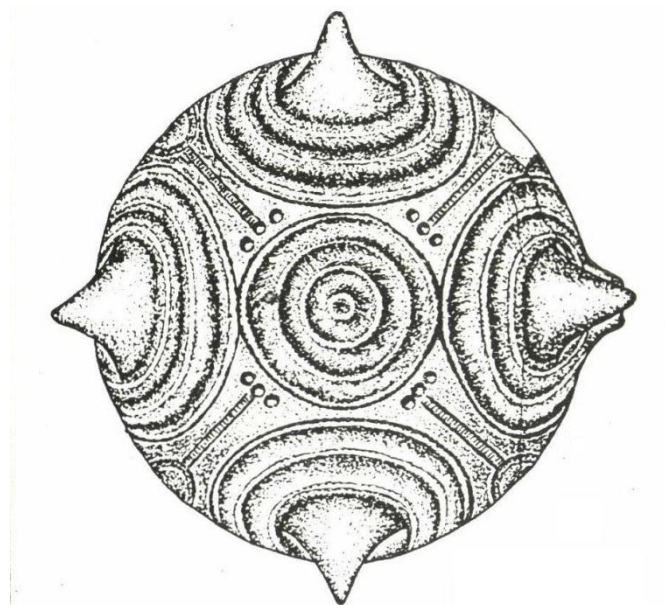


Settlement layouts, system and structure of the Otomani- Füzesabony Cultural Complex.

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Introduction to the settlement structure of the OFCC in the Dél-Borsod flatland area

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The Bronze Age settlement network of the Otomani-Füzesabony complex was the last few years intensely researched in Hungary. The outcomes of the BORBAS projects (co-operation between the Miskolc University, Herman Ottó Museum of Miskolc and the University of Cologne) showed us a close, tight settlement network with similarly organised inner settlement-structures in the areas South Borsod Plain, along the foothill zone of the Bükk Mountains and in the Hernád valley. It is an inner, multi-layer core with evidence of settlement activity and houses of rather standardized size; a deep and wide ditch that sets the inner tell or tell-like core apart from its surroundings, an outer settlement that can itself be divided in two parts. An intensively used inner part, potentially with houses that do not differ much from that in the centre part and an outer zone featuring pits possibly indicative of various activities related to storage and/or production. Settlements characterized by this complex structure can cover an area of 10 hectares or more in total, while the area surrounded by an inner trench is usually around 1 hectare. Our current model therefore suggests that the above described composite sites are the ‘standard’ type of settlement in our micro-region and there are that they were surrounded by a network of open satellite settlements.

The best-known settlements from the Kosice Basin in Slovakia and other northern formations from along the Hernád river show us a different perspective on the first look: a less tighter settlement-network, fortifications and other level of organisation. Supported by the Humboldt Foundation and the national Scholarship programme of the Slovak Republic I had the possibility to jointly research the Bronze Age settlement networks on both sides of the border in order to compare the differences of their settling strategies. This presentation introduces shortly the outcomes of our ongoing project from the Borsod-plain and also gives us a preview of our research concept and further questions of the new project and also represents our pilot project in the Slovakia.

Preliminary report from a pending excavation of a middle bronze age burial field at Encs (north-east Hungary)

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In May 2018, as the part of the preventive excavations of M30 motorway track, a newly identified middle bronze age cemetery has been started to dig by the Salisbury Archaeology

Ltd. Last year's explorations, such as ground penetrating radar and probing by ditches resulted in contradicted results in connection both of the size of the burial field and the determination of the exact period. As the site has been opened by removing the covering layer the burial field proved to be much more expansive than we expected. This far near 250 graves of the middle bronze age Füzesabony culture, have been identified on 8000 m² but our plan is to open 46000 m² area with closely 1000 graves on. Unfortunately more than 90% of the graves are raided. In my presentation I would like to give you a short resume of the results of what we have done this far, by exhibiting some of the finds and revealing some irregularities of the burial ground and the insertations.

