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REMARKS ON DISC-HEADED PINS OF THE POMERANIAN CULTURE¹

Abstract: The article discusses one of the most numerous and characteristic classes of artefacts of the Pomeranian culture, namely disc-headed pins. The issues discussed include: research history, formal and stylistic differentiation of the pins, their spatial distribution, and the appearance of their representations on face urns.

The second part of the article is devoted to pins with big bowl-shaped heads. In the light of new material and new chronological approaches, the author presents his views concerning the origin of this type of pins, analyses the contexts of their finds and emphasises their stylistic similarities to other categories of artefacts. As a result of this investigation, a chronology of the studied pins is proposed.

Key words: Pomeranian culture, Early Iron Age, disc-headed pins, Greater Poland

The Early Iron Age was a time of dynamic cultural and settlement changes in what is today Poland. During this period, which spanned between eighth and third centuries BCE, Baltic, Elbe-Havel and Hallstatt influences led within the milieu of the Lusatian culture to the formation of the Pomeranian culture, with its peculiar mortuary rites and a rich and varied inventory of artefacts. As the Pomeranian culture crystallised, artefacts continuing Lusatian designs began to be accompanied by new forms, which soon became the new culture's dominant "index artefacts" and came to constitute its distinguishing feature. Beyond doubt, one such category of artefacts closely associated with the Pomeranian culture are disc-headed pins, commonly found among grave goods and in the iconography of face urns.

We owe multiple presentations of Pomeranian-culture artefacts as well as the core of our knowledge about disc-headed pins (known in German as *Scheibenkopfnadeln*) to late-nineteenth- and early-twentieth-century scholars. Of particular importance is the pioneering work of Gotfryd Ossowski, one of the first people to publicise numerous series of pins from burial grounds of cist (box-grave) and belly-grave cultures.² The issues of dating and origins of this category of artefacts were in their turn taken up in the many works by Józef Kostrzewski,³ whose views and opinions are quoted to this day in descriptions of finds as well as in monographs of settlements and burial grounds. The so far only monograph concerning the Pomeranian culture itself was written by the Berlin archaeologist Ernst Petersen. The conclusions he reached as to the origin and chronology

¹ The article is based on the presentation "Nowe spojrzenie na szpile tarczowate kultury pomorskiej" ("A new look at the disc-headed pins of the Pomeranian culture"), given by the author at the Doctoral Candidates' Conference of Center for Research on the Antiquity of South-

eastern Europe, held on 16 April 2015 at the Institute of Archaeology, University of Warsaw.

² OSSOWSKI 1879.

³ KOSTRZEWSKI 1920; 1922; 1923.

of the artefacts in question differ from those of Józef Kostrzewski.⁴ The great merit of Petersen's work is that it compiles all the Pomeranian-culture disc-headed pins known to archaeologists at the time of its writing and attempts to organise this collection by distinguishing between two categories: iron pins with separate disc-shaped heads (including so-called swan's-neck pins) and flat disc-headed pins. The first category was further split into three kinds: (a) multi-part pins with big discs; (b) multi-part pins with medium-sized discs; and (c) single-part pins, derived from types (a) and (b).⁵ Flat pins were in turn split into: (a) iron pins with riveted flat disc-shaped heads, and (b) iron pins with flattened disc-shaped heads.⁶

Among the multiple publications which appeared in the interwar period, worth mentioning are works by Kurt Tackenberg,⁷ presenting series of pins retrieved in Lower Silesia, and those by Wolfgang La Baume⁸ and Otto Kunkel,⁹ which concerned Pomerania.

After World War Two, the question of disc-headed pins was raised predominantly in studies of excavation results, with varying precision of description and quality of analysis. While many mentions were laconic in nature, some in-depth analyses have also appeared.¹⁰ Of most significance among the post-war considerations of the Pomeranian culture are those by Leon Jan Łuka.¹¹ The subject matter of disc-headed pins was also touched upon in regional studies concerning the Pomeranian culture¹² as well as in general overviews of the prehistory of today's Poland.¹³ A first attempt at a systematisation of the category of artefacts with which we are concerned was offered by Sylwester Czopek in his study of the south-eastern areas of the Pomeranian culture.¹⁴ As this overview of major literature on the subject demonstrates, disc-headed pins have not been analysed synthetically since their sole monograph was published by Ernst Petersen in 1929.

Disc-headed pins are not a uniform category. Among known artefacts one can distinguish entirely bronze or iron pieces as well as bimetallic ones (with iron body and bronze head). Diversity is particularly high in the shaping of the upper part of the body and of the head as well as in details of construction. Due to this feature, disc-headed pins could — along with fibulae — prove instrumental in establishing a more precise dating of the Pomeranian culture.¹⁵ Consequently, contrary to suggestions by some of previous researchers, disc-headed pins ought not be treated as a single category of artefacts with common origin and chronology. Instead, the pins in question should be divided into two groups comprising a total of six sub-types.

The principal criterion of division into groups is the shape of the neck. Artefacts of the first group are characterised by a "swan-like bending of the body", so-called swan's neck (Ger. *Schwannenhalsnadeln*). Such pins, with a swan's neck bending and disc-shaped head, I include in group I, which corresponds to type 2_C in Sylwester Czopek's systematisation; it is pins of this kind that are listed in pin chart no. 51 in Ernst Petersen's monograph.¹⁶ Within this group, I delineate four sub-types based on the size, placement and ornamentation of the head.

The Mrowino¹⁷ type contains iron pins with bowl-shaped, round, big heads (4–8 cm in radius), sometimes thickened at the rim. A characteristic feature of this kind of pins are bronze- and golden-plate inlays on the inside of the head, with embossed solar ornamentation [Fig. 1a–e]. The pins were produced by attaching the head onto the body of the pin through a hole in the centre of the

⁴ PETERSEN 1929a, pp. 104–107.

⁵ PETERSEN 1929a, pp. 163–165.

⁶ PETERSEN 1929a, p. 165.

⁷ TACKENBERG 1922, pp. 3–37; 1926, pp. 121–148.

⁸ LA BAUME 1934.

⁹ KUNKEL 1931.

¹⁰ WĘGRZYNOWICZ 1978, pp. 57, 58; LORKIEWICZ, MUZOLF 2005, pp. 208–210; FUDZIŃSKA, FUDZIŃSKI 2013, pp. 183, 184.

¹¹ ŁUKA 1963; 1966; 1982, pp. 209–223.

¹² NOSEK 1946, pp. 21, 22; RÓZYCKA 1950, pp. 57–59; PAZDA 1970, pp. 108, 109; CHOMENTOWSKA 1970, p. 216; JADCZYKOWA 1995, pp. 152–154; FUDZIŃSKI 2011, pp. 55, 56.

¹³ ŁUKA 1979, pp. 163, 164; MALINOWSKI 1989, p. 726.

¹⁴ CZOPEK 1992, pp. 62–64, fig. 19.

¹⁵ This fact that has also been noted by Sylwester Czopek.

¹⁶ Cf. note 4 above.

¹⁷ The names for particular sub-types derive from names of places where the first specimen of a type was discovered.

disc. The upper end of the body was then flattened or ended with a cone-shaped nub, securing the connection of both parts. The final stage was placing the embossed plate in the inside of the head. Around 20 pins of this kind have been found throughout the Pomeranian culture area, some of them whole, others fragmented. Most pins were compactly distributed throughout western Greater Poland, where golden-plate inlaid pins dominate. The remaining pins were dispersed unevenly in central and east Pomerania, Lower Silesia, Mazovia and central Poland [Fig. 2a], and were almost exclusively bronze-plate inlaid.

