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**IN MEMORIAM: PROFESSOR STEFAN KAROL KOZŁOWSKI REMEMBERED
BY RESEARCHERS OF THE OLDER AND MIDDLE STONE AGE
FROM THE NICOLAUS COPERNICUS UNIVERSITY INSTITUTE OF ARCHAEOLOGY
(TORUŃ, POLAND)**

In this short text, the authors take a moment to remember Professor Stefan Karol Kozłowski, an avid supporter of many scholarly activities undertaken by researchers from the Institute of Archaeology of the Nicolaus Copernicus University in Toruń.

These activities were particularly vivid in the years 2003–2019, when the Institute had a Department of the Old and Middle Stone Age, headed by Krzysztof Cyrek, whose cooperation with Stefan Kozłowski had dated back to the time of Cyrek's studies and his later work at the Museum of Archaeology and Ethnography in Łódź. In subsequent years, the cooperation was successfully moved to Toruń and extended to the next generation of local researchers.

The Department's staff – apart from Krzysztof Cyrek, the team included Magdalena Sudoł-Procyk, Łukasz Czyżewski, Magdalena Krajcarz, and Grzegorz Osipowicz – studied a wide range of research problems related to the Palaeolithic and Mesolithic, involving interdisciplinary investigation of cave sites in the Polish Jurassic Upland. Among them, the Biśnik Cave, one of the most important Middle Palaeolithic sites in Poland, undoubtedly held a special place. During the excava-

tions, the site was frequently visited and examined by many scholars, including specialists in the Palaeolithic of Central Europe. One of them, of course, was Professor Kozłowski (Fig. 1). In the course of his visits, he would not only carefully analyse the inventories of flint and bone finds from the cave, but also shared his observations with our team. He would always patiently answer any questions asked by the students, often resorting to quickly jotted diagrams on the creation of flint products or sketches illustrating scenes from the lives of ancient hunters and foragers.

Professor Kozłowski was, therefore, a key participant at the international conference “European Middle Palaeolithic during MIS 8 – MIS 3: Cultures – environment – chronology” held in September 2012 in Wolbrom to summarise and celebrate 25 years of research on the cave.¹ During the plenary sessions and field trips to the Biśnik Cave and other caves of the central Jurassic Upland region, the Professor was an extremely active participant (Figs. 2–3), often speaking in discussions.

During another conference, this time organised by the Institute of Archaeology of the Nicolaus Copernicus University in Toruń and the District Museum in Toruń

¹ Cyrek *et al.* 2012.



Fig. 1. Field consultation on finds from the Biśnik Cave at the Educational and Scientific Centre of Silesian Voivodship Landscape Parks in Smoleń, July 2000 (pictured from the left: B. Ginter, K. Cyrek, S. K. Kozłowski, and A. Dagnan-Ginter). Photo by M. Sudoł.



Fig. 2. Prof. S. K. Kozłowski at the entrance to the Biśnik Cave, during the field session of the conference “European Middle Palaeolithic during MIS 8 – MIS 3: Cultures – Environment – Chronology”, 26th of September 2012. Photo by Ł. Czyżewski.



Fig. 3. Prof. S. K. Kozłowski in front of the Stajnia Cave, during the field session of the conference “European Middle Palaeolithic during MIS 8 – MIS 3: Cultures – Environment – Chronology”, 26th of September 2012. Photo by Ł. Czyżewski.



Fig. 4. Presentation by Prof. S. K. Kozłowski during the 10th meeting of the SKAM association: “Artefact in Spatial Arrangements. Kshemienitsa – Concentration – Site – Region”, 24th of October 2013. Photo by Ł. Czyżewski.

and held on October 23rd–25th of October 2013 by the Institute of Archaeology of the Nicolaus Copernicus University in Toruń and the District Museum in Toruń (10th meeting of the SKAM association: “Artefact in Spatial Arrangements. Kshemienitsa – Concentration – Site – Region”), Professor Kozłowski made his mark with a talk that took less than an hour on the “Ceramic Mesolithic of Mazovia and Podlasie” (Fig. 4).² After this insightful lecture, illustrated with author’s own beautifully succinct sketches (Fig. 5), a remarkably interesting discussion arose between the speaker and other Neolithic researchers, in particular Professor Stanisław Kukawka (Fig. 6). Excerpts from the talk were published in the post-conference volume *Anthropologie. International Journal of Human Diversity and Evolution*³ in the form of an article titled “The Janislawice standard and its implications”.

² Kozłowski 2013.

³ Cyrek, Czyżewski 2016.

