



Paweł Jarosz 

Barrows in the funeral space at the turn of the Final Neolithic and the beginning of the Bronze Age in the Carpathian basins of Vistula and San rivers

ABSTRACT

The aim of the paper is to present funeral customs of communities that inhabited the Carpathian foothills of Vistula and San rivers basins at the Final Neolithic and the Early Bronze Age representing Corded Ware and Mierzanowice cultures in the light of new chronometric data. These radiocarbon data were obtained for barrows at site 3 in Średnia, Przemyśl district and Jawczyce, Wieliczka district site 1, mound 2. According to conducted investigations the earliest barrows in this region can be dated to the beginning of the 29th century BC. Then in the younger phase of the Corded Ware culture the exploitation of existing mound continued so subsequent graves were dug into the embankment. This burial rite lasted until the turn of the 24th and 23rd centuries BC so can be synchronised with the presence of niche graves to the north of Carpathian foothills. Afterwards during the Early Bronze Age starting at the 22nd century BC communities of the Mierzanowice culture also chose existing mounds as a place to bury their dead. Therefore one can conclude that in funeral rites of the Corded Ware and Mierzanowice cultures groups in the Carpathian foothills the barrow as the burial place of their ancestors played the main role.

KEYWORDS

Carpathian foothills, Corded Ware culture, Mierzanowice cultures, barrows, radiocarbon chronology



The Final Neolithic burial mounds were erected in the upper parts of the Carpathian foothills of Vistula and San rivers basins. The emergence and re-use of most of them should be associated with the penetration of these areas by communities of the Corded Ware culture in the 3rd millennium BC. Throughout the vast area of Europe occupied by the Corded Ware culture there are evident changes in the funeral rite compared to previous customs. They are manifested by the dominance of single graves where the arrangement of dead and inventories emphasize the sex of buried individuals. These rules are strictly followed and they apply to both the shape of features and the ornamentation of vessels (Vander Linden 2007, 182, 183). These changes are consistent with the entire system of transformation and connection that has spread across Europe and the Middle East, leading to the creation of powerful local units (Rowlands 1980, 151; Shennan 1986).

Excavations that have been conducted on barrows last years and the obtained new chronometric data allow to think about the mound as a place of special importance for communities of the Final Neolithic and the Early Bronze Age of not only funeral but also ceremonial importance. Particular attention should be paid on the repeatedly utilised barrows at site 3 in Średnia, Przemyśl district in the Dynów Foothills (Jarosz 2002) and in Jawczyce, site 1, barrow 2 (Zoll-Adamikowa, Niżnik 1963) for which new radiocarbon data were obtained (Fig. 1)¹.

Barrow at site 3 in Średnia is located at the one of the main humps of the Dynów Foothills and it is a part of a chain formed by barrows stretching from Tuligłów to Wola Węgierska (Jarosz 2002; Fig. 1; 2018, 143, Fig. 2b). The analysed mound 2 was a multi-phase structure, and features discovered under the mound and in its embankment are arranged in a clear stratigraphic system (Fig. 2). The embankment was erected above the centrally placed burial pit (No. 3), which was dug into the virgin soil (Fig. 3: 1). Its bottom was at the depth of about 100 cm from the highest point of the barrow and an axe made of silica marl was discovered in it (Fig. 3: 3).

Remains of the deceased were not preserved due to the nature of the local soil. Similar tools have analogies in the materials of the Corded Ware culture and are known among others from grave 56 at site 6 in Szczytna, Jarosław district (Hozer *et al.* 2017, Fig. 32: 5, 6) and loose finds e.g. Werbkowice, Hrubieszów district (Libera 2016, 483, Fig. 1: 1). The radiocarbon date of this grave

1 The analyses were carried out as part of the research project 2016/20/S/HS3/00307.

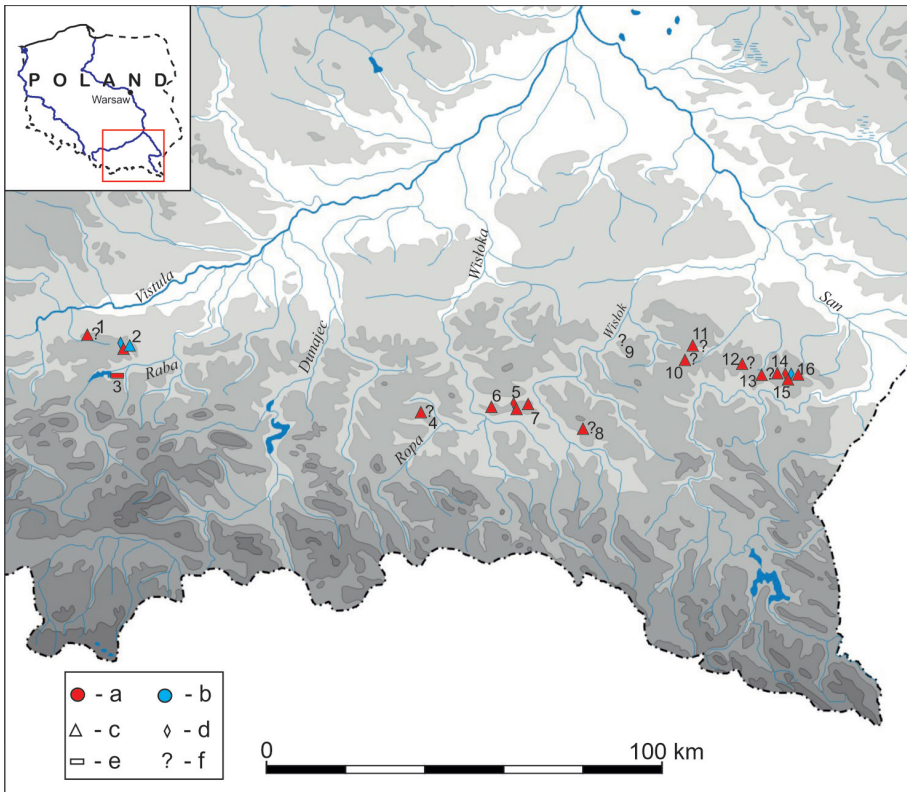


FIG. 1. Grave sites of the Corded Ware and Mierzanowice cultures in the Carpathian Foothills (prepared by P. Jarosz)

a – Corded Ware culture; b – Mierzanowice culture; c – barrow grave; d – grave dug into the mound; e – flat grave; f – unspecified grave

1 – Wieliczka, site Kozi Rożek; 2 – Jawczyce, site 1; 3 – Dobczyce, site 1; 4 – Rożnowice; 5 – Bierówka, site 1; 6 – Krajowice, site 5; 7 – Niepla, site 14; 8 – Krosno-Korczyzna, site 16; 9 – Siedliska; 10 – Dylągówka, site 19; 11 – Tarnawka, site 1; 12 – Hucisko Nienadowskie, site 2; 13 – Skopów, site 15; 14 – Wola Węgierska, site 3; 15 – Średnia, site 3; 16 – Średnia, site 4

1-3 – Wieliczka district; 4 – Gorlice district; 5-7 – Jasło district; 8 – Krosno district; 9, 10 – Rzeszów district; 11 – Łańcut district; 12, 13, 15, 16 – Przemyśl district; 14 – Jarosław district

(Fig. 3: 2) that was performed for charcoal is 4050 ± 35 BP (Poz-9454) and after calibration, can be referred to the years 2627-2492 (68% probability; Jarosz, Włodarczak 2007). The grave had a wooden construction, most likely in the form of a chest and was oriented along the W-E line (Figs. 2; 3: 1). It was damaged by a trench containing most likely two burials stacked above each other

