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ARHEOLOOGILISED  
VÄLITÖÖD  
EESTISARCHAEOLOGICAL  
FIELDWORK  
IN ESTONIA

2001

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*Esi- ja tagakaas: 2001. aastal Haapsalust leitud ahjukahlid. 16. saj. esimene pool.*  
*Cover and back cover: Stove-tiles found from Haapsalu in 2001. The first half of the 16<sup>th</sup> century.*

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# ARCHAEOLOGICAL INVESTIGATIONS OF MEDIEVAL AND POST-MEDIEVAL VILJANDI

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In 2001, archaeological investigation of medieval and post-medieval cultural layers of Viljandi was carried out in the ruins of the Order Castle, at Lossi Street in the medieval suburb area, at Talli Street and at Sepa Street.<sup>1</sup> Excavations at the castle ruins were supported by the Viljandi Town government as work connected with their conservation. Other investigations were of rescue character.

## THE ORDER CASTLE

The conservation of the ruins of the Convent Building of the Viljandi Order Castle, started at its southern wall in 1998, has brought along annual small-scale archaeological excavations (Tvauri 1999; Haak 2001a). The excavations of 2001 took place in the region of the northeastern corner of the Convent Building, both inside and outside the walls of the Castle chapel (Fig. 1). The aim of the excavation of 25 m<sup>2</sup> was to determine the shape and state of preservation of its choir walls, projecting to the east of the Convent House, as well as to find out whether a prehistoric cultural layer has been preserved in the area next to it.

The supposition that the excavations of 1878–1879, directed by Theodor Schiemann, had not reached the choir, was soon found correct. Below the turf, more than 1 meter of construction debris soon followed. This layer contained vault fragments, many bricks as well as brick fragments and lime mortar. The walls of the choir, as well as the foundations of the Convent House, were built of granite. In the eastern end of the cellar a window was discovered.

It soon became evident that the cellar below the choir had been vaulted: up to eight rows of bricks from a cylinder vault had been preserved in their original position at the southern wall of the choir (Fig. 2). Most likely, the debris that filled the cellar originated from the walls of the choir, as well as from the vaulted ceiling. In addition to bricks, from the debris some construction details of limestone, a capital (Fig. 3), seven profile bricks and fragments of mortar with painting (VM 10846: 27–28) were found. In order to avoid further collapse of the vault remains, the debris next to the best-preserved part of the vault was left intact. The depth and character of the layers below were investigated only in both ends of the

<sup>1</sup>The work at the Castle ruins and Sepa Street were directed by Arvi Haak, in Talli Street by Heiki Valk, at Lossi Street – in summer by Heiki Valk, in the autumn – by Arvi Haak.



