

# SIEMIECHÓW SITE 2, PROVINCE OF ŁÓDŹ. PRZEWORSK CULTURE CEMETERY AND SETTLEMENT

## SUMMARY

Site 2 in Siemiechów, Łask district was discovered in 1968 during surface exploration performed by the Museum of Pabianice City under the supervision of Maria Jażdżewska. It is located on the sandy, east edge of proglacial stream valley of the Warta river and it expands along the oxbow lake which borders the settlement zone in the north.

In July 1970 first probe excavations began as a result of which a few settlements of Przeworsk Culture of Roman influences were discovered. Excavations were resumed in June 1974 and lasted until 2002 with short breaks. Their effect was exploration of huge area of the settlement from early old period of Roman influences. During these works parts of cemetery of Przeworsk Culture from early Pre-Roman and early Roman Period were explored. In total archaeological research covered the area of 80 acres on which 70 graves and 407 various settlement features were discovered.

## ENVIRONMENTAL CONDITIONS ON SITE 2 IN SIEMIECHÓW

In terms of geophysical as well as geomorphological division site 2 in Siemiechów is located within Szczerców Valley. The discussed terrain is located in the middle tide of the Warta river, on the old glacier terrain. Processes taking place in Wolstonian Stage, Eemian Stage, Vistulian and Holocene Period were vital to geological structure and morphology of the terrain. Contemporary drainage system is a consequence of Pleistocene landform processes as well as Mesozoic tectonics. The shape of Warta valley represents a type of advanced fluvial landform with its characteristic valley and fluvial terrace level layout linked with denudation valley system and erosional slope cuts. The site of interest to us is located on the plenivistulian terrace. Its main part occupies the clearly visible in morphology terrace "peninsula" constricted by the paleomeander cuts. Further settlement objects continue in the east along the paleomeander edge constricting the site on the north. The site surface consists of fluvial unsorted sand. The fragment of upper terrace, on which the site is located, ascends 5 meters above the vast lower terrace. The lower terrace plain, which is located in the direct neighbourhood of the site, is diversified by the traces of paleo riverbeds and forms of possible anthropogenic origin, such as: road cuts, ditches and ponds.

Presently, the Warta river bed is located in the distance of 760 m from the site. The site location is marked by the geodiversity in terms of its geological and geomorphological features. Site inhabitants, in the distance of up to 1,5 km, had access to various dwellings, such as swamps and Warta river meander stripe through lower terrace built of organic-mineral sediments, sandy upper terrace, and finally clay valley slopes. Further, up to 3 km, there are morain uplands and outliers built of upper Jurassic limestone. Population inhabiting the site in Siemiechów in Roman Period had wide access to various landscape zones which enabled development of multidirectional farming as well as collecting, hunting and fishing. There was also a wide range of natural resources of animal, plant and rock origin, such as: leather, bones, antlers, various types of wood, cane, peat, sands, chippings, clay, iron ore and carbonate rocks. Certainly, the choice of location of the site in Siemiechów can be explained by sandy foundation of the vast river terrace. The location was especially favourable because of ease of embedding elements of archaeological objects in the ground. It concerns homesteads and farm objects. The site occupied very attractive terrain from the point of view of location as well as positive aspects of surrounding natural environment which enabled the development of multidirectional productivity. Thus, it could be the basis of population development throughout centuries.

## CEMETERY

Cemetery is located in the west side of the site, on the edge of flood fringe of the Warta river. The excavations were conducted in the years 1980-1984 and in 1994. Their effect was appointment and exploration of 70 graves which covered the area of 9 acres. Its south part was not explored due to huge forestation. Part of the site was also damaged in 1944 when it was cut by still existing, wide and deep anti-tank ditch. During these works a few graves were also damaged from which few objects were given to the Museum of Archaeology in Poznań, possibly with the descriptive label "Rychłocice". The cemetery is known in literature because of numerous publications in which some more interesting cemeteries are mentioned, especially grave 25 in which a unique late-celtic helmet was discovered.

