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Esikaas: *Hilisviikingiaegne kõrva- või oimurõngas. Rekonstruktsioon 2005. a. avastatud Ubina hõbeaardes sisalduva fragmendi põhjal. Joonistanud Kersti Siitan.*
Cover: *Earring or temple ornament from Late Viking Age. Reconstruction based on the fragment from the silver hoard of Ubina discovered in 2005. Drawing by Kersti Siitan.*

Tagakaas: *Tartust Tähtvere tänavalt 2005. a. leitud 15. saj. haruldase savikannu kild.*
Back cover: *Fragment of stoneware goblet from the 15th century. Stray find from Tartu, Tähtvere Street in 2005.*

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ARCHAEOLOGICAL RESEARCH ON KAVASTU MESOLITHIC AND EARLY MODERN SETTLEMENT SITE

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In the course of monitoring of the construction work of a road and a boat harbour in Kavastu village on the northern bank of the river Emajõgi (Tartu county) in September 2005 the employees of the National Heritage Board Kalle Lange and Arnold Unt discovered a cultural layer of a settlement site, fire-cracked stones and medieval and modern age potsherds in it. It was quickly recognized that in addition to the finds from the 16th–17th century the cultural layer contained flint artefacts and debris from the Mesolithic. Since only two settlement sites from that period were known from the banks of the river Emajõgi by the time, it seemed necessary to gather as much information on the Stone Age settlement as possible. As a result it was decided to archaeologically study the preserved part of the site that was going to hold back the construction works.

Fig. 1. The excavation plot from the north.
Joon. 1. Vaade kaevandile põhja poolt.

Fig. 2. The archaeologist Kalle Lange measures the location of the household pit.
Joon. 2. Arheoloog Kalle Lange mõõdab majapidamislohu asukohta.

In the course of the rescue excavation an area of 68 sq. m (Fig. 1) as well as a separate household pit from the 16th–17th century (Fig. 2) were researched. The cultural layer of the excavation plot had been completely mixed by ploughing.

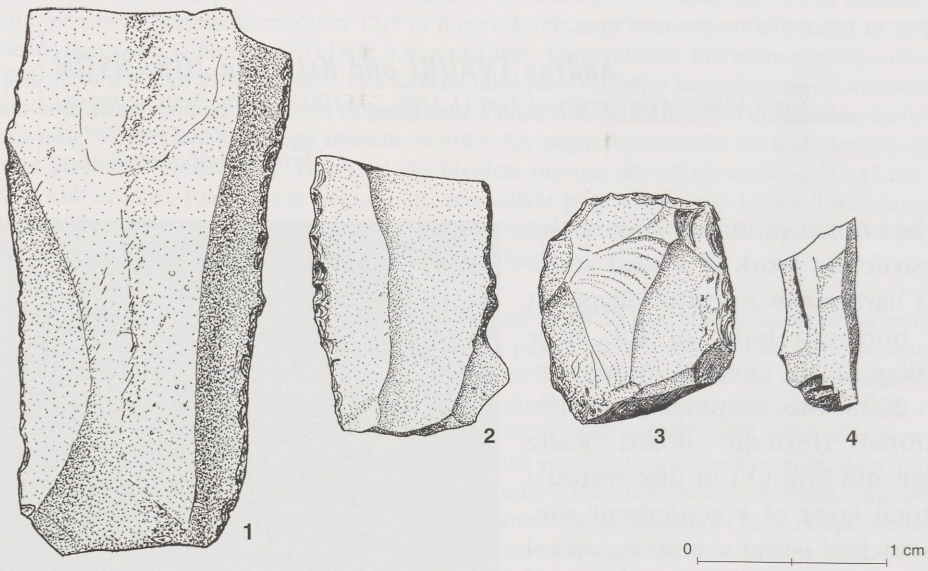

Fig. 3. Stone artefacts from the cultural layer of Kavastu settlement site.
Joon. 3. Kiviesemeid Kavastu asulakoha kultuurkihist.
(TÜ 1443: 167, 71, 123, 82.)

