

THE BRONZE AGE PIT FROM BUZA

The finds from Buza (Cluj County), "După Lab" point, were mentioned on several occasions (*Rep. 1992; Wittenberger 1994a*, pp. 367—376; *Wittenberger 1994b*, pp. 152—172), without getting into details about the materials discovered. We plan to present here the finds located in S₂.

Section no. 2 had an extent of 10/2 m and was East-West oriented. The stratigraphy is simple: level 1, black tilled earth up to 0.25 m; level 2, reddish-brown earth (clay) from 0.25 up to 0.30—0.35 m; sterile formed by contractile clays appears under this level. In the first level we identified Noua, Roman and Dacian pottery. We have to mention that on the same terrace, in 1989, at a distance of about 30 m from S₂, a Dacian dwelling from the Roman period was brought to light (*Wittenberger 1994a*, p. 368). The second level, undisturbed by ploughing, contained Noua pottery. At the East end of the excavations, 9th metre, a pit appeared, having a diameter of 60 cm. The pit belongs to the second level, so it may be considered as contemporary with the dwelling level belonging to the Bronze Age. The pit had a depth of 0.40 m from the excavation level and 0.75 from the surface, and stood out from the sterile soil in which it was buried because of its filling. The filling was formed by clay with traces of burn. While emptying the pit it was established that it had only one level of filling, and the materials deposited here were placed on the bottom (0.60—0.75 m). Bone pieces were also found along with pottery fragments. The stratigraphy of the deposit proves that the materials were at first placed in the pit and covered afterwards. The pottery discovered in the pit belongs to small and middle-size vessels, and it most certainly was deposited already broken. The paste of the pottery belongs to the fine, semifine, and coarse types. We shall now present all the pieces:

1. cup handle, grey, fine paste, with grind shards and limestone mixed into the paste. The handle is in band, slightly widened towards the middle (*pl. I/1*, inv. no. 111575).
2. fragment of a cup, h = 7 cm, d = 5.5 cm, (*pl. VII/1*, inv. no. P 111581), fine, well burnt, light red-brick coloured, with red burn spots outside. The composition of the paste contains fine sand and very well grind shards. The fragmented vessel found at the bottom of the pit preserved a little fragment of handle, a fact that convinced us to assign this piece to the series of slender cups with "beaks" and elevated handles. This sort of vessels were discovered not far from Buza, at Chintelnic-"Știubei" (*Marinescu 1995*, pp. 84—85). The vessels were considered by some authors to belong either to the Wittenberg culture (*Boroffka 1994*, p. 29, pl. 25, 26—36), or to the late stage of Otomani.

It should be mentioned in this context that in all the sites where such pieces were found, Noua material was also present. An example is the one from Ozun, where this type of vessel was found associated with Noua and Monteoru elements (*Szekely 1997*; Covasna County Rep., to appear soon).

