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ARHEOLOOGILISED VÄLITÖÖD EESTIS

ARCHAEOLOGICAL FIELDWORK IN ESTONIA

2002

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Toimetuskolleegium:

Ants Kraut
Valter Lang
Anneli Randla
Erki Russow
Toomas Tamla
Ülle Tamla
Heiki Valk

Uus 18, Tallinn 10111, Eesti
e-mail: info@muinas.ee

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ARCHAEOLOGICAL FIELDWORK IN SETUMAA

Mare AUN and Arvis KIRISTAJA

Ajaloo Instituut (Institute of History), Rüütli 6, 10130 Tallinn, Eesti (Estonia)

mare.aun@mail.ee

Kirjastus Avita (Publishing company Avita), Pikk 68, 10133 Tallinn, Eesti (Estonia)

arvis@avita.ee

In 2002 archaeological excavations were resumed on the Laossina II settlement site in Setumaa. This year the excavation plot was located in the central part of the settlement (Aun 2002, Fig. 2: 1), immediately northwest of the excavation plot I of 2001 (so-called upper plot; Fig. 1: 1), and in the SW part of the disturbed area (so-called lower plot; Fig. 1: 3) (Aun & Kiristaja 2002).

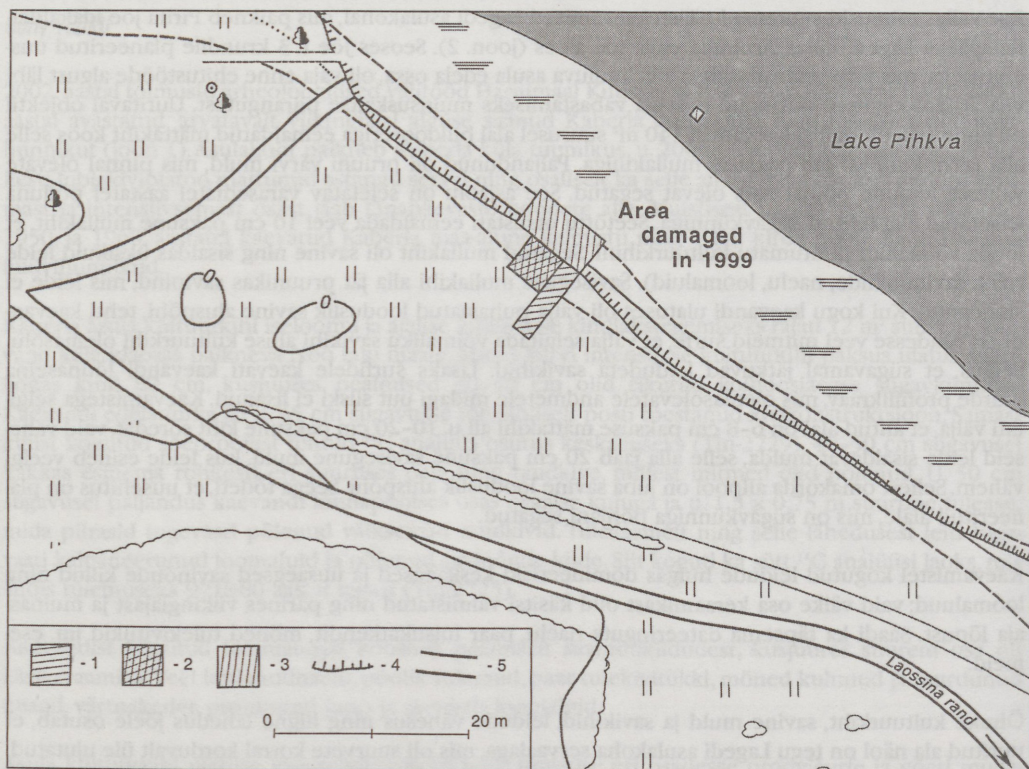


Fig. 1. Settlement site II of Laossina. Location plan of the excavation plots. 1 - excavation of 2001, 2 - upper excavation plot of 2002, 3 - lower excavation plot of 2002, 4 - contour of the damaged area, 5 - roads.

Joon. 1. Laossina II asulakoht. Kaevandite asendiskeem. 1 - 2001. aasta kaevand, 2 - 2002. aasta ülemine kaevand, 3 - 2002. aasta alumine kaevand, 4 - lõbutud ala piirjoon, 5 - teed.



