Archaeological investigations in the vicinity of Sammaste Taru Kirikumägi stone cairn cemetery

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INTRODUCTION

In August 2020 archaeological investigations took place in Sammaste village to study the surroundings of Taru Kirikumägi ('Church hill') stone cairn cemetery with the aim to verify the presence of Iron Age cremation graves beside it. To investigate the site a small trench was laid and metal detector investigations were performed next to the hill. The site lies in southern Estonia, Viljandi County, Mulgi municipality, ca. 16 km south-west of Viljandi town and ca. 14 km north-east of Abja-Paluoja town. The trench was made in a field beside the cemetery which is located on a low hummock about 220 m south-east of the main building of Taru farm (presently deserted), at a 150 m distance from another Roman Iron Age *tarand* cemetery, excavated in 1880 (Fig. 1; Jung 1898, 4–6).

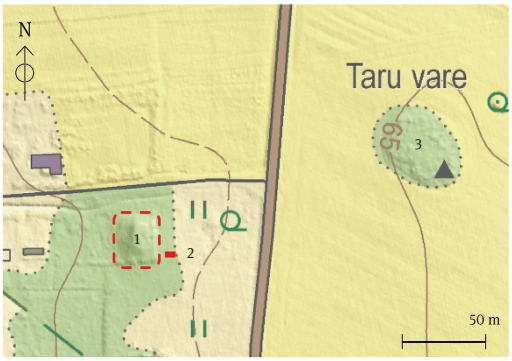

Fig. 1. *Situation plan. 1 – Sammaste Taru Kirikumägi stone cairn cemetery, 2 – trench of 2020, 3 – Sammaste Taru second stone cairn cemetery.*

Jn 1. *Asendiplaan. 1 – Sammaste Taru Kirikumäe kivikalme, 2 – 2020. a kaevand, 3 – Sammaste Taru teine kivikalme.*

Map / Kaart: Estonian Land Board / Maa-amet

The first excavations at Sammaste Taru Kirikumägi were carried out in 1989 (Valk 1990). The excavations of the northern part of the hill (ca. 40%) revealed its use since the Pre-Roman Iron Age until the end of the Late Iron Age. Judging by written data (Jung 1898, 10–11; Loorits 1935, 284, 287) there was a chapel of St Laurence on the stone grave in the Catholic period and popular offerings were performed there secretly also in 1671. As no sieving was practised in Estonian archaeology in the 1980s, the backfilled trench was reopened again in 2002 and the soil was sieved to discover finds, which may have remained unnoticed during the excavations (Valk 2002). Numerous coins from the site date from late 14th century to the turn of the 18th and 19th centuries.

The east side of Kirikumägi is bordered by an old stone fence. In order to date the fence and find out its relation with the cemetery, a trench was dug on its east side in 1989 in the field between the hill and the road. Cremated bones and artefact fragments from below the

level disturbed by ploughing made it possible to suggest that flat cremation graves existed also in the surroundings of the hill. Poor information about such grave form, most rare in southern Estonia (Selirand 1974, 52; Valk & Allmäe 2011; Valk & Laul 2014) gave reason for further investigation of the site.

METAL DETECTING AND EXCAVATION

Before the excavations, a metal detector survey was performed by Aleksandr Kotkin (amateur detecting club Taaler) in the nearest vicinity of Kirikumägi, up to 11 m to the east, and 8 m to the south of the bordering stone fence. The survey yielded several finds indicating an Iron Age cremation cemetery: fragments of artefacts and strongly melted pieces of coloured metal. Since the highest concentration of finds was located south-east of Kirikumägi, a trial pit (50 × 50 cm) was dug there. The west and east walls of the pit showed slightly different soils, with even dark soil on the west side, and dark soil with light sandy spots on the east side. As some burnt bone and pottery fragments were recovered from the trial pit, it was decided to make the excavation trench in that region.

