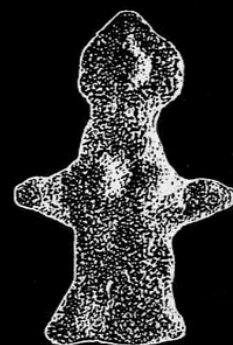


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ARCHAEOLOGY AND
SETTLEMENT HISTORY IN THE
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THE SETTLEMENT OF THE LENGYEL CULTURE AT ZALASZENTBALÁZS

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1. The site

Between 1987 and 1989 I conducted an excavation at Zalaszentbalázs-Szőlőhegyi mező, a site that had originally been identified in the course of a field survey conducted in the former Nagykanizsa district.¹ As part of the microregional research project, the excavation was funded by the National Scientific Research Fund (OTKA).

The site lies roughly 1 km to north of the community, in an area called Szőlőhegyi mező (*Pl.* 48). In the course of the field survey preceding the excavation we identified a hilltop settlement of the Lengyel culture, indicated by sherds and burnt daub fragments scattered over a roughly 150 m by 100 m area, on the top of the ca. 220-230 m high hill.

The site is cut in two by a regularly levelled dirt track, with the greater part of the prehistoric settlement lying to the north of this dirt track. I investigated the site together with Eszter Bánffy: between 1987-1989 I excavated the settlement remains on the north side of the dirt track covered with pottery sherds and burnt daub fragments, while in 1992-1993 E. Bánffy excavated other features of this extensive settlement lying on the southern side of the dirt track and to the west of the area I had previously investigated.

The area to be excavated lay on the NE slope of the hill that was most densely covered with sherds and burnt daub fragments. In 1987 I opened three trenches: trench I was E-W oriented, trench II was basically the continuation of trench I, while trench III ran parallel to trenches I and II, to their N. In 1987 we uncovered eight settlement features. Our work was made difficult by the drought and the heat wave, the soil was extremely hard and compact, and it was often difficult to distinguish the patches indicating various settlement features. Most settlement features

¹ The survey was conducted by L. Horváth in 1978.

were indicated by large concentrations of pottery sherds (*Pls. 49.a-b; 50.b*).

In 1988 I had the humus removed from the area to be excavated, and opened a new N-S oriented trench that was roughly perpendicular to trench II of 1987. Four settlement features were excavated in this trench. The drought again made the observation of minute details impossible, and excavation work was more difficult in the levelled area than in the previous year since the prehistoric occupation layer had been compressed to a concrete-like hardness.

In 1989 I opened two new trenches that were perpendicular to the trenches of the 1988 season (trench 1989/I and 1989/II, running parallel to it). The two trenches contained four settlement features. The weather was again unfavourable: a prolonged drought that was hardly ever tempered by rains.

A total of seventeen settlement features were uncovered during the three seasons, and the excavated area totalled 610 m². We uncovered the remains of seven buildings, indicated by daub fragments representing the walls of the collapsed structures (features 1-2, 4-5, 9, 13-14), two hearths (features 6 and 8) (*Pl. 50.a*) and eight smaller pits (features 3, 7, 10-12, 15-17). Two of the buildings (features 1 and 9) were residential structures, the others had had a different function. The excavated house remains allow the reconstruction of above-ground structures: small houses erected around a framework of upright posts connected with a wattling of intertwined twigs that was subsequently daubed with clay. However, few traces of the original posts survived. The remains of the flooring could be observed in feature 1. The floors were generally indicated by a large cluster of finds under the collapsed walls. The presence of houses was indicated by daub fragments with impressions of the wattling and the burnt daub fragments from the collapsed walls. The surviving remains of these houses which were undamaged by ploughing measured 5-6 m x 2.5-3 m. Most buildings were N-S oriented. The debris of reddish burnt daub fragments could be especially well observed in two houses (features 1 and 9). After clearing the debris away we found the furnishings of the house – vessels, stone implements, querns and grinding stones – still lying in their original position (*Pls. 49.b, 50.b*). It would appear that the conflagration that destroyed the houses had been so sudden that their occupants had no time to salvage their contents. Similarly to other Lengyel sites, the destroyed houses were not rebuilt, the debris was not levelled and the new houses were constructed in another, unoccupied part of the hill. This custom might explain why we found no refuse pits filled with household refuse that generally contain a rich archaeological material. Our observations would suggest that the Lengyel settlement at Zalaszentbalázs was either occupied for a brief period of time only, or that the lifeways of its occupants did not call for sturdy, well-built structures with periodically renewed floors. These structures with their basketwork walls daubed with clay did not take much time or effort to construct and unless these structures were renewed, no traces remained

of the periodically replastered, lightly pounded clay floor or of the pits of the posts that supported the roof.

Traces of various activities could be observed in features 13 and 14, structures that were not residential buildings. In these two features the differences in the colour and the texture of the infill, as well as the various categories of artefacts allowed the reconstruction of various activities: the grinding of cereals, the manufacture of stone tools and the manufacture of pottery.

The pits of the settlement were either used for storage (feature 11) or for the extraction of clay.

The life of the settlement can be reconstructed from the furnishings of the buildings, from the stone tools and implements, as well as from the animal bones. The loom weights found in feature 1 reflect spinning and weaving activities. The stone finds indicate that stone tools and implements were manufactured on the site from raw materials collected locally or acquired from more distant regions.² Local manufacture is indicated by chips, cores, pounding stones and stone polishers. The raw material for stone tools was procured from the uplands in the Balaton region, from the volcanic 'stone fields' of present-day Uzsabánya. Raw material from Szentgál and Sümeg-Mogyorósdomb was also found, reflecting perhaps trade links extending over a wider area. Aside from a number of querns and grindstones, crop cultivation is also indicated by a stone blade that had originally been fitted into a sickle.

The animal bone remains that were surprisingly few compared to the pottery finds include sheep/goat, pig, cattle, dog, wild boar, aurochs bones, as well as snails, pike and carp.³

2. The finds

A total of 5140 objects were inventoried following the selection of the finds.⁴ The overwhelming majority was pottery: vessels and various other clay finds. The number of complete or reconstructable vessels was fairly low (152, 170, 174-175, 177-179), similarly to other find categories, such as stone axes, silexes and animal bones.

The pottery sherds that were brought to light all come from characteristic Lengyel ceramic wares. I followed the typological system elaborated by Nándor Kalicz,⁵ that does not always correspond to the terminology used by E. Bánffy.⁶ I have not quoted all possible analogies to individual vessel types since E. Bánffy offers a detailed overview of

² The stone finds were examined by Erzsébet Bácskay and Katalin Biró.

³ The animal bones were examined by László Bartosiewicz.

⁴ The finds are currently housed in the Göcsej Museum of Zalaegerszeg, inv.nos 91.1.1 - 91.15.25; 92.5.1 - 92.14.8; 92.32.1 - 92.42.6.

⁵ Kalicz 1985 41-47 and the type charts.

⁶ See in this volume.

Lengyel pottery types in her study. In the following I shall only discuss individual vessel forms at greater length if they are unique from some point of view or offer entirely new information on the late Lengyel period.

2.1. Pottery

By far the most abundant category of clay finds was *pottery*. Most vessels were tempered with mica, chaff or, less frequently, small pebbles, or their combination. Significant differences can be noted between coarse and fine wares as regards their surface finish. Fired in a well oxidizing atmosphere, *fine wares* have a careful finish and are light brown or reddish in colour. Vessels are thin-walled, often with an almost porcelain-like quality. Traces of painted decoration have often survived on fine wares. Painted patterns are generally red, with the occasional yellow, white and black painted motif. Painting most frequently adorns pedestalled bowls and cups. *Coarse wares* were fired in a reducing atmosphere, leading to shades of grey, and even shades of bluish grey in the case of pots and coarse bowls.

A wide variety of *knobs* and *lugs*, 688 in all, were found at the site. They come in all shapes and sizes, and are the single most common ornamental element on the pottery. They range from tiny knobs on fine, thin-walled vessels to the large, pointed beak-like lugs on large storage jars, including small, button-shaped knobs, lentil-shaped knobs, large rounded knobs, flat knobs, perforated knobs, upright beak-like lug handles, and slightly flattened lugs springing from the rim. Knobs and lugs were used to ornament all pottery types, as well as idols and altars. In some cases, the technique of applying the knob or the lug can also be observed: the wet clay of the vessel was pinched to form a small projection onto which the knob or lug was then applied before firing the vessel. These knobs and lugs did not adhere properly to the vessel wall, and very often broke or fell off, explaining the high number of knobs and lugs among the pottery finds. Lugs and knobs are the most common plastic decorative element in the Lengyel culture, and they often indicate subtle chronological differences.⁷

Handles are also quite frequent; 551 have been found altogether. They too come in a wide variety of shapes and sizes: stout or pointed, perforated lug handles and beak shaped handles on the bowls.⁸ There are some transitional forms between lugs or knobs and handles, such as the handle-like unperforated lug, rounded lug handles⁹ and smaller, perforated lug handles.¹⁰ Small loop handles are often placed on the neck, while pots usually have the loop handle springing from the rim.

In comparison to the early Lengyel period with its abundance of *painted* patterns, only nineteen painted pottery sherds were recovered.

⁷ Raczký 1974 200.

⁸ Inv.no. 91.4.77.

⁹ Inv.no. 91.4.135.

¹⁰ Inv.no. 91.6.137.

Two vessel fragments had been ornamented with white painted patterns;¹¹ black-on-red painted motifs are more frequent (104, 173, 203), and one sherd bore a pattern of yellow combined with red painting.¹²

Incised ornamentation was found on three sherds only, one of these came from a clay spoon (78, 83-85), the other was on the body fragment from a thick-walled vessel (191), whilst the third was in combination with white painting. Mat impressions could often be observed on the underside of several large-sized vessels (100, 154) probably when the vessels were dried.

Pottery forms

Most vessel fragments come from *bowls*. Two main varieties can be distinguished: simple bowls and pedestalled bowls. Most frequent are the bowls with rounded side (90, 95, 141, 167, 175), and biconical bowls with either a rounded or a more pronounced carination are also quite common (4, 24, 43, 53-54, 65, 93, 103, 123, 137, 140, 142-143, 147-148, 159). Conical bowls, coming in various sizes, were also popular (57, 67, 114). A small, flowerpot-shaped bowl ornamented with six pointed knobs under its rim represents a more unusual form (152). Bowl rims are generally cut straight (13, 161-162, 165-166); also common are slightly swollen (67, 121), inturned (46, 58) and scalloped rims (155-156, 160), as well as spouted rims (2, 30).

Pedestalled bowls usually have thin- or thick-walled pedestals, depending on the function of the vessel. Pedestals can be cylindrical (73, 173) or conical (74, 172, 178), and are occasionally fenestrated (80, 180). Only one single fragment of a bell-shaped pedestal was found.¹³ An almost intact pedestalled bowl has also come to light (178). The remains of black on red painting were noted on the inner side of a large pedestalled bowl (203), the chequerboard pattern that was still visible at the time of its finding has since, unfortunately, become almost obliterated. The bowls supported by the pedestals come in the shapes described in the above.

Seventeen fragments of strainers have been found. Most of them were reddish in colour, conical in form, with perforations on their side and base (70). One of these had perhaps functioned as a vessel lid (201).

Fragments of thick-walled *storage jars* were also quite frequent. These were globular with slightly incurving neck, with round-sectioned handles positioned under the rim or on the neck (18-19, 28, 64, 106, 129-133). In some cases the handle was drawn from the rim to the shoulder (26-27, 45, 66, 81, 86).

Another common form, as shown by the high number of fragments, was the *pot* that comes in various forms and sizes. Most pots have an ovoid body and a slightly outturned rim (170), with the occasional large

¹¹ Inv.no. 91.5.79.

¹² Inv.no. 91.6.3.

¹³ Inv.no. 91.4.21.

knob or flattened lug handle (6, 17, 25, 39, 61-63, 113). Some varieties have a row of punctates running under the rim (82).

A more unusual form among the large, thick-walled vessels is the so-called *pannier-shaped vessel*, with its symmetrically placed handles that enabled suspension or carrying on the back. The handles are upright, pointed lug handles (20, 60, 72, 94, 96, 102, 149-150) or, more often, perforated lug handles in pairs of two (105). Textile or mat impressions occur frequently on the underside (100, 154).

Three fragments of *flowerpot-shaped vessels*, a popular and common pottery form of the Tisza culture, were found.¹⁴ All three fragments came from thin-walled vessels whose angular form was emphasized with a pronounced edge, as well as a thin rib and a round knob (29).

Thin-walled biconical *cups*, of almost porcelain-like quality, were also quite common, occurring in various sizes (3, 5, 32-34, 36-38, 40-42, 47, 49, 76-77, 79, 104, 112, 118-120, 122, 124-126). The neck is cylindrical or slightly arched, the body is biconical with a pronounced carination onto which are applied *knobs* (14, 23, 55, 177, 199). These cups often have a reddish-yellow slip,¹⁵ and white¹⁶ or red-and-black painting.¹⁷ Fragments of handled cups and of cups with pinched lug handles¹⁸ also came to light (53). One specimen had both lugs and handles (174).

The fragments from biconical *flasks* allow the reconstruction of thin-walled, wide-mouthed vessels with a pronounced carination line. The large round knobs under the rim or on the carination line (15, 56, 107, 145, 179) tend to emphasize the marked carination of the vessel form. These knobs are occasionally perforated (16, 22), or just simply pinched, and are reminiscent of the beak-shaped lugs of the Tiszapolgár culture. In some cases these vessels have handles perched on the shoulder. An overridingly common form on this site is the vessel with *beaked or spouted rim* that appears in several variants in the late Lengyel period. Most fragments come from biconical bowls that have a perforation under the rim and the rim pinched into a beak or spout (2, 30). (This vessel should not be confused with real spouted vessels.) This type of rim occurs both on thin-walled small vessels and thick-walled large vessels. These 'beaks' come in a number of varieties, ranging from pointed beaks,¹⁹ to button-shaped²⁰ and rounded beaks;²¹ on some vessels knobs were placed on either side of the beak.²²

¹⁴ Inv.nos 91.4.66, 91.4.139 and 91.5.84.

¹⁵ Inv.no. 91.6.21.

¹⁶ Inv.no. 91.5.79.

¹⁷ Inv.no. 91.6.84.

¹⁸ Inv.no. 91.9.29.

¹⁹ Inv.no. 91.6.18.

²⁰ Inv.no. 91.5.34.

²¹ Inv.nos 91.10.28 and 92.32.5.

²² Inv.no. 91.6.14.

Seven *miniature vessels* came to light. The term 'miniature' can be taken to imply either vessels that are smaller than the usual kitchenware, i.e. 'small' vessels (117), or unusual types that only occur in a given form and in a small size. The Zalaszentbalázs site yielded miniature vessels in the latter sense of the word: a small bowl,²³ four small conical cups that ending in handles (11) or have a perforation for suspension (7-8, 10), as well as a similar, small cylindrical cup whose handle and lower third are missing (9). These unusual vessels that are known also from other Lengyel sites such as Aszód,²⁴ are generally regarded as toys or cult objects.

Very few fragments of *vessel lids* were recovered. They allow the reconstruction of a thick-walled, conical lid provided with a handle (99) or a lug handle. A knob taking the form of some animal, probably a dog head (12), has also come to light. The head is small and triangular, the nose is pointed, and the ears are indicated by two small incisions. These knobs generally have two symmetrical animal heads;²⁵ in contrast, the knob from Zalaszentbalázs has a single animal whose entire body is depicted.

2.2. Other clay finds

A surprisingly high number of fragmentary and intact *clay ladles* with perforated handle of varying size were found. This artefact is fairly common in the Lengyel culture; the Zalaszentbalázs site yielded 121 clay ladles and their fragments, ranging from quite small ones (1.8 cm) to larger ones with a diameter of 10 cm (68, 71, 98, 181-192). These ladles with perforated handle had a wooden haft attached to them; they include round and oval forms, thin- and thick-walled specimens with a coarse or, alternately, a more careful finish. One of these ladles is ornamented with an incised pattern reminiscent of the Tisza culture;²⁶ however, the pattern itself cannot be reconstructed for the surviving fragment is too small (191). Some of these ladles are also ornamented with knobs (192).

2.3. Altars

Two altar fragments²⁷ and an almost intact altar was found in the course of the excavations. The latter piece (101) was found during surface collection near the excavated area. Its analogies are generally identified, wrongly, as "quadrangular vessels" or "oil lamps". A body fragment found in feature 1 from a straight sided object, ornamented with a small knob, preserving part of the deeper, bowl-like part, probably comes from a similar small altar.²⁸

²³ Inv.no. 91.6.210.