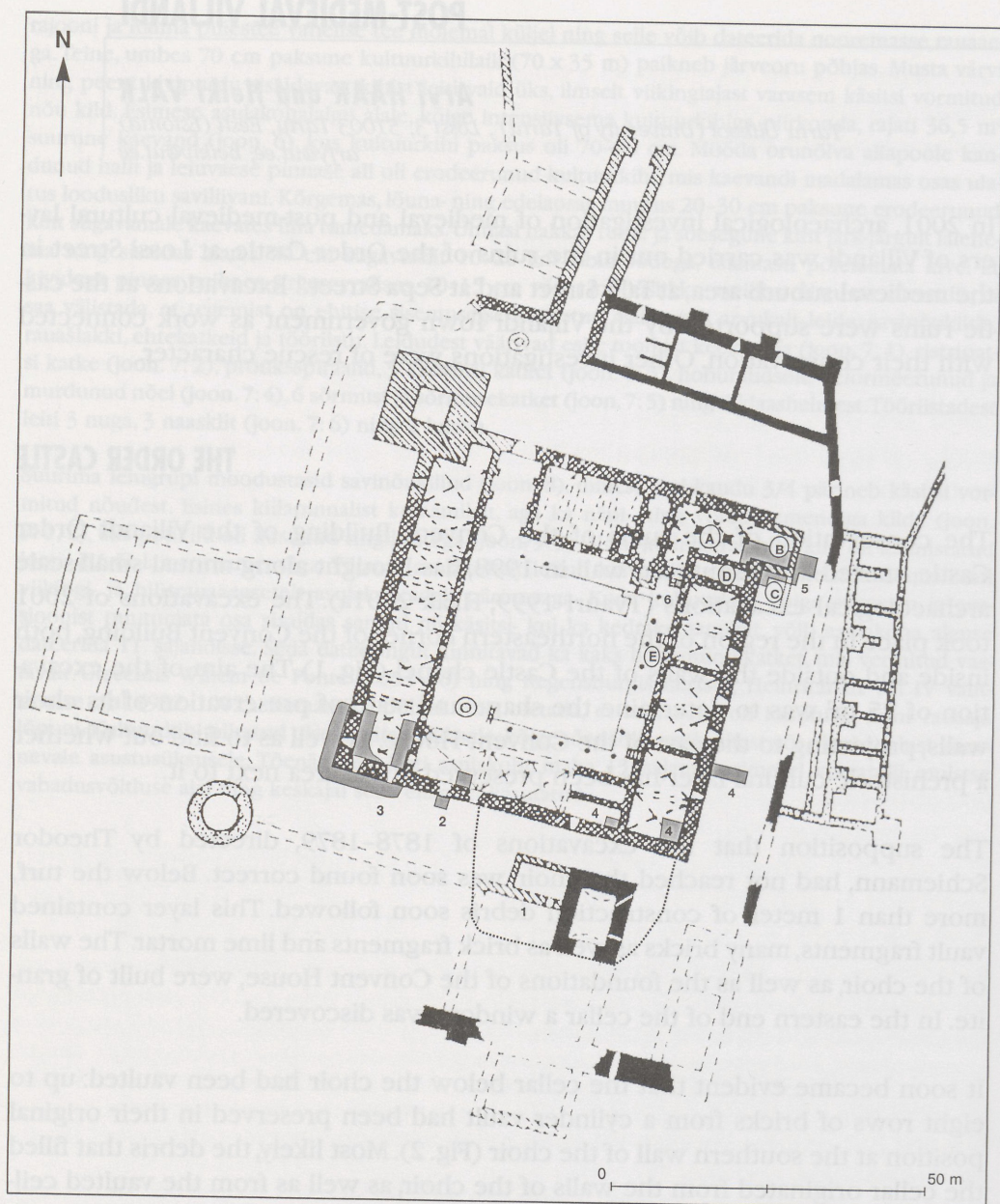


Fig. 1. Location map of excavation plots in the Castle Ruins. A - chapel, B - choir part of the chapel, C - supposed sacristy, D - room that might have formed part of the original chapel, E - covered walk in the inner yard.

Joon. 1. Ordulinnuse kaevandite asendiskeem. A - linnusekabel, B - linnusekabeli kooriosa, C - oletatav käärkamber, D - ruum, mis võis olla algse kabeli osa, E - ristikäik.  
Kaevandid/excavation plots: 1 - Tuulse 1939, 2 - Tvauri 1998, 3 - Tvauri 1999, 4 - Haak 2000, 5 - Haak 2001, 6 - 2001. a. šurf / testpit of 2001.



choir, in areas without further risk of destruction of the vault remains.

Under the debris, a few centimetres of black sooty cultural layer followed. The layer contained animal and fish bones, a few potsherds, two locks and keys (Fig. 4) and fragments of iron armour (Haak, Vaba & Valk 2002, Fig. 7). Most of the iron artifacts had been burnt and were in a bad state of preservation. According to the pottery finds, the layer could be dated to the second half of the 16<sup>th</sup> century, i. e. the period just before the destruction of the castle. The existence of charcoal in the layer and the burning traces on the iron artifacts show that the collapse of the cellar vaults was preceded or maybe even caused by fire.

The mortar floor of the cellar, situated at an elevation of 82.75 m in the Baltic system was only 1 cm thick. Below its western part a few centimetres of a black cultural layer, also dating from the 16<sup>th</sup> century, followed. All the earlier cultural layers had been removed and in the mixed layer of sandy loam, only a sherd of hand-made pottery was found.

In the area of the supposed sacristy south of the choir, construction debris mixed with soil continued from the present ground level down to the brick floor in a herring-bone pattern, unearthed at the depth of 85 cm. The sacristy floor was situated 75 cm higher than the floor of the cellar under



Fig. 2. The remains of a cylinder vault in the cellar of the choir of the castle chapel.

Joon. 2. Silindervõlvi jäänused linnusekabeli kooriosa keldris.



Fig. 3. Capital from the choir of the chapel of the Order Castle. (VM 10846: 23.)

Joon. 3. Kapiteel linnusekabeli kooriosast.



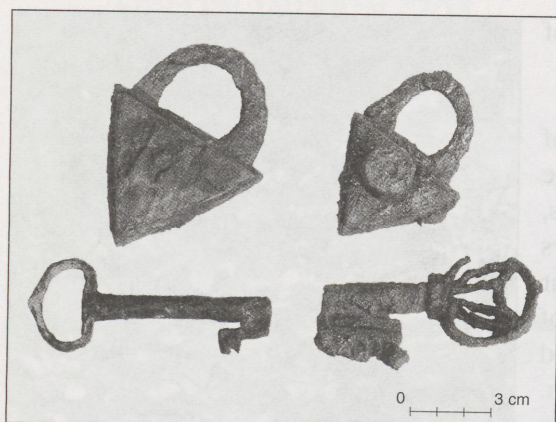


Fig. 4. Locks and keys from cellar of the choir of the Order Castle. (VM 10846: 37, 51, 56, 96.)

Joon. 4. Lukud ja võtmed linnusekabeli kooriosa keldrist.

the choir. The eastern wall of the sacristy was a later addition to the choir wall: it was rather thin (97 cm), especially in comparison with the eastern wall of the choir (width of the foundation 2 m). Also the lowest stones of the choir foundation lay 90 cm deeper than the bottom of the sacristy wall. The former consisted of seven and the latter of two rows of stones, counted from the floor of the sacristy. Yet, there were no finds that could be used for a more precise dating.

The layers below the sacristy floor were investigated with a test pit dug at the connection of the choir wall and the eastern outer wall of the Convent Building. The prehistoric and early medieval cultural layer had not been preserved under the floor; the grey soil resting on virgin sandy loam contained a few sherds of hand-made pottery (VM 10846: 87). As the two foundation walls revealed in the test pit were built simultaneously, the previous supposition that the northern wing of the Convent House, including the chapel, might be older than the rest of the building (Alttoa 1993, 12) found no proof. Still, before making any furtherreaching conclusions, the possibility that the northernmost narrow chamber of the eastern wing of the Convent Building (Fig. 1: D) formed a part of the original chapel should be studied (oral comment by Kaur Alttoa).

The 4 m<sup>2</sup> eastern end of the excavation plot east of the chapel, in the territory of the first outer bailey, yielded no prehistoric cultural layer either. Under the disturbed sandy loam, originating from the area of the Convent Building, up to 10 cm of grey soil followed, containing two fragments of early medieval wheel-thrown pottery (VM 10846: 81) and some small fragments of hand-made pottery (VM 10846: 82–85). The described soil rested on virgin sandy loam. It should be stressed that the dark grey Viking Age layer, traced in 2000 ca. 20 m south of the present excavation plot, was missing as well.

