

УДК 94(477.51):902.1+7.025.4:929.6«219»

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### BATURYN EXCAVATIONS IN 2019 AND RECONSTRUCTIONS OF I. MAZEPA'S COAT OF ARMS

*This article surveys the results of the research on building history and designs of early modern Baturyn fortifications and the 2019 excavations of the remnants of masonry and wooden structures of Hetman I. Mazepa, Chancellor General P. Orlyk, and Hetman K. Rozumovsky. It examines the ceramic decorative and heraldic stove tiles, a female adornment, and other 17th – 18th-century archaeological finds in the town. Complete computer reconstructions of the burnt tiles with I. Mazepa's armorial bearings are published and discussed.*

**Key words:** Baturyn excavations, remnants of brick and timber buildings, I. Mazepa's arms, stove tiles, archaeological finds, computer reconstructions.

In August of last year, the annual excavations at Baturyn, Chernihiv Oblast, were continued. The Canadian Institute of Ukrainian Studies (CIUS) at the University of Alberta, the Pontifical Institute of Mediaeval Studies (PIMS) at the University of Toronto, and the Ucrainica Research Institute in Toronto have sponsored this Canada-Ukraine project since 2001. The Ukrainian Studies Fund at Philadelphia, the United States of America, also supported the archaeological and historical investigations of early modern Baturyn in 2017–2019. The Chernihiv Oblast State Administration awarded annual grants for the excavations in this town in 2005–2019.

Generous patrons of the Baturyn study are the late poetess Volodymyra Wasylyszyn and her husband, artist Roman Wasylyszyn (Philadelphia), as well as Dr. George Iwanchyshyn in Toronto. In 2019–2020, the historical and archaeological exploration of Baturyn and the preparation of associated

publications were supported with donations from the National Executive and Toronto Branch of the League of Ukrainian Canadians, the National Executive and Toronto Division of the League of Ukrainian Women in Canada, the Kniahynia Olha Branch of the Ukrainian Women's Association of Canada, the BCU Financial, the BCU Foundation, the Prometheus Foundation, the Ukrainian Credit Union, the Healing Source Integrative Pharmacy in Toronto, and the Zorya Inc. in Greenwich, Connecticut, the USA.

The 2019 archaeological expedition in Baturyn included some forty-five students, instructors, and archaeologists and scholars from the Chernihiv Collegium National University, the Hlukhiv National Pedagogical University, the Hlukhiv Military Lyceum, and the Institute of Archaeology at the National Academy of Sciences of Ukraine (NASU) in Kyiv. It was headed by Yurii Sytyi, senior fellow at the Centre for Archaeology and Early History of Northern Left-Bank Ukraine at the Chernihiv University. Yurii Kovalenko, M.A., the head of the Department of Scholarly Research at the Hlukhiv National Preserve took part in the Baturyn excavations and examination of its findings.

Prof. Zenon Kohut, the eminent historian of the Hetmanate and former director of CIUS, is the founder of the Canada-Ukraine Baturyn project and its academic adviser. Dr. Volodymyr Mezentsev, research associate of CIUS Toronto Office, is the executive director of this project from the Canadian side. Prof. Martin Dimnik, the leading Canadian historian of medieval Chernihiv principality and ex-president of PIMS, has also participated in this research and the publication of its results in North America [1].

Archaeologists believe that Baturyn was founded as a border fortress of the Chernihiv principality of Kyivan Rus' in

