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Brażowy napierśnik kultury pomorskiej, ze zbiorów PMA.
Oprac. graf. TOMASZ RAKOWSKI (na podstawie fotografii Romana Sofuła)
Bronze pectoral of the Pomeranian Culture, from the PMA collection.
Graphics: TOMASZ RAKOWSKI (based on a photograph by Roman Sofuł)

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WIADOMOŚCI ARCHEOLOGICZNE LXXVI (2025)

SPIS TREŚCI
CONTENTS

MISCELLANEA / MISCELLANEA

- MIROŚŁAWA ANDRZEJOWSKA O dwóch napiersnikach kultury pomorskiej –
historia prawdopodobna, choć nieoczywista 3
About two Pomeranian Culture Pectorals – A Probable, Though Not Obvious, Story
- ERDMUTE SCHULTZE Selected Cremation Graves from the Voitenki Graveyard
MIKHAIL LYUBICHEV An Archaeological and Anthropological Analysis for the Reconstruction
TETYANA SLOBODYAN of Social Structure 31
*Wybrane groby ciałopalne z cmentarzyska z późnego okresu wpływów rzymskich
w miejscowości Voitenki (wschodnia Ukraina): analizy archeologiczne i antropologiczne
w celu rekonstrukcji struktury społecznej*

MATERIAŁY / MATERIALS

- DARIUSZ KRASNODĘBSKI Od obozowisk z epoki kamienia do nowożytnego cmentarza –
HANNA OLCZAK stanowisko 3 w Koźlikach, pow. hajnowski jako przykład
TOMASZ BOROŃ wielofazowego osadnictwa nad Narwią 71
ADAM WAWRUSIEWICZ *From Stone Age Encampments to a Modern Cemetery: Site 3 at Koźliki, Hajnówka County,
as an Example of Multi-stage Settlement by the Narew River*
- JOANNA CICHOŃSKA Badania powierzchniowe na cmentarzysku szkieletowym
w Żukowie, woj. mazowieckie 111
Surface Surveys at the Inhumation Cemetery at Żukowo, Mazowieckie Voivodeship

ODKRYCIA / DISCOVERIES

- GRAŻYNA ORLIŃSKA Para nagolenników stanomińskich z Wielgolasu Duchnowskiego, pow. miński 145
A Pair of Stanomin-type Anklets from Wielgolas Duchnowski, Mińsk Mazowiecki County
- JOANNA ŻAGÓRSKA-TELEGA Emaliowana prowincjonalnorzymska zapinka tarczowata z Gnojna, pow. buski 153
DANIEL CZERNEK *Enamelled Provincial Roman Disc Brooch from Gnojno, Busko-Zdrój County*
- ANDRZEJ KOKOWSKI Grób wojownika kultury przeworskiej z Rzeszowa-Zalesia
(przyczynek do badań kultury przeworskiej w Małopolsce Wschodniej) 162
*Grave of a Warrior of the Przeworsk Culture from Rzeszów-Zalesie
(Contribution to the Research of the Przeworsk Culture in Eastern Lesser Poland)*

POLEMIKI / DISPUTE

ANDRZEJ KOKOWSKI

Etyka i estetyka w dyskusji naukowej
Ethics and Aesthetics in Scientific Discourse

177

WYKAZ SKRÓTÓW / ABBREVIATIONS

187

ERDMUTE SCHULTZE, MIKHAIL LYUBICHEV, TETYANA SLOBODYAN

SELECTED CREMATION GRAVES FROM THE VOITENKI GRAVEYARD (EAST UKRAINE) FROM THE LATE ROMAN IRON AGE: AN ARCHAEOLOGICAL AND ANTHROPOLOGICAL ANALYSIS FOR THE RECONSTRUCTION OF SOCIAL STRUCTURE

WYBRANE GROBY CIAŁOPALNE Z CMENTARZYSKA Z PÓŹNEGO OKRESU WPŁYWÓW RZYMSKICH
W MIEJSCOWOŚCI VOITENKI (WSCHODNIA UKRAINA): ANALIZY ARCHEOLOGICZNE
I ANTROPOLOGICZNE W CELU REKONSTRUKCJI STRUKTURY SPOŁECZNEJ

Abstract: *Among the 232 graves of the cemetery of the Chernyakhiv-Sântana de Mureş culture at Voitenki there are 118 cremation burials. The aim of the study is to attempt a reconstruction of the social structure as far as it is recognisable in this cemetery. A number of cremation graves have been selected for this study, which seem to provide special information on this question: the ceramic inventory and unusual or rare components in the inventories. With the exception of one grave, all the anthropologically identified graves contained the cremated remains of one person. In two graves the bones of one deceased person were separated in two vessels. A large assemblage of ceramics was not closely associated with a number of other objects in the graves. Objects that went beyond the 'standard' set of equipment were found in five of the graves.*

Keywords: *Late Roman Iron Age, Chernyakhiv-Sântana de Mureş Culture, graveyard Voitenki, cremation graves, anthropology, social structure*

Słowa kluczowe: *późny okres wpływów rzymskich, kultura czerniachowska-Sântana de Mureş, cmentarzysko Voitenki, groby ciałopalne, antropologia, struktura społeczna*

INTRODUCTION

The study of cremation graves from the cemeteries of the Chernyakhiv-Sântana de Mureş culture has been a separate topic of research for more than a half of a century¹. In this period, studies were published that addressed the typology, characteristics and spatial distribution of cremation graves. These studies also examined the cultural traditions associated with the burial practices of

the Chernyakhiv Culture², with a particular focus on cremation graves.

The controversial types of cremations (so-called *burials with scattered bones*) were the subject of study,³ as well as the cultural layer as an element of the cemetery associated with cremations.⁴ The cremations were analysed in individual cemeteries and an attempt was made to identify their groups.⁵

² E.A. SYMONOVICH, N.M. KRAVCHENKO 1983, 41–51; G.F. NIKITINA 1985, 60–78.

³ E.O. SYMONOVYCH 1982.

⁴ O.V. PETRAUSKAS 1993; E. SCHULTZE, M.V. LYUBICHEV 2015.

⁵ GH.A. NICULESCU 1993; G.F. NIKITINA 2008, 124–128, 144–146.

¹ N.M. KRAVCHENKO 1970.

SITE, CEMETERY AND AIMS OF THE INVESTIGATION

The present study of this group of burials is relevant in the context of the increase of the database for the study of new cemeteries and the analysis of already known complexes on a new methodological level.

The study of the cemetery at Voitenki⁶, which is a part of the archaeological complex from the Late Roman Iron Age and the beginning of the Migration Period (Fig. 1:1)⁷. From 2005 to 2021, a total of 273 graves were unearthed at the graveyard, including 128 inhumations, 143 cremations, and two cenotaphs. These graves can be attributed to stages C3–D1 of the system delineated by Jaroslav Tejral, or alternatively to phases B–E of the horizon representing the ‘classical’ Chernyakhiv culture in the region encompassing the Dnieper–Donets forest-steppe zone⁸. The cemetery also brought the discovery of new cremation graves. The typology of cremation graves of this burial ground⁹ formed the basis subsequent analysis of cremation graves of the Chernyakhiv Culture in this zone¹⁰. The analysis of the ritual and the presence of specific equipment in the cremation burials of the graveyard led to the identification of some so-called ‘special’ cremation graves. These graves have already been the subject of our studies. Prior to the comprehensive publication of the graveyard materials, some distinguished graves have been published¹¹. These graves are of particular significance for the study of the funeral rite and the associated social structure of the Chernyakhiv Culture population. In this context, the present article was prepared, including both the published graves listed above and some unpublished graves (Nos. 2, 7, 31, 48, 216, 223, 226, 230).

⁶ The Ukrainian name of the site under consideration is Vjitenki/Війтенки, but we decided that the Russian name Voitenki/Воитенки should be used instead, as it is known from the majority of publications.

⁷ The complex is located on the territory of the Bogodukhov district, Kharkiv region (Ukraine), 2.5 km north of the Dnieper–Donets watershed line (Fig. 1:1). It occupies both (southern and northern) slopes of a wet ravine, along the bottom of which flowed a small river of the sixth order (Mokryj Merchik–Merchik–Merla–Vorskla–Dnieper), and now there is a pond. The settlement occupies areas of the southern (sections A, B and C) and northern (section D) slopes adjacent to the river; above the settlement on the southern slope there is a burial field. In areas A and D, two horizons of the Late Roman Iron Age in the Dnieper–Donets forest-steppe zone are presented: the Boromlya horizon of phases C1b–C2 and the horizon of the ‘classical’ Chernyakhiv Culture of phases C3–D1. In sections B and C, only complexes and finds exclusively from the horizon of the ‘classical’ Chernyakhiv Culture are known so far.

⁸ J. TEJRAL 1992, 234–246; M.V. LYUBICHEV 2019b, 32–36.

⁹ M.V. LYUBICHEV 2019a, fig. 65.

¹⁰ M.V. LYUBICHEV 2019a, 155–156; 2019b, fig. 49.

¹¹ Graves 69 (M.V. LYUBICHEV 2009; 2022, 475–476, fig. 17; M. LYUBICHEV, E. SCHULTZE 2013), 110 (V. SHCHERACHENKO 2020), 114 (E. SCHULTZE, M.V. LYUBICHEV 2017; M.V. LYUBICHEV 2022, 476, fig. 18), and 144 (E. SCHULTZE, M.V. LYUBICHEV 2020; M.V. LYUBICHEV 2022, 476–477, fig. 20).

CREMATION GRAVES: TYPOLOGY

In 2020, the joint project entitled “Funeral rite and social structure of the population of the Chernyakhiv culture based on materials of the cemetery Voitenki” was initiated. The project encompassed a total of 232 graves, including 118 cremation burials, excavated between 2005 and 2018. Following the classification developed by M.V. Lyubichev two types of cremations can be distinguished: type I, characterised by the presence of an urn, and type II, which lacked such a container¹². The analysis revealed that 32 graves contained an urn, thus classifying them as type I. In contrast, 85 of the graves were found to be without an urn, thereby aligning them with type II. One grave was so damaged that its type could not be defined.

Type I, otherwise referred to as the urn grave, constitutes approximately 25% of the cremations in Voitenki and is further subdivided into six variants. Variant I1 represents the ‘classical’ form, featuring an urn positioned within a pit, while variant I2 comprises two urns. Variant I3 involves an urn covered by fragments of ceramics, and in graves of variant I4, the urn is inverted, covering the cremated bones. The latter has been observed in approximately one third of urn graves, and sometimes the urn was even covered with further ceramic fragments. In graves of variant I5, the urn was covered by another vessel, and variant I6 includes graves with other vessels inside the urn. In Voitenki, these last two options have been found rarely.

Cremation burials of type II are the most prevalent type, with more than 50% of them consisting of variant II1, characterised by compact clusters of cremated bones absent of urns. These bones are likely to have been entombed in a non-preserved organic box or container. Graves of variant II2 also include compact clusters of cremated bones, often covered by ceramic fragments. In variant II3, the bones are found widespread with sherds of pottery and other objects in between. This variant has rarely been observed (Fig. 2).

The depth of the pits used for cremations is often minimal, with burials frequently occurring at a level corresponding to the plough depth. The maximum depth recorded was 0.75 metres beneath the modern surface, and the majority of cremation graves were found to be approximately half a metre deep. There is an absence of evidence to suggest that the pits were specially prepared or constructed, and no indication of an anatomical order of the cremated bones has been found. Moreover, the presence of charcoal fragments between the bones has only been identified in grave 216

The composition of inventories of graves varies. The most prevalent objects identified in cremation graves are

¹² M.V. LYUBICHEV 2019a, 155–160; 2019b, fig. 49.

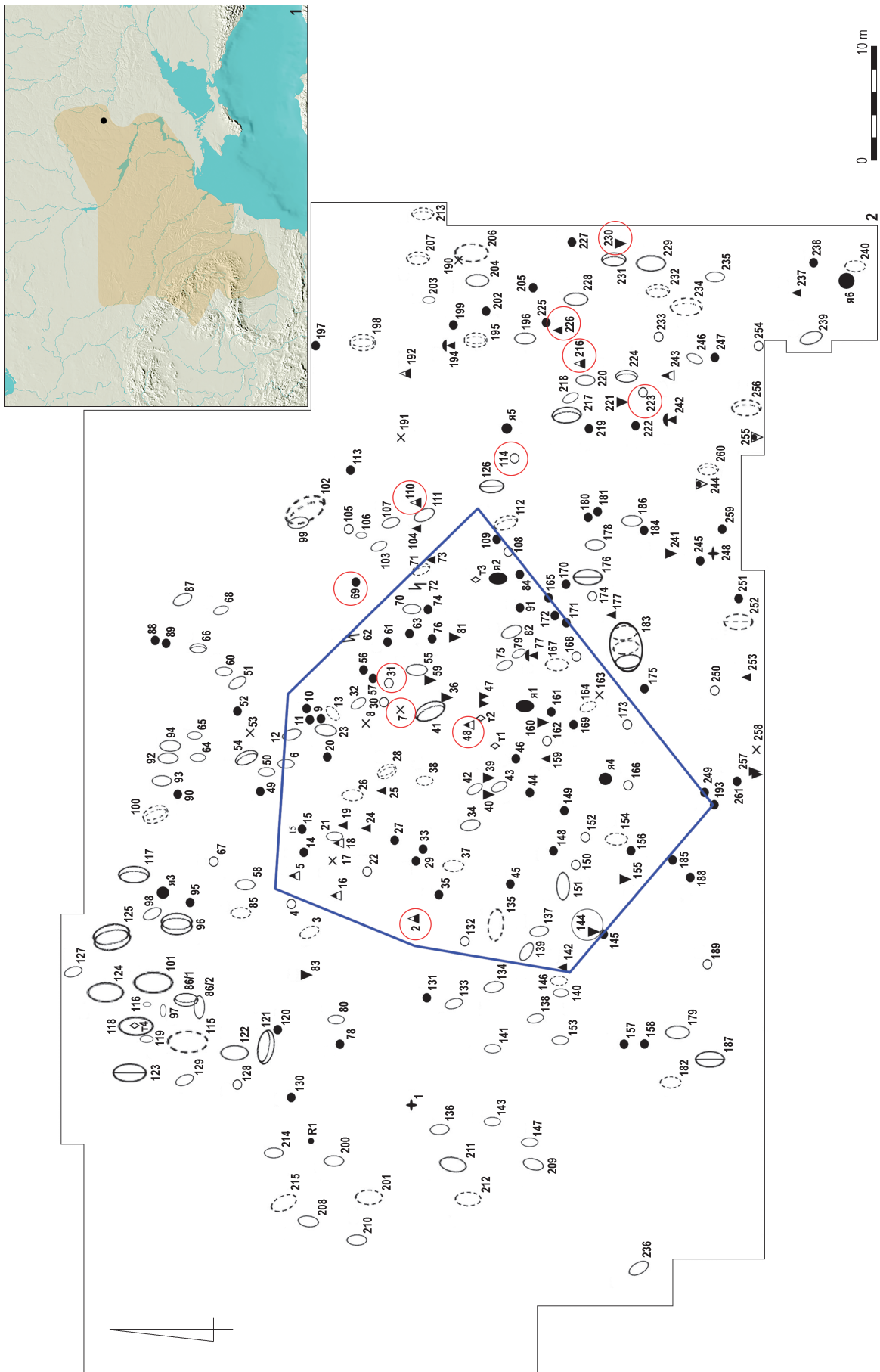


Fig. 1. Location of the archaeological complex Voitenki in the area of the Chernyakhiv-Sântana de Mureș Culture and plan of the cemetery excavated in 2005–2020 with the cremation graves discussed in the article (outlined in red) and the dense concentration of cremation graves (outlined in blue). Drawing: V. Shchepachenko.

Ryc. 1. Położenie zespołu stanowisk w miejscowości Voitenki na obszarze kultury czerniachwiskiej-Sântana de Mureș i plan części cmentarzyska przebadanej wykopaliskowo w latach 2005–2020 (groby ciałopalne omówione w artykule zaznaczono na czerwono, skupisko grobów ciałopalnych zaznaczono na niebiesko). Rys.: V. Shchepachenko.

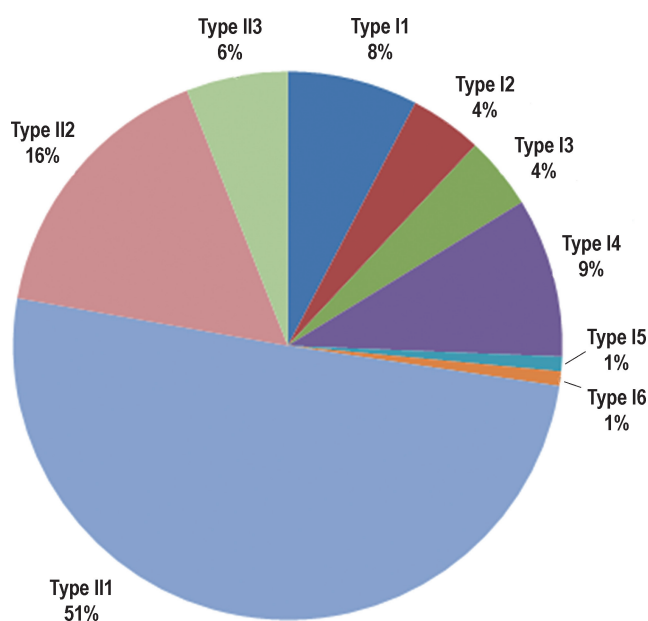


Fig. 2. Cemetery Voitenki. Types of cremation burials.
Ryc. 2. Cmentarzysko Voitenki. Typy grobów ciałopalnych.

pottery, while other components frequently encountered are jewellery, elements of dress, personal utensils and, albeit less frequently, weapons. In 23 cremation graves, fragments of vessels have been found, which are so diminutive that their form remains indefinable. It is hypothesised that these fragments were not part of the inventory but instead became interred with the remains during the burial.

A total of 19 cremation graves were found to be devoid of inventory, eight contained only an urn, and six held fragments of a single vessel. In 21 graves of variant III, ceramics were absent, yet other objects were present. In all other cremation graves, ceramics were present in combination with other components.

CRITERIA FOR THE SELECTION OF GRAVES FOR SPECIAL CONSIDERATIONS

The hypothesis that the inhabitants of the nearby settlement entombed the deceased on the cemetery at Voitenki is based on investigations of the complex. This paper sets out the aim of the investigation, which is to attempt to reconstruct the social structure of the population buried in this cemetery, so far as this is recognisable. To this end, a number of cremation graves have been selected, which appear to reveal special information concerning this question. Firstly, graves with a considerable inventory, consisting of various objects, may contain evidence of the social position of the buried persons. It must be emphasised that the focus on the ‘richest’ cremation graves is a contribution to further analysis of the complete material. The selection of graves based on two criteria:

1. The ceramic inventory was used as a criterion for determining the presence of an extraordinary vessel, and

furthermore, for identifying a significant number of vessels of various types in a grave. Such combinations may include pots, bowls, vases, jugs, and beakers. Analysis of inhumations has revealed that this combination can be considered a ‘dinner service’, suggesting that the person in question occupied a more distinguished social position¹³. The present analysis aims to ascertain whether such ‘dinner services’ can be defined in cremation graves as well. 2. Another criterion employed was the presence of extraordinary or rare objects. Graves containing glass vessels and graves containing silver objects were selected for further analysis. Other graves were found to contain unique artefacts for this burial ground, including spurs, glass gaming pieces, instruments of Roman origin and a large number of amulets. These graves appeared to indicate a special position of the person buried with such objects. Therefore, these cremation burials were selected for this special analysis.

CATALOGUE OF THE SELECTED CREMATION GRAVES FROM VOITENKI

Grave 2 (Fig. 3)

Cremation burial with the burnt bones placed in two urns (Fig. 3:1.1–3). Urn 1, base at 0.44 m below the surface, vessel slightly inclined, filled with burnt bones up to the neck. Urn covered by fragments of a jug with one handle, north of it fragments of the same jug and base of a bowl. Urne 2, base at 0.43 m below the ground level, significantly damaged, burnt bones in the lower part of the pot. Above urn fragments of a jug, north of

¹³ E. SCHULTZE, M.V. LYUBICHEV 2018, 122, fig. 3.

it part of a vase. All sherds of pottery bear traces of reburning, which has given them a yellow and light brown colour. Dimensions: 0.35×0.35 m, depth below the ground level: 0.3–0.47 m. **Grave inventory:** 1. Pot (urn 1)—all fragments preserved (Fig. 3:2); 2. Pot (urn 2)—all fragments preserved (Fig. 3:3); 3. Jug with one handle—reconstructed (Fig. 3:4); 4. Vase—reconstructed (Fig. 3:5); 5. Bowl—rim fragments (Fig. 3:6); 6. Bowl—fragment of a base; 7. Pot—fragments of an upper part (Fig. 3:7); 8. Vessel—fragments of a lower part (Fig. 3:8).

Grave 7 (Fig. 4)

Cremation pit grave with burnt bones covered by pottery sherds (Fig. 4:1.1–2). The pit has an oval outline and a basin-like cross-section, as shown by the location of the bones and fragments of pottery. All sherds of pottery bear traces of reburning, which has given them a yellow and light brown colour. Dimensions: 0.45×0.25 m, depth below the ground level: 0.2–0.35 m.

Grave inventory: 1. Vase—fragments of an upper part (Fig. 4:3); 2. Bowl—fragments of an upper part (Fig. 4:4); 3. Vessel—fragment of base (Fig. 4:5); 4. Glass vessel—fragment of a body.

Grave 31 (Fig. 5)

Cremation pit grave with burnt bones covered by pottery sherds (Fig. 5:1.1–2). In the eastern part, ceramic fragments and a few burnt bones, in the western part, a cluster of both, within a piece of fused glass inside; in upper, some 0.17–0.36 m below the ground level, cluster of ceramic fragments. South of it, calcined bones at a depth of 0.36 m, and lower of them, at a depth of 0.46 m (probably at the bottom of the grave pit) deposit of bones. Under fragments of a vase (Fig. 5:4), burnt bones of the skull, beneath other tiny bones. All sherds of pottery bear traces of reburning, which has given them a yellow and light brown colour. Dimensions: 0.54×0.46 m, depth: 0.17–0.46 m below the ground level.

Grave inventory: 1. Vase—fragment of the body (Fig. 5:4); 2. Bowl—fragment of the body (Fig. 5:6); 3. Bowl—fragment of the body (Fig. 5:5); 4. Bowl—fragments of the upper part (Fig. 5:9); 5. Pot—all fragments preserved (Fig. 5:3); 6. Pot—fragment of the rim (Fig. 5:7); 7. Pot—fragment of the rim (Fig. 5:8); 8. Pot—fragment of the base; 9. Vessel—fragment of the base; 10. Fused glass fragment—green, opaque.

