

ARHEOLOOGILISED
VÄLITÖÖD
EESTIS

ARCHAEOLOGICAL
FIELDWORK
IN ESTONIA

2007

Koostanud ja toimetanud
Ülle Tamla

Muinsuskaitseamet
Tallinn 2008

© 2008 Muinsuskaitseamet
Uus 18, Tallinn 10111, Eesti
National Heritage Board
Uus 18, Tallinn 10111, Estonia
www.muinas.ee

Esikaas: 13.–14. sajandist pärit ribiline väike klaaspudel Tartu vanalinnast.

Cover: Fragment of a 13.-14 cc small glass bottle (Ribbenflasche) from Old Tartu.

Tagakaas: Tervena säilinud keskaegne nahkjalats Tartu vanalinnast.

Back cover: Well preserved leather shoe from Old Tartu.

Toimetuskolleegium / Editorial Board:

Ants Kraut
Friedrich Lüth
Erki Russow
Leena Söyrinki-Harmo
Toomas Tamla
Ülle Tamla
Jaan Tamm
Juris Urtāns
Kalev Uustalu
Heiki Valk

Kujundus ja küljendus:
Jaana Kool

ISSN 1406-3972

TARTU ÜLIKOOLI
RAAMATUKOGU
SUNDEKSEMPLAR

ARCHAEOLOGICAL INVESTIGATIONS AT THE IRON AGE AND MEDIEVAL SETTLEMENT SITE OF SARGVERE

Andres TVAURI

Tartu Ülikool (University of Tartu), Lossi 3, Tartu, 51003, Eesti (Estonia)

Andres.Tvauri@ut.ee

Archaeological investigations in the Sargvere village (Järva county, historical Paide parish) were carried out in connection with the establishment of a new, Alliksoone housing estate. Manager of the real estate, Raivo Vende had found burnt stones from the waterpipe trench in May 2007 and informed the National Heritage Board about the find. Inspectors Aino Pung and Arnold Unt from the Board visited the site and acknowledged the existence of a settlement site. In order to ascertain the perimeter of the settlement site, the condition of the cultural layer, the dating of the site, and to document the remains already discovered during the earthwork, the National Heritage Board ordered investigations. Those investigations were directed by the author of the current article (Tvauri 2007).

At first, the borders of the settlement site were identified by fieldwalking (Fig. 1). The settlement site constituted an area of 420 m in length and 120 m in width. The housing estate will be built at the northern part of the site. A large amount of ground was opened there in connection with the building of a road and installation of pipes. The settlement site distinguishes from the surrounding field as a darker area containing fragments of pottery, animal bones, carbon, and burnt stones. The settlement has been established on the eastern side of a preterit spring.

Inside the Alliksoone housing estate there is one rectangular street. Its northern and eastern branches were paved with gravel already before the beginning of archaeological investigations. From the southern branch of the road, 30–40 cm of the uppermost layer, disturbed by ploughing, had been removed before the beginning of the investigations. From the western branch of the road, the uppermost layer was removed under the supervision of an archaeologist.

In the middle section of the western branch of the road, beyond property Alliksoone 11, only a part of the uppermost layer was removed. Underneath the

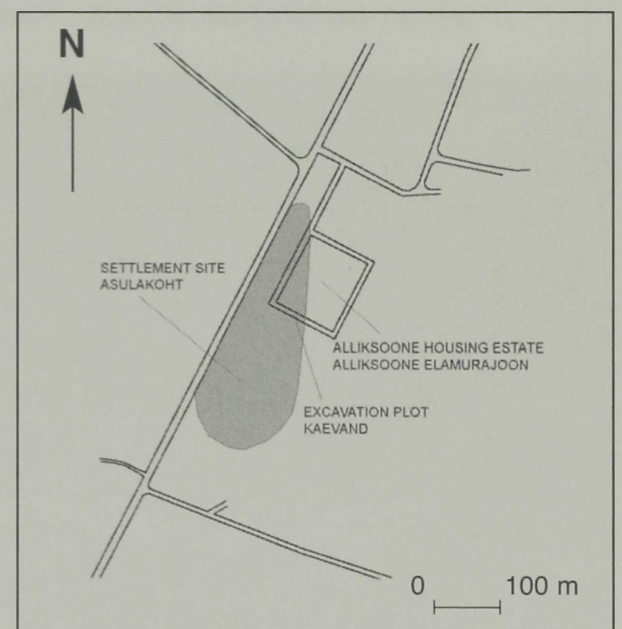


Fig. 1. Map of the Sargvere settlement site.