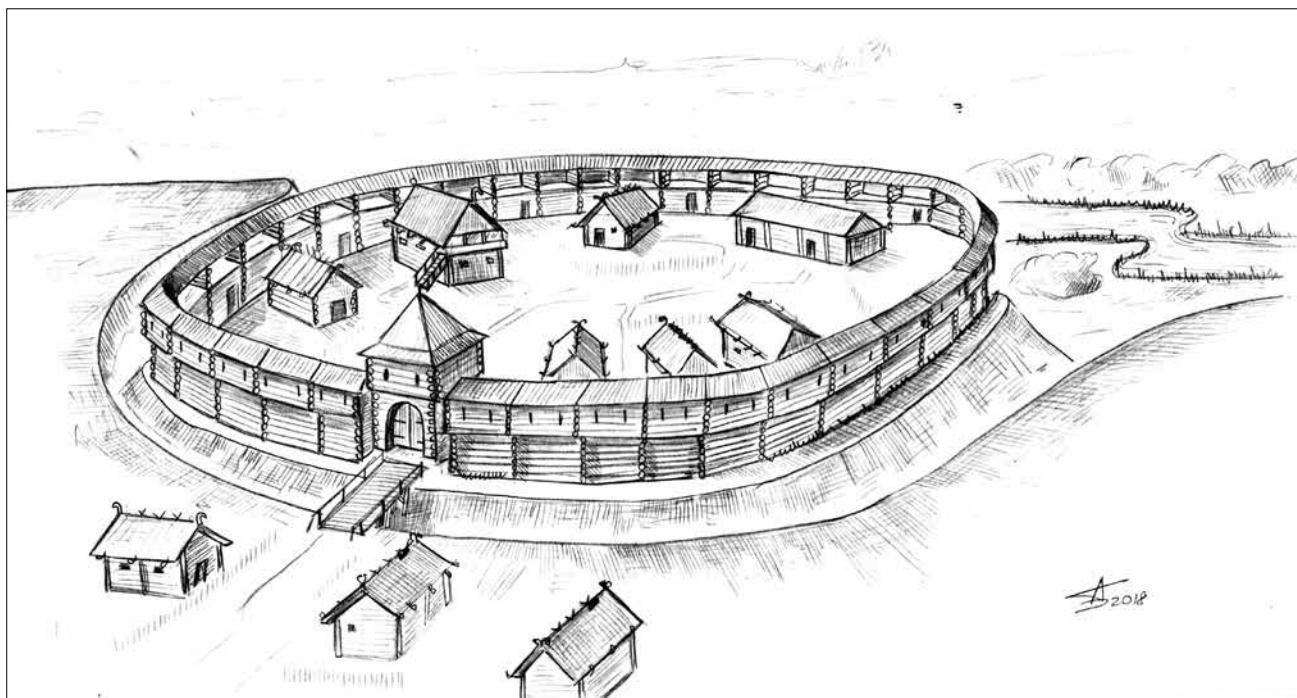


Fig. 1. The 12th–13th-century fortress in Baturyn. Hypothetical reconstruction by O. Bondar, 2019

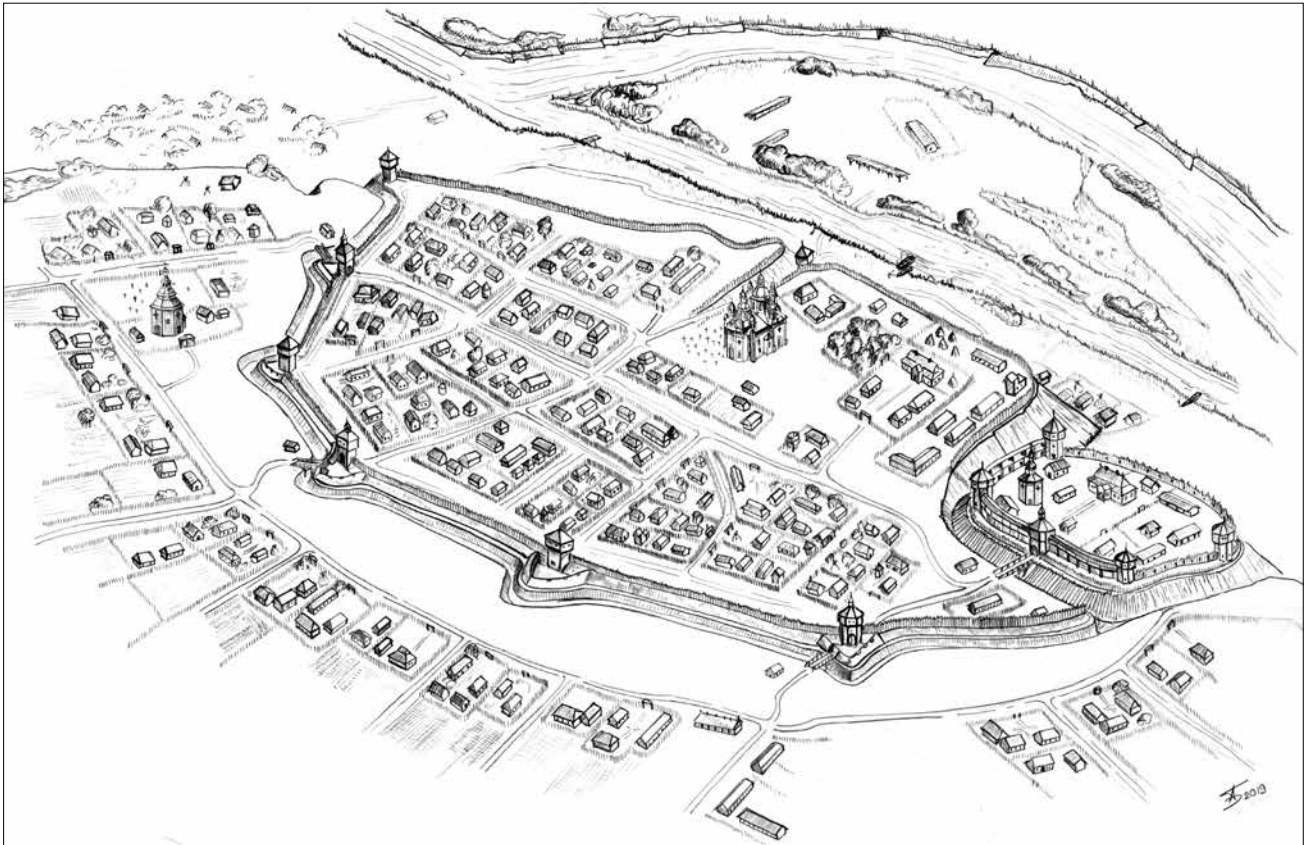


Fig. 2. Baturyn fortress with the citadel and adjacent suburbs before its destruction in 1708. Hypothetical reconstruction by O. Bondar, 2019

the late eleventh century and razed by the Mongols in 1275 (fig. 1). Under Polish rule over central Ukraine, the Baturyn fortress was rebuilt and enlarged in the 1620–40s (fig. 2). It was an important strategic outpost on the eastern frontier of the Polish-Lithuanian Commonwealth.

