

ARHEOLOOGILISED
VÄLITÖÖD
EESTIS

ARCHAEOLOGICAL
FIELDWORK
IN ESTONIA

2004

Koostanud ja toimetanud
Ülle Tamla

Muinsuskaitseamet
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Esikaas: ebtenaast Viskla II asulast.

Tagakaas: ribmajagaja Kämbla II asulast.

Cover: decorative mount from Viskla II settlement site.

Back cover: strap-divider from Kämbla II settlement site.

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RAAMATUKOGU
SUNDKSEMPLAR

ARCHAEOLOGICAL FIELDWORK IN SETUMAA IN 2004

Mare AUN

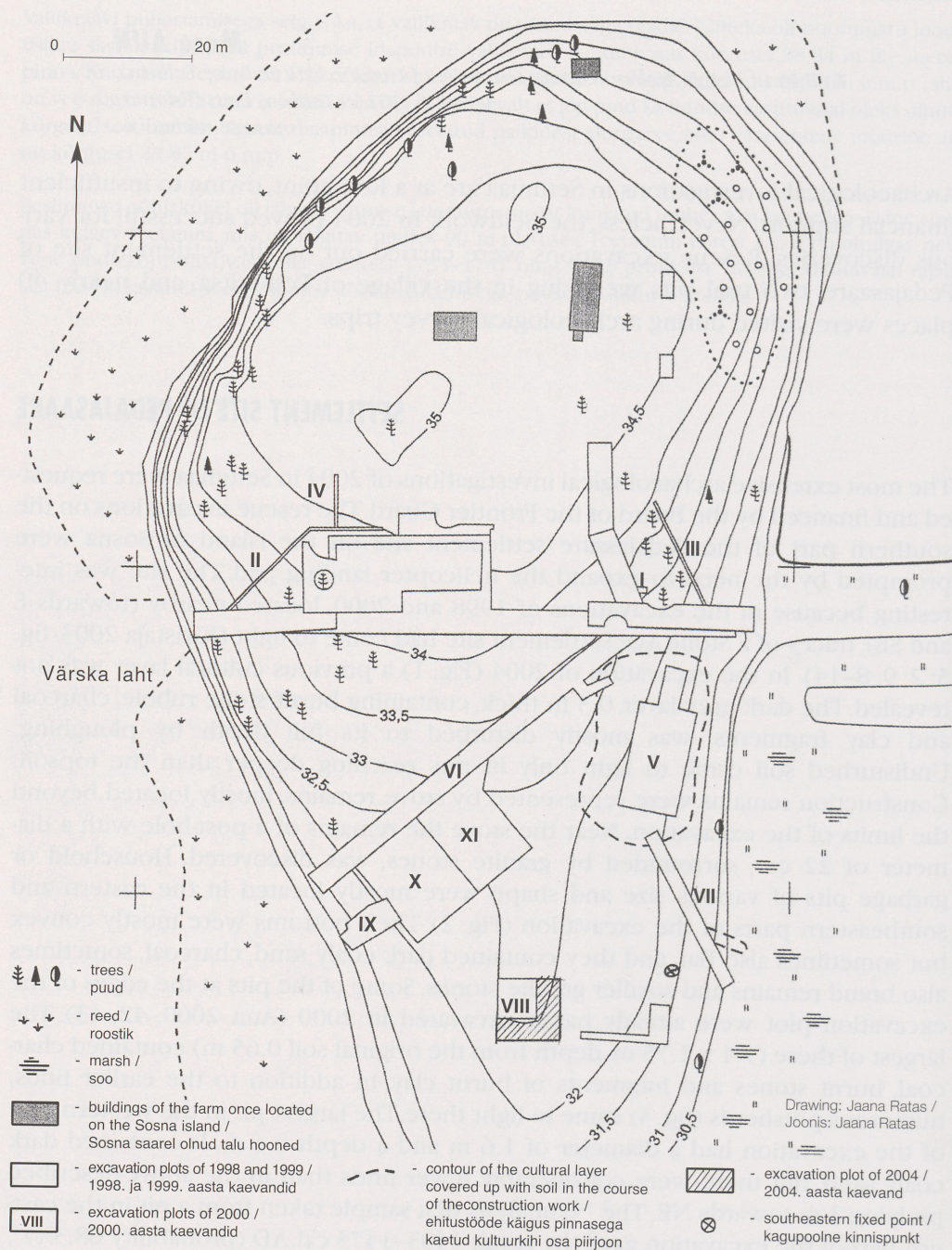
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Archaeological investigations in Setumaa are at a low point, owing to insufficient financial support. Nevertheless, the fieldwork in 2004 proved successful for various discoveries. Rescue excavations were carried out on the settlement site of Pedajasaare, two trial pits were dug in the village of Popovitsa, and nearly 40 places were visited during archaeological survey trips.