Grave 48 (Fig. 6)

Cremation grave with urn covered by pottery sherds (Fig. 6:1.1–2). Burnt bones at the bottom of the damaged urn, covered by the base of a reversed pot. Base of urn at a depth 0.56 m below the ground level, above it at a depth up to 0.3 m fragments of other vessels. All ceramics have traces of secondary firing, which has given them a yellow and light brown colour. An iron knife was found vertically placed among sherds of pottery at a depth of 0.30–0.37 m. Pit round, with a tapering cross-section and a concave bottom. Dimensions: 0.23×0.23 m, depth: 0.3–0.56 m below the ground level.

Grave inventory: 1. Iron knife (Fig. 6:2); 2. Vase with three handles—reconstructed (Fig. 6:17); 3. Pot—reconstructed (Fig. 6:14); 4. Pot (urn)—reconstructed (Fig. 6:5); 5. Pot—reconstructed (Fig. 6:18); 6. Red slip bowl—fragment of a rim, Ma-

gomedov/Didenko type *Voitenki* (Fig. 6:15); 7. Bowl—fragment of a rim (Fig. 6: 9); 8. Bowl—fragment of a body (Fig. 6:12); 9. Bowl—reconstructed (Fig. 6:13); 10. Bowl—fragment of a body (Fig. 6:8); 11. Bowl—fragment of a body (Fig. 6:6); 12. Vase—reconstructed (Fig. 6:7); 13. Jug with one handle—reconstructed (Fig. 6:11); 14. Vessel—fragment of a base (Fig. 6:10); 15. Vessel—fragment of a rim (Fig. 6:16); 16. Glass lump; 17. Pyramidal antler pendant—fragment (Fig. 6:3).

Grave 69 (Fig. 7 & 8)¹⁴

Cremation pit grave with compact cluster of burnt bones, minute fragments of pottery and other objects (Fig. 7:1). Shape of this package indicates that the pit had tapering cross-section with a concave bottom. Cluster of bones revealed three layers. Upper layer (at a depth of 0.55–0.62 m)—accumulation of burnt bones of lower extremities (from W and S), of extremities and of the skull (from SE), of ribs and pelvic (from N). Middle level (at a depth of 0.62–0.65 m)—compact accumulation (dimensions: 0.22×0.22 m) of metal and glass objects (Fig. 7:2). Lower level (at a depth of 0.65–0.71 m)—small accumulation of tiny ceramic fragments and few other objects. At the bottom of the grave at a depth of 0.71 m a recurved bronze scalpel, a bronze ring and fragments of glass counters. Dimensions: 0.35×0.3 m, depth: 0.55–0.71 m below the ground level (Fig. 8:1.1–3).

Grave inventory: 1. Iron object—fragment, a bar-shaped handle that ends in a broken flat plate (Fig. 8:4); 2. Iron object—fragment of a recurved stick (Fig. 8:5); 3. Iron knife—complete (Fig. 8:3); 4. Iron buckle—complete, type Gorokhovskij B 1a (Fig. 8:2); 5. Bronze object—fragment of a handle for a wooden gaming (?) (Fig. 8:9); 6. Bronze scalpel with curved blade (Fig. 8:8); 7. Bronze ring—oval in cross-section (Fig. 8:7); 8. Bronze needle—bent in form of a number-of-eight (Fig. 8:6); 9. Glass vessel—fragments, nearly powdery, colourless (dimensions: 10×13 cm); 10. 30 glass counters, complete (Fig. 7:3) and preserved in fragments (15), partly burnt: black (9), opaque rose with black patterns (10), opaque white (5), grey (7), grey and white (1).

Grave 110 (Fig. 9)¹⁵

Cremation grave with two urns. Urn 1 was placed at a depth of 0.29–0.34 m below ground level, urn 2 at a depth of 0.28–0.32 m. Bones of the skull placed in urn 2, all other bones in urn 1. Next to vessel 2, at a depth of 0.32 m, fragments of a fused glass vessel. Between glass vessel and urn 2, at a depth of 0.30–0.33 m, two ceramic spindle whorls. Inside urn 2 fragments of a burnt comb and a bead. All sherds of pottery bear traces of reburning, which has given them a yellow and light brown colour. Dimensions: 0.25×0.30 m, depth: 0.28–0.39 m below the ground level (Fig. 9:1).

Grave inventory: 1. Pot (urn 1)—reconstructed (Fig. 9:II.1); 2. Beaker (urn 2)—all fragments preserved (Fig. 9:II.2); 3. Spindle whorl—complete, biconical with rounded edge (Fig. 9:II.5);

¹⁴ M.V. LYUBICHEV 2009; 2022, 475–476; M.V. LYUBICHEV, E. SCHULTZE 2013.

¹⁵ V. SHCHEPACHENKO 2020.

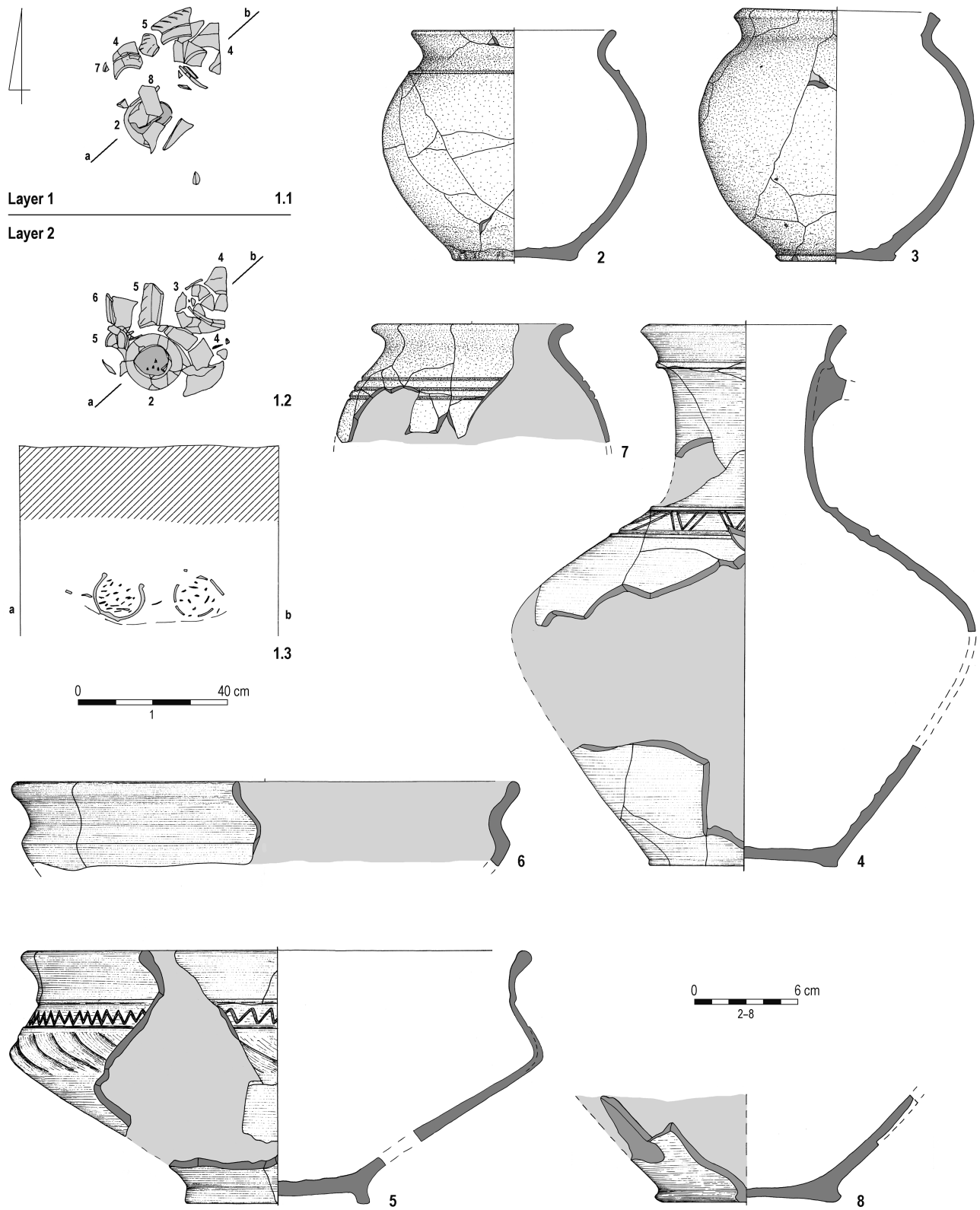


Fig. 3. Cemetery Voitenki. Grave 2: 1.1–1.3 – plans and cross-section, 2–8 – ceramics (the numbers match the numbers on the grave plans). Drawing: K. Varacheva, V. Rusnak & V. Shchepachenko.

Ryc. 3. Cmentarzysko Voitenki. Grób 2: 1.1–1.3 – plany i przekrój, 2–8 – ceramika (numery odpowiadają numerom na planach grobu). Rys.: K. Varacheva, V. Rusnak i V. Shchepachenko.

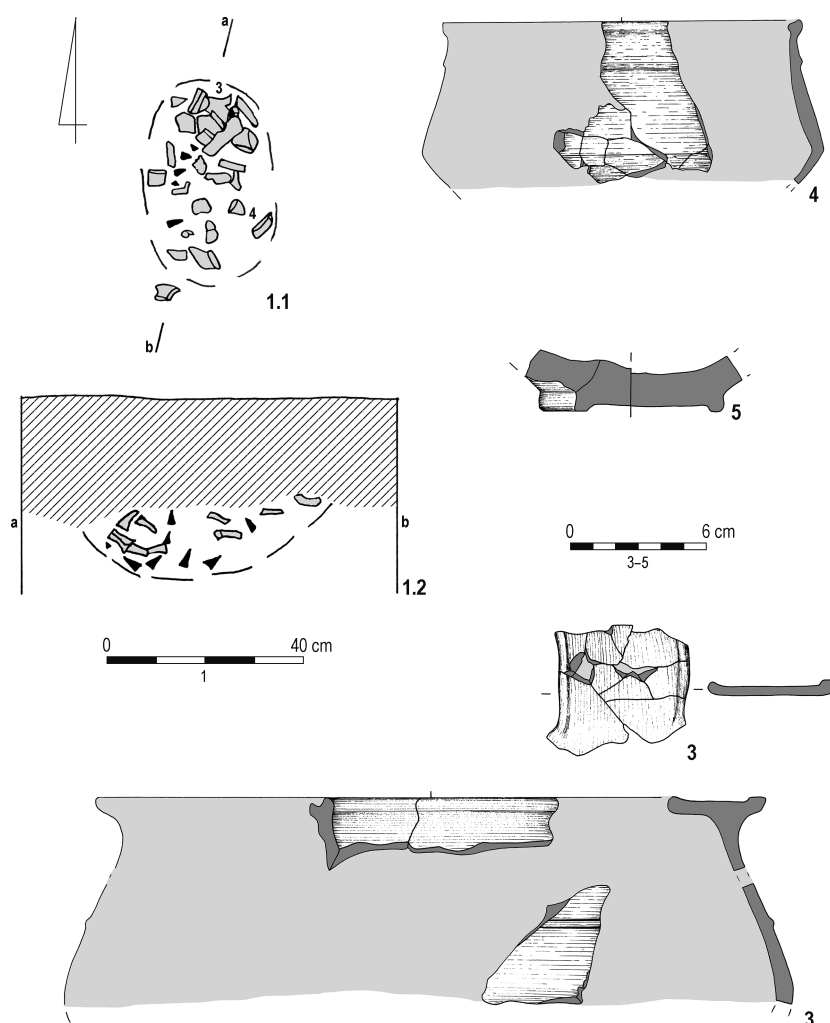


Fig. 4. Cemetery Voitenki. Grave 7: 1.1–1.2 – plan and cross-section, 3–5 – ceramics (the numbers match the numbers on the grave plan). Drawing: K. Varacheva, V. Rusnak & V. Shchepachenko.

Ryc. 4. Cmentarzysko Voitenki. Grób 7: 1.1–1.2 – plan i przekrój, 3–5 – ceramika (numery odpowiadają numerom na planie grobu). Rys.: K. Varacheva, V. Rusnak i V. Shchepachenko.

4. Spindle whorl—complete, biconical (Fig. 9:II.6); 5. Glass vessel—fragment of rim of greenish glass, melted, deformed, decorated with an applied wavy thread of glass of the same colour, type *Weklice* (Fig. 9:II.7)¹⁶; 6. Carnelian bead—complete, burnt, type *Gopkalo C1* (Fig. 9:II.3); 7. Multipartite antler comb with bronze transversal rivets (Fig. 9:II.4), fragments.

Grave 114 (Fig. 10)¹⁷

Cremation grave with compact cluster of burnt bones, pottery sherds and other objects, covered by damaged ceramic vessels. Burnt bones at the lower level of the pit, with the major bones of the skeleton placed deeper, the smaller bones above. Among ceramic fragments and bones, at a depth of 0.31–0.37 m below, an iron spur (1), next to it another spur (2), at a depth of 0.36 m, and a bronze brooch, at a depth of 0.37 m (Fig. 10:1.1–1.2). The pottery fragments belong to about 19 vessels (Fig. 10:5–17). Most sherds (vessels 2, 3, 5–9, 11, 12, 14, and 16) bear traces of reburning, which has given them a yellow and light brown surface. Dimensions: 0.38×0.37 m, depth 0.26–0.44 m below the ground level (bones: 0.26–0.38 m, pottery: 0.26–0.44 m).

Grave inventory: 1. Iron spur—complete, deformed, Giesler type *Leuna D* (Fig. 10:3); 2. Iron spur—partly preserved (part of a bow is missing), Giesler type *Leuna D* (Fig. 10:4); 3. Bronze *Bügelknopffibel* with onion-shaped knobs typical of *Zwiebelknopffibel*, needle is missing (Fig. 10:2); 4. Bowl (vessel 4)—reconstructed; 5. Bowl (vessel 2)—reconstructed; 6. Bowl (vessel 3)—reconstructed; 7. Pot (vessel 1)—fragment of a lower part; 8. Vessel (vessel 5)—the base; 9. Vessel (vessel 6)—fragment of a base; 10. Bowl (vessel 7)—reconstructed; 11. Bowl (vessel 8)—fragment of an upper part; 12. Jug with one handle (vessel 9)—fragments of a handle and a body; 13. Bowl (vessel 10)—fragments of an upper part; 14. Bowl (vessel 11)—fragments of an upper part; 15. Vessel (vessel 14)—part of a base; 16. Vase (vessel 16)—fragment of a rim; 17. Bowl (vessel 12)—fragments; 18. Bowl—fragments (vessel 13); 19. Pot (vessel 15)—fragment of a body; 20. Fragments of about four vessels.

Grave 144 (Fig. 11)¹⁸

Cremation grave with urn placed upside down. Urn in a layer of unspoiled black soil, at a depth of 0.22–0.43 m below the

¹⁶ Cf. T. STAWIARSKA 1999, 135.

¹⁷ E. SCHULTZE, M.V. LYUBICHEV 2017; M.V. LYUBICHEV 2022.

¹⁸ E. SCHULTZE, M.V. LYUBICHEV 2020; M.V. LYUBICHEV 2022.

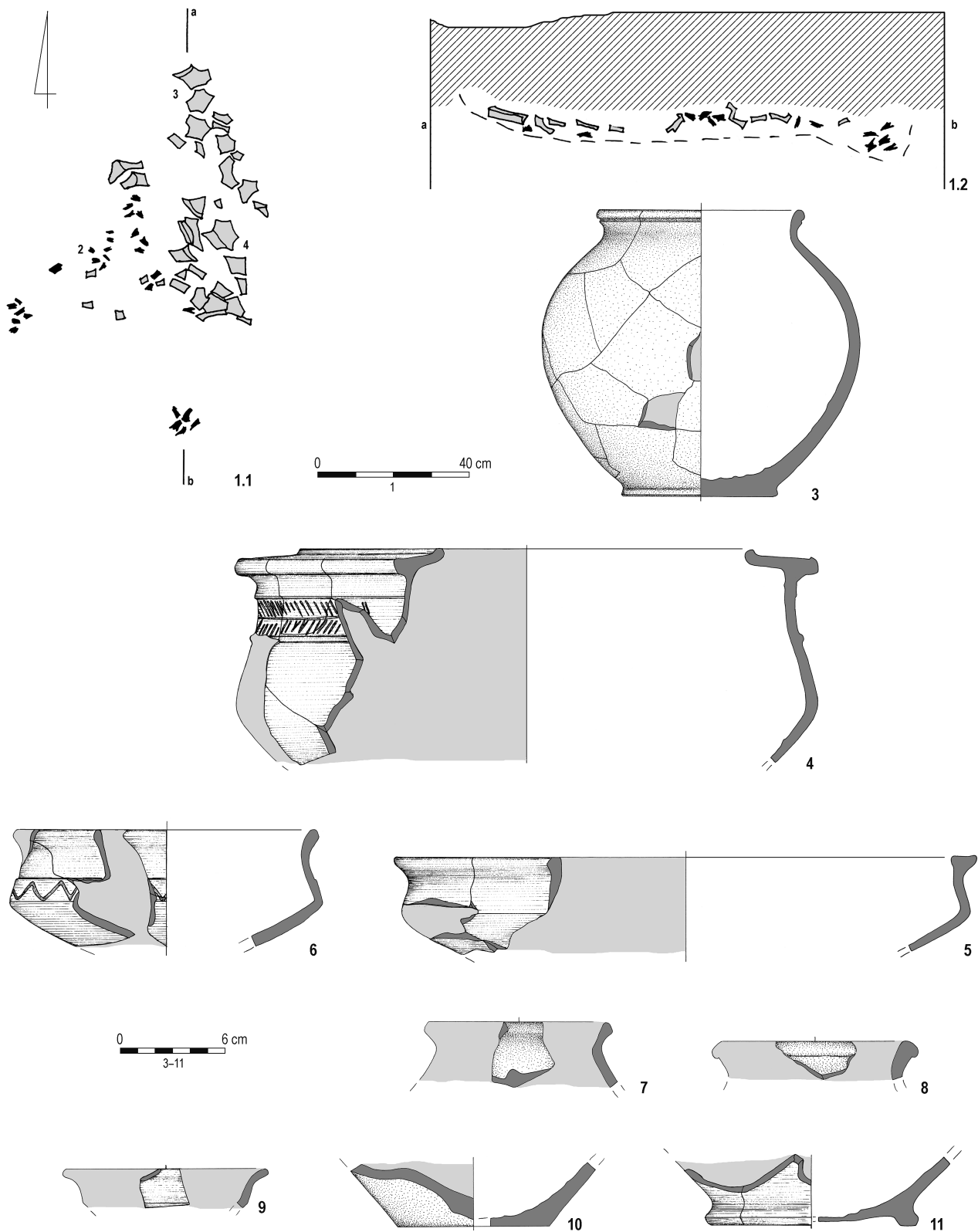


Fig. 5. Cemetery Voitenki. Grave 31: 1.1–1.2 – plan and cross-section, 3–11 – ceramics (the numbers match the numbers on the grave plans). Drawing: K. Varacheva, V. Rusnak & V. Shchepachenko.

Ryc. 5. Cmentarzysko Voitenki. Grób 31: 1.1–1.2 – plan i przekrój, 3–11 – ceramika (numery odpowiadają numerom na planach grobu). Rys.: K. Varacheva, V. Rusnak i V. Shchepachenko.

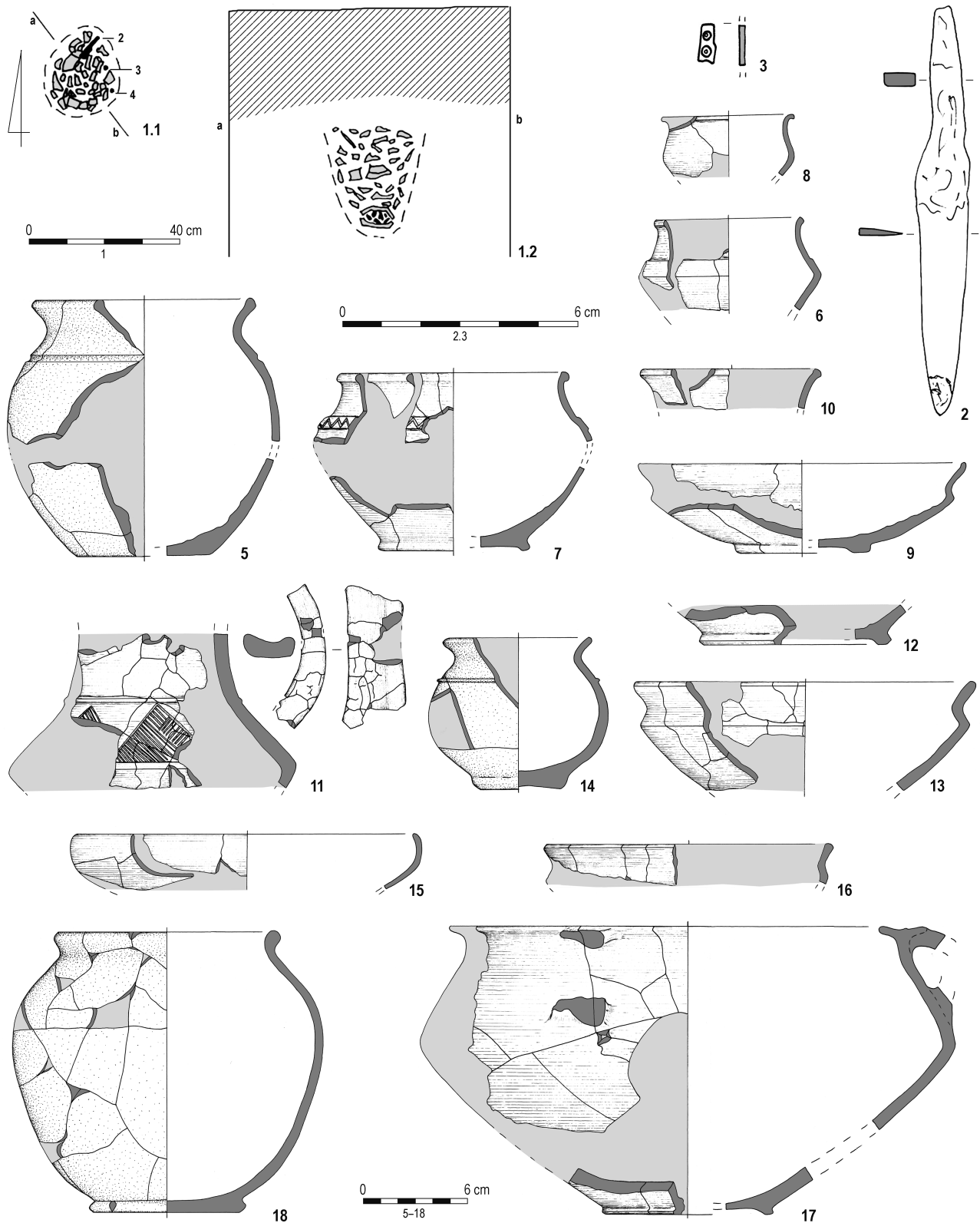


Fig. 6. Cemetery Voitenki. Grave 48: 1.1-1.2 – plan and cross-section, 2 – iron, 3 – antler, 5-14, 16-18 – wheel-made pottery, 15 – red slip bowl. Drawing: K. Varacheva, V. Rusnak & V. Shchepachenko.

