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CATALOGUE
OF THE ARCHAEOLOGICAL OBJECTS
LOCATED IN THE AREA
OF THE KALININGRAD REGION
ADJACENT TO THE CURONIAN
AND VISTULA LAGOONS



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The catalogue is intended for organizations operating in the field of culture, tourism, historical and cultural heritage protection, lecturers and students of educational institutions, residents of the transboundary area of South-Eastern

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Introduction

In August, 2007 the international project “Crossroads – lagoons area: cultural and historic crossroads of peoples of the South-Eastern Baltic states” financed by the grant 2007/140-475 of the “Neighborhood of Lithuania, Poland and the Kaliningrad region of the Russian Federation” Programme was started. The leading partner of the project from the Russian part is the Immanuel Kant State University of Russia. The partners in the project are the municipality “the zone of Zelenogradsk”, the Kaliningrad Museum of History and Arts and the Kaliningrad regional public youth organization “The traditional group «Speaking Water». From the part of the European Union the project’s partners are the Polish Maritime Museum of Gdansk and the European Foundation for the Monument Protection from the Polish part and the Klaipeda University from the Lithuanian part.

The goal of the “Crossroads” project is strengthening of transboundary cooperation in the field of preservation, development and sustainable use of historical and cultural heritage of the coastal areas of the Curonian and Vistula lagoons. As a consequence of thousand-year history of interaction between the man and the sea, the coasts of the lagoons of South-Eastern Baltic form a unique landscape and over a period of many centuries they were and still are the hearts of close connections and mutual influence of many peoples of the water area of the Baltic Sea.

Studying history of the region connected with many European peoples’ cultures is a key activity area of the project. Clarification of different historical events that took place on the lagoons’ coast and research of historical objects reflecting this peculiar multi-culture set up a basis for preservation, sustainable development and use of this historical and cultural heritage common for all the Europeans. Polish and Lithuanian partners take active part in all project activities.

The project work is concentrated on 3 key points of cultural and historical heritage development in the transboundary region:

- 1) investigations of cultural and historical data sources of the

lagoons' area and their transboundary use potential as a foundation for development of an integrated approach to cultural landscape development of the lagoons in the Kaliningrad region coordinated with strategies of neighboring Poland and Lithuania;

The project activities are to promote development of the Kaliningrad region's image as an object of cultural and historical tourism;

2) a necessity to raise people's interest in diverse cultural heritage of the transboundary region (first of all, the youth's) by means of exhibitions organization, application of information and computer technologies and multi media, development and introduction of study courses in school and university's academic curriculums, as well as such an informal (complementary) kind of education as "historical reconstruction".

3) getting of experience of creation and development of an experimental object of the international cultural and historical landscape: planning of an outdoor museum (so-called "Scansen") on the basis of the Vikings' open trading posts existing in the area of ancient Prussia (now the Kaliningrad region of the Russian Federation) – Kaup and Korallenberg - explored by archaeologists. This object is devoted to one of the most significant for our region's history but the least known for the general public historical period – the Viking age (the IX – middle of the XI c.)

Within the framework of realization of the first point of the Project's programme we should create a clear concept of the historical and cultural potential of the lagoons' coast. Archaeological monuments of the Viking age – a historical period that first united different peoples of the northern part of our continent within the bounds of so-called "Vikings' movement" (rise of trading and handicraft and military activity in the Baltic region that happened in the IX-XI c. under the influence of historical and cultural processes both in the Scandinavian and Baltic ethnocultural environments) are to play a significant part at this point.





1. Historical review

Ancient Prussia's area has always been a crossroad of different peoples' cultures, not only as a result of wars but also due to trading relations development and at the turnryday level. The Viking age was the "hour of triumph" of ancient Prussia of pre-Order period when traditional culture attained a zenith.

Amber trade promotion realized by tradespeople of different tribes contributed a lot to this rise.

Modern historians call the period of European middle ages from the end of the VIII to the middle of the XI c. the Viking age (Kulakov, 1999a, p. 197) when a considerable part of the Scandinavian population was involved in sea campaigns from which the name "Viking" itself was derived (in ancient Islandic *í vikingu* means to be in a sea campaign). Originally these campaigns were waged for the purpose of plundering and booty capturing; in what follows trade and control over trade routes ("Amber route" in Prussia, "Route from the Varangians to the Greek and from the Greek to the Varangians" in Russia) acquired an important role in the campaigns; the trade relations between European countries laid in the Viking age keep on being developed today. One of the leading goals of the Vikings' movement was also migration to new lands not necessarily associated with their capture aimed for living space expansion.

Wherever the Vikings came, they brought the Scandinavian culture of the last stage of the Iron Age which distinctive features were armed force and traditional pre-Christian religions prosperity. It is in the Viking age when peoples of Baltic, Scandinavia and early Russ were in the prime of their traditional mode of life and had not been converted to Christianization yet.

Getting in touch with surrounding peoples, the Vikings involved representatives of these peoples in their movement promoting forming and accelerated development of armed force relations and spreading of the traditional Scandinavian culture for these peoples which s confirmed

by numerous archaeological finds in the area of ancient Prussia, Finland, Karelia and Baltic (especially in Kaliningrad region's area). Settling on new lands the Scandinavians in their turn adopted customs and traditions of local population which is also confirmed by archaeological excavation results and reflected in written sources. Thus the "Viking" notion should not be associated solely with ancient northern ethnicity.

The most significant outcome of multi-ethnic tradespeople and soldiers's activity in South-Eastern Baltic was setting up of the Neman trade route that united South-Eastern Scandinavia and Baltic with ancient Russian population of Podneprovje at the end of the I c. A.D.

Baltic and Scandinavia were united by both common pagan tradition and social development processes leading to dying out of a tribal system.

Archaeological marks of the armed force relations in Scandinavia are burials in a boat widespread from the end of the VIII c.; in Prussia from the end of the V c. – burial of soldiers with their horses. These rite features that had formerly been a privilege of noble aristocracy were transferred to soldiers of different tribes - men-at-arms.

In both regions there appeared armed forces free from patriarchal traditions – military units; not only a representative of a tribal group but also a foreigner could join it. The men-at-arms were united not by ties of relationship but by their occupations. Originally they were to protect a tribe's group from external infringement (in a number of cases – by hire) but later tribute collection and booty campaigns to other countries, including overseas ones became their main occupation. By the beginning of the X c. there emerged a support structure of the local Baltic variant of the Vikings' movement to the east which main outcome was establishment of the Old Russian state. This most significant historical act was evidently based on the Prussians' interest in amber trade expansion to the east as early as the end of the people's migration period. Though a small number of Sambian soldiers and tradespeople enabled the Gotlandersto take over the eastern trade by the end of the IX c. as shown by dirham treasure aggregation (Kulakov, 2003, p. 136).

The Scandinavian Vikings' attempts to control amber trade beginning from its direct source – Sambia – led to unexpected results.



Other cultures' influence did not destroy but strengthened the Prussian armed force. Their antiquities of the end of the X-XI c. demonstrate large-scale accumulation of treasures in the local soldiers' hands.

The Prussian armed force did not succeed in winning sound positions in Sambia and had to leave it which affected the Prussians' afterlife. Nevertheless Scandinavian traditions did not disappear together with the Viking age and the armed force's departure. They carried on existing up to the XIV c. in Prussia, though under the reign of the Teutonic Order.

Within the bounds the Vikings' movement in the area of historic Prussia there appeared a number of objects directly related to the Vikings' activity: trade and handicraft settlements (vics) and armed-force's burial mounds. A part of these objects left by tradespeople and soldiers using a western section of the Neman trade route on the territory adjacent to the Curonian lagoon's coast is presented below. However, before proceeding to direct consideration of these objects, it is essential to identify a settlement scheme of the coast of the lagoons concerned.

The coastline contours of South-Eastern Baltic (fig. 1) ultimately formed in the Quaternary age approximately 7-6 thousand years ago (Zhindarev, Kulakov, 1996, p. 57) include two geographical phenomena – the Vistula (Kaliningrad) and the Curonian lagoons. Their water area is separated from the Baltic sea waters by correspondingly the Vistula (Baltic) and Curonian spits. These ephemeral sand deposits have resulted from both Aeolian processes and sand mass release from deltas of the powerful streams – the Vistula and Neman rivers. The above-mentioned sand deposits were concentrated around dealluvial argillaceous islands (at the Curonian spit – the “islands” of Rossitten and Nida). Thereby the lagoons' microregions unique for Europe were created. There is an analogue in the Crimea (Arabatskaya spit at Sivash that played a disastrous role in the storm of Perekop by the Red Army in 1920). The lagoons' coast like the above-mentioned dealluvial “islands” is composed of clay soils and was occupied by mainly greenwoods in ancient times. However, despite weak natural farming potential of the lagoons' coast these land areas were



Fig. 1. Space survey of the Kaliningrad region and the areas adjacent to the Curonian and Kaliningrad lagoons

quite attractive for their first settlers. At the Vistula lagoon's coast "landscape in the outskirts of Mlotechno, judging by finds was the first settling area (approx. 425-450 A.D.) of the Huns' wars veterans in Hrains Halba (Gothic "pure, bright half, part" in Prussian narrative tradition - Chrono u Haillibo)" (Kulakov, 2005. p. 88). Newcomers formed a Vidivarian community mentioned in the VI A.D. by Gothic historian Jordan in the microregion of Halibo characterized by an accumulation of ground burial mounds.

In the course of the Vidivarians and Estians' assimilation (local groups of the western Balts) since the middle of the V c., the Prussian culture began to be formed (Kulakov, 2005, p. 89). Later



on the Prussian tribal area spread over whole South-Eastern Baltic (fig. 2). However the coastal part of Natangiya from Gepedoyos island (now Elblong Elevation) to the Vitushka river (former Jarft) should be justly considered the cradle of the Prussian culture. The ancient settlement of Pervomayskoye (former Warnikam, the power