Jn 1. Sargvere asulakoha asendiplaan.



Fig. 2. The southern road branch inside the Alliksoone housing estate before the excavations. View from the East.

Jn 2. Alliksoone elamurajooni sisese tee lõunaharu enne uuringute algust. Vaade idast.



Fig. 3. Base of chimneyless dwelling from first half of 16th century. View from the W.

Jn 3. 16. saj esimesest poolest pärineva suitsutare põhi. Vaade läänest.

(Fig. 2) an area consisting plenty of metal artefacts was found using a metal detector. The cultural layer here was deeper than elsewhere under the road and many bigger stones were noticed. It was decided to establish an excavation plot of approximately 41 m² there. In the excavation plot, remains of a base of a building were discovered (Figs. 3; 4). The inner side of the wall was constructed evenly, the outer side raggedly. The eastern and southern walls were double, other walls had one layer of stones. The length of the building base was 5 m as measured from the inner side of the wall and its width was 2.4–2.7 meters. The expanse of the build-

filling of the new road a stony area remained, which obviously has been a base of a building. Finds gathered from here, including coins, give reason to assume that the northern part of the settlement site was inhabited in 17th century.

At the southern end of the western road branch, after removing 35 cm of top layer, two round concavities revealed in virgin soil of clayish sand. They were both approximately 1 m in diameter, filled with burnt soil and stones. The depth of the northern concavity was 15 cm (measured from the top of the clayish sand layer) and it contained only one fragment of pottery and a part of a jawbone of the horse. The depth of the southern concavity was 23 cm and it contained fragments of pottery (TÜ 1574: 70–76) dating from the 14th to the 16th centuries.

From the territory of the southern branch of the road

ing was thus 12.5 m². The base was deepened into virgin soil to the depth of 40–50 cm. In the north-eastern and north-western corners of the building some larger stones had been removed from their places obviously by ploughing.

No traces of floor were discovered in the building – the ground within the walls was very bumpy. There were several holes which could antedate the building itself. In the territory of the building, especially near the eastern wall, there was a lot of charcoal and burnt granite stones but no fireplace was discovered. The building has probably had a timber floor with the stove on top of it. The oven has obviously been isolated from the floor by means of clay. This is evidenced by the amount of burnt clay with traces of wood. Considering the spread of burnt stones in the territory of the excavation plot, the oven was situated in the south-eastern corner of the building.

