

АРХЕОЛОГИЯ БАЛТИЙСКОГО РЕГИОНА

ARCHAEOLOGY OF THE BALTIC



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Editors

N.A. Makarov, A.V. Mastykova, A.N. Khokhlov



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АРХЕОЛОГИЯ БАЛТИЙСКОГО РЕГИОНА

Под редакцией

Н.А. Макарова, А.В. Мастыковой, А.Н. Хохлова



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В сборнике публикуются материалы Международной научной конференции «Археология Балтийского региона: новые открытия и исследования», проведенной Институтом археологии РАН 17–19 ноября 2010 г. в г. Калининграде. В статьях сборника представлена широкая картина археологии Балтийского региона, охватывающая ряд ярких памятников от восточного побережья Британии до Северной Руси.

Значительную часть книги составляют работы, посвященные археологии Восточной и Юго-Восточной Прибалтики, они дают представление о месте этих земель в общем культурном пространстве Европы в различные периоды — от каменного века до средневековья. Еще одна важная тема сборника — история раннесредневековых протогородских и городских центров, так или иначе связанных общей сетью экономических и политических отношений, в Балтийском регионе. Эти памятники изучены не только с учетом современного уровня развития археологии, но и с привлечением данных других дисциплин, в частности палеоантропологии, палеозоологии, палеогеографии и палинологии, что позволяет уточнить историческую картину, предложенную для циркумбалтийского региона нашими предшественниками.

Издание предназначено для археологов, историков, специалистов естественнонаучных дисциплин и всех, кто интересуется историей Балтийского региона.

'Archaeology of the Baltic' is a publication of the materials of the International Conference 'The Archaeology of the Baltic: New Discoveries and Studies' held by the Institute of Archaeology of the Russian Academy of Sciences in Kaliningrad (former Königsberg) on 17–19 November 2010. The papers feature the archaeology of the Baltic from the eastern coasts of Great Britain to North Russia.

A considerable part of the book deals with the East and Southeast Baltic giving an insight into the place of these lands in European cultural context in different periods from the Stone Age to the Middle Ages. The history of early proto-urban and urban centres forming an economic and political network of the Baltic is yet another major topic. The relevant sites are examined not only in accordance with the latest archaeological procedures and techniques but also with the use of such scientific disciplines as palaeoanthropology, palaeozoology, palaeogeography and palinology. It enables us to revise and refine the outline of the Baltic history drawn by our predecessors.

The book will interest archaeologists, historians, specialists in natural sciences and the general public interested in the history of the Baltic.

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На первой странице обложки: Olaus Magnus. Carta Marina et Descriptio 1539. Uppsala University Library, 1997

На последней странице обложки: Раскопки могильника Мойтыны (Moythienen) в Пруссии в 1904 г.

(по: Hollack E., Peiser F.E., 1904. Das Gräberfeld von Moythienen. Königsberg. Abb. 47)

На авантитуле: Заставка к главе X: 2 «Des navires utilisés depuis longtemps en Europe du Nord et de leur forme et usage» («О кораблях, используемых с давних времен в Северной Европе и об их форме и назначении»)

(по: Olaus Magnus. Histoire et description des peuples du Nord. Traduit du latin et présenté par Jean-Marie Maillefer. Paris, 2004. P. 216)

На первом форзаце: Поселение Безымянка в Калининградской области. Охранные раскопки ИА РАН.

Фото А.В. Новикова

На втором форзаце: Остатки здания Кёнигсбергской масонской ложи «Три короны», в котором обнаружена часть археологической коллекции музея «Пруссия». Охранные раскопки ИА РАН. Фото А.Б. Сиволаповой

Front cover illustration: Olaus Magnus. Carta Marina et Descriptio 1539. Uppsala University Library, 1997

Back cover illustration: Excavations of the Moythienen cemetery in East Prussia in 1904 (after: Hollack E., Peiser F.E., 1904. Das Gräberfeld von Moythienen. Königsberg. Abb. 47)

Half-title illustration: Headpiece to Chapter X: 2 «Des navires utilisés depuis longtemps en Europe du Nord et de leur forme et usage» ("On ships used for a long time in Northern Europe and on their shape and use") (after: Olaus Magnus. Histoire et description des peuples du Nord. Traduit du latin et présenté par Jean-Marie Maillefer. Paris, 2004. P. 216)

Front fly-leaf: The Bezymianka settlement in the Kaliningrad region. Rescue excavations of the Institute of Archaeology of the Russian Academy of Sciences. Photograph by A.V. Novikov

Back fly-leaf: The remains of the Königsberg Masonic lodge 'Three Crowns' where a part of the archaeological collection of the 'Prussia' museum was found. Rescue excavations of the Institute of Archaeology of the Russian Academy of Sciences. Photograph by A.B. Sivolapova

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MEROVINGIAN BELT ON THE VIDIVARIAN WAIST? UNEXPECTED IMPORT FROM THE ELBLĄG GROUP CEMETERY AT NOWINKA, TOLKMICKO COM.

Although small, the Elbląg group is a very important cultural unit attributed to the West Balt cultural circle. It is situated in northern Poland. Archaeological sites are located near the edge of the Elbląg Upland, between the mouth of the Pasłęka River and the southern edge of the «Družno Bay» reconstructed in the form it may have existed in the late Antiquity (Fig. 1 col. ins.). This concentration was called the Elbląg group of the West Balt circle by Jerzy Okulicz (1973. P. 471; 1989. P. 89, 90) and the name has been generally accepted by scholars, although there are opinions that this group was subordinated to a cultural unit from the Sambian-Natangian area called by Wojciech Nowakowski the Dollkeim-Kovrovo culture (Nowakowski, 1996. P. 96, 97; Bitner-Wróblewska, 2001. P. 21–25, 132) or indicates the mixed, Balt-German-Scandinavian character of the culture of that area, resulting in its lack of independent character (Bitner-Wróblewska, 2008b. P. 109). The Elbląg group was formed several decades after the Wielbark culture population deserted its cemeteries located on the eastern side of the Vistula Delta. This happened, as it seems, in the final stage of Phase D and the beginning of Phase E (the turn of the 5th and 6th centuries), as a result of a so-far not completely explained process of symbiosis of interregional and «Sambian» elements. The Elbląg group was formed as the eastern edges of the Vistula Delta were taken over by the newly formed social group, or, as we believe, by the *Vidivarii*, known from Jordanes' writings¹.

¹ Some researchers (Kunkel, 1942. P. 1812, 1813; Okulicz-Kozaryn, 1992. P. 140) try to associate the new settlement at the Elbląg Upland with the information from the early 6th century presented by Jordanes in *Getica* V, 36: «*Ad litus autem Oceani, ubi tribus faucibus fluenta Vistulae fluminis ebibuntur, Vidivarii resident ex diversis nationibus agregati...*»; and elsewhere in *Getica* XVII, 96: «*...nunc [i. e., in the early 6th century] ut fertur insulam eam [i. e., Gepedios thus probably the Elbląg Upland?] gens Vidivarii incolit... qui Vidivarii ex diversis nationibus ac si in unum asylum coacti sunt et gentem fecisse nescuntur*». The unusual way of forming through the allochthonic process of a new tribal group, probably with the use of Aestian settlers moving from the Sambian Peninsula, mixing with the migrating from various parts of the world members of Germanic military retinues and sailors from Bornholm and other Baltic islands is convincingly supported by the archaeological sources. For besides the early «almost Balt» cemeteries from Phases E1–E2a

Unfortunately so far the area hasn't been studied in details (see: Kowalski, 2000). This is because pre-war archaeologists were intended to find medieval port-of-trade Truso, not the so-called *Old Prussian* culture from Migration Period. Moreover documentation of excavations along with almost all the artifacts were lost during the World War II. Therefore we reconstruct the image of the culture basing mainly on two cemeteries: from Łęcze, Tolkmicko com. (former: Silberberg bei Lentzen), published in the late 19th century (Dorr, 1898), and one from Nowinka, Tolkmicko com. which has been published lately (Kontny, Okulicz-Kozaryn, Pietrzak, 2011).

