

MAPPING THE CENTRAL/EAST EUROPEAN TERMINAL PALAEOLITHIC/EARLIEST MESOLITHIC

STEFAN KAROL KOZŁOWSKI

Abstract

Desna Culture fits the Tanged Points Culture standard perfectly. This culture is related to Tanged Points Culture in that it regularly yields shouldered points and oblique trapezes on flakes. Five types of single-barbed Havel-type harpoons were mapped. According to this mapping, Havel-type harpoons are divisions with three zones, which correspond to Swiderian, Ahrensburgian and Desnenian areas.

Key words: Final Palaeolithic, Early Mesolithic, Central Europe, Eastern Europe, Desna Culture, Havel-type harpoons.

The two short texts presented here are devoted to territorial aspects of the Central/East European Late Glacial/Earliest Holocene. They may not be accepted initially by many, which is not surprising, but hardly upsetting from the author's point of view, just as Wolfgang Taute, who first mapped the Final Palaeolithic/Earliest Mesolithic (1968) did not find it in the least upsetting.

The Desna/Grensk points/trapezes (Figs. 1–3)

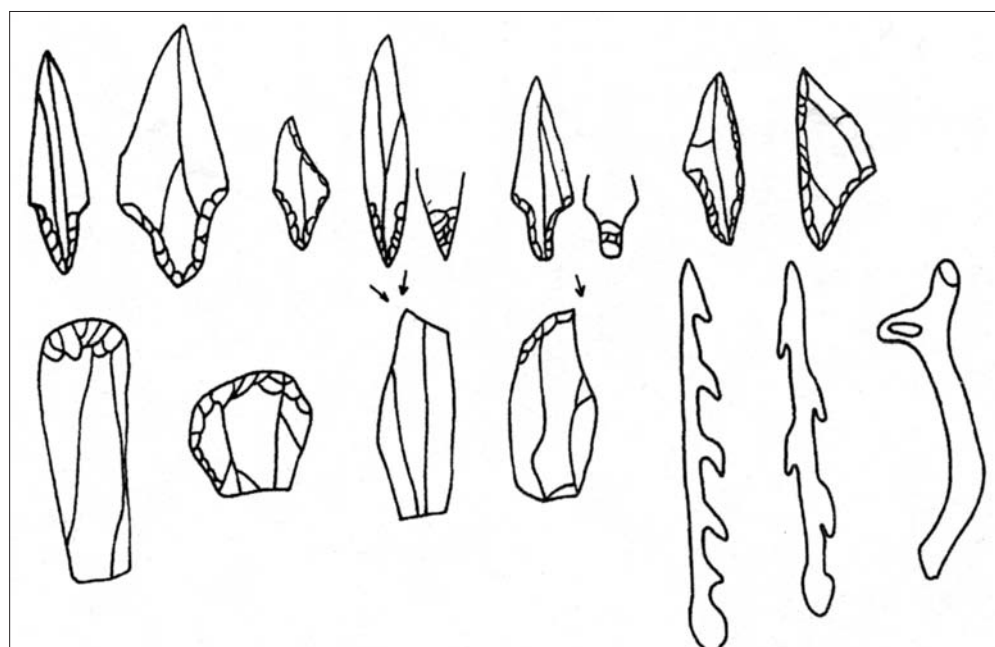
1. This East European cultural unit was described by the author and J.K. Kozłowski (1975), when its Final Palaeolithic chronology was accepted and it was re-

cognised as part of the Tanged Points Culture (TPC) technocomplex.

2. Earlier (Budko 1966, Grensk culture) and later (Zaliznyak 1999, Pesochnyi Rov and Krasnosilsk cultures, Koltsov, Zhilin 1999, Sorokin 1987, Ienevo) studies had positioned it either in the Final Palaeolithic (Budko, Zaliznyak for Krasnosilsk) or the Early Mesolithic. The matter was later summed up by the author in a separate article, which included the first comprehensive map of this new territorial unit (Kozłowski 1991). In view of new material available today, the issue seems worth recapitulation.

