

ARHEOLOOGILISED
VÄLITÖÖD
EESTIS

ARCHAEOLOGICAL
FIELDWORK
IN ESTONIA

2007

Koostanud ja toimetanud
Ülle Tamla

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Esikaas: 13.–14. sajandist pärit ribiline väike klaaspudel Tartu vanalinnast.

Cover: Fragment of a 13.-14 cc small glass bottle (Ribbenflasche) from Old Tartu.

Tagakaas: Tervena säilinud keskaegne nahkjalats Tartu vanalinnast.

Back cover: Well preserved leather shoe from Old Tartu.

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TARTU ÜLIKOOLI
RAAMATUKOGU
SUNDEKSEMPLAR

ARCHAEOLOGICAL SUPERVISION WORK IN THE OUTER BAILEY OF KARKSI CASTLE

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Archaeological supervision was carried out in the castle of the Livonian branch of the Teutonic Order in Karksi (south-western Estonia) in late autumn of 2007. The work was conditioned by the installation of cables for electric lights to way leading to the castle ruins, as well as for the spotlights for church tower. Data about the early history and architecture of the castle are scanty, being limited with rare mentioning in the medieval sources (the residence of the *Fogts* since 1248) and by plans from the 17th century (Tuulse 1942, 244–246).

In course of the rescue works two trenches were dug (Figs. 1; 2). Firstly a trench, 102 m long, 0.5 m wide and 0.7 m deep which went from electricity post south of the castle gates to the church, was dug. The first part of the trench was parallel to the northern wall of the castle (Fig. 1). Below the fill a wet cultural layer, full of small wood chips was found at the beginning of the trench in the depth of ca. 0.7 m. In the central part of the trench there were deposits that consisted of



Fig. 1. The beginning of the first trench along the northern wall of the outer bailey of Karksi castle.

Jn 1. I tranšee algus piki Karksi ordulinnuse eeslinnuse põhjaseina.

burnt stones and charcoal in the depth of 0.5–0.7 m from the ground, under the layer of debris. The burnt layer was probably formed, judging by the bricks with the thickness of 7 cm in it, in post-medieval times: presumably in the Swedish–Polish War (1600–1629) and maybe in the autumn of 1601 when the Swedes conquered Karksi Castle from the Polish troops (Tammekann *et al.* 1930). From test pits made into the bottom of the trench it appeared that under the layer of brands and charcoal, there was a clay layer which covered intact natural mineral soil.



Fig. 2. The second half of the first trench at the western wall of Karksi Church.

Jn 2. Esimese tranšee teine pool Karksi kiriku lääne-seina ääres.

from digging the cellars of the buildings which stood in place of the present church (built on old walls in the 18th century).

