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## Preface

This work aims to inform those interested about the results of the archaeological excavations conducted by colleagues of the museum Jósa András of Nyíregyháza and carried out on the archaeological site from Csengersima “*Hatórátkelő*” (Szabolcs -Szatmár -Bereg megye, Hungary) dating from the Middle Bronze Age. Since not all the archaeological materials from the Middle Bronze Age features have been drawn, we feel obliged to make an overview of the pottery and of the cross-cultural relations as soon as possible. I need to specify the fact that the settlement at Csengersima makes also the subject of my PhD thesis entitled *The Middle Bronze Age in the Lower Someş Basin*, therefore all the aspects I have dealt with in general terms or might have even omitted here will be detailed in my future work.

I was offered the entire archaeological material and documentation for publication: photographs, drawings features, as well as the ground plan of the excavation journal, by my colleagues who have carried out the research: Dr. Istvánovits Eszter and Dr. Almássy Katalin. I am sending them special thanks for the help, suggestions and support they have provided, as well as for the fruitful cooperation during my participation in the archaeological excavations on the M3 motorway in Hungary, in the period between 2004-2006.

I made my documentation at the Jósa András Museum of Nyíregyháza and I was kindly provided with support and assistance from the archaeologists: Dr. Németh Péter, Dr. Kurucz Katalin, Nagy Mártha, Jakab Attila, Lukács Jozsef, Scholtz Róbert, Pintye Gábor, Balász Gergely; and restorers: Szinyéri Péterné, Takácsné Varga Ágnes, Németh Erika and Mester Andrea. I would also like to thank the former and current managers of the Jósa András Museum: Dr. Dám László and Dr. Bene János for the logistic support they offered me in the past, as well as for their perseverance in doing so in the present.

For support and assistance I thank my colleagues of the County Museum of Satu Mare with whom I worked at the M3 motorway in Hungary: Ciprian Astaloş, Robert Gindele, Kádas Zoltan, Liviu Marta and Szőcs Levente Péter.

I thank the former and present managers of the County Museum of History and Archaeology of Maramureş: Grigore Man, Dr. Carol Kacsó, PhD. Viorel Rusu for understanding my need to travel to the Museum of Nyíregyháza over shorter or longer periods of time.

The graphic and the ink drawings were made by my talented colleagues Zamfir Şomcutean and Gavril Moldovan. Alina Filip from the museum of Baia Mare is the author of the digital processing of the drawings and the documentation of the excavations. I am grateful to all of them.

I also thank my colleague Szőcs Levente Péter, the project manager, for his trust in me and for his patience that I have often tested.

The suggestions and the corrections of the text in Romanian were made by my colleagues and friends Sorin Oană-Marghitu from the National History Museum of Romania, Alexandru Dragoman from the Archaeological Institute „Vasile Pârvan” of Bucharest and by Oana Leşiu from the County Museum of History and Archaeology of Maramureş.

The Hungarian translation of the excavations journal was made by Feleg Erika Rosa.Thank you.

I hope that the publishing of the results of the research from Csengersima-*Hatórátkelő* will contribute to a better knowledge of the Middle Bronze Age in the Someş Plain.

## I. The archaeological site at Petea- Csengersima. The excavation method.

The place called “*Határátkelő*” (border, frontier) is located in the east of Csengersima town, on the border between Romania and Hungary, right where the customs of Petea – Csengersima is today; about 8 km east of the right side of the Someş river course today, along the former course of the Erge brook. The archaeological site is situated along both banks of this brook and is oriented east-northeast – west-southwest as it can be found on a military map made during the time of Joseph II (1765-1790) and extends in Romania, too. The brook has been rectified and looks like a canal, and it has been partially channelled.

Since one of the customs points between Hungary and Romania was going to be built here, the Hungarian National Directorate of Customs asked the Jósa András Museum to find whether the place reveals any archaeological sites. The site was uncovered as a result of a fieldwalking carried out by the archaeologists from the Jósa András Museum of Nyíregyháza, in 1998. This type of research was followed by an archaeological survey which aimed to assess the archaeological potential of the site. Given the importance of archaeological finds it was decided that the whole area that was to be built should have been archaeologically investigated.

The archaeological excavations was conducted by Istvánovits Eszter and Almássy Katalin and had two stages: the first stage was carried out between September 24 and November 18, 1998, and the second stage lasted from March 17 to July 9, 1999. The surface under the project spread over about three hectares ( $32.384 \text{ m}^2$ ) and the excavations uncovered 1867 archaeological features that have been investigated.

Archaeological excavations were carried out both mechanically and manually. Thus, the humus was removed through mechanized action into strips of 5-7 m wide, until they reached the features at the level of the sterile soil, most of the times because of deep ploughing. Features dug into the cultural layer dating from the Middle Bronze Age were identified where there were substantial anthropogenic deposits. Trenches or surfaces were not opened in order to explain the stratigraphic situation. Successive scraping and the digging of the features were made manually. The method of the archaeological research that was used allowed a full research of the area to be built. The features identified there were numbered in order of their discovery, then they were sectioned and emptied at the level of their outline, after that they were drawn and finally completely emptied. In accordance with the complexity of the archaeological situation (crossing features, for example) several sections were made, keeping bulks in the order to clarify the stratigraphic relation between the features or their cultural assignmen. The intensive Roman habitation disturbed to a large extent of the previous habitations, thus there had been many situations in which Roman features destroyed more or less the features of the Middle Bronze Age.

Also, in my opinion, the method had shortcomings: only where recent archaeological features had been identified (Roman Age features or Early Medieval features) some observations were made about the stratigraphy of the site; by scraping to the level of the sterile soil (where the features were identified) the information about the ancient building / digging level of the features was lost – thus their cultural award was possible only through the archaeological inventory. In other words, the partial observations regarding the prophile of the features or their depth shorten the conclusions.

The oldest traces of habitation from *Határátkelő* belonged to the Middle Bronze Age, followed by traces of the Late Bronze Age, then by the traces of the Roman Age (c. II-IV AD) and of the Early Mediaeval Age (c. VII-IX AD). The most intense habitation belongs to the Roman Age, most of the features dating from this period (houses, pits, wells etc.)<sup>1</sup>.

The rescue excavations undertaken on the Romanian territory were carried out by archaeologists from the County Museum of Satu Mare<sup>2</sup> in several stages: the first excavation season (October 27 1998 -May 1999) developed simultaneously with the constructing the customs building. While the second and the third excavation season (September 1999, May 2004, respectively) were the result of new construction works in the customs area.

At the beginning of research, the humus was manually excavated, later on, this layer was mechanically removed. An area of 3637 square meters was investigated in the Romanian side,

<sup>1</sup> Almássy, Istvánovits, Marta, Pop 2009; Almássy, Istvánovits 2001, 139, no.59; Almássy, Istvánovits 2002, 191-192, no.80.

<sup>2</sup> J. Németi, Gh. Lazin, L. Marta, R. Gindele, C. Astaloş.

within which 174 archaeological features belonging to the Late Bronze Age and to the Roman time were identified and excavated<sup>3</sup>.

## **II. Interpretation of the Middle Bronze Age archaeological features**

It should be mentioned from the beginning that the assigning of the features found in Csengersima was based on the ceramic that might have belonged to the early phase of the Suciu de Sus culture. When we assigned the features to a certain category or when we established their functions we considered the descriptions, observations and considerations in the fieldwork diary elaborated by Istvánovits Eszter and Almássy Katalin.

In order to become familiar with the material, I have studied the artefacts that were found in 1867 features, and those of the Middle Bronze Age were all photographed and largely drawn in the period 2004-2009.

When we assigned certain features to the Middle Bronze Age, we considered in particular the decoration technique of the ceramics, as well as other features: the fabric, the ceramic types and their spatial distribution throughout the site.

It has happened many times that the subsequent habitations have destroyed the depositions that had belonged to the Middle Bronze Age, thus the materials were mixed with objects of later features. Without knowing for certain the type of feature that was excavated, we included those as well in our repertoire because they showed the extent of the settlement dating from the Middle Bronze Age.

Based on these considerations, we could assign 82 features to the Middle Bronze Age, and in other 62 features that belong to later periods there were present Bronze Age artefacts. In 50 cases Middle Bronze Age materials were found in Roman Age features, in nine cases they were present in Late Bronze Age features, in two cases they occurred in Early Mediaeval contexts, and there was only one case with mixed materials of the Late Bronze Age and Roman Age.

The finds of the Middle Bronze Age were concentrated in the western side of the investigated area from Határátkelő. We could not specify the extent or density of the settlement within the un-excavated surface, but there is no doubt that it continued towards the west terrace. There are also five cases in which such artefacts appeared in the central, eastern and northern part, west of the Erge brook, but no such discovery was made in the eastern part that was excavated east of that brook or in the Romanian side of the site (Petea customs point).

### **II.1. Houses**

This category includes 20 features of which 9 were quasi-rectangular within the ground-plan, 8 were oval, one was circular (1109), one had not been documented (935), and another house was destroyed by a Roman Age feature (1009), its shape being impossible to outline. Except the houses that will be next mentioned, most of the features there were not found heating systems, post holes, clay floor or other elements that could assign them to that category. Lacking in such specific elements, the authors of the archaeological investigation have included them in the category of the pits, except a few situations.

In most cases, because of the excavation method applied, the identification of the features was made at the level of the sterile soil and not at the level they had been built. Thus, any attempt to classify them in accordance with their depth could lead to wrong conclusions.

#### **II.1.1. Surface houses**

We included in this category five features with or without clay floors. Only three cases illustrated such arrangements, which were more or less disturbed by the subsequent habitations, and in one of the cases it could only be assumed. Two of the features were quasi-rectangular, while the size of the other two was impossible to determine with certainty. The best preserved was the floor of the house 566. That was the largest floor preserved; it had a surface of 11.4 square meters and dimensions of 380 x 300 cm. We could appreciate that house 569 had significant dimensions, as indicated by the part that was preserved from it (258 x 304 cm). House 1009 must have been large too, based on the remains that were preserved *in situ* and according to the daub /

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<sup>3</sup> Almássy, Istvánovits, Marta, Pop 2009; Németi, Lazin, Gindele, Marta 2000, 74 no. 104; Marta 2005, 75-94, Marta 2009, 10-11.

floor fragments drawn into the Roman Age well. The preserved dimensions of the burnt clay platform in this case were: 170 x 90 cm, 20 cm thick. Although we had little information about house 935, located between the post holes 936-939, and preserved as a daub agglomeration with unclear shape, we could assume that it belongs to the surface houses type the more so as there were four post holes around the feature.

Another surface house is feature 578, with a significant size (300 X 740 cm), 10 cm thick, but without clay floor.

Without being able to draw a certain conclusion, all the features in this category are, with one exception, quasi-rectangular in shape.

From the early phase of the Suciu de Sus culture several sites are known where surface houses were uncovered. Unfortunately they are often only mentioned, sometimes they are described and only in a few cases they are illustrated<sup>4</sup>. Thus, several surface houses<sup>5</sup> are mentioned at Lăpușel “Ciurgău”; at Medieșu Aurit “Suculeu”, three or four houses are mentioned, but information is provided only for one of them (L4), namely that it was rectangular in shape and was 1.50 x 0.90 m in size<sup>6</sup>. In the Transcarpathian Ukraine, at Diakovo “Kiserda”, four surface houses with ovens inside them were found. One of the house spread over an area of 28 square meters, it had rectangular shape, and an oven in the centre. The second house was destroyed, but it covered an area of approximately 30-32 square meters. Also at Diakovo, in the point called “Mondicitag”, three such houses were uncovered. One of them was rectangular (5.8 x 5 m); in the south-eastern corner there was an oven, and in the opposite corner – a hearth<sup>7</sup>. The second house had similar shape, dimensions of 7.40 x 5-3.60 m and covered an area of 29-30 square meters; an oven and a pit were found inside<sup>8</sup>. The third house had 24 square meters, an oven in its centre, and a pit in the eastern part. Also, at Solotvino, seven such houses of different sizes and quadrilateral in shape, were excavated. Six of them had clay floors with a thickness of 8-10 cm, one had a hearth inside, while in houses nos. 18 and 20 the post holes were identified. They were rather small houses as, for example, house no.17 had 2.85 x 2 m<sup>9</sup>. Similar houses are mentioned in the settlement from Kvasove II<sup>10</sup>.

## II.1.2. Pithouses

I assigned to this category of constructions the features that were more or less deepened into the sterile soil and with larger sizes than the pits. The features are rectangular and oval in shape and none had clay floors. So, we can conclude that unlike the pithouses, only the surface constructions had clay floors<sup>11</sup>.

Of the seven rectangular pithouses, some are large-sized<sup>12</sup>, others are smaller<sup>13</sup>, probably as a result of the purpose they were built for. We could assume that the small ones were used as household annexes. The same interpretation applies to the seven oval-shaped pithouses<sup>14</sup>.

A special case among the features with circular shape, but with significant sizes for a pit, is represented by feature 1109. A group of several ceramic sherds were found at about 1-1.5 m north-east of the feature, at a depth of 25 cm. Archaeologists who carried out the research assumed that they originated from pit 1109 because successive scrapping under the group of sherds did not reveal any feature they could have originated from. The fragments reached this

<sup>4</sup> See to this Pop D. 2008.

<sup>5</sup> Kacsó 1995, 84; Kacsó 2004b, 72.

<sup>6</sup> Bader 1978, 66; Iercoşan 1993, 86 no.24.

<sup>7</sup> Balaguri 1974, 28-32, fig.2-4.

<sup>8</sup> Balaguri 1974, 32-34, fig.2.

<sup>9</sup> Kobal' 1997, 120, fig.8; Vasiliev 2002, 30-32, pl.8-9.

<sup>10</sup> Kobal' 2007, 585.

<sup>11</sup> Vasiliev 2002, 31.

<sup>12</sup> Features: 1496 with dimensions of 220 X 330 cm and of 30 cm deep; 544 D with dimensions of 340 X 370 cm and of 60 cm deep; 1150 with dimensions of 520 X 880 cm and 30 cm deep; 1155 with dimensions of 490 X 390 cm and with a depth varying from 40 to 60 cm.

<sup>13</sup> Features: 597 with dimensions of 200 X 165 cm; depth: 40 cm , 780 B 170 X 295 cm, depth: 35 cm; 780 C had dimensions of 76 x 200 cm and 35 cm in depth.

<sup>14</sup>It's about features: 772 A, sizes: 330 X 210 cm, depth: 10-40 cm; 780, sizes: 220 X 500 cm, depth: 35 cm; 830, sizes: 274 X 150 cm, depth: 30 cm; 1104, sizes: 190 X 240 (?) cm, depth: 38 cm; 1105, sizes: 316 cm, depth: 36 cm; 1284 B, sizes: 180 X 265 cm, depth: 40 and 60 cm; 1302, dimensions: 280 x 300 cm, 20 cm in depth.

secondary position after they had been pulled out from the surface of the pit 1109 by the excavator used for removing the humus. The pit was almost circular, the walls were steep and inclined towards the outside, and the base was flat. In the dark grey fill that contained daub and charcoal there were also a fragment of a stone grinder, daub with rod-prints, and several sherds. In the eastern part of the pit, towards the bottom, the fill turned grey and contained yellow inclusions. Considering the large size (260 x 246 cm, 42 cm deep), the presence of daub with rod-prints and the restorable ceramics, this feature might have been a pithouse, although such constructions with circular forms are not known in the area of the Suciu de Sus culture in any of the phases defined so far.

Pithouses are mentioned at several sites: at Culciu Mic “*La gropi de siloz*” an oval pithouse of 7-8 m long and 3.50 m wide was investigated<sup>15</sup>; a pithouse was found at Giuleşti, “*Valea Mestecăniş*”<sup>16</sup>; three oval-shaped and slightly deepened into the ground features were investigated at Solotvino, but according to the author of the excavation they can not be included in the category of pithouses because they were not very deep<sup>17</sup>; a pithouse (probably) has been mentioned to had been discovered at Sarasău “*După Ștrec*”, without any further details<sup>18</sup>.

Several houses were mentioned without specified details of the type they belong to in the settlement from Medieşu Aurit “*Cioncaş*”<sup>19</sup>.

Except the houses with clay floors used most probably as houses for living, for the largest part of the houses it is difficult to determine the function they used to have. Thus, we favour the neutral term of “surface- or pit-houses”. Their inclusion among the category of houses is not certain. It is tempting to “identify” the houses based on their dimensions, but it is difficult to sustain. It is most likely that the large-sized buildings had different purposes as compared to the small ones, but this fact is difficult to assume.

The inventory of the houses mostly consists of pottery sherds, scattered fragments of daub and charcoal, daub with rod prints and some fragments of stone grinders (feature 935). I would like to specify that none of the Middle Bronze Age features contained neither animal or human bones, nor remains of charred cereals.

A large number of ceramic fragments, as well as two vessels that could be completely restored were found in the features: 780, 780 B, 780 C, 1109. The poor and fragmentary inventory that was found in the fill of the other features might point to the fact that they had been emptied before they were abandoned, and they were subsequently used as waste pits.

Most likely the buildings were made similarly to the houses in other contemporary settlements, either by going deeper from the walking level, or directly on it. In the latter situation, the houses had clay floors, while in both cases the walls were made of wattle held on poles with clay. Due to scanty information on poles arrangement within houses we cannot be sure about the shape of the roof, namely if it was one sided or two sided. Even lacking information on that, our belief is that they were covered with reed.

The absence of hearths in the houses from Csengersima could be explained either by the seasonal occupation of the settlement, an interpretation hard to sustain given the quite numerous storage or waste pits that indicate a certain continuity of habitation, or the hearths might had been made outside and were destroyed by subsequent habitations. In this respect it should be mentioned that in the settlement at Solotvino two hearths were uncovered: one was found in the house within Trench 9a, and another, which was an outside hearth, was identified at the base of the Bronze Age layer<sup>20</sup>. Another outside hearth was found in the settlement at Sarasău “*După Ștrec*”<sup>21</sup>, and the seven surface houses of the settlement from Diakovo uncovered ovens. in the seven surface houses from the settlement at Diakovo ovens were discovered<sup>22</sup>.

As regards the distribution of the houses within the Bronze Age settlement, but having in mind the numerous disturbances from the later periods and that the western part of the site has not

<sup>15</sup> Bader 1978, 67.

<sup>16</sup> Kacsó 2003b, 33, fig.1B.

<sup>17</sup> Vasiliev 2002, 30-31.

<sup>18</sup> Kacsó 2009.

<sup>19</sup> Bader, Dumitraşcu 1970, 128.

<sup>20</sup> Vasiliev 2002, 31-33.

<sup>21</sup> Kacsó 2009.

<sup>22</sup> Balaguri 1974, 28-34, fig. 2-4.

been excavated, we could observe a greater concentration in the southern and eastern sides of the settlement. We also noticed that the long side of the houses were prominently oriented in the east-west direction or close to this direction. Only in four cases (features 578, 830, 1155 and 1496) the long sides were oriented in the south-north direction or close to it<sup>23</sup>. The distribution manner of the houses within the settlement indicates their grouping, as the case with features 780, 780 B, 780 C, 772 A, 578 and 544 D, 566, 569 and 597, but it is difficult to say in all cases whether the constructions are aligned by a particular system. The first group mentioned above seems to confirm the existence of such a system.

## II.2. Pits

Most of the features that belonged to the Middle Bronze Age could be interpreted as pits (no.=62). It was impossible to say what was their profile because only their inferior part was investigated. The depth from the sterile layer, where they had been identified, was 5 to 66 cm. There were several cases of pits with conical shapes (533), and bag shaped (549, 944, 1465).

As regards their ground plan, there are 26 circular pits<sup>24</sup> with the diameter between 70 and 210 cm.

The oval pits were rather difficult to assign to the categories of houses as they might have been either pithouses or annexes. Taking into account the size of the features, we considered that 23 of them were oval pits, with diameters between 65 x 80 cm and 185 x 220 cm<sup>25</sup>.

Features 544 B and 1630 B also belong to the category of pits except that their shape could not be specified.

### Small pits (post holes ?)

According to their size and content, some pits could be considered post holes. Two of them could be related to the houses in their vicinity; pit 565 was located south-west of the house 566, and pit 783 was situated west of house 780. Moreover, there were four post holes which lacked inventory nearby house 935. However, we think that eleven of the pits of under 70 cm in dimensions and a deep between 16 and 32 cm can be included in this category. They were either circular (526, 531, 565, 936, 937, 938, 939 and 1307) or oval (559, 729 and 783) in plan.

The fill of the pits was homogeneous and most frequently of grey-yellowish colour and rarely dark grey, ash-grey, black or reddish. The fill of the pits contained mostly ceramic fragments, few objects made of fired clay (fragmentary clay weighs, small wheels of miniature carts), stone grinder fragments, one stone mould, large or small pieces of daub, and small-sized pieces of charcoal. With very few exceptions, the ceramic inventory was scarce (1-20 sherds). There were situations when the fill of the pit revealed a considerable quantity of ceramics (between 100 and 350 sherds in features 537 B, 538 and 1014). It is worth mentioning the quite numerous presence of small fragments of daub or of large sized ones with rod prints within the pit inventory.

The fill of the pits was similar to the one of the houses, both in terms of their inventory and colours. They differ in size, namely the houses are larger.

They seemed to have functioned at first as storage pits, and then they were transformed into waste pits. Our point of view is that the pits were not used for clay extraction for pottery as they were not dug too deep into the sterile soil: for example, one of the circular pits deepened 65 cm into the sterile soil and an oval pit – 66 cm).

The spatial arrangement of the pits in the settlement is quite homogeneous. A lighter representation can be observed in the south-eastern part of the site, namely there was only one pit (577) south of the house 578 and two pits (782 A and 782 B) east of the houses 780, 780 B and

<sup>23</sup> 544 D: north-east – south-west; 566 north-south; 569: can't be specified; 578: east – west; 597: east-north-east - west south-west; 780 B: north-south; 780 C: north-west - south-east; 1150: north-east - south-west; 1155: east-west; 1496: east-west; 772 A: north-south; 780: north-east - south-west; 830: west-north-west - east-south-east; 1104: west-north-west - east-south-east; 1105: east-north-east - west-south-west; 1284 B: west-north-west - east-south-east; 1302: we couldn't tell the orientation;

<sup>24</sup> If we assigned feature 1109 to that category. We speak of the following features: 536 D, 537 A, 537 B, 544 A, 544 E, 544 F, 545, 569 B, 577, 657, 769, 782 A, 843, 1106, 1254, 1240, 1275, 1298, 1302 B, 1304, 1461, 1462, 1463, 1500 A, 1630, 1820.

<sup>25</sup> There are the features: 533, 534, 536 A, 536 B=536 E, 536 C, 537 C, 538, 544 C, 549, 554 B, 554 C, 656 B, 782 B, 944, 1005 A, 1005 B, 1014, 1020, 1095, 1241, 1287 A, 1465, 1690.

780 C. It can also be noticed that the pits are more concentrated nearby the houses in the north-eastern part of the site (1104, 105, 1109), close to the houses in the south-western part (west of houses 544 D, 566, 569, 597), as well as around houses 935 and 1150 in the eastern area of the settlement.

There were several situations of overlapped Middle Bronze Age features: pit 537 B overlapped pits 537 A and 537 C; pit 537 A overlapped pit 537 C; pit 782 A overlapped pit 782 B; pit 1461 was overlapped by pits 1462 and 1463, and pit 1630 A overlapped pit 1630 B. Given the homogeneity of the archaeological material, we could only refer to the digging sequence of these pits, without being able to observe further chronological differences.

Pits with various shapes and sizes belonging to the early phase of the Suciu de Sus culture (most of them not yet fully published), are known at: Halmeu “*Vamă*”<sup>26</sup>, Lăpușel “*Ciurgău*”<sup>27</sup>, Medieșu Aurit “*Cioncaș*”<sup>28</sup>, Moftinu Mic<sup>29</sup>. In the Transcarpathian Ukraine, pits are mentioned in the settlements at Diakovo – the point “*Kișerda*” (26 pits), Solotvino (three circular pits)<sup>30</sup>, and Kvasove II (household pits)<sup>31</sup>.

### **II.3. The cultural layer**

The Middle Bronze Age cultural layer was uncovered in several parts of the studied area. They were numbered like the features. Thus, the features 536, 544, 671 E, 1152, 1210, 1083 B, 1210 A, 1246, 1400, 1597, 1606 represent in fact the Suciu de Sus I cultural layer. The latter was also observed around features 1495, 1497-1499, 1502-1503; 865 and 867, 1302-1303. I kept the numbering used by the authors of the research in order to make easy the identification of the materials coming from these features on the site plan, but I did not count them together with the houses, the pithouses, the pits and the post holes.

According to the observations made so far, the cultural layer was between 25 and 40 cm thick. Its research was difficult because in some situations it was covered by a 8-40 cm thick sterile yellow clay layer. Most of the times it was noticed in the margins of the features dating from the later ages. The presence of the sterile clay layer which covered the Middle Bronze Age cultural layer is very likely the result of a flood and it might be possible that the Middle Bronze Age habitation ceased because of this flood.

Neither in the case of the other settlements of the Suciu de Sus culture, nor at Csengersima was stratigraphically visible the sequence of the evolutionary stages of the Suciu de Sus culture, defined by horizontal stratigraphy.

In the excavated parts of the cultural layer, a significant quantity of Suciu de Sus I ceramics was found, as well as some objects of fired clay and stone.

### **III. Archaeological inventory and interpretation of the Middle Bronze Age features.**

The inventory of the Bronze Age features uncovered only ceramic sherds, except for a fragmentary stone mould and several objects made of burnt clay. The fragmentary condition of the material allowed their graphic reconstruction in few cases. In other situations only the reconstruction of the diameter was possible, sometimes even of a part from the vessel profile. The absence of complete vessels or of the vessels that could be wholly restored made difficult the complete reconstruction of shapes.

Depending on the method used when the clay for the vessels was prepared, we could distinguish three ceramic categories: coarse pottery, which prevailed in quantity. The composition of its fabric comprised sand with large grains, small stones, superficially crushed sherds and mica. Their aspect was not homogeneous; the fabric of that category of vessels was irregularly burnt. It was dark-grey or black-grey, rarely brick-red. It was covered by a consistent slip on the outside (up to 1,5 mm thick), brick-red coloured, rarely brown. The inside slip was black-grey or cream-brick-red. Pots and portable cooking-vessels were made of such fabric.

<sup>26</sup> Marta 2004a, 39-46.

<sup>27</sup> Kacsó 1995, 84.

<sup>28</sup> Bader, Dumitrașcu 1970, 128.

<sup>29</sup> Németi 1987, 109, fig.16/1.

<sup>30</sup> Vasiliev 2002, 32, pl.8-9.

<sup>31</sup> Kobal 2007, 585.

The intermediary pottery comprised pots, tureens and bowls. The black-grey fabric was often covered by a brown-brick-red or black layer and contained sand with medium-sized grains, crushed sherds and mica. Its burning was even.

The small sized vessels were made of fine fabric, especially cups, tureens, miniature vessels and rarely pots. The fabric was homogeneous, compact, well fired, and contained fine sand and mica. The fabric was black or black-grey, covered on the inside and on the outside by a fine, brown or black layer, rarely brick-red.

Some cases revealed two layers of slip. The first was cream-brick-red coloured and used to cover the uneven surface, the second was black or black-grey.

It must be mentioned that a significant part of the pottery was corroded or secondary burnt. Thus, the initial aspect of the vessels was not preserved and the slip was partially or completely erased.

In terms of vessel shapes we could distinguish the following types: pots, tureens/bowls, cups and portable cooking vessels.

Since not all the material has been processed so far, I shall make only a general presentation of the forms and decorations.

## I. Pots

**I.1.** Pots with the margins evenly thickened and out-turned; the outside rim was flat; the neck was arched and the body was bi-conical. They were fit with two large handles, wide strapped, or with two small handles, narrow strapped, placed at the base of the neck or right beneath the rim. The wide strapped handles were usually situated at the base of the neck, and the narrow strapped ones were placed beneath the rim. The pot was often decorated on the outer margin of the rim with small pricks or with small incisions which were short, oblique or horizontal, in the shape of a grain of rice. It had small hatched arcades in groups of two or interlaced, made by incision beneath the rim and between the handles. Hatched arcades were also to be found in the upper part of the body, between the chained spirals, which were also made by incisions. The spirals turned interlaced on the maximum diameter of the body, which was marked by a small boss made by pushing into the soft fabric of the vessel from the inside towards the outside (Pl.1/2; 8/1; 9/5; 24/2; 25/8-9; 37/1-2; 52/8 –secondary fired and out of shape; and very likely the fragments from Pl.12/1-2; 14/1; 22/3; 42/1-2; 48/1; 65/1-2; 68/9-10). It is possible that the undecorated sherds, with similar margins to the vessels above, belonged to the same type, but the preserved pieces were undecorated and the shape of the body can't be determined (Pl.13/1; 19/2; 23/1; 25/5; 42/3; 64/1; 68/6). Both decorated and undecorated sherds were made of intermediary fabric.

**I.2.** Pots with round margins, slightly thickened and outcurving, arched body with the maximum diameter bigger than the diameter of the mouth. The preserved fragments were undecorated and were made of intermediary fabric (Pl.1/3; 2/1; 9/1, 3; 16/2; 17/6; 22/2; 27/4; 42/5, 8; 48/3-5; 64/4; and very likely 53/5).

**I.3.** Pots with round margins, evenly thickened and slightly arched body. The small fragments that were preserved were made of intermediary fabric and lacked decorations. One of the fragments had a wide strap handle beneath the rim (Pl.47/4). (Pl.4/8; 19/1; 64/9).

**I.4.** Pots with inverted margins, the maximum diameter of the body exceeded the maximum diameter of the rim; the rim was round, thickened at the outside, flat or inverted; with more or less arched body. One of the fragments had an arched button (Pl.11/5) beneath the rim, and other five fragments were fit with strap handles beneath the rim. The small, arched bosses were most probably four in number and were symmetrically arranged on the vessel. This type of pots were made of intermediary fabric (Pl.3/2; 4/2, 4; 7/5; 11/5; 13/2-4; 29/1; 31/2; 42/6, 11; 50/2-3; 55/5-6; 63/4).

**I.5.** Similar pots with the previous type; both were made of intermediary fabric and coarse fabric, only that they had round margins, evenly thickened and inverted. They lacked decorations and some of them were fit with two handles beneath the rim (Pl.7/2; 23/5; 28/4; 35/2; 40/4 and very likely 69/3).

**I.6.** Pots made of coarse fabric, bag-shaped, with flat or round margins, inverted or slightly thickened on the outside; the body was slightly bulging. They were often decorated by a relief design of an arched belt (Pl.1/6; 16/1; 17/1; 18/1-4; 24/1; 25/1-2; 31/1, 3; 34/1; 36/1-2; 40/2; 41/1-2; 43/7-9; 46/3-5; 52/1, 4-5; 53/3; 54/1; 55/7; 59/1-4; 63/2; 65/3; 68/1), and rarely by two belts of the same type beneath the rim (Pl.43/10). The vessels of this type were quite often fit with small

conical buttons or plain, oval or arched bosses arranged horizontally beneath the prominent belt (Pl.5/1; 18/2; 24/1; 36/2; 41/2; 43/7; 46/4; 52/4-5; 54/1; 55/7; 59/2; 65/3; 68/1).

**I.7.** Pots made of coarse fabric, with round or flat margins, evenly thickened, with the rim diameter larger than the maximum diameter of the body; the body was conical or slightly arched. They were decorated by a relief design of an arched belt (Pl.25/3; 27/1; 28/1-2; 43/6; 46/1-2; 68/2), underneath which were elongate, horizontal, and arched bosses (Pl.28/2). A variant of that type was the fragment from Pl.7/1 which, unlike the others, had a slightly wide and out-turned margin. The previously mentioned fragments originated from the upper part of the vessels and resembled the fragments that belonged to the portable cooking vessels (Pl. 62/1), so that some of them were likely to belong to the latter pottery type.

**I.8.** Pots with lobed margins, evenly thickened or slightly out-turned, round at the upper part; conical or arched body, flat bottom. They were mostly made of intermediary fabric and rarely of coarse fabric. Some fragments were decorated with small conical buttons, arranged under the rim, or they were decorated with superficial grooves (Pl. 4/1; 40/5; 51/1; probably 54/2; 58/1; 66/3).

It is most likely that some other fragments, very much alike in shape, but lacking lobes, belonged to this type of vessels (Pl.7/6; 9/9; 52/3). One of the fragments was decorated with shallow grooves.

**I.9.** Pots with out-turned rims, conical or slightly arched bodies, sometimes having two strap handles situated under the rim. All fragments lacked decorations and were made of intermediary fabric (Pl.7/6; 9/9; 52/3). It is most likely that this type represented the vessel from Pl.50/1, with slightly thickened margins at the outside, with two handles beneath the rim, decorated with relief zoomorphic motifs.

**I.10.** Pots with evenly thickened margins, slightly outcurved, cylindrical or conical neck, most likely with conical body, undecorated. Two strap handles were usually situated under the rim; they were made of coarse fabric (Pl.18/5; and most likely 25/12; 36/4).

**I.11.** Pots with evenly thickened margins and strongly arched towards the outside ; with „S”-shaped profile, and in some situations with two strap handles situated at the base of the neck decorated with relief zoomorphic motifs. The pots were made of intermediary fabric (Pl. 31/4; 47/3; 67/8).

The following fragments also belonged to some pots: Pl.1/7; 2/2-5; 4/3, 5, 7; 5/1-2, 4-5; 7/3-4; 9/2, 4; 11/1-2; 12/4; 13/5-6; 14/4, 7; 16/3-4, 6; 17/5, 8; 18/6; 23/2; 29/2; 36/3; 40/7; 41/3-5; 42/4, 7, 9; 43/3-4; 46/6-7; 47/1-2; 48/6-8, 10; 50/5-6; 53/ 4, 6; 54/7; 55/1, 3-4; 56/1-2, 4, 6; 57/2-6; 58/3; 59/5-6; 63/1: 64/3, 5-6, 8, 10-11; 67/7; 68/3-5.

## II. Tureens

**II.1.** Tureen with out-turned rim, was likely to have four lobes that came out of the rim; semi-spherical body. Its body was decorated with incised lines, and the outside extremity of its margins had small pricks in circular disposal. It was made of fine fabric („rice grain”) Pl. 8/2.

**II.2.** Tureens with outside, thickened margins, out-turned, semi-spherical body or bulged. The outside margin was decorated by small pricks in the shape of rice grain or by short, oblique, incised lines. The body was decorated with spirals that were made either by incision or by fluting (Pl. 11/3; 20/4; 34/5; 35/4-5; 36/7; 44/1; 49/4; 52/6; 63/5; 66/1; 69/4-5; one vessel lacked decorations pl.57/1). They were made of fine, intermediary fabric.

Tureens from pl. 1/8; 2/7; 29/6; 35/3 resemble the previously described, but they were likely to have a conical body.

**II.3.** Tureens with round margin on the outside and obliquely inverted, with semi-spherical body, undecorated. They were made of intermediary fabric (Pl. 11/7; 44/2-3).

**II.4.** Tureen with the margin thickened at the outside, flat and slightly inverted, the body was slightly arched and decorated in the same manner as those of the type II.2. They were made of fine fabric (Pl. 26/1).

**II.5.** Small sized bowl with evenly thickened margin, round and slightly out-turned. The body was semi-spherical; decorated in similar way with type II.2. It was made of fine fabric (Pl. 26/2).

**II.6.** Conical tureens with evenly thickened margin, round or slightly thickened at the outside; flat bottom, undecorated. They were made of intermediary fabric (Pl. 26/3; 31/5-6; 58/2; 60/3, 5; very likely 29/7).

**II.7.** Tureens that resembled the previous type, but they had outcurving margin. They lacked decorations and were made of intermediary fabric (Pl. 48/11; 60/6).

**II.8.** Small-sized tureen with semi-spherical body and slightly out-turned margin. It was decorated with hatched arches under the rim. It was made of fine fabric (Pl. 55/8).

**II.9.** Tureen with lobed rim, semi-spherical body, undecorated, made of intermediary fabric (Pl. 69/6).

**II.10.** Tureen with round margin on the inside and slightly thickened at the outside. The body was bulged and exceeded the rim diameter. It was made of intermediary fabric and lacked decorations (Pl. 36/8).

### **III. Bowls**

**III.1.** Bowls with out-turned rim, evenly thickened, semi-spherical body. They were decorated on the outside rim with pricks in the shape of rice grains or with short lines, oblique and incised. The body was decorated with hatched arcades, interlaced spirals made by incision (Pl. 20/2; 36/7; 60/1-2; 54/4, 8; and likely 27/2; 29/5). According to the nature of the fabric, the base decorated by ring-shapes from pl. 54/8 belonged to the bowl from 54/4. The miniature of that type was fit with only one handle on the body, and was decorated by short, horizontal incised lines, and the lower part of the body had four feet. The vessel was decorated like the large ones (Pl. 66/4).

They were made of fine, intermediary fabric.

**III.2.** Bowl with flat margin, evenly thickened, rounded at the outside, with slightly arched body, undecorated. It was made of intermediary fabric (Pl. 23/4).

**III.3.** Bowl with flat margin, thickened at the outside, short and arched neck, marked where it passed towards the body, semi-spherical body, decorated in the same way as the bowls of the type III.1. or the tureens of the type II.2. It was made of fine fabric (Pl. 20/1).

**III.4.** Bowl with evenly thickened margins, conical body, undecorated. They were made of intermediary fabric (Pl. 1/4; 60/4; likely 54/3).

### **IV. Cups.**

**IV.1.** Cup with evenly thickened margin, out-turned, short, cylindrical neck, bulged body (Pl. 17/4; 33/8 – with the rim decorated by small pricks in the shape of rice grain, the body had incisions; 48/15; 65/4).

**IV.2.** Cup with slightly out-turned margin, short, conical neck, conical body decorated by small, oval sockets and fluting. It had a strap handle, slightly upper-raised (Pl. 33/6).

**IV.3.** Cup with „S”-shaped profile. It had an upper-raised strap handle. The body was decorated by incisions (Pl. 67/1).

The fragments of the more or less bulged body were decorated by spirals (Pl. 5/7; 9/8) or by vertical, incised lines (Pl. 5/6). The fragment of the bi-conical body of a cup was marked where it passed towards the neck by a small, circular impression (Pl. 19/6). The fragments of the body and handles belonged to some cups, too (Pl. 19/8; 26/4-7; 44/4-5; 48/12; 49/1-2; 65/5-6, 8; 67/4; 69/7-8). All those cups were made of fine fabric.

### **V. Mugs**

Only some fragments that originate from such vessels were preserved (Pl. 2/ 6, 8; 11/6; 25/13; 34/3; 40/3; 48/14). Some of them were decorated and made of fine, intermediary fabric.

### **VI. Strainers**

**VI.1.** Strainers with bulged body and upper-raised strap handle, with the margins evenly thickened and inverted. The holes were only in the bulged part of the body (Pl. 3/1).

**VI.2.** Strainers with round margins or thickened at the outside. Their body was slightly arched and some of them had a handle in the upper part of the body. The holes were present over the entire surface of the body (Pl. 5/9; 32/6; 49/5).

**VI.3.** Strainers or „ember coverer” with evenly thickened margin and arched body (Pl. 14/6).

**VI.4.** Strainers with short walls, with the margins evenly thickened and inverted. They had a strap handle which had been broken from old times; only the base had holes, the walls had not (Pl. 24/6; 45/7). They were all made of intermediary fabric.

### **VII. Portable cooking vessels**

Although there are many fragments that can be assigned to this type of pottery, only three fragments originate from the upper part of the vessels, thus offering the possibility to restore two

shapes of the vessel: one with evenly thickened margins, round at the upper part and outcurving. The rim diameter exceeds the maximum diameter of the slightly bulged body (Pl. 62/1). The second one had conical shape, resembling very much the pots of the type 1.7. All samples had a socketed belt in relief under the rim, but there was one situation with an oval knob, laid horizontally. There were several fragments of such vessels originating from the inferior part of the legs, with the foot marked by some small, oblique fluting, most likely that they had the role to adhere the vessel to the soil (Pl. 26/10-11; 30/6; 45/4; 65/11), or plain fragments (Pl. 6/1; 10/1-2; 11/9; 15/1-2; 33/1; 38/1; 40/9; 45/3; 49/7; 53/1; 62/2, 4; 70/1-2). We also have some fragments from the legs and the belt that surrounded the vessel between the two legs (Pl. 2/1; 3/4-5; 6/2; 8/3; 11/10; 15/3-6; 16/7; 17/2; 20/5-7; 22/5; 26/12; 27/6-7; 30/5, 8; 33/2-3, 7; 38/2; 40/8; 41/9; 45/ 1-2, 5; 49/8-10; 52/7; 53/11; 62/3, 5; 70/3-5, 7-8). It is noticeable that one of the fragments of the foot was decorated on one side with shallow grooves (Pl. 38/2).

### VIII. Lids

Several fragments from Pl.14/5; 34/6; 49/6 could belong to some conical lids. They lacked decorations and were made of intermediary fabric.

### IX.1. Other clay objects

**IX.1.** Three fragments of miniature wheels made of fired clay, with hub either on one side or on both sides (Pl. 62/6-7); undecorated.

**IX.2.** Five fragments of clay weights. Two of them were conical, of which only the inferior part is still preserved (Pl. 6/3, 34/7) and three fragments in the shape of pyramids were perforated at the upper part (Pl. 38/5-8).

**IX.3.** Fragments of the so-called „ember coverer” fit with three protuberances (handles) laid symmetrical at the upper part (Pl. 49/11; and likely 5/8).

**IX.4.** Objects with unclear function: one object with rectangular section with one end in the shape of pyramid (Pl. 21/5). One piece of fired clay, quasi-rectangular in section (pl. 54/6) and a triangular fragment, which had fluting on one side, the other side was semi-circular, undecorated (Pl. 38/4).

### X. Stone objects

X.1. A part of a stone mould with two valves of the vessel, most likely used for moulding bronze needles.

X.2. Obsidian blade (pl. 70/10).

X.3. Several fragments of various dimensions that originated from stone grinders.

The pottery from Csengersima was decorated by ornaments in relief, made by incision, with fluting and rice grain impressions, and slightly grooved. The *relief* decorations were characteristic of the coarse fabric, and they helped restoring simple belts<sup>32</sup> and rarely double-belts<sup>33</sup> laid under the rim; small, conical<sup>34</sup> and oval<sup>35</sup> knobs, or oval, socketed<sup>36</sup> knobs; animal motifs in relief on the inside part of the handles<sup>37</sup> or anthropomorphic motifs (?) in the same association<sup>38</sup>.

Very frequent were the *impressions* in the shape of rice grain on the vessel rims, either they were pots, cups or tureens/bowls<sup>39</sup> and rarely, they were situated in the inferior part of the body<sup>40</sup>, or on the body<sup>41</sup>. Small circular or oval impressions on the body of the vessels were rarely met<sup>42</sup>.

<sup>32</sup> Pl.1/1,6; 5/1; 7/1,3; 16/1; 17/1; 18/1-4; 24/1; 25/1-3; 27/1; 28/1-2; 31/1, 3; 34/1; 36/1-2; 40/2; 41/1-2; 43/6-9; 46/1-5/, 52/1, 4-5; 53/3; 59/1-4; 62/1; 63/2; 65/3; 68/1-2.

<sup>33</sup> Pl.43/10.

<sup>34</sup> Pl.11/5; 48/15; 59/2.

<sup>35</sup> Pl.65/3; 68/1-2.

<sup>36</sup> Pl.54/1; 55/7.

<sup>37</sup> Pl.14/7; 47/3; 50/1; 58/5.

<sup>38</sup> Pl.2/3

<sup>39</sup> Pl. 1/2, 8; 5/3; 8/2; 9/3; 11/3; 12/1-2; 14/1-2; 17/7; 20/1; 22/3; 24/2; 25/6-10; 26/1-2; 27/1,8; 29/5-6; 33/8; 34/5; 35/3-5; 36/6-7; 37/1-2; 40/1; 42/1-2; 48/1-2; 50/4; 52/6, 8; 53/1-2; 54/4, 8; 58/4; 60/1-2; 63/1; 65/1-2; 66/1, 4; 68/9-10; 69/4-5.

<sup>40</sup> Pl.11/6.

The decorations made by incision revitalised the decoration of this stereotypy: interlaced spirals on the body of the vessels (pots, cups, tureens/bowls) were often met on the pottery made of fine or intermediary fabric<sup>43</sup>. The next in frequency were the hatched arcades arranged under the rim<sup>44</sup> and rarely on the body or in the inferior part<sup>45</sup>. By incision were also made top-down triangles, arranged in groups<sup>46</sup>, vertical lines in groups of twos or threes<sup>47</sup>, ladder<sup>48</sup> motifs or star motifs<sup>49</sup>. The bottom of the vessels was in some cases decorated by incisions, in the shape of hooks or with floral motifs<sup>50</sup>.

Interlaced spirals, simple circles around conical knobs, or garlands were made by *fluting*<sup>51</sup>.

The coarse pottery which was decorated by grooves was occasional in the settlement at Csengersima<sup>52</sup>.

Both shapes and decorative motifs on the pottery from Ceramica have analogies in the sites from the Early Suciu de Sus archaeological culture from **Bârsana** "Cetățuie - Cetățe", **Boinești** "Coasta Boineștilor", **Culciu Mic** "La gropi de siloz", **Diakovo** "Kișerda" and "Modicitag / Mondicitag", **Giulești** "Valea Mestecăniș", **Halmeu** "Vama", **Ieud** "Podereiul Dumbrăviței", **Jánkmajtis**, "Halom – dűlő", **Kvasove II**, **Lăpușel** "Ciurgău", **Medieșu Aurit** „Suculeu”, **Medieșu Aurit** "Cioncaș", **Medieșu Aurit** "Togul lui Schweizer- Dâmbul Acastăului", **Moftinu Mic** "the side of the National Road Carei-Satu Mare", **Sarasău** "După Ștrec", **Sarasău** "Moară", **Satu Mare** "Ștrandul Someș", **Seini** "IAS Ferma 7", **Sighetu Marmăiei** "Cearda-Tărmuri", **Sighetu Marmăiei** "Cămara Cireghi", **Solotvino** "Cetate" and **Tătărești** "Dealul Tătăreștilor /Dâmbul tătarilor"<sup>53</sup>.

A special case were the Early Suciu de Sus finds in the south-eastern Slovakia: Hnojné, Lastovce, Ruská, Veľké Raškovce and a part of the graves from Zemplínske Kopčany. They had a special regional aspect, in what concerns vessel shapes and decorating procedures. Characteristic of the finds in that area was the absence of grooved pottery, which was characteristic of the entire area of the Suciu de Sus archaeological culture, and the small number of motifs made by incision, as well as cups, jars and footed tureens<sup>54</sup>.

The Suciu de Sus sites were found in the south-eastern Slovakia, along the river valleys Lotarica, Laborec, Topl'a, Ondava and Bodrog<sup>55</sup>, in the south-western Ukraine (Transcarpathian Ukraine). They were situated between the river Ung (Uj), in the north and Tisza River in the south. In the east, they spread until the Carpathians<sup>56</sup>, in the north-east of Hungary they spread

<sup>41</sup> Pl.65/5.

<sup>42</sup> Pl. 19/6; 33/6.

<sup>43</sup> Pl. 2/2, 8; 11/6; 20/1-2; 27/8; 34/3; 36/6-7; 37/1, 3; 52/8; 53/8; 60/1-2; 65/10; 66/1, 4.

<sup>44</sup> Pl.8/1; 17/8; 27/8; 35/3-4; 36/6-7; 37/3; 44/1; 55/8; 69/5.

<sup>45</sup> Pl.22/9; 29/9.

<sup>46</sup> Pl.9/5; 22/3; 24/2; 34/2; 37/1-2.

<sup>47</sup> Pl.5/6; 8/2; 19/7; 49/4.

<sup>48</sup> Pl. 33/8; 66/4.

<sup>49</sup> Pl.37/4.

<sup>50</sup> Pl.11/8; 22/9; 23/7; 39/4-5; 54/8.

<sup>51</sup> Pl.11/3; 16/4; 20/4; 24/4-5; 25/13; 33/6; 49/1, 3; 58/7.

<sup>52</sup> Pl.19/10; 28/3; 38/2; 66/3.

<sup>53</sup> For bibliographical data go to the catalogue of the Suciu de Sus I finds.

<sup>54</sup> Demeterová 1984, 11-70; Furmanek, Veliačik, Vladár 1999, 100-101, fig.42-43.

<sup>55</sup> For discoveries made in Slovacia: Budinský-Krička 1977, 65-81; Demeterová 1984, 11-70; Demeterová 1987, 305-315; Demeterová 1989, 168-181; Furmanek, Veliačik, Vladár 1999; Furmanek, Vladár 2001, 83-104.

<sup>56</sup> For discoveries made in the Transcarpathian Ukraine: Zatlukál J., Zatlukál E. 1937; Potuchniak 1958; Balaguri 1967, 79-83; Balaguri 1968, 149-152; Balaguri 1969a, 61-68; Balaguri 1969b, 147-159; Balaguri 1971, 373-385; Balaguri 1974, 25-47; Balaguri 1975, 261-282; Balaguri 1976, 240-256; Balaguri 1985, 473-481; Balaguri 1986, 169-175; Balaguri 1988, 9-17; Balaguri 1990a, 95-99; Balaguri 1990b, 121-122; Kobal' 1997; Balaguri 2001, 243-288; Kobal' 2007, 538-599.

east of the Tisa river<sup>57</sup>. In the north-western Romania they spread on the river courses: Vișeu, Iza, Mara, Cosău, Tisa, Tur, Someș, Crasna, Sălaj, Lăpuș and Țibleș<sup>58</sup>.

The first information on the archaeological research carried out by D. Teleki and J. Szendrei in the locality of Suciu de Sus, in the places called "Poduri"<sup>59</sup> and "Troian"<sup>60</sup> places, where they excavated a flat cemetery and a tumulus, dates back to 1887. At the beginning of the 20th century, M. Roska resumed the research at Suciu de Sus and Lăpuș, and in 1940 he used for the first time the term "Felsőszőcs type ceramics" / Suciu de Sus. Similar finds in the Ukraine were named Stanovo. They were subsequent to the excavations carried out by the Zatlukál brothers in a flat cremation cemetery discovered there, in 1931<sup>61</sup>.

Almost 250 sites of that culture<sup>62</sup> have been attested so far. Most of them have been known from fieldworkings, as only few of them have been intensely researched. The latter category includes the settlements at Boinești "Coasta Boineștilor"<sup>63</sup>, Culciu Mare "Sub grădini"<sup>64</sup>, Culciu Mic "La gropi de siloz"<sup>65</sup>, Lazuri "Lubi-Tag"<sup>66</sup>, Medieșu Aurit "Șuculeu"<sup>67</sup> (jud. Satu Mare), Lăpușel "Ciurgău"<sup>68</sup>, Mestecăن "Valea caselor"<sup>69</sup>, Oarța de Jos "Vâlceaua Rusului"<sup>70</sup>, Oarța de Sus "Oul Făgetului"<sup>71</sup>, Vad "Poduri"<sup>72</sup> (Romania); Medvedivce "Babinka"<sup>73</sup>, Diakovo "Kišerda", "Modicitag / Mondicitag", "Ferma", "Virágvár"<sup>74</sup>, Kvasove<sup>75</sup>, Solotvino "Cetate" (Ukraine)<sup>76</sup>, Skrabské "Záhumienky" (Slovakia)<sup>77</sup>, as well as the funerary finds from Medieșu Aurit "Togul lui Schweizer"<sup>78</sup>, Nyírkarász-Gyulaháza (Ungaria)<sup>79</sup>, Stanovo<sup>80</sup>, Lochovo "Škorobabki" (Ukraine)<sup>81</sup>, Vel'ke Raškovce<sup>82</sup>; Zemplinske Kopčany "Kutka" (Slovakia)<sup>83</sup>.

The results of these investigations have raised several hypothesis about the historical evolution of the Suciu de Sus archaeological culture. We remind here several of the hypotheses, without having as purpose to present them all or to criticize them, because on one hand some of them are supported only by the archaeological material that has been published and, on the other hand, only few of the long-time investigated sites have the materials completely published.

Until the middle 70<sup>es</sup> several opinions have been expressed regarding the old archaeological materials from Suciu de Sus and Lăpuș, from Nyírkarász-Gyulaháza and Stanovo,

<sup>57</sup> Roska 1940, 1-26; Kalicz 1960, 3-15; Mozsolics 1960, 113-123; Kovács 1967, 27-58; Kemenczei 1963, 182-183; Kemenczei 1984, 28-39; ARANYAK 1997; Marta, Tóth 2005, 107-143.

<sup>58</sup> Bader 1972, 509-535; Vulpe 1975, 69-76; Bader 1978, 62-77; Bader 1979, 3-31; Vulpe 1995, 394; Vulpe 2001, 261, 280-281; Kacsó 2003a, 105-181 (old literature); Kacsó 2004a, 77-87; Kacsó 2004b, 327-340; Kacsó 2007a, 43-62; Pop D. 2008, 61-92 (old literature); Vulpe 2008, 269-273.

<sup>59</sup> Roska 1940, 6-7 no.9, fig. 1/9; Roska 1942, 90 no.78; Kacsó 1993, 31.

<sup>60</sup> Roska 1940, 6-7 no.9, fig. 1/9, 22; Roska 1942, 90 no.78; Bader 1976, 37-45, pl. 3/1; Kacsó 1993, 31-32.

<sup>61</sup> Zatlukál J., Zatlukál E. 1937.

<sup>62</sup> For the actual state of research of Suciu de Sus culture in Romania see: Pop D. 2008, 61-92.

<sup>63</sup> Mihálik 1892, 316-320; Bader 1978, 14, 17, 64-66, 75-76, 87, 99-101, 114, 121 no.15.

<sup>64</sup> Bader 1972, 509-535; Bader 1979, 3-31; Iercoșan 1993, 83 no.14a; Bader 1996, 265-266, 271.

<sup>65</sup> Bader 1978, 17, 64-69, 75-76, 84, 87, 99, 107, 124 no.32, pl. 37/9; pl. 39; pl. 45-46; pl. 54; pl. 62/25, pl. 95/32. Bader 1979, 3-4, 6-7, 10-13, 22-23, 25, 27 no. 17; fig. 1/17; pl. 2-3.

<sup>66</sup> Németi 1997, 78-86.

<sup>67</sup> Dumitrașcu, Bader 1967, 10-11, 16-18, 28; Bader 1972, 514 no. 21; 520-522, fig. 2/21; pl. 12/8; pl. 13-15; Bader 1978, 16, 64-66, 68, 75, 126 no. 55; pl. 37/16; pl. 50/15; pl. 53/3; pl. 54.

<sup>68</sup> Kacsó 1995, 83-99.

<sup>69</sup> Kacsó 1987, 59 no. 18, 66, 69; pl. 5/7-19; pl. 9/1-11.

<sup>70</sup> Kacsó 1987, 66, 69, fig. 20-21.

<sup>71</sup> Kacsó 1980, 39 no. 8b, 43, fig. 2/1-14.

<sup>72</sup> Kacsó 1987, 66 no. 27a; pl. 14-15.

<sup>73</sup> Balaguri 1967, 79-83; Balaguri 1968, 149-152.

<sup>74</sup> Potuchniak 1958, 9-30, pl. 1-18; Balaguri 1969, 61-68; fig. 1-3; Balaguri 1974; Balaguri 1976.

<sup>75</sup> Kobal 1997, 120; Balaguri 2001, fig. 71; 71A; Kobal 2007, 583-599.

<sup>76</sup> Kobal 1997, 115-151; Vasiliev 2002, 29-45.

<sup>77</sup> Budinský-Krička 1977, 72-73, 79; Demeterová 1984, 18, 27, 34, fig. 1/9; pl. 30/8-15.

<sup>78</sup> Bader 1978, 17, 68-70, 74, 81, 91, 114-115, 126 no. 55; pl. 37/17; pl. 42/3; pl. 43; pl. 44/ 1-6, 8-13, 243; pl. 95/55.

<sup>79</sup> Mozsolics 1960, 113-123; ARANYAK 1997, 19-23.

<sup>80</sup> Zatlukál J., Zatlukál E. 1937, 66-73.

<sup>81</sup> Potuchniak 1958, 74-78.

<sup>82</sup> Demeterová 1984, 12, 19, 24-32, 34, 38-39, 41, 43-46; fig. 1/13; pl. 25-27/1-2, 5-6, 8.

<sup>83</sup> Demeterová 1984, 12, 19-50; fig. 1/5; fig. 2; pl. 1-24; pl. 27/ 9, 11-13.

and especially the Suciu de Sus finds within other cultures. M. Roska thinks the Suciu de Sus material is characteristic of the Late Bronze Age and of the Early Iron Age. He changes his mind regarding their dating and includes the discoveries of the plane necropolis from Suciu de Sus in the Copper Age based on a copper axe that was found in this necropolis<sup>84</sup>. I. Bóna thinks that the beginnings of the Suciu de Sus archaeological culture can be dated at the end of the Bronze Age III (according to his chronology), contemporary of the Early Otomani, Vărșand and Füzesabony cultures<sup>85</sup>. A. Mozsolics dates the Suciu de Sus culture in the IV<sup>th</sup> period, according to his chronology (Reinecke C-D), and thinks that it stops with the beginning of the Gava culture<sup>86</sup>. N. Kalicz has taken into consideration the materials until the end of the 50<sup>es</sup> and thinks that the beginning of the Suciu de Sus archaeological culture could be dated around the end of the Middle Bronze Age, when the Otomani culture ended, and that it is contemporary to the Egyek culture (after the discovery from Igriči Matata), ending at the end of the Late Bronze Age<sup>87</sup>. Most of the sites which N. Kalicz assigned to the Suciu de Sus culture have been then assigned by T. Kemenczei and T. Kovács to the Berkesz-Demecser group and think that the independent development of the Suciu de Sus culture in the western area ends with the Middle Bronze Age (Reinecke C) and is followed during the Reinecke D period by the Berkesz culture<sup>88</sup>. T. Kemenczei has started from the Suciu de Sus imports from Igriči Matata and Méra Fö and dates the first phase of the Suciu de Sus culture from Hungary at the end of the Middle Bronze Age in Hungary Bz. 3b (Reinecke B<sub>1</sub>), and the second phase at the beginning of the Late Bronze Age (Reinecke C / B<sub>2</sub>-C). He then has rectified the dating of these finds and fits them into the first part of the Late Bronze Age in Hungary (Bz. 1b = Reinecke B<sub>2</sub>)<sup>89</sup>. K. Horedt, after having analyzed the pottery of the Late Bronze Age from Transylvania, he concludes that this culture can be dated in the Bronz C-D<sup>90</sup>. In 1966, D. Berciu mentioned, without arguments, two phases of the Suciu de Sus I and II and dated them in the period of transition to the Iron Age<sup>91</sup>. N. Chidioşan has published the finds of the Suciu de Sus from Crişana, then he concludes that it began in the Bronze C and ended at the beginning of the Iron Age<sup>92</sup>. S. Dumitrascu carried out investigations at Giriş de Criş “Alceu” and has concluded that at least one phase must be assigned to the Suciu de Sus archaeological culture during the Middle Bronze Age<sup>93</sup>.

New points of view with respect to dating and chronology have been stated when the research results from the sites of the Suciu de Sus have been published: Boineşti, Culciu Mare, Culciu Mic, Lazuri, Medieşu Aurit “*Togul lui Schweizer*”, Lăpuşel, Mesteacăñ, Oarţa de Jos, Oarţa de Sus, Vad, Medvedivce, Diakovo, Kvasove, Solotvino, Skrabské și Zemplinske Kopčany.

Once T. Bader published his first article summary in 1972 on the Suciu de Sus finds in the north-western Transylvania, he noticed the fact that “it is early to speak about phases of development of the Suciu de Sus culture”. He assumed in theory three phases of development: the first phase was dated from the end of the Early Bronze Age and the beginning of the Middle Bronze Age, the second phase was dated in the Middle Bronze Age and a questionable third phase could be dated in the Late Bronze Age<sup>94</sup>.

The completion of the archaeological research in the tumulus necropolis from Lăpuş allowed new hypotheses on the development of the Suciu de Sus archaeological culture. Thus, the author of the research, C. Kacsó published a part of the archaeological material of that necropolis in 1975 where he considered that the first phase of the Suciu de Sus archaeological culture was represented by the flat necropolis at Suciu de Sus village, and the second tumulus necropolis was represented by the first phase of the tumulus necropolis from Lăpuş (dated in the Reinecke D. Bronze Age). In what concerns the first phase established in the development of the necropolis from Lăpuş, it must be noted that on one hand there are many common elements with the Suciu de

<sup>84</sup> Roska 1940 21-22; Roska 1942, 90-91.

<sup>85</sup> Bóna 1961, 17.

<sup>86</sup> Mozsolics 1960, 123.

<sup>87</sup> Kalicz 1960, 11-12; Kalicz 1970, 23-31.

<sup>88</sup> Kemenczei 1963, 182-183; Kovács 1967, 46-58.

<sup>89</sup> Kemenczei 1963, 182-183; Kemenczei 1984, 28-39.

<sup>90</sup> Horedt 1967, 144.

<sup>91</sup> Berciu D. 1966, 210, 148 fig 12; 209 fig.24.

<sup>92</sup> Chidioşan 1970, 307.

<sup>93</sup> Dumitaşcu 1967, 75.

<sup>94</sup> Bader 1972, 532.

Sus archaeological culture mentioned here and, on the other hand, a series of new elements have been cited which were unknown of the Suciu de Sus archaeological culture. These observations allowed the interpretation of the first phase from Lăpuş in two ways: this phase can be a stage of development within the Suciu de Sus archaeological culture, either it is a new cultural aspect, independent of the culture, but which preserves many elements of the Suciu de Sus cultural background. The author thinks it is most likely that the interpretation of phase I from Lăpuş is a result of the internal evolution of the Suciu de Sus archaeological culture. The dating of the first phase of the Suciu de Sus archaeological culture in the early phase of the Middle Bronze Age is mostly based on the Suciu de Sus imports that were found in the Otomani settlements from Medieşu Aurit “*Potău*” and Sălacea. This aspect offers the possibility to draw a parallel between the beginning of the culture and the Apa-Hajdúsámson horizon, or the next horizon, based on the similarity between the spirals on the disc-butted axes of type A and B<sub>2</sub> and the spirals on the Suciu de Sus vessels<sup>95</sup>.

A. Vulpe has a study published in 1974 where he mentioned three phases of development of the Suciu de Sus archaeological culture then, in 1975, he has changed a little that hypothesis as follows: a first phase was characterised by the presence of the pottery with floral decoration (this type of materials were known in the flat necropolis at Suciu de Sus); the second phase which used both incisions and excisions to make geometrical motifs (for example, the archaeological materials that were found in the settlements at Culciu Mare, Medieşu-Aurit – published by Bader in 1972 – and those from Nyíregyháza-Morgó – published by N. Kalicz in 1960); and the third phase was represented by the tumulus of the first phase in the necropolis from Lăpuş which used both excision and incision, but had vessels decorated with fluting in addition to the previous period. The first and the second phases were dated in the second half of the Middle Bronze Age, and the third period in the Late Bronze Age<sup>96</sup>. This evolutionary scheme has the support of A. Vulpe in several studies<sup>97</sup>, and more recently the similarities between the Lăpuş I pottery and the excised pottery of the Suciu de Sus have been noticed<sup>98</sup>.

T. Bader brought arguments in 1978 to the previous theoretical assumption, which could be applied only for the Satu Mare Plain and Țara Oașului, as follows: the first phase, was called the “*Medieşu Aurit phase*” according to the tumulus that had been researched in that locality and was characterized by the presence of the pottery decorated by incision and by the absence of the excised pottery. It lacked in pieces that could help the dating, but based on forms and decorative motifs it was dated in the first stage of the Middle Bronze Age, the Reinecke B<sub>1</sub> period and was considered contemporary of Otomani II and Wietenberg II phases. The second phase called the “*Culciu Mic phase*” was characterized by incised motifs, besides which appeared in a small number the vessels decorated by excision. The discovery made in the settlement at Culciu Mic, namely a mould valve used for making half-moon shaped pendants and a bronze bracelet at Boineşti, dated that phase in the second stage of the Middle Bronze Age, the Reinecke C period and synchronized it with the Otomani III/A period. It's remarkable that the phase was seen by the author “not chronologically, which is generally valid for the entire development of the Suciu de Sus archaeological culture”. The third phase was called the “*Culciu Mare phase*” after the settlement in that village. The place called “*Sub Grădini*” was considered the classical stage of the culture, remarkable through the pottery decorated by excision. That phase was dated based on some bronze objects found in the settlement (during the archaeological investigations at Culciu Mare, between 1976-1987, had been found approximately 107 bronze pieces and moulding patterns: three disc-battered axes, 12 awls, five knives, one hook, two spirals, two ring loops, 25 needles, seven fragments of saltaleons, two bracelets, five pearls (?), one washer, three buttons, two pendants, one ring, 11 wire fragments and 18 pieces of unclear bronze objects, seven axe patterns, chisels and arrow points)<sup>99</sup> in the Late Bronze Age, the Reinecke D period, possibly until the beginning of the First Iron Age, and it was considered contemporary of the Otomani III/B – IV<sup>100</sup>.

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<sup>95</sup> Kacsó 1975, 45-68.

<sup>96</sup> Nistor, Vulpe 1974, 17; Vulpe 1975, 69-76.

<sup>97</sup> Vulpe 1995, 394; Vulpe 1997, 309.

<sup>98</sup> Vulpe 2001, 261; indicating that the first phase of the culture could date at the end of the Middle Bronze Age; 280-281; Vulpe 2008, 269.

<sup>99</sup> Bader 1996, 265-266.

<sup>100</sup> Bader 1978, 74-75; Bader 1979, 22-23; Bader 1982b, 35.

H.G. Hüttel thought of T. Bader's observations about the absence or presence of the excised pottery of the Suciu de Sus culture that were real. He dated the phases suggested by T. Bader in accordance with the Suciu de Sus "imports" from other cultures (Otomaní, Egyek etc.) and in accordance with the metal pieces that had been found. He, thus, considers that the Medieșu Aurit phase can be dated in the Reinecke A<sub>2</sub> period and it is synchronous with Otomaní II; the Culciu Mic phase was drawn a parallel with the Otomaní III phase and with the Vărșand group and it was dated in the Reinecke-Milojčić A<sub>2</sub> – A<sub>3</sub> phase, and the Culciu Mare classical phase was dated to the Reinecke B<sub>1</sub> phase. So, there are two pre-classical phases and one classical phase represented by the finds of the Culciu Mare, Medieșu Aurit, Suciu de Sus – the flat necropolis, Igrici Matata and Nyíregyháza-Morgó. Between the end of the Suciu de Sus archaeological culture and the manifestations of the type Lăpuș I, there is a hiatus in Transylvania, but in Hungary this hiatus is replaced by the Berkesz Demecser group<sup>101</sup>.

When C. Kacsó made the presentation of his PhD dissertation in 1981, he made an important statement about the necropolis from Lăpuș, namely that phase I from Lăpuș preserves many elements of the Suciu de Sus and still differs from it through the big number of elements that are not specific of the Suciu de Sus archaeological culture, so that the first phase from Lăpuș cannot be fit into the III<sup>rd</sup> phase of the Suciu de Sus, because this type of finds is called "Lăpuș group"<sup>102</sup>.

C. Kacsó noticed the close similarity between the first two phases established by T. Bader and brings them together in one phase which he entitles **Suciu de Sus I**. This phase is characterized by pottery decorated with incisions and grooves and is represented by the settlements at Culciu Mic, Boinești, Giulești, Seini, Bârsana "Cetățuia", Sarasău "Moară" and by the tumulus from Medieșu Aurit. It was dated in the Reinecke B<sub>1</sub> period based on the pattern from Culciu Mic and the bracelet from Boinești. A synchronization of the Suciu de Sus I phase with the Wietenberg III and Otomaní III has been suggested based on the observations from the settlement at Oarța de Jos "Vâlceaua Rusului" according to which a Wietenberg II layer was superimposed by a Suciu I layer, and based on the discoveries made at the vessels hoard from Valea lui Mihai: two Suciu de Sus vessels in the context of the Otomaní III period. The second phase called **Suciu de Sus II** dominated by incised-excised decorations is dated in the Reinecke B<sub>2</sub>-C period in the Maramureș and Lăpuș region. This period is followed by the **Lăpuș group** which is represented by the discoveries made in the tumulus necropolis from Lăpuș, Bicaz and Suciu de Sus, as well as by the funerary feature from Libotin. The proof for this dating is mainly based on the presence of new forms: bulged vessels of the Lăpuș type and bi-conical cups with handles fit with a button<sup>103</sup>.

The synchronism of the Suciu de Sus I with Otomaní III, namely with Wietenberg III is also suggested by V. Vasiliev as a result of the archaeological research at Solotvino<sup>104</sup>.

Recently, Fl. Gogâltan has stated that the materials he found in the settlement at Cășeiu cannot be included in any of the stages defined so far, implying the existence of a phase after the Suciu II and prior to the Lăpuș I phase<sup>105</sup>. This "new cultural aspect" has been identified in the upper Someș Basin, in the post Wietenberg III stage and is defined as a mixture of elements of the Suciu de Sus – Lăpuș, Cehăluț and Noua cultures<sup>106</sup>.

In a study on the Suciu de Sus finds in the area of the Transilvanian cultures, C. Kacsó does not exclude the possibility that the two vessels in the vessel hoard from Valea lui Mihai actually belong to the Suciu de Sus II phase based on the fact "the technique used in decorating is not an absolute criterion in the internal division of the Suciu de Sus culture", but "the observation that the excised pottery exclusively fits the second phase of the culture still stays valid"<sup>107</sup>.

A new division of the Suciu de Sus culture has been recently suggested by L. Marta. So, phase I of the culture should be defined only by the discoveries from Medieșu Aurit (Medieșu Aurit phase at T. Bader), Lăpușel and Solotvino, sites that lack excised pottery and prevail incised pottery. This period has been dated in the Reinecke B<sub>1</sub> period. It is followed by the Suciu de Sus IIa phase dated in the Reinecke B<sub>2</sub>-C period, which comprises the final stages from Culciu Mic

<sup>101</sup> Hüttel 1979, 32-46.

<sup>102</sup> Kacsó 1981b, 107-108.

<sup>103</sup> Kacsó 1987, 67-68; Kacsó 1995, 95-97; Kacsó 1999, 56-57.

<sup>104</sup> Vasiliev 2002, 41-43.

<sup>105</sup> Gogâltan, Isac 1995, 5-26; Gogâltan 2001, 195-196.

<sup>106</sup> Kacsó 2007b, 94.

<sup>107</sup> Kacsó 2007a, 52.

and Boineşti, as well as the settlement at Oarţa de Jos – “*Vâlceaua Rusului*”, Bicaz – “*Igoaie*”, Diakovo and Kvasovo. This phase pottery has both incised and excised decorations. Finally, phase IIb is dated in the Reinecke D period and is represented by the discoveries made at Culciu Mare, Lazuri and Petea – Csengersima where excision prevails in pottery decoration<sup>108</sup>.

