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IN ESTONIA**

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ARCHAEOLOGICAL MONITORING IN KUIMETSA MEDIEVAL MANOR SITE AND PAIDE PÜHA RISTI CHURCH

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During 2008 monitoring in two churches, two churchyards and in the vicinity of a medieval manor house was carried out by the author of the article.

In the medieval Harju-Risti churchyard, a low trench was dug for lighting cables. The work revealed no structures and disturbed no burials, but 13 late medieval and early modern silver and copper coins were gathered from the soil in the trenches. In the medieval Kuusalu church, the floor of the medieval nave area and the 19th century north transept was replaced. A 30–40 cm thick layer of soil was removed under the floors as well. As the work continued in 2009 to some extent, they will be described in detail in the next year's volume. This publication introduces the results of two larger scale works in 2008, i.e. Kuimetsa manor site and Paide Püha Risti church, based on the volume of excavations and material obtained.

MEDIEVAL MANOR HOUSE IN KUIMETSA

A new parking lot and a bus station were built about 50 m north-west of a medieval manor house site in Kuimetsa, in Kaiu Municipality in Raplamaa County (Juuru parish). During the Middle Ages from the 13th century Kuimetsa manor together with a large land estate including most of the territory of the present municipality, belonged to the St. Michael's Cistercian Nunnery of Tallinn. The house has been a ruin probably from the Livonian War (1558–1583) and today only the cellar walls of the main building of the manor have preserved under a 3 m high and 35 m wide ruin knoll in the park (Figs. 1; 4). The ruin has been described and identified as a medieval house by Armin Tuulse (1942, 288). The site has never been excavated, but a detailed contour plan was made in 1974 (Hermann 1974). Although remains of another medieval buildings or occupation layer were expected, the fieldwork revealed nothing medieval, probably because the bus station was planned far enough from the ruin. Foundations of the north-eastern wing of a three-winged barn from the first half of the 19th century were discovered (Fig. 2). This wing has been demolished before the Second World War already.

New information concerning the medieval house ruins was obtained nevertheless. A drawing by C. Faehlmann from 1828, depicting one outer wall of the house still standing at that time has been published by Tuulse

