

A BRONZE¹ HOARD FROM UZLISSIA, UKRAINE²

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During earthworks in the spring of 1988 in the village Uzliissia, raion Dubrovitsa, oblast Rivne, Ukraine (fig. 1), a hoard was found on the farmstead of Ganni Josipivni Rudichnik. In autumn of the same year the finds were handed to the District Museum in Rivne. Following this, the site of discovery was investigated by B. A. Prishchepa and E. F. Kiianom. The farmstead of G. J. Rudichnik is situated to the south of the village Uzliissia, in an area previously named "Burki" (the new name is "Na Lipkach") (fig. 2). This is a sandy height of about 300 × 400 m on the right bank of the Sluch stream. Several farmsteads lie at the western edge of this plateau, on the left side of the stream. The other part of the sandy height is ploughed. The hoard from the Rudichnik farmstead was found at a depth of 0.4-0.6 m, together with a clay vessel, which broke in the meanwhile and of which only a few untypical sherds were preserved*.

On the surrounding farmsteads only some hand made pottery fragments were found, one of which might belong to a vessel of the Bronze Age Trzciniec-Komarov culture.

South to the area called Burki, there is a large, high sand dune of 400 × 600 m, named Piski, from which mesolithic silex artefacts and fragments of pottery of the Bronze and Early Iron Age could be collected.

The hoard to be presented here includes two bracelets, a large round phalera, three disc fibula/bangles, two triangular plates joined by a wire ring, seven round buttons, three conical tubes, an animal figurine and five spirals (saltaleoni), all made of bronze:

1. Bracelet (fig. 3,1). Length: 7 cm, diameter: 6 cm. It is made of a band with a flat, triangular section of about 3 mm maximum thickness. The band is 69.3 cm long and has a maximum width of 2.5 cm, both extremities going narrower to a rounded point. The band was wound in spirals three and a half times. The decoration consists of punched and engraved lines of about 3 mm length each. Two lateral lines run in arches from the outer edge, forming lozenges in the centre, and are accompanied on the sides by hatches. The thinner ends are each decorated by a "fir-tree" pattern.

2. Bracelet (fig. 3,2). Length: 8.5 cm, diameter: 7 cm. It is made of a band with a flat, triangular section of about 3 mm maximum thickness. The band is 67.3 cm long and has a maximum width of 2.6 cm, both extremities becoming thinner up to a rounded point. The band was wound in spirals three and a half times, not as closely as no. 1. The decoration consists of punched or engraved lines of about 3 mm length each. Two lateral lines run in arches from the outer edges, forming lozenges in the centre, and are accompanied on the sides by hatches. The thinner ends are each decorated by a "fir-tree" pattern.

3. Two triangular plates (fig. 3,3) connected by a wire ring. The left plate is 10 cm high, 8.7 cm wide and of a very thin sheet of bronze. It is roughly triangular, with the upper edges slightly convex and the lower one somewhat more. The corners are rounded, the left one not being preserved. In the right corner there is a small hole, through which the wire ring of 2 mm thickness passes, jointing this plate to the one on the right. Another hole is found in the top corner. The two lateral edges are each decorated with double rows of small round punches, while the lower edge carries a triple row of such punches. The interior of the plate is vertically parted into three fields by two further double rows of punches. The central field is filled with a vertical row of eleven anchor motives, while the left field contains a row of seven of the same motives turned upside-down. The top of this field is closed by two oblique double rows of punches. The right lateral field contains six upside-down anchor motives and is closed at the top by one

¹ This is judged by the appearance of the objects, no metal analyses having been carried out.

² Transliteration follows the Library of Congress Norms. We thank R. Boroffka for producing the illustrations.

*The editorial board revised this article only for some aspects of the English text. Archaeological data and terms are published as submitted by the authors (members of the editorial board: Prof. A. Vulpe, Dr. Nona Palincaş).

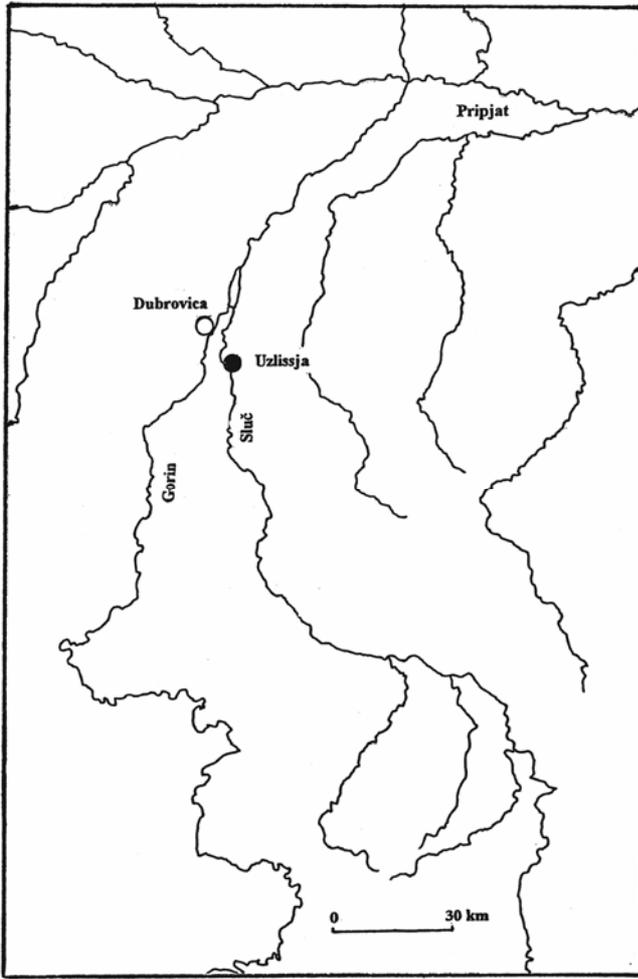


Fig. 1. Localisation of Uzlissia.

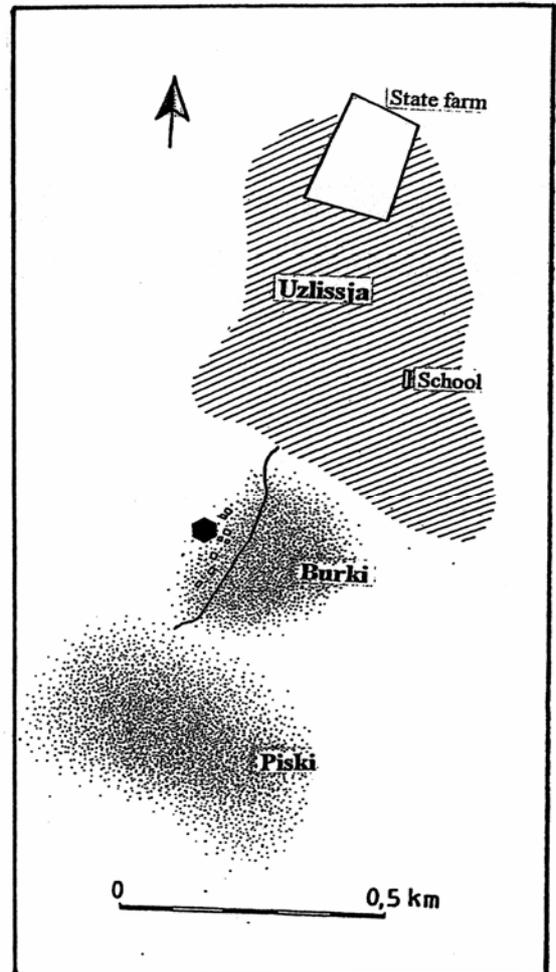


Fig. 2. Uzlissia village and the discovery site of the hoard.