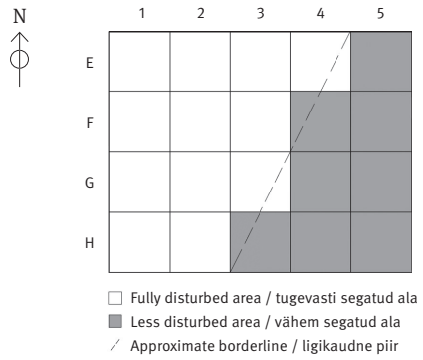

Fig. 2. *Plan of the trench of 2020 with the approximate border of the heavily and lesser disturbed areas.*
Jn 2. *2020. a kaevandi plaan tugevasti ja vähem segatud ala ligikaudse piiriga.*
Drawing / Joonis: Mairi Kaseorg

Since the trench was situated in a field, the first two technical layers (each 10 cm) were dug in soil disturbed by ploughing. From then onwards, digging continued by 5 cm horizontal layers. From the depth of 30 cm, two different types of soil could be distinguished in the bottom of the trench (Fig. 2). A barely noticeable and vague diagonal line divided the trench, as the soil in the NW-part of the plot was slightly lighter and dried quicker after being sprayed with water. The dim line, which cut the trench was also the reason for the difference discernible in the eastern and western profiles of the trial pit, but it could not be followed in the northern and southern profiles of the trench.

In all layers, granite stones, some of them fire-cracked and some strongly burnt, disintegrating into stone rubble, were encountered, but in the layer disturbed by ploughing their diameter did not exceed 5 cm. In the depth of ca. 20 cm stones with the diameter of 10–15/20 cm appeared in the south-eastern part of the trench. In the depth of 35 cm, it seemed clear that the trench had two different parts, the north-western of them being heavily disturbed. In that part of the trench with no stones, the soil had a visible consistency difference, being of dimmer color and not as dense as in the south-eastern part. It also contained tiny brick fragments and some fragments of pottery from the 19th and 20th centuries. The south-eastern part of the trench contained several bigger stones at the depth of 30–40 cm (Fig. 3) and some of them had a thin layer of sooty soil with tiny charcoal particles under and attached to them. Smaller disturbance in this part of the trench was also shown by undisturbed particles of natural light loam in the soil.

Due to the evidently disturbed character of soil in the NW-part of the trench, as well as limited time and resources, starting from the depth of 40 cm digging was continued by 5 cm technical layers only in the SE-part of the excavation area (grey squares on Fig. 2). The rest of the

Fig. 3. *Trench beside Sammaste Tartu Kirikumägi in the depth of 35 cm from the ground level, with the south-eastern corner of the hill in the background: view from the east.*
Jn 3. *Kaevand Sammaste Taru Kirikumäe kõrval maapinnast 35 cm sügavusel; tagaplaanil kalmekünka kagunurk. Vaade idast.*
Photo / Foto: Mairi Kaseorg

trench where the soil was evidently disturbed was excavated by 10 cm layers. The quantity of stones became smaller from the depth of 45 cm and no stones were left at the depth of 55 cm. The same tendency of regression was also noticed for metal finds, bones, and pottery in the whole trench. The soil became lighter with every layer in the south-eastern part of the trench due to the increasing number of sandy spots, but some finds were still encountered there, as well as in its north-western part. In the whole trench tiny brick pieces and fragments of 19th–20th century pottery were found in the deeper layers, giving evidence of late disturbances.

In the final stage of the excavation local people talked about land improvement work in the field at the beginning of 2019. It was verified by checking earlier satellite images of the site which showed a big tree in the area of the trench. The tree had been uprooted and this had probably caused the disturbance in the north-western part of the trench: the cavity was filled with soil from the surrounding field. Having learned this, further digging was finished in the depth of 60 cm in the north-western, and in the depth of 50 cm in the south-eastern part of the trench.

THE FINDS

The finds (VM 11617) mainly include fragments of burnt jewellery items and dress accessories, most of them heavily damaged by fire. Since all the finds come from soil disturbed by land improvement work and none of them belongs to definite closed complex, finds from the trench and those gained from the field south and east of Kirikumägi by using metal detector are not treated separately.