Based on the observations made at the necropolis from Zemplínske Kopčany, S. Demeterová has suggested a two phase division of the finds in south-eastern Slovakia. Thus, there is a group of early discoveries (represented by the sites at Hnojné, Lastovce, Ruská, Vel'ké Raškovce and some of the graves at Zemplínske Kopčany) dated in the Bz. B<sub>1</sub>-B<sub>2</sub>/C<sub>1</sub> and a second phase that covers the period of Bz. C/C<sub>2</sub>-D<sup>109</sup> being proved by the discoveries in the settlements from Nitriansky Hrádok și Spišský Štvrtok. The fortified settlement at Nitriansky Hrádok that belonged to the Mad'arovce culture uncovered a Suciu de Sus vessel decorated with incised spirals<sup>110</sup> in pit 245, together with materials of the most recent level of habitation in the settlement, dated in the Reinecke B<sub>1</sub> stage. The vessel most likely originated from the Early Suciu de Sus environment, in Hungary, Ukraine or Romania<sup>111</sup>. Also, the Otomani fortified settlement at Spišský Štvrtok unearthed a Suciu de Sus vessel, in feature no. 40, and was considered a place of offering<sup>112</sup>.

In a series of articles debating the Stanovo culture (= Suciu de Sus) in the Transcarpathian Ukraine, E.A. Balaguri has dated the development of this culture throughout the Reinecke C and D periods<sup>113</sup>. On the other hand, other studies mention two stages of development: the first would be the Reinecke B<sub>2</sub>-C<sub>1</sub> period, and the second would be the Reinecke C<sub>2</sub>-D period<sup>114</sup>.

The research of the two sites from Kvasove concluded to J. Kobal' that the pottery discovered in the settlement at Kvasove I belongs to a new phase of the Stanovo culture (= Suciu de Sus), namely to the III<sup>rd</sup> phase, which is characterized by new vessel forms as well as by the new black, polished pottery decorated by fluting besides the old one decorated by incision and excision. The author's opinion is that it finds analogies in the group of Lăpuş I and in the finds from Berveni. The latter ones have been assigned by J. Németh to the Gava I culture. The settlement at Kvasove II which has been assigned to the Middle Bronze Age (the Suciu de Sus culture, too) is situated nearby the one previously mentioned<sup>115</sup>.

Recent research from the north-eastern part of Hungary revealed that few of the discoveries initially assigned to the Suciu de Sus culture, actually belong to this culture. First, some of them were assigned to the Berkesz Demecser group, now it is obvious that they have been imports of the Suciu de Sus II culture in the Cehăluț – Hajdúbagos environment, which proves their present times. For example, the settlement at Nyíregyháza-Morgó, so much quoted in the studies of the 70's and not only, actually belongs to the Hajdúbagos group and not the Suciu de Sus culture. The few pottery sherds decorated by excised motifs have been imported from a Hajdúbagos settlement<sup>116</sup>. So, what is left to clarify is which of the sites assigned to the Suciu de Sus culture throughout the time, truly belong to this culture.

In the end of this short presentation I would like to specify that in any of the Suciu de Sus settlements, the vertical stratigraphy has not confirmed the hypotheses stated here. In our opinion, as old research was published and has been used in building theories, and in the absence of a vertical stratigraphy to stand for these hypotheses, it seems most suitable at the moment to uphold the two-phase division: one represented by pottery with incised decoration and a second one with incised-excised decoration determined by horizontal stratigraphy. In order to date the early phase of the Suciu de Sus culture, characteristic of this stage have remained the discoveries made in the settlements at Culciu Mic and Boineşti, a pendant mould that was found in the pithouse at Culciu Mic and the bronze bracelet from Boineşti, as well as the recognition regarding the cross-cultural

<sup>108</sup> Marta 2009, 94-101.

<sup>109</sup> Demeterová 1984, 42-50; Demeterová 1987, 305-315; Demeterová 1989, 172; Furmanek 1982, 379; Furmanek 1991, 30-31; Furmanek, Veliačik, Vladár 1999, 100-101, fig.42-43.

<sup>110</sup> Vladár 1973, 276, pl. 20.

<sup>111</sup> Furmanek, Veliačik, Vladár 1999, 101.

<sup>112</sup> Vladár, Bartonék 1977, 328, 383 pl.13.

<sup>113</sup> Balaguri 1969a, 68; Balaguri 1976, 253-254; Balaguri 2001, 272.

<sup>114</sup> Balaguri 1990b, 121.

<sup>115</sup> Kobal' 2007, 592, 594, fig.8/5-7.

<sup>116</sup> Material from the Jósa András Museum of Nyíregyháza. Nagy 2007, 121-154; Kacsó 2007a, 43-62; Bejinariu, Székely, Sana 2008, 191-224; Marta 2009, 99-100.

relations between Suciu de Sus I – Wietenberg II, III – Otomani II, III<sup>117</sup>, Mad'arovce etc. The beginnings of the Suciu de Sus archaeological culture most likely date from the Reinecke Bz A2 or Bz B phase continuing to the Reinecke Bz C stage.

#### IV. Conclusions

The Suciu de Sus I settlement at “*Határátkelő*” is spread only over the western terrace, in the area located west of the Erge brook. It wasn't superimposed by the Suciu de Sus II settlement. Several features of this phase were investigated in this area of the site. It could be concluded that neither in Csengersima, nor in any of the Suciu de Sus sites were delimited the cultural phases by horizontal stratigraphy.

The settlement at Csengersima “*Határátkelő*” is important because until the present time it is the most investigated site of the early Suciu de Sus culture in the area which was occupied by this culture. We estimate that approximately 80% of the settlement surface that belonged to the Middle Bronze Age has been investigated, and the rest of 20% remained not investigated in the western part of the terrace. That was the result of the excavation method and of the nature of the archaeological research in the settlement. Preventive archaeological excavations carried out here in 1998 and 1999 yielded 1867 features that belonged to several ages, of which 82 belonged to the Middle Bronze Age. 62 features that belonged to other eras (50 of the Roman Age, nine of the Late Bronze Age, two Early Mediaeval Age and one which comprises mixed materials of the Late Bronze Age and of the Roman Age) uncovered pottery of the Suciu de Sus I. There were a total of 144 features that illustrated the extent of the Middle Bronze Age settlement. Out of the 27 sites that belonged to this phase of the Suciu de Sus culture only the settlement at Solotvino was excavated to an extent of 30% of the settlement area<sup>118</sup>. The settlements at Culciu Mic<sup>119</sup>, Boineşti<sup>120</sup>, Lăpuşel<sup>121</sup>, Medieşu Aurit “*Suculeu*”<sup>122</sup>, Kvasove II<sup>123</sup>, Diakovo “*Kișerda*” and “*Mondicitag*” were little investigated<sup>124</sup>.

As in the case of the settlements at Solotvino or Lăpuşel, the Bronze Age layer was strongly affected by the subsequent habitations. A similar situation was found in the specific settlement at Cesengersima which was strongly influenced by the habitation dating from the Roman times. The cultural layer was between 25-40 cm thick and it provided a great quantity of ceramic and several fired clay objects.

Both houses and graves, and especially the ceramic material, were similar to those found in other sites of the Suciu de Sus I culture, marked by small regional rather than chronological differences. For example, the settlement at Csengersima resembles more this culture's sites from the Someş Plain rather than those in the eastern and north-eastern area. We refer here to the presence of ribbed pottery in a very low number in the western area and to its massive presence in the eastern and north-eastern areas. This aspect remained the same during the second phase of the archaeological culture<sup>125</sup>. A powerful influence of the Ottomani culture in the western area has been noticed, unlike in the northern and western areas where the Wietenberg influences have prevailed.

Pending completion of research of the ceramic material found in the settlement at Csengersima and until the finishing of the comparative analysis with the other sites it can only be assumed that the settlement at “*Határátkelő*” dated from the Reinecke Bz. B1, B2 period, and the habitation there might have ceased after a flood.

<sup>117</sup> Bader 1978, 73-77; Bader 1979, 20-26; Hüttel 1979, 32-46; Kacsó 1995, 96-97; Pop D. 2003, 91-92, nota 69; Vasiliev 2002, 41-43; Kacsó 2007a, 51-52; Kobal' 2007, 592.

<sup>118</sup> Vasiliev, 2002, 31.

<sup>119</sup> Bader 1978, 65.

<sup>120</sup> Bader 1978, 65.

<sup>121</sup> Stanciu 1994, fig. 2.

<sup>122</sup> Bader 1978, 16, 64-66, 68, 75, 126 no. 55.

<sup>123</sup> Kobal' 2007, 583-599.

<sup>124</sup> Balaguri 1974, 25-47.

<sup>125</sup> Marta 2004b, 41.

## V. Catalogue of the Middle Bronze Age finds

### 526 (Fig.1)

Feature with circular outline, slightly deepened into the sterile soil, with inclined walls that met at the bottom. The yellow-grey pit uncovered two fragments of some vessel rims, of which one was decorated with specific motifs of the Suciu de Sus culture, phase I. Dimensions: 54 x 45 cm, 18 cm deep.

### 531 (Fig.1)

Feature with circular outline, straight walls, slightly arched bottom; the fill was yellow-grey. It uncovered ceramic fragments of the Bronze Age, of the Suciu de Sus culture, phase I – several fragments of a vessel, a decorated bottom of a vessel, as well as daub and ash pieces. Dimensions: 66 x 62 cm, 26 cm deep.

### 532

Roman Age feature (house). The culture layer of the Middle Bronze Age was disturbed when it was excavated (“feature 536”), therefore many of the Suciu de Sus materials fell into the fill. The fill was dark grey with charcoal, and the upper part contained a little daub. The well was researched only as deep as 90 cm because of water infiltration. The walls were inclined at the upper part, and straight at the bottom part. Besides the Roman Age ceramic (13 fragments) were found several artefacts that belonged to the Age of Bronze, to the Suciu de Sus culture, phase I, as well as grinder fragments.

### 533 (Fig.1)

Feature with oval outline and unclear margins, conical, with flat bottom; the fill was yellow-grey. Many Bronze Age materials of the Suciu de Sus culture, phase I were found, as well as Roman Age ceramics (5 fragments), daub, a fragment of a grinder and charcoal. Dimensions: 134 x 112 cm, 40 cm deep.

### 534 (Pl.1/1-5)

Feature with oval outline and arched margins towards the outside, arched towards the bottom; flat bottom. The dark grey fill uncovered several ceramic fragments of the Bronze Age, of the Suciu de Sus culture, phase I, several pieces of daub, a fragment of a stone grinder and charcoal. Dimensions: 130 x 156 cm, 20 cm deep.

### 535 (Pl.1/6-8)

Roman Age feature, with oval outline, slightly deepened into the sterile soil. The fill of the feature was dark grey, and it was uncovered besides Roman Age artefacts (60 pieces), ceramic fragments of the Suciu de Sus culture, phase I (29 pieces). Dimensions: 134 x 116 cm, 15 cm deep.

### 536 (Fig.2)

The first sondage excavation uncovered the Middle Bronze Age layer on a relatively large and oval trench, oriented north-west – south-east (maximum length of 740 cm and maximum width of 360 cm). When the layer of 10-15 cm of grey-brownish colour, containing daub and charcoal was removed, several features occurred: 533, 534, 536 A, B, C, D, 580 B, C and the Roman Age feature 532 (the well) was yielded in the western side. The sondage carried out in features 534 and 536 B uncovered a great quantity of Bronze Age ceramic, of the Suciu de Sus culture, phase I (159 pieces) until their outline occurred.

### 536 A (Fig.2; Pl.2)

Feature with oval outline, likely conical, the bottom was slightly arched with grey-yellowish fill, with a little more charcoal at the upper part. Its fill uncovered Bronze Age ceramic, of the Suciu de Sus culture, phase I (29 pieces). Dimensions: 230 x 150 cm, 40 deep.

### 536 B=536 E (Fig.2; Pl.3)

Feature situated in the middle of the feature 536, with darker fill than the fill in the upper layer; with oval outline, straight walls and inclined towards the outside, flat bottom; grey-yellowish fill with daub and charcoal. Its outline was not clear in the north-western side. The bottom part uncovered a yellow layer on a surface of 10 cm, or it is likely the excavation overran the depth of the feature. The fill contained Bronze Age ceramic, of the the Suciu de Sus culture, phase I (50 pieces). Dimensions: 215 x 130 cm; 22 cm deep.

### 536 C (Fig.2)

Feature with oval outline, likely conical, situated in the southern part of the “feature” 536; the fill was grey-yellowish with little daub. It revealed a single ceramic fragment of the Bronze Age, likely of the Suciu de Sus culture. Diameter: 90 x 120 cm; 22 cm.

**536/D (Fig.2)**

Feature with circular outline, straight walls and arched towards the outside, flat bottom, situated in the southern side of the “feature” 536; the fill was grey-yellowish, with daub and charcoal. The uncovered ceramic belonged to the Bronze Age, the Suciu de Sus culture, phase I (45 pieces). Diameter: 140 cm, 20 cm deep.

**537 A-B-C (Fig.2; Pl.4-8)**

Three cross-cutting features formed an irregular trench, oriented north-west - south-east, with 280 x 190 cm in dimension, delimited by the grey colour of the soil with yellow inclusions. Feature 537 A occurred in the southern side, it had circular outline, slightly deepened into the sterile soil, flat bottom; dark grey fill and yellow inclusions, with daub and charcoal. It uncovered ceramic fragments of the Bronze Age, of the Suciu de Sus culture, phase I, big pieces of daub and fragments of a grinder stone. Diameter: 120 cm; 10 cm deep.

Feature 537 B was situated in the north of 537 A and had circular outline. Its walls were slightly inclined towards the outside, slightly arched towards the bottom part, arched bottom; the fill was dark grey, with stripes of charcoal. It contained a great quantity of Bronze Age ceramics, of the Suciu de Sus culture, phase I, and very much daub. Diameter: 200 cm, 65 cm deep.

Feature 537 C was situated in the south of 537 B and in the east of 537 A, cut by the two pits; with oval outline, straight walls and arched towards the outside, arched where they met the bottom; flat bottom with dark grey fill and two pieces of vitrified daub. Dimensions: 120 x 140 cm; 40 cm deep.

**538 (Fig.1; Pl.9-10)**

Feature with oval outline, conical walls, irregular bottom, slightly alveolar in the western part; with grey fill. In the middle of the upper part it contained consistent traces of daub, and the fill in the half eastern part was yellow-grey. A small part in the south was not uncovered. The fill uncovered a great quantity of ceramics of the Bronze Age, the Suciu de Sus culture, phase I, a little charcoal and pieces of daub. Dimensions: larger than 170 x 174 cm; 45-62 cm deep.

**541-543 (Pl.11/1-3)**

Small features that belonged to the Roman Age (?) as they were likely part of the same construction. The fill was dark-grey, homogeneous, with scanty material. They were excavated within feature 544.

Feature 541 had circular outline, straight walls and slightly arched bottom. The excavation didn't reach the sterile soil, but a grey-yellowish layer mixed with charcoal, which was likely the culture layer of the Middle Bronze Age. The ceramics found in it belonged to the Bronze Age, to the Suciu de Sus culture, phase I (13 pieces). Diameter: 40 cm; 48 cm deep.

Feature 542 had circular outline and was excavated in the same level as the first – it was likely the culture layer of the Middle Bronze Age. It uncovered several ceramic fragments of the Suciu de Sus culture, phase I (19 pieces) and several ceramic fragments of the Roman Age (2 pieces). Dimensions: 35-40 cm, 40 cm deep.

Feature 543 had circular outline, its excavation was carried out as in the case of the previous two pits. It contained only a few atypical fragments of the Late Bronze Age and a little daub. Dimensions: 45 x 50 cm, 40 cm deep.

**544**

Feature that occurred on a large surface, grey-yellowish, mixed with daub and charcoal. After a layer of 15 cm had been removed, several features of the Bronze Age occurred: 544 A-F. That layer uncovered a great quantity of ceramics of the Bronze Age, the Suciu de Sus culture, phase I (70 pieces).

**544 A (Fig.3)**

Feature with circular outline, with straight walls and arched bottom. The dark grey fill with daub and charcoal uncovered several ceramic fragments of the Bronze Age, of the Suciu de Sus culture, phase I. Dimensions: 104 x 110 cm; 34 cm deep.

**544 B (Fig.3)**

Feature with almost rectangular shape, deeper in the half eastern part and higher in the west. The grey fill with daub fragments uncovered several fragments of the Bronze Age, the Suciu de Sus culture, phase I (55 pieces). Dimensions: 250 x 180 cm in diameter; 50 cm deep.

**544 C (Fig.4)**

Feature with oval outline, with straight walls and inclined towards the outside; flat bottom. The fill was grey-yellowish with much charcoal and daub and uncovered several ceramic fragments of the Bronze Age, of the Suciu de Sus culture, phase I. Dimensions: 160 x 150 cm; 34 cm deep.

**544 D (Fig.4)**

Feature with quadrilateral outline; irregular in the south-western side, straight walls; flat bottom with a step in the eastern side, a little raised. It comprised other four features: 541, 542, 543, 544 F, and one small feature was identified under it, nearby the long western side, having oval outline and straight walls, dark grey fill, with daub and charcoal. The fill of feature 554 D was grey-yellowish with daub and charcoal and uncovered several ceramic fragments of the Bronze Age, the Suciu de Sus culture, phase I. Dimensions: 340 x 370 cm, 60 cm deep. The dimensions of the smaller feature in the western side: 50 x 36 cm; 30 cm deep.

**544 E (Fig.4)**

Feature with circular outline, straight walls and inclined towards the outside; flat bottom. The fill was grey with yellow inclusions, difficult to delimit in the soil around it, with daub and charcoal. It uncovered several ceramic fragments of the Bronze Age, of the Suciu de Sus culture, phase I. Diameter: 130 cm; A: 15 cm.

**544 F (Fig.4)**

Feature with circular outline; it was excavated within feature 554 and both of them had similar fill. It is not certain if it was a different feature, but the connection between the two suggested that. The fill uncovered two ceramic fragments of the bronze Age, of the Suciu de Sus culture, it likely belonged to phase I. Diameter: 140 cm; 35 cm deep.

**545 (Fig.4)**

Feature with circular outline, straight walls, inclined towards the outside, flat bottom, slightly deepened into the sterile soil. The fill was grey-yellowish with daub and charcoal. It uncovered several ceramic fragments and a fragmented miniature of a cart of the Bronze Age, of the Suciu de Sus culture, phase I (10 pieces). Diameter: 90 cm, 16 cm deep.

**549 (Fig.4)**

Feature with oval outline, straight walls and inclined towards the inside, arched where they met the bottom; flat bottom. The grey-yellowish fill with daub and charcoal uncovered ceramic fragments of the Bronze Age, the Suciu de Sus culture, phase I (20 pieces). Dimensions: 100 x 152 cm, 46 cm deep.

**554 A (Fig.5)**

Small feature with circular outline, straight walls and slightly arched towards the outside, slightly arched towards the bottom; flat bottom; dark-grey fill. The fill uncovered several ceramic fragments of the Bronze Age, of the Suciu de Sus culture, phase I (7 pieces). It's not sure this feature belonged to this culture as it was excavated within feature 554 B, and it wasn't deeper than the latter. Thus, it can be assumed that 554 A belonged to one of the civilizations that inhabited the settlement subsequently, and the ceramic fragments in it might have fallen from the fill of the pit 554 B. Diameter: 50 cm; 20 cm deep.

**554 B-C (Fig.5; Pl.12)**

Feature 554 B had oval outline, straight walls and inclined towards the outside, straight bottom, slightly arched in the east; the fill was grey-yellowish with charcoal. The north-western side cross-cut a smaller feature, 554 C, which had an oval outline and with similar fill to the first one. It is most likely that 554 B and 554 C made up one large feature, maybe a house of 211x190 cm in size. Their fill uncovered ceramic fragments of the Bronze Age, of the Suciu de Sus culture, phase I (30 pieces). Dimensions 554 B: 142 x 188 cm; 22-35 cm deep; 554 C: 82 x 104 cm, 20 cm deep.

**559 (Fig.5)**

Feature with oval outline, straight walls in the west and inclined towards the outside in the east; flat bottom; the fill was dark-grey with daub and charcoal. The fill uncovered only few ceramic fragments of the Bronze Age, of the Suciu de Sus culture, phase I (4 pieces). Diameter: 50 x 60 cm; 20 cm deep.

**561 A**

Large-sized feature of the Roman Age, with dark fill, daub and charcoal in it, a little light in the eastern side. The west side cut another feature of the Roman Age (561 B). Its fill uncovered

besides Roman Age ceramics, another ceramic fragment of the Bronze Age, the Suciu de Sus culture, it is likely that it belonged to phase I. Dimensions: 340 x 300 cm; 105 cm deep.

#### **561 B**

Feature of the Roman Age, probably with oval outline, was cut by the previous feature in its eastern side; the fill was dark-grey with daub and charcoal. Besides the artefacts specific of the Roman Age were found several ceramic fragments of the Suciu de Sus archaeological culture, phase I (11 pieces). Dimensions: 100 x 130 cm; 50 cm deep.

#### **563**

Feature with oval outline, conical in profile, with arched inferior margins. Its grey-yellowish fill contained two fragments of the Bronze Age, the Suciu de Sus archaeological culture, phase I and a fragment of the Roman Age. Dimensions: 90 x 80 cm; 26 cm deep.

#### **565 (Fig.5)**

Feature with circular outline, straight walls and slightly inclined towards the outside, arched to the bottom, with grey-yellowish fill. It uncovered several ceramic fragments specific of the Bronze Age, of the Suciu de Sus culture, phase I (4 pieces). Dimensions: 70 cm; 32 cm deep.

#### **566 (Fig.5; Pl.13-15)**

Feature with rectangular outline that comprised a thick layer of daub above a yellow layer with daub and charcoal. It went approximately 15 cm deep into the soil. The southern side uncovered the contour of another small feature, similar in fill (diameter: 50 cm; 10 cm deep). Its east side was cut by another small feature with circular outline (566 E) with dark fill which uncovered a ceramic fragment of the 8<sup>th</sup> -9<sup>th</sup> centuries AD (diameter: 60 cm, 35 cm deep). The ceramic fragments belonged to the Bronze Age, the Suciu de Sus culture, phase I (approximately 103 pieces). Dimensions: 380 x 300 cm.

#### **567**

Feature with oval outline, straight walls, slightly inclined towards the outside; arched bottom. The grey fill with little daub, uncovered a Bronze Age fragment and several Roman Age fragments. Features 566 and 567 unearthed several ceramic fragments of the Bronze Age, of the Suciu de Sus culture, phase I, and two Roman fragments. Dimensions: 60 x 70 cm; 45 cm deep.

#### **568 (Pl.16)**

Feature with oval outline, the grey fill was excavated within feature 569. Dimensions: diameter: 40 x 50 cm, 3 cm deep. It's mentioned the fact that there were no artefacts found in it, but the Museum of Nyíregyháza holds a box with the identification data of this feature which was rich in ceramic fragments of the Bronze Age, of the Suciu de Sus culture, phase I, a Roman fragment and three big pieces of daub. It is possible that the ceramic fragments originated from the Roman Age feature 569 (38 ceramic fragments of the Suciu de Sus culture, phase I and a Roman vessel).

#### **569 (Fig.5; Pl.17/1-3)**

Assembly of daub with rectangular shape, destroyed in the north-western side by the Roman Age feature 561, and in the south-west by feature 569 C. Big fragments of daub with rod impressions let us assume that this assembly were the remains of a house. Ceramic fragments found here belonged to the Bronze Age, possibly to the Suciu de Sus culture, phase I. Dimensions: 258 x 304 cm.

#### **569 B (Fig.5)**

Feature with circular outline, inclined walls, with grey-yellowish fill, charcoal and daub. A layer of about 20 cm thick, yellow and sterile was found in the upper part, in the half northern side. The fill of the excavated area uncovered one ceramic fragment of the Bronze Age, possibly of the Suciu de Sus culture, phase I. Diameter: 160 cm, 50 cm deep.

#### **570 A (Pl.17/4-6)**

Roman Age feature cut in the southern side by feature 570 B, where besides many ceramic fragments of this period were uncovered four fragments of the Bronze Age, of the Suciu de Sus culture, phase I. Dimensions: 180 x 270 cm, 40 cm deep.

#### **570 B (Pl.17/7-8)**

Roman Age feature that uncovered 19 ceramic fragments of the Bronze Age, the Suciu de Sus culture, phase I. Dimensions: 160 x 250 cm, 50 cm deep.

#### **571 A**

Roman Age feature that crosscut in the southern side with another feature 571 B of the same Age. The dark fill with daub and charcoal contained, besides the artefacts of the Roman Age, a ceramic

fragment of the Bronze Age, the Suciu de Sus culture, possibly phase I. Diameter: 160 cm, 65 cm deep.

**571 B (Pl. 18-21)**

Roman Age feature with oval outline and dark-grey fill in the upper part with daub and charcoal; from the level of 75 cm in depth became grey-yellowish with yellow and dark grey stripes. Besides the Roman Age artefacts (iron slag, 9 ceramic fragments) was found a great quantity of ceramics (134 pieces), a clay and daub weigh with rod impressions that belonged to the Bronze Age, to the Suciu de Sus culture, phase I. Dimensions: 240 x 260 cm, maximum depth: 140 cm.

**577 (Fig.6)**

Feature with circular outline, and the walls were inclined towards the outside, stair-like bottom; yellow-reddish fill with charcoal; and a dark spot of ash towards the bottom. The fill uncovered ceramic fragments of the Bronze Age, of the Suciu de Sus culture, phase I. Diameter: 104 cm, 28 cm deep.

**578**

Feature with almost rectangular outline that occurred as a long and narrow spot, grey-yellowish, with much daub and charcoal. The deposition was 10 cm thick; it superimposed the yellow sterile soil. The north-western end was cut by feature 576 and by another small feature, with circular outline and grey fill with yellow inclusions and charcoal. The materials found there belonged exclusively to the Bronze Age, the Suciu de Sus culture, phase I. Dimensions: 300 x 740 cm; 10 cm deep.

**580**

Roman Age feature with circular outline; straight walls that went deep into the sterile soil. It was researched at 320 cm in depth. The fill was almost dark, with horizontal thin layers of yellow soil starting from 80-100 cm. Feature 580 superimposed feature 650, which belonged to the second phase of the Suciu de Sus culture. When the Roman age feature was excavated, it reached the Bronze Age depositions and several ceramic fragments of the Suciu de Sus culture, phase II fell into its fill as well as a ceramic fragment of the Suciu de Sus culture, phase I. Dimensions: 194 x 180 cm; 320 cm deep.

**597 (Fig.6; Pl.25-26)**

Rectangular feature with rounded margins, arched walls in the northern side and inclined towards the outside, the southern wall was cut by a small-sized feature. The fill was yellow-grey with daub. Other two features were excavated in its southern corner. They had dark grey fill with little daub (669 D) with ceramic fragments of the feature 597 that had fallen into it. The two smaller features were not deeper than 597. The fill of the feature 597 uncovered several ceramic fragments of the Bronze Age, of the Suciu de Sus culture, phase I. Dimensions: 597: 200 x 165 cm; 40 cm deep; 669/D (smaller) diameter: 30 cm; 25 cm deep; 669/D (larger) diameter: 40 cm; 30 cm deep.

**643 A-B (Pl.22/8-9)**

Roman Age features with a fill that contained Roman artefacts and several ceramic fragments of the Bronze Age, the Suciu de Sus culture, phase I.

**650**

Feature with rectangular outline and rounded corners that cross-cut feature 651 D in the south-eastern side. The same side uncovered feature 650 B that was likely to belong to feature 650. It was a hearth that was out of order under it, and around it had a pit with vaulted walls. The grey fill with daub and charcoal uncovered several ceramic fragments that belonged to the Bronze Age, the Suciu de Sus culture, phase II and several that belonged to the first phase of the same culture. The latter run into the fill of the feature when it was excavated.

**651 (Pl.22/1-7)**

Oval feature with unclear margins; the fill was grey-yellowish with daub and charcoal. It cross-cut feature 650 in its western side. Another feature was excavated in its south-western side, the latter was smaller (651 C), shallow with the same colour of the fill. Besides the ceramic sherds of the Suciu de Sus culture, phase II, some of the first phase were also found. Dimensions: 420 x 240 cm; 42 cm deep; 651 C: 50 x 55 cm, 5 cm deep.

**651 D**

Feature with oval outline that cross-cut feature 651 in the southern side. It was less deep than feature 651. It revealed several ceramic fragments of the Bronze Age, of which two belonged to the Suciu de Sus culture, phase I. Dimensions: 100 x 270 cm, 25 cm deep.

**655**

Feature with oval outline and conical in profile; the fill was grey with daub. It uncovered two ceramic fragments, one of the Bronze Age, of the Suciu de Sus culture and another of the Roman Age. Dimensions: 148 x 164 cm; 70 cm deep.

**656 B (Fig.6; Pl.24)**

Feature with oval outline, straight walls and inclined towards the outside, arched towards the bottom; flat bottom. Its yellow fill with little daub uncovered several ceramic fragments of the Bronze Age, of the Suciu de Sus culture, phase I. Dimensions: 140 x 200 cm; 25 cm deep.

**657 (Fig.6)**

Feature with circular outline, rounded walls towards the bottom; flat bottom; the fill was grey-yellowish with daub and charcoal. A single ceramic fragment of the Bronze Age was found in the fill, dating from the Bronze Age, the Suciu de Sus culture, phase I. Dimensions: 120 x 130 cm; 20 cm deep.

**670 B (Pl.27/1-7)**

Roman age feature with rectangular outline, rounded corners, cross-cut by features 671 B and 670 A in the southern part, and by feature 670 C in the northern part. The dark-grey fill uncovered a significant quantity of the Roman Age ceramics, several Early Mediaeval ceramic fragments (7<sup>th</sup> - 9<sup>th</sup> centuries) and others that belonged to the Bronze Age, the Suciu de Sus culture, phase I. The latter sherds fell from the culture layer in the north-western side, named feature 671 E.

**670 C**

Roman Age feature with almost oval outline. The dark grey fill with charcoal and daub uncovered several ceramic fragments of the Suciu de Sus culture, phase I. Like in the previous situation, they fell from feature 671 E.

**670 D = 671 (Pl.28-30)**

Roman Age feature with circular outline, with dark fill that contained daub and charcoal. It uncovered several fragments of the Bronze Age, the Suciu de Sus culture, phase I, besides Roman Age ceramics. The Bronze Age ceramics fell from feature 671 E.

**671 E**

Feature with irregular outline cut by Roman Age features. The profile revealed the fact that the humus superimposed the dark layer, and the dark layer superimposed a yellow layer that resembled the sterile soil, and the latter superimposed a grey-yellowish soil with charcoal, 20 – 40 cm thick. Its outline wasn't defined, neither the dimensions because of the Roman Age traces. The maximum width was 390 cm. That was the culture layer that belonged to the Middle Bronze Age, which together with the layer of yellow soil were 70 cm thick. It uncovered a great quantity of ceramics, as well as big pieces of daub with rod prints, a complete vessel of the Suciu de Sus culture, phase I.

**680 A (Pl.31-32, 33/1-3)**

Roman Age feature with grey fill, daub and charcoal. Its eastern side was cut by feature 680 B that belonged to the Roman Age. The fill uncovered besides ceramics of the Roman Age, also ceramic sherds of the Bronze age, the Suciu de Sus culture, phase I. Dimensions: 220 x 240 cm; 40 cm deep.

**729**

Feature with oval outline, alveolar bottom and inclined towards the east; the fill was grey-yellowish. It uncovered several ceramic fragments of the Bronze Age, of the Suciu de Sus culture, phase I. Dimensions: 55 x 65 cm; 20 cm deep.

**769 (Fig.6; Pl.33/4-9)**

Feature with circular outline, straight walls and inclined towards the outside, flat bottom. The grey fill with daub and charcoal uncovered several ceramic fragments of the Suciu de Sus culture, phase I. Diameter: 180 cm; 25 cm deep.

**771**

Roman Age feature with mostly dark grey fill, and towards the western side it turned grey. It cut feature 772 A of the Bronze Age in the eastern side, thus materials of this age reached into its fill. Besides the Roman Age artefacts were found several ceramic fragments of the Bronze Age, of the Suciu de Sus culture, phase I. Dimensions: 200 x 385 cm and 150 x 140 cm; 40 and 60 cm deep.

**772 A (Fig.7)**

Large-sized feature, rectangular, oriented east-west, semicircular in the eastern side, the western and the southern sides were cut by two Roman Age features 771 and 772 B. The grey-yellowish

fill with daub and charcoal uncovered several ceramic fragments of the Bronze Age, likely the Suciu de Sus culture, phase I. Dimensions: 330 x 210 cm, 10-40 cm deep.

**780**

Feature with oval outline, straight walls, inclined towards the outside; flat bottom. The grey-yellowish fill with much charcoal and daub uncovered a great quantity of ceramics of the Bronze Age, the Suciu de Sus culture, phase I. Dimensions: 220 x 500 cm; 35 cm deep.

**780 B (Fig.7)**

Feature with oval outline, with the walls strongly inclined towards the outside, and which met at the bottom of the pit. The grey fill uncovered a great quantity of ceramics that belonged to the Bronze Age, to the Suciu de Sus culture, phase I. Dimensions: 170 x 295 cm, 35 cm deep.

**780 C (Fig.7)**

Feature with rectangular outline, with straight walls and slightly inclined towards the outside. The flat bottom was slightly alveolar in the central part. The grey-yellowish fill with charcoal uncovered several ceramic fragments of the Bronze Age, the Suciu de Sus culture, phase I. Dimensions: 76 x 200 cm; 20 cm deep.

**782 A (Fig.8; Pl.34/1-2, 5-7)**

782 was a cross-cutting assembly of features. A yellow sterile soil superimposed a part of the Bronze Age features. It was 20 cm thick in the case of 782/A. 782/A had irregular outline (slightly circular) with straight walls and flat bottom. The fill was reddish with charcoal and traces of fire, and ceramic fragments of the Suciu de Sus archaeological culture, phase I. Dimensions: 210 cm, A: 30 cm.

**782 B (Fig.8; Pl.34/3-4)**

782 B occurred 8-shaped, they were likely two cross-cutting pits, oriented north-south. The grey fill with daub and little charcoal uncovered few ceramic fragments of the Bronze Age, of the Suciu de Sus archaeological culture, phase I. Dimensions: diameters: 130 – 150 x 260 cm; 20 cm deep.

**783 (Fig.8; Pl.35)**

Feature with oval outline; straight walls and flat bottom. The grey-yellowish fill uncovered three ceramic fragments of the Bronze Age, the Suciu de Sus culture, phase I. Dimensions: 64 x 56 cm; A was 16 cm deep.

**830 (Fig.8; Pl.36-38)**

Feature with oval outline; arched walls towards the bottom; flat bottom. It was cut by a Roman Age feature 770 in the eastern corner. The grey-yellowish fill with charcoal and little daub uncovered a considerable quantity of ceramics of the Bronze Age, the Suciu de Sus culture, phase I. Dimensions: 274 x 150 cm; 30 cm deep.

**843 (Fig.8; Pl.27/8)**

Feature with circular outline; straight walls but arched towards the bottom. The fill was dark with daub and charcoal. A layer of burnt daub superimposed the feature and closed it. The fill uncovered several ceramic fragments of the Suciu de Sus culture, phase I. Diameter: 180 cm; 50 cm deep (35 pieces).

**846**

Feature with oval outline, straight walls, rounded towards the flat bottom. It was cut by the Roman Age feature 845 in the northern side, then by a small feature in the eastern side and by other two small features in the south. The dark fill with little daub and charcoal uncovered only ceramic fragments of the Bronze Age, the Suciu de Sus culture, phase I. Dimensions: 150 x 215 cm; 30 cm deep (22 pieces).

**849**

Assembly of two or three Roman Age features. Their fill uncovered besides the Roman Age ceramics, several ceramic fragments of the Bronze Age, of the Suciu de Sus culture, phase I.

**864**

Feature with oval outline, conical in profile, very deep; it belonged to the Early Mediaeval Age (c. VIII-IV centuries AD; 46 pieces). The dark grey fill with daub and charcoal uncovered ceramic fragments of the Suciu de Sus culture, phase I (2 pieces). Dimensions: 155 x 190 cm; it was researched down to 160 cm in depth, then it was flooded.

**865 and 867**

Several ceramic fragments of the Bronze Age, of the Suciu de Sus culture, phase I occurred around the two Roman Age features within the sondage excavation (27 pieces).

**880**

Roman Age feature with dark fill that contained daub and uncovered two ceramic fragments of the Suciu de Sus, phase I.

**897 B**

Large-sized feature with oval outline, slightly inclined walls towards the outside and flat bottom; slightly deepened into the sterile soil. The fill was grey-yellowish with much charcoal and daub here and there. The fill uncovered materials decorated by incisions and excisions, specific of the second phase of the Suciu de Sus culture, as well as two fragments decorated by incisions that belonged to the first phase of this culture. Dimensions: 190 x 260 cm; 30 cm deep.

**935 (Pl.39)**

This “feature” was actually an assembly of daub, with unclear outline, situated between features 936 and 939. It occurred in the humus and within base of the humus (post holes with the following dimensions: **936**: 40 cm in diameter; 15 cm deep; **937**: 40 cm in diameter, 10 cm deep; **938**: 60 cm in diameter, 20 cm deep; **939**: 24 cm in diameter, 8 cm deep). This assembly also contained several fragments of stone grinders and ceramic fragments, secondary fired that belonged to the Bronze Age, the Suciu de Sus culture, phase I. The feature wasn't attested.

**940 (Pl.11/4)**

Roman Age feature, circular within the ground plan, with black fill that contained daub and Roman Age material besides some Bronze Age ceramic sherds , of the Suciu de Sus culture, phase I. Roman Age pit with daub, rich in material. Dimensions: 150 x 160 cm; 40 cm deep.

**941 (Pl.11/5-10)**

Roman Age feature, with circular outline. The grey fill contained several ceramic fragments of the Bronze Age, of the Suciu de Sus culture, phase I. Diameter: 35 cm; depth: 8 cm.

**944 (Fig.9)**

Feature with oval outline, beehive shaped profile and flat bottom. The grey-yellowish fill uncovered several ceramic fragments of the Bronze Age, the Suciu de Sus culture, phase I. Dimensions: outline diameter: 65 x 80 cm; maximum diameter: 118 x 96; 40 cm deep.

**1000 B**

Large-sized Roman Age feature with dark grey fill and daub. Besides the Roman Age ceramics (38 pieces) were also found several (19 pieces) ceramic fragments of the Bronze Age, the Suciu de Sus culture, that were likely to belong to phase I.

**1000 C**

Roman Age feature with a fill that contained several Bronze Age fragments, of the Suciu de Sus culture, phase I (8 pieces).

**1005 A and B (Fig.9)**

Feature with unclear outline, almost oval, oriented east-west (the initial dimensions were 248 x 260), initially defined as one feature. Feature 1005 A was situated in the eastern side, with oval outline, the walls were much inclined towards the outside; the bottom was flat. The grey-yellowish fill with daub and charcoal uncovered several ceramic fragments of the Bronze Age, the Suciu de Sus culture, phase I. Dimensions: 160 x 200 cm; 40 cm deep.

Feature 1005 B had almost oval outline; it occurred west of 1005 A, and had grey fill with little daub and charcoal. It uncovered few ceramic fragments of the Bronze Age, of the Suciu de Sus culture, likely belonged to phase I, 45 cm deep.

**1009 (Fig.9; Pl.40/1)**

Roman Age feature (well – 1009 A), which in the moment of its excavation destroyed a complex of the Bronze Age. The fill of the well was dark grey with little daub, crossed by ash and charcoal stripes and yellow-sandy stripes. It was researched down to 130 cm deep after it had been flooded. The daub layer of the Bronze Age matched the direction of the pit line and had the walls inclined towards the western side. While excavating the well, the daub fell into it. Thus, it can be assumed that it used to be a surface house with unknown dimensions. The daub platform that was preserved only in the west side pointed to the fact that it was semicircular there. The preserved dimensions of the daub platform were: 170 x 90 cm; 20 cm thick. The fill of the well uncovered many Roman Age ceramic fragments and several that belonged to the Bronze Age, to the Suciu de Sus culture, phase I (12 pieces).

**1014 (Fig.9)**

Large-sized feature with almost rectangular outline and rounded margins; the southern side of the long side was semicircular. The western side was less deep, it resembled a small threshold. The

grey fill uncovered plenty of ceramics, as well as a stone mould of the bronze Age, of the Suciu de Sus culture, phase I. Dimensions: 210 x 268 cm, 60 cm deep (310 pieces).

**1020 (Fig.9)**

Feature with oval outline, with straight walls, rounded towards the bottom and inclined towards the outside; straight bottom. The grey-yellowish fill with daub uncovered several ceramic fragments of the Bronze Age, the Suciu de Sus archaeological culture, phase I. Dimensions: 110 x 155 cm; 20 cm deep (2 pieces).

**1035**

Feature with circular outline, with arched walls that met at the bottom. The grey-yellowish fill uncovered several ceramic sherds of the Early Mediaeval Age and others that belonged to the Bronze Age, to the Suciu de Sus culture, phase I (4 pieces). Dimensions: 80 x 85 cm; 30 cm deep.

**1083 (Pl.46-49)**

Roman Age feature that cut into the Bronze Age feature 1083 B=1210 in its eastern side. The fill of the Roman Age feature was dark with much daub. It superimposed the bronze Age fill which was grey with yellow inclusions. The preserved thickness of the Bronze Age fill was 20 cm. The northern side of the feature 1083 was not investigated. The fill uncovered almost 200 ceramic sherds, that belonged to the Middle Bronze Age and 490 of the Roman Age, all mixed together.

**1095 (Fig.9; Pl.40/4-10)**

Feature with oval outline, straight walls and rounded towards the flat bottom. Its fill was grey with little daub and ceramic fragments of the Bronze Age, of the Suciu de Sus culture, phase I. Dimensions: 185 x 220 cm; 26 cm deep (35 pieces).

**1104 (Fig.10; Pl.50-51)**

Feature with oval outline, straight walls inclined towards the outside in the southern side, and arched in the northern part; flat bottom with a small step in the north-east. The grey-yellowish fill uncovered several ceramic fragments of the Bronze Age, of the Suciu de Sus culture, phase I. Dimensions: 190 X 240 (?) cm; 38 cm deep.

**1105 (Fig.10; Pl.52/1-3)**

Feature with possibly oval or rectangular outline and rounded corners. The western wall was straight and inclined towards the outside, and the eastern wall was arched and much inclined towards the outside. The bottom was flat and inclined to the west. The half northern side was not researched. The grey fill uncovered several ceramic fragments of the Bronze Age, of the Suciu de Sus culture, probably phase I. Dimensions: 316 cm; 36 cm deep (38 pieces).

**1106 (Fig.10; Pl.52/4-7)**

Feature with circular outline, straight walls and slightly inclined towards the outside, arched to the bottom; flat bottom. The southern side was cut by a Roman Age feature 1106 B. The grey-yellowish fill uncovered several ceramic fragments of the Suciu de Sus culture, phase I. Dimensions: 190 x 200 cm; 30 cm deep (14 pieces).

**1109-1109 B (Fig.11; Pl.52/8)**

When the humus was removed, several assemblies of ceramic fragments occurred at about 1-1, 5 m north-east of that 'feature', at 25 cm in depth. Archaeologists assumed they originated from 'pit' 1109 because the successive sondage excavations made under the ceramic assembly did not reveal any feature they could have originated from. They would have reached this secondary position when the excavator unearthed the surface and drew them from the surface of 'pit' 1109. The 'feature' had rather circular outline; straight walls, inclined towards the outside; flat bottom. The dark grey fill with daub and charcoal uncovered a fragment of a stone grinder, daub with traces of rods, and several assemblies of ceramic fragments of the Bronze Age, of the Suciu de Sus culture, phase I. The fill in the eastern side of the 'pit', towards the bottom, was grey with yellow inclusions. Starting from the large dimensions and shape, from the presence of the daub with rod imprints, ceramic that could be made complete, it can be assumed that this was a deepened house. Dimensions: 260 x 246 cm, 42 cm deep.

**1122 (Pl.53/1-2)**

Feature with circular outline; the walls were straight and rounded to the bottom; cylindrical in profile. The fill was dark grey with charcoal layers. It uncovered ceramic fragments (15 pieces), a mould and iron fragments of the Roman Age. Besides them were several ceramic fragments of the Bronze Age (31 pieces), the Suciu de Sus culture, phase I. Diameter: 45 cm, 62 cm deep.

### **1134**

Feature with rectangular outline and rounded margins, straight walls and inclined towards the outside; the fill was grey. It uncovered Roman Age ceramics and two fragments of the Bronze Age, of the Suciu de Sus culture, phase I. Dimensions: 120 x 120 cm; 22 cm deep.

### **1150 (Fig.11; Pl.53/3-11)**

Large feature with rectangular outline, oriented north-east – south-west, cut in the north by the Roman Age feature 1300, and in the south-west by feature 1028. The walls were straight and inclined towards the outside, flat bottom. The grey-yellowish fill with charcoal and daub uncovered ceramic fragments of the Bronze Age, of the Suciu de Sus culture, phase I. Dimensions: 520 x 880 cm; 30 cm deep.

### **1152 (Fig.11)**

Large feature situated east of 1150. It is possible it belonged to the same feature. It is likely the trampled surface of the Middle Bronze Age was cut by the interventions of the subsequent ages. Feature 1152 occurred without a defined shape and it was interpreted as the culture layer of the Middle Bronze Age. It spread much towards the north and north-east and was yellow. The archaeological material originated from a rather large surface that corresponded to features 1301-1305 and belonged to the Suciu de Sus culture, phase I.

### **1154 (Fig.11; Pl.54/7-8)**

Feature with likely circular outline and alveolar bottom. The grey-yellowish fill uncovered a layer of burnt clay and several ceramic fragments of the Bronze Age, of the Suciu de Sus culture, phase I. Dimensions: 110 x 100 cm; 14 cm deep.

### **1155 (Fig.12; Pl.55)**

Feature with almost rectangular outline, oriented east-west, with rounded margins; it went deeper in the southern side, and had an irregular shape. It was likely cut by another feature similar in fill with the first. It had dark fill with little daub and contained 3 Roman Age ceramic fragments besides the ceramics of the Bronze Age (34 pieces), of the Suciu de Sus culture, phase I. Dimensions: 490 x 390 cm; 40-60 cm deep.

### **1202, 1203, 1204 and 1205**

Remainders of the Middle Bronze Age culture layer.

Several ceramic fragments (146 pieces) of the Bronze Age, of the Suciu de Sus culture, phase I were found around features 1202, 1203, 1204 and 1205, close to each other. It's possible they originated from the culture layer of the Middle Bronze Age. The large quantity of materials on a rather small area pointed to the fact that they were likely to originate from one feature (house ?) that was destroyed.

### **1210 = 1083 B=1210 A (Fig.15; Pl.42-45, 56-62)**

The large-sized feature 1210 with unclear outline occurred under the Roman Age features 1079, 1080, 1083. Another feature was revealed south of the feature 1210. It was numbered 1210 A; it had similar fill with the first one, and continues to the south with features 1597 and 1606. Its northern side was numbered with 1083 B because it was cut by the Roman Age pit 1083.

**1079** – feature with oval outline, with straight walls, arched towards the bottom. The grey fill uncovered several ceramic fragments that belonged to the Bronze Age, the Suciu de Sus culture, phase I (22 pieces) and one fragment of the Roman Age. The feature belonged to the Roman Age, the Bronze Age materials had fallen from feature 1210 of the same age. Dimensions: 140 x 495 cm; 90 cm deep.

**1080 (Pl.41)** – feature with oval outline, straight walls and inclined towards the outside; flat bottom. The upper part of the fill was dark, and the bottom part was grey-yellowish. The feature belonged to the Roman Age, but when it was excavated, another Bronze Age feature occurred, with grey-yellowish fill. The fill uncovered Roman Age ceramic fragments (8 pieces) and Bronze Age ceramics, of the Suciu de Sus culture, phase I (22 pieces). Dimensions: 110 x 440 cm; 45-55 cm deep (the Roman Age feature); 40 cm deep (Bronze Age feature).

The large-sized feature **1210** appeared to have rectangular outline, with north-west – south-east orientation; the fill was yellow-greyish with charcoal and little daub, varying in thickness from 0 to 30 cm; it occurred with a yellow layer of 0-50 cm deep. The yellow-grey layer uncovered a great number of ceramic fragments of the Bronze Age, the Suciu de Sus culture, phase I. Dimensions: 300-450 cm in width.

**1240 (Fig.12; Pl.63/1-3)**

Feature with circular outline and straight walls, inclined towards the outside, arched to the bottom; flat bottom. The yellow-grey fill contained daub pieces with rod traces, several ceramic fragments (9 pieces) of the Bronze Age, the Suciu de Sus culture, likely phase I. Dimensions: 70 x 80; 50 cm deep.

**1241 (Fig.12)**

Feature with oval outline; straight walls, flat bottom. The yellow fill contained daub pieces and a ceramic fragment of the Bronze Age, the Suciu de Sus archaeological culture, likely phase I. Dimensions: 124 x 150 cm; 20 cm deep.

**1246 (Pl.63/4-5)**

It was a wide feature with unclear outline, cut by other features of the subsequent ages. The upper part fill was grey, and to the bottom was grey with daub and charcoal. The fill of the feature and around it, in the south-west direction, uncovered a great number of ceramic fragments of the Bronze Age, of the Suciu de Sus culture, phase I. Dimensions: 190 x 900 cm; 30 cm deep.

**1249 B**

Small-sized feature with circular outline that belonged to the Bronze Age, to the Suciu de Sus culture, phase II, whose excavation superimposed feature 1246 and thus, the ceramic fragments of the Suciu de Sus culture, phase I were drawn into its fill. Dimensions: 44 cm; 7 cm deep.

**1275 (Fig.12)**

Feature with circular outline, straight walls and inclined towards the outside, flat bottom, situated under feature 1098 (a Roman Age well). The grey fill with daub and charcoal uncovered two ceramic fragments of the Bronze Age, of the Suciu de Sus culture, phase I. Dimensions: 70 cm; 14 cm deep.

**1284 B (Fig.12; Pl.64-66)**

Feature with oval outline, straight walls and inclined towards the outside; the bottom was fit with a step in the south-western side. The fill was grey with yellow inclusions, and the deeper side of it was grey with charcoal and daub. It uncovered a great quantity of ceramics of the Bronze Age, of the Suciu de Sus culture, phase I. Dimensions: 180 x 265 cm, 40 and 60 cm deep.

**1287 A (Fig.13; Pl.67/1-2)**

Feature with oval outline, straight walls, alveolar in profile; straight bottom. It was cut by the Roman Age feature 1287 B (well) in the half western side. The upper part of the fill was grey with charcoal and daub, and the bottom part was grey with yellow inclusions and little charcoal. Its fill uncovered three ceramic fragments of the Bronze Age, of the Suciu de Sus culture, phase I. Dimensions: 135 x 200 cm; 50 cm deep.

**1298 (Fig.13; Pl.67/3-5)**

Feature with circular outline, straight walls and inclined towards the outside, flat bottom. The grey fill contained yellow inclusions, several pieces of daub and many ceramic fragments of the Bronze Age, the Suciu de Sus culture, phase I (21 pieces). Diameter: 143 cm; 20 cm deep.

**1302**

Feature with oval outline, with straight walls inclined towards the outside; flat bottom. The grey fill uncovered several ceramic fragments of the Bronze Age, the Suciu de Sus culture, phase I (31 pieces). Dimensions: 280 x 300 cm; 20 cm deep.

**1302 B**

This feature appeared to have circular outline; straight walls and inclined towards the outside; flat bottom. The yellow-greyish fill uncovered several ceramic fragments of the Bronze Age, of the Suciu de Sus culture, phase I. Dimensions: 190 cm; 16 cm deep.

**1304**

Feature with circular outline, situated nearby feature 1302 B. Its fill uncovered several ceramic fragments of the Suciu de Sus culture, phase I. Diameter: 105 cm; 25 cm deep.

**1302-1303 B-C (Pl.68-70)**

Many ceramic fragments were recovered until those features occurred at the sondage surface. It is most likely they belonged to the culture layer of the Bronze Age, namely feature 1152.

**1307 (Pl.67/6-7)**

Feature with circular outline, straight walls and flat bottom. The grey fill uncovered several ceramic fragments of the Suciu de Sus culture, possibly phase I (17 pieces). Diameter: 50 cm; 6 cm deep.

**1337**

Feature with the southern side arched, with the western wall straight and slightly inclined towards the outside, and the eastern one very much inclined towards the outside; flat bottom. It was cut in the northern side by feature 1409 (Roman Age). The fill was grey with daub and charcoal, and in the north, its upper part was superimposed by a thin layer of 10-15 cm, grey coloured with yellow inclusions. This feature uncovered several ceramic fragments of the Roman Age as well as several that belonged to the Bronze Age, to the Suciu de Sus culture, phase I. Dimensions: 200 x 400 cm; 20-30 cm deep.

**1383**

Large feature with oval outline that belonged to the Roman Age and was excavated in the north-western side of the Bronze Age feature 1246, which caused the ceramic fragments of the Suciu de Sus culture, phase I (24 pieces) to fall down into its fill.

**1395**

Roman house with board floor, oriented east-west, with three post holes in the two short sides. The fill of the next house contained materials of the Roman Age, several ceramic sherds and a fragment of a fired clay weigh of the Bronze Age, of the Suciu de Sus culture, phase I (8 pieces).

**1400**

Assembly of ceramic sherds of the Bronze Age, the Suciu de Sus culture, phase I, laid on the sterile soil, scattered over a surface of approximately 160 x 240 cm.

**1454 A, 1454 B, 1454 C, 1454 D, 1454 E**

Roman Age feature with irregular outline that occurred after several features had crosscut: 1454 A, 1454 B, 1454 C, 1454 D, 1454 E that dated from the same age. These features contained ceramic fragments of the Bronze Age, of the Suciu de Sus archaeological culture, phase I, besides materials of the Roman Age.

**1461 (Fig.13)**

Feature with circular outline, straight walls and inclined towards the outside; arched bottom. It was cut by two features of the same age in the north and eastern sides. The grey fill with yellow inclusions and charcoal uncovered several ceramic fragments of the Bronze Age, of the Suciu de Sus culture, phase I. Diameter: 150 cm; 10-20 cm deep.

**1462 (Fig.13)**

Feature with circular outline, straight walls and inclined towards the outside; arched bottom. Its western side cut feature 1461. The grey fill with yellow inclusions, charcoal and daub pieces uncovered several ceramic fragments that belonged to the Bronze Age, to the Suciu de Sus culture, phase I. Diameter: 130 cm; 16 cm deep.

**1463 (Fig.13)**

Feature with circular outline, straight walls and inclined towards the outside; arched bottom. The southern side cut feature 1461. The grey fill with yellow inclusions, charcoal and pieces of daub uncovered several ceramic fragments of the Bronze Age, the Suciu de Sus culture, phase I. Diameter: 120 cm; 32 cm deep.

**1465 (Fig.14)**

Feature with oval outline and bag-like shaped in profile. The light grey fill uncovered four ceramic fragments of the Bronze Age, of the Suciu de Sus culture, phase I. Dimensions: 130 x 155 cm; 66 cm deep.

**1495, 1497-1500, 1502-1503**

Those features superimposed the culture layer that belonged to the Middle Bronze Age. It uncovered a great quantity of ceramics and large fragments of daub of the Suciu de Sus archaeological culture, phase I.

**1496**

Quadrilateral feature with rounded corners, straight walls and inclined towards the outside; arched bottom. The grey-yellowish fill with little daub uncovered many ceramic sherds of the Bronze Age, of the Suciu de Sus culture, phase I (22 pieces). Dimensions: 180 x 145 cm; 30 cm deep.

**1500**

Feature with irregular outline that occurred at the first session of sondage excavation, and uncovered other features: 1500 A-F of the Bronze Age, of the Suciu de Sus culture, phase II. Their fill contained several early fragments of the Suciu de Sus culture, phase I besides other specific materials of the Suciu de Sus culture, phase II.

## **1500 A**

Feature with circular outline, with the walls inclined towards the outside; the fill was yellow with charcoal and daub. It was situated in the southern side of the trench and was called feature 1500. The fill uncovered several ceramic sherds of the Bronze Age, of the Suciu de Sus culture, phase I (12 pieces). Diameter: 190 cm; 20 cm deep.

## **1597**

The culture layer that belonged to the Middle Bronze Age occurred in the south of the “feature” 1210. It occurred first as a small feature with circular outline, and then, further excavation uncovered a yellow soil of 25-30 cm thick that superimposed a grey layer with much Bronze Age material. It met feature 1606, which was similar to it, in the south.

## **1606**

Culture layer that continued feature 1597. The yellow clay deposition that superimposed the grey layer of the Bronze Age was 30-40 cm thick.

## **1630 A-B (Fig.14)**

Feature with circular outline, straight margins and inclined towards the outside; flat bottom. It cut feature 1630 B in the northern side. The fill of the pit was black. It superimposed the fill of the feature 1630 B, which was yellow like the sterile soil with grey stripes down to 90 cm deep. The fill of both features contain ceramic sherds with daub that belonged to the Bronze Age, the Suciu de Sus culture (5 pieces). Feature 1630 B wasn't revealed, as it was expected, in the northern trench or when feature 1720 was excavated. Dimensions: 1630 A – 220 x 250 cm; 35-90 cm deep; 1630 B: 25-55 cm. S

## **1690 (Fig.14)**

Feature with oval outline, straight walls and inclined towards the outside; flat bottom. The grey fill with yellow inclusions uncovered several ceramic fragments of the bottom part of a vessel with specific decorations of the Suciu de Sus culture, phase I. Dimensions: 84 x 70 cm; 10 cm deep.

## **1720**

Roman Age feature excavated in the Bronze age features 1106 and 1630 B. The dark grey fill with little daub uncovered several ceramic sherds of the Bronze Age, of the Suciu de Sus culture, phase I (5 pieces) besides Roman Age materials. Diameter: 195 cm; 52 cm deep.

## **1820 (Fig.14)**

Feature with circular outline; the walls were inclined towards the outside, flat bottom. The fill contained Bronze Age ceramics, of the Suciu de Sus culture, phase I (83 pieces). Dimensions: 98-100 cm; 20 cm deep.

## **1821**

Feature with quadrilateral outline and rounded corners, straight walls and inclined towards the outside. The bottom was fit with a small step in the eastern side; it was oriented east-west. The grey-blackish fill uncovered Roman Age ceramic fragments mixed with Bronze Age ceramics and animal bones. The Bronze Age ceramics belonged to the Suciu de Sus culture, phase I (5 pieces). Dimensions: in the upper part: 380 x 280 cm; at the bottom part: 300 x 240 cm; 72 cm deep.

## **VI. Catalogue of the Suciu de Sus I archaeological sites (Map.6)**

**1. Bârsana** “*Cetățuie – Cetate*”, Maramureș county, Romania; Settlement. Sounding by C. Kacsó 1968; The site was on the high terrace, on the right of the Iza river, oriented east-west, about 300 m north of the Iza river, on the left side of the road to Văleni locality. Pottery sherds were found. They belonged to the Suciu de Sus culture, phase I. The Baia Mare Museum. Unpublished. Literature: Kacsó 1981a, 379; Kacsó 1987, 51, nr.4a, 66, 68; Kacsó 1995, 83; Kacsó 1999, 57.

**2. Boinești** “*Coasta Boineștilor*”, Satu Mare county, Romania; Fortified settlement. Soundings by J. Mihalik in 1982 and T. Bader in 1970. It was situated in the north-east of the hill called by the locals Coasta Boineștilor and it was triangular, bounded on three sides by very steep slopes, which were difficult to access. In the south-west side it was linked with the coast ridge by a narrow 'saddle' of 50-60 m wide, which gradually raised up to the top of 216 m high. The following fortification elements were observed: a - defence ditch, 0.80 m deep from the actual trampled surface, which began at the edge of steep slopes in the north-west side and ends at the edge of the

south-eastern slope, closing the settlement; it was 45-50 m long and 10-11 m wide; b – the inside defence wall raised 3 m high from the ancient ground, it was 45-50 meters long and 15 m wide at the base. The inside wall revealed a pavement of river stones and large boulders on the outside, which strengthened the wall. The middle wall consisted of burnt soil with traces of charcoal and charred tree trunks. The wall was built in one phase of construction. The settlement was 100 m long and 40-45 m wide, one cultural layer was 0,50-0,60 m thick and thinned towards the north-eastern end of the settlement. It revealed pottery and many objects of fired clay: a piece of the body of a cult cart, cart wheels, and clay weights; stone and bone objects, a bracelet, a needle and a bronze chisel. The Museum of Satu Mare.

Literature: Mihálik 1892, 316-320, T. Bader 1978, 14, 17, 64-66, 75-76, 87, 99-101, 114, 121 no. 15, pl. 37/43, 40-41, 42/56, 47-49, 88/35, 95/15, Kacsó 1987, 67-68; Kacsó 1995, 96.

3. **Culciu Mic** “*La gropi de siloz*”, Satu Mare county, Romania; Settlement. Excavations by T. Bader 1973. The site was located on a bank, slightly higher than the ground level. It was the bank of an old, abandoned riverbed, which once connected to the old riverbed of the Someş river. It was cut by the road to Culciu Mic and by several silage pits. The settlement was investigated by 7 sections, of varying sizes, made in the east. The settlement was 200 m long and 50-60 m wide. The only level of habitation that was found had a thickness that varied between 0,20-0,80 m, and uncovered several complete pots and pottery fragments, a needle, a bronze chisel and a pattern for pendants. The Museum of Satu Mare.

Literature: Bader 1972, 512 no. 11, note 23, Bader 1978, 17, 64-69, 75-76, 84, 87, 99, 107, 124 no. 32, pl.37/9, 39, 45-46; 54, 62/25, 95/32; Kacsó 1987, 67-68, 71; Kacsó 1995, 96.

4. **Diakovo** “*Kišerda*” and “*Modicitag / Mondicitag*” Transcarpathian Ukraine; Settlement. Soundings by J. Bem in 1932 and F.M. Potuchniak in 1954-1955; Systematic excavations E. A. Balaguri 1967-1973. About those two archaeological points we need to mention that the literature makes a clear distinction between them very few times, as it often uses the name of the settlement at Diakovo. So it is not clear if they are two distinct settlements or one. The two archaeological points were situated at about 800-1000 meters from each other, being separated by the road to Cepa. The way in which the archaeological material from those points was published determined us to use the name of the settlement at Diakovo. That was the case when the point wasn't specified, but when it existed, we mentioned the name of the settlement and the point. The settlement was situated on the left bank of the Starii Botar river and covered an area of about 1.5-2 ha. The excavations were conducted over an area of 5000 m<sup>2</sup>. Three levels of habitation were found: one layer of 0,90-1,30 m in thickness that belonged to the Neolithic Age, another one was 0,40-0,80 m thick and contained material from the Bronze Age, and the top layer was 0,25-0,40 m thick and contained Iron Age material. The settlement was located in a marshy area between the river meanders noted above. The areas favourable to living were connected between them by wooden bridges. The pits of the posts from the pillars that held those bridges were found. They were placed 2-3 feet apart from each other. The bottom of those pits revealed fragments of pottery decorated with spiral motifs, which were characteristic of the Middle and Late Bronze Age. The settlements unearthed many habitation features, a deposit of bronze objects, a cremation grave and very much ceramic material.

Literature: Potuchniak 1958, 9-30, Pl.1-18; Balaguri 1969a, 61-65, fig.1-3, 68; Balaguri 1969b, 148-149, 153, 157; Balaguri 1974, 25-47; Balaguri 1975 , 267, 268 fig. 2/1-3, 5-7; Balaguri 1990a, 96-98; Balaguri 1990b, 121.

5. **Giuleşti** “*Valea Mestecăniş*”, Maramureş county, Romania; Settlement. Soundind R. Popa, M. Zdroba 1966, excavations by C. Kacsó 1968. The site was located in the western side of the locality, on the right side of the Mestecăniş valley, south of the confluence with the Mara river, on a gentle slope inclined in the north side of the terrace. The site is largely destroyed by the Mestecăniş valley, by the houses that were built in the area as well as by an old railway embankment. The result of the archaeological research was the finding of a deepened house and several pottery sherds that belonged to the Suciul de Sus culture, phase I. The cultural layer of the Bronze Age culture was not revealed. The Museum of Baia Mare.

Literature: Popa 1969, 30 note 94; Kacsó 1981a, 379; Kacsó 1987, 59 no. 13, 66, 68; pl.5-7; Kacsó 1995, 83; Kacsó 1999, 56-57; Kacsó 2003b, 133, figure 1/B; Kacsó 2003a, 121, 136 no. 57, Kacsó 2004c, 33.

6. **Halmeu** "Vamă", Satu Mare county, Romania; Settlement. Preventive excavations by L. Marta, C. Astaloş 2000. The excavations were conducted in the customs point of Halmeu, in the place where a building was to be raised. The site was located on the terrace of the Egerul Mare, on two close mounds called Dâmbul Craiul (Király Domb). The specific material of the Suciu de Sus culture, phase I originated from a pit that was discovered along with numerous pottery fragments and a bronze ring loop. The Museum of Satu Mare.

Literature: Marta 2004a, 39-46; Marta 2004b, 133-134, no. 83.

7. **Hnojné**, okr. Michalovce, Slovakia; Settlement. To this locality belongs a vessel of the Suciu de Sus archaeological culture originating from the layer of a prehistoric settlement.

Literature: Demeterová 1984, 18, 44-46, fig.1/3; pl. XXXI/20.

8. **Ieud** "Podereiul Dumbrăviței", Maramureş county, Romania; Settlement. Fieldwalkings by M. Dăncuș in 1985 and M. Dăncuș, C. Kacsó 2000. The site was located in the north of the locality, close to the road to Vadu Izei - Săcel, on the high terrace on the left of the Iza River, about 500 m south of the confluence of the Gârbova valley and Iza river. The surface unearthed pottery sherd specific of the Suciu de Sus culture, phase I. The Museum of Sighetu Marmației.

Literature: Kacsó 2003a, 111 no. 13, pl. 11, 137 no. 69.

9. **Jánkmajtis**, "Halom - dűlő" Szabolcs - Szatmár - Bereg megye, Hungary; Settlement. Fieldwalking in 1987 by Istvánovits Eszter, Kurucz Katalin. The site was located between the localities Jank and Majtis, in the east, on a mound called Halom - dűlő. The surface revealed several ceramic fragments that belonged to the Suciu de Sus culture, phase I, as well as Roman material.

Literature: Istvánovits, Kurucz 1990, 18-19, pl. 37-42.

10. **Kvasove II**, rai. Beregovo, the Transcarpathian Ukraine; Settlement. Systematic excavations by E.A. Balaguri from the University of Uzhgorod in 1981; The History Museum of Uzhgorod in 1988 J. Kobal'. The site was located on the right bank of the Boržavy valley, which is a right side tributary of the Tisa river, on a rather small hill in the west, on the left of the Velikyj Jarok valley which was a tributary of the Boržavy valley. That site revealed surface houses, pits, worship objects, open hearths and specific pottery of the Suciu de Sus I culture (= Stanovo I) and of the Suciu de Sus II culture (Stanovo II).

Literature: Kobal' 1997, 120; Balaguri 2001, fig.71, 71A, Kobal' 2007, 583-599.

11. **Lastovce**, okr. Trebišov, Slovakia; Flat, cremation necropolis. Excavations by J. Vizdal (?) 1962. Four inurned cremation graves of the Suciu de Sus archaeological culture were known from this locality. Literature: Demeterová 1984, 12, 19, 22-23, 28, 31-32, 34, 36-38, 44-46, fig.1/6; pl.XVIII, pl.XXIV.

12. **Lăpușel** "Ciurgău" Maramureş county, Romania; Settlement. Fieldwking by C. Kacsó 1977; Systematic excavations by C. Kacsó, I. Stanciu, D. Pop 1992-1994, 2000. The site was situated on the high terrace on the left side of the Lăpuș river close to the former SMA, at about 400 m north-east of the railway station Lăpușel. The material that was found largely belonged to the Suciu de Sus culture. It was also revealed a pottery sherd of the Wietenberg II culture. The Bronze Age habitation was disturbed by the houses of the First Iron Age and of the Early Mediaeval Age. Many pottery fragments of the Suciu de Sus culture, phase I were revealed in the cultural layer, of about 0.20 m thick. They originated from a surface house and from several pits. The Museum of Baia Mare.

Literature: Stanciu 1994, Fig.2; Kacsó 1995, 83-99; Kacsó, Pop, Stanciu, 2001, 130-131 no. 104; Kacsó 2004c, 72-73.

13. **Medieșu Aurit** "Șuculeu", Satu Mare county, Romania; Settlement. Systematic excavations by S. Dumitrașcu and T. Bader. 1964-1966, 1975. The site was located in the north-western side of the locality, on the left the road to Dumbrava village, on the left bank of the Eger Black brook (Racta Valley), between the Lesului house and the Cosorului house. It was 150-200 m long and 60-80 m wide. The stratigraphy revealed a layer of 0,40-0,60 m thick that belonged to the Suciu de Sus culture under the layer that dated from the II-IV centuries AD. It was largely destroyed by

the subsequent habitation. The 11 sections that were excavated during the campaigns of 1964-1966 revealed traces of the Suciu de Sus culture only in S/VII. Its eastern end, namely S/X, occasionally uncovered sherds and pits with material of the Suciu de Sus culture under the Dacian layer. S/XI from the eastern section of the site revealed the Suciu de Sus cultural layer, where the Dacian layer disappeared, and grew narrower towards the marshy area nearby. The Suciu de Sus layer revealed 4 surface houses, several pits, stone objects, a bronze sickle and many pottery sherds.

Literature: Dumitrescu, Bader 1967, 10-11, 16-18, 28, Bader 1972, 514 no. 21, 519 fig. 2/21, 520-522, 532 pl.12/8, pl.13-15; Bader 1976, 40-42, 45, 1978 Bader, 16, 64-66, 68, 75, 126 no. 55, pl. 37/16, pl. 50/15, pl.53/3, pl. 54. Bader 1979, 3, 5 fig. 1/32, 6-7, 10-11, 13, 23, pl. 7/15, pl.10/31, 27 no. 32; Iercoşan 1993, 86 no. 24.

14. **Medieşu Aurit** “*Cioncaş*”, Satu Mare county, Romania; Settlement. Systematic excavations T. Bader, S. Dumitrescu 1964; S. Dumitrescu 1996. Preventive archaeological research by L. Marta, R. Gindele, C. Astaloş, Z Kádas. 2003. The settlement was located 400 m north of Potău village, on the right of the Şeineleu valley and was cut into two by the village road between Medieşu Aurit and Potău. The settlement had 3 levels of habitation and was assigned by T. Bader and S. Dumitrescu to the Ottomani I-II culture. The top layer uncovered pottery sherds of the Suciu de Sus II culture. Another point of view was expressed by C. Kacsó who observed the presence of the Suciu de Sus culture besides the Ottomani II and Wietenberg II cultures. The author thinks that the Suciu de Sus culture could dominate the site from Cioncaş.

Literature: Bader, Dumitaşcu, 1970, 127-136, Bader 1972, 515 no.27, 519 fig.2/27, 531, Bader 1978, 126 nr.55, 187 pl.17/18, 243 pl.45/55 , Bader 1979, 5 fig.1/44, 15, 27 no. 44; Kacsó 1987, 68; Kacsó 1995, 96-97, Dumitraşcu 1997, 35-36, no. 60; Marta, Gindele, Astalos, Kádas 2004, 191-195 no. 120.

15. **Medieşu Aurit** “*Togul lui Schweizer-Dâmbul Acastăului*”, Satu Mare county; Romania. Isolated tumulus. Systematic excavation by T. Bader in 1968 or 1969. The point called “*Togul lui Schweizer*”, situated in the locality, uncovered a large-sized tumulus (42 m in diameter and 2.10 m high). It was made of earth and boulders here and there and contained a cremation grave with a rich ceramic inventory. Pottery fragments were discovered in the coat. Another discovery was a square funeral hearth with rounded corners (8.60 x 6.50 m), on which were laid 9 vessels, calcined bones, charcoal and two bronze tubes that were oxidized.