Area data analysis allowed to correct the number of excavated graves. For this reason we believe that excavations allowed to discover 67 untouched grave complexes as well as one on the cycled deposit. Chronologically we can assign 31 graves to early Pre-Roman Period, one to the transition period  $A_3/B_1$  and 35 to early period of Roman influences.

Pit graves were a dominating burial form in early Pre-Roman Period. 29 graves often characterized by black filling were classified as such. Inside there are usually sherds of pottery, which were reburied on the crematory pile, as well as metal objects. Characteristic feature of these graves is a small amount of burnt human bones, even lack of them, which was observed in a few graves. For sure this is the effect of strong bone burning. A few graves of this period are distinguished by rich filling. These are the graves of warriors: grave 12, 24 and 25 as well as grave 67 from the transition period  $A_3/B_1$ . Grave 10 is also worth noticing because of its female contents.

Early Roman Period is characterized by the change of burial tradition. Graves' forms become more varied, grave pits are of smaller size and do not contain so much wood coal, thus, often becoming illegible. A balance between the amount of pit graves and urn graves can be observed. Their fills rarely contain black, burnt humus with charcoal. More often brown humus can be observed. In some cases the grave size is determined by the scope of burnt bones and equipment. A few urn graves are

characterized by a specific construction. The urn is covered by a large amount of well burnt and deformed parts of dishes from the crematory pile. This occurrence can be observed in the neighbouring cemeteries in Strobin, Konopnica and nearby Kolonia Rychłocice. In urn grave category 10 graves are distinguished by the contents which show the sex of the buried people. Four of them are characterized by typical male contents, that is, the elements of armament, while in the remaining 6 typical female contents were found, usually in the form of spindle whorl, chest fittings and caskets.

Discovered material allows to assign two basic groups of burials in terms of chronological division. The first group consisting of 32 graves is from early Pre-Roman Period, the second group of 36 graves is from the early Roman influences Period. More precise chronological division was made within both groups due to the appearance of a large number of materials occurring in a specific period. One burial was categorised as a transition period  $A_3/B_1$ , turn of early Pre-Roman period and early Roman influences Period.

A large group of graves possessing features of phase  $A_2$  MOP begins the oldest phase of cemetery. It consists of 17 burials in which there are type C, H and K pins, iron belt buckle of hinge construction, armament elements in the form of type W.1A single edged sword and type I/1 double edged sword, type A/1 arrowhead, B.1A, B.3/4 and B.5 umbo fragments as well as phase 1 and 2 pottery of Przeworsk Culture according to T. Dąbrowska. These are the graves number 1, 3, 4, 5, 7, 10, 12, 16, 21, 24, 27, 29, 30, 31, 32, 33 and 34.

Phase  $A_3$  is the next stage of cemetery functioning and consists of 14 graves. Its indicator are type M and N pins, type III/5 sword, L/3 arrowhead, type B.5 umbo, east-celtic type of helmet as well as phase 3 pottery of Przeworsk Culture. Graves belonging to this group are: 2, 11, 17, 20, 22, 25, 49, 50, 53, 54, 63, 64, 66 and 70.

Only one grave no. 67 is connected with the transition phase  $A_3/B_1$ . It contains type B.7 umbo and type F 1 and type H arrowheads. Only one grave no. 23 with B2 type spur can be dated to phase  $B_{1a}$ . A much larger group of graves can be dated to a larger scope of  $B_1$  phase of Roman Period. Type A 68 brown pins, type IV 1 highly profiles pins as well as AIII A series brown pins are indicators of the phase. 18 graves were dated to this period: 9, 13, 14, 18, 19, 26, 28, 37, 45, 47, 48, 55, 56, 57, 58, 59, 61 and 65.

One grave no. 44 can be dated to the turn of phase  $B_1-B_{2a}$ . It contains type B single edge sword as well as type I 2 arrowhead. One grave no. 36 can be dated to phase  $B_{2b}$ . Its chronological indicator is an iron pin belonging to group 5 type 123, type 7a umbo with a long blunt spike as well as type J9 handle which are typical elements of the armament found in group IV graves. Thus, this grave closes the exploitation period of the cemetery.