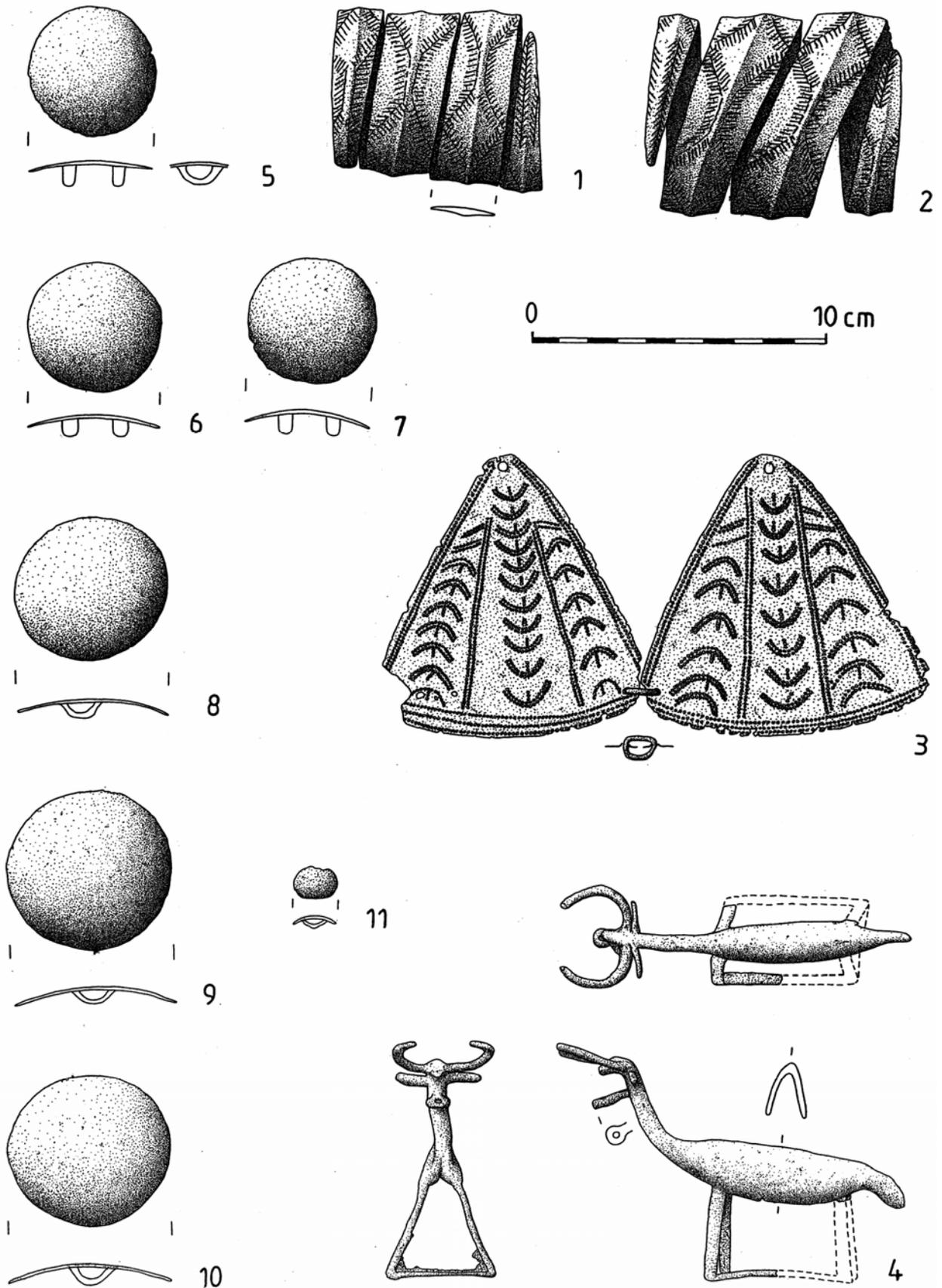


Fig. 3. Uzliissia hoard. 1-11 bronze.

oblique double row of punches. The right plate has a similar shape and is quite similarly decorated. The central field, however, only contains eight anchor motives, the left lateral field has only four complete anchor motives upside-down with incomplete, simple arches of double rows of punches at the top and bottom of the field. This is closed at the top by one single and one double oblique row of punches. The right lateral field has five upside-down anchor motives, a simple arch at the bottom and is closed at its top by two double oblique rows of punches.

4. Animal figurine (fig. 3,4). Total length: 11.7 cm, total height: 8.3 cm. The body of the animal has a U-shaped section, open to the belly and is a pointed oval in the side view. The tail is short, thick and curves down slightly. The slender, long neck is round in section and curves into the head, ending in a blunt muzzle. Two large horns begin laterally and curve strongly forward, bent slightly upwards and ending in blunt tips. Below the horns long thin protrusions on either side represent the ears. A vertically perforated loop of 1,4 cm length lies below the muzzle. The legs, missing at the back, start directly from the body and have the form of narrow, straight bands. The front pair is connected horizontally at the base by another band, creating a triangular lower frame. On the inner side of the front legs and the connecting lower band there are remains of casting which were not removed.

5. Disc-shaped button with slightly convex plate and two ears on the back. Diameter: 4.5 cm (fig. 3,5).

6. Disc-shaped button with slightly convex plate and two ears on the back. Diameter: 4.5 cm (fig. 3,6).

7. Disc-shaped button with slightly convex plate and two ears on the back. Diameter: 4,4 cm (fig. 3,7).

8. Disc-shaped button with slightly convex plate and one ear on the back. Diameter: 5.2 cm (fig. 3,8).

9. Disc-shaped button with slightly convex plate and one ear on the back. Diameter: 5.6 cm (fig. 3,9).

10. Disc-shaped button with slightly convex plate and one ear on the back. Diameter: 5,5 cm (fig. 3,10).

11. Oval button with convex plate and one ear on the back. Dimensions: 1.4 × 1.1 cm (fig. 3,11).

12. Disc fibula/buckle (fig. 4,1) with slightly convex, conical section of the plate. Diameter: 9.8 cm, maximum thickness of the plate: 2 mm. At the top of the cone there is a hole of 2.8 cm diameter with a slit on one side. Opposite to the slit, on the underside of the plate, there is an ear made of 2 mm thick wire, through which a pin had probably been fixed. The pin is not preserved. On the upper surface of the disc, there is a hook-like swelling to one side of the slit, in order to arrest the pin. The entire rim of the central hole, together with that of the slit, is slightly thickened. Around this thickening there is a decorative rib imitating a cord. It is followed outwards by nine circular grooves, another cord-like rib, eight more grooved rings and a final cord-like rib. The outside edge of the disc is formed by a row of petal-like ears of 6 mm length and 3 mm width, each with an opening of 1 mm.

13. Disc fibula/buckle (fig. 4,2) with slightly conical section of the plate. Diameter: 9.8 cm, maximum thickness of the plate: 3 mm. At the top of the cone there is a hole of a 2.6 cm diameter with a slit on one side. Opposite to the slit, on the underside of the plate, there is an ear of a 2 mm thick wire, through which the pin is fixed. The pin, also made of a 2 mm thick wire, is curled around the ear. On the upper surface of the disc there is a hook-like swelling on one side of the slit, in order to arrest the pin. The entire rim of the central hole, together with that of the slit, is slightly thickened. Around this thickening, there is a decorative rib, imitating a twisted string. It is followed outwards by two concentric grooves, another cord-like rib, 12 more grooved rings, another cord-like rib, two grooves and a final cord-like rib. The innermost two cord-like ribs with the two grooves between them and the first three following grooves are interrupted by the slit. The outside edge of the disc is shaped as petals of about 6-7 mm length and 3-4 mm width each. Some of these petals, especially on the side of the slit, are missing.

