

HELENA ZOLL-ADAMIKOWA

MAJOR RESULTS OF 1982 EXCAVATIONS OF EARLY AND LATE MIEVEAL SITES IN POLAND

About 100 sites of the Early and Late Middle Ages were excavated in 1982. The 60 or so early medieval sites include over 20 open settlements, the same number of earthworks and early towns, 15 cemeteries and 1 assumed cult place*.

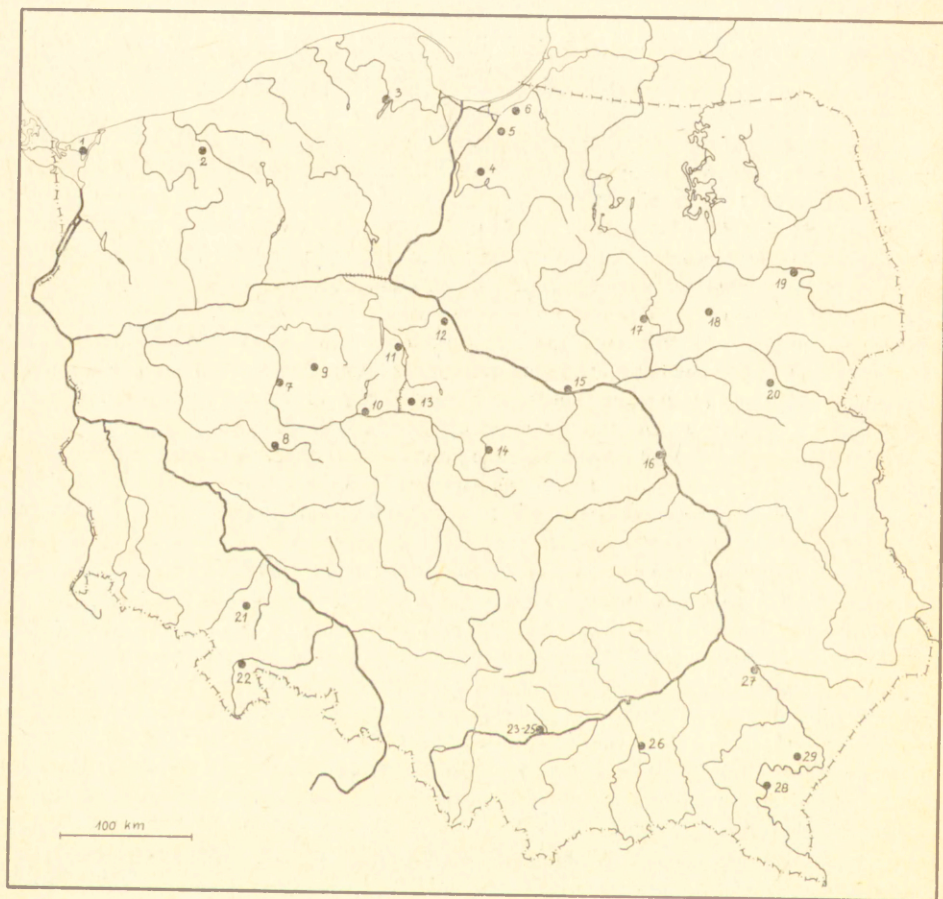
Among the sites from the early phase of the Early Middle Ages the following claim attention: **Wyszogród** (15), Płock province, site 13 (W. Szymański and team, Instytut Historii Kultury Materialnej PAN, Warszawa) where the extent of a 7th-8th cent. settlement was defined by means of test trenches, and **Dębczyno** (2), Koszalin province (A. Sikorski, Uniwersytet, Poznań) where site 38 revealed a settlement, of *Dziedzice-Sukow* type the second to be found in this locality, dating from the 6th-7th cent. (5 features including a semi-subterranean hut); moreover a further 10 features and 23 postholes (8 left by an overground post building) with pottery of *Kędrzyno-Feldberg* and *Szczecin-Menkendorf* type, dating from the 7th to mid-9th cent., have come to light.

