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#### ARCHAEOLOGY

### LATE SCYTHIAN NECROPOLIS **CHERVONY MAYAK:** 10 YEARS OF EXPLORATION

Abstract: The Late Scythian archaeological complex Chervony Mayak (past name is Bizyukiv monastery) is situated near the eponymous village of Beryslav district in Kherson region. It consists of the hill-fort and burial ground and is the historical and cultural site of national importance (by official ranking). The site is known since the nineteenth century. It was mentioned in the works of prince Myshetsky and N.F. Nogachevsky. The first plan of the hill-fort was taken by the military engineer A.P. Chirkov, and Kherson archaeologist V.I. Goshkevich has made the description and map of the site. The first graves were discovered randomly in nineteenth century in the monastery yard and southward of it. In 1975 the burial ground, known today as Chervony Mayak necropolis, has been discovered northeastward of the hill-fort. It was partly explored in 1976-1977 and during 1986-1988 by Moscow archaeologists Drs. Erast Symonovich and Olga Gei. In total they excavated 108 burials. Since 2011 the burial ground is studied by the Late Scythian expedition of the Institute of Archaeology of NASU headed by Dr. Aleksandr Symonenko. The funerary constructions of Chervony Mayak necropolis are represented by catacombs (crypts) with multiple and single burials (107), niche graves (25) and rectangular or oval pits (35). Among the grave goods there were iron weapons (long swords, spear- and arrow-heads), Roman red-slip fine ware and Scythian hand-made pottery, gold earrings, bronze adornment and personal items (fibulae, bracelets, mirrors), necklaces made of carnelian, jade, amber, and glass beads. Some graves contained the items typical for the Baltic Germanic cultures. Earliest burials of the necropolis were accompanied by the fibulae of Mid-La Tène scheme and can be dated to the late  $2^{nd} - 1^{st}$  centuries BC. The Roman imported goods (red-slip pottery and fibulae) allow us to date the most of graves to the  $1^{st}$  – first half of the  $2^{nd}$  century AD. Several assemblages ought to be dated to the late 2nd – first half of the  $3^{rd}$  century AD. **Keywords:** Chervony Mayak, Lower Dnieper, Late Scythians, burial ground.

he Late Scythian archaeological culture dating since the 2<sup>nd</sup> century BC till the mid-3<sup>rd</sup> century AD existed at the southern Ukraine in three isolated enclaves: on the Lower Dnieper basin, the Crimean foothills and on the Lower Dniester and Danube basins. Strabo¹ called these three Late Scythian regions "Scythia Minor" (Μικρά Σκυθία). The brief essay of the historical background of this culture is already published<sup>2</sup>, and here only one Lower Dnieper site will be considered - Chervony Mayak burial ground.

In the 2<sup>nd</sup> century AD Claudius Ptolemaeus mentioned the "cities"

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<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>1</sup> STRABO VII. 4. 5.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>2</sup> DZNELADZE/SIKOZA/SYMONENKO 2015, 299-301; SYMONENKO 2020, 407-408.

Azagarium, Amadoca, Sarum, Serimum, and Metropolis<sup>3</sup> on both banks of the Dnieper River. Most likely, he meant the Lower Dnieper Late Scythian hill-forts (Fig. 1/1). Chervony Mayak hill-fort with high probability can be identified as Amadoca of Ptolemaeus list. The Late Scythian archaeological complex Chervony Mayak (past name is Bizyukiv monastery) is located on the territory of eponymous village of Beryslav district in Kherson region. It consists of the hill-fort (Fig. 2/1) and burial ground (Fig. 2/2) and is the historical and cultural site of national importance (by official ranking).

The hill-fort is located on the outlier of the bedrock right coast of the Dnieper, formed by a deep Propasna ravine and unnamed ravine that flows into Propasna one from the east. On the opposite bank of Propasna gully the buildings of the male St. Grigorievsky Bizyukiv Monastery and the main part of the village of Chervony Mayak are located (Fig. 1/2).

This site (Fig. 3/1) was first mentioned by S.I. Myshetski in the nineteenth century: "From this river Kamenka 4 versts there was a city in ancient times, called Propasnoe"4. According to one of the versions transmitted by N.F. Nogachevski, on the place of settlement "there was a Zaporozhian small town" and/or "a Turkish fortress built before the Zaporozhian Cossacks which even had its own mosque"<sup>5</sup>. In 1863 the plan of the hill-fort was drawn by A.P. Chirkov<sup>6</sup>. The site was examined and mapped out (Fig. 3/2) by V.I. Goshkevich in 1885. He noted that here at the beginning of the nineteenth century the courtyard of the St. Sofronii Monastery has been located, and after its abolition the settlement served as a quarry for the construction of Bizyukiv Monastery. Obviously in the nineteenth century the ruins of the walls were still visible here. V.I. Goshkevich discovered the masonry over Propasna ravine, and he has collected the fragments of amphorae, the hand-made ceramics, red-slip and black-glazed fine ware, a copper coin of Emperor Theodosius there<sup>7</sup>.