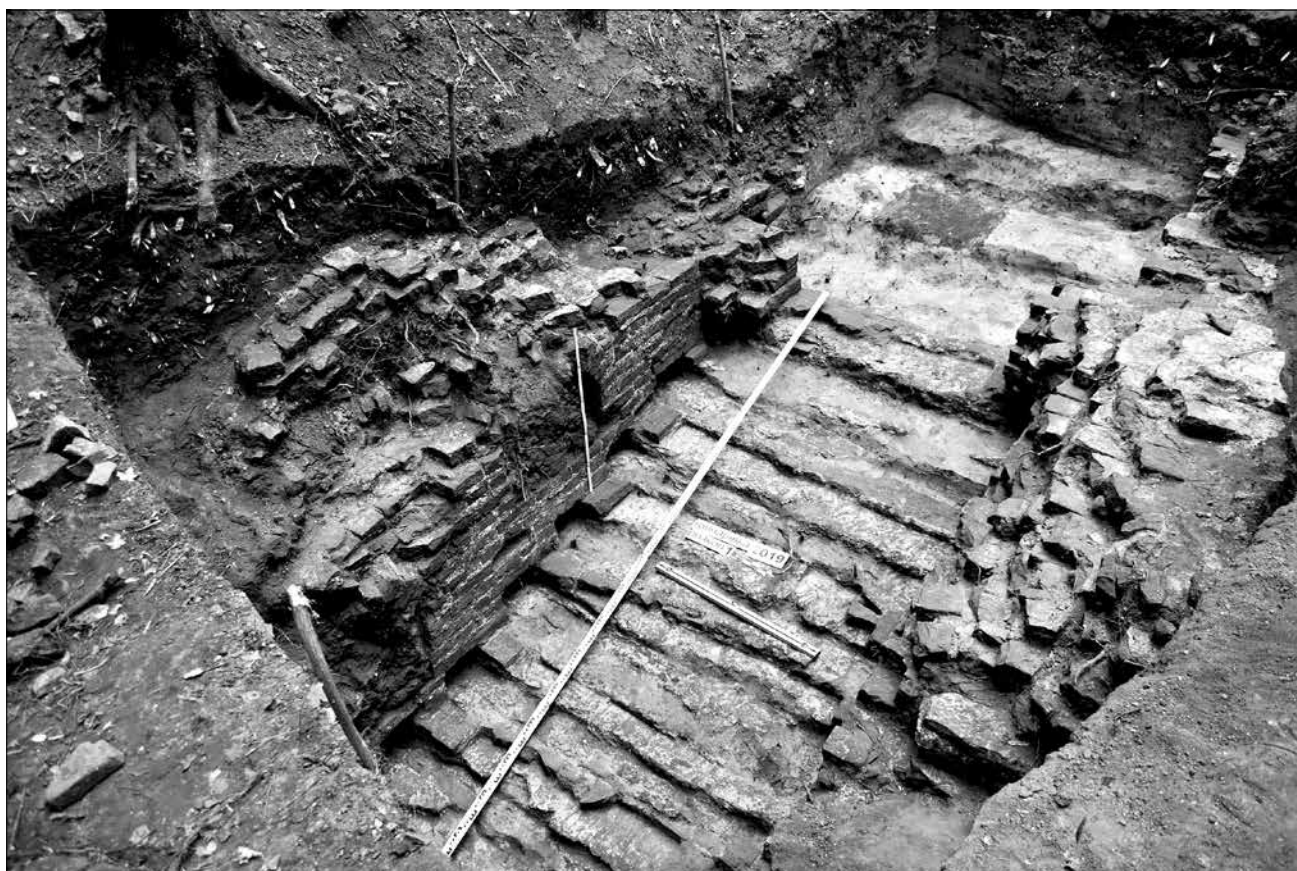
Yu. Sytyi posits that the seventeenth-century town citadel was protected by a moat, rampart, wall, towers, and gate made of horizontally placed logs in keeping with the medieval Rus'-Ukraine tradition of urban fortifications [2]. It covered 1.3 hectares in area. In 2008, the citadel's earthen and wooden defences, as well as several brick and timber structures within its bailey, were reconstructed on the basis of archaeological research of their remnants in 1996–2008. Prof. Antony Littlewood of the University of Western Ontario, Canada, praised highly the historical, architectural, and technical aspects of these reconstructions. He has published the report on his visit to Baturyn in 2019 [3].

Archaeologist Dr. Oleksandr Bondar (Chernihiv) has proposed that local Cossacks modelled the wooden *palanka* border forts of the Ottoman Empire for building the palisade outer defences of the Baturyn stronghold in the 1630–40s [4]. V. Mezentsev, however, asserts that Polish magnates and royal administrators, who commissioned the construction of the fortress, borrowed its design from Poland or Lithuania. There, palisade fences were widely used as frontal fortifications of medieval and early modern town suburbs, castles, and monasteries [5]. The fortress of Baturyn had an area of 26.4 hectares and a perimeter of

approximately 1 km. In the 1670–80s, its wooden towers and gates were reinforced by flanking earthen bulwarks. O. Bondar has graphically recreated the hypothetical general view, plan, and defensive structures of Baturyn of the seventeenth and early eighteenth centuries (fig. 2).

In 1648–1654, as a result of a massive popular uprising led by Hetman Bohdan Khmelnytsky, central Ukraine was liberated from Polish domination and the Cossack state, or Hetmanate, emerged in this region. From 1669 to 1708, Baturyn was its administrative and military capital. The town achieved the height of its urban development during the illustrious reign of Hetman Ivan Mazepa (1687–1709). But in 1708, this Cossack ruler resisted militarily the increasing absolutist power of Muscovy over central Ukraine. That year, the Russian army totally destroyed Baturyn, the main military base of I. Mazepa's revolt. The dynamic Hetman Kyrylo Rozumovsky (1750–1764) rebuilt the town, restored its status as the capital of the Cossack realm, and promoted its demographic, economic, and cultural revival until his death in 1803. During the nineteenth and twentieth centuries, Baturyn declined into an insignificant rural settlement [5].

