

Table of Contents

Preface by the Series Editor – 9

Introduction – 13

1. Environment, Archaeological Evidence and Spatial Distribution of the Early Eneolithic Sites in the Nišava Valley (Dragan Milanović) – 15

- 1.1 Introduction – 15
- 1.2 Settlements of the Early Eneolithic BSK cultural complex – 16
- 1.3 Research goals – 17
- 1.4 Geography of the Nišava Valley – 18
- 1.5 Methods – 22
- 1.6 Environmental context of settlements – 25
- 1.7 Archaeological research – 33
- 1.8 Spatial relations between sites, resources and communication – 37

2. The History of Research of the Multilayer Prehistoric Site of Bubanj (Dragan Milanović) – 41

- 2.1 Geographical position – 41
- 2.2 Introduction – 43
- 2.3 Archaeological research in 1935 – 44
 - 2.3.1 Position of trenches – 44
 - 2.3.2 Stratigraphy and finds in trenches I and II – 44
 - 2.3.3 Stratigraphy and finds in trench III – 48
 - 2.3.4 Discussion – 48
- 2.4 Archaeological investigations in 1954–1958 – 49
 - 2.4.1 Archaeological excavations on the eastern plateau in 1954–1955 – 49
 - 2.4.1.1 Position of trench I – 49
 - 2.4.1.2 Stratigraphy and finds in trench I – 49
 - 2.4.1.3 Position of trench Ia – 52
 - 2.4.1.4 Stratigraphy and finds in trench Ia – 52
 - 2.4.1.5 Discussion – 53
 - 2.4.2 Archaeological excavations on the central plateau in 1955 – 56

- 2.4.2.1 Position of trenches – 56
- 2.4.2.2 Stratigraphy and finds in trenches on the central plateau – 56
- 2.4.3 Archaeological excavations in 1956 – 57
 - 2.4.3.1 Position of trenches – 57
 - 2.4.3.2 Stratigraphy and finds in trenches on the central plateau – 57
 - 2.4.3.3 Stratigraphy and finds in the trench on the western plateau – 59
- 2.4.4 Archaeological excavations in 1957 – 59
 - 2.4.4.1 Position of the trenches – 59
 - 2.4.4.2 Stratigraphy and finds in trenches on the central plateau – 59
- 2.4.5 Discussion – 60

3. Vertical and Horizontal Stratigraphy of the Site (Aleksandar Bulatović) – 63

- 3.1 Cultural layer I (Early/Middle Neolithic) – 67
- 3.2 Cultural layer II (Early Eneolithic) – 68
 - 3.2.1 Cultural layer II – horizon 1 – 69
 - 3.2.2 Cultural layer II – horizon 2 – 79
 - 3.2.3 Cultural layer II – horizon 3 – 83
- 3.3 Cultural layer III (Middle Eneolithic) – 90
 - 3.3.1 Cultural layer III – horizon 1 – 91
 - 3.3.2 Cultural layer III – horizon 2 – 94
- 3.4 Cultural layer IV (Late Eneolithic) – 97
 - 3.4.1 Cultural layer IV – horizon 1 – 98
 - 3.4.2 Cultural layer IV – horizon 2 – 103
 - 3.4.3 Cultural layer IV – horizon 3 – 107
- 3.5 Cultural layer V (Late Eneolithic and Early Bronze Age) – 116

4. Contextual Analysis of Pottery and Other Finds from the Early Eneolithic Period – Cultural Layer II (Dragan Milanović) – 125

- 4.1 Introduction – 125
- 4.2 Finds of vessels from Early Eneolithic structures – 125
- 4.3 Production and function of pottery vessels from Early Eneolithic structures – 152
 - 4.3.1 Forms of vessels – 152
 - 4.3.2 Fabric and temper – 156
 - 4.3.3 Surface treatment – 157
 - 4.3.4 Firing colour – 158
 - 4.3.5 Decoration – 158
 - 4.3.6 Discussion – 159
- 4.4 Other finds made of fired clay – 161
- 4.5 Function of structures based on the context of the finds – 162

5. Finds from the Middle and Late Eneolithic and Early Bronze Age Period (Cultural Layers III–V) (Aleksandar Bulatović) – 167

- 5.1 Cultural layer III – 169
 - 5.1.1 Horizon 1 of cultural layer III – 169
 - 5.1.2 Horizon 2 of cultural layer III – 181
- 5.2 Cultural layer IV – 193
 - 5.2.1 Horizon 1 of cultural layer IV – 193
 - 5.2.2 Horizon 2 of cultural layer IV – 201
 - 5.2.3 Horizon 3 of cultural layer IV – 204
- 5.3 Cultural layer V – 219
 - 5.3.1 Lower portion of cultural layer V (Bubanj-Hum II group) – 219

- 5.3.1.1 Earlier phase of the Bubanj-Hum II group – 224
- 5.3.1.2 Later phase of the Bubanj-Hum II group – 226
- 5.3.2 Upper portion (level) of cultural layer V – 229

