



# Inspired by signs on the bricks, or David of Turaida Castle

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# Buiding ceramics of Turaida Castle

Catalogue «Building Ceramics of Turaida Castle in the 13th-17th centuries»

Compiled by Ieva Ose

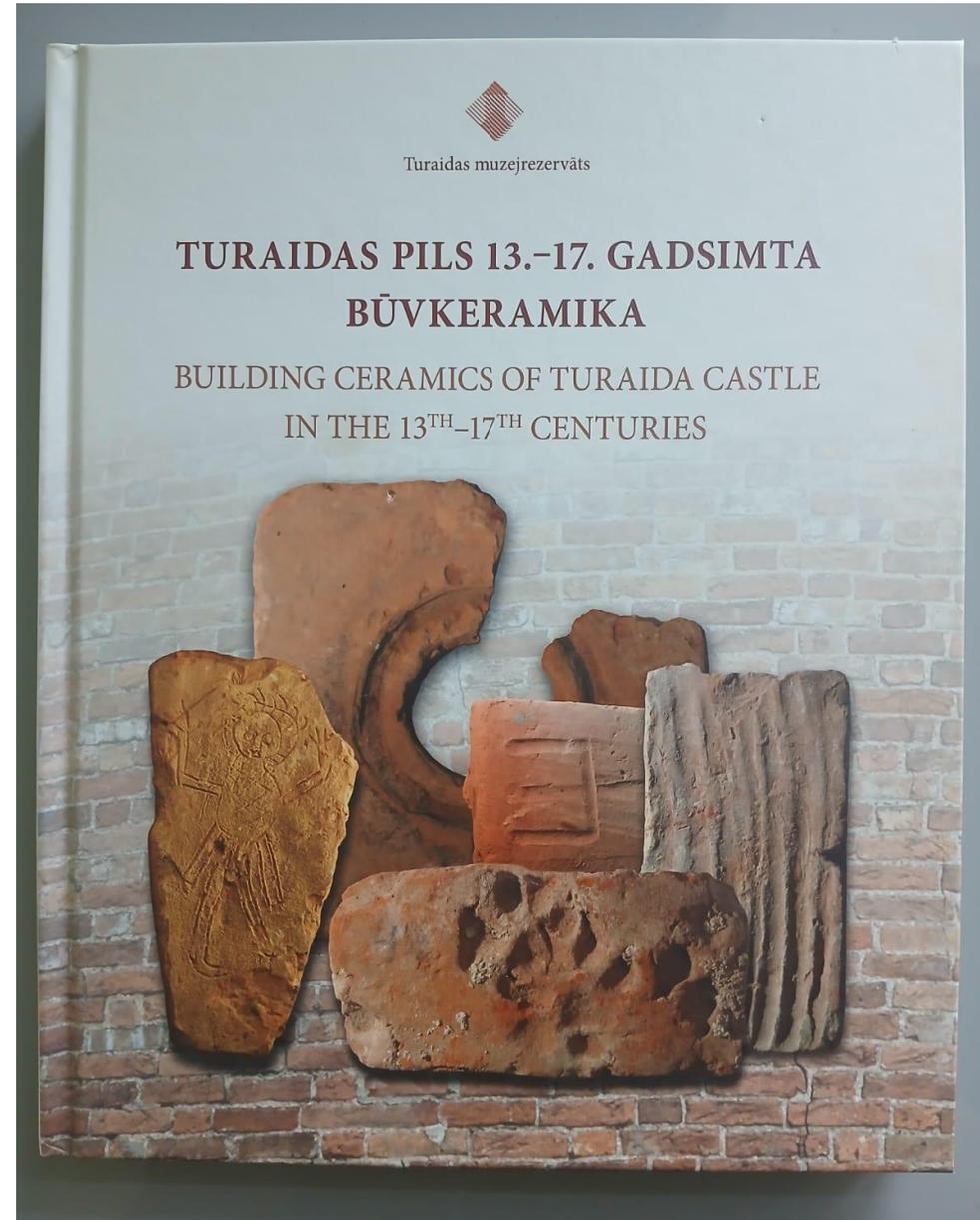
The Turaida Museum Reserve, 2015

The introduction to the Catalogue presents an insight in the development of building ceramics of Turaida Castle, and also in Latvia at large, the Baltic Sea Region, and Europe. A detailed summarisation of the documentary information on medieval Livonian brick-kilns, brick production and application in construction is given.

