

LATE ROMAN KITCHEN POTTERY DISCOVERED AT HISTRIA IN THE CENTRE-NORTH SECTOR (2012)

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Keywords: Late Antiquity, Roman period, Scythia, Histria, pottery.

Abstract: The 50 pottery fragments presented in the following pages belong to a lot including 143 fragments discovered at Histria, in the Centre-North Sector, in a trench of 26×2 m excavated in 2012. In the previous issue of the present publication we presented 41 fragments of Oriental amphorae. The complete pottery lot is divided as follows: *Vasa escaria* – 25 fragments; *Vasa pota(to)ria* – 15 fragments; *Vasa conquina(to)ria* – 10 fragments. The processed lot is divided accordingly: 52.45% amphorae, 43.36% kitchen pottery, 2.80% oil lamps, and 1.40% *varia*. The statistics upon the entire discovered pottery lot indicate the following distribution: amphorae (77.60%), kitchen pottery (20.40%) and *varia* (2%).

Cuvinte-cheie: Antichitatea târzie, epocă romană, Scythia, Histria, ceramică.

Rezumat: Cele 50 de fragmente ceramice prezentate în prezentul articol fac parte dintr-un lot format din 143 de fragmente descoperite la Histria, în sectorul Centru Nord, într-o secțiune de 26×2 m deschisă în anul 2012. În numărul trecut al aceleiași publicații am prezentat 41 de fragmente de amfore orientale descoperite în aceeași campanie. Lotul ceramic este împărțit după criteriul funcțional, astfel: *Vasa escaria* – 25 fragmente; *Vasa pota(to)ria* – 15 fragmente; *Vasa conquina(to)ria* – 10 fragmente. Lotul prelucrat se împarte astfel: 52,45% amfore, 43,36% ceramică de bucatărie, 2,80% oiațe și 1,40% diverse. Statistica realizată pe întreg lotul ceramic descoperit indică următoarea repartizare: amfore (77,60%), ceramică de bucatărie (20,40%) și diverse (2%).

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The present paper resumes our research published in the previous issue of the same publication where 41 Oriental amphorae fragments uncovered during the 2012 excavations were presented. The archaeological material comes from S2 (52 m²) located within the sector conventionally called *Centre North* (CN), situated north of the Episcopal Basilica.

The 50 ceramic fragments presented in the following pages belong to a lot of 143 fragments

discovered also at Histria, in the Centre North Sector, in a 26×2 m trench opened in 2012. The excavated pottery lot comprises: *Vasa escaria* – 25 fragments; *Vasa pota(to)ria* – 15 fragments; *Vasa conquina(to)ria* – 10 fragments. The processed lot is divided accordingly: 52.45% amphorae, 43.36% kitchen ware, 2.80% oil lamps and 1.40% *varia*. Statistics of the entire ceramic lot indicate the following distribution: amphorae (77.60%), kitchen ceramics (20.40%) and *varia* (2%).

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I. TABLE WARE – *Vasa escaria*

The importance of this category resides in the fact that together with the amphorae, oil lamps and stamped ware, it provides valuable chronological and economic information – the items are mainly imports and thus may suggest certain commercial trends during specific periods – and also information of religious or artistic nature relevant to a specific age¹.

The tableware provides a more detailed chronology than the amphorae, for the simple reason that the latter might have been used by two or three generations, while food related pottery was only used a few years. Vessels were used for a short time because of their fragility and lack of a really impermeable stratum; after a time, organic matters and mould made them useless.

Despite the fact that no physical, chemical or petrographic analyses are available at the present

¹ Opaț 1996, p. 127.

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moment and the typological categories are based only on form analogies and fabric description, the percentage is obviously in favour of the Oriental ceramics.

Changes may appear in the future regarding mainly the various pottery types seen nowadays as *imports*, or coming from local workshops; however, most food serving pottery is undoubtedly of Oriental origin.

At Halmyris, 482 items out of the *vasa escaria* were produced in Oriental workshops (89.76%), 44 items came from North Africa (8.19%) and 11 items originated in the West-Pontic province (2.05%). Obviously, a part of the “Oriental pottery” may be local imitations based on Oriental prototypes and thus fall within another category but, as mentioned above, this distinction cannot be made at the present time.

And while speaking of provinces, in the Histria material published prior to 2009, the Oriental vessels used for serving meals represent 82.60% – *ca.* 7% less than at Halmyris–, while 12% is represented by the North-African pottery and only 5.4% is represented by the Pontic provincial and local pottery. We are aware of the “margin of error” in such an attempt, but the final result mirrors very well the economic trends and political-influence area in which Scythia Minor was included during the Roman-Byzantine age.

I.1. Hayes 1 Form

General type description: inward rims, being considered as a direct continuator of Hayes 4 Çandarlı Form².

Halmyris yielded 24 fragments coming from several Hayes 1 form plates and their varieties. Their features allow us to place them within the four types determined by Hayes³. The diameter of the rim, different from the local Halmyris items, may indicate a different production centre, possibly a West-Pontic workshop.

Diffusion: in Scythia (Halmyris⁴, Babadag-Topraichioi⁵, Libida⁶, Aegyssus⁷, Histria⁸, Telița-

Valea Morilor⁹ and Telița-Amza¹⁰).

Dating: second half of the 4th century – first half of the 6th century AD.

Catalogue

1. Plate (fragmentary, rim). Uniform primary oxidant firing, red fine fabric (2.5YR5/6) with very small particles of iron oxide and mica. Dimensions¹¹: DMG = 163 mm, DMP = 163 mm, H = 45 mm. Histria 2012, sector CN, S II, c 3, - 0.45 m, no. 27, Fig. 1/1.
2. Plate (fragmentary, upper half of the profile). Uniform primary oxidant firing, red fine fabric (2.5YR5/6), with a light olive brown slip (2.5Y5/3); has very small and rare porosities; very fine calcite particles. Dimensions: DMG = 300 mm, DMP = 300 mm, H = 27 mm. Histria 2012, sector CN, S II, c 4–5, - 0.20 m, no. 57, Fig. 1/2.
3. Plate (fragmentary, upper half of the profile). Uniform primary oxidant firing, red fine compact fabric (2.5YR5/6) with a red slip both on the outer surface and the inner one (10R5/8); no porosities. Dimensions: DMG = 146 mm, DMP = 160 mm, H = 25 mm. Histria 2012, sector CN, S II, c 4, - 1.20–1.50 m, no. 123, Fig. 1/3.
4. Plate (fragmentary, rim). Primary oxidant irregular firing, reddish yellow semi-fine fabric on the outside (70%), (5YR7/6) and light yellowish brown (10YR7/4) on the inside (30%), light reddish brown slip (2.5YR6/4); small and rare porosities and mica particles. Dimensions: DMG = 240 mm, DMP = 250 mm, H = 20 mm. Histria 2012, sector CN, S II, c 7, - 0.50 m, no. 90, Fig. 1/4.

All the above fragments date from the first half of the 6th century AD.

I.2. Hayes 3 Form

Hayes 3 type vessels are among the most important Oriental shapes which circulated in the Lower Danube area based on the important number of items discovered and their influence upon other West-Pontic or provincial forms.

General type description: the rim is vertical, either straight or thickened in the lower part, and in most cases, concave in the exterior. The walls are curved, slightly undulated or almost straight; the base is short or with a false leg. The rim can be either roulette decorated on the outside showing 1 to 3 parallel rows of decoration, or painted with black, brown or white; the base may have a stamped inner decoration or circular incisions (at times also appearing on the exterior).

² Hayes 1972, p. 325, fig. 65, A 1–2.

³ Topoleanu 2000, p. 44.

⁴ Topoleanu 2000, p. 44–45, no. cat. 8–18, pl. I/8–9, II/10–18; Opaț A 1991a, p. 163, no. cat. 255–256, Pl. 41.

⁵ Opaț A 1991b, pl. 44/1–2; 1996, p. 136, Pl. 56/12–13.

⁶ Opaț 1996, p. 136, Pl. 56/11.

⁷ Opaț 1996, p. 136, Pl. 56/5.

⁸ Suceveanu 1982a, p. 84, 86, fig. 7/1–2, 8/1, p. 97–98, fig. 14/3, 4, 7; 1982b, p. 114, Pl. 14/4 (phase II B), 15/1, (phase II A–B); 2007, p. 204, pl. LXXIV/1; Unpublished material discovered in the Basilica extra muros Sector.

⁹ Baumann 1995, Pl. V/2–3; Opaț 1996, p. 133, Pl. 54/1, 3.

¹⁰ Baumann 1995, Pl. LXX/3; Opaț 1996, p. 133, Pl. 54/2.

¹¹ Abbreviations used in the text: CN = Centre North; c = square; DM = maximum diameter (for the ceramic objects other than dishes); DMB = button maximum diameter (for lids); DMG = maximum mouth diameter; DF = bottom diameter; DMP = maximum preserved diameter; GrM = maximum breadth (for ceramic objects, other than dishes); H = preserved height of the ceramic object; S = section.

Origin: they were produced in numerous Oriental centres, but the most important ones were Athens, Corinth and Antiochia.

The general aspect of the rim determined the division of this form in eight subdivisions. The A, B, C and D types were dated to the second half of the 5th century AD, the E type to the transition to the 6th century and the types F, G and H were characteristic for the 6th century AD.

Hayes 3 form (circulating during the first half of the 5th century AD until around 550 AD) was most probably preceded by Form 1 Qandarli. With the latter were also found some vessels belonging to the Hayes 3A. If these shapes coexisted during a certain period, some specialists believe that between the end of the Hayes 3 and the emergence of Hayes 10 there was a break of *ca.* 30 years¹². With a few exceptions¹³, this hiatus was confirmed at Athens, Samos¹⁴, Demetrias¹⁵, Labraunda¹⁶, despite the fact that in Antiochia, this form lasted from the middle of the 5th century until the beginning of the 7th century AD¹⁷.

Based on the research at Resafa, in the 1980's, the dating of form 3 was pushed towards the second half of the 6th century while the emergence of Hayes 10 was set a decade earlier, around 570 AD¹⁸; Thasos represents a special case: the last types of Hayes 3 were found in stratigraphic contexts dated to the beginning of the 7th century AD¹⁹.

Hayes 3 plates were found in Scythia at Halmyris²⁰, Histria²¹, Capidava²², Babadag-Topraichioi²³, Tropaeum Traiani²⁴ and Mahmudia²⁵. This pottery type appeared in almost all late Roman sites excavated in Dobrudja – not surprising

considering that throughout the Orient it represents up to 90% of the total Oriental table ware.