We'd like to discuss one of the graves from the latter necropolis, N 84 (Fig. 1; 2). Its pit was oval in outline, elongated along NW–SE, with trough-shaped profile, dimensions 200×70 cm and depth c. 40 cm. Filling was heterogeneous: in the upper part in the centre it was light grey sand and at the perimeter black soil with traces of burning. Deeper (especially near the bottom) black soil with charcoals and small burnt human bones with grave goods were situated. In the centre of the deeper layer an iron one-edged sword was lying, next to it two vessels and remains of a drinking horn with a fitting. To the west of the hilt there was a concentration of belt fittings, a buckle and a brooch, some with slight traces of melting. An adult person was buried here. Immediately under the layer of burning of the cremation grave (limits of the pit are unclear) a horse skeleton was found. It was oriented along NW–SE axis with head to SE, lying belly down. Fore part of the trunk was visibly leaning to the right, legs were bent and neck arched. The head was turned to the left. Snaffle bit stuck in muzzle; near the skull scattered

(i. a., Młoteczno, Braniewo com., site 3; Garbina, Braniewo com.; Podgórze, Braniewo com.; Pasłek, Pasłek com.; Chojnowo, Tolkmicko com.) there are: one of the four largest in northern Europe concentrations of finds of Byzantine solidus issued in 455–518 and the hoards of silver and gold ornaments from the second half of the 5th century and the early 6th century (Godłowski, 1981. P. 104–109; Bursche, 1998. P. 225; Ciołek, 2001). Together with the cemeteries they formed contemporaneous concentrations of settlement points.

