

## Acâs – Râtul lui Veres (Veres-rét). The Late Bronze Age settlement.

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The commune of Acâs (Satu Mare County) is situated by the Crasna river and the national road 19A. The settlement was identified in 1982 through a field research carried out at about 500 m south-east of the commune, on the left bank of the Crasna river (the old channel), in the area of a former deserted meander. The military Josephine map issued at the end of the 18<sup>th</sup> century and the aerial photography (that has been recently made) were evidence to the fact that the Crasna river changed its antique course. One meander closed due to natural causes, namely because of sand depositions and consequently an island would emerge in that place, very favourable to living. Later on, the Crasna river changed its course again, and one of its meanders reached close to the low placed gardens of the commune. The works of routing the old course of the river and erecting a dam on the left bank of the new water course have disturbed many archaeological vestiges, dated between the Copper Age and the 11<sup>th</sup>-13<sup>th</sup> centuries - the Arpadian period<sup>1</sup> (Pl. I-II).

### *History of research*

In 1855, the Crasna channel (the old course) revealed a golden bracelet with massive bar, which was profiled and had two spirals at both ends. The body had embossed stripes and was decorated by notches<sup>2</sup>. In 1970, while a survey was being carried out, the history teacher of the commune, Kónya László, showed me a vessel shard which had been found nearby the mill from the Crasna riverside. The shard was black on the outside and brown-greyish on the inside, decorated by a knob surrounded by narrow flutings<sup>3</sup>. The latter fragment is hosted in the collection of the Satu Mare County museum. The survey research couldn't reveal the existence of any archaeological sites on the Crasna riverside because the area wasn't tilled (it was used for grazing). Traces of a Bronze Age habitation have been recorded only in the gardens of the last street that reached until the channel.

In the period between the years 1981 and 1983, the area called „Crasna veche” was submitted to ample works of water drainage, lined drainage and levee, which have largely affected one Late Bronze Age settlement. On that occasion little rescue survey was carried out by Gh. Lazin and N. Iercoşan. Based on the observations made at that time, the settlement had one living level with a thin cultural layer of approximately 0,30-0,40 m. Waste pits have been investigated and a rich pottery material has been therefore recovered<sup>4</sup>. During other field research which we have carried out, grinder fragments, pottery shards of portable cooking-vessels, cups, mugs, tureens and bowls, fragments of fired walls, hearths have been recovered. The artefacts are awarded to the Hajdúbajos/Pişcolt-Cehăluţi group. On the same occasion, the collapse of the left bank of the Old Crasna river, located between the gardens of the dwellings in that street and the mill, revealed pottery fragments of the Middle Bronze Age, the final phase of the Otomani culture. Also, the surface survey has uncovered other pottery fragments of the Tiszapolgár, Coţofeni-Baden, La Tène – Celtic, La Tène – Dacian, from the period of the Imperial Rome, the migration period (Slavs), the early feudalism (8<sup>th</sup> and 9<sup>th</sup> centuries) and the Arpadian period (11<sup>th</sup> to 13<sup>th</sup> centuries).

Of the archaeological materials that were rescued by N. Iercoşan and which belong to the Late Bronze Age, K. Kacsó has chosen some artefacts for publication<sup>5</sup>.

In the fall of 1998, the river flood caused the left bank of the Crasna river to fail and the profile of the collapsed river levee (between the kilometre-stones 38/4-38/3) revealed new archaeological materials. By opening a research surface of 3x1,5 m one looked to rescue

<sup>1</sup> Iercoşan 1992-1993, 82; Iercoşan 2002, Pl. 17/1-4-Tiszapolgár culture

<sup>2</sup> Pârvan 1926, 329; Roska 1942, 29-30 No. 7 Fig. 24; Bader 1978, pl. LXXXIX/2 – full bibliography

<sup>3</sup> Bader 1978, 119; Némethi 1999, No. 70.c, p.84

<sup>4</sup> Iercoşan 1992, p. 82

<sup>5</sup> Kacsó 1997, 87, pl.5-8; 9/1-2; Kacsó 1999, Pl. 5-8; 9/1-2; Kacsó 1999a, 85-112

the area of the feature that came out of the riverside. It was observed that the river waters entered into a dwelling. At the depth of 1,2-1,3 m a clay floor was uncovered into the dwelling – fired and overlapped by a thin layer of ash and charcoal. That feature was slightly deepened into the antique coating plant and it had a clear outline, like a grey spot. The floor of the dwelling was superimposed by daub, probably from the collapsed wall. That layer overlapped a pit which was deepened into the clay stratum. The pit appears to have functioned as waste pit at first because its fill contained pottery fragments, animal bones and shells. The pit went 0,4 m below the room floor and had 1,6x1,4 m in dimensions. The ground surface of the dwelling was 14-15 cm thick and the archaeologists uncovered an area of 1,5-1,2 km long. Its inventory which was scattered among the daub pieces comprised several pottery fragments and two bronze needles.

The flood of 1999 also affected other areas situated on the left side of the Crasna river, situation in which was proceeded to new works of consolidation. The rescue excavations were carried out with the participation from the County Museum of Satu Mare of: Némethi János (field supervisor), Szócs Péter, museographer and Gindele Róbert, main researcher and field supervisor. In accordance with the research plan, surveys were made in several points in the left bank of the Crasna river: Acâs-Moara 39/7-38 km, Acâs-Râtul lui Veres 38/4-38/2 km, Acâs – Majtynyi tag 38/4-39/4 km, Acâs – Podul Dobrei 39/6-40/9 km, Supuru de Sus 52/3-52/4 km. At Acâs-Râtul lui Veres, the archaeological excavations were carried out in the surface between the channel of the Crasna river and the dam on the left riverside, where three long trenches were drawn having 45x2 m in dimensions, as well as two sections of 20x2 m each. In order to uncover the archaeological features that were identified, eight research cassettes were opened. In all have been rescued 2 dwellings, one bread baking oven, several hearths and 16 waste pits dating from different periods of time. It must be mentioned that the area under investigation was affected by works of embankment carried out between the years 1982 and 1983, which ended when the cultural layer was completely removed here and there and, consequently, several “modern pits” took shape. This way, the stratigraphic observations were made with difficulty, but they were clearer in the area close to the dam. We continue by mentioning that the surveys that were made outside the left levee of the Crasna river uncovered the ditches excavated by N. Iercoşan in 1983 marked with S.I and S.II (pit 1). Unfortunately the reference material is incomplete and the materials resulted from those surveys have been hosted by the Satu Mare County Museum and they are not available at the moment. It must be said that this place has been called by N. Iercoşan and C. Kacsó „Crasna veche” (so appears in technical literature) but the same place is called by villagers „Râtul lui Veres” (Veres-rét).

#### *Processing discoveries*

The pottery lot that has been published by C. Kacsó (no inventory number) is likely to originate from the surface surveys carried out by N. Iercoşan or from the rescue excavations of 1983 (S.I and S.II – cultural layer). That material is culturally homogeneous and seems to had been collected from the area of the island that was affected by the works of embankment. The archaeological material is registered in the inventory record of the Municipal Museum of Carei within the numbers: 5618-5665; 6936-6971; 10 581-10 598 and 14 746-14 752 (SII/1983):

- tall footed vessel; semi-fine, brown paste. No. of inventory 14 747 (Pl. XIV/2).
- pot shard with flat rim; short neck; fine paste with slip; burnished; decorated by round impressions. No. of inventory 14 449 (Pl. XXII/8).
- pot shard with everted, flat rim; semi-fine paste; decorated by vertical, black fluting with burnished slip; fit with a fake handle. No. of inventory 27 789 (subsequently registered) (Pl. XXIII/1).
- body fragment, grey clay; semi-fine paste; decorated by wavy lines. No. of inventory 27 449 (Pl. XV/5).
- vessel fragment with flat rim; semi-fine paste; decorated by hatching. No inventory (Pl. XIV/5).

- grinder fragment; brick-red clay; semi-fine paste. No inventory (Pl. XXV/2).
- fragment of a mug foot, empty on the inside; grey clay, semi-fine paste. No. of inventory 27 470 (Pl. XIX/5).
- cup fragment; dark grey clay; fine paste; decorated by Suci de Sus motifs, incisions-excisions. No. of inventory 27 470 (Pl. XVII/6).
- lobate rim fragment of a grey bowl; semi-fine paste; decorated by arches and hatching. No. of inventory 27 426 (Pl. XIV/1).
- jar-type vessel; conical; coarse paste; brick-red clay, tempered with medium-grained sand, decorated below the rim by fragments of socketed cordon displayed symmetrically; dimensions: 13,5 cm in height; 19 cm in rim diameter; 9,3 cm in base diameter. No inventory number (Pl. XIII/4).
- fragment of a small pot made of semi-fine, grey paste; decorated by hardly visible fluting. No. of inventory 14 746 (XIX/8).
- fragment of a small pot made of semi-fine paste, tempered with sand; decorated by strips of incised lines. No. of inventory 14 750 (Pl. XIX/10).
- handled mug of semi-fine paste, tempered with fine sand; decorated by oblique flutings (SII/Gr. 1). Dimensions: 8,5 cm high; 9 cm in rim diameter; 5 cm in base diameter. No inventory number (XIII/6).
- fragmentary vessel with everted rim; long neck; bulged body; flat base. The pot has handles and its rim is decorated by oblique, “wheat grain” type notches, the shoulder has two parallel, incised lines and the body depicts arches and hatching. Semi-fine paste; brown clay with grey inclusions. Dimensions: 12 cm high, 12 cm in rim diameter; 21 cm in body diameter; 9,5 cm in base diameter (SI/Gr.1). No inventory (Pl. XIII/5).
- mug made of coarse paste, tempered with crushed shards and coarse-grained river sand; brick-red coloured; the upper part is missing; dimensions: 11 cm in height (?); 7 cm in base diameter. No. of inventory 5659 (Pl. XIX/3).
- foot fragment of a portable cooking vessel. Thick walls, tempered with crushed shards, coarse paste; decorated in the stab-and-drag technique; brick-red clay; No. of inventory 27 422 (XXII/2).
- fragment of a vessel with flat, inverted rim; fine paste, tempered with cream, fine-grained sand; burnished; with the inverted rim decorated by notches, and the everted side of the rim rim decorated by arches and hatching. No. of inventory 14 753 (Pl. XIV/6).

In the period between 1982 and 1983, I (Németi) found several pottery fragments in the collapsed bank of the “Old Crasna” river, in the low-landed gardens in the last street:

- fragment of a cup with bulged body; flat base; semi-fine, grey paste. Dimensions: 3,8 cm high; rim diameter of 8 cm. No. of inventory 20 779 (Pl. XII/5).
- mug shard with slightly everted rim; semi-fine paste; cream clay; decorated by double, incised lines. No. of inventory 20 778 (XIV/4).
- body-vessel shard made of semi-fine paste, tempered with river sand; decorated by incised, double lines. No. of inventory 29 080 (Pl. XII/7).
- bowl shard tempered with fine, grey sand; decorated by arches and hachure on the outside. No. of inventory 29 079 (Pl. XIII/3).
- fragment of a bowl with lobate rim; semi-fine paste; the rim is decorated by “wheat grain”-shaped sockets, arches and hatching. No. of inventory 29 081 (Pl. XXV/7).
- vessel base; semi-fine paste; decorated by incised lines shaping arcades and hatching. No. of inventory 29 082 (Pl. XXV/3).
- pot shard; brown-cream clay; notched rim; cylindrical neck; decorated by incised hatching. No. of inventory 29 083 (Pl. XXV/7).
- fragment of a large-sized vessel; coarse paste, tempered with crushed shards; decorated beneath the broken handle by a motif shaping a “moustache”. No. of inventory 27 994 (Pl. XII/6).

A test pit (S.Ia) was opened on a 12x2 m surface in the bank of the Old Crasna river during the excavations of 2000. After eliminating the coating plant from the trampled

surface (depth of plough 0-0,25 m), one cultural layer was revealed and had 0,25-0,30 cm in thickness. This trench uncovered a level of charred remains that belonged to a hearth which enabled the formation of a crust. The rescued pottery material was rather poor in forms and decorations and it is identical with the material presented above. It is probably a settlement of the Middle Bronze Age, the Otomani culture - the final phase with specific elements of the Otomani III.a period – which existed in this area between the gardens of the last street and the mill.

*Archaeological investigations dating from the year 2000 (Pl.III-IX)*

**SI.** (A+B+C+D) are assumed by cassette A/1998 which uncovered vertical stratigraphy as this is a less disturbed area: 0-0,15 m of the present coating plant, 0,15-0,35 m of cultural layer, roughly unitary that contained pottery shards, daub pieces and fired clay, dating from the Bronze Age; 0,35/0,40 – 0,55 m of antique coating plant with depositions of the Eneolithic Age (Copper Age III) that comprised pottery shards specific of the Coțofeni/Baden culture, that superimposed a sandy clay loam devoid of archaeological traces. This trench revealed pits no. 1 and 3 with scanty Bronze Age materials in their content. Pit no. 3 was barrel-like shaped, its mouth was 0,80 m wide, the lower part grew narrower until it reached a base of 0,75 m in diameter and went 0,40 m below the Eneolithic level, reaching the maximum depth of 1,25 m (below the present trampled surface). The left side of the profile, at 0,40-0,50 m in depth, unearthed charred remains with much daub spread over an area of 1,20 – 2 m long. These charred remains probably belonged to a construction (dwelling?) dating from the Bronze Age. Pit no. 1 was largely destroyed when Crasna riverside collapsed. A handled cup was recovered from the content of the pit, from among ash, daub pieces and charcoal. With no connection to the charred remains mentioned above, the floor of a dwelling appeared extended towards the stream channel. Cassette B had 4x3 m in size and uncovered dwelling L1. This discovery contained manual wheel-made pottery, grey coloured and probably dating from the 8<sup>th</sup> -9<sup>th</sup> centuries (King Karol's Age). Pit no. 4 with grey fill was beehive-shaped and contained pottery shards of the Late Bronze Age. Pit 4a took shape in the left side profile of the trench. It had grey fill with pottery fragments among which was found a bronze piece that had been fired and melted. Close to pit 4a was noticed a smooth layer of daub, that probably belonged to a Late Bronze Age dwelling. Pits 8, 8a were identified in an area dropping into a slope to the level of the yellow clay and were grey-coloured with few pottery shards. Pits 9 and 9a go below the cultural layer, into the yellow clay that contained scanty archaeological materials. Feature 10 appeared like a pottery pile at 20-25 cm in depth, at the level of the cultural layer of the Late Bronze Age. In the same place also occurred daub fragments, and a smooth deposition, likely to originate from a construction.

**SII.** The Coating plant and most of the cultural layer were sloping and hardly 0,10-0,15 m have been preserved. The left side of the profile registered pits no. 5 and 7. Pit no. 5 was funnel-like shaped. From its narrow mouth of 0,75 cm in diameter, the pit slightly grew wider towards the base where it reached a diameter of 1,20 m at a depth of 1,05 m. The dark fill contained pottery shards, pieces of stone and fragments of fired clay. Pit no. 7 in the left side of the profile was 1,60 m long; at the depth of 0,65-0,70 m it had a small step and went as deep as 1,5 m. The pit bases had been perfectly smoothed, both had had the role of storage pits at first, later on became garbage pits. SII. C+D and cassette K were drawn in an area largely affected by levees, so that features and pits no. 11, 11a, 11b and 11c formed a grey spot. They hardly contained several pottery shards and animal bones. Pit 11b, 2,55 m wide, likely belonged to a modern pit. Pit no. 12 appeared at the level of the antique coating plant and contained pottery shards of the Coțofeni/Baden culture. Pit no. 13a and trench VI assume a modern pit with the garbage remains revealing wire rope, fragments of iron blades etc. Pit no. 13 was 1,48 m wide within its profile, 1,17 m deep, with perfectly smooth base that contained ash, daub, charcoal and pottery shards. At first, it used to be a storage pit and then it was used as garbage pit. Pit no. 2 appeared first in the profile of S.2b and has been opened through cassette C. It had been oval and had 1,65x1,35 m in size, 1,10 m in depth. The pit was

superimposed by a daub deposition and many pottery shards of the Celtic La Tène type. This pit registered several successive depositions comprising of vessel shards which have largely been restored. The first deposition appeared at 0,14-0,15 m below level LT. and comprised of large shards from a large-sized vessel and a cup. The second level showed up at 0,35 m deep and was 0,40 m thick. It comprised of several fragmentary vessels and large pieces of the storage vessels mentioned above. The third deposition appeared at 0,70 m in depth and comprised of several mug type vessels, cups, “fish tray”-like vessel, several types of tureens covered by large fragments from the storage vessels. At a depth of 0,90 m the coating plant and the deposition from the Baden/Coțofeni were cut into, at 1,10 m the base of the pit appeared perfectly flat, clayed, with a thick layer of ash and charcoal. Besides these, there were also daub fragments and a large shard of a portable-cooking vessel. The way the depositions were arranged in pit 2 attest a magic-ritual deposition, a deposition of the type ‘bodgros’ (cassette C had 2,4x1,2 m in Sizes, crossing also SV).

**SIV.** It has been investigated beyond the levee, on the right side, on the way to the commune. It was 10x2 m in size, 0,80 m in depth, roughly oriented east-west, on the old river course of Crasna river. Observations in stratigraphy: at 0-0,15/0,20 m in depth is the present coating plant; at 0,20-0,35 m in depth was a black coloured deposition with many pottery shards and animal bones; at a depth between 0,30-0,50 m occurred a grey-coloured deposition containing fluffy soil, pottery fragments specific of the Ottomany culture, phase III; at 0,25-0,70 m deep was the antique coating plant with inclusions of fired clay and pottery fragments of the Coțofeni/Baden type. At about 0,80-0,85 appeared the sandy yellow loam. The trench profile revealed a small pot with scanty Hajdúbagos/Pișcolt-Cehăluți materials (Gr. 16c), which has not been dug out because the existence of an earth road. Pit no. 16 has been observed in the trench profile, and has been by cassette D of 3x1,2 m in size. The completely opened pit contained much ash, animal bones, and pottery shards made with the slow wheel, typical of the 11<sup>th</sup>-12<sup>th</sup> centuries – the Age of Arpad. The pit was dug up from another pit that contained pottery shards of the Bronze Age (Gr. 16a). There was another pit in the trench profile (Gr. 16b) which contained typical pottery shards of the Late phase of the Ottomany culture.

**SV.** The trench was drawn in an area nearby the dam. It had a recent deposition of 0,30-0,40 m thick. This way could be observed the first layer of coating plant, below which was a layer of charred remains of 5-10 cm and much ash, fragments of fired clay and pottery shards of the Age of Arpad. This level might be related to a strong fire, maybe the invasion of the Tartars which left the village destroyed. At the same level showed up a bread oven with heavily fired base that superimposed a layer of pottery shards meant to isolate, typical of the 11<sup>th</sup> -13<sup>th</sup> centuries. By the oven was discovered a small pit, uncovered through cassette N in which was found a dog skeleton. The SV.D profile revealed a semi-subterranean dwelling in cassette E, which dated back to the 6<sup>th</sup>-7<sup>th</sup> centuries (L2-Slav), fit with an oven that held ‘Tonbrote breads’ in it. In the dwelling was outlined pit no. 15 with much ash and many pottery shards of the 11<sup>th</sup>-13<sup>th</sup> centuries. This pit was closely related to the bread oven mentioned above.

**SVII.** It had 10x2 m in size, 0,65-0,70 cm the maximum diameter, located nearby SIV, on the bank of a completely disturbed area. The Late Bronze Age cultural layer occurred below the present humus, at 10-15 cm deep. It was a black-coloured deposition, roughly 15-20 in thickness and contained pottery shards of the Hajdúbagos/Pișcolt-Cehăluți type. Below this cultural layer appeared a grey deposition of 25-40 cm in thickness that contained pottery fragments dating from the Middle Bronze Age, the Late Ottomany culture. At the level of the antique coating plant layer was noticed a small feature that contained daub or rather fired clay (hearth?) with few pottery shards of the Coțofeni type. In SVII, nearby the collapsed riverside, appeared a pit with pottery shards, large pieces of stone, the traces of an oven which was uncovered in cassette M (2x1 m) that contained pottery shards of the 7<sup>th</sup> -8<sup>th</sup> centuries (?). In

the area of the sections IV and VII was identified a section of 1 m wide, probably one of those investigated by N. Iercoşan in 1983.

*Presentation of the 2000 year discoveries*

This presentation deals with Bronze Age discoveries. Pit No. 2 of SII. (Cas. C-SV.), pit content:

1. large-sized, tub-shaped vessel made of coarse paste, tempered with crushed shards; smooth on the outside; thick, grey body with dark inclusions. The vessel is decorated by six crested handle buttons and six crested knobs. The vessel is fragmentary, but the drawing depicts it restored. Dimensions: rim diameter of 72 cm; 48 cm high; base diameter of 23 cm, 24 cm in body diameter. No. of inventory 29 791 (Pl. XII/1). This vessel occurred scanty among the Late Bronze Age discoveries, but it compares well with the vessel found at Petea-Csengersima<sup>6</sup>.

2. large-sized fragmentary vessel (the base and the lower part were corrupted and re-fired); brown-reddish clay with large, grey spots. The vessel has a broad everted rim, cylindrical neck, well distinguished from the slightly bulged body. The vessel is made of semi-fine paste, tempered with fine sand. The neck is decorated by small, tapered buttons; the body is provided with fluting knobs, semi-circular, framed by vertical protruding cordons. This decoration comes symmetrically recurrent, namely four knobs and four protruding cordons. Dimensions: 26 cm of the rim diameter, 36-40 cm in height (?); base diameter of 20 cm (?). No. of inventory 28 792 (Pl. X/3). This amphora type of vessel with two broad handles is well known among the discoveries made at Hajdúbagos/Pişcolt-Cehăluţ<sup>7</sup>, this variant without handles appeared at Bervenii<sup>8</sup>, Valea lui Mihai – Groapa Noua de Lut (unpublished discovery), Tăşnad-Sere (parking), a discovery of 2009 gr. 193/A. It compares well with Petea-Csengersima<sup>9</sup>, Nyíregyháza – Úr-csere<sup>10</sup>.

3. fragment of a bowl with inverted rim and small knobs coming out of the rim, laid symmetrically. Semi-fine paste; brown-reddish with grey spots; tempered with fine sand. Dimensions: 12 cm in rim diameter. No. of inventory 28 793 (Pl. XI/3). This type of bowl is frequent in the Late Ottomany culture and appears under the influence of the Tumulus culture from Carei-Bobald<sup>11</sup>. The bowl-tureen type of vessel appears at Bervenii, in the Hajdúbagos/Pişcolt-Cehăluţ culture<sup>12</sup>, Tăşnad-Sere – parking (unpublished).

4. fragment of a vessel foot (jar?), slightly concave; made of homogeneous paste; tempered with fine, brown-reddish sand. Dimensions: base diameter of 10 cm; No. of inventory 28 794, (Pl. X/5).

5. fragment of a portable cooking vessel; brick-red clay with black inclusions; made of coarse paste tempered with crushed shards; rim diameter: 40 cm; No. of inventory 29 795 (Pl. XI/5); it is a frequent vessel among the discoveries made at Pişcolt-Cehăluţ.

6. rim fragment of a large-sized storage vessel; everted and flat; made of semi-fine paste; tempered with river sand; orange clay; re-fired; decorated with horizontal, narrow fluting on the outside, below the rim; No. of inventory 28 796, (Pl. XI/1).

7. round, stone bowl, probably used for crushing pottery (crushed shards); maximum diameter: 6,2 cm, No. of inventory 28 797.

