

ZENON WOŹNIAK

## A SURVEY OF THE INVESTIGATIONS OF THE BRONZE AND IRON AGE SITES IN POLAND IN 1984

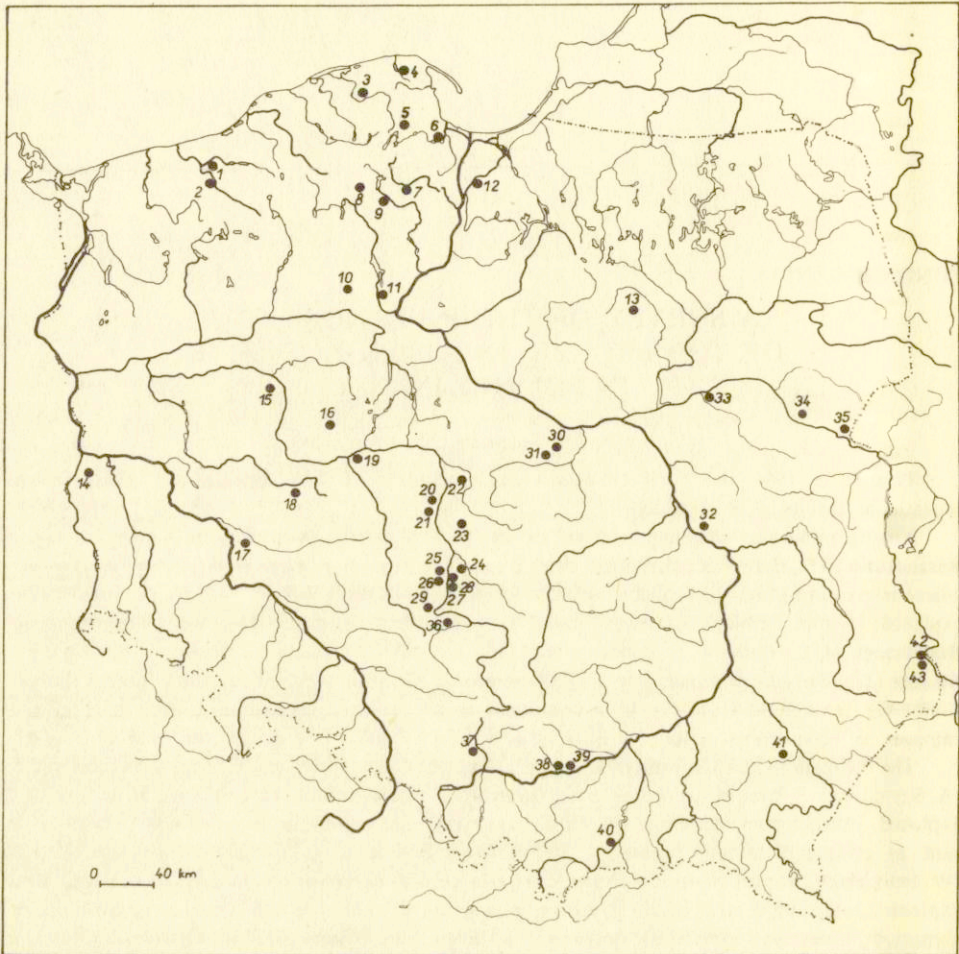
### *The Lusatian Culture*

Though in 1984 about 50 Lusatian sites, including 20 cemeteries, were explored, no sensational results were recorded.

Among numerous settlements examined in this season, the following are worthy of note: **Borzenkowo** (11), Bydgoszcz province, site 11 (M. Zegarliński, Muzeum Okręgowe, Bydgoszcz) where interesting traces of timber constructions (block houses?), BA IV – Ha, continued to be explored; 5 pits, remains of posts and 2 clay figurines of birds, Ha, were discovered at **Białobrzegi** (41), Rzeszów province, site 1 (S. Czopek, Muzeum Okręgowe, Rzeszów); at **Strobin** (27), Sieradz province, site 2 (Z. Kaszewski, Muzeum Archeologiczne i Etnograficzne, Łódź) the stronghold from Ha C-D continued to be explored, revealing eastern part of the rampart of box construction, a hut with a hearth and 22 pits in the habitable part.

