

# WHAT CAN THE DWARFS TELL? ON SETTLEMENTS AND ANTHROPOMORPHIC STATUARY IN LA TÈNE SOUTHERN MORAVIA<sup>1</sup>

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**GOLÁŇOVÁ, Petra - KYSELA, Jan. Co dokážou říct trpaslíci? O sídlištích a antropomorfních soškách na jižní Moravě doby laténské.** Na katastrálním území Lednice, okr. Břeclav, Jihomoravský kraj, byla povrchovými průzkumy zjištěna dvě dosud neznámá laténská sídliště. Jejich nálezné soubory chronologicky spadají do tzv. němčického horizontu a vykazují některé prvky tradičně spojované se sídlišti vyššího statusu – doklady slévání bronzu, fragment železné ostruhy a bronzovou antropomorfní figurku. Na jejich základě si klademe otázku, „co je vlastně normální“ na sídlištích doby železné. Tato nově detekovaná sídliště nám ale především umožňují rekonstruovat sídlištní vzorec v Podyjí mezi střední a pozdní dobou laténskou.

**Klíčová slova:** La Tène C, jižní Morava, sídliště, bronz, antropomorfní figurka

**Keywords:** La Tène C, Southern Moravia, settlement, bronze, anthropomorphic figurine

## Introduction – the sites

Over the last decade, two new sites were identified during fieldwalking in the territory of Lednice, Břeclav District, Southern Moravia. Finds from the Bronze Age, La Tène period, Roman Iron Age and Early Middle Ages have been collected in the sites but only the most numerous La Tène artefacts are discussed in this paper. Since human presence of the Roman Iron Age is attested in both sites, the attribution of some insufficiently characteristic artefacts (bronze rings, fragments of bronze bars, traces of bronze smelting) to the La Tène or Roman Iron Age is not certain.

### *Lednice-Podholmy*

The site of Podholmy (fig. 1: 1; 5: 1) is situated about 1,400 m south-east of the municipality of Lednice itself, on a small elevation in the vicinity of the Břeclav – Lednice road. This elevation is located in the alluvium of the nearby Mlýnský pond. It is framed from the south and east by the Včelínek stream and from the north and west by an artificial drain. So far, only Neolithic finds have been reported from the site (*Klanicová 1996, 251* with further references).

### *Lednice-Herdy*

Traces of La Tène period human presence have been detected in the location of Herdy/ U skladiště, roughly 600 m east of Nejdek municipality in a wooded area delimited by the courses of the Rivers Dyje/Thaya and of its tributary Zámecká Dyje. Though originally in the Nejdek territory, the site is now in the administrative area of Lednice (fig. 1: 2; 5: 2). The site exceeds by only 1 – 2 m the elevation of the surrounding alluvial plain of Thaya

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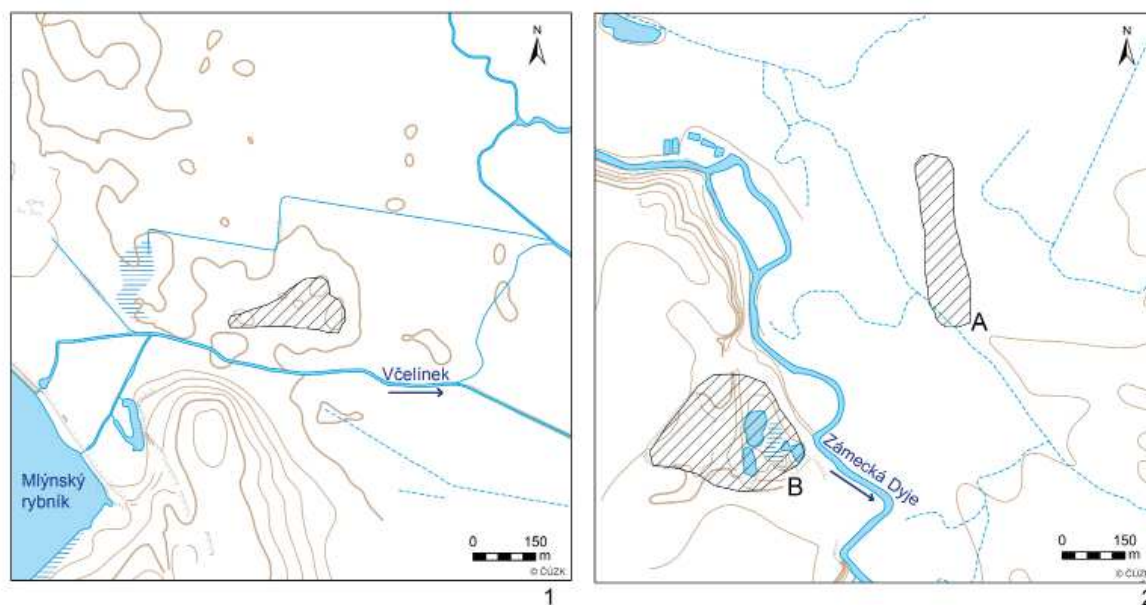


Fig. 1. Lednice. Location of the sites: Podholmy (1) and Herdy (2A) with the nearby occupation in location Závlaaha (2B)

and its numerous side-branches and cut-off meanders. The finds including metal objects and numerous pottery fragments were discovered partly on a ploughed field and partly in the adjoining forest.

### The finds deposited at the Regional Museum in Mikulov

#### *Lednice-Podholmy*

1. *Bronze anthropomorphic figurine* (fig. 2: 1; 4; H. 42 mm, max. W. 21 mm).

A standing figurine of a male. A large globular head with circular eyes and a large straight nose giving the figure a distinctly birdish look. The disproportional body is extremely simplified, the only depicted detail being the clearly oversized sexual organs. The tentacle-like arms are put on the figure's hips – the right hand on the flank, the left one on the small of its back – making up loops on both sides of the figure. Like the arms, the disproportionally small and thin legs deny any anatomical structure, the feet are only marked by bending the lowest parts of the legs. The entire figure is covered by an even green patina, the eyes are inlaid with another metal of a silvery colour.

2. *Bronze foot-shaped pendant* (fig. 2: 5; H. 21.5 mm; W. 13.4 mm; max. Th. 5 mm, external eyelet D. 9 mm). The foot is depicted in a shoe with pointed tip and heel with two ribs between the ankle and the suspension loop. The suspension loop is moulded on the outside.

3. *Bronze knobbed ring* (fig. 2: 2; max. D. incl. the knobs 22 mm; inner D. 13 mm; wire D. 2.5 mm). The knobs are placed along the circumference (16, out of which 15 are preserved) and on both sides (7 and 9 respectively), obviously without any mutual alignment (type II C after *Dębiec/Karwowski 2014; 2016*).

4. *Bronze chain-belt pendant* (fig. 2: 3; L. 23.3 mm, max. W. 11 mm, W. in the narrow part 4.2 mm, inner D. of the eyelet 2.6 mm, eyelet W. 7 mm, eyelet Th. 2.8 mm). A strongly articulated pendant with a profiled bottom piece – three segmental swellings delimiting a central triangular pyramid. The top part is clearly semi-globular with a very characteristic suspension piece – square slab-like pierced with a simple hole.

5. *Fragment of a bronze ring* (fig. 2: 6; H. 24 mm, max. D. 14.6 mm, dimensions of the square axial opening 6.8 mm × 6.9 mm; D. of the transverse hole 2.3 mm). A flattened hour-