²⁴ Kalicz 1985 Fig. 52. 1-3.

²⁵ Kalicz 1985 Fig. 77. 5, 7; Kalicz — Kalicz-Schreiber 1983-1984 Pl. 4; Pavúk 1994 Fig. 4. 4.

²⁶ Inv.no. 91.11.67.

²⁷ Inv.nos 91.6.20 and 92.38.70.

²⁸ Inv.no. 91.6.20. for a detailed discussion of these altars see also E. Bánffy's study in this volume.

Another fragment comes from an altar reminiscent in shape of a small table or a throne. Its upper part is concave, its lower part terminates in two rounded feet (1). The reconstruction of this fragment as an altar is based on analogous finds from other sites. Similar quadrangular altars first appeared in the Körös culture. Contemporaneous finds are primarily known from the Tisza culture,²⁹ but similar cult objects are also known from a Lengyel context.³⁰ Analogous finds allow the reconstruction of two types of altars: one type, found at the Komjatice site,³¹ is quadrangular, standing on rounded feet, and was perhaps covered; another, more plausible reconstruction is based on the piece from Bina,³² i.e. a quadrangular altar with peaked rim standing on rounded feet.

2.4. Idols

Human representations, in painted, incised and sculpted form, abound on sites of the Lengyel culture. Most often depicted are females, with particular emphasis on those indications of the female character that can be associated with fertility.

Six idols came to light at the Zalaszentbalázs site.³³ One fragment comes from the mid-part of the statuette, the rest are feet. Two of these are right feet (193-194), one is a left foot,³⁴ while in the case of the remaining two feet, it can no longer be defined (196-197). These feet have a slightly arched heel, with the toes and the fingers broken off from the foot itself. On the single intact specimen the toe and the fingers are not indicated (193). The knees and the ankles are emphasized by small knobs, and one of these knobs is perforated (194). The form of the foot, the fact that the sole is slightly arched and the perforated knob would suggest that this small statuette had been suspended or that some object, such as a small ring had been passed through the knob, similarly to a statuette from Szombathely as reconstructed by M. Károlyi.³⁵ Another foot comes from a statuette that had been in a sitting position (193).

One fragment comes from an idol carrying a pannier on its back (195). Its fabric and finish is identical with that of the pottery from the site. Seated and standing figurines carrying a pannier are known from both the Tisza and Herpály cultures.³⁶ The body proportions, the thighs that are pressed closely together, and the analogies would suggest a standing figure carrying a pannier that can be reconstructed on the basis of a comparable idol from the Herpály culture.³⁷ The sex of the statuette

²⁹ Kalicz 1985 47, 73.

³⁰ Kalicz 1985 Fig. 70. 2; Točík 1986 Fig. 5. 4, 13, 16; Zalai-Gaál 1993.

³¹ Točík 1978 Pl. 150. 2; Točík 1986 Fig. 5. 4.

³² Pavúk 1969 355 and Fig. 3. 11.

³³ Inv.nos 91.1.7, 91.11.63, 92.7.14, 92.7.38, 92.36.88 and 92.38.74.

³⁴ Inv.no. 91.1.7.

³⁵ Károlyi 1992 Pl. 36.a-b.

³⁶ Korek 1987a 21; Korek 1987b Fig. 16

³⁷ Kalicz — Raczky 1987a 37; Kalicz — Raczky 1987b Fig. 43.

cannot be ascertained from this fragment, but it had probably portrayed a male figure. Female statuettes are generally steatopygous,³⁸ or portray pregnant women.³⁹ The simultaneous portrayal of these female traits and of the pannier is hardly feasible owing to the pronounced curves of the female body; the figurine, with its heavy burden, can only have portrayed a male.

One distinctive trait of the idol fragments found at the Zalaszentbalázs site is the presence of knobs on the feet. In his typology of the idols of the Moravian Painted Pottery culture that is closely related to the Lengyel culture, V. Podborský quoted relatively few 'knobbed' idols from the phase corresponding to the early Lengyel period: a headless female idol from Tešetice-Kyjovice that has a knob on its ankle,⁴⁰ a similarly headless idol from Stepanovice that features a small knob on the knee and on the ankle,⁴¹ and the foot of an idol from Kramolin that also has a knob on the ankle.⁴² A small knob can be seen on the ankle of the enthroned female statuette from the Nitriansky Hrádok site of the Lengyel culture⁴³ and the knees of the female statuette from Wetzleinsdorf are also indicated by knobs.⁴⁴

A number of striking differences can be noted between these early idols and the later statuettes from Zalaszentbalázs; this in spite of the fact that most publications tend to focus on the head and the body of idols more often than their feet, yielding less scope for comparison. Female figurines, portrayed in a standing position, with the feet pressed closely together and strongly emphasized buttocks, are the general type in the early period. Dress and coiffure are sometimes indicated with incised patterns.⁴⁵ The few idols known from the late phase of the Lengyel culture are usually fragmentary and the original can, at the best, only be reconstructed. The lack of incised ornamentation and the presence of knobs on both seated and standing statuettes seems to be general in this period.

A better understanding of the beliefs and cults of this period can only be expected from new finds; these will probably yield new evidence for the existence of a fertility cult and will promote a better knowledge of the beliefs concerning male and female deities.

³⁸ *Ruttkay 1983-84* Pls. 8-9; *Slov. v mladšej ...* 128; *Kalicz — Károlyi 1979* Pl. 127; *Regenye 1994* Fig. 2.

³⁹ *Pavúk 1994* Fig. 6.

⁴⁰ *Podborský 1983* Pl. 10. 2

⁴¹ *Podborský 1983* Pl. 23. 1.

⁴² *Podborský 1983* Pl. 24. 1.

⁴³ *Tožik 1969* Fig. 5.

⁴⁴ *Ruttkay 1983-84* Pl. 9. 2.

⁴⁵ *Skutil 1940*; *Kalicz 1983-1984* Pl. 5. 2a-b, 4; *Farkas 1986* Fig. 2. 6; Fig. 3. 5, 9; *Neugebauer-Maresch 1986* Fig. 1. 4; *Vávra 1986* Fig. 1, *Szathmári 1993* Fig. 3.1.

3. Evaluation

The Zalaszentbalázs site yielded the remains of a late Lengyel settlement. The late phase of the Lengyel culture in Transdanubia was first identified by Pál Raczky.⁴⁶ A number of studies have been devoted to the development and to the periodization of the Lengyel culture; in a recent study, István Zalai-Gaál has reviewed the chronological systems and the periodization schemes that have been proposed by different scholars.⁴⁷

The Lengyel culture has not been equally investigated in all areas of its distribution; the same holds true for Transdanubia, too. With the exception of the Sé site that has been extensively investigated,⁴⁸ other Lengyel sites in Northwestern Transdanubia are known only from field surveys. The northeastern⁴⁹ and southeastern areas⁵⁰ of Transdanubia can be said to be fairly well known, while the late Lengyel settlements in Southwestern Transdanubia were, until recently, only known from field surveys.⁵¹ A number of late Lengyel settlements have been identified in the northern areas of Zala county.⁵² In the southern areas of modern Zala county, late Lengyel settlements have been investigated at Becsehely,⁵³ at Nagykanizsa-Inkey kápolna,⁵⁴ and at Balatonmagyaród-Hídvégpuszta,⁵⁵ the latter being part of the rescue excavations conducted in the Little Balaton region. The Hídvégpuszta site featured a circular enclosure. The distribution of late Lengyel sites in the Hahót region, known so far only from field surveys, can now be better understood.⁵⁶

The Zalaszentbalázs site yielded a late Lengyel assemblage that shares numerous similarities with the Balaton-Lasinja culture. These include beak-like spouts, bowls with a marked carination and thick rims, pointed lugs, which, as was repeatedly indicated by N. Kalicz,⁵⁷ can be regarded as characteristic for the Balaton-Lasinja culture. A unique vessel form: tall and wide-mouthed with curved sides, tapering towards its base (35, 87, 134) again foreshadows the Balaton-Lasinja culture. A comparable vessel has been published from Zbelovo.⁵⁸ The finds from this site that have been assigned to the so-called Alpine facies of the Lengyel culture repre-

⁴⁶ Raczky 1974.

⁴⁷ Zalai-Gaál 1992.

⁴⁸ Excavated by Nándor Kalicz and Mária Károlyi.

⁴⁹ Makkay 1969; Makkay 1978; Antoni 1982; MRT 5.

⁵⁰ Dombay 1960; Zalai-Gaál 1982.

⁵¹ Horváth 1970; Müller 1971.

⁵² Simon 1987; Simon 1990.

⁵³ Kalicz 1977; Kalicz 1978-1979; Kalicz 1991.

⁵⁴ Horváth 1984 9; Horváth 1994 90.

⁵⁵ Kis-Balaton 1989 21.

⁵⁶ See Bánffy's studies in this volume.

⁵⁷ Kalicz 1969; Kalicz 1969-1970; Kalicz 1982; Kalicz 1987-1988; Kalicz 1991.

⁵⁸ Pahic 1983 Pl. 4.1.

sent a late phase of the culture which has many affinities with the Balaton-Lasinja culture.⁵⁹

The excavations at Zalaszentbalázs have shown that, similarly to adjacent areas, the Hahót basin too was occupied during the late Lengyel period, and thus the ethnic and cultural basis for the emergence of the Balaton-Lasinja culture was present also in this area.

4. Catalogue of settlement features

1 (1987)

Lying roughly in the middle of trench I, the longitudinal axis of the originally rectangular house was northwest-southeast oriented. A roughly 4.30 m x 3.50 m area was uncovered, its deepest point lay at 164 cm. Its presence was indicated by a concentration of burnt daub fragments that were probably the remains of the collapsed roof. The remains of the house were outlined at a depth of 60 cm. Its infill was loose, greyish-black mixed with burnt daub fragments. Sherds and animal bones abounded at a depth of 110 cm. A part of the floor, made of yellowish-green, hard-packed clay, was uncovered in the western part of the house. Three smaller depressions were noted inside the house. A posthole was found on the S side of the house.

Finds

Large storage jars (18-19, 26-28, 45, 64, 66); pots (6, 17, 21, 25, 31, 39, 48, 50-51, 61-63); fragments of a pannier-shaped vessel (20, 60); fragments of different bowls (4, 13, 24, 43-44, 46, 53-54, 57-59, 65, 67); fragments of pedestalled bowls and pedestals, one with traces of a black-on-red painted chequerboard pattern (203); fragments of vessels with beaked rim (2, 30); fragments from a flask (15-16, 22, 56); fragments of thin-walled cups (3, 5, 14, 23, 32-34, 36-38, 40-42, 47, 49, 52, 55, 62, 204) including painted ones; fragments of biconical and globular vessels; miniature vessels (7-11); various clay ladles (184, 188-190); fragments of callender and callender lid; fragments of a quadrangular small vessel (29); fragment of an altar (1); idol with pannier (195) broken stone axes; stone blades and chips, stone chisel; clay loom weights and spindle whorls fashioned from broken pottery sherds.

Inv. nos 91.5.1-93, 91.6.1-217, 91.11.30, 40-66.

2 (1987)

Lying in the western part of trench I and in the eastern part of trench II, some 3 to 4 m from feature 1, it measured 5.50 m x 2-2.5 m, its deepest point lying at a depth of 150 cm. Its infill corresponded to that of feature 1. It was roughly E-W oriented. A hearth constructed of burnt daub frag-

⁵⁹ Bánffy 1994a; Bánffy 1994b.

ments that yielded a handful of Lengyel sherds lay at a depth of 70-90 cm in its eastern part, beside the S wall of the trench. The hearth is described under feature 6.

Finds

Large storage jars (72); fragments of various pots; fragments of various bowls; fragments of pedestalled bowls and pedestals (73-74); fragments of thin-walled jugs and cups (69); fragments of ladles (68, 71, 183); fragment of a strainer (70); broken stone axes; stone blades, chips, broken cores.

Inv. nos 91.9.9-58.

3 (1987)

Lying in the eastern part of trench I, it was first noted as a cluster of sherds. Only one half of this elongated elliptical pit with slightly stepped floor fell into the excavated area. Dimensions: 2.30 m x 2.40 m, depth: 100 cm. Infill: greyish-yellow, clayey, mixed with burnt daub fragments and a few sherds.

Finds

Fragments of large storage jars, some with mat impressions on their underside; fragments of various bowls; fragments of pedestals; fragments of various jars and cups; fragments of various ladles; an almost intact perforated stone axe; animal head-shaped lid knob (12).

Inv. nos 91.9.59-62 and 91.10.1-34.

4 (1987)

A roughly rectangular building with a round, 90 cm deep pit beside its N side, lying in trenches II and III. Dimensions: 4.20 m x 1.50-2.0 m, deepest point: 120 cm. An elliptical posthole, measuring 40 cm by 20 cm and 100 cm deep, was found in the southeastern corner, and a similar posthole, 40 cm by 40 cm, surrounded by burnt daub fragments, lay in the southwestern corner.

Finds

Large storage jars (75, 81); fragments of pots; fragments of pedestals (80); fragments of various jugs and thin-walled cups (76-77, 79) including fragments with painted patterns; fragment of a vessel with incised ornamentation (78); fragments of various ladles; broken pounder.

Inv. nos 91.12.12-32.

5 (1987)

Lying in the western corner of trench II, some 30 m from feature 1, this rectangular building was indicated by a patch of darker earth intermixed with burnt daub fragments. Dimensions: 6.0 m x 5.20 m, depth: 60-95 cm. A 110 cm deep round pit was found inside the house, as well as the remains of a fireplace. An 80 cm deep posthole having a diameter of 70 cm, encircled by small white pieces of sandstone, lay in its southwestern corner.

Finds

Large storage jars (86, 89); fragments of pot (82); fragments of pannier-shaped vessels (94, 96); fragments of various bowls (90, 93, 95, 97); fragments of pedestalled bowls and pedestals; fragments of thin-walled cups (88, 91-92); fragments of biconical cups; body fragment of a vessel with incised pattern (83-85); fragment of a lid; fragments of various thick-walled vessel (98, 192); stone blades, various stone chips, scrapers, broken core; spindle whorl fashioned from broken pottery sherds.

Inv. nos 91.13.15-86.

6 (1987)

Found in feature 2, the roughly circular firing platform of a hearth lay beside the S wall of trench I at a depth of 70-90 cm. Diameter: 1 m. The infill under the hearth corresponded to the greyish-yellow ashy infill of feature 2.

Finds

Fragments of thin-walled vessels above the hearth; body and base fragments from various thick-walled vessels were found in the plastering, together with pebbles and a burnt daub fragment with the impression of a twig.

Inv. nos 91.14.1-12.

7 (1987)

Lying beside the N wall of trench III, a small section of a pit with straight walls and flat floor, containing the characteristic greyish-yellow infill of the Lengyel culture, was found on the very last day of the excavation. Dimensions: 2 m x 1 m, depth: 130 cm. The excavated section did not contain any finds.

8 (1987)

Lying beside the S wall of trench III, a 10 cm thick firing platform constructed of burnt daub fragments was uncovered that contained no finds.

9 (= feature 1988/1)

The patch of this building was first noted at a depth of 15 cm under the levelled ground surface in trench, a roughly 7 m long and 0.80-1.50 m wide patch intermixed with burnt daub fragments and numerous sherds. This roughly 10 cm thick layer probably represented the floor level that was only indicated by these sherds, for no actual remains of the hard-packed floor survived. A 20-30 cm thick greyish-yellow infill intermixed with burnt daub fragments and flecks of charcoal lay underneath, under which lay a yellowish layer with pebbles. The floor of two pits, perhaps postholes, were noted in this yellowish layer at a depth of 150 cm and 120 cm. Mostly thin-walled vessels were found in the eastern part, and the fragments of large, thick-walled vessels with two or four handles lay in the western half, together with a number of sherds from thin-walled pottery.

Finds

Large storage jars (106); pots (113); fragments of pannier-shaped vessels (102, 105), some with twig impressions on their underside (100); fragments of various bowls (103, 110-111, 114); fragments of pedestalled bowls and pedestals; fragments of spouted vessels; fragments of jugs (107) and thin-walled cups (109, 112), including some with painted motifs (104); miniature vessel; fragment of a lid (99); fragments of various ladles; fragments of two idols (193-194); small trapezoidal axe of green serpentine; stone blades; chips; quernstone.

Inv. nos 92.7.1-64, 92.8.1 92.10.19.