SETTLEMENT SITE OF PEDAJASAARE

The most extensive archaeological investigations of 2004 in Setumaa were requested and financed by the Board of the Frontier Guard. The rescue excavations on the southern part of the Pedajasaare settlement site on the island of Sosna were prompted by the need to expand the helicopter landing pad. The site was interesting because in the excavations of 1998 and 2000, located nearby (towards E and SE), traces of a Stone Age settlement site had come to light (Kiristaja 2003, fig. 5: 2; 9: 8–14). In the excavation of 2004 (Fig. 1) a previous cultural layer was not revealed. The dark grey layer, 0.3 m thick, containing burnt stone rubble, charcoal and clay fragments, was mostly disturbed to its full depth by ploughing. Undisturbed soil came to light only in pits reaching deeper than the topsoil. Construction remains were represented by stove remains, mostly located beyond the limits of the excavation. Near the stove the remains of a post-hole with a diameter of 22 cm, surrounded by granite stones, was discovered. Household or garbage pits of various size and shape were mostly located in the eastern and southeastern parts of the excavation (Fig. 2). Their bottoms were mostly convex but sometimes also flat, and they contained dark coaly sand, charcoal, sometimes also brand remains and smaller granite stones. Some of the pits at the edges of the excavation plot were already partly excavated in 2000 (Aun 2000, 42, 43). The largest of these (1.4 x 1.75 m, depth from the original soil 0.65 m) contained charcoal, burnt stones and fragments of burnt clay. In addition to the earlier finds, numerous potsherds (fig. 3) came to light there. The largest pit in the western part of the excavation had a diameter of 1.6 m and a depth 0.4 m. It contained dark coaly sand, but there were considerably fewer finds than in the above-described pit lying 3 m towards NE. The ¹⁴C analysis of a sample taken from a pit in the eastern part of the excavation gave the result 1403–1473 cal.AD (probability 68.3%)¹, consistent with the age of the potsherds recovered from the same pit. In some pits

¹ The sample was analyzed by Enn Kaup in the Laboratory for isotope-palaeoclimatology of the Institute of Geology of Tallinn Technical University.



netsinkers of clay and fragments of animal bones, both burnt and unburnt, also came to light.

The finds from the area mainly consist of late medieval and early post-medieval wheel-thrown pottery and some fragments of so-called field flasks, decorated with green glaze and line ornament, dating from the 16th century. The appearance of these vessels on Estonian territory is usually thought to be connected with the Livonian War (Tvauri 2004, 403, Fig. 6). Among the tools and commodities was the first fragment of a scythe found from the island of Sosna. It came to light in the lowest horizon of the cultural layer, just above one of the pits. The preserved fragment suggests that the scythe had a curved blade and a relatively short foot ending in a hook bent at right angle. Curved-blade scythes were introduced in Estonia in the middle of the I millennium, but were still in use in Estonia and Latvia in the 11th-12th centuries (Laul & Tõnisson 1991, 86 and refer-

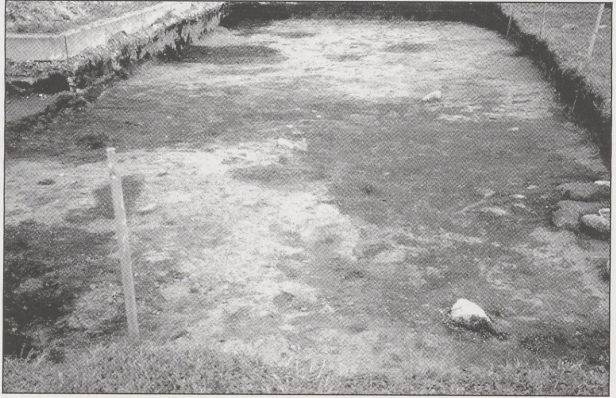


Fig. 2. The settlement site of Pedajasaare. Household pits in the eastern and southeastern part of the excavation. View from north.

Joon. 2. Pedajasaare asulakoht. Majapidamislohud kaevandi ida- ja kaguosas. Vaade põhjast.



Fig. 3. The settlement site of Pedajasaare. Assemblage of potsberds in the household pit at the western side of the eastern part of the excavation plot.

Joon. 3. Pedajasaare asulakoht. Savinõukildude kogum kaevandi idaosa lääneservas olevas majapidamislohus.

ences; see also Selirand 1974, pl. V: 10; Lang 1996, 202). All spindle whorls made of fine-grained clay belong to the same, nearly biconical type. Only one fragment was complete enough to allow accurate measurement (diameter 4.6 cm, diameter of the hole 1.0 cm). Most numerous were various objects connected with fishing - boat clamps, netsinkers and calks. One of the netsinkers was made of

limestone, the others of clay. The latter were shaped like spheres or discs. One of the spherical netsinkers had a diameter of 4.1 cm, height of 3.4 cm and the diameter of the hole was 1.05 cm; the respective measurements of the other were 4.9 cm, 3.3 cm and 0.65–0.8 cm. The disc-shaped netsinkers were preserved only fragmentarily. One of them had a diameter of 6.5 cm and a diameter of the hole of 0.9 cm, another measured 7.7 cm and 1.1 cm, respectively. Unlike the spindle whorls, the netsinkers are made of considerably coarser clay. Only the middle parts of ice calks, with a rectangular point having a sharp or blunt tip, are mostly preserved. Of other finds I should mention a fragment of a straight-backed knife and a fragment of a horseshoe, pieces of flint and a rather late Russian coin (1 kopek of 1898). In this as well as the previous excavations, quite a few lumps of bog ore were found, mainly concentrated in the part of the excavation closer to Värskä Bay. Among faunal remains, which according to the archaeozoologist Liina Maldre (2004, 1) mainly consisted of kitchen refuse, cattle bones were more numerous than those of pig, and sheep or goat.