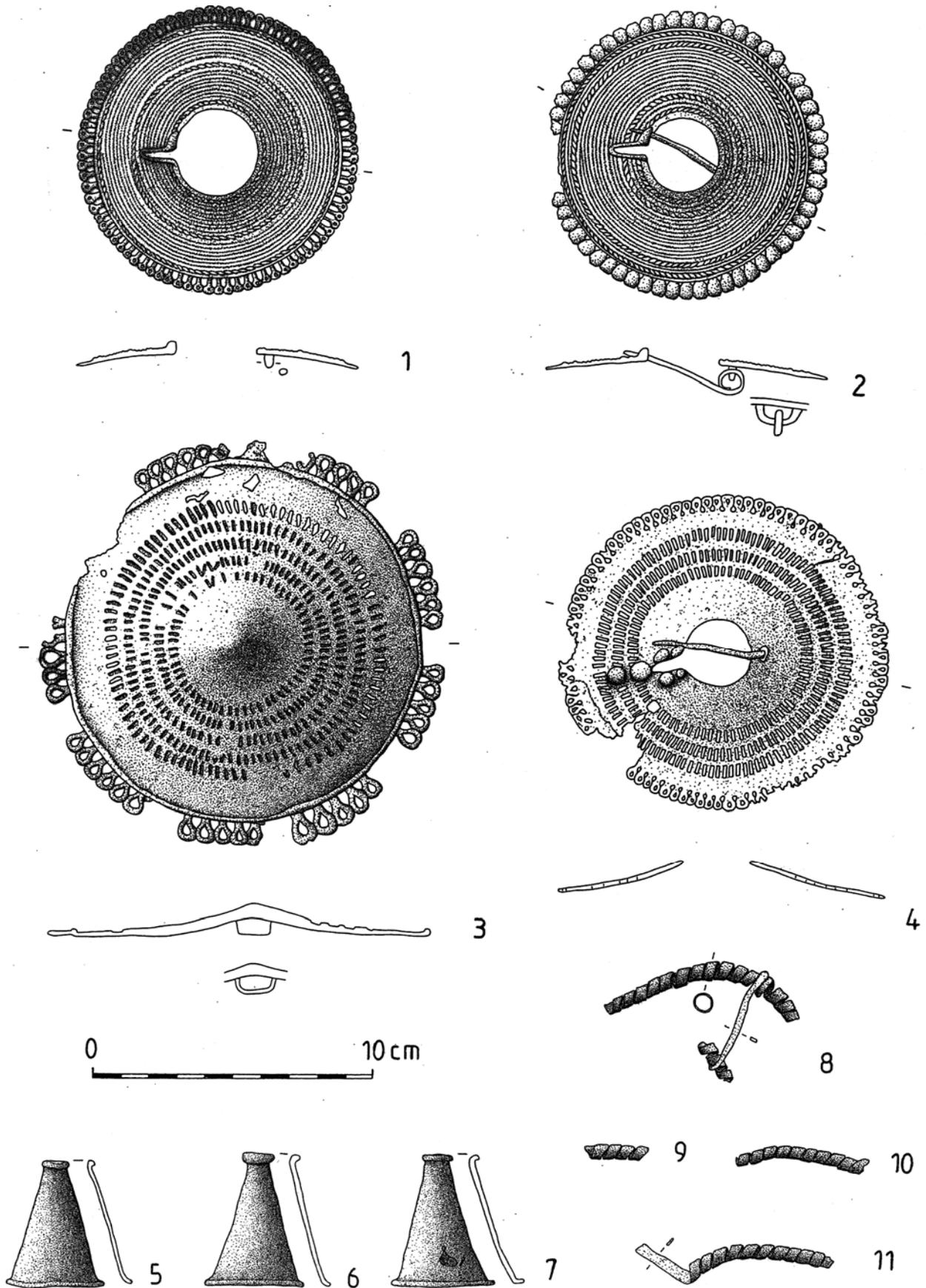


Fig. 4. Uzlissia hoard. 1-11 bronze.

14. Disc fibula/buckle (fig. 4,4) with conical plate section. Diameter: 11.0-11.2 cm, maximum thickness of the disc: 2 mm. The top of the cone is cut away, creating a hole of 2.3-2.4 cm diameter with a slit at one side. Opposite to the slit there is a hole in the plate, through which the pin is fixed. The pin is made of a 2 mm thick wire and simply bent through the hole. There are two knobs on each side of the slit and two further knobs in its continued axis, the latter two partly covering the central ornament. This consists of three rings of rectangular holes of $4 \times 1-1.5$ mm. The edge is formed by a row of petal-like eyes of about 5 mm length and 3-4 mm width, with holes of 1 mm opening. Parts of the edges of the disc are damaged.

15. Large, round phalera (fig. 4,3) with a slightly conical section. Diameter: 14-14.4 cm, maximum thickness: 5 mm. Around the central cone there are five concentric rings of oval impressions measuring $4 \times 1-1.5$ mm. Some of them are so deep, that they perforate the metal. The rim is slightly thickened. Along the outer side of the rim there are petal-like eyes of 0, 7-1.2 mm length and 5-6 mm width, with holes of 2-3 mm. Several of these petals are missing and the plate is partly damaged. On the back of the cone, in the middle, there is a band shaped ear of 1.2 cm width, 1 mm thickness and 6 mm height.

16. Conical tube with both rims turning slightly outwards and thickened. Length: 4.5 cm, maximum diameter: 3.4 cm (fig. 4,5).

17. Conical tube with both rims turning slightly outwards and thickened. Length: 4.6 cm, maximum diameter: 3.5 cm (fig. 4,6).

18. Conical tube with both rims turning slightly outwards and thickened. Length: 4.7 cm, maximum diameter: 3,5 cm. The wall is a little damaged (fig. 4,7).

19. Five fragments of spirals (saltaleoni) of wire with a flat rectangular section. Lengths: 6.9; 6.8; 4.5; 2.2 and 1.7 cm. Diameter 0.6-0.7 cm, wire thickness: 0.5-1,0 mm (fig. 4,8-11).

It is obvious that the bracelets (nos. 1-2/fig. 3,1-2), two of the disc fibulae/bangles (nos. 12-13/fig. 4,1-2) and probably the joined triangular plates (no. 3/fig. 3,3), in spite of minor differences, are pairs, while the buttons (nos. 5-10/fig. 3,5-10) and the conical tubes (nos. 16-18/fig. 4,5-7) are sets of three each. Independently of the chronological or cultural position of these finds, such combinations already indicate, that they represent one jewellery set, to which the remaining objects (phalera, disc fibula/buckle, small button, animal figurine, saltaleoni) most probably also belong. It also indicates, that the main parts of the set are complete to a large degree, and presumably represent a female inventory.

Unfortunately the pottery found directly with the bronze objects is untypical and therefore does not help in establishing the period or culture the find belongs to. The other sherds from the surroundings, dated to the Bronze and Early Iron Ages, are definitely older than the bronze hoard.

Therefore the objects from the hoard must be dated themselves and culturally identified by analogies. The disc-shaped buttons (nos. 5-10/fig. 3,5-10), the oval button³ (no. 11/fig. 3,11) and the saltaleoni (no. 19/fig. 4,9-11) are used through many periods, beginning with the Bronze Age and consequently do not contribute to this question at all.

The most interesting among the other objects are the disc fibulae/buckles (nos. 12-14/fig/4,1-2,4) with the keyhole shaped central opening, the cord-like concentric decoration and the petalled fringes. The large phalera may also belong to this group by its style: decoration with concentric rings of impressions and petalled fringes.

We know no perfect parallels⁴ for the fibulae/buckles. Somewhat comparable objects may though be found in the east region of the Middle Volga, around the Viatka and Kama rivers, up to the Ural mountains (fig. 7,1-13). Here we find analogies for some of the Uzlissia objects in the P'ianobor

³ Originally this was probably also round and has corroded to its present form.

⁴ We are very grateful to A. Nagler and G. Gomolka-Fuchs for discussions and helpful suggestions.

culture/period⁵ of the 3rd c. BC – 2nd c. AD and in the following Azelino, Bakhmutinsk and Lomovatovo cultures, dated roughly to the 3rd-5th c. AD and partly continuing later⁶. Discoid fibulae/bangles of the P'ianobor period with wide plates⁷ and petalled fringes have simple wire pins, bent through openings in the plate or eyes in the central opening (fig. 5,4;7). In the later Bakhmutinsk culture⁸ they evolve into narrower fibulae/bangles with cord-like circular decoration, preserving petal-shaped protrusions, the pin being fixed around an inner eye. While the wide plate of the earlier examples is comparable to those of the Uzliissia hoard, the plate of the later fibulae/bangles is narrower, looking almost like a ring, but the fixation of the pin becomes more similar to that on the fibula/bangles from Uzliissia. A wider variety of them, similar to those of the P'ianobor period/culture, still appears in the Vezvodnoe cemetery⁹, dated roughly to the 5th-7th c. AD, but probably beginning earlier¹⁰. A wide-rimmed buckle with cord and spiral decorations from the Cholujsk cemetery¹¹ may also be dated – by a fibula – to the 5th c. AD¹².