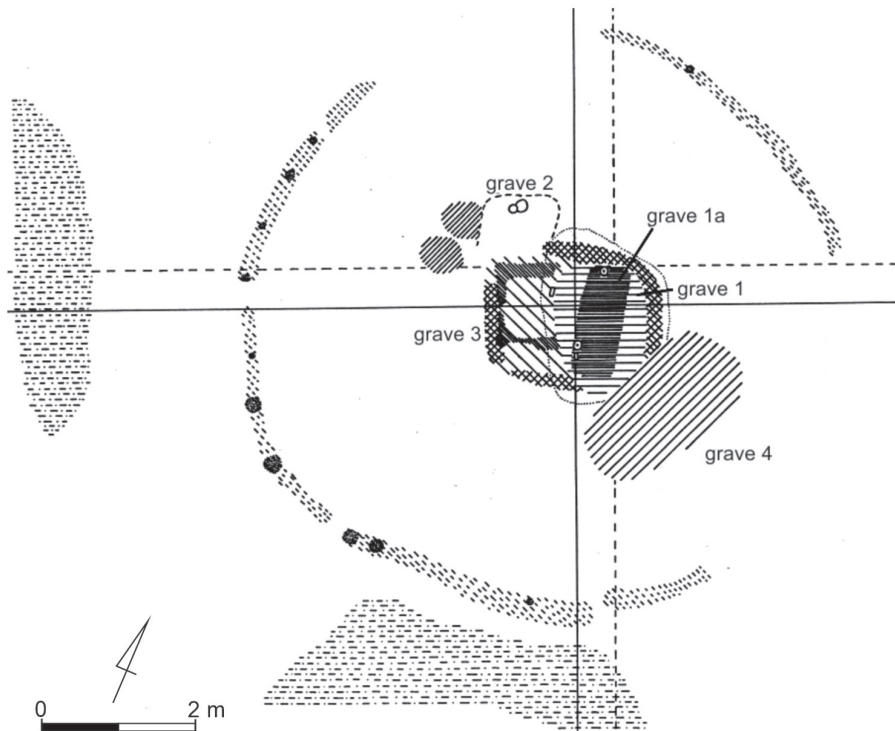


FIG. 2. Średnia, Przemysł district, site 3, barrow 2. Arrangement of graves (acc Jarosz 2002)

(graves 1, 1a; Figs. 2; 4: 1, 4). Both graves were oriented with the longer axis along the N-S line. The bottom of grave 1 (lower) was at depth of about 115 cm from the top of the mound, i.e. about 15 cm below the bottom of the central pit. Its equipment was placed in the southern part and contained a beaker and an axe made of silica marl (Fig. 4: 2, 3). Within the boundaries of the same trench there was another burial, marked as 1a (upper), containing a slender amphora placed in its northern part (Fig. 4: 5). The bottom of this grave was approximately 15 cm above the bottom of the feature 1 (95 cm deep), which is approximately at the level of the central pit. Placing graves 1 and 1a into the mound probably took place probably in a short period and marks the second phase of this ceremonial place e.g. existing barrow utilisation. The undecorated beaker discovered in grave 1 refers to type IV according to J. Machnik classification (1966) and is similar to beakers decorated with cord incisions dated to the younger phase of the Corded Ware culture development such as

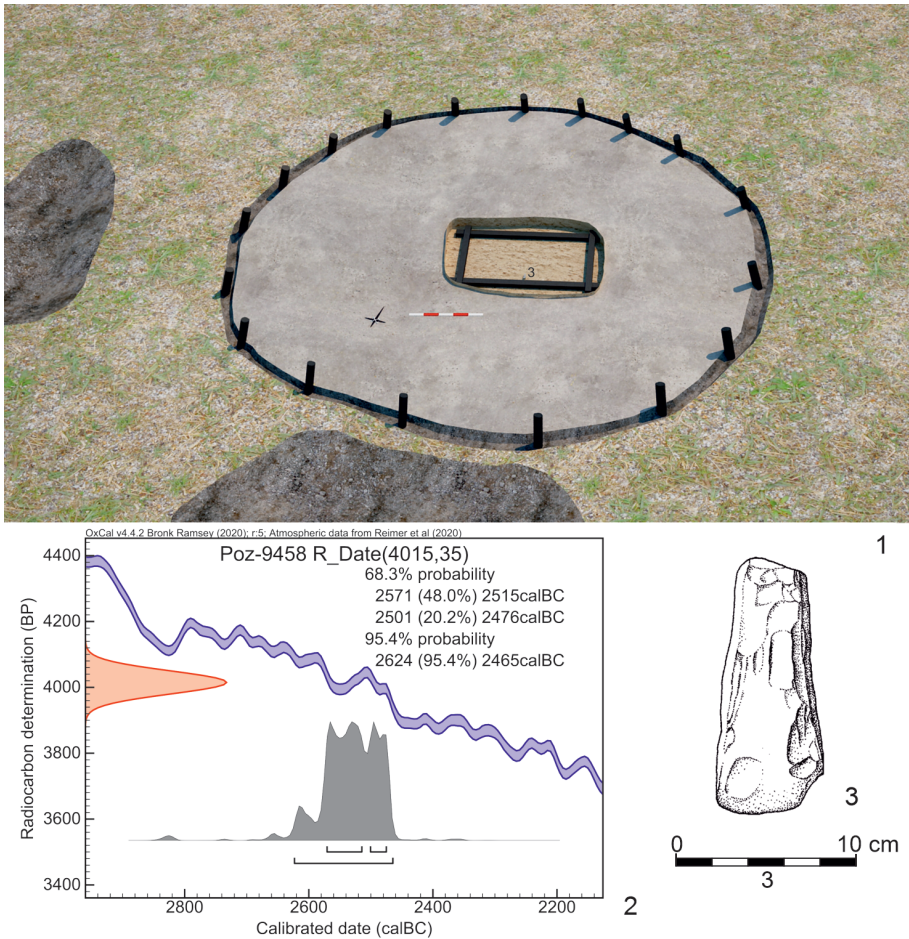


FIG. 3. Średnia, Przemysł district, site 3, barrow 2. 1 – reconstruction of the first phase of the barrow’s utilisation (performed by K. Rosińska-Balik); 2 – calibration graph of radiocarbon dating from central grave; 3 – axe from central grave (acc Jarosz 2002)

Mirocin, site 27, features 273 and 363 (Machnik *et al.* 2019, 60, 79, Figs. 33: 2; 46), Święte, site 11, grave 863A and 1149A (Olszewski, Włodarczak 2018, 24, Fig. 14: 1; 37, Fig. 26: 1), site 15, grave 405A (Janczewski *et al.* 2018, 104, Fig. 9: 4) and from graves located in Brzezinki (now Wola Wielka), Lubaczów district, barrow 3, grave 2 and Łukawica, Lubaczów district, barrow K – the central grave (Machnik 1966, tab. XXI: 1c, XXIV: 2a). Linking such beakers with the younger phase of this culture development is confirmed by the dating obtained for

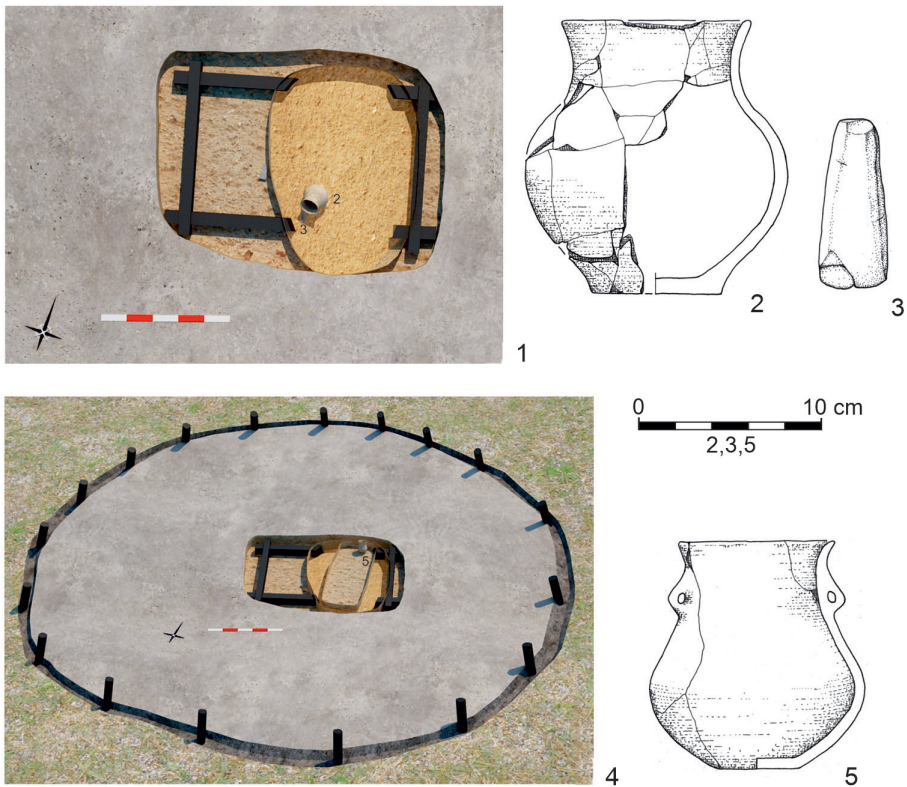


FIG. 4. Średnia, Przemysł district, site 3, barrow 2. 1 – reconstruction of the grave 1 localisation (performed by K. Rosińska-Balik); 2, 3 – vessel and axe from the grave 1 (acc Jarosz 2002); 4 – reconstruction of the grave 1a localization (performed by K. Rosińska-Balik); 5 – vessel from the grave 1a (acc Jarosz 2002)