And 99 characteristic samples of building ceramics.

Languages – Latvian, English

<https://e.turaida-muzejs.lv/book/turaidas-pils-13-17-gadsimta-buvkeramika>



# Hand drawn image on the brick

ID nr. – TMR 20788  
Size – 30 x 14 x 8 cm

Info – The profile displays an irregular pentagon with two right angles.

A human figure in frontal view is outlined, by making deepened lines with a sharp tool, the arms of the figure are bent in elbows and rised upwards, and thge legs are in side view. There are criss-cross lines on the body, possibly depicting armour.

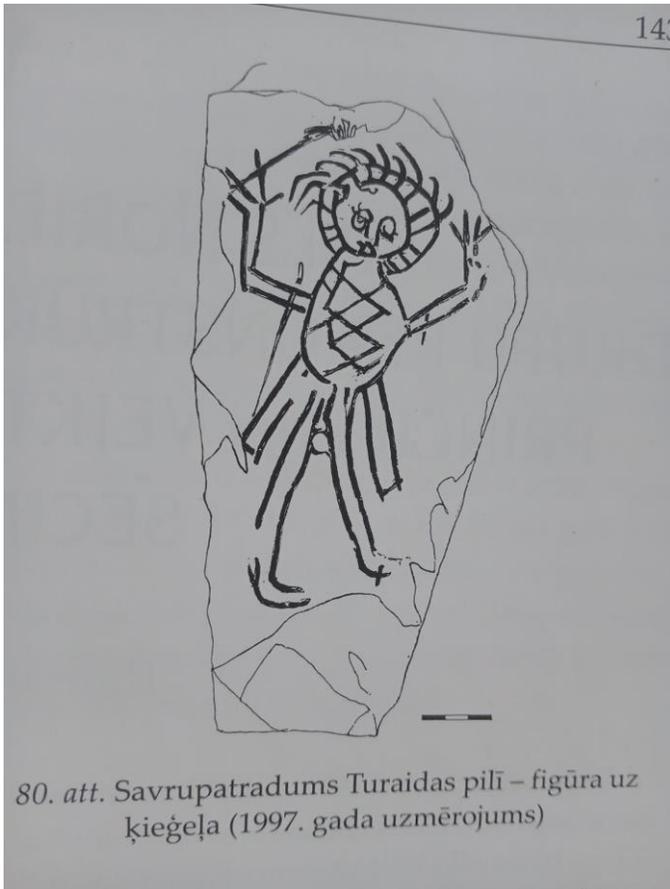
Found in VI excavation area, in the semi-basement of the east-northern part of the residential apartments of the core of the castle, in 1997.

Possibly, it was applied in the slanting edge of the window niche (Jansons, 2007)