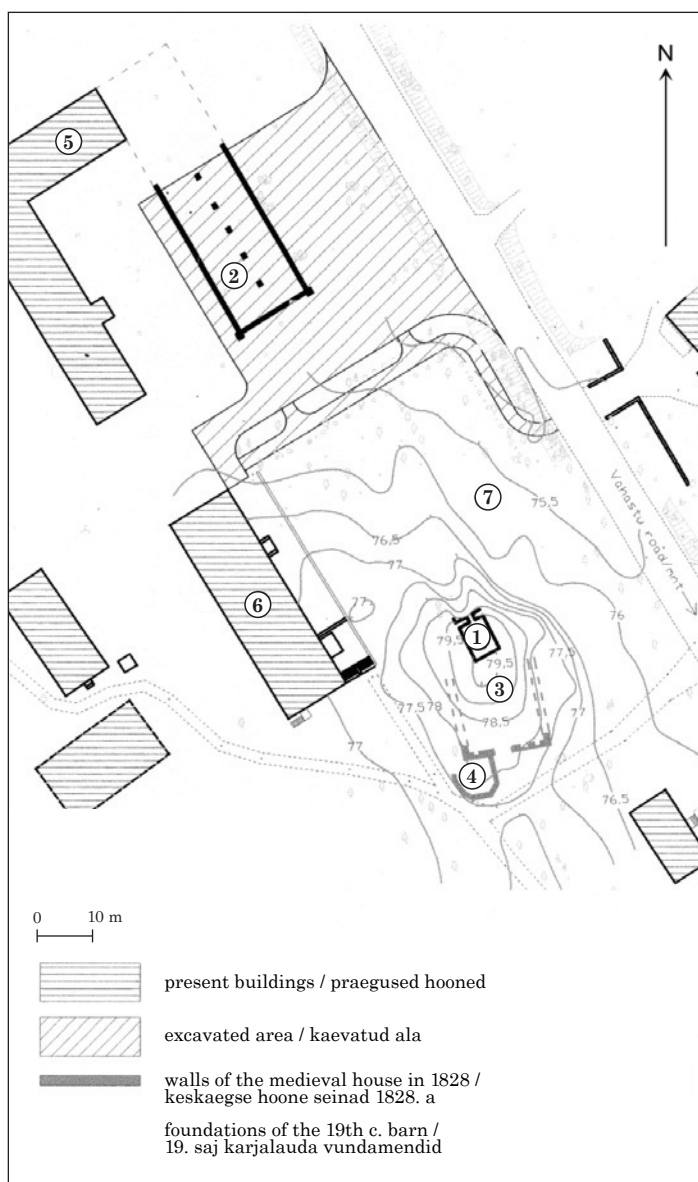


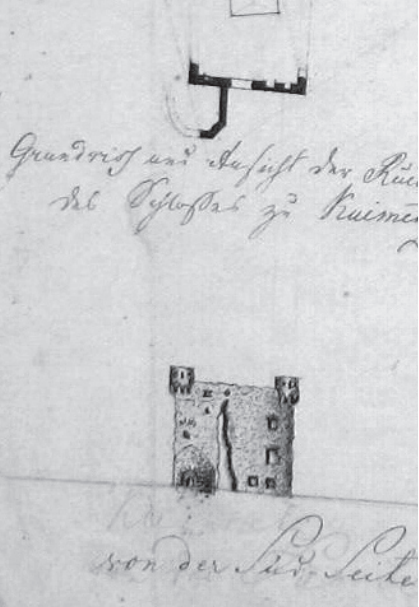
Fig. 1. Plan of Kuimetsa manor ruin site.

- 1 – preserved cellar under the ruin knoll
- 2 – foundations of the 19th c. barn
- 3 – ruin knoll
- 4 – gun tower
- 5 – preserved part of the 19th c. barn
- 6 – former manor granary
- 7 – survived manor park area.

Jn 1. Kuimetsa mõisavareme plaan.

- 1 – varemeküngas säilinud kelder
- 2 – 19. saj karjalauda vundamendid
- 3 – varemeküngas
- 4 – tulirelvatorn
- 5 – 19. saj karjalauda säilinud osa
- 6 – endine mõisa ait
- 7 – säilinud mõisapark.

(1942, 287). Relying on this drawing Tuulse was able to describe it as a medieval dwelling tower (*Wohnturm*). After the fieldwork of 2008 it appeared that in addition to the facade drawing a ground plan of the ruin by Faehlmann has preserved in the Estonian Historical Archives as well (EAA 854-4-469), which has not been used or published before (Fig. 3).¹ The ruin plan was digitalized and set on a modern plan of the site (Fig. 1), combining it with an unpublished detailed contour plan of the site from




1974 (Hermann 1974). As a result, the approximate position and absolute size of the walls still standing in 1828 can be estimated. It appears that the standing wall was the southern outer wall of the house, about 17 m long and 1.5 m thick. Although the northern parts of the house had collapsed by 1828, now the overall size and form of the house can be estimated relying on the position of the southern wall and the size of the ruin knoll. It appears that the quadrangular house was at least twice as long as wide, reaching to at least 30 m in length. Using the plan, the low and round walls in the south-west corner, poorly preserved but still visible in 1828, can be interpreted as remains of a small round gun tower from the early period of firearms with an outer diameter of about 9 m. The results might be considered as a good starting point for everyone to prepare for the first excavations on the ruin in the future.


PAIDE PÜHA RISTI CHURCH

Replacing the floors of Paide Püha Risti (Holy Cross) church was continued (see also Kadakas *et al.* 2008, 194–196) in summer 2008 as well as trenches for sewage water and heating pipes and a new drainage pit were dug in the churchyard (Fig. 5). The old floor of limestone slabs from the southern tower and about 50 cm thick layer of demolition debris were removed. The present tower walls above ground have probably been built during 1771–1786 together with the present nave, although it must have been rebuilt to some extent after the fire in 1845. Assuming by some late finds, the demolition debris removed during the fieldwork probably comes from this last rebuilding period. Removing the debris revealed the former foundations of the church tower – surprisingly it appears that the quadrangular tower has originally had a perfectly round interior plan (Fig. 6). The round upper part of the tower foundations has been built of limestone on top of a large platform of round rocks extending all over the tower area.