3. Desna Culture fits the TPC standard perfectly: in other words, characterising its assemblages is the fairly regular joint occurrence of medium-size tools (3–

Fig. 1.
The TPC
standard



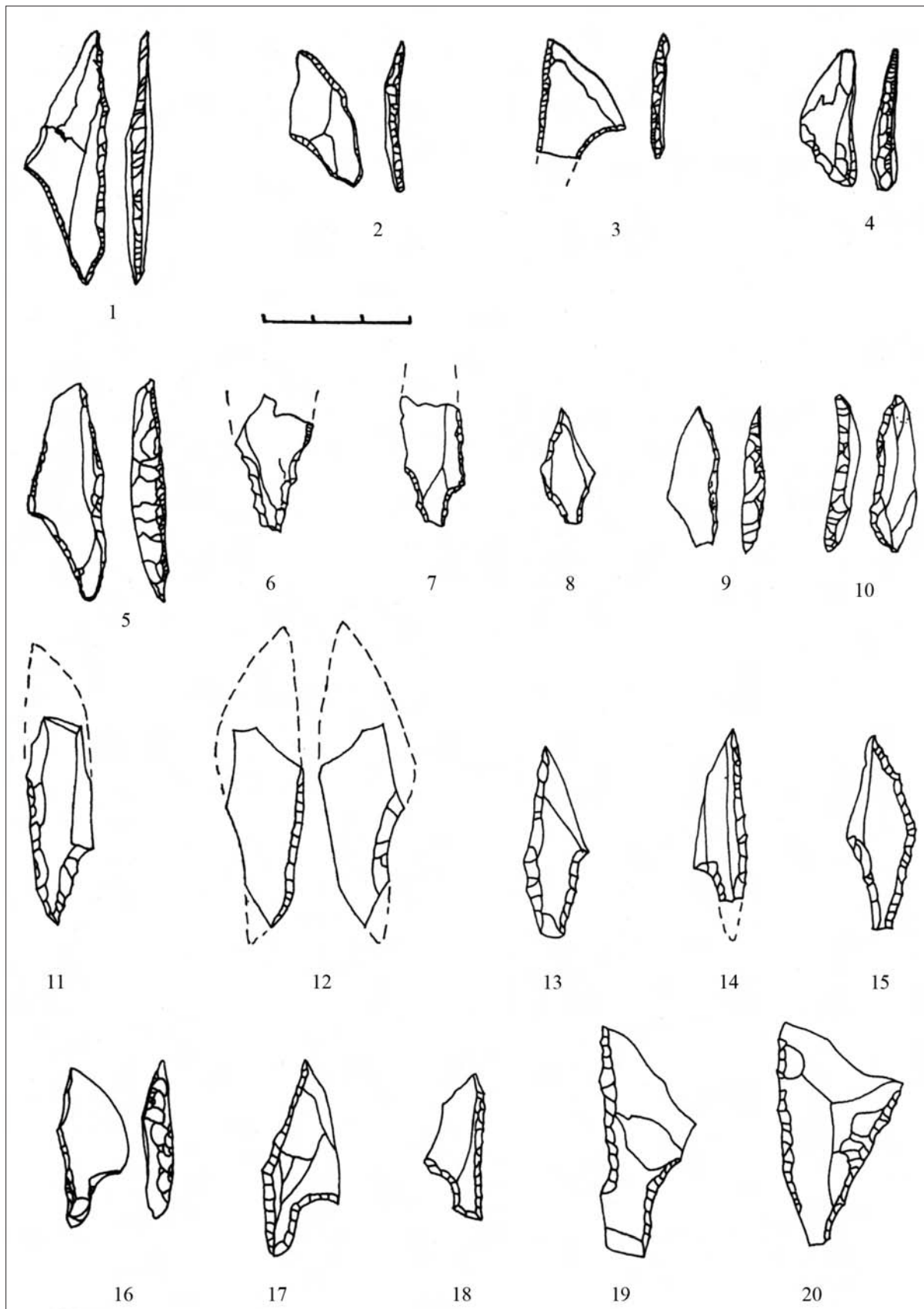


Fig. 2. The Polish Desna/Grensk materials: 1–4 Grzybowa Góra; 5–10 Witów; 11–12 Jacentów; 13–15 Steinkowicze; 16 Ossówka; 17 Opatowiec; 18 Nowa Wieś; 19–20 Kraków-Kobierzyn (cf References)

