

THE TAMAN DETACHMENT
OF THE BOSPORAN EXPEDITION OF IIMK RAS,
2006–2013

From 2006 to 2013, the Taman team of the Bosporan Expedition of the Institute of the History of Material Culture (IIMK) RAS carried out investigations at four sites in the Southern part of the Taman Peninsula (Temryuk region of the Krasnodar Krai): at the necropolis and settlement-site of Artyushchenko-2, rural sites of Vyshesteblievskaya-11 and Vyshesteblievskaya-3.

Necropolis of Artyushchenko-2

The settlement-site and necropolis of Artyushchenko-2 are situated on the shore of the Black Sea, four kilometres South-East of the farmstead of Artyushchenko (Novoatamansky rural district). The flat-grave necropolis is located 250–300 m Eastward of the settlement and, similarly to the latter, is constantly degraded by strong erosion. At the largest scale, the regular works were carried out at the flat-grave necropolis of Artyushchenko-2.

In 2009, traces of large-scale clandestine diggings were first registered at the necropolis of Artyushchenko-2. From 2009 to 2013, 63 robbers' trenches were found throughout the territory of the cemetery. On the top surface near the most of them there were fragments of human bones, iron objects and other finds from the plundered burials. From 2006 to 2013, over 3352 sq. m of the necropolis were excavated with 117 burials discovered and investigated. From 2003 to 2013, the total area of about 3600 sq. m was investigated; 142 burials were discovered, of which 12 were re-investigated after the robbers. These graves were specially numerated by the letter "T" (from Russian 'грабители' – 'robbers', see Table 1).

These works have demonstrated that the Northern boundary of the necropolis was located over 100 m further from the present-day shore precipice, while its extension from West to East must have been at least 200 m. Thus the area of the necropolis may presumably have been over 20 000 square m.

The most ancient of the discovered burials are dated from the late 6th century BC or the turn between the 6th/5th centuries BC, while the

most recent ones belong to the 1st century AD. The majority of the burials identified are dated within the time span between the early 5th and early 4th centuries BC.

In the Northernmost and Easternmost investigated areas, ever increasing numbers of graves of the 3rd–2nd centuries BC have been found along with those of the 5th–4th centuries BC. This fact suggests that, in terms of topography, this necropolis was expanding from South-West to North-East. Thus in the Southern and Western areas of the cemetery, burials of the late 6th to early 4th century BC are predominant, while at the Northern and Eastern parts there are graves from the Hellenistic period. Archaeological investigations suggest the Eastward expansion of the necropolis.

Table 1. Investigations at the necropolis of Artyushchenko-2 in different years (areas, numbers and quantities of burials).

Excavation year	Excavated area, sq. m	Uncovered squares	Nos. of burials excavated	Quantity of burials
2002	0	—	1; 2	2
2003	43	A1–A3	3–6	4
2004	133	A1'–A3', A11', A12', B1'–B3', B11', B12'	7–13	7
2005	320	A10, A11, B4–B11, A4'–A10', B4'–B10', B36', B37'	14–25	12
2006	470	A11–A14, B11–B14, B8–B14, Г8–Г14, Д8–Д14, E8–E11	26–35	10
2007	494	B1–B7, Г1–Г7, B1'–B8', Г1'–Г8'	36–51	16
2008	495	Д1–Д7, E1–E7, Д1'–B8', E1'–Г8', A12'–A14', B13'–B20'	52–66	15
2009	570	B9'–B14', Г9'–Г14', Д6'–Д17', E6'–E17'	67–81, Г1–Г5	16, 5
2010	389	Ж10–Ж8, З10–З8, И10–И8, К10–К8, М10–М8, Л10–Л8, B15'–B17', Г15'–Г17'	82–101, Г6–Г9	20, 4

Table 1 (end)

Excavation year	Excavated area, sq. m	Uncovered squares	Nos. of burials excavated	Quantity of burials
2011	412	Ж5'–Ж17', 35'–317'	102–115, Г10, Г11	13, 2
2012	320	Ж3–Ж4', 33–34', В18'–В20', Г18'–Г20'	116–126, Г12	11, 1
2013	202	В21'–В29', Г21'–Г29'	127–130	4
Total:	3848		1–130, Г1–Г12	130, 12

