

Dobor in Prehistory – rescue excavations in 1978

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Doboj

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Abstract: Rescue excavations, which yielded extraordinary valuable data on prehistoric periods, were undertaken in 1978 on the eastern slopes of the site of Dobor, near Modriča, alongside the river Bosna. The basic chronology has been determined on the basis of characteristic ceramics forms, with ceramics also forming the most numerous find type. The preserved stratigraphy indicates a long period of occupation, with the first traces of habitation belong to the bearers of the late Eneolithic Kostolac and Vučedol cultures. The most intense traces belong to the period of the Final Bronze Age and Early Iron Age. According to ceramic finds, this is a period of intense communication between communities. Comparisons show that the motifs and decorative techniques on pottery from Dobor bear strong similarities to those observed on other sites of the Vis–Pivnica horizon in northern Bosnia, with close parallels from the Kalakača–Gornea and Bosut–Basarabi horizons in the Podunavlje area. The final traces of prehistoric habitation belong to a smaller settlement dating to the Late Iron Age.

Keywords: Dobor, northern Bosnia, Kostolac culture, Vučedol culture, Final Bronze Age, Early Iron Age, Late Iron Age, hillfort

Introduction

Dobor, also known in professional literature as Dobor-kula and Gradina-Dobor, rises on a gentle but dominant slope between the left bank of the river Bosna and the Munjača stream, 4 km upstream from Modriča.¹ The easiest route from Posavina and Slavonia to the central Bosnia goes along the river valley through a wide gorge between the extreme slopes of the Vučjak and Trebava mountains. Dobor was built right at the entrance to that gorge, and rightfully bears the name ‘The Gate of Bosnia’.² Archaeological research to date has shown that the primary position was used for the construction of a medieval fortification, which was also used and rebuilt during the Ottoman period. The southern part of the site, marked by the toponym Doborski breg, which is also cut off by a deep ditch, was successively inhabited through different periods. Prehistoric finds belong to multi-layered hillfort settlements of the Late Eneolithic Kostolac

and Vučedol cultures, followed by a settlement of the Final Bronze Age and Early Iron Age, and a smaller settlement from the Late Iron Age.³ Systematic research in the area of the fortress was carried out between 1969 and 1973, under the leadership of Ivo Bojanovski on behalf of the Republic Institute for the Protection of Cultural Monuments of Bosnia and Herzegovina, based in Sarajevo.⁴ New rescue excavations were carried out in 1978, after major damage caused by the construction of sections of the M17 highway from Doboj to Modriča in 1975. The contractor destroyed an important part of the archaeological site along the river Bosna to the slopes of Dobor (fig. 1–2). This damage led to a court case and judgments, but despite the express prohibition of work, the contractor continued to expand the section, causing further devastation.⁵

³ Belić 1986, 14–15; Belić 1988, 76.

⁴ Bojanovski 1981, 13.

⁵ Documentation of the Regional Museum in Doboj. The report also mentioned that the contractor – Doboj putevi – refused to submit project documentation for the construction of the Doboj–Modriča section of the highway.

¹ Bojanovski 1981, 11.

² Jašarević 2018, 30.



Figure 1. *Dobor* during construction works in 1978 (photo: B. Belić).



Figure 2. *Dobor*, rescue excavations in 1978 (photo: B. Belić).

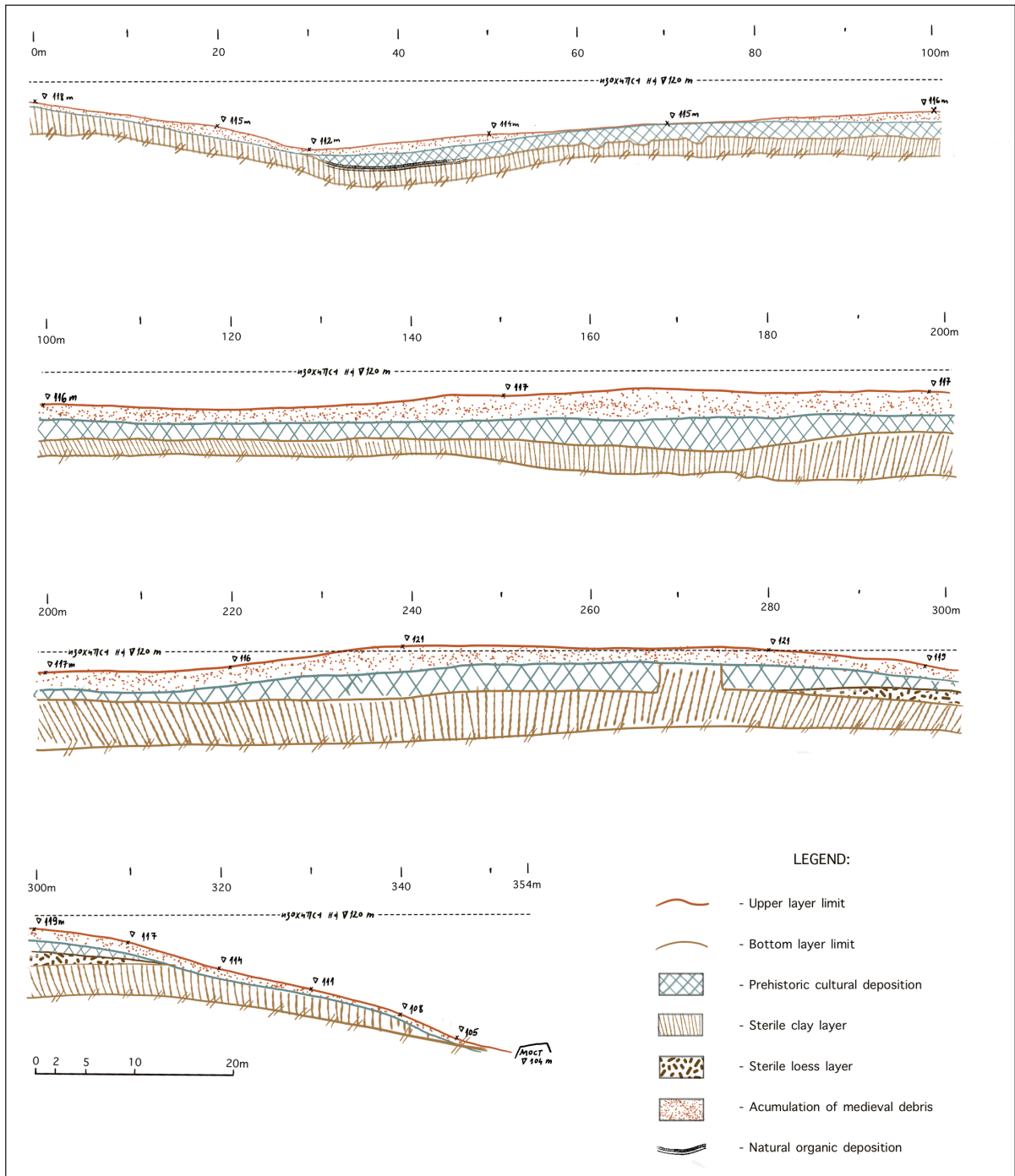


Figure 3. North-east cross-section of the site (Documentation of the Regional Museum in Doboj; processing by: J. Milošević).

The plan and program of rescue archaeology research was thus reduced to small-scale excavations and documentation of the destroyed layers. During 1975, Branko Belić from the Museum in Doboj sketched a profile of the site over a length of 350m (fig. 3). The same author, in the period between July 9th and 30th 1978, carried out small-scale excavations. Trench 2, measuring 10x2.5m,

and trench 3, measuring 18x3m (fig. 4), oriented east–west, were situated on the cut profile of the upper terrace.⁶ Two excavations were also carried out on the upper plateau of Doborski breg,

⁶ There is no mention of a Trench 1 in the museum documentation or in the final report of the Republic Institute for the Protection of Monuments of BiH (Archive of the Museum in Doboj).

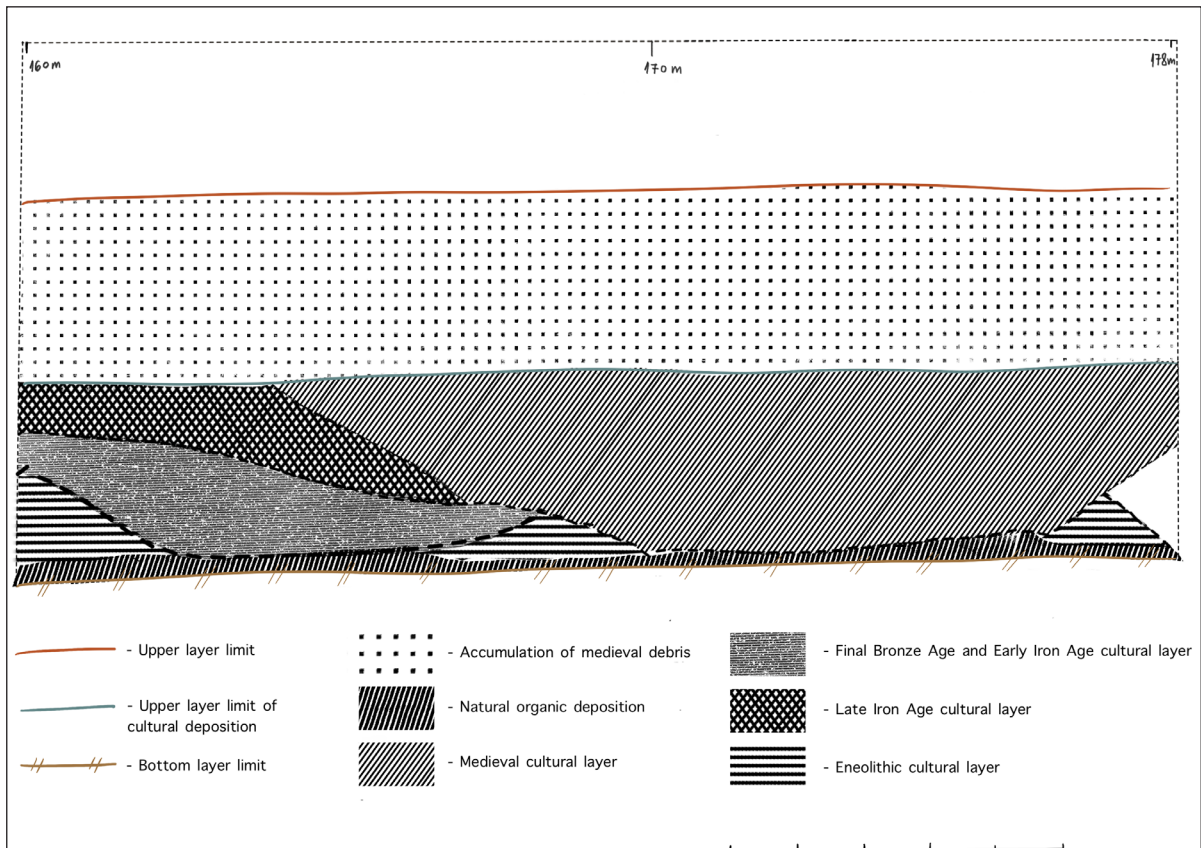


Figure 4. East-west cross-section of trench 3 (Documentation of the Regional Museum in Doboj; processing by: J. Milošević).

as control trenches; one measuring 5x1m, and the other 6x2m (fig. 5). The excavations were carried out by mechanically removing excavated layers with thicknesses of 0.20m. The preserved cultural layer followed the slope of the terrain, so that on the western side the layers were preserved quite shallowly, at a depth of 0.20–0.50m, while on the eastern half they reached in depth from 5.0 to 7.9m. From the brief report documenting the results of the archaeological excavations, we learn that the side of Doborski breg facing the Bosna River, at an elevation of 110 to 122 meters, is mostly poorly preserved. While this is in part due to natural soil erosion, much of the damage was caused in the Middle Ages by the construction of the fortress and the simultaneous formation of the necropolis,⁷ which destroyed the old form of the prehistoric hillfort. Further north, on part of the hill towards Modriča, the prehistoric cultural layers are better preserved.

⁷Smaller rescue archaeological excavations at the medieval necropolis were carried out in the same period by Tihomir Glavaš, on behalf of the National Museum in Sarajevo.

The general stratigraphic picture of the prehistoric layers shows a temporally extensive use of the site throughout the Eneolithic, the Final Bronze Age, the Early Iron Age, and also during the Late Iron Age. In Trench 2, the material from these epochs was mixed and it was not possible to distinguish individual layers, while Trench 3 showed a slightly better stratigraphic situation. The layers of the Kostolac and Vučedol cultures are preserved on the original humus soil at a shallow depth. The material from the Final Bronze and Early Iron Ages is the best preserved, and proves the location to have been a long-lasting and important hillfort site. The layers of this period were mostly cut into the older Eneolithic layers, and at least two settlement horizons were recorded. However, it should be borne in mind that these excavations were carried out on the southern periphery of the prehistoric settlement, where the buildings were most likely formed on terraces and retaining walls. The occurrence of Late Iron Age pottery outside of a clear stratigraphic layer only gives indications of a smaller

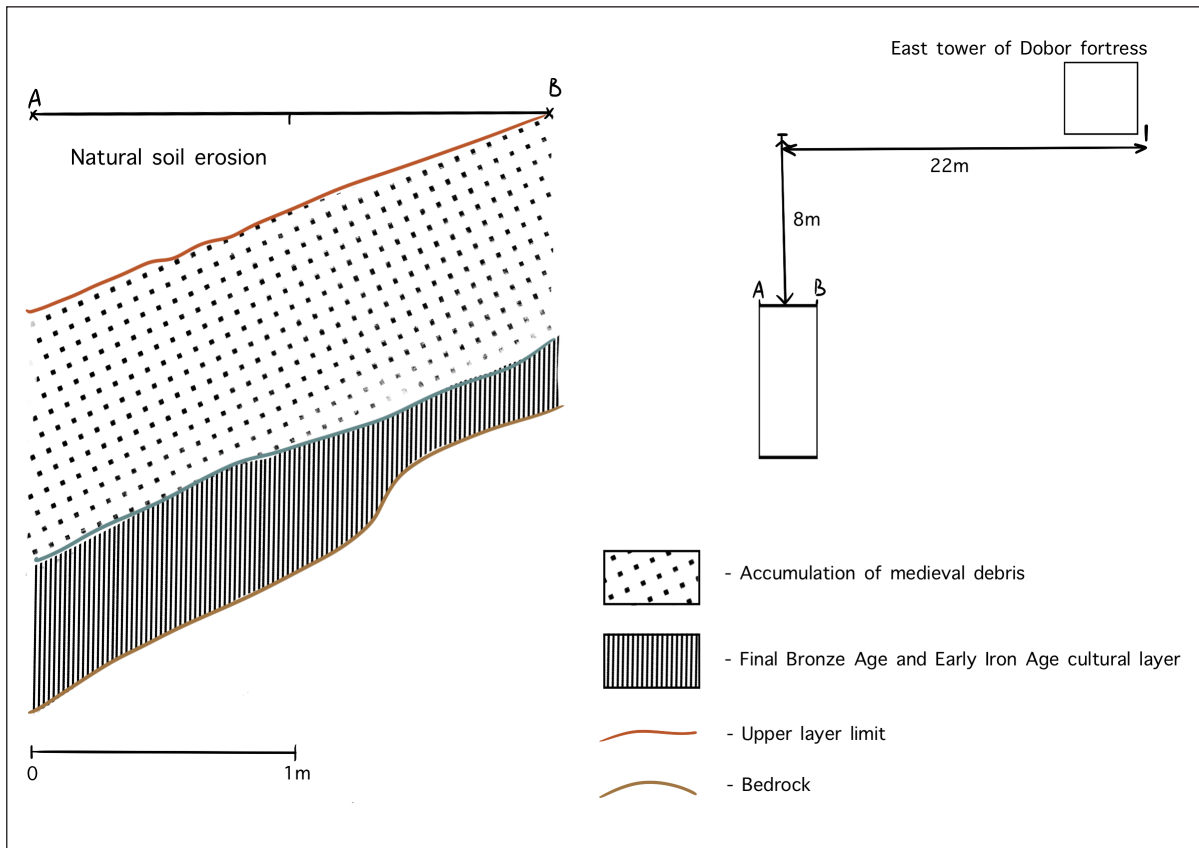


Figure 5. Position and cross-section of trench 2 at Doborski breg (Documentation of the Regional Museum in Doboj; processing by: J. Milošević).

settlement on the northern side of the slope. In the trenches on the upper plateau of Doborski breg, the stratigraphic picture is uniform: The uppermost cultural layers, with a depth of up to 1 m, were formed from the rubble of the medieval fortress, while a layer with a depth of up to 2.2m belongs to the settlement of the Final Bronze Age and the Early Iron Age. Also, a pronounced natural downhill course of the terrain towards the Bosna river was recorded. The largest quantity of archaeological material is composed of ceramics, which in this case are crucial to defining the chronology and stratigraphy of the site. A slightly smaller quantity of animal bones, as well as tools made of bone and antler, were also collected.⁸

Eneolithic horizon

A few dozen ceramic fragments belong to the Late Eneolithic, and can be divided into two cultural horizons. The ceramic material of the

older horizon belongs to the Kostolac culture. Typologically, bowls are most represented, decorated in a typical Kostolac manner; primarily furrowed incisions and pricking, often filled with white incrustation (T. I, 3–10). One fragment most likely belongs to a pot with characteristic grooved hanging triangles (T. I, 9). The Kostolac culture has been dated to the period from the end of the 4th into the 3rd millennium BCE. It has been defined as a distinct cultural phenomenon in the archaeological literature since 1953, primarily according to the shapes and ways of decorating ceramic vessels. Based on the same characteristics, it is often associated with the Baden, Vučedol and Coțofeni cultures.⁹ From the moment of its appearance until its final stages, the Kostolac culture was spread over an area covering eastern Slavonia, Syrmia and northern Bosnia, all the way to central Serbia and Pomoravlje. The presence of this attractive and characteristic style of decoration has also been registered in

⁸ Bulatović / Jašarević 2020, 96.