The case of Halmyris is the best example, benefiting from the publication of a diverse and large pottery lot. The Hayes 3 form, counting 339 plates, represents more than 70% of the Oriental table ware²⁶. Other hundreds of base and wall fragments (representative for the fine pottery used for serving food, but typologically unclassifiable) were prudently not included in the statistics. Still, Halmyris supports Hayes' affirmation that *ca.* 80 – 90% of the pottery production dating to middle of the 5th century and the first half of the 6th century belongs to form 3.

I.2.1. Hayes 3 Form, type B²⁷

General type description: straight tall massive rim, slightly concave towards the exterior, slightly thickened towards the lower part. Decoration patterns included rouletted rims, stamped patterns on the interior and the central part of the base, and at times incisions surrounding the inner decoration²⁸.

Origin: the production centre was located either in the Pergamum region²⁹, or nearby the Dardanelles, at Canakkale³⁰.

²⁶ Topoleanu 2000, p. 46.

²⁷ General analogies: Hayes 1972, p. 329, 331, 333, 3B Form, fig. 67/B (identical), 1, 2, 4, 5, 460–490 AD; Atlante I, p. 232, tav. CXI/11–13, tav. CXII/1, about 460–475 AD; Hellstrom 1971, p. 44, Pl. 37/333, 5th century AD; Eiwanger 1981, p. 34, 36, Taf. 3/21–23, 460–475 AD; Böttger 1982, p. 62, Taf. 37/422, at Iatrus, dated in the C period, 408–430/450 AD, considered as a prototype for the Hayes 3; Mackensen 1984, p. 64, no. 1, 2, Taf. 1/15, 16, second half of the 5th century AD; Kenrick 1985, p. 381, B 688.3 Form, fig. 71, third quarter of the 5th century AD; Abadie-Reynal, Sodini 1992, p. 19, CF 64–CF 67 Form, fig. 3, 6th century AD; Kuzmanov 1993, p. 36, type I, fig. 2/a, 460–475 AD; Opaïț 1996, p. 137, pl. 57.1, 2, 4–9 (Aegyssus, Topraichioi, Argamum, Murighiol, Libida, Histria and Tropaeum Traiani).

²⁸ Analogies in decoration: Hayes 1972, pattern LRC Ware 36, fig. 36 f (the closest), p. 329–331, 336–337; Atlante I, pl. CXV, p. 61; Hayes 1972, p. 365, pattern 69, fig. 78/p, 440–490 AD for the cross; p. 353, pattern 9, fig. 73/g, 440–490 AD for palmettes; p. 353, 355, pattern 19, fig. 73/z, 357, pattern 33, fig. 74/i for voluted in pairs or enscribed in a circle, 440–490 and 470–580 AD; Atlante I, p. 232, tav. CXVII/18,19, about 520–600 for cross, 232, tav. CXV/7, 520–600 AD for palmettes, Knipovici 1952, p. 320, fig. 14/2, cross and palmette, 3rd and 4th centuries (?); Popescu 1965, p. 710, fig. 11/8, 9, 6th century AD; Papuc 1973, 168, fig. 15/1–6, 440–490 AD; Barnea 1977, p. 236–237, fig. 92/7, 5–6th centuries AD; Barnea 1979, p. 242–243, fig. 3, 5–6th centuries AD; Munteanu, Papuc 1976, p. 151, Pl. V, fig. 14, 440–490, 470–580 AD (for palmette).

²⁹ Hayes 1972.

³⁰ Atlante I, p. 232.

¹² Hayes 1972.

¹³ Robinson 1959, p. 116–117, M350, M351. Pl. 33, 36, 71 (they appear in a context dated to the end of the 6th century AD).

¹⁴ Isler 1969, p. 202.

¹⁵ Eiwanger 1981, p. 34–39.

¹⁶ Hellstrom 1971, p. 44, Pl. 37/332–335

¹⁷ Waagé 1948, Pl. XI/940–947.

¹⁸ Mackensen 1984, p. 43.

¹⁹ Abadie-Reynal, Sodini 1992, p. 21–23.

²⁰ Topoleanu 2000, p. 46–54, no. cat. 21–63, pl. III–VII; Opaïț A 1991a, p. 163–164, no. cat. 258–273, Pl. 41–44; 1996, p. 137, Pl. 57.

²¹ Suceveanu 1982a, p. 91–92, fig. 10/12–13, 14/16; 1982b, p. 114, Pl. 14/1, phase II B; 2007, p. 204, pl. LXXIV.

²² Opraș 2003, p. 151, no. cat. 356, pl. LIV–LVI.

²³ Opaïț A 1991b, p. 230, pl. 43; 1996, p. 136, Pl. 56/6, 8; 57/1.

²⁴ Bogdan-Cătănciu, Barnea 1979, p. 186, Fig. 158/2(1), 161/2(11), 167/2(6).

²⁵ Oberländer-Târnoveanu 1980, p. 65, Pl. VIII/22–23.

Diffusion: in Scythia they were found at Halmyris³¹, Babadag-Topraichioi³², Histria³³, Capidava³⁴ and Tropaeum Traiani³⁵. It is the mostly spread micro-Asiatic pottery type, both in the Mediterranean basin and in the province of Scythia Minor. 20 fragments were discovered at Halmyris among which a plate with a complete profile³⁶.

Dating: 5th century AD.

Catalogue

5. Plate (fragmentary, upper half of the profile). Primary oxidant uniform firing, compact fine red fabric (2.5YR5/5); well fired; the slip has similar colour on the exterior and the interior; Dimensions: DMG = 250 mm, DMP = 250 mm, H = 40 mm. Histria 2012, sector CN, S II, c 4, - 1.20–1.50 m, no. 124, Fig. 1/5.

The above fragment dates from the end of the 5th century AD.

I.2.2. Hayes 3 Form, type C³⁷

General type description: similar to the previous type, with a less massive rim and at times shorter; the thickness of the lower part is more obvious. Vessels had rouletted decoration or black and brown painting.

Diffusion: in Scythia they were found at Halmyris³⁸, Histria³⁹, Babadag-Topraichioi⁴⁰ and Mahmudia⁴¹.

³¹ Opaț A 1991a, p. 163, no. cat. 259, not illustrated, no. cat. 260, Pl. 41/260, 1996, p. 137, Pl. 57/4; Topoleanu 1996, p. 149–150, no. cat. 26, Pl. VI; 2000, p. 48, no. cat. 23–26, pl. III.

³² Opaț A 1991b, p. 230, pl. 41/4–5; Opaț 1996, p. 141, Pl. 60/6–7.

³³ Suceveanu 1982a, p. 89–90, fig. 9/3.

³⁴ Opriș 2003, p. 151, no. cat. 355, pl. LVI/355, pl. LVI/355.

³⁵ Bogdan-Cătănciu, Barnea 1979, p. 187, Fig. 161/2(11).

³⁶ Topoleanu 2000, p. 48–49.

³⁷ General analogies: Hayes 1972, p. 329, 333, 3C Form, fig. 67, C, 7, 9, fig. 68, C, 10, 460–490 AD; Delgado *et alii* 1975, p. 287–289, Pl. LXXVI–LXXVII/176–185, 460–475 AD; Atlante I, p. 232, tav. CXII/2, 3, 4, about 460–475 AD; Bogdan-Cătănciu, Barnea 1979, p. 186, N IV B 2 (1), fig. 158, 2.1, 6th century AD; Williams, Zervos 1982, p. 136–137, no. 62–64, fig. 2, 460–475 AD; Mackensen 1984, p. 64, no. 3, Taf. 11/1, p. 85, no. 1, Taf. 27/1, second half of the 5th century AD; Kenrick 1985, p. 382, B688.4–688.7 Form, fig. 71, the third quarter of the 5th century AD; Kuhnen 1989, p. 87, Taf. 10/4, 5th century AD; Crawford 1990, p. 91, fig. 514, 5th century AD; Abadie-Reynal, Sodini 1992, p. 19–20, fig. 4, CF 68–CF 76 form, 6th century AD.

³⁸ Opaț A 1991a, p. 163, no. cat. 261, Pl. 42/261–262; 1996, p. 137, Pl. 57/5; Topoleanu 2000, p. 49–50, no. cat. 27–34, pl. IV/27–34.

³⁹ Suceveanu 2007, p. 204, pl. LXXIV/2–3.

⁴⁰ Opaț A 1991b, p. 230, pl. 43/3, 8; 1996, p. 136, Pl. 56/8.

⁴¹ Oberländer-Târnoaveanu 1980, p. 65, Pl. VIII/22–13.

Dating: from the second half of the 5th century AD until the beginning of the 6th century AD.

Catalogue

6. Plate (fragmentary, upper half of the profile). Primary oxidant uniform firing, red fine fabric (2.5YR5/8), slip of the same colour, with small and rare porosities; very small calcite and mica particles. Dimensions: DMG = 260 mm, DMP = 262 mm, H = 35 mm. Histria 2012, sector CN, S II., c 3, - 1.40 m, no. 32, Fig. 1/6.

7. Plate (fragmentary, upper half of the profile). Primary oxidant uniform firing, red fine fabric (2.5YR5/6), red slip (2.5YR5/6); very small calcite and iron oxide particles. Dimensions: DMG = 280 mm, DMP = 284 mm, H = 27 mm. Histria 2012, sector CN, S II., c 4, - 0.15–0.30 m, nr. 42, Fig. 1/7.

8. Plate (fragmentary, upper half of the profile). Primary oxidant uniform firing, red fine fabric (2.5YR5/8), reddish-brown slip (5YR5/4); very small porosities; very small calcite particles. Dimensions: DMG = 300 mm, DMP = 306 mm, H = 31 mm. Histria 2012, sector CN, S II., c 10, - 0.80 m, no. 105, Fig. 1/8.

9. Plate (fragmentary, upper half of the profile). Primary oxidant uniform firing, dense red fine fabric (2.5YR5/6), light reddish-brown slip (2.5YR6/4); small calcite particles. Dimensions: DMG = 240 mm, DMP = 240 mm, H = 20 mm. Histria 2012, sector CN, S II., c 4, - 1.20–1.50 m, no. 125, Fig. 1/9.

10. Plate (fragmentary, upper half of the profile). Primary oxidant uniform firing, compact light red fabric (2.5YR7/8), red slip (2.5YR5/6); very small porosities and mica. Dimensions: DMG = 226 mm, DMP = 226 mm, H = 20 mm. Histria 2012, sector CN, S II., c 5, - 0.65–0.75 m, no. 130, Fig. 1/10.

11. Plate (fragmentary, upper half of the profile). Primary oxidant uniform firing, red fine fabric (2.5YR5/8); slip of the same colour, outside; very small and very rare calcite and iron oxide particles. Dimensions: DMG = 232 mm, DMP = 234 mm, H = 23 mm. Histria 2012, sector CN, S II., c 11, - 0.30–0.65 m, no. 116, Fig. 1/11.

