

BALTAZAR BEHEM'S CODEX AS A CARTULARY. NEW DISCUSSIONS AND NEW FINDINGS

The Baltazar Behem Codex is the is the best-known artefact created in the Kraków municipal office. Due to its rich artwork, the publications concerning it focused on analysing this book from the perspective of the history of art, neglecting other aspects of the functioning of the codex in the city and the circumstances of its creation.

The research presented in this article led to the conclusion that when copying documents, the author of *The Behem Codex* used mainly the former cartulary (*Grabowski Codex*), but also original documents. The numbering of the copies also followed the numbering entered *in dorso* in parchment documents. Municipal regulations and guild statutes were copied from the no longer existing so-called third book and the Kraków codification of 1468.

Analysis of the available records indicates that Baltazar Behem was most likely the initiator of the creation of a new cartulary putting together municipal charter documents and the originator of the artistic setting of the codex. It cannot be ruled out that he also sponsored the work. The cartulary was written by one person, but it is impossible to determine whether it was Baltazar Behem.

The Codex contains a “municipal ideological programme” which highlights the role and significance of the City Council. This suggests that it was a municipal insignia displayed during events important for Kraków.