Urbanisation of high-medieval Moravia during the 13th century- contribution of archaeology

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Outline of the research development

It was about fifty years ago that the modern archaeological research of high (late)-medieval towns and early town agglomerations of the 11th – 12th/13th centuries started in Moravia and the associated part of Silesia. For a long time it looked like gathering stray finds and digging out some scattered trenches of rescue character (2nd half of the 19th century to the mid-20th century). The second stage (until the beginning of the 1990s) brought a gradual development of field activities already in accordance with the evolution of archaeology as a science; in the 1970s and 1980s the first systematically investigated towns appear as well as some large-scale exposures of entire plots or plot parts, the excavations of civil engineering networks are being documented and so on. All the archaeological excavations are performed by state authorities

The third stage running down to the present day brought an unprecedented development of archaeological rescue excavations in towns, because of the most developpers being obliged to pay the excavation costs. A relatively complicated structure of organisations emerged, which are engaged in the research of historical towns. The leading role is played by specialised departments at the institutes of preservation of historical monuments and by non-state archaeological organisations, mostly the so-called non-profit companies or civil associations.

The town excavations considerably increased in number after 2000, however, only ca 10 sites with the biggest building activity are being monitored systematically, in the true sense of the word (mainly Brno, Olomouc, Jihlava, Opava, Ostrava, Znojmo). The archaeologists still pay a fully insufficient attention to the intravilans of small towns and townships. The biggest pain of urban archaeology (and not of that alone) are the opening scissors between field excavations and cabinet processing. (Holub et al. 2004; Michna 1980; Procházka 2007a).

The topics treated

The goals aimed by the Moravian urban archaeology are to a certain degree common to this branch throughout Europe. In this article we can target only following three themes:
explaining the extent and structure of pre-locational settlements and agglomerations, and location of the institutional town's primary core
ground plan formation including the main components (plot clusters, communications, public spaces, cemeteries, fortifications)
clarifying the character of primary plot pattern, and the transformation of traditional settlement structures into town houses
Social conditions leading to town foundations in the 13th century were common to many Central-European countries, above all Bohemia, Poland, East Germany and Historic Hungary. In these lands the traditional society underwent a transformation during the 13th century under a strong influence of newcoming "colonists" mostly from German countries, to a lesser degree also the settlers of Romance origin took part (Walloons, Lorrainians; Kejř 1998; Klápště 2005; Kouřil 1993; Měřínský 1993; Piekalski 1999; Procházka 2003).

Pre-locational structures with central functions and their transformation in the 13th century

In our paper we concentrate on the problem of a specific urban spatial organisation forming, i. e. on the topics mentioned in points 1) – 3), as explained by archaeology in confrontation with the language of written sources. It was above all in past decades that the essential information could be gained on the transformation of former central agglomerations, the seats of demesne princes of the Přemyslid House, Brno, Olomouc and Znojmo. These formations consisted of incoherent settlement clusters around the central castle, with interleaving boroughs and cemeteries whereby at least in two cases (Brno, Olomouc) we can recognize some spatial growth during the 12th and at the beginning of the 13th century. Here also a certain core can be distinguished with concentrated crafts and trade activities. In the case of Olomouc it was situated around the St. Maurice church and east of it, in the direction of the outer part of the early medieval castle (so-called Předhradí) . Until the beginning of the 13th century, the settlement areas were

interleaved by cemeteries, one of them situated in the place of one of later main markets, at Dolní Square (Lower sq.) (Bláha 2000; 2003; Fig. 1).

In Brno during the 12th century it is the occupation below the hill Petrov with a Romanesque church that gains in importance, incoherently surrounding the hypothetically assumed market, today the Zelný trh Square. The occupation in the area of the suspected Přemyslid castle in an insular location of Staré Brno (Old Brno) and its surroundings on both riversides of the Svratka River apparently lives on, however, its transformation before the beginning of the 13th century isn't sufficiently clarified yet. It is being complicated a. o. through limited possibilities of dating the pottery assemblages from the 2nd half of the 11th and from the 12th century, which also applies to the other sites (Doležel 2000; Procházka 2000; Zapletalová 2006).

In Znojmo it seems that during the whole later stage of the Early Middle Ages the occupation develops only in the north part of later town around Horní (Upper) in the forefield of the castle whereby at the western border of this area recently a cemetery from the 11th century could be detected (Procházka 2003; Fig. 2, 3).

Besides these agglomerations there is a densifying network of settlements equipped with a market in the 12th and at the beginning of the following century (Kroměříž, Kyjov, Veligrad – Staré Město); in many cases the market function is assumable (Litovel – Staré Město, Opava, Uherský Brod). Since the 13th century most of them had been transforming into various categories of towns and townships, but not always in the same place. Only a few of these structures were more precisely investigated by archaeology (Litovel, Opava, Veligrad – Staré Město; Procházka – Doležel 2001; Šlézar 2005; Wihoda 2007; Zezula et alii 2007; Fig. 4).

An inevitable territorial condition governing the foundation of important royal towns was sometimes the property composition on the part of the manorial lord with the biggest, generally clerical owners, as we can observe in Znojmo and Olomouc. Fulfilling the locational intent resulted every time in settlement concentration in a limited area usually comprising the most important part of former agglomeration. In Olomouc maybe a three-stage fulfillment of the locational intent is assumed, finished after the exchange of some unspecified rights of the local bishop for the toll in Vyškov in 1248 between Wenceslaus I and the bishop Bruno as well as by a privilege for the merchant court in 1261. Around the mid-13th century the town was constituted, which laid out on meanwhile quite discontinuously occupied spaces around Horní and Dolní Squares (Upper and Lower sq.) below the hill with the St. Michael church (Bistřický 2002; Fig. 1).

Archaeology contributed essentially also to recognizing the beginnings of the institutional Brno city. One could prove that the northern part of the town area hadn't been settled continuously until the arrival of the Germans and the Romanic people (Walloons?) at the turn of the 12th and 13th centuries, which caused a distinct settlement expansion as well in the southern part. The two-stage urbanisation process reflects the duality of squares as well as of the parish organisation. When forming the ground plan with twin main markets, they undoubtedly utilized a part of the pre-locational communication structure, which was anyway complemented and adapted to the new intent. The institutional town was fully constituted in the 1220s-1240s (privileges 1243 with a distinct link to somewhat older municipal laws on the territory of Austria); Procházka 2000; 2003; Procházka et alii 2002).

In Znojmo the town area was established after gaining the estate "fundus Kulchov", until then in the hands of the nearby monastery in Louka, south of the old outer ward in 1226. Here, around the newly laid out Dolní (Lower) Square we can register only the finds dating from the 13th century and beyond (Procházka 2003; Fig. 2).