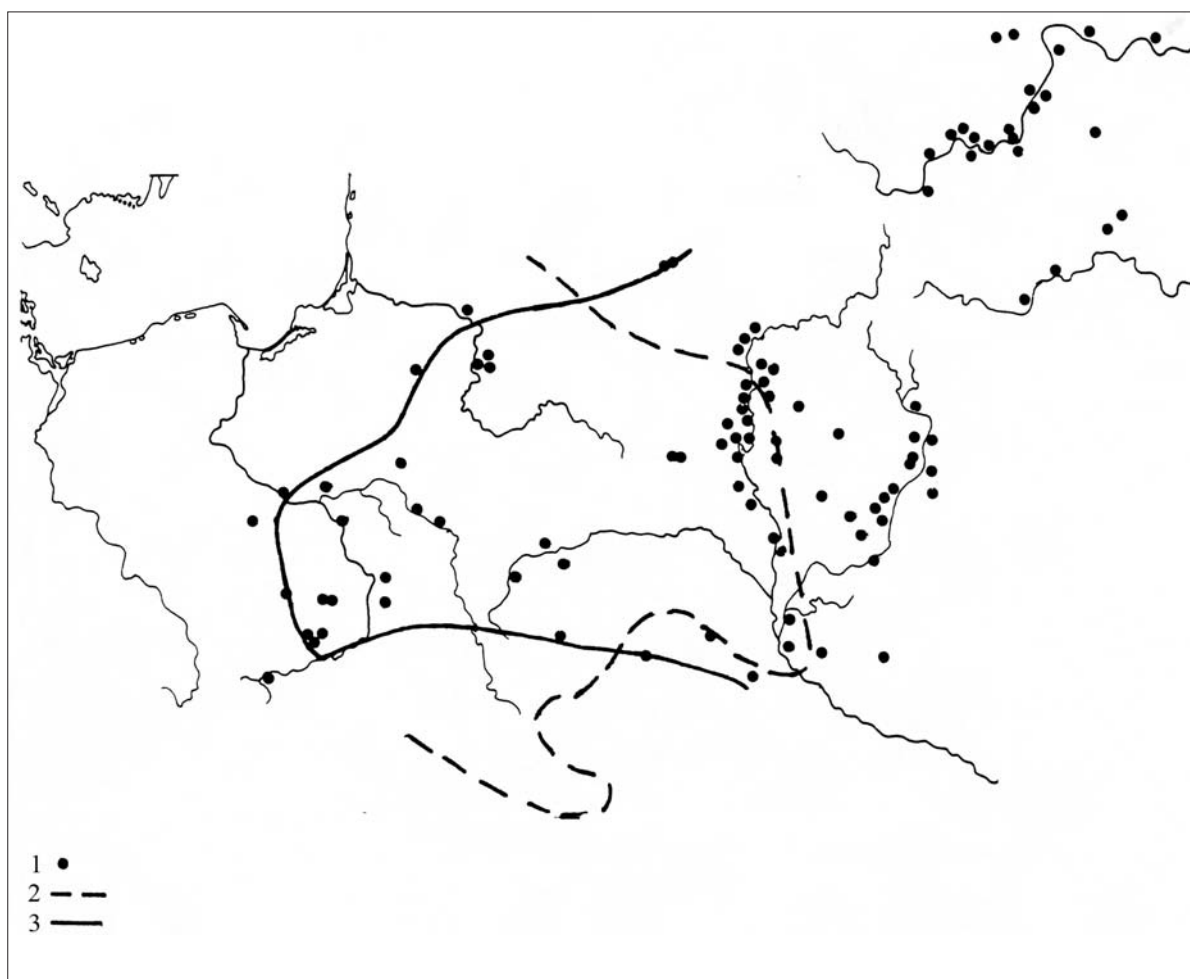


Fig. 3. The spatial distribution of the Desna/Grensk points/trapezes in Central and Eastern Europe: 1 Desna/Grensk points/trapezes; 2 the eastern limits of the Swiderian; 3 the western limits of the Desna/Grensk phenomenon

5cm), such as big and medium Lungsby points, short and very short end-scrapers and dihedral burins, and burins on truncation.

4. The Desnenian is distinct from related TPC units (Swiderian, Ahrensburgian, Brommian) in that it regularly yields shouldered points and oblique trapezes on flakes, which brings it nearer to the Scandinavian variant of TPC of the Early Holocene (Suomusjärvi, Komsa, Fosna).

5. To the author's best knowledge, Fig. 1 represents the territorial extent of the said points and trapezes, demonstrating their supraregional character. It further shows that they are characteristic of regions of Central and Eastern Europe, and that they largely overlap with Swiderian territory.

6. Desnenian chronology has been an issue of debate with East European researchers (Kravtsov 1999) opting rather for the Early Holocene age (tenth to early ninth millennium BP, similar dates ¹⁴C published for central Poland by R. Schild 1975), contrary to the opinion of the present author, who, like Bud'ko before him (1966), prefers the Late Glacial and more specifi-

cally Dryas 3 (stratigraphical context of the assemblage from Witów-concentration II and typological ones from the same Witów, Jacentów and Steinkowicze, cf Chmielewska 1978, Ginter 1973 and Szmit 1929). As far as the typological context is concerned, the author is referring to arched points being present in Witów and Jacentów, and Swiderian points in Steinkowicze and perhaps also in Grensk.

