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## Pottery kiln from the city of Tropol

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In spring of 2023, as a result of a landslide, the remains of a potter's kiln were discovered on the bank of the Dnieper. This is the territory of the seat of the ancient city of Tropol, located outside the defensive structures of the upper city. This is the first find of this type in the city. According to the maps of the 19<sup>th</sup> - beginning of the 20<sup>th</sup> century, this part had manor buildings. Currently, the territory is used for vegetable gardens and livestock grazing.

The remains of the kiln are represented by its lower part, in which the support of the firing chamber has been preserved. The diameter of the structure is about two meters. It was lowered into a pit below the Old Rus horizon. In her days, round holes with a diameter of about ten centimeters were made. The horn was built of clay with a wooden frame. His prints were preserved on clay. The frame was made of chopped wood. The thickness of the walls was from 10 to 15 cm. The furnace was located on the side of the Dnieper and was destroyed by previous landslides.

Several hundred fragments of Rus time pottery were discovered among the remains of the kiln and next to it. These are fragments of pots. Some of them were not in use and may have been used during the construction of the mine. On several bottoms of the pots, marks resembling a trident were found. According to the rims profiles, the materials from the horn can be dated to the 12<sup>th</sup>-13<sup>th</sup> centuries.

In addition to these ceramics, fragments of Trypilia culture pottery of the BI-II stage were discovered. This is a consequence of the fact that the was inserted into the cultural layer of the settlement of the Trypilian culture, traces of which were also found in this area. Further in the cliff you can see pits, part of which spilled material onto the banks of the Dnieper. This pottery can be dated to the XVII-XVIII centuries. It is possible that pottery production in this part of the city continued even at this time.

The discovery of a potter's kiln on the territory of Tropol post allows us to conclude about the existence of a corresponding craft industry on the territory of the city. The location of the furnaces near the cliff provided good traction during firing. It was previously suggested that the pottery production

was moved outside the city limits. The basis was the discovery of a pottery workshop of the 12<sup>th</sup>-13<sup>th</sup> centuries in 2.5 km in the direction of the village Shcherbanivka. The new find shows that this craft also existed directly on the territory of Trepol. This discovery is a contribution to establishing its historical topography. Further research will allow establishing new details regarding the history of this part of Trepol-Trypilia in the 11<sup>th</sup>-17<sup>th</sup> centuries.