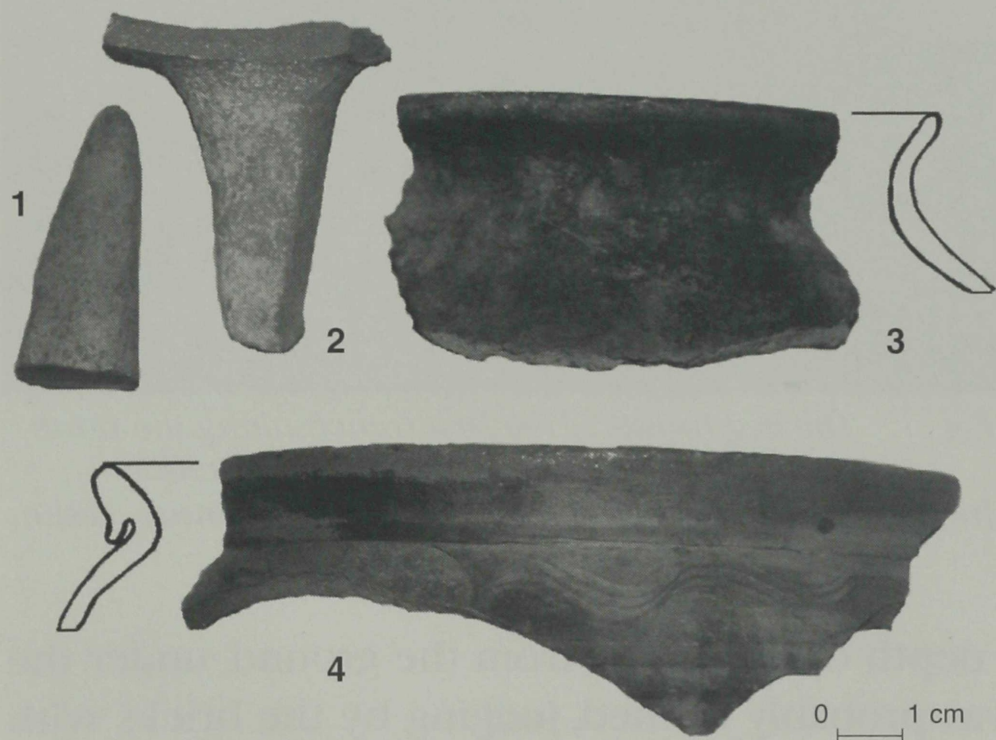


Fig. 3. Finds from the first trench. 1 - antler working remnant, 2 - leg of tripod, 3, 4 - edges of vessels.

Jn 3. Leiud esimesest trassist: 1 - sarvetöötlemisjääk, 2 - graapeni jalg, 3, 4 - savinõude killud. (TÜ 1594: 35, 18, 33, 3.)

In the part of the trench parallel to the church (Fig. 2) below the upper layers of disturbed soil and debris with some stray finds from the 16th or 17th centuries a layer of disturbed pink clay (surface on the depth of 0.4–0.65 m from the ground) was revealed everywhere. As during the excavations water from the ground flew into some parts of the trench, it may be that the territory of the outer bailey was raised and filled with clay due to the wet ground. The clay may originate, however, also

In the end part of the trench close to the church tower under the clay a new layer of charcoal and brands with the thickness of 5–15 cm, starting at the depth of 0.7–1 m was revealed. A ¹⁴C-sample from the brands gave the result 665±30 BP, cal. 95.4% 1276–1321; 1350–1392.¹ Below this layer in the test pit on the 90th metre the surface of initial soil was revealed under fill layers in the depth of 107 cm. In the test pit on the 94th metre there was a thin layer of disturbed clay under the brands; it was

¹ TA 2923. In course of the rescue work of 1994 (Valk 1995) from a cellar beside the church tower ¹⁴C-dating referring to the 14th century (600 ± 30 BP, cal. 95.4% 1297–1409 AD; 68.2% 1307–1362 AD, 1386–1399 AD) was gained – from a layer which had been formed after demolishing the walls of an earlier stone building (TA 2500).

followed by intact natural mineral soil – clayish sand in the depth of 125–130 cm from the ground.

The ground in the trench consisted mainly of fill layers of mixed soil and debris which included only a few finds. The layers contained several nails, some pottery from the 16th–17th century (Fig. 3: 2–4), a knife from that period, a cluster of bronze chains rusted into a piece of iron slag (Fig. 4: 3) and a remnant of antler working (Fig. 3: 1). Pottery was mainly found next to the church but nails occurred everywhere.

The second trench was 100 m long, 0.5 m wide and 0.7 m deep. It began from the same point as the first trench, passed through the gateway of the outer bailey and continued on the road leading into the castle. The trench was filled

with mixed soil, probably disturbed in the course of earthworks in 1995 (Leimus 1996) and contained some animal bones. Although no pottery fragments were detected (probably due to extremely hard weather conditions: storm of wet snow), from the outer bailey a crossbow bolt from the end of the 14th century or from the beginning of the 15th century (Fig. 4: 1) (Mäesalu 1991, 173), a piece of metal plate armour (Fig. 4: 4) and an iron pendant with 3 suspensions from horse harness (Fig. 4: 2) were found. Other metal finds were represented by nails and fragments of artefacts which cannot be identified.