The Gogolewo type groups pins with no inlays, made of iron only and topped with big bowl-shaped discs (rad. 3–7 cm) [Fig. 1f, g]. As a metallurgical survey of one such pin demonstrated, in this sub-type of pins the head was attached to the body by means of welding.¹⁸ The Gogolewo artefacts are a simplified and (judging by the archaeological contexts in which they were discovered) probably later version of the Mrowino type of pins. Only several specimens of Gogolewo pins have been found in burial grounds in Powiśle (Pomezania), Greater Poland and southern Mazovia [Fig. 2b].

In the third sub-type of pins, known as the Skurcz type, the disc-shaped head is small (rad. 1–3 cm) and either flat or convex [Fig. 1k, l]. Some such pins were either made entirely of iron or bronze, in others the body was iron and the head bronze (so-called bimetallic artefacts). The one-metal pins were assembled by welding, much as the Gogolewo pins; in the bimetallic ones, the inside of the bronze head was furnished with a cylindrical or cone-shaped socket which was imbedded into the iron haft. The heads on some of the artefacts of this kind are ornamented with criss-crossing furrows, dividing the disc in either four¹⁹ or six²⁰ equal parts. Ca. 30 pieces of Skurcz artefacts have been found in the Pomeranian culture area, mainly in Eastern Pomerania, Krajna, the south of Greater Poland, Lower Silesia, Mazovia and central Poland [Fig. 2d].

Pins of the Brzozówiec variety differ from those of the Skurcz type only in the ornamentation of the head, which consists in characteristic notching of the disc's rim [Fig. 1h–j]. Thus ornamented pins are compactly distributed in Greater Poland and in the basin of the middle Oder, with isolated finds in Cuyavia (Kujawy), Mazovia, the Chełmno-Dobrzyń Region and the Iława Lake District [Fig. 2e]. Some pin additionally have a bowl-shaped depression at the centre of the head.²¹

The second group of disc-headed pins is comprised by artefacts with a bend towards the upper end of the body, characteristic of the late Hallstatt and Jastorf culture styles, and reminiscent of an animal's crop (thus the German name for such pins, *Kropfnadeln*). This group of artefact does not have a counterpart in Sylwester Czopek's typology of pins. Ernst Petersen includes them in charts 52a and b as "flat disc-headed pins"²² (Ger. *flache Scheibennadeln*). Two sub-types may be distinguished in this group.

The first, named Zakrzewo, includes pins which consist of three parts: an iron body with the crop-bend, an iron rivet, and a bronze or iron round, bowl-like disc head [Fig. 1m–o]. The top of the body was flattened, and furnished with an eye through which the disc-shaped head was attached with a rivet. Only four such pins are known within the Pomeranian culture. The pieces were discovered at sites in Lower Silesia, Greater Poland and Krajna [Fig. 2c].

Pins classified within the second, Wytomyśl, sub-type of group II are one-part pieces. The upper part of the iron body is hammered flat into a round, flattened disc [Fig. 1p, r]. Some Wytomyśl pins feature a rivet at the centre of the head, which leads one to conclude that some other elements were attached to some pin heads. As analogous cases in Jastorf culture assemblages suggest,²³ these elements might have been bronze metal plates. Only several pins of this type have been found in eastern Greater Poland and Lower Silesia [Fig. 2f].

¹⁸ CIEŚLAK-KOPYT, MIRAŚ 2013, p. 96; BIBORSKI, STĘPIŃSKI 2013, pp. 137–142.

¹⁹ E.g. ŁONAK, SZYBOWICZ, TOMCZAK 1980, fig. 4:b.

²⁰ KOSTRZEWSKI 1923, note 585.

²¹ JASNOSZ 1973, fig. 6.

²² PETERSEN 1929a, p. 165.

²³ KOŁODZIEJSKI 1973, p. 122, fig. 5d.

An additional, and very important, source of information about disc-headed pins is the iconography of the Pomeranian culture's face urns. Some of the depictions therein are realistic enough to allow for identification of particular pin types [Fig. 3]. Due to the wide chronological spectrum of the urns, their analysis proves of limited use for establishing the chronology of the pins. Studying depictions on the urns is, however, an invaluable source of knowledge about the way the pins were worn and the gender of the people wearing them.²⁴

Disc-headed pins are among the artefacts that were most frequently recorded on the face urns of the Pomeranian culture. Their image was found on 159 vessels.²⁵ The pins depicted appeared separately (86 times, or 56 % of cases), in a pair (66 times, or 43 % of cases) or in two pairs (2 depictions, or 1 % of cases). Depictions of a separate pin were accompanied by images of a neck adornment (44 cases), ear adornment (17 cases), jingle rattles (13 cases), weaponry (4 cases) or a belt (1 case). A pair of pins was usually depicted with no other artefacts, the exceptions being neck adornment (4 cases), ear adornment (2 cases), weaponry (6 cases), and a belt (2 cases). No noticeable concentration of face urns with a particular number of depicted pins can be discerned. The image of single pins are probably schematic representations of the Mrowino and Gogolewo subtypes of the first group of pins (with big bowl-shaped heads). This might be attested to by the considerable sizes of the images. At times the heads of the pins are decorated with concentric circles, which can be associated with the solar ornamentation of group I pins (of the Mrowino type). The pins appearing in pairs are probably imitations of the Skurcz and Brzozówiec pins, as such engravings are smaller in size. An additional confirmation of this assertion are two representations of a pair of pins,²⁶ whereby each pin is decorated with a cross, akin to the artefacts found in Greater Poland, Lower Silesia and Mazovia (the Brzozówiec type).

Face urns with pin representations are met almost exclusively in the north-west of the Pomeranian culture area, distributed compactly especially in Eastern Pomerania and Krajna [Fig. 2g]. This spatial range is in clear contrast with the distribution of disc-headed pins themselves. In regions where face urns with engravings of disc-headed pins are absent we observe compact groupings of the pins. This situation is especially apparent in Greater Poland. Above all, this might be seen as an evidence of differences between Pomerania and Greater Poland populations in terms of tradition and rite. The issue was taken up in relation to East Pomeranian artefacts by Leon Jan Łuka.²⁷ According to him, pins and other artefacts (particularly breastplates) were represented on face urns as replacements for actual valuables, which were not in common use but were only owned by members of certain social groups, serving as markers of their status.²⁸ In Greater Poland, where Pomeranian culture population was allochthonous, Lusatian traditions were observed, which manifested above all in offering gifts to the deceased in the form of grave goods (grave additions).²⁹

Analysing the spatial distribution of disc-headed pins, one is struck by their relatively small regional variation [Fig. 2]. The pins are distributed compactly predominantly in the north-western, western and central regions of the Pomeranian culture area. The pins found throughout the entire area belong to the least formally varied Skurcz type. The types which might be considered regional in character are the Brzozówiec, Wytomyśl and Zakrzewo pins. Brzozówiec pins are found in grave fields in Greater Poland, Cuyavia (Kujawy), Lower Silesia and Mazovia, albeit their area of origin was probably the first of these regions, where they are most widespread. Pins of the Wytomyśl and Zakrzewo types, which feature crop-like bend, are found in Lower Silesia and Greater Poland, and may have been imports or imitations of artefacts common throughout the Jastorf culture area, especially in Brandenburg, Saxony and Thuringia.³⁰

²⁴ Cf. e.g. KNEISEL 2001, pp. 292–298.

