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SALGÓTARJÁN-BAGLYAS-KŐ

A Multi-period Prehistoric Site and Medieval Castle

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Located in North-Eastern Hungary, the site occupied during several periods a medieval castle and a multi-period prehistoric settlement with a tell-like layer sequence of several meters. Similar stratified hilltop settlements, sometimes protected with some type of defences, have hitherto usually been assigned to the Baden culture. However, most of these sites are known exclusively from old excavations or finds collected during field surveys. The investigation of the Baglyas-kő site was undertaken with the goal of clarifying the spatial occupation strategies employed by different cultures during successive periods in a location that was eminently suited to constructing strongholds and of determining the periods during which the site was occupied, alongside the identification of possible correlations between the finds and various archaeological features. As it turned out, the site was not solely occupied during the Baden period in prehistory.

Keywords: North-Eastern Hungary, prehistory, Middle Ages, mountain zone, limited occupation space, natural and artificial erosion, spatial organisation, layer formation.

INTRODUCTION

In spring 2019, the Dornyay Béla Museum received the opportunity to investigate a since long known and registered, but never systematically explored site as part of a research project funded by an international grant.[1] Located on the NW-outskirts of Salgótarján, the Baglyas-kő site, known for its stronghold dating to the Árpádian Age, is mentioned several times in the archaeological literature (Fig. 1: 1). However, a systematic study of its mentions in medieval charters and other written records is still lacking, and neither has the stronghold been archaeologically investigated (historical description of the monument: *Mocsáry 1826*, 240; *Genthon ed. 1954*, 358, 359; survey and description with an overview of the written sources: *Feld 2015*, 131, 132; *Nováki/Sándorfi 1991*, 264, 265; *Nováki et al. 2017*, 66, 67; *Sebestyén 2010*; *Simon 1988*, 117, 118).

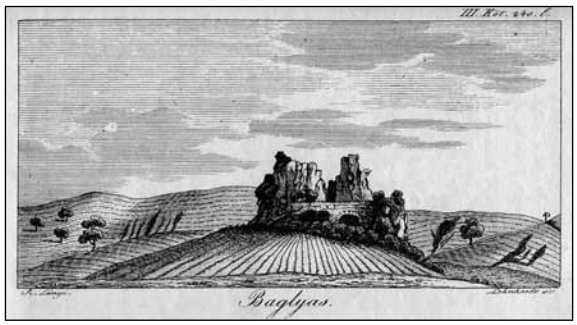
Baglyas-kő is listed among the sites of the Late Copper Age Baden culture and the Early Bronze Age Makó culture (*Dornyay 1926*, 5; *Kalicz 1968*, 79, site 29, 31, pl. III: 6–11, 13, 14). During the past decades, several prehistoric stray finds that could be identified as pottery sherds of the Baden period and the Late Bronze Age–Early Iron Age reached the archaeological collection of the county museum.

During the past few years, we have undertaken the critical re-assessment of the sites of the Ózd-Piliny group of the Late Copper Age Baden complex, one of which – Salgótarján-Pécs-kő – lies some 3.5 km as the crow flies on the city's north-eastern outskirts. One truly surprising result of the critical re-assessment of this site and its finds was that the iconic Late Copper Age sites of North-Eastern Hungary were not ′pure′ Baden sites as earlier believed. As a matter of fact, the previously misidentified finds, among them pottery of the Makó, Hatvan, Piliny, Tumulus and Kyjatice cultures, accounted for a much larger portion of the find material, including the assemblage from Pécs-kő, than the finds of the Baden culture. At the same time, it also became clear that an intense Middle Copper Age horizon could be noted on these sites, indicating that their occupation had begun before the Late Copper Age. One major insight provided by the critical re-assessment was that the Ózd-Piliny group should be regarded as the upland variant of the Viss group rather than as an independent group of the Baden complex and that the label ′Salgótarján group′ should be discarded (*Horváth 2018*, Part 2).

GEOGRAPHIC DESCRIPTION

The site is located in the Medves micro-region, part of the North Hungarian basin in the Northern Mountain Range. Rising to a height of 301 m a.s.l., it is a stratovolcano overlooking the confluence of the Dobroda and Ménes streams beside the saddle of the Dobroda Valley (Fig. 1: 4, 5). The Baglyas-kő is a smaller, dyke-like pass among the small basalt cones of the Karancs Hills, which, unlike

[1] The investigation of the site was undertaken as part of the INTERREG V project 'Living Heritage–Presentation of the cultural heritage transcending borders and ages in historic County Nógrád'.



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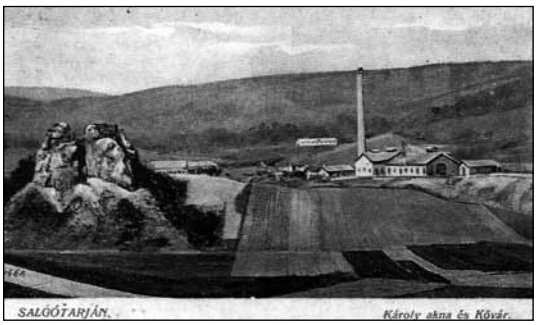

