

Reports and reviews

HRBEK, Jiří, *Proměny valdštejské reprezentace. Symbolické sítě valdštejského rodu v 17. a 18. Století* [Development of the Waldstein Representation. Symbolic Networks of the Waldstein Family during the 17th and 18th Centuries], Prague: Togga – Charles University in Prague 2015, 422 pp. ISBN 978–80–7476–082–2, ISBN 978–80–7308–651–0.

When I wrote a review of the work of Jiří Hrbek *Barokní Valdštejnové* [Baroque Waldsteins],¹ I expressed the opinion that some lifestyle themes and everyday life of the members of this noble family were omitted. At the same time, I expressed the wish that the author would return to them in his next work.² Little did I know back then, that such was about to happen and that Jiří Hrbek was going to gift us with another piece from his very impressive work. It would certainly be wrong of one to expect this book to be a mere footnote to the author's previous books (judging from the depth of the prior work). The book I am reviewing here contains none of such nonsense and any reader to encounter the concept of the work can see that.

Jiří Hrbek introduces a unique conception of representation of aristocracy that is interpreted as a system of symbols divided into three dimensions which reflect in everyday reality of aristocracy. Only noblemen attributed their lives

with the legacy of their ancestry while remembering the bequest to their future offspring. These three dimensions of the targeted representation of antiquity, nobility, wealth and other kinds of exceptional social status were then dedicated three individual chapters.

The former is called *Minulost: dějiny jako základ pro rodovou reprezentaci* [The Past: History as the Basis for Representation of Ancestry] (pp. 13–125), where Hrbek focuses on the sources of information the Waldstein dynasty applied in creation of their legacy. The family dynasty's historiography written by renowned genealogists is analysed, including written resources from the inheritance of the important family's members. The author even touches upon the places these resources were preserved in (establishing of libraries and archives). On this basis, the second part of the chapter discusses the Waldstein dynasty's views on their own ancestry. Since their house is originally of Czech ancestry with roots reaching as far as the Middle Ages, Waldstein family was mainly interested in the circumstances of their origin and the activities of their important ancestors. The lack of written resources was then

1 Jiří HRBEK, *Barokní Valdštejnové v Čechách 1640–1740* [Baroque Waldsteins in Bohemia 1640–1740], Prague 2013.

2 Český časopis historický 112, 2014, No. 4, pp. 770–774.

balanced with family legends that improved the image of the dynasty in public. Such was the manner of ensuring the dynasty's good reputation based upon histories of antiquity, Catholic orthodoxy, loyalty and even family connections with the Bohemian king (George of Poděbrady in this case). That is why they emphasized the soldier members of the dynasty (the most desired representatives being those who fought the Hussites), Catholic ecclesiastic dignitaries and they sometimes even forged an idealised image of mighty but officially treacherous Albrecht of Wallenstein. For this purpose were used both genealogical works and his portraits in family galleries and objects of artistic crafts. I consider this part of the book in the context of contemporary historiography to be the most successful and the most beneficial, although I would welcome more extensive comparative passages focused on the question of how the other noble Bohemian and Moravian families worked with the past and in what way did members of the Waldstein dynasty differed (we can use f. e. the legend of the Kolowrats, the richly decorated ancestral halls of the castle in Vranov nad Dyjí built by the Althanns or of the castle in Milotice built by the Serényis).³

The second chapter is titled *Přítomnost: prožívaná urozenost jako základ šlechtického habitu* [The Present: Experiencing the noble origin as the basis for noble habits (pp. 127–224). The author once again divided it into two parts. The first part deals with how the Waldsteins experienced weekdays (where they lived, what courts surrounded them, what they ate, etc.) and holidays (hunting, theatre and listening to music), and the second half is dedicated to the very little explored phenomenon of casual writings that came to existence when the given members of the family came to office, as well as at the occasion of birthdays, namedays or weddings. The author also did not forget the question of dedication of books and academical theses. His interpretation takes the form of analysis of sources that no historian had systematically investigated so far. The importance of Hrbek's contribution here is indisputable, despite the fact that the text in itself somewhat suffers from excessive descriptiveness. The first part of this chapter can be labelled as one of the weaker spots of this work. The author attempts to summarize the essentially intangible and complex issue of the relatively well-explored aristocratic lifestyle, so he logically had to choose only relevant key themes and could not include everything. Still, he tried to mention almost