Grave 84

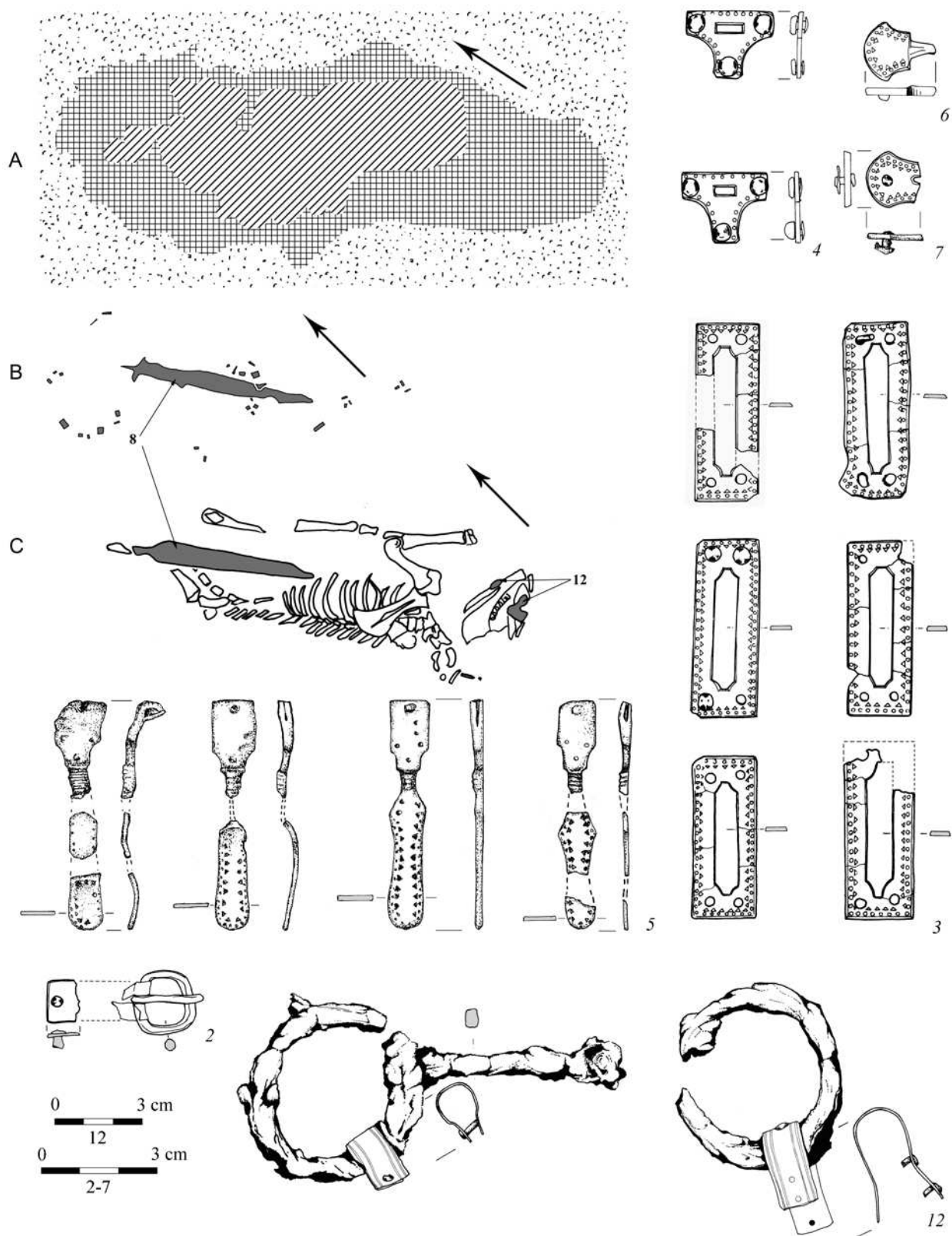


Fig. 1. Plan and equipment of the grave 84 from Nowinka

Grave 84

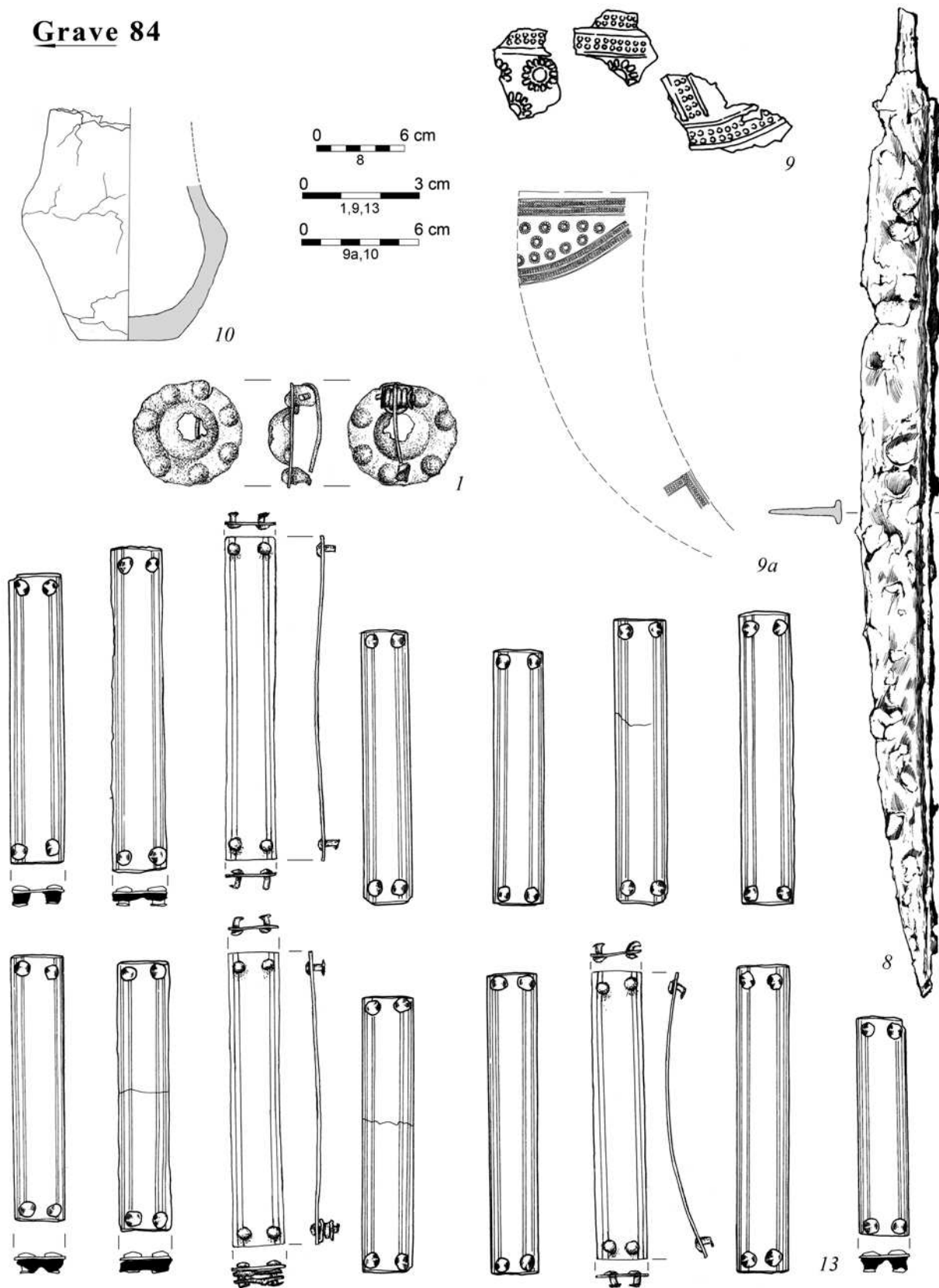


Fig. 2. Equipment of the grave 84 from Nowinka

headgear fittings were located. The skeleton was female, 1,5–2 years old.

Grave furnishing is characteristic of the male graves in the Elbląg group, i. e., it embraced weapons, a drinking horn, clay flask vessels, a brooch and a belt (*Kontny, Okulicz-Kozaryn, Pietrzak*, 2011. P. 116–121). Nevertheless the belt itself with a set of fittings was absolutely untypical here. Below we'll present them in groups.

T-shaped belt fittings (Fig. 1, 4; II col. ins., 1, 2) with rectangular perforations in the centres and single rivets at the arms' ends were 1,8 cm in height and 2,2 cm in width. They were ornamented with rows of stamped circles along the edges. Apparently they are not utterly unique: such fitting was found also in grave 35 from Nowinka but it was more robust and adorned in a different, more complicated way, having analogies in Scandinavia (*Kontny, Okulicz-Kozaryn, Pietrzak*, 2011. P. 23, 24. Pl. XXIV, 2). T-shaped fittings are quite numerous in the Olsztyn group (however, usually without openwork pattern) where they are dated to Phase E2b (*Kowalski*, 1991. Fig. 2; also see: *Kowalski*, 2000. P. 215, 216), and occasionally at the Sambian-Natangian area, e.g., Schosseynoye, ray. Guryevsk, stray find (former: Warten)². From the Elbląg group, besides Nowinka, so far only one find was known (Fig. 3, 6): Jelonki, Rychliki com, stray find (*Rudnicki, Trzeciecki*, 1994. P. 151. Pl. III, 2).

Relatively numerous (over a dozen items) T-shaped fittings were found in Scandinavia (Fig. 3, 1) where they are determined as Type TR1 (*Nørgård Jørgensen*, 1999. P. 114), C10 (*Ørnsnes*, 1966. P. 292. Fig. 27) or C5 (*Høilund Nielsen*, 1987. P. 76). Some were found on Bornholm, more on Gotland, in Sweden and, exceptionally, also in Norway (*Ørnsnes*, 1966. P. 292; *Nørgård Jørgensen*, 1999. P. 114). They are considered to be attributes of men's belts; on Bornholm they are determined as Phase II, i. e., 560/70–610/20 A.D. and on Gotland as Phases I–II, i. e., 520/30–610/20 A.D. (*Nørgård Jørgensen*, 1999. Figs. 107, 110, 116). They comprise compact and slim (see the finds from grave 84) items but so far no chronological differences between them have been found. It should be noted that the majority of Scandinavian finds was silver-plated, which makes them different from the finds from Nowinka.

Although present in Scandinavia they were most popular in the Merovingian circle (see: *Åberg*, 1919. P. 114. Fig. 154–166). Yet they were not studied thoroughly here so it's inevitable to enlist many more of them to draw conclusions concerning rules of their appearance (Fig. 3, 2–5)³.

² Silver-plated item, i. e., an import (personal commitment: Konstantin Skvortsov, whom we are very grateful for the information).

³ E.g., the Alamannic cemeteries in Hailfingen, Stadt Rotenburg am Neckar, grave 286 (*Stoll*, 1939. P. 58. Pl. 24, 1c, d; *Koch*, 1968. Pl. 29, 3), Marktoberdorf, Lkr. Ostallgäu, grave 34 — four items (*Christlein*, 1966. P. 114, 115. Fig. 15. Pl. 10, 5–8) and Schretzheim, Stadt Dillingen a.d. Donau, grave 463 (*Koch*,

They make up a group of diverse forms: besides items similar to the finds from Nowinka there are also fittings with typical proportions but with lower parts ended with a circular plate with a rivet⁴. Much more compact fittings are proved too⁵. There are also items with clearly elongated central arm ended with a semi-circular or circular plate with a rivet⁶. Most

1977. P. 100, 101. Pl. 120, 13, 14); the Frankish necropolises Krefeld-Gellep, Stadt Gellep, grave 2638 — three items (*Pirrling*, 1979a. P. 133; 1979b, P. 54. Pl. 54, 6) and Kleinlangheim, Lkr. Kitzingen, grave 19 (*Pescheck*, 1996. P. 217. Pl. 3, 14), grave 37 — two items (Ibid. P. 220, 221. Pl. 8, 9, 10), grave 113 (Ibid. P. 234, 235. Pl. 26, 17), grave 115 (Ibid. P. 235. Pl. 27, 13), grave 192 — two items (Ibid. P. 247, 248. Pl. 45, 6, 7), grave 195 (Ibid. P. 248. Pl. 46, 4), grave 293 — four items (Ibid. P. 266. Pl. 71, 4, 7–9; 94, 4–7), grave 295 (Ibid. P. 267. Pl. 73, 2; 96, 14), Westheim, Lkr. Weißenburg-Gunzenhausen, grave 134 (*Reiß*, 1994. P. 322, 323. Pl. 64, 5), grave 152 — two items (Ibid. P. 333–335. Pl. 71, 17, 18), grave 170 (Ibid. P. 352–354. Pl. 86, 3), grave from Wölfersheim, Lkr. Wetteraukreis — two items (*Behrens*, 1937. P. 272. Fig. 6, 12, 13), Andernach-Kirchberg, Lkr. Mayen-Koblenz, stray finds (*Vogel*, 2006. P. 164. Pl. 28, 4, 5, 9, 12–18), grave 11a — four specimens (Ibid. P. 146. Pl. 4, 10–13), grave 7 — two specimens (Ibid. P. 145. Pl. 2, 13, 14) and grave 10 (Ibid. P. 146. Pl. 4, 3, 4), Weingarten, Lkr. Ravensburg, grave 12 — two items (*Roth, Theune*, 1995. P. 18. Pl. 6, 8) and grave 335 — two items (Ibid. P. 99, 100. Pl. 126, d, e), Eichstetten, Lkr. Breisgau-Hochschwarzwald, grave 201 (*Sasse*, 2001. P. 211. Pl. 86, A5, 6) and grave 272 (Ibid. P. 230, 231. Pl. 116, 9), Peigen, Lkr. Dingolfing-Landau, grave 36 — five items (*von Freeden, Lehmann*, 2005. P. 68, 69. Fig. 36, 12), grave 42 — four items (Ibid. P. 75–77. Fig. 42, 11), grave 170 — four items (Ibid. P. 147. Fig. 170, 7), grave 189 — three items (Ibid. P. 153, 154. Fig. 189, 11–13), at the cemetery Beckum I, Lkr. Warendorf, grave 43 (*Capelle*, 1979. P. 23. Pl. 17, 43.i), Junkersdorf, Stadt Köln, grave 80 (*La Baume*, 1967. P. 162. Pl. 6, 80.2), Pleidelsheim, Lkr. Ludwigsburg (*Koch*, 2001. P. 285–287), Kelheim-Gmünd, Lkr. Kelheim, grave 53 (*Koch*, 1968. Pl. 29, 3), Göggingen, Lkr. Augsburg, grave 57 — two items (*Stein*, 1961. P. 81, 102. Fig. 2, 1), two items from an unknown site from the Römisch-Germanisches Zentralmuseum Mainz collection (*Behrens*, 1947. Fig. 104), four items from Basel-Aeschenvorstadt, Kt. Basel-Stadt, grave 334 (*Giesler*, 1998. Fig. 225), Liebenau, Lkr. Nienburg a.d. Weser, grave G12/B5 (*Häßler*, 1983. P. 82. Pl. 37, 1; 87, 5), grave H11/B1 (Ibid. P. 52. Pl. 6, 1d, e; 81, 7), grave K12/B1 (*Häßler*, 1985. P. 107. Pl. 48, 4, 5).

