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150 years of the Jagiellonian University Archaeological Cabinet. Past and present

Abstract: The collection of the former JU Archaeological Cabinet (Gabinet Archeologiczny UJ) in Kraków is unique in Poland. This is the oldest archaeological academic collection in Poland and the only one to survive to the present day in a nearly unchanged form. The collection's history goes back to 1867, when it was established by Józef Łepkowski, the creator of the first Chair of Archaeology in the Jagiellonian University. The basic bulk of the collection was accumulated after the January Uprising of 1863, in a period marked by increased interest in antiquities: at that time it was regarded as a patriotic duty to preserve the achievements of Polish science and art. The establishment of the cabinet fit well into the general interest in antiquity observed throughout 19th-century Europe. Today, the collection is divided into two parts (each of them kept separately): Mediterranean and Prehistoric. As the artefacts from the Archaeological Cabinet have not been put on display since the end of WWII, the collection has generally maintained its 19th-century character, becoming in itself a museum monument of a kind.

Keywords: Kraków, Jagiellonian University, history of archaeology, archaeological didactic collections

1. Beginnings

The second half of the 19th century saw a surge of interest in antiquity throughout the territory of the former Polish-Lithuanian Commonwealth. Over a timespan of merely a few years, a number of institutions emerged which were concerned with gathering artefacts, organising research and exhibitions, and publishing studies devoted to archaeology (in its broad understanding characteristic of the period). The beginnings of the archaeological centre in Kraków can be traced back to 1850 when a group of scholars from the Kraków Learned Society (Towarzystwo Naukowe Krakowskie; renamed the Academy of Arts and Sciences – Akademia Umiejętności in 1872) resolved to establish the Archaeological Committee and the Museum of Antiquities (Muzeum Starożytności). In Vilnius, the Archaeological Commission was founded in 1855, and the Museum of Antiquities one year later. In Poznań, the Society of Friends of Learning

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(Towarzystwo Przyjaciół Nauk Poznańskie) was founded in 1857, which soon established the Museum of Polish and Slavic Antiquities (Muzeum Starożytności Polskich i Słowiańskich). Slightly later, in 1875, the Society of Arts and Sciences was founded in Toruń (Toruńskie Towarzystwo Naukowe), followed by the establishment of a museum in the following year. However, the circumstances for development of Polish archaeology were much more favourable in Galicia³ than in centres situated in the other two parts of the partitioned country (Abramowicz 1991, 70–72; Kaczmarek 1996, 36–82; 2004; Wawrzykowska 2002, 34–42; Małecka-Kukawka, Wawrzykowska 2004).

In the second half of the 19th century Kraków emerged as an important scientific centre on the map of Central-Eastern Europe. Scientific societies were being founded, the Academy of Arts and Sciences was in full swing, and specialist publications were being published (Dybiec 1995). After the Habsburg Empire liberalised its domestic policies and Galicia gained autonomy, the Jagiellonian University came to flourish once again. Polish was reinstated as the language of lectures, the university regained the right to self-government, and the number of students was continuously growing. The turn of the 19th and 20th centuries is seen as a golden period in the history of the university. Despite low subventions from Vienna, new chairs, cabinets, and laboratories were created, and new university buildings were erected. As early as in the beginning of the 1870s the Jagiellonian University was the 5th largest university in Austria in terms of number of students, only after Vienna, Gratz, Prague, and Lviv. With time, the number of students grew so much that in 1909 Kraków overtook Gratz to become the fourth largest university in the empire. The academic staff was growing in numbers as well (Perkowska 1975, 129–136; 1990, 9–19; Dybiec 1979, 20–21, 32, 24–28; 1995, 42–43; Bieńkowski 1983, 23–24; Stopka, Banach, Dybiec 2000, 98–100, 111–112).

In 1866, the first chair of archaeology and history of medieval art in Poland was founded in the Faculty of Philosophy of the Jagiellonian University. It was created for Józef Łepkowski, who also established a didactic collection, known as the Archaeological Cabinet, soon after. Later, in 1897, the chair of classical archaeology was founded in the university for Professor Piotr Bieńkowski (Gałczyńska 1964; Abramowicz 1967, 127–128; 1991, 41–42; Nosek 1967, 39; Gedl 1971, 188–189; 2000, 32, 34–35; Śliwa 1998; 2000; 2007a; Ostrowski 2007a; Chochorowski 2015).

The first archaeological collections started being gathered at the Jagiellonian University in 1818, first in the Jagiellonian Library. They were later re-organised by Józef Łepkowski (Fig. 1) and transferred, after 1855, to the recently established (in 1850) Museum of Antiquities (Muzeum Starożytności, known also as Muzeum Archeologiczne), associated with the Kraków Learned Society (Gedl 1971, 188, 194). From 1851, Łepkowski was actively involved in the works of the Department of Archaeology and Fine Arts (Oddział Archeologii i Sztuk Pięknych) of the Kraków Learned Society, where he was occupied with cataloguing and heritage protection. He travelled extensively to document monuments in the field, published many papers, and created a plate with illustrations, entitled *Urns and vessels from tombs. Extraordinary forms*, which was attached to the second appeal (addressed to all amateurs of archaeological research and investigations) issued by the Department of Archaeology and Fine Arts in 1857. Łepkowski also co-organised both of the Exhibitions of Antiquities held in Kraków, in 1858–1859 and 1872. The exhibitions presented ethnographic and archaeological collections, historical relics, and objects of art. Among Łepkowski's tasks in the Kraków Learned Society

³ Galicia – part of former Polish territories (today divided between Poland and Ukraine), at this time – after the partition of Poland – under Austro-Hungarian authority.

was the organisation and systematisation of the collections of the Museum of Antiquities. As mentioned, he was also actively involved in the efforts to separate the Society's collection from those of the university after the two institutions had ceased their association in 1857. In the 1860s Łepkowski acted as the secretary, and later also vice-president, of the Department of Archaeology and Fine Arts of the Kraków Learned Society. After the society became the Academy of Arts and Sciences in 1872, he continued to actively participate in the works of this, the biggest Polish research institution of the period. Łepkowski was a member of the Academy's Anthropological Commission and Commission for Studies in the History of Art in Poland, but first of all, from 1873 until his death, he chaired the Archaeological Commission. One of the last scholars to approach the antiquities as a whole, he represented romantic archaeology, which encompassed within its scope not only archaeological materials as understood today, but also monuments of art, architecture, and craft, as well as archival materials. In the 1860s Łepkowski's research activity became closely connected with the Jagiellonian University. He became the first professor of archaeology in Poland, obtaining habilitation and beginning to lecture in 1863. In 1866 Łepkowski was appointed an associate professor, and he was nominated a full professor in 1875. One of his regular lectures was devoted to issues concerning museum studies. On becoming the head of the Chair of Archaeology and History of Medieval Art at the Jagiellonian University, Łepkowski resolved to create a separate university collection for the needs of, among others, archaeological education (Bąk-Koczarska 1973; Gedl 2000; Ostrowski 2007).

