

Davle, Prague-West dist., Central Bohemian Region

Medieval monastery 'Ostrov', monastery town 'Sekanka' and old hollow ways

(11th–14th cent.)

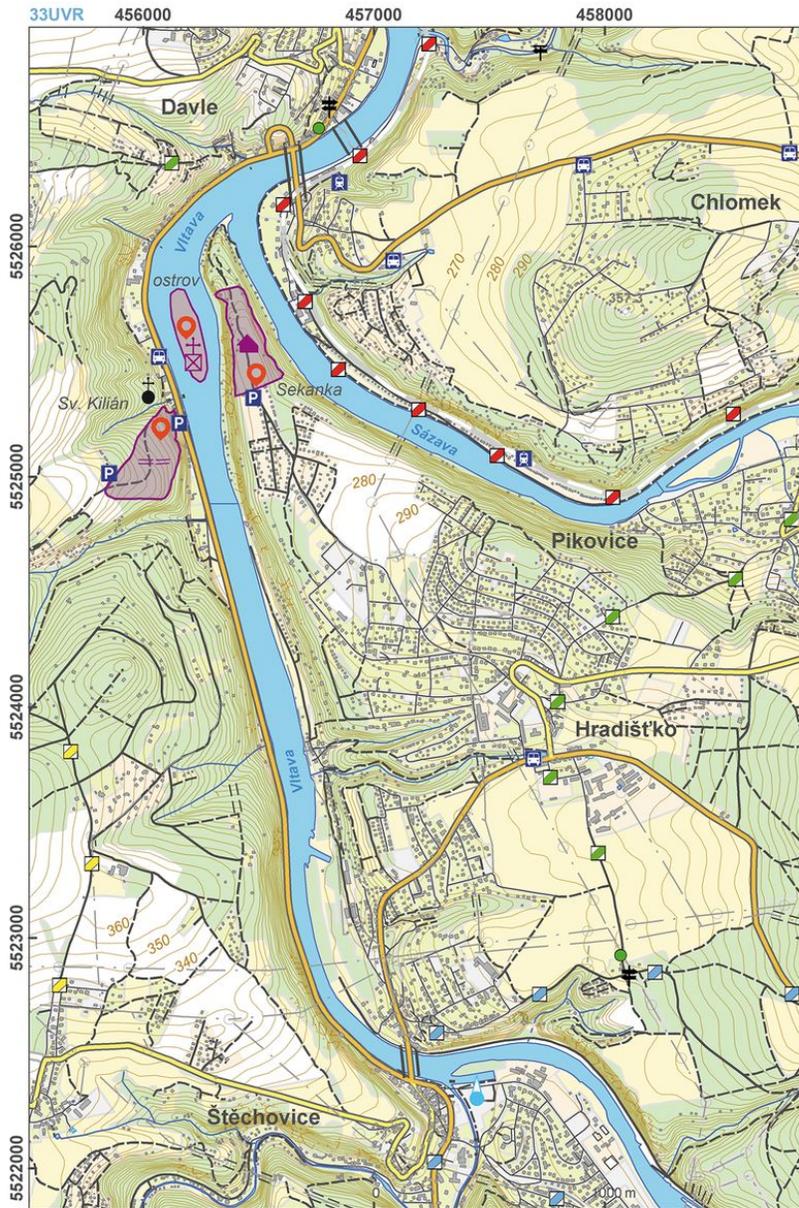


A medieval landscape complex comprising the monastery on 'Ostrov' island near Davle, the monastery town of 'Sekanka' at the confluence of the Vltava and Sázava rivers and surrounding passage routes from the 11th century to the 13th century. Founded around the year 1000, the Benedictine Monastery of the Decollation of St John the Baptist was heavily damaged during the Brandenburg pillage of Bohemia (1278-1283) and definitively abandoned after the Hussite Wars (1419-1434). The monastery town of 'Sekanka' with evidence of stone fortifications, trade and long-distance contacts was founded in the 13th century but was soon abandoned during the Brandenburg raids and never renewed, probably as a result of the lack of an adequate agricultural hinterland. Excavations of key importance for Czech archaeology were conducted at both sites between the 1950s and the 1980s.

References: Stehlík 1947; Richter 1982; Brych – Stehlíková 2003; Klápště 2005, 366–376.

