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FLINT ASSEMBLAGE OF SEVERYNIVKA HILLFORT



In the paper flint finds from Severynivka hillfort are analysed. They represent several chronological periods. The main part of the collection belongs to the Upper Palaeolithic. Separate tools by their characteristics refer to the Neolithic—Late Bronze period. A small group consists of items that cannot be clearly associated with a particular chronological period.

Key words: Severynivka hillfort, Early Iron Age, Southern Bug River, Upper Palaeolithic, Neolithic, Late Bronze Age.

Severynivka hillfort is one of the 31 documented hillforts on the Right-bank of Ukraine (fig. 1) and is a part of the Southern Bug group of Early-Scythian settlements (Ławniczak, Ignaczak 2016, p. 19). For the present day the area of the settlement is 5.5 hectares (Ławniczak 2016, p. 55), although the original area could amount to 13—15 hectares (Болтрик та ін. 2015, с. 155—192). The study of the Severynivka hillfort had begun by the Southern-Podolian expedition of Leningrad University and the Institute for the History of Material Culture of the USSR under the direction of M.I. Artamonov, who worked during the three seasons of 1947, 1948 and 1953 (Смирнов 1961, с. 88). In recent years, the site has been explored by a joint expedition of the Institute of Archaeology of the National Academy of Sciences of Ukraine and Poznan University of Adam Mickiewicz under the guidance of Yu.V. Boltryk and M. Ignaczak (fig. 2).

In addition to the typical Scythian time artefacts, among the materials found at Severynivka hillfort there are also flint products, which show that the expanses of the high bank of the Riv River (the

tributary of the Southern Bug River) attracted the population from the Stone Age. Thus, this publication is dedicated to flint assemblages and their analysis.

The flint materials of Severynivka hillfort are not synchronous and characterize several chronological periods of the territory settlement with a hillfort of the Early Iron Age.

The earliest stage is represented by Upper Palaeolithic materials. The total Upper Palaeolithic collection includes 47 artefacts. The flints referred to this period are covered by milk white or grey patina, of varying intensity. Part of the artefacts shows that the raw materials used by the ancient inhabitants of the site have a River Dniester region origin. It was light brown or light grey, translucent flint: from time to time it is not of high quality. In some areas of finds, the preserved weathered cortex is dirty grey or dirty greenish colour. In several of these chips a red sub-cortex is visible.

The cores are presented by two samples and one fragment. The first sample was found in the square L81a in the southern part of the hillfort. This bidirectional-adjacent core has a size of $38 \times 20 \times 16$ mm (fig. 3, 4). It is covered with an opaque grey patina. The mechanical cleavage of the side shows that the core is made of grey flint. Its work surfaces are predominantly with a negative of bladelets. The platforms are formed by chipping removal from the side of the working surface of one chip. One platform corrected several smaller chips. The preparation of fracture zones is absent. The side surfaces of the core lack the negatives of splits preparation as a piece of natural fracture surface nodules: the areas of natural cover are dirty green colour cortex and a few fragments of chips that do not form any system.

The second core found at the intersection of fortifications (excavations of 2012—2013) at the North-East part of the hillfort. It is underlain by a mixed clay and black earth layer of the third period

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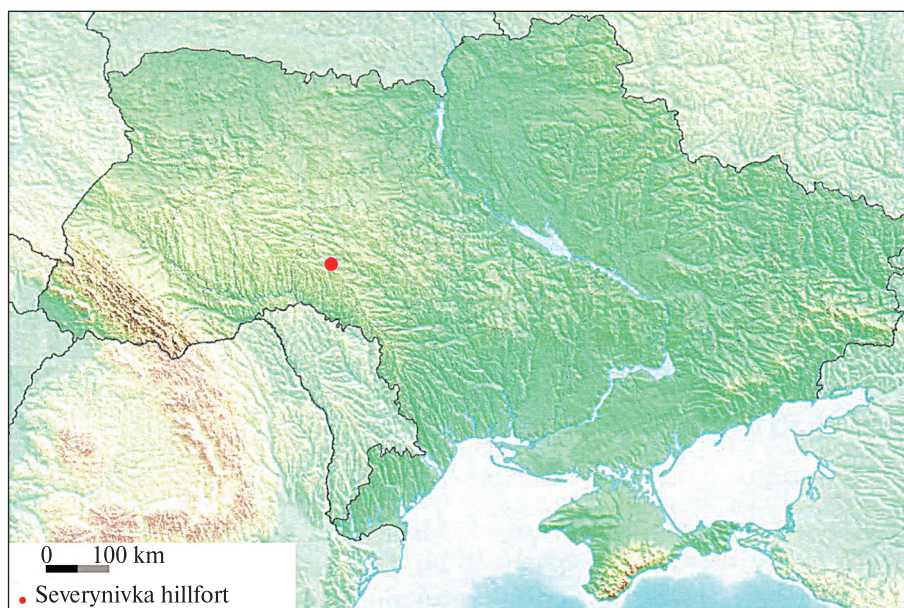


