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XV

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MIDDLE AND LATE NEOLITHIC FINDS FROM DEVA-TĂUALAŞ

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Abstract: *Archaeological finds dated to the Middle and Late Neolithic recovered in the 1970s from earthworks carried out at the site of Deva – Tăualaş are presented in this paper. Sherds, terracotta objects and lithics are amongst the salvaged finds some even bearing unique decorations or having rare shapes. The importance of these finds arises from the fact that there has been a lot of specialised archaeological discussion devoted to this site and its finds, especially since it yielded a not very common type of painted pottery specific to the Middle and Late Neolithic of the middle Mureş river. Evidence for one of the earliest metallurgical processes of the wider southeast European region is also documented among the artefacts.*

Keywords: *Middle and Late Neolithic, southwest Transylvania, pottery, figurine, metallurgy*

Previous research at the site

The prehistoric site of Deva-Tăualaş, or in the more recent literature also as Tăualaş, is located on the left bank of the Mureş river and to the north-east of the train station, under the modern town and in the area of the agricultural fields. Based on its toponym and its topographic location (**pl. 1**) a marshy and swampy area fed by the waters of the Mureş river can be inferred. These micro-environmental conditions creating and maintaining histosols were suitable for an abundant presence of molluscs, reeds and other aquatic flora (Daróczy 2012a, 33-34, 44; Daróczy 2012b, 47; Sümegi 2004).

The first mention of the site is from the year 1902 at the toponym of *Tóállás* (*Tó* from hung. *lake* + *állás* from hung. *staying*), where during ploughing sherds, lithics, antler tools, shells are mentioned and lacustrine structures presumed (Kun *et al.* 1902, 12-13; Téglás 1902, 25). After a few further mentions of fortunate finds (Roska 1933, 8, no. 5; Roska 1942, 67, no. 36) in 1944 an excavation was carried out by Hortensia Dumitrescu when two trenches were dug (Dumitrescu 1966, footnote 1) and a few decades later the results were also published (Dumitrescu 1984; Lazarovici, Dumitrescu 1986). In 1947 Mihail Macrea and Octavian Floca have also conducted a small-scale field research, the results of which were only briefly mentioned, but never published (Dumitrescu 1966, footnote 7; Floca 1969, 8-9;

Lazarovici, Némethi 1983, footnote 25, Dumitrescu 1984, footnote 3). The members of the Archaeological Society of Deva during construction of the sewerage-system for the C.A.P. farms in the early 1970s (1971, 1973, and 1974) carried out find-salvaging and, where possible, context-recording activities. Some of the finds and features documented in these years are presented in this paper. Lastly, in 1983 a small scale survey was carried out by Gheorghe Lazarovici, Florin Drașovean and Mihai Rotea (Kalmar 1984, 393, no. 13, fig. 3/6, 7, 9), while a small sondage was undertaken in 1996 by Sabin Adrian Luca (personal communication on 18. 09. 2013.).

Stratigraphic observations

The channels dug for the sewer-system of the C.A.P. farms were 1.50 m wide and 2 m deep. Two archaeological layers were recognised in these trenches at depths of 0.40 – 1.30 m and 1.40 – 1.90 m with an archaeologically sterile flood-layer in between them, thus confirming the research results of Hortensia Dumitrescu slightly to the south (Dumitrescu 1966, 436). Furthermore, at least two dwellings each with a hearth were identified in a depth of 1.40 m, which would position them in the upper part of the lower layer, i.e. *Tăuălaș I*. The adobe fragments of previously burnt daub found in this area come to further strengthen the evidence for structures (**pl. 5/2, 4-6 – cat. no. 62**). The thickness of the hearths varied from 5 to 7 cm, while their lengths were of 1.20 and 1.50 m. Each hearth had an upper, brownish-red, better fired layer and a lower, black, poorly fired one. Based on this stratigraphic information it can be said that the fireplaces were used for a moderate period of time.

Pottery

The ceramic materials recovered are limited in number, nevertheless carry important chronological information and indicate ties with neighbouring regions. Goblets with a slightly higher and full stem (**pl. 4/11 – cat. no. 6**), black painted, thick-lined and “V”-shaped motifs (**pl. 3/14 – cat. no. 33**), spherical or bitruncated pots decorated with incised lines organised in bundles (**pl. 3/6 – cat. no. 26**) are all exclusively found in the horizons of the Turdaș – *La Luncă* site I-II layers (Luca 2001, 37, 56, 61 nos. F3, I1, figs. 15/8; 25/1). Deep bowls (**pl. 3/5 – cat. no. 4**) are also encountered in these earliest layers at the *La Luncă* site (Luca 2001, 37, 42-43, 60 no. A5a, 61 no. C4, figs. 13/4; 21/7), but they also appear in layers of nearby sites, synchronised with layer II at Turdaș (Luca 2001, 38, 65 no. D5, fig. 23/6). Furthermore, some of the miniature vessels, tumblers with knobs (**pl. 4/19-20 – cat. nos. 30-31**), are found in earlier levels dated to the chronological horizon of the Turdaș I-II layers (Luca 2001, 37, 42-43, 61 no. B4, fig. 17/6). Jugs or juglets with straight sides, flat bases and cylindrical bodies (**pl. 3/2, 15 – cat. nos. 16-17**) and a miniature vessel (**pl. 4/23 – cat. no. 25**) are also found in the earliest and in the

following layer of the *La Luncă* and other contemporaneous sites of the region (Luca 2001, 61 no. B1, fig. 17/2, 7). Typical decoration for this chronological sequence and region are the horizontal and incised bands under the rim on straight-sided jars (e.g. **pl. 4/2 – cat. no. 10**) (Luca 1997, 61). Lug-handles split vertically into two smaller lugs (**pl. 4/16-17 – cat. nos. 41-42**) are found in stratigraphic contexts, which are synchronised with the second layer of the *La Luncă* site (Luca 2001, 38, 43, fig. 16/2), as are beaked-shaped handles (Lazarovici, Dumitrescu 1986, 8-9). Spherical bowls (**pl. 4/4 – cat. no. 1**) appear in the second layer (Luca 2001, 43, fig. 45/2, 4) and are still present in the levels of nearby sites synchronised with the latest, third layer of the Turdaş site (Luca 2001, 40, 75 no. D1, fig. 44/2). Although, incised and filled check board patterns and rhombi do occur in this period on the middle Mureş river (Luca 1997, 62, pls. 11/12; 14/5-6; 23/2; 24/1; 27/10; 30/6; 45/9), until now were not documented with a filling of circular stitches, as in our case (**pl. 4/7 – cat. no. 11**). Otherwise, the mentioned technique of filling is only seldomly encountered in the discussed period of the region (Luca 1997, 62, pls. 11/7, 14; 14/11-12; 27/3). Generally, incised bands filled with stitches or short incisions (**pl. 4/2, 4-6 – cat. nos. 1, 7, 10, 14**) are common in all layers of the Turdaş site and others synchronised with these (Luca 2001, 65-66). Less common decorations are hatched and incised triangles standing just above the base of vessels (**pl. 4/9 – cat. no. 18**) (Luca 2001, 67, fig. 26/3).