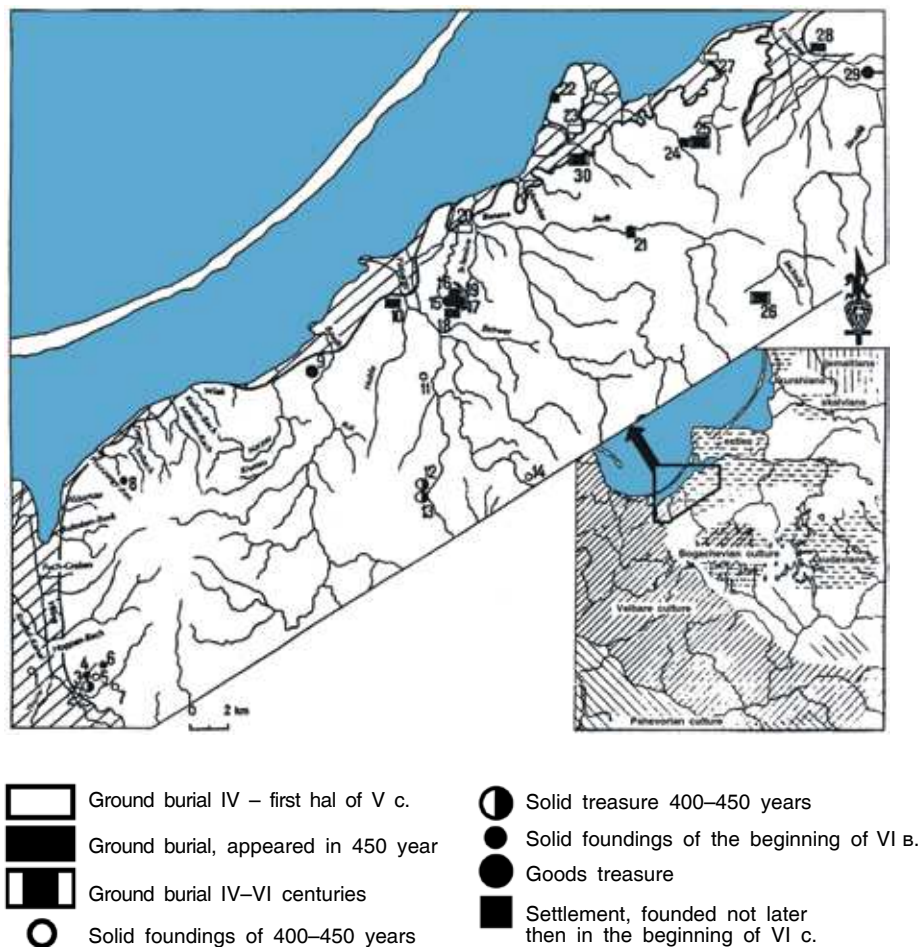


Fig. 2. The historical microregion of Halibo on the South-Eastern coast of the Vistula lagoon

center of Widewut Rykoito according to Simon Grunau – Kulakov, 1997, p. 152) and Lipovka (former Grünwalde, the central Prussian sanctuary Romowe according to Simon Grunau)(Kulakov, 1998, p. 108) should be considered the central archaeological objects of the Halibo microregion for the peoples' migration period. Later on this sanctuary was transferred eastward to the lands of Nadraviya (Kulakov, 2004, p. 66). A steep high shore of the Vistula lagoon and formation of capes on the banks of small rivers and brooks along this coastline provided a big number of Prussian ancient settlements both in the V c. A.D. and in the pre-Order times (fig. 3).

This is a peculiarity of the scope of archaeological monuments of Natangiya's coastline. It is remarkable that there are ancient settlements in the northern part of the zone explored approximately every other 3 km. The present phenomenon can be a consequence of a connection between them (for instance, by means of warning light) or location of the ancient settlements in small ground areas' centers that belonged to inhabitants of every specific fortified settlement.

There are no accumulations of archaeological monuments at the northern end of the Vistula lagoon, on the southern coast of Sambia. Only two ground burial mounds of the VII-VIII c. (Svetly, Izhevskoye), the ancient settlement-sanctuary of Zhukovskoye (former Margen) and Gardine bank, a defense at the Alte Balge strait cutting a neck of land in the southwestern part of Sambia up to the XV c. and uniting the Baltic Sea (to be more precise, the harbor of Gdansk) and the Vistula lagoon) should be mentioned.

Settlement of the capes' ancient settlements of Ntangiya's coast by the Vidivarians and Prussians is apparently associated with raising of water level of the Baltic Sea that occurred in the middle of the I century A.D. which made Natangiya's inhabitants settle exactly elevated coastal areas (Zhindaryov, Kulakov, 1996, p. 62).

From the position of the invasion tactics, Balga Island (now Balga peninsula) convenient for defense organization and forces accumulation for a further onslaught to the mainland served as a springboard for strangers at the coast of Natangiya in the V c. Later



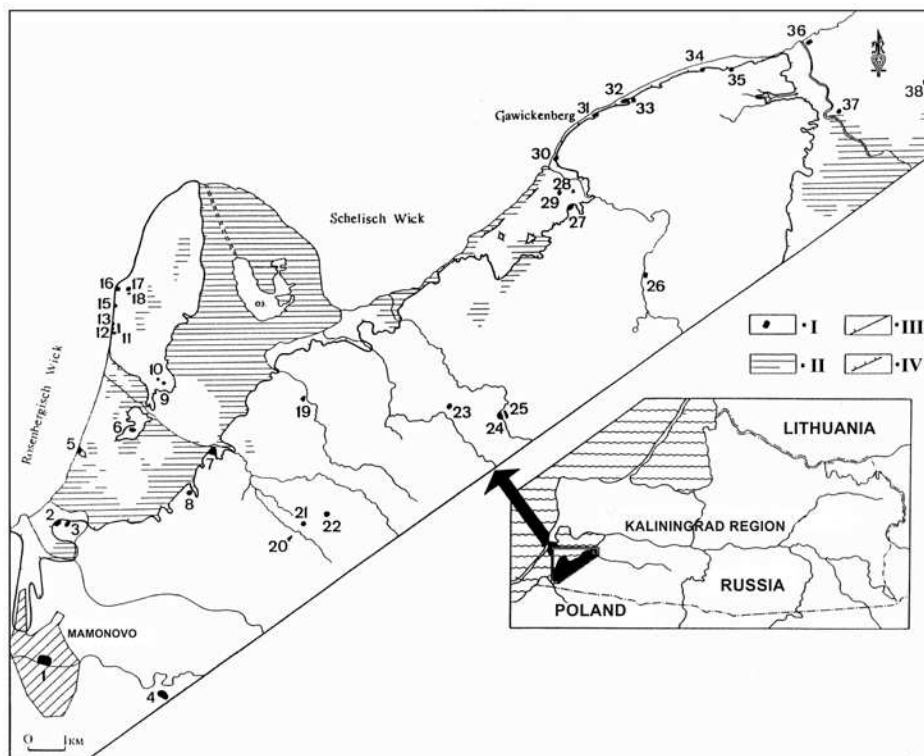


Fig. 3. Archaeological monuments of the coast of the Prussian land of Natangiya (within the limits of the Kaliningrad region)

I – the area occupied by an archaeological monument, II – marshes, III – the edge of the land platform (up to 15 m high from the present-day water level in the lagoon), which was possibly the lagoon's coastline since the V c. A.D. IV – boundaries of separate hills of the present-day coast; archaeological monuments: 1 – Mamonovo, ancient settlement-1, the XI-XIII c., 2 – Mamonovo 2 ancient settlement-2, the XII-XIII c., 3 – Mamonovo, burial mound, beg. of the I century B.C., 4 – Lipovka, ancient settlement-sanctuary Romowe, the V-XI c., 5 – former Vollendorf, colony, the XV-XIX c., 6 – Rybakovo, Order's fortified mill, the XIII c., 7 – Znamenka, ancient settlement of Skrandokalis, the XIII c., 8 – Krasnodonskoye, ground burial mound, the I c. A.D., 9 – Balga, ancient settlement-3, the XIII c., 10 – Balga, colony-4, the IV-I c. B.C., 11 – Balga, colony-2, the IV-I c. B.C., 12 – Balga, colony-1, the I century B.C., 13 – Balga, colony-3, the IV-I c. B.C., 14 – Balga, ground burial mound-2, V-XIII vv., 15 – Balga, ancient settlement-2 (sanctuary), XIII c., 16 – Balga, ancient settlement-1 Honeda, the V-XIII c., at this site the Order's castle of Balga was founded in 1239, 17 – Balga, ground burial mound-1, the I-V c. A.D., 18 – Balga, barrow, the I century B.C., 19 – Moskovskoye, the ancient settlement of Partegal, the XIII c., 20 – Timiryazovo, ancient settlement, the XIII c., 21 – Timiryazovo, settlement-2, the II-I centuries B.C., 22 – Timiryazovo, settlement-1, the I century B.C., 23 – former Pottlitten, ground burial mound, the I-III c. A.D., 24 – Pervomayskoye, the ancient settlement of Pillgarten the V-VII c., 25 – Pervomayskoye, the ground burial mound of Kapniserberg, the III-VI c. A.D., 26 – Sosnovka, ancient settlement, the XII-XV c., 27 – Beregovoye, ground burial mound-2, the I c. B.C. – the III c. A.D., 28 – Beregovoye, settlement-2, middle of the II century B.C., 29 – Beregovoye, colony-2, the I c. B.C. – the IV c. A.D., 30 – Beregovoye, settlement -1, III century B.C. 31 – Beregovoye, ancient settlement-2, Gawickenberg, the XIII-XIV c., 32 – Beregovoye, ancient settlement-1 Schpochberg, the XIII c., 33 – Beregovoye, colony-1, the XIV-XVI c., 34 – Ushakovo, the ancient settlement of Lenzenberg, the XII-XIII c., 35 – Ushakovo, settlement, the III-II centuries B.C., 36 – Ushakovo, ground burial mound of the I-V c. A.D., the Brandenburg castle, founded in 1266, 37 – former Tengen, ground burial, the IV-VIII c., 38 – former Pokarben, the site of Pokarvis battle, 1261.

on the crusaders preparing occupation of northern Sambia, also began their invasion in Natangiya from building their castle in Balga at site of the Prussian ancient settlement of Honeda that got the name of Balga (Kulakov, 1997, p. 153). The Baltic waters regression occurred in the second half of the I century A.D. could lead to radical shallowing of the Vistula lagoon.

It is in the period of waters leaving from the Vistula lagoon and correspondingly appearance of new coastal flat spaces suitable for settlement at the mouth of the Nogata river, when the trading and handicraft post of Truso (now Janyw Pomorski kołło Elbląga) emerged at the western end of the Prussian tribal area in the VII-VIII c.

A rampart crescent-shaped in plan surrounding the settlement (fig. 4) enables us to refer it to the "Vic" type (this is the name of trading and handicraft posts with fortifications). Having been settled by the Prussians and Gotlanders, Truso became one of the most significant point on the Eastern route (ancient Islandic - Avstrvegr). Truso's tradespeople concentrated amber trade in their hands on this route which caused accumulation of the dirham treasuries, the most ancient in Baltic in the area of Truso (Kulakov, 2003, p. 134).

The archaeological situation on the Curonian lagoon's coast which is only tens of kilometers distant from the Vistula lagoon is absolutely different from the situation in Halibo and Natangiya. The archaeological objects, primarily of early middle ages are known only on the southern coast of the Curonian lagoon (fig. 5).

Presence of a trading and handicraft post typed as a "vic" (air survey evidence of fortifications remains presuppose sustainable site development typical for settlements of this type) southward from present Zelenogradsk is confirmed both by finds in the ground burial mound of Kaup (discovered in August, 1865) and at the initial exploration stage of the local settlement material. Kaup's population controlled trade (which is verified by the very word of "Kaup" meaning "marketplace" in translation from ancient Islandic) realized along the Brokist strait cutting the Curonian Spit at the present town of Zelenogradsk and connecting the Curonian lagoon and the Baltic