**Early and Middle Bronze Age settlement network
in the neighbourhood of Polgár**

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Although some MBA settlements were known long ago from the Polgár microregion, the first sounding excavations had started only at the end of the 80s thanks to Márta Sz. Máthé. (The method of this research was almost identical with the tell-excavations conducted in the Berettyó region. A small-scale section was cut into the Northern part of the tell-settlement in order to clarify the stratigraphical and chronological situation of the site. But this has provided significantly more information neither about the inner structure of this tell-settlement, nor about the situation of the settlement-cemetery question. This material is yet unpublished.)

Between 1999-2001 connected to the M3 motorway construction works some very rich Füzesabony cemeteries were discovered and partly excavated by G.V.Szabó and me. These cemeteries fit well to the MBA settlement system of the Polgár microregion. Some years ago new Bronze Age settlements were found thanks to the intensive field survey of G.Márkus. This pilot study is only in its initial stage, but we would like to present here our new results and finds in order to complete and partly reinterpret our knowledge concerning the MBA settlement network of this microregion which is situated on the very important trade-route from Transylvania through Kosice Basin till Little Poland and even further north.

Nondestructive researches at Alsóvadász-Várdomb archaeological site

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Alsóvadász is located 25 kilometres northeast of Miskolc, at the southern side of the Cserehát hills, on the bank of the Vadász stream. The known tell settlements located in the valley of the Vadász stream form a pattern similar to Hernád-valley settlements from the same period. The narrowing knoll spur known as Várdomb can be found within this system, located at the southwestern edge of the present day settlement. Unfortunately, despite having been researched many times before, we have little data on this ditch-surrounded circular area as most of the documentation was lost.

The first excavation was conducted in 1906, led by Lajos Márton; Nándor Kalicz later classified Várdomb as a fortified settlement of the Hatvan culture based on that. In 1978, during the establishment of a shooting range, the site was disturbed 1.5 metres deep on a 10 x 20 metre area. In 1979, during a rescue excavation led by Katalin Simán, a 5x5 metre surface was excavated 3 metres deep down to the subsoil. Five separate settlement layers were identified during the excavation, which included a few house remains.

Based on previous finds, the topmost layer was classified as of Füzesabony/Otomani culture while the other layers were deemed to be of Hatvan culture. Further examination of the finds revealed however that, even though the majority of the ceramic material found below the upper Füzesabony layer is unequivocally from the Hatvan culture, it does contain some early Szaniszló-type finds as well, sherds of which appear in layer II and are considered to be uncommon in this region.

In spring 2018 we began non-destructive examinations at the settlement which should provide new data in addition to what we already know. This information in conjunction with data from the processing of the ceramic material shall aid us in getting a more complex read on the former life of the settlement.

Településszerkezeti kutatások Füzesabony-Öregdom tell településén

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The first excavations of the Bronze Age tell in Füzesabony began nearly 90 years ago. The leader of the excavations, Ferenc Tompa was conducting his research in short periods (1 to 2 weeks at a time) between 1931 and 1937. During his investigations - beside a large amount of

ceramic finds - numerous settlement features were found, which made the understanding of the internal structure of the settlement possible.

A more detailed study and a re-evaluation of the tell and its material began only a great deal later in the 1980s, after new investigations were carried out by Ilona Stanczik and István Bóna in 1976. The fine excavation- and documentation methods that were used helped us to understand Tompa's handwritten documentations and to interpret the old finds. The results of that investigations regarding the inner and outer settlements of the tell could be modified by using modern methods, like magnetic survey, GIS based analysis and aerial photographs.

Problems of the Late Hatvan period at the Southern foothills of the Bükk mountains

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In the second half of the 1980s, in the Hungarian archaeological research of the Early and Middle Bronze Age, the assumption has gained assurance that the continuity of the Hatvan culture cannot be considered to be finished with the end of the Early Bronze Age. It remained independent in the Western part of its former territory until the end of the Middle Bronze Age, parallel with the Füzesabony culture.

