

GREY POTTERY FROM MONUMENTS OF THE EARLY SCYTHIAN PERIOD IN THE MIDDLE DNESTR REGION (WESTERN PODOLIAN GROUP OF MONUMENTS)

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Abstract: *The biggest quantities of early grey wheel-made ware specimens (as early as in the VII cent. B.C.) occurred in the area of West-Podolian group of the Early Scythian culture from the Middle Dnestr basin (North-West-Pontic). The grey wheel-made ware is certified on settlements and burial grounds. Among the unearthed wheel-made ceramics, one could distinguish the vessels of Kruglik-type, bitronconical mugs with an elevated handle, as well as rims of vessels with grooves on the outer edge and vessels with round in section handles. From the very moment of its discovery, this category of finds has been broadly discussed in the special literature. The question of special interest: under whose influence was it adjusted, and why it is not present in other adjacent regions of Northpontic Forest-steppe?*

As it is known, the provenance of monochrome grey wheel-made ware is bound with the north-western part of Asia Minor peninsula – Aeolis, the technology of which, beginning with VII cent. B.C., was passing to the Greek centers beyond the borders of this region and which could have been passed further, through the barbarian milieu of Lower Danube and south-eastern Transcarpathian region, northwards to Middle Dnestr basin and the Pruthian way of this pottery's spreading appears to be more likely. The transmission of technological novelties (in our case, the monochrome grey wheel-made ceramics technology) not only through Greeks-colonists, but also directly through the barbarian milieu of eastern Balkans and East-Carpathian region could be quite probable. In this case, one could say, that a certain part of early grey wheel-made pottery in East-Carpathian region was of Asia Minor provenience. The fact of grey pottery's transmission directly through the barbarian milieu is also illustrated by earlier materials from phase Troy VII b2 (1130 – 1050/30 B.C.). Thereupon, the role of Troy as one of the key-centers in transmission of this new technology was underlined.

1. In the historical and cultural development of the territory of Middle Dnjestr, in the early Iron Age, a lot of things are not clarified. This territory was, in the beginning of the early Iron Age, under the control of two different cultural-historical trends. On one hand there are relics of the culture of Gava-Goligrad, and on the other hand there are signs of the Chernolesko-Zhabotin¹ culture. But, due to the superficiality of the available studies about this region, up-to-date the chronological and territorial parity of these groups does not appear sensible for the present. It is an open question to know how these two cultural formations become extinct. The following historical and cultural findings from the region relates to the middle of the 7th century B.C. At that time there are settlements and burials which are tradition-bound to be recognized as within the West Podolsk vicinity in the early Scythian period of the Ukrainian Forest-steppe². In comparison with other regions of the Ukrainian Forest-steppe, as for example the Middle Dnepr region, the front line³ of development that occurs in West Podolian is traced to hide many riddles. Historical evidence of previous different cultural-historical trends (Gava-Goligradskogo and Chernolesko-Zhabotin), their input into early Scythian time, are not yet at hand. Does this population become the direct receiver of that cultural group or do chronological ruptures occur regarding the population who occupied these settlements? There are, for example in one version, relics related to early Scythian type in Western Podolian, that is not a result of autochthonous developments but rather of tribes that advanced from more eastern regions of the Ukrainian Forest-steppe⁴. However, no comparative researches have been conducted, as yet, and the conclusion has been drawn only from facts related to early Scythian material domination⁵.

Until now there is no comprehensive study on the nature of the material culture of Western Podolian during the early Scythian period. Meanwhile, differences are very essential, between Western Podolian relics from this period and sites located in the Ukrainian Forest-steppe. They comprise both relics related to funeral ceremonies and the nature of ceramic material⁶ generally. A clear feature of such a distinction is given in the site of Western Podolian where grey ceramics occurs and this ceramic is to be executed on a potter's wheel⁷.

The chronology of the early Scythian period in the Dnestr region defines first of all material which kind of nature is defined by G.I. Smirnova's as RSC-2-RSC-3

¹ SMIRNOVA 1990, 17-24.

² SULIMIRSKI 1936; MELJUKOVA 1964; TERENOZKIN, IL'INSKAJA 1983, 229; SMIRNOVA 1993, 2.

³ IL'INSKAJA 1975; DARAGAN 2004, 5-137.

⁴ TERENOZKIN, IL'INSKAJA 1983, 290

⁵ It is necessary to note also, that the region of Middle Dnjestr, from all local groups of monuments from early Scythian time of the Ukrainian Forest-steppe can be considered as one of the most investigated. Settlements in this region including early Scythian time were studied by O.D. Ganina, G.I. Smirnova, L.I. Krushelnitskaja, J.N. Maleev, etc. Barrows of the region, which at the beginning of studying were necessary to T. Sulimirskij, subsequently were successfully studied by G.I. Smirnova, J.N. Maleev and A. Gutsal.

⁶ MELJUKOVA 1979, 103; BRUJAKO 2005, 150-152; SMIRNOVA 2004, 409-430.

⁷ GANINA 1965, 115-117.

based on I.N. Medvedsky's⁸ approach toward the Scythian archaic period. That implies that the West Podolsk site provides similarities with some other sites to the east, where distribution of ceramics of so-called «Hallstatt» type exists. Such examples are to be found in the Bug region (the Nemirovskoe site of ancient settlement) and in the Dnepr region (the Trahtemirovsky site of ancient settlement)⁹. The occurrence, in these Shythian settlements of such artifacts, proves altogether the presence of early antique import into the Ukrainian Forest-steppe in the first half to the middle of the 7th century B.C.¹⁰.

With this background the appearance of grey ceramics in a local settlement, which was only produced by the use of a potter's wheel, causes special interest. Firstly, with the facts we have available, we do not know if this is import (and then the question of import appears) or if it is locally manufactured. The question of special interest is to know under whose influence it was adjusted, and why it is not present in other adjacent regions of the Forest-steppe?¹¹ Certainly, these questions have been raised before. Substantial descriptions of the problem and alternative solutions are stated in a number of works¹². Formulated as different theses, the origin of such ceramics looks as follows:

1. T. Sulimirski stated that such ceramics was considered as Celtic and was dated 3rd-2nd centuries B.C.¹³.

2. O.D. Ganina compared this ceramics with Dacian (Thracian) ware of Bulgaria and Romania in the 6th -5th centuries BC. Also G.I. Smirnova¹⁴ recognizes it as North Thracian or Dacian for the same period.

3. Greek import or influences. Without excluding direct import of grey ceramics, G.I. Smirnova assumes that there is an option that it is manufactured locally by the population of the Middle Dnestr region as a result of contacts and influence from colonists who provided the technology of the potter's wheel and connections to master-potters at the island (or peninsula) of Berezan. We do not know for sure how the mechanism of the transfer technology worked – was technology development direct at hand in the barbarian environment or was it accessible only in the settlement of Berezan. G.I. Smirnova has also noted a concentration of findings of grey potter's ceramics only in the Middle Dnestr region and on only on its left inflows¹⁵. Accordingly, if there was an acquaintance to the potter's wheel in Berezan, this idea found its way across Dnestr. At this G.I. Smirnova did not exclude a possibility of receiving such ceramics from Istria. The idea of Istria as a probable facilitator of such a tradition is supported also by I.V. Brujako¹⁶.

⁸ SMIRNOVA 1993, 101-118.

⁹ DARAGAN 2004, Abb. 48; 49.

¹⁰ ONAJKO 1966; DARAGAN 2004; TSETSKHLADZE 2007, 37-44.

¹¹ In other regions grey ceramics finds are estimated in units. And they cannot be precisely dated.

¹² SMIRNOVA 1999; 2004; BRUJAKO 2005; KASHUBA, LEVITSKI, 2009.

¹³ SULIMIRSKI 1936, 106, 116-118

¹⁴ GANINA 1965, 115-117, SMIRNOVA 1965, 76; SMIRNOVA 1968, 24-25

¹⁵ SMIRNOVA 1999, 54-55.

¹⁶ BRUJAKO 1992, 19-20.

4. From Asia Minor. According to M. Kashuba and O. Levitski, the local population of East Carpathian mountain region had borrowed the "know-how" of monochrome grey ware which they had mastered by the use of a potter's wheel. But this knowledge was not transferred from the antique centers. Instead the transfer of the technology of grey potter's ware was done directly through the barbarian environment - from east Balkans through Dobrudja and the East Carpathian region to the areas of Dnjestr.¹⁷

Certainly, the search for explanations regarding the nature of influence and presence of such a form in this region is important from the culturological point of view. If there was this influence from antique centers - why did it affect only this region - and not the other settlements of the Forest-steppe. If the knowledge was adopted - other regions appear not to have been susceptible? In addition it still remains open, one of the main dilemmas of archeology, namely - occurrence of new categories of ceramics - means also as a resulting effect the occurrence of a new carriers group of such tradition ceramics¹⁸.

To be able to stick to one of the theories above, this is possible only after having a representative sample of grey ceramics from the region enabling the consideration of its accurate chronological position. This is also the problem of this work.

1. THE SITUATION IN THE MIDDLE DNESTR REGION.

This work reviews findings¹⁹ from the stratified complexes of the settlements of Zalese and Ivane-Puste²⁰ and grave-mounds of the region.