Bases of vessels with slight hollows (**pl. 4/8-9 – cat. nos. 8 and 18**) are considered typical shapes for our site and are dated to the MN IIb and to some extent in the LN I (Draşovean, Rotea 1986, 20). Juglets with a slender or slightly squashed “S”-profile (**pl. 3/1, 9-10 – cat. nos. 19, 20, 22**) were found in levels contemporaneous with the second and especially third layers of the *La Luncă* site (Luca 2001, 44-45, 65 nos. D2 and D4, figs. 14/4; 32/13). Horizontal handles (**pl. 4/14-15 – cat. nos. 38, 40**) are more frequent than vertical ones at the eponym site of Turdaş (Luca 2001, 71), though they do appear in the oldest layers at Petreşti, as well (Luca 2001, 77, fig. 38/18). Some sherds and miniature vessels (**pl. 4/10, 12, 22 – cat. nos. 5, 24, 34**) with analogies of the finds at Valea Nandrului – *La Dos* are dated to the LN I in the region, in a Vinča C₁ horizon (Maxim 1999, 171, no. 663; Draşovean 2003, 43). The same is true for the small vessel with slag remains (**pl. 4/21 – cat. no. 23**) and it has rough analogies in the most recent layers at Turdaş and at other, nearby sites with synchronous layers (Luca 2001, 38-39, 44, 65 no. D4, fig. 22/3). Decorations, similar to the jar of **cat. no. 10** (**pl. 4/2**) and sherds of **cat. nos. 35-36** (**pl. 4/24-25**), have been found at Vrşac-At in Vinča C contexts (Lazarovici 1979, fig. 11 bottom row, middle row - centre and right). A jar or deep dish with straight sides, with a horizontal embossed band and with oval, slightly diagonal dents can also be dated in a Vinča C horizon of the LN I period (Draşovean 1994a, 417). Similarly spherical(?) pots with impressed and fringed rims with or without decoration of irregular incised

lines on the body (**pl. 3/6-7 – cat. nos.** 26-27) are found in early Vinča C horizon in the area of the middle Mureş (Draşovean 1996, 48, 55, 57-58; Luca 1998, 34-35). The sherd decorated with thin and parallel, red lines organised in chevrons and not joining at their tips, on a dark buff background (**pl. 3/13 – cat. no.** 32) can be attributed to a Foeni-Mintia horizon, which has been sequenced at the nearby site of Mintia in its first and earlier, second layers as synchronous with the later *Tăualaş* layer (Draşovean, Luca 1990, 14-15).

From the earliest analysis of finds at this site it was claimed that the paint, i.e. organic slurry, is applied on the vessel before firing (Dumitrescu 1966, 435; Lazarovici, Dumitrescu 1986, 9). Contrary to this opinion it is correctly recognised, in the more recent literature, that the painted decoration was applied after firing (Luca 1997, 63, 70). There is no data for the chemical composition of the clay slurry of the pots at *Tăualaş*, though a bitumen-based painting is constantly invoked in the literature for pottery with similar black paint (Lazarovici, Némethi 1983, 30-31; Lazarovici, Dumitrescu 1986, 9; Luca 2001, 56, 70-71, 137; Luca *et al.* 2004, 106-108). Black painted motifs of slightly earlier and contemporaneous date encountered in the upper basin of the Tisa river (Comşa, Nánási 1972, 11-12; Vizdal 1973, 96; Šiška 1974, 8; Kalicz, Makkay 1977, 52 and footnote 139; Пелещин 1979; Потушняк 1979; Lazarovici, Némethi 1983, 18-19, 32; Potushniak 1997, 40; Strobel 1997, 68; Maxim 1999, 75; Virag 2004, 13 and esp. 14; Virag 2005, 14, 20, 21; Luca *et al.* 2011), were chemically analysed. The results indicate that due to the high level of proteins the colouring ingredient in some instances might have been animal blood (Korek 1983, 24 and footnote 25), though more recent analysis suggests wood-tar won from birch or pine resin as the raw material source and most certainly not bitumen (Jakucs, Sándorné Kovács 2012, esp. 309, fig. 1). Extensive literature exists on ways that wood-tar was obtained and documented in archaeological contexts for which a good, though somewhat later, example is the site of Biskupin in Poland (Piotrowski 1999). Analogies for this black painted ware were identified at an early stage, in the lower layers at Lumea Nouă and Dumbrava (Dumitrescu 1966, 435).

The vertical incised meander decoration on a sherd (**pl. 6/1 – cat. no.** 9) might be seen as a local imitation or import of a pottery decoration encountered in the Alföld and dated to a Vinča B₂/C-C, found in other nearby and contemporaneous settlements, as well (Luca 1986, 46, 53, fig. 1/6). A pair of semi-spherical lugs on the body of the vessel **cat. no.** 34 (**pl. 4/12**) and lugs vertically split into two **cat. nos.** 41-42 (**pl. 4/16-17**) have been found at Cenad as well and are attributed to a MN IIb-LN I horizon (Lazarovici 1979, fig. 24 - third row ; Horváth 1982, 209, e.g. figs. 13/4; 16/4). Furthermore, the mixture on the former sherd (**cat. no.** 34) of lugs encountered in the Alföld and painting encountered on the middle Mureş, suggests connections between these two regions.

Less common finds are the leg of a quadruped vessel (**pl. 4/3 – cat. no. 28**) and a spouted bowl (**pl. 4/18 – cat. no. 29**) more often found in contexts of the second layer at Turdaş and other contemporaneous sites, but they do appear in older ones as well (Luca 1998, p. fig. 42/9, 13). Carinated bowls (**pl. 3/4, 12 – cat. nos. 2-3**) are considered common in the LN in southwestern Transylvania (Paul 1992, 53-54; Luca 2001, 71; Luca *et al.* 2004, 108-109) and by some in the regions of the lower Mureş and Banat (Draşovean 1994b, fig. 2; Draşovean 1997, fig. 2; Luca *et al.* 2004, 108-109, 113), but they are encountered as early as the latest MN at the sites of *Tăualaş* or *Şoimuş – Ferma Nr. 2* and *Abator* (Draşovean, Rotea 1986, 20; Lazarovici, Dumitrescu 1986, 8, 29). These might be dated to a Vinča C₁ horizon and slightly overlapping with the Turdaş III phase in the LN I period (**pl. 2**) (Lazarovici 1987, 34-35). The decoration on a spherical bowl (**pl. 4/4 – cat. no. 1**) is similar in composition of ornaments to earlier MN II patterns (Lazarovici, Dumitrescu 1986, fig. 1/12), though the orientation of the stitches and the slightly off-set nature of the band from the rim are also documented in the LN I of southwestern Transylvania (Paul 1992, 53, fig. 20/1; Draşovean 1997, fig. 3; Luca 2001, 77).

The site of *Tăualaş* entered the literature in the late '70s as yielding LCA pottery (Andriţoiu 1978, 68, no. 35) with unpublished materials from this period in the local museum (Draşovean, Rotea 1986, 22 and footnote 60), a claim that is still upheld today (Popa 2009, 185, no. 503), though with no physical evidence presented. A welcomed addition is the sherd at **cat. no. 37 (pl. 6/2)** that is the first factual and published documentation of the LCA period at this toponym with good analogies in the LCA I phase (Roman 1976, 37).

Terracotta objects

A few fragments of figurines have been also recovered and are in tone with the style of the period and region, but some rare characteristics are also recognised. The small fragment of the body of a figurine with two small breasts indicates a female shape (**pl. 5/1 – cat. no. 43**). It has good analogies at the sites of *La Luncă* and *Ostrovu Golu* in a Vinča B horizon (Lazarovici 1979, 33), in the MN IIb-LN I period. The leg fragment of a figurine (**pl. 5/3; 6/3 – cat. no. 44**) is dated to the same period as the previous fragment with analogies at the same sites (Hansen 2007, 213). The left, lower leg of a figurine, probably sitting on a 'throne', (**pl. 6/6 – cat. no. 45**), as far as it can be ascertained is the only example of its kind in the region, though a fragment of a figurine in a similar, sitting position was discovered in the excavation campaign of 2012 at the site of *Turdaş – La Luncă* (personal communication of Sabin Adrian Luca on 20. 09. 2013.). Similarities in rendering the toes and not adjoining legs can be recognised with a figurine attributed to the LN I at the nearby sites of *Orăştie – Dealul pemilor, punct X2* and *Turdaş-La Luncă* (Luca 1995, pl. I; Luca 1997, 65, pl. 15/1; Luca 2001, fig. 4/3). The realistic rendering of toes in well

documented milieus of the middle Mureş allows us to securely date the find (Luca 1995, 88-89; Luca 2001, p. 38) in the MN IIB-LN I period (**pl. 2**). Good analogies for the shape of a sitting figurine are found in the late MN and earlier LN of the Alföld; furthermore, if decoration is present on these figurines it is usually located on the lower upper body and the upper part of the legs (Hegedűs, Makkay 1987, fig. 8).