The preservation of the cultural layer at the territory of the covered passage in the northeastern corner of the inner yard of the Convent Building was investigated with a testpit. The floor of the passage had been removed earlier. Just under



the turf, more than 1 metre of sandy loam mixed with a dark cultural layer followed. Below that, a black, sandy, sooty undisturbed cultural layer was unearthed. It yielded only hand-made pottery (VM 10846: 88-90), small pieces of charcoal, as well as fish and animal bones. The 15 cm layer was situated upon virgin sandy loam.

Excavations at the Order Castle showed that the floor layer of the choir cellar was thin but rich in finds, especially metal objects (the main part of the chapel had been excavated down to the virgin soil by Theodor Schiemann in 1878-1879). On basis of the finds, the floor can be dated to the second half of the 16th century. No prehistoric cultural layer could be traced at the northeastern corner of the Convent Building, but a 10-15 cm layer containing hand-made pottery exists in the inner yard, in the area of the covered passage.

## SUBURBS AT LOSSI STREET

The excavation area at Lossi Street was located outside the former town wall. The investigations were connected with the digging of trenches for central heating. In summer, excavations and observations were carried out in the backyards of houses Lossi 28 and 31, as well as in the green area between plots at Lossi and Koidu Streets. The trench with a total length of 140 m crossed also Lossi Street. In late autumn an adjoining trench leading from the yard of Lossi 31 to the building Posti Street 16 (48 m) was studied (Fig. 5).

In the backyard of Lossi 31 the cultural layer was mostly destroyed by earlier communication trenches. To some extent it could be observed only in the western edge of the trench – at places where earlier digging with an excavator had been hindered by electrical cables. In the limited units where stratigraphy could be observed, the earliest cultural layers together with the intact natural soil – sandy loam – had almost completely been removed already in the Middle Ages. From the remnants of these early layers, a fragment of grey stoneware with ash-glazed brownish surface, dating from the first half of the 14<sup>th</sup> century<sup>2</sup>, was found. In the places with preserved stratigraphy the virgin sandy loam was covered by a black intensive cultural layer with a thickness of ca. 40 cm. The stratigraphy was best preserved at the turning point of the trench, ca. 10 m west of the northwestern corner of Lossi Street 31. There the total thickness of the black cultural layer above the level of intact sandy loam was ca. 1 m. In addition, below that level an irregular pit with a depth of ca. 0.5-0.6 m could be observed. The lower and mid-

<sup>2</sup>Estimations of stoneware by Erki Russow (AI).



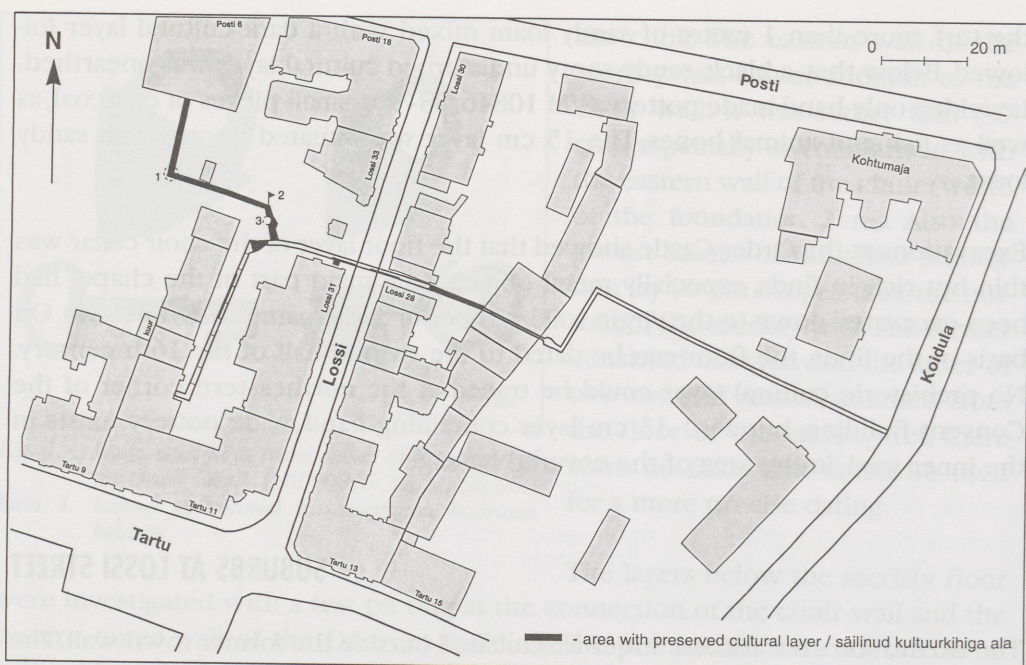


Fig. 5. Location map of the excavations at Lossi Street. 1 - 14<sup>th</sup>-15<sup>th</sup> century cesspit(?), 2 - test pit, 3 - pit for metal working.

Joon. 5. Lossi tänava kaevandite asendiskeem. 1 - 14.-15. sajandi jäätmeauk(?), 2 - šurf, 3 - metallitööga seotud kaev.

dle part of the layer - the latter one filled also the pit - dated, according to the finds, most likely from the 15<sup>th</sup> century. From that soil numerous animal bones, pottery (including a simple profile fragment (Fig. 6: 1), some stoneware of that period, a bronze bell (Fig. 7: 2), a bronze hook (Fig. 7: 3), an unidentified bronze item (Fig. 7: 4) and 2 fragments of a ribbed glass beaker (Fig. 7: 1) were found. The upper 20 cm of the black layer yielded no datable finds.