Disc shaped decorative bangles of the late Cheganda/P'ianobor and early Azelino cultures (Nyrghanda I and Suvorov cemeteries) have keyhole shaped central holes or slits that cut the disc on one side, and sometimes concentric grooved decoration or petalled fringes¹³, both very similar to the pieces from the Uzliissia hoard (fig. 5,10). According to their position in graves, they were frequently worn in pairs on their chests by women, often together with a third one or with a disc/phalera placed in the middle, below¹⁴ the first two (fig. 8, D). The differences between the disc bangles from Uzliissia and those from Suvorov consist in the fact, that the latter are usually flat, though some convex pieces also occur and that the pin has a completely different form and position. Similar ring or disc fibula/bangles are also known further west, from D'iakov contexts of comparable age¹⁵. Large phalera-like discs with rows of studs along the edges, cord-like decorative ribs and eyes on the back for fixing (fig. 5,6) are well known

⁵ Originally named after the cemetery from P'ianyi Bor in the Tatar Republic (A. P. Smirnov, KSIIMK 25, 1949, p. 22). the term was used in the sense of a culture or period. Some sites were also claimed for other periods: See the confusion for example in V. F. Gening, *Istoriia naseleniia Udmurtskogo Prikam'ia v P'ianoborskuiu epochu. Chast I, Chegandinskaia kul'tura (III v. do n. e. – II v. n. e.)*, *Trudy Udmurtskoi Arkheologicheskoi Ekspeditsii 4* (=Voprosy Arkheologii Urala/Sverdlovsk, Izhevsk, 10, 1970, fig. 20) – chronological table, where the term “P'ianoborskaia kul'tura” is used in the illustration, but “Chegandinskaia kul'tura” appears instead in the legend. See also N. A. Mazhitov, *Bakhmutinskaia kul'tura. Etnicheskaia istoriia naseleniia Severnoi Bashkirii serediny I tysiacheletii nashei ery*, Moskva, 1968, p. 3sq., fig. 1, where, among others, the cemeteries of Cheganda I and II, used to define the “Chegandinskaia kul'tura” of the P'ianobor Period by Gening, are included as monuments of the “Bakhmutinskaia kul'tura”, supposedly of a later date (*op. cit.* pl. 34). The term P'ianoborsk is more recently applied to the period filled mainly by the Chegandinsk culture: V. F. Gening, *Etnicheskaia istoriia Zapadnogo Priural'ia na rubezhe nashei ery. P'ianoborskaia epokha III v. do n. e. – II v. n. e.*, Moskva, 1988.

⁶ The three cultures have neighbouring distributions, with the Azelinsk culture along and to the west of the river Viatka and the Bakhmutinsk culture further to the east along the rivers Kama, Belaia and Bistryi Tany. The Lomovatovsk culture is distributed further north, along the upper Kama river: V. F. Gening, *Azelinskaia kul'tura III-V vv. Ocherki istorii Viatskogo kraia v epokhu velikogo pereseleniia narodov*, *Trudy Udmurtskoi Arkheologicheskoi Ekspeditsii 2* (=Voprosy Arkheologii Urala/Sverdlovsk, Izhevsk, 5, 1963); N. A. Mazhitov, *op. cit.*, 1968 (note 5); R. D. Goldina, *Lomovatovskaia kul'tura v Verkhnem Prikam'e*, Irkutsk, 1985. On their chronology see also: A. K. Ambroz, *SovArh 2*, 1971,

p. 96-123; idem, *SovArh 3*, 1971, p. 106-134 and B. B. Ageev, *SovArh. 3*, 1976, p. 58-67; V. A. Ivanov, in: *Drevnosti Srednego Povolzh'ia. Mezhhvuzovskii sbornik.* (Kuibyshev), 1985, p. 85-99.

⁷ A. P. Smirnov, 1949 (note 5), p. 28, fig. 7,7; idem, *MIA 95*, 1961, p. 96sq., fig. 22,5; N. A. Mazhitov, *op. cit.*, 1968 (note 5), pl. 34,16.

⁸ A. P. Smirnov, *MIA 58*, 1957, p. 50sq., pl. 6,6-9; 7,4; N. A. Mazhitov, *op. cit.*, 1968 (note 5), pl. 8,11; 16,5.

⁹ Iu. A. Krasnov, *Vezvodninskii mogil'nik (K istorii Gor'kovskogo Povolzh'ia v epochu rannego srednevekov'ia)*, Moskva, 1980, p. 54, fig. 23,3; 35,3; 36,1-5.

¹⁰ Iu. Krasnov 1980 (note 9), p. 88sq. The Vezvodnoe cemetery contains several fibulae (*op. cit.*, fig. 34) of a type well dated to phase C3, i.e. the last part of the 4th c. AD. It is not clear to which phase of the cemetery the graves with these fibulae really belong.

¹¹ E. I. Goriunova, *MIA 94*, 1961, p. 122sq., fig. 57,9.

¹² *Ibidem*, (note 11), p. 122, fig. 57,11.

¹³ V. Gening, 1963 (note 6), p. 42, pl. 8,4; 9,10-11; idem, 1970 (note 5), fig. 20,98-99,123 (= idem, 1988 (note 5), fig. 4, 98-99,123); pl. 6,1-2; 17,6; 19,19; 21,7-8. The illustrations on the plates in V. F. Gening, *Istoriia naseleniia Udmurtskogo Prikam'ia v P'ianoborskuiu epochu. Chast I, Arkheologicheskie pamiatniki chegandnskoii kul'tury III v. do n. e. – II v. n. e.*, *Trudy Udmurtskoi Arkheologicheskoi Ekspeditsii 5* (=Voprosy Arkheologii Urala 11, 1971) are identical to those from V. Gening, 1970 (note 5).

¹⁴ V. Gening, 1963 (note 6), p. 39sq., especially Suvorov, grave 5, p. 111sq., fig. 17-19; 23; 58 and grave 11, p. 114sq., fig. 61; grave 14, p. 115sq., fig. 62; grave 28, p. 122sq., fig. 66; idem, 1970 (note 5), fig. 11; 35 (Cheganda II, grave 15).

¹⁵ K. A. Smirnov, in Iu. A. Krasnov (ed.), *D'iakovskaia kul'tura*, Moskva, 1974, p. 7sq., pl. 5,12-14,17.