6 graves can be placed in the wider scope of  $B_2$  phase: 6, 8, 15, 40, 41 and 62. Unfortunately they lack proper chronological indicators. Therefore, the dating is based on stylistic features of pottery, type II variety 1, type VI variety 1 and type VIII variety 3 arrowheads which were found in graves 6 and 8. However, these objects do not allow specific dating.

Graves no. 35, 38, 39(?), 42, 43, 46, 51, 60, 68 and 69 are briefly dated to early Roman Period. Their contents do not allow to define specific chronology for this period.

The cemetery was set up in phase  $A_2$  of early Pre-Roman Period and was functioning until the end of early Roman Period. In absolute years the time of functioning of this necropolis is from the beginning of the second half of the 2<sup>nd</sup> century BC until half of the 2<sup>nd</sup> century AD, that is about 300 years. Horizontal stratigraphy of graves' placement is perfectly visible on this cemetery. The older phase of early Pre-Roman Period is located in the west edge of the site, while the younger phase of early Roman Period is visibly moved in the east direction.

## **BONE REMAINS AS A SOURCE OF INFORMATION ABOUT BIOLOGICAL STATE OF PREHISTORIC HUMAN POPULATION FROM PRZEWORSK CULTURE CEMETERY IN SIEMIECHÓW, SITE 2**

Material for anthropological analysis consisted of cremation human bone remains from 51 graves, 18 of which originated in Early Pre-Roman period, and 33 from early Roman period. Tables 1 and 2 present the most essential information about the form and chronology of a grave, bone remains weight, their burning degree, their state of preservation, the sex and age of the deceased as well as general comments related to the presence of charcoal, animal bones and pathological changes.

Among all grave features tested, 32 are pit graves which constitute 62,7%, one urn-pit grave (2%) as well as 18 urn graves (35,3%), one of which was double urn grave. In the older phase of cemetery functioning there were only pit graves. An urn-pit grave with few remains under the umbo was an exception. In early phase a division into urn (18) and pit (15) graves can be observed.

Anthropological analysis enabled identification of 52 Przeworsk Culture graves, which belong to the most common ones.

The state of preservation of the analysed bone remains was bad in 46,1% cases, in 23,1% it was determined as very weak and in 7,7% as weak. The bones were highly fragmented and deprived of diagnostic parts. In 15,4% cases the state of preservation was determined as sufficient while in 7,7% as average. Bone remains from the older phase of cemetery functioning, found in pit graves solely, present the worst state of preservation.

Analysis of burnt bone remains weight showed great diversity. Its scope comprises between 4,0 g and 2442,0 g, with average of 360,0 g.

Analysis of bone remains burning degree showed that in over a half of graves tested (59,6%), the burning degree was very high, in 21,1% cases high, in 17,3% cases the burning degree of osteological material was determined as very high and high, in one case it was uneven (2,0%), that is, apart from the presence of very highly and highly burnt bone remains, bones of weaker burning degree were found.

Anthropological analysis of bone remains showed the presence of burnt animal bones in the graves. Animal bone addition was detected in 33 graves, which constitutes 63,5%. It was determined in both urn and pit graves, as well as in male, female and children's graves.

Possible age and sex structure of the buried people was recreated and presented in table 3. Remains of 52 people were buried on the studied part of the cemetery. Available anthropological sources do not allow the whole population size to be estimated as

the cemetery was not entirely studied and some part of material has been lost. The state of preservation of the remains allowed sex determination of 17 humans, which constitutes 37,8% of the total identified persons. 8 male (17,8%) and 9 female (20,0%) were identified. Sex of 28 humans (62,2%) was not determined. Among them 5 humans were categorized as *infans I*, *infans II* and *infans I/iuvenis* as well as 23 adult humans. Due to the bad state of preservation of the remains it was not possible to determine sex and age in 7 persons.

Mortality rate analysis in the determined age groups showed that its peak fell for *adultus* age class (55,3%). The deceased percentage in the *maturus* age class was 33,5%. Mortality rate among children within *infans I* + *infans II* age class was 10,0% with dominating *infans I* age class (6,7%), that is children between 0-6,9 years old. No representatives of the oldest age group, *senilis* (over 55 years old), were observed in the studied population. Whereas mortality rate analysis among the sex showed a high rate of male (68,7%) and female deaths (56,1%) in *adultus* age class.

