

It could be expected that Wrocław's Ostrów Tumski, as the main center of early medieval Silesia and one of the most important strongholds in the structure of the Piast's state, is very well recognized. This impression is intensified by the fact that archaeological research on the site has been conducted for over 50 years (admittedly with intervals) and the results of these research have been elaborated in the form of several books, as well as synthetic articles and material science publications. However, the state of recognition of Ostrów Tumski in Wrocław is far from perfect. In numerous research reports and even monographic studies is often lack interpretation of individual phenomena and views on the site as a whole. Attempts to create a complete elaboration of Ostrów Tumski were made in synthetic articles, but they brought more questions than answers.

The question of the political conditions in which the Wrocław was founded and to whom the investment should be attributed is still unexplained. It is also problematic to determine what population lived on Ostrów Tumski in Wrocław - warriors along with their families? merchants? or maybe service? According to older theories strongholds concentrated various kinds of "craft" production, but according to newer concepts within their area, there was no space for this type of activity. What were the trade contacts between the residents of early medieval Wrocław and with the population of other regions and did they change over time? The aim of the project is to try to answer these questions - not only in relation to Wrocław Ostrów Tumski but also other central places of the Piast's state.

To explain these problems, broader studies of the material culture of the position will be undertaken in the implementation of the project. Apart from statistical analyzes, metallurgical and dendrochronological research will also be undertaken. Much attention will be focused on imports and finds, which may be associated with different activities of the inhabitants of the stronghold (e.g metallurgy, glassmaking, leathermaking, processing of bones and antlers, stones, etc.). The analysis of the finds will also be supported by research of the settlement structure of early medieval Wrocław.