8. fragmentary bowl with slightly lobate rim; made of fine paste; tempered with sand; orange on the inside and on the outside; burnished slip on the outside; decorated by lime inlays. The lobate rim is crested; the body is divided by vertical and horizontal stripes that comprise of incised circles framed by two incised lines filled with parallel lines in-between. The vessel base is decorated by smaller circles placed cross-like. This is a recurrent motif on the vessel body and the space in-between the horizontal stripes is decorated by spiral ends. The vessel was made with special care. Dimensions: height: 16 cm; rim diameter: 21 cm (?); base diameter: 9 cm. No. of inventory 28 798 (Pl. X/6). Bowls with inverted and lobate rim already appeared in the Ottomany

<sup>6</sup> Marta 2009, Pl. 40/16

<sup>7</sup> Némethi 2009, fig. 2/1-3; *Idem* 2009a, Pl. I/1-3

<sup>8</sup> Némethi 1990, fig. 1/7

<sup>9</sup> Marta 2009, Pl. 16/2

<sup>10</sup> Bejinariu et col. 2009, Pl. IV/1, V/3, IX/1; *Idem* 2009, Pl. IV/4, VII/3, XV/1

<sup>11</sup> Némethi-Molnár 2007, 234

<sup>12</sup> Némethi 1990, fig. I/9

culture, in the final phase. The disposal of the motifs based on the patterns below the rim and on the body point to a tradition dating from the Wittenberg culture. There is no analogy known for this vessel, but we assume, based on shape and decoration, that it is a mixture of the Late Ottomany and Wittenberg cultures.

9. fragmentary bowl with everted rim, semi-fine paste, tempered with fine, river sand, brownish on the outside and burnished slip on the inside; carefully made. The bowl is decorated by small pointed knobs and symmetrical small handles, surrounded by semi-circular fluting and three round sockets standing as pyramids. Sizes: mouth diameter: 16 cm; height: 6,5 cm; base diameter: 6 cm; no. of inventory: 28 799 (Pl. XI/2). The bowl is specific of the Late Ottomany culture, it is a variant of the 'Swedish helmet' type.

10. cup with grey handle both on the internal side and on the outside; made of fine pottery; tempered with sand; the well distinguishing neck below the handle is decorated by two small sockets; the base is decorated by five groups of sockets, each socket containing two dimples. Sizes: mouth diameter: 8,2 cm; base diameter: 3 cm; height: 7,5 cm. No. of inventory: 10 884, (Pl. X/2).

11. 'fish pan' vessel, fragmentary, grey-coloured, semi-fine paste; no decoration; carefully made. Sizes: mouth diameter: 20 cm; base diameter: 15 cm; height: 4 cm. No. of inventory: 10 886, (Pl. XI/4).

12. lip shard of a jar-like vessel; coarse paste tempered with crushed shards; decorated by fragments of socketed belt below the rim; no. of inventory: 28 800, (Pl. XI/6).

13. clay weigh fragments; coarse pottery tempered with crushed shards; perforated in the upper part. No. of inventory: 28 811-812, (Pl. XII/2-3);

14. biconical cup, probably with upraised handle, short neck, decorated by four incised lines; oblique fluting on the body. Fine paste, brown-reddish clay tempered with fine sand. Sizes: mouth diameter: 10 cm; height: 4,5 cm; body diameter: 3 cm; no. of inventory: 27 984, (Pl. X/1).

15. fragment of flat rim, heavily everted, belonging to a storage vessel; orange clay with grey inclusions. No. of inventory: 28 796, (Pl. X/2).

16. pot fragment, with brown-orange rim and body; grey inclusions; semi-fine paste tempered with river sand of fine grained structure. The neck distinguishes well from the body; it is marked by round impressions; the body is decorated by spiral ends which depicted a small knob. The decoration comprised of shallow fluting. Sizes: mouth diameter: 24 cm; no. of inventory: 28 010, (Pl. XII/4).

- Fragmentary, shallow bowl; dark-grey clay; fine paste tempered with fine sand; carefully made with burnished slip. The vessel is decorated by small knobs surrounded by semicircular, narrow fluting. The vessel base is decorated by concentric circles, with fluting; small sockets below the rim, either single or grouped. Sizes: mouth diameter: 12 cm; height: 4 cm; base diameter: 4,5 cm; no. of inventory. (Pl. XVIII/4).
- Mug; brown clay with grey spots; semi-fine paste tempered with river sand; secondary fired; four lobes pulled out of the rim; two knob handles. Sizes: belly diameter: 10 cm; height: 8,5 cm; base diameter: 6 cm. No. of inventory: 10 887. Similarities are to be found at Petea-Csengersima<sup>13</sup>, (Pl. XVIII/3).
- Restored mug from SI/Gr. 1, discovered at 0,10 m in depth; made of semi-fine paste; brown clay with grey inclusions. The vessel neck distinguishes well from the body; it is fit with a huge, wide handle with a small knob in the upper part. It lacks decoration, but it wears the traces of a secondary firing. Sizes: rim diameter: 13 cm; height: 10 cm; base diameter: 5,5 cm; no. of inventory: 10 882, (Pl. XIV/10).
- Fragment of a deep tureen; grey clay; slightly inverted rim; decorated by small, conical knobs, symmetrically placed. Semi-fine paste tempered with sand; rim diameter: 26 cm; no. of inventory: 27 927, (Pl. XVIII/2).
- Cup shard; grey clay; fine, burnished pottery tempered with fine sand; the straight neck is decorated by parallel, incised lines; the biconical body is decorated by incised lines and small knobs. No. of inventory: 28 109, (Pl. XXVII/1).

<sup>13</sup> Marta 2009 Pl. 1, pots-1 Ba – classified as Suciu de Sus vessel

- Cup shard; grey clay, burnished; fine paste tempered with fine sand; biconical body; the straight neck is decorated by parallel, incised lines; the edge of the body is decorated by small knobs. No. of inventory: 29 090, (Pl. XXVI/5).
- Cup shard; grey clay; decorated by spirals and excised motifs; typical motifs of the Suciul de Sus culture, the full-developed stage. No. of inventory: 27 906; (Pl. XVII/3).
- Pottery shards of various vessels decorated by typical motifs of the Suciul de Sus culture. No. of inventory: 29 089-29 091, 27 894, (Pl. XVII/2, 4-5).
- Fragments of unknown artefacts made of fired clay; brick-red - reddish clay; coarse paste tempered with crushed shards or coarse-grained sand. Flat or round, they were usually discovered in the cultural layer; no. of inventory: 27 813, 29 092-93, 28 344, 28 621, 27 852, 29 054, 28 950, (Pl. XVI/6-10).
- Needle mould valves, shaped of fired clay, with an intense brick-red colour; fine paste tempered with fine sand. No. of inventory: 28 068-69, (Pl. XVI/2-3)
- Mould valve made of limy stone, discovered in S3; worked out on both surfaces, likely to have been used in casting needles (?). Sizes: length: 12 cm, width: 3 cm, thickness: 2 cm. No. of inventory: 28 092 (Pl. XVI/1). A close similarity of it is to be found at Lăpuș<sup>14</sup>.
- Cart wheel shard, decorated on both sides by shallow fluting. Diameter: 7 cm; thickness: 0,90 cm; no. of inventory: 27 995, (Pl. XXI/8).
- Ash cap shard; brick-red clay with black inclusions; made of fine paste, tempered with sand. No. of inventory: 28 149 (Pl. XVIII/5). This type of vessel is often met in the Ottomány culture, in all stages of development and was probably inherited by the Hajdúbágyos/Pișcolt-Cehăluț group.
- Sandstone grinder; maximum diameter: 14 cm, thickness: 3,5 cm. No. of inventory: 29 087, (Pl. XXIV/8).
- Small strainer; brick-red coloured; semi-fine paste tempered with sand and grog, perforated base; height: 4,2 cm, mouth diameter: 8 cm; base diameter: 6 cm. No. of inventory: 26 327, (Pl. XXII/6).
- Fragmentary lid; tempered with fine sand; cream clay; perforated at its edge; thin walls; maximum diameter: 8 cm; no. of inventory: 28 331, (Pl. XXIII/8).
- Small, fragmentary pot; brown-grey clay; fine paste tempered with sand; the neck distinguishes well from the body; the base is decorated by a slightly concave circle. The rim is crested; the body is decorated by double, incised lines, the neck base is decorated by parallel lines. Sizes: height: 10 cm; mouth diameter: 16 cm, base diameter (Standing): 3 cm; no. of inventory: 27 952, (Pl. XX/4).
- Fragment of a handled mug; dark grey clay; decorated by double incised lines; no. of inventory: 28 991, (Pl. XIX/1).
- Fragment from the body of a large-sized pot; grey clay; decorated by incised lines. Semi-fine paste tempered with sand. No. of inventory: 28 002, (Pl. XIV/7).
- Fragment of a barrel-like vessel; grey clay; semi-fine paste tempered with sand. It is decorated by arcades and parallel lines below the rim and in the lower part of the vessel. Sizes: mouth diameter: 4 cm; height: 5,2 cm recovered material, no inventory number, (Pl. XIV/7).
- Fragment of thick soldering made of fired, brick-red clay; flat base and lobate upper part. On the outside, it has a thin, scaled soldering. These large-sized fragments were probably meant to decorate the chime of a hearth or rather the outer wall of a building. No. of inventory: 10 584, (Pl. XXI/4).
- Cup shard; grey clay; fine paste; thin walls; decorated by double incised lines and parallel lines. No. of inventory: 27 993, (Pl. XIV/8).
- Cup shard; brown-reddish clay; fine paste decorated by strips of incised lines. Mouth diameter: 6 cm. No. of inventory: 27 991, (Pl. XVII/8).
- Body shard; coarse paste; light clay; big holes perforated in it; probably originating from a portable cooking vessel. No. of inventory: 27 992, (Pl. XXII/3).

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<sup>14</sup> Kacsó 1998, P. H13

- Body fragment of a large-sized vessel; semi-fine paste tempered with river sand and black, burnished grog on the outside and brick-red – reddish on the inside; decorated by horizontal fluting in the upper side, wide, oblique fluting on the body (bichrome painted shard–black–brick-red). No. of inventory: 27 982, (Pl. XXVI/2).
- Tureen shard: lip and body; brown clay with smoky inclusions; semi-fine paste tempered with sand; decorated by knobs and narrow, semi-circular fluting below the rim. Sizes: height: 8 cm; no. of inventory: 28 012, (Pl. XXIV/4).
- Body fragment of a large-sized vessel; orange on both inside and outside; semi-fine paste tempered with grog; decorated by a pressed out button with dense, semi-circular fluting (wearing traces of secondary firing). No. of inventory: 27 983, (Pl. XXVI/3).
- Body shard of a tureen (?); fine, burnished, black clay; decorated by a knob surrounded by narrow fluting. No. of inventory: 27 985, (Pl. XV/4).
- Large-sized vessel shard, biconical, black on the outside and brick-red on the inside (bichrome painted pottery); semi-fine paste tempered with crushed shards; decorated by oblique fluting. No. of inventory: 26 627, (Pl. XXVII/8).
- Tureen shard; grey clay; internally bevelled rim; semi-fine paste tempered with river sand. Rim diameter: 16 cm. No. of inventory: 27 837, (Pl. XXII/5).
- Rim shard; everted; flat; brown clay; semi-fine, homogeneous paste, tempered with fine sand; brown on the outside with a thin layer of slip, the inside appears like painted in red. No. of inventory: 29 084, (Pl. XV/10).
- Rim shard of a pot; fine paste tempered with sand; red on the outside and decorated by horizontal fluting on the inside. No. of inventory: 28 007, (Pl. XVI/8).
- Tureen shard; everted rim; orange clay; semi-fine paste decorated by a knob and semi-circular fluting. No. of inventory: 28 008, (Pl. XX/2).
- Tureen shard; grey on the inside and brown on the outside; with smoky inclusions; burnished neck. Semi-fine paste tempered with sand; decorated by punched impressions; the body is decorated by dense, vertical fluting. No. of inventory: 27 788, (Pl. XV/6).
- Small tureen with everted rim; grey clay; semi-fine paste tempered with river sand; the base of the neck is decorated by a small knob. Mouth diameter: 15,5 cm. No. of inventory: 28 317, (Pl. XX/4).
- Tureen shard: rim and body; heavily everted rim; fine-quality paste; black clay (fired in reducing atmosphere); fine slip on the outside; decorated by a knob and dense, semi-circular fluting. No. of inventory: 27 961, (Pl. XV/3).
- Everted rim of a large-sized pot; semi-fine paste tempered with river sand and grog. The flat rim is decorated by fluting. No. of inventory: 28 050, (Pl. XXVII/5).
- Pot shard; blackish on the outside and grey on the inside; semi-fine paste tempered with river sand; decorated by horizontal, wavy lines and beams of vertical, parallel lines. No. of inventory: 27 912, (Pl. XXII/7).
- Vessel shard: rim and body; coarse paste; thick walls, brick-red coloured; decorated below the rim with a socketed belt. No. of inventory: 29 000, (Pl. XXI/1).
- Fragment of a flat rim and body shard of a jar-type vessel; coarse paste tempered with crushed shards; with crested rim and socketed belt below the rim. No. of inventory: 28 601, (Pl. XXI/2).
- Handle fragment (mug); grey clay; fine paste; decorated by parallel, wavy lines. No. of inventory: 27 449, (Pl. XIV/2).
- Pot fragment: neck and body; burnished cream-brown clay; fine paste tempered with fine sand, decorated on the neck with vertical fluting and round sockets and zig-zag incised lines on the body. No. of inventory: 28 024, (Pl. XXV/5).
- Large-sized vessel shard with everted rim; grey clay; coarse paste tempered with crushed shards; thick walls; decorated by ‘cockscorb’. No. of inventory: 28 026, (Pl. XIX/6).
- Small sized, biconical cup; black clay; fine paste tempered with fine sand; short neck decorated by parallel lines and the body is decorated by oblique fluting. No. of inventory: 27 906, (Pl. XXVIII/7).

- Cup lacking decoration; semi-fine paste; reddish clay; base diameter: 3 cm, recovered material. No inventory number, (Pl. XIII/2).
- Small-sized pot; dark grey clay; well distinguishing neck from the body; bulged body decorated by vertical fluting. No. of inventory: 14 746, (Pl. XXVII/4).
- Tureen shard with everted and slightly lobate rim; blackish clay; semi-fine paste tempered with river sand. Rim diameter: 25 cm, height: 13 cm (?). No inventory number, (Pl. XV/2).
- Rim shard of a large-sized storage vessel; coarse paste; grey-brown clay with black inclusions tempered with crushed shards; heavily bevelled rim; thick walls. No. of inventory: 28 576, (Pl. XXVI/1).
- Fragmentary tureen; brown-orange clay with smoky inclusions; semi-fine paste tempered with sand; short neck, well distinguishing from the body; the base has a pushed out knob decorated by circular fluting. Dimensions: mouth diameter: 26 cm, height: 8,5 cm, base diameter: 8 cm. No. of inventory: 28 018, (Pl. XX/5).
- Pot shard: body; cream on the outside and grey on the inside; semi-fine paste tempered with grog; decorated by wide fluting with dense fluting in between. No. of inventory: 27 862, (Pl. XXVII/6).
- Mug shard: rim and neck; grey clay; fine paste tempered with fine sand; decorated by horizontal, narrow fluting; mouth diameter: 12 cm. No. of inventory: 28 166, (Pl. XV/5).
- Jar-type vessel shard; brown – brick-red clay; decorated by crested cordon; coarse paste tempered with river sand. No. of inventory: 27 899 (Pl. XVII/10).
- Handled cup shard; grey clay; semi-fine paste tempered with sand; the edge of the handle is decorated by a small knob. No. of inventory: 28 003, (Pl. XVII/1).
- Small sized vessel shard; secondary fired; coarse paste tempered with crushed shards; internally bevelled rim decorated by fingerprints; thick wall perforated several times; probably belonged to a lid (?). No. of inventory: 27 992, (Pl. XVII/7).
- Similar shard with the previous described, but smaller; internally bevelled rim; oblique fluting on the exterior. Coarse paste tempered with crushed shards, perforated, thick wall; probably was a lid (?). No. of inventory: 28 752, (Pl. XIII/1).
- Fragment of a portable cooking vessel; brick-red clay tempered with crushed shards; decorated with fingerprints on the edge of the foot. No. of inventory: 27 741, (Pl. XXII/1).
- Fragments of a cup; grey-brown clay; decorated by dense fluting; the base is marked by small sockets; fine paste tempered with sand. No. of inventory: 28 745, (Pl. XIV/7).
- Pot shard; black on the outside and brown – brick-red on the inside; semi-fine paste tempered with coarse-grained sand; devoid of decoration. Base diameter: 8 cm; present height: 11 cm. No. of inventory: 28 137, (Pl. XIX/2).
- Cart wheel fragment; brick-red clay; lacks decoration; semi-fine paste; diameter: 5 cm; thickness: 0,8 cm. No. of inventory: 27 996, (Pl. XXI/9).
- Pot shard; slightly everted rim; cream-orange clay; semi-fine paste tempered with sand; decorated by arches, parallel lines and three grouped sockets. No. of inventory: 27 800, (Pl. XXIII/2).
- Body vessel shard; semi-fine paste tempered with sand; punctate decoration shaping triangles. No. of inventory: 28 159, (Pl. XXIII/4).
- Pot shard: rim and body; dark-grey clay; decorated by a knob and vertical fluting; semi-fine paste tempered with sand. No. of inventory: 28 095, (Pl. XIX/9).
- Body vessel shard; brown on the outside and brick-red on the inside; semi-fine paste tempered with river sand; decorated by parallel, incised lines and a large socket flanked by incised punching. No inventory number, (Pl. XXIII/7).
- Tureen shard; slightly lobate rim; grey clay; semi-fine paste tempered with river sand. No inventory number, (Pl. XIX/7).
- Vessel shard: rim and body; cream clay; semi-fine paste tempered with sand; decoration: incised lines shaping arches and parallel lines. No. of inventory: 28 279, (Pl. XXIII/5).
- Flat rim shard of a large-sized pot; black clay; burnished grey on the inside; semi-fine paste tempered with sand. No. of inventory: 29 073, (Pl. XVIII/1).

- Jar-type vessel shard: rim and body; decorated by a crested button; coarse paste tempered with crushed shards; brick-red clay with smoky inclusions. No. of inventory: 27 455, (Pl. XVIII/7).
- Strainer shard; coarse paste tempered with crushed shards; brick-red clay. No. of inventory: 27 456, (Pl. XXI/7).
- Bowl shard: rim and body; inverted rim; grey clay; semi-fine paste tempered with river sand; mouth diameter: 16 cm. No. of inventory: 27 837, (Pl. XIX/4).
- Cup shard; black on the outside and grey on the inside. Fine paste tempered with sand; lacks decoration. No. of inventory: 29 078, (Pl. XIV/3).
- Tureen shard with grey handle; semi-fine paste tempered with sand; mouth diameter: 16 cm; height: 4 cm; base diameter: 10 cm. No. of inventory: 27 884, (Pl. XVII/6).
- Handled tureen shard; brick-red clay; semi-fine paste tempered with crushed shards. No. of inventory: 27 811, (Pl. XV/9).
- Wide handle shard; grey paste; decorated by incised lines. No. of inventory: 28 198, (Pl. XXIV/4).
- Handled cup shard; decorated by incised lines. No. of inventory: 27 446, (Pl. XXIV/2-3).
- Vessel base; blackish clay; decorated by incised motifs. No. of inventory: 27 887, (Pl. XXIV/5).
- Vessel base; grey clay; decorated by spirals. No inventory number, (Pl. XXIV/6).
- Body shard; brick-red clay; coarse paste tempered with sand and crushed shards; decorated by a flattened button. No. of inventory: 27 880, (Pl. XX/7).
- Rim and body shard of a tureen; yellowish on the outside and brown on the inside; fine paste tempered with sand. No. of inventory: 20 764, (Pl. XXV/4).
- Pot shard; semi-fine paste tempered with sand; decorated by a knob surrounded by narrow fluting. No. of inventory: 29 095, (Pl. XXVI/6).
- Pot shard; orange clay; semi-fine paste tempered with sand; decorated by a knob surrounded by narrow fluting flanked by punched impressions. No. of inventory: 26 696, (Pl. XIX/11).
- Jar-type vessel shard; brick-red clay; coarse paste tempered with crushed shards; decorated by crested cordon. No. of inventory: 28 601, (Pl. XXI/3).
- Base and body shard of a grey pot; semi-fine paste tempered with river sand; decorated in the lower part by small impressions, between two parallel, zig-zaged, incised lines continuing with lines coming out from small sockets (Wiettenberg culture, phase IV). No. of inventory: 27 959, (Pl. XX/6)
- Tureen shard: everted rim and body; light brown on the outside; semi-fine paste tempered with river sand; with decorated interior and exterior by incised lines and wheat grain impressions (Wiettenberg culture, phase IV). No. of inventory: 27 951, (Pl. XXIII/3)
- Disc-headed, bronze needle; 7,5 cm long; head diameter: 8 mm. No. of inventory: 27 731, (Pl. XXVI/5).
- Globular-headed, bronze needle; 10,5 cm long, head diameter: 4 mm. No. of inventory: 27 730, (Pl. XXVI/4).
- Fired clay weigh; pyramid shaped; perforated in the upper part; miniature; height: 5,2 cm, base diameter: 3 cm. No. of inventory: 28 625, (Pl. XXV/9).
- Small, fragmentary pot; black on the outside and grey on the inside; fine paste tempered with fine sand; decorated by wide, vertical fluting and narrow, vertical fluting; mouth diameter: 12 cm; height: 6,5 cm. No. of inventory: 28 423, (Pl. XXV/10).
- Cup shard; grey clay; semi-fine paste tempered with sand; decorated on the body by punched impressions; mouth diameter: 13 cm. No. of inventory: 28 211. (Pl. XXV/11).
- Mug shard; slightly everted rim; black burnished clay on the outside and brick-red on the inside (fired in oxidizing atmosphere). Fine paste tempered with sand; the outer red section revealed a bi-chrome slip; mouth diameter: 9 cm; height: 6,5 cm. No. of inventory: 28 212, (Pl. XV/12).

- Biconical cup shard; grey clay; short neck; decorated by parallel lines and dim fluting; fine paste tempered with fine sand. No. of inventory: 28 075, (Pl. XXVII/3).
- Cup shard with brick-red handle; coarse paste tempered with crushed shards. No. of inventory: 27 884, (Pl. XXIV/1).
- Large-sized storage vessel shard: rim and body; grey clay; semi-fine paste tempered with river sand; decorated by small sockets, narrow fluting flanked by two sockets. No. of inventory: 28 010, (Pl. XXIV/9).
- Jar-type vessel shard: rim and body; brick-red clay; coarse paste tempered with crushed shards; decorated by a knob. No. of inventory: 28 400, (Pl. XXI/5).
- Ash cap shard; brick-red clay with smoky inclusions. No. of inventory: 28 775, (Pl. XXI/6).
- Pot base shard; brown-cream clay; semi-fine paste tempered with sand; decorated by incised lines shaping pointed arches in the lower part. No. of inventory: 27 897, (Pl. XXIII/6).
- Base and body shard; semi-fine paste tempered with sand; grey clay; the base is surrounded by wide fluting. No. of inventory: 27 894, (Pl. XVIII/8).
- Vessel body shard; brown-yellow clay; semi-fine paste tempered with sand; decorated by strips of parallel and vertical lines. No. of inventory: 27 873, (Pl. XXII/4).
- Pot shard: base and body; grey clay; semi-fine paste tempered with sand; lacks decoration. No. of inventory: 27 837, (Pl. XVII/9).
- Shard of biconical vessel; grey clay; decorated by narrow fluting, both vertical and horizontal; semi-fine paste tempered with sand; No. of inventory: 28 076, (Pl. XX/1).
- Body shard of a portable cooking vessel; coarse paste tempered with crushed shards; grey-brown clay; decorated by horizontal fluting. No. of inventory: 27 963, (Pl. XX/3).
- Tureen shard: rim and body; grey clay; semi-fine paste tempered with sand; decorated by a knob surrounded by narrow fluting. No. of inventory: 29 097, (Pl. XXV/8).
- Tureen shard with handle and lobate, grey rim; semi-fine paste tempered with crushed shards and sand. No. of inventory: 28 554, (Pl. XVII/1).
- Rim shard of a brown-cream pot tempered with sand and grog; lacks decoration. No. of inventory: 28 748, (Pl. XV/1).
- Body shard of a light grey pot; semi-fine paste tempered with river sand; decorated between two parallel lines by a network lines motif (probably originates from a Wiettenberg vessel), No inventory number, (Pl. XV/11).