12. Plate (fragmentary, upper half profile). Primary oxidant uniform firing, red fine fabric (2.5YR5/6), red slip (2.5YR6/8); rare and fine calcite particles. Dimensions: DMG = 300 mm, DMP = 306 mm, H = 29 mm. Histria 2012, sector CN, S II., c 4-5, - 0.70–1 m, no. 62, Fig. 1/12.

13. Plate (fragmentary, upper half of the profile). Primary oxidant uniform firing, compact red semi fine fabric (2.5YR4/8); calcite and iron oxide small particles. Dimensions: DMG = 230 mm, DMP = 232 mm, H = 27 mm. Histria 2012, sector CN, S II., c 9, - 0.50 m, no. 104, Fig. 2/1.

14. Plate (fragmentary, rim). Primary oxidant uniform firing, reddish yellow semi fine fabric (5YR6/6); small calcite and iron oxide particles; rare and fine mica particles. Dimensions: DMG = 232 mm, DMP = 255 mm, H = 41 mm. Histria 2012, sector CN, S II., c 4-5, - 0.70–1 m, no. 61, Fig. 2/2.

All the above fragments date from the beginning of the 6th century AD.

I.2.3. Hayes 3 Form, type D⁴²

General type description: shorter than the previous type, much thicker at the lower edge, bulging on the outside. Most items display rouletted decoration

Diffusion: in Scythia they only were found at Halmyris⁴³ and Tropaeum Traiani⁴⁴.

Dating: second half of the 5th century AD.

Catalogue

15. Plate (fragmentary, upper half of the profile). Rouletted decoration on the outside band (3 indentations). Primary oxidant uniform firing, red fine fabric (2.5YR5/6), red slip (10R5/6); very small and rare porosities; very small and rare calcite particles, rare mica. Dimensions: DMG = 280 mm, DMP = 282 mm, H = 24 mm. Histria 2012, sector CN, S II., c 8, - 0.20 m, no. 93, Fig. 2/3.

The above fragment dates from the end of the 5th century AD.

I.3. Hayes 10 Form

Seen as a successor of Hayes 3, this form represents a large category of Oriental pottery in the Dobruđja sites.

General type description: the rim is very thick, almost square in section, slightly concave at the lower part, with a groove on the interior corresponding to an outside ridge.

General analogies: Hayes 1972, 343, fig. 71/1–6 (end of the 6th century – beginning of the 7th century AD); Atlante II, tav. CXII, 9–12 (570 AD until the beginning of the 7th century AD)

Diffusion: in Scythia it was found at Histria, Halmyris, Libida, Tropaeum Traiani and Capidava.

Dating: 6th century – beginning of the 7th century AD.

The earliest vessels at Halmyris were dated between the first years of the 6th century AD and the Kutriguri invasion in 559 AD. J. W. Hayes placed the beginning of Form 10 around 580 AD, M. Mackensen a decade earlier⁴⁵ while Fl. Topoleanu consequently suggested that either the

beginning of this form should be seen two or three decades earlier or the survival of Form 10 should be stretched until the third quarter of the 6th century AD⁴⁶. Based on the rim form Hayes distinguished three types.

Catalogue

16. Plate (fragmentary, lower half profile). Primary oxidant uniform firing, red fine fabric (2.5YR5/8), red slip (10R5/8); very fine calcite particles. Dimensions: DF = 106 mm, DMP = 140 mm, H = 19 mm. Histria 2012, sector CN, S II., c 4, - 0.25–0.50 m, no. 49, Fig. 2/4.

This fragment dates from the end of the 6th century – beginning of the 7th century AD.

I.3.1 Hayes 10A Form⁴⁷

General type description: massive rim, square in section⁴⁸.

Diffusion: in Scythia it was found at Histria⁴⁹, Halmyris⁵⁰ Capidava⁵¹ and Tropaeum Traiani⁵².

Dating: 6th century.

Catalogue

17. Plate (fragmentary, upper half of the profile). Primary oxidant burning, strong fine brown fabric (7.5YR4/6), dark reddish-brown slip (2.5YR3/4). Dimensions: DMG = 340 mm,

⁴⁶ Opaïț C 1991, p. 471–472, no. 109, 111, 112 (the date was suggested by several monetary discoveries from Justinus II and Sophia, on N 10, dated in 565–578, 572/573, 574/575 AD). Fl. Topoleanu outlined their unclear contexts (see Topoleanu 2000, p. 60).

⁴⁷ General analogies: Hayes 1972, p. 343–346, Form 10, fig. 71/1, end of the 6th century, beginning of the 7th century AD, for the form of the vessel and p. 361, pattern 48, fig. 77/f, 470–580 AD, for the stamp; Waag 1948, fig. 33; Atlante I, p. 232, pl. CXIII/9, 570–beginning of the 7th century, for the form of the vessel and p. 232, pl. CXVI/35, 520–600 AD, for the stamp; Popescu 1965, p. 706, fig. 6, 6th century AD; Papuc 1973, p. 177, fig. 16/5–7, 470–580 AD; Rodziewicz 1976, p. 39, pl. 9/Ck, C1, 5th century–first half of the 5th century AD, similar pattern in the African ceramics.

⁴⁸ For decoration analogies see Hayes 1972, p. 361, pattern 48, fig. 77/f, 470–580 AD; Atlante I, p. 232, tav. CXVI/35, 520–600 AD; Popescu 1965, p. 706, fig. 6, 6th century AD; Papuc 1973, p. 177, fig. 16/5–7, 470–580 AD; Rodziewicz 1976, p. 39, Pl. IX/CK, C1, 5th century–first half of the 7th century AD.

⁴⁹ Suceveanu 1982a, p. 91–92, fig. 10/8, 11; 1982b, p. pl. 17/8–9, Pl. 17/11 (level IVA–B, 6–7th centuries AD); 2007, p. 206, pl. LXXIV/17–19.

⁵⁰ Opaïț A 1991a, p. 164, no. cat. 280–283, Pl. 43/280–283; 1996, p. 138, Pl. 58/6; Topoleanu 2000, p. pl. XI/100–103 (level N10–12, 6th century–beginning of the 7th century AD); Topoleanu 1996, p. 148–149, no. cat. 24, Pl. V (decoration type II, zoomorphic motives).

⁵¹ Opreș 2003, p. 152, no. 367, 369–370, pl. LV/367, 369–370.

⁵² Bogdan-Cătănicu, Barnea 1979, p. 189, Fig. 167/2(1).

⁴² General analogies: Hayes 1972, p. 329, 331, 333, 3 D Form, fig. 68, D, 13, 460–490 AD; Delgado *et alii* 1975, p. 287, 289, Pl. LXXVII/186, 460–490 AD; Atlante I, p. 232, tav. CXII/5, end of the 5th century, Eiwanger 1981, p. 35–36, Taf. 4/24–26, end of the 5th century, Kenrick 1985, p. 382, B688.8–688.10 Form, fig. 71, end of the 5th century AD; Kuhnen 1989, p. 87, Taf. 10/5, 5th century AD.

⁴³ Opaïț A 1991a, p. 163, no. cat. 263, Pl. 42/263–264; 1996, p. 137, Pl. 57/6; Topoleanu 2000, p. 50, no. cat. 35–38, pl. IV/35–38.

⁴⁴ Bogdan-Cătănicu, Barnea 1979, p. 186, Fig. 158/2(1).

⁴⁵ Mackensen 1984, p. 44–45.

DMP = 340 mm, H = 37 mm. Histria 2012, sector CN, S II., c 4, - 0.15–0.30 m, no. 41, Fig. 2/5.

18. Plate (fragmentary, upper half of the profile), dark orange high quality slip, preserved only on a small surface. Primary oxidant uniform firing, compact fine light red fabric (2.5YR6/8); small and rare porosities on the inner and the outer surfaces; very small and rare calcite particles, rare mica. Dimensions: DMG = 400 mm, DMP = 400 mm, H = 38 mm. Histria 2012, sector CN, S II., c 7, - 0.50 m, no. 92, Fig. 2/6.
19. Plate (fragmentary, rim). Negligent outside aspect (irregular rim and many fingerprints), many irregularities on the outside surface. Primary oxidant uniform firing, red fine fabric (2.5YR5/8), red slip (10R5/6) on the inside and on the outside lower half, very pale brown on the outside band (10YR8/4); very small and rare calcite particles, rare mica particles. Dimensions: DMG = 250 mm, DMP = 250 mm, H = 19 mm. Histria 2012, sector CN, S II., c 7, - 0.50 m, no. 91, Fig. 2/7.

All the above fragments date from the end of the 6th century AD.

I.3.2. Hayes 10B Form⁵³

General type description: the form has a rim with a rounded upper half and a lower inferior edge.

Diffusion: in Scythia it was found only at Histria⁵⁴ and Halmyris⁵⁵.

Dating: 6th century – beginning of the 7th century AD.

Catalogue

20. Plate (fragmentary, upper half of the profile). Primary oxidant uniform firing, red fine fabric (10R5/8), with small porosities; slip of similar colour with fabric; small calcite particles. Rounded thicker rim. Dimensions: DMG = 234 mm, DMP = 234 mm, H = 23 mm. Histria 2012, sector CN, S II., c 1, - 0.40–0.60 m, no. 14, Fig. 2/8.
21. Plate (fragmentary, upper half of the profile). Primary oxidant uniform firing, red fine fabric (2.5YR5/8), same slip colour as the fabric colour; fine mica particles. Dimensions: DMG = 300 mm, DMP = 300 mm, H = 16 mm. Histria 2012, sector CN, S II., c 3, - 0.45 m, no. 28, Fig. 2/9.
22. Plate (fragmentary, upper half of the profile). Primary oxidant uniform firing, compact red fine fabric; light red slip; small calcite and iron oxide particles. Rounded rim,

thicker both on the inside and the outside. G = 280 mm, DMP = 288 mm, H = 34 mm. Histria 2012, sector CN, S II., c 2, - 0.25 m, no. 15, Fig. 2/10.

23. Plate (fragmentary, upper half of the profile). Dark orange colour both on the inside and the outside of vessel. Primary oxidant uniform firing, yellowish red fine fabric (5YR5/8). Dimensions: DMG = 260 mm, DMP = 260 mm, H = 32 mm. Histria 2012, sector CN, S II., c 5, - 0.70–0.90 m, no. 114, Fig. 2/11.
24. Plate (fragmentary, upper half of the profile). Primary oxidant uniform firing, semi fine red fabric (2.5YR5/8), red slip (10R5/8); very small calcite and iron oxide particles, 240 mm, DMP = 242 mm, H = 25 mm. Histria 2012, sector CN, S II., c 5, - 0.70–0.90 m, no. 73, Fig. 2/12.

