

ZENON WOŹNIAK

## A SURVEY OF THE INVESTIGATIONS OF THE BRONZE AND IRON AGE SITES IN POLAND IN 1988

### *The Lusatian culture*

In 1988 about 20 cemeteries and the same number of settlements of the Lusatian culture were excavated. Of major interest are the results of the excavations, directed by J. Ostojka-Zagórski (Instytut Historii Kultury Materialnej PAN, Poznań) and A. Harding (University of Durham), of site 1 at Sobiejuchy and of site 3 at Żędowo, Bydgoszcz province. Complex investigations of a fortified settlement of HaC continued at **Sobiejuchy** (9) revealed in its NE part a further 3 buildings with clay ovens, and deer's antlers in a clay pot beneath the clay floor of one of the buildings. Remains of three phases of defensive constructions were brought to light on the E margin of the site (an earth bank followed by a rampart of box build supplemented by a breakwater). These discoveries put an end to the discussion about the defensive or non-defensive character of the site. The results of the investigations bear out the possibility to recognize 4 phases of settlement. Electromagnetic researches were carried out and a large number of palynological samples and botanical macro-remains were collected for detailed analyses.

The same team has carried out rescue excavations at near by **Żędowo** (8) revealing a section of a timber foot bridge, 2.5 m wide and 25 m long. The bridge, built of logs supported on 3 rows of piles and revetted with fascine, can be dated to the turn of HaC-D.

A settlement of HaC, located on a former island, continued to be excavated at **Kunice** (17), Legnica province, site 1 (A. Mierzwiński, Instytut Historii Kultury Materialnej PAN, Wrocław). 3 to 4 settlement phases and 3 phases of the lake transgression have been recognized. On the former lake-shore an earth bank was revealed. In all probability this was a dam protecting against floods and not a defensive structure. Among small finds special attention is claimed by objects used in bronze metallurgy, such fragments of forms and a tuyère.

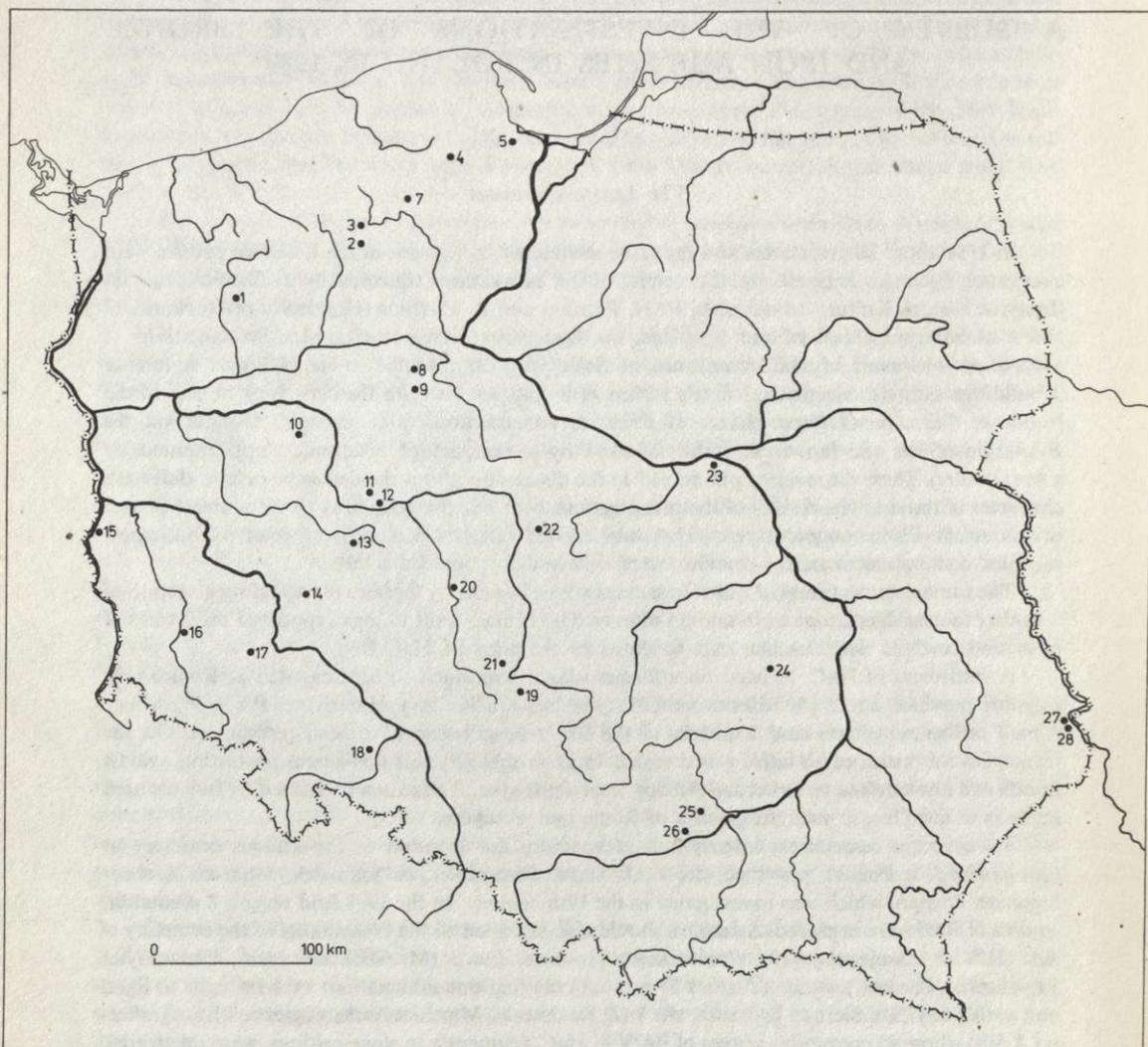
As concerns cemeteries, attention is claimed by the location of the known cemetery at **Gorszewice** (10), Poznań province, site 1 (U. Narożna-Szamałek, K. Szamałek, Muzeum Archeologiczne, Poznań) which was investigated in the 19th century. In the 1988 field season 8 cremation graves of HaC were explored. Attention should also be called to the excavations of the cemetery of BA III-V at **Zbrojewsko** (19), Częstochowa province, site 3 (M. Gedl and team, Uniwersytet Jagielloński, Kraków) where a further 37 graves (including one inhumation) were brought to light, and to **Madely** (21), Sieradz province, site 1 (Z. Kaszewski, Muzeum Archeologiczne i Etnograficzne, Łódź) where 45 cremation graves of BA V – HaC, frequently in stone-settings, were uncovered. Moreover, the cemetery at **Pobłażewo** (11), Poznań province, site 11 (B. Walkiewicz, Muzeum Archeologiczne, Poznań) revealed 29 cremation graves of BA V – HaC, usually in stone-settings, and one urn burial beneath a larger inverted urn.