#### *Cultural and chronological dating*

The stratigraphic observations drawn from SII, SIV, SV and SVII excavated in the old Crasna river bank, clearly show a recent deposition, disturbed, which uncovered archaeological materials dating to different ages. Other two cultural layers laid below it, one was darker in colour and one was grey. Both are depositions of the Middle and Late Bronze Ages. Although the entire area was significantly disturbed by the embankment works, the archaeological features (waste pits, storage pits, piles of pottery and daub fragments, artefacts from the cultural layer) allow us to distinguish three habitation levels dating from the Bronze Age.

A. Pottery dating from the end of the Ottomani culture

B. Hajdúbagos/Pișcolt-Cehăluți pottery

C. Pre-Gáva (Gáva1) pottery

A. Fine and semi-fine pottery (sand river temper, good firing in oxidizing or reducing atmosphere), often with slipped surfaces. The most frequent forms were: jugs, handled cups, large-sized or small storage vessels, bowls and tureens, portable cooking vessels, strainers, ash caps. Decorations consisted of incised lines shaping arches and dashed triangles, small sockets, oblique fluting, spirals ending in knobs (spiral ends). Coarse pottery was made of mixed paste with crushed shards, low-level firing in oxidizing atmosphere; grey coloured; socketed belt, crested knob and scanty stab and dragged motif.

This pottery type compares well with the Ottomani IIIa, b discoveries (Bobald phase), typical containers of the Koszider type. The storage vessel fragment (Pl. XII/6) which was decorated by the 'moustache' motif has analogies in Carei-Bobald I<sup>15</sup>, Lăpușel<sup>16</sup>, Csengersima-Petea<sup>17</sup> and was dated to the Suci de Sus culture, phase I. The pottery was decorated by double incised spirals, dashed triangles (PL. XII/7; XII/3,5; XIV/1,4-8; XX/4), the jugs and cups were decorated by fluting (Pl. XII/5; XIII/4; XIII/6; XIV/3-4; XVIII/5; XXI/1-3, 7; XXII/2-3; XXIII/2,4,6-7; XXV/3).

Except Carei-Bobald I and VI<sup>18</sup> we also found this type of pottery at Carei-Spitz-Canal VI (unknown material), Moftinu Mic-Drumul Național Carei-Satu Mare<sup>19</sup>; Medieșu-Aurit-Dâmbul Acastăului-tumulus<sup>20</sup>; Medieșu-Aurit-Togul lui Schweitzer-settlement<sup>21</sup>; Culciu Mic-La gropi de silozii<sup>22</sup>; Boinești-Coasta Boineștilor<sup>23</sup>; Ardud-Cetate (unknown material); Halmeu-Vama/Királydomb<sup>24</sup>; Solotvino-Csitatja<sup>25</sup>; Diakovo<sup>26</sup>; Kvasovo<sup>27</sup>; Lăpușel<sup>28</sup>, Csengersima/Petea<sup>29</sup>.

Analogies for the jar-type vessels or large-sized storage vessels decorated by socketed belt and knobs were found in all settlements mentioned above: Csengersima/Petea<sup>30</sup>, Lăpușel<sup>31</sup>; Halmeu-Vama<sup>32</sup>; Solotvino<sup>33</sup>. All the settlements mentioned above have been classified by T. Bader to the Medieșu Aurit and Culciu Mic phase<sup>34</sup>, and by V. Vasiliev, C. Kacsó, L. Marta to the Suci de Sus culture, phase I. Aforetime, I proposed that these discoveries occurred in Câmpia Someșului, Ucraina Subcarpatică, after the tell type settlements had been abandoned, that was in the final phase of the Ottomani IIIb culture, after a process of division into regions of the Ottomani culture was completed<sup>35</sup>.

This hypothesis has been accepted by C. Kacsó considering certain similarities between the late Ottomani pottery and the early Suci de Sus culture. Subsequently, C. Kacsó reconsidered his position and stands for an independent phase – the Suci de Sus culture, phase I<sup>36</sup>. One needs to mention that the well closed features like the tumuli at Medieșu Aurit-Dâmbul Acastăului, Csengersima/Petea, Lăpușel, Halmeu-Vama, Medieșu Aurit-Togul Schweitzer, Ardud-Cetate, or from Carei area, Bobald I, VII, Ferma-Spitz Canal VI, Moftinu Mic - national road Carei-Satu Mare (the former mill), the pottery decorated by excised motifs is completely missing. At Boinești-Coasta Boineștilor the general aspect of the pottery was typically of the Ottomani III culture, even though there were uncovered several fragments decorated by incision (if stratigraphy is accurate) or there might have been a late habitation level. One could assume that the settlement spanned over a longer period of time and thus stood the chance to meet the typically excised pottery of the Suci de Sus culture, the classical phase.

<sup>15</sup> Iercoșan 1996-1997, fig. 4/1

<sup>16</sup> Kacsó 1995, fig. 10/1-2

<sup>17</sup> Pop 2009, fig. 1/5

<sup>18</sup> Némethi, Molnár 2007, Pl. 72; 73/2-4; 74/2-3; 75/1; 96/1-2

<sup>19</sup> Némethi 1986-87, fig. 16/2-4,7; 17/6,8

<sup>20</sup> Bader 1978, Pl. XLIV/1-4, 6-11, 13

<sup>21</sup> information from L. Marta

<sup>22</sup> Bader 1978, Pl. XLV/1-4, 6-9, 10-11, 13

<sup>23</sup> Bader 1978, Pl. XLVIII/14-17

<sup>24</sup> Marta 2004, Pl. II/1,6,8; IV/2,10

<sup>25</sup> Kobal' 1997, Pl. IV/1,6-7; Pl. V/1,3-5,7; Vasilev, Rustoiu 2002, fig. XLII/3-4, 9; XLVI/3,6

<sup>26</sup> Balahuri 2001, fig. XXII/9, 12, 17-18

<sup>27</sup> Balahuri 2001, fig. 71/5,8,10; 71a/1-3, 7,10

<sup>28</sup> Kacsó 1995, Pl. VIII/2-3, 11; IX/1,5

<sup>29</sup> Almássy, Istvánótvits, Marta, Pop 2009, Pl. I/1-3, 10 – ash protector lid

<sup>30</sup> Almássy et. al. 2009, Pl. I/6-7,9

<sup>31</sup> Kacsó 1995, Pl. I/1-10 – grooved (Bezenstrichmuster)

<sup>32</sup> Marta 2004, Pl. I-VI – seldom grooved

<sup>33</sup> Vasiliev, Rustoiu, fig. 30/1-3; 33/1-5; 43/7-8 – grooved

<sup>34</sup> Bader 1978, 79

<sup>35</sup> Roman, Némethi, 1990, 46

<sup>36</sup> Kacsó, 1995

The Ottomani IIIa,b horizon – the last habitation level at Carei-Bobald I from the closed features gr. 6 (S IV), gr. 7 (S VII) and gr. 1 (S VIII) – uncovered no fragments with excised motif. Recently, L. Marta has undersigned that “the settlements at Petea/Csengersima and Culciu Mare-Kertalja (Sub gradini) hardly emerged at the end of the settlements from Boinești and Culciu Mic”<sup>37</sup>, Körösszegapáti-Pál-lapály<sup>38</sup>.

The development of the Middle Bronze Age in Câmpia Someșeană is so far still unclear. One thinks that the discoveries from Medieșu Aurit (Potău) – Ciuncaș hold a key position in this matter. Although the pottery materials were selectively published<sup>39</sup>, the coarse pottery decorated by grooves, notches or relief motifs can't be entirely assigned to the Suci de Sus I culture as C. Kacsó proposed lately<sup>40</sup>. Both this kind of pottery together with semi-fine pottery decorated by incised motifs, especially the zig-zag motifs, belong to the early Ottomani culture, Andrid phase. Beside these elements occurred other materials that could be dated to the Ottomani II culture. This fact points to the frequency of some elements inherited from the Sanislău culture. One can't state a clear importance of the pottery fragments that were found in the upper level, which had excised decoration and of which T. Bader thinks they belong to the Suci de Sus culture. One has to consider they might belong to the classical Suci de Sus phase that was found on the old Someș river bank (Seinel brook). To conclude, the first habitation level from Medieșu Aurit – Ciuncaș and Arduț – Cetate (Sanislău culture) compares better to the Ottomani I culture, Andrid phase and it is possible that the second habitation level compares well to the Ottomani II, and this way it results that the Suci de Sus culture, the classical phase hasn't got a genetic connection to the 1<sup>st</sup> phase of the Suci de Sus settlements, nor Câmpia Someșeană can't be awarded to this period of the Suci de Sus culture. I think the settlements mentioned above that belong to the Suci de Sus I phase from Câmpia Someșului, Depresiunea Lăpușului and Subcarpatică Ukraine rather belong to the final phase of the Ottomani IIIa, b culture (Bobald group), being contemporary with the bronze hoards of the Hajdúsámson – Apa type.

*B. Habitation level from the Late Bronze Age, phase I.*

The typology for the pottery of the Hajdúbajos /Pișcolt – Cehăluți group has been recently drawn up considering the funeral discoveries and the settlements in the north-western Romania and north-eastern Hungary<sup>41</sup>. The pottery that was found at Acâș – Râțul lui Veres which has been awarded to this typology brought out a series of new elements concerning typology and container decorations.

*1) Tureens and bowls*

- a) Flattened tureen (Pl. XVIII/4, XI/2) in shape and decoration; depicted the most famous prototype of the Ottomani IIIa and Füzesabony cultures – the fully-developed phase – called “the Swedish helmet”. The decoration comprised of small knobs associated with semi-circular fluting and small bunches of sockets. Analogies<sup>42</sup>.
- b) Deep bowl with flaring rim, slightly lobate (Pl. X/ 6); in matter of shape it is classified to the Ottomani IIIa, b, and the incised and lime inlaid decoration is familiar to the Wittenberg pottery, without knowing though of perfect matches in both cultures.
- c) Bowls with inverted rim (Pl. XI/3; XVIII/2; XIX/4; XXII/5), with small knobs either on the rim edge or below the rim; they are Ottomani IIIa, b tradition. Analogies<sup>43</sup>, Tășnad-Sere (Parcare) – Pl. XXIV/10.
- d) Deeper, handled bowls, with broad flaring rim and lobate, decorated by knobs and narrow varying to broad semicircular fluting (Pl. XV/2, 9; XVII/1; XVIII/6; XIX/7;

<sup>37</sup> Marta 2009, 205

<sup>38</sup> Nagy 2007, Pl. 2-11 - pit a-b

<sup>39</sup> Bader, Dumitrașcu 1970, 127-136

<sup>40</sup> Kacsó 1995, 97

<sup>41</sup> Némethi 2009, fig. 1-5, 50-53

<sup>42</sup> Némethi 2009, Pl.3/1-2

<sup>43</sup> Némethi 2009, fig. 3/5-6

XX/2,4-5). Analogies<sup>44</sup>: Nyíregyháza – Pazonyi út Tesco-Shell<sup>45</sup>. Some tureens were decorated with incised lines or broad, horizontal fluting (Pl. XXIII/3) on the rim and short neck, both inside and outside. Analogies are to be found in closed features dating to the Late Bronze Age, the beginning of the second phase, Ciumești-Vatra Satului – Gr.1<sup>46</sup>.

- e) Tureen (Pl. XXVI/4) with slightly flaring rim, short neck, body decorated by pressing out into bosses and dense, circular fluting.

2) *Large-sized, trough-like vessel*

Plate XII/1 is a rare container; but close analogies makes with Petea/Csengersima<sup>47</sup>, Lăpuș<sup>48</sup>.

3) *Cups and jugs*

- a) Jug with a foot or small foot, empty interior (Pl. X/5; XIV/2; XIX/5). Analogies<sup>49</sup>.  
b) Conical cup, short neck and upraising handle (Pl. X/1; XXVI/5; XXVII/1, 3,7). Analogies met in Berveni - Râtul Caprei<sup>50</sup>, Carei-Spitz<sup>51</sup>, Petea/ Csengersima<sup>52</sup>, Berea XIV – Viile<sup>53</sup>, Nyírmada – Vályogvető<sup>54</sup>, Debrecen - Hálápuszta<sup>55</sup>.  
c) Cup (Pl. XVII/6) decorated by excised motifs, Suci de Sus culture, phase II.  
d) Flat bottomed cup, decorated by bunches of small sockets Pl. X/1. Analogy<sup>56</sup>.  
e) Cup with the neck distinguishing from the body, upraising handle and a button (Pl. XIV/10; XVII/11). Close analogies with Pișcolt-Nisipărie<sup>57</sup>.

4) *Pots*

- a) Pots with everted rim, the neck distinguishing from the body (Pl. XII/4; XV/1), decorated by spirals and fluting, sockets shaping „grain seeds”, well known in the Ottomani IIIa, b.  
b) Small pots (Pl. XIX/8-9, 11) decorated by vertical fluting, bands of impressed lines, (Pl. XV/7), knobs, flutings and sockets (Pl. XX/8; XX/4, 8; XXV/5, 7, XXVII/6).  
c) Pots and jar-type vessels made of coarse paste (Pl. XI/6; XVII/10; XVIII/7; XIX/6; XXI/5). Widely known type, decorated by knobs and socketed belt<sup>58</sup>.  
d) Pots with everted or flat rim, decorated by horizontal flutings on the inside, painted in red (probably ochre) – Pl. XV/8, 10; they are rare; make analogies with Ciumești, vatra satului – Gr.1<sup>59</sup>.  
e) Pottery fragments - pots decorated by wavy impressed lines (Pl. XII/7; XXV/1). This decoration usually appears in unspecific context for the Hajdúbajos/Pișcolt-Cehăluț group. Analogies make with Valea lui Mihai - Gropa de lut (material inedit), Nyíregyháza-Pazonyi út Tesco-Shell<sup>60</sup>. This decoration was spread in the settlements and cemeteries of the mature Gáva period of evolution: Căuaș-Sighetiu (unclear material), Vencsellő-Castle Park<sup>61</sup>, Debrecen-Nyúlas<sup>62</sup>, Poroszló Aponhát<sup>63</sup>, Nagykovács<sup>64</sup>, Tiszaeszlár<sup>65</sup>.

<sup>44</sup> Némethi 2009, fig. 3/3-4

<sup>45</sup> Nagy 2007, Pl. II/3-4

<sup>46</sup> Némethi 2008, fig. 18/4; 20/4

<sup>47</sup> Marta 2009, Pl. 40/16; 44/11

<sup>48</sup> Kacsó 2001, Pl. 22 – tumulus 2; 23. T. 10; 25. T. 21 – decorated by excised motifs

<sup>49</sup> Némethi 2009 fig. 4/1-2, 4-9

<sup>50</sup> Némethi 1990, fig 3/6; 6/6; 9/2-6

<sup>51</sup> Némethi 1990, fig. 11/2; 13/7; 14/3; 15/6

<sup>52</sup> Marta 2009, pl. 39/11-12; 41/1; 42/10; Almássy et. al., 2009, Pl. III/2

<sup>53</sup> Colecția Kovács, 1977 no. of inv. 31 253

<sup>54</sup> Tóth, Marta 2005, Pl. XI/5-7

<sup>55</sup> Kemenczei 1984, Pl. CXXII/11- 19

<sup>56</sup> Némethi 2009, fig. 3/12

<sup>57</sup> Némethi 1978, fig. 6/8, gr. 5/974

<sup>58</sup> Némethi 2009, fig. 2/ 6-9

<sup>59</sup> Némethi 2008, 80, fig. 18/7

<sup>60</sup> Nagy 2007, Pl. IV/4

<sup>61</sup> Dani 2001, Pl. 1/1-2

<sup>62</sup> Kemenczei 1984, Pl. CXXVI/10

<sup>63</sup> Patai 1976, Pl. 2/1-2; Kemenczei 1984, Pl. CXXVII/1-2,8-11

<sup>64</sup> Kemenczei 1984, Pl. CXXX/18

<sup>65</sup> Kemenczei 1984, Pl. CXXXI/7

5) *Portable cooking vessel*

The portable cooking vessel fragments belong to the type of containers with a broad mouth for fire (Pl. XI/5; XXII/1-2). Analogy<sup>66</sup>. This type of portable cooking vessel (pyraunos) was widely spread during the Late bronze Age, phase I, especially during the Suciuc de Sus culture, the classical phase, Culciu Mare<sup>67</sup>, Petea/ Csengersima<sup>68</sup> and generally during the Late Bronze Age<sup>69</sup>. It is interesting that the grill pyraunos type was to be found in north-western Romania during the Middle Bronze Age, the Ottomani II-III culture. It looks like a similar situation was present in north-eastern Hungary<sup>70</sup>.

6) *Tapered vessel with flaring rim*

The discoveries made at Acăș-Râtul lui Veres did not uncover any amphorae which were typical of the Hajdúbagos/Pișcolt-Cehăluți<sup>71</sup>. Such a vessel was found at Valea lui Mihai, in the town, which probably originated from an urn cremation grave (the vessel is unclear, under private property). This grave provided several vessels and metal objects that are hosted in the collection of the Andrásy Ernő Museum of Valea lui Mihai. The present settlement is located on the place called "Groapa cu lut".

Besides those graves occurred many vessel fragments or even restored containers (Pl. X/2) with broad flaring rim, flat, cylindrical neck decorated by small and large knobs with wide fluting framed by two vertical ribs on both sides. Analogies met at Valea Lui Mihai – Groapa cu lut – Pl. XXIX/5-7 (recent investigation, unclear yet) – Tășnad-Sere (Parking), Gr. 197. (Pl. XXVIII/6). These decorative motifs appeared on a cup at Pișcolt – Nisipărie<sup>72</sup>. We can also find analogies in le Nyíregyháza – Új csere<sup>73</sup>.

7) *Jar-type vessel*

The jar-type vessel with lobate lip and fit with knob-handle (Pl. XVIII/3) frequently appeared in the Suciuc de Sus culture, at Petea/Csengersima<sup>74</sup>.

8) *Storage vessels*

Large-sized storage vessels with broad, everted rim, cylindrical neck, decorated by horizontal flutings, large knobs on the body framed by narrow fluting (Pl. XI/1; XX/3; XXIV/9; XXVI/1-2; XXVII/2). Analogies met at Bervenii-Râtul Caprei<sup>75</sup>, Carei-Spitz<sup>76</sup>, Petea/Csengersima<sup>77</sup>, Lăpuș<sup>78</sup>, Tășnad-Sere (Parking) – Pl. XXVIII/1,3,4 – unclear material. Some of these vessels had broad, everted rim decorated by horizontal fluting (Pl. 27/5); analogies at Ciumești – Vatra satului Gr. 1<sup>79</sup>, Nyíregyháza Pazonyi út, Tesco<sup>80</sup>.

9) *Special vessels*

- a) "Fish-pan" type of vessel (Pl. XI/4), encountered in the Ottomani culture, especially in its late phase, as well as in the Hajdúbagos/Pișcolt-Cehăluț group. Analogies are met at Doh-La Izvoare<sup>81</sup>, Crasna-Csereoldal<sup>82</sup>.
- b) Small lids (Pl. XXIII/8) with analogies at Petea/Csengersima<sup>83</sup>; others were fit with a small handle decorated by fingerprints or oblique fluting (Pl. XIII/1; XVIII/3). The latter

<sup>66</sup> Némethi 2009, fig. 4/ 10-11

<sup>67</sup> Bader 1978, Pl. LIII/1-3

<sup>68</sup> Marta 2009, Pl. 5/1-2

<sup>69</sup> see Fischl, Kiss, Kulcsár 2001, Pl. 4; 5/1-2, 6-8, 11, 14, 16

<sup>70</sup> Fischl, Kiss, Kulcsár 2001, fig. 3, Pl. 4/2; 5/36-37, 43

<sup>71</sup> Némethi 2009, fig 2/1-3

<sup>72</sup> Némethi 2009, fig. 4/9

<sup>73</sup> Bejinariu et. al. 2008, Pl. VI/4; VII/3; XV/1; *Idem* 2009, 57-85, Pl. 4/1; 5/3, 9/1

<sup>74</sup> Marta 2009, Pl. 1 – tipul I Ba și Pl. 58/10

<sup>75</sup> Némethi 1990, fig. 1/7; 5/1; 6/1

<sup>76</sup> Némethi 1990, fig. 13/1-2

<sup>77</sup> Marta 2009, Pl. 14/1-4, 7; 49/3

<sup>78</sup> Kacsó 2001, Pl. 12/T.A; 13/T.A; 14/T.21; 15/T.20; 16/T.9; 20/T.12; 21/T.20

<sup>79</sup> Némethi 2008, fig. 20/8 – assigned to Ha. A1

<sup>80</sup> Nagy 2007, Pl. 3/1

<sup>81</sup> Lakó 1983, IV/10

<sup>82</sup> Lakó 1983, III/5

<sup>83</sup> Marta 2009, 38/5

type is not known among the artefacts of the Hajdúbagos/Pișcolt-Cehăluț<sup>84</sup> but it meets analogies at Tășnad – Sere (Parking) – Pl. XXVIII/5, XXIX/1-2; Valea lui Mihai – Groapa cu lut (Pl. XXIX/3-4), Crasna – Csereoldal<sup>85</sup>.

- c) Small, fragmentary objects, clay made (Pl. XVI/6-10). No intact objects were found; therefore one can't determine their function (fragments of statues or other decorations).
- d) Pottery fragments with excised decoration (Pl. XVII/2-5). Specific of the Suci de Sus culture.
- e) Handle fragments (Pl. XXIV/2-4) decorated by wavy lines and incisions. Vessel bases (Pl. XXIV/5-6) decorated by incised motifs – spirals, sockets and circle-shaped fluting.

#### *10) Tools*

- a) Clay weights (Pl. XII/2,3; XXV/9; XXVIII/2 – miniature artefact) belong to common objects.
- b) Stone grinder (Pl. XIV/8); common object.
- c) Fragmentary pattern of fired clay (Pl. XVI/2-3) – probably used for moulding needles. Fragmentary pattern, well done on both sides and made of gritstone (Pl. XVI/1) – probably used for moulding needles. Close analogies at Lăpuș<sup>86</sup>.
- d) Bronze needles (Pl. XVI/4-5); analogies at Muhi-Princ-tanya<sup>87</sup>-Piliny culture; Aggtelek –Baradla Cave<sup>88</sup> -Kyjatice culture); Kótaj<sup>89</sup>. A similar needle with thickened head and decorated by patterns of incised, zig-zag lines is mentioned at Crasna – Csereoldal, dated to the BrD – HaA 1<sup>90</sup>. Analogies for the two needles are to be met at Acâs – Râtul lui Veres and in Central Europe they are dated between BrD and Ha A2<sup>91</sup>. These needles have a long life for which reason they can't fit a tighter dating.
- e) Small cart wheels (Pl. XXI/8-9). Their spanning lasted between the Early bronze Age until the Late bronze Age, phase I.

#### *Conclusions*

Researches at Acâs – Râtul lui Veres have established a habitation level dating from the Middle Bronze Age, the Ottomani III a, b culture contemporary with the Wiettenberg culture IV phase. It lies at the basis of the Hajdúbagos/Pișcolt-Cehăluț group (culture?) and it started its developed when settlements emerged after tells had been abandoned<sup>92</sup>.

The Bronze Age, phase I habitation level is well assigned to the Hajdúbagos/Pișcolt-Cehăluț cultural group. The artefacts uncovered at Acâs-Râtul lui Veres do not exceed, in my opinion, the timeline of the cultural horizon of the Hajdúbagos/Pișcolt-Cehăluț group. Our attempt to separate the typical pottery of this habitation level using the discoveries at Berveni-Râtul Caprei, Carei-Spitz, Petea-Csengersima is the first step in establishing the first manifestation of Gáva culture through pottery and which is going to standardize the cultural cultural groups that emerged under the impulse of the Tumulus culture: Hajdúbagos/Pișcolt-Cehăluț group, Egyek culture, Piliny culture and Suci de Sus, phase II, culture, the latter had a longer spanning if we consider the imports from the settlements at Hajdúbagos/Pișcolt-Cehăluț and from what we called pre-Gáva settlements located in Câmpia Careiului, Câmpia Tisei, Depresiunea Șimleului, and in Nyírség area from Hungary, for example, Nyírmada-Vályogvető<sup>93</sup>.