Literature: 1978 Bader, 17, 68-70, 74, 81, 91, 114-115, 126 no. 55; pl.37/17, 42/3, 43, 44/1-6, 8-13, 95/55, Bader, 1979, 3, 5 fig.1/34, 12-16, 14 fig.3, 22-23, pl.1/1-6, 8-13, 27 no.34, Bader 1982, 153; Kacsó 1987, 67; Kacsó, 1995, 96; L. Marta, R. Gindele, C. Astaloş, Z. Kádas 2004, 191-195. no 120.

16. **Ruská**, okr. Trebišov, Slovakia; Settlement. Survey research by S. Šiška 1976 (?). The survey research uncovered several ceramic fragments, some of which originated from bowls and one cup. Literatura: Šiška 1977, 272, pl.170/6,10; Demeterová 1984, 18, 29, 31, 44-46, fig.1/8, pl.XXI/1-9.

17. **Moftinu Mic** “*the side of the National Road Carei-Satu Mare*”, Satu Mare county; Romania; Settlement. Accidental discovery in 1982. The discovery was made on the roadside Satu Mare – Carei in the place of the demolished old mill, where a block of flats was built subsequently, in the place where the road widens. There were identified the cultural layer that dated from the Bronze Age, of 0,25-0,30 m thick and a pit that contained pottery, animal bones, daub and charcoal. The Museum of Carei.

Literature: Németi 1987, 109 no. 5, fig.16, 17/3, 5-8; Németi 1999, 80-81.

18. **Sarasău** “*După Streec*”, Maramureş county, Romania; Settlement. Preventive archaeological research by C. Kacsó, D. Pop, R. Cardoş 2005. The site was located in the southern part of the town, at about 1.5 kilometres west of the left bank of the Tisa river, in close vicinity of the railway, in the part of the terrace between the railway to the east and Secătura and Râturi hills to the west. A hearth, probably a semi-hovel, and several pottery sherds decorated with incisions and grooves were characteristic of the Suciu de Sus culture, phase I. The Museum of Baia Mare.

Literature: Pop D. 2008, 64, 78 no.141; Kacsó 2009.

19. **Sarasău** “*Moară*”, Maramureş county, Romania; Settlement. Fieldwalking by R. Popa in 1970. The site was located in the eastern part of the locality, near the mill, between the mill and the chapel, on the terrace in the left side of the Tisa river, the left side of the road between Câmpulung and Tisa. Some pottery sherds of the Suciu de Sus I culture were collected from the surface. The Museum of Baia Mare.

Literature: Kacsó 1987, 56 pl.9/12-15, 59 no.21 A, 66, 58; Kacsó 1995, 83; Kacsó 1999, 57.

20. **Satu Mare** “*Strandul Someş*”, Satu Mare county, Romania; Random discoveries. A vessel dating from the Suciu de Sus culture, phase I was found on the bank of the Someş River, in the area of the Someş Public Pool. The Museum of Satu Mare.

Literature: Bader 1975, 28-29, pl.4 / 1, Bader 1978, 127-128 no. 77, pl.37/24, 44 / 7, 95/77.

21. **Seini** ”IAS Ferma 7”, Maramureş county, Romania; Suciu de Sus settlement. Accidental discovery in 1985. In the north-western end of the locality, on the right side of the Someş river, on the land of the IAS no. 7 farm were discovered several sherds of pottery that belonged to the Suciu de Sus culture, phase I while a pit for silage was dug.

Literature: Kacsó 1987, 59 no. 22, 66, 68, pl.10-13. Kacsó 1995, 83.

22. **Sighetu Marmaťiei** “*Cearda-Tărmore*”, Maramureş county, Romania; Settlement. Fieldwalking by T. Ivanciu between 1986-1996; C. Kacsó, D. Pop, R. Cardoş in 2005. The site was located in the north-eastern side of the town of Sighetu Marmaťiei, at 250 m north of the road to Sarasău, on the terrace on the left of the Tisa river, close to the confluence of Iza with the Tisza river. The surface of the site revealed several pottery fragments specific of the Suciu de Sus culture, phase I. The collection Teofil Ivanciu (published). The Museum of Baia Mare and the Museum of Sighetu Marmaťiei. Unpublished.

Literature: Ivanciu T. 1999, 15-22.

23. **Sighetu Marmaťiei** “*Cămara Cireghi*”, Maramureş county, Romania; Settlement. Fieldwalking and sounding by C. Ivanciu 1988. The site was situated at about 4 km east of the town, on the terrace on the left of the Tisa river. The result of the surface research and of the survey was finding several pottery sherds that belonged to the Suciu de Sus culture, phase I. The Museum of Sighetu Marmaťiei. Unpublished. Literature: Ivanciu C. 1990, 116-117; Kacsó 1999, 57.

24. **Solotvino** “*Cetate*”, the Transcarpathian Ukraine; Settlement. Fielwolkings by P.P. Sova 1953; S.I. Peniak 1965; Systematic excavations by P.P. Barnea 1967, V.G. Kotigoroško 1986, J. Kobal' 1991-1993, V. Vasiliev, A. Rustoiu, V.G. Kotigoroško, M.P. Makara, V.V. Marina 1996; V. Vasiliev, A. Rustoiu, E. A. Balaguri, M. P. Makara, V.V. Marina, 1998-1999. The site was located in the north-western part of the locality, on the high terrace of the Tisa river, in the place called Cetate. The settlement was delimited by steep slopes on three sides: south, west and north. The access in the settlement could be done only by the east side which was fortified with a wall fitted with a ditch in front. The fortress was inhabited in the Middle Bronze Age, in the Dacian Age and in the Early Mediaeval Ages. To the Suciu de Sus culture, phase I were assigned 10 houses, three pits, an outside hearth and one in the house 9a, numerous pottery sherds and objects of fired clay, stone, arched, obsidian knives and a stone arrowhead, a razor pendant, a bronze bracelet.

Literature: Kobal' 1997, 115-151, Balaguri 2001, fig.72; Balaguri 2001, fig.72; Vasiliev 2002, 9-21, 29-45, fig.28-47.

25. **Tătăreşti** “*Dealul Tătăreştilor / Dâmbul tătarilor*”, Satu Mare county, Romania; Settlement. Accidental discoveries. Fieldwalking by Gh. Lazin, Speranţa Pop 1997. The site was located on the western side of the locality, south of the actual cemetery, on the gentle slopes in the south and south-east of the plateau. The surface revealed many pottery sherds and a fragment of a bronze celt. That material was assigned by the authors to the classical phase of the culture, the Culciu Mare phase. The absence of excised pottery in the published materials and the presence of several fragments decorated with incisions is quite likely to assign some of those materials to the first phase of the Suciu de Sus culture. The fresh ploughing also revealed traces of surface houses located on the slopes of the plateau. The Museum of Satu Mare.

Literature: Lazin, Pop 1997, 75-84, Pop D., 2008, 79 no.170, map 6.

26. **Vel'ké Raškovce**, okr. Trebišov, Slovakia; Flat, cremation necropolis. Excavations by J. Vizdal 1967. Most of this necropolis was destroyed, the material that has been published originated from disturbed graves. One of the graves uncovered a vessel depicting two incised two-wheeled carts, pulled by two horses each. The necropolis also uncovered several bronze and stone objects.

Literature: Demeterová 1984, 12, 19, 24-32, 34, 38-39, 41, 43-46, fig.1/13, pl.XXV-XXVII/1-2,5-6,8.

27. **Zemplínske Kopčany**, “*Kutka*”, okr. Michalovce, Slovakia; Flat, cremation necropolis. Survey research by J. Vizdal 1963. Systematic research (S. Demeterová) 1970-1971, 1973, 1981. The necropolis was found in 1963 during farm work when at first were uncovered several graves. In the same year, J. Vizdal rescued 13 graves. S. Demeterová discovered more 35 graves and 48 hearths. The graves inventory comprised vessels decorated in the Suciu de Sus manner, many bronze objects and several amber pieces. Of all those, only the graves IV/1962, VII/1962, 27, 28, 29/1973 belonged to the Early Suciu de Sus archaeological culture.

Literature: Demeterová 1984, 12, 19-50, fig.1/5, fig.2, pl.I-XXIV, pl.XXVII/9,11-13.

## VII. Abstract in Romanian

### Așezarea din epoca mijlocie a bronzului de la Petea-Csengersima

Scopul lucrării prezente este acela de a pune la îndemâna celor interesați rezultatele cercetărilor arheologice privind epoca mijlocie a bronzului efectuate în situl arheologic de la Csengersima “*Hatórátkelő*” (Szabolcs-Szatmár-Bereg megye, Ungaria) de colegii de la muzeul Jósa András din Nyíregyháza. Deoarece nu toate materialele arheologice din complexele arheologice din bronzul mijlociu au fost desenate, rămâne ca, într-un viitor nu foarte îndepărtat, să prezintăm și o sinteză cu privire la ceramică și relațiile interculturale. Precizez faptul că aşezarea de la Csengersima face și obiectul tezei mele de doctorat intitulată *Bronzul mijlociu în bazinul inferior al Someșului* aşa încât toate aspectele omise aici sau tratate la modul general se vor regăsi în această lucrare.

Întreg materialul arheologic precum și documentația: fotografii, desenele complexelor, planul general, jurnalul de săpătură, mi-au fost cedate spre publicare de colegele care au efectuat cercetările: dr. Istvánovits Eszter și dr. Almássy Katalin. Pentru ajutorul, sugestiile și sprijinul necondiționat acordat, dar și pentru fructuoasa colaborare din timpul participării mele la săpăturile arheologice pe autostrada M3 din Ungaria, în perioada 2004-2006, le mulțumesc în mod special.

#### I. Situl arheologic de la Csengersima. Metoda de săpătură.

Locul de hotar numit “*Hatórátkelő*” (hotar, frontieră) este situat în partea estică a localității Csengersima, la granița dintre România și Ungaria, chiar pe locul unde este azi vama Petea – Csengersima; la aproximativ 8 km est de cursul actual al Someșului, în dreapta acestuia, de-a lungul fostului pârâu Erge. Situl arheologic se află de-a lungul celor două maluri ale acestui pârâu orientat est-nord-est – vest-sud-vest aşa cum apare pe o hartă militară realizată în timpul lui Iosif al II-lea (1765-1790) și se întinde și pe teritoriul României.

Săpăturile arheologice au fost conduse de Istvánovits Eszter și Almássy Katalin și s-au desfășurat în două etape: prima dintre ele între 24 septembrie și 18 noiembrie 1998, iar cea de-a doua între 17 martie și 9 iulie 1999. Suprafața afectată de proiect a fost de aproximativ trei hectare ( $32.384 \text{ m}^2$ ), în urma săpăturilor arheologice fiind descoperite și cercetate 1867 complexe arheologice.

Săpăturile arheologice au fost executate mecanizat și manual. Astfel, partea de humus a fost îndepărtată mecanizat, în fâșii late de 5-7 m, până la nivelul la care se identificau complexele, cel mai adesea, din pricina arăturilor adânci, la nivelul pământului viu. Acolo însă unde depunerile antropice au fost mai consistente s-au identificat complexe săpate în stratul de cultură aparținând epocii mijlocii a bronzului. Nu au fost deschise secțiuni sau suprafete în vederea clarificării situației stratigrafice. Răzuirile succesive la complexe precum și săparea acestora s-au efectuat manual. Metoda de cercetare arheologică adoptată a permis cercetarea integrală a suprafetei pe care urmau să fie ridicate noile construcții ale văii. Complexele identificate au fost numerotate în ordinea descoperirii, secționate și golite pe contur apoi desenate și, în final, golite în întregime. În funcție de complexitatea situației arheologice, întrețăieri de complexe spre exemplu, au fost realizate mai multe secțiuni, păstrându-se martori stratigrafici în vederea clarificării contemporaneității sau atribuirii culturale. Intensitatea locuirii de epocă romană a afectat în bună parte locuirile anterioare, aşa încât sunt relativ numeroase situațiile în care complexele aparținând acestei epoci au distrus, mai mult sau mai puțin, complexele din bronzul mijlociu.

Totodată metoda are și neajunsuri care, din punctul meu de vedere, constau în faptul că doar acolo unde au fost identificate complexe arheologice recente (epocă romană sau medieval timpurie) s-au făcut observații privind stratigrafia sitului, iar prin răzuirea până la nivelul pământului viu, unde s-au conturat complexele, s-au pierdut informațiile privind nivelul de la care au fost ele edificate, astfel că atribuirea lor culturală nu se mai poate face decât pe baza inventarului arheologic. De asemenea, o serie de aprecieri privind forma lor în secțiune sau adâncimea restrâng în bună parte concluziile.

Cele mai vechi urme de locuire la Határátkelő sunt cele aparținând epocii mijlocii a bronzului, urmate de cele din bronzul târziu, de cele de epocă romană (sec. II-IV d. Chr) și de cele medieval timpurii (sec. VII-IX d.Chr.). Cea mai intensă locuire o constatăm în epoca romană, acesteia aparținându-i cele mai multe dintre complexele identificate (locuințe, gropi, fântâni etc.).

## **II. Interpretarea complexelor arheologice aparținând epocii mijlocii a bronzului.**

De la început facem precizarea că atribuirea culturală a complexelor descoperite la Csengersima a fost făcută pe baza ceramicii care poate fi diagnosticată fără probleme fazei timpurii a culturii Suci de Sus. La încadrarea într-o anumită categorie a complexelor sau determinarea funcționalității lor am avut în vedere și descrierile, observațiile și considerațiile din jurnalul de sănțier întocmit de Istvánovits Eszter și Almássy Katalin. Nu de puține ori locuirile ulterioare au distrus depunerile aparținând bronzului mijlociu, astfel că materialele apar amestecate în complexe mai recente. Fără să stim cu certitudine tipul de complex deranjat, le-am inclus și pe acestea în repertoriul nostru, deoarece indică întinderea așezării din bronzul mijlociu.

Pornind de la aceste considerente putem atribui bronzului mijlociu un număr de 82 de complexe, iar în alte 62 de complexe aparținând altor epoci au apărut artefacte ce țin de epoca avută în vedere aici. În 50 de cazuri materiale din epoca bronzului apar în complexe de epocă romană, în nouă cazuri în complexe aparținând bronzului târziu, în două cazuri în contexte medieval timpurii și într-un singur caz se găsesc amestecate materiale din bronzul târziu și de epocă romană. În cele mai multe situații, la săparea acestor complexe, au fost antrenate în umplutura lor materiale din stratul de cultură din bronzul mijlociu.

Descoperirile aparținând bronzului mijlociu sunt concentrate în partea vestică a suprafeței cercetate de pe Határátkelő. Fără să putem preciza cu certitudine întinderea și nici densitatea așezării în spațiul rămas necercetat, rămâne indubitabil faptul că aceasta continuă înspre vestul terasei. Există însă și cinci situații în care astfel de artefacte apar în partea centrală, estică și nordică a porțiunii de la vest de pârâul Erge, dar nicio astfel de descoperire nu a fost făcută în porțiunea cercetată la est de acest pârâu sau în porțiunea cercetată din România (vama Petea).

### **II.1. Construcții**

Acestei categorii îi aparțin un număr de 20 de complexe din care 9 au formă cvasirectangulară în plan, 8 au formă ovală, una are forma circulară (1109), una nu a fost documentată (935), iar o altă locuință a fost distrusă de un complex de epocă romană (1009), forma fiind imposibil de precizat. Exceptând exemplele care urmează să fie prezentate, în majoritatea complexelor nu au fost descoperite instalații de încălzit, gropi de pari, podine de lut sau alte elemente care să permită, cu mai multă certitudine, atribuirea lor acestei categorii. În lipsa acestor elemente definitorii autoarele cercetării arheologice le-au inclus, cu câteva excepții, în categoria gropilor.

Datorită metodei de săpătură identificarea complexelor s-a făcut, în cele mai multe situații, la nivelul pământului viu și nu de la nivelul de la care au fost edificate, astfel că încercarea de împărțire și clasificare a lor, în funcție de adâncimi, ar conduce la concluzii greșite.

#### **II.1.1. Construcții de suprafață**

Au fost descoperite cinci construcții de suprafață dintre care trei cu podine de lut mai mult sau mai puțin deranjate de locuirile ulterioare, iar într-un caz acesta poate fi doar presupusă. Două dintre complexe au formă cvasirectangulară, iar în celealte două cazuri forma nu poate fi precizată cu certitudine. Cel mai bine păstrată este podina locuinței 566 cu dimensiunile de 380 X 300 cm, această podină de altfel și cea mai mare păstrată, însumând 11,4 mp. Putem aprecia că și în cazul locuinței 569 dimensiunile erau apreciabile, după cum indică porțiunea păstrată (258 X 304 cm). Tot de mari dimensiuni trebuie să fi fost și locuința 1009, judecând atât după resturile păstrate *in situ* cât și după bucățile de chirpic / podină trase în fântâna de epoca romană. Dimensiunile păstrate ale platformei de chirpic în acest caz sunt de 170 X 90 cm, cu o grosime de 20 cm. Chiar dacă avem puține informații referitoare la locuința 935, situată între gropile de stâlpi 936 - 939, ce constă dintr-o aglomerare de chirpic, greu de conturat, putem presupune că aparținea acestui tip, cu atât mai mult cu cât avem cele patru gropi de pari în jurul complexului. O altă construcție de acest tip, dar fără podină de lut, este complexul 578 cu dimensiuni apreciabile (300 X 740 cm) și grosimea depunerii de 10 cm. Fără să putem trage o concluzie fermă, constatăm că acestei categorii de construcții îi corespunde, cu o singură excepție, forma cvasirectangulară. Descoperiri similare sunt cunoscute la: Lăpușel "Ciurgău", Medieșu Aurit "Șuculeu", Diakovo "Kișerda" și "Mondicitag" și Kvasove II.

## II.1.2. Construcții adâncite (locuințe, anexe)

Acestei categorii i-am atribuit complexele cu dimensiunile mai mari decât cele ale gropilor, adâncite mai mult sau mai puțin în pământul viu, fără să facem vreo diferențiere între ele pornind de la acest criteriu. Complexele sunt deopotrivă rectangulare și ovale ca formă și în niciunul dintre ele nu au fost descoperite podine de lut. Drept urmare, putem concluziona că aceste construcții nu beneficiau de o astfel de amenajare interioară confirmând astfel observația potrivit căreia doar locuințele de suprafață aveau podine de lut spre deosebire de cele mai mult sau mai puțin adâncite în pământ.

Din cele 7 locuințe rectangulare, unele au dimensiuni foarte mari<sup>126</sup> altele au dimensiuni mai restrânse<sup>127</sup> determinate, foarte probabil, de scopul pentru care au fost construite. Pentru cele cu suprafețe mai mici putem presupune că erau folosite ca anexe gospodărești. Aceeași interpretare o putem presupune și pentru cele 7 construcții adâncite cu forma ovală în plan<sup>128</sup>. Locuințe ușor adâncite (sau “semibordeie” ?), aparținând fazei timpurii a culturii Suciu de Sus, sunt menționate la Culciu Mic “*La gropi de siloz*”, Giulești “*Valea Mestecăniș*”, Solotvino și Sarasău “*După Ștrec*”.

Cu excepția construcțiilor care au podină de lut, cu siguranță folosite ca locuințe, pentru celelalte este dificil de precizat cu certitudine ce funcționalitate au avut. În consecință preferăm termenul neutru de “Construcții de suprafață sau adâncite”, includerea lor în rândul locuințelor fiind una probabilă. Diferențierea construcțiilor de acest fel în funcție de dimensiuni este tentantă însă dificil de susținut. Foarte probabil cele de mari dimensiuni vor fi avut destinații diferite în comparație cu cele cu suprafețe mai mici, dar care au fost acestea este greu de presupus.

Inventarul acestor construcții constă în cea mai mare parte, din fragmente ceramice, urme sporadice de cărbune, fragmente de chirpic sau chirpic cu amprente de nuiile și câteva fragmente de la râșnițe de piatră (complexele 935, 1150). Precizez că în niciunul dintre complexele aparținând bronzului mijlociu nu au fost descoperite oase de animale sau umane și nici resturi de cereale carbonizate. Un număr mai mare de fragmente ceramice, precum și două vase întregibile, au fost descoperite doar în complexele 780, 780 B, 780 C, 1109. Inventarul fragmentar și sărăcăcios găsit în umplutura celorlalte locuințe este posibil să indice faptul că acestea au fost golite înainte de abandonare și, ulterior, să fi fost tratate ca și gropi menajere.

Foarte probabil construcțiile erau realizate, ca și locuințele din alte așezări contemporane, fie prin adâncirea față de nivelul de călcare, fie direct pe acesta, în acest din urmă caz construindu-se podina de lut, pereții erau realizați, în ambele situații din împrejură de nuiile pe pară care erau apoi lipiți cu lut. Deoarece avem insuficiente informații despre disponerea parilor în locuințe, nu putem preciza cu certitudine forma acoperișului / șarpantei dacă era într-o apă sau două ape. Chiar dacă nu avem dovezi în acest sens cred că acestea erau acoperite cu stuf.

Absența vetrelor din locuințele de la Csengersima ar putea fi explicată fie prin caracterul sezonier al așezării, ipoteză însă greu de susținut în condițiile prezentei relativ numeroase a gropilor de provizii sau menajere, fapt ce indică o anumită stabilitate a locuirii, fie că acestea se găseau în exteriorul caselor și au fost distruse de locuirile ulterioare. În acest sens trebuie precizat faptul că în așezarea de la Solotvino au fost descoperite două vete: una în locuință de suprafață 9a, iar cealaltă, o vatră exterioară de această dată, a fost identificată la baza stratului de epoca bronzului. Tot o vatră exterioară este semnalată și în așezarea de la Sarasău “*După Ștrec*”, iar în cele 7 locuințe de suprafață din așezarea de la Diakovo au fost descoperite cuptoare.

Referitor la dispunerea lor pe cuprinsul așezării, atât cât mai poate fi sesizat după numeroasele intervenții din epociile ulterioare, și cu mențiunea că așezarea continuă în partea vestică, rămasă necercetată, constatăm o mai mare concentrare a lor în partea sudică și estică. Observăm, de asemenea, că era preferată orientarea laturilor lungi ale construcțiilor pe direcția est - vest sau apropiate de aceasta. Doar în patru cazuri (complexele 578, 830, 1155 și 1496),

<sup>126</sup> Complexele: 1496 cu dimensiunile de 220 X 330 cm și adâncimea: 30 cm; 544 D cu dimensiunile de 340 X 370 cm și adâncimea: 60 cm; 1150 cu dimensiunile de 520 X 880 cm și adâncimea: 30 cm; 1155 cu dimensiunile de 490 X 390 cm și adâncimea cuprinsă între 40-60 cm.

<sup>127</sup> Complexele: 597 cu dimensiunile de 200 X 165 cm și adâncimea: 40 cm; 780 B cu dimensiunile de 170 X 295 cm și adâncimea: 35 cm; 780 C cu dimensiunile de 76 X 200 cm și adâncimea: 35 cm.

<sup>128</sup> Este vorba de complexele: 772 A, dimensiuni: 330 X 210 cm, adâncimea: 10-40 cm; 780, dimensiuni: 220 X 500 cm, adâncimea: 35 cm; 830, dimensiuni: 274 X 150 cm, adâncimea: 30 cm; 1104, dimensiuni: 190 X 240 (?) cm, adâncimea: 38 cm; 1105, dimensiuni: 316 cm, adâncimea: 36 cm; 1284 B, dimensiuni: 180 X 265 cm, adâncimea: 40 și 60 cm; 1302, dimensiuni: 280 X 300 cm, adâncimea: 20 cm.

construcțiile de acest fel sunt orientate cu laturile lungi pe direcția sud – nord sau apropriate<sup>129</sup>. Din dispușerea lor putem constata de asemenea gruparea lor, cum este cazul complexelor 780, 780 B, 780 C, 772 A, 578 și 544 D, 566, 569 și 597, dar este dificil de precizat, în toate situațiile, dacă aceste construcții ar fi aliniate după un anume sistem. Prima dintre grupările enumerate mai sus pare însă să confirme existența unui astfel de sistem.

## I.2. Gropi

Cele mai multe (62) dintre complexele aparținând bronzului mijlociu pot fi interpretate ca gropi. Deoarece a fost surprinsă, în cele mai multe dintre cazuri, doar partea inferioară a acestora, este imposibil de precizat cum arată în realitate forma lor în secțiune. Adâncimile, de la nivelul de la care au fost identificate (steril), sunt cuprinse între 5 și 66 cm. Pot fi deosebite, în câteva cazuri, gropi cu forma tronconică (533) sau în formă de sac (549, 944, 1465). În ceea ce privește forma lor în plan avem 26 de gropi circulare<sup>130</sup> cu diametrul cuprins între 70 cm și 210 cm. În cazul gropilor cu forma ovală în plan, posibilitatea de atribuire uneia sau alteia dintre categoriile de construcții este mai dificilă, deoarece unele dintre ele ar putea fi locuințe sau anexe. Judecând însă după dimensiuni considerăm că 23 de complexe sunt gropi de acest fel cu diametrele cuprinse între 65 X 80 cm și 185 X 220 cm<sup>131</sup>. Tot categoriei gropilor aparțin și complexele 544 B și 1630 B doar că forma lor nu poate fi precizată.

### Gropi de mici dimensiuni (gropi de pari ?)

În funcție de dimensiunile acestora, dar și în seama și de conținut, unele dintre gropi ar putea fi considerate gropi de pari. Două dintre ele ar putea fi puse în legătură cu locuințele din imediata lor vecinătate: groapa 565 este situată în partea sud-vestică a locuinței 566, iar groapa 783 la vest de locuința 780. La acestea se adaugă, chiar dacă sunt lipsite de inventar, cele patru gropi de pari din preajma locuinței 935. Considerăm totuși că 11 din gropile cu dimensiunile sub 70 cm și adâncimea cuprinsă între 16 și 32 cm pot fi incluse în această categorie. Acestea au fie forma circulară în plan (526, 531, 565, 936, 937, 938, 939 și 1307), fie ovală (559, 729 și 783).

Umplutura gropilor este omogenă având cel mai frecvent culoarea cenușiu-gălbui și mai rar cenușiu-închis, cenușie, neagră sau roșiatică. În umplutura gropilor au ieșit la iveală îndeosebi fragmente ceramice, puține obiecte de lut ars (greutăți fragmentare de lut, rotițe de la cărucioare miniaturale), fragmente de la rășnițe de piatră, un tipar de piatră și bucăți mai mici sau mari de chirpic, cărbune de mici dimensiuni. Cu foarte puține excepții inventarul ceramic este redus (1-20 fragmente ceramice), dar există și cazuri în care în umplutura gropilor a fost descoperită o cantitate apreciabilă de ceramică (între 100 și 350 fragmente ceramice în complexele 537 B, 538 și 1014). De remarcat este și prezența relativ numeroasă a chirpici-ului mărunt sau chiar a celui de mai mari dimensiuni cu amprente de nuiile în inventarul gropilor. Umplutura gropilor este asemănătoare cu cea a locuințelor atât în ceea ce privește inventarul cât și coloristic, ceea ce le diferențiază fiind dimensiunile mai mari în cazul celor din urmă.

Funcționalitatea gropilor, la momentul inițial, pare a fi aceea de gropi de provizii, iar ulterior au fost transformate în gropi menajere. Din punctul meu de vedere, faptul că au fost săpate puțin adânc în solul viu (doar una din gropile cu forma circulară se adâncește cu 65 cm și, de asemenea, una cu forma ovală cu 66 cm) este un indiciu că nu au fost realizate în vederea extragerii lutului pentru confectionarea ceramicii.

Distribuția spațială a gropilor în cadrul așezării este relativ uniformă, cu o mai slabă reprezentare în partea sud-estică, doar o singură groapă (577) la sud de locuința 578 și doar două gropi (782 A și 782 B) la est de locuințele 780, 780 B și 780 C. De asemenea, remarcăm o mai mare concentrare a lor în preajma locuințelor din partea nord-estică, în preajma locuințelor 1104,

<sup>129</sup> 544 D: nord-est – sud-vest; 566 nord-sud; 569: nu poate fi precizată; 578: est – vest; 597: est-nord-est – vest sud vest; 780 B: nord-sud; 780 C: nord-vest - sud-est; 1150: nord-est - sud-vest; 1155: est-vest; 1496: est-vest; 772 A: nord-sud; 780: nord-est - sud-vest; 830: vest-nord-vest - est-sud-est; 1104: vest-nord-vest - est-sud-est; 1105: est-nord-est - vest-sud-vest; 1284 B: vest-nord-vest - est-sud-est; 1302: nu știm orientarea;

<sup>130</sup> Sau 27 dacă atribuim complexul 1109 acestei categorii. Este vorba de următoarele complexe: 536 D, 537 A, 537 B, 544 A, 544 E, 544 F, 545, 569 B, 577, 657, 769, 782 A, 843, 1106, 1254, 1240, 1275, 1298, 1302 B, 1304, 1461, 1462, 1463, 1500 A, 1630, 1820.

<sup>131</sup> Este vorba de complexele: 533, 534, 536 A, 536 B=536 E, 536 C, 537 C, 538, 544 C, 549, 554 B, 554 C, 656 B, 782 B, 944, 1005 A, 1005 B, 1014, 1020, 1095, 1241, 1287 A, 1465, 1690.

105, 1109, în partea sud-vestică la vest de locuințele 544 D, 566, 569, 597, și în jurul locuințelor 935 și 1150 din zona estică a așezării. Există și câteva situații în care complexele de epoca mijlocie a bronzului se întrelapă: groapa 537 B taie gropile 537 A și 537 C și la rândul său groapa 537 A taie 537 C; 782 A taie groapa 782 B; groapa 1461 este tăiată de gropile 1462 și 1463, iar groapa 1630 A taie groapa 1630 B. Datorită faptului că materialul arheologic este relativ unitar nu putem sesiza decât succesiunea în care aceste gropi au fost săpate, fără să putem preciza eventualele diferențe cronologice. Gropi de diferite forme și dimensiuni, cele mai multe inedite, aparținând fazelor timpurii a culturii Suciu de Sus sunt cunoscute la: Halmeu “*Vamă*”, Lăpușel “*Ciurgău*”, Medieșu Aurit “*Cioncaș*”, Moftinu Mic, Diakovo “*Kışerda*”, Solotvino și Kvasove II.

### **II.3. Stratul de cultură**

Stratul de cultură aparținând epocii mijlocii a bronzului a fost surprins în mai multe porțiuni de pe suprafața cercetată, acestea primind numere asemenea complexelor. Astfel că cele care au fost definite ca și complexele 536, 544, 671 E, 1152, 1210, 1083 B, 1210A, 1246, 1400, 1597, 1606 reprezintă, de fapt, stratul de cultură Suciu de Sus I. Acesta a fost sesizat și în jurul complexelor 1495, 1497-1499, 1502-1503; 865 și 867, 1302-1303. Am păstrat numerotarea dată de autoarele cercetărilor pentru a fi mai ușor de identificat pe planul general, locația de unde provin materialele, dar nu le-am contabilizat la numărul de complexe.

Din observațiile făcute reiese că stratul de cultură avea o grosime cuprinsă între 25 și 40 cm, iar cercetarea lui a fost îngreunată de faptul că, în unele cazuri, acesta era acoperit de un strat argilos de culoare galben, steril, de 8-40 cm grosime. De cele mai multe ori acesta a fost observat pe marginile complexelor din epoci mai târzii. Prezența stratului argilos steril care acoperea stratul de cultură aparținând bronzului mijlociu se datorează foarte probabil unei inundații și nu este exclus ca locuirea de epoca mijlocie a bronzului să fi încetat datorită acestei inundații.

Ca și în cazul celorlalte așezări Suciu de Sus cunoscute, nici la Csengersima nu a fost surprinsă stratigrafic succesiunea etapelor evolutive ale culturii Suciu, stabilită prin stratigrafie orizontală. Din stratul de cultură provine o cantitate apreciabilă de ceramică specifică primei faze a culturii Suciu de Sus, precum și câteva obiecte de lut ars și piatră.

### **III. Inventarul arheologic și atribuirea culturală a descoperirilor aparținând epocii mijlocii a bronzului.**

În inventarul complexelor aparținând bronzului mijlociu, cu excepția unui tipar fragmentar de piatră și a câtorva obiecte de lut ars, au fost descoperite doar fragmente ceramice. Starea fragmentară a materialului a permis doar în puține cazuri reconstituirea lor grafică. În unele situații s-a reușit reconstituirea diametrului, iar în altele și a unei părți din profilul vaselor. Absența vaselor întregi sau întregibile îngreunează în bună măsură reconstituirea completă a formelor.

În ceea ce privește formele vaselor putem deosebi mai multe tipuri de *oale* realizate din pastă grosieră sau intermedieră<sup>132</sup>; *castroane*<sup>133</sup> și *străchini*<sup>134</sup> realizate din pastă fină și intermedieră; mai multe tipuri de *cești* toate din pastă fină<sup>135</sup>; fragmente de la *vase vatră*, fie din corp<sup>136</sup> fie din picioare sau brâiele ce înconjoară vasele. De asemenea, câteva fragmente de la *căni*<sup>137</sup>, *strecurători*<sup>138</sup> și *capace*<sup>139</sup>.

<sup>132</sup> Pl.1/1-3, 6-7; 2/1-5; 3/1-5, 7-8; 4/1-2,4-5; 7/1-6; 8/1; 9/1-6,9; 11/1-2,5; 12/1-4; 13/1-6; 14/1,4,7;16/1-4,6; 17/1,6,8; 18/1-6; 19/1-2; 22/1-4; 23/1-2,5; 24/1-2; 25/1-10,12; 27/1,4,8; 28/1-2,4; 29/1-2; 31/1-4; 34/1; 35/1-2; 36/1-4; 37/1-2; 40/2,4,5,7; 41/1-5; 42/1-9,11; 43/3-4,6-10; 46-47; 48/1,3,5-10; 50/1-3,5-6; 51/1; 52/1-5,8; 53/1,3-6,9; 54/1-2,7; 55/1,3-7; 56-57; 58/1,3; 59; 63/1-2,4; 64/1,3-6,8-11; 65/1-3; 66/2-3; 67/3,6-8; 68/1-6, 9-10; 69/1,3.

<sup>133</sup> Pl.1/8; 2/7; 8/2; 11/3,7; 20/4; 26/1-3; 29/6-7; 31/5-6; 34/5; 35/3-5; 36/7-8; 44/1-3; 48/11; 49/4; 52/6; 55/8; 57/1; 58/2; 60/3,5-6; 63/5; 66/1; 69/4-6.

<sup>134</sup> Pl. 1/4; 20/1-2; 23/4; 36/7; 60/1-2, 4; 54/4, 8; 66/4 și probabil 27/2; 29/5; 54/3.

<sup>135</sup> Pl.17/4; 33/6, 8; 48/15; 65/4; 67/1; și fragmentele de la pl. 5/6-7; 9/8; 19/6, 8; 26/4-7; 44/4-5; 48/12; 49/1-2; 65/5-6, 8; 67/4; 69/7-8.

<sup>136</sup> Pl. 62/1; și fragmentele din partea inferioară a picioarelor Pl. 6/1; 10/1-2; 11/9; 15/1-2; 26/10-11; 30/6; 33/1; 38/1; 40/9; 45/3-4; 49/7; 53/1; 62/2, 4; 65/11; 70/1-2; sau din picioare și din banda ce înconjoară vasul între picioare Pl. 2/1; 3/4-5; 6/2; 8/3; 11/10; 15/3-6; 16/7; 17/2; 20/5-7; 22/5; 26/12; 27/6-7; 30/5, 8; 33/2-3, 7; 38/2; 40/8; 41/9; 45/ 1-2, 5; 49/8-10; 52/7; 53/11; 62/3, 5; 70/3-5, 7-8.

<sup>137</sup> Pl.2/ 6, 8; 11/6; 25/13; 34/3; 40/3; 48/14.

Ceramica descoperită la Csengersima este decorată cu motive ornamentale realizate în diferite tehnici: relief, incizii, caneluri, cu impresiuni în formă de bob de orez și, într-o foarte mică măsură, striuri. Ornamentele realizate în *relief* sunt caracteristice ceramicii grosiere, cu ajutorul lor sunt redate brâurile simple<sup>140</sup> și mai rar duble<sup>141</sup> dispuse sub buză; proeminente mici conice<sup>142</sup> ovale<sup>143</sup> sau ovale alveolate<sup>144</sup>, motive zoomorfe în relief situate în partea inferioară a tortilor<sup>145</sup> sau antropomorfe (?) în aceași combinație<sup>146</sup>. O mare frecvență o au însă *impreuniile* în formă de bob de orez dispuse pe buzele vaselor, fie oale, cești sau castroane/străchini<sup>147</sup>; mai rar, acestea sunt situate în partea inferioară a corpului<sup>148</sup>, sau pe corp<sup>149</sup>. Impresiunile mici circulare sau ovale aşezate pe corpul vaselor sunt puțin frecvente<sup>150</sup>. Ornamentele realizate prin *incizie* oferă un oarecare dinamism decorului încadrat totuși în limitele aceleiași stereotipii: spiralele înlanțuite pe corpul vaselor (oale, cești, castroane/străchini) sunt foarte des întâlnite pe ceramica realizată din pastă fină și intermediaрă<sup>151</sup>. Urmează apoi, ca și frecvență, arcadele hașurate dispuse sub buză<sup>152</sup> și, mai rar, pe corp sau în partea inferioară a acestuia<sup>153</sup>. Tot prin incizie sunt realizate triunghiuri cu vârful în jos dispuse grupat<sup>154</sup>, linii verticale grupate câte două sau trei<sup>155</sup>, motive în formă de scară<sup>156</sup> sau în formă de stea<sup>157</sup>. Fundul vaselor este, în unele cazuri, ornamentat tot cu ajutorul inciziei, formând cărlige sau motive florale<sup>158</sup>. Spirale înlanțuite, cercuri simple în jurul proeminențelor conice sau ghirlande sunt redate prin *canelare*<sup>159</sup>. Ceramica grosieră decorată cu striuri este o apariție sporadică în aşezarea de la Csengersima<sup>160</sup>.

Dintre obiectele de lut ar amintim trei fragmente de la roți miniaturale de lut ars (Pl. 51/6; 62/6-7); cinci greutăți de lut fragmentare, două conice din care se mai păstrează doar partea inferioară (Pl. 6/3, 34/7) și trei piramide perforate în partea superioară (Pl. 38/5-8); două fragmente de la așa numitele “acoperitoare de jar” prevăzute în partea superioară cu trei proeminente-apucători dispuse simetric (Pl. 49/11; și probabil 5/8); precum și trei fragmente cu funcționalitate nedeterminată: un obiect cu secțiunea rectangulară terminat la unul din capete piramidal (Pl.21/5); o piesă de lut ars cu secțiunea cvasirectangulară (pl.54/6) și un fragment triunghiular canelat pe una din fețe (Pl.38/4).

Obiectele de piatră sunt apariții extrem de rare la Csengersima: o parte a unui tipar de piatră bivalv, foarte probabil folosit pentru turnat ace de bronz; o lamă de obsidian (Pl.70/10) și mai multe fragmente de diferite dimensiuni de la râșnițe de piatră.

Atât formele cât și motivele decorative de pe ceramica de la Csengersima au analogii în stațiunile Suciul de Sus timpurii de la: **Bârsana** ”Cetățuie - Cetățe”, **Boinești** ”Coasta Boineștilor”, **Culciu Mic** ”La gropi de siloz”, **Diakovo** ”Kișerda” și ”Modicitag / Mondicitag”,

<sup>138</sup> Pl.3/1; 5/9; 14/6; 24/6; 32/6; 45/7; 49/5.

<sup>139</sup> Pl.14/5; 34/6; 49/6.

<sup>140</sup> Pl.1/1,6; 5/1; 7/1,3; 16/1; 17/1; 18/1-4; 24/1; 25/1-3; 27/1; 28/1-2; 31/1, 3; 34/1; 36/1-2; 40/2; 41/1-2; 43/6-9; 46/1-5/; 52/1, 4-5; 53/3; 59/1-4; 62/1; 63/2; 65/3; 68/1-2.

<sup>141</sup> Pl.43/10.

<sup>142</sup> Pl.11/5; 48/15; 59/2.

<sup>143</sup> Pl.65/3; 68/1-2.

<sup>144</sup> Pl.54/1; 55/7.

<sup>145</sup> Pl.14/7; 47/3; 50/1; 58/5.

<sup>146</sup> Pl.2/3:

<sup>147</sup> Pl. 1/2, 8; 5/3; 8/2; 9/3; 11/3; 12/1-2; 14/1-2; 17/7; 20/1; 22/3; 24/2; 25/6-10; 26/1-2; 27/1,8; 29/5-6; 33/8; 34/5; 35/3-5; 36/6-7; 37/1-2; 40/1; 42/1-2; 48/1-2; 50/4; 52/6, 8; 53/1-2; 54/4, 8; 58/4; 60/1-2; 63/1; 65/1-2; 66/1, 4; 68/9-10; 69/4-5.

<sup>148</sup> Pl.11/6.

<sup>149</sup> Pl.65/5.

<sup>150</sup> Pl. 19/6; 33/6.

<sup>151</sup> Pl. 2/2, 8; 11/6; 20/1-2; 27/8; 34/3; 36/6-7; 37/1, 3; 52/8; 53/8; 60/1-2; 65/10; 66/1, 4.

<sup>152</sup> Pl.8/1; 17/8; 27/8; 35/3-4; 36/6-7; 37/3; 44/1; 55/8; 69/5.

<sup>153</sup> Pl.22/9; 29/9.

<sup>154</sup> Pl.9/5; 22/3; 24/2; 34/2; 37/1-2.

<sup>155</sup> Pl.5/6; 8/2; 19/7; 49/4.

<sup>156</sup> Pl. 33/8; 66/4.

<sup>157</sup> Pl.37/4.

<sup>158</sup> Pl.11/8; 22/9; 23/7; 39/4-5; 54/8.

<sup>159</sup> Pl.11/3; 16/4; 20/4; 24/4-5; 25/13; 33/6; 49/1, 3; 58/7.

<sup>160</sup> Pl.19/10; 28/3; 38/2; 66/3.

**Giulești** "Valea Mestecăniș", **Halmeu** "Vamă", **Ieud** "Podereiul Dumbrăviței", **Jánkmajtis**, "Halom – dűlő", **Kvasove II**, **Lăpușel** "Ciurgău", **Medieșu Aurit** „Șuculeu”, **Medieșu Aurit** "Cioncaș", **Medieșu Aurit** "Togul lui Schweizer- Dâmbul Acastăului", **Moftinu Mic** "marginea Drumului Național Carei-Satu Mare", **Sarasău** "După Ștrec", **Sarasău** "Moară", **Satu Mare** "Strandul Someș", **Seini** "IAS Ferma 7", **Sighetu Marmătiei** "Cearda-Tărmuri", **Sighetu Marmătiei** "Cămara Cireghi", **Solotvino** "Cetate" și **Tătărești** "Dealul Tătăreștilor /Dâmbul tătarilor"<sup>161</sup>.

Un caz aparte îl constituie descoperirile Suciului de Sus timpurii din sud-estul Slovaciei: Hnojné, Lastovce, Ruská, Vel'ké Raškovce și parte din mormintele de la Zemplínske Kopčany. Acestea prezintă un evident aspect regional, atât în ceea ce privește formele vaselor cât și în privința tehnicii de ornamentare. Absența striurilor, caracteristică de altfel întregii arii vestice de răspândire a culturii Suciului de Sus, prezența în număr mic și, în bună parte, diferit, a motivelor realizate prin incizie, cești, căni, străchini și castroane cu picior, individualizează descoperirile din această zonă.

#### IV. Concluzii

Așezarea Suciului de Sus I de pe "Határátkelő" ocupă doar partea vestică a terasei, în zona de la vest de pârâul Erge și nu este suprapusă de locuirea Suciului de Sus II. Câteva complexe ale acestei faze au fost surprinse însă și în această zonă a sitului. Putem astfel concluziona că nici la Csengersima, ca de altfel în niciunul din siturile culturii Suciului de Sus, nu au fost surprinse în succesiune stratigrafică fazele stabilite prin stratigrafie orizontală.

Importanța așezării de la Csengersima "Határátkelő" constă în faptul că este, până în clipa de față, una dintre cele mai extensiv cercetate stațiuni aparținând fazei timpurii a culturii Suciului de Sus din arealul pe care această cultură îl ocupă. Estimăm că aproximativ 80% din suprafața așezării aparținând bronzului mijlociu a fost cercetată, celelelate 20 de procente se află în partea vestică a terasei, rămasă necercetată. Aceasta se datorează pe de o parte metodei de cercetare folosite, precum și caracterului cercetării arheologice. Săpăturile arheologice preventive executate aici în 1998 și 1999 au scos la lumină 1867 de complexe aparținând mai multor epoci, dintre care 82 aparțin epocii mijlocii a bronzului și alte 62 de complexe din alte epoci (50 de epocă romană, nouă aparținând bronzului târziu, două medieval timpurii și unul în care se găsesc amestecate materiale din bronzul târziu și epoca romană) în care au apărut fragmente ceramice Suciului de Sus I. În total 144 de complexe care indică întinderea așezării din bronzul mijlociu. Din celelalte 27 de stațiuni aparținând acestei etape a culturii Suciului de Sus, doar în așezarea de la Solotvino a fost săpată circa 30% din suprafața așezării, iar așezările de la Culciu Mic, Boinești, Lăpușel, Medieșu Aurit "Șuculeu", Kvasove II și Diakovo "Kișerda" și "Mondicitag" au fost ceva mai restrâns cercetate. Ca și în cazul așezării de la Solotvino sau Lăpușel, nivelul de epoca bronzului a fost puternic afectat de locuirile ulterioare, în cazul specific al așezării de la Cesengersima de locuirea de epocă romană. Stratul de cultură avea grosimea cuprinsă între 25-40 cm din el provenind o mare cantitate de ceramică și câteva obiecte de lut ars.

Atât locuințele și gropile, cât mai ales materialul ceramic sunt similare cu cele descoperite în celelalte situri Suciului de Sus I, mai degrabă cu mici diferențe regionale decât cronologice. Spre exemplu, așezarea de la Csengersima se apropie mai mult de stațiunile acestei culturi din Câmpia Someșului decât de cele din aria estică și nord-estică. Ne referim aici la prezența în număr extrem de redus a ceramicii striațe în aria vestică și la prezența ei foarte numeroasă în aria estică și nord-estică, fapt care rămâne neschimbăt și pe parcursul fazei a doua a culturii. De asemenea, în aria vestică remarcăm o puternică influență a culturii Otomani, spre deosebire de aria sudică și estică unde sunt prezente influențe Wietenberg.

Trebue reamintit faptul că în niciuna din așezările Suciului de Sus cercetate stratigrafia verticală nu a confirmat vreuna din ipotezele privind cronologia internă a culturii. În ceea ce mă privește consider că, până la publicarea cercetărilor mai vechi la care se face referire pentru construcția diferitelor teorii și în absența unei stratigrafiile verticale care să susțină vreuna din aceste ipoteze, împărțirea în două faze, una cu ceramică decorată cu incizii, iar cea de-a doua cu ornamente realizate prin incizie-excizie, stabilite prin stratigrafie orizontală, este cea mai potrivită în momentul de față. Pentru datarea fazei timpurii a culturii Suciului de Sus, definitorii au rămas descoperirile mai vechi din așezările de la Culciu Mic și Boinești, un tipar pentru pandantivi găsit

<sup>161</sup> Pentru datele bibliografice vezi repertoriul descoperirilor Suciului de Sus I.

în locuința adâncită de la Culciu Mic și brățara de bronz de la Boinești, dar și aprecierile cu privire la relațiile interculturale Suciul de Sus I – Wietenberg II, III – Otomani II, III, Mad’arovce etc. Începuturile culturii Suciul de Sus datează, foarte probabil, din faza Reinecke Bz A2 sau Bz B și continuă până în etapa Reinecke Bz C. Până la finalizarea cercetării materialului ceramic descoperit în aşezarea de la Csengersima și la analiza lui comparativă cu cel din celelalte situri, rămâne să presupunem că aşezarea de pe “*Határátkelő*” datează din perioada Reinecke Bz. B1, B2, iar locuirea de aici să fi încetat în urma unei inundații.

## VIII. Abstract in Hungarian

### A pete-csengersimai középbronzkori település

A tanulmány célja, hogy elérhetővé tegye az érdeklődők számára a Csengersima “*Határátkelő*” (Szabolcs-Szatmár-Bereg megye, Magyarország) lelőhelyen a nyíregyházi Jósa András múzeum munkatársai által feltárt középbronzkori település eredményeit. Mivel a feltárt középbronzkori objektum leleteiből nem minden régészeti anyag volt lerajzolva, reméljük, hogy a nem túl távoli jövőben sikerül közzétenni egy átfogó tanulmányt a kerámia leletekről és a kultúraközi kapcsolatokról. Megjegyzem, hogy a csengersimai település része a *Az Alsó-Szamos medence középbronzkora* című doktori értekezésemnek is, így az itt nem érintett illetve csak általánosságban taglalt jelenségek a dolgozatban kerülnek bővebb kifejtésre.

A teljes régészeti anyagot akárcsak a dokumentációját: fotókat, a régészeti objektumok rajzait, az összesítő alaprajzot, az ásatási naplót, a kutatást végző és a publikálási joggal rendelkező régész kollégák – dr. Istvánovits Eszter és dr. Almási Katalin – bocsátották rendelkezésre. Segítségükért és feltétel nélküli támogatásukért, valamint gyümölcsöző együttműködésükért, amelyet az M3-as autópálya nyomvonalának a feltárásnál 2004-2006-ban történt részvételem során tapasztaltam külön szeretném kifejezni köszönetemet.

### I. A csengersimai régészeti lelőhely. Az ásatás módszere

A „*Határátkelőnek*” nevezett lelőhely Csengersima keleti oldalán terül el România és Magyarország határán, pontosan a Pete-Csengersima Vámhivatalnál, a Szamos jelenlegi folyásától úgy 8 km-re keletre, a volt Erge patak mentén. A régészeti lelőhely a patak a két partja mentén húzódik kelet-északkeleti – nyugat-délnyugati irányban. Ahogyan a II. József féle katonai felmérésen (1780 körül) is látszik a lelőhely România területére is átnyúlik.

Az ásatásokat Istvánovits Eszter és Almássy Katalin vezette, két szakaszra oszlott: az első szakasz 1998 szeptember 24. és november 18.-a között zajlott, a második 1999 március 17. és július 9.-e között. A feltárás mintegy 3 hektárt érintett ( $32.384 \text{ m}^2$ ), amelynek során 1867 régészeti objektumot került elő.

A régészeti feltárásnál gépi és kézi bontást alkalmaztak. A humuszt gépileg távolították el 5-7 m-es szelvényekben, addig a szintig mélyülve, ahol a régészeti objektumokat beazonosíthatók lettek. A mélyszántások miatt ez a mélység leginkább a bolygatatlan talaj szintjét jelentette. Azokon a helyeken, ahol a kultúrréteg vastagabb volt, az ezekbe mélyített középbronzkori objektumokat is be lehetett azonosítani. Nem került megnyitásra stratigráfiai elemzésre alkalmas felszín. Az objektumok bontását és feltárását manuálisan végezték. Az alkalmazott feltárási módszerrel sikeres volt teljes egészében elvégezni a kutatást azon a területen ahol a leendő vámépületek felépültek. Az azonosított objektumokat felfedezésük sorrendjében számozták, metszetre bontották, ezt dokumentálták, majd teljes bontásra került sor. Az objektumok komplexitásának függvényében, vagy egymáshoz viszonyított helyzetük tisztázása érdekében, több metszet is készült, hogy pontosan dokumentálható legyen a stratigráfiai helyzet. A római kori település sűrű objektumai nagy mértékben bolygatták az előző korok rétegeit, így számos esetben a korábbi, így a középbronzkorhoz tartozó objektumok is tönkrementek vagy sérültek.

A módszernek, véleményem szerint, hiányosságai is vannak, mivel csak ott lehetett megfigyelni a metszeteket, ahol recensebb régészeti lelőhely (római kor vagy koraközépkor). Ott ahol a felső réteget egészen a bolygatatlan altalajig kellett legyalulni, elvesztek azok az információk, hogy melyik rétegből kerültek lemelítésre az objektumok, emiatt ezek időrendi

vagy kulturális besorolása csak a régészeti anyag alapján történhetett. Ugyanezért, a metszet vagy a mélység szerinti kategorizálás is inkább becslésen vagy feltételezésen alapszik.

A *Határátkelő* lelőhelyen talált legrégebbi emberi településnyomok a középbronzkorból származnak, amelyet késő bronzkori, a római kori (Kr. u. II-IV. század) és a koraközépkori (Kr. u. VII-IX. század) követ. A lelőhelyet legsűrűbben a római korban lakták, ehhez a periódushoz köthető a legtöbb beazonosított objektum (lakások, gödrök, kutak stb.).

## II. A középbronzkori objektumok leírása

Már az elején kijelenthető, hogy a Csengersima–*Határátkelő* lelőhely objektumainak időrendi besorolása az előkerült kerámia anyag alapján történt, amely minden probléma nélkül beilleszthető volt a Felsőszőcs kultúra korai szakaszába. A objektumok kategorizálásánál valamint funkcionálisuk meghatározásánál Istvánovits Eszter és Almási Katalin ásatási naplójában található leírásokat, megfigyeléseket és következtetéseket használtam fel.

Nem egy alkalommal az recensebb korok településnyomai bolygatták a középbronzkori réteget, emiatt a régészeti anyag összekeveredve jelenik meg a későbbi korok objektumaiban. Anélkül, hogy biztosak lennének a megbolygatott objektum típusában ezeket is bevettük repertóriumunkban, mivel megadják a középbronzkori település kiterjedését.

Ezekből a meggondolásokból kiindulva 82 objektumot keltezhetünk a középbronzkor idejére, másik 62 objektum más korszakra tehető, viszont betöltése tartalmaz e korból származó anyagot. 50 esetben a középbronzkori leletek római kori objektumokban találhatóak, kilenc esetben későbronzkori objektumokban, két esetben koraközépkori kontextusban, egyetlen esetben pedig összekeveredve találhatóak a későbronzkori és római kori leletekkel. A legtöbb esetben, ezeknek a objektumoknak az ásása közelében feltehetőleg középbronzkorból származó jelenségek voltak, ahonnan bekerültek e korszak leletei.

A középbronzkori objektumok a lelőhely területének a nyugati oldalán koncentrálódnak. Anélkül, hogy bizonyossággal meghatároznánk település kiterjedését és sűrűségét a fel nem tárt területen, kétségtelen tény, hogy az a terasz nyugati területe felé terjeszkedik. Öt olyan esetet is ismerünk viszont, ahol az ilyen típusú anyag a központi részen jelenik meg, az Erge patakötő nyugatra eső terület keleti és északi részén, de egyetlenegy esetben sem tettek ilyen felfedezést a patakötő keletre vagy a Románia (petei határátkelő) területére eső rész feltárasakor.

### II.1. Építmények

Ebbe a kategóriába 20 objektum tartozik, amelyekből 9 négyszögű, 8 ovális, egy kör alakú (1109), egyet nem lehetett dokumentálni (935), egy másik lakást viszont római kori objektum (1009) bolygatott, így ennek az alakját lehetetlen meghatározni. Néhány eset kivételével – amelyeket később be fogunk mutatni – a legtöbb objektumban nem került elő fűtő alkalmatosság, cölöpgödör, agyagpadló vagy más olyan elem, amely segítene a funkcionális besorolásban. Ezen meghatározó elemek hiányában az ásatást vezető régészek, néhány kivételtől eltekintve, ezeket az objektumokat a gödrök kategóriájába sorolták.

Az alkalmazott ásatási módszer miatt a objektumok azonosítására legtöbb esetben a bolygatatlan alatalaj szintjén került sor és nem építésük eredeti szintjén, így mélységük szerinti osztályozásuk téves következtetésekhez vezethetnek.

#### II.1.1. Felszíni építmények

Öt felszíni építményt tárta fel, melyek közül háromnak agyagpadlóját többé kevésbé későbbi objektumok bolygatták, egyik esetében pedig csak feltételezhető léte. Két objektum formája csaknem négyszögletes még a másik két esetben nem lehet azt biztonságosan meghatározni. A legjobb állapotban a 380 x 300 cm alapterületű, 566. sz. lakás padlója maradt fenn, ez egyébként a legnagyobb fennmaradt alapterületű padló, felülete 11,4m<sup>2</sup>. Az 569. sz. lakás is meglehetősen kiterjedt méretű lehetett, amint azt a fennmaradt padlója mutatja (258 x 304 cm). Szintén nagy méretű volt az 1009. sz. lakás is, amint azt a az *in situ* megőrzött maradványokból, valamint egy közel római kori kútba sötört paticcs és padló darabokból megítélhető. Ebben az esetben a paticcs felület 170 x 90 cm, vastagsága 20 cm. Még ha kevés is a 936–939. cölöpgödrök között elhelyezkedő, 935-ös objektumra vonatkozó információ, feltételezhető, hogy egy lakásról van szó. Egy nehezen meghatározható kerületű paticcs agglomerációról van szó, amely körül négy cölöpgödör került elő. Egy másik ilyen típusú, de agyagpadló nélküli építmény, az 578. objektum, meglehetősen nagy mérettel (300 x 740 cm) és 10 cm-e vastagsággal. Anélkül, hogy határozott

következtetések lennének levonhatók, megállapítható, hogy ennek az épület típusnak, egyetlen kivétellel az nagyjából négyszögű alakzat felel meg. Hasonló objektumokat tártak fel Hagymáslápos–*Ciurgău*, Aranyosmeggyes–*Suculeu*, Nevetlenfalu–*Kiserdő* és *Mondicitag* és Kvasove II. lelőhelyeken is.

### **II.1.2. Földbemélyített építmények (lakások, melléképületek)**

Ebbe a kategóriába azokat a objektumokat soroltuk, minden különbségtel nélkül, amelyeknek mérete nagyobb mint egy gödöré és a bolygatlan altalajba mélyítették. A objektumok négyzetesek esetleg oválisak és egyikben sem találtak agyagpadozatot. Ebből adódóan levonható az a következtetés, hogy ezek az építmények nem is rendelkeztek ilyen belső kiképzéssel. Ez megerősíti azt a feltételezést, hogy csak a felszíni lakásoknak volt agyagpadlójuk a földbevájtakkal szemben.

A hét négyzetes lakásból, néhánynak a mérete igen nagy<sup>162</sup> másoké kisebb<sup>163</sup>, valószínűleg abból következőleg is, hogy funkciójuk eltért. A kisebb méretűkről feltételezhetjük, hogy gazdasági melléképületekként szolgáltak. Ugyancsak ezt feltételezhetjük a hét földbevájt, ovális alakú építményről is<sup>164</sup>. A kevésbé lemélyített lakások a felsőszőcsi kultúra korai szakaszához tartoznak, ilyeneket említenek Kiskolcson a „*Silágödrök*”, Máragyulafalván a „*Gesztenyésben*”, Aknaszlatinán és Szarvaszón a „*După Štrec*” nevű helyen.

Az agyagpadlós épületek kivételével, amelyeket bizonyosan lakásként használtak, a többi objektum funkcióját nehéz teljes bizonyossággal megállapítani. Következésképpen továbbra is a semleges „felszíni” vagy „ földbevájt építmény” kifejezést használjuk a megjelölésükre, nem zárva ki annak lehetőségét, hogy esetleg a lakóépületek közé sorolódhannak. Funkcionális megkülönböztetésük a méret szerint csábító volna de nem lehet kellőképpen alátámasztani. Több mint valószínű, hogy a nagyméretűeknek más funkciójuk volt mint a kicsi alapterületűeknek, ám, hogy az mi volt azt igen nehéz feltételezni.

Az épületek betöltése nagyrészt kerámiatöredékeket, szenes nyomokat, paticcs töredékeket (vesszőlenyomattal vagy anélkül), valamint néhány örlőkövet (935., 1150. objektum) tartalmazott. Megjegyzendő, hogy egyetlen a középbronzkorhoz tartozó objektumban sem találtak emberi vagy állati csontokat, vagy karbonizálódott gabonamag maradványokat. Nagyobb számú cseréptöredéket valamint két rekonstruálható edény maradványait a 780., 780B, 780C, 1109. objektumokban találtak. A többi objektum betöltésében talált szegényes és töredékes leltár azt is jelentheti, hogy ezeket a lakásokat kiürítették mielőtt elhagyták volna őket és a továbbiakban csak szemetes gödörként használták.

Valószínű, hogy az épületeket úgy hozták létre mint a kor többi településének a lakásait, vagy a felszín alá mélyítették vagy közvetlenül a felszínre. Ez utóbbi esetben agyagpadlót alakítottak ki, a falakat mindenkor felvitt vesszőfonat alkotta, amelyet agyaggal tapasztottak be. Mivel kevés információ van arra nézve, hogy a lakásban hol helyezkedtek el a cölöpök, így nem tudjuk bizonyossággal meghatározni sem a tető formáját sem a gerendázatét. Lehetett félereszes vagy esetleg sátorlét. Még ha nincsenek is ilyen irányú bizonyítékok úgy vélem, hogy náddal voltak fedve.

Az objektumok elhelyezkedését tekintve a lelőhelyen belül, már amennyire megfigyelhető a későbbi korok beavatkozásai után és azzal a megjegyzéssel, hogy a település nyugati irányban folytatódik, ami feltáratlan maradt, megállapíthatjuk, hogy ezek inkább a déli és keleti oldalon koncentrálódnak. Megfigyelhetjük ugyanakkor, hogy az épületek hosszabbik oldalát előszeretettel kelet-nyugati irányba vagy megközelítőleg ahoz tájolták. Mindössze négy esetben (az 578, 830, 1155 és a 1496 objektum esetében) figyelhettük meg, hogy az épületek hosszú oldala dél-észak irányba tájolt, vagy ehhez közel<sup>165</sup>. Elhelyezkedésükből

<sup>162</sup> A következő objektumokról van szó: 1496, méret 220 x 330 cm, mélység 30 cm; 544 D, méret 340 x 370 cm, mélység 60 cm; 1150, méret 520 x 880 cm, mélység 30 cm; 1155, méret 490 x 390 cm, mélység 40-60 cm.

<sup>163</sup> A következő objektumokról van szó: 597, méret 200 x 165 cm, mélység 40 cm; 780B, méret 170 x 295 cm, mélység 35 cm; 780C, méret 76 x 200 cm, mélység 35 cm.

<sup>164</sup> A következő objektumokról van szó: 772A, méret 330 x 210 cm, mélység 10-40 cm; 780, méret 220 x 500 cm, mélység 35 cm; 830, méret 316 cm, mélység 36 cm; 1284B, méret 180 x 265 cm, mélység 40-60 cm; 1302, méret 280 x 300 cm, mélység 20 cm.

<sup>165</sup> A következő objektumokról van szó: 544 D: észak-kelet – dél-nyugat; 566 észak-dél; 569: nem meghatározható; 578: kelet – nyugat; 597: kelet észak-kelet – nyugat dél-nyugat; 780 B: észak-dél; 780 C:

következtethetünk egyes csoportosulásra is, mint például a 780, 780 B, 780 C, 772 A, 578 és a 544 D, 566, 569 és 597-es objektumok esetében, bár nehéz kijelenteni minden esetben, hogy ezek az építmények egy rendszer szerint sorakoztak. A felsorolt csoportosulások közül az első eset úgy tűnik, hogy alátámasztja egy ilyen rendszer léttét.

## II.2. Gödrök

A középbronzkorhoz tartozó objektum közül a legtöbb (62) gödröknek minősíthető. Gyakran csak az alsó részüket észlelték, így lehetetlen meghatározni, hogy nézhetett ki valójában és milyen lehetett valójában metszetük. A szint mélysége (a bolygatatlan réteg), ahol beazonosították őket, 5 és 66 cm között mozog. Egyes esetekben megkülönböztetünk kúpos (533) vagy zsák formájú (549, 944, 1465) gödröket is. A felszíni formákat illetően 26 gödör kör alakú<sup>166</sup>, melyeknek átmérője 70 illetve 210 cm között mozog. Az ovális formájú gödrök esetében a funkcionális kategóriába sorolás igen nehézes, mivel egyesek lehetnek úgy lakások mint melléképületek, vagy más funkciójú építmények. Méretük szerint ítélni 23 objektumot viszont biztosan gödröknek minősíthetünk, ezek átmérője 65 x 80 cm és 185 x 220 cm között mozog<sup>167</sup>. Szintén a gödrök kategóriájába tartoznak az 544 B és a 1630 B objektumok de formájukat nem lehet meghatározni.

### Kisméretű gödrök (cölöp gödrök?)

Méretüktől függően de a tartalmukat is szem előtt tartva, a gödrök közül némelyiket cölöpgödröknek is tarthatunk. Közülük kettőt kapcsolatba hozhatunk a közvetlen közelükben található lakásokkal: az 565-ös gödör az 566-os lakás dél-nyugati oldalán található, a 783-as gödör a 780-as lakástól nyugatra. Ezekhez kapcsolódik még négy cölöpgödör, bár semmit sem találtak a betöltésében, a 935-ös lakás környékéről. Mégis úgy gondoljuk, hogy 11 darab 70 cm-nél kisebb átmérőjű, 61 és 32 cm közötti mélységű gödröt ebbe a kategóriába sorolhatunk. Ezek vagy kör alakúak (526, 531, 565, 936, 937, 938, 939 és 1307) vagy oválisak (559, 729 és 783).

A gödrök betöltése homogén, legtöbbször sárgás hamuszínű, ritkábban sötét hamuszínű, fekete vagy vöröses. A betöltés elsősorban kerámiatöredékeket, kevés égetett agyagtárgyat (agyagnehezék töredékek, miniatűr kocsi kerekek), örlőkő darabokat, egy kőből készült öntőformát, kisebb-nagyobb paticsdarabokat, apró szén darabkákat tartalmazott. Néhány kivételtől eltekintve az objektumokban talált kerámiaanyag kevés (1–20 db. kerámia töredék), ám vannak olyan esetek is ahol a gödrök betöltésében nagy mennyiségi kerámia volt (pl. 100–350 darab cseréptöredék volt az 537 B, 538 és az 1014-es objektumokban). Említésre méltó a gödrök betöltésében az apró paticsdarabok nagyszámú jelenléte, de találhatók akár nagyobb méretűek is amelyeken vesszőlenyomatok is vannak. A betöltés tartalmi összetettségének arányait tekintve a gödröké és a lakásoké közel azonos, a különbség csak az eltérő méretből adódó mennyiségi különbségből adódik.

Funkciójuk szerint a gödrök a kezdeti időszakban tároló gödrök lehettek, majd pedig háztartási hulladék tárolók. Véleményem szerint, az a tény, hogy csak kis mértékben mélyítették bele a bolygatatlan talajrétegbe (mindössze egy kör alakú gödör mélysége éri el a 65 cm-t és egy ovális 66 cm) arra utal, hogy nem a cserépedény készítéshez szükséges agyag kitermelési céllal ásták őket.

A gödrök térbeli megoszlása a településen belül meglehetősen egységes, kevesebb a délkeleti részen, mindössze egy gödör (577) az 578-as lakástól délre és két gödör (782 A és 782 B) keletre a 780, 780 B és 780 C lakásuktól. Megfigyelhetünk ugyanakkor egy nagyobb sűrűséget az észak-keleti lakások környékén, a 1104, 105, 1109 lakások körül, a dél-nyugati oldalon a 544 D, 566, 569, 597 lakásuktól nyugatra és a 935 és a 1150-es lakás körül a település nyugati részén. Létezik néhány olyan eset is, ahol a középbronzkori objektumok vágják egymást: az 1461-es

észak-nyugat – dél-kelet; 1150: észak-kelet – dél-nyugat; 1155: kelet-nyugat; 1496: kelet-nyugat; 772 A: észak-dél; 780: észak-kelet – dél-nyugat; 830: nyugat észak-nyugat, – kelet dél-kelet; 1104: nyugat észak-nyugat – kelet dél-kelet; 1105: kelet -észak- kelet – nyugat dél-nyugat; 1284 B: nyugat-észak-nyugat – kelet-dél-kelet; 1302: nem ismerjük tájolását;

<sup>166</sup> Esetleg 27, ha ebbe a kategóriába soroljuk az 1109. objektumot. A következő objektumokról van szó: 536 D, 537 A, 537 B, 544 A, 544 E, 544 F, 545, 569 B, 577, 657, 769, 782 A, 843, 1106, 1254, 1240, 1275, 1298, 1302 B, 1304, 1461, 1462, 1463, 1500 A, 1630, 1820.

<sup>167</sup> A következő objektumokról van szó: 533, 534, 536 A, 536 B=536 E, 536 C, 537 C, 538, 544 C, 549, 554 B, 554 C, 656 B, 782 B, 944, 1005 A, 1005 B, 1014, 1020, 1095, 1241, 1287 A, 1465, 1690.

gödröt vágja az 1462-es és az 1463-as objektumot, az 1630A gödröt pedig az 1630B gödör vágja. Mivel a régészeti anyag viszonylag egységes, a gödrök beásásában tapasztalható egymásutániságból nem következtethető ki kronológiai eltérés. Az itt feltárt különböző formájú és alakú gödrök közé hasonlót a felsőszőcsi kultúra korai szakaszához tartozó több lelőhelyről is ismert: Halmi–Vámhivatal, Magyarlápos–Ciurgău, Aranyosmeggyes–Cioncaş, Kismajtény, Nevetlenfalu–Kiserdő, Aknaszlatina és Kvasove II.

### II.3. A kultúrréteg

A középbronzkori kultúrréteg a kutatott terület több pontján is észlelhető, ezeken a helyeken meg is számozták akárcsak a objektumokat. Így az objektumként definiált 536, 544, 671 E, 1152, 1210, 1083 B, 1210A, 1246, 1400, 1597, 1606 számú valójában a Felsőszőcs I kultúrréteget jelent. Ugyanezt észlelték az 536, 544, 671 E, 1152, 1210, 1083 B, 1210A, 1246, 1400, 1597, 1606 objektumok körül is. Megtartottam az ásatást végző kutatók számozását, hogy az összesítő felületrajzon könnyebben lehessen azonosítani az ásatási anyag előkerülésének a helyét, de a objektumok száma szerint nem rendszereztem.

A megfigyelésekkel kitűnik, hogy a kultúrréteg 25 és 40 cm vastag volt, viszont egyes esetekben a kutatást megnehezítette, az a tény, hogy a kultúrréteget egy 8–40 cm vastag, sárga színű, agyagos, steril réteg terítette be. Ez leggyakrabban a későbbi korok objektumainak a szélén volt észrevehető. A középbronzkori kultúrréteget befedő agyagos steril réteg valószínűleg egy árvíz maradványa és az sem kizárt, hogy a középbronzkori település pontosan az árvíz miatt szűnt meg.

Akárcsak a többi felsőszőcsi település esetében, Csengersimán sem lehetett stratigráfiailag megfigyelni és dokumentálni a felsőszőcsi kultúra fejlődési fázisainak sorát. A kultúrrétegből jelentős mennyiséggű, a felsőszőcsi kultúra I fázisára jellemző kerámia töredék került elő, mint ahogy néhány égetett agyag- és kötártya is.