²⁵ Compiled from: LA BAUME 1963; KWAPIŃSKI 1999; KWAPIŃSKI 2007; KNEISEL 2012a.

²⁶ KWAPIŃSKI 1999, p. 32, pl. LI.

²⁷ ŁUKA 1968, pp. 68, 69.

²⁸ This phenomenon was also discussed by WALUŚ (1979, pp. 224, 226) and KACZMAREK (2005, p. 167).

²⁹ ŁUKA 1971, p. 42; 1979, p. 158.

³⁰ HACHMANN 1950, p. 37, map 5; SEYER 1982, p. 15, pls. 3:2, 5:1, 11:1.

Due to the nature of grave goods of the Pomeranian culture,³¹ the dating of its disc-headed pins is based predominantly on the chronology of the pottery along with which they are found or the general dating of the sites at which the pins were recorded. Only rarely did the pins co-occur in one context with artefacts well established as chronological markers. These cases include some archaeological treasures from Pomerania and Greater Poland and a number of isolated grave assemblages.

Disc-headed pins are generally dated to phases II and III of Ernst Petersen's chronology,³² which corresponds to HaD and the early and middle La Tène periods. In the light of the chronological breakup of the Pomeranian culture proposed by Sylwester Czopek, disc-headed pins appear in phases II and III, which synchronise with HaD₂–HaD₃ and HaE (or periods LTA–LTB₁ of La Tène chronology).³³

Nevertheless, it seems possible to offer a more precise dating for some types of the pins owing to their formal and regional diversity. This applies particularly to the Mrowino, Gogolewo, Brzozówiec as well as Zakrzewo pins, which find their numerous counterparts in the Lusatian area, especially in the Białowice, Górzycza and Silesian groups, as well as in the House Urns culture, Thuringian culture and the Jastorf circle. An analysis of the distribution of each of these pin types against the backdrop of other prehistoric cultures of Eastern Europe and juxtaposing them with the well documented and dated fibulae in the light of new chronological findings promises a prospect of a more precise temporal stratification of this category of pins.³⁴ In the case of the Skurcz type of pins, in view of their formal simplicity and common occurrence throughout north-western and central Pomeranian culture settlement areas, it will not be possible to establish a chronology more detailed than the general timespan of the Pomeranian culture in these territories. Especially illuminating will be a closer look at the most impressive Mrowino type of pins. In the literature on Early Iron Age, one comes across a number of positions regarding Mrowino pins origin and dating. According to Józef Kostrzewski, these pins with big disc-shaped inlaid heads appeared as imitation of spiral-headed pins.³⁵ He also pointed to the transformation of formally similar eyeglasses fibulae into cross fibulae of the Tłukomy type.³⁶ Based on the Mrowino pins' stylistic proximity to the Tłukomy fibulae, Kostrzewski located the chronological position of the former in later HaD. Ernst Petersen derived Mrowino pins unearthed at sites of the Pomeranian culture from artefacts with golden disc-shaped heads, appearing in southern Scandinavia and northern Germany in V OEB (according to Oscar Montelius's chronology).³⁷ Having analysed all Pomeranian culture disc-headed pins known at the time, he established their chronology to span the late HaD and the entire La Tène period. A different view was voiced by Mirosław Hoffmann, who considered artefacts of this type to be of Jastorf provenience and dated them accordingly to the La Tène period, pointing out analogies in the middle Elbe area from the LTB phase.³⁸

A viable genetic prototype of the discussed pins might be the pins with small bowl-shaped heads (Ger. *Schälchenkopfnadeln*, or bowl-headed pins) found in the north of the Western Hallstatt zone and in the areas which upheld cultural contact with it — the river basins of Elbe, Havel and Saale as well as Jutland [Fig. 4]. Pins with such head and a straight body occurred since V OEB. Starting with HaC, a “swan-like” bend of the neck was introduced to Hallstatt fashion. Swan's-neck bowl-headed pins are common in sites dated to Ha₁–HaD₁. A good example is offered by the Niederkaina site, where artefacts of this kind appear in the graveyard's central part, which may be synchronised with HC₂–HD₁.³⁹ In today's Poland, such pins are discovered in assemblages dated to HaC.⁴⁰

³¹ CZOPEK 1998, pp. 62, 63.

³² PETERSEN 1929a, pp. 116–118.

³³ CZOPEK 1985, pp. 376–378; 1992, pp. 82, 83.

³⁴ Pins of the Pomeranian and belly-grave cultures are the subject of the author's doctoral dissertation, being prepared at the Faculty of History, University of Warsaw.

³⁵ KOSTRZEWSKI 1923, p. 128.

³⁶ KOSTRZEWSKI 1920, pp. 128, 129.

³⁷ PETERSEN 1929a, p. 105.

³⁸ HOFFMANN 2000, pp. 150, 151.

³⁹ HEYD 1998, pp. 29–31, fig. 9.

⁴⁰ GEDL 1991, pp. 85, 86.

Pins with small bowl-shaped heads are particularly widespread on the middle Elbe and lower Saale [Fig. 4]. It is most likely in this area that the pins with big bowl-shaped heads developed. Such pieces were unearthed in the Thuringian culture area in the context of artefacts dated to the Flurstedt phase⁴¹ of Martin Claus's regional chronology, which corresponds to the ThC₁–ThC₂ horizons according to Klaus Simon⁴² and can be synchronised with the HaD₁–HaD₂ periods. Pins with big bowl-shaped heads reached the Pomeranian culture area via the Białowice group of the Lusatian culture, which remained engaged in intensive cultural and trade contacts with the Thuringian area. These ties are confirmed especially by finds of Thuringian origin from HaD discovered on the middle Oder, namely stirrup-shaped arm bracelets (Ger. *Bronzesteigbügelarmring*)⁴³ and reverse-twisted torques (Ger. *Wendelring*) with sharp edges (Ger. *Scharflappige*), the latter classified as Form 2 in Ronald Heynowski's typology.⁴⁴

As suggested by artefacts from the middle Oder basin presented over the recent years, pins with a big disc-shaped head, that was lined with a golden or bronze plate – akin to the ones this text is concerned with – were characteristic of the metallurgic production of the Białowice group [Fig. 5]. Of particular importance in this respect is the gord in Wicin (Żary County), where over a dozen pieces of such pins were unearthed. They were discovered in treasures of 1901/1902⁴⁵ and 1968,⁴⁶ in the context of HaD₃-phase artefacts, including Wicina type decorated-foot fibulae, sharp-edged reverse-twisted torques, stirrup-shaped arm bracelets and diagonally fluted necklaces made from bars of circular cross-section. Apart from that, twelve fragmented pins with big disc-shaped heads were registered in Wicina, within the horizon of the gord's downfall,⁴⁷ which according to new research is dated to ca. mid-sixth century BCE⁴⁸ [Fig. 5a–h]. Other Mrowino-type pins of the Białowice group were discovered in the HaD-dated treasure from Cielmów (Żary County), along with artefacts including a Strzebielinko-type eyeglasses fibula, three sharp-edged reverse-twisted torques, two diagonally fluted necklaces made from bars of circular cross-section, six spiral bracelets and eight greaves.⁴⁹ Three further pins of the discussed kind were recorded in the treasure from Bieszków (Żary County)⁵⁰ [Fig. 5i–k]. The treasure comprising ca. 10 kg of metal objects is dated to HaD₃, based predominantly on the presence of an unusual fibula with decorated foot akin to the Wojszyce type.⁵¹ The content of the treasure suggests that it was deposited at the time of the Wicina gord's downfall.⁵² A singular head of a Mrowino-type pin was also unearthed in the treasure from Burg-Schloßberg in south Brandenburg in a context of artefacts which also might be dated to the HaD period.⁵³