The first ancient burials in Chervony Mayak village were found in nineteenth century during the digging in the Orthodox Bizyukiv monastery. Some graves with pottery and Roman green glass cup with the applied decoration were unearthed. A large necropolis was also discovered randomly south of the monastery, on the high bank of the Dnieper River. The monks have excavated 136 graves. Judging by the reproduction of the grave goods in the Viktor Goshkevich's paper8 (Fig. 4) this cemetery ought to be dated to the 1st - $5^{\text{\tiny th}}$  centuries AD. The artifacts from there are kept in the Kherson regional museum.

The necropolis under discussion – properly Chervony Mayak – was discovered in 1975 by local historian Oleksandr Bodyanski who had examined a few graves destroyed during the construction of sewerage. The pipeline ditches passed along the Pushkin Street at the edge of new built part of the village on the east bank of Propasna ravine, northward of the hill-fort. It was the area where in 1976-1977 Moscow archaeologist Dr. Erast Symonovich made in total three long trenches and three shorter ones which he called "prospecting pits" (Fig. 5). The separate object was so called "barrow" which consists of an earth and lot of stones and contained three burials. In total at the excavated areas first 40 graves of the necropolis have been discovered. Materials from them were published very recently9.

After a ten-year break, the exploration at the burial ground was resumed by the team of the Moscow Institute of Archaeology headed by Dr. Olga Gej. For three field campaigns during 1986-1988 seven excavated areas were made in which 67 burials were discovered. Main part of the excavation sectors concentrated around of the areas of 1976-1977, and in order to ascertain the eastern border of the necropolis the sector VI was made far eastward, out of the rest excavated areas (Fig. 5/1). In 1987 Dr. Gej made the attempt to find the entrance to the hill-fort but unsuccessfully. Collection from the excavations of 1986-1988 is stored in the State Historical Museum (Moscow), the material has not been published except a few small papers<sup>10</sup>.

In the "evil" 1990s and early 2000s Chervony Mayak burial ground was actively looted by local citizenry for a sell of finds to the collectors and antiquarian dealers. The peasants naively believed (or pretended to) that "everything is already excavated". A lot of graves have been destroyed (Fig. 6/1). Therefore a very important event become the resumption of excavations in the 2011 by the team of the Institute of Archaeology of National Academy of Sciences of Ukraine headed by author of the paper. The Late Scythian expedition (PAE) consists of three permanent research officers: Dr. Olena Dzneladze, MA Denis Sikoza and yours truly. Students of Ukrainian universities and archaeologistsvolunteers usually are the staff of expedition.

The huge necropolis is situated northern of hill-fort, on the steppe plateau beyond the deep ravine. Northern border of the necropolis lies under the households of the village and nobody can point it definitely. The villagers informed about the findings of human bones and artifacts during the digging of cellars ca. 200 m northwestward of the Symonovich's trenches. Western and southern borders pass by the edges of gullies, and the eastern border goes far to the steppe. Approximate square of the necropolis Chervony Mayak is 34 hectares. In total the square of all excavated sectors is one thousand square meters that is to say one hundredth of a hectare. Thus, the lion's share of the site is not explored yet.

The stratigraphy of all territory of necropolis is stable: under the top soil of 60 cm thick the clay loam ca. 40 cm lies and at the 1 m depth the virgin soil of yellow clay is began. It is necessary to note that in the 1960s in order to plant vineyards the original top soil on the almost all area of necropolis except the capes over the southern gully was removed and replaced by new ground. The cultural layer of burial ground has survived only along its southern border.

First campaign of the Late Scythian expedition in 2011 has begun by the excavation of section no. VIII<sup>11</sup> of 50 square meters (10 × 5 m) 65 m south of the place of 1986-

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>3</sup> PTOLEM., Geogr., III, 5, 14.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>4</sup> MYSHETSKI 1847, 343.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>5</sup> NOGACHEVSKI 1895, 3.

<sup>6</sup> CHIRKOV 1867, 546.

GOSHKEVICH 1913, 21.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>8</sup> GOSHKEVICH 1913, 22-23, Fig. 35-56.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>9</sup> GEJ/SYMONOVICH 2019.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>10</sup> GEJ/BAZHAN 1990, 134-142; GEJ/BAZHAN 1993, 52-59.

 $<sup>^{\</sup>rm 11}\,$  In order to prevent any confusion the numbering system of the burial ground was continued since 1976.

1988 sections. 152 m northeast of section no. VIII, on the western slope of one of the capes at the edge of the plateau, a stone barrier of entrance to the crypt no. 114 was found. Excavation section no. IX of 27 square meters was made here.

The choice of location was inspired by two factors: the topographic proximity to the already explored sections and the necessity of the research the graves destroyed by modern looters. In the section no. VIII it was the grave 109 with a dug out vault (Fig. 6/2), in the section no. IX - the stone barrier of the grave 114, visible on the surface (Fig. 7/1) and surrounded by several looter holes.

As result, in the section no. VIII the crypt-catacomb (no. 109), three niche graves (nos. 110-112) and one burial in the pit (no. 113) were discovered (Fig. 7/2). One else crypt (no. 114) was discovered at the section no. IX. Both crypts<sup>12</sup> were devastatingly looted and only some beads, few golden sheet appliques and fragments of ceramics have been survived. By the bone remains 7 persons (2 adult male and 1 female and 4 children) in the grave no. 109 were buried and 4 ones (1 adult male and 1 female and 2 children) – in the grave no. 114. The most interesting find (grave no. 114) are the half of ivory pyxis with two cut Sarmatian tamga-signs (Fig. 8/1, 2) – the item is rather unexpected in the Scythian grave and golden applique in the shape of ram's head (Fig. 8/3).

