

LATE ROMAN PERIOD STAMPED POTTERY FROM THE NORTH-EASTERN SLOVAKIA

Some Remarks Regarding Northern Carpathian Group and Its Contacts

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Abstract: The article presents and analyses mostly new and/or unpublished or only partially published finds of the Late Roman period stamped pottery from the various areas of the North-Eastern Slovakia, namely Middle Torysa region, Upper Spiš and Upper Šariš. Most of the presented finds seemingly date to the later phase of the Late Roman period and the beginning of the Migration period (stages C3–D1) based on the presented analogies and analysis of the accompanying pottery finds. Article also discusses the spreading of this decoration in the North-Eastern Slovakia and bordering areas. It proposes the different view on the contacts of the Northern Carpathian group and areas of Middle Torysa and Hornád Valley. Particularly in the case of settlements in the Middle Torysa region such as Prešov, Ražňany, Ostrovany and others their assignment to Northern Carpathian group is questionable and should be re-evaluated.

INTRODUCTION

Phenomenon of the Late Roman stamped ware from the Eastern Slovakia and bordering regions has been studied since several decades (e.g. *Jurečko 1981; Lamiová-Schmiedlová 1969*). The discussion regarding the subject continues with the publication of new assemblages (*Soós 2019b*) or re-evaluation of the older excavations (*Luštková/Rákoš 2018*). Yet, the finds of stamped pottery in the North-Eastern Slovakia have not been addressed so far. Present article aims not only to publish new finds of this ceramic group from the area but also to talk about possible implications connected to its appearance.

CURRENT STATE OF RESEARCH IN THE NORTH-EASTERN SLOVAKIA AND BORDERING AREAS

Topography of North-Eastern Slovakia is rugged with several mountain ranges that separate valleys and river basins. It can be divided into several regions which are also important for the topic not only because of differences such as presence of the resources (e. g. iron ore in Spiš) or position on trading routes but also based on current stage of research. For the Roman period Upper and Lower Spiš, Topľa Basin and Middle Torysa regions (Fig. 1) are the most relevant. Late Roman period settlement of Upper Spiš is concentrated in Sub-Tatra Basin with most of the sites situated around the river Poprad. As for the Lower Spiš Middle Hornád left-bank terrace between Smižany and Spišské Vlachy is where the most of the Roman period settlements were identified. Middle Torysa region has the most sites of all the analysed region with two important concentrations – one on the right-bank terrace of the river between Ražňany and Medzany and the other one situated in Prešov. Topľa Basin is named after river Topľa that flows through hilly terrain of Ondavská Highlands and Beskydy Foothills in the north-south direction.

Northern Carpathian group of Spiš and Polish Carpathians

Finds of Northern Carpathian group in Upper Spiš were summarily published by M. Giertlová and M. Soják. Recognized scale of the stamps is rather narrow and is almost exclusively constrained to rosettes and circles.

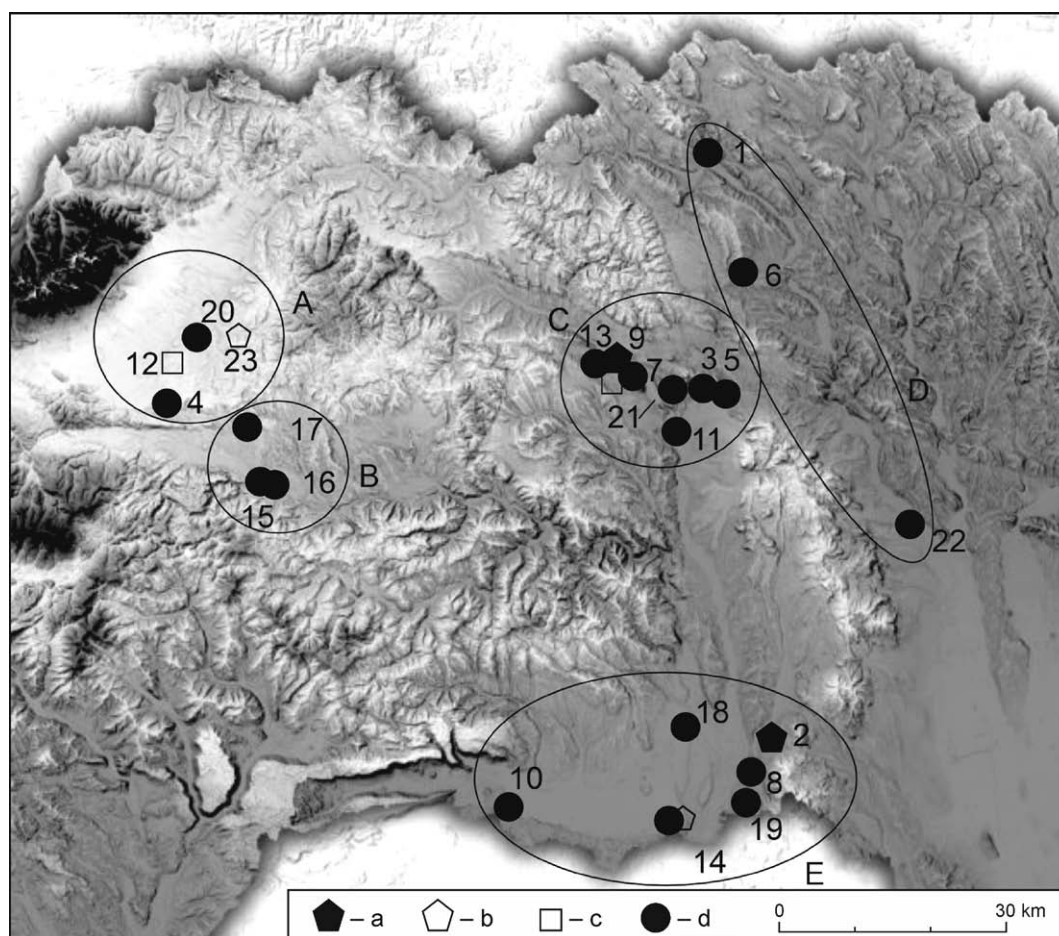


Fig. 1. Map of sites with finds of stamped pottery mentioned in the text, pottery workshops and other important sites in the Eastern Slovakia. 1 – Bardejov; 2 – Blažice; 3 – Fintice; 4 – Gánovce; 5 – Kapušany; 6 – Koprivnica; 7 – Medzany; 8 – Nižná Myšľa; 9 – Ostrovany; 10 – Peder; 11 – Prešov; 12 – Poprad-Matejovce; 13 – Ražňany; 14 – Seňa; 15 – Smižany; 16 – Spišská Nová Ves; 17 – Spišský Štvrtok; 18 – Šebastovce-Barca; 19 – Trstené pri Hornáde; 20 – Veľká Lomnica; 21 – Veľký Šariš-Kanaš; 22 – Vranov nad Topľou-Čemerné; 23 – Vrbov. A – Upper Spiš; B – Lower Spiš; C – Middle Torysa; D – Topľa Basin; E – Lower Hornád and Olšava Basin. Legend: a – pottery workshops producing stamped pottery; b – other pottery workshops; c – princely grave; d – site with the finds of the Late Roman stamped pottery mentioned in text.

Short slanted rouletted lines are also present. Stamped decoration was often combined with incised wavy pattern or impressed dots (*Giertylová/Soják 2005*, 122, obr. 2; 7: 6; 8: 7; 9: 1, 2). In comparison to the Upper Spiš the Roman period settlement of the Lower Spiš is not properly understood. Yet the stamped pottery is registered at a few sites in the vicinity of Spišská Nová Ves (Pl. I: 1, 4, 5; *Javorský 1977*, 142, 143, 149, obr. 69: 4; 71: 11; 1984, 101, obr. 56: 8; 1986, 111, obr. 43: 6).

Vessels decorated with stamped decoration are registered at several sites in the Polish Carpathians. Some of the patterns are shared with Upper Spiš region (*Madyda-Legutko/Tunia 2020*, 292, fig. 8: 8, 9), others must be traced directly to the production centres in Hornád Valley (*Bulas 2019*, fig. 2: 1a).

Upper Košice Basin and Middle Torysa region

Settlements in the region are relatively well excavated and published compared to other areas of the North-Eastern Slovakia. Assemblages from Ostrovany, Medzany (Pl. I: 3; *Lamiová-Schmiedlová/Lušítková/Tomášová 2017*, 21, obr. 4) and Prešov (Pl. I: 6–9; *Budinský-Krička 1963*) are the most important for the knowledge of the stamped ware in the area. Individual finds of stamped pottery appear at other sites as well (Pl. I: 2; *Budinský-Krička 1982a*, 49; 1982b, obr. 36: 5).

Topľa Basin

Roman period settlements of the region are poorly documented even though it probably served as transit route in the south-north direction during the period. Stamped pottery is known from the settlements at Koprivnica (Pl. I: 10; *Budinský-Krička* 1970, tab. 2: 8) and Vranov nad Topľou-Čremošné, site Pri lazoch (Pl. I: 11; *Budinský-Krička* 1976, 57, 58, obr. 34: 2).

Lower Košice Basin, Olšava Valley and North-Eastern Hungary

Stamped pottery from the southern part of Eastern Slovakia is best known from Blažice, Dorina. Results of the excavation in 1958 were recently fully published and re-evaluated (*Luštková/Rákoš* 2018). Decorated ware from the end of Late Roman period/beginning of Migration period is known from Nižná Myšľa (*Lamiová-Schmiedlová* 2000). Finds of stamped pottery found within the settlement area of Przeworsk culture in the Northeastern Hungary were published and evaluated by E. Soós (*Soós* 2019b).

Przeworsk culture in Poland

Stamped decoration appears in area of the Przeworsk culture at the end of the stage C2 and is especially typical for the stage D (based on the chronology proposed by T. Kolník – *Kolník* 1980, 199, which is used in the article), yet its use is rather scarce compared to other types of decoration. Scale of motifs is rather limited as well (*Gajewski* 1959, 131, ryc. 8; *Machajewski/Pietrzak* 2008, 237, ryc. 5: 3, 9: A1–4).

Sites with new finds of stamped pottery

Sites presented in this article belong to the various parts of the North-Eastern Slovakia: Upper Spiš (Gánovce, Veľká Lomnica), Middle Torysa region (Fintice, Ražňany, Veľký Šariš-Kanaš) and Upper Šariš (Bardejov).