Outside of the Białowice group zone, Mrowino artefacts were also encountered in a Górzycza group graveyard in Cybinka-Bieganów (Ślubice County). The pins were recorded in graves 19, 61, 65, 68, 87, 89, 93, 151 and 158.⁵⁴ In the last of the assemblages mentioned, the pin co-occurred with a Western-Hallstatt-zone-imported fibula, whose decorated foot and glaze-filled depressions in the bow allow for it to be assigned to the HaD₃ phase.⁵⁵ In the remaining assemblages, the pins co-occurred solely with pottery from phase II of the Górzycza group chronology, which corresponds to the HaD₂–LTA time range.⁵⁶

⁴¹ CLAUS 1941–1942, pp. 69, 70, pl. 9:23, 25.

⁴² SIMON 1993, pp. 351, 378.

⁴³ BUCK 1979, p. 19, fig. 7; BUKOWSKI 1993, p. 86.

⁴⁴ HEYNOWSKI 2000, pp. 194–196, map 5.

⁴⁵ KOSSACK 1987, pp. 109, 110, fig. 2.

⁴⁶ KOŁODZIEJSKI 1970, p. 8, fig. 6.

⁴⁷ MICHALAK 2010, pp. 148–150, figs. 28–30.

⁴⁸ KRĄPIEC, SZYCHOWSKA-KRĄPIEC 2013, pp. 373, 374.

⁴⁹ KOSSACK 1987, pp. 114–118, fig. 3a–c.

⁵⁰ ORLICKA-JASNOCH 2013, pp. 494, 495, 514, fig. 7:1–3.

⁵¹ ORLICKA-JASNOCH 2013, p. 515, fig. 8:3.

⁵² Cf. ORLICKA-JASNOCH 2013, pp. 507–508.

⁵³ GÖTZE 1912, pl. 31.

⁵⁴ MARCINKIAN 2010a, pl. XLVI:11, 13, LIII:5, 12, LIV:20, 26, LVI:6, LXI:5, LXV:7, LXVI:15.

⁵⁵ WOŹNIAK 2010, p. 50.

⁵⁶ GRIESA 1982, pp. 19–23.

As this overview of finds from the Białowice and Górzycza groups shows, Mrowino pins appear chiefly during phase HaD₃. Such chronology is indicated by Wicina-type decorated-foot fibulae which occur in the same assemblages. We cannot, however, rule out the possibility that Mrowino pins were also in use during HaD₂.

Isolated bowl-headed pins of Białowice group provenience were also recorded at Lusatian culture sites in Greater Poland and central Poland [Fig. 6]. In the zone of the culture's Eastern-Greater-Poland group, one such artefact was discovered in Kokorzyn (Kościan County).⁵⁷ The pin in question contained a golden plate with embossed concentric circles, analogous to ones on the artefacts found in the Wicina gord [Fig. 5 d, g]. In the case of the central-Poland group of the Lusatian culture, the two isolated pins were unearthed in the graveyards in Chojne (Sieradz County), grave 28,⁵⁸ and Łagiewniki (Łódź County), grave 10.⁵⁹ Both these artefacts were discovered along with pieces of pottery, which, however, cannot be dated more precisely than to Early Iron Age.

Within the Pomeranian culture, a Mrowino-type disc-headed pin was recorded in the context of a Wicina-type decorated-foot fibula only in multi-urn grave no. II in the stone fortification in the village of Nowodwory, nowadays a part of Warsaw (Warszawa-Nowodwory). The pin was found in urn XIII, while the fibula was in urn II.⁶⁰ Another fibula from this graveyard, also similar to the Wicina type, was recorded in grave III. The fibulae from this site are dated to HaD₃ and HaD₃/LTA.⁶¹ Unfortunately, Warszawa-Nowodwory notwithstanding, Mrowino pins were discovered in the context of other metal artefacts almost exclusively within treasures. In Mrowino (Ger. Joachimsfeld, Poznań County) a golden metal plate with embossed solar ornamentation and was found separated from its pin, together with a breastplate consisting of 17 rings (14 of which were preserved) joined by a meshed clasp and a hollow bracelet with overlapping ends.⁶² The pin found in the treasure from Wielowieś (Ger. Dittersdorf) in the Iława Lake District was uncovered within a similar set of objects. Apart from the iron pin with bowl-shaped thick-edged head, the treasure included, among other artefacts: an iron axe, two meshed clasps (one for a ten-ring, the other for a seven-ring breastplate) and three breastplate rings, a piece of an iron necklace, four bracelets, six spiral bracelets as well as two spiral-headed pins.⁶³ The Mrowino and Wielowieś treasures date to the HaD phase, as is indicated, above all, by the breastplates, which constitute "index forms" of the Pomeranian culture's classical phase.⁶⁴

Outside of the graveyard in Warszawa-Nowodwory, Mrowino pins have been found in grave assemblages of 21 Pomeranian culture graveyards,⁶⁵ predominantly in Pomerania (including Sopieszyno, Wejherowo County, Sulęcyno, Kartuzy County,⁶⁶ and Rąty, Kartuzy County⁶⁷), Greater Poland (including Stary Tomyśl, Nowy Tomyśl County, Orle Wielkie, Międzychód County,⁶⁸ and Lednogóra, Gniezno County⁶⁹), Lower Silesia (Lasocin, Nowa Sól County,⁷⁰

⁵⁷ PETERSEN 1929a, pl. 12g; KRZYŻANIAK 1971, p. 209.

⁵⁸ ZĄBKIEWICZ-KOSZAŃSKA 1972, pl. XVI:4.

⁵⁹ In the collection of the Museum of Archaeology and Ethnography in Łódź, inv. 2467/D.

⁶⁰ ANTONIEWICZOWA 1929, pp. 108, 118, figs. 10, 32.

⁶¹ WOŹNIAK 2010, pp. 44–51.

⁶² DURCZEWSKI 1950, pp. 41–43, fig. 34.

⁶³ The full inventory of the Wielowieś treasure is difficult to establish. This paper follows W. Blajer's version (BLAJER 2001, p. 369). According to A. Bezzebberg, the treasure comprised: a fragmented bronze necklace with narrowing ends, two bronze meshed breastplate clasps with several breastplate rings, two identically decorated open-ended bracelets made from bronze bar of quadrangular cross-section, a disc-headed iron pin, a spiral-headed bronze pin and an iron socket axe (BEZZENBERGER 1904,

pp. 51–53, figs. 50–53). O. Kleemann lists: four open-ended bracelets of quadrangular cross-section, a spiral bracelet made from a narrow spike-ended bronze band, a disc-headed iron pin, a meshed nine-ring breastplate clasp with three remaining rings and a meshed seven-ring breastplate clasp with three rings (KLEEMANN 1942, pp. 2–4, figs. 2–7; cf. WALUŚ 2014, p. 138).