A loom(?) -weight (**pl. 6/3 – cat. no. 47**) and a spherical spindle-whorl (**pl. 6/4 – cat. no. 46**) with a squashed body were also recovered. The spindle whorl has good analogies in the youngest layers at the site of *La Luncă* (Luca 2001, 38, 44-45, figs. 8/1; 9/1).

Lithics

The lithics are either chipped or polished stones and were found in a very fragmentary and damaged condition. The raw material of chipped stones is chert of light or dark colour. The retrieved objects are blades, arrow-heads or scrapers.

The blades are long and slender with one or two dorsal ridges with triangular (**pl. 5/8-9, 11-14, 16-19 – cat. nos. 51-54, 56-59, 62-63**) and trapeze cross-section (**pl. 5/7, 10, 15, 20 – cat. nos. 50, 55, 60-61**), respectively. No retouching of the blade edges was noticed. The arrow-heads are of slightly darker chert and are triangular shaped, either equal-sided or isosceles (**pl. 5/21-22 – cat. nos. 48-49**, respectively). Both objects have retouched edges and their tips are broken off. A scraper (**pl. 5/23 – cat. no. 66**) made from a darker chert was also recovered. The cutting edge is retouched and it is located opposite of the rounded-off side. A rectangular polished-stone chisel with rounded off corners and slightly chipped cutting-edge was also noted (**pl. 5/24 – cat. no. 64**). The light grey(?) or white(?) colour with dark circular and oval spots most likely indicates diorite as raw material. A prism-shaped grindstone was also discovered (**pl. 5/25 – cat. no. 65**), which is of a dark and hard raw material and it has a 4 cm deep hollow in the middle. Similar objects have been found in the earlier excavations at this site (Dumitrescu 1984, 7).

Conclusions

Although some elements of our site are dated early in the Vinča B₂ horizon of the MN IIB period (Lazarovici, Dumitrescu 1986, 18), the bulk of the finds can be placed in the middle and to a lesser extent in the youngest Turdaş layers. This would allow us to date the presented finds to the turn from the MN to the LN and in the earliest part of the LN I.

Some of the finds are quite remarkable as the unique decoration, as far as it can be ascertained, on the four sided jar (**pl. 4/7 – cat. no. 11**) and the lower leg of a sitting figurine (**pl. 6/6 – cat. no. 45**). Others are encountered at different sites as well, but they are not very common, as the association of painted pottery seen at the sites of Foeni, Mintia and Turdaş (**pl. 3/13 – cat. no. 32** and **pls. 3/14; 4/12 – cat.**

nos. 33, 34), the butterfly pattern on **cat. no. 13 (pl. 4/1)** or the hollowed out bases **cat nos. 8, 18 (pl. 4/8-9)** specific to our site. The miniature vessel with remains of copper slag **cat. no. 23 (pl. 4/21)**, based on a recent survey of possible LN evidence for copper metallurgy (Draşovean 2015, 131, 134-135), represents the earliest proof of such activities in this region. Also, it is a significant addition to the documentation of metallurgical activities not only of southwestern Transylvania, but also of the wider southeast European Neolithic.

Finally, we would like to suggest some influences of the painted pottery of this period on the middle Mureş. Based on new evidence from nearby sites to the west (Horváth, Draşovean 2013, 125-128) and east (Luca *et al.* 2011) imports of painted pottery or of the decoration technique from the upper and middle Tisa has been documented in the form of complete ceramic pots. These might be seen as the impulse for the emergence of the scarce, but nevertheless present, painted pottery styles of southwestern Transylvania.

Catalogue of finds:

Pottery:

1. Bowl(?), rim fragment; **Pl. 4/4**

H: unknown; **Th:** unknown; **Ø rim:** unknown

Dating: Turdaş II – Petreşti A/MN IIb – LN I

firing: oxidising and good; *colour:* unknown; *tempering:* fine sand

Rim fragment of a bowl(?) or less likely a jar. The decoration consists of parallel rows of slightly elongated stitches bordered on top by a horizontal incised line.

Analogies: *shape:* Luca 2001, 45, 75 no. D1, figs. 18/5; 44/2; 45/2,4.

decoration: Lazarovici, Dumitrescu 1986, fig. 1/12; Luca 2001, 65-66, 77, fig. 44/2.

2. Bowl, rim fragment; **Pl. 3/12**

H: unknown; **Th:** unknown; **Ø rim:** unknown

Dating: Turdaş III/LN I

firing: reducing and mediocre; *colour:* dark brown; *tempering:* fine sand and small quartzite pebbles

Rim fragment of small carinated bowl and slightly everted rim.

Analogies: *shape:* Lazarovici 1987, fig. 4 – topmost.

3. Deep bowl, rim fragment; **Pl. 3/4**

H: unknown; **Th:** unknown; **Ø rim:** unknown

Dating: Turdaş III/LN I

firing: reducing and good; *colour:* light brown; *tempering:* fine sand

Rim fragment of a bitruncated and carinated deep bowl.

Analogies: *shape:* Lazarovici 1987, fig. 4 – central.

4. Deep bowl, rim fragment; Pl. 3/5

H: unknown; **Th:** unknown; **Ø rim:** 8 cm

Dating: Turdaş I-II/MN Ib-LN I

firing: reducing and good; *colour:* light grey; *tempering:* fine sand

Rim fragment of a deep bowl with an “S”-profile and everted rim.

Analogies: *shape:* Luca 2001, 37, 60 no. A5a, 61 no. C4, 65 no. D5, figs. 13/4; 21/7; 23/6; Luca *et al.* 2004, pl. 19/4-5.

5. Goblet, foot fragment; Pl. 4/10

H: unknown; **Th:** unknown; **Ø:** unknown

Dating: Turdaş II-III/MN Ib-LN I

firing: oxidising and very good; *colour:* unknown; *tempering:* fine sand

The foot and the bottom part of the cup of a spherical(?) goblet are preserved.

Analogies: *shape:* Roska 1941, pls. 94/1-2; 95/2; 147/7; Luca 1997, pl. 8/9; Draşovean 2003, 43; Luca *et al.* 2004, pl. 51/4.

6. Goblet, foot fragment; Pl. 4/11

H: unknown; **Th:** unknown; **Ø:** unknown

Dating: Turdaş I/MN Ib

firing: oxidising and very good; *colour:* unknown; *tempering:* fine sand

The foot and the bottom part of the cup of a spherical(?) goblet are preserved.

Analogies: *shape:* Luca 2001, fig. 15/8.

7. Jar(?), base fragment; Pl. 4/6

H: unknown; **Th:** unknown; **Ø base:** unknown

Dating: Turdaş II/MN Ib-LN I

firing: oxidising and good; *colour:* unknown; *tempering:* fine sand

Base fragment of a straight-sided jar(?). The decoration comprises of a rhombic pattern of single-line incised bands filled with circular or elongated stitches.

Lower spaces between two adjoining rhombi are also filled with similar stitches.

The entire decorative pattern is resting on a row of circular stitches.

Analogies: *shape:* Roska 1941, pl. 81/15; Luca 2001, figs. 17/2; 26/1.

decoration: Roska 1941, pl. 81/15; Lazarovici, Dumitrescu 1986, figs. 1/5; 3/3.

8. Jar(?), base fragment; Pl. 4/8

H: unknown; **Th:** unknown; **Ø base:** unknown

Dating: Turdaş II/MN Ib-LN I

firing: oxidising and good; *colour:* unknown; *tempering:* fine sand and small quartzite pebbles

Base fragment of a straight-sided(?) jar. It is decorated with incised and parallel zig-zag lines organised in vertical bands bordered by further incised zig-zag lines.

Analogy: *shape:* Roska 1941, pl. 92/10; Draşovean, Rotea 1986, pls. 2/11; 7/2.
decoration: Roska 1941, pl. 92/10.