On the road, which leads to the bailey, in the distance of *ca.* 33–34.5 m from the outer wall of the castle, in front of the castle gateway in the middle of the area between two moats a stone wall parallel to the wall of the castle was revealed in the depth of 0.15 meters from the ground level. The 1.5 m wide wall was made of big granite stones, measuring from 0.4 × 0.6 m to 1 × 1.5 (*sic!*) m – the length of this large stone corresponds to the width of the wall. The wall is evidently connected with the external fortification system of the castle, not reflected on the 17th century plans, or with the bridge(s) crossing the medieval moat(s). Next to the wall there was a pavement made of small granite stones that continued for

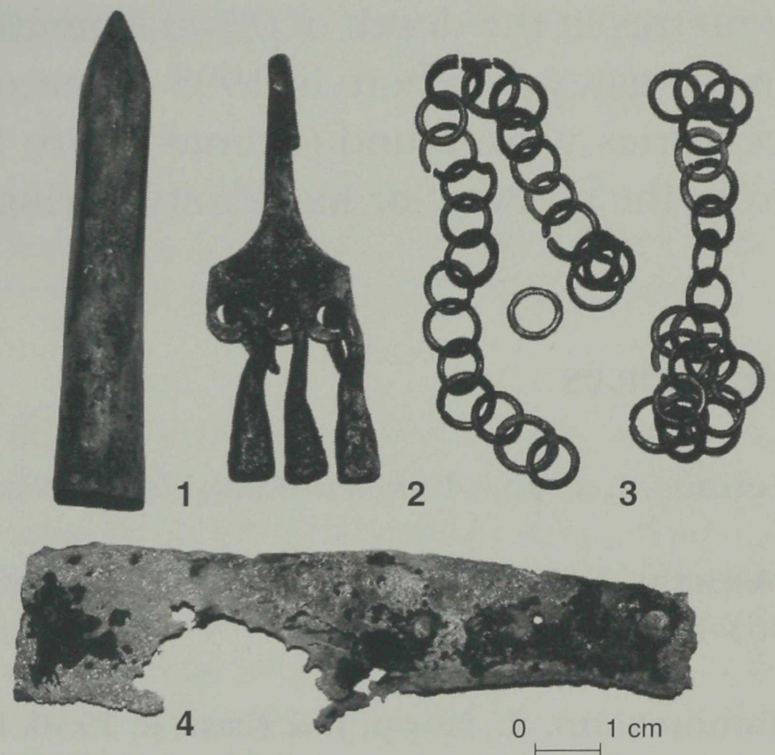


Fig. 4. Finds from the trenches. 1 - cross-bow bolt, 2 - iron bell from a horse harness, 3 - fragments of bronze chain, 4 - piece of armour.

Jn 4. Leide trassidest. 1 - ammunooleots, 2 - ratsmetest pärinev ripats, 3 - pronksketi katke, 4 - raudrüü katke. (TÜ 1594: 36, 37, 20, 12.)

2 metres in the depth of 0.5 m from the ground. The trench also passed the point in the gateway where in 1995 numerous coins from the turn of the 16th and 17th centuries were found (Leimus 1996) but no remains of this find were revealed from the gateway or its vicinity during these excavations.

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ARHEOLOOGILINE JÄRELEVALVE KARKSI ORDULINNUSE EESLINNUSES

Heiki VALK ja Martin MALVE

2007. a hilissügisel tehti arheoloogilist järelevalvet Karksi ordulinnuse eeslinnuse alal ja sellele viival teel seoses elektriikaablite paigaldamisega tee ja kirikutorni valgustamiseks. Andmeid linnuse vane- ma ajaloo ja arhitektuuri kohta on vähe; need piirduvad väheste mainimistega kirjalikes allikates ja 17. sajandi plaanidega.