3 The author unfortunately did not use the works Tomáš KNOZ, *Althannové v sále předků – mezi legendou a skutečností* [Althann Family in the Hall of Ancestors – Between Legend and Reality], in: Bohumil Samek (red.), *Sál předků na zámku ve Vranově nad Dyjí*, Brno 2003, pp. 7–24; Tomáš JERÁBEK, *Barokní zámek Milotice* [Baroque Castle Milotice], Brno

1998 or Jaroslav SEDLÁŘ, *K ikonologii fresky F. Ř. I. Ecksteina v zámku Miloticích u Kyjova* [On Iconology of the Fresco by F. Eckstein in the Castle of Milotice], *Sborník prací Filozofické fakulty Brněnské univerzity*, F 5, 1961, pp. 341–348.

everything, and thus got into a situation where the volume of data from sources sometimes prevailed over him. It seems to me that the author does not make sufficient use of his theoretical concept, and that in some passages he does not work with relevant contextual literature. This is particularly evident in pp. 128–150, where the work lacks engagement with recent research on itineraries,⁴ inventories,⁵ about aristocratic residences⁶ and their inner structures (the issue of apartments, representative rooms and other specialized premises),⁷ about

noble courts⁸ or contemporary furniture. Then there is the issue of author's tendency to incline towards generalisations that are without doubt of very disputable nature.⁹ Similarly, the passages on hunting lack reference to the latest bibliography,¹⁰ whereby I have to admit to have been slightly disappointed by the lack of information about uniquely conceived hunting castle Waldsteinruhe situated near Bělá pod Bezdězem, possibly founded and built at the order of Franz Ernst von Waldstein in 1720s.¹¹

4 Petr MAŤA, *Soumrak venkovských rezidencí. "Urbanizace" české aristokracie mezi stavovstvím a absolutismem* [Urbanisation of the Lifestyle of Bohemian Nobility around 1600], in: Václav Bůžek – Pavel Král (eds.), *Aristokratické rezidence a dvory v raném novověku*, České Budějovice 1999, pp. 139–162; Vítězslav PRCHAL, *Sídlo a jeho pán. Reziidenční strategie hraběte Františka Karla Swéerts-Sporcka ve 2. čtvrtině 18. století* [Residential Strategies of Franz Karl von Swéerts-Sporck in the Second Quarter of 18 Century], *Theatrum historiae* 9, 2011, pp. 45–78.

5 Andrea HOLASOVÁ, *Poznámky k problematice studia inventářů raněnovověkých šlechtických sídel jako jednoho z pramenů poznání kultury společnosti* [On the Research of Inventories of Early Modern Noble Residences], *Theatrum historiae* 2, 2007, pp. 109–122.

6 Jiří KUBEŠ, *Reprezentační funkce sídel vyšší šlechty z českých zemí (1500–1740)* [Representative Function of the Residences of Higher Nobility from the Czech Lands (1500–1740)], Dissertation, University of South Bohemia, České Budějovice 2005.

7 Jiří KUBEŠ, *Hlavní sál – sebereflexe šlechty ve výzdobě společenských místností venkovských rezidencí (na příkladě českých zemí 17. a první poloviny 18. století)* [Main Hall and its Decoration: Self-Reflection of Bohemian and Moravian Nobility in their Country Residence-

es, 1600–1750], *Česko-slovenská historická ročenka* 2005, Brno 2005, pp. 31–59; IDEM, *Vývoj obytné jednotky v sídlech vyšší šlechty z českých zemí (1550–1750)* [Development of the Apartment in the Residences of Bohemian and Moravian Nobility, 1550–1750], *Svorník* 6, 2008, pp. 79–90.

8 Jiří KUBEŠ, *Die Dienerschaft der Aristokraten in den böhmischen Ländern in den Jahren 1550–1750*, in: Anna Fundárková – István Fazekas et alii (eds.), *Die kirchliche und weltliche Elite aus dem Königreich Böhmen und Königreich Ungarn am Wiener Kaiserhof im 16. – 17. Jahrhundert*, Wien 2013, pp. 273–299.

9 On page 133, for example, there is a statement: “The inventories [...] captured accurately the condition of the residence...” Researchers, however, came to the conclusion that the possibilities of this type of source can not be overestimated because they do not include some of the items found in the residence. Viz A. HOLASOVÁ, *Poznámky*, pp. 119–120; J. KUBEŠ, *Reprezentační funkce*, pp. 29–30.

10 Especially Jan IVANEGA, *Lovecký zámek Ohrada a schwarzenberská sídla na panství Hluboká nad Vltavou* [Hunting Lodge Ohrada and Residences of the Schwarzenbergs on the Estate Hluboká nad Vltavou], Prague 2014.

