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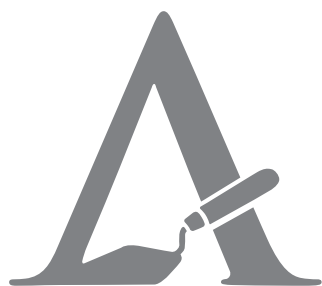
ARCHAEOLOGICA RESSOVIENSIA

VOLUME **17** RZESZÓW 2022



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(review) E. Tomczak, A. Szczepanek and P. Jarosz. *Gogolin-Strzebnów, stanowisko 12. Cmentarzysko kultury łużyckiej na Wyżynie Śląskiej [Gogolin-Strzebnów, site 12. Cemetery of the Lusatian culture in the Silesian Upland]* (= *Ocalone Dziedzictwo Archeologiczne* 11). Pękowice 2021: Wydawnictwo Profil-Archeo, 147 pages.

A monograph of the cemetery in Gogolin-Strzebnów was published in 2022 as part of the *Ocalone Dziedzictwo Archeologiczne* publishing series. The presented publication, by Eugeniusz Tomczak, Anita Szczepanek and Paweł Jarosz, is the first comprehensive presentation of the materials obtained during the excavations of the Late Bronze Age biritual necropolis. In the 1970s, only mentions appeared in the literature in the form of reports on archaeological research (Tomczak 1973; Macewicz *et al.* 1975) and presentations of foundry moulds discovered at the aforementioned cemetery (Tomczak 1975; 2005).

The monograph in question presents a study of the results of the rescue excavations that took place 50 years ago in Gogolin-Strzebnów. The work consists of 11 main chapters, with a clear division into two parts. The first part of the publication is a classical analysis of archaeological material and consists of seven chapters. The considerations begin with an introduction, presenting the history of research at the site and its location in the field. Subsequent chapters contain typical archaeological analyses in the form of a description of individual graves, stylistic and typological studies of the monumental inventory, planigraphy of the cemetery and grave forms, and relative and radiocarbon chronometry. In contrast, the second part of the work presents the results of modern and specialized interdisciplinary studies. It begins with an anthropological analysis of the bone remains discovered in the cemetery (by Anita Szczepanek). This is followed by the presentation of the results of paleodemographic analyses, including those on the paleodiet of those buried in the necropolis (by Anita Szczepanek and Paweł Jarosz). Also presented are strontium and

neodymium isotope analyses to determine the origin of the population buried in the cemetery and the provenance of the foundry moulds discovered in grave 24 (by Zdzisław Bełka). The part of the work devoted to specialized analyses closes with studies on the identification of traces of the use of ceramic and stone foundry moulds recorded during excavations in Gogolin-Strzebnów (by Aldona Garbacz-Klempka and Karol Dziągiewski). The layout of the publication is therefore clear and understandable to the reader.

The first chapter, which is also the introduction of the study, contains general information on the history of the research of site 12 in Gogolin-Strzebnów. The site was discovered as a result of sand mining, which prompted rescue excavations in 1972 under the direction of Eugeniusz Tomczak. The extraction of raw material led to the partial destruction of the cemetery. The excavations uncovered a total of 71 graves (skeletal and corporeal), which form the source and analytical base of the reviewed work. This is a flat, biritual cemetery, which is located in the westernmost part of the Silesian Upland. Due to the specifics of its burial rites, it is typical of the Częstochowa-Gliwice subgroup of the Upper Silesian-Lesser Poland group of Late Bronze Age Lusatian culture.

The second chapter contains detailed information about the graves discovered at the site. It has the form of a descriptive catalogue including the characteristics of each burial, an inventory of the discovered relics and an anthropological analysis made for the graves in which bone material was recorded.

The third chapter focuses on analyses of the source material. The descriptions include a division of the monuments into pottery, items made of bronze,

and moulds. Typological and classificatory analyses begin with the description of pottery. Their division was made, highlighting such features as the form of the vessels, manufacturing technology and ornamentation. On this basis, the following types of vessels were distinguished: vases, pots, bowls, scoops, mugs, goblets and “snuff boxes”. The second category of relics from site 12 in Gogolin-Strzebnów are items made of bronze. Functionally, they can be classified as ornaments, with wire-shaped ornaments and bronze buttons predominating. Then the authors of the monograph proceed to the description of the moulds discovered from grave 24. They were made of two types of raw material – clay or sandstone. In addition, the subsection is supplemented with information on the bronzing of the Lusatian culture and touches on issues related to the so-called graves of craftsmen. In the compilation of the literature used to discuss this issue, in addition to the traditional studies relating to the burials of craftsmen, the authors of the monograph supplemented the information using current literature showing a synthetic view of the issues presented.