The following Lusatian cemeteries merit attention: **Mściszewice** (5), Gdańsk province, site 3 (A. Szymańska, Muzeum Archeologiczne, Gdańsk) – a barrow with a stone circle at its foot was explored, revealing an urn from BA IV-V in a stone cist under the mound, and potsherds as well as cremated human bones in the mound; **Podrzecze** (18), Leszno province, site 3 (W. Śmigieński, Instytut Historii Kultury Materialnej PAN, Poznań) – 4 barrows from BA D were explored, revealing 3 to 7 layers of stone pavements in their mounds with concentrations of cremated bones and potsherds between the layers; at **Ożumiech** (13), Ostrołęka province (J. Korsak, Konserwator Zabytków Archeologicznych, Ostrołęka) 7 collective burials under one vast stone pavement were uncovered (45 urns from BA IV-V); **Drohiczyn** (34) Białystok province, site 9 (L. Pawlata, Konserwator Zabytków Archeologicznych, Białystok) – a stone pavement surrounded by a ditch was uncovered, with concentrations of cremated bones and potsherds from Ha on its surface; continued excavations of a vast cemetery at **Maciejowice** (32), Siedlce province, site 1 (M. Mogielnicka-Urban, Instytut Historii Kultury Materialnej PAN, Warszawa) revealed a further 74 urn graves, 6 graves without urns and 8 symbolic graves from BA IV – Ha C, and a saddle quernstone; a further 46 graves, mostly inhumations in stone settings and under stone pavements, BA V, were uncovered at **Zbrojewsko** (36), Częstochowa province, site 3 (M. Gedl and team, Uniwersytet Jagielloński, Kraków); the discoveries at **Madely** (29), Sieradz province, site 1 (Z. Kaszewski, Muzeum Archeologiczne i Etnograficzne, Łódź) included a further 44 graves, mostly in urns, often with stone settings, BA V – Ha C; a further 42 urn graves, end of BA and Ha, were uncovered at **Niechmirów-Mała Wieś** (25), Sieradz province, site 14 (A. Kufel-Dzierzgowska, M. Urbański, Muzeum Okręgowe, Sieradz); at **Wilkowice** (22), Sieradz province, site 1 (J. Błaszczak, Uniwersytet, Łódź) a further 67 cremation graves from Ha with stone pavements were unearthed and an iron spearhead was found; at **Kowalewko** (15), Poznań province, site 3 (E. Rajkowska, Muzeum Archeologiczne, Poznań) 78 urn graves from the end of BA and Ha C were revealed; most graves were under pavements or in stone settings, some had 2 to 3 urns, small finds included a clay figurine of a bird, a bronze axe, fragment of a clay tuyère.





*The Pomerania (Wejherowo-Krotoszyn) Culture*

About 20 sites, mostly cemeteries, of the Pomerania culture from the close of Ha and the Early pre-Roman period were investigated in 1984. Large-scale excavations were carried out at the following sites: **Leśno** (8), Bydgoszcz province, site 2 (K. Walenta, Uniwersytet, Łódź) – 3 multiple burials in cists, one with a face urn; **Mrocza** (10), Bydgoszcz province, site 2 (W. Kuczkowski, Muzeum Okręgowe, Bydgoszcz) – a further 5 multiple burials in cists and 3 bell graves, several face urns; **Niespusza Wieś** (31), Skierniewice province, site 2 (A. Kosiorek, Biuro Badań i Dokumentacji Zabytków, Skierniewice) 9 bell graves and 2 urn graves. At **Malbork-Wielbark** (12), Elbląg province, site 1 (S. Marcysiak, Muzeum Zamkowe, Malbork) a settlement was discovered and explored, yielding a semi-subterranean hut, several pits and hearths and fragments of casting moulds of clay.

Large-scale excavations were carried out at a settlement at **Kartoszyno** (4), Gdańsk province, site 7 (A. Szuldrzyński, Z. Żurowski, Pracownie Konserwacji Zabytków, Gdańsk) where numerous features such as pit dwellings, post features, pits and hearths, were uncovered. Remains of a pottery kiln with preserved grate, an associated pit and a pit with scoured clay seem also to belong to the Pomerania culture. This is the first pottery kiln to be discovered in northern Poland. If the cultural classification is right, this would be the



earliest kiln to be recorded in Poland and one of the earliest in Europe (except for the Mediterranean area). Moreover, this is the only known improved pottery kiln exclusively used in firing hand-made pottery.

