

MICHAŁ WOJENKA

A Forgotten Vessel. A Few Notes on the Silver Hoard Container Found in the Cave *Jaskinia Okopy Wielka, Dolna* at Ojców

The article revisits what we know of the clay jar which held the early-medieval silver hoard discovered by S. J. Czarnowski in 1897. The jar was found during the exploration of the cave *Jaskinia Okopy Wielka, Dolna*, at Ojców, Cracow County and contained 116 silver coins. The ceramic vessel represents the type of a small-sized (11.2 cm high) jar with a cylindrical neck. Made on a potter's wheel, the vessel is decorated with an etched line (horizontal and wavy) and bottom is decorated with a potter's mark in the form of an irregular cross. The date of the jar to the close of the eleventh century is based on the coins found inside (26 coins of the palatine Sieciech, type II; a denar of Ladislaus I of Hungary). The territorial extent of the discoveries of the palatine Sieciech, type II, as well as the coincidence of the vessel's material with the finds discovered in or near Cracow, allow us to formulate a tentative hypothesis of the local provenance of this hoard. It is also possible that there is a connection between the hoard and the nearby trade route traversing the Prądnik Valley.