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EAST GREEK AND CORINTHIAN POTTERY FROM THE SO-CALLED OLBIAN SUBURB (EXCAVATIONS 2015—2021)

This article deals with East Greek and Corinthian painted wares found during the excavations of the so-called suburb of Olbia. The analysis of the imported painted and plain tableware and special vessels allows us to conclude that the formation of this ceramic complex began in the last quarter of the 6th century BC. Based on this, it is assumed that the development of the territory to the west of Zaiacha Ravine began during this time. The construction of a defensive system with moat and rampart led to the allocation of a new zone of Olbia city due to the growth of the urban population.

Key words: Olbia Pontica, chronology, suburb, East Greek and Corinthian pottery.

Introduction

In the course of seven years (2015—2021), excavations were carried out on the territory of the so-called Olbian suburb within the framework of the Ukrainian-German research project “Ancient Urban Development at the Edge of the Greek Oikumene. Archaeological Research in the Suburban Area of Olbia Pontica” on the basis of the Olbian International Archaeological Expedition of the Institute of Archaeology of NAS of Ukraine¹. The main focus of the project is to study the historical topography of Olbia by means of archaeological research and multidisciplinary

studies on the settlement structure revealed by Yu. I. Kozub to the west of Zaiacha Ravine in Olbia in 1964. Following Yu. I. Kozub, this structure entered historiography as an urban suburb, as mentioned by Herodotus (Herod. IV, 78-79). After geophysical prospection, which helped to define the extent of the suburb to 25 ha², several excavations were made on this territory. The sectors for the investigations were chosen in different areas in order to discover structures of different sizes and, probably, to the extent that could be inferred from the geophysical survey (fig. 1). As a result, it was possible to identify several deepened structures in the mainland and above-ground building objects of different functional purposes: residential and household complexes consisting of dwellings, pits and hearths; the section of a defensive system composed moat and reduced rampart and other constructions which we interpreted as having been used for cult purposes (main publications on the project: Fornasier, Buiskykh, Kuzmiščev, Patzelt, Helfert, Kratzsch 2017; Fornasier, Buiskykh, 2021; Fornasier, Buiskykh, Kuzmishchev 2022; Buiskykh, Fornasier 2022).

The present article attends to one controversial point which remained unexplained after previous excavations. It is about chronology and the archaeological materials from the end of the 6th century BC. Yu. I. Kozub did not associate them with the suburb. She attributed them to a settlement which, from her point of view, existed here earlier and therefore preceded the appearance of the suburb, and she dated the constructions of the suburb to the middle of the 5th century BC (Kozub 1979, c. 3-4). This conclusion was developed with the assumption that the reduction of the Olbian *chora* at the end of the first quarter of the 5th century BC coincided with the appearance of residential structures in the suburb, to which, as the author of this idea believed, the indigenous *chora* inhabitants, in other words barbarians, were

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² The cycle of geophysical research was carried out by Arno Patzelt with financial support of the Fritz Thyssen Foundation.

relocated. According to this interpretation, the suburb itself was considered a kind of reservation for the potential slaves of the *polis* (Марченко 1982, с. 135). This interpretation has managed to gain approval in historiography (Виноградов 1989, с. 101). The decline of the suburb was attributed to events associated with the recolonisation of the *chora* in the first half of the 4th century BC, which only strengthened the assumption of a century and a half of agricultural workers used by the *polis* for work on the *chora* territory (Марченко, 1982, с. 136). It is now clear that all these questions have long been waiting for a full-fledged and reasoned revision.

This is why chronology became one of the main questions while planning the work on the project; it turned out to be the foundation on which all the subsequent interpretation was built. The collection of ceramic materials accumulated during the years of fieldwork turned out to be quite presentable and allowed us not only to define certain buildings accurately enough, but also to make general considerations concerning the chronology of the main stages of the existence of this vast settlement structure, and on this basis to correct the earlier conclusions of the general historical development.

Analytics

In this article, we are interested in the earliest phase associated with the appearance of the so-called suburb and the dating of its early buildings. The basis for detailed dating is several types of imported pottery, first of all, East Greek tableware and Corinthian pottery³. The collection studied consists of 229 fragments and restored tableware and special vessels of East Greek origin, including Chios, and 26 Corinthian pieces, without taking into account those cases where several fragments belonged to the same vessel⁴.

The consideration of East Greek imports in the Ionian colonial centres traditionally begins with

Milesian vessels. These vessels are in the Fikellura style: the rim of a table amphora (fig. 2: 1) and an amphoriskos (fig. 2: 2). The rim, decorated with oblique and not very accurate tongue ornament, most likely belongs to one of the late groups (N, O, P, R, Q according to R. Cook) and is dated within the last third of the 6th century BC (Cook 1936, p. 26-39). Vessels with such decorations are well represented in the ceramic collection of Olbia and Borysthenes (Буйских 2013, кат. 1.10-1.23; 2019, кат. 1.213-1.219). The amphoriskos, the body of which is decorated with a dotted reticulation with crosses and crescents in the lower part, also dates from the third quarter to the end of the 6th century BC (Cook 1936, p. 48-49). The full analogy for such a vessel comes from the excavations of the necropolis of Ialysos in Rhodes (Jacopi 1929, fig. 266). Similar amphoriskoi are known in Olbia, including in the burial of the city necropolis, and in Borysthenes (Буйских 2013, кат. 1.216, 1.222, 1.223, 1.236, 1.241-1.243; 2019, кат. 1.236, 1.240; Скуднова 1988, кат. 232;).

We also found two monochrome Milesian amphoriskoi. A high conical vessel on a flat foot, decorated with thin bands in the bottom part and below the shoulders (fig. 2: 3), is well known in ceramic complexes of the end of the 6th century BC in Olbia (Буйских 2013, кат. 1.244-1.249). Such an amphoriskos was found in a burial site of the Olbian necropolis located in close proximity to the suburbs. It emerged at the same time as the separation of the area west of the Upper City into a residential area and a necropolis took place (Buiskykh, Ivchenko 2021, fig. 14: 4). Amphoriskoi of this type are known in the necropolis of Camirus in Rhodes (Jacopi 1931, fig. 99: 161, 181, 190, 192, 198, 150, 279; Jacopi 1932, fig. 12). Judging by the elongated body (fig. 2: 4), the bottom part of the second amphoriskos on a profiled foot copies the shape of a transport amphora of the early 5th century BC; such vessels have also been found in Olbia and in Borysthenes (Буйских 2013, кат. 1.250-1.252; 2019, кат. 1.293-1.295).

The North Ionian ware is represented by its late types. These are fragments of black-figure vessels — a table amphora with the depiction of a grazing bull (?) (fig. 3: 1) and an olpe with the depiction of a hand with *taenia*, most likely a dancing comast (fig. 3: 2). Stylistically, the table amphora belongs to the Clazomenian circle; its date is closer to the last third of the 6th century BC, since the drawing is cursory, sloppy and the details

³ Another type of ceramic import that gives narrow dating, Athenian pottery, is beyond the scope of our work and is the subject of a separate publication.

⁴ Since large collections of East Greek and Corinthian pottery from Olbia, including those from excavations of the so-called suburb before 2015, and from Borysthenes and the sites of the Olbian *chora*, have already been published as detailed catalogues with an exhaustive bibliography of finds of these ceramics at Mediterranean and Black Sea sites (Буйских, Буйских 2010; Буйских 2013; Буйских 2019); in this paper, to save space, only the most necessary reference apparatus is given.



Fig. 1. Territory of Olbian suburb with sectors of excavations in 2015-2021: 1 — Некр.-4; 2 — Некр.-7; 3 — П-1; 4 — П-2; 5 — Sector “Orient”, necropolis excavations. The dotted line shows the moat route. Source — Google Earth platform



Fig. 2. Milesian pottery: 1 — O-2018/П-1/656; 2 — O-2018/П-1/90, 422; 3 — O-2016/Некр.-4/548; 4 — O-2016/Некр.-7/183

lack purple. As for the small fragment of the olpe, the fluent stylistics of the image unmistakably point to late North Ionian vase painting, which is characterised by exaggerated and elongated

human figures. Such vessels are already known in the necropolis of Olbia (Скуднава 1988, кат. 254); they also come from the section of the necropolis closest to the suburbs (Buiskykh, Ivchenko 2021,