11 František ZUMAN, *Lovčí zámek Valdštejn* [Hunting Lodge Waldsteinruhe], *Časopis*

The third chapter is named *Budoucnost: touha po věčnosti a paměti potomků* [Future: the Desire for Eternity and the Memories of the Following Generations] (pp. 225–364). It is again divided into two parts – the first part deals with the issues of death of a nobleman, last wills, last places of rest of the Waldstein family and the author analysed funeral orations, including other documents written post-mortem. This material perfectly illustrates how the Waldsteins construed their posthumous image. Hrbek then discusses the church administration in Waldstein estates and describes the duties members of the family did when in office as collators and how they provided their following generations with better conditions for development of their spiritual life. That is why he gives special attention to the issue of recatholisation, regulation of the parish network, occupation of posts of priests and chaplains, and also with the organization of religious life at manors. In my opinion, these parts together with the first chapter belong to the group of the best written passages of the whole work, where I can criticise only few unimportant details.¹²

In conclusion, Czech historiography gained a conceptually very inspirational work, which has two premises in my point of view. For it overcomes the descriptiveness of older works based mainly on the research of inventories and focused on aristocratic housing and the associated representation, wherein I also appreciate the fact that the author attempted to complexly depict the various aspects of aristocratic, over-generational attitudes to representation in pre-modern times. It thus only remains to be said that I hope this work will attract more followers who will find interest in other noble families to produce similar studies with the help of which we could compare the Waldsteins with both the ancient Czech noble families and those who settled in the Czech lands in the course of early modern times.

Jiří Kubeš

Společnosti přátel starožitností českých 25, 1917, pp. 41–49.

12 E.g. poor translation of a quotation on page 236. In footnote 49 in the end of the quotation, it is said that the writer of certain letter does not doubt that his brother-in-law, Lanthiery, is going to formally announce the death of his sister to the addressee – “*zweiffle gar nicht, daß mein Schwager Lanthiery es förmlich berichten werde*”. According to Hrbek’s translation, however, the writer provided the news of the death “*without any sign of compassion and with*

the hope that his brother-in-law will describe her death in detail”. In the passages about the last wills (pp. 241–246), I would welcome more rigorous analysis using quantitative methods. For it thus appears that the last wills were by men only.

VAVERKOVÁ, Zuzana, *Zbraně a zbroje na Státním zámku Hluboká. Poklady zbrojnic na hradech a zámcích ve správě Národního památkového ústavu* [Arms and Armours at the State Château Hluboká. The Hidden Gems of Armouries at Castles and Châteaux under the Administration of the Národní památkový ústav], Brno: Národní památkový ústav, územní odborné pracoviště v Brně 2017, 272 pp. ISBN 978–80–87967–04–1.

This publication, whose author is Zuzana Vaverková, represents one of the results of project called *Symboly moci či předměty sběratelského zájmu? Zhodnocení a interpretace sbírkových fondů militarií na státních hradech a zámcích ve správě Národního památkového ústavu* [Symbols of Power or Collectibles? Evaluation and interpretation of military collection funds at state castles and châteaux under the administration of the Národní památkový ústav] and complements previously published publications of *Zbrojnice na státním zámku Lysice* [Armoury at Lysice State Château] (2014) and *Malované zbroje na Státním zámku Konopiště* [Coloured Armour at Konopiště State Château] (2015). All three works were produced by the Národní památkový ústav (National Heritage Institute) of the Czech Republic. It can be said that the topic of the project can be welcomed since, under the administration of the Národní památkový ústav, there are many valuable and interesting collections, which unfortunately are seldom professionally elaborated and made available to the research community.

Zuzana Vaverková focused on the *militaria* from the collection of the State Château Hluboká nad Vltavou. Local funds undoubtedly deserve research attention. The

former Schwarzenberg armoury belongs, thanks to its quality and range, to the leading collections in Bohemia and Moravia, which the author rightly emphasizes and characterizes the Hluboká collection as the second most important one after the collection of *militaria* from the Konopiště château, while remaining comparable to any other collection of arms outside the Czech Republic.