The southern inner corners of the tower have probably been remodeled after the fire of 1845. The fieldwork did not give a clear answer to the main issue – do the round foundations of the tower originate from the medi-


Fig. 2. *Kuimetsa. 19th century barn foundations. View from NE.*

Jn 2. *Kuimetsa. 19. saj karjalauda vundamendid. Vaade kirdest.*


Fig. 3. *Plan of Kuimetsa manor ruins and a view of a facade in 1828 by C. Faehlmann.*

Jn 3. *C. Faehlmanni tehtud Kuimetsa mõisa varemete plaan ja fassaadi joonis 1828. a.*


Fig. 4. *Manor site of Kuimetsa in 2008. View from NE.*

Jn 4. *Kuimetsa mõisavare 2008. a. Vaade kirdest.*

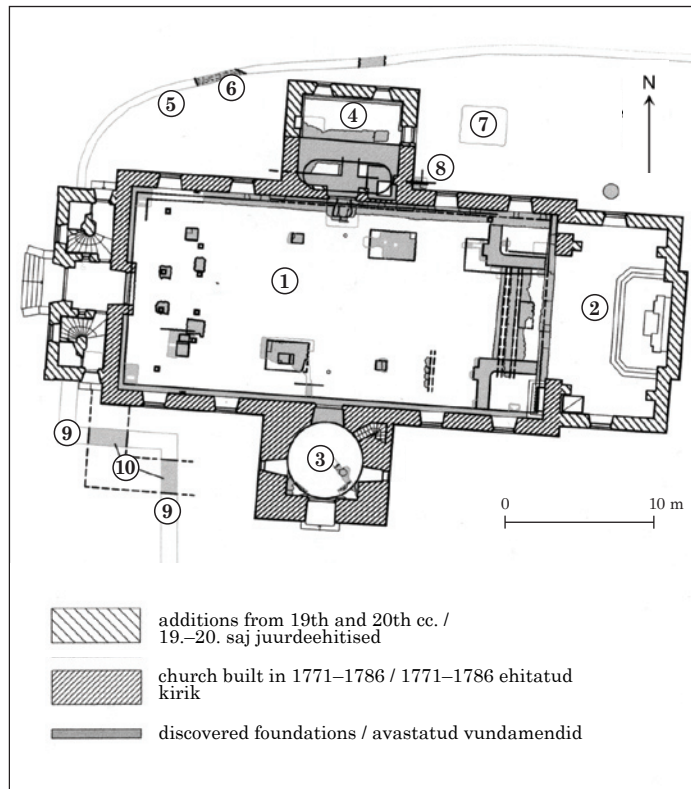
¹ Many thanks to Laura Kipper who helped with a copy of the plan. In 2008 a different version of the same plan was published in Latvia (Livonijas Pīļu 2008, 296).

Fig. 5. Plan of Paide church.
Fieldwork results in 2008.

- 1 – church nave from 1771–1786
- 2 – chancel from 1909–1910
- 3 – south tower
- 4 – sacristy
- 5 – sewage pipe trench
- 6 – vault fragment
- 7 – drainage pit
- 8 – test pit
- 9 – heating pipe trench
- 10 – foundations of the supposed tower.

Jn 5. Paide kiriku plaan. 2008. a välitööde tulemused.

- 1 – kiriku pikihoone 1771–1786
- 2 – 1909–1910 püstitatud kooriruum
- 3 – lõunatorn
- 4 – käärkamber
- 5 – kanalisatsioonitoru kaevik
- 6 – võlvifragment
- 7 – dreneažikaev
- 8 – šurf
- 9 – keskküttetrassi kaevik
- 10 – oletatava torni vundamendid.



eval church, or were these built together with the tower walls and church nave consecrated in 1786? The round interior somewhat corresponds to the oblong round shape of the former sacristy interior discovered during the fieldwork of 2007 under the present sacristy floor north of the nave. As the sacristy foundations were dated to the church period of 1786, regarding the symmetry and similar design features, it can be suggested that the south tower foundations were built between 1771–1786 as well.