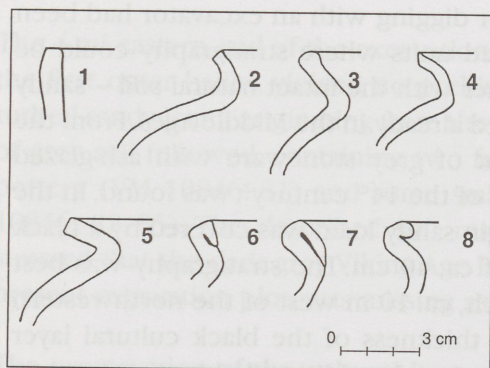


Fig. 6. Pottery profiles from Lossi Street. (VM 10848; 10872.)

Joon. 6. Savinõude profilid Lossi tänavalt.

In the yard of Lossi 28 east of Lossi Street, the cultural layer was not disturbed by earlier communication trenches, but its lower part had also been removed. Two stoneware fragments from the middle and lower strata of the intensively black layer (total thickness ca. 60-70 cm) date from the 14<sup>th</sup> (Fig. 8: 1) and 15<sup>th</sup> century but the upper 30-40 cm of the black layer yielded finds from



the 18<sup>th</sup> and 19<sup>th</sup> centuries. The number of potsherds and animal bones was much lower than that from west of Lossi Street.

The stratigraphy of the cultural layer was best preserved in the pavement areas of Lossi Street. Although also here the layers had greatly been disturbed by earlier digging, in the southern profile of the ditch undisturbed stratigraphy down to the intact virgin soil could be observed. The thickness of the intensive cultural layer was in total 70–80 cm. Its upper part was proba-

bly removed by street pavement work. The lowest 10–15 cm was, in fact, natural brownish soil, which had been disturbed in the place of its formation in the course of intensive living activities. This soil contained many animal bones, as well as a fragment of a badly burnt white stoneware vessel and a foot of a primitive grapen (Fig. 8: 2, 3). On top of the brownish soil, a fragmentary and irregular pavement of small stones (diameter 4–7 cm) could be observed. 10 cm higher from that level a silver bracteate of the 14<sup>th</sup> century, minted in Northern Germany<sup>3</sup> was found.

In the green area between Lossi and Koidu Streets, east of the backyard and yardhouses of Lossi 28, no cultural layer was found. From the greyish soil with a thickness of some 50–60 cm, only a stoneware fragment of the 14<sup>th</sup> century was unearthed.

The adjoining pipeline, excavated in

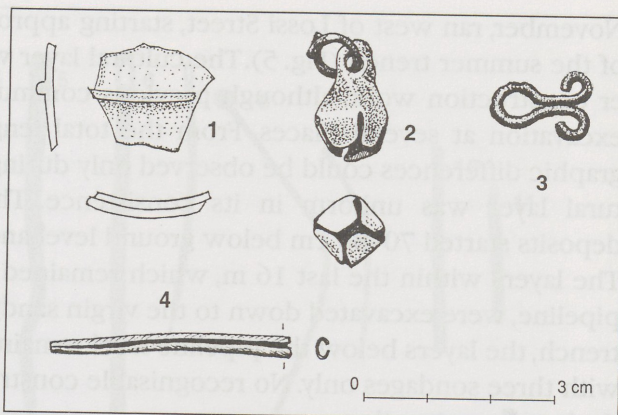


Fig. 7. Finds from the 15<sup>th</sup> century – first half of the 16<sup>th</sup> century layer at Lossi Street.

1- fragment of ribbed glass beaker; 2 - bell, 3 - bronze hook 4 - bronze item. (VM 10848: 72, 60, 61, 62.)

Joon. 7. Leiud Viljandi Lossi t. eeslinna 15. saj. – 16. saj. I poole kultuurkibist. 1 - ribilise klaaspeekri kild, 2 - kuljus, 3 - pronksbaak, 4 - pronkspulgake.

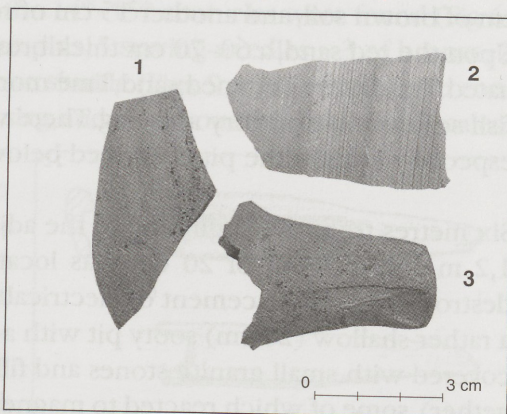


Fig. 8. Fragments of stoneware vessels and grapen foot from the lowest layer at Lossi Street. (VM 10848: 4, 77, 78.)

Joon. 8. Kivikeraamikakillud ja graapenijalg Lossi t kultuurkibi alaost.

<sup>3</sup>Identified by Mauri Kiudsoo (Al).



November, ran west of Lossi Street, starting approximately from the first turning of the summer trench (Fig. 5). The cultural layer was rather undisturbed by earlier construction work, although previous communication pipelines crossed the excavation at several places. From the total length of the trench, some stratigraphic differences could be observed only during the first 10 m; usually the cultural layer was uniform in its consistence. The archaeologically interesting deposits started 70–80 cm below ground level and were usually 30–50 cm thick. The layers within the last 16 m, which remained totally within the depth of the pipeline, were excavated down to the virgin sandy loam. In the other parts of the trench, the layers below the pipeline level remained intact and were investigated with three sondages only. No recognisable construction remains were unearthed during the excavations.

In most of the excavation, the general appearance of the cultural layer was similar. It was sandy and sooty, varied from dark grey to black in colour, and was, except for the areas described below, rather poor in finds. No wooden or leather artefacts could be found, but animal bones, some of them processed, were numerous and there were also some fish bones. As usual, local wheel-thrown pottery formed the great majority of the finds. Of the few imported vessels, the products of Siegburg were in absolute majority; most of them could be dated to the 15<sup>th</sup> or the first half of the 16<sup>th</sup> century.