Metal detectors were also used to look through the area (6–7 m wide and up to 55 m long). The extent of the cultural layer west to the excavated areas was determined with test-pits (Johanson & Tvauri 2005).

Altogether 420 artefacts were numbered that are clearly divided into three different periods. Flint artefacts, flint and quartz working residue could be found everywhere in the excavated cultural layer. On account of stone findings and the lack of Stone Age pottery it can be concluded that we are dealing with a **Mesolithic settlement site**. Varied find material indicates that quartz as well as flint has been used as a raw material of the tools, and, characteristic of the southern part of Estonia, the latter is relatively more common. Altogether 144 flint artefacts and working remains were collected, 104 of them flakes, 9 blades and 20 blade fragments (Fig. 4) as well as 2 cores. Mostly the local yellowish-grey flint of relatively low quality (calcedony) was used as a raw material, besides also foreign greyish brown and black translucent flint (probably from Northern Byelorussia and Southern Lithuania) had been used to a small extent, in 7 specimens altogether. The share of blades and blade fragments (Fig. 4), mostly one- and two-ridged, in the find material is noteworthy (altogether 29 or 20.1% of all flint finds). Based on the statistical analyses a few parallels can be drawn concerning

Fig. 4. Quartz and flint blades from Kavastu settlement site.
Joon. 4. Kvartsi- ja tulekivilaaste Kavastu asulakohast.
(TÜ 1443: 125, 95, 68, 4, 131, 23, 26, 25, 81, 93, 24, 27.)

the Mesolithic settlement sites of Sindi-Lodja II and Kivisaare, the percentage of blades there is 14.1 for Sindi-Lodja (Kriiska *et al.* 2002, 33–34) and 11.4 for Kivisaare (Kriiska *et al.* 2003, 36). At the same time the share of blades in Kavastu more or less coincides with the average 18.1% that has been calculated of the whole find material for Central and South-Western Estonia (Kriiska *et al.* 2003, 36). Since in the case of Kavastu we are dealing with a rescue object and the material was not, in most part, gathered directly from the cultural layer but was obtained later by sieving the soil, the result cannot be regarded as completely representative, but it still is remarkable.

The cores and the residue from working the bifaces of local raw material indicate that the flint knapping had taken place on the spot. Altogether 7 artefacts of secondary processing (Fig. 3) were collected: a scraper (Fig. 3: 3), a point with the tip retouched aslant (Fig. 3: 4), a fragment of a microlith, another scraper or a knife made from a single-ridged blade (Fig. 3: 2) and three knives on blades or blade fragments, one of the latter double-bladed (Fig. 3: 1). The majority of the artefacts of secondary processing were made of local flint, a fragment of a knife blade is of black high-quality foreign flint. Although the number of artefacts of secondary

