

Connection between Wielkopolska and the Baltic Sea Region in the Roman Iron Age

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Wielkopolska (also referred to as Greater Poland) is a geographical and historical region in the west of Poland, with the Warta river as its axis. It borders Pomorze (Pomerania) in the north, Kraina Nakielska, Kujawy, and Ziemia Łęczycko-Sieradzka eastward (the latter being nowadays referred to as Polska Środkowa), and Śląsk (Silesia) in the south, while Ziemia lubuska in the west. The borders of today's Wielkopolska are *strictly* historical. However, it might be also possible to determine natural boundaries of the area, only slightly different from administrative divisions of Poland, both – the recent and historical. Therefore, the border between Wielkopolska and Kujawy would be the upper course of the Noteć river, between Wielkopolska and Polska Środkowa the upper course of the Warta, while between Wielkopolska and Śląsk the latitudinal course of the marshy valley of the Barycz river. In the west, the border between Wielkopolska and Ziemia Lubuska would be the middle and lower courses of the Obra river, flowing there into the Warta. In the north, they would be the latitudinal middle and upper courses of the Noteć, flowing there into the Warta, separating Wielkopolska from Pomorze. However, while considering geomorphology of the area, and especially cultural transformations that took place here during the period regarded in this article, it should be the belt of terminal moraines in Pomeranian Lakeland defined as an actual boundary between the two regions¹.

The article concentrates mainly on the north of Wielkopolska, within the glacial valley of the Noteć, and thus the territory upon the middle and partly also lower courses of that river. In the south, the territory is limited by the latitudinal lower course of the Warta².

¹ Similar approach towards the boundary between societies inhabiting Pomorze and Wielkopolska in the Bronze Age is represented by M. Kaczmarek (2012, p. 387).

² The region is described analogically as in former papers concerning the Roman Iron Age in Wielkopolska (see Machajewski, 1997, s. 97; 2007, s. 77).

Defined as such, the area (Fig. 1) is characterised by specific climatic, geobotanical and morphological features that had formed a habitat suitable for human settlement, thus occupied for many thousand years (see also Machajewski, Rola, 2006, s. 7–9). There were communication routes running through the area from east to west, but numerous fords made also possible an exchange of goods and ideas across the Noteć, that is from north and south, already since the Neolithic till now (see also Nowaczyk, 2006, s. 74; Rola, 2009, s. 259). As a result, various, sometimes quite distant, cultural patterns met in the area and created its specific cultural characteristic, different from a typical sequence of civilisation transformations observed in the other regions of Wielkopolska. Such a variability resulted from some settlement traditions of the region, where there were strong relations and interregional ties with Śląsk, Kotlina Karpacka, and the Elbe river circle, including Scandinavia (see also Machajewski, 2007, s. 77).

They are the influences from the latter that, observed in cultural transformations which occurred in Wielkopolska during the Roman Iron Age, are the main issue considered in the article. However, to understand their presence, some other references will be done to what had happened in the area in the early pre-Roman Iron Age, as well as to what happened in the Migration period. These chronological phases appear to be of a great importance while reconstructing the complete picture of the Roman Iron Age. Altogether, they make the complete sequence of events, connected also with civilisation transformations communities occupying Central Europe had undergone before the early Middle Ages began and even more diametrical changes occurred.

In the early pre-Roman Iron Age, Wielkopolska was the area where numerous cultural interactions met – the interactions between communities, which, according to their material culture, represented different archaeological units, such as the Pomorska,

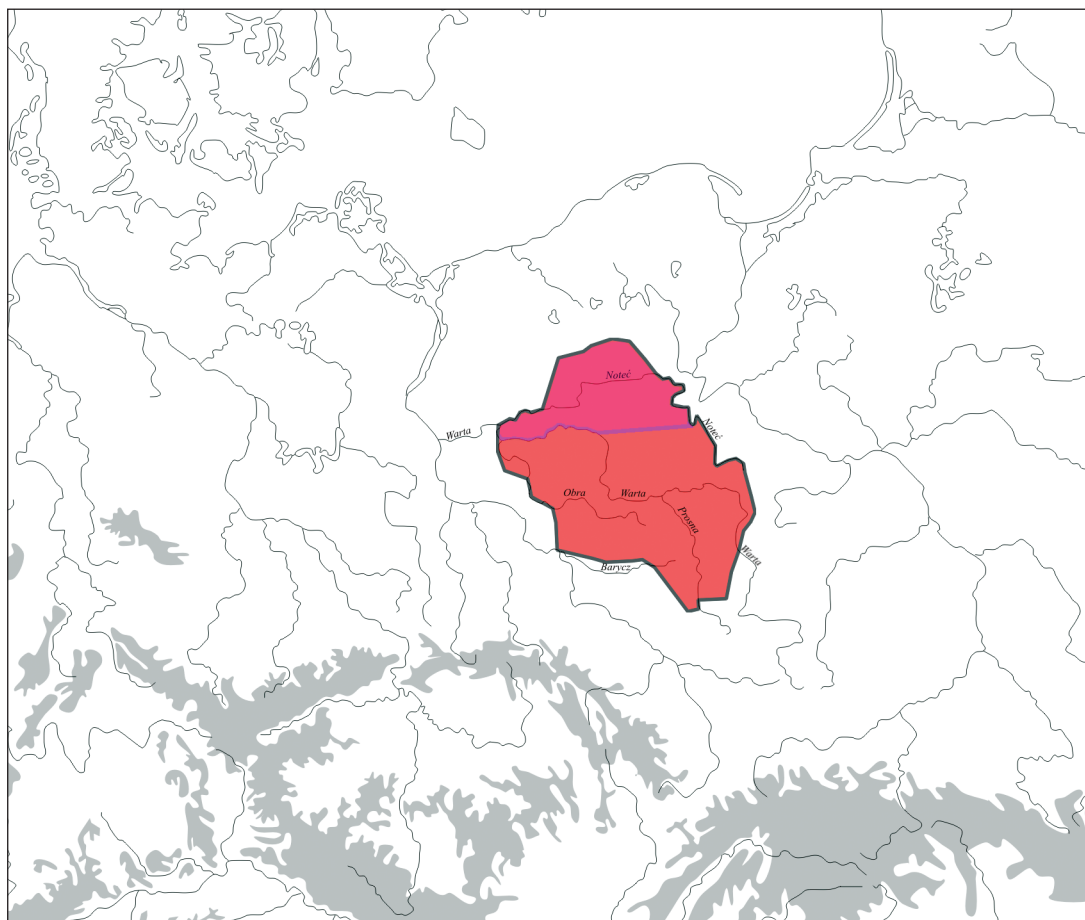


Fig. 1. Historical and geographical borders of Wielkopolska, the northern part of the region marked.

1 pav. Istorinė ir geografinė Didžiosios Lenkijos riba, pažymėta regiono šiaurinė dalis

Przeworsk and Jastorf cultures. All of them should be seen as equally important and even essential features of the cultural picture of the contemporary settlement in Wielkopolska. The groups of people representing the Przeworsk culture, strongly influenced by the LaTène circle, arrived here from Dolny Śląsk (Lower Silesia). The other groups appearing in the area, on the other hand, originated in the west, where the settlement was influenced by the Jastorf cultural circle, being at the time also intensively influenced by the LaTène culture. Observation of the both groups expanding into Wielkopolska reveals that at the beginning of the early pre-Roman Iron Age they developed in a similar pace and that dispersion of their settlement was analogous (see also Michałowski, 2008, s. 101), which was particularly noticeable in the north of the area. The region developed differently from the south and east parts of Wielkopolska, much stronger influenced by the Przeworsk culture. According to the state

of the art, the area along the Noteć, at the beginning of the early pre-Roman Iron Age, was occupied by the communities which originated in the Jastorf circle. The artefacts from the area have had the same chronology and they must have been connected with the Ripdorf horizon, which might be correlated with A1 stadium of the early pre-Roman Iron Age (see also Michałowski, 2008, fig. 29). According to the state of the art (Michałowski, 2006) it is possible to assume that some more stable settlement appeared here. As the result, the area along the Noteć became strongly influenced by the Jastorf circle, where bigger necropolises were established, such as Kuźnica Żelichowska (near Krzyż Wielkopolski), Grzępy (near Czarńków), Biała (near Wielen) (Michałowski, 2006, s. 193, 194) and also Wszedzień (near Mogilno). The latter seems particularly interesting, in terms of the data collected from the assemblages recognised on the site. In the site I excavated in 1876 and 1881 by Mathes, within

