

International Conference

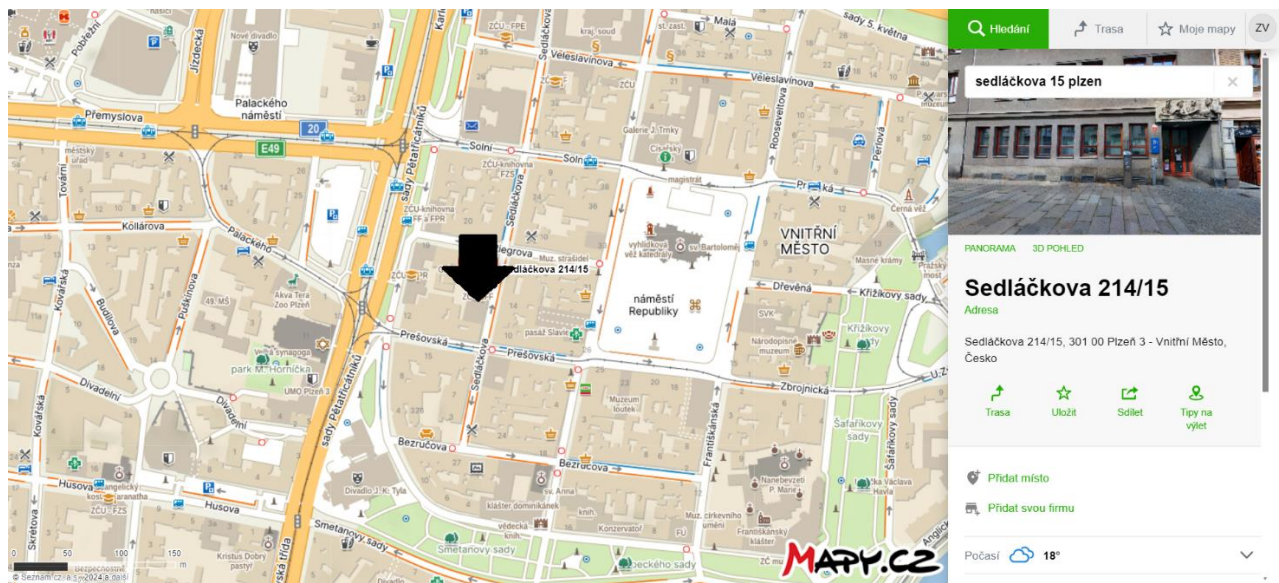
**ARCHAEOLOGY OF THE 20TH CENTURY
IN CENTRAL-EASTERN EUROPEAN PERSPECTIVE**



Department of Archaeology
Faculty of Arts, University of West Bohemia
Sedláčkova 15 Pilsen

7 – 8 December 2024

*Sedláčkova 15, Plzeň/Pilsen
Room 417 (SP 417, 3rd floor)*



Partners:

Město Plzeň
The City of Pilsen

Archeologický ústav AV ČR, Praha
Institute of Archaeology of the Czech Academy of Science, Prague



Introducing the conference

Contemporary archaeology represents one of the most dynamically developing subfields, showing that the study of material evidence with the use of archaeological approaches and methods can make a significant contribution to the knowledge of the recent past. Archaeology opens up new research questions related to the materiality of the 20th century, usually overlooked by historians, as well as the understanding of the original environment and the spatial context of historical narratives. The reason for the attractiveness of "modernity" for the youngest generation of archaeologists, for students, but also for the general public may be linked to the fact that the material record of the recent past can often be related to events that are embedded in collective historical memory or even intersect with family histories.

In December 2011, the Department of Archaeology of the Faculty of Arts of the University of West Bohemia in Pilsen organised the first seminar on the 19th-20th century archaeology in the Czech Republic. The discussion then sought responses regarding questions of "the meaning, possibilities and concept of the newly (in Bohemia and Moravia) forming archaeological specialisation". A number of publications, student theses, lectures, as well as media interest and public feedback, have provided answers to the above questions over the past thirteen years.

This year's conference, which is organized in cooperation with the Institute of Archaeology, Czech Academy of Sciences, Prague and supported by the City of Pilsen, follows up the first meeting in 2011 and is thematically focused on the 20th century archaeology. At the same time, the spatial framework is extended to the wider Central-Eastern European context, which is connected not only by a shared recent past, but also by similar peripeteia associated with the establishment of contemporary archaeology. We welcome papers presenting a wide range of topics from the archaeology of modern conflicts, the archaeology of Nazi and Communist totalitarianism, the study of the transformations of modern landscapes, settlements and rural environments, the archaeology of the contemporary city or industrial archaeology, to research on artefactual culture and garbage. Given the significant proportion of research dealing with the Second (and also the First) World War, we choose this topic as a separate conference block.