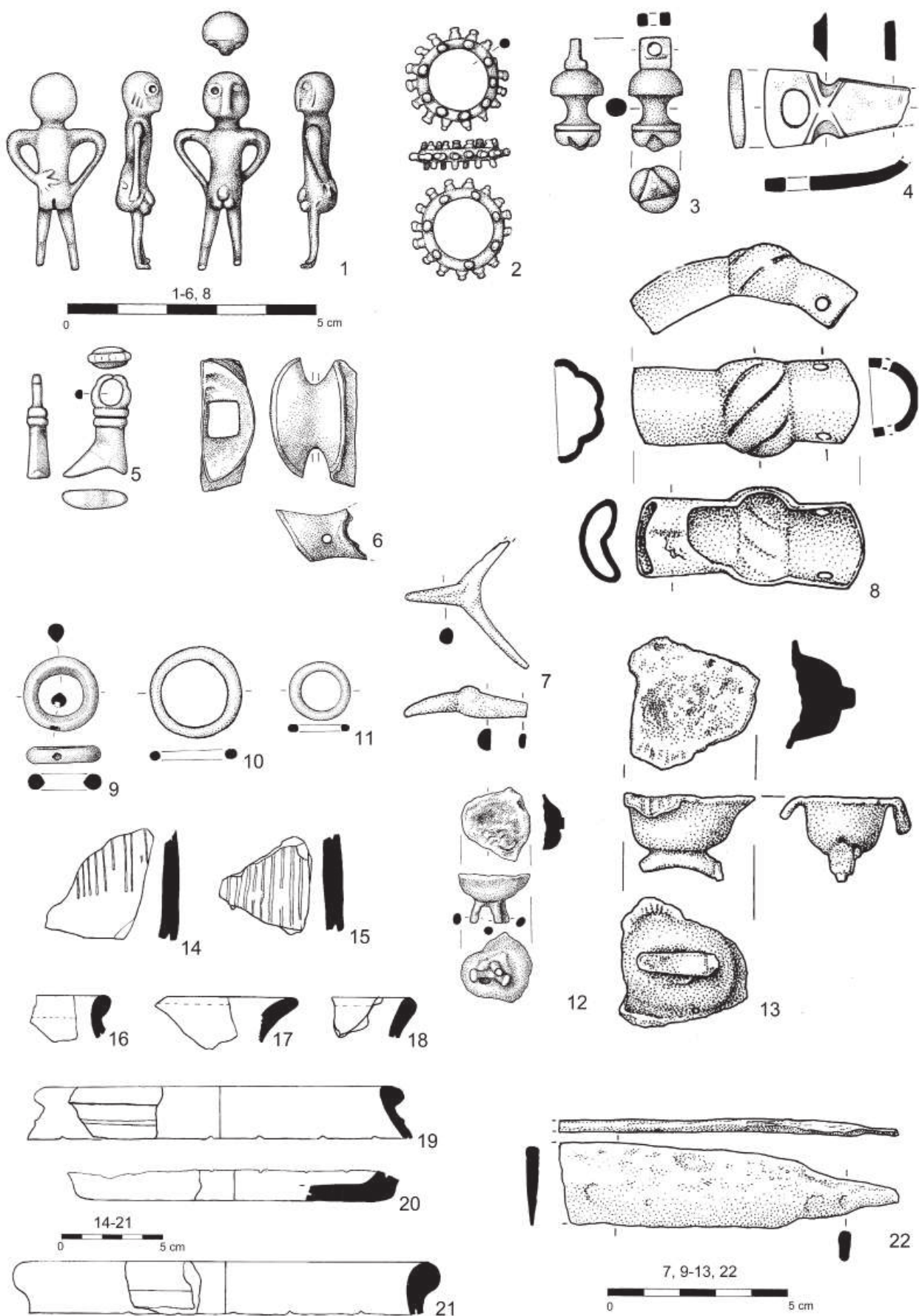


Fig. 2. Lednice-Podholmy. Finds. 1-6, 8-13 – bronze; 7, 22 – iron; 14-21 – pottery  
(1-13, 22 – drawing by Soňa Plchová)

-glass shaped bronze fragment broken off at one end, with a square axial hole and a small transversal circular one passing through it. Deformed.

6. *Fragment of a bronze ring* (fig. 2: 8; preserved L. 46.2 mm, W. 16.3 mm, W. of the knob 21.7 mm, sheet Th. 2.4 mm). A section of a hollow ring (bracelet?), partly open on the back-side, broken off at one end. Near the original end the bracelet swells into a transverse knob articulated by three diagonal ridges. Two transverse holes for a securing pin to pass through the original end.

7. *Fragment of a belt hook?* (fig. 2: 4; preserved L. 29.5 mm, max. W. 16.3 mm, Th. 3 mm, opening dimensions 7.3 × 5.3 mm). A flat bronze bar with an oval opening in the wider rectangular end recessed from the trapezoidal body with a broken off narrow end.

8. *Bronze ring* (fig. 2: 10; D. 25.8 mm, inner D. 18.6 mm, wire D. 3.5 mm).

9. *Bronze ring* (fig. 2: 9; D. 21.6 mm, inner D. 12.4 mm, wire D. 4.8 mm).

10. *Bronze ring* (fig. 2: 11; D. 17 mm, inner D. 11.5 mm, wire D. 2.6 mm).

11. *Fragment of an iron spur* (fig. 2: 7; preserved W. 35 mm, preserved W. of the longer branch 25 mm, shank length 13 mm, max. shank D. 7 mm). A fragmentary spur forged in one piece with its pointed shank. Both yoke ends including the attachment pieces are broken off.

12. *Fragment of an iron file* (fig. 2: 22; preserved L. 97 mm, W. 23.5 mm, Th. 3.8 mm), only slight traces of transverse diagonal nicks have been preserved.

13. *Casting cone with three vertical sprue stubs* (fig. 2: 12; max. dimensions of the cone ca. 20 × 20 × 15 mm; sprue D. max. 4.4 mm; wt. 10 g).

14. *Casting cone with two vertical sprue stubs* (fig. 2: 13; max. dimensions of the cone ca. 36 × 36 × 15 mm; sprue D. max. 8.3 mm; wt. 52 g).

15. *Bronze casting spills* (14 pieces, total wt. 193 g).

Single pieces: L. 47.5 mm, wt. 39 g; L. 30 mm, wt. 27 g; L. 32.5 mm, wt. 25 g; L. 30 mm, wt. 18 g; L. 37 mm, wt. 18 g; L. 26 mm, wt. 12 g; L. 31.5 mm, wt. 9 g; L. 27.5 mm, wt. 8 g; L. 22.5 mm, wt. 6 g; L. 21 mm, wt. 11 g; L. 19 mm, wt. 6 g; L. 24 mm, wt. 5 g; L. 19.6 mm, wt. 5 g; L. 19.7 mm, wt. 4 g.

#### 16. *Pottery*

Fragment of a situla rim with a rib under the neck, graphite tempered matrix, rim D. 180 mm (fig. 2: 19); fragment of a rim of fine matrix, wheel thrown, hard burnt, rim D. impossible to determine (fig. 2: 16); fragment of a rim of a pot, sand tempered matrix, rim D. 210 mm (fig. 2: 21); fragment of a rim, fine matrix with muscovite, hard burnt, rim D. non determinable (fig. 2: 17); rim fragment, fine matrix, wheel thrown, rim D. impossible to determine (fig. 2: 18); bottom fragment, fine matrix with graphite inclusions, wheel thrown (fig. 2: 20); fragment of vessel body with vertical combing, strongly graphite tempered (fig. 2: 15); fragment of the lower part of a vessel with vertical combing, fine matrix, wheel thrown (fig. 2: 14), four small body fragments with vertical combing, graphite inclusions; eight undecorated body fragments, graphite inclusions; two small body fragments - fine matrix, wheel thrown; three small body fragments, fine matrix with some graphite inclusions, one of them with hints of vertical combing.

#### *Lednice-Herdy*

1. *Arch of a Mötschwil type brooch* (fig. 3: 3; L. 54.5 mm, max. bow W. 6.8 mm, winding wire D. 2.6 mm). A brooch arch, thickened and faceted in its frontal part. Neither the coils nor the catch-piece or the foot clamp are preserved.

2. *Bronze chain-belt pendant* (fig. 3: 2; L. 30 mm, max. W. 8 mm, min. W. 3.2 mm, eyelet Th. 2.5 mm). An elongated drop shaped pendant tapering towards the bottom with a little globular appendix. The suspension loop is broken off.

3. *Bronze chain-belt pendant* (fig. 3: 1; H. 26.7 mm, max. D. 11 mm). A strongly profiled pendant with a distinct cushion shaped moulded upper part. The last two chain links are preserved in the suspension eyelet.