⁴ E. g., Andernach-Kirchberg, Lkr. Mayen-Koblenz, graves 7 and 10; Kleinlangheim, Lkr. Kitzingen, grave 115, 1 item from grave 293, grave 295; Liebenau, Lkr. Nienburg a.d. Weser, grave K12/B1; Peigen, Lkr. Dingolfing-Landau, grave 36.

⁵ E. g., Andernach-Kirchberg, Lkr. Mayen-Koblenz, stray find; Eichstetten, Lkr. Breisgau-Hochschwarzwald, grave 272; Kleinlangheim, Lkr. Kitzingen, grave 293; Westheim, Lkr. Weißenburg-Gunzenhausen, grave 134.

⁶ E. g., Andernach-Kirchberg, Lkr. Mayen-Koblenz, grave 11a and stray finds; Eichstetten, Lkr. Breisgau-Hochschwarzwald, grave 201; Kleinlangheim, Lkr. Kitzingen, grave 192; Marktoberdorf, Lkr. Ostallgäu, grave 34; Peigen, Lkr. Dingolfing-Landau, grave 189; Weingarten, Lkr. Ravensburg, grave 12; Westheim, Lkr. Weißenburg-Gunzenhausen, grave 152 and grave 170; Wölfersheim, Lkr. Wetteraukreis — one item.

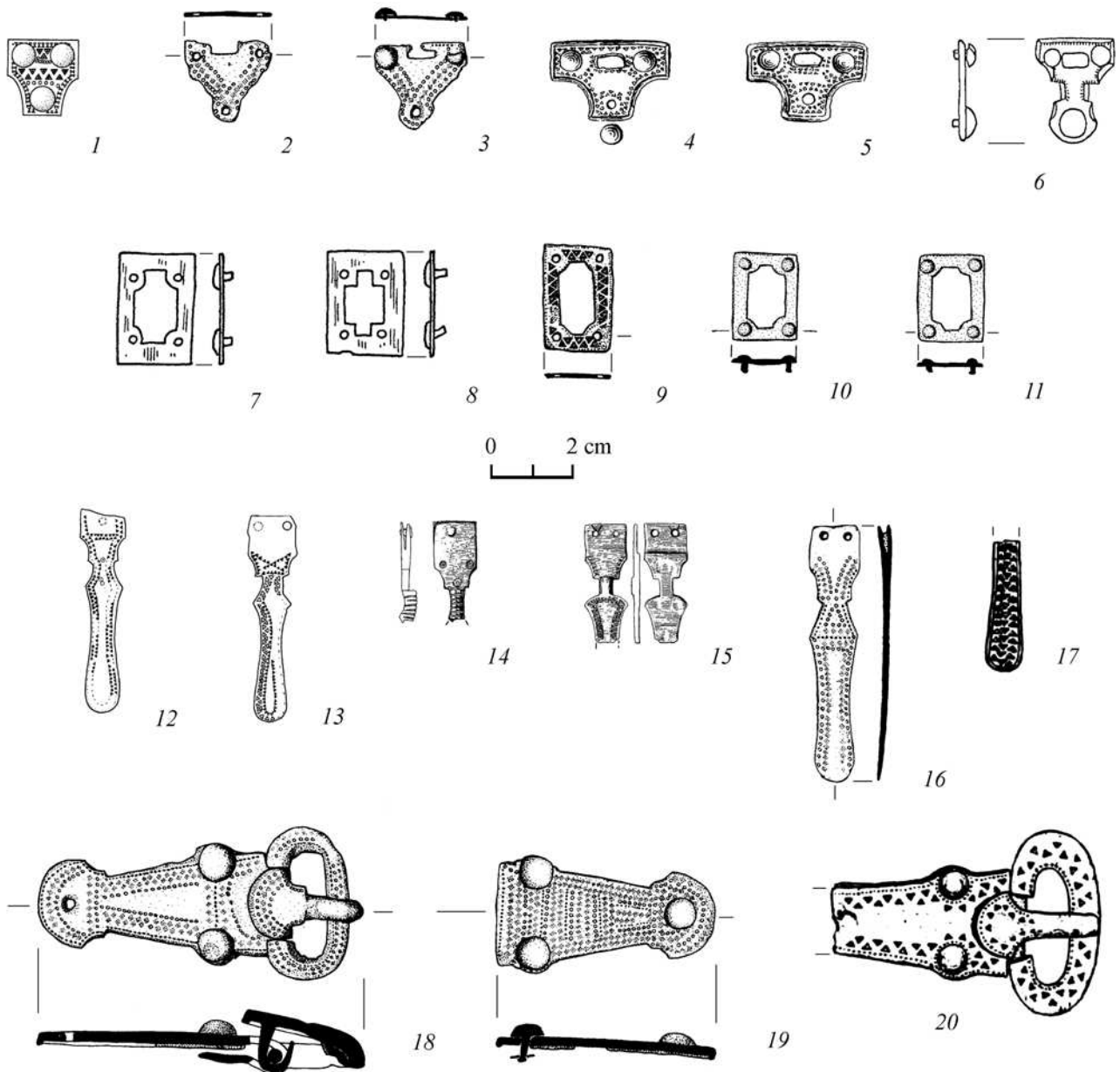


Fig. 3. Examples of belt fittings parallel to ones from Nowinka, grave 84: T-shaped fittings (1–6), rectangular openwork fittings (7–11), tongue-shaped strap ends (12–17), shield-on-tongue buckles (18, 20), ornamental belt mount (19):