Fig. 2. Settlement site II of Laossina. Cross-section of the cultural layer in the NW side of the upper plot. View from SE.

Joon. 2. Laossina II asulakoh. Kultuurikihi läbilõige ülemise kaevandi loodeseinas. Vaade kagust.

The upper plot (16 sq m) proceeded 4 m towards NW from the NE end of the plot I of 2001. The cross-section of the cultural layer (Fig. 2) was almost the same here as in the excavation of 2001 (see more Aun 2002, 176–177). A layer of grayish sand beneath the sod layer was 10–12 cm thick and contained some potsherds (AI 6465: 320–328), one of them (AI 6465: 321) was decorated with close lines. In the SW part of the plot a narrow vein (5–7 cm) of brownish yellow sand, brought by wind and water, thinning towards NE and ending approximately at the NW–SE centre line of the plot, could be observed beneath the grayish sand. The next layer was grayish brown sand (10–13 cm thick), also thinner in the NE part of the plot, where it was located immediately beneath the grayish sand under the sod. There were many occasional patches of grayish and yellowish sand in this grayish brown layer, where mole and mouse holes had been. Finds were mainly medieval fragments of wheel pottery (AI 6465: 408 *et al.*) and a few fragments of clay netsinkers (AI 6465: 407). Lower down, a dark gray cultural layer with brown spots, fragments of burnt clay and charcoal, and stone rubble came to light. Clay packings were more numerous in the SW part of the plot. This layer, too, was disturbed by rodent holes. In the NE part of the plot a fire-place of granite stones



Fig. 3. Settlement site II of Laossina. Fire-place of the upper plot. View from SE.

Joon. 3. Laossina II asulakoh. Leese ülemise kaevandi kirdeosas. Vaade kagust.

was discovered (Fig. 3), which had been built upon the original soil in the bottom part of the dark gray cultural layer. Under the upper stones of the fire-place smallish patches of rust-brown soil could be observed. The finds (potsherds) were few around the fire-place. Beneath the dark gray sand a 20 cm layer of grayish yellow sand was discovered. In its undisturbed part only fragments of hand-moulded pottery (AI 6465: 732, 733, etc.) were found. In the rodents' holes reaching into this layer mainly wheel pottery was found (AI 6465: 749, etc.). Small charcoal fragments and patches of yellow sand were more numerous in the lower part of the layer. No building remains were discovered here.

LOWER PLOT

A NW-SE-oriented excavation plot (40 sq m) was dug on the present-day coastal terrace on the place where pottery of the Lubana type belonging to the Early Bronze Age (AI 6443: 1) and flint chips (see also Aun 2002, 174-175) were found in 2001. The excavations revealed that near the border of the upper and lower plots where 15-20 cm decline of the ground could be observed, the former shore of the Pihkva Lake was located. The investigated layer in the area disturbed in