In some cases one can detect a very fast tempo of colonizing the laid out area, which hardly can be more closely time-differentiated in archaeological sources (Brno, Olomouc, Znojmo), including the royal towns founded "on the green meadow" (Jihlava – founded about 1240, Uherské Hradiště - founded 1253 – 1257; Fig. 5, 11). For example in Brno the actual knowledge reveals the presence of pottery finds dating roughly from the first quarter of the 13th century on the whole town area, even overlapping the line of town walls built up maybe before 1240 already. Somewhere else a gradual growth from the oldest core can be recognized (Opava – founded between 1213 – 1224; from among smaller towns e. g. Ivančice – before 1283). The towns founded during the period of Přemysl Otakar II are quite characteristic through spatial translations of former central settlements whereby the new structures use to be better equipped with regard to laws. In the case of Uherské Hradiště the relocation of inhabitants from two nearby market boroughs to a river island is well documented by a pair of privileges from 1257 and 1258 (Fig. 5). The precursor of Litovel in the position "Staré město" dating from the 1st half of the 13th century could be documented through archaeological excavations. The translocation took place here approximately at the same time as on the sites above (Fig. 4). Several market settlements develop further on continuously and undergo their essential restructuring as late as in the second half of the 14th century, when for example the present-day main square is laid out (Slavkov). A special case is represented by the Silesian town

Bruntál where the municipal law was maybe granted 1213 to scattered mining settlement around a large Romanesque-Gothic church from the terminal 1st half of the 13th century (Staré Město), while the town situated not far from there wasn't constituted until the 2nd half of the same century (Doležel 2000; Kiecoń Zezula 2004; Procházka – Doležel 2001; Šlézar 2005; Wihoda 2007).

Organisation of settled area in towns and townships

As well the archaeological sources reflect several ways of using the settled area of institutional units. The base level is represented through the relations between particular communications, to which we also assign public spaces like markets and residential blocks divided into plots; further there are sacral districts surrounded by and interconnected with the funeral ones. In the field of the street network and markets forming within the frame of a town plan there are usually three cardinal questions treated: 1) to what degree the pre-locational structures could have been incorporated, 2) at what time the "historical" ground plan became stabilised, 3) whether or not, for what reason and to what extent spatial changes occurred in the relation between public and residential areas. Although the implementation of the hereditary, laid out plot (area, burgage plot) considerably contributed to the legally backed up stability of town plan, yet there were some partial changes occurring in the stage of predominant timber or timber-and-earth constructions, the frequency of which got distinctly restricted as late as after the spread of masonry architecture.

An element of continuity between the pre-locational and the colonisation areas is represented by sacral buildings, often adopted together with cemeteries into the new structure, if the latter incorporating also the older settlement area (Olomouc, Brno, Znojmo, Uherský Brod, Telč, Uherské Hradiště; fig. 1, 2). The temple usually took up an eccentric location close to the border of the newly laid out space, less frequently we meet parish churches at squares (e. g. Uherské Hradiště, Ivančice, Jemnice; Fig. 5). Further forming or enlargement of church cemeteries causes in some cases the decline of former settlement structures, sometimes occurring only in the stage of a completely developed town. For example in Brno an enlargement of the cemetery to St. Jacob could be archaeologically proved in the mid-14th century. An inevitable condition of completing the plan forming in the borough of Modřice (before 1340) was the extinction of the off-church cemetery, which in the mid-13th century occupied the southwest border of later square .

 An often-assumed continuity of communication trails from the pre-colonisation period is rather hypothetical. However, their concrete course within the town areas was undoubtedly often adapted to the ground plan structure (Brno), even though not always (Ivančice). It is without question that in the region investigated the archaeologically documented surface reinforcement of public spaces and streets through causeways or more often gravel and then also stone paving (Litovel – founded in the 3rd qtr. 13th cent; Olomouc, Brno; Fig. 6) can be related only to institutional towns. In Opava for example, backfilling the pits from the 1st half of the 13th century and reinforcing the terrain surface with gravel in the area of Dolní (Lower) Square and Dobytčí trh (Cattle market) around the mid-13th century signalises the establishment of basic elements of the historical town plan. The large-scale excavation of Horní (Upper) Square in Olomouc approved the market function of this place since the 2nd half of the 13th century inclusive some ovens, which may have served the marketers of the 14th century (Fig. 7). Questionable is the function of sunken features from the 3rd quarter of the 13th century in the area of the main town square in Jihlava. It was maybe only in the 15th century that two house blocks were incorporated into the prestigious market area in Uherský Brod (fonded before 1272), while the fringe town parts had been used rather as gardens. Sporadically in the 2nd half of the 13th century already or since the beginning of the 14th century pavement of larger stones begins to appear. Solid stone pavements are also documented by written sources from the time around the mid-14th century, above all in Brno or Olomouc. Mostly from the initial stage of town life come also the evidences of timbered gutters for leading away surface water (Borský et alii 2007; Procházka 2000; 2007a, b; Procházka - Doležel 2001; Zezula - Kiecoň 2005).

A change in the build-up arrangement, which is quite often documented by archaeology, resulted from foundations of mendicant monasteries superposing older buildings in intensively settled areas, which proved in Brno in the case of the Minorite and Dominican convents (shortly after 1230) or in Opava (particularly Dominicans –maybe before 1237 or 1291) (Hrubý et al. 2006; Procházka 2000; Kiecoň – Zezula 2004; Šikulová 1975).

An important, even though not cardinal trait of "towniness" of a particular settlement is the area being limited through stone ramparts. A well-dated fortification found – no matter if a wall or just a ditch – undoubtedly represents an important evidence of a delimited district existing where the municipal law was valid (Znojmo 1226; Opava 1224, Brno 1243). A unique evidence of timber-and-earth fortification of a market village we know from Staré Město (Veligrad) near Uherské Hradiště (founded 1st half 13th cent) . Archaeological excavations of defensive walls in Brno, Jihlava and Opava proved they were built up

relatively early in connection with the locational process (Fig. 8). Due to an insufficient economic level, the build-up of masonry walls in many towns was quite delayed (Uherské Hradiště, Třebíč – town founded before 1277, Přerov – about 1256), some locations didn't even reach this aim during the Middle Ages (Hodonín – founded maybe 1238 or shortly later) (Měřínský – Nekuda 1997; Obšusta 2002; Procházka 2007a).

Primary plot pattern and changes thereof

An inseparable attribute of institutional towns is the plot pattern, that is the allotment of town area or a part thereof (block) into adjacent building plots. This novelty can be unequivocally related to foreign colonists, even though native population probably reached some forms of spatially limited homesteads.

When solving the cardinal question of how is the relation between the historic plot pattern documented in plans from the 1st half of the 19th century and the original allotment, we are lacking in archaeological finds of partition fences or walls from the Middle Ages. This also applies to market settlements that perished in the 13th century already and that had been investigated on a large scale (Žďár – Staré město). The most frequently used method of reconstructing the medieval borders of burgage plots thus remains the comparison between positions of the oldest residential buildings and so-called historical plot border. Substantial discoveries with regard to this topic yielded the excavations in Opava – Drůbeží trh (Poultry market) where many plot fences, undoubtedly, could be detected in rear parts of burgage plots. They reveal a stable orientation of plot axes, but in some places also considerable local displacements. The plots were also intersected by internal fences of the same orientation as the bordering ones, which makes the interpretation more difficult (Fig. 9). Unequivocal evidences of a distinct relocation of plot borders during the Late Middle Ages could be acquired from Uherské Hradiště – Otakarova Street, at another place certain oscillation of the partition line may be considered. The extent of plot changes occurring until the build-up structure got stabilised through masonry houses could be estimated only on the basis of a completely investigated plot block, which we hardly will dispose of ever.