10 (= feature 1988/2)

Lying in the northwestern end of trench. A pit of irregular, elliptical form with straight walls and slightly stepped floor. Dimensions: 2.20 m x 2.50 m, depth: 130 cm. The infill was intermixed with burnt daub fragments and flecks of charcoal, and at a depth of 80 cm lay a smaller cluster of sherds, as well as the base fragment of a large vessel and sherds from smaller vessels.

Finds

Fragments of thick-walled storage jars; fragments of pedestals and thin-walled cups; fragment of an altar (?); stone chips; loom weight.

Inv. nos 92.11.1-18.

11 (= feature 1988/3)

Lying beside the eastern wall of the trench, this pit of rounded rectangular form was first noted as a large concentration of burnt daub fragments. Dimensions: 2.0 m x 1.60 m, depth: 50 cm. The pit was lined with burnt daub fragments and had possibly functioned as a storage pit, into which a handful of sherds and a burnt bone had fallen accidentally.

Finds

Fragments of thick-walled storage jars; fragments of a bowl; fragments of jugs and thin-walled cups; fragment of a large spouted vessel; fragments of various ladles; burnt daub fragment with a twig impression.

Inv. nos 92.12.1-26.

12 (= feature 1988/4)

Lying in the middle of the trench, beside its western wall, a pit of rounded triangular form filled with blackish and brownish earth intermixed with burnt daub fragments and flecks of charcoal. Dimensions: 2.80 m x 2.50 m, depth: 80 cm. A cluster of burnt daub fragments lay at a depth of 60 cm, and a smaller, 90 cm deep pit with a diameter of roughly 50 cm was noted in its middle.

Finds

Fragments of a pannier-shaped vessel; conical bowl with a short neck, a marked carination and a ring base (202); fragments of pedestalled bowls and pedestals; fragments of various thin-walled cups; an almost intact

ladle (185) and fragments of various ladles; stone chips; broken quernstones.
Inv. nos 92.13.1-45.

13 (= feature 1989/1)

Lying in trench II, this structure of rounded quadrangular groundplan, measuring 3.50 m by 3.20 m, was first noted as a cluster of sherds. Infill: a layer intermixed with burned daub fragments and pottery sherds, under which lay a reddish layer of rich texture, followed by a blackish layer mixed with ash and flecks of charcoal, under which lay a layer of yellowish-brownish-blackish colour. Three distinct patches were noted at a depth of 100 cm: a dark black, ashy patch in the northwestern part, a reddish clayey patch mixed with burnt daub fragments under which lay a burnt black layer in the NE part, and a yellowish patch intermixed with flecks of charcoal and small burnt daub fragments in the S part. The dark black ashy patch was found to contain a quernstone, stone chips, pebbles used for tempering, clay ladles and numerous pottery fragments. A 140 cm deep pit of irregular shape was found underneath.

Finds

Fragments of large storage jars (129-133); fragments of pots (127-128, 170); fragments of various pannier-shaped vessels; fragments of various bowls (121, 123, 135, 137, 140-143, 146-148, 175); fragments of pedestalled bowls (172-173, 178, 200) and of pedestals (180); fragments of spouted vessels; fragments of various jugs (145, 179); various thin-walled cups (171, 177, 199) and their fragments (115-116, 118-120, 122, 124-126, 144); fragments of miniature vessels (117, 136); various ladles and their fragments (181-182, 187); fragments of strainers (201); fragment of a lid and of a lid knob; fragment of an idol (197); quernstone; pebbles.
Inv. nos 92.36.1-95 and 92.37.1-35.

14 (= feature 1989/2)

Lying in the NE part of trench I, this structure was first noted as a large concentration of burnt daub fragments and pottery sherds over a 4.20 m x 1.80 m large area. This debris contained several large burnt daub fragment preserving the impression of the wattling that probably came from the collapsed walls and roof of the building. Three distinct patches were noted inside the building: a dark blackish patch in the NE corner, a reddish clayey patch intermixed with burnt daub fragments in the southeastern part, and a third one encircled by burnt daub fragments in the western part. The dark blackish patch was found to contain an abundance of stone chips, several cores and a quernstone. The third patch was found to contain a reddish infill mixed with burnt daub fragments and the colour of the soil was basically identical with that of the reddish pottery that had been found in this area, suggesting that clay for pottery manufacture had perhaps been prepared here. A 135 cm deep pit was found in the middle of the building.

Finds

Fragments of large storage jars; fragments of pots (153, 169); fragments of pannier-shaped vessels (149-150, 154); fragments of various bowls (152, 155-168); fragments of pedestalled bowls and pedestals; fragments of spouted vessels; fragments of various jugs and cups (151, 174, 176); fragments of ladles; fragments of strainers; spindle whorl fashioned from a broken pottery sherd; fragment of an altar; fragment of an idol (196); fragment of a lid knob; stone chips and pebbles used for tempering.

Inv. nos 92.38.1-82.

15 (= feature 1989/3)

Large circular pit, with slightly sloping walls and flat floor one half of which fell into the trench. Infill: layer of burnt daub fragments with flecks of charcoal and a handful of sherds, underneath which lay a yellowish-red layer mixed with flecks of charcoal, followed by a yellowish layer with flecks of charcoal. Diameter: 170 cm, depth: 105 cm.

Finds

Fragments of large pots; fragments of pedestals; fragments of thin-walled cups; intact ladles (192).

Inv. nos 92.39.1-17.

16 (= feature 1989/4)

Round shallow pit with slightly sloping walls and flat floor, only one half of which fell into the trench. First noted as a cluster of sherds. Infill: yellowish-blackish-brownish layer, under which lay a dark blackish layer. Diameter: ca 150 cm, depth: 60 cm.

Finds

Fragments of large storage jars; fragment of a spouted vessel; fragments of various cups; fragment of a clay ladle.

Inv. nos 92.40.1-13.

17 (= feature 1989/5)

Lying in trench II, directly adjacent to feature 13, a stepped pit. Infill: blackish, intermixed with burnt daub fragments. Dimensions: 80 cm x ca 30 cm, depth: 76 cm. Since its depth corresponds to the depth of feature 13, it may have been the posthole for a beam or post supporting the roof structure or reinforcing the wall.

Finds

Body fragments of large vessels; fragments of a thin-walled cup.

Inv. nos 92.41.1-5.

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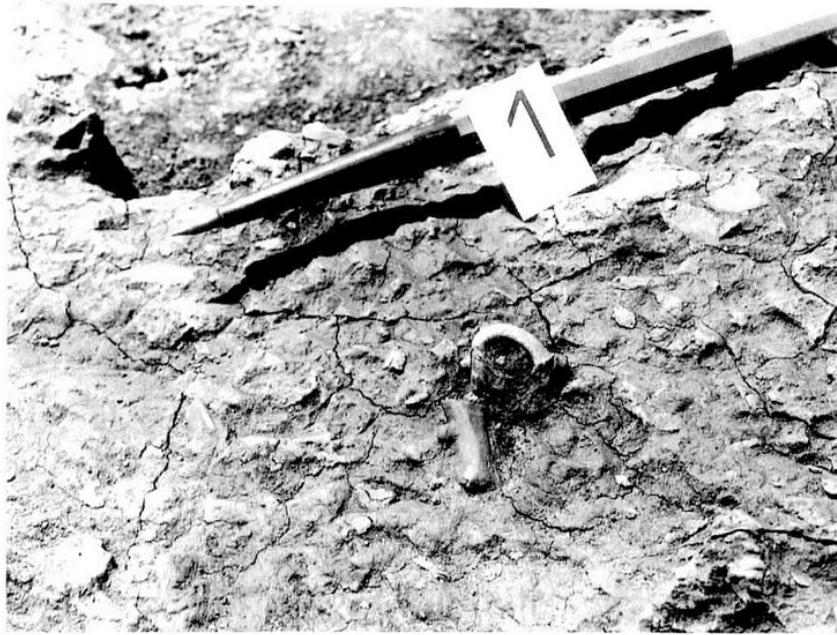
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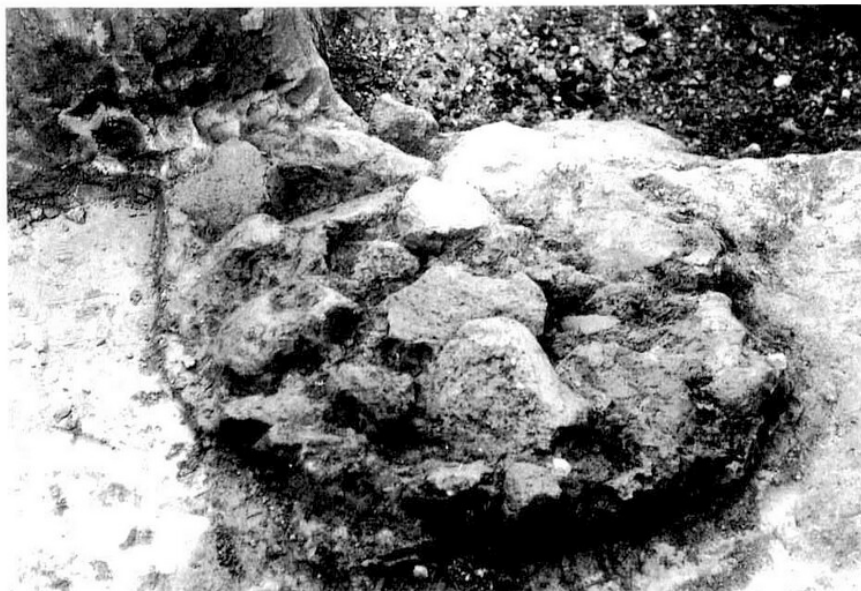


a



b

Pl. 49. Zalaszentbalázs - Szőlőhegyi mező. a.: Feature 14.; b.: Feature 9.

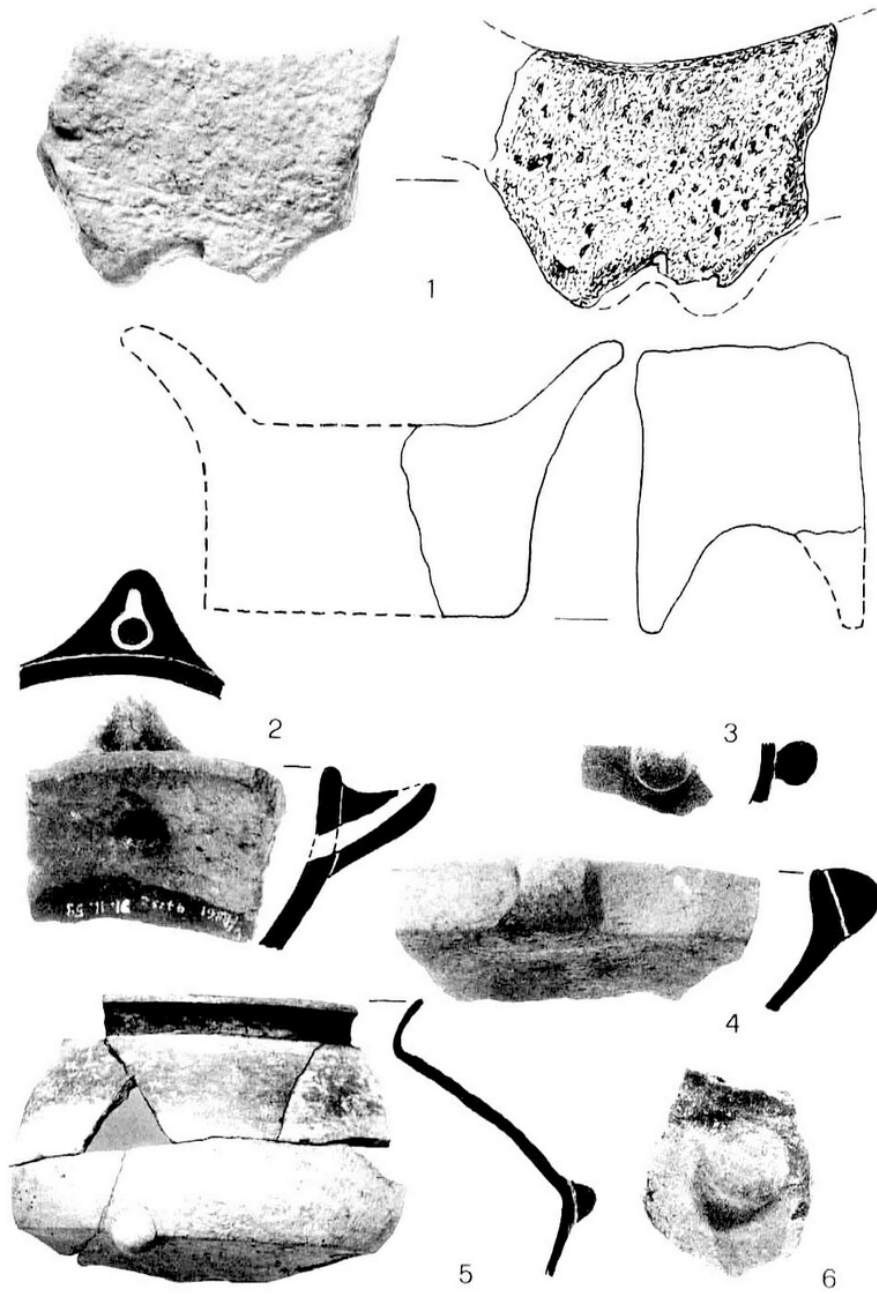


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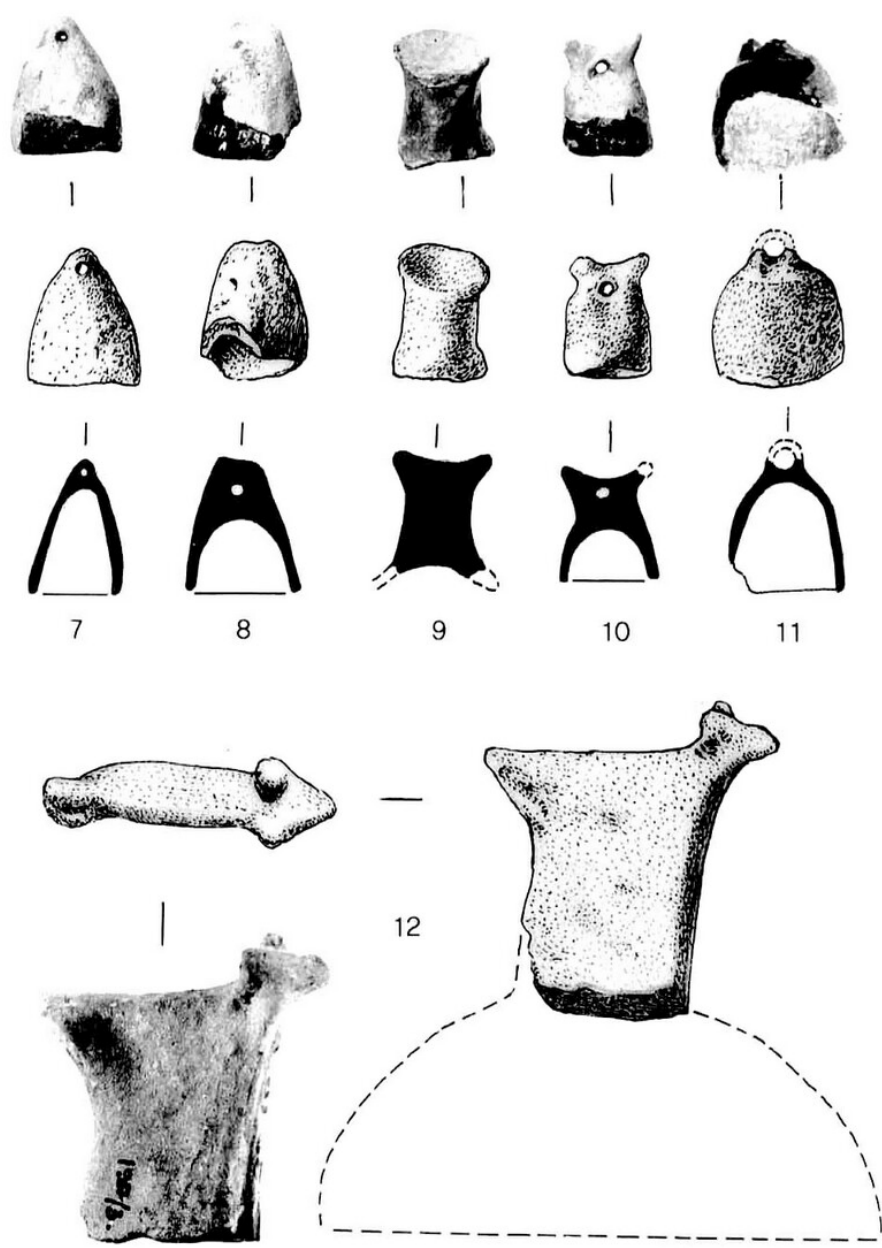