The general characteristics of the late Hatvan ceramic style is known to take many ornamental motifs and forms, mainly from the Füzesabony-style, but its reverse is also true. Therefore, the classic Hatvan-style forms are mixed with decorations like girland-motifs, several knobs, cross-hatched triangles, and the use of rich, multiple ornamental combinations can be observed too.

According to our recent knowledge, the late Hatvan distribution area can be placed approximately in the North up to the Ipoly river, in the South to Tiszaug and in the East as far as the Eger stream. The presented region and its sites are located nearby in this Eastern „border” area.

As part of my presentation I will focus on four Early and Middle Bronze Age tell settlements, which are situated at the Southern foothills of the Bükk mountains. The emphasis will be on typology of the ceramic material which has been excavated during the previous decades (1980s), but grants an excellent opportunity for the analysis to be made. From two settlements came a bigger ceramic material from former excavations, providing a fairly large sample for the test. The studied sites are the following: Bogács-Pázsagpuszta, Maklár-Baglyashalom, Novaj-Földvár and Szihalom-Földvár. The typological study will show that three of the four settlements have quite a homogeneous ceramic style, while the fourth is absolutely different. Furthermore, the geophysics research of the sites has also taken place in 2016 and offers a great potential to examine the inner structure of the settlements in order to get a wider picture of this area's settlement structure and to build it into our present knowledge.

Defensive settlements of the Otomani-Füzesabony Culture in the Wisłoka river basin.

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The Otomani-Füzesabony culture (OFC) is situated in the area of Carpathian Foothill (Pogórze Karpackie), extended from the basin of Dunajec to the basin of San rivers. There are both defensive as well as open settlements. The basin of Wisłoka river is recognized to be the most explored one, with regard to settlement aspects. There should be named especially two defensive settlements - Trzcinica dist. Jasło as well as Brzezówka dist. Tarnowiec. The fortified objects from the Wisłoka river basin are located on the steep promontories, placed near the biggest rivers.

Open settlements are also located on the acclivities. In all the explored settlements, there was discovered quite a thick cultural layer with few storage pits. What is characteristic, is the number of materials and archaeological objects, which were the most numerous in small, gully-shaped cavity areas. There were no clear building remainings in the explored areas in the form of, for example, burnt house floors or systems of postholes, characteristic for the OFC settlements in the northern part of the Carpathians. In Brzezówka and especially in Trzcinica, the fortifications, mostly in the construction aspect, were very well identified along with their development phases. Both strongholds consisted of the main ward (acropolis) and the other wards. In all the explored settlement areas in the basin of Wisłoka the defensive constructions were made of oak wood, making various combinations such as the walls of the ramparts or palisades. There were also discovered two entrance gates in Trzcinica. A big number of discovered artefacts having analogies in the Carpathian Valley and numerous radiocarbon dates allow to determine the chronology of these settlements (Trzcinica 1650-1350 BC, Brzezówka – XVIII century BC - ?), corresponding to classical, post-classical and final phases. In Trzcinica, the OFC settlement was preceded by a defensive settlement of Pleszów group belonging to Mierzanowicka culture (2100-1650 BC), which was taken over and rebuilt by the OFC. Moreover, there are well identified paleozoological materials and plant remains.