Fig. 1. Location of Severynivka hillfort on the map of Ukraine

of construction and was probably poured from the area of the hillfort. This is a single-platform core with one working surface (fig. 3, 3). Its size is $30 \times 16 \times 15$ mm. It was partially damaged due to the dwell in the fire and mechanical issues. The surface of the core is covered with white opaque patina. The processing was stopped with the initial use. This is evidenced by a part of the rib, which is preserved. The working surface of the core mostly has a negative of micro-blades. The platform, according to the part which remained, was formed by chips, taken from the side of the working surface. The

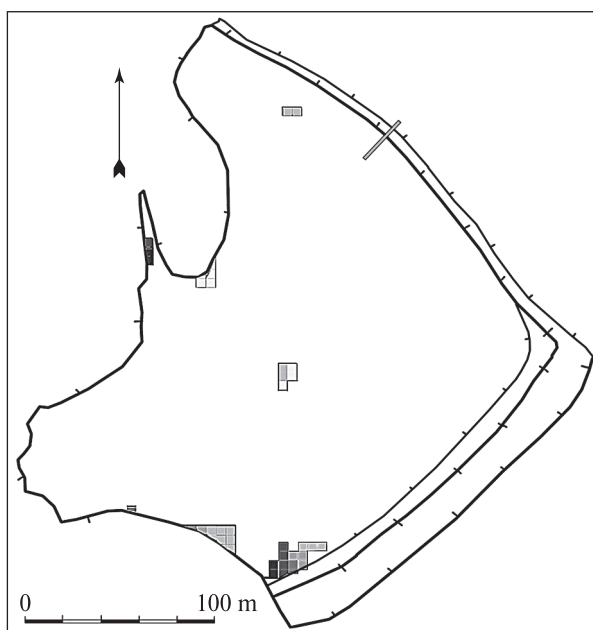


Fig. 2. The plan of Severynivka hillfort (Shelekhan, Lifantii, Boltryk, Ignaczak 2016, fig. 1, 1)

fracture zone has traces of overhang trimming. The side and the rear surface of the core do not have crusty areas and have some chips taken earlier. Judging by one of the side parts, it was formed by transverse negatives of edge creation and negative of one flake, cleaved from the edge between the side and rear surface.

The fragment is completely covered with opaque milky white patina. It is a piece of the core top with the remaining proximal parts of chips negatives, obtained from it. They are all microblades. The platform formed by a single chip was obtained from the side of the working surface of the core. The fracture zone has traces of overhang trimming.

The number of chips of the cores formation and rejuvenation is seven. Rejuvenation core tablet — 3. In one of them, we can say that it was removed from the side of the working surface of the core. Second — withdrawn from the side of the core, i.e. chiefly for the transfer or expansion of the working surface. Third — represented by small fragments.

Crested blades are represented by a proximal fragment of the bidirectional-crested and the distal part of the uni-directional-crested. The proximal fragment has a broken platform. The distal part has a feather shaped edge.

A crested flake is presented by a fragmented instance with an absent proximal part. It has a strongly curved profile and is overpassed.

Last but not least, one chip is a transverse chip of the correction/rejuvenation core. Its dorsal surface has uni-directional negatives.

The blades are five complete, three proximal, two medial and five distal fragments. The most

interesting is the largest blade size — $58 \times 18 \times 13$ mm. It was derived from the flattened core with the aim of transferring the working surface on its side. This blade has a secondary-crested scar pattern end and flat platform and is overpassed.

In general, an irregular Palaeolithic shape is typical for the whole blades. Among them, three have secondary-crested and two uni-directional scar patterns. The blades with a secondary-crested scar pattern have a flat, linear and rough faceted platform. Traces of overhang trimming or abrasion of these blades remains unchecked.