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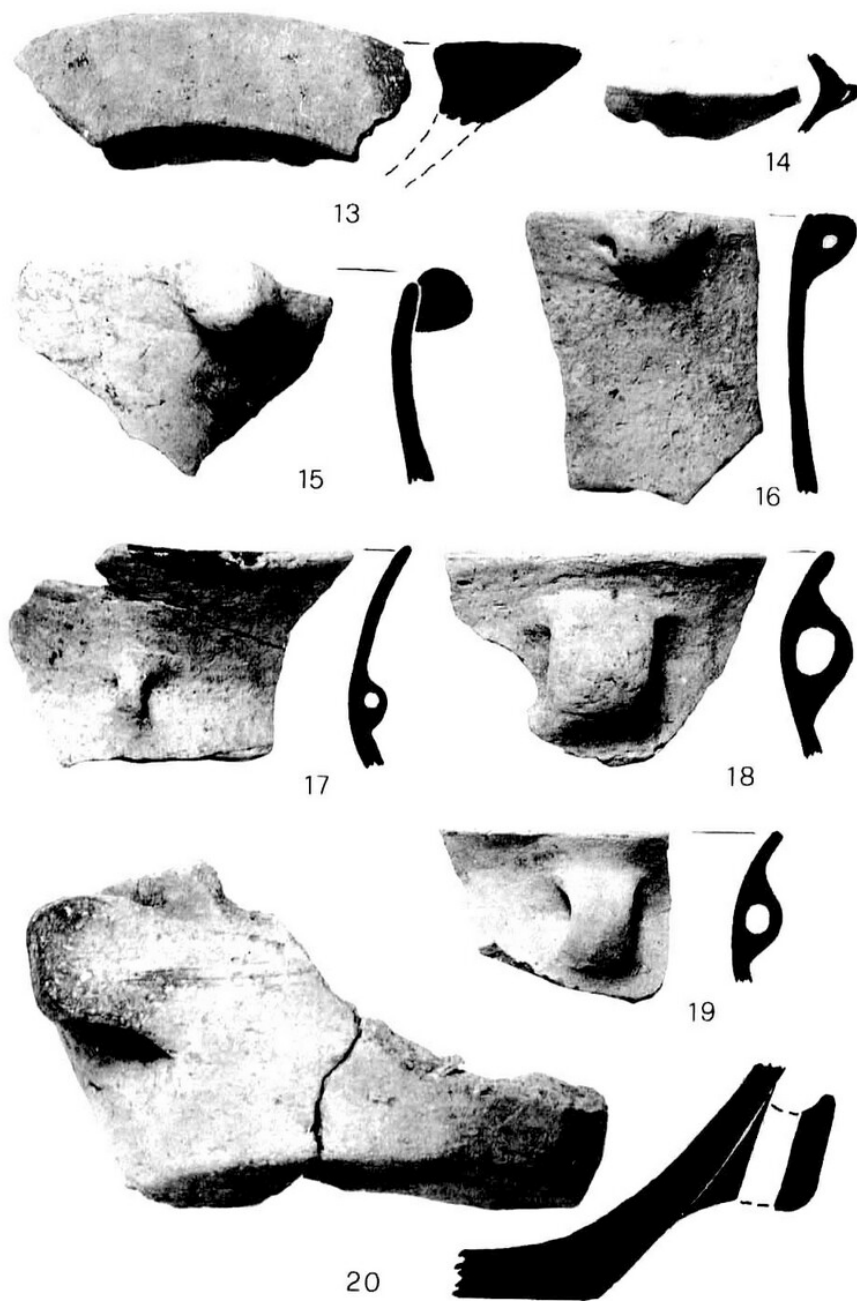
Pl. 50. Zalaszentbalázs - Szőlőhegyi mező. a.: Feature 6.; b.: Feature 1.



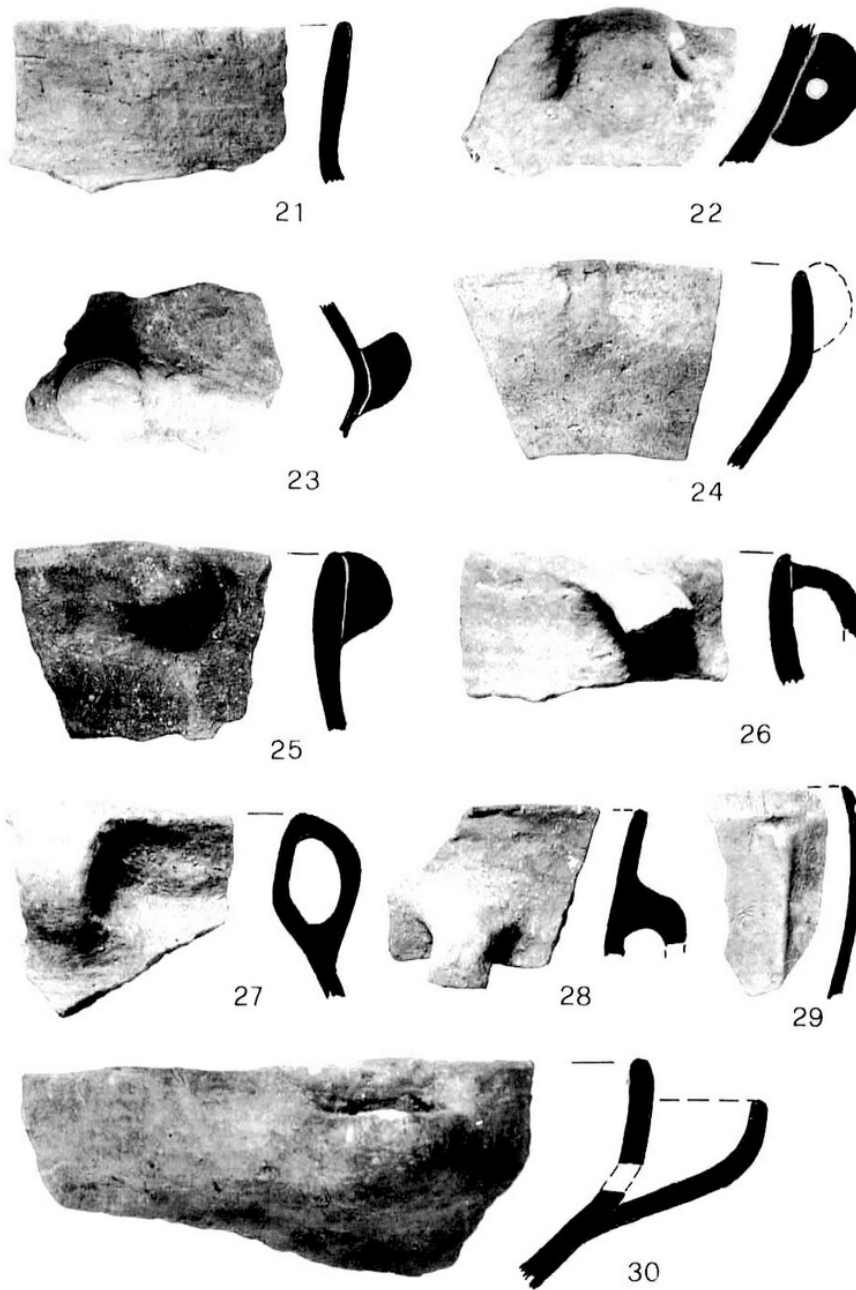
Pl. 51. Zalaszentbalázs - Szőlőhegyi mező. Feature 1. 1.2.



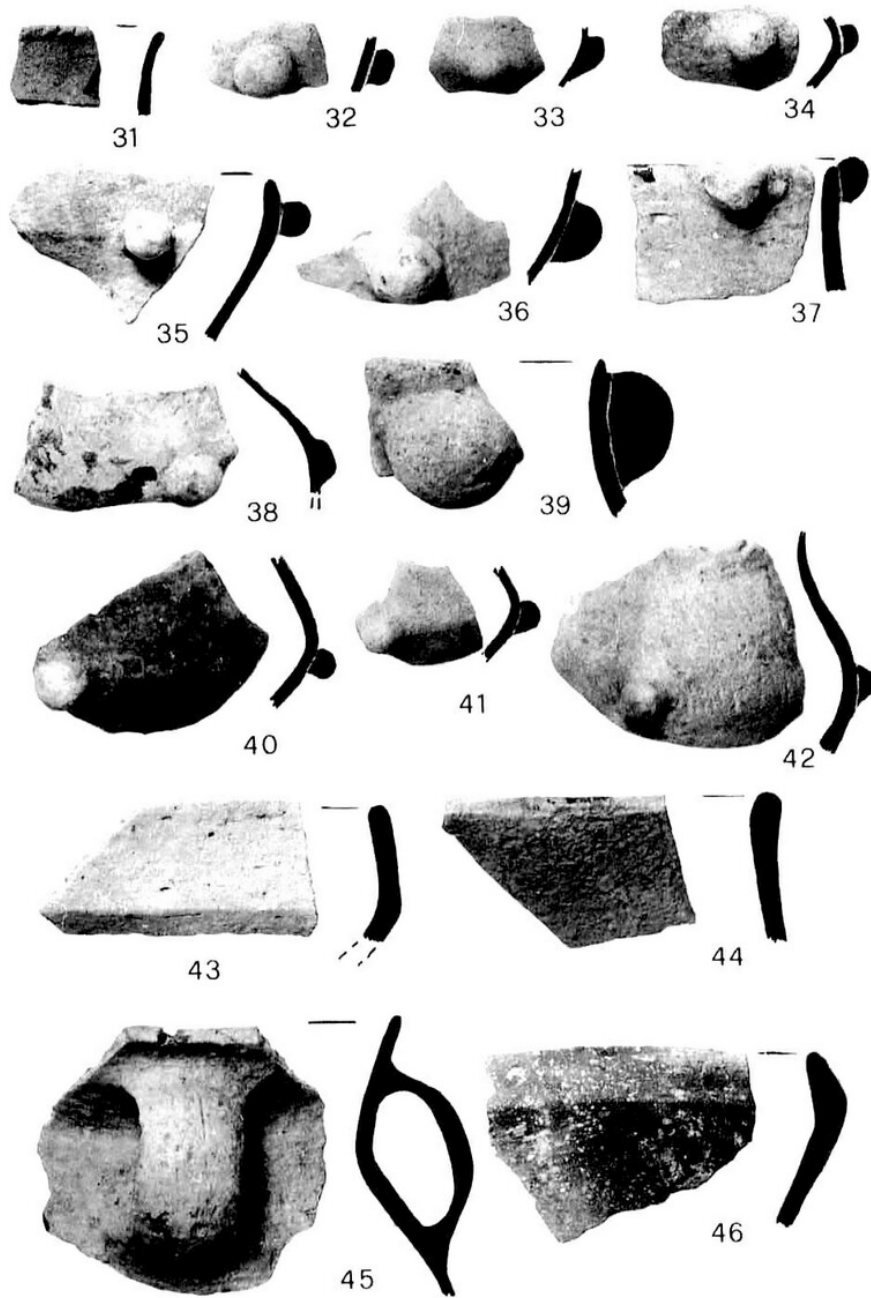
Pl. 52. Zalaszentbalázs - Szőlőhegyi mező. Feature 1 (7-11); Feature 3 (12). 1:2.



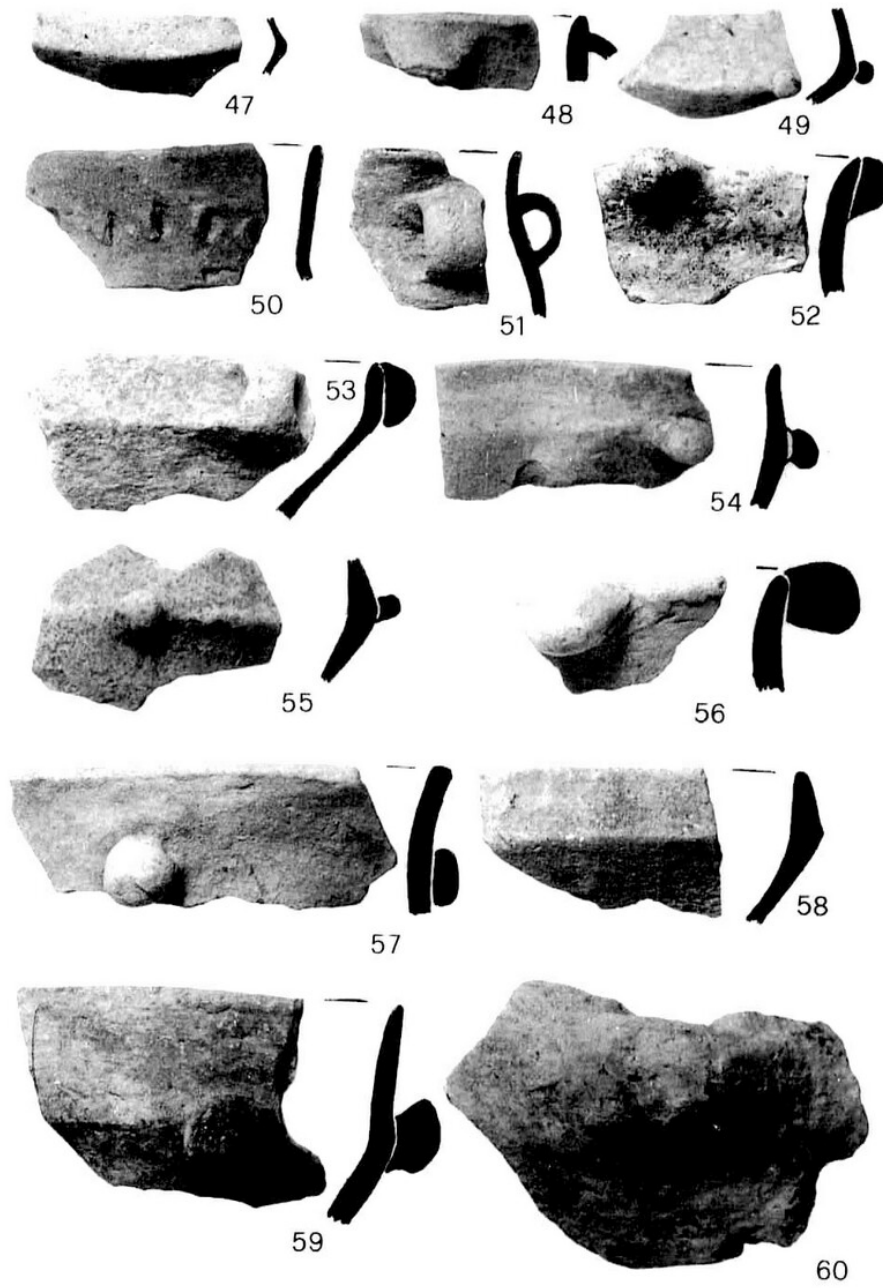
Pl. 53. Zalaszentbalázs - Szőlőhegyi mező. Feature 1. 1:2.



