1550, and for the placement of this facet of material culture in a European context.

Results of the analysis of several types of glass and their positions in a European context were published in the course of the catalogue preparation. These types included cups – *scheuers*, [4] beakers with applied vertical glass trails and decoration

[1] Sedláčková 2003a and 2005a.

[2] The original range of imported pruned beakers ended, for example, with “domestic” beakers IV.1.5 and was only subsequently supplemented with the most recent types with prunts, beakers of the krautstrunk type and tall, cylindrical beakers with prunts IV.1.8 and 9 and the IV.1.10 type concerning beakers on hollow bell-shaped feet. In similar fashion, there later appeared the domestic tall beakers with prunts that now make up group IV.7.1–5, including the Olomouc-type beakers. A change occurred with the IV.3.3 type, in which the original shape was later identified as a lamp and classified with the technical glass (IX.B). It was replaced by a plain beaker with a hollow base-ring.

[3] Sedláčková 2012.

[4] Sedláčková 2005b.

of drops of blue glass, [5] Islamic glass [6] and the unique find of the “Hedwig beaker”. [7] At the same time, “Mečová” ewers and “Nuremberg” table bottles [8] were assessed. Subsequently, some series from Brno, [9] Cvilín u Krnova, [10] Jihlava, [11] Opava, [12] Pouzdřany [13] and Strachotín [14] were also published. This well-arranged overview of glass in Moravia [15] followed in the footsteps of older summaries of finds. [16] An extensive study was dedicated to the evolution and transformation of glass between the late Gothic period and the beginning of the Renaissance. [17] The dating of some series had to be revised and the contents of older glass horizons adjusted on the basis of a detailed assessment of, in particular, 13th-century ceramics from Brno. [18] The dating of glass, however, sometimes defies the classification after analogies. I believe that the disproportion in these cases illustrates a long-term preservation of luxury items.

Lists of individual types were regularly supplemented by finds from new excavations, a process which has, with some types, been reflected in their assessment. In addition, some opinions regarding the origin and spread of glass in Moravia have been revised in the light of new information.

The catalogue is based on a highly developed archive of drawings and a vast photo-documentation, both of which facilitate work on the list of items and will help derive new information from it in the future.

The supplement of part II of the publication is the Catalogue of features on a CD which lists locations with the finds of glass in Brno (B01–B49) and Moravia (M03–M56). The catalogue was compiled in collaboration with research leaders, in some cases with the use of data from literature, and brings information about over three hundred glass-yielding features.

Resumé

Úvod

Katalog obsahuje na tři tisíce exemplářů nádob, reprezentovaných buď určitelným zlomkem, souborem spolupatříčných zlomků, nebo torzem. Z Brna jsou uvedeny veškeré nálezy získané do léta roku 2009. Sklo z dalších lokalit, původně shromažďované jako srovnávací materiál k Brnu, bylo dílem zpracováno dle autentických podkladů, dílem z publikací. Ne vždy vyčerpávající podklady však dostačují k vytvoření reálného obrazu typového a časového rozšíření skla na celé Moravě mezi léty ca. 1200 až 1550 a k zařazení této složky hmotné kultury do evropského kontextu.

Základní třídění rozlišuje kvalitní, importované sklo, a tzv. „domácí“ sklo, výrazně postižené korozi. Původní optické rozlišení ve většině příkladů potvrdily analýzy (I. díl, kapitola 7.1). Sklo „domácí“ je v současnosti pojímáno jako výrobky středo-evropského původu, zahrnující nádoby z moravských a českých skláren i výrobky z jiných oblastí včetně skla olovnatého. Tedy veškeré sklo jiného než sodného složení vyrobené severně od Alp.

Přílohu II. dílu tvoří CD s Katalogem objektů (III. díl) z Brna (B01–B49) a Moravy (M03–M56) zahrnující více než 300 objektů se sklem. Byl vypracován s pomocí vedoucích archeologických výzkumů a literatury.

- [5] Haggrén – Sedláčková 2007.
- [6] Sedlachkova 2015.
- [7] Wedepohl et al 2007.
- [8] Janovičková – Sedláčková 2008.
- [9] Merta – Peška – Sedláčková 2002.
- [10] Sedláčková 2004a.
- [11] Sedláčková 2010.
- [12] Sedláčková 2004b; 2011a and Břečková 2017.
- [13] Sedláčková 2003b.
- [14] Sedláčková 2001b.
- [15] Sedláčková 2006.
- [16] Sedláčková 2000a and 2001a.
- [17] Sedláčková 2007.
- [18] Procházka – Peška 2007.

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