⁶⁴ KAMIŃSKA 1992, pp. 30–31.

⁶⁵ This number is based on data compiled from literature on the Pomeranian culture. Data from museum and archive research have not been considered.

⁶⁶ PETERSEN 1926, fig. 1a, b.

⁶⁷ FUDZIŃSKI, GŁADYKOWSKA-RZECZYCKA 2000, fig. 29c.

⁶⁸ KOSTRZEWSKI 1923, fig. 485.

⁶⁹ PETERSEN 1929a, pl. 9f.

⁷⁰ PETERSEN 1929b, pp. 197, 198, fig. 1.

Szprotawa, Żagań County⁷¹) and central Poland (Mierzyn, Piotrków Trybunalski County⁷²). Unfortunately, the only information we have about most of these finds, especially the pre-1945 ones, is that they were discovered at a Pomeranian culture graveyard. At best, their descriptions are limited to the presentation of several random artefacts; otherwise, only a short account is given, pointing to the place of discovery. Missing is any information concerning the find's context, which debilitates the possibilities of establishing its chronology. The context of discovery is only known for ca. 30 % of the pins in question.

However, even the analysis of the grave contexts does not provide satisfactory results when it comes to dating the pins. As the fills of these features indicate, the Pomeranian culture population pinned their clothing either with pins or with fibulae (for which precise dating is available). The fact that these two classes of artefacts do not co-occur in grave assemblages renders difficult working out the pins' chronology. Mrowino-type pins were recorded in funerary features along with pottery and small, non-characteristic bronze objects only. Absolutely exceptional in this regard is the Szprotawa site, where an iron knife with a spike on the hilt⁷³ was recorded in the context of a Mrowino pin with golden plate inlay; this, however, proved insufficient to allow for dating the assemblage. Among the pottery co-occurring with the pins were pieces characteristic of phases II and III in Sylwester Czopek's chronology of the Pomeranian culture.

Considering their analogies within the Białowice group's artefacts, the Mrowino pins of the Pomeranian culture are best dated to the HaD₃ period. An additional argument in favour of this proposition is provided by analogies in decoration between Mrowino pins and the plates of Thukomy-type fibulae, which are very characteristic of the Pomeranian culture and at the same time – are trustworthily dated to HaD.⁷⁴ Also worth noting is the fact that fibulae of this kind are compactly distributed mostly in Greater Poland, where the most impressive of the known Mrowino pins were discovered. This might suggest that under cultural influence from the middle Oder basin, Pomeranian culture “workshops” appeared in this region, which produced Mrowino pins and Thukomy-type cross fibulae.⁷⁵ It is most probably via the “workshops” of Greater Poland that pins with big disc-shaped heads spread to Pomerania, Cuyavia (Kujawy), Mazovia and central Poland. Pomeranian-Białowice contacts find additional confirmation in other products from the middle Oder basin being commonly recorded in Pomeranian culture assemblages. These include: pear pendants,⁷⁶ Wicina-type fibulae and pins with cone-shaped profile-edged heads.⁷⁷

Disc-headed pins were in use in the Pomeranian culture presumably until the LTA period. This chronology is attested to by grave 4 in the Janina graveyard (Busko County). The inventory of this assemblage includes an iron disc, which was probably the head of a Mrowino-type pin,⁷⁸ along with an animal-foot-shaped fibula from the LTA phase and a knife with a spike on the hilt.⁷⁹

The mapping of Mrowino-type disc-headed pins, Thukomy-type cross fibulae and Wicina-type decorated foot fibulae, which represent the chronological horizon of the late HaD until the early LTA periods, allows for a relatively precise delineation of the range of the Pomeranian culture at the beginning of the late pre-Roman period [Fig. 6].

The proposition to derive the Pomeranian culture's disc-headed pins from the Elbe-Saale area is well in agreement with our knowledge of the cultural and trade contacts which led to the development of the Pomeranian culture's most characteristic features, namely house urns⁸⁰ and box graves (cists).⁸¹

⁷¹ PETERSEN 1929b, pp. 208, 209, fig. 9:6.

⁷² In the collection of Count Antoni Ostrowski Museum in Tomaszów Mazowiecki.

⁷³ PETERSEN 1929b, pp. 208, 209, fig. 9:6, 7.

⁷⁴ GEDL 1993, p. 160; 2004, pp. 133–134.

⁷⁵ This hypothesis was previously suggested by M. Gedl (GEDL 1993, p. 160).

⁷⁶ ANDRZEJOWSKA 1981, p. 195.

⁷⁷ BUCK 1979, p. 135; MARCINKIAN 2010b, pp. 109–110, fig. 27, 29:3, 4.

⁷⁸ The artefact has gone missing. The fibula and the knife are in the collection of the State Archaeological Museum in Warsaw.

⁷⁹ NOSEK 1946, pl. XXII:1, 5, 9.

⁸⁰ KNEISEL 2012b, fig. 12.

⁸¹ ADAMIK 2012, fig. 28.