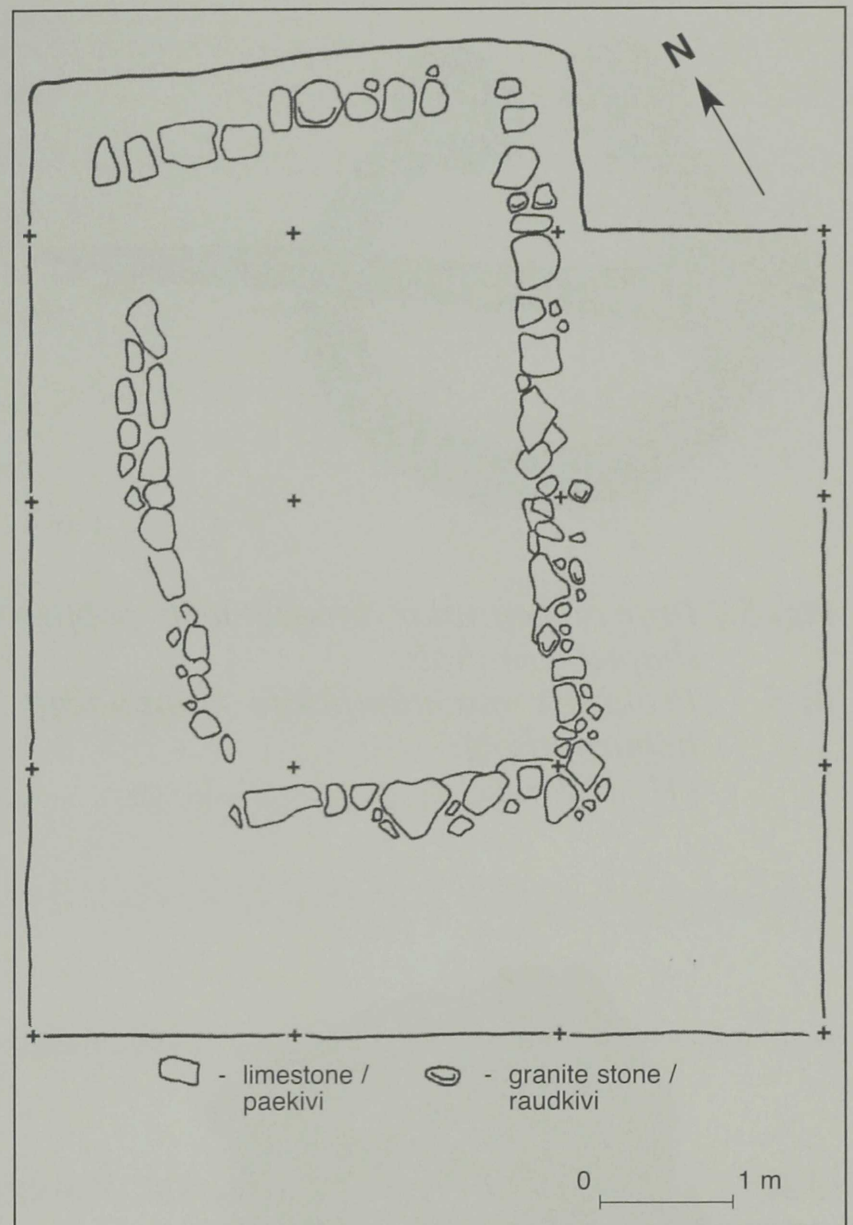


Fig. 4. Stone base of chimneyless dwelling.
Jn 4. Suitsutare kividest vundament.

The artefactual finds gathered from the base of the building were abundant. A number of iron objects were gained, among others a scythe, buckles, nails, knives. An iron sewing needle, three bone needles with holes and a fragment of a bone comb were found; also a needle of a bronze pennular brooch and a bronze wire spiral. Ten silver coins dated to the 15th and the beginning of the 16th centuries were found from the southern part of the building at the level of the upper row of base stones. In the estimation of numismatist Mauri Kiudsoo (AI), the *tpq* of this small hoard is 1535. Taking the finds into account, we can conclude that we are dealing with a base of a chimneyless dwelling (smoke cottage), destroyed in the second half of 1530ies or in the 1540ies.

The base of the dwelling investigated at Sargvere settlement site belongs to a certain type of smoke cottages – a pit-house with a base deepened into the ground. The oldest remains of a pit-house in Estonia were found from Angerja dwelling



Fig. 5. Bronze pennular brooch with poppy-shaped terminals.

Jn 5. Pronksist moonikujuliste nuppudega hoburaudsõlg.
(TÜ 1574: 42.)

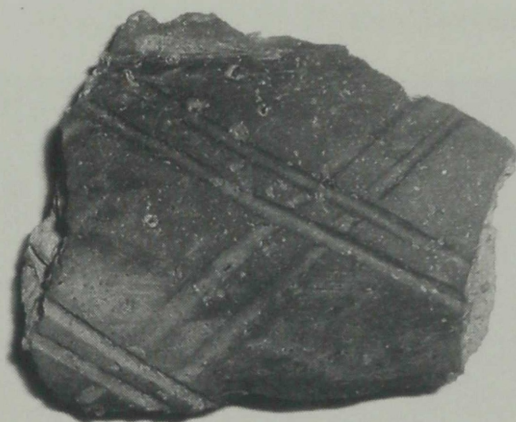


Fig. 6. Fragment of fine pottery decorated with rhombic checker.

Jn 6. Võreornamendiga peenkeraamilise savinõu katke.
(TÜ 1574: 66.)



Fig. 7. Strike-a-light.