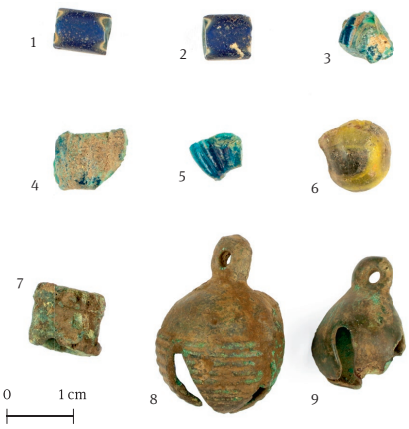

Fig. 4. *Beads and bells from Sammaste cemetery.*
Jn 4. *Helmed ja kuljused Sammaste kalmest.*
(VM 11617 A: 84, 85, 48, 86, 87, 83, 10, 14, 2.)
Photo / Foto: Heiki Valk

Fig. 5. *Finds from Sammaste cemetery. 1–2 – terminals of penannular brooches, 3–9 – bracelet fragments.*
Jn 5. *Leide Sammaste kalmest. 1–2 – hoburaudsõlgede otsanupud, 3–9 – käevõrude katked.*
(VM 11617 A: 136, 24, 108, 94, 5, 88, 6, 93, 89.)
Photo / Foto: Heiki Valk

The bead finds include two blue-and-white facetted glass beads (Fig. 4: 1, 2), three fragments of light green round ribbed glass beads (Fig. 4: 3–5), a fragment of a round yellow/dark grey glass bead (Fig. 4: 6), and a barrel-shaped bronze bead (Fig. 4: 7). Also a bell with four sheets decorated with horizontal stripes (Fig. 4: 8) may have belonged to a necklace.

The assemblage includes terminals of two penannular brooches – of a prism-shaped (Fig. 5: 1) and a poppy-shaped (Fig. 5: 2) ending –, as well as a pin fragment of such brooch (:135). Bracelet fragments were represented by end parts of two narrow thin bracelets decorated with hatched ornamentation (Fig. 5: 3, 4), by up to 9 mm and 12 mm wide bracelets with broadening ends (Fig. 5: 5, 6), a fragment of bracelet of convex-concave section (Fig. 5: 7), strongly melt side fragments of a 21 mm wide bracelet (Fig. 5: 8), a fragmented end part of a 21 mm wide bracelet decorated with oblong grooves (Fig. 5: 9), and a strongly melt fragment with fine, deeply hatched rhombus ornamentation (Fig. 6: 1). From jewellery items also a broken finger ring with four spiral endings (Fig. 6: 2), a tiny fragment of a cross-headed breast pin (Fig. 6: 4), a fragment of a bronze neck ring twisted of three wires (Fig. 7: 1), and a fragment of an item of twisted wire, maybe also originating from a neck ring (Fig. 7: 2) were found.

Belt accessories include two belt-buckles of so-called Gotlandic / Eastern Baltic type (Fig. 7: 3, 4), a buckle or belt ring strongly deformed in fire (Fig. 7: 5), a two-part 12th or early 13th century strap ending, meant to be fixed with its similar counterpart by an S-shaped iron hook (Fig. 7: 6), a belt plaque (Fig. 7: 7) and two bronze rings (Fig. 7: 8, 9) that once may have belonged to a narrow woven belt). Tools were represented by two knives and a knife fragment (Fig. 7: 9–11), all burnt and of Iron Age origin.

Fig. 6. *Fragments of cremated artefacts from Sammaste cemetery. 1 – a bracelet fragment, 2 – a ring with double spiral loops, 3 – fragment of a penannular brooch pin (?), 4 – fragment of a cross-headed breast pin, 5 – fragment of a decorated item.*

Jn 6. *Põlenud esemete katked Sammaste kalmest. 1 – käevõru katke, 2 – prillspiraalsõrmus, 3 – hoburaudsõle nõela (?) katke, 4 – ristpeaga rinnanõela haru otsa katke, 5 – mustrilise eseme katke.*

(VM 11617 A: 131, 55, 17, 132, 26.)

