

ELŻBIETA DĄBROWSKA

RESULTS OF EXCAVATIONS CARRIED OUT ON EARLY
MEDIEVAL SITES IN POLAND IN 1969

A certain limitation in the studies of Early Medieval sites was again noticeable in 1969. Long-term investigations of large representative sites were on the whole concluded, whereas reconnaissance, verification and rescue works dominated. The total number of Early Medieval sites examined in this season is about 100, including 59 villages, 33 strongholds, 1 production site, 4 cremation cemeteries, 3 assumed cremation cemeteries and 9 inhumation burial grounds.

Not all regions of Medieval Poland were examined with the same intensity. In 1969 the most privileged — at least as far as quantity was concerned — were the following areas: Western Pomerania, Little Poland and Silesia. In addition to stationary studies conducted in these areas, the following districts were systematically surveyed: Myślibórz, Pyrzyce, Słupsk, Proszowice, Jędrzejów and Włoszczowa. Moreover, the northern part of the Masurian Lakes was surveyed.

About 30% of the sites examined yielded materials from the first centuries of the Early Medieval period. A complex with pottery of the Prague-like type from the 6th—7th cent. revealed in Lublin merits special attention. A distinct level coinciding with this phase and loosely built up with semi-subterranean huts was disclosed on the sites of **Lublin-Old Town** (S. Hoczyk, Uniwersytet Marii Curie-Skłodowskiej, Lublin) and of **Lublin-Castle** (E. Hoczyk, W. Kunicka, Z. Ślusarski, Muzeum, Lublin). Analogical materials have been obtained during long-term rescue and excavation works carried out in **Kraków-Nowa Huta** on the habitation sites of Mogiła and Pleszów II (S. Buratyński, R. Hachulska-Ledwos, A. Kogus, Muzeum Archeologiczne, Kraków, Oddział Nowa Huta). The continuation of settlement from the "Prague-like" phase to the 8th and 9th cent. is observable in both complexes.

Of the sites investigated in other regions the following ones should be mentioned: **Dziedzice**, Myślibórz distr. (A. Porzesiński, Muzeum Pomorza Zachodniego, Szczecin) — excavation continued on this site shows that the settlement of the 6th—7th cent. occupied an area of 230 by 130 m; 50 semi-subterranean features with handmade Slav pottery were explored; similar material was yielded by a settlement situated between site 2 and site 9 at **Lubieszewo**, Gryfice distr. (R. Wołagiewicz, Muzeum Pomorza Zachodniego, Szczecin); the settlement which was only partly explored revealed a semi-subterranean hut, 2 hearths and a bread oven; the site was inhabited until the 9th and 10th cent.

Excavations of the following villages were continued: **Biskupin**, Żnin distr., site 18 (J. Głosik, Państwowe Muzeum Archeologiczne, Warszawa) — the discovery

of a spur with hooks dates it to the 6th—7th cent. (the site yielded two smoke pits for drying fish and a pit with installations for distilling birch tar); **Czersk**, Piaseczno distr., „Księża Góra” site (J. Rauhut, S. Suchodolski, Instytut Historii Kultury Materialnej Polskiej Akademii Nauk, Warszawa) — a “suburban” complex dating from the 6th—7th cent. to the 2nd half of the 10th cent.; **Warszawa—Lazienki** (O. Gerlach, Urząd Konserwatorski m. st. Warszawy) — a village with semi-subterranean huts dated by a spur with hooks to the 7th—8th cent.; **Wariów**, Lubliniec distr., site 7 (M. Wowra, Muzeum Górnośląskie, Bytom) — 4 semi-subterranean huts and 3 pits, 7th—8th cent.; **Siciny**, Góra distr. (W. Wojciechowski, Uniwersytet, Wrocław) — a hut from the 7th—9th cent. Rescue excavation carried out in the Balt territory at **Frankowo**, Golub-Dobrzyń distr. (Ł. Okulicz, Zakład Epoki Metali, Instytut Historii Kultury Materialnej Polskiej Akademii Nauk, Warszawa), revealed 7 rectangular semisubterranean block houses with domed ovens (?) and storage pits, 7th—9th cent. (?).