Navigation points: N 49°52'45.55", E 14°23'39.34" (Sekanka); N 49°52'50.18", E 14°23'26.70" (monastery); N 49°52'40.83", E 14°23'22.16" (hollow ways).

Map notes: A – ditch and stone wall ruins; B – town square with surrounding plots; C – cemetery destroyed and covered by a present-day dump; D – ditch and bank; E – hollow ways; F – monastery basilica; G – cloister; H – hollow ways at St Kilian's.



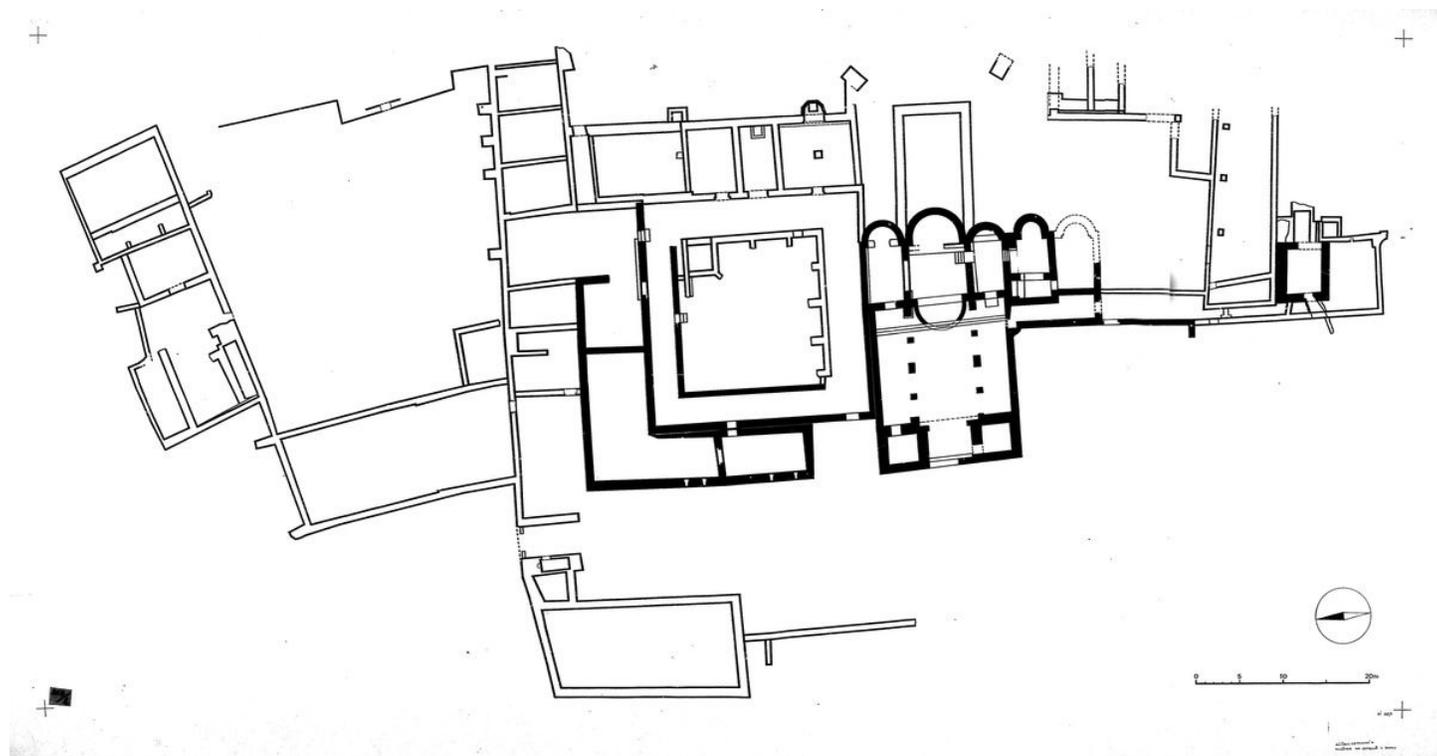
Access map.

After Kuna et al. 2014.



Site plan.

After Kuna et al. 2014.



Groundplan of the monastery. J. Hub during 1976 excavations by M. Richter.

Archives of the IoA, PY000527002.