Based on individual age determinations in extremis, average age was calculated for male and female over 20 years of age. The average is 31,8 and 35,3 respectively with the difference of 3,5 years. After adding adult persons among the same sex, the average increased to 33,8 years in case of male group whereas in group of females it remained unchanged, that is, 35,5 years. The difference decreased of 1,7 years. The average age of the deceased buried on the studied cemetery, for both male and female, is 35,7 years. However, after adding male humans the average decreased to 34,7 years.

Pathological changes as well as anatomic variations visible on the bone fragments constituted a significant complement of the studied prehistoric group characteristics. Lesions as well as anatomic variations of skeletal system were detected in 18 humans (34,6%). The most common group of illnesses was degenerative and deformative arthritis of spine. Apart from that a small degenerative change was observed in a knee joint. Additionally, a lesion caused by excessive overcharge of shoulder girdle was observed in two persons. An example of temporomandibular joint pathology was detected. Illness stress markers as well as nutritional stress markers, which include *cribra orbitalia* and *porotic hyperostosis*, were observed. Additionally, the case of pre-mortem loss of grinder from jaw.

The most interesting finding was burnt permanent tooth root with a small, pendant pivot in the shape of a cone – in place of a completely damaged tooth crown – also visible in the radiological photo which showed the morphology of the tooth canal characteristic for an adult person (fig. 70, 71). The tooth root was found among the burnt remains of a male who died at the *adultus* age (25-35 years) in grave 14 which is dated to early Roman influence period (B<sub>2</sub>). Morphological structure of the root shows it is left maxilla lateral incisor (I2). Specialized analysis using fluorescence X-radiation method as well as microscopic scanning and X-radiation microanalysis (SEM/EDS) was conducted in order to verify hypothesis of natural provenance of the conical structure in the tooth root.

## ANIMAL REMNANTS FROM THE CEMETERY OF PRZEWORSK CULTURE POPULATION IN SIEMIECHÓW, SITE 2

Animal remnants discovered on the cemetery of Przeworsk Culture population in Siemiechów were developed by means of standard methodology used in archaeozoological analysis (E. J. Reitz, E. Wing 1999, A. Lasota-Moskalewska 2008). Osteological material consisting of the bones of mammals and birds was analysed. The material was found in 32 cremation pits and urn graves dated to Early Pre Roman Period (8 objects) and Early Roman Period (24 objects). Almost all analysed remnants had traces of burning. Bone fragmentation, cracking type, deformation, porosity as well as colour indicate that they were exposed to high temperature. Unburnt remnants appeared only in two sets.

Among the identified bones there are only (or almost only) remnants of mammals and farm birds (table 1 and 2). Pig and domestic hen remnants were the most numerous. Pig's remnants were found in at least 18 graves, while the remnants of domestic hen appeared in 8 graves. Furthermore, skeleton elements of galliformes (possibly a hen) were indicated in grave 44 (urn 2). Bird bones from grave 56 were also identified as domestic hen. It is the most numerous kind of bird which appears on the cemetery, only in one grave (37) goose remnants were found, however, it is not possible to identify the exact kind.

The presence of sheep and goat remnants was detected in 7 graves, however, only in one it was possible to identify the exact kind of the remnants. They belonged to a sheep. Additionally, fragments of young animal vertebrae, probably young ruminant or a pig, were found in one of the graves (25). Presence of fragments of cattle skeletal system and teeth were seldom observed. They were identified only in four graves. Concomitance of domestic hen as well as other mammals' bones in the same grave, especially pig's, was regularly observed.

The analysed animal remnants discovered on the cemetery in Siemiechów should be perceived as the remains of ritual practices associated with funeral rite. They appeared on the cremation pile and consequently in latter grave procedures as a result of funeral participants' deliberate action. They could as well represent traces of ritual funeral feasts, food for the deceased or be associated with the sacrificial acts.