*The Pomeranian (Wejherowo-Krotoszyn) culture*

More than 10 sites, mostly cemeteries, were examined in the 1988 field season. Of considerable interest are the investigations conducted by the Koszalin Museum (I. Skrzypek) at **Biernatka** (2), Słupsk province, sites 1 and 3, where 15 cist graves of the Early HaD were revealed (2 face urns) and at **Gwieździn** (3), Słupsk province, site 9, where 6 cist graves of HaD came to light.

*The Przeworsk culture*

Over 20 sites from various phases of this culture were investigated in 1988. Of the results yielded by cemeteries, those obtained at **Podrzecze** (13), Leszno province, site 3 (E. Śmigielska, W. Śmigielski, Instytut Historii Kultury Materialnej PAN, Poznań) are the most rewarding. The



Map showing important archaeological sites of the Bronze and Iron Age, investigated in 1988

Numbers of the points on the map correspond to the numbers after the place — names in text

discoveries made there include 52 unurned cremation graves, usually of the Early Roman period, some under stone pavements, other marked on the surface by single stones, a big stone stela, 2 m long, located in a specially dug pit, and among small finds, a silver brooch. The excavations at **Cząstków Polski** (23), Warsaw province (M. Kulisiewicz-Kubiela, Pracownie Konserwacji Zabytków, Warszawa) revealed 28 urn graves and 6 unurned cremations from phases B2/C1 and C1 of the Roman period, several with wheel-turned pottery, rare in this zone.

Moreover, several smelting sites have been explored. 2 concentrations of smelting furnaces, orderly arranged (remains of 44 and 45 furnaces for iron smelting) were examined at **Kolonia Siedzice** (24), Radom province, site 1 (K. Bielenin and team, Muzeum Archeologiczne, Kraków). The excavations at **Przylesie Dolne** (198), Opole province, site 6 (K. Macewicz, Konserwator Zabytków Archeologicznych, Opole) brought to light a big concentration of slag and a feature – probably a soaking furnace for the secondary working of pig iron, datable to the end of the Roman period. A semi-subterranean hut, a smelting furnace and numerous blocks of iron slag of the Late pre-Roman period were discovered at **Płoski** (14), Leszno province, site 3 (M. Wrobel, Wojewódzki Ośrodek Archeologiczno-Konserwatorski, Leszno).