A sewage water pipe trench about 70 cm deep was dug north of the church. Though the digging did not reach the *in situ* burials, several human bones from mixed burials indicate that people have been buried in this area. From the trench, a 3.5 m long fragment of a collapsed limestone vault was found west of the sacristy and another possible collapsed wall fragment or a light foundation remain was found north of the sacristy. Two pieces of hewn limestone masonry characteristic to a big church window were found from the debris in the trench as well. The exact origin and dating of these building fragments remained unclear.

A drainage pit was dug 3 m east of the sacristy. According to the project the pit had to be more than 2 m deep. However, as skeleton burials were found 1.6 m deep from the present ground level, the burials were



Fig. 6. Round foundation of Paide church tower.

Jn 6. Paide kiriku torni ümarvundament.

preserved and as a rational compromise the pit was extended to keep the same volume of gravel.

A test pit was dug right outside the nave close to the wall of sacristy. It appeared that the foundation of the nave has been much wider than the wall of the present nave. If it is true that the nave foundations originate from the medieval church as presumed after the fieldwork of 2007 (Kadakas *et al.* 2008, 195), the wall of the medieval nave must have been up to 195 cm thick.

The heating pipe trench was situated on the southern side of the church and entered the building near the present south-western tower built in the beginning of the 20th century. Right south of the south-western corner of the nave two walls 220 and 260 cm thick appeared in the trench. Obviously the walls belonged to a building once standing next to the southern wall of the nave close to the south west corner, protruding about 5 m southwards. Notably the foundations of this building were as wide as of the nave, indicating a high structure, not a low chapel which would normally be expected in such a place.

It can be speculated that a tower has been standing on these mentioned foundations. A tower has been depicted on a 17th century engraving, which supposedly depicted Paide town with Paide Holy Cross church (Eelnurme 1936, 10; Sirel 1974, 46). As it is the only depiction of Paide town before major destructions in the beginning of the 17th century, some researchers have doubted if the artist has ever visited Paide or if the depiction has anything to do with Paide at all. The results of the investigations of 2007 under the nave roughly corresponded to the depiction of the church on the historic engraving – a long nave under one roof and without a protruding chancel,

which gave some credibility to the engraving. We can see an odd detail on it – a west tower, which has not been positioned west of the nave, but to the south of the nave right near the south-western corner. It corresponds rather exactly to the foundations discovered in 2008.

The heating pipe trench protruding some 50 m south from the church including a lot of loose human bones revealed traces of a cemetery all over the northern part of the present Keskväljak (Central Square). Preserved burials were not found – these must be located in deeper layers. It can be concluded, that the northern half of the Central Square has been a cemetery until the 18th century and only the southern half was the market. The pipe trench crossed the area where a cross-shaped timber church was erected in the second half of the 17th century, which was burnt down in the Nordic War (1700–1721). No remains of it were found, but perhaps a fragment of an indistinct stone foundation can be considered as a hint to the church building.

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ARHEOLOOGILINE JÄRELEVALVE KUIMETSJA KESKAEGSES KINDLUSTATUD MÕISAS JA PAIDE PÜHA RISTI KIRIKUS

Ligi 50 m Kuimetsa keskaegse kindlustatud mõisa varemetest lõuna poole rajati bussipeatus ja parkimisplats (jn 1). Keskajal Tallinna naistsistertslaste Mihkli kloostrile kuulunud mõisahoonde muutus varemeeks arvatavasti juba Liivi sõja käigus. Praegu mõisa pargis asuvat umbes 3 m kõrgust ja 35 m läbimõõduga varemeküngast (jn 4) ei ole kaevatud, kuid A. Tuulse on seda kirjeldanud ja U. Hermann koostanud vareme lähiehitistest 1974. aasta detailse asendiplaani.