Jn 7. Tulusraud.
(TÜ 1574: 32.)

site, where it was dated to the 12th-13th centuries (Tamla & Valk 1987). Most of the remains of such dwellings have been discovered from Medieval settlement sites (Lavi 1997, 114-115; 2005, 152). In the 18th and 19th centuries, pit-houses were used on temporary basis, like for example the fishing cabins in the coastal areas (Luts 1977). A positive characteristic of the pit-houses is their remarkable heat-retaining capacity in cold season. On the other hand, such buildings tend to suffer from flooding in the spring or during heavy rains, as ground water tends to infiltrate through the dug-in walls. This may also be the reason why they were not widespread in Estonia in the prehistoric and medieval times (Lavi 2005, 152).

Plenty of finds were gained elsewhere from the territory of the Sargvere settlement site. A bronze pennular brooch with poppy-shaped terminals (Fig. 5), dating to the 11th century or the first half of the 12th century (Pauts 1995, 51-53) was found. Fragments of fine pottery decorated with rhombic checker (Fig. 6) and a bronze spiral date back to the 11th-13th centuries. Ten knives or fragments of knives, several whetstones and a fragment of a scythe, ice nail and a strike-a-light (Fig. 7) can date either from the Late Iron Age or from the medieval and post-medieval period. The greatest part of metal artefacts date from the 16th and 17th centuries, for example a wheel lock of firearm, a fragment of a cannonball,

made of cast iron, and a fragment of an iron padlock. Some coins dating from the same period were also found: two Swedish $\frac{1}{2}$ copper öre from 1586 and 1592, $\frac{1}{4}$ copper öre from 1634 and *solidus* of Riga minted in the 17th century. Artefactual finds or ceramics from post-17th century period were not discovered from the territory of the settlement site. According to primary investigations, the Sargvere settlement site has been inhabited at least from the 12th to the 17th centuries.

References

- Lavi, A. 1997.** Asulakohad 13.–17. sajandi talurahvaehitiste ajaloo allikana. – EAA, 1, 84–144.
- Lavi, A. 2005.** An addendum to the study of smoke cottages. – EAA, 9, 2, 132–155.
- Luts, A. 1977.** Eesti kalurite ajutised rannaelamud. – ERM Ar, XXXI, 62–94.
- Pauts, H. 1995.** Lääne-Eesti hoburaudsõled (8.–13. sajand). Diplomitöö. Tallinn. (*Manuscript in TÜ.*)
- Tamla, Ü. & Valk, H. 1987.** Der zweite Silberschatz und eine Gebäudeunterlage vom Siedlungsplatz Angerja. – TATÜ, 36: 4, 371–375.
- Tvauri, A. 2007.** Aruanne arheoloogilistest uuringutest Järva mk Sargvere asulakohal 2007. aastal. Tartu. (*Manuscript in MA.*)