### III. A középbronzkori régészeti leletanyag és kulturális besorolásuk

A középbronzkori objektumokban, egy köböl készült töredékes öntőformát és néhány égetett agyagtárgyat kivéve, csak kerámia töredékeket fedeztek fel. Az anyag töredékessége miatt kevés esetben sikerült grafikai rekonstruálásuk. Egyes esetekben sikerült rekonstruálni átmérőjüket, más esetekben az edény profiljának egy részét. Az ép edények hiánya vagy az összerakhatóké nagymértékben megnehezíti a formák teljes rekonstruálását.

Ami az edényformákat illeti több fazéktípust is megkülönböztethetünk, amelyeket durva vagy kevésbé durva anyagból készítettek<sup>168</sup>. Feltártak még finom és közepesen finom anyagból készült lábasokat<sup>169</sup> és tálakat<sup>170</sup>; több típusú finom anyagból készült csészét<sup>171</sup>; tűzhelytalpas edény<sup>172</sup> maradványokat, (akár a törzsből, akár a talpból vagy az edényt körülvevő övből), valamint néhány kanna<sup>173</sup>, szűrő<sup>174</sup> és fedő<sup>175</sup> töredéket is.

A Csengersimán talált kerámia több fajta technikával díszített: kidomborított, bekarcolt, bevájt, rizsszemű bemetszések a gyakoriak, néhány szor előfordul a fűzér alkalmazása is. A reliefes díszítés általában a durva anyagú kerámiára jellemző, ezzel a technikával készülnek az

<sup>168</sup> Pl.1/1-3, 6-7; 2/1-5; 3/1-5, 7-8; 4/1-2,4-5; 7/1-6; 8/1; 9/1-6,9; 11/1-2,5; 12/1-4; 13/1-6; 14/1,4,7;16/1-4,6; 17/1,6,8; 18/1-6; 19/1-2; 22/1-4; 23/1-2,5; 24/1-2; 25/1-10,12; 27/1,4,8; 28/1-2,4; 29/1-2; 31/1-4; 34/1; 35/1-2; 36/1-4; 37/1-2; 40/2,4,5,7; 41/1-5; 42/1-9,11; 43/3-4,6-10; 46-47; 48/1,3,5-10; 50/1-3,5-6; 51/1; 52/1-5,8; 53/1,3-6,9; 54/1-2,7; 55/1,3-7; 56-57; 58/1,3; 59; 63/1-2,4; 64/1,3-6,8-11; 65/1-3; 66/2-3; 67/3,6-8; 68/1-6, 9-10; 69/1,3.

<sup>169</sup> Pl.1/8; 2/7; 8/2; 11/3,7; 20/4; 26/1-3; 29/6-7; 31/5-6; 34/5; 35/3-5; 36/7-8; 44/1-3; 48/11; 49/4; 52/6; 55/8; 57/1; 58/2; 60/3,5-6; 63/5; 66/1; 69/4-6.

<sup>170</sup> Pl. 1/4; 20/1-2; 23/4; 36/7; 60/1-2, 4; 54/4, 8; 66/4 és valószínűleg: 27/2; 29/5; 54/3.

<sup>171</sup> Pl.17/4; 33/6, 8; 48/15; 65/4; 67/1; és töredékek: 5/6-7; 9/8; 19/6, 8; 26/4-7; 44/4-5; 48/12; 49/1-2; 65/5-6, 8; 67/4; 69/7-8.

<sup>172</sup> Pl. 62/1. Töredékek a talpak aljáról pl. 6/1; 10/1-2; 11/9; 15/1-2; 26/10-11; 30/6; 33/1; 38/1; 40/9; 45/3-4; 49/7; 53/1; 62/2, 4; 65/11; 70/1-2; vagy a talpakkal és az edényt a talpakkal között fogó övből pl. 2/1; 3/4-5; 6/2; 8/3; 11/10; 15/3-6; 16/7; 17/2; 20/5-7; 22/5; 26/12; 27/6-7; 30/5, 8; 33/2-3, 7; 38/2; 40/8; 41/9; 45/ 1-2, 5; 49/8-10; 52/7; 53/11; 62/3, 5; 70/3-5, 7-8.

<sup>173</sup> Pl.2/ 6, 8; 11/6; 25/13; 34/3; 40/3; 48/14.

<sup>174</sup> Pl.3/1; 5/9; 14/6; 24/6; 32/6; 45/7; 49/5.

<sup>175</sup> Pl.14/5; 34/6; 49/6.

edény szája alá tett egysoros<sup>176</sup> ritkábban a dupla övek<sup>177</sup>; az apró, csúcsos<sup>178</sup>, ovális<sup>179</sup> vagy ovális hullámos dudorok<sup>180</sup>, a fülek felső részén kidomborodó zoomorf<sup>181</sup> vagy antropomorf (?)<sup>182</sup> motívumok. Leggyakoribbak azonban a rizsszem formájú *benyomkodások* az edények száján, akár fazekak, csészék, lábasok vagy tálak esetében<sup>183</sup>; ritkábban az edény falának a felső részén<sup>184</sup>, vagy a törzsén<sup>185</sup> is előfordulnak. Az apró kerek vagy ovális benyomkodások az edények falán viszonylag ritkák<sup>186</sup>. A *bekarcolásos* motívumok egyfajta dinamizmust adnak a díszítésnek, ami mégis a megszokott sztereotípiák határán belül marad: gyakran előfordulnak láncolatot alkotó spirálok a finom vagy közeprés finom anyagból készült edények falán (fazekak, csészék, lábasok/tálak)<sup>187</sup>. Gyakoriságban az edények szája alatt kialakított vonalkázott félköríves<sup>188</sup> motívum következik, amely ritkábban a törzsön esetleg ennek alsó részén<sup>189</sup> is előfordul. Szintén bekarcolással készültek a csúcsúkkal lefelé fordított háromszögek is, amelyeket csoportokba rendeztek<sup>190</sup> függőleges kettős vagy hármas csoportokba rendezett vonalak<sup>191</sup>, létra formájú motívumok<sup>192</sup> vagy csillag alakzatok<sup>193</sup> töltik ki. Egyes esetekben szintén bekarcolással díszített az edények feneke, horgokat vagy virágmotívumokat formálva<sup>194</sup>. A spirál sorokat, a kidudorodások körüli egyszerű köröket vagy a girlandokat *hornyolással*<sup>195</sup> hozták létre. A bevájt vonalakkal díszített durva anyagú kerámia elszigetelt jelenség a Csengersimai településen<sup>196</sup>.

Az égetett agyagból készült tárgyak közül megemlíthető a három darab miniatűr keréktörédék (Pl. 51/6; 62/6–7); öt töredékes agyagnehezék, amelyből kettő csonka kúp alakú és csak az aljuk őrződött meg (Pl. 6/3, 34/7), további kettő felső részükön átfűrt gúla alakú (Pl. 38/5–8); két úgynévezett „parázstakarót” melyeknek a felső részén három szimmetrikusan elhelyezett, fogást szolgáló kidudorodás van (Pl. 49/11; és valószínűleg a Pl. 5/8); valamint három nem meghatározott funkcionálitású töredéket – egyik metszetében négyzetű és egyik vége piramis alakú (Pl. 21/5); másik égetett agyagtárgy metszete ugyancsak nagyjából négyzetű (pl. 54/6) és a harmadik, egy háromszögű töredék, egyik oldalán kimetszett díszítéssel (Pl. 38/4). A kötányok ritkák Csengersimán: előkerült egy két részből álló kööntőforma, melyet valószínűleg bronztű öntéséhez használta, valamint egy obszidián penge (Pl. 70/10) és több darab, különböző méretű örlökő töredék.

A Csengersimán talált kerámia formai és díszítőmotívumainak analógiáit megtalálhatjuk a korai felsőszöcsi kultúra telephelyein: Barcánfalva– *Cetățuie/Cetățe*, Bujánháza – *Coasta Boineștilor*, Kiskolcs–*Silögödrök*, Nevetlenfalu–*Kiserdő* és *Modicitag / Mondicitag*, Máragyulafalva– *Valea Mestecăniș*, Halmi–*Vámhivatal*, Jód– *Podereiul Dumbrăviței*, Jánkmajtis–*Halom-dűlő*, Kvasove II, Hagymáslápos– *Ciurgău*, Aranyosmeggyes– *Șuculeu*, Cioncaș, *Schweizer-tag* és *Akasztó-domb*, Kismajtény– a Nagykároly-Szarmárnémeti országút mellett, Szarvaszó– *După Ștrec*, Szarvaszó– *Malom*, Szatmárnémeti– *Szamos strand*, Szinérváralja– *IAS*

<sup>176</sup> Pl. 1/1,6; 5/1; 7/1,3; 16/1; 17/1; 18/1-4; 24/1; 25/1-3; 27/1; 28/1-2; 31/1, 3; 34/1; 36/1-2; 40/2; 41/1-2; 43/6-9; 46/1-5/; 52/1, 4-5; 53/3; 59/1-4; 62/1; 63/2; 65/3; 68/1-2.

<sup>177</sup> Pl. 43/10.

<sup>178</sup> Pl. 11/5; 48/15; 59/2.

<sup>179</sup> Pl. 65/3; 68/1-2.

<sup>180</sup> Pl. 54/1; 55/7.

<sup>181</sup> Pl. 14/7; 47/3; 50/1; 58/5.

<sup>182</sup> Pl. 2/3:

<sup>183</sup> Pl. 1/2, 8; 5/3; 8/2; 9/3; 11/3; 12/1-2; 14/1-2; 17/7; 20/1; 22/3; 24/2; 25/6-10; 26/1-2; 27/1,8; 29/5-6; 33/8; 34/5; 35/3-5; 36/6-7; 37/1-2; 40/1; 42/1-2; 48/1-2; 50/4; 52/6, 8; 53/1-2; 54/4, 8; 58/4; 60/1-2; 63/1; 65/1-2; 66/1, 4; 68/9-10; 69/4-5.

<sup>184</sup> Pl. 11/6.

<sup>185</sup> Pl. 65/5.

<sup>186</sup> Pl. 19/6; 33/6.

<sup>187</sup> Pl. 2/2, 8; 11/6; 20/1-2; 27/8; 34/3; 36/6-7; 37/1, 3; 52/8; 53/8; 60/1-2; 65/10; 66/1, 4.

<sup>188</sup> Pl. 8/1; 17/8; 27/8; 35/3-4; 36/6-7; 37/3; 44/1; 55/8; 69/5.

<sup>189</sup> Pl. 22/9; 29/9.

<sup>190</sup> Pl. 9/5; 22/3; 24/2; 34/2; 37/1-2.

<sup>191</sup> Pl. 5/6; 8/2; 19/7; 49/4.

<sup>192</sup> Pl. 33/8; 66/4.

<sup>193</sup> Pl. 37/4.

<sup>194</sup> Pl. 11/8; 22/9; 23/7; 39/4-5; 54/8.

<sup>195</sup> Pl. 11/3; 16/4; 20/4; 24/4-5; 25/13; 33/6; 49/1, 3; 58/7.

<sup>196</sup> Pl. 19/10; 28/3; 38/2; 66/3.

Külön esetet képeznek a Szlovákia dél-keleti részén előkerült kora felsőszőcsi leletek: Hnojné, Lastovce, Ruská, Vel'ké Raškovce és a Zemplínske Kopčany-i sírok egy része. Ezek nyilvánvalóan egy regionális változatot alkotnak, úgy az edények formáját mint azok díszítését tekintve. A kimetszett díszítés hiánya, ami egyébként jellemző a felsőszőcsi kultúra teljes nyugati területére, a bekarcolt díszítés kis számú és jórészt eltérő motívumainak jelenléte, valamint a talpas csészék, kannák, lábasok és tálak teszik egyedivé az innen származó leletegyüttest.

#### IV. Következtetések

A Határátkelő Felsőszőcs I települése a terasznak csak a nyugati oldalát foglalja el, az Erge patakot nyugatra eső területet és nincs fölötté itt Felsőszőcs II település. De ez utóbbi telep néhány objektuma megfigyelhető volt a lelőhelyek ezen a részén is. Tehát Csengersimán sem, miképpen egyetlen más Felsőszőcs lelőhelyen sem volt észlelhető a stratigráfiában az egymást követő fázisok egymásratelepülése.

A csengersimai Határátkelő település fontossága abból adódik, hogy jelen pillanatig egyike a kora felsőszőcsi kultúra legnagyobb arányban feltárt lelőhelyének a telep által elfoglalt területhez viszonyítva. Számításaink szerint a középbronzkori településnek mintegy 80%-a volt feltársa, a fennmaradt 20% a terasz nyugati oldalán található, ez maradt feltáratlan. Ez egyrészről a kutatás módjának másrészről pedig a régészeti feltárás karakterének köszönhető. Az 1998–1999-ben végzett megelőző ásatások 1867 objektumot tártak fel, amelyek több korhoz tartoztak, 82 közülük a középbronzkorhoz és 62 objektum más korokból származott (50 volt római kori, 9 későbronzkori, 2 koraközépkori és egyben találtak összekeveredett anyagot a későbronzkor és a római kor idejéből), ezekben Felsőszőcs I kultúrához tartozó kerámiatöredéket is találtak. Összesen 144 objektum jelzi a középbronzkori település kiterjedését. A felsőszőcsi kultúra ehhez a fázisához tartozó többi 27 lelőhelyen, egyedül Aknaszlatinán tárták fel a település területének kb. a 30%-át, míg a kiskolcsi, a bujánházi, a hagymáslaposi, az Aranyosmeggyes–Suculeu, Kvasovo II és a Nevetlenfalu–Kiserdő és Mondicitag telepek kisebb mértékben voltak feltáratlan. Akárcsak az aknaszlatinai vagy a hagymáslaposi telep esetében, a bronzkori szintet erősen bolygatták a későbbi megtelűlések objektumai. Csengersima esetében leginkább a római kori telep bolygatta ezt a szintet. A kultúrréteg 25–40 cm vastagságú volt amiből nagyszámú kerámia és néhány égetett agyagtárgy származik.

Úgy a lakások és gödrök, akárcsak a kerámia anyag megegyezik a többi lelőhelyen található Felsőszőcs I leletekkel, inkább régióbeli mint kronológiai eltérések figyelhetők meg. Például, a csengersimai település közelebb áll e kultúra Szamos síkságán feltárt lelőhelyeihez, mint a keleti és észak-keleti régióhoz. Értjük ez alatt a kimetszett kerámia rendkívül alacsony voltát a nyugati részen és igen nagy számát a keleti, észak-keleti vidéken. Ez a tény változatlan marad a műveltség második fázisának során is. Ugyanúgy, a nyugati vidéken erősen észlelhető az Ottomány kultúra hatása, ellentétben a déli és a keleti zónával, ahol inkább a Wiettenberg kultúra hatása jelenik meg.

Újra említeni kell azt a tényt, hogy a stratigráfia egyetlen felsőszőcsi településen sem támasztotta alá a műveltség belső kronológiájára vonatkozó feltevéseket. Véleményem szerint, amíg nem publikálják a régebbi kutatásokat, amelyekre a különböző elméletek felállításánál hivatkoznak, és nem áll rendelkezésre megfelelő stratigráfiai helyzet amely a feltételezések bármelyikét alátámasztaná, a két fázisra osztás a legmegfelelőbb a jelen pillanatban. Egyiket a bekarcolásokkal díszített kerámia a másikat a ki- illetve bevésessel díszített kerámia jellemzi. A Felsőszőcs kultúra korai szakaszának keltezésében a kiskolcsi és a bujánházi települések leletei maradtak továbbra is meghatározóak: Kiskolcson egy földbemélyített lakásban talált függő öntő formája, és a bujánházi bronzkarperec. Mellettük a keltezést támasztják alá a Felsőszőcs I – Wiettenberg II, III – Ottomány II, III, Mad'arovce stb. kultúrák közötti kapcsolatokból eredő megfigyelések is. Eszerint a Felsőszőcs kultúra kezdete nagy valószínűséggel a Reinecke Bz A2 vagy Bz B fázissal kezdődik és egészen a Reinecke Bz C időszakig tart. A Csengersimán talált kerámia anyag teljes elemzésének befejezéséig valamint a többi lelőhellyel való összevetésükig, nyitott kérdés marad, hogy a Határátkelő települése a Reinecke Bz. B1, B2 periódusból származik és egy árvíz nyomán pusztult-e el.

<sup>197</sup> Könyvészeti anyagként lásd a Felsőszőcs I leletek repertoriумát

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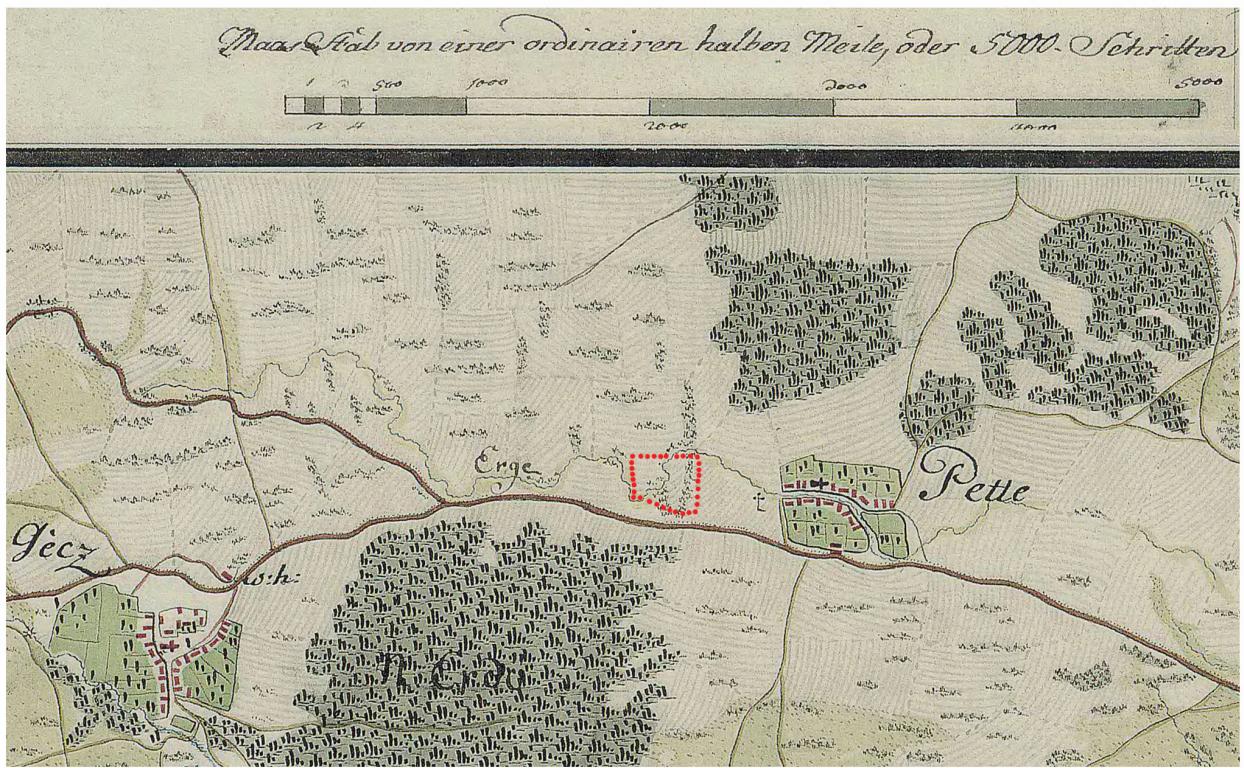
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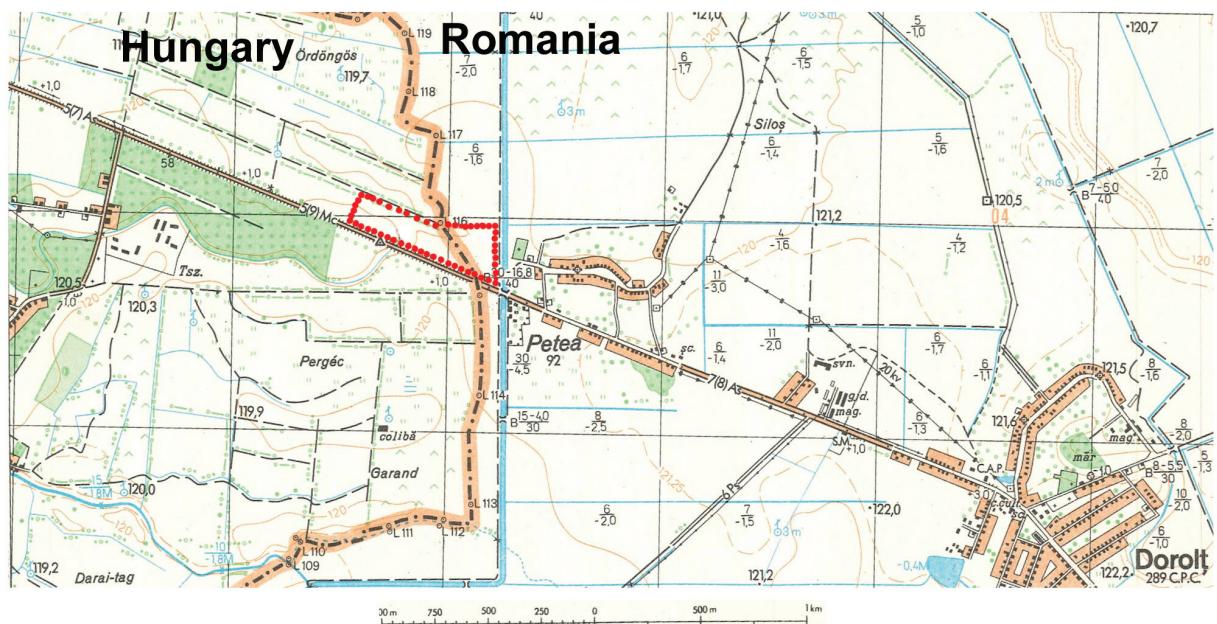
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## ABREVIATIONS

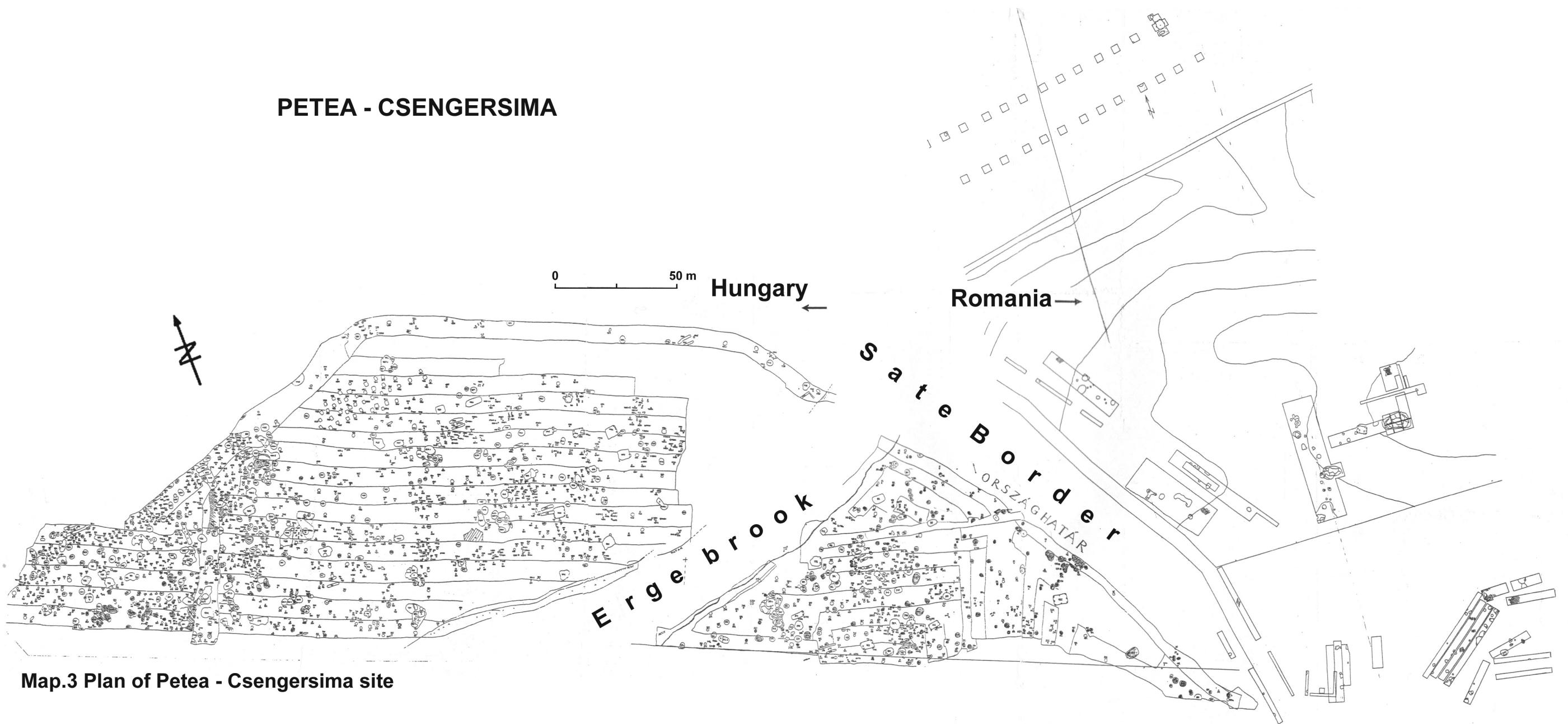
ActaArchHung	Acta Archaeologica Academiae Scientiarum Hungaricae, Budapest
ActaMP	Acta Musei Porolissensis, Zalău
ArchÉrt	Archaeologiai Értesítő, Budapest
ArchRozhl	Arheologické Rozhledy, Praha
AVANS	Archeologické Výskumy a Nálezy na Slovensku, Nitra
BerRGK	Bericht der Römisch-Germanischen Kommission des Deutschen Archäologischen Instituts, Frankfurt am Main
BiblMarmatia	Bibliotheca Marmatia, Baia Mare
CommArchHung	Communicationes Archaeologicae Hungariae, Budapest
CronCercArch	Cronica cercetărilor arheologice
EphemNap	Ephemeris Napocensis, Cluj-Napoca
FolArch	Folia Archaeologica, Budapest
JAMÉvk	A Nyíregyházi Josa András Múzeum Évkönyve, Nyíregyháza
KözlDebrecen	Közlemények a Debreceni M. Kir. Tisza István – Tudomány – Egyetem Régészeti Intézetéből, Debrecen
MFMÉvk	A Móra Ferenc Múzeum Évkönyve-Studia Archaeologica, Szeged
PZ	Prähistorische Zeitschrift, Berlin
PAS	Prähistorische Archäologie in Südosteuropa, Berlin
RevBistriței	Revista Bistriței, Bistrița
SCIV (A)	Studii și Cercetări de Istorie Veche (și Arheologie), București
SlovArch	Slovenská Archeológia, Nitra
SovArh	Sovetskaja Arheologija, Moskva
StComSatu Mare	Studii și Comunicări Satu Mare, Satu Mare
SympThrac	Symposia Thracologica



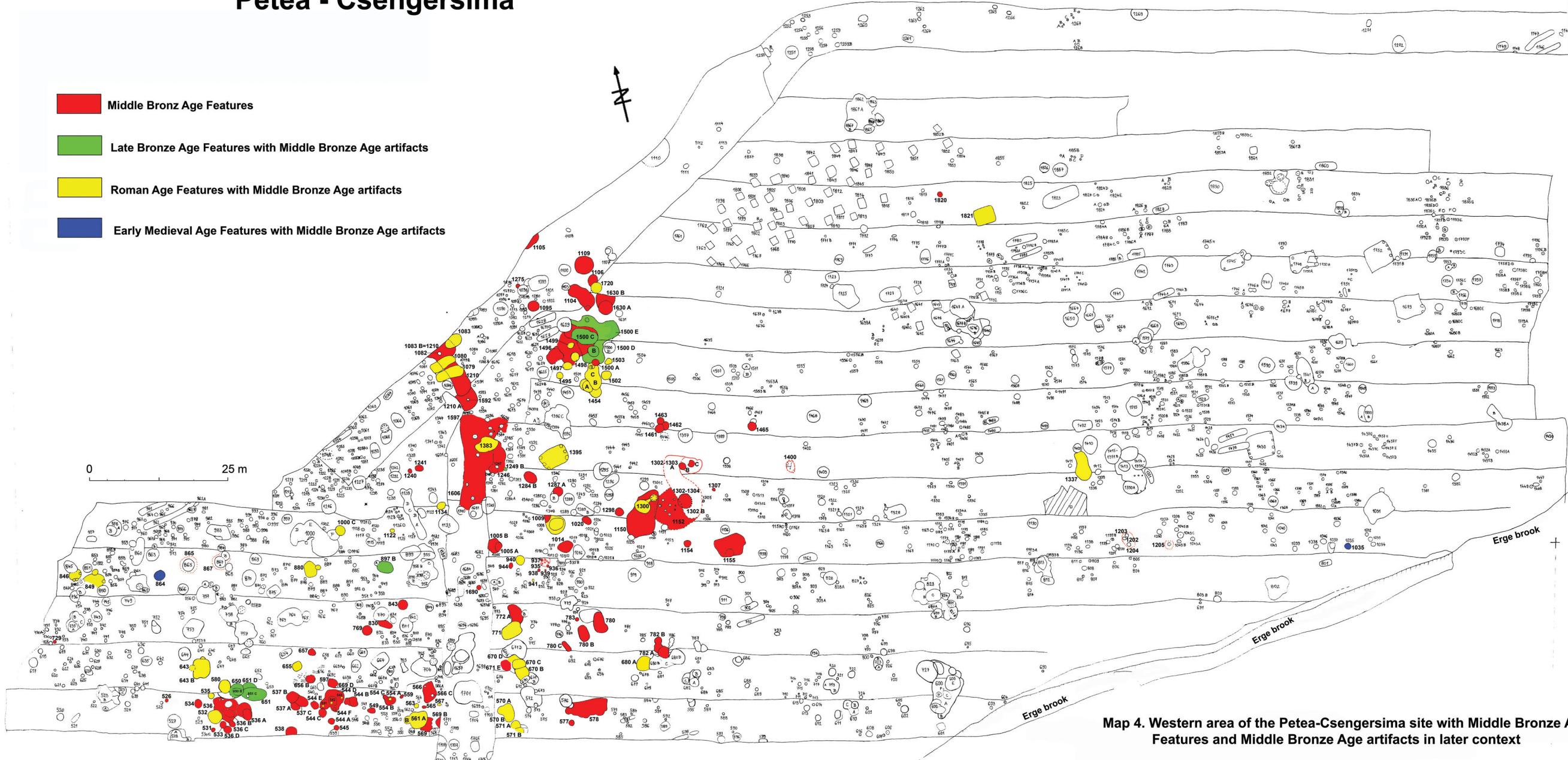
Map 1. Military map from 1783-1785 with Petea-Csengersima site.

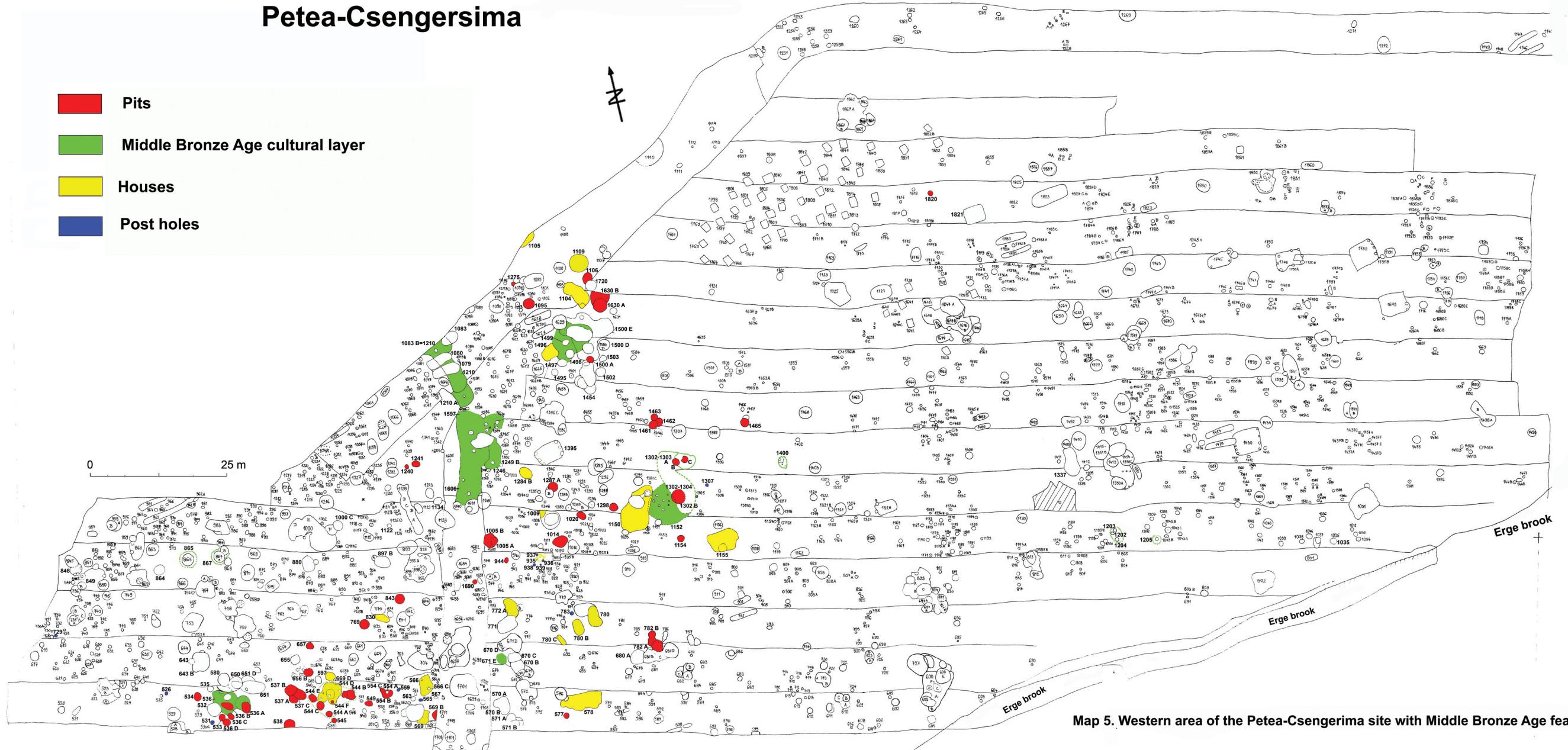


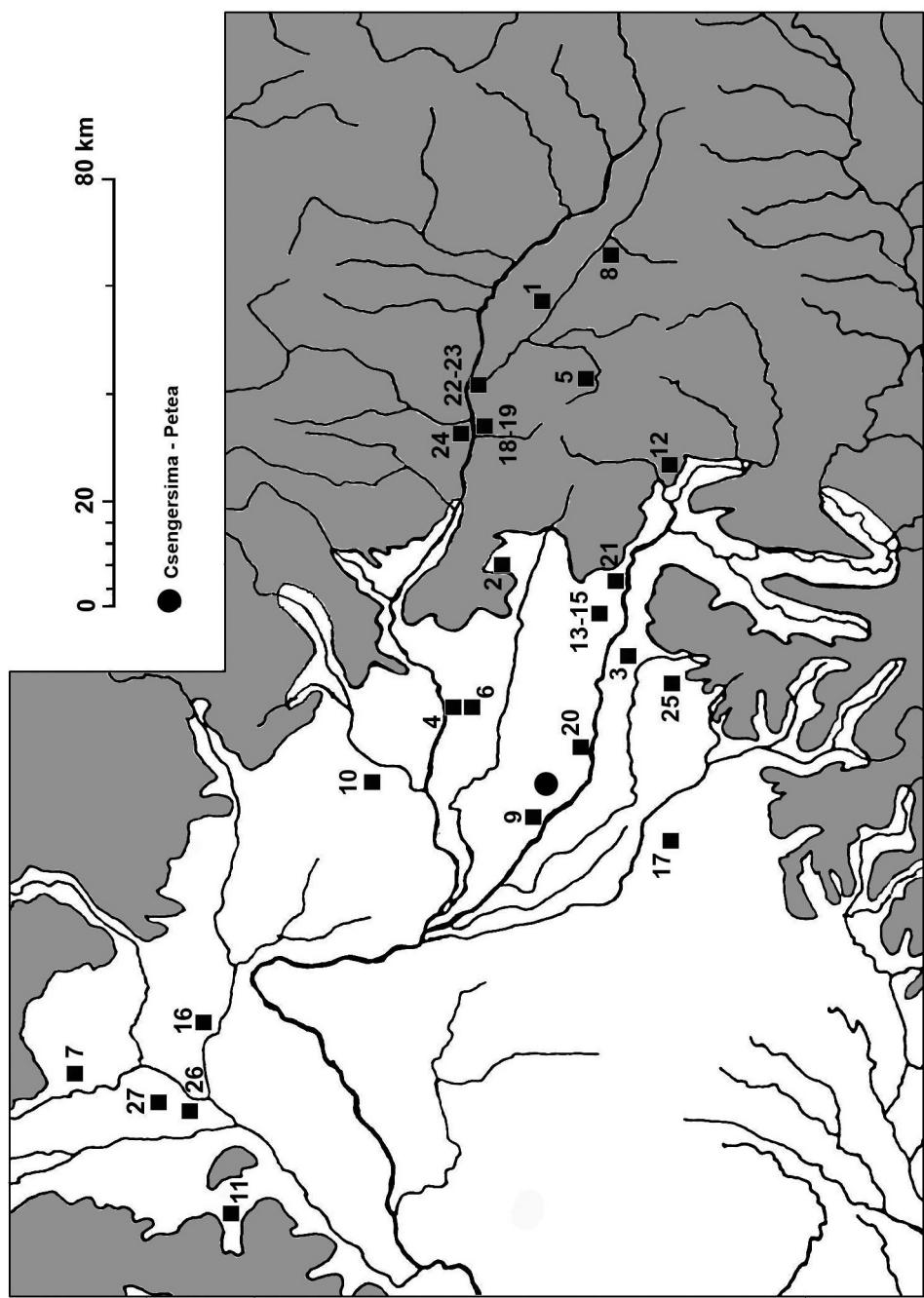
Map 2. Location map with Petea-Csengersima site.



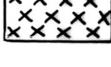
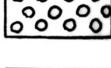
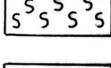
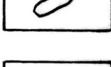
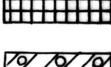
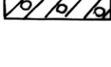
## Petea - Csengersima

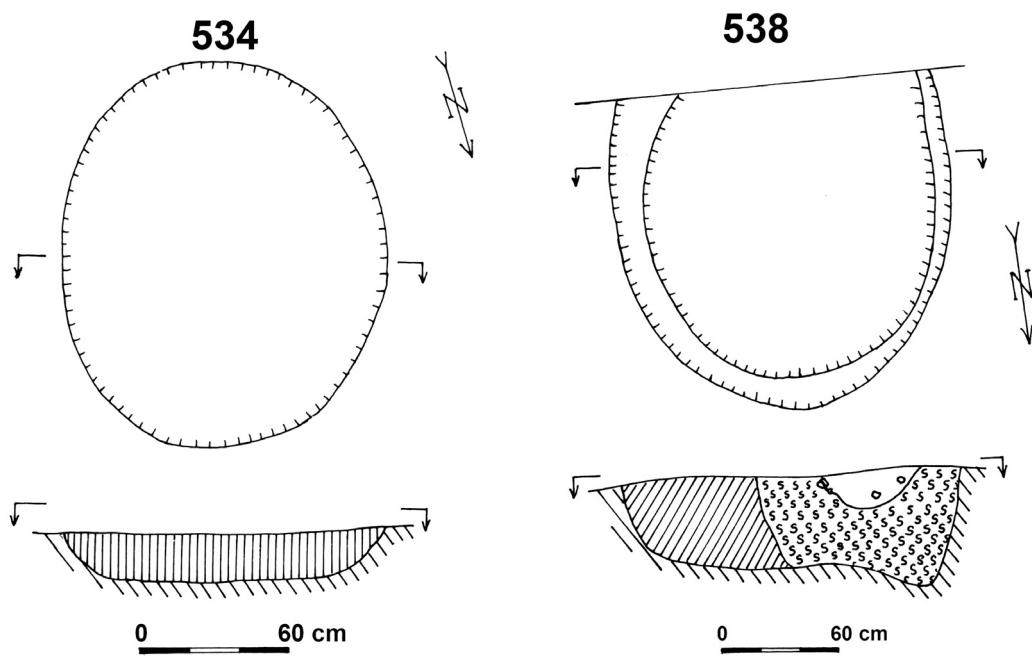
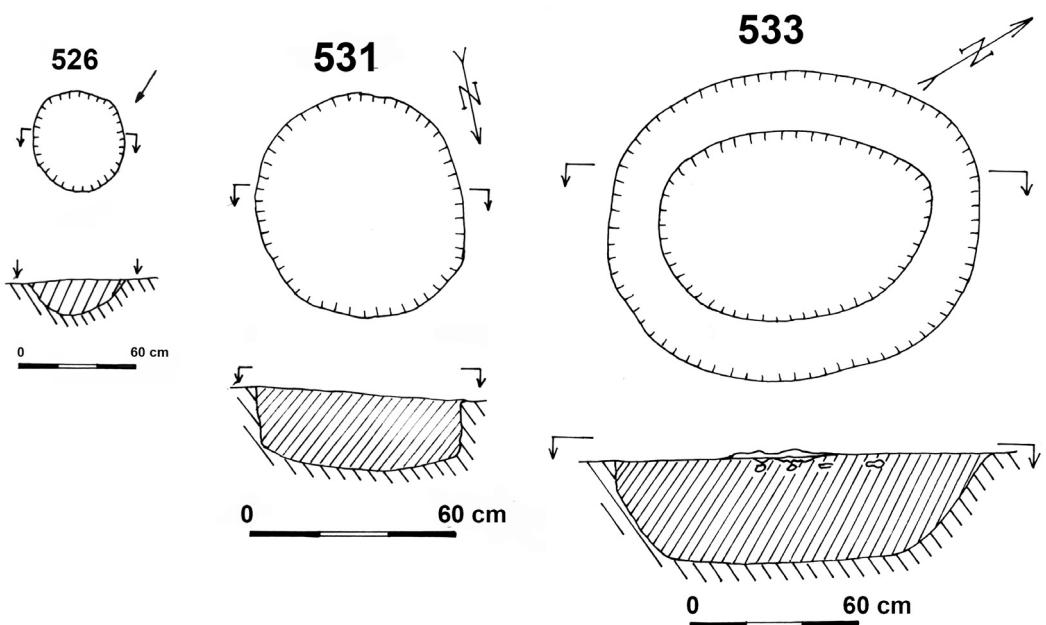






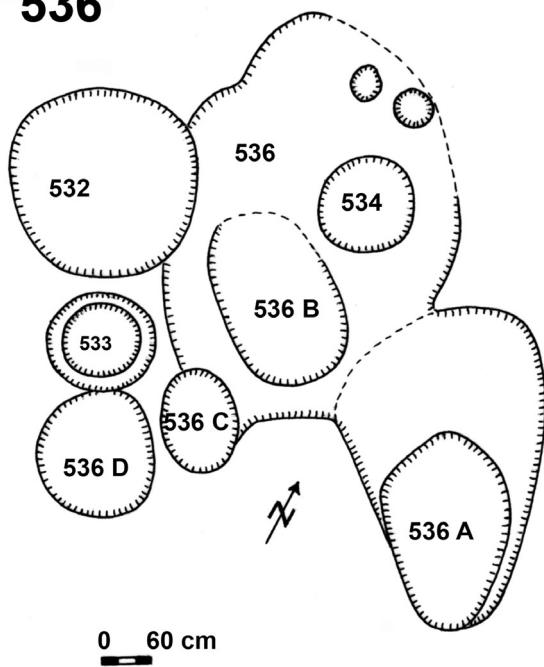
**Map 6. Location map with the Suciu de Sus I sites mentioned in text.**

-  **grey-yellowish**
-  **yellow sterile soil**
-  **yellow-reddish**
-  **dark grey**
-  **dark**
-  **yellow**
-  **grey**
-  **sherds**
-  **daub**
-  **fired clay**
-  **grey-yellowish with daub**

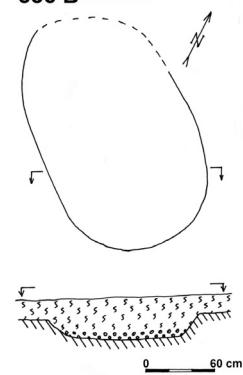


**Fig.1. Drawings of features no.526, 531, 533, 534, 538**

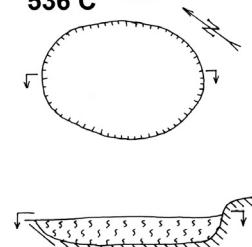
**536**



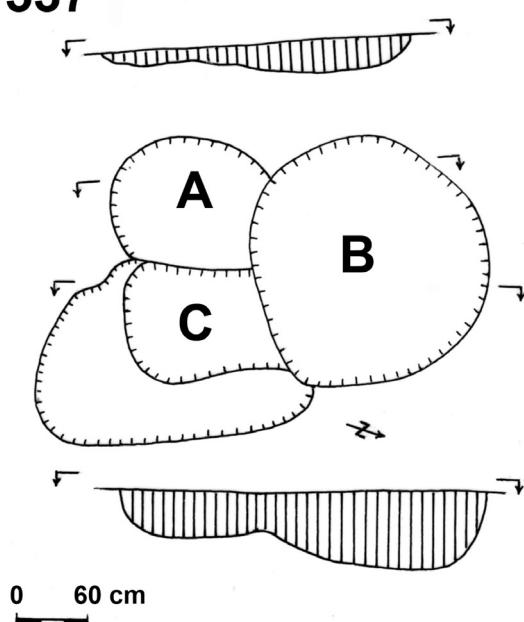
**536 B**



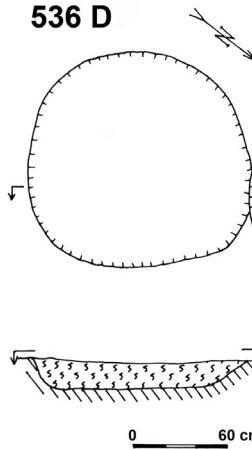
**536 C**



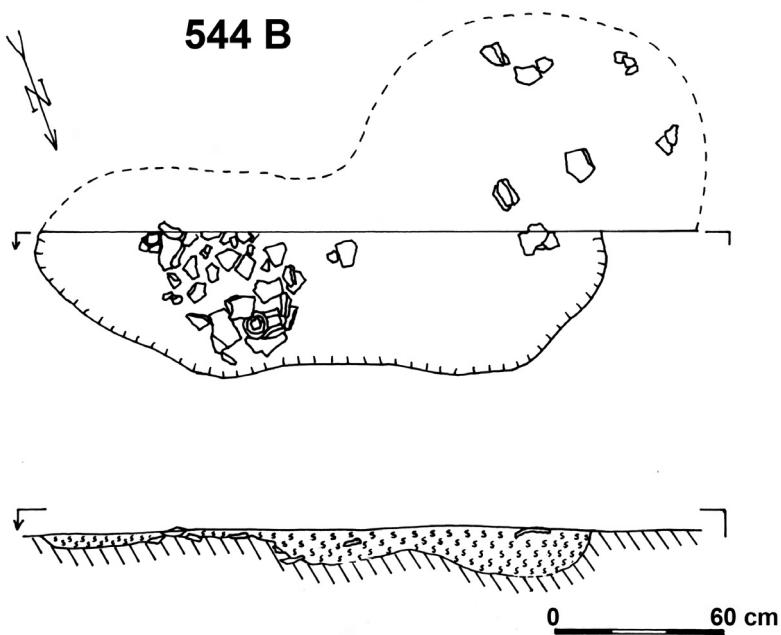
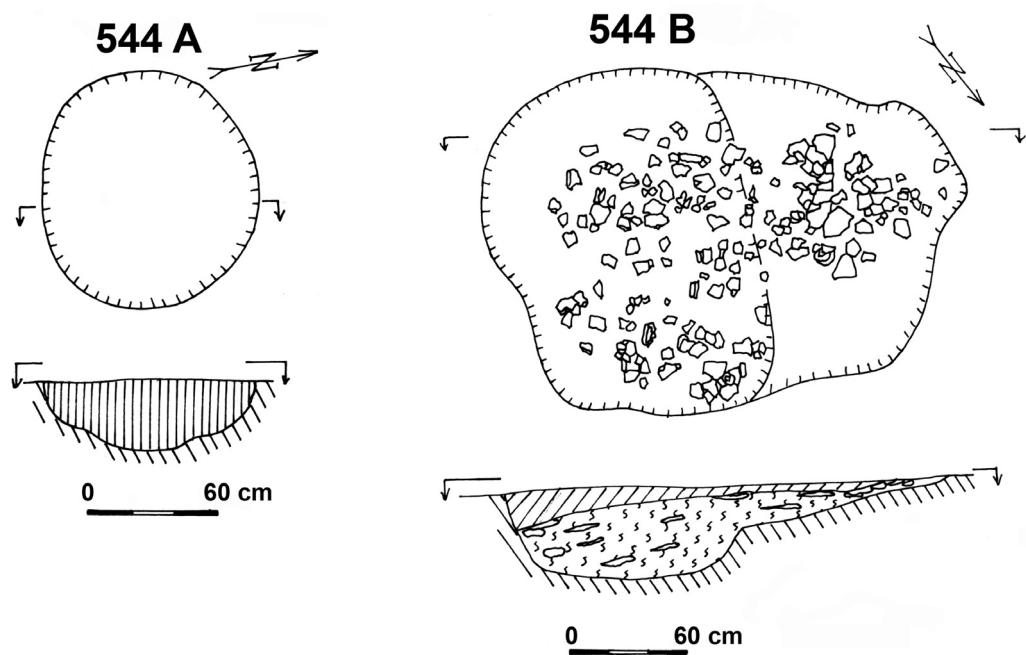
**537**



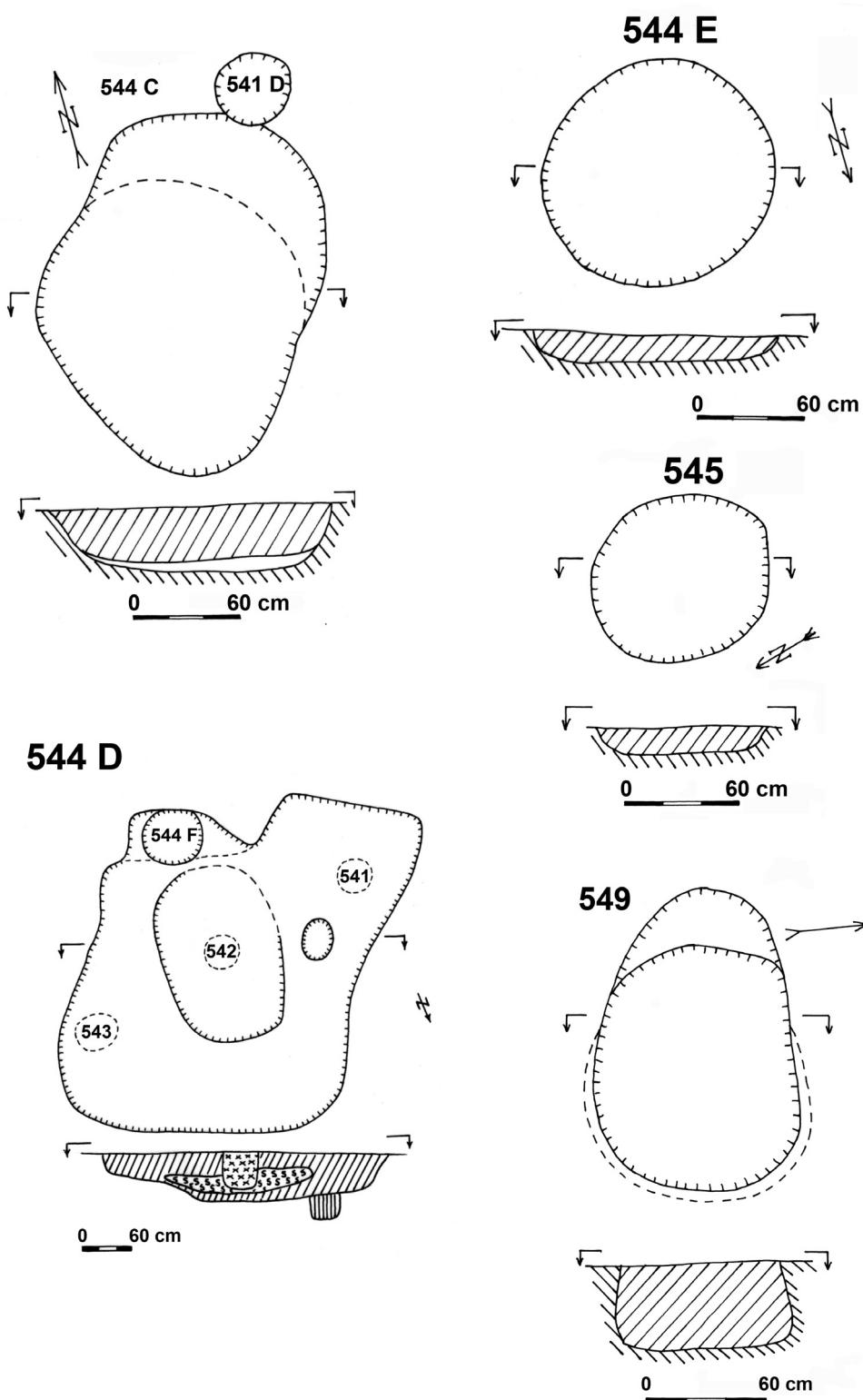
**536 D**



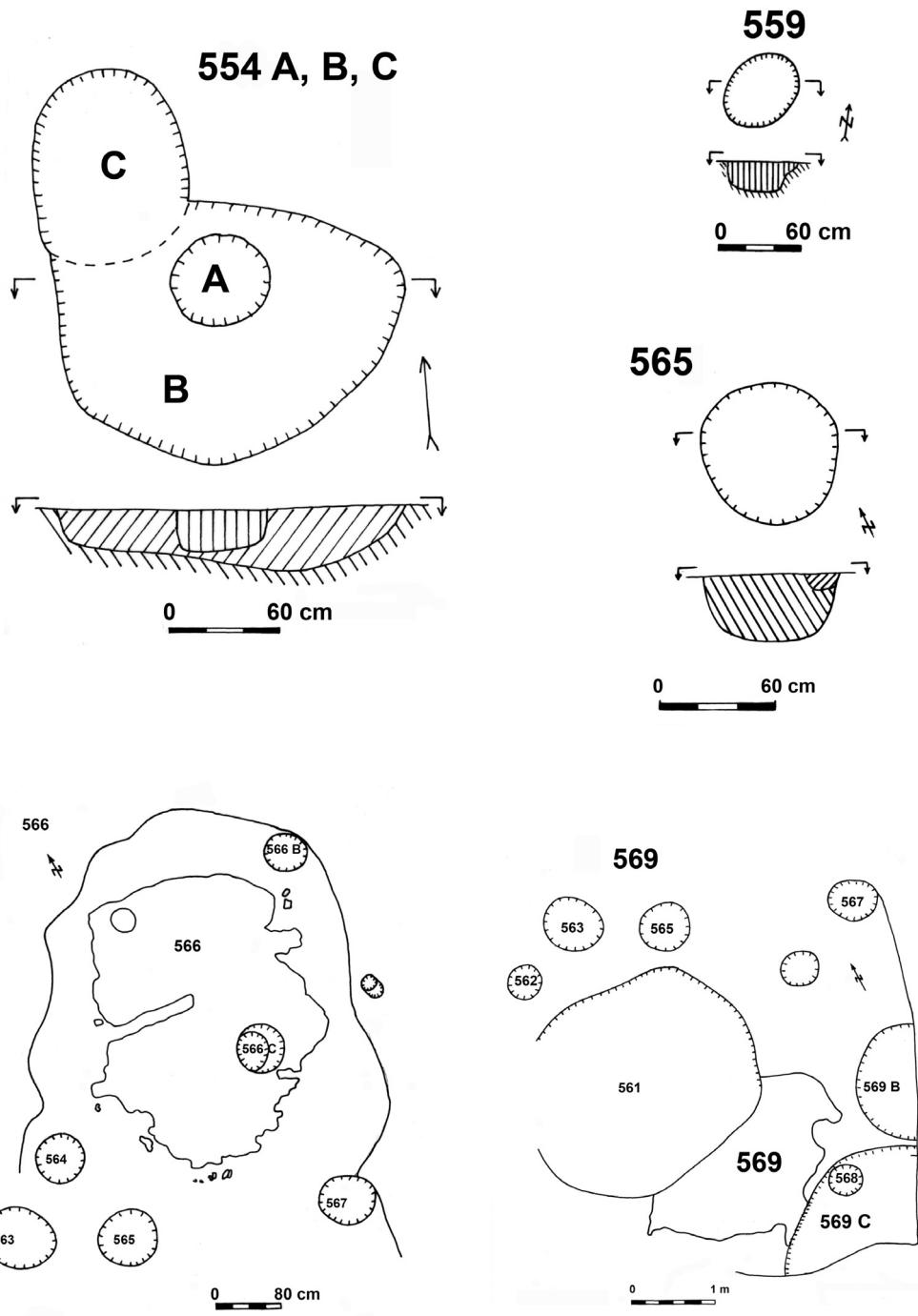
**Fig.2. Drawings of features no.536, 536 B, 536 C, 536 D, 537.**



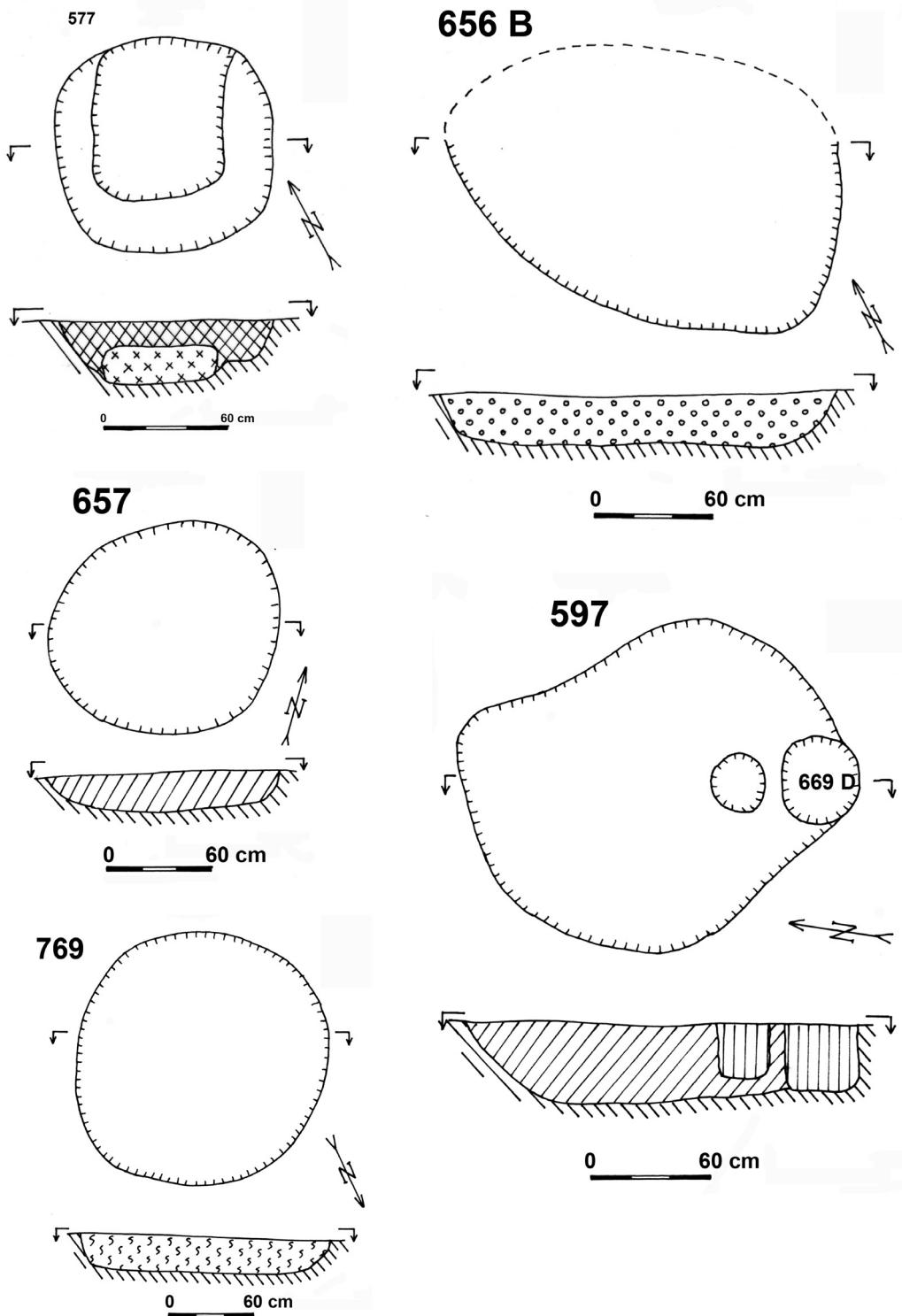
**Fig.3. Drawings of features no.544 A, 544 B.**



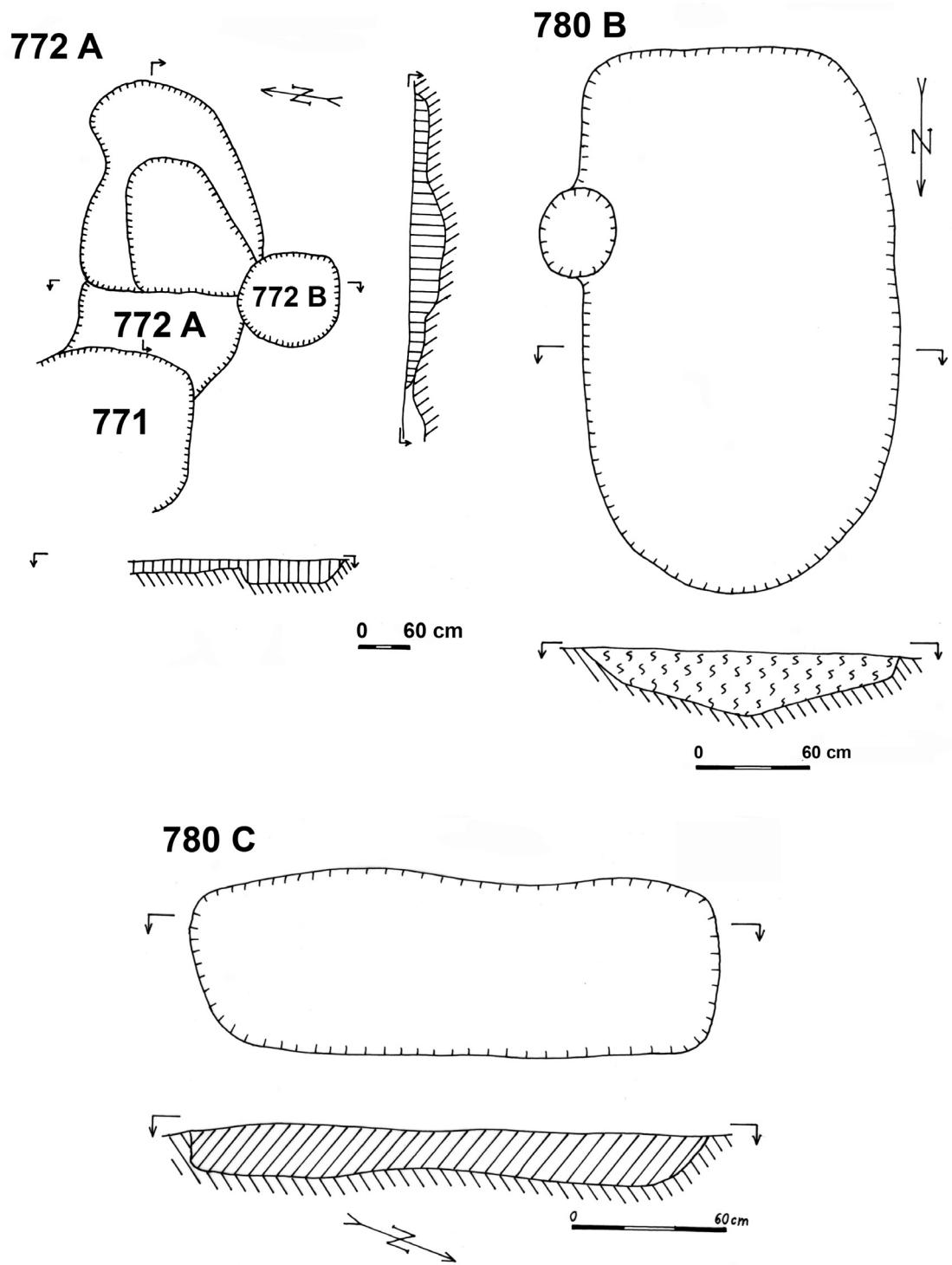
**Fig.4. Drawings of features no.544 C, 544 E, 544 D, 545, 549.**



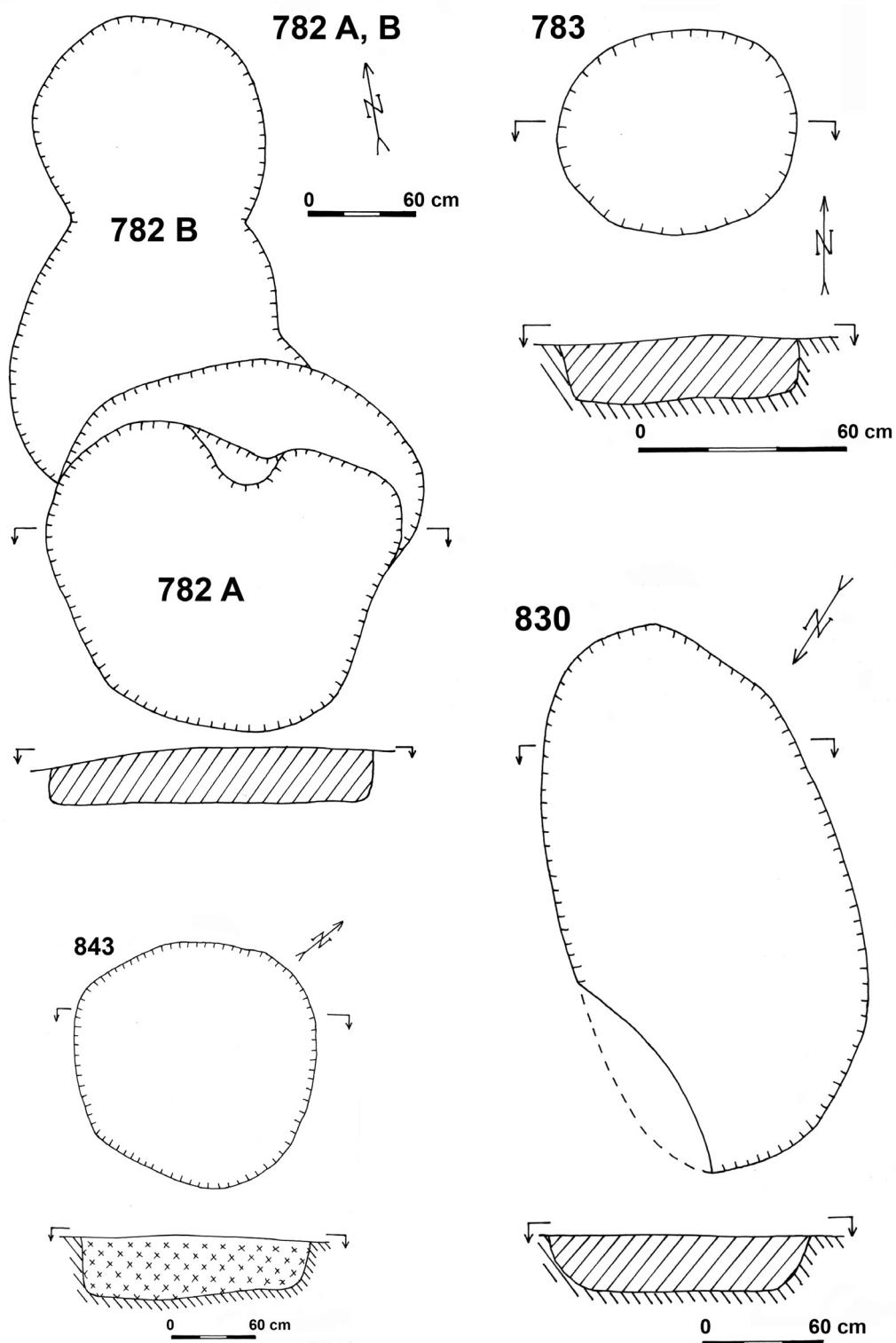
**Fig.5. Drawings of features no.554, 559, 565, 566, 569.**



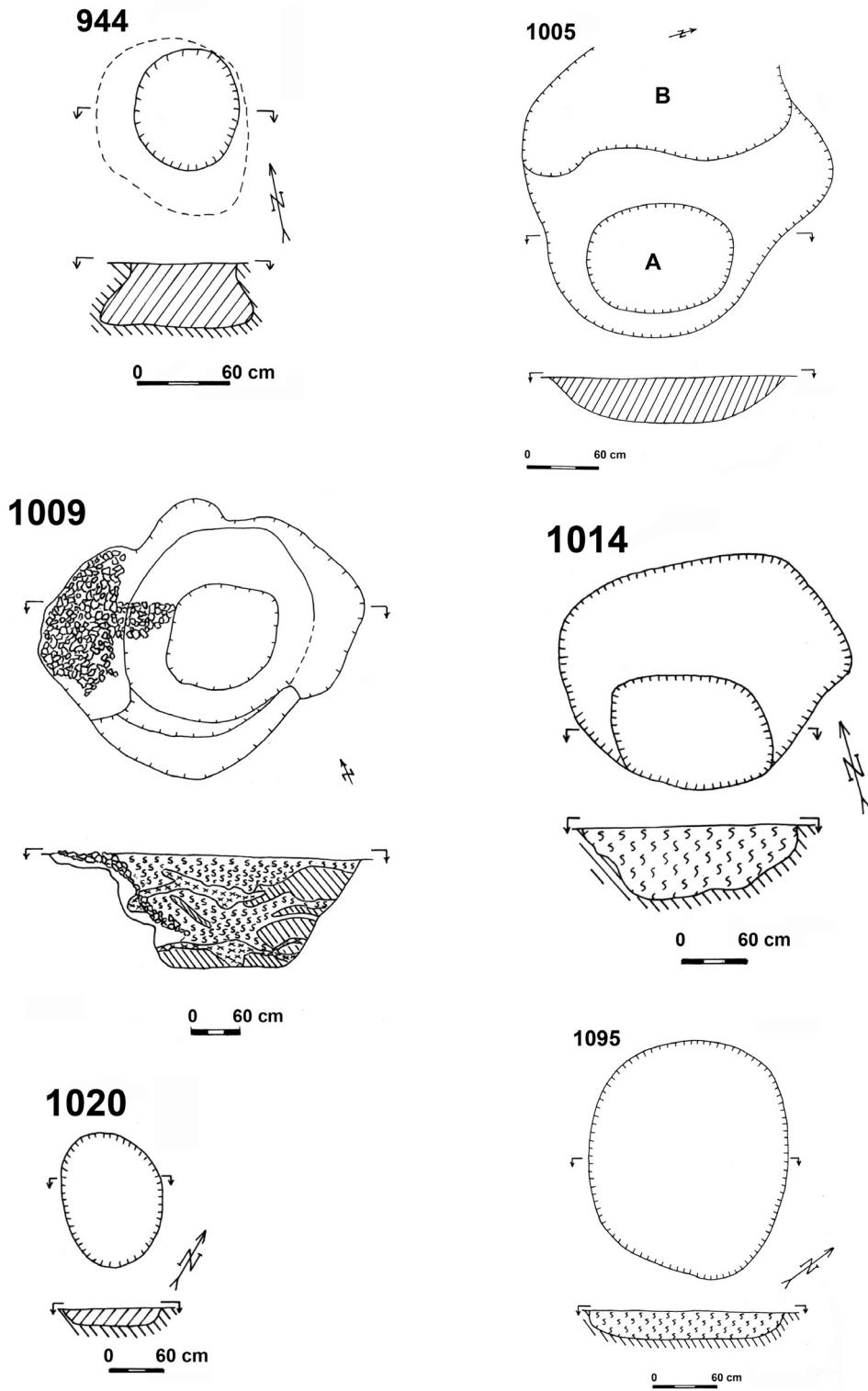
**Fig.6. Drawings of features no.577, 597, 656 B, 657, 769.**