Photo / Foto: Heiki Valk

Fig. 7. *Finds from Sammaste cemetery. 1–2 – fragments of neck rings, 3–4 – belt buckles, 5 – a belt ring or buckle, 6 – a belt ending with an iron hook, 7 – plaque, 8–9 – belt rings, 10–12 – knives.*

Jn 7. *Leide Sammaste kalmelt. 1–2 – kaelavõrude katked, 3–4 – pandlad, 5 – vöörõngas või pannal, 6 – raudhaagisega vööotsik, 7 – naast, 8–9 – vöörõngad, 10–12 – noad.*

(VM 11617 A: 6, 13, 16, 23, 29, 10, 35, 22, 92, 66, 15, 91.)

Photo / Foto: Heiki Valk

Due to the high stage of fragmentation, the origin of some fragments remained unclear. A flat fragment with a high ridge penetrated by a hole which gives the impression of a stylized animal head (Fig. 6: 3) originates from a bracelet or back part of a brooch pin. Of unknown origin is a fragment of a finely decorated bronze item (Fig. 6: 5). The assemblage also includes 29 drops of metal originating from fully melt and deformed objects – 28 of copper alloy, but one of high quality silver (86.44%), with lower contents of copper, zinc, lead, bismuth and gold[1] –, and some tiny fragments of cremated bronze items.

Pottery gained by sieving included mainly tiny fragments of predominantly hand-made ware of reddish, pinkish, light brown or grey colour (Fig. 8: 1–5). The clay contained sand or fine stone rubble, mostly up to 1 mm diameter. The profile fragments of hand-made ware originate mainly from vessels with a thin, upright edge (Fig. 8: 6–8). Rim fragments were represented by only a few finds (Fig. 8: 9). Special attention should be paid to some tiny sherds of dark hand-made fine ware, the smoothed surface of which was decorated with hatches and lines cut at different angles (Fig. 9). While among side fragments wheel-thrown pottery could not definitely be identified, the assemblage included also a few edge fragments of different primitive wheel-made vessels (Fig. 8: 10).

Dispersed human bone fragments with heavy fire damage, mostly greyish, were found throughout the trench during the entire excavation period. Their concentration was bigger in the south-eastern part of the trench between the stones – in the depth of 20 to 35 cm. The assemblage of cremains contained, judging by *os petrosae*, bones from at least two adults. One bone belonged to a juvenile in the age of 14–19 years.[2] Unburned bones were found in the north-western part of the trench until the depth of 35 cm but they were more sparsely located and less numerous than cremated bones. From the disturbed soil also uncremated bones of domestic animals were found.[3]

Fig. 8. *Pottery from Sammaste cemetery. 1–5 – examples of body fragments, 6–8 – edge fragments of fine ware, 9 – a rim fragment, 10 – edge fragment of a wheel-thrown vessel.*
Jn 8. *Keraamikat Sammaste kalmelt. 1–5 – küljetükkide näited, 6–8 – peenkeraamika servatükid, 9 – nivendiga kild, 10 – kedranõu servakatke.*
(VM 11617 A: 70a–e, 73, 74, 77, 127, 75.)
Photo / Foto: Heiki Valk

[1] XRF analysis was performed by Ragnar Saage (TÜ).
[2] Human bones were studied by Maris Niinesalu (TÜ).
[3] Animal bones were studied by Eve Rannamäe (TÜ).

Fig. 9. *Fine hand-made ware decorated with cut and hatched ornamentation from Sammaste cemetery.*
Jn 9. *Lõike- ja täkkeornamendiga peenkeraamikat Sammaste kalmelt.*
(VM 11617 A: 113, 114, 116, 118.)
Photo / Foto: Heiki Valk

Artefacts from the medieval period, probably from disturbed inhumation graves, include a simple spiral ring with twisted middle coil, a tiny bell with four sheets – an artefact type characteristic for the late 12th–15th centuries (Fig. 4: 9) and probably also a rectangular iron belt buckle without traces of fire (:96).