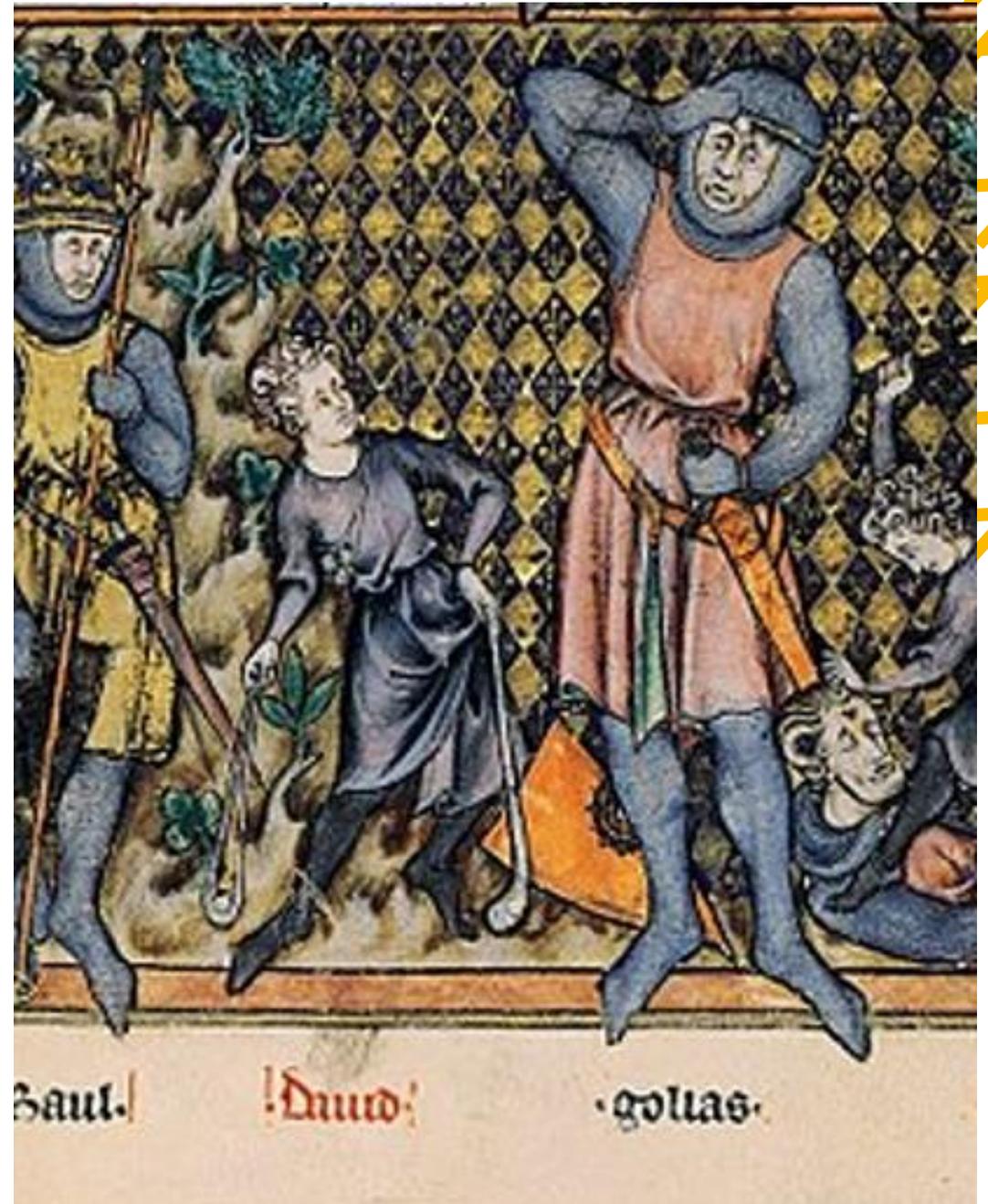
Made in the 13th-14th centuries.