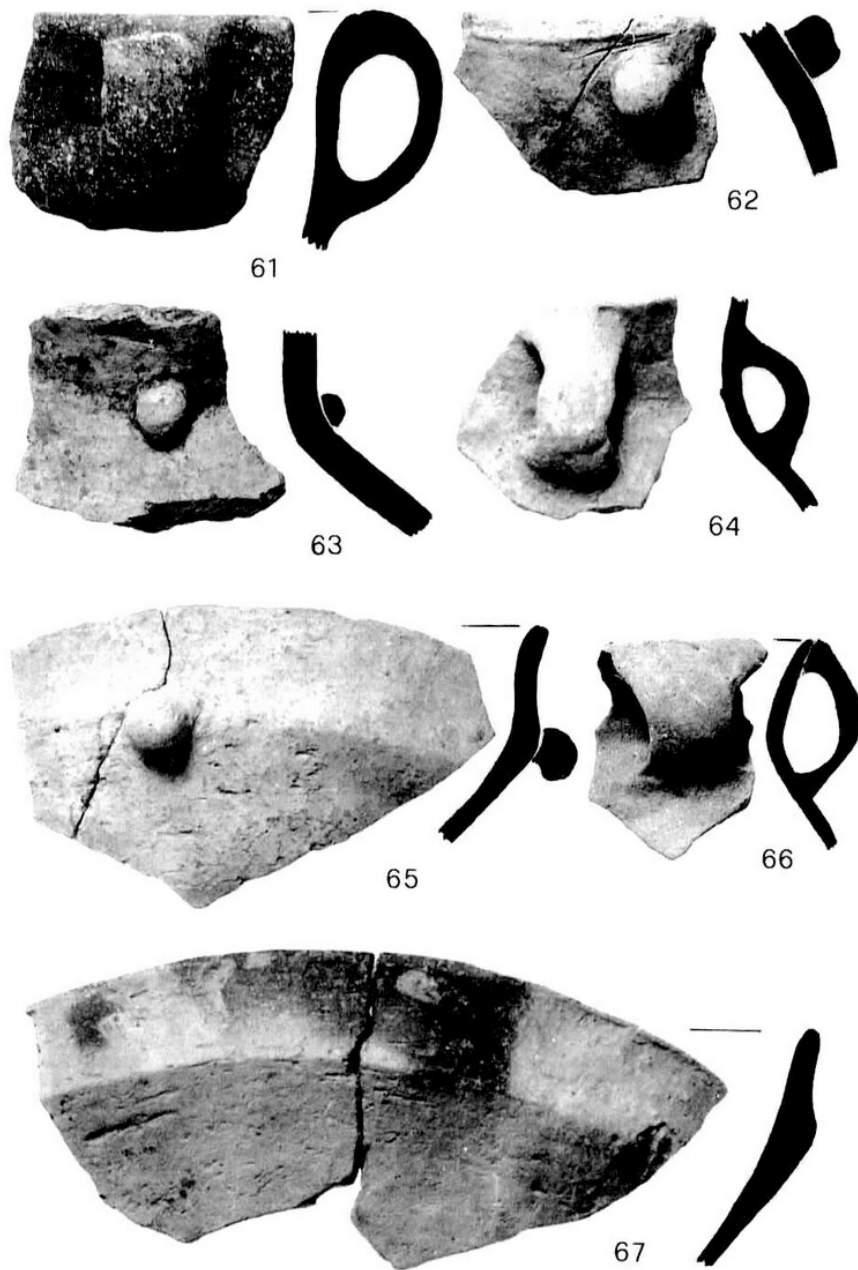
I. 54. Zalaszentbalázs - Szőlőhegyi mező, Feature 1. 1:2.



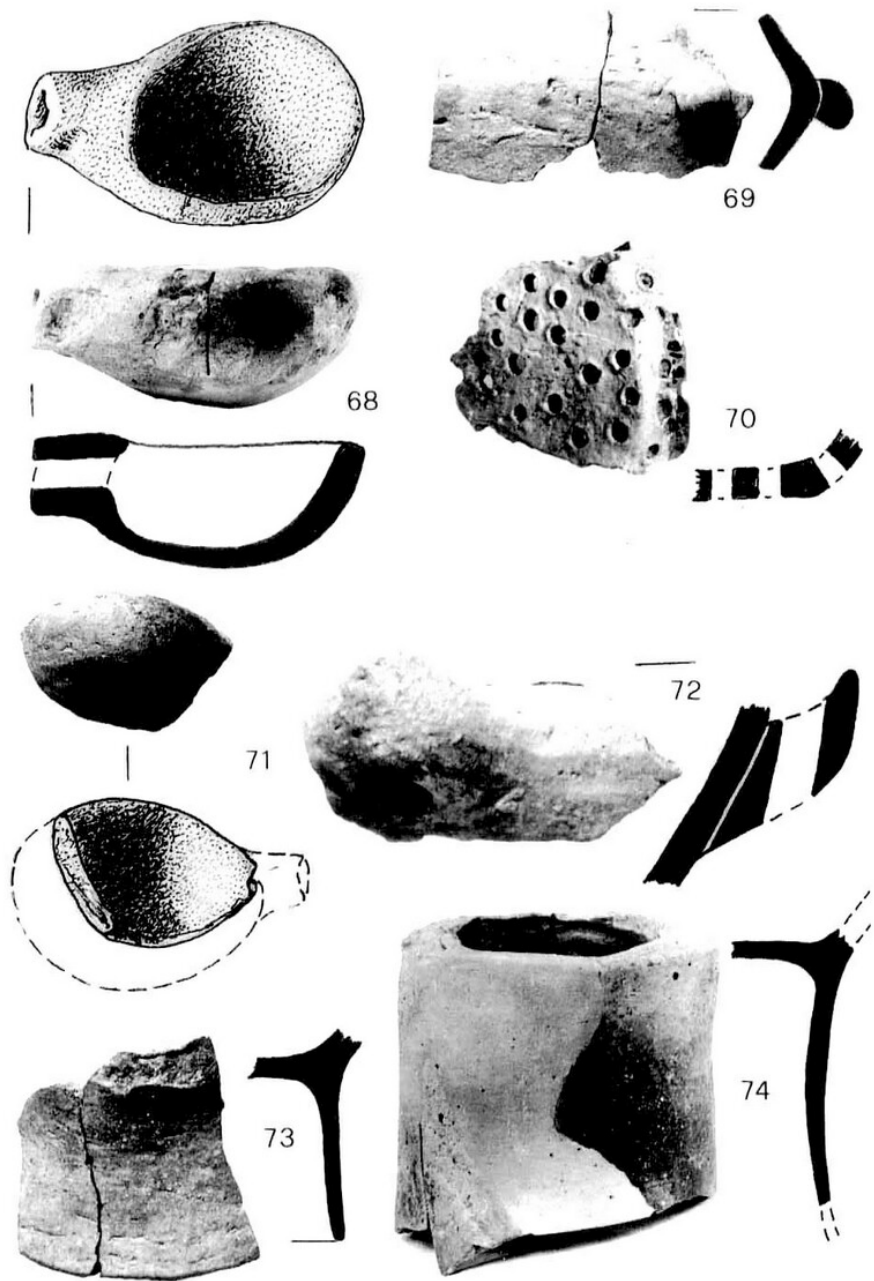
Pl. 55. Zalaszentbalázs - Szőlőhegyi mező. Feature 1. 1:2.



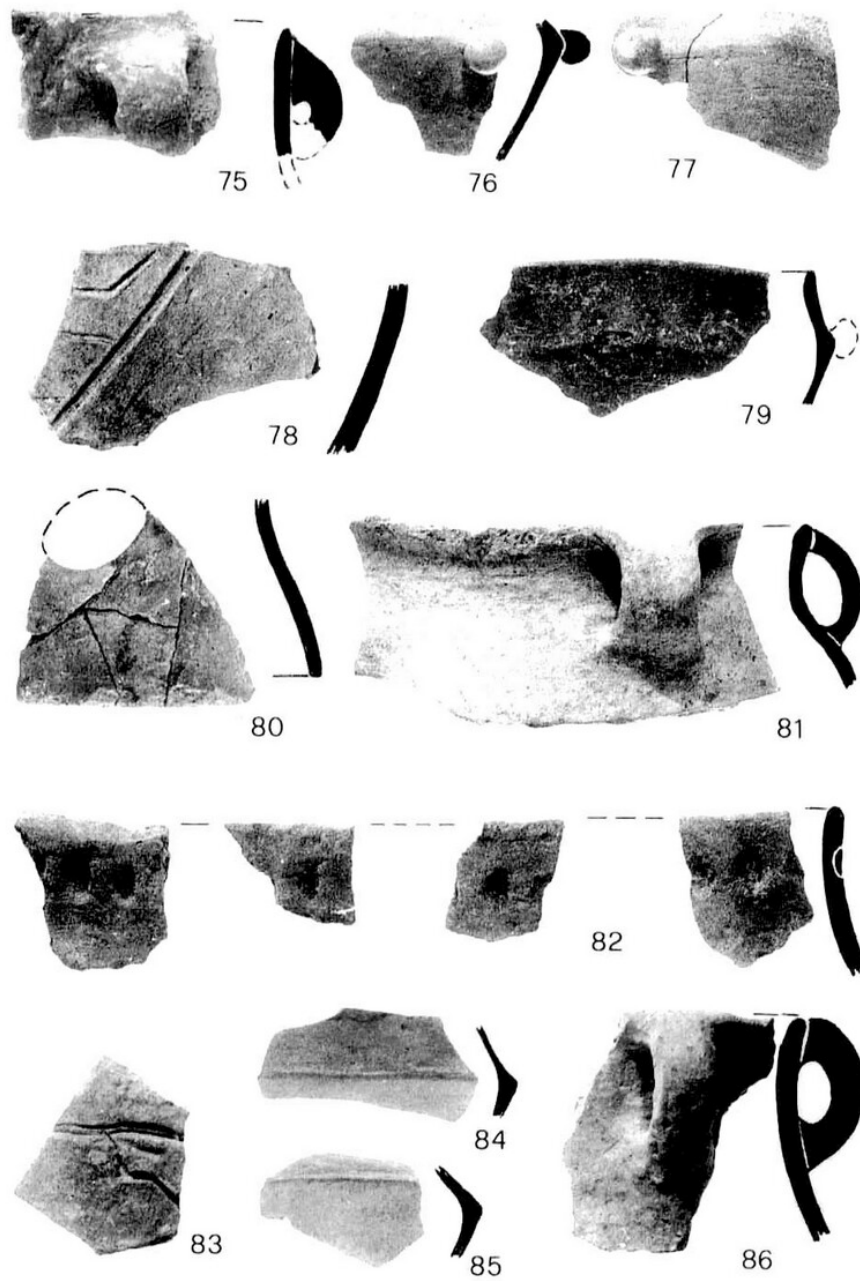
Pl. 56. Zalaszentbalázs - Szőlőhegyi mező. Feature 1. 1:2.



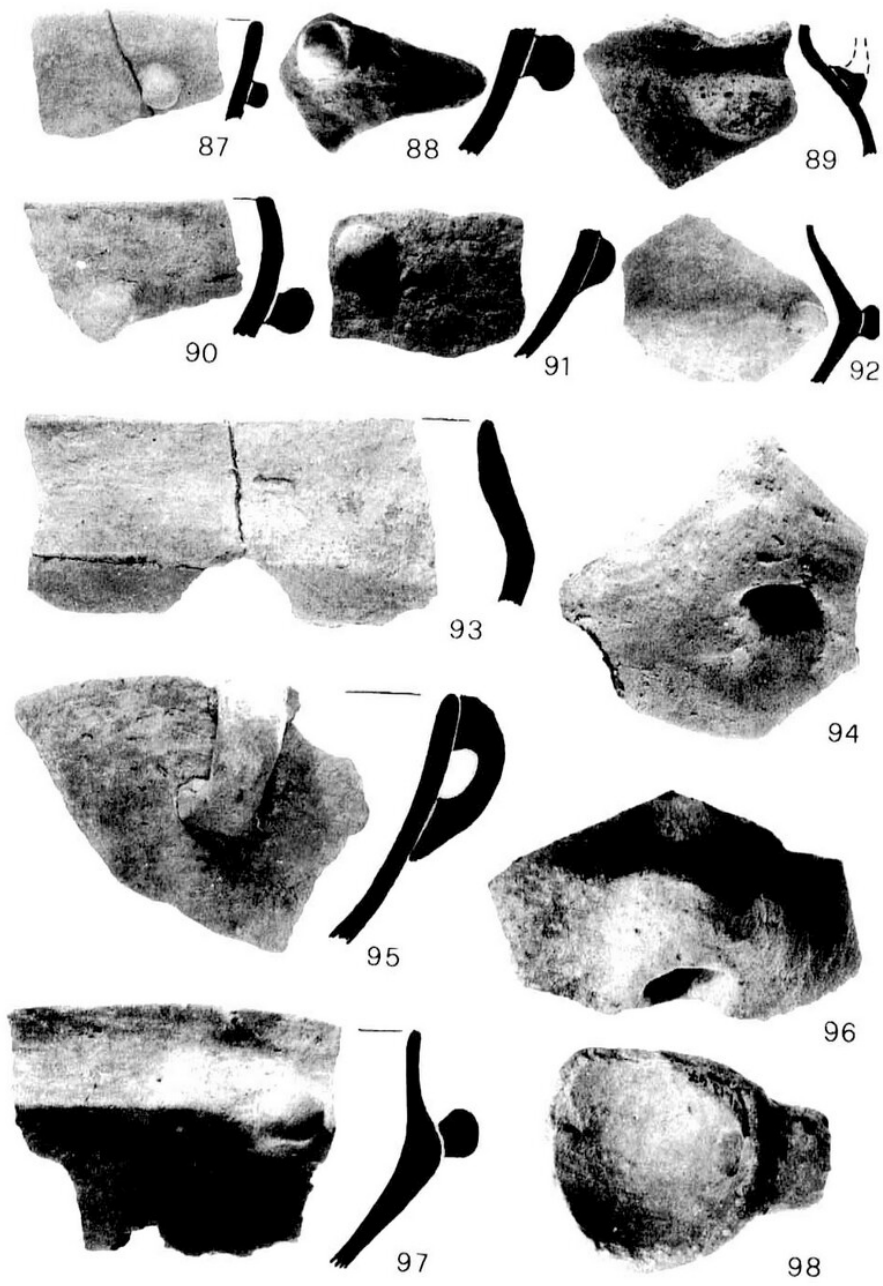
Pl. 57. Zalaszentbalázs - Szőlőhegyi mező. Feature 1. 1:2.



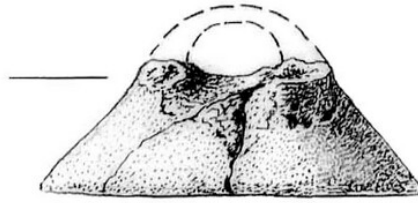
Pl. 58. Zalaszentbalázs - Szőlőhegyi mező. Feature 2. 1:2.



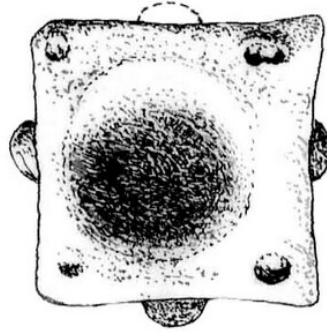
Pl. 59. Zalaszentbalázs - Szőlőhegyi mező. Feature 4 (75, 78, 80-81); trench II. (76-77, 79); Feature 5 (83-86). 1:2.



Pl. 60. Zalaszentbalázs - Szőlőhegyi mező. Feature 5. 1:2.

