Abstract

This paper is devoted to stove pottery in the territory of the Benešov district in the period of the 15th and 16th centuries based on the processing of selected files from the collections of the Museum of Podblanicko. The main objective is to cover a basic knowledge of stove pottery in the area of interest in a defined period of time based on the analysis of diverse sets of ceramic tiles that come from different social environments and were acquired in different ways. In the introductory part, the study deals with a general overview of the current state of our knowledge about tiles and tiled stoves, especially their history in the territory of the Czech Republic. This is followed by a definition and a description from the point of view of natural conditions and geographical connections, a brief summary of a historical and archaeological knowledge of the region and above all, an overview of the current knowledge regarding stove ceramics in the area of Benešov. The last part of the paper is devoted to the analysis of selected locations with a specific focus on the analysis of sets of ceramic tiles and their inclusion in a wider context for example through the study of the iconography of relief tiles, but also the analysis of social contexts. In the last part of the presented paper a summary of knowledge of the level of stove pottery in the Benešov region is presented. The paper is supplemented by appendices providing pictures, summary graphs and tables, an inventory catalogue of chamber stoves and selected catalogues of analysed stove ceramics.

Keywords: Benešov region, late Middle Ages, early Modern Period, stove pottery, tiled stove, archaeology