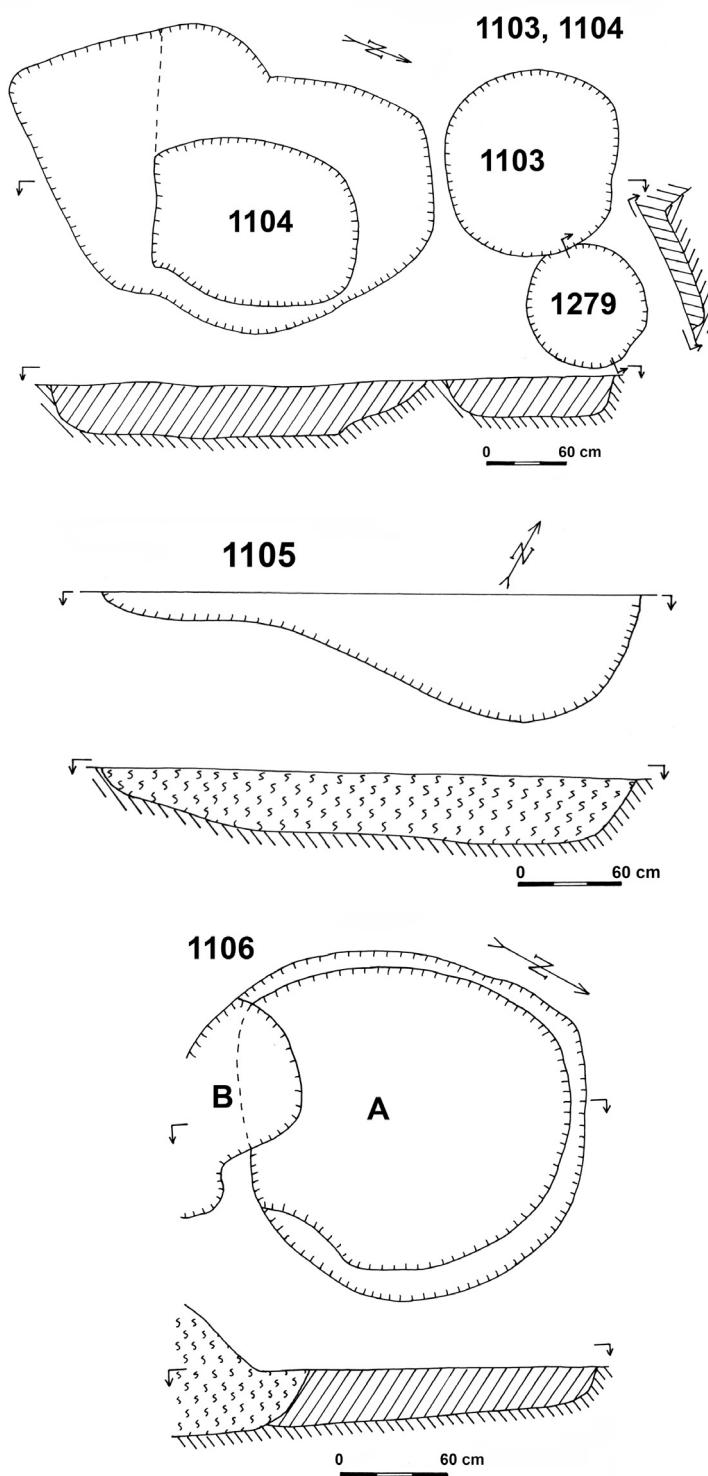
**Fig.7. Drawings of features no.772 A, 780 B, 780 C.**



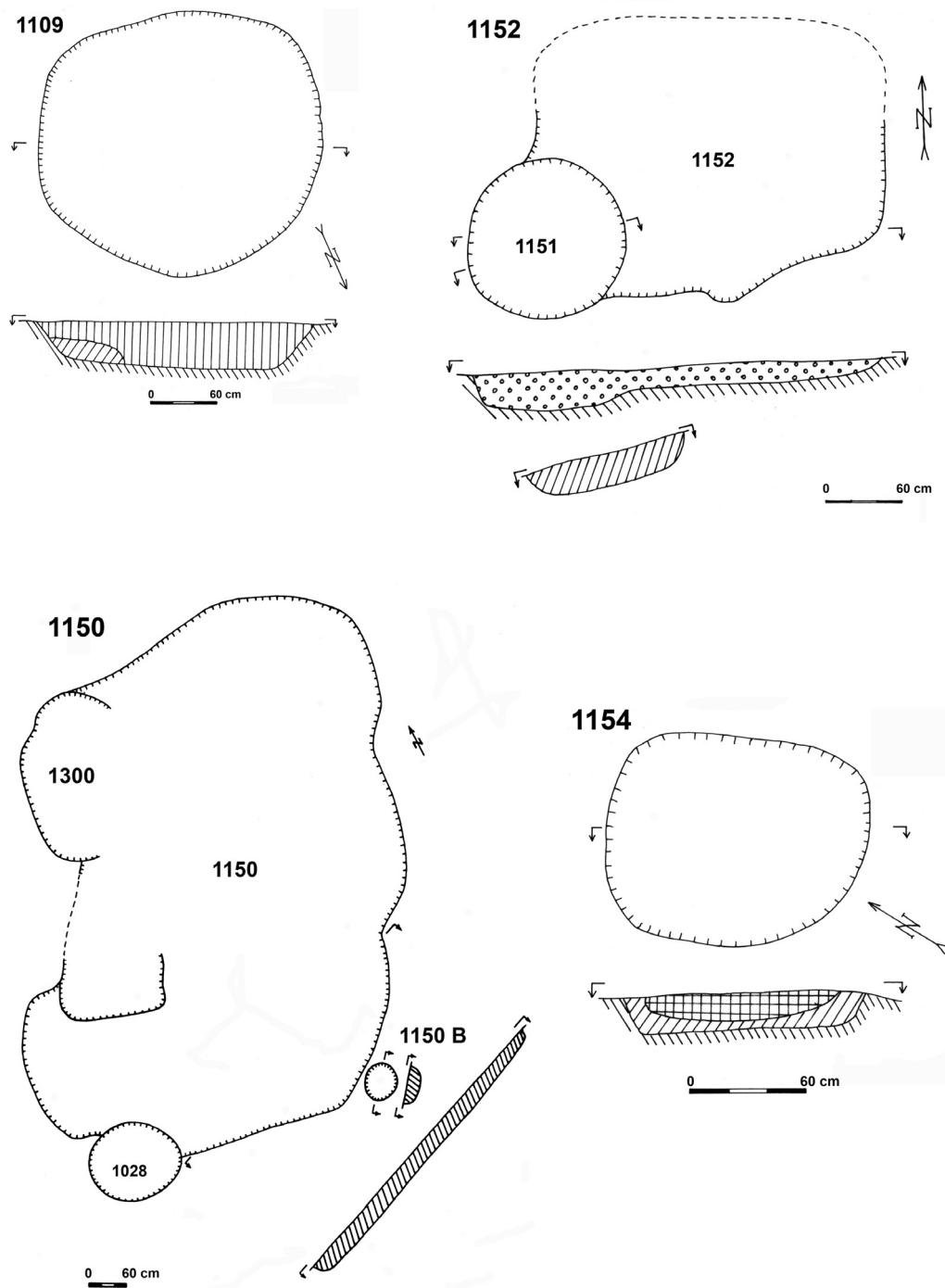
**Fig.8. Drawings of features no.782, 783, 830, 843.**



**Fig.9. Drawings of features no.944, 1005, 1009, 1014, 1020, 1095.**

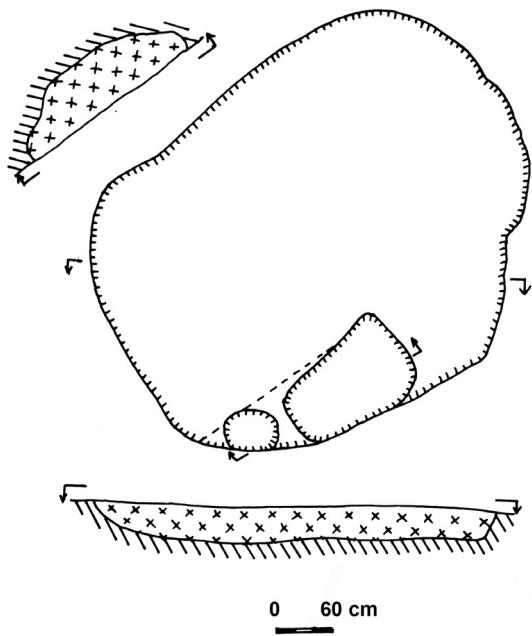


**Fig.10, Drawings of features no.1103, 1104, 1105, 1106.**

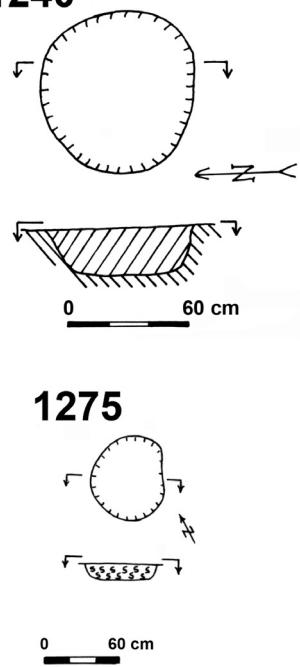


**Fig.11. Drawings of features no. 1109, 1152, 1150, 1154.**

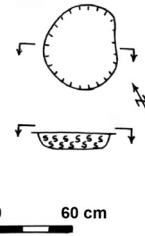
**1155**



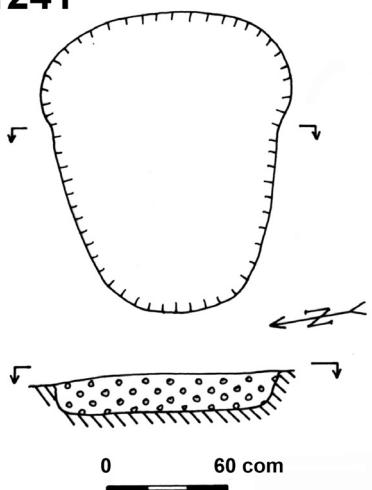
**1240**



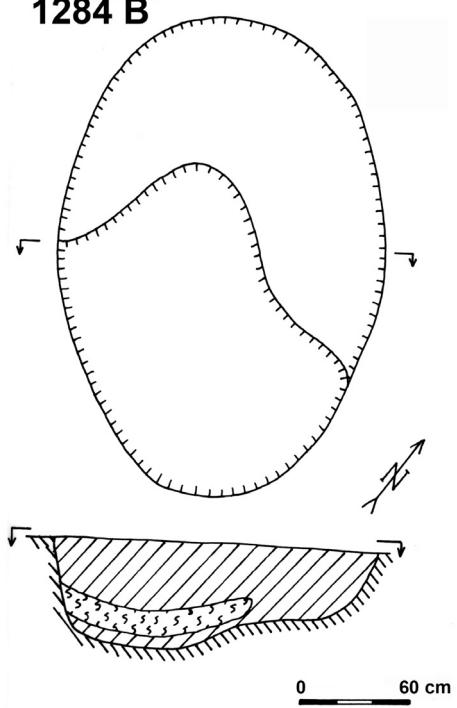
**1275**



**1241**



**1284 B**



**Fig.12. Drawings of features no. 1155, 1240, 1241, 1275, 1284 B**

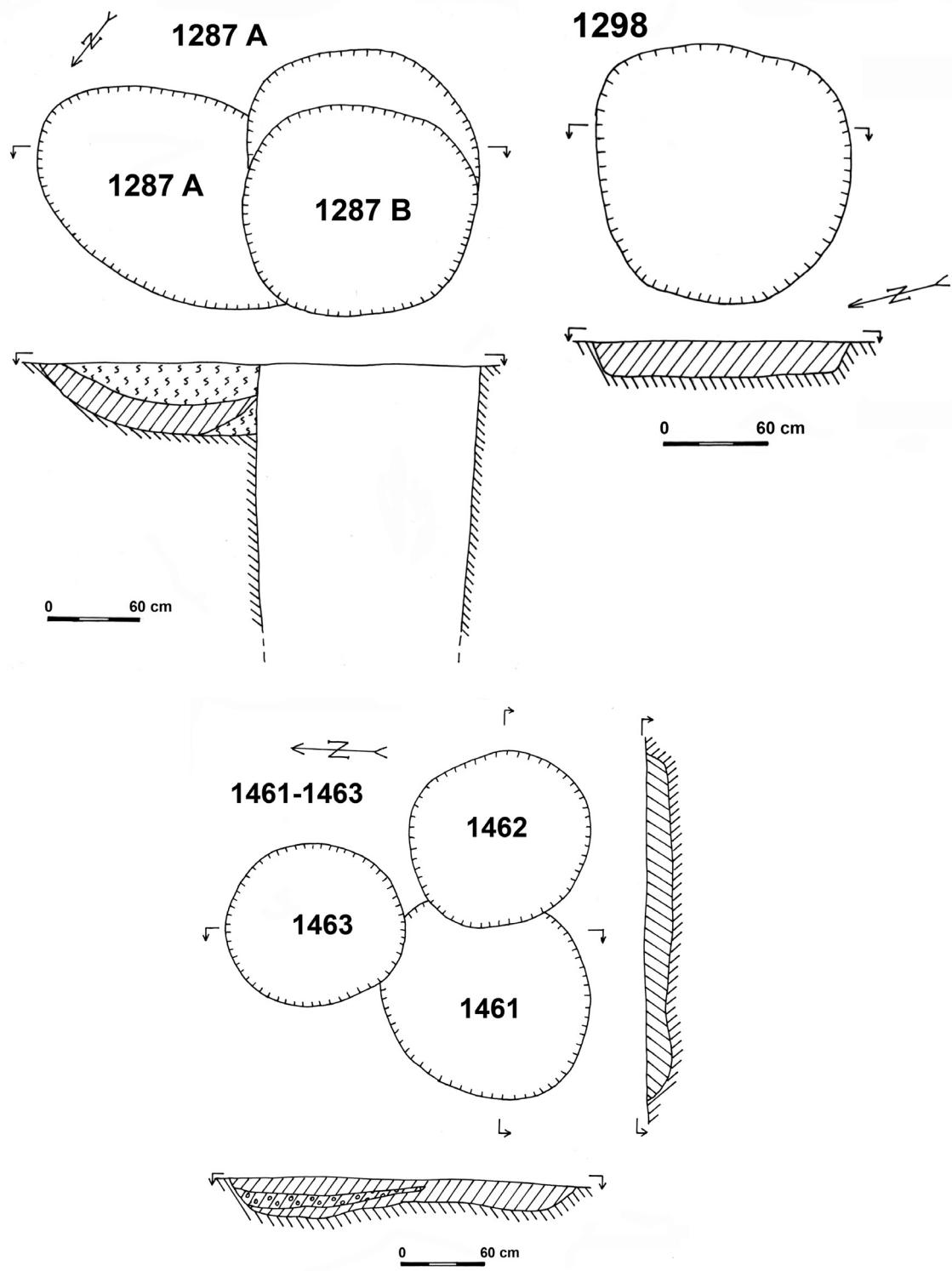
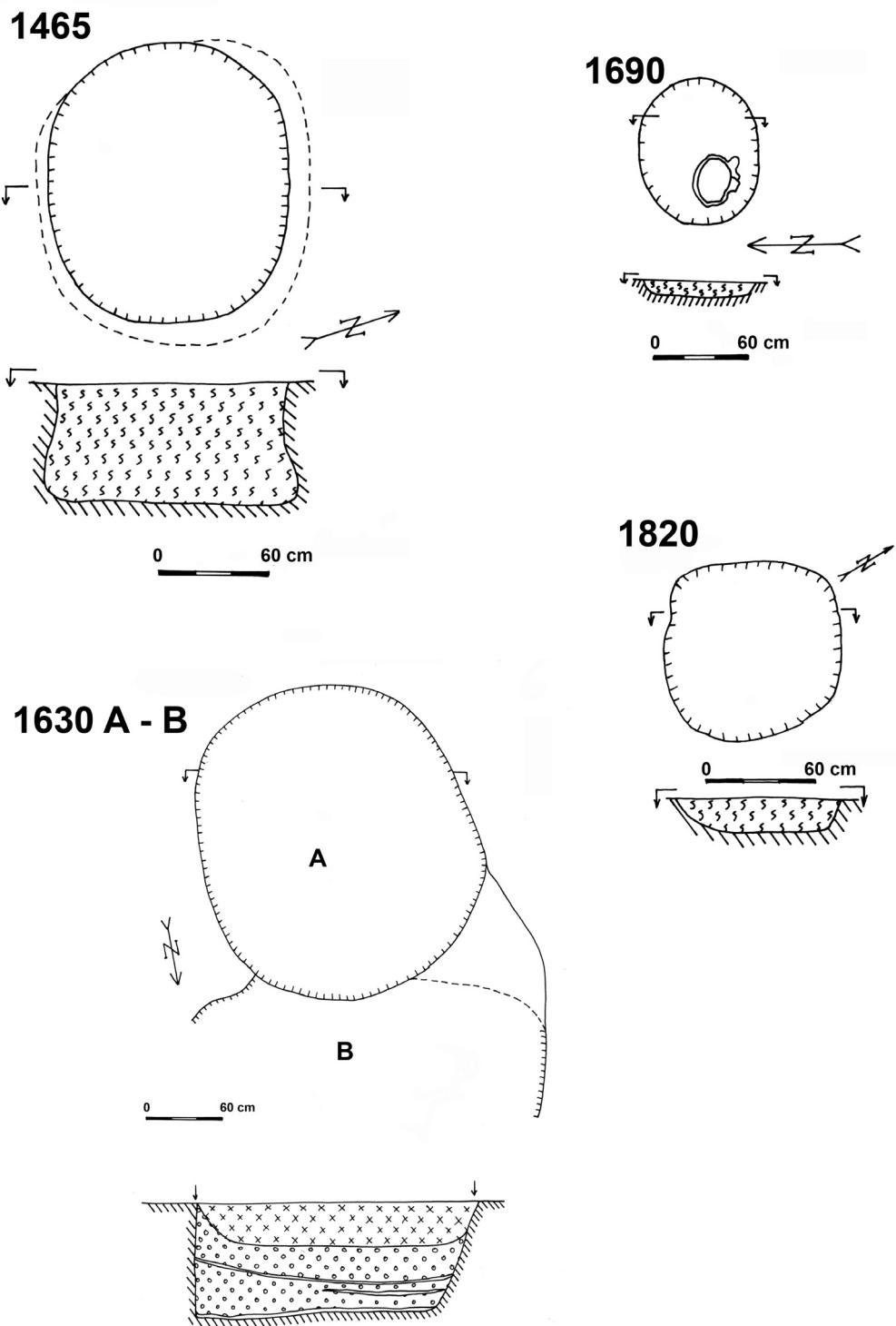
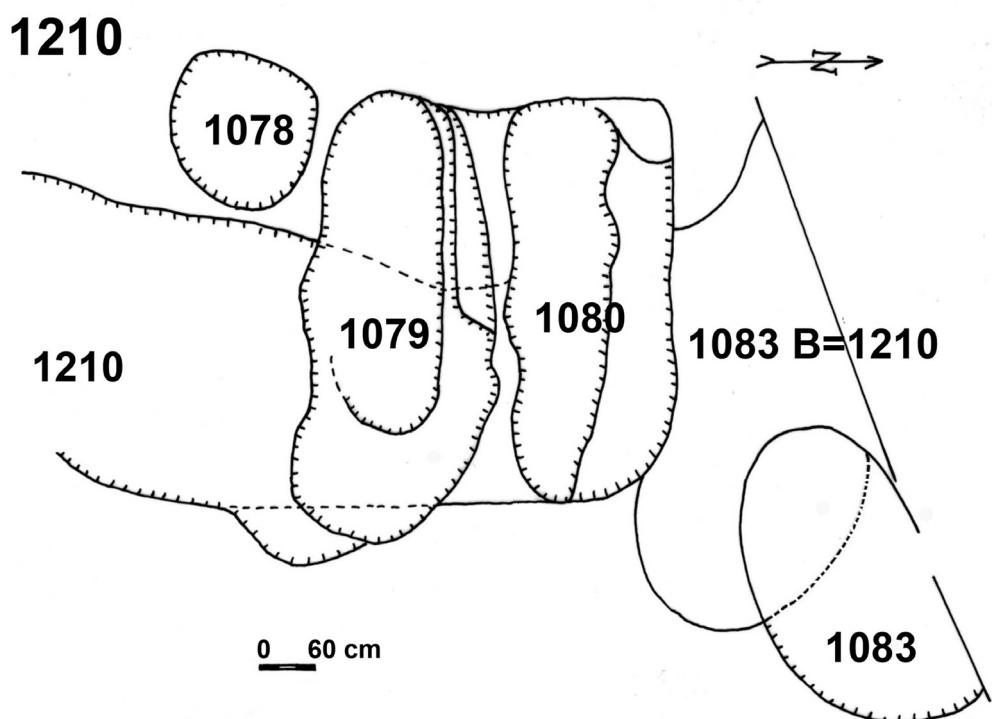


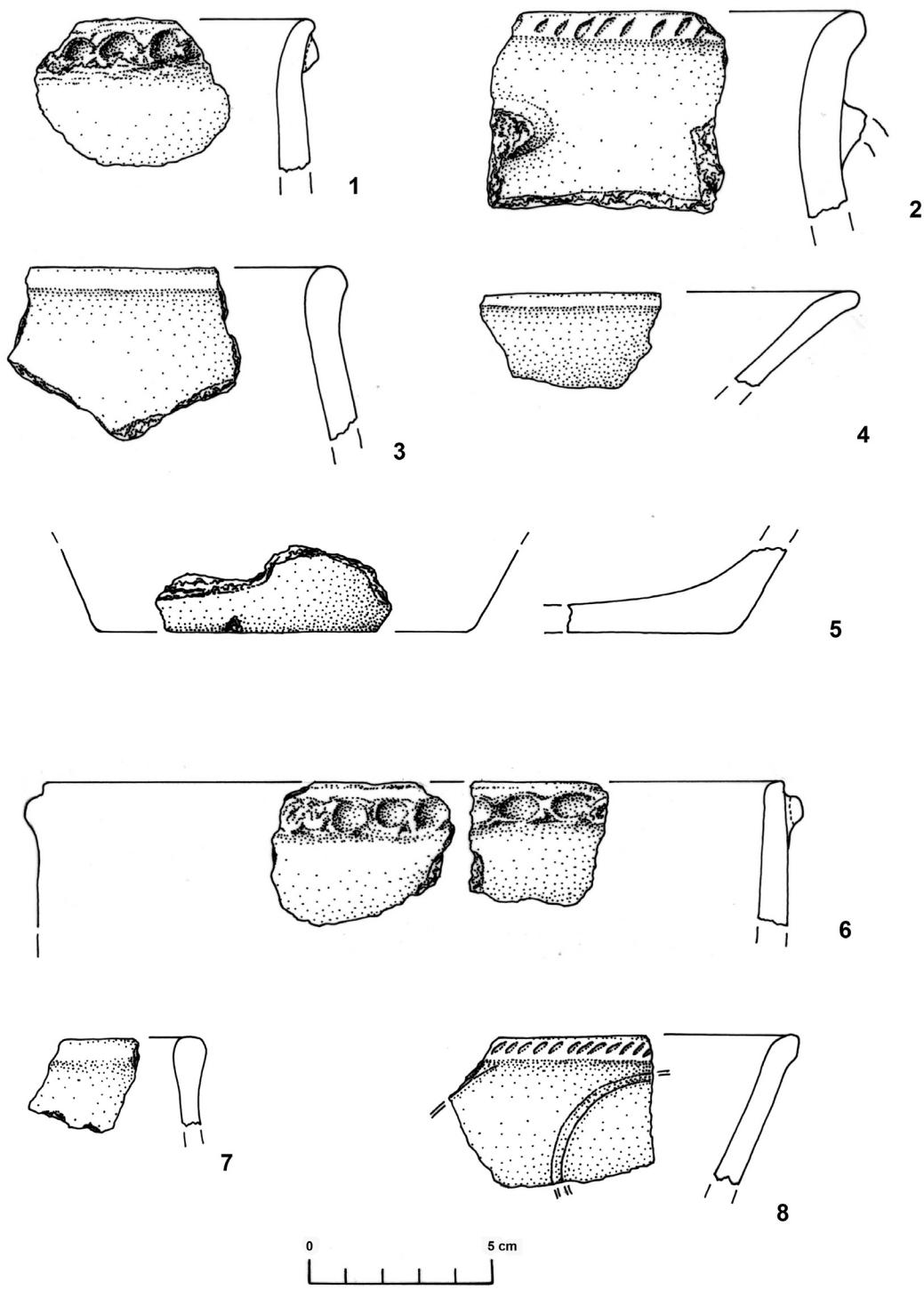
Fig.13. Drawings of features no. 1287 A, 1298, 1461-1463.



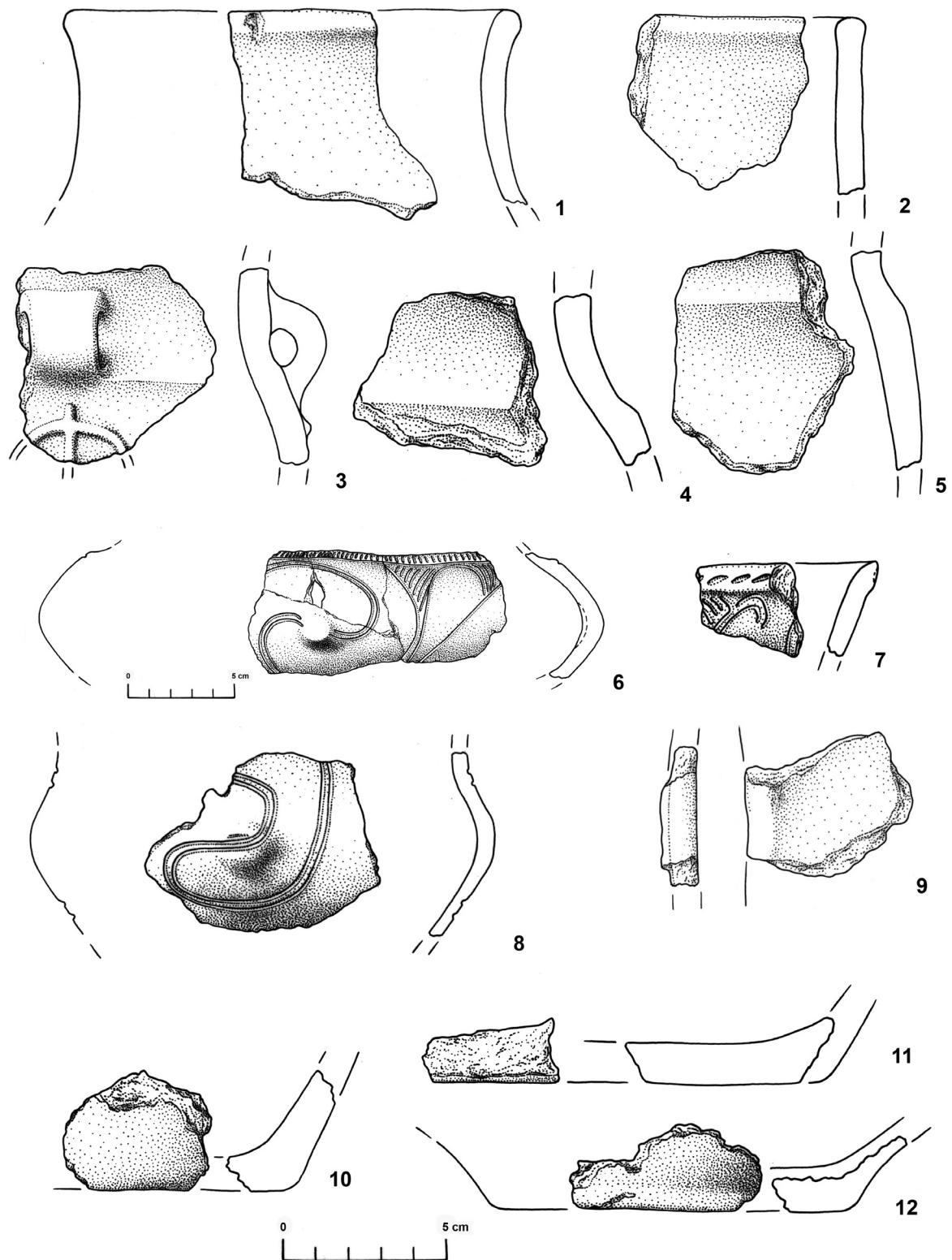
**Fig.14. Drawings of features no.820, 1465, 1630, 1690.**



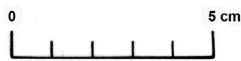
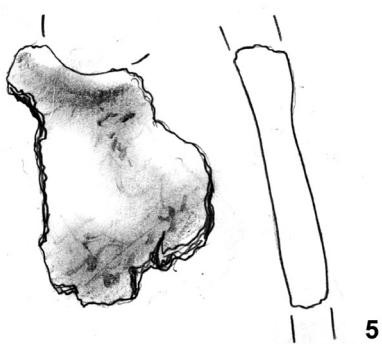
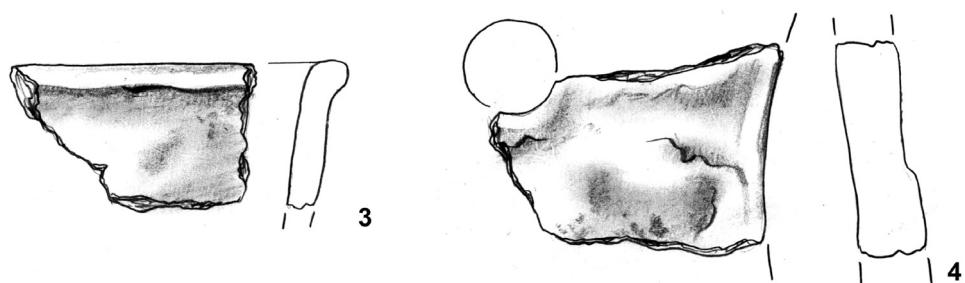
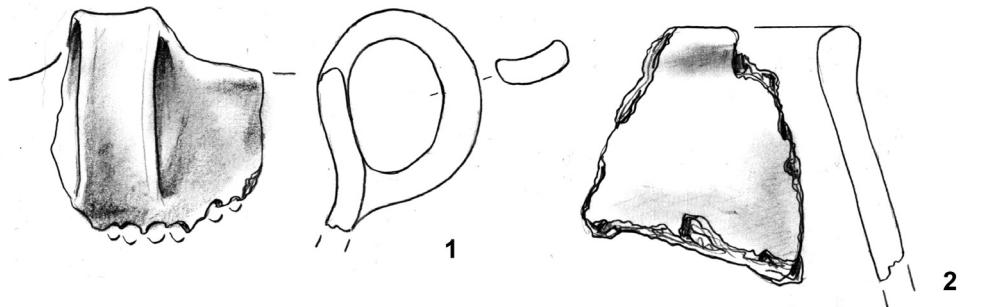
**Fig.15. Drawing of feature no. 1210.**



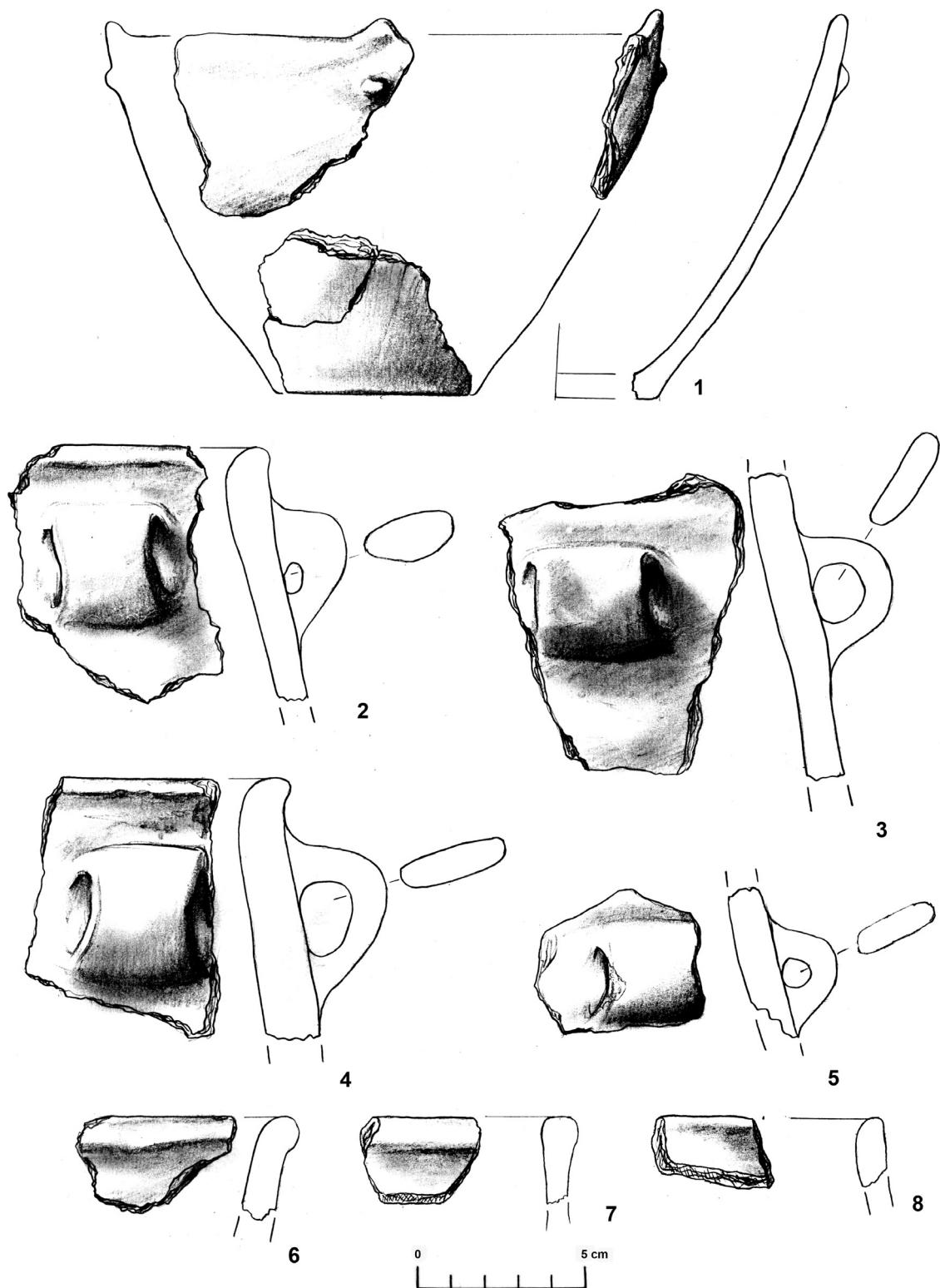
PI.1. Pottery from features: 534: 1-5; 535: 6-8.



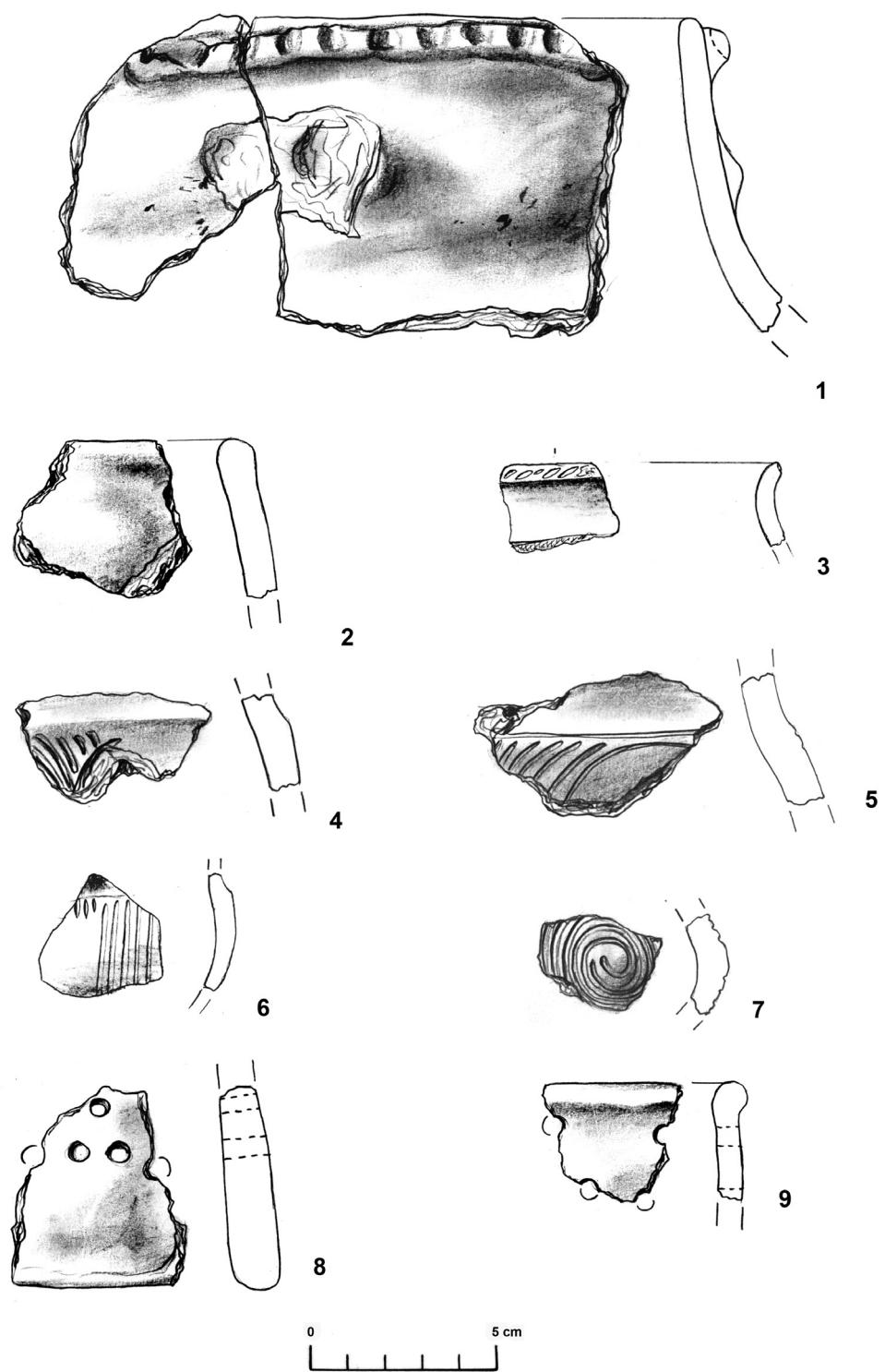
**Pl.2. Pottery from feature 536 A.**



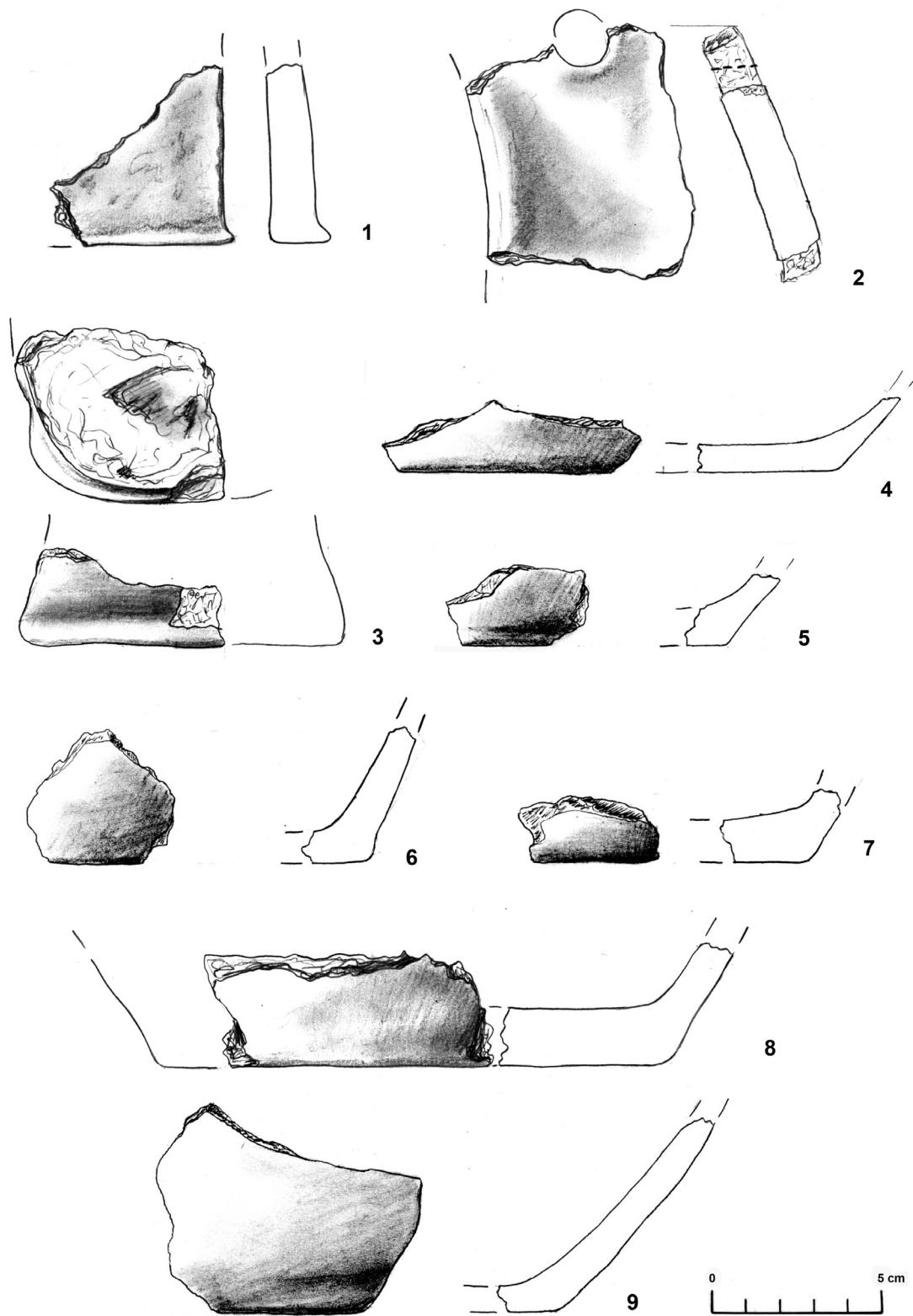
PI.3. Pottery from feature 536 E=536B.



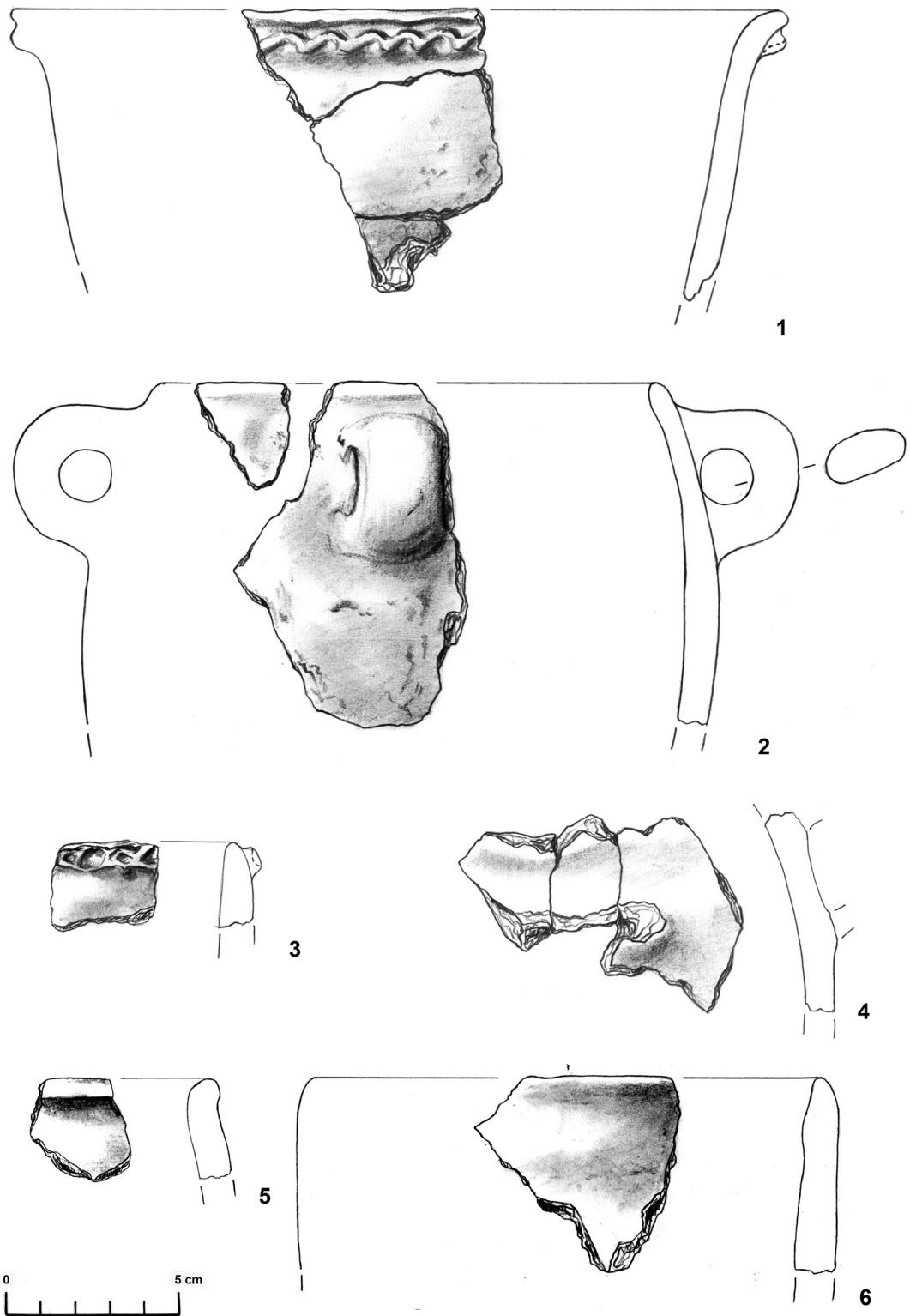
Pl.4. Pottery from feature 537 B-537 C.



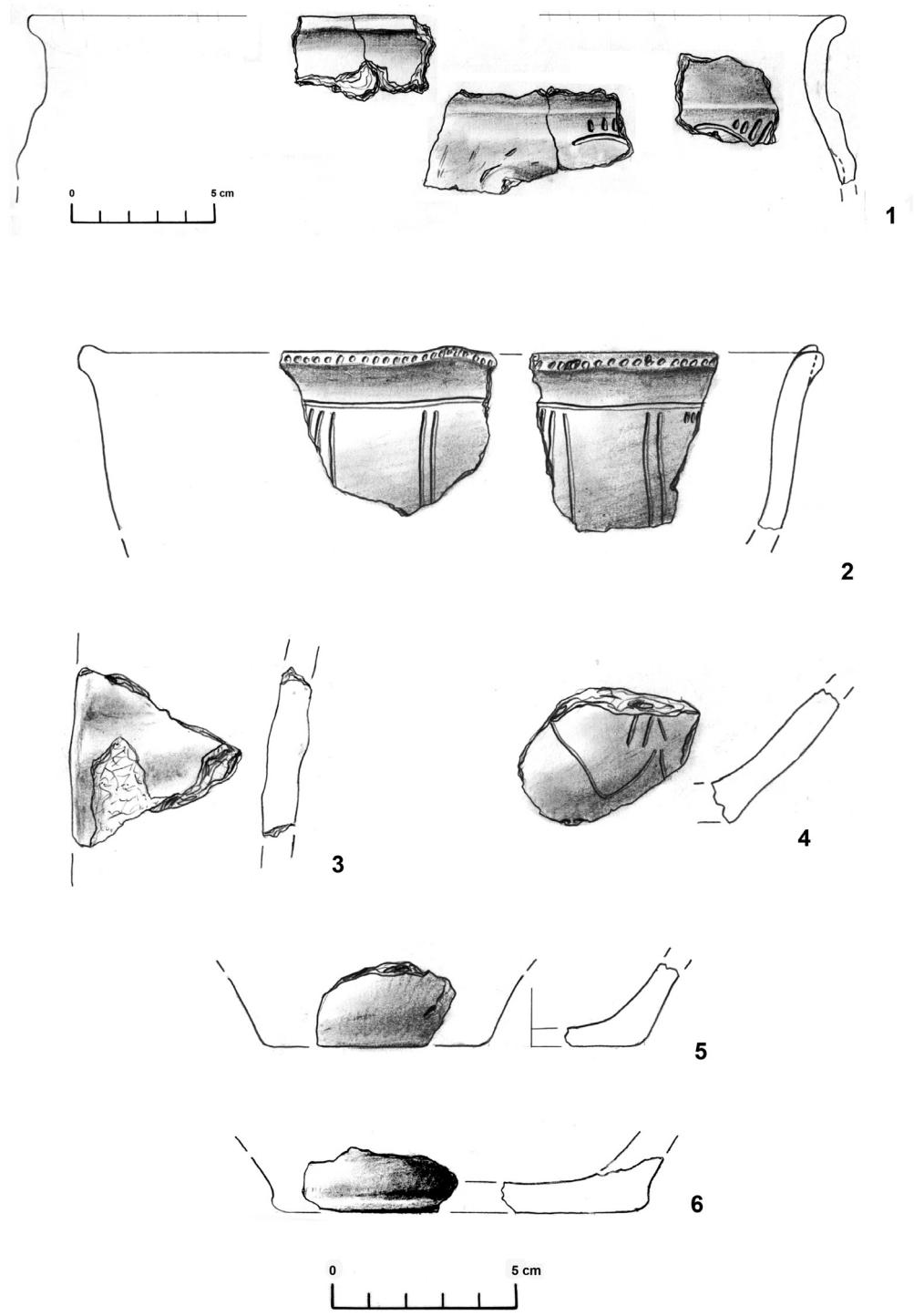
PI.5. Pottery from feature 537 B-537 C.



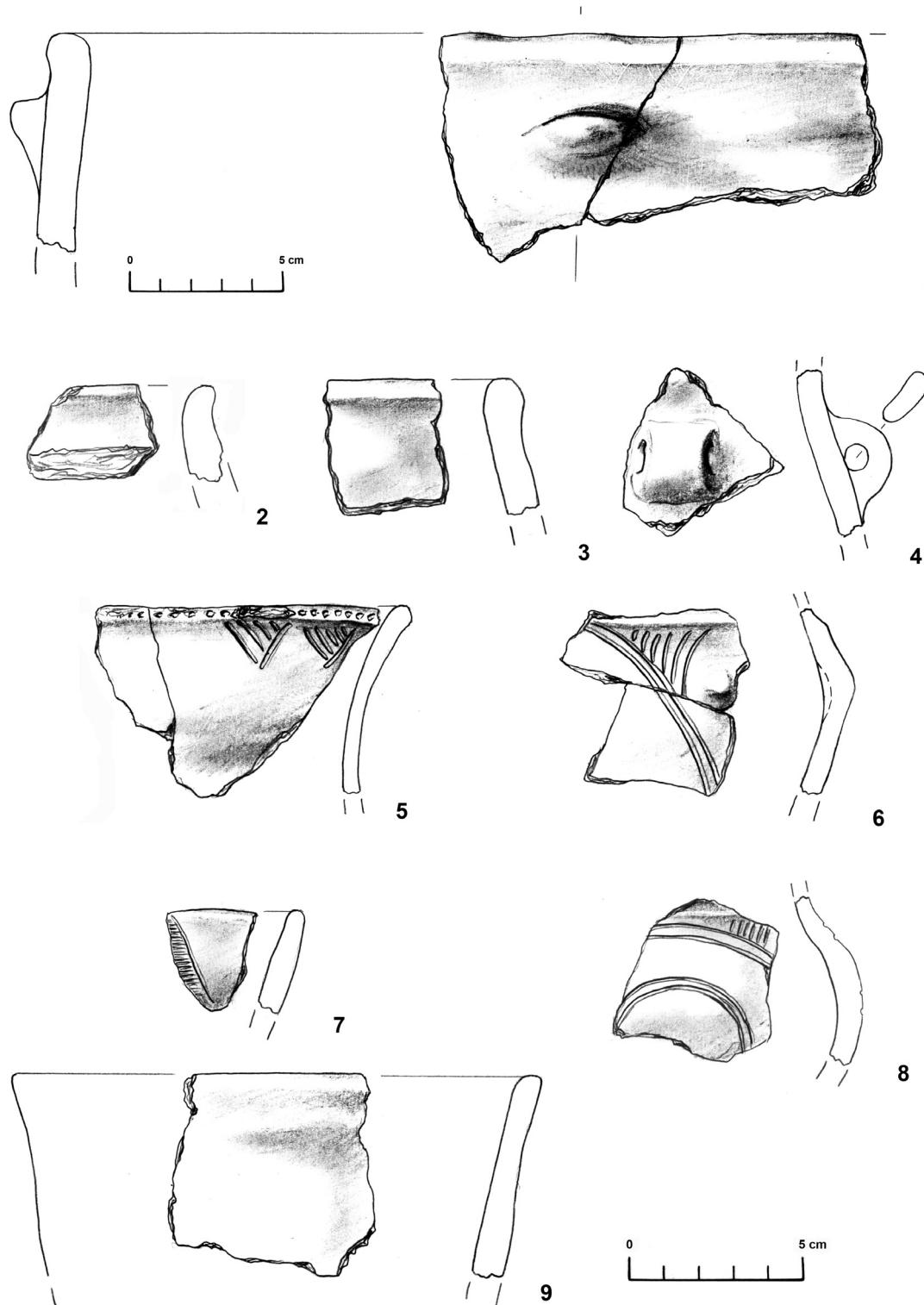
Pl.6. Pottery from feature 537 B-537 C.



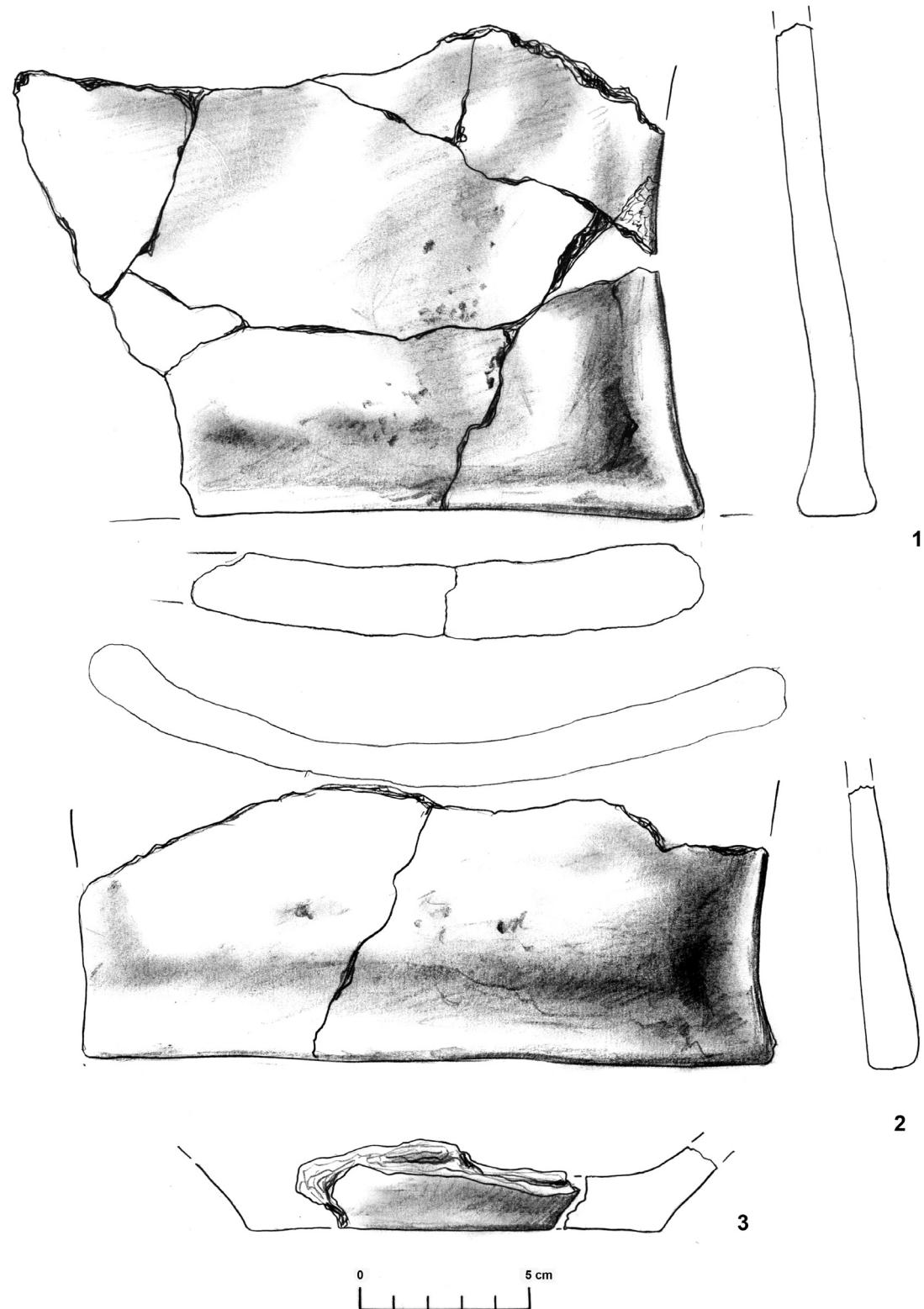
Pl.7. Pottery from feature 537.



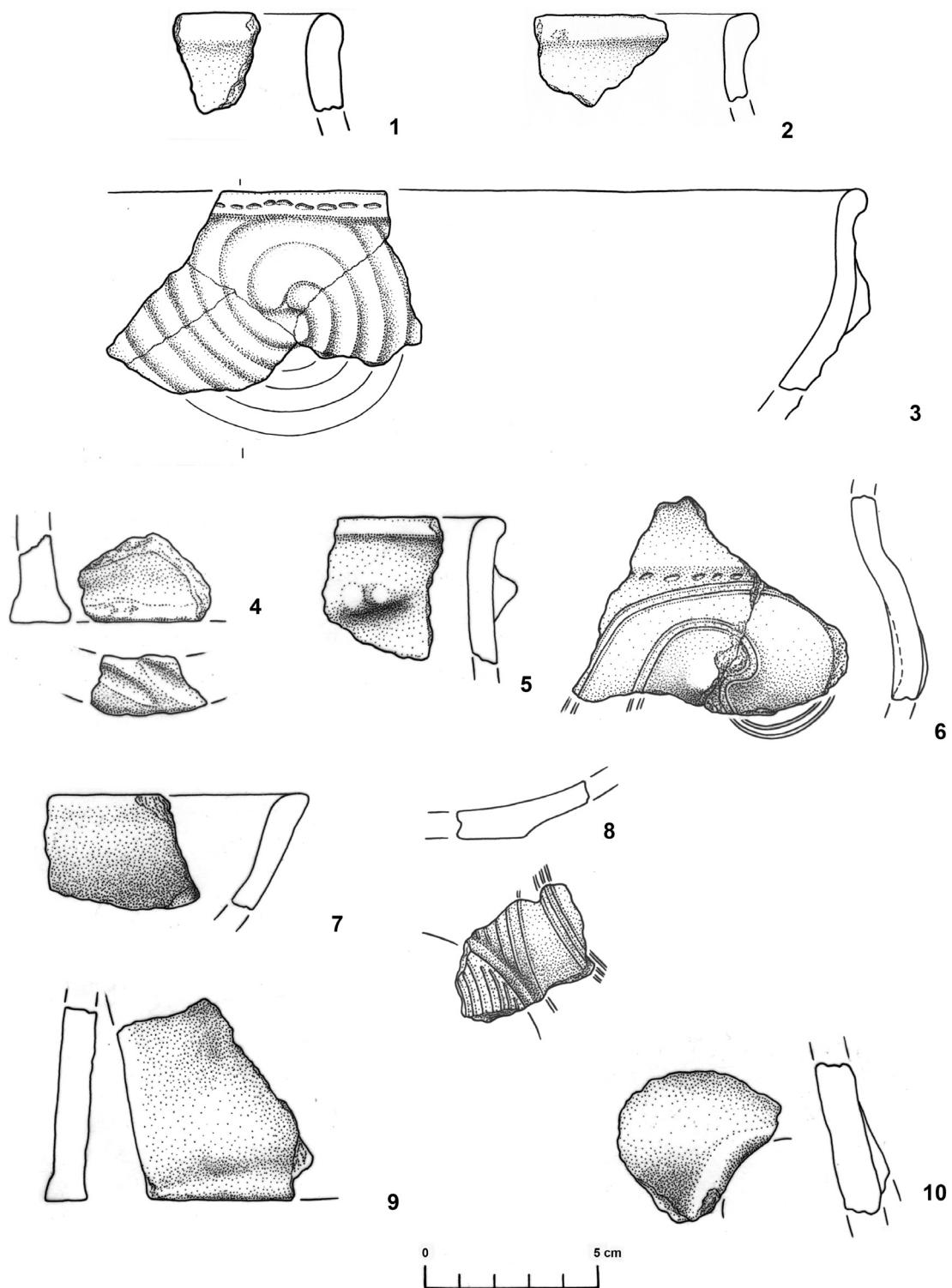
Pl.8. Pottery from feature 537.



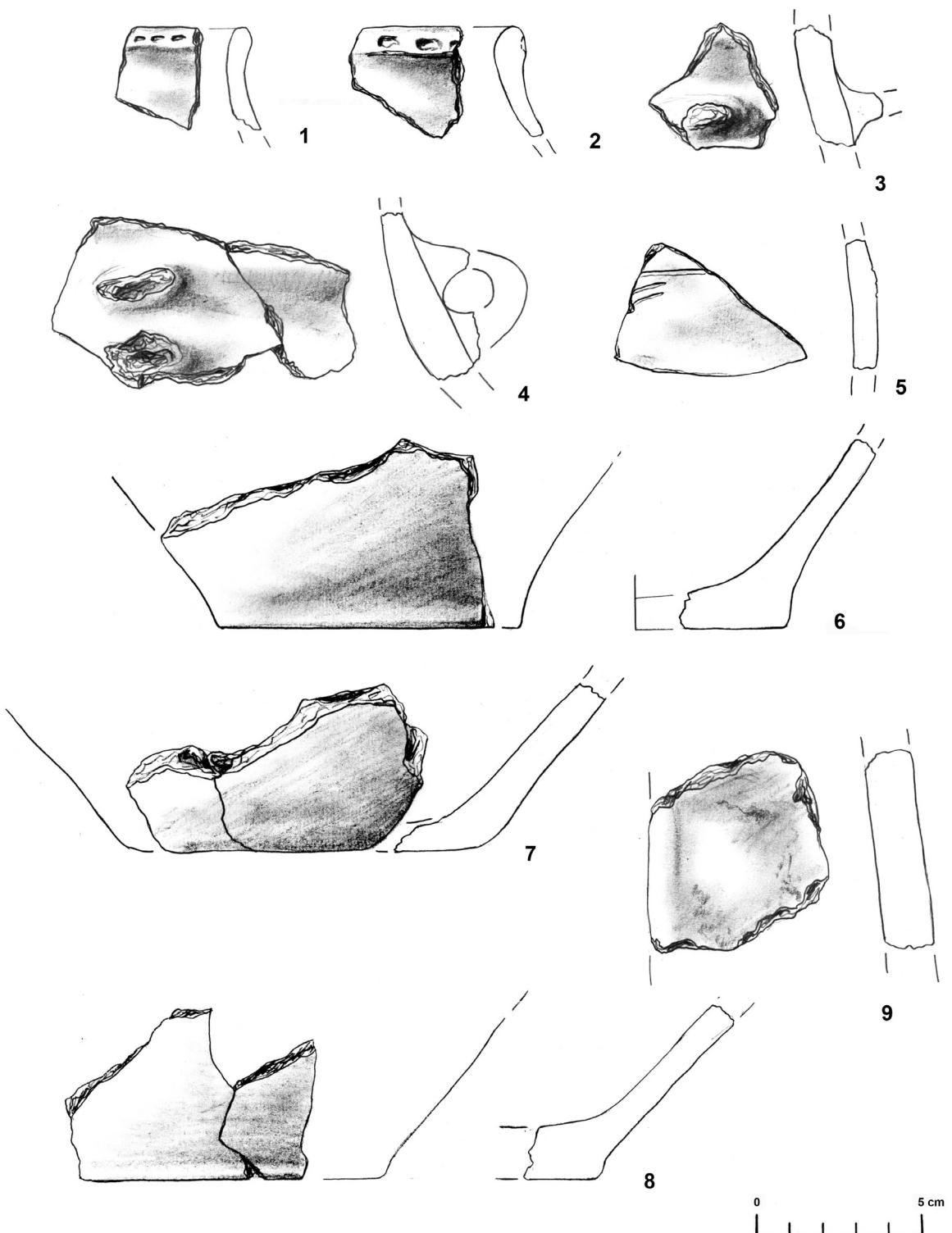
Pl.9. Pottery from feature 538.



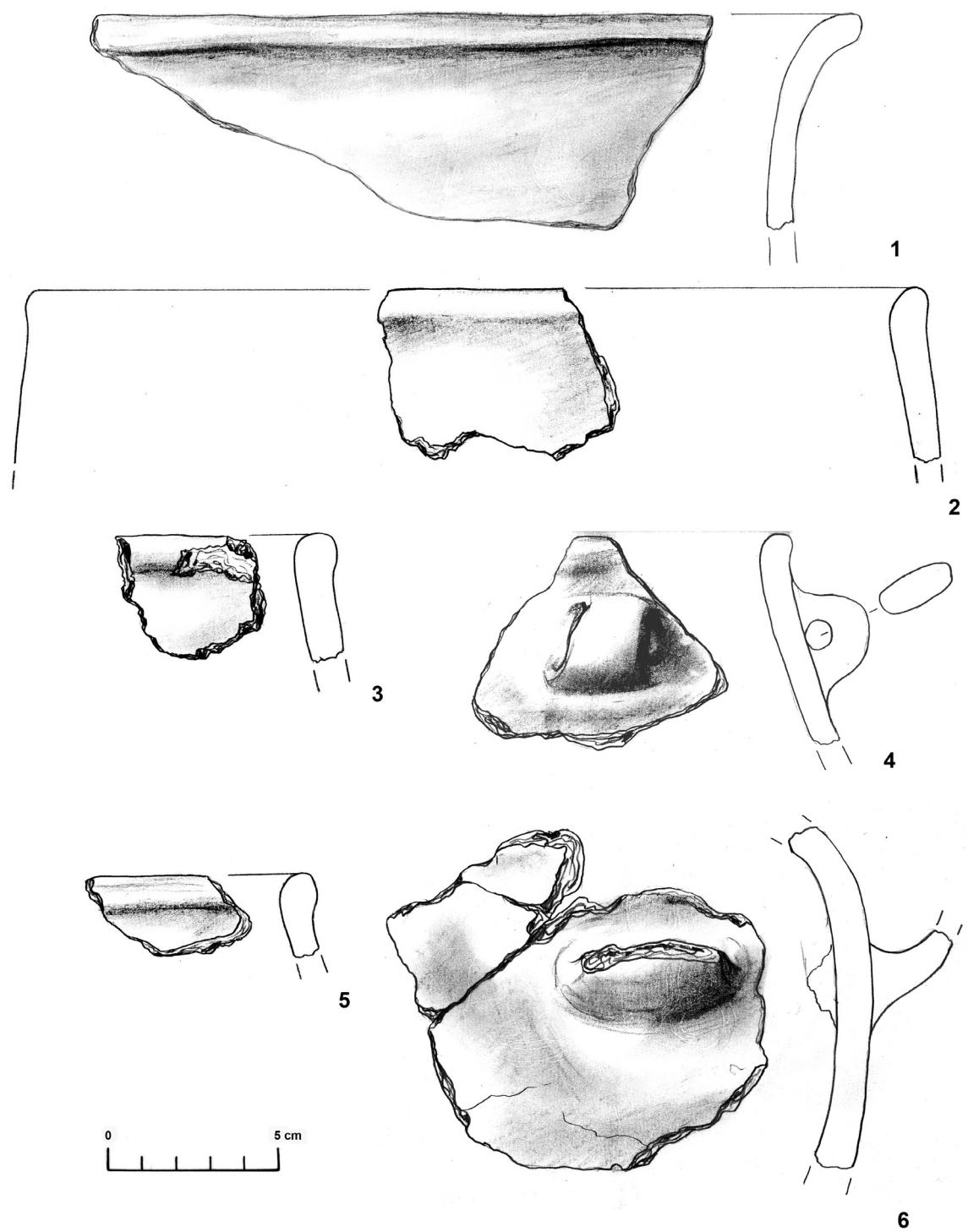
PI.10. Pottery from feature 538.