1, 12, 13 — Stora Ihre (after: *Nørgård Jørgensen*, 1999. Pl. 107, 2, 3, 6); 2, 3, 16, 18, 19 — Weingarten, grave 335 (after: *Roth, Theune*, 1995. Pl. 126, 4); 4, 5 — Beckum I, grave 43 (after: *Capelle*, 1979. Pl. V, 43.i); 6 — Jelonki (after: *Rudnicki, Trzeciecki*, 1994. Pl. III, 2); 7, 8 — Linz-Zizlau, grave 61 (after: *Ladebauer-Orel*, 1960. Pl. IV, 61.2); 9 — Weingarten, grave 362 (after: *Roth, Theune*, 1995. Pl. 132, F. 2); 10, 11 — Weingarten, grave 487 (after: *Roth, Theune*, 1995. Pl. 176, c, d); 14 — Liebenau, grave E17/B3 (after: *Brieske*, 2001. Fig. 89, 1); 15 — Liebenau, grave K14/A1 (after: *Brieske*, 2001. Fig. 89, 2); 17, 20 — Elbląg, Moniuszki St, feature 239 (after: *Neugebauer*, 1975. Pl. X, 5, 6)

of the Merovingian finds had openwork decorations along the longer part⁷ like in the case of the items from Nowinka although there were also openwork decorations in the elongated, narrow, lower part (*Koch*, 1977. P. 124) as well as finds without openwork decoration

at all⁸. Their location in the burials sometimes suggests that they were used for fastening belt pouches in men's graves, e.g., Marktoberdorf, Lkr. Ostallgäu, grave 34 (cf.: *Christlein*, 1966. Fig. 15). Variant with elongated central arm may have been also used for

⁷ Considering the reconstruction of the arrangement of the fittings on the belt (*Pescheck*, 1996. P. 49. Fig. 19), it seems that the openings may have been used to fasten the straps from which various objects were suspended.

⁸ E.g., Andernach-Kirchberg, Lkr. Mayen-Koblenz, stray find; Kelheim-Gmünd, Lkr. Kelheim, grave 53; Kleinlangheim, Lkr. Kitzingen, grave 37; Peigen, Lkr. Dingolfing-Landau, grave 170 and one item from grave 189.

attaching the scabbard, which is suggested by the find from a Frankish cemetery in Neuß where two such fittings adjoined the edge of the scabbard of a sax (*Stoll*, 1940. Pl. 34, 2). Taking into consideration the location of the fittings in grave 84 in the case of Nowinka such a function of T-shaped fittings should be excluded: more probably they were used for suspending objects.

As refers to chronology, the finds from Liebenau, Lkr. Nienburg a.d. Weser in Lower Saxony, grave H11/B1, are dated to the late 6th century (*Häßler*, 1997. P. 289), or c. 600 A.D., within Phase 5 of the cemetery (*Brieske*, 2005. P. 115). In the Merovingian circle T-shaped belt fittings may occur together with ones decorated with motifs of animal heads; they are known from the last tierce of the 6th century especially from the east Frankish and Alamannic areas, but also from Lower Saxony (*Brieske*, 2001. P. 200–203. Fig. 83; *Böhme*, 2005. P. 87). They were also found in less ornamented sets of fittings, yet they are considered to have a decorative function (*Brieske*, 2001. P. 209). They are indicators of men's burials from Phase 4 (590–620/30 A.D.), after Ursula Koch, and items with elongated central arm are basically a little later within this phase (*Koch*, 1977. Fig. 8, B).

Great majority of T-shaped fittings from Merovingian circle was silver-plated, although forms without silver coating also appeared.

The second type of belt fittings make up six bronze belt mounts, rectangular, 4,2–4,5 cm in height, 1,6–1,7 cm in width, with pairs of rivets in the corners and openwork octagonal pattern in the centres (Fig. 1, 3; II col. ins., 3). They are ornamented in the similar style as T-shaped fittings, i. e., double row of stamped circles and triangles along the edges. So far no analogies for these mounts were found either in the Balt milieu or in Scandinavia. However, similar items may be occasionally found in the Merovingian circle where they are interpreted as sets of belt fittings (Fig. 3, 7–11). As an example one may quote two items from grave 61 in Linz-Zizlau, Bez. Linz-Land. (*Ladenbauer-Orel*, 1960. P. 39. Pl. 4, 61, 2)⁹, finds from grave 362 (*Roth, Theune*, 1995. P. 106. Pl. 132, A2) and 487 from Weingarten, Lkr. Ravensburg — two items (Ibid. P. 142, 143. Pl. 176, c, d), grave 54 and 286 from the Alamannic cemetery in Hailfingen, Stadt Rottenburg am Neckar (*Stoll*, 1939. P. 47, 58. Pl. 25, 39, 40; *Menghin*, 1983. Fig. 18). The latter have been determined as Group D of graves with two-edged swords, dated to 580–620 A.D. (*Menghin*, 1983. P. 59, 60. Fig. 25), a similarly dated items come from grave 25 in Mainz-Finthen, Stadt Mainz (*Hilberg*, 2009. Fig. 7. 39, 4. Footnote 946), from the Frankish burial in Wölfersheim, Lkr. Wtterraukreis (*Behrens*, 1937. P. 272. Fig. 6, 16), and from the Alamannic cemetery of Oberböbingen, Lkr. Gmünd (*Veeck*, 1931. Pl. M, 4). The last-mentioned one occurred in a set with a square

belt mount decorated in the niello technique — so it was probably a washer¹⁰. A very similar find to the one from Oberböbingen was discovered at the Frankish cemetery of Krefeld-Gellep, Stadt Gellep, grave 2616 (*Pirling*, 1979a. P. 132; 1979b. P. 49. Pl. 49, 3), especially with respect to the compact proportions. Another analogy is the fitting from grave 23 in Dingden-Lankern, Lkr. Borken, which had a simpler rectangular opening; on the basis of the coins found in the burial it is dated to the 7th century (*Werner*, 1935. P. 100. Pl. 28, B.3).

Four bronze, tongue-shaped strap ends create the next element of the belt set from grave 84 at Nowinka (Fig. 1, 5; II col. ins., 4). Halfway along they had a waist. They were adorned with two rows of stamped circles and triangles along the edge of the tongue, i. e., in a similar way as the belt fittings mentioned earlier, but there were also transverse grooves on the waist. Their length was 5,9 cm and width 1,1 cm. They may be ascribed to tongue-shaped strap ends Type ZR1 (*Nørgård Jørgensen*, 1999. P. 113), C12 (*Ørsnes*, 1966. P. 292. Fig. 32–36), or C6b (*Høilund Nielsen*, 1987. P. 76). Such fittings were found mainly on Gotland and Bornholm (Fig. 3, 12, 13), sometimes there were several (up to four) items in one grave (*Nørgård Jørgensen*, 1999. P. 113). They are also known from Norway, Sweden and Estonia¹¹. They occurred rarely in Brandenburg, e. g., Stößen, Lkr. Burgenlandkreis, grave 61 (*Schmidt*, 1961. Pl. 86, A; 1970. P. 32. Pl. 24, 2.a), or Thuringia, e. g., Alach, Stadt Erfurt, grave 1/81 (*Timpel*, 1999. P. 176)¹², and quite frequently in western Germany and Holland, i. e., Alamannia, Austrasia and Lower Saxony (Fig. 3, 14–16)¹³.

¹⁰ A similar interpretation (as «Gegenbeschlag») was assigned to the find from grave 54 in Hailfingen, Stadt Rottenburg am Neckar (*Stoll*, 1939. P. 47).

¹¹ It is worth to note that tongue-shaped strap ends Type ZR1 are internally diversified (see: *Nerman*, 1969. Pl. 22–24). The items from Nowinka differ from the other ones by their marked waist with transverse grooves between the ferrule and the tongue.

¹² The find is connected with the Frankish presence in Thuringia.