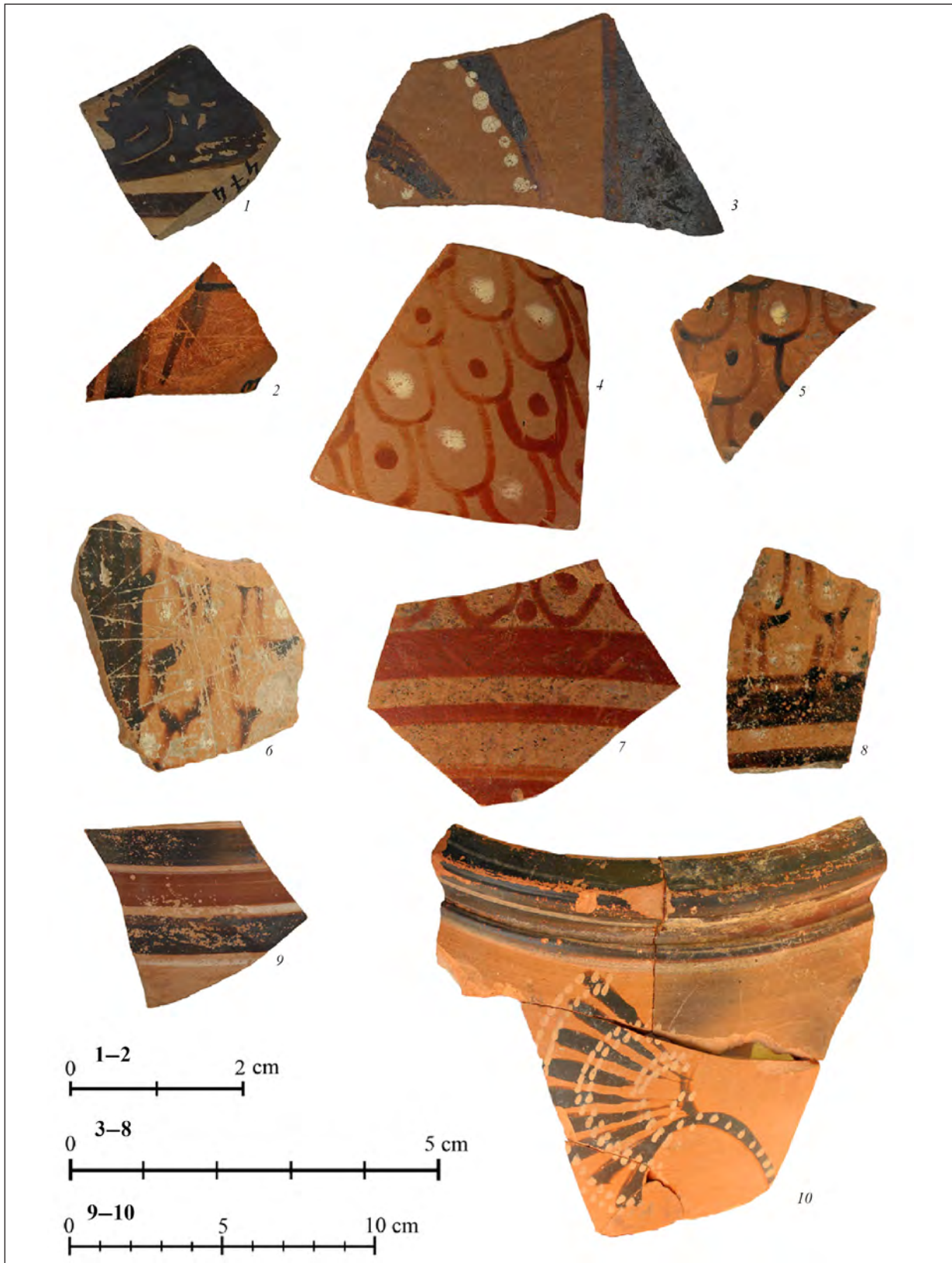


Fig. 3. Clazomenian and North Ionian (Clazomenian circle) pottery: 1 — O-2021/Π-1/474; 2 — O-2019/Π-2/283; 3 — O-2021/Π-1/770; 4 — O-2015/Некр.-4/305; 5 — O-2015/Некр.-4/523; 6 — O-2016/Некр.-4/5; 7 — O-2015/Некр.-4/724; 8 — O-2016/Некр.-4/657; 9 — O-2021/Π-1/70; 10 — O-2020/Π-2/212



Fig. 4. Clazomenian and North Ionian (Clazomenian circle) pottery: 1 — O-2016/Некр.-4/20; 2 — O-2018/П-1/202; 3 — O-2020/П-2/103; 4 — O-2021/П-1/70

fig. 18: 3). Table amphorae with the image of an octopus in a metope (fig. 3: 3) belonging to the Enmann class with a dating of 530—520 BC correlate with the imitation of the Clazomenian style (Cook 1952, p. 136, 147). Such vessels are already known in the ceramic collection of Olbia (Буйских 2013, кат. 4.47) and they are particularly abundant in Borysthene (Копейкина 1979, с. 15, рис. 12; Ильина 2010, кат. 35-43; Буйских 2019, кат. 5.25-5.27).

The study of late types of East Greek ceramics from the suburb looks productive against the background of comparing collections of two sites — Borysthene, where these ceramics are already almost absent, and Chersonesus, where, in contrast, these materials only just emerge. This observation is fully applicable to the Knipovich

class table amphorae with rows of scales (fig. 3: 4—8), which date to 530—510 BC (Cook 1952, p. 137-138; Cook, Dupont 1998, p. 102). As a rule, in closed complexes after 500 BC such vessels are extremely rare, and even then, they are most likely associated with an earlier horizon (e.g., Νυμφαίον: Домжальский, Чистов, 2003, с. 5, рис. 5; Ильина, Чистов 2012b, табл. 118, 10). In Olbia and in Borysthene, their numbers are abundant (Скуднова 1988, кат. 25; Буйских 2013, кат. 4.101-4.223; 2019, с. 126, кат. 5.45-5.55; Копейкина 1979, с. 18-19, рис. 19—20). They are also present in the settlements of the Olbian *chora* Velyka Chornomorka-2, Beikush, Chortuvate-7 and Stara Bohdanivka-1 (Буйских С., Буйских А. 2010, рис. 4: 23—25; 12: 15—17; 20: 1—2; 22: 6). In contrast, such vessels do

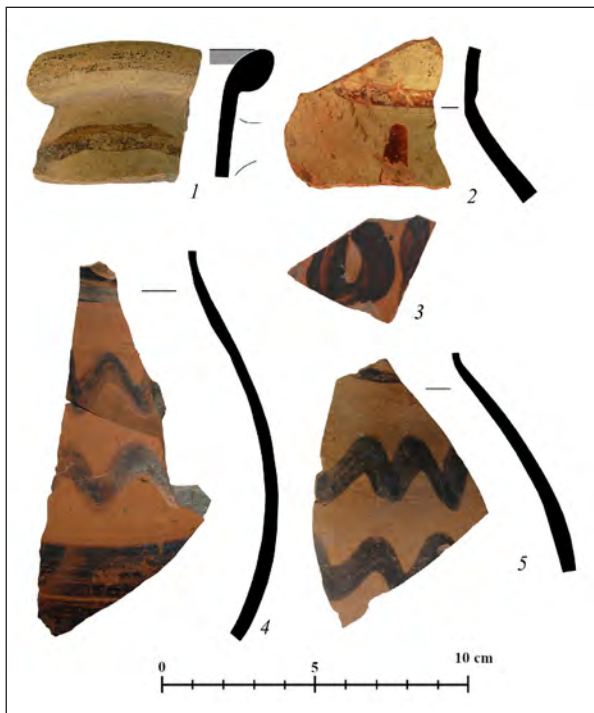


Fig. 5. Simple-waved table amphorae: 1 — O-2015/Некр.-4/722; 2 — O-2016/Некр.-4/547; 3 — O-2015/Некр.-4/663; 4 — O-2015/Некр.-4/608; O-2016/Некр.-4/42; 5 — O-2017/Некр.-4/201

not exist in the early collections of Chersonesus, which allows us to confirm their production before 494 BC, the time of the conquest of Ionia by the Persians.

The production of large table amphorae, the bodies of which are decorated with alternating bands of glaze and purple separated by thin bands of white paint (fig. 3: 9), is connected with the North Ionian centres. These vessels were thought to be dated at the end of the 6th century BC, although it is now clear that they were used for a longer period, including the first half of the 5th century BC, judging by the presence of such fragments in the early ceramic complexes of Chersonesus (Рыжов, Лесная 2018, рис. 1: 1). The painting of a large half-closed vessel in the form of carelessly applied multi-petaled palmettes with white dots (fig. 3: 10) can also be considered an imitation of Clazomenian vase painting. An identical vessel is already known in Olbia (Буйских 2013, кат. 4.60). Judging by the manner of painting, it could have been produced before the turn of the 6th to the 5th century BC or at the very beginning of the 5th century BC. The rounded, glazed rims (fig. 4: 1) and flat circular feet (fig. 4: 2—4) are related to the North Ionian table amphorae — the whole amphora with scale ornament from the Olbia necropolis has exactly

such a foot (Скуднова 1988, кат. 25). One of the feet has a perforated bottom (fig. 4: 3), indicating that the vessel was used for ritual libations.

Table amphorae and other vessels with simple wave decoration on the neck and body (fig. 5: 1—5) were also produced in various Ionian centres during the entire 6th century BC. The closed forms of olpai, lekythoi or large domestic wares decorated with one or two rows of loops, however, are usually associated with North Ionian centres or their imitations (see, e.g., the North Aegean imitations: Ersoy 2004, p. 58-59, fig. 19; Perron 2013, p. 133-140). The Olbian ceramic complex yields high numbers of such forms for the late 6th and early 5th century BC (Буйских 2013, кат. 9.11-9.29).

Among the materials of the suburb, a significant number of small table amphorae with a rib on the neck and one-handle vessels of the olpe and lekythos type with glazed bands on the body and the edge of the rim draw attention. Table amphorae, as a rule, had a continuous light slip around the body; glaze covered the upper part of the neck and raised handles; several bands of glaze, sometimes alternating with purple, were centred along the body and in the bottom part; under the neck was a belt of doubled spots of glaze and white paint; the upper part of the low base was accented with a glazed band (fig. 6: 1—2; 7: 1—14). Such amphorae were produced from the beginning of the 5th century BC to the middle or third quarter of the 5th century BC and are already known in the building complexes of the suburb and central part of Olbia (Буйских 2013, кат. 9.99-9.121). They are also well represented in the early classical ceramic complex of Chersonesus (Рыжов, Лесная 2018, рис. 1: 4; Лесная 2020, рис. 3: 1—16). Complete vessels are known in the necropoleis of Rhodes (Ясopi 1929, fig. 174; Ясopi 1931, fig. 149, 156). Banded olpai and lekythoi (figs. 6, 3; 7, 10) may well belong to local Olbian production; such vessels were in use almost throughout the entire 5th century BC.