STONE GRAVE OF POPOVITSA

Archaeological excavations in Popovitsa² were undertaken to ascertain the nature of the site: when an inhabitant of the village, Voldemar Järveküla, found two bronze bracelets from the Roman Iron Age (Fig. 4) while digging holes on his farm

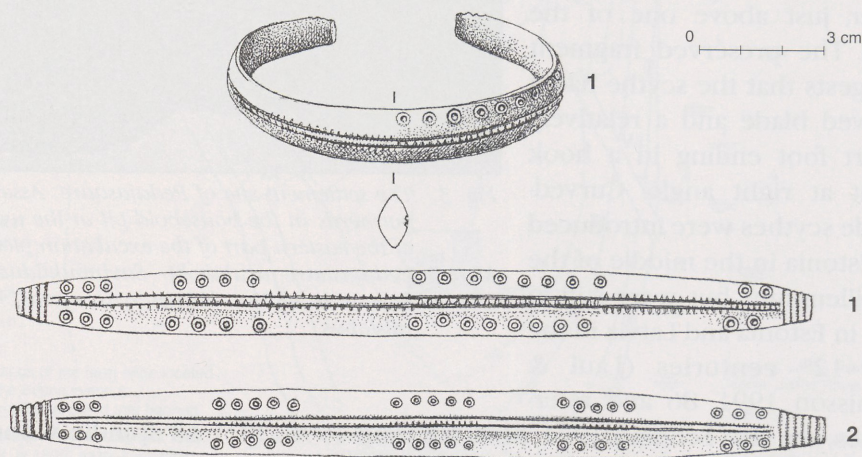


Fig. 4. Stone grave of Popovitsa. Bracelets.

Joon. 4. Popovitsa kivikalme. Käevõrud. (AI 6691: 2, 1.)

Drawing: Kersti Siitan / Joonis: Kersti Siitan

² Field work in the village of Popovitsa were financed by the Setu Culture Foundation, NPO Arheoloogikeskus and the cultural programme of Setomaa 2004.

in 2002, he did not notice any bones or charcoal. The find was reported at the Institute of History in September 2003. The survey trip to the site in October of the same year revealed that the site of discovery was located South of Värskä Bay, at the northern end of a stony hummock with a flat top and gently sloping sides. Small granite stones had come to light also in each hole dug by the finder. The farmer knew that during the collective farm period the place had

not been ploughed because of the stones. From his father he had heard that a threshing barn had once stood upon the hummock.

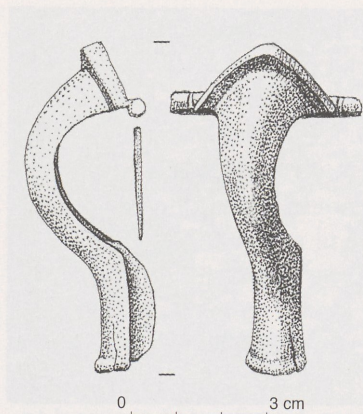


Fig. 5. Stone grave of Popovitsa. View of the excavation plot from east.

Joon. 5. Popovitsa kivikalme. Vaade kaevandile idast.

Photo: Arvis Kiristaja / Foto: Arvis Kiristaja

An excavation of 12 sq. m was made, enfolding both holes dug by the farmer. Beneath the sod layer brownish clayey soil came to light. The finds consisted mainly of early post-medieval wheel-thrown pottery. Beneath the clay horizon some sparsely located smallish granite stones came to light. Digging deeper, the stone heap became more compact, first in the central and southeastern parts of the plot (Fig. 5); still deeper the stone layer covered almost the whole area of the plot, with the exception of the NE part, where a large hole had been dug. Two, sporadically even three layers of stones were discernible in the fill of the grave. At the depth where the stones were the densest, cremated human bone fragments also came to light, scattered between the stones mainly in the central and southern parts of the excavation. In the southern part of the excavation, the soil between the stones was black and coaly, continuing as such also southwards beyond the limits of the excavated area. From the brownish-grey sand of the lower horizon of the cultural layer a bronze profiled fibula (Fig. 6) was found beneath the edge of a larger stone. At the edge of the large hole nearby a fragment of a *millefiori* bead (Fig. 7: 1) came to light. Both objects were found not far from the originally discovered bracelet (Fig. 4: 2) and the cremated bone fragments. To the southwest of the mentioned bracelet a grinding-stone (Fig. 7: 2) was discovered among the grave stones. At the level where the stone layer was the densest, a few fragments of hand-moulded pottery (AI 6691: 34, 36, 37) also came to light. At the limit between the cultural layer and the original soil, the stone layer was



Drawing: Kersti Siitan / Joonis: Kersti Siitan

Fig. 6. Stone grave of Popovitsa. Fibula.