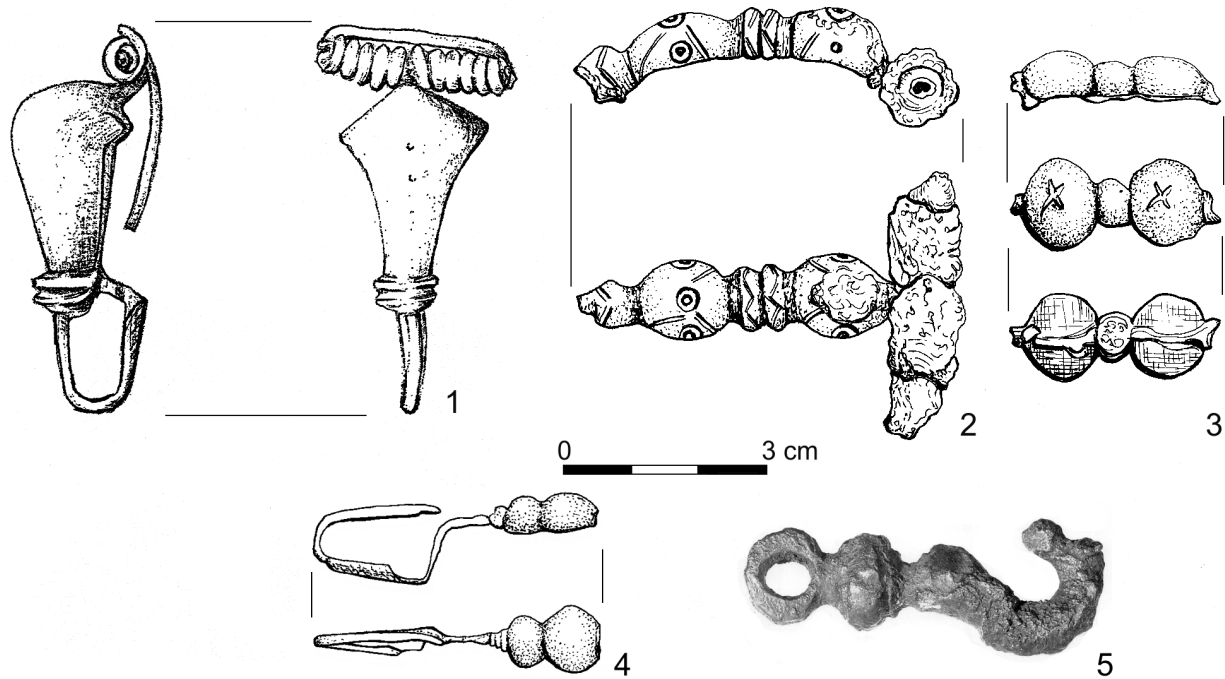


Fig. 2. **Wszedzień, gm. Mogilno, pow. mogileński, woj. kujawsko-pomorskie, site 1.** 1 – The Bornholm type brooch; 2–4 – The brooches with balls; 5 – The zoomorphic buckle (after Michałowski, 2008).

2 pav. *Všedzien (Mogilno pavietas, Kujavijos-Pamario vaivadija), 1 plotas.* 1 – *Bornholmo tipo segė*; 2–4 – *segės su ataugėlėmis*; 5 – *zoomorfinė sagtis* (pagal Michałowski, 2008)

the space of around 1 ha several(?) cremation burials with urns were recognised, in which several vessels were found, a Celtic horse-headed buckle, brooches of K, A and B types, brooches with balls, a brooch with a stair-like body, and a Bornholm-type brooch (Erzepki, Kostrzewski, 1914, s. 22, Plate LX:4–10; Undset, 1882, S. 89, 90, 99, Plates: XII:22–29, XIII:6). The Bornholm-type brooch appearing in the context of the Jastorf-like materials (Fig. 2:1) is an undoubted example of an item of northern origin, resembling other characteristic products from Bornholm. What is interesting, among the brooches with balls known from the site there have been also recognised ones with balls ornamented with the St. Andrew's cross (Fig. 2:2) and punched [German: *Punktaugen*] (Fig. 2:3). Within this group of brooches ornamentation was a rare phenomenon appearing in a limited territory. The fully bronze items with balls ornamented with a diagonal cross are known from Vorpommern, while their bimetallic variants from Holstein, Jutland and Bornholm (Bieger, 2003, S. 24). The presence of brooches ornamented with punches has been noticed in Holstein, southern

Jutland, in Fyn and, what is even more important, also in Bornholm (Bieger, 2003, S. 27). The appearance of such a form in Wszedzień, accompanied by the brooch of the Bornholm type, may suggest that at the time there were cultural contacts between the northern part of Wielkopolska and Bornholm.

The northern Wielkopolska, after the Jastorf settlement had disappeared from there at the beginning the A2 phase of the late pre-Roman Iron Age, became, for a short time, of some interest to the Przeworsk societies. However, already in the A3 phase, the settlement network of that culture concentrated rather in the southern and central parts of the region in question (see also Godłowski, 1985, map 2). Simultaneously, the turning of the eras was the time of major changes in the cultural substance of the Central Europe. The collapse of the Celtic settlement, the spread of the Suebi towards the mid-Danubian area, and especially territorial expansion of the Roman Empire, caused diametrical civilisation changes of the Central European communities.

The early Roman Iron Age in northern Wielkopolska is almost unequivocally identified with the