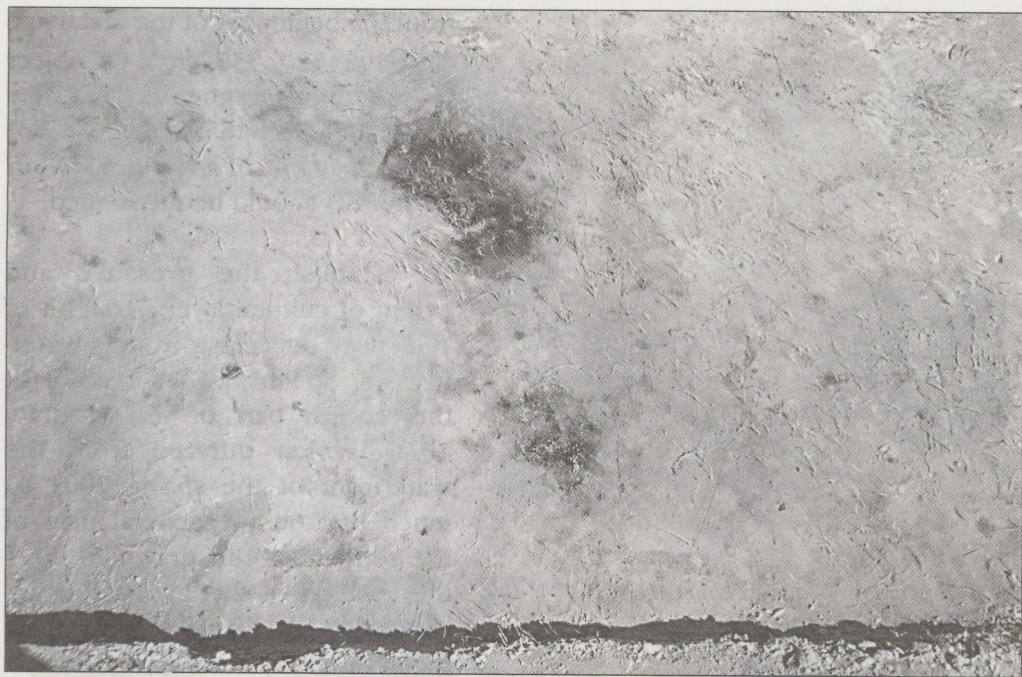


Fig. 4. Settlement site II of Laossina. Fire-place of the lower plot. View from SW.

Joon. 4. Laossina II asulakobi. Tulease alumise kaevandi loodeosas. Vaade edelast.

1999 was only 10–15 cm thick. The soil under the thin new sod layer was excavated by 5 cm thick layers. All over the lower plot there were small patches of grayish or mixed sand in the yellow sand. In the NW part of the excavation a larger patch with burnt traces came to light (Fig. 4), where orange burnt sand, charcoal and coaly sand as well as heavily burnt *keris*-stones suggesting an old fire-place could be seen. Deeper down it appeared that the fire-place was oblong by shape, measuring 140 cm from N to S and 45 cm from W to E. It was 40 cm deep and the charcoal layer was ca 20 cm thick. The ^{14}C analysis of the charcoal sample recovered from the fire-place gave a result 4592 ± 70 years (Tln-2687), calibrated 3500–3100 BC (likelihood 68.3%). By this result (3325 cal. BC) the investigated fire-place belongs to the period of the Late Comb Ware Culture. Of the hitherto recovered finds flint and quartz chips (Fig. 5) and a few calcinated bone fragments (AI 6465: 529, 532) can be related to the settlement of this period. The majority of finds in the lower plot consisted of potsherds, which were mostly so small that the type of pottery could not be established, neither could they be dated. 2/3 of the identified potsherds were of wheel pottery of the Late Iron Age, ca 20% belonged to medieval and later wheel pottery. The share of hand-moulded pottery was ca 15%, and the larger part of it belonged to the 7th–10th centuries, a smaller part could be dating from the Roman Iron Age, and a few fragments also

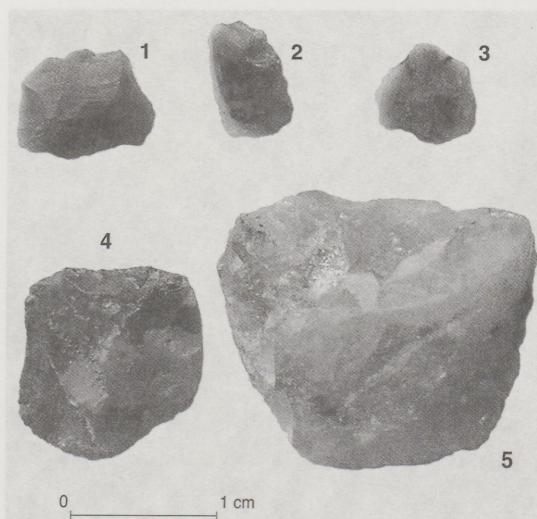


Fig. 5. Settlement site II of Laossina. Finds.
1–4 – flint chips, 5 – quartz chip (AI 6465: 424, 429, 523, 445, 553).

Joon. 5. Laossina II asulakohi. Leiud.
1–4 – tulekivikillud, 5 – kvartsitükk.

from the beginning of the Metal Age (AI 6465: 520, 555, etc.). Of object finds some fragments of clay netsinkers (AI 6465: 378, 457, 523) and a fragment of a spinning-whorl (Fig. 6: 11) should be mentioned.