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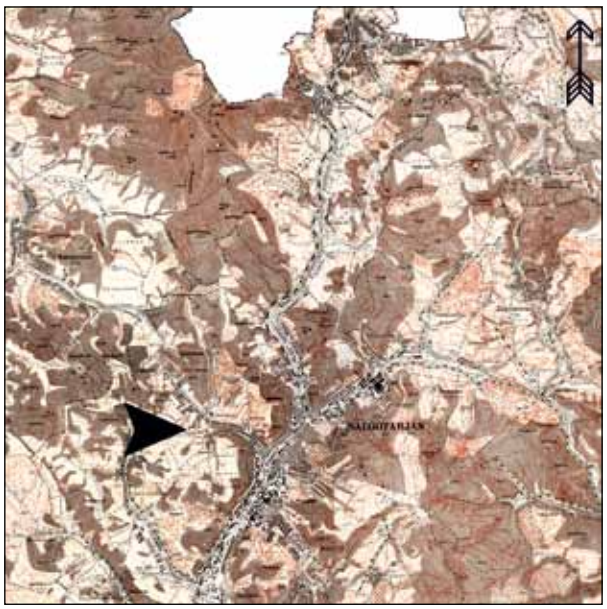
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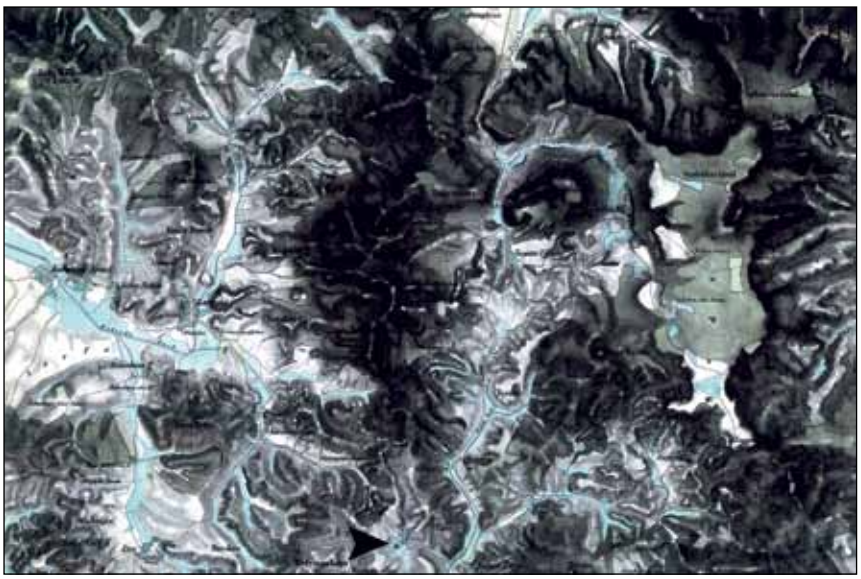
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Fig. 1. Salgótarján-Baglyas-kő. 1 – Antal Mocsáry's depiction of Baglyas-kő Castle based on Sámuel Lehnhardt's copper engraving (after *Mocsáry 1826*, Vol. III, 240); 2 – postcard with a view of the Károly Shaft and the stone castle at Salgótarján and the strip plots in the Baglyas-kő area between 1910–1913, with the ridge of the Meszes Mountains in the background; 3 – cadastral map of Baglyas-kő showing the narrow strip plots (available at https://mapire.eu/hu/map/cadastral/?layers=3%2C4&bbox=2202285.3890899247%2C6124402.620518815%2C2204358.74348216%2C6125119.217658989); 4 – Baglyas-kő on sheet 207-41 of the 25,000 military topography map (1968); 5 – Baglyas-kő on sheet 35-44 of the map of the Second Military Ordnance Survey (1869).

the volcanic cones of the Nógrád region, lies not on a mountain, but on one of the low hills on the eastern margin of the hill range. The hill region itself is made up of ca. 22–25 million years old sedimentary rocks, principally schlier and sandstone. The soft sedimentary rocks were eroded during the millennia, while the double basalt outcrop remained. The geological structure of the currently visible double basalt chimney is fairly well known owing to the coal mining activities conducted at a distance of 200–250 m from and underneath it. The steep volcanic cone is made up of basalt tuff and, to a lesser extent, of basalt (*Jugovics 1968*, 163). Baglyas-kő was part of the Etes Trench, where only the lower coal deposit (Deposit III), which evolved some 18–19 million years ago, was pierced by the volcano's lava tube 3.5–3.8 million years ago, with natural coke forming at the interface of the two. The basalt outcrop visible today is the denuded part of the volcanic tube connecting the magma chamber of a smaller volcano with the surface. The cable-car used for coal mining descended to a depth of 150 m in it. Thus, the currently visible double rock is the result of human activity (*Judik 2013*, 4–16).

From the late 1800s, industrial coal mining began in the area: the deepest, most intensely mined shaft yielding the highest amount of coal, the Károly Shaft extends beside and under the Baglyas-kő, while the József Shaft lies in its close proximity. Both were shut down by the 1930s. The Károly Shaft was backfilled and compacted and its exact location is no longer known (Fig. 1: 2). A slag spoil-heap and a significant amount of industrial waste made up of diverse elements extends across the area and into the area of the stronghold (*Dzsida 1944*, 64; *Szvircsek 2000*, 27, 440).

The broader area of the Baglyas-kő volcanic basalt outcrop is currently part of a nature reserve. The rehabilitation of the Baglyas-kő and its immediate area has begun in the early 2000s. It now has a visitor centre, which is maintained and enlarged according to the changing needs, and is administered by the Bükk National Park since 1993 (*Judik 2013*, 1–3).

BRIEF DESCRIPTION OF THE SITE

The core of the stronghold dating to the Árpádian Age, the irregularly shaped basalt outcrop with steep sides (except on the northern side), rises some 10 m above the surrounding land. A largely infilled ditch section on the more gently sloping north-eastern side marks the boundary of the castle's core area, which covered a roughly 50 x 30 m large area (Fig. 2: 1).

Some historians identify this stronghold with an unnamed castle, mentioned in 1268, owned by Péter of the Illés branch of the Kácsik or Kacsics kindred, one of the region's most important landowners during the Árpádian Age. In 1327, the castle is described as abandoned stronghold. Its estates were later part of the land of Somoskő Castle. The stronghold does not appear in the later written records. The surviving population settled in a safer, more protected valley on the other side of the ridge above Baglyas (at Baglyas-alja, see Fig. 1: 4; *Judik 2013*, 28–33; *Szvircsek 2000*, 363).