To post-medieval times belong also eight coins from the 16th to 18th centuries. The Commonwealth of Poland and Lithuania is represented by a schilling of Sigismund II Augustus minted in Dole (1572), a Riga schilling of Sigismund III Vasa (1616–1619), and a copper schilling ('boratynka') of John II Casimir Vasa (1660). From Swedish coins, two schillings of John III minted in Tallinn – a pendant of vague date (1569–1592) and a coin from 1570–1581, and a Riga schilling of Charles X Gustav (1664) were found, from coins of Russia – a silver wire kopeck of Peter I (1696–1717) and a *denga* of Jelizaveta Petrovna (1750). Finds from medieval and post-medieval times originate either from disturbed graves or were lost during popular festivities at the chapel site.

The find assemblage also contains some fragments of white flint of local origin, but the connection of these finds with the cemetery remains unclear.

TRACES OF LOOTING

During the excavations of 1989 and 2002 the total of 324 metal items, including 176 coins were unearthed from the northern part of Kirikumägi hill from the depth of up to 20 cm below the ground surface. Both in 2002 and in later years traces of looting with metal detectors could be observed on top of Kirikumägi hill. To study the extent of these damages, the surface of the whole formerly uninvestigated part of the cemetery (ca. 60% of its territory) was reviewed by using metal detectors in 2020. Although, if expecting equal distribution of finds in the cemetery, the uninvestigated area should have contained 450–500 metal items, including ca. 250 coins, yet absolutely no metal signals were gained from the cemetery during the survey. Thus, the experiment gave evidence of extremely hard looting of the site. The full lack of coins, in spite of high quality and competence of detecting, indicates professional level of looting, and coin-targeted search, since tiny coins tend to remain unnoticed by amateur detectorists. The case of Sammaste Kirikumägi reflects the stage of damages made to archaeological monuments of Estonia, also to protected archaeological sites, since metal detectors started to be used by illegal looters in the mid-1990s, and there is enough reason to suggest a network of criminal character behind these activities.

OFFERING STONE ON THE LAND OF TAUKLE FARMSTEAD

According to oral tradition, there was an offering stone on the land of Taukle farmstead ca. 250 m north-east of Sammaste Taru Kirikumägi. The stone has been buried during field clearance in the Soviet time, but in ca. 2010 it was unearthed with an excavator.[4] The granite boulder, ca. 70 cm high and of 1.5–2 m diameter, lies in the field ca. 10 m south of the road to Kaarli and Õisu.

Before the excavations at Sammaste Kirikumägi a metal detector survey was performed also in the surroundings of the offering stone, but the soil repeatedly disturbed by heavy machinery provided absolutely no finds.

DISCUSSION

The excavation results give evidence of hard damages caused to the state-protected monument by land improvement works, carried out without notifying the National Heritage Board. While soil in the north-western part of the trench – in the fill of the pit formed when removing the roots of a big tree – was fully disturbed, its south-eastern part could still give some information about the character of the burial site. Although the soil in the uppermost 20 cm was fully disturbed, at the depth of 25–40 cm it seemed to have been shifted from its original location by one- or two-time bulldozer pushes only. Soot stuck to the stones and traces of fire on them refer to a fireplace, probably related to the cremation of the dead in the immediate vicinity of Kirikumägi. It must be noted that soot and charcoal were not found in the upper and medium layers of the stone setting on Kirikumägi hill, dating from the mid-1st millennium AD until the end of the Iron Age. On Kirikumägi hill, sooty layer was found only in the lower deposits of the cemetery, dating from the Pre-Roman and Roman Iron Age.