Most part of these findings is basically not known to a wide range of researchers. The settlements of Zalese, Ivane-Puste and Dolinjani, have only one layer from the early Scythian period. Grey products occur in dwellings, and in settlements layer where they are present in a context of local modelled ware together with the Greek import, Hallstatt import and ceramics of Hallstatt types, and artifacts of early Scythian types. It allows to date precisely enough some of grey pottery forms.

¹⁷ KASHUBA, LEVITSKI 2009.

¹⁸For example, the presence of early Scythian type objects - arms and horse equipments, in Western Podolian group material culture show the Scythians physical presence here.

¹⁹ Unfortunately, the significant part of the documentation on these monuments is absent, and materials are in various museums and funds. A part of materials from Zalesje settlement is stored in the State Historical museum of Ukraine (Kiev), a part in funds of the Archaeology Institute NAS of Ukraine (Kiev), a part in the Ternopol local lore museum (Ternopol). Some things are lost. The same concerns the materials of Ivane - Puste settlement. Thus the significant part of materials is not accompanied by field lists. Some categories of stock are restored only according to reports.

²⁰ Separate fragments of grey ceramics are met also in the top layer of Neporotovo settlement and in Lisichniki settlement - SMIRNOVA 2004, fig. 2, 1-6. The grey ceramics is as well in Kushtanovitsky group of monuments. But here in absence of precise chronological indicators, it is dated to the 6th century B.C. - *Pamjatki* 1993, 263.

2. SETTLEMENTS.

*Settlement of Zalesje*²¹. On this site the collection of grey ceramics is presented in the following different forms.

*Vessels of «Kruglik» type*²². These are pots with a truncated throat, smoothly fitting into round sides, and on a flat stand. The rim edge is unbent, it has a horizontal cut and is thickening. On the neck, as a rule, there is a low narrow platen. In a separate variant pots with extended neck are found. On the neck transition into the body they have a small depression - flute (Fig. 2/1; 3, 1). On some fragments there is a wavy pattern, sometimes in a combination with the narrow platen (Fig. 4/4-5).

A number of fragments can be assigned to come from *jugs*. Some of them have a handle (Fig. 4/3). The fragments of vessels presented only by fragments of rims concern other types. All of them have distinctions in the profile of the rim and its ornament (Fig. 2/4-6; 3/5-9). Just under the rim on the top part of the neck some vessels display several ridges.

From large vessels there are fragments on which there are depressions as a kind of small flute or on the contrary, a convex shape that is also dependent on the different sizes of platens (Fig. 2/7-8).

Scoops, mugs, cups. They are represented by fragments from a deep cup; they have a smoothly unbent rim, a concave neck and a rounding shape. Some fragments have oval in section, high handles (Fig. 3/2, 4; 4/1-2).

In one collection a significant amount of vessels bottoms of has also remained. Among them fragments of flat bottoms and bottoms with a ledge are allocated (Fig. 2/2).

Among categories of subjects from settlements that have been dated, fragments of Greek pottery - tare and tableware are presented. The transport amphoras are represented by some Chian containers. These are vessels with white facing and decoration in the shape of direct, horizontal and bow-shaped signs (Fig. 5/1-4). They belong to the early period that dated from the middle of the 7th century B.C. till the beginning of the 6th century B.C.²³.

Finds of bottoms which on metric indicators can belong to the groups of amphorae manufactured at Clazomenae (Fig. 5/5), dated within the second half of the 7th - first half of the 6th century B.C.²⁴. Amphorae manufactured at *Lesbos* are represented by fragments of characteristic rounded handles. This group can also be referred to the same period.

Following the agreed dates – all findings belong to the second half of the 7th - beginning of the 6th century B.C.

The painted ware²⁵ is represented by fragments of bowls, spherical bowls

²¹ The information on settlement - GANINA, 1984, 68-78.

²² The type is allocated by G.I. Smirnova on materials of a kurhan to early Scythian time, to Kruglik (look below).

²³ COOK, DUPONT 1998, 147

²⁴ SERGIN 2004, 170-174.

²⁵ Unfortunately, the entire group of painted ceramics is accessible only on photos and figures from reports.

and Ionian cups (**Fig. 6**). This group of ceramics is dated not later than the first half of the 6th century B.C. - within the second half of the 7th - first half of the 6th century B.C. Bowls, are decorated by plentiful strips from purple and bleached (**Fig. 6/3**). Thus the plentiful purple is put at the top part of an internal wall that is an early sign. In the second half of the 6th century B.C. such plentiful purple was no more in use. A pattern of triangles (**Fig. 6/2**), another archaic pattern, attested on Ionian and Chian ceramics of the second half of the 7th - first half of the 6th century B.C. For spherical bowl drawings another technique is used (**Fig. 6/1**), that allows a dating not later than the first half of the 6th century B.C. By this time it is possible to carry a vessel with a beam ornament (**Fig. 6/4**). A more accurate date is given by a fragment of an Ionian cup. The outside rim is unbent which is rather insignificant on height. A strip of colored clay is left on the rim. External ornament: the rim and the top part of the vessel are entirely varnished. Where the handles are fastened a light colored strip of clay is left (**Fig. 6/5**). This fragment can be referred to type B1 at Villard-Valet. Such cups are extended in layers of the second half of the 7th - the first half of the 6th century B.C. on ancient settlements, including Berezan²⁶.

Hallstatt types are represented by a fragment of a bracelet (**Fig. 7/9**) and also by table ceramics (**Fig. 7/1-8**) (dating below).

Early Scythian findings are represented by bits and arrowheads²⁷. All of them are dated not later than the end of the 7th - the beginning of the 6th century B.C.

*Settlements of Ivane-Puste*²⁸.

«Kruglik» type vessels. Within the limits of this group vessels with the truncated throat smoothly passing in rounded sides and with a flat bottom are represented. The unbent rim edge is cut horizontally off and thickening. On neck transition to body, as a rule, there is a low narrow platen (rice) (**Fig. 8/1-2**) or flute (**Fig. 10/9**). The rims of vessels are decorated with small horizontal flutes allocated direct under the rims or wider, passing also on the throat (**Fig. 8/4, 5**). Also in a collection there is a rim fragment of a vessel with upright walls on which the pattern of wavy lines is applied (**Fig. 10/7**).

Scoops, cups. Scoops have direct or slightly inclined rims, the direct extended neck passing to the rounded case. On a neck or on transition from a neck to the case there is a horizontal flute decoration (**Fig. 10/1, 4, 6**). The cup has a direct rim on both the extended direct neck and the lower case. Under the rim - three horizontal flutes are present (**Fig. 10/5**).

Bowls. They are represented by fragments with rounded walls and inside bent rim (**Fig. 10/3**).

The grey ceramics in settlement Ivan-Puste is also represented together with Greek pottery - the tare, presented amphorae, Hallstatt types and early Scythian types.

Hallstatt types and imports are a bracelet, a plaque (**Fig. 9/5, 11**) and pottery (**Fig. 9/1-4, 6-9**) and early Scythian objects: a circle - a bit, a cheek piece and also a

²⁶ RUBAN 1980, 110-112.

²⁷ GANINA 1984, 76, fig. 6, 3, 5; 5, 7-6.

²⁸ GANINA, 1964, 55-57.

triangular tip of an arrowhead (**Fig. 9/10, 12, 13**).

The Greek wares from settlement Ivane-Puste is represented by the upper part of an amphora of Clazomenian type (**Fig. 11/1**). It is similar to Clazomenian trade amphorae of Group II (630-600 B.C.) or III (635-590 B.C.) by Y.Sergin²⁹. Some bottoms can also be assigned to Clazomenian (**Fig. 11/2**). They can be correlated with groups dated within the second half of the 7th - first half of the 6th century B.C. Fragments of handles from amphorae of *Lesbos* manufacture are also known from the settlement (**Fig. 11/3**).

Settlement of Dolinjani. Grey pottery from Dolinjani settlement is treated in G.I.Smirnova's separate article³⁰, where it is allocated two groups of ceramics vessels.

These are «*Kruglik*» type vessels and cups, or high mugs. From the last, fragments of tape handles, with a longitudinal wide fillet lateral aspect are found. All potter's ceramics of the settlement is made of clay containing very small golden spangles. The same golden spangles are also observed in the clay of modeled ceramics in Dolinjany settlement. This fact has allowed G.I.Smirnova to assume local manufacturing of potter's ceramics³¹.

Some remarks about dating the objects are following. There are finds of pins, an axe, allowing G.I.Smirnova to date the monument to the second half of the 7th - first half of the 6th century B.C. Greek pottery is represented separately by fragments of tare ware.

It is necessary to notice, that in assortment of grey ware from Zalesje, Ivane-Puste and Dolinjani there is a certain difference. It is not excluded, that it is defined by a chronological difference, namely at Zalesje ancient settlements, Ivan-Puste and Dolinjani. But on many chronological segments, all of them co-exist.

3. FINDINGS FROM GRAVE-BURIALS.

Kruglik. The findings from this burial have repeatedly been analyzed by G.I. Smirnova³². The grey vessel from this burial is known to us in a separate type and is named *Kruglik* (**Fig. 12/1**). Additional findings from this burial include the following materials. Early Scythian items are arrow heads, a spear head, a knife, an axe, a bronze chopper. The locally modeled ware is represented by bowls, a scoop, and also a Ferigile (2-3 combinatory groups) culture bowl (**Fig. 12/2-11**). The burial is convincingly dated by G.I. Smirnova to the second half - the end of the 7th century B.C.³³.