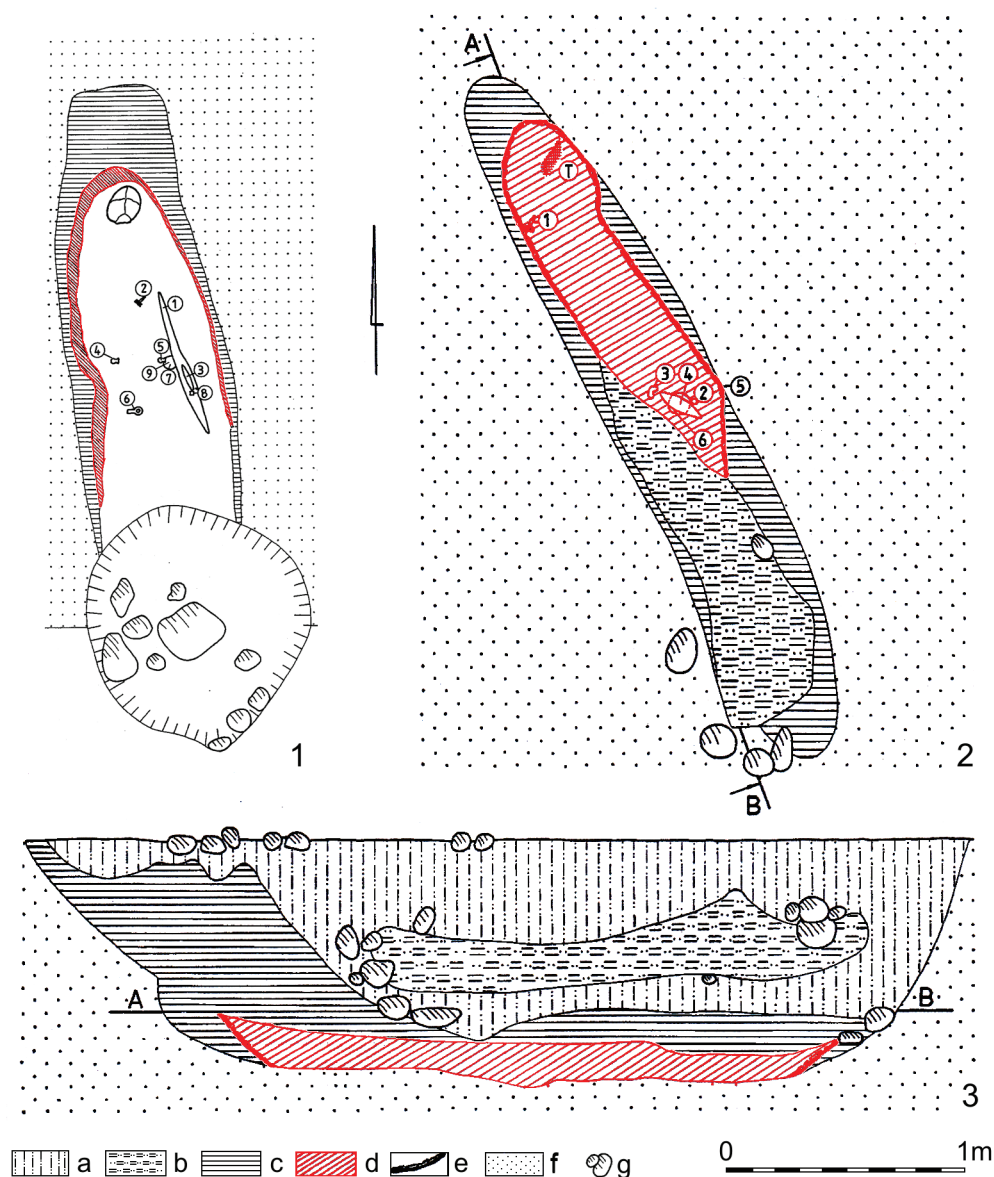


Fig. 3. Walkowice, gm. Czarnków, pow. czarnkowsko-trzcianecki, woj. Wielkopolskie, site 6. The inhumation burials in boats: 1 – grave 1; 2, 3 – grave 2 (after Gajda, 2008).

Legend: a – grey and brown sand; b – dark-brown sand; c – bright-grey and brown sand; d – brown sand; e – remnants of a boat; f – solid rock; g – stones.

3 pav. Valkovicai (Čarnkuvo-Třcinsko pavietas, Didžiosios Lenkijos vaivadija), 6 plotas. Palaidojimai (valtyse): 1 – Kapas Nr. 1; 2, 3 – kapas Nr. 2 (pagal Gajda, 2008).

a – pilkas ir rudas smėlis; b – tamsiai rudas smėlis; c – šviesiai pilkas ir rudas smėlis; d – rudas smėlis; e – valties liekanos; f – kietos uolienos; g – akmenys

appearance of a Wielbark settlement, the term used to describe the cultural group which emerged in the area of the southern shore of the Baltic Sea as a result of transformations the post-Oksywie communities went through after the Goths had arrived from Scandinavia.

The Wielbark culture represents the early-Roman stylistic trend of the North-Central Europe that emerged in this particular area (see also Wołagiewicz, 1981, s. 165). According to R. Wołagiewicz's approach, northern Wielkopolska became a part of the C zone

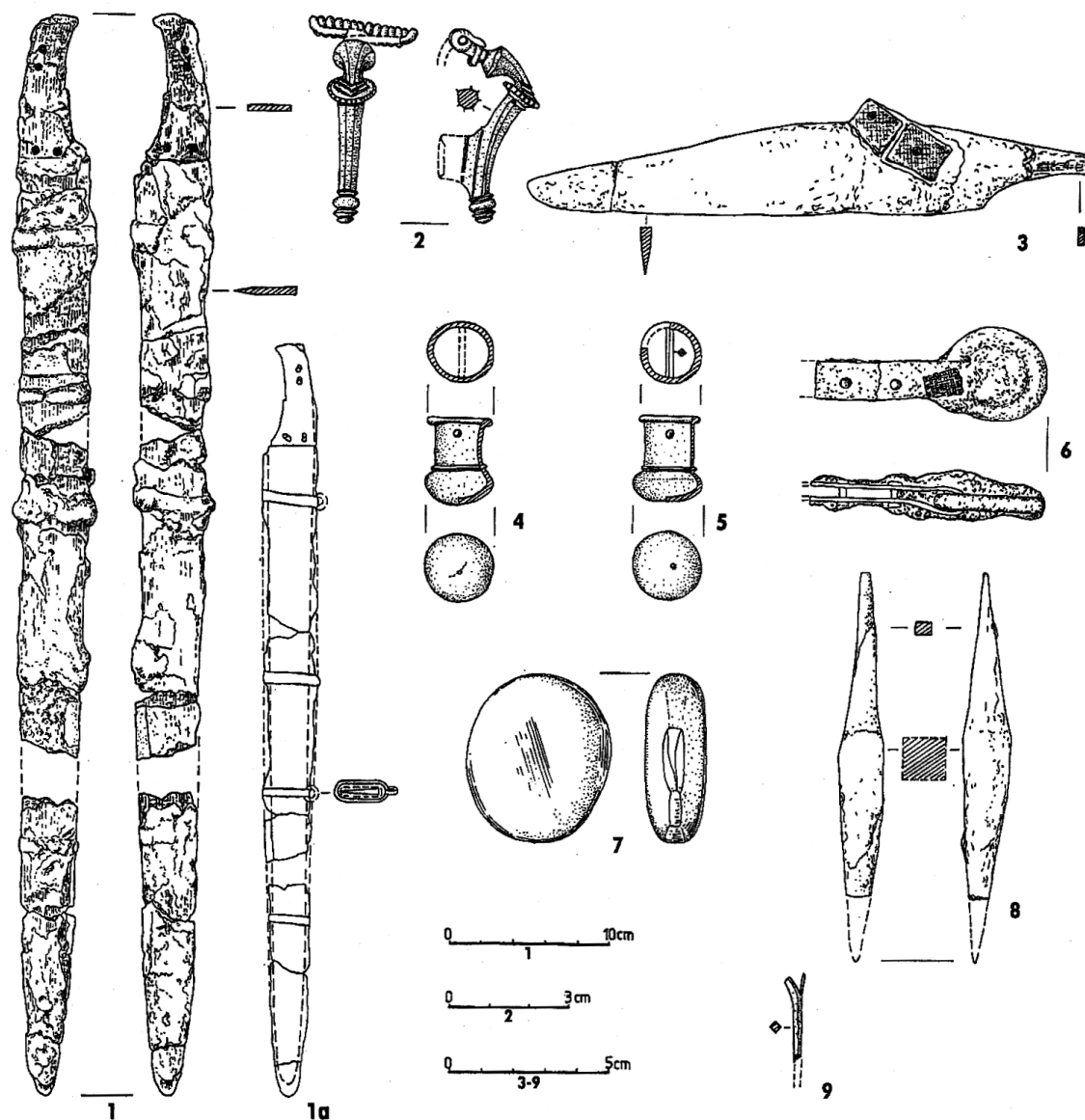


Fig. 4. Walkowice, gm. Czarnków, pow. czarnkowsko-trzcianecki, woj. Wielkopolskie, site 6. Grave goods 1:1, 3, 6, 8, 9 – iron; 2, 4, 5 – bronze; 7 – stone (after Gajda, 2008).

4 pav. Valkovici (Čarnkuvo-Tšcinsko pavieta, Didžiosios Lenkijos vaivadija), 6 plotas. Įkapės 1:1, 3, 6, 8, 9 – geležis; 2, 4, 5 – bronzos; 7 – akmuo (pagal Gajda, 2008)

of the Wielbark culture, as described by this researcher. The zone included, despite Wielkopolska, understood as the south-west periphery of the Wielbark culture, also Pojezierze Kaszubskie and Pojezierze Krajeńskie (Wołagiewicz, 1981, s. 84–85). Inhabiting of Wielkopolska by those newcomers from the north might have taken place during the B2b phase of the Roman Iron Age (see also Machajewski, 2008, s. 119, 120). It had been preceded by a settlement penetration of northern Wielkopolska during B1b–B2a stages.