The blade with the uni-directional scar pattern has a flat platform and traces of overhang trimming and abrasion. These blades are platforms of small sizes and no clearly defined bulbs. The smallest bladelet size is $22 \times 9.0 \times 2.0$ mm, with a broken platform. All blades, except the largest one described above, have feathered ends.

Among the proximal fragments, there are two with uni-directional scar patterns. Among them is a platform covered with a cortex, the other — flat and traces of overhang trimming and abrasion. The third piece has a lateral scar pattern and broken platform.

Among the medial parts, one has a uni-directional scar pattern, the other — a bidirectional. On the first moiety, one can imagine the size of the individual blades, which were used by the first inhabitants of the territory of the future hillfort. Its width is 33 mm.

Among distal fragments, four blades have a feathered and one a hinge termination. All pieces of the feathered end have a uni-directional scar pattern. The fragment with a hinge termination has a lateral scar pattern.

There are twelve flakes. The remains of the cortex are present on the dorsal surface of six flakes, but they occupy small areas, preferably at least 25 % of the surface. Half flakes are uni-directional negatives. There are ten flakes with survived platforms. Flakes with flat platforms dominated. And one sample has one cortex platform and one linear. Overhang trimming was noticed on the two flakes with flat and linear platforms.

Half of the flakes have feathered ends. Another two items are hinge and overpassed. Two samples are without distal ends.

The tools are represented by two scrapers, one of which is combined with a burin on the truncation,

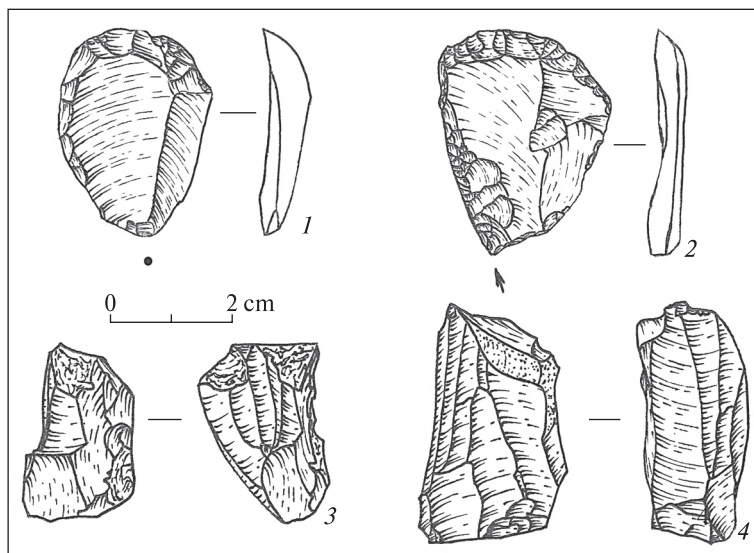


Fig. 3. Severynivka hillfort. Upper Palaeolithic tools and cores. 1 — scraper; 2 — scraper combined with burin; 3 — single-platform core; 4 — bidirectional-adjacent core

and two fragments of indefinable tools. The surface of scrapers is coated with light grey patina. Both are made of flakes. The first is found in Ditch 2 at the central part of the hillfort, the platform has a smooth and barely visible bulb (fig. 3, 1). The second scraper is derived from the second coaly layer of the same complex. This scraper has the faceted platform which is framed by obtaining a burin spall. The scraper is also kept by a barely visible bulb. It is an interesting correction of the burin working part by cross-cleavage (fig. 3, 2).

Among the fragments of tools, the first probably formed during the production of a scraper or burin. The second is made from another tool. Noteworthy is the presence of gloss on a small area of the surface. Arguably, this gloss was formed by rubbing flint tools against the surface with organic materials — wood or leather.

The collection includes two fragments of burin spall.

The Palaeolithic collection also consists of three fragments of indefinable chips and one fragment of flint. The main criterion for classifying these things to the Palaeolithic Period is the presence of patina on their surface.

Thus, despite the small number of the Upper Palaeolithic collections, one should draw some conclusions: 1) the principal amount of flint raw material, according to its quality, was supplied from the Dniester River region; 2) apparently cortex small areas, surviving on the dorsal surface of the flakes and other findings, raw materials supplied on the site are selected by core manufacturing, parts, or directly in pre-cores or cores; 3) at least part of

the cores of the site has been carefully prepared for the chipping process, as evidenced by a rib fragment on one of the cores and availability of secondary crested blades; 4) based on the characteristics of blades and cores it can be assumed that single-platform chipping dominated, overhang trimming and abrasion were used to prepare the fracture zone. A soft hammerstone was used for making blades from working surface of cores.