Teklivka, kurgan 3. From this burial there is the big grey wheel-made pot, made on a potter's wheel. It has a convex body, becomes thicker horizontally,

²⁹ SERGIN 2004, 170-172

³⁰ SMIRNOVA 1999,

³¹SMIRNOVA 1999, 53-54. But in this case it is necessary to note, that shine appears in the test due to addition of mica or quartz and that it is not a basic feature for any region. For example, shine also appears in the test of grey ceramics from Berezan and Olbia. Nevertheless, in this case visual impressions are too few - analyses are necessary.

³² SMIRNOVA, 1968, 14-27

³³ SMIRNOVA 1993, 109-111

with unbent rim. The inside rim has an insignificant ledge in the form of the platen. The bottom is flat. On the neck there is a coat hanger and there are low smooth platens. The sizes of a vessel: height 40 cm, diameter of a rim - 27 cm, diameter of the case - 36 cm. The dimension of this vessel exceeds all others which have been found in burial grounds. These are the sizes of pots in settlements (**Fig. 13/1**). A vessel stand is flat with two drawn perpendicular lines which remind a cross. The accompanying stock is made up of modeled ceramics: scoops (2 copies) height to 3.5 cm, diameter 11.5 cm, a low cup, the high handle has an expanded ledge (**Fig. 13/2**); bowls with bent inside edge (2 specimens) (**Fig. 13/3-4**); bowls with unbent outside edge (1 copy); a vessel rim fragment. Metal pieces: a buckle-plate decorated with the image of a griffon-ram (**Fig. 13/8**) and a buckle-plate with the image of a prey bird head (**Fig. 13/7**); fibula in shape of a harp with concave handle; a 17 coils spring and a spiral needle (**Fig. 13/6**); a bronze mirror with lateral handle - on its is end the T-shaped support on which the figure of a horse (**Fig. 13/5**) is located; two gold earrings (**Fig. 13/ 12-13**); a bronze pin with a head in the form of two symmetrically located spiral curls in three turns (**Fig. 13/11**); a bronze ring, diameter 4.5 cm, round in section with five rounded, in regular intervals located lateral loops (**Fig. 13/10**); a bronze ring, two iron knives; also 4 bowls, one of which large (**Fig. 13/9**), a brown color paste bead with yellow straight and zigzag lines³⁴. All categories are typical for early Scythian monuments from West Podolian group, stage RSC-3³⁵.

We discuss later the important fibula, for which chronology is especially interesting.

Shutnivzi, kurgan 3. Stock: a clay bowl, a scoop, some tens of amour-clad plates, eleven bronze arrowheads, an iron bit, a knife, a spear tip, a grinding bar. The grey product is represented by a scoop (**Fig. 14/1**)³⁶. All early Scythian stock under the period scheme of I.N.Medvedskaya concerns stage RSC-3.

Shutnivzi, kurgan 7. In this complex the deep grey bowl made on a potter's wheel and a scoop was found (**Fig. 14/3**)³⁷.

Kolodievka, kurgan 11. The grey ceramics is represented by a small vessel (**Fig. 14/2**)³⁸. The accompanying stock is also from early Scythian types of stage RSC-3. It is an iron knife, two clay bowls, an iron tip of a spear with the octahedral plug and an aperture for staff fastening. This material is not published yet.

Separate fragments of walls and bottoms were also found in *kurgan 12 Kolodievka*. They are combined also with forms of local ceramics and objects of stage RSC-3. Also fragments of a thin-walled grey pot were also present in *kurgan*

³⁴ GUTSAL *et alii* 2003, 90-92.

³⁵ GUTSAL, GUTSAL 2004, 18-24.

³⁶ GUTSAL *et alii* 1998, 75.

³⁷ GUTSAL *et alii* 2001, 18.

³⁸ GUTSAL *et alii* 2006, 159.

4 *Kolodievka*³⁹ and *kurgan 2 Tarasivka*⁴⁰. From one complex, *kurgan 2 Teklivka* the fragment of a grey vessel, decorated on the unbent edge of a rim by a wavy ornament⁴¹ (unfortunately, it is not published yet) is known. Grey ware is known also from burial (B) at *Novosyolka-Grimajlovsky Servatinzi*⁴² and *Lisichniki*⁴³.

4. CHRONOLOGY OF GREY WARE FROM THE COMPLEXES OF DNESTR REGION.

As already has been said, early Scythian findings, present at all burial grounds of the Middle Dnestr region, together with the grey ceramics made by the use of a pottery wheel, correspond to the third stage of early Scythian cultures (RSC-3) under the period scheme of I.N. Medvedskaja, dated maximum from the second half of the 7th century B.C. to the beginning of the 6th century B.C.⁴⁴. This chronological range comprises transport amphoras as well as painted ware from the settlements of Zalese and Ivan-Puste.

The fibula from the burial ground of Teklivka and the bracelets from Zalese and Ivan-Puste are essentially dated in consistency with the Hallstatt import. Short remarks about fibulae: M. Novotna investigated harp type fibulas in Slovakia and dated them to the late Urnenfeldkultur (Ha B). Such fibulae are widespread in the South of modern Germany, the low part of Austria, Switzerland and Bohemia. They are not so frequent in the Karpatsky region. Here they are dated in the late Lausitzer culture. P. Betzler also dates these fibulae not later than Ha C (and divides such fibulae by distinctions of design into two types: Hadersdorf type and Roggendorf type). Hadersdorf type is dated in the late Urnenfeldkultur. Roggendorf type relates to Ha C1. Both types have begun spreading from Austria and the South of Germany (Bavaria, Baden-Württemberg). M. Gedl investigated these fibulae in Poland. They have been found both in female and in male burials and the bulk of harp type of fibulae are also dated to Ha C. M. Gedl writes that fibulae have been spread to Poland thanks to the influence from the East Alpine Hallstatt. Probably these fibulae, or the fashion of these fibulae, came to Poland later, when their demand gradually ceased in modern Austria, Germany and Slovakia. Therefore, in Poland they were used longer than in Austria, where Ha C fibulae are few⁴⁵. But in any case, by the end of Ha C2 such fibulae already go out of use and at the stage of Ha D1 they are unknown. The end of Ha C (Ha C2) is the latest possible date of their existence. The dating of fibulae proves to be true also when dating bracelets from the Zalese and Ivan-Puste settlements. Bracelets also have direct analogies in the East Alpine Hallstatt⁴⁶. Thus, a variant from Zalesje corresponds to Ha C2, whereas a copy

³⁹ GUTSAL *et alii* 2005, 119.

⁴⁰ GUTSAL, MEGEJ, 1997, 85-88

⁴¹ GUTSAL A., GUTSAL V. 2003, p. 91.

⁴² SULIMIRSKI 1936. p. 82-83. Tab. XV, 6; P. 93-94. Tab. XV, 9.

⁴³ SMIRNOVA 2004, 423. Ris. 2, 6.

⁴⁴ SMIRNOVA 1993, 2004; GUTSAL, GUTSAL 2004, 22-23.

⁴⁵ NOVOTNA 2001; BETZLER 1979; GEDL 2004.

⁴⁶ STEGMANN-RAJTAR 1992, S.76, Abb. 11-13; 73 Abb. 22, 6-7; WELLS 1978, S.67, Fig.1,1; KILIAN-DIRLMEIR 1972, Taf. 93, B-2,3; HODSON 1990, Pl. 24, 15; 26, 7,8; 35, 2; 47, 4; 49, 3,4.

from Ivan-let corresponds to the wider range of Ha C - the beginning of Ha D1⁴⁷. That is also a chronological range from the second half of the 7th century B.C. - the beginning of the 6th century B.C.⁴⁸. But the 7th century B.C. has priority in this case. This dating does not contradict with ceramics of Hallstatt type or from Zalesje and Ivan-Puste, which can be compared with ceramics of Ha C2, dated to the second half of the 7th century B.C.⁴⁹. Synchronizing this to Ha C2 - the maximum boundary of Ha C2/Ha D1 is specified by parallels with a chronological cut of the Ukrainian Forest-steppe, comprising a complex of ornaments and morphology in the forms of table ceramics⁵⁰.

Thus, the considered forms, made on a potter's wheel, of the early Scythian grey ware, from West Podolsk, existed already at least in the third - fourth quarter of the 7th century B.C. (i.e. within the limits of the second half of the 7th century B.C.). But, certainly, we cannot exclude dating of some categories of grey wares till the middle of the 7th century B.C., no less than the beginning of the 6th century B.C. But it certainly does not fall outside this chronological range limits.

5. ORIGIN QUESTIONS

As it was already said in the introduction, the problem is reduced to the following. It is a question about transfer of a technological idea, or saturation of the local market by exclusively import production. From these two positions G.I.Smironova's considered this ceramics. She tended to support that local population could use potter's wheel, but did not exclude also that it was direct import. The basis for such conclusions - exhausted by S.S. Solovyov, is via a comparison of ceramics from Berezan settlements with ceramics from Dolinjani⁵¹. At the same time I.V.Brujako excludes both versions. In exchange he puts forward "Wandering" as a transfer idea of grey wares into the local environment. That means that the "know-how" of potter's ceramics did not transfer to the local environment or in any case it has not been mastered there. Instead wandering masters did it on place. According to I.V.Brujako, it took its way from the antique centers (Berezan or Istria) to the Middle Dnestr region and further into the river areas of Yews and East Hungary, together with groups of wandering potters⁵².