As its result, there appeared some archaeological sites with not only early-Wielbark materials, grouped mainly along the latitudinal course of the Warta, between Oborniki and Lutom (see also Machajewski, 1980; Michałowski, Teska, Żychliński, in print), but also others, originating in various cultural circles, developing within the Scandinavian part of the Baltic shore. The proof of Wielkopolska being penetrated at the time by such populations, independently of the Wielbark societies, came with the discovery of two inhu-

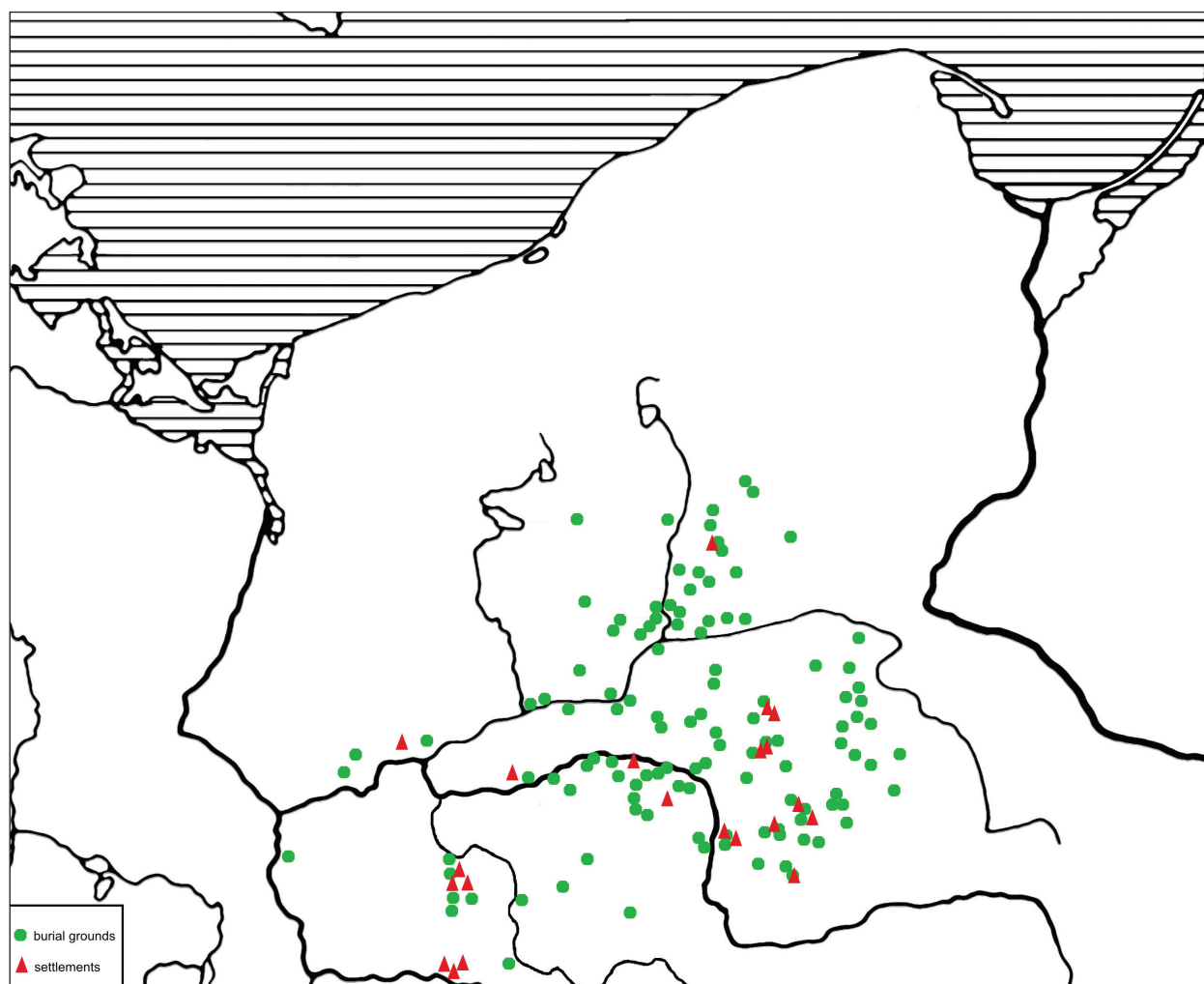


Fig. 5. The Wielbark settlement in Wielkopolska and Ziemia Lubuska.

5 pav. Vielbarko kultūros gyvenvietės Didžiojoje Lenkijoje ir Lubusko žemėje

mation weapon burials in Walkowice (near Czarńków) in 2002. The burials have been dated, according to the accompanying artefacts, to the B1/B2 phases, but most probably to the B2a stage (Gajda, 2006). Of the great importance, however, is the form of the burials, as the dead were buried in timber boats, as coffins (Fig. 3). The sword from the grave 1 from Walkowice (Fig. 4:1) resembles the early-Roman Scandinavian swords, typical for weapon burials from that area. They have been classified as types 2 and 3, according to J. Ilkjaer (1990, p. 272–278). The accurate analogies of such type of burials might be, for instance, those from site I in Slusegård, Bornholm (Klindt-Jensen, 1978). It might suggest that the people buried in Walkowice were the newcomers who arrived here from the island (see also Machajewski, 2007, s. 77).

Occupation of the region by the Wielbark societies should be undoubtedly interpreted as a flow of the typical Baltic elements, appearing then in Wielkopolska on a large scale. The settlement was compact, developing in quite regular and systematic pace, characterised by emergence and then disappearance of the sites occupied by the groups which arrived here. Some sort of a unity, being a characteristic feature of an organised colonisation might be also recognised in this case. The appearance of a large population with a fully developed civilisation model and a simultaneous colonisation of the whole area (see Fig. 5) may suggest that there might have existed a centralised decision-making centre, responsible for organising such a colonisation. While observing the territorial and chronological dispersion of the Wielbark sites from Wielkopolska it may be as-



Fig. 6. Grudna, gm. Złotów, pow. złotowski, woj. wielkopolskie, site 2. The saucepan of the E.142 type, signed with a PCIPOLIBI stamp, unearthed in 2012 by I. Kołoszuk M.A. Photo Maciej Gębicki.

6 pav. Grudos pilkapynas (Zlotovo pavietas, Didžiosios Lenkijos vaivadija). 2 plotas. E 142 tipo prikaistuvius su štampuotu įrašu PCIPOLIBI, kurį 2012 m. atkasė M. A. Kolosuk. M. Gębicki nuotrauka

sumed that inhabiting of the area must have happened almost simultaneously (Michałowski, Teska, Żychliński, in print). The main axis of the dispersion of the new cultural model became the middle and lower courses of the Warta. The Noteć valley might have also played an important role in the expansion of the Wielbark culture, although rather secondary. The zone of a concentrated and intensive settlement emerged here, spreading from Kraina Nakielska to the territory along the lower course of Obra. The communities inhabiting the area seemed to have perfectly existed within the network of contemporary long-distance contacts. There must have existed some interactions, undoubtedly resulting from connections between the area of the northern Wielkopolska and

the considered Baltic zone. The proof of such contacts might come from a dispersion of some type of Roman imports, namely bronze saucepans of the E. 142–143 type, signed with a stamp (P)CIPIPOLIBI. Such a vessel of the E. 142 type (Fig. 6) has been recently found during the investigation of the site 2 in Grudna (near Złotów) – a barrow cemetery of the Wielbark culture. The item was found in the inhumation(?) burial, underneath the barrow, although at its edge³. Bronze vessels

³ The authors would like to express their gratefulness to Igor Kołoszuk M.A. from the Institute of Prehistory in Poznań, who led excavations in Grudna, and provided them with detailed information of the results of the investigation in 2012 and the illustrations to be presented here.