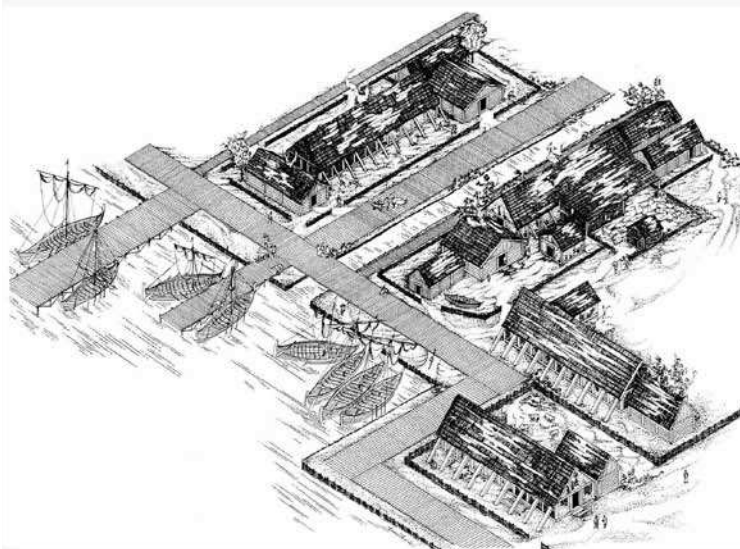
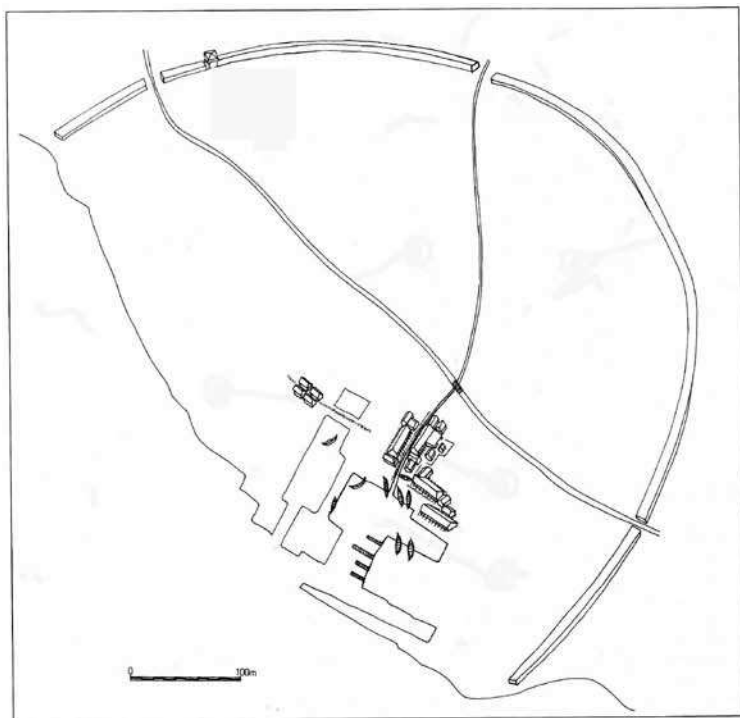


Fig. 4. Plan of the trading and handcraft post of Truso (above) and reconstruction of an excavated section of Truso's coastal site development (below)

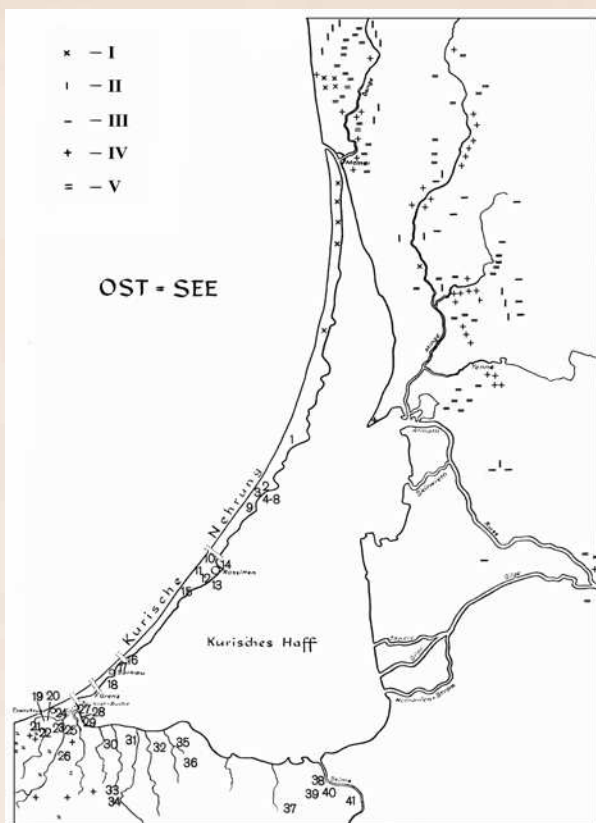


Fig. 5. Archaeological monuments of the areas adjacent to the Curonian lagoon's coasts

I – late Stone Age monuments, II – ground burial mounds of the I-IV c. A.D., III – ground burial mounds of the V-VIII c., IV – settlements of the IX-XII c., 5 – ground burial mounds of the IX-XII c. The monuments' numeration: 1 – Nida, settlement of the V-III c. B.C., 2 – Morskoye, location-2, the II c. B.C., 3 – Morskoye, location-1, the III c. B.C., 4 – Morskoye, dune location-3-6, the III c. B.C., 9 – Morskoye, the ancient settlement of Piles-Kalns, the XII-XIV c., 10 – Rybachy, the ground sepulcher of the Stone Age, 11 – former Stangenwalde, ground burial mound of the XII-XIV c. 12 – Rybachy, stand-1, the III c. B.C., 13 – Rybachy, stand-2, the III c. B.C., 14 – Rybachy. The ancient settlement of Rossitten-Rasita, 15 – former Neu-Lattenwalde, stand the III c. B.C., 16 – Lesnoy, Sarkau-Bruch rampart, the XI-XIII c., 17 – Lesnoy, stand, the III c. B.C., 18 – Lesnoy, ground burial mound, the XII-XIII c., 19 – Klintsovka, ground burial mound - 1 Irzekapis, the VIII-XIII c., 20 – Klintsovka, ground burial mound -2, the V c. A.D., 21 – Malinovka, ground burial mound, the VI-XI c., 22 – Klintsovka, ground burial mound -3, the XI-XII c., 23 – Mokhovoye, the settlement and ground burial mound of Kaup, the IX-XI c., 24 – Zelenogradsk, Schwedenschanze rampart, the XIII-XIV c., Sosnovka, the ancient settlement and sanctuary of Galgenpusch, the XI-XII c., 26 – Muromskoye, ground burial mound, the X-XI c., 27 – Rybachy Island, ancient settlement, the X-XIV c., 28 – Zaton, ruins of the Neuhausen castle, the XIII-XIV c., 29 – Mokroye, ground burial mound, the XI-XIV c., 30 – Khrabrovo, the Powunden castle, the XIII-XV c., 31 – Nekrasovo-Khrabrovo, rampart, the XIII c., 32 – Nekrasovo, the Schaaken castle, the XIII-XV c., 33 – Lazovskoye, ancient settlement, the XI-XII c., 34 – Lazovskoye, ground burial mound, the IX-XI c., 35 – Vasilevskoye, ancient settlement, the XIII-XIV c., 36 – Pushkinskoye, ancient settlement, the XIV c., 37 – Drozdovo, ancient settlement and sanctuary, the XCII-XIII c., 38 – Polessk, ground burial mound, the XI-XII c., the Labiau castle, the XIII-XV c., 39 – former Lebertshof, ground burial mound, the XI-XII c., 40 – Tyulenino, ground burial mound, the XII-XIII c., 41 – Rechky, ancient settlement and sanctuary, the XIII-XIV c.

Sea. The route of intertribal contacts was bound to leave evidence of trading and undoubtedly, military activity of the Scandinavians on several archaeological monuments. The accumulation of the archaeological heritage objects synchronous with the complex of Kaup (ground burial mound-1, Klintsovka/Wickiau /Irzekapinis tract/, settlement Malinovka/Wargenau/ from Prussian "Varangians'settlement"/ silver accessories treasure of the XII c. at Garbik Island, ground burial mounds of Sosnovka/Bledau/Darienen and Muromskoye/Laptau located southward from the Curonian lagoon's coast presented on the map of archaeological monuments of the Curonian lagoon (fig. 5) occupies a certain zone stretched in the line of north-south at the foot of the Curonian spit. A land route or a river itinerary (for example, over the Zelenogradka river, former Kintawa) may be indicated in such a manner. This way led from the Brokist strait and Kaup to the south, deep into the Prussian tribal area. The above-mentioned monuments are with varying degree a reflection of military and trading activity of the Prussians-Semby getting in touch with polyethnic population of the trading and handicraft post of Kaup (fig. 6) located on the ancient coast of the Curonian lagoon in the Viking age. Now it is marked by the railway line of Kaliningrad-Zelenogradsk at the optional halt of Sosnovka.

An accumulation of much fewer archaeological monuments is represented at the Curonian spit, around the diluvial "island" of Rositen (fig. 6). There existed a strait at the tract of Gausutte-Vogelwiese (Kulakov, teplyakov, Puzakova, 2001, p. 10) here (as well as at the present Museum of Nature of the Curonian spit). Dating of these two straits can only be supposed as of the Viking age (there are no data to specify this chronology yet). Might they rival the Brokist strait? Anyway, a estate settlement dated to the period of the greatest flourishing of Kaup – the X c. – was excavated by archaeologists from Balric Archaeological Expedition 5 km southwestward from the strait at the tract of Gausutte-Vogelwiese on the southern dune at Korallen-Berg's tract in 2001 and 2002. According to the results of integrated paleogeographical and archeological research, the present estate was located on a coastal dune (Kulakov, Zhindaryov, Volkova, 2003, p. 105, 106). This made it possible to moor coasting

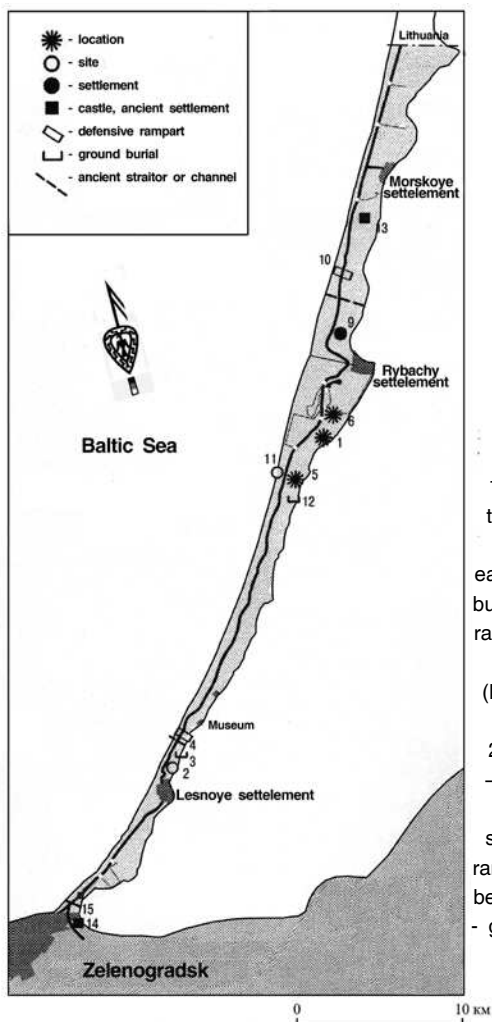


Fig. 6. Archaeological monuments of the southwestern section of the Curonian spit.

1. Krasnorechye (Kunzen) – location of the Bronze Age and early Roman time.
2. – Lesnoye (Saalau) – state of the early Bronze Age.
3. – Lesnoye – ground burial, X – XI c.
4. – Lesnoye – defensive rampart, XIII c.
5. New-Lattenwalde – state of the early Bronze Age.
6. Rybachy (Rossitten) – state-1 of the early Bronze Age.
7. Rybachy (Rossitten) – state-2 of the early Bronze Age.
8. Rybachy – ground burial of the Neolite Age (late Stone Age).
9. Rybachy – ancient settlement, XIII – XIV c.
10. Rybachy – rampart Querwall.
11. Rybachy – Korallenberg settlement, X-XI c.
12. Stangenwalde – ground burial, XII – XIV c.
13. Morskoye (Pillkopen) – ancient settlement Piles Kalns, X – XIII c.

vessels going by the sea at the present point of the Curonian spit (the present mooring principle is unique for the Curonian spit during all the periods of its existence). The present fact undeniably stresses the exclusive character of the Scandinavian and Curonian settlement of the Korallen-Berg period. Though its location on the seashore led to repeated (judging by interlayers with conflagration traces) destruction of this estate by the enemies who came by the sea.