The JU Archaeological Cabinet (Gabinet Archeologiczny UJ) was officially established by decision of the university Senate in 1867, after obtaining the approval from the Ministry of Religious Beliefs and Enlightenment in Vienna. The first objects originated from Łepkowski's private collection. One year before, the same collection allowed the newly founded chair to meet the criterion of access to the didactic materials. It is worth mentioning here Łepkowski's close cooperation with Prince Władysław Czartoryski, which started as early as 1858, and in particular the fact that Łepkowski became the head of the Czartoryski Library in Sieniawa in 1866 (Śliwa 2015, 13). Probably inspired by Łepkowski, numerous donations made by Czartoryski shortly before and in the early years after the cabinet's foundation were crucial for shaping the character of the collection. In later years, valuable donations started to flow into the cabinet from other scholars and antiquarians as well. As with the Kraków Learned Society before, Łepkowski also issued an appeal asking for artefacts to be sent. He also worked to acquire archaeological collections kept in other, earlier established university cabinets (e.g. Zoological,

Fig. 1. Józef Łepkowski (1826–1894), 1887. Xylographic print by Józef Holewiński from drawing by Stanisław Witkiewicz and photograph by Walery Rzewuski. From the collection of Muzeum Historyczne Miasta Krakowa (MHK-1668/VIII)

Mineralogical, Geological) and in the Jagiellonian Library (Gałczyńska 1964, 455). As a result, the collection rapidly grew in size and gained considerable scientific significance “already in its early years”, as M. Żmigrodzki wrote (1877, 151).

The cabinet (Fig. 2) was gathering archaeological items, at that time still very broadly understood: along with prehistoric artefacts proper there were objects of art, memorabilia, and curiosities, as well as manuscripts and prints (Gałczyńska 1964, 452). The collection grew mainly owing to donations offered to the university by Polish aristocracy, gentry, and intelligentsia, and less often by means of purchase. Among the donors were the painters Jan Matejko, Jacek Malczewski, and Tytus Pilecki, General Kazimierz Pułaski, historian and ethnographer Gustaw Manteuffel, land-owner and amateur archaeologist Bronisław Domaradzki, and political activist, collector and President of the Poznań Society of Friends of Learning Seweryn Mielżyński. Many donations came from enthusiasts of archaeology, researchers, and collectors, among whom it is particularly worth mentioning historian Karol Libelt (Łepkowski's father-in-law), historian and archaeologist Edward Rastawiecki, historian and archaeologist Aleksander Przezdziecki (his collection was actually donated by his son Konstanty), writer, historian, and amateur archaeologist Józef Ignacy Kraszewski, Władysław Czarторыski (who offered a rich collection of antiquities sent from Paris), Marcelli Czarторыski, and many others (Jaskanis 1989). Materials connected with the archaeology of Poland were offered to the

Fig. 2. Jagiellonian University Archaeological Cabinet in one of its first locations, at the ground floor of Collegium Maius, 1877, in a drawing by Juliusz Kossak. After M. Żmigrodzki (1877)

cabinet, as were valuable gifts from other European countries and even other continents, including an Egyptian mummy with a sarcophagus from the JU Zoological Cabinet, which had been donated to the university by General Ludwik Bystrzonowski in 1834 (Gałczyńska 1964, 456; Śliwa 2007b, 117–120; Chwalba 2009, 135; cf. Śliwa 2007c). The cabinet also received Stanisław Larysz-Niedzielski's collection, comprised primarily of artefacts from Cyprus, and Mieczysław Sandecki's collection of Tunisian artefacts (from Carthage and El Djem). In 1883, anthropologist Professor Izydor Kopernicki offered fragments of vessels from strongholds and cemeteries of Lower Austria (according to his account gathered by Matthäus Much), Bronze Age pottery from Anatolia (which he had received from Rudolf Virchow), and pottery fragments from the Stradonice stronghold in Bohemia.⁴ A note has also survived in the archives concerning a stone tool donated to the cabinet's collection by Piotr Falkenberg Zaleski. The tool had been excavated in 1879 in the state of Ohio, USA.⁵ Reflecting the wide range of Łepkowski's contacts, the cabinet's collection boasted artefacts donated by John Evans, namely flint arrowheads from Ireland.⁶ Łepkowski also managed to acquire from the JU Mineralogical Cabinet objects belonging to the collection of Michał Sołtyk (Gałczyńska 1964, 456–458; Bernhard 1976a, 13–15). An archaeological map of the Vistula River basin, created by Łepkowski, was also kept in the Archaeological Cabinet. The map was shown during the International Congresses of Anthropology and Prehistoric Archaeology in Pest in 1876 and in Lisbon in 1881 (Woźny 2018b, 368).

Owing to the display of some of the artefacts from the cabinet at the exhibition accompanying the anthropological and archaeological congress in Pest in 1876, and thanks to Łepkowski's personal connections, the cabinet soon gained wide recognition among European scholars, and the collection came to be discussed in publications in various parts of Europe (e.g. Chantre 1878; Kohn, Mehlis 1879, 111–112) (Fig. 3). The exhibition of the Pest Congress displayed primarily archaeological artefacts from the territory of Hungary and, separately, objects originating from other countries. The exhibition arranged by the Polish participants in the congress, which presented artefacts from the area between the Carpathians and the Baltic Sea, attracted considerable interest. Apart from artefacts from private collections and those belonging to scientific societies, also displayed were photographs and drawings of the artefacts (Fig. 4), as well as Łepkowski's archaeological map of the Vistula basin (Fig. 5). Izydor Kopernicki, who participated in the congress, later reported that these photographs and drawings, and Łepkowski's map in particular, were studied with great interest by those present at the congress (Kopernicki 1876, 8–10, 26; Pawiński 1876, 281–282).

The Archaeological Cabinet originally had no permanent seat, and its collections were kept in different places – in the JU Institute of Physiology, in the bank of the Archifraternity of Mercy at Sienna and Stolarska Streets, and even in Łepkowski's private apartment. In 1869, Łepkowski managed to secure a room for the collection in Collegium Maius, the seat of the Jagiellonian Library at that time. The room was actually allocated to the Archaeological Cabinet in 1871 (Chwalba 2014, 73–75). A comprehensive description of the cabinet's arrangement in this new location, in three rooms at the ground floor, was published by Michał Żmigrodzki (1877; abbreviated reprint in: Śliwa ed. 2007, 35–40) in the weekly magazine "Tygodnik

⁴ Kopernicki's letter to Łepkowski dated 17.01.1883, and notes concerning the artefacts he offered to the JU Archaeological Cabinet, Archives of the Archaeological Museum in Kraków, sign. GA1/43, pp. 1–9.