Järelevalve käigus ei leitud midagi keskaegse mõisaga seostuvat. Ilmselt rajati uus parkla mõisa varemetest piisavalt kaugemale. Leiti mõisa 19. sajandi I poolal püstitatud karjalauda kirdetiiva vundamentid (jn 2). Siiski õnnestus aruande koostamise ajal saada uusi andmeid mõisavareme kohta, kandes Ajalooarhiivist avastatud 1829. a C. Faehlmanni koostatud asendiplaanilt (jn 3) tollal veel püsti seisnud müüri asukoha 1974. a mõõdetud varemekünka asendiplaanile (jn 1). Selgus, et tegemist on olnud hoone lõunafassaadi müüri, mõõdetud ligikaudu 17 m × 1,5 m. Selle müüri ja säilinud künka järgi võib oletada, et hoone oli põhja-lõuna suunas vähemalt kaks korda pikem. 19. saj. jooniseid interpreteerides jõuti järeldusele, et hoone edelanurgal on seisnud ligi 9 m läbimõõduga ümartorn (ilmselt varaste tulirelvade ajast). Tulemused võimaldasid koostada edaspidisteks uuringuteks varemekünka eeluuringute programmi.

2007. a alanud Paide Püha Risti kiriku pöranade vahetamine jätkus 2008. a lõunatornis. Kiriku ümbruses paigaldati ka kütte- ja kanalisatsioonitorusid ning dreanaazikaev (jn 5). Tornis eemaldati pöranada alt 19. saj. lammutusrusude 50 cm paksune kiht. 1771–1786. a koos pikihoonega püstitatud torni seinte alt ilmusid nähtavale paekivivundamentid, mis osutavad, et torn on arvatavasti enne 1845. a tulekahju olnud täisümar plaaniga (jn 6).

Vundamenti alune paekiviosa oli laotud maakividest platvormile, mis täitis kogu tornialuse.

Ligi 70 cm sügavuse kanalisatsioonikraavi kaevamisel kirikust põhja pool ei avastatud matuseid, kuid siiski üksikuid luid, mis osutavad lõhutud matmisalale. Käärkambrist lääne pool avastati 3,5 m pikkune arvatav sissekukkunud võlvi fragment, mille päritolu ei selgunud. Kraavi pinnasest leiti ka kaks paekivist tahutat keskaegse kirikuakna piidakatket. Käärkambrist 3 m ida poole kaevati dreanaazikaev. Algselt üle kahe meetri sügavusena kavandatud dreanaazikaev rajati vaid 1,6 m sügavusena, kuid kavandatust laiemana, et mitte lõhkuda paljandunud matuseid. Pikihoone ja käärkambrist kirdepoole liitekohta kaevati šurf, milles saadi esimesi andmeid hoone vundamentide väliskülje kohta. Selgus, et käärkambrist vundament on ehitatud sekundaarsena pikihoone vastu. Avastati, et pikihoone vundament, mis arvatavasti pärineb keskaegsest kirikuhoonest, eendub seinast ligi 50 cm võrra, samuti oli vanema kiriku sein praegusest tunduvalt paksem, ligi 195 cm.

Kesküttetrass kaevati kiriku edelanurga lähedale, kus avastati kaks laia vundamenti. 220 cm ja 260 cm paksused vundamentid on ilmselt kandnud mingit lõunaküljel pikihoone edelanurgaga liitunud ja ligi 5 m võrra eendunud massiivset ehitist. Pikihoonega samaväärse paksusega vundamentid osutavad kõrgele ehitisele. Oletatavasti asus sel kohal keskajal ebatüüpilise paigutusega läänetorn, mida on kujutatud 17. sajandist algusest pärineva Paide linna gravüüridel. Küttetrass ulatus kirikust ligi 50 m lõuna poole Keskväljaku keskpaigani. Kõikjal trassis paljandus tüüpiline kalmistupinnas üksikute inimluudega, kinnitades oletust, et kiriku juurde kuulunud kalmistu hõlmas varem kogu praeguse Keskväljaku põhjaosa ning ajalooline turuplats paiknes vaid lõunaosas.