⁹ Tasić 1995, 59; Balen 2002, 35; Kapuran / Bulatović 2012; Đukić 2018, 87.

the Carpathian Basin, Transdanubia and parts of Slovakia, wherein the Kostolac culture appears in isolation, or within the context of other cultural groups.¹⁰ The origins of the Kostolac culture have been discussed by many authors, and most agree that it developed under the influences of the Baden culture on autochthonous Neolithic populations in eastern Slavonia and Sylvania, and that it existed independently until the establishment of the Vučedol culture, for which served as a basis for further development of the ornamental style. The relative chronological position of the Kostolac culture has been determined at many sites in relation to the cultural phenomena that preceded it, or those that appeared after it.¹¹ The results of recent research show that the Kostolac culture is at least partly contemporary to the classic Baden culture, and that it partly coexisted parallel to the early Vučedol culture.¹² The topographical characteristics of sites at which a presence of the Kostolac culture has been recorded exhibit certain patterns in the selection of locations for building settlements. All the settlements were built along larger or smaller watercourses, which, in addition to meeting the basic conditions for life, also had a strategic position. Settlements were built on natural elevations with wide plateaus near rivers.¹³ The number of Kostolac culture sites in northern Bosnia is not large, but they show the same characteristics in the formation of settlements and similar stratigraphic relationships to those of neighboring regions. The settlement at Dobor is certainly connected to the nearby settlements at Pivnica in Potočani,¹⁴ and Donja Mahala on the Sava, near Orašje.¹⁵ A larger settlement, Vis in Modran, is located somewhat to the west, and exhibits a mixture of elements of the Kostolac and early Vučedol cultures.¹⁶ The rest of the settlements of this cultural group are located along the Bosna river and its tributaries, and evidence migra-

tory movements along the river valley from northern to central Bosnia. The site of Gradina in Mravići, above the Bosna river near Doboj, also has two Late Eneolithic horizons; Kostolac and late Vučedol.¹⁷ Further south, traces of the Kostolac culture have been registered at the Obre II site near Kakanj,¹⁸ and quite sporadically at Gradina in Alihodže, near Bila.¹⁹ At present, one should apply caution when defining the Kostolac horizon at the Klisura site in Kadića Brdo on Glasinac, because the results of excavations have not been fully published.²⁰ A larger number of Kostolac settlements in the area of Semberija, i.e. the confluence of the Drina and Sava rivers, is to be expected. Currently, however, proof of the presence of the bearers of this culture in this area is derived solely from one grave from Silajet, in Dvorovi near Bijeljina.²¹

The youngest Eneolithic culture whose traces of settlement can be recorded on Dobor is the Vučedol culture. Most of the ceramic material found on Dobor fits completely into the standard ceramography of the classic Vučedol culture. The ceramics were made of sandy clay, often with admixtures of crushed stones. The treatment of the surface varies from rough, through smooth, to specimens with a polished surface. In vessels with a rough texture, the surface is poorly smoothed and uneven, and is most often lighter in color, while those with a finer finish have a smoothed, flat surface, from various shades of gray to completely black. The ceramics attributed to the Vučedol culture have been primarily separated based on ornamental style and shape. Due to fragmentation, it is only possible to determine the typological characteristics of a few vessels, while a large proportion of the sherds remained typologically undetermined due to having mostly been parts of the vessel body and smaller fragments of edges and bases, which, due to insufficient data, were not possible to typologically define in further detail. By analyzing the shapes of ceramic vessels, we were able to distinguish several functional types of vessels: bowls, pots/pithos and terrines. Of the pots/

¹⁰ Tasić 1979, 237-242; Bondár 1984, 61-64; Tasić 1995, 59-60; Siklósi 2004, 144-145; Đukić 2018, 87.

¹¹ Tasić 1995, 64; Nikolić 2000, 80; Đukić 2018, 88; cf. Brnić 2020, 242-243.

¹² Đukić 2018, 88.

¹³ Balen 2002, 43; cf. Nikolić 2000, 40; Petrović / Jovanović 2002, 287.

¹⁴ Benac 1962, 21.

¹⁵ Benac 1980, 17.

¹⁶ Belić 1964, 22-23; Dimitrijević 1979, 277, 279; Benac 1980, 22; cf. Marijanović 2003, 191-192.

¹⁷ The material from the Gradina in Mravići has not been published; it is housed in the Museum in Tešanj.

¹⁸ Benac 1971, 28, 138.

¹⁹ Benac 1950, 20, T. V, 11.

²⁰ Govedarica 1990.

²¹ Tasić 1979, 252; Nikolić 2000, 45.

pithos, only the large, tunnel-shaped handles of larger dimensions have been preserved, with such vessels having been mainly used for storing and preparing food (T. II, 16–19). Their rim diameter is generally smaller than the diameter of the body or shoulder. In contrast, bowls are wide and shallower vessels, with conical, biconical and straight edges, the height of which is smaller than the largest diameter (T. II, 11–13, T. III, 20–21). The ornamented vessels correspond to the Slavonian–Syrmanian classic Vučedol phase in terms of their manufacturing method, decoration – incising and furrowing filled with incrustation (T. II, 11–14) – and motifs; a solar motif of concentric circles (Plate III, 22–24). Also, the chessboard motif is made by furrowing (T. III, 26) and corresponds to the Slavonian–Syrmanian classical Vučedol culture phase. A hatched zigzag band – made by incising, furrowing, notching or puncturing – appears on several fragments. One fragment most likely belongs to a square vessel with an incised zigzag motif (T. II, 15). The Vučedol culture has its origins in the Slavonia–Syrmania region, from which it later spread throughout Europe.²² The Vučedol culture has been present in the area of northern Bosnia (Vis–Modran) since its earliest phase,²³ while in later phases it expanded, with its population increasing, coming to form a larger number of settlements with different topographical characteristics. This horizon of maximum expansion of the Vučedol population is defined by two regional types on the territory of Bosnia; the West Bosnian or Hrustovački, and the South Bosnian or Debelo brdo type.²⁴ Settlements in the lowland area are mostly located on elevated plateaus and terraces along rivers or small streams,²⁵ while in the hilly and mountainous landscape of Bosnia hillfort-type settlements, as well as caves and rock shelters, have been recorded. This last group is most likely the result of an economic strategy involving livestock farming as the primary form of livelihood, which is associated with a more pronounced mobility of a community and

individuals.²⁶ The different economic strategies of the Vučedol population, which included agriculture, livestock farming, hunting and metallurgy, resulted in social stratification. In economic terms, the specialization of crafts is visible in both metallurgical and pottery craft specialization. In particular, stylistic analyses on ceramic material from other periods suggest that complex decorative design may be one of the good indicators of a more complex social stratification, which is most evident in the Vučedol decorative style.²⁷

The horizon of the Final Bronze and Early Iron Age

The basic chronological framework for most prehistoric periods in the different regions of Bosnia is, in a majority of cases, based solely on the development of pottery styles. This is especially the case in areas where metal finds are absent or poorly preserved, with pottery, as the most common find category, serving as a primary source of information. Most vessels are only partially preserved, with their typological determination being primarily based on the form of the upper part, classifying them as belonging to different types of bowls, jars/pots, cups, storage vessels (pithoi), miniature vessels and spindle whorls. Analysis of decoration may also include small sherds that bear such evidence.

Storage vessels (pithoi)

Storage vessels come in three variants: the rim may be strongly everted (T. 12: 77–80; T. 13: 81–82), elongated and cylindrical (T. 11: 74) or only slightly everted (T. 11: 75–76); these are made of a clay of the same composition as the bowls (see below). The color varies from black to reddish. The first type has a rim which is slightly narrower than the maximum diameter of vessel, decorated with a cordon with fingerprints impressions (T. 11: 73). Pithoi with an elongated neck and those with a slightly everted rim have a characteristic decoration in the form of pseudo-cord impressing (T. 11: 74, 76). The most common type is pithoi with strongly everted rims (T. 12: 77–80; T. 13: 81–82). The inside of the everted rim can

²² Miloglav 2018, 113.

²³ Dimitrijević 1979, 279.

²⁴ Dimitrijević 1979, 278, 308–310; Tasić 1995, 76; Marijano-
vić 2003, 206.

²⁵ Miloglav 2018, 119; cf. Benac 1950, 18–21; 1959, 13; Raunig 2001, 127–128; Jamaković 2017, 47–48.

²⁶ Benac 1948, 22.

²⁷ Miloglav 2018, 125.

be decorated as an internally faceted rim, with a pair of horizontal incised lines or with pseudo-cord impressing. Similar decoration is also present below the rim on the neck of the vessel. Most forms remained in use over long periods, appearing in the Ha A, Ha B and even Ha C1 periods.²⁸ Some of the decorated fragments of vessel bells can also be attributed to pithoi, with the decoration aiding in more precise chronological determination. Primarily, these are decorations in the form of hanging garlands, which are isolated or grouped around a short handle (T. 15: 98–100). The closest analogy for this form and decoration is known from the Kalakača–Gornea and Bosut–Basarabi horizons in Podunavlje, where they were commonly used as storage vessels.²⁹

Jars/pots

Vessels that are formally similar to pithoi but have a smaller capacity are classified as jars/pots. These come in different shapes and sizes, and with a variety of decorative motifs. They can be classified as jars of conical shape (T. 9: 61; T. 10: 67) or with S-shaped profiles (T. 10: 71; T. 11: 72). Other jars include those characterized by a low conical or hemispherical body and an everted rim (T. 9: 62–65; T. 10: 68–70). They are equipped with short tongue- or button-shaped handles, while decoration is in the form of a hanging ribbon with fingerprint impressions or incised lines and hanging hatched triangles. They were very common both in the Late Bronze Age settlements of Ha A and Ha B and in Early Iron Age settlements in northern Bosnia; this has already been observed by previous authors, who discussed the comparisons in detail.³⁰

Bowls

Bowls with inverted rims are one of the most common elements of household pottery, and are therefore the most frequent form of vessel type.³¹ However, without certain stratigraphic contexts, their precise chronological determination is problematic. Furthermore, they are a long lasting

and very widely spread type.³² On the basis of rim decoration, sherds belonging to bowls with inverted rims can be divided into six groups: those with wide horizontal fluting outer rims (T. 4: 27–31; T. 5: 32–33; T. 6: 37), those decorated with oblique channeling on the outer side of the rim (T. 6: 40–42), bowls with deep oblique or horizontal grooves on the rim (T. 5: 53; T. 6: 36; T. 7: 43, 46), bowls with dimples on the rim (T. 7: 45; T. 8: 49–50), those with small transverse ribs (T. 6: 38; T. 8: 47–48), and undecorated examples (T. 8: 51–52). The problem of their origin, chronology and distribution has been a topic within archaeological literature for many years.³³

The first group of bowls includes a form of horizontal faceting of the rims; this is an enduring decorative technique used on bowls with inverted rims that can be traced back to the Br D–Ha A1/2 period in the areas where the Baierdorf–Velatice and Čaka groups were present,³⁴ and is also often found in the Transdanubia region.³⁵ In north-western Croatia, bowls with horizontally faceted rims are present in sites of the Virovitica group, such as Kalnik–Igrišće, dated to the Br D/Ha A period.³⁶ In the Slovenian Styria region, horizontally faceted bowls are present during the late phase of the Urnfield culture and Early Iron Age.³⁷ In the Ormož settlement, they present spans from the Ha B1–3 through to the Ha C1 horizon,³⁸ while in Lower Carniola they are predominantly dated to the Podzemelj I and Podzemelj II horizons.³⁹ They are particularly numerous in the Dalj cultural group of the early Iron Age, appearing in pottery horizon IIIa and in horizons IIIb and IV according to the typology of C. Metzner-Nebelsick.⁴⁰ They are also one of the most frequent pottery shapes in the Batina cemetery.⁴¹ The Doroslovo cemetery likewise contained many bowls with a globular body and inverted rim with horizontal fluting.⁴² As at

²⁸ Петровић 2010, 235.

²⁹ Medović 1978, 24, 30; 1988, 383–384; Петровић 2010, 198; Jevtić 2011, 36.

³⁰ Marić 1962; Gavranović 2011; Jašarević 2018.

³¹ Medović 1988, 384.

³² Gavranović 2011; 40; Rakvin 2015, 84.

³³ Булатовић 2009, 90; Bulatović 2019, 215; Милојевић / Капуран 2023, 73.

³⁴ Vrdoljak 1994, 28, 63; Bulatović 2019, 220; Rakvin 2015, 84.

³⁵ Ilon 2011, 149–150.

³⁶ Vrdoljak 1994, 28–29, T. 16: 1–3, 17: 2–3.

³⁷ Dular 2013, 45–46; Grahek 2021, 41.

³⁸ Dular / Tomanić Jevremov 2010, 76, 79.

³⁹ Dular 1982, 75.

⁴⁰ Metzner-Nebelsick 2002, 136.

⁴¹ Dizdar et al. 2019, 104.

⁴² Трајковић 2008, 341, 349.

Batina, these bowls were often used as urn lids at this cemetery.⁴³ Such bowls are particularly widespread during the Bosut IIIa phase or the Gornea–Kalakača horizon in Podunavlje.⁴⁴ In the areas south of the river Sava, they are commonly found at Donja Dolina, where they are dated to phase Ia,⁴⁵ on Gradina in Mravići near Dobož⁴⁶ and at Dubrave near Tuzla,⁴⁷ dating to the late 9th or early 8th century BCE.⁴⁸ In addition to faceting, these vessels may be decorated with notches on the very edge or dimpled recesses, with analogies of this being known from Gradina on the river Bosut.⁴⁹

The second group of bowls, i.e. those with obliquely channelled inverted rims, reveals strong ties with the pottery of the Baierdorf–Velatice group in north-eastern Austria, north-eastern Slovenia, Moravia and north-western Hungary, mainly dated to the Ha A1 horizon.⁵⁰ This decorative style remained popular during the Ha B phase across the entire area of the late-phase Urnfield culture, and also during the Early Iron Age.⁵¹ They are common in hillfort settlements like Varavara, from phases C2 and C3, and throughout stratum III from Zecovi.⁵² It is interesting to note that they are completely absent from the ceramography of the well-stratified sites of Vis and Pod.⁵³ Furthermore, bowls of this type are characteristic of Donja Dolina during the Ib phase.⁵⁴ Interestingly, the presented material from Topolovace Bregovi includes several fragments that clearly point to the younger phase of the Late Bronze Age (Ha A2 – Ha B1).⁵⁵ At Kekić Gradina, near Bosanski Petrovac, and Brdašće, near Laktaši, bowls with obliquely channelled inverted rims are characteristic of the younger settlement horizon from the end of Ha B3 and the beginning of Ha C1.⁵⁶ This period

corresponds to the fragments from Ljeskovac – Poljaci⁵⁷ and Brdo in Gornja Laništa, near Brčko,⁵⁸ Vuknić near Gračanice,⁵⁹ and Krešića Gradina in Dubrave, near Tuzla.⁶⁰ The dating of the bowls from Gradina in Mravići can be definitively chronologically positioned in the final phases of Ha B3 and the beginning of Ha C1.⁶¹ Such bowls are also present in phase Bosut IIIa–b in the Podunavlje region.⁶²

The third group, which includes a number of sherds from the Dobor hillfort, is of fragments classified as belonging to bowls with inverted rims that are decorated with deep oblique or horizontal grooves on the rim. Analogies for these can be found at the Vis settlement, where they are generally attributed to the late phase of the Urnfield culture.⁶³ Furthermore, they are characteristic for the settlement at Pod, where they are described as an imitation of so-called turban-rim bowls.⁶⁴ However, their occurrence in this settlement is limited to the oldest layer of the Pod B phase.⁶⁵ In Varavara, the presence of bowls with deep oblique or horizontal grooves on the rim is limited to the C3 phase.⁶⁶ A similar situation can be said to exist for the fourth group, i.e. that where decoration consists of dimpled depressions around the edge.

The fifth group includes bowls with inverted rims that are decorated with small transverse ribs. While this type lacks in analogies in the immediate region, this may be due to the insufficient state of research, but the idea that this may well be a typological characteristic of pottery production in the Podunavlje area should also be considered.⁶⁷

The final group of bowls with inverted rims are the plain undecorated bowls. These are chronologically less diagnostic. Production can be attributed to entire late phase of Urnfield period and into the Early Iron Age, across an area

⁴³ Medović 1978, 24, 30.

⁴⁴ Medović 1978, 30; 1988, 384–385; cf. Popović 1981, 27.

⁴⁵ Marić 1964, 25, T. II, 6.

⁴⁶ Jašarević 2018, 38, Fig. 18: 23. 19: 11.

⁴⁷ Milić 1984, 28, T. I, 2.

⁴⁸ Jašarević 2018, 38, Fig. 18: 23. 19: 11.

⁴⁹ Medović 1978, T. XC, 5–6.

⁵⁰ Grahek 2021, 41; Kramberger / Črešnar 2021, 79.

⁵¹ Vrdoljak 1994, 29; Rakvin 2015, 85.

⁵² Čović 1965, T. I, 6; Gavranović 2011, 47.

⁵³ Gavranović 2011, 47; Jašarević 2018, 38.

⁵⁴ Marić 1964, 28.

⁵⁵ Belić 2010, 236, T. IX, 3–4. X, 1; Gavranović / Ložnjak Dizdar 2019, 142.

⁵⁶ Čović 1962, 43; Jamaković / Žeravica 2010, 51–52.

⁵⁷ Milić 1980, T. I, 1–2.

⁵⁸ Milić 1991, 16, T. I, 1–2.

⁵⁹ Kosorić 1980, 109, T. XII, 74

⁶⁰ Milić 1984, 28, T. I, 1.

⁶¹ Jašarević 2018, 38.

⁶² Medović 1978, 25; Medović / Medović 2011, 279; Петровић 2010, 200.

⁶³ Marić 1962, 156.

⁶⁴ Čović 1965, 60

⁶⁵ Čović 1983, 436; Gavranović 2011, 48.

⁶⁶ Gavranović 2011, 48.

⁶⁷ Medović 1978, T. XCVI, 1.

ranging from the Alpine region to the Central Balkans and Transdanubia.⁶⁸ One characteristic that arguably places them in the younger period is the quality of production;⁶⁹ these bowls are made of high-quality refined clay with powdered stone and sand added to increase the hardness of the pot walls and prevent their breaking in the process of food preparation. They are well-fired, with the surface being black or brown in color and highly polished.