Ryc. 6. Cmentarzysko Voitenki. Grób 48: 1.1-1.2 – plan i przekrój, 2 – żelazo, 3 – poroże, 5-14, 16-18 – ceramika wykonana na kole garncarskim, 15 – misa czerwonoolewana. Rys.: K. Varacheva, V. Rusnak i V. Shchepachenko.

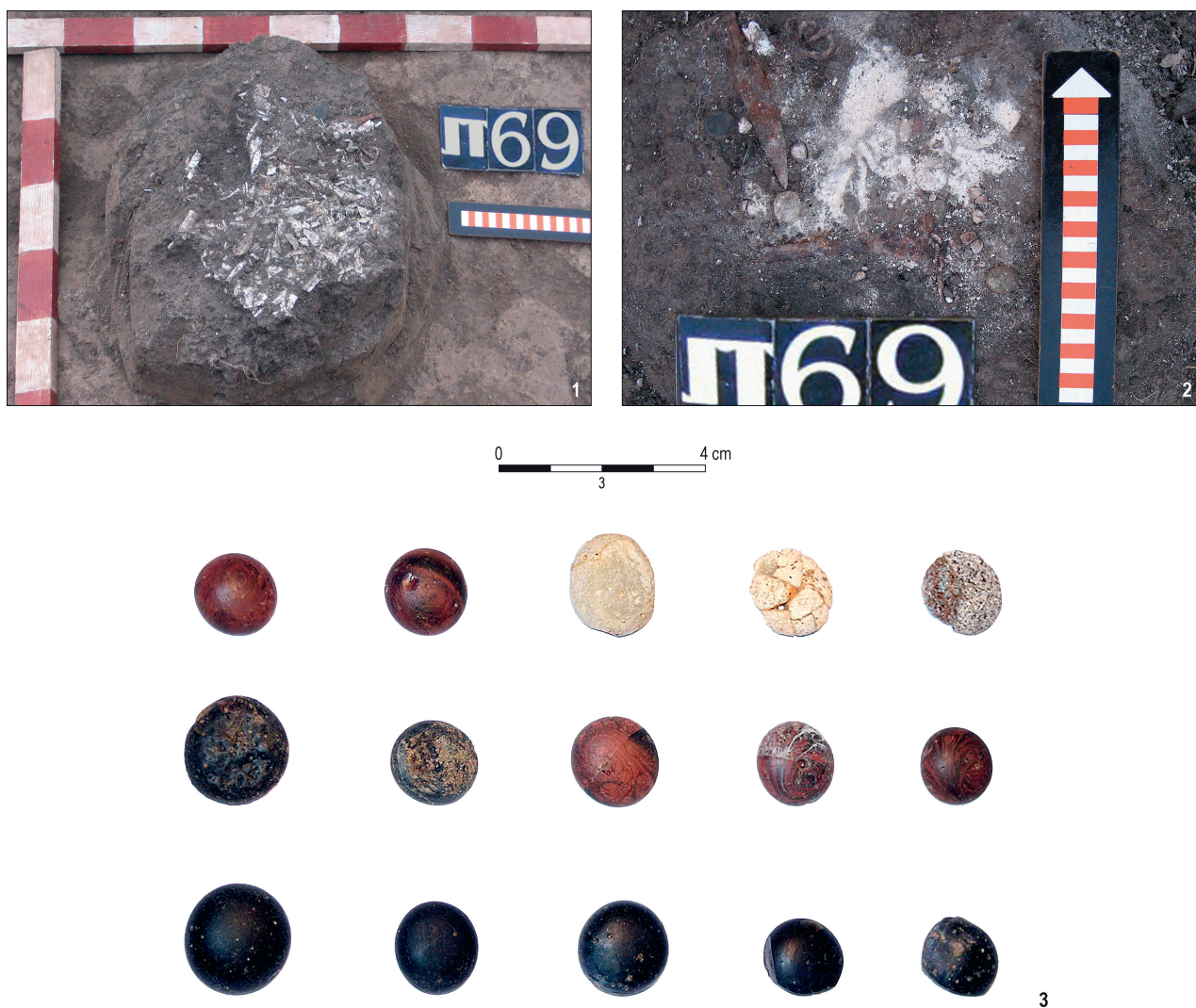


Fig. 7. Cemetery Voitenki. Grave 69: 1 – level 0.55–0.62 m, 2 – level 0.62–0.65 m, 3 – set of glass counters.
Photo: M. Lyubichev (1, 2) and K. Varacheva (3).

Ryc. 7. Cmentarzysko Voitenki. Grób 69: 1 – poziom 0.55–0.62 m, 2 – poziom 0.62–0.65 m, 3 – zestaw żetonów do gry.
Fot.: M. Lyubichev (1, 2) i K. Varacheva (3).

ground level. Within the urn burnt bones and silver fittings of a vessel. Grave dimensions: 0.43×0.43 m.

Grave inventory: 1. Vase with three handles (urn)—vessel without the lower part, polished black surface (Fig. 11:I.2); 2. Silver fittings of a rim of a wooden vessel—four fragments of strips of silver sheet bent lengthwise and form a U-shaped cross-section (Fig. 11:II.1.2). The fittings are slightly curved, and together they form a circle. They were affixed to the rim of a vessel by six straight metal strips overlapping the tubular fittings and their extended ends are connected by a rivet; 3. Silver ring of tetragonal cross-section, with a loop in the form of an omega suspended from it (Fig. 11:II.1.2).

Grave 216 (Fig. 12)

Cremation burial in two urns, one of them upside down (urn 2). Two clusters: 1—fragments of a lower part of a pot (urn 1/vessel 1), within burnt bones and fragments of jug (vessel 2); 2—fragments of a bowl (urn 2/vessel 4) with burnt bones under it

and a pot base overhead (vessel 3), alongside calcined bones. Inside urn 2, among the bones two fragments of rim of a glass vessel and charcoal (Fig. 12:I). Dimensions: 0.38×0.57 m, depth: 0.32–0.44 m below the ground surface. All sherds of pottery bear traces of reburning, which has given them a yellow and light brown colour.

Grave inventory: 1. Glass vessel—two melted fragments of a rim, olive-green, translucent; 2. Pot (urn 1/vessel 1)—fragments of a body, partly reconstructed (Fig. 12:II.1); 3. Jug (vessel 2)—fragment of a neck with handle (Fig. 12:II.2); 4. Pot (vessel 3)—fragments of a body, partly reconstructed (Fig. 12:II.3); 5. Bowl (urn 2/vessel 4)—all fragments preserved (Fig. 12:II.4); 6. Vessel—fragment of a rim (Fig. 12:II.5).

Grave 223 (Figs. 13–15)

Cremation pit grave with compact cluster of burnt bones and pottery sherds, covered by fragments of a ceramic pot (Figs. 13:II & 14:II). In the SW part of this cluster an accumulation

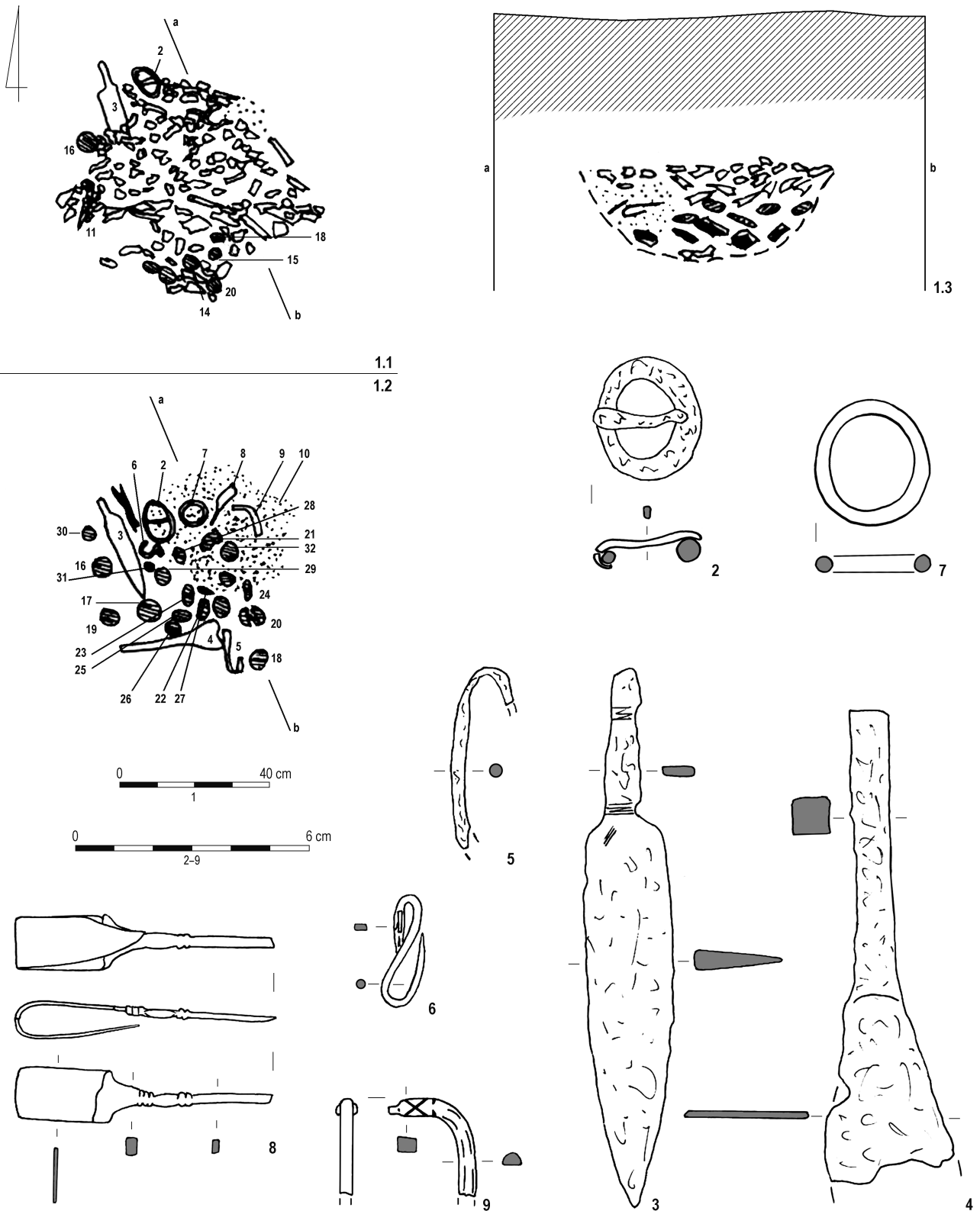


Fig. 8. Cemetery Voitenki. Grave 69. 1.1 – level 0.55–0.62 m, 1.2 – level 0.62–0.65 m (2 – belt buckle, 3 – knife, 4 – tool, 8 – spatula, 10 – remains of a glass vessel, 16–32 – glass counters), 1.3 – cross-section; 2–5 – iron, 6–9 – non-ferrous metal.

Drawing: K. Varacheva, V. Rusnak & V. Shchepachenko.

Ryc. 8. Cmentarzysko Voitenki. Grób 69. 1.1 – poziom 0.55–0.62 m, 1.2 – poziom 0.62–0.65 m (2 – sprzaczka, 3 – nóż, 4 – narzędzie, 8 – spatula, 10 – fragment naczynia szklanego, 16–32 – szklane żetony do gry), 1.3 – przekrój; 2–5 – żelazo, 6–9 – metal niemagnetyczny.

Rys.: K. Varacheva, V. Rusnak i V. Shchepachenko.

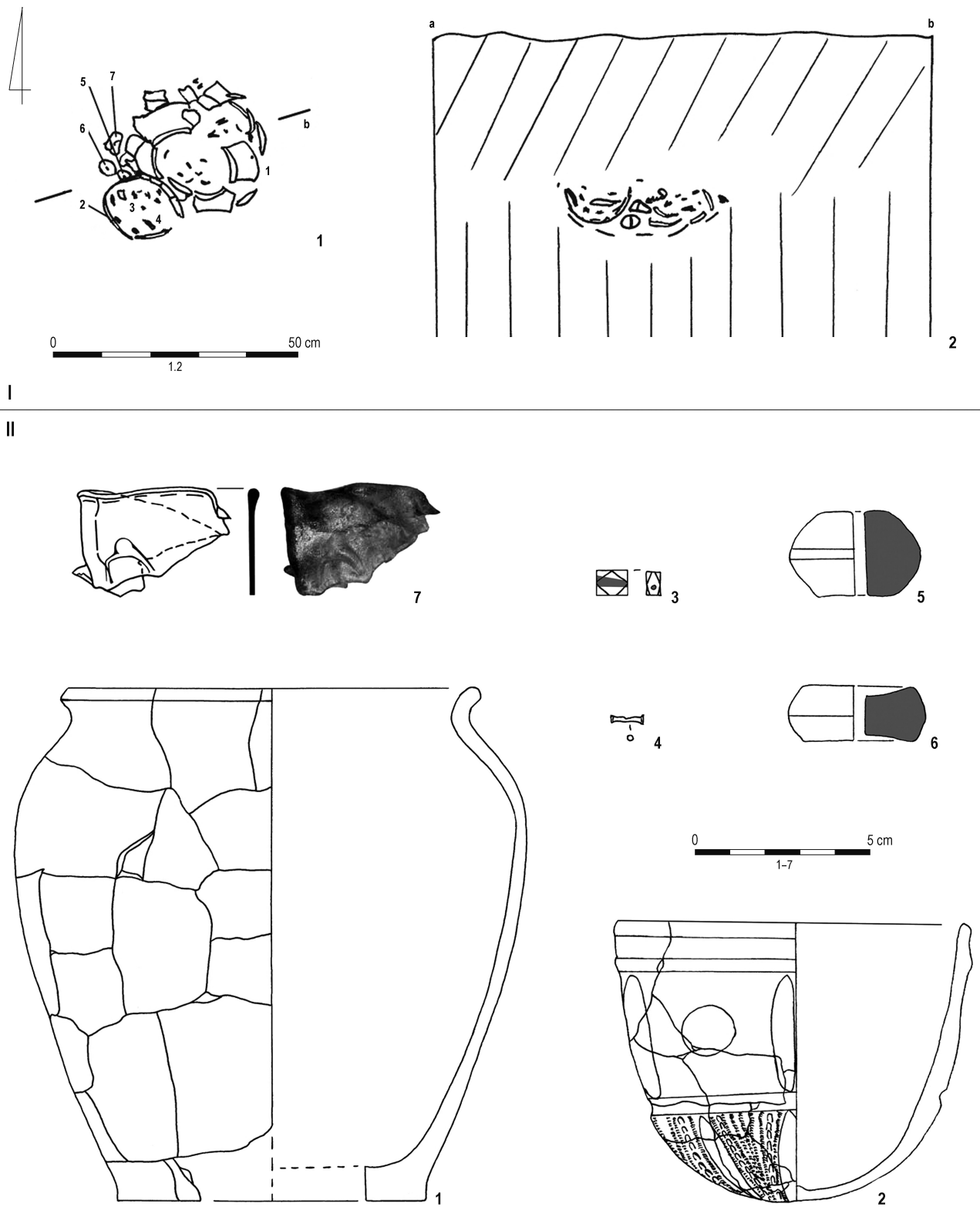


Fig. 9. Cemetery Voitenki. Grave 110. I – plan and profile; II: 1, 2 – ceramics, 3 – carnelian, 4 – non-ferrous metal, 5, 6 – clay, 7 – glass. After: V. Shchepachenko 2020.

Ryc. 9. Cmentarzysko Voitenki. Grób 110. I – plan i przekrój; II: 1, 2 – ceramika, 3 – karneol, 4 – metal niemagnetyczny, 5, 6 – glina, 7 – szkło. Wg: V. Shchepachenko 2020.

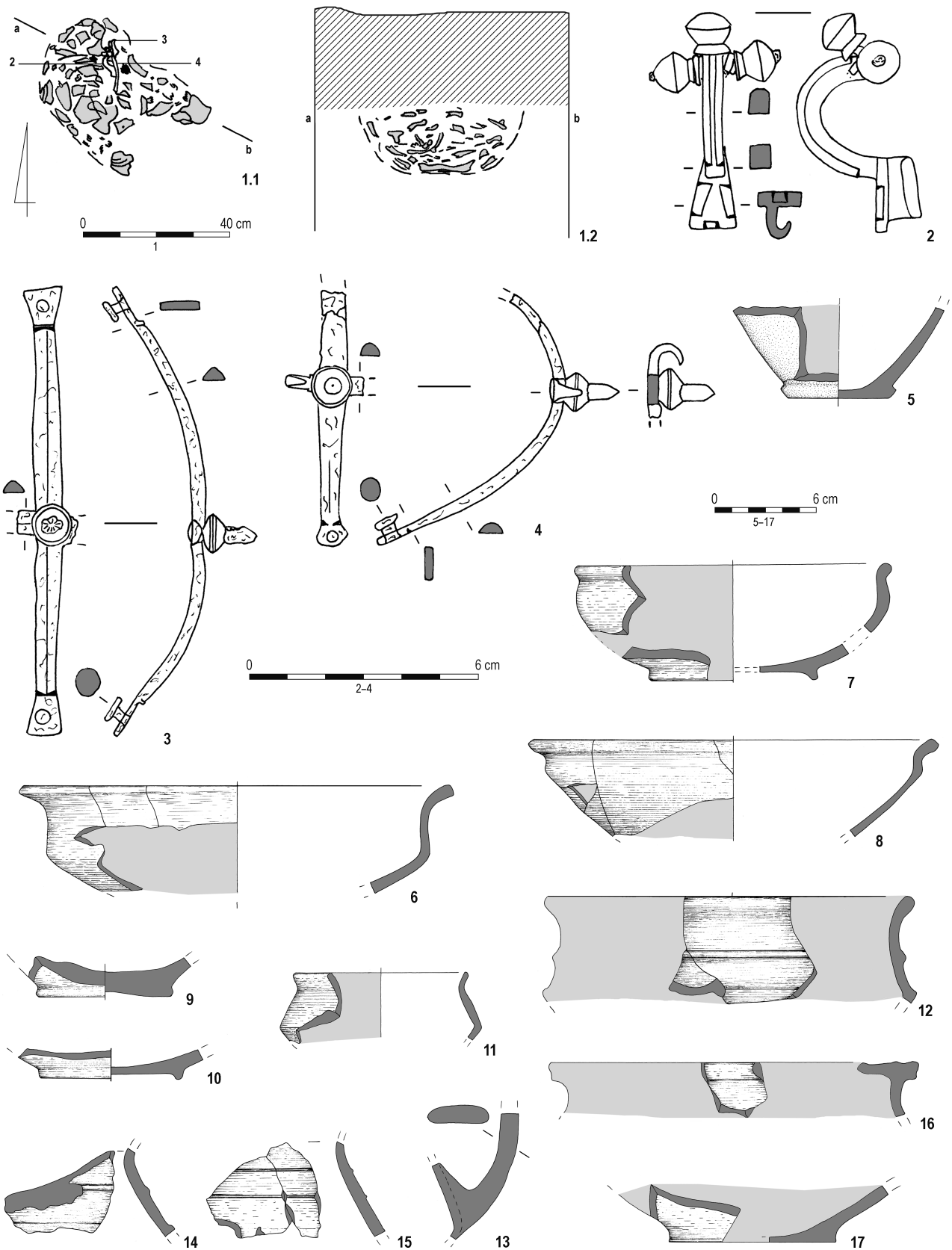


Fig. 10. Cemetery Voitenki. Grave 114. 1.1-1.2. – plan and cross-section, 2 – non-ferrous metal, 3, 4 – iron, 5-17 – ceramics. After: E. Schultze & M.V. Lyubichev 2017.

Ryc. 10. Cmentarzysko Voitenki. Grób 114. 1.1-1.2. – plan and przekrój, 2 – metal niemagnetyczny, 3, 4 – żelazo, 5-17 – ceramika. Wg: E. Schultze i M.V. Lyubichev 2017.

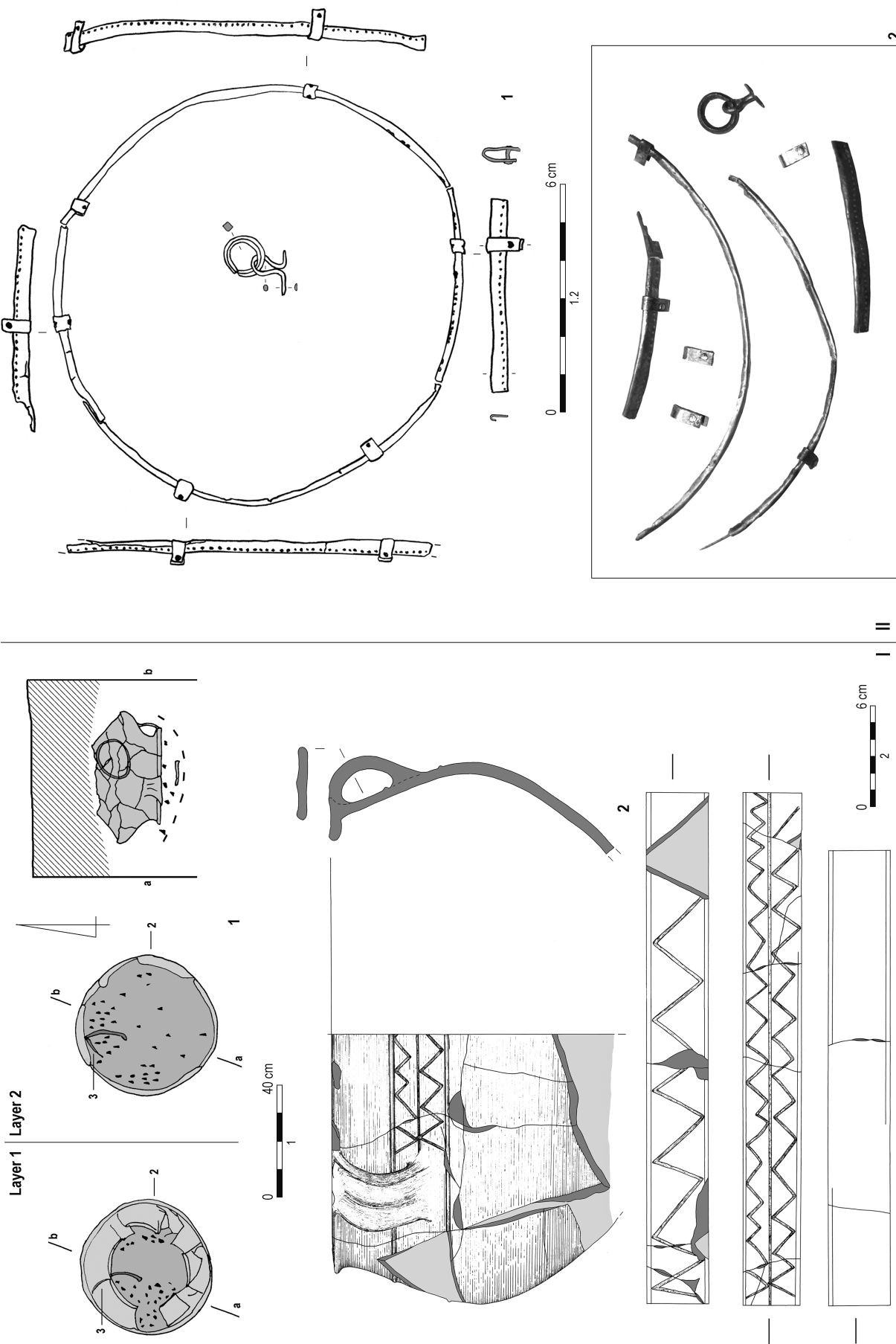


Fig. 11. Cemetery Voitenki. Grave 144. I: 1 – plan and cross-section, 2 – ceramics; II: 1, 2 – silver. After: E. Schultze & M.V. Lyubichev 2020.
 Ryc. 11. Cmentarzysko Voitenki. Grób 144. I: 1, 2 – ceramika; II: 1, 2 – srebro. Wg: E. Schultze i M.V. Lyubichev 2020.