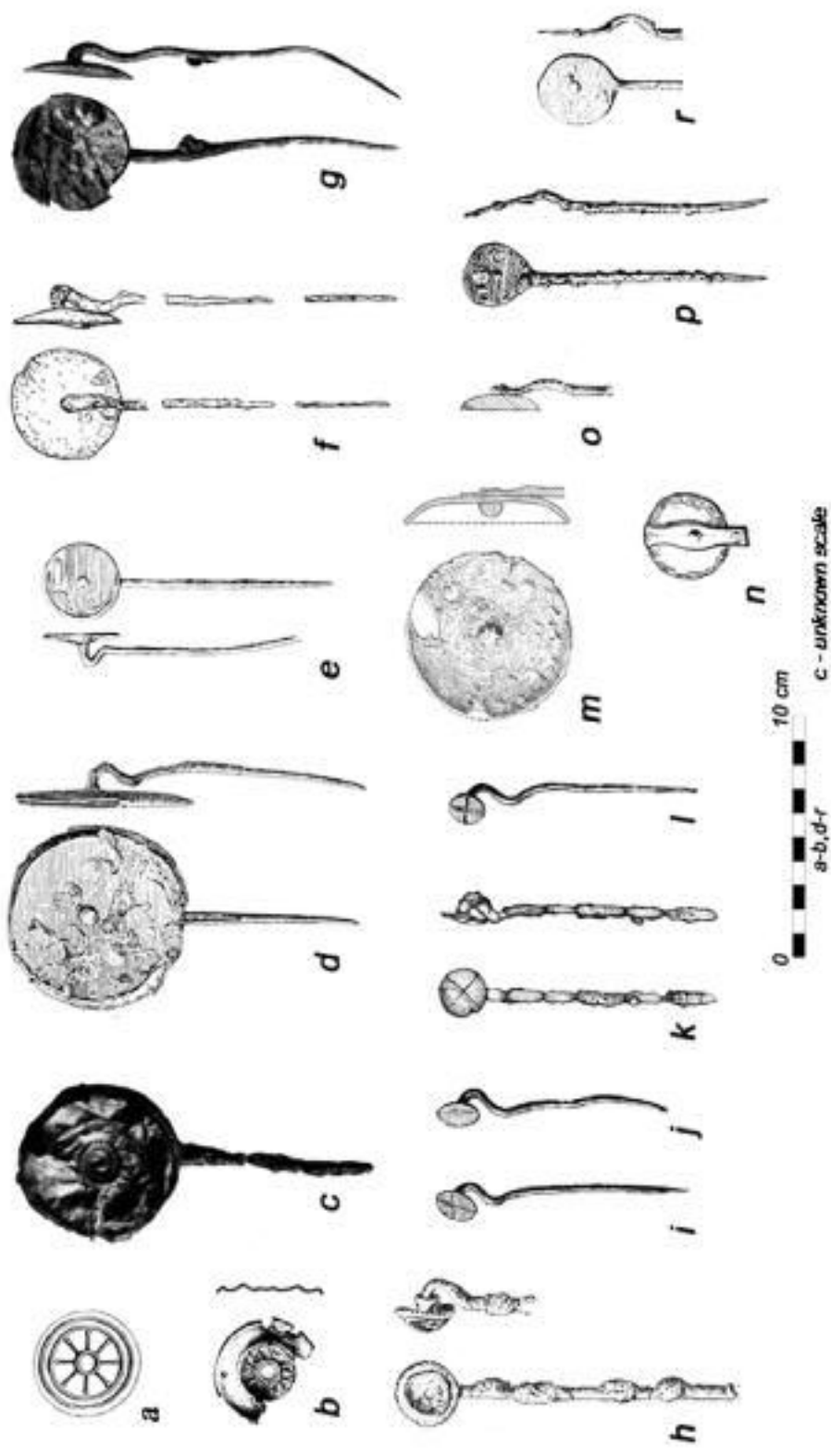


Fig. 1. Selected disc-headed pins of the Pomeranian culture: a-e – Mrowino type; f-g – Gogolewo type; h-j – Brzozówiec type; k-l – Skurcz type; m-o – Zakrzewo type; p-r – Wytomyśl type (a – Mrowino, Poznań County [KOSTRZEWSKI 1923, fig. 444]; b – Brzezie, Pleszew County [PUDELKO 1995, fig. 7a]; c – Lednogóra, Gniezno County [PETERSEN 1929a, pl. 9f]; d – Lasocin, Nowa Sól County [PETERSEN 1929b, fig. 1]; e – Szprotawa, Żagań County [PETERSEN 1929b, fig. 9:6]; f – Gulin-Młyn, Radom County [CIEŚLAK-KOPYT, MIRAŚ 2013, pl. XXIII:a]; g – Gogolewo, Tczew County [OSSOWSKI 1879, pl. XXXI:6]; h – Oborniki Wielkopolskie, Oborniki Wielkopolskie County [JASNOSZ 1973, fig. 6]; i – Budzicz, Trzebnica County [TACKENBERG 1926, fig. 13]; j – Ligota Górna, Opole County [TACKENBERG 1926, fig. 12]; k – Grodzisk Mazowiecki, Grodzisk Mazowiecki County [KACZYŃSKI 2011, pl. XXXIII:3]; l – Budzicz, Trzebnica County [TACKENBERG 1926, fig. 14]; m – Borów Polski, Nowa Sól County [TACKENBERG 1922, fig. 10]; n – Milicz, Milicz County [PETERSEN 1929b, fig. 16:5]; o – Wrocław – Prace Odrzańskie district [PETERSEN 1929b, fig. 13:2]; p – Sułów Mały, Rawicz County [TACKENBERG 1926, fig. 10]; r – Wioska, Góra County [TACKENBERG 1922, fig. 4]; compilation B. Kaczyński

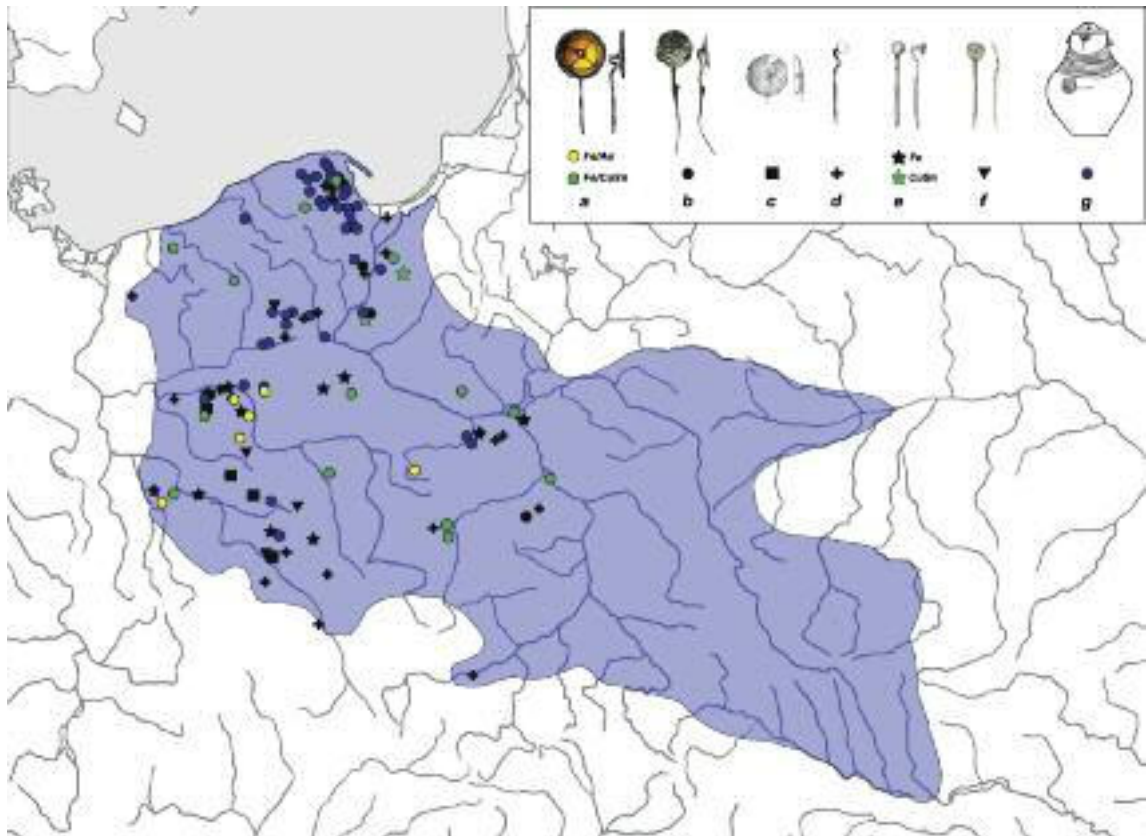


Fig. 2. Spatial range of disc-headed pins and their representations on Pomeranian culture pottery: a – Mrowino type; b – Gogolewo type; c – Zakrzewo type; d – Skurcz type; e – Brzozówiec type; f – Wyto-myśl type; g – urns with representations of pins (map B. Kaczyński)



Fig. 3. Examples of representations of pins on face urns and their physical counterparts: a – face urn from Tłukomy, Piła County (BERENDT 1879, pl. XIV:64); b – Skurcz/Brzozówiec type pins; c – face urn from Żarnowiec, Puck County (KWAPIŃSKI 1999, pl. CXCVIII); d – Mrowino type pin with jingle rattles