Together with V.V. Krapivina I have also compared grey ceramics from Olbia and Berezan with grey ceramics from the settlements of Zalesje and Ivan-Puste⁵³. The result of this visual comparison is very dual. There is really a certain visual similarity. It concerns peeling qualities of *separate* vessels fragments, roasting character and even clay structure. But, essential distinctions are also observed. The first difference concerns the shape. Vessels of «Kruglik» type including their different versions, scoops, cups from the Middle Dnestr region - are absent on antique sites. The assortment of the antique centers is much richer and more

⁴⁷ KILIAN-DIRLMEIR 1972, 87; HODSON 1990, tab. 8; SCHMID-SIKIMIC 1996, 3-16, Taf. 102.

⁴⁸ PARZINGER 1989, 123; RANDSBORN 1992, 98-99; TRACHEL 2004, 69-70

⁴⁹ DARAGAN 2004, 139-136.

⁵⁰ DARAGAN, SNITKO 2008, 303-306

⁵¹ SMIRNOVA 1999, 55.

⁵² BRUJAKO 2005, 202.

⁵³ KRAPIVINA, DARAGAN 2008.

various. There are certain nuances in the technician achievement. For example, on Berezan and Olbia the most part of grey ceramics was covered with dark coating and was polished. It is obvious that a chemical-spectrographic comparison of such ceramics is necessary and not only a visual comparison. A comparison of our materials with the antique ones is essential for several reasons. The published and only seen fragments from Berezan, cannot be confidently dated to the 7th century B.C. and even to the first half of the 6th century B.C. An example is Berezan, where the complexes reliably dated to the 7th century B.C. are practically not known, but only complexes from the 6th century B.C. On large scale they are already known only in what concerns Histria (though in this case, I have no absolute data). There are only layers of the 7th century B.C. which correspond with certain groups of painted and tare ware. Unfortunately, it is not known whether there was grey ceramics on the Jagorlyk settlement, where there is also a layer of the second half of the 7th century B.C. But here is an important characteristic issue - it is not allocated on the Taganrog settlement. For Olbia it is also important that complexes, confidently dated to the first half of the 6th century B.C. are also not present. That means that actually comparison goes with antique materials which are dated from the middle of the 6th century B.C. Thereby, we can draw the conclusion that in the 6th century B.C. the antique centers of the northern Black Sea coast and the grey ceramics from the Middle Dnestr region cannot directly be compared. At the given investigation phase and on my request a member of the Institute of archeology HAH of Ukraine, Dr. T. Goshko, has conducted an approximate chemical composition analysis of several crocks from Zalesje and Berezan⁵⁴. The received preliminary data have shown a considerable difference in the clay chemical composition of the compared fragments. But the considerable affinity (though not absolute) between the grey ceramics made on a potter's wheel and the modeled ceramics from Zalesje can thus be observed. That is why we can assume the fact of local manufacturing of such ceramics with a certain share of objectivity.

Certainly, the detailed typological and chemical-spectrographic comparative analysis between all monuments should be conducted due to the necessity of considerable samples of the stratified materials on grey ceramics from the antique centers of the northern Black Sea coast. A fair observation is that S.B. Buyskikh's study of grey ceramics of the middle Bug region, despite the enormous saved up material is insufficient⁵⁵. But the acquaintance with material from Olbia and Berezan, and the consultations of experts allows us to draw a preliminary conclusion, about the various origins of grey ceramics from Olbia, Berezan and monuments of the Middle Dnestr region (West Podolsk group). Finds of grey wares on ancient settlements also help us to enrich such a conclusion. V.V. Krapivina assumes that grey ceramics was locally manufactured and adjusted with influence from Olbia⁵⁶. On the contrary, S.B. Buyskikh assumes that at early

⁵⁴ The data have preliminary character. Unfortunately, while there is no opportunity to make the analysis of significant sample. Plus objectively, for a correct result, analyses for the regions clay deposits are considered necessary.

⁵⁵ BUYSKIKH 2007, 31

⁵⁶ KRAPIVINA 2007.

stages of colonization (throughout the 6th century B.C.) the grey ceramics was not manufactured in Olbia⁵⁷. It is supposed that it was imported from Asia Minor, or it was delivered from Asia Minor by Greek colonists as a part of their household utensils. Thus its mass character and prevalence allow us to consider it as one of the characteristic and steady elements of household culture for Ionic immigrants. We can completely exclude the version about loan or import from the antique centers (Berezan and with a large share of probability of Histria) if S.B. Buyskikh's version is correct. And if we accept S.B. Buyskikh's version about the absence of potter's manufacture in the new colonies at early stages of colonization, we also exclude the version about loan of a potter's wheel from Greeks.

Actually, independent from Asia Minor, we cannot exclude an origin of grey ceramics from Western Podolian. It is necessary to consider a long tradition of manufacture of such ceramics in Asia Minor region and also a certain coincidence in forms and ornaments of such ceramics between Asia Minor region and the far periphery - the Middle Dnestr region. For example, the wave ornament presence on vessels from Asia Minor in the 7th century B.C. is indicative; the flute under the rim and on the neck of mugs also follows the similar forms etc⁵⁸. But the Asia Minor origin version of such ceramics is directly connected with the Thracian version. As M. Kashuba and O. Levitski's review shows, grey ceramics is represented practically at all monuments of the South Thracian group - territories of modern Moldova and Romania. Its chronology certainly still requires specifications, but we can't exclude that in the 7th century B.C. it functioned. If we look at other adjacent territories, it will appear that the grey ceramics covers practically all territories North and East of the Balkans⁵⁹. Certainly, here the question about its accurate chronology remains open too, considering that basic objects for the comparative analysis are the grey pots executed on a potter's wheel from group Alfeld and Vekerzug⁶⁰. But it is obvious, that none else than the 7th century B.C. can possibly be the dating of the ceramics made on potter's wheel from burials of "Scythian type» in East Hungary. One group of monuments – also Telekes-Dolinka burials with scoops and the bowls made on a potter's wheel - are dated to the end of the 7th - the beginning of the 6th century B.C.⁶¹. But there is an open question concerning its occurrence in this region. Actually the East Balkan area is not presented in the specialty literature. Though, from this territory a considerable number of complexes, settlements and burial grounds are known where grey ceramics was found⁶². But with materials from this territory essential parallels with modeled ceramics (a mug of Thracian type, kitchen pots with vertical walls, etc.) are observed. Contact with this region during earlier time (early Scythian time burials in Enge, Belgradez, Polsko Kosovo) is traced. Therefore, despite the limited quantity of direct analogies, the version about transfer of technology of potter's grey ware directly through the barbarous

⁵⁷ BUYSKIKH 2007, 38.

⁵⁸ BAYNE 2000, Fig. 34, 5; 46, 4.

⁵⁹ BONEV 2003, 134; CONČEV 1959; VELKOV 1934; NIKOLOV 1972.

⁶⁰ CHOCHOROWSKI 1996, 115-138.

⁶¹ PATAY, KISS 2001-2002, 140.

⁶² MIRČEV 1962; I. VELKOV 1934; CONČEV 1959; NIKOLOV 1972; MIRČEV 1965.

environment - from East Balkans through Dobrudja and East Carpathian region to areas of the middle Dnjestr current can be recognized as the most probable.

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Western Podolian group of monuments

Fig. 1 - Western Podolian group of monuments from Early Scythian time.

