

Reg. No: 2015/18/E/HS3/00031; Principal Investigator: dr Anna Strobin

Establishing new research team involving experts on different fields aims at interdisciplinary evaluation of the archaeological materials from excavations on the Łarnowiec Heights, in Brzyno, Puck district. During four excavation seasons over 230 features were discovered on the site, most of all burials from 1st cent. BC to 6th cent. AD. All planned specialist analyses in natural and exact science as well as domestic and international consultations with experts in their fields aim at thorough and innovative development of the source material. The final stage of the project is preparation of the study for publication, which involves dissemination of highly valuable scientific material. The project implementation will contribute substantially to further study of ancient Pomeranian communities, their transregional contacts with the Celtic world, Roman provinces and Scandinavia.

Within the project two main research objectives are planned. Task 1 includes specialist analyses: anthropological of bones from graves in order to determine the age and sex of individuals, textile remains, technological analysis of metal finds as well as botanical analysis of wood from coffins and charcoals from cremation pits. In addition to the latter, radiocarbon analysis will be performed in order to determine relative chronology of the features dated on the basis of their inventory. Task 2 involves all works connected with summary, evaluation and preparation for publication.

Dissemination of the research project results will allow to make sound assumptions on the lifestyle and material culture of ancient societies, their transregional interactions as well as social and cultural changes in Pomerania. Of great importance is also the possibility to make observations, on the basis of the research, on various cultural aspects - from trade networks and production technologies up to anthropological and demographic issues. The possibility to reconstruct ancient populations inhabiting the south coast of the Baltic Sea, their attire and craft, is one of the crucial results of the project, not only in its regional aspect.

Modern study of this slightly forgotten part of Pomerania - the Łarnowiec Heights - is anticipated by Polish as well as Scandinavian and German scientists. Another reason behind the study and development of the research results from the year 2011-2014 is the preservation of the Pomeranian cultural heritage from destruction and oblivion.