The next chapter is devoted to aspects of the distribution of graves in the cemetery and elements of burial rites. A total of 71 graves (including 29 cremation burials and 38 inhumation burials) were discovered at the site, which, due to their homogeneous furnishings and lack of burial build-up, should be considered contemporary with each other. The authors of the monograph, after conducting planigraphic analyses of the cemetery, confirmed the regularity that the orientation of the graves (inhumation and cremation) is dominated by the location of the cavities on the northwest-southeast line, which is a characteristic feature of the Upper Silesian-Lesser Poland group.

Notes on the chronology of the Gogolin-Strzebnów cemetery are presented in chapter five. As a result of the calibration of the obtained radiocarbon determinations (only bone samples were used for ^{14}C studies), the necropolis ceased to function at the end of the Period IV and Period V according to Oscar Montelius and can be synchronized with periods HaB2–HaB3 according to Paul Reinecke/Hermann Müller-Karpe. The absolute chronology of the cemetery’s functioning corresponds to the morphological and stylistic features of the vessels discovered at the site and is related to the 10th century BC and the first half of the 9th century BC.

The second part of the monograph focuses on a presentation of the results of specialized interdisciplinary studies. The first part presents an anthropological analysis of the human remains discovered at

the cemetery. At the beginning, the methods of the adopted research procedure were discussed in order to determine the following: the smallest number of people buried in the site, the age and sex of the deceased. Anthropological analyses also took into account data relating to the degree of burning of the bones and a determination of their weight. The chapter is enriched with a plan of the cemetery, tables and charts showing all the anthropological parameters analysed in the chapter.

The next chapter of this part of the monograph shows information on the paleodiet of individuals buried in skeletal graves in the Gogolin-Strzebnów cemetery. The introductory issues focus on presenting the research procedure of analyses using stable isotopes of carbon ($\delta^{13}\text{C}$) and nitrogen ($\delta^{15}\text{N}$). It should be noted that the use of this type of specialized analysis makes it possible to observe and reconstruct the life strategies of prehistoric communities, where, through comparative analyses of the data obtained with other archaeological sources, it is possible to infer the use of the environment by these populations. On the basis of stable isotope analyses of carbon and nitrogen for human and animal remains taken from the cemetery, the authors confirmed the type of economy characteristic of Lusatian communities, which is based on a sedentary lifestyle with a dominant role played by land cultivation.

The next chapter, presenting specialized analyses, covers the use of strontium isotope ratios ($^{87}\text{Sr}/^{86}\text{Sr}$) to determine the provenance of the population buried in the Gogolin-Strzebnów cemetery. Based on the study of 12 bone samples taken from both inhumation and cremation burials, the author of the analyses obtained results allowing 10 of the studied individuals to be considered local, as the strontium isotope ratio obtained is within the signatures obtained for the local geological substrate. And for the remaining two individuals (i.e., bone remains from graves 59 and 63), the strontium isotope ratio is outside the area of the signatures obtained for the local geological substrate, hence they were considered to be of non-local provenance. In addition, analyses of the isotopic composition of neodymium ($\delta^{143}\text{Nd}/\delta^{144}\text{Nd}$) were carried out for selected moulds to determine the origin of the raw material from which they were made. The analyses allowed the authors to conclude that the clay mould material was of local origin, while the sandstone moulds analysed were most likely made from material which was Scandinavian in origin.

The last chapter presenting specialized analyses shows the identification of traces of the use of stone

and clay moulds recorded in a skeletal grave, which was interpreted as the so-called grave of a craftsman (grave 24). The artefacts were subjected to macroscopic and microscopic observations and chemical composition studies using energy dispersive X-ray fluorescence technique (ED-XRF). The purpose of these analyses was to record and identify traces of their use. The chapter was enriched with photographs showing traces of the use of the moulds, along with marking the locations of spectral measurements and maps of the distribution of copper, tin and lead on the fragments of individual moulds. Diagrams of XRF spectra for the monuments analysed in the chapter are also presented.

The reviewed publication focuses primarily on the material aspects of the site, while touching on many interesting issues in the field of interdisciplinary research. In conclusion, it is worth noting that modern archaeology should draw inspiration from many related scientific disciplines, which is presented in the reviewed monograph. Its authors emphasized the fact that *przeprowadzone analizy pokazują potencjał poznawczy tkwiący w materiałach pochodzących z tak zwanych „dawnych” badań, które stają się w ten sposób częścią nowoczesnej, interdyscyplinarnej archeologii [the conducted analyses show the cognitive potential*

of materials from traditional research, which are becoming part of modern, interdisciplinary archaeology] (p. 104). The use of specialized analyses using archaeological data enabled the authors of the monograph to identify issues in a broader and more detailed manner: paleodiet, provenance of the population buried in the cemetery, origin of moulds, and the analysis of traces of their use.

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