Well-documented is the merging of plots for the needs of aristocratic palaces in the 14th century, or the partition of large, mostly corner burgage plots into smaller areae in the 15th and 16th centuries, e. g. in Brno.

The up-to-now discoveries testify rather to an irregular plot pattern from the very beginnings of communal towns already. In Uherské Hradiště some four-plot blocks are documented by written sources, which are best-preserved around one of the squares. However, in the streets a more variable partition can be assumed in the 2nd half of the 13th century already (Procházka 1996; 2007a,b; Vičar 1969; Zatloukal 1999; Zezula at alii 2007).

Build-up character and arrangement

From the pre-colonisation period we still dispose only of few properly published evidences of build-up modes in later urban areas. The examples from Brno indicate besides various often hardly interpretable pits with hewn-in ovens as well the presence of aboveground features with fireplaces, and also some sunken, approximately quadrilateral features with entrance neck, yet without a clearly documented heating device. The overground constructions are documented through fragments of floor adjustments with post holes at the perimeter. In one case a palisade enclosure was uncovered from the 1st half of the 13th century, which may represent a late expression of domestic development from pre-colonisation roots. In Olomouc the archaeological discoveries allow to assume above all aboveground timber buildings, but also the presence of a masonry house could be documented, probably a residence of nobility from the time short before colonisation. This picture corresponds to the situation in areas of Přemyslid castles from the 11th – 12th centuries where the aboveground log or pole buildings are predominant (Dolní Věstonice – Vysoká zahrada), but as well some more or less sunken huts appear, seldom also with entrance neck (Rokytná, Kramolín). The methodics of previous excavations as well as mostly bad conditions for preservation of wood still don't enable to clarify the question of homesteads consisting of several features, as tentatively reconstructed by V. Nekuda for the early-medieval settlement of Mstěnice or as approved thanks to good conditions in the pre-locational Wrocław (Breslau) in Lower Silesia. The frequent position of production features close to roads in the southern part of the emerging Brno town where the settlement continuity is documented since the 12th century indicates a quite different understanding of spatial organisation than in a communal town. It was in Brno again where the transformation of traditional structures had been investigated at best, so far. Approximately until the mid-13th century the remaining sunken features in the southern town part were backfilled including those with ovens, and residential buildings and cesspools begin to appear, which are typical traits of the build-up of a communal town. Among the production features mentioned also some lime kilns occurred. Although

situated in areas so far not reminiscent of urban build-up, they undoubtedly served the already emerging town.

It was above all recent excavations, which yielded a huge amount of evidences of the character of residential build-up in the towns of the 13th century.

First of all, a timber or timber-and-earth character of the first development stage could be proved as well in the case of large royal towns. The economically weaker locations retained this prevailing character much longer, until the Late Middle Ages or even Modern Times (Opava, Uherský Brod). Also in this regard archaeology is solving principal questions – is it single-room or multiple-room buildings? Were they subdivided vertically including basement, or rather horizontally, or is it some combined dispositions? How proceeds the transformation process towards masonry houses, at our land mostly built of stone? Today we already know that to the first group of questions concerning the investigation of the character of timber houses there is already a wide range of answers to be found. A massive wave of mostly single-room, distinctly sunk-into-ground features that, being firstly found in Bohemia, began to appear since the 1970s and mainly the 1980s and 1990s even in a larger amount also in Moravia and Silesia, is being mostly interpreted as cellars today. They are usually equipped with an ascent-like entrance neck of various orientation within a plot and timbered by two main construction types – by a classical one with vertical elements in foundation thresholds or by a post construction combined with embedded foundation beams. Masonry rarely occurs in the entrance sections. A certain exception thanks to an increased number of fireplaces is represented by deserted monastery township of Staré Město at Žďár n. Sázavou, anyway, the features there are sunken in average a little less than e. g. those in Brno. Naturally, some features of this kind may have been inhabited or any production activity may have been performed in, but it was rather exceptional. Thereto belongs a three-room "sunken homestead" in Olomouc – Pekařská St. where a baking oven was operated at the beginning of the 14th century. The basements with wooden scaffolding appeared frequently not only in Brno (Fig. 10) but among larger royal towns also in Jihlava, Opava, Olomouc (Fig. 12); they are so far maybe absent in Znojmo. We also know them from many less important settlements (e.q. Prostějov - founded about 1300?, Rýmařov, Uherský Brod, Uničov – founded about 1213, in Silesia Bruntál - founded about 1213, Hlučín (founded in 3rd qtr. 13th cent.), Ostrava – (founded 1260s?), some of which have reached before 1400 only the status of a borough (Modřice), even of a village (Hluk). Most of these features were uncovered in Brno. The culmination point of their use falls to the time span from the 2nd third of the 13th century to the 1st half of the 14th century whereby in the 13th century already they began to be replaced by masonry houses. Up to now still no sufficiently convincing evidences could be gained of possible aboveground, basementless rooms, which would be linked to the basement part. In several towns, however, more and more frequently also multiple-room features begin to appear besides the buildings with basements. Meanwhile there are some not very distinct evidences from Brno, a little more abundant are the discoveries from Olomouc. In Uherské Hradiště during the first stage of the build-up of several plots from the 3rd quarter of the 13th century they tried to implement some two-storey buildings with semi-sunken basements (up to 1 m), but due to a high groundwater level finally three-room houses without basements spread here in general before 1300 already, with in-line arrangement or angular disposition resembling the rural house (Fig. 13). In the area of the precursor of the town Rýmařov (founded 1250 – 3rd qtr. 13th cent.) in Rýmařov – Bezručova St. rather two-room aboveground houses are usually mentioned during the first two stages, in the latter one also a semi-sunken feature with entrance neck (cellar?). In the third stage mostly huts or basements sunken up to 1,2 – 1,6 m with necks are predominant here, in two cases equipped with fireplaces. So far only briefly published are the remnants of timber houses from Kroměříž – Vodní St. (town founded before 1292) where some three-part ground plans with sunken store-rooms are mentioned from the second stage comprising the 14th – beginning of the 15th century.

Timber houses used to be placed both to the front and to the deep of plots, it wasn't a serried row build-up yet (Fig. 10).

