

For the Reader

The 16th Finnish-Russian archaeological symposium was held in Hämeenlinna from 9 to 10 October 2019, with the excursion day following the symposium on 11 October. The theme of the symposium was *Materiality and Objects: Multi-disciplinary Approaches to Archaeological Material and Contexts*. The theme was approached through the subjects of multidisciplinary and interdisciplinarity. The presentations dealt with topics ranging from the Stone Age to the Middle Ages. A total of 16 presentations and two posters were held during the two days of the symposium.

Häme Castle is a medieval castle with a seminar room for conferences and symposia similar to this one. Sixty-one people participated in the symposium and the excursion, which was directed to Häme and Uusimaa. Guided visits to the medieval Holy Cross Church in Hattula, the ancient hillfort of Rapola in Valkeakoski, the Iron Age cemetery in Janakkala and the Mesolithic site of Brunaberget in Vantaa were included in the excursion.

Contributions to the symposium were selected in Finland through an open call for papers. In Russia, the Russian members of the organising committee selected or invited speakers within the Institute for the History of Material Culture, and only a few Russian

participants outside this institution joined the symposium.

Iskos, the series of publications of the Finnish Antiquarian society, was selected as the publishing forum. Several previously published Finnish-Russian archaeological symposia have also been published in Iskos. The present volume includes 10 papers, which had been held as presentations or posters. All the articles have been peer-reviewed by two anonymous referees.

The articles have been arranged in chronological order, from the Stone Age to the historical period. This was done for practical reasons.

The authors were responsible for translating their articles into English. The language check was done mainly by Grano Ltd. Mika Lavento's language check was done by Lisa Muszynski.

The editors wish to thank Mr Mikael E. T. Manninen for designing the cover and layout of the volume. We want to also thank the 21 anonymous reviewers who gave many good suggestions for improvement regarding the texts. We thank the Finnish Antiquarian Society for the financing of the volume's layout and printing it. The Finnish Heritage Agency, Department of Cultural Environment Services, enabled the editing and language check for the book.

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