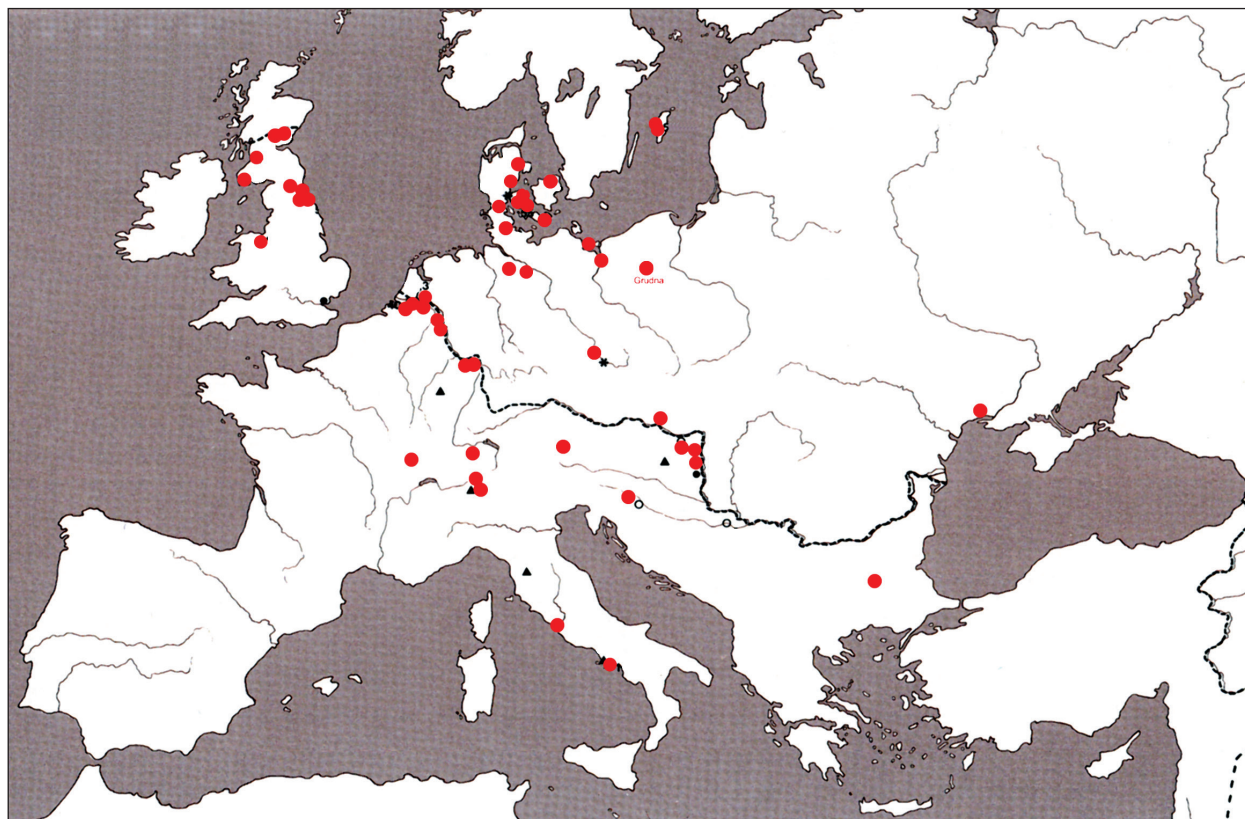


Fig. 7. **Distribution of the products from P. Cippius Polibius's manufacture within the Roman Empire and beyond the limes zone** (after Kunow, 1985, updated).

7 pav. P. Cipijaus Polibijaus dirbtuvių dirbinių paplitimas (pagal Kinow, 1985)

of the CIPIPOLIBI type were manufactured by Publius Cippius Polibius in his workshop. His activity has been known only on the basis of the vessels produced by him, as there was no description of his workshop left in written sources (Kunow, 1985, S. 215, 216). His manufacturing activity, based in Capua, must have taken place mainly during the reign of the Flavian dynasty, although it might have started already during the reign of the last emperors of the Julio-Claudian dynasty – Claudius and Nero. The end of Polybius's manufacturing activity might have been connected with the beginning of Domitian's reign (Kunow, 1985, S. 220). The presence of the vessels with a stamp CIPIPOLIBI within the territory of the Empire has been particularly noticeable in the limes zone (upon Rhine and Danube) and in Brittany. In *Germania Magna*, such items have been known mainly from the Baltic area, especially from Jutland and Danish Islands. Some individual vessels have been also found in Gothland and in Usedom (Fig. 7). The only such vessel from Poland – a sauce-

pan of E. 142 type, signed PCIPIPOLIBY found in a burial context comes from Kosin (near Przylwice) (Kunow, 1985, S. 240). It is the nearest analogy of the item which has been recently discovered in Grudna. Such a discovery within the Wielbark culture might be a Roman import from Denmark, as the area played at the time the role of a transit zone for Roman goods travelling from Gaul into the Baltic region (see also Wołagiewicz, 1970, s. 222; s. 223, footnote 28). The presence of the Roman bronze vessel upon the Gwda proves that there was a connection between the local Wielbark societies and the people inhabiting the shores of the Baltic Sea⁴ and that the former were ac-

⁴ While regarding the finding from Grudna, there should be mentioned also a similar discovery from Łędeczek (near Złotów), about 10 km northwards, towards the upper course of the Gwda. In a barrow grave robbed by some so called 'hoardseekers', there was found an assemblage similar to that from Grudna, including a Roman saucepan, although of the E.140 type (Biborski, Kaczanowski, 2001).

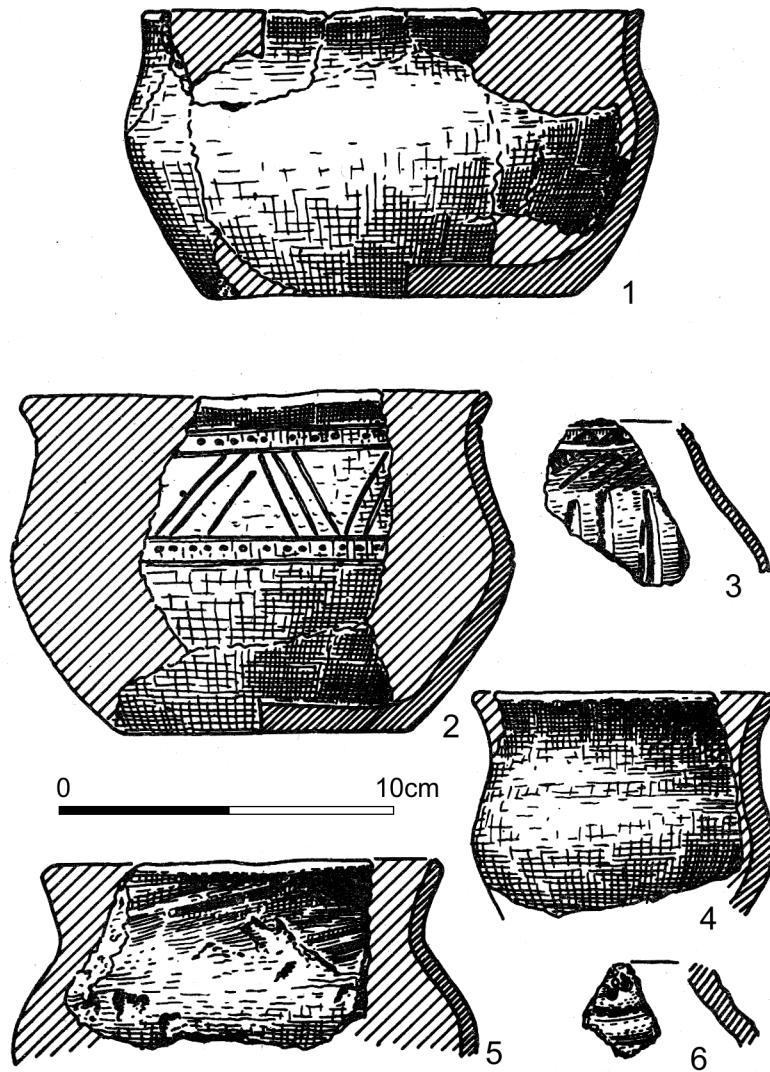


Fig. 8. Typical pottery of the Dębczyno group from northern Wielkopolska. 1 – Wróblewo (near Wronki); 2–6 – Mieścisko-Ulica (near Wągrowiec) (after Machajewski, 1986).