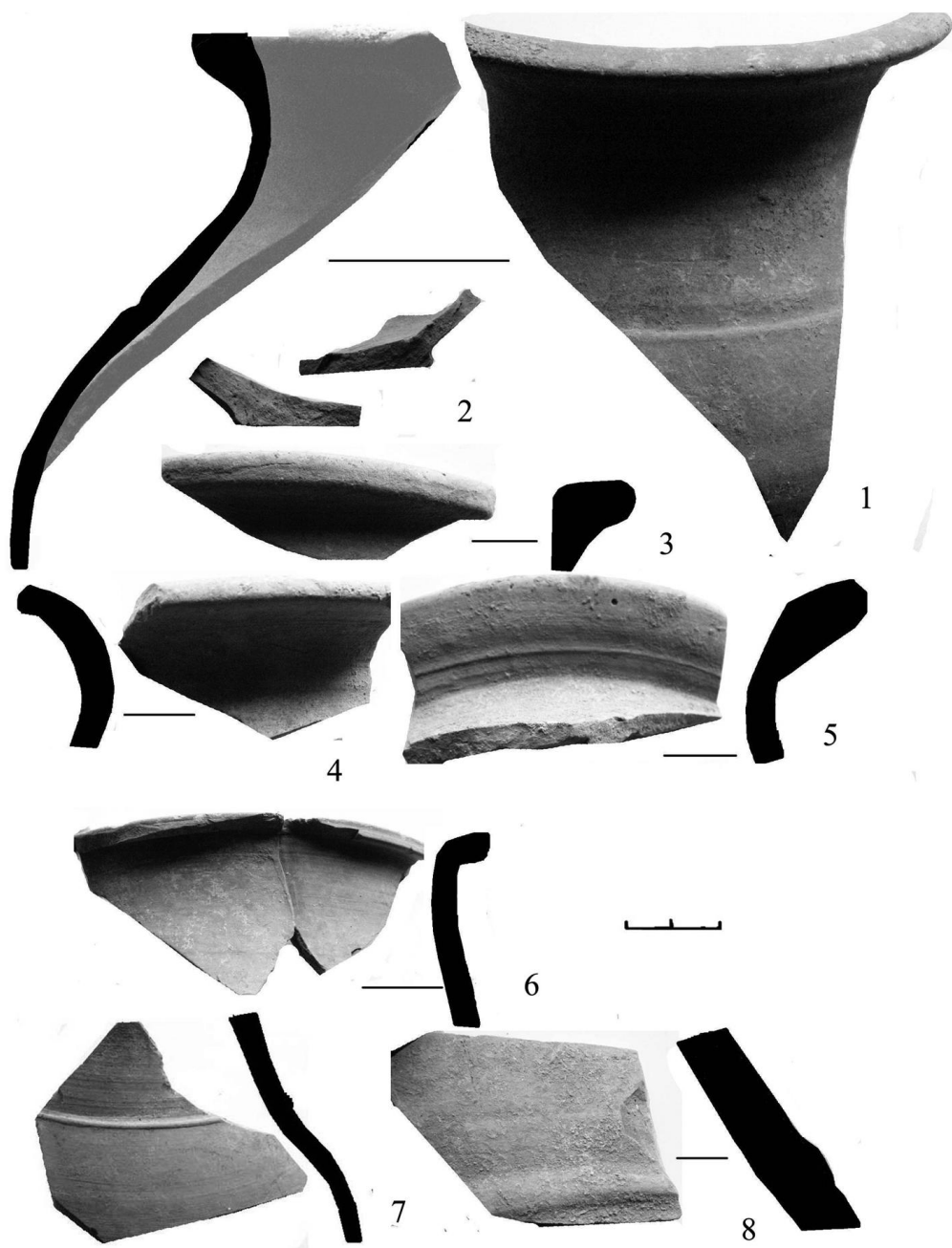


Fig. 2 - Grey pottery from Zalesje settlement.

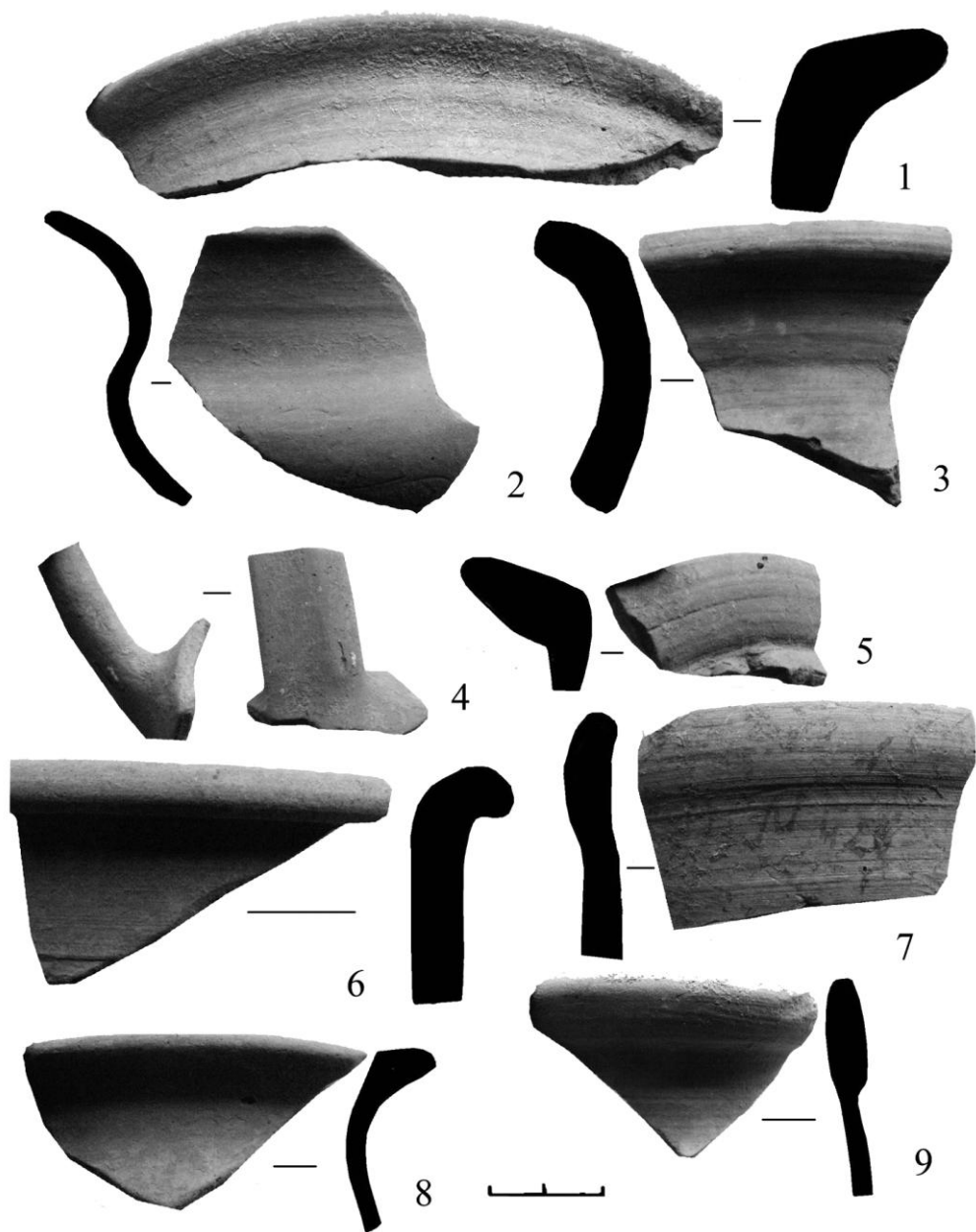


Fig. 3 - Grey pottery from Zalesje settlement.

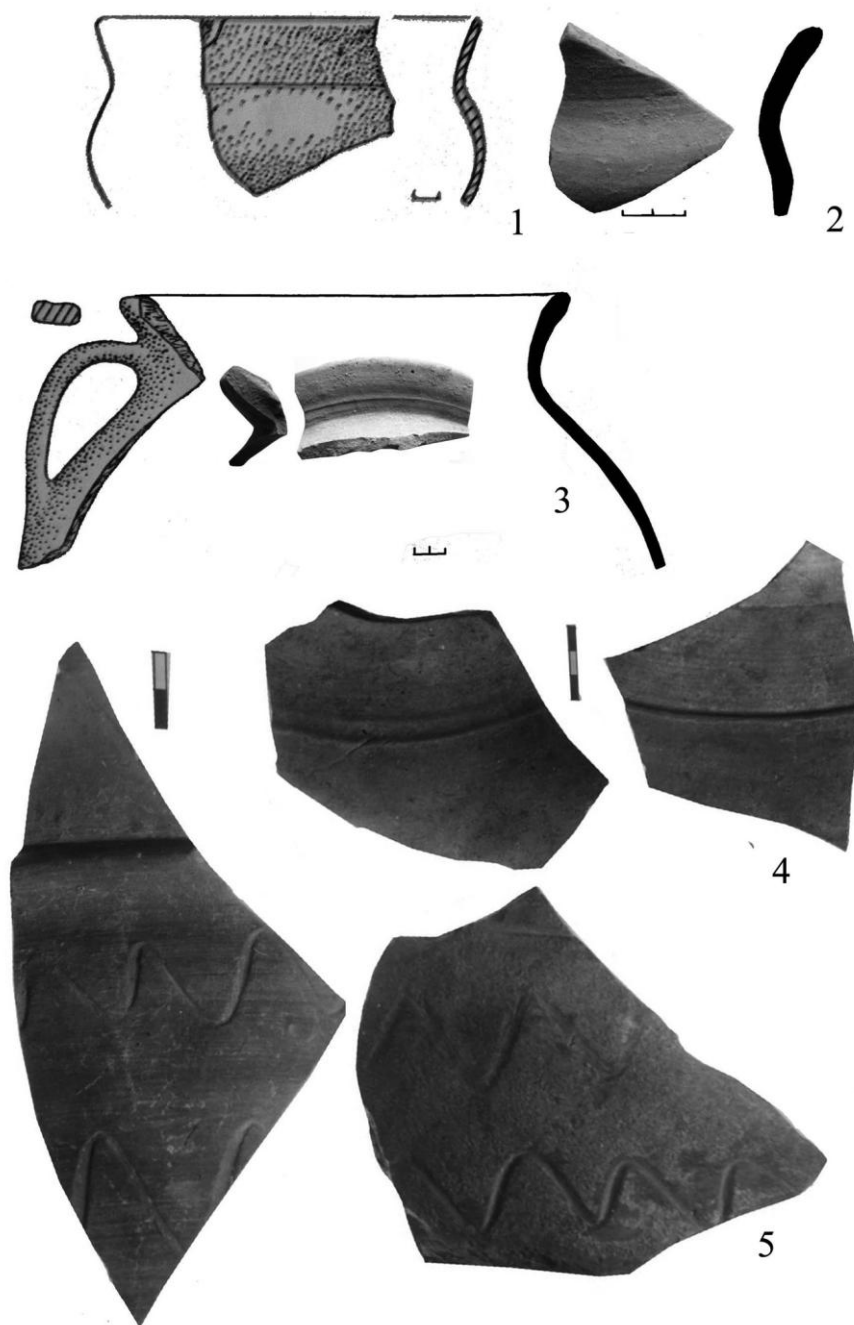


Fig. 4 - Grey pottery from Zalesje settlement.