All the above fragments date from the end of the 6th century – beginning of the 7th century AD.

I.4. Hayes 104 Form

General type description: large pots with prominent rims, oval or circular in section; the separation from the body is marked by a circular incision on the interior. The walls are either slightly curved or straight and heavily oblique towards the base.

J.W. Hayes defined three types of this pottery form, all present in Scythia Minor.

I.4.1. Hayes 104B Form⁵⁶

General type description: the vessels are deeper than the A type, with a rim almost circular in section.

Diffusion: in Scythia this form was found at Halmyris⁵⁷, Capidava⁵⁸ and Histria⁵⁹.

Dating: ca. 570–600 AD, with late variants still appearing a few years after 625 AD.

Catalogue

25. Plate (fragmentary, upper half of the profile). Primary oxidant uniform firing, red semi fine fabric (2.5YR4/6);

⁵³ General analogies: Hayes 1972, p. 343–346, Form B/7, fig. 71/6, end of the 6th century–beginning of the 7th century AD; Atlante I, p. 232, tav. CXIII/13, 570–beginning of the 7th century AD; Mackensen 1984, p. 44–46, 73, FP 22.10, Taf. 16/13, 74, FP72/3–6, Taf. 17/4, 75, FP 73, 47–52, Taf. 18/3, 17/28, 570–beginning of the 7th century AD; Abadie-Reynal, Sodini 1992, p. 24, Form CF 114, 650–700 AD; Waagé 1933, pl. XI, 949 a (6–7th centuries AD).

⁵⁴ Suceveanu 1982a, p. 98–99, fig. 14/10–11; 1982b, p. 99, Pl. 4/1, phase IV A–B.

⁵⁵ Topoleanu 2000, p. 61, no. cat. 104–105, pl. XI/104–105.

⁵⁶ General analogies: Hayes 1972, p. 160, 163, 104 B Form, fig. 30/B 15, 16, 570–600 AD, with late variants, few years after 625 AD; Atlante I, p. 95, tav. XLII/5, 6, 570–600 AD; Johnson 1981, p. 10, 49, no. 246–247, Pl. 39, at Karanis, in context of the end of the 3rd century–half of the 5th century AD (?); Eiwanger 1981, p. 32–33, Taf. II/II.11, end of the first quarter of the 6th century–end of the 6th century AD; Mackensen 1993, p. 351, 613, Form 37, Taf. 70/9–11, 570–600 AD; Uscătescu 1992, p. 138–139, fig. 9/67, fig. 10/68, 570–600 AD.

⁵⁷ Opaïț A 1991a, p. 163, no. cat. 251, Pl. 41/251; 1996, p. 139, Pl. 58/13; Topoleanu 2000, p. 78, no. cat. 167–168; pl. XIX/167–168.

⁵⁸ Opaïț 1997, p. 211, fig. 3.1; 2003, p. 149, no. cat. 345, pl. LIII/345.

⁵⁹ Suceveanu 2007, p. 209, pl. LXXXV/35.

compact red slip (10R5/8); the slip has similar colour with the fabric; small calcite and iron oxide particles, rare mica. Round rim, thicker both on the inside and the outside. Dimensions: DMG = 380 mm, DMP = 380 mm, H = 40 mm. Histria 2012, sector CN, S II., c 1, - 0.25 m, no. 5, Fig. 2/13.

The above fragment dates from the end of the 6th century.

II. DRINKING WARE – *Vasa pota(to)ria*

This category includes vessels used both for serving liquids (beakers, flasks, jugs) and for drinking (cups, mugs, and glasses).

Given their shape and size they were less resistant to physical shocks and thus more difficult to identify when compared to the rest of the kitchen ware. Consequently, most pottery studies mainly focused on finds originating in necropolises. Given the fact that the fragile drinking ware was more difficult to transport and thus it was imported in smaller quantities, the most frequent analogies come – as expected – from the Western-Pontic area. Certainly, high quality products from Western and Oriental workshops were still present, but their percentage is not as important as in the case of the food ware.

II.1. BEAKERS

II.1.1. Opaïț 1996, type IV, variant C⁶⁰

General type description: shorter mouth, less flared rim, sometimes vertical. It has two handles and sometimes it is carinated on the upper half of the body; similar to the beakers with a vertical mouth.

Diffusion: the published items originated from Tomis⁶¹, Histria⁶², Tropaeum Traiani⁶³, Argamum⁶⁴, Libida⁶⁵, Capidava⁶⁶, Dinogetia⁶⁷ and Beroe, and were found both in the settlements⁶⁸ and the necropolises⁶⁹.

⁶⁰ General analogies: Kuzmanov 1992a, 212, Pl. 69/1–4 (Sadovec); Böttger 1982, 56, Pl. 31/388 (Iatrus).

⁶¹ National History and Archaeology Museum, Constanța, inv. 1558, 25845; Rădulescu 1975, p. 349, no. 16 b; Opaïț 1996, p. 119, Pl. 49/1–2.

⁶² Suceveanu 1982a, p. 94–95, fig. 12/55.

⁶³ Bogdan-Cătănicu, Barnea 1979, p. 187, Fig. 162/4 (1–3).

⁶⁴ Opaïț A 1991a, p. 161, Pl. 39/846.

⁶⁵ Opaïț A 1991c, p. 33, Fig. 7/47.

⁶⁶ Opriș 2003, p. 131, no. cat. 289–290, pl. XLIII/289–290.

⁶⁷ Barnea 1966, p. 242, fig. 5/6, p.256, fig. 15/2.

⁶⁸ Vâlceanu, Barnea 1975, Fig. 1/2.

⁶⁹ Petre 1987, p. 19–20, E24, E25, Pl. 33. Fig. 44b (the

Dating: second half of the 5th–6th century AD.

Catalogue

26. Mug (fragmentary, neck). Primary oxidant uniform firing, red fine fabric (2.5YR5/8), with very small and rare porosities; small calcite and iron oxide particles. Dimensions: DMG = 58 mm, DMP = 58 mm, H = 23 mm. Histria 2012, sector CN, S II., c 4–5, - 0.20 m, no. 53, Fig. 3/1. This fragment dates from the end of the 6th century AD.

II.1.2. Beakers with a funnel-shaped mouth

Gose 1976, no. 388; Brukner 1981, type 33; Böttger 1982, no. 388; Petre 1987, C28, C130; Opaïț 1996, types I-IV; Topoleanu 2000, type I

This type of beakers, produced between the 2nd and 3rd century AD, has the prototype in a beaker also present in the Western part of the Empire. It has four variants, but only one circulated during the early Roman period, between the 2nd and 3rd century AD.

II.1.2.1. Variant Opaïț I-IV; Topoleanu I

Diffusion: Mangalia (Callatis)⁷⁰.

Dating: 4th century AD.

Catalogue

27. Beaker (fragmentary, rim). Primary non-oxidizing uniform firing, dark greenish-grey fine fabric (GLE Y1–4.10Y). Dimensions: DMG = 122 mm, DMP = 122 mm, H = 32 mm. Histria 2012, sector CN, S II., c 2–3, - 0.30 m, no. 18, Fig. 3/2.

This fragment dates from the end of the 4th century.

II.1.2.2. Opaïț II; Topoleanu I B variant⁷¹

General type description: Flared rim, tall mouth with vertical walls and a relatively tall neck. Globular or biconical body, circular base, fluted band-shaped handle. White-yellowish fabric, silver coloured mica, reddish-orange slip⁷².

Diffusion: this form was found at Histria⁷³, Halmyris⁷⁴, Babadag-Topraichioi⁷⁵, Beroe⁷⁶, Slava

tomb is dated in the 4th century, but the inventory – lamp and mug – are dated in the 5th century); Opaïț 1996, p. 119, Pl. 49/7, 11.

⁷⁰ Preda 1980, p. 27, 94, pl. XI/161, LXVII/M161.3; 28, 105, pl. XI/M253.

⁷¹ General analogies: Brukner 1981, p. 44, 116, type 33, no. 101; type 34, no. 103, Pl. 142 4th century AD.

⁷² Topoleanu 2000, p. 89.

⁷³ Opaïț 1996, p. 116–117, Pl. 47/9.

⁷⁴ Topoleanu 2000, p. 89, no. cat. 185; 313, pl. XXI185.

⁷⁵ Opaïț A 1991b, p. 226, 257, no. cat. 95, Pl. 38/10; 1996, p. 116–117, Pl. 47/1.

Rusă-Coșari⁷⁷, Telița-Valea Morilor⁷⁸ and Troesmis⁷⁹.

Origin: analogies with the early vessels from Western Europe and Middle Danube basin.

Dating: 4th century AD.

Catalogue

28. Beaker (fragmentary, mouth). Primary oxidant uniform firing, compact yellowish-red semi fine fabric (5YR4/6); small calcite, iron oxide and mica particles. Dimensions: DM = 100 mm, DMP = 100 mm, H = 35 mm. Histria 2012, sector CN, S II., c 1, - 0.25 m, no. 4, Fig. 3/3.

This fragment dates from the end of the 4th century.

II.1.3. Varia (beakers)

Given the fragmentary condition of the following six beaker-bases, it was impossible to classify them.

General type description: Globular or slightly biconical body, ring base.

Diffusion: the published items came from Histria⁸⁰; however, this type of beaker is common to all late Roman sites in Scythia.

Dating: at Histria, they are dated between 570 and 610 AD.

Catalogue

29. Beaker (fragmentary, base). Primary oxidant uniform firing, semi fine light yellowish-brown fabric (10YR6/4), with small porosities (max. 1 mm); small calcite particles. Dimensions: DF = 110 mm, DMP = 130 mm, H = 27 mm. Histria 2012, sector CN, S II., c 1, - 0.40 m, no. 10, Fig. 3/4.

30. Beaker (fragmentary, base). Primary oxidant irregular firing, fine reddish-yellow fabric on the exterior (5YR6/6), grey on the interior (GLE1-5N), with very small and rare porosities; small iron oxide particles. Dimensions: DF = 82 mm, DMP = 100 mm, H = 30 mm. Histria 2012, sector CN, S II., c 4-5, - 0.20 m, no. 52, Fig. 3/5.

31. Beaker (fragmentary, base). Primary oxidant uniform firing, red fine fabric (2.5YR4/8), with a red slip on the exterior (2.5YR5/6); small calcite and iron oxide particles. Dimensions: DF = 68 mm, DMP = 98 mm, H = 17 mm. Histria 2012, sector CN, S II., c 4-5, - 0.70-1 m, no. 60, Fig. 3/6.