A special category includes the group of conical bowls with decoration below the rim (T. 9: 53–60). The decoration is achieved through incision with a sharp object, and includes motifs of lines, zigzags, coronas, waves, hanging triangles and pseudo-cord impressing. Close parallels can be found at other Late Bronze Age sites, particularly those from the Ha B period, including Pivnica near Odžak⁷⁰ and Brdašće near Laktaši.⁷¹ Further analogies are known eastward, outside northern Bosnia, and are typical for Early Iron Age sites of the Kalakača–Gornea horizon and the early Basarabi phase (i.e. IIIb) of the Bosut culture.⁷²

Miniature vessels

Miniature vessels constitute a special group of finds at a large number of prehistoric sites across southeastern Europe,⁷³ with the settlement at Dobor likewise yielding a few fragments of such implements (T.13: 83–85). These are sometimes interpreted as children's toys, while they may also have simply been containers for storing small quantities of goods such as herbs, spices, pigments, ointments and so forth. Objects that are associated with children are very small, almost miniature, vessels, and often copies of larger functional vessels.⁷⁴ Miniature vessels have been found in settlements dated to the beginning of the Late Bronze Age, and may have been used to serve food and drink for children, or in some cases as toys. Some small vessels may have

been made by children themselves while playing alongside close family members who were making actual (i.e. full-size) vessels or while learning the skills involved in shaping vessels.⁷⁵ It can be seen that a large number of these miniature vessels belong to the older phase of the Late Bronze Age, while the younger phase is marked by a more pronounced presence of zoomorphic and anthropomorphic figures.⁷⁶

Spindle whorls

A special category of ceramic finds are spindle whorls, parts of weaving implements. They occur in different shapes (flat, prismatic and spherical), with a vertical hole used to aid spinning (T. 19: 139–150). Some bear decorative grooves (T. 19: 140). The weight of the whorl in particular may indicate the quality and type of yarn. According to P. Holodňák, whorls measuring up to 35 mm in diameter were used for fine yarn, those measuring up to 45 mm in diameter were presumably used for coarse flax fibers and medium-to-thick wool yarn, while those measuring over 45 mm in diameter were used for thick wool yarn.⁷⁷ Their typological diversity is not chronologically sensitive, because in the local tradition they are forms of long duration and of little cultural or chronological sensitivity.⁷⁸ The only novelty is the spirally grooved spindle whorls (T. 19: 143), which are relatively rare upon the territory of northern Bosnia, and are more common within the Bosut cultural group.⁷⁹

Fragmenta selecta

The ceramic assemblage is relatively fragmented, predominantly consisting of small sherds. Nevertheless, the better-surviving pieces and comparisons with the finds from contemporary settlements helps us in identification and chronological determination. The vessels from the settlement at Dobor were decorated using several techniques: incising (T. 14: 97; T. 15: 98–108; T. 16: 111–113; 116–117; T. 17: 119–120, 123–126; T. 18: 130, 132–136), fluting (T. 16: 114–115,

⁶⁸ Vrdoljak 1994, 28, T. 16: 4, 17: 1, 4; Dular 2013, 46; Rakvin 2015, 85.

⁶⁹ Medović 1978, 30.

⁷⁰ Čović 1965, T. III, 13; Benac 1967, T. III, 1.

⁷¹ Jamaković / Žeravica 2010, 44.

⁷² Medović / Medović 2011, 44, 60; Петровић 2010, 200.

⁷³ Balen-Letunić / Rendić-Miočević 2012; Balj 2014, 72; Pravidur 2014, 51; Perkić 2022, 138–140.

⁷⁴ Balen-Letunić 1982, 69; Ložnjak Dizdar et al. 2024, 44.

⁷⁵ Balj 2014, 72.

⁷⁶ Ložnjak Dizdar et al. 2024, 46.

⁷⁷ Gerbec 2021, 145.

⁷⁸ Jašarević 2018, 31.

⁷⁹ Medović / Medović 2011.

137), impressing (T. 16: 109, 121) and pseudo-cord impressing (T. 17: 127, 129; T. 18: 131).

Fragments of vessels decorated with Basarabi style ornamentation can be singled-out as a special category, with a total of three such fragments having been recorded. The first fragment belongs to the classic repertoire of ceramics decorated in Basarabi style with traces of white inlay. Below the horizontally faceted shoulder are the remains of a horizontal strip filled with the characteristic motif of an S spiral, on which hanging hatched triangles and garlands are suspended. The very texture of the vessel, gray-baked from highly purified clay and polished, stands out from the remainder of the repertoire of ceramics from Dobor, and most likely represents an import. Typologically, it can be allotted to goblets with one or two handles that overhang the rim, analogies of which can be seen in examples from Gradina on the river Bosut⁸⁰ and the Vajuga Pesak necropolis in Đerdap,⁸¹ which date to the first half or middle of the 8th century BCE.⁸² Furthermore, the fragments bear similarities to goblets without handles, such as those from the Moldova Veche⁸³ and the already mentioned Vajuga Pesak necropolis.⁸⁴ The second fragment has thinner walls and one field filled with oblique lines above the spiral. The type of vessel, its texture, and the manner of decoration, are identical to the previous example. The third piece belongs to a pot/jar with an everted rim, the inner edge of which is decorated with two bordered bands filled with a spiral. According to its texture and shape, the pot is of local production.⁸⁵ The Basarabi style, or rather the ornamentation of the Basarabi cultural complex, originated in the southeastern Carpathian Basin and the Lower Danube region, and was widely accepted among various cultural groups, from the area of the middle Dniester in the east, through the northwestern Carpathian Basin to the southeastern Alpine region.⁸⁶ The Croatian

Podunavlje region, or rather the communication route Danube – Sava – Drava, stands out as an important cultural corridor, and the area through which this attractive and characteristic style spread westward.⁸⁷ The regions of eastern Slavonia and Sylvania were places where the influence of the eastern Hallstatt cultural circle and the cultures of the so-called Basarabi complex met, i.e. the contact points of two cultural groups; Dalj and Bosut.⁸⁸ Through this area, the influences reached as far as Carinthia and Styria in the west.⁸⁹ At this extreme eastern edge of the Alpine region, Basarabi motifs were clearly very attractive to local communities and were incorporated into local vessel types.⁹⁰ A clearly defined chronology of material goods is extremely important for researching contacts and exchange. The Basarabi phase of the Bosut group is dated to the 8th century and the first half of the 7th century BCE, which is synchronous with the Ha C1a and Ha C1b phases of Central European chronology. In other words, the assumptions that this phase is preceded by the Kalakača–Gornea horizon, that can be attributed to the 10th–9th centuries BCE, are harmonized.⁹¹ A somewhat earlier dating was put forward by M. Jevtić, placing the Basarabi horizon of the Bosut culture in the time period from the middle of the 9th to the middle of the 8th century BCE.⁹² The fashion and technology of decorating ceramics with motifs from the repertoire of the Basarabi style spread to the south via the Sava river and its tributaries, i.e. the so-called Posavina corridor. Proof of this, in addition to the mentioned Dobor, are the findings of ceramics decorated with Basarabi motifs recorded at the settlement of Zecovi in the Sana valley in northwestern Bosnia, dated to the Ha B3–Ha C1 period,⁹³ and subsequently vessels from the Pod

⁸⁰ Medović 1978, T. XIV, 2; Medović / Medović 2011, T. XIX, 1.

⁸¹ Popović / Vukmanović 1998, T. 14: 2. 16: 10. 22: 12. 24: 1.

⁸² *Ibid.*, 87.

⁸³ Gumă 1993, T. XCV, 5.

⁸⁴ Popović / Vukmanović 1998, T. 33: 1, 11.

⁸⁵ Gavranović 2011, 63.

⁸⁶ Vulpe 1979, 182. Fig. 1; Jevtić 1983, 36; Gumă 1993, 208; Roeder 1997, 601; Зверев 2002, 224; Tasić 2005, 13-14; Kašuba 2007, 371; Metzner-Nebelsick 2010, 137-138; 2017, 365; Jevtić 2016, 10; Dizdar et al. 2019, 110; Ložnjak Dizdar 2020, 157; Teržan / Bricelj 2019, 86; Conrad / Krauss 2020, 476.

⁸⁷ Metzner-Nebelsick 1992, 361; Eibner 1996, 108-109; 2001, 182, 187; Ložnjak Dizdar 2004, 23; 2020, 158; Ninčić 2024, 306.

⁸⁸ Dizdar et al. 2019, 111-112; Ložnjak Dizdar 2020, 148.

⁸⁹ Vulpe 1979, 182; Metzner-Nebelsick 2002, 102-103.

⁹⁰ Metzner-Nebelsick 1992, 361, 368-370; Ložnjak Dizdar 2004, 24; Metzner-Nebelsick 2017, 356; Dizdar et al. 2019, 109.

⁹¹ Vasić 1987, 542-545; Metzner-Nebelsick 1992, 364; 2002, 101; 2010, 137; 2017, 350; Зверев 2002; Pabst 2008, 591; Петровић 2010, 240; Medović / Medović 2011, 150-153; Jevtić 2016, 13; Dizdar et al. 2019, 106; Ložnjak Dizdar 2020, 148-149; Conrad / Krauss 2020, 474.

⁹² Ninčić 2024, 310.

⁹³ Čović 1965, T. II, 7; Ložnjak Dizdar 2004, 25; Gavranović 2007, 52.

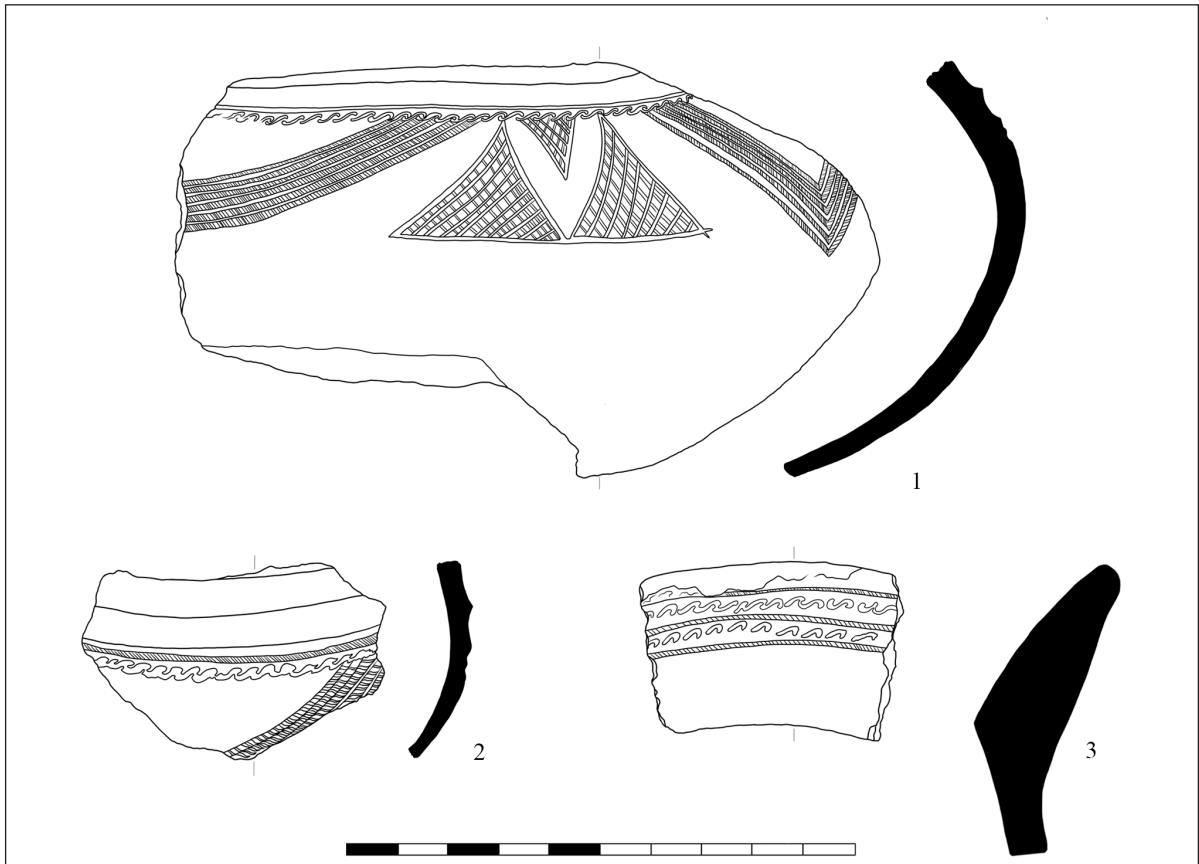


Figure 6. Fragments of Basarabi style pottery from Dobor (drawing: M. Bešliagić).

settlement near Bugojno from the end of the Pod B phase, also synchronous with the end of the Ha B3 period.⁹⁴ Geographically and culturally, the closest analogies were recorded at the hilltop settlement of Bare (Gradovrh) near Tuzla, with characteristic fragments of ceramics decorated in the Basarabi style.⁹⁵

The horizon in which the Basarabi decorative style dominated was also marked by other novelties, some of which probably began to appear even earlier.⁹⁶ One of these novelties is the appearance of horse cheek-pieces made of bone/antler (fig. 6). Their use has been recorded since the Early Bronze Age. However, the context, shape and decoration indicate their reappearance during the Early Iron Age.⁹⁷ In this respect, the find of processed deer antler from Dobor is also interesting. The decoration has been

achieved by combining incised rhombuses and circles with a point and a center. At the base of the antler, a series of circles was created, while in the lower part, combined circles and double lines are carved that form rhombuses between them. First, the circles were made with a sharp and precise tool, while the rhombuses were subsequently carved by rough scraping (fig. 6: 1). The top of the antler is cut flat and decorated with a single circle with a dot in the middle, while it is partially hollowed-out from the base. Although its precise functional role is not clear, these forms are often interpreted as unfinished pieces of horse equipment or objects of unknown purpose.⁹⁸ Nevertheless, the decorated examples are certainly reminiscent of the Basarabi horizon. This is supported by findings of similar objects made of processed antler from Batina (fig. 6: 4).⁹⁹ The most similar specimens, made of deer antlers and decorated with almost the same motif, are

⁹⁴ Čović 1965, T. X, 2; Teržan 1995, 353, Fig. 21: 7; Roeder 1997, 613; Ložnjak Dizdar 2004, 25; Gavranović 2007, 44.

⁹⁵ Gavranović 2007, 58.

⁹⁶ Ninčić 2024, 311.

⁹⁷ Teržan / Bricelj 2019, 89.

⁹⁸ *Ibid.*, 89-90.

⁹⁹ Metzner-Nebelsick 2002, 618, T. 29: 1-3.

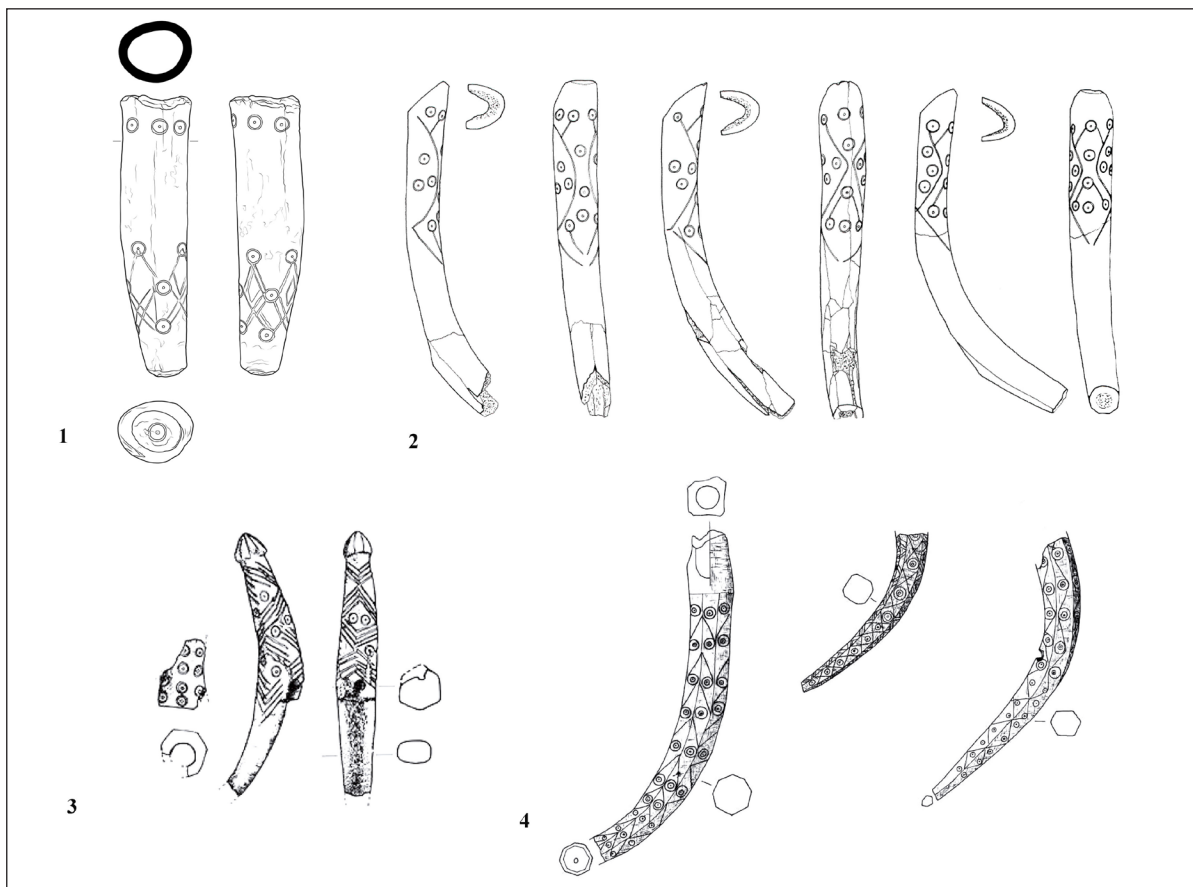


Figure 7. *Processed and decorated antlers: 1. Dobor (drawing: M. Bešliagić) 2. Đepfeld, Doroslovo (Трајковић 2008) 3. Kapiteljska njiva, Novo Mesto (Teržan, Bricelj 2020) Batina (Metzner-Nebelsick 2002).*

attested among the finds from grave 10/1963 in Đepfeld near Doroslovo (fig. 6: 2), which is dated to the late phase of the burials, i.e., approximately the 7th century BCE.¹⁰⁰ A secure context is also confirmed by the so-called ‘horseman burial 33’ from the Kapiteljska njiva necropolis in Novo Mesto (fig. 6: 3). Horse cheek-pieces made of antler are dated to the period from the middle of the 9th to the 8th century BCE.¹⁰¹ It has been suggested that this is an imported product from the Middle Danube, which is additionally confirmed by the finding of ceramics with Basarabi decoration in the same grave.¹⁰²

One fragment of a vessel with a foot has on the inside of the base a decoration in the form of polished fluted semicircles around a central omphalos (T. 13: 87). It has the same color and clay composition as the others fragments with Basarabi decoration. The form of decoration is

characteristic of the Bosut IIIc period.¹⁰³ For the beginning of the Early Iron Age, a similar concept of decorating the base interiors of dishes and bowls had spread across the areas extending from Moravia and Lower Austria to Styria and south-east Pannonia, with such decoration consisting of different central and radiating motifs usually formed of polished strips. Such decoration of vessel interiors was common in the Dalj and Donja Dolina groups.¹⁰⁴

Fragments of two small single-handled vessels can be attributed to cups (T. 14: 91–92). Also, small twisted handles may be parts of cups, jugs or beakers (T. 14: 95–96). Several fragments belong to vessels with fluted ornamentation (T. 16: 114–115). The same vessel type also came to light from the Pivnica site, dated to the Ha B3 period.¹⁰⁵ This form of pottery is especially wide-

¹⁰⁰ Трајковић 2008, 330, 346, 351, Fig. 1–3.