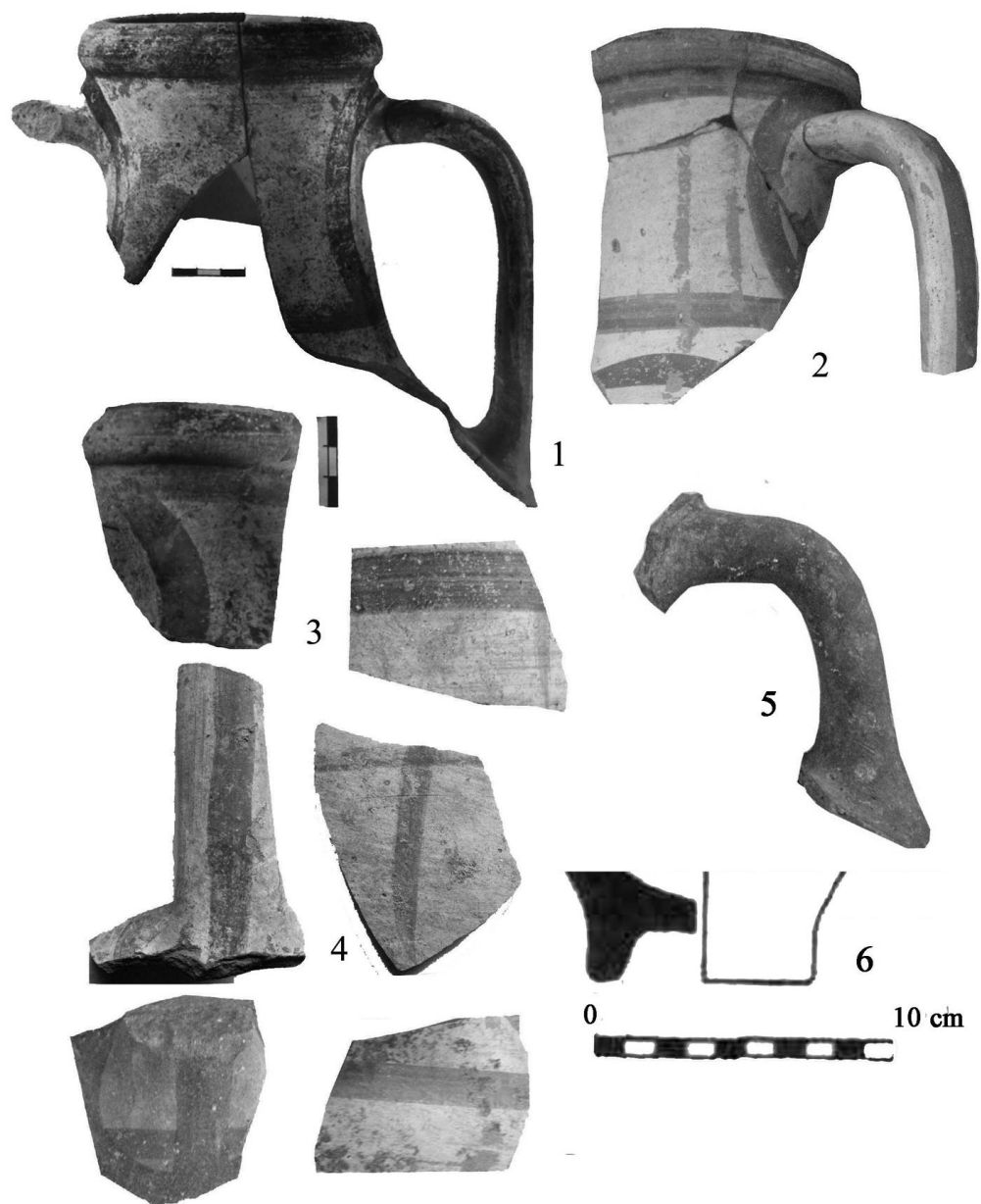


Fig. 5 - Imported Greek pottery from Zalesje.

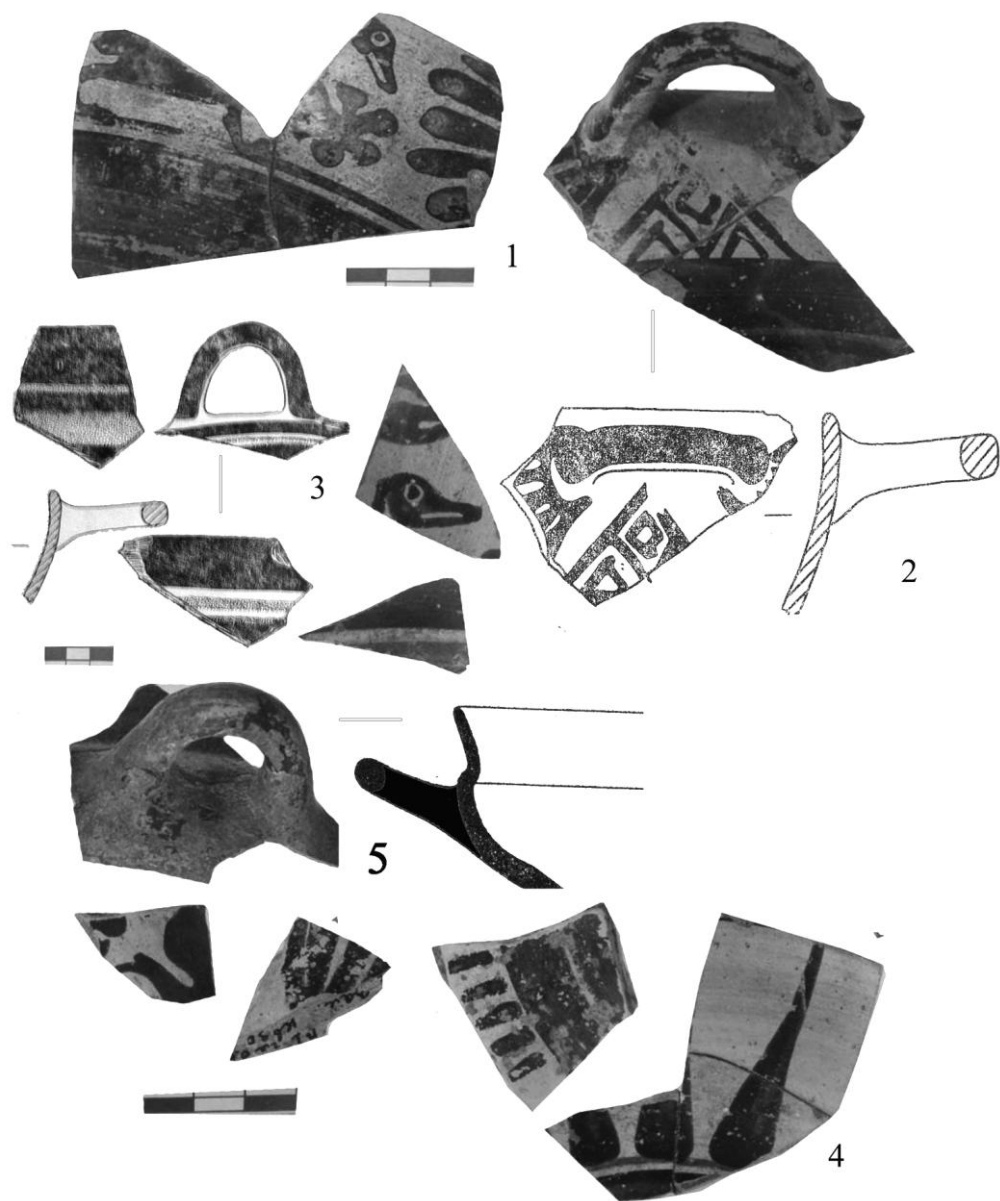


Fig. 6 - Imported Greek pottery from Zalesje.