3. fragment of mug, h = 5.2 cm, D = 4.5 cm, d = 2 cm, semifine. brown paste, the degreasing being made out of refined grind shards, coarse sand and vegetal material. The vessel presents outside traces of secondary burn (*pl. I/2*, inv. no. P. 111576).
4. belly of vessel, semifine paste, brick-red on the outside, dark-brown on the inside. The paste contains fine sand, well grind shards and organic material, probably chaff. The vessel was decorated with striations made with a brush (*pl. I/3*, inv. no. P. 111577).
5. fragment from the lower part of a vessel, brick-red outside and inside, finely striated, the paste with coarse sand and grind shards (*pl. I/4*, inv. no. P. 111591).
6. fragment of a vessel, brown on the outside, dark-brown inside, sandy paste, degreasing made out of fine sand, grind shards and organic traces. Inside the paste is smooth, outside it has fine striations (*pl. II/5*, inv. no. P. 111587).
7. fragment of vessel, striated, brown, with traces of secondary burn outside, black inside. The composition of the paste contains coarse sand and small polyhedric crystals, probably pyrites (*pl. II/6*, inv. no. P. 111589).
8. fragment of vessel, brick-red outside, black inside. The paste is slightly burnt and has as a degreasing grind shards, fine sand and vegetal materials (*pl. II/7*, inv. no. P. 111588).
9. fragment of vessel, light brick-red outside, brown inside, striated ornamentation made with a brush. The paste is slightly burnt inside, with dusty appearance outside and smooth inside. Degreasing is made out of fine sand, grind shards and lots of vegetal material (*pl. II/8*, inv. no. P. 111524).
10. fragment of vessel with striated decorations, brick-red outside, brown inside. The paste is slightly burnt and contains lots of sand and vegetal material (*pl. II/9*, inv. no. P. 111585).
11. rim of vessel, slightly everted, D = 19 cm. The paste is yellow-brown outside and black inside. It is slightly burnt, having a degreasing made out of grind shards, coarse sand and organic material (*pl. III/10*, inv. no. P. 111579).
12. rim, slightly blunted on the outside, D = 16 cm. The paste is reddish-brown, homogeneously burnt, and has as a degreasing lots of coarse sand, finely grind shards and organic material (*pl. III/11*, inv. no. P. 111574).

13. fragment of vessel, reddish-brown, well-burnt paste, degreasing being grind shards, fine sand and organic material (*pl. III/12*, inv. no. P. 111574).
14. fragment of pottery, reddish-brown, slightly burnt paste, degreasing from fine sand, grind shards and lots of organic material (*pl. III/13*, inv. no. P. 111574).
15. bottom of vessel, reddish-brown paste (*pl. III/14*, inv. no. P. 111574).
16. fragment from bottom of vessel, reddish-brown, well-burnt paste, with black, slightly declined slip, degreasing made of sand and grind shards (*pl. III/15*, inv. no. P. 111583).
17. rim, slightly blunted on the outside, somewhat elongated nipple under the rim (*pl. IV/16*, inv. no. P. 111574). The fragments described at nos. 11, 12, 13, 14 and 16 seem to belong to the same vessel.
18. fragment of coarse vessel, brown inside and outside, deeply incised decorations made with a brush, smooth inside. The paste is well-burnt and has a degreasing made out of grind limestone sand and few vegetal traces (*pl. IV/17*, inv. no. P. 111580).
19. fragment of coarse vessel, identical in structure and composition with the above piece, probably belonging to the same vessel (*pl. IV/18*, inv. no. P. 111586).
20. coarse pottery fragment, grey outside (sandy appearance), brick-red inside, decorated with striations. The composition of the paste contains coarse sand, roughly grind shards and organic material (*pl. IV/19*, inv. no. P. 111578).
21. coarse pottery fragment, probably belonging to the same vessel as the above piece (*pl. IV/20*, inv. no. P. 111578).
22. fragment of vessel with everted rim, round nipple under the rim (with a diameter of 2 cm), decorated with striations, $D = 21.5$ cm. The paste and technique is the same with the above piece, but the striations are less profound (*pl. V/21*, inv. no. P. 111580).
23. fragment of cart. The cart is made of semifine, kneaded and burnt paste, having refined grind shards, fine sand and vegetal material in its composition. The piece is brown, with secondary burn outside and inside. Only one joint was preserved, having 4 horizontal incisions, sufficient for assigning it to a certain type. In accordance to the context of the finds, the cart from Buza belongs to the b2 category (Boroffka 1994, pp. 167—168; Schuster 1996, p. 117), and in accordance to shape, it belongs to the a2 type (Schuster 1996, p. 118). This type comprises a rectangular case with lateral wall bent outside. In accordance to its decoration, the piece seems to belong to type c, to the group that has prominences or protomes in the corners (Schuster 1996, p. 118).