Perhaps there is actually no controversy, and the Desnenian simply covers both mentioned periods, similar to the related Swiderian (Schild 1975).

7. The Desnenian phenomenon could perhaps be subdivided territorially (more pressure technique on the upper Volga).

8. The trend among some East European researchers to come out against the Late Glacial age of at least part of the Desnenian is difficult to understand, for it is unlikely that there was a settlement void in Dryas 3 on the East European Plain when at the same time the more western-lying territories of the plain were dotted by numerous surface sites of the TPC complex.

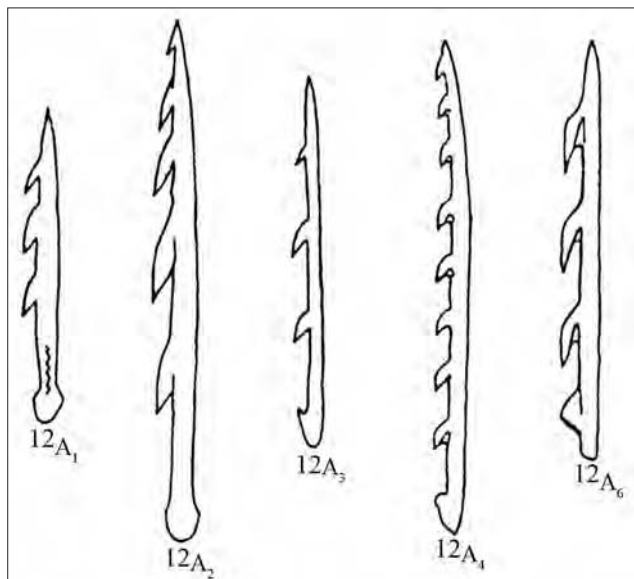


Fig. 4. Single-barbed Havel-type harpoon typology

9. It is possible that a territorial link had existed originally between the Desnenian phenomenon and the earliest cultures of the Scandinavian peninsula, which are quite close to it (especially the culture that was territorially the nearest, Suomusjärvi). If this had indeed been the case, then we should anticipate Desna features in northern Belarus, Latvia and Estonia, not to mention northwestern Russia. Unfortunately, we have yet to record Terminal Palaeolithic assemblages from these areas (apart from the one known Swiderian site in Latvia), although we do have a few harpoons that are unlike the Swiderian products (cf below, type 12A₃). Circum-Baltic Terminal Palaeolithic sites situated in the Vistulian Glaciation zone, covered by clays, are especially difficult to recognise.

Single-barbed Havel-type harpoons (Figs. 4–5)

1. The present author has published a study of these harpoons of the Terminal Palaeolithic from Central Europe, based on a work by H. Gross (1940) and B. Gramsch's (1959/60) files, which he was kindly given permission to use.

2. At the time, the author distinguished five types (12A₁₋₄, 12A₆) and mapped them to show the territorial differentiation, which continues to be telling today following the listing of new finds and a generalising of the earlier excessively detailed typological divisions.

3. Before going on to the present observations, let it be recalled that the Terminal Palaeolithic/Early Mesolithic age of the harpoons in question follows from the material used in their production (reindeer and/or

elk antlers), pollen analyses for Wojnowo (Gross 1940) and Rudninkiai (Rimantienė 1971), and, finally, the presence of similar specimens in an Ahrensburgian context at Stelmoor (Rust 1943).

4. A modified/simplified typology of the single-barbed Havel-type harpoons calls for previously separate types: 12A₁ and 12A₂ to form one group, type 12A₄ a second, and 12A₆ yet another. The first group is characterised by a symmetrical shield-shaped base and short sub-triangular barbs. The second and the third features an asymmetrical base and hooked barbs, the two differing from one another in the spacing of the barbs.

5. The typology thus modified, if mapped, reveals a characteristic division into three zones. Harpoons with a symmetrical base appear to be grouped in an area from Pomerania to the River Nemunas. Those with an asymmetrical base are concentrated, on one hand, west of the River Oder, and on the other, between the region of Masuria and Estonia.

6. Considering this mapping and the estimated chronology, we are left with the impression that the three different territorial zones correspond, the first one to the Swiderian, the second to the Ahrensburgian, and the third possibly to the Desnenian (?) (cf text above).