¹³ E.g., Altenerding, Lkr. Erding, grave 467 (*Sage*, 1984. P. 134, 135. Pl. 63, 22), and grave 610 (Ibid. P. 170, 171. Pl. 80, 7), Altlußheim, Lkr. Rhein-Neckar Kreis, grave 22 (*Oexle*, 1992. Pl. 2, 7. 4), Dörverden, Lkr. Verden, stray find (*Genrich*, 1963. P. 37. Pl. 7, 4), Gammertingen, Lkr. Sigmaringen, grave from 15.12.1902 (*Rieth*, 1937. P. 45. Fig. 4, 12), Liebenau, Lkr. Nienburg a. d. Weser, grave E17/B3 (*Brieske*, 2001. P. 210. Fig. 89, 1), grave K14/A1 (*Häßler*, 1983. P. 119. Pl. 63, 3), Pfullingen, Lkr. Reutlingen, two stray finds (*Quast*, 2006. P. 288. Pl. 81, 277, 279), Regensburg, Lkr. Regensburg, horse grave from 1977 (*Oexle*, 1992. Pl. 103, 222. 10, 11), Schretzheim, Lkr. Dillingen, grave 540 (*Koch*, 1977. P. 115, 116. Pl. 142, 28, 29), two items from unknown site in the Römisch-Germanisches Zentralmuseum Mainz collection (*Fiedler*, 1962. P. 37. Pl. 60, 7, 8), Stuttgart-Zazenhausen, Stadt Stuttgart, stray find (*Veeck*, 1931. P. 241; *Koch*, 1977. P. 81), Maastricht, Limburg prov. and Groß-Rohrheim, Lkr. Bergstraße (*Koch*, 1977. P. 81), Peigen, Lkr. Dingolfing-Landau, grave 42 — two items (*von Freeden, Lehmann*, 2005).

⁹ One with a cross-shaped opening.

At the Frankish areas they were exceptionally rare¹⁴. The finds from the northern part of the Merovingian circle are explained by the Scandinavian influences (Høilund Nielsen, 2003. P. 214–216) yet as the finds of such fittings were quite numerous in the Merovingian circle this does not have to be true. Besides the Scandinavian influence also parallels with southern Germany are taken into account (Falk, 1980. P. 35. Footnote 124; Brieske, 2001. P. 210). Interestingly, unlike in Scandinavia, the Merovingian strap fittings often occurred together with elements of headgear, which suggests that they were also used as elements of horse furniture (e. g., Gammertingen, Regensburg, Beckum I, Beckum II)¹⁵.

The single finds from France or Italy differ considerably from their possible north-European prototypes (Ørnsnes, 1966. P. 292). However, some of the Frankish finds have features which make them similar to the fittings from Nowinka: like them they have a waist between the tongue and ferrule, sometimes with transverse notches (Baudot, 1860. Pl. XVIII, 7; Boulanger, 1909. Pl. XXXIII, 2; Vallet, 1996. P. 688. Fig. 560, 3; 561, 6, 7); similarly waisted strap ends dated to the 1st half of the 6th century (Brieske, 2005. P. 109, 110) are also known from Lower Saxony: Liebenau, Lkr. Nienburg a.d. Weser, grave E17/B3, and grave K14/A1 (Brieske, 2001. P. 210. Fig. 89). The Scandinavian finds are considered to denote Phases II–III in Norway and Bornholm, and Phases I–II on Gotland (Nørgård Jørgensen, 1999. Fig. 107, 110, 116) whereas the discoveries from the Merovingian areas are dated to the 6th century (Falk, 1980. P. 35, 36).

Such forms are also recorded, but sporadically, in the Olsztyn group — two items from grave 10

P. 75–77. Fig. 42, 12, 13), Undenheim, Lkr. Mainz-Bingen, grave 7 (*Schnellenkamp*, 1935. P. 86. Fig. 15, 2), Weingarten, Lkr. Ravensburg, grave 335 (Roth, Theune, 1995. P. 99, 100. Pl. 126, k), Beckum I, Lkr. Warendorf, grave 17 (Capelle, 1979. P. 15. Pl. 8, 17.i; Oexle 1992. Pl. 155, 341. 8, 9), Beckum II, Lkr. Warendorf, grave 110 (Oexle, 1992. Pl. 166, 370. 6–9, 20, 21), Bremen, Lkr. Bremen, grave 14 (Ibid. Pl. 179, 381. 6, 7), grave 21 (Ibid. Pl. 182, 382. 4, 5).

¹⁴ E.g., Brechen-Niederbrechen, Lkr. Limburg-Weilburg, grave 3/1950 — two items (Schoppa, 1952. Pl. 3, 2), grave from Wölfersheim, Lkr. Wetteraukreis (Behrens, 1937. P. 272. Fig. 6, 11), or Krefeld-Gellep, Stadt Gelep, grave 454 — the latter was considered to be an import from Scandinavia (Pirling, 1966a. P. 205, 206. Fig. 24, 5; 1966b. P. 59. Pl. 36, 454.12).

¹⁵ In Scandinavia such cases are very rare, e. g., Nørre Sandgård Vest, grave 1, Bornholms amt (Jørgensen, Nørgård Jørgensen, 1997. P. 175. Pl. 4, 1), Kobbeå, Bornholms amt, grave 1 (Nørgård Jørgensen, 1992. Fig. 11). See also much later finds, dated to c. 675 A.D. (Arwidsson, 1977. P. 131), from Valsgårde, Gamla Uppsala sn, grave 7, where highly decorative tongue-shaped strap ends with motifs of human heads served as end fittings of the central strap of the horse headgear (Ibid. Pl. 21, 43; 22, 45, 46, 57, 75). At the Alamannic areas, in turn, slightly later and less profiled tongue-shaped fittings (with very slightly concave sides) were found in women's burials as garter and shoe strap ends, e. g., Truchtelfingen, Lkr. Zollernalbkreis, grave 27 (Menghin, 2007. P. 442, 443).

in Waplewo, Jedwabno com. — ex-Waplitz (Åberg, 1919. P. 99. Fig. 135; Voigtmann files; Jakobson files), perhaps also the fragmentarily preserved item from grave 219 at Kosewo II, Mragowo com. — ex-Kosewen (Jakobson files); they are more frequent in the Elbląg group (Fig. 3, 17). From its area, besides the items from Nowinka, one can mention also the stray find from Chojnowo, Tolkmicko com. — ex-Conradswalde (Neugebauer, 1934. Pl. LXX, 3e; 1975. Pl. XI, upper left) and a silver-plated item from grave 239 from the cemetery Elbląg, Moniuszki St, Elbląg com. — ex-Elbing-Scharnhorststrasse (Ehrlich, 1937. P. 275. Fig. 8; Neugebauer, 1975. Pl. X, 5). The former has a slightly different shape than the classical tongue-shaped strap ends¹⁶. The latter is fragmentarily preserved; it was accompanied by a pair of shafted weapon heads and a silver-plated shield-on-tongue buckle (germ. *Schilddornschnalle*), which suggests that the assemblage belonged to the late phase of the Elbląg group. The dating of the item from Waplewo is not different: the crossbow brooch with a trapeze-shaped plate on the head and a buckle of the *Kreuzdornschnalle* type which accompany it are dated to Phase E2 in the Olsztyn group (the supposed item from Kosewo was not accompanied by precise dating elements).

The fittings from Nowinka are do not seem to be a local imitation of northern or western originals because other features such as proportions or the ornament have exact analogies in Scandinavia, e.g., Stora Ihre, Hellvi sn on Gotland (Nerman, 1969. Pl. 24, 258, 259; 1975. P. 11, 94), or Kobbeå, Bornholms amt, grave 1 (Nørgård Jørgensen, 1992. Fig. 11, 6, 7) as well as in the Merovingian circle — the Frankish finds and the ones from Liebenau mentioned above. However, it is difficult to decide definitively whether they were Merovingian or Scandinavian imports basing only on their shape.