NON-INVASIVE ANALYTICAL METHODS PRECEDING THE EXCAVATION

The private stronghold erected beside the one-time medieval royal road has been completely crumbled. Its walls, still extant in the 1800s thanks to the testimony of various illustrations, were destroyed by the local population and industrial mining activities during the past 200 years (Fig. 1: 1, 2). Our investigation focused on preparing a survey of the walls of the one-time keep (a vector graphic digital surface model at a resolution of 5 cm was made of the stronghold and its broader area by means of a photogrammetric survey and orthophotos; see Fig. 2: 2, 3).

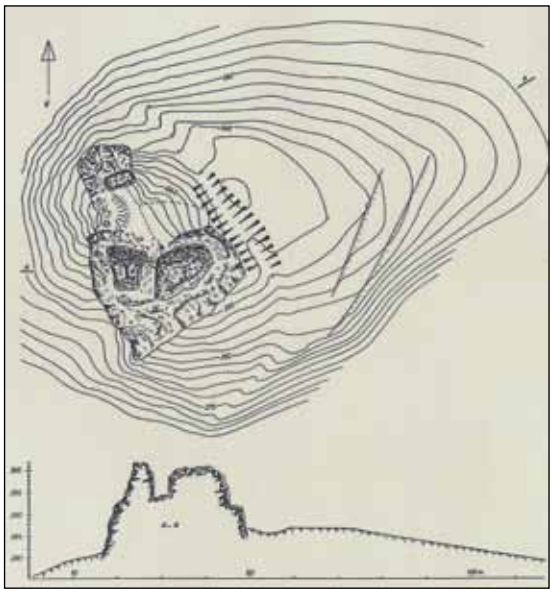
We also conducted a ground-penetrating radar survey and manual corings in the castle's north-eastern area in order to identify possible defensive ditches. These investigations revealed a double line of ditched fortifications. We opened trenches in these areas across an 80 m^2 large area, which wholly confirmed the one-time presence of medieval defence works.

DESCRIPTION OF THE EXCAVATION

Based on the results of the non-invasive surveys, we opened excavation trenches in 4 locations. Trench 1 in the immediate foreground of the castle was opened to investigate the inner defence ditch, Trench 2 to its east for the investigation of the upper terrace, Trench 3 for investigating the second, outer defence ditch (Fig. 3) and Trench 4 for investigating the wide terrace in the castle's hill base area. A wealth of prehistoric finds and features were excavated alongside the medieval ones in Trenches 3 and 4, which shall be described and discussed below.

Trench 3

Trench 3, measuring 2 x 9 m, was opened in the area where the geophysical survey indicated the line of the wide medieval outer defence ditch. (Fig. 3). Following the removal of the upper humus layer,



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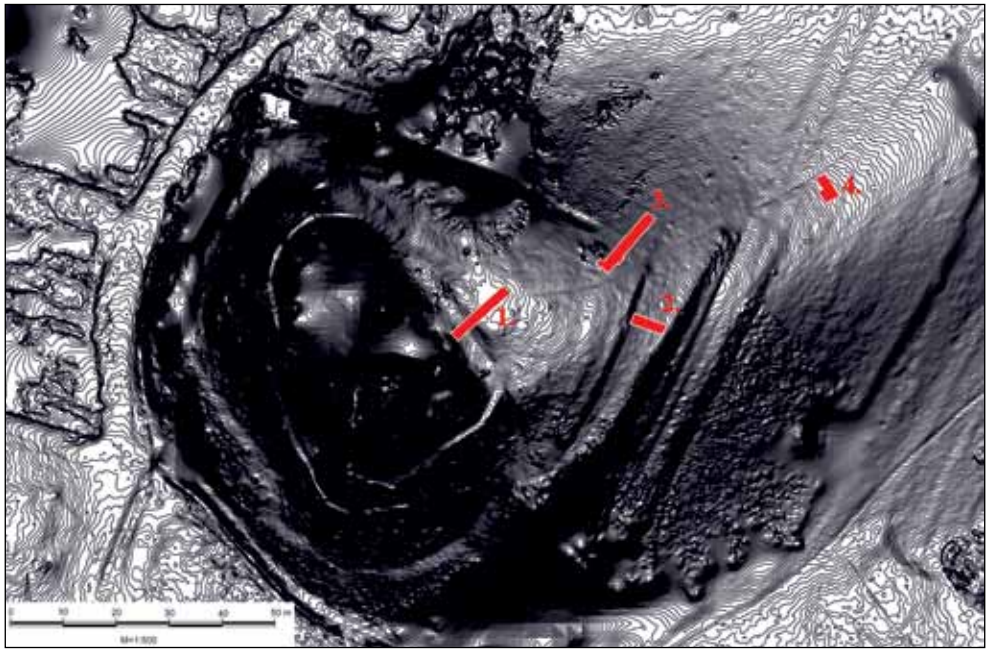

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Fig. 2. Salgótarján-Baglyas-kő. 1 – the first survey of the castle (after *Nováki/Sándorfi 1991*); 2 – orthophoto of Baglyas-kő, based on the survey by Interspect Kft., directed by Gábor Bakó; 3 – contour map of Baglyas-kő showing the excavation trenches, based on the survey drawing by Interspect Kft., prepared by ArchaeoJedi Kft. and A. B. Szilasi.

we found a wide medieval ditch with several fill layers in the middle and the south-eastern part of the trench (Obj. 8, SE-20, 22/21 IF). After the removal of the upper layers we found a slumped fill layer above the ditch's floor (SE-34). The layer containing mainly 14–15-century pottery lay immediately by the ditch's interface.