There are two archaeological monuments accumulations dating back to primarily the Viking age on the northern coast of the Curonian lagoon belonging to the Lithuanian republic. The eastern accumulation of the monuments belongs to the western Baltic tribe of Lamats and was related to the basin of the Miniya river. The northern monuments accumulation (fig. 5) was left by the Curonians and located at the basin of the Banga river. The latter accumulation practically rests against the northern corner of the Curonian lagoon without being spread over its coast in an easterly direction. This peculiarity of the spatial archaeology of the Curonian monuments is evidence of absence of the Klaipeda strait in the beginning of the middle ages. The Curonians were active dealers with the population of Gotland Island supplying, in the opinion of Carl Engel, arms, horses and foodstuffs to the Curonian area in the XI c. (Engel, 1931. S. 173). As archaeological finds have shown, the Gotland tradespeople were also interested in the southern coast of the Curonian lagoon (in the first place, Kaup and its outskirts).

Judging by mapping analysis of the Vistula and Curonian lagoons' archaeological monuments, one can conclude that their coasts were not settled in the prehistoric times and in the beginning of the I c. A.D. (Kulakov, 1995, p. 91). The Curonian spit with a big number of seasonal moorages of fishermen, bearers of cultures of laced up ceramics of the Stone Age and the Bronze Age's eve.

The Baltic spit being rather poorly explored in the archaeological respect does not provide any data concerning late Neolithic (or any other) antiquities. The Vistula lagoon's coast attracted Vidivarians of different ethnicities who took part in the Prussian culture formation alongside with Estians' groups. After the end of the period of the great migration of peoples at the southern coast of the Vistula lagoon (to be more exact, on the bank of Druzhno Lake, earlier – a part of the lagoon's water area) the vic of Truso emerged. Later on the vic of Kaup with similar functions emerged at the southwestern end of the Curonian lagoon. However in contrast to Truso, Kaup was related to the Brokist strait cutting the Curonian spit. It should be supposed that water areas of both lagoons were not only rich in fish

but also served as a basement for the Prussians, Curonians and Scandinavians to make trade and military routes urgent in the V-XI c. At the turn of the I-II c. the lagoons were frontiers of the areas of coast-dweller Slavs, Prussians and Curonians. Archaeological finds are directly indicative of the fact that the lagoons' water areas were rather not insuperable spaces but water roads tightly connecting neighbor tribes. It is logical to suppose that the Vistula and Curonian lagoons will be the spaces of contacts between Russian, Polish and Lithuanian neighbor peoples for our contemporaries as well.





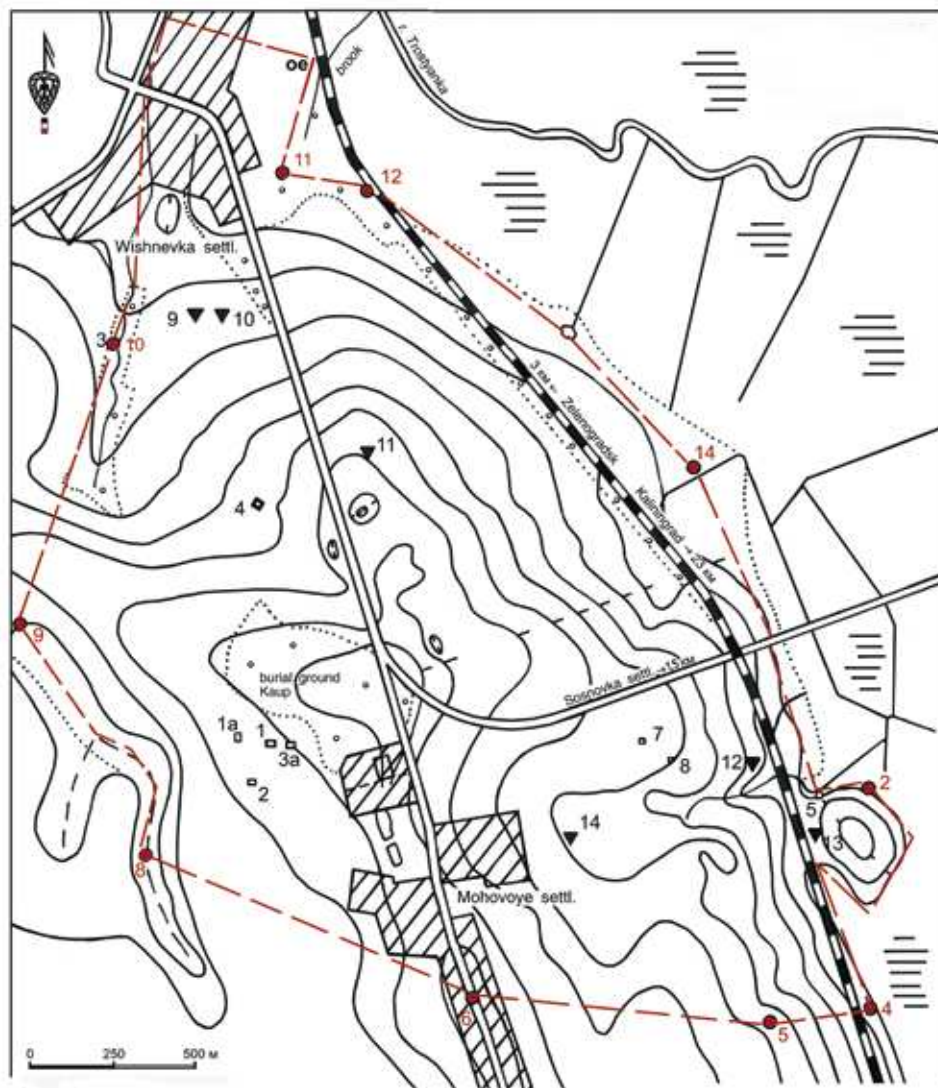
2. Archaeological monuments and finds at the coast of the Curonian lagoon of the Viking age

2.1. Kaup

One of the most interesting groups of archaeological monuments of South-Eastern Baltic, a group of settlements and burial mounds around the forest tract of Kaup, is located on the South-Eastern coast of the Baltic Sea in the northern part of Sambia peninsula (between Vishnyovka and Mokhovoye settlements, the town of Zelenogradsk, the zone of Zelenogradsk of the Kaliningrad region of Russia), 3 km southward from the center of Zelenogradsk. This complex's size is 3 - 1 km (fig. 7) in accordance with up-to-date archaeological research. The toponym of Kaup known from the middle of the XIX c. is translated as "Marketplace" from ancient Islandic (it was this language that northerners spoke in the Viking age) (comparable with the modern Norwegian city of Kaupang, Denmark's capital Copenhagen, etc.)

The first archeological monument in the Kaup tract, a ground burial mound left by the Prussians in the X-XI c. at the border of a present forest was discovered by prime lieutenant Wolf in August, 1865. In 1873 famous Prussian graphic artist and amateur archaeologist Johannes Heideck started systematic excavations of barrows in this burial (fig. 8).

In autumn, 1932 the most large-scale excavations of the barrow and ground burial mound of Kaup, that we are concerned with, classic in terms of Vikings' antiquities of South-Eastern Baltic. Since that time the up-to-date method of archaeological excavations (fig. 9) have been implemented in Kaup. Prominent Swedish archaeologist, Professor Birger Nerman, director of the "Prussia" Museum (Koenigsberg) William Gaerte and archaeologist Peter Paulsen who was young at that time and became the key European specialist in paleosociology and the Vikings' decorative art participated in the Kaup works in 1932. Thus international research of Kaup's antiquities was initiated.



Legend

- 5 — point locations at the border of distribution of cultural settlement layer and the border of its distribution
- ▼ 14 — drilling point for excavation of material for analysis C14

- | | |
|--------------------------|---|
| 1 a - bore pit 1 (1979) | 8 - bore pit 8 (2007) |
| 1 - bore pit 1 (2005) | 9 - analysis C14 - 1160-1259 гг. |
| 2 - bore pit 2 (2005) | 10 - analysis C14 - 1021-1159 гг. |
| 3 - bore pit 3 (2005) | 11 - analysis C14 - 997-829 гг. до н.э. |
| 3 a - bore pit 3a (2006) | 12 - analysis C14 - 667-858 гг. |
| 4 - bore pit 4 (2006) | 13 - analysis C14 - 617-686 гг. н.э. |
| 5 - bore pit 5 (2007) | 14 - analysis C14 - 650-763 гг. н.э. |
| 7 - bore pit 7 (2007) | |

Fig. 7. Plan of the complex of settlements and burial mounds located around the forest tract of Kaup (Zelenogradsk and the zone of Zelenogradsk)



Fig. 8. Profile of the barrow that was excavated by Johannes Heideck in Kaup



Fig. 9. Stages of museumification of a military sepulcher in the barrow K151/ (1938)

In spring 1979 a part of Kaup settlement located southwestward from the forest tract of Kaup was discovered by the Baltic expedition of the Institute of Archaeology of the Academy of Sciences of the USSR. In 2005-2008 in the course of realization of the joint Russian and German scientific project “Suzdal and Mokhovoye/Wiskiauten – observation and research of early medieval settlement zones in the Kaliningrad region and western Russia” (general management from the Russian part – director of the Institute of Archaeology of the Russian Academy of Sciences of the USSR, corresponding member of the RAS N.A. Makarov, from the German part – Professor Doctor Claus von Karnap-Bornheim) realized jointly with Christian-Albrecht’s University of Kiel, it emerged that total acreage of the

group of archaeological monuments of Kaup reaches the proportions of 1900 x 1050 m. This group includes several settlements and burial mounds of the Viking age. (Fig. 10, 11).

During the excavations that have been carried for more than 100 years in Kaup, unique archaeological finds have been discovered. They make it possible to cast light on armament of the Scandinavians (fig. 12, 13) and reveal more facts concerning their everyday life (fig. 14) and beliefs (fig. 15).



Fig. 10. Barrows of Kaup



Fig. 11. Barrows of Kaup. Excavations of V.I. Kulakov



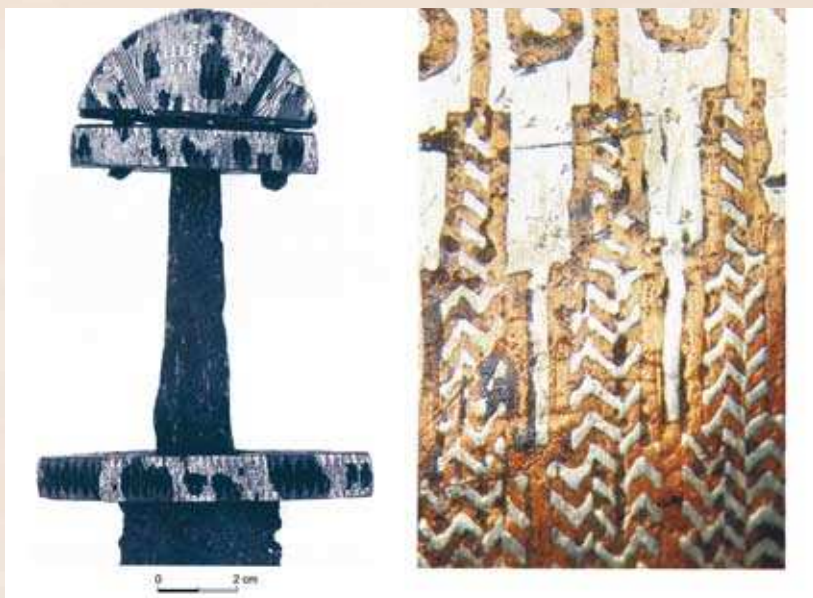


Fig. 12. A sword's handle from the barrow Kaup11/ (left) and a fragment of ornamental pattern on the handle's roofing (right)



Fig. 13. Photo and reconstruction of the sword from Kaup



Fig. 14. A complex of women's accessories and household items from the barrow Kaup127/147-1:

- 1 - a reconstruction of the attire of a woman buried in this barrow is presented.
- 2 - a bronze three-leaved fibula, 3, 4: a,b,c,d - parts of a bronze oval fibula,
- 5 a,b,c - parts of a bronze oval fibula punched with a knife, 7 - a piece of amber,
- 8 - a lower part of an early potter's vessel, 9 - a knife, 10 - scissors



Fig. 15. Images of prophетesses or Valkyries on a fibula from Kaup (excavations of approx. 1939) and analogues of them:

1 – the motif from a fibula of the IX c., 2 – the motif from a fibula of the IX c. from Rimestadt, Sweden, 3, 4 – motifs from a fibula of the VIII, Gotland Island, 5 – an archival photo of a fibula of the X c. from the Kaup burial mound's barrow, 6 – a fibula's fragment from the burial mound of Kaup (The Kaliningrad regional Museum of History and Arts, Inv. № 1729127)

All this scope of knowledge is realized in historical reconstruction of the Viking age events which is annually presented at the Viking Festival "Kaup" (fig. 16).