A buckle is the only lacking belt element of the belt set. The complete buckle was found in grave 84 but it seems unreasonable to link it with the fittings described above: it is only 1,5 cm high (Fig. 1, 2). Searching for another explanation one may enumerate a fan-shaped bronze fragment with width of 1,4 cm (Fig. 1, 6). Most probably it is a spike of a shield-on-tongue buckle with a broken off spike and part embracing the frame. The same type of ornament, consisting of a double row of stamped circles and triangles along the edges, proves that the item should be joined with the other belt fittings. Also a fragment of a bronze fan-shaped plate (Fig. 1, 7) with two rivet holes (1,5 cm wide) should be attributed to a buckle: probably it served as a terminal of buckle's ferrule (Fig. 3, 18) or the end of the ornamental mount shaped identically as the buckle's ferrule,

¹⁶ However it has analogies in Scandinavia, e.g., on Bornholm: Østerlars, grave 1 (unpublished, Bornholm Museum inv. N 1409×108) and Vasegård, stray find (unpublished, National Museum in Copenhagen, inv. № C35092, Bornholm Museum, inv. N 2147×37).

situated at the opposite end of the belt (Fig. 3, 19; 4, 2). Its shape, decoration (double row of stamped circles and triangles along the edges), rivet sticking in it and its size very close to the shield on tongue make this idea most probable¹⁷.

From the area of the Elbląg group other find of that type is known (Fig. 3, 20): the silver-plated item from Elbląg, Moniuszki St, feature 239 (Ehrlich, 1937. P. 275. Fig. 8; Neugebauer, 1975. Pl. X, 6)¹⁸. It represents the form with elongated, trapeze-shaped or triangular ferrule¹⁹. It seems probable that the buckle from Nowinka had a similar form. These forms were dated to the 2nd half of the 6th (Godłowski, 1981. P. 114) or even to the 7th century and treated as an indicator of the final phase of the Elbląg group (Kowalski, 2000. P. 220). They are well documented for the Olsztyn group (mainly the items with oval-shaped ferrule) and their presence is confirmed also for the Sambian-Natangian area (cf.: Åberg, 1919. P. 111–114). Jacek Kowalski treats them as indicators of Phase E2 in Olsztyn group (Kowalski, 1991. Fig. 2) which to a certain extent contradicts the later dating of such forms for the Elbląg group he suggested. Shield-on-tongue buckles were also found in Scandinavia where they are determined as Types A2–3 (Ørsnes, 1966. P. 288, 289. Fig. 3; 10; 14; 17; 19) or A1a–c (Høiland Nielsen, 1987. P. 75). In Anne Nørgård Jørgensen's classification they are assigned to Type GU2 — with an elongated ferrule, or GU3 — with an oval ferrule (Nørgård Jørgensen, 1999. P. 114.

¹⁷ Theoretically it is possible that the item is a fragment of an eight-shaped loop (germ. *Schlaufe*) known from the Olsztyn group, e. g., Leleszki, Pasym com. — ex-Leleshken (*Bitner-Wróblewska*, 2008a. Pl. LVII), Tumiany, Barczewo com., grave 121 — ex-Daumen (*Jakobson*, 2009. Pl. 70, k), grave 141 (*Heydeck*, 1895. Pl. V, 10; *Kulakov*, 1989. Fig. 51, 1; *Bitner-Wróblewska*, 2008a. Pl. XXIV; *Jakobson*, 2009. Pl. 73, m), grave 148 (*Kulakov*, 1989. Fig. 53, 1; *Bitner-Wróblewska*, 2008a. Pl. XXVI; *Jakobson*, 2009. Pl. 78, h). Such forms occur with, i. a., T-shaped belt fittings, buckles Type *Kreuzdornschnalle*, shield-on-tongue buckles and crossbow brooches decorated with rings of notched wire which allows to place them in Phase E²; Rasa Banytė-Rowell (2009. P. 233) placed them in the whole Late Migration Period. Nevertheless such interpretation on the fitting from grave 84 is less probable, and we deal here with the shield on tongue.

¹⁸ In this group of artefacts a buckle from Żuławka Sztumska was mentioned (Godłowski, 1981. P. 114. Fig. 31; Jagodziński, 1997. Pl. III, 6; Bogucki, 2006. P. 101. Fig. 10). Inaccurate drawing included in the above-mentioned papers could have maintained this idea. Actually the item preserved in collection of Archaeological Museum in Gdańsk, inv. N 1986: 59, and thus it has to be underlined that it unequivocally comes from Elbląg, Moniuszki St, feature 239.

¹⁹ This group may be also extended by a ferrule of a buckle, probably Type shield-on-tongue, from Komorowo Żuławskie, Elbląg com. (personal commitment: Mateusz Bogucki, Ph. D., whom we'd like to thank for the information), and a fragment of a ferrule probably of a buckle of analogous type from the collection of the Museum of Elbląg, inv. N 254/700 from an undetermined site at the area of Elbląg.

Fig. 101, 2, 3). They were found on Bornholm, Gotland and in Norway, in the last-mentioned place only forms Type GU3 (*Nørgård Jørgensen*, 1999. P. 114–116). The finds from Scandinavia are considered to be indicators of Nordic Phase I and II (520/30–560/70 A.D. and 560/70 — 610/20 A.D.), and the Norwegian items and forms with elongated ferrule are clearly later (*Nørgård Jørgensen*, 1999. Fig. 107; 110; 116).

Shield-on-tongue buckles are the most numerous in the Merovingian circle. According to Ursula Koch such buckles appeared in men's burials from Phase 3 (565–590/600 A.D.), but mainly in Phase 4 (590–620/30 A.D.), and the latest items even in Phase 5, i. e., 620–650/60 A.D. (Koch, 1977. Fig. 8, B). According to other interpretations they belong to Phase 5 (565–580/90 A.D.) in the Rhineland — items with elongated ferrule (*Müssemeier et al.*, 2003. Fig. 7), and to Phase MA3 (560/70–600/10 A.D.) in France — mainly items with an oval ferrule (*Legoux, Périn, Vallet*, 2006. P. 62). Items from Thuringia were included in Groups IIIb (560–600 A.D.) and IV (600 — c. 700 A.D.) after Berthold Schmidt (1961. P. 140. Fig. 5, A; Pl. 45, s; see: Fig. 1). Finds of slim buckles of that type from Lombards' cemeteries in Italy were ascribed by Volker Bierbrauer (2008. Fig. 18) to Phase 1 (572–590 A.D.). Merovingian and north European items are indicators of men's burials. It seems that finds from the Elbląg group, including Nowinka, should be associated with the Scandinavian items Type GU2 or Merovingian ones (namely from Phase 4, after U. Koch). This is confirmed also by the fact that the spike from Nowinka was found together with possible fragment of ferrule's terminal of the shield-on-tongue buckle typical of artefacts with elongated ferrules.

The belt from grave 84 at Nowinka is very important for chronology of the cemetery (see: *Kontny, Okulicz-Kozaryn, Pietrzak*, 2011. P. 121–125). The feature is linked with the latest, 3rd, phase of the necropolis so it provide us with the data for absolute chronology of this stage. According to the data given above Phase 3 should be dated to circa the turn of the 6th and 7th centuries or — more probably — to the early 7th century. It stands in agreement with the dating of another grave from that phase: grave 85 which contained a drinking horn with a fitting decorated in animal Style II, variant B (Ørsnes, 1966), and a bracelet similar to Type Q2 used on Bornholm in Phases 1C–2A and thus during the whole 7th century (Høiland Nielsen, 1987). The latest date for grave 85 is the time when Style II gradually lost its popularity, i. e., the mid-7th century (*Birkmann*, 1995. P. 64, 65). Therefore it is sure that the cemetery at Nowinka and thus the whole Elbląg group prolonged its existence during the early stage of the 7th century what so far was at least problematic (Kowalski, 2000. P. 220, 221, 230).