ARHEOLOOGILISED UURINGUD SARGVERE RAUA- JA KESKAEGSEL ASULAKOHAL

Andres TVAURI

Arheoloogilised uuringud Järvamaal Sargvere külas (Paide khk) toimusid seoses Alliksoone elamurajooni rajamisega. Kinnistu arendaja Raivo Vende leidis 2007. aasta mais veetorustikukraavi profiilist põlenud kive ning andis sellest teada Muinsuskaitseametile. Kohal käinud eksperdid tõdesid asulakoha olemasolu ja tellisid uuringud, et teha kindlaks asula ulatus, kultuurkihi säilivus, muistise dateering ning dokumenteerida mullatööde käigus juba avatud muinasjäänused. Leide ja kultuurkihti esines 420 x 120 m suurusel alal (jn 1). Asulakoha põhjaosas, mis jääb rajatava elamurajooni alla, oli maapind avatud ulatuslikul alal seoses tee rajamise ja torustike paigaldamisega. Asulakoht avaldus ümbritsevast põllumaast selgelt tumedama, savinõukilde, loomaluid, sütt ja põlenud kive sisaldava alana. Asustus on tekkinud kunagise allika idaküljele. Alliksoone elamurajooni sisesest nelinurksest tänavast oli tee põhja- ja idapoolne haru juba enne arheoloogiliste uuringute algust killustikuga silutatud. Lõunapoolse haru alalt oli enne arheoloogiliste välitööde algust eemaldatud künnikiht 30–40 cm sügavuselt. Läänepoolse haru alalt kooriti künnikiht arheoloogi järelevalve all ja pärast kihi eemaldamist uuriti põhjalikumalt läbi looduslikku saviliiva ulatunud kaks u 1 m läbimõõduga lohku. Mõlemas oli tahmunud kive ja söesegust mulda. Põhjapoolne lohk oli 15 cm sügav (mõõdetuna loodusliku saviliiva pinnast) ja sellest saadi üks savinõukild ja tükike hobuse lõualuust. Lõunapoolne lohk oli 23 cm sügav ja sellest leiti 14.–16. sajandist pärit savinõukilde. Asumisisese lõunapoolse tee alal (jn 2) tehti metallidetektoriga kindlaks leiurohke ala. Kuna kultuurkiht ulatus seal sügavamale kui mujal ning ühtlasi täheldati seal rohkem kui mujal suuremaid kive, rajati sinna u 41 m² suurune kaevand. Kaevandis paljandus kivivundament (jn 3; 4), mille sisekülg oli välimisest sirgem. Müüri ida- ja lõunaküljel paiknesid kivid kahes, mujal ühes kihis. Hoonepõhja pikkus oli müüri siseservast mõõtes kuni 5 m, laius 2,4–2,7 m. Hoone pindala oli seega ligikaudu 12,5 m². Vundament oli süvendatud looduslikku pinnasesse 50 cm. Hoone loode- ja kirdenurgas olid mõned suuremad kivid ilmselt künniga oma algselt kohalt nihutatud. Hoones ei avastatud põrandapinda. Maapind müüritise vahel oli ebatasane ja selles oli mitu sügavat lohku, mis võivad olla hoonest vanemad. Samuti ei avastatud küttekollet, kuigi hoones, eriti selle idaseina ääres, oli palju sütt ja põlenud maakive. Ilmselt on hoonel olnud puitpõrand, millele oli rajatud ka ahi. Ahi on olnud puitpõrandast isoleeritud ilmselt saviga, mille tõendina leiti hoonealalt rohkesti puidujälgedega põlenud savi. Arvestades põlenud kivide levikut kaevandis, võib oletada, et ahi paiknes hoone kagunurgas. Hoonest saadi rikkalik leiumaterjal. Rohkesti leiti raudesemeid, sh vikat, pandlad, naelad ja noad. Saadi ka rauast õmblusnõel ja kolm silmaga luunõela ning luust kammi katke. Veel leiti pronksist hoburaudsõle nõel ja pronkstraadist spiraalike. Hoone dateerimiseks annab alust vundamendikivide ülemise rea kõrguselt leitud kümme 15. saj ja 16. saj alguse hõbemünti. Numismaatik Mauri Kiudsoo määrangul on selle väikese mündileiu *tpq* 1535. Leidude põhjal võib järeldada, et siin oli 1530. aastate teisel poolel või 1540. aastatel hävinud suitsutare maasse süvendatud põhi. Ka mujalt Sargvere asulakoha alalt saadi rohkesti leide. Nende hulgas on mooninuppotstega pronksist hoburaudsõlg (jn 5), mis pärineb 11. sajandist või 12. sajandi esimesest poolest. 11.–13. sajandist on pärit ka peenkeramistiliste võreornamendiga savinõude killud (jn 6) ning pronksspiraal. Muu metallidetektoriga saadud leiumaterjal, sh kümme nuga ja noakatket, vikati katke, hobuse jäänael ning tulusraud (jn 7) võib kuuluda nii nooremasse raua-aega kui ka ajaloolisse aega. Suur osa metall-leide pärineb 16.–17. sajandist, nt ratsalukuga püssi lukk, rauast rippluku ja malmist kahurikuuli katked. Leitud müntidest on kaks Rootsi pooleöörise vermitud 1586 ja 1592. Lisaks leiti 1634 löödud neljandiköörine vaskraha. 17. sajandist pärineb ka Riias vermitud solidus. Sargvere asulakohal on esmaste uuringute põhjal elatud 12.–17. sajandini. Sargvere asulakohal uuritud hoonepõhi esindab süvendatud põhjaga maakojaladset suitsutare. Selliseid on Eestis seni leitud peamiselt keskaegsete asulakihtide uurimisel ja võrreldes maapealse suitsutarega kasutati maakodasid Eesti alal suhteliselt vähe.