Bardejov, site Nad papierňou (Fig. 1: 1; Pl. II: 1, 2)

Site is situated in the south-western part of the town in the vicinity of the two nameless right-bank tributaries of River Topľa. Several dozens of features dated to the Late Bronze age and Northern Carpathian group of Late Roman period belonging to the Northern Carpathian group were excavated during the rescue excavation in 2021. Pottery assemblage is rather small (56 pcs.) but includes two fragments decorated by stamped decoration (Pl. II: 1, 2).

Fintice, site Povrazy (Fig. 1: 3, Pl. II: 4–11; III: 1–9; IV: 1–11)

Site Povrazy (“Nagy Ketel”) lies east of the village at the right-bank terrace of River Sekčov. Small stream flows in the vicinity of the site. Finds originate from the field survey conducted around 2002. Roman period finds include both thin-walled vessels, pots and storage vessels. Several sherds were decorated by stamps (Pl. II: 4–11; III: 1–9). Based on oral information, originally a biconical bead made of black glass and decorated by a yellow band with red wavy pattern was part of the assemblage. Small number of finds attest to the use of site during the Medieval period (11th/12th century) and probably Paleolithic as well.

Gánovce, site Hrádok (Fig. 1: 4; Pl. II: 3)

One fragment of pot decorated with stamp is deposited in Podtatranské múzeum in Poprad, presumably from the site of Gánovce, Hrádok, without known finding context. Use of the site in the Neolithic, Eneolithic, Bronze Age, Iron Age and Early Medieval period was previously identified (*Novotný/Kovalčík* 1977).

Ražňany, site Farské (Fig. 1: 13; Pl. V–VIII¹)

Polycultural archaeological site Farské is located on the right-bank fluvial terrace of River Torysa and was excavated and surveyed in years 2009, 2011–2016. Site was settled in several periods including Palaeolithic,

¹ Thanks to A. Karabinoš for granting me the possibility to publish finds from the excavation in Ražňany.

Neolithic, Bronze age, La Tène period and Roman period. The results were only partially published in several articles (*Karabinoš/Vizdal 2022; Švaňa/Karabinoš/Vizdal 2018; etc.*).

Veľká Lomnica-Na rovni (Fig. 1: 19; Pl. IX: 1–6)

The site is situated at the western edge of the right-bank terrace of River Poprad at the southern edge of the village. A small stream flows in the western vicinity of the site. During the trenching phase of excavation in 2023, up to eighty of Late Roman features, including pits, post-holes and possible production features were identified. Pottery assemblage (Pl. IX: 1–6), despite being scarce (65 pcs.), was rather typical for the Northern Carpathian group, consisting of mostly hand-made ware, sometimes decorated with wavy pattern and fragments of large storage vessels. Two of the sherds were decorated with stamps, one found in feature No. 35 (Pl. IX: 1) and the second one was a stray find (Pl. IX: 2). Other finds included possible fragments of iron fibulae. Numerous finds of slag attest to the iron production at the site.

Veľký Šariš-Kanaš (Fig. 1: 20; Pl. IX: 7)

Four Roman period features, dated to the stages C1a–C1b/C2, were excavated during rescue excavations in Veľký Šariš-Kanaš on the slope above the northern bank of the stream. Three settlement features were excavated at the site. Fragment of a bowl with stamped decoration (Pl. IX: 7) was found in the feature 3/2015, a storage pit which was dated to the later stages of the settlement (*Švaňa/Šimčík 2021, 71, obr. 6: 2*). Assemblage found in the feature included twenty-nine pottery sherds, two reconstructible vessels, animal bones, daub and slag.

TYPES OF THE STAMPED DECORATION

Sixteen types of the stamped decoration, each with its own unique characteristics, were recognized among the findings from the published sited (Pl. X). Some of them have numerous parallels, while others are quite unique lacking known analogies. The distinction between stamps used for wheel-made and hand-made pottery is evident, yet the simple patterns were prevalent among both groups.

Circular stamp patterns (Pl. X: 1–4) were the most common and they were used for the decoration of both wheel-turned and hand-formed pottery. Use of such decoration is attested among the products of workshops at Ostrovany (*Lamiová-Schmiedlová/Lušítková/Tomášová 2017, obr. 4: A, B*) and Blažice (*Lušítková/Rákoš 2018, obr. 5: A–E*). Stamps in the form of larger circles with hollow middle parts found in Ražňany, both at wheel-made (Pl. V: 7, 11) and hand-formed pottery (Pl. V: 10), have close parallels not only in the nearby Šarišské Michaľany (Pl. I: 3, *Lamiová-Schmiedlová 1983, obr. 103: 2*) but in the Polish Carpathians (*Madyda-Legutko/Tunia 2020, fig. 8: 8*) and Nižná Myšľa (*Lamiová-Schmiedlová 2000, obr. 1: 1*) as well. A more complex circular motif on a wheel-made vessel from Bardejov (Pl. II: 1) has good parallels in Blažice (*Lušítková/Rákoš 2018, obr. 5: 6, 8–11*). Circular stamps were sometimes combined with other types of stamped decoration (Pl. I: 3; II: 3, 9; III: 5), occasionally also to create more complex patterns (Pl. I: 7, 10). Such stamps also appear in combination with other forms of decoration, often with plastic horizontal ribs, incised lines, or wavy patterns (Pl. I: 9; II: 6, 7; III: 2, 7; V: 10; VI: 3). Combination of stamped circle with burnished band is known from the Early Migration period finds from Nižná Myšľa (*Lamiová-Schmiedlová 2000, 16, obr. 1: 3*).

Rosette-shaped stamps (Pl. X: 5) were also very popular for decorating both wheel-turned and hand-formed pottery. This decoration is widespread and evidenced in Northern Carpathian group both in Upper (*Giertlová/Soják 2005, obr. 2: 2–5; 7: 6; 8: 7*) and Lower Spiš (Pl. I: 1; *Javorský 1977, obr. 69: 4*), also at settlements in Prešov (Pl. I: 8; *Budinský-Krička 1963, tab. XIV: 7*) and among products of Blažice workshop (*Lušítková/Rákoš 2018, obr. 4A*). It is also represented in the milieu of Przeworsk culture in Poland (*Gajewski 1959, 131, ryc. 8a*) and North-Eastern Hungary (*Soós 2019b, Fig. 3: 1; 8: 7; 11: 1, 2, 3, 14*). Rosette motifs were combined with other types of stamped decoration (Pl. V: 8), sometimes to create more complex patterns (Pl. I: 8; V: 6; *Lušítková 2017, tab. 7: 11, 12; Soós 2019b, fig. 8: 2*).

Use of serrated ovals and circles (Pl. X: 6) is attested in Veľká Lomnica (Pl. IX: 2) and possibly also in Fintice (Pl. II: 10; III: 6). In the second case the motif is almost unidentifiable possibly due to the use of an old stamping die. Both examples come from hand-formed vessels, unlike the ones on the wheel-made vessels from

Šebastovce-Barca (*Luštková 2013*, tab. VIII: 15), Arka-Fónyi patak in the North-Eastern Hungary (*Soós 2019b*, fig. 3: 2) and Ryty in Polish Carpathians (*Madyda-Legutko/Tunia 2020*, fig. 8: 8) decorated with vaguely similar patterns.

Vegetation motifs such as branch or corn (Pl. X: 7) and leaf (Pl. X: 8) appear regularly. The branch/corn pattern is attested in Ražňany (Pl. V: 4; VI: 10), and based on material characteristics (very fine ware), it is possible that it belongs to C1b–C2 stages. A similar pattern combined with circular motif is known from Koprivnica south of Bardejov (Pl. I: 10; *Budinský-Krička 1970*, tab. II: 8). Corn pattern combined with rosettes is attested on hand-made vessels from Peder (*Luštková 2017*, 120, tab. IX: 17) and Šebastovce-Barca (*Luštková 2013*, 101, tab. IV: 5), which have its wheel-made counterpart from Seňa (*Lamiová-Schmiedlová 1969*, Abb. 42: 30). Stamps in the form of leaves are present in the material from Ražňany (Pl. V: 9; VI: 7), Prešov (Pl. I: 6; *Budinský-Krička 1963*, obr. 17: 1) and as product of local pottery workshops in Blažice (*Luštková/Rákoš 2018*, obr. 4: J3, 4, 7, 8) and Ostrovany (*Schmiedlová/Luštková/Tomášová 2017*, obr. 4: D2). The motif is also known from Nižná Myšľa (*Lamiová-Schmiedlová 2000*, 16, obr. 1: 5).

Various forms of arches (Pl. X: 9) appear on the bowls from Veľký Šariš-Kanaš (Pl. IX: 7) and Fintice (Pl. II: 5, 8, III: 4, 8). Use of the pattern was seemingly limited to the wheel-made pottery as evidenced by the products of Ostrovany workshop dated to the C1–C2 stages (*Schmiedlová/Luštková/Tomášová 2017*, obr. 4: E) and settlement finds in Šebastovce-Barca (*Luštková 2013*, tab. VIII: 14) and Northeastern Hungary (*Soós 2019b*, fig. 11: 6, 9, 11, 12).

Composite stamp consisting of double arch and circles (Pl. X: 10) was decorating a bowl found in Veľká Lomnica (Pl. IX: 1). Similar patterns are known from Ostrovany (*Lamiová-Schmiedlová/Luštková/Tomášová 2017*, tab. VI: 28, 32; VIII: 2), Blažice (*Luštková/Rákoš 2018*, obr. 4: K4–6, 9), Peder (*Luštková 2017*, tab. VII: 11), Trstené pri Hornáde (*Jurečko 1983*, obr. 21: 5; 23: 1) and Vranov nad Topľou-Čremošné (Pl. I: 11; *Budinský-Krička 1976*, obr. 34: 2). It is also represented in Garadna in the North-Eastern Hungary (*Soós 2019b*, fig. 8: 2).