¹⁰¹ Teržan / Bricelj 2019, 93–94.

¹⁰² Ibid., 91.

¹⁰³ Medović 1978, 36.

¹⁰⁴ Marić 1964, 35; Metzner-Nebelsick 2002; Gerbec 2021, 132.

¹⁰⁵ Benac 1967, T. III, 3.

spread within the Dalj group of the Early Iron Age (Ha C).¹⁰⁶ All other fragments are ornamented with the typical repertoire of ornaments from the Vis–Pivnica horizon of the Late Bronze Age of northern Bosnia (Ha B2/3), with close parallels from the Kalakača–Gornea horizon in the Podunavlje area.¹⁰⁷

The Late Iron Age horizon

Late Iron Age pottery is recorded in the northern and central parts of Doborski breg, while there are no traces of settlement from this period at the southern end.¹⁰⁸ Ceramic material can be divided into two groups based on typological and technological criteria: hand-made pottery and pottery made on a wheel. Some of the material, most often pots, was initially hand-made and subsequently processed on a wheel, which is often the case with Late Iron Age ceramics. Hand-made pottery was made from a clay mixture containing crushed stone and organic material. The pots are roughly made, often with a rounded and thickened rim. The surface is decorated with a comb-like decoration (T. 20: 151, 162, 164). A fragment of a pot with a characteristic perforation below the rim (T. 20: 151) is defined as type I.1.5. according to the typology of ceramics by I. Drnić from the Historical Archives site in Sisak.¹⁰⁹ There is also a pot with a thickened rim and a groove underneath, made of high-quality clay and fired in a gray tone (T. 20: 153). All these pot shapes are extremely numerous at the Late Iron Age sites of southern Pannonia, starting from the Middle La Tène period.¹¹⁰ They have also been recorded on the periphery of the La Tène culture, in the Central Bosnian group, and are particularly numerous at Donja Dolina.¹¹¹ Pots of the same type at the Crkvina site near Dobož were recorded in a context with a Jezerina-type fibula (type IIa2) from the end of the 1st century BCE.¹¹² The bowls are represented by characteristic La Tène shapes

of S-profile, or type II.2.1., according to the typology of I. Drnić.¹¹³ Made on a potter's wheel from highly purified clay and fired in gray tones (T. 20: 155; T. 21: 158–160), the most examples exhibit a partially polished surface, or, less often, a smoothed one. This ceramic form appeared in the 3rd century BCE, becoming the most numerous wheel-spun pottery type during the 2nd and 1st centuries BCE.¹¹⁴ Mixed in with the ceramics of the Late Iron Age were a few fragments of Roman pottery; flat-bottomed conical plates with a rim that was thickened in a semicircular shape (T. 21: 161, 163). It is assumed that plates with a recessed rim appeared somewhat earlier, from the middle of the 2nd century CE, and were widespread throughout Pannonia.¹¹⁵ Given the context and forms that are present throughout the entire Late Iron Age, it is possible to roughly establish the boundaries of use of site as being between the 3rd and 1st centuries BCE, or from the Lt C1 phase to the Lt D2 phase according to the Central European periodization.

Conclusion

The date of the settlement at Dobor is currently exclusively based on ceramic finds. Our knowledge regarding the level of organization of the settlement is still highly fragmented, and far from providing a complete picture of the settlement system. This is certainly the case for the traces of habitation from the earliest Eneolithic periods, where, apart from the division of the ceramic inventory into the Kostolac and Vučedol phases, nothing more can be said based on the current state of research. The situation of the most recent traces of material culture from the Late Iron Age is comparable. On the other hand, although fragmented, the archaeological record from the Late Bronze/Early Iron Age provides us with a little more information in the context of ceramic production, connections and mobilities in this period. During the final stages of the Late Bronze Age (Ha B1– Ha B3), transformations

¹⁰⁶ Metzner-Nebelsick 2002, 120–122, Fig. 45.

¹⁰⁷ Medović 1988, 314–323; Popović 1981, T. XXXIX–XLI; Gavranović 2011, 93–106.

¹⁰⁸ Belić 1986, 15.

¹⁰⁹ Drnić / Miletić Čakširan 2014, 163, Fig. 7.

¹¹⁰ Drnić / Skelac 2008, 396; Drnić / Miletić Čakširan 2014, 163.

¹¹¹ Perić 1995, 127; Žeravica 1985, 39.

¹¹² Basler 1960, 80, Fig. 6; cf. Drnić / Tonc 2014, 193–194.

¹¹³ Drnić / Miletić Čakširan 2014, 182, Fig. 13; cf. Dizdar 2001, 41.

¹¹⁴ Marić 1963, 77; Žeravica 1985, 37; Popović 2003, 312, T. I, 16–21. II, 1–17; Dizdar 2001, 58; Drnić / Skelac 2008, 393; Dizdar 2013, 125.

¹¹⁵ Nikolić-Đorđević 2000, 112; Žigić 2017, 140.

took place within the supra-regional distribution network.¹¹⁶ This is an indicator of wider changes in production and consumption, which led to the development of new economic strategies in local communities. There ensued intensive building of hilltop settlements.¹¹⁷ The erection of settlements on hilltops and other prominent locations seems to reflect a new settlement concept and economic strategy, which included exploitation of local resources on a large scale, more pronounced local and regional communications in the form of trade and exchange and, above all, a stronger cultural influence of larger metallurgical centers.¹¹⁸ The shift in settlement patterns could potentially be a result of changing ecological conditions. For instance, frequent and unexpected flooding of large rivers may have forced the population to settle in locations that were safe from flooding. Another reason could have been the apparent increase in the size of populations occupying the wider region, which could have led to regional conflicts over strategic resources and trade routes. Dobor's main communication lines run in an N–S direction, making it an area of contact along the river Bosna and both east and westward along the Sava. The characteristics of settlement in northern Bosnia in the Late Bronze and Early Iron Ages have already been well-explored.¹¹⁹

The ceramic assemblage forms the overwhelming proportion of the recovered inventory, also yielding the most information. Comparisons show that the motifs and decorative techniques on the pottery from the Dobor settlement do not differ from those observed on other sites of the Vis–Pivnica groups, with more close parallels from the Kalakača–Gornea and Bosut–Basarabi horizons in the Podunavlje area. Based on the ceramic inventory, we see a craft tradition of combining motifs from the local repertoire, but also motifs that were imported and applied to forms that are also of local or foreign origin. The above-described pottery decorated with engraved isolated lines or bunches of lines has also been uncovered in the settlements of the Kalakača–Gornea phase of the Bosut group, and dated from the 10th to the end of 9th century BCE,

or the Ha B period.¹²⁰ In terms of the transition between the Kalakača–Gornea pottery and the early Basarabi style, there is most probably a certain period of overlap, as indicated by the ceramic repertoire of some features from Gradina on the river Bosut.¹²¹ We can assume that it is in this context (i.e. one of intensive communications and mobility from the beginning of the Iron Age) that Basarabi-style ceramics from Dobor, and also from site of Bare near Tuzla, appear. The fact that pottery finds with idiosyncratic Basarabi decorations also appear in the regions outside of the core zone in the Lower Danube area, both towards the west (reaching the south-eastern Alps), and towards the east (to the north-western Black Sea region), enables a solid cross-chronological linking of this phenomenon and its correlation with Early Iron Age developments (Ha C1 stage) between Central Europe and the Black Sea.¹²² Consequently, it can be concluded that the beginning of the Early Iron Age in northern Bosnia is clearly marked by spreading of Kalakača pottery and appearance of early pottery decorated with typical Basarabi ornamentation, which is definitively connected with the earliest appearances of iron objects.¹²³ As for subsistence, Dobor yielded a small quantity of faunal remains, mainly semi-finished antler fragments.¹²⁴ The role of the settlement at Dobor was probably comparable to that of the other lowland and hilltop settlements in the area, in that it was a partly self-sufficient agricultural settlement established in the hinterland of a hillfort that functioned as a regional center.

¹¹⁶ Gavranović 2013, 153; 2017, 119; Gavranović / Jašarević 2016, 94–95.

¹¹⁷ Jašarević 2018, 31.

¹¹⁸ Gavranović 2012, 106.

¹¹⁹ Gavranović 2011; Jamaković 2010; 2011; Jašarević 2018.

¹²⁰ Medović 1978, 40; Vasić 1987, 544–545; Gumă 1995, 113.

¹²¹ Medović / Medović 2011, 41; Gavranović 2020.

¹²² Gavranović 2020.

¹²³ Ibid.

¹²⁴ Bulatović / Jašarević 2020, 96.

Rezime

Dobor u praistoriji – zaštitna istraživanja iz 1978. godine

Dobor, u stručnoj literaturi poznat još i kao Doborkula, Gradina-Dobor, uzdiže se na blagoj, ali dominantnoj kosi između lijeve obale Bosne i potoka Munjača, 4 km uzvodno od Modriče. Najlakši put iz Posavine i Slavonije u unutrašnjost Bosne ide riječnom dolinom kroz široki klanac između krajnjih padina planine Vučjaka i Trebave. Dobor je upravo izgrađen na ulazu u taj klanac i sa punim pravom nosi naziv “vrata Bosne”. Dosadašnja arheološka istraživanja pokazala su da je primarna pozicija iskorištena za gradnju srednjovjekovnog utvrđenja, korištenog i tokom osmanskog perioda. Južni dio lokaliteta označen toponimom Doborski breg, koji je ujedno i odsječen dubokim rovom, naseljavao je u znatnom vremenskom periodu. Praistorijski nalazi pripadaju višeslojnim gradinskim naseljima kasnoeneolitske kostolačke i vučedolske kulture, zatim naselju finalnog bronzanog i ranog željeznog doba, te manjoj naseobini s kraja željeznog doba. Sistematska istraživanja na prostoru tvrđave obavljena su između 1969. i 1973. godine pod rukovodstvom Ive Bojanovskog ispred Republičkog zavoda za zaštitu spomenika kulture BiH u Sarajevu. Nova, sada zaštitnog istraživačkog karaktera, iskopavanja izvršena su 1978. godine, nakon velikih oštećenja uzrokovanih izgradnjom dionica magistralne ceste M17 od Doboja do Modriče tokom 1975. godine. Branko Belić iz Muzeja u Doboju u periodu od 9. do 30. 7. 1978. godine izvršio je iskopavanja manjeg obima. Sonda 2 dimenzija 10 x 2,5 m i sonda 3, dimenzija 18 x 3 m, orijentacije istok–zapad, postavljene su na usječeni profil gornje terase. Takođe su izvršena dva iskopa na gornjem platou Doborskog brega, kao kontrolni rovovi, jedan veličine 5 x 1 m, a drugi 6 x 2 m. Iskopavanja su vršena mehaničkim skidanjem otkopnih slojeva debljine od 0,20 m. Očuvani kulturni sloj pratio je pad terena tako da su na zapadnoj strani slojevi sasvim plitko očuvani dubine 0,20–0,50 m, dok su na istočnoj polovini dosežali dubinu od 5 do 7,9 m. Iz kratkog izvještaja rezultata arheoloških iskopavanja saznajemo da je strana Doborskog brega okrenuta prema rijeci Bosni, na visini kota od 110 do 122 metra, uglavnom slabo očuvana. Djelimično prirodnom erozijom tla, a većim dijelom oštećenja nastaju u srednjem vijeku gradnjom tvrđave i formiranjem istovremene nekropole. Tada je stara forma gradinskog naselja uništena. Idući prema sjeveru praistorijski kulturni slojevi su bolje očuvani. Opšta stratigrafska slika praistorijskih slojeva pokazala je znatno vremensko korištenje lokacije od kasnog

eneolita, finalnog bronzanog doba, ranog željeznog doba i tokom mlađeg željeznog doba. U sondi 2 materijal iz ovih epoha bio je izmiješan i nije bilo moguće izdvojiti pojedinačne slojeve. Sonda 3 pokazala je nešto bolju stratigrafsku situaciju. Slojevi kostolačke i vučedolske kulture plitko su očuvani na prvobitnom humusnom tlu. Materijal iz finalnog bronzanog i ranog željeznog doba najbolje je očuvan i pokazuje da se radi o dugotrajnom i značajnom gradinskom nalazištu. Slojevi ovog razdoblja mahom su ukopavani u starije eneolitske slojeve, evidentirana su najmanje dva horizonta naselja. No, treba imati na umu da su iskopavanja obavljena na južnoj periferiji praistorijskog naselja, gdje su objekti formirani najvjerovatnije na terasama i podzidama. Pojava keramike mlađeg željeznog doba, van jasnog stratigrafskog sloja, samo daje naznake manjeg naselja na sjevernoj strani padine. U sondama na gornjem platou doborskog brijega, statigrafska slika je ujednačena. Prvi kulturni slojevi, dubine do 1 m, formirani su od štata srednjovjekovne tvrđave, dok sloj do dubine 2,2 m pripada naselju finalnog bronzanog doba i ranog željeznog doba, s tim da je i ovdje evidentiran izrazit pad terena prema rijeci Bosni. Najbrojniji dio arheološkog materijala svakako je keramika, koja je u ovom slučaju i najvažnija za definisanje hronologije i stratigrafije nalazišta. Sakupljena je i nešto manja količina životinjskih kostiju te alatki od kosti i roga.

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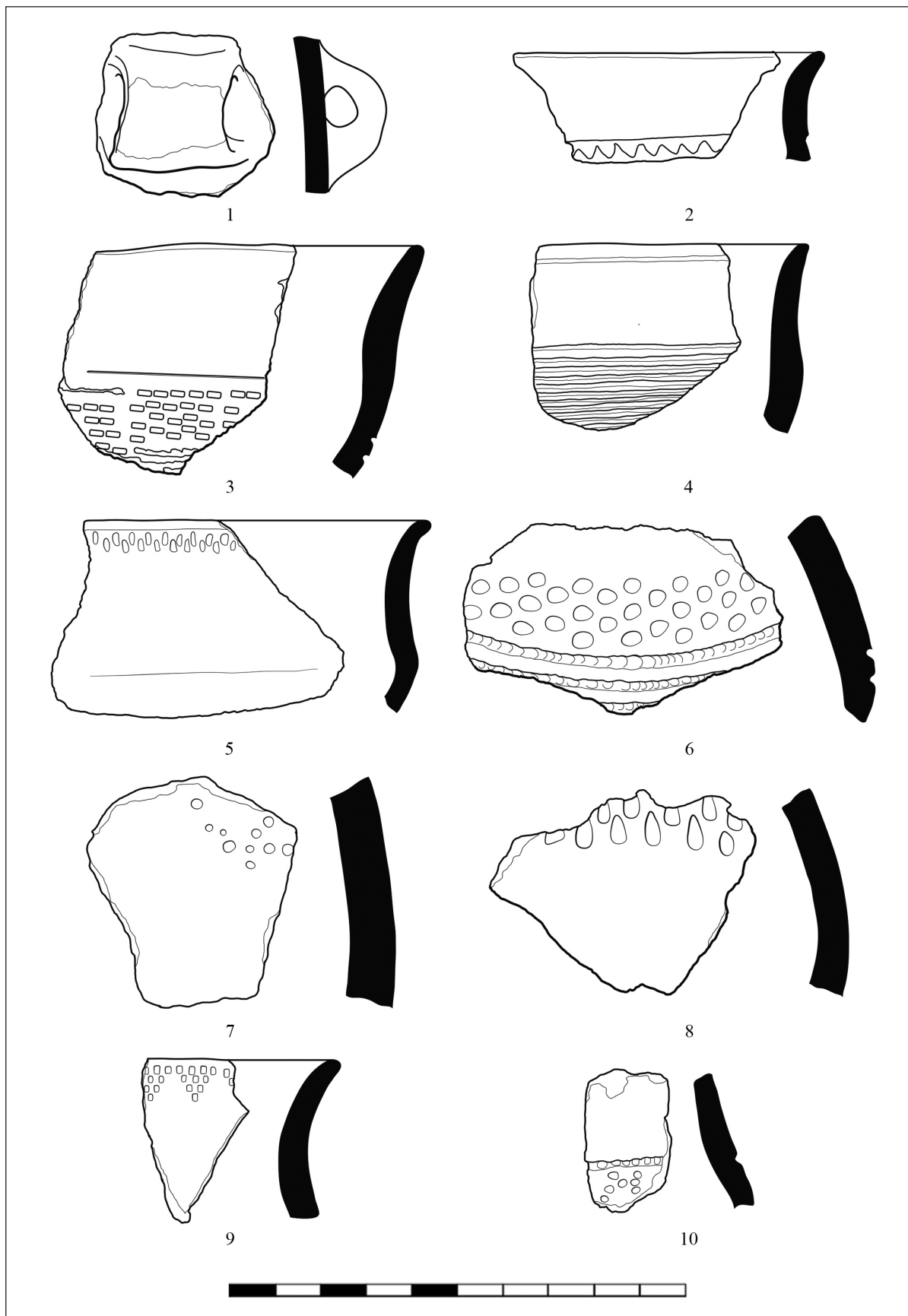


Tabla 1.