We uncovered various prehistoric features immediately underneath the humus in the trench's north-western part, nearer to the castle: Pits 7 (SE 18, 62–64/19 IF) and 11 (SE 31, 33/32 IF), and post-holes 5 (14/15 IF), 6 (16/17 IF), 9 (27/28 IF) and 11 (29/30 IF). The finds from the upper layers could be predominantly assigned to the Hatvan culture, while the material from the lower layers to the Baden culture. Even in cases when there was no apparent break between the layers, a similar distribution could be noted between the upper and lower part of the fill (e. g. Obj. 6, SE--16; Obj. 7, SE-62; Obj. 11, SE-33). Moving inward and slightly lower, the interface of the medieval ditch cut through the prehistoric layer containing small amounts of rubble that were dated from the Hatvan period (SE-23: levelling or occupation level).

We documented 3 prehistoric burnt platforms at this depth. The first (SE-24) was a red-burnt, 10–14 cm thick platform cut into layer SE-23 and had a dished form (the cut registered as SE-36 IF). The second (SE-25) was a red-burnt, 8–10 cm thick platform barely plastered on top of layer SE-23. The third (SE-26) lay by the eastern trench wall: a debris of burnt daub mixed with humus and grey earth, underneath which lay a burnt, greyish-red platform (SE-35). Of the three burnt platforms, SE-25 was the most poorly made: this one lay highest and was therefore damaged to the greatest extent, and in any case, it was a poorly-burnt clay platform, perhaps used only once. Platform SE-26 was a sturdier and more permanent structure: the greyish-red, strongly burnt, 3–4 cm thick platform (SE-35) lay underneath the debris of an open-air hearth or the walls of an above-ground oven, and a second greyish-red, 4–6 cm thick platform (SE-37) was found underneath it, which had a foundation of pottery sherds whose function was heat retention (SE-38). The lower part of this pottery sherd packing, mixed with ashy, greyish earth with charcoal as well as pottery, lay in a 10–16 cm deep pit (SE-41 IF), interpreted as the bedding pit of the oven.

The features were part of a Hatvan settlement on a higher-lying terrace, the associated features of a smaller settlement section that had perhaps lain beside a smaller workshop or had been part of the cooking/baking installations of a house. We found that the lower fill layers of some features contained Baden finds. It would appear that similarly to the builders of the medieval stronghold, the Hatvan community too began constructing its buildings after a major spatial re-organisation and that the three occupation areas marked by various cut features at the site (Middle Ages/late Árpádian Age; Early Bronze Age–Middle Bronze Age; Late Copper Age) lay in roughly the same location, had a similar occupation intensity and had a more or less identical extent in the area investigated in Trench 3.

The layers and various features found underneath SE-23, which were first attested as soil marks in excavation level 9 represented the features of another, earlier period (Obj. 19, SE 56/57 IF, pit floor or post-hole; Obj. 20, SE 58/59 IF, pit; Obj. 21, SE 60/61 IF, pit): the high number of pottery fragments brought to light could be assigned to the classical Baden period (Fig. 3: 2). These features lay deeper, on the lower half of a stepped terrace. Nevertheless, the upper part of their ashy fill still contained a number of Hatvan finds (Obj. 21), suggesting that the ashy-sooty and burnt fill layers can be associated with the hearths and the ash-pits of the oven of the Hatvan occupation. In contrast, two pits (Obj. 19 and 20) almost exclusively yielded Baden finds. Feature 21 cut Feature 20, as could be seen from the soil marks and during their excavation.

We documented 15 excavation levels in Trench 3, distinguished according to the employed excavation method of tracing levels (Fig. 3: 1). It seems likely that the hill side was terraced during the Baden period, which was subsequently levelled by the Hatvan community settling here, which then constructed its open-air hearths and ovens in this area. The post-holes (Obj. 5–6 and 9–10) on the western side of these features had perhaps been associated with former houses or workshops, possibly with their walls.

Trench 4

The lowermost trench was opened to investigate the hill base area in the foreground of the stronghold. We uncovered several medieval features that probably represented the remnants of a timber-framed above-ground structure (Obj. 12–13, 15, 17). One post-hole (Obj. 17) cut a prehistoric pit. Only one part of the rather amorphous other pit (Obj. 16) containing both Hatvan and Baden finds fell into the trench. Its large size, slumping fill and amorphous form suggest that it had been a loam pit. The lower part of the fill, which differed from the upper one both in terms of its colour and texture, contained Baden finds, while the upper part yielded Hatvan finds, suggesting a similar use of the available space as in the case of the features uncovered in Trench 3.