Rouletting represents a specific type of stamped decoration. It was used in several different decoration motifs (Pl. X: 11–15). Simple rouletted lines or curves (Pl. X: 11) are attested for both hand-formed and wheel-turned pottery in Ražňany (Pl. V: 8; VI: 2) and Fintice (Pl. II: 11; III: 3), but also in Ostrovany workshop (*Luštková/Rákoš 2018*, obr. 4: N2). Short and thick slanted rouletted lines (Pl. X: 12) were used on both wheels turned and hand-formed pottery from Ražňany (Pl. V: 1, 2, 5; VI: 1, 6), Fintice (Pl. II: 4; III: 1), Šarišské Michaľany (Pl. I: 3; *Lamiová-Schmiedlová 1983*, obr. 103: 2) and Prešov (*Budinský-Krička 1963*, tab. XV: 9). Use of this pattern is especially numerous in the context of Northern Carpathian group (Pl. I: 4, 5; *Giertylová/Soják 2005*, obr. 8: 1; *Madyda-Legutko/Tunia 2020*, fig. 8: 9). It is also known from the North-Eastern Hungary (*Soós 2019b*, fig. 3: 3). Unique composite pattern from the sherd found at Ražňany, with rouletted lines creating rhombuses which were combined with vertical band of rosettes (Pl. V: 6; VI: 4; X: 13), has no known direct analogies. Slightly similar composition, but without rosettes, appears on a sherd from Trstené pri Hornáde (*Jurečko 1983*, obr. 18: 5). Horizontal bands of rouletted decoration (Pl. X: 14, 15) are known mainly within the hand-made ware from Ražňany (Pl. V: 13; VI: 11), Fintice (Pl. II: 9; III: 5) and Nižná Myšľa (*Lamiová-Schmiedlová 2000*, obr. 1: 6). Rouletted decoration on the wheel-made bowl from Ražňany (Pl. V: 3; VI: 5) has a possible parallel in a sherd found in the Migration period feature at Čelovce in Eastern Slovak Lowland (*Vizdal 1986*, 241, obr. 130: 4).

Stamps of type 16 (Pl. X: 16) represent a heterogeneous group of unusual stamps generally without analogies. A vessel from Bardejov (Pl. II: 2) and a sherd from Ražňany, both with rectangular stamp (Pl. V: 12), are probably to be dated to the stages C3 or C3/D1 based on their material characteristics. Pattern from an S-shaped pot found at Gánovce (Pl. II: 3) might be connected to the egg-and-dart (“bear paw”) decoration that has some parallels from settlement Arka-Fónyi patak in the North-Eastern Hungary dated to the end of the 2nd and the 3rd century (*Soós 2019b*, 381, 382, fig. 3: 4). It also appears on the vessels from Šebastovce and Seňa (*Lamiová-Schmiedlová 1969*, Abb. 43: 27, 28, 31) and from Prešov (*Budinský-Krička 1963*, tab. XIV: 7; XV: 5). Interestingly, this decoration is also known from Detva-Kalamárka, where it is probably connected with the refugium dated to the second half of the 4th century or even early half of the 5th century (*Šalkovský 2002*, 113, 123, obr. 13: 4, 5). Examples from the Quadic settlements of the South-Western Slovakia are dated to the C2–C3/D1 phases (*Kolon 2017*, 184, tab. 11, 7, 64; 11, 7, 1098; *Varsik 2011*, 164, 165). Seemingly, fragment from Gánovce should be given the same dating and attests to the hitherto unknown settlement phase on the site.

CHARACTERISTICS AND FORMS OF STAMPED POTTERY

The stamped decoration was in North-Eastern Slovakia used for both wheel-made and hand-formed pottery, seemingly some of the patterns are more typical for one group more than for the other (Pl. X). Material of the wheel-made pottery is generally fine, but unlike the production of Blažice (*Lamiová-Schmiedlová/Lušítková/Tomášová* 2017, tab. LV: 1, 2) and Ostrovany (*Lušítková/Rákoš* 2018, tab. XIX; XX; XX: 1–5, 7) workshops which is made of the material with almost no impurities, sherds from the presented sites often contain visible admixture of sand and/or small pebbles and mica (e. g. Pl. II: 1; III: 3, 7; VI: 4; IX: 1, etc.). The difference between these two groups might be chronologically relevant and it is possible that fragments made of fine clay (Pl. III: 2; VI: 10) might belong to this older group. Of note is black or reddish coating that sometimes appears among stamped sherds both wheel-made (Pl. III: 7) and hand-formed (Pl. III: 1; VI: 3, 9, 11), as well as accompanying pottery material (Pl. IX: 4). Vessels with dark reddish or black coating appear in Northern Slovakia during the final phase of the Late Roman settlements (*Hudák et al.* 2022, 102).

Use of white incrustation on the bowl from Veľká Lomnica (Pl. IX: 1) has analogy in two sherds with the same stamped decoration from Ostrovany. Interestingly, those are linked to the local workshop working during the second phase of the settlement (stages C1–C2). This workshop also produced vessels of similar form (*Lamiová-Schmiedlová/Lušítková/Tomášová* 2017, 21, 27, 28, tab. IV: 22; VI: 1). Based on the current knowledge it seems that bowl from Veľká Lomnica might have been some kind of memorabilia or, based on material differences, namely admixture of fine sand that makes it closer to the later wheel-made pottery, product of yet unknown workshop that continued to produce vessels within the same tradition.

Above-mentioned bowls, with flaring rim and cylindrical or almost cylindrical upper part of body, were one of the most popular forms of wheel-made stamped pottery produced during C1–C2 stages. Outside of Ostrovany they are also attested in Blažice (*Lušítková/Rákoš* 2018, tab. I–III: 3–9). They occasionally appear in Fintice (Pl. II: 5, 8), Prešov (Pl. I: 7, *Budinský-Krička* 1963, obr. 17: 3) and Veľký Šariš-Kanaš (Pl. IX: 7), but they are absent from the material from Ražňany. Interestingly, vessel of this form from Smižany is decorated with short rouletted lines (Pl. I: 4), which are typical for the late phase of the Late Roman period attesting the survival of the form to the second half of the 4th century.

Bowls from Ražňany with rouletted decoration (Pl. V: 1, 3) have a slightly different form. A vessel with a broadly opened upper part (Pl. V: 3) has parallel in the find from the third phase of settlement of Ostrovany (*Lamiová-Schmiedlová/Lušítková/Tomášová* 2017, tab. XXVI: 5). Bowl with slightly inwardly thickened vertical rim and cylindrical upper part of the vessel (Pl. V: 1) has an analogy in Trstené pri Hornáde (*Jurečko* 1983, obr. 26: 5). Vessel with a richly profiled upper part from Ražňany (Pl. V: 5) should be dated to the late phase of the Late Roman period as attested by similar finds from Ostrovany (*Lamiová-Schmiedlová/Lušítková/Tomášová* 2017, 19, obr. 3: E).

As for the pottery made in hand, only two fragments could be identified as pots (Pl. II: 3, 10). S-profiled pots, such as the one from Gánovce (Pl. II: 3), are common in the milieu of Northern Carpathian group (*Giertylová/Soják* 2005, 122). It is safe to assume that some of the sherds with thinner walls and treated surface like one from Ražňany (Pl. V: 10; VI: 3) belonged to the other forms of pottery.

ACCOMPANYING POTTERY FINDS

There are very few dateable finds from the above-mentioned sites outside of the pottery. The two biggest pottery assemblages come from Fintice, site Povrazy and Ražňany, site Farské. It should be noted that the site at Ražňany was settled repeatedly, if not continually, during the Roman period and the presented assemblage consists of stray finds, thus making the chronology even more difficult. Some of the conical bowls of Dacian origin and sharply profiled bowls made in the Przeworsk tradition (Pl. VII: 9, 12) might indicate that the beginnings of the settlement in Ražňany belonged to the late phase of the Early Roman period or the early phase of the Late Roman period (stages B2–C1, *Švaňa/Karabinoš/Vizdal* 2018, 110, 111). Imitation of terra sigillata Dragendorf 37 (Pl. VIII: 1) might belong to this earlier phase of occupation (C1b–C2?). It should be noted however that in Ostrovany sharply profiled bowls continued to be used also during the second and third phase of the settlement (*Lamiová-Schmiedlová/Lušítková/Tomášová* 2017, 16).

Importance of the site seems to have peaked during the late phase of the Late Roman period where most of the pottery material was dated. It is around the same time when Fintice, site Povrazy was inhabited as no hitherto available finds point at earlier Roman period occupation of the site. Burnished pottery appears at both sites (Pl. IV: 9; VII: 2, 3, 5). Its presence has parallels at Ostrovany, mainly during the third phase of the settlement (*Lamiová-Schmiedlová/Lušítková/Tomášová 2017, 28*). Other type of the decoration, that has parallels mainly at Late Roman period sites (*Budinský-Krička 1963, 36, tab. IV: 1, 8, 13*), are horizontal incised lines found at vessels from Ražňany (Pl. VIII: 5) and Veľká Lomnica (Pl. IX: 6). Bowl from Poznaň with the same decoration is dated to the stages C2–D (*Machajewski/Pietrzak 2008, 239, ryc. 5: 6*). In the case of the upper part of the vessel from Fintice, incised lines are combined with rouletting (Pl. II: 4; III: 1). Incised wavy patterns were also often used to decorate bodies of larger vessels, both wheel-made (Pl. IV: 3, 4, 10) and formed in hand (Pl. VIII: 9, 10; IX: 3), similarly to the material from Prešov (*Budinský-Krička 1963, tab. II: 4; III: 1, 2, 10, 12; IV: 9, 13, 14*). Indented decoration of the sherd from Fintice (Pl. III: 9; IV: 5) has some parallels within the ceramic material of Carpathian group of Upper Spiš (*Giertlová/Soják 2005, obr. 11: 7; 12: 13*). But most specific type of decoration is one from rim of the storage vessel found in Ražňany, in the form of incised rhombuses (Pl. V: 14). It has close parallels from Nižná Myšľa (*Lamiová-Schmiedlová 2000, 16, obr. 1: 8*) and especially in the decoration of a jug found at Migration period cemetery in Lipnica Murowana (*Biborski/Zagórska-Telega 2008, 92, fig. 17*).