In 2019, the expedition renewed its archaeological and architectural investigations of the remnants of I. Mazepa's villa in the south-eastern suburb of Baturyn, Honcharivka. In the late 1690s, the hetman commissioned there his ambitious three-storey masonry baroque palace, a timber court church, and houses for guests, servants, and guards. The palace was



*Fig. 3. Remnants of brick side walls and steps of the underground tunnel, excavated at I. Mazepa's manor (ca. 1700) in Honcharivka, the suburb of Baturyn, in 2019. Photo by Yu. Sytyi*



*Fig. 4. Burnt polychrome glazed ceramic relief stove tile bearing P. Orlyk's coat of arms, 1707–1708. Replica fashioned of polymer clay and photo by S. Dmytrienko, 2019*

ransacked and burned by Muscovite troops in 1708.

Excavations of I. Mazepa's manor have been conducted since 1995. Last year, 19 m west of the site of his palace, archaeologists discovered debris of a hitherto unknown spacious brick edifice

from the late seventeenth or early eighteenth century. It had an underground 2 m-wide vaulted tunnel with 12 steps leading down to what was presumably a basement, which has yet to be unearthed and identified. In 2019, this passageway was excavated for 6 m in length. Its side walls have survived with a height of 0.64–1.5 m and are 0.9–1 m thick. The lowest step of this tunnel is situated over 4 m deep from the present ground surface. The brick pavements of the floor and steps are in a fragmentary state of preservation (fig. 3).

At the upper part of this stepped passage, a door aperture and arched niches in the side walls were found. Unfortunately, the upper portions of these walls, vaults, as well as the ruins of the building's superstructure, were dismantled for the reuse of bricks in the nineteenth century. Further excavations are needed to explore the remaining debris of both the underground and above-ground levels of this intriguing edifice to determine its dimensions, layout, and function within I. Mazepa's estate. In V. Mezentsev's preliminary analysis, similar brick vaulted tunnels with steps leading down to the basement have been preserved intact at the masonry mansion of Judge General Vasyl Kochubei in Baturyn and the chancellery of the local Cossack regiment in Chernihiv of the late seventeenth century.

In Pobozhivka, the north-western suburb of Baturyn, the expedition continued researching the remnants of the residence of Chancellor General Pylyp Orlyk, personal secretary and



Fig. 5. Burnt glazed ceramic stove tile with I. Mazepa's heraldic emblem, 1707–1708. Supplemented hypothetical reconstructions, computer photo collage and graphic by S. Dmytriienko, 2019

chargé d'affaires of I. Mazepa. P. Orlyk's wooden dwelling was burned during the conflagration of Baturyn in 1708. Yu. Sytyi has interpreted the brick foundations excavated at its site in 2017–2019 as the footing of two heating stoves. Archaeologists found many fragments of locally manufactured polychrome and monochrome glazed ceramic and terracotta tiles of high technical and artistic quality from their revetments. These plaques are ornamented with elaborate floral and heraldic relief motifs in the Ukrainian baroque style. Several of them bear the family coats of arms of both P. Orlyk and I. Mazepa.

In 2018–2019, V. Mezentsev and the Baturyn expedition's graphic artist and historian Serhii Dmytriienko (Chernihiv) recreated two whole heraldic stove tiles of roughly square shape with each side about 30 cm long. The computer photo collage and graphic reconstructions as well as the photo of a polymer clay replica (muliazh) of the burnt tile featuring P. Orlyk's arms of 1707–1708 were published and examined in 2018–2019 (fig. 4) [6]. In this article, researchers present a more complete version of the hypothetical computer reconstructions and the photo of a clay replica of the fragmented burnt glazed ceramic stove tile with I. Mazepa's armorial bearings in relief (figs. 5, 6). They incorporated several additional related tile shards unearthed at Baturyn last year.

In the centre of the recreated tile is a massive light-green baroque shield surrounded by decorative garlands or leaves (namet) of darker green enamel. On this shield, a darkest green anchor-like six-barred cross with a white crescent moon and a six-pointed star on both sides are depicted, i.e., the main heraldic symbols of I. Mazepa's family arms referred to as Kurch. Hung around the crossbar, between the crescent and the star, is a white ribbon with the Order of St. Andrew. The hetman received this award in 1700. The shield is surmounted by a helmet crested with a princely crown.

Around the shield are relief images of symmetrically placed stylized Cossack standards with horsetails (*bunchuky*), banners (*korohvy*), hetmans' large globular maces (*bulavy*), flanged maces (*pirnachi*), military trumpets (*surmy*), spears, partisans (*protazany*), flags, cannons, ramrods (*bannyky*), muskets,



Fig. 6. Glazed ceramic relief stove tile featuring I. Mazepa's armorial bearings (1707–1708). Polymer clay replica and photo by S. Dmytriienko, 2019

sabres, oval and figured shields, a baroque suit of armour and helmet, all glazed green and set against a white background. Only the cannonballs, gunpowder barrel, and two Cossack kettle-drums (*litavry*) at the bottom of this composition are situated asymmetrically (figs. 5, 6).