Among the materials from the so-called suburbs, there is also a large number of open forms — Ionian bowls with everted and straight rims. Bowls with everted rim are represented by the latest versions, both imported and probably made locally (fig. 8: 1—5, 9, 1—2). Similar vessels were produced in the last quarter of 6th — very early 5th century BC. They are known in considerable quantity in Olbia, including in complexes dating before 500 BC (Буйских 2013, кат. 5.61-5.71) and in the cultural layer

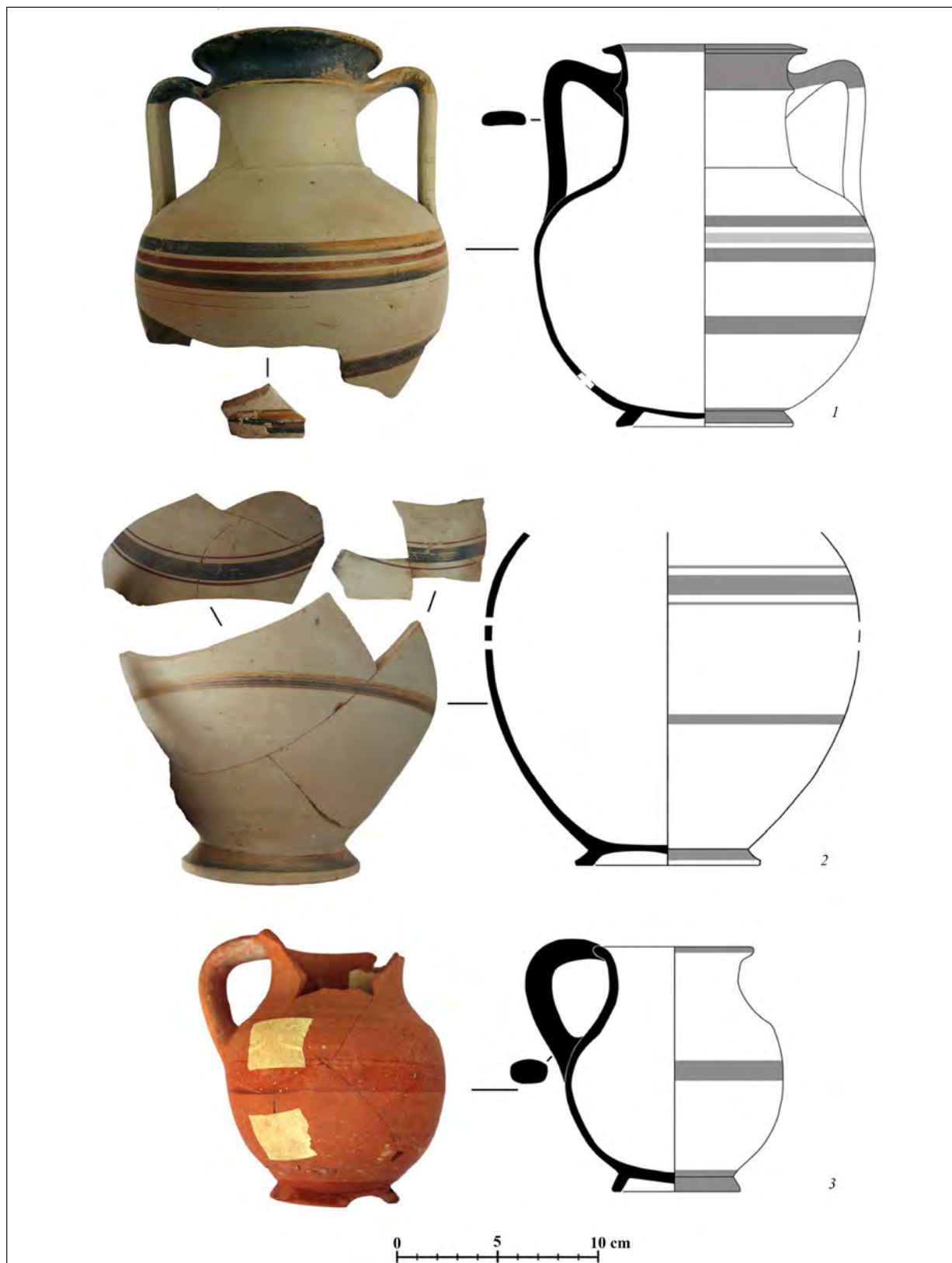


Fig. 6. Simple-banded table amphorae (1—2) and a jug (3): 1 — O-2017/Некр.-4/53, 147; 2 — O-2020/П-2/10, 213; 3 — O-2019/П-2/418

of the section of the city necropolis closest to the suburb (Buiskikh, Ivchenko 2021, fig. 18: 6—7). Interestingly, they are known in significant numbers in Nikonion (Секерская, Буйских

2019, с. 204, рис. 2: 2—15; 3, 1—5), with single finds of such vessels originating from the early collection of Chersonesus (Лесная 2020, с. 100, рис. 1: 1—5).



Fig. 7. Simple-banded table amphorae and jugs (1—9, 11—14), a lekythos (10): 1 — O-2017/Некр.-4/54, 57; 2 — O-2016/Некр.-4/665; 3 — O-2019/Π-2/359; 4 — O-2017/Некр.-4/55; 5 — O-2019/Π-2/115; 6 — O-2019/Π-2/530; 7 — O-2018/Некр.-7/25; 8 — O-2018/Некр.-7/79; 9 — O-2015/Некр.-4/99; 10 — O-2018/Π-2/31; 11 — O-2019/Π-2/282; 12 — O-2015/Некр.-4/134; 13 — O-2015/Некр.-4/313; 14 — O-2018/Π-1/361

Finds of bowls with a displaced edge are represented by another variant of forms (fig. 9: 3—4), which are believed to be imitations of the so-

called Paros cups produced on the island of Thasos in the late 6th century BC (Blondé, Perreault, Péristeri 1992, p. 24 ff., fig. 11: 8—11; 12: 8—9;

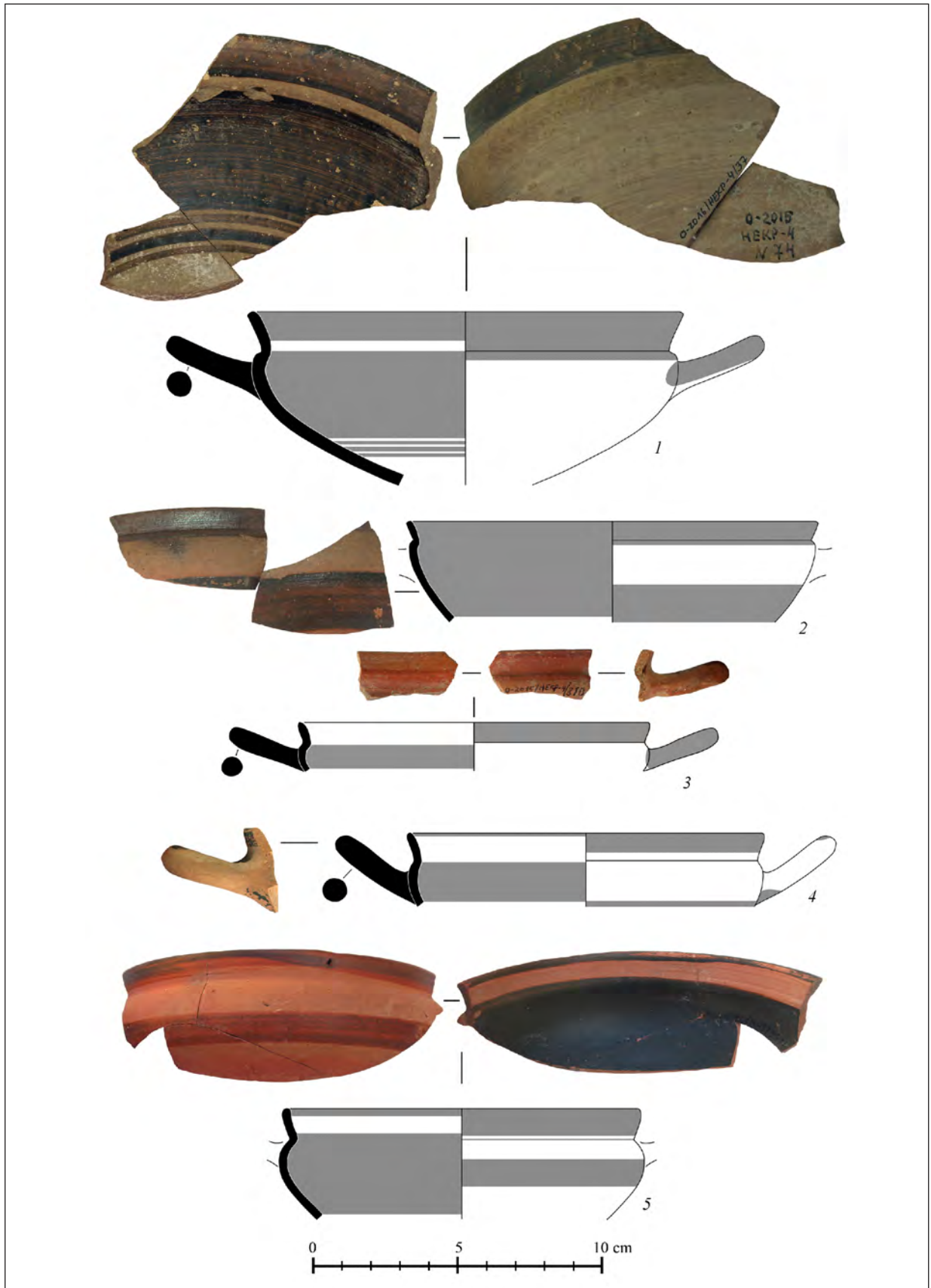


Fig. 8. Ionian cups with everted rims: 1 — O-2015/Некр.-4/74; O-2016/Некр.-4/37; 2 — O-2015/Некр.-4/16, 786; 3 — O-2015/Некр.-4/810; O-2016/Некр.-4/546; 4 — O-2016/Некр.-4/719; 5 — O-2018/Π-1/317