the grave 1149A that is 3925 ± 35 BP (Poz-90884), which after calibration can be referred to the years 2473-2348 BC (68.2% probability). Similarly, a small axe made of silica marl occurs in the Final Neolithic niche graves: e.g. Święte, site 11, grave 814 and 1290D (Olszewski, Włodarczak 2018, 20, Fig. 11: 4, 46; Fig. 34: 4). Analogical to the amphora from grave 1 vessels are also dated to the younger phase of the Corded Ware culture. They were found in niche graves from Wierszczyca, site 1, grave 1 (Machnik *et al.* 2009, 141, Fig. 111: 1) where a herringbone decorated pot was also discovered and from Łubcze, site 25, barrow 2, graves 3 and 4 (Machnik *et al.* 2009, 69, Fig. 50: 6; 72, Fig. 52: 2). The above-mentioned analogies allow to combine burials 1 and 1a with the period when niche graves spread in the loess areas of the Vistula, Bug and San

river basins, i.e. in the Małopolska Upland, in the western part of the Lublin Upland (Naęczów Plateau), Rzeszów Foothills and Sokal Ridge (Machnik *et al.* 2009; Włodarczak 2006; 2018; Jarosz 2016).

The subsequent phase of utilisation of this funeral complex in Średnia was the location of grave 4 into south-eastern part of the mound. This feature slightly damaged graves 1 and 3. It was the deepest pit in the mound, its flat bottom was at the depth of 160 cm from the highest point of the mound and its filling was clearly visible within the mound embankment (starting from the depth of approx. 70 cm). The grave pit was oval in shape, 220 x 110 cm in size, oriented along SW-NE axis. Its filling was formed by two layers - light and dark gray. The darker one rectangular in shape occupied the central part of the pit and the lighter one surrounded it (Fig. 5: 1, 2). For the layer of charcoal discovered at the bottom of the grave, the ^{14}C date was obtained, that is 3940 ± 35 BP (Poz-126326), i.e. with a probability of 64.4% can be referred to the years 2476-2347 BC (Fig. 5: 3). Such dating indicates the possibility of linking the feature with the Corded Ware culture occupation (cf. Jarosz 2002, 15). The digging of graves into the central part of the mounds by members of the Corded Ware culture is known from Bierówka, Jasło district, barrow B, grave 4a (Gancarski, Machnikowie 1990, 105, Fig. 7), Lesně, Michalovce, district, barrow 1 and 3 (Budinský-Krička 1967, 307-311), Kulczyce Szlacheckie, Sambor district, barrow 5 ("in the forest"), Komarów, Halicz district, barrow 18, Buhłów, Łanowice district, barrow 1 (graves 1 and 2 - Sulimirski 1968, plan 43: A), Klimkowce over Zbrucz (Jarosz, Machnik 2000, 123, Fig. 10). The above-mentioned features were mainly oriented along the N-S or NW-SE axis, i.e. similarly to graves 1, 1a and 4. It should be also stress that in contrast to the loess areas of the upper Vistula and San river basins in the Carpathian foothills, communities of the Corded Ware culture did not establish cemeteries but inhumed their dead in graves covered by mounds. In this area, no graves with a niche construction were discovered (Jarosz 2011; see Przemyśl, site 81 wrongly located in the Przemyśl Foothills; see Włodarczak 2018, 189). This makes this area comparable to the funeral customs observed in the On-dava Upland and uplands of the right Dniester river basin (see, among others, Jarosz 2011).

The last phase of this mound utilisation as a ceremonial place should be associated with the Early Bronze Age and communities of the Mierzanowice culture. Near the centre of the mound this time from the west side, grave 2 was dug in (Fig. 6: 1). Its bottom was at the depth of 70 cm, i.e. still within the mound embankment. The complete outline of this feature could not be

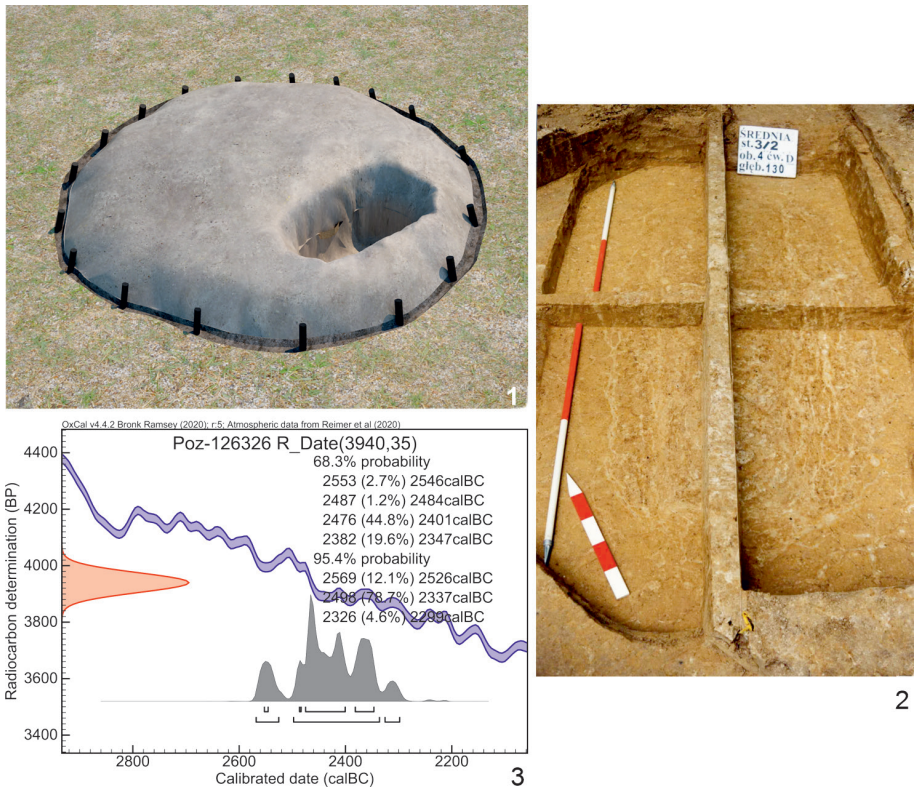


FIG. 5. Średnia, Przemysł district, site 3, barrow 2, grave 4. 1 – localisation of the grave in the barrow (performed by K. Rosińska-Balik); 2 – plan of the grave at the depth 130 cm (photo by P. Jarosz); 3 – calibration graph of radiocarbon dating

determined, but its longer axis was certainly oriented approximately along N-S axis. In its northern part there were two vessels, a cup and an amphora (Fig. 6: 2, 3). For the wood tar deposited inside the cup a radiocarbon dating 3755 ± 35 BP (Poz-91859) was obtained, which after calibration can be referred to the years 2206-2056 BC (60.7% probability; Figs. 6: 4; 7). The vessel, decorated on the neck with three zones of a double Z-cord incisions can be classified as type A according to S. Kadrow and J. Machnik schema (1997, Fig. 73). Cups decorated only on the neck with a zonal ornament of a double cord are found mainly in the early Mierzanowice culture (Kadrow, Machnik 1997, 37, Fig. 12). Similarly ornamented vessels were discovered in graves in Dniester river basin, incl. Kołokolin, Rohatyn district, barrow 3, grave 1, Czyżyków, Pustomyty