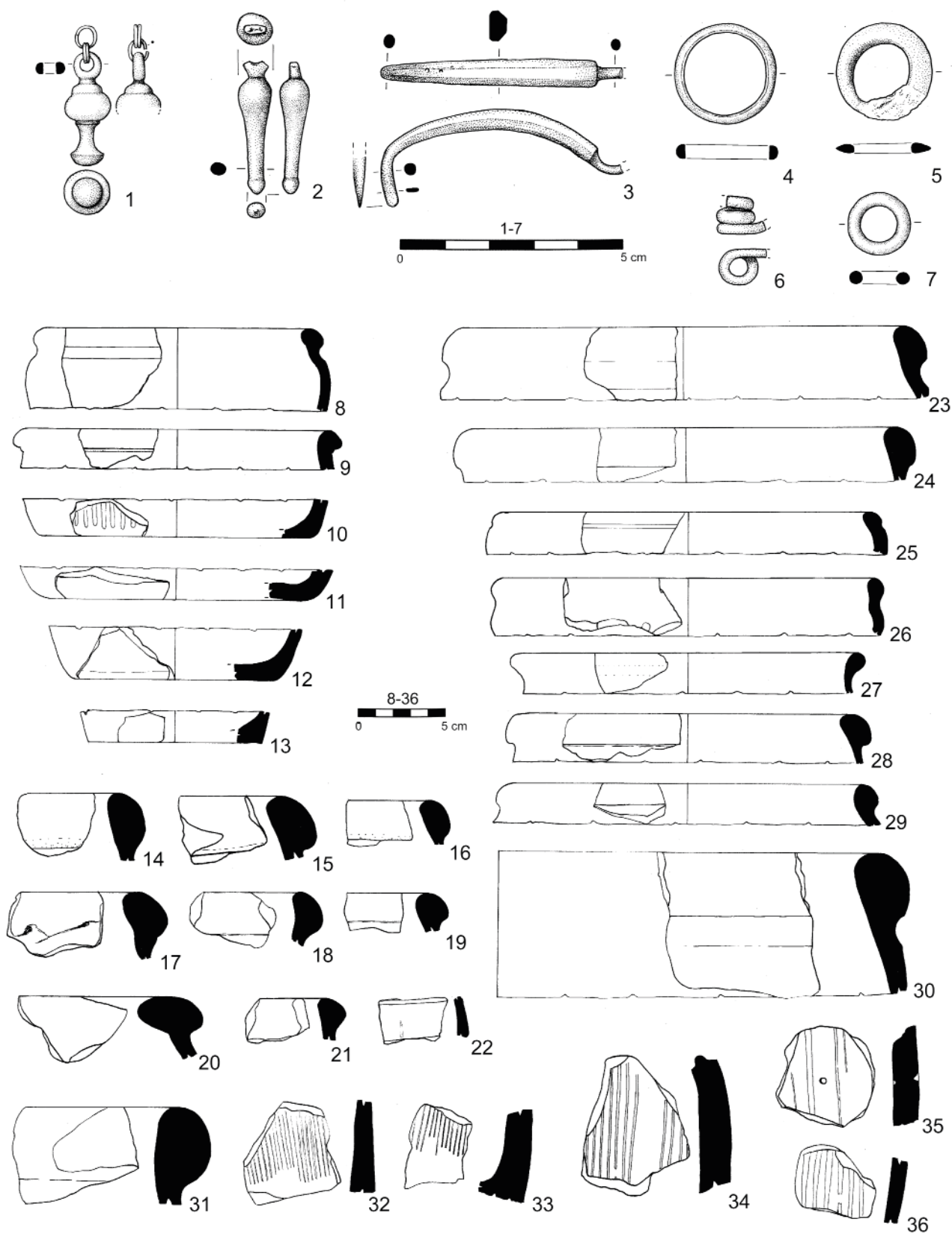


Fig. 3. Lednice-Herdy. Finds. 1-7 – bronze; 8-36 pottery  
(1-7, 22 drawing by Soňa Plchová)

4. *Bronze brooch winding* (fig. 3: 6) – two coils, wire D. 2.2 mm.

5. *Bronze ring* (fig. 3: 4); a simple (finger?) ring with D-shaped section, outer D. 22.9 mm, inner D. 19.1 mm, Th 3.1 mm.

6. *Bronze ring* (fig. 3: 7); circular section, outer D. 14 mm, inner D. 7.9 mm, Th. 3.5 mm.

7. *Bronze flat ring* (fig. 3: 5); slightly squashed into oval, drop-shaped section, outer D. 22.6 mm, inner D. 14.2/11 mm, iron corrosion lump in one point.

8. *Two bronze casting spills*; wt. 29 g (L. 31.5 mm) and 17 g (L. 41.7 mm).

#### 9. *Pottery*

Rim of a massive situla with offset neck, coarse graphite tempered matrix, rim D. 450 mm (fig. 3: 30); rim fragment of a massive situla, coarse graphite tempered matrix, rim D. impossible to determine (fig. 3: 31); rim of a small situla, graphite tempered matrix, rim D. 160 mm (fig. 3: 4); rim of a situla with an offset neck, graphite tempered matrix, rim D. 260 mm (fig. 3: 23); part of a bowl with inwards inclined rim lined with a groove, fine matrix wheel-thrown, rim D. 220 mm (fig. 3: 25); top part of a bowl with an S-shaped rim, very fine light grey matrix, wheel-thrown, hard burnt, rim D. 220 mm (fig. 3: 26); rim of an S-shaped bowl, fine matrix, wheel-thrown, rim D. 200 mm (fig. 3: 27), fragment of a thickened rim, very fine matrix, wheel-thrown, rim D. 180 mm (fig. 3: 9); fragment of a situla rim, thickened from both sides, coarse graphite matrix, rim D. impossible to determine (fig. 3: 20); fragment of a situla, graphite tempered matrix, rim D. 200 mm (fig. 3: 28); fragment of a thickened rim, sand tempered matrix, wheel-thrown, rim D. 220 mm (fig. 3: 29); fragment of a massive thickened rim, graphite tempered matrix, rim D. impossible to determine (fig. 3: 15); fragment of a thickened rim, graphite tempered matrix, rim D. impossible to determine (fig. 3: 16); fragment of an inwards thickened rim, graphite tempered matrix, rim D. impossible to determine (fig. 3: 17); fragment of a thickened rim, graphite tempered matrix with gravel inclusions, rim D. impossible to determine (fig. 3: 14); fragment of a thickened rim, graphite tempered matrix, rim D. impossible to determine (fig. 3: 21); fragment of a thickened rim, fine matrix with graphite inclusions, rim D. impossible to determine (fig. 3: 19); fragment of a thickened rim, graphite tempered matrix, rim D. 260 mm (fig. 3: 24); fragment of a curved rim, graphite tempered matrix, rim D. impossible to determine (fig. 3: 18); fragment of a massive rim, graphite tempered matrix, rim D. impossible to determine; worn rim fragment, graphite tempered matrix; bottom fragment with vertical combing on the body, graphite tempered matrix, bottom D. 160 mm (fig. 3: 10); bottom fragment of a small vessel, graphite tempered matrix, bottom D. 100 mm (fig. 3: 13); bottom fragment, graphite tempered matrix, bottom D. 160 mm (fig. 3: 11); fragment of the lower part of a vessel, graphite tempered matrix with large graphite grains, bottom D. 120 mm (fig. 3: 12); fragment of a lower part of a vessel with dense vertical combing, graphite tempered matrix (fig. 3: 33); body fragment – flat rib lined from both sides with grooves, graphite tempered matrix (fig. 3: 22); fragment of lower part of a vessel with dense vertical combing, graphite tempered matrix (fig. 3: 32); body fragment with broad vertical combing, graphite tempered matrix (fig. 3: 36); body fragment with vertical combing in bunches, graphite tempered matrix (fig. 3: 34); three body fragments with vertical combing, graphite tempered matrix; three body fragments with vertical combing, coarse matrix with inclusion of graphite grains; one body fragment with vertical combing, medium coarse matrix; eleven undecorated body sherds, graphite tempered matrix; one thick-walled undecorated body sherd, sand tempered; one undecorated body sherd, medium coarse matrix with graphite inclusions. Semi-product of a disc ground of a graphite tempered sherd with vertical combing, unfinished hole drilled through the centre (fig. 3: 35).



Fig. 4. Lednice-Podholmy. Bronze anthropomorphic figurine  
(photograph by ABALON)

## Analysis

### Lednice-Podholmy

#### Anthropomorphic figurine

The central European finds of anthropomorphic figurines have recently been summarised by K. Pieta (2008, 300-304) and M. Čižmář (2012) though new finds have appeared since then, both published (e.g. Karwowski 2012; Kysela 2017) and unpublished. The provenance of the figurines – in their majority old finds or discovered during metal detector surveys – is hardly ever known with any precision, the sites whence they come, nevertheless, flourish between LT C2 (Němčice nad Hanou) and LT D (e.g. Stradonice, Oberleiserberg).