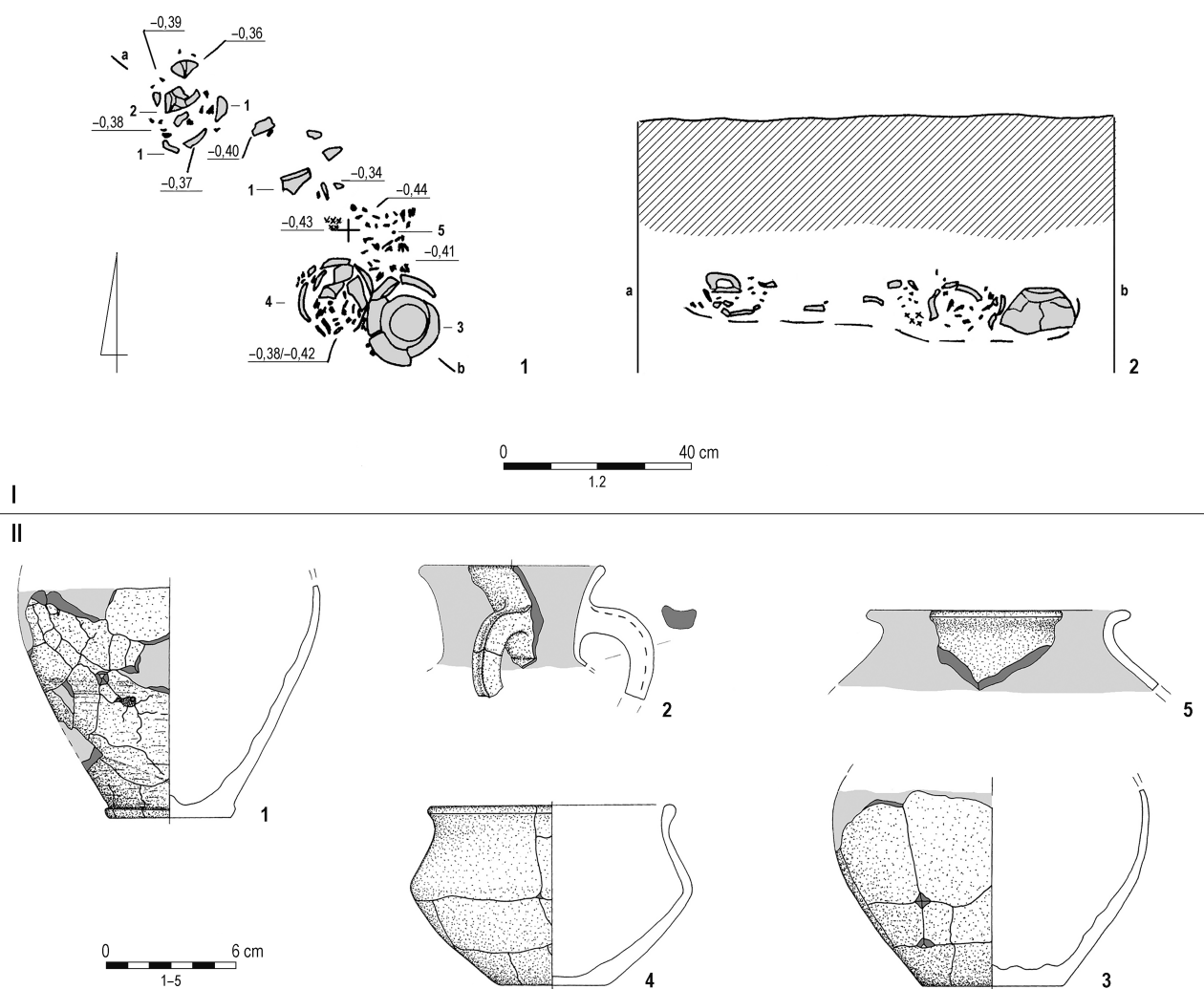


Fig. 12. Cemetery Voitenki. Grave 216. I: 1, 2 – plan and cross-section; II: 1–5 – ceramics (the numbers match the numbers on the grave plan). Drawing: K. Varacheva, V. Rusnak & V. Shchepachenko.
 Ryc. 12. Cmentarzysko Voitenki. Grób 216. I: 1, 2 – plan i przekrój; II: 1–5 – ceramika (numery odpowiadają numerom na planie grobu). Rys.: K. Varacheva, V. Rusnak i V. Shchepachenko.

of objects (inventory Nos. 1–4, 7–16): glass bead, fragment of a glass vessel, four spindle whorls, three iron bucket-shaped pendants, iron lock mounting of a wooden casket, iron ring with rosette pendants, iron knife and iron knife-pendant. Fragments of pendants or antler and iron (inventory Nos. 6, 17) among the burnt bones under sherds of the pot. All sherds of pottery bear traces of reburning, which has given them a yellow and light brown colour. Dimensions: 0.27×0.36 m, depth: 0.31–0.64 m below the ground level.

Grave inventory: 1.–3. Three spindle whorls—biconical, complete (Fig. 15:1–3); 4. Glass bead—multicoloured, melted and deformed, type Gopkalo IIc IX/86 (Fig. 15:7); 5. Glass lump—fused, green, translucent (Fig. 15:8); 6. Pendant from the coronet of a red deer antler—three fragments (Fig. 15:4); 7. Iron knife—complete (Fig. 15:18); 8. Iron knife-pendant—complete, back straight, haft formed as loop with rectangular cross-section (Fig. 15:19); 9. Iron lock mounting of a wooden casket—complete (Fig. 15:5); 10. Iron fragment of a stick or sheet (Fig. 15:6);

11.–13. Iron bucket-shaped pendants (Nos. 1–3)—complete, type Beilke-Voigt A/Gopkalo II/2a (Fig. 15:9.10.12); 14. Iron ring with two twisted links, and an incomplete iron rosette-like pendant type Beilke-Voigt L/Gopkalo II/6 (No. 4) suspended at the end of one of them (Fig. 15:15.16); 15. Rosette-like pendant (No. 5)—incomplete, type Beilke-Voigt L/Gopkalo II/6 (Fig. 15:17); 16.–18. Three iron bucket-shaped pendants (Nos. 6–8)—handles are missing, type Beilke-Voigt A/Gopkalo II/2a (Fig. 15:11.13.14); 19. Pot—reconstructed (Fig. 14:1); 20. Fragments of vessels.

Grave 226 (Fig. 18)

Cremation urn grave (Fig. 18:1.2). Urn (lower part of a pot) with burnt bones, among them fragment of a glass beaker and tiny ceramic fragments. All sherds of pottery bear traces of reburning, which has given them a yellow and light brown colour. Dimensions: 0.16×0.25 m, depth: 0.31–0.42 m below the ground level.

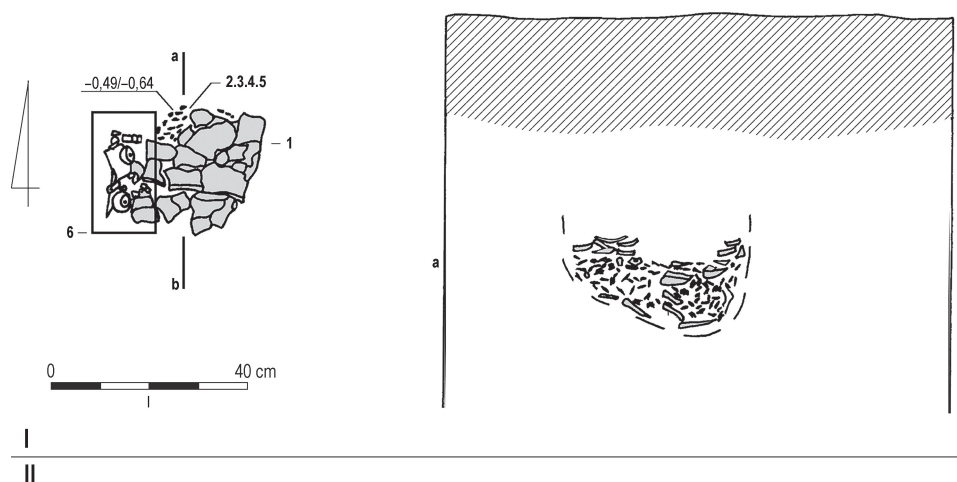


Fig. 13. Cemetery Voitenki. Grave 223. I: plan and cross-section; II: upper level of the grave. Drawing and photo: K. Varacheva, V. Rusnak & V. Shchepachenko.

Ryc. 13. Cmentarzysko Voitenki. Grób 223. I: plan i przekrój; II: strop grobu. Rys. i fot.: K. Varacheva, V. Rusnak i V. Shchepachenko.

Grave inventory: 1. Glass vessel—fragment, lightly greenish, translucent, decorated with a glass drop of blue opaque glass (Fig. 18:4); 2. Carnelian bead—burnt, type Gopkalo C 1 (Fig. 18:5); 3. Pot (urn)—fragments (Fig. 18:6); 4. Vessel—fragment of a base (Fig. 18:7); 5. Vessel—fragment of a base (Fig. 18:8).

Grave 230 (Fig. 19)

Cremation grave with an urn placed upside down (Fig. 19:1.2). Urn (lower part of a pot) with calcined bones. Beside the urn a beaker (vessel 3), placed on its base. Above and beside the urn fragments of other vessels. All sherds of pottery bear traces of reburning, which has given them a yellow and light brown colour. Dimensions: 0,2×0,54 m, depth: 0,23–0,37 m below the ground level.

Grave inventory: 1. Pot (urn/vessel 1)—fragments, partly reconstructed (Fig. 19:4); 2. Vase (vessel 2)—fragment of rim and wall (Fig. 19:5); 3. Beaker (vessel 3)—fragments, partly reconstructed (Fig. 19:6); 4. Pot (vessel 4)—fragments, partly reconstructed (Fig. 19:7); 5. Vessel—fragment of a body (Fig. 19:8); 6. Vessel—fragment of a base (Fig. 19:9).

ANALYSIS OF THE SELECTED GRAVES

BURIAL RITE

The graves are located in a strip of the grave field, elongated in the NW-SE direction (Fig. 1:2). Furthermore, graves 2, 7, 31, 48, and 144 are located within the area with the highest density of cremation graves, while graves 69, 110, 114, 216, 223, 226, and 230 are located to the NE and E of this area (Fig. 1:2). As previously mentioned, the graves are classified as urn (with one or two containers) or non-urn.

Graves with one urn. Grave 226, which contains a burial in an uncovered urn, has been classified as variant I1 (see Fig. 18). This classification is shared by eight other graves at the cemetery. Grave 48 has been designated as type I3, as the urn is covered with fragments of vessels (see Fig. 6). In this case, the lower part of the pot served as the urn. Three other graves have been determined to belong to a similar type. Graves 144 and 223, where the urn containing cremated bones was placed upside down

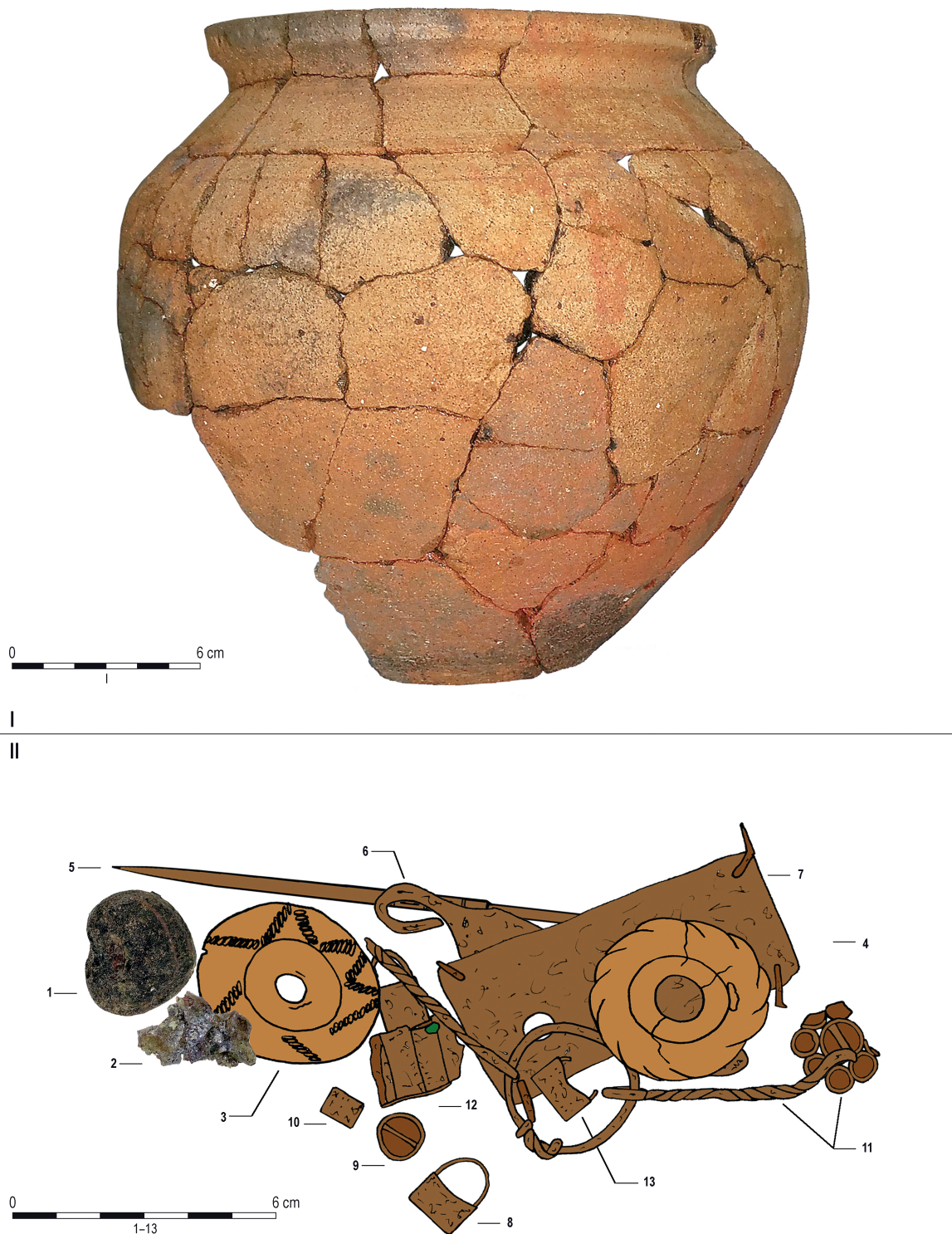


Fig. 14. Cemetery Voitenki. Grave 223. I: urn; II: cluster of objects: 1 – glass bead, 2 – fragment of a glass vessel, 3, 4 – clay spindle whorls (Nos. 1 and 2), 5 – iron knives (Nos. 1 and 2), 7 – iron lock mounting of a wooden casket, 8–10, 13 – iron bucket-shaped pendants (Nos. 1–3 and 6), 11, 12 – iron rosette-like pendants (Nos. 4 and 5).
Drawing and photo: K. Varacheva, V. Rusnak & V. Shchepachenko.

Ryc. 14. Cmentarzysko Voitenki. Grób 223. I: popielnica; II: skupisko zabytków: 1 – paciorek szklany, 2 – fragment naczynia szklanego, 3, 4 – przęśliki gliniane (nr. 1 i 2), 5 – żelazne noże (nr. 1 i 2), 7 – żelazne okucie zamka drewnianej skrzyneczki, 8–10, 13 – żelazne wisiorki wiaderkowate (nr. 1–3 i 6), 11, 12 – żelazne wisiorki rozetkowe (nr. 4 i 5).

Rys. and fot.: K. Varacheva, V. Rusnak i V. Shchepachenko.



Fig. 15. Cemetery Voitenki. Grave 223. 1–3 – clay spindle whorls, 4 – fragment of an antler pendant, 5 – iron lock mounting of a wooden casket, 6 – fragment of an iron object, 7 – glass bead, 8 – fragment of a glass vessel; 9–14 – bucket-shaped iron pendants (Nos. 1–3 and 6–8), 15 – wire ring with twisted iron link of the iron rosette-like (No. 4), 16, 17 – iron rosette-like pendants (Nos. 4 and 5), 10, 11 – iron knives (Nos. 1 and 2). Photo: K. Varacheva, V. Rusnak & V. Shchepachenko.

Ryc. 15. Cmentarzysko Voitenki. Grób 223. A: 1–3 – przęśliki gliniane, 4 – fragment zawieszki z poroża, 5 – żelazne okucie zamka drewnianej skrzyneczki, 6 – fragment przedmiotu żelaznego, 7 – paciorek szklany, 8 – fragment naczynia szklanego; 9–14 – żelazne wisiorki wiaderkowate (nr. 1–3 i 6–8), 15 – kółko żelazne z tordowanym ogniwiem żelaznego wisiorka rozetkowego (nr 4), 16, 17 – żelazne wisiorki rozetkowe (nr. 4 i 5), 18, 19 – żelazne noże (nr. 1 i 2). Fot.: K. Varacheva, V. Rusnak i V. Shchepachenko.

(the vessel covered the bones on top), belong to type I4 (Figs. 11 & 13), as do nine other graves. Grave 230, where the bones were under an inverted urn (urn on its side), nearby an accessory vessel and fragments of pottery, can also be attributed to this type (Fig. 19).

Graves with two urns. Grave 110, which was found to contain two uncovered urns, has been categorised as variant I2 (Fig. 9), a classification shared by grave 47.

Grave 2, which was also found to contain two urns filled with fragments of pottery, has been identified as a composite of types I2 and I3 (Fig. 3). Grave 216 is regarded as a combination of types I2 and I4, with two urns, one of which is positioned upside down (Fig. 12:I).

Graves without urns. Grave 69 corresponds to variant III, which is characterised by the compact cluster of burnt bones (frequently accompanied by fragments of

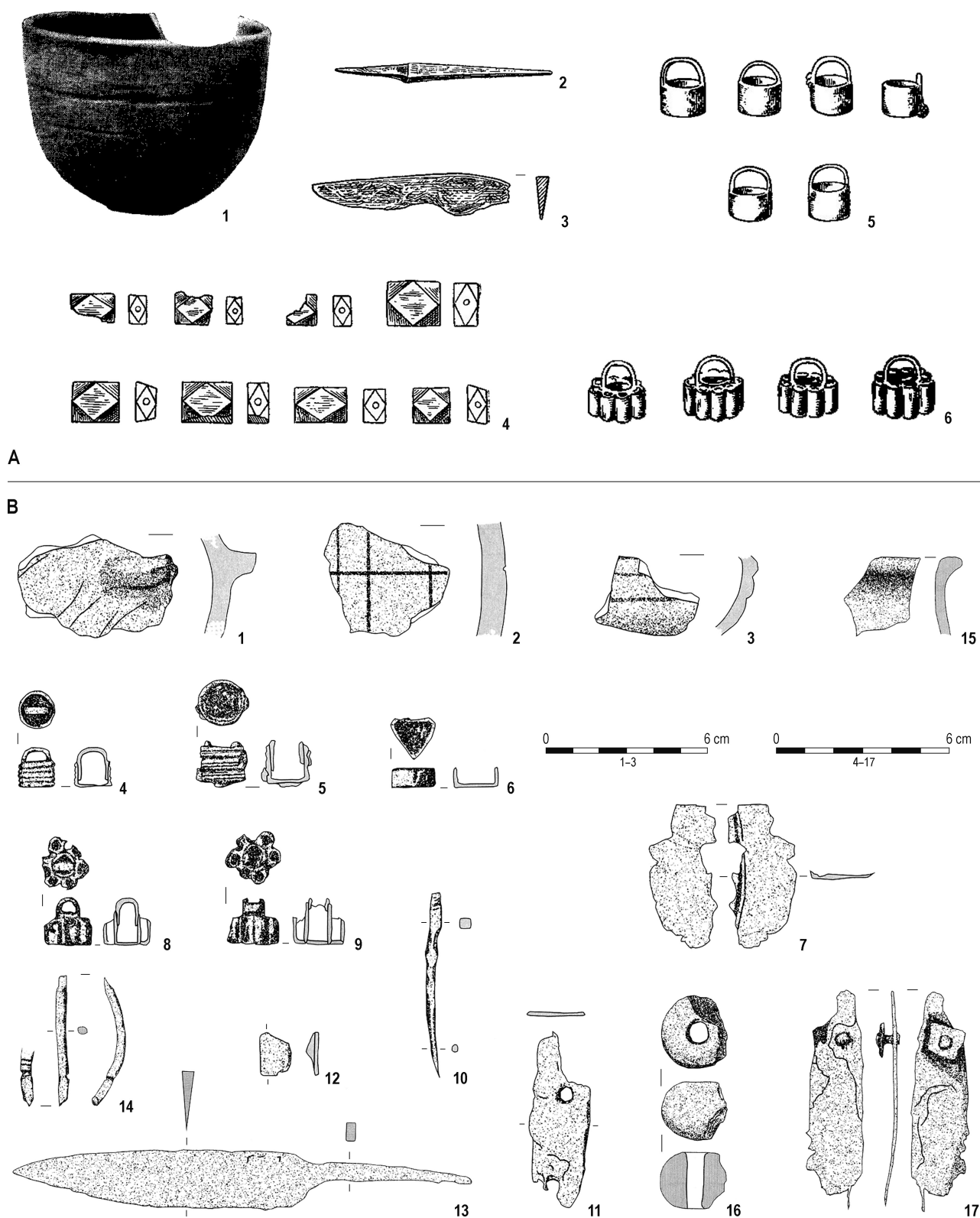


Fig. 16. Objects from grave 19 from the cemetery at Pryvilne/Привільне (A; not to scale) and from grave 98 from the cemetery at Opátów (B). A:1, B:1-3 – ceramics, A:2.3.5.6, B:4-13.17 – iron, A:4 – carnelian, B:15 – glass, B:14 – non-ferrous metal, B:16 – limestone. After: YU.V. KUKHARENKO 1955 (A), R. MADYDA-LEGUTKO, J. RODZIŃSKA-NOWAK & J. ZAGÓRSKA-TELEGA 2011 (B).