To establish the presence and extent of cultural layer a trial pit of 1 m² was dug close by the waterfront of the Pihkva Lake in 2002 (in the eastern part of the quadrangle 10/a), which differed from the waterfront of the spring 2001 so much that on the general plan of the settlement site drawn in 2001 the location of this excavation lies in water (Fig. 1). After removing a 5 cm thick layer it appeared that cultural layer was missing in this

place, but pottery of the Late Iron Age, washed by the lake, was still found there (AI 6465: 553).

THE FINDS

Like in the previous year, potsherds (Fig. 6: 1–9) prevailed among the finds. Besides them a whole clay netsinker (Fig. 6: 10), some fragments of netsinkers and spinning-whorls (Fig. 6: 11), fragments of iron objects and slag lumps were found. The lower plot produced also flint and quartz chips (Fig. 5). About 20% of the found potsherds (ca 1450 fragments) from both excavations came from hand-moulded vessels. All fragments, except one (AI 6465: 754) belonged to coarse pottery with smoothed surfaces, made of clay containing coarse rubble. The broken surfaces were mostly two-ply. Some of these sherds (AI 6465: 732, 733, etc.) resembled coarse pottery found from graves of the Culture of Long Barrows, dating from the 2nd half of the I millennium, but the other part (Fig. 6: 1; AI 6465: 590) were earlier, belonging to the Early Metal Age. One of the potsherds of this period (Fig. 6: 1), found from the upper plot, bears textile impressions on the outer surface. Hand-moulded pottery contains only one fragment of a fine-grained vessel (AI 6465: 754), its carefully smoothed surfaces were of grayish colour.

