

making (remains of a hearth?). The next assemblage—E—consists of no more than a dozen or so lithic artefacts. Pieces included in this assemblage occurred within layer 8.

One of the two younger Middle Palaeolithic assemblages ( $F_2$ ) is represented by 180 lithic artefacts. It occurred in the zone of transition of stratified sands (layer 7) and underlying clays (layers 8–9). Characteristic tools were represented by knife forms resembling *Prądnik* knives. K. Cyrek classifies the assemblages to the older Micoquian-*Prądnik* phase in Poland, comparing it to *Wylotne* type assemblages.<sup>14</sup> The next assemblage— $F_1$ —included asymmetric knives of *Prądnik*, *Klausennische* and *Bockstein* type (layer 5). The finds were contained within a layer of grey stratified sand. 761 specimens were recovered, including 104 tools (fig. 11, 7-8.). K. Cyrek<sup>15</sup> relates them to *Ciemna* type assemblages, distinguished some decades ago by J. K. Kozłowski and S. K. Kozłowski (1977, 70–74.). Assemblages  $F_1$  and  $F_2$  were dated on the basis of biostratigraphy to the *Brørup* interstadial. This dating is supported by UT analysis of bone samples using the EPR method.

One of the more striking discoveries made at *Biśnik* was a fragment of a structure with a “stone wall”, found at the cave entrance in layer 5.<sup>16</sup> The perplexing feature contained a concentration of bone and flint artefacts. The author of research has suggested that this may be the remains of a dwelling structure. It is also interesting that sub-assemblage  $F_2$  included three antler objects with traces of use/wear, all of them resembling “axes” in shape. According to K. Cyrek, one of these specimens showed traces of having been used as a hammer.

More evidence was recovered at the housing district *Oporów* in *Wrocław*.<sup>17</sup> Sites  $A_1$ ,  $A_2$  and  $B$  recorded in the area lie at a distance of just 2.25 kilometres or so in a straight line from the site at *Hallera* street, situated on the upland margin and the valley of the *Śleza* river (left hand tributary of the *Odra*). The artefacts occurred almost 2 metres below the ground level. Site  $A_1$  is situated at the northern elevation of the upland, site  $A_2$ , containing artefacts in two layers, on the eastern incline of the same elevation (fig. 12.), site  $B$ —on the southern side of the elevation. The latter is built of till and fluvio-glacial deposits of the *Odranian* glaciation. Sites *Oporów*  $A_1$  and  $A_2$ , with a well identified stratigraphy, lie only 170 metres apart. Artefacts from site  $A_1$  and the lower level of site  $A_2$  formed during a similar period; finds contained by the upper level of site  $A_2$  and isolated artefacts from site  $B$  are slightly younger. Artefacts representing the older horizon are dated by TL and EPR methods to between 66 and 41 ka; artefacts recovered from the upper level of site  $A_2$  and from site  $B$ —to about 35 ka. The period may be synchronised with the final stages of the lower stadial (4 OIS) or the onset of the interpleniglacial, which corresponds to interstadials *Glinde*,

<sup>14</sup> CYREK 2002, 45.

<sup>15</sup> CYREK 2002, 36.

<sup>16</sup> CYREK 2003.

<sup>17</sup> SZYNKIEWICZ–WIŚNIEWSKI 1994.; WIŚNIEWSKI et al. 2003.