The characteristic features of the burial rite in the 5th and 4th centuries BC are demonstrated at this necropolis through the orientation of the dead, set of the accompanying goods and the design of the mortuary structures etc. In general, it seems that this burial rite at the necropoleis of the Taman Peninsula is a common one.¹

The skeletons in these burials are lying extended on their back with the arms parallel to the body. The buried were oriented mostly with the head to the East or East with a slight deviation to the North. However, Southern and Northern orientations also occur, with major deviations. The grave goods were placed along the Southern or Western walls of the graves.

Black-glossed ware is usually found in burials with a relatively rich and diverse assemblage of grave goods (Fig. 1). During the recent period, black-glossed vessels of very different shapes have been discovered. Among them, there were black-glossed saltcellars of several types, of which an example from Burial 32 is here presented (Fig. 1, 1).² Differing types of 'drinking cups', such as kylikes and skyphoi (Fig. 1, 3–4), have also been found including those on high stems and on circular pedestals.³ Occasionally, vessels of rare types are encountered, e.g. a small mug from burial 38 (Fig. 1, 2).⁴ 'Food pottery' is represented by two types: the first one comprises bowls on a pedestal which were predominant in the first half of the 5th century BC.⁵ The second type includes bowls with

¹ Korovina 1987 [А. К. Коровина, "Раскопки некрополя Тирамбы", in: *Сообщения Государственного музея изобразительных искусств им. А. С. Пушкина*], 4.

² Sparkes, Talcott 1970, nos. 826. 828.

³ Sparkes, Talcott 1970, nos. 436. 437. 438. 577. 578.

⁴ Sparkes, Talcott 1970, no. 202.

⁵ Sparkes, Talcott 1970, nos. 959. 960.

a single handle (one-handlers) which were in use in the second half of the 5th century BC.⁶

Painted ware has also been uncovered (Fig. 2): miniature skyphoi (kotylai), black-glossed kylikes, a kalpis, black-glossed lekythoi and a miniature oinochoe. Into the same group, cylindrical and aryballic lekythoi, mostly painted with palmettes, may be included.

The painted vessels from the necropolis of Artyushchenko-2 chronologically belong to the first and third quarters of the 5th century BC. The kylix with a representation of Dionysus dated to 490–480 BC is the most ancient example.⁷ The latest ware comprises of cylindrical and aryballic lekythoi from 450–430 BC.⁸ The more rare finds among this assemblage include a cylindrical lekythos with large horizontal palmettes and a pyxis with a representation of a hare.

Amphorae constituting funerary offerings were specially positioned in the graves – at the feet of the buried. They were found in the burials with the richest and most diverse grave goods.

All the burials with amphorae were found in mudbrick cists or graves with complicated mortuary structures that demanded much more expenditures compared with the construction of a simple ground grave.

In total, ten amphora containers have been found in the burials under consideration, of which nine were uncovered in Burials nos. 3, 24, 32, 40, 45, 47, 64, Г5 and Г8. The tenth amphora was confiscated by police from grave robbers.

The majority of these amphorae are attributable to the third and fourth series according to Sergey Yu. Monakhov; they are dated to within the span from the first third to first half of the 5th century BC. Particular vessels, however, may have belonged to the third series dated to the turn of the 6th to the 5th centuries BC.⁹

In Burial 24, a Chian conical amphora with a straight throat and a prototypical conical toe was uncovered. According to S. Yu. Monakhov, it is of type V-A which is dated to about the late 5th century BC.¹⁰

⁶ Sparkes, Talcott 1970, nos. 749. 450. 751.

⁷ Moore, Philippides 1986, 382 no. 1564; *CVA France 40, Lille: Palais des Beaux-Arts. Université Charles-de-Gaulle* (Paris 2005) pl. 12.4–6; *CVA Danemark 3, Copenhagen: Museum National* (Paris–Copenhagen 1928) pl. 119.5.