The small amount of material and directly tools makes it impossible to discuss its cultural and chronological affiliation. Moreover, the question remains about the homogeneity of the Upper Palaeolithic collection. Given the fact that the main raw materials used at the site where a great deal of the flint were from Dniester River region, it is highly likely that it came from that region and its ancient inhabitants.

As a result of the research, flint tools found at the Severynivka hillfort, not related to the Upper Palaeolithic materials. Given the typological and morphological characteristics, these artefacts may correlate with several chronological stages of attractions — from the Neolithic to the Final Bronze Age. According to V. Konoplia and A. Havinskyi (Конопля, Гавінський 2012, с. 131), the deposits of flint raw materials are absent at the territory of the Vinnytsia region and therefore, in this case, it can be assumed that the artefacts of the analysis below are imported from other places. Most likely, the Turon dark grey flint material of one of sickles comes from the watershed of the Goryn and Styr Rivers. The polished axe-adze and the second sickle are apparently made of siliceous rocks (silicides, Cenomanian flint) of beige and light grey, interspersed with quartzite from a location to be associated with a basin of the middle Dniester and Prut Rivers (Фурман 2010; Сало, Назар 2012, с. 153). Sufficient details of the distribution of flint raw material and its properties are also provided in the textbook authored by I. Marcus and G. Ohrimenko (Маркус, Охріменко 2010).

1. Flint hammer-stone is found in piles of the excavation at the central part of the hillfort. The tool is of a round-flattened (ellipsoid) shape; almost the entire surface is covered with cortex nodules. On the sides of the tool, traces of the intensive utilization are visible. It is matte grey flint, with a cavity on the surface. The striker dimensions are 6.7×5.0 cm. Similar tools are fixed within a wide chronological range — from the Neolithic to the Bronze Age. For example, on the multilayer monument Targowisko (Poland), similar hammer-stones have been associated with a complex of the Chalcolithic Malice culture (Wilczynski 2014, p. 521, tab. 16, 7, 8), the latest settlement dates back

to 3800 BC. These tools have also been found at other sites of Poland, such as the settlements Stanislawica 9 and Wilkostowo 23/24, where they relate to the Funnel Beaker culture (Nowak 2015, p. 204, tab. XXXV: 6, LXXV: 1; Rzepecki 2015). Due to the results of the typological and morphological analysis, Polish researchers released eight types of hammerstones. Thus, the tool from the Severynivka hillfort can be attributed to the second type — «elliptical with intensified marks of wear at the opposite ends of the tool» (Szydlowski, Rzepecki 2015, p. 337). These tools are typically found in the Vysotska culture of the Late Bronze Age. For example, at the Salasky settlement two hammerstones were found which the author, for some reason, interpreted as «grind-stones» (Конопля 2010, с. 12). Several hammer-stones have been found at settlements of the Vysotska culture and Ному I and Мылне I (Western Podillia) (Ільчишин 2015, с. 13, рис. 8, 5, 16; 11, 11, 14–16).

2. An axe-adze bifacial, trapezoidal, with partially polished sides covered with a flat facet retouching including the lateral sides (fig. 4, 3). It is fixed in the cultural layer of square F62d. It is made of matte grey-beige silicon raw material containing inclusions of quartzite. The surface of the tool in the poll part contains a cavity. At the intersection of the rectangular blade, there is a convex, worn, partly reflected in the conical profile. The poll is well worn, with traces of *piquetage* that can probably point to its use as a hammerstone. The size of the tool is $10.9 \times 4.2 \times 3.1$ cm.

One polished axe, which correlated with the traditions of Late Trypillian culture, was discovered by an expedition headed by M.I. Artamonov at the Severynivka hillfort (Смирнова 1961, с. 94). It is a bifacial, partly polished wedge-shaped tool, lenticular in its cross section and in profile, with its covered sides parallel with flat counter retouch. The poll of the tool is narrow, the side facets are absent, the blade slightly convex (Смирнова 1961, с. 99, рис. 10, 3).

The rectangular at the intersection of the polished flint axes-adzes are widely represented at the Right-bank of Ukraine, mostly in Podillia, Subcarpathia, and Volyn, which tend towards western and south-western parts. The nearest analogy should indicate the materials from the suburb of Bar city (Vinnytsia region) (Конопля, Гавінський 2012), axes of Late Trypillian culture, Funnel Beaker cultures, and Globular Amphora found in the Volyn region (Маркус, Охріменко 2010, с. 149, 175).

