

A B S T R A C T S  
B O O K



4TH ANNUAL MEETING

GÖTEBORG, SWEDEN

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EAA 4TH ANNUAL MEETING  
ABSTRACTS BOOK

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COVER ILLUSTRATION

Rock-carving RAÄ 614 (detail) at Skee, Tanum, Bohuslän  
Photo: Lasse Bengtsson

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and 6th centuries. This could support the opinion, prevalent among archaeologists since the seventies, that there was a settlement break between the period of Roman Influences and the beginnings of the Early Middle Ages. An analysis of the economy in the next centuries, also on the basis of the pollen diagram, indicates that till the 10th c. agriculture was of little importance.

It is important to stress, according to the last results of palinological, palaeohydrological, pedological and palaeobotanical researches, the need for a continuation and expansion of interdisciplinary studies in the Biskupin microregion.

Makarov L. D. (*Russia*)

**VYATKA (KHLYNOV), AN ANCIENT RUSSIAN TOWN ACCORDING TO THE  
ARCHAEOLOGICAL DATA**

Date Sat 26  
Time 1135-  
1155

The Kremlin of Vyatka (Khllynov) was researched in 1956-1958 by L.P. Gussakovskiy, and in 1983 and 1990 by L.D. Makarov. In the 2nd half of the 12th - the beginning of the 13th centuries, on the site of the future town, a settlement was founded, but the only remains are hut circles and ghost fences. Then the settlement was fortified by defensive walls consisted of wooden frameworks. In the 2nd half of the 13th century solid fortress structures were built: an earth bank and framed walls and towers. Two streets were found during the excavation. One of them was running along the fortifications, the other was crossing the northern part of the Kremlin from the west to the east.

The fall of temperature, high humidity, the intensification of the town's life that began in the 14th century resulted in the accumulation of mud on the streets. The wooden drainage system built in the town appeared to be less effective and that is why the paving of roads with logs began. No less than 7 layers of wooden roads, that were renewed every 35-40 years on average, are registered. Their breadth varied from 2.5 m to 2.9 m, with lower layers made of thick logs (their diameter was 20-25cm), and upper layers made of thin logs (the diameter was 10-15 cm).

Ghost fences and gates, dwelling houses and extension buildings adjoined the roads. Dwellings with the area of 16-20 square metres had floors made of planks, pise ovens, under-floor pits and fragments of interior. Extension buildings (barns for cattle, granaries) were made of thinner logs. Pits were dug out for storing perishable goods, rubbish pits were made for waste. The traces of different social and economic activities were discovered: the traces of smithies, potter workshops, various trades, household occupations, military science, attributes of spiritual culture. So, Vyatka (Khllynov) differed practically in no way from other towns of the Ancient Rus (Russia) of the 13-16th centuries.

Romancuk A. (*Russia*)

**EXCAVATIONS OF THE BYZANTINE CHERSON AND CORRELATION OF WRITTEN AND  
ARCHAEOLOGICAL SOURCES**

Date Sat 26  
Time 1200-  
1220

The written sources which can show us the town's appearance, material surroundings, the mode of life and engagements of citizen are extraordinary limited. The data on excavations serve as the main material for reconstruction of historical topography and houses planning. But not all development periods are reflected in stratigraphy that results in appearing of «archaeological holes».

During the excavations the destroyed strata of the end of the VI century -beginning of the VII century, of the first half of the XI century, of the end of the XIII and XIV centuries are brought to light. Some periods which have no direct excavation data can be filled up through written sources. The combination of archaeological materials and written sources let us come to the conclusion about persistent existence of Cherson.

The reconstruction of life details is possible on the grounds of destroy'strata. For the Byzantine Cherson there are the fire-strata of the end of the XIII and of the XIV centuries. The peculiarity of archaeological materials deposition gives rise to the conclusion about a crisis or stagnated settlement structure' development with absence of other data. We have the same case by using of only rare information in written sources. It's necessary to make a complete analysis for which we have to take into consideration the peculiarities of cultural stratum formation. On the grounds of the fact that the representative strata with statistic mass findings were formed during the destructions we can come to the conclusion that exactly the crisis situations in the town history are well represented in stratigraphy.

In that way «the archaeological holes» reflect normal living activity' periods. We can get the fullest information about the mode of life, activities of citizens, about planning and dimensions of houses from the destroy strata, if they were not disturbed by building activity.