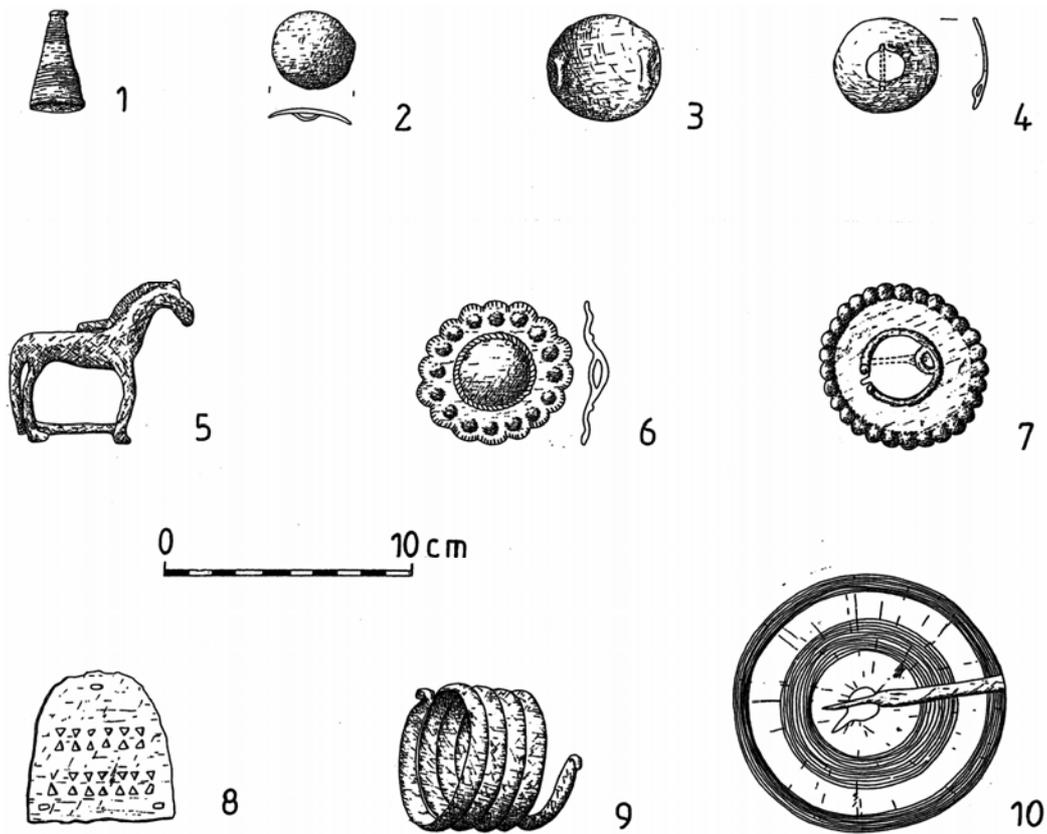


Fig. 5. Finds from the Volga-Kama region: 1 Petropavlovsk; 2 Suvorov; 3 Gliadenovskoe; 4 Cheganda II; 5 Suvorov; 6 Cheganda II; 7 Cheganda II; 8 Nyrgynda II; 9 Vezvodnoe; 10 Suvorov. After Genning, 1963 (note 6); idem., 1970 (note 5); idem, 1971 (note 13); idem, 1988 (note 5); Krasnov, 1980 (note 9); Semenov, 1967 (note 17).

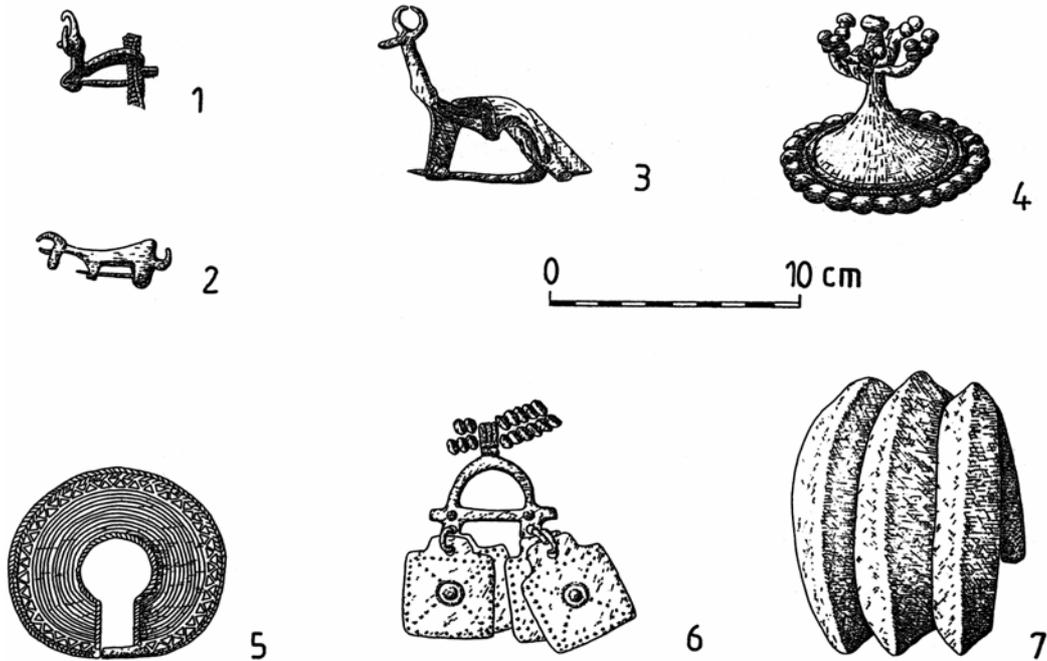


Fig. 6. Finds from the Baltic region: 1 Nikutovo/Nikutowen; 2 Zdrory/Sdorren; 3 Pupy/Klein Puppen; 4 Dollkeim; 5 Paragaudis; 6 Veliuona; 7 Ottenküll. After Hausmann, 1896 (note 28); Tischler, Kemke, 1902 (note 28); Gaerte, 1929 (note 28); Shmidekhel'm, 1962 (note 36); Gimbutas, 1963 (note 30); eadem, 1983 (note 30); Michelbertas, 1986 (note 30).

from the P'ianobor period, and could also be worn in pairs¹⁶. They later evolve into smaller examples in the Bakhmutinsk culture¹⁷. Similar discs, with studs around the edges and cord-like decoration also form the main part of belt clasps typical of the P'ianobor culture¹⁸, dated largely to the period from the 3rd c. BC to the 2nd/3rd c. AD.

It is interesting, that other parts of the Uzliissia jewellery set also find analogies in these groups from the Middle Volga, Viatka, Kama rivers and the Ural region. Thus wire spirals are used in various ways¹⁹, round buttons with one or two eyes on the back are applied to different parts of the costume or belts²⁰, small sheet metal pendants (fig. 5,8), sometimes decorated and usually in groups²¹ and conical tubes with thickened rims, similar to those from Uzliissia, are part of the clattering jewellery in the Middle Volga-Kama-Ural region at the same time and later²². Suspended animal figurines²³, also belong to these sets, but they are mostly horses (e.g. fig. 5,5); bovids are missing, at least in the literature. Various bracelets (e.g. fig. 5,9) are part of the female jewellery set in the Azelino culture²⁴, but they rarely include the type with narrow banded spirals²⁵, and pieces of broad banded spiral, like those from Uzliissia, are totally missing. Narrow banded spiral bracelets do however appear in the Vezvodnoe cemetery²⁶.

Thus we see a general correspondence between the Uzliissia inventory and the female jewellery sets of the Middle Volga-Kama-Ural region around the 2nd-4th c. AD (compare fig. 8,C and D). Disc fibulae/bangles with key-hole shaped openings and concentric groove or cord decoration (fig. 5,4;7), large phalera with studded fringes (fig. 5,6), round buttons with one or two eyes on their back (fig. 5,2-3), conical tubes (fig. 5,1) and saltaleoni, all appear in various combinations. Some of these were even worn in numbers, that are present in the Uzliissia hoard. However, the construction of the disc fibulae/bangles is different in detail (fixture of the pin, petalled fringes), there are no broad banded spiral bracelets and there are no bovid figurines in the Volga-Kama-Ural area.

¹⁶ A. P. Smirnov, 1949 (note 5), p. 26sq., fig. 7,3-4; idem, 1961 (note 7), p. 95sq., fig. 22,11; N. A. Mazhitov, 1968 (note 5), pl. 34,3,6; V. Gening, 1970 (note 5), fig. 20,68,97 (= idem, 1988 (note 5), fig. 4, 68,97); fig. 29; pl. 5,4-8; 6,4; idem, 1988 (note 5), fig. 18,8-9. Somewhat further to the southwest see also P. N. Tret'jakov, SovArh 2, 1957, p. 70, fig. 2.

¹⁷ N. A. Mazhitov, 1968 (note 5), pl. 21,8. Similar pieces, dated to the 6th-7th c. AD are still found in the Petropavlov cemetery on the southern Udmurt (V. A. Semenov, in A. F. Medvedev (ed.), *Pamiatniki Mazuninskoi Kul'tury. Sbornik statei*, Voprosy Arkheologii Urala 7, 1967, pl. 3,11 and evolve further to become supports for chains of clattering tins or ornamental pendants in the 8th-9th c. AD (R. Goldina, 1985 (note 6), pl. 16; 19).