⁵ A note concerning the collection of the Archaeological Cabinet, Archives of the Archaeological Museum in Kraków, sign. GA1/126, p. 1.

⁶ Notes concerning the collection of the Archaeological Cabinet, Archives of the Archaeological Museum in Kraków, sign. GA1/49, pp. 1–3.

Ilustrowany”, together with a drawing by renowned painter Juliusz Kossak (Fig. 2). A brief account from his visit in the same rooms was given by Albin Kohn in the periodical “Zeitschrift für Ethnologie” (Kohn 1877), published in Berlin. In 1888, the Archaeological Cabinet, along with the Art History Cabinet (chaired by professor Marian Sokołowski) found a permanent

Fig. 3. Page from the paper by E. Chantre (1878) with hand-written corrections made by J. Lepkowski. From the library of the Institute of Archaeology of the Jagiellonian University

Fig. 4. Drawings of the artefacts from the Archaeological Cabinet made by J. Łepkowski. The National Archives in Kraków, sign. GK 6

seat in the Collegium Novum building (Fig. 6), with four rooms assigned to the Archaeological Cabinet and three to the Art History Cabinet (Bernhard 1976a, 13, 15; Chwalba 2009, 136).

The death of the cabinet's founding professor Józef Łepkowski in 1894 brought to an end the existence of the Jagiellonian University Archaeological Cabinet in its original form.⁷ The collection did not cease to grow, but the name and manner of organization changed. The Archaeological Cabinet was merged with the Art History Cabinet and with the numismatic collection of the Jagiellonian University, and the whole was committed to the custody of art historian Professor Marian Sokołowski. After his death in 1911, the "JU Joined Art and Archaeological Collections" was placed under the charge of Piotr Bieńkowski, professor of classical archaeology (Gałczyńska 1964, 459–460; cf. Śliwa 2007a).

The university collections served the needs of art history and classical archaeology students. However, at the turn of the 19th and 20th centuries they remained unavailable for students of archaeology. At that time, in Poland and in Europe in general, prehistoric archaeology was still struggling to become recognised as an academic discipline (cf. Kostrzewski 1949, 90 ff.; Sklenář 1983, 137; Leligdowicz 1998, 125). The process encountered certain obstacles, stemming from objective reasons (e.g. the lack of funding for opening new chairs), and from the perception of this discipline at that time. Kept in cramped premises, the prehistoric component of

⁷ According to some accounts, during the last years of Łepkowski's life the bulk of the responsibility for keeping and maintaining the cabinet was de facto taken by janitor Michał Orkisz, who was personally involved because of his interest in the process of cataloguing and organizing the collection. Orkisz took care of the collection from the moment of its deposition in Collegium Novum in 1888 to his death in 1940 (Śliwa 2010).

Fig. 5. Pomeranian face urns – detail of the “Archaeological map of the Vistula basin” designed by Lępkowski (“Mapa archeologiczna dorzecza Wisły”). From the Archive of the Archaeological Museum in Kraków

the former JU Archaeological Cabinet’s collection was virtually inaccessible, and Włodzimierz Demetrykiewicz, professor of prehistoric archaeology, had to fight in the university for his discipline to be recognised on par with classical archaeology (Nosek 1937, 148–149; Jamka 1959, 315–316; Stolpiak 1984, 67–68; Chochorowski 2008, 5; Woźny 2018a, 208–213). Due to limited access to the university collection, Demetrykiewicz (who in later years created the Chair of Prehistory at JU) had to carry out some of his courses with students in the Archaeological Museum of the Academy of Arts and Sciences in Kraków, where he worked as a curator. In 1905, he complained in a letter:

Fig. 6. Collegium Novum – Jagiellonian University Main Building. Entrance to the former Museum Archaeologicum – one of the few survived traces of long-term location of Archaeological Cabinet (1887–1921). Photo by K. Dziągiewski

“Is this not a great impediment that I cannot teach in the Archaeological Cabinet itself, and even cannot use specimens from this collection to illustrate my lectures, but instead sometimes I take my students to the Academy’s museum, where there is no proper room and which is not always accessible?”⁸

⁸ Demetrykiewicz’s letter to M. Wawrzeniecki, dated 15.10.1905, Warsaw Public Library, Department of Old Prints and Manuscripts, akc. 2607.

2. Middle age

The end of WWI and the regaining of independence by Poland in 1918 opened up the opportunity for carrying out necessary changes and reorganization of the Jagiellonian University. This also applied to the university's archaeological collections. In 1920, the JU Senate decided to divide them and establish four new units on their basis. After the senate's resolution gained the acceptance of the Ministry of Religious Beliefs and Public Enlightenment in Warsaw,⁹ the following units were created in the university in May 1920: the Cabinet and Seminar of Classical Archaeology headed by Professor Piotr Bieńkowski, the Department of Art History headed by Professor Jerzy Mycielski, the University Museum of Art and Archaeology under Professor Julian Pagaczewski, and the Department of Prehistoric Archaeology, with Professor Włodzimierz Demetrykiewicz in charge¹⁰ (Stolpiak 1984: 68; Dybiec 2000: 29; Woźny 2018a: 345–348). The bulk of the artefacts¹¹ – including the prehistoric ones – were placed in the University Museum of Art and Archaeology.¹² The responsibility for the collection lay with Pagaczewski as the head of the museum.¹³ All the four units were located close to each other on the ground floor of Collegium Novum (Fig. 6). The shortage of space was severely felt (cf. Dybiec 2000, 29; Bogdanowska, Chwalba 2014, 158–160). Nevertheless, in the interwar period the prehistoric collection of the Archaeological Cabinet was already fully accessible for the prehistory professor and his students, and it was used each year in teaching (Gedl 1971, 192; Dybiec 2000, 234; Woźny 2018a, 354–358).