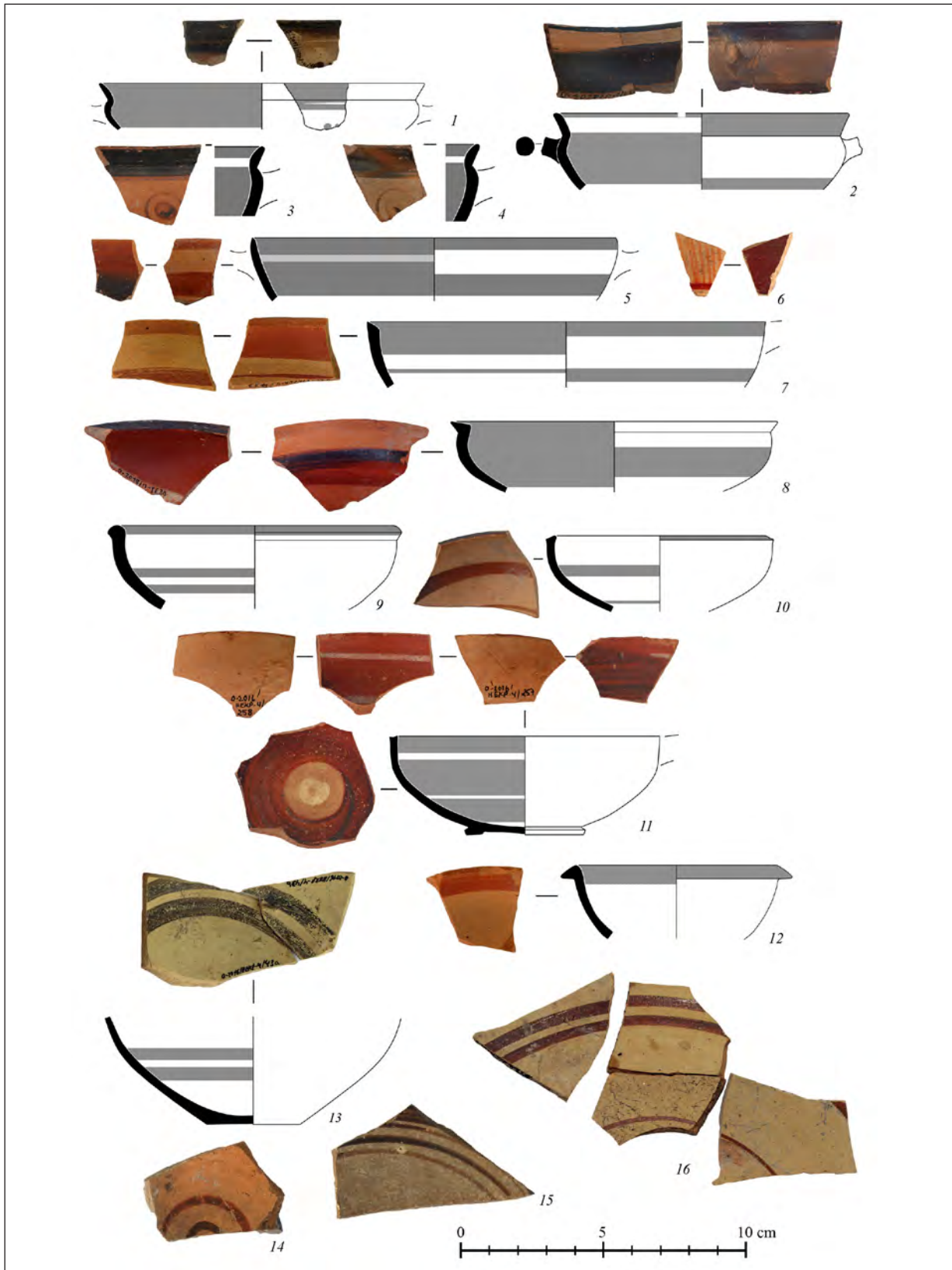


Fig. 9. Ionian cups with everted rims: 1 — O-2017/Некр.-4/16; 2 — O-2018/Π-1/258, 421; Thasian imitations of Parian cups: 3 — O-2021/Π-1/670; 4 — O-2021/Π-1/670a; cups with dotted rosettes: 5 — O-2017/Некр.-4/236; 6 — O-2018/Π-1/657; simple-banded cups: 7 — O-2016/Некр.-4/433; 8 — O-2018/Π-1/30; 9 — O-2018/Π-1/382; 10 — O-2018/Π-1/200; 11 — O-2016/Некр.-4/257, 258, 271; 12 — O-2016/Некр.-4/543; 13 — O-2016/Некр.-4/43; 14 — O-2015/Некр.-4/490; 15 — O-2015/Некр.-4/662; 16 — O-2015/Некр.-4/72; O-2016/Некр.-4/41, 266

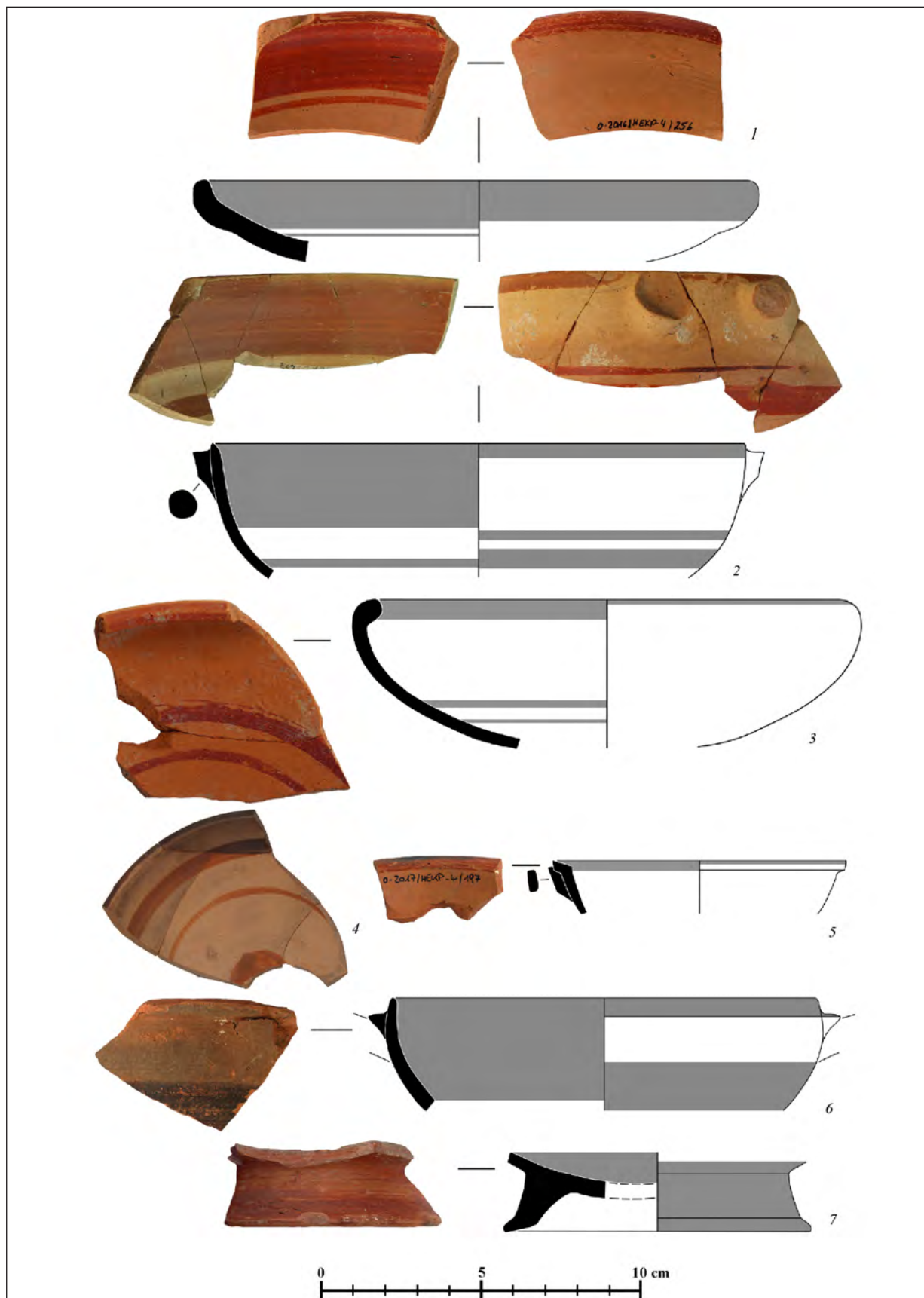


Fig. 10. Simple-banded dishes and plates (1—5), a lekane (6), a crater (7): 1 — 2016/Некр.-4/256; 2 — 2015/Некр.-4/423; O-2016/Некр.-4/412-413; 3 — O-2017/Некр.-7/314; 4 — O-2021/П-1/626; 5 — O-2017/Некр.-4/197; 6 — O-2016/Некр.-7/5; 7 — O-2021/П-1/166