V. Mezentsev observes that the representations of various weapons, munitions, and Cossack or hetman insignias of power (*kleinody*) on the reconstructed tile resemble those found in many engravings and silver-gilt icon covers (*oklady*) featuring the armorial bearings of I. Mazepa, which were created in Kyiv and Chernihiv during his reign. Probably at Orlyk's behest, a professional draftsman from the Kyiv-Chernihiv art school prepared the original graphic designs for his own and I. Mazepa's arms. He may have modelled some distinguished earlier versions of the hetman's heraldic emblem. On the base of these graphic originals, Baturyn tile-makers or *kakhliari*

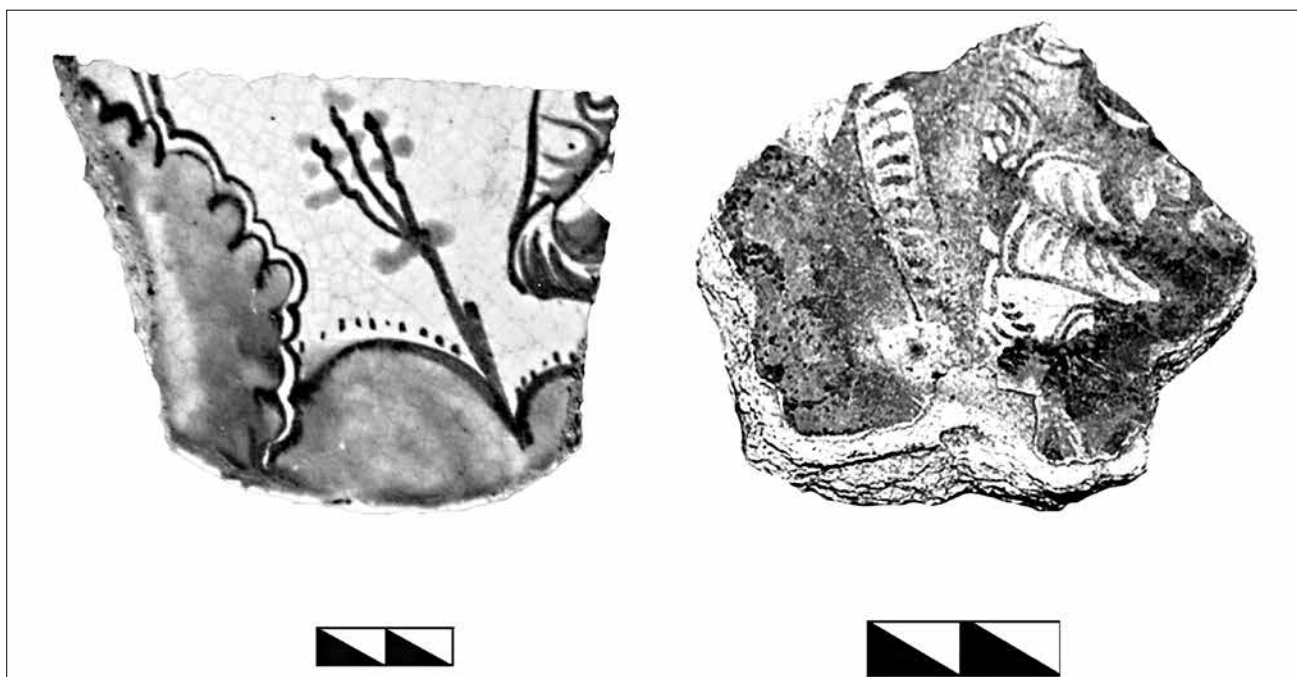


Fig. 7. Fragments of local flat ceramic stove tiles with multicoloured glazing, mid-18th century. Excavations at the citadel in 2007 (left) and V. Kochubei's park in 2019. Photos by V. Mezentsev and Yu. Sytyi