The following sites yielded materials for the reconstruction of architecture: **Ulucz** (28), Krosno province, site 3 (M. Parczewski, Uniwersytet Jagielloński, Kraków) — 6 features of the 8th-9th cent., including a rectangular semi-subterranean hut with a passage and a conical storage pit in the middle; **Tarnowiec** (26), Tarnów province, site 1 (A. Szpunar, Pracownia Konserwacji Zabytków, Tarnów) — a hut with wattle and daub walls, 12th cent.; **Kraków-Kazimierz** (25), Piekaska Street 11 (E. Zaitz, Muzeum Archeologiczne, Kraków) — a cultural layer, 2 huts, a pit and a hearth in stratigraphical sequence, 11th-13th cent.; **Wojsze** (18), Ostrołęka province, site 1 (D. Górna, J. Kalaga, Uniwersytet, Warszawa) — 7 features of the 10th-11th cent. including a semi-subterranean hut with posts at the outer walls (supporting the roof?).

In the investigation of earthworks attention was focused on the construction of ramparts. The excavations of the earthwork of the 10th-11th cent., sited at an open settlement of the 8th-9th cent. at **Tuligłowy** (29), Przemysł province (M. Cabalska, Uniwersytet Jagielloński, Kraków) showed the rampart II (middle line of fortifications) was of box construction composed of rows of posts and connecting beams arranged crosswise to the course of the rampart. At **Będkowice** (21) Wrocław province (H. Śledzik-Kamińska, Wojewódzki Ośrodek Archeologiczno-Konserwatorski, Wrocław) 3 successive phases of fortifications of the 8th to 10th/11th cent. were revealed: the first in the shape of a palisade of posts, 0.4 m across, filled up with wattle; the second of crossed logs construction (layers of beams transverse to the course of the rampart. with alternate layers of clay and stones) with an outer vertical facing of stakes, 0.5 m across, connected by horizontal beams, the base of 2.8-3 m in width; and the third of box (?) construction, revetted by posts, with a clay forewall and a moat, the rampart proper being 9-11 m wide at the base; in the time-gap between the burning down of the rampart of phase 2 and the rebuilding of the rampart of phase 3 a finishing workshop of quernstones made of local granite (the massif of *Ślęza*) functioned there. Also in **Poznań-Ostrów Tumski** (7), *Wieżowa Street 2/4* (Z. Karolczak, Muzeum Archeologiczne, Poznań) superimposed le-

* Cf. „Sprawozdania Archeologiczne”, vol. 34: 1983, p. 315, no 10.

vels of fortifications surrounding the suburban settlement and built in crossed logs construction have come to light: an earlier level from the end of the 10th to 11th cent., and a later one of the 12th to mid-13th cent. The main rampart of the 9th-11th cent. stronghold at **Czerchów** (14), Łódź province, site 1 (A. Chmielowska, Muzeum Archeologiczne i Etnograficzne, Łódź) of crossed logs build, was faced on the outer side with plated fascine and stones. Of the same construction was the base of the rampart built at the latest in the 1st half of the 11th cent. around the W side of the early medieval town of **Kraków-Okół** (23), Kanonicza Street 9 and 15 (E. Zaitz, M. Cwetsch, Muzeum Archeologiczne, Kraków); moreover, part of a paved road running along the inner side of the fortifications has come to light. Box construction was recorded at **Chmielno** (3), Gdańsk province, site 1



(B. Lepówna, Muzeum Archeologiczne, Gdańsk) and at **Raciążek** (12), Włocławek province (L. Kajzer, Uniwersytet, Łódź) — a clay bank revetted by a row of oaken boxes, with a side 2 m long, built about the turn of the 9th/10th cent. A perfectly preserved crossed logs construction of a rampart of the 12th-13th cent. was discovered at **Tykocin** (19), Białystok province (U. Stankiewicz, Konserwator Zabytków Archeologicznych, Białystok) — under a bank of sand a clay were 7 layers of beams alternating with layers of sand; in each layer the beams, parallel to the course of the rampart, were placed 1.2-1.3 m apart, the gaps being filled in by transverse poles; the outer face was revetted by a row of posts, 0.5 m apart, and by 2 rows of stones, and the inner face, by a row of stones.