The "stonification" process of burgher houses was running irregularly. The most cognition in this regard could be obtained from Brno, which on a Central-European scale belongs to towns with a very early ascent of stone houses, in the 1st half of the 13th century already. It seems that just relatively in a few cases investigated the present cellar was at least partly in use. The new masonry cellars emerged mostly out of the former timbered ones, which undoubtedly relates to additional forming of the row build-up in the front of burgage plots. Although the single-room constructions are prevailing, sometimes containing a certain anteroom, yet there are already in the 13th century as well multiple-room houses to be found. The front-gable orientation is predominant, initially with let out passage to the courtyard; but also the side-gable orientation could be documented (Fig. 10). Likewise in Jihlava the building process of masonry houses was initiated in the 2nd half of the 13th century, under participation of archaeology so far best-documented in the area of the town hall complex at Masarykovo Square 1, 2. At this place a connection could be proved to the basement of a timber (timber-and-earth) house, and the emergence of

vaults, which are so typical of Jihlava, could be clarified as late as in the second masonry stage, as could be also the case with another buildings with vaults being preserved up to today mainly at the square. In side streets simple masonry cores appear in the 13th century. The horizon of the 13th century is represented among the masonry houses also in Znojmo, anyway, the relevant plots there hadn't been investigated archaeologically whereby the character of the town's timber stage is not sufficiently recognized yet. The ascent of masonry burgher houses in Olomouc is delayed, only since the mid-14th century there is a strengthened tendency leading to serried build-up of masonry houses at streets. Although the first so far documented masonry house in Uherské Hradiště was built still in the 2nd half of the 13th century, the town probably retained its mostly timber-and-earth character all the medieval period through. Building the stone houses goes hand in hand with forming the row build-up at streets; hereby the originally free passages to plot yards get gradually built-up. However, the type of build-up said above emerges during the Middle Ages in those locations, which retained mostly a timber character (Bláha 1999; Buśko 2005; Čižmář – Šmíd 2000; Goš – Karel 2003; Hejhal et al. 2006; Hejhal - Hrubý 2005; Kiecoň – Zezula 2004; 2005; Kohoutek 1996; Měřínský 1981; Merta et al. 2004; Holub et al. 2005; Michna 1982; 1988; Nekuda 2000; Poláček 1995; Procházka 1996; 2000; 2003; 2007a; Zatloukal 1999; Zapletalová 2006).

Stratification and surface adjustments of buildingless plot parts

There wasn't any special attention paid to this topic, so far. In a similar way like at public spaces, rubbish accumulated in yards mainly in the 13th and at the beginning of the 14th century. In Uherské Hradiště and scarcely also in Brno the deposition of waste layers proceeded as late as until the turn of the 14th/15th centuries. Especially the towns or town parts with humid subsoil situated in the inundation area were characteristic through a faster accumulation of deposits, which lead to a hindered water flow during floods (Uherské Hradiště, Litovel, partly Ostrava, Opava, eastern border of Olomouc, Fig. 9). For the present we lack in qualified analyses, which would clarify the formation mode of these prevailingly organogenic deposits. For example in Uherské Hradiště ligneous waste probably predominated over litter, i. e. dung. The good conditions for preservation of wood enable to get an idea of the surface of courtyards at some locations. Frequent wood scraps and especially scattered planks or wooden causeways testify to surface reinforcement and an effort to avoid the omnipresent mud Less frequently the surface reinforcement through gravel is being mentioned, e. g. in Opava (Procházka 1996; 2007a).

Conclusions

The presented image of the state of knowledge of spatial organisation in medieval towns, whether with regard to allocation and defence of settled area, housing, waste deposition, production or communication, is on the investigated territory of Moravia certainly incomplete and uneven. However, it undoubtedly shows some development trends that sooner or later got accepted throughout Europe except for its southeastern and eastern parts. They tend to a stabilisation of town plan associated with its being enclosed by a fortification, to replacement of timber architecture by masonry, and to a regulation of waste including faeces, which partly relates also to the surface reinforcement of streets and open spaces. The most stable traditional element adopted from pre-urban agglomerations or another settlements is represented through a parish church with associated cemetery. Older settlement structures underwent radical changes connected with the transformation into institutional towns, and this process needn't to be single-stage. New market settlements of the 13th century may have changed their location after a certain time. Many partial spatial changes arose from immediate needs of urban community, or clerical authorities. In spite of an insufficient publication of many discoveries we can speak about the principal role of archaeology in clarifying the problem of man/space relationship in the beginnings of high-medieval towns.