# What did the ancient author want to portray?

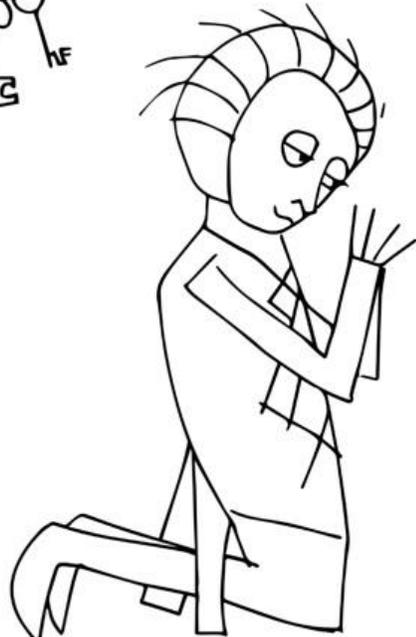


# David and Goliath?

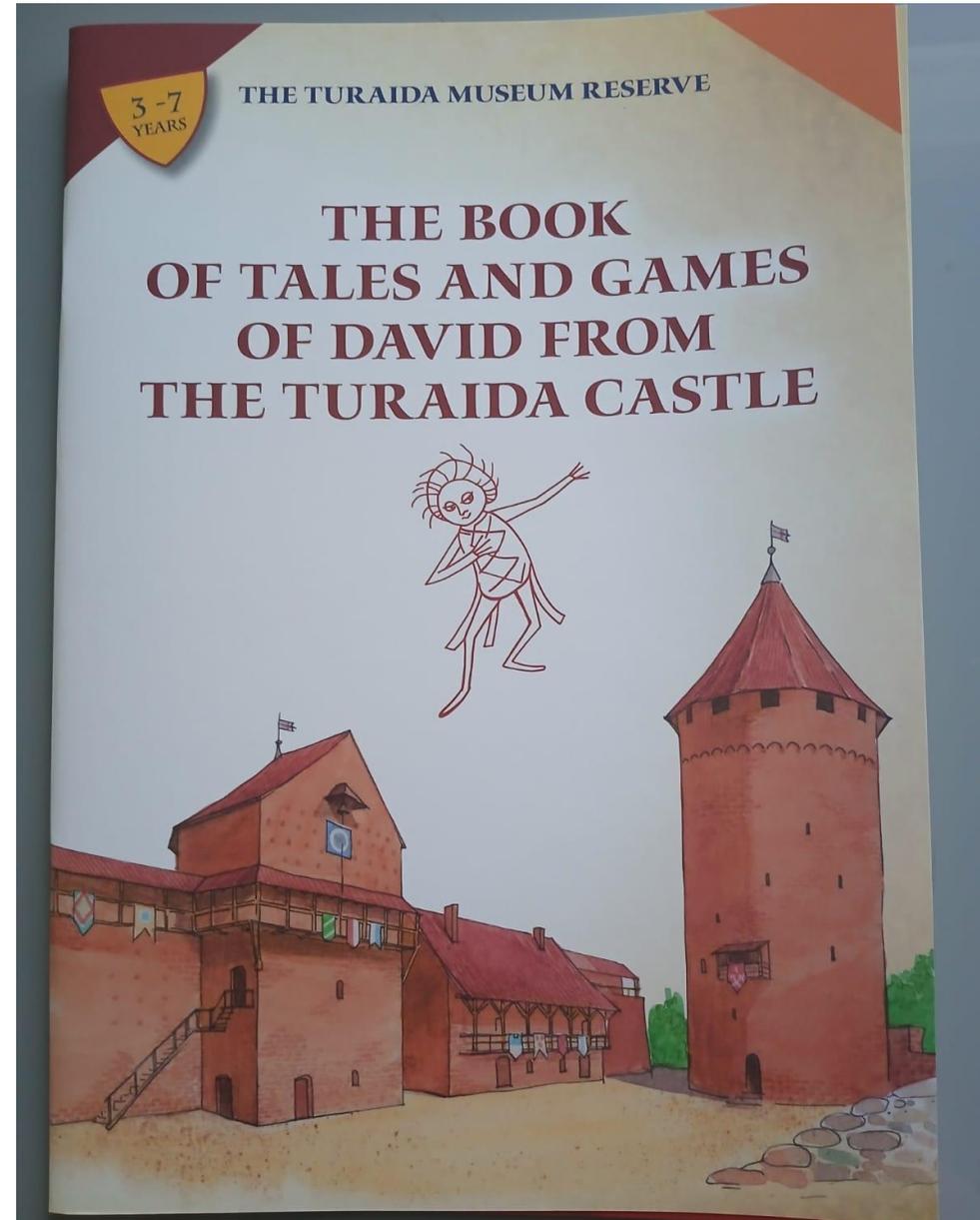


# Drawings by Una Leitane

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**My name is David. I  
would like to be your  
friend on your trip  
through Turaida  
Castle**



## LET ME INTRODUCE MYSELF!

My name is David. I would like to be your friend on your trip through Turaida Castle.