Wheel-made, sharply profiled bowls found both in Ražňany (Pl. VII: 1) and Fintice (Pl. IV: 1) can be dated to the C3–C3/D1 stages based on analogies from Dobrodzień group finds from Vávrovice (*Stuchlík 2005, obr. 16: 1*), but also from the North-Eastern Hungary (*Soós 2019a, Abb. 11: 3*). Production of the larger wheel-made vessels, like the ones from Ražňany (Pl. VIII: 4) and Fintice (Pl. IV: 3, 11), seems also to be indicative of later dating (*Lamiová-Schmiedlová 2000, 18; Lamiová-Schmiedlová/Lušítková/Tomášová 2017, 28*). Some finds, like bowl from Ražňany, with a broadly opened upper part (Pl. VIII: 7), seem to have good analogies among the Late Roman pottery products (*Ottományi 2021, tab. 9: 1, 2*). Same seems to apply to the jug from Fintice (Pl. IV: 2; *Ottományi 2021, tab. 13: 4*) which has also analogy from Šebastovce-Barca (*Lušítková 2013, 95, tab. VI: 3*). Grooved handle of a jug (Pl. VII: 10) from Ražňany belongs to the forms that are influenced by Hunnic milieu (*Madyda-Legutko/ Tunia 2020, 292, fig. 8: 1–6*). Fragment of a jug with a faceted body and burnished decoration was also discovered at the site (*Vizdal/Karabinoš 2010, 22, tab. II: 2*). Appearance of this form can also be attributed to the Southeastern influences during C3–C3/D1 (*Lamiová-Schmiedlová/Lušítková/Tomášová 2017, 28*).

It is also hand-formed pottery that presents us with good dating material. Broad and low conical bowls, such as one from Ražňany (Pl. VII: 7), have parallels in the Late Roman and Early Migration period material not only in Eastern Slovakia (*Lamiová-Schmiedlová/Lušítková/Tomášová 2017, 17, tab. XIX: 13; XXXI: 8*), but also in other regions of Central Europe (*Tejral 1982, 41, obr. 14: 2–4*). Bowl from Ražňany (Pl. VII: 6) seems to have its form based directly on the late glazed mortaria (*Ottományi 2021, tab. 10: 3, 4*). So far, there are no Late Roman glazed mortaria known from the Middle TORYSA region, but they are already attested in Upper Spiš (*Rodzińska-Nowak 2021*).

CONCLUSIONS

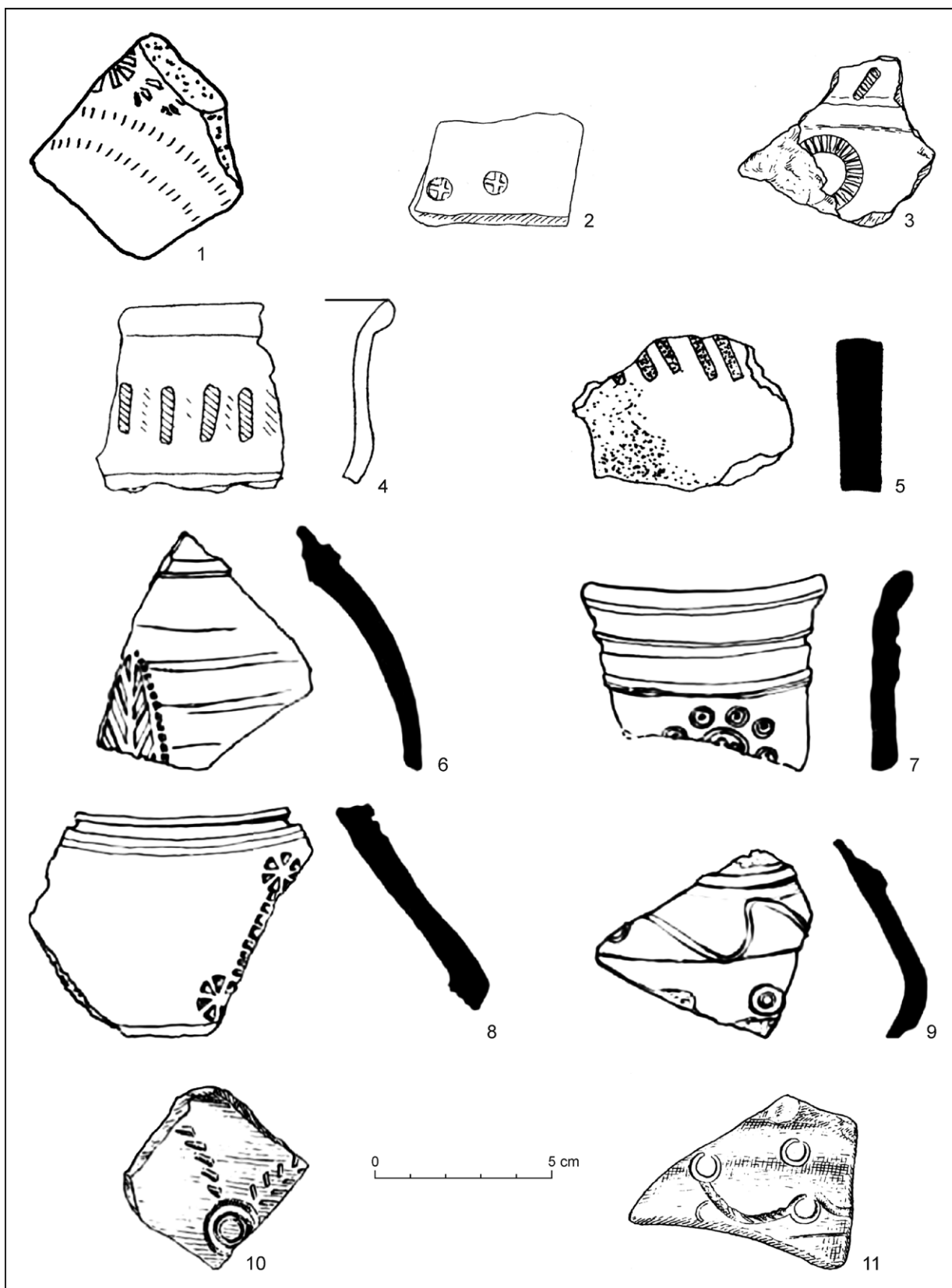
Several conclusions can be drawn from the presented material. As for chronology of the finds, it seems that dating to early phase of the Late Roman period (stages C1b–C2) is probable for the bowls found in Veľký Šariš-Kanaš (Pl. IX: 7) and Fintice (Pl. III: 2), fragment from Ražňany (Pl. VI: 10) and possibly, though rather problematic, for the vessel from Veľká Lomnica (Pl. IX: 1). All the other examples of the stamped pottery from the sites mentioned above seem to belong to the late phase of the Late Roman period and the beginning of the Migration period (stages C3–C3/D1).

Variety of the stamped decoration on the vessels found at sites of Middle TORYSA region (Prešov, Ražňany and Fintice) indicates at least one workshop producing stamped ware during the late phase of the Late Roman period and early Migration period in the vicinity of these sites. In striking contrast with the sites in Middle TORYSA region assemblages north (Slovak and Polish Carpathians) and west (Spiš) of it contain at most few stamped sherds and the variety of the patterns is limited as well. As demonstrated above, patterns of stamped decoration of Northern Carpathian group are to be directly linked to the production

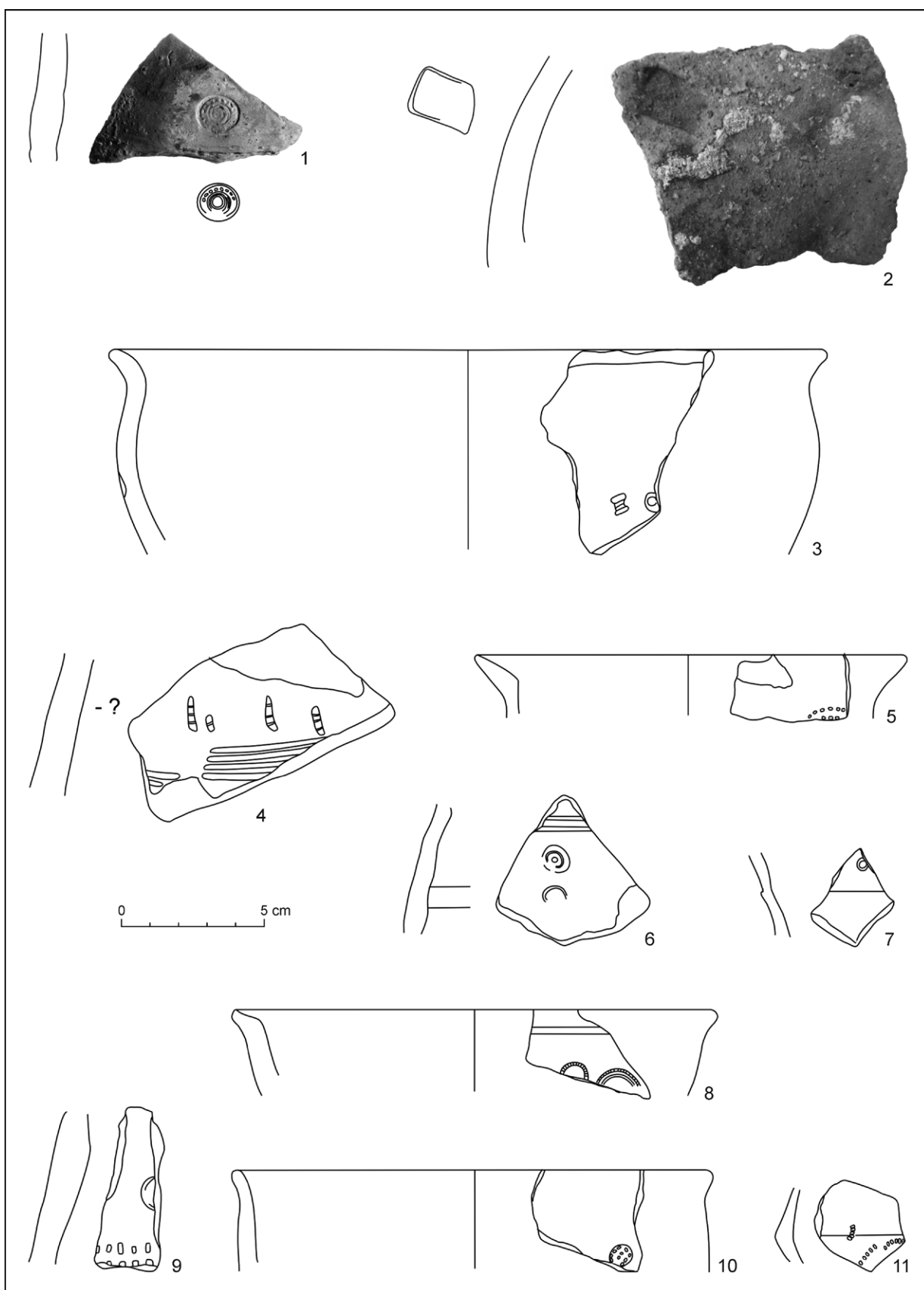
centres located in the Hornád Valley and Middle Torysa region, while quite a few of them show similarity to pottery known from the wider production area of “Blažice type” pottery. Some of those were probably produced under their influence in the local workshops within the milieu of Northern Carpathian group but the majority was likely imported from the above-mentioned areas. This conclusion is further strengthened by the character of pottery assemblages from Northern Slovakia west of Spiš, which generally lack wheel-turned pottery and stamped decoration (*Lofajová Danielová/Furman 2019*, tab. 1; 5: 1–5; *Pieta 1999*, Abb. 10). To elaborate on this, relations with Dobrodzień group and presence of the Eastern elements (*Pieta 1997*, 182) are often emphasized in connection with Northern Carpathian group. The presence of stamped pottery in parts of its area makes strong case for re-evaluation of importance of its ties to the regions of Middle Torysa and Košice Basin.