Рис. 16. Зabytki z grobu 19 z cmentarzyska w Pryvilne/Привільне (A; bez skali) i z grobu 98 z cmentarzyska w Opátowie (B). A:1, B:1-3 – ceramika, A:2.3.5.6, B:4-13.17 – żelazo, A:4 – karneol, B:15 – szkło, B:14 – metal niemagnetyczny, B:16 – wapień. Wg: YU.V. KUKHARENKO 1955 (A), R. MADYDA-LEGUTKO, J. RODZIŃSKA-NOWAK I J. ZAGÓRSKA-TELEGA 2011 (B).

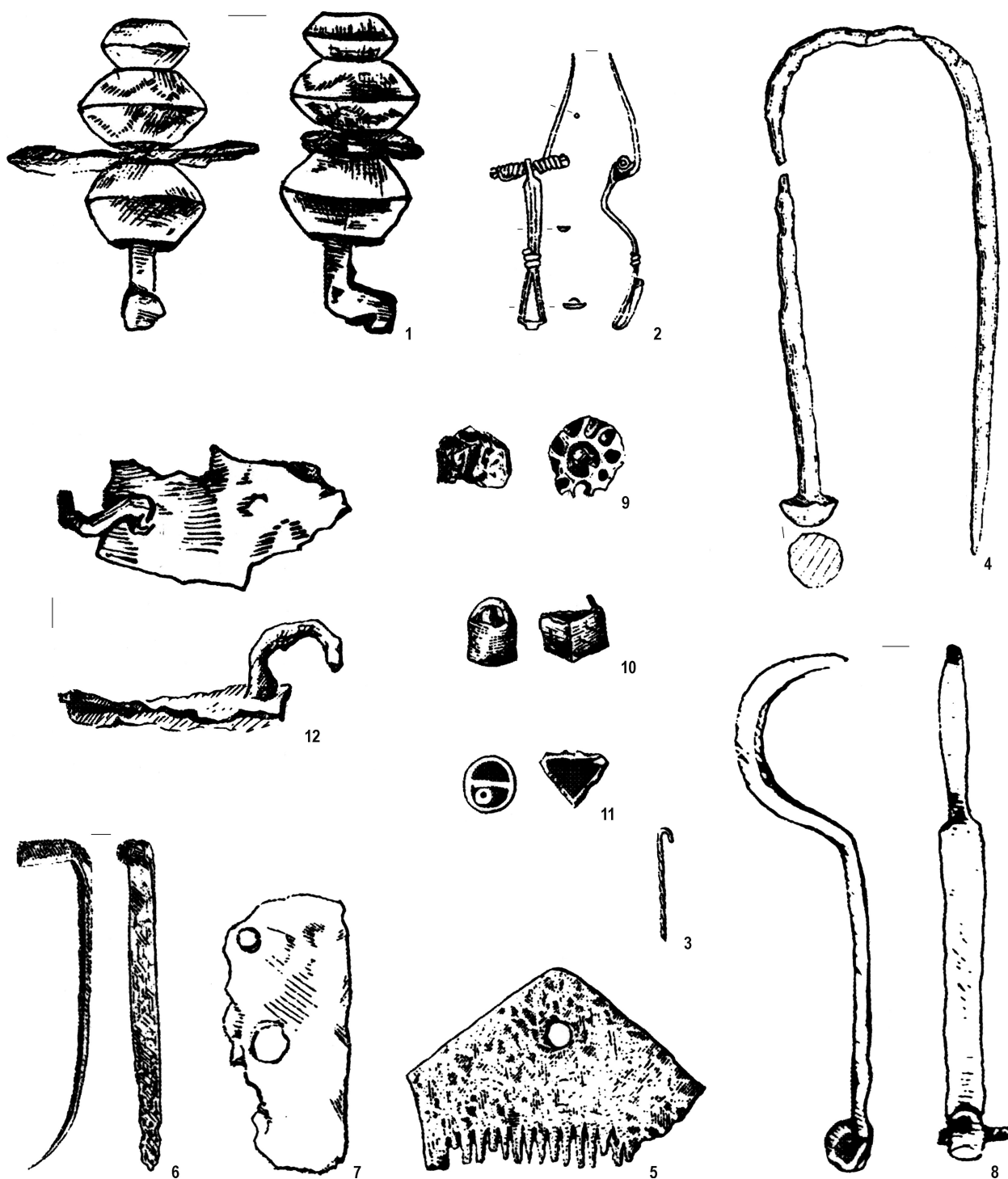


Fig. 17. Objects from grave 67 from the cemetery at Dumaniw / Думанів. 1 – clay/metal, 2, 4 – non-ferrous metal, 3, 5–12 – iron (not to scale). After: O.S. MYLASHEVSKYI 2016.

Ryc. 17. Zabytki z grobu 67 z cmentarzyska w Dumaniwie / Думанів. 1 – glina/metal, 2, 4 – metal niemagnetyczny, 3, 5–12 – żelazo (bez skali). Wg: O.S. MYLASHEVSKYI 2016.

pottery) within a pit (see Figs. 7 & 8). A total of 63 other graves also fall under this classification. Variant II2, characterised by burnt bones in the pit covered with fragments of vessels, includes graves 7 (Fig. 4), 31 (Fig. 5), 114 (Fig. 10), and 12 other burials.

THE GRAVES

The most significant archaeological and anthropological data from the burials are presented here. The Catalogue (see Catalogue, Table 4) provides comprehensive information on the subject. Consequently, the objective was

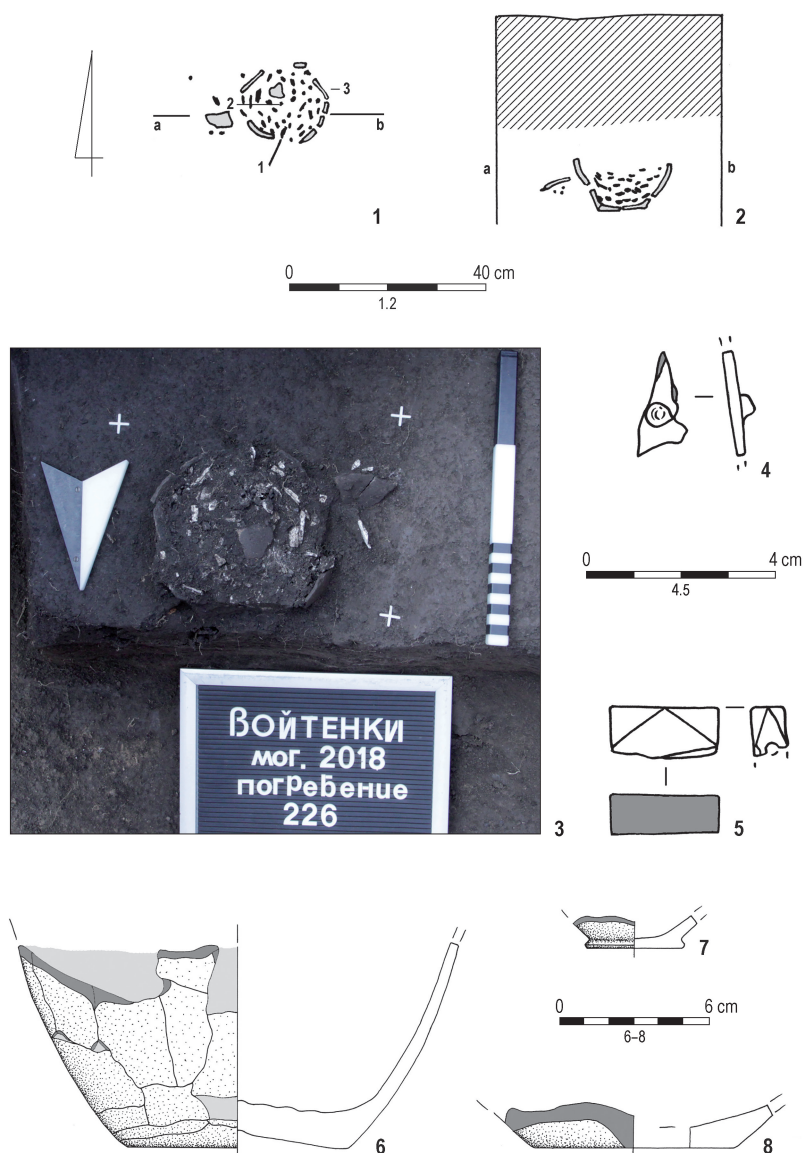


Fig. 18. Cemetery Voitenki. Grave 226: 1-3 – plans and cross-section, 4 – fragment of the glass vessel, 5 – carnelian bead, 6-8 – ceramics. Drawing and photo: K. Varacheva, V. Rusnak & V. Shchepachenko. Ryc. 18. Cmentarzysko Voitenki. Grób 226: 1-3 – plany i przekroje, 4 – fragment naczynia szklanego, 5 – paciorek z karneolu, 6-8 – ceramika. Rys. i fot.: K. Varacheva, V. Rusnak i V. Shchepachenko.

not to collect individual parts from the burning site, but rather to obtain more or less the entire skeleton¹⁹.

Grave 2 consists of two urns covered with fragments of vessels with traces of the funeral pyre—a smeared surface of yellow and orange colours. Two pots survived the fire intact and were used as urns, while fragments of one-handed jug, vase, bowl, pot (or two pots) were used as their covering (Fig. 3).

Among the bones, fragments of all sizes are represented²⁰. Based on several morphological traits, including the degree of obliteration of the cranial sutures, the epiphyseal

fusion, and the condition of the symphyseal surfaces of the vertebrae, it is suggested that the individual was over 25 years old (*adultus-senilis*). The sex of the individual has been identified as male. It is noteworthy that the skeletal collection includes all anatomical components, including the cranium, the ribs, the vertebrae, the pelvic bones, and the upper and lower limbs.

The presence of thermal fractures on the bone surface, indicative of soft tissue obstruction during the cremation process, suggests that the deceased was likely cremated immediately after death or within a short period thereafter.²¹ Subsequent to the cremation, the remains were extracted from the funeral pyre to the greatest extent

¹⁹ The cremated remains from burials 7, 69 and 114 cannot be analysed anthropologically.

²⁰ J. WAHL 1982.

²¹ S. SYMES ET ALII 2008.

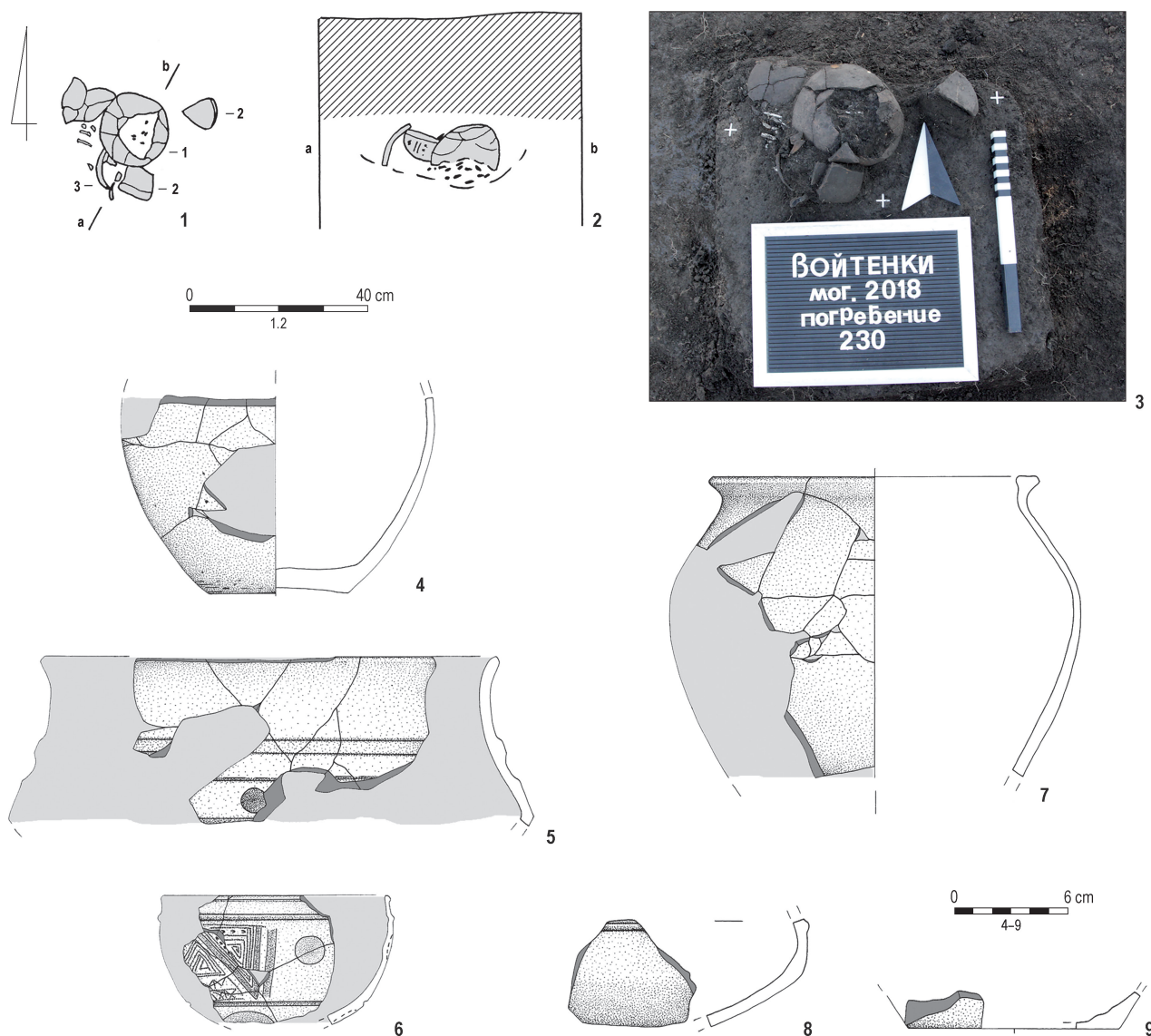


Fig. 19. Cemetery Voitenki. Grave 230. 1–3 – plans and cross-section, 4–9 – ceramics (Nos. 4–6 match with Nos. 1–3 on the plan).

Drawing & photo: K. Varacheva, V. Rusnak & V. Shchepachenko.

Ryc. 19. Cmentarzysko Voitenki. Grób 230. 1–3 – plany i przekrój, 4–9 – ceramika (nr. 4–6 odpowiadają nr. 1–3 na planie).

Rys. i fot.: K. Varacheva, V. Rusnak i V. Shchepachenko.

possible and placed in urns. No charcoal was found. In addition to human remains, urn 2 contained burnt animal bones. Of particular interest was the presence of a comb among the bones, and traces of metal observed on some fragments of skull and forearm bones. Further physical and chemical analysis is required to determine the origin of these marks.

In grave 7, the cremated bones were found to be covered with fragments of a three-handled vase, bowl, and another vessel (Fig. 4). The grave also contained a fragment of a glass vessel.

In grave 31, the bones were also found to be covered with fragments of vessels (see Fig. 5). The human remains, which were found in the grave, cannot be identi-

fied as belonging to a particular sex, and the age-at-death of the individual is indicated to be between 17 and 35 years (*iuvanis-adultus*). The following fragments were identified: skull, vertebrae, pelvic bones and limbs. In addition to the human remains, two burnt animal bones were also found. The selection of vessel fragments present in this grave appears to be more representative than in the previous one; it includes fragments of a vase (possibly a three-handled vase?), three bowls, pots, other vessels, and a melted fragment of a glass vessel.

Grave 48 contained cremated bones belonging to a child (*infans I–II*) in a crushed pot that had been used as an urn (Fig. 6). The age-at-death of the child could not be determined more definitively because the characteris-

tic skeletal areas had not been preserved. The grave also contained an iron knife and a fragment of an antler pyramidal pendant. Among the bone remains, a fragment of an antler comb with a circular ornament was also discovered. The assemblage of vessels includes a three-handled vase, pots, bowls, a one-handled jug, and other vessels. Of particular note is a small bowl that might have functioned as a ceramic cup (Fig. 6:6). Among the pottery, a fragment of a red-slip bowl attracts attention, and a melted glass lump was also preserved in the burial.

In grave 69, the compact cluster of cremated bones was accompanied by a number of small fragments of pottery and other artefacts, suggesting that this grave belongs to the most common type of cremation grave without urn. However, it is distinct in that it draws particular attention on account of the Roman artefacts that have been imported: glass counters and a bronze scalpel (Figs. 7 & 8).²²

As in grave 2, in grave 110 the remains of a single individual were buried in two urns. The complete skeleton was present, and the age-at-death of the individual was estimated to be between 20 and 35 years old (*adultus*). The sex of the deceased could not be determined. The pattern of thermal fractures suggested that the deceased was cremated shortly after death.²³ The presence of metal or other substances on the surface of the preserved bone fragments was not evidenced. Three fragments of unburnt animal bones were discovered, and an analysis of the bones revealed a fragment of an antler comb and six burnt dark grey 'drops' (probably glass beads) (Fig. 9).

In this instance, a pot and a ceramic cup, both bearing ornamentation, were used as urns, and both vessels were placed in the funeral pyre. The grave contained a melted fragment of a glass bowl, two clay spindle whorls with traces of fire, a burnt carnelian bead, and a bronze rivet from an antler comb.²⁴

In grave 114, the cremated bones were found to be covered with fragments of clay vessels, exhibiting traces of the of the funeral pyre; pottery sherds were also placed among the bones. The artefacts recovered included a crossbow fibula with knops similar to those of the *Zwiebelknopffibel*, a pair of iron spurs of the type *Leuna*, and fragments of clay vessels, including pots, bowls, vases, one-handled jugs, and other vessels (Fig. 8).²⁵

In the grave 144, the cremated remains were found to be interred beneath an inverted three-handled vase, which was not present in the funeral pyre and had a pol-

ished black surface. Amongst the bones, silver fitting of a wooden vessel were discovered (Fig. 11).²⁶

The quantity of bone remains is substantial, encompassing fragments of all major skeletal components, thus facilitating the determination of the age-at-death of the deceased to be between 15 and 25 years old, which corresponds to the juvenile to adult age category. However, the sex of the buried individual remains uncertain. For instance, the supraorbital margin of the frontal bone is characterised by smooth outlines, lacking any pointed features, which is a more commonly observed trait in males. The bones of the postcranial skeleton are of medium size, and the cranial vault measures 3–4 mm thick, which is more characteristic of females.

Numerous metal traces were observed on the remains, including orange and brown coloured marks, probably of iron, on 35% of the preserved cranial fragments. Observations of the vertebrae, tibiae and fibulae have revealed the presence of iron traces, while the mandibular condylar process exhibits green marks believed to be indicative of copper or copper-based alloys. However, no iron or copper-containing objects were present in this burial. The possible explanations for this are twofold: firstly, that the grave goods were badly damaged during the cremation process and not preserved in the grave in their original form; alternatively, that they were not placed in the burial after the cremation process.

Grave 216 consists of two urns containing the cremated remains of a single individual. Urn 1 (the lower part of the pot) also contained a fragment of a pitcher. Urn 2 (bowl) was upside down with bones underneath and beside it. Near urn 2, the lower half of another pot was placed upside down. Close to the urns, two rim fragments a glass vessel were found among the bones. All the pottery (Fig. 12:II) was in the funeral pyre.

The bone remains are fragmented, with the majority measuring less than 25 mm. Fragments of the calvaria, facial bones (including fragments of the maxilla and mandible), vertebrae, and upper and lower limbs were identified. The remains belonged to a male individual whose age-at-death was estimated to be between 17 and 25 years (*iuvenis-adultus*).

In grave 223 the bone remains were initially located in an upside-down urn (pot), which then collapsed and its fragments covered the bones and a partial accumulation of objects (Figs. 13 & 14). Among them: polychrome glass bead (Fig. 15:7), fragment of a glass vessel (Fig. 15:8), three clay spindle whorls (Fig. 15:1–3), six iron bucket-like pendants (Fig. 15:9–14), two iron rosette-like pendants (Fig. 15:15–17), an iron plate—the lock mounting

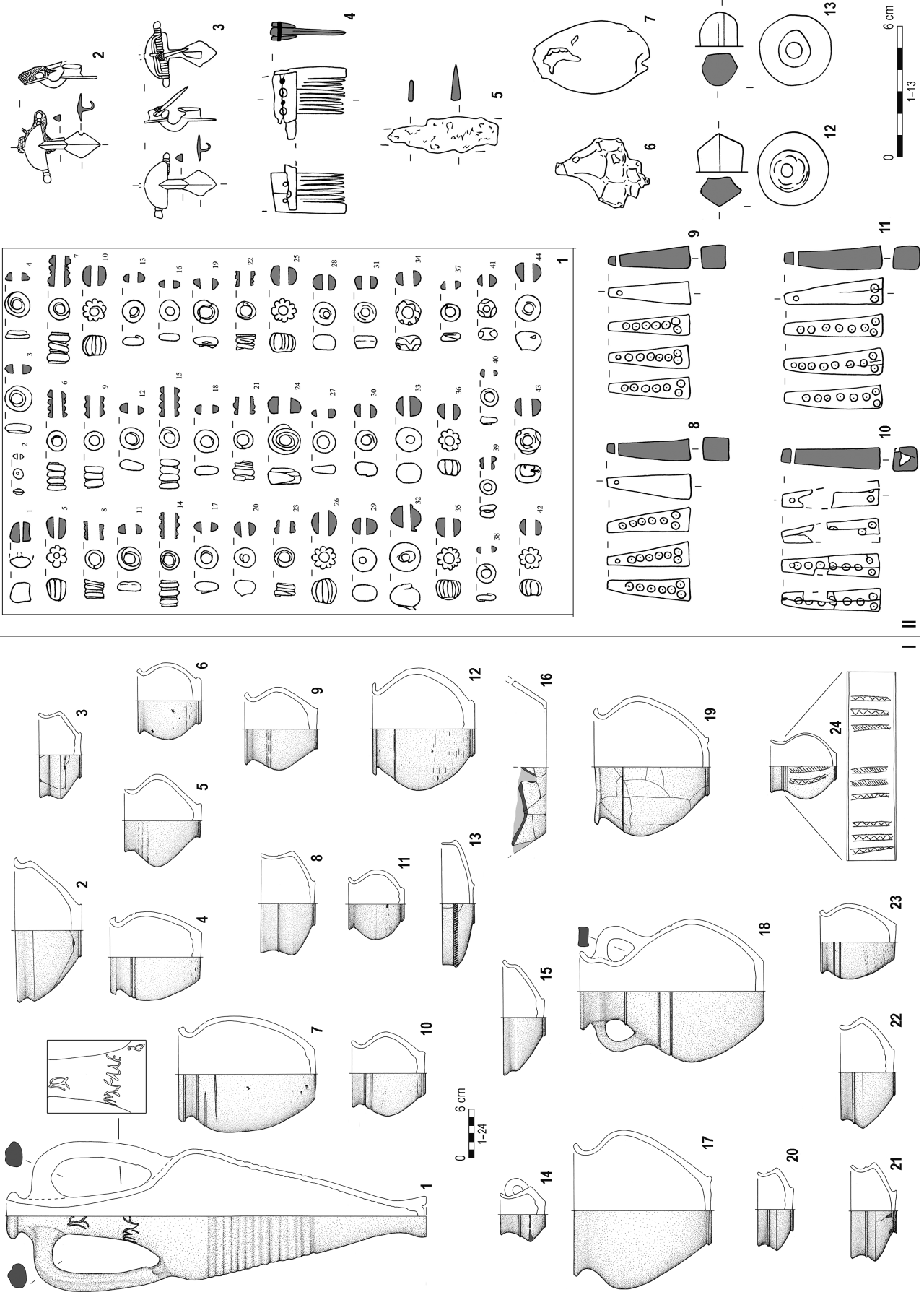
²² M.V. LYUBICHEV 2009; 2022, 475–476, fig. 17; M. LYUBICHEV, E. SCHULTZE 2013.