⁸ Vickers, Kakhidze 2004, 364 Fig. 107, 457; Shtal' 2004 [И. В. Шталь, *Свод мифо-эпических сюжетов античной вазовой росписи по музеям Российской Федерации и стран СНГ*], 188 no. 30, 232.

⁹ Monakhov 2003 [С. Ю. Монахов, *Греческие амфоры в Причерноморье. Типология*], 40–41.

¹⁰ Monakhov 2003.

At this cemetery, the tradition to put amphorae into the graves was probably characteristic mostly of the 5th century BC. In burials dated from other periods no amphorae have so far been encountered. There are a few examples of burials with babies in amphorae. One such assemblage is represented by burial 120 where an extremely rare amphora was found (Fig. 3). This example is probably of Aegean origin dated to the 1st century AD, and therefore it presents one of the latest assemblages at the cemetery.

Of this amphora, the most of the body, along with the throat and a handle has survived; the lower body with the toe was lost, probably still in antiquity, when the body of a deceased child was being put into it. On the shoulder of the vessel, a graffito “ΛΟΗ” is scratched where the *omicron* is inscribed inside the *lambda*. The graffito on the amphora from burial 120 is probably a notation of the price in obols according to the alphabetical system.¹¹

Almost everywhere, the grave offerings include two objects – a ‘vessel for wine’, most often an oinochoe (occasionally a pitcher or an amphora), and a bowl. Oinochoes (Fig. 4) and bowls are the main elements of the funerary assemblage, and in almost every burial where grave offerings were found, there was a combination of a bowl and an oinochoe, or at least one of them.

As demonstrated by archaeological observations, the large oinochoes were, as a rule, offered to adult men and women, while the smaller vessels were put into children’s graves. Many oinochoes were ornamented on the body by circular bands painted in red, brown and white, and a wavy line around the shoulder. Depending on the quality of clay, baking and paint, this ornamentation survived fairly well in some cases, but occasionally was almost completely deleted.

On the basis of morphological features, two main types of oinochoes are recognizable: namely those with low and high throats. In the first case, the body is oval or globular with the throat occasionally rather indistinctly marked. In terms of its ratio, the height of the throat is from 1/4 to 1/3 compared to the height of the body. A characteristic example of this is represented by the oinochoe from burial no. 81. In the second variant, the body is globular and the throat is distinctly standing out. The height of the throat is approximately 1/2 of the height of the body. An example of this is the oinochoe from burial no. 86. The examples mentioned are the most characteristic of the types concerned, but some of the finds may be considered as transitional variants.

¹¹ Kashaev, Pavlichenko 2013 [С. В. Кашаев, Н. А. Павличенко, “Погребения №№ 119–120 из некрополя Артющенко-2”], 133–138.

Parallels to the oinochoes found in the burials under study can be found among materials from excavations of different sites at Bosporos, including the necropoleis of Tyramba¹² and Nymphaion,¹³ and the townsites of Hermonassa¹⁴ and Gorgippia.¹⁵

The male graves that were excavated at the necropolis under study often contained a more diverse and rich set of grave goods compared with the female burials. However golden objects have only been found in women's graves. The gold ornaments uncovered are all similar to each other in shape and are represented by two main types. The first type is constituted by globular hollow beads. The second type includes globular beads similar to those of the first type in terms of their form, but in their lower part, a grain-shaped pendant is attached to them (Fig. 5).

These ornaments, in comparison with objects retrieved from other rich flat graves and kurgans, are not marked by any diversity and are rather modestly finished. This is due to the fact that the dead buried at the necropolis of Artyushchenko-2 were residents of a rural settlement, and were unable to acquire any expensive and luxurious ornaments. Simultaneously, the form of the golden beads from the necropolis of Artyushchenko-2, along with the technique of their making, are quite characteristic of jewellery from the 5th century BC.¹⁶

The above set of grave offerings characterizes the necropolis of Artyushchenko-2 as a typical one of its period placing it into a single series with the other known archaic necropoleis of Bosporos or the Northern Black Sea region in general.

