

AN EARLY TARAND-GRAVE AND CLEARANCE CAIRN AT TÕUGU, NORTH ESTONIA

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In connection with investigations on prehistoric agricultural systems and settlement history in North Estonia¹, archaeological excavations were carried out at Tõugu, 65 km east of Tallinn. There are several stone graves and remains of different field systems known in the lands of present-day villages of Vatku, Tõugu and Võhma. In 1969—1972, a large stone grave consisting of three smaller stone-cist graves and one *tarand*-grave with three sections (*tarand*'s) was excavated by Tanel Moora at Võhma Tandemägi.² These graves can be dated to the Late Bronze Age and Pre-Roman Iron Age. Interestingly enough, this old-established settlement area was not mentioned in the list of villages of *Liber Censu Daniae* composed at the beginning of the 13th century — the villages mentioned above seem to be either late Medieval, or else forgotten by recorders.³

In 1993, a new grave was chosen for excavations at Tõugu (Plate VI, 1), 1.3 km north-west of the grave at Võhma Tandemägi. At the same time, one clearance cairn in the vicinity of the grave was also investigated.

Only the easternmost part of the grave was uncovered and partially excavated in 1993. It became evident that the central part of the grave was rather widely destroyed, probably by a trench in one of the 20th century wars. Burials too were disturbed by this destruction, and numerous uncremated bones were spread over the central portion of the grave. However, it seems that the main structures, i. e. the stone walls of the grave, were still preserved. Three walls of one rectangular enclosure (*tarand*) and one stone cist were discovered during the excavations (Plate VI, 2; VII 1—2). The north-eastern wall was 7.3 m long and consisted merely of granite stones in its southern part and both granite and limestone slabs in its northern portion (Plate VII, 2). The north-western wall consisted mainly of limestone slabs, but was destroyed in its westernmost section (Plate VII, 1). The southern part of the *tarand*, and its south-eastern wall consisted merely of granite stones (Plate VII, 2: left). The cist mentioned above, being 180 cm long and 50—55 cm wide and having an east—west orientation, was also built of granite stones (Plate VI, 2). It contained an inhumation burial without grave goods and was most likely of secondary origin.

With two small exceptions only uncremated bones occurred in the grave. Grave goods were very rare: only one narrow undecorated bracelet of bronze, a grinding stone and about 100 potsherds were found.⁴ This pottery is quite coarse-grained and mainly with slightly striated surfaces,

¹ See, for instance: Lang, V. Celtic and Baltic fields in North Estonia. Fossil field systems of the Late Bronze Age and Pre-Roman Iron Age at Saha-Loo and Proosa. — *Acta Archaeologica*, in press.

² Moora T. Раскопки каменного могильника у с. Выхма в Северной Эстонии. — *Изв. АН ЭССР. Обществ. н.*, 1974, 23, 1, p. 84—87.

³ Tarvel, E. Lahemaa ajalugu. Tallinn, 1983, p. 26—29.

⁴ AI 6003.

and it is regarded to be Pre-Roman. In this way, the *tarand*-grave at Tõugu may belong to the group of early *tarand*-graves as also the grave at Võhma Tandemägi did.⁵ Excavations in this grave will be continued.

Just beyond the Tõugu graves, to the east, there is a group of small clearance cairns. These cairns are usually 2—4 m in diameter and 20—30 cm high, containing, as a rule, 1—3 big stones and a heap of smaller stones in between (Plate VIII, 1). Such clearance cairns are widely distributed in the lands of Tõugu and Võhma villages, and in some places there are long and rather high stony baulks to be seen as well. In 1993, half of one of the most typical clearance cairns was uncovered (Plate VIII, 2). It contained 3—4 big granite stones which stood in their original place, and some layers of smaller stones, mainly limestone slabs. Some fragments of animal bones were found in the cairn, and pieces of charcoal were gathered from between the lowermost stones and bedrock. This charcoal was analysed in the Laboratory of the Institute of Geology, Estonian Academy of Sciences, and dated to 1180±97 BP. The mapping of local field remains as well as further archaeological excavations will be a subject of the coming years.