Three niche graves<sup>13</sup> had no grave goods except the kits of glass beads which is a typical fact for the necropolis - the niche-graves are the most modest equipped burials here. In the only pit grave (no. 113) bones of four babes were accompanied by the kit of glass beads, iron toilet tool and copper Sinope coin of Mithridates Eupator remade to the medallion (Fig. 8/4-6).

The pyxis with tamga-signs and types of the beads allow to date discovered in the 2011 graves to the 1st - mid-2<sup>nd</sup> century AD. Thus, the coin turned to medallion at least one hundred years before.

During the next, 2012, field campaign excavation section no. X were made as close as possible to the place of Dr. Gei sections of 1986-87. In the area  $10 \times 5$  m only two burials were discovered: pit grave no. 115 (female) and crypt no. 116 (male and undefined, probably female maturus). The latter was accompanied by two fibulae (Fig. 8/8, 9), Greek fine ware cup (Fig. 8/13), bronze bracelet, buckle and fingerring (Fig. 8/10-12), faience and glass beads. Behind the heads of the deceased the traces of two wooden cups have been watched. Two faience ribbed spherical beads of turquoise color (Fig. 8/7) belong to the Alekseeva type 16g and dated to the 1<sup>st</sup> – 2<sup>nd</sup> century AD. Bronze strongly profiled fibula of Western type (Fig. 8/9) belongs to the 1 variant of 1 series of group 10 after V. Kropotov's classification and dated to the second half of the  $1^{st}$  – early  $2^{nd}$  century AD. The next fibula with returned foot of IV series by Kropotov (Fig. 8/8) is synchronous to the first one.

In 2013 Ukrainian authorities decided to establish the Archaeological and Cultural Reservation "Amadoca" on the territory of Chervony Mayak site. In order to ascertain eastern border of the site another excavation section no. XI was placed nearby the former section no. VI of Dr. Gei in 1987, ca. 50 m northwest from it. In turn the section no. VI in 1987 was the most far excavated part of the necropolis, being ca. 300 m east from the sections nos. I – V.

The general square of the section XI was 7 x 7 m but in order to explore the appeared graves two areas were additionally excavated on the corners of main section. Each next year including 2017 the excavated area was extended during the addition of the next section to the completed one: 2014 - 7 x 3 m (three crypts); 2015 - 15 x 5 m (3 crypts, 1 niche grave, 2 pit graves), 2016 – 15 x 6 m (4 crypts), 2017 – 16 x 6 m (3 crypts, 4 niche graves, 3 pit graves). Thus, the common area excavated during 2013-2017 is 331 square meters (Fig. 9).

Due to large excavation area some planigraphical conclusions are possible to be made. The crypts were situated by more or less regular lines directed to the northwest - southeast axe as well as the crypts on the neighbors section no. VI of Dr. Gei. This direction is also traced on other excavated parts of the necropolis. Several crypts on two-three lines form the local group which probably to be identified with clan or family funeral territory. From other hand the location of the niche graves and simple pits has no system meanwhile. It seems that niche graves are grouping at the periphery of crypts area.

Almost all crypts excavated in 2013-2017 are the family burials with several deceased. All of them were buried by the unified custom laying supine with their heads directed to the northwest (par excellence) and northeast (less), few skeletons were directed differently. The collective (adults and children, only adults, only children) burials prevail, some burials have been made in different time, with moving of earlier skeletons. The dimensions of crypts are more or less unified: entrance pit has  $1.5 \times 1 \text{ m}$ , chamber is  $1.5-1.8 \times 2-2.5$ m. Average depth of the entrance pits is 1,5 - 1,7 m from the ground surface, the average level of the chamber bottom is 2,5 – 2,9 m. The vaults of chambers mainly have not been survived but can be reconstructed as not then 1 m high. The entrance to chamber looks like oval or roundel aperture not more than 0,6-0,7 m in diameter closed by stone slab sometimes propped by less stones.

Several crypts were looted still in antiquity; anyway the traces of modern looters are not visible. But most part of them was intact and preserved the numerous and various grave goods, partly published<sup>14</sup>. Here the most spectacular assemblages will be listed which were accompanied by the reliable chronological indicators.

In 2013 the only intact burial in excavation area was the grave no. 119. In the catacomb two elderly women were buried. Skeletons lied supine, directed to Northwest, on the brown dust (probably, the remains of felt). The numerous and various grave goods - red-slip cups, a lot of fibulae,

 $<sup>^{12}\,</sup>$  Late Scythian catacomb grave or ground crypt consists of a roundel or rectangular entrance pit and underground funeral chamber dug out in the short side of entrance pit. The entrance hole is usually covered by vertical stone slab.

Niche grave consists of a oval or elongate entrance pit and funeral chamber (properly niche) dug out in the one of long side of entrance pit. The entrance to niche is usually covered by vertical stone slabs.

