

Abstract

The topic of this thesis is the archaeological research of the Klecany field airfield during its biggest development during the air war over Prague in spring 1945. Klecany airfield is a unique site for archaeological research because, unlike many other airfields used by the Luftwaffe in the surroundings of Prague, it was not intensively used or destroyed by development after the war. Our research had several parts. First, we focused on an archival search of available historical sources, which provided a more comprehensive understanding of the history of the airfield and its role during the war. Next, the classification and analysis of the surviving field relics, especially the protective mounds for aircraft in Klecan Forest, which were orientationally dated by the dendrochronological method, was carried out. The preserved relics were documented by photogrammetry and a detailed digital terrain model (DEM) was created. Next, historical aerial photographs from the war period and afterwards were analyzed. By surveying selected areas with metal detectors, we identified or excluded some of the possible features within the site. Finally, the thesis discusses the possibilities of documenting field relics using thermal imaging. Thus, this work contributes to the understanding of the air war over Prague and provides new approaches to the documentation and interpretation of aviation archaeological sites. At the same time, it expands the spectrum of research activities in the region, particularly in relation to research on the Second World War period.