No sooner was the JU Department of Prehistoric Archaeology (*Zakład Archeologii Przedhistorycznej* UJ) established than its head, Professor Demetrykiewicz, began his attempts to acquire prehistoric collections of the former Archaeological Cabinet, which were kept at that time in the university's Museum of Art and Archaeology. This met with success in the beginning of the 1930s. In May 1930 a special commission gathered: Dean Stefan Kreutz (chairman), and Professors Demetrykiewicz, Pagaczewski (recently appointed as the head of the JU Department of Art History), and Szydłowski (new head of the JU Museum of Art and Archaeology), who decided to transfer the prehistoric collection from the Museum of Art and Archaeology to the Department of Prehistoric Archaeology. For the time being, until a new location would be found, the collection was to stay in the "Room of Excavations" of the Museum of Art and Archaeology. For the needs of selecting the prehistoric artefacts and books kept in the "Room of Excavations" a special commission was appointed, with Professors Demetrykiewicz, Pagaczewski, Szydłowski, Gąsiorowski, Dziewoński, Piotrowicz, and Talko-Hrynciewicz as members.¹⁴ The commission's decisions were approved by a resolution of the Faculty Council on

⁹ Copy of a letter from the Ministry to the JU Rector Office, dated 05.03.1921, JU Archives, sign. WF II 147.

¹⁰ Letter from the Dean of the JU Faculty of Philosophy Professor K. Dziewoński to the Ministry of Religious Beliefs and Public Enlightenment, dated 31.05.1921, JU Archives, sign. WF II 147.

¹¹ With the exception of the classical artefacts, acquired in 1921 by Piotr Bieńkowski for his chair. After his death in 1925 these artefacts were in charge of Ludwik Piotrowicz, Professor of Ancient History. Later, when the Chair of Classical Archaeology was taken by Docent (later professor) Stanisław Gąsiorowski, the latter took charge of the classical part of the former Archaeological Cabinet collection (Bernhard 1976a, 16).

¹² Copy of a letter from the ministry to the JU Rector's Office, dated 05.03.1921, JU Archives, sign. WF II 147.

¹³ Copy of a letter from the ministry to the Dean's Office of the JU Faculty of Philosophy, dated 13.05.1929, JU Archives, sign. WF II 147; a letter from Demetrykiewicz to the Faculty of Philosophy dated 18.06.1929, as above.

¹⁴ Minutes of the Commission's session held on 1 May 1930, JU Archives, sign. S II 619; copy of a letter from the ministry to the JU Rector's Office dated 23.07.1930, JU Archives, sign. WF II 147.

2 May 1930. In 1931, the university's prehistoric collections, which Lępkowski had already started to gather, were finally recorded in the inventory of the JU Department of Prehistoric Archaeology.¹⁵ The list of prehistoric objects included in the collection of the Department numbered 1,666 positions (many of the positions held numerous artefacts) (cf. Gedl 1971, 189, 194; Abramowicz 1991, 80; Chochorowski 2015, 17, fig. 6). The list of objects kept in the Chair of Classical Archaeology enumerated more than 550 original artefacts and 115 gypsum copies at that time (Bernhard 1976a, 17).

The outbreak of WWII brought about a tremendous shock to the Jagiellonian University. The activity of the university, as well as of other scientific institutions in Kraków (including the Polish Academy of Arts and Sciences – Polska Akademia Umiejętności), came to an end with the “Sonderaktion Krakau” organised by the Germans. On 6 November 1939, the political police Geheime Staatspolizei (Gestapo) organised a “lecture” by SS Major (*SS-Sturmbannführer*) Bruno Müller, who allegedly was to present the German policy towards science. However, instead of hearing a lecture, the gathered professors and research workers from several Kraków academic institutions were arrested and transported to a concentration camp at Sachsenhausen. After persistent international protests they were gradually released, although some died in the camp and some others soon after leaving it (Piwarski 1949–1957; August 1997; Chwalba 2002, 164–170; Pierzchała 2007).

During the war part of the Jagiellonian University collections from the Departments of Art History, Classical Archaeology, and Prehistoric Archaeology were deposited in the storerooms of the Archaeological Museum of the Academy of Arts and Sciences (renamed as *Landesmuseum für Vorgeschichte* during the war) (Fig. 7). This was an element of German policy of collections consolidation. Another part, however, was taken by the Prehistoric Section of the German *Institut für Deutsche Ostarbeit* operating in Kraków, commonly known as the *Ostinstitut*.¹⁶ Gypsum copies were stored in the Izaak Synagogue in Miodowa Street in Kraków (Antoniewicz 1946, 58; Jamka 1946; 1964: 211; Bernhard 1976a: 17; Buratyński 1992: 127; Woźny in press).

Already at the beginning of the occupation, in 1939, some items from the university collections (vessels) were moved from the Potocki Palace¹⁷ (“Pod Baranami”) to the *Landesmuseum für Vorgeschichte*¹⁸ thanks to the efforts of Eduard Benninger, an archaeologist from Vienna (Kozłowski 2012, 198). The remaining archaeological collections were moved by the Germans to the new building of the Jagiellonian Library and, when the need emerged later to empty the building for the needs of a Statistical Office (*Statistisches Amt*), they were temporarily stored

¹⁵ A copy of a letter from the Dean of the Faculty of Philosophy to the ministry, dated 1.07.1930, JU Archives, sign. S II 619.

¹⁶ *Sprawozdanie z działalności Muzeum Archeologicznego PAU w Krakowie za czas okupacji niemieckiej od 1 września 1939 r. do 31 stycznia 1945 r.* (Report from the operations of the Archaeological Museum of the Academy of Arts and Sciences during the German occupation from 1 September 1939 to 31 January 1945), 1945, typescript in the Scientific Archives of Polish Academy of Sciences and Polish Academy of Arts and Sciences in Kraków, sign. KSG 230/1945, p. 1.

¹⁷ Immediately before the war, the prehistoric collections were kept in the Potocki Palace at the Main Market Square in Kraków, where the Chairs of Prehistory and Classical Archaeology had their seats for some time (Chochorowski 2015, 20).

¹⁸ Apart from the University staff, the operation involved the participation of volunteers, among them Maria Trzepacz (Cabalska), who later for many years worked in the JU Institute of Archaeology as a research worker (cf. typescript of Maria Cabalska's curriculum vitae kept in the archives of old collections in the JU Institute of Archaeology).