²³ S. SYMES *ET ALII* 2008.

²⁴ V. SHCHEPACHENKO 2020, 83, 85, 86, figs. 6, 7.

²⁵ E. SCHULTZE, M.V. LYUBICHEV 2017; M.V. LYUBICHEV 2022, 475–476, fig. 18.

²⁶ E. SCHULTZE, M.V. LYUBICHEV 2020; M.V. LYUBICHEV 2022, 476–477, fig. 20.



I II

of a wooden casket (Fig. 15:5), fragment of a pendant from a coronet of a red deer antlers (Fig. 15:4), two iron knives (Fig. 15:18.19). The ceramic urn (Fig. 14:I) and other objects bear traces of being burnt.

The skeletal remains of two individuals have been identified. One is probably female, while the other is a child; the adult individual's bones are represented with a high degree of completeness, with the majority of bones present, including the skull, ribs, vertebrae, pelvic bones and the upper and lower extremities. The age-at-death was determined to be between 17 and 45 years (*iuvenis-maturus*). The sex of the individual is presumed to be female, based on the general gracility of the skeleton and the minimal pronounced nuchal crest. Rust in the form of brown, reddish-brown marks is observed on the surface of the preserved bone. Such traces have been identified on fragments of the calvaria, the right scapula, and the diaphysis of the femur bones. This suggests that metal grave goods or their metal components were placed in the area of the head, the shoulder girdle, the posterior part of the scapulae and the anterior part of the femur bones during the cremation. The skeletal remains of the child are represented by fragments of the skull, with a thickness that does not exceed 2–2.5 mm. The bone was determined as belong to an individual older than one year in age-at-death (*infans* I). No evidence of metal traces was found on the preserved fragments. Besides human skeletal remains, four burnt fragments of animal bones were identified in the burial.

In grave 226, the burnt bones were found to be interred within an urn (the lower part of a pot) positioned at the base. Among the remains, a fragment of a glass vessel, a carnelian bead, and small sherds of clay vessels displaying traces of secondary firing were discovered (Fig. 18). The bone remains included fragments of cranial bones, ribs, vertebrae, and upper and lower limbs. It appears conceivable that the deceased was female. The estimated age-at-death was between 17 and 35 years. The analysis revealed the presence of iron traces on several fragments of the cranium (right temporal bone), femur and tibia bones. This suggests that during cremation, grave goods made of iron or having iron parts were placed in the area of the skull and limbs.

Grave 230 contained human bones, including fragments of skull and limbs, which had been placed in an overturned urn—the lower part of a pot (Fig. 19). Near the urn a ceramic beaker standing on its bottom was placed, above the urn and next to it there were sherds of clay bowls, pots and other vessels; all of them bear traces of secondary firing. The results of the anthropological analysis indicate the presence of a burial site containing the remains of an adult individual, presumed to be a female, with a minimum age of over 30 years (*adultus-senilis*). No marks of metal are discernible on the bone remains.

CONTENTS OF GRAVES – STANDARD ITEMS

The majority of graves under study include remains of ceramic vessels, with the exception of grave 69 (Figs. 7 & 8). Vessels of various forms, including pots, bowls, vases, jugs and beakers, are examples of the distinctive Chernyakhiv wheel-made pottery style. In grave 48, fragments of a red slip bowl have been found (Fig. 6:15). The vessels used as urns are predominantly intact or partially preserved, though only a limited number of fragments have been found for other vessels. In four graves, a pot was used as an urn, in one grave it was a vase; two graves contained two urns each, while grave 2 contained two pots, and grave 110 contained a pot and a beaker (Fig. 9).

In one grave, fragments of up to 13 vessels were observed (Table 1). The graves presented herein contain the highest number of vessels identified in cremation graves within this burial ground, with an average of one to four vessels per grave. As illustrated (see Table 1), the range of vessels exhibits distinct combinations, with pots and bowls frequently being part of these combinations. It is important to note the combination of four different vessel types—pot, bowl, vase and jug—in graves 48, 114 and 2. Furthermore, the presence of multiple pots, bowls and vases in each grave is also worthy of note. These graves appear to be richly furnished with pottery; however, beakers are absent. In some inhumation graves of Voitenki, the combination of pot, bowl, vase and jug has been documented. This combination, which consists of vessels for eating and drinking in a manner representative of that observed in contemporary contexts, has been

Fig. 20. Cemetery Voitenki. Grave 231 (inhumation). I – ceramics: 1 – Roman amphora, 2–24 – local wheel-made pottery; II: 1 – glass, 2, 3 – non-ferrous metal, 4, 8–11 – bone/antler, 5 – iron, 6, 7 – shell, 12, 13 – clay.

After: E. SCHULTZE, M.V. LYUBICHEV & A.D. KOZAK 2020.

Ryc. 20. Cmentarzysko Voitenki. Grób 231 (inhumacyjny). I – ceramika: 1 – amfora rzymska, 2–24 – ceramika miejscowa wykonana na kole garncarskim; II: 1 – szkło, 2, 3 – metal niemagnetyczny, 4, 8–11 – kość/poroże, 5 – żelazo, 6, 7 – muszla, 12, 13 – glina.

Wg: E. SCHULTZE, M.V. LYUBICHEV I A.D. KOZAK 2020.

| Grave | Pot | Bowl | Vase | Jug | Beaker | Definable vessels | Vessel of unknown type | Undefinable fragments |
|-------|-----|------|------|-----|--------|-------------------|------------------------|-----------------------|
| 114 | 2 | 9 | 1 | 1 | | 13 | 3 | × |
| 48 | 3 | 6 | 2 | 1 | | 12 | 2 | |
| 2 | 3 | 2 | 1 | 1 | | 7 | 1 | |
| 31 | 4 | 3 | 1 | | | 8 | 1 | |
| 216 | 2 | 1 | | 1 | | 4 | 1 | |
| 230 | 2 | | 1 | | 1 | 4 | 2 | |
| 110 | 1 | | | | 1 | 2 | | |
| 7 | | 1 | 1 | | | 2 | 1 | |
| 144 | | | 1 | | | 1 | | |
| 223 | 1 | | | | | 1 | | × |
| 226 | 1 | | | | | 1 | 2 | |

Table 1. Cemetery Voitenki.
Combination of vessels within
the ceramic equipment
of the selected graves.

Tab. 1. Cmentarzysko Voitenki.
Zestawy różnych typów naczyń
w wyposażeniach wybranych grobów.

interpreted as ‘dinner service’ and as an indicator of higher social status²⁷. To date, no complete ‘dinner service’ comprising beakers has been unearthed in cremation graves. The presence of four distinct vessel types in the aforementioned graves suggests an ‘incomplete dinner service’. However, in some inhumation graves, small bowls have been found within larger vessels, indicating their use as drinking vessels. This hypothesis can also be considered for cremation grave 48, where a small bowl could have been served as a drinking vessel and would have completed the ‘dinner service’ in this grave.

While pots and bowls of different forms are often encountered in cremation graves and vases in at least 16 graves, jugs have only been detected in five of the cremation graves. The present study examines four of these graves; the fifth grave (24) contained a pot, a vase, and a jug. This highlights the rarity of jugs being found in cremation graves.

The presence of beakers in graves 110 and 230, in conjunction with pots or combinations of pots and vases, has been documented in three other cremations. This observation underscores the scarcity of beakers within the context of cremation graves.

In half of the graves presented here, remnants of glass objects have been discovered. Due to the nature of the cremation rite, the majority of these artefacts were damaged, often to such an extent that they could not be identified.²⁸ In six graves, such remains have been identified as fragments of glass vessels (7, 69, 110, 216, 223, and

226). It is probable that the objects in question are glass beakers or bowls; however, it is not possible to ascertain their type with any certainty. V. Shchepachenko identified the glass fragment found in grave 110 as a bowl of the *Weklice* type²⁹, determining it to be a variant C of this type with a partially fused rim.³⁰ He further discussed the distribution of this type within the Chernyakhiv Culture and beyond, and provided a dating range for the type from the second third of the 3rd century to the beginning of the 4th century.

A small fragment from cremation grave 226 has a blue glass drop on its surface (Fig. 18:4), which allows it to be identified as a beaker of type 96 or 106d according to the classification system of C. Isings.³¹ Such vessels—*Nuppenbecher*—are also characteristic of the final phase of the Chernyakhiv-Sântana de Mureş Culture. The morphology of the fragment suggests it could belong to either a conical beaker with thin walls or a thin-walled bowl, decorated by applied blue blobs.³²

On the one hand, the small size and poor preservation of the glass fragments suggest that the number of glass finds was reduced by burning. On the other hand, it is obvious that glass vessels were hardly a common part of the grave goods, but can be considered as a specific attribute. Glass beakers in cremations were found in combination with a maximum of three different types of ceramic vessels. Thus, glass vessels are not necessarily

²⁹ V. SHCHEPACHENKO 2020, fig. 2:2.

³⁰ V.I. SHCHEPACHENKO 2023, 102–103, fig. 3:1.2.

³¹ C. ISINGS 1957, 113–116, 130–131.

³² I. GAVRITUKHIN 2017, 95, 103, figs. 11:15.17.18.27.30, 13:46–51, 14:76. 96.126.136.16.

²⁷ E. SCHULTZE, M.V. LYUBICHEV 2018, 122, fig. 3.

²⁸ Consequently, it is impossible to determine whether the glass fragments from graves 31 and 223 are remains of vessels or beads.

associated with a rich ceramic assemblage in cremations, e.g. grave 110 contained only one ceramic beaker, and grave 69 produced no ceramics at all.

Buckles were part of the metal clothing accessories. A bronze belt buckle was found in grave 69. This specimen is rectangular in shape and can be identified as type B1a according to Gorokhovskij³³ a widely used type in the Late Roman Iron Age. Buckles were found in four cremation graves at Voitenki, all of them made of bronze. It is also noteworthy that these four cremations did not contain any pottery.

Beads and pendants are indicative of jewellery, and beads were found in three of the graves examined here. One carnelian bead of type C1, as defined by Gopkalo (Fig. 9:II.3),³⁴ was present in graves 110 and 226 each, although it is possible that there were originally more, as their remains were found among burnt bones in grave 110. In cremation graves, carnelian beads are predominant. However, the fact that only carnelian beads were found in 12 out of 14 cremations with beads is further evidence of damage to the grave equipment due to cremation. Small glass beads were destroyed much more than the more resistant carnelian beads. It is quite certain that people who were cremated had glass beads as well as those who were buried in inhumation graves. While fragments of fused glass in some cremation graves may be remains, they are not definable as beads. Consequently, graves containing beads offer at least reduced evidence for the presence of necklaces.

In grave 223, six iron pendant-buckets were discovered. These objects, which have a cylindrical shape with a flat base and an arch, belong to the type A, variant I (A I) according to the classification of Beilke-Voigt A³⁵ or type II/2, variant a in the classification of Gopkalo (six specimens; Fig. 15:9–14).³⁶ These items are the most common in the group of metal pendants-buckets in the *Barbaricum* during the Roman Iron Age,³⁷ including the area of the Chernyakhiv Culture.³⁸ In contrast, rosette-like pendants, consisting of a central bigger cylinder with handle surrounded by eight small cylinders (*Eimeranhänger mit Röhrenkranz*), are found very rarely. Such pendants belong to group L according to Beilke-Voigt³⁹ or to type II/6 in the classification of Gopkalo (Fig. 15:16.17).⁴⁰ Two such pendants were discovered in grave 223, suspended

from links of twisted iron wire connected to a wire ring with looped ends (Fig. 15:15–17).

In the European *Barbaricum*, during the Late Roman Period, rosette-like pendants have been found to occur sporadically, yet they are distributed over a considerable geographical area. They have been discovered in the river basin of the Elbe, in Mecklenburg and in Holstein, as well as within the areas of the Przeworsk and Chernyakhiv cultures.⁴¹

From the Chernyakhiv Culture they are known from the cemeteries near Pryvilne/Привілляне⁴² and Dumaniw/Думанів, grave 67 (Fig. 17:9).⁴³ Grave 19 from Pryvilne contained six of such pendants. As illustrated in the published drawings, a central cylinder with a handle do not exceed in height the surrounding cylinders (Fig. 16:A6).⁴⁴ This is a highly atypical occurrence for such items, and the question of a match between these drawings and the findings remains unresolved. In the area of the Przeworsk Culture, two rosette-like pendants were discovered in grave 98 from the burial ground at Opatów (Fig. 16:B8.9).⁴⁵ Bucket-like pendants were more than just personal ornaments. They could also be used to hold herbs or incense. Therefore, I. Beilke-Voigt and other authors thought that the pendants might also have had apotropaic magic.⁴⁶

Antler pendants were found in graves 48 (pyramidal) (Fig. 6:3) and 223 (from a red deer antler coronet) (Fig. 15:4). Toilet objects included combs. These were burnt and preserved as fragments of antler plates and metal rivets, which were found in graves 2 and 110.

The artefacts recovered from the graves included knives, needles and spindle whorls, with the former being found in graves 48, 69 and 223.

The knives from graves 48 (Fig. 6:2) and 69 (Fig. 8:3) exhibited characteristics consistent with those of 'standard' knives known from sites of the Chernyakhiv-Sântana de Mureş Culture.⁴⁷ However, two knives from grave 223 exhibit distinctive characteristics. The larger knife is notable for its substantial dimensions (length 13.3 cm, blade width 1.7 cm), an elongated handle, the remnants of a ring for suspension at its extremity, and a pronounced notch on the blade. The blade's back is adorned with four

³³ E.L. GOROKHOVSKIY 1988, 45–46.

³⁴ O.V. GOPKALO 2008, 74.

³⁵ I. BEILKE-VOIGT 1998, 52, fig. 58.

³⁶ O.V. GOPKALO 2008, 63–64, pl. VII.

³⁷ I. BEILKE-VOIGT 1998, 52.

³⁸ O.V. GOPKALO 2008, 63.

³⁹ I. BEILKE-VOIGT 1998, 56, fig. 58.

⁴⁰ O.V. GOPKALO 2008, 65, pl. VII.

⁴¹ I. BEILKE-VOIGT 1998, 69–70, map 16, fig. 79.

⁴² YU.V. KUKHARENKO 1955, 140, fig. 4:1, pl. III:32–35 (as *Привольное*).

⁴³ V.V. KROPOTKIN 1981, figs. 70–88 (as *Думанов*); A.V. KROPOTKIN 1983, 275 (as *Думанов*); O.S. MYLASHEVSKIY 2016, fig. 3:III.

⁴⁴ YU.V. KUKHARENKO 1955, pl. III:32–35.

⁴⁵ R. MADYDA-LEGUTKO, J. RODZIŃSKA-NOWAK, J. ZAGÓRSKA-TELEGA 2011a, 47–48; 2011b, pl. XLIII/89:8.9.

⁴⁶ I. BEILKE-VOIGT 1994, 610.

⁴⁷ B.V. MAGOMEDOV 2001, fig. 76; B. STROCEN 2008, fig. 1; GH. DIACONU 1969, fig. 1:1–6.8.10–15.20.22.

engraved transverse lines and rectangular lines between them. The blade is clearly separated from the handle by ledges (Fig. 15:18), a feature that is also seen on knives from the *Barbaricum*.⁴⁸ The second knife is of a more limited length (8.8 cm) and width (1.5 cm). The blade of this knife is designed to smoothly convert into a handle, and features a straight back. The handle is narrow and elongated, and exhibits a square cross-section. It is bent downwards, and forms a loop at the extremity (Fig. 15:19). The presence of a ring at the extremity of the handle of the first knife, in conjunction with a loop handle on the second, suggests that both knives may have been suspended. In this case, an analogy can be drawn with pendants from the western part of the European *Barbaricum* and the area of the Przeworsk Culture, which included a set of miniature tools.⁴⁹ The small knife does not have exact analogies among miniature knives in the I. Beilke-Voigt classification, but only very distant analogies among the knives of type II variant 'c', which are characterised by a straight back, a sickle-shaped blade and a downward curved handle.⁵⁰ A similar miniature knife with a straight back and a handle bent down into a loop was found in burial 147 of the Opatów cemetery.⁵¹ However, 'our' knife is not a miniature tool; it can only be classified as a small-sized product.⁵²

A bronze needle, curved in the shape of the number '8', was found in grave 69. Clay spindle whorls were found in graves 110 (two specimens) (Fig. 9:II.5.6) and 223 (three specimens) (Fig. 15:1–3). All of them are biconical, with bases concave to varying degrees. The spindle whorl from burial 223 is decorated with a 'caterpillar stamp' and flutes along the edge. Grave 69 also contained an iron tool of unknown purpose, consisting of a handle with a square cross-section and a flat working part, shaped like a plate in cross-section.⁵³

It can be posited that the quantity of intended funerary items was greater than that which has been described in this study. This assumption is supported by the results of anthropological analyses of traces preserved on the burnt bones. During the process of cremation and subsequent taphonomic processes, the metal grave goods or their components underwent irreversible changes.

These items are rendered irrecoverable, destroyed, or not placed in the grave with the other remains of the cremation.

CONTENTS OF GRAVES—OUTSTANDING ITEMS

The fragments of a red slip vessel from grave 48 (Fig. 6:15) belong to a bowl of type PRS 4 according to K. Domżański⁵⁴ or Eastern Sigillata A, form 20, variant IV according to J. Hayes.⁵⁵ Such bowls represent one of the most prevalent forms of red slip ware. Their provenance spans from the 1st to first half of the 5th century CE.⁵⁶ It is important to emphasise that the bowl is the sole red slip vessel from a grave in Voitenki to have been discovered thus far. However, within the Chernyakhiv Culture such bowls were designated the type *Voitenki*,⁵⁷ given the rarity of red slip vessels at sites within this culture's forest steppe zone. A greater abundance of red slip pottery has been documented at sites in the northwestern Black Sea region and the Danube region.⁵⁸

The distinctive nature of the *Bügelknopffibel* (knop bow fibula) from grave 114 is characterised by its short trapezoid foot and the presence of three large knobs, fixed at the upper end of the bow and at both endings of the spring.⁵⁹ To date, no other *Bügelknopffibel* with such knobs has been discovered at any other site of the Chernyakhiv-Sântâna de Mureş Culture. A fibula with knobs of a similar size has been found in grave 312 at Pietra Fricatei, a burial ground dating from the Late Roman Iron Age and the beginning of the Migration Period.⁶⁰ The presence of such knobs on the fibula from grave 114 from Voitenki appears to be indicative of the influence of cross bow fibulae with onion-shaped knobs, i.e. *Zwiebelknopffibeln*.⁶¹ It is assumed that the fibula from grave 114 served as an insignia of a similar nature, given that Roman crossbow fibulae with onion-shaped knobs were used as insignia in the Roman Empire, particularly among the army. As far as they were definable these brooches are crossbow fibulae. However, these brooches differ significantly from the standard crossbow brooches of the Chernyakhiv Culture. The presence in the same assemblage of a brooch with features of *Bügelknopf*- and *Zwiebelknopffibel*, along with a pair of spurs of type *Leuna*, is unique in both the entire *Barbaricum*.⁶²

⁴⁸ E. DROBERJAR, J. ŠPAČEK 2003, figs. 9:1, 11:1, 12:5.

⁴⁹ I. BEILKE-VOIGT 1998, fig. 53; K. GODŁOWSKI 1980, 91, fig. 6:a/2.

⁵⁰ I. BEILKE-VOIGT 1998, 17, fig. 14.

⁵¹ K. GODŁOWSKI 1980, 91, fig. 6:a/2.

⁵² Beilke-Voigt's distinction between 'miniature' and 'small' forms is well-defined. The former refers to smaller copies of large forms (tools) that are unable to perform their intended functions and thus possess a novel semantic meaning. In contrast, 'small' forms are capable of fulfilling their intended functions in a manner analogous to their larger counterparts (I. BEILKE-VOIGT 1998, 12).

⁵³ M.V. LYUBICHEV 2009, 76, fig. 4:4.

⁵⁴ T.M. ARSEN'EVA, K. DOMŻALSKI 2002, 427, fig. 13.

⁵⁵ J.W. HAYES 1985, pls. II, XXIII.

⁵⁶ B.V. MAGOMEDOV, S.V. DIDENKO 2009, 322.

⁵⁷ B.V. MAGOMEDOV, S.V. DIDENKO 2009, 322.

⁵⁸ B.V. MAGOMEDOV, S.V. DIDENKO 2009, fig. 1.

⁵⁹ E. SCHULTZE, M.V. LYUBICHEV 2017, fig. 4.

⁶⁰ P. AURELIAN 1962, fig. 5:1.

⁶¹ M.V. LYUBICHEV, E. SCHULTZE 2023, 336, fig. 2:2.