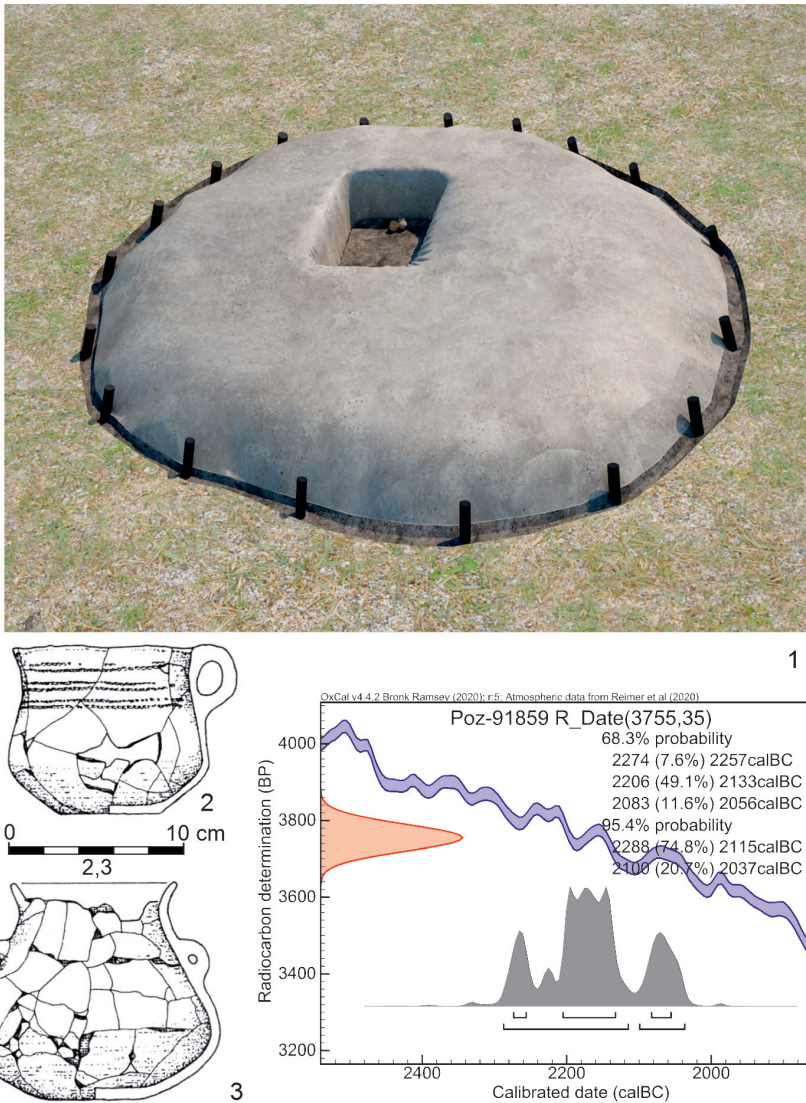


FIG. 6. Średnia, Przemysł district, site 3, barrow 2, grave 2. 1 – localisation of the grave in the barrow (performed by K. Rosińska-Balik); 2, 3 – vessels from the grave (acc Jarosz 2002); 4 – calibration graph of radiocarbon dating

district (Sulimirski 1968, Fig. 12: 10, Plate 6: 19). Moreover in the basin of the upper Vistula and San rivers, such cups were found in graves, incl. Jakuszowice, Kazimierza Wielka district, site 2, grave 1253 (Jarosz, Szczepanek 2019,

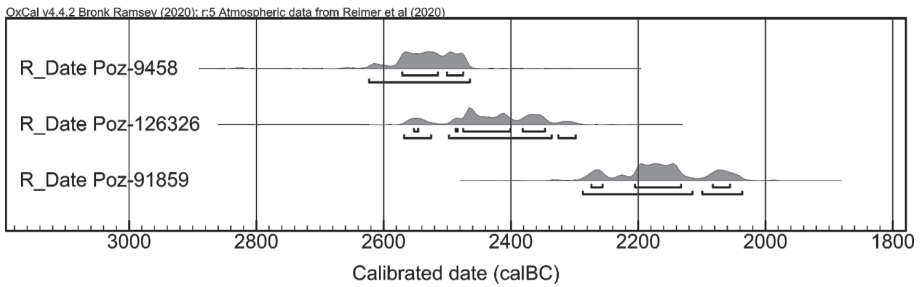


FIG. 7. Średnia, Przemysł district, site 3, barrow 2. Radiocarbon dates obtained from graves

284, Fig. 4: 1), Kraków-Nowa Huta, site Kopiec Wandy, grave 11 and 13 (Hachulska-Ledwos 1967, Tab. I: 3, 9), Kietrz, Głubczyce district (Łęczycki 1982, Fig. 2: 2), Grzybowie, Staszów district (Garbacz 2006, 320, Fig. 17: 3), Starachowice-Wierzbnik, Starachowice district (Sawicka 1922–1924, 296, Fig. 1) and Łubcze, Tomaszów Lubelski district (Machnik *et al.* 2009, 103, Fig. 75: 1). The shape of amphora that was discovered together with the cup is rarely recorded in the grave inventories of the early Mierzanowice culture. A similar but more slender vessel was discovered in grave 271 at site 27 in Mirocin, and for this burial a radiocarbon date 3670 ± 35 BP was obtained, which after calibration can be referred to the years 2132–1981 BC (Jarosz, Mazurek 2020, 81, tab. 4) so it can be more precisely associated with the younger section of the early phase of the Mierzanowice culture.

In consequence of the lack of human remains, one cannot obtain additional information about possible genetic connections between the people who chose this mound as the place of burial. Therefore, it will be not possible to verify the hypothesis assuming the possibility of re-use the burial mounds by successive generations descending from a common ancestor. Thus it lasts only a special place with not clearly define role in the local community which is usually determine as *sacrum*.

Another multi-phase mound was barrow 2 in Jawczyce, site 1 located in the Wieliczka Foothills (Zoll-Adamikowa, Niżnik 1963). The embankment, as it was in the case of the burial mound in Średnia, was erected over the grave of a representative of the Corded Ware culture. This central pit was oval in shape, 270 x 140 cm in size and oriented along the W-E line, dug into a virgin soil to a depth of 60–100 cm. Around its border, traces of a wooden structure in the kind of the house of the dead was discovered (Fig. 8: 1). The bottom of the grave was uneven and in the deepest, central part the skeleton of a 50–60-years old

male (*Senilis*) was found. The anatomical arrangement of the remains was not preserved. No grave goods were found near the skeleton, only 10 cm below it there was a retouched blade (Fig. 8: 3). The date of 4050 ± 35 BP (Poz-9454) was obtained for the bones of the burial, which after calibration can be referred to the years 2626-2491 BC (68% probability; Jarosz, Włodarczak 2007, 73), which is comparable to the dating obtained for the central grave from the previously presented burial mound 2 in Średnia, site 3 (Fig. 8: 4). Then, in the central part of this mound, to the west of the Corded Ware culture grave, a feature oriented along the E-W axis was dug in (Fig. 8: 1, 2). At its bottom, which was about 70 cm below the central grave a skeleton of a male aged 40-50 (*Maturus*) was found. He was placed on his right side, head to the west and hands near the face. The burial equipment was made of copper earrings located at the temples of the deceased (Fig. 8: 4, 5). A radiocarbon dating 3590 ± 35 BP (Poz-115251) was obtained for human bones, which after calibration can be referred to the years 1977-1896 BC (62.7% probability), i.e. to the end of the classical phase and the beginning of the late phase of the Mierzanowice culture (Fig. 8: 6-8). The orientation of the burial pit and the arrangement of human remains is typical for graves of the late phase of the Mierzanowice culture, e.g. Iwanowice, Kraków district, Babia Góra site (Kadrow, Machnikowie 1992, Fig. 34).