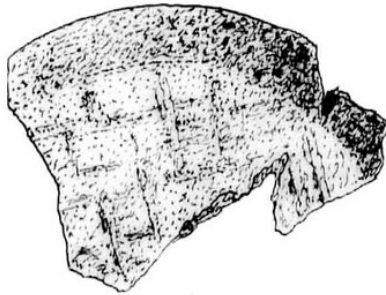


99

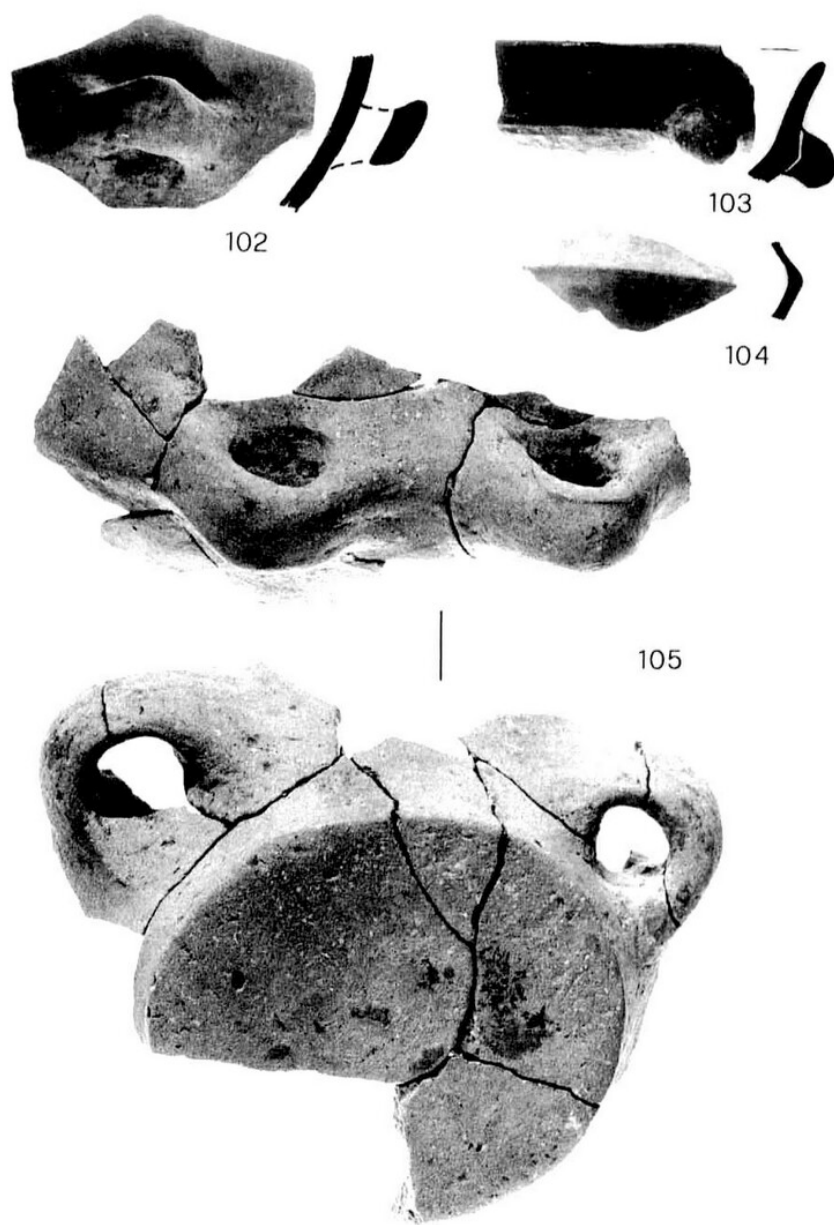


100

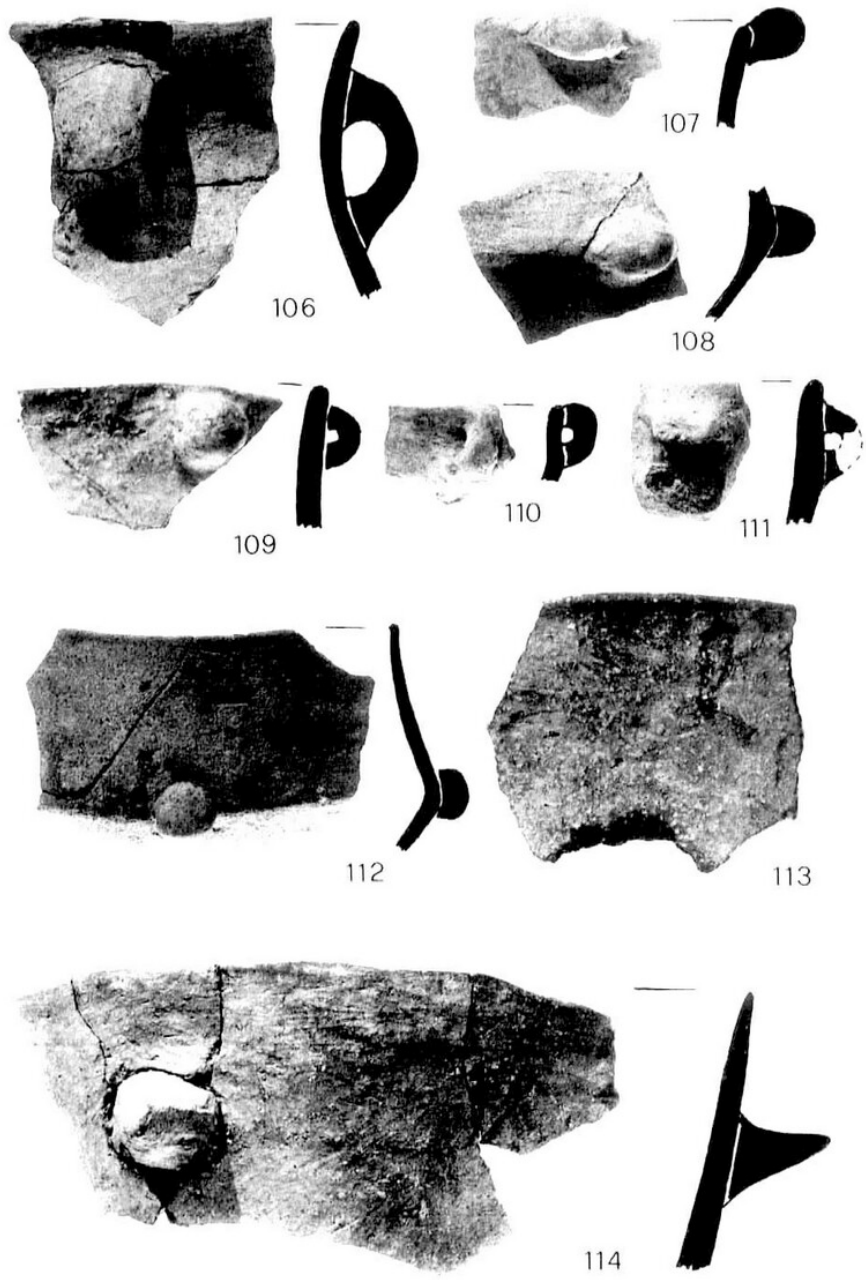
101



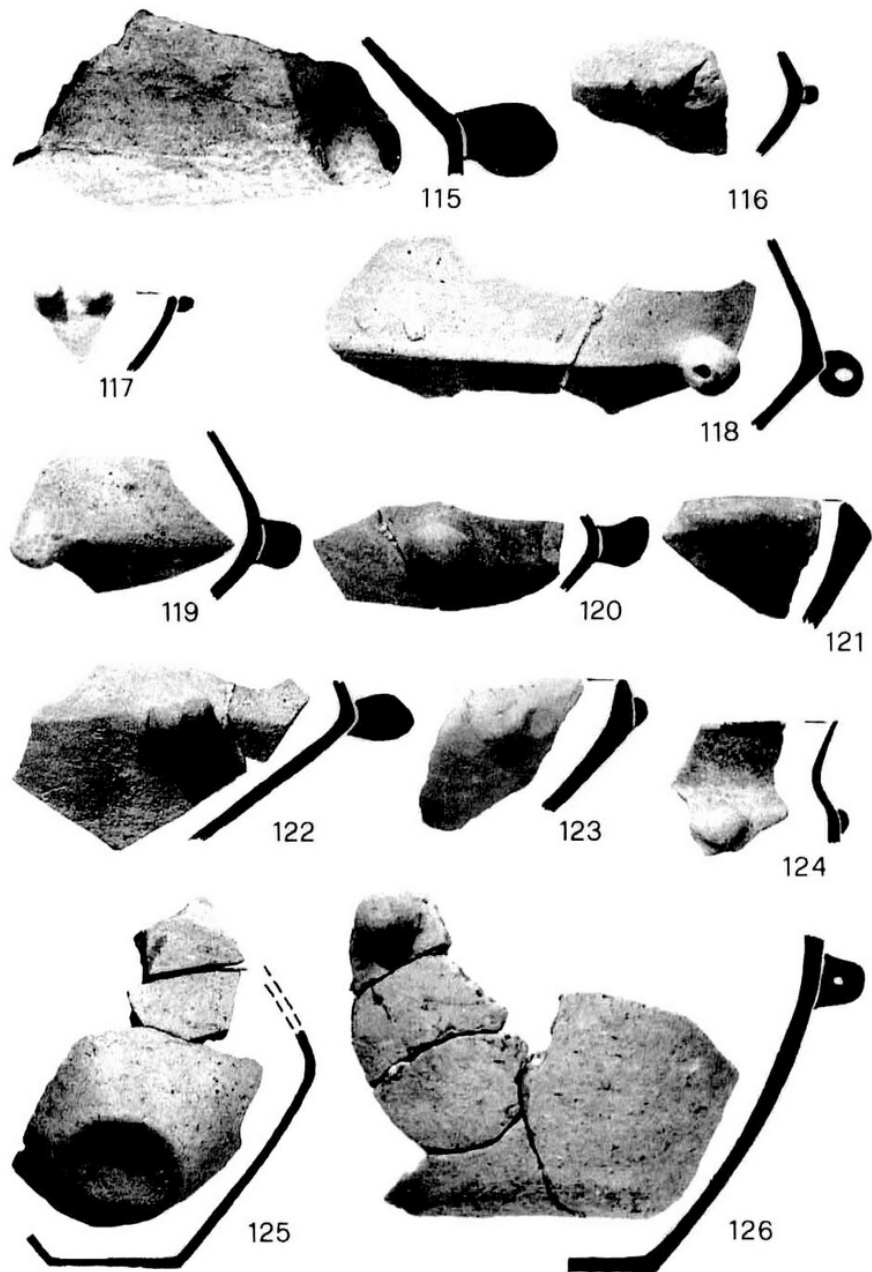
Pl. 61. Zalaszentbalázs - Szőlőhegyi mező. Feature 9 (99-100); surface collection (101). 1:1.



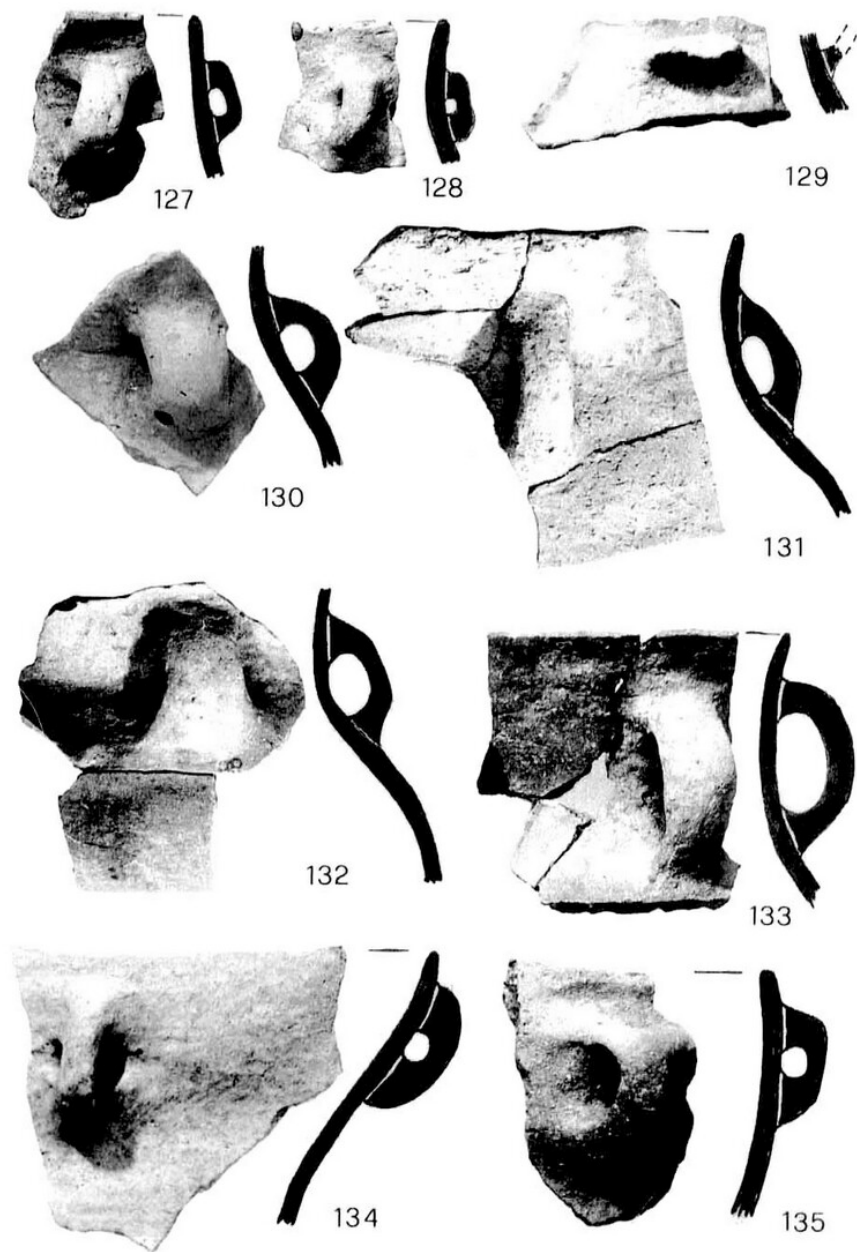
Pl. 62. Zalaszentbalázs - Szőlőhegyi mező. Feature 9. 1:2.



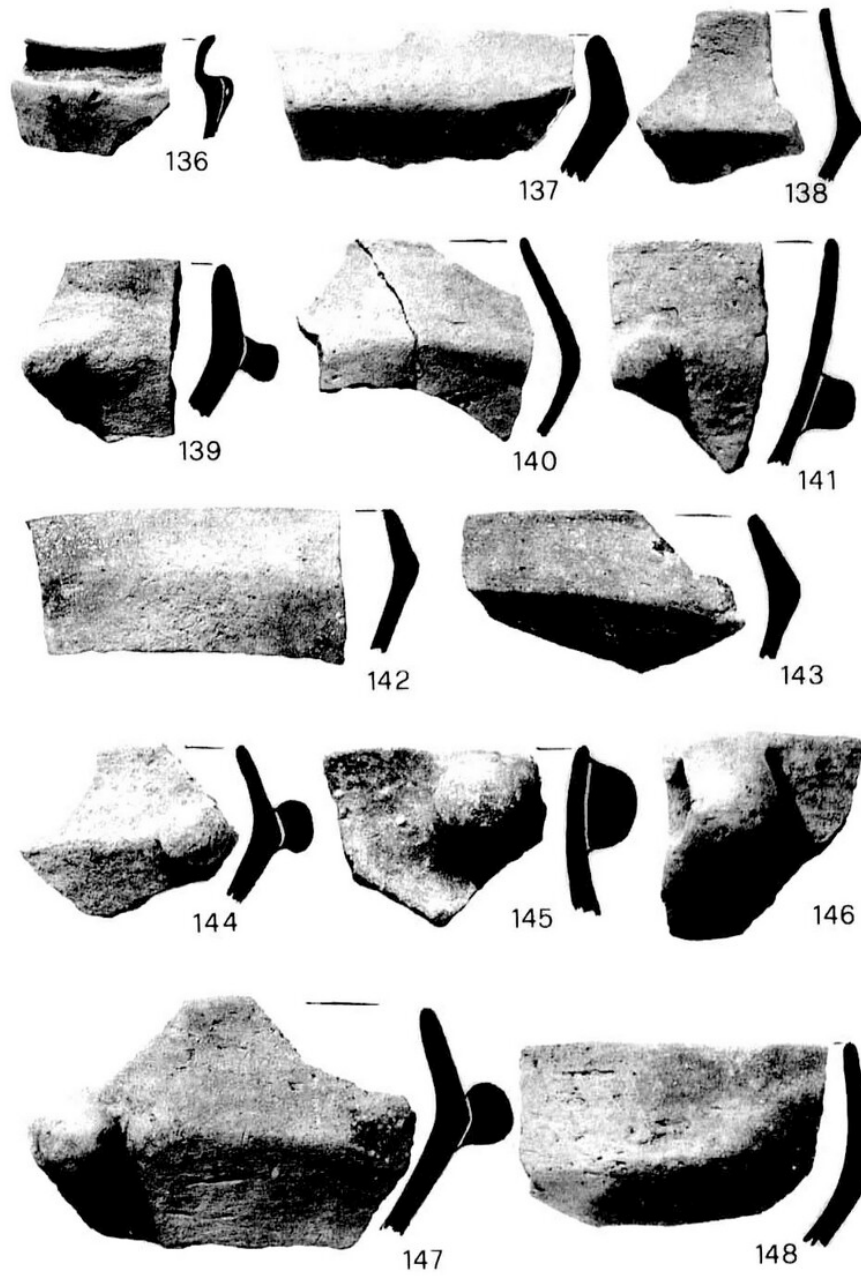
Pl. 63. Zalaszentbalázs - Szőlőhegyi mező. Feature 9. 1:2.