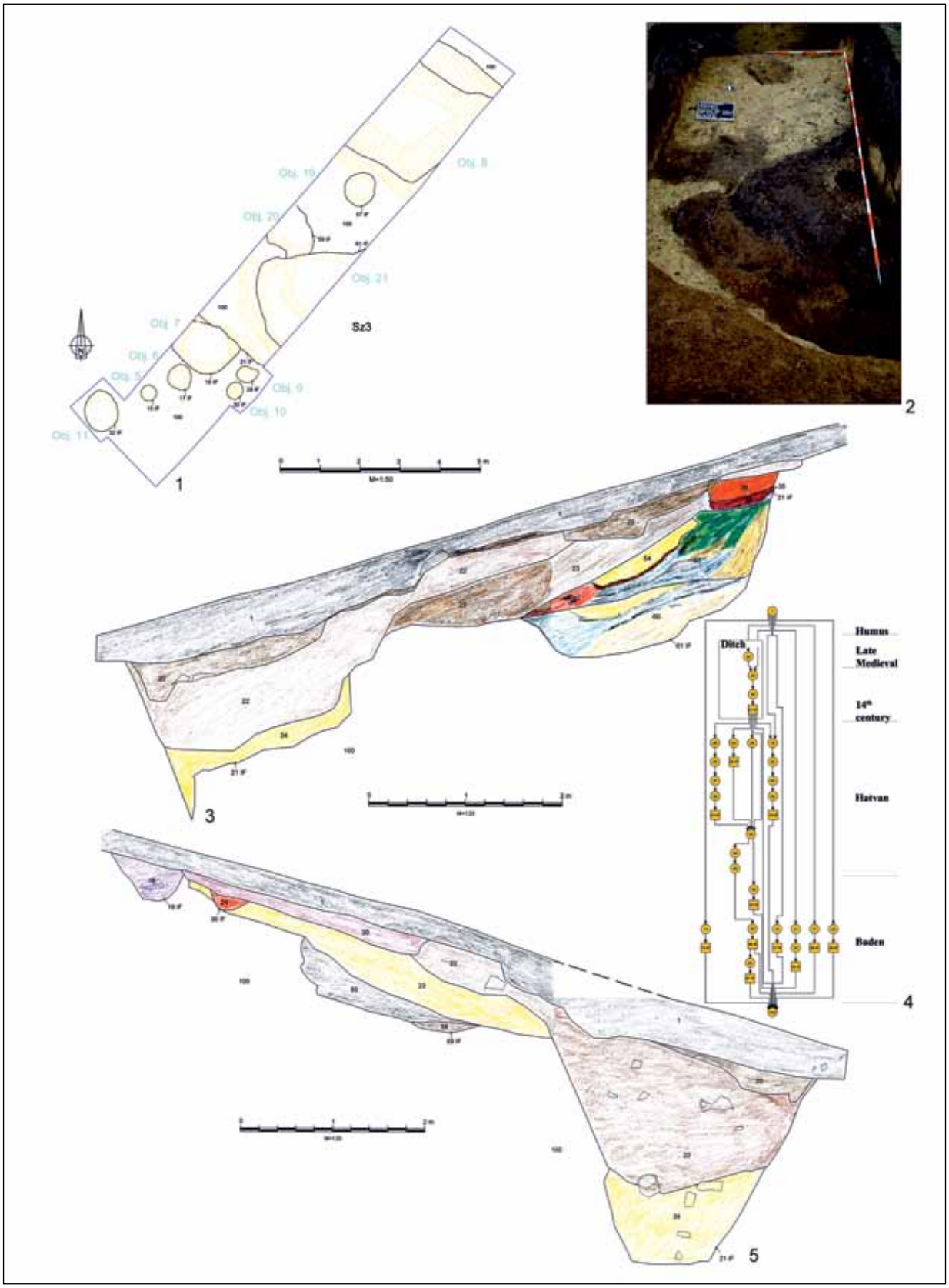

Fig. 3. Salgótarján-Baglyas-kő. 1 – plan of Level Dof. 15, the lowermost level, in Trench 3, made by ArchaeoJedi Kft. and A. B. Szilasi; 2 – soil marks of Features 19, 20 and 21 in excavation level Dof. 9, made by ArchaeoJedi Kft; 3 – section 7 of Trench 3, eastern view; 4 – matrix of Trench 3; 5 – section 8 of Trench 3, western view, made by ArchaeoJedi Kft. and T. Horváth.