The standing figure with one or both arms leaning on their hip (fig. 2: 1; 4) or folded on their chest is one of the most common schemes of depiction of humans in the later La Tène art (Čižmář 2012) as is also the emphasising of sexual organs (when the figures are not depicted right away as ithyphallic). Both of these features can be found already in the Early Iron Age statuary (Frey 2005; Warnecke 1999, 119, 120, Abb. 58) as well as in other cultural areas (cf. Barresi/Kysela 2015, esp. 124). These obvious iconographic similarities need not be taken as a proof of a genetic link between the Early and Late Iron age figurines, nor do they have to have any particular explanation ('posture of veneration', 'ithyphallism as a shorthand for fertility' etc.). They can be explained in terms of 'intellectual realism' characteristic of primitive arts (Olivier 2014) – both the arms and the penis are supposed to do things, so they are depicted as doing things without any immediate meaning. The two loops made up by the arms could moreover be practically used for attaching a string or a chain and the figurine could then be worn as an amulet suspended on the neck (they certainly could not be standing on their noodle-like legs).

From the stylistic point of view, there is no doubt about the LT C2 – D1 date of the figurine. The carelessness or inaptitude with which it was made as well as the disregard for the figure's anatomical structure are clear symptoms of this period. The sweeping ugliness of the absolute majority of the (middle to?) late La Tène anthropomorphic statuary<sup>2</sup> is stunning, the

<sup>2</sup> Anthropomorphic figurines and elements of good style and quality are attested only exceptionally: apart from the sword pommels from Stradonice and Staré Hradisko (Karasová 2002; Megaw/Megaw 2001, 131-135) which are probably imports and therefore cannot be directly compared with the local production we must mention in particular the crouched figurine from Biskupice (Čižmář 2012, obr. 4: 3). This figurine stylistically extremely close

more so if we consider that such hideous bronze bipeds are present alongside the stylistically completely different and unquestionably superior zoomorphic and ornithomorphic figurines (Kysela 2018). It is hard to explain this mutual stylistic exclusivity between humans and animals by chronological reasons (LT C2 quality animals × LT D ugly humans): the dichotomy is confirmed also e.g. in the site of Němčice nad Hanou (Čižmář 2012, obr. 3 contra obr. 9-12) whose LT D phase is still subject to discussions. These partitions and intersections in the late La Tène art between human and animal, high and low style, presence of content and subject matter or lack thereof will merit further investigations in the future.

The questionable artistic qualities of the Lednice figurine are compensated for by one of its particular technical features – its eyes are inlaid with silver alloy (cf. fig. 4).<sup>3</sup> Such a proof of non-trivial craftsmanship is so far unknown from other figurines, although some may have had their eyes inlaid with enamel (Čižmář 2012, 147, obr. 3: 1-3). Other figurines have cavities in their chest or belly, believed to have once contained enamel inlays (Čižmář 2012, obr. 1: 5; 3: 3, 5). This is also the case of a new remarkable androgynous figurine allegedly from Southern Moravia which recently surfaced.<sup>4</sup>

In this particular part of the middle Danube area (and its surroundings), anthropomorphic figurines are particularly abundant (Čižmář 2012; Rudnicki 2014). The most numerous collection comes from Němčice nad Hanou (five pieces published by Čižmář 2012, obr. 3). Other finds are nevertheless remarkably common also in the Thaya valley: the sites of Podivín and Přítluky are less than 10 km distant from Lednice and the figurines from these sites (Čižmář 2012, obr. 4: 2, 4) are curiously enough the closest analogies to the Lednice piece. Another figurine with the right hand on the hip and the left one on the temple (Čižmář 2012, obr. 1: 7) comes from Bernhardstahl on the opposite bank of the Thaya.

Other figures with their hands on their hips or folded on the body and with a marked penis come from Nitra (with arm positions identical to the Lednice figurine; Čižmář 2012, obr. 1: 3), Ponická Huta, Banská Bystrica District, Slovakia (Pieta 2008, 383, F 41), Prašník, Piešťany District, Slovakia (with the arms folded on the abdomen and with a torque on the neck; Pieta 2008, obr. 130: 3).

### **Amulets**

Pendants (with all probability amulets) shaped as a human foot (fig. 2: 5) are widespread in (Trans)alpine Europe in both stages of the Iron Age – they appear in the 5<sup>th</sup> century BC in northern Italy in the regions of the Golasecca culture and occasionally penetrate from there across the Alps (Casini 1994, 189-192; Warnecke 1999, esp. 215 and chpt. 2.9). A later and much more substantial period of their vogue is in the Late Iron Age when they are widespread in the entire La Tène world (Feugère 1998). The origins of the earlier group in northern Italy and the presence of the later pendants there as well as in the Eastern Alps suggested certain southern connotations of these amulets (Čižmář 2002a; 2012, 150). In our opinion the foot-shaped pendants are universal La Tène or Late Iron Age objects attesting cultural contacts only in

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to the invariably excellent animals from Němčice nad Hanou highlights the enormous difference from the other human figurines. Not only does it show a clear, though anatomically imprecise, inner structure with balanced proportions and well mastered selection and stylisation of anatomical details, but most importantly it is depicted in a meaningful position unlike the other figurines: it has other things to do other than to just stand and try to look human. In fact, the position may even be extremely meaningful (far from a shackled captive as proposed by Čižmář 2012, 148) considering the frequency with which humans in a crouched position appear in La Tène sculpture (cf. Guillaumet 2003) as well as in the disturbing inhumation of sitting individuals repeatedly attested in Gaul (last overview Liegard/Pecqueur 2014).

<sup>3</sup> We are grateful to Mgr. Petr Dresler, Ph.D. who executed the measurements. The elemental composition was measured by means of XRF on the Delta Professional device.

<sup>4</sup> The page on the site [www.lovecpokladu.cz](http://www.lovecpokladu.cz) presenting the find was withdrawn soon after its posting. The figurine was nevertheless immediately realised and copied and its relatively faithful replica is now available in the reenactors shop [drakkaria.cz](http://www.drakkaria.cz) (<https://www.drakkaria.cz/sperky/bronzove-historicke-repliky/keltska-postava-figurka-nahac-bronzova-replika.html/>). Our description is based on this copy.



the broadest possible sense. One piece is known to be made of bone (Levroux; Feugère 1998), the rest is in bronze. The pictorial scheme allows for few variations: only the foot is usually depicted (although models of an entire leg are known as well: Stradonice, *Píč* 1903, tab. 25: 7, 11); it may be in a shoe or barefoot; the details may be in relief, or engraved or – in the absolute majority of cases – omitted; the ankle may be exceptionally hollow; the suspension loop may be axial or transversal. None of these details may be accredited with any classificatory let alone interpretational significance though the similarity may of course suggest a mutual relation between the objects.

Among the relatively numerous finds in Moravia (12 pieces; Čižmář 2008, 82, 83, Abb. 1; 2012, 149, 150, obr. 7; 8), the Thaya region is once again well represented by 6 pendants from Dyjákovice, Hrabětice, Mikulov, Moravský Žižkov (2 pieces), Příkladky as well as from Bernhardstahl further downstream of Thaya immediately after the Moravo-Austrian border. Among these, the Hrabětice piece is almost identical to the Lednice find (Čižmář 2012, obr. 8: 4) while one completely different is a find from the neighbouring village of Příkladky (a foot in a sandal or laced shoe; Čižmář 2012, obr. 8: 12). Apart from the Příkladky find, a moulded suspension ring is also attested on finds from central Moravia – one from the Ptení hoard and two from Němčice nad Hanou (in the latter two the ring is transversal rather than axial; Čižmář 2012, obr. 7: 1, 2; 8: 5).

The amulets known as Knotenringe or knobbed rings have enjoyed a relatively high amount of scholarly attention over the last few years (Danielisová et al. 2018, 144, 145; Dębiec/Karwowski 2014; 2016; Hlava 2009, 119; 2015, 271). The Lednice piece (fig. 2: 2) can be classified as a type IIC in the Dębiec/Karwowski typology, corresponding with other representatives of this type not only in the principal typological criterion, i.e. the distribution of knobs, but also in their very characteristic shape – very high with globular appendices at the top. Although such a knob shape does appear also in other types, in type IIC it is present almost regularly.

Among the pieces collected by M. Dębiec and M. Karwowski (2016), the type IIC knobbed rings seem to be particularly characteristic of Moravia and its neighbouring areas – in central Moravia it is attested in Němčice nad Hanou, Staré Hradisko, Polkovice, Hrubčice and the Ptení hoard while in the region of the confluence of the Morava with the Thaya these rings are known from Oberleiserberg in Austria, Gajary and Plavecké Podhradie in Slovakia as well as from Pavlov-Děvín, Břeclav, Hrušky, and now Lednice in Moravia. The majority of these rings have the mushroom shaped knobs described above.

The knobbed rings are considered characteristic of the LT C2 – D1 period. The issue of their origin and earliest appearance in this part of Europe (Danielisová et al. 2018, note 7; Dębiec/Karwowski 2016, 132, 133) need not trouble us here.