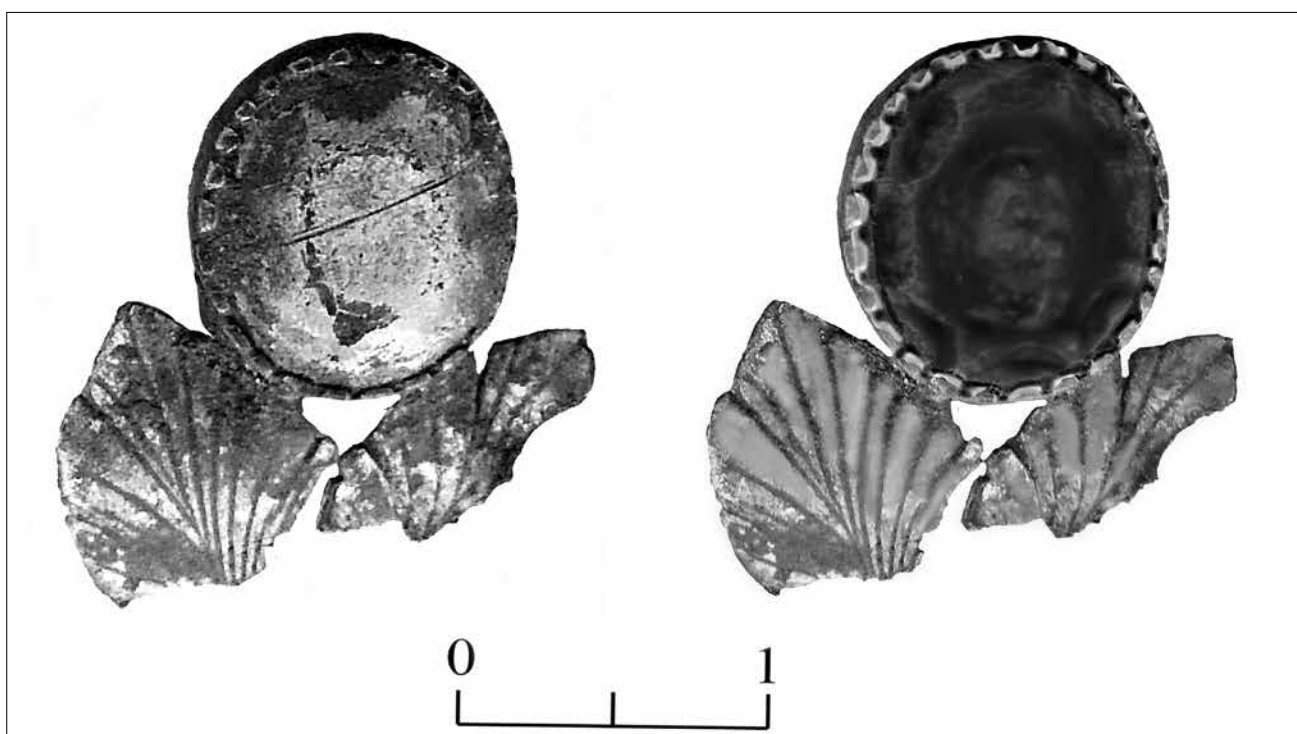
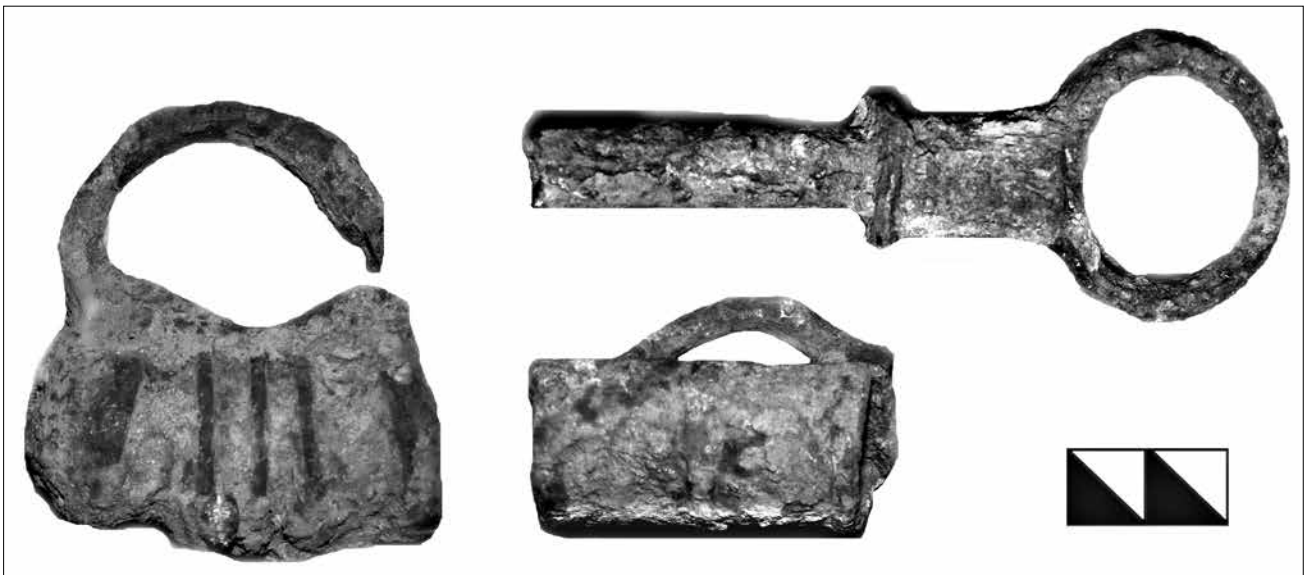


Fig. 8. Fragment of the figured gilt bronze female adornment with oval black glass appliqué of the second part of the 18th century. 2019 excavations at Horbanivka, the outskirt of Baturyn. Macro photo by Yu. Sytyi (left), computer reconstruction by S. Dmytriienko

carved the wooden moulds for fashioning the clay tiles.

The image of a trefoil princely crown surmounting the helmet on I. Mazepa's coat of arms deserves special attention (figs. 5, 6). V. Mezentsev contends that similarly shaped crowns are depicted on many early modern armorial bearings of princes of Ukraine and Western countries. He has suggested that P. Orlyk commissioned the heraldic emblem

of the hetman with this specific crown to honour him as Prince of the Holy Roman Empire. I. Mazepa was awarded this title on 1 September 1707 for services rendered to the Holy League [7]. This allows V. Mezentsev to date the recreated stove tile with the hetman's arms, as well as the finishing of P. Orlyk's home, to between that time and the fall of Baturyn on 2(13) November 1708.



**Fig. 9. Broken iron locks and a key, 17th–18th centuries, found at the bank of Seim River near the Baturyn citadel in 2019. Photo by Yu. Sytyi**

This particular type of crown does not appear in other representations of I. Mazepa's heraldic emblem from his era, which have survived to the present [8]. Hence, the reconstructed design of the hetman's armorial bearings that adorned P. Orlyk's residence in Baturyn and dates to 1707–1708 is unique and chronologically one of the latest known to us.

V. Mezentsev maintains that the combination there of I. Mazepa's coat of arms together with images of weapons, accoutrements, and hetman attributes of power is also unique (figs. 5, 6). Other ceramic heraldic stove tiles manufactured in the Hetmanate, the Polish-Lithuanian Commonwealth, and Muscovy lack this armature. It was likely an innovation of P. Orlyk to introduce such military motif into I. Mazepa's heraldic composition on some stove tiles at his home. But the existence of these stoves was too brief. It would appear that the ravaging of Baturyn as well as P. Orlyk's residence in 1708 put an end to the continued use and spread of his innovation in the ceramic tile decoration of early modern Ukraine and its neighbours [9].