Bronze Age fortified settlement on Zyndram's Hill at Maszkowice (Polish Carpathians)

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Among many prehistoric hillforts of the Western Carpathians the one located at Maszkowice village displays unique traits. The site occupied hilltop plateau of a small promontory (ca 0.5 ha), called Zyndram's Hill and dominating over the Dunajec valley. Large scale excavations in 1960s and 1970s recognized numerous traces of the Late Bronze and Iron Age households, but it was not until 2010 that the new field project revealed well preserved remains of the

Otomani-Füzesabony culture settlement, including massive stone fortifications of its first building phase. The wall of the Zyndram's Hill is dated to 18th century BC being one of the earliest examples of defensive stone architecture in Europe outside Mediterranean. The history of the Early/Middle Bronze Age occupation can be divided into three building phases. During the second and third one the stone construction served as a retaining wall. Remains of a few hoes of this time survived and were subject of investigations in 2010-2017.

Fortified settlements and graveyard in Nižná Myšľa

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Fortified craft and peasant settlements were established in the area of Eastern Slovakia as a part of Ottoman-Füzesabony cultural complex (later on OFCC, approximately 1800 – 1400 BC). Soon, the production was wholly concentrated in these settlements and they started to play the role of social, administrative and power centers. Thanks to this, the character of the area was similar to that of an advanced civilization. Heavily fortified settlements with urban structure, cult places, burial grounds, material and spiritual culture – these all prove the creativeness, skills, and artistic feelings of past former inhabitants. The establishment and rise of fortified settlements in Eastern Slovakia were heavily influenced by the rapid development of non-ferrous metallurgy. This tendency is reflected in numerous grave goods found in the graves of the early Bronze Age Košťany culture. Apart from having an impact on local industry, the search for and the processing of local copper also caused the acceleration of social-economic development of the Košťany culture.

According to numerous artifacts and information gained from burials, the necropolis can be, without any doubt, dated to the later period of the early Bronze Age. First burials were placed at western uphill, where the systematic archaeological research was initiated in 1977 and are carried on under the supervision of Archeological Institute of Slovak Academy of Science till present days. Over time, the direction of burials continued eastwards, graves organized in almost regular rows. That is why the archaeological research was following similar direction pattern, and so the oldest burials have been discovered during first seasons. On the same uphill, about 200 meters south of the burial ground, an isochronal fortified settlement I was situated. No graves associated with later fortified settlement II, which finally overlaid earlier settlement and the necropolis, have been found until these days.

Fortified craft centers were gradually detached from the peasant settlements sometime in the earlier Bronze Age, about the 17th century BC. The change occurred all over the large area of the Carpathian Basin, and such economically prosperous centers brought not only the new

opportunities, but also cultural and trade contacts with both near and more distant territories. The significance of these settlements was huge, as they were also implicitly introducing new progressive conveniences coming from more advanced territories such as eastern Mediterranean, Anatolia or the East-European territories, western areas, even from the world outside the Carpathian Basin, from the north of the Carpathians to the Baltic area.

The OFCC was one of the most remarkable prehistoric civilisations in Central Europe. The development of already advanced OFCC in Eastern Slovakia was moved forward even more by the interference of OFCC people from Transylvania and upper Tisa basin. The first prehistoric settlement at Nizna Mysla was established at southern periphery of the mound. Steep slopes of the promontory were connected by the fortification, which consisted of massive rampart and about 6m deep V – shaped trench (twice rebuilt and widened). Considering prehistoric architecture, the right-angled single-room buildings were arranged into two rows and separated by an alley within the area of prehistoric village (about 50 x 60 m). In addition, they were built in parallel to the fortification itself. Houses themselves were probably of rustic character, including stone sustaining walls and clay floors. Clay ovens or slightly elevated hearths situated in either central or corner areas of the buildings were also regular part of interiors. In addition to rich ceramic findings, the inventory of houses included crushing instruments and ground stones, antler axes and hoes, clay weaving weights, whorls, spindles, and other artifacts made of stone, bronze, and bones. Such items signify that the settlement had both agricultural and craft character. Moreover, they indicate local processing of primary as well as secondary materials. Regarding ceramic artifacts, animal sculptures, small women statuettes, and the ceramic depot of jugs discovered underneath the floor of one of the houses are certainly the most remarkable items found at the site.

