

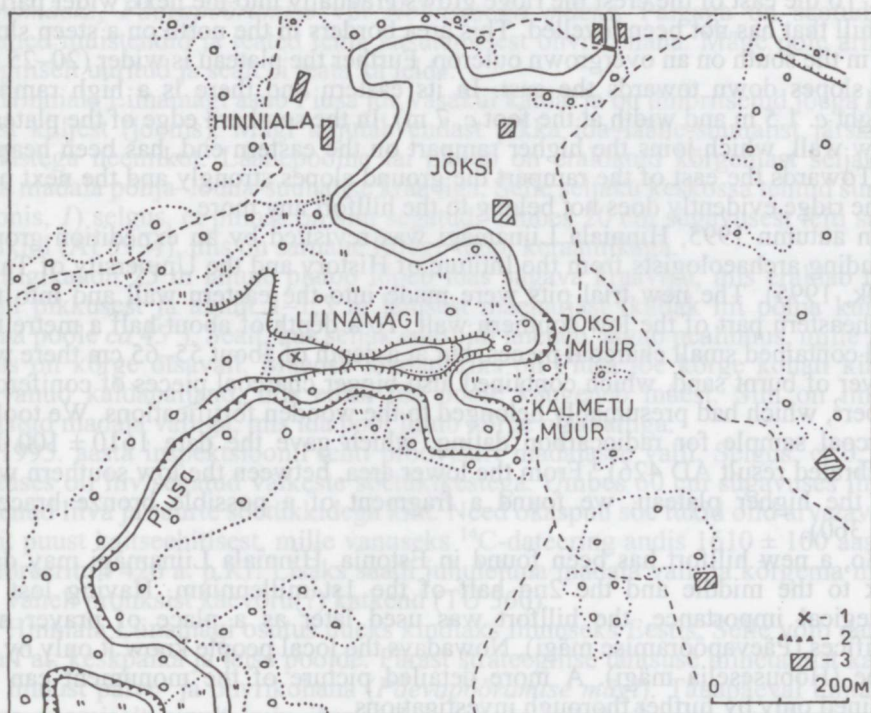
A NEW HILLFORT IN VASTSELIINA PARISH, VÕRUMAA

Arvis KIRISTAJA

Ajaloo Instituut (Institute of History), Rütli 6, EE-0001 Tallinn, Eesti (Estonia)

In spring 1993 the present author and Ali Kikkas, an amateur researcher from Tartu, searched for new antiquities and checked old ones in Räpina and Vastseliina parishes (Kiristaja, 1994). Among many other archaeological monuments, a probable hillfort in the village of Hinniala near the Piusa River was of special interest. Among the local people this place is known as Liinamägi (hillfort) or Päevapööramise mägi (the hill where the Sun turns around). On the right bank of the Piusa River (opposite the hill) there are also two high sandstone outcrops called Jõksi müür and Kalmetu müür (Fig.).

The village of Hinniala was first mentioned in documents in 1681 as a place where a peasant Camme (Tamme) Hint lived (Roslavlev, 1976). Carl von



Situation plan of Hinniala Liinamägi. 1 excavation pit, 2 outcrop, 3 farm.

Ungern-Sternberg (1829) mentioned the archaeological monument as a "Linna=Mäggi bei Neuhausen" and was the first to draw it. F. J. Wiedemann (1876) mentions a Hinniala "päiwa-pöramize-mägi", where according to him, people had formerly sacrificed and prayed to the Sun (the text of the prayer is added). Jaan Sandra from Vastseliina says in his letter in 1896 that Liinamägi, which has a form of a huge horse, in the village of Hinni-ala lies in the wood of Liinamäe varik and in the folk tradition is looked upon as a stronghold (*liin*) or hillfort that has sunk into the ground (Jung, Manuscript 30). In a description of Vastseliina parish there is a note that Päevapööramise mägi may be a hillfort, but this has not been checked (Karopun, 1922, p. 49). Sarv (1985) describes Päevapööramise mägi and connects it with Hobuseselja mägi (the horseback hill) in the village of Hinniala. He discusses the folkloristic and mythological material about this hill (Sarv, 1985, pp. 109–114). The hill has not been excavated and no finds are known from there.

