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DE L'UNIVERSITE JAGELLONNE DE CRACOVIE**

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REDACTION
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EN COUVERTURE
Trois figurines d'ivoire de site prédynastique de Tell el-Farkha

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Bolesław Ginter, Marta Połtowicz-Bobak

**Dzierżysław 35 – an open-air Magdalenian site in Upper Silesia
(part III)**

During period 2003–2005 excavations on the site in Dzierżysław, distr. Głubczyce, voiv. Opolskie, were continued. Trenches were founded purposely to widen the area of previous research, mostly north- and westward. Moreover, complementary small trenches were placed south- and eastward to the explored terrain. Their location was meant to detect all of the boundries of the site. It allowed to reveal an extension of the Magdalenian camp and consequently, to estimate its size (Fig. 1).

Position of Dzierżysław within the Głubczyce Plateau as well as location of site 35 were presented in the report of 2004 (Ginter, Połtowicz 2004).

Stratigraphical observations correspond with the ones recorded in previous years (Ginter, Połtowicz 2004). Thickness of layer 1a, containing most of archaeological artefacts, grows significantly to the north, reaching over 70 cm at the boundry of trenches IV/03 and IV/04. At the same time, its floor lies tens cm lower than it was noted in the central or southern part of the site. It results from both, the character of the terrain slightly declining towards the banks of flood waters, where the Magdalenian camp was established, as well as stronger erosion in the southern part due to an agricultural activity.

Artefacts occurred in a dispersed arrangement. In the investigated zone there were no concentrations so typical for the central part of the site. Flint objects were accompanied with numerous fragments of pottery, which absence could be recorded merely in the floor of layer 1a and the ceiling of layer 1a/2. The last remark proves that flint objects lying *in situ* occurred only in bottom parts of layer 1a. In its upper parts flint fragments appeared in a secondary deposit, relocated on account of sloping processes and mixed with traces of settlement of the Roman period.

No traits of stable structures were recorded within the researched area. Employing fire has not been proved either. There occurred merely disordered, non-arranged stones, in a few cases with traits of heating or burning. Some of them wear traces of using or treatment as well. Most of these stones were small; there were no large, heavy specimens or plates known from the centre of the site, where they played a role of constructive elements of stable objects of various sort (structures of stones surrounding or paving hearths, consolidation of postholes). Interpretation of function of the stones in the investigated part of the site is additionally rendered by the fact that in this case we have got no certainty whether the

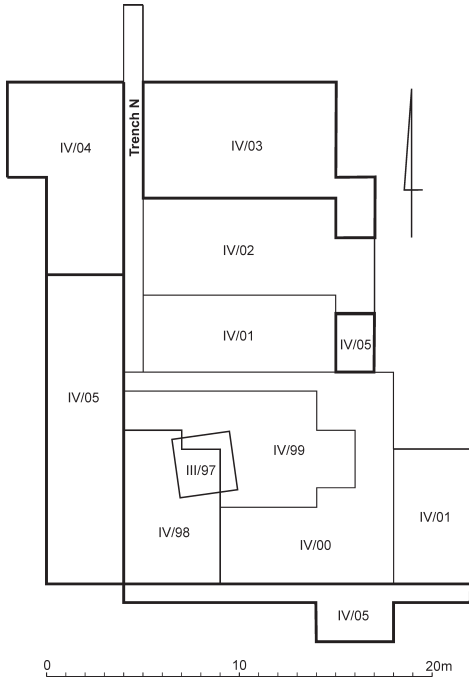


Fig. 1. Dzierżysław 35. Location of trenches IV/03–IV/05

stones in question should be bounded with the Magdalenian settlement or rather with a dwelling site of the Roman period.

In analyzed part of the site there was recorded shortage of animal remains, apart from very few, discarded, tiny bone fragments, strongly burnt. These bones allowed to obtain further radiocarbon dating: $13\ 180 \pm 60$ BP and $14\ 150 \pm 70$ BP, which perfectly corresponds with the sequence of dates gained previously.

In the area explored in period 2003–2005, slightly more than 7200 flint artefacts (excluding the plough layer) were yielded, almost half of which can be counted to the category of “chips and chunks” – little flakes (less than 15 mm long) and very small, undetermined fragments of debitage.

Structure of the inventory is in general similar to the one known from the entire

site, however, with lower frequency of cores in relation to other parts of the site. Tools, in total number of 450 items, contributes over 6% of the inventory; cores altogether with pre-cores, in an amount of 64 specimens, are less than 1%. Microburins are represented by a group of ca 30 specimens, which constitutes a considerably high share of this category.

Within a group of cores there occurred firstly cores for blades, rarer for bladelets, with predominance of single-platform ones. Among these, there were several large, regular, residual cores strongly exploited, wearing traces of preparation, quite intense in a few cases. They belong to the group of the biggest and the most thoroughly prepared forms known from the site in Dzierżysław. Such specimens are considerably scarce in the entire assemblage.

Geometric microliths (ca 150 items), with predominance of triangles, and burins (over 100 items), almost exclusively of the dihedral type, are the most numerous groups among tools. One of the burins was made of quartzite. The amount of burin spalls exceeds the number of burins. Retouched blades and flakes are also numerous. Yet, the number of perforators is very little. End-scrapers and splinters are represented by single specimens, which corresponds with the situation known from previous seasons of exploration.

Worth attention is significantly high percentage of flakes made of rocks other than flint, mostly quartzite of different types. These objects were executed in primitive flaking techniques. Several artefacts of radiolarite were also recorded. In the northern part of the site stone materials occurred clearly more frequently than in its central part. There was found a little sequence of objects with fresh surfaces (over 20 artefacts); among which several implements were distinguished. They might be

linked with the Mesolithic episode of the settlement.

An existence of a settlement of the Przeworsk culture in this area is confirmed not only by numerous pottery fragments, daub and animal bones within layer 1a, but by an occurrence of stable objects as well, which should be undoubtedly connected with the Roman period. Two of such pits were discovered and explored in 2001, another one – in the southern part of trench IV/04. Similarly to these two above-mentioned objects, the last one should be interpreted as a waste pit as well. It was of an oval shape, thickness of ca 70 cm, and slightly hollowed bottom. In its pitch-black filling, strongly saturated with charcoal, there occurred numerous fragments of pottery, daub, animal

bones, stones, randomly wearing traces of fire activity, as well as two iron knives and a decorated, bone awl. The pit in question was located on the edge of the Magdalenian camp either; settlement of the Przeworsk culture did not disturb the Palaeolithic site.

A scarce number of the Palaeolithic materials and the manner of their depositoin as well as a lack of stable structures and more readable spatial arrangements indicate univocally that regions excavated in period 2003–2005 are situated on the edges of the site. Therefore, research conducted in 2005 led to the final establishment of the site boundaries and, at the same time, it enabled an estimation of its size and determination of its structure. Consequently, excavations on site Dzierżysław 35 have been finished.

Dzierżysław 35 – otwarte stanowisko magdaleńskie (część III)

Badania archeologiczne kultury magdaleńskiej z trójkątami kontynuowane były w latach 2003–2005. Koncentrowały się w północno-zachodniej części obozowiska na skłonie opadającym w kierunku pierwotnego obniżenia. Uzyskano ponad 7 tys. artefaktów krzemianych, powtarzających zasadniczo formy znane z wcześniejszych sezonów badań. Brak jednak struktur kamiennych typowych dla kulminacyjnej partii stanowiska. Uzyskane daty radiowęglowe dobrze zgadzają się ze znanymi już wcześniej.

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