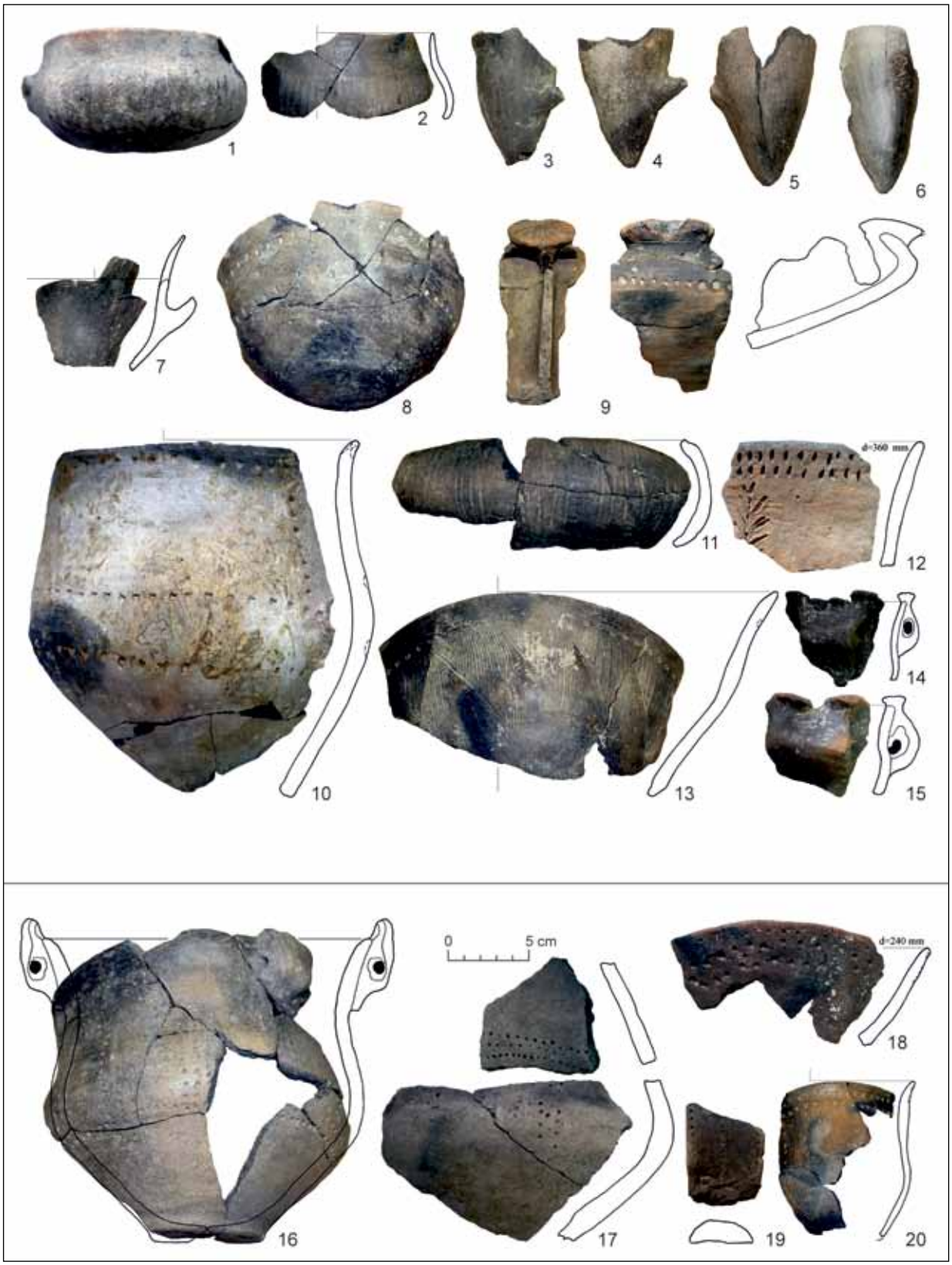

Fig. 4. Salgótarján-Baglyas-kő. Selection of classical Baden and Kostolac-type pottery from the site.

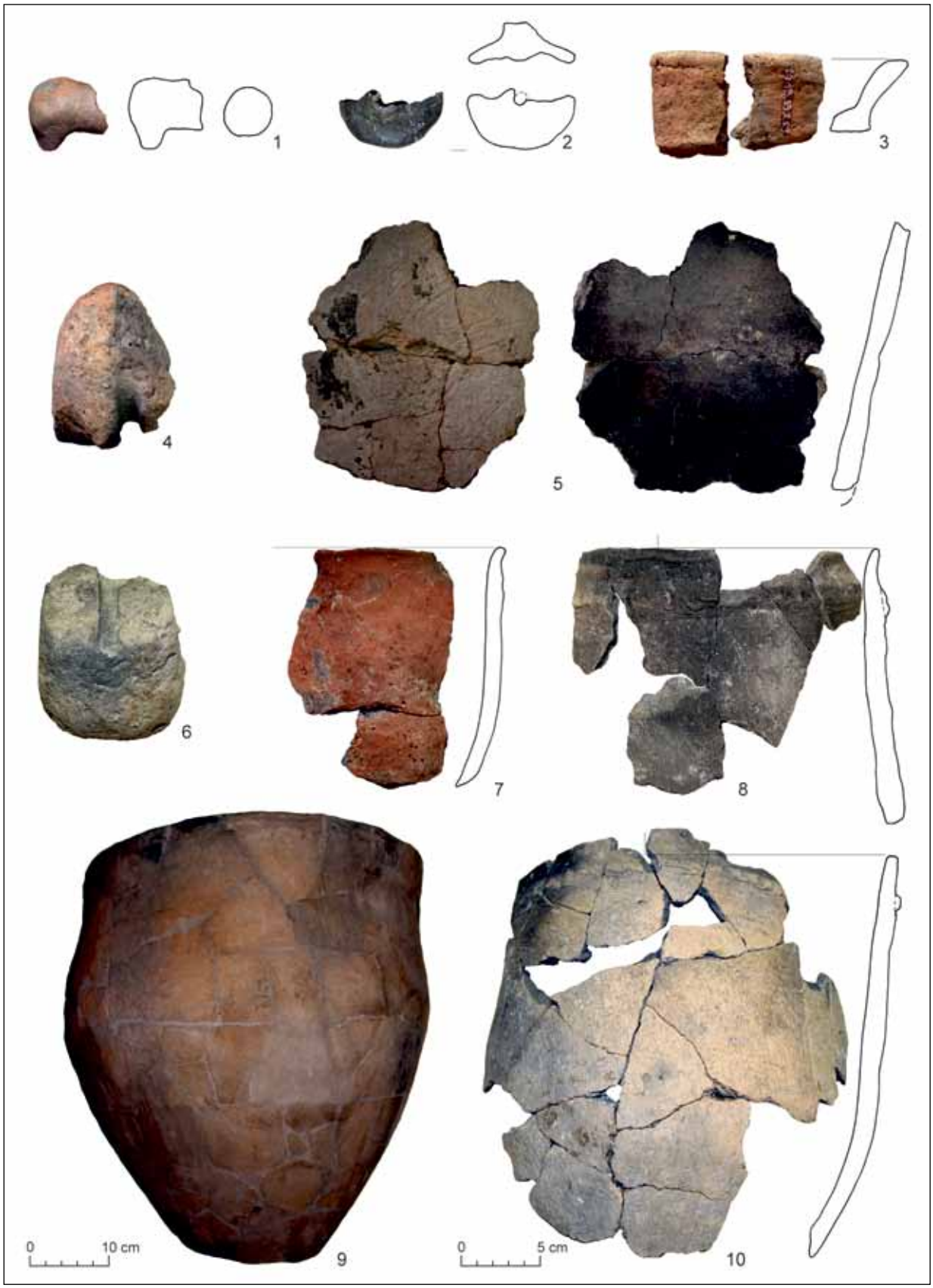

Fig. 5. Salgótarján-Baglyas-kő. Selection of Hatvan pottery from the site.

DISCUSSION

The features uncovered in 4 trenches form well--definable units. The medieval features represent the defence works of the one-time stronghold: the ditches of the bailey and an assumed gate (Trench 3), the double defensive ditch in the castle's foreground and possibly the remains of a palisade (Trench 1). According to the testimony of the fill layers, these lost their importance sometime in the 14th century.