According to the morphological analysis of flint tools from the settlements of Funnel Beaker culture of Volyn and Krakow conducted by J. Budziszew-

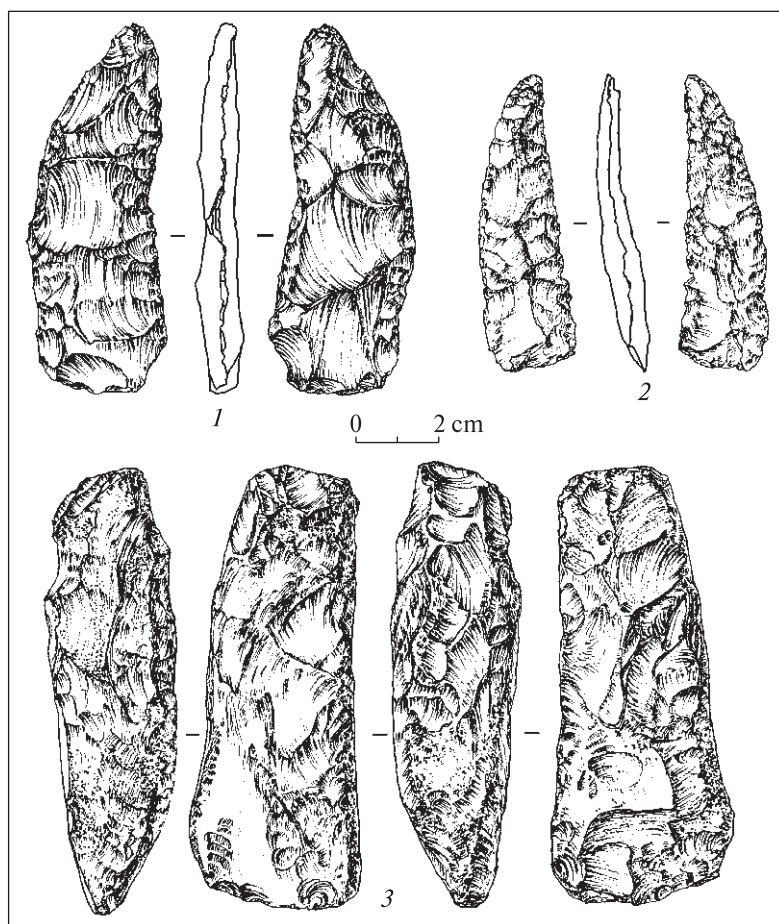


Fig. 4. 1, 2 — sickles; 3 — Ax-adze

ski, the axes, like the Severynivka type belong to wedge tools (Budziszewski 2000, p. 261). The lifetime of flint polished axe-adzes was determined by radiocarbon dating of the materials of the Corded Ware culture sites located in the South-East Poland — the settlement Gabułów and burial 3, barrow 2 of Średnia, burial 3 and 7 of Zielona, object 32 of settlement Pełczyska 6 etc. (Jarosz, Włodarczak 2007). These sites are dated from the range of the late IV and early III millennium BC.

3. A bifacial sickle, segment shaped, elongated proportions, made of dark grey tiles flint (fig. 4, 1). It was found in the pit 12 at the southern part of the hillfort. The implements curved back, the blade was slightly concave, flat base, the tip is not processed. The sides of the tool are covered by a bidirectional retouch and with traces of glossing due to heavy use. The artefact dimensions are $9.2 \times 3.2 \times 0.9$ cm. Sickles like those found at Severynivka hillfort are widely represented at the sites of the Late and Final Bronze and Early Iron Ages. In geographical terms, they spread from the middle basin of Siverskyi Donets River (Телиженко, Супрун 2004, с. 224; Телиженко, Черних 2005, с. 108) and the southern coast of the Crimea (Тес-

ленко 2015 с. 115) to Transnistria. Interestingly, the Siverskyi Donets River region tools are called the «sickle of the Bondarykha type» (Колесник, Гершкович 2001), while for both the Right Bank Ukraine used the term «sickle of the Bilohrudivka type» for morphologically similar tools (Нодосівка and Малополовetsk complexes) (Лысенко, Пашкевич 2009, с. 376, рис. 4, 1, 4, 5).