8 pav. Dėmbčino grupėi būdinga keramika iš šiaurinės Didžiosios Lenkijos dalies. 1 – Wróblewo; 2–6 – Mieścisko-Ulica (pagal Machajewski, 1986)

tively involved into civilisation transformations taking place there.

The existence of the south-western enclave of the Wielbark settlement terminated around the turning of the phases C1b–C2, and the process resembled the emergence of this settlement in the area, as it occurred concurrently in the whole territory. The Wielbark communities abandoned the area leaving no groups there which might have continued the former traditions afterwards (see also Michałowski, Teska, Żychliński, in print). During the C2 phase, the groups inhabiting northern Wielkopolska were replaced by other people,

as the Przeworsk communities penetrated further into the territory (see also Machajewski, 2008, s. 121). In the north, the Przeworsk culture has been recognised as far as in the Noteć valley (Machajewski, 1999, s. 183). Simultaneously, between the middle course of the Noteć and the mouth of the Welna river, flowing there into the Warta, there appeared elements of the Baltic provenience. They bore typical features of the Dębczyno group (see Machajewski, 1986, s. 284; 1988, S. 65–82). Examples of a representative pottery of that group have been recognised on the sites in Wróblewo (near Wronki) (Fig. 8:1) and Mieścisko-

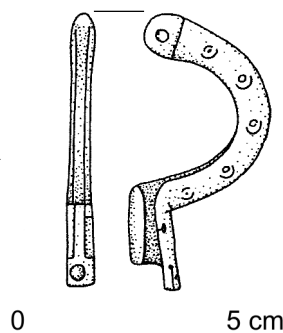


Fig. 9. Kowalewko, gm. Oborniki, pow. obornicki, woj. wielkopolskie, site 3. The brooch of Bügelknopf type (after Skorupka, 2005).

9 pav. Kovalevko (Oborniku pavietas, Didžiosios Lenkijos vaivadija), 3 plotas. „Bügelknopffobeln“ tipo segė (pagal Skorupka, 2005)



Fig. 10. Mirosław-Wybudowanie, gm. Ujście, pow. pilski, woj. wielkopolskie. The spade-footed brooch (after Teska, Rola, 2012).

10 pav. Mirosław-Wybudowanie, Pilsko pavietas, Didžiosios Lenkijos vaivadija. Segė kastuvėlio pavidalo kojele (pagal Teska, Rola, 2012)

Ulica (near Wagrowiec) (Figs. 8:2–6). Within the Dębczyno group, there have been also discovered analogies of the Bügelknopf brooch (Fig. 9) on the site 3 in Kowalewko (near Oborniki) (Machajewski, 2007, s. 83). Also the most recent discovery of a spade-footed fibula from Mirosław (near Ujście) falls into depicted cultural interactions, observed in the Noteć region (see Teska, Rola, 2012). It originated in the Baltic region, from the group of fibulae derived from the crossbow brooches with a full patch-plate of A. VI, 2 type. The artefact from Mirosław was made of bronze. It has lost

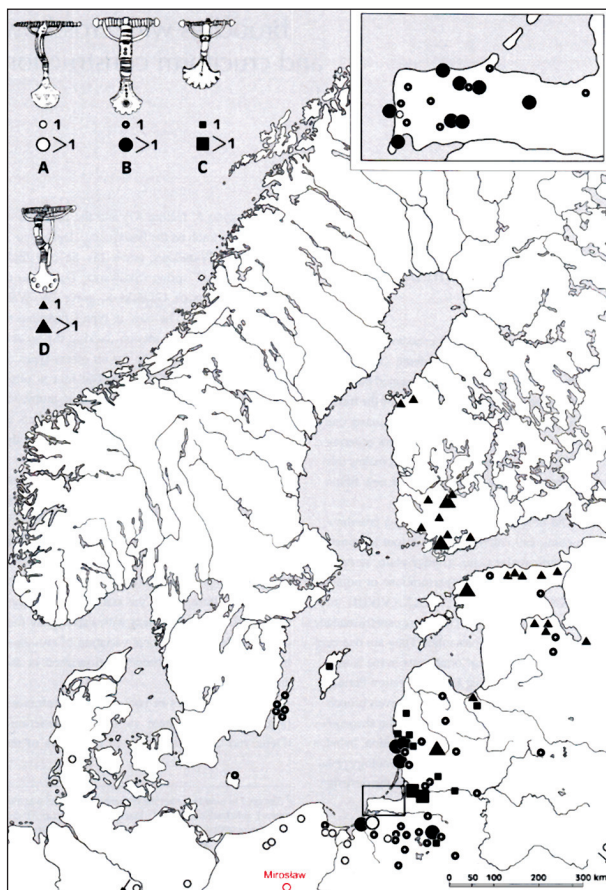


Fig. 11. The spade-footed brooch from Mirosław-Wybudowanie compared with other findings of spade-footed (type I) and star-footed brooches (types: II–VII) (after Bitner-Wróblewska, 2001, updated).

11 pav. Segės iš Mirosław-Wybudowanie palyginimas su analogiškais šio tipo segių radiniais (tipas I) ir segėmis žvaigždine kojele (II–VII tipai) (pagal Bitner-Wróblewska, 2001)

its spring and pin, and the remaining part is a body with a flat, semi-circular foot visibly extended beyond the length of a hinge (Fig. 10). A. Bitner-Wróblewska classified similar brooches as the type I according to her typology of spade- and star-footed fibulae (Bitner-Wróblewska, 1991, s. 56). The form has appeared particularly in two main concentrations, clearly visible in Pomorze Środkowe and in the lower Powiśle (Fig. 11). Only some isolated objects have been known from the northern territory of the Baltic region, from the Elbe zone, and also from around Kiev (Bitner-Wróblewska, 1991, s. 67). Therefore, the discovery of the brooch from Mirosław has been a phenomenon in northern Wielkopolska, and thus an extremely interesting fin-