Still, it is debatable whether the settlements around Prešov should be considered as belonging to Northern Carpathian group. This is especially true for the larger settlements with longer continuity (Ostrovany, Prešov, Ražňany), which still produced a wide scale of pottery based on the older forms (grey wheel-turned pottery, stamped decoration). It is obvious that based on the comparison of the spread of stamped decoration these sites have much more in common with North-Eastern Hungary than with the area of southern Poland or even Spiš. The prevalence of S-formed pots that are often connected with Northern Carpathian group (*Vizdal/Karabinoš 2010*, 26) is not culturally important as they appear in much broader area during the period (*Pieta 1999*, Abb. 7: 8; *Tejral 1982*, obr. 4). Therefore, it seems logical to consider the final phase at these settlements as a late continuation of the longer cultural tradition, whether we call it Przeworsk or Blažice-Bereg culture, bearing foreign influences similarly to the Zlechov phase in Moravia.

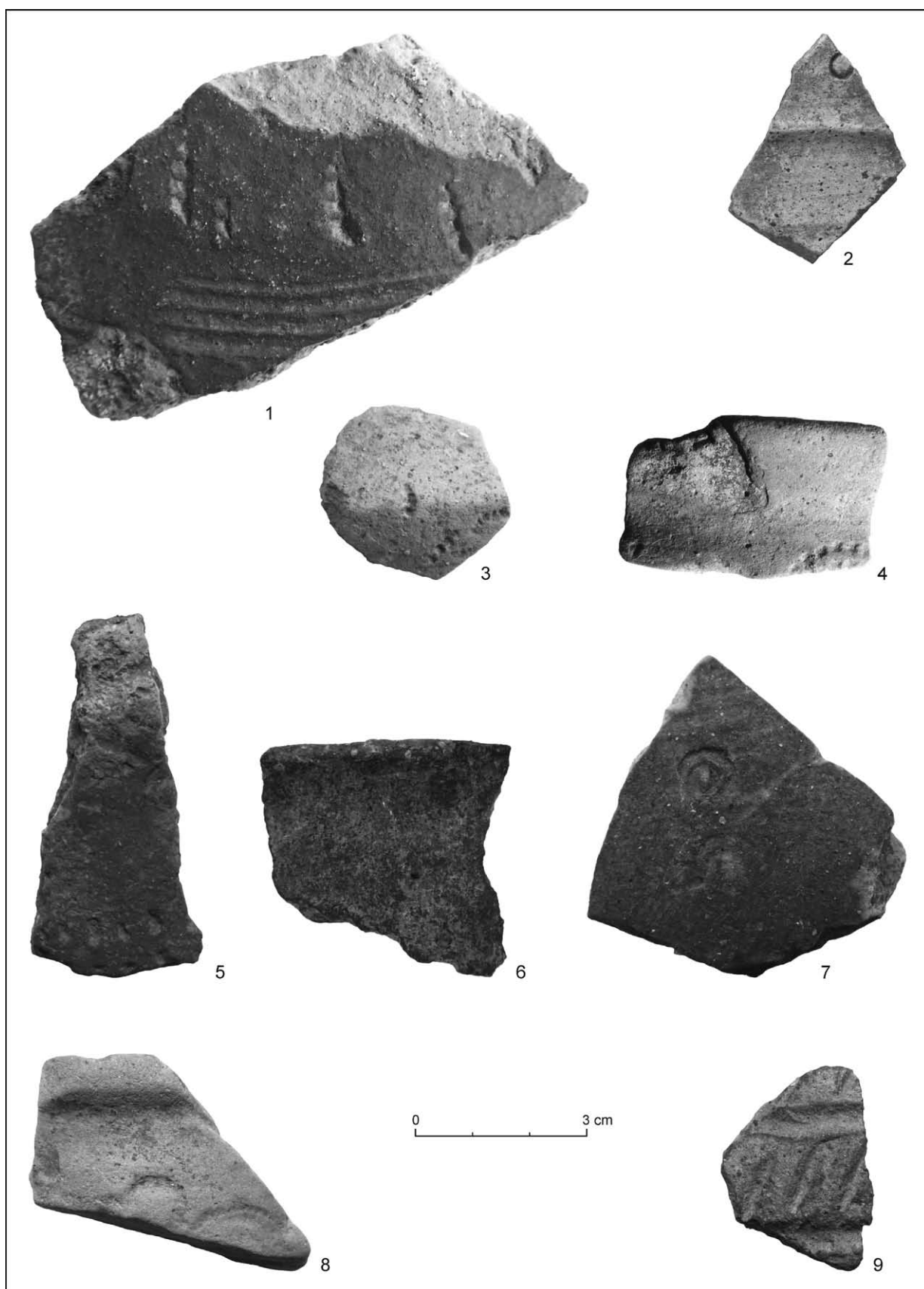
Considering the spreading and use of stamped pottery areas of Košice Basin, Northeastern Hungary and adjacent regions differ from the Przeworsk culture in Poland. Author thus considers the term Blažice-Bereg culture useful despite probable ethnic closeness of the populations inhabiting both areas. It is also worth noting that, except for few familiar patterns, stamped decoration from sites situated in Eastern Slovak Lowland like Čičarovce-Velká Moľva (*Kaminská 2010*, tab. XXIV: 3; XXVI: 1–4, 6, 8–10) is distinctively different from the one from the above-mentioned area. This might hold some significance regarding the intensity of contact between various regions of Eastern Slovakia.



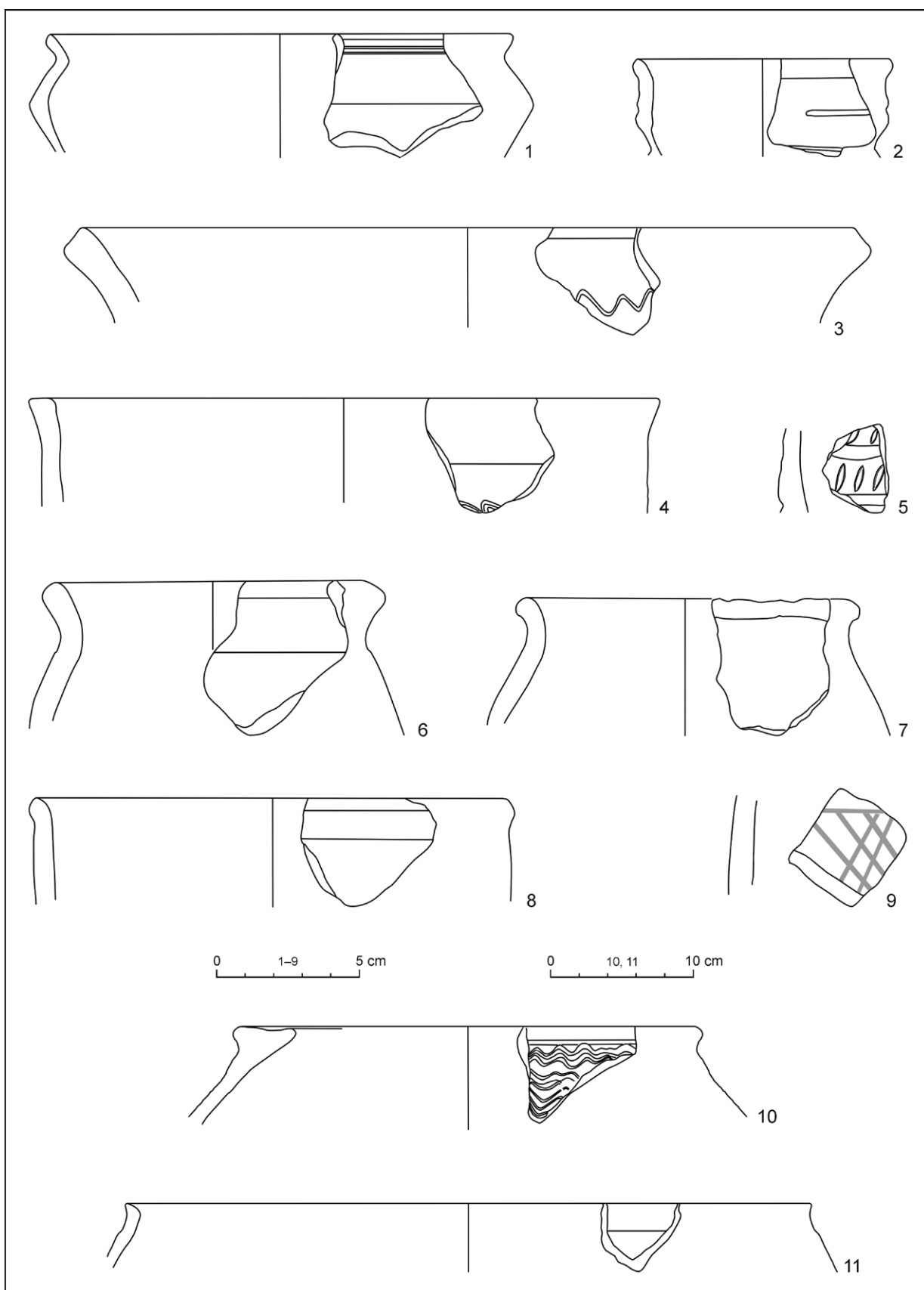
Pl. I. Late Roman stamped pottery. 1 – Spišský Štvrtok (based on Javorský 1977); 2 – Kapušany (based on Budinský-Krička 1982b); 3 – Šarišské Michaľany (based on Lamiová-Schmiedlová 1983); 4 – Smižany (based on Javorský 1984); 5 – Spišská Nová Ves (based on Javorský 1986); 6–9 – Prešov (based on Budinský-Krička 1963); 10 – Koprivnica (based on Budinský-Krička 1970); 11 – Vranov nad Topľou-Čemerné (based on Budinský-Krička 1976).