The nature of the deposits in the first ten metres of the pipeline could be observed by a test pit (Fig. 5: 2). The undisturbed sandy loam was followed by 15 cm of brown soil, and another 15 cm of red sand, both of which yielded no finds. Upon the red sand, a 60–70 cm thick brownish or dark grey cultural layer was situated. This layer contained sand, lime mortar, brick fragments, many animal bones, fish scales, some pottery and slag. There were places where the layer was sootier, especially around the pit described below.

Six metres from the beginning of the adjoining pipeline, a pit with a diameter of 1,2 m and a depth of 20 cm was located (Fig. 5: 3). Its upper part had been destroyed by the placement of electrical cables. Just below the disturbed ground, a rather shallow (20 cm) sooty pit with a diameter of 1,2 m was unearthed. It was covered with small granite stones and filled with iron slag (more than 10 kg altogether), some of which reacted to magnet. Thus, it is possible that the pit was used for concentrating iron ore. According to the few pottery sherds, found together with animal bones in its upper preserved part, it can be dated to the 16<sup>th</sup> century.

Of particular interest was a pit at the last turning point of the pipeline (Fig. 5: 1).



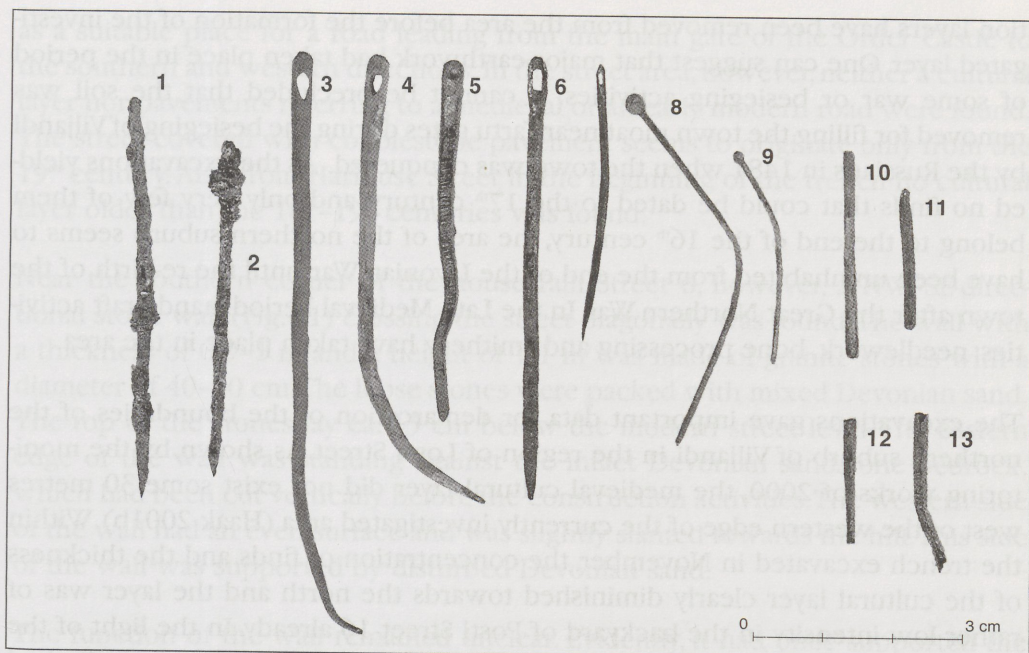


Fig. 9. Needles and pins found from November excavations at Lossi Street. (VM 10848: 373, 151, 149, 356, 148, 141, 185a, 179, 90, 91, 403, 423, 357. 1–2 iron, 3–13 bronze.)

Joon. 9. Lossi tänava novembrikaevamistel leitud nõelad ja nõõpnõelad. 1–2 raud, 3–13 pronks.

The pit extended for more than 50 cm into the virgin soil. From the pit, a coin minted in Tallinn at the end of the 14<sup>th</sup> or the beginning of the 15<sup>th</sup> century<sup>4</sup>, a sherd of Siegburg stoneware of the 15<sup>th</sup> century and a rather large number of fragments of local wheel-thrown pottery, typical to the 14<sup>th</sup>–15<sup>th</sup> centuries were found (Fig 6: 2–8). Particularly noteworthy are 2 bronze pins, 5 sewing needles – 3 of bronze, 2 of iron – and a supposed fragment of a bone shuttle (Figs. 9; 10). The layer also contained remains of bone processing, some slag, and numerous fish bones and scales. The diversity of finds and absence of construction elements might allow the pit be interpreted as a cesspit.

The excavation results enable to suggest settlement genesis in the northern suburban area of medieval Viljandi in the 14<sup>th</sup> century. The formation of the cultural layer in the backyard of Lossi Street 31 seems to have been most intensive in the 15<sup>th</sup> and 16<sup>th</sup> century. The earlier habita-

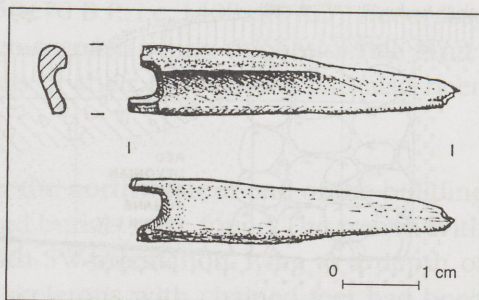


Fig. 10. Fragment of a shuttle from bone found from the November excavations at Lossi Street. (VM 10872: 126.)

Joon. 10. Luust süstiku (?) katke.