32. Beaker (fragmentary, base). Primary oxidant uniform firing, fine yellowish-red fabric (5YR5/6); small porosities; small iron oxide particles, very fine mica particles. Dimensions: DB = 98 mm, DMP = 106 mm, H = 21 mm. Histria 2012, sector CN, S II., c 9, - 0.20-0.45 m, no. 101, Fig. 3/7.

33. Beaker (fragmentary, base). Primary oxidant uniform firing, fine yellowish-red fabric (5YR5/8); rare medium

sized iron oxide particles, rare mica. Dimensions: DB = 100 mm, DMP = 120 mm, H = 25 mm. Histria 2012, sector CN, S II., c 11, - 0.30-0.65 m, no. 108, Fig. 3/8.

34. Beaker (fragmentary, base). Primary oxidant uniform firing, compact semi fine yellowish-red fabric (5YR5/8); very small iron oxide and mica fragments. Dimensions: DB = 82 mm, DMP = 102 mm, H = 19 mm. Histria 2012, sector CN, S II., c 11-12, - 0.30-0.55 m, no. 109, Fig. 3/9. All the above fragments date from the end of the 6th century AD.

II. 2. MUGS

II.2.1. Mugs with a vertical mouth

II.2.1.1. Kuzmanov 1985, types VIII-IX; Opaïț 1991a, type I; Topoleanu 2000, type II

This type of mug with three variants was used in the Lower Danube area, with a series of analogies, elsewhere, Athens included.

Variant B⁸¹

General type description: slightly flared mouth, oval body, ring base and band-like handle.

Diffusion: Halmyris⁸², Callatis⁸³, Tomis⁸⁴, Tropaeum Traiani⁸⁵ and Dinogetia⁸⁶. Well-known analogies are also to be found on sites south of the Danube⁸⁷ and in Athens⁸⁸.

Origin: Given the analogies, the Lower Danube basin is indicated.

Dating: 4th century – end of the 6th century AD.

Catalogue

35. Mug (fragmentary, rim). Primary oxidant uniform firing, fine light brown fabric (7.5YR6/4) with small porosities. Dimensions: DMG = 85 mm, DMP = 88 mm, H = 22 mm. Histria 2012, sector CN, S II., c 2-3, - 0.30 m, no. 19, Fig. 3/10.

36. Mug (fragmentary, base). Primary oxidant irregular firing, red semi fine fabric on the exterior (2.5YR4/8), reddish-

⁸¹ General analogies: Robinson 1959, p. 117-118, M 358-364, Pl. 33, end of the 6th century AD; Preda 1980, p. 27-28, types d, e, M 53, M 87, M 142, M 221, 228, M 295, Pl. XII, LVII, LXI, LXVI, LXVII, LXXV, LXXVI, XXXIX, 4th century AD; Kuzmanov 1985, p. 36-37, type VIII, Pl. 21/70-75, 4th century AD; Bucovață, Pașca 1989, 146, Pl. 12d, 4th century AD.

⁸² Topoleanu 2000, p. 93, no. cat. 205; 315, pl. XXIII/205.

⁸³ Preda 1980, p. 27-28, Pl. XI, LXI/M87, LVII/9, LXVI/M142.2, LXXV/M221.3, XI/228, LXXVI/M228.4, XII/295, LXXIX/M 295.2, pl. XII/pas.

⁸⁴ Bucovață, Pașca 1989, 146, p. Pl. 12 d.

⁸⁵ Bogdan-Cătănciu, Barnea 1979, p. 188, Fig. 162/5(15).

⁸⁶ Barnea 1966, p. 240, Fig. 4/2.

⁸⁷ Kuzmanov 1985, p. 36-37, type VIII, Pl. 21/70-75.

⁸⁸ Robinson 1959, p. 117-118, M 358-364, Pl. 33.

⁷⁶ Petre 1987, Pl. 28; Opaïț 1996, p. 116-117, Pl. 47/4.

⁷⁷ Opaïț 1996, p. 116-117, Pl. 48/5, 11.

⁷⁸ Opaïț 1996, p. 116-117, Pl. 47/2.

⁷⁹ Opaïț A 1991a, Pl. 39/812; 1996, p. 116-117, Pl. 47/7.

⁸⁰ Dimitriu *et alii* 1954, p. 460-461, fig. 390-391.

grey on the interior (2.5YR5/1); small calcite and iron oxide particles. Dimensions: DF = 38 mm, DMP = 70 mm, H = 24 mm. Histria 2012, sector CN, S II., c 4–5, - 0.20 m, no. 50, Fig. 3/11.

The above fragments date from the end of the 6th century.

II.2.1.2. Kuzmanov 1985, type V

General type description: slightly flared mouth, oval body, and ring base.

Diffusion: Histria, the Thermae II sector⁸⁹.

Dating: first three quarters of the 4th century AD.

Catalogue

37. Mug (fragmentary, rim). Primary oxidant uniform firing, semi-rough sandy fabric, brittle yet resistant (7.5YR5/6); very small porosities; small calcite and iron oxide particles, very fine mica particles. Dimensions: DMG = 74 mm, DMP = 90 mm, H = 25 mm. Histria 2012, sector CN, S II., c 5, - 0.40 m, no. 68, Fig. 3/12.

II.3. CUPS

II.3.1. Kuzmanov 1985, type V; Opaïț 1996, type I; Topoleanu 2000, type II

General type description: flared mouth, globular body, and cylindrical short base. On the interior, the lower half is finely fluted. A thin handle is attached to the body and base. The form was produced from the 4th century, until the beginning of the 7th century.

II.3.1.2. Subtype II⁹⁰

General type description: surface of vessels is much rougher with a fluted exterior surface.

Diffusion: found only in Halmyris⁹¹. Its variant was discovered at Capidava⁹², Halmyris⁹³, Babadag-Topraichioi⁹⁴ and Beroe⁹⁵.

Origin: the same as the earlier variant.

⁸⁹ Suceveanu 1982b, p. 114, Pl. 14/12, phase II B

⁹⁰ General analogies: Kuzmanov 1985, 46, type V, Pl. 27/14, 15 (Voivoda and Akra, 6th century AD); Bass, van Doorninck 1982, p. 172, Fig. 8–14, P32 (Yassi-Ada); Schneider 1929, p. 131, Fig. 23/5, 8, 9 (Samos).

⁹¹ Topoleanu 2000, p. 94, no. cat. 209–210, pl. XXIV/209–210.

⁹² Opiș 2003, p. 135–136, no. cat. 318–331, pl. XLVII–XLVIII/318–331.

⁹³ Opaïț A 1991a, p. 161, type I–2, no. cat. 233–234, Pl. 40/233–234; 1996, p. 123–124, Pl. 50/4–18.

⁹⁴ Opaïț A 1991b, p. 228, 258, no. cat. 115, pl. 39/5; 1996, 122, Pl. 51/1.

⁹⁵ Opaïț 1996, p. 123–124, Pl. 51/7, 9.

Dating: second half of the 5th century – first half of the 6th century.

Catalogue

38. Cup (fragmentary, mouth). Primary oxidant uniform firing, very pale brown semi fine fabric (10YR8/4); medium and small porosities (maximum 2x0.5 mm); small iron oxide particles and very fine mica particles. Dimensions: DMG = 80 mm, DMP = 100 mm, H = 38 mm. Histria 2012, sector CN, S II., c 9, - 0.50 m, no. 103, Fig. 3/13.

The above fragment dates from the end of the 6th century AD – beginning of the 7th century AD.

II.3.2. Opaïț 1996, type III⁹⁶

General type description: bitronconical body, small mouth with tall and upright rim. Ring base, flat or concave, at times fluted on the exterior of the rim. It usually had two handles; beige-orange fine rough fabric with a slip and at times a black-greyish exterior patina⁹⁷.

Diffusion: Halmyris⁹⁸, Capidava and Babadag-Topraichioi⁹⁹.

Origin: fabric consistency and some of the morphological features suggest imitations of early single-handled Roman cups; very probable an import¹⁰⁰.

Dating: 6th century AD.

Catalogue

39. Cup (fragmentary, base). Primary oxidant firing, fine light red fabric (2.5YR6/8), light red slip (2.5YR6/6); very small and rare porosities; very small calcite and iron oxide particles. Dimensions: DB = 40 mm, DMP = 53 mm, H = 14 mm. Histria 2012, sector CN, S II., c 11, - 0.80 m, no. 145, Fig. 3/14.

The above fragment dates from the end of the 6th century.

II.3.3. Opaïț 1996, type IV

General type description: bitronconic or globular body; vessels are larger in size than in previous types; Beige or brick-coloured fabric, covered with a fine red or brownish paint.

Diffusion: only at Telița-Valea Morilor¹⁰¹.

⁹⁶ General analogies: Simion 1984, p. 86, Pl. 16/1–2 (Noviodunum necropolis); Schneider 1929, p. 129, Fig. 23/1, 4 (Samos).

⁹⁷ Opaïț 1996, p. 124.

⁹⁸ Opaïț A 1991a, p. 159–160, no. cat. 218–220, Pl. 37/218–220; 1996, p. 124, Pl. 50/5, 52/9–10; Topoleanu 2000, p. 94, no. cat. 211–212; pl. XXIV/211–212.

⁹⁹ Opaïț A 1991b, p. 228, 258, no. cat. 112, pl. 39/3; 1996, p. 122, Pl. 51/13.

¹⁰⁰ Opaïț 1996, p. 124.

¹⁰¹ Baumann 1995, p. 413–14, Pl. VII/5, 7, 8; Opaïț 1996, p. 125, Pl. 52/7, 8, 11.

Dating: second half of the 4th century AD.

Catalogue

40. Cup (fragmentary, base). Primary oxidant uniform firing, semi fine fabric, yellowish-red (5YR5/8); very small porosities; very fine and dense mica particles. Dimensions: DB = 48 mm, DMP = 67 mm, H = 35 mm. Histria 2012, sector CN, S II., c 8–9, - 0.50 m, no. 99, Fig. 3/15.

III. COOKING WARE – *Vasa conquina(to)ria*

The cooking ware (including pots, cooking pans and lids) was made of large-grained rough fabric, containing iron oxide, pebbles, calcareous granules and mica, with the probable purpose of increasing their resistance to thermal shocks. Distinct features include the shape of the rim (meant for lids) and circular or concave shape bases (for a better thermal conductivity). This category of pottery is the most conservative shape-wise with some types used for centuries¹⁰², suggesting the importance of their practical traits rather than the aesthetic ones. In what their distribution in the production areas is concerned, statistics show that imported pots represent between 5% and 10%, while the rest were produced in the West-Pontic provincial workshops. Fabric analyses are lacking in this case also. Thus, our conclusions must remain prudent. It is also the reason for the West-Pontic and the local pottery not being presented as distinct categories. Many shapes were imitations or replicated in the smallest detail in periphery workshops. Their distinction based on visual inspection only is very difficult and risky. Since many local workshops produced kitchen ware, creating typologies covering large areas is not an effective tool for study.