Such pieces are frequent in the Wietenberg environment (*Boroffka 1994*), but also in the Otomani (Ordentlich — *Chidişan 1975*, pp. 27—44) and Suciul de Sus environment (*Bader — Dumitraşcu 1970*; pl. 4—6 *Bader 1978*, pl. XLIX/30). We must point out that pieces of this type were also found in other environments, even if their occurrence is less frequent. In the East they were discovered in Monteoru (*Căpitanu — Florescu 1969*, pl. 7; *Oancea 1976*, p. 199; pl. 4/5; *Iacobescu 1992*, pl. 4/5) and Noua environment (*Florescu — Florescu 1990*, pl. 31/3, 7—9, 97/2), and in the South in Tei environment (*Leahu 1963*, pl. 36/7; *Ulanici 1979*, pl. 9/6; *Schuster 1995*, p. 148; *Schuster 1996*), Balta Sărată (*Petrovsky — Gumă 1979*; *Rogozea 1995*, p. 83) and Coslogeni (*Florescu 1991*, pl. 96/2). For the period of Late Bronze, where we include the finds from Buza, we also have the two cart wheels from Iclod—"Tabla Popii" (*Crişan 1996*, excavation report) discovered in a pit.

The bone material found in the pit is typical for the settlements belonging to Late Bronze:

1. fragment of diaphasic wall from a long bone belonging to a big animal, probably horned cattle. The piece presents traces of polish on one side. Its function is questionable, but it is probably a knife. We do not rule out the possibility of being used as a spatula. Such tools are frequent in the repertory of Noua discoveries, in Moldova and Transilvania (*Florescu 1991*, pp. 292—294), (pl. VI/2, inv. no. P. 111730).
2. fragment of a rib belonging to young bullock, processed, probably point of a knife (pl. V/3, inv. no. P. 112924).
3. fragment of a rib belonging to bullock, with traces of processing. Its utility cannot be determined (pl. VI/1, inv. no. P. 112934). We must mention that nearby the pit, in the Noua complex, L₃, another rib tool was found. This is certainly a spatula. It is ondulated on the polished side (pl. VII/2), intact and it presents a waving on the thinner part. It is polished on both parts, with different angles, the result of frequent use. One of the points is polished, a proof that the point was also used, the other end being probably fixed in a handle, as it bears three cuts.
4. indented shoulder blade. It is made out of cattle bone and it is typical for Noua culture. There are plenty of analogies in the entire area inhabited by the bearers of Noua culture, and also outside this area, in the area of cultural influence. Such a case is Novaci in the Tei IV environment (*Leahu 1964*). Near Buza,

settlement pieces were also found at Pălătea — Togul lui Mândrușcă (*Rotea, inf.*) and Diviciorii Mici (*Wittenberger 1992, testing*).

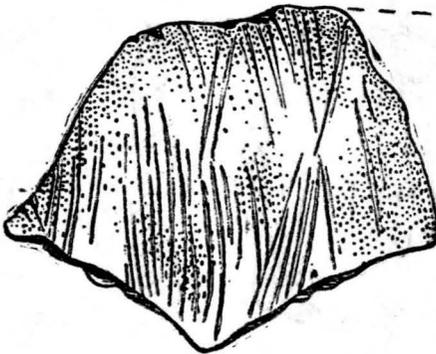
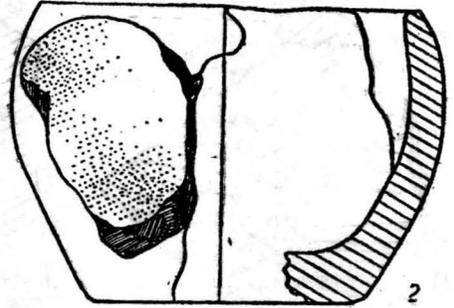
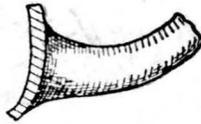
We considered necessary to present all the material in detail because an exact image of Late Bronze can thus be easily created. Similar material was found at Cășei (*Gogăltan — Isac 1995, pp. 5—26*) and Iclod (*Crișan manuscript*), and it was assigned either to Lăpuș I, or Late Bronze, without an exact cultural designation. Even though among this material we can identify elements belonging to several cultures at the end of the Bronze Age, we consider premature to assign these finds to a certain culture. Mihai Rotea saw the beginning of Late Bronze as "... the result of a symbiosis between the local background and allogeneous elements..." (*Rotea 1994, p. 55*). We believe that the process of ethno-cultural synthesis continued during the whole Late Bronze, including HaA₁ preparing the passage towards Hallstatt culture. (*Ciugudean 1994, p. 60*). We cannot agree with the presence of two mixed culture groups in the same geographic area. The solution for understanding ethno-cultural phenomena during Late Bronze and Early Hallstatt is approaching archaeological realities from extensive points of view, based on material belonging to methodical excavations, exhaustively presented, and not on small sequences represented by selected material.)