Töö toimus kahes trassis (jn 1; 2). Esmalt kaevati 102 m pikkune, 0,5 m laiune ja 0,7 m sügavune trass eeslinnuse väravatornist lõunas olevast elektripostist kirikuni (jn 1). Trassi algusosa põhjas tuli 0,7 m sügavusel täitepinnase all paiguti nähtavale orgaanikarohke laaste sisaldav kultuurkiht; siin tungis kaevandisse ka vesi. Trass oli täidetud segatud, linnuse kirdetorni läheduses silmapaistvalt rususe ja suuri raudkive sisaldava mullaga. Trassilõigu kirikupoolses otsas oli täite- ja rusukihi all 0,5–0,7 m sügavusel põlengukiht, mis sisaldas põlenud kive ja sütt. Põleng võis toimuda 1600.–1625. a Rootsi-Poola sõja ajal, võimalik, et 1601. a sügisel, kui rootslased linnuse vallutasid. Trassi põhja tehtud šurfidest nähtus, et põlengukihile järgnes teiseldataud savi kiht ja sellele oma-korda looduslik mineraalpinna.

Kirikuga paralleelses trassilõigus (jn 2) paiknes mainitud põlengust varasemate, 16.–17. sajandi leide sisaldavate täitepinnasekihtide all maapinnast 0,4–0,65 m sügavusel punase liivsavi lade. Kuna kaeva-miste ajal tungis trassi algusosasse vesi, võis täitepinnas olla kohale toodud liigniiskuse vastu. Savi võib pärineda aga ka praegusele kirikule eelnenud linnusehoonete keldrite kaevamiselt. Trassi lõpuosas oli savi all 0,7–1 m sügavusel intensiivne 5–15 cm paksune põlengukiht, kust võetud ¹⁴C-proov andis tulemuseks ajavahemikud 1276–1321 ja 1350–1392. Põlengukihi all algas 90. meetrile tehtud šurfis maapinnast 107 cm sügavusel kunagine looduslik alusmuld; 94. meetrile kaevatud šurfis oli põlengu all õhuke segatud savi kiht, millele maapinnast 125–130 cm sügavuses järgnes puutumata looduslik saviliiv. Trassi täitepinnasest saadi väheseid leide: 16.–17. saj keraamikat (jn 3: 2–4), 16.–17. saj nuga, peene pronksketi katkeid (jn 4: 3) ja sarvetöötlemisjääk (jn 3: 1).

Teine trass algas esimesega samast punktist ja kulges linnuseväravast välja kuni linnusele viiva tee otsani. Selle kogupikkus oli 100 m, sügavus 0,7 m ja laius 0,5 m. Tegemist oli segatud pinnasega, millest eeslinnuse territooriumilt saadi mitmeid metall-leide: naelu, ammu-noole ots 14. saj lõpust või 15. saj algusest (jn 4: 1), plaatsoomusrüü katke (jn 4: 4) ja ilmselt ratsmetest pärinev kannukujuliste kõlinatega raudripats (jn 4: 2). Linnuse välismüüri servast 33–34,5 m kaugusel tuli 0,15 m sügavusel nähtavale sellega paralleelne 1,5 m paksune müür, mis oli ehitatud suurtest (0,4 × 0,6 – 1 × 1,5 m) maakividest (suurima kivi pikkus võrdus müüri laiussega). Müür seostub ilmselt kas linnuse välimiste keskaegsete eelkindlustustega, mis 17. sajandi plaanil ei kajastu, või keskaegse vallikraavi sillaga. Müüri kõrval, maapinnast 0,5 m sügavusel oli 2 m ulatuses jälgitav väikesest munakividest sillutis. Trass läbis kohta, kus 1995. aastal leiti 16.–17. sajandi vahetusest pärinev mündiaare, kuid sealt ei avastatud enam midagi.