Joon. 6. Popovitsa kivikalme. Peakilpsõlg. (AI 6691: 33.)

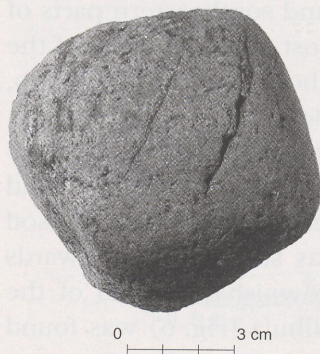
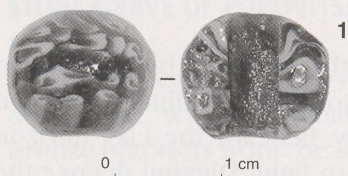


Photo: Jaana Ratas / Foto: Jaana Ratas

Fig. 7. Stone grave of Popovitsa. Finds. 1 - fragment of a glass bead, 2 - grinding stone.

Joon. 7. Popovitsa kivikalme. Leiud. 1 - klaashelme katke, 2 - jahvekiivi. (AI 6691: 41, 28.)

no longer compact, with only a few larger stones scattered here and there, accompanied by smaller granite stones. The thickness of the cultural layer of the stone grave was 0.25–0.35 m on the average, and nearly 0.5 m in the SE corner of the excavation where stones occurred throughout the thickness of the cultural layer (fig. 8). Since the large stones between the cultural layer and the original soil did not form any definite construction pattern, we cannot say at this stage of the investigations whether or not we have a *tarand*-grave here. To establish the type of the stone grave, considerably more extensive investigations will be required. The finds, however – ornaments, hand-moulded pottery with smoothed surface and a grinding stone – are characteristic of *tarand*-graves of the Roman Iron Age in Estonia.

FINDS

Both bracelets have hexagonal middle parts and tapering ends with oval cross-sections (Fig. 4). The ornament on their middle part consists of two parallel longitudinal grooves, dots and circles and groups of notches and, according to Ülle Tamla, is most likely cast. Dots and circles are grouped on one bracelet nearly symmetrically, on the other at random; the ends of each bracelet bear transverse lines (Fig. 4). Most frequently bracelets of this type are found in sand barrows with inhumation burials in East Latvia; in stone graves of North Latvia they are rarer and usually have hexagonal middle parts (Moora 1938, 391–393; Latvijas PSR arheoloģija 1974, 118–119). In Estonia, they are slightly more frequent in *tarand*-graves of North and Northeast Estonia, and single specimens have been found also from *tarand*-graves of Southeast Estonia

(Moora 1938, 394; Laul 2001, 157). The closest parallel to the bracelets of Popovitsa comes from the stone grave of Kambja (compare Laul 2001, Fig. 61: 1). Bracelets of this type have been generally dated to the 3rd–4th centuries, in Estonia as well as in Latvia (Latvijas PSR arheoloģija 1974, 119; Moora 1938, 394; Laul 2001, 158).

The fibula (Fig. 6) from the Popovitsa grave also belongs approximately to the same period, *i.e.* to the 3rd–4th cen-

turies. Its closest parallel was found from the ruins of the walls of the *tarand*-graves of Loosi (compare Laul 2001, Fig. 36: 5). Silvia Laul has considered the Loosi fibula to be similar to the so-called Northeast Estonian type of the fibulae (Laul 2001, 97). Marta Schmiedehelm has asserted that (this type of fibulae was) locally made (Шмидехельм 1955, 94). The Popovitsa fibula differs from the Loosi one primarily by its more rounded bow and the absence of an ornament on the bow.

The fragment of a *millefiori* bead (Fig. 7: 1) is bluish grey and white; its diameter was 1.4 cm, height 1.15 cm and the diameter of the hole 0.4 cm. Traces of rusted iron inside the hole indicate that the beads had been threaded on an iron wire, which was quite common in the necklaces of the Roman Iron Age. At least 66 *millefiori* beads have been found from the *tarand*-graves of Southeast Estonia. They were most numerous in the Virunuka graves (Laul 2001, 135, 137). Most of the *millefiori* beads of Southeast Estonia are blue and white, with other colours rare. *Millefiori* beads were worn in necklaces contemporaneously and sometimes even in the same necklace with gold-foiled glass beads, *i.e.* in the 3rd–4th centuries (Шмидехельм 1955, 81; Moora 1967, 285–286).