Large-sized vessels with hyperbolic knobs empty on the inside have been attested only at the first level from Teleac<sup>94</sup>. As we have afore seen, they also appear in the

<sup>84</sup> Némethi 2008, fig. 4/12

<sup>85</sup> Lakó 1983, Pl. III/9

<sup>86</sup> Kacsó 2001, T.13

<sup>87</sup> Kemenczei 1984, XXXVIII/10,11,13

<sup>88</sup> Kemenczei 1984, Pl. C/20

<sup>89</sup> Jósza through Kemenczei 1965, Pl. 69/3,4

<sup>90</sup> Bejinariu – Lakó, 153-219, Pl. 35/1

<sup>91</sup> Knöpke 2009, Pl. 49/3-5; 50/1-2

<sup>92</sup> Némethi 2009, 41-43

<sup>93</sup> Kacsó 2007, 43-62

<sup>94</sup> Vasiliev et. al. 1991, fig. 29/13-14, 18; Vasiliev 2006-2007, 7-16, fig. 1; Vasiliev 2008, fig.1/1-9; Pankau 2004 48/6-7

tumulus necropolis at Lăpuș II (T9), in Moldavia, at Grănicești, and south, on the territory of Dobrogea, at the I-II level at Babadag, in north-western Transylvania were highly frequent, in Hungary and Slovakia<sup>95</sup>. Besides the large-sized vessels with hyperbolical knobs, other new forms emerged, like bowls and tureens decorated by horizontal fluting on the inside, or bowls and tureens with inverted, protruding rim, small, tapered cups, flat, with upraised handles, tapered jugs with a small knob on the edge of the handle, large-sized storage vessels with flat and broad rim, with fluting and other vessels like these decorated on their cylindrical neck by horizontal fluting and by oblique fluting on their bodies. A new decorative motif appears to be the parallel, wavy lines which will have become specific of the Gáva culture, the full-developed stage (Pl. XXX-XXXII).

Bichrome painting is a new pottery technology which has the vessels painted black on the outside and red-brick-red on the inside, specific of the Gáva culture. Bichrome painting does not appear only on the large-sized vessels, but also on small pots. This type of discoveries from Acăs-Râțul lui Veres and other settlements mentioned above point to a genetical evolution towards the Gáva culture.

Based on the observations made on the traditional black pottery from the pottery centres at Mohács, Gömör – Ungaria<sup>96</sup>, the bichrome painting has not tight relations with the vessel firing itself, but it is a subsequent processing applied to pottery after the vessels were fired in oxidizing atmosphere in kilns or in special pits arranged for firing vessels (antiquity, in our case). The black colour on the outer surface of the vessels was obtained by laying containers upside down in kilns and after the firing in oxidizing atmosphere was finished, they were submitted to a special processing with a smoking fire, after the kiln or the firing pits were covered. The ash laid on vessels, but when the smoke penetrated below the vessel rim, a thin, black line took shape on the inside. The ash laid on vessels turned into “graphite” and the outer surface of the vessels became burnished black or matt. This is only a hypothesis of the procedure for obtaining bichrome painting pottery. It can be confirmed or denied by the petrographic analyses made on pottery.

The discoveries we mentioned here (their number has increased with new settlements: Tășnad-Sere – Parcare, Valea lui Mihai – Groapa cu lut) are chronologically related to the Lăpuș II phase – the tumulus necropolis and the settlement from Groșii Țibleșului – Ograde<sup>97</sup>, moreover they are thought to be the earliest manifestation of the Gáva culture. Their genetic relation with the classical Gáva culture still requires more proof, observations and archaeological investigations, reason for which I still submit to the denomination of pre-Gáva as an early manifestation of the Gáva culture itself, although a theory unaccepted by C. Kacsó<sup>98</sup>.

Chronologically comparing these discoveries with those similar from Transylvania, one can make connections with the cultures: Cugir-Band-Lăpuș II, recently classified by H. Ciugudean to the Late Bronze Age II.A – Ältere Urnenfeldzeit-Ha.A1-Müller-Karpe and with the discoveries of the type Nagykovács, Szentes-Nagyhegy<sup>99</sup>.

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<sup>95</sup> Vasiliev 1991, 82

<sup>96</sup> Kresz 1987, 524-598

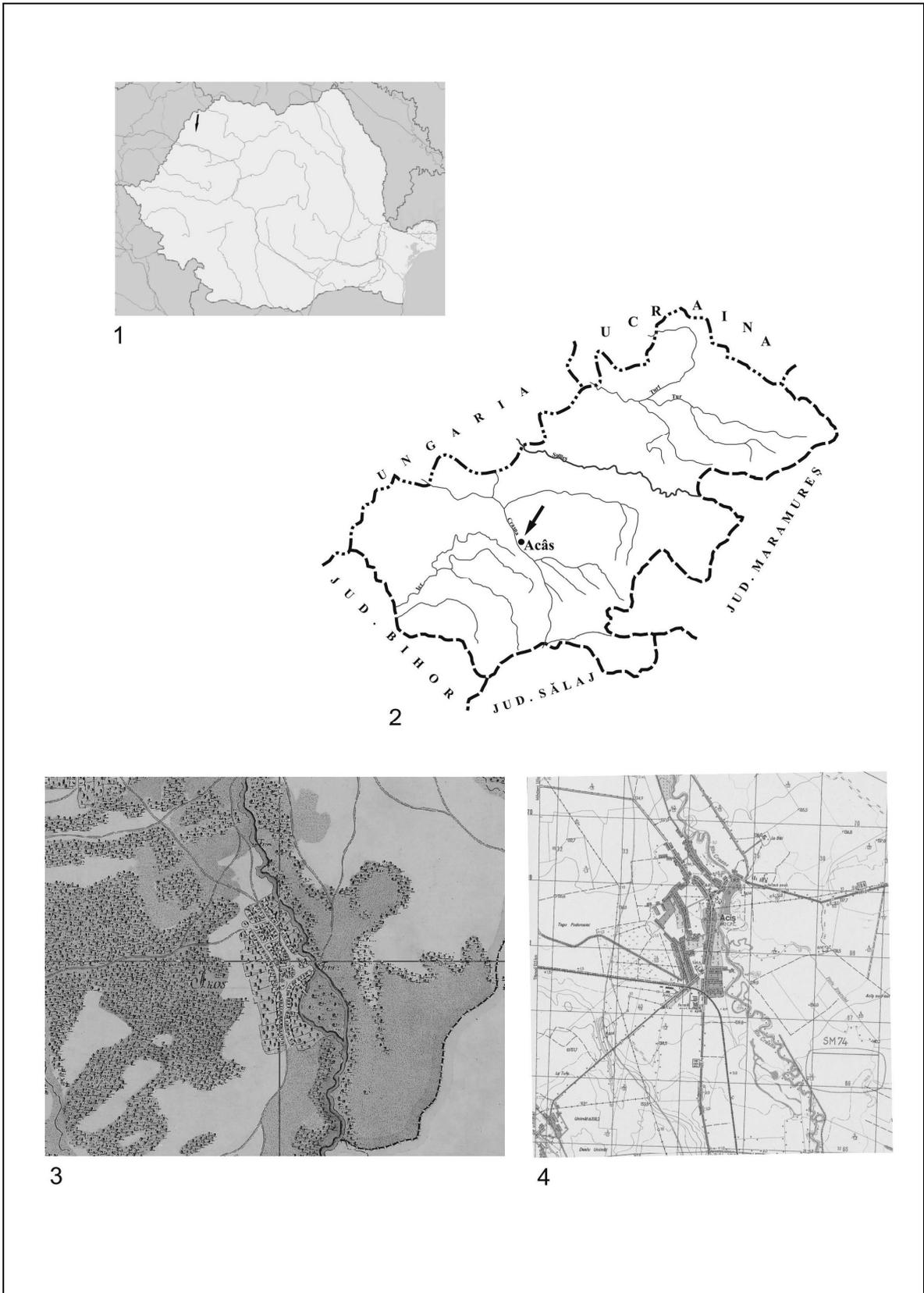
<sup>97</sup> Kacsó 1993, 33, Pl. VII/17,19; Pl. IX/14, 18-19

<sup>98</sup> Kacsó 2007, 56

<sup>99</sup> Ciugudean 2009, 313-337, fig. 2 – chronological table

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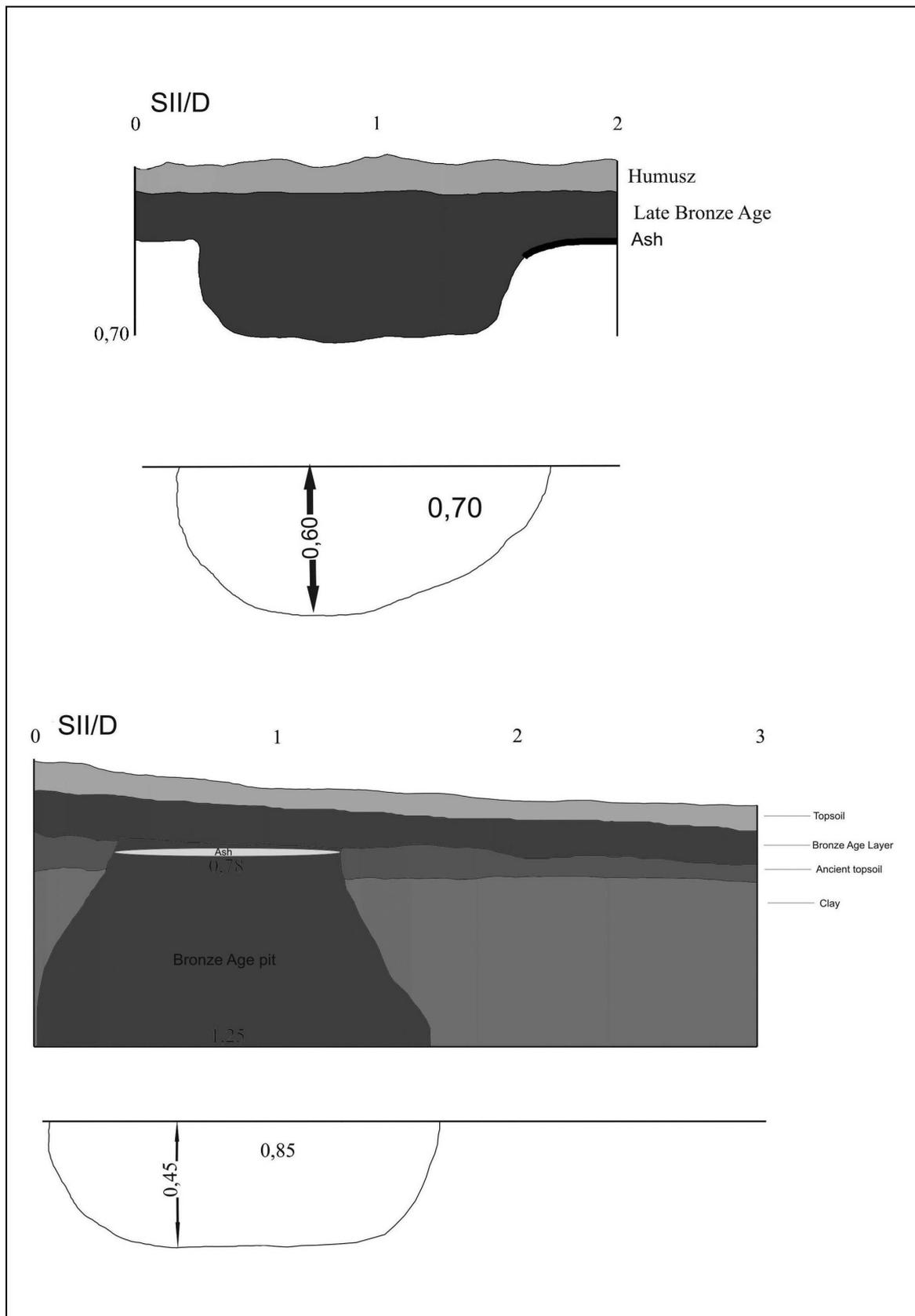


**Plate I.** 1. Map of Romania. 2. Satu Mare County. 3. The first military Map (XVIII.Century).  
4. Acâș village (Map from 1978, 1:25000).

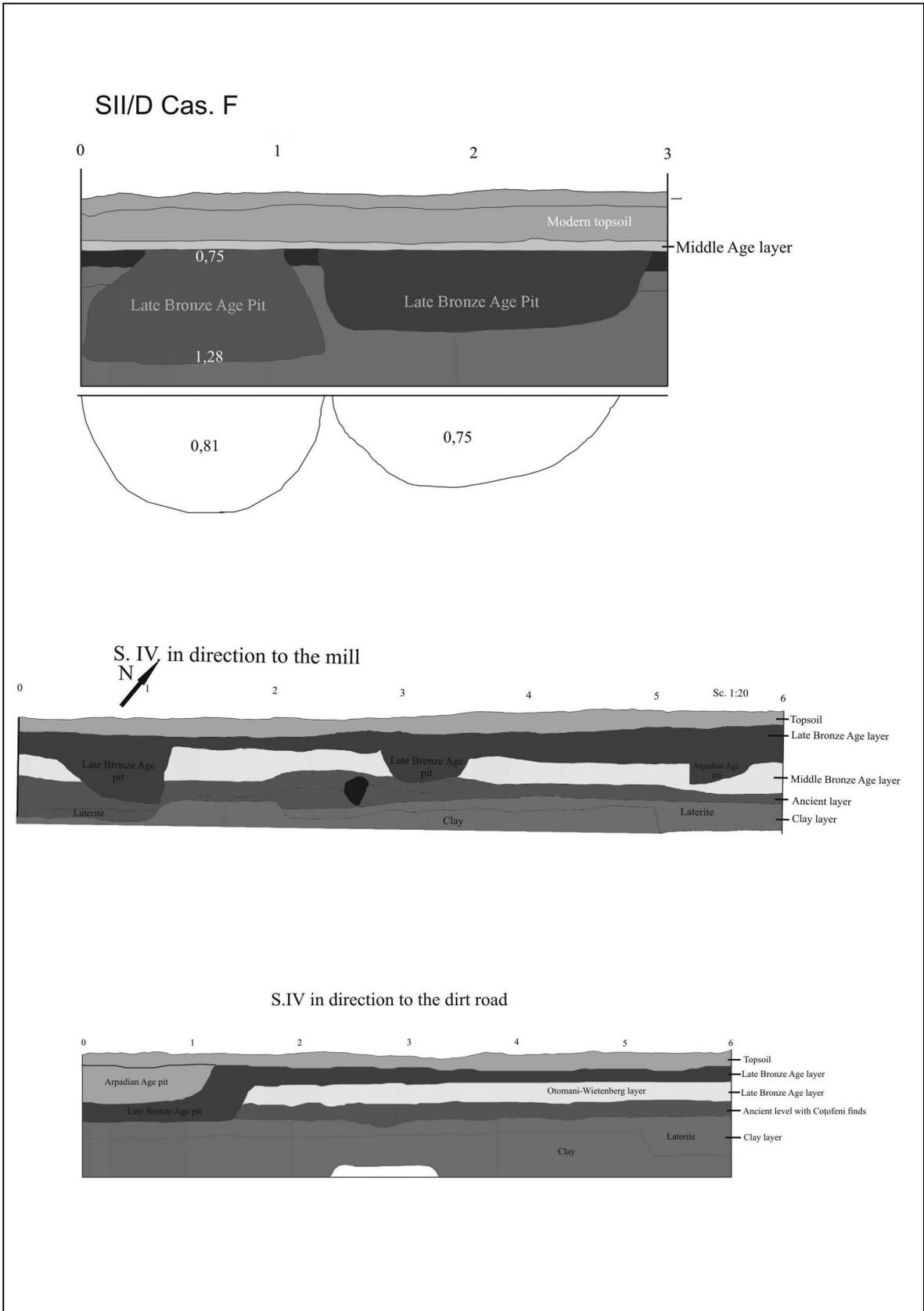


**Plate II.** 1. Aerial photograph. 2. Satellite photograph (Google Earth). 3-4. The Acâș-Râtul lui Veres site and the Crasna river.

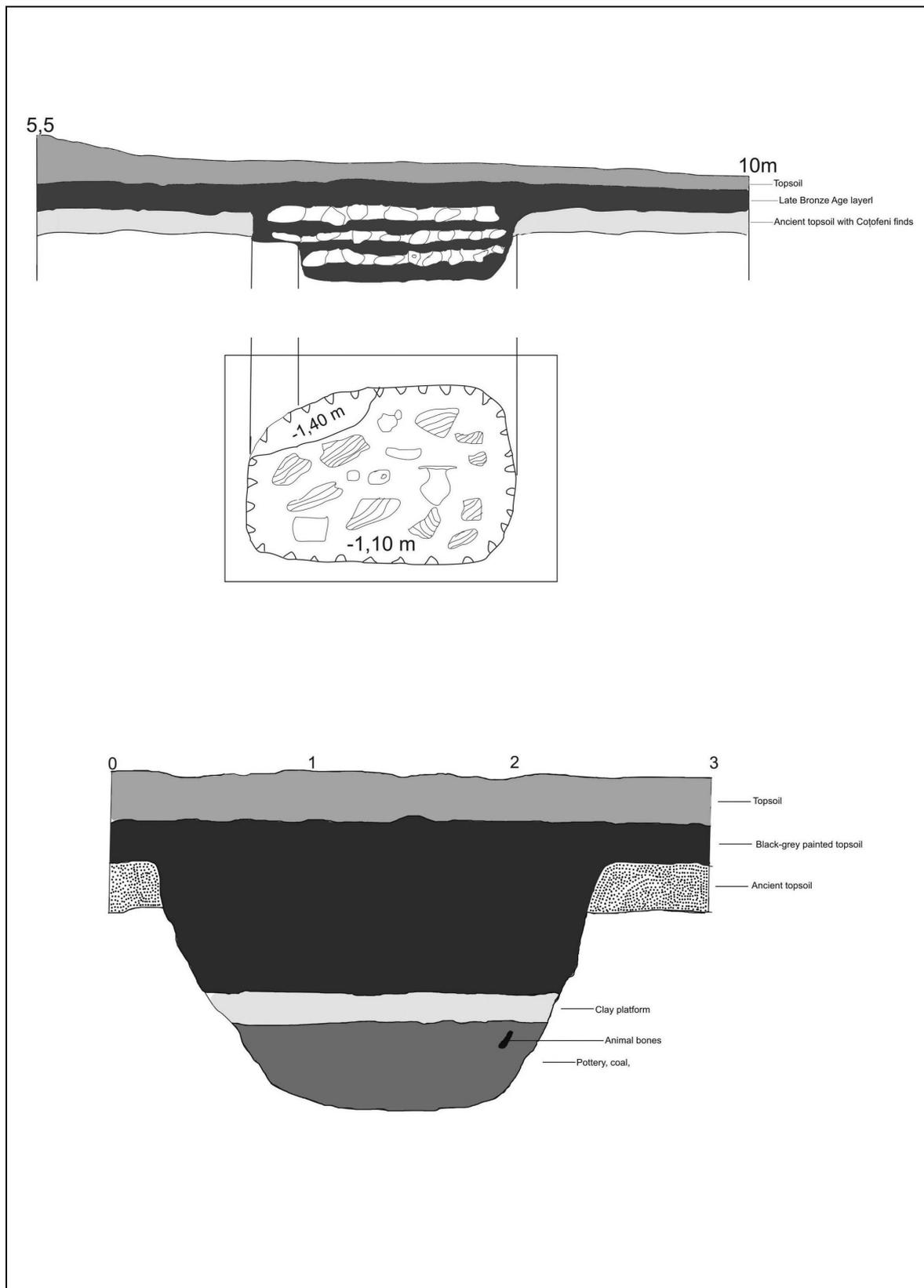




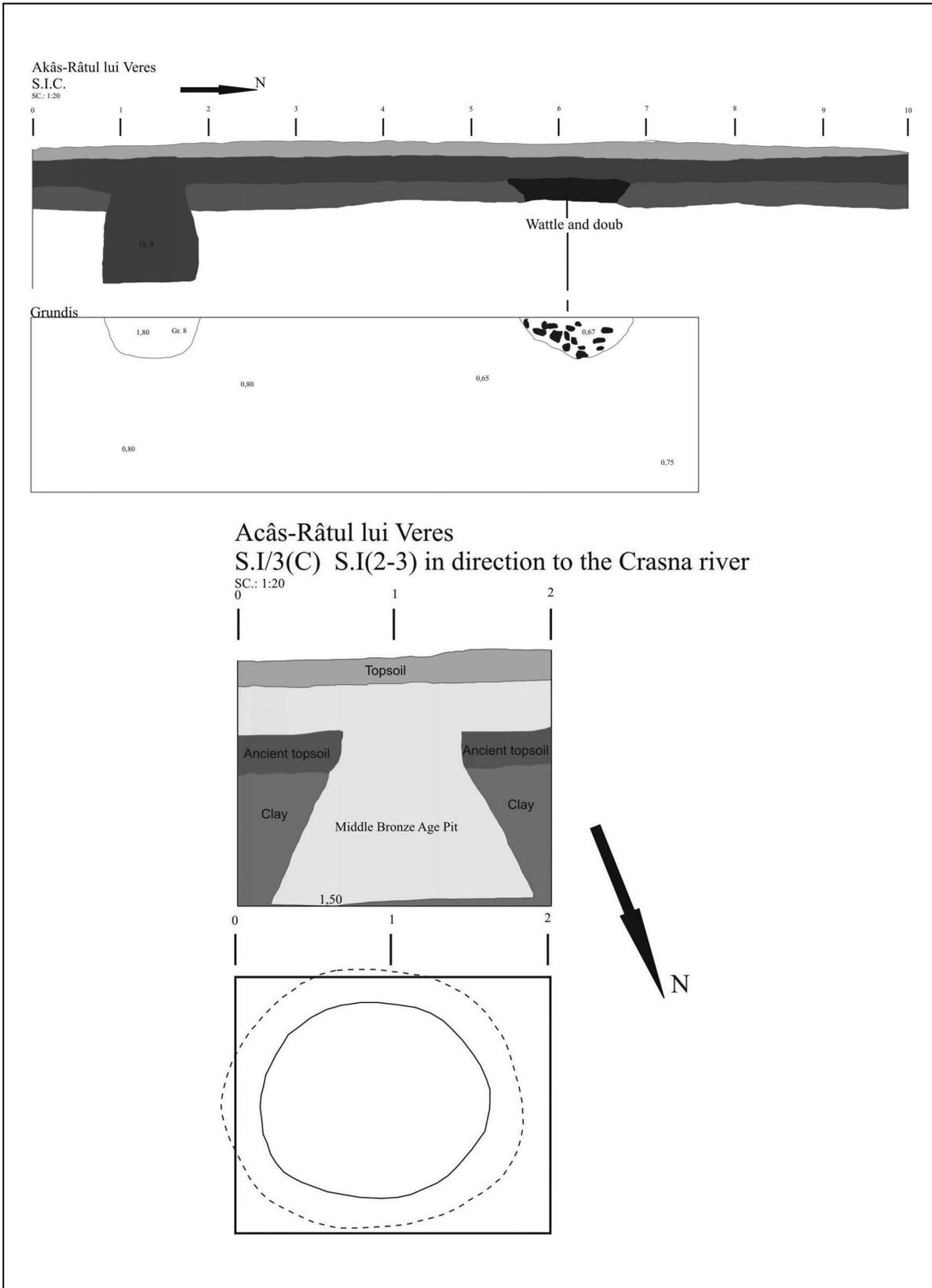
**Plate IV.** Archeological complex from SII/D, Acâș-Râtul lui Veres.