The presented features fit into the pattern of funeral rites typical for communities of the Corded Ware and Mierzanowice cultures which in the Carpathian foothills in the Vistula and San rivers basin buried their dead under barrows (Machnik 1978; 1998; 2001; Jarosz 2011). An exception to this rule is the grave of the Corded Ware culture from Dobczyce, Wieliczka district, located on the slope of the hill slanted towards the Raba river (Buryński, Kowalski 1981, 135, Fig. 1). The current state of investigation conducted in the Carpathians, in the upper Vistula and San basins, allows to conclude that clear grave finds of the Corded Ware culture are located in the area of the Wieliczka, Dynów and Strzyżów Foothills. Whereas traces of the presence of the Mierzanowice culture in the form of its inhabitants graves in the Carpathian Mountains are a few and usually limited to the graves dug in the older barrows known from the Wieliczka Foothills (Jawczyce) and Dynów Foothills (Średnia). There is also an example of a burial mound erected over the grave of a member of the Mierzanowice culture. This barrow 11, discovered in 2017, comes from the same cemetery in Jawczyce where the described above mound 2 was located. The burial equipment included flint arrowheads, a copper earrings and faience beads (Jarosz, Libera 2020). The radiocarbon date of 3580 ± 35 BP (Poz-101091) was obtained for charcoal that

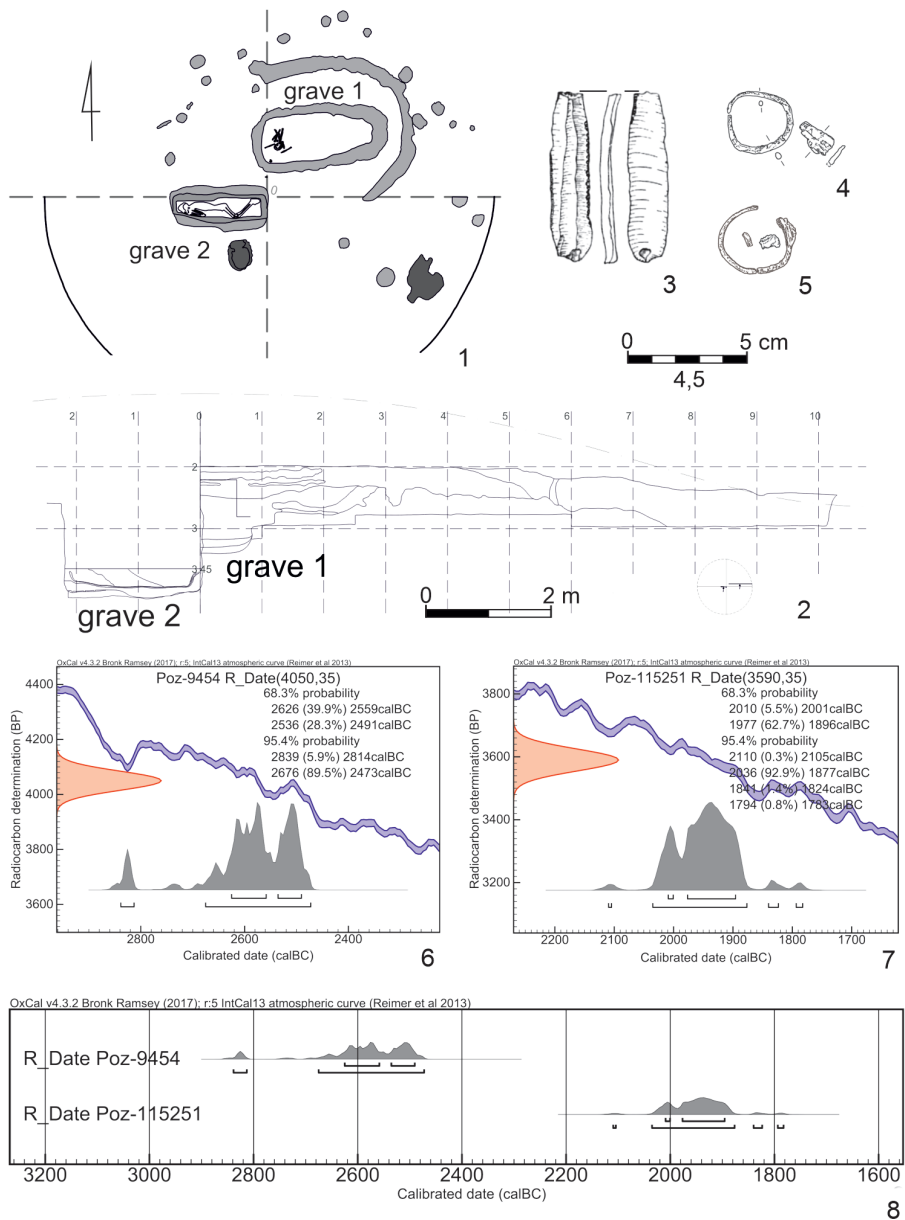


FIG. 8. Jawczyce, Wieliczka district, site 1, barrow 2. 1 – plan of the central part of the barrow; 2 – the barrow cross-section (drawing by K. Rosińska-Balik); 3 – artefact from grave 1 (acc Zoll-Adamikowa, Niżnik 1963); 4, 5 – artefact from grave 2 (drawing by J. Ożóg); 6 – calibration graph of radiocarbon dating from grave 1; 7 – calibration graph of radiocarbon dating from grave 2; 8 – radiocarbon dates obtained from graves

was found at the bottom of the grave, which, after calibration, is 1974-1888 BC (68.2% probability), comparable to the dating for grave 2 from barrow 2 in Jawczyce.

Comparing the radiocarbon signatures obtained for graves from the presented barrows, one can observe the intensity and time limits of these ceremonial places utilisation as barrow foundation. In the case of both mounds, their erection can be determined at the end of the first half of the third millennium BC that is around 2600-2500 BC. Then at the beginning of the second half of the third millennium BC communities of the Corded Ware culture dug three graves into the mound 2 in Średnia. The following grave placed in this mound during the Early Bronze Age, most probably in the 22nd century BC. Based on radiocarbon datings, it can be concluded that the mound in Średnia was used for funeral purposes at the turn of the Final Neolithic and the Early Bronze Age periodically for about 300-400 years (Fig. 9: 1). In the case of the barrow 2 in Jawczyce, the grave of the Mierzanowice culture was dug in about 600-700 years later, at the beginning of the 2nd millennium BC (Fig. 9: 2).

The distribution of barrows in the cultural landscape indicates that mounds of individuals of the Corded Ware culture played the role of centres in settlement microregions, which, due to their location in exposed places, established a kind of landmark during the seasonal migrations of people (Machnik 2004, 138). It is also worth to stress that in pastoral and semi-nomadic communities where kin systems in social structure are dominant the erection of the monumental form of burial could emphasize the role and status of the buried individuals (Kadrow 2001, 154, 155). The leading position of men in these cultures is underlined by the male type of grave equipment - warrior one (Kadrow 2001, 165). The monumental form of the funeral arrangement and the furnishing of graves probably emphasized the position of the buried individual in local communities, also providing information about elements of the social structure. The selection of the burial place for inhabitants of the Corded Ware culture was determined by their siting - generally at the upper part of the local elevation or, like the later inhabitants of the Mierzanowice culture, the existing mound - *sacrum* - admirable for a burial of an important individual. According to Thomas (1987, 423), the digging of graves into the existing embankments should be justified by social and ideological changes so it was meant to "distort the 'message' of the older site, and thus support the claims to authorise a new social order". A single example from Jawczyce indicates that the inhabitants of the Mierzanowice culture also raised mounds that as in this case were part of a larger mound