III.1. ORIENTAL POTS (*Ollae*)

This important category of pottery – used every day in Roman kitchens and not only – is mainly characterized by their fragility and practicality, most of the time excluding their aesthetic role¹⁰³. Given their fragility, imported pots do not represent more than 10% of the total discovered on a site. For example, at Halmyris, imported pots represented only 7.90%, while those made in the West-Pontic province workshops covered 92.10%¹⁰⁴. Until now,

only 8 types of Oriental pots were documented in Scythia, among which only the Riley D 579–580 type is more numerous, the rest being represented by one up to four items. This might also reflect the state of their publication. It is however obviously that this category of pottery was rarely imported, reaching Scythia only in small quantities, possibly as “secondary” merchandise.

III.1.1 Riley 1979/D 579-580; Bass, van Doorninck Jr. 1982/p 43; Kuzmanov 1985/type VII; Hayes 1992, fig. 37/13; Opaïț 1996/ type XIV; Suceveanu 2007 – type I¹⁰⁵

General type description: almost vertical rim – uplifted or slightly inclined towards the exterior – with a marked slanting towards the interior (meant for the lid). The attachment to the body is marked by another groove; medium sized globular body, average opening at the mouth between 14 and 17 cm; flared rim with two inner ridges (probably the typical profile for the second quarter of the 6th century). At the beginning of the 7th century, the initial groove became larger, so that the first ridge got lowered almost to the middle of the rim. The base was convex, handles were circular in section, frequently twisted¹⁰⁶.

Diffusion: Halmyris¹⁰⁷, Histria¹⁰⁸ and Tomis¹⁰⁹. The twelve items discovered at Halmyris represent about 4.3% of the quantity of pots; this percentage remains constant¹¹⁰.

Origin. These pots of Oriental origin were common in the 6th century and at the beginning of the 7th century AD, as they were exported not only

¹⁰⁵ General analogies: Condurachi 1954, p. 462, fig. 392, 6th century AD; Hayes 1992, p. 101, fig. 43, 102–103, no. 130, 131, fig. 45, 6–7th centuries AD; Sbodyan 1976, p. 172, type B, Pl. XXVI/7, 6th century AD; Bass, van Doorninck Jr. 1982, p. 175, Pl. 43, fig. 8–15/P 43 (Yassi-Ada, beginning of the 7th century AD); Suceveanu 1982b, p. 118, no. 29, Pl. 17, 6–7th centuries AD; Riley 1979, p. 275, D 579, 580, fig. 108, 6–7th centuries AD; Kuzmanov 1985, p. 53–54, type VII, Pl. 32/r 63, 64 (Kaliakra, 550–650 AD); Hübner 1997, p. 90, Abb. 1/2, 9 (5th century AD); Hayes 1980, Fig. 8/2 (Cartagina); Vermaseren, Van Essen 1965, Pl. 125/6 (Rome); Arthur 1985, Fig. 16.2/3 (Naples).

¹⁰⁶ Opaïț 1996, p. 102.

¹⁰⁷ Opaïț A 1991a, p. 156, no. cat. 189–192, Pl. 32/192; 1996, p. 102, Pl. 40/8, 9, 12 Topoleanu 2000, p. 105–106, no. cat. 231–232, Pl. XXVI/230–231, Pl. XXVII/232.

¹⁰⁸ Dimitriu *et alii* 1954, p. 462–463, fig. 393; Suceveanu 1982b, p. 99, Pl. 4/4, phase IV A–B; unpublished material discovered in the Basilica extra muros sector, S I, in 2001; Suceveanu 2007, p. 210, pl. LXXVI/39.

¹⁰⁹ Opaïț 1996, p. 102, Pl. 40/13.

¹¹⁰ Opaïț 1996, p. 102.

¹⁰² Topoleanu 2000, p. 100.

¹⁰³ Topoleanu 2000, p. 100.

¹⁰⁴ Topoleanu 2000, p. 100.

to the West-Pontic area, but also to the North of Africa¹¹¹. The important number of items discovered in Scythia suggests their possible production in West-Pontic provincial workshops. The fabric indicates two centres of production: at Halmyris where the fabric is rough and rather fine, light pink, with black particles and fine quartz while at Histria and Tomis, the fabric is dark greyish with a blackish slip.

Dating: 6th century – beginning of the 7th century AD.

Catalogue

41. Pot (fragmentary, mouth). Secondary firing on the exterior. Primary reducing irregular firing, semi-rough fabric, black on the exterior (2.5Y2.5/1), grey on the interior (2.5Y5/1); rare and small porosities; medium calcite particles, rare mica. Dimensions: DMG = 162 mm, DMP = 162 mm, H = 29 mm. Histria 2012, sector CN, S II., c 4–5, - 0.20 m, no. 113, Fig. 4/1.
42. Pot (fragmentary, mouth). Secondary firing in the exterior and partially on the interior of the rim. Primary reducing uniform firing, light bluish-grey semi fine fabric GLEY2-7/1; very small porosities; rare mica particles. Dimensions: DMG = 140 mm, DMP = 140 mm, H = 27 mm. Histria 2012, sector CN, S II., c 11, - 0.80 m, no. 146, Fig. 4/2.

The above fragments date from the end of the 6th century – beginning of the 7th century AD.

III.2. WEST-PONTIC PROVINCE POTS (*Ollae*)

In the absence of fabric analyses, it is difficult to separate imported from local goods. Thus the West-Pontic pottery will be treated as a whole, avoiding hypotheses that are not well argued. Given their fragility and volume, it is unlikely that pots came from large distances and in important quantities, thus suggesting that their majority came from the West-Pontic area.

III.2.1. Bogdan-Cătănicu, Barnea 1979/fig. 162/5.9, fig. 172/5.2; Suceveanu 1982b/Pl. 18/39; Opaïț 1996/ type VII; Topoleanu 2000/type XI¹¹²

General type description: vertical rim, convex on the exterior and concave on the interior, with a

¹¹¹ Hayes 1976, p. 43, 50.

¹¹² Late variant; general analogies: Riley 1979, p. 336, fig. 123/841, 6th century AD; Bogdan-Cătănicu, Barnea 1979, p. 188, N V 5(9), fig. 162/5.9, 5th century AD, 191, N VI B 5(2), fig. 172/5.2, second half of the 4th century AD; Eiwanger 1981, p. 45, shape II, Taf. 15/11.232, 5–6th centuries; Suceveanu 1982a, p. 89, no. 19, fig. 9/19, first half of the 6th century AD; 1982b, p. 119, no. 39, Pl. 18/39, 6–7th centuries AD.

groove for supporting the lid. The body is globular, in many cases fluted. Handles are oval in section and also fluted.

Diffusion: in Scythia examples were found at Halmyris¹¹³, Capidava¹¹⁴, Tropaeum Traiani¹¹⁵ and Babadag-Topraichioi¹¹⁶.

Origin: a micro-Asian shape – probably manufactured starting with the second half of the 5th century in the West-Pontic province workshops.

Dating: second half of the 5th – first part of the 7th century AD.

Catalogue

43. Pot (fragmentary, mouth). Primary oxidant irregular firing, semi-rough fabric, red on the exterior (2.5YR4/8), dark reddish-grey on the interior (2.5YR3/1); small and medium calcite and iron oxide particles. Dimensions: DMG = 200 mm, DMP = 200 mm, H = 32 mm. Histria 2012, sector CN, S II., c 4, - 0.15-0.30 m, no. 44, Fig. 4/3.
44. Pot (fragmentary, mouth and partial handle). The handle attaches to the pot under the rim. Primary oxidant uniform firing, semi-rough fabric, red on the exterior (2.5YR4/8), grey on the inside (35%) (GLEY1–5N); medium calcite particles, medium iron oxide particles, rare mica. Dimensions: DMG = 200 mm, DMP = 200 mm, H = 34 mm. Histria 2012, sector CN, S II., c 11, - 0.30–0.65 m, no. 115, Fig. 4/4.

The above fragments date from the end of the 6th century – beginning of the 7th century.

III.3. WEST-PONTIC PROVINCIAL COOKING PANS

III.3.1. Suceveanu 1982a, Pl. 11/21; Barnea 1984, Pl. VII/7¹¹⁷

General type description: wide horizontal rim with a thickened interior ridge, similar to Hayes 5. It is different through the inferior quality of the fabric and its general execution. The walls are straight and slightly globular, slanting towards the base.

Diffusion: published items are known from Halmyris¹¹⁸.

¹¹³ Opaïț A 1991a, p. 153–154, type VII, no. cat. 164–168, Pl. 27–28/164–168; 1996, p. 96, Pl. 38/2; Topoleanu 2000, p. 115, no. cat. 282 + 287, pl. XXXII/285.

¹¹⁴ Opraș 2003, p. 117, no. cat. 235, pl. XXXVI/235, 235a.

¹¹⁵ Bogdan-Cătănicu, Barnea 1979, p. 188, Fig. 162/5(9).

¹¹⁶ Opaïț A 1991b, p. 233, 258, no. cat. 122, pl. 40/2.

¹¹⁷ Late general analogies: Suceveanu 1982a, 84, no. 5, 6, fig. 7/5, 6, the last quarter of the 4th century – the first half of the 5th century AD; Bogdan-Cătănicu, Barnea 1979, fig. 162, 5.10, 6th century AD; Hayes 1992, p. 91, fig. 30/6 (4th century AD).

¹¹⁸ Topoleanu 2000, p. 119, no. cat. 301; 327, pl. XXXV/301–305 (9 items were discovered).

Origin: the Pontic province¹¹⁹.
Dating: 2nd – 6th centuries AD.

Catalogue

45. Pan (fragmentary, rim). Primary oxidant uniform firing, dark olive-brown semi-rough fabric (2.5Y3/3) with pebbles and sand; small calcite particles (max. 1 mm) and mica. Rounded rim, thicker towards exterior. Dimensions: DMG = 300 mm, DMP = 300 mm, H = 17 mm. Histria 2012, sector CN, S II., c 1, - 25 m, no. 6, Fig. 4/5.

The above fragment dates from the end of the 6th century.