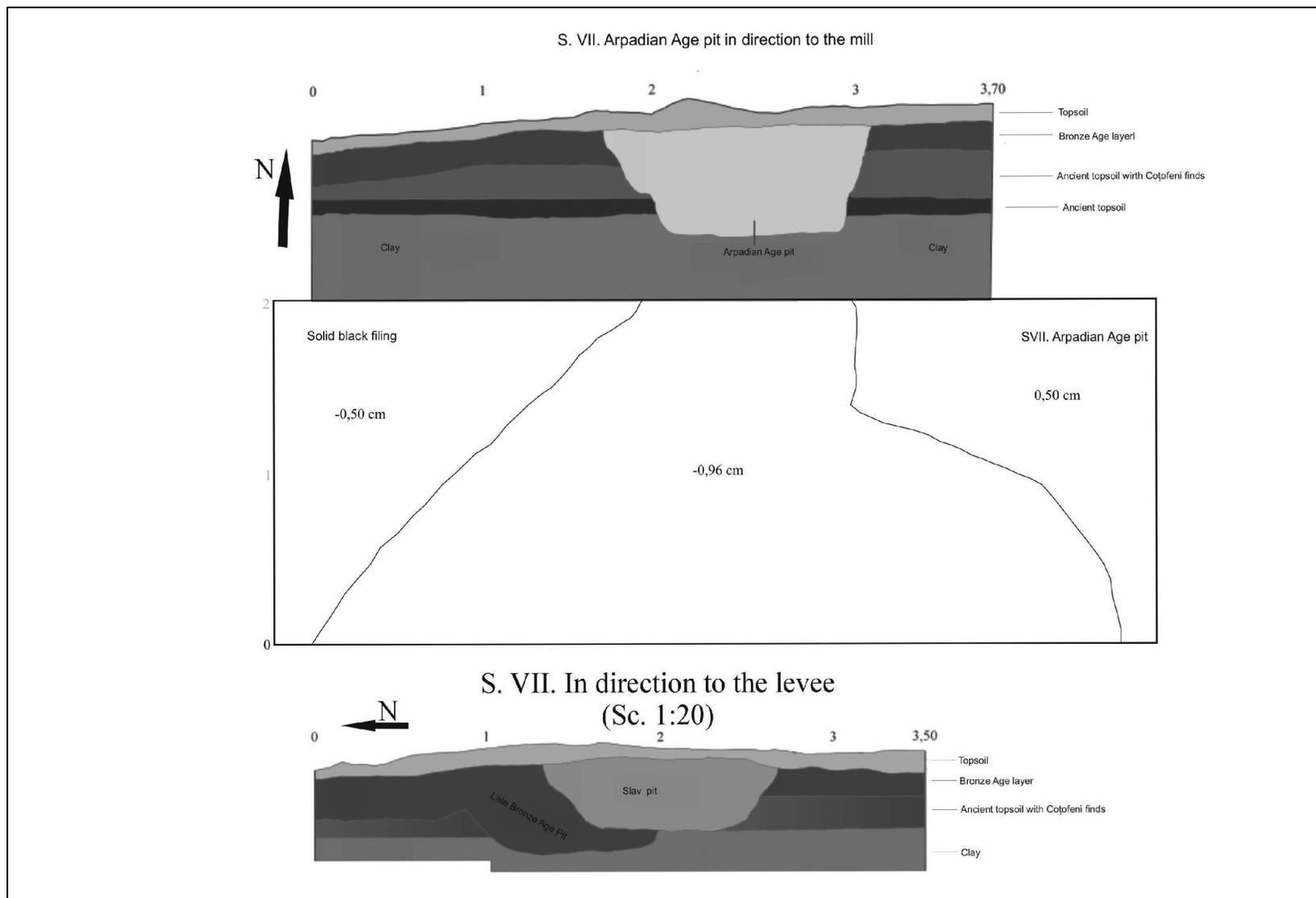
**Plate V.** Archeological complex from SII/D-F; SIV, Acăș-Râțul lui Veres.



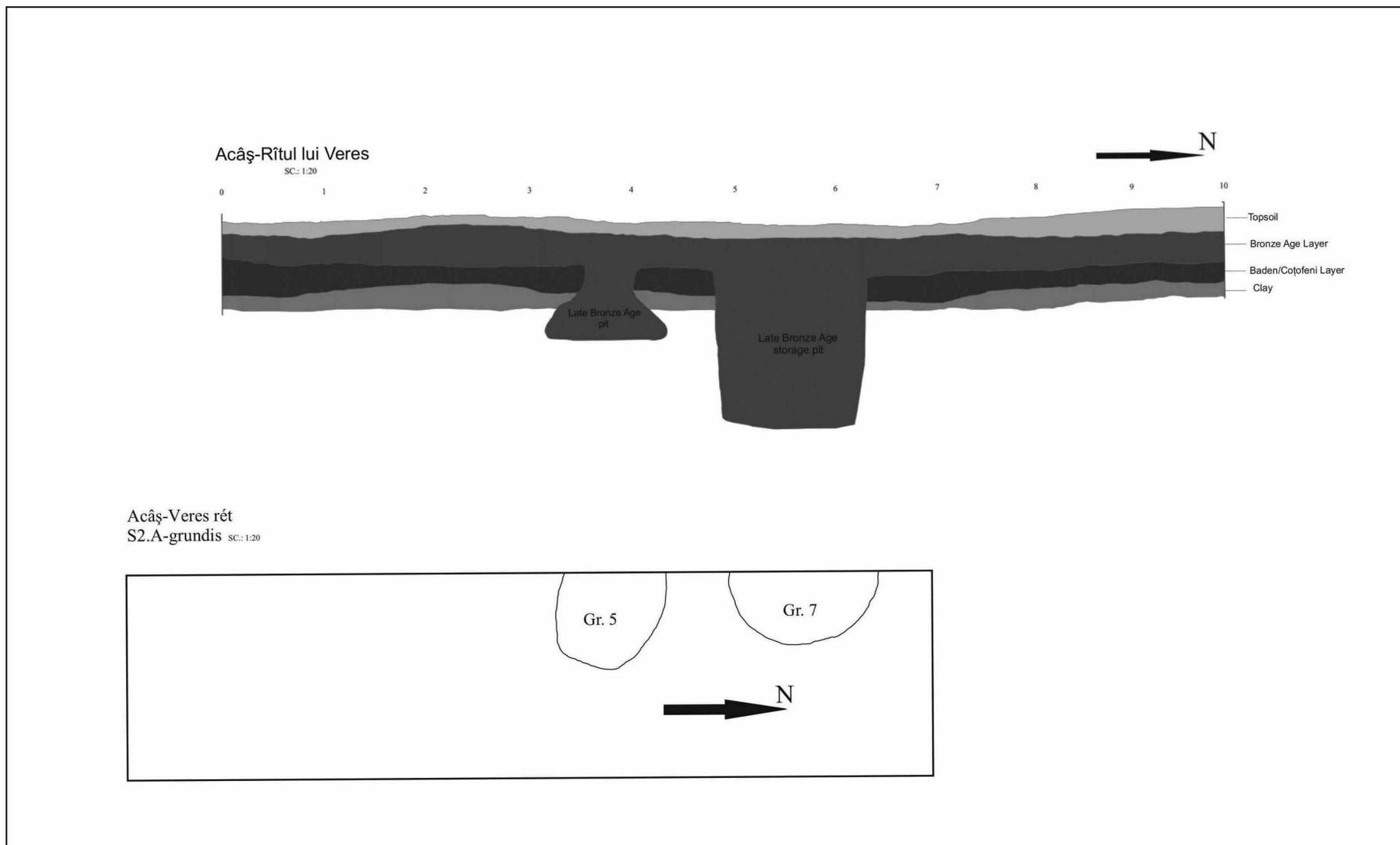
**Plate VI.** Pit, No. 2 from Acâș-Râțul lui Veres.



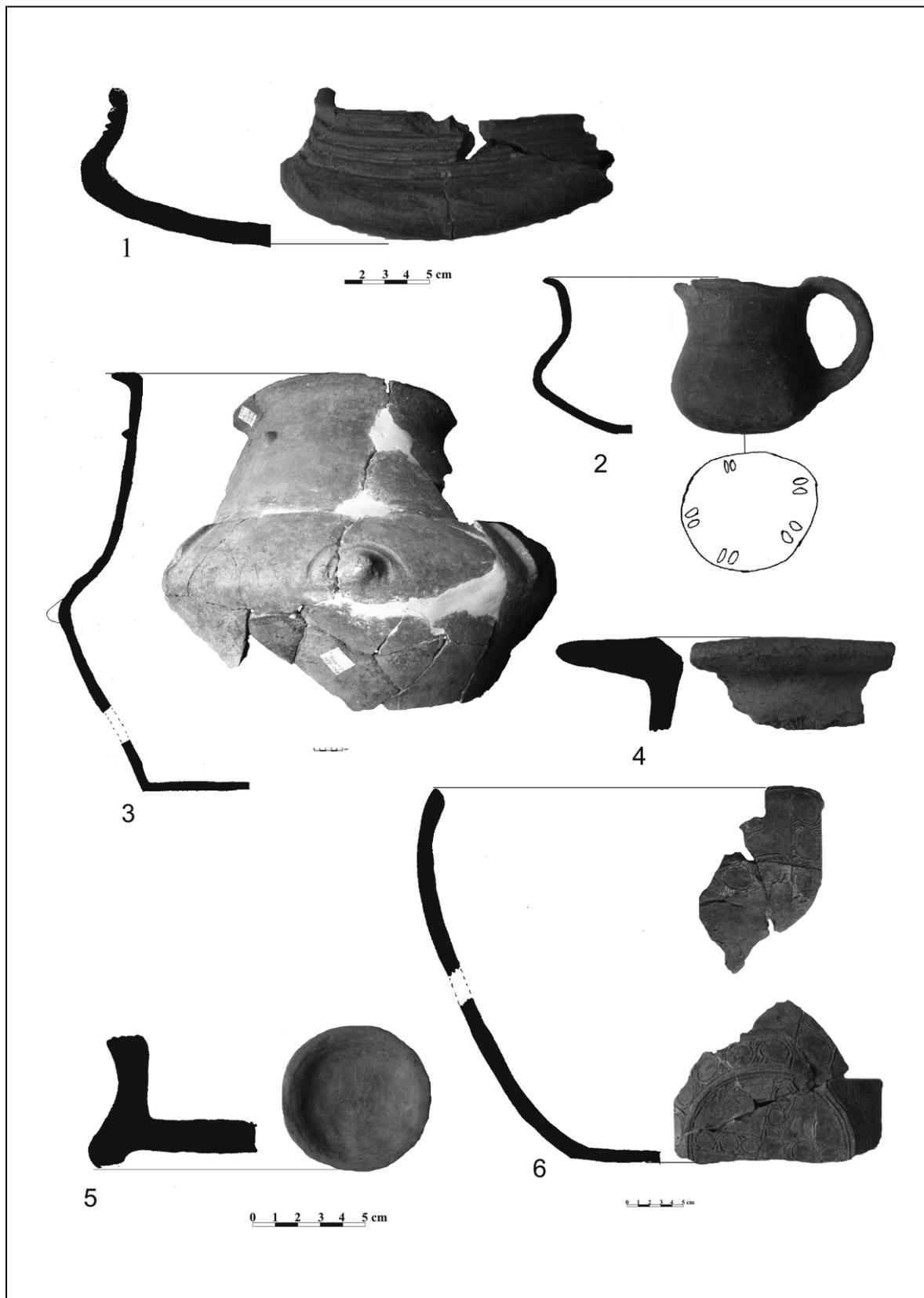
**Plate VII.** Archeological complex from SI/C, SI/3 SI (2-3), Acăș-Râțul lui Veres.



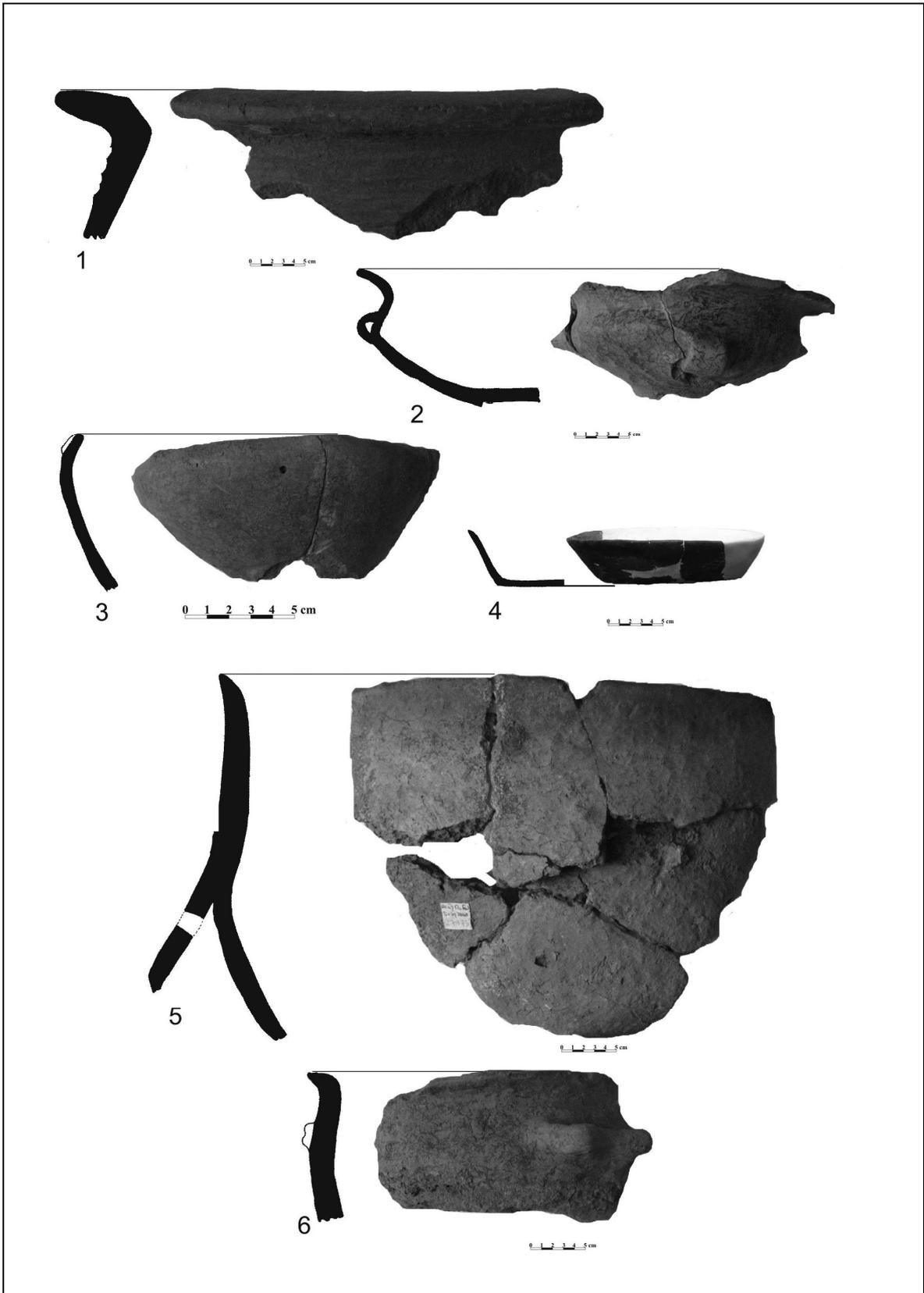
**Plate VIII.** Archeological complex from SVII, Acăș-Râtul lui Veres.



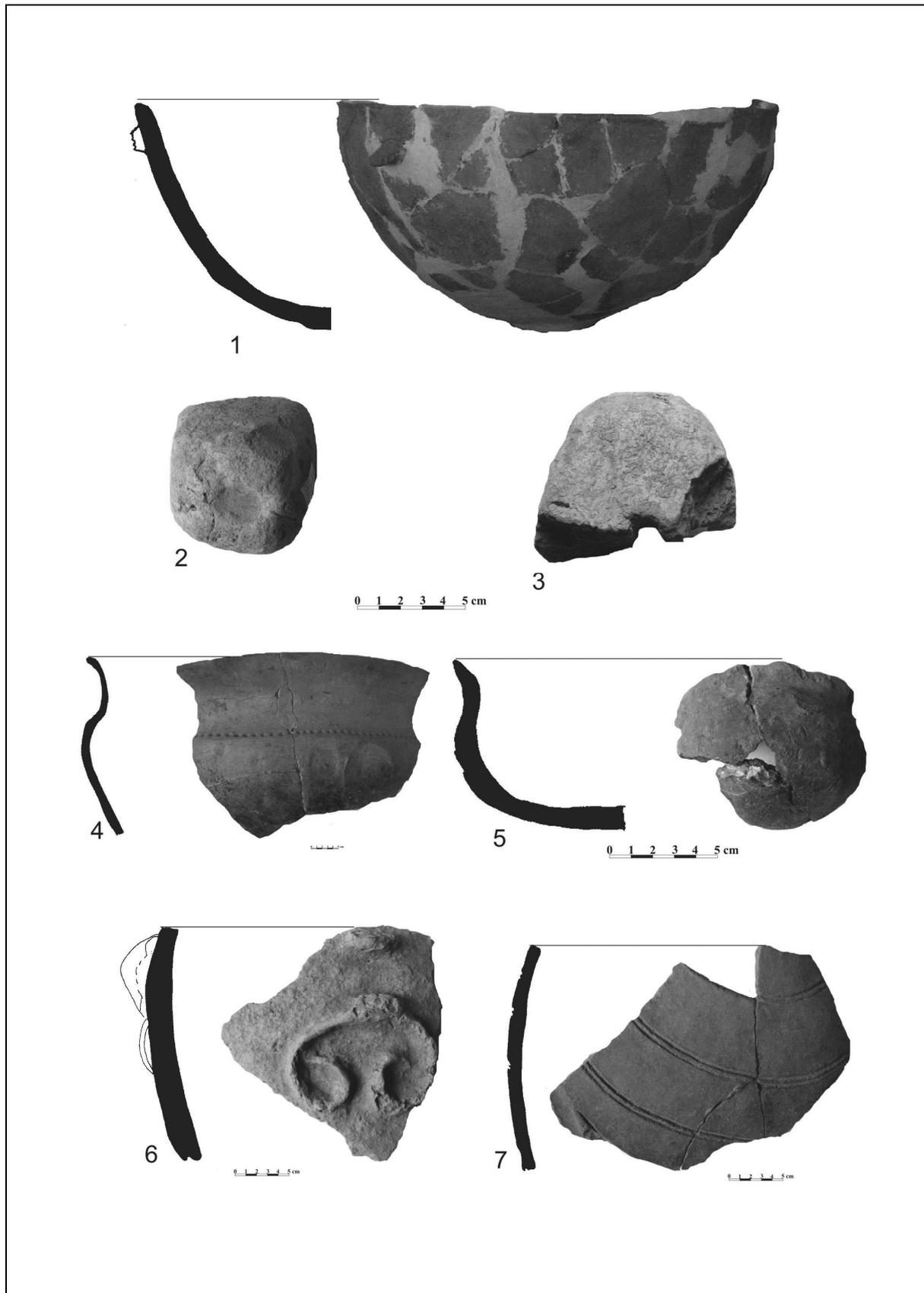
**Plate IX.** Archeological complex from SII, Acâș-Râitul lui Veres.



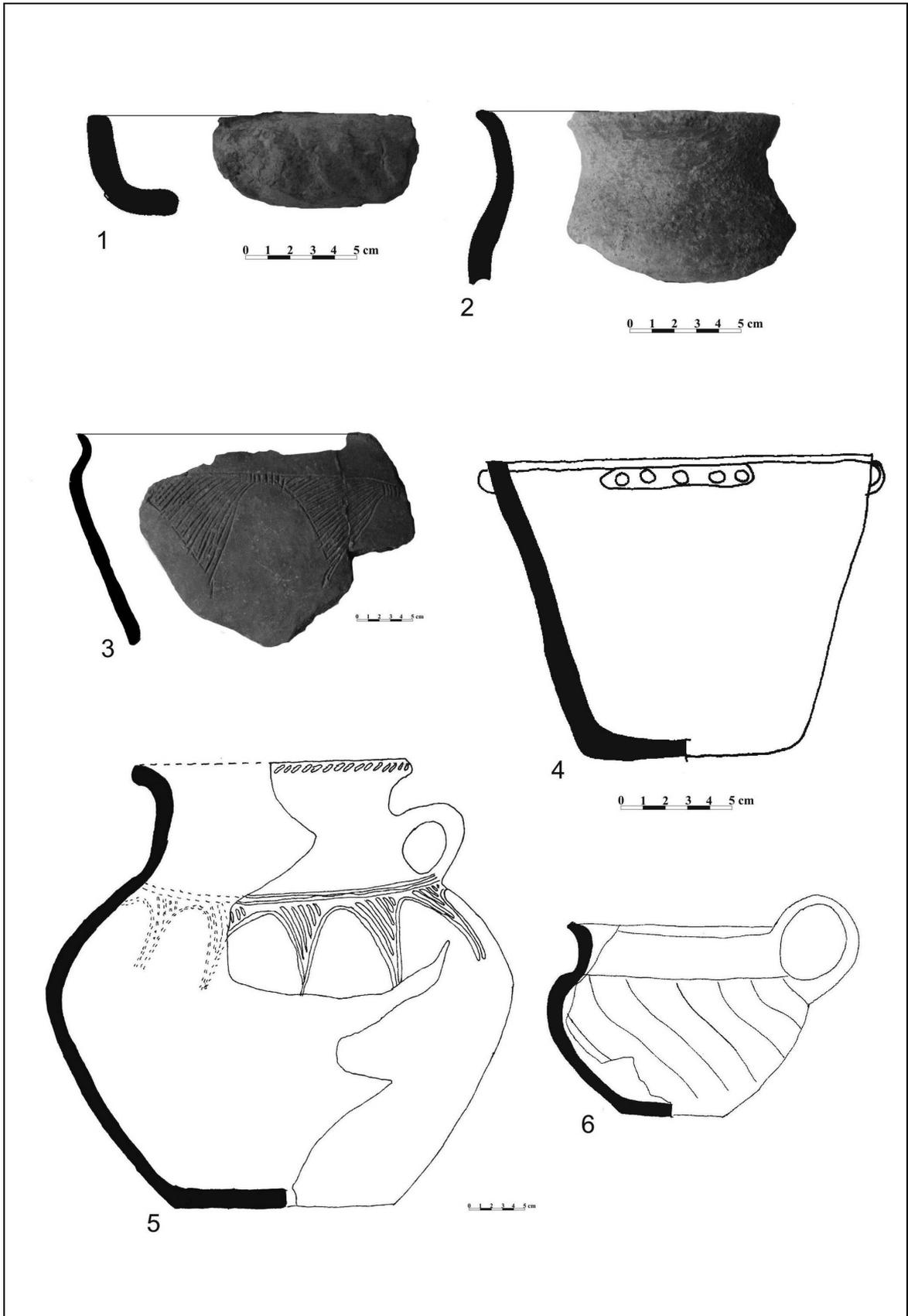
**Plate X.** Vessel and pottery from Pit no. 2, Acâș-Râțul lui Veres.