Once upon a time someone painted me on a freshly made wet brick. And so I started my life in the Turaida Castle. More than twenty years ago archeologists found and recognized me due to the sling I was holding in my hand\* – just like David from the Bible. The wise book – the Bible – has a story about the brave shepherd David who fought the giant Goliath\*. The tall and strong Goliath had defeated everyone and there were no men left brave enough to confront his mightiness.

Although David was a little boy, he won the giant with his wisdom and determination.



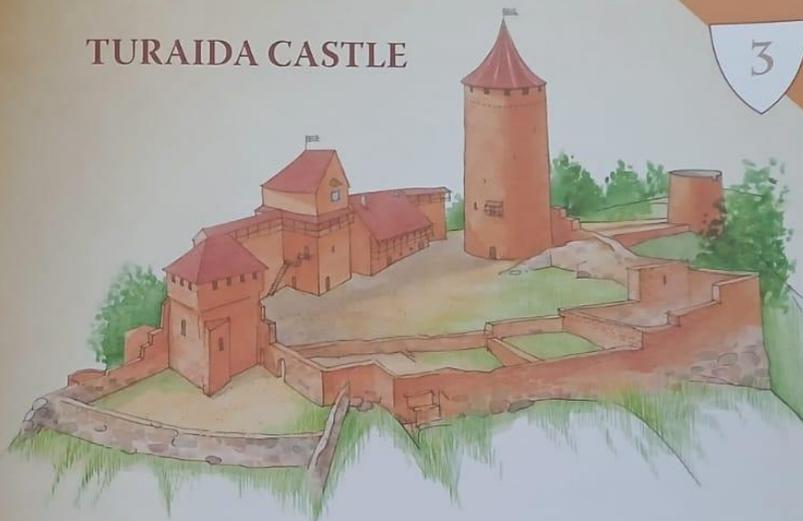
*Here you can see the brick with the painting of David holding a sling in his hand, ready to throw it, found in the Turaida Castle. His left eye is closed for aiming and he is ready to start the battle with a giant Goliath.*

### During our journey in time you will:

- ◆ Learn about the Turaida Castle through various tasks.
- ◆ See ancient artefacts that I like the most.
- ◆ Also find a sticker page with geometric shapes for construction of the castle, and little shields for numbering the pages of the book.
- ◆ Learn new words – you will notice an asterisk\* with some words. Check the meaning of this particular word in the “Dictionary” at the end of the book!



## TURAJDA CASTLE



Turaida Castle is more than 800 years old. Its construction began in 1214. The Castle is located on a steep hill with the Gauja River running at its foot. Turaida Castle is a mighty fortress. It is surrounded by massive defensive walls. The Castle has several towers. The longest of them is the Main Tower.

In the old days there were many buildings inside the castle. There were living rooms, sleeping rooms, prayer rooms, a large hall, a kitchen, storerooms for food and an armoury, a prison, a brewery, a smithy, a mill and other premises.

Now a museum has been made in the Turaida Castle, waiting for your visits every day, and you can say “Hello” to me in the basement of the western block of the Castle!

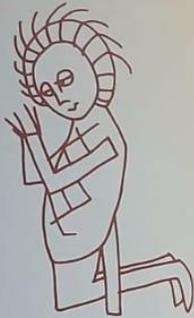
### PAINT THE LETTERS USING DIFFERENT COLOURS!

# TURAJDA



I and the people that lived in the castle believed in God. The daily order in the castle was organized according to set prayer times. Everyone was called to prayers and meals by the sounds of a bell.