Aerial view of the island and promontory at the confluence of Moldau (left) and Berounka (right) rivers. Monastery stood in southern part of the island while the city on a promontory above it.

Photo M. Gojda.



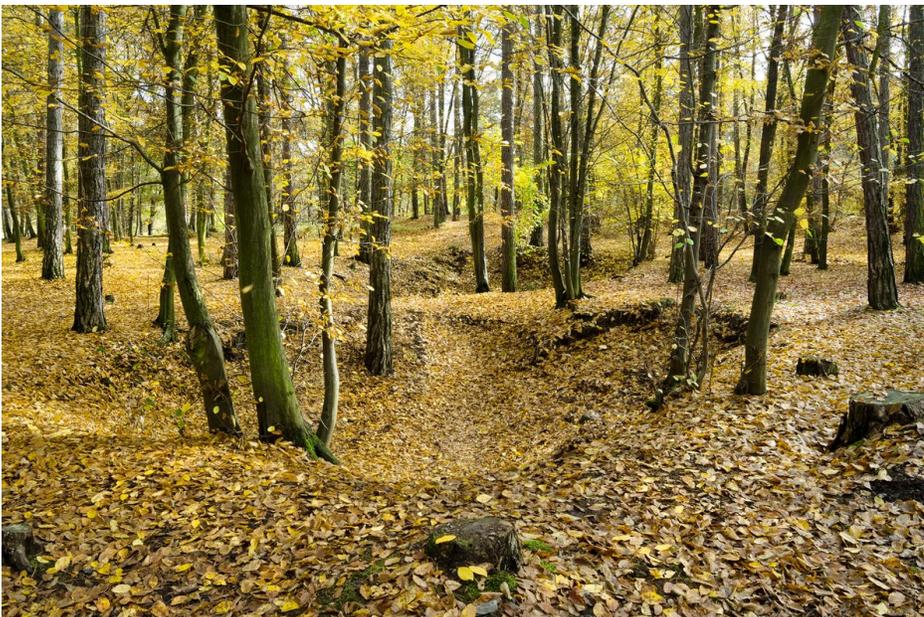
Microregion of the cloister and the city.

Photo M. Gojda.



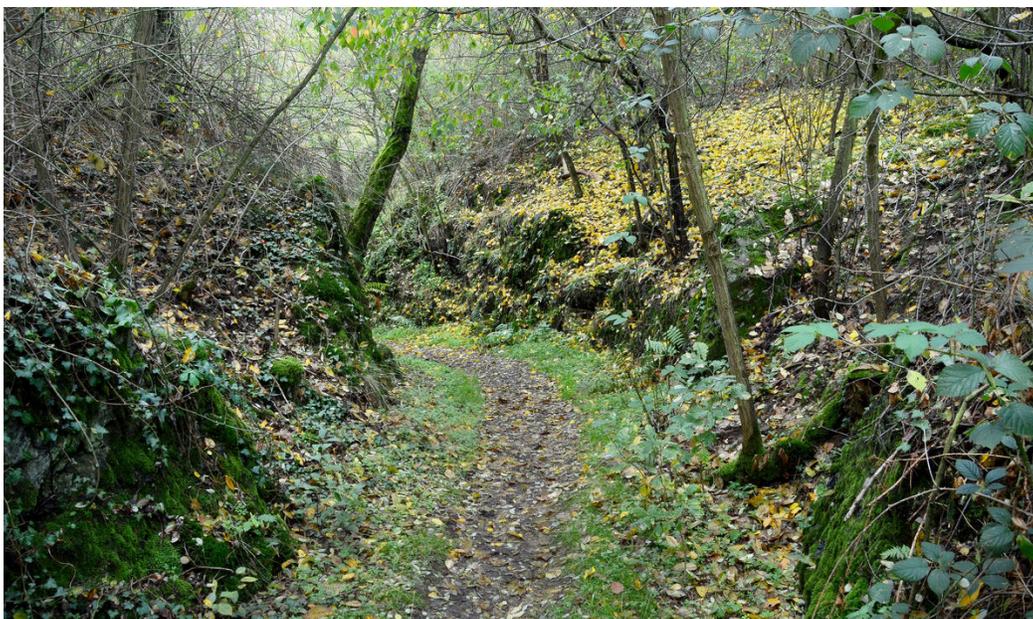
Ruins of monastic buildings. roregion of the cloister and the city.