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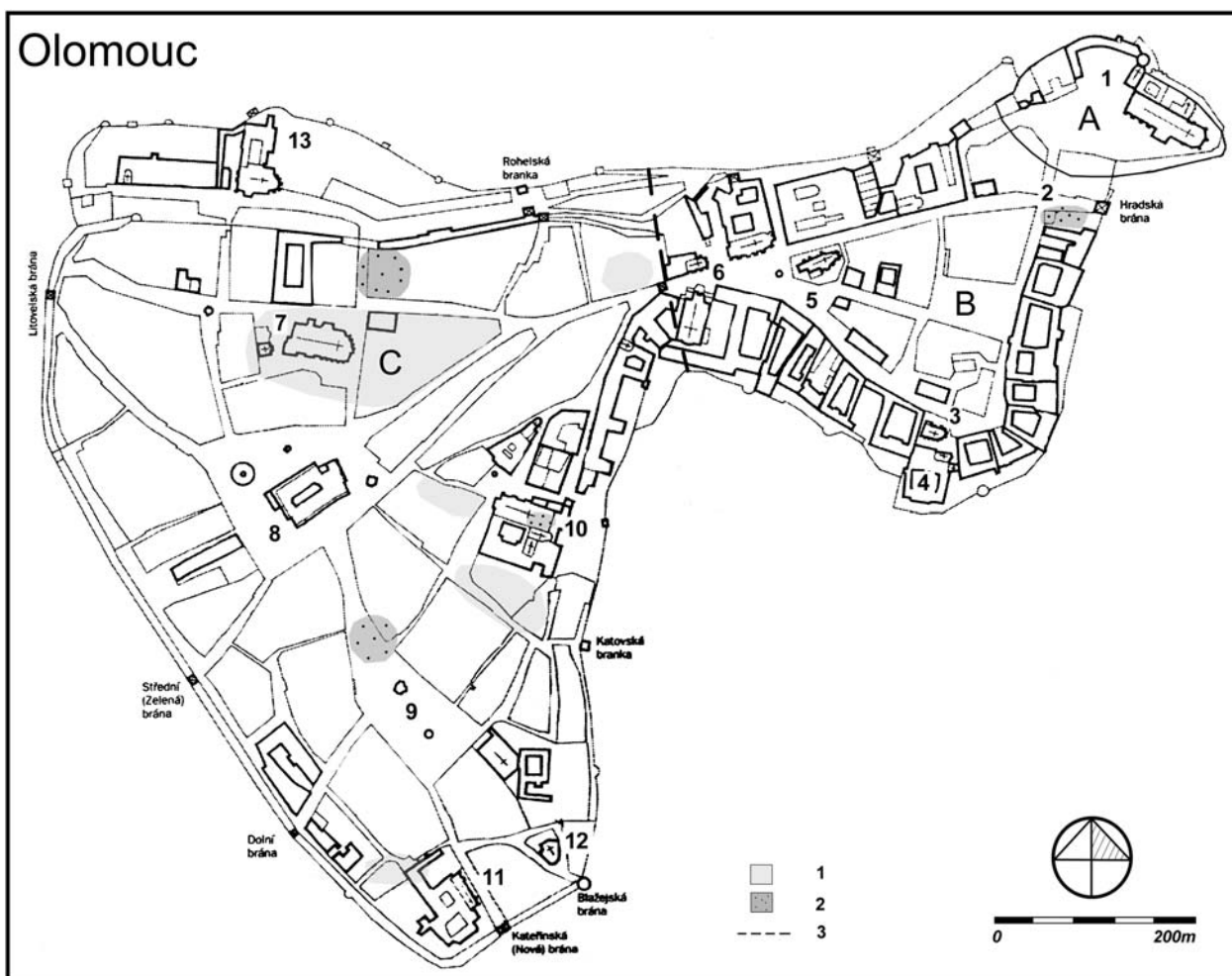
Fig. 1. Olomouc. °The plan of the town in the 18th cent.The significant buildings and churches of the 13th cent. ¨1 – The St Václav church, 2 –the unknown church with cemetery (11th - 12/13th cent.; 3 – St. Peter, 4 – The Grey Friars; 5 –St Mary; 6 -Order of St. Clara; 6 ; 7 – St. Moritz; 8 –The Horní (Upper) ¨square, merchant hall; 9 –The Dolní (Lower) square; 10 –St. Michael; 11- - The Dominican Women; 12 –St. Blasius; 13 -**Black Friar**s; Symbols outside: 1 – settlement of the 11th - 12/13^{/th} cent. (only most part of the excavated aereas, only partially published), 2 – cemeteries of the same period; 3 – the late medieval rampart devided the area of „Předhradí" from the town in High (Late) Middle Age. After K. Kuča 2000, completed..
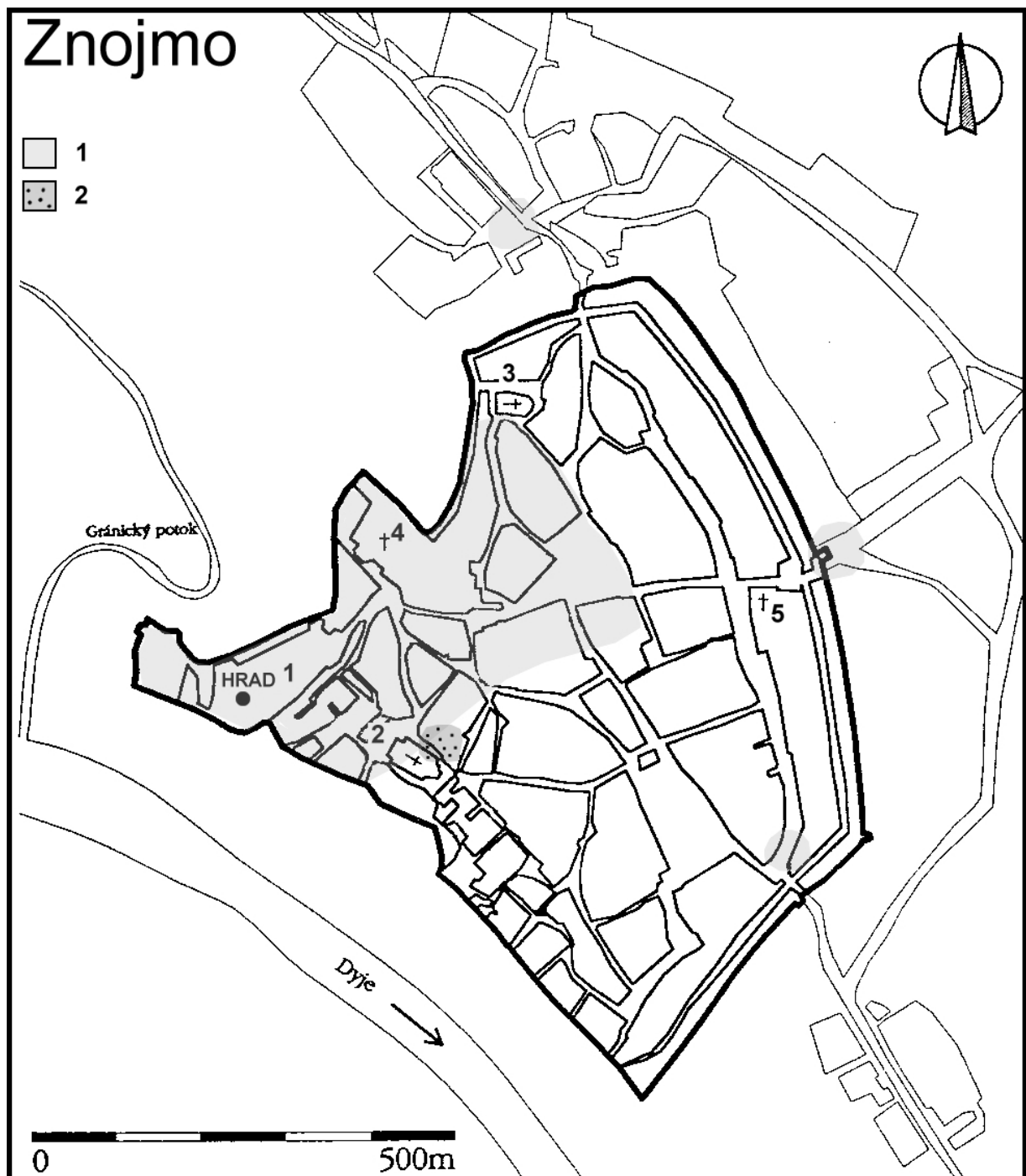
Fig. 2 Znojmo. Plan of the historical town centre. 1 – castle; 2 – St. Nicholas; 3 – St. Michael;-4 –Grey Friars and Order of St. Clara; 5 - **Black Friar**s; the outside signes:1 – the archaeologically evidenced settlement from the 11th - 12 /13th cent. (probably really more extended to the east), 2 – cemeteries of the same period.

