

ENCLOSED SETTLEMENT IN BRANDÝS NAD LABEM AND THE EARLY BRONZE AGE SETTLEMENT STRUCTURE IN THE CENTRAL BOHEMIA REGION.

Michaela Langova¹

¹ *AU - Institute of Archaeology of the Academy of Sciences of the Czech Republic*

The amount of known early Bronze Age fortified settlements from the northern part of Bohemia is surprisingly very low, which is in a big contrast to the other regions of Únětice culture. From the other finds (mostly graves and hoards) it is clear that, exactly in this region, there was one of the most important cultural centres of that time.

During the years 2007-2016, the rescue excavation in Brandýs nad Labem uncovered a big settlement of Únětice culture which was enclosed by a ditch. Generally, the location of the settlement in the lowland of the river Labe (Elbe) is not very typical for fortified settlements. But it's strategic position in the landscape cannot be denied. More over, the analysis of the finds has shown long distance contacts of this site.

The task of this contribution is to present the assumed role of this settlement as a part of the whole settlement structure. To understand these issues, it was necessary to focus on the settlement structure of the region. The careful revision of the early Bronze Age finds from this part of Central Bohemia has sketched the importance of the settlement on a long distance route and has shown the early Bronze Age fortified settlements in the northern part of Bohemia in a very different light.

Keywords

Únětice culture

enclosed settlement

settlement structure

Abstract book ISBN

978-80-907270-3-8 (European Association of Archaeologists); 978-84-9168-140-3 (Edicions de la Universitat de Barcelona, vol. 1); 978-84-9168-143-4 (Edicions de la Universitat de Barcelona, vol. 2)