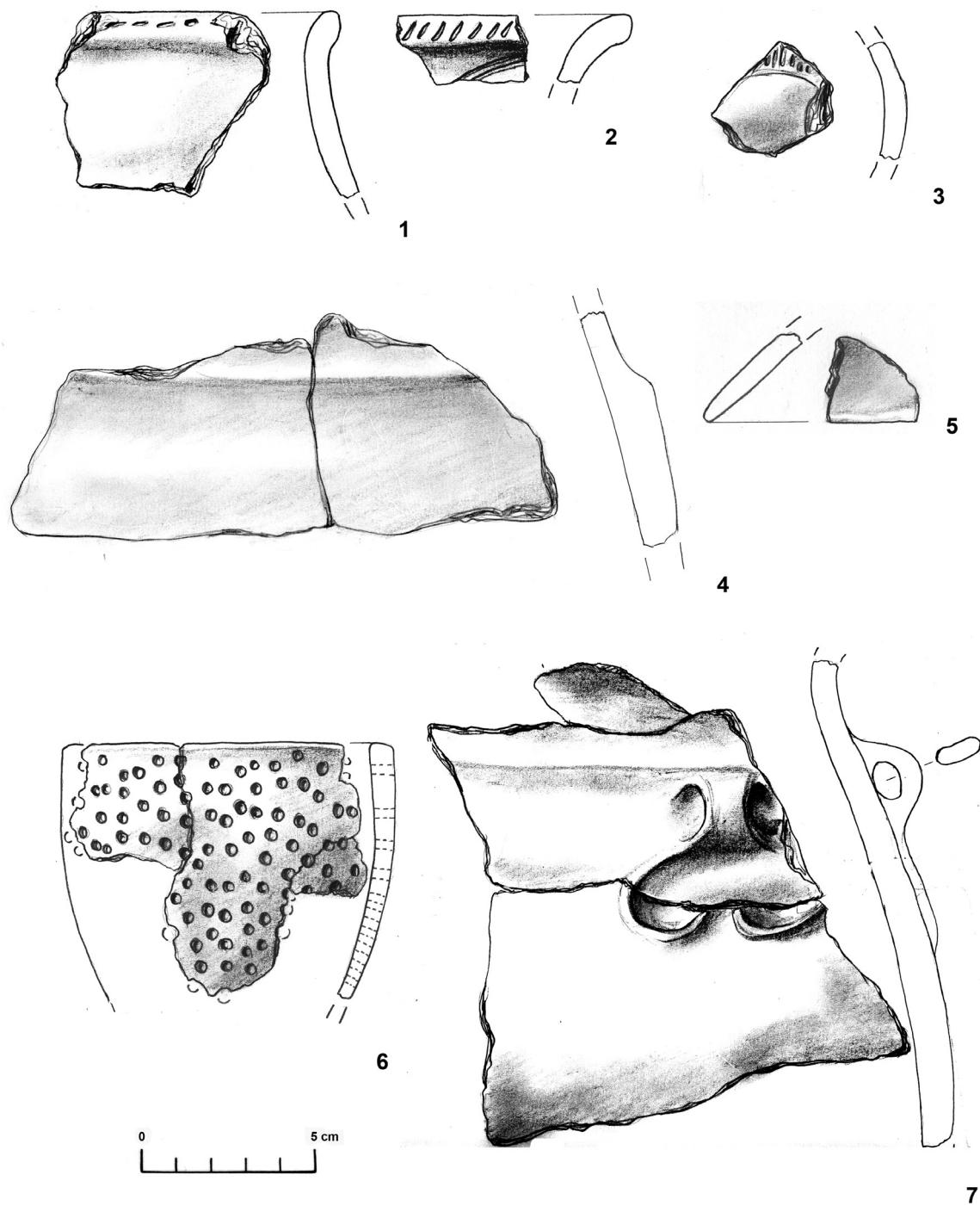
Pl.11. Pottery from features: 541:1-3; 940:4; 941:5-10.



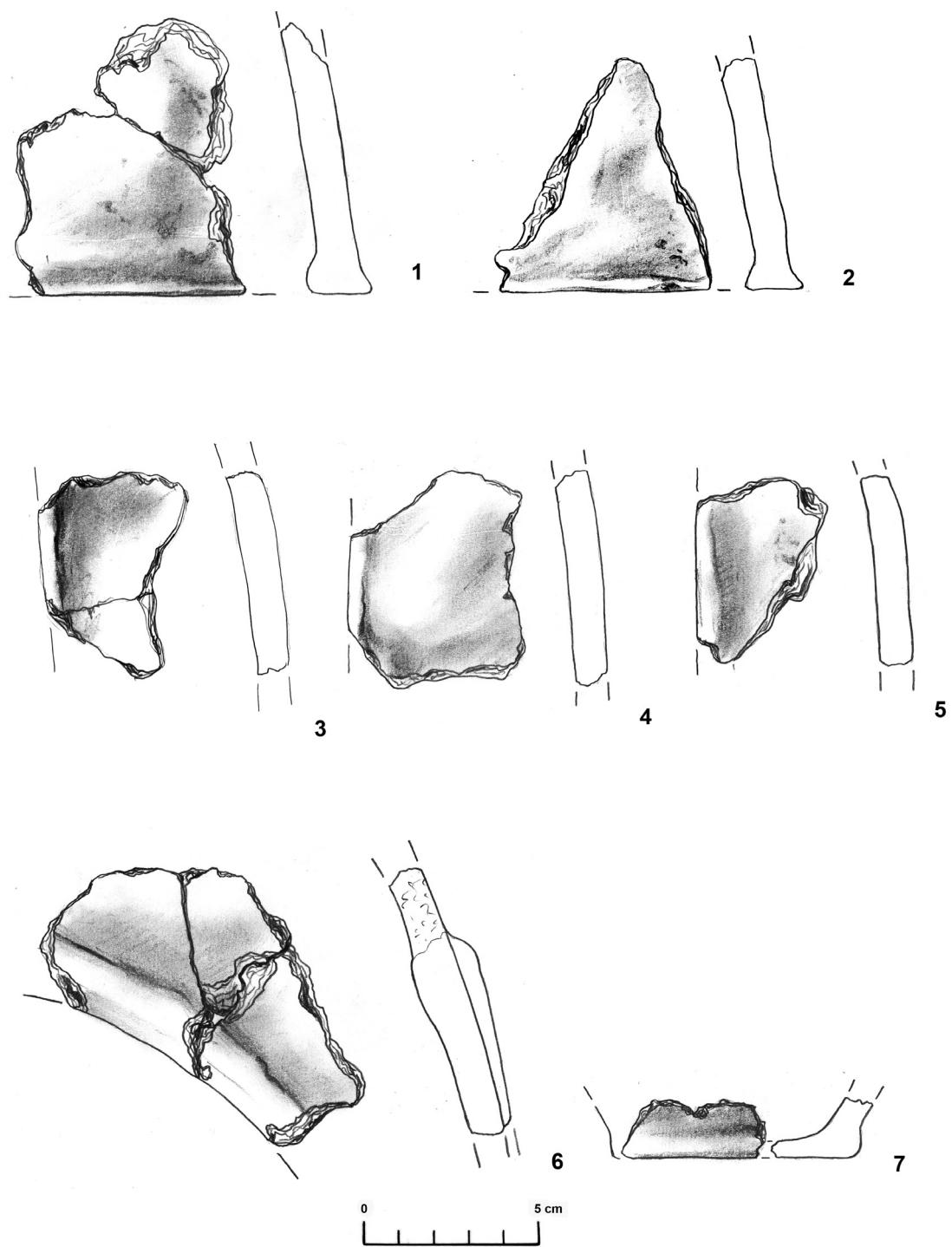
**Pl.12. Pottery from feature 554 B-C.**



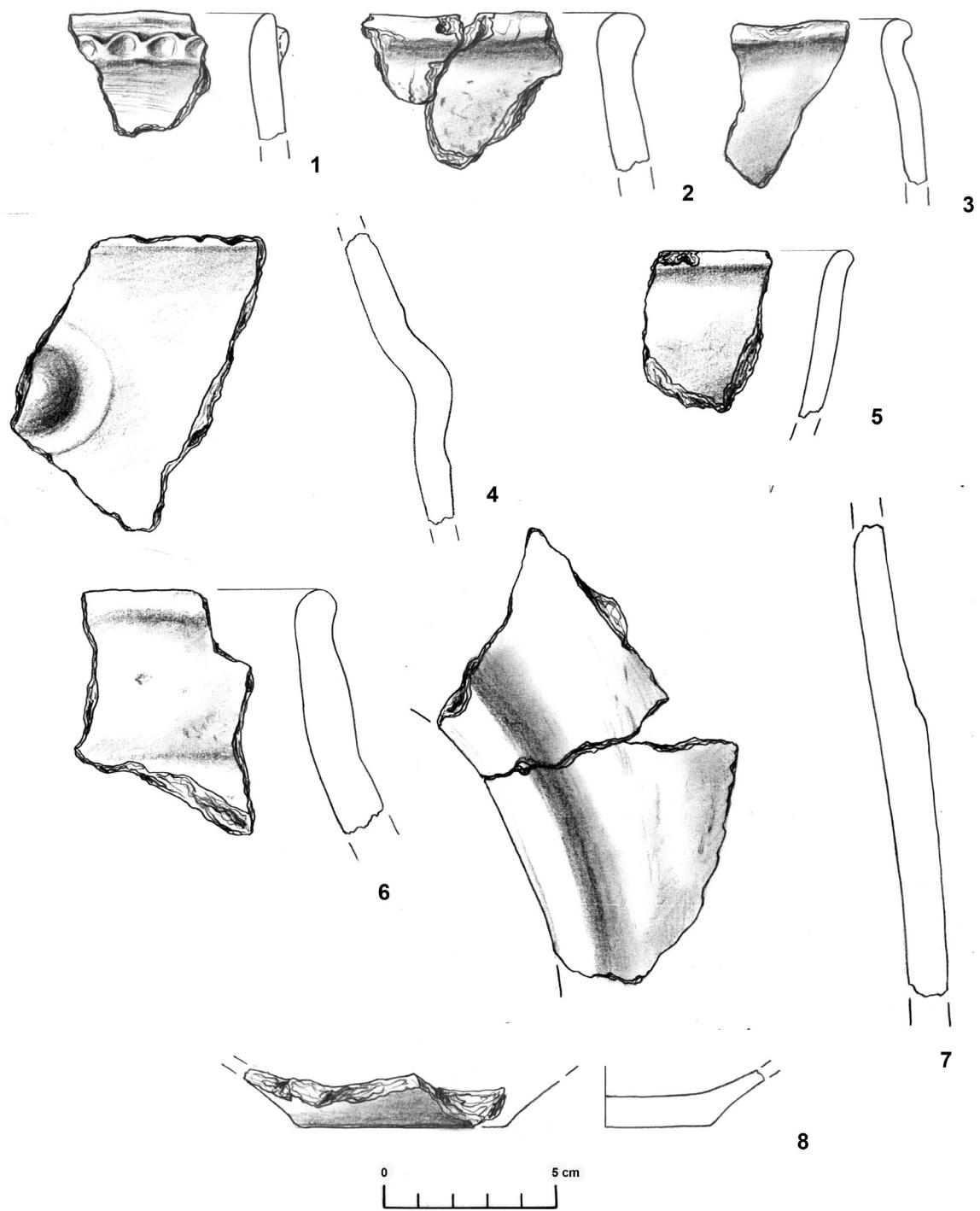
PI.13. Pottery from feature 566.



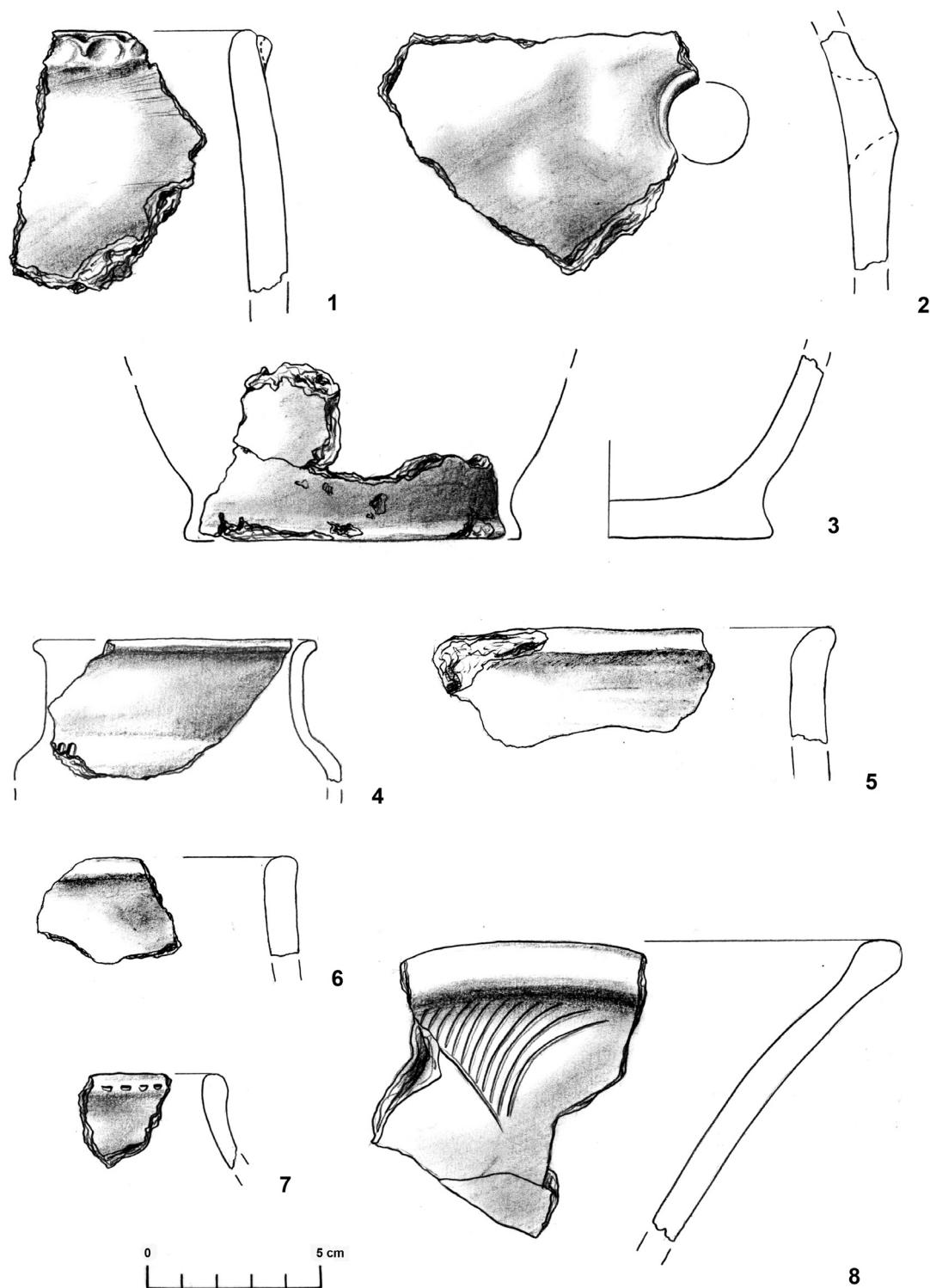
PI.14. Pottery from feature 566.



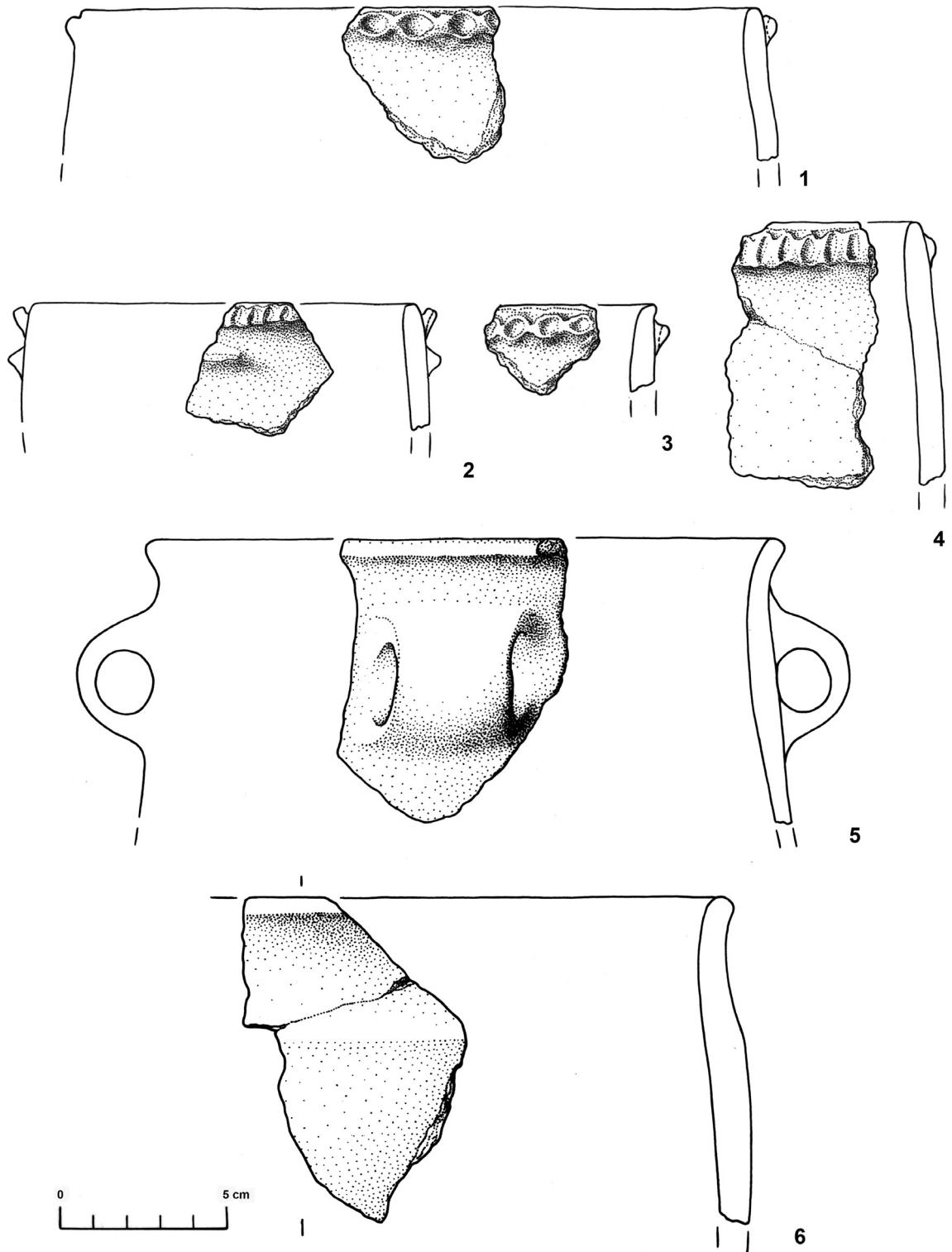
PI.15. Pottery from feature 566.



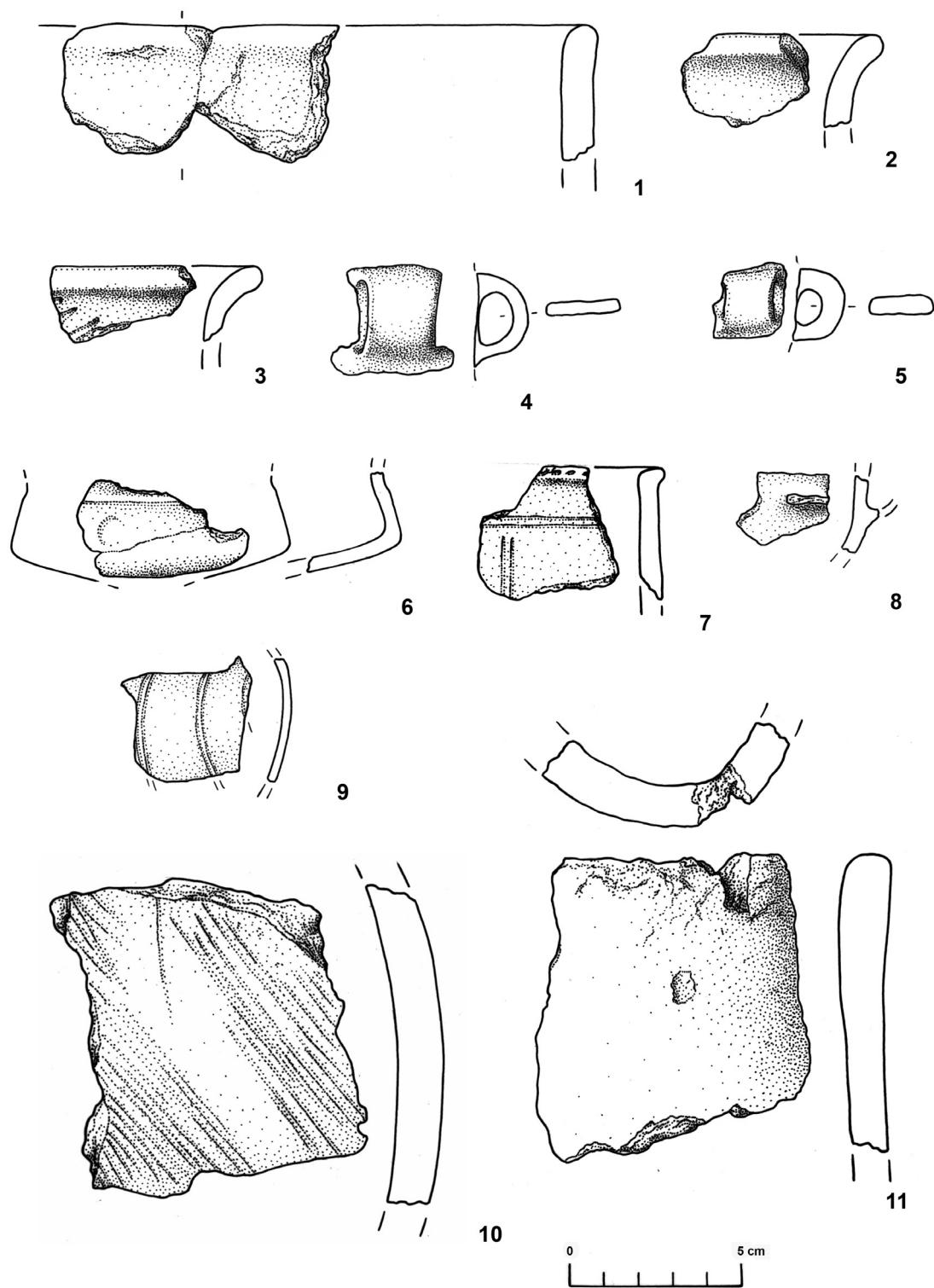
PI.16. Pottery from feature 568.



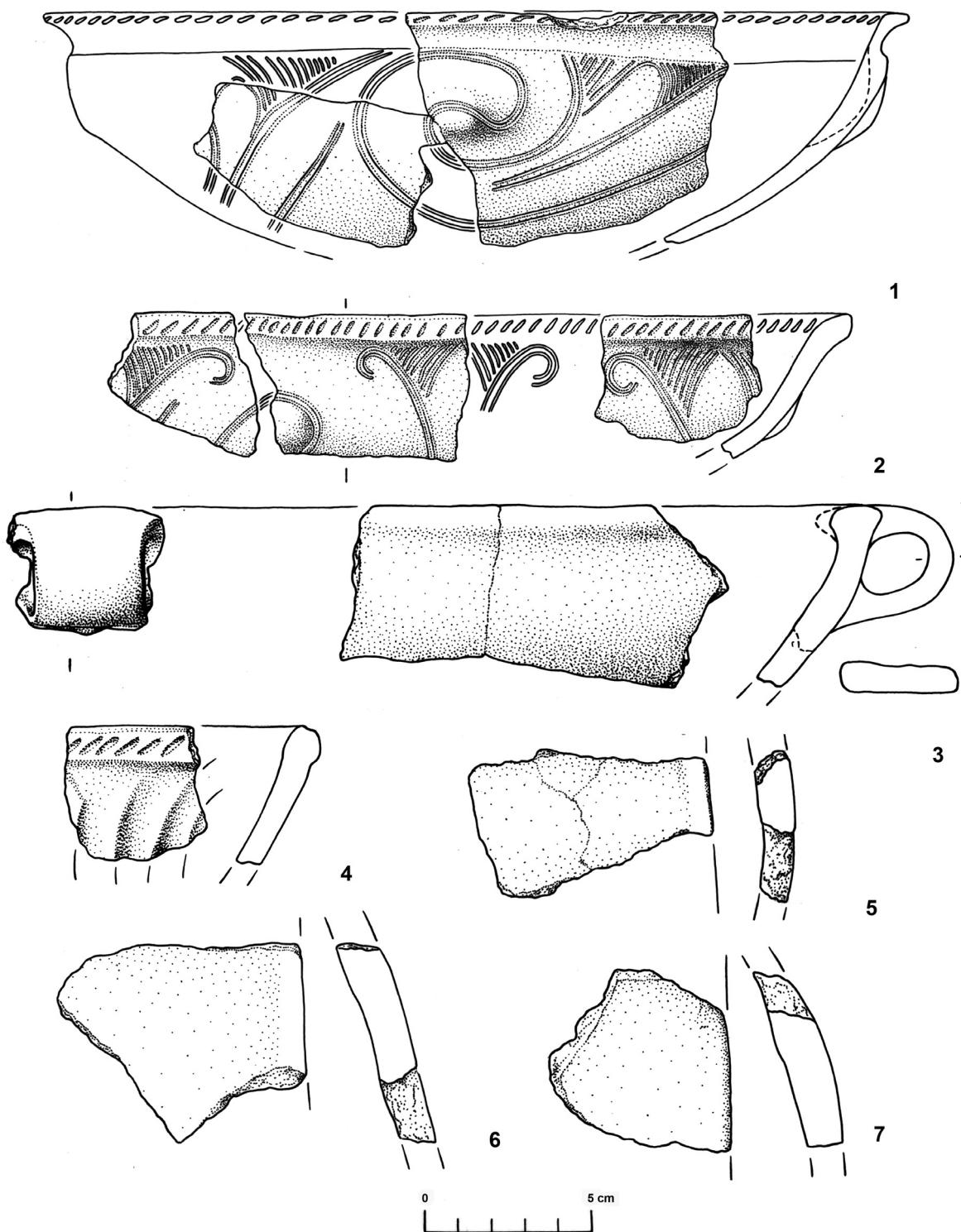
PI.17. Pottery from features; 569:1-3; 570 A:4-6; 570 B:7-8.



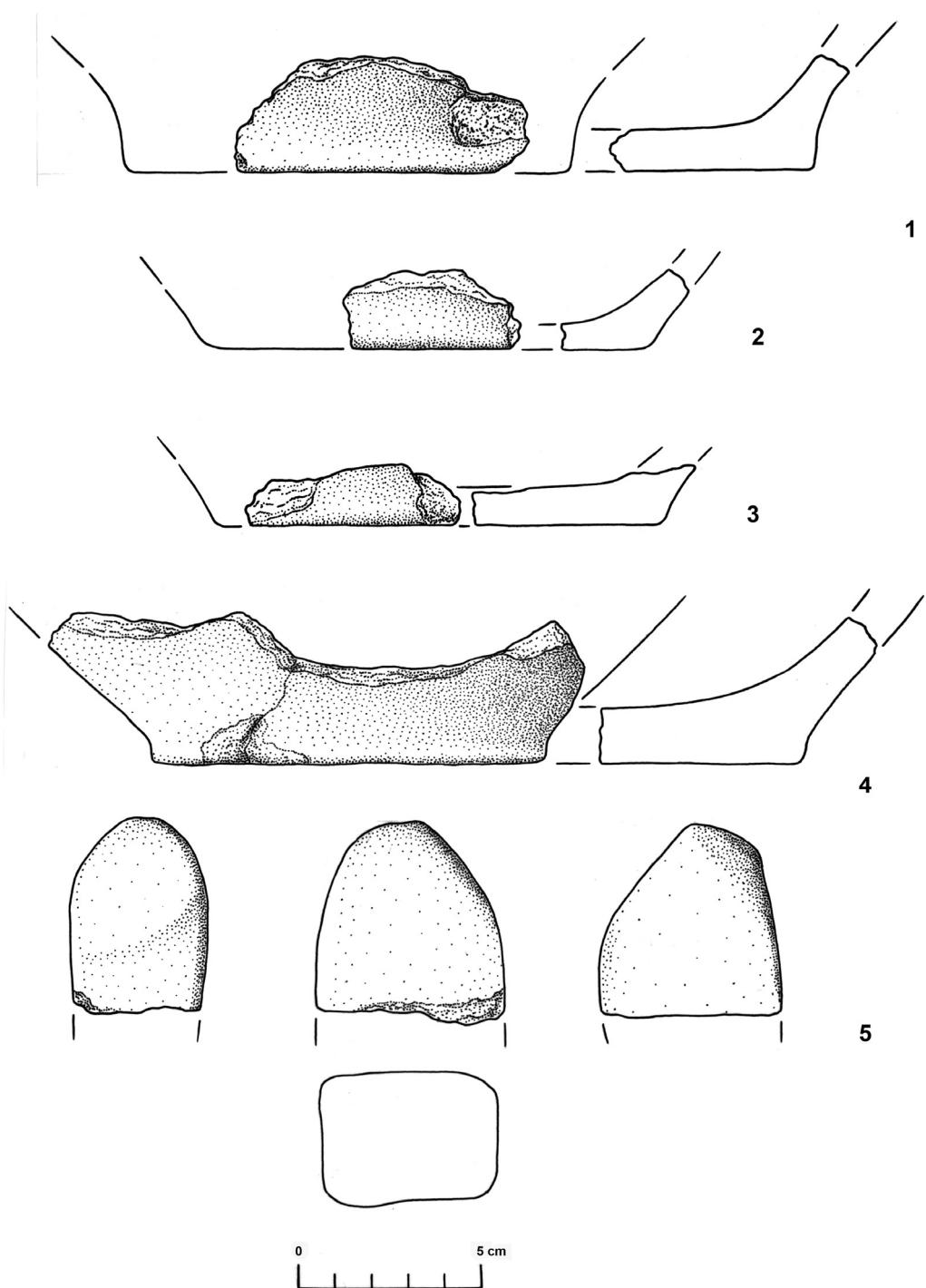
PI.18. Pottery from feature 571 B.



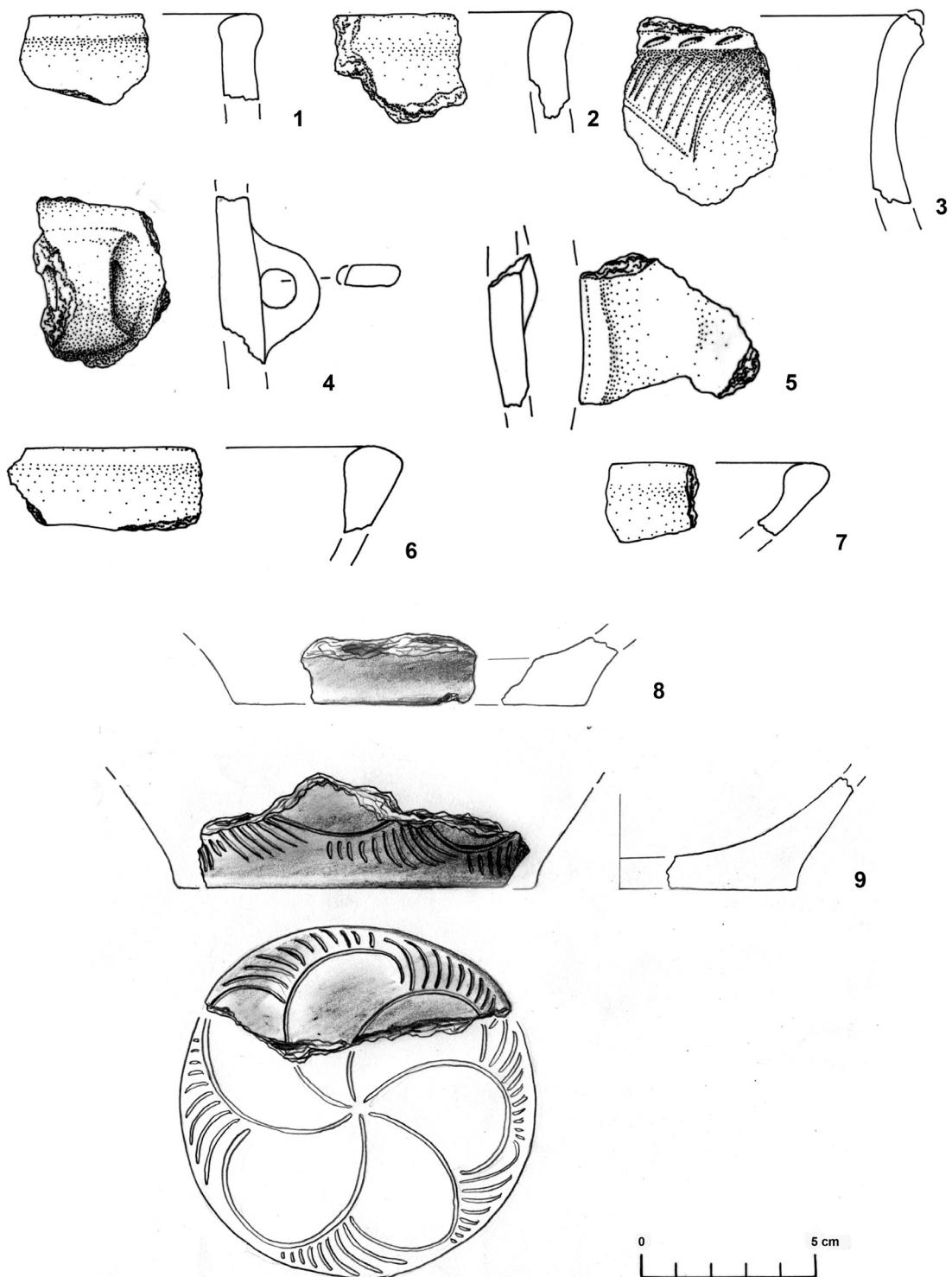
PI.19. Pottery from feature 571 B.



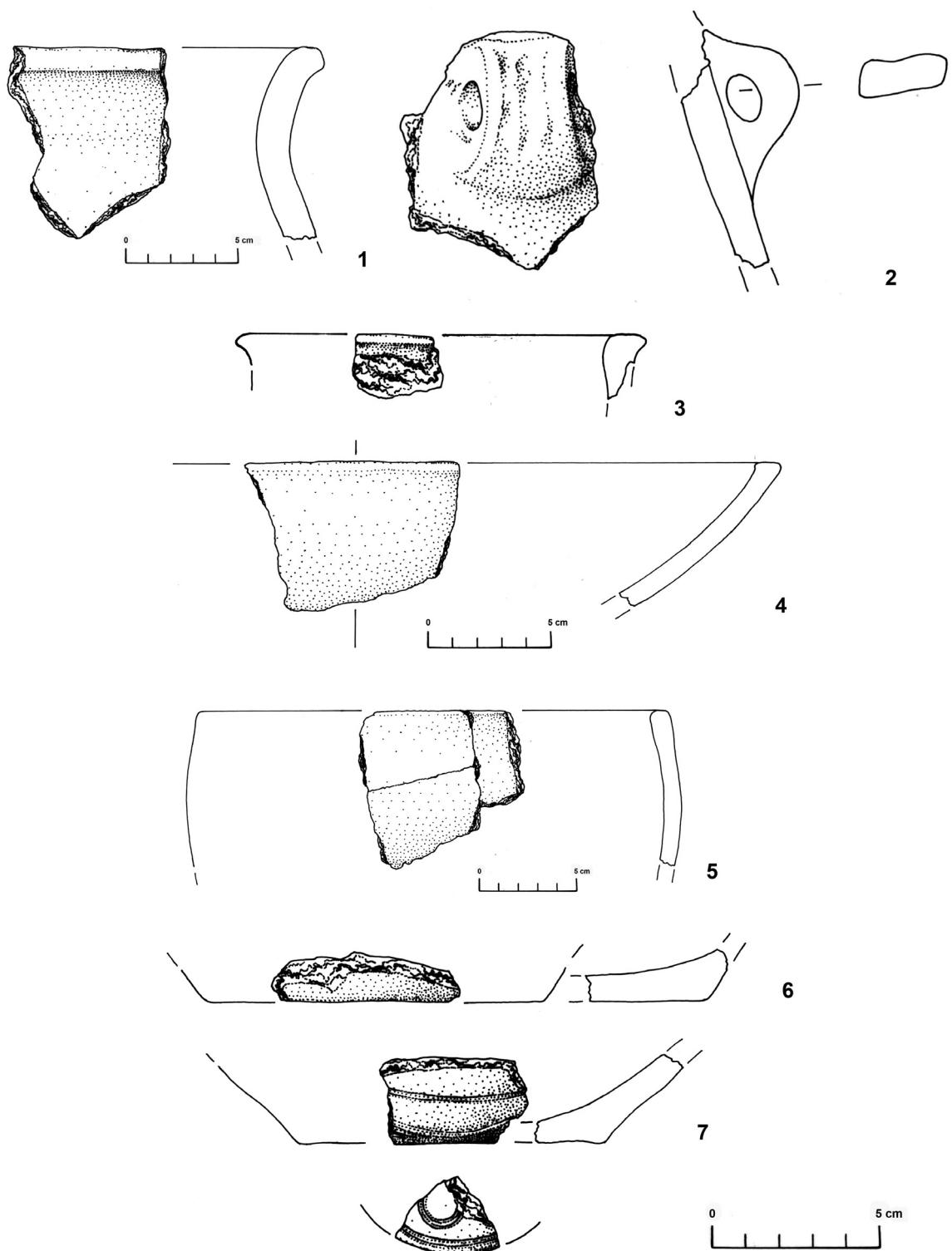
PI.20. Pottery from feature 571 B.



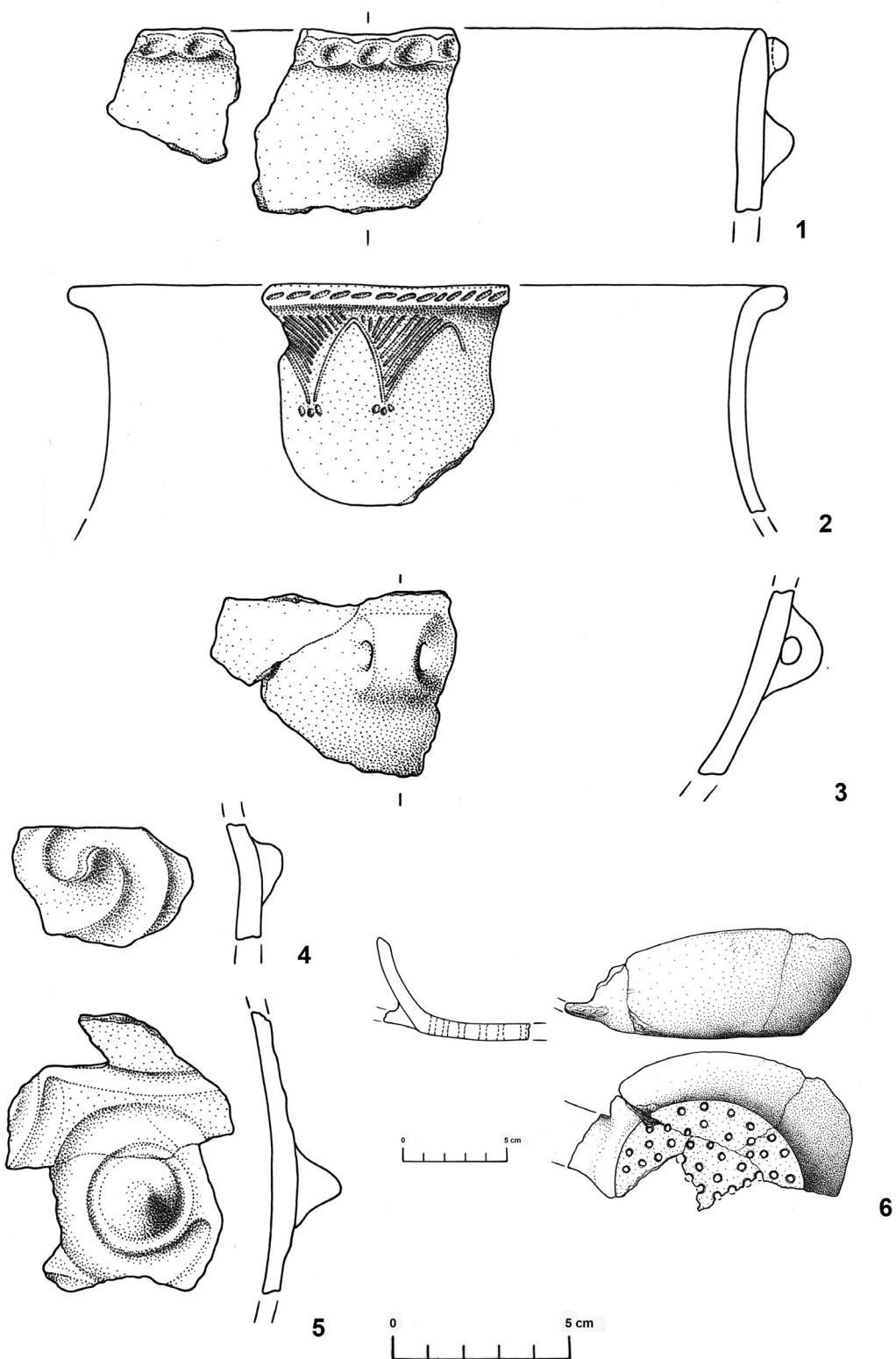
Pl.21. Pottery (1-4) and clay object (5) from feature 571 B.



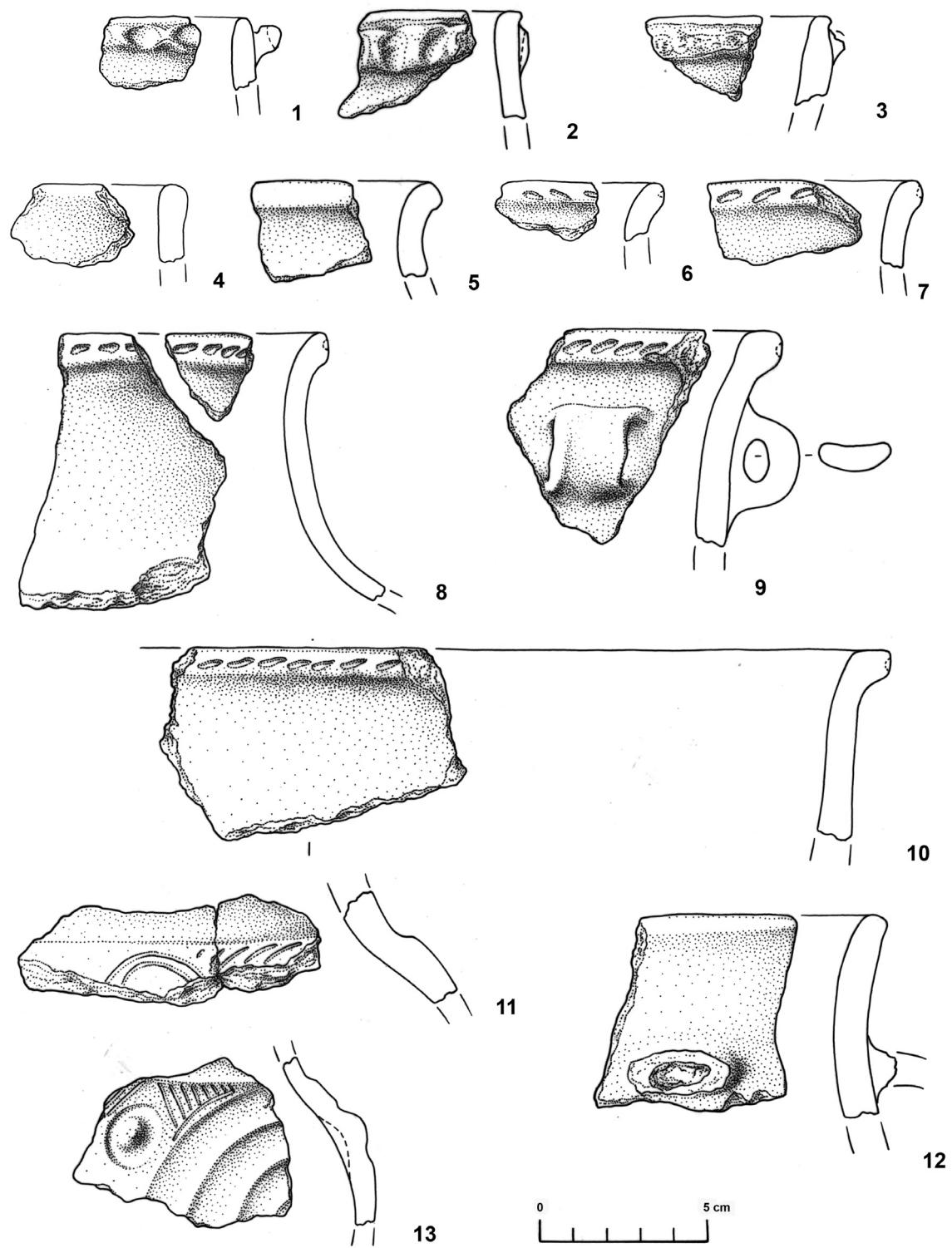
Pl.22. Pottery from features: 651:1-7; 643 B:8-9.



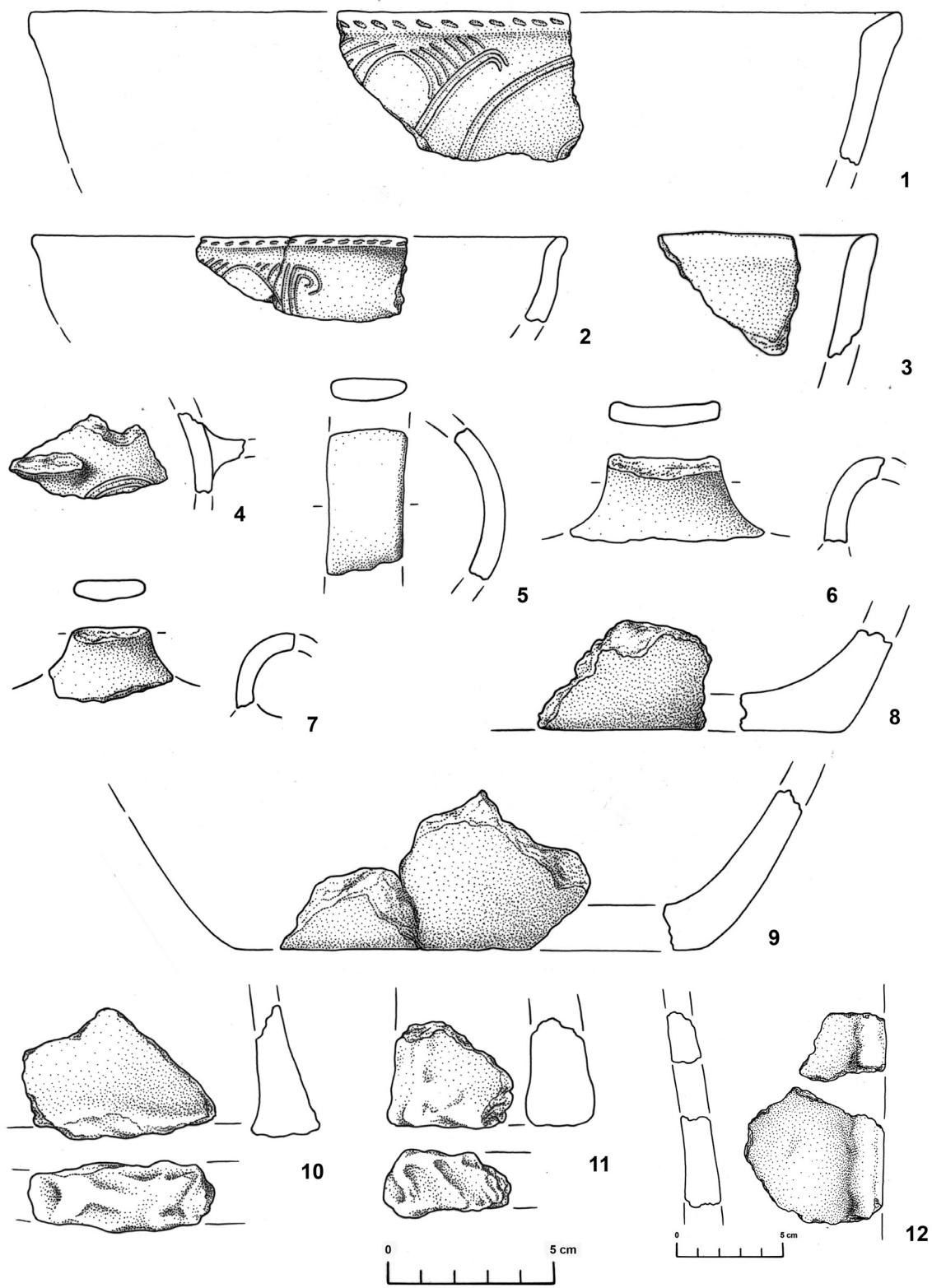
PI.23. Pottery from feature 651 B.



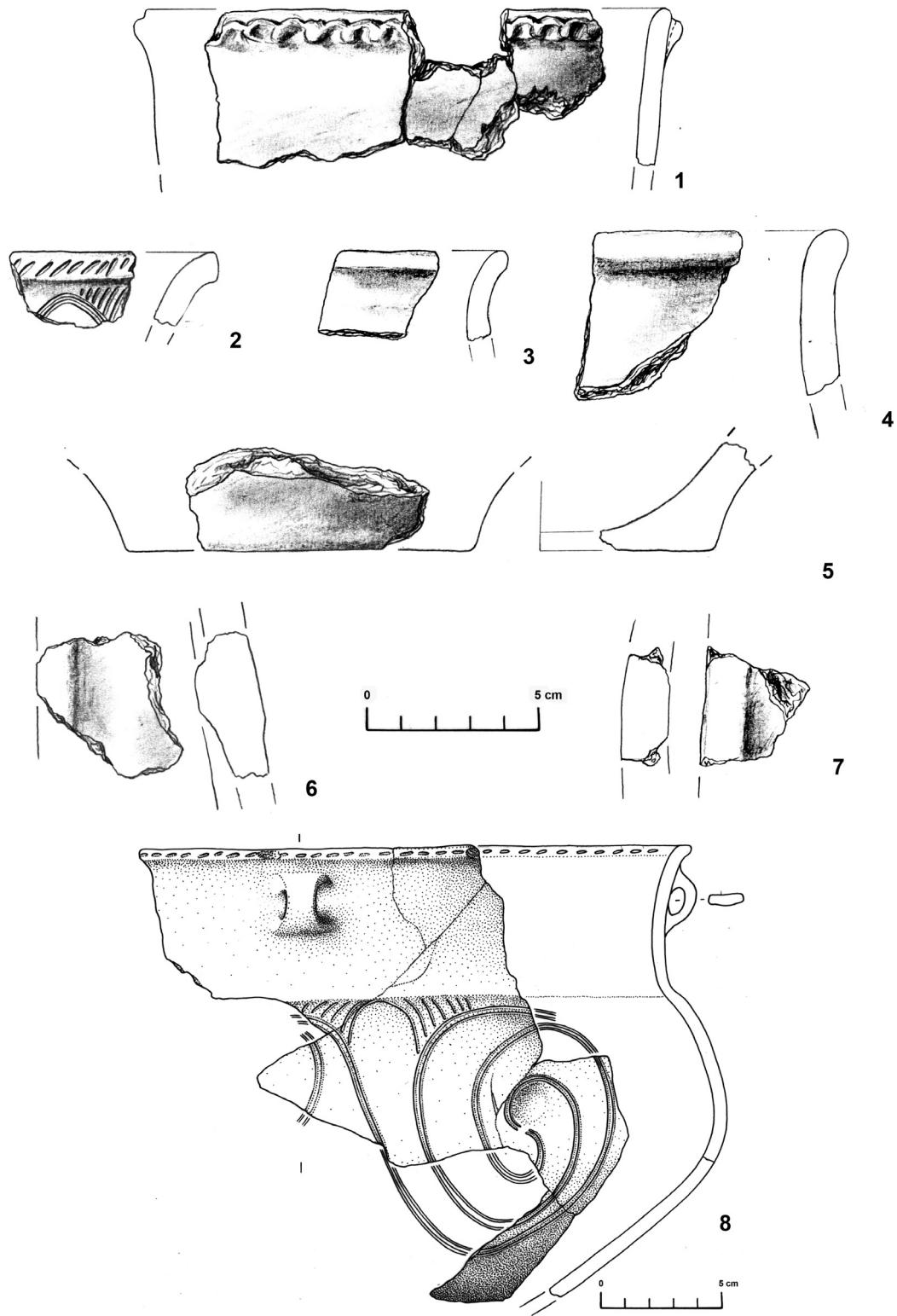
PI.24. Pottery from feature 656.



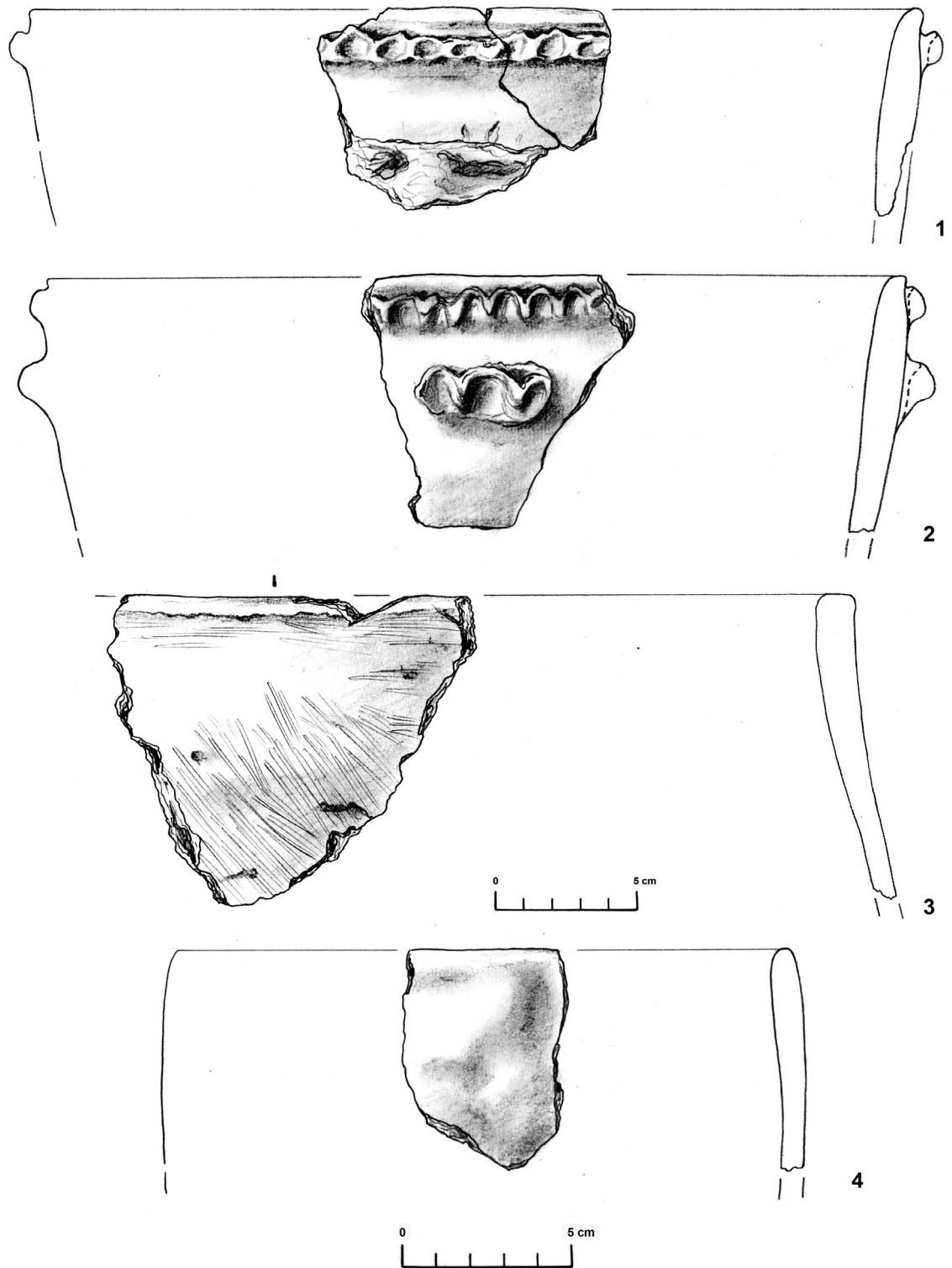
Pl.25. Pottery from feature 669 D.



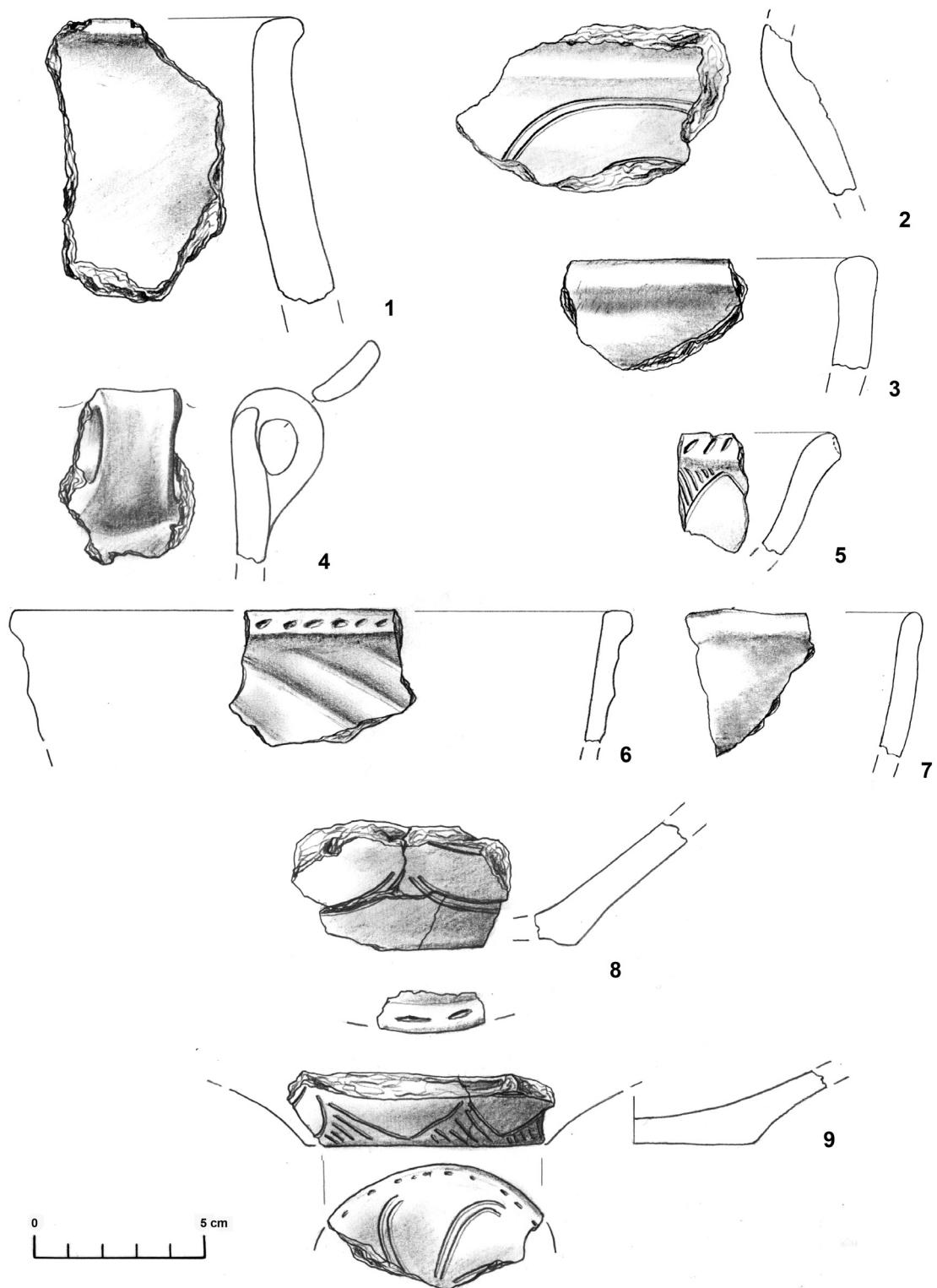
PI.26. Pottery from feature 669 D.



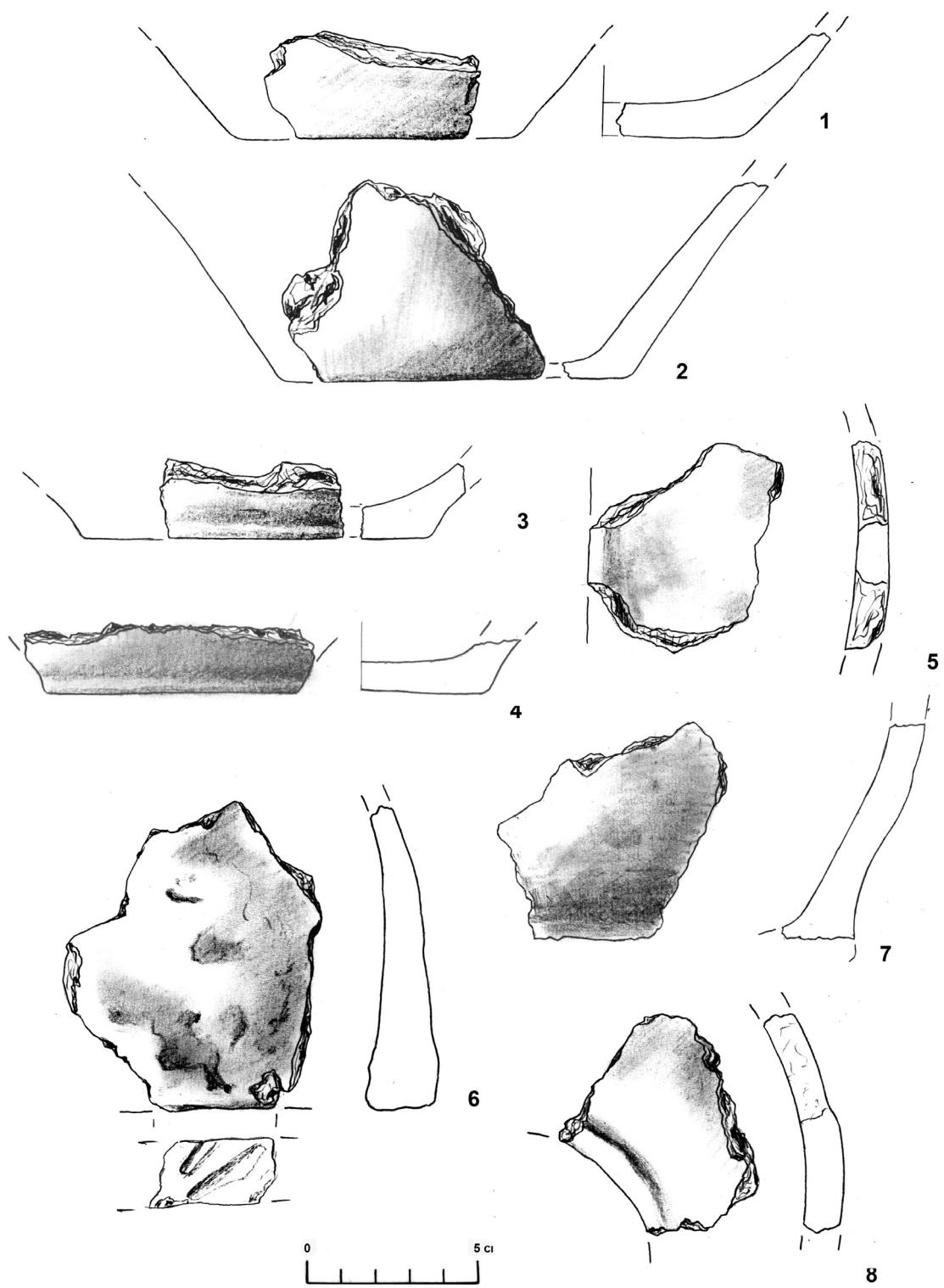
PI.27. Pottery from features: 670 B:1-7; 843:8.



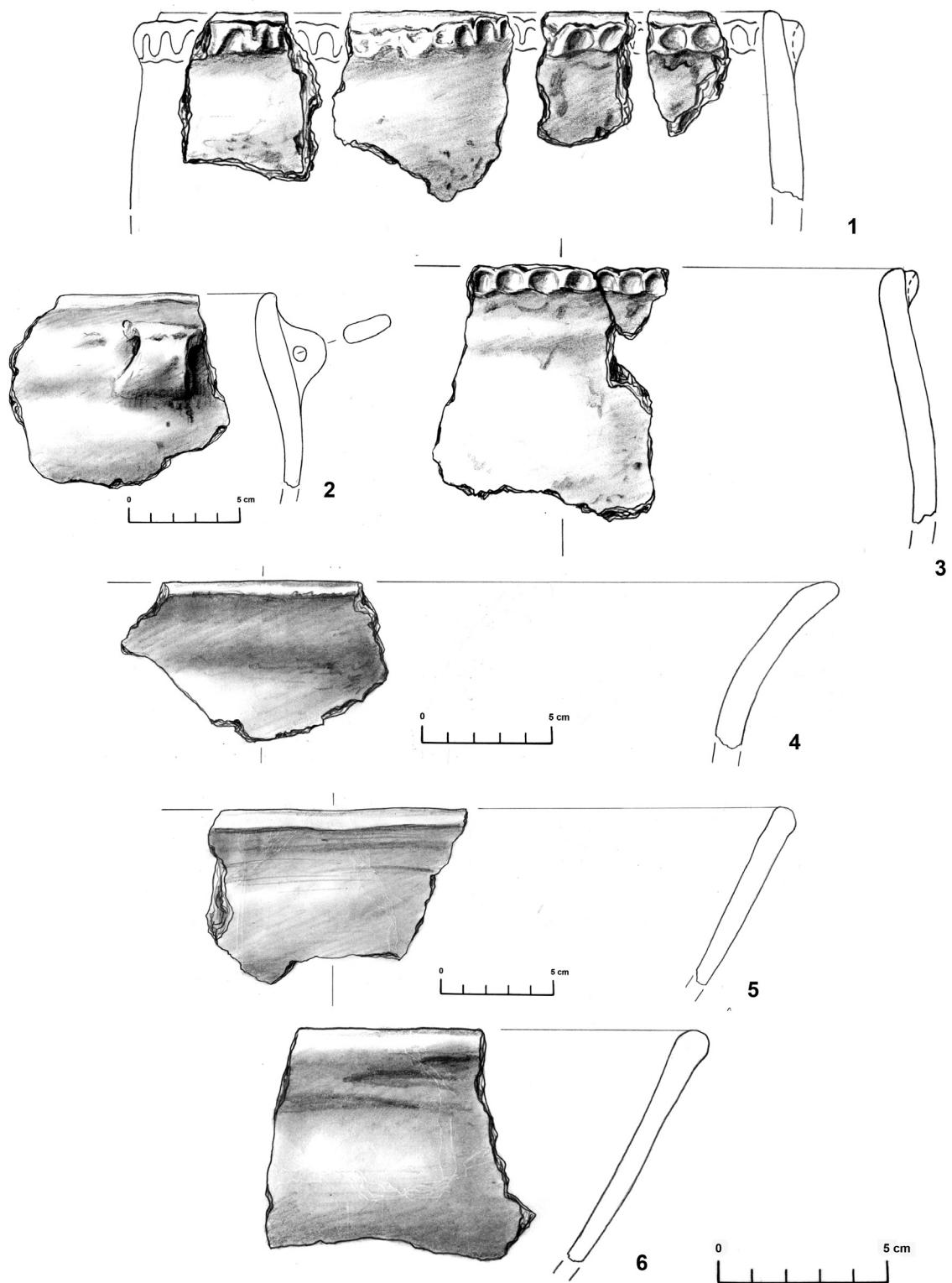
PI.28. Pottery from feature 671.



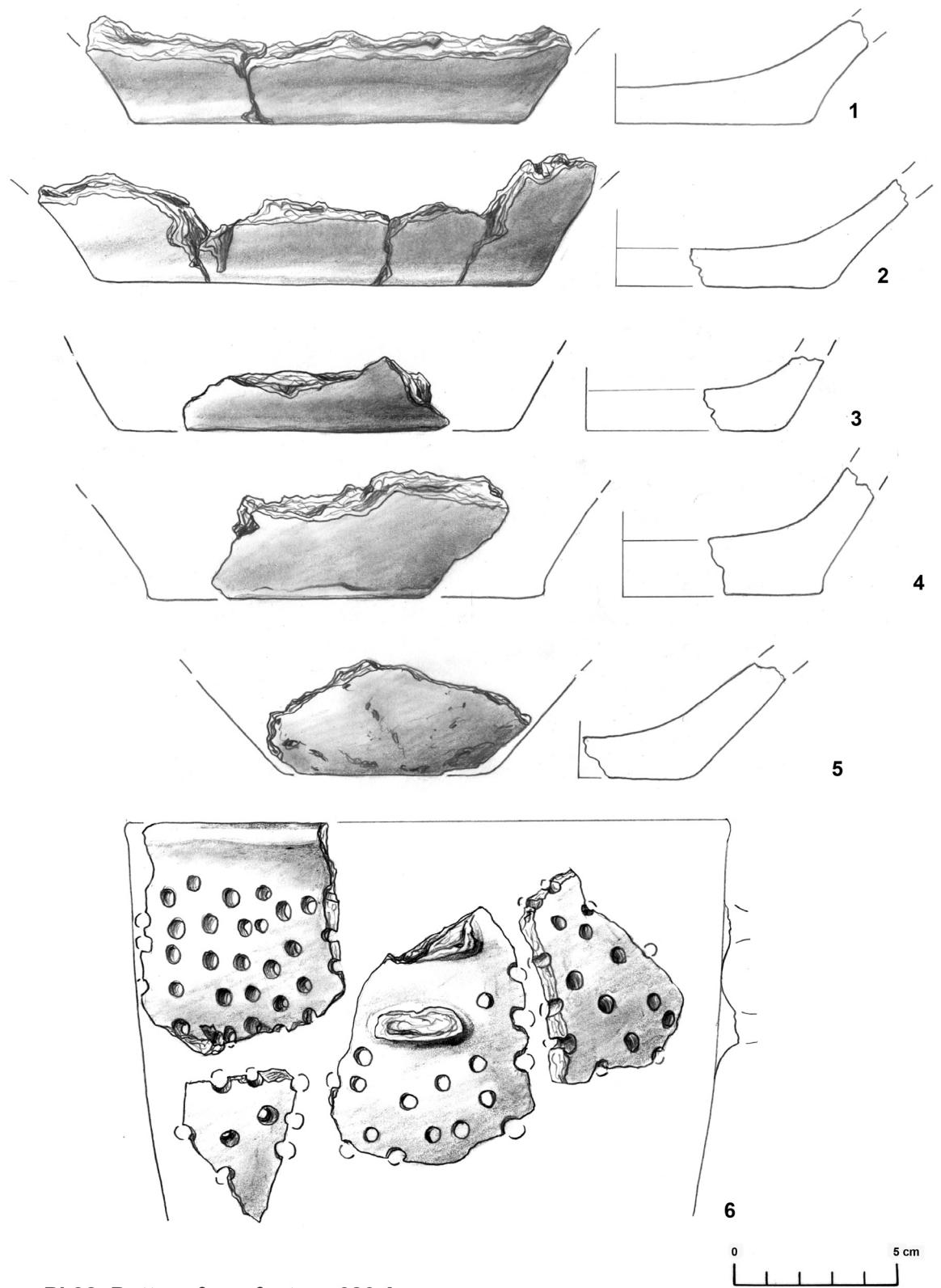
**Pl.29. Pottery from feature 671.**



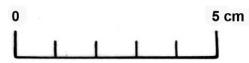
Pl.30. Pottery from feature 671.