Fig. 3. Znojmo-. The cemetery at St Nicholas; in the under black earth prehistoric layout are the graves from the 11[th]cent. - maybe elder than the church mentionned in 1190. Excavation of the Ústav archeologické památkové péče Brno.
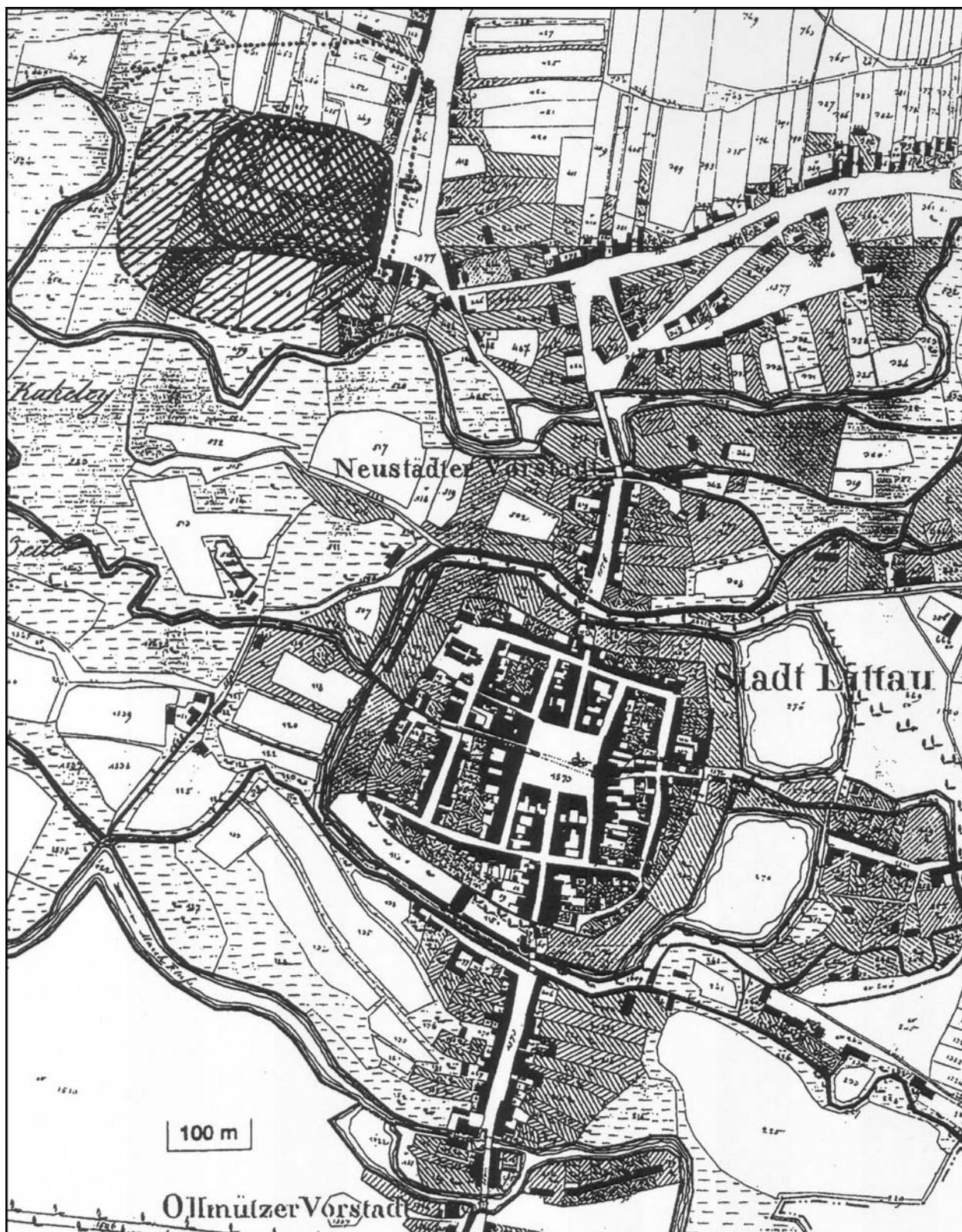
Fig. 4. Litovel. Cadastral map of the town 1834. **Hatched surface** - the Staré město (old Town), from the firs halft of the 13 [th]cent. After P. Šlosar 2005.
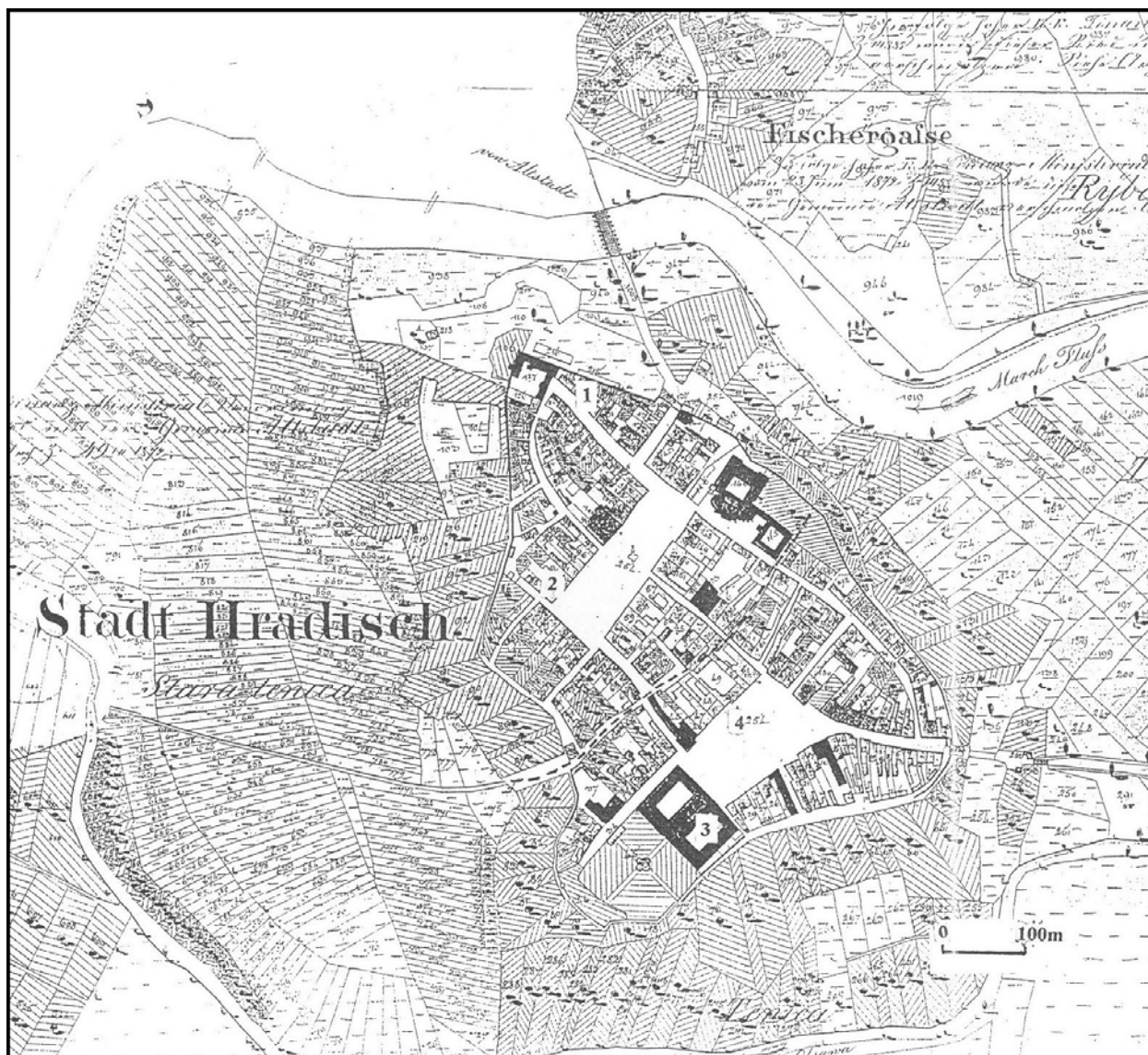
Fig. 5. Uherské Hradiště. Cadastral map of the town, 1827. 1 – 3 the best excavate areas with remains of the wooden houses, 4 – the St. Georg church. The dashed line- the mill race, which devided the two parts of the town, after the origin of the inhabitants – he nothern part from „villa forensis" Veligrad, southern part from the market village Kunovice.