### Chain belt pendants

The other *strongly articulated pendant with decorative bottom part and square suspension piece* (fig. 2: 3) belongs to a small but coherent group of pendants no more represented in flat burials in Moravia,<sup>5</sup> Bohemia or Slovakia but consistently associated there with settlements: Němčice nad Hanou (Čižmář et al. 2008, fig. 4: 3), Želetice (unpublished, Masaryk Museum in Hodonín); Zohor, Malacky District, Slovakia (Elschek/Kolníková 2014, 364, Abb. 6: 8), Devínská Kobyla, Bratislava IV District (Budaj/Čambal 2016, 278, fig. 5: 9); Michnovka, Hradec Králové District (unpublished<sup>6</sup>); and one from a so-far unpublished settlement in Central Bohemia (Smělý/Kysela forthcoming).

<sup>5</sup> The only exception might be a chain from Slatinice, Olomouc District, onto which two pendants with trefoil bottom are suspended (Čižmářová 2017, 262, tab. 53: 2). The find circumstances are somewhat unclear – the artefact is associated with a known flat cemetery and in itself it clearly makes the impression of a ‘find of burial character’. There is, however, no way to prove it and a settlement find is not completely excluded either.

<sup>6</sup> We are grateful to Tomáš Mangel for information on these finds.

The two characteristic features of these pendants – the trefoil termination and the square suspension piece – appear also, though separately, i.e. never in a single piece, in some Bavarian graves from advanced stages of LT C.<sup>7</sup> Other pendants with trefoil termination may be mentioned for example from Nowa Cerekwia (*Rudnicki 2014*, obr. 5: 1, 3) and the LT C2 date of this pendant type seems almost certain. It is suggested by its articulated profile, by their absence in local graves, as well as by dated analogies from Bavarian cemeteries; all the quoted middle Danubian settlements which yielded analogies of these pendants were also inhabited or enjoyed their floruit in LT C2. Square suspension pieces occur occasionally in other pendant types already in some LT C1 graves (Ponětovice, gr. 2: Čižmářová 2011, Tab. 35: 16) and are known from other settlements (Jevíčko-předměstí: Vích 2017, 642, fig. 11: 3, 7; Bořitov II: Čižmář et al 2009, 140, fig. 2: 2).

### **Bronze rings**

The simple bronze rings (fig. 2: 9-11; 3: 5, 7) may be with a grain of salt considered one of the indicators of La Tène settlements. Their evidence value is of course extremely limited – due to their extreme simplicity these objects deny any reasonable classification and cannot be expected to provide any chronological or functional information. Their regular presence in La Tène sites is, nevertheless, worth noting (*Danielisová et al. 2018*, 146).

### **Belt hook (?)**

We have no unequivocal explanation for the trapezoidal bronze bar with an oval opening (fig. 2: 4). Should we assume its Iron Age date, nice analogies would be a series of LT C2 (– D1) belt hooks attested in fair quantities in Gaul (*Bataille 2001*, 448, fig. 5: 14-17, type 3B and 3C; *Lejars 2013*, 122-125, pl. 69: 3053-3056). Nevertheless, no such belt hooks are known to us so far from the eastern part of the La Tène world from the same period – Stradonice for example yielded numerous pieces, some similar but none identical (*Píř 1903*, tab. XIX: 13-15). Dating to the Roman Iron Age is not excluded, in that case the object could be considered a cingulum pendant (*Fischer 2012*, 118, 121, 122, Abb. 118, 125). At the same time we cannot exclude that rather than with a relatively rare La Tène artefact we are dealing here with a medieval/modern object, such as e.g. a book clasp.

### **Iron spur**

The badly worn iron spur (fig. 2: 7) can, despite its state, be ascribed to the La Tène period (for both typological reasons and due to the dearth of RIA finds in the site). A comprehensive study of Iron Age spurs is still missing and the typology currently in preparation by András Márton is based prevalently on the elements through which the spur is attached to the ankle – which are absent in our piece.<sup>8</sup> The use of spurs only spreads in central Europe in the late La Tène period though many sites in which they were found in great numbers either lived through (Manching) or came to existence towards the end of LT C2 (Stradonice, Staré Hradisko; Stradonice: *Píř 1903*, 73, tab. XXXI; Staré Hradisko: *Meduna 1961*, 30, 31, Taf. 29; 1970, 24, Taf. 11: 1; Manching: *Sievers 2017*, 247, Abb. 3; various sites in Slovakia: *Pieta 2008*, 281, 282, obr. 129; 2010, 303-306, Abb. 129).

### **Bracelet fragments**

The small fragment no. 5 is clearly a part of a closure system of an armring or anklet (fig. 2: 6) of the characteristically middle Danubian Hohlbuckelringe or hollow-knob rings (*Buj-*

<sup>7</sup> Trefoil termination: Manching-Steinbichel gr. 37 (*Krämer 1985*, 88, taf. 23: 1, LT C2), Lenting (*Krämer 1985*, 112, Taf. 50: 16, LT C1? – the pendants themselves are non-articulated); square suspension pieces: Manching-Steinbichel gr. 1 (*Krämer 1985*, Taf. 1: 7, LT C2); Manching-Steinbichel gr. 18 (*Krämer 1985*, Taf. 9: 1, LT C2?).

<sup>8</sup> We are grateful to András Márton (Université de Bretagne Occidentale) for discussion on the artefact.

na 2005, 47-63; Furman 2014; Masse/Szabó 2005). Specifically, it is the mortise in which the square axial hole was meant to receive the tenon of the opposite part while a peg securing the tenon is passed through the transversal hole. The Lednice piece is somewhat unusual in that the mortise has the form of a fully enclosed square opening and not of a simple open slot as is usual in this class. The fragment itself does not allow one to determine whether the bosses of the ring were smooth or decorated with relief – the closure system is identical for both variants. The fragment may probably be classed to var. BR-F4 or BR-F5 or also BR-G1 according to J. Bujna (2005, 54-62), dated to LT B2 – C1. The Hohlbuckelringe are one of the characteristic, almost defining, types of the LT B2 – C1 graves of Bavaria, Bohemia, Moravia and the Carpathian Basin. Numerous examples are attested from Moravia (Čižmářová 2009; 2011; 2013; 2017).

The date of the object is not fully consistent with the rest of the assemblage which overall seems several generations more recent. It might indeed hint at an earlier occupation of the settlement than suggested by the rest of the finds. At the same time however, it may have also got there as an antiquity or – even more probably and as suggested by its extremely fragmentary state – it may never have been present in the site as an entire object but it only could have been brought there already as a fragment, perhaps as material for recasting.

A somewhat mysterious object is the bracelet fragment (fig. 2: 8). There are several types of hollow tube hinged La Tène bracelets. None of them, however, passes as undisputable analogy to the fragment. The simple smooth rings (LT B2 after Čižmář 1975; LT B2b/C1a after Waldhauser et al. 1987) fail the test due to their smoothness (e.g. Holubice-Dílce gr. 4 and 28: Čižmářová 2009, 91, tab. 2: 4 and 97, 98; 13: 7, 8). The Lednice fragment recalls very clearly the bracelets of the Nový Bydžov type, i.e. hollow rings of U-shaped section with two massive relief bosses and fastening by means of a removable segment, often secured by a peg passing through a transverse hole (Megaw 1988). Many points of this definition seem to check, but not all and not quite: the Nový Bydžov type bracelets are open on the inside i.e. of U- or C-shaped section unlike the partially enclosed, i.e. D-section Lednice piece; the removable section in the Nový Bydžov type corresponds usually with one of the decorated bosses while in our case it apparently heeded no such concerns; the decoration on the Lednice piece is scanty and poorly executed... A comparison with the C-section rings with surface decoration in false filigree results in all the above exposed doubts (Moravian finds are summarised by Čižmářová 2012, 202, 203, tab. II-IV).

And still, considering the general shape of the object and the character of its decoration, the bracelet is most akin to the LT B2/C1 bracelets listed above. Whether its difference to them is due to the insufficient competence of its creator or for other reasons is open to discussion. As to the presence of the fragment in the much later settlement, the reasons may be the same as in the case of fragment no. 5.

