

# Štramberk, Nový Jičín dist., Moravian-Silesian Region

## Šipka Cave

(from 40000 years ago to the modern period)

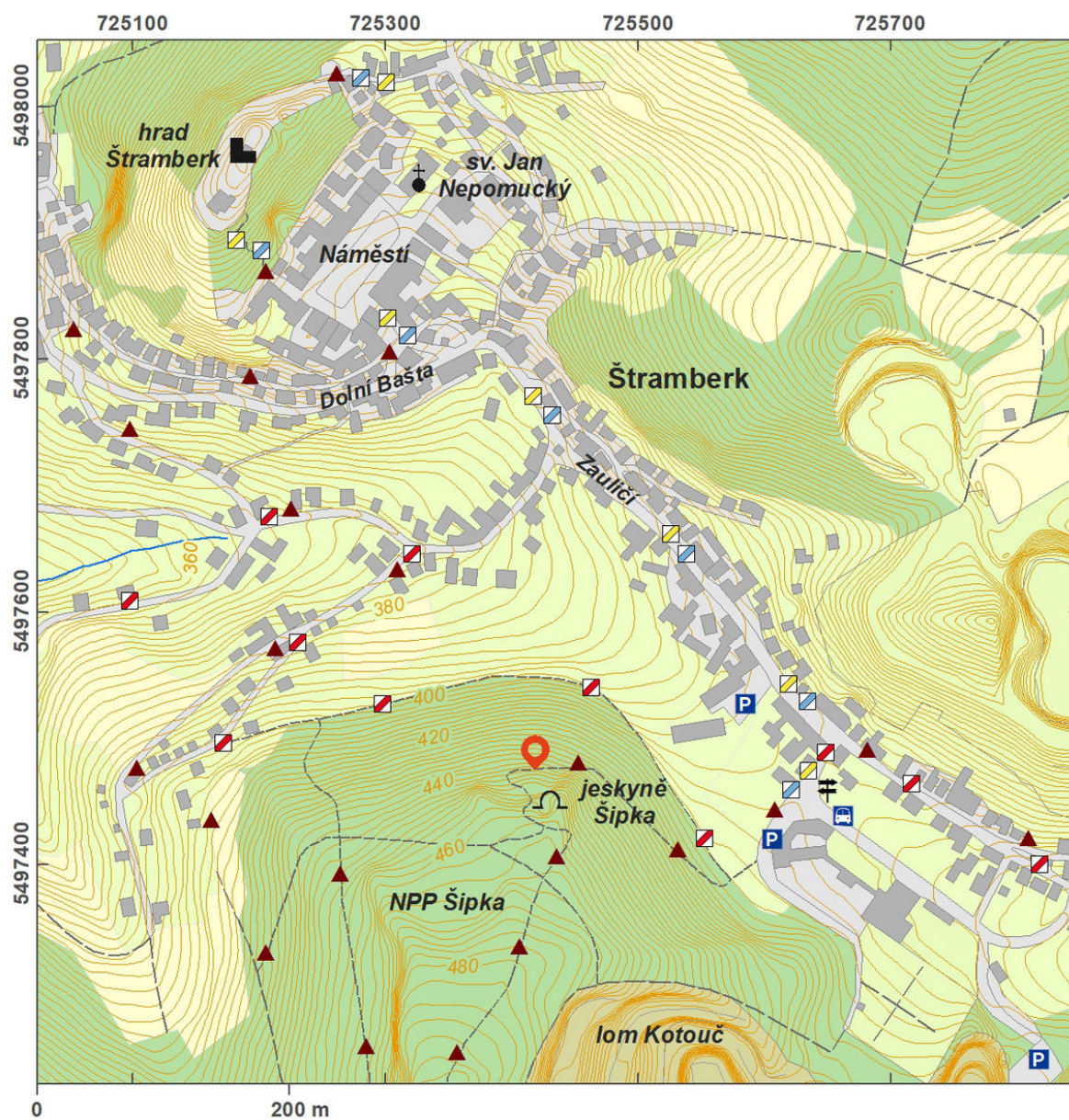


The cave of Šipka became world-famous after the lower jaw of a Neanderthal child was found there. This find had a deep impact on the scientific disputes over the existence of the Neanderthals at that time. The excavation had started in 1879, the jaw was found a year later in about 12 m from the entrance, in front of the a pit called Jezevčí díra ('Badger Hole'), in a small niche almost at the original ground level (in a depth of 1.7 m), near a Middle-Palaeolithic fire place. The Šipka Cave is a relatively small cave, divided behind the entrance part into two corridors: Jezevčí díra ('Badger Hole') and Krápníková chodba ('Dripstone Corridor'). In addition, the cave yielded a large assemblage of stone tools. Two other fire places stem from the Middle Palaeolithic, and a hoard of bronze items belongs to the Bronze Age. Unfortunately, the find of the lower Neanderthal jaw was destroyed in a fire at Mikulov Castle in 1945.

**References:** Dohnal 1988; Grepl 1998; Čižmář 2004; Matoušek – Jenč – Peša 2005.

**Navigation point:** N 49°35'16.08", E 18°07'08.45".





Access map.

After Tomášek et al. 2015.





Jezevčí díra ('Badger Hole'; left) and Krápníková chodba ('Dripstone Corridor').  
Photo M. Zezulová, 2015.



Kotouč hill.  
Photo T. Tichá Krasnokutská.