The prehistoric features uncovered in trenches 3 and 4 attested to the presence of an extensive settlement occupied during both the Baden and the Hatvan period. The finds and the features indicate that the hillside was artificially terraced during the Late Copper Age and that the storage pits and other features were established in this area. These terraces were levelled during the Bronze Age – although natural erosion probably also played a role – and the community settling here then cut its own installations, such as the ovens, into this layer.

The occupation layers of possibly different cultures accumulated to a thickness of almost 2 m in Trench 3 (Fig. 3: 3, 5). The fill layers dating from different periods and the outlines of the superimposed features of different cultures could not always be clearly distinguished, not least because of later disturbances, which obviously pose difficulties in dating. Only after the initial assessment and inventorying of the finds did it become clear that a feature whose upper layer could be assigned to the Hatvan culture contained at least as many Baden finds as in the lower layer, or vice versa. Hatvan finds were brought to light from the layers above the lower fill of the feature that could be associated with the Baden culture. No more than two prehistoric features could be assigned to a single period: specifically two pits (Obj. 6 and 9) of the Baden culture.

Pál Patay made similar observations on several sites in the region, for example at Ózd-Kőaljtető, Salgótarján-Pécs-kő, Piliny-Vár-hegy and Sőreg-Várhegy (*Patay 1999*, 50). Unfortunately, these are all old excavations that lack proper field documentation or none was made and were excavated according to spade spits. This type of hilltop settlement with its tell-like occupation layers – differing markedly from the average Baden site – and the barely visible natural humus levels separating the occupation layers led to a general scholarly consensus according to which the Ózd-Piliny group, one of the late groups of the Baden complex, had retreated to the mountain region of North-Eastern Hungary where it survived as a relict and lived to see the arrival of the Bronze Age tell cultures (specifically of the Hatvan culture in this region) – moreover, this group acted as a substrate of the Bronze Age cultures or its population blended with latter (cf. *Kalicz 1968*, 133, 166, 167, 172, 174; for a discussion of the purported Baden-Hatvan continuity see *Horváth 2019*, Chapter 4.7). The assumed survival of the Baden culture into the Bronze Age and the cultural impulses from its early cultures would have explained a settlement strategy and occupation pattern that has much in common with the Bronze Age tell cultures. In addition to the uncustomary settlement features, the abundance of Baden pottery with an entirely differing ornamentation would have again bespoken the late date of the Ózd-Piliny group and its survival into the Bronze Age.

According to the testimony of the initial assessment and inventorying of the finds, considerably more prehistoric periods and cultures could be identified at the site than we had initially assumed from the then available information. In addition to finds of the Zseliz culture, we also identified a significant Middle Copper Age occupation, even if it remains unclear for the time being whether the finds represent one or more Middle Copper Age cultures and which one(s) (Bodrogkeresztúr or Hunyadi-halom). The site's Late Copper Age occupation was considerably more complex than what our previous knowledge suggested: in addition to the classical Baden (Ózd-Piliny variant), the find material included Kostolac-type finds, too. Scanty finds of the Early Bronze Age Makó culture, a significant amount of Early and Middle Bronze Age Hatvan material equalling in number the Baden finds, and, although to a lesser extent, Late Bronze Age and Early Iron Age cultures (Tumulus, Urnfield and Kyjatice) are represented in the find material.

Curiously enough, the archaeological finds have a much broader cultural and chronological range than the excavated settlement features, which could be assigned to three periods: the classical Baden period, the Hatvan period and the medieval period. There were no Neolithic or Middle Copper Age features in the investigated areas, and neither did we find LBA ones either. Nor was it possible to draw a finer chronological distinction between the features to identify Baden and Kostolac-type sub--periods. This paradox should be a major caveat in the assessment of the site and its finds since there is a grave discrepancy between the typo-chronology based on the finds and the chronology based on the stratigraphy of the features.

Firstly, we should be more cautious regarding the existence of Late Copper Age hilltop settlements since the critical re-assessment of the finds from Salgótarján-Pécs-kő and the sites in the Ózd area indicated that the majority of the finds and features previously assigned to the Baden culture actually represented other periods. The attribution

of a fluted pottery sherd to the Baden culture is often erroneous, given that fluting can be found among the decorative modes of Middle Copper Age and Late Bronze Age cultures, too (cf. *Horváth 2018*, 106, 107; *Horváth/Guba/Bácsmegi 2018*, 22, 23). Vessel fragments described as bearing a ′rich array of applied and other ornamentation′, barbotine, ′scoring with straws′ and ladder motifs, the main rationale behind the attribution of the Ózd-Piliny group to the late Baden period, are not typical Baden ceramic traits. The former are more distinctive to later periods, while the latter is typical of the Hatvan culture, similarly to the miniature animal figurines and miniature clay axe that do not occur in the Baden culture (*Horváth 2018*, 39, 40, 95). The radiocarbon dates from Northern Hungary have demonstrated that the Ózd-Piliny group or, better said, its variant, does not represent the latest Baden, but the general classical Baden period falling between 3350 and 2800 BC (*Horváth 2018*, 70–78).

Thus, while the classical Baden culture is attested in the mountain region, its presence was not as intense as previously believed, and neither is there any indication of a Baden period surviving into the Bronze Age. Rather than reflecting a surviving Baden, the Bronze Age layers, features and their finds typically represent Hatvan and even later cultures, whose finds were previously erroneously assigned to an Ózd-Piliny Baden horizon. Thus, we can hardly speak of fortified hilltop settlements with tell-like occupation layers in the case of the Baden culture (in fact, most of the fortified sites believed to have been occupied during the Late Copper Age are problematic. In contrast to earlier reports, some sites lack defence works from this period, while on others, the defensive installations date from a later period (cf. *Horváth 2018*, 112). We can speak of no more than a few Baden pits – which, however, are no different from the average Baden settlement, even if the Baden community constructed terraces on the hillside: a dispersed occupation pattern with a few pits, ovens and hearths, and an occupation layer made up of the debris of these features, similarly as on the culture's open, rural settlements (cf. *Horváth 2014*, Section 3.1.4). The lack of clearly distinguishable occupation layers separated by naturally deposited soil layers dating from different periods, specifically from the Baden and Hatvan periods at Baglyas-kő, can be explained by the fact that the space suitable for settlement was limited and the nature of the site – not being a level area – invariably led to spatial re-organisations during later periods before the settlement of a new community and any building activity, whereby the natural soil layer(s) accumulating over previous occupation layers was destroyed or disturbed together with the underlying layers and their features, rather than by the site's continuous occupation. Sporadic occupation levels and their features were in all likelihood completely destroyed in the process (such as traces of the Neolithic, the Middle Copper Age and even the Late Bronze Age – Early Iron Age settlement, at least compared to the more intense medieval occupation with its defence works).