## SETTLEMENT

The settlement of Przeworsk Culture located on site 2 in Siemiechów expands along the oxbow lake of the Warta River. Archaeological research led to discovery of a fragment of settlement which scope is limited by the edge of flood valley of the Warta River from the west, in the north by oxbow lake, in the east its scope was reached by the archeological excavations. It can be said that it extends to about 300 meters. The south border of the settlement remains undefined as the nearby forest prevented the archaeological research of this terrain. During all the years of research 407 settlement features were discovered, from which 48 were subterranean features, 82 hearts – fires, 89 various settlement pits, 6 lime kilns, 1 pottery kiln, 4 kilns of undefined function, 6 ceramics clusters, 3 stone clusters, 1 daub cluster as well as 167 postholes could be distinguished. The settlement is known in the archaeological literature due to preliminary discussion of the terrain works or the publishing of some of the feature categories.

Subterranean features can be divided into two basic groups: group 1 which consists of features without post construction and group 2 which gathers features with traces of post construction in both regular and scattered pattern.

Group 1, which includes 17 features, are numbers 1, 2, 71, 72, 80, 81, 82, 89, 94, 120, 148, 249, 259, 265, 278, 290 and 297. The group is varied in terms of size. There are relatively small features of about 3,3 m<sup>2</sup> (feature 249) as well as big ones of about 22 m<sup>2</sup> (feature 81). However, most features are of size between 10 and 17 m<sup>2</sup>.

The outline of their fills is usually rectangular (or similar) and oval.

In case of group 2 features with the traces of post construction, which consists of 31 buildings, their construction is more varied and complicated. For this reason the suggested division into types A-D should be treated as one of the possibilities. The appearance of posts which functioned as sokha (types A-B) or lack of them (type C-D) were considered as a starting point in this classification.

Type A is characterized by the traces of 1 to 5 posts, from which only one could function as sokha. These are features: 78, 113, 130, 145, 174, 181, 260, 328, 339 and 381 where the function was served by the post in the vertical wall.

Type B is represented by the features in which roof is supported by two sokhas. The most common pattern is the appearance of three posts in vertical walls while the middle ones support the roof. This type of arrangement was observed in features 77, 129, 151, 153 and 263.

Type C is represented by 8 subterranean features which are characterized by the appearance of two or four posts located in the corners of the building. The group contains double post features 258, 269 and 382 as well as four post features 159, 188, 257, 327 and probably 247.

Type D is characterized by the presence of a greater number of postholes in regular arrangement. It appears in only one feature 356. It is a big pit of 27,4 m<sup>2</sup> which is divided into two parts, around which, traces of 13 postholes were observed on the outside and inside.

On terrain research stage hearths were observed in a few huts. However, during data verification, in most cases, they turned out to be fragments of backfill layer of the feature with traces of burning and small, burnt stones. It appeared there as a result of destruction process, from its higher parts covering the roof.

In two cases in Siemiechów site additional equipment was observed in the dugout buildings. In feature 77, in the central part of the dugout, there was a small basement of 110 cm in diameter, 130 cm deep. Similar situation can be observed in case of feature 327 where in the central part there is also a basement of 120 cm in diameter and nearly 150 cm deep.

The question about the function of each partly subterranean house arises. Their construction and size variety indicates their various function. The smallest feature no. 249, which has 3,3 m<sup>2</sup>, can be treated as a storage building. Features 77 and 327 are probably pantries. In case of the remaining features their functional identification is more difficult due to the small amount of material. More contemporary literature rejects the possibility of living in partly subterranean houses throughout the whole year. It is believed that big, ground houses were used in the warmer seasons of the year, while the subterranean buildings were used as pantries, storage buildings or workshops where distaffs and looms were used. Dugout buildings could be used as houses only in cold seasons or in case of a danger.

Hearths and bonfires were places of burning open fire. Their distinguishing feature is presence or absence of stone construction. In total 82 such features were discovered, 71 of which possess a stone construction. Hearths and bonfires formed an isolated zone in the north-east part of the settlement, next to the flood fringe of the Warta River. Behind the zone there were dugout buildings. The question about their function arises. It can be said that at least part of them could be used as charcoal kilns, places where charcoal was burnt. The others could be used for various activities in which warmth source is indispensable, such as grain drying-chamber, smokehouse etc.