List of Desna/Grensk points in Central and Eastern Europe

(after V.F. Kopytin, V.P. Ksendzov, L.V. Koltsov, M.G. Zhilin, A.N. Sorokin, Z. Sulgostowska, R. Rimantienė, D.Y. Telegin, L.L. Zaliznyak, W. Taute and S.K. Kozłowski).

BELARUS

Berestenovo
Borovka
Chikhonka
Chygyrynka
Dalniaye Liada
Dalnye Dialo
Grensk
Guma I
Khvoina
Koromka
Litvinauchi
Lyudchitsa
Magilevskaia
Nobel I
Odrizhin
Orsha 1

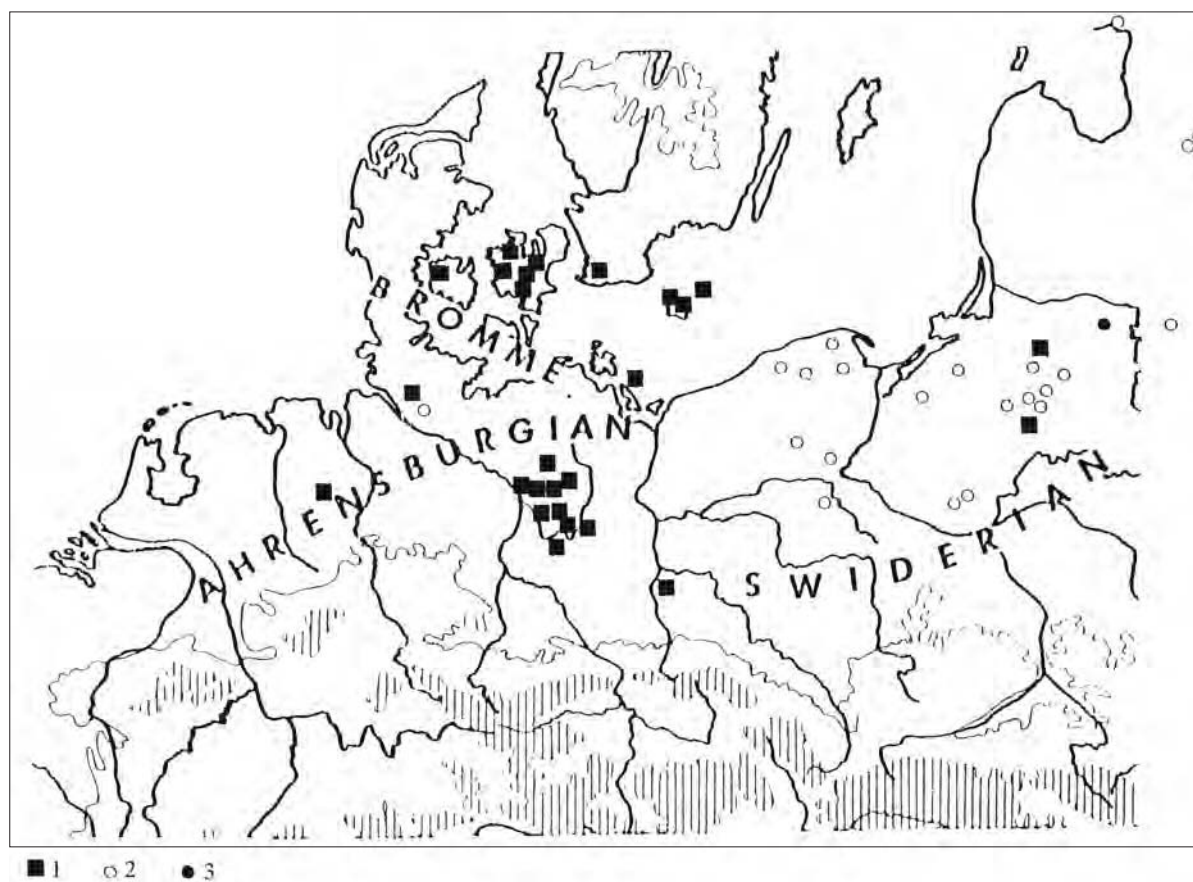


Fig. 5. The spatial distribution of single-barbed Havel-type harpoons in Central and Eastern Europe: 1 types 12A_{4,6}; 2 types 12A_{1,2}; 3 type 12A₃, after S.K. Kozłowski (1977), as well as J.G.D. Clark, J. Galiński, B. Gramsch, H. Gross, R. Indreko, R. Rimantienė, A. Rust, J. Zagorska and L.L. Zaliznyak