III.3.2. Bogdan-Cătănciu, Barnea 1979/fig. 162/5.5; Böttger 1982/type VI B; Suceveanu 1982a/fig. 12/42; Kuzmanov 1985/type II; Opaïț 1996/type III; Topoleanu 2000/type V

Catalogue

46. Pan (fragmentary, rim and partial handle). Primary oxidant uniform firing, yellowish red semi-fine fabric (5YR4/6); very small calcite and iron oxide particles. Dimensions: DMG = 200 mm, DMP = 154 mm, H = 27 mm. Histria 2012, sector CN, S II., c 4–5, - 0.20 m, no. 55, Fig. 4/6.

47. Pan (fragmentary, rim). Primary regular reducing firing, black semi-rough fabric (R2/1); medium iron oxide particles, very small calcite and mica particles. Dimensions: DMG = 130 mm, DMP = 135 mm, H = 20 mm. Histria 2012, sector CN, S II., c 7, - 0.50 m, no. 88, Fig. 4/7.

III.3.3. Brukner 1981, type 27; Kuzmanov 1985, type I; Kuzmanov 1982 B, type II; Topoleanu 2000, type VIII¹²⁰

General type description: the rim is flared, concave on the interior and convex on the outside. There are also items with a massive and rather tall rim. The body is globular or ovoid fluted on the upper half; handles were oval in section.

Diffusion: at Halmyris¹²¹ and Tropaeum Traiani¹²²; also, 20 items of this type were discovered at Halmyris.

Origin: West-Pontic area; it has common elements with the types Böttger VII D and Brukner 28.

Dating: 5th century – beginning of the 7th century AD.

¹¹⁹ Topoleanu 2000, p. 119.

¹²⁰ Late variant general analogies: Suceveanu 1982a, p. 94, no. 37, fig. 11/37, 6th century AD, 26, no. 8, fig. 17/8, 7th century AD; Kuzmanov 1985, p. 48, type I, no. 12, fig. 28/r 12 (6th century AD) 1992b, p. 213, type II, variant 1, Taf. 80/7, 9 (6th century AD).

¹²¹ Topoleanu 2000, p. 113, no. cat. 271–275, pl. XXXI/271–275.

¹²² Bogdan-Cătănciu, Barnea 1979, p. 188, Fig. 162/5 (10–11); 191, Fig. 172/5(2); 192, Fig. 172–173/5(3).

Catalogue

48. Pan (fragmentary, upper half profile) Secondary exterior and interior firing on the rim. Primary oxidant uniform firing, yellowish red semi fine fabric (5YR4/6); very small calcite particles, small iron oxide particles, rare mica. Dimensions: DMG = 140 mm, DMP = 164 mm, H = 52 mm. Histria 2012, sector CN, S II., c 1, - 1.25 m, no. 110, Fig. 4/8.

The above fragment dates from the end of the 6th century.

III.4. LIDS

The kitchen pottery lids are made of a similar fabric to that of the pottery resistant to high temperatures. However, as they were not exposed directly to fire, the consistency of the lids is finer. Kitchen pottery lids are more curved, ending in a button-shaped flattened handle or in a tall one.

III.4.1. Brukner 1981, type 3–4¹²³

General type description: Average size lids with a conical body, with a round and short handle. Fluted both on the interior and the exterior.

Diffusion: were present in all Roman-Byzantine sites. Certain items from Halmyris¹²⁴, Capidava¹²⁵, Histria¹²⁶, Dinogetia¹²⁷, Tropaeum Traiani¹²⁸, Babadag-Topraichioi¹²⁹, Libida¹³⁰, Telița-Valea Morilor¹³¹ and Caugagia¹³² were published.

Origin: this type is largely spread in the Roman world, during the 2nd and 3rd centuries AD.

Dating: 2nd century – beginning of the 7th century AD.

Catalogue

49. Lid (button and partial body). Primary oxidant uniform firing, yellowish-red semi fine fabric (5YR5/6); very small

¹²³ Late general analogies: Abadie-Reynal, Sodini 1992, 52, pl. 22, CC 191–193, 196, 199 (Thasos); Crawford 1990, E 6, fig. 293–294 (Sardis); Robinson 1959, 67, Pl. 14, K 86, K 107 (Athena); Böttger 1982, pl. 49/217, 510–513 (Iatrus); Kuzmanov 1992b, p. 216–217, pl. 108, 1–20; 109, 1–12 (Sadovec).

¹²⁴ Topoleanu 2000, p. 121–122, no. cat. 310–313, 316–317, pl. XXXVII/310–313, 316–317.

¹²⁵ Opreș 2003, p. 118–119, no. cat. 242–246, pl. XXXVII/242, 243, 247.

¹²⁶ Suceveanu 1982b, 117, Pl. 16/1, phase IV A.

¹²⁷ Barnea 1966, 254, Fig. 15/1.

¹²⁸ Bogdan-Cătănciu, Barnea 1979, 190, Fig. 169/7(1–2).

¹²⁹ Opaïț A 1991b, 236, pl. 41/1, 6–8, 259, no. cat. 158, 236, pl. 49/11, 13; 1996, Pl. 43/12.

¹³⁰ Opaïț A 1991c, 28, Fig. 5/20, 21; 1996, 143, Pl. 62/5–6.

¹³¹ Baumann 1995, 410, Pl. III/2.3.

¹³² Opaïț 1996, 143, Pl. 62/8.

and rare porosities; small calcite particles and very fine rare mica particles. Dimensions: DMB = 43 mm, DMP = 70 mm, H = 28 mm. Histria 2012, sector CN, S II., c 5, - 0.40 m, no. 67, Fig. 4/9.

The above fragment dates from the second half of the 6th century.

III.4.2. Type 2

Catalogue

50. Lid (button and partial body). Primary oxidant uniform firing, red semi fine fabric (2.5YR4/8), red slip (10R5/6); very small calcite and mica particles. Tidy aspect. Dimensions: DMB = 28 mm, DMP = 76 mm, H = 32 mm. Histria 2012, sector CN, S II., c 5-6, - 0.25 m, no. 82, Fig. 4/10.

The above fragment dates from the end of the 6th century.

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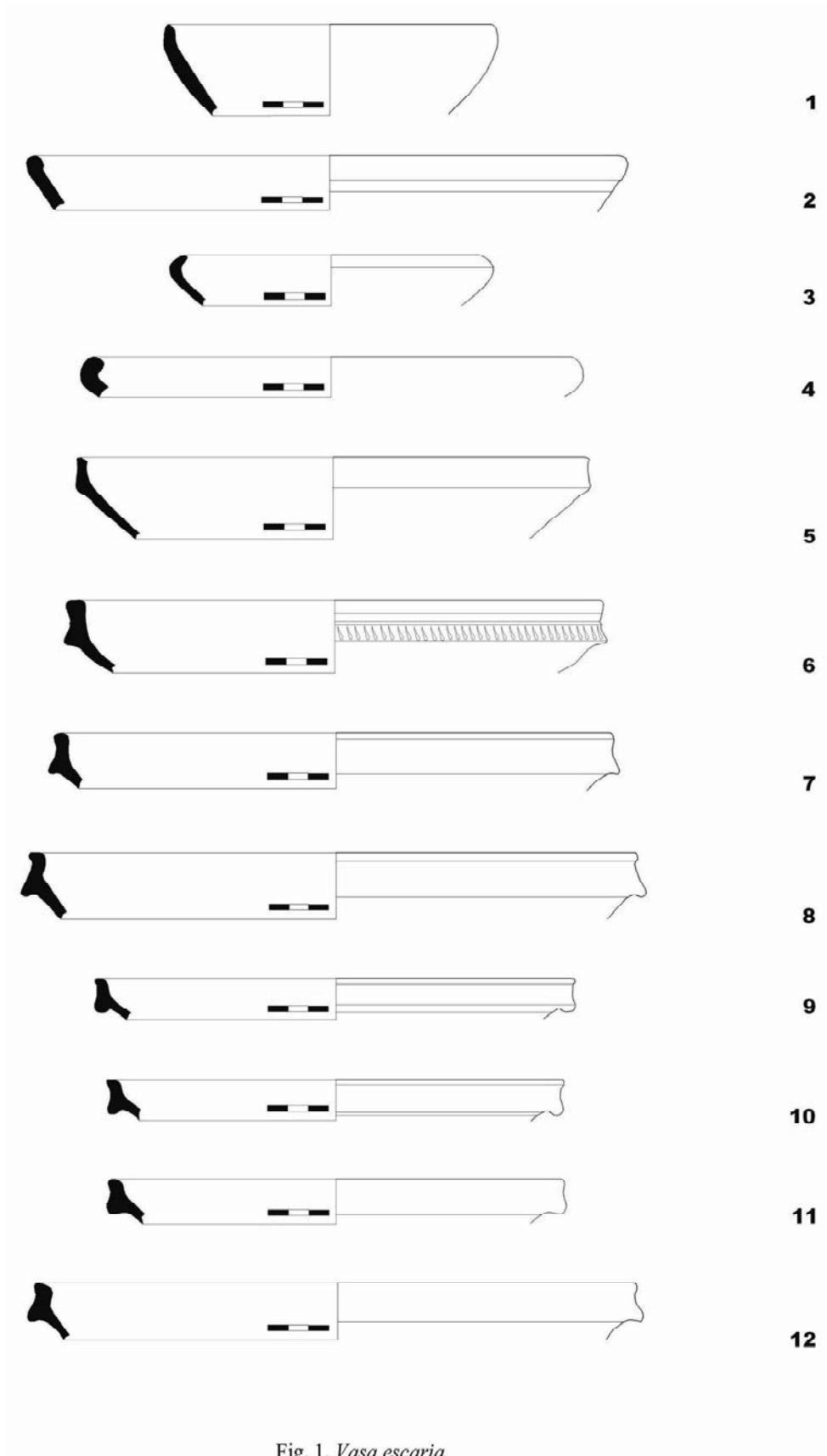
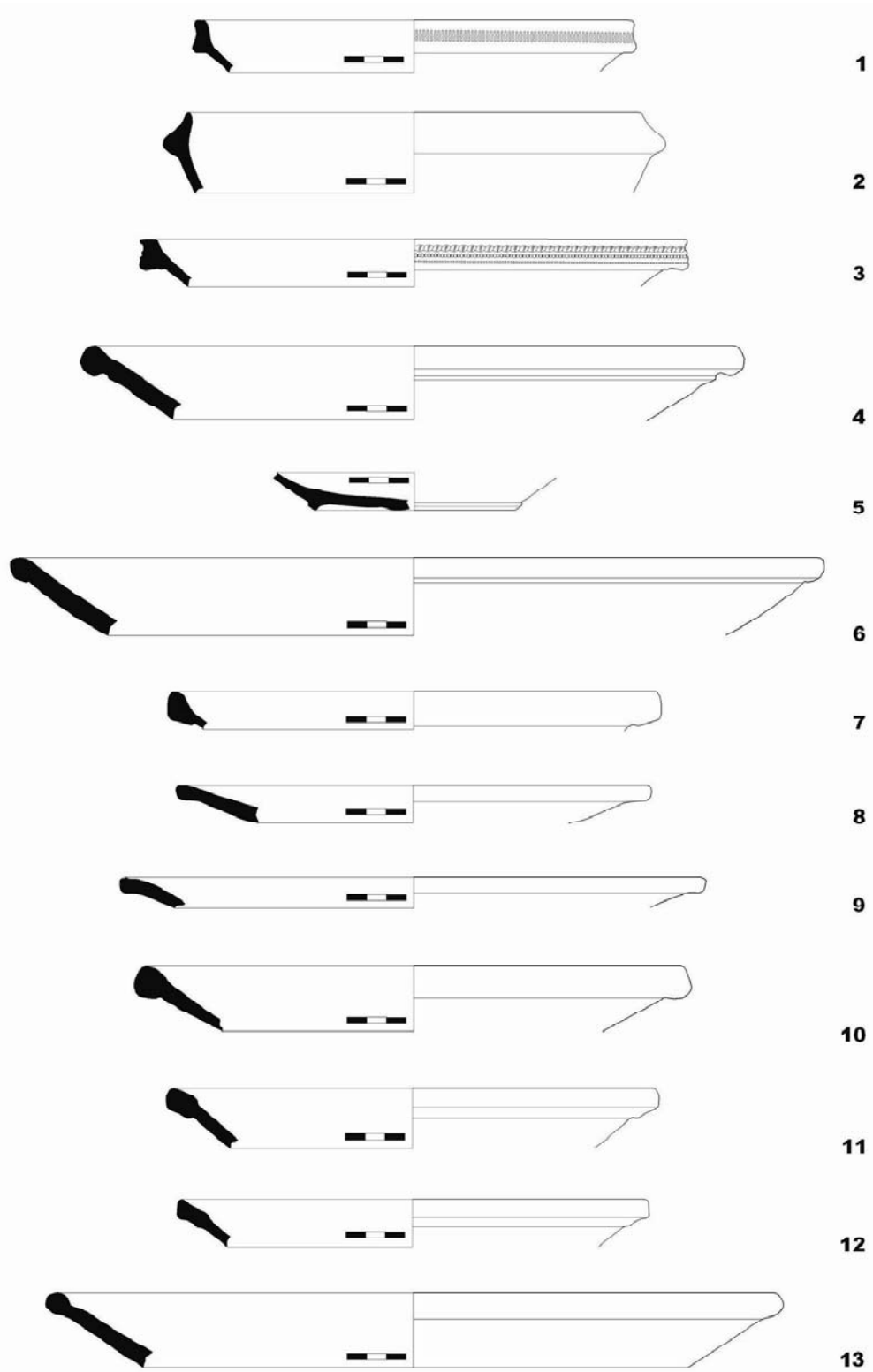