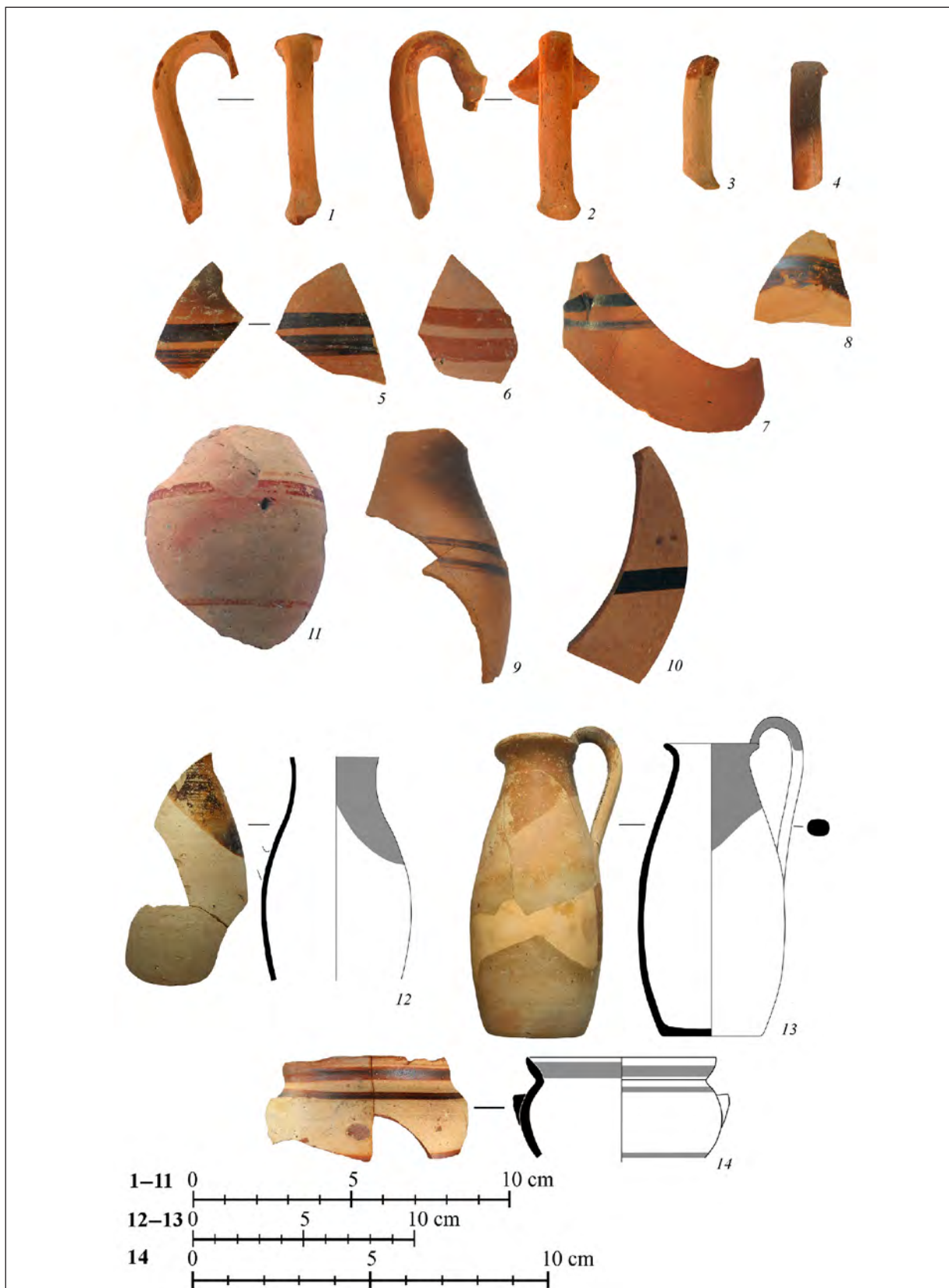


Fig. 11. Simple-banded miniature olpai (1–10), an amphoriskos (11), miniature olpai with glazed neck (12–13), a miniature vessel (14): 1 — O-2016/Некр.-4/265; 2 — O-2016/Некр.-4/520; 3 — O-2016/Некр.-4/545; 4 — O-2016/Некр.-4/262; 5 — O-2016/Некр.-4/267, 268; 6 — O-2017/Некр.-4/60; 7 — O-2018/П-1/650; 8 — O-2020/П-2/281; 9 — O-2021/П-1/3; 10 — O-2019/П-2/83; 11 — O-2016/Некр.-4/656; 12 — O-2016/Некр.-4/40; 13 — O-2016/Некр.-4/38, 255; 14 — O-2018/П-1/485, 649



Fig. 12. Ionian askoi: 1 — O-2015/Некр.-4/488; 2 — O-2016/Некр.-4/39; 3 — O-2018/П-1/319; 4 — O-2021/П-1/257; 5 — O-2019/П-2/19

14: 13—5). It was at this time that the mass importation of the Thasian painted ceramics and wine in transport amphorae to Olbia began; finds of such cups in Olbia, in Borysthene and at the *chora* settlements are numerous (Буйских С., Буйских А. 2010, рис. 5: 11—12; 24: 3—4; Буйских 2013, кат. 12.1-12.22; 2019, кат. 6.134-6.137).

The following open forms are numerous bowls, among which is a fragment of a hemispherical bowl with vertical rays in the area of the handles and dotted rosettes (fig. 9: 6), which were in use until the end of the 6th century BC (Kerschner 2006, S. 243). Such bowls, in addition to Olbia itself, are known in *chora* settlements up to the Gulf of Odessa — the settlement of Prymor-

skyi Bulvar and in Nikonion (Буйских, Редина 2015, рис. 14: 1—2; Секерская, Буйских 2019, рис. 4: 1—2). There is also a later derivative form, in which the dotted rosettes are absent and the purple bands in the interior become thin lines (fig. 9: 5). It is possible that this variant can be dated to the turn of the 6th to the 5th century BC or the very beginning of the 5th century BC. Most likely, there are such fragments in the early ceramic collection of Chersonesus (Лесная 2020, рис. 1: 6 7). Conversely, in the collection of Borysthene, such fragments are literally singular (Буйских 2019, кат. 3.174), but are also known in Nikonion (Секерская, Буйских 2019, рис. 4: 3—6).