The field season of 2009 brought discovery of a ground burial mound of the Prussians residing in the settlement of Kaup side by side with the Scandinavians. The Prussians were engaged in trade and handicraft in Kaup and evidently prospered in these fields which was reflected in their funeral implements. Remains of saddles which bows were decorated with carved bone patches with sacral dŭcor (fig. 17) and silver coin-shaped patches are of special interest.

19-20 ИЮЛЯ
Городской парк г. Зеленоградска

**III МЕЖДУНАРОДНЫЙ
ФЕСТИВАЛЬ**
ИСТОРИЧЕСКОЙ РЕКОНСТРУКЦИИ
ДРЕВНЕЙ ПРУССИИ ЭПОХИ ВИКИНГОВ

Кауп

Участвуют клубы реконструкции
России, Литвы, Латвии, Эстонии, Польши

В ПРОГРАММЕ ФЕСТИВАЛЯ:

- Военные состязания - турнир дружины и индивидуальное первенство во владении оружием
- Показательные бои
- Реконструкция сражения дружины Каупа со скандинавскими викингими
- Старинные ремесла, игры и забавы для детей и взрослых: кадушки, кубарь, бобик.

**19 июля с 11 до 20 ч.
20 июля с 11 до 18 ч.**

Фестиваль проводится при поддержке Министерства культуры Калининградской области, проекта 13С15 - "Городские заповеди: культурные и исторические парадоксы коридора юго-восточной Балтики" и Национального парка "Борисовское лесоп.".

Организаторы фестиваля:
Администрация МО "Зеленоградское городское поселение,
Зеленоградский городской краеведческий музей,
Традиционная группа "Говорящая Вода", Клуб исторической реконструкции "Кауп".
www.club-kaup.narod.ru

Fig. 16. A poster of the Viking Festival "Kaup"



Fig. 17. Reconstruction of a sequence of bone patches on a saddle's bow from sepulcher Kaup 34

As the result of hard work associated with historical reconstruction of different life aspects of Kaup settlement's inhabitants realized by Kaliningrad young people within the bounds of activity of the military and historical club "Kaup" and the traditional group «Speaking Water» has made it possible not only to recreate Kaup men and women's accoutrement elements and complexes (fig.18–23) but also demonstrate certain kinds of local handicraft in the process dynamics (fig. 24, 25).



Fig. 18. Practical reconstruction of a Prussian man-at-arms' attire realized by the traditional group «Speaking Water», 2009.



Fig. 19. Reconstruction of appearance of a man-at-arms of Kaup (2005).



Fig. 20. Practical reconstruction of a Prussian commoner's attire realized by the traditional group «Speaking Water», 2005.



Fig. 21. Practical reconstruction of winter attire of Prussian men-at-arms realized by the traditional group «Speaking Water», 2009.



Fig. 22. Recreated Scandinavian attires of a woman and a girl of Kaup of the X c.



Fig. 23. Practical reconstruction of festive winter attire of a married woman of the Scandinavian origin existing in the area of ancient Prussia in the Viking age.

This handicraft embraced generally the sector of local raw materials accumulation and processing (Fig.26). Sparse but quite high-quality amber findings in Kaup indicate the most significant branch of the local industry – amber processing. In the beginning of the 2000 a site of the amber mine that Kaup's residents had used was discovered. It is located approx. 0.5 km eastward from this settlement. The amber extracted here and delivered by land and by sea to Kaup was initially processes and then sold to tradespeople. They, in their turn took the amber (raw materials, semi-manufactured articles and amber produce, in particular, beads) out in their trade boats both by the Neman route up to area of present Vilnius in the east and by sea to Gotland Island and farther to the coast of present South-Eastern Sweden. The second important branch of raw materials processing was horn, bone and possibly



Fig. 24. Materials for handcraft (woolen threads producing) in the Viking age. Historical reconstruction of the traditional group «Speaking Water».



Fig. 25. Handicraft examples of the IX-X c. presented at the Viking Festival "Kaup" in 2007



Fig. 26. Slate swindle whorl from a Prussian burial mound's layer in Kaup

meat stocking for dead storage foodstuffs. This fact is presupposed in view of both finds of horn and bone scraps in the discovered material in the area of Kaup settlement southwestward from the forest tract and discovery of highly artistic samples of bone carving (on plates made of horse and cow ribs) (fig. 17) in the Prussian ground burial mound in the east of Kaup. Archaeological research that has been interruptedly carried out in Kaup for more than one hundred years makes it possible to outline landmarks of this settlement's life:

At the turn of the VII-VIII c. the trading and handicraft post of Truso, a contemporary and partner of Frisian Dorestadt and Danish Ribe emerged in one of the starting points of the "Sambia-Virumaa" trade route at the delta of the Vistula river. According to the above-mentioned tradition, Prussian tradespeople and soldiers residing there took women from Gotland Island to wife (fig. 27).



Fig. 27. Appearance of a Gotlander of the IX c. from the outskirts of Truso (based on data from a burial mound in Elblong)

In the 60s of the IX c. Truso was destructed as a result of a sudden Vikings' raid (probably as a consequence of a radical solution of the competitive problem). Earlier in the beginning of the IX c. the younger analogue of Truso, Kaup emerged at the Brokist strait cutting the Curonian spit at its foundation. Probably since the first years of its existence there emerged a burial mound westward from a fortified elevated plot ("borg") that was gradually driving a zone of free settlement (and seasonal trade) in the outdoor settlement back farther to the west. Kaup was founded by expatriate Gotlanders who left finds of corresponding origin in ancient barrows of Kaup (fig. 28-32).



Fig. 28. Implements from female Gotlanders' sepulchers of the IX c. in Kaup:
 - bit; 2- bronze gold-plated box-type fibula; 3 – bronze fastener-holder for pendants;
 4 – the fragment of iron flint (stone); 5 – bronze bracelet; 6 – shears; 7 – bronze
 fastener-holder with pendant looked as chain and little bell (on the left side – the part of
 this fastener which is presented at the Kaliningrad Regional Museum of History and Arts);
 8 – bronze box-type fibula; 9 – fragment of the fastener-holder;
 10 – bronze decorative key

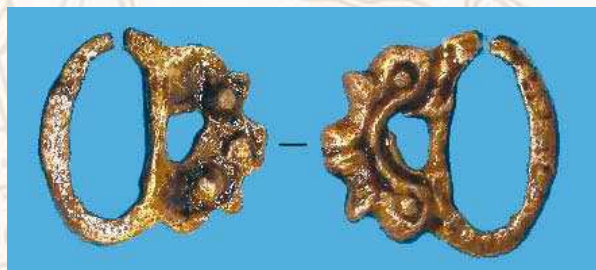


Fig. 29 Bronze buckle, Kaup

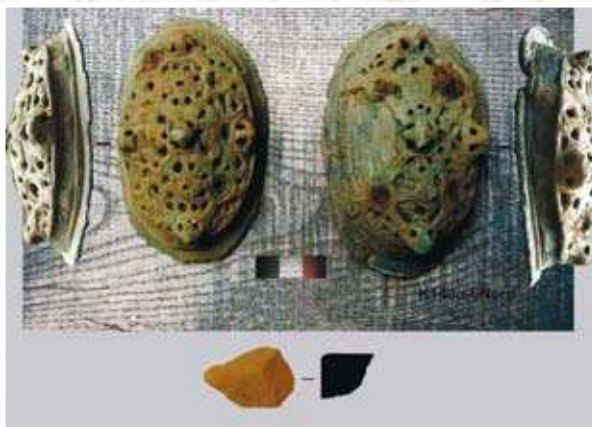


Fig. 30. Womens' bronze fibulas, Kaup



Fig. 31 Mans' bronze fibula, Kaup. (Presented at the Kaliningrad Regional Museum of History and Arts).

Truso and Kaup oriented on amber trade are the first prototown centers. Population of these settlements had eastern trade in their hands which is indicated by discovery of the earliest in Baltic dirham treasuries in the Prussian land (fig.33). In addition luxury goods that had come out of Scandinavian workshops were delivered to Kaup (fig. 34). Also there were discovered the distinctive marks of Prussian warriors on Kaup (fig.35).



Fig. 31 Womens' bronze trilobate fibula, Kaup. (Presented at the Kaliningrad Regional Museum of History and Arts)



Fig. 33. Arab and German coins found in the settlement of Kaup

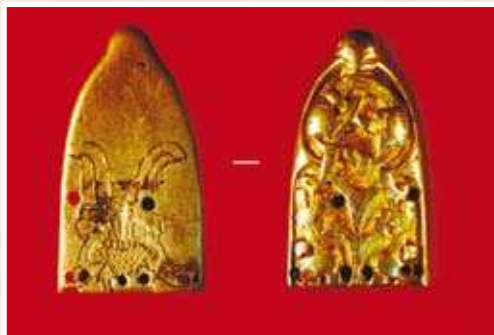


Fig. 34. A sword belt's cap of the X c. discovered in Kaup in about 1939



Fig. 35 Warrior's mark from the Prussian burial Kaup

Such a successful realization of commodity opportunities of Kaup's tradespeople (their basic commodity – amber- was inexhaustible) had attracted Danish traders here since as early as the middle of the X c. In connection with, this separate items associated with the western Baltic sector were discovered in Kaup (fig. 36).

More than that, a detachment of Danish Vikings under the direction of Hakon, a son of well-known sea king Harald the Blue-toothed came to Sambia exactly for the sake of control over Kaup in the middle of the X c. The Danes instituted total control over Kaup and probably, a part of Sambia then but merged with local population rather quickly. It might be possible that appearance of Danes and their Prussian associates among residents of Kaup was the consequence of this event. The latter left their burial mound in the eastern part of Kaup's burial mound (next to the prehistoric barrow K1/) in the area free from Vikings' sepulchers. A "Prussian block" is supposed to be located in Kaup in the northern part of this settlement's area. Remains of Prussian site development of the XI c. were discovered by Timo Ibsen (2006) here in the exploring shaft 4 (Ibsen. 2008, S. 17).

According to Saxon Grammatik's message, sea king Kanut the Great added a considerable part of the Baltic coast to his kingdom in 1014-1016 thus practically making Baltic an enclosed Danish sea. It was in that period when life in Kaup came to a standstill and the trading and handicraft post itself was likely to have been destroyed by the Danes or their western Baltic allies (Prussians and Curonians) by order of Kanut the Great as a strong rival in Danish trade in Baltic.