The expedition investigated further the remnants of the administrative complex commissioned by K. Rozumovsky in 1750–1764 on the site of V. Kochubei's former court. These government offices of the Cossack polity were demolished in the nineteenth century. Debris from two of them was partially uncovered in 2017–2019.

This past summer, in the park of V. Kochubei's estate, archaeologists resumed excavating the brick foundation of the south-western structure of this complex. Its dimensions were 12 m by 10 m. Yu. Sytyi believes that it had one floor, timber walls, a kitchen, a dining room, and at least two heating stoves. One was faced with costly ceramic tiles adorned by Delft blue and white glazing and featured ornate plant, anthropomorphic, zoomorphic, and architectural designs in the late baroque Dutch style [10]. K. Rozumovsky was able to import them from Holland.

Another stove was apparently revetted with cheaper flat ceramic plaques glazed brown, green, light beige, yellow, and white. Presented here is the photo of a shard covered with this polychrome enamel depicting seemingly the folds of a garment or drapery (fig. 7, right photo). It was found among the structure's remnants last year. Several analogous stove tiles bearing flower ornaments, human images, and landscapes executed in a similar naïve manner were unearthed at V. Kochubei's court and the citadel in previous years. Their painters adapted some artistic motifs of Dutch painted earthenware and reinterpreted them using multicoloured glazing techniques and traditions of Ukrainian folk art. Such tiles were possibly fashioned and decorated at the local manufactory of architectural majolica that K. Rozumovsky founded in Baturyn in 1750.

In the course of the eighteenth century, comparable imitations of high standard and reputable Dutch glazed ceramic stove tiles were also produced in Kyiv, Chernihiv and Poltava provinces, and Galicia [11]. An example of the contemporaneous heating stove embellished with the flat polychrome glazed ceramic plaques which were painted likely by local artists in this mixed Ukrainian-Dutch baroque style has been reconstructed on the second floor of the Podil Expedition Office of the Institute of Archaeology, NASU, in Kyiv.

During the 2019 excavations at Horbanivka, the north-western end of early modern Baturyn, Yu. Kovalenko found a broken small gilt bronze ornament with an oval appliqué of black glass surrounded by stylized leaves (fig. 8). Its size is 2.3 by 1.8 cm. He has identified this artefact as the fragment of a necklace adornment shaped as a stylized bowknot (*bant*) of the second half of the eighteenth century. It supposed to hold on chains an imitation coin or medal made in Ukrainian folk style known as *dukach* or either represents a similar upper detail of an earring. An analogous in design eighteenth-century bronze-gilt pendant from a necklace set and two

complimentary earrings, all topped with decorative metal bowknots mounted by semi-precious gems, are exhibited at the V. Kochubei House Museum in Baturyn.

Bronze, silver, and gold *dukachi* were a popular necklace jewelry of modern Ukrainian women of all social ranks in towns and villages alike being a traditional accessory of their national folk costume notably in the eighteenth century [12]. In Yu. Kovalenko's opinion, the unearthed gilt bronze ornament belonged to a woman from a Cossack elite or well-to-do burgher family residing in Horbanivka during K. Rozumovsky's era. Then the *dukachi* and earrings with the bowknots of this particular style were in fashion throughout Left-Bank Ukraine.

While excavating the Baturyn outskirts, archaeologists also found a lily-shaped bronze belt clasp from a horse harness, a copper button, three copper Russian coins of small denomination, two broken iron locks and a key, various iron household implements, and three fragments of ceramic Cossack tobacco pipes, all from the seventeenth and eighteenth centuries (fig. 9). The examination and dating of these artefacts have been provided by Yu. Sytyi and Yu. Kovalenko [13].

To summarize, in 2019, archaeologists closely investigated the building history of the early modern fortifications of Baturyn and identified their Ukrainian and Polish designs. They graphically recreated some defensive structures and the general view of the hetman capital before its destruction in 1708. Remnants of the heretofore unknown masonry edifice and many informative decorative and heraldic stove tiles of I. Mazepa's era were discovered. The importance of these archaeological finds as well as the computer graphic and clay reconstructions of the unique versions of I. Mazepa's and P. Orlyk's ceramic coat of arms for the study of heraldry and applied arts of Cossack Ukraine cannot be overstated. Researchers of Baturyn plan to continue its excavations in August.

#### ENDNOTES

1. A shorter and less illustrated version of this article was published in the online bulletin of the University of Ottawa, Canada. See Dimnik M., Mezentsev V. «Excavations at Baturyn, Ukraine, in 2019», *Canadio-Byzantina*, no. 31, January 2020, pp. 10–15 (<https://uottawa.scholarsportal.info/ojs/index.php/cb/index>). See also note 3.

2. Когут З., Мезенцев В., Ситий Ю. Археологічні студії Батурина 2018–2019 рр. Реконструкції герба Івана Мазепи. Торонто, 2019. С. 7–8. Іл. 18, 20, 22 (file:///D:/Downloads - D/Booklet 19 Bat 18-6 MB b Acad.pdf)

3. Antony Littlewood, Western University, *Canadio-Byzantina*, no. 31, January 2020, p. 4 (<https://www.sfu.ca/content/dam/sfu/hellenic-studies/newsroom/news-events/2020/January/C-B-No.31.pdf>). See also the Internet link in note 1.