Among villages assigned to the later centuries of the Early Middle Ages of special interest are those that in addition to traces of habitation have revealed plough-marks, on the grounds of which an attempt has been made to reconstruct the extent and the pattern of the arable fields. Excavation was continued at **Boleszyn**, Turek distr. (M. Głosek, L. Kajzer, T. Poklewski, Z. Wawrzonowska, Zakład Archeologii Polski Środkowej Instytutu Historii Kultury Materialnej Polskiej Akademii Nauk, Łódź). It has been established that in the 9th and early 10th cent, the village consisted of 5 to 6 houses, whereas the cultivated area averaged 1 hectare per 1 house. Six relics fields were examined at **Dobropole**, Kamień Pomorski distr. (W. Garczyński, Muzeum Pomorza Zachodniego, Szczecin); the date of their use, however remains uncertain.

Remains of rectangular houses arranged in a row were disclosed on a habitation site from the 11th and early 12th cent. at **Jadowniki Mokre**, Dąbrowa Tarnowska distr. (M. Cabalska, R. Madyda, Uniwersytet Jagielloński, Kraków).

The following villages, mostly partly explored, revealed remains of production features: **Ostrowite Prymasowskie**, Gniezno distr. (S. Jasnosz, Muzeum Archeologiczne, Poznań) — a heavily damaged smelting furnace and 2 rotation querns from the 10th—11th cent.; **Radom**, site 6 (E. Kierzkowska-Kalinowska, Instytut Historii Kultury Materialnej Polskiej Akademii Nauk, Warszawa) — several destroyed smelting furnaces, numerous ceramic tuyeres and iron slag distributed over an area of about 2 hectares; **Polany**, Szydłowiec distr. (O. Lipińska, Państwowe Muzeum Archeologiczne, Warszawa) — a pit associated with a smelting furnace, 12th/13th and 13th cent.

The extremely interesting studies of salt-extracting and mining installations were continued at **Wieliczka**, Kraków distr. (A. Jodłowski, M. Zeylandowa, Muzeum Żup Krakowskich, Wieliczka). A mine shaft discovered there in 1968 was further explored. It was lined by a timber construction and dates from the turn of the 12th/13th cent. Moreover, the saliferous regions in Kotlina Sądecka and in the environs of Przemyśl were surveyed (A. Jodłowski, K. Reguła, Muzeum Żup Krakowskich, Wieliczka).

Strongholds were examined on a far larger scale. Search for and verification of strongholds were continued in Western Pomerania (J. Olczak, K. Siuchniński, Uniwersytet A. Mickiewicza, Poznań, and E. Cnotliwy, T. Nawroński, R. Rogosz, Pracownia Archeologiczno-Konserwatorska PKZ, Szczecin); in Ziemia Chełmińska (A. Kola, W. Matuszewska-Kola, R. Boguwolski, Uniwersytet M. Kopernika, Toruń, Muzeum Grudziądz); in Masovia and Podlasie (W. Szymański and team,

Instytut Historii Kultury Materialnej Polskiej Akademii Nauk, Warszawa), and also in the western boundary of Silesia, in the region inhabited in the Early Middle Ages by the Lusatian tribe of Nice (A. Balowa, Uniwersytet, Wrocław).

Of the oldest Early Medieval strongholds which were studied in 1969 the following ones are noteworthy: **Bruszczewo**, Kościan distr. (S. Jasnosz, Muzeum Archeologiczne, Poznań) — a rampart of crossed logs set on stones, and stone revetted on the outer face, dense build-up, cereals found in quantity (rye, millet, wheat), 7th—8th to 10th cent.; **Naszacowice**, Nowy Sącz distr. (A. Żaki, Komisja Archeologiczna Oddziału PAN, Kraków) — the lower east part of a "suburbium", 8th—9th cent.; **Bogdany** Braniewo distr., the Balt culture area (R. Odoj, Wojeków) — a stronghold with triple ramparts (?), the inner one built of boxes (?), 8th—10th cent.; **Wiesiółka**, Wałcz distr., site 3 (H. Janocha, F. Lachowicz, Muzeum Pomorza Środkowego, Koszalin) — a small hill fort with a timber-earth rampart, 8th—9th cent.; **Bogdany**, Braniewo distr., the Balt culture area (R. Odój, Wojewódzki Konserwator, Olsztyn) — a hill fort with triple ramparts of crossed logs, 7th—9th cent.