There, the author highlights the co-occurrence of the Neman pottery with the late Mesolithic Janislawice Culture flint in assemblages from central and eastern Poland in the 5th millennium BC. This was an important reference to the concept of the “ceramic Mesolithic”, once proposed by the author and later widely discussed in the professional literature.⁴

One of the results of Krzysztof Cyrek’s close cooperation and personal relationship with Professor Kozłowski was the latter’s participation in PhD defences conducted at the Department of Older and Middle Stone Age. In total, Professor reviewed three dissertations while working for this institution: by Łukasz Czyżewski, Magdalena Sudoł and Ewa Jurzysta (Fig. 7). These reviews will go down in the annals of the faculty for unique reason: each of the reviews was written in a style peculiar only

⁴ E.g. Kozłowski 1971; 2009; 2016; Cyrek *et al.* 1985; Kukawka 2010.



Fig. 5. One of the slides illustrating Prof. S. K. Kozłowski's seminal presentation titled "Ceramic Mesolithic of Mazovia and Podlasie", delivered at the 10th meeting of the SKAM association. Photo by Ł. Czyżewski.



Fig. 6. Discussion between Prof. S. K. Kozłowski and Prof. S. Kukawka during the 10th meeting of the SKAM association: "Artefact in Spatial Arrangements. Kshemienitsa – Concentration – Site – Region", 24th of October 2013. Photo by Ł. Czyżewski.



Fig. 7. Prof. S. K. Kozłowski as a reviewer and examination board member (along with Prof. K. Cyrek, Prof. J. M. Burdukiewicz and Prof. D. Makowiecki), during the defence of the doctoral thesis by M. Sudoł, 8th of September 2013. Photo by Ł. Czyżewski.

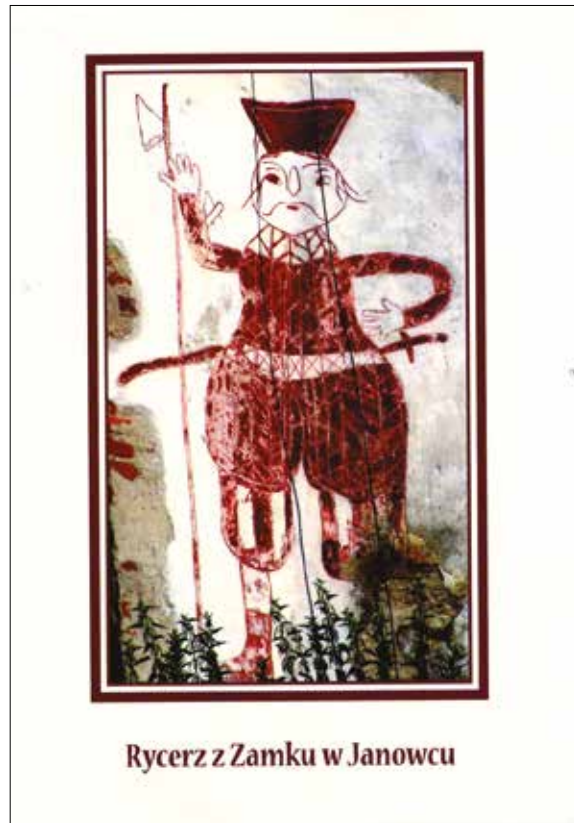


Fig. 8. A postcard from Professor Kozłowski to G. Osipowicz.

to Professor, which was the height of conciseness and synthesis, causing profound consternation in the Dean's office at the time. His reviews, usually covering only a page and a half with quotations, in the Professor's sweeping handwriting, have become the stuff of anecdote at the institute.

Professor Kozłowski's one-of-a-kind directness and succinctness were also experienced by Grzegorz Osipowicz, whose research on Mesolithic sites in the

Chelmino-Dobrzyń Lake District at some point entered the Professor's sphere of interest. The discussions with Professor (too few, in hindsight) were invaluable to Osipowicz, then a young Mesolithic researcher: he had the pleasure of discussing the chronology and cultural affiliation of the sites he studied, and, above all, the typological classification of the flint microliths they had yielded. As Osipowicz recalls, Professor Kozłowski had the remarkable and enviable ability to determine the cultural

affiliation of a given collection based on a few simple yet crucial questions relating to the forms of the microliths present, and (which was particularly fascinating) a few hand drawings (actually, schematic outlines of geometric forms) based on these descriptions. The most memorable and personally moving moment for Grzegorz Osipowicz, however, was when he received an unexpected postcard from Professor Kozłowski in which, without unnecessary formalities and introductions, Professor asked a question relating to several drawings of flints included in his book (Fig. 8). As Osipowicz recalls, he had never before and never since been so surprised and embarrassed, but at

the same time proud of the fact that a person of such scientific reputation was interested in his research and, more importantly, addressed him in such an unusual and candid manner.

We are particularly grateful to Professor not only for his direct participation in the scholarly activities of the Institute of Archaeology of the Nicolaus Copernicus University in Toruń, but also, indirectly, in the training of the next generation of archaeologists, attested, for example, by their continued use of his publications on Palaeolithic and especially Mesolithic studies.⁵

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⁵ E.g. Kozłowski 1989; 2009.