The area south and east of Kirikumägi hill has been used as a field for a long time. Since stones in the depth of ploughing tend to be removed during field clearances, it seems likely that the soil with burnt stones originally lay beneath the layer disturbed by land cultivation, i.e. deeper than 22–25 cm from the ground level. This fits well with data from the trench of 1989 where disturbed soil with finds stretched until the depth of 45–50 cm. Thus, we can suppose flat-ground cremations with burial plots of unknown size, deepened into the ground, and probably, including also an underground stone setting. There is no information if the upper stones reached the ground level, because, if once existing, they have evidently been removed during field clearance in the course of time. Some of the stones, those with traces of fire, might also indicate a cremation site the bottom of which was deepened at least for 40–50 cm into the ground. Concerning the stone setting, we can draw parallels with flat and sparse stone settings of northern and western Estonia (Mandel 2003), as well as with the 11th – early 13th century Madi cemetery ca. 20 km north-west of Viljandi (Konsa 2003). The stone setting beside Kirikumägi hill may originally have reached the ground surface, but no firm decisions about it can be made because of long-term field clearance and later disturbances.

Finds from the surroundings of Kirikumägi indicate that the area beside the hill was used for burial from the 10th–11th to the early 13th century – considering the lifespan of the cemetery as a whole, this means a rather limited time period. Most likely, the area beside Kirikumägi was used until the Christianization of Sakala province in 1215/1223 (HCL XIX: 4, 7; XXVII: 2). As it appears from the find assemblage, cremation was the only way of burial in the surroundings before the crusades.

[4] Oral information from Peeter Ilus whose father Elmar Ilus was born in the adjacent Torimu farmstead.

When comparing with finds from the same time period on top of Kirikumägi, the lack of weapon finds among the find assemblage of 2020 must be outlined. It cannot be excluded that this difference may be caused by certain differences in the social status of people buried on the hill top and at its foot. However, the suggestion remains uncertain, since a tiny spearhead fragment was found in the trial trench beside Kirikumägi hill in 1989, and find assemblage from the area around the hill also shows at least 'middle-class' status of the people buried there.

Stray finds from the 16th–17th century, mainly coins, indicate that popular festivities, probably related with fair-like activities on church holidays (Kõpp 1959; Valk & Kiudsoo 2020) took place not only on Kirikumägi hill, but stretched also to flat areas in its surroundings. Most likely, coin finds from around the hill cannot be regarded as offered items but were rather lost during the festivity fairs – events which took place in Livonia in the Catholic Period both at parish churches and rural chapels.

CONCLUSIONS

Excavations beside Sammaste Kirikumägi provided, in spite of heavy disturbances of the investigation area, new information about Late Iron Age burial rites in the region. It became evident that flat areas in the surroundings of stone settings may hide cremation burials, located in bigger depth than needed for ploughing – a burial practice never documented before in the region. This knowledge is important both from the perspective of research, but also for heritage protection.

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ARHEOLOOGILISED UURINGUD SAMMASTE TARU KIRIKUMÄE KIVIKALME LÄHIÜMBRUSES

Heiki Valk ja Mairi Kaseorg

2020. a augustis toimusid arheoloogilised uuringud Mulgimaal Sammaste külas (Halliste khk), Taru Kirikumäe nime all tuntud kivikalme kõrval (jn 1). 1989. ja 2002. a uuringute põhjal oli matmispaik kasutusel eelrooma rauaajast kuni hilisrauaaja lõpuni. Kirjalike allikate teatel asus Kirikumäel 17. sajandil Laurentsiuse kabel, mille olemasolu kinnitavad ka 14. saj II poolest kuni 18. ja 19. saj vahetuseni ulatuvad ohvrimündid.