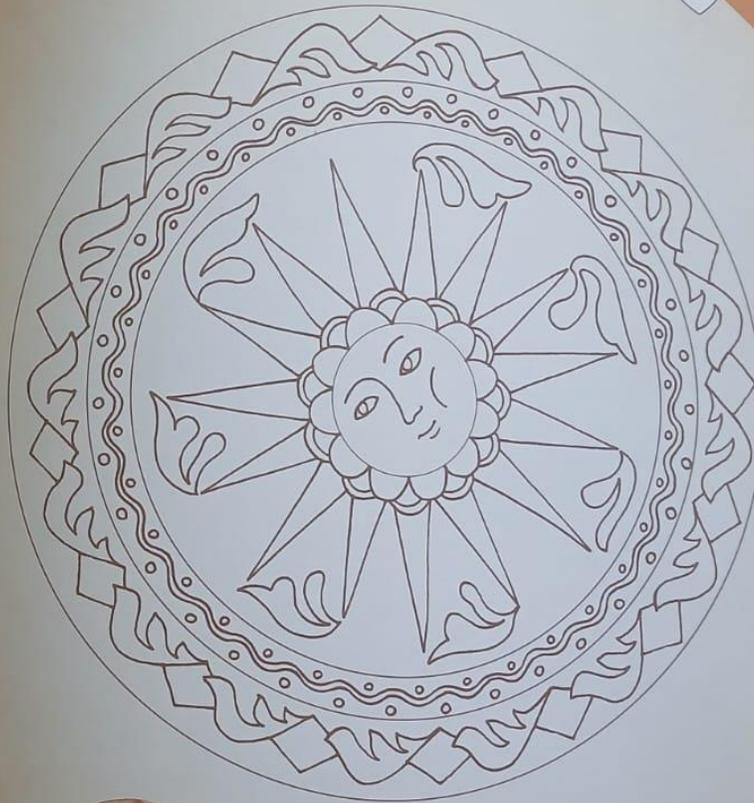
During meals castle inhabitants gathered in the hall. Masters and servants, according to the position they held, sat by separate tables. I was mostly interested in the guests from foreign countries who also took part in the meals and told wonderful stories.



**WRITE THE MISSING NUMBERS IN THE CLOCKFACE!**



**COLOUR IT!**



A CLAY PLATE, DATING BACK TO THE 17TH CENTURY, FOUND IN THE TURAIDA CASTLE

# David from the Turaida Castle – the symbol of the children’s line

Exhibition «David eats, but does not break the dishes»

The digital game «David goes to defend his home»

«David follows the footsteps of the crusades»