The size of the grinding stone with a damaged surface, found among the grave stones, was 7.7 x 8.1 x 6.7 cm. In South Estonia, grinding stones are most frequently found in *tarand*-graves of the northwestern part of the district (Laul 2001, 163). Vello Lõugas dated the grinding stones found in Estonia to the period around the birth of Christ (Лыгас 1970, 21), while S. Laul has regarded them as



Fig. 8. Stone grave of Popovitsa. Cross-section of the cultural layer in the southeastern part of the excavation plot.

Joon. 8. Popovitsa kivikalme. Kultuurikihi läbilõige kaevandi kaguosas.

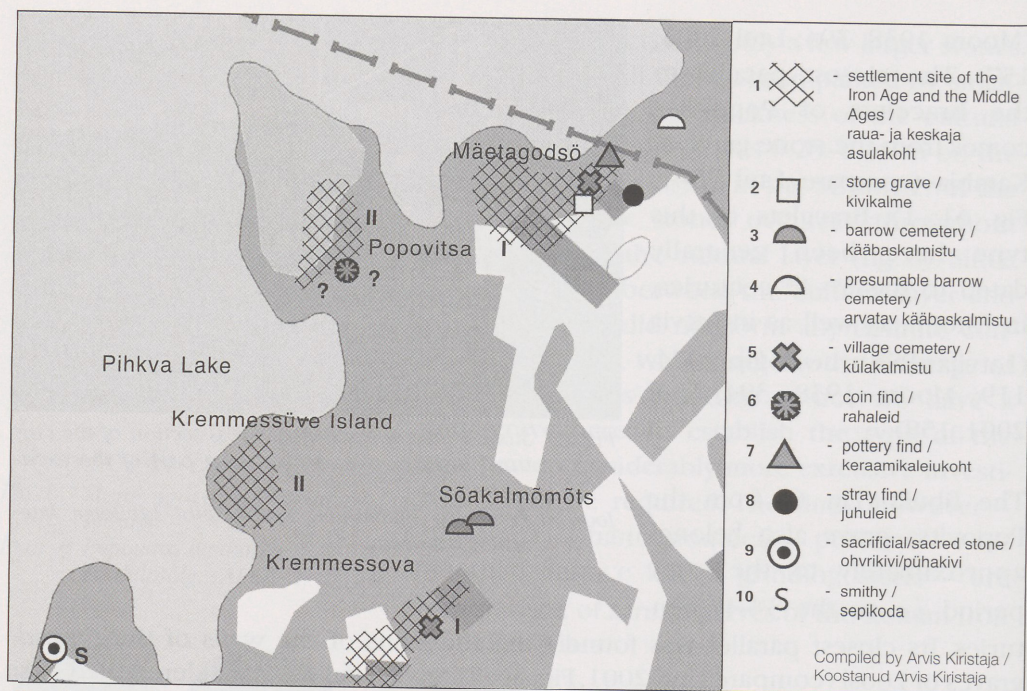


Fig. 9. Archaeological sites in the village of Popovitsa and its neighbourhood.
 Joon. 9. Arheoloogilised muistised Popovitsa külas ja selle läheduses.

belonging to the middle or even the 2nd half of the I millennium, founding her opinion on their abundance in the Läätsa stone grave, established in the middle of the I millennium (Laul 2001, 163). The grinding stone could either have fallen into the grave of Popovitsa accidentally, like any other stone in this grave, or it could have been placed there. In neither cases can the stone be dated later than the 3rd–4th centuries, since all ornaments found from the grave belong to the same period.

The discovery of a stone grave (Fig. 9: 2) in North Setumaa is one of the most remarkable discoveries in the region in recent years. The site is located near a grave of the Long Barrows Culture: only about a kilometre south of the stone grave, in the village of Kremessova, lies a cemetery consisting of long and round barrows, known under the name of *Sõakääpad* (war barrows) (Fig. 9: 3). Another barrow cemetery is reported to be towards the northeast, in the forest of the Tupki (?) village (Fig. 9: 4). Stone graves have previously been supposed to be in West Setumaa: in the Tsirgu village (Laul 1963) and in Piirimäe (Loeschcke 1889, 210; Hermann 1981, 714), and in the southeastern part of Setumaa, in Kljutsiššē

(Сепреева 1981). But the occurrence of stone graves in North Setumaa could not have been anticipated before the discovery of the bronze bracelets. It should be emphasized here that, unlike the cemeteries in Põlgaste, Loosi, Kõnnu, *etc.* (see Laul 2001, 41, 94, 97), where stone graves occur in the same groups with sand barrows, the cemeteries in North Setumaa as well as in the southeastern part of



Fig. 11. The settlement site of Lezgi from northwest.
Joon. 11. Vaade Lezgi asulakobale loodest.

Võrumaa (the stone grave and barrows in Tsiistre; Konsa 2003, Fig. 1) are situated in separate locations.