- | | |
|--|------------------------|
| Pechenezh | Jacentów 10 |
| Pieshchanitsa | Kraków-Kobierzyn I |
| Piski Richicke | Majdan Gólczański |
| Rechytsa | Mała Rzecznka |
| Rekord | Marki |
| Shitok | Nowa Wieś |
| Shlov Zarechivka | Nowy Młyn Ia |
| Shykhau | Opatowiec |
| Verychan | Ossówka |
| Vishnanka | Ośnica |
| Zhuravel | Steinkowicze III |
| Further finds from the upper River Nemunas area (personal information W. Obuchowski) | Witów concentration II |
| LITHUANIA | Wólka Zamkowa |
| Drąseikiai | Zemborzyce |
| Ežerynas 17 | Zembrzyce Stare |
| Glyno ežeras 9 | RUSSIA |
| Rudnia | Altynovo |
| POLAND | Ausergovo 2 |
| Dosin | Belivo 4A, G |
| Grzybowa Góra II/47 and IX/47 | Bogoyarlenye |
| | Bragino |
| | Chernaia Griaz 1 |
| | Cherriatovo I/2 |
| | Dalni Ostrov |

Dmitrovskoe
 Kamyagino IIA, IIB, IIW, III, IV
 Koprino
 Ladyzhino 3
 Nelchyi Bugor
 Penkovo
 Seltso 3
 Stara Konstaninovskaia 2, 3, 4, 6
 Tikhonovo
 Titovo 1
 Ust'e Revny IV
 Ust'Kora I, II
 Ust'Tudovka
 Usty N
 Vishegore
 Vysokino 6
 Ienevo 3
 Zhuravets 1
 Zinutka
 UKRAINE
 Bolshoi Midsk
 Borodianka 4
 Chernaia Guta
 Griazki
 Gridasovo
 Guta Loganovskaia
 Komiyagino
 Korji-Riabtsi
 Kreida
 Kudlaiovka
 Leonovka
 Namekino
 Pesochnyi Rov
 Pogreby
 Smyachka
 Verbovka
 Vyazivok