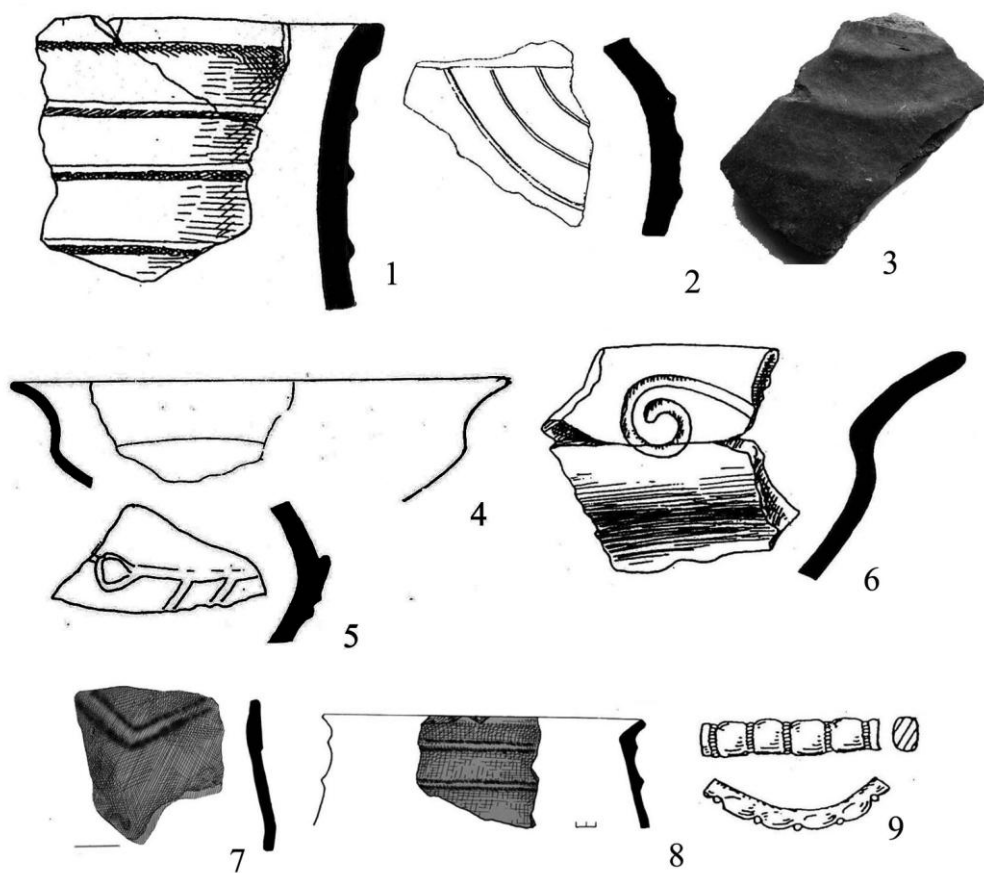


Fig. 7. Hallstatt type pottery and artifacts from Zalesje.

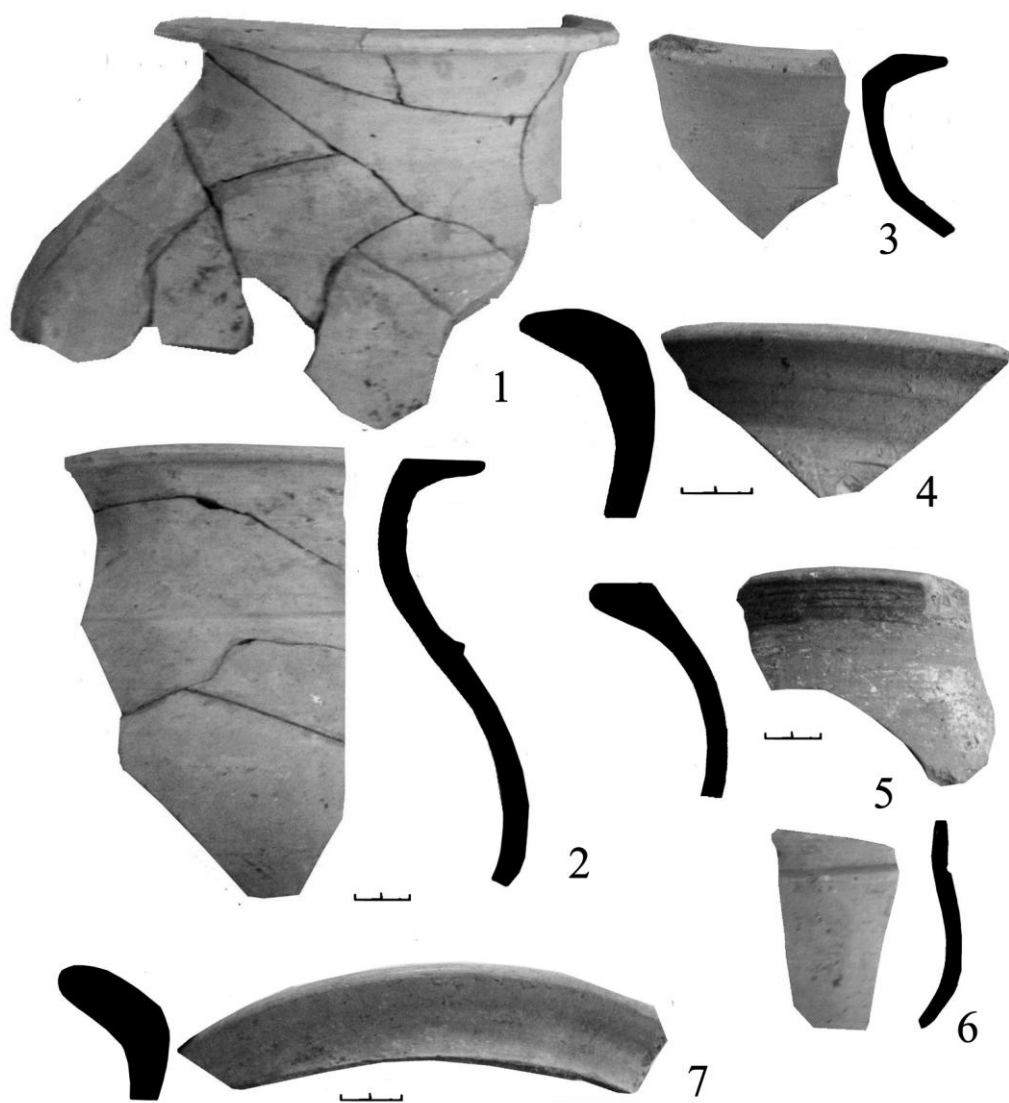


Fig. 8 - Grey pottery from Ivane-Puste settlement .

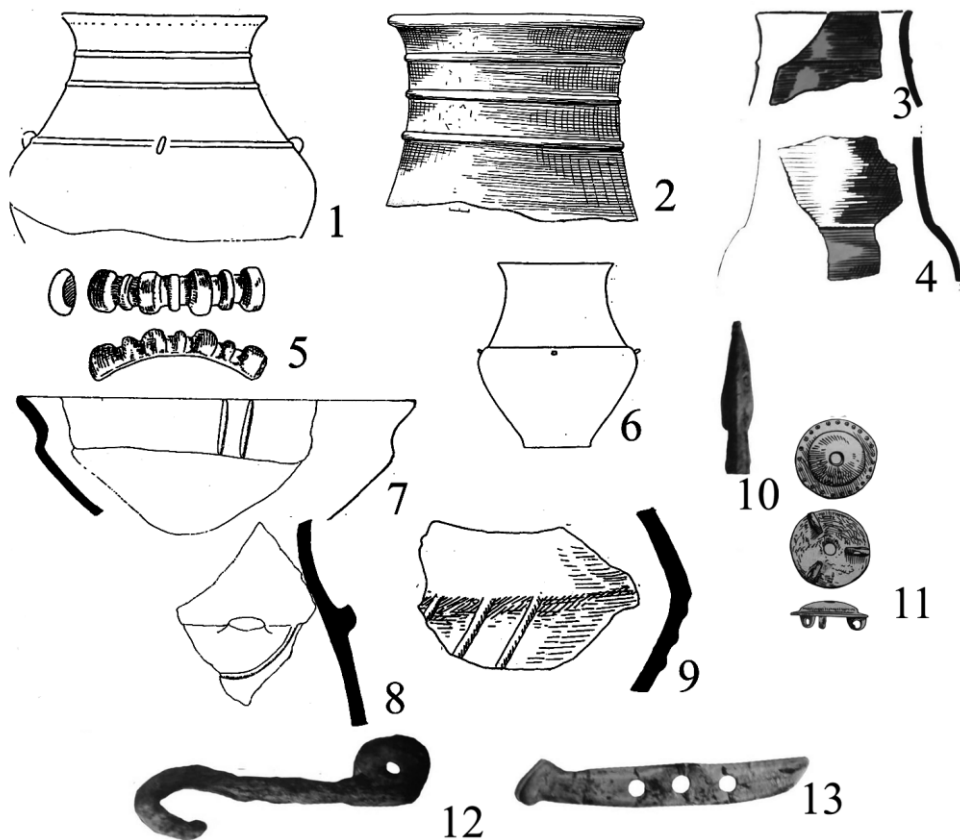


Fig. 9 - Hallstatt type pottery and artifacts of Hallstatt and Early Scythian time from Ivane-Puste.