Fig. 6. Olomouc, Horní (Upper) square , the stone pavement from the first half of the 14th cent. Archiv of the Národní památkový ústav, územní pracoviště Olomouc.

Fig. 7. Olomouc, Horní (Upper) square, the small oven from the 14th cent. Archive of the Národní památkový ústav, územní pracoviště Olomouc.

Fig. 8. Brno, Josfská street 7, the uncovered town wall, short time of the year 1240 ago. Archive of the Archeologický ústav AVČR v Brně.
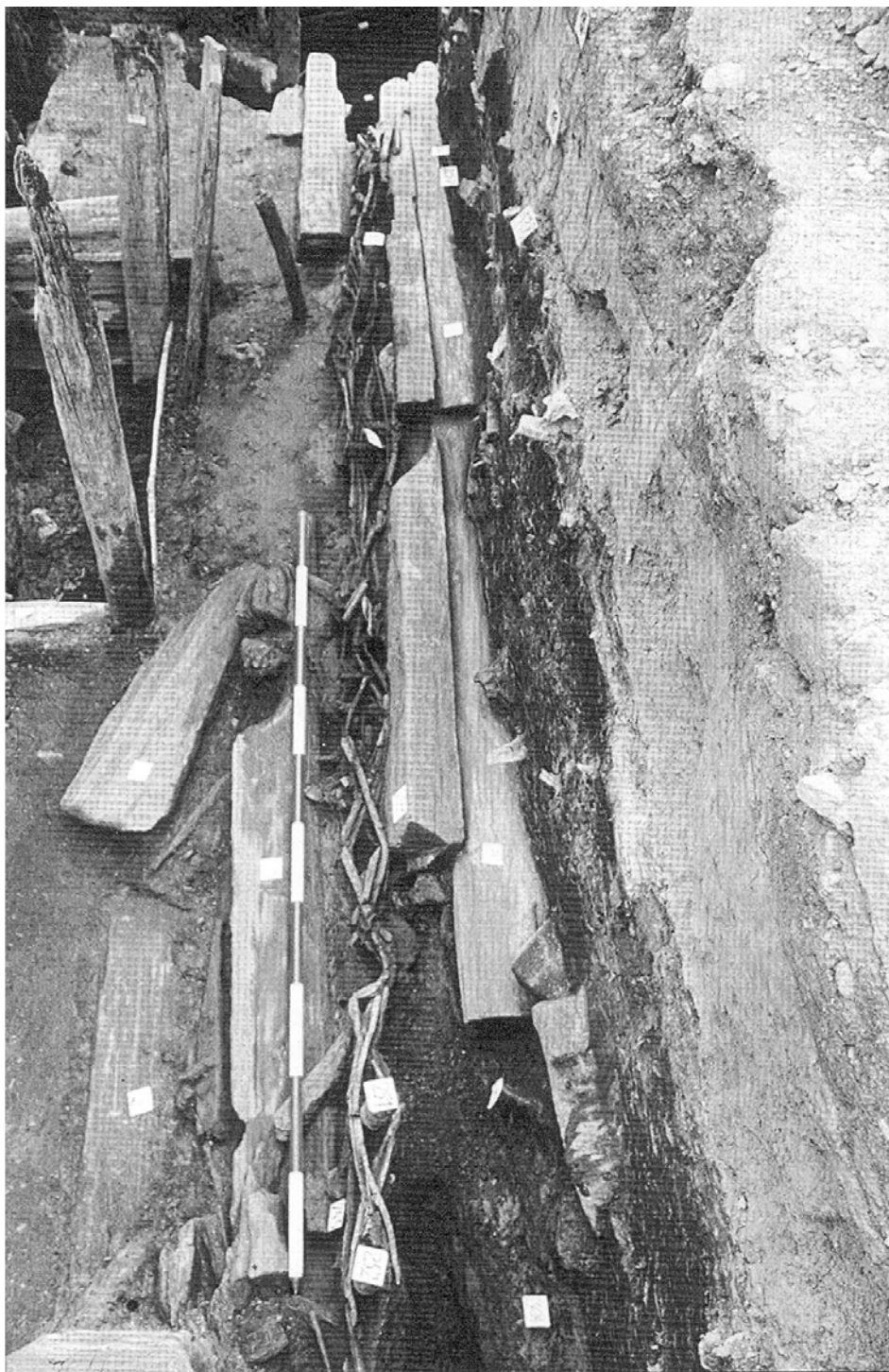
Fig. 9.Opava- The wattle fence, adversely dividing the plot of the house Horní (Uper) square 151, second half of the 13 [th] cent. Archive of the Národní památkový ústav, územní pracoviště Ostrava.
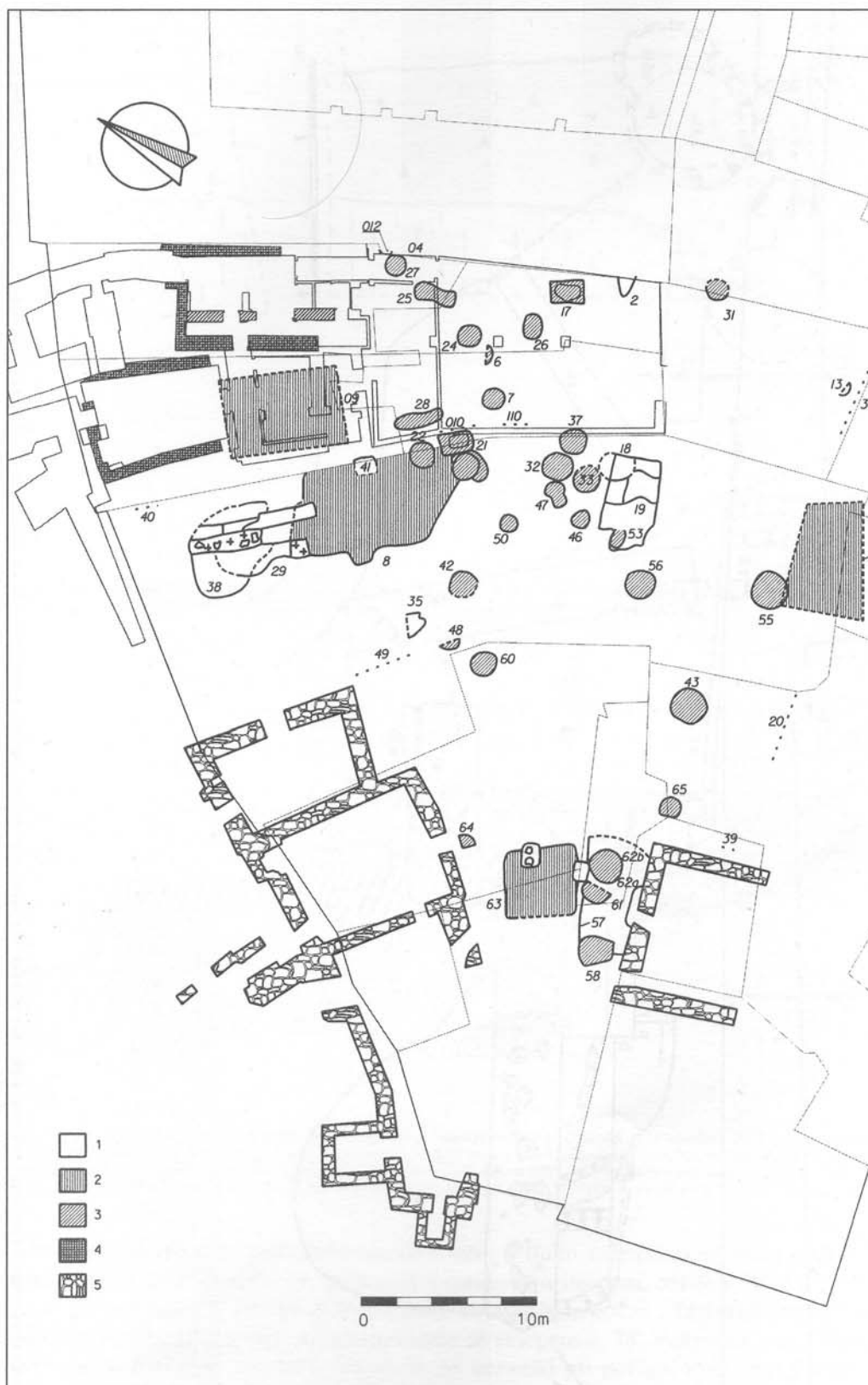