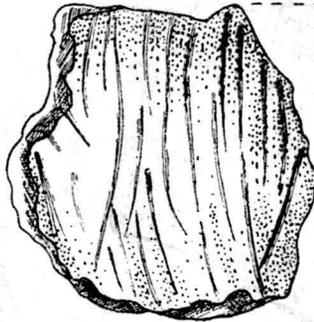
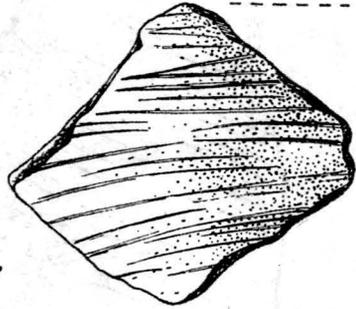
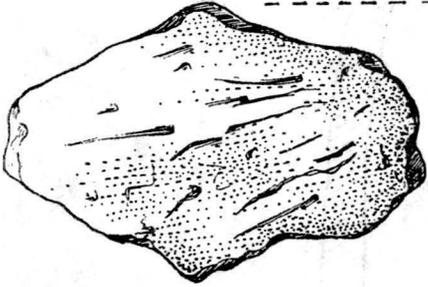
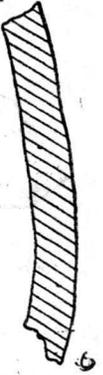
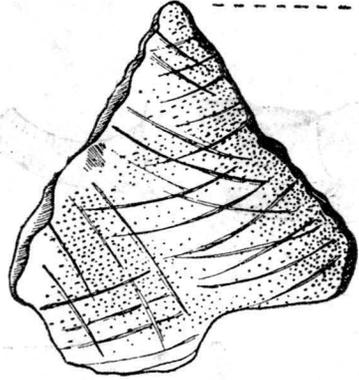
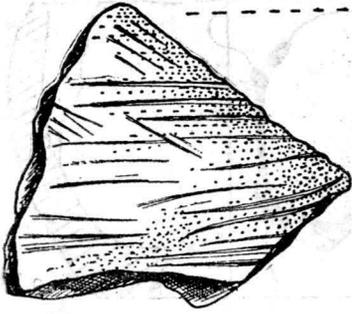
MIHAI WITTENBERGER