9. Jar(?), body fragment; Pl. 6/1

H: unknown; **Th:** unknown; **Ø:** unknown

Dating: Tisza I/MN IIB

firing: oxidising and mediocre; *colour:* dark brick-red; *tempering:* unknown

The shape is most likely that of a jar. The decoration is a combination of various shapes of incised motifs probably covering the entire surface of the vessel. A vertical band of meanders separates concentric rhombi on the right from a rectangular motif on the left.

Analogy: *decoration:* Luca 1986, 44, fig. 1/6.

10. Jar(?), full profile fragment; Pl. 4/2

H: unknown; **Th:** unknown; **Ø:** unknown

Dating: Turdaş II /MN IIB-LN I

firing: oxidising and good; *colour:* brick-red; *tempering:* (type and quality)

Full profile fragment of a straight sided jar. It is decorated below the rim with two horizontal and parallel rows of incised dashed lines bordered at the bottom of them by a horizontal incised line. The middle and lower part of the vessel is decorated with a horizontal zig-zag band of two parallel rows of incised dashed lines bordered on each side by a single incised line.

Analogy: *shape:* Luca 1997, pl. 6/13.

decoration: Roska 1941, pls. 85/7; 107/10; Luca 1997, 61, pl. 6/13.

11. Jar, base fragment; Pl. 4/7

H: unknown; **Th:** unknown; **■ base:** unknown

Dating: Turdaş II /MN IIB-LN I

firing: oxidising and good; *colour:* unknown; *tempering:* fine sand and small quartzite pebbles

Base fragment of a square-sided vessel. The decoration consists of a check-board pattern of incised line with alternating squares filled with circular stitches.

Analogy: *shape:* Roska 1941, pl. 93/5-12; Luca 1997, pls. 12/5; 24/10, 12; Luca 2001, fig. 27/1, 7-8.

decoration: -

12. Jar/deep dish(?), body fragment; Pl. 3/8

H: unknown; **Th:** unknown; **Ø:** unknown

Dating: Vinča C₁/LN I

firing: reducing and mediocre; *colour*: dark brown; *tempering*: sand and small quartzite pebbles

Body fragment of a straight-sided jar. It has just below the rim, on its widest diameter a belt with finger stitches.

Analogy: *shape*: Draşovean 1994a, fig. 3/B VIIb.

decoration: Draşovean 1994a, fig. 4/A12.

13. Jar, body fragment; **Pl. 4/1**

H: unknown; **Th**: unknown; **Ø**: unknown

Dating: Turdaş II-III/MN IIB-LN I

firing: oxidising and mediocre; *colour*: brick-red; *tempering*: fine sand and small quartzite pebbles

Body fragment of a straight-sided jar with a small and horizontal lug-handle serving as the centre of a “butterfly-wing” pattern. This pattern consists of single, incised lines forming triangles filled with elongated stitches. The upper part of this motif is bordered by a horizontal ledge and above this by a single row of slightly elongated stitches.

Analogy: *shape*: Luca 2001, figs. 15/10; 26/1; 29/2.

decoration: Luca 2001, fig. 27/8.

14. Jar, body fragment; **Pl. 4/5**

H: unknown; **Th**: unknown; **■ base**: unknown

Dating: Turdaş II/MN IIB-LN I

firing: oxidising and good; *colour*: unknown; *tempering*: fine sand and small quartzite pebbles

Body fragment of a square-sided jar. The decoration consists of a meander pattern of single-line incised bands filled with circular stitches.

Analogy: *shape*: Roska 1941, pl. 93/5-12; Luca 1997, pls. 12/5; 24/10, 12; Luca 2001, fig. 27/1, 7-8.

decoration: Luca 2001, 66, fig. 27/8.

15. Jar, rim fragment; **Pl. 3/11**

H: unknown; **Th**: unknown; **Ø rim**: unknown

Dating: Turdaş/MN IIB – LN I

firing: reducing and mediocre; *colour*: dark brown and black (mottled); *tempering*: sand and small quartzite pebbles

The rim fragment of a straight sided jar. A small and vertically pierced lug handle is just below the rim, while a similar though a slightly larger lug handle is located right below the small one.

Analogy: *shape*: Roska 1941, pl. 121/9.

16. Jar, rim fragment; **Pl. 3/2**

H: unknown; **Th:** unknown; **Ø rim:** unknown

Dating: Turdaş I-II/MN I Ib-LN I

firing: reducing and good; *colour:* dark brown and black (mottled); *tempering:* sand and small quartzite pebbles

Straight sided jar with neatly worked rim and a short and slender neck.

Analogies: *shape:* Luca 2001, 37, 61 no. B1, figs. 17/2; 17/7; Luca *et al.* 2004, pl. 20/5.

17. Juglet, base fragment; Pl. 3/15

H: unknown; **Th:** unknown; **Ø base:** 6 cm

Dating: Turdaş I-II/MN I Ib-LN I

firing: reducing and good; *colour:* greyish; *tempering:* fine sand

Base fragment of a juglet with a flat base.

Analogies: *shape:* Luca 2001, 37, 61 no. B1, fig. 17/2; Luca *et al.* 2004, pl. 20/5.

18. Jug/Juglet(?), base fragment; Pl. 4/9

H: unknown; **Th:** unknown; **Ø base:** unknown

Dating: Turdaş II-III/LN I

firing: oxidising and good; *colour:* unknown; *tempering:* fine sand

Lower part of a jug or juglet with a high S-shaped base. The incised decoration is organised hatched triangles standing on their base and forming a band just above the base of the vessel.

Analogies: *shape:* Draşovean, Rotea 1986, pl. 5/16; Draşovean 1996, pl. 41/10.

decoration: Luca 2001, 67, fig. 26/3.

19. Juglet, full profile fragment; Pl. 3/1

H: 11 cm; **Th:** unknown; **Ø rim:** 7 cm

Dating: Turdaş II-III/MN I Ib-LN I

firing: reducing and good; *colour:* greyish; *tempering:* fine sand

Full profile fragment of juglet with a slender “S”-shaped profile and slightly everted rim.

Analogies: *shape:* Lazarovici 1987, fig. 4 - middle column, bottom row; Luca 2001, 44-45, figs. 14/4; 32/13; Luca *et al.* 2004, pl. 25/3.

20. Juglet, rim fragment; Pl. 3/10

H: unknown; **Th:** unknown; **Ø rim:** unknown

Dating: Turdaş II-III/MN I Ib-LN I

firing: reducing and good; *colour:* greyish; *tempering:* fine sand

Rim fragment of a juglet with a slightly squashed “S”-profile and everted rim, with a pointy and a horizontally pierced lug-handle placed on the maximum diameter.

Analogies: *shape:* Lazarovici 1987, fig. 4 - middle column, bottom row; Luca

2001, 44-45, figs. 14/4; 32/13.

21. Juglet, rim fragment; Pl. 3/3

H: unknown; **Th:** unknown; **Ø rim:** unknown

Dating: Turdaş III/LN I

firing: reducing and mediocre; *colour:* light grey and black (mottled); *tempering:* fine sand and small quartzite pebbles

Rim fragment of a slender “S”-profiled juglet with slightly thickened rim.

Analogies: *shape:* Draşovean, Rotea 1986, pls. 2/16; 3/8, 13, 17.

22. Juglet, rim fragment; Pl. 3/9

H: unknown; **Th:** unknown; **Ø rim:** unknown

Dating: Turdaş III/LN I

firing: reducing and good; *colour:* greyish; *tempering:* fine sand

Rim fragment of a juglet with a slightly squashed “S”-profile and everted rim, with a pointy and a horizontally pierced lug-handle placed on the maximum diameter.

Analogies: *shape:* Lazarovici 1987, fig. 4 - middle column, bottom row; Luca 2001, 44-45, fig. 14/4.

23. Miniature vessel; Pl. 4/21

H: unknown; **Th:** unknown; **Ø rim:** unknown

Dating: Turdaş III/LN I

firing: reducing and mediocre ; *colour:* grey; *tempering:* fine sand and small quartzite pebbles

Fragmentary miniature vessel with a full profile preserved. Used probably as a ladle since remains of copper slag were recognised and confirmed after the chemical analysis.