The settlement explored include that at **Młodzikowo** (12), Poznań province, site 21 (E. A. Świerkowska, Muzeum Archeologiczne, Poznań), where 2 post houses with hearths, 47 pits and a bronze coin of Constantine I were revealed; at **Wilkowice** (22), (J. Błaszczak, Uniwersytet, Łódź) which yielded a further 2 houses (one with a stone hearth), 4 pits and 2 stone hearths; small finds include a denarius of Antoninus Pius and a denarius of Crispina; at **Zadowice** (20), Kalisz province, site 1a (W. Siciński, Muzeum Archeologiczne i Etnograficzne, Łódź), where a settlement of the Early Roman period (2 houses, 2 ovens for lime burning?, 4 hearths) was located near the extensive fully explored cemetery. Excavations started at a settlement of the Late Roman period at **Mysławczyce** (26), Kraków province (H. Dobrzańska, Instytut Historii Kultury Materialnej PAN, Kraków) revealed a denarius of Traian and another of Antoninus Pius and 2 post houses. Complex investigations continued at **Jakuszowice** (25), Kielce province (K. Godłowski and team, Uniwersytet Jagielloński, Kraków) revealed mostly materials of the Late pre-Roman period, including a lot of Celtic wheel-turned pottery (occasionally painted); moreover, an extensive programme of palaeobotanical studies was carried out.

#### *The Wielbark culture*

In the season under discussion nearly 10 cemeteries and a few settlements of the Wielbark culture were examined. Attention should be called to the cemeteries at: **Nowy Łowicz** (1), Koszalin province, site 2 (K. Hakuła, I. Skrzypek, Muzeum Okręgowe, Koszalin) where 3 earthen mounds were explored revealing 3 inhumations and 2 cremations from phases B2/C1, and a silver ornament among small finds; **Kamienica Szlachecka** (4), Gdańsk province, site 3 (M. Tuszyńska, M. Pietrzak, Muzeum Archeologiczne, Gdańsk) – the discoveries include 5 inhumation graves, 1 urn burial and 3 unurned cremations, 3 cremation pyres, 3 stone pavements, phase C1 of the Roman period, small finds include silver ornaments and a buckle of electron; **Pruszcz Gdański** (5), Gdańsk province, site 6 (M. Tuszyńska, M. Pietrzak, Muzeum Archeologiczne, Gdańsk) where 7 inhumation graves (4 in tree-trunks) 3 unurned cremations, a stone circle from phases B1-D of the Roman period, a silver brooch and a bronze strainer of Eggers 161 type have come to light; **Opalenie** (6), Gdańsk province, site 1 (M. Tuszyńska, M. Pietrzak, Muzeum Archeologiczne, Gdańsk) where 17 inhumation graves and 1 unurned cremation from phases B1–B2 of the Roman period were explored, and 2 bronze and 1 iron chair-shaped spurs have come to light; **Leśno** (7), Bydgoszcz province, site 2 (K. Walenta, Uniwersytet, Łódź) where another stone circle (no 13) with a cremation burial in its centre was uncovered and a further 17 cremation graves and 1 inhumation were explored.

#### *Other cultures*

In 1988 3 cemeteries of the Luboszyce culture were explored (G. Domański, Instytut Historii Kultury Materialnej PAN, Wrocław): **Parkosów** (16), Jelenia Góra province, site 1, yielded

fragments of a cemetery with scattered cremation burials, and **Grabice** (15), Zielona Góra province, site 1, which revealed a further 59 cremation graves (total: 259) from phases B2b-C2.

3 cemeteries of the Late Roman period were investigated in the area occupied by the **Maslomęcz** group, related to the Wielbark culture (A. Kokowski, Uniwersytet M. Curie-Skłodowskiej, Lublin). **Maslomęcz** (28), Zamość province, site 15, yielded a further 16 complete inhumation graves (2 in sitting position, 1 double, traces of tree-trunks), 1 cremation grave, 1 cremation and inhumation grave, 3 symbolic, a glass beaker, silver ornaments. A further 12 complete inhumation graves, 7 partial inhumations, 1 cremation and 1 symbolic grave were discovered at **Gródek Nadbużny** (27), Zamość province, site 10.