Due to double re-building of the fortification, it is presumed that the settlement I was inhabited continuously and for longer time. During the last phase of settlement re-building (dating to the early middle Bronze Age), the most extensive 20 m wide trench was deepened. Besides, older and possibly also slightly eroded earth rampart was reconstructed, and the new front wall strengthened by 1m thick layer of loess. The layer of the latest settlement horizon has been almost utterly destroyed by intense tillage in the area. The only signs of prior habitation are the structures of past recessed objects interfering into older habitation layer. Signs of similar objects, clay pits, storage and trash pits have been discovered at the glaxis of fortified settlement. It is very possible that the continuity of the settlement was not interrupted, not even by the destruction of the most lately built trench, in which numerous human bone fragments have been found. Following inhabitation is associated with new fortification settlement. This settlement II included not only the original area of settlement I, but also the burial ground that had been used during first 200 years of the settlement history.

Population growth and newcomers coming to this area during the beginning of the middle Bronze Age resulted in extensive building activity, and the original area of the settlement expanded almost sevenfold. Subsequently, almost 8 hectares of fortified area was achieved by

deepening a new trench and by constructing new ramparts made of stone, earth and wood. It was by this time that all the previous settlement structures and the graveyard lost their importance, and finally perished. Later fortified settlement II ceased to exist due to a devastating fire, after about 50 years of its existence. The Várhegy position has never been populated again.

„All humans are equal, but some are more equal than others“

Towards intra-site social organization at Spišský Štvrtok

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Regardless of the historical epoch, settlement as a community area represents space where took place regular day- and nightlife of people. Many aspects of the past human behavior and activities left traces which are mirrored in varying degrees through movable and immovable archaeological sources. In this respect, one of the topics which ignited the long-term interest of experts is undoubtedly the reconstruction of prehistoric social organization. Its interpretation is certainly a difficult issue of archaeological research, not only in the context of OFCC but also in the wider chronological framework of the Bronze Age.

More detailed answers to the questions regarding the hierarchy of society in the Early and Middle Bronze Age in the Carpathian region have been so far mostly sought in the context of cemeteries. Syntheses derived from settlements are rare and based almost exclusively on spatial analysis of settlement strategies or urban concepts of particular sites. In this sense, the character of sources from Spišský Štvrtok offers a unique opportunity to debate the intensity or form of social differentiation and stratification standing on the wider spectrum of indicia.

For the purpose of defining social structures in the area of fortified settlement in Spišský Štvrtok are usable different datasets. Those can indicate the hypothetical vertical and horizontal ranking of the local community. The results of qualitative and quantitative analyzes of material culture, craft production and specialization in correlation with the spatial distribution of intra-site activity areas bring the interesting model that can be fitted in the context of past development.

Settlement strategies at the end of Early Bronze Age in Eastern Slovakia

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Wide geographical distribution of the Otomani-Füzesabony cultural complex (OFCC) is not only reflected in the variability of material culture, but in logically determined diverse settlement strategies, as well. For a better understanding of the OFCC as a whole, it is necessary to analyze and compare settlement structure in its particular regions. In this regard, this contribution can be considered as a part of a mosaic which documents settlement network in the territory of eastern Slovakia. Taking into account current state of research, the database of more than 150 sites summarizes settlement strategies in the area which is defined by present geopolitical boundaries. Corpus mainly consists of settlement components and cemeteries, occasional findings in the different cultural environment are included as well.

Using a variety of GIS analytical tools and statistics we are able to evaluate settlement structure of the OFCC in Slovakia generally and with respect to regional enclaves. Subsequently, spatial-temporal model of settlement dynamics will be calculated. Presented dataset enables to formulate answers to many theoretical questions of current research connected with settlement structure, e. g. settlement density, site interactions, economy, environment etc. Simultaneously, it allows a comparison of settlement strategies among contemporary cultural entities which coexisted with OFCC in Carpathian Basin at the end of the Early Bronze Age.