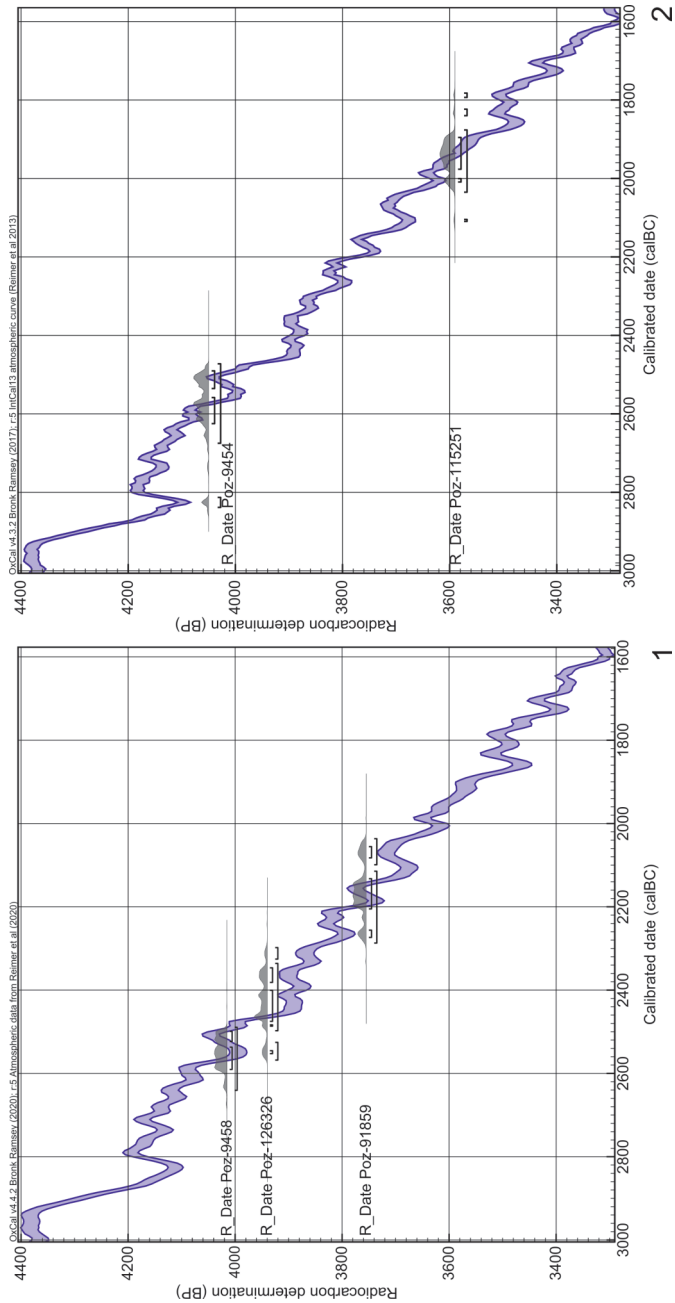


FIG. 9. The comparison of radiocarbon dating obtained for graves from barrows Średnia, Przemysł district, site 3, barrow 2 (1) and Jawczyce, Wieliczka district, site 1, barrow 2 (2)

complex. Probably an additional factor to maintain the funeral behaviour were belief systems.

On the basis of the obtained radiocarbon dating, it seems that the earliest penetration of the Corded Ware culture communities in the Carpathian foothills can be dated to the beginning of the 29th century BC, although the charcoal dating for the barrow 1 in the Średnia may indicate a slightly earlier period (Jarosz 2011; Włodarczak 2018, 188–190, Figs. 6, 7, Tab. 8). The erection of barrows for selected individuals continues throughout the whole period of development of this culture (see Machnik 2001; Jarosz 2011; Włodarczak 2018). The youngest dating for this culture relates to the turn of the XXIVth and XXIIIrd centuries BC (Krajowice, Jasło district – Jarosz 2011, Tab. 6; Włodarczak 2018). According to the obtained radiocarbon dating for the grave 4 dug into the barrow in Średnia, it was identified that after half of the IIIrd millennium BC, in the area of the Carpathians, communities of the Corded Ware culture, together with mounds erection, dug their dead into older mounds. In the Carpathian foothills, no niche graves typical for this period of the Corded Ware culture development have been discovered so far. Such graves were often recognised in the close vicinity of mounds in other areas (e.g. Gabułów, Kazimierz Wielka district – Górski, Jarosz 2006; Łubcze, Wierszczyca, Tomaszów Lubelski district – Machnik *et al.* 2009) and in the loess areas of the upper Vistula and upper Bug river basins appear in the 26th century BC (Włodarczak 2006; 2016; 2018; Machnik *et al.* 2009; Jarosz 2016).

Funerary finds related to the presence of the Mierzanowice culture inhabitants in this area are extremely rare. This contrasts sharply with remains of intensive settlement known from the loess areas adjacent to them from the north localised in the southern part of the Sandomierz Basin, where small clusters of graves were discovered in Bochnia Foothills - Łysokanie, site 8 (Józwiak, Rozen 2006, 727, 728, Figs. 3-6) and Targowisko, sites 14-15, Wieliczka district (Czerniak *et al.* 2006, 543, 549, Fig. 18; 735, Fig. 19) and in Rzeszów Foothills – Rozbórz, site 42, Przeworsk district (Jarosz *et al.* 2013; Jarosz, Mazurek 2020, 91–94). There are also known individual graves, e.g. in Lipnik, Przeworsk district (Kaflńska 2001) and Mirocin, Przeworsk district, site 27, features 214 and 271 (Jarosz, Mazurek 2020, 49–53).

Radiocarbon signatures obtained for tar deposit inside the cup from grave 2 in Średnia, refers to the XXIInd BC (cf. Jarosz 2011, 268, Fig. 7). The funerary complex contained, as mentioned above, an amphora, which in terms of both the form and technology (ceramic fabrics) is related to the Corded

Ware culture. This may, with the approval of the dating for the barrow in Krajowice, Jarosław district – 3840 ± 80 BP (Gd-6009), indicate that the Corded Ware culture continued in the Carpathian foothills at least until the turn of the XXIII and XXII centuries BC (Fig. 10). On the other hand, on the basis of dating obtained for niche graves of this culture from the upper Vistula and San basin (Włodarczak 2018; Linderholm *et al.* 2020) and settlement features of the Mierzanowice culture from Rzeszów Foothills: Dobkowice, Jarosław district, sites 37 and 39 (Jarosz *et al.* 2018) and Mirocin, Przeworsk district,

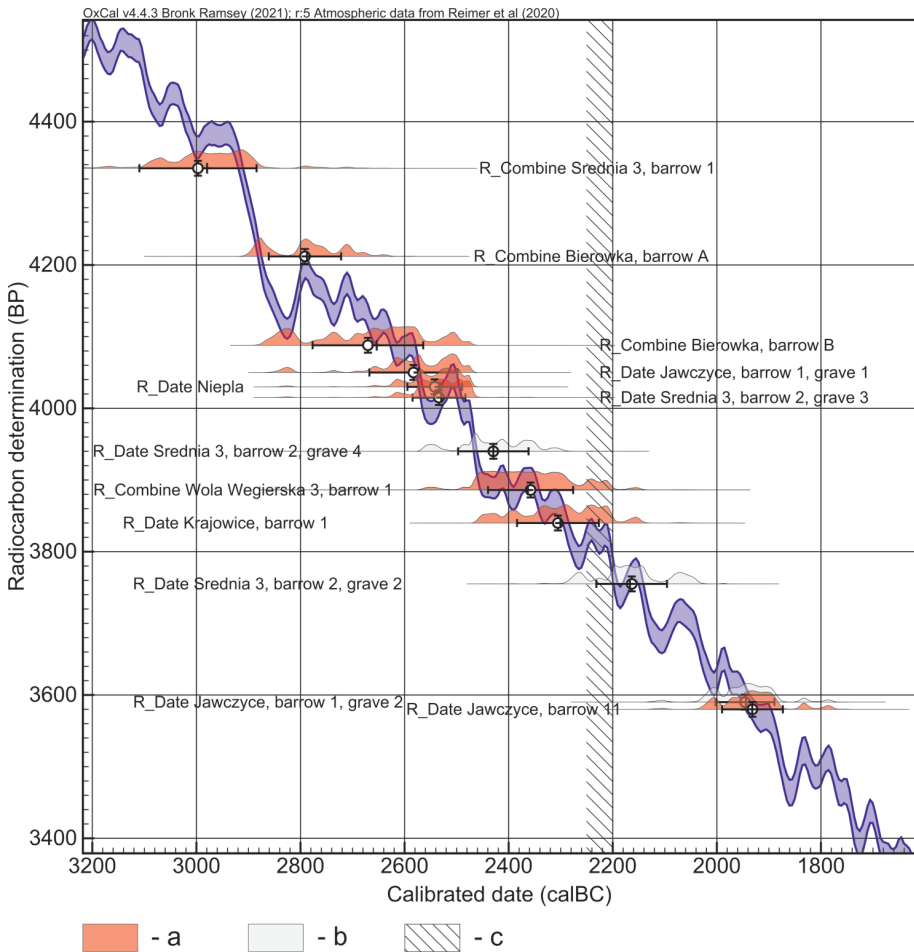


FIG. 10. Radiocarbon dates obtained from graves of Corded Ware and Mierzanowice culture from Carpathian Foothills; a – barrow grave; b – grave dug into the mound; c – time border between datings of Corded Ware and Mierzanowice culture

sites 24, 25 and 27 (Jarosz, Mazurek 2020) indicates the rise of the latter one in the Carpathian foreland around 2300 BC. The acquisition of the Early Bronze Age elements into the area of the Carpathians could be suppressed due to the presence there communities cultivating earlier Corded Ware traditions, probably connected with the preferred type of economy.