### *The Przeworsk Culture*

Large scale excavations were conducted of sites of the Przeworsk culture from the Late pre-Roman and Roman periods. About 40 sites, including nearly 20 cemeteries, were examined.

The following cemeteries merit attention: **Niemirów** (35), Białystok province, site 6 (L. Pawlata, Konserwator Zabytków Archeologicznych, Białystok) – a cemetery located in the NE periphery of the Przeworsk culture yielded 2 urn graves and 5 pit graves of the Roman period, including one warrior's grave, and among small finds an ornamented spearhead; at **Nadkole** (33), Siedlce province, site 2 (J. Andrzejewski and team, Państwowe Muzeum Archeologiczne, Warszawa) 25 cremation graves of the Roman period were discovered (16 with urns, 9 without urns), some with elements of the Wielbark culture; the excavations at **Zapowiednia** (19), Konin province, site 5 (M. Ciesielski, Muzeum Okręgowe, Konin) yielded 23 graves of the Roman period, phases B<sub>2</sub> – B<sub>2</sub>/C<sub>1</sub>, including a warrior's grave with a sword, in a stone setting and with a stone stella, as well as traces of a later cemetery with scattered cremation burials; **Stawki** (20), Konin province, site 1 (M. Ciesielski, Muzeum Okręgowe, Konin) – 14 graves from phases B<sub>1</sub> – B<sub>2</sub> of the Roman period, a rotation quernstone; **Piotrów** (23), Sieradz province, site 1 (G. Rycel, Muzeum Archeologiczne i Etnograficzne, Łódź) – 9 graves of the Roman period, a pair of chair-shaped spurs; **Konopnica** (28), Sieradz province, site 7 (B. Abramek, Muzeum Ziemi Wieluńskiej, Wieluń) – the last season of excavations of the cemetery yielded a further 2 cremation graves of the late pre-Roman period and 5 of the Roman period (total 210), a bronze-ornamented shield boss, *terra sigillata*.

Of the settlements explored in this season the following deserve to be mentioned: **Stroszki** (16), Poznań province, site 1 (A. Gałęzowska, Muzeum Archeologiczne, Poznań) – a primitive smelting furnace, a domed oven of clay, 15 hearths and 9 pits of the Late pre-Roman and Roman periods; **Psary** (17), Leszno province, site 1 (H. Mamzer, Instytut Historii Kultury Materialnej PAN, Poznań) – a grouping of slag blocks from smelting furnaces and 18 pits of the Late pre-Roman and Early Roman periods; **Wola Piekarska** (21), Konin province, site 2 (M. Ciesielski, T. Łaskiewicz, Muzeum Okręgowe, Konin) – discovery probably of a potter's settlement from the close of the Roman period (8 pits, including 2 with skeletons of cows); **Różyce-Stara Wieś** (30), Skierniewice province, site 3 (H. Wiklak, Muzeum Regionalne, Brzeziny) – 2 post buildings (1 with a porch) and 2 pits of the Late pre-Roman and the beginnings of the Roman period; **Siemiechów** (24), Sieradz province, site 2 (M. Jążdżewska, Muzeum, Pabianice), a further 6 semi-subterranean huts of the Late Roman period, a rotation quernstone; **Mala Wieś** (26), Sieradz province (M. Urbański, Muzeum Okręgowe, Sieradz) – 6 huts, 2 hearths, over 10 pits, a store of clay, Early Roman period; **Mysłowice-Imielno** (37), Katowice province (E. Tomczak, Ośrodek Badań i Dokumentacji Zabytków, Katowice) – 269 various features of the Late Roman period, including a timber-lined well, several huts, pits, 3 large groupings of stone hearths (respectively 6, 16 and 200 hearths); **Kraków-Nowa Huta-Branice** (39), site 76 (J. Rydzewski and team, Muzeum Archeologiczne, Kraków – Nowa Huta) – 2 two-chamber pottery kilns and 70 other features from the Late Roman period, including an isolated grouping of stone hearths.