⁶² E. SCHULTZE, M.V. LYUBICHEV 2017, 281, 283, 285, 288–289.

In the grave 144 silver fittings of a wooden vessel were found (Fig. 11:II). Except for a tiny silver fragment from grave 190, these silver objects were the only things made of this precious metal that were found in cremation graves of the Voitenki cemetery. The fittings are composed of strips of silver sheet, forming a circle with a diameter of approximately 12.2 centimetres. It can be assumed that the fittings were originally wrapped over the rim of a vessel.⁶³

In the area of the Chernyakhiv Culture only one grave—Cherneliv Ruskiy/Чернелів-Руський, grave 298—with silver fitting of a vessel is known so far.⁶⁴ Wooden vessels with silver fittings are known from Central Europe, for example from Barup, grave 2, and Hassleben, grave 8,⁶⁵ and from the grave from Gommern.⁶⁶ Wooden vessels with silver fittings usually were components of graves, which included further objects of precious metal(s). Often the rich grave goods of these graves are evidence for associating the buried person with social elite.⁶⁷ In contrast, beside the silver-bordered vessel, grave 144 included merely an urn, despite the fact that it was an enormous three-handled vase that had not been burned secondarily. However, the presence of iron and copper/copper-containing alloys on some cremated bones suggests that the original equipment of the deceased may have comprised additional metal components.

Grave 69 contained a set of glass counters, of which 15 were intact and 15 were fragments (Fig. 7:3). Sets of glass counters are quite common in the rich graves (both inhumations and cremations) across the *Barbaricum*, from the Rhine to the Vistula and further east,⁶⁸ within the area of the Chernyakhiv Culture.⁶⁹ Grave 69 also contained a bent bronze knife (Fig. 8:8). Similarities to Roman *scalpellus* and *spatula* imply that it was a medical instrument of Roman origin, which could be used here for a variety of purposes.⁷⁰

In grave 223, a metal mounting of a wooden casket was discovered (Fig. 15:5). The iron plate, a lock escutcheon, belongs to type 2 according to the classification of A. Kokowski, defined as rectangular, relatively elongated, with a width less than half of the height.⁷¹

EXCURSION: GRAVE 223

Grave 223 exhibits notable parallels with numerous cremation graves of the Late Roman period in the *Barbaricum*. Within the context of the Chernyakhiv Culture, it corresponds to grave 19 from Pryvilne⁷² and grave 67 from Dumaniv,⁷³ while in the context of the Przeworsk Culture, it corresponds to grave 98 of the cemetery in Opatów.⁷⁴

In graves 223 of Voitenki and 19 of Pryvilne, cremated bones were discovered in and beneath overturned urns. In the former, the urn (a ceramic pot) had been burnt secondarily (Fig. 14:I); in the latter, the urn (a ceramic cup) had not been burnt and had a black, polished surface (Fig. 16:A1). Grave 98 of Opatów featured a destroyed urn cremation (Fig. 16:B1–3), while grave 67 of Dumaniv was determined to be a pit grave (Fig. 17), where grave goods were found among the bones. All these burials contained both rosette pendants (Voitenki—two, Pryvilne—six, Dumaniv—one, Opatów—two) (Figs. 15:16.17, 16:A6 & 17:9) and pendants of other types (Voitenki: Beilke-Voigt A—six, Pryvilne: Beilke-Voigt A—22, Dumaniv: Beilke-Voigt A—one, Gopkalo II/7—one; Opatów: Beilke-Voigt H—two, Gopkalo II/7—one) (Figs. 15:9–14, 16:A5 & 16:A4.5).

In graves 223 from Voitenki and 67 from Dumaniv, metal fittings of wooden caskets were identified: in the former, a lock mounting (Fig. 15:5), and in the latter, a lock mounting, a key, and a blocking bolt (Fig. 17:6–8). Each of these graves contained three clay spindle whorls (see Fig. 15:1–3), with the latter grave also including iron spindle pins (see Fig. 17:1.3). In contrast, only one spindle whorl was found in grave 98 from Opatów (see Fig. 16:B16).

Iron knives were found in the discussed graves of Voitenki (two), Pryvilne (one) and Opatów (one) (Figs. 15:18.19, 16:A3 & 16:B13), and one iron awl each in the graves of Pryvilne and Opatów (Figs. 16:A2 & 16:B10). Beads were found in two complexes: one polychrome glass bead in Voitenki, grave 223 (Fig. 16:A2), eight carnelian beads in Pryvilne, grave 19 (Fig. 16:A4). Fragments of melted glass vessels came from the graves at Voitenki (Fig. 15:8) and Opatów. Fragments of a comb were found among the bones in grave 223 from Voitenki. Grave 67 from Dumaniv contained a whole iron comb with a hole in the back (Fig. 17:5).

These graves show similarities in the burial rite and the composition of the inventory. The appearance of some objects in one of the discussed graves which are

⁶³ E. SCHULTZE, M.V. LIUBYCHEV 2020.

⁶⁴ I.P. GERETA 2016, 89–90, fig. 150:11.12.15.16.

⁶⁵ A. BECKER 2006, 356, 398, 421.

⁶⁶ M. BECKER 2010, 149–151, fig. 1.

⁶⁷ M. GEBÜHR 1998, 191–193.

⁶⁸ For the Wielbark Culture see K. SKÓRA 2020, 218–220 (with further references).

⁶⁹ M.V. LYUBYCHEV 2009, 75–76; M.V. LYUBYCHEV, E. SCHULTZE 2013, 251–257, fig. 1.

⁷⁰ M.V. LYUBYCHEV 2009, 73, 77.

⁷¹ A. KOKOWSKI 1997, 13, fig. 6:2.

⁷² YU.V. KUKHARENKO 1955, 140, fig. 4:1, pl. III:23–44.

⁷³ V.V. KROPOTKIN 1981, figs. 70–88; A.V. KROPOTKIN 1983, 275.

⁷⁴ R. MADYDA-LEGUTKO, J. RODZIŃSKA-NOWAK, J. ZAGÓRSKA-TELEGA 2011a, 47–48; 2011b, pl. XLIII–XLIV/98.

absent in the other (an iron ring in Pryvilne, a fragment of a pendant from the coronet of a deer antler in Voitenki, a pin and a brooch with returned foot, an iron object of unknown purpose in Dumaniv, a number of fragments of iron objects in Opatów) does not affect this conclusion. Moreover, the rosette pendants are the main unifying detail of the grave goods, on the basis of which other connections between the attributes of the inventory are visible. Is it possible that these graves belonged to the same group of the female subculture within a community? M. Tempelmann-Mączyńska even considered the appearance of rosette pendants in the area of the Chernyakhiv Culture as an influence of the Przeworsk Culture.⁷⁵ However, due to the still very small number of samples, this is only a hypothesis.

COMPARISON OF SOME GRAVE GOODS IN CREMATION AND INHUMATION GRAVES IN VOITENKI

Based on the presence of fragments of vessels of various types, it is possible to assert that there were ‘incomplete dinner services’⁷⁶ in graves 2, 114, and perhaps even a ‘complete dinner service’ in grave 48. Among the inhumations, such services were found in 25 graves. This frequency is significantly higher than that observed in cremation graves. It is acknowledged that ceramic vessels are susceptible to damage during the cremation process, and that often only a small part of the pottery was recovered from the pyre and buried. However, ceramics were less significantly damaged by the burial rites when compared to other grave goods. Consequently, it can be deduced that the ‘dinner service’ was less customary in cremation graves than in inhumation graves.

As previously stated, glass vessels were present in cremation graves 7, 69, 110, 216, and 223. Furthermore, glass vessels belonging to one group were found in both cremation and inhumation graves: bowls with a melted rim of the *Weklice* type in graves 110 (cremation) and 211 (inhumation), with soldered drops of blue glass (*Nuppenbecher*) in graves 102 (inhumation) and 226 (cremation). Glass vessels of other types were found in five inhumation graves.

As previously mentioned, the knob bow fibula with onion-shaped knobs was present in cremation grave 114.

However, a knob bow fibula (*Bügelknopffibel*) was also discovered in the inhumation grave 183.⁷⁷

In addition to the cremation graves 110 and 226 discussed here, carnelian beads have been found in 14 other cremations and 16 inhumations. A polychrome glass bead was found in grave 223, and polychrome beads are also known from inhumation graves 23, 217 and 231.

Buckles with iron frames and pins were found in cremation grave 69 and eight inhumation graves, among them two specimens with prongs of non-ferrous metal.

At the burial ground, bucket-like pendants have been identified in cremation grave 223. Four iron pendants and one made of non-ferrous metal (Beilke-Voigt type A/Gopkalo type II/2a) were discovered in the cultural layer of the cemetery. It is possible that they are remains of destroyed cremation graves. Such pendants have been identified in seven inhumation graves, with the number of pendants per grave ranging from one to three. However, inhumation grave 176 is notable for its 27 bucket-like pendants, the majority of which also belong to the type Beilke-Voigt A/Gopkalo II/2a.

In grave 48 a pyramidal antler pendants were found and such objects come also from cremation graves 52 and 67, and from inhumation graves 167, 215 and 231.⁷⁸ The number of pendants per grave varies, ranging from one to a six. Except for grave 223, pendants from the coronet of a red deer antler are known from cremation graves 52 and 227, and from inhumation grave 111. Graves 2 and 110 produced fragments of antler combs, which had been registered in 12 other cremations and 30 inhumations.

Iron knives were found in cremation graves 48, 69 and 223, as well as in grave 128 and 21 inhumations. In addition to cremation graves 110 and 223, clay spindle whorls are known from three other cremation graves, the cenotaph (grave 1) and 19 inhumation graves.

In addition to cremation grave 223, the lock mounting type Kokowski 2 was found in inhumation grave 124. In general, metal component of wooden caskets were found in both cremations and inhumations.⁷⁹

These data show that inhumation and cremation graves were equipped with similar grave goods, being however much less represented in the cremation graves. For completely preserved cremation and inhumation graves, a table shows the ‘standard elements’ of the inventories and their percentages (Table 2; Fig. 20). The comparison between cremations and inhumations highlights the expected differences between the two types of burial rites. In cremation graves, the percentage of grave goods is much

⁷⁵ M. TEMPELMANN-MĄCZYŃSKA 1989, 78.

⁷⁶ The ‘incomplete dinner service’ comprises a selection of ceramic vessels (pots, bowls, a vase, a vase with three handles, and jugs), but it does not include a beaker. The ‘complete dinner service’ encompasses pots, bowls, a vase, a three-handled vase, jugs (though in some cases, the jugs may be absent), and a beaker (though it may be located within a vase). It should be noted that the set may also include a glass beaker or cup (E. SCHULTZE, M.V. LYUBICHEV 2018, 122, fig. 3).

⁷⁷ M.V. LYUBICHEV, E. SCHULTZE 2023, fig. 4:2.

⁷⁸ E. SCHULTZE, M.V. LYUBICHEV, A.D. KOZAK 2020, fig. 3:8–11.

⁷⁹ O.S. MYLASHEVSKIY 2016, 72.

| | Cremation graves (n = 111) | | Inhumation graves (n = 84) | |
|------------------|-------------------------------|------|-------------------------------|------|
| | number | % | number | % |
| Glass vessel(s) | 6 | 5,4 | 8 | 9,5 |
| Brooch(es) | 5 | 4,5 | 38 | 45,2 |
| Buckle(s) | 6 | 5,4 | 26 | 30,5 |
| Beads | 17 | 15,3 | 33 | 39,3 |
| Pendant(s) | 7 | 6,3 | 18 | 21,4 |
| Comb | 14 | 12,6 | 29 | 34,5 |
| Knife(Knives) | 5 | 4,5 | 16 | 19 |
| Spindle whorl(s) | 6 | 5,4 | 16 | 19 |

Table 2. Cemetery Voitenki. Comparison of the inventories in cremation and inhumation graves.
Tab. 2. Cmentarzysko Voitenki. Porównanie inwentarzy grobów ciepłalnych i inhumacyjnych.

lower. In the case of glass or bone objects, the proportion in inhumations is at least double that in cremation graves. Combs or small glass beads are not heat resistant and would certainly have been destroyed during cremation. It is noteworthy, however, that the proportion of metal objects in inhumation graves is at least three times higher than in cremation graves, and in the case of brooches even eight times higher. These objects are more resistant to heat and should not be greatly reduced by cremation. Here, the rituals of collecting the cremated remains and preparing them for burial may have further reduced the original equipment.

In each of the two groups of burials, rare and exclusive objects are presented in individual cases.

SIGNIFICANCE OF THE SELECTED GRAVES FOR THE RECONSTRUCTION OF THE SOCIAL STRUCTURE

The reconstruction of the social structure from cemetery material is based on the postulate that the quantity, quality and value of the inventory, the furnishings and the form of the grave are related to the social position and rank of the deceased, that the personal effects and the contents of the grave are equivalent to the possessions of his lifetime, and that the burial rites reflect legal and religious ideas.⁸⁰ The grave, however, does not reflect real social relations, but only describes the world of images of the society in which the deceased was buried at the discretion of the bereaved, not at the discretion of the deceased.⁸¹ The grave is the unequal reproduction of an ancient society that does not directly reflect the social structure.⁸²

Cremation graves exhibit a reduced range in comparison to inhumation graves. According to H.-J. Eggers,⁸³ if a grave represents a positive selection under known circumstances, then cremation graves are already the second positive selection from the first, which provides for the placement of the corpse in its clothing on the scaffolding made of wooden fuel, the laying down of the selected inventory. In the second selection post-cremation, the remains of the person (which may include minute animal bones or fragments of the inventory) are gathered and placed in the grave in a different manner.

This “second selection” of cremation graves is characterised by the absence of grave constructions that are characteristic of inhumation graves (e.g. pit with niche, pit with horizontal shelf). Additionally, the inventory is often damaged and fragmented, indicating that it was not transported into the grave in its entirety. Consequently, ascertaining the precise age and sex of the deceased from these remains is rendered arduous, if not wholly unfeasible.

This selection has a significant impact on the reconstruction of the social structure in an ancient society, taking into account a burial ground. The sociology of the features (construction of grave, inventory, burial rites, grave furniture according to age and sex) can only be discovered through a comparative analysis of the totality of graves concerning one or several characteristics.⁸⁴

N.M. Kravchenko supposed that the objects that make up the grave furnishings are ambiguous as to their function in ritual and symbolism. Therefore, it is not possible to rely on the social meaning of the quantity of entities in a grave.⁸⁵ The grave furniture was divided into four groups by the researcher (A–D). Group A included items

⁸⁰ H. STEUER 1982, 250; K. CZARNECKA 1990, 126; T. GÄRTNER 2012, 151; K. SKÓRA 2020, 35–38.

⁸¹ H. STEUER 1982, 73, 440; 1994, 11; J. SCHUSTER 2014, 7, 36–37.

⁸² H. STEUER 1982, 73, 74; M. RAVN 2003, 12; K. CZARNECKA 1990, 124; K. SKÓRA 2020, 35–38, 283–285.

⁸³ H.J. EGGERS 1951, 26–27.

⁸⁴ N.M. KRAVCHENKO 1987, 210.

⁸⁵ N.M. KRAVCHENKO 1987, 210.

of ‘offering’ (ceramic and glass vessels,⁸⁶ animal bones as remains of sacrificial meal). These items are of significant social value and can be regarded as an independent criterion. Group B consists of jewellery, clothing accessories, and personal effects that represent the personal property of the buried individual. These items do not directly reflect their social status and appear as sociological characteristics only in connection with group A. Group C contains items of manufacturing and everyday life, of symbolic or cultic meaning, and items of armament (as a subgroup).⁸⁷

The determination of these groups has been made for inhumation graves, with a particular focus on those oriented towards the north. Group D consists of artefacts originating exclusively from cremation graves and the cultural layer of the burial ground. These artefacts include fragments of ceramic and glass vessels, as well as other categories of objects that were intentionally broken and show evidence of deformation due to heat during incineration.

The artefacts have been divided into subgroups according to the degree of their preservation. The first subgroup consists of items that have been intentionally smashed or damaged by fire and have been completely placed together with the remains of incineration. The second subgroup consists of items that have been intentionally smashed or damaged by fire, with fragments of these items being occasionally placed in the grave.⁸⁸ N.M. Kravchenko assumed that the sociological concept of the grave goods of group D is identical to that of group A, but with a different cultic background. The former is defined as an ‘offering’ in inhumation graves, while the latter, in cremation graves without urns, is considered a ‘funeral feast’. It is important to note that both of these groups reflect the social function of the rite.⁸⁹

N.M. Kravchenko believed that any comparison of inventory characteristics with the aim of sociological analysis should first be carried out within the framework of either cremations or inhumations, taking into account the functional nature of the inventory.⁹⁰ But then, with the objective of social reconstruction of all population groups, a comparison of characteristics in the inventory of two ritual groups is necessary, even in the light of the heterogeneity of their selection.

The combination of qualitative and quantitative attributes reflects the individual characteristics of each grave, thereby embodying a social aspect. Graves with equal or similar positions stand out in the social hierarchy due to similarity-difference of individual characteristics.⁹¹ The consideration of groups of inventory and their interrelations can only mark general groups within a hierarchical structure of society.

The inventories of the Voitenki graves analysed here contain objects of the above-mentioned groups B, C and D according to the classification of N.M. Kravchenko.⁹² A table provides an overview about their occurrence and combination of the groups (Table 3). There the graves are not registered according to number or grave types, but sequenced concerning the number of ceramic types and the number of ceramic vessels respectively. Furthermore the table distinguishes pieces in contents of a grave we consider as status symbol. Within group D many types of ceramic vessels or numerous vessels per grave are not mandatory combined with a glass vessel or animal bones. Items of group B have been found in 11 of the 12 selected graves; grave-goods of group C nearly in half of them. There is no special connection detectable between the number of items of these groups and extend of ceramic equipment. The status symbols are also not strictly combined with a special equipment of group D. Though a simple subdivision of the graves is possible:

- only one grave (230) contained objects of group D,
- five graves (2, 7, 31, 216, and 226) contained objects of groups B and D,
- one grave (110) contained objects of groups B, C and D,
- five graves (48, 69, 114, 144, and 223) contained objects of groups B and D or B, C and D, including status symbols.

This could show the different social positions of the people buried there. There is a clear difference between ‘small’, ‘ordinary’ and ‘outstanding’ grave inventories.

In grave 114, the presence of brooches and a pair of spurs serves to emphasise the high social status of the buried person, as well as indicating a profession such as military service (‘warrior’, ‘officer’) or a profession that was different from the local community (‘immigrant’) (Fig.10).⁹³ In grave 69, the evidence for the deceased’s occupation (‘physician?’), indicates the high status of the

⁸⁶ As GOPKALO (2015, 27; 2016, 77) considers glass vessels to be personal objects that mark status, in our view they can belong to both the ‘offering’ (A) and ‘personal objects’ (B) categories in each particular case in their role as status markers.

⁸⁷ N.M. KRAVCHENKO 1987, 211.

⁸⁸ N.M. KRAVCHENKO 1987, 212.

⁸⁹ N.M. KRAVCHENKO 1987, 212.

⁹⁰ N.M. KRAVCHENKO 1987, 213.

⁹¹ N.M. KRAVCHENKO 1987, 213.

⁹² The majority of the vessels and ceramic sherds were burnt, including the urns of graves 2, 110, 216, and 230. However, the urn from grave 144 and certain fragments from grave 114 (vessels 1, 4, 10, 13, and 15) exhibited no evidence of fire, as did the animal bones from grave 110. Consequently, these elements could be considered for inclusion in group A.

⁹³ E. SCHULTZE, M.V. LYUBICHEV 2017, 289.

| Grave | Grave type | Grave-goods of group B (вид Б) | Grave-goods of group C (вид В) | Grave-goods of group D (вид Г) types (a) and number (b) of vessels; glass vessels (c); animal bones (d) | | | | Status symbol |
|-------|------------|--------------------------------|---------------------------------------|---|----|---|---|------------------------------------|
| | | | | a | b | c | d | |
| 114 | II | brooch | spurs | 4 | 13 | | | unique brooch, spurs |
| 48 | I | comb, pendant | knife | 4 | 12 | | | red slip bowl |
| 2 | I | comb, metal item | | 4 | 7 | | × | |
| 31 | II | beads | | 3 | 8 | | × | |
| 216 | I | beads | | 3 | 4 | 1 | | |
| 230 | I | | | 3 | 4 | | | |
| 7 | II | beads | | 2 | 2 | 1 | | |
| 110 | I | comb, beads | spindle whorls | 2 | 2 | 1 | × | |
| 144 | I | metal items | | 1 | 1 | | | silver fittings of a wooden vessel |
| 226 | I | beads | | 1 | 1 | 1 | | |
| 223 | I | beads, pendants | spindle whorls, casket | 1 | 1 | 1 | × | unique pendants, casket |
| 69 | II | belt buckle | knives, metal objects, glass counters | 0 | 0 | 1 | | glass counters, scalpel |

Table 3. Cemetery Voitenki. Classification of the selected graves based on functional groups of items in the inventories (after N.M. KRAVCHENKO 1987).

Tab. 3. Cmentarzysko w Voitenkach. Klasyfikacja wybranych grobów na podstawie funkcjonalnych grup elementów wyposażenia (wg N.M. KRAVCHENKO 1987).

deceased (Figs. 7 & 8). An analysis of grave 48 has revealed the presence of a child. This grave contained a red slip bowl, an artefact that further enhances the grave's significance (Fig. 6:15). A comparable occurrence was observed in Voitenki, wherein a Roman amphora was found in an inhumation grave of a child (Fig. 20:I.1).⁹⁴

The frequency of cremation graves with a status symbol can be explained by the selection criteria employed in this study. In contrast to the majority of cremations, the selected burials are not of individuals of low socio-economic status.

Anthropological analysis has revealed that individuals of various genders, ages, including adults and children, have been buried in both cremation graves with urn and cremation graves without urn. The analysis of inventory in both groups of cremation graves indicates their similarity. At the same time, the similarity between the cremation and inhumation graves, according to the inventory, suggests that spiritualism and different burial rites reflect different last stages of life in each cemetery.

Anthropological analysis of three graves revealed that one individual was buried in two urns, while in one grave two individuals were buried in one urn. As previously mentioned, cremation graves with two urns for

a single individual represent a distinctive type within the cemeteries of the Chernyakhiv-Sântana de Mureş Culture. Illustrative examples of this phenomenon can be observed in graves 38 and 49 of the cemetery from Кам'янка-Дніпровська/Кам'янка-Дніпровська. In the first case, a mere notation exists, stating that "calcined bones are deposited in two pots standing side by side". However, in the second case, a more detailed description is provided,⁹⁵ stating that "bones of one deceased (possibly a child) have been placed in two pots standing side by side". This prompts the question of the number of individuals buried in the cemetery. The issue of dual (or multiple) cremation graves has been conclusively identified in the context of the Tîrgşor cemetery. The anthropological analysis of cremation graves from the published material was conducted by D. Nicolăescu-Plopşor and W. Wolski.⁹⁶ However, Gh.A. Niculescu considered them insufficient, not even offering to determine the sex of the deceased. He proposed that the presence of two urns or a compact accumulation of bones beside them could be used to identify double cremation graves without

⁹⁴ E. SCHULTZE, M.V. LIUBYCHEV, A.D. KOZAK 2020.