In the introductory parts, Zuzana Vaverková puts – in connection with the targeting of the project – a key question that in itself makes the book somewhat more than just a catalogue. For it poses the question: What are the factors behind the establishment of the castle collections of the military? That is, whether *militaria* were understood primarily as a symbol of power, or whether it was rather a matter of personal interest. To this question, Zuzana Vaverková says correctly that the answer is rarely unambiguous. Castle armouries collected not only monuments connected with famous ancestries and commemorated “glorious” history of noble family, but also diplomatic gifts and war prey. And last but not least, the castle’s collection also reflects the fashion of the eras of romanticism and historicism. Such aspect is, in fact, essential for the author’s study of the formation of

the Schwarzenberg collection of *militaria*. Even the archival resources carefully studied by Zuzana Vaverková show that the origin of the Hluboká fund lies in all the above-mentioned factors.

The catalogue of *militaria* of Hluboká château is preceded by an extensive introduction which presents other positives of this publication. Zuzana Vaverková did not confine the text to working with the military artefacts solely, but also set out to study archival sources of Schwarzenberg provenance, which enabled her to gain a deep insight into the history and transformations of the Hluboká Château armoury. The origin of the organized Schwarzenberg collection of weapons dates back to the first half of the 19th century, when the antiquities found on the family estates were collected into the form of a “*kunstkammer*”, but at that time at the Český Krumlov (*Krummau*) Castle, which had the status of a main family country residence. We also have a preserved inventory of the Schwarzenberg military collection from 1854. This represents a valuable source for the history of the collection, but above all it demonstrates the conscious interest of the owner in the creation of the collection and thus also in its records. Between 1853 and 1860, most of the objects were transferred to Hluboká (*Frauenberg*), which replaced Český Krumlov as the main residence of the family. The Hluboká collection contains not only artefacts connected with the Schwarzenberg family’s history, that is to say from times since 1661, but also objects that the new

owners inherited after the Eggenbergs and Rožmberks (in German *Rosenbergs*). The format of the exhibition was then fundamentally influenced by the Neo-Gothic reconstruction of Hluboká château that commenced in 1839. In 1890–1896, a total inventory of collections was made in Hluboká, resulting in a three-volume catalogue. This is a valuable source, although it also has its limits as the author points out. The last inventory took place in 1936. The Hluboká collection of weapons and armours was then confiscated by the state along with other Schwarzenberg estates, and thus became the property of the Czechoslovak Republic. In 1950s it was also for the first time scholarly studied and well documented. This, however, has not prevented a number of often negative interventions into the integrity of the collection in 1948–1989, which were guided by an ideological motivation, as the author explains. Zuzana Vaverková carefully observes the fate of the armoury – the chapter on the history of the Hluboká collection contains citations from archival resources accompanied by suitably chosen photographic material, which enhances the attractiveness of the text. Both reveal both the author’s attention and the depth of insight into the studied subject.

In other chapters, the author introduces the chronological and thematic structure of the Hluboká collection and draws attention to selected unique items from the fund. The complexity of the author’s approach is testified by the fact that the text is accompanied by an excursion to the

collection of Schwarzenberg provenance weapons, now managed by the Národní zemědělské muzeum (National Museum of Agriculture) at the Castle of Ohrada, which were once a part of one whole collection along with the Hluboká collection. The author also remembered to introduce Schwarzenberg court's gunsmiths, who represent another very interesting area to study. At the end of the textual part, Zuzana Vaverková, on the basis of the studied materials, draws the conclusion that until the end of the 19th century, the Hluboká collection had played mainly representative and decorative role. Vaverková emphasizes, however, that weapons and armour have always been seen as symbols of power, which also applies, to a certain extent, to their other collections, which have always been the symbols of power closely related to the ancestry's legacy.

The second part of the book is then logically a catalogue of weapons and armour from Hluboká château. With regard to the range of the collection, including several hundred items, this is only a sample. Conscious of this limitation, the author attempted to choose from the most representative items in the Schwarzenberg collection that would equally present all kinds of military from the deep collections. The catalogue is so thematically divided into several categories including melee weapons, armours, firearms, a separate category consisting of oriental weapons and miscellanea. To summarise, the catalogue part of the book provides information about

150 collection items from the Hluboká State Château collection. The records themselves are structured in classical terms: they contain information about the inventory number (or original inventory number), date, provenance and dimensions, a brief description of the subject, or a reference to literature or analogies from other collections. Each described item comes with high-quality photographic materials, which is not so common with this type of publications, but this title belongs to the better group, where the role of graphic materials is balanced and does not claim more than enough of the reader's attention. Not everything is perfect, however, but there are only rare instances of marginal mistakes. To the positive impression which this book makes also contributes the inclusion of historical photographs of the installation of the Schwarzenberg armoury, which were used to illustrate the author's arguments in the text. Part of the book is also a mandatory list of used resources and bibliography, as well as the name and local index, which makes the reader's seeking in the text easier.