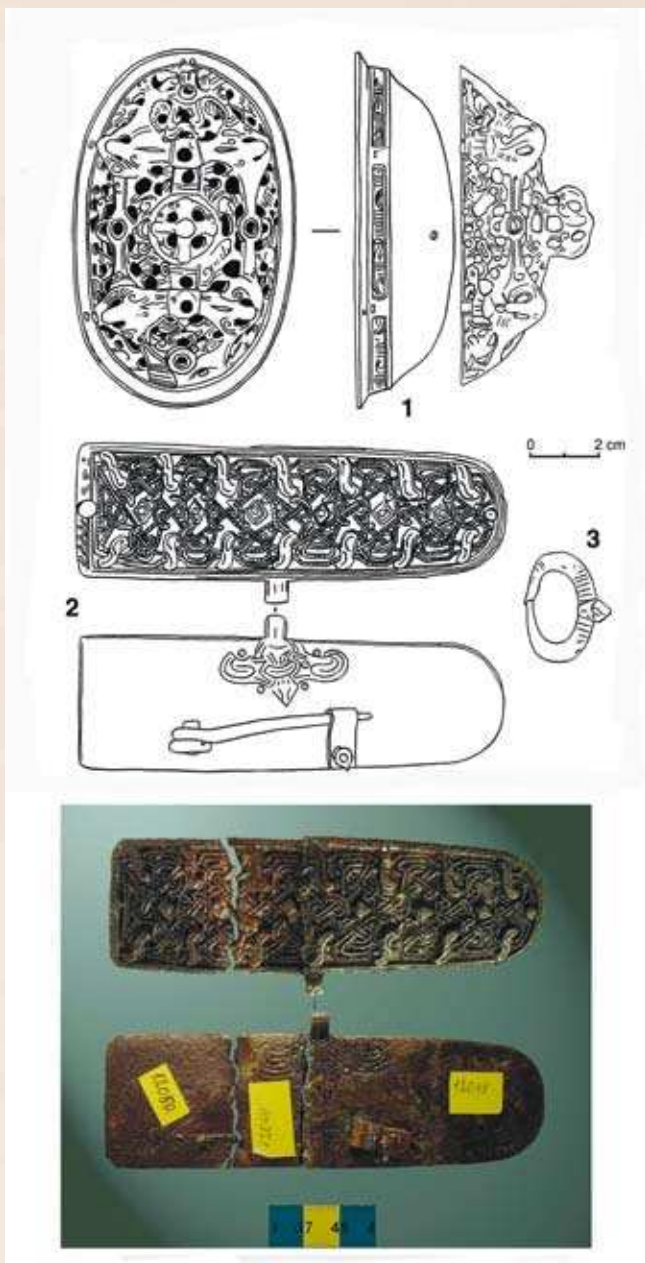


Fig. 36. A Jutland fibula of the X c. included in the implements of the barrow Kaup7/:
 1 – a bronze oval fibula's parts, 2 – a bronze lamellar fibula, 3 – a bronze frame of
 a lyre-shaped buckle, below – a bronze lamellar fibula of the Jutland origin from the
 funds of the Kaliningrad regional Museum of History and Arts.

2.2. The Brokist strait

The Brokist strait (ancient Islandic “Brokist” means “bridge of boxes”, i.e. a pontoon bridge) cut the Curonian spit approximately 0.2 km southwestward from the present road block at the entrance to the National park “Kurshskaya kosa”.

As paleogeomorphological research has shown, this strait was covered with sand in the XII-XIII c. However even now its traces can be seen both from the Curonian spit's water area (fig.37) and from land (fig. 38).



Fig. 37. A view on remains of the Brokist strait covered with sand drifts from the south from the Curonian spit' water area



Fig. 38. The Brokist strait remains covered with the Kaliningrad-Klaipeda highway. A view from the southwest

it is derived from the very name of the strait, it was used by ancient inhabitants of Northern Sambia with specific intents.

When another convoy of merchants' ships approached the strait, it was blocked with boats (as archaeological finds have shown, the Sambians were familiar with light boats of the knarr type). To pass the strait, the merchants were to pay contribution, probably not only in goods but also in specie.

This was one of the sources of inflow of Arab silver coins (dirhams), the main exchange equivalent in the Baltic region and Eastern Europe in the Viking age, to historic Prussia.

2.3. Irzekapinis.

The ground burial mound-1 Klintsovka/Wickiau (Irzekapinis tract – from Prussian “oarsmen’s graves”) (fig.39, 40) is located at the northern coast of Sambia 0.3 km northward from Klintsovka settlement (the zone of Zelenogradsk, the Kaliningrad region). In 1937 German archaeologist Otto Kleeman discovered arms and harness articles alongside with ceramics fragments here and established linkage between them and a Prussian settlement of the Viking age. In April 7, 1977 the Baltic expedition of the Institute of archaeology of the RAS under the direction of Prof. Dr. Kulakov discovered a coaly and ashy patch of approx. 130 x 10 m on the ploughing up surface 0.15 km northward from Klintsovka settlement, 0.1 km eastward from the cross-country road of Klintsovka-Malinovka at a height of 6 m from the sea level. Within the limits of this patch bronze accessories, calcined bones fragments and early pottery ceramics fragments of the XI c. were found. From 1977 to 1986 163 ground sepulchers of the V-XV c. were opened by our expedition.

The burial mound of Irzekapinis became the first in European science monument of Prussian archaeological culture excavated at a modern methodical level on a scale large enough for scientific analysis. The finds discovered in the excavation process testify a high level of material and spiritual culture of the Prussians in the V-XI c. These findings decorate exposition of the Kaliningrad regional Museum of History and Arts and enable the Kaliningrad residents to learn the history of the Amber land



Fig. 39. Ground burial Irzekapinis. Klintsovka settlement, Zelenogradsk district

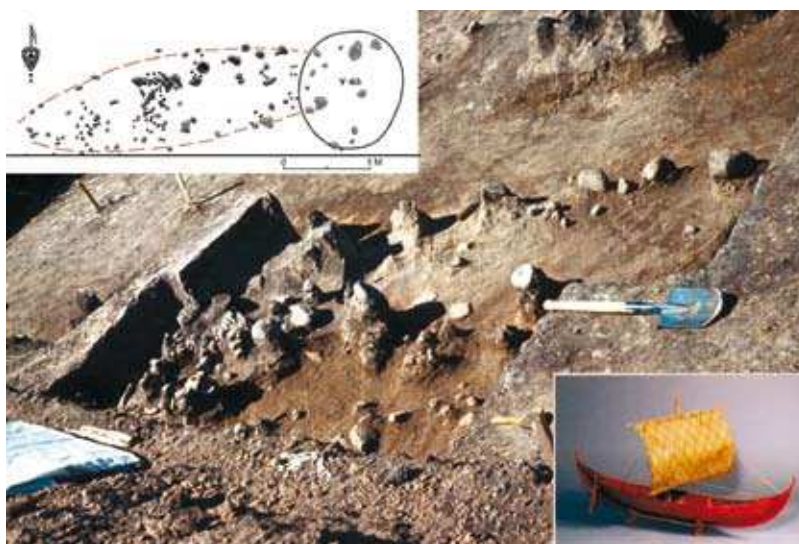


Fig. 40. The plan and reconstruction of the boatshaped laying of the burial Irzekapinis

deeper. Articles of the middle of the XI c., a period following Kaup's destruction and marked by transfer of trade at Sambia's coast to the Prussians' hands, are of special interest. This was reflected in incredible luxury of their implements of the indicated period (fig. 41–44).

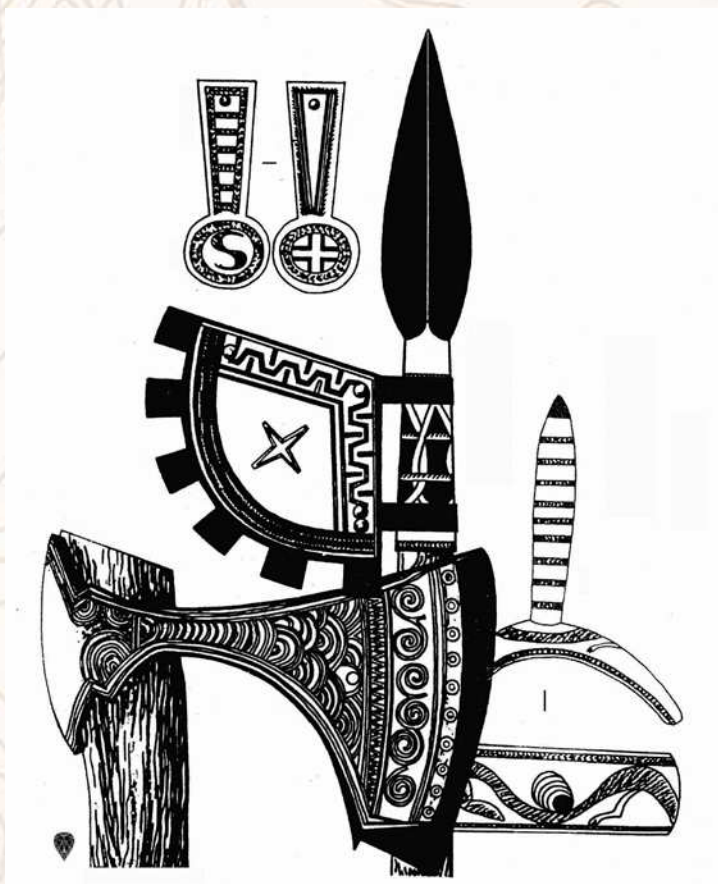


Fig. 41. Reconstruction of arms and military equipment articles from the sep. Y-16 of the Irzekapinis burial mound

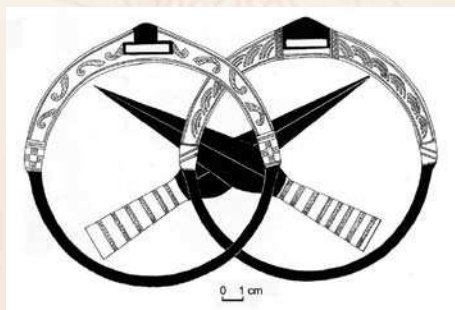


Fig. 42. Reconstruction of equipment from the burial Irzekapinis.
(White color – silver)



Fig. 43. Axe from the burial Irzekapinis

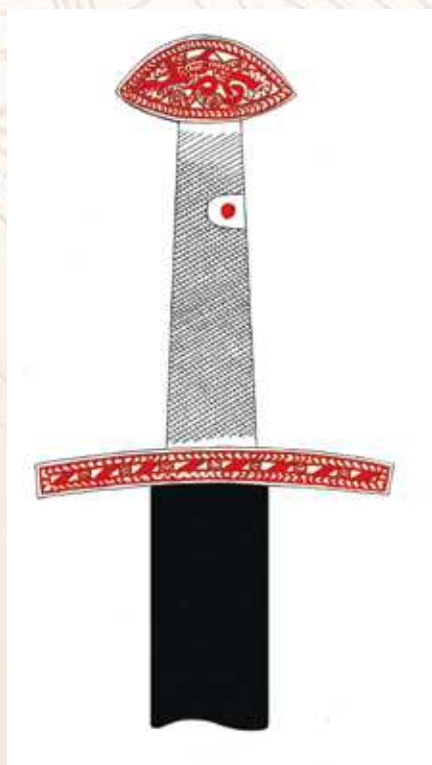


Fig. 44. Reconstruction of sword from the burial Irzekapinis

In the course of excavations in 1977-1986, 163 ground sepulchers of the V – beg. of the XII c. were discovered in the burial mound. The majority of them have distinctions of ritualism typical for the Prussian culture ("temporary" urns, a horse skin in the grave's second layer – fig. 45).