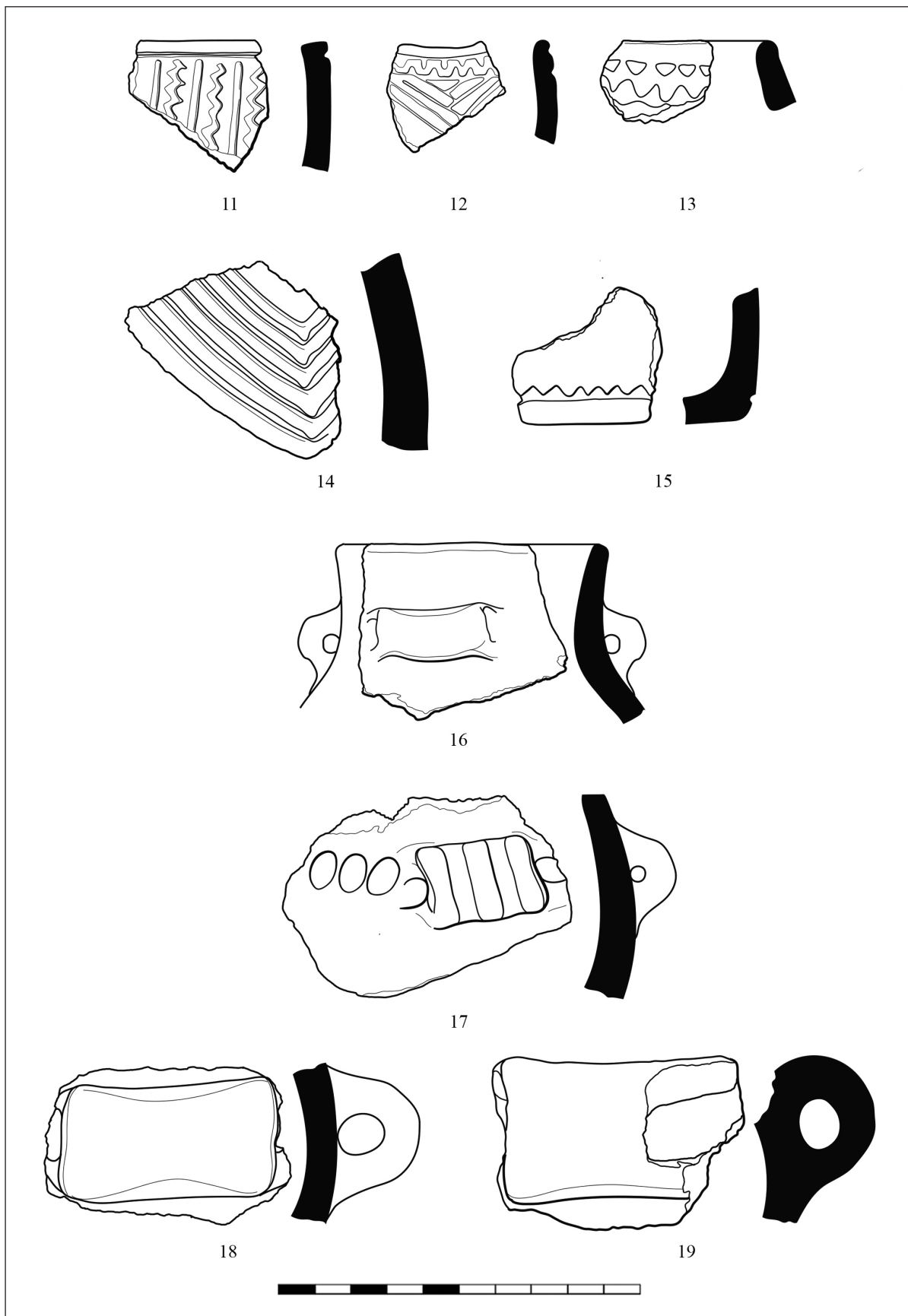


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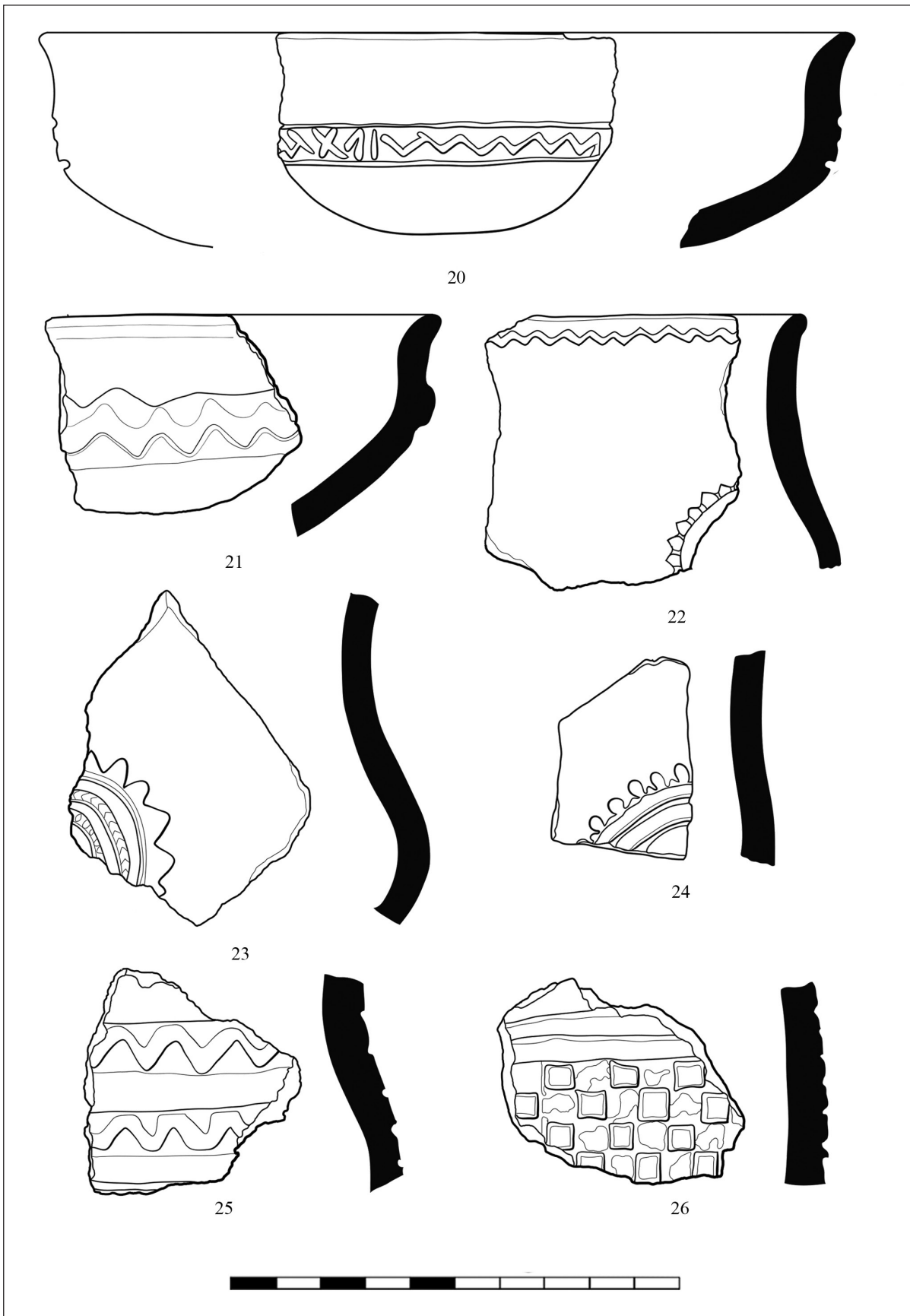


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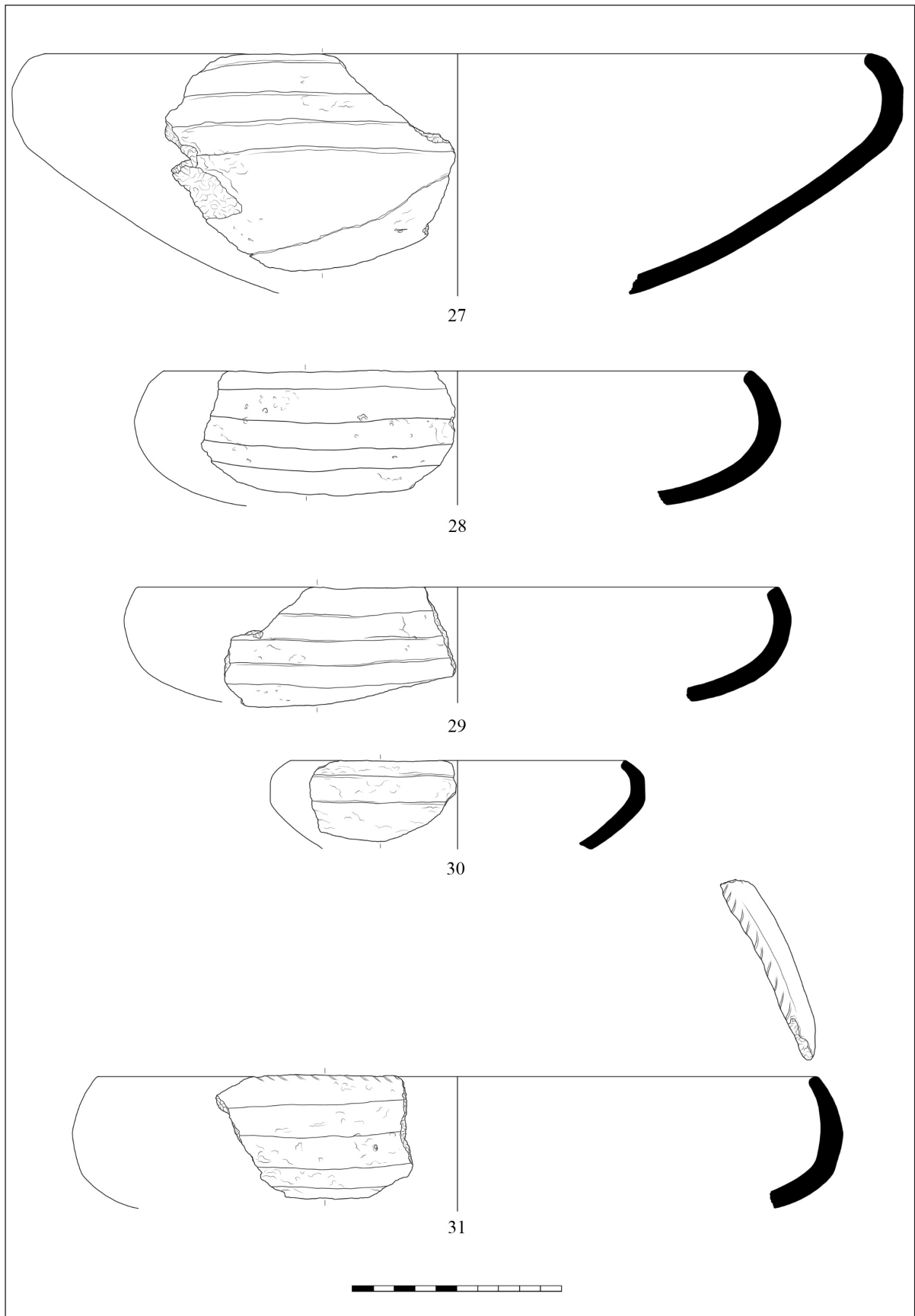


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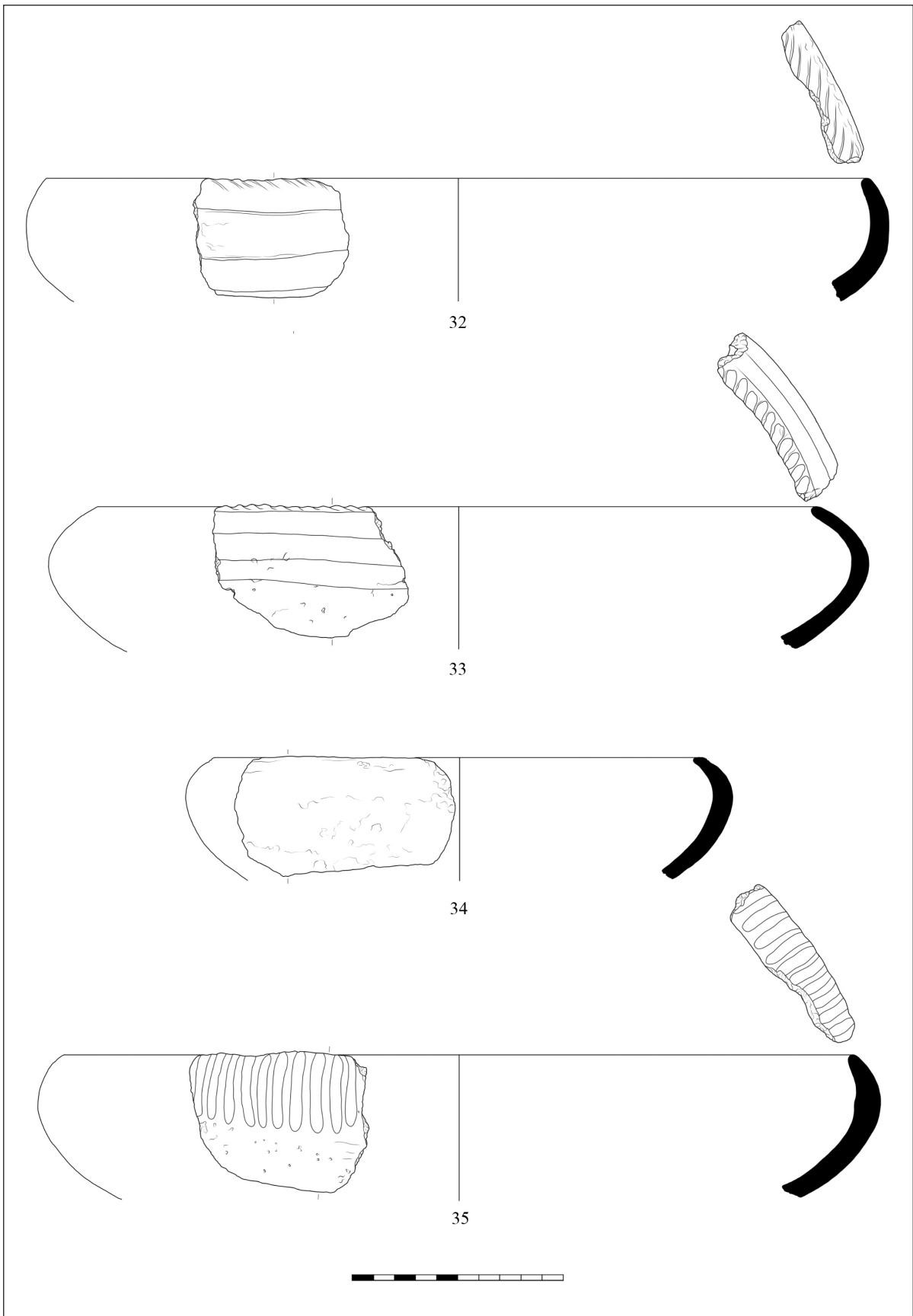


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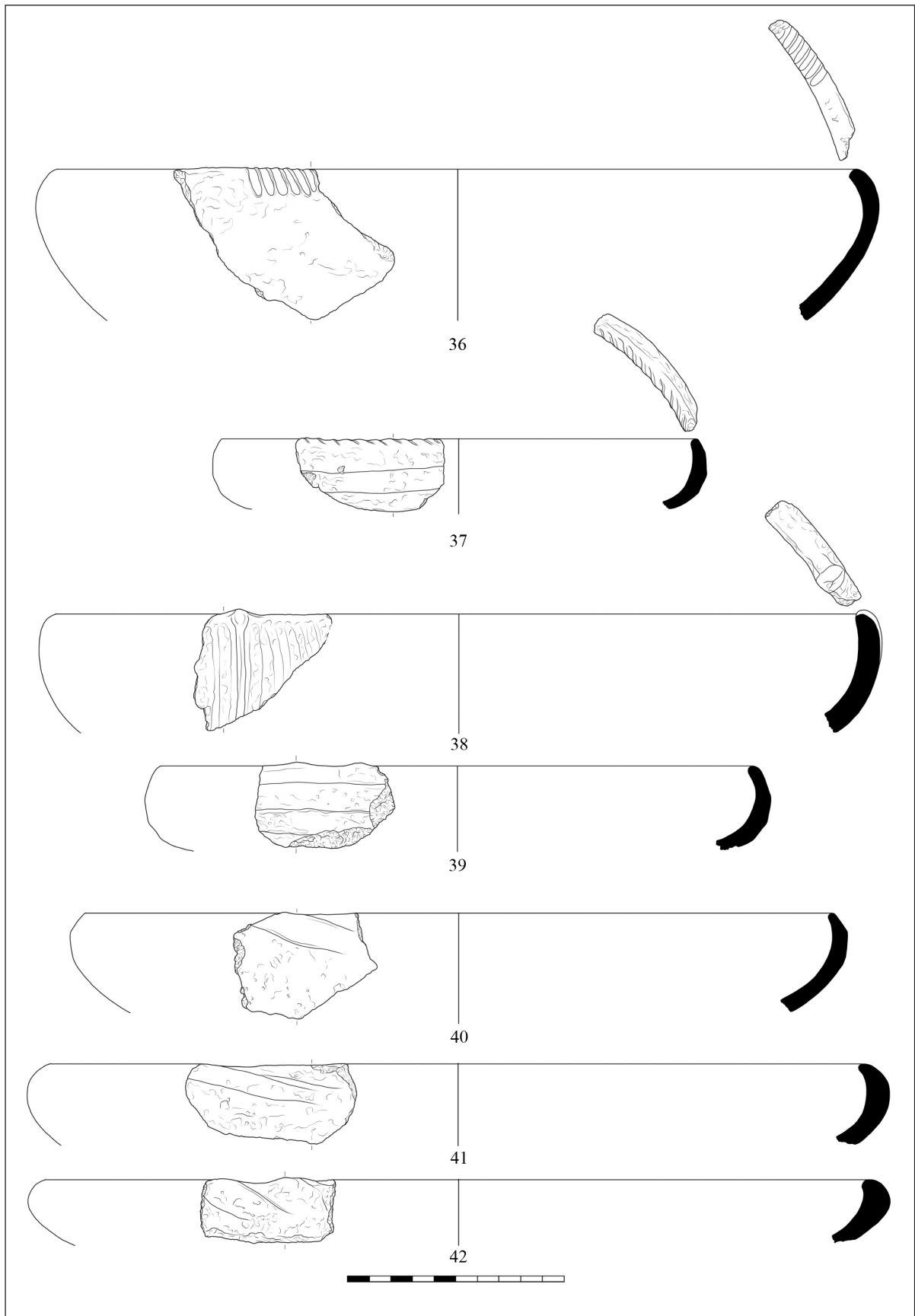


