

The aim of this work is to present new findings on the quantitative and qualitative composition of the Minorite Library in Český Krumlov during the pre-Hussite period, using standard comparative codicological procedures.

The original source base, comprising the preserved manuscripts and the library catalogue from 1502 has been successfully expanded through heuristic research to include a previously unknown Minorite Library catalogue from 1787 and what was previously the only library catalogue of the Český Krumlov St Claire nuns, which was compiled in 1782 during the inventorization of the disestablished convent's property. Study of the archive sources housed in the Museum of Decorative Arts archive produced important findings regarding the sale of Český Krumlov manuscripts and incunabula from the museum between 1894 and 1896, as well as the role played by curator Karel Herain in preserving the Český Krumlov manuscripts during the Second World War.

Attention is primarily focused on the manuscripts from the book donation made by Peter II of Rosenberg to the convent. When a comparison was made with other preserved manuscripts it was established that the size of the book donation was greater than originally thought. An analysis of the 1502 library catalogue made it possible to determine the library contents at the beginning of the 16th century, and a comparison of the catalogue with the preserved manuscripts produced valuable findings on the composition of the pre-Hussite library collection, detailed in Annex 2. A comparison of the 1502 book catalogue with the 1787 library catalogue cast light on the quantitative change in the manuscript collection from the beginning of the 16th century to 1787, showing that at least 50 items were lost, see Annex 3. Nevertheless, with its 90 medieval manuscripts the Český Krumlov library is the best preserved Minorite library in the Czech lands.