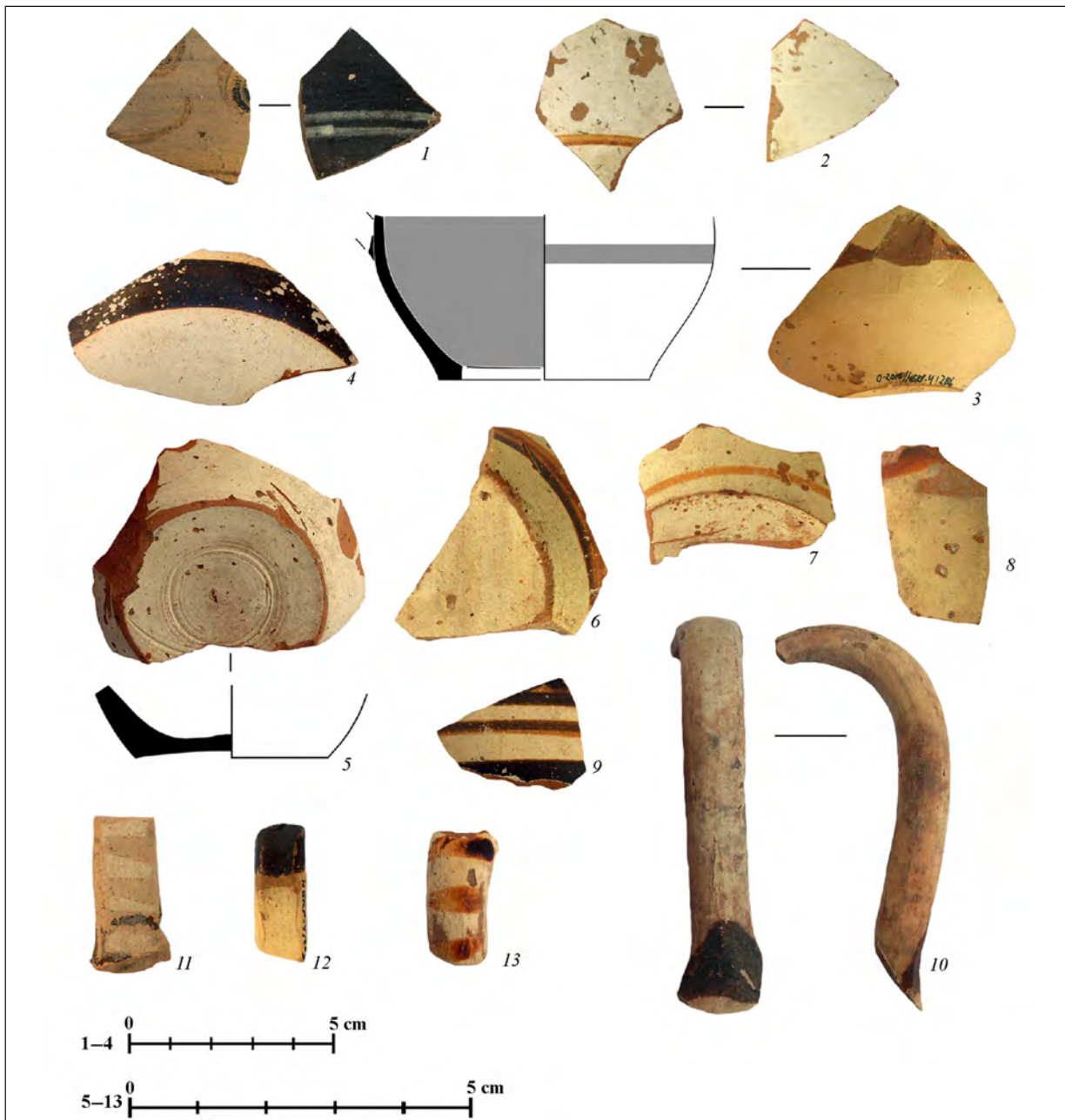


Fig. 13. Chian pottery: 1 — O-2017/Некр.-7/235; 2 — O-2010/Некр.-7/64, 126; 3 — O-2016/Некр.-4/286; 4 — O-2018/П-1/487; 5 — O-2017/Некр.-4/63; 6 — O-2016/Некр.-4/552; 7 — O-2016/Некр.-4/285; 8 — O-2016/Некр.-4/284; 9 — O-2017/Некр.-4/203; 10 — O-2017/Некр.-4/200; 11 — O-2018/П-1/122; 12 — O-2016/Некр.-4/283; 13 — O-2017/Некр.-4/61

A set of bowls with curved or bent edge, sitting on a flat pedestal or on a ring, with wide and thin bands on the inner wall together with a foot of a late Ionian crater, have a wide dating and are characteristic for the last quarter and the end of the 6th — the first half of the 5th century BC (fig. 9: 7—16; 10, 1—7). Such bowls are abundantly represented in the collection of Olbia (Буйских 2013, кат. 9.216-9.273). They are also found in the late complexes of Borysthenes (Ильина, Чистов

2012a, табл. 106, 1-8). Moreover, such bowls appear in the early collection of Chersonesus (Рыжов, Лесная 2018, рис. 1: 5). Numerous miniature olpai with double bands along the shoulders or, in the latest forms, without bands at all are also dated to the turn of the 6th to the 5th century BC (fig. 11: 1—13) (Буйских 2013, кат. 9.151-9.152; 2019, кат. 6.141-6.142), as is a miniature pyxis with thin glazed bands (fig. 11: 14).

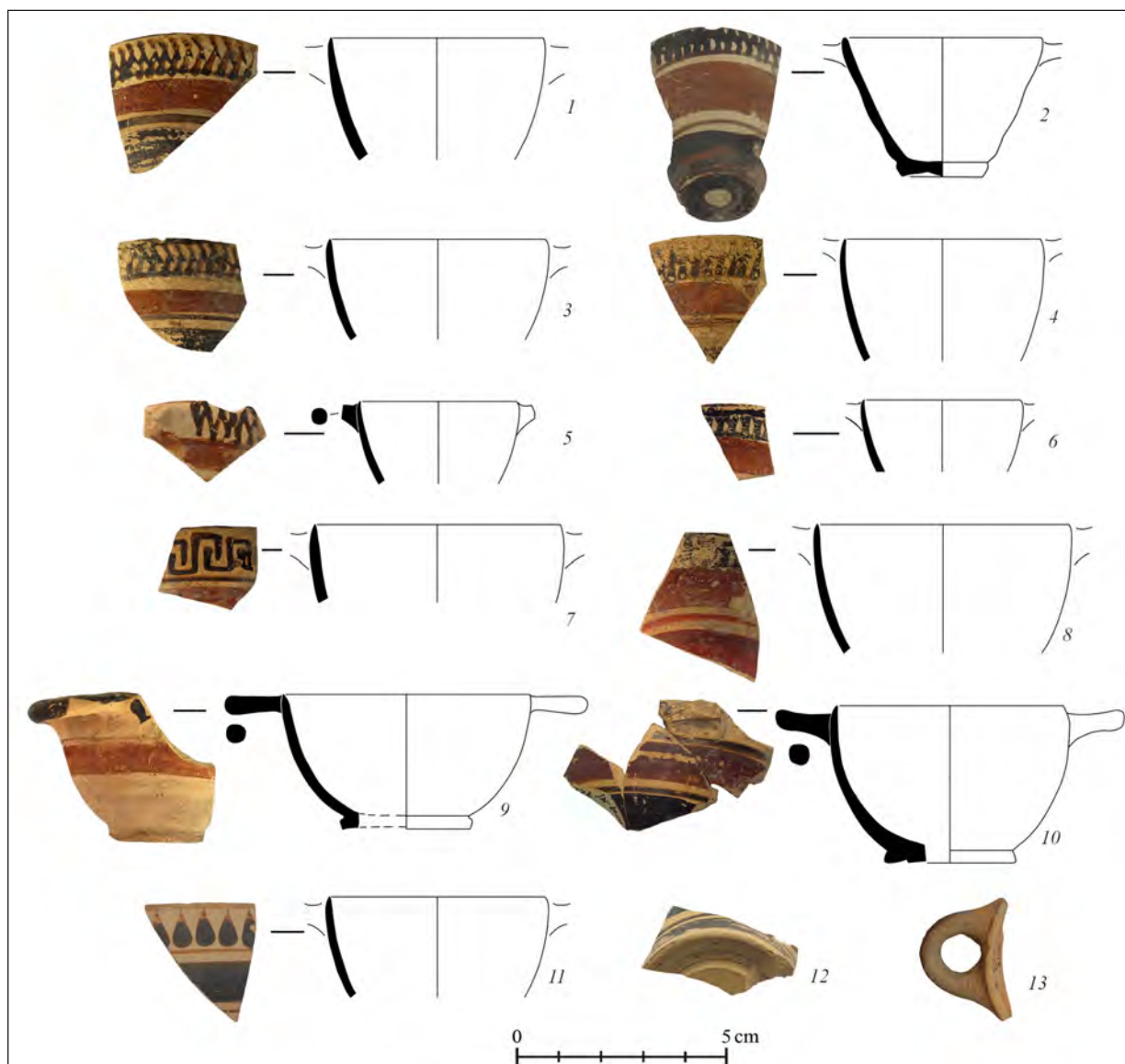


Fig. 14. Corinthian miniature cotylai: 1 — O-2015/Некр.-4/100; 2 — O-2021/P-1/259; 3 — O-2015/Некр.-4/611; 4 — O-2016/Некр.-4/280; 5 — O-2018/П-1/569; 6 — O-2017/Некр.-4/206; 7 — O-2015/Некр.-4/272; 8 — O-2015/Некр.-4/610; 9 — O-2016/Некр.-4/279; 10 — O-2015/Некр.-4/727; O-2016/Некр.-4/552, 721; 11 — O-2021/П-1/27; 12 — O-2016/Некр.-4/553; 13 — O-2021/П-1/346

Special forms of Ionian simple-banded pottery are represented by askoi. Among them, there is a neck of a large North Ionian or Clazomenian type of the last quarter of the 6th century BC (fig. 12: 1); a more precise attribution cannot be given due to its fragmentary preservation. Such askoi are known in Olbia (Копейкина 1979, рис. 15; Буйских 2013, кат. 9.194-9.195). The remaining fragments of askoi (fig. 12: 2—5) correlate with vessels with a broad dating within the second half of the 6th century BC. They are widely represented in the ceramic collection of Olbia (Буйских 2013, кат. 9.183-9.193).