SYMONENKO/SIKOZA/DZNELADZE 2015; DZNELADZE/SIKOZA/ SYMONENKO 2015; DZNELADZE, SIKOZA, SYMONENKO 2017; SYMONENKO, DZNELADZE, SIKOZA 2018.

Greek gray clay pottery, the beads made of amber, carnelian, jade, Roman toilet casket, bronze adornment - permit to specify the date of the assemblage to the first half of the 2<sup>nd</sup> century AD<sup>15</sup>.

During this campaign also one of the latest grave of Chervony Mayak was excavated - the crypt no. 117 (Fig. 10/1). It was completely looted but the large iron buckle (Fig. 10/2) and two discoid blue glass beads (Fig. 10/3) of Tempelman-Maczyńska types 184, 185 of group XIX date this grave to the 5<sup>th</sup> century<sup>16</sup>.

In 2014 the area of 7 x 3 m has been added north to the section XI (Fig. 9). Three crypts (nos. 121-123) were discovered there. Most spectacular is the grave no. 121 which contained three skeletons. Two of them belonged to juniors and the third - to adult man. The latter was equipped as Sarmatian nobleman - with sword-belt of Xiungnu-Sarmatian type, the bronze "colben" bracelet with engraved decoration, armed by long sword of Sarmatian or Parthian type, dagger, the lash, bridle, saddle cover<sup>17</sup>. Strongly profiled bronze fibulae having found on the each skeleton date this assemblage to the  $2^{nd}$  century  $AD^{18}$  though most correct dating ought to be established as the late 1st - early

Large area (15 x 5 m) was added to the east to enlarged section XI in 2015 (Fig. 9). Three crypts, one niche grave and two pit graves have been discovered. One crypt (no. 127) was looted still in antiquity but two ones survived intact. Both burials are collective: crypt no. 126 contained two adult and two children skeletons, crypt no. 128 - two adult ones. All of them laid traditionally for the Late Scythians - supine, with their heads directed to the northwest and west. Also traditional were the grave goods with well-dated indicators. In the grave no. 126 it was the red-slip cup of the Hayes form 64B of Eastern sigillata B Group (Fig. 10/4) dated to the 75-125 AD19. Its probable place of manufacture is city Tralli in Karia (Western Asia Minor). The dating of the grave no. 128 to the 1st century AD has ascertained by iron fibula with returned foot of the Kropotov group 4, series I, version 1<sup>20</sup>. Both crypts were accompanied by a lot of beads made of glass, cornelian, jet, faience (Fig. 10/5), also the small golden appliques, bronze mirror, pottery etc. were discovered<sup>21</sup>.

In 2016 the area of 15 x 5 m oriented to the northwest-southeast were made north of the section XI (Fig. 9). Four crypts were discovered (nos. 130-133). All of them were intact and collective (except no. 132): two teenagers in the crypt no. 130, adult couple in the crypt no. 131, and three adult individuals in the crypt no. 133. As a usual, all skeletons laid supine, directed with their heads to west (graves nos. 130 and 131), southwest (grave no. 132) and northwest (grave no.133).

The skeleton no. 2 n the grave 130 is of great interest. It is the burial of noble girl accompanied by the golden decoration of the dress collar, silver earrings, bronze fingerring with gem and silver bracelets, silver nail grooming kit of rare type. The skeleton was covered by numerous glass and carnelian beads from necklaces and decoration of sleeves, collar and hem of dress. By the complex of artifacts this burial can be dated to the late 1st – first half of the 2nd century AD<sup>22</sup>.

The extension of the section XI have been completed in 2017 by the making the excavation area 16 x 6 m west of the previous section of 2014 and south of the 2016 section (Fig. 9). There eleven graves have been discovered: 3 crypts (grave nos. 137, 138, 141), 4 niche graves (grave nos. 134-136, 140), 4 pits (graves nos. 139, 142-144). The concentration of niche graves at this section like on the opposite end of the necropolis (section no. VIII) is interesting.

Niche graves at the section no. XI are individual as well as in the all necropolis. Only once the double grave (with common entrance pit and two niches to both sides) has been occurred. The average dimensions of entrance pit are 1,5-2 x 0,5-07 m, the chamber usually is the same or a little wider. In general niche graves are not as deep as crypts: the depth of entrance pit up to 1,5 m from ground surface and the bottom of niche on the level of 1,5-1,8 m. The vault as a rule has fallen down but one can reconstruct its height taking into account the height of vertical barrier of stone slabs along all entrance. The skeletons laid supine, with their heads directed mainly to north sector (with little deviations). It is interesting that in the niche graves the female and children burials prevail. One else characteristic feature of the Chervony Mayak niche graves is the constant simplicity of grave goods - most of burials only by several beads or hand-made vessel have been accompanied<sup>23</sup>. Those few chronological indicators (the beads of certain types or pottery), which provide the opportunity to date some niche graves, point to the 1<sup>st</sup> – mid-2<sup>nd</sup> centuries AD as the date of niche graves.