Fig. 1. *Vasa escaria*

Fig. 2. *Vasa escaria*

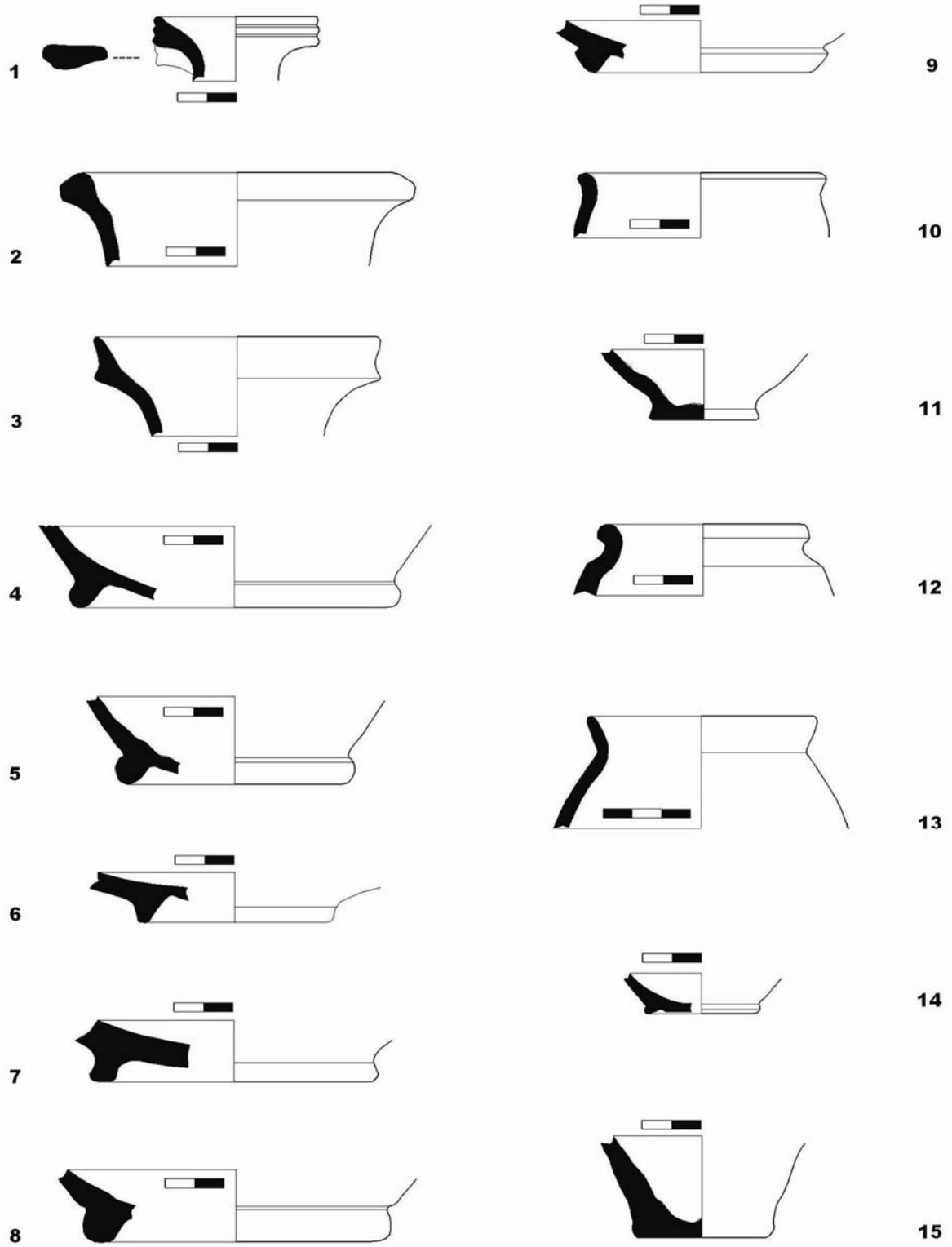
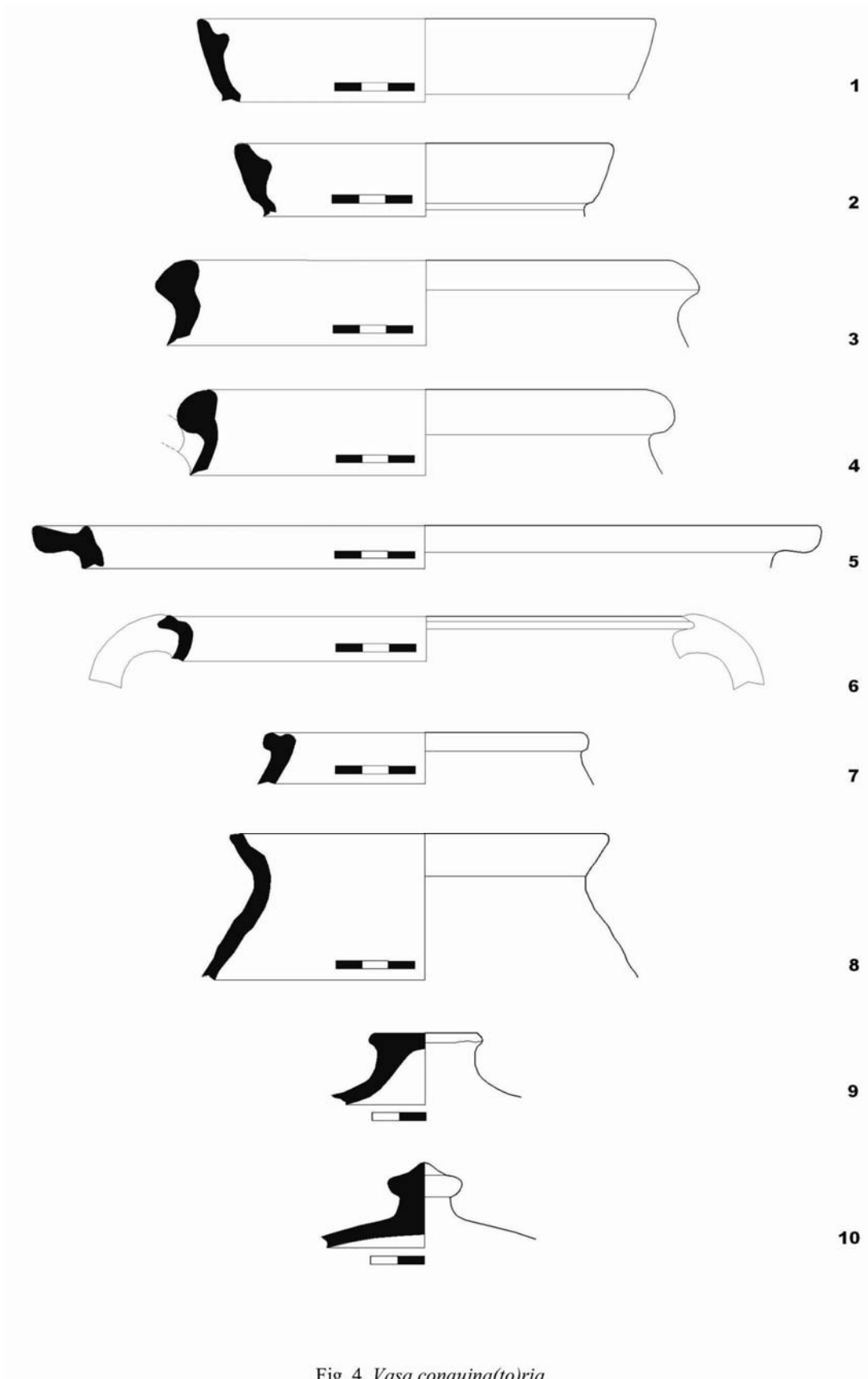


Fig. 3. *Vasa pota(to)ria*

Fig. 4. *Vasa conquina(to)ria*