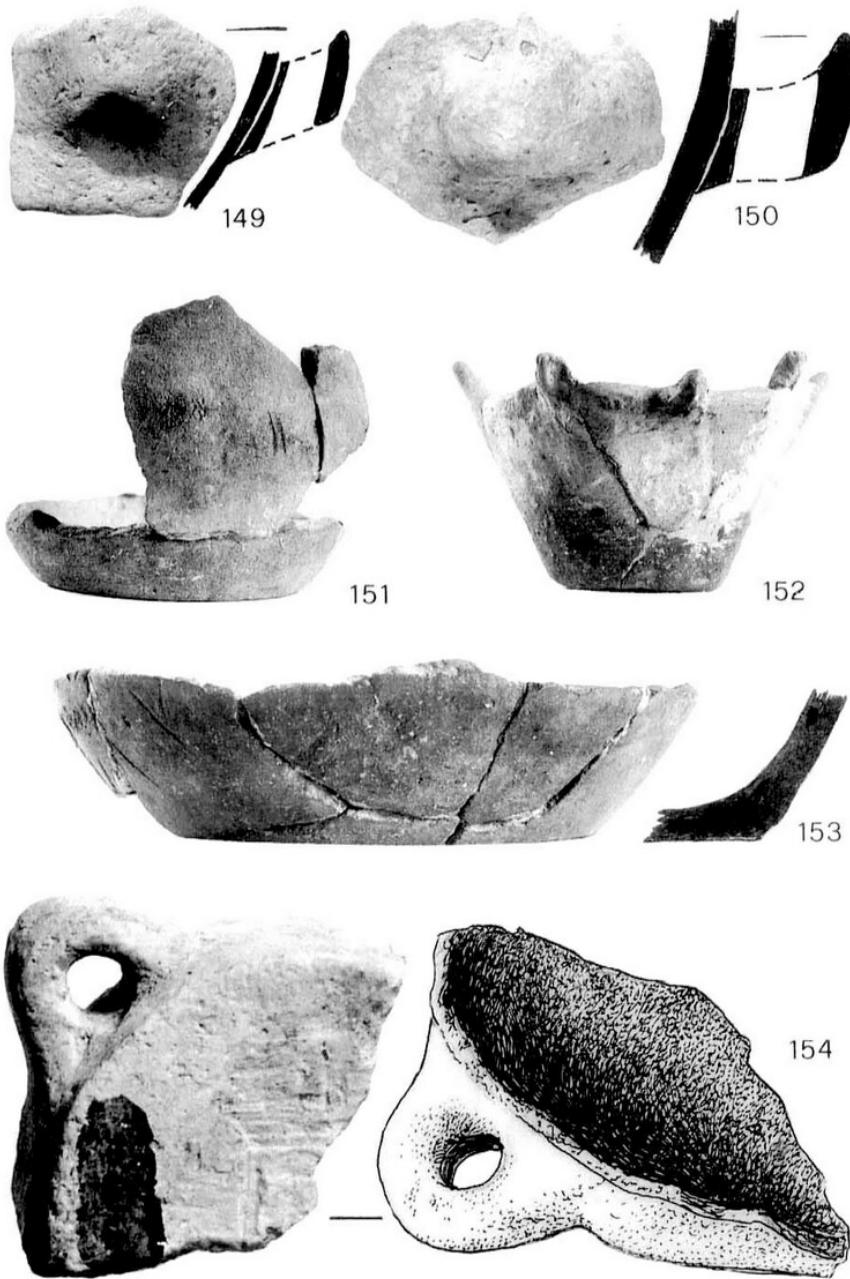
Pl. 64. Zalaszentbalázs - Szőlőhegyi mező. Feature 13. 1:2.



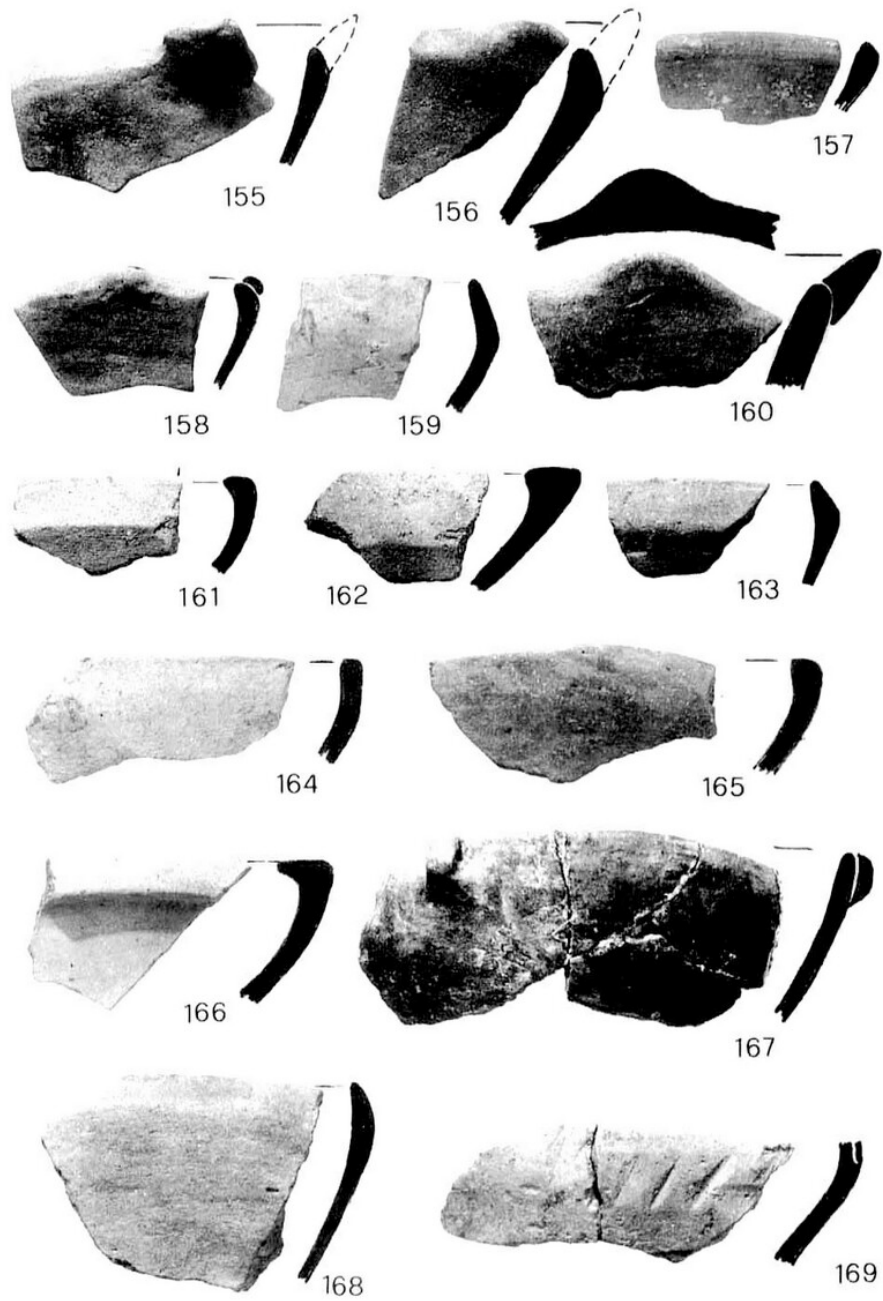
Pl. 65. Zalaszentbalázs - Szőlőhegyi mező. Feature 13. 1:2.



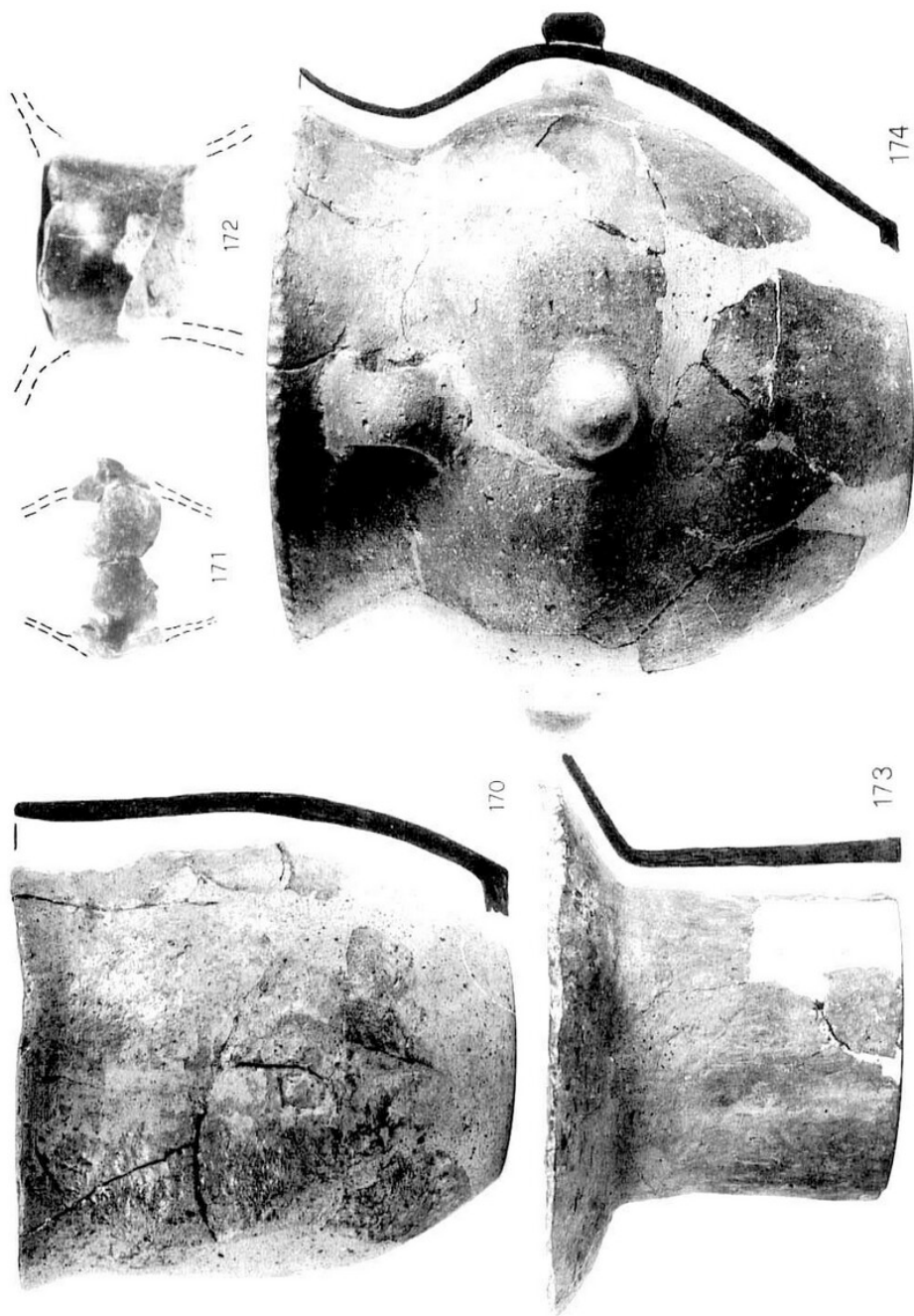
Pl. 66. Zalaszentbalázs - Szőlőhegyi mező. Feature 13. 1:2.



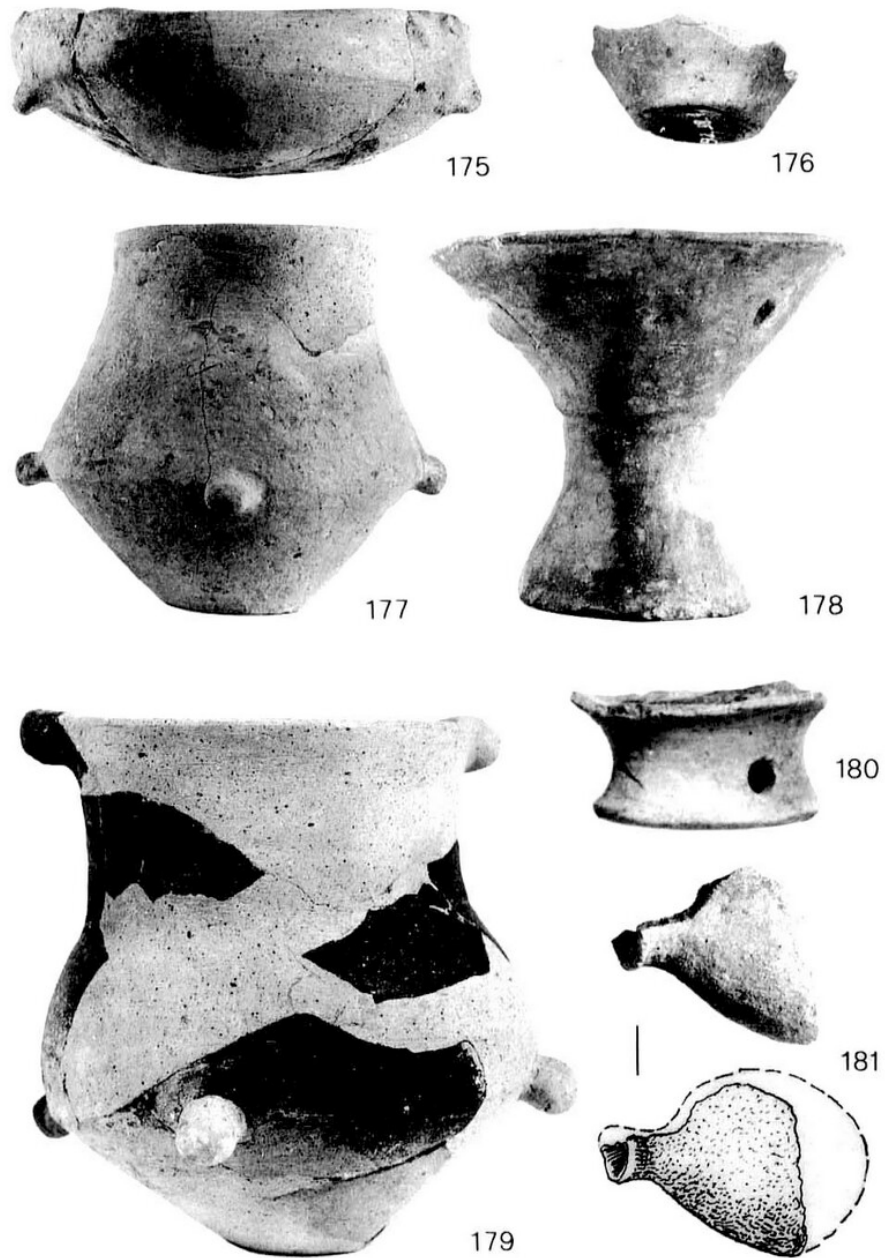
Pl. 67. Zalaszentbalázs - Szőlőhegyi mező. Feature 14. 1:2.



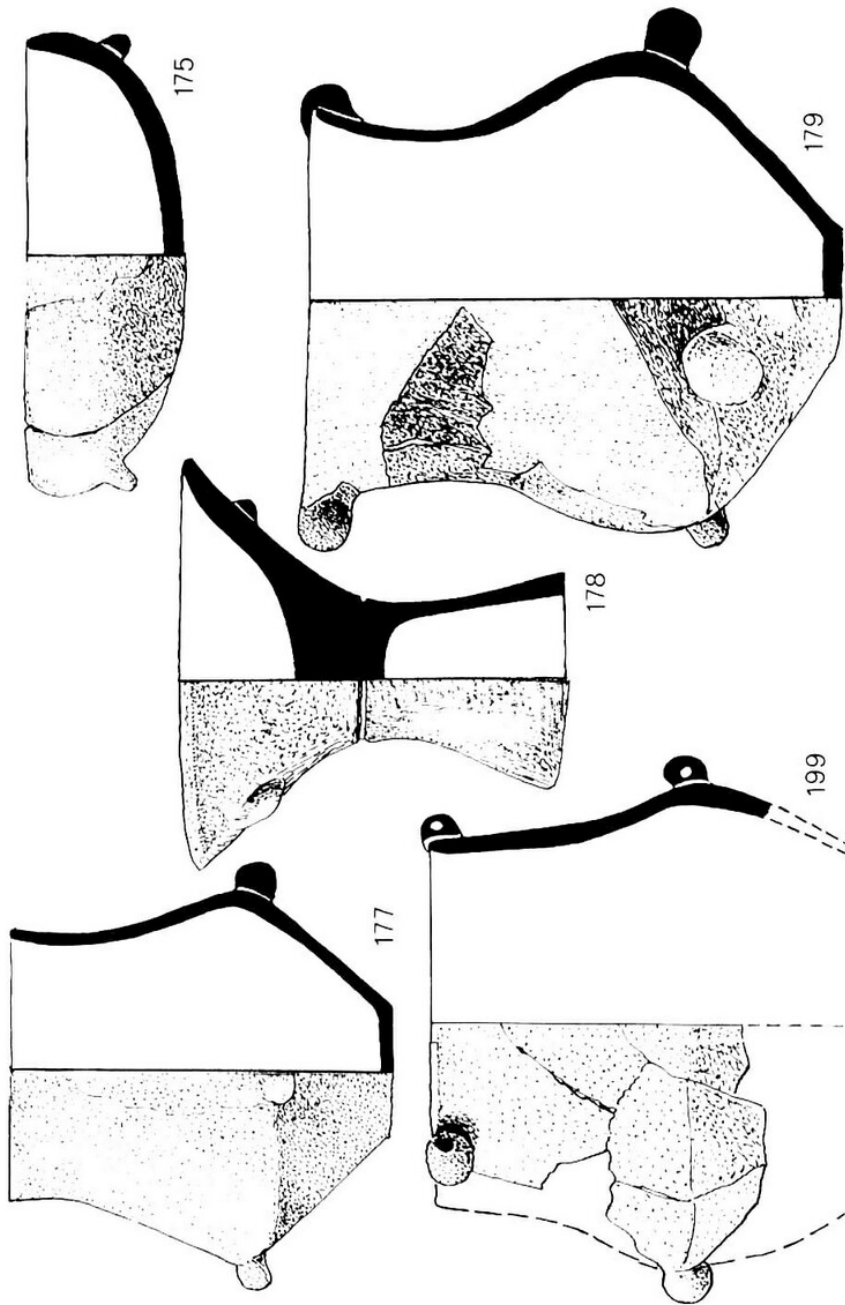
Pl. 68. Zalaszentbalázs - Szőlőhegyi mező. Feature 14. 1:2.