Excavation was continued of an earthwork at **Lubomia**, Wodzisław Śląski distr. (J. Szydłowski, Muzeum Górnośląskie, Bytom). The central part of the enclosure was built up regularly whereas no habitation traces were disclosed within the enclosure outside the eastern gate; the date established as from the turn of the 8th/9th to the second half of the 9th cent. was confirmed by four silver ear-rings of the Moravian type. The stronghold was preceded by a village from the mid-7th to the 8th/9th cent.

The following strongholds from the later phases of the Early Medieval period enriched our knowledge of the fortification systems: **Radom**, site 1 „Piotrówka” (E. Kierzkowska-Kalinowska, Instytut Historii Kultury Materialnej PAN, Warszawa) — a rampart of crossed logs with an earthen stone-revetted scarp adjacent to its outer wall; and a timber-earth structure, which probably-revetted the moat, found outside the rampart at a distance of 11 m; **Raciąż**, Sierpc distr. (B. Buczek-Plachtowa, Pracownia Archeologiczno-Konserwatorska, Warszawa) — a rampart of crossed logs, part of gate fortifications, 10th—12th cent.; **Stawy**, Jędrzejów distr. (Z. Woźnicka, Zespół Badań nad Polskim Średniowieczem, Uniwersytet i Politechnika, Warszawa) — a stronghold surrounded by four moats and a rampart (?), 12th cent.; **Łąd**, Słupca distr. (M. Zeylandowa, M. Lipińska, K. Lutowa, M. Piaszykowska, Muzeum Archeologiczne, Poznań) — a lowland stronghold surrounded by a stone-revetted rampart of crossed logs, two phases, 10th—12th cent.; **Kamień Pomorski** (E. Nawrońska, A. Porzeziński, Muzeum Pomorza Zachodniego, Szczecin) — a timber-earth rampart with a clay core, stonerevetted on the outer face, 11th cent.

Long-term excavations of extensive strongholds which were already examined in the "Millenary" period were continued: **Opole-Ostrówek** (B. Gediga and team, Instytut Historii Kultury Materialnej PAN, Wrocław) — a rampart from the second half of the 10th cent., further parts of streets (excavations were concluded), 10th—13th cent.; **Szczecin-Mściecino**, site 1 (R. Rogosz, Pracownia Archeologiczno-Konserwatorska PKZ, Szczecin) — a stronghold from the turn of the 9th/10th cent., the later phase from the 10th and early 11th cent., preceded by a village from the 9th cent.; **Wolin** "Srebrne Wzgórze" (W. Filipowiak, Instytut Historii Kultury Materialnej PAN, Szczecin) — a quarter inhabited by artisans and tradesmen, numerous traces of metallurgical production, and of stone, horn and amber working, 10th—12th cent.

Investigations were commenced of the hitherto neglected mottes — specific forts from the turn of the 13th and 14th cent.: **Bnin**, Śrem distr., site 1 (J. Żak, J. Fogel, A. Potulicka, Uniwersytet A. Mickiewicza, Poznań) — a two-phase motte with a central dwelling structure; **Chlebnia**, Grodzisk Mazowiecki distr. (Z. War- tołowska, Z. Woźnicka, Zespół Badań nad Polskim Średniowieczem, Uniwersytet i Politechnika, Warszawa) — a motte with a "suburbium" (?), 13th cent., erected on the site of an unfortified settlement from the 11th—13th cent. Attention should also be drawn to the 13th century Jazdow stronghold which after a long search has been finally located in the Łazienki garden in **Warszawa** (O. Gerlach, Urząd Konserwatorski m. st. Warszawy).