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5. Когут З., Мезенцев В., Ситий Ю. Археологічні студії Батурина 2018–2019 рр. С. 9–10. Іл. 10, 11, 13–17.

6. Когут З., Мезенцев В., Ситий Ю. Розкопки у Батурині 2017–2018 рр. Новознайдений герб Пилипа Орлика. *Гомін України*. Рік LXX. № 38 (3746). Торонто, 9 жовтня 2018 р. С. 7–9 ([https://www.academia.edu/37566219/Homin\\_Ukr\\_18\\_Bat\\_17-18\\_L.pdf](https://www.academia.edu/37566219/Homin_Ukr_18_Bat_17-18_L.pdf)); Mezentsev V. «Pylyp Orlyk's Coat of Arms and Other Archaeological Finds at Baturyn in 2017–2018», *Ukrainian Echo*, vol. 33, no. 4, Toronto, February 19, 2019, pp. 1–2. (<http://www.mazepa.name/nova-anhlovna-publikatsiyi-pro-rozkopky-u-baturyni/>). See this article also in *The Ukrainian Weekly*, vol. LXXXVII, no. 7, Parsippany, N.J., February 17, 2019, pp. 10–11 (<http://www.ukrweekly.com/www/pylyp-orlyks-coat-of-arms-and-other-archaeological-finds-at-baturyn-in-2017-2018/>); Mezentsev V.I., Sytyi Yu.M., Kovalenko Yu.O.

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9. Когут З., Мезенцев В., Ситий Ю. Археологічні студії Батурина 2018–2019 рр. Реконструкції герба Івана Мазепи. С. 19–22. Іл. 34–40.

10. Dimnik M., Mezentsev V. «Excavations at Baturyn in 2018», *Canadio-Byzantina*, no. 30, January 2019, pp. 12–13, Figs. 4a, 4b (<http://www.mazepa.name/cms/wp-content/uploads/Canad-Byzantin-30-2019-powuj.pdf>); Mezentsev V.I., Sytyi Yu.M., Kovalenko Yu.O. Archaeological Research on 17th – 18th-Century Baturyn in 2018. *Сіверщина в історії України*: Наукове видання. Вип. 12. Глухів–Київ, 2019. С. 33. Fig. 5.

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12. Волік К.С. Виникнення та поширення культури дукачів в Україні у XVII – поч. XX ст. С. 59–62. [Електронний ресурс]. Режим доступу: <https://www.visnik.org/pdf/v2014-01-10-volik.pdf>

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#### Мезенцев В.І., Ситий Ю.М., Коваленко Ю.О. Розкопки у Батурині 2019 р. та реконструкції герба І. Мазепи

Стаття підсумовує результати досліджень історії будівництва й конструкції фортифікацій Батурина XVII–XVIII ст. та розкопок цього міста 2019 р. За авторами, дерево-земляні оборонні споруди батуринаського замку 1625 р. продовжували традицію зрубних укріплень Київської Русі, а острокілі фортеці спорудили у 1630–40-х рр. за зразком зовнішніх огорож з паль тогочасних міських посадів, замків і монастирів Польщі чи Литви. Представлено уявні графічні реконструкції городища XII–XIII ст. у Батурині та загального вигляду гетьманської столиці до її розорення російським військом 1708 р.

На місці зруйнованої садиби гетьмана І. Мазепи на околиці Гончарівка продовжили розкопки залишки досі невідомої великої мурованої споруди кінця XVII – початку XVIII ст. Частково відкрили рештки цегляних стін та сходинок склепінчастого підземного тунелю, що спускався вниз, згодом, до глибокого підвалу, який ще не виявлено.

Під час досліджень залишків згорілої дерев'яної резиденції генерального писаря П. Орлика у 2017–2019 рр. розкопали цегляні фундаменти двох гребів та знайшли базато фрагментів керамічних полив'яних і теракотових пічних кахлів батуринаського виробництва. Вони прикрашені майстерними рослинними орнаментами та унікальними композиціями гербів П. Орлика та І. Мазепи за стилем українського бароко. Публікуються гіпотетичні реконструкції методами комп'ютерних фотолажу і графіки та знімки глиняних муляжів їх геральдичних емблем. Обґрунтовується висновок про те, що відтворений герб І. Мазепи з князівською короною прославляв його як князя Священної Римської імперії і датується разом з оформленням інт'єру покоїв П. Орлика 1707–1708 рр.

У Кочубеєвому парку продовжили розкопки цегляних фундаментів службової будівлі, що належала до адміністративного комплексу гетьмана К. Розумовського 1750–1764 рр. Знайдені серед її решток уламки керамічних пічних кахлів з сюжетним полив'яним розписом відносяться до місцевих виробів того часу. Кахляри доби К. Розумовського адаптували деякі художні мотиви імпортованої голландської майоліки й перетлумачили їх у техніці поліхромної глазури та самобутній народній манері. Розглянуто також модну жіночу оздобу другої половини XVIII ст., виявлену в ході розкопок на передмісті Горбанівка, та інші значні археологічні знахідки Нового часу в Батурині минулого року.

**Ключові слова:** розкопки Батурина, залишки мурованих і дерев'яних споруд, герб І. Мазепи, пічні кахлі, археологічні знахідки, комп'ютерні реконструкції.

Стаття надійшла до редакції 27.01.2020 р.  
Рекомендована до друку 10.03.2020 р.