In the paper of G. Taras, among other issues of the Trzcinec culture flint industry at the territory of Lesser Poland, the Volyn Upland and Western Woodlands (Polissia), there also is considered the question of the sickles typology. Tools, resembling the Severynivka sickle, were referred to as the third type of the so-called «humpback» with a clipped base (Taras 1997, p. 173, fig. 4).

4. The bifacial sickle, segment shaped, elongated proportion at the intersection of the lenticular made of matt tiles of light grey silicon material containing inclusions of quartzite (fig. 4, 2). It was found in the cultural layer of the F16c square at the north-western part of the hillfort. The tool with the curved back, the blade slightly concave; the base is flat and thin with the application of short longitudinal splits. The sickle blade has no signs of intense work. The

sides are covered with a flat counter sub-directional retouch. Artefact dimensions: 7.1 × 2.2 × 0.7 cm.

This sickle has the typological and morphological characteristics, as discussed above; the tool has a very broad cultural, chronological and geographical analogy. In addition, the examples of the usage of such tools are only given by the population of the Chornolisska culture of the Early Iron Age, as covered in some detail in the L.I. Krushelnyska research (Крушельницька 1998).

Attention is drawn to the «flint investment of the sickle» found in the robbed tomb barrow 3, group II, near the Medvyn village (Gorchakiv forest) (Ковпаненко 1981, с. 43, рис. 32, 3). The tool is segment-shaped, apparently bifacial, with a barely concave curved blade and back. Interestingly, the retouch covers the touch-edge tools only, while the middle part remains untreated. G.T. Kovpanenko's information suggests that these sickles, although rare, are found in tombs of the VII century BC. As an argument, he cites the example of a flint sickle found in barrow 344 at the Tashlyk River (Ковпаненко 1981, с. 101). It should be added that with the sickle there was also found a stone mace characterized for the burial of the second half of the VIII century AD (Кравченко 2016, с. 76–68).

Another one sickle found in the pit 57 of Early-Scythian settlement near the Dolyniany village in the Chernivtsi region. The sickle feature of it is that the parallel retouch covers only the edges of the item and do not appear in the middle part (Смирнова 2001, с. 67, рис. 5, 6).

In the Severynivka hillfort flint collection there some flints that cannot be clearly associated with a certain period. The total number of finds in this group is seven.

The proximal fragment of the retouching blade or flake. This tool is badly damaged mechanically. Its surface has a light grey colour. In the field of mechanical damage, it can be seen that the raw material has a light grey colour and resembles quartzite in its texture. It has a dorsal surface with uni-directional negatives. It has a flat platform and negatives of overhang trimming.

The chip of retouched flint. It does not have a patina and is severely damaged by fire.

The proximal fragment of the blade obtained by pressure. It has dimensions of 34 × 18 × 3.0 mm. The blade was made of dark grey flint. A fragment with no patina, a uni-directional negatives, trapezoidal cross-section and flat platform.

The distal fragment of the blade. It does not have a patina, made of dark grey flint with light grey inclusions. Its size — 75 × 21 × 6.0 mm. The dorsal surface of the fragment with bi-directional

negatives. It has a multifaceted cross-section and feathered end.

Core platform rejuvenation. It does not have a patina and is made of grey flint with light grey inclusions.

Two small pieces of chips without patina on the surface. One — light grey, the second — light brown.

Grey flint chip with light grey inclusions without patina on the surface and with signs of a dwell in a fire.

Thus, the collection of flint indicates that the area where there was a Severynivka hillfort in the Early Iron Age, with a long time before it was attractive for the settlement of people.

Due to the typological and morphological analysis it can be suggested that one of the first stages of settlement areas, from which the Severynivka hillfort later emerged, should be associated with the tribes of the Upper Palaeolithic period. What is also indicative is the flint products — hammer-stone, axe-adze and sickle, the cultural and chronological position is determined within the Neolithic and Late Bronze Age. However, the discovery of flint sickles, one of which is significantly found in the pit, confirms the likelihood of this category of tools usage up to the Early Iron Age.

Thus, the information potential of the Severynivka hillfort research is not limited to the Early Iron Age and its further study is important for understanding the cultural and historical processes in the Southern Bug River basin in prehistoric times.

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КРЕМ'ЯНА КОЛЕКЦІЯ ІЗ СЕВЕРИНІВСЬКОГО ГОРОДИЩА

В останні роки Северинівське городище досліджувалося спільною експедицією Інституту археології Національної академії наук України і Познанського університету ім. Адама Міцкевича під керівництвом Ю.В. Болтрика і М. Ігнашака.