Six lime kilns come from the settlement in Siemiechów. All of them were built out of stones which formed the walls of the underground part of each kiln. Inside the fill there was a layer of burnt clay which lingered in the higher part of the kiln. It was a remnant of the overground part of the kiln which originally formed a kind of a dome. Inside the kilns there were traces of burning as well as cracks on the stones which were the effect of high temperature.

Pottery kiln is the only such object discovered in the settlement. It is characterized by dual chamber construction with a pit next to it. The kiln had a shape of an extended rectangle with rounded north part which size was 510 x 290 cm. In the north-west part there was a burning chamber of 160 cm in diameter. It was preserved up to 100 cm high. Its thickness was 11-12 cm. Moreover, it had a slightly tilted wall into its centre which was made of brick-red burnt clay. This construction was additionally supported by the vertical poles on the outside, and by the pasted fragments of pottery on the inside. Burning chamber was probably covered on top by the dome with ventilating holes and its rubbish heap was lingering in most part of the kiln. The burning chamber was separated from the fire by 17-19 cm thick clay grate, which was preserved only by the kiln walls. Openings in the grate were 6 cm in diameter. The grate was supported by thickened support from underneath, while stone-clay partition was supporting the grate and dividing the fire into two separate chambers with the common opening. The partition was 22-24 cm thick and 36 cm tall. The bottom of the kiln as well as the bottom of the opening channel were made of clay which was only a little burnt during its exploitation. The kiln shows resemblance to those from Małopolska Province from Igołomia-Zofiopol region, as well as those from Upper and Lower Silesia.

Artifactual material consists of sherds of pottery, among which only a small part could be fully or partially reconstructed. There are about 25 000 sherds in the collection, half of which were discovered in the archaeological features. It became the basis of a detailed typological and chronological analysis of pottery material found on the settlement. In terms of technology the collection from the settlement in Siemiechów can be divided into two basic categories. The first and most numerous category includes handmade pottery, which can also be divided into two further groups. Group I includes the so called table pottery and group II, the so called kitchen pottery. Ceramics made on potter's wheel can be divided into three groups. Group I is pottery and its shreds of smooth, grey, light brown and black colour, group II is pottery of rough surface, grey and brown colour, and group III is pottery of rough surface, coated, storage with thick walls as well as thickened and widened edge.

As a result of morphological analysis of the whole collection of handmade pottery, six vessel groups were distinguished within table pottery (group A, B, C, D, E and F) and one group within kitchen pottery (group G), taking into account their functional and morphological differences.

Morphological analysis of ceramics made on potter's wheel (group I) enabled division into five vessel groups (A-E). Among the ceramic material of group II only one group of vessels was distinguished, classified as pots (group E). Group F consists of storage vessels made on potter's wheel. Discovered fragments of storage ceramics belong to two types of vessels. The first type is represented only by few fragments found in the fill of feature 119 – pottery kiln. These are sherds of slightly thickened vessel rims which were curled outside with flagon-shaped, ornamented body. From technological point of view they are close to type 2 vessels. The main difference is in size and rim form. Type 2 consists of large vessel forms with wide necks, Krausengefasse type. Twelve types of rims can be distinguished among them.

Worth noticing is ornamentation of ceramics made on potter's wheel (Group IB), which was made with comb tool, in a shape of horizontal, wavy lines which were constricted with small yielding molding of triangular section as well as cylindrical stamp creating band sequences also constricted with yielding molding, repeated on different levels of the vessel. This ornamental motif has a form of crosshatched alternating triangles. This particular ornament has a direct reference to provincial Roman ceramics ornamentation from north Galician workshop where it is present on hemispherical type 37 Dragendorff bowls and is characteristic for the second half of 3<sup>rd</sup> until the half of 5<sup>th</sup> century. This ornamentation manner spread widely on the area of "barbaricum". It is also present in east Europe in Chernyakhov Culture as an imitation of ornamentation of late provincial Roman vessels, which are defined in literature as "Argonnensigilata" and can be observed in Europe, from south Britain to north Italy.