Liinamägi hill of Hinniala is situated in Vastseliina parish, on the left bank of the Piusa River. Lying in its bend, the hill is surrounded by the river from three sides (Fig.). It is situated on a long and narrow E–W-oriented promontory and consists of several parts. To the west of the promontory is a plateau, where the trial pits revealed sandy soil mixed with charcoal. This plateau is separated from the next part of the hill in the east by a shallow N–S-oriented ditch (about 25 m wide). In the centre of the plateau (15 m east from the ditch) we dug another trial pit (Fig., 1) and found that the soil was mixed with charcoal to a depth of about 40 cm. Here, at a depth of about 20 cm, we found a potsherd (AI 5994), very similar to the Rõuge-type pottery¹. This 25 m wide plateau ends with a wide and deep man-made ditch. To the east of the ditch the promontory continues for about 20 m as a very narrow, only about 1–1.5 m wide crest, which slopes towards the Piusa River in the south under about 45–50°, and northwards under about 40–45°. To the east of the crest the ridge grows gradually into the next, wider part of the hill that has not been levelled. This area borders in the north on a steep slope and in the south on an overgrown outcrop. Further the plateau is wider (20–25 m) and slopes down towards the east. In its eastern end there is a high rampart (height *c.* 1.5 m and width at the foot *c.* 7 m). In the southern edge of the plateau, a low wall, which joins the higher rampart on the eastern end, has been heaped up. Towards the east of the rampart the ground slopes strongly and the next part of the ridge evidently does not belong to the hillfort any more.

In autumn 1995, Hinniala Liinamägi was revisited by an expedition group, including archaeologists from the Institute of History and the University of Tartu (Valk, 1995). The new trial pits were made into the eastern wall and into the southeastern part of the low southern wall. To a depth of about half a metre the sand contained small charcoal pieces, but at a depth of about 55–65 cm there was a layer of burnt sand, which contained also bigger charcoal pieces of coniferous timber², which had presumably belonged to the wooden fortifications. We took a charcoal sample for radiocarbon dating, which gave the date 1610 ± 100 BP (calibrated result AD 426).³ From the lower area, between the low southern wall and the higher plateau, we found a fragment of a possible bronze bracelet (TÜ 360).

So, a new hillfort has been found in Estonia. Hinniala Liinamägi may date back to the middle and the 2nd half of the 1st millennium. Having lost its strategical importance, the hillfort was used later as a place of prayer and sacrifices (Päevapööramise mägi). Nowadays the local people know it only by its shape (Hobuseselja mägi). A more detailed picture of the monument can be obtained only by further thorough investigations.

¹ Determined by M. Aun and V. Lang in 1993.

² Preliminary determination by M. Tammet.

³ Analysed by A. Liiva at the Radiocarbon Laboratory of the Institute of Zoology and Botany. Sample TA-2545.

- Jung, J. Manuscript No. 30:17(2). Jaan Sandra from Vastseliina 28. I 1896. Manuscript in the Institute of History, Tallinn.
- Karopun, T. 1922. Vastseliina muinasjäänuste kirjeldus. Manuscript in the Institute of History, Tallinn.
- Kiristaja, A. 1994. Uus linnamägi Võrumaal, Vastseliina kihelkonnas. Inspektsiooniaruanne. Manuscript in the Institute of History, Tallinn.
- Roslavlev, O. 1976. Kirchspiel Neuhausen. Siedlungsgeschichte der Estlands 3. München.
- Sary, H. 1985. Ilmamägi ja Päevapööramise mägi. – Eesti Loodus, 2, 109–114.
- Ungern-Sternberg, C. v. 1829. Drawing of the hillfort near Vastseliina in the Archives of the Institute of History, Tallinn.
- Valk, H. 1995. Arheoloogilisest inspektsioonist Vastseliina kihelkonna Hinniala linnusele ja Setumaale Meremäe valda 16.–17. oktoobril 1995. Manuscript in the Archives of the Chair of Archaeology of the University of Tartu.
- Wiedemann, F. J. 1876. Aus dem inneren und äusseren Leben der Ehsten. St. Petersburg.

UUS LINNAMÄGI VÕRUMAAAL VASTSELIINA KIHELKONNAS

Arvis KIRISTAJA

1993. aasta kevadel, seoses inspektsiooniga Räpina ja Vastseliina kihelkonda, käisid artikli autor ja Tartu kodu-uurija Ali Kikkas oletataval linnamäel Hinniala külas Piusa jõe vasakul kaldal. Vanemates allikates ja rahvasuus kutsutakse mäge *Liinamäeks*, *Päevapööramise* või *Hobuseselja mäeks*. Paigaga on seotud ka mitmed muistendid ja teated tema kasutamisest ohvrikohana. Mäge pole arheoloogiliselt uuritud ja sealt ei teata ka leide.