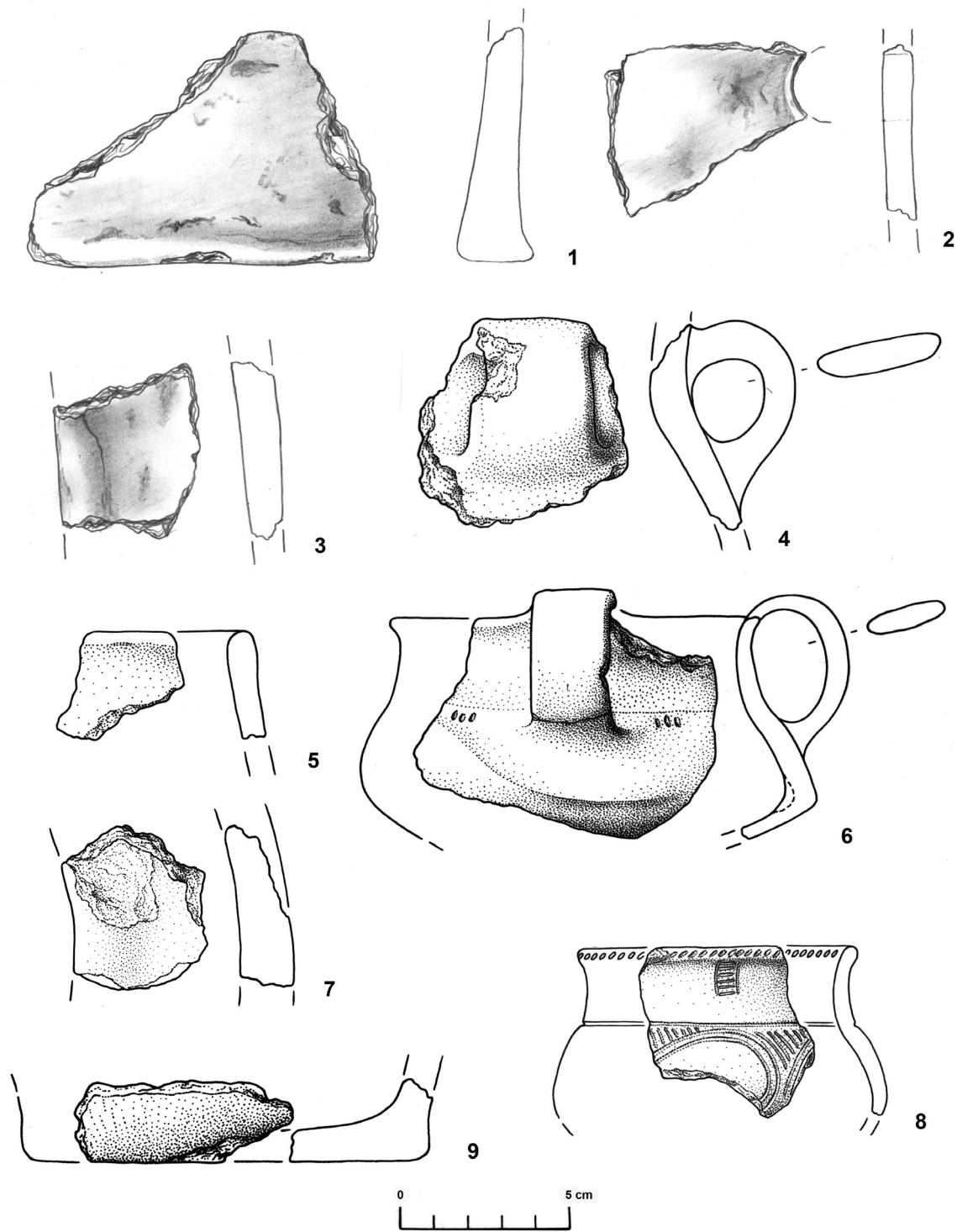


PI.31. Pottery from feature 680 A.

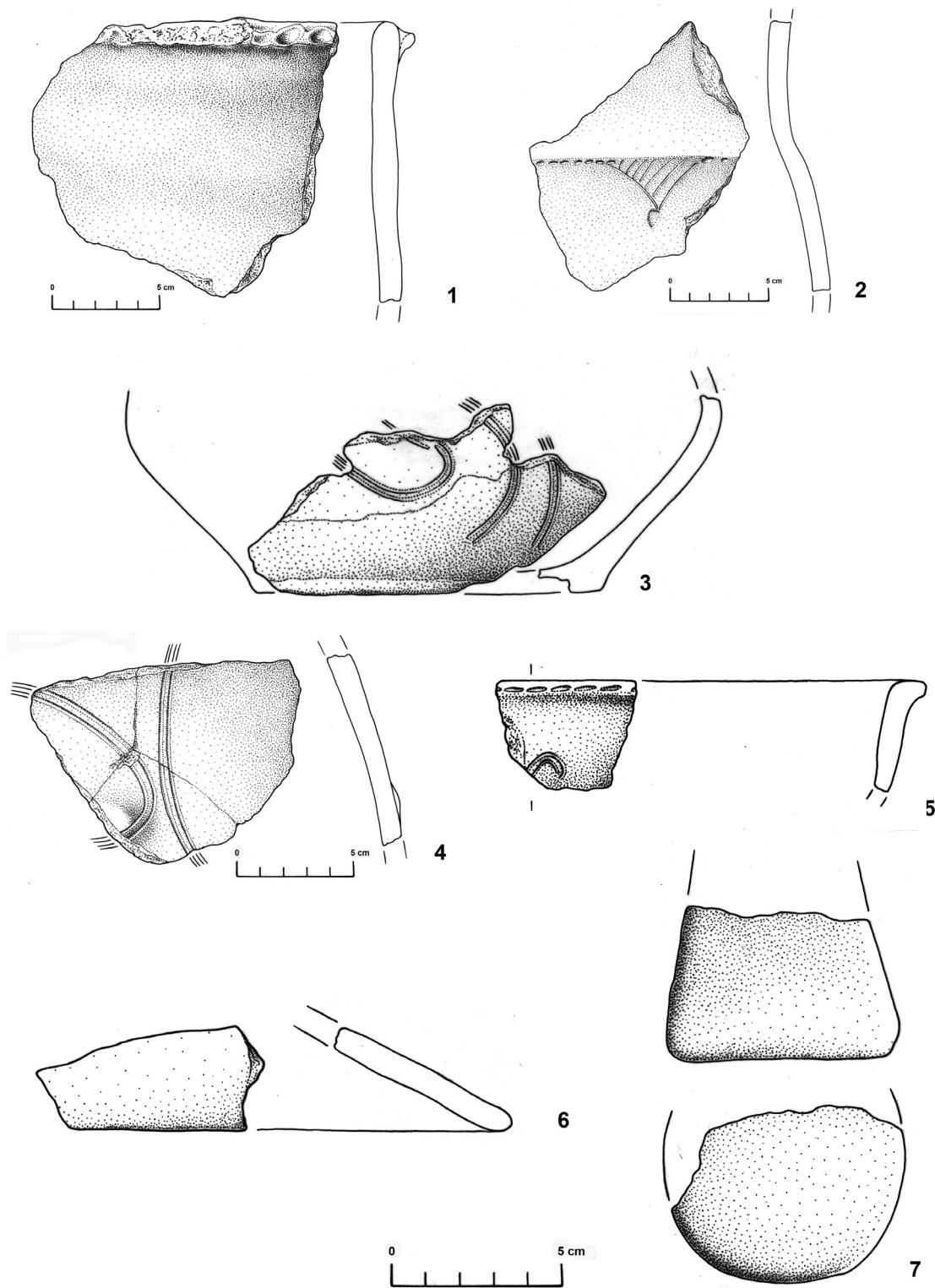


PI.32. Pottery from feature 680 A.

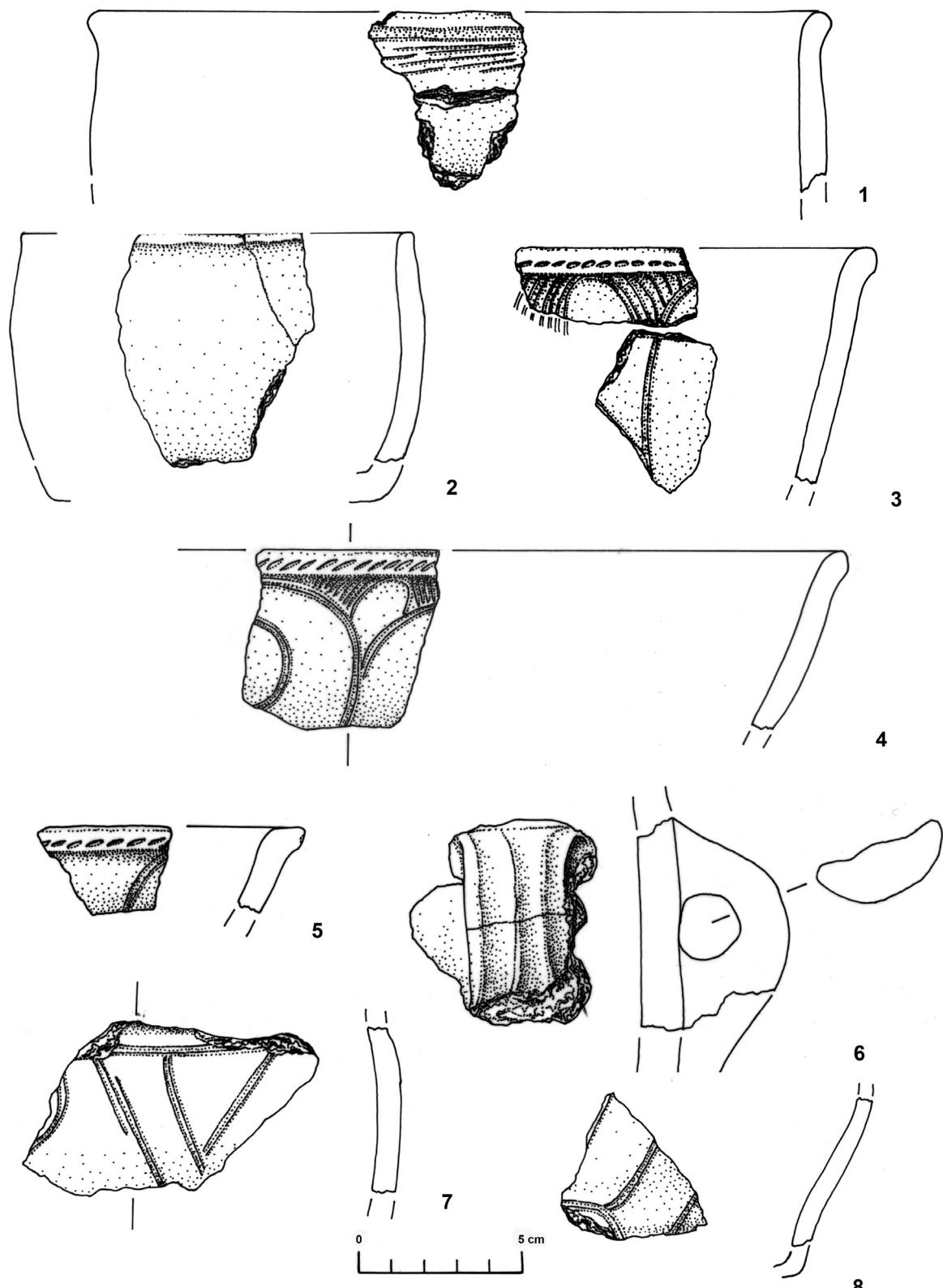




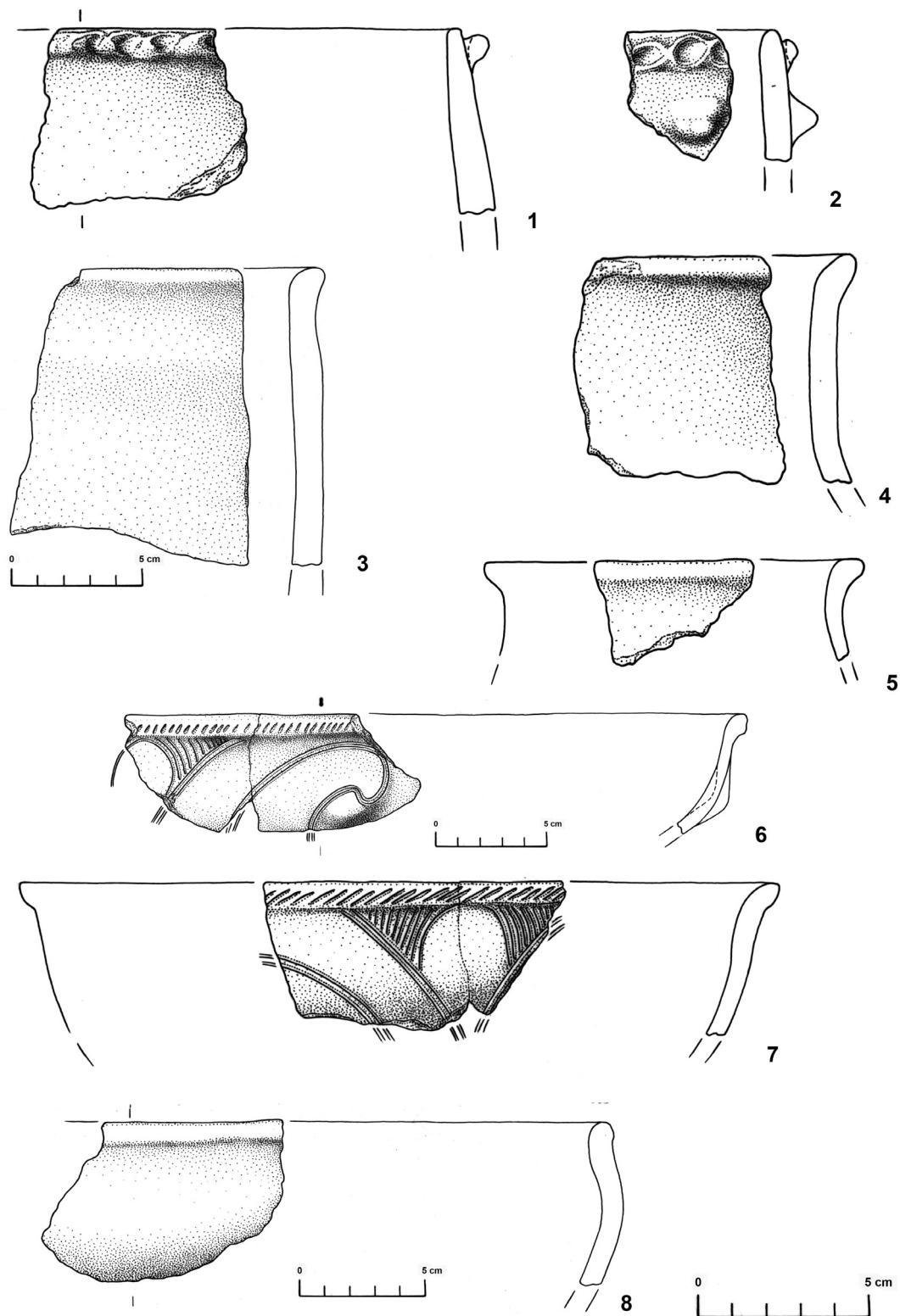
PI.33. Pottery from features: 680 A:1-3; 769:4-9.



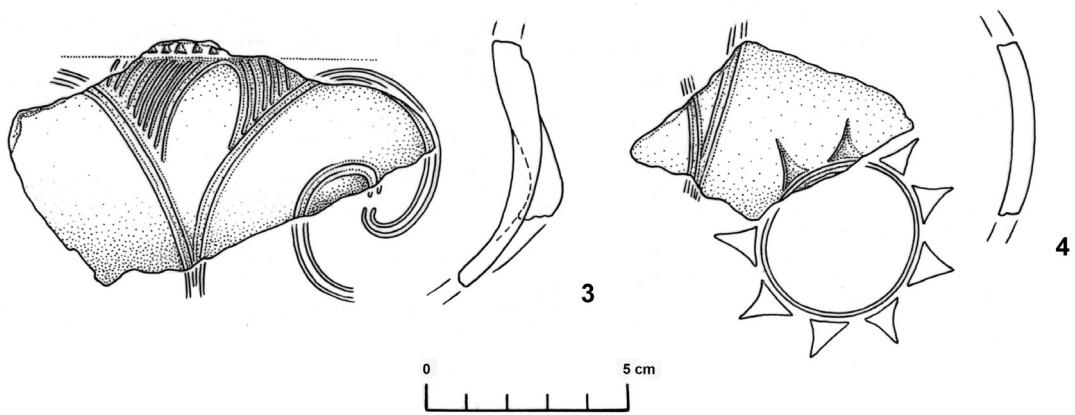
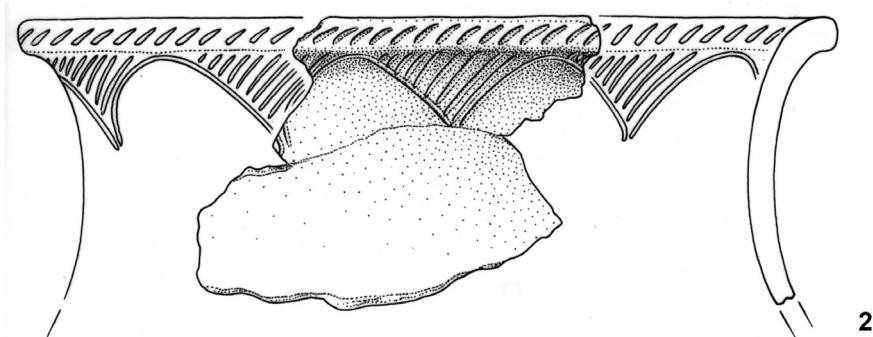
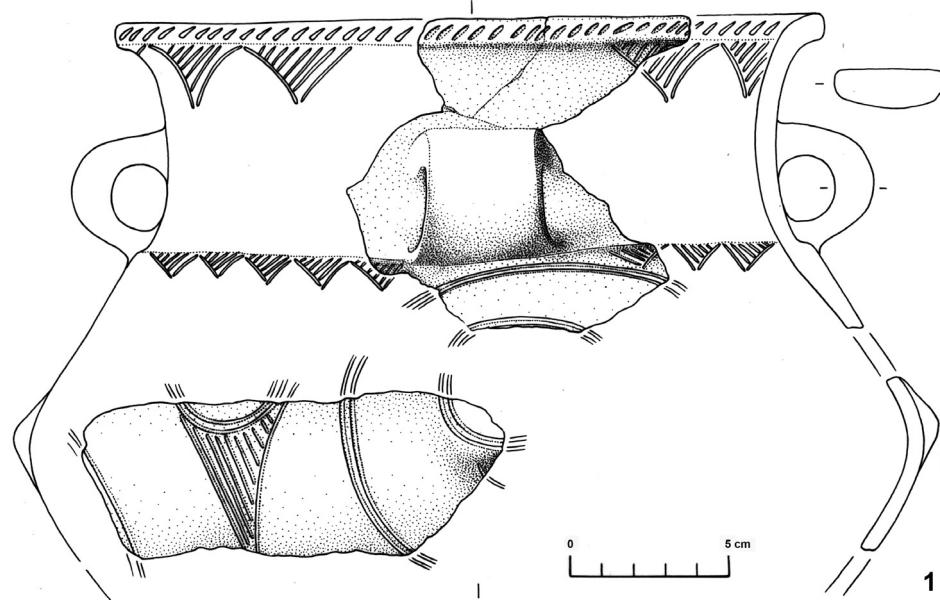
PI.34. Pottery (1-6) and clay object (7) from features: 782 A:1-2; 782 B:3-4; 782:5-7.



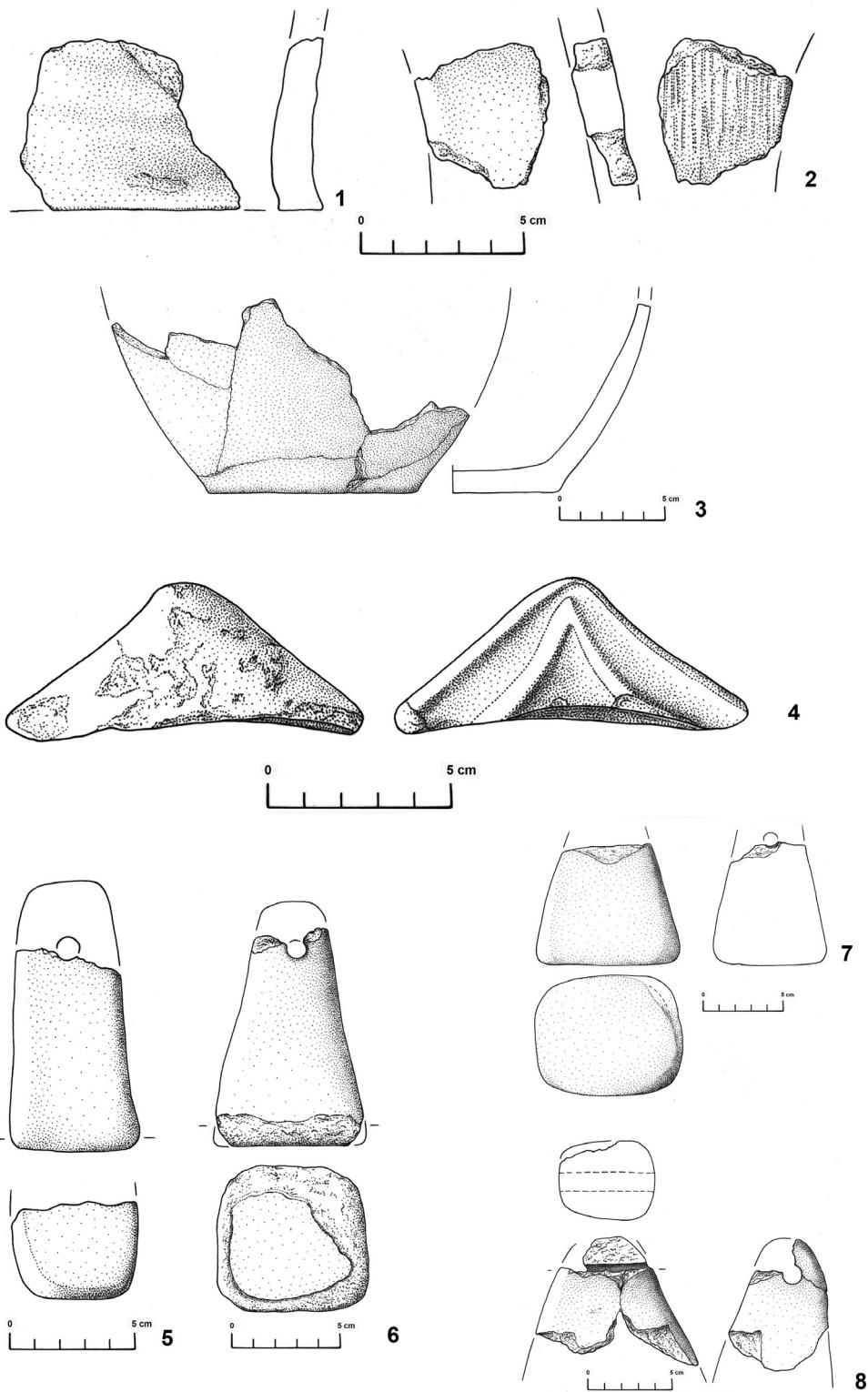
PI.35. Pottery from features 791-780-783.



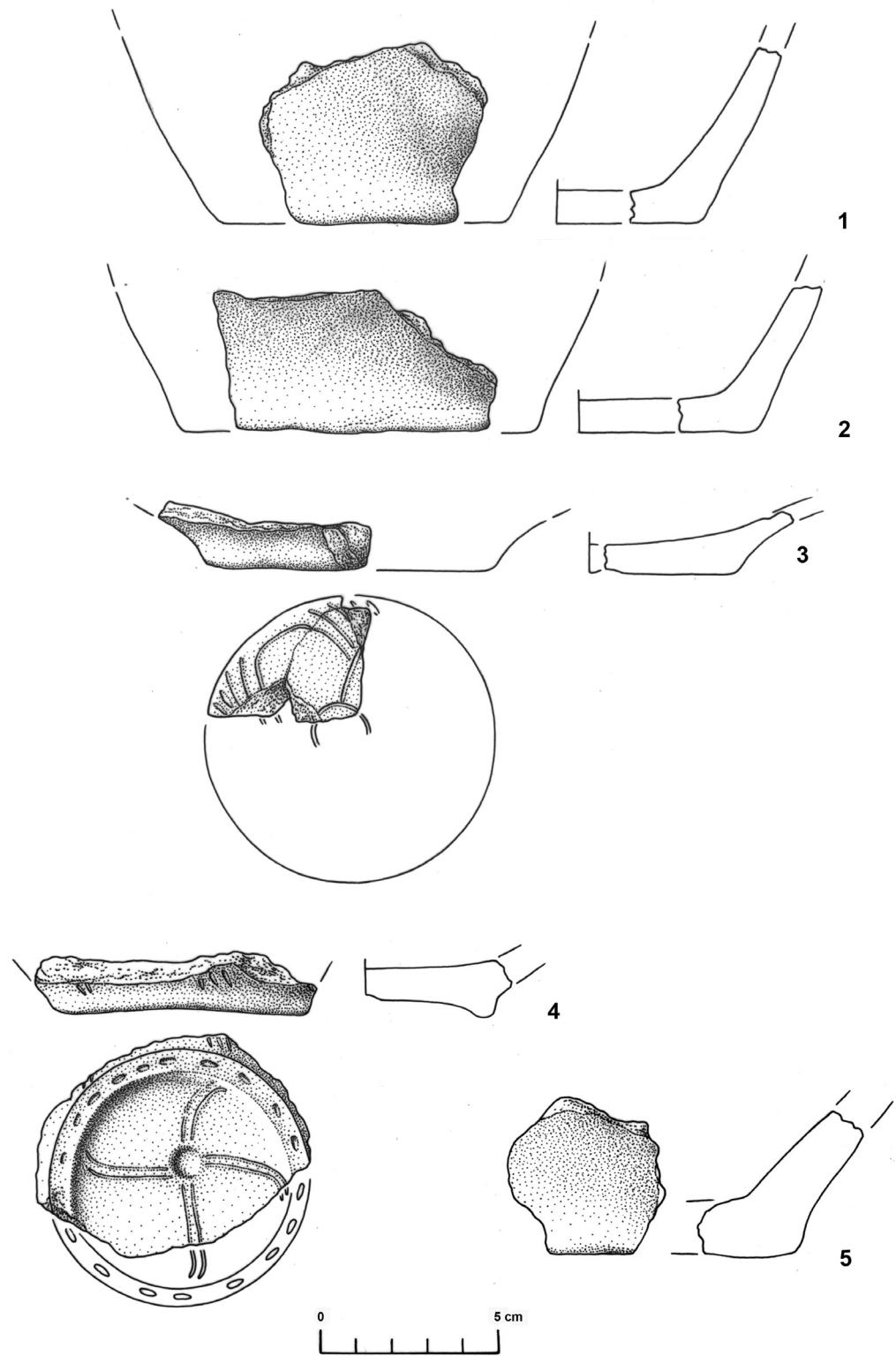
PI.36. Pottery from feature 830.



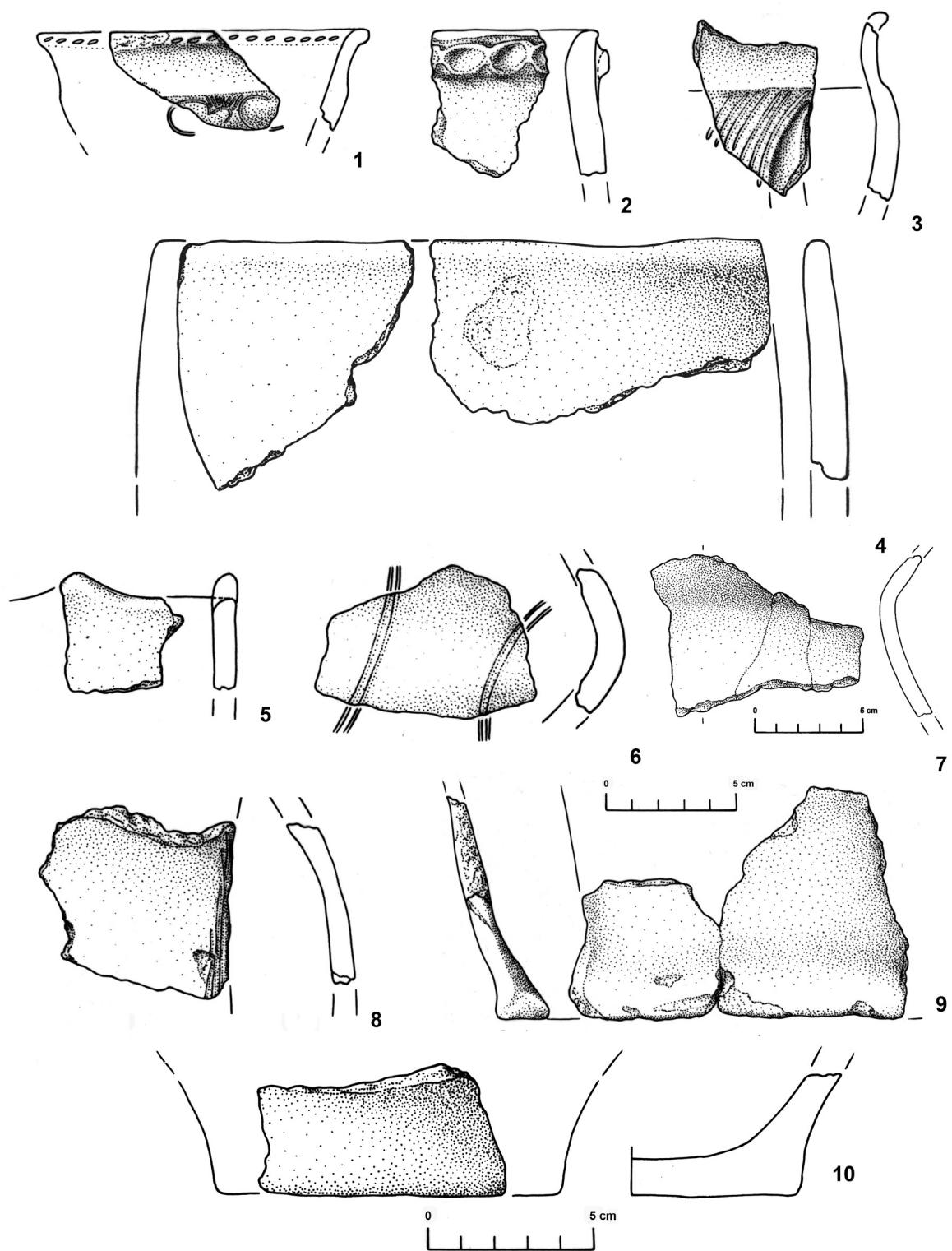
PI.37. Pottery from feature 830.



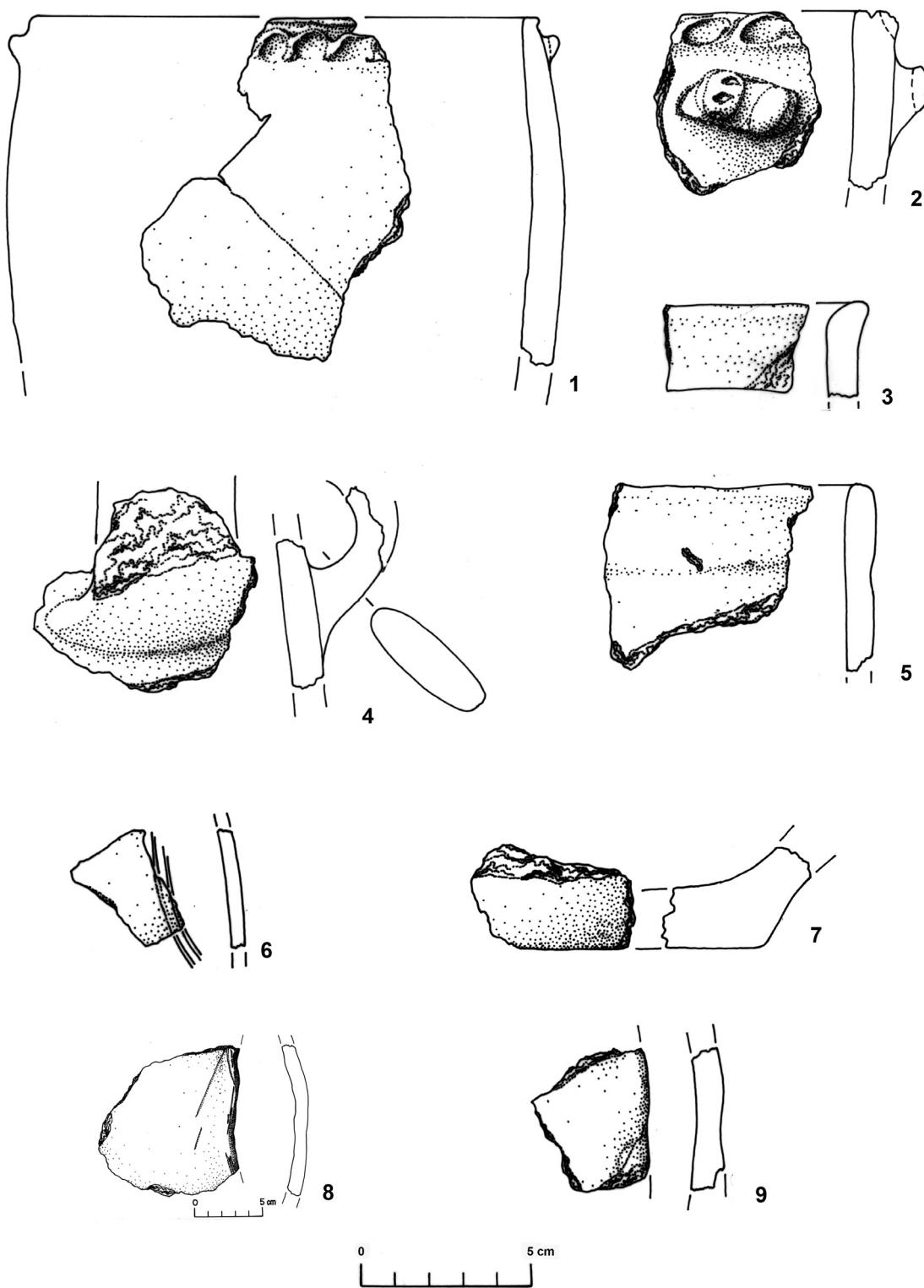
PI.38. Pottery (1-3) and clay objects (4-8) from feature 830.



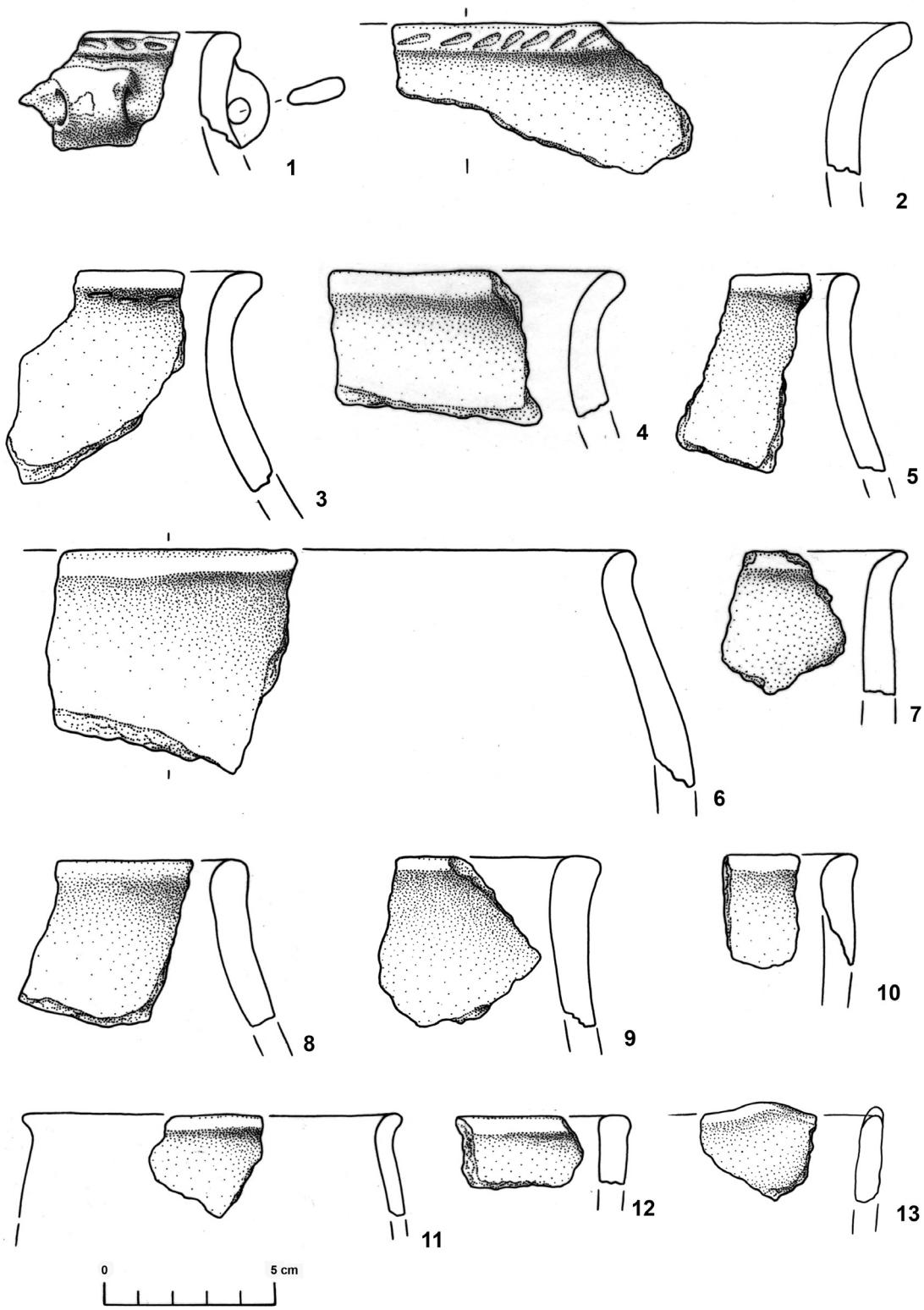
PI.39. Pottery from feature 935 B.



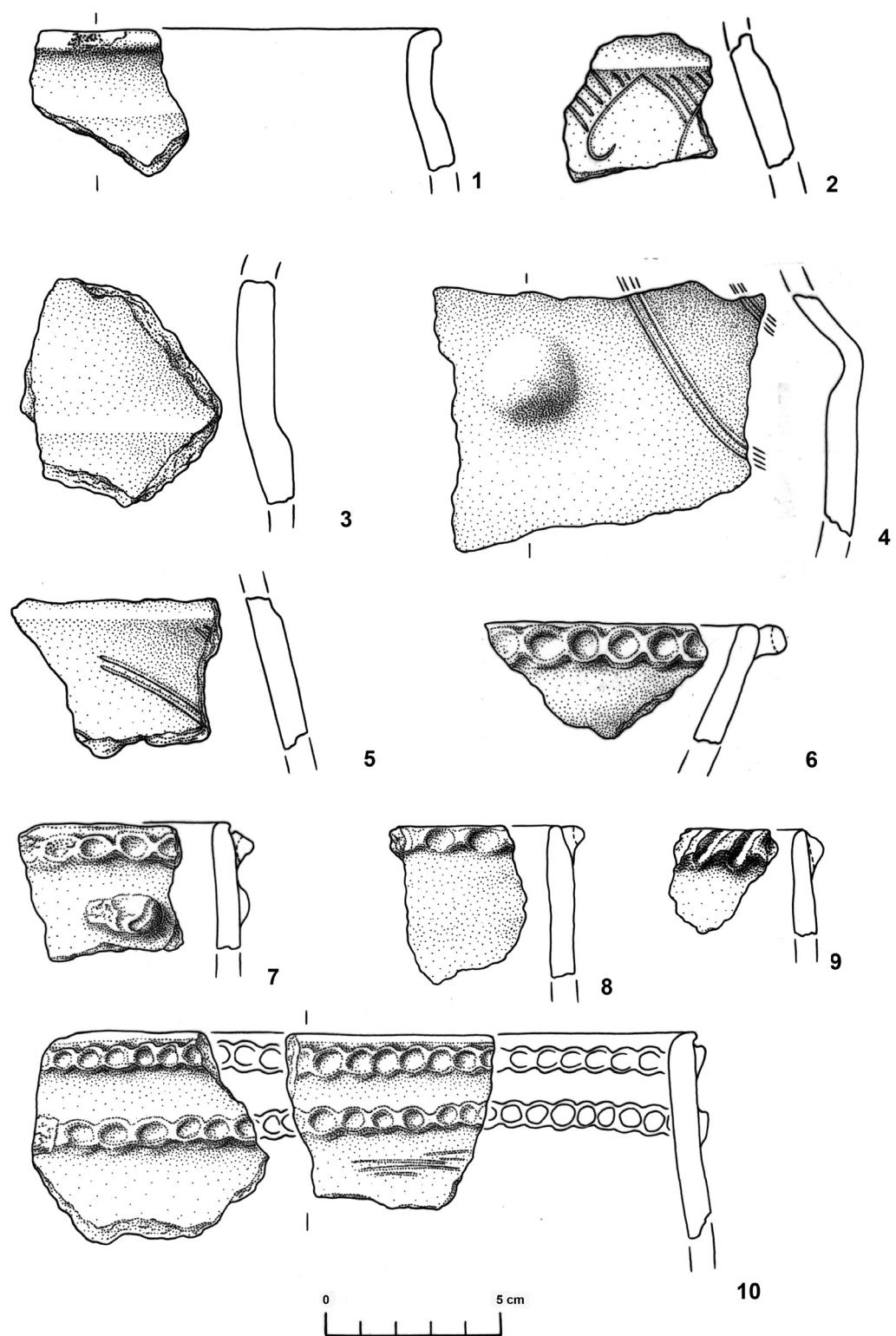
PI.40. Pottery from features: 1009 A-B:1; 1096, 1103-1104:2-3; 1095:4-10.



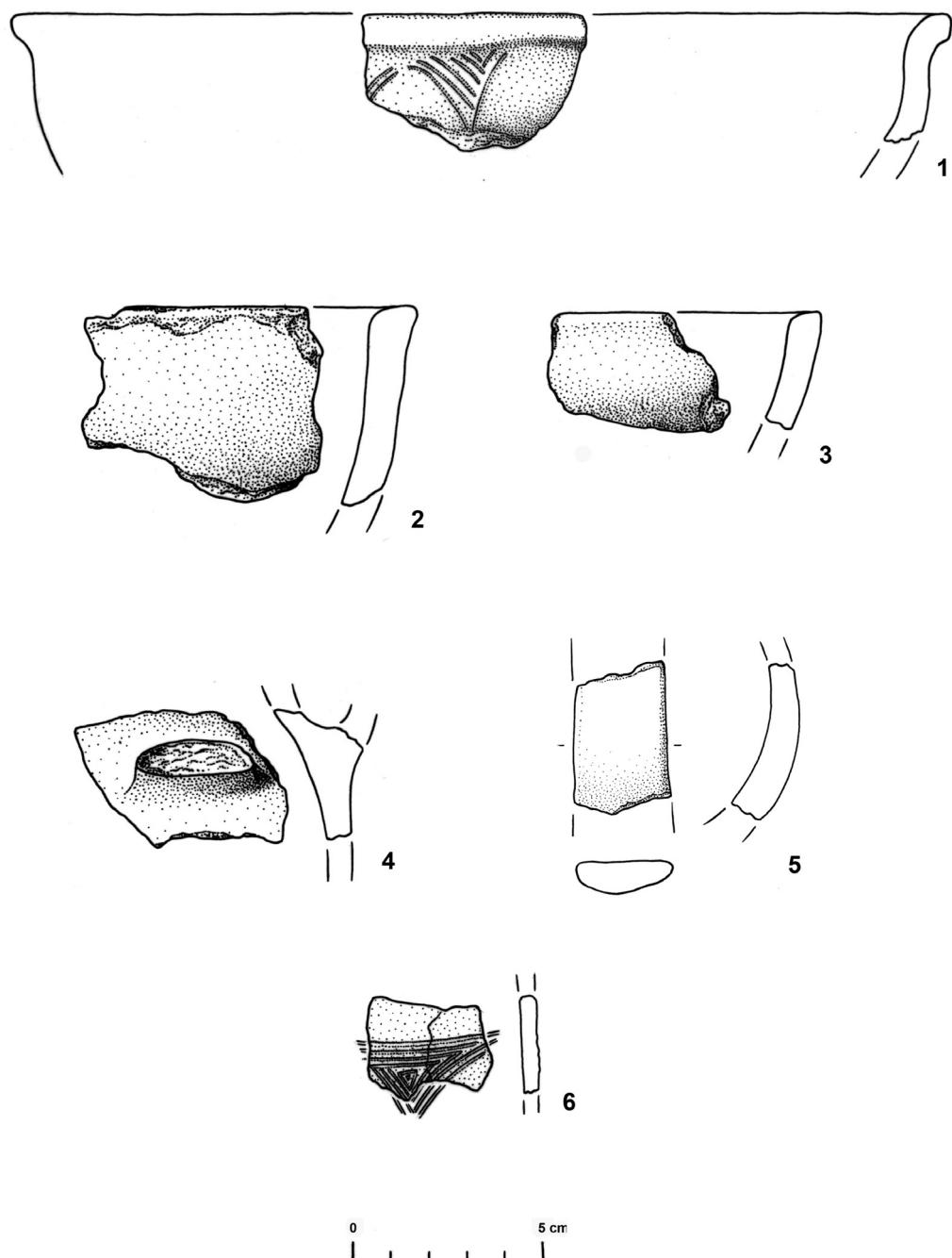
PI.41. Pottery from feature 1080.



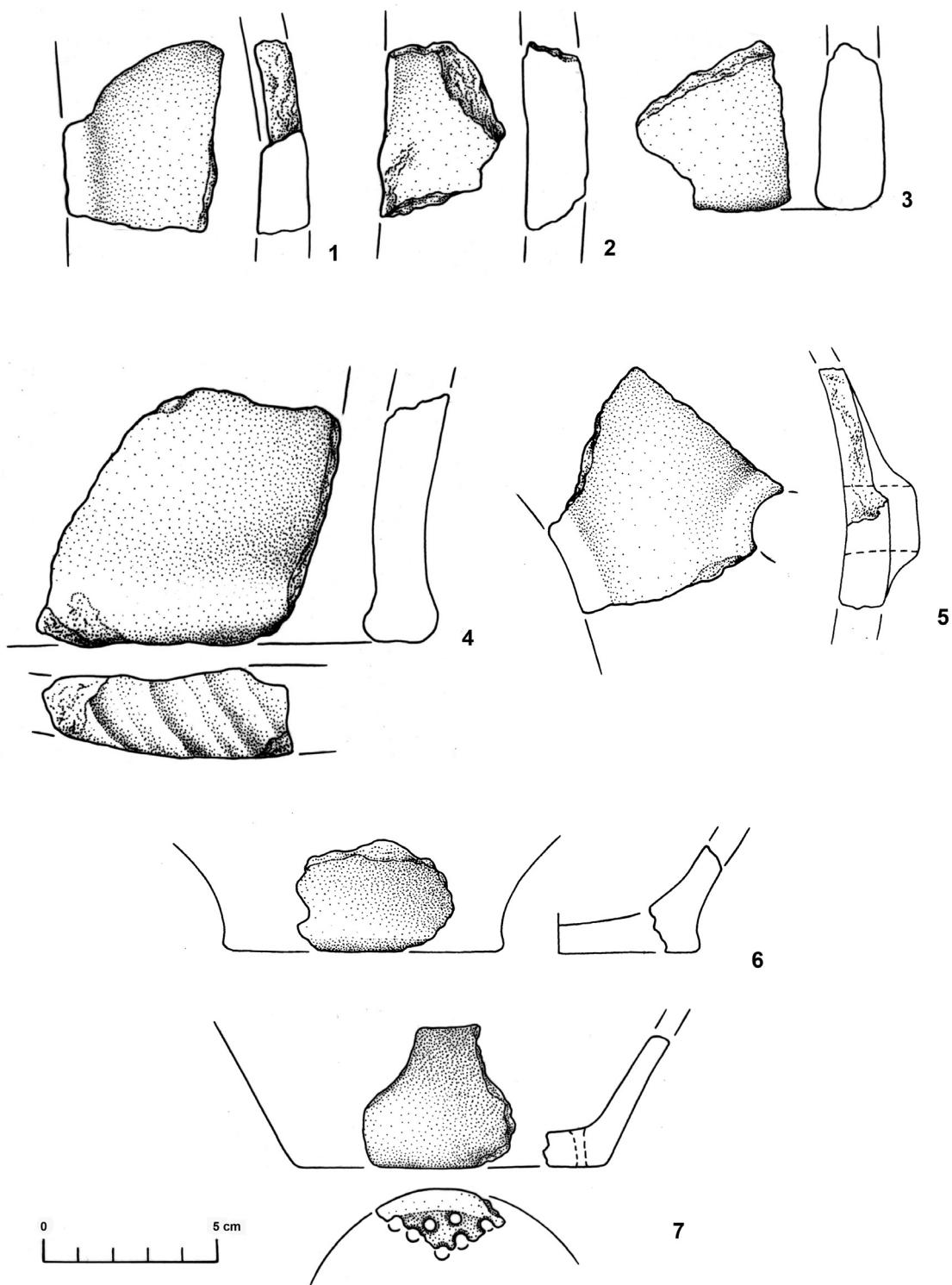
PI.42. Pottery from feature 1083 B=1210.



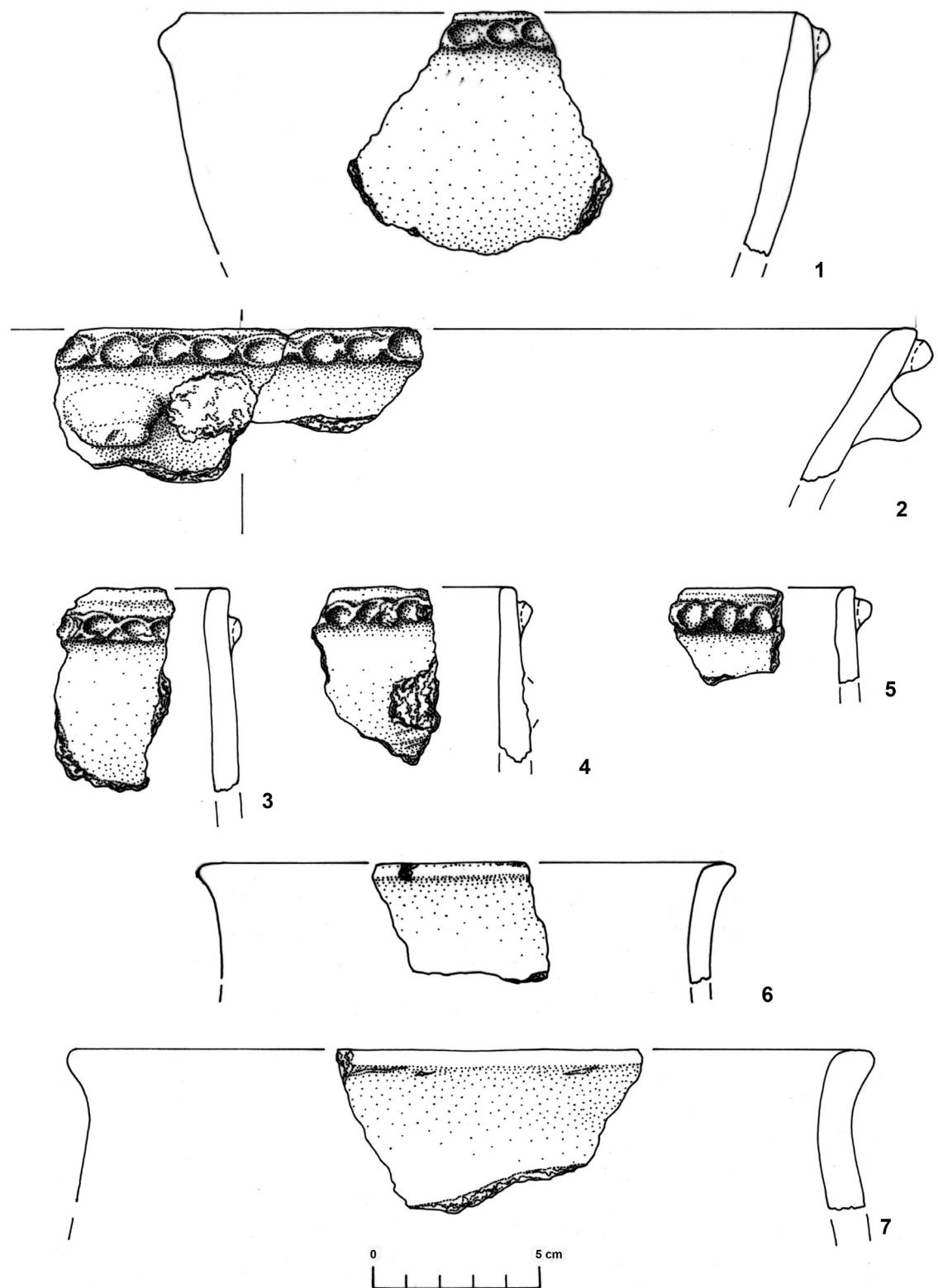
PI.43. Pottery from feature 1083 B=1210.



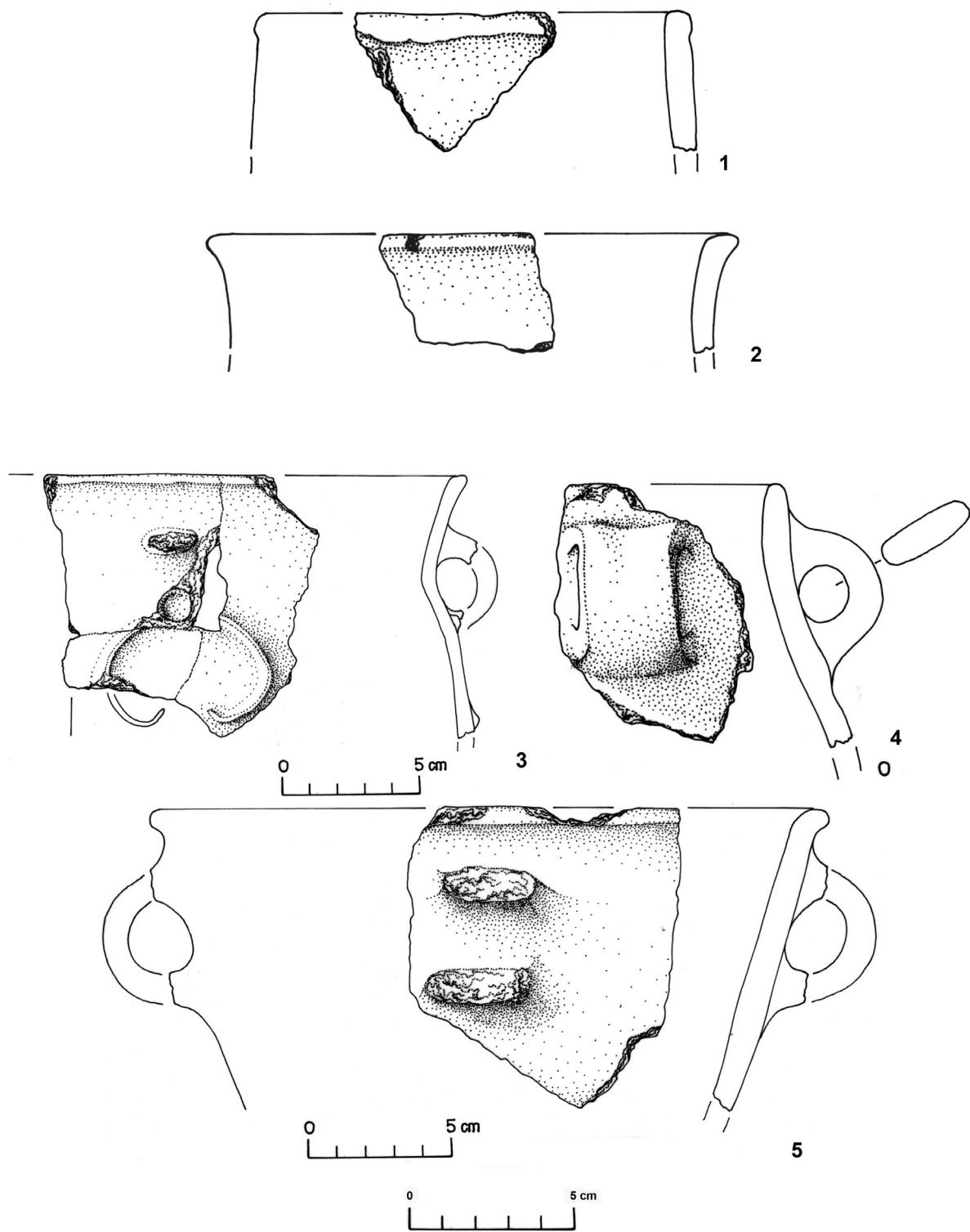
PI.44. Pottery from feature 1083 B=1210.



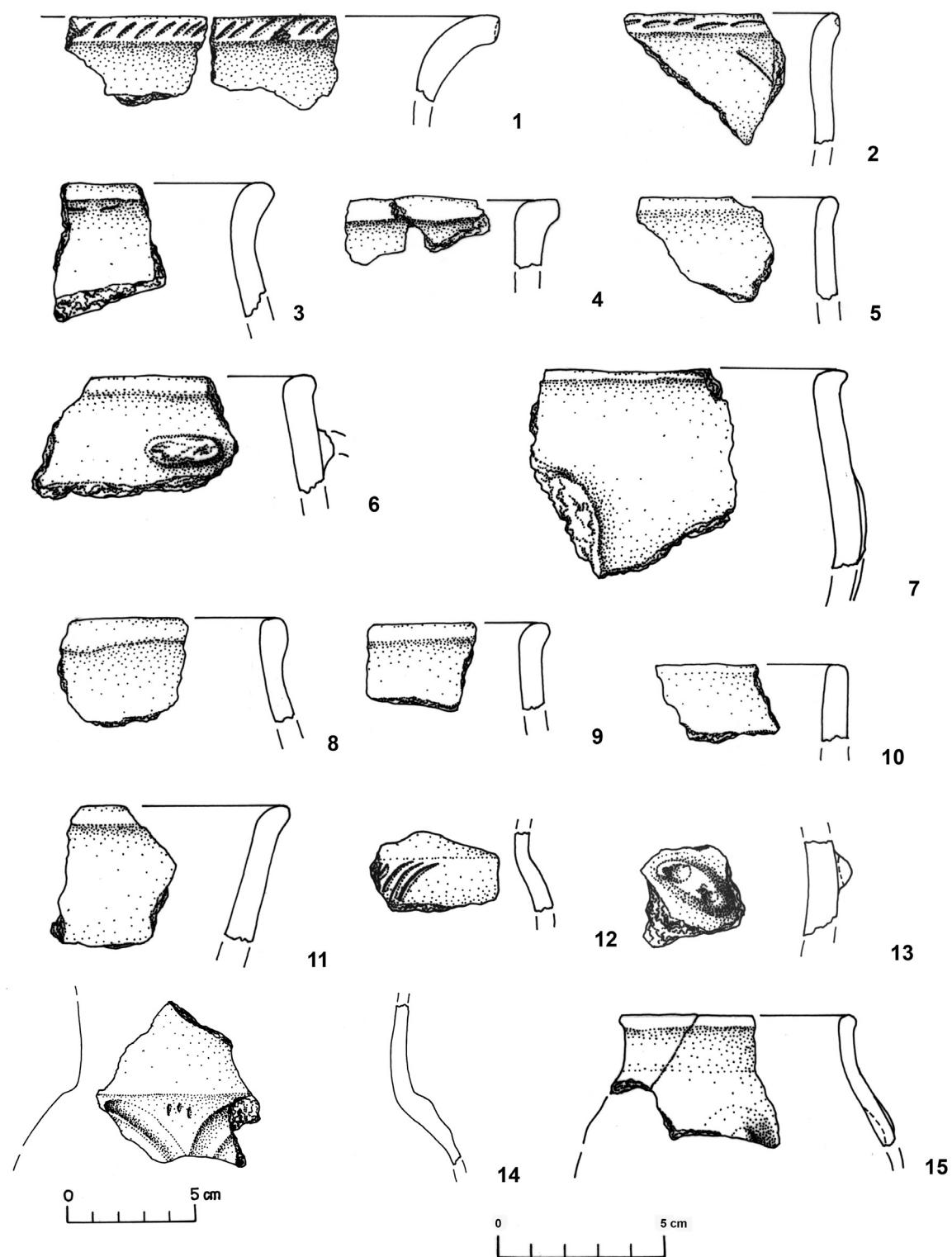
Pl.45. Pottery from feature 1083 B=1210.



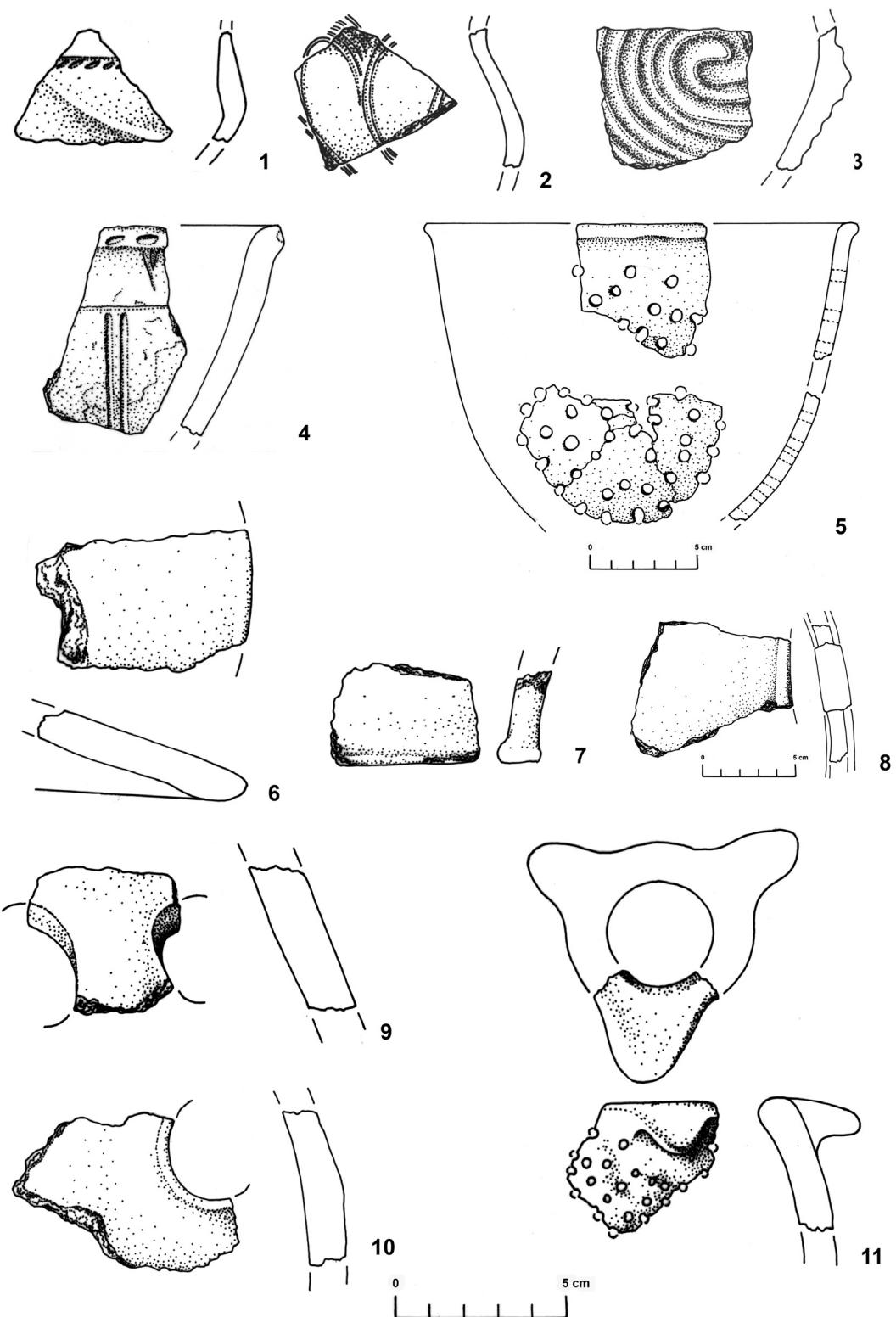
PI.46. Pottery from feature 1083.



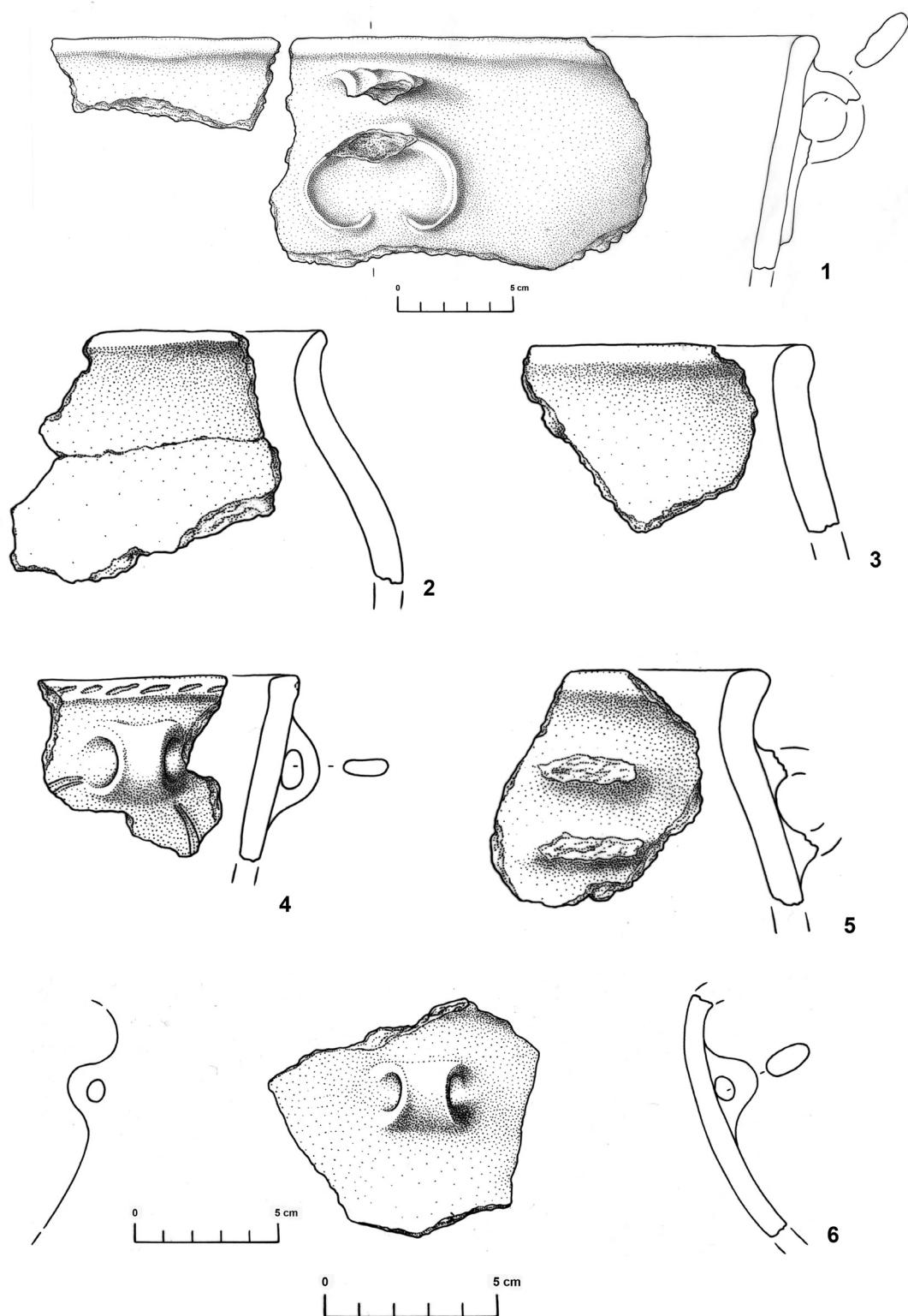
PI.47. Pottery from feature 1083.



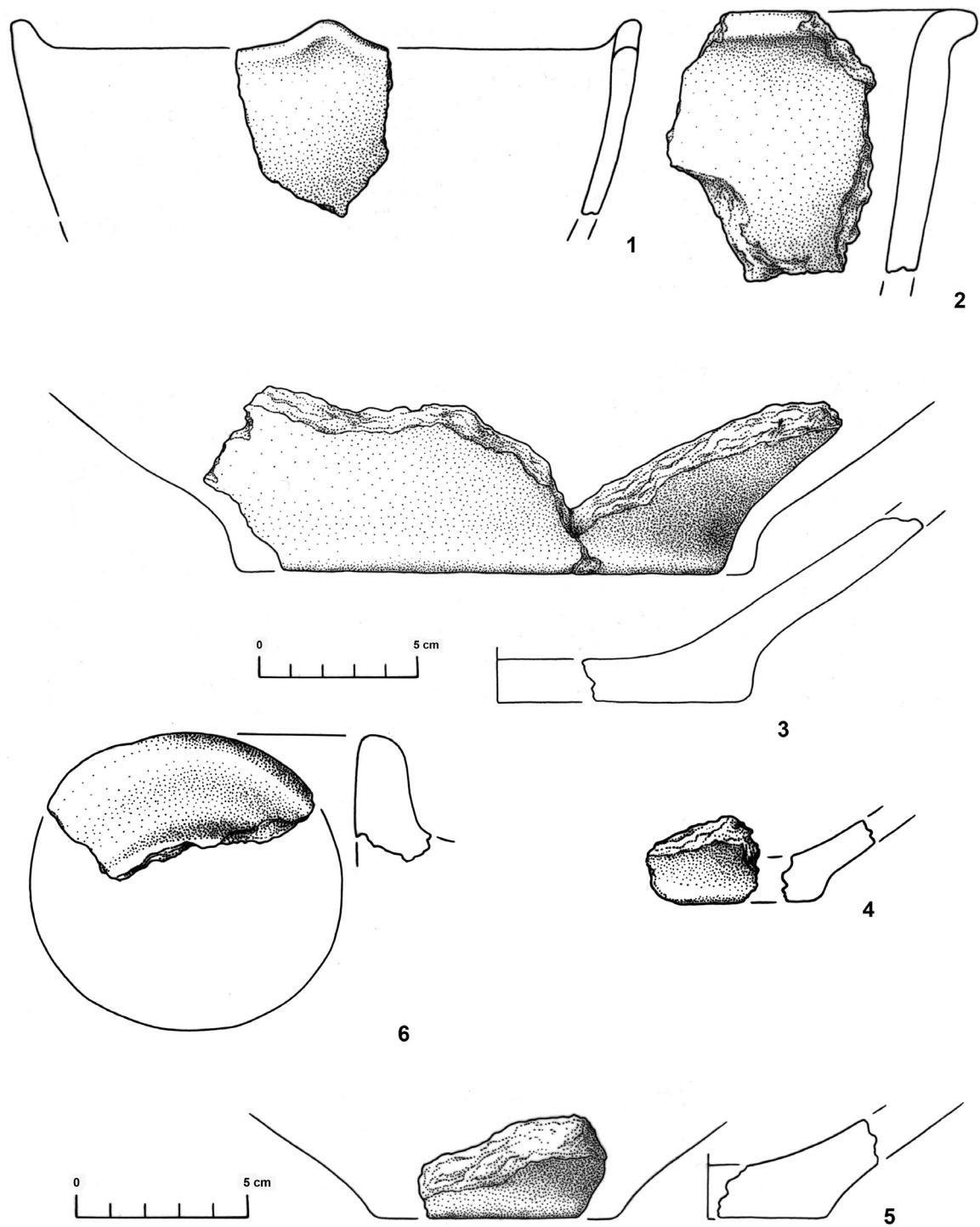
PI.48. Pottery from feature 1083.