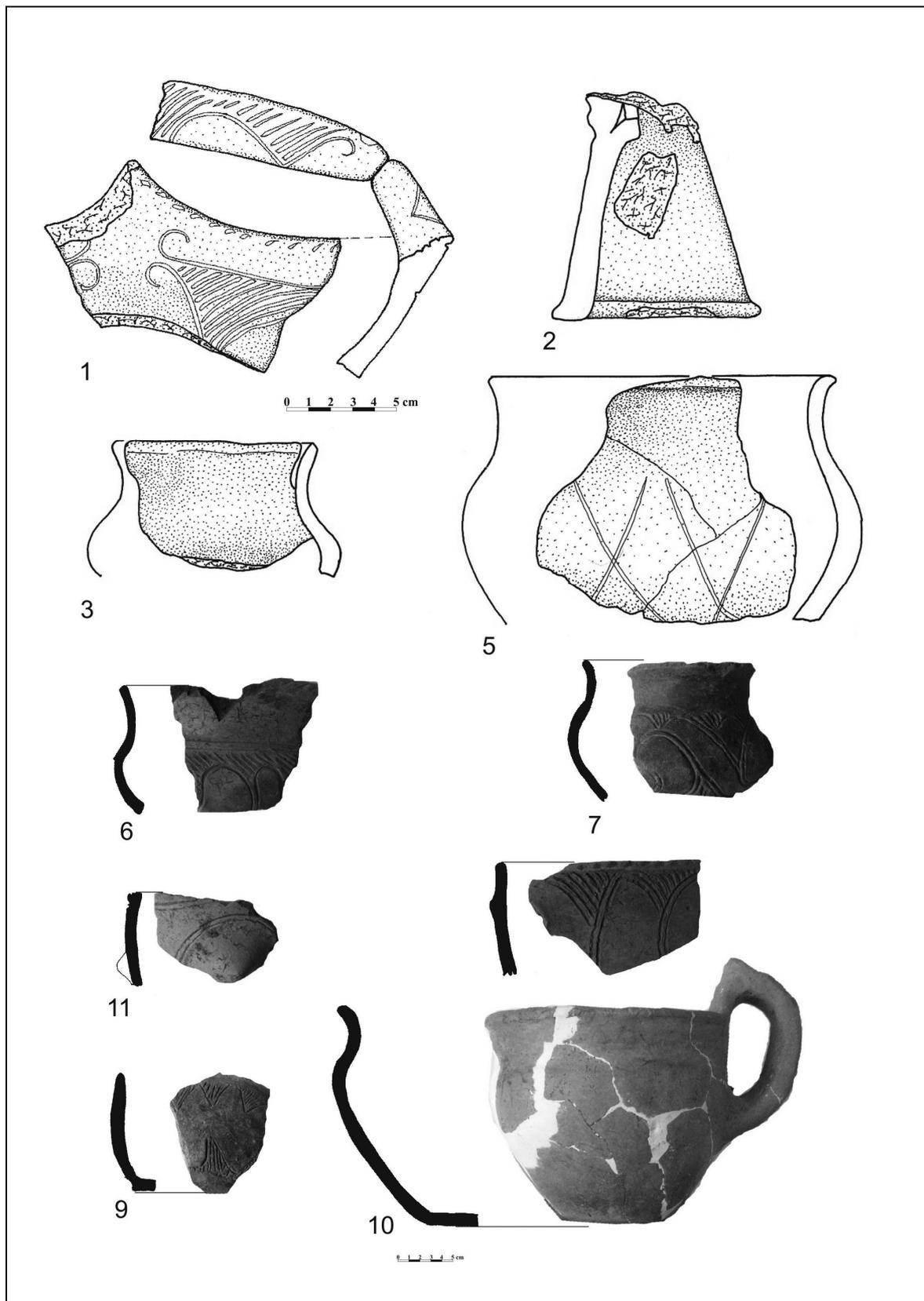
**Plate XI.** Pottery from Pit no. 2, Acăș-Râtul lui Veres.



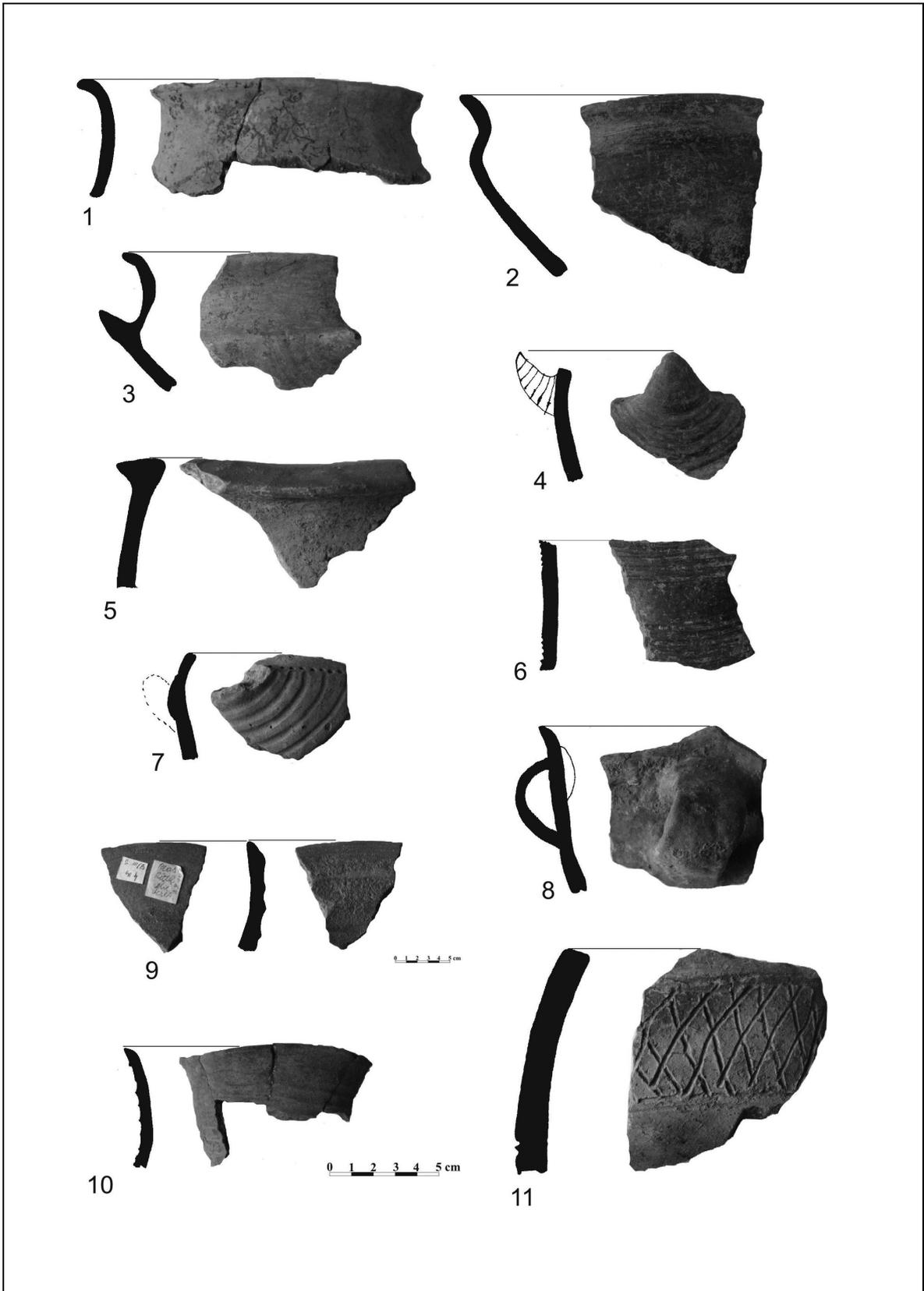
**Plate XII.** Pottery from Pit no. 2; 5-7 Pottery found in 1982, Acâș-Râtul lui Veres.



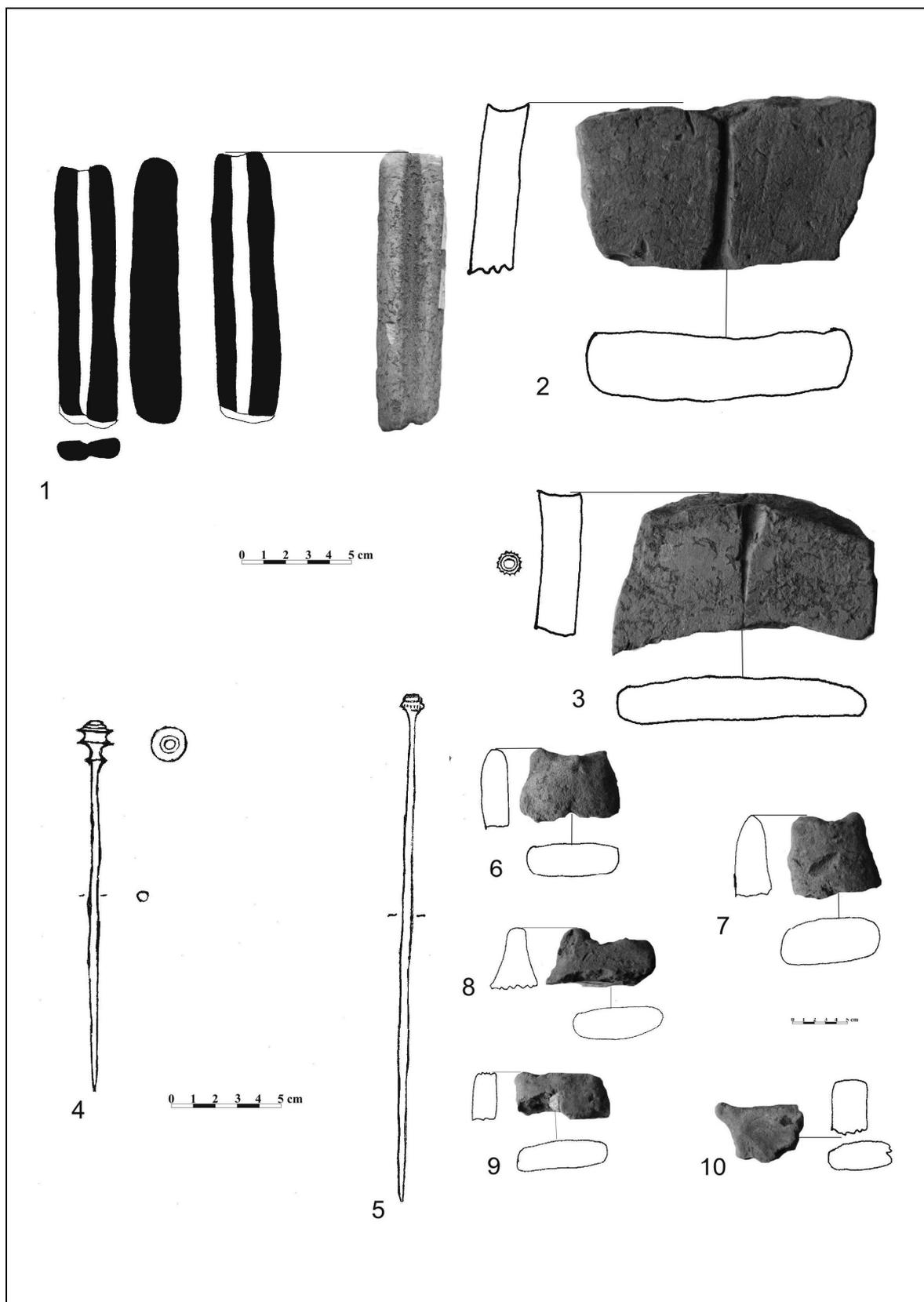
**Plate XIII.** Vessel from the rescue excavation 1983 (N. Iercoşan) Acâş-Râtul lui Veres.



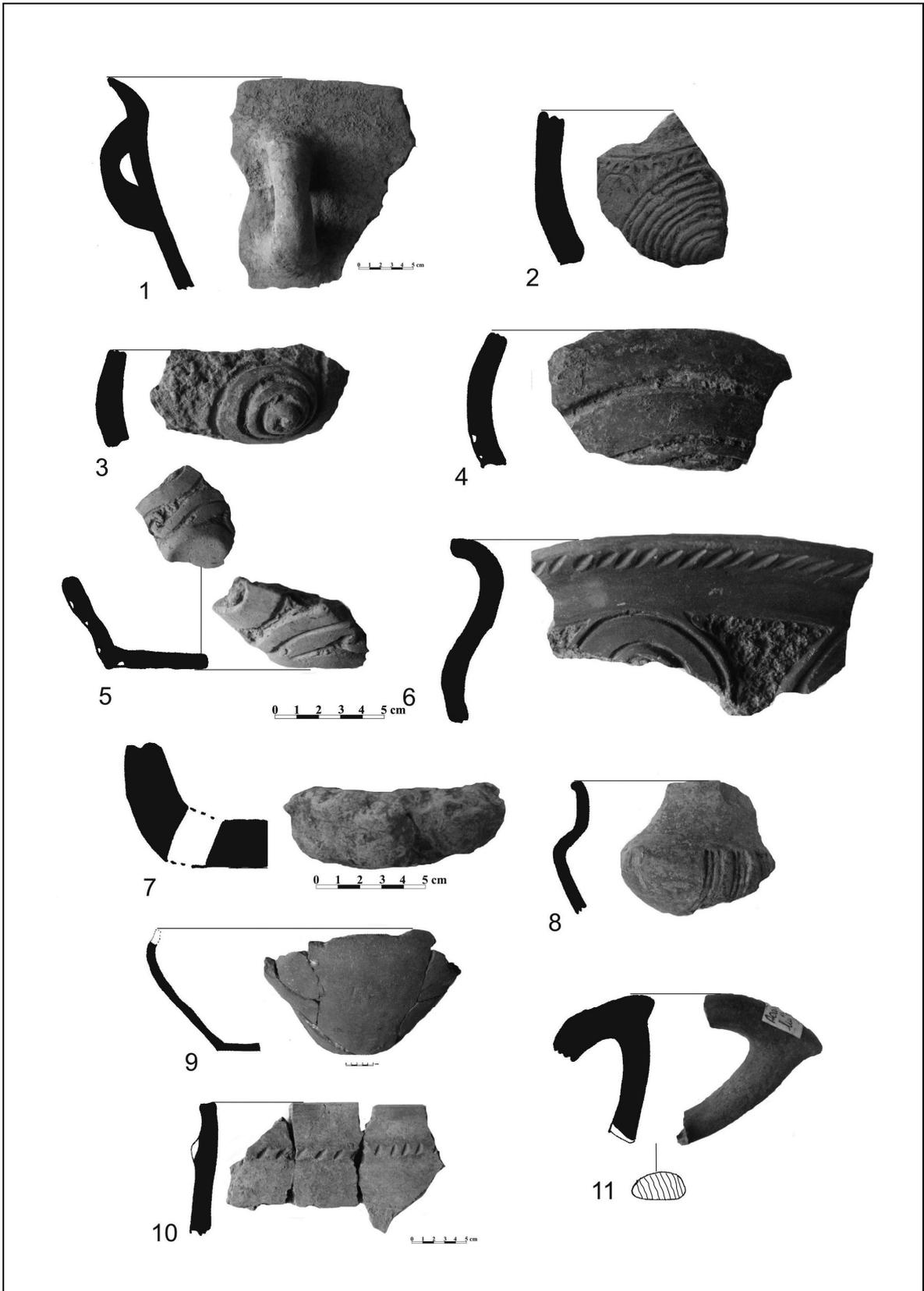
**Plate XIV.** Pottery from the collapsed bank of Old Crasna river (J. Némethi 1983)



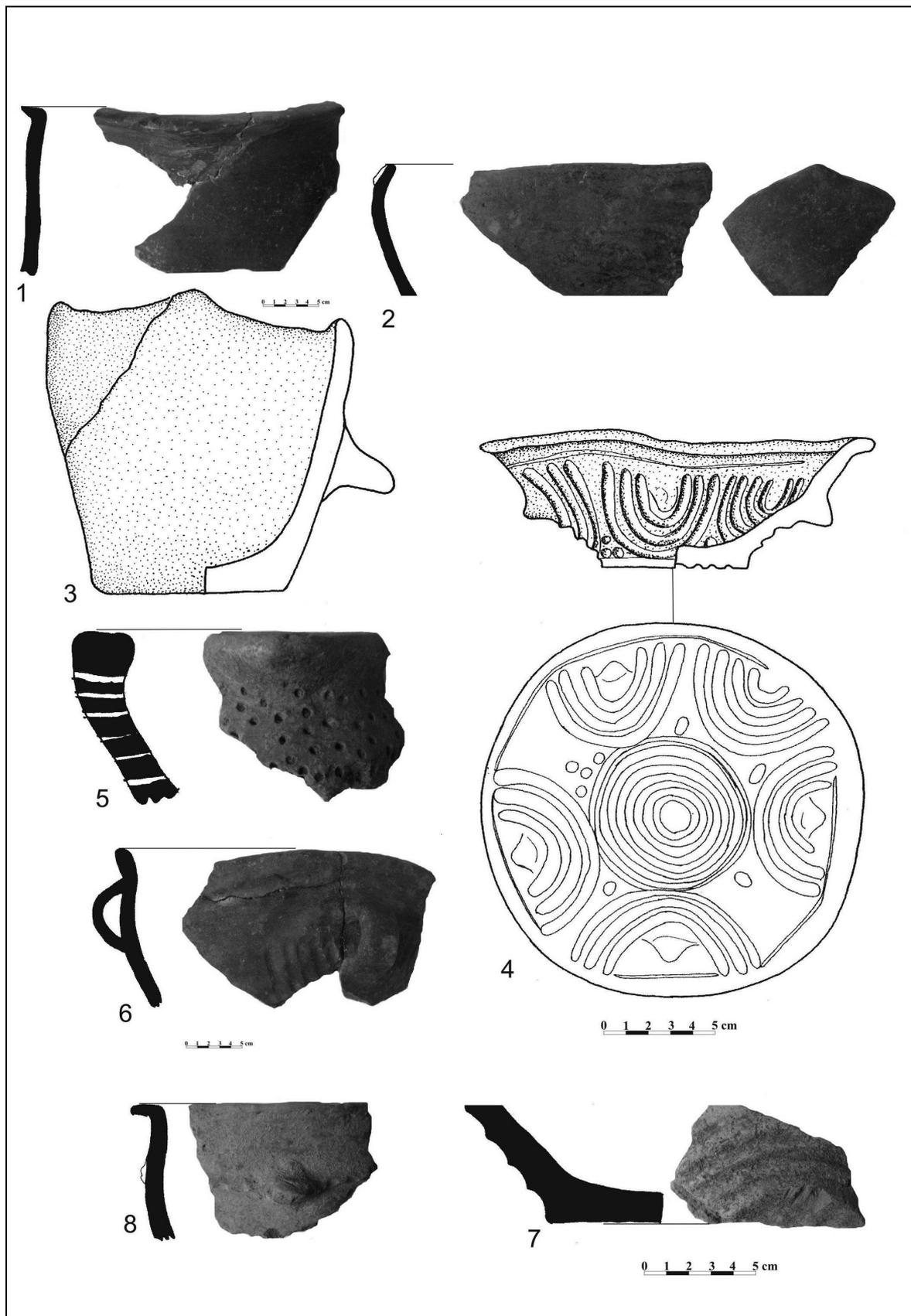
**Plate XV.** Pottery from the rescue excavation 2000, Acâș-Râtul lui Veres.



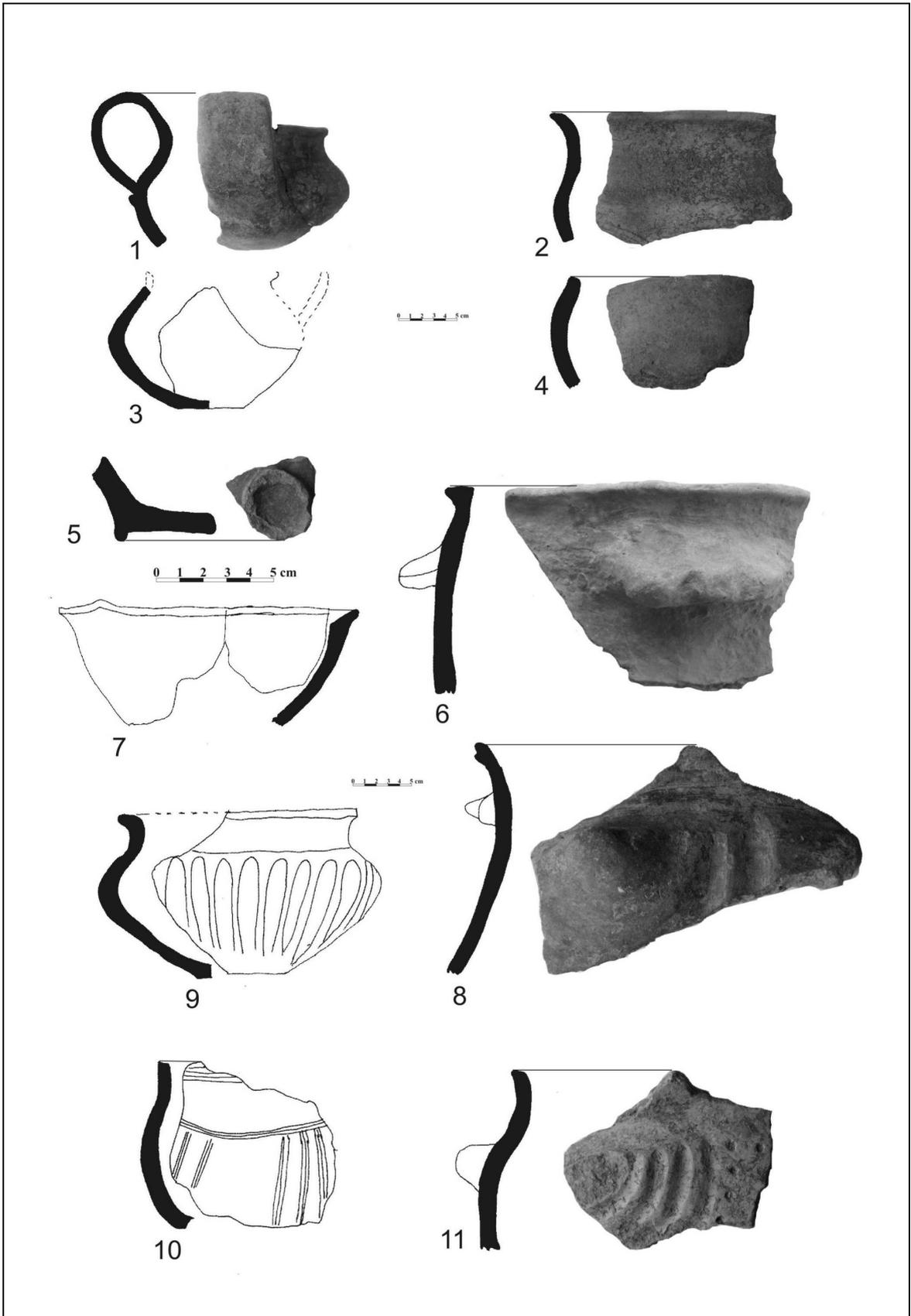
**Plate XVI.** 1-3 Mould valves; 4-5 Bronz needles; 6-7 Clay artifacts; from the rescue excavation 2000, Acâș-Râțul lui Veres.



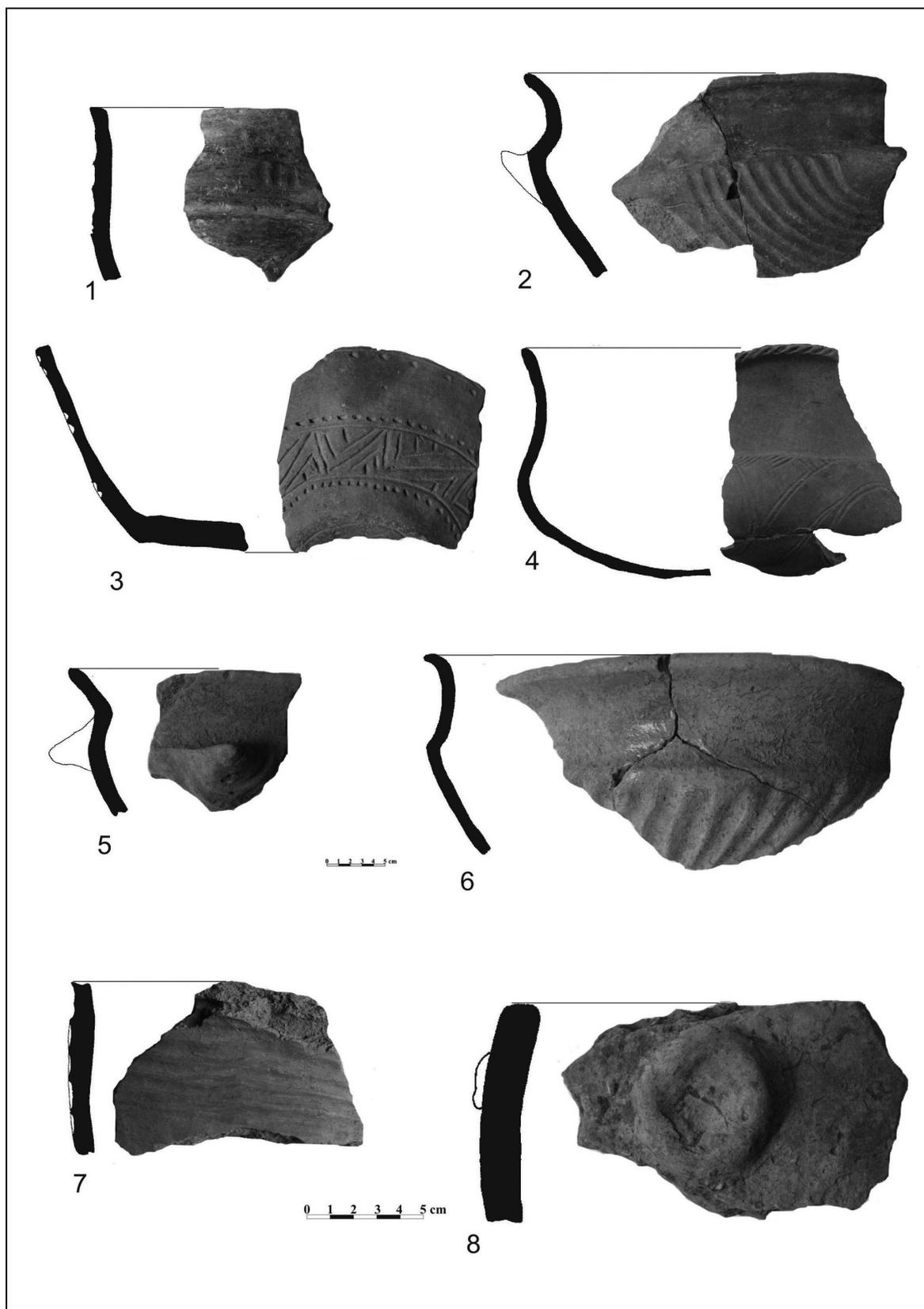
**Plate XVII.** Pottery from the rescue excavation 2000, Acăș-Râtul lui Veres.