1989. a kaevamistel tehti Kirikumäge idast ja lõunast piirava kiviaia dateerimiseks proovitranšee kalme idaküljel asuvale põllule. Künnikihist sügavamalt leitud esemed ja põlenud luud tõstatasid küsimuse, kas künka ümbruses põllul võib leiduda maa-aluseid põletusmatuseid. 2020. a detektoriga eeluuringul saadi Kirikumäest ida ja lõuna pool olevalt põllult mitmeid rauaajast ja varauusajast pärit juhuleide, mille arvukus oli kõige suurem Kirikumäe kagunurga lähistel, kuhu kaevatud šurfis sisaldas pinnas põlenud luid ja keraamikatükke. Järgnevalt mõõdeti sisse kaevand (4 × 5 m) nii, et šurf jäi selle idaosa keskele (jn 1–3). Uuringute käigus selgus, et suures osas oli pinnas kaevandis segatud. Kaevamiste lõppjärgus rääkisid kohalikud elanikud, et 2019. a kevadel oli Kirikumäe ümbruses toimunud maaparandus. Aerofotode uurimisel tõdeti, et kaevandi piirkonnas kasvas enne maaparandust suur puu. Ilmselt just selle väljajuurimisel tekkis kaevandi loodeossa süvend, mis mujalt põllult, nähtavasti enamasti väljastpoolt kalmeala pärineva pinnasega täideti. Kaevandi kaguosas olev kive sisaldav ja vähem segatud pinnas kujutab endast Kirikumäe ümbruses olevalt kalmealalt juurteaugu täiteks lükatud kalmekihti.

Kirikumäe ümbrusest põllult ja kaevandist saadud kontekstiga leidude kogum sisaldab peamiselt põlenud ehete jäänuseid ja vöömanuseid (jn 4–7). Keraamika (jn 8) oli punakas-roosakat, helepruuni või hallikat tooni ning enamasti käsitsi valmistatud. Leidus ka peenkeraamikat (jn 8: 6–8) ja üksikuid nivendiga (jn 8: 9) ning kedranõukilde (jn 8: 10). Märkimist väärivad lõikeornamendi ja täketega kaunistatud, valdavalt tumedad peenkeraamikakillud (jn 9). Leiud pärinevad 10. sajandist kuni 13. sajandi alguseni.

Põlenud luid sisaldas segatud pinnas peamiselt 20–35 cm sügavusel, neid leiti ka kivide alt koos kivide külge jäänud söega. Põlemata luid leidus vähe, vaid kaevandi tugevasti segatud loodeosas. Kuna segatud pinnases oli ka väheseid 16.–17. sajandi leide, võiksid põletamata luud pärineda selle ajajärgu matustest. Kaheksa 16. sajandi ja 18. sajandi keskpaiga vahemikust pärinevat münti võivad seostuda ühtviisi nii matustega kui ka kabeli juures lauritsapäevade ajal toimunud pidustuste ja rahvakogunemistega.

Kaevamistulemused näitavad, et Taru kivikalme ümbruses on olnud maa-aluste kivikonstruktsioonide ja põletusmatustega kalmeala. Kuna kaevandi kaguosa pinnas sisaldas suuremaid kalmekive, mis polnud pikaajalise maaharimise käigus välja korjatud, on need enne maaparandust paiknenud künnikihist sügavamal, nähtavasti võrdlemisi kompaktse ladestusena. Seega on põletatud surnute luujäänuseid maetud Kirikumäe nime kandva kivikalmega künka ümbruses tasasesse maasse süvendatud ja raudkividest kivistikuga kalmealale või matmisplatsidele. Selliste kalmevormide kohta pole Mulgimaalt varem andmeid. Maaparandusega paigast nihutatud kivide küljes olnud söekiht viitab sellele, et surnuid põletati kivikalme vahetus läheduses.

Kuna Kirikumägi on korduvalt metallidetektorite abil rüüstatud, tehti kahjustuste ulatuse tuvastamiseks detektorikontrolli ka kalmekünkal. Kui 1989. ja 2002. aasta uuringutel saadi kalme põhjapoolsest osast (u 40% kalmepinnast) maapinnast kuni 20 cm sügavuselt kokku 324 metall-leidu, sh 176 münti, siis nüüd ei andnud detektoriuuringud ülejäänud kalmealalt ainsatki metallisignaali. Selline tulemus viitab kalmel toimunud ülipõhjalikule, professionaalselt teostatud detektorirüüstele.

Detektoriga uuriti pinnast ka maasse lastud ja hiljem taas kopaga välja kaevatud Taukle ohvrikivi ümbruses (kalmest u 250 m idakirdes), kuid rasketehnikaga segatud pinnasest leide ei saadud.