Analogies: *shape:* Luca 2001, 38-39, fig. 22/3.

24. Miniature vessel; Pl. 4/22

H: 2.9 cm; **Ø rim:** 3.4 cm; **Ø base:** 2.7 cm

Dating: Turdaş II-III/LN I

firing: oxidising and mediocre; *colour:* brick-red; *tempering:* fine sand and small quartzite pebbles

Tumbler-shaped with semi-spherical bottom.

Analogies: *shape:* Roska 1941, pl. 147/1, 15; Lazarovici, Dumitrescu 1986, fig. 6/7, 14; Draşovean 2003, 43.

25. Miniature vessel; Pl. 4/23

H: 4.1 cm; **Ø rim:** 4.2 cm; **Ø base:** 3.1 cm

Dating: Turdaş I/MN IIb

firing: oxidising and mediocre, *colour:* brick-red; *tempering:* fine sand

Has a bitruncated shape with two horizontal, pierced lug-handles on the same side.

Analogies:

Analogies: *shape:* Luca 2001, 35, 44, fig. 20/2, 7.

26. Pot, rim fragment; Pl. 3/6

H: unknown; **Th:** unknown; **Ø rim:** unknown

Dating: Turdaş II-III/MN I Ib-LN I

firing: reducing and poor; *colour:* light brown; *tempering:* sand and small to medium sized quartzite pebbles

It is the rim fragment of a bitruncated or spherical pot with the remains of a vertically pierced lug handle. The top of the rim is decorated with irregular finger stitches, at least the upper one third with incised single lines of irregular orientations.

Analogies: *shape:* Luca 1998, fig. 7/2a-b; Luca 2001, 61 no. F3, figs. 30/2, 4; 35/1.

decoration: Draşovean 1996, fig. 66/1; 67/1; Luca 1998, fig. 7/2b; 2001, fig. 30/2, 4.

27. Pot, rim fragment; Pl. 3/7

H: unknown; **Th:** unknown; **Ø rim:** unknown

Dating: Turdaş II-III/MN I Ib-LN I

firing: reducing and mediocre; *colour:* light brown and black (mottled); *tempering:* sand and small quartzite pebbles

It is the rim fragment of a bitruncated pot with a slight “S”-profile and a slightly everted rim. The top of the rim is decorated with regularly spaced finger stitches.

Analogies: *shape:* Luca 1998, fig. 7/2a-b; Luca 2001, 61 no. F3, figs. 30/2, 4; 35/1.

decoration: Luca 1998, figs. 7; 8/2b; Luca 2001, fig. 30/2, 4.

28. Quadruped vessel, leg fragment; Pl. 4/3

H: unknown; **Th:** unknown; **Ø rim:** unknown

Dating: Turdaş II/MN I Ib-LN I

firing: oxidising mediocre; *colour:* brick-red; *tempering:* fine sand and small quartzite pebbles

A leg of a quadruped vessel, triangular in cross-section with circular and slightly elongated stitches.

Analogies: *shape:* Roska 1941, pl. 98/11; Maxim 1999, 206, annexe 11/2b.

decoration: Lazarovici, Dumitrescu 1986, fig. 3/5.

29. Spouted bowl(?), rim fragment; Pl. 4/18

H: unknown; **Th:** unknown; **Ø:** unknown

Dating: Turdaş II/MN I Ib-LN I

firing: reducing and mediocre; *colour:* black; *tempering:* fine sand and small quartzite pebbles

Rim fragment of a spherical(?) spouted bowl(?).

Analogies: *shape:* Roska 1941, pl. 83/6.

30. Tumbler, fragment; **Pl. 4/19**

H: unknown; **Th:** unknown; **Ø base:** 5.5 cm

Dating: Turdaş I-II/MN I Ib-LN I

firing: reducing and poor; *colour:* dark brown and black (mottled); *tempering:* sand and small quartzite pebbles

It is a small-sized tumbler with the upper part missing. It has two, small lug-handles preserved, though originally might have been four placed across from each other.

Analogies: *shape:* Roska 1941, pl. 81/13; Luca 2001, 37, 61 no. B4, fig. 17/6.

31. Tumbler, full profile fragment; **Pl. 4/20**

H: 6.7 cm; **Th:** unknown; **Ø base:** 4.3 cm

Dating: Turdaş I-II/MN I Ib-LN I

firing: reducing and mediocre; *colour:* dark brown; *tempering:* fine sand and small quartzite pebbles

The fragment since it is a full profile of a straight-sided tumbler. It has a small, unpierced lug handle below the rim still preserved; most likely it had four across from each other.

Analogies: *shape:* Roska 1941, pl. 81/13; Luca 2001, 37, 61 no. B4, fig. 17/6.

32. Unknown, body fragment; **Pl. 3/13**

H: unknown; **Th:** unknown; **Ø:** unknown

Dating: Foeni-Mintia/LN I

firing: oxidising and very good; *colour:* unknown; *tempering:* fine sand

The shape of the vessel is unknown. The painted decoration is of black colour and is organised in thin and parallel inverted 'V'-shaped lines.

Analogies: *decoration:* Draşovean, Luca 1990, fig. 4/4, 8; Draşovean 1997, fig. 3.

33. Unknown, body fragment; **Pl. 3/14**

H: unknown; **Th:** unknown; **Ø:** unknown

Dating: Turdaş I-II/MN I Ib-LN I

firing: oxidising and very good; *colour:* unknown; *tempering:* fine sand

The shape is unknown and it has a horizontally(?) pierced lug preserved. The decoration is painted and of black colour arranged in an angular (thick 'V'-shaped) motif.

Analogies: *decoration:* Lazarovici, Dumitrescu 1986, pl. 1/ 3-8; Luca 2001, 70, fig. 25/1; Luca *et al.* 2004, pls. 31/1, 3-4; 32/2; 33/1.

34. Unknown, body fragment; **Pl. 4/12**

H: unknown; **Th:** unknown; **Ø:** unknown

Dating: Tisza I/MN IIb

firing: oxidising and good; *colour:* unknown; *tempering:* fine sand

Body fragment of a spherical vessel. It has two horizontal, semi-spherical and small knobs to the left of the end of a dark-red diagonal stripe.

Analogies: *decoration:* Roska 1941, pl. 147/19; Lazarovici 1979, 191, fig. 24 - second row-left side; Horváth 1982, figs. 13/4; 16/4; Draşovean 2003, 43 .

35. Unknown, body fragment; **Pl. 4/24**

H: unknown; **Th:** unknown; **Ø:** unknown

Dating: Turdaş II-III – Precucuteni I/LN I

firing: oxidising and mediocre; *colour:* unknown; *tempering:* fine sand and small pebbles

Small body fragment of a vessel of unknown shape. It is decorated with vertical and parallel incised lines.

Analogies: *decoration:* Paul 1969, pl. III/1; Lazarovici 1979, fig. 11, middle row - centre and right.

36. Unknown, body fragment; **Pl. 4/25**

H: unknown; **Th:** unknown; **Ø:** unknown

Dating: Turdaş II-III-Precucuteni I/LN I

firing: reducing and mediocre; *colour:* unknown; *tempering:* fine sand and small quartzite pebbles

Body fragment of a vessel of unknown shape. It is decorated with vertical and incised parallel lines.

Analogies: *decoration:* Paul 1969, pl. III/1; Lazarovici 1979, fig. 11, middle row - centre and right.

37. Unknown, body fragment; **Pl. 6/2**

H: unknown; **Th:** unknown; **Ø:** unknown

Dating: Coţofeni I-II/LCA Ib

firing: unknown; *colour:* unknown; *tempering:* unknown

Body fragment of a vessel of unknown shape. It is decorated with a diagonal band of at least three parallel and diagonal rows of short, vertical incised lines bordered on top by a diagonal, incised line.

Analogies: *decoration:* Roman 1976, pls. 55/13; 56/7-8; Luca 2001, 40, 48, fig. 46/19.