6. The Finds of Gava Culture Pottery at the Site of Bubanj (Aleksandar Kapuran) – 235

7. Bubanj: The Absolute Chronology (Marc Vander Linden, Aleksandar Bulatović) – 239

- 7.1 Introduction – 239
- 7.2 Methods – 239
- 7.3 Results and discussion – 241
- 7.4 Conclusion – 243
- 7.5 Acknowledgments – 243

8. Concluding Remarks (Aleksandar Bulatović, Dragan Milanović) – 245

References – 255

Plates – 271

ANALYTICAL REPORTS

Preliminary Report on Animal Bones from Bubanj (Jelena Bulatović) – 329

- 1. Introduction – 329
- 2. Archaeological contexts and recovery methods – 329
- 3. Archaeozoological methods – 330
- 4. Faunal assemblage – 330
- 5. Taphonomic characteristics of the mammal assemblage – 331
- 6. Relative proportion of mammal taxa – 332
- 7. Bubanj faunal sample and its wider context – 334
- 8. Conclusion – 335
- References – 336

A Glimpse of Eneolithic Plant Economy at the Site of Bubanj in Serbia (Dragana Filipović) – 339

- 1. Introduction – 339
- 2. Methodology – 339
 - 2.1 Work in the field: sample collection and processing – 339
 - 2.2 Work in the laboratory: sorting, identification and quantification of plant macro-remains – 340
- 3. Preservation – 341
- 4. Overview of the material recovered from pre- and post-Eneolithic layers – 343
 - 4.1 Remains from the Early Neolithic/Starčevo occupation – 343
 - 4.2 Remains from the Late Eneolithic/Early Bronze Age and Early Iron Age occupations – 343
- 5. The Early–Late Eneolithic occupation – 343
 - 5.1 Overview of the assemblage – 343
 - 5.2 Archaeological context of the recovered material – 345
 - 5.3 Palaeovegetation at Bubanj – first impressions – 348
- 6. Some remarks on Eneolithic plant use at Bubanj in a broader perspective – 348
- 7. Summary and conclusions – 349
- References – 352

Eneolithic Bone Industries from Bubanj (Selena Vitezović) – 371

1. Introduction – 371
2. Bone industry from the Early Eneolithic Bubanj-Hum I culture – 372
 - 2.1 Raw materials – 372
 - 2.2 Techno-typological analysis – 372
 - 2.2.1 The group of pointed artefacts – 372
 - 2.2.2 The group of cutting tools – 373
 - 2.2.3 The group of burnishing tools – 373
 - 2.2.4 The objects of special use – 373
 - 2.2.5 The decorative items – 374
 - 2.2.6 Non-utilitarian, symbolic artefacts and objects of art – 375
3. Bone industry from the Middle Eneolithic Coţofeni-Kostolac culture – 376
 - 3.1 Raw materials – 376
 - 3.2 Techno-typological analysis – 376
 - 3.2.1 The group of pointed tools – 377
 - 3.2.2 The group of cutting tools – 377
 - 3.2.3 The group of burnishing tools – 378
 - 3.2.4 The objects of special use – 378
4. Bone industry from the Cernavoda III culture – 379
 - 4.1 Raw materials – 379
 - 4.2 Techno-typological analysis – 380
 - 4.2.1 The group of pointed tools – 380
 - 4.2.2 The group of cutting tools – 380
 - 4.2.3 The group of burnishing tools – 380
 - 4.2.4 The objects for special use – 380
 - 4.2.5 The ornaments – 380
5. Discussion and concluding remarks – 381
- References – 382

Chipped Stone Artefacts from the Bubanj Site – Excavations from Seasons 2008, 2009, 2012 and 2014 (Josip Šarić) – 387

1. Chipped stone artefacts found out of the stratigraphical context – 387
2. Artefacts from the Early Neolithic horizon (Starčevo culture) – 389
3. Artefacts from layers with mixed Early Neolithic and Early Eneolithic horizons (Starčevo – Bubanj-Hum I) – 389
4. Artefacts from the Early Eneolithic horizon (Bubanj-Hum I) – 390
5. Artefacts from the layer of mixing of the Early Eneolithic (Bubanj-Hum I) and Middle Eneolithic horizons (Černavoda-Baden) – 395
6. Artefacts from the Middle Eneolithic horizon (Černavoda-Baden) – 398
7. Artefacts from layers of a mixed Middle Eneolithic (Černavoda-Baden) and Late Eneolithic horizon (Coţofeni-Kostolac – Bubanj-Hum II) – 401
8. Artefacts from the Late Eneolithic horizon (Coţofeni-Kostolac – Bubanj-Hum II) – 401
9. Artefacts from the Early Bronze Age horizon (Bubanj-Hum III) – 405
10. Discussion – 408
- References – 411