### Bronze working (?)

Both Podholmy and Herdy produced numerous casting spills. These are much more common in Podholmy (a total of 193 g) which yielded also two casting sprues (fig. 2: 12, 13). Traces of metal working including crucibles, moulds, casting spills and sprues, unfinished semi-products, scrap metal meant for recasting (in general cf. Hamm 2005; Danielisová et al. 2017; see also Píč 1903, tab. LVIII: 5, 6) are only occasionally attested in open settlements: most common are finds of crucibles (Čižmář 2003b) while moulds are exceptional (Čižmář 2002b). Casting spills, sprues and rejects have so far been attested in Moravia only in Němčice nad Hanou (Čižmář/Kolníková/Noeske 2008, 662, Abb. 9) and Staré Hradisko (Čižmář 2002b, 307, Abb. 4: 1).

The La Tène period date of the iron file (fig. 2: 22) is only hypothetical and the diagonal direction of the teeth, not unknown in the Iron Age but much more common in files from the Roman period onwards (Mölders 2010, 43), invites some caution (for LT files in general cf.

Jacobi 1974, 15-18 and Mölders 2010, 43, 44, 108, fig. 53: 27-32; list 4 with – largely incomplete – overview of finds).

Iron tools in general are commonly associated with oppida or other central places as well as with the hoards of iron objects characteristic of the Late Iron Age rather than with flat open settlements. This may nevertheless, primarily reflect our state of knowledge (insufficient publication of open settlement excavations, failure to adequately conserve and identify the often badly corroded iron tools from these excavations) and only secondarily the past state of things (i.e. the naturally less concentrated craft activities in open settlements than in centres). In reality, even the smallest community must have been equipped with at least a basic array of iron tools among which files naturally count (*Dreslerová/Venclová 2007*). Fortunate cases of settlements with sufficiently large find assemblages such as Křenovice, Přerov District show how rich in iron tool finds they may have been (*Meduna 1980a*, Taf. 64: 1-15). Files in particular may – without tedious conservation effort – remain unrecognised for what they are and get mistaken for knives or ‘iron bars’. In detector surveys, files are either discarded as supposedly modern junk or they are completely overlooked just like all the other iron objects.

In Moravian open settlements, we may mention files from Pravčice, Kroměříž District (LT C1?; *Meduna 1980a*, 125, 126, Taf. 117: 5) and Bořitov, Blansko District (*Čížmář 2003a*, 46, tab. 29: 5). Another iron tool from Klentnice, Břeclav District recalls very closely our file though it is described as ‘Griffdornmesser’ (*Meduna 1980a*, Taf. 56: 8; *1980b*, 124). Much more numerous finds from oppida and other central places include Staré Hradisko (*Meduna 1961*, 31, Taf. 24: 1-5; *1970*, 63, 67, 68, Taf. 19: 4-6), Stradonice (*Píč 1903*, 80, obr. 10), Manching (*Jacobi 1974*, 15-18, Taf. 5), Mšecké Žehrovice (*Venclová 1998*, 336, fig. 78: 8). Not surprisingly, no files were identified among the iron objects from Třísov – numerous but without adequate conservation treatment (*Malinková 2014*).

If we admit that the traces of bronzeworking in Lednice-Podholmy are of Iron Age date, the presence of a file would not be surprising in any way (though its function could have been to some extent fulfilled by stones of a desired hardness and granulometry).

### *Lednice-Herdy*

#### **Brooch**

The brooch fragment from Lednice-Herdy (fig. 3: 3) clearly belongs to the *Mötschwil* group, no matter whether we want to define it as a type or a looser group typologically akin to fibulae (*Márton 2004*). In any case, these brooches basically define the LT C2 phase. In Moravia, they are well represented in both oppida (e.g. Staré Hradisko: *Meduna 1970*, Taf. 1: 1, 4), hill-top settlements (Pálava: *Goláňová/Navrátil 2017*) and open settlements large (Němčice nad Hanou: *Čížmář/Kolníková/Noeske 2008*, 657, Abb. 2: 9, 10) and small (Biskupice, Svitavy District: *Vích 2017*, 633, fig. 2: 2, 4; Chornice, Svitavy District: *Vích 2017*, 636, 640, fig. 5: 6, 8; 9: 8, 9). When focusing in particular on the lowland settlements in an alluvial plain, *Mötschwil* brooches can be mentioned from Břeclav-Pohansko (variant Gemeinlebarn: *Čížmář 2001*, 295, fig. 1: 8) or Mikulčice (*Meduna 1997*, 260, Abb. 4: 1).

#### **Chain belt pendants**

The simple *club-shaped chain-belt pendant* (fig. 3: 2) is relatively similar (though long and slender as it is, not identical) to the simple non-articulated drop-shaped pendants common in LT B – C1 flat graves and occasionally appearing also in settlements (Mistřín: *Meduna 1980a*, Taf. 80: 9; Dyjákovice, okr. Znojmo: *Jílek/Mangel 2009a*, 307, fig. 2: 5; Polkovice, Přerov District: *Jílek/Mangel 2009b*, 313, fig. 4: 13; Městečko Trnávka: *Vích 2017*, 642, fig. 12: 6). In these pendants the bottom knob is as a rule well pronounced with sharp edges unlike the irregular worn one on the Lednice piece which suggests its very prolonged use.

The somewhat *mushroom shaped pendant* (fig. 3: 1) doubtlessly comes from a chain belt. It has been argued elsewhere (Danielisová *et al.* 2018) that this strongly articulated type of pendant dates with all probability to (the very end of the LT C1 or) LT C2. The chain-belt pendants are one of the most numerous find categories from La Tène settlements, which is not surprising considering their weight and position on the end of flimsy chains (Danielisová *et al.* 2018; Smělý/Kysela forthcoming). Based on burial evidence, chain belts were considered characteristic of 'rich female attires' (Bujna 2011, 1; Waldhauser/Krásný 2006). Their ubiquity and quantities in the LT C settlements recently surveyed by metal detectors make us reconsider their status from prestige goods to relatively common objects (Danielisová *et al.* 2018, 143, 144), similar to glass jewellery (Venclová 2016, 118).

### Pottery

The finder of both sites collected on their surface also copious assemblages of pottery. The collections from both sites are to a great extent uniform with an absolute prevalence of graphite tempered wares, often with a thickened rounded rim and vertical combing on the body (fig 2: 24, 15, 19; 3: 8, 10-24, 28-36). These are one of the characteristic LT B – D vessel shapes in Moravia (Meduna 1980a, 64–69). In the Podholmy collection there is also present a situla with a horizontal rib on the neck-body transition (fig. 2: 19) characteristic according to J. Meduna (1980a, 103) particularly of LT B – C.

To a lesser extent there are represented shards of fine wheel-thrown ware (fig 2: 16-18; 3: 25-27) and also a graphite ware disc with an unfinished hole drilled through the centre (fig. 3: 35).

The Lednice pottery assemblages are well paralleled by some published assemblages from the Břeclav region (Velké Hostěradky: Čížmář 1984; Strachotín: Čížmář 1987; Mikulčice: Meduna 1997).

### Discussion and conclusions

The Lednice settlements are located in a region densely populated in the La Tène period. Only in the territory of the Lednice municipality (including the former Nejdek municipality) there are multiple traces of both settlements and cemeteries (fig. 5).

The site of Herdy is located only 1.5 km east of the famous Early Medieval lowland fort of Nejdek-Pohansko (fig. 5: 3) with frequent proofs of La Tène period occupation. La Tène pottery fragments came from both pits<sup>9</sup> and occupation layers and there is also a bronze belt pendant known from the site (Novotný 1963, 16, 17).

Ca. 500 m further across the course of Zámecká Dyje on the border of the Lednice and Nejdek municipalities there is another site with numerous La Tène finds in the location of Závlahá (the so-called Czuczek and Lampl brick pit; fig. 5: 4). Already in the 19<sup>th</sup> century a LT C1 inhumation was discovered there furnished with a bronze chain belt with two pendants, a bronze bracelet, four small blue glass beads (in comparison with the blue glass bracelets „sehr primitiv gearbeitet“ – Rzehak 1902, 17), a graphite tempered pot near the legs and a bowl near the head. From another grave comes a graphite-tempered vessel with a thickened rim and vertical combing (Filip 1956, 402, obr. 50: 8, 9, tab. XCV: 3; Klanicová 1995, 156-158; Meduna 1980b, 208; Rzehak 1902, 17, 18, Abb. 21). In 1924, H. Freising uncovered in the brick pit a large La Tène settlement<sup>10</sup> and La Tène pottery was collected on the nearby fields until the 1960s. J. Meduna (1980b, 206-208, Taf. 61, 62) published the finds from the settlement. There are also mentions of 'bronze slag' (Čížmářová 2004, 256) and a brooch 'with the foot attached to the bow' (Klanicová 1996, 252) from earlier excavations.