ABBREVIATIONS AND REFERENCES

- Bader — Dumitrașcu, 1970 T. Bader, S. Dumitrașcu, *Săpăturile arheologice de la așezarea de tip Otomani de la Medieșul Aurit*, în *MCA*, 9, 1970
- Bader 1978 T. Bader, *Epoca bronzului în nord-vestul Transilvaniei. Cultura pre-tracică și tracică*, București, 1978
- Boroffka 1994 N. Boroffka, *Die Wietenberg Kultur*, Bonn, 1994
- Ciugudean 1994 H. Ciugudean, *Perioada Hallstatt A în Transilvania*, în *Apulum*, XXXI, 1994
- Crișan 1995 V. Crișan, *Raport de săpătură privind campania 1995, Iclod-„Tabla Popii”*, comunicare la a XXX sesiune de rapoarte arheologice, Brăila, 1996
- Căpitanu — Florescu 1969 V. Căpitanu, M. Florescu, *Așezarea din epoca bronzului de la Podul Morii-Bărboasa*, în *Carpica*, 2, 1969
- Florescu — Florescu 1990 M. Florescu, A. C. Florescu, *Unele considerații cu privire la geneza culturii Noua în zonele de curbură ale carpaților răsăriteni*, în *Arh.Mold.*, 13, 1990
- Florescu 1991 A. C. Florescu, *Repertoriul culturii Noua-Coslogeni din România*, în *Cultură și civilizație la Dunărea de Jos*, 9, 1991
- Gogăltan Isac 1995 F. Gogăltan, A. Isac, *Spatbronzezeitliche Siedlung Cășeiu*, în *EphNap.*, V, 1995, p. 5—26
- Iacobescu 1992 S. Iacobescu, *Colecția de arheologie Vasile Heisu*, în *Carpica*, 23, 1992
- Leahu 1963 V. Leahu, *Săpăturile arheologice de la Giulești-Sîrbi*, în *C.A.B.*, 1, 1963