Fig. 10. Brno, Dominikánská street 11 – 19, excavated area of medieval plots. 1 –pits, 2 – cellars of the wooden houses (13 [th] - 14 [th] cent.), 3 –latrines, 4, 5 – stone houses (4 - detailed recorded houses, 14 [th] cent..
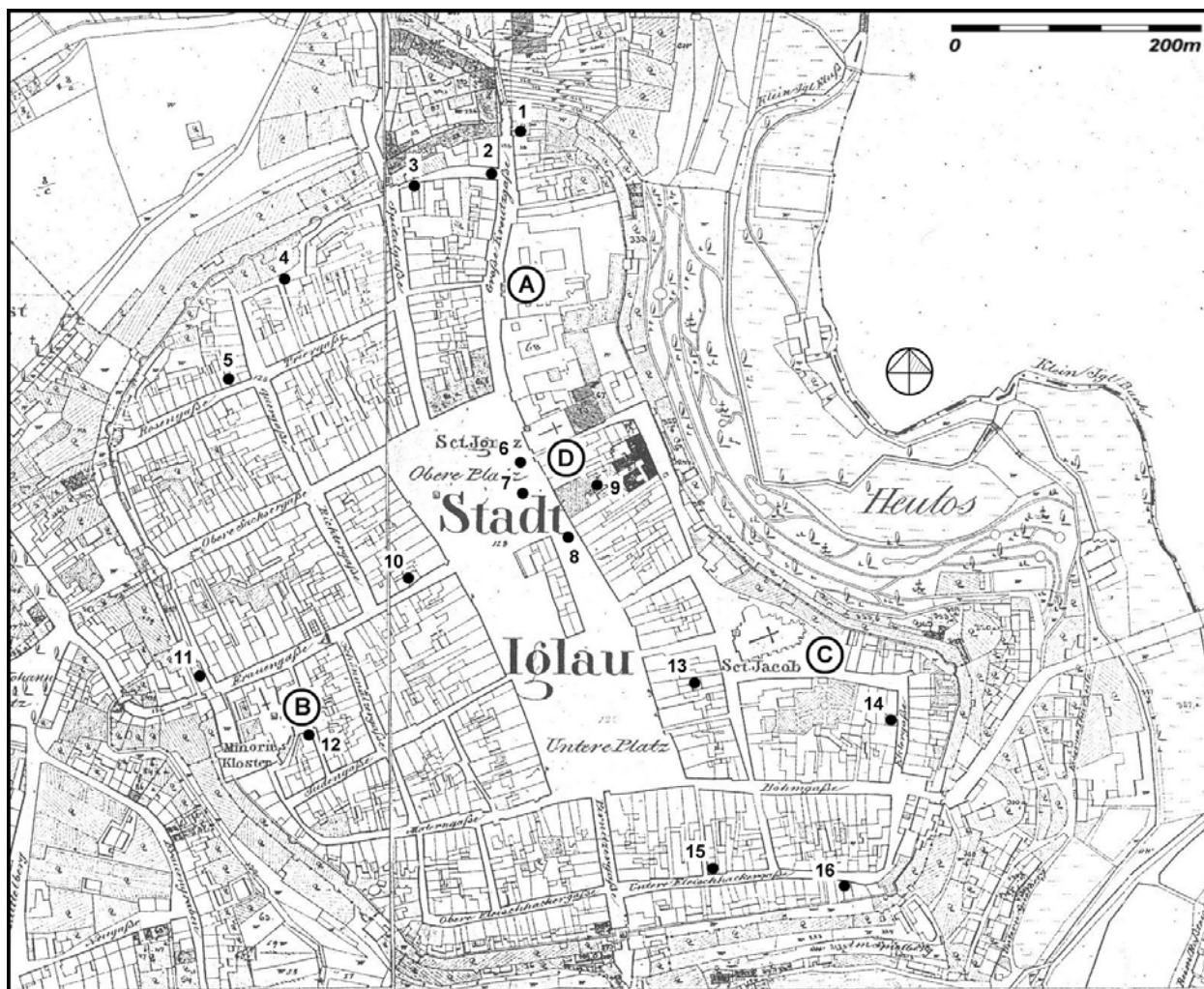
Fig. 11. Jihlava, cadastral map 1835. 1 – 6: cellars of the wooden houses from the second half of the 13th cent uncovered by archaeological investigations.

Fig. 12 Opava, cellars of the wooden houses N. 505 (right, filled in the 15 [th] cent.) and 532 (left, filled in the 16.- 17 [th] cent.). Archive of the Národní památkový ústav, územní pracoviště Ostrava.

Fig. 13. Uherské Hradiště, Otakarova street, the burned wooden house from the second half of the 13 [th] cent. Archive of the Slovácké muzeum Uherské Hradiště.