<sup>3</sup> Identified by Ivar Leimus (EAM).



tion layers have been removed from the area before the formation of the investigated layer. One can suggest that major earthwork had taken place in the period of some war or besieging activities. It cannot be precluded that the soil was removed for filling the town moat near Tartu gates during the besieging of Viljandi by the Russians in 1481 when the town was conquered. As the excavations yielded no finds that could be dated to the 17<sup>th</sup> century, and only very few of them belong to the end of the 16<sup>th</sup> century, the area of the northern suburb seems to have been uninhabited from the end of the Livonian War until the re-birth of the town after the Great Northern War. In the Late Medieval Period, handicraft activities: needlework, bone processing and smithery have taken place in the area.

The excavations gave important data for demarcation of the boundaries of the northern suburb of Viljandi in the region of Lossi Street. As shown by the monitoring works of 2000, the medieval cultural layer did not exist some 30 metres west of the western edge of the currently investigated area (Haak 2001b). Within the trench excavated in November, the concentration of finds and the thickness of the cultural layer clearly diminished towards the north and the layer was of rather low intensity in the backyard of Posti Street 16 already. In the light of the present results, the northern suburb in the area of Lossi Street had been limited to the close neighbourhood of the modern street, extending for ca 50–60 m west and ca. 30 m east of it.

## EXCAVATIONS AT TALLI STREET

In Talli Street, which leads from the economic zone of the 18<sup>th</sup>–20<sup>th</sup> century Viljandi manor down to the valley of Valuoja Stream, excavations were carried out in connection with the laying of a water pipe. The area deserved special attention

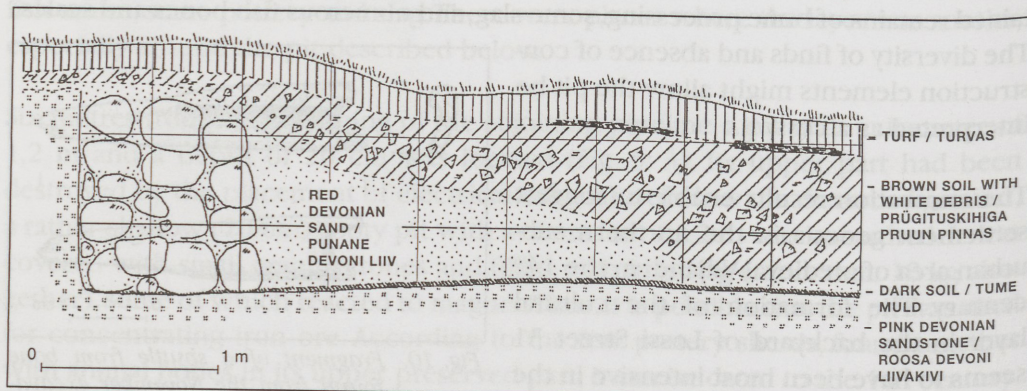


Fig. 11. Section of the stone wall discovered at Talli Street.  
Joon. 11. Talli tänaval avastatud müüri ristlõige.



as a suitable place for a road leading from the main gate of the Order Castle to the southern and western directions. In the street area, however, neither a cultural layer nor pavements referring to a medieval or an early modern road were found. The street covered with cobblestone pavement seems to originate only from the 19<sup>th</sup> century. Also from Hariduse Street in the beginning of the trench no cultural layer older than the 18<sup>th</sup>–19<sup>th</sup> centuries was found.

Near the southern corner of the house Talli Street 6, however, a NW–SE-directional stone wall (Fig. 11) crossing the street diagonally was found. The wall with a thickness of 0,9–1 m and a height of 1,1 m was made of granite stones with a diameter of 40–60 cm. The loose stones were packed with mixed Devonian sand. The top of the stones lay ca. 15 cm below the modern street level. The eastern edge of the wall was standing against the intact Devonian sandstone bedrock, which had been cut vertically before the construction activities. The western side of the wall had an even surface and was slightly slanted towards the hill. This side of the wall was supported by disturbed Devonian sand.

The function of the wall remained unclear. Evidently, it had once supported the vertical sandstone outcrop from falling towards Valuoja valley. A small extension made to the trench showed that the wall retained its height also within the adjacent hill slope away from the street area. This fact and the missing of mortar remains on the upper stones enable to suggest that the wall had probably not served as a foundation for a higher stone construction. Below the disturbed Devonian sand in front of the wall there was a 4–5 cm thick layer of dark soil which covered the intact Devonian bedrock with a horizontal surface cut straight. The dark layer, evidently connected with the construction of the wall, continued also under it. From that layer, 2 medieval brick fragments with a thickness of 8,5 and 9 cm were found. <sup>14</sup>C analysis made of a timber piece from that layer yielded the result 530±30 B.P. (cal. 550±70 B.P.; i.e. 1400±70 AD)<sup>5</sup> According to information from local inhabitants, when reconstructing the house Talli Street 6 in the early 1990s, numerous stone walls or their foundations had also been found beneath it.

From the upper end of the water pipe near the northwestern end of the building Talli 5a, several human bones from disturbed burials were found. The trench with a width of 40 cm cut also 2 skeletons with SW-orientation, lying at a depth of 50–115 cm. Human bones, including 4–5 skeletons with chained feet had been discovered in that region also in 1954.<sup>6</sup> Probably, the graves can be connected with the cemetery of St Catharine's chapel, the ruins of which were excavated ca. 20 m northwards in 1907 (Löwis of Menar 1909).

<sup>5</sup> Analysis made at Radiocarbon Laborator of the University of Tartu.

<sup>6</sup> Oral data by local inhabitant Oskar Rumberg.



## TEST PIT AT SEPA STREET

At Sepa Street, the profile of a pit, dug for repairing a leaking freshwater pipeline, was documented. Three cobblestone pavements, all situated upon a layer of red sand, could be determined. Below the lowest pavement, there existed a 15 cm thick cultural layer yielding finds typical for the 13<sup>th</sup> century. As pottery of the 14<sup>th</sup>–15<sup>th</sup> centuries was found from the layer just above the pavement, it could be dated to the 15<sup>th</sup> century at the latest. The earliest cobblestone pavement of the adjoining part of Pikk Street, unearthed in 1991, was dated to the 14<sup>th</sup> century (Haak 2001c) and is one of the oldest in Viljandi. In the context of Viljandi, such an early dating for a pavement of a street of rather limited importance deserves attention.