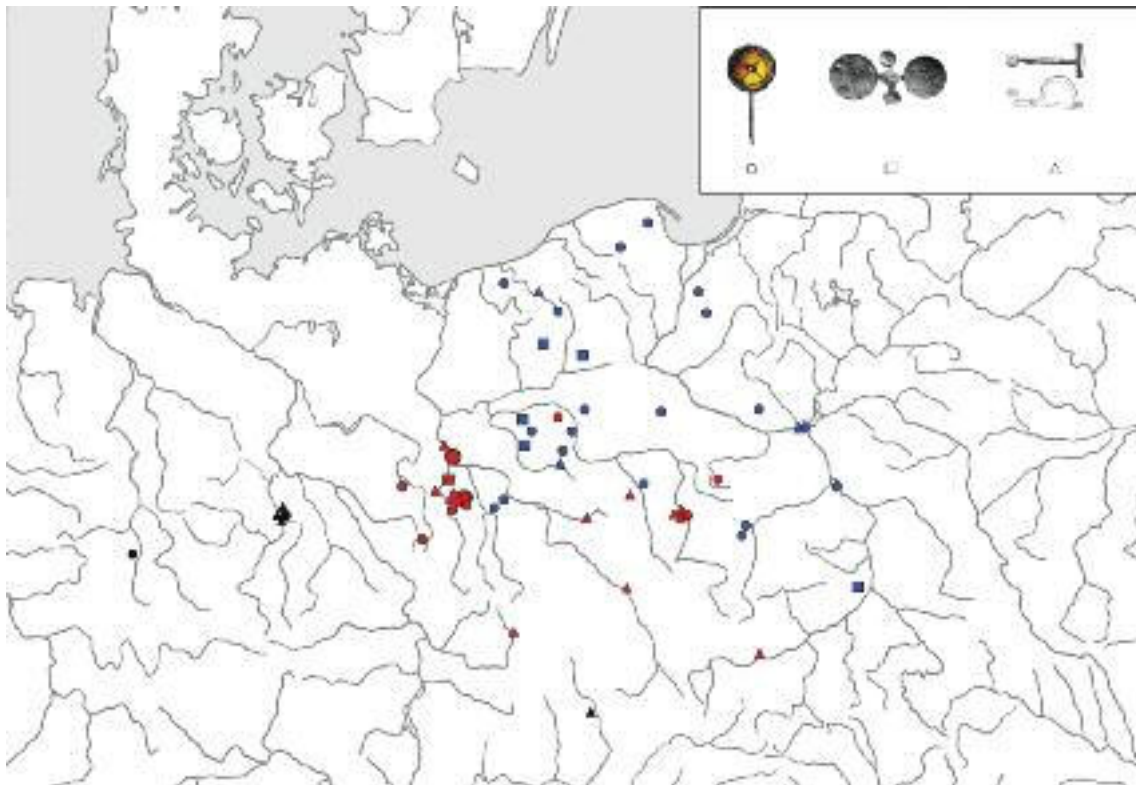


Fig. 4. Spatial range of bowl-headed pins (Ger. *Schalchenkopfnadeln*).⁸² Red dots – straight body pins; black dots – swan’s-neck pins (map B. Kaczyński)

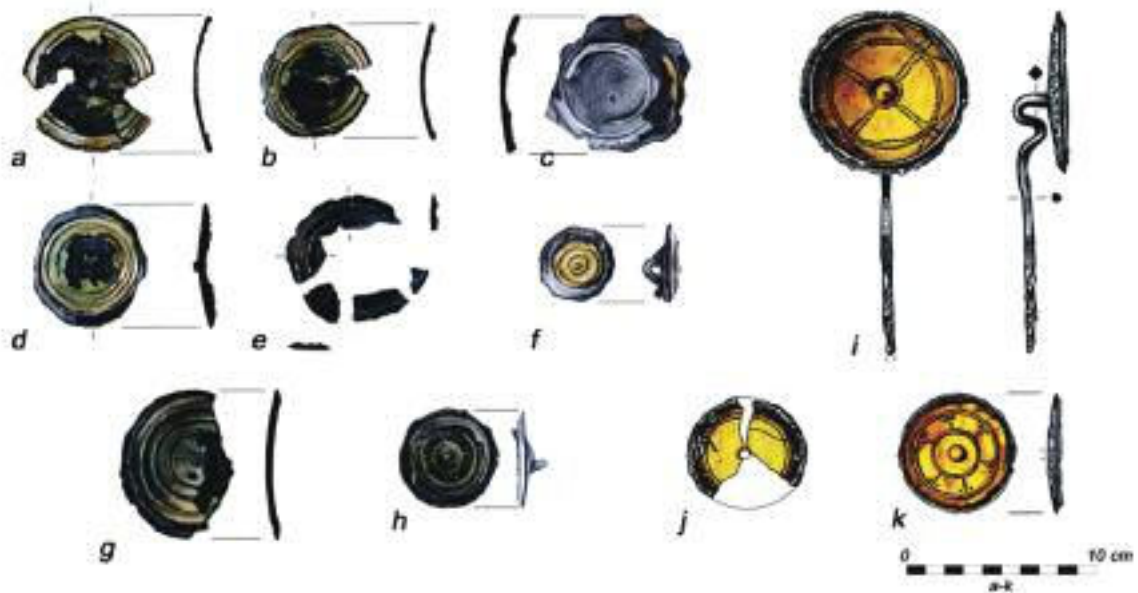


Fig. 5. Selected Mrowino type pins from the middle Oder region: a–h – gord in Wicina, Żary County (MICHALAK 2010, figs. 29:1, 3–5, 30:1–4); i–k – treasure from Bieszków, Żary County (ORLIČKA-JASNOCH 2013, fig. 7:1–3)

⁸² Based on BADOU 1960, TACKENBERG 1971; LAUX 1976; ŘIHOVSKÝ 1979; BUCK 1979; PESCHEL 1990; GEDL 1991; HEYD 1998, with the author’s additions.