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⁵ Lang, V. Über die Formierung der frühen Tarandgräber im östlichen Ostseegebiet. — *Congressus Septimus Internationalis Fenno-Ugristarum*, Debrecen, 27. VIII—2. IX 1990. *Sessiones sectionum dissertationes historica, archaeologica et anthropologica*. Debrecen, 1990, p. 308—313.

VARANE TARANDKALME JA PÖLLUKIVIHUNNIK TÕUGUL

Valter LANG

Seoses muistsete maaviljelussüsteemide ning asustuse uurimisega Põhja-Eestis laiendati 1993. aastal välitoid Vatu—Tõugu—Võhma piirkonda. Alustati ühe suure kivilalme uurimist ning kaevati läbi pool ühest lähedal asunud põllukivihunnikust. Põllujäänete ja kalmete plaanistamist kavandatakse järgmisteks aastateks, samuti tahetakse jätkata kaevamisi.

Kalmest avati vaid selle idapoolmik, mida jõuti kaevata osaliselt (tahv. VI, VII). Kalme keskosa oli üsna ulatuslikult lõhutud, siin olnud matuste luud olid laiali loobitud. Avastati kalme idapoolseima tarandi kolm ääremüüri, neljas jäi ilmselt kaevamata alasse. Müürid koosnesid kas raudkivialusel paeplaatidest või ainult raudkividest; otsmise, loode—kagu-suunalise müüri pikkus oli 7,3 m. Tarandi lõunaossa oli hiljem sisse ehitatud raudkividest kirst (tahv. VI, 2), milles avastati panusteta laibamatus. Põletamata olid ka kõik teised leitud luud, v. a. kaks väikest, nõrgalt põletatud luukildu. Leiumaterjal oli kasin, koosnedes ühest õhukest pronkskäävõrust, jahvektivist ning 100 savinõukillust, mis pärinevad ilmselt eelrooma rauaajast.

Tõugu ja Võhma küla maadel asub rohkesti väikesi kamardunud põllukivihunnikuid, millest 1993. aastal uuriti ühte. Selles kuhilas (tahv. VIII) oli 3—4 suuremat rahnu, mis seisid nähtavasti oma algsel kohal. Suurte kivide ümber ja vahele oli visatud mitu kihti väiksemaid kive, peamiselt paetükke. Kaevamistel leiti mõni loomaluukild ning kivide alt ka sütt. Viimase dateerimine radiosüsiniku meetodil andis tulemuseks 1180 ± 97 aastat tagasi.

РАННИЙ МОГИЛЬНИК С ОГРАДКАМИ И ОСТАТКИ ДРЕВНИХ ПОЛЕЙ В ТЫГУУ

Вальтер ЛАНГ

В связи с изучением истории землепользования и древнего заселения Северной Эстонии полевые работы в 1993 г. были расширены до Ватку—Тыгуу—Выхма. Начато изучение большого каменного могильника, и раскопана половина одной из ближних каменных куч. Составление плана остатков полей и местных могильников, как и продолжение раскопок предстоят в ближайшие годы.

Неполностью открыта лишь восточная часть могильника (табл. VI, VII). Центр его оказался довольно сильно разрушенным, кости погребенного разбросаны. Обнаружены три стенки восточной оградки, четвертая осталась, очевидно, за пределами раскопа. Стенки сложены либо из плитняка на булыжном основании, либо только из булыжников; протяженность оконечной стенки, идущей с северо-запада на юго-восток, составляла 7,3 м. В южной части оградки находился встроенный позднее гранитный ящик (табл. VI, 2), в котором обнаружено безынвентарное трупоположение. Кости были необожженными, за исключением двух слегка обгоревших кусков. Погребальный инвентарь оказался крайне скудным: один тонкий бронзовый браслет, зернотерка и сто черепков керамики, по-видимому, доримского периода железа.

На землях деревень Тыгуу и Выхма сохранилось много небольших залежалых каменных куч, одна из них исследована в 1993 г. Эта куча (табл. VIII) представляла собой 3—4 крупных валуна, стоявших здесь, судя по всему, изначально, и набросанных позднее вокруг них и между ними нескольких слоев более мелких камней, преимущественно плитняковых обломков. При раскопках найдены костные остатки животных, а из-под камней извлечен и уголь. Радиоуглеродная датировка последнего — 1180 ± 97 лет тому назад.