POTTERY FINDS FROM POPOVITSA

In autumn 2003 large potsherds came to light during the ploughing of a field. The site lies near the stone grave, only 7–8 m northwest of it. In a small test pit (0.5 sq. m) dug on the spot in September 2004, burnt stones, dark coaly sand and charcoal fragments were found together with potsherds. Owing to the small size of the pit (0.5 x 1 m), it could not be established whether the finds belonged to a hearth or stove remains. To ascertain that, the pit would have had to be enlarged. At the time the pit was just conserved. The potsherds discovered there come from two types of vessels. Most of them belong to a larger bowl with the diameter of the orifice 26–27 cm. On the basis of analogies from Pskov (see Кильдюшевский 2002, 16) such vessels were used in the 16th–17th centuries. The other type of potsherds come from a vessel of fine-grained red clay, with the orifice diameter of 11 cm; the inner surface of the vessel was glazed brownish.

ARCHAEOLOGICAL SURVEYS³

Archaeological surveys of 2004 were mostly in East Setumaa. Of the sites of the Long Barrows Culture there, more attention was paid to those where graves (sand barrows) and settlement sites were located close to each other. In East Setumaa

³ The survey trips to East Setumaa in May 2004 were financed by the Estonian Science Foundation (grant no 5973), the Setu Culture Foundation and NPO Arheoloogikeskus.

such monument complexes have been discovered on the shores of Lake Lübenets and on the banks of the river Optjok. The round barrows and the settlement site in a beautiful location at Lake Lübenets, Southeast Setumaa, have been heavily damaged by the construction of summer cottages and access roads during the last ten years. With the construction of the road leading to the summer cottages on the eastern shore of the lake, a round barrow has been destroyed almost completely, and the traffic runs constantly over its remnants. The yellowish-grey sand at the bottom of the barrow at the roadside contained fragments of coarse hand-moulded pottery, but cremated bones and charcoal were not observed. Although we shall apparently never learn whether the potsherds came from an urn burial or from vessel(s) crushed in the course of a burial rite (about the use of pottery in burial rites of the people of the Long Barrows Culture see Aun 2002, the knowledge is significant that, besides the barrows in the villages of Kassõgina and Petrovski in Southeast Setumaa, pottery has been found also from the barrow cemetery of Lübenets. The settlement site of the Long Barrows Culture at the River Optjok was covered with a thick young pine forest. On the forest road leading there from the village of Lezgi (Leeska) old wheel tracks were still discernible (Fig. 10). The thick pine forest covered also the barrow cemetery located nearby, so that all the preserved barrows could not be found. The cemetery has been archaeologically excavated in 1953 (G. Grozdilov; see Гроздилов, 1965) and in 1977 (A. Aleksandrov and S. Beletski; see Александров & Белецкий 1994, 54–57).

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ARHEOLOOGILISED VÄLITÖÖD SETUMAAL AASTAL 2004

Mare AUN

PEDAJASAARE ASULAKOHT

2004. aasta kõige mahukamad arheoloogilised uurimistööd võeti Setumaa Eesti poolel ette Piirivalveameti tellimisel ja finantseerimisel Sosna saarel paikneva Pedajasaare asulakoha (Põlva maakond, Värskas vald) lõunapoolses osas seoses Värskas piirivalvekordoni helikopteriplatsi laiendustöödega. Koht oli huvitav selle poolest, et lähedusest oli 1998. ja 2000. aastal toimunud kaevamistel leitud jälgi kiviaja asulakohast. 2004. aasta kaevandis (joon. 1:8) varasemat kultuurikihti nähtavale ei tulnud. Tumehall, põlenud kivide puru, sütt ja savitükke sisaldav kiht paksusega 0,2–0,3 m oli suures osas peaaegu põhjani läbi küntud. Puutumatud pinnast esines vaid künnikihist sügavamale ulatunud nn. majapidamislohkudes. Ehitusjäänustest paljandus kaevandi kaguservas ahjuvare, millest suurem osa jäi väljapoole kaevatava ala piire. Ahjuvare loodenurga läheduses oli raudkividega piiratud postiauk. Kultuurikihist sügavamale ulatuvad mitmesuguse suuruse ja kujuga majapidamis- või jäätmelohke oli rohkem kaevandi ida- ning kaguosas (joon. 2, 3). Need lohud olid enamasti kumera, harvem lameda põhjaga ning sisaldasid tumedat söesegust liiva, sütt, vahel ka suuremaid tükke ja väiksemaid raudkive. Ühest sellisest majapidamislohist võetud söe ¹⁴C-analüüs andis vanuseks ajavahemiku 1403–1473 cal.AD (68,3% tõenäosusega); see dateering sobib kokku samast leitud savinõukildude dateeringuga.

Leitudena koguti peamiselt hiliskeskaegset ja varauusaegset kedrakeraamikat ning vähesel hulgal 16. sajandist pärinevaid rohelise glasuuri ning joonornamendiga kaunistatud välipudelite fragmente. Nende nõude ilmumist Eesti aladele seostatakse tavaliselt Liivi sõjaga. Töö- ja tarberiistadest leiti Sosna saarelt esmakordselt vikati katke. Kõik värtkatted kuuluvad ühte, peaaegu kaksikkoonilise kujuga, tüüpi. Mitmesugustest kalapüügiga seotud esemetest leiti paadiklambreid, paekivist ja savist võrguraskuseid, jäänaelu. Muudest leidudest mainitagu sirgeseljalise noa ja hobuseraua katket, tulekivitükke ning ühte üsna hilist vene münti (1 kopikas, 1898. aastast). Võrdlemisi palju leiti sellest kaevandist, nagu varasematestki, allikamaagitükke.