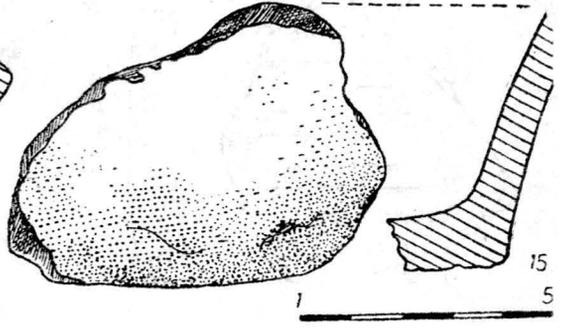
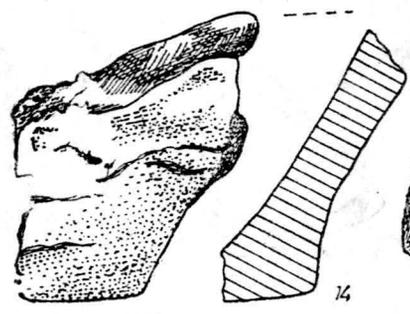
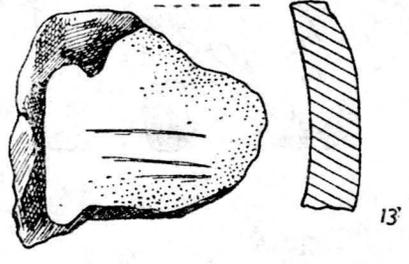
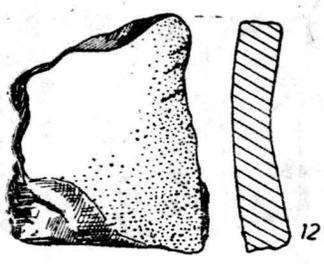
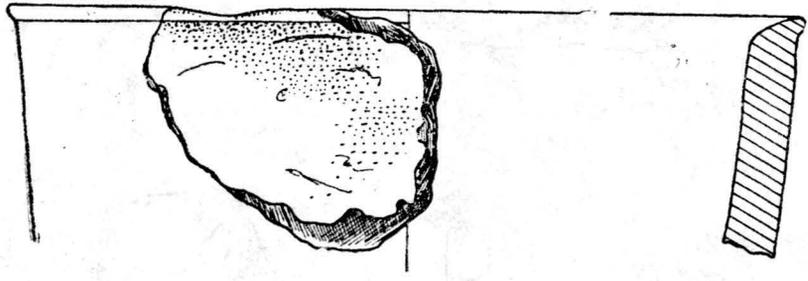
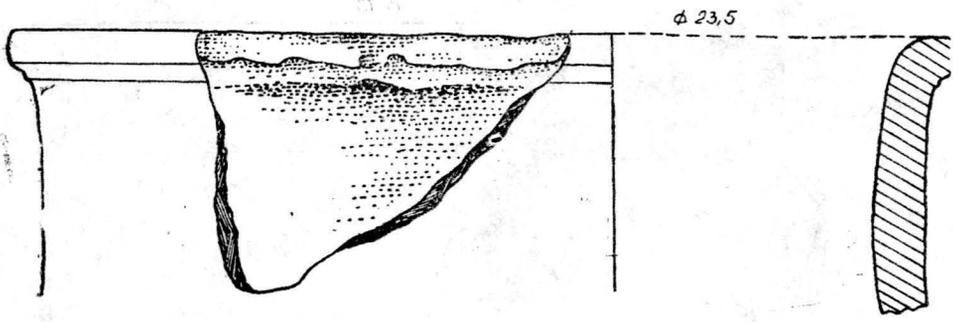
- Marinescu 1995 G. Marinescu, *Cercetări și descoperiri arheologice de epoca bronzului în nord-estul Transilvaniei*, în *Revista Bistriței*, IX, 1995, p. 84—85
- Oancea 1976 A. Oancea, *Unele considerații cu privire la fazele târzii ale culturii Monteoru în lumina cercetărilor de la Cîrlomănești*, în *C.A.*, 2, 1976
- Ordentlich — Chidioșan 1975 I. Ordentlich, N. Chidioșan, *Cărucioare miniatură din lut aparținând culturii Otomani de pe teritoriul României*, în *Crisia*, 5, p. 27—44
- Petrovsky — Gumă 1979 R. Petrovsky, M. Gumă, *Un grup cultural al epocii bronzului în sud-vestul României — Descoperirile de la Balta-Sărată*, în *StCom Caransebeș*, 3, 1979
- Rep. 1992 Repertoriul arheologic al județului Cluj, 1992
- Rep.CV Repertoriul arheologic al județului Covasna, în curs de apariție
- Rogozea 1995 P. Rogozea, *Balta Sărată Cultural Group Ceramics. Ceramic Artifacts Decoration and Shapes Typology*, în *Thraco-Dacica*, 16, 1995
- Rotea 1994 M. Rotea, *Penetrația culturii Otomane*, în *Apulum XXI*, 1994
- Schuster 1995 C. Schuster, *Raport preliminar privind săpăturile de la Mogoșești-Giurgiu*, în *Cercetări arheologice în aria nord-tracă I*, 1995
- Schuster 1996 C. Schuster, *Despre cărucioarele din lut ars din epoca bronzului de pe teritoriul României*, în *Thraco-Dacica*, XVII/1—2, 1996, p. 117—137
- Szekely 1997 Z. Szekely, *Descoperirile arheologice de la Brăduț (jud. Covasna)*, în *Săpături arheologice în aria nord-tracă*, II, 1997, în curs de apariție
- Ulanici 1979 Aug. Ulanici, *Noi cercetări arheologice la Greci*, în *C.A.*, 3, 1979
- Wittenberger 1994 a M. Wittenberger, *Șantierul arheologic Buza (Jud. Cluj)*, în *ActaMN*, 31/1, 1994, p. 367—376
- Wittenberger 1994 b M. Wittenberger, *Considerații despre cultura Noua în Transilvania*, în *ActaMN*, 31/1, 1994, p. 151—172