Fig. 7. „Artificial chaos” (according to T. Reyman) left by the German occupiers in the Archaeological Museum of the Polish Academy of Arts and Sciences (boxes with monuments from various institutions), 1944. Photo by F. Nowicki. Archive of the Archaeological Museum in Cracow

in the building of the Academy of Fine Arts. After *Sonderaktion Krakau*, when professors and other Jagiellonian University staff were arrested and sent to a concentration camp, these collections were put under the charge of SS Captain Peter Paulsen (archaeologist and member of the notorious SS-Ahnenerbe; on behalf of the SS, Paulsen directed the so-called “*Sonderkommando Paulsen*”, who dealt with looting cultural goods in the German-occupied Poland. The stolen collections were to hit the German Reich). It was only from there that the collections were taken to the former Archaeological Museum of the Academy of Arts and Sciences by Dr Karl Anton Nowotny, the Austrian head of the *Landesmuseum für Vorgeschichte*, favourable disposed toward Poles. Taking over the university collection, he reported the loss of some of the artefacts, among them virtually all the objects made from gold and silver except for one box containing hacksilver and silver ornaments. Among the lost objects were gold artefacts from Brzezie in Pleszew District, a number of silver pieces (armlets, bracelets, necklaces) from the hoard from Bużyska in former Drohiczyn District (cf. Nosek 1955), and even copies of gold and silver artefacts (see Appendix 1).¹⁹ Some of the losses turned out to be temporary, and today many of the artefacts listed in the protocol attached to the document quoted here can be found in the collection. This, however, does not apply to the gold and silver objects, which have been added to the list of wartime losses suffered by the university and Polish culture.

After WWII, given the existence in Kraków of other institutions appointed to gather archaeological artefacts within the scope of their statutory activity, the university collection was

¹⁹ K. A. Nowotny, *Übernahme der vorgeschichtlichen Sammlung der Jagiellonischen Universität*, dated 18 VI 1942, typescript in the archive of the Archaeological Museum in Kraków, legacy of G. Leńczyk.

growing only very insignificantly. The classical collections, which had luckily survived the war with no damage, were initially (as early as 1945) returned to the Chair of Classical Archaeology, at that time with its seat in the Nowodworski College at St. Anne Street 12. Later from the mid-1950s they were stored in the Jagiellonian University Museum in Collegium Maius (Śliwa 2010, 57). The bulk of this collection found a place in a separate room on the ground floor – thus *de facto* returning to one of the first seats of the Archaeological Cabinet from Lepkowski's era – but some objects, such as gypsum copies of classical sculptures, Coptic textiles, and numismatics, were separated from the collection and, by a decision of the then head of the museum Professor Karol Estreicher Junior, they were moved to various rooms within the building. The gypsum copies were catalogued anew, despite them figuring in the inventory of the Archaeological Cabinet.²⁰ In 1988, assumedly only for the time needed to renovate the rooms, the classical collection (without the mentioned separate part) was moved to the seat of the Institute of Archaeology in the adjacent building of Collegium Minus. After the renovation, however, the room was given another designation and the collection has never returned to Collegium Maius.

The prehistoric collection, on the other hand, had remained as a deposit in the Archaeological Museum in Kraków until the early 1970s (Bernhard 1976a, 17; Jamka 1974, 94; Chwalba 2009, 168). In 1972, after having moved from place to place several times, the JU Institute of Archaeology (established one year before by merging the Chairs of Archaeology of Poland and Classical Archaeology) was given a new, spacious seat in the premises of the medieval Collegium Minus, which it still occupies today (Chochorowski 2015, 27; Niemiec, Starzyński 2015). After the integration of the two chairs, steps were taken to integrate old collections as well. At the beginning of 1972 the head of the institute turned to the Archaeological Museum asking for the collection of the former JU Department of Prehistory to be returned, and the request was accepted.²¹ The majority of the artefacts (except for 135 pieces lent for the museum's permanent exhibition) were returned in the middle of that year, after a commission composed from the representatives of the two institutions had concluded its work (Stanisław Kowalski and Alina Wałowcy represented the museum, while the institute was represented by Barbara Gedl and Renata Kiszka [Essen]).²² In 2001, when plans were under way for a new permanent exhibition in the Archaeological Museum in Kraków (cf. Rydzewski 2005), the great majority of the artefacts returned to the collection of the institute.²³ However, a few objects are still on display in the new permanent exhibition in the museum (cf. Tyniec-Kępińska ed. 2005).

3. Today

Owing to the fact that the collection of the Archaeological Cabinet has basically not been put on display or enlarged since WWII, the collection has generally maintained its 19th-century character, becoming a testimony to a specific, romantic-antiquarian stage in the development of archaeology and science in general. Other collections of this type in Poland have gradually fused with the growing collections of particular museums or heritage protection institutions.

²⁰ This issue has still not been regulated.

²¹ A letter from the head of the Museum Kazimierz Radwański dated 7.03.1972, in the archives of the Archaeological Cabinet in JU Institute of Archaeology.

²² Hand-over report no. 4/S/72, in the archives of the Archaeological Cabinet in JU Institute of Archaeology.

²³ Hand-over report dated 19.12.2001, in the archives of the Archaeological Cabinet in JU Institute of Archaeology.

All this makes the former Archaeological Cabinet as a whole a monument of museum studies. The unique character of the collection is also enhanced by the good preservation of 19th-century archives, in particular the catalogue cards made by Józef Łepkowski (Fig. 8) and the original correspondence with donors, kept today in the archives of the Archaeological Museum in Kraków (prehistoric part) and in the Department of Classical Archaeology of the JU Institute of Archaeology (classical part).²⁴

Today, the artefacts from both parts of the collection formally belong to the JU Institute of Archaeology, with the status of non-museum didactic collection (cf. Jaskanis 1989). The prehistoric part is stored in a cramped room in the attic of Collegium Minus at Gołębia Street 11, the current seat of the JU Institute of Archaeology.²⁵ Since 2016, the classical part has been kept in a small room in the Collegium Iuridicum building at Grodzka 53 (the seat of the JU Institute of Art History). Both locations are of a storehouse nature and cannot be used for displaying the artefacts or teaching (Fig. 9). However, the artefacts – if allowed by the state of their preservation – are

Fig. 8. A card from the oldest files of the Archaeological Cabinet (a bronze pin from Szarlej, Inowrocław District). From the Archive of the Archaeological Museum in Kraków

regularly made accessible for archaeology courses taught in other rooms of the institute, and for courses outside the building, e.g. for history and art history students. Some objects are also sometimes borrowed for temporary exhibitions in Polish museums, and some others (including an Egyptian sarcophagus), as long-term deposits, are on display in a permanent anthropological exhibition in the recently created JU Centre of Natural Sciences Education in Kraków (Gronostajowa Street 5). The caretakers and custodians of the collection are currently employees of the Institute of Archaeology Karol Dziągiewski (prehistoric and medieval artefacts) and Dr Kamil

²⁴ Only some of the cards from the first card catalogue have survived.

²⁵ The attic was added to the building in 1910 and adapted at the close of the 20th century.

Fig. 9. Store-room for prehistoric part of the collection in Collegium Minus (today's seat of the Institute of Archaeology). Photo by K. Dziągiewski

Kopij (classical part).²⁶ The archival documentation of the former cabinet kept in the Archaeological Museum in Kraków is in the care of Dr Marzena Woźny. Beyond the formal custody of the Institute of Archaeology are more than 100 gypsum copies (moulages) of classical sculptures, the majority of the ancient coins, and the Coptic textiles, once an integral part of the cabinet, today kept in Collegium Maius and partly in other university buildings as well (Ostrowski 2007b) (Fig. 10).