38. Unknown, handle & body fragment; **Pl. 4/15**

H: unknown; **Th:** unknown; **Ø:** unknown

Dating: Turdaş II-III – Petreşti A/MN IIB-LN I

firing: reducing and mediocre; *colour:* unknown; *tempering:* fine sand and small quartzite pebbles

Body and handle fragment of a vessel of unknown shape. It is a horizontal handle with circular cross-section.

Analogies: *shape:* Roska 1941, pl. 120/1; Lazarovici, Dumitrescu 1986, fig. 5/20; Luca 2001, 71, figs. 23/3; 38/18.

39. Unknown, handle fragment; Pl. 4/13

H: unknown; **Th:** unknown; **Ø:** unknown

Dating: Turdaş II-III/MN IIB-LN I

firing: oxidising and good; *colour:* unknown; *tempering:* fine sand

A pierced beak-handle of a vessel of unknown shape.

Analogies: *shape:* Lazarovici, Dumitrescu 1986, fig. 5/9, 18-19.

40. Unknown, handle fragment; Pl. 4/14

H: unknown; **Th:** unknown; **Ø:** unknown

Dating: Turdaş II-Petreşti A/MN IIB-LN I

firing: oxidising and mediocre; *colour:* unknown; *tempering:* fine sand and small quartzite pebbles

Horizontal handle with circular cross-section of a vessel of unknown shape.

Analogies: *shape:* Roska 1941, pl. 120/1; Luca 2001, 71, figs. 23/3; 38/18.

41. Unknown, handle fragment; Pl. 4/16

H: unknown; **Th:** unknown; **Ø:** unknown

Dating: Turdaş II-Tisza I/MN IIB-LN I

firing: reducing and mediocre; *colour:* unknown; *tempering:* fine sand and small quartzite pebbles

Horizontal lug handle split in two knobs by a vertical groove.

Analogies: *shape:* Lazarovici 1979, fig. 24 - middle row; Luca 2001, 38, fig. 16/2.

42. Unknown, handle fragment; Pl. 4/17

H: unknown; **Th:** unknown; **Ø:** unknown

Dating: Turdaş II-Tisza I/MN IIB-LN I

firing: reducing and mediocre; *colour:* unknown; *tempering:* fine sand and small quartzite pebbles

Horizontal lug handle split in two knobs by a vertical groove.

Analogies: *shape:* Lazarovici 1979, fig. 24 - middle row; Luca 2001, 38, fig. 16/2.

Terracotta:

43. Figurine, body fragment; Pl. 5/1

H: unknown

Dating: Vinča B – Turdaş I-II/MN IIB

firing: oxidising and mediocre; *colour:* brick-red; *tempering:* fine sand and small quartzite pebbles

Body fragment of a female figurine with roughly rendered breasts, missing lower limbs and head.

Analogy: *shape:* Roska 1941, 138/2; Lazarovici 1979, pl. X/A 19-20; Hansen 2007, pl. 135/2.

44. Figurine, leg fragment; Pl. 5/3; 6/5

H: 9 cm

Dating: Vinča B – Turdaş I-II/MN IIB

firing: oxidising and mediocre; *colour:* brick-red; *tempering:* fine sand and small quartzite pebbles

Slender leg fragment of a steatopyg(?) figurine. The foot is rendered in an unrealistic fashion and it is only suggested by a broad base. It has marks of secondary firing.

Analogy: *shape:* Roska 1941, pl. 138/2, 7; Hansen 2007, pl. 135/3.

45. Figurine, leg fragment; Pl. 6/6

H: 8.5 cm

Dating: Turdaş II-III/MN IIB-LN I

firing: oxidising and mediocre; *colour:* brick-red (biscuit), dark brown (slip); *tempering:* fine sand and small quartzite pebbles

Left leg of a figurine, probably sitting in a 'throne', with an estimated height of 20 cm. Three toes are still visible and it is narrower in the area of the ankles and below the knee. On the outside of the knees it is decorated with a slightly tilted vertical band of two parallel rows of elongated, diagonal stitches bordered on each side by a single incised line.

Analogy: *shape:* Hegedüs, Makkay 1987, fig. 8; Korek 1987, figs. 15-16; Luca 1995, 86-88, pl. 1; 1997, pl. 15/1; Hansen 2007, 213, 509, pls. 277; 279/11.

decoration: Hegedüs, Makkay 1987, fig. 8.

46. Spindle whorl, fragment; Pl. 6/4

H: unknown

Dating: Turdaş III/LN I

firing: unknown; *colour:* unknown; *tempering:* unknown

A fragment of a spherical spindle whorl with a squashed body.

Analogy: *shape:* Roska 1941, pl. 125/1-2; Luca 2001, figs. 8/1; 9/1.

47. Weight; Pl. 6/3

H: unknown

Dating: Turdaş II-III-Petreşti A/MN IIb-LN I

firing: unknown; *colour:* unknown; *tempering:* unknown

A complete loom(?) -weight of frustum shape with heavily rounded of edges.

Analogies: *shape:* Roska 1941, pl. 125/15; Luca 1997, 37, pl. 15/4, 6; Luca 2001, fig. 9/7.

Lithics:

48. Arrow-head; Pl. 5/21

L: unknown

material: chert

Triangular shaped arrow-head with a central ridge.

49. Arrow-head; Pl. 5/22

L: unknown

material: chert

Elongated and triangular shaped arrow-head with a central ridge and retouched edges.

50. Blade, fragment; Pl. 5/10

L: unknown

material: chert

Small fragment of a chert blade with two dorsal ridges and a trapeze cross-section.

51. Blade, fragment; Pl. 5/11

L: unknown

material: chert

Small fragment of a chert blade with one dorsal ridge and a triangular cross-section.

52. Blade, fragment; Pl. 5/12

L: unknown

material: chert

Small fragment of a chert blade with one dorsal ridge and a triangular cross-section.

53. Blade, fragment; Pl. 5/13

L: unknown

material: chert

Small fragment of a chert blade with one dorsal ridge and a triangular cross-

section.

54. Blade, fragment; Pl. 5/14

L: unknown

material: chert

Small fragment of a chert blade with one dorsal ridge and a triangular cross-section.

55. Blade, fragment; Pl. 5/15

L: unknown

material: chert

Small fragment of a chert blade with two dorsal ridges and a trapeze cross-section.

56. Blade, fragment; Pl. 5/16

L: unknown

material: chert

Small fragment of a chert blade with one dorsal ridge and a triangular cross-section.

57. Blade, fragment; Pl. 5/17

L: unknown

material: chert

Small fragment of a chert blade with one dorsal ridge and a triangular cross-section.

58. Blade, fragment; Pl. 5/18

L: unknown

material: chert

Small fragment of a chert blade with one dorsal ridge and a triangular cross-section.

59. Blade, fragment; Pl. 5/19

L: unknown

material: chert

Small fragment of a chert blade with one dorsal ridge and a triangular cross-section.

60. Blade, fragment; Pl. 5/20

L: unknown

material: chert

Small fragment of a chert blade with two dorsal ridges and a trapeze cross-section.

61. Blade, fragment; Pl. 5/7

L: unknown

material: chert

Small fragment of a chert blade with two dorsal ridges and a trapeze cross-section.

62. Blade, fragment; Pl. 5/8

L: unknown

material: chert

Small fragment of a chert blade with one dorsal ridge and a triangular cross-section.

63. Blade, fragment; Pl. 5/9

L: unknown

material: chert

Small fragment of a chert blade with one dorsal ridge and a triangular cross-section.

64. Chisel; Pl. 5/24

L: unknown

material: unknown

A small polished chisel with an indentation on the cutting-edge.

65. Grindstone, fragment; Pl. 5/25

L: unknown

material: unknown

A prism-shaped grindstone with a 4 cm deep hollow in the middle for grinding.

Analogies: *shape:* Dumitrescu 1984, 7.

66. Scraper; Pl. 5/23

L: unknown

material: chert

Scraper with one straight and the other curved side with a retouched scraping-edge.