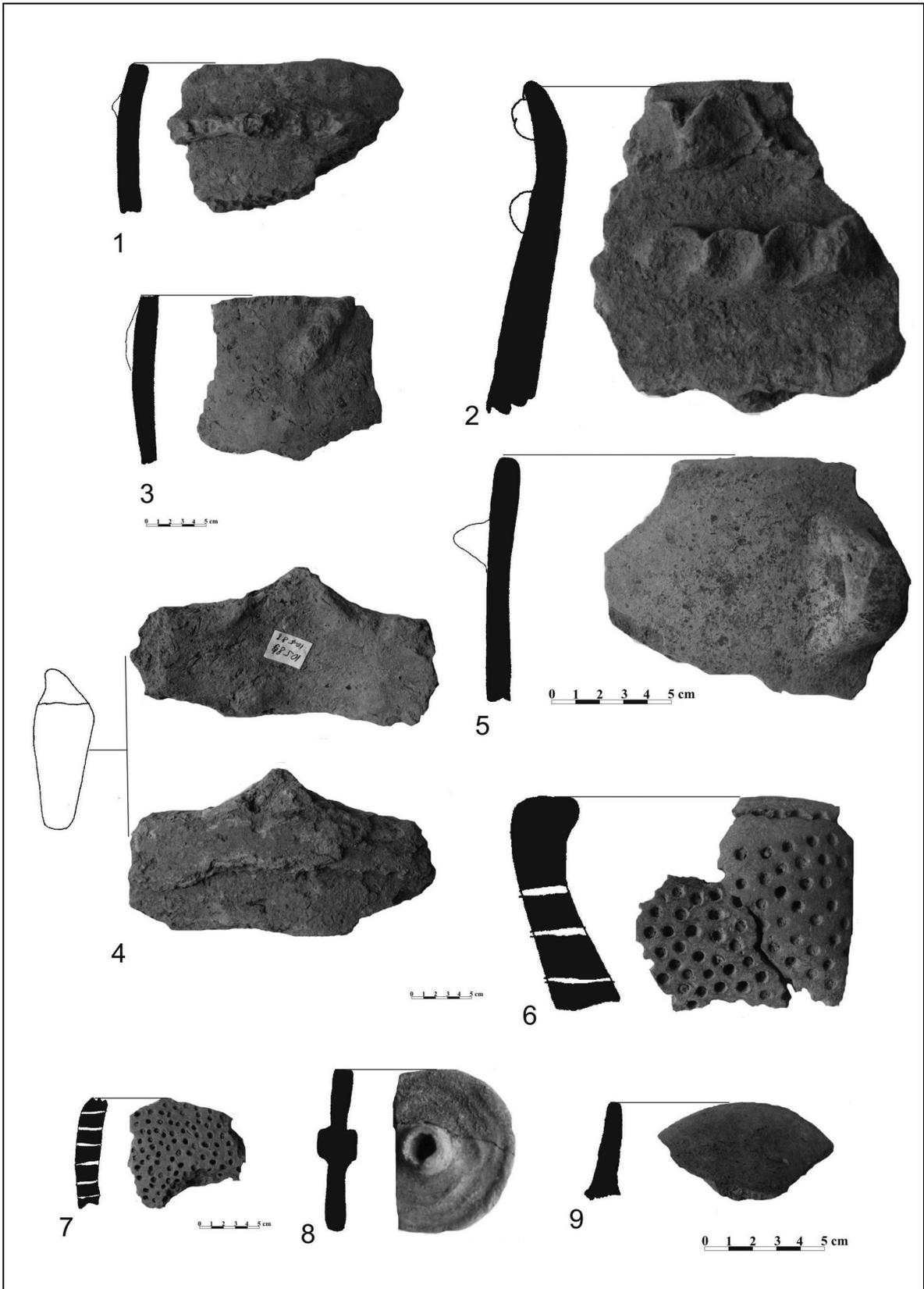
**Plate XVIII.** Pottery from the rescue excavation 2000, Acâș-Râțul lui Veres.



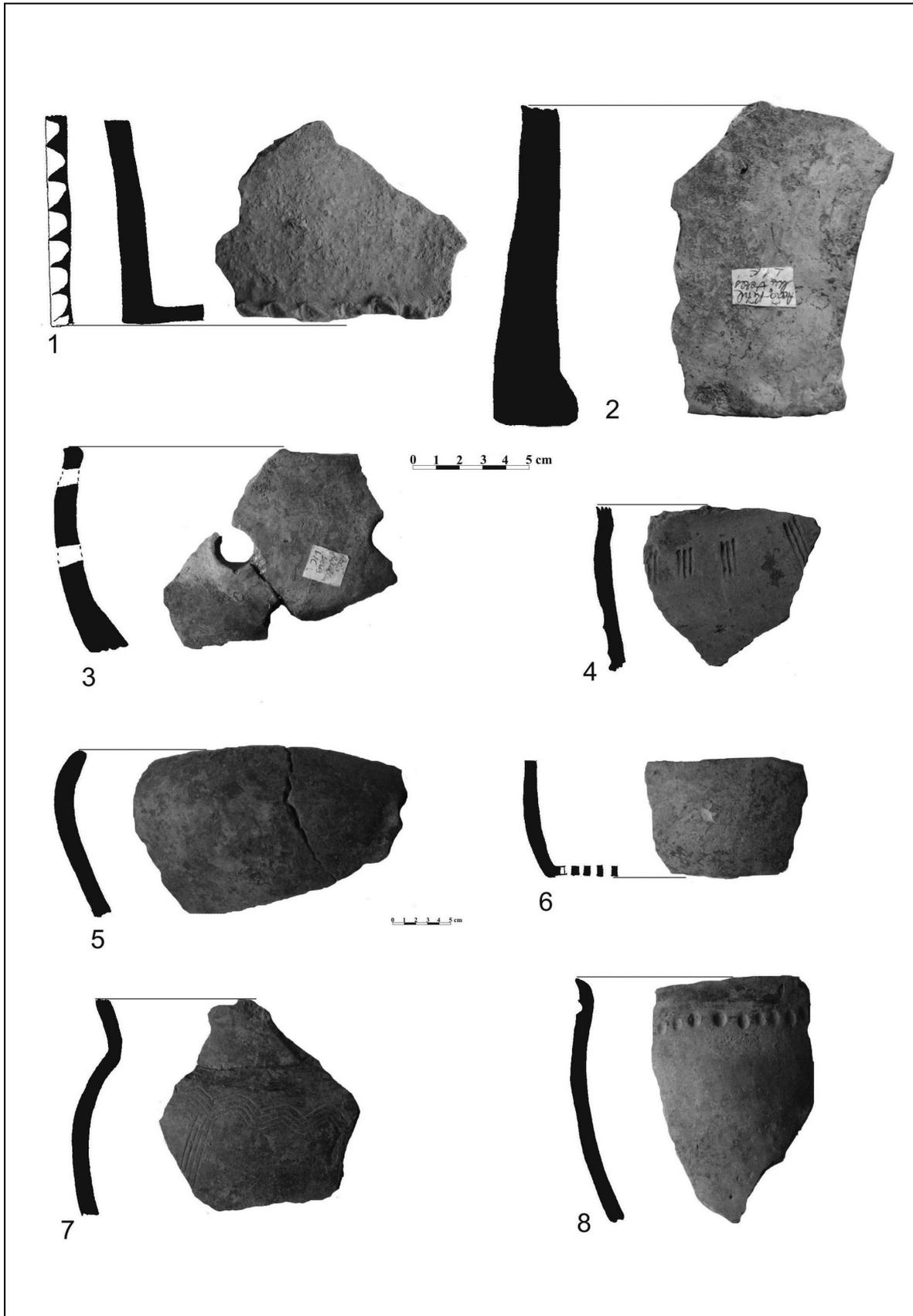
**Plate XIX.** Pottery from the rescue excavation 2000, Acăș-Râțul lui Veres.



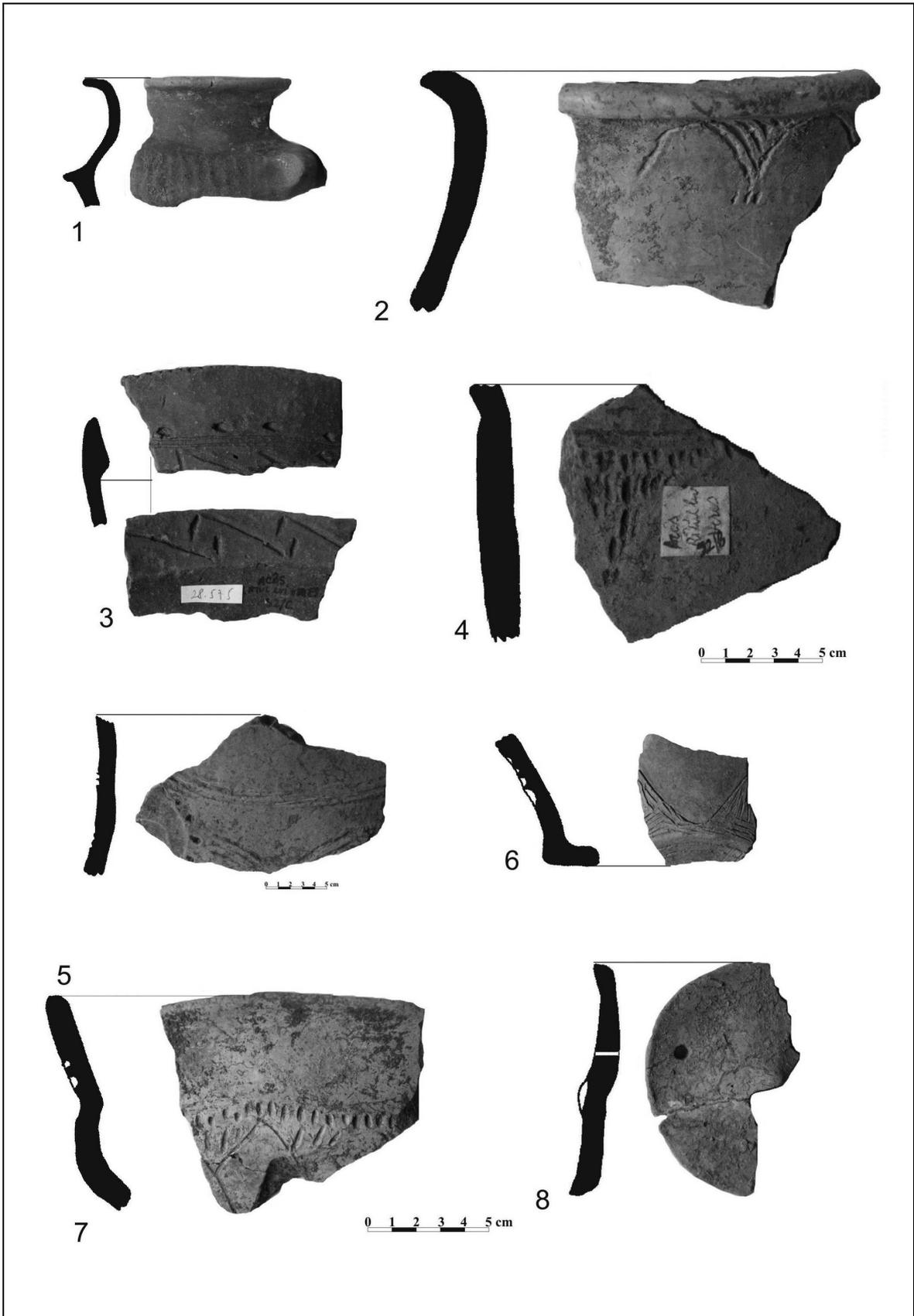
**Plate XX.** Pottery from the rescue excavation 2000, Acâș-Râțul lui Veres.



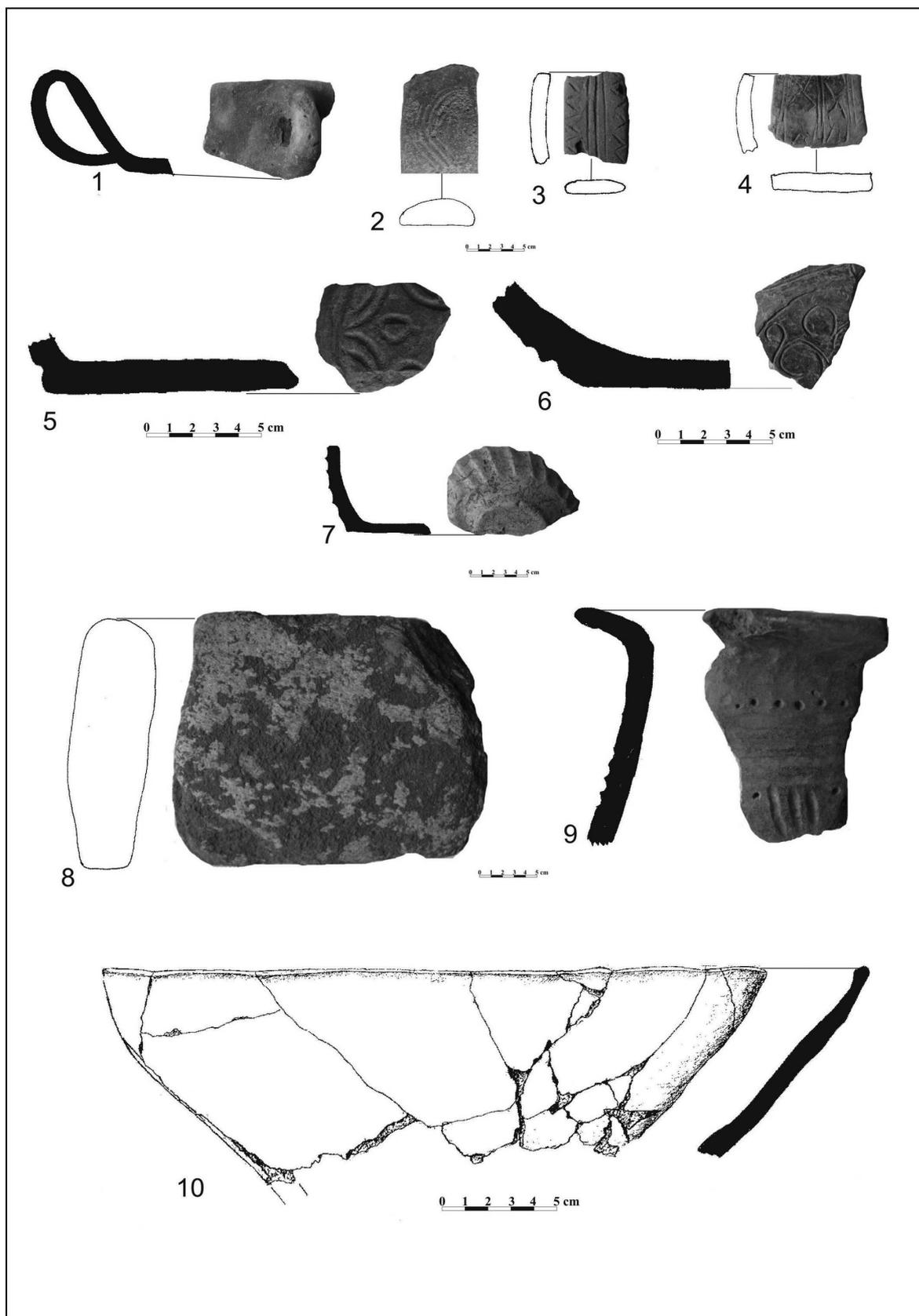
**Plate XXI.** Pottery from the rescue excavation 2000, Acâș-Râtul lui Veres.



**Plate XXII.** Pottery from the rescue excavation 2000, Acâș-Râțul lui Veres.



**Plate XXIII.** Pottery from the rescue excavation 2000, Acâș-Râtul lui Veres.



**Plate XXIV.** Pottery from the rescue excavation 2000, Acăș-Râtul lui Veres. Pottery from the rescue excavation 2000, Tășnad sere (Parking zone).

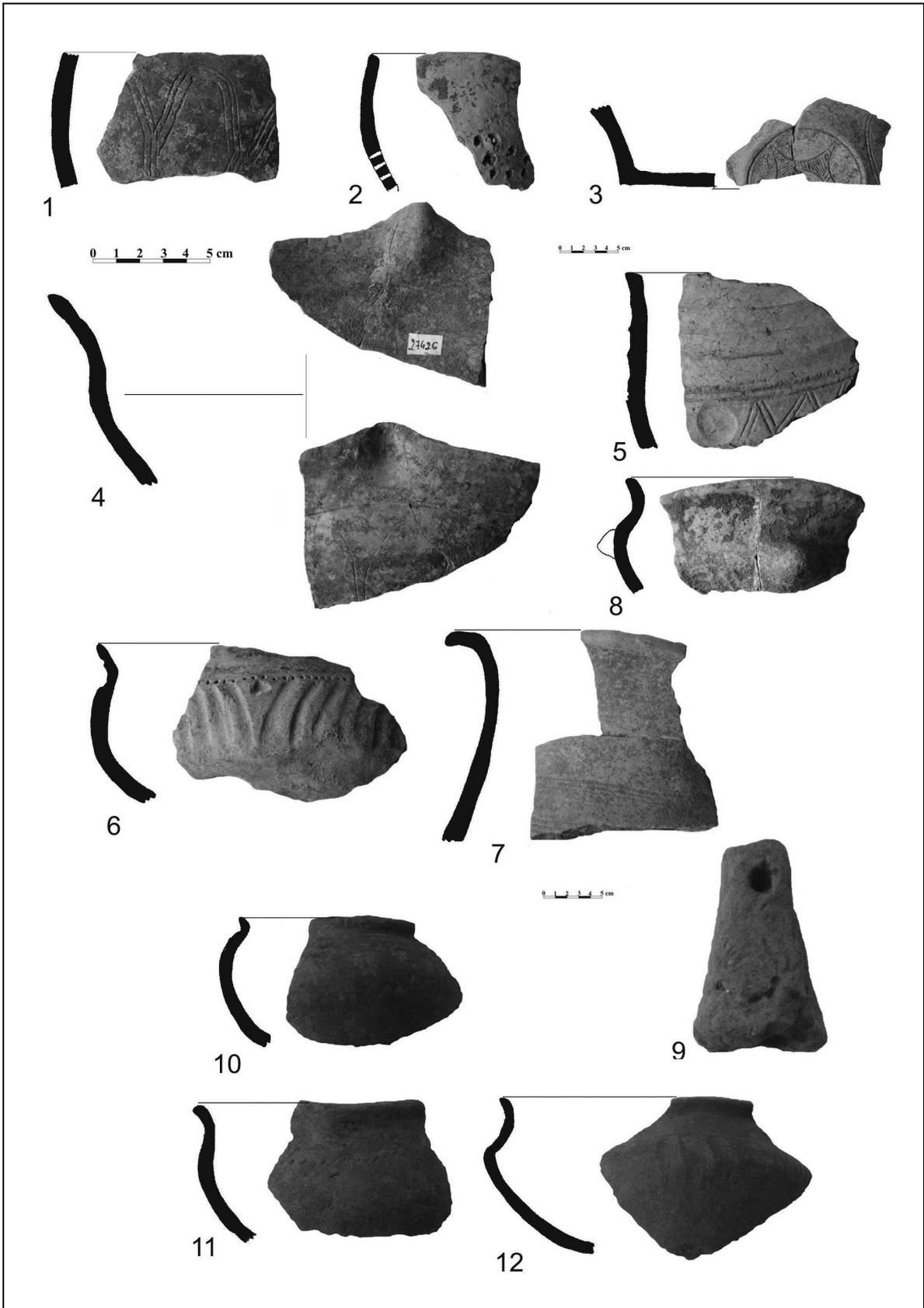
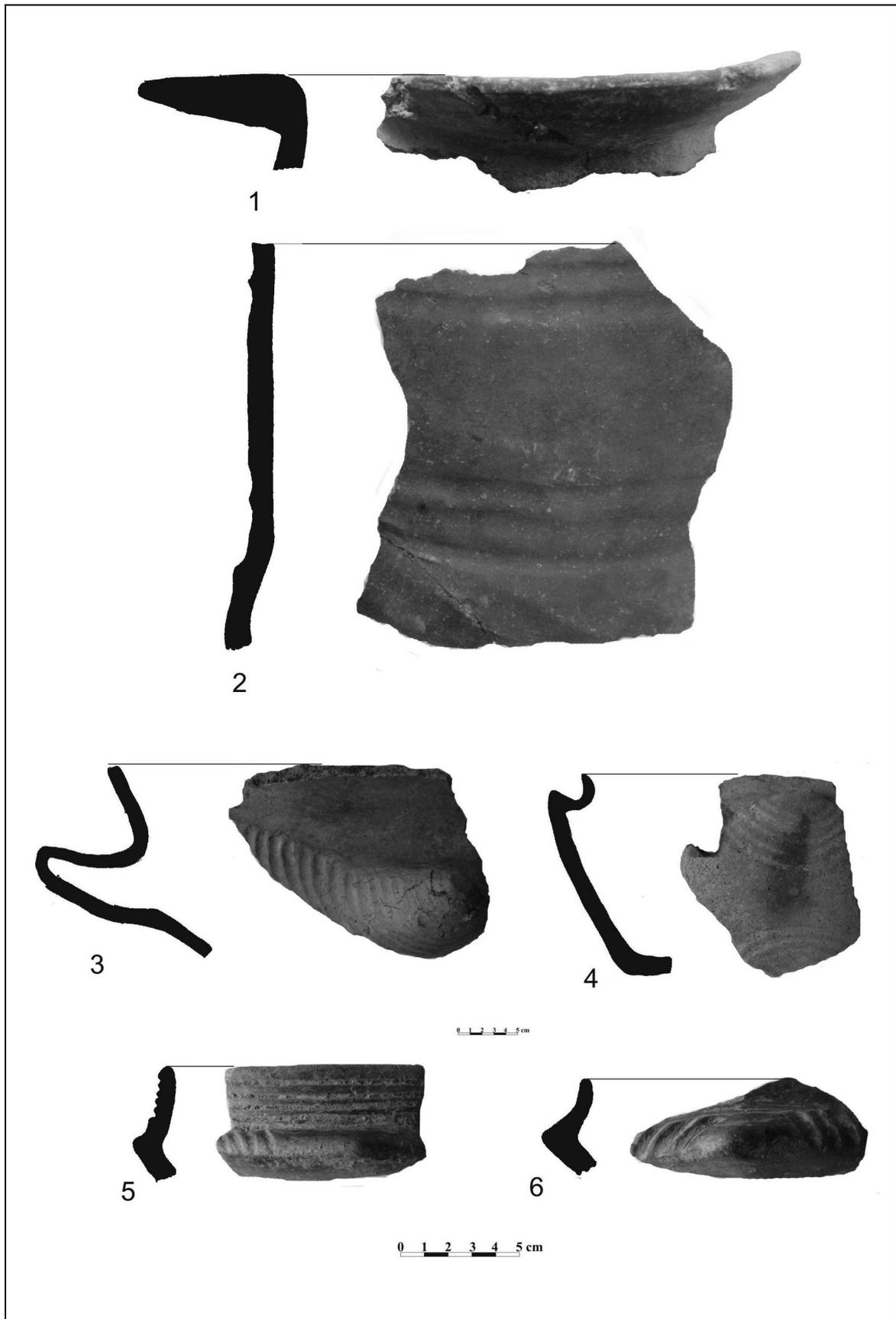


Plate XXV. Pottery from the rescue excavation 2000, Acâș-Râtul lui Veres.



