

PREFACE

This volume is the first of a series of three volumes presenting the results of the excavations at Panskoye I, a settlement in north-western Crimea. This volume contains the results of the excavations of the so-called monumental building U6, one of several such building complexes forming the larger part of the settlement. Volume 2 will deal with the necropolis adjoining the settlement, and volume 3 with its remaining building complexes, including U7, which was originally laid out as a fortress with four rounded corner towers. Altogether the site was only settled during a comparatively short time span – from *c.* 400 B.C. to around 270 B.C. During its first *c.* fifty years of existence the settlement apparently formed part of the *chora* of Olbia, but after being destroyed around 350 B.C. it was included in the *chora* of the rapidly expanding city of Tauric Chersonesos.

The excavations at Panskoye I form part of a large-scale archaeological landscape study of the coastal zone of north-western Crimea carried out by the so-called Tarkhankut Expedition since 1959. This project is presented in the Introduction.

This volume is the result of joint efforts of members of the Institute of the History of Material Culture, Russian Academy of Sciences, St Petersburg, and of the Institute of Classical Archaeology, University of Aarhus. In 1994, a collaboration between these two institutions resumed the excavations at the site, which had been discontinued in 1990 due to lack of funding. The new joint expedition was financed by INTAS, for whose sustained support we shall always remain grateful. Without the opportunity which the creation of this organization offered us, we could never have inaugurated this joint effort. Originally we planned a continuation of the fieldwork for at least three years, but the political situation in the Crimea prevented us from carrying out this plan. However, what in the spring of 1995 seemed like a serious set-back, soon turned into a benefit from a scientific point of view, because it forced us to turn our efforts to the publication of the huge body of information and material that had been collected since 1969, a task with which the team has been involved since 1996.

Apart from INTAS, other foundations and institutions have supported our work throughout this long period. Thus the Danish team received support from the Novo-Nordisk Foundation, and both teams from the Faculty of Humanities of the University of Aarhus and the Research Foundation of the University of Aarhus, without whose support we could not have finished this first volume.

In autumn 2000 the newly created Danish Centre for Advanced Studies in the Humanities generously offered a one-year grant to Lise Hannestad and Vladimir Stolba – an opportunity for intensive collaboration in the last phase of the work and the editing of this volume. Printing costs have been covered by the Danish Research Council for the Humanities and the Research Foundation of the University of Aarhus. We are truly grateful to all these institutions. In the coming years the recently established Danish National Research Foundation's Centre for Black Sea Studies at the University of Aarhus will support the continued work on volumes 2 and 3.

Many people have kindly assisted us, among them colleagues in our institutes who have offered advice and encouragement. We owe a very special thanks to Alexei Gilevič for translating the Russian manuscripts into English, to Julian Ward and Patricia Lunddahl for the



huge task of correcting respectively our 'Russian' and 'Danish' English. Aarhus University Press, its former director Toennes Bekker-Nielsen and its present director Claes Hvidbak, assisted by their staff, including Mary Lund and Anette Juul Hansen, have undauntedly undertaken the publishing of a manuscript of this size and complexity. During the excavation campaigns S. Il'in and T. Oznobišina assisted with the architectural measuring of U6, and M. Agoranjan, M. Kazanceva, and T. Eršova with the photographing and drawing of the finds. Restoration of artefacts was carried out by O. Plamenevskaja and N. Chvoščinskaja (pottery) and I. Bogdanova-Berezovskaja (metal, glass). Drawings of finds and figures for this volume were prepared by the authors (S. KašaeV, S. Monachov, E. Rogov, V. Stolba, A. Ščeglov) and O. Andreeva.

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