During last three years (2018-2020) the area at the probable southern border of the necropolis has been explored. Sector no. XII was established close to the former sector no. VIII of 2011, a bit southwest from it location (Fig. 9). In 2019 this area was extended to north directly from the northern edge of last year's sector and in 2020 the next area of the same dimensions (10 x 5 m) was excavated west of the section of 2019 (Fig. 11). Thus, the excavation has covered the area ca. 150 square m.

As well as on the whole excavated area three main types of graves are represented on the sector no. XII: 13 crypts, 2 niche graves, 8 simple pits. The crypt no. 158 (2019) dated to the 1<sup>st</sup> century AD is of interest (Fig. 12/1). This is the burial of warrior armed by bow, arrow and spear, equipped by Roman red-slip cup, belt with buckle of "Marcomannic type", iron fibula with returned foot of the Kropotov group 4, series I, version 124 and modest adornments (Fig. 12/2-8). Arguably, the most important find are two graves of 2020 campaign (nos. 162 and 164) located in several meters one from another. In the each of them the bronze fibulae

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>15</sup> DZNELADZE/SIKOZA/SYMONENKO 2015, 303-307, 313-317.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>16</sup> TEMPELMAN-MĄCZYŃSKA 1985, 47, Taf. 3.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>17</sup> SYMONENKO 2020, 409-412.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>18</sup> DZNELADZE, SIKOZA, SYMONENKO 2017, 266;

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>19</sup> HAYES 1985, 65, Tav. XIV,14

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>20</sup> KROPOTOV 2010, 69-72.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>21</sup> SYMONENKO/SIKOZA/DZNELADZE, 2015, 51, 54-57.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>22</sup> DZNELADZE 2020, 115-126.

 $<sup>^{23}</sup>$  Besides the niche grave no. 87 (unpublished excavations of O.A. Gei in

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>24</sup> KROPOTOV 2010, 69-72.

of mid-La Tène scheme have been occurred and due to this these graves appeared to be earliest in the necropolis. Both brooches are usually dated to the late  $2^{nd}$  – early  $1^{st}$  century BC<sup>25</sup>. It is notable that the rest three mid- La Tène fibulae from Chervony Mayak (graves nos. 34, 44, 47 excavated by Symonovich and Gei) were found not far from the section XII. Taking into account the absence of the graves dating earlier then the 1st century AD on the all other excavated sections it is reasonable to suggest that the concentration of the earliest graves could indicate the initial location of the necropolis.

Thus, 60 graves have been discovered by the Late Scythian expedition since 2011 and in total 168 burials are excavated at the necropolis Chervony Mayak. I would like to add that hardly one twentieth of whole burial ground has been explored. The most graves are the typical Late Scythian deep crypts, containing several skeletons, probably the relatives. The second type of burial construction is the niche-graves which customary to be considered to belong to the Sarmatians, who lived among the Late Scythians. The preliminary anthropological analyses showed the difference between the people buried in the crypts and those in the niche-graves. Among the funeral goods there are Greek red-slip and Scythian hand-made pottery, gold decorations, bronze adornment and personal items (fibulae, bracelets, mirrors), necklaces, made of carnelian, jade, amber, and glass beads. Roman imported goods (amphorae, red-slip pottery and fibulae) allows to date the burial ground to the  $2^{nd}$  century BC – mid- $3^{rd}$  century AD. But most number of Chervony Mayak graves is dated to the 1st – mid-2nd century AD.

The multidiscipline study of the necropolis should include the following steps:

- 1. Full archaeological research (excavation, laboratory processing, restoration, drawing and photography).
- 2. Complete study of all categories of material (local-made and imported ceramics, weapons, fibulae, mirrors, beads etc.).
- (gender 3. Anthropology research analysis, palaeopatology, DNA analyses).
- 4. Palaeozoological research.
- 5. Structural and spectral analysis of metal and glass objects (weapons, adornment, vessels, beads etc.).
- 6. Development of relative and absolute chronology of the burial ground with C14 dating.

Such important site as necropolis Chervony Mayak needs the entire sophisticated study by all research methods.

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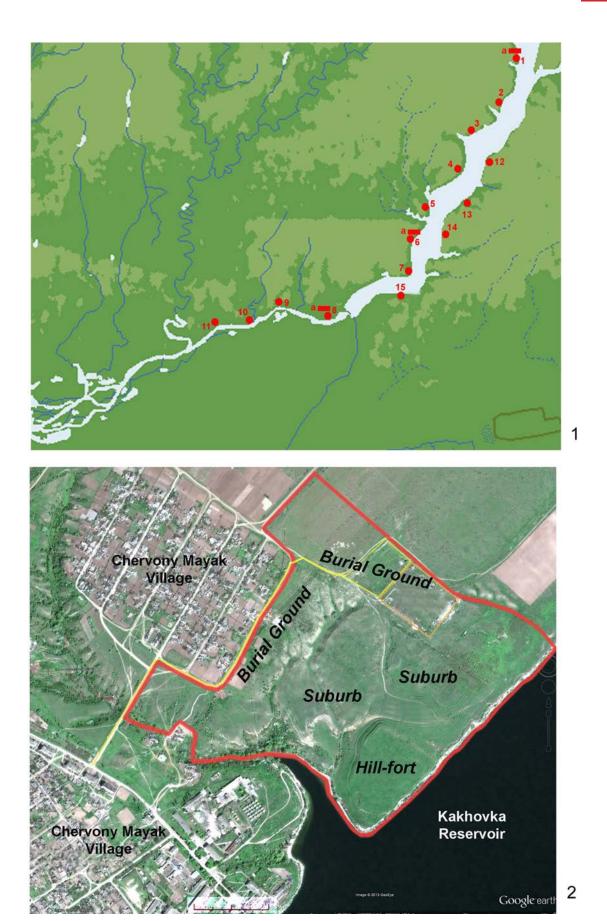
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**Fig. 1.** Late Scythian sites of Lower Dnieper area.