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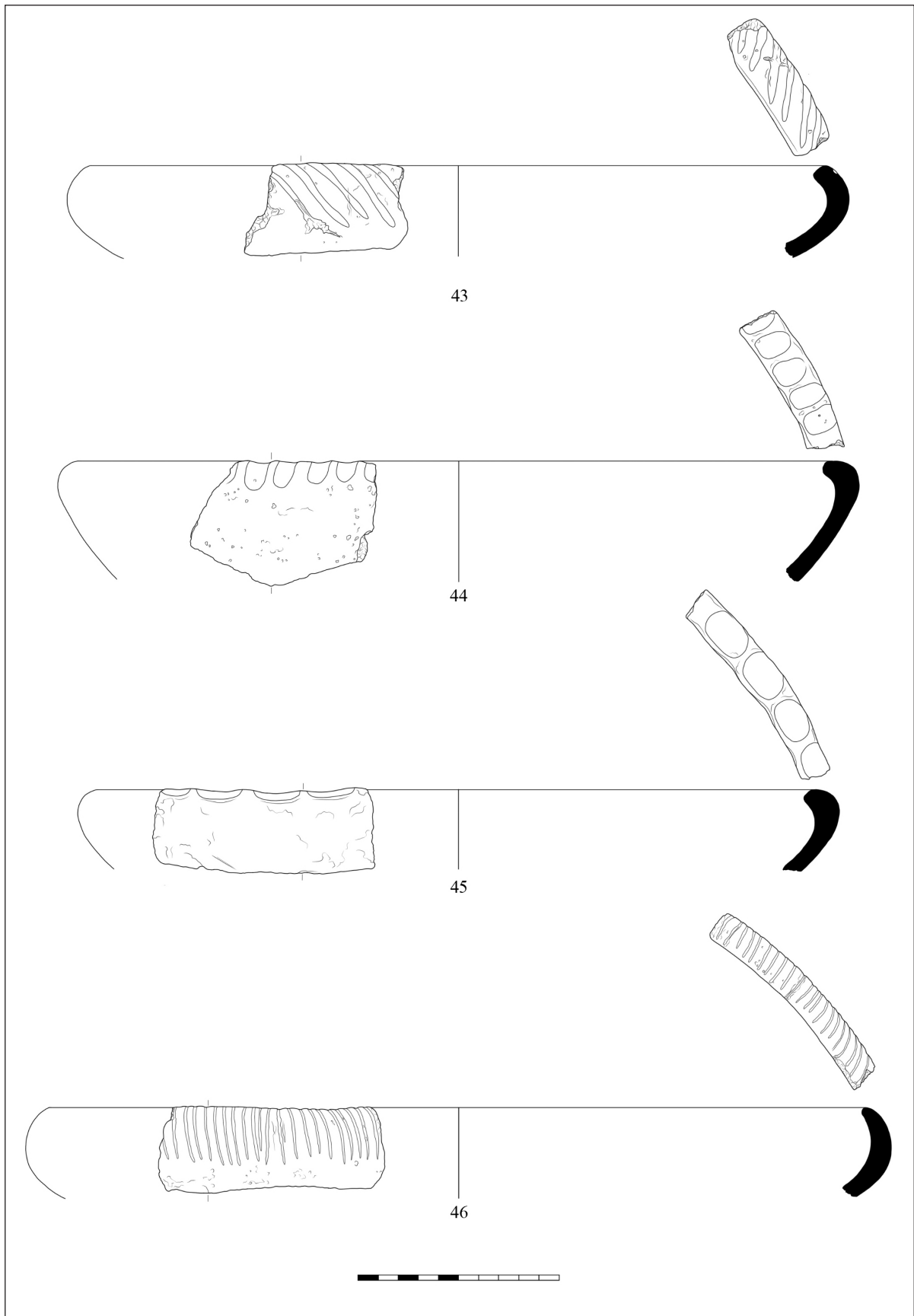


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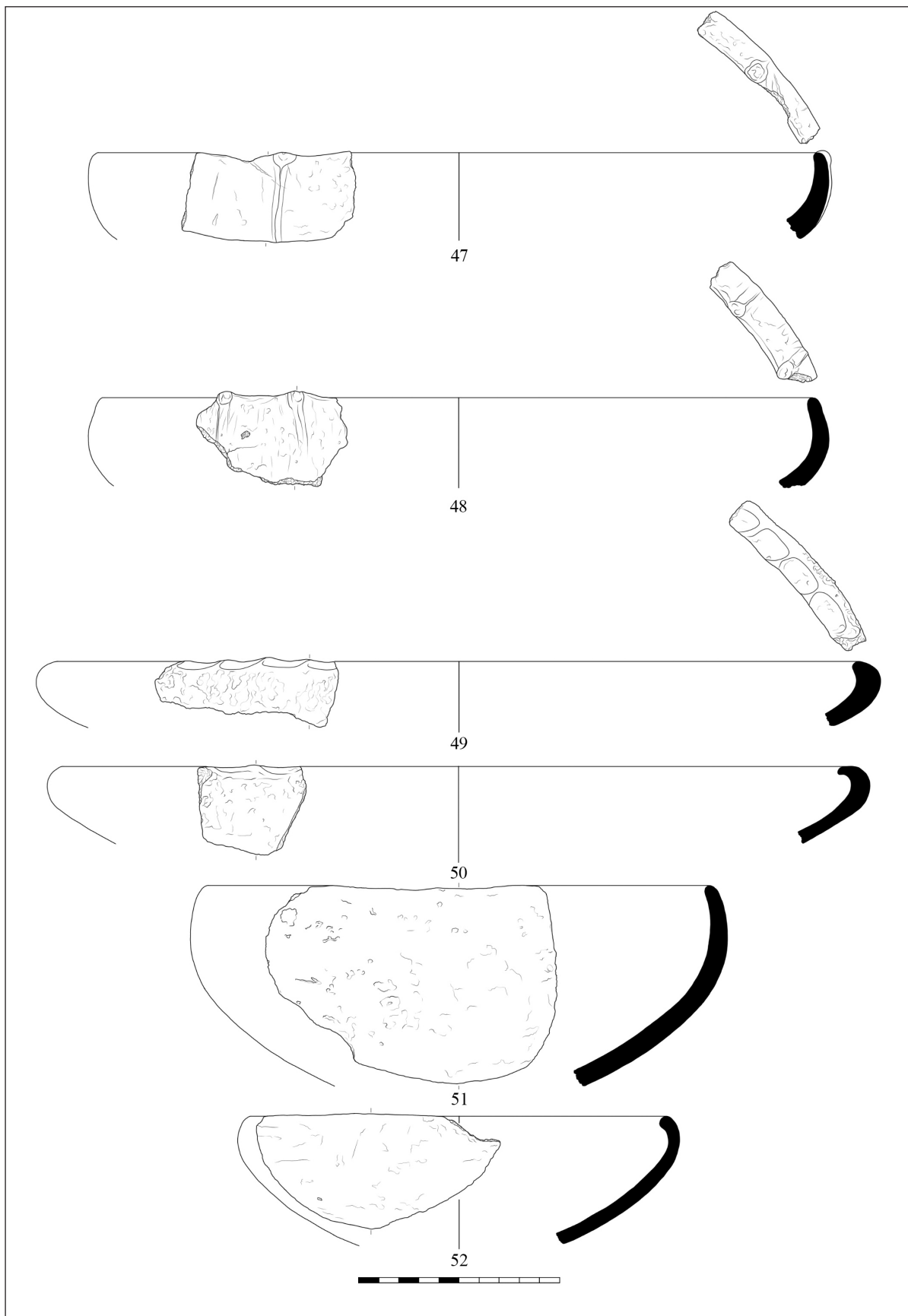


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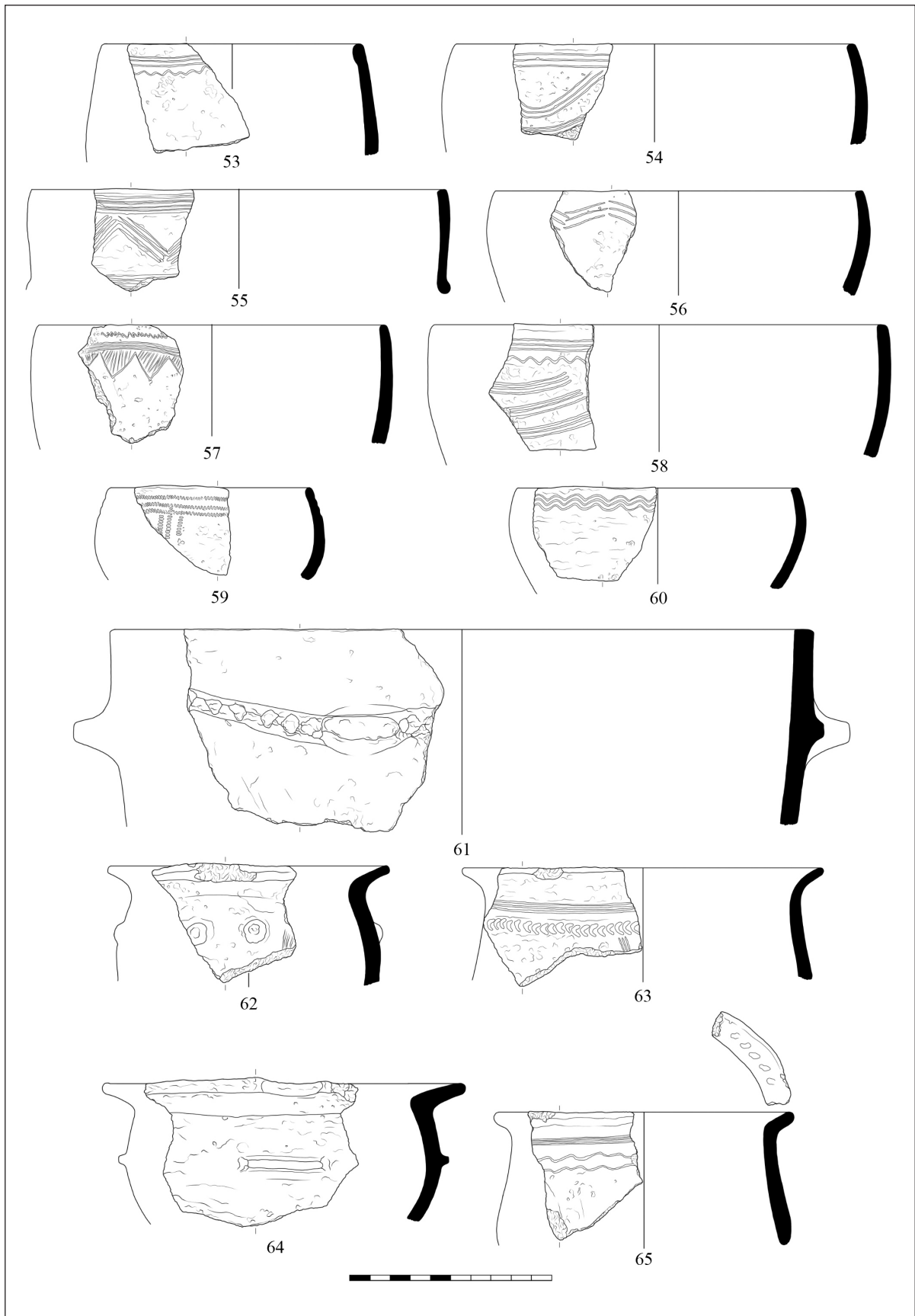


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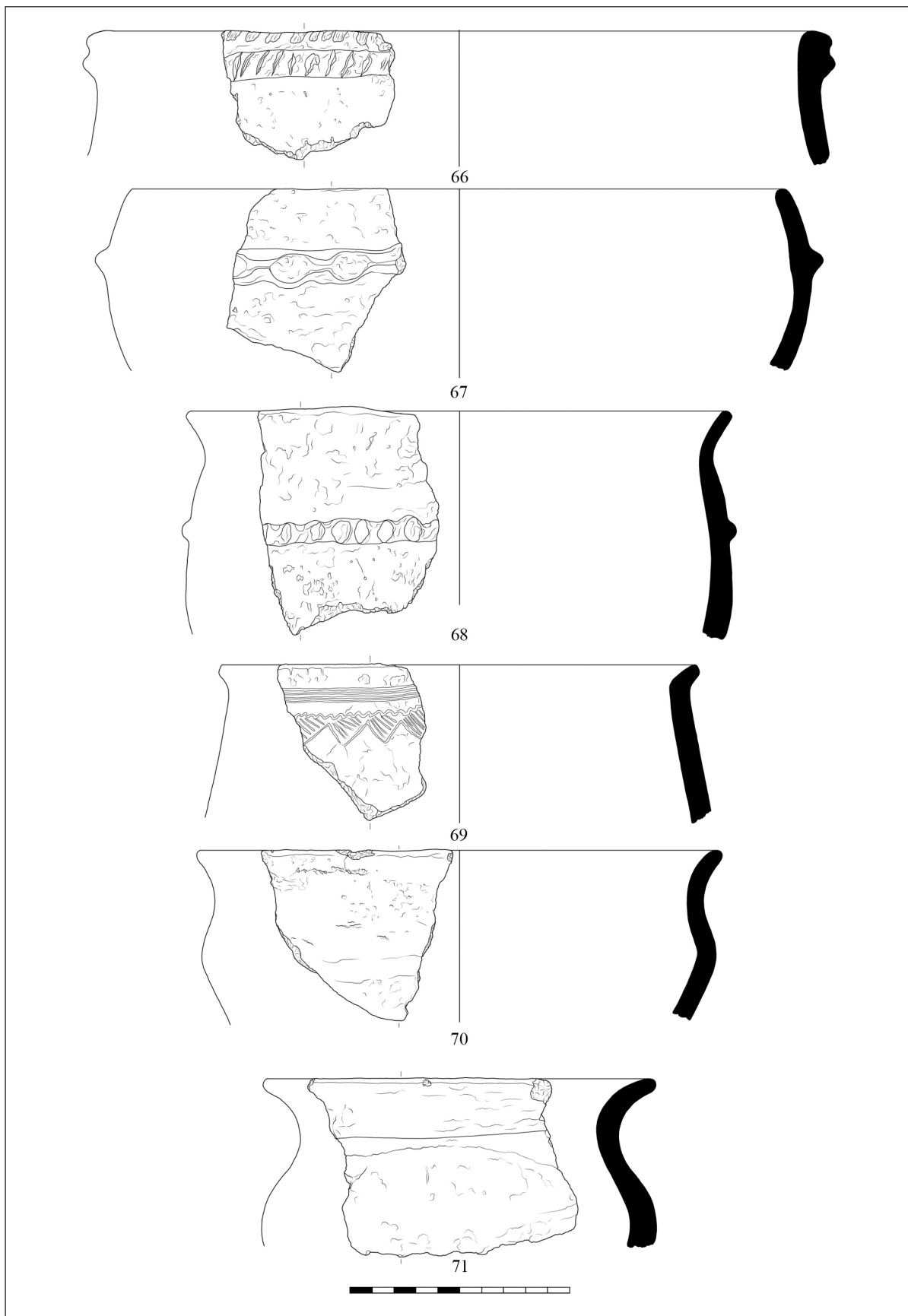


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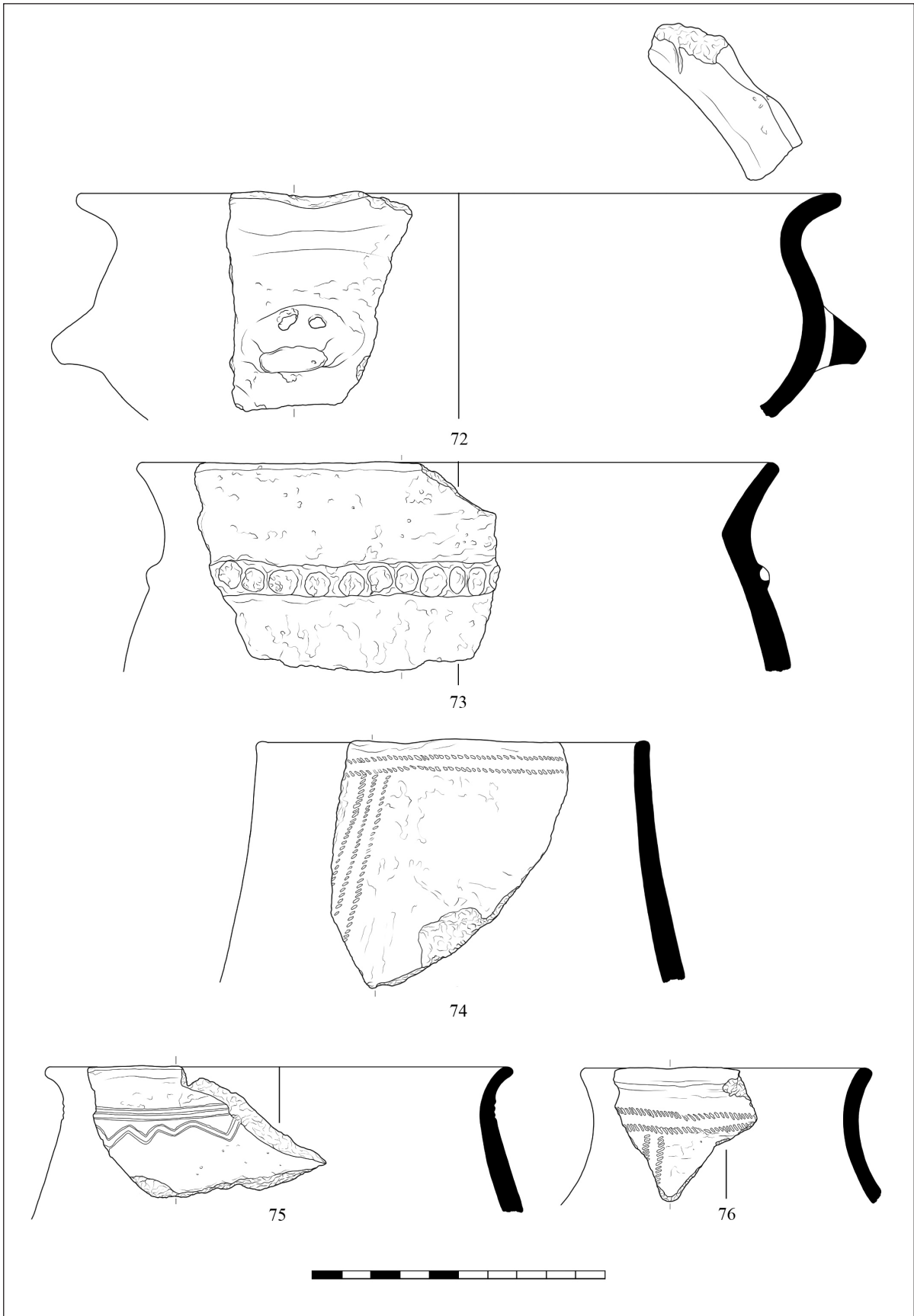