The collection of classical objects currently numbers 679 items.²⁷ Among these, the most valuable assemblage connected with the Mediterranean world is a collection of Greek vessels (cf. Papuci-Władyka 2012). It encompasses vessels covering a timespan from the Mycenaean Era to the 3rd century BC and allows for the development of Greek pottery and vase painting to be presented to students. Admittedly, the set cannot be called a representative collection, since it does not cover all the styles and production centres, but it includes several objects created by the most renowned Attica masters, such as the Achilles Painter, the Nausicaa Painter from the N.H. group, and the Dinos Painter. As for those from beyond Attica, the collection can boast of a red-figured amphora created by the Ino Painter from Cumae in Campania (Bernhard 1976b).

²⁶ Earlier, the classical part of the collection was in charge of the following: Professor Maria L. Bernhard (1954–1978), Professor Joachim Śliwa (1978–2012), and Dr Wojciech Machowski (2012–2016), while the prehistoric part, after its return from the Archaeological Museum, was in charge of Renata Essen (2000–2006).

²⁷ In the description of the classical part of the collection we used information provided by Professor Joachim Śliwa and Dr Kamil Kopij, to whom we extend our gratitude.

Fig. 10. The Laocöon Group: one of the gypsum copies from the Archaeological Cabinet collection, now as the decoration of the corridor in the Jagiellonian University rectorate, Collegium Novum. Photo by K. Dzięgilewski

A group of artefacts from Cyprus, including vessels, terracotta figurines, and fragments of stone sculptures also deserves special attention (Kapera 1976).

The third largest group is that of Egyptian artefacts, representing a wide spectrum of objects, from wooden, stone, and bronze figurines, to clay vessels and a large set of ushabti, to a Late Period sarcophagus. Of particular note along with the sarcophagus is a collection of alabaster vessels, which allows one to follow the evolution of this type of object from ca 2900 BC to the Late Period (Śliwa 1976b). Among the relatively modest group of Near Eastern objects, an Akkadian cylinder seal and a bronze figurine of a warrior (probably a 19th-century copy) deserve particular attention (Śliwa 1976a; 1992).

The collection also includes numerous artefacts of Etruscan, Roman, and Phoenician origins. Worthy of mention here are objects made from bronze (e.g. a handle of a 1st-century AD Italian

oenochoe in the shape of a herma), as well as those made from glass and ceramics (vessels, oil lamps). Also of note is a collection of stamped amphora handles, which although perhaps of limited artistic value are nevertheless an excellent source for studies of ancient economies (Bernhard, Burczyk, Ostrowski 1976).

The prehistoric part of the collection includes approx. 3,000 objects covering a wide chronological span from the Stone Age to the modern period and originating primarily from the territory of the former Polish-Lithuanian Commonwealth, but also from other parts of Europe, including Scandinavia, France, Germany, and Russia. Complete ceramic vessels (most of them from graves) and completely preserved stone, bronze, and iron artefacts predominate in the collection. The Palaeolithic and Mesolithic periods are poorly represented, while the Neolithic is represented by a considerable number of axes and battle axes covering almost the entire spectrum of raw materials used in Europe at that time, which gives this part of the collection particular educational value. The most valuable among the Bronze Age and Early Iron Age objects are complete inventories of bronze hoards, e.g. from Biskupice, Stary Sącz (“Na Lipiu”), and Świdnik in Lesser Poland, and from Ramzy (Telkvice) in Pomerania; a hoard of iron objects from Maszków near Kraków; and inventories of urned graves from cemeteries at Dobieszewko, Nadziejewo, and Skrajna in Greater Poland. Among the most spectacular individual objects from that period are a massive bronze ring of the Sieniawa type from Mlecza and a halberd from Inowrocław. The Iron Age is represented by a few attractive inventories of weapon graves from Młynów and Jadowniki Mokre in Lesser Poland, and from the vicinity of Sieradz. As for objects originating from later periods, Early Medieval stone sculptures (known as “babas”) and a collection of Late Medieval vessels and coins from the Kraków region stand out as particularly interesting.

Regional collections (donated by local antiquarians) make up an important component of the prehistoric part of the cabinet’s collection. In this context, of particular importance are a series of antler, ceramic, and stone artefacts retrieved from Lake Czeszewskie in Greater Poland, connected with the discovery of an Early Iron Age stronghold at Smuszewo near Wagrowiec (the first investigated stronghold of what later came to be known as fortified settlements of the Biskupin type); a collection of spectacular bronze ornaments dated to the Iron Age and Medieval Period from the territory of present-day Latvia (Bitner-Wróblewska *et al.* 2005); and a collection of Late Neolithic axes and flint points from southern Scandinavia. The state of studies on and accessibility of the classical collection is considerably better than the prehistoric part. Brief descriptions (characteristics, chronology, provenance) and a comprehensive bibliography concerning the former can be found in two multi-author publications edited by M. L. Bernhard (1976) and J. Śliwa (2007). The Greek vessels have recently been comprehensively analysed within the *Corpus Vasorum Antiquorum* series (Papuci-Władyka 2012). The prehistoric part remains much less studied and published. Artefacts have been typically published only within monographic studies of the sites from which they originate, the Nadziejewo cemetery being one recent example (Kaczmarek 2017). Particular categories of artefacts (especially bronzes) have been included in synthetic publications within the *Prähistorische Bronzefunde* series (e.g. Kuśnierz 1998; Gedl 2004), and the same holds true for some complete hoard assemblages (e.g. Biskupice – Blajer 2013, 129–131). Smaller studies devoted to individual artefacts or assemblages from the collection remain relatively few (e.g. Nosek 1955; Dziągiewski 2004).

In the early years of the 21st century, when the collection was being moved to its current location, Renata Essen and Wojciech Machowski, who were in charge of the collection at that time, carried out a physical inventory, thanks to which today we have electronic versions of the inventories. Moreover, most of the small artefacts (except for complete vessels) were repacked on that occasion into standard, durable cardboard boxes. In recent years attempts have

been initiated to make the entire collection available in a digital form. Current works focus on putting the collection in order, completing the documentation, and subjecting selected artefacts to conservation treatment. The plans for the immediate future involve acquiring funding from one of the programs for digitalization of cultural heritage and science, which should allow for digitalizing of archive materials and photographic and drawing documentation of the artefacts, making 3D scans of selected objects, and publishing this data on an open-access website. In future, attempts should be made to gather all the Cabinet collections under one roof and guarantee their accessibility to researchers and visitors. Only when this is achieved will it become possible to fully present the original shape and historical value of this unique collection.