Other sites have yielded new data for the reconstruction of architecture and culture of their inhabitants. At **Wolin** (1), Szczecin province, site 1 (W. Filipowiak, J. Wojtasik, Instytut Historii Kultury Materialnej PAN, Szczecin) layers of a port town from the beginnings of the 10th cent. were

explored, revealing „palisade” houses superimposed in later levels by post houses of analogical dimensions (about 6 m long); small finds included 2 leather purses (one with an iron needle inside). In addition to further remains of dwelling and domestic features the stronghold at **Czersk** (16), Warsaw province, site **Wzgórze Zamkowe** (Castle Hill) (J. Rauhutowa and team, Instytut Historii Kultury Materialnej PAN, Warszawa) yielded remains of a large post building (perhaps a prince's manor-house), found in an 11th cent. level and in its neighbourhood an ivory draughtsman with a plant and zoomorphic ornament — probably an oriental import from the 2nd half of the 12th cent., as well as a mosaic cube of glass possibly from the castle church of the 11th-12th cent. Excavations at **Ląd** (10), Konin province (M. Zeylandowa and team, Muzeum Archeologiczne, Poznań) revealed the oldest build-up of the suburban settlement of the 10th cent. but did not confirm the presence of a rampart surrounding the settlement on the S side; moreover within the stronghold proper fragment of a wall and an adjoining grave in a stone-setting have come to light — these are probably relics of a long sought for sacral building, mentioned in written sources and suggested by the presence of a churchyard.

In the course of the study of pre- and early Romanesque architecture it has been possible to determine more precisely the chronology of two stone buildings discovered in 1981 on the northern slope of **Wawel Hill** (24) in **Kraków** (J. Firlet, Z. Pianowski, Kierownictwo Odnowienia Zamku Królewskiego, Kraków-Wawel) — part of a pre-Romanesque rotunda wall built with the use of limestone mortar, intersected by a Romanesque church with a rectangular presbytery. Further elements have been obtained for the reconstruction of the layout of the Romanesque complex of the Benedictine monastery at **Lubiń** (8) Leszno province, site 1 (Z. and S. Kurnatowski, Instytut Historii Kultury Materialnej PAN, Poznań) — in the 11th cent. the complex included a 3-nave basilica and still undiscovered monastery buildings (probably to S of the church), surrounded by a system of moats; in the 12th cent. the moats were filled up, the basilica was pulled down, on the site of the S nave a churchyard was established, a new church and a monastery, adjoining the church on the N side, were built (the inner courtyard of the monastery with a side some 17 m long, was surrounded by cloisters, on the E side are remains of a chapter-house, on the N side, kitchen quarters).

At **Nowinka** (6), Elbląg province, site 1 (M. Pietrzak, Muzeum Archeologiczne, Gdańsk) eleven-years' excavations of a flat Old Prussian cemetery of the 6th-7th cent. were concluded, revealing 15 features (nos 149-163), including 3 oval cremation places, 3 skeletal burials of horses with their heads to S, furnished with bridle-bits, and human cremations in pits without any grave goods (2 burials occurred above horse burials). The study of Slav barrows with cremation burials was limited to small-scale digging of barrows in province of Białystok and to test investigations of a hypothetical early medieval barrow with well preserved wooden construction at the base of the mound at **Przędzel** (27), Tarnobrzeg province, site 10 (M. Florek, Biuro Badań i Dokumentacji Zabytków, Tarnobrzeg).