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## KESK- JA VARAUUSAEGSE VILJANDI ARHEOLOOGILISEST UURIMISEST

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2001. aastal uuriti kesk-ja varauusaegset kultuurikihti Viljandi ordulinnusel ning Lossi, Talli ja Sepa tänaval. Viljandi **ordulinnuse** müüride konserveerimisega kaasnenud uuringud keskendused konvendihoone kirdenurgas paikneva lossikabeli kooriosale, selle sisemusse ja ümbrusse ladestunud kultuurikihile (joon.1). Proovišurfiga uuriti kultuurikihti konvendihoone sisehoovi kirdenurgas (joon. 1:2).



Varasematest kaevamistest puutumata kooriosas satuti silindervõlvi jäänustele (joon. 2). Võlvi ning kooriosa tellismüüride sisselangemisel oli tekkinud üle 1 m paksune rusukiht, millest leiti lubjakivist ehitusdetalle, kapiteel (joon. 3) ja maalingutega krohvitükke. Kooriosa keldriruumi mörtpõrandale oli ladestunud 16. sajandi teise poole kultuurkiht, mis sisaldas looma- ja kalaluid ning mõne savinõukilli. Kihist leiti põlenud metallesemeid, sh. 30 kaitserõivastuse fragmenti, kaks võtit ja lukku (joon. 4), samuti aknahing. Põranda all algas segatud saviliiva kiht, kultuurkihi varasemad ladestused puudusid. Kooriruumi ligi 2 meetri paksusest idaseinast leiti aknaava.

Kooriruumi lõunamüüri taga paiknenud oletatava käärkambri alal puhastati välja kalasabamustriga tellispõrand. Käärkambri idamüür osutus kooriruumi müüride suhtes sekundaarseks. Põrand lõhuti vaid šurfi kaevamiseks kooriruumi lõunamüüri ja konvendihoone idatiiva välismüüri liitumiskohal. Ilmnes, et müürid on rajatud üheaegselt. Loodusliku aluspinna peal paiknevast halli mulla kihist leiti mõni käsikeraamika kild. Intensiivset kultuurkihti ei esinenud, põrandapinnani jätkus ilmselt konvendihoone alalt pärinev saviliivast tätekiht. Muinas- ja keskaegset kultuurkihti ei leitud ka kooriruumi idamüüri tagant. Sealgi paiknes konvendihoone ehitamisaegse tätekihi all halli mulla kiht, millest saadi käsikeraamika kilde ja kaks keskaegse ketrakeraamika katket. Keskmiselt 15 cm paksune, kalaluid ja käsikeraamikat sisaldav kultuurkiht avastati aga konvendihoone sisehoovi kirde-nurka, ristikäigu alale rajatud šurfis. Ka siin katsid muinaskihti konvendihoone rajamise aegsed tätekihid.

**Lossi tänaval** toimusid kaevamised keskaegse eeslinna alal seoses keskküttetrassi paigaldamisega (joon. 5). Kaevamisi ja järelevalvet tehti 140 m pikkusel trassilõigul, mis algas Lossi t. 31 tagahoovist, kulges risti üle tänava Lossi t. 28 hoovi ning jätkus pärast hoovimaja läbimist Lossi ja Koidu tänava vahelisel haljasalal. Sügisel kaevati Lossi t. 31 tagahoovist loode suunas täiendav harutrass.

Lossi t. 31 tagahoovis oli kultuurkiht enamasti hävitatud varasemate kommunikatsioonide paigaldamisega. Ilmnes, et varasem kultuurkiht oli koos loodusliku alusmullaga eemaldatud 15. sajandil. Pärast pinnase mahakaevamist oli selle asemele ladestunud uus kultuurkiht, mis sisaldas rohkelt ketrakeraamikat ja mõne metall-leiu (joon. 7). Tumeda kultuurkihi ülaosast dateerivaid leide ei saadud.

Lossi tänaval oli segamata kultuurkihti vähesel määral säilinud trassi lõunaservas kõnniteede piirkonnas. Kultuurkiht oli looduslikule alusmullale nähtavasti järjepidevalt ladestunud, kuid selle ülaosa on seoses tänava sillutamisega tõenäoliselt eemaldatud. Praegusest tänavanivoost u. 40 cm sügavusel algas 70–80 cm paksune valdavalt tume kultuurkiht, mille 10–15 cm paksune alaosa – läbisõtkutud pruunikas looduslik alusmuld – sisaldas silmapaistvalt palju loomaluid. Selle pinnase peal võis eristada väikestest kividest prügist. Varaseimad leiud tumedast kihist – valge kivikeraamilise nõu katke ja lihtne graapeni jalg (joon. 8) – pärinevad nähtavasti 14. sajandist. Seda dateeringut kinnitab ka neist 10 cm kõrgemalt leitud Hamburgi 14. sajandi brakteat.

Nagu tänava lääneküljel, olid ka Lossi t. 28 hoovis kultuurkihi varaseimad ladestused koos loodusliku alusmullaga eemaldatud. Tume kultuurkiht oli u. 70 cm paksune ja see algas maapinnast u. 80 cm sügavusel, teda kattis ilmselt Lossi t. 28 keldritest välja tõstetud kultuurkihi ja ehitusprahine saviliiv. Tumeda kihi ülemine pool pärineb 18.–19. sajandist, alumisest leiti üks 14. sajandi ja üks 15. sajandi kivikeraamikakild. Üldiselt sisaldas hoovipinnas vähe leide.