<sup>9</sup> The actual function of the kiln and furnace discovered in the site as well as its exact date are still subject to discussions – cf. Venclová *et al.* 2008, 285.

<sup>10</sup> It is not clear whether the 'bloomery furnace' discovered in 1929 by E. Gebauer dates to the La Tène period (cf. Venclová *et al.* 2008, 285; Waldhauser 1973-1974).

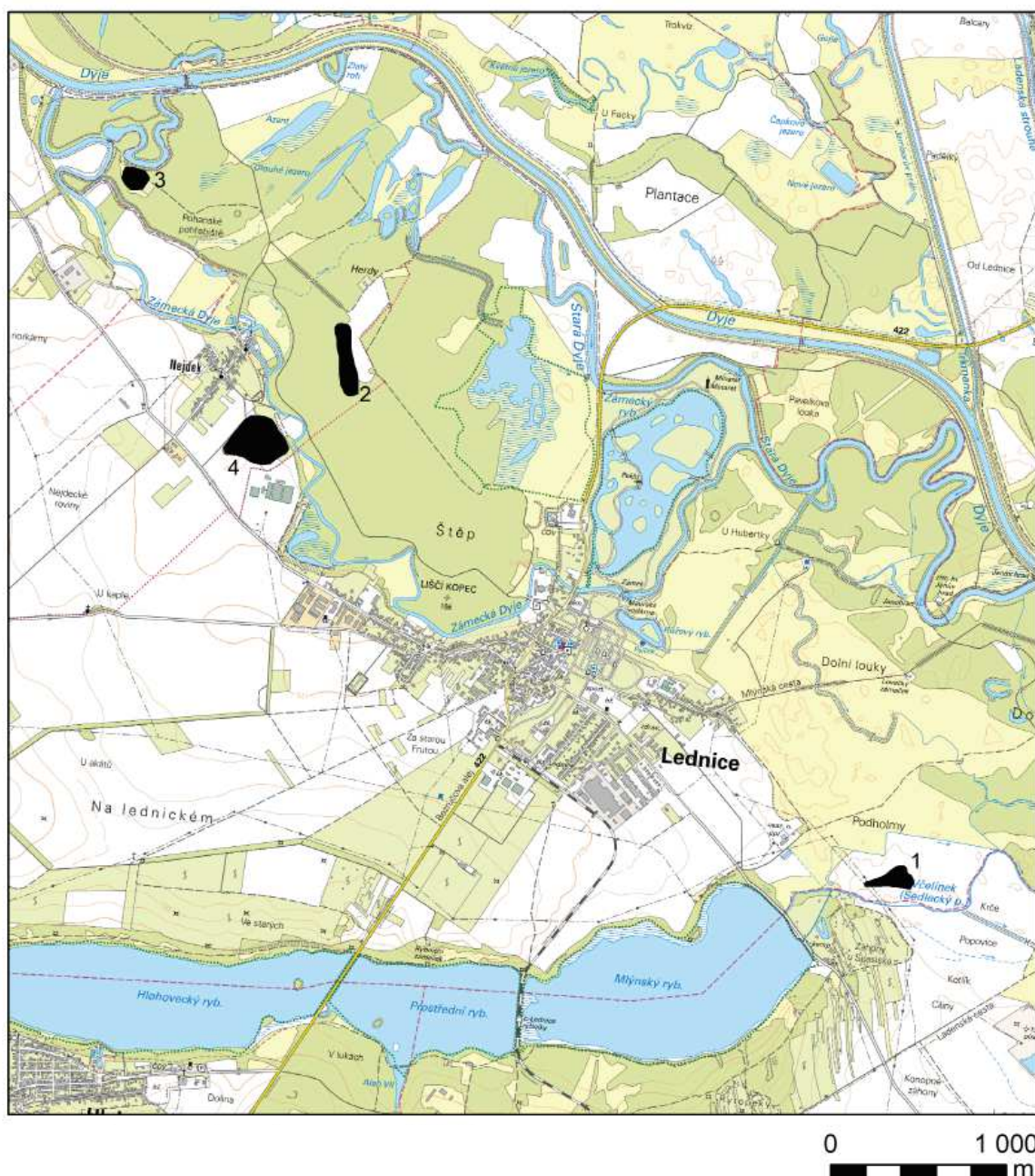


Fig. 5. Lednice. La Tène sites in the municipality. 1 – Podholmy; 2 – Herdy; 3 – Pohansko; 4 – Závlaha. Cartographical data: ČÚZK

Three other, not precisely localised La Tène sites, are recorded from the Lednice municipality: a settlement discovered by H. Freising (*Meduna 1980b*, 157, Taf. 43: 3-10), the find spot of La Tène shards in a construction site in 1972 (*Meduna 1980b*, 157), and a La Tène cremation grave discovered 'in a field near the town' in 1899. It contained fragments of bronze hollow-knob rings (both smooth and relief decorated), two drum-bow brooches and fragments of a bronze chain belt with figure-of-eight links (*Rzehak 1902*, 19-24, Abb. 22-25; *Filip 1956*, 399, obr. 31: 2, 3; 50: 4; tab. XXI: 18, 19; LXXXII: 14; *Meduna 1980b*, 157, 158).

La Tène sites can be found in the territories of almost all the neighbouring municipalities: Sedlec, Bulhary, Přítluky, Rakvice, Podivín, Ladná, Břeclav (*Meduna 1980b*), specifically LT C(-D) occupation is attested in Nejdek-Pohansko (*Novotný 1963*), Břeclav-Libívá (*Macháček 2001*), and Břeclav-Pohansko (*Čižmář 2001*). The La Tène period activities in the alluvial

plain should remain the focus of future research including the numerous occupation traces on the sand dunes along the course of the Thaya River in its Drnholec – Bulhary stretch (Čižmář 2002c). It seems that in LT C an intense occupation concerns the alluvial plain in Southern Moravia and a slight elevation on the dunes with no (or only rare) traces of occupation in the Hallstatt (cf. Stuchlík 2002) and early La Tène period. Very often, these sites were later resettled in the Early Middle Ages when they turned into Great Moravian forts: Břeclav-Pohansko (Čižmář 2001), Mikulčice (Meduna 1997), Nejdeč-Pohansko (Novotný 1963). Future considerations of these sites will have to rely more heavily on natural sciences in order to gain a better understanding of the functioning of these settlements – a study of environment dynamics in the alluvium of the River Thaya at Břeclav-Pohansko brought evidence of a non-agricultural nature of human presence during the Iron Age (Petřík et al. 2018).<sup>11</sup>

The immediate surroundings of meandering rivers (often with cut-off meanders) was selected for settlement purposes intentionally in the Late LT B/Early LT C and could even have a promising future. In a similar environment Manching was also founded which was later – unlike the Moravian sites – fortified.

The site of Lednice-Podholmy is of a quite limited extent – traces of an Iron Age human presence were collected on ca. 2.5 ha. The assemblage of Iron Age finds from it is chronologically coherent within the 'Němčice horizon', i.e. LT C and in particular LT C2 with possible continuity to LT D1. The only clearly earlier object(s) is/are the fragment(s) of (a) LT B2/C1 armring(s)/anklet(s) which – as proposed – may in reality have been only scrap meant for recasting. The quantities of pottery collected in Lednice-Herdy give evidence of a stable long-term occupation of the spot.

The composition of the assemblage core mirrors quite credibly that of larger settlements of this period such as Němčice nad Hanou or Žehuň (Čižmář/Kolníková/Noeske 2008; Danielisová et al. 2018) and hilltop sites with a still unclear function (Obírka u Loučky: Čižmář/Salaš 2009; Pavlov-Děvín: Goláňová/Navrátil 2017) with all their weirdness. It is composed from amulets, rings of unknown function and a chain-belt pendant which makes for a somewhat impractical lot. This, of course, reflects the method employed for surveys in these settlements – metal detector surveys which overlook iron finds of which most everyday objects were made in the latest stages of the Iron Age skewing thus our vision (Danielisová et al. 2018; Smělý/Kysela forthcoming). The iron objects from Lednice-Podholmy, though neither confirming nor denying the proposed chronology, enrich the assemblage from a functional point of view. The same is true for the meticulously collected ceramic assemblage, which apart from the general chronological data provided also information on the settlement extent. Unfortunately, no La Tène coin finds are known from either of the sites. They would be very helpful in consideration on both chronology and the status of the settlements.