CONFERENCE PROGRAMME

SATURDAY 7. 12. 2024

9:00 OPENING OF THE CONFERENCE

Eliška Bartáková (Councillor for Culture and Heritage Preservation, the City of Pilsen)

David Šanc (Dean of the Faculty of Arts, University of West Bohemia in Pilsen)

Pavel Vařeka (Department of Archaeology, Faculty of Arts, University of West Bohemia)

SESSION 1. ARCHAEOLOGY OF THE 20TH CENTURY MASS CRIMES

9:30 The remains of victims in NAZI-extermination centres

Claudia Theune

9:50 An archaeology of mass crimes. The case of discovering 700 victims from the Second world war in Death Valley, Poland

Dawid Kobiątka

10:10 Discovery of a mass grave in Mała Lipna and community engagement in the archaeology of Nazi repressive landscapes

Radosław Biel, Paweł Konczewski, Natalia Bernacka, Natalia Gałdyn, Barbara Kwiatkowska, Katarzyna Biernacka, Jacek Szczurowski, Agata Sady, Maksym Mackiewicz, Radosław Gliński, Gracjan Mielczarek, Oliwia Witowska and Piotr Konczewski

10:30 Archaeological research of insurgent defences and execution sites in Kremnička

Pavol Šteiner

10:50 Unpublished video recordings of archaeological research in the Katyn Forest in 1995

Olgiert Ławrynowicz

11:10 - 11:30 DISCUSSION

11:30 - 11:45 COFFEE BREAK

SESSION 2. "CAMPSCAPE" ARCHAEOLOGY

11:45 Archaeology, memory and commemoration, political education and reconciliation.

Administration of terror: the forced labor camp Sebaldushof, Treuenbrietzen, near Berlin

Thomas Kersting

12:05 Mapping Ebensee – approaches to and results of the localisation and identification of relicts of the former Ebensee concentration camp and its associated forced labour sites

Peter Hinterndorfer

12:25 Archaeology of a woman concentration sub-camp Svatava/Zwodau in Western Bohemia (Distr. of Sokolov/Falkenau)

Pavel Vařeka, Gilly Carr, Petr Hasil, Tomáš Pancíř and Zdeňka Vařeková

12:45 Geophysical research of Nazi prison camps in Bohemia

Michal Vágner

12:45 – 13:00 DISCUSSION

13:00 – 14:30 BREAK FOR LUNCH

SESSION 3. MATERIAL TRACES OF THE FIRST AND SECOND WORLD WAR MILITARY ACTIVITIES

14:30 Archaeology of the First World War in the Carpathians: Kobyla and Javorská Heights

Martin Vojtas, Jiří Zubalík, Jakub Těsnohlídek, Jan Petřík, Radim Kapavík, Martin Drobnák and Peter Tajkov

14:50 German fighting tactics in the Carpathians and the post-war development of the territory

Jan Petřík, Jiří Zubalík, Martin Greša, Jakub Těsnohlídek, Martin Vojtas and Tibor Lieskovský

15:10 Rescue archaeology of the Second World War battlefields in South Moravia

Jiří Zubalík

15:30 Non-destructive research of the Panzerfaust firing range of the SS-Truppenübungsplatz Beneschau/Böhmen and the Pilsen – Líně airport

Petr Čech

15:50 Tools of War: archaeological evidence and material legacy of the Second World War as interpreted through an archaeological perspective at the former demarcation line in South Bohemia, Czech Republic

Tomáš Pancíř

16:10 The use of visual data during the sampling probe Explosive Ordnance Clearance operation on the 20th century battlefields

Ondřej Tichý

16:30 – 16:45 DISCUSSION

16:45 – 17:00 COFFEE BREAK

17:00 Military identification tags: one of the last lost battles of World War II in South Bohemia

Martin Pták

17:20 Identification and possibilities of interpretation of militaria finds from research in Kremnička

Jozef Kónya

17:40 Archaeology of the military airfield Prague-Klečany in context of air war over Prague 1939-1945. Current research results and future perspectives

Kryštof Seleši

18:00 Aviation Archaeology. A Reflection of the military presence at the České Budějovice airport

Tomáš Pancíř

18:20 Archaeological excavations of the graves of members of the German armed forces in the south of Bohemia in the years 2012-2024

Martin Pták

18:40 Archaeology of the Partisan movement in the Bohemian-Moravian Highlands

Petr Netolický, James Symonds and Pavel Vařeka

19:00 Decision of the Municipal Court in Prague in a lawsuit against the Ministry of Defense of the Czech Republic

Petr Čech

19:20 – 19:45 DISCUSSION

20:00 RECEPTION

Faculty of Arts UWB, Café “Družba” (Riegrova 216/10)

SUNDAY 8. 12. 2024

SESSION 4. INDUSTRIAL AND COLD WAR ARCHAEOLOGY

9:00 Industrial archaeology in Brno

Hynek Zbranek

9:20 The Ostrava-Karviná coal mining area in the 20th century from the point of view of archaeological research and construction-historical research

Miloš Matěj, Pavel Malík, Radek Míšanec, Michaela Ryšková, Hynek Zbranek and Michal Zezula

9:40 The Monster: the vanished Stalin's monument on the Hill of Letná (1955-62) as part of the cityscape of Prague

Jan Hasil

10:00 Management of the engineering and technical barrier of the so-called "Iron Curtain" following the changes in the settlement structure in the Novohradské hory (Gratzener Bergland) in the years 1951 - 1989

Michal Bureš

10:20 Post WWII transformation of landscape of Sudetenland

Jozef Chaibullin-Košťal

10:40 - 11:00 DISCUSSION

11:00 -13:00 BREAK FOR LUNCH

13:00 EXCURSION TO THE WWII ARCHAEOLOGICAL SITES IN PILSEN AND ITS SURROUNDINGS

19:00 UNFORMAL CLOSING MEETING "NA ŠALANDĚ" IN THE LAGER CELLARS OF THE PILSNER URQUELL BREWERY (U PRAZDROJE 64/7)