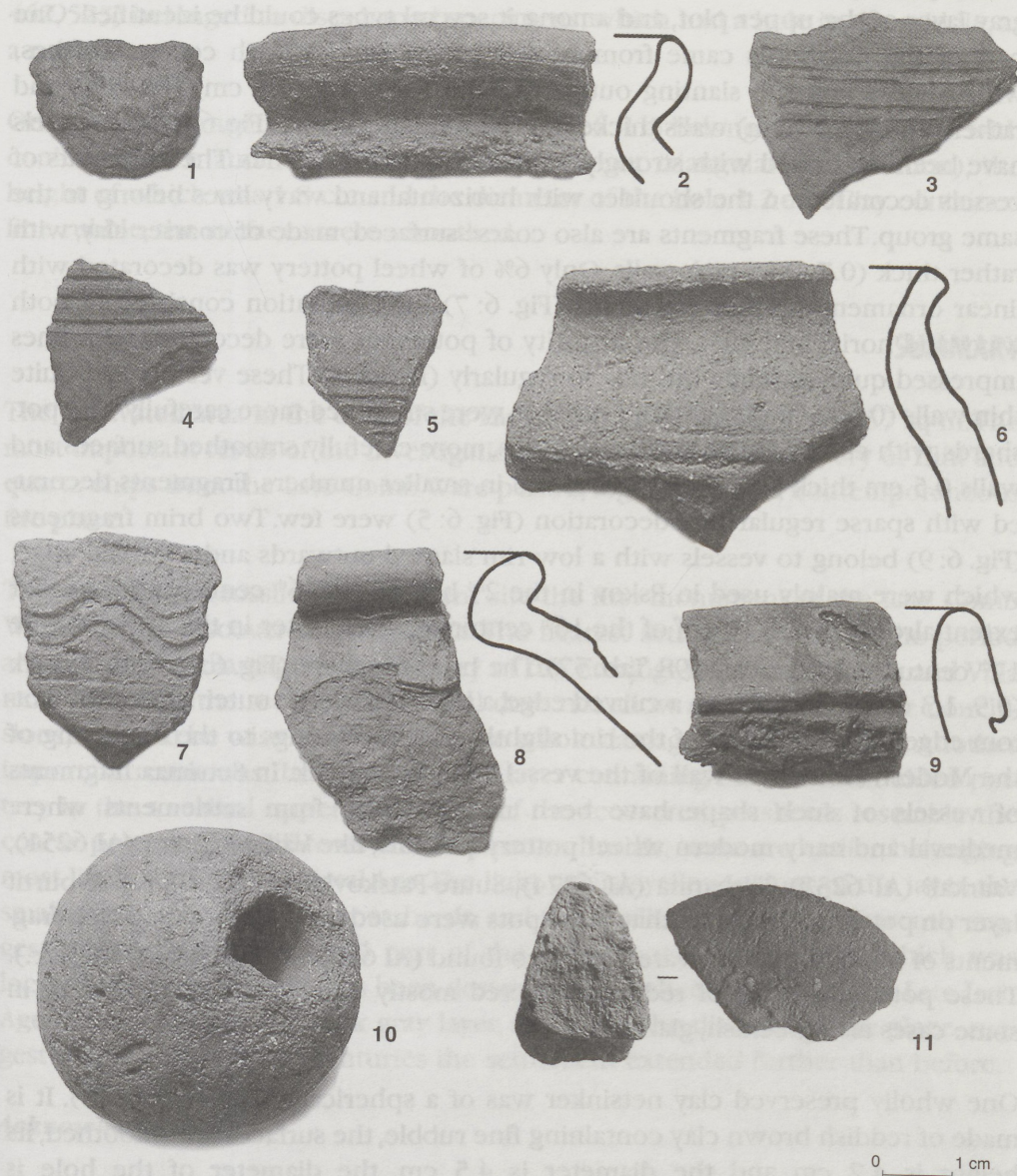


Fig. 6. Settlement site II of Laossina. Finds. 1-9 - potsberds, 10 - netsinker of clay, 11 - fragment of a clay spinning-whorl (AI 6465: 555, 566, 637, 361, 473, 401, 596, 764, 408, 791, 359, 548). Joon. 6. Laossina II asulakoht. Leiud. 1-9 - savinõukillud, 10 - savist võrguraskus, 11 - savist värtmakedra katke.

Wheel pottery (80% of the total amount; Fig. 6: 2-9) was mostly found in the dark gray layer of the upper plot, and among it several types could be identified. One part of the potsherds came from vessels of coarse clay, with coarse surfaces, which had a low rim slanting outwards, with a narrow (0.5 cm) flat edge and rather thick (0.8-1 cm) walls thickening from the neck part (Fig. 6: 6). The vessels have been decorated with strongly impressed horizontal lines. The fragments of vessels decorated on the shoulder with horizontal and wavy lines belong to the same group. These fragments are also coarse-surfaced, made of coarser clay, with rather thick (0.7-0.75 cm) walls. Only 6% of wheel pottery was decorated with linear ornament, on four fragments (Fig. 6: 7) the decoration consisted of both wavy and horizontal lines. The majority of potsherds were decorated with lines impressed quite strongly but not so regularly (Fig. 6: 3). These vessels had quite thin walls (0.5-0.65 cm) and the surfaces were smoothed more carefully. The potsherds with close regular line decorations, more carefully smoothed surfaces and walls 0.5 cm thick (Fig. 6: 4) were found in smaller numbers. Fragments decorated with sparse regular line decoration (Fig. 6: 5) were few. Two brim fragments (Fig. 6: 9) belong to vessels with a low rim slanted outwards and a curved edge, which were mainly used in Pskov in the 2nd half of the 16th century, to a smaller extent already in the 1st half of the 16th century, and also later, in the 1st half of the 17th century (Арте́мьев 1998, Tab. 57). The brim fragment (Fig. 6: 8) with a thick (0.9-1.3 cm) low rim with a curved edge, a low step on the outer side of the bottom edge, and the inside of the rim slightly convex, belongs to the beginning of the Modern Times. The wall of the vessel is 0.95 cm thick. In Setumaa fragments of vessels of such shape have been mostly found from settlements where medieval and early modern wheel pottery prevails, like Väike-Rõsna I (AI 6251), Vaarkali (AI 6232), Tiirhanna (AI 6274), Suure-Patskovka (AI 6290), *etc.* A burnt layer on potsherds suggests that these pots were used for cooking. About ten fragments of modern earthenware were also found (AI 6465: 375, 383, 440, 482, *etc.*). These potsherds were of red clay, covered mostly with yellowish-brown, or in some cases also greenish, glaze.