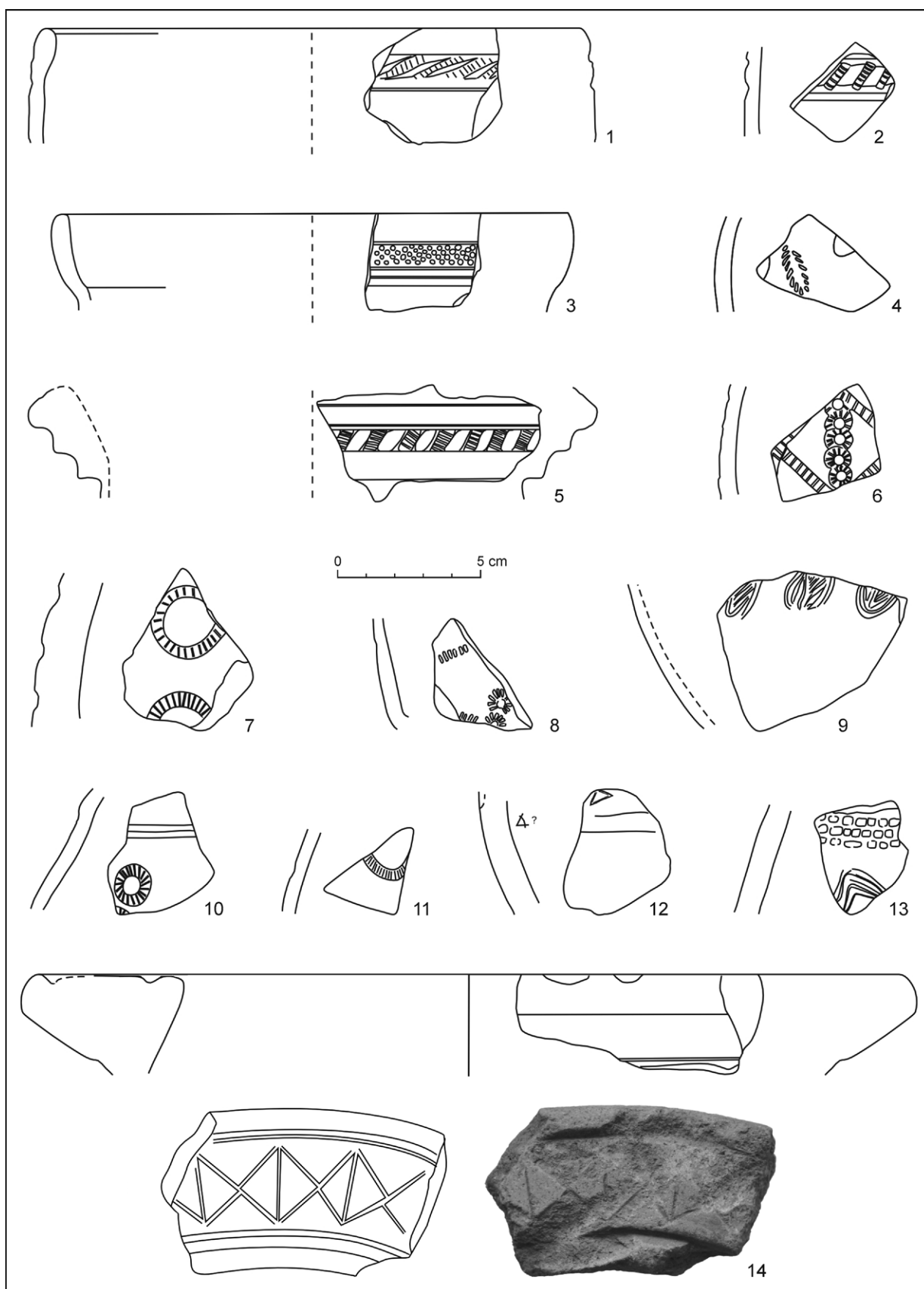
Pl. II. Stamped Late Roman pottery. 1, 2 – Bardejov; 3 – Gánovce; 4–11 – Fintice.



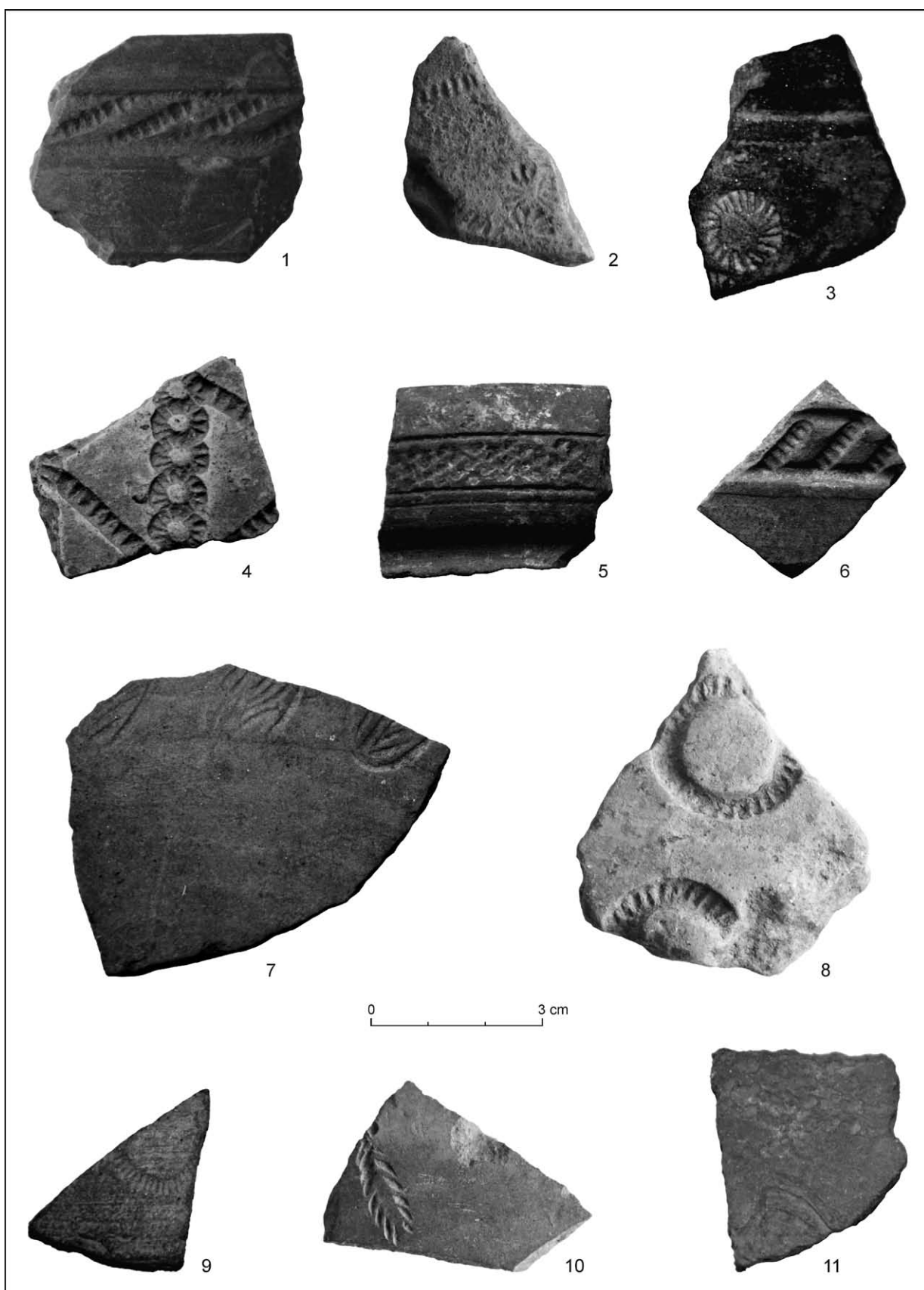
Pl. III. Stamped (1–8) and decorated (9) Late Roman period pottery from Fintice.



