

Abstract (in English):

This thesis focused on the phenomenon of unplastered brick through the work of Czech architects Jan Kotěra, Josef Gočár, Otakar Novotný and Jaroslav Rössler, who began working with this material between 1906-1913, and then during the 1920s, when they discovered Possibilities of gray masonry also architects Pavel Janák and Jaroslav Vondrák. Selected architects, working mainly in Prague and other Czech cities, belong to the circle of pupils and collaborators of the architect Jan Kotěra. The method of work consists in the knowledge of brick material through a formal analysis of a specific architectural work and its placement in a broader art historical and socio-historical context, which allows its interpretation.

My research questions include how architects work with brick material and how these manifestations change. I am also interested in which buildings are designed in gray material in terms of typology. The work considers the changing relationship of architecture to brick material, as it can be perceived as a purely traditional and modern material. Therefore, the first chapters are devoted to the topic of brick and a brief explanation of its characteristics. I also consider it essential in the local context to deal with the tradition of using gray masonry in historical and industrial architecture. The architecture of the observed protagonists is included in the "context" of Czech modern architecture, which I defined for the needs of the work in the years 1898-1928.

The chapters deal with the relationship of architectural theory to the material, construction and form of the building and also with the reflection of foreign tendencies by Czech architects.