**Plate XXVI.** Pottery from the rescue excavation 2000, Acâș-Râțul lui Veres.

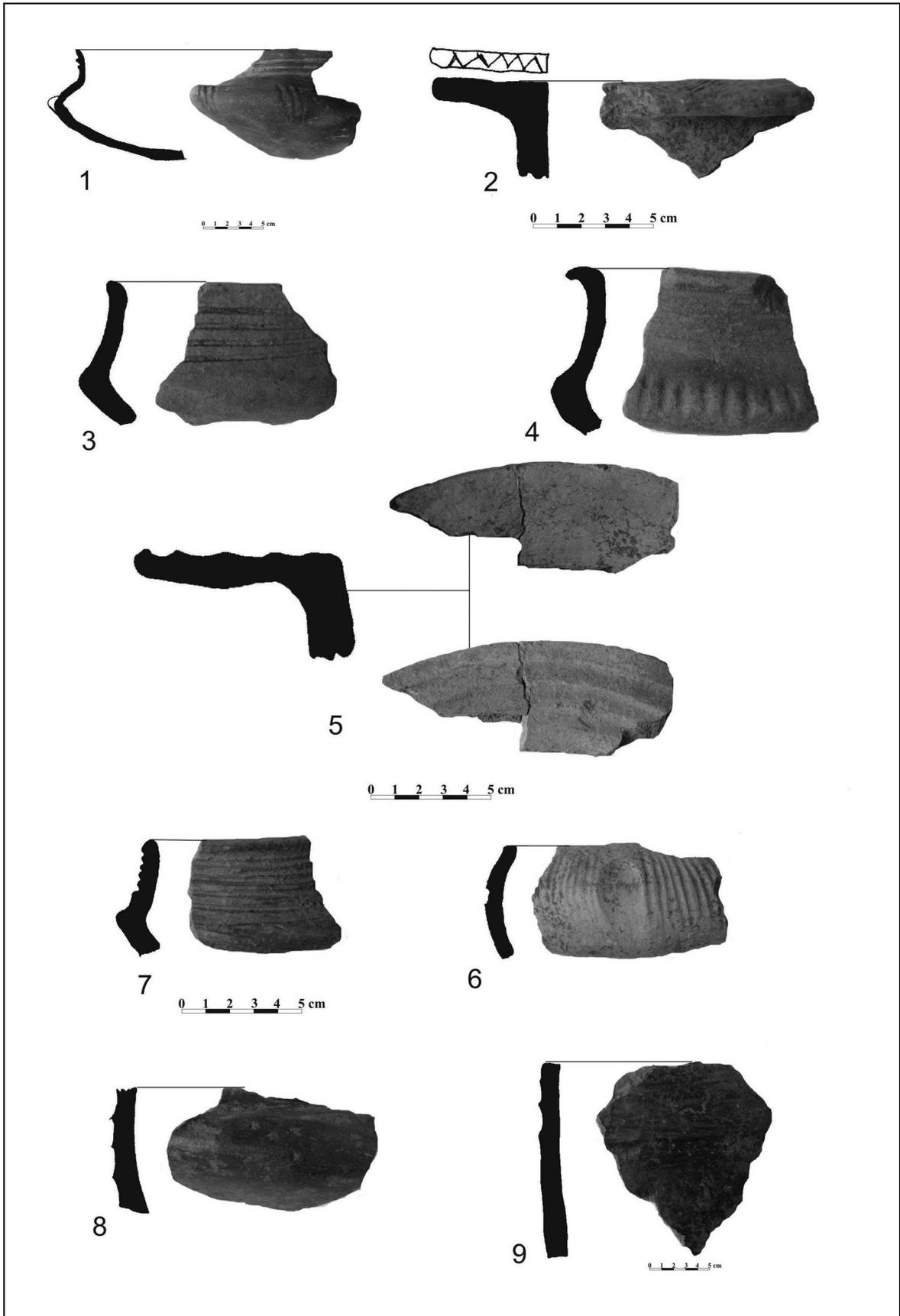
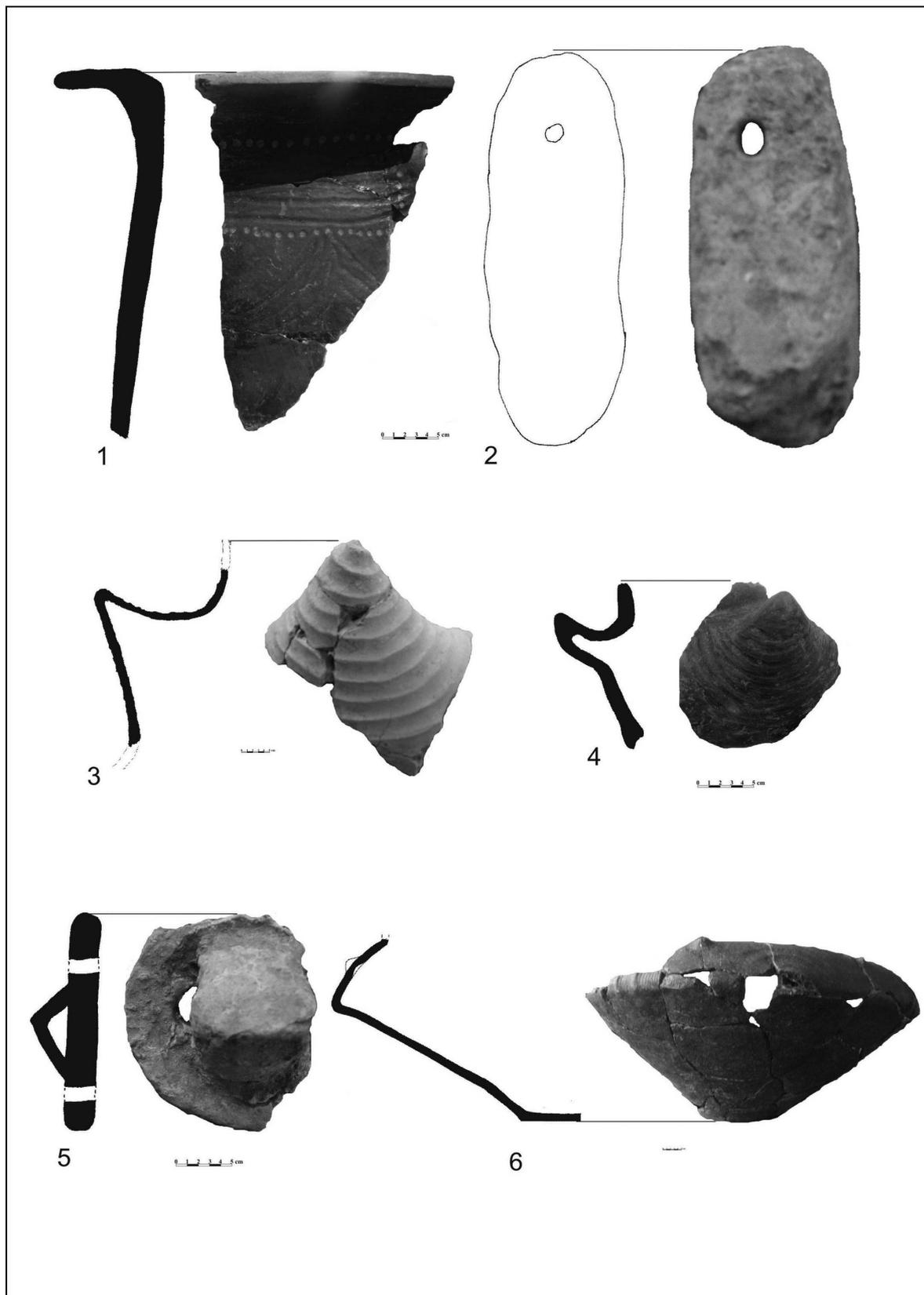
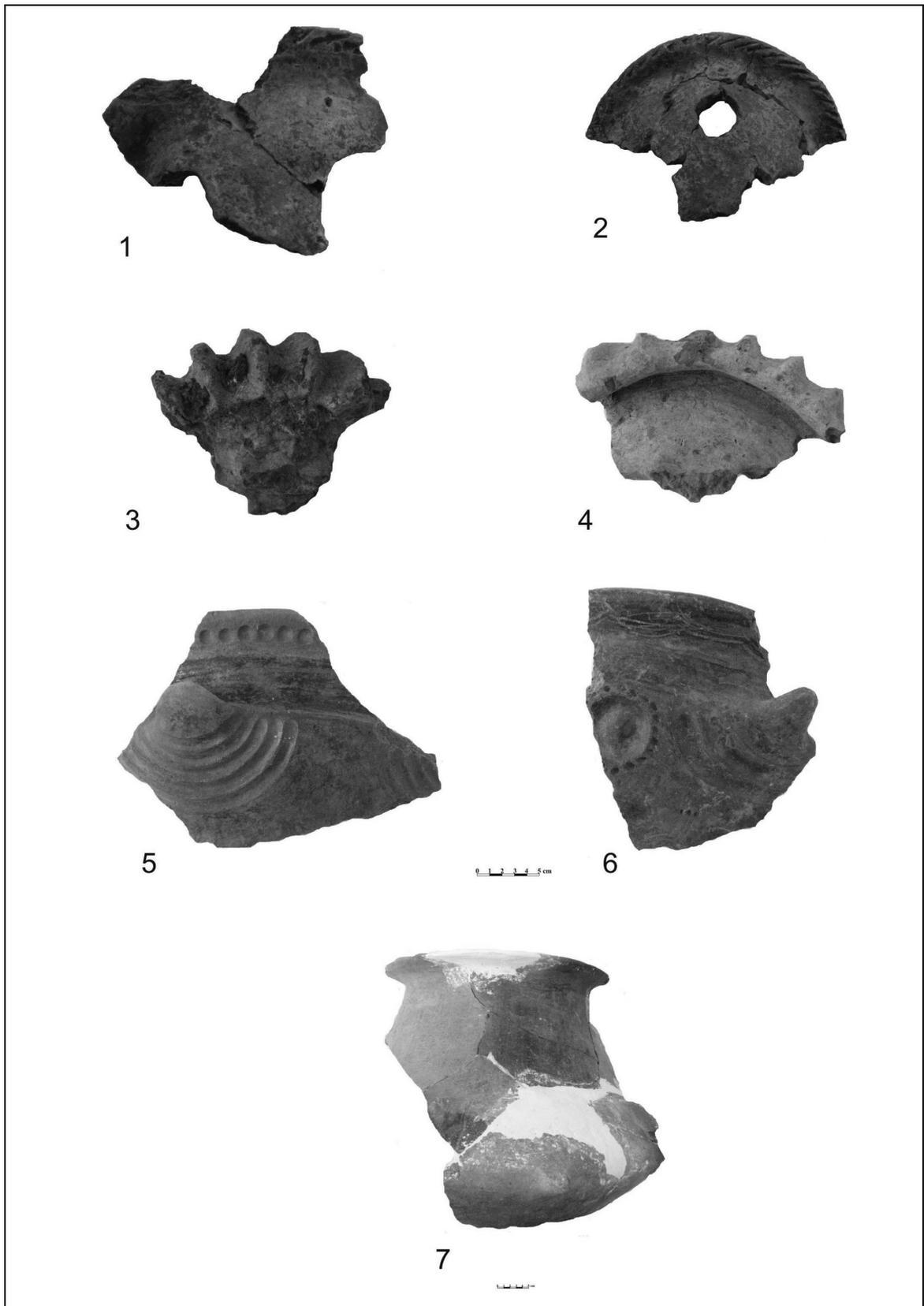


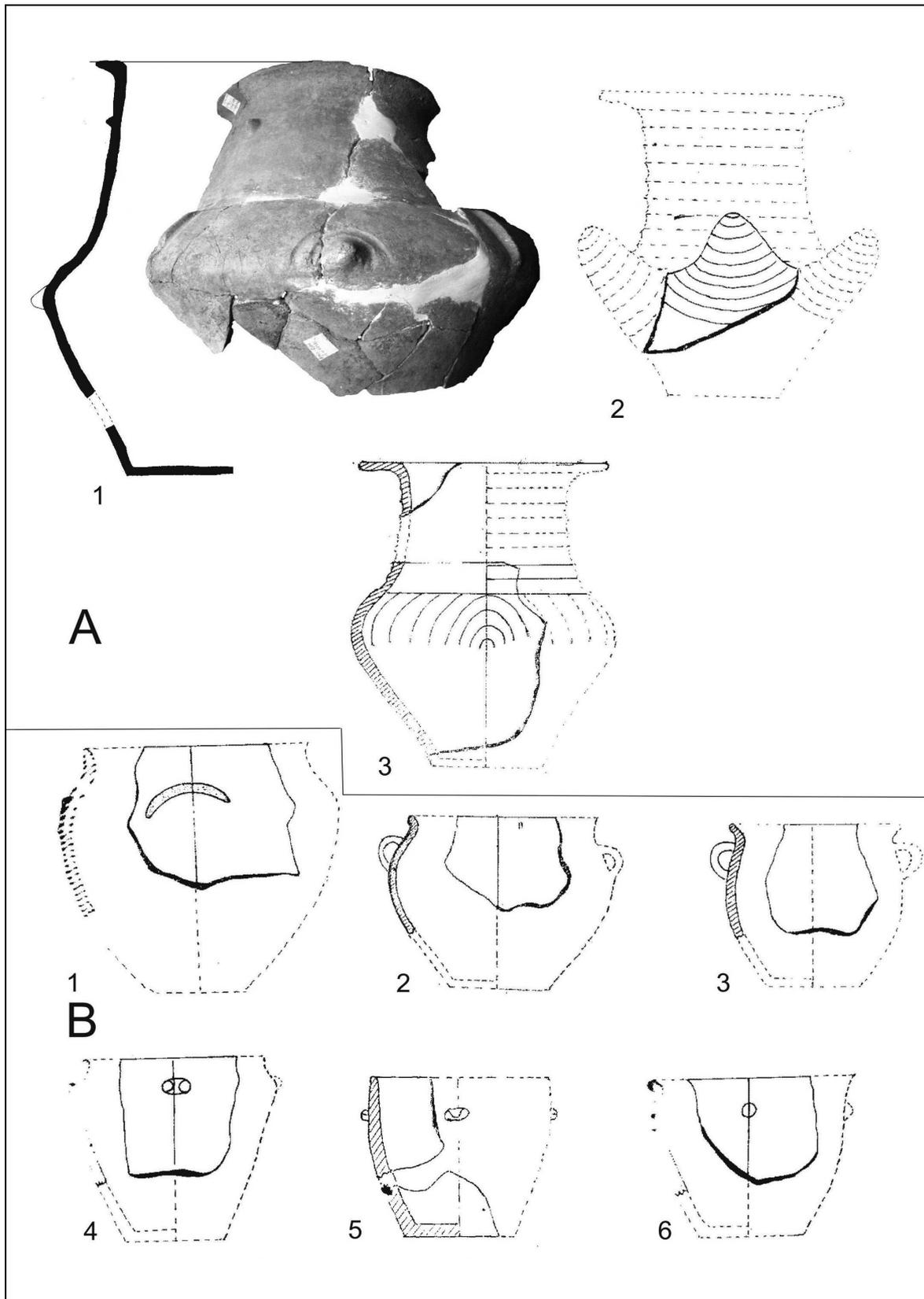
Plate XXVII. Pottery from the rescue excavation 2000, Acâș-Râțul lui Veres.



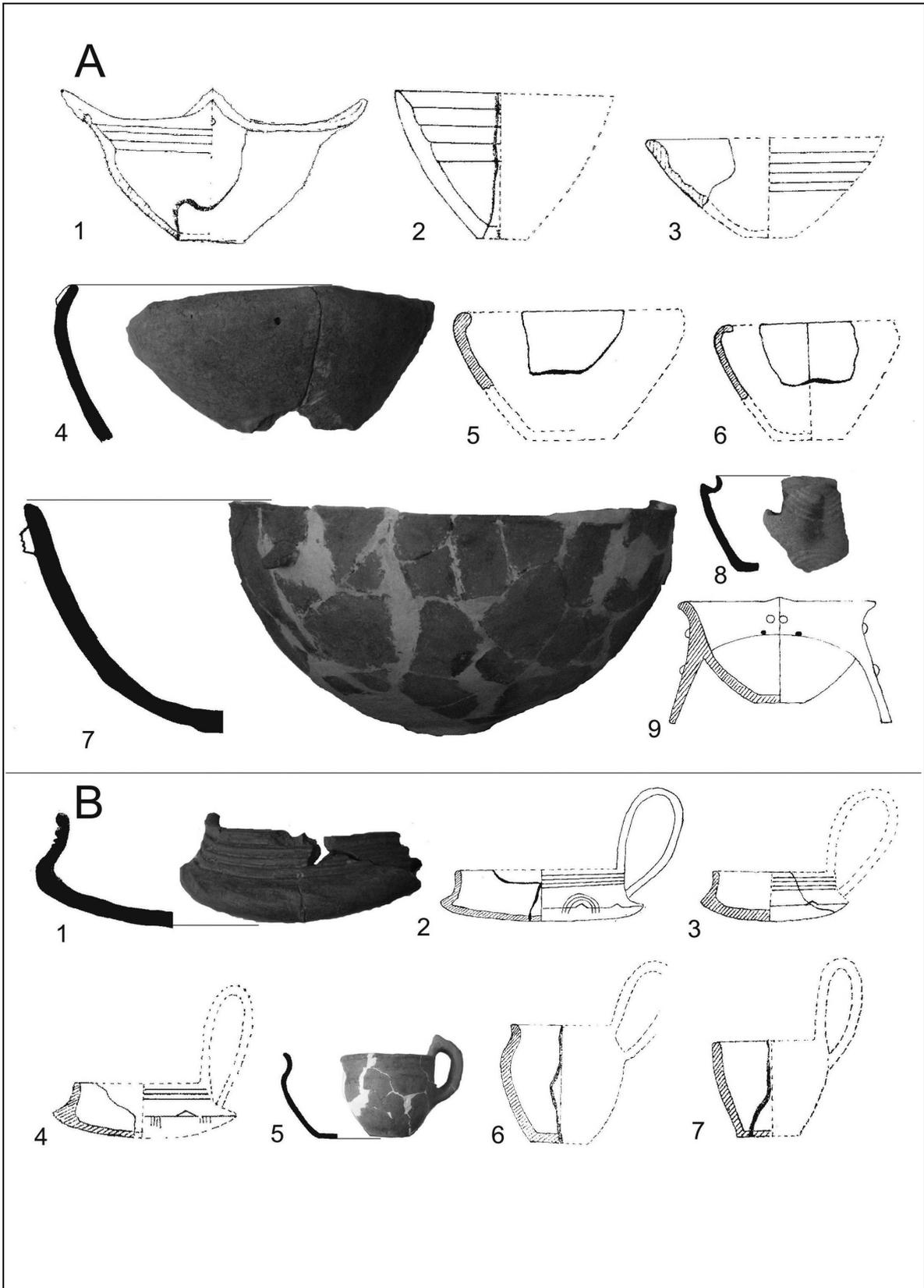
**Plate XXVIII.** Pottery from the rescue excavation 2000, Tășnad sere (Parking zone).



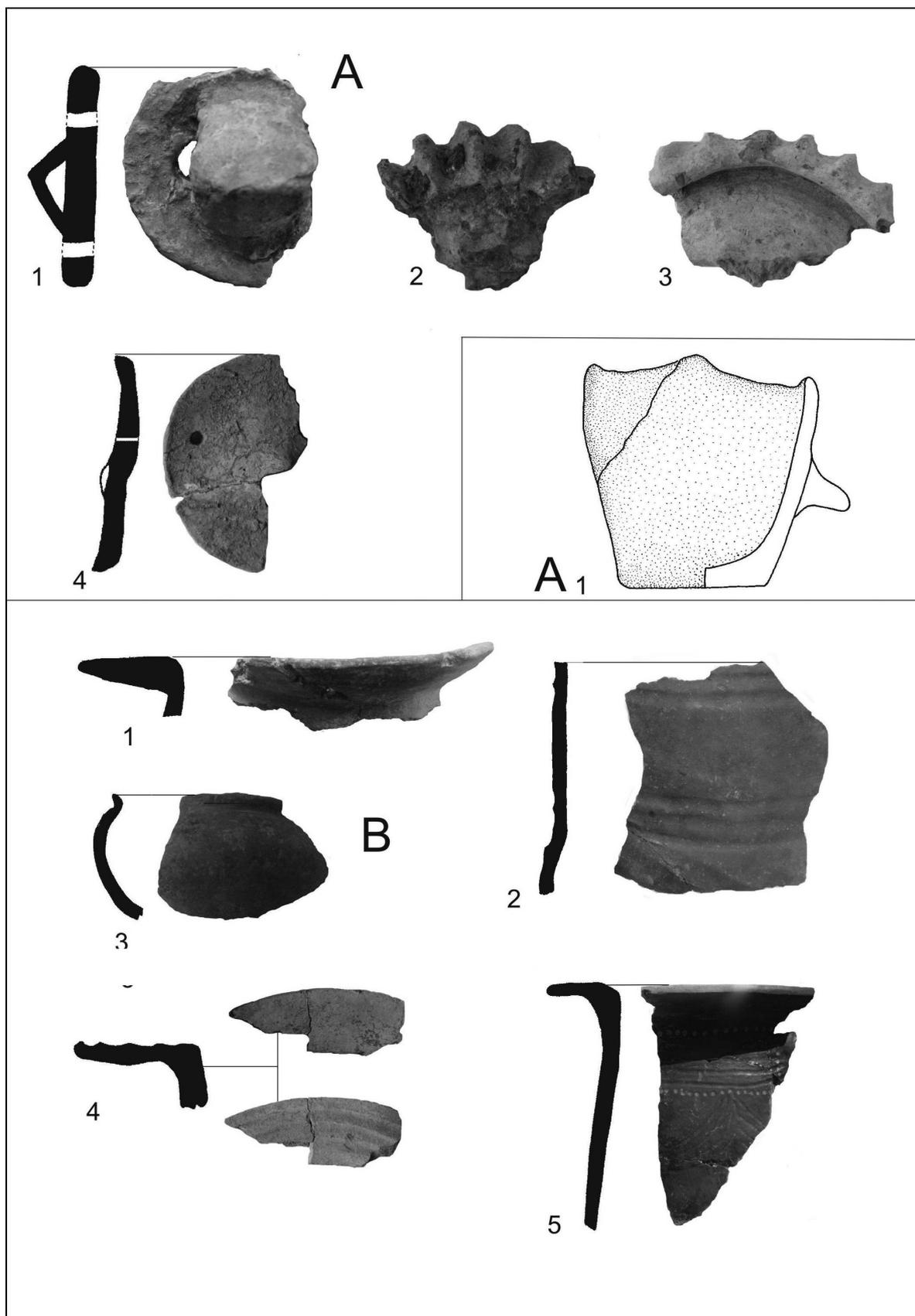
**Plate XXIX.** Pottery founded by Károly Valea lui Mihai – Lutărie nouă.



**Plate XXX.** Typical plate A. 1-3. Bitronconical vessels; 1-6. Pots.



**Plate XXXI.** Typological plate A. 1-8. Bowls; 9. Portable cooking vessels; B. 1-7. Cups.



**Plate XXXII.** Typological plate A. 1-4. Lids; A1. Pot; B. 1-5. Storage vessels.