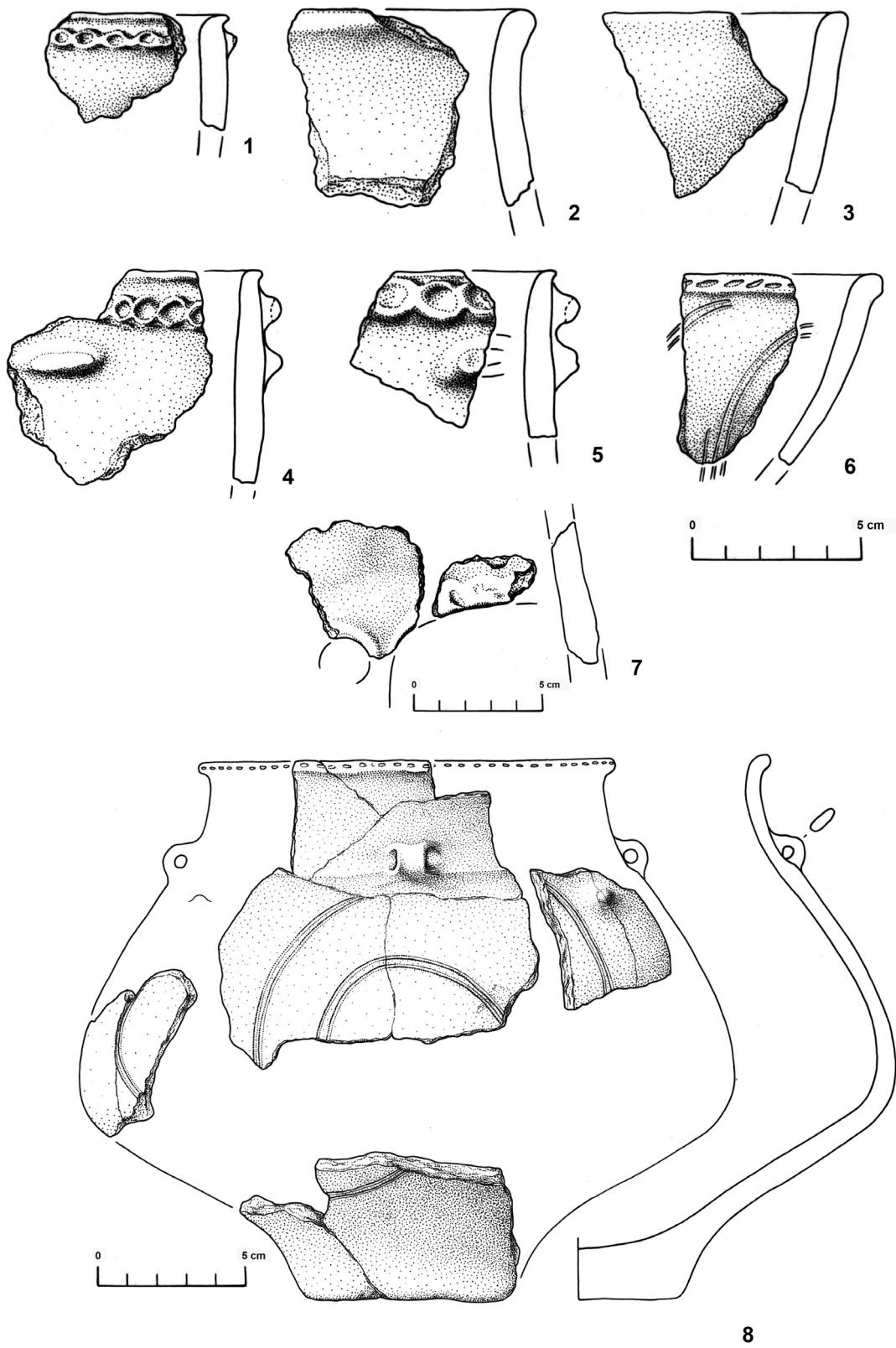
PI.49. Pottery from feature 1083.



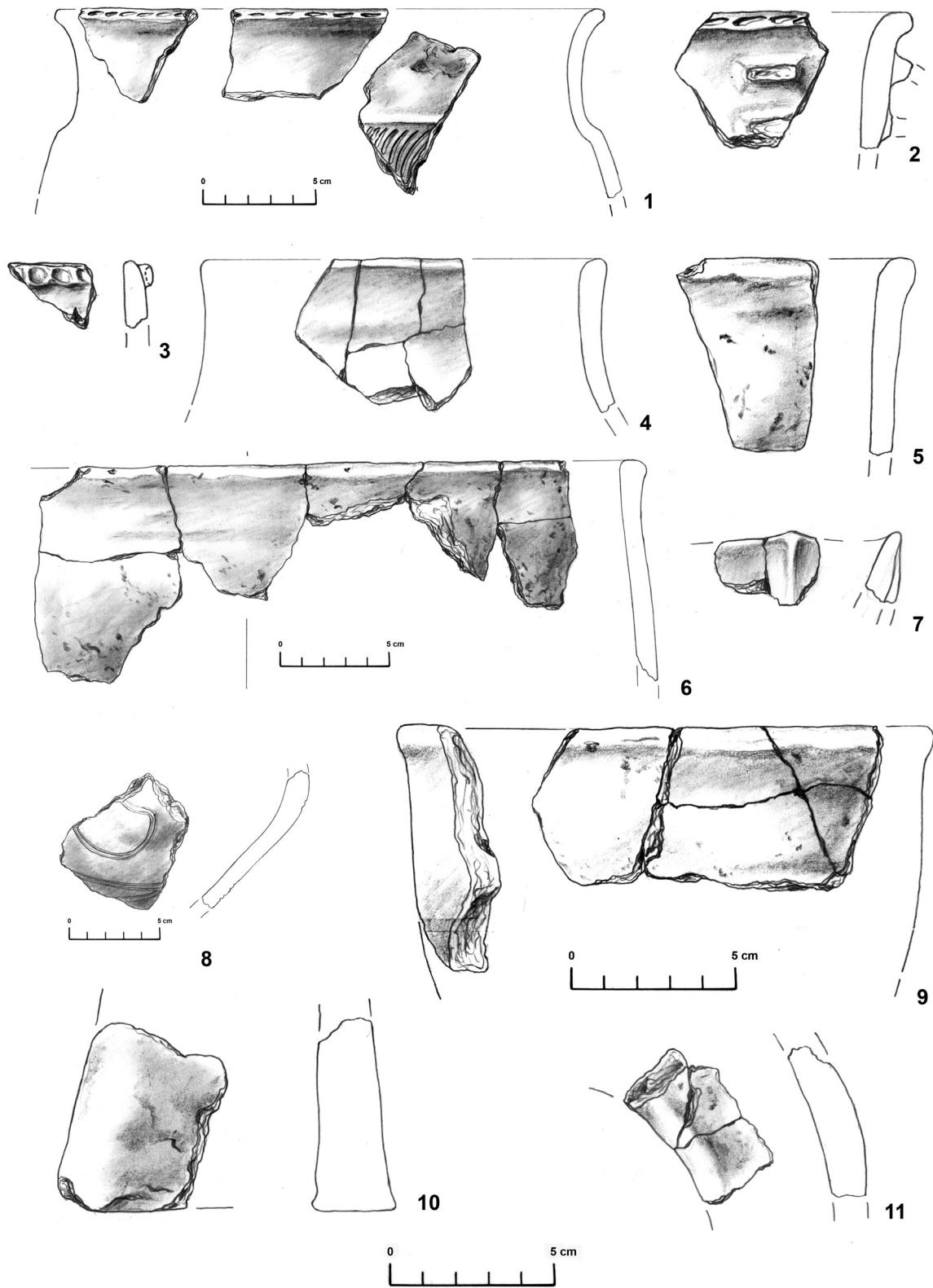
PI.50. Pottery from feature 1104.



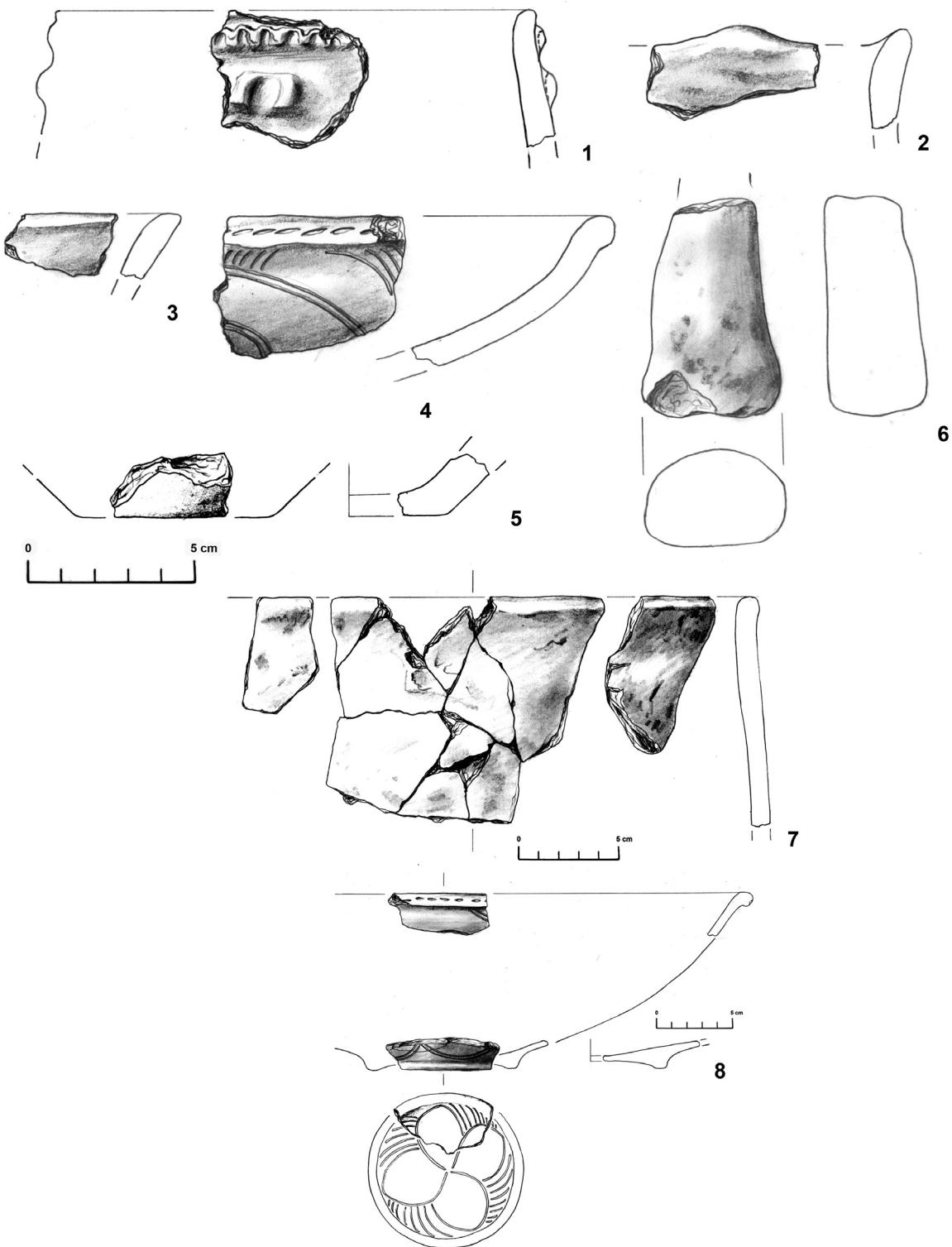
PI.51. Pottery (1-5) and clay object (6) from feature 1104.



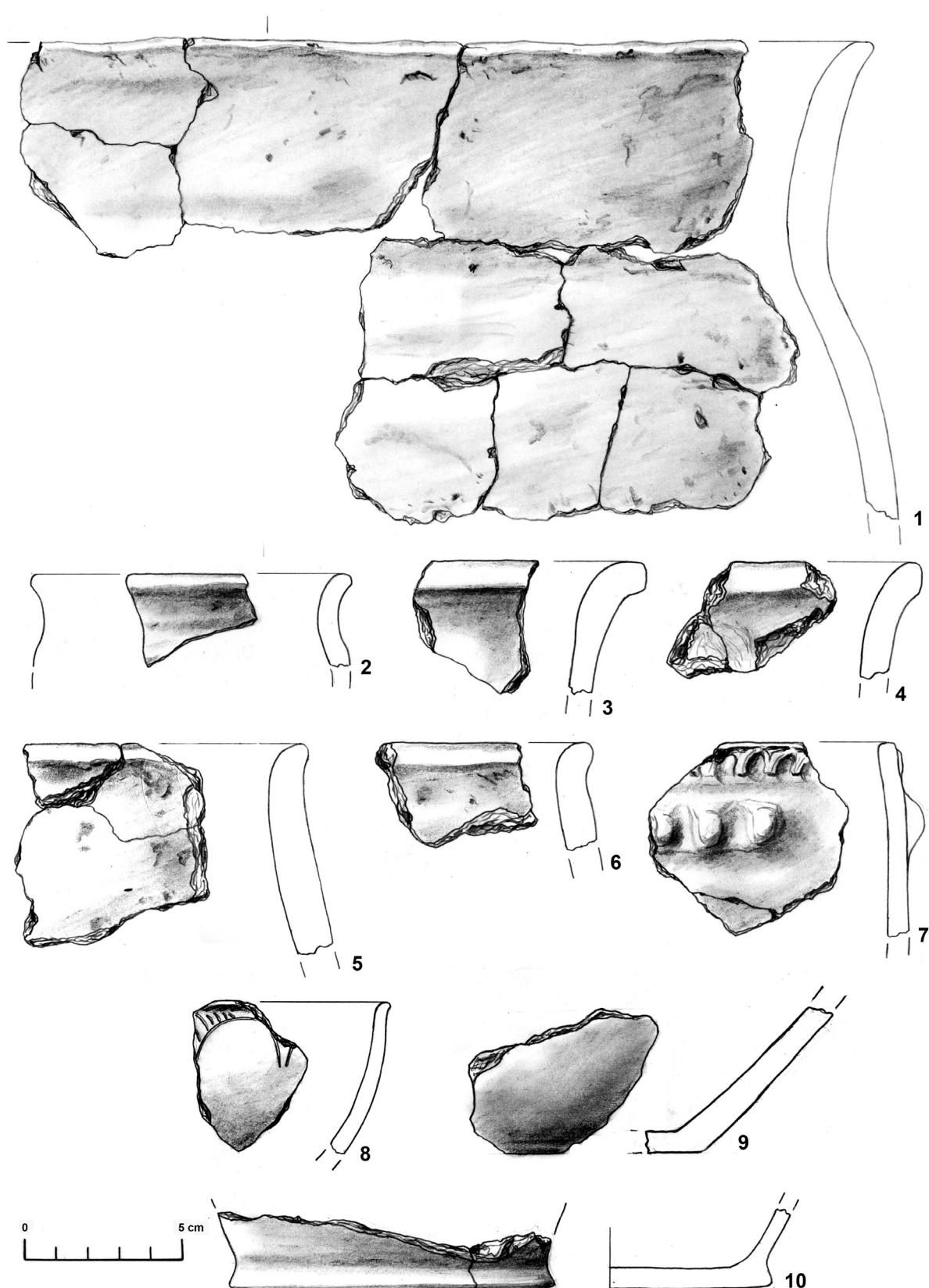
PI.52. Pottery from features: 1105:1-3; 1106: 4-7; 1109 B: 8.



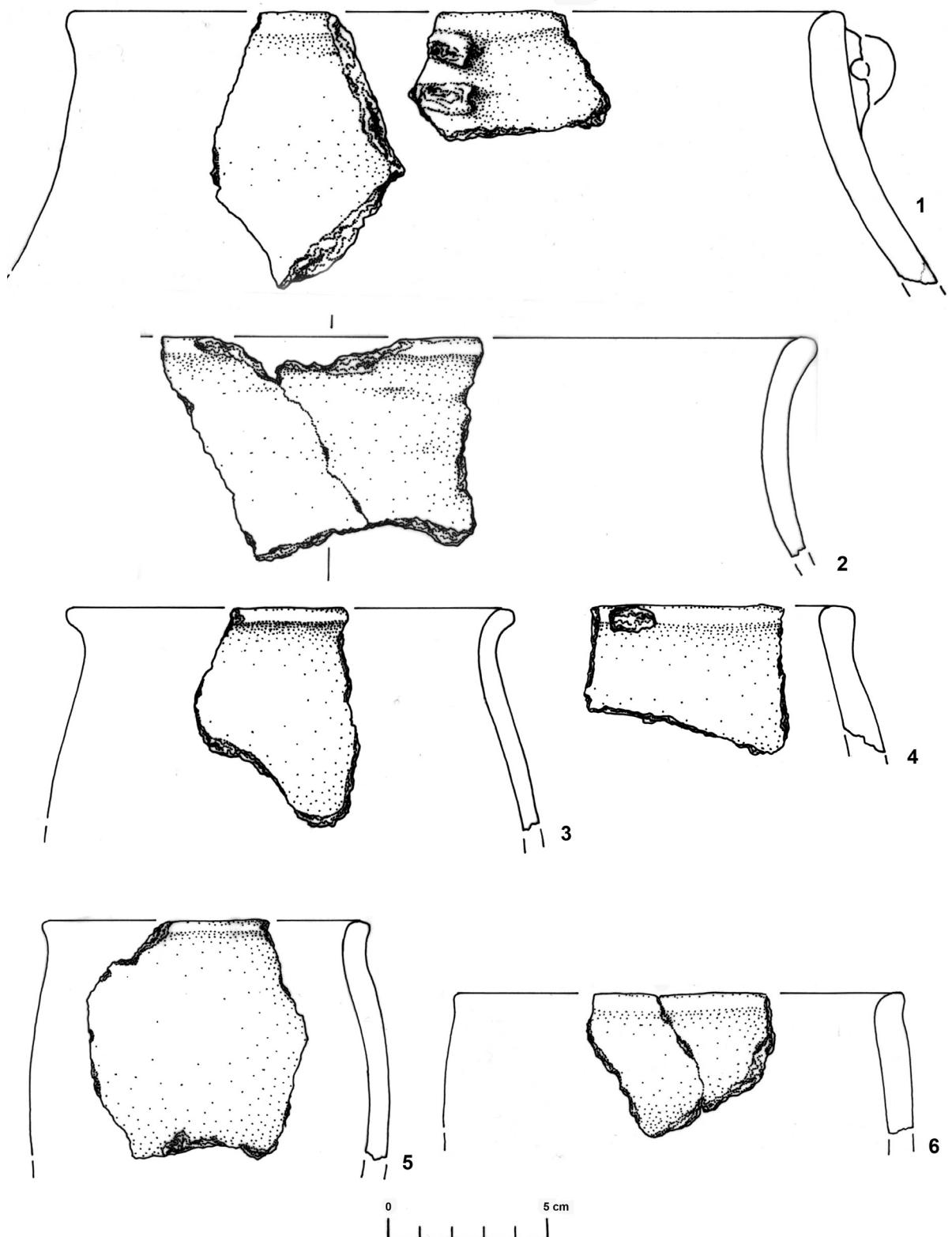
PI.53. Pottery from features: 1122:1-2; 1150:3-11.



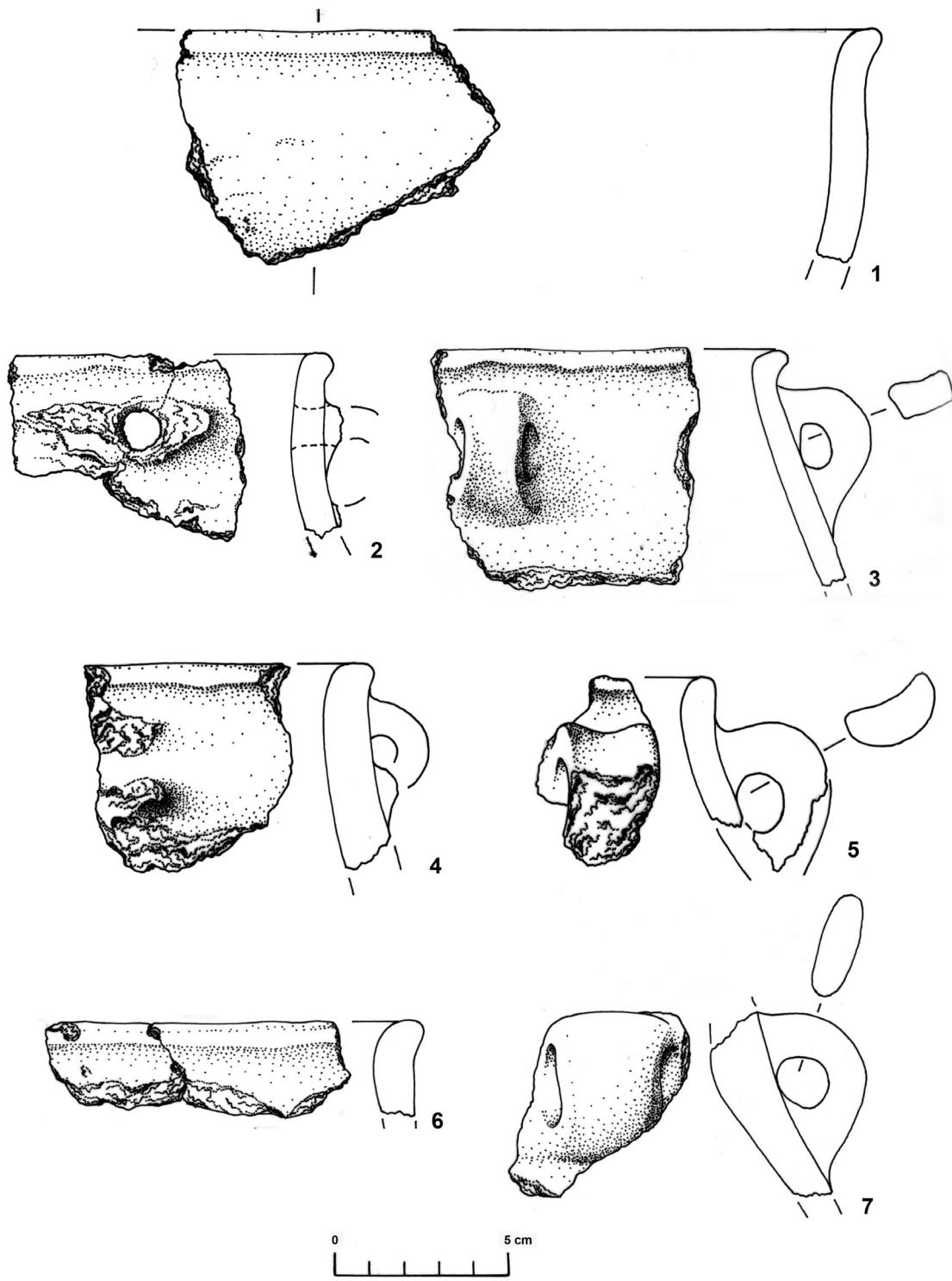
Pl.54. Pottery (1-5,7-8) and clay object (6) from features: 1152+1302-1304:1-4; 1154:7-8.



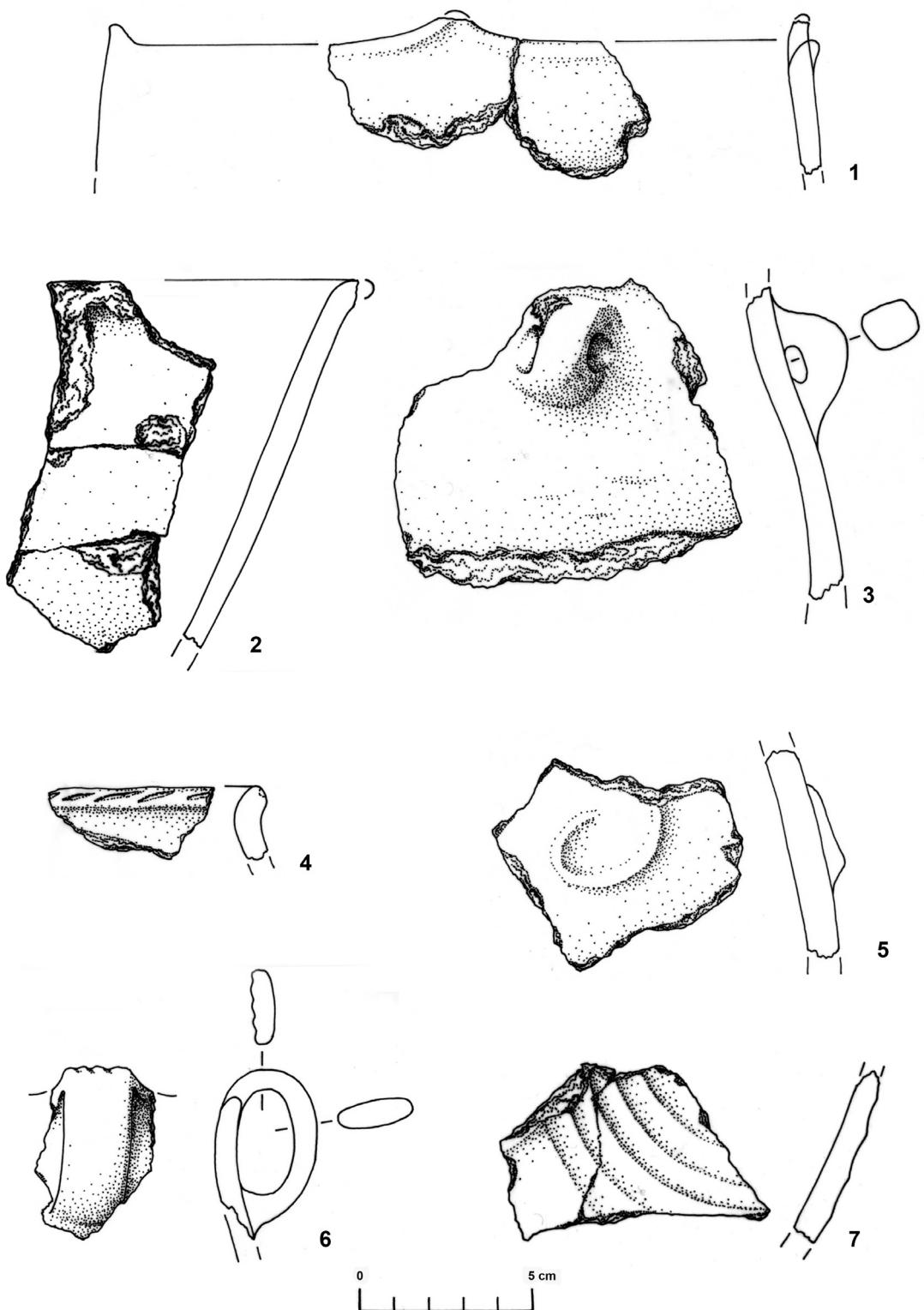
PI.55. Pottery from feature 1155.



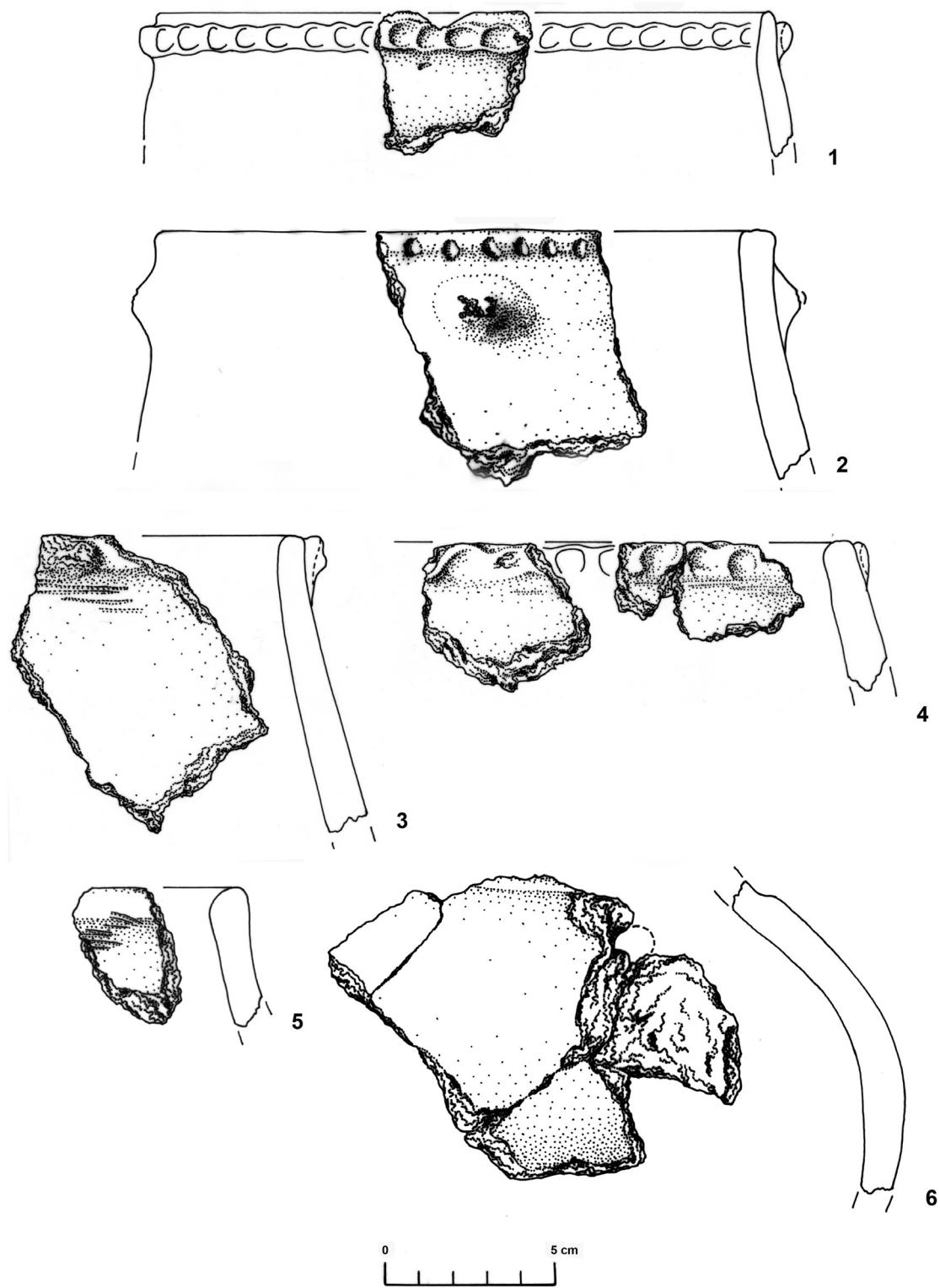
PI.56. Pottery from feature 1210.



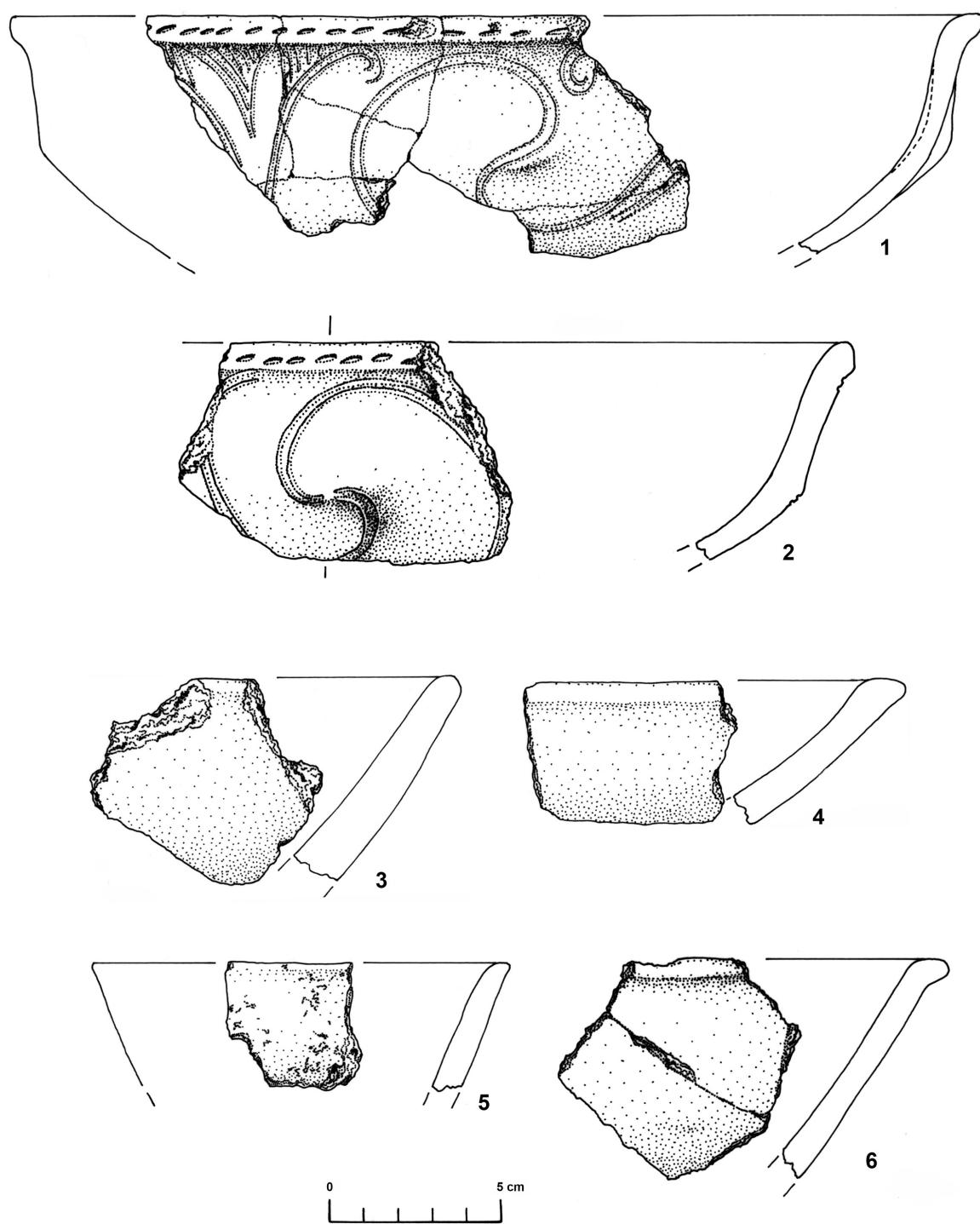
PI.57. Pottery from feature 1210.



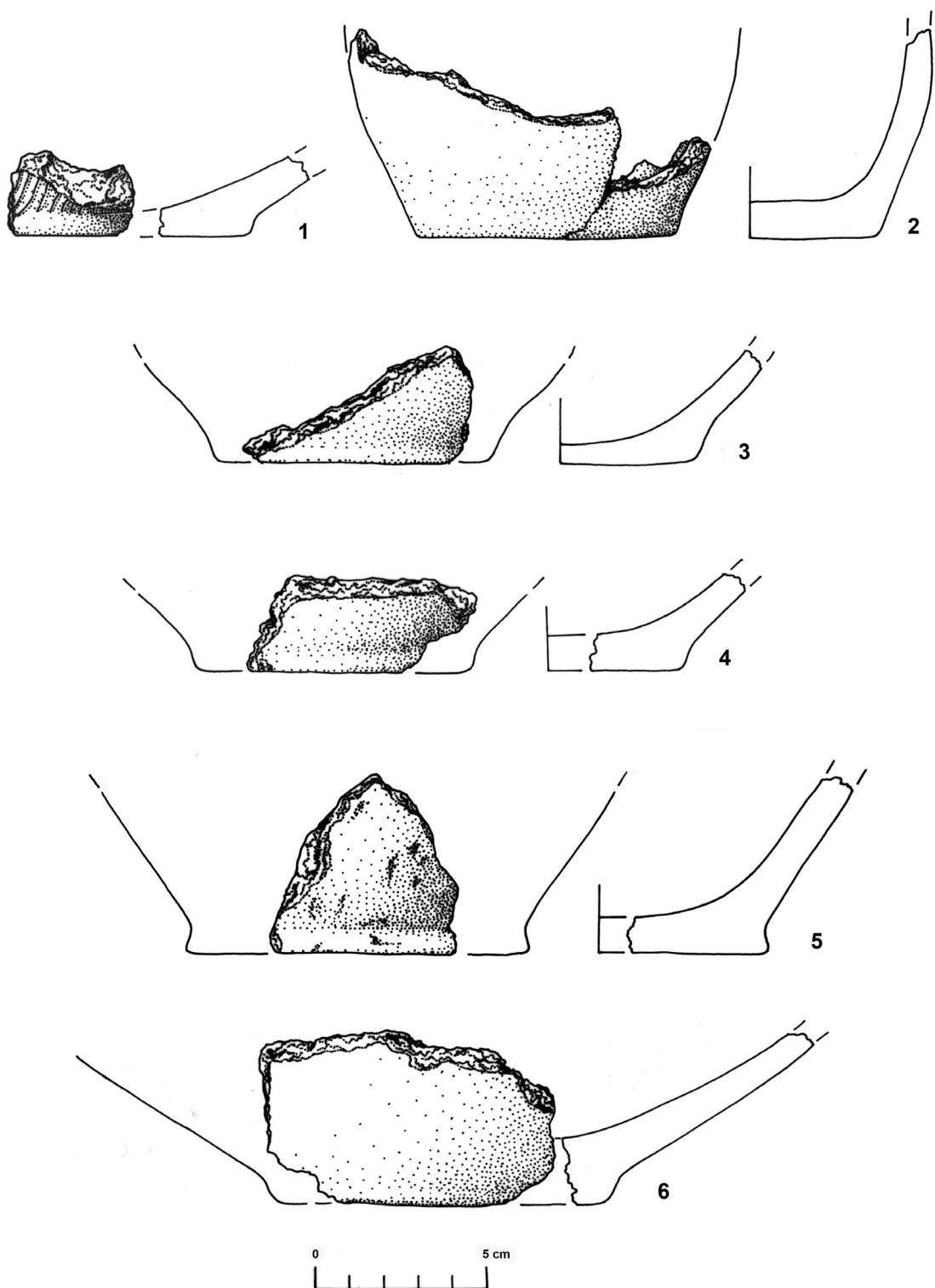
PI.58. Pottery from feature 1210.



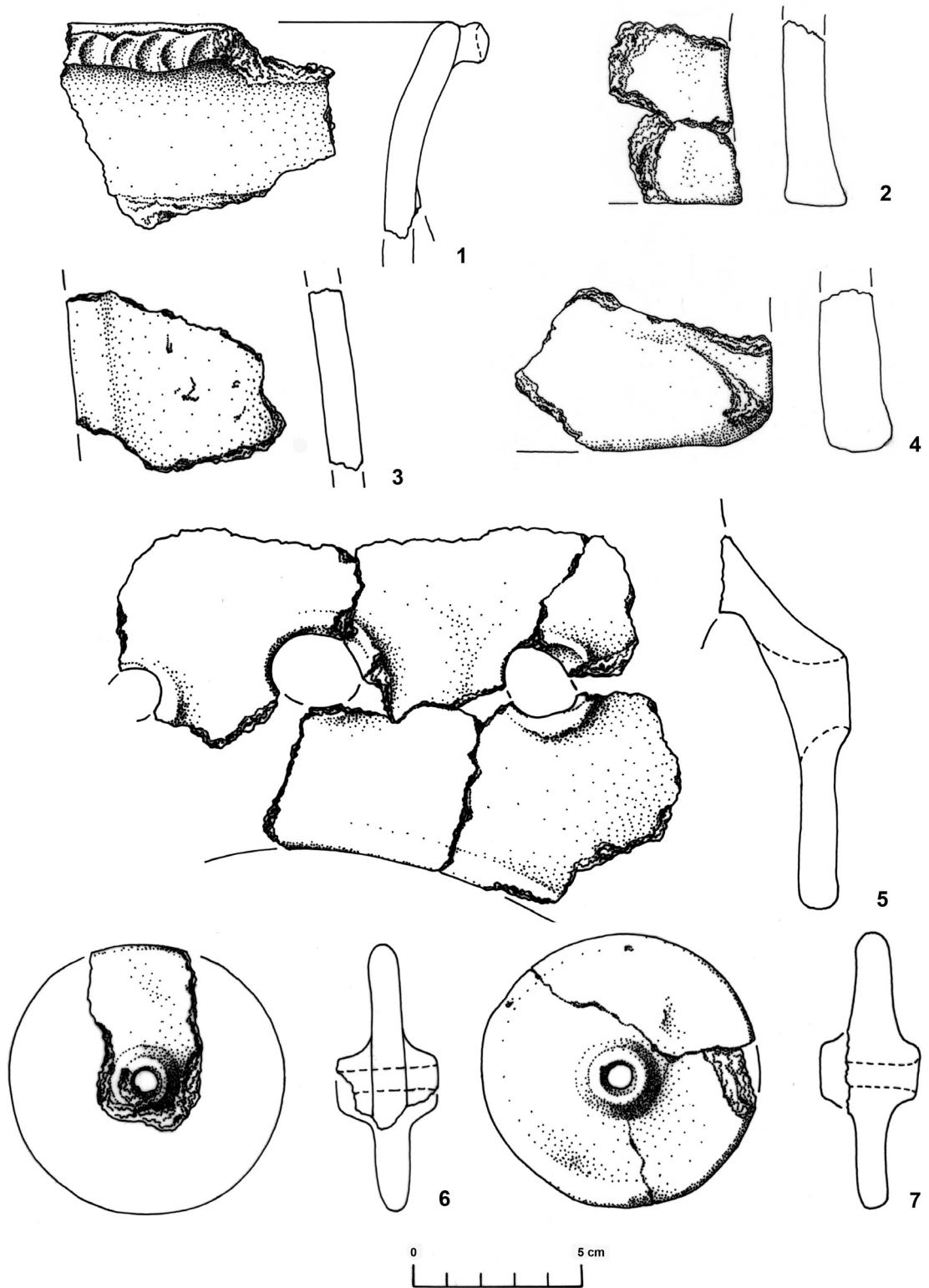
PI.59. Pottery from feature 1210.



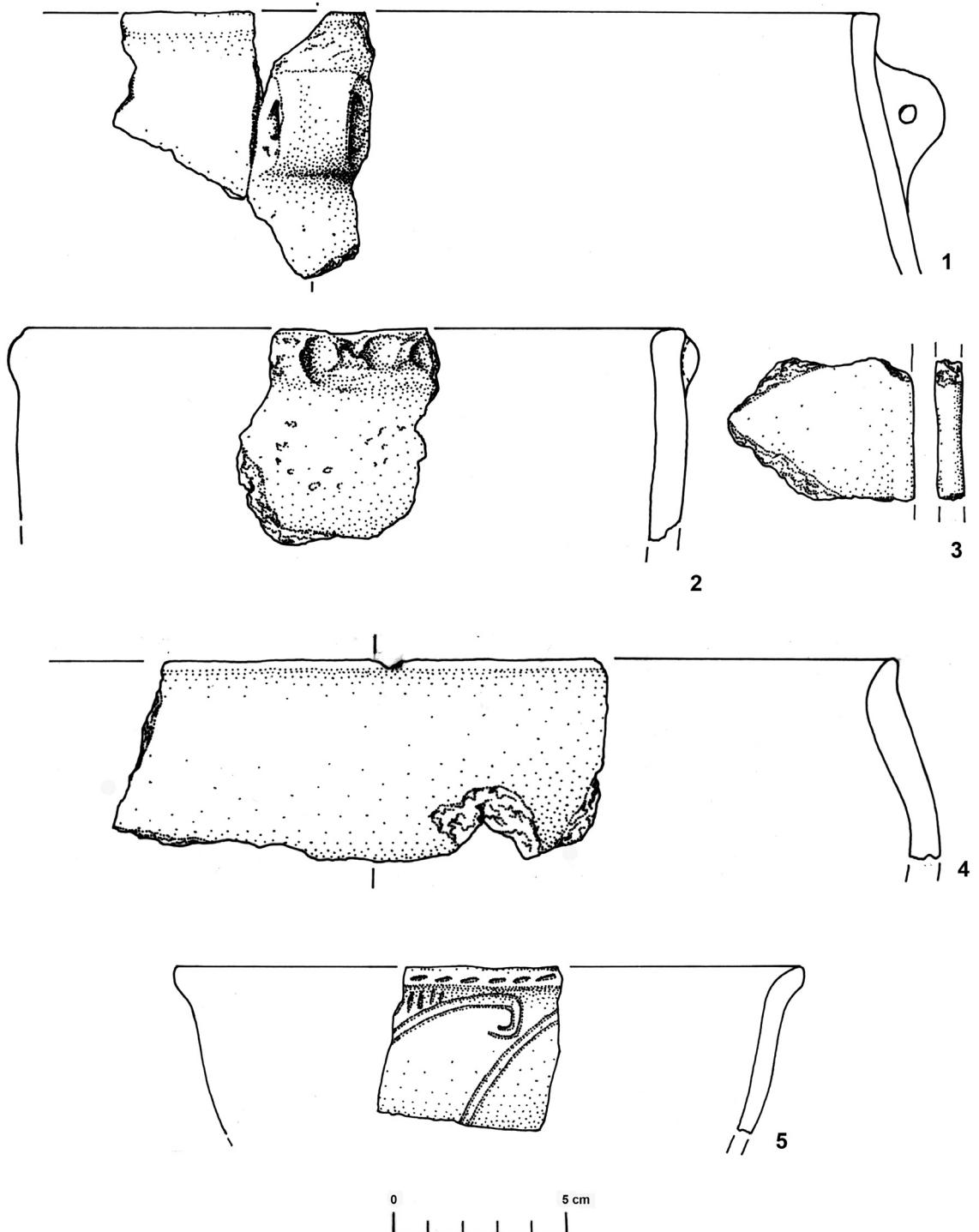
Pl.60. Pottery from feature 1210.



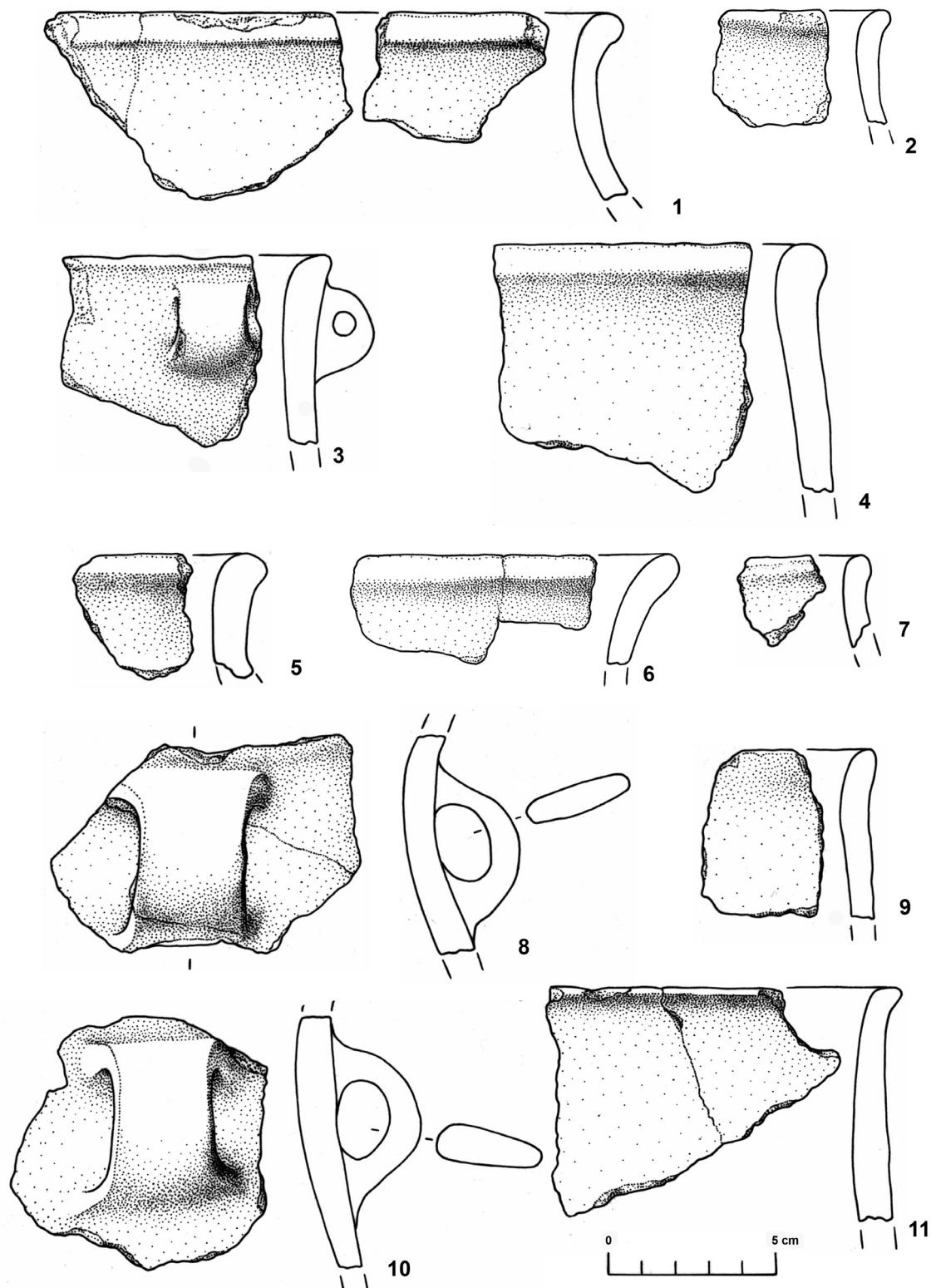
PI.61. Pottery from feature 1210.



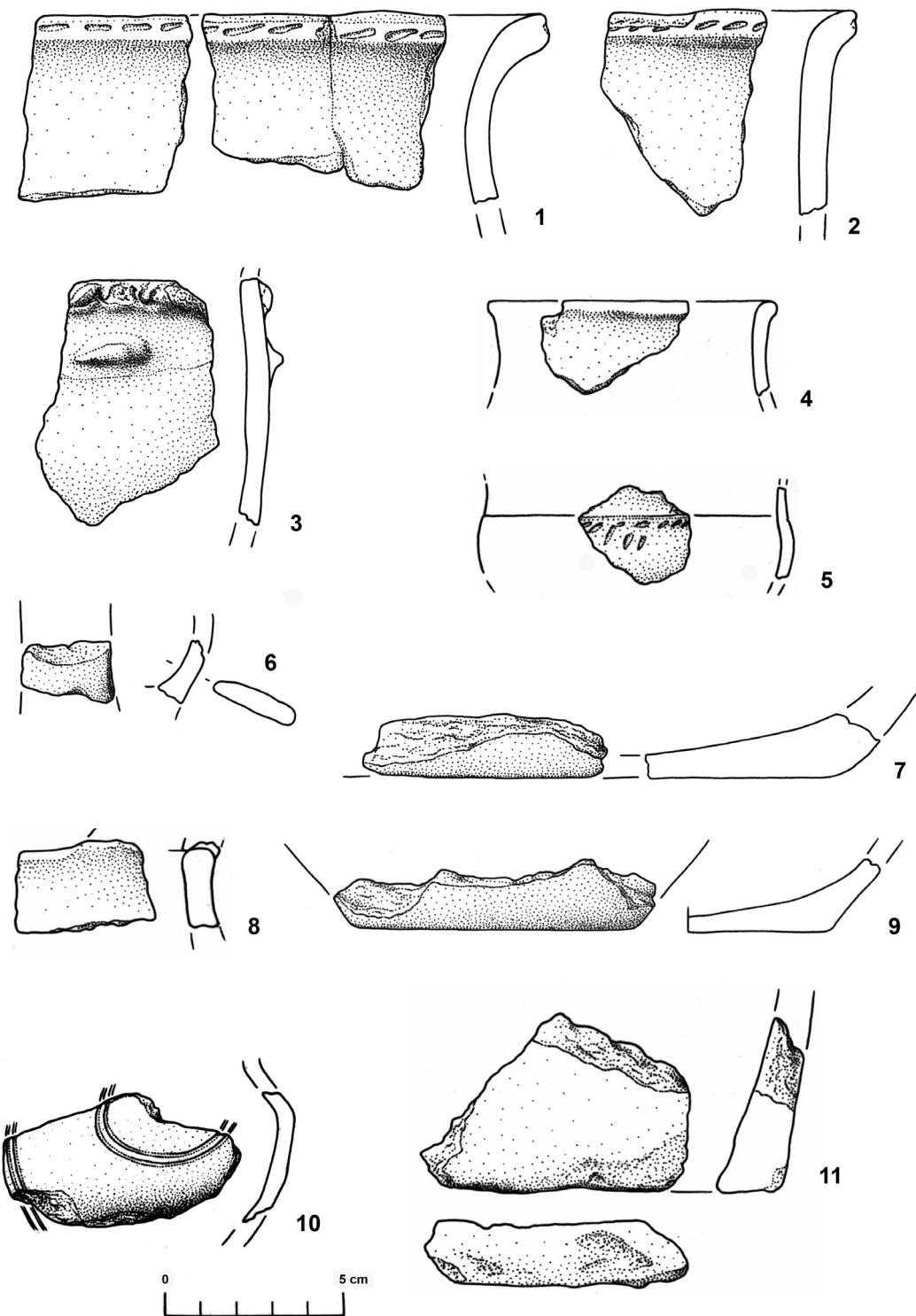
PI.62. Pottery (1-5) and clay objects (6-7) from feature 1210.



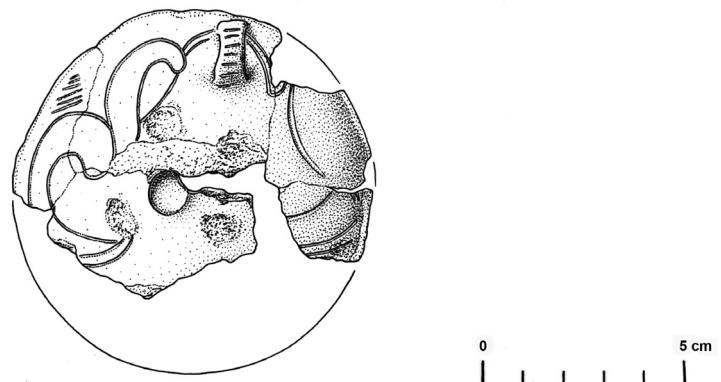
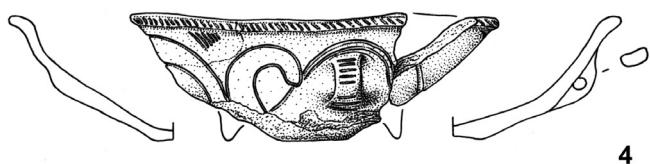
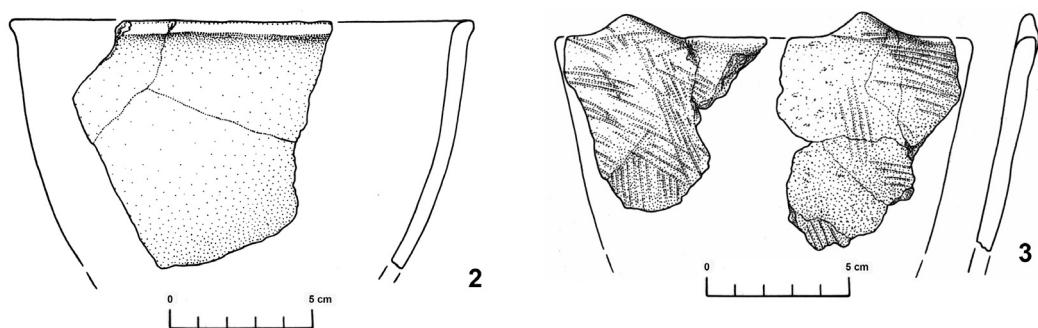
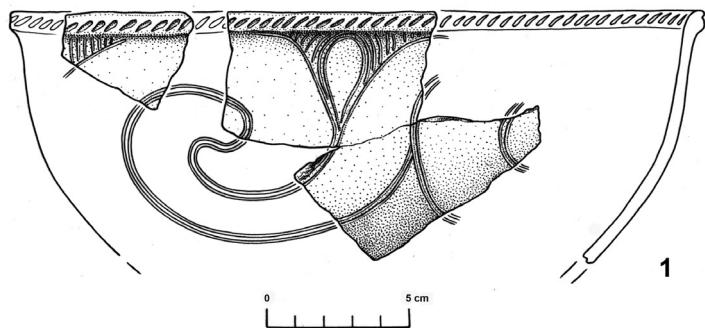
PI.63. Pottery from features: 1240:1-3; 1246:4-5.



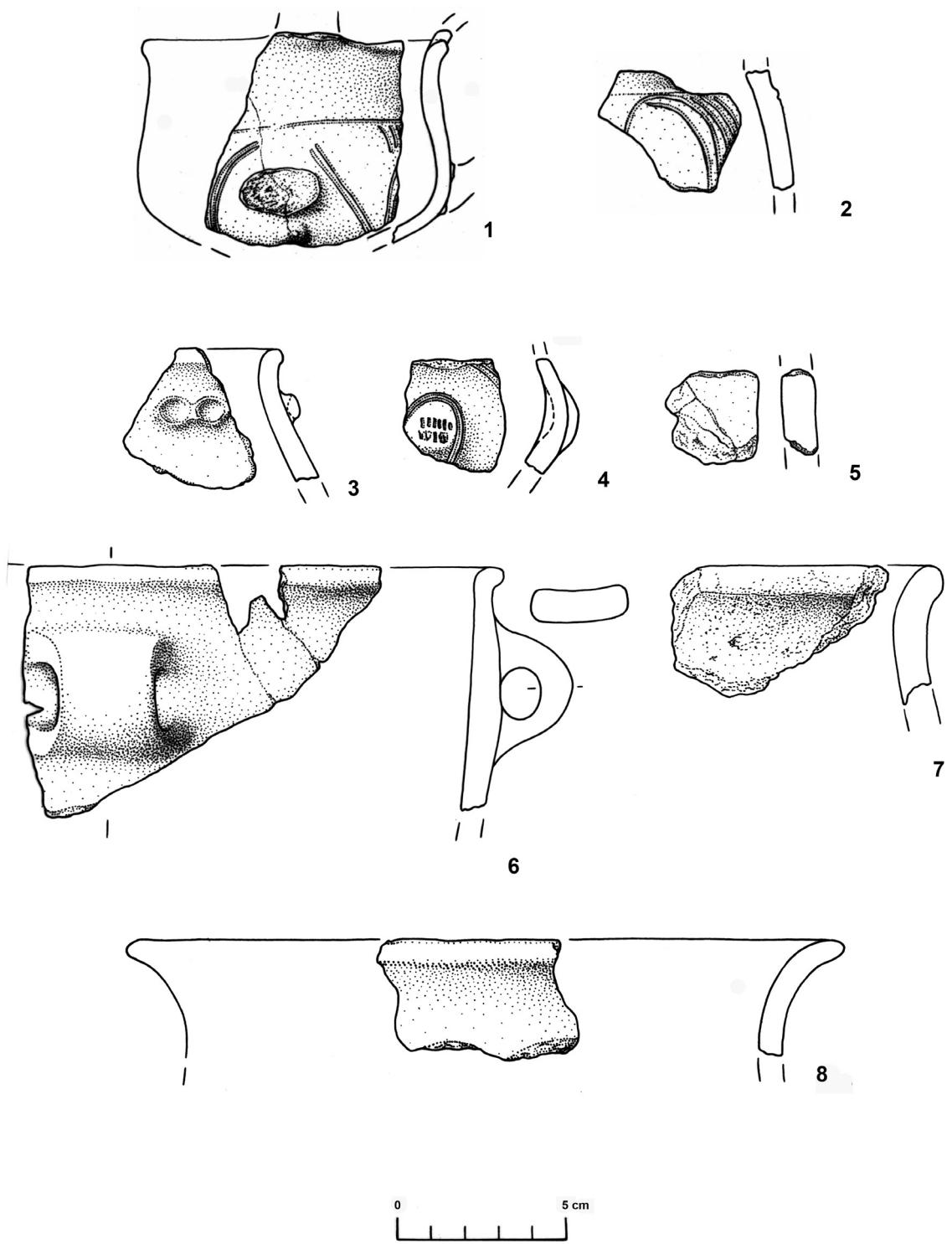
PI.64. Pottery from feature 1284 B.



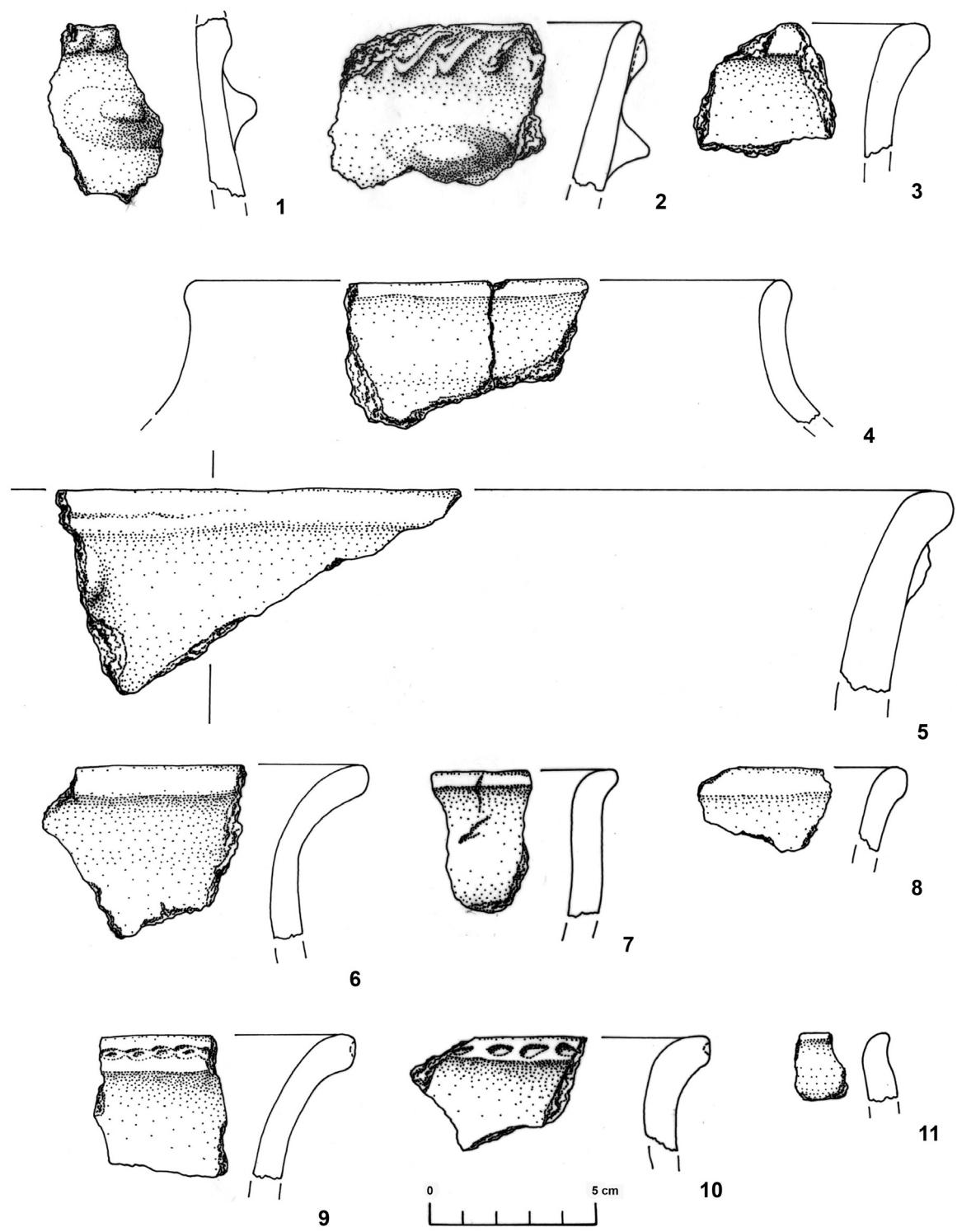
PI.65. Pottery from feature 1284 B.



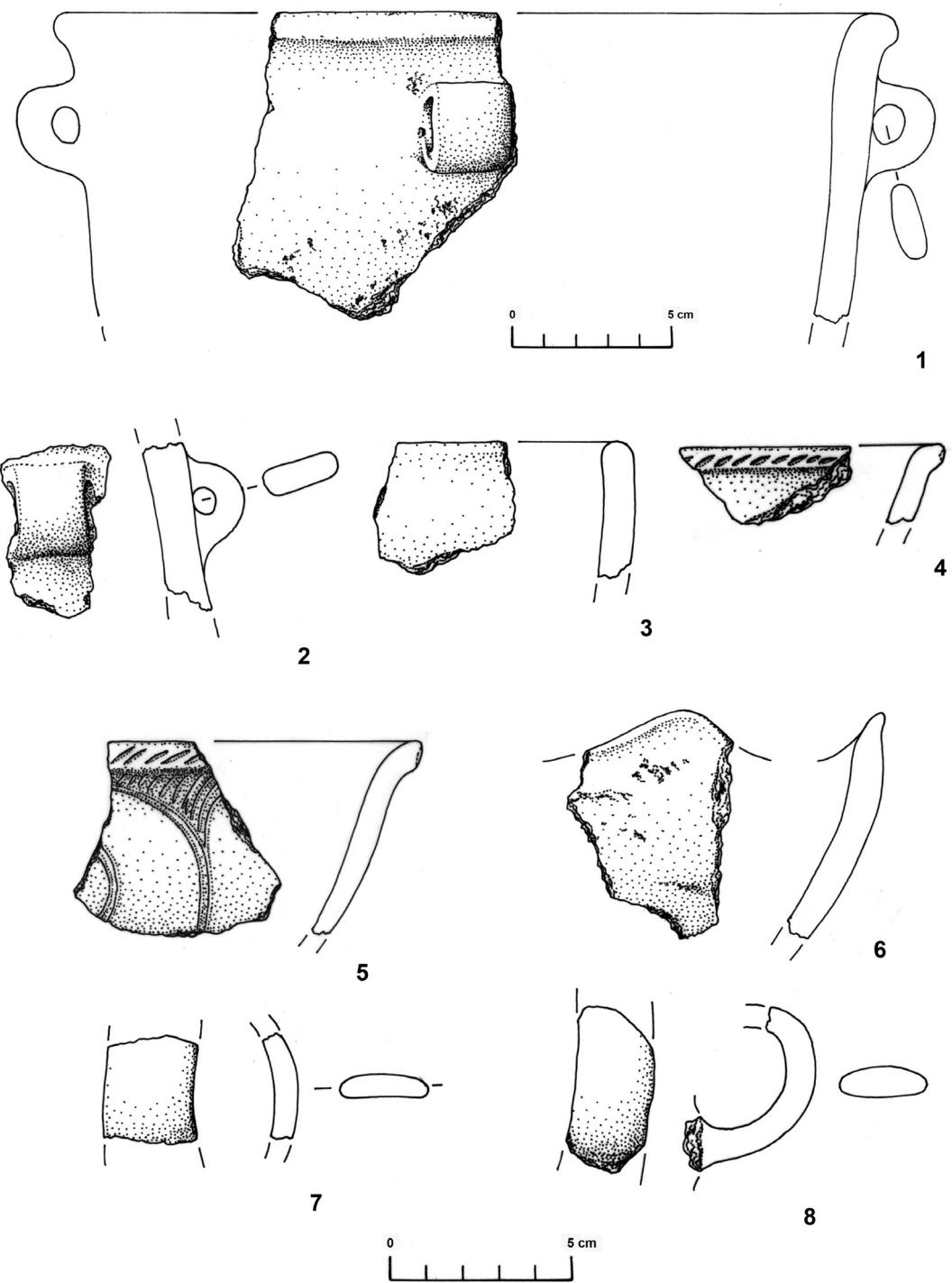
PI.66. Pottery from feature 1284 B.



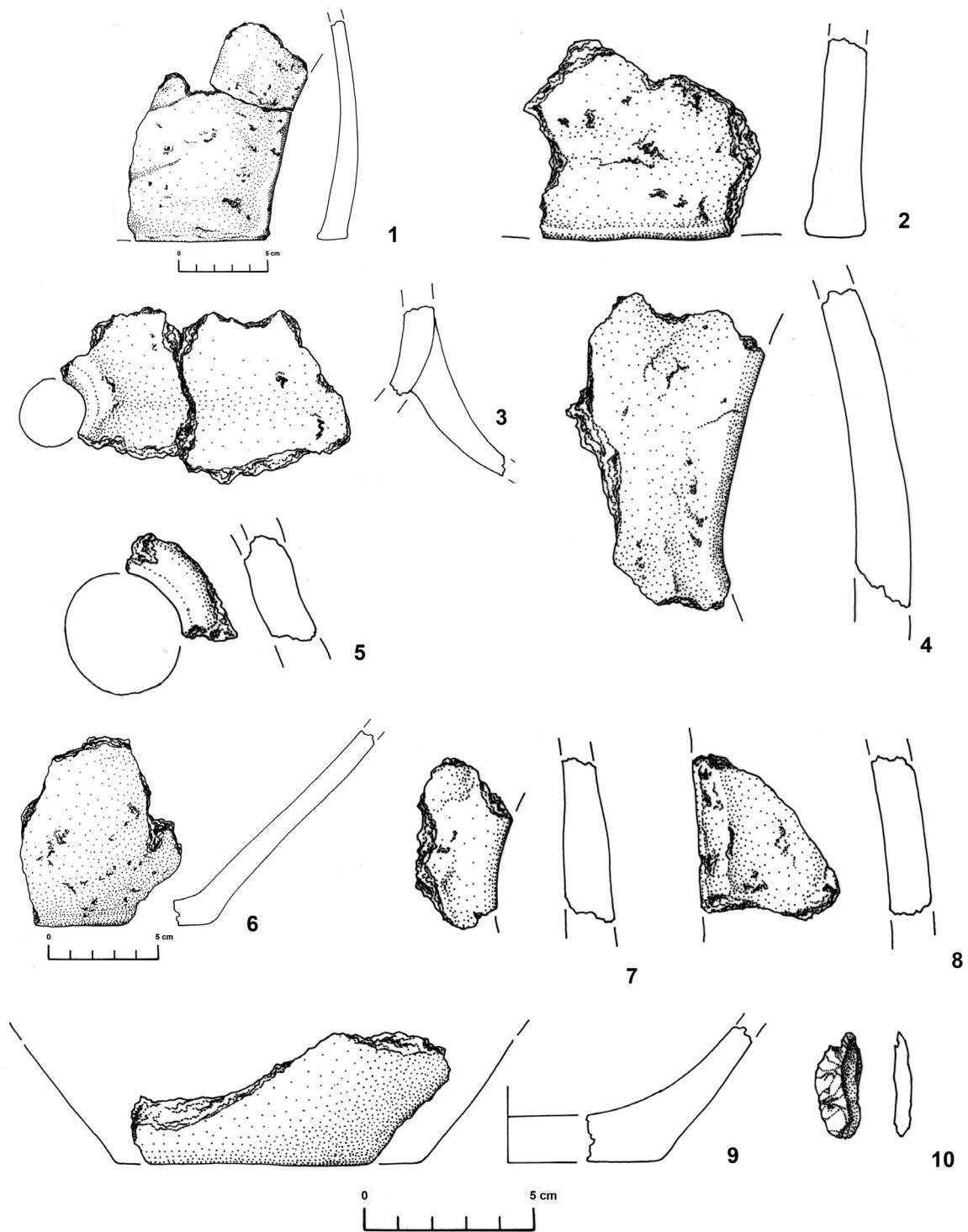
PI.67. Pottery from features: 1287 A:1-2; 1298:3-5; 1307:6-7; 1317:8.



PI.68. Pottery from features 1302-1303 B-C.



PI.69. Pottery from features 1302-1303 B-C.



PI.70. Pottery (1-9) and stone abject (10) from features 1302-1303 B-C.