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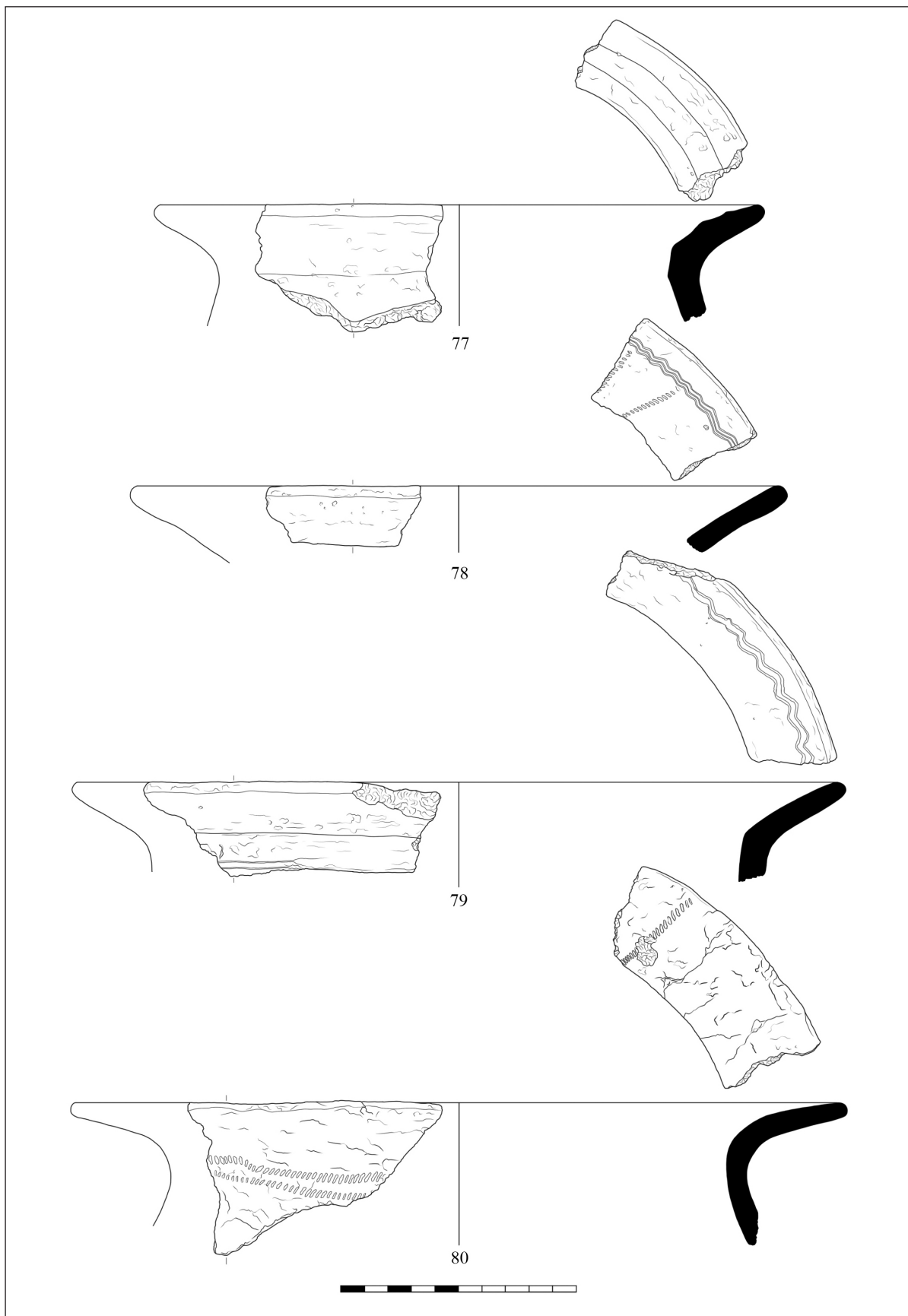


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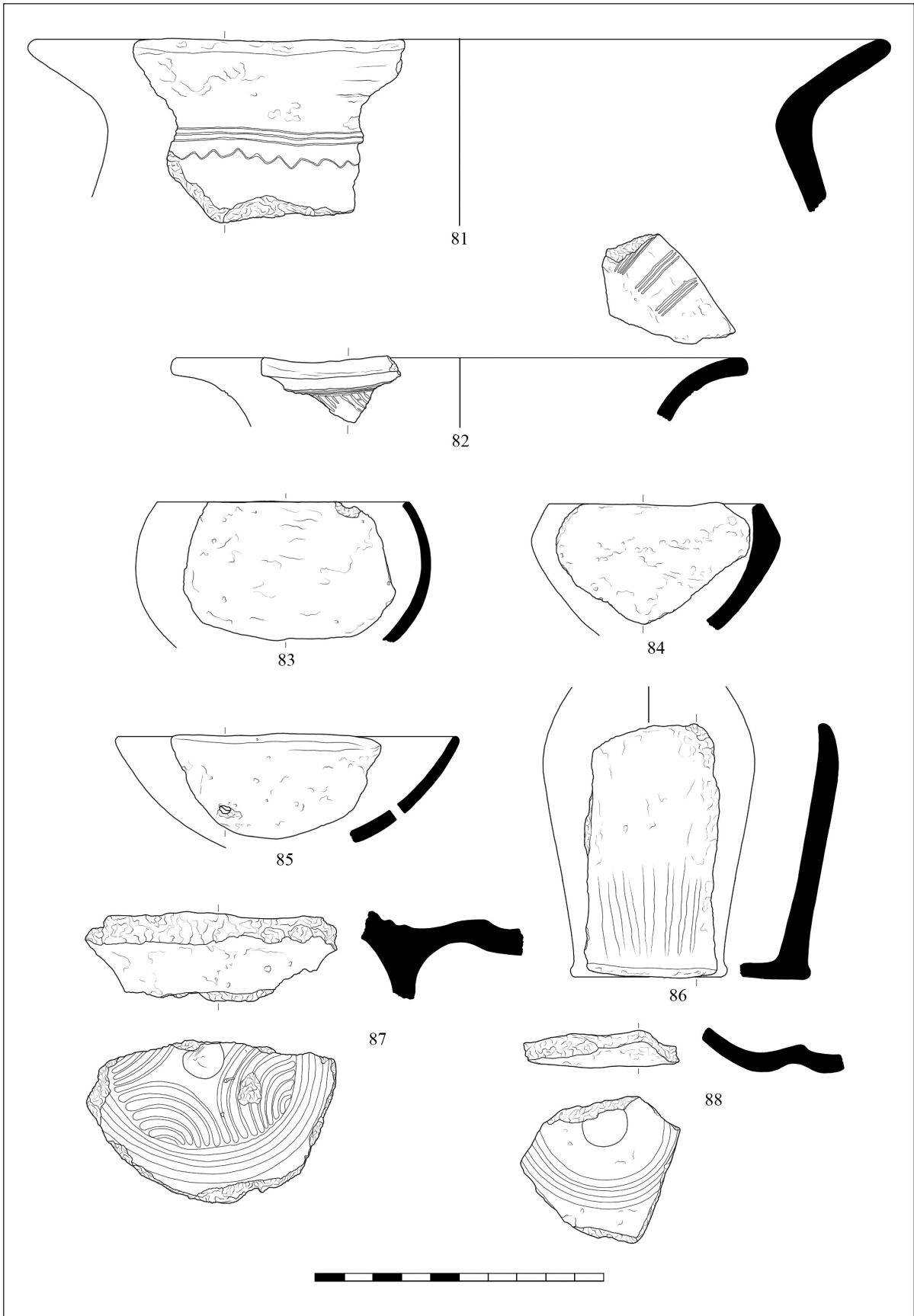


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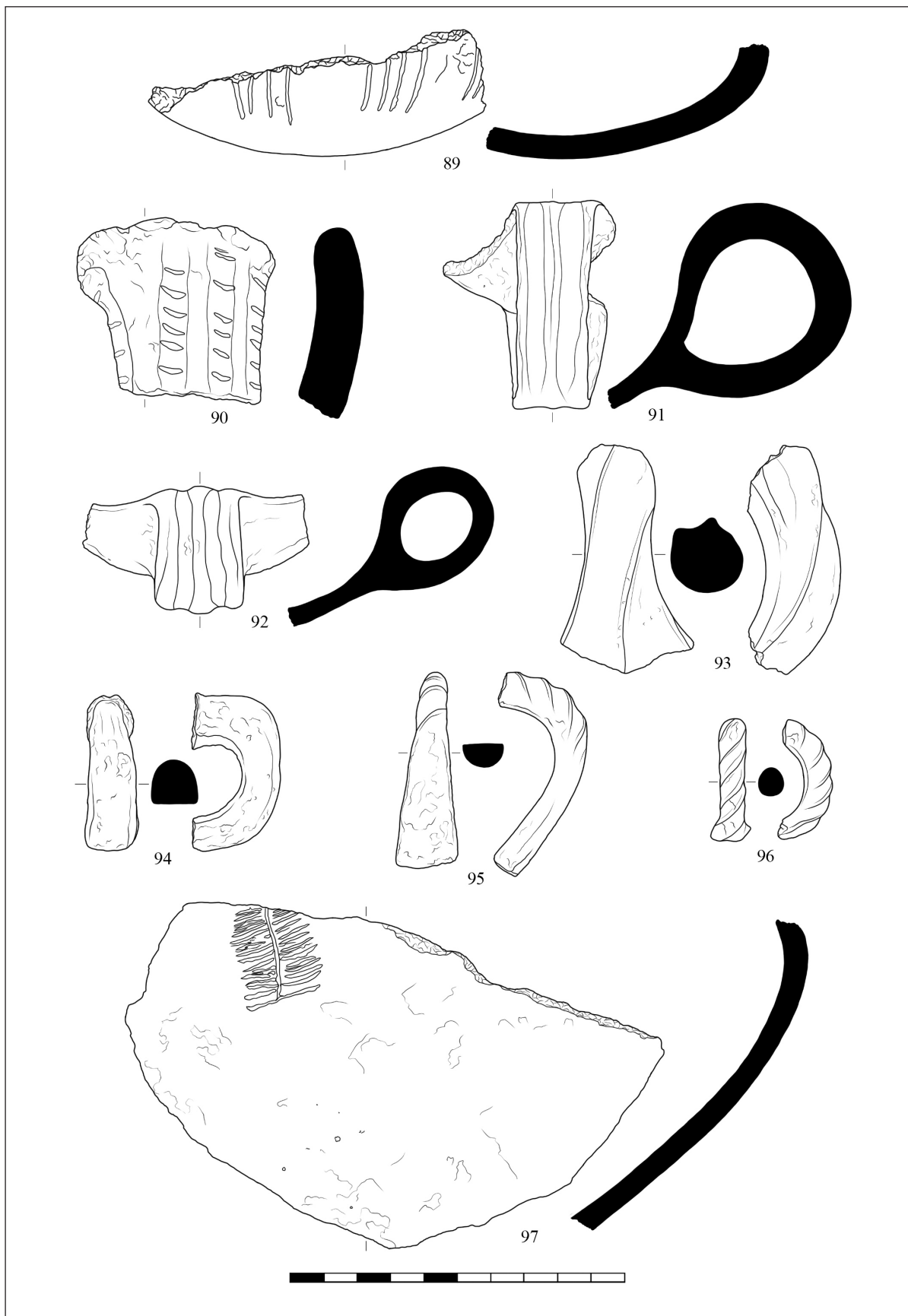


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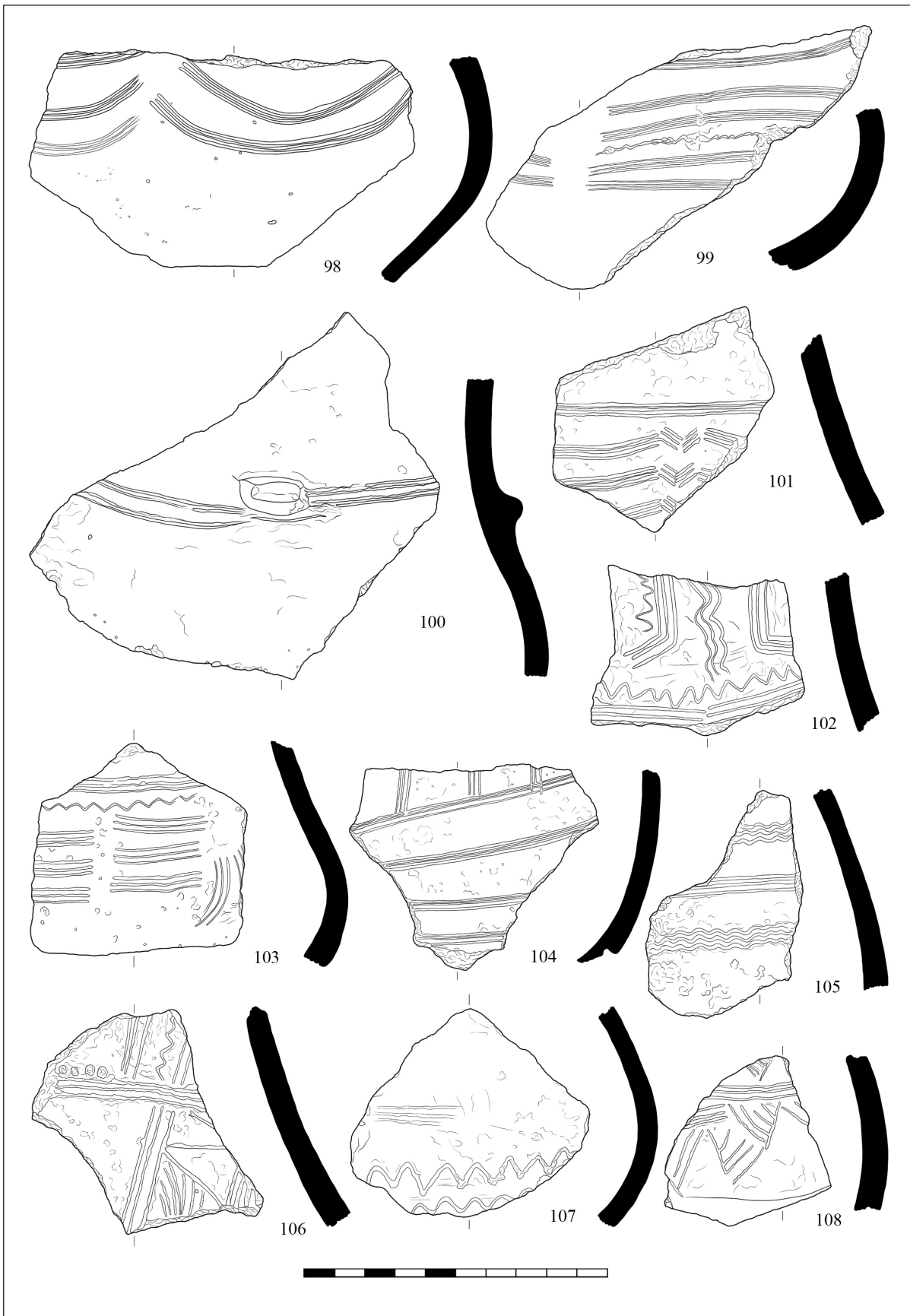


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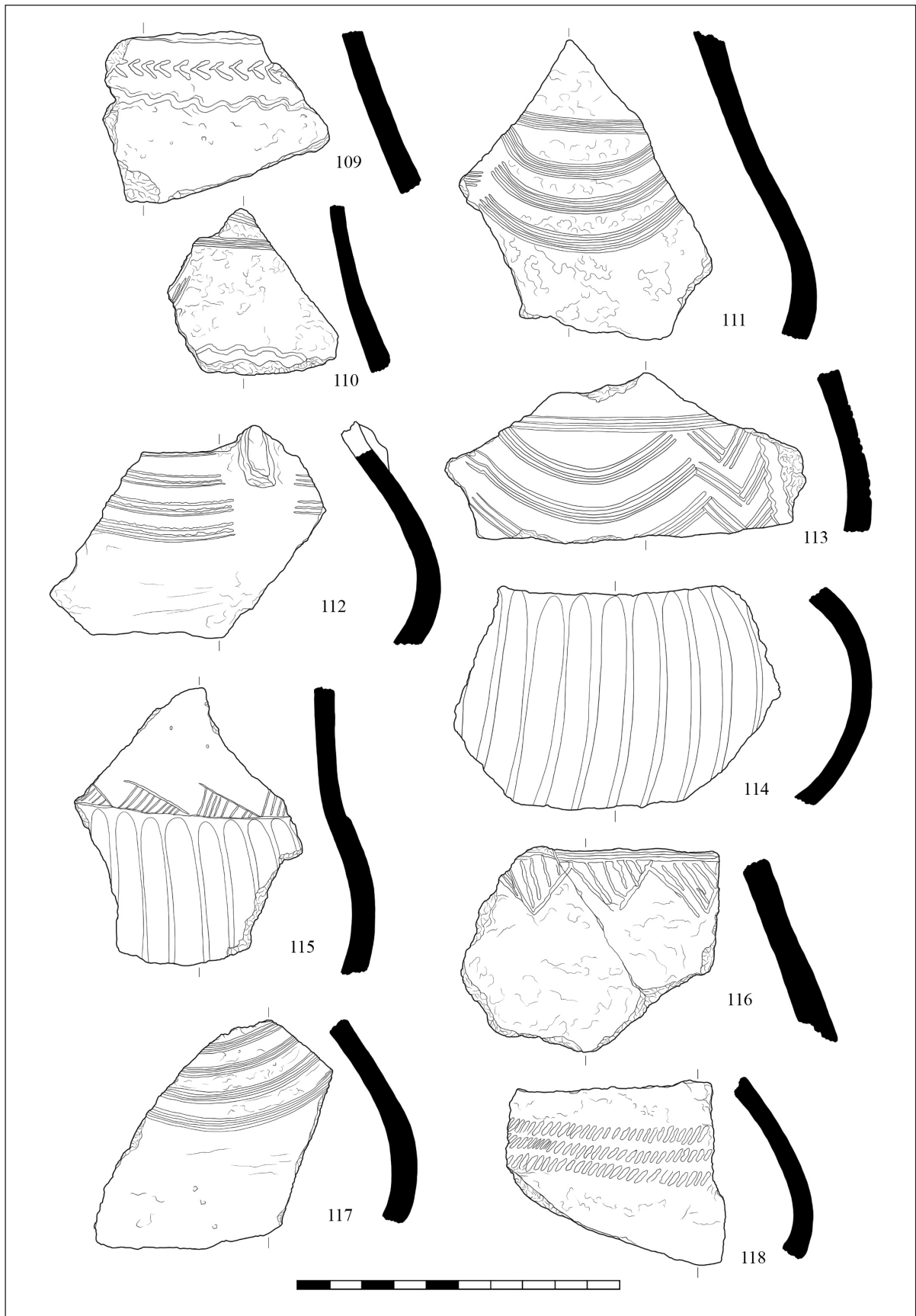