One wholly preserved clay netsinker was of a spherical shape (Fig. 6: 10). It is made of reddish brown clay containing fine rubble, the surfaces are smoothed, its height is 4.2 cm and the diameter is 4.5 cm, the diameter of the hole is 1.1-1.2 cm. The netsinker was found from the disturbed soil of the NE side of the upper plot. Spherical netsinkers of clay have also been found from the Pedäjäsaare settlement site near Värskä (Aun 1999, 122), where they were found mainly in the medieval layer. It has been suggested that such netsinkers were mostly used in water bodies with uneven limestone bottom (Салмина 1996, 198). The finds from Pedäjäsaare and Laossina prove that it was not so always. The rest

of the netsinkers, preserved only fragmentarily (AI 6465: 378, 384, 407, 457, 460, 462, 523) belonged to disc-shaped specimens, which had a hole in the middle, as a rule.

One of the fragments of spinning-whorls (Fig. 6: 11) belongs to a specimen with conical surface and flat bottom (with an almost triangular cross-section), the height of which was 1.8 cm and the diameter of the hole 1.2 cm. Clay contained fine rubble, the surfaces were smoothed.

SUMMARY

The excavated area in the core of the Laossina II settlement site was 57 sq m. The most important result of the investigations in 2002 was the discovery of flint and quartz chips from the Late Comb Ware period, together with a contemporaneous fire-place.

This makes the Laossina II settlement site the first monument of the Late Comb Ware Culture discovered in Setumaa. The nearest settlement sites of the period are Akali and Kullamägi in the estuary of the Emajõgi River, and Tamula and Villa near Võru. Still, the recovered material does not allow drawing extensive conclusions; it would be wise to investigate the whole damaged part of the site. Another important result was the discovery of a layer containing only hand-moulded pottery in the so-called upper plot. Some of the recovered potsherds resemble the coarse pottery from barrows with cremation burials, some are earlier, belonging most likely to the Early Metal Age. The light grayish-yellow colour of the layer, the small number of recovered potsherds, and the small size of them apparently suggest that it was a peripheral part of the settlement; the core part, which was located closer to the lake has been destroyed. The wheel pottery of the Late Iron Age recovered from the dark gray layer, as well as the discovered fire-place, suggest that in the 11th–13th centuries the settlement extended further than before.

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ARHEOLOOGILISED VÄLTÖÖD SETUMAAL

Mare AUN ja Arvis KIRISTAJA

2002. aastal jätkati arheoloogilisi kaevamisi Laossina II asulakohal Setumaal. Kaevamisi tehti asulakoha tuumikalal, 2001. aasta I kaevandist (joon. 1: 1) loode pool (nn. ülemine kaevand; joon. 1: 2) ning lõhutud ala edelaosa keskel (nn. alumine kaevand; joon. 1: 3).

ÜLEMINE KAEVAND

Ülemise kaevandi (16 m²) kultuurikihi läbilõige (joon. 2) oli peaaegu samasugune, nagu eelmise aasta kaevandis, kus mättaaluse hallika liiva kihi paksus ulatus 10–12 cm. Hallika liiva all oli kaevandi edelaosas kitsas (5–7 cm), tuule ja vee poolt pealekantud pruunikaskollase liiva viirg, mis õhenes kirde suunas ning lõppes ligikaudu kaevandi loode-kagusuunalisel keskjoonel. Järgnes 10–13 cm paksune hallikaspruuni liiva kiht, mis oli õhem kaevandi kirdeosas ja paiknes seal otse mätta all. Hallikaspruuni liiva kihi all tuli nähtavale tumehall, tumepruunide täppide, söetükkide, põlenud savitükkide ja põlenud kivipuruga kultuurikiht. Savitihendite tükke oli rohkem kaevandi edelaosas. Kaevandi kirdeosast tuli päevavalgele raudkividest leease (joon. 3), mis oli ehitatud algele maapinnale. Leide (savinõukilde) saadi leease ümbrusest vähe. Tumehalli liiva kihile järgnes sügavamal heledama hallikaskollase liiva kiht (paksus u. 20 cm), kust hiireurgudest ja mutikäikudest rikkumata alalt saadi ainult käsikeraamikat. Kõrgemalt sellesse kihti ulatuvatest segatud tume- kuni mustjashalli liivaga täidetud käikudest ja urgudest leiti valdavalt kedrakeraamikat. Ehitusjäänuseid selles kihis ei esinenud.