Arheozooloog Liina Maldre määrangul olid loomaluud enamasti toidujäätmed. Teistest rohkem esines veise ning vähem sea ja lamba või kitse luid.

POPOVITSA KIVIKALME

12 m² suurune kaevand rajati nii, et see hõlmas mõlemaid sissekaeveid, kust oli leitud rooma raua-aega kuuluvad pronkskäevõrud (joon. 4). Kamarakihi all nähtavale tulnud pruunikast savisest pinnasest (ilmselt jäänused kunagisest seal olnud rehest) saadi leitudena varauusaegset kedrakeraamikat. Savikihi all paljandunud üksikud väiksemad raudkivid paiknesid esialgu hõredalt, sügavamal muutus kivivare kompaktsemaks (joon. 5), v.a. kirdeosa, kus oli suurem sissekaeve. Kalmetäidises sai eraldada vähemalt kahte, kohati kolme kivikihti. Sellel sügavusel, kus kive oli kõige tihedamalt, saadi ka põlenud inimluude tükke. Need paiknesid hajali kivide vahel. Kultuurikihi alaost, pruunikashallist liivast leiti kõrgemal asunud suurema kivi põhjaserva alt pronksist peakilpsõlg (joon. 6). Samas läheduses tuli suurema sissekaeve servas nähtavale poolik *millefiori* tehnikas valmistatud klaashelmes (joon. 7: 1). Mõlemad esemed jäid mitte kaugele esimesena leitud käevõrust (joon. 4: 2), mille läheduses oli ka põlenud luude tükke. Üsna käevõru juures oli kalmekivide hulgas ka üks

jahvekivi (joon. 7: 2). Sellel tasemel, kus kive oli kõige tihedamalt tulid päevavalgele ka üksikud hajali paiknevad käsikeraamika killud. Kultuurikihi ja loodusliku pinnase piiril ei olnud kompaktned kivila-su enam jälgitav: alles olid vaid üksikud ilma erilise korrapärata paiknevad suuremad kivid, mille juures oli enamasti kaevandi lõuna- ja kaguosas ka väiksemaid raudkive. Kivikalme kultuurikihi pak-sus oli keskmiselt 0,25–0,35 m, kaevandi kagunurgas peaaegu 0,5 m, kusjuures kive oli seal kogu kihi paksuse ulatuses (joon. 8). Kuna suured kivid kultuurikihi ja loodusliku pinnase piiril mingit kon-struktsiooni ei moodustanud, siis ei saa muistise praeguse uurimiseisu juures ka öelda, kas tegemist on tarandkalmega või mitte. Samas, tuleb tõdeda, et leiud – ehteasjad, silutud pinnaga käsikeraami-ka ning jahvekivi – on tüüpilised rooma rauaaja tarandkalmetele Eestis.

Leiud. Mõlemad käevõrud on kuuetahulise kaare ja kitsenevate, lõikelt ovaalsete otstega (joon. 4). Võrud on kaunistatud kahest paralleelsest pikisoonest, “silmakeste” ning täkete rühmadest koosne-va ornamendiga, otstes on mõlemal ristijooned. Seda tüüpi käevõrud on nii Lätis kui ka Eestis datee-ritud valdavalt 3.–4. sajandisse. Ligikaudu samasse aega kuulub ka Popovitsa kalme peakilpsõlg (joon. 6), millele kõige lähem vaste on teada Loosi tarandkalmest. Popovitsa peakilpsõlge eristab Loosi omast aga ümaram kaar ning ornamendi puudumine. *Millefiorihelme* katke (joon. 7: 1) on sinakashalli-valgekirju värvusega. Helme läbimõõt on 1,4 cm kõrgus 1,15 cm ning augu läbimõõt 0,4 cm. Rauarooste augu sisepinnal tunnistab, et helmes oli lükitud raudtraadile. *Millefiorihelmeid* kanti keedes samal ajal ja mõnikord samas keeski kuldfooliumiga helmestega, 3.–4. sajandil, ning Eestisse on need helmed jõudnud Rooma provintsidest.

Kalmekivide hulgast leitud rikutud pinnaga jahvekivi (joon. 7: 2) võis kalmesse sattuda juhuslikult, nagu iga teinegi kivi, või panusena. Mõlemal juhul on aga tegemist esemega, mis pole antud juhul hilisem kui 3.–4. sajand; samasse aega kuuluvad ka kõik Popovitsa kivikalmost leitud ehteasjad.