**1.** Map of the Late Scythian sites: 1. Zolota Balka; 2. Havrylivka; 3. Hannivka; 4. Sablukivka; 5. Konsulivka; 6. Chervony Mayak; 7. Zmiivka; 8. Mykolaivka-Kazatske; 9. Lvove; 10. Tiahinka; 11. Ponjativka; 12. Velyka Lepetykha; 13. Hornostaivka; 14. Kairy; 15. Ljubymivka.

2. Archaeological complex Cervony Mayak.



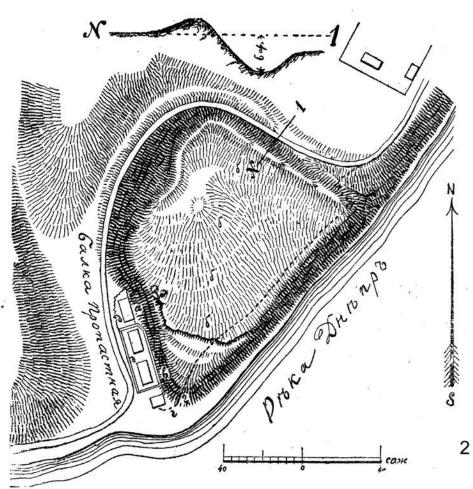
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**Fig. 2.** Chervony Mayak site. 1. The hill-fort. 2. The burial ground.

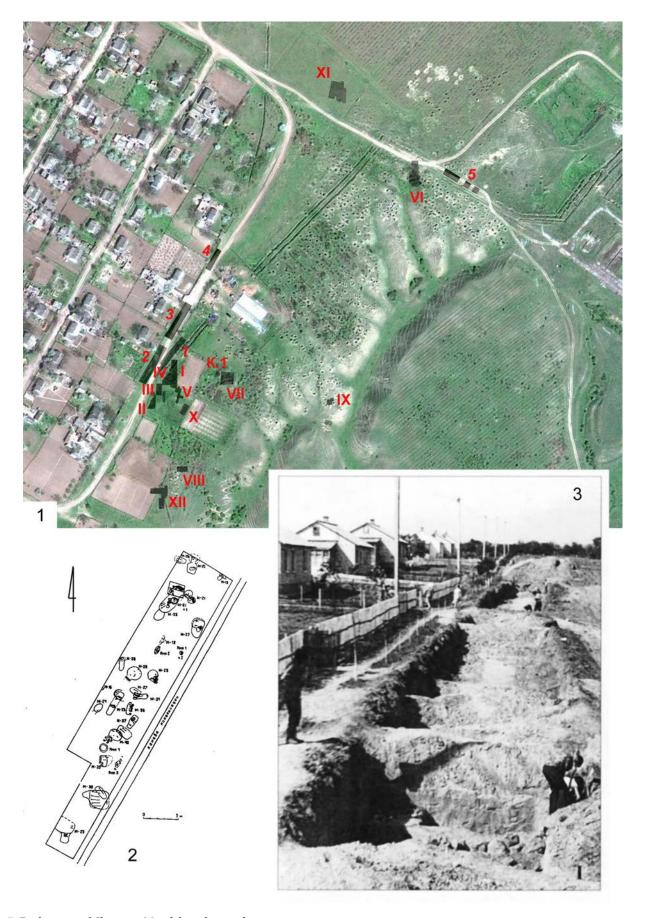




 $\textbf{Fig. 3.} \ \ \textbf{The hill-fort Chervony Mayak. 1. View from the burial ground. 2. Map by V.I. Goshkevich (after GOSHKEVICH 1913).}$ 



 $\textbf{Fig. 4.} \ \ \textbf{The finds from Bizjukiv monastery territory (after GOSHKEVICH 1913)}.$ 



- **Fig. 5.** Exploration of Chervony Mayak burial ground.

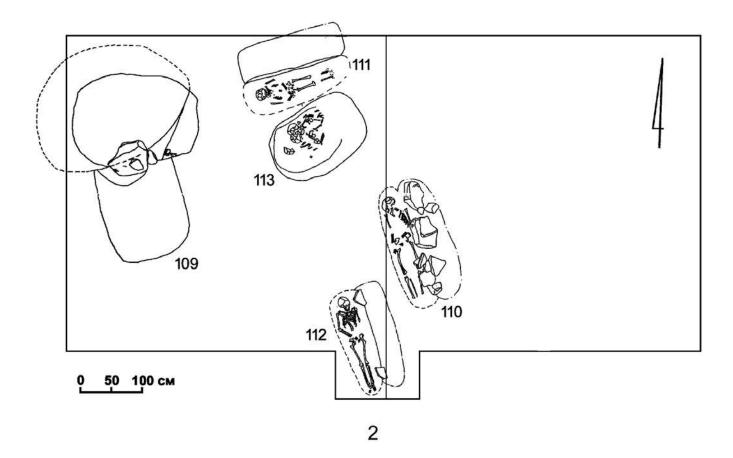
  1. Excavation of different years. 1-5, K.1 trenches of E. A. Symonovich (1976-1977); I-VII sectors of O. A. Gej; VIII-XII sectors of A. V.
- 2. Trenches of 1976 (after GEJ/SYMONOVICH 2019).3. Excavation of 1977. Trench no. 1 (after GEJ/SYMONOVICH 2019).