Inhabitants of the settlement were occupied with agriculture and breeding, which can be proved by the archaeological material in form of a few iron and stone agricultural tools as well as animal bones which analysis indicates the presence of cattle, pig, horse and a sheep. Among wild animal bones the most domineering position have bones of a deer, then a doe and a boar. One of the processes conducted on the settlement was lime burning and it is believed that its product was of great importance in the breeding process. Lime was used in animal breeding, as a medicament, and in tanning.

The presence of different types of kilns on the settlement in Siemiechów required fuel supplies in order to conduct production processes. The fuel was charcoal acquired in the process of dry distillation of wood in charcoal kilns. Traces of this process can be seen in a complex of hearths situated in the north part of the settlement.

Pottery is clearly visible on the presented settlement. Despite the presence of sherds of vessels which are a proof of this branch of production, there is also a potter's wheel.

Ceramics, both handmade as well as made on potter's wheel, is the basic artefactual material for defining settlement's chronology. In case of metal artifacts there are only two clasps A, VI 158 and 162, A which are characterized by long chronology, between phases C<sub>1b</sub>-C<sub>2</sub>-D<sub>1</sub>, as well as type G2 spur which is chronologically situated in the scope of early-late period of Roman influences.

The oldest are features in which fills of ceramics made on potter's wheel is not present, while handmade ceramics is represented by group G type 2, 5 and 6, which analogically can be dated from the end of phase B2 to early-late period of Roman influences. These are features no. 1, 258, 259 and 260. They indicate the moment of the settlement's establishment which can be dated to the beginning of early period of Roman influences (phase I). A large group of features are those in which fills fragments of ceramics made on potter's wheel as well as handmade ceramics with traces of early Roman influences period can be observed. These are vessels of group A type 1 and 2, group G type 1 and 5, which are observed on many early-late Roman period influences settlements. They are present in dugout features no. 72, 77, 78, 148, 159, 174, 188, 297, 327, 328, 345, 356 and 381 as well as in hearths no. 13, 18, 32, 279 and 298.

Pottery wheel ceramics appeared on the area of Przeworsk Culture in phase C1a and its popularization took place in phase C1b of Roman influences period. Thus, it can be stated that phase II of the settlement is phase C<sub>1</sub>-C<sub>2</sub> of early-late Roman period. Phase III of the settlement was distinguished on the basis of the presence of group B type 1 cups, made on potter's wheel, in the fills of the features. These vessels were produced in the pottery workshop on the settlement and burnt in the pottery kiln. They were found in the dugout features no. 82, 113, 120, 145, 149, 181, 247, 248, 265, 286 and 382 as well as in hearth no. 38, 43, 95 and 279, and in pottery kiln (feature 119). This settlement phase chronology is defined as phase D<sub>1</sub> of early human migration period. To sum up, it can be stated that the settlement in Siemiechów was established at the beginning of early Roman influences period and was functioning at least until early phase of human migration period (phase D<sub>1</sub>). Thus, it was inhabited in the first decades of 3<sup>rd</sup> century and was functioning until about a half of 4<sup>th</sup> century AD.

The dugout building arrangement from respective settlement phases unequivocally indicates that it is large and long-lasting settlement complex covering the area of at least a few hectares. Dugout archaeological features were identified on this area. They were located around the Warta river oxbow lake along 300 m. Fragmentary state of the research does not allow to recognize the settlement's full buildings and special organization as well as the whole spectrum of issues related to particular feature's function, especially its habitable and farming nature and internal division related to homestead system.

## CONCLUSION

Site 2 in Siemiechów is a very interesting archaeological feature combining cemetery with settlement. These establishments are not contemporary to each other, however, they provided important material for learning about settlements of Przeworsk Culture population by the mid Warta river. Very interesting cemetery from early Pre-Roman period and early Roman influences period with clear Celtic Culture influences makes it unique among Przeworsk Culture findings. As regards the settlement from early Roman period – early human migration period, it is distinguished by the presence of pottery kiln, in which unique ceramics made on potter's wheel was burnt.