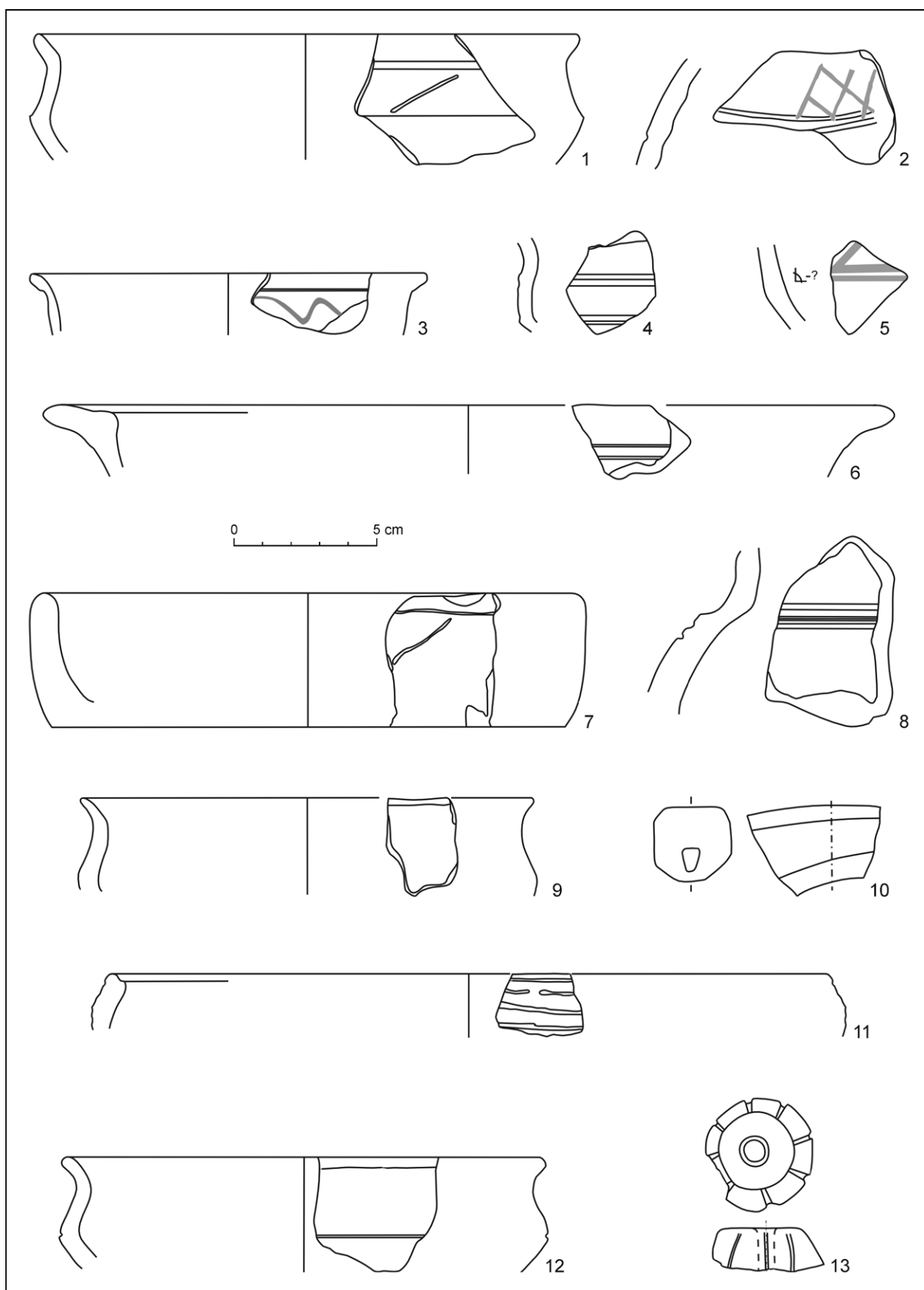
Pl. IV. Late Roman pottery from Fintice.



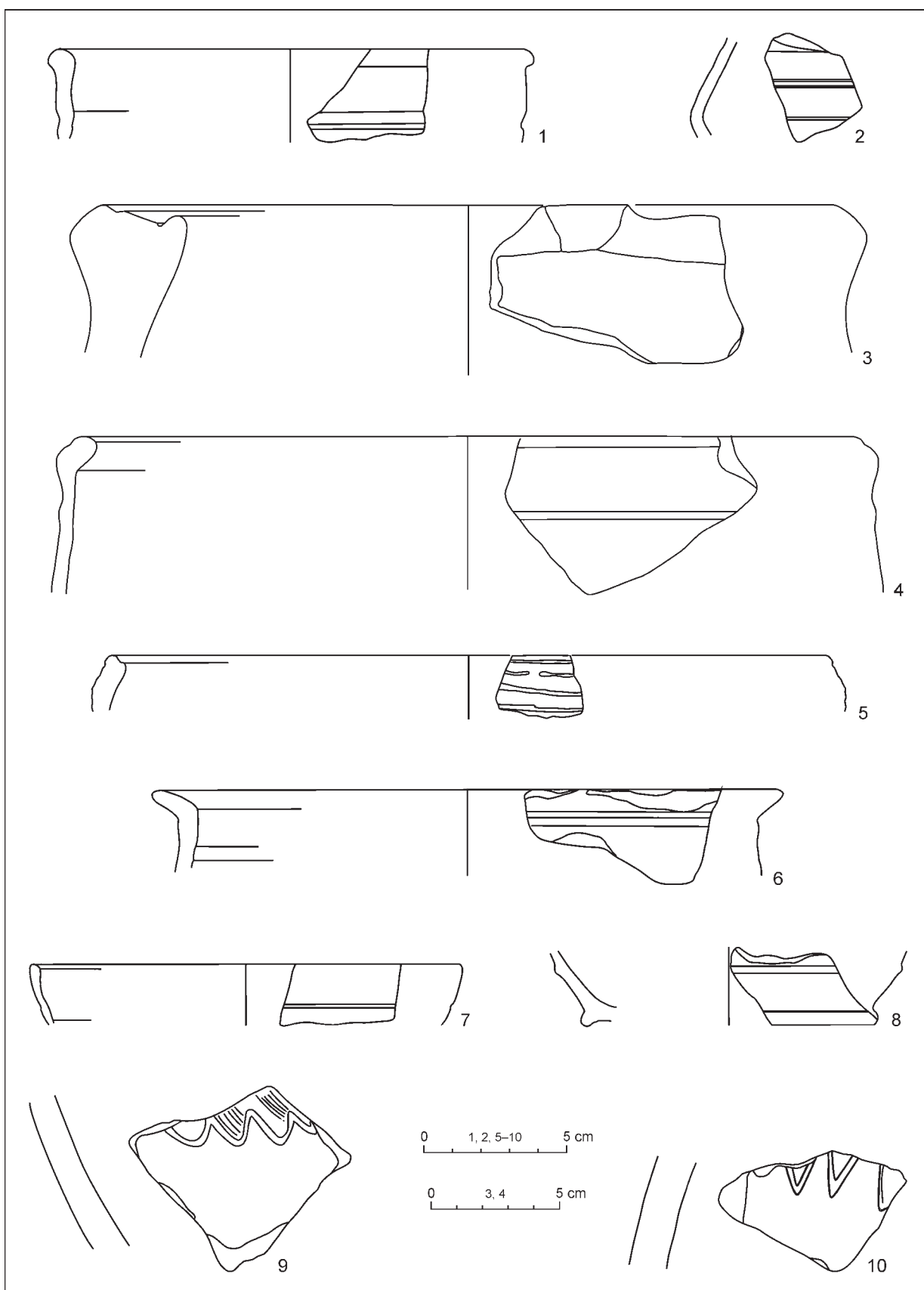
Pl. V. Stamped (1–13) and incised (14) Late Roman pottery from Ražňany.



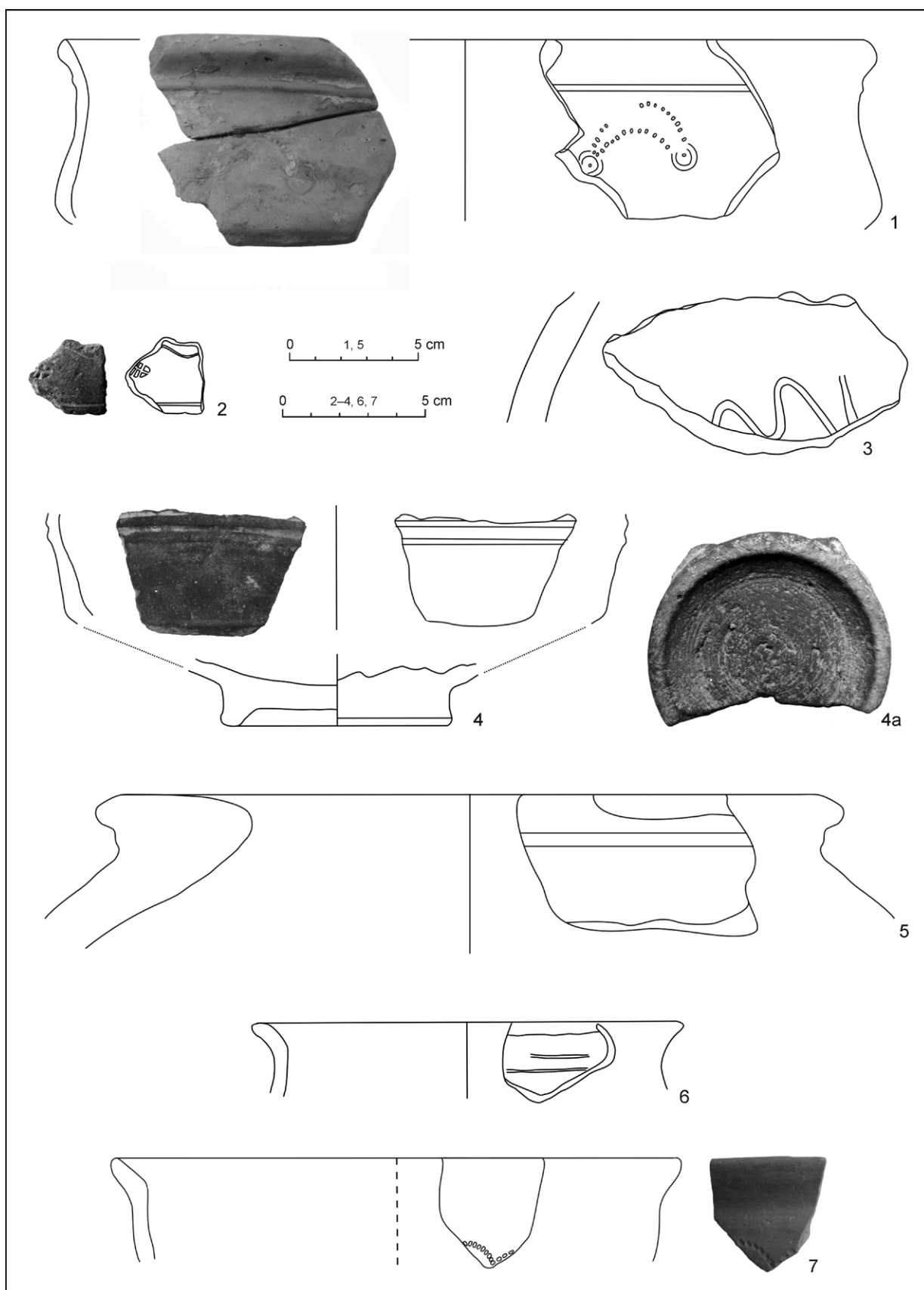
Pl. VI. Stamped Late Roman pottery from Ražňany.