David’s route in the Turaida Castle





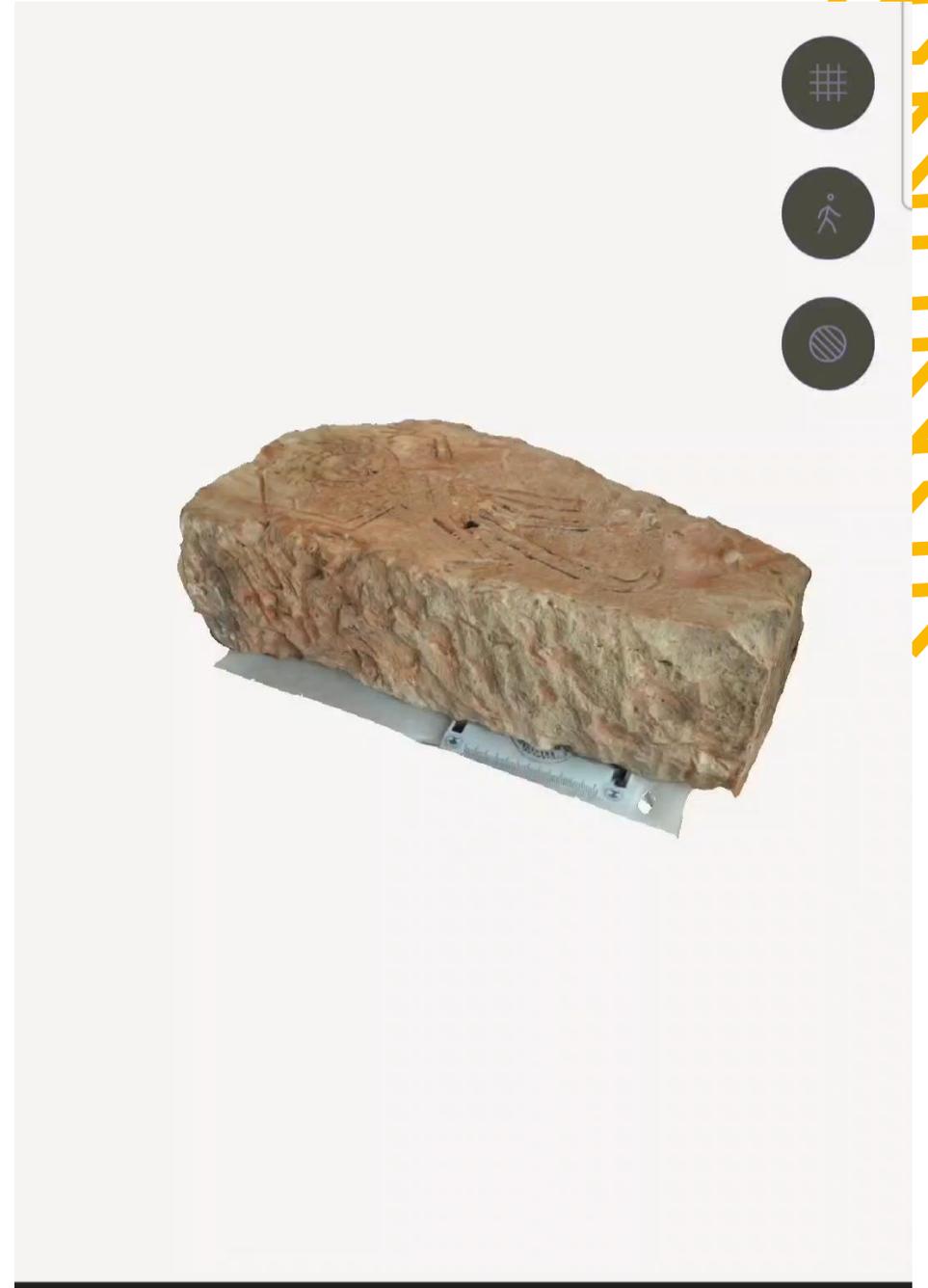
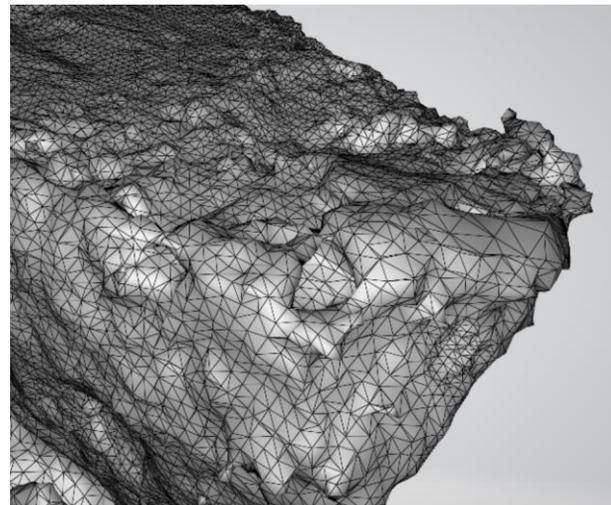
# «David goes to defend his home»



# «David follows the footsteps of the crusades»



# The digitalisation of museum objects



**Thank you!**

[www.turaida-muzejs.lv](http://www.turaida-muzejs.lv)