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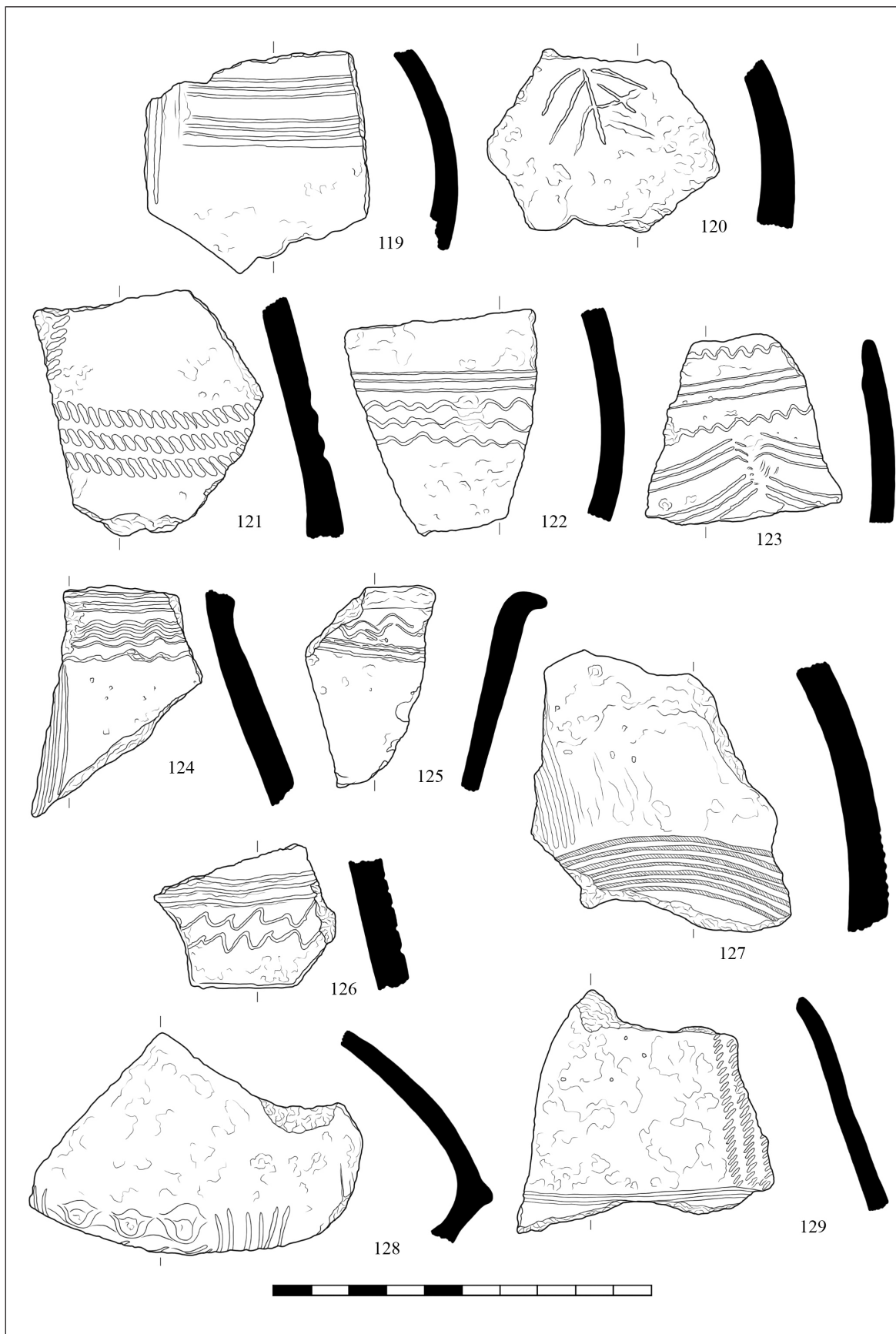


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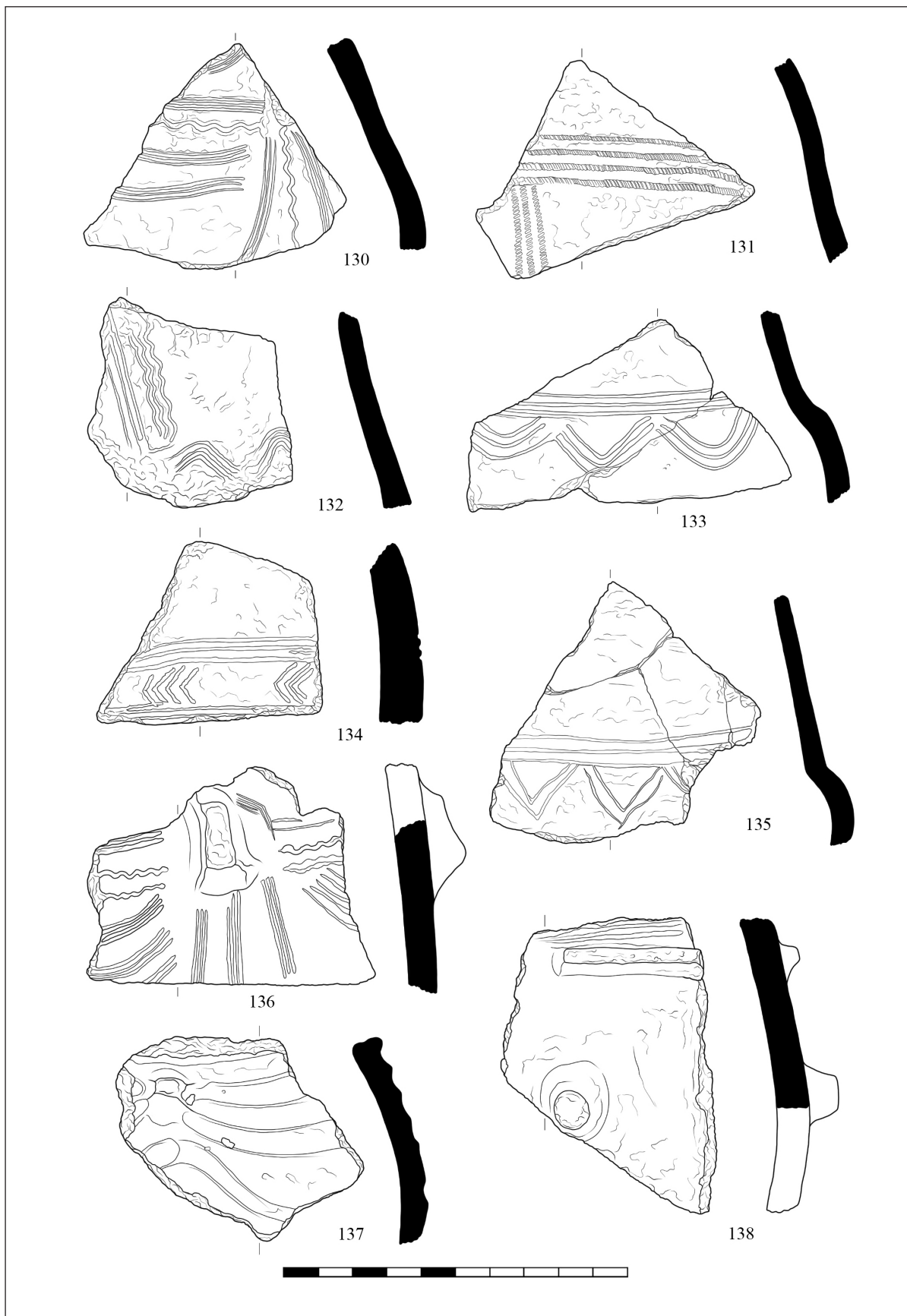


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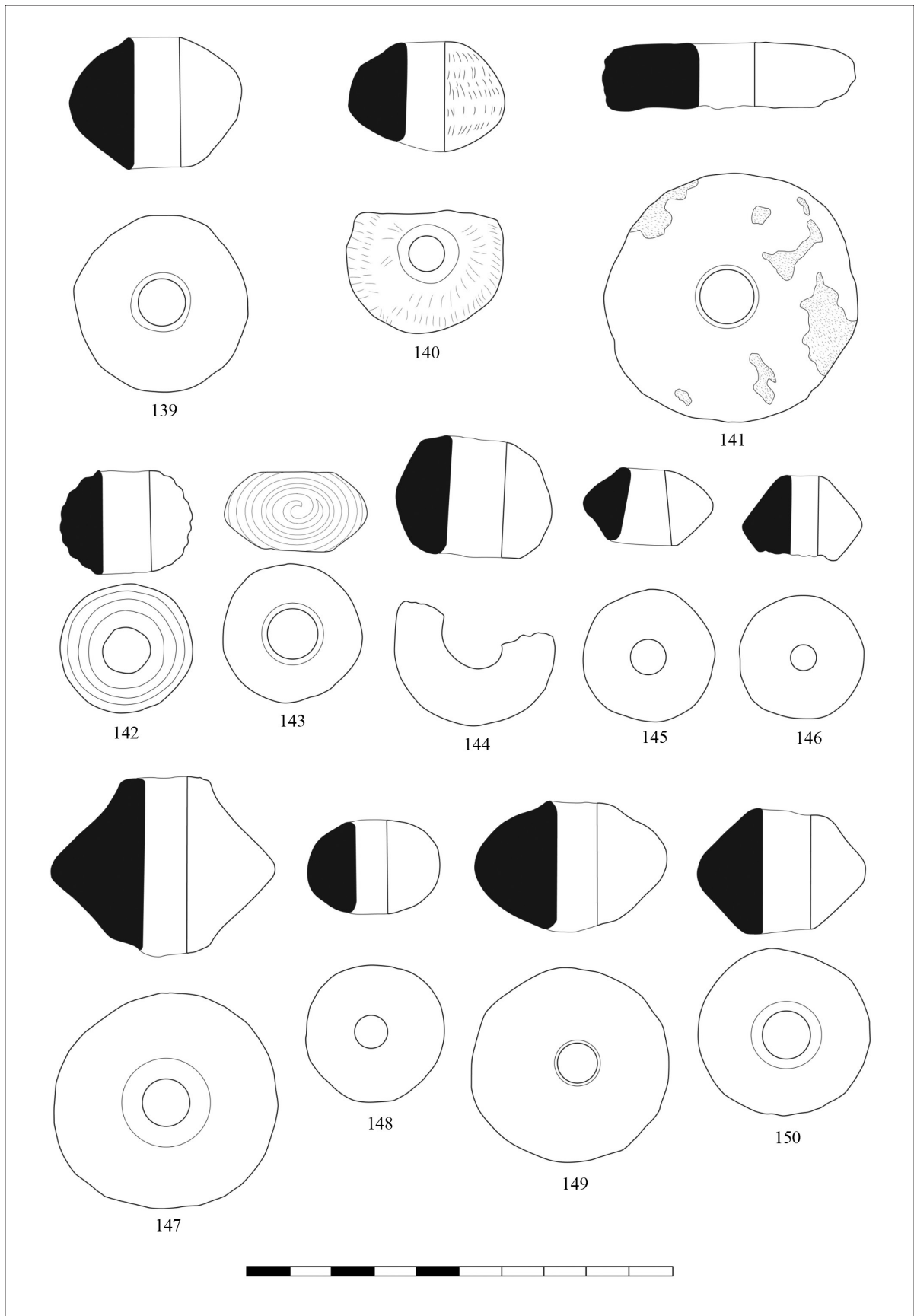


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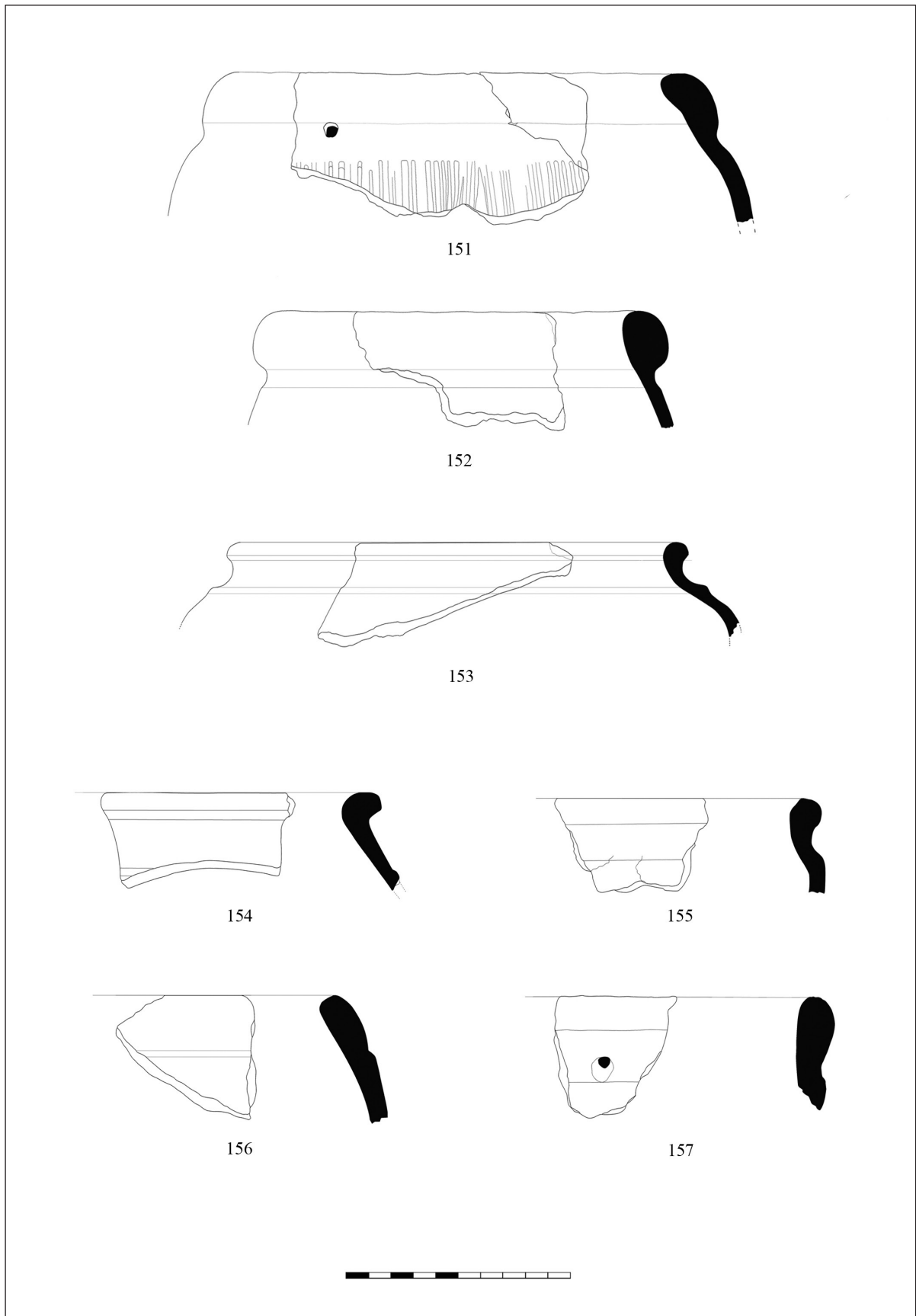


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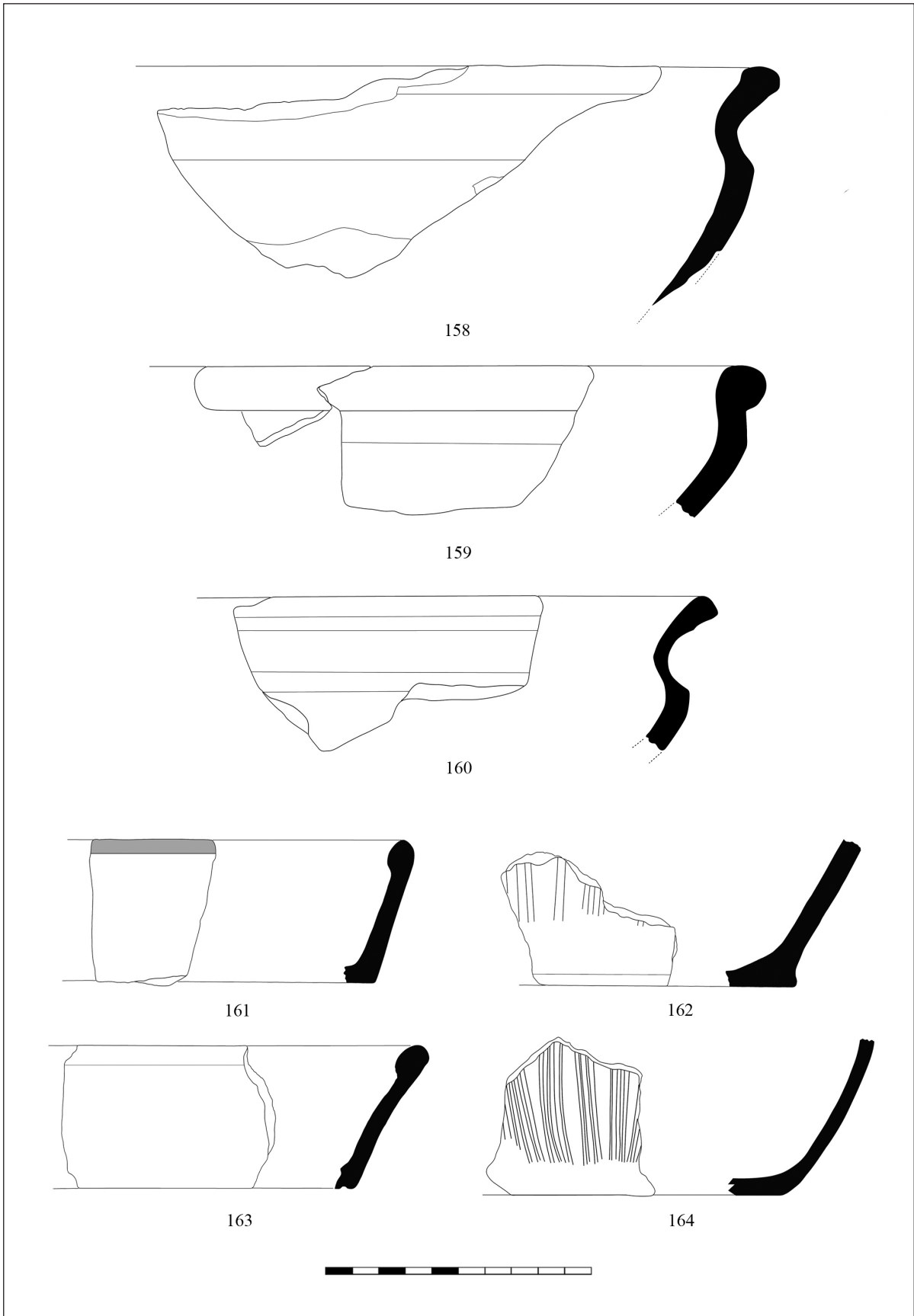


Tabla 21.