EXCAVATIONS OF POMOR SITE DUNDERBUKTA, WEST SPITSBERGEN

The site Dunderbukta was discovered in 1982. It is placed on the south-east coast of the bay. There were two houses in this place.

House N 1 was a warm living room. Its size was 4 × 4 m. In all probability its walls were built in ancient times. The cultural stratum had two levels. The upper level was placed under the turf layer. It was dark-grey and had an admixture of sand and pebbles. It could be connected with the fill of the roof. This level was 20 cm thick. The lower level had much humus. It was more than 10 cm thick.

Two burials without coffins were found in the south-east corner of house N 1. The skeletons were placed between the turf layer and the logs of the house wall.

The cultural stratum of this house was poor. An iron scoop, a fragment of a boat board, a fragment of a wooden rolling-pin are worth mentioning.

House N 2 was placed at a distance of 0.8 m to the west from house N 1. House N 2 was damaged by robbers. It was a warm living room with a cold passage. Size of the room was 3.1 × 3.1 m. There was practically no cultural stratum in the house.

There were only single finds in house N 2, for example an iron axe. On the basis of the dendrochronological data we can claim that the logs for these houses were felled in the middle of the XVII c.

The data obtained from our excavations are very important for the history of Spitsbergen development.