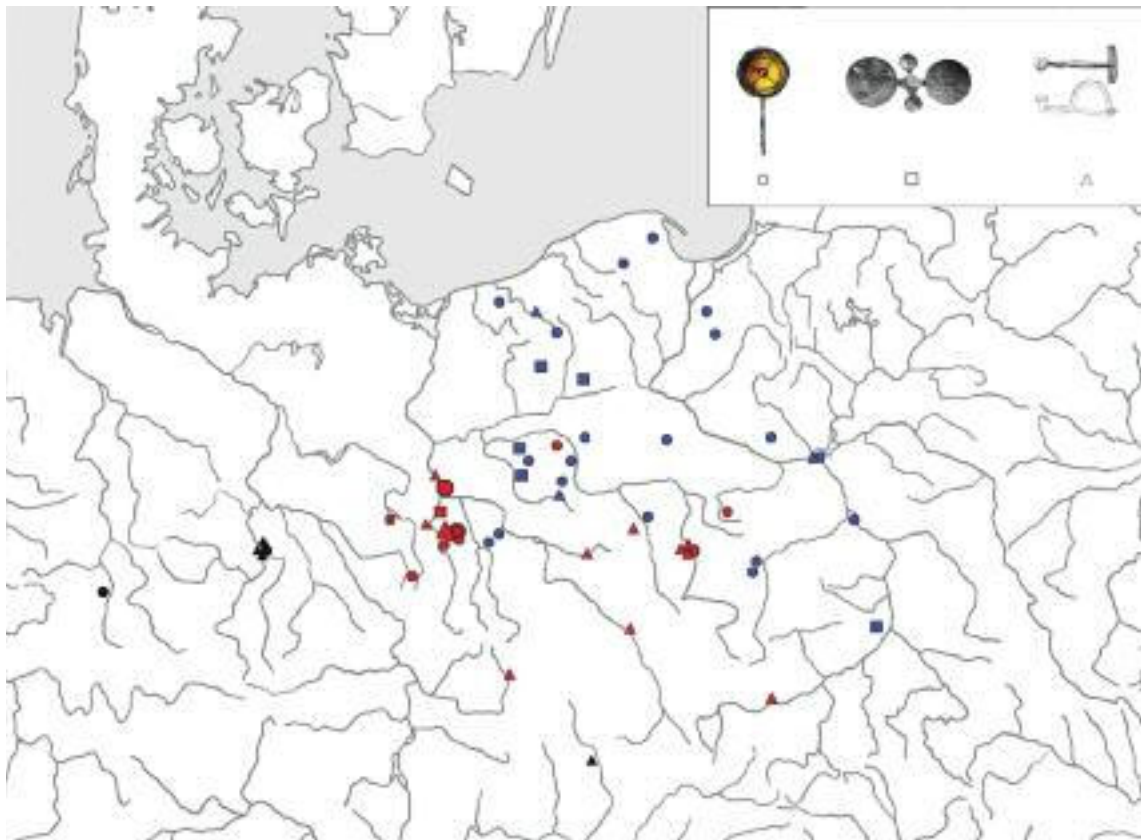


Fig. 6. Spatial range of Mrowino-type pins (circles), Tłukomy-type cross fibulae⁸³ (squares), and Wicina-type decorated-foot fibulae⁸⁴ (triangles). Blue symbols – artefacts from the Pomeranian culture sites; red symbols – artefacts from the Lusatian culture sites; black symbols – artefacts from sites of other cultures (map B. Kaczyński)

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⁸³ Considered were solely Tłukomy-type cross fibulae; due to differences in technology and style, not included was the Sinotęka type (cf. GEDL 1993, p. 153).

⁸⁴ After WOŹNIAK 2010, pp. 50–51, map 1.

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Streszczenie

Uwagi na temat szpil tarczowatych kultury pomorskiej

Jednym z najbardziej charakterystycznych atrybutów kultury pomorskiej są szpile tarczowate. Zabytki te od czasów jedynej monografii kultury pomorskiej, wykonanej przez Ernsta Petersena w 1929 roku, oraz licznych prac autorstwa Józefa Kostrzewskiego z lat dwudziestych i trzydziestych XX wieku nie doczekały się szczegółowego opracowania. Poglądy przedstawione w wyżej wymienionych dziełach cytowane są w literaturze po dziś dzień, zwłaszcza w opracowaniach zabytków wykopaliskowych lub przy okazji studiów regionalnych.

Szpile tarczowate nie należą do jednorodnych form zabytków. Ze względu na ukształtowanie szyjki można podzielić je na dwie grupy: szpile z łabędzią szyjką oraz szpile z wolem (półokrągłym wygięciem). W obrębie grupy I na podstawie ukształtowania, wielkości i ornamentyki główki wydzielono cztery odmiany: Mrowino, Gogolewo, Brzozówiec i Skurcz, nazwane od miejscowości, w których dane odmiany zostały odkryte po raz pierwszy. W grupie II na podstawie tych samych kryteriów wydzielono dwie odmiany: Zakrzewo i Wytomyśl.

Zabytki będące tematem artykułu wykazują małe zróżnicowanie regionalne. Szpile grupy I występują w północno-zachodniej, zachodniej i środkowej strefie kultury pomorskiej. Z okazji szpil, które mają charakter regionalny, wymienić należy szpile odmian Brzozówiec, Wytomyśl i Zakrzewo. Szpile z wolem (grupy II) odmian Wytomyśl i Zakrzewo występują w rejonie Dolnego Śląska oraz Wielkopolski. Okazy te można traktować jako importy lub naśladownictwa zabytków występujących licznie w kulturze jastorfskiej, zwłaszcza w Brandenburgii, Saksonii oraz Turynii.

Szpile tarczowate należą do kategorii zabytków najczęściej przedstawianych na popielnicach twarzowych. Niektóre wizerunki szpil są na tyle rzetelnie oddane, że można je wiązać z konkretnymi odmianami szpil.

Szczególne uwagi zwrócona została na najbardziej okazałe szpile odmiany Mrowino. Za prototyp tego typu szpil uznać można rozprzestrzenione w dorzeczach Łaby i Wezery szpile z małą miseczkowatą główką, występujące w zespołach grobowych od okresu V OEB. Od okresu HaC szpile te posiadają charakterystyczne łabędzie wygięcie szyjki. Najliczniej występują w dorzeczu środkowej Łaby i dolnej Soławy. Z tego obszaru znane są pierwsze szpile z dużymi miseczkowatymi główkami, rejestrowane w zespołach, które odnosić można do starszego okresu HaD. Szpile odmiany Mrowino pojawiają się w kulturze pomorskiej za pośrednictwem grupy białowickiej i górzyckiej. Z obszarów środkowego Nadodrza pochodzą najliczniejsze serie tego typu zabytków, odkrywanych w kontekście skarbów, osad obronnych i cmentarzysk. Współwystępują najczęściej z zapinkami z ozdobną nóżką typu Wicina, które datowane są na HaD₃. Szpile odmiany Mrowino na obszarach środkowego Nadodrza datować należy od okresu HaD₂ do HaD₃/LTA, na co wskazują inwentarze obiektów, w których były odkrywane.

W obrębie kultury pomorskiej znane są 22 egzemplarze tego typu szpil. Niestety, specyfika wspomnianej kultury nie pozwala na precyzyjne ustalenie chronologii, głównie za przyczyną braku współwystępowania w zespołach grobowych szpil z innymi dobrze datowanymi zabytkami. Wyjątkiem jest stanowisko w Warszawie-Nowodworach, gdzie w jednym grobie skrzynkowym szpila występowała z zapinką z ozdobną nóżką typu Wicina, datowaną na okres HaD₃.

Szpile z dużą miseczkowatą główką, zaliczone do typu Wicina, należy datować tak samo jak na obszarach grup białowickiej i górzyckiej. Zabytki kultury pomorskiej, zwłaszcza z obszarów Wielkopolski, wykazują bliskie związki stylistyczne pod względem formalnym, dekoracyjnym i technicznym. Niektóre szpile są na tyle podobne, że można uważać, iż wyszły spod ręki tego samego wykonawcy.

Istotnym argumentem za przyjęciem datowania na młodszą część okresu HaD jest fakt, że w sposób analogiczny jak szpile odmiany Mrowino zdobione były tarczki bardzo charakterystycznych dla kultury pomorskiej zapinek typu Tłukomy. Warto podkreślić jest to, że wspomniane zapinki grupują się zwłaszcza na obszarach Wielkopolski, miejscu, skąd znane są najbardziej okazałe ze szpil odmiany Mrowino, co sugerować może, że na tym obszarze, pod wpływem kulturowym środkowego Nadodrza, wykształciły się „warsztaty” ludności kultury pomorskiej, które trudniły się produkcją omawianych szpil i fibul krzyżowych typu Tłukomy.

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