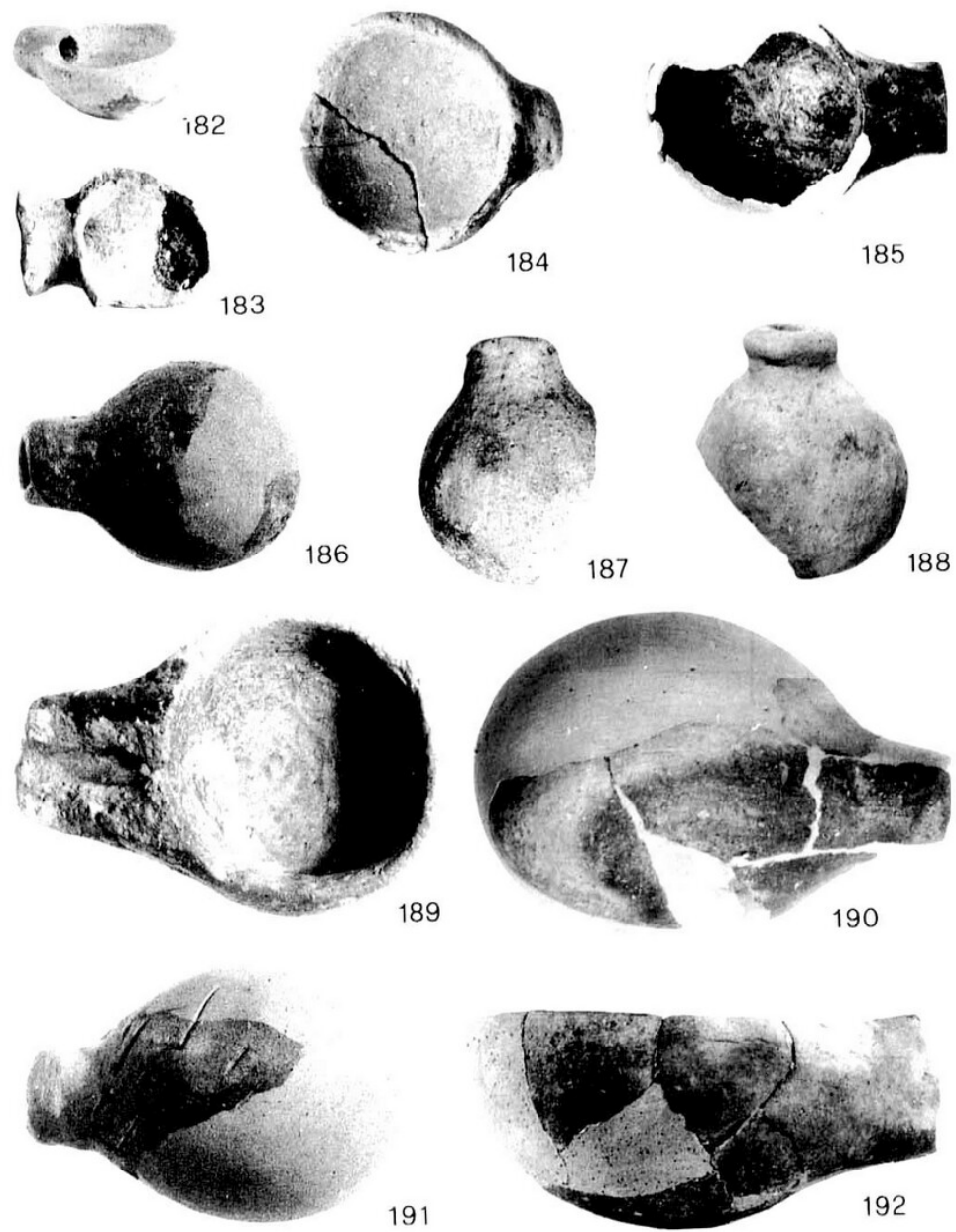
Pl. 69. Zalaszentbalázs - Szőlőhegyi mező. Feature 13 (170-173); Feature 14 (174). 1:2



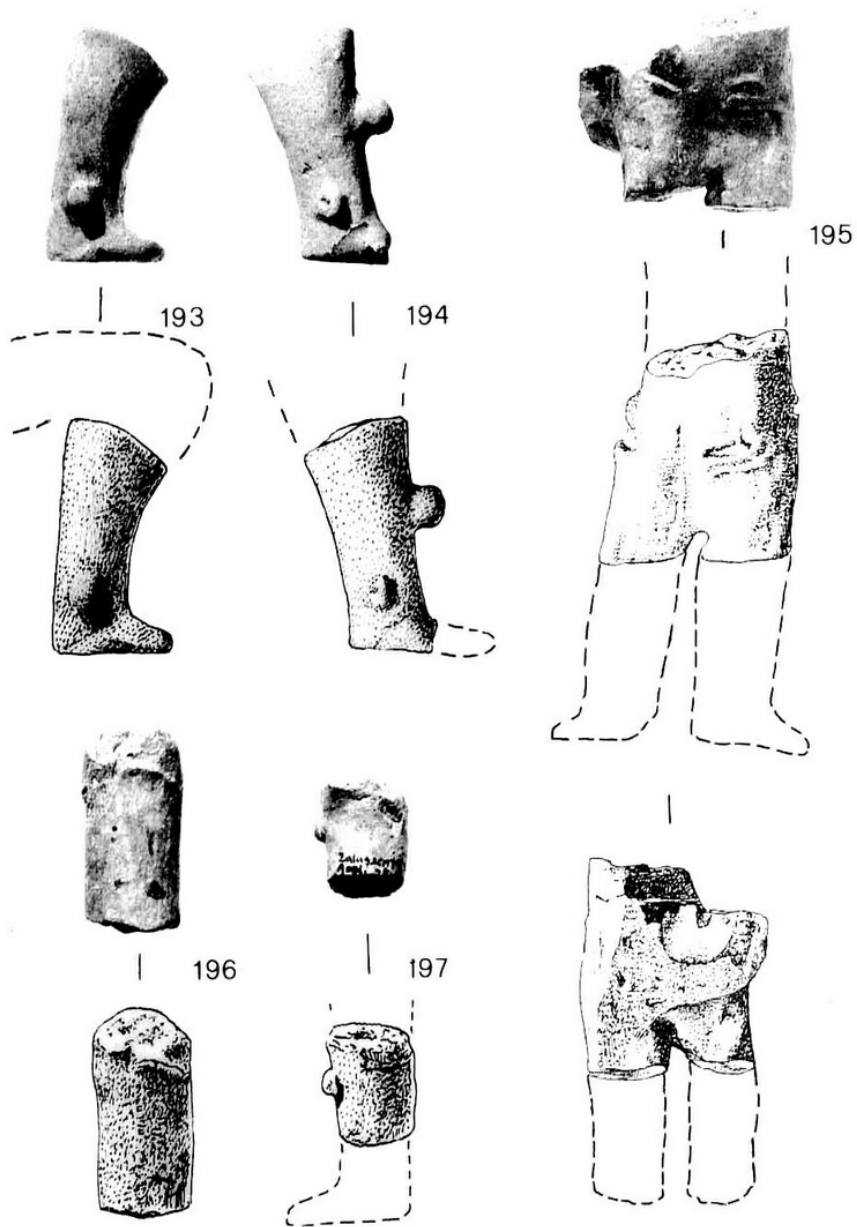
Pl. 70. Zalaszentbalázs - Szőlőhegyi mező. Feature 13 (175, 177-181); Feature 14 (176). 1:2.



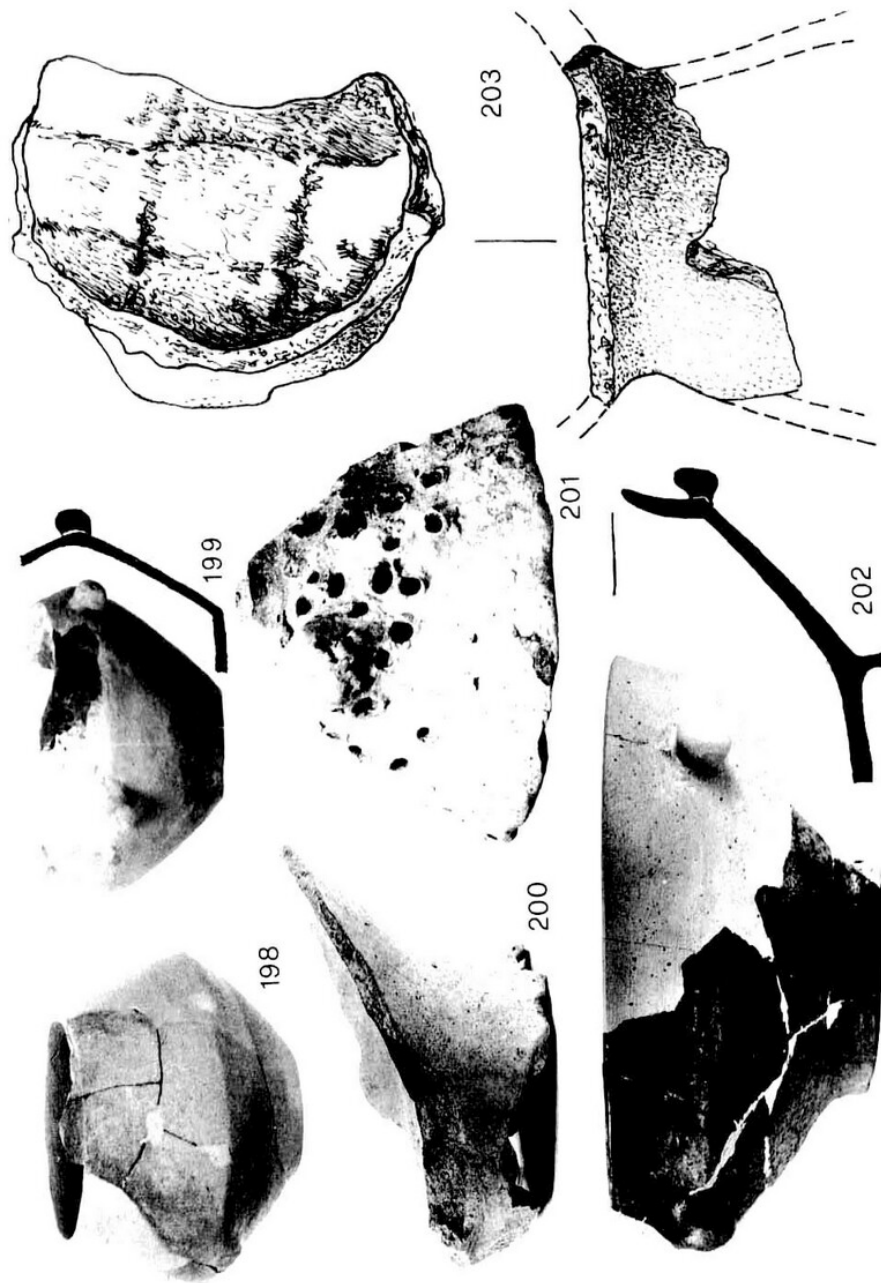
Pl. 71. Zalaszentbalázs - Szőlőhegyi mező. Feature 13. 1:2.



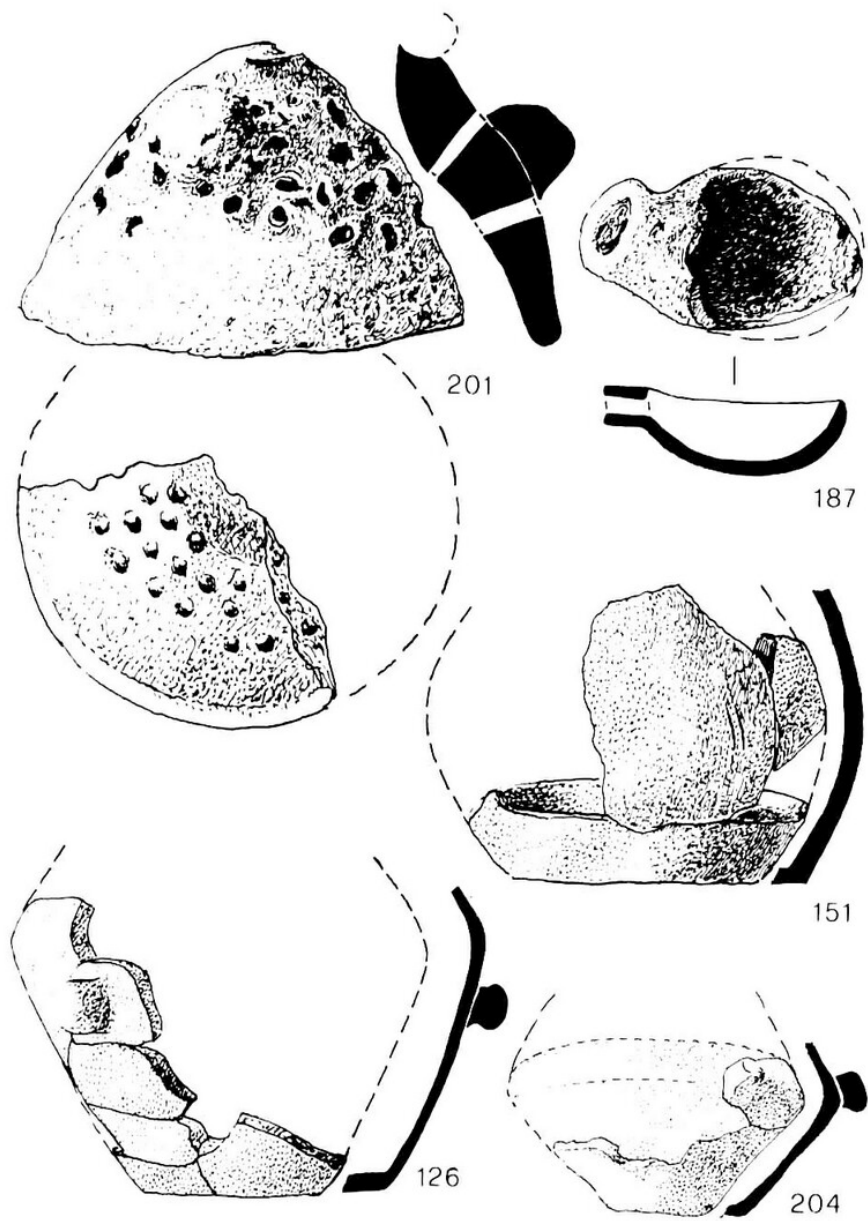
Pl. 72. Zalaszentbalázs - Szőlőhegyi mező. Feature 13 (182, 187); Feature 2 (183); Feature 1 (184, 188-190); Feature 12 (185); trench III (186, 191); Feature 15 (192). 1:2.



Pl. 73. Zalazentbalázs - Szőlőhegyi mező. Feature 9 (193-194), Feature 1 (195),
 Feature 14 (196), Feature 13 (197). 1:2.



Pl. 74. Zalaszentbalázs - Szőlőhegyi mező. Trench II (198); Feature 13 (199-201);
 Feature 12 (202); Feature 1 (203). 1:2.



Pl. 75. Zalaszentbalázs - Szőlőhegyi mező. Feature 13 (126, 187, 201); Feature 14 (151); Feature 1 (204). 1:2.