

Andrzej Prinke, Włodzimierz Rączkowski, Bogdan Walkiewicz

Archaeological aerial survey along the planned A2 motorway in Wielkopolska

Summary

Aerial reconnaissance as an indispensable part of a major archaeological rescue project has not gained wide recognition in Poland yet. One of the first opportunities to apply it on a wider scale was the extensive motorway construction project (ca 2500 km of motorways to be built within the next 10-15 years). In order to locate all endangered sites, a pilot project to systematically take and interpret aerial photographs was executed in Mid-western Poland (Poznań area) in 1999-2000 along a 100 km length of the planned motorway. After taking over 1000 air photos during two helicopter flights, they were analysed and interpreted in order to identify traces of archaeological sites. On 128 photos, which illustrate 55 sites, possible traces of archaeological features were recognized. The main result of the survey was the suggestion to the directors of the A2 Motorway Rescue Project to carry out additional surface surveys (at 17 sites), drilling (at 46 sites) as well as test trenches (at 47 sites).

Captions:

Table 1. List of the archaeological sites photographed during archaeological aerial reconnaissance over the A2 motorway.

Legend: Function: OS – settlement, PO – settlement point, ŚO – trace of settlement, CM – cemetery, ? – unknown. Chronology: EK – Stone Age, M-N – Mesolithic or Neolithic, NEOL – Neolithic, WB – Early Bronze Age, EB – Bronze Age, PL – late La Tène period, OR – Roman Iron Age, OWL – Migration Period, WŚ – Early Middle Ages (phases in breaks), PŚ – Late Middle Ages, NOW – Modern Times. Culture: KCW – Linear Pottery Culture, KPL – TRB, KAK – Globular Amphorae Culture, KCGD – Pit and Comb Pottery Culture, KCSz – Corded Ware Culture, KŁ – Lausitz Culture, KPom – Pomeranian Culture, KP – Przeworsk Culture.

Plate I: A. Głuchowo, Poznań Dist., site 1 (AZP 53-26/133) and site 24 (AZP 53-26/223). Photo: A. Prinke, July 1998.

Plate I: B. Krzyżownicy, Poznań Dist., site 16 (AZP 54-29/137). Photo: B. Walkiewicz, July 1998.

Plate II: A. Giecz, Środa Wlkp. Dist., site 50. Photo: A. Prinke, July 1998.

Plate II: B. Otusz, Poznań Dist., site 36 (AZP 53-24/157). Photo: B. Walkiewicz, July 1998.

Plate III: A. Pławce, Środa Wlkp. Dist., site 8 (AZP 54-31/120). Photo: A. Prinke, July 1998.

Plate III: B. Poznań-Nowe Miasto, site 24 (AZP 53-28/4) and site 25 (53-28/5). Photo: B. Walkiewicz, July 1998.

Plate IV: A. Poznań-Nowe Miasto, site 150 (AZP 54-28/114) and site 226 (54-28/103). Photo: A. Prinke, July 1998.

Plate IV: B. Sędzinko, Szamotuły Dist., site 44 (AZP 53-23/87). Photo: B. Walkiewicz, July 1998.