¹⁸ A. P. Smirnov, MIA 28, 1952, p. 68sq., pl. 16, 2-7; A. P. Smirnov, 1957 (note 8), p. 35, fig. 4; O. N. Bader, V. A. Oborin, *Na zare istorii Prikam'ia*, Perm, 1958, p. 128sq., fig. 37,3; N. A. Mazhitov, 1968 (note 5), pl. 34, 2,5; V. Gening, 1970 (note 5), fig. 20,16;35;50;72-73 (= idem, 1988 (note 5), fig. 4,16;35;50;72-73); pl. 7,11; 1-14; 16; 23; idem, 1988 (note 5), fig. 19,9.

¹⁹ P'ianobor period: A. P. Smirnov, 1961 (note 7), p. 96sq., fig. 21,9; 22,14 (Koshibeev cemetery); V. Gening, 1970 (note 5), fig. 32; 36-37; pl. 1,1-2 (Cheganda II cemetery); Azelino and Bakhmutinsk groups: idem, 1963 (note 6), fig. 19 (belt and breast-plate); 25; 31; 34 (shoe); pl. 1,1-7; N. A. Mazhitov, 1968 (note 5), pl. 2,3-5; 35,7; 34,23, 25-26; 40-42 (ear/lock pendants); Vezvodnoe cemetery: Iu. Krasnov, 1980 (note 9), fig. 21-22; Choluj cemetery: E. Goriunova, 1961 (note 11), p. 123 fig. 57,10.

²⁰ They have a long history beginning in the Bronze Age, but appear again frequently in the P'ianobor period, in the Azelino, Bakhmutinsk and Gliadenovskoe groups: V. Gening, 1963 (note 6), fig. 19 (shoulders); 34-35 (shoes); pl. 1,16-17; 13; 15; N. A. Mazhitov, 1968 (note 5), pl. 6,3-5; 35,9-10,13;

V. Gening, 1970 (note 5), fig. 20,8-10;26;64;67;122 (= idem, 1988 (note 5), fig. 4,8-10;26;64;67;122); fig. 26; 29-32; pl. 3,5-7;9-10; idem, 1988 (note 5), p. 130sq., 32,7-11. Further west they also occur in the D'iakovo culture (K. A. Smirnov, 1974 (note 15), pl. 6,26-27,34. They are still in use in the Lomovatovskaia culture of the 8th-9th c. AD, where they also appear with two eyes on the back (R. Goldina, 1985 (note 6), pl. 11,10-13).

²¹ The Uzliissia examples are rather large in comparison. For those of the Middle Volga-Kama region see: V. Gening, 1963 (note 6), pl. 11,1-3; Iu. Krasnov, 1980 (note 9), fig. 28. Further west again in the D'iakovo culture: K. A. Smirnov, 1974 (note 15), pl. 5,27-28; 6,12-13,17. Other plates of triangular shape, but with the upper end strongly arched and often with cutout decoration, were worn in pairs on the chest: V. Gening, 1970 (note 5), fig. 39; pl. 2,16-17; 17,2.

²² As early as P'ianobor contexts: A.P. Smirnov, 1952 (note 18), p. 97sq., pl. 22,10 (conical tube); For later examples see V. Semenov, 1967 (note 17), pl. 2,16-17; Iu. Krasnov, 1980 (note 9), fig. 29-31; R. Goldina, 1985 (note 6), pl. 22,1-16. To the southwest: P. Tret'jakov, 1957 (note 16), p. 70, fig. 2. Further west again in the D'iakovo culture: K. A. Smirnov, 1974 (note 15), pl. 5,29; 6,7. For pyramidal bells of the 2nd-4th c. AD. see W. Nowakowski, ArchWarszawa 38, 1987 (1989), p. 99-123.

²³ Beginning with the P'ianobor culture: O. Bader, V. Oborin, 1958 (note 18), fig. 37,7; Azelino culture: V. Gening, 1963 (note 6), fig. 61 (Suvorov, grave 11); 25 and 66 (Suvorov, grave 28); pl. 10,7-8; Bakhmutinsk culture: A. P. Smirnov, 1957 (note 8), p. 50sq., pl. 7,3,8-12; N. A. Mazhitov, 1968 (note 5), pl. 7,11,15,20. They remain in use at least until to the 8th-9th c. AD (R. Goldina, 1985 (note 6), pl. 23. Generally see: L. A. Golubeva, ArheologijaSSSR E 1-59, 1979.

²⁴ E.g. V. Gening, 1963 (note 6), pl. 2,12-19.

²⁵ V. Gening, 1970 (note 5), pl. 7,3-5; 17,3.

²⁶ Iu. Krasnov, 1980 (note 9), fig. 38,18-19.

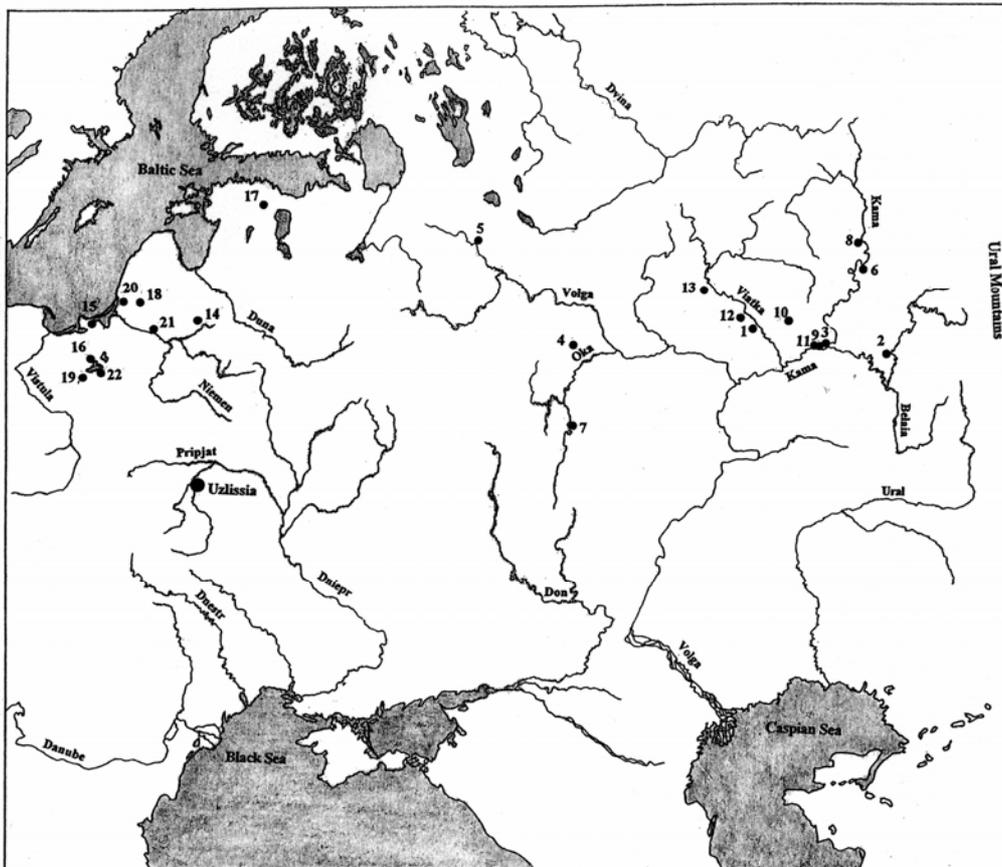


Fig. 7. The site of Uzlissia in relation to other sites from the Volga-Kama and the Baltic region/Masuria mentioned in the text. Volga-Kama region: 1 Azelinskii mogil'nik, 2 Bakhmutinskii mogil'nik, 3 Cheganda, 4 Cholui, 5 Diakovo, 6 Gliadenovskoe, 7 Koshibeev, 8 Lomovатов, 9 Nyrganda, 10 Petropavlovskii mogil'nik, 11 Piani Bor, 12 Suvorov, 13 Vezvodnoe; Baltic/Masuria: 14 Bajoriškés, 15 Dollkeim, 16 Nikutovo/Nikutowen, 17 Ottenküll, 18 Paragaudis, 19 Pupy/Klein Puppen, 20 Shernai/Schernern, 21 Veliuona, 22 Zdrory/Sdorren.