Photo M. Gojda.



Deserted town Sekanka with remains of houses.

Photo Z. Kačerová, 2013.



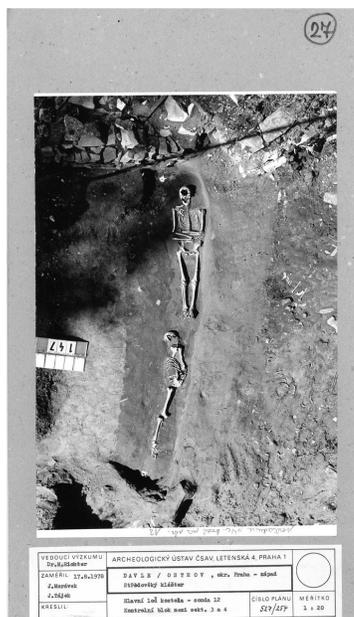
Hollow ways cut in rock in the northern part of the promontory that provided the name of the entire area - Sekanka.

Photo Z. Kačerová, 2013.



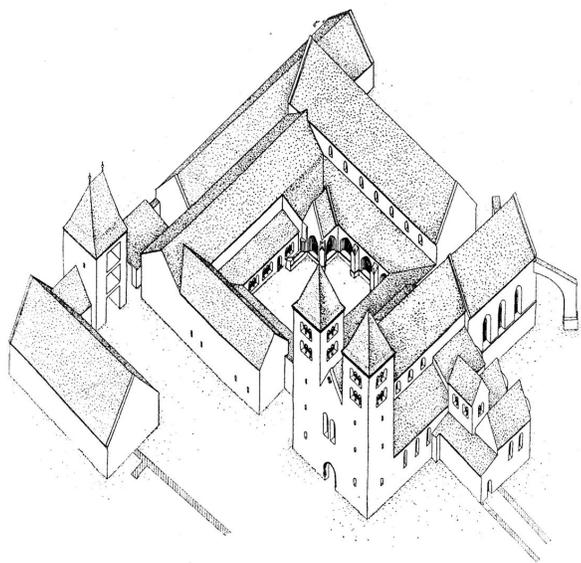
Several hollow ways at the site of St Kilian's on the left bank of the Moldau River.

Photo Z. Kačerová, 2013.



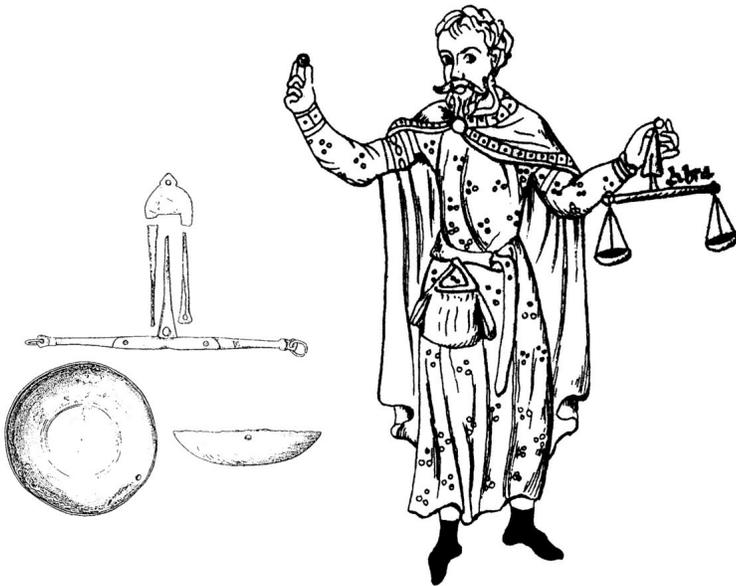
Graves found in the trench No. 12 in the main nave of the monastery church.

Photo J. Morávek, 1980. Archives of the IoA, PY000527254.



Reconstruction of the Ostrov monastery, view from south-west.

After J. Stehlík 1947.



Drawing of a folding merchant pair of scales found at the site of Sekanka and a Medieval depiction of a merchant.
After J. Klápště.



Drawing of a ring with a German inscription „HUDRUNTALER“. Found during excavations at Sekanka.
After M. Richter.