The peak of the frequency of burials occurs in the second and third quarters of the 5th century BC. Graves of that period contain the most diverse and rich grave goods which reflect the everyday life of the deceased as well as the trade and cultural relations of the region. In the early 4th century, burial rites were slightly transformed: the numbers of grave offerings decreased and became less diversified. This may have been connected either with changes in funerary traditions among the previous population or with an influx of foreigners bringing their traditions with them.

¹² Korovina 1987 [А. К. Коровина, "Раскопки некрополя Тирамбы", in: *Собеседования Государственного музея изобразительных искусств им. А. С. Пушкина*], 10 Fig. 7.

¹³ Gaydukevich 1959 [В. Ф. Гайдукевич, "Некрополи некоторых боспорских городов", *МИА*], 163 Fig. 8; 180 Fig. 44; Grach 1999 [Н. Л. Грач, *Некрополь Нимфея*], 203 Pl. 29.4

¹⁴ Korovina 2002 [А. К. Коровина, *Гермонасса. Античный город на Таманском полуострове*], 145 Pl. 16.1.

¹⁵ Alekseeva 1997 [Е. М. Алексеева, *Античный город Горгиппия*], 288 Pl. 8.

¹⁶ Uiljams, Ogden 1995, 129 = Williams, Ogden 1994, 272.

Settlement-site of Artyushchenko-2

At the settlement-site of Artyushchenko-2, which presumably belonged to the chora of Hermonassa, the investigations from 2006 to 2013 were conducted in three areas: Excavation-3, Excavation-5 and Excavation-6 (Table 2).

In the elevated part of the settlement of Artyushchenko-2, georadar prospections were performed and have indicated the presence of a large anomaly. Here, Excavation-5 (P-5) began in order to more precisely define the archaeological situation in this area.

In the course of excavations conducted from 2009 to 2010 at P-5, throughout the area of 160 sq. m, a series of household pits and other structures of the antiquity have been distinguished. The depth of the excavated layer at P-5 amounted to about 1.30 m.

As to the aforementioned geophysical anomaly, on its place an earthen dugout dated to the period of World War II was discovered. The maximum height of the fill of the dugout was 2.25 m.

Thus, notwithstanding the seeming failure, the mentioned georadar surveys confirmed the effectiveness of the application of remote sensing in archaeology.

The materials retrieved from Excavation-5 suggest that the main phases of occupation of the site within the excavated area are dated to the 4th century BC along with the second half of the 3rd to first half of the 2nd century BC.

To the first period of occupation, four household pits were pertaining. The second period is represented by fairly odd structures: a borrow pit with amphora-like outlines (6.5 × 2.5–4.5 m, depth 0.15–0.20 m) and a trench of Γ-shaped plan (length 3.40 m; width 1.25 m and depth 0.25–0.50 m). All these features are located close to aggregations of iron ore protruding to the surface of the virgin soil. It seems that both the borrow pit and the trench served for the extraction of iron ore and were formed by activities of ore miners.

During the excavations, miscellaneous artefacts were found: a series of Bosporan coins, fragments of terracotta figurines and ceramic vessels including black-glossed ware, bronze objects (Fig. 6). A very uncommon find was that of a bronze cymbal.¹⁷ In the Northern Black Sea littoral, objects of this type are very rare.

¹⁷ Vinogradov 2013 [Ю. А. Виноградов, “Кимвал из раскопок поселения Артющенко-2 на Таманском полуострове”, in: *Причерноморье в античное и ранне-средневековое время*], 146–148.

Table 2. Excavations at the site of Artyushchenko-2 by years (excavation pits, area and number of structures).

Excavation	Years	Area, sq. m	Amount of household pits
P-1	1998–2000	530	21
P-2	1998	75	0
P-3	1999, 2013	145	7
P-4	2000, 2002	70	2
P-5	2009, 2010	160	15
P-6	2013	100	1
Total:	1998–2013	1055	44

Excavation-3 (P-3) is located on a high, precipitous seashore. It began in 1999 and in 2013 it was expanded Eastwards (Table 2). Excavations resulted in the discovery of 7 household pits dating from the third quarter of the 5th to the 4th century BC.