Chian pottery from the excavations of the suburb include a significant number of different forms. The earliest of them is the wall from a black-figure chalice of the Comast Group (fig. 13: 1). The conical shape of the chalice and the fluent style of the painting (a small fragment does not allow us to say anything for sure about the nature of the already very stylized image) leads us to conclude that this vessel is probably one of the most recent among the vessels of this type and most likely belongs to group E or F with a dating of 560—540 BC (Lemos 1991, p. 189). Findings of chalices of the Comast Group, both early and late variants, are well

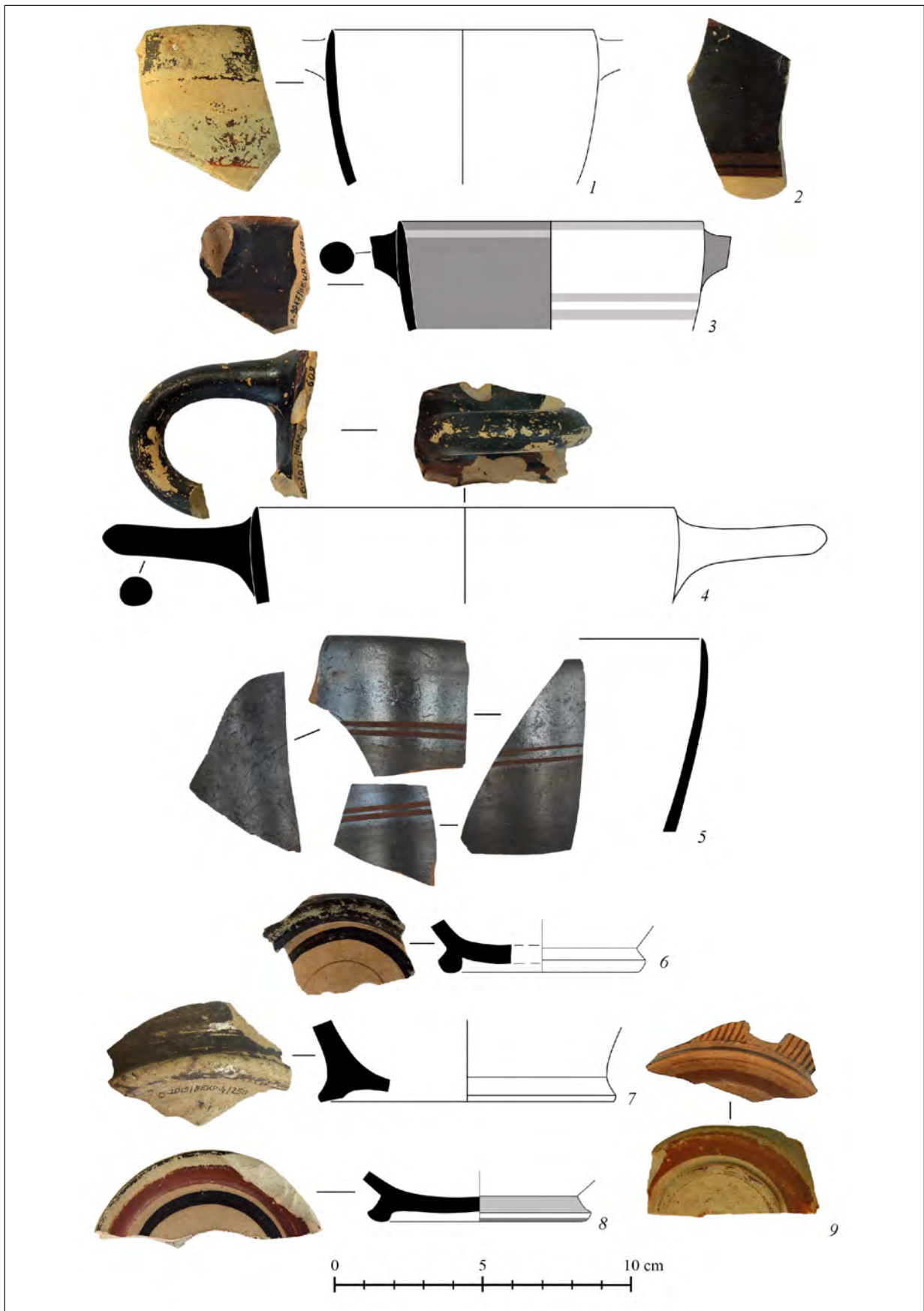


Fig. 15. Corinthian pottery: 1 — O-2015/Некр.-4/325; 2 — O-2015/Некр.-4/324; 3 — O-2017/Некр.-4/196; 4 — O-2015/Некр.-4/609; 5 — O-2021/Π-1/769; 6 — O-2015/Некр.-4/773; 7 — O-2015/Некр.-4/250; 8 — O-2018/Π-1/651; 9 — O-2020/Π-2/105



Fig. 16. Corinthian pottery: a pyxis (1), pyxis' leads (2—3), plates (4—5), a coarse ware (6): 1 — O-2015/Некр.-4/393; 2 — O-2016/Некр.-7/19; 3 — O-2016/Некр.-7/177; 4 — O-2016/Некр.-4/261; 5 — O-2019/П.-2/429; 6 — O-2015/Некр.-4/790

known in the collections of Borysthene and Olbia (Ильина 2005, кат. 124-128; Буйских 2013, кат. 10.16-10.23; 2019, кат. 8.77-8.97;). Interestingly, another late black-figure vessel of another group — a miniature pot — was found in the suburb (Буйских 2013, кат. 10.95). Therefore, finds from the territory of the Olbian suburb suggest a longer production of such vessels. It should also be noted that these vessels are now the earliest in the collection of table ceramics of the suburb.

Next in chronological order are monochrome slipped chalices with thin bands of red or orange glaze (fig. 13: 2—3). The light curvature of the wall at the bottom of one of the vessels indicates its dating within the end of the 6th century BC (Буйских 2013, кат. 10.141-10.144). Among the Chian pottery of the suburbs there is a unique vessel — a bottom wall of an askos (fig. 13: 4). Such a vessel is up to now only known in the ceramic collection of Olbia (Буйских 2013, кат. 10.104). Miniature olpai are also represented in large numbers (fig. 13: 5—10). These vessels are usually found in large quantities in the urban layers of Olbia, in the necropolis burials and *chora* settlements and in Borysthene from the last quarter of the 6th — early 5th century BC (Скуднова 1988, кат. 59; 60; 97; 102; 194; 215; Буйских 2013, кат. 10.156-10.173; 2019, кат. 8.115-8.121; Буйских С., Буйских А. 2010, рис. 10: 14; 13, 14—16; 21: 3; 25, 5—6; Ильина 2005, кат. 229-244;).

It should be noted that a significant number of finds of Corinthian pottery belongs, without exception, to the late Second Corinthian period, i.e. after 540 BC (for a more precise chronology of painted Corinthian pottery see: Dehl-von-Kaenel 1995, S. 32-42). These are, first of all, miniature skyphoi or cotylai, mainly with zigzag (fig. 14: 1—6), meander (fig. 14: 7—8) or drop-shaped decoration (fig. 14: 11) between the handles; in a few cases the decoration is unclear (fig. 14: 9—10, 12—13). In addition to the miniature forms, there are also finds of black-glazed skyphoi, including the one with the thin rays in the lower part (fig. 15: 1—9); these vessels were produced simultaneously with the miniature forms. The find of a fragment of a so-called powder pyxis — with concave walls decorated with vertical wavy tongues (fig. 16: 1) is a single specimen. There are also a lid to a pyxis of this type (fig. 16: 2) and a handle from a lid for a pyxis with convex walls (fig. 16: 3). These vessels were made, most likely, in White Style (more details about this style: Букина 2012, с. 55). A fragment of a monochrome plate decorated

with thin bands of red paint (fig. 16: 4) and a one-handed bowl with traces of red paint on the inner and outer walls (fig. 16: 5) were also found. Finally, a fragment of a thick-walled flat-bottomed household vessel, roughly shaped, most probably not produced on a potter's wheel but moulded and classified as coarse ware (fig. 16: 6) was found. Probably, it is the bottom part of a deep household vessel with straight walls (possible analogy of the shape: Amyx, Lawrence 1975, cat. An 318). It should be noted that all Corinthian vessels found in the suburb have numerous analogies in the cultural layers and building complexes of Olbia (Буйских 2013, с. 189 сл., кат. 13.25-13.46, 13.204-13.276, 13.281-283).

Conclusions

Based on the results of the review of two groups of ceramic finds and taking into account the already conducted detailed study of construction sites (Форнасье, Буйских, Кузьмищев 2017, с. 34-43; Fornasier, Buiskykh, Kuzmishchev 2022, p. 72-88; Buiskykh, Fornasier 2022, p. 206-212), we can come to several conclusions. First of all, the typological distribution of ceramic finds within the four investigated sectors is of interest⁵. Sector Necr-4 (fig. 1: 1) was located in a residential area and yielded the largest number of ceramic fragments from the last quarter of the 6th century to the first half of the 5th century BC — 46.5% of the East Greek pottery and 60% of the Corinthian pottery. Two of the six askoi (fig. 12: 1—2), the main number of fragments of Clazomenian type table amphorae with scales (fig. 3: 4—8) and all fragments of simple waved amphorae (fig. 5: 1—5) and over two dozen fragments from other closed forms, including banded lekythoi, were found here. Virtually intact vessels of later times were also revealed, including a banded table amphora (fig. 6: 1), a miniature olpe (fig. 11: 13) and fragments from another nine miniature olpai of earlier times (fig. 11: 1—6, 11—12). Equally significant is the number of open vessels, a variety of bowls, including such with everted rims, of which forty-five were found (fig. 8: 1—4; 9: 1, 5, 7, 11—16; 10: 1—3, 5). Also noteworthy is

⁵ For the convenience of quantitative counting, the finds from the overlying layers and destruction layers were combined with the finds from the site fills, especially since in a number of cases they were collected, including finds found in different years, or, conversely, fragments of one vessel were found in different fills.

the significant number of various Chian vessels, constituting half of all finds. Eight fragments from chalices and miniature olpai were discovered (fig. 13: 2—3, 5—10, 12—13). Corinthian vessels were intensively used, 15 specimens of them were found. Dominating among the finds are miniature skyphoi or cotylai (fig. 14: 1—3, 6—10, 12), normal-sized skyphoi (fig. 15: 1—4, 6—7) and a plate fragment (fig. 16: 4); there are also special vessels used in everyday life, mainly pyxides (fig. 16: 1—2), and vessels used in house economy (fig. 16: 6). Such a diverse set of utensils in quantitative and qualitative respects is also typical for residential areas of Olbia at the same time.