Lossi ja Koidu tänava vahelisel haljasalal kultuurkiht puudus. Kuni 60 cm paksune tume muld sisaldas vaid üksikuid loomaluid. Juhuleiuna saadi üks 14. sajandi kivikeraamikakild.

Soojatrassi 48 m pikkune ja u. meetri laiune harutrass kulges läbi hoovide Posti t. 16 majani. Enamuses trassist oli kultuurkiht homogeenne ja ühetaoline, tumehalli kuni musta värvi. Kiht sisal-



das liiva, söeosakesi ning arvukalt loomaliid, sh. töödeldud liid, mõnevõrra esines ka kalaliid. Leidudest domineeris liht-kedrakeraamika ja väheste importkeraamika kildude seas Siegburgi 15.-16. sajandi toodang.

Trassi esimesel kümnel meetril leidunud kultuurikiht erines kaevandi üldpildist. 60-70 cm paksune tume kultuurikiht oli ladestunud looduslikule pruunile mullale kuhjatud 15 cm paksuse leidudeta punase liiva kihile. Lubimõrdi- ja telliseosakesi sisaldav kiht oli leiurohke, palju esines ka kalaliid ja -soomuseid. Kuue meetri kaugusel trassi alguspunkti avastati sissekaeve, mis oli täidetud šlaki (üle 10 kg) ja söeosakestega ning osaliselt pealt kaetud väikeste munakividega. Kivide vahelt leiti paar 16. sajandi keraamikakildu ning loomaliid. Süvendi ülaosa oli lõhutud elektriikaablite paigaldamisega.

Trassi viimane käänukoht (joon. 5: 3) oli silmapaistvalt leiurohke. Looduslikust aluspinnast pisut üle 50 cm sügavamale kaevatud augus leidis 14.-15. sajandi lihtkedrakeraamikat (joon. 6: 2-8), 15. sajandi Siegburgi kiveraamilise nõu kild, Tallinna münt 14.-15. sajandi vahetusest, luutöötlemisjääke, mõnevõrra šlakki ja arvukalt kalaliid. Märkimisväärne on pronksist nõõpnõela, kolme pronksist ja kahe rauast õõblusnõela, samuti luust süstiku katkendi leidmine (joon. 9; 10). Arvatavasti oli siin tegemist jäätmeauguga.

Kaevamistulemuste põhjal võib asustuse tekke keskagele Viljandi põhjapoolse eeslinna alal dateerida 14. sajandisse. Lossi t 31 ümbrusse ladestunud kultuurikiht kuulub 15.-16. sajandisse. Liivi sõja lõpust 18. sajandini näib asustus põhjapoolse eeslinna alal olevat katkenud. Keskajal on eeslinnas aktiivselt tegeldud käsitööga, kaevamistulemused lubavad järeldada rätsepa- ja sepatööd ning luutöötlemist. Praeguste uurimistulemuste põhjal esineb eeslinna kultuurikihti praegusest Lossi tänavast 50-60 meetrit lääne ja kuni 30 meetrit ida poole ulatuval alal.

**Talli tänavalt**, kus kaevamised toimusid seoses veetrassi paigaldamisega, ei leitud mingeid jälgi eeldatud keskagest teekohast. Talli tänav on alguse saanud nähtavasti 19. sajandil, seoses Viljandi mõisa majandushoonete ehitusega. Ootamatuks leiuks oli Talli t. 6 jalgvärava juurest leitud loodekagu-suunaline 0,9-1 m paksune ja 1,1 m kõrgune raudkivimüür, mille pealispind algas tänavapinnast u 15 cm madalamal ja mille 40-60 cm läbimõõduga kivid olid pakitud liivaga. Segatud liiv oli kuhjatud ka müüri Valuoja-poolse külje vastu. Müüri mäepoolne külg toetus vastu püstloodselt lõigatud puutumata Devoni liivakivi ladestust. Sama, horisontaalse pealispinnaga ladestus jätkus müüri all ja ees. Müüri ees liivakivi peal oli 4-5 cm paksune tumedama mulla kiht, millest leiti kaks keskagest tellisetüki ning pehkinud puutükk. Sellest tehtud radiosüsiniku dateering osutas vanusele  $530 \pm 30$   $^{14}\text{C}$ -aastat (kalibreeritult u. 1400 $\pm$ 70 AD). Kaevandi laiendamisel tänavaga külnevasse mäenõlva ilmnes, et ka mäe sisemuses jätkub müür sama kõrgena ega kujuta endast mõrdiiga seotud müüri taldmiku. Näib, et müüri ülesandeks on olnud ära hoida püstloodseks lõigatud devoni liivakivi varisemist.

Trassi lõpus, Talli t. 5a loodeotsa piirkonnas sisaldas pinnas 50-115 cm sügavusel inimliid. Matused olid peaga edela suunas. Kohalike elanike teatel on liid samast piirkonnast leitud varemgi. Eraldi märkimist väärivad teated 4 või 5 jalaraudades luustikust. Tõenäolised seostuvad matused u. 20 m põhja pool olnud ja 1907. aastal uuritud keskagele Katariina kabeli kalmistuga.

**Sepa tänaval** toimus järelevalve veetrassi avarii tõttu avatud süvendis, kus fikseeriti profiil. Looduslikule aluspinnale ladestunud kuni 15 cm paksuse 13. sajandi keraamikat sisaldava kultuurikihi peal asus punase liiva padjale laotud munakivisillutus. Kuna sillutise peale ladestunud kultuurikihist saadi 14.-15. sajandi keraamikat, on sillutis rajatud kõige hiljem 15. sajandi alguses. Et Viljandi kõrvaltänavatelt pole nii varast sillutist seni teada, on tegu tähelepanuväärse leiuga.