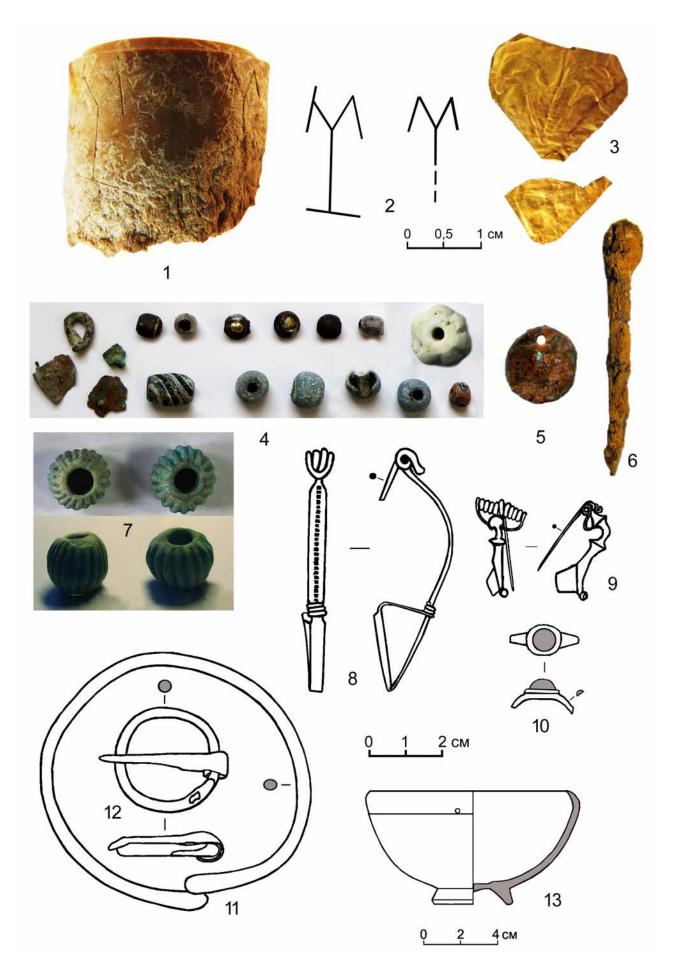
Fig. 6. Looting the necropolis. 1. The field of looted graves in Chervony Mayak. 2. The crypt no. 109 before the excavation.



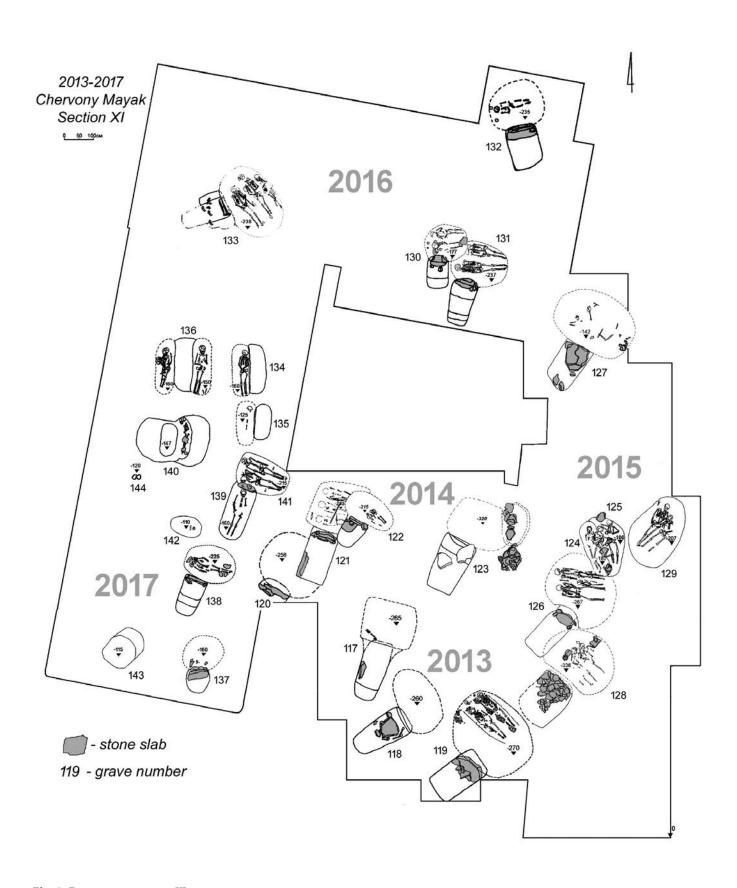
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 $\textbf{Fig. 7.} \ \textbf{Excavation of 2011. 1.} \ \textbf{The entrance to the crypt 114. 2.} \ \textbf{Section no. VIII.}$ 



**Fig. 8.** Chervony Mayak artifacts. 1-3. Crypt no. 114. 4-6. Grave no. 113. 7-13. Crypt no. 116.



 $\textbf{Fig. 9.} \ \textbf{Excavating sector no. XI}.$ 



Fig. 10. Graves from Chervony Mayak excavated in different years. 1-3. Crypt no. 117 (2013). 4-5. Crypt no. 126 (2015).