Kivikalme (joon. 9: 2) avastamine Põhja-Setumaal on viimase aja leidudest Setumaal tähelepanu-väärseim. See muistis asub pikk-kääbaste kultuuri kalme läheduses: vaid kilomeeter kivikalmost lõuna pool on Kremessova külas Sõakääbaste nime all tuntud pikk- ja ümarkääbastest koosnev kalmistu (joon. 9: 3). Üks kääbaskalmistu pidavat olema veel kivikalmost kirde pool, Eesti-Vene ajuti-sest kontrollijoonest Popovitsa külas sadakond meetrit põhja pool asuvas Tupki (?) küla metsas (joon. 9: 4). Kivikalmeid on seni arvatud olevat Lääne-Setumaal: Tsirgu külas ja Piirimäel ning Setu-maa edelaosas (Kljutšišťe). Kivikalmete olemasolu Põhja-Setumaal ei osatud enne pronksikäevõrude leidmist isegi mitte oletada.

POPOVITSA KERAAMIKALEIUKOHT

Kivikalme läheduses 2003. aasta sügisel kündmisel päevavalgele tulnud suuremate savinõukuldude leiukohale tehtud 0,5 m² ürfist leiti koos keraamikaga põlenud kive, mille ümber ja vahel oli tume-dat söesegust liiva ning sütt. Need keraamikakillud pärinevad kaht tüüpi nõudest: enamik suuremast, väiksem osa aga vähemast kausist. Suurem kauss (suuava läbimõõt u. 27 cm) on Pihkva keraamika põhjal hästi dateeritav 16.–17. sajandisse, samasse aega kuulub nähtavasti ka peeneteralisest savist kauss, mille sisepinnal on pruunikas glasuur.

Maastikuinspeksioonid toimusid 2004. aastal valdavalt Ida-Setumaal. Sealsetest pikk-kääbaste kul-tuuri muististest pakkusid suuremat huvi need, kus on lähestikku nii kalmed (liivakääpad) kui ka asulakohad. Selliseid muististerühmi on Ida-Setumaal avastatud Lübenetsi järve ja Optjoki jõe ääres.

Setumaa kaguosas, looduslikult kaunis kohas Lübenetsi järve ääres asuvad ümarkääpad ja asulakoht on viimase kümne aasta jooksul saanud oluliselt kannatada suvilate ja nende juurde viivate teede rajamisega. Järve idakaldal asuvate suvilate juurde viiva teega on peaaegu maatasa lõhutud ümarkääbas ja sellest, mis alles, sõidetakse pidevalt üle. Tee servas oli kääpaaseme kollakashallis liivas käsitsi vormitud jämekeraamilise nõu kilde. Põlenud luid ja sütt aga silma ei hakanud. Kuigi me ei saa nähtavasti kunagi teada, kas seal oli kunagi urnimatus või pärinevad need keraamikakillud matmisrituaali ajal puruks lõõdud nõu(de)st, on oluline teave, et lisaks Kassõgina ja Petrovski küla kääbastele on sellest piirkonnast (Setumaa kaguosast) keraamikaleide ka Lübenetsi kääbaskalmistust. Optjoki jõe ääres asuv pikk-kääbaste kultuuri asulakoht oli praegu kaetud tiheda noore männimetsaga, sinna Lezgi (Leeska) külast viival metsavahelisel teel olid veel aimatavad omaaegsed ratajäljed (joon. 10). Tihe männimets kattis ka samas lähedal asuvat kääbaskalmistut, mistõttu kõiki varem registreeritud kääpaid üles leida ei õnnestunud. Optjoki jõe keskjooksu alal sattusime maikuisel uurimisreisil aga haruldasele loomale – sookilpkonnale. Lähemalt saab lugeda 2004. aastal Setumaalt leitud sookilpkonnast Lembi Lõugase ja Arvis Kiristaja artiklist, mis ilmus 2004. aastal ajakirjas "Eesti Loodus" nr. 10.

Tänuavaldus

Tänan kõiki rabastajaid (SA Eesti Teadusfond, Piirivalveamet, SA Setu Kultuuri Fond, MTÜ Arheoloogiakeskus; Setumaa 2004. aasta kultuuriprogramm) ja kõiki abilisi: Kagu Piirivalvepiirkond ja Värskas piirivalvekordon, Piusa piirivalvekordon ning kaevamistel osalenud ajateenijad reamehed Raivo Trikk, Tõnis Inno, Peeter Matto, Reio Kattelt, Jaanus Piilmann, Siim Aaspõld, Hendrik Neppi, Martti Kruusamägi, Siim Kobin, Viljar Pettai, Ats Raudik, Martin Kaldmaa, Anton Lapezin, Aleksei Kolpakov, Toomas Märdimäe, Mario Steinberg, Keith Vällk. Palju tänu kohalikele elanikele Raivo Jänesmäele ja Voldemar Järvekülale ning Silvi, Mairi, Illar ja Margus Laanetule, samuti tolleagele (31. augustil 2004 oma töö lõpetanud) Tallinna Pedagoogikaülikooli Värskas Õppebaasile meile osutatud abi eest.