The 1982 excavations of an inhumation cemetery of the 11th cent. at **Bilczew** (13), Konin province, site 1 (K. Olińska, K. Gorczyca, Muzeum Okręgowe, Konin) failed to confirm the co-occurrence of flat cremation burials, previously suggested**, 5 inhumations furnished with only 2 knives were explored. On the other hand, a cremation grave, doubtless contemporaneous with inhumations, occurred in one of the rows of graves in the N margin of the cemetery at **Czekanów** (20), Siedlce province, site 1 (B. Zawadzka-Antonisk, Państwowe Muzeum Archeologiczne, Warszawa); the remains found in the grave were either cremated (mostly parts of skull and long bones) or uncremated (mostly spine) and belonged to 2 individuals: a man and a child; other discoveries included 12 inhumations with heads to W, 7 furnished with ornaments, vessels, tools, an arrowhead, 12th-13th cent. Three-years' investigations of an 11th cent. cemetery, not associated with a church, were concluded at **Dzieskanowice** (9), Poznań province (M. Henneberg, Zakład Antropologii, Uniwersytet Poznań and J. Wrzesiński, Muzeum Pierwszych Piastów na Lednicy, Lednogóra); an area of 1000 sq m was explored revealing 45 burials (19 female, 16 male, 4 children, 6 undetermined); 29 dead with heads to W, 22 furnished (mostly with knives, temple-rings, “strike-a-lights”, vessels and half a coin).

** Cf. „Sprawozdania Archeologiczne”, vol. 34: 1983, p. 317, no 8.

Of the 40 or so sites of the Late Middle Ages attention is claimed by the settlement at **Kruszwica** (11), Bydgoszcz province, site 17 (U. and K. Szamałek, Instytut Historii Kultury Materialnej PAN, Poznań) where the discoveries included a hut with walls built of short timber planks with ends tenoned into the slots of vertical timber posts, filled in with daub, and containing a clay domed oven with numerous vessels of the 14th-15th cent., and a female figurine several cm high.

Among the late medieval sites explored in 1982 mottes and stone castles form the most numerous group (about 20). At **Bardo** (22), Wałbrzych province, site 3 (J. Lodowski, Muzeum Archeologiczne, Wrocław) exploration was commenced of a cylindrical stone tower of the 14th-15th cent., 10.3 m in diameter, situated on the slope, cut off by a moat, of a high eminence in the gap of the river Nysa Kłodzka. The excavations conducted for 3 years at the stronghold at **Stążki** (4), Elbląg province (A. J. Pawłowski, Muzeum Zamkowe, Malbork) revealed 3 periods of occupation: 12th/13th — 1st half of 13th cent. with finds of the Prussian culture; 2nd half of 13th — early 14th cent. first phase and 14th — early 15th cent. — second phase of the existence of the seat of the knightly family of Stango; the discoveries of 1982 included a two-chambered stone kiln for firing building ceramics and later used for smoking food, a domed oven and a smelting furnace, a rectangular timber-lined well and 7 buildings: of post construction (3), with wattle-and-daub walls (2), block houses and houses with walls built of short timber planks with ends tenoned into the slots of vertical timber posts; small finds included numerous ceramic objects, tools, weapons, elements of equestrian equipment, game dice of amber and bone, a silver pendant with a plant and figural ornament, bracteates of the Teutonic Knights. At **Pultusk** (17), Ciechanów province, site Zamek (Castle) (M. Mierosławski and team, Pracownie Konserwacji Zabytków, Warszawa) the castle courtyard continued to be explored, revealing at least 7 levels of timber constructions (the earliest from the early 13th cent.), 12 levels of the so-called eastern road with rows of huts on either side and part of the so-called main road — altogether 80 features of wooden architecture.

Among medieval towns investigated in 1982 of special interest is **Elbląg** (5) — **Stare Miasto** (G. and T. Nawroński, Pracownie Konserwacji Zabytków, Gdańsk) — where 2 levels of timber street from the earliest phase of the town of the mid-13th cent. (with numerous artifacts of iron, leather and fair share of pottery imported from northern and western Europe) have come to light; in the 1st half of the 14th cent. they were superimposed by townman's houses of stone, situated transversely to the older buildings and parallel to the course of present-day streets.

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