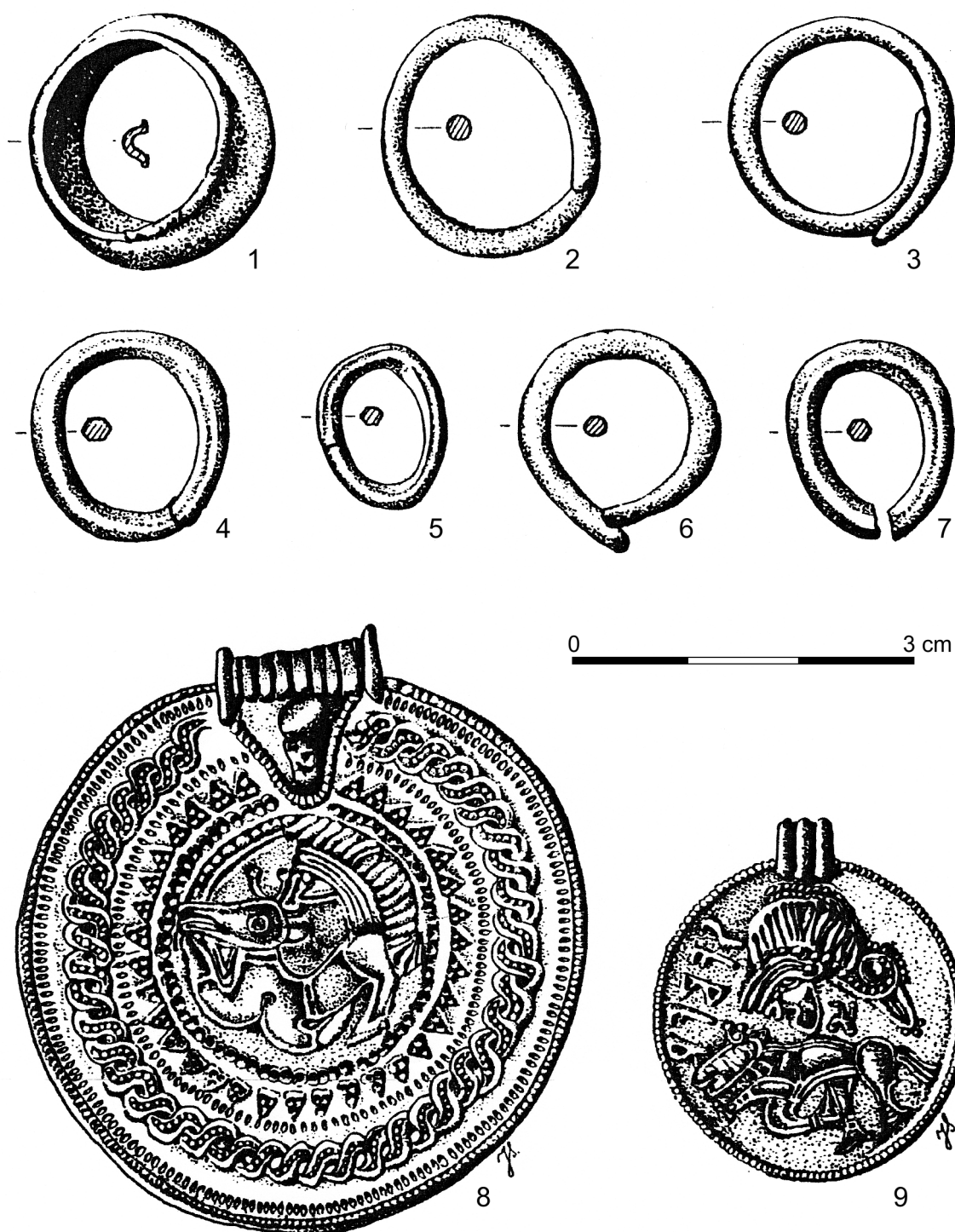


Fig. 12. Wapno, gm. loco, pow. wągrowiecki, woj. wielkopolskie. The hoard of gold artefacts (after Kara, 1994).

12 pav. Auksinių dirbinių lobis iš Wapno (Viangrovecko pavietas, Didžiosios Lenkijos vaivadija) (pagal Kara, 1994)

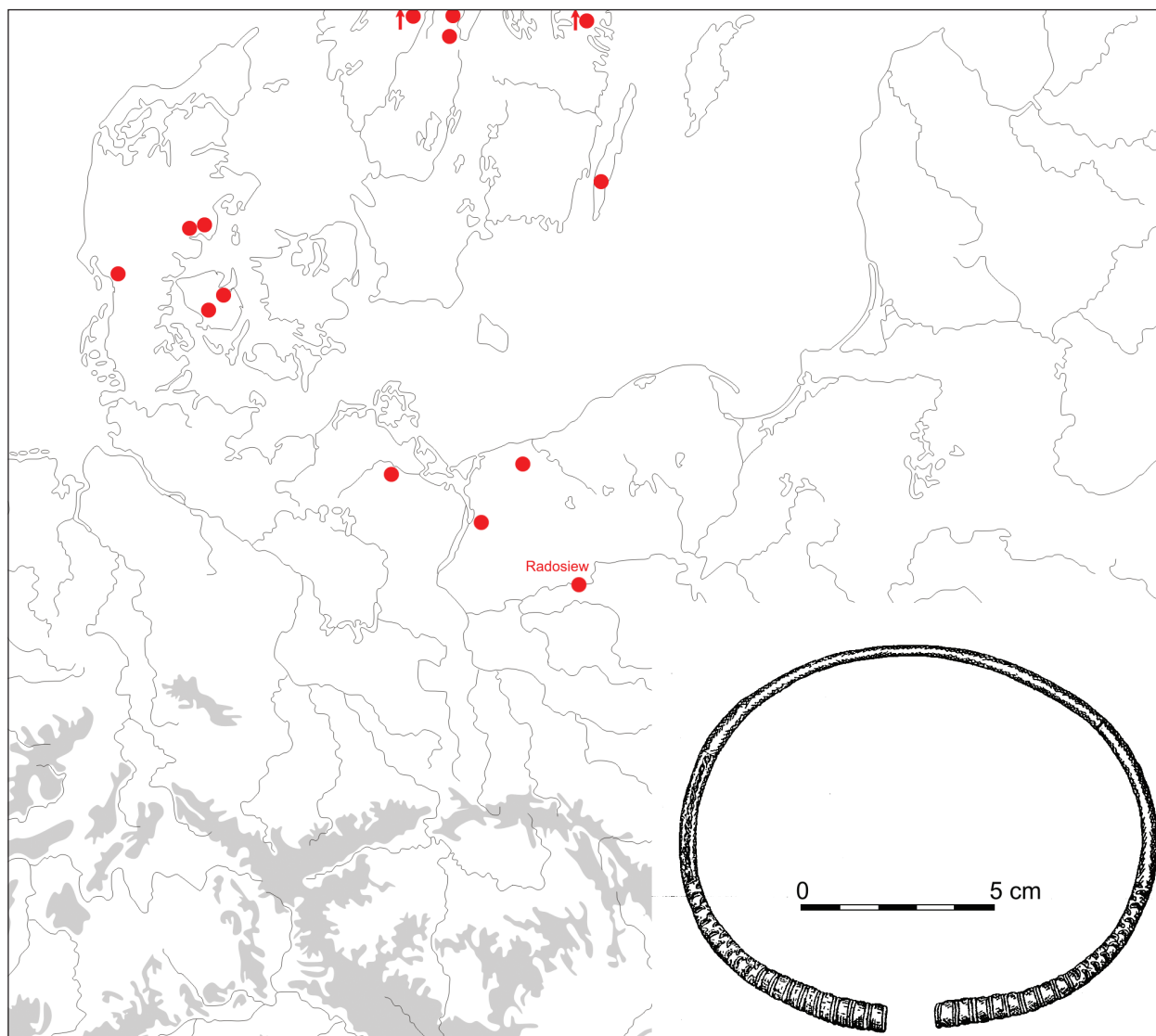


Fig. 13. **Radosiew, gm. Czarnków, pow. czarnkowsko-trzcianecki, woj. wielkopolskie.** The gold torque unearthed during exploration of a peat bog with the map of analogues findings (based on Żak, 1962).

13 pav. Radosiew (Čarnkuvo-Tšcinsko pavietas, Didžiosios Lenkijos vaivadija). Auksinė antkaklė, aptikta tyrinėjant durpyną, ir analogiškų radinių žemėlapis (remiantis Żak, 1962)

ding, important in terms of a further analysis of the cultural development of that area in the Migration Period. The lack of material context of the brooch from Mirosław appears as an obstacle in determining its cultural affinity. However, it is possible to assume that it might have resulted from various influences from the Baltic region, reaching the area in the Migration Period, most probably from the territory occupied by the Dębczyno group, as the nearest analogy, both in terms of territory and form, of the brooch has been found on site 6 in Dębczyno (Machajewski, 1992, Tabl. XXVII:2).

It is widely assumed that in the D phase, but also at the beginnings of the E phase, the Przeworsk settlement in Wielkopolska, grouped along the middle course of the Warta and in the drainage basin of the Prosna river, became noticeably dispersed (see also Machajewski, 2008, s. 122). There have been examples of large Przeworsk settlements mentioned in literature, existing in central Wielkopolska till the fifth century (see also Makiewicz, 2003, s. 52–54; Makiewicz [et al.], 2008, s. 324–325; Machajewski, Pietrzak, 2008, s. 377, 378; Żychliński, 2008, s. 414), and continuing traditions of the late Roman Iron Age.