References

- Budko, V.D. 1966. *Pamyatniki svidersko-grenskoi kultury na territorii Belorussii. Materialy i Issledovania po Arkheologii SSSR*, 126.
- Chmielewska, M. 1978. *Późnypaleolit Pradoliny Warszawsko-Berlińskiej*. Ossolineum, Wrocław-Warszawa-Kraków.
- Clark, G. 1936. *The Mesolithic Settlement in Northern Europe*. Cambridge.
- Clark, G. 1975. *The Stone Age Settlement of Scandinavia*. Cambridge University Press.
- Galiński, J. 1992. *Mezolit Pomorza*. Szczecin.
- Ginter, B. 1973. Jacentów, district of Końskie. In: *L'Institut d'Archéologie de l'Université de Cracovie, Recherches Archéologiques de 1972*. Kraków.
- Gramsch, B. 1959/60. Der Stand der Mittelsteinzeitforschung in der Mark Brandenburg. "Wissenschaftliche Zeitschrift der Humboldt Universität zu Berlin", 9.
- Gross, H. 1940. Die Rentierjäger-Kulturen Ostpreussens. "Prähistorische Zeitschrift", 30–31.
- Koltsov, L.V. 1965. Nekotorye itogi mezolita volgo-okskoro mezhdurechcia. *Sovetskaya Arkheologia*.
- Koltsov, L.V. 1972. *Mezoliticheskiy sloj stojanki Altynowo, Kratkie Soobshcheniya Instituta Arkheologii AN SSSR*, 131.
- Koltsov, L.V., Zhilin, M.G. 1999. Tanged point cultures in the upper Volga Basin. In: *Tanged Points Cultures...* Lublin.
- Kopytin, V.F. 1973. Nowyje dannye po mezolitu jugo-wostocznoj Belorusii. In: *The Mesolithic in Europe*. Warsaw University Press.
- Kopytin, V.F. 1977. *Mezolit iugo-vostotchnoi Belorussii. Kratkie Soobshcheniya Instituta Arkheologii AN SSSR*, 149.
- Kopytin, V.F. 1990. *Kamennyi vek na territorii Belorussii (uchebnoe posobyie)*. Minsk.
- Kopytin, V.F. 1992. *Pamyatniki finalnogo Paleolita i Mezolita Verkhnevo Podneprovya*. Mogilev.
- Kopytin, V.F. 1997. Grenskaia kultura (in:) *Arkheologia Belarussii*, vol. 1, Minsk.
- Kopytin, V.F. 1999. Finalnyi Paleolit i Mezolit Verkhnego Podneprovya. In: *Tanged Points Cultures...* Lublin.
- Kozłowski, J.K., Kozłowski, S.K. 1975. *Pradzieje Europy od 40 do 4 tysiąclecia p.n.e.* Warsaw.
- Kozłowski, J.K., Kozłowski, S.K. 1977. *Epoka kamienia na ziemiach polskich*. PWN, Warsaw.
- Kozłowski, J.K., Kozłowski, S.K. 1979. *Upper Palaeolithic and Mesolithic in Europe. Taxonomy and Paleohistory*. Wydawnictwo PAN, Warsaw.
- Kozłowski, S.K. 1975. *Cultural Differentiation of Europe from 10th to 5th Millennium B.P.* Warsaw University Press, Warsaw.
- Kozłowski, S.K. 1977. Jednorzędowe harpuny typu hawelanskiego w basenie Morza Bałtyckiego. *Archeologia Polski*, 22.
- Kozłowski, S.K. 1981. Single barbed harpoons of Havel type in the Baltic sea basin. In: *Préhistoire de la Grande Plaine de L'Europe*. Archaeologia Interregionalis, 1.
- Kozłowski, S.K. 1991. *Le Desnienien*. Anthropologie, 29/1–2.
- Kozłowski, S.K. 1999. The tanged points complex. In: *Tanged Points Cultures...* Lublin.
- Kozłowski, S.K., Gurba, J., Zaliznyak, L.L. (eds.) 1999. *Tanged Points Cultures in Europe*. UMCS, Lublin.
- Krainov, L.S. 1972. *Novaia mezoliticheskaia stoinka Tchernaia Giaz'*. *Kratkie Soobshcheniya Instituta Arkheologii AN SSSR*, 131.
- Kravtsov, A.E. 1999. Concerning the dating of the Ienevo Culture. In: *Tanged Points Cultures...* Lublin.
- Ksendzov, V.P. 1988. *Paleolit i Mezolit beloruskogo Podneprovya*. Minsk.
- Ksendzov, V.P. 1999. Novoe pamayatniki Grenskoi Kultury v beloruskom Podneprovye. In: *Tanged Points Cultures...* Lublin.
- Rimantienė, R. 1971. *Paleolit i mezolit Litwy*. Mintis, Vilnius.
- Rust, A. 1943. *Die Alt- und Mittelsteinzeitliche Funde von Stelmoor*. Neumunster.
- Rust, A. 1958. *Die jungpaläolithischen Zeltanlagen von Ahrensburg*. OFFA-Bücher, 15.
- Schild, R. 1975. Późny paleolit (in:) *Prahistoria ziem polskich, vol. I: Paleolit i mezolit*. Ossolineum, Warsaw.
- Schild, R. 1988. Processes de changement dans le Paléolithique final des Plaines septentrionales. In: *De la Loire*

- à l'Oder. Les civilisations du Paléolithique final dans le nord-ouest européen. Liège.
- Schild, R. 1990. The Mystery of Desna-Type Assemblages in Poland. In: *Contributions to the Mesolithic in Europe*. Leuven University Press.
- Sorokin, A.N. 1986. *Mezolit basseinov Desny i Oki. Kratkie Soobshchena Instituta Arkheologii AN SSSR*, 188.
- Sorokin, A.N. 1987. *Kulturnye razlitchia v mezolite basseina reki Oka. Kratkie Soobshchena Instituta Arkheologii AN SSSR*, 189.
- Sorokin, A.N. 1999. Neighbours of the Butovo Culture on the upper Volga and Oka Rivers. In: *Tanged Points Cultures...* Lublin.
- Sulgostowska, Z. 1989. *Prahistoria międzyrzecza Wisły, Niemna i Dniestru u schyłku pleistocenu*. Ossolineum, Warsaw.
- Szmit, Z. 1929. *Badania osadnictwa epoki kamienia na Podlasiu*. Wiadomości Archeologiczne, 10.
- Szymczak, K. 1984. *Les études poursuivies sur le Paléolithique final dans la partie occidentale de la Plaine Balte orientale*. Archaeologia Interregionalis, 5.
- Szymczak, K. 1995. *Epoka kamienia Polski północno-wschodniej na tle środkowoeuropejskim*. Warsaw.
- Taute, W. 1968. Die Stielspitzen-Gruppen in Nördlichen Mitteleuropa. In: *Fundamenta*. Köln-Graz.
- Telegin, D.Y. 1982. *Mezolitichni pamyatki Ukraini*. Naukova Dumka, Kiev.
- Telegin, D.Y. 1985. *Pamyatniki epokhi mezolita na territorii Ukrainskoi SSR*. Naukova Dumka, Kiev.
- Zaliznyak, L.L. 1986. Kulturno-khronologitcheskaia periodizacia mezolita Novgorod-Severskogo Polesya. In: *Pamyatniki kamennogo veka levobereznoi Ukrainy*. Naukova Dumka, Kiev.
- Zaliznyak, L.L. 1989. *Okhotniki na severnogo olenia ukrain-skogo Polesya epokhi finalnogo paleolita*. Naukova Dumka, Kiev.
- Zaliznyak, L.L. 1998. *Peredistorie Ukraini X-V tys.do n.e.* Kiev.
- Zaliznyak, L.L. 1999. *Finalnyi paleolit pivnichnogo zakhodu Shidnoi Evropy*. Kiev.
- Zaliznyak, L.L. 1999. Tanged point cultures in the western part of Eastern Europe. In: *Tanged Points Cultures...* Lublin.

