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A BARBAROUS IMITATION OF A ROMAN DENARIUS FROM SKOWRONNO DOLNE, GMINA PIŃCZÓW, ŚWIĘTOKRZYSKIE VOIVODESHIP

In 2011 the new archaeological site no. 12 has been discovered at Skowronno Dolne, *gmina* Pińczów. The earliest settlement phase of the Przeworsk Culture at that site is indicated by the artefacts linked with the older phase of the Early Roman period. One of the much interesting finds from the site is a coin that may be considered a barbarous imitation of a 2nd-century AD Roman denarius issued under the Antonine dynasty. The obverse of the coin represents a barbarized image of an emperor's head, right. The series of the repetitive irregular symbols in the form of arches and wavy lines, reminiscent of the characters J or U (it is possible to discern at least 21), inserted around the head, is an entirely geometrized representation of legends featured on the original Roman coinage. A similar imitation of the inscription encircles the reverse image. composed of a series of intersecting lines forming the background of an irregular figure whose shape resembles a schematic image of a standing person (Victoria?). This unsophisticated way of imitating the obverse and reverse of the original Roman denarii has no precise counterpart among the imitations known from the territory of Poland.