Of the Early Medieval architectonic monuments studied in this season, the following ones merit special attention: a sacral building, rectangular in ground- -plan, with vertical and slanting buttresses and a north apse, probably pre-Ro- manesque (?) discovered among the ruins of St. Peter's church in the courtyard of Collegium Gostomianum in **Sandomierz** (W. Szafrąński, S. Tabaczyński, E. Ta- baczyńska, J. Przeniosło, M. Rulewicz, Instytut Historii Kultury Materialnej PAN, Warszawa); further walls of a sacral building, probably with 4 apses, so-called rotunda B, 2nd half of the 10th cent. (?), discovered in **Kraków—Wawel** (A. Żaki, and team, Państwowe Zbiory Sztuki na Wawelu, Kraków).

Thirteenth-century monuments include two scarps of the oldest Gothic church (?) at **Wieliczka**, Kraków distr. (A. Jodłowski, Muzeum Żup Krakowskich, Wieliczka) as well as a complex of monastery buildings at **Cedynia**, Chojna distr. (T. Nawroński, Pracownie Archeologiczno-Konserwatorskie PKZ, Szczecin). It con- sisted of a church with one nave and a straight-ended presbytery and residential buildings with cloisters.

Only small scale excavations were conducted on cremation cemeteries. In- vestigations continued at **Racibórz-Obora** (E. Dąbrowska, Wojewódzki Konserwator Zabytków, Opole) included a barrow with burials in the mound and the ditch on the margin of the mound, the stratigraphical relation of the burials being still obscure; a vessel from the 7th cent.

Excavations were commenced on the following cemeteries: **Kęsocha**, Przasnysz distr., site 2 (J. Okulicz, Zespół Badań nad Polskim Średniowieczem, Uniwersytet i Politechnika, Warszawa) — two heavily damaged barrows with rectangular settings, of which one yielded 3 urns from the 10th—11th cent.; **Czarna Wielka**, Siemiatycze distr., site 2 (K. Chilmon, Wojewódzki Konserwator Zabytków, Bia- łystok) — four bi-ritual barrows of stones, furnished with pottery and small ornaments of bronze, 11th—12th cent.

Moreover a cremated flat burial (?) was discovered on a site of many cultures at **Stara Wieś**, Węgrów distr. (T. Dąbrowska, T. Liana, M. Mączyńska, Państwowe Muzeum Archeologiczne, Warszawa).

Attention should also be drawn to the following inhumation cemeteries in the Masovian-Podlasie group: **Pokrzywnica Wielka**, Nidzica distr. (L. Rauhut, L. Dłu- gopolska, Państwowe Muzeum Archeologiczne, Warszawa) — the second excavation season yielded 22 graves (total: 31) orientated EW, with stone settings and pa- vements, and rich grave goods which included 4 swords, spear — and arrowheads, spurs numerous temple-rings of silver and silver-plated, beads of amber, car- nelian, rock-crystal and glass, a pin with a ring, whetstones, steel strikes, four Romanesque bowls of bronze, and three coins from the close of the 11th and early 12th cent. **Czekanów**, Sokołów Podlaski distr. (B. Zawadzka-Antosik, Pań- stwowe Muzeum Archeologiczne, Warszawa) — 12 burials in coffins, arranged in rows, orientated W, set and paved by stones, furnished with temple-, finger-, and