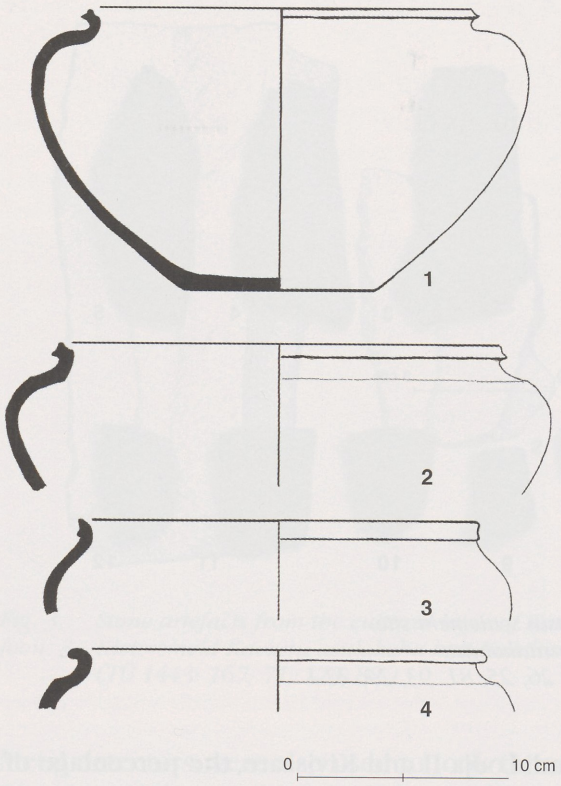

Fig. 5. Profiles of the 16th–17th century vessels from Kavastu settlement site.
Joon. 5. Kavastu asulakohalt leitud 16.–17. sajandile tüüpiliste savinõude profiilid. (TÜ 1443: 330, 333, 338, 416.)

processing is not big, the percentage - 4.8 - is relatively significant.

The share of quartz findings, altogether 19 flakes, 4 blades (Fig. 4) and a core, is quite remarkable in the context of Central and Eastern Estonia, thus forming 14.3% of all stone findings. We could draw the comparison with Kivisaare Mesolithic settlement site where the share of quartz finds reached only 2.7% (Kriiska *et al.* 2003, 34). Naturally it should be considered that in the case of the latter the location in the morainy drumlins of Kolga-Jaani had stipulated the frequent use of local calcedony as a raw material. At the same time quartz had not been abundantly used on the Ihaste Stone Age settlement site in the suburbs of Tartu, where next to 158 flint flakes, blades and artefacts only two quartz findings were collected (Johanson & Kriiska 2005). There are no artefacts of clear secondary processing among the quartz finds from Kavastu. However, in case of two items we can assume the role of functional artefacts, one of them had a feeble retouch on one biface, the other bore traces of wearing and use which indicate to its utilization as a microlith or a knife.

Sherds of hand-moulded pottery were found as well, many of which originate from vessels with striated surfaces. These fragments indicate to the human habitation of **Early Metal Age** or **Roman Iron Age** in the discussed place.

The most numerous part of the find material from the excavated site came from the **house pit from Early Modern Age**. Five coins help to date the object. The oldest of these was the Russian silver *kopeck* from the time of Fjodor Ivanovich,

thus from the years 1584–1589 (determination by Ivar Leimus). Two *solidi* of Riga minted in the 17th century and two Swedish ¼ copper *öre*, both from 1633, were found. The majority of the find material is formed by the sherds of simple wheel-thrown pottery which rim profile (Fig. 5) dates it to the second half of the 16th and the 17th century (Кильдюшевский 2002). To some extent vessels of glazed redware and Pskov greyware with green glaze were found as well.

Fig. 6. Rhomboid pendant of bronze.
Joon. 6. Pronksist rombripats. (TÜ 1443: 497.)

Among the findings a simple silver finger-ring, a bronze rhomboid pendant (Fig. 6), a small penannular brooch with rolled endings, iron ox-shoe, padlock, possible horse-bit, clamps for boat caulking and clay net sinkers are the most noteworthy.

It is important to note that retouched window-glass, fragments of monk-nun type roof tiles, stove pots as well as stove tiles with green glaze were also found here. Has there really been a building with glass-windows and tin window frames, a stone roof and furnace or furnaces made of glazed tiles? If it really was the case, it can be assumed that we are not dealing with a simple farmer's of fisherman's household, but rather a building that was somehow connected with the Kavastu manor.

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ARHEOLOOGILISED UURINGUD KAVASTU MESOLIITILISEL JA VARAUUSAEGSEL ASULAKOHAL