ALUMINE KAEVAND

Loode-kagusuunaline kaevand (40 m²) rajati praeguse rannaastangu alale kohta, kust 2000. aastal oli leitud vanemasse pronksiaega kuuluvat Lubana tüüpi keraamikat ja tulekivikilde. Kaevamistel selgus, et ülemise ja alumise kaevandi piiril, kus maapinna langus oli 15–20 cm, asus arvatavalt Pihkva järve omaaegne kallas. Uuritud kihi paksus oli 1999. aastal lõhutud alal vaid 10–15 cm. Juba tekkida jõudnud õhukese määtkihi all olevat segatud pinnast kaevati 5 cm korriste kaupa. Kaevandi loodeosast avastati suurem pikliku kujuga põlemisjäänustega laik (joon. 4), kus oli nii oranžikat põlenud liiva, sütt ja söesegust liiva kui ka tugevasti põlenud kerisekive, mis osutasid koldeasemele. Tuleasemelt kogutud söe ¹⁴C analüüs andis selle vanuseks 4592±70 aastat ja kalibreeritult 3500–3100 a. eKr (tõenäosus 68,3 %). Saadud tulemuse (3325 cal. BC) põhjal kuulub tulease hilise kammkeraamika kultuuri aega. Siiani avastatud leidudest võib selle ajastuga seostada tulekivi- ja kvartsikilde (joon. 5) ning väheseid kaltsineerunud luutükke. Leiumaterjali enamiku moodustasid alumises kaevandis samuti savinõukillud, mis olid enamasti nii väikesed, et ei saadud määrata nende tüüpi. U. 2/3 moodustas hilisrauaaegne kedrakeraamika, u. 20% – keskaegne ja hilisem kedrakeeraamika. Käsitsikeraamika osatähtsus oli u. 15%, millest suurem osa kuulus nähtavasti 7.–10. sajandisse, väiksem osa võib pärineda rooma rauaajast ning üksikud killud metalliaja algusest. Esemelidudest saadi mõned savist võrguraskuste ja värtnaketrade (joon. 6: 11) katked.

Kultuurikihi olemasolu ja asula ulatuse kontrollimiseks tehti 1 m² suurune prooviauik Pihkva järve 2002. aasta veepiiri lähedale, mis erines 2001. aasta veepiirist sedavõrd, et siis tehtud asulakoha üldplaanil on selle kaevandi asukoht vees (joon. 1). Kultuurikihti sealt ei leitud.

LEIUD

Leidude hulgas olid ülekaalus savinõukillud (joon. 6: 1–9). Veel leiti üks savist võrguraskus (joon. 6: 10) ja mõned võrguraskuste katked, samuti värtnaketrade (joon. 6: 11) ja raudesemete katkeid ning šlakitükke. Alumisest kaevandist saadi ka tulekivi- ja kvartsitükke (joon. 5: 1–5). Leitud savinõukillude koguhulgast (u. 1450 kildu) oli nii ülemises kui alumises kaevandis kokku u. 20% käsitsivormitud nõudest. Kõik killud peale ühe pärinesid tasandatud pindadega jämekeraamilistest nõudest, murdekoht oli enamasti kahekihiline. Osa kildudest olid sarnased pikk-kääbaste kultuuri kalmetest leitud jämekeraamikale I aastatuhande teisest poolest, osa oli nendest aga varasem, kuuludes varasesse metalliaega. Ühel sellesse aega dateeritud killul (joon. 6: 1), mis leiti ülemise kaevandi kultuurikihi alaosas, on välispinnal riidekoe(?)vajutusi. Käsikeraamika hulgas oli vaid üks peenkeramilise nõu kild, selle pinnad olid hallika värvusega ning hoolikalt silutud. Kedrakeraamikat (kokku 80% keraamika koguhulgast; joon. 6: 2–9) leiti kõige rohkem ülemise kaevandi tumehallist kihist ning selles võis eristada mitut tüüpi. Osa savinõukilde pärines jämedama savikoostise ja koreda pinnaga nõudest, millel on madal, väljapoole kaldu kitsa (laius 0,5 cm) lameda äärega võrik ja üsna paksud (0,8–1 cm) seinad, kusjuures sein paksus suureneb nõu kaelaosast alates (joon. 6: 6). Nõud on olnud kaunistatud tugevamini vajutatud horisontaaljoontest ornamendiga. Samasse rühma kuuluvad ka killud, millel õlaosas on nii horisontaal- kui lainejoontest ornament. Need killud on samuti koreda pinnaga, jämedama savikoostisega ning üsna paksude (0,7–0,75 cm) seintega. Ainult 6% leitud kedrakeraamikast oli kaunistatud joonornamendiga, neljal killul (joon. 6: 7) koosnes ornament nii laine- kui horisontaaljoontest. Ülekaalus olid tugevamini, kuid mitte eriti korrapäraselt vajutatud joontega kaunistatud savinõude killud (joon. 6: 3). Need nõud on olnud õhukeste (0,5–0,65 cm) seintega ning hoolikamalt silutud pinnaga. Vähem oli tiheda korrapärase joonornamendiga kilde, nende nõude seinapaksus on olnud vaid 0,5 cm, pinnad on hoolikamalt silutud (joon.