150 lat Gabinetu Archeologicznego Uniwersytetu Jagiellońskiego – przeszłość i teraźniejszość

Pierwsze zbiory archeologiczne w Uniwersytecie Jagiellońskim gromadzone były od 1816 r. w Bibliotece Jagiellońskiej. Zostały one uporządkowane przez Józefa Łepkowskiego (ryc. 1) i przekazane po roku 1855 do Muzeum Archeologicznego związanego z Towarzystwem Naukowym Krakowskim (Gedl 1971, 188, 194). W 1863 r. Łepkowski, twórca pierwszej w Polsce katedry archeologii i historii sztuki średniowiecznej, postanowił stworzyć na Uniwersytecie Jagiellońskim osobne zbiory archeologiczne, mające pełnić m.in. funkcje dydaktyczne (Bąk-Koczarska 1973; Gedl 2000; Ostrowski 2007). Dzięki jego staraniom, w 1867 roku, na mocy decyzji Senatu UJ oficjalnie powołano do życia Gabinet Archeologiczny UJ. Jego zbiory zapoczątkowała prywatna kolekcja Łepkowskiego i donacje ks. Władysława Czarotoryskiego. Kolekcja rosła głównie drogą darów, przekazywanych przez arystokrację, ziemiaństwo i inteligencję polską, rzadziej drogą zakupów. Łepkowski starał się też scalać zbiory archeologiczne Uniwersytetu, pozyskując m.in. mumię egipską od Gabinetu Zoologicznego UJ. Jego śmierć w 1894 roku przyniosła kres istnienia Gabinetu Archeologicznego UJ w jego pierwotnym kształcie. Wkrótce zbiór ten połączono z Gabinetem Historii Sztuki, a także z kolekcją numizmatyczną Biblioteki Jagiellońskiej. Pieczę nad tymi zbiorami powierzono historykowi sztuki, prof. Marianowi Sokołowskiemu. Po jego śmierci, w 1911 roku, dyrektorem „Połączonych Zbiorów Sztuki i Archeologii UJ” został profesor archeologii klasycznej, Piotr Bieńkowski. W 1920 roku Senat UJ podjął decyzję o ich ponownym podziale i o utworzeniu czterech nowych jednostek: Gabinetu i Seminarium Archeologii Klasycznej, kierowanego przez Piotra Bieńkowskiego, Zakładu Historii Sztuki (Jerzy Mycielski), Muzeum Uniwersyteckiego Sztuki i Archeologii (Julian Pagaczewski) oraz Zakładu Archeologii Przedhistorycznej (Włodzimierz Demetrykiewicz) (Stolpiak 1984, 68; Woźny 2018a, 345–348).

W czasie II wojny światowej część zbiorów Uniwersytetu Jagiellońskiego z Zakładów Historii Sztuki, Archeologii Klasycznej oraz z Zakładu Archeologii Przedhistorycznej została zdeponowana w magazynach Muzeum Archeologicznego PAU (Landesmuseum für Vorgeschichte). Pewną ich część przejęła jednak również Sekcja Prehistoryczna działającego w Krakowie Niemieckiego Instytutu Pracy Wschodniej (Institut für Deutsche Ostarbeit). Gipsowe odlewy pomieszczono w synagodze Izaaka przy ulicy Miodowej w Krakowie (Jamka 1946; Bernhard 1976a, 17; Buratyński 1992, 127). Z czasami okupacji wiążą się jedyne większe straty, jakich doznała prehistoryczno-średniowieczna część kolekcji Gabinetu, a mianowicie rabunek większości zabytków kruszcowych (por. Aneks 1).

Po drugiej wojnie światowej, wobec istnienia w Krakowie innych instytucji, statutowo powołanych do gromadzenia zabytków archeologicznych, uniwersytecka kolekcja powiększała się w niewielkim stopniu. Zbiory antyczne, które szczęśliwie nie odnotowały strat wojennych, wróciły początkowo do Katedry Archeologii Klasycznej, mieszczącej się wówczas w Collegium Nowodworskiego. Później – od połowy lat 50. XX wieku były przechowywane w Muzeum UJ w Collegium Maius (Śliwa 2010, 57). W 1998 roku

kolekcja zabytków antycznych (bez niektórych oddzielonych zbiorów, w tym odlewów gipsowych), została przeniesiona do siedziby Instytutu Archeologii w Collegium Minus. Zabytki prehistoryczne natomiast aż do początku lat 70. XX pozostawały jako depozyt w Muzeum Archeologicznym w Krakowie (Bernhard 1976a, 17; Jamka 1974, 94). Przekazanie większej części z nich (poza 135 wypożyczonymi na wystawę stałą w Muzeum) nastąpiło w 1972 r. W 2001 r., w związku z realizacją nowej wystawy stałej w Muzeum Archeologicznym (por. Rydzewski 2005) do zbiorów Instytutu powróciła reszta zabytków (z małymi wyjątkami). Archiwalia związane z Gabinetem (w tym karty katalogowe) pozostały natomiast pod opieką Archiwum Muzeum Archeologicznego.

Obecnie zabytki z obu części kolekcji formalnie należą do zbiorów Instytutu Archeologii UJ, posiadając status pozamuzealnych kolekcji dydaktycznych (por. Jaskanis 1989). Zbiór zabytków antycznych liczy 679 okazów. Najcenniejszym zespołem z kręgu kultur śródziemnomorskich jest zbiór naczyń greckich (por. Papuci-Władyka 2012). „Prehistoryczna” część kolekcji, obejmująca zabytki od epoki kamienia po czasy nowożytnie, liczy ok. 3000 artefaktów, które pochodzą głównie z terenów przedrozbiorowej Rzeczypospolitej, ale również innych części Europy. W początkach XXI w. przeprowadzono spisy z natury, podczas których sporządzono inwentarze cyfrowe. W najbliższej przyszłości planowane jest pozyskanie środków z programów cyfryzacji zasobów dziedzictwa kulturowego lub nauki, które pozwolą na zdigitalizowanie archiwaliów i dokumentacji fotograficznej oraz rysunkowej zabytków, wykonanie skanów 3D, oraz umieszczenie tych danych na publicznie dostępnej platformie internetowej.