Other finds:

67. Adobe; Pl. 5/2, 4-6

Adobe fragments indicating at least a light upper structure of a wattle and daub construction with impressions of reeds or sticks. The fired nature of the previous clay daub indicates the destruction method of at least a building at this site.

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Abbreviations:

AB S.N.	Analele Banatului. Seria Nouă, Timișoara
ActaMN	Acta Musei Napocensis, Cluj-Napoca
ActaMP	Acta Musei Porolissensis, Zalău
AÉrt	Archaeologiai Értesítő. A Magyar Régészeti, Művészettörténeti és Éremtani Társulat Tudományos Folyóirata, Budapest
Apulum	Apulum. Acta Musei Apvlensis, Alba Iulia
Археология	Археология, Kiev
ArchRoz	Archeologické rozhledy, Prague
BAM	Brvkenthal Acta Musei, Sibiu
BibEphemNap	Bibliotheca Ephemeris Napocensis, Cluj-Napoca
CsSzMÉ	A Csíki Székely Múzeum Évkönyve, Miercurea Ciuc
Erdély	Erdély, Cluj-Napoca
ForVL	Forschungen zur Volks- und Landeskunde, Sibiu
Germania	Germania. Anzeiger der Römisch-Germanischen Kommission des Deutschen Archäologischen Instituts, Darmstadt
NyJAMÉ	A Nyíregyházi Jónás András Múzeum Évkönyve, Nyíregyháza
PZ	Prähistorische Zeitschrift, Berlin
Sargetia	Sargetia. Acta Musei Devensis, Deva
SaStuMA	Saarbrücker Studien und Materialien zur Altertumskunde, Saarbrücken
SCIV	Studii și Cercetări de Istorie Veche, București
SCIVA	Studii și Cercetări de Istorie Veche și Arheologie, București
StudComSB	Studii și Comunicări Sibiu, Sibiu
StudComSM	Studii și Comunicări Satu Mare, Satu Mare
Ziridava	Ziridava. Studia Archaeologica, Arad

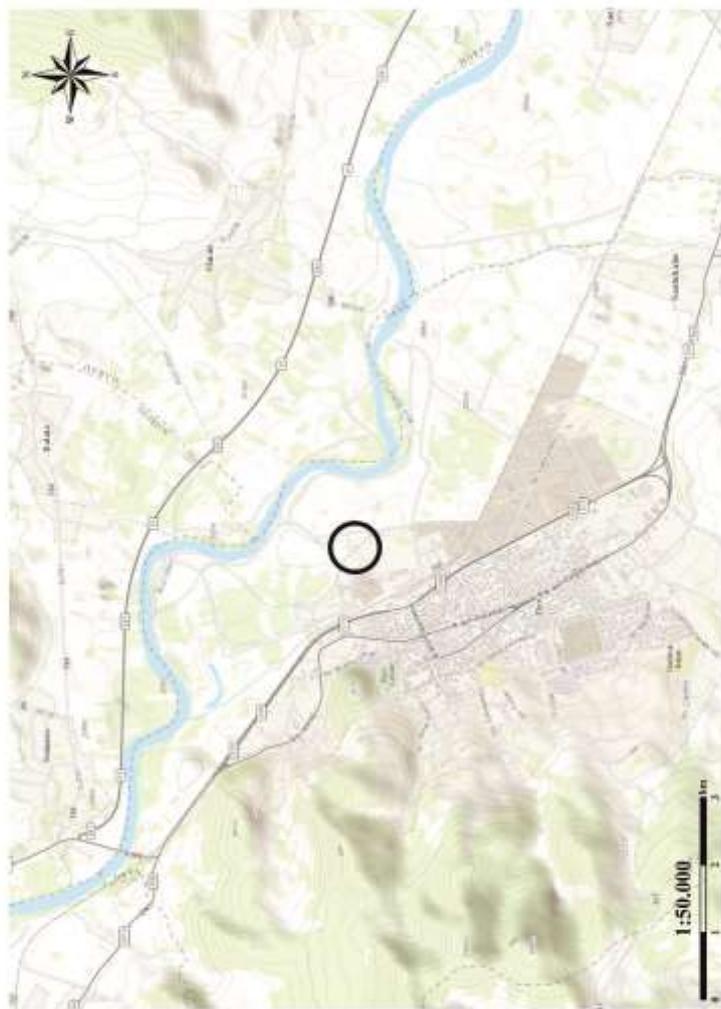


Plate 1

Plate 1. Location of the site Deva – *Tăuલાશ*.

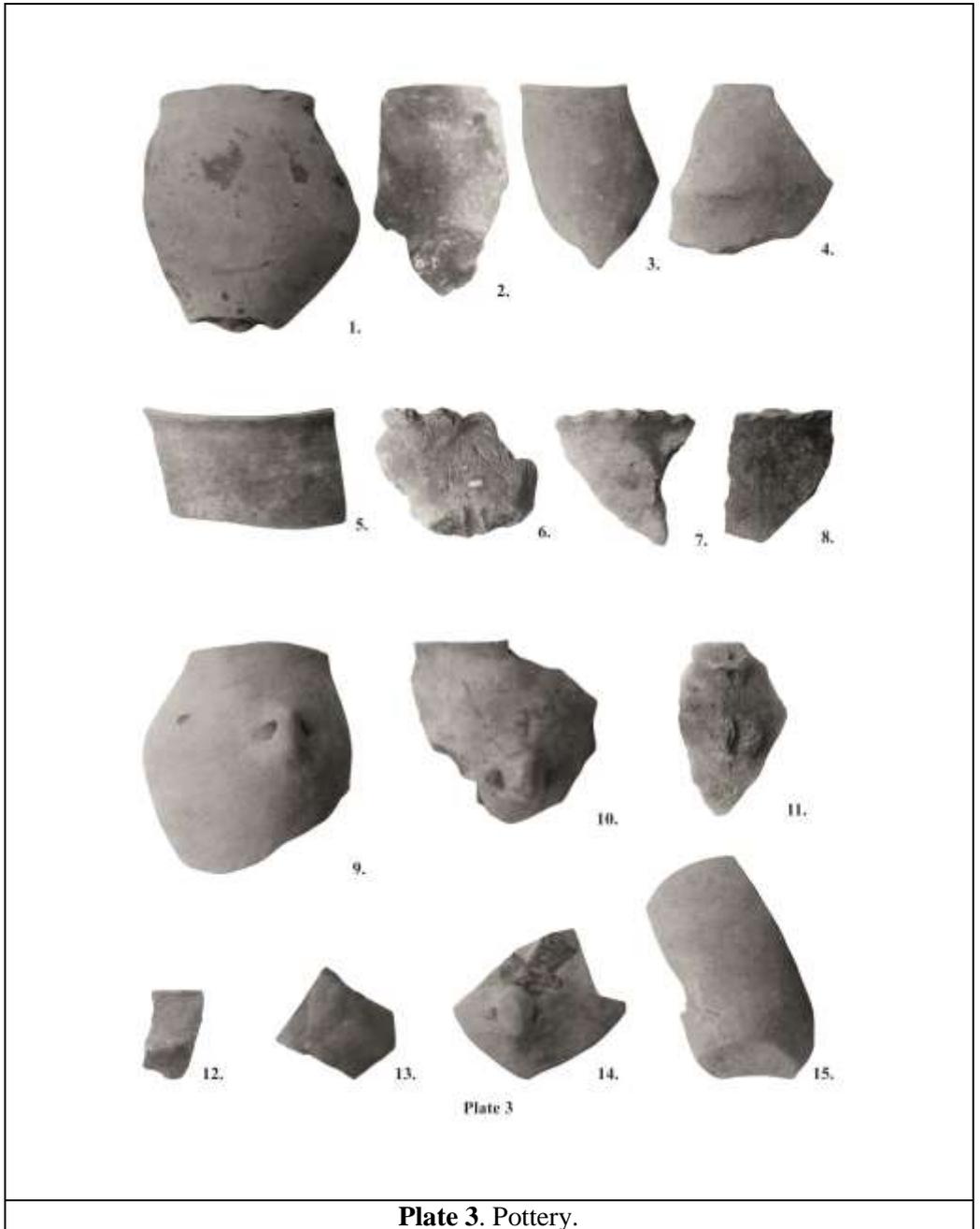


Plate 3

Plate 3. Pottery.