Fig. 45. Reconstruction of the funeral process of a Prussian man-at-arms in the XI c.

However incineration in a boat was detected in nine sepulchers. This ritual feature of Irzekapinis corresponds to its Prussian name translated into Russian as “Oarsmen’s graves” (Kulakov, 1999b,p. 211). As a rule, arma and equipment sets of the Scandinavian origin are presented in the above-mentioned sepulchers of the end of the X –beg. of the XI c., as well as in separate graves with Prussian ritualism features. Even the first European coat of arms – a Prussian military badge of the turn of the X-XI c. which samples were discovered in Irzekapinis – was made according to Scandinavian traditions (fig. 46). Similar images are known from Prussian sepulchers in Kaup (fig.33).



Fig. 46. The Prussian military badge presented as a horse pendant from the sep. Y-52 of the Irzekapinis burial mound. On the right – coat of arms of the Baltic expedition of the IA of the RAS

The stated peculiarities of incineration on a boat on the side (which is nonsense for the Scandinavians) of Irzekapinis indicate locals’ participation in carrying out of the rite of the Scandinavian origin. Thus in particular, a Scandinavian tribal chief from the sep. Y-16 residing in the Prussian environment was buried (fig. 47).



Fig. 47.Reconstruction of the tribal chief's attire buried in the sep. Y-16 of the Irzekapinis burial mound

This phenomenon can be explained by residing of a group of Scandinavian warriors among the local Prussians. The amount of their implements in graves grew drastically after destruction of Kaup in the beginning of the XI c. This peculiarity of a number of Irzekapinis graves might be a result of Scandinavian “trophy” acquisition by the Prussian soldiers from destructed Kaup or a consequence of the drift of the population away from ravaged Kaup to neighboring Prussian settlements. One of them was the following settlement located 2.2 km northwestward from Kaup.

2.4. Colony-2 Malinovka/Wargenau

Colony-2 Malinovka/Wargenau (from Prussian “Varangians’ community”) (the zone of Zelenogradsk, the Kaliningrad region) is located in the northeastern outskirts of Malinovka settlement, on the northern side of Morskaya St (fig.48). The colony’s area, judging by excavated material distribution amounts to 200 square meters. Judging by the identity of ceramic findings of the Irzekapinis burial mound located 0.3 km southward from this settlement, inhabitants of Malinovka/Wargenau colony buried their deceased in its graves. Remains of a semi dugout with walls of pole construction (fig. 49) and a wattle and daub arched stove were discovered in the course of excavations in 1979.



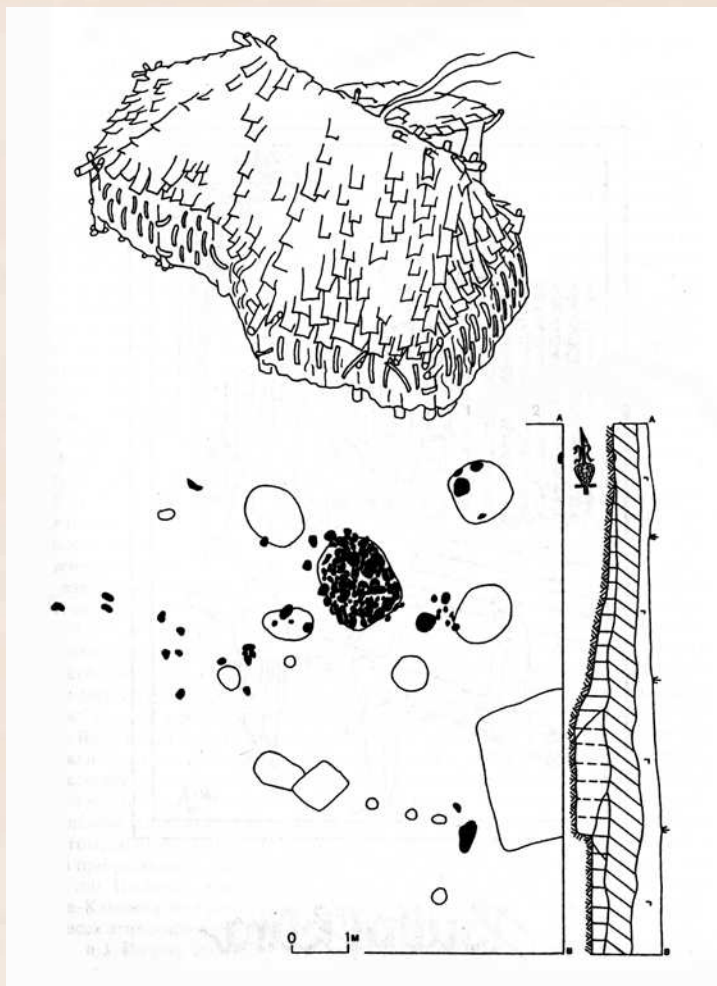


Fig. 49. Reconstruction and a plan of a dugout of the X-XI c.
(colony-2 Malinovka)

According to the discovered fragments of circular ceramics of the Gdansk type, the present community is dated to the turn of the X-XI c. The Prussians and Scandinavians buried in the Irzekapinis graves were likely to reside in this settlement. The first Christian missionary of Prussia, St. Woizeh-Adalbert was supposed to have visited this place in April. 997; his destination was apparently Kaup (Kulakov, 1993, p. 39).

2.5. Treasure on Garbik Island

The treasure on Garbik Island (Zelenogradsk, the Kaliningrad region). Judging by paleographical reconstruction, the tract of Garbik situated 2 km southeastward from the center of Zelenogradsk, was an island on the right bank of the Zelenogradka/Beek river at the site of its opening in the Viking age (Engel, 1935. Abb. 59).

The tract (or ancient settlement) of Garbik was destroyed approximately in 1895 during construction of Künigsberg-Kranz highway. Now there is a creamery of Zelenogradsk at the site of this tract.

The Garbik treasure is one of the least known treasures of Northern Europe and Baltic hidden in the Viking age. Simultaneous findings of a shaped silver round fibula of the "Gotland type" with rod-like grivnas of the "Lithuanian" type enable us to refer the Garbik treasure to the turn of the XI-XII c. Bulged lamellar fibulas of the "Gotland type" go back to round lamellar fasteners of the X-XI c. and are dated to the XI-XII c. (Janson, 1996. p. 62-64). Rod-shaped silver bars were registered in the area of Lithuania in the end of the XI – beg. of the XII c. and their weight corresponded to "... a half of Novgorod's silver grivna /204,5 g/ or a Scandinavian mark /204 g/» (Bektineev, 1989, p. 102). It is curious that the Gabrik treasure is dated later than the time of relatively hypothetical destruction of neighboring Kaup settlement (2.2 km southwestward from Garbik). However at the end of the XI c., judging by material from the exploring shaft 4, the Scandinavians could have been substituted by the Prussians and Curonians here.

2.6. Korallen-Berg settlement

The settlement of Korallen-Berg (Süd) (the Curonian spit) is situated 4 km westward from Rybachy settlement, 31 km northeastward from Kaup. The settlement is located in a local dune the surface of which is matted and covered with coniferous forest (fig.50). The paleomorphological research carried out here has shown that this dune currently separated from the water's edge of the Baltic Sea by a sand beach and dune drifts 0.1 m wide, was an avandune (advance-dune) dune in the Viking age (fig. 51) with sea waves battering against its foot.

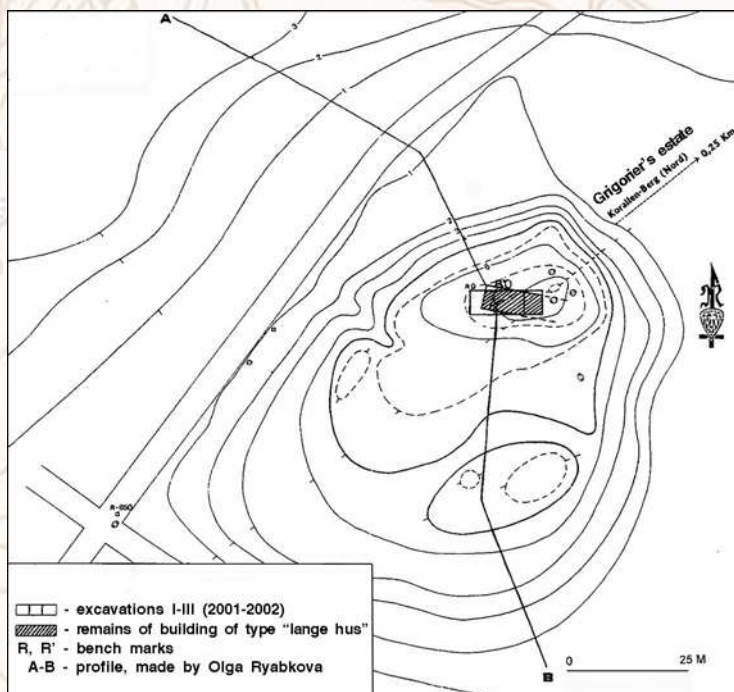


Fig. 50. Plan of Korallen-Berg settlement

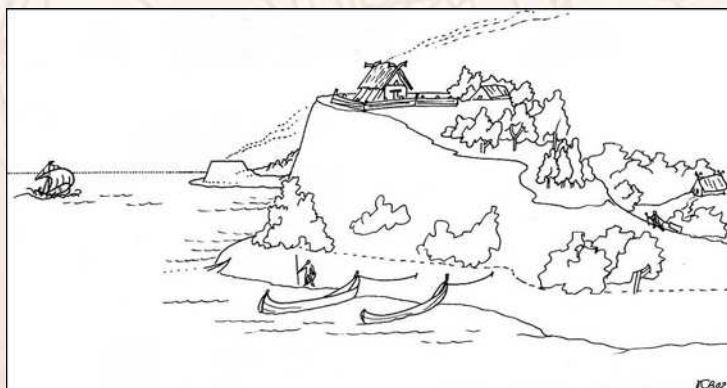


Fig. 51. A view from the south on the southern dune of Korallen-Berg in the Viking age

As a result of active nature conservation activity carried out at the Curonian spit in the XIX c., the surface of the southern dune of Korallen-Berg was fixed thus having covered ancient cultural layers with a heavy sand layer of atmospheric origin. In the course of excavations in 2001, 2002 and 2008 remains of a pole construction included in an estate of the X-XI c. were discovered (fig. 52).