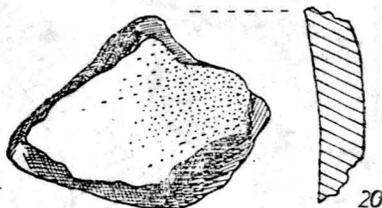
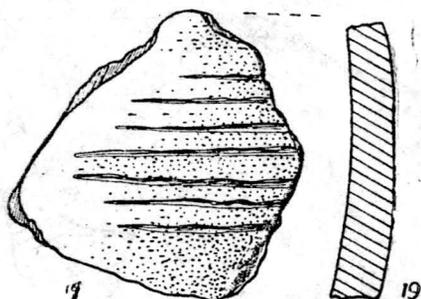
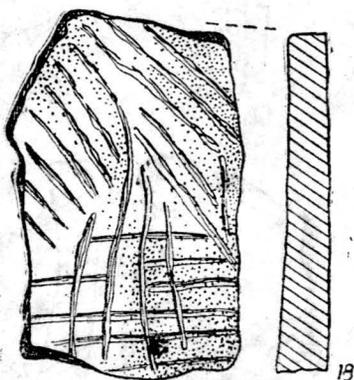
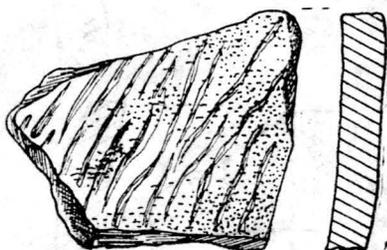
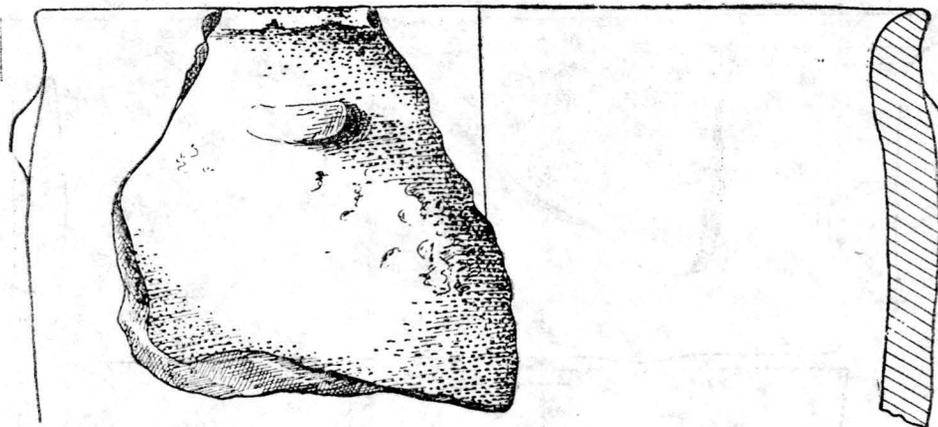


9



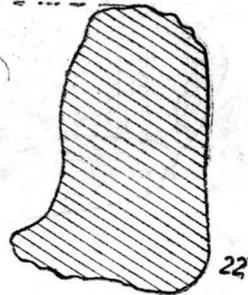
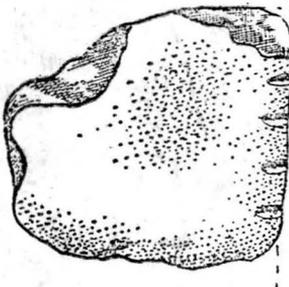
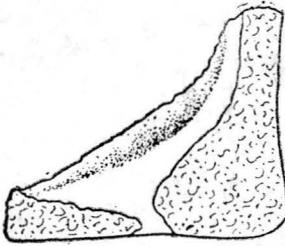
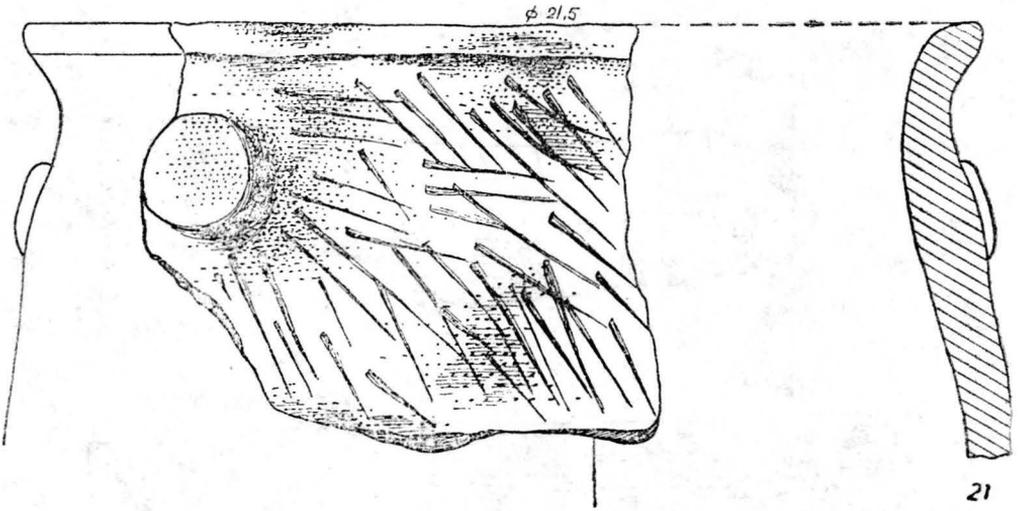