ear-rings, glass beads, knives, steel strikes, 12th—13th cent.; **Niewiadoma**, Sokołów Podlaski distr. (M. Miśkiewicz, Zespół Badań nad Polskim Średniowieczem, Uniwersytet i Politechnika, Warszawa) — 9 graves set and paved by stones, furnished with silver temple-rings, bronze finger-rings and glass beads, 12th cent.; **Czarna Wielka**, Siemiatycze distr., site 2 (M. Pikulińska, M. Ślaska, Pracownia Archeologiczno-Konserwatorska PKZ, Warszawa) — 11 stone-set graves including 4 cenotaphs, the grave goods consisted of temple-, finger- and ear-rings, bronze and glass beads, a bracelet, buckles, pottery and whorls. The following cemeteries should also be mentioned: **Kraków-Zakrzówek** (W. Morawski, Muzeum Archeologiczne, Kraków) — 3rd excavation season, 23 graves (total: 55 graves), arranged in rows and orientated W-E, furnished with weapons, ornaments (i.e. silver earrings, temple-rings), knives, coins from the 11th and early 12th cent.; **Silniczka**, Radomsko distr. (J. Augustyniak, Konserwator Zabytków Archeologicznych, Łódź) — one excavation season, 5 graves furnished with a spearhead, a bucket, a lot of temple-rings and beads, 11th cent. Moreover in the neighbourhood an iron helmet from the 11th century was found (the sixth specimen to be found on Polish territory).

Large-scale excavations were conducted on the following cemeteries: **Cedynia**, Chojna distr., site 2 (H. Malinowska, Muzeum Regionalne, Cedynia) — 3rd excavation season, 237 graves orientated SW—NE, traces of coffins, rich grave-goods including necklaces of silver wire with beads and amulets from boar's tusks, bronze and silver fingerrings, beads from rock-crystal, ceramic and glass, game dice, a rattle, knives, whorls, steel strikes and 18 coins from the 12th—13th centuries. The chronology of the neighbouring sacral buildings, the foundations of which have been disclosed, remains still obscure.

Of the Medieval cemeteries, those from Kujavia and Ziemia Chełmińska are particularly noteworthy: **Jaksice**, Inowrocław distr., site 2 (C. Sikorski, Muzeum J. Kasprówicza, Inowrocław) — 55 burials in three layers, the upper two in coffins, orientated W, mostly unfurnished, the scarce grave-goods consisting of a diadem, 2 holy medals a coin; **Skrwilno**, Rypin distr. (J. Chudziak, Uniwersytet M. Kopernika, Toruń) — 204 graves, orientated W, of which only 13.4% were furnished with silver beads, coils and head-bands of metal network pins, gold and gilded medallions, bronze crosses, a rosary; **Słaboszewo**, Mogilno distr. (C. Sikorski, J. Piontek, Muzeum J. Kasprówicza, Inowrocław) — about 100 W-orientated graves, dated by coins, the earliest of which comes from the 15th cent., traces of fire burnt on the chest of the dead detected in three graves; the grave-goods included a bronze finger-ring, a knife and a clasp, Early Middle Ages (?). Moreover a collective burial with remains of 16 skeletons, partly charred, was disclosed the finds included a gold reliquary ring from 1523, a silver-plaited medallion inlaid with gold, rosary beads and a coin of Jan Casimir (the grave probably dates back to the Swedish wars).

Finally, attention should be drawn to the intensification of studies of Medieval and modern castles and towns, mostly conducted by Departments for Conservation of Antiquities (Pracownie Konserwacji Zabytków) and Province Conservators (Konserwator Wojewódzki). These investigations included Medieval castles in the following localities: **Bodzentyn**, Kielce distr., **Koziegłowy**, Myszków distr., **Lanckorona**, Wadowice distr., **Lipowice**, Chrzanów distr., **Manasterzec-Sobień**, Lesko distr., **Odrzykoń**, Krosno distr., district towns of **Oleśnica** and **Sieradz**, **Szczekociny**, Włoszczowa distr., district towns of **Szydłowiec** and **Żywiec**. Of particular interest are the investigations of Teutonic Knights' castles from the 13th and 14th centuries in the district towns of **Golub-Dobrzyń**, **Giżycko**, **Ostróda**, **Szczytno** and **Tuchola**, as well as of towns: **Kraków**, **Mogilno**, **Pińczów**, **Radom**, **Sandomierz**, **Stargard Szczeciński**, **Warszawa**, and **Wieliczka**, Kraków distr.