Landscape and habitat in north-western Transylvania. Archaeological researches of the Middle Bronze Age tell Carei-Bobald (Satu Mare County, RO).

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The socio-archaeological study of the past societies— an ambitious, albeit difficult undertaking — offers new levels of understanding and interpreting of the social and economic evolution of prehistoric human communities. In spite of the undertaken research by fellow Romanian scholars and others, or the fact the study of habitat has been a popular activity for archaeologists, a lot of questions — for example the proper knowledge of the presumed internal organization or the social system — remains still unanswered.

The majority of the developed archaeological models presented in the literature are dominated by a top-down approach and involves an extrapolation from the strict archaeological record accepting a series of related anthropological concepts. The key of the problematic in our opinion is the archaeological field research not the theoretical modelling.

Our aim is to present the transformations and the dynamics of the Middle Bronze Age habitat unit formed by the Carei-Bobald tell and its satellite settlements. We combined cartographic data relating to the landscape (stored in a GIS) with the results of the systematic archaeological investigation and C14 measurements. Through this interdisciplinary approach we tried to provide a reliable frame for further detailed archaeological study. The archaeological study of these central settlements is a window on the historical development of

social complexity and hierarchy. Investigating the tell settlements, central habitat units of Middle Bronze Age north-western Transylvanian communities provides information about the division of space and possible land use strategies. The research is also based on the existing macro regional paleo-environmental data of the aforementioned territory and the neighboring regions.

Our approach represents the actual stage of research of the subject; the future field researches will bring new concluding evidence in this matter.

At the south-eastern edge of the Otomani- Füzesabony Cultural Complex

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It is well known, the one who proposed the name of the Otomani culture was I. Nestor in his synthesis *Der Stand der Vorgeschichtsforschung in Rumänien* published in 1933. In the context of the personal relations between Nestor and M. Roska, but also of the political ones at the beginning of the Second World War, the latter will use in 1941 the name Gyulavarsánd (the Hungarian name of Vărşand village). Since then, Romanian researchers use the name Otomani culture and Hungarian as the Gyulavarsánd culture. The small political sabotage of Roska has turned into an archeological diversion that we prefer to ignore. Like other colleagues who deal with the facts of the Bronze Age in the Carpathian Basin, we will use the more general notion of a cultural complex or the Otomani-Füzesabony ceramic style, as it also appears in the title of our conference.

In our presentation we want to reach only for two issues. In the beginning, we want to discuss about the south-eastern fringe of the Otomani-Füzesabony ceramic style, and then to present the results of recent years research on the Otomani-Füzesabony communities habitat in the Criş rivers Basin. We will not talk about its northern area, which covers the Carei Plain and the Ier Valley, which is the subject of another communication.

Tell-site of Toboliu "Dâmbu Zănăcanului" (Bihar County), Otomani-Fuzesabony

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Abstract: The tell site at Toboliu *Dâmbu Zănăcanului* (also known in the specialized literature as Girișu de Criș - *Alceu*) is located 2,4 km east of the modern village of Toboliu, in Bihor County. The site was discovered at the beginning of the 20th century, but archaeological excavations were conducted here in several campaigns much later, in 60s and the 70s. However, the results of these excavations were either unpublished or very limited. New investigations, consisting of excavations, core drilling and other non-intrusive methods (topographic survey, aerial photography, systematic survey, resistivity profiling, and geomagnetic scanning) were started in 2014. Subsequently, the research was resumed in 2015, 2016 and 2017. Regarding the actual excavations, three trenches were dug. The first trench (7x5 m) was located in the area of maximum elevation. The second trench (4x2 m) overlapped an old archaeological trench and was intended as means of verifying and comparing old and new results. The third trench (7x5 m) was excavated in the eastern part of the mound. As the site was briefly used as a cemetery in modern times, some disturbances in the upper Bronze Age layers were identified, especially in the central area of the mound. In the third trench, an older archaeological excavation was identified, disturbing as well the prehistoric layers. Nevertheless, the recent excavations yielded significant results in regards to the stratigraphy of the site, the relative and absolute chronology, as well as the material culture of the Bronze Age community which inhabited the settlement. A large collection of artefacts (pottery, bones, tools, adornments, etc) was recovered. Also, a considerable amount of data in relation to various structures was obtained.