Крім типових артефактів скіфського часу, з городища походять крем'яні знахідки, які є неодноразовими і характеризують собою декілька хронологічних періодів його заселення.

Найдавніший етап представлений матеріалами верхнього палеоліту. Всього верхньопалеолітична колекція нараховує 47 знахідок. Не зважаючи на нечисленність верхньопалеолітичної колекції, можна зробити певні висновки: 1) основна кількість кременю постачалася з Подністер'я, 2) сировина постачалася на стоянку у вже відібраних під виготовлення нуклеусів частинах, або ж і безпосередньо у пренуклеусах, чи нуклеусах, 3) принаймні частина нуклеусів на стоянці ретельно готувалася до процесу розколювання, про що свідчить залишок ребра на одному з нуклеусів та наявність пластин з поздовжньо-поперечною огранкою, 4) домінувало одноплощадкове розколювання, редуціювання та абразив застосовувались для підготовки зони розщеплення, для отримання пластинчастих сколів застосовувалася м'який відбійник.

Незначна кількість матеріалу і безпосередньо знарядь, не дає можливості говорити про його культурно-хронологічну належність. Зважаючи на те, що основною сировиною, яка використовувалася на стоянці був кремій з Подністер'я, найімовірніше, саме з того регіону походили і її давні мешканці.

У результаті досліджень Северинівського городища, були виявлені крем'яні знаряддя, не пов'язані з верхньопалеолітичними матеріалами. Зважаючи на типолого-морфологічні ознаки, вказані вироби можна співвідносити з декількома хронологічними етапами існування пам'ятки — від неоліту до фінальної бронзи.

Отже, інформаційний потенціал досліджень Северинівського городища не обмежується лише ранньозалізною добою і його подальше вивчення є важливим і для розуміння культурно-історичних процесів у басейні Південного Бугу у доісторичні періоди.

К л ю ч о в і с л о в а: городище Северинівка, ранньозалізна доба, Південний Буг, верхній палеоліт, неоліт, доба пізньої бронзи.

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КРЕМНЕВАЯ КОЛЛЕКЦИЯ ИЗ СЕВЕРИНОВСКОГО ГОРОДИЩА

В последние годы Севериновское городище исследовалось совместной экспедицией Института археологии Национальной академии наук Украины и Познанского университета им. Адама Мицкевича под руководством Ю.В. Болтрыка и М. Игнашак.

Кроме типичных артефактов скифского времени, с городища происходят кремневые находки, которые являются неодновременными и характеризуют несколько хронологических периодов его заселения.

Древнейший этап представлен материалами верхнего палеолита. Всего верхнепалеолитическая коллекция насчитывает 47 находок. Несмотря на её малочисленность, можно сделать определенные выводы: 1) основное количество кремня поставлялась с Поднестровья, 2) сырьё поставлялось на стоянку в уже отобранных под изготовление нуклеусов, частях, или же непосредственно в пренуклеусах, или нуклеусах, 3) как минимум часть нуклеусов на стоянке тщательно готовилась к процессу раскалывания, о чем свидетельствует остаток ребра на одном из нуклеусов и наличие пластин с продольно-поперечной огранкой, 4) доминировало одноплощадочное раскалывание, редуцирование и абразив применялись для подготовки зоны расщепления, для получения пластинчатых сколов применялся мягкий отбойник.

Незначительное количество материала и непосредственно орудий, не дает возможности говорить о его культурно-хронологической принадлежности. Исходя из того, что основным сырьем, которое использовалось на стоянке был кремль с Поднестровья, вероятнее всего, именно из этого региона происходили и ее давние обитатели.

В результате исследований Севериновского городища, были обнаружены кремневые орудия, не связанные с верхнепалеолитическими материалами. Учитывая их типолого-морфологические признаки, указанные изделия возможно соотносить с несколькими хронологическими этапами существования памятника — от неолита до финальной бронзы.

Таким образом, информационный потенциал исследований Севериновского городища не ограничивается только раннежелезным временем и его дальнейшее изучение важно и для понимания культурно-исторических процессов в доисторическое время в бассейне Южного Буга.

К л ю ч е в ы е с л о в а: городище Севериновка, ранний железный век, Южный Буг, верхний палеолит, неолит, эпоха поздней бронзы.

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