

The Subneolithic of Central Mazovia in the Light of Archival Collections of the State Archaeological Museum in Warsaw

For decades, the areas of Central Mazovia have remained outside the main scope of interest for researchers dealing with the issues of the Neolithic period, particularly the dominant subneolithic groups associated with various culturally defined phenomena, such as the 'Linin-type comb-pit ceramic culture,' the 'Linin horizon,' the 'Neman culture,' or the 'Neman cultural circle.' These territories also represent a transitional space between two distinct cultural and environmental regions – on one hand, influenced by 'classical' agrarian Neolithic groups of Western Europe, and on the other hand, constituting the domain of the latest hunter-gatherer groups.

The first and, at the same time, the latest study of subneolithic materials from Central Mazovia is owed to the outstanding figure of Elżbieta Kempista. Unfortunately, the research results presented in the canonical article from 1972, published in the journal *Wiadomości Archeologiczne* (Vol. XXXVII, No. 4, pp. 411-483), were based solely on the analysis of ceramic sources, completely disregarding flint artifacts.

This project represents an attempt to comprehensively analyze all categories of sources related to the presence of subneolithic communities in the area of interest. As part of the research, the plan is to study materials from over 60 sites, currently housed in the collections of the State Archaeological Museum. The main outcome of these studies will be a book publication jointly prepared by the Department of Archaeology at the University of Warsaw, the Podlaskie Museum in Białystok, and the State Archaeological Museum in Warsaw."

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