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Tee ja paadisadama ehituse käigus avastati Kavastu külas Emajõe põhjakaldal asulakoha kultuurkiht. Päästekaevamistega uuriti läbi 68 m² suurune ala (joon. 1) ja üks eraldiasetsev majapidamislohk (joon. 2). Lisaks otsiti metalldetektoritega läbi 6–7 m x kuni 55 m ala. Kokku saadi 420 numbrit leide, mis pärinevad kolmest erinevast ajastust. Kuna tulekivi- ja kvartsesemeid ning töötlemisjääke leidus kultuurkihis kogu uuritud alal (joon. 3; 4), annab see aluse järelduseks, et siin on olnud **mesoliitiline asulakoht**. Leiumaterjal osutab sellele, et tööriistade valmistamiseks kasutati nii kvartsi kui ka tulekivi, viimast siiski rohkem, nagu lõunapoolsele Eestile tavaks. Kokku leiti 144 tulekivist eset ja töötlemisjääki (105 killdu, 9 laastu, 20 laastukatket ning üks nukleus). Enamasti on tegemist madalakvaliteedilise kollakashalli kohaliku tulekiviga (kaltsedon), kuid tagasihoidlikus koguses (kokku 7 näidet) leiti ka võõramaist (tõenäoliselt Põhja-Valgevene ja Lõuna-Leedu) hallikaspruuni ja musta värvi läbikumavat kõrgekvaliteedilist tulekivi. Märkimisväärne on laastude osakaal (29 ehk 20,1% kõigist tulekivileiudest).

Kohapeal toimunud tulekivitöötlemist kinnitavad kohalikust toorainest nukleus ning kildude hulgas olevad nn. laba töötlemise jäägid. Teisese töötlusega esemeid saadi kokku 7 (joon. 3), sh. kõõvits (joon. 3: 3), väike viltuselt retušširud teraga otsik (joon. 3: 4), katke pistikterast, üheharjalisest laastust valmistatud kõrge teraga kõõvits või nuga (joon. 3: 2) ning kolm laastudest või laastukatkest valmistatud nuga, mille hulgas on üks kahe teraga (joon. 3: 1). Enamus teisese töötlusega esemeid on kohalikust tulekivist; üks noa katke on tehtud ka kõrgekvaliteedilisest mustast tulekivist. Kvartsleide saadi 19 (sh. 4 laastu ja nukleus), mis moodustab kivileidudest 14,3 %. Nende hulgas puuduvad selged teisese töötlusega esemed, kuid kahe laastu juures võib oletada nende kasutamist funktsionaalsete tööriistadena (ühel on labal nõrk retušš, teise kulumisjäljed osutavad kasutamisele pistiktera või noana).

Kaevamistel leiti ka käsikeraamiliste nõude kilde, sh. riibitud pinnaga, mis viitavad **varase metalliaja või rooma rauaaja inimtegevusele** uuritud kohas. Kõige arvukam osa leiuainest pärineb **varauusaegsest majaasemest**, mille dateerimisel saab toetuda samast saadud viiele mündile. Neist vanim oli vene hõbekopikas tsaar Fjodor Ivanovitši ajast (1584–1589). Leiti ka kaks 17. sajandil Riias vermitud solidust ja kaks Rootsi 1/4 öörist vaskraha, mõlemad aastast 1633. Valdav osa leidudest on lihtkedrakeraamiliste nõude killud, mis servaprofiili (joon. 5) järgi pärinevad 16. saj. teisest poolest ja 17. sajandist. Vähesel määral leidus ka glasuuritud punaste ja Pihkva rohelise glasuuriga hallide savinõude kilde. Eraldi märgitagu lihtsat hõbesõrmust, pronksist rombripatsit (joon. 6), rullotstega hoburaudsõlge, härjarauda, ripplukku, oletatavat suitsekangi, paadiklambreid ja keraamilisi võrguraskusi. Oluline on, et siit leiti nii aknaklaasi, munk-nunn katusekivide tükke, ahjupoti kui ka rohelise glasuuriga ahjukahlite kilde. Kas tõesti oli siinsel hoonel tinaraamidega klaasaknad, kivikatus ja kahhelahi või -ahjud? Kui see tõesti nii oli, siis võib oletada, et tegemist ei olnud talupoegade või kalurite lihtsa majapidamisega, vaid hoopis Kavastu mõisaga seotud hoonega.