In sum, it can be stated that the work of Zuzana Vaverková, dedicated to the collection of weapons and armour from the collections of the Hluboká château, is a successful piece, both thanks to the choice of the topic and the depth of the text and the detailed catalogue. The author has fully proved her erudition in the wide field of *militaria*, as well as the deep reception of archive materials, as well as the ability to effectively connect written texts with

photographic materials. The great public has thus been rewarded by this valuable comprehensive study of *militaria*, in a form that allows any further research. Together with previously published publications on the armouries of the Lysice and Konopiště châteaux, Zuzana Vaverková's book

constitutes a valuable complete set which will certainly be appreciated by all those interested in the broad history of *militaria* and military culture.

Josef Šrámek

VIKTOŘÍK, Michael, *Hinter den Wällen der Festungsstadt. Ein Beitrag zu Alltagsleben, Organisation und Einrichtung der Festungsstadt im 19. Jahrhundert (am Beispiel der Festung Olmütz)*, České Budějovice: Bohumír NĚMEC – VEDUTA 2018. ISBN 978–80–88030–28–7.

German-language book published for Palacký University in Olomouc as the output of the GA CR project No. 15–03720S called *Pevnostní město v 19. století ve střední Evropě* [*Fortress City in the 19th Century in Central Europe*] is an ambitious publication which attempts to compile several research areas into one single text linked to the city's base and the Olomouc fortress. The author gave a brief description of the development of the Olomouc fortress in the period under review. Among other things, he touches upon the interesting issue of the workforce in the construction of the forts, especially its not yet sufficiently explored origin – in the first half of the 19th century it was very important that, with regard to the ruling legal situation, workers and craftsmen were supervised by their *Obrigkeit* who was then responsible for the entire course of fortification works too. The following chapter deals with the guardian policy in the fortress, which from an unusual point of view brings to life

everyday life in the fortress and in part its influence on the city. The main protagonist of the next text became the fortification director Emanuel Zitta. He had written several proposals for the modernization of the Olomouc fortress into the camp type and Viktorík analysed it in a very wide range of personal and factual contexts.

The book's rather rough chronology then continues into the setting of the second half of the 19th century, which shows the Olomouc fortress as being still counted at as a strategic factor by the Austrian state and even at that time it was still being invested in. The events of 1866 are described with regard to the situation of the civic population in the Olomouc fortress, both at the beginning of the conflict and after the Battle of Sadová. The penetration of the military and civilian world is indicated in the chapter on the belt of the fortress and demolition rules. Further text returns to a primarily military point of view, whether it is the number of men

in the fortress, military education or the structure of technical and rear units in this system. An important and interesting topic is the hygienic conditions of the city and the fortress in the period under review, in which the author tries to distinguish the extent to which the generally dismal image of the city was the result of contemporary journalism and the reality of the fortress city. Part of this characteristic is the reflection on the booming business of prostitution in the Olomouc fortress. The primary archival resources are also used in a section dealing with accommodation options and habits, which brings extraordinarily interesting and detailed new data. Equally interesting is the part that deals with the seemingly marginal elements such as communications, which, however, significantly affected the everyday life in the fortress city. The author then came to an interesting conclusion through a survey of the economic relations between the city and the fortress, which appeared to have been somewhat inconsistent at the time of the existence of the guild system and then subjected to considerable fluctuations that gave room for speculation. The careful selection of graphic documentation must also be noted and appreciated, as it presents us with hidden gems in some instances.

In spite of the fact that the author considers the whole text to be an “initial

entry into the issue”, it is not only a comparison of numerous Czech, Slovak, Austrian, German and Polish published research findings from the field, but above all it is a separate output based on a broad primary research. In doing so, the author managed to maintain the proportionality between the general and the specific level of the text’s message and to preserve the text’s overview of generally provable dimensions while providing adequate detail of the microprojection at the same time. The text also shows the author’s deep interest in the locality under examination, which however does not diminish the ability to soberly evaluate and remains sympathetic to the reader. The choice of German as a language of the book corresponds to the current trend of internationalization of the origins and application of the results of the research, and the very theme, which in its time “took place” in that language, is thus honoured and very well reflected. On the other hand, however, the work is undoubtedly interesting for present-day lovers of military history of the 19th century as well as Moravian non-scientific regionalists and can be quite demanding to them due to the text’s chosen language.

Marie Macková