Summing up, we deal with the complete set of belt fittings, additional to the «normal» belt with a simple buckle. The original belt seems to be an import, most probably

from the Merovingian area, what is proved by the proportion and ornamentation of strap ends and T-shaped fittings matching better to the Merovingian pattern as well as appearance of the rectangular openwork fittings not proved for Scandinavia but spotted in the Western Europe. Basing on the western analogies (Fig. 4, 1–5) we'd

strap end were also found. From the other side, we cannot neglect Scandinavian influences in the Elbląg group which are of the greater importance (Kontny, Okulicz-Kozaryn, Pietrzak, 2011. P. 126–129). It could result from subordination of areas of Jutes, Saxons and Thuringians to Frankish state in 2nd half of the 6th century so they were

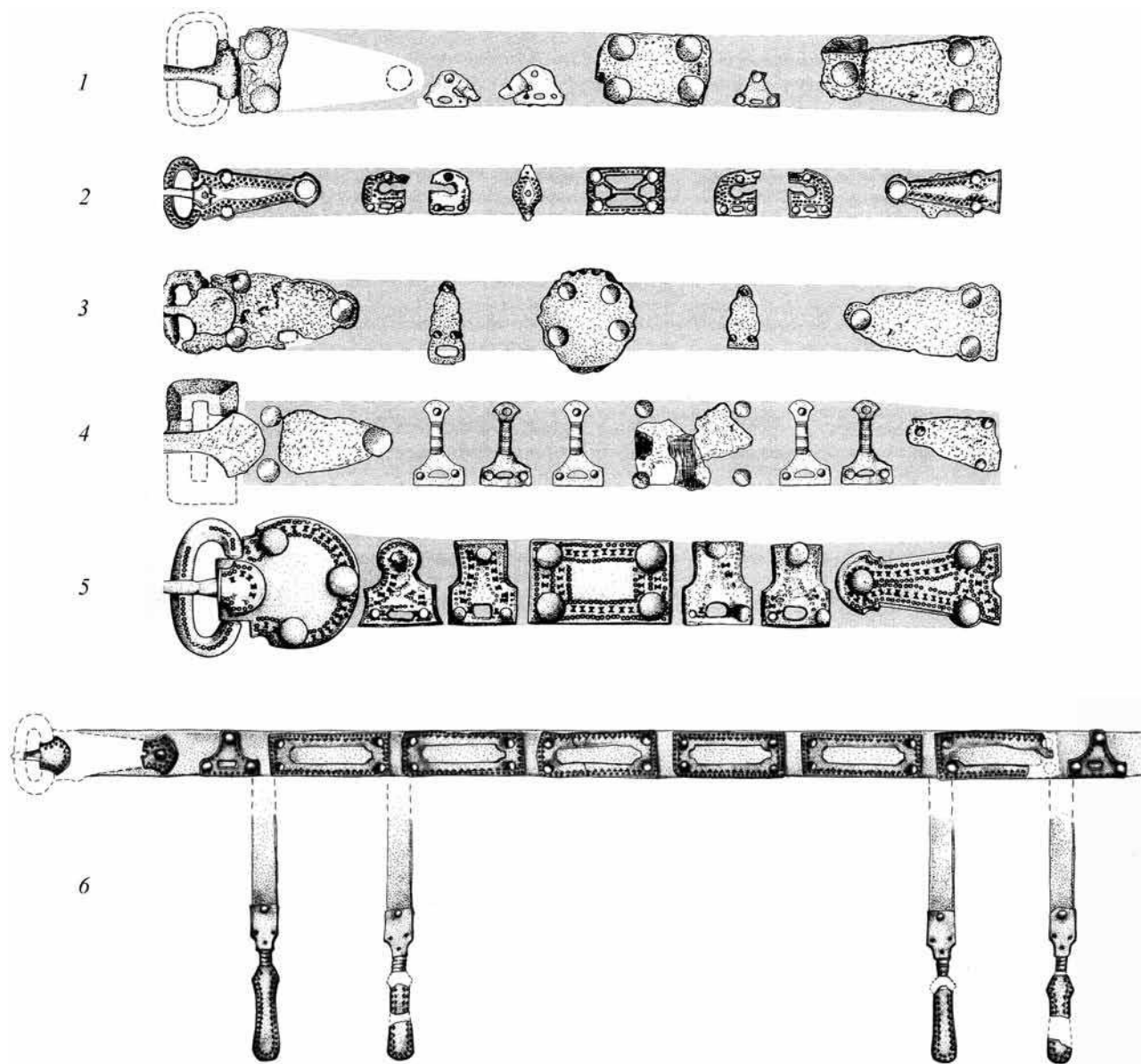


Fig. 4. Arrangements of the belt fittings in the Merovingian circle (1–5) and Nowinka (6):

1 – Kleinlangheim, grave 195; 2 – Müdesheim, grave 4; 3 – Kleinlangheim, grave 39; 4 – Kleinlangheim, grave 192; 5 – Kleinlangheim, grave 293 (after: Pecheck, 1996. Fig. 130); 6 – Nowinka, grave 84 (drawn by Joanna Glinkowska-Kowalewska)

like to offer the reconstruction of the belt from grave 84²⁰ (Fig. 4, 6). The western connections in the Elbląg group are proved also by the find of T-shaped belt fitting with the elongated arm from Jelonki, which fits the Merovingian, not Scandinavian, milieu. One may remind also the silver-plated finds from feature 239 at Elbląg, Moniuszki St, where shield-on-tongue buckle and tongue-shaped

²⁰ Naturally, we can't place particular mountings surely so one should treat it only as a proposition.

included in Merovingian cultural zone. It shortened the distance between Franks and Balts. Therefore postulated interest of Frankish merchants in trade with eastern regions could account for intensifying Frankish influences on the Olsztyn group, possibly with Thuringians as mediators (Kowalski, 2000. P. 234). It seems that contacts with the Elbląg group had similar character, but sea routes could have been here of the great importance. Maybe it was the way through which the Merovingian belt came to «Vidivarian» warrior.

Archives

Jakobson files: files of Feliks Jakobson collected in *Latvijas Nacionālais vēstures muzejs* in Riga; see: *Jakobson, 2009*.

Voigtmann files: files of Kurt Voigtmann housed in *Museum für Vor- und Frühgeschichte* in Berlin.

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Бартош Контны, Мирослав Петшак

Меровингский пояс на талии видивария? Неожиданный импорт из могильника эльблонгской группы в д. Новинка (р-н г. Толькишице)

Резюме

В статье рассматривается погребение 84 могильника эльблонгской группы в Новинке, около г. Толькишице в Северной Польше. Погребение имело вполне типичный характер — захоронение по обряду кремации, помещенное в могилу над захоронением коня, — и содержало довольно обычные находки, такие как скрамасак, керамический сосуд, гарнитуру конской упряжи, дисковидную фибулу местного происхождения в виде миниатюрного умбона щита. Однако в этом же захоронении был найден неординарный набор бронзовой поясной гарнитуры, состоящий из шести прямоугольных прорезных накладок, четырех языковидных наконечников с перехватом, двух Т-образных накладок и двух фрагментов пряжки с щитовидным расширением основания язычка. Все эти элементы декорированы в одинаковом стиле, что свидетельствует об их принадлежности одному поясу. Ближайшие аналогии указывают на меровингскую среду. Некоторые из накладок похожи также на вещи из Скандинавии или западной части Балтийского бассейна, однако в целом набор по характеру — меровингский. Скорее всего, он относится к ранней поре VII в., что дает один из самых поздних хронологических реперов некрополя в Новинке.

Перевод резюме Л. Голофаст