Hinniala Liinamägi asub Piusa jõe vasakul kaldal ja on ümbritsetud jõega kolmest küljest (joonis). Mägi kujutab endast pikka ida-lääne-suunalist järskude kallastega neemikut. Läänepoolne lai platoo on eraldatud kõrgemast seljakust pika madala põhja-lõuna-suunalise kraaviga. Selle seljaku keskossa tehtud šurfist (joonis, 1) selgus, et pinnas on siin segatud. Umbes 20 cm sügavusest leiti savi-nõukild (AI 5994), mis on sarnane Rõuge tüüpi keraamikaga.

Ligikaudu 25 m laiune platoo lõpeb idas sügava kraaviga, mis eraldab teda 20 m pikkusest ja ainult 1–1,5 m laiusest mäeharjast (kallak nii põhja kui ka lõuna poole ca 45°). Sealt, kus seljak edaspidi laieneb, algab pealinnus, mille idaotsas on kõrge otsavall. Mäeosa lõunapiiriks on Piusa jõe kõrge kohati kinnikasvanud kaldapaljand, mis edasi ida poole kaugeneb mäest. Siin on linnus kaitstud madala valliga, mis ida pool liitub kõrge otsavalliga.

1995. aasta inspektsioonil tehti proovišurf madalasse valli. Selgus, et 0,5 m ulatuses oli liiv segatud väikeste sötükikestega. Umbes 60 cm sügavuses ilmus põlenud liiva ja suurte sötükidega kiht. Need okaspuu söe tükid olid arvatavasti pärit puust kaitseehitisest, mille vanuseks ¹⁴C-dateering andis 1610 ± 100 aastat, kalibreeritult 426 a. p.Kr. Lisaks saadi juhuleiuna madala valli ja kõrgema mäeosa vahelt pronksist käevõru(?) katkend (TÜ 360).

Hinniala Liinamägi osutus uueks kindlaks linnuseks Eestis. Selle võib dateerida I at. keskpaika ja teise poolde. Pärast strateegilise tähtsuse minetamist kasutati linnust palve- ja ohvrikohana (*Päevapööramise mägi*). Tänapäeval tuntakse mäge peamiselt ainult kuju järgi (*Hobuseselja mägi*). Seoses inspektsiooniga kerkis esile linnamäe põhjalikuma uurimise vajadus.

Арвис КИРИСТАЯ

Весной 1993 г. в ходе археологической инспекции в приходах Ряпина и Вастселийна автор статьи и краевед из Тарту Али Киккас посетили и дер. Хинниала, рядом с которой находится известное по письменным источникам и народным преданиям городище или жертвенная гора. Многие исследователи приводили в качестве названия этого места топонимы "Liinamägi" (Городище) и "Päevarõramise mägi" (Гора солнцеворота).

Городище расположено на левом берегу р. Пиуза, на мысу, ограниченном с трех сторон руслом реки (рисунок). Городище состоит из двух частей – западной и восточной. Вытянутая в направлении запад–восток западная площадка (90 × 25 м) была с обоих концов защищена рвами. В шурфе, заложенном в ее центральной части (на рисунке помечен крестиком), был обнаружен фрагмент керамики рюгеского типа (AI 5994). С основной, восточной частью городища западная площадка соединялась узкой (1–1,5 м) длинной грядой (20 м) с крутыми (до 45°) северным и южным склонами. Культурный слой восточной площадки городища, достигавший в ширину 25 м, представлял собой перемешанный с гумусом и насыщенный углем песок. В южной части площадка была защищена естественным крутым склоном, а в юго-восточной и восточной – песчаным валом. Наибольшую высоту последний имел на восточной оконечности городища.

Осенью 1995 г. на юго-восточном валу городища был заложен шурф. Здесь слой песка вперемежку с мелкими угольками был толщиной 0,5 м. На глубине около 60 см выявлен слой горелого песка с многочисленными головешками, остатками от сгоревшего деревянного защитного сооружения. Его возраст, согласно ¹⁴C-анализу, 1610 ± 100 лет т. н. или, с учетом калибровки, 426 лет. В культурном слое юго-восточной части основной площадки городища на глубине 10 см был найден фрагмент бронзового браслета (TÜ 360).

Городище Хинниала можно датировать серединой или второй половиной I тысячелетия. Позднее оно использовалось как место жертвоприношения, а в наши дни известно под названием "Hobuseselja mägi" (Гора лошадиной спины). Проведенные исследования показали необходимость дальнейшего, более детального изучения этого нового археологического памятника.

¹ Determined by M. Ann and V. Lang in 1993.

² Preliminary determination by M. Tammet.

³ Analysed by A. Liiva at the Radiocarbon Laboratory of the Institute of Zoology and Botany. Sample TA-2543.