### *The Oksywie and Wielbark Culture*

About 10 sites of the Oksywie culture of the Late pre-Roman and the beginnings of the Roman period were explored in 1984. Important results were yielded by the excavations of the cemetery at **Czarnowęsy** (2), Koszalin province, site 29 (H. Machajewski, Uniwersytet, Poznań)



where 29 cremation graves (mostly without urns) came to light. Interesting materials were also yielded by cemeteries where in addition to Oksywie graves also later burials of the Wielbark culture were found: **Pruszcz Gdański** (6), Gdańsk province, site 7 (M. Tuszyńska, M. Pietrzak) – 51 cremation burials (of both cultures) and 28 inhumations (Wielbark culture), 11 with traces of tree-trunks, cremation grave no 34 from phase B<sub>1</sub> of the Roman period contained a gold pendant, inhumation grave no 54 from phase B<sub>2</sub> contained fragments of glass cups and bowls, grave no 5 had a skeleton not in anatomical order; **Czarnówko** (3), Słupsk province, site 2 (D. Rudnicka, Muzeum Archeologiczne, Gdańsk) – 25 graves, usually cremations without urns, of the Oksywie culture as well as 3 urn burials and 4 inhumations of the Wielbark culture.

In recent years the investigations of the Wielbark culture sites of the Roman period have been intensified. In 1984 nearly 20 sites of this culture were explored. In addition to those, mentioned above, the following merit attention: resumed excavations of the eponymic cemetery at **Malbork-Wielbark** (12), Gdańsk province, site 1 (S. Marcysiak, Muzeum Zamkowe, Malbork) where 6 graves were uncovered in the northern part of the site; **Odry** (9), Bydgoszcz province (T. Grabarczyk and team, Uniwersytet, Łódź) – in the twentieth season barrow no 26 with an inhumation, phase B<sub>2</sub>, and a flat inhumation grave without furnishing were explored; soundings of the neighbouring bog revealed traces of timber constructions; **Leśno** (8), Bydgoszcz province, site 2 (K. Walenta, Uniwersytet, Łódź) – stone ring no 9 with 2 urn graves was explored, 1 urn grave and 3 inhumations were discovered; **Chwarzno** (7), Gdańsk province, site 1 (G. Jezierska, Muzeum Archeologiczne, Gdańsk) – a stone circle was explored, revealing traces of a hearth and timber constructions.

Of considerable interest were the excavations of a settlement at **Białogard** (1), Koszalin province, site 17 (H. Machajewski, Uniwersytet, Poznań). The settlement, assigned to the Wielbark culture and to the later Dębczyno group, yielded a further 5 dwelling pits, 2 hearths, numerous postholes; the buildings were located around the empty central space.

Of the sites of the so-called Masłomęcz group, genetically linked with the Wielbark culture, attention is claimed by the cemetery at **Masłomęcz** (43), Zamość province, site 15 (A. Kokowski, Uniwersytet M. Curie-Skłodowskiej, Lublin) which yielded a further 13 inhumation graves, mostly with skeletons either incomplete or not in anatomical order; part of the cremation layer was explored, and fragment of a glass beaker found. At **Gródek Nadbużny** (42), Zamość province, site I (S. Jastrzębski, A. Kokowski, Uniwersytet M. Curie-Skłodowskiej, Lublin) 9 inhumation graves (one fragmentary), 1 symbolic and a layer with cremation remains were discovered.

#### *Other culture groups*

In 1984 a settlement of the Tyniec group from La Tène D was investigated at **Kraków-Nowa Huta-Krzyszalawice** (38), site 41 (P. Poleska, G. Toboła, Muzeum Archeologiczne Kraków-Nowa Huta), revealing another hut with a large amount of amber and iron slag.

Excavations continued at a settlement of the Puchov culture of the Early Roman period at **Podegrodzie** (40), Nowy Sącz province, site 9 (R. Madyda-Legutko, Uniwersytet Jagielloński, Kraków) uncovered a hut with a porch.

Among a number of Luboszyce culture sites, investigated in 1984, of considerable interest are results obtained at a settlement from phase C<sub>2</sub> of the Roman period at **Jazów** (14), Zielona Góra province, site 3 (G. Domański, Instytut Historii Kultury Materialnej PAN, Wrocław). The discoveries include 6 buildings with one of the gable walls semicircular in shape (one building was 10.5 × 3.5 m in size), 3 storage pits, a group of 7 stone hearths and a fairly extensive stone pavement.