φ 18

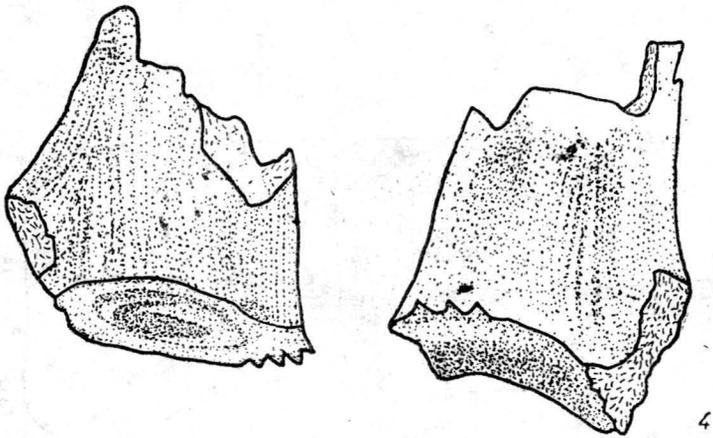
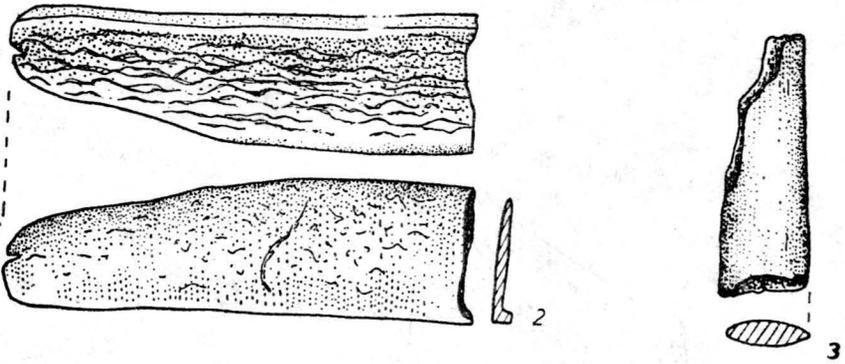
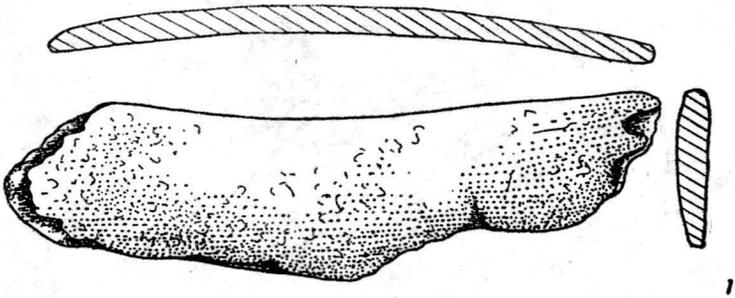


1 5 cm

A horizontal scale bar is located at the bottom right of the page, labeled '5 cm'.



1 5 cm.



1 5 cm.