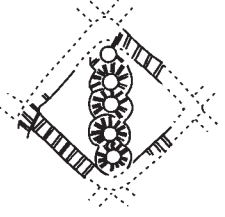
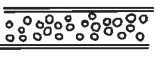
Pl. VII. Late Roman pottery (1–12) and whorl (13) from Ražňany.



Pl. VIII. Late Roman pottery from Ražňany.



Pl. IX. Late Roman pottery from Velká Lomnica (1–6; 1, 2 stamped pottery); stamped pottery from Velký Šariš-Kanaš (7).

Type		Bardejov	Fintice	Gánovce	Ražňany	V. Lomnica	Blažice	N. Myšľa	Ostrovany	Prešov	Lower Spiš	Upper Spiš	Northern-Carpathian group Poland	NE Hungary	Σ
1			w	h			w	x	w	w				w	7
2							w								1
3					wh		w	x				h	w		5
4		w					w							w*	3
5					h		w		w	wh	w	h		wh	7
6			h			h							w*	w*	4
7					w										1
8					w		w*	w	w	w*					5
9			w					x	w	w				w	5
10						w	w*		w*					w*	4
11			w		h		w			h					4
12			w		w					h	w	h	h	w	7
13					w										1
14			h		h			x							3
15					w										1
16		h		h	h									h*	4
n		2	6	2	10	2	8	5	5	6	2	3	3	8	62

Pl. X. Occurrence of stamped decoration patterns at various sites of North-Eastern Slovakia and adjacent areas. W – wheel made pottery; h – hand-formed pottery; x – information not disclosed; * – parallel is not exact, only approximate.

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Neskororímska kolkovaná keramika zo severovýchodného Slovenska

Niekoľko poznámok ku severokarpatskej skupine a jej kontaktom

K a m i l Š v a ň a – P e t e r F e c k o

Súhrn

Článok predstavuje predovšetkým nové a nepublikované nálezy kolkovanej keramiky z obdobia mladšej a neskorej doby rímskej, ktoré sa našli pri výskumoch a prieskumoch sídlisk na území severovýchodného Slovenska (obr. 1). Ide hlavne o nálezy z Ražňan, Fintíc, Bardejova a Veľkej Lomnice, pričom z prvých dvoch menovaných lokalít pochádza aj pomerne bohatý sprievodný keramický materiál. Nálezy sa dali do kontextu publikovaných súborov nielen na dotknutom území, ale aj v jeho širšom susedstve (Hornádska kotlina, poľské Karpaty, severovýchodné Maďarsko).

Na základe dostupného materiálu sa vyčlenilo 16 základných skupín kolkov (tab. X), ktoré sa používali na sledovanom území. Možno konštatovať, že väčšina jednoduchších kolkov (tab. X: 1–6) sa doložila rovnako tak na kruhu vytočených nádobách ako aj na keramike formovanej v ruke. Naopak komplexnejšie kombinácie sú charakteristické pre na kruhu vytočenú keramiku (tab. X: 8–10). Z chronologického hľadiska možno konštatovať, že radielková výzdoba (tab. X: 11–15) a zvlášť typ 12 zodpovedajúci krátkym hrubším líniami sú charakteristické pre obdobie konca neskorej doby rímskej a začiatku doby sťahovania národov.

Tvarovo sa podarilo v prezentovanom súbore medzi na kruhu vytočenými nádobami spoľahlivo identifikovať len misy. Obvyklý tvar predstavovali misy s okrajom šikmo nasadeným na približne hornú valcovitú tvar nádoby (tab. I: 4, 7; II: 5, 8; IX: 1, 7). Tieto majú početné analógie v produkcii blažickej a ostrovianskej dielne. Dve radielkom zdobené misy z Ražňan (tab. V: 1, 3) patria naopak k zriedkavejším formám. Z rovnakej lokality pochádza aj horná časť nádoby z výrazne profilovaným telom (tab. V: 5), ktorú možno s ohľadom na dostupné paralely zaradiť do neskorej doby rímskej, prípadne na počiatok doby sťahovania národov (stupne C3–C3/D1). Medzi v ruke formovanou keramikou boli z tvarového hľadiska identifikované iba hrnce (tab. V: 3, 10), hoci niektoré z tenkostenných črepov s upraveným povrchom (tab. VI: 3) pravdepodobne pochádzajú z iných foriem.

Na základe podobných materiálových charakteristík (veľmi jemne plavený materiál) možno niektoré z fragmentov na kruhu vytočených nádob zaradiť do obdobia mladšej doby rímskej (stupne C1b–C2) a snáď i priamo priradiť k produkcii dielni v Blažiciach alebo pravdepodobnejšie v Ostrovnoch (tab. III: 2; VI: 10; IX: 1, 7). Veľká časť prezentovaného súboru sa však odlišuje istou prímiesou piesku alebo i drobných kamienkov, hoci hrubozrnná na kruhu vytočená keramika (v poľštine označovaná ako szorstka) sa priamo nedoložila. Zaujímavá je časť misy z lokality severokarpatskej skupiny vo Veľkej Lomnici. Tvarom nádoby, užitým kolkom i jeho bielou inkrustáciou predstavujú pre neho priamu analógiu črepy, ktoré sú spojené s produkciou ostrovianskej dielne datovanej do mladšej doby rímskej. Je otázne či možno nálež z Veľkej Lomnice interpretovať ako akýsi upomienkový predmet, alebo ide, aj s ohľadom na prítomnosť ostriva v keramickej hmote, o produkt nejakej neznámej dielne, ktorá pokračovala v tradícii ostrovianskej produkcie.

Práve s ohľadom na rozmanitosť kolkov i samotnú početnosť nálezov neskororímskej kolkovanej keramiky na lokalitách v priestore stredného toku rieky Torysy (Fintice, Prešov, Ražňany) je potrebné v tomto priestore predpokladať nejaké ďalšie produkčné centrum. To pravdepodobne sčasti zásobovalo a sčasti ovplyvňovalo produkciu na územiach severokarpatskej skupiny západne (Spiš) a severne (severný Šariš, poľské Karpaty) od neho. Nálezy kolkovanej keramiky v prostredí severokarpatskej skupiny totiž jednoznačne poukazujú na vzťahy s územiaми na juhu, keďže v prostredí przeworskej kultúry na území Poľska je produkcia takto zdobenej keramiky skôr zriedkavá. V kontexte severokarpatskej skupiny sa často vyzdvihuje vplyv dobrodzienkej skupiny i prítomnosť juhovýchodných elementov. S ohľadom na vyššie uvedené je potrebné zdôrazniť význam kontaktov s germánskym osídlením v povodiach riek Torysa a Hornád, cez ktoré pravdepodobne prúdil i vplyv uvedených juhovýchodných elementov.

Pri lokalitách ako Ostrovany, Prešov, Ražňany a možno i Fintice je badať kontinuitu osídlenia ako i archeologickej kultúry s predchádzajúcim obdobím. Keramické súbory z týchto lokalít sa od sídlisk severokarpatskej kultúry odlišujú variabilitou tvarov i spôsobov výzdoby, ale aj samotnou početnosťou. Aj preto je otázne či je ich, v literatúre ustálené, zaradenie k severokarpatskej skupine správne.

Obr. 1. Mapa lokalít s nálezmi vypichovanej keramiky spomínaných v texte, keramických dielni a ďalších významných lokalít na východnom Slovensku. 1 – Bardejov; 2 – Blažice; 3 – Fintice; 4 – Gánovce; 5 – Kapušany; 6 – Koprivnica; 7 – Medzany; 8 – Nižná Myšľa; 9 – Ostrovany; 10 – Peder; 11 – Prešov; 12 – Poprad-Matejovce; 13 – Ražňany; 14 – Seňa; 15 – Smižany; 16 – Spišská Nová Ves; 17 – Spišský Štvrtok; 18 – Šebastovce-Barca; 19 – Trstené pri Hornáde; 20 – Veľká Lomnica; 21 – Veľký Šariš-Kanaš; 22 – Vranov nad Topľou-Čemerné; 23 – Vrbov. A – Horný Spiš; B – Dolný Spiš; C – Stredná Torysa; D – Topľanská kotlina; E – Dolný Hornád a Olšavská kotlina. Legenda: a – hrnčiarske dielne vyrábajúce vypichovanú keramiku; b – ďalšie keramické dielne; c – kniežací hrob; d – lokalita s nálezmi neskororímskej vypichovanej keramiky uvedenej v texte.

Tab. I. Neskoro rímska vypichovaná keramika. 1 – Spišský Štvrtok (podľa *Javorského* 1977); 2 – Kapušany (podľa *Budinského-Kričky* 1982b); 3 – Šarišské Michaľany (podľa *Lamiovej-Schmiedlovej* 1983); 4 – Smižany (podľa *Javorského* 1984); 5 – Spišská Nová Ves (podľa *Javorského* 1986); 6–9 – Prešov (podľa *Budinského-Kričky* 1963); 10 – Koprivnica (podľa *Budinského-Kričky* 1970); 11 – Vranov nad Topľou-Čemerné (podľa *Budinského-Kričky* 1976).

Tab. II. Vypichovaná keramika z neskorej doby rímskej. 1, 2 – Bardejov; 3 – Gánovce; 4–11 – Fintice.

Tab. III. Vypichovaná (1–8) a zdobená (9) keramika z neskorej doby rímskej z Fintíc.

Tab. IV. Keramika z neskorej doby rímskej z Fintíc.

Tab. V. Vypichovaná (1–13) a vrezávaná (14) keramika z neskorej doby rímskej z Ražňan.

Tab. VI. Vypichovaná keramika z neskorej doby rímskej z Ražňan.

Tab. VII. Keramika z neskorej doby rímskej (1–12) a kolkovaná keramika (13) z Ražňan.

Tab. VIII. Keramika z neskorej doby rímskej z Ražňan.

Tab. IX. Neskoro rímska keramika z Veľkej Lomnice (1–6; 1, 2 – vypichovaná keramika); vypichovaná keramika z Veľkého Šariša-Kanaša (7).

Tab. X. Výskyt vzorov razenej výzdoby na rôznych lokalitách severovýchodného Slovenska a priľahlých oblastí. W – keramika vyrobená na kruhu; h – ručne tvarovaná keramika; x – informácie nezverejnené; * – paralela nie je presná, len približná.

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