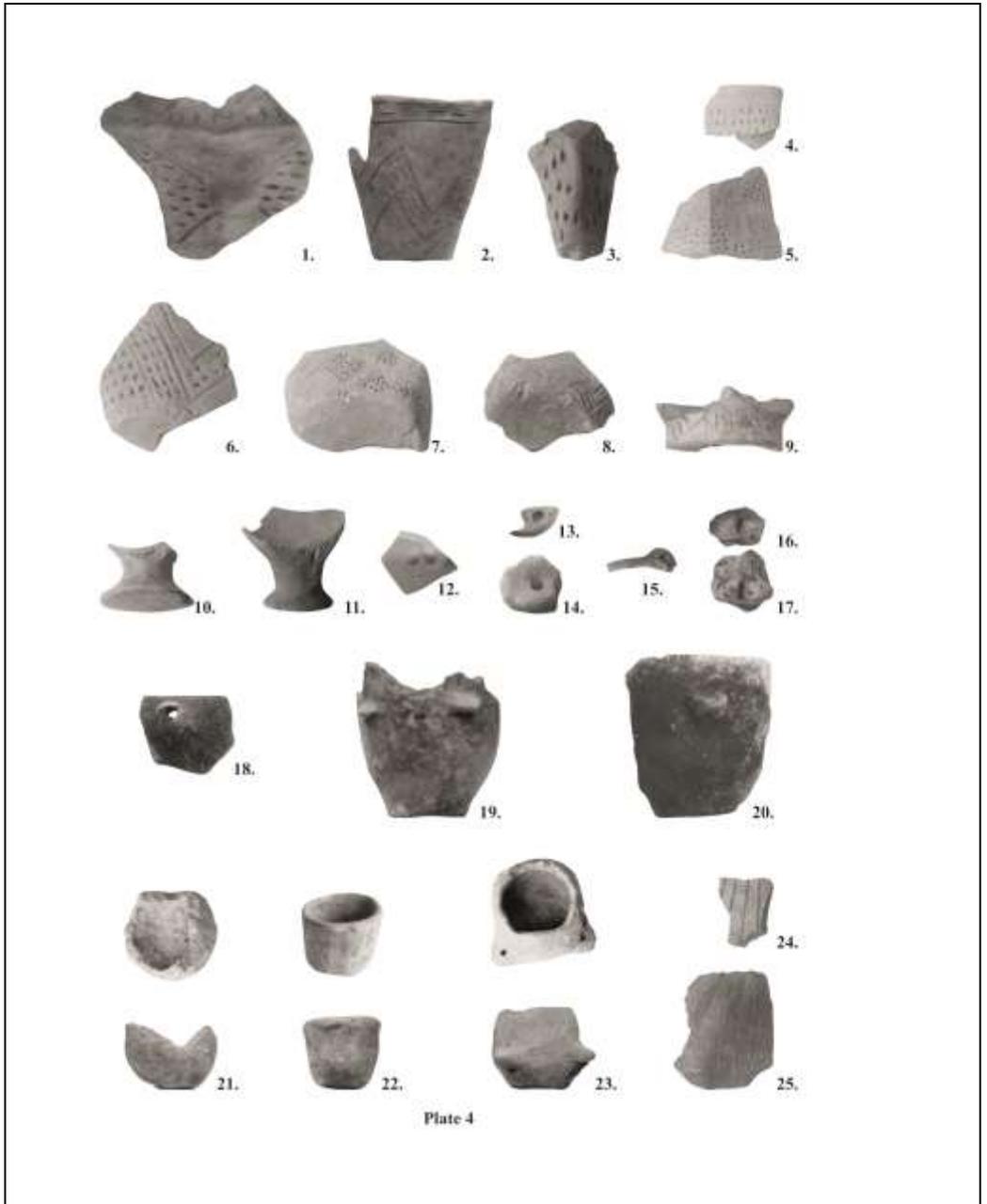


Plate 4. Pottery.

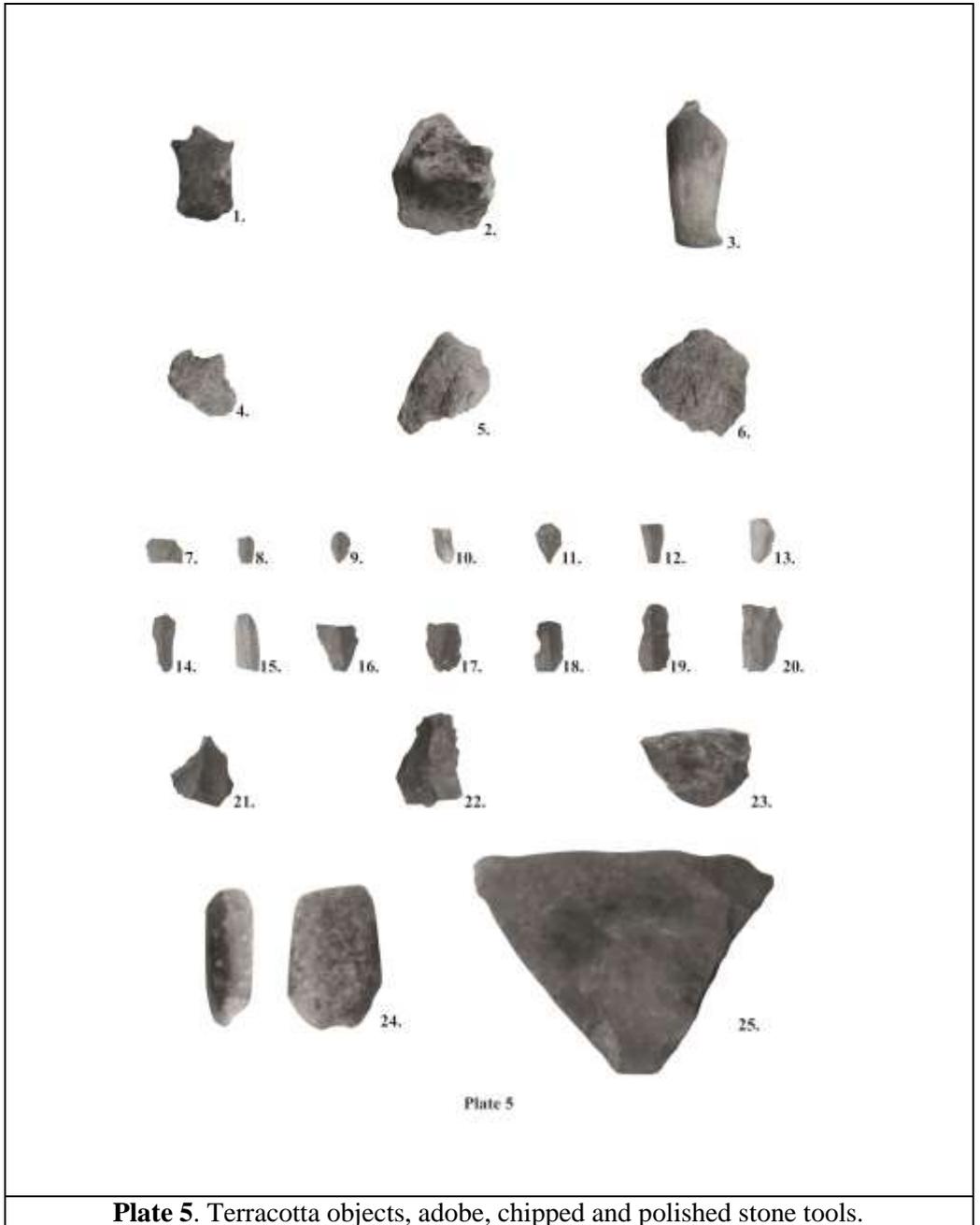


Plate 5. Terracotta objects, adobe, chipped and polished stone tools.