As mentioned before, graves of the Mierzanowice culture, dug into embankments of older mounds and tombs, are typical mainly for early phases of this culture development. Such examples are known from the basin of the upper Bug, e.g. Łubcze, site 25, barrow 2, grave 1 (Machnik, Bagińska, Koman 2009, 64, Fig. 47) and Dniester, e.g. Kulczyce (Sulimirski 1968), but also in the Małopolska Upland – Grzybów, Staszów district (Garbacz 2006, 319, 320). Into the mound 2 in Jawczyce at the beginning of the 2nd millennium BC, a grave was dug, which, based on obtained 14C dates, can be synchronized with the turn of the classical and late phases of the Mierzanowice culture. In the Małopolska Upland, e.g. Iwanowice, Babia Góra (Kadrow, Machnikowie 1992) it is the time of large cemeteries emergence but also development of small necropolises located near the earlier barrows, e.g. in Szczytna, Jarosław district, site 5 (Hozer *et al.* 2017, Fig. 5), Nedeżów, Tomaszów Lubelski district, site 25 (Machnik *et al.* 2009, Figs. 103, 105). In this time perspective, one should also mention the barrow funeral complex found in Stryjów (Budziszewski *et al.* 2016) indicating a large variety of forms of burial in the Early Bronze Age.

In funeral rites of the Corded Ware and Mierzanowice cultures groups in the Carpathian foothills the barrow as the burial place of their ancestors played the main role. It was treated as a kind of *sacrum* and during the development of the Corded Ware culture, it became a desirable burial place for succeeding, selected members of the communities. This sepulchral tradition was continued by inhabitants of the early (Średnia, site 3, barrow 2, grave 2) and late phase (Jawczyce, site 1, barrow 2, grave 2) of the Mierzanowice culture. In this last phase, there may be a renaissance of barrows erection (Jawczyce, site 1, barrow 11), which is also indicated by single mounds from other regions e.g. in Stryjów, Krasnystaw district (Budziszewski *et al.* 2016), Łubcze, site 25 (Machnik *et al.* 2009) and Rusiłów, Busk district (Sulimirski 1968, Plate 8: 1). Possibly a main factor contributing to the continuity and perhaps the revival of such funeral behaviour in these areas in both cultural units was the belief system.

REFERENCES

- Budinský-Krička V. 1967. *Východoslovenské mohyly*, Slovenská Archeológia 15/2, p. 277–388.
- Buratyński S., Kowalski W. 1981. *Domniemany grób kultury ceramiki sznurowej z Dobczyc, woj. Kraków*, Acta Archaeologica Carpathica 21, p. 135–137.
- Czerniak L., Golański A., Józwiak B., Kadrow S., Rozen J., Rzepecki S. 2006. *Sprawozdanie z archeologicznych badań wykopaliskowych przeprowadzonych w latach 2003–2004 na stanowiskach 3, 12–15 i 34 w Targowisku, gm. Klaj, woj. małopolskie*, [in:] *Zeszyty Ośrodka Ochrony Dziedzictwa Archeologicznego (d. Zeszyty ORBA), seria B: Materiały Archeologiczne*, Raport 2003–2004, vol. 2: *Wstępne wyniki konserwatorskich badań archeologicznych w strefie budowy autostrad w Polsce za rok 2003–2004*, Z. Bukowski, M. Gierlach (eds.), Warszawa, p. 541–554.
- Gancarski J., Machnikowie A. and J. 1990. *Kurhan B kultury ceramiki sznurowej w Bie-rówce, gmina Jasło, w świetle badań wykopaliskowych*, Acta Archaeologica Carpathica 29, p. 99–124.
- Górski J., Jarosz P. 2006. *Cemetery of the Corded Ware and the Trzciniec cultures in Gabułów / Cmentarzysko kultury ceramiki sznurowej i trzcinieckiej w Gabułowie*, Sprawozdania Archeologiczne 58, p. 401–451.
- Hachulska-Ledwos R. 1967. *Materiały kultury ceramiki sznurowej odkryte koło Kopca Wandy (Kraków–Nowa Huta)*, Materiały Archeologiczne 8, p. 89–103.
- Hozer M., Machnik J., Bajda-Wesołowska A. 2017. *Groby kultury ceramiki sznurowej i domniemane kultury mierzanowickiej w Szczytnej, pow. Jarosław – źródła, analiza, wnioski*, [in:] *Nekropolie ludności kultury ceramiki sznurowej z III tysiąclecia przed Chr. w Szczytnej na Wysoczyźnie Kańczuckiej*, P. Jarosz, J. Machnik (eds.), Via Archaeologica Ressoviensia, vol. 12, Rzeszów, p. 7–130.
- Janczewski P., Kraus P., Włodarczak P. 2018. *Święte 15: Cemetery of the Corded Ware culture*, Baltic-Pontic Studies 23, p. 93–139.
- Jarosz P. 2002. *Kurhan kultury ceramiki sznurowej w Średniej st. 2, pow. Przemyśl. Wyniki badań wykopaliskowych prowadzonych w 2001 r.*, Rocznik Przemyski 38/2 (Archeologia), p. 3–21.
- Jarosz P. 2011. *Kurhany KCS na pogórzach i wysoczyznach karpackich*, [in:] *Kurhany neolityczne i wczesnobrązowe w świetle nowych i najnowszych badań*, A. Kowalewska-Marszałek, P. Włodarczak (eds.), Kraków – Warszawa, p. 255–277.
- Jarosz P. 2012. *Wczesne etapy osadnictwa kultury ceramiki sznurowej w strefie karpackiej*, Zbiornik zapovidnyka „Tustan”, Forteca 2, Lwów, p. 322–332.
- Jarosz P. 2016. *Kultura ceramiki sznurowej na Wyżynie Lubelskiej i terenach przyległych*, [in:] *Schyłek neolitu na Wyżynie Lubelskiej*, P. Jarosz, J. Libera, P. Włodarczak (eds.), Kraków, p. 475–505.
- Jarosz P. 2018. *The Settlement of the Corded Ware Culture and Early Phases of the Mierzanowice Culture in Carpathian Mountains*, [in:] *People in the Mountains. Current Approaches to the Archaeology of Mountainous Landscapes*, A. Pelisiak, M. Nowak, C. Astaloş (eds.), Oxford, p. 139–152.