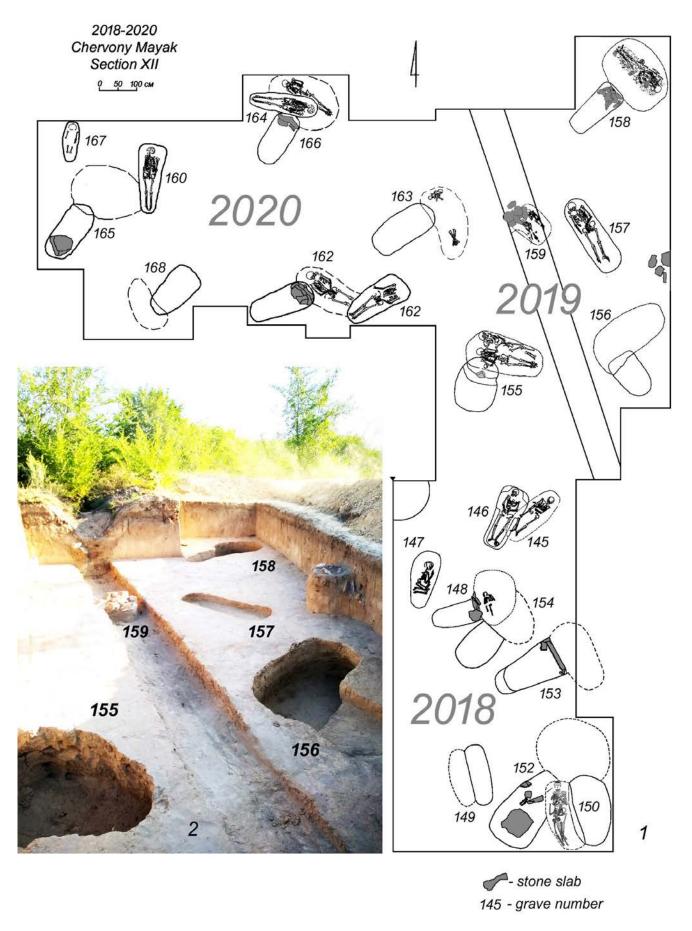


Fig. 11. Excavating sector no. XII. 1. Sectors of 2018-2020. 2. Sector of 2019 (photo).

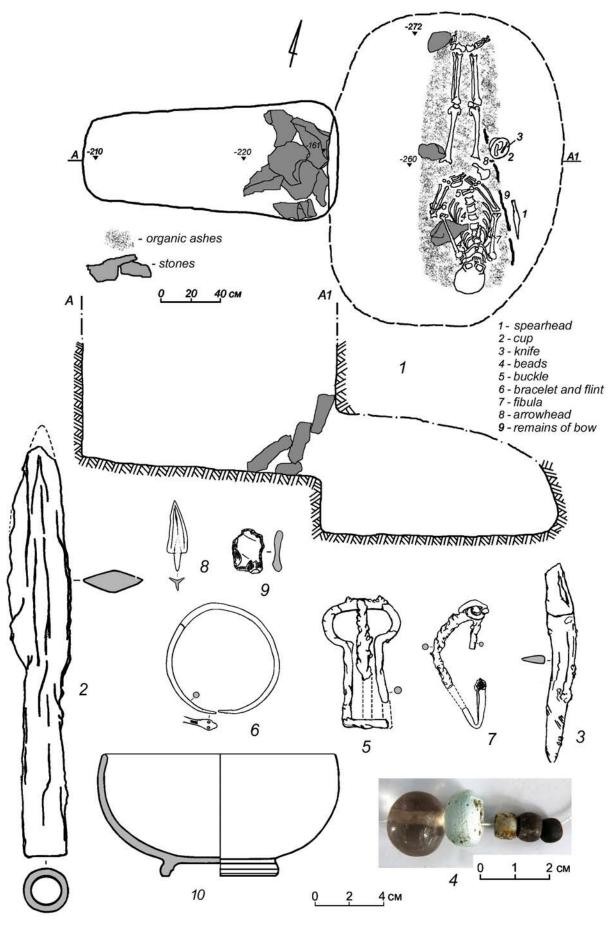


Fig. 12. Chervony Mayak-2019, grave no. 158. 1. Plan and section; 2. Spear-head; 3. Iron knife; 4. Glass beads; 5. Iron buckle of "Marcomannic" type; 6. Bronze bracelet; 7. Iron fibula; 8. Iron arrow-head; 9. Peace of flint; 10. Red-slip cup.