The sector of the defensive moat, Nekr.-7 (fig. 1: 2), on the contrary, yielded the lowest number of such finds, respectively 4% of the East Greek pottery and 4% of the Corinthian pottery; that in general is not surprising. At the same time, we should note that the set of these vessels does not differ from those found in the residential area, along the edge of which the ditch route passed. Among them, there is a fragment of a Chian chalice of the Comast Group, the earliest in the so-called suburb (fig. 13: 1), and a fragment from a large Corinthian pyxis' lid (fig. 16: 3).

Sector P-1 (fig. 1: 3), associated with the cult construction, which we previously associated with a possible place of worship of Demeter (Fornasier, Buisykh, Kuzmishchev 2022, p. 84-88), yielded 20.2% of the East Greek pottery and 24% of the Corinthian pottery. This is where the earliest pottery was found, represented by large shapes: both Milesian vessels, a fragment from a table amphora and a Fikellura-style amphoriskos (fig. 2: 1—2), both fragments of black-figure table amphorae of the Clazomenian circle (fig. 3: 1, 3) and a foot from such an amphora (fig. 4: 2, 4). Also among the rarer finds is a foot of a late Ionian crater (fig. 10: 7). Three of the six askoi were also found here, including two Ionian banded (fig. 12: 3—4) and a Chian one (fig. 13: 4). In addition, a significant number of open vessels, like bowls of various shapes (fig. 8: 5; 9, 2, 6, 8—10; 10: 4). Both fragments of Thasian imitations of Paros' cups were also found in the fillings of this object (fig. 9: 3—4). A comparatively small quantity of Chian pottery attracts attention. Apart from the askos fragment, only one fragment of a miniature olpe was found (fig. 13: 11). Six Corinthian skyphoi were also found, including four miniature vases (fig. 14: 2, 5, 11, 13; 15: 5, 8).

Sector P-2 (fig. 1: 4) revealed a large dugout, in general atypical for use as a residential structure, so its purpose remains unclear. Based on the set of finds it could have been used for cult purposes (Буйських, Форнасьє, Кузьміщев 2020, с. 178). Given the fact that this dugout is located just a few metres to the north of the previous sector, it seems likely that the southern area of the Olbian suburb was indeed used for sacral activity. The study of the dugout yielded 29.4% of the East Greek and 12% of the Corinthian pottery. First of all, it is clear that the set of finds, open and closed forms, are dated mainly to the 5th century BC; only very little finds can be dated to the late 6th century BC. This means that the buried structure discovered at the site appeared later than the one discovered at sector P-1, but it too was in existence longer, namely during the 5th and, judging by the contents of its filling, still within the first half of the 4th century BC. Among the finds we can distinguish the upper part of a large storage (?) vessel with the image of a multi-petaled palmette on the stem, decorated with white dots. It is probably an imitation of the Clazomenian style of vase painting (fig. 3: 10). Such a vessel is already known in Olbia (Буйських 2013, кат. 4.60). We also found several complete shapes and large fragments of vessels such as table amphorae and olpai (fig. 6: 2—3), a foot of a table amphora with a perforation for libations (fig. 4: 3), numerous fragments from table vessels with a rib on the neck, mutilated tongues under the neck and bands under the handles (fig. 7: 3, 5—6, 11). It should be noted that open vessels are represented by literally single fragments; there are no Ionian bowls with displaced rim and almost no finds of other bowls. One fragment of a banded askos was discovered (fig. 12: 5). Among the few finds of Corinthian pottery is an almost completely preserved monochrome plate with a handle for hanging (fig. 16: 5).

Therefore, the main conclusion that can be made from the results of the study of the East Greek and Corinthian painted and plainware is that the development of the flat area to the west of the urban core, limited by Zaiacha Ravine, the territory of the so-called suburb, began in the last quarter of the 6th century BC. It is clear, however, that it appeared in a previously unoccupied territory rather than overlapping the existing settlement on this site. Therefore, in principle, there was no separate settlement to the west of Zaiacha Ravine when Olbia was already founded. The necessity of opening up the new space for further

development of the settlement structure was most probably related to the rapid growth of the city's population and the need for new areas for the construction of residential and public buildings, including religious buildings. The open space and lack of natural barriers led to the construction of an artificial defensive system consisting of a moat and a rampart — the construction of the defensive line contributed to the separation of the new settlement area from the growing urban necropolis as well (Buiskykh, Fornasier 2022, p. 205-211). Most likely, deepened residential structures appeared simultaneously with the construction of defensive frontiers. At least in the southern part of the enclosed area other objects, like those connected with worship, appeared both at the same time with the earliest residential structures and later, when the suburb was already a functioning area.

Another equally important conclusion is that the set of vessels, both those used for eating and drinking and those of special domestic purpose, does not differ in any way from similar sets known from the excavations of the city of Olbia. It is necessary to pay attention to this point, because the presence in the fills of such specific domestic vessels as askoi, miniature olpai and a significant number of Corinthian vessels does not further support the idea that the settlement structure of the suburb was intended to be the home of the barbarians for the future cultivation of the land of the *chora*.

Therefore, the examined imported ceramics found in the strata and building complexes of the so-called suburb, along with other finds, allowed us to come to a different conclusion, which, from our point of view, objectively reflects the state of the archaeological

source. The settlement structure called “suburb” is in fact part of the urban area of Olbia from the last quarter of the 6th century BC onward. Its appearance was caused by the limited territory of the city, confined to the east by the river and to the west and north by deep ravines. Therefore, the nearest reserve territory for further spatial development was only the area to the west of Zaiacha Ravine. From our point of view, this assumption is at least partially contradictory to Herodotus' account of the Scythian king Skyles and the stay of his army in the Olbian suburb (Herod. IV, 78-79). However, these accounts are not beyond doubt and it is not even certain whether Herodotus himself was in the Olbian city at all (Fornasier, Buiskykh 2023, S. 101-114). However, even if the ancient historiographer did indeed visit the Milesian colony on the banks of the Hypanis, the new archaeological findings could still be reconciled, at least to some extent, with Herodotus' misleading formulation about the suburb of Olbia. The secondary character of this area with its still rather deepened structures in comparison to the core of the city, the upper plateau of which contained several sacral areas with temples and urban quarters of the common Hellenic type, could well contribute to his interpretation as an urban suburb. The construction of the defensive system in the form of two lines of ditches, north and west, would also not be contradictory to the latter thesis (Buiskykh, Fornasier 2022, p. 206-215, fig. 12: 2).

In general, the expressed considerations based on archaeological research and analytical work with archaeological sources allowed us to not only significantly clarify the historical topography of Olbia and correctly date new construction sites, but also to make a number of corrections to the reconstruction of the early history of the Olbian polis.

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СХІДНОГРЕЦЬКА ТА КОРИНФСЬКА КЕРАМІКА З ОЛЬВІЙСЬКОГО ПЕРЕДМІСТЯ (РОЗКОПКИ 2015—2021 pp.)

У статті представлено колекцію розписного довізного посуду, зібрану за результатами досліджень на території т.зв. передмістя в Ольвії відповідно до робіт українсько-німецького проекту з Гете-університетом, Франкфурт-на-Майні та Мартін Лютер-університетом Галле-Віттенберґ, Галле (Німеччина), що був здійснений за фінансової підтримки Німецького дослідницького товариства. Колекція складається з 229 фрагментів та окремих посудин східногреческого

походження та 29 — коринфського. Керамічний імпорт вивчено за загальноприйнятою методикою — посуд розглянуто або за центрами виробництва (Мілет, Клазомени, Хіос, Фасос, Коринф), або згідно великих типологічних груп (іонійські килики, напівсферичні чаші, простий смугастий посуд, аски) відповідно до встановленої хронології згідно кожної групи. В результаті встановлено, що найраніші фрагменти південно- та північноіонійського походження, що датуються в межах останньої чверті 6 століття до н. е., було знайдено у житловому секторі (ділянка Некр.-4), у заповнених заглиблених споруд, ям та культурних нашаруваннях, а також у великій заглибленій структурі, що досліджувалася у південній частині передмістя (ділянка П-1) та мала культове призначення. У об'єктах, досліджених на цих ділянках, відкрито й найбільшу частину коринфських посудин спеціального призначення, зокрема, мініатюрних форм та піксид. Результатом вивчення імпортованого розписного посуду є нова хронологія розвитку передмістя Ольвії та загалом, його інтерпретація. Так, нова територія на захід від Заячої балки, що обмежувала ядро міста, була включена у міську територію від початку останньої чверті 6 століття до н. е. через, імовірно, ріст населення поліса. Ця територія із заходу була захищена спеціально створеною лінією оборони у вигляді рову та насипного валу. Це означає, що давня ідея Ю. І. Козуб про існування тут окремого поселення, на території якого у першій половині 5 століття до н. е. з'явилося передмістя, вже залишилася частиною історіографії. Так само, як і ідея К. К. Марченка про переселення у передмістя варварського населення з хори задля його збереження для реколонізації хори через століття. Наша інтерпретація території на захід від Заячої балки як міського району Ольвії, що з'явився пізніше ядра міста, не протирічить даним Геродота (Herod. IV, 78-79).

Ключові слова: Ольвія Понтіїська, хронологія, передмістя, східногрецька та коринфська кераміка

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