- Jarosz P., Libera J. 2020. *Early Bronze Age barrow in Jawczyce, site 1, Wieliczka Foothills, Lesser Poland*, *Sprawozdania Archeologiczne* 72/2, p. 307–326.
- Jarosz P., Mazurek M. 2020. *Stanowiska 24, 25 i 27 w Mirocinie, gm. Przeworsk. Osadnictwo z wczesnego okresu epoki brązu*, *Via Archaeologica Ressoviensia XVI*, Rzeszów.
- Jarosz P., Mazurek M., Okoński J., Szczepanek A. 2013. *The Bell Beaker influence in the Early Bronze Age on the basis of latest discoveries in Rozbórz, in the south-eastern Poland*, [in:] *Current researches on Bell Beakers. Proceedings of the 15th International Bell Beaker Conference: From Atlantic to Ural*. 5th – 9th May 2011, Poio (Pon-tevedra, Galicia, Spain), M. Pilar Prieto Martínez, L. Salanova (eds.), Santiago de Compostela, p. 111–116.
- Jarosz P., Machnik J. 2000. *Nowe spojrzenie na dawne badania kurhanów w Balicach i Klimkowcach w świetle materiałów archiwalnych i zbiorów Muzeum Archeologicznego w Krakowie*, [in:] *150 lat Muzeum Archeologicznego w Krakowie*, J. Rydzewski (ed.), Kraków, p. 109–133
- Jarosz P., Szczepanek A. 2019. *Grób kultury mierzanowickiej z Jakuszowic na Płaskowyżu Proszowickim*, [in:] *VIR BIMARIS. Od kujawskiego matecznika do stepów nadczarnomorskich. Studia z dziejów międzymorza bałtycko-pontyjskiego ofiarowane Profesorowi Aleksandrowi Koško*, M. Szmyt, P. Chachlikowski, J. Czebreszuk, M. Ignaczak, P. Makarowicz (eds.), *Archaeologia Bimaris – Dyskusje*, vol. 7, Poznań, p. 281–293.
- Jarosz P., Włodarczak P. 2007. *Chronologia bezwzględna kultury ceramiki sznurowej w Polsce południowo-wschodniej oraz na Ukrainie*, *Przegląd Archeologiczny* 55, p. 71–108.
- Józwiak B., Rosen J. 2006. *Sprawozdanie z badań wykopaliskowych na stanowisku 8 w Łysokaniach, gm. Kłaj, woj. małopolskie*, [in:] *Zeszyty Ośrodka Ochrony Dziedzictwa Archeologicznego (d. Zeszyty ORBA), seria B: Materiały Archeologiczne*, Raport 2003–2004, vol 2: *Wstępne wyniki konserwatorskich badań archeologicznych w strefie budowy autostrad w Polsce za rok 2003 – 2004*, Z. Bukowski, M. Gierlach (eds.), Warszawa, p. 537–540.
- Kadrow S. 2001. *U progu nowej epoki. Gospodarka i społeczeństwo wczesnego okresu epoki brązu w Europie Środkowej*, Kraków.
- Kadrow S., Machnik J. 1997. *Kultura mierzanowicka. Chronologia, taksonomia i rozwój przestrzenny*, *Prace Komisji Archeologicznej*, vol. 29, Kraków.
- Kadrow S., Machnikowie A. and J. 1992. *Iwanowice, stanowisko Babia Góra, część II. Cmentarzysko z wczesnego okresu epoki brązu*, Kraków.
- Kaflńska M. 2001. *Pochówek z początków epoki brązu z Lipnika, pow. Przeworsk, na tle znalezisk grobowych z późnego neolitu i wczesnej epoki brązu*, *Sprawozdania Archeologiczne* 53, p. 261–272.
- Libera J. 2016. *Siekiery kultury ceramiki sznurowej z Wyżyny Lubelskiej – próba identyfikacji*, [in:] *Schyłek neolitu na Wyżynie Lubelskiej*, P. Jarosz, J. Libera, P. Włodarczak (eds.), Kraków, p. 479–492.
- Linderholm A, Kılınc G.M., Szczepanek A., Włodarczak P., Jarosz P., Belka Z, Dopieralska J., Werens K., Górski J., Mazurek M., Hozer M., Rybicka M., Ostrowski

- M., Bagińska J., Koman W., Rodríguez-Varela R., Stora J., Götherström A., Krzewińska M. 2020. *Corded Ware cultural complexity uncovered using genomic and isotopic analysis from south-eastern Poland*, Scientific Reports 10:6885: 10.1038/s41598-020-63138-w.
- Łęczycycki S. 1983. *Zespół obiektów kultury Chłopice-Veselé z Kietrza, woj. Opole, stan. D*, Sprawozdania Archeologiczne 34, p. 67–76.
- Machnik J. 1966. *Studia nad kulturą ceramiki sznurowej w Małopolsce*, Wrocław – Warszawa – Kraków.
- Machnik J. 1979. *Ze studiów nad kulturą ceramiki sznurowej w dorzeczu Górnego Dniestru*, Acta Archaeologica Carpathica 19, p. 51–71.
- Machnik J. 1998. *Uwagi o najstarszym osadnictwie pasterskiej ludności kultury ceramiki sznurowej (III tysiąclecie przed Chr.) w strefie karpackiej*, [in:] *Dzieje Podkarpacia*, vol. 2, J. Gancarski (ed.), Krosno, p. 99–120.
- Machnik J. 2001. *Kultura ceramiki sznurowej w strefie karpackiej (stan i perspektywy badawcze)*, [in:] *Neolit i początki epoki brązu w Karpatach polskich*, J. Gancarski (ed.), Krosno, p. 115–137.
- Machnik J. 2004. *Pasterstwo u społeczeństw kultury ceramiki sznurowej w dorzeczu górnej Wisły, górnego Bugu i Dniestru*, [in:] *Nomadyzm a pastoralizm w międzyrzeczu Wisły i Dniepru*, A. Koško, M. Szmyt (eds.), Archaeologia Bimaris. Dyskusje, vol 3, Poznań, p. 137–143.
- Machnik J., Jarosz P., Mazurek M. 2019. *Groby ludności kultury ceramiki sznurowej w Mirocinie, pow. Przeworsk*, [in:] *Nekropolie ludności kultury ceramiki sznurowej w Mirocinie z III tysiąclecia przed Chr. w Mirocinie na Wysoczyźnie Kańczuckiej*, P. Jarosz, J. Machnik, A. Szczepanek (eds.), Via Archaeologica Ressoviensia, vol. XV, Rzeszów, p. 7–139.
- Machnik J., Bagińska J., Koman W. 2009. *Neolityczne kurhany na Grzędzie Sokalskiej w świetle badań archeologicznych w latach 1988–2006, z aneksami J. Libery i L. Gazdy*, Kraków.
- Olszewski A., Włodarczak P. 2018. *Święte 11: Cemetery of the Corded Ware culture*, Baltic Pontic Studies 23, p. 7–68.
- Rowlands M. 1980. *Kinship, alliance and exchange in the European Bronze Age*, [in:] *Settlement and Society in the British Late Bronze Age*, J. Barrett, R. Bradley (eds.), British Archaeological Reports (British Series, vol. 83), Oxford, p. 15–55.
- Sawicka I. 1922 – 1924. *Neolityczny grób ciałopalny w Wierzbniku w pow. ilżeckim*, Przegląd Archeologiczny 2, p. 296–302.
- Shennan S. 1986. *Interaction and change in third millennium BC western and central Europe*, [in:] *Peer Polity Interaction and Socio-political Change*, A.C. Renfrew, J.F. Cherry (eds.), Cambridge, p. 137–148.
- Sulimirski T. 1968. *Corded Ware and Globular Amphorae North-East of the Carpathians*, London.
- Thomas J. 1987. *Relations of production and social change in the Neolithic of North-West Europe*, Man 22, p. 405–430.

- Vander Linden M. 2007. *For equalities are plural: reassessing the social in Europe during the third millennium BC*, *World archaeology* 39/2, p. 177–193.
- Włodarczak P. 2006. *Kultura ceramiki sznurowej na Wyżynie Małopolskiej*, Kraków.
- Włodarczak P. 2016. *Chronologia absolutna cmentarzysk późno- i schyłkowoneolitycznych na Wyżynie Lubelskiej*, [in:] *Schyłek neolitu na Wyżynie Lubelskiej*, P. Jarosz, J. Libera, P. Włodarczak (eds.), Kraków, p. 537–548.
- Włodarczak P. 2018. *Chronometry of the the final eneolithic cemeteries at Święte, Jarosław district from the Perspective of Cultural Relations Among Lesser Poland, Podolia and the North-Western Black Sea Region*, *Baltic Pontic Studies* 23, p. 178–212.
- Zoll-Adamikowa H. Niżnik J. 1963. *Z badań kopców-mogił w Jawczycach i Wiatowicach (Podkrarpacie polskie) w latach 1960-1961*, *Acta Archaeologica Carpathica* 5, p. 25–39.

ADDRESS OF THE AUTHOR

Paweł Jarosz

Institute of Archaeology and Ethnology
Polish Academy of Sciences
Sławkowska st. 17, 31-016 Kraków, Poland
ptjarosz@gmail.com
ORCID: 0000-0002-9481-3007