The status and nature of the settlement is a question which merits some consideration. Its small extent and rather baseline nature of the core of the metal finds plead for its inclusion among 'small size farms'. Three points may disprove this suggestion: traces of bronze working, the iron spur and the bronze figurine. The former two have much in common. In both cases their La Tène date is rather a probable guess than a certainty, in both cases these find categories are considered signs of above-average activities and known primarily from settlements of a higher status (i.e. mainly oppida). Their absence from other settlement types may however be partly due to the state of research – i.e. our insufficient knowledge of rural settlements, insufficient attention dedicated to inconspicuous finds such as amorphous casting spills<sup>12</sup> and a failure to detect iron spurs during metal detector surveys. In reality the question should be perhaps restated in another way: do the seemingly 'above-average

<sup>11</sup> The authors' interpretation of the site as 'a fishermen or tradespeople campsite' (Petřík et al. 2018) is worth reconsideration.

<sup>12</sup> However, cf. the relatively numerous and widespread crucibles (Čižmář 2003b).

activities' (such as metal working and horse riding) have to be mutually exclusive with the definition of 'small size farms'?

Late La Tène figural art remains extremely difficult to explain from basically any point of view – its classification, chronology, and mainly its function remains obscure to us. As a result, it is extremely difficult to tell, what a discovery of a bronze figurine in a settlement actually tells us about the settlement. Finds of figural art are most often connected with settlements of exceptional status (Němčice nad Hanou, Nowa Cerekwia, Manching, Stradonice, Staré Hradisko, Trenčianské Bohuslavice etc.). Does, however, this equation work also the other way around and can figural art be taken as a status indicator? We know almost nothing about other sites in which bronze figurines were found in Moravia. In some cases, they come from territories of municipalities in which La Tène settlements were excavated (e.g. Mistřín: *Meduna 1980b*, 182-190), it is not clear, however, whether it is in these sites that the figurines were found. A series of figurines come from settlements (Biskupice, Klenovice na Hané, Polkovice) localised in the broader 'hinterland' of Němčice nad Hanou ('am Rande des keltischen Zentrums Němčice': *Kolníková 2012*, 69) and the local finds are in general similar to those from Němčice nad Hanou (*Čižmář et al. 2008; 2009; 2010; 2013; Čižmář/Čižmářová/Kejzlar 2011*). We may preliminarily hypothesise about them as about a 'buffer' around the centre, though the idea of course needs deeper study. The above discussed sites along the Thaya River that have often yielded evidence of metal working as well as relatively numerous finds of bronze figurines (Přítluky, Podivín, Břeclav: cf. *Čižmář 2012*) therefore seem to reiterate the same model in connection to the so far unknown LT C - D central settlement in the surroundings of Břeclav on the lower course of the Thaya (*Smělý 2017*). It is also possible that the surroundings of Břeclav and of Němčice nad Hanou are simply two intensely investigated regions providing us with random insights into the common 'La Tène period landscape' and that bronze figurines were not an unusual part of life in the La Tène period.

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## RESUMÉ

### Co dokážou říct trpaslíci?

### O sídlištích a antropomorfních soškách na jižní Moravě doby laténské

Během posledního desetiletí byla na katastrálním území Lednice (okr. Břeclav, Jihomoravský kraj) povrchovým průzkumem zjištěna dvě sídliště doby laténské. Lokalita Lednice-Podholmy (obr. 1: 1; 5: 1) leží asi 1400 m jihovýchodně od obce Lednice na mírné terénní vlně v aluviu potoka Včelínek. V poloze Herdy/U skladiště, asi 600 m východně od obce Nejdek (obr. 1: 2; 5: 2) byly stopy laténského osídlení zjištěny v lesnatém prostředí vymezeném toky Dyje a Zámecké Dyje.

Nálezové soubory sestávají kromě mladolaténské keramiky z menšího počtu kovových předmětů, které jsou nicméně pozoruhodné svým typovým složením. Z trati Herdy pochází mötschwilská spona a závěsky opasků, z nálezově bohatší trati Podholmy jsou doloženy amulety, závěsky opasků, ale i zlomek pilníku, stopy zpracování bronzů, železná ostruha a bronzová antropomorfní figurka s očima vyloženými stříbrnou slitinou. Ani z jedné polohy nejsou doloženy nálezy laténských mincí.

V prípade sídlišt v Lednici-Herdách nebylo možno vinou jejího čiastočného zalesnení jasne vymezit jeho rozsah, ojedinělé chronologicky citlivé artefakty spadajú do LT C2. Množství laténské keramiky ale ukazuje na stabilní dlouhodobé osídlení. Sídlišt v Lednici-Podholmách je dosti omezeného rozsahu (stopy lidské přítomnosti byly zaznamenány na 2,5 ha), soubor artefaktů z něj lze zařadit do “němčického horizontu”, tj. LT C, zejména LT C2. Kontinuita do LT D není vyloučena; ranější předměty (LT B2/C1) sloužily pravděpodobně jako materiál k přelití.

Sídlišt v Lednici se nacházejí v regionu hustě osídleném v době laténské. Téměř na všech katastrech okolních obcí (Sedlec, Bulhary, Přítluky, Rakvice, Podivín, Ladná, Břeclav) existují doklady laténské osídlení, v Nejdku-Pohansku, Břeclavi-Líbivé a Břeclavi-Pohansku s doklady intenzivního osídlení v LT C. Zdá se, že ve stupni LT C zde dochází k intenzivnímu využívání poloh přímo v nivě, na lehce vyvýšených písčinných dunách, odkud není většinou známo (či v nesrovnatelně menší intenzitě) osídlení v LT A – B, nápadně často v místech později vyhledávaných i v raném středověku pro budování velkomoravských hradisek: Břeclav-Pohansko (Čižmář 2001), Mikulčice (Meduna 1997), Nejde-Pohansko (Novotný 1963). Ve stejné době se úspěšně rozvíjí v nivě jiné – vzdálené – sídlišt v Mančingu, které však na rozdíl od moravských lokalit plnilo centrální funkce a následně bylo opevněno hradbami.

Status a povaha těchto nově zjištěných sídlišť zasluží diskusi. Z představy o “běžném rovinném sídlišti” se vymykají doklady zpracování bronzů, fragmentu ostruhy a antropomorfní figurky, na které lze pohlížet jako na nálezy přinejmenším neběžné mimo sídlišt centrální. Tento pohled však může jen ilustrovat omezenost našeho poznání a je dobré se tázat, proč by se mělo slévání bronzů či jízda na koni vylučovat s “běžnými rovinnými sídlišti”.

Antropomorfní plastika je běžně přítomna v centrálních sídlištech (Němčice nad Hanou, Nowa Cerekwia, Manching, Stradonice, Staré Hradisko, Trenčianské Bohuslavice atd.), to ale neznamená, že naopak plastika musí být brána za indikátor vyššího statusu sídlišt. O náleзовých kontextech figurální plastiky na Moravě nevíme téměř nic. Četné figurky ale pocházejí ze sídlišť (Biskupice, Klenovice na Hané, Polkovice) v širším zázemí centrální lokality v Němčicích nad Hanou, které mohou snad být chápány jako “buffer” kolem této lokality. Výše jsme ukázali intenzitu osídlení v povodí Dyje v LT C, nejedno z těchto sídlišť přitom vydala kromě dokladů zpracování kovů i nálezy figurální plastiky (Přítluky, Podivín, Břeclav). Zdá se, jako by sídlišt v povodí Dyje replikovala němčický model ve vztahu k dosud neznámé ale důvodně předpokládané (Smělý 2017) centrální lokalitě v okolí Břeclavi na dolním toku Dyje. Zároveň však může být okolí Břeclavi a Němčic jen dvěma zcela náhodnými vhlady do “sídlištní krajiny doby laténské”; antropomorfní figurky mohly být zcela běžnou součástí života v mladší době laténské, nikterak neprovázanou s blízkostí centrálních sídlišť.

### Obrazová příloha

Obr. 1. Lednice. Umístění lokalit: Podholmy (1) a Herdy (2A) s blízkým osídlením v poloze Závlaha (2B).

Obr. 2. Lednice-Podholmy. Nálezy. 1-6, 8-13 – bronz; 7, 22 – železo; 14-21 – keramika (1-13, 22 – kresby: Soňa Plchová).

Obr. 3. Lednice-Herdy. Nálezy. 1-7 – bronz; 8-36 – keramika (1-7, 22 – kresby: Soňa Plchová).

Obr. 4. Lednice-Podholmy. Bronzová antropomorfní figurka (fotografie: ABALON).

Obr. 5. Lednice. Laténské lokality na katastru obce. 1 – Podholmy; 2 – Herdy; 3 – Pohansko; 4 – Závlaha. Zdroj: ČÚZK.

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