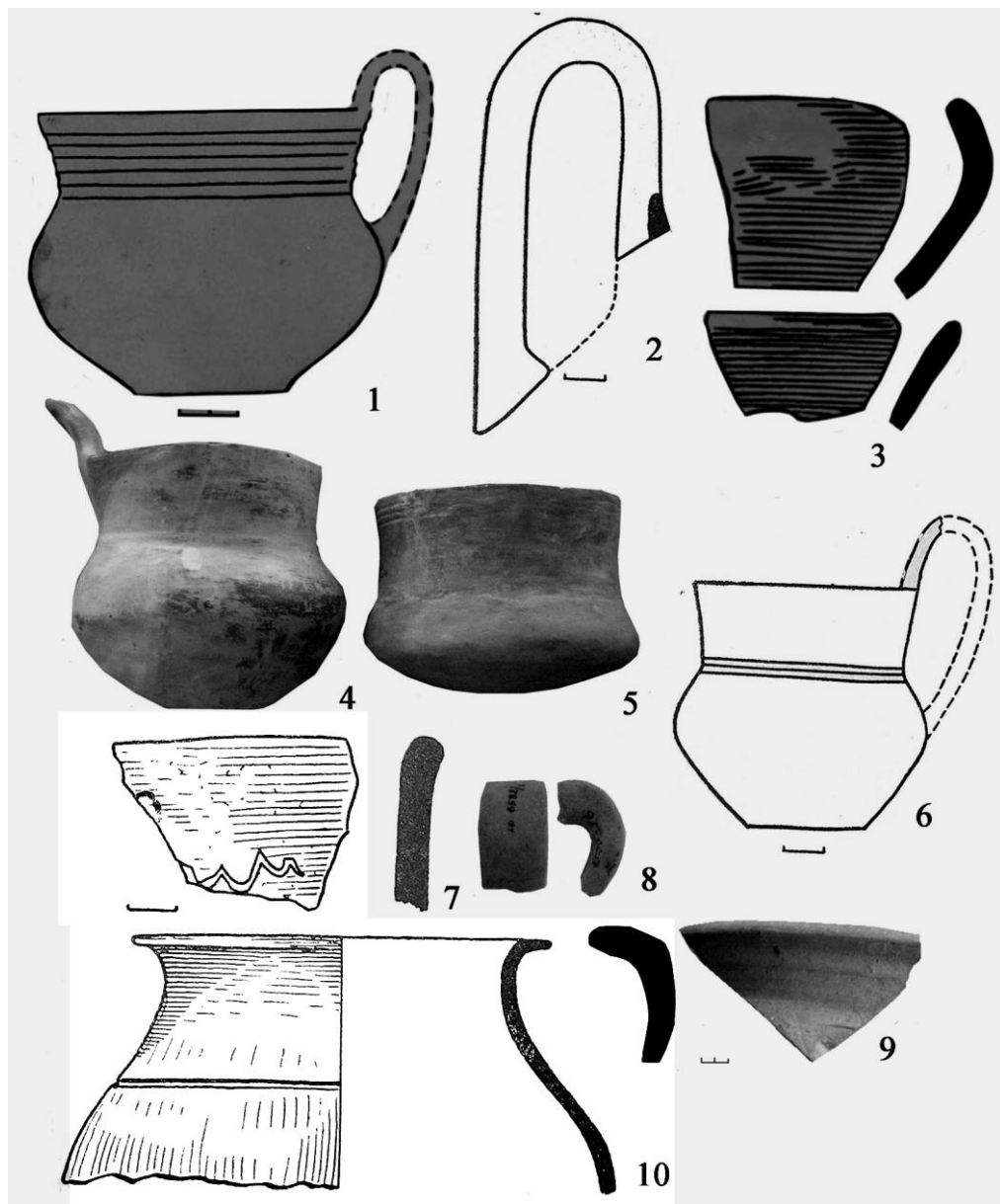


Fig. 10 - Grey pottery from Ivane-Puste settlement.



Fig. 11 - Imported Greek pottery from Ivane-Puste.



Fig. 12 - Findings from kurgan Kruglik (by Smirnova 1993).

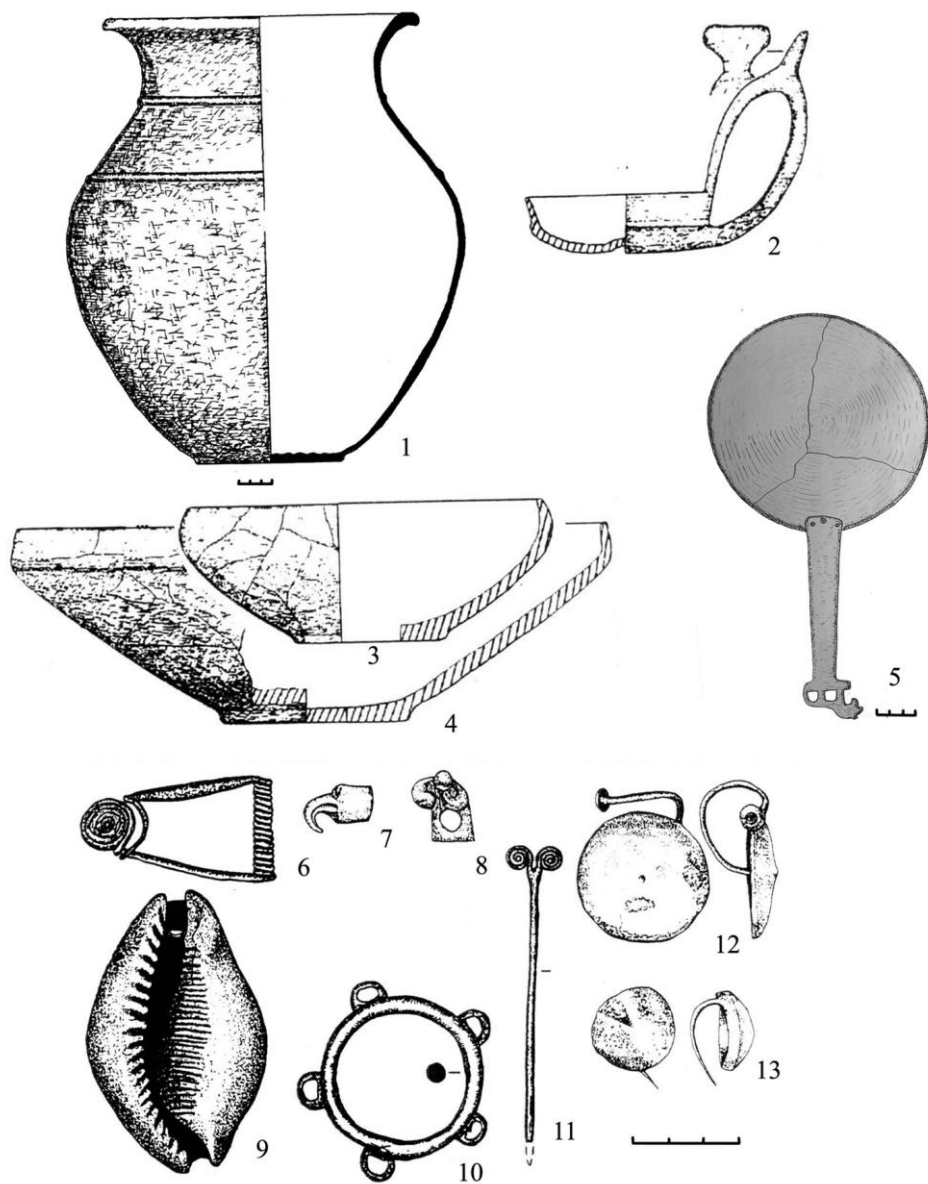


Fig. 13 - Findings from kurgan Teklivka (by Gutsal 2003; 2005).

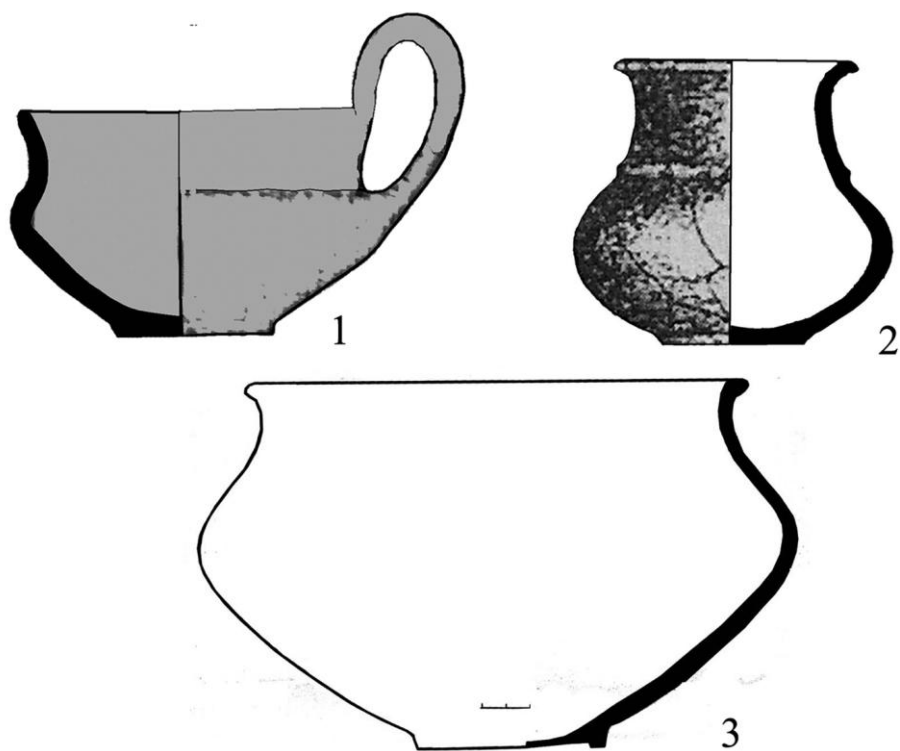


Fig. 14 - Grey pottery from Western Podolian group kurgans.