Positive results were also acquired through non-intrusive investigations, especially in regards to the defensive elements and the surface covered by the outer *satellite* settlement.

Die mittlere Bronzezeit in der Transkarpatien (Ukraine)

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Die mittlere Bronzezeit (Reinecke BrA1-B1) ist auf der Territorium heutige Transkarpatien mit zwei Kulturen verbunden: Otomani-Füzesabony und Suciú de Sus/ Felsőszocs/Stanovo. Vom geographischen Gesichtspunkt umfasst die Arbeitsgebiet drei geomorphologischen Einheiten: die Transkarpatische Niederung, Solotvinobecken und Vyhorlat-Hutin-Kette. Die erste Berichte über der Funden (Bronzen, Siedlungen und Graberfeldern) der mittlere Bronzezeit stammen aus der zweite Hälfte 19. Jahrhunderts (T. Lehoczky, J. Michalik, J. Hampel). Wichtige Angaben enthalten über diesen Problematik auch die Arbeiten von J. Jankovich, J. Bohm, J. und E. Zatlukal, F. Potusnjak und auch E. Balahuri.

Die Otomani-Füzesabony-Kultur ist in westliche Teil Transkarpatien verbreitet. Beim heutigen Forschungsstand lassen sich folgende Siedlungstypen feststellen: offene Siedlungen (Zabolottja), Siedlungen vom Inseltyp in Sumpfgebiet (Didovo-Tovar) und Siedlungen auf Bergnasen im Hugel- (Berehovo-Mala Hora) oder Bergland (Vynohradovo-Kankov). Wir haben bis heute Zeit keine Angaben über den Siedlungsstruktur, Grabfelder oder Gräber. Die Schlussphase der mittleren Bronzezeit (nach Reineke BB1) in Transkarpatien wird mit der frühen Phase der Stanovo-Kultur verbunden. In Arbeitsgebiet sind aus dieser Zeitstufe nur Siedlungen (Kvasovo-Velykyj Jarok, Djakovo-Kiserdo, Solotvino-Citattja) und Hortfunden (Kolodne I, Podhorjany II, Djakovo I, Bustyno) bekannt. Die Siedlungen sind verschiedene Typen: Siedlungen vom Inseltyp in Fluswindungen (Djakovo-Kiserdo); befestigte Siedlungen auf oberen Flussterrassen (Solotvino-Citattja) oder Hugel (Kvasovo-Velykyj Jarok). In Kvasovo wurde nur Oberflächbauten, in Djakovo auch Wohngrube aufgedeckt. Für die Keramik ist typisch die verschiedenartige Ritzlinie, besonders spiralförmige Motive. Die erste Phase Suciú de Sus/Felsőszöcs/Stanovo-Kultur entspricht der Periode Reineke BrB1 oder wahrscheinlich auch Br A2. Mit seinem Siedlungsareal sind folgende Hortfunden verbunden: Kispalad I, Zajta, Apa, Sapinta, Bila Cerkva, Bustyno, Djakovo I, Kolodne I, Podhorjany II.

Burial place of the Bronze Age horses in the burial-mound near Husiatyn Ternopil Region (by results of archeological excavations 2015).

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The article shows the results of rescue archaeological investigations of the burial-mound near the town of Husiatyn, Ternopil Region. In particular the article tells about ritual burial of pair of horses. Description of the burial complex and implements is given.

Key words: burial-mound, rescue investigations, bronze age, burial of horses.