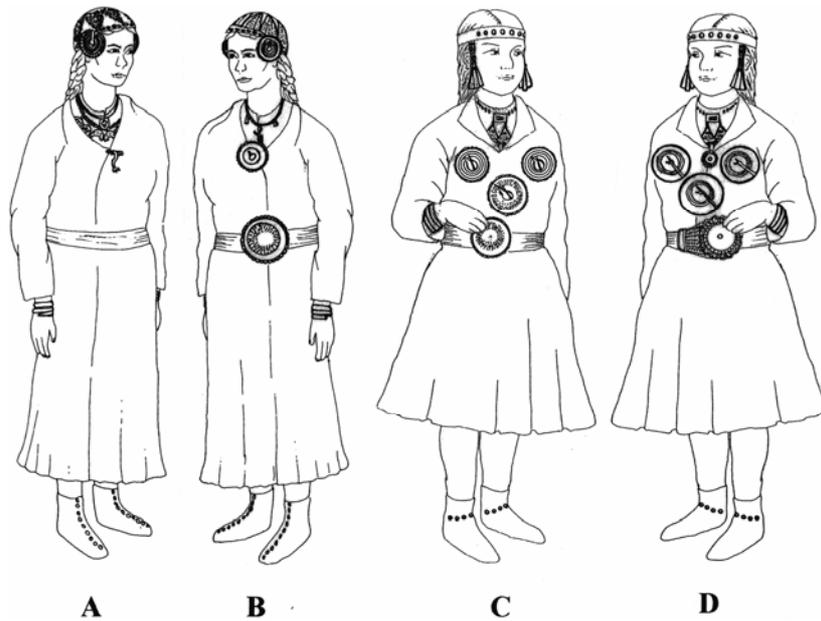


Fig. 8. Reconstructed female costumes for the Baltic area (A), the Volga-Kama region (D) and the Uzlissia hoard in "Baltic style" (B) or "Volga-Kama style" (C).

The role of important western, presumably Baltic, influence is mentioned for the D'iakovo culture²⁷, so that a look in this direction may be useful. While disc fibulae/bangles with key-hole shaped central openings do not occur in the Baltic area, different other disc fibulae do. We refer to a form with a conical disc as plate, sometimes with central protrusions of different forms, petalled fringes and cord-like concentric rib decorations (e.g. fig. 6,4), holder and catch for the pin on the reverse²⁸, that are quite similar to the ornaments of the Uzliissia objects nos. 12-13. In the Baltic area (fig. 7,14-22), especially Lithuania, they belong to female grave inventories of the 1st/2nd to 3rd/4th c. AD and sometimes occur in pairs²⁹. Although they can not be directly connected to the fibulae/bangles or phalera from Uzliissia, their general artistic style is quite comparable. Some other jewells from Lithuania are also of interest: decorative discs with key-hole shaped openings as well as concentric groove and cord decoration (fig. 6,5). They always appear in pairs, have no pins and belong to each side of the head-dress of women or girls in the 2nd c. AD³⁰ (fig. 8,A). Excepting their general shape and style nothing connects them to the Uzliissia fibulae/bangles and they clearly had a different function. Even if they can in no way serve as direct analogies for the fibulae/bangles and the phalera from Uzliissia, both types of objects show obvious stylistic similarities.

The simpler decorative components such as the buttons³¹, pendants with several embossed sheet metal plates (fig. 6,6) and saltaleoni³² also appear frequently not only in the Baltic area, but also in many other regions (see above). They can't be used to place the Uzliissia hoard in a specific chronologic or cultural context. The joined triangular plates merit though a special attention. If the two plates, joined at the bottom corners, were also joined at the top corner as suggested by the hole there, a segment of a cone or hemisphere would have been created. This form can be connected to Lithuanian caps worn by girls or women in the 1st-4th c. AD, even if these were usually made of textiles covered by smaller metal plates (fig. 8,A). Such triangular motives are known from caps preserved in graves³³.

²⁷ Iu. A. Krasnov, in: Iu. A. Krasnov (ed.), *D'iakovskaia kul'tura*, Moskva, 1974, p. 3.

²⁸ [R. Hausmann], *Katalog der Ausstellung zum X. archäologischen Kongress in Riga 1896*, Riga, 1896, pl. 8,24 (Ottensküll); idem, *Grabfunde aus Estland. Eine archäologische Studie*, Reval, 1896 (further on 1896a), p. 49sq., pl. 4,3-4 (Ottensküll); [A. Bezzenberger], *Katalog des Prussia-Museums im Nordflügel des Königlichen Schlosses zu Königsberg i. Pr. II; Die Funde aus der Zeit der heidnischen Gräberfelder (von Christi Geburt bis zur Einführung des Christentums) aufgestellt in den Zimmern II und III*, Königsberg, 1897, p. 26, fig. 101-102 (Schernen/Shernai); Otto Tischler, Heinrich Kemke, *Ostpreussische Altertümer aus der Zeit der grossen Gräberfelder nach Christi Geburt* (Zusammengestellt von Dr. Otto Tischler); *Im Auftrage des Vorstandes der Physikalisch-ökonomischen Gesellschaft zu Königsberg i. Pr. herausgegeben von Heinrich Kemke. Dem Andenken des am 18. Juni 1891 verstorbenen hochverdienten Altertumsforschers Otto Tischler gewidmet von der Physikalisch-ökonomischen Gesellschaft zu Königsberg i. Pr.*, Königsberg i. Pr., 1902, pl. 8,1-2.4-9 (Dollkeim, Wogau, Ostpreussen); W. Gaerte, *Urgeschichte Ostpreußens*, Königsberg i. Pr., 1929, fig. 140,b (Dollkeim); P. Kulikauskas, R. Rimantas, *Senovės Lietuvių Papuošalai I*, Vilnius, 1958, p. 326 and 346; fig. 157; F. D. Gurevich, *MIA* 76, 1960, p. 392, fig. 55 (Schernen/Shernai); P. Kulikauskas, R. Kulikauskas, A. Tautavičius, *Lietuvos archeologijos bruožai*, Vilnius, 1961, p. 237sq., fig. 169 (Bajoriškės). On new excavations in the Dollkeim cemetery see V. I. Kulakov, *ArchKorr* 30, 2000, p. 583-597.

²⁹ R. Hausmann, 1896a (note 28), p. 49sq., pl. 4,3-4 (Ottensküll). For the Chronology of the Lithuanian Iron Age see also H. Moora, *Die Eisenzeit in Lettland bis etwa 500 n. Chr.*, I: *Die Funde*, *Õpetatud Eesti Seltsi Toimetused/Verhandlungen der gelehrten Estnischen Gesellschaft* 25, Tartu, Dorpat, 1929 and idem, *Die Eisenzeit in Lettland bis etwa 500 n. Chr.*, II: *Analyse*, *Õpetatud Eesti Seltsi Toimetused/*

Verhandlungen der gelehrten Estnischen Gesellschaft 29, Tartu, Dorpat, 1938.

³⁰ *Die vorgeschichtliche Sammlung des Kurzemer (Kurländischen) Provinzialmuseums zu Jelgava (Mitau) 1818-1938. Zum 120 jährigen Bestehen des Kurzemer (Kurländischen) Provinzialmuseums zu Jelgava (Mitau) am 8. November 1938*, Riga, 1939, pl. 10,8; P. Kulikauskas, R. Rimantas, 1958 (note 28), p. 323 and 343, fig. 61-64; B. A. Rybakov (ed.), *Ocherki istorii SSSR 2. Krizis rabovladel'cheskoi sistemy i zarozhdenie feodalizma na territorii SSSR III-IX vv*, Moskva, 1958, p. 113sq.; P. Kulikauskas et al., 1961 (note 28), p. 195, fig. 124-125; Marija Gimbutas, *The Balts, Ancient Peoples and Places* 33, Bristol, 1963, p. 126sq., fig. 40; *Lietuvos TSR Archeologijos Atlasas IV. I-XIII a. radiniai*, Vilnius, 1978, p. 6, map 1,2; eadem, *Die Balten. Geschichte eines Volkes im Ostseeraum*, München, Berlin, 1983, p. 142sq., fig. 44; M. Michelbertas, *Senasis geležies amžius Lietuvoje (I-IV amžius)*, Vilnius, 1986, p. 86, fig. 14,3-4.