The critical re-assessment of the finds from the Pécs-kő site indicated a much more diverse occupation history – with significant Late Bronze Age layers – than what could be gleaned from J. Korek and P. Patay's field documentation (*Horváth 2018*, 147, 148, pl. 39; 40).

It must also be borne in mind that different cultures had entirely different spatial needs and diverse approaches to using space, as is evident from a comparison of a Neolithic or Copper Age settlement section characterised by pits and a Bronze Age occupation with houses and workshops or an Iron Age or medieval settlement with defence works. It follows from the above that the lack of soil layers separating occupation layers does not necessarily imply that two superimposed occupation layers from different periods followed each other without a break and that the remnants of the earlier community were absorbed by the later population.

The available space for settlement was restricted and possible also underwent changes from one period to the next: the transformations over the past 250 years are best illustrated by historic maps from 1784 (First Military Ordnance Survey). The maps of the First and Third Military Ordnance Surveys as well as the nineteenth-century cadastre maps show roughly similar environmental conditions, with more or less identical hydrological conditions and dry land (Fig. 1: 3, 4). In contrast, the relevant section of the map of the Second Military Ordnance Survey (1869) shows that the area towards Irmegy-oldal to the north of Baglyas-kő was covered with water, except for the basalt peak itself (Fig 1: 5). This might have been induced by natural causes (a wetter climatic period with higher precipitation (cf. *Réthly 1998*, 528–532) since industrial activity and the transformation of the environment change in its wake had not begun at the time. The map captures a moment in time which could have been the case during other periods from prehistory onward, when only the rock and the more gently sloping north-eastern hillside were suitable for human settlement because all other areas were permanently or intermittently submerged. It is thus understandable why that slope was utilised for settlement and occupied repeatedly after the necessary spatial re-ordering during successive periods.

CONCLUSION

A systematic excavation has not been undertaken on a hilltop settlement site in North-Eastern Hungary, occupied during the Copper and Bronze Age since the investigation conducted at Salgótarján-Pécs-kő by Pál Patay and József Korek in 1960.

Although the excavation and the associated non-invasive surveys were completed in 2019 alongside the conservation and inventorying of the finds as stipulated by the grant conditions, our understanding of the site remains tentative until the full assessment of the excavation and the finds. Nevertheless, we can highlight several advances and changes in our perception even at this stage of the site's assessment compared to what we previously knew, and our preliminary findings will no doubt be refined, depending on whether we will have the opportunity to continue the assessment of the site and its finds at greater length. We considered the publication of the preliminary results important because the gap and discontinuity between the Copper and the Bronze Age that was previously conjectured and convincingly demonstrated on other sites (critical re-assessment of find assemblages, radiocarbon chronology) could be proven through an excavation, and, even more importantly, specifically in the mountain region of North-Eastern Hungary, on a site lying a few kilometres away from the iconic Ózd-Kőalja and Salgótarján-Pécs-kő sites. One of our goals was to share with colleagues what we had found at the Baglyas-kő site because we believe that comparable observations will be made on other similar sites in North-Eastern Hungary and South-Western Slovakia, if an appropriate excavation technique is employed, while the find horizons distinguished at the Baglyas-kő site will no doubt contribute to recognising similar patterns on other sites and to the correct cultural attribution of sites and their phenomena, avoiding the previous pitfalls of drawing erroneous conclusions.

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SÚHRN

Výšinné sídlisko v Salgótarján-Baglyas-kő, nachádzajúce sa v severovýchodnom Maďarsku, bolo osídlené počas viacerých pravekých období. Dlhodobé osídlenie zanechalo na tejto lokalite sekvenciu viacerých vrstiev dosahujúcich hrúbku až niekoľkých metrov. Výšinné sídliská s podobnými stratigrafickými podmienkami, mnohokrát sa nachádzajúce v prirodzene chránených polohách alebo intencionálne opevnené, boli v minulosti zvyčajne priraďované badenskej kultúre. Tieto lokality sú však známe výhradne zo starších výskumov či z nálezov pochádzajúcich z povrchových prieskumov. Výskum na lokalite Salgótarján-Baglyas-kő bol podniknutý s cieľom objasniť priestorové stratégie uplatňované nositeľmi viacerých kultúr, ktorí v rôznych pravekých obdobiach využívali túto terénne dominantnú polohu. Hoci výsledky archeologického výskumu a následného povrchového prieskumu nie sú doposiaľ kompletne spracované a zhodnotené, niektoré predbežné závery je možné urobiť už teraz. Publikovanie predbežných výsledkov výskumu považujeme z dôvodu preukázania diskontinuity medzi osídlením z obdobia eneolitu a následnej doby bronzovej za veľmi dôležité. Cieľom príspevku by malo byť otvorenie diskusie o uvedenej téme, nakoľko podobnú situáciu bude s veľkou pravdepodobnosťou možné pozorovať aj na ďalších lokalitách v severovýchodnom Maďarsku a juhozápadnom Slovensku.