Stefan K. Kozłowski
Ul. Czerwonego Krzyża 11 m 6
00-377 Warszawa, Poland

Received: 2005

CENTRINĖS IR RYTŲ EUROPOS FINALINIO PALEOLITO IR MEZOLITO KARTOGRAFAVIMAS

Stefan K. Kozłowski

Santrauka

Desnos tipo kultūrinės grupės Jenevo, Grensko, Krasnosilsko, Pesočnyj Rovo kultūras Rytų Europoje tyrinėtojai išskyrė XX a. 7–9 dešimtmečiais ir datavo

paleolito pabaiga ar ankstyvuojų mezolitu. Pagal dirbinius: Lyngby tipo įkotinius antgalius, gremžtukus, vidurinius ir kampinius rėžtukus ant nulaužtos skeltės, Desnos kultūra atitinka įkotinių antgalių kultūrų (ĮAK) technokomplekso kriterijus. Tačiau nuo kitų ĮAK ji skiriasi dažnai aptinkamais vienašoniais antgaliais ir įstrižomis trapecijomis. Pagal tai ji panaši į Skandinavijos kultūras Fosna, Komsa, Suomusjarvi. Kartografuoti Desnos kultūrai būdingi vienašoniai antgaliai ir trapecijos parodo šių dirbinių bendrakultūrinį pobūdį. Jie būdingi Centrinės ir Rytų Europos rajo-nams ir jų paplitimo arealas didele dalimi sutampa su Svidrų kultūros teritorija. Kadangi vėlyvojo paleolito pabaigoje Centrinė ir Vakarų Europa buvo gan tankiai gyventa, kyla abejonių, kad Desnos kultūra datuotina tik ankstyvuojų mezolitu. Desnos kultūra greičiausiai gyvavo tiek paleolito pabaigoje, tiek ir mezolito pradžioje. Pagal tai, kad Volgos aukštupio regione Desnos kultūros gyvenvietėse aptinkama daugiau nuspaudimo technikos pėdsakų, galbūt Desnos kultūrą galima būtų skirstyti teritoriniu atžvilgiu. Galbūt tarp panašių kultūrinių grupių Skandinavijoje ir Desnos kultūros buvo nepertraukiamas teritorinis ryšys, tačiau šiuo metu jo atsekti negalima nesant duomenų iš Estijos, Latvijos, Šiaurės Baltarusijos ir Rusijos teritorijų.

Pastaruoju metu autorius išskyrė 5 vienašonių Havelo tipo žeberklų tipus (12A1-4, 12A6) ir juos kartografavo, atskleidamas jų teritorinį paplitimą, kurį nauji radiniai patikslina. Priskirti žeberklą paleolitui ar mezolitui galima remiantis žaliava, iš kurios jie pagaminti (šiaurės elnias ar briedis), žiedadulkių analizės duomenimis (Wojnowo (Gross 1940) ir Rūdinkuose) (Rimantienė 1971) ir pagal panašius tipus, aptiktus Štelmore (Rust 1943). Kartografavimas pagal naujausią tipologinį skirstymą parodė tris paplitimo arealus. Žeberklai su simetrišku pagrindu yra paplitę tarp Pomeranijos ir Nemuno upės; su asimetrišku pagrindu – susikcentravę dviejuose regionuose: į vakarus nuo Oderio ir tarp Mozūrijos bei Estijos. Remiantis chronologijos ir kartografijos duomenimis, galima būtų spėti, kad pirmasis arealas sietinas su Svidrų kultūra, antrasis su Arensburgo ir trečiasis galbūt su Desnos kultūra.