6: 4); vähe oli ka hõredama korrapärase joonornamendiga kaunistatud kilde (joon. 6: 5). Kaks segatud pinnasest leitud servatükk (joon. 6: 9) pärinevad madala, väljapoole kaldu võriku ning kumera äärega nõudest, mille peamine kasutusaeg Pihkvas oli 16. sajandi teine pool, vähesel hulgal kasutati neid seal aga ka 16. sajandi esimesel ning 17. sajandi esimesel poolel. Varauusaegsest savinõust pärineb servatükk (joon. 6: 8), millel on võrdlemisi paksuseinaline (0,9–1,3 cm) madal, kumera äärega võrik ja allservas on välispinnal madal astang; võriku sisepind on veidi kumer. Setumaalt on sellise kujuga savinõude kilde leitud enamasti asulatest, kus on ülekaalus kesk- ja varauusaegne kedrakeraamika (näit. Väike-Rõsna I, Vaarkali, Tiirhanna, Suure-Patskovka jt.) Kõrbekiht nõufragmentidel tunnistab, et neid kasutati keedunõudena. Uusaegsetest nõudest leiti kümmekond kollakaspruuni või roheka glasuuriga kildu. Savist võrguraskustest oli üks kerakujuline (joon. 6: 10). Ülejäänud, vaid katketena säilinud võrguraskused, pärinesid kettakujulistest eksemplaridest, millel auk oli tavaliselt keskel. Leiti ka värtakedra katkeid (joon. 6: 11).

KOKKUVÕTE

2002. aastal kaevati Laossina II asulakoha tuumikalal läbi kokku 57 m². Uurimistööde kõige olulisemaks tulemuseks oli lõhutud alal lisaks hilise kammkeraamika kultuuri aega kuuluvateke tulekivi- ja kvartsikildudele ka selleaegse tuleaseme avastamine. Laossina II asulakoha näol on seega tegemist esimese hilisesse kammkeraamika kultuuri aega dateeritud muistisega Setumaal. Temale lähemad samasse aega dateeritud asulakohad on põhja pool – Akali ja Kullamägi Emajõe suudmealal ning edela pool – Tamula ja Villa Võru lähedal. Saadud materjalist on esialgu veel vähe kaugemaleulatuvate järelduste tegemiseks, selleks on vaja senisest põhjalikumaid uurimistöid ja nähtavasti oleks otstarbekas kogu lõhutud ala läbi uurida. Teiseks oluliseks tulemuseks oli kahtlemata nn. ülemise kaevandi alal ainult käsikeraamikast sisaldava kihi kindlakstegemine. Osa leitud käsikeraamikast on sarnane põletusmatustega kääbastest saadud jämekeraamikaga, osa on sellest aga varasem, kuuludes tõenäoliselt varasesse metalliaega. Kihi heledam hallikaskollane värvus, samuti sealt saadud leidude vähesus ning savinõukildude väikesed mõõtmed viitavad nähtavasti sellele, et tegemist on asula äärealaga. Tuumikala, mis oli järvele lähemal, on aga lõhutud. Tumehallist kihist saadud hilisrauaaegne kedrakeraamika, samuti päevavalgele tulnud lecase näitavad, et sel ajal (11.–13. sajandil) ulatus asula varasemast kaugemale.