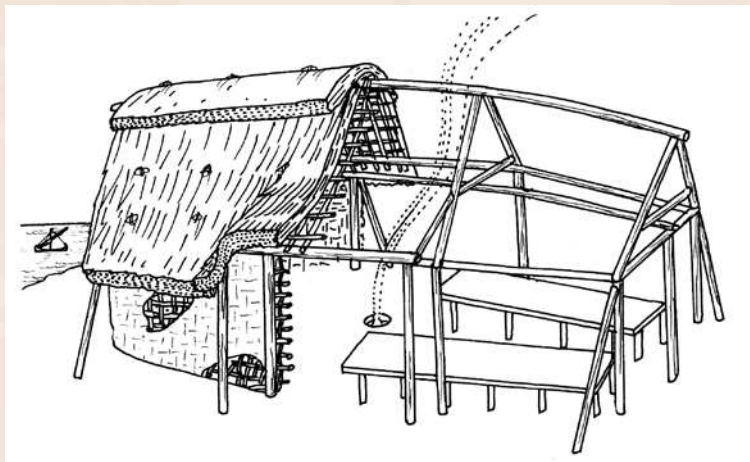


Fig. 52. Reconstruction of an estate of the X c. which remains have been excavated at the southern dune of Korallen-Berg

The estate that survived two construction periods was a staying place for teams of the coasting vessels going along the Curonian spit between Kaup and the lower Neman. A wide scope of findings in Korallen-Berg makes it possible to recreate the handicrafts that permanent residents of the settlement and their guests were occupied with (laying-in of horn, bone and dried meat, vessel repairing, possibly tribute collection from the population, providing of coastwise trade security along the Curonian spit's coast)(fig.53-55). A small amber mine that was located nearby enabled people to found a small amber workshop here at the end of the X c. A master made flat amber plates (some of them have been discovered during excavations) that could be used for instance, for casket and small chest and decoration. Finds of circular ceramics with pole axe-shaped collars typical for Kiev vessels of the second half of the X c. at the estate

of Korallen-berg indicate that the Middle Dnieper area was a residential zone of business partners of the estate's dwellers.

Judging by the finds, both the Scandinavians (including Gotlanders) and the Curonians left their traces in the Korallen-Berg estate (Kulakov, Zhindaryov, Volkova, 2003, p. 99, 100). The ceramics that they owned (fig.56) have been encountered in synchronous settlements in the lower Neman – the ancient settlement of Birutės kalns and Žardė colony.



Fig. 53. Slit of the pise-walled hearth, Korallen-Berg



Fig. 54. Bone comb, Korallen-Berg



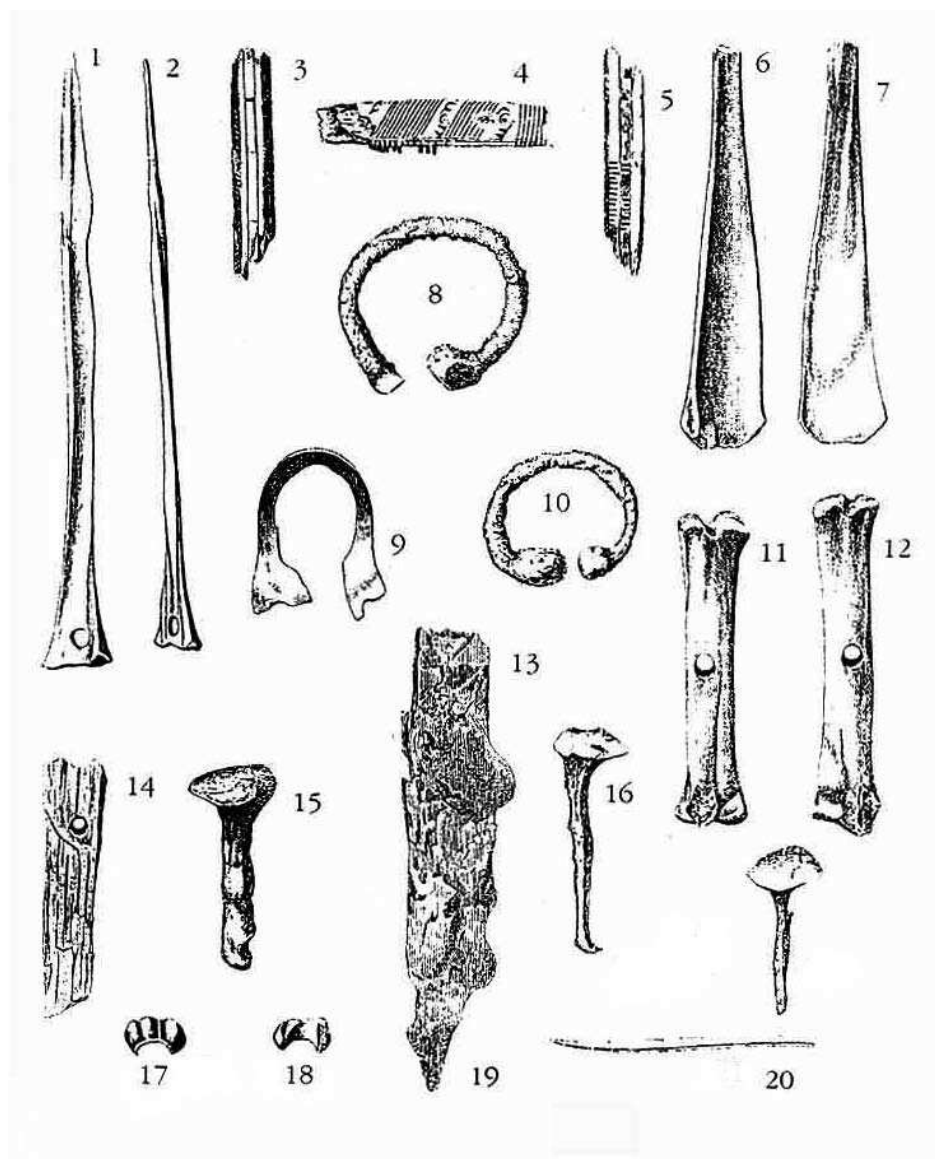


Fig. 55. Findings from the Korallen-Berg settlement:

1,2- bone needles; 3-5 – corneous comb; 6,7 – bone spoon; 8,10 – bronze fasteners-fibulas; 9 – bronze staple from boiler; 11,12 – bone handicrafts of the type “uzhykils”; 13 – fragment of the fighting knife; 14 – handled bone; 15,16,18 – nails; 17,20 – fragment of the glass bead; 21 – bone needle

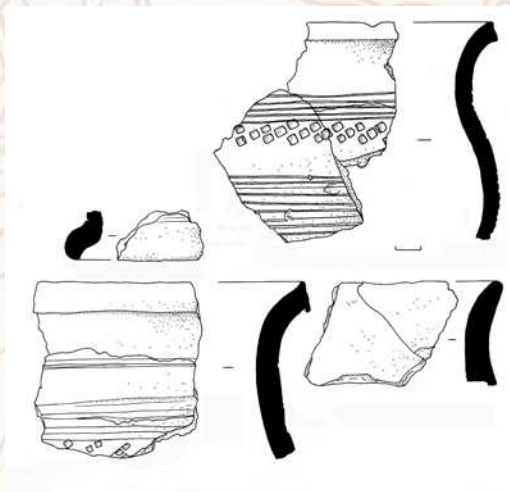


Fig. 56. The ceramics fragments found among a house's remains in Korallen-Berg

Residents of these settlements and the Korallen-berg estate evidently were connected by business contacts. The sailors who stayed in Korallen-Berg could penetrate into the Curonian lagoon through the nearby Gausutte-Vogelwiese strait (Kulakov, 2005b. S. 178). If it is rather complicated to identify this strait due to its being intensively swamped, then the artificial strait of Sarkau-Bruch located 10 km southwestward from Korallen-Berg settlement is well-preserved. In winter it is even filled with water again (fig. 57).

The above-mentioned two straits could supposedly serve as Brokist's alternative ways for merchants' convoys to penetrate through the Curonian spit.



Fig. 57. The Sarkau-Bruch view from the south



3. The situation along the Vistula (Kaliningrad) lagoon's coast in the Viking age

As for the Vistula (Kaliningrad) lagoon's coast, a settlement at the site of the present city of Kaliningrad (Kunigsberg) can be related to the Viking age. The present settlement could have been found by an international detachment controlling the trade route along the Pregel River and located on the elevation of Tuwangste ("Conungaberg") predominant in the lower Pregel (fig.58).

Its existence at the turn of the X-XI c. is confirmed by materials from the burial mound of Sovkhoznoye/Gr.-Friedrichsberg. The findings associated with activity of warriors of a high status, presumably tribal chiefs of the Scandinavian origin (Kulakov, 1999c, p. 222). The find of a single-blade sword that was found in the waves apparently as a result of sacrifice in water traditional for the Germans indicates the presence of Scandinavian warriors at the site of the future Order's castle of



Fig. 58. Space survey of the place where Royal Castle of Königsberg was stand (2007). The enclosed place – excavations of the Prussian ancient settlement Twangste. (source: www.google.ru)

Koenigsberg. In the beginning of the XX c. a Scandinavian single-blade sword was also found in the Pregel river in Koenigsberg (at Kneiphof Island) (fig.59).

Similar river sacrifices were offered up by the Scandinavians to gods of water and welter after passing a complicated route along rivers and lagoons. The swords, evidence of the Scandinavians' sacrificial offerings of the Viking age at the South-Eastern coast of the Baltic Sea were discovered in the mouths of the Neman and Daugava rivers (Torbrügge, 1972. S. 118, Beilage 4,1).

The second complex of historical data related to the past of the Kaliningrad lagoon's areas in the Viking age are local toponyms and hydronyms. Thus historical name of the bays in the northern part of the lagoon's water area (Sconewiek) and along its southern part (Schelisch Wiek, Gawickenberg) (fig. 3) indicate a connection between these names and the ancient Islandic term "wik" ("trading center", "bay").

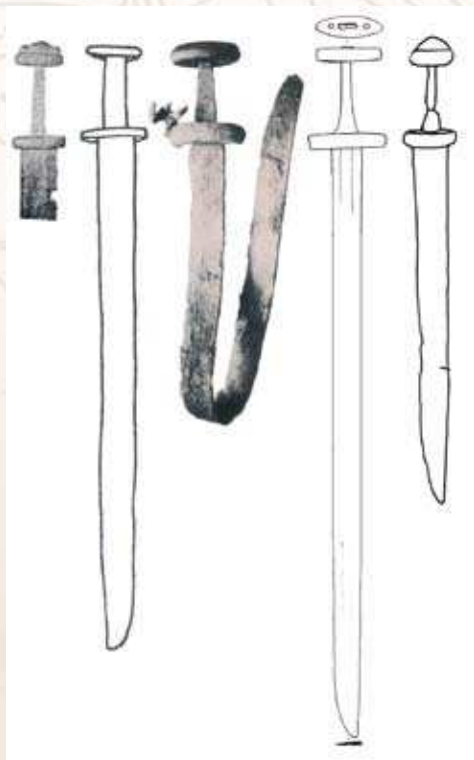


Fig. 59. Single-blade swords of Prussia.
On the left side – the sword from Pregel river



Conclusion

The archaeological monuments presented in the Catalogue arouse great scientific interest. As an outcome of 35 years of work of the Baltic expedition of the Institute of archaeology of the Russian Academy of science in Northern Sambia, a data block formerly unknown to the science concerning contacts between local tribes and the Scandinavians at the turn of the I and II c. A.D. has been formed. Research of the archaeological monuments at the foot of the Curonian spit has made it possible to outline main stages of dynamic development of the Neman trade route that became one of the reasons for statehood formation in South-Eastern Baltic. It was within the limits of this interethnic contacts route where Grand Duchy of Litovsky came into being, probably as an instrument of control over its uninterrupted activity. Due to great historic and as we can see, political importance of the archaeological monuments at the Curonian spit's foot next to the ancient Brokist strait, their demonstration will be of great interest for tourists from different countries and of different orders.

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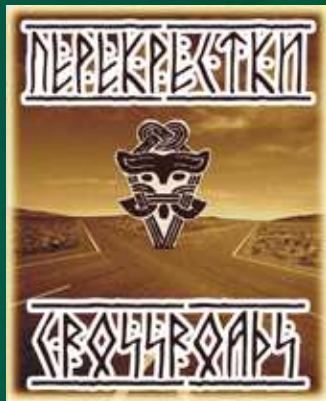
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