Zbiory dawnego Gabinetu Archeologicznego UJ w Krakowie mają charakter unikatowy. Jest to najstarsza archeologiczna kolekcja akademicka w Polsce i jedyna, która przetrwała do dziś w niemal niezmienionej postaci. Zasadniczy zrąb tej kolekcji zgromadzono po powstaniu styczniowym, w okresie „patriotycznie” rozbudzonych zainteresowań starożytnościami. Jej powstanie wpisało się także w nurt zainteresowań starożytniczych, obecnych w całej XIX-wiecznej Europie. Ponieważ zbiory Gabinetu Archeologicznego po II wojnie nie były eksponowane, kolekcja zachowała zasadniczo XIX-wieczny charakter, sama stając się zabytkiem muzealnictwa.

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Appendix 1. Report „Acquisition of the prehistoric collection of the Jagiellonian University“ by Karl Anton Nowotny, 1942 (typescript from the archive of the Archaeological Museum in Kraków, legacy of G. Leńczyk; original spelling)

[leaflet title] Der Chef des Distrikts Krakau 1941

Abteilung: Schulwesen

Gegenstand: Übernahme der vorgeschichtlichen Sammlung der Jagiellonischen Universität.

Der im Jahre 1940 durch Herrn Präsidenten Dr. W a t z k e²⁸ dem Archäologische Museum zugewiesene Teil der vorgeschichtlichen Sammlungen der Universität Krakau wurde zusammen mit den schon im Jahre 1939 durch Herrn Dozenten Dr. Eduard B e n i n g e r²⁹ aus Wien vom Palais Potocki in das Archäologische Museum verbrachten Gefäßen inventarisiert. Der Inventarisierung lagen Verzeichnisse zugrunde, die von mir mit großer Mühe i. J. 1941 in einem Abstellraum der Kunstgewerbeschule gefunden wurden, nachdem ich vorher schon mehrere Monate vergeblich ihnen gesucht hatte.

²⁸ Dr Adolf Watzke (around 1895–?), in the years 1940–1942 the president of the Faculty of Science and Scholastics (Hauptabteilung Unterricht und Wissenschaft) in the Generalgouvernement.

²⁹ Eduard Beninger (1897–1963), archaeologist, associate professor at the University of Vienna.

Die vorgeschichtlichen Sammlungen befanden sich vor dem Kriege in Palais Potocki, in welchem das prähistorische Institut untergebracht war. Zu Beginn des Krieges wurde ein großer Teil der Sammlungen mit Ausnahme der Keramik in das Gebäude der neuen Jagiellonischen Bibliothek gebracht. Im Winter 1939 wurden die im Palais Potocki verbliebenden Gefäße durch den zu diesem Zweck nach Krakau berufenen Dozenten Dr. Eduard Beninger aus Wien in das Archäologische Museum in Krakau, Hauptstraße 17 gebracht.

Als das Gebäude der neuen Jagiellonischen Bibliothek für das Statistische Amt geräumt wurde, wurde ich durch Herrn Präs. Dr. Watzke zur Sicherstellung der prähistorischen Sammlung beigezogen. Leider war bei meinem Eintreffen die Sammlung schon in Kunstgewerbeschule verbracht worden, wo ich sie aus einem Magazinsraum holte und mit Einwilligung des Präsidenten Dr. Watzke ins Archäologische Museum Krakau, Hauptstraße 17, verbrachte. Dabei stellte ich folgenden Zustand der Sammlung fest:

Die Metall- und Steingegenstände waren in verschnürte und verklebte Schachteln verpackt gewesen, deren jede eine Inhaltsangabe trug. Die Verschnürung und Verklebung sämtlicher Schachteln war aufge-
rissen. Der tatsächliche Inhalt stimmte mit dem angegebenen Inhalt nicht überein.

Das Schicksal der verschnürten Schachteln, die aus dem Palais Potocki in das Gebäude der neuen Jagiellonischen Universität verbracht wurden, dürfte ungefähr folgendes gewesen sein:

Zunächst besteht die Möglichkeit, daß wertvolle Gegenstände aus den Schachteln entnommen wurden und zugleich mit anderen Wertgegenständen der Universität nach Lemberg geschafft wurden. Die Schachteln standen nach der Verhaftung der Hochschulprofessoren unter der Bewachung der SS. Ihr Inhalt dürfte vom Hauptmann der Waffen-SS Dr. Paulsen³⁰, der Prähistoriker ist, überprüft worden sein. Nachher übernahm die Sorge über das ganze Gebäude der Treuhänder der Universität. Bei der von diesem Treuhänder veranlaßten Übersiedlung in der Kunstgewerbeschule konnte ich eingreifen und die Sachen in das Archäologische Museum bringen.

Die Liste der fehlenden Gegenstände, die in monatelanger mühsamer Arbeit aufgestellt wurde, liegt diesem Akt bei. Es ist zu bemerken, daß sämtliche Edelmetallgegenstände mit Ausnahme einer Schachtel Hacksilber, die ich im Magazin der Kunstgewerbeschule fand, und im Tresor des Archäologischen Museums verwahrte, verloren gegangen sind. Besonders zu bedauern ist der Verlust zweier goldener Spangen aus Brzezina und eines Fundes von 22 silbernen Ringen von großem Gewicht aus Buzyska o. Drohiczyn. Der letztere Verlust ist auch aus wissenschaftlichen Gründen außerordentlich zu beklagen, da es sich um wichtigen Schatzfund aus der Wikingerzeit handelt. Besonders zu bemerken ist, daß sämtliche Nachbildungen goldener und silbernen Fundstücke aus anderen Museen ebenfalls fehlen. Dies legt den Verdacht nahe, daß ein mit der wirklichen Wert der Gegenstände nicht vertrauter Dieb (ehemaliger Universitätsdiener u.dgl.) das Edelmetall entwendet hat. Die Nachbildungen hat er möglicherweise ebenfalls für Edelmetall gehalten, das unscheinbare Hacksilber ist seiner Aufmerksamkeit entgangen.

Leider sind die Verhältnisse so verworren, daß keinerlei Möglichkeit entsteht, erfolgreiche Nachforschungen nach dem Verbleib der verschwundenen Funde anzustellen. Man kann nur gelegentlich den Hauptmann der Waffen-SS, Dr. Paulsen nach dem Zustand der Sammlungen während seiner Anwesenheit fragen und daraus vielleicht den Schluß ziehen, ob die Entwendungen vor der Verhaftung der Hochschulprofessoren oder nach diesem Zeitpunkt vorgekommen sind.

18. Juni 1942.

[dr Karl Anton] Nowotny³¹

19.VI.42.

³⁰ Peter Paulsen (1902–1985), German archaeologist, during World War II a member of the SS.

³¹ Karl Anton Nowotny (1904–1978), archaeologist from Vienna, during World War II he supervised the Archaeological Museum of the Academy of Arts and Sciences (then Landesmuseum für Vorgeschichte) in Kraków, kindly oriented to the Polish personnel of the facility.