⁹⁵ E.O. SYMONOVICH 1955, 289, fig. 6:1-3.6.7.12 (as Кам'янка-Дніпровська).

⁹⁶ D. NICOLĂESCU-PLOPŞOR, W. WOLSKI 1969.

Table 4. Cemetery Voitenki. Indicators of skeletal remains from selected cremation graves.*

Tab. 4. Cmentarzysko Voitenki. Wskaźniki szczątków kostnych z wybranych grobów ciałaopalnych.

| No. | Weight | Temperature** of cremation | Number of individuals | Age-at-death*** | Sex**** |
|-----|--------|-------------------------------|--------------------------|---|--------------|
| 2 | 646 g | 300–900°C | 1 | <i>adultus-senilis</i> (>25) | male? |
| 31 | 165 g | 400–600°C | 1 | <i>iuvenis-adultus</i> (17–35) | undetermined |
| 48 | 88 g | 400–800°C | 1 | <i>infans</i> I–II | – |
| 110 | 213 g | 400–900°C | 1 | <i>adultus</i> (20–35) | undetermined |
| 144 | 740 g | 300–800°C | 1 | <i>iuvenis-adultus</i> (15–25) | ambiguous |
| 216 | 491 g | 300–800°C | 1 | <i>iuvenis-adultus</i> (17–25) | male |
| 223 | 695 g | 1. 300–800°C 2. 500–700°C | 2 | 1. <i>iuvenis-maturus</i> (17–45) 2. <i>infans</i> I–II (>1) | 1. female? |
| 226 | 308 g | 300–900°C | 1 | <i>iuvenis-adultus</i> (17–35) | female? |
| 230 | 62 g | 700–800°C | 1 | <i>adultus-senilis</i> (>30) | female? |

* The analysis of burnt bone remains was conducted using established anthropological and forensic methods (see: G. ACSÁDI, J. NEMESKÉRI 1970; J. SZILVÁSSY 1988; M. SCHAEFER, S. BLACK, L. SCHEUER 2009; V.P. ALEKSEEV, G.F. DEBETS 1964; J.E. BUIKSTRA, D.H. UBELAKER 1994; P. HOLCK 1997; S. MAYS 2002; D.R. BROTHWELL 1981; B. HERRMANN 1988; B. HERRMANN *ET ALII* 1990; M. DOKLÁDAL 1999; B. GROSSKOPF 2004; C. SCHMIDT, S. SYMES 2008; J.B. DEVLIN, N.P. HERRMANN 2008; P. WALKER, K. MILLER, R. RICHMAN 2008; J. LOGAN 2002; L. SELWYN 2004; T. SLOBODYAN, R. TERPILOVSKIJ 2021; D. ORTNER, W. PUTSCHAR 1981).

** The determination of the burning temperature was conducted in accordance with the protocol outlined by P. WALKER, K. MILLER and R. RICHMAN (2008), with the colour of the preserved bone remains serving as the primary indicator.

*** The individual ages-at-death were classified into six general age groups, as recommended by V.P. ALEKSEEV and G.F. DEBETS (1964): *infans* I – up to 6–7 years old; *infans* II – up to 13–14 years old; adolescence (*iuvenis*) – 13–20 years; adults (*adultus*) – up to 30–35 years; matures (*maturus*) – up to 50–55 years; elderly (*senilis*) – over 55 year.

**** The following categories are employed for the purpose of recording sex estimates: male, female, male?, female?, ambiguous sex, and undetermined sex (J. BUIKSTRA, D. UBELAKER 1994).

the need for an anthropological analysis.⁹⁷ However, the anthropological analysis of the cremation graves from Voitenki presented here shows other results: In graves 2, 110 and 216, a single individual was detected in two urns, while in grave 223, an adult and a child were found in a single urn. The double (or multi-) cremation graves have been the subject of significant academic study in the cemeteries of the Przeworsk Culture, including in the Liswarta River region.⁹⁸

Finally, the results of our reconstruction of a hierarchical structure do not exceed the scope of the thesis that a social reconstruction based on grave finds rarely leads to the classification of well-defined social groups. The results obtained demonstrate the presence of groups within communities rather than a differentiated social structure. The results of the reconstruction of a hierarchical structure demonstrate that the classification of well-defined social groups is rarely achieved through the analysis of grave finds. The archaeological records

indicate the presence of a division of society into two groups: an ‘upper class’ and the ‘rest of the population.’ Additionally, a profession-based division of the population is identified.⁹⁹

CONCLUSIONS

The results of the archaeological and anthropological analyses of 12 cremation graves are, naturally, preliminary due to the small number of graves selected from the Voitenki graveyard:

1. With the exception of one grave, all of the anthropologically determined graves contained the cremated bones of a single individual. In two cases, the remains of a deceased individual were divided between two vessels. The only double grave included a child and an adult, both of whom were interred in a single urn. It can thus be concluded that the contents of the majority of graves are representative of the furnishings and equipment of a single individual;

⁹⁷ GH.A. NICULESCU 1993, 198.

⁹⁸ K. CZARNECKA 1990, 94; A. WIŚNIEWSKA 1999; J. ZAGÓRSKA-TELEGA 2019, 78, 131.

⁹⁹ H. STEUER 1982, 256.

2. The ceramic fragments and vessels were found in varying numbers and in various combinations. This could be indicative of the deceased's social standing, with higher status individuals potentially having more elaborate funerary feasts. The presence of a substantial ceramic collection in graves does not necessarily imply a direct correlation with other artefacts;

3. Furthermore, the inventories are known to include personal belongings such as ornaments, accessories, combs and small tools, categorised as 'standard elements'. Glass vessels and animal bones have been frequently unearthed, albeit not with any great frequency. It is important to note that the appearance of all objects in the graves is reduced due to cremation. Nevertheless, differences in the equipment of the graves can be observed;

4. In five graves, objects were found that fell outside the aforementioned 'standard elements'. These included spurs, unique ornaments or pendants, silver fittings, a red slip bowl, gaming accessories, a casket and a scalpel. These artefacts were interpreted as status symbols, indicative not only of material prosperity or a higher social position, but also of the specific role or function of the deceased in their community. Furthermore, these objects can also be indicative of the deceased's profession or the specific role they fulfilled within their community.

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WYBRANE GROBY CIAŁOPALNE Z CMENTARZYSKA Z PÓZNEGO OKRESU WPŁYWÓW RZYMSKICH W MIEJSCOWOŚCI VOITENKI (WSCHODNIA UKRAINA): ANALIZY ARCHEOLOGICZNE I ANTROPOLOGICZNE W CELU REKONSTRUKCJI STRUKTURY SPOŁECZNEJ

STRESZCZENIE

Studia nad grobami ciałałpalnymi z nekropoli kultury czerniachwskiej-Sântana de Mureş trwają już od ponad pół wieku. Przedmiotem naszego projektu badawczego są 232 groby z cmentarzyska w miejscowości Voitenki/Воїтенки (rej. bogoduhowski, obw. charkowski w Ukrainie), badanego w latach 2005–2020. Wśród nich znajduje się 118 grobów ciałałpalnych. Zespół stanowisk z późnego okresu wpływów rzymskich i wczesnej fazy okresu wędrówek ludów w Voitenkach położony jest 2,5 km na północ od linii wododziału Dniepr-Doniec, na obu (południowym i północnym) zboczach podmokłego wąwozu. Osada zajmuje południowe (odcinki A–C) i północne (odcinek D) zbocza przylegające do bezimiennego strumienia; powyżej osady na południowym zboczu znajduje się cmentarzysko (Ryc. 1). Na odcinkach A i D reprezentowane są dwa horyzonty późnego okresu wpływów rzymskich ze strefy lasostępu dniprzeńsko-donieckiego: horyzont *Boromyia* (fazy C_{1b}–C₂) i horyzont „klasycznej” kultury czerniachwskiej (fazy C₃–D₁). Na odcinkach B i C dotychczas zarejestrowano wyłącznie materiały z horyzontu „klasycznej” kultury czerniachwskiej. Groby na cmentarzysku datowane są na fazy C₃–D₁ w ujęciu J. TEJRALA (1992, 234–246) lub fazy B–E horyzontu „klasycznej” kultury czerniachwskiej w tej strefie, w ujęciu M.V. LYUBICHEVA (2019b, 32–36).

Celem badań była próba rekonstrukcji struktury społecznej na tyle, na ile może być ona rozpoznana na podstawie wyników prac wykopaliskowych. Niektóre spośród grobów ciałałpalnych z tej nekropoli wyróżniają szczegóły rytuału grzebalnego i obecność w ich inwentarzach specyficznych elementów wyposażenia. Te groby, tzw. specjalne, były już przedmiotem naszych analiz. Do opracowania wybrano kilka kolejnych grobów ciałałpalnych, przynoszących dalsze informacje dla studiów nad interesującymi nas zagadnieniami. Są to groby z bogatymi inwentarzami, w skład których wchodzi też przedmioty mogące świadczyć o pozycji społecznej pochowanych w nich osób. Ich dobór opierał się głównie na dwóch kryteriach: inwentarzu ceramicznym i obecności przedmiotów niestandardowych lub unikatowych.

Groby 2, 7, 31, 48 i 144 zlokalizowane były w skupisku pochówków ciałałpalnych, a groby 69, 110, 114, 216, 223, 226 i 230 na północny wschód od niej (Ryc. 1). Można wyróżnić wśród nich dwa typy: groby popielnicowe (typ I) i bezpopielnicowe (typ II: groby 7, 31, 69, 114); w grobach popielnicowych złożono jedną (48, 144, 223, 226, 230) lub dwie (2, 110, 216) urny.

We wszystkich (z wyjątkiem grobu 69) znaleziono szczątki naczyń ceramicznych. Garnki, misy, wazy, dzbanki i kubki/pucharki to formy typowe dla ceramiki kultury czerniachwskiej robionej przy użyciu koła garncarskiego; fragmenty ceramiki czerwono polewanej (*red slip ware*) z grobu 48 (Ryc. 6:15) należą do misy typu PRS 4 w klasyfikacji K. Domżałskiego (T.M. ARSENEVA, K. DOMŻAŁSKI 2002, 427, ryc. 13).

O ile popielnice zachowały się w całości lub w większej części, o tyle pozostałe naczynia reprezentowane są tylko przez nieliczne, czy nawet pojedyncze fragmenty. W czterech grobach popielnicami były garnki, w jednym waza. W dwóch grobach znajdowały się po dwie popielnice: w grobie 2 dwa garnki (Ryc. 3:2.3), w grobie 110 – garnek i kubek/pucharek (Ryc. 9:II.1.2). W połowie z analizowanych grobów znaleziono fragmenty naczyń szklanych. Sprzączki do pasa należą do metalowych elementów stroju, paciorki i zawieszki reprezentują osobistą biżuterię. W grobie 223 odkryto sześć żelaznych wisiorów wiaderkowatych i dwa wisiorów rozetkowe, składające się z większego cylindra centralnego z kabłąkiem, otoczonego ośmioma mniejszymi cylindrami (Ryc. 15:9–17). W *Barbaricum* w późnym okresie wpływów rzymskich zawieszki rozet-

kowe występują sporadycznie, ale są rozproszone na dużym obszarze: w dorzeczu Łaby, Meklemburgii i Holsztynie oraz na obszarach kultur przeworskiej i czerniachwskiej. Zawieszki z poroża jeleniego znaleziono w grobach 48 (piramidalna; Ryc. 6:3) i 223 (z róży; Ryc. 15:4). W grobach 2, 48 i 110 odkryto fragmenty przepalonych grzebieni. Do przedmiotów tzw. gospodarstwa domowego należą noże, igły i wrzeciona. Wyjątkowe są tu dwa noże z grobu 223 (Ryc. 15:18.19). Obecność pierścienia na końcu trzpienia rękojeści pierwszego z nich i zagięty w pętlę trzpień rękojeści drugiego sugerują, że oba noże były przywieszane. W grobie 223 odkryto żelazne okucie zamka drewnianej skrzyneczki (Ryc. 15:5).

Szczególny zespół tworzą zabytki z grobu 114: zapinka typu *Bügelknopffibel* z cebulowatymi guzkami charakterystycznymi dla *Zwiebelknopffibeln* i parą ostróg typu *Leuna*. W grobie 144 znaleziono srebrne okucia krawędzi naczyń drewnianego. Drewniane naczynia z okuciami z tego metalu były zwykle elementami bogatych wyposażzeń grobowych, w których skład wchodziły przedmioty z metali szlachetnych. Świadczy to, że pochowane w nich osoby należały do elity społecznej. Grób 69 zawierał zestaw importowanych szklanych żetonów do gry (Ryc. 7:3), dość powszechnie spotykanych w wyposażeniach bogatych pochówków (inhumacyjnych i ciałałpalnych) w całym *Barbaricum*. W grobie 69 znaleziono nóż z brązu (Ryc. 8:8), podobny do rzymskich skalpeli i sond/szpatulek, co wskazuje, że jest to importowany instrument medyczny, który jednak w *Barbaricum* mógł służyć do innych celów.

Grób 223 (Ryc. 13–15) przypomina, tak pod względem obrządku pogrzebowego, jak i składu inwentarza, kilka innych grobów ciałałpalnych z późnego okresu wpływów rzymskich z *Barbaricum*. Są to m.in. grób 19 z Pryvilne/Привільне (Privolnoye; Ryc. 16:A) i grób 67 z Dumaniva/Думаніва na terenie kultury czerniachwskiej, czy grób 98 z cmentarzyska w Opatowie (Ryc. 16:B) na obszarze kultury przeworskiej.

Groby inhumacyjne i ciałałpalne z cmentarzyska Voitenki wyposażone były podobnie, jednak w grobach ciałałpalnych elementy wyposażenia zachowały się znacznie gorzej. W tabeli zestawiono „standardowe elementy” inwentarzy i ich procentowy udział w odniesieniu do dobrze zachowanych grobów z pochówkami w obu obrządkach (Tab. 2).

Analizy archeologiczne i antropologiczne 12 grobów ciałałpalnych (Tab. 4) pozwoliły stwierdzić, że zawierały one – poza jednym – przepalone szczątki jednej osoby. W dwóch grobach kości umieszczono w dwóch naczyniach. W jednym grobie podwójnym w jednej urnie złożono szczątki dziecka i osoby dorosłej. W grobach stwierdzono obecność różnej liczby fragmentów ceramiki z różnych naczyń, tworzących kilka zestawów (Tab. 1). Bogaty zestaw ceramiki nie był jednak skorelowany z liczbą innych elementów wyposażenia grobowego, do których – jako „elementy standardowe” – należały przedmioty osobiste (ozdoby, przybory, grzebień, małe narzędzia). Naczynia szklane lub kości zwierzęce są w grobach dość częste, ale nie powszechne. W pięciu grobach znaleziono też przedmioty spoza wspomnianego zestawu „elementów standardowych”. Ostrogi, unikatowe ozdoby lub wisiorów, srebrne okucia, miseczka czerwono polewana, akcesoria do gier, skrzyneczka i skalpel/sonda zostały zinterpretowane jako symbole statusu. Wskazują one nie tylko na dobrobyt materialny czy wyższą pozycję społeczną osoby, w której grobie je znaleziono, ale mogą też być świadectwem zajęcia, jakim osoba ta parała się za życia, lub jej szczególnej roli w lokalnej społeczności.

WYKAZ SKRÓTÓW TYTUŁÓW CZASOPISM I WYDAWNICTW WIELOTOMOWYCH

ABBREVIATIONS OF PERIODICALS' AND SERIAL PUBLICATIONS' TITLES

| | |
|---------------------------|---|
| AAC | – „Acta Archaeologica Carpathica”, Kraków |
| AAHung. | – „Acta Archaeologica Academiae Scientiarum Hungaricae”, Budapest |
| AFB | – „Arbeits- und Forschungsberichte zur sächsischen Bodendenkmalpflege”, Berlin (Stuttgart) |
| Amtl. Ber. | – „Amtlicher Bericht über die Verwaltung der naturgeschichtlichen, vorgeschichtlichen und volkskundlichen Sammlungen des Westpreußischen Provinzial-Museums für das Jahr...”, (później: „Amtlicher Bericht über die Verwaltung der naturhistorischen, archaeologischen und ethnologischen Sammlungen des Westpreußischen Provinzial-Museums für das Jahr...” oraz „Amtlicher Bericht über die Verwaltung der naturgeschichtlichen, vorgeschichtlichen und volkskundlichen Sammlungen des Westpreußischen Provinzial-Museums für das Jahr...”), Danzig |
| APolski | – „Archeologia Polski”, Warszawa |
| APS | – „Archeologia Polski Środkowoschodniej”, Lublin (wcześniej: Lublin-Chełm-Zamość) |
| AR | – „Archeologické rozhledy”, Praha |
| B.A.R. Int. Series | – British Archaeological Reports, International Series, Oxford [BAR Publishing] |
| BerRGK | – „Bericht der Römisch-Germanischen Kommission”, Frankfurt a.M.-Berlin |
| BJahr. | – „Bonner Jahrbücher”, Köln/Bonn |
| BMJ | – „Bodendenkmalpflege in Mecklenburg-Vorpommern”, Lübstorf (wcześniej: „Bodendenkmalpflege in Mecklenburg. Jahrbuch ...”, Schwerin/Rostock/Berlin) |
| CRFB | – Corpus der römischen Funde im europäischen Barbaricum |
| FAP | – „Fontes Archaeologici Posnanienses” (wcześniej: „Fontes Praehistorici”), Poznań |
| Inf.Arch. | – „Informator Archeologiczny. Badania rok ...”, Warszawa |
| InvArch. | – „Inventaria Archaeologica, Pologne”, Warszawa-Łódź |
| JmV | – „Jahresschrift für mitteldeutsche Vorgeschichte”, Halle/Saale |
| JRGZM | – „Jahrbuch des Römisch-Germanischen Zentralmuseums Mainz”, Mainz |
| KHKM | – „Kwartalnik Historii Kultury Materialnej”, Warszawa |
| KSIA | – Краткие сообщения Института археологии Академии наук СССР, Москва |
| MIA | – Материалы и исследования по археологии СССР, Москва |
| MatArch. | – „Materiały Archeologiczne”, Kraków |
| MS | – „Materiały Starożytne”, Warszawa |
| MSiW | – „Materiały Starożytne i Wczesnośredniowieczne”, Warszawa |
| MSROA | – „Materiały i Sprawozdania Rzeszowskiego Ośrodka Archeologicznego”, Rzeszów-Krosno-Sandomierz-Tarnów (-Przemyśl/Tarnobrzeg) |
| MZP | – „Materiały Zachodniopomorskie”, Szczecin |
| PA | – „Památky archeologické” (wcześniej: „Památky archeologické a místopisné”), Praha |
| PArch. | – „Przegląd Archeologiczny”, Poznań |
| PMMAE | – „Prace i Materiały Muzeum Archeologicznego i Etnograficznego w Łodzi. Seria Archeologiczna”, Łódź |
| PomAnt | – „Pomorania Antiqua”, Gdańsk |
| Prahistoria ziem polskich | – <i>Prahistoria ziem polskich</i> , tom I: <i>Paleolit i mezolit</i> (red. W. Chmielewski, W. Hensel), Wrocław-Warszawa-Kraków-Gdańsk 1975; tom II: <i>Neolit</i> (red. W. Hensel, T. Wiślański), Wrocław-Warszawa-Kraków-Gdańsk 1979; tom III: <i>Wczesna epoka brązu</i> (red. A. Gardawski, J. Kowalczyk), Wrocław-Warszawa-Kraków-Gdańsk 1978; tom IV: <i>Od środkowej epoki brązu do środkowego okresu lateńskiego</i> (red. J. Dąbrowski, Z. Rajewski), Wrocław-Warszawa-Kraków-Gdańsk 1979; tom V: <i>Późny okres lateński i okres rzymski</i> (red. J. Wielowiejski), Wrocław-Warszawa-Kraków-Gdańsk 1981 [Ossolineum] |
| Prussia | – „Sitzungsberichte der Altertumsgesellschaft Prussia” (później: „Prussia. Zeitschrift für Heimatkunde”), Königsberg. |
| PZ | – „Praehistorische Zeitschrift”, Berlin-New York |
| RArch. | – „Recherches Archéologiques”, Kraków |
| RB | – „Rocznik Białostocki”, Białystok |
| RGA | – Reallexikon der Germanischen Altertumskunde: 1. edycja: J. Hoops (wyd.), tomy 1–4 (K.J. Trübner, Straßburg 1911–1919), 2. edycja: H. Jankuhn, H. Beck i in. (wyd.), tomy 1–35 (Walter de Gruyter/De Gruyter, Berlin-New York 1973–2007). |
| RO | – „Rocznik Olsztyński”, Olsztyn |
| RosArh. | – „Российская археология”, Москва |
| SJahr. | – „Saalburg Jahrbuch”, Berlin-New York |
| SLA | – „Slovenská archeológia”, Bratislava |
| SovArh. | – „Советская археология”, Москва |
| SprArch. | – „Sprawozdania Archeologiczne”, Kraków |

- SprPMA – „Sprawozdania P.M.A.”, Warszawa
- WA – „Wiadomości Archeologiczne”, „Wiadomości Archeologiczne. Spostrzeżenia lat ostatnich w dziedzinie starożytności krajowych. Czasy przedhistoryczne” (I–IV – 1873–1882); „Wiadomości Archeologiczne. Organ Państwowego Głównego Urzędu Konserwacji Zabytków Przedhistorycznych” (V–IX – 1920–1925); „Wiadomości Archeologiczne. Organ Państwowego Muzeum Archeologicznego” (X–XXII – 1929–1955); „Wiadomości Archeologiczne” (XXIII–XXXI – 1956–1966), „Wiadomości Archeologiczne. Organ Muzealnictwa i Konserwatorstwa Archeologicznego” (XXXII–LV – 1966–2001); „Wiadomości Archeologiczne” (od LVI – 2002), Warszawa
- ZfE – „Zeitschrift für Ethnologie”, Berlin
- ZNUJ – „Zeszyty Naukowe Uniwersytetu Jagiellońskiego”, Kraków
- ZOW – „Z otchłani wieków”, Warszawa

WYKAZ SKRÓTÓW NAZW WYDAWNICTW

ABBREVIATIONS OF PUBLISHING HOUSES NAMES

Zobacz / See:

<http://www.wiadomosci-archeologiczne.pl/Wykaz-skrotow-nazw-wydawnictw,5442.html>

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