The cultural situation in the north of Wielkopolska developed differently. There were small settlement enclaves dating from the beginning of the D phase near Szamotuły, between Oborniki and Trzcianka, as well as around Wyrzysk, which, most probably, disappeared around the mid-fifth century (Machajewski, 2007, s. 83). Around the second half of the fifth century, another kind of findings appeared (known mainly from hoards) bearing Scandinavian features (see also Machajewski, 2008, s. 122). In 1850 in Wapno (near Wągrowiec), there was a hoard discovered (Fig. 12) of gold bracteates of Scandinavian origin, links of gold chains, a gold ring, and also a small gold vessel (e.g. see Kara, 1994, s. 73–110; Kostrzewski, 1923, s. 208, 209). Also in the nineteenth century, there was a massive gold torque with slightly thickened endings unearthed during exploration of a peat bog in Radosiew (near Czarnków). It was dated to the mid-sixth century (Kostrzewski, 1923, s. 209). Analogical torques have been known from Pomorze (Piotrowice near Dygów; Stragard Szczeciński), the area influenced at the time by the west Baltic region – northern Germany, Denmark and southern Scandinavia, including the Baltic islands: Gotland, Öland and Bornholm (Fig. 13). Some distinctive features of the assemblages from the area were numerous solids, golden torques and other artefacts made of noble metals (see also Żółkowski, 1994, s. 91).

Concluding: since the early pre-Roman Iron Age till the Migration period the northern part of Wielkopolska had been influenced by the ideas and cultures developing in the Baltic Sea region, with the Baltic islands, and especially Bornholm, playing a particularly important role in that process. Such infiltration or penetration advanced towards Wielkopolska via Pomorze. It was what made the north different from the south and centre of Wielkopolska, in terms of the dynamic of cultural development, as the two latter remained influenced by the Przeworsk settlement.

The appearance of materials of a northern, and particularly Baltic, origin in the pre-Roman Iron Age is

quite ephemeral. It would be difficult to decide conclusively, whether discovery of the Bornholm type artefacts in Wszedzień was just an individual case, or whether it resulted from more intensive long-distance contacts inhabitants of northern Wielkopolska had at the time. However, it should be remembered that the state of the art in recognition of the pre-Roman Iron Age of this part of Wielkopolska is, unfortunately, far from satisfactory (see also Michałowski, 2006). It would not be possible to determine, whether the presence of weapon burials of the type known from Bornholm unearthed in Walkowice resulted from those pre-Roman contacts with that region of the Baltic Sea, or whether they were new groups arriving from widely-understood Pomorze to inhabit the area along the Noteć. It was the Roman Iron Age when the cultural influences discussed in the paper manifested in the area especially intensively. When the concentrated Wielbark settlement emerged in the northern part of Wielkopolska, the area transformed from a sort of a 'contact zone', being such at least since the Bronze Age (see Bukowski, 1990, p. 193), into the area of a permanent settlement of the communities originating in the Baltic region with their traditions, and political and economic relationships. This transformation was reflected by the involvement of the northern Wielkopolska into a long-distance exchange of luxury goods. When the Wielbark societies abandoned this territory at the beginning of the C2 phase, the area became penetrated by the post-Wielbark Dębczyno group from the Baltic region, being under the influence of the populations inhabiting the Elbe region, but also the west-Baltic islands and Scandinavia. The infiltration from the latter region might have intensified in northern Wielkopolska particularly in the E phase of the Migration period (see Machajewski, 1993, s. 109, 110). This phenomenon was contemporary with the migration of the elements bearing features of the Scandinavian circle into northern Wielkopolska, as discussed in the paper.

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RYŠIAI TARP DIDŽIOSIOS LENKIJOS IR BALTIJOS JŪROS REGIONO ROMĖNIŠKAJAME LAIKOTARPYJE

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Santrauka

Straipsnyje nagrinėjama šiaurinė Didžiosios Lenkijos dalis, apimanti iš esmės Notecės upės praslėnį. Aptariami reiškiniai ir tarpregioniniai ryšiai su Pabaltijo, kartu ir Skandinavijos teritorijomis parodomi romėniškojo laikotarpio kultūrinių permainų Didžiojoje Lenkijoje fone.

Kad šie reiškiniai būtų geriau suprantami, straipsnyje daromi platūs ekskursai į šios Didžiosios Lenkijos dalies įvykius tiek vėlyvajame ikiromėniškajame, tiek tautų kraustymosi laikotarpyje.

Šiaurės Baltijos medžiagos pėdsakų pasirodymas ikiromėniškajame laikotarpyje yra beveik neapčiuopiamas. Jastorfo kultūros bruožų turinčioje medžiagoje iš I paminėjo Všedzienyje, Mogilno pavieta, yra Bornholmo tipo segė, kuri čia suponuoja akivaizdų elementą, turintį ryšių su Bornholmui būdingais dirbiniais. Kartu su šia sege aptinkama segių su ataugėlėmis, puoštų įstrižu kryžiumi ir punktyrais. Sunku aiškiai atsakyti į klausimą, ar radiniai, turintys Bornholmo stiliaus elementų, iš Všedzienio, Mogilno pavieta yra atsitiktinis reiškinys, ar jie rodo daug platesnius šiaurinės Didžiosios Lenkijos ryšius su tolimesiais regionais.

Nedrįstame teigti, kad kapai, kuriuose aptikta ginklų, randamų Bornholme, ištirti Volkovicuose, Čarnkuvo-Tšcinsko pavieta, – tai ankstesnių ikiromėniškojo laikotarpio ryšių su šiuo Baltijos jūros regionu vaisiai ar visai naujo susidomėjimo Notecės upės regionu ir plačiąja prasme suprantamo Pajūrio naujų gyventojų bangų padarinys. Romėniškasis laikotarpis – tai epocha, kai ypač gerai pasi-

reiškia mus dominančios kultūrinės srovės. Kompaktiškas Vielbarko kultūros išplitimas šiaurinėje Didžiosios Lenkijos dalyje įtraukia mus į cirkumbaltiškos kultūros gyventojų orbitą ir visas jos visuomenines ir politines realybes. Ryškaus šiaurinės Didžiosios Lenkijos dalyvavimo prabangos prekių mainuose pavyzdys – romėniškas E 142 tipo prikaistuvius su štampuotu įrašu (*P*) *CIPIPOLIBI*, surastas Vielbarko kultūros griautiniame kape Grudos 2 pilkapyne Zlotovo pavieta.

Kai C2 periodo pradžioje Vielbarko kultūros žmonės paliko Didžiąją Lenkiją, čia pastebimos naujos įtakos iš Baltijos regiono, susijusios su povielbarkiškąja Dembčino grupe. Ši įtaka ryški keramikoje, taip pat ją rodo tokie radiniai kaip „Bügelknopfföbeln“ tipo segės (Kovalevko, Obornikų pavieta) ir segės su kastuvėlio pavidalo kojele (Miroslavas, Pilos pavietas). Dembčino grupė buvo veikiamą stiprios gyventojų infiltracijos iš vakarinių Baltijos salų ir Skandinavijos. Pastaroji stiprėja tautų kraustymosi laikotarpio E periode. Šis reiškinys sutampa su skandinaviskų elementų (daugiausia lobiuose) patekimu į šiaurinę Didžiąją Lenkiją.

Apibendrinant epochą nuo vėlyvojo priešromėniškojo laikotarpio iki tautų kraustymosi laikotarpio galime pastebėti Baltijos jūros baseino įtaką šiaurinėje Didžiojoje Lenkijoje. Svarbios yra Baltijos salos, ypač Bornholmas. Šiaurinė Didžioji Lenkija aiškiai artėja prie pajūrio regiono, o per jį ir prie Skandinavijos. Tuo jos raida skiriasi nuo pietinių ir centrinių aptariamo regiono teritorijų, kurios visą laikotarpį išlieka Pševorsko kultūros įtakos sferoje.

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