³¹ On later examples of such buttons see generally: Zaiga Blumbergs, *Bronzebuckelchen als Trachtzubehör. Zu den Kontakten Gotlands mit dem Kontinent in der Älteren Römischen Eisenzeit*, in *Theses and Papers in North-European Archaeology* 12, Stockholm, 1982.

³² Wire spirals become popular as "earrings" or parts of head and chest ornaments for women and girls in most of north-eastern Europe from the 2nd c. AD onwards and remain in use up to the 11th c.: V. Gening, 1963 (note 6); M. Kaczyński, *WiadArch* 29, 1963, 2 p. 121sq., fig. 6; N. A. Mazhitov, 1968 (note 5); Regina Volkaitė-Kulikauskienė, *Lietuvos Archeologija* 3, 1984, p. 118-125; Ilona Vaškevičiūtė, *Lietuvos Archeologija* 8, 1992, p. 128-135.

³³ E.g. P. Kulikauskas, R. Rimantas, 1958 (note 28), p. 324 and 344, fig. 82; P. Kulikauskas et al., 1961 (note 28), p. 192sq., fig. 120; M. Gimbutas, 1963 (note 30), p. 126sq., fig. 40c; eadem, 1983 (note 30), p. 143, fig. 44c.

Spiral bracelets are quite well known in the Baltic area and are present in the most of the mentioned sites³⁴, although they are usually narrow-banded. Undecorated, wide banded bracelets with triangular section and thinner ends (fig. 6,7), quite similar to the pieces from Uzliissia (nos. 1-2/fig. 3,1-2), in spite of a steeper triangular section, do, however, occur in Lithuania³⁵.

Pendants in animal form, such as those from the Middle Volga-Ural region or the figurine from Uzliissia, are not part of the standard costume in Lithuania or other regions of the Baltic. However there is an interesting group of fibulae from the 2nd-3rd c. AD in the southern part of this area (Masuria – fig. 7,16; 19; 22). Here the bovid heads represented on the feet of the fibulae (fig. 6,1-3)³⁶ are quite similar to that of the Uzliissia figurine.

In the Baltic area we thus find disc fibulae similar in style to the fibulae and the phalera from Uzliissia, but without any kind of central hole. Key-hole shaped openings in discs with concentric groove and cord-ornaments and petalled fringes do occur in the Baltic, but these objects have quite different functions and never bear pins. It seems that the triangular plates are part of typical caps worn by women in Lithuania during the 1st-4th c. AD. The bovid figurine has good stylistic analogies only in this region, on the feet of the above mentioned fibulae from the 2nd-3rd c. The smaller jewellery parts (buttons, saltaleoni, cones) are all present in the costumes; spiral bracelets, including the wide banded variety, are widespread in the Baltic during the 1st-5th c. AD (fig. 8,A).

Summarising, we come to the conclusion, that the bronze hoard from Uzliissia shows strong connections in types and, slightly less, in style to the female jewellery of the Middle Volga – Ural region of the 2nd-3rd c. AD (compare fig. 8,C and D). This could be linked to the earliest of a series of movements, which somewhat later become even more evident, then predominantly as warrior groups³⁷. On the other hand, especially those stylistic relations missing in the Middle Volga – Ural region may be found in the Baltic area, and in the first place in Lithuania, during the same period of time³⁸, even though the objects of the Uzliissia hoard have no direct analogies in this region (compare fig. 8,A and B).

The find can thus be dated quite securely to the 2nd-3rd c. AD. The area of origin, on the other hand, can not be determined in all certainty, since elements from two different (but to some degree connected) areas appear to mix in it. The find, definitely not rooted in local traditions, apparently reached its present location, at a time preceding the main migratory period. The pieces indicate a female inventory and is thus in contrast with the almost generally found male equipment³⁹.

³⁴ E.g. R. Hausmann, 1896 (note 28), pl. 3,16 (Ottenküll); idem, 1896a (note 28), p. 49sq., pl. 4,1-2 (Ottenküll); B. Rybakov, 1958 (note 30), p. 111sq., fig. 119. See especially: Lietuvos TSR... 1978 (note 30), map 56 with the general distribution.

³⁵ R. Hausmann, 1896 (note 28), pl. 3,15.

³⁶ W. Gaerte, 1929 (note 28), p. 220, fig. 169,a-b,d. Also illustrated in M. Gimbutas, 1963 (note 30), p. 134sq., fig. 46; eadem, 1983 (note 30), p. 152, fig. 50. H. Schmidt, ZfEth 38, 1906, p. 461sq. fig. 2; W. Nowakowski, *Die Funde der Römischen Kaiserzeit und der Völkerwanderungszeit*, Museum für Vor- und Frühgeschichte. Bestandskataloge 6, Berlin, 1998, p. 22-23 fig. 4; p. 25sq., 48sq. fig. 13,304. Generally see Marta Shmidekhel'm, Światowit 24, 1962, p. 335-341.

³⁷ See recently B. Anke, *Studien zur reiternomadischen Kultur des 4. bis 5. Jahrhunderts*, Beiträge zur Ur- und Frühgeschichte Mitteleuropas 8, Weissbach, 1998, with further literature.

³⁸ For connections between the region of the upper Volga, the Baltic and the northwestern Black Sea coast see also W. Nowakowski, 1987 (note 22); Magdalena Mączyńska, in: Eszter Istvánovits, Valéria Kulcsár (eds.), *International Connections of the Barbarians of the Carpathian Basin in the 1st–5th centuries A.D. Proceedings of the international conference held in 1999 in Aszód and Nyíregyháza. Einige Fibeln südlicher Herkunft im Hortfund von Lubiana in Pommern in International Connections of the Barbarians of the Carpathian*

Basin in the 1st–5th centuries A.D. Proceedings of the international conference held in 1999 in Aszód and Nyíregyháza, Múzeumi Füzetek (Aszód) 51; Jóna András Múzeum Kiadványai 47, Aszód, Nyíregyháza, 2001, p. 77-93 and M. Michelbertas, *Neue Funde der norisch-pannonischen Fibeln in Litauen*, in *International Connections of the Barbarians of the Carpathian Basin in the 1st–5th centuries A.D. Proceedings of the international conference held in 1999 in Aszód and Nyíregyháza*, Múzeumi Füzetek (Aszód) 51, Jóna András Múzeum Kiadványai 47, Aszód, Nyíregyháza, 2001, p. 65-69. Baltic, and specifically Lithuanian, influences continue into much later periods in the Ukraine: M. Michelbertas, in: *Probleme der relativen und absoluten Chronologie ab Latènezeit bis zum Frühmittelalter. Materialien des III. Internationalen Symposiums: Grundprobleme der frühgeschichtlichen Entwicklung im nördlichen Mitteldonauegebiet*, Kraków - Karniowice, 3.-7. Dezember 1990, Kraków, 1992, p. 279-284 and O. M. Prichodnjuk, in: Ljudmila V. Pekarskaja, Dafydd Kidd, *Der Silberschatz von Martynovka (Ukraine) aus dem 6. und 7. Jahrhundert. Monographien zur Frühgeschichte und Mittelalterarchäologie* 1, Innsbruck, 1994, p. 167. On later connections between the Baltic and the southwest also see J. Werner, in: G. Kossack, J. Reichstein (eds.), *Archäologische Beiträge zur Chronologie der Völkerwanderungszeit*, Antiquitas, series 3/vol. 20, 1977, p. 87-92.

³⁹ The reasons for this can be many, amongst which migration, trade, marriage, booty and many others are possibilities.