Excavation-6 (P-6) was begun in 2013 in an abandoned ploughed field, 100 m to the North of Excavation-3. Here, within the area of 100 sq. m (Table 2), an altar dug into the earth was found. It was constructed of the lower parts of two Chian amphorae with capped toes dated to the mid-4th century BC.

At the same excavation, a pit dated to the last quarter of the 6th or early 5th century BC was cleared. This is the most ancient pit found at the settlement under study. It contained a buried dog laid on its back along the Northern edge, with its head facing to the East. It was most likely a ritual burial.

Settlement of Vyshesteblievskaya-11

The settlement of Vyshesteblievskaya-11, which probably constituted the chora of Phanagoria, is situated on the high shore of the Kiziltash Liman (Kiziltash Estuary) 4 km South-East of the Cossack village of Vyshesteblievskaya (in Vyshesteblievsky rural district). This site includes an unfortified settlement and a fortress in the North-Eastern part. From 2006 to 2013, investigations were carried out in Excavation-1 (P-1) and Excavation-3 (P-3).

Table 3. Investigations at the settlement-site of Vyshesteblievskaya-11 by years (excavations, area and amount of structures).

Excavation	Year	Area, sq. m	Number of household pits	Number of architectural complexes
P-1	1999–2008	1225	56	16
P-2	2001	40	6	0
P-3	2003–2006	425	32	2
Total:	1999–2008	1690	94	18

As we suppose, the works in Excavation-1 have succeeded in defining the structural layout of the excavated area in this site (Fig. 7). Identification of at least a partial plan of a rural ancient Greek settlement is a rare and important discovery.

Excavation-1 is situated along the shore precipice South-West from the fortress. In 2006–2008, an area of 125 sq. m was excavated here, while the total area investigated between 1999 and 2008 is 1225 sq. m.

In total in P-1, 56 household pits and 16 building assemblages have been found (Table 3). All of these structures belong to different chronological phases of the settlement's occupation, from the second half of the 5th century BC to the 7th–10th centuries AD.

In the North-Eastern section of Excavation-1, a length of Road-1 and a number of building complexes were investigated. The building complexes found here (CK-8 – CK-14) were situated on both sides of Road-1. It is probable that they constituted one of the houseblocks of the settlement.

Almost all of the architectural complexes (CK-8 – CK-16) were constructed using one and the same building technique. They present structures slightly embedded into the virgin loam, with walls constructed from mudbricks (adobe). These walls were erected upon a levelled earth surface without any foundations or stone socles. On the outside, the walls were plastered in order to be protected from erosion. After the complexes were abandoned, their adobe walls started to gradually collapse. In most cases, the remains of these structures are 'readable' owing only to the surviving dense floors. These floors were repeatedly daubed, which resulted into thick (occasionally up to 10 cm) and dense stratified layers. The floors cleared were fairly well preserved. They enabled the locations and approximate internal dimensions of the rooms to be defined. The

external dimensions were slightly larger due to the thickness of the adobe walls. The reconstructed thickness of the mudbrick walls was about 0.4 m. On the basis of the composite plan of excavations from 1999 to 2008, a reconstruction of the building layout in the North-Eastern area of Excavation-1 was fulfilled. The discovered objects and architectural complexes are discussed in greater detail below.

Road-1 ran throughout the entire excavated area from North-West to South-East, i. e. from the centre of the settlement towards the shore precipice (Fig. 7). Throughout the excavated area it was traced as a belt of very dense clay in which numerous ceramic fragments were rammed.

The surface of Road-1 was recognizable at a depth of about 0.4–0.5 m from the modern soil surface. The road was about 3.5 m wide and it has been traced to a length of approximately 25 m.

Among the finds from the layer above Road-1, fairly small fragments of amphora walls and amphora handles predominated – however, profile fragments have also been encountered. These all belonged to Lesbian, Mendeian and Chian plump-necked and straight-necked amphorae. These fragments mostly belonged to the late 5th century BC, although a few finds are dated from the later period.

The dates of ceramic fragments retrieved from the layer of Road-1 suggest that the latter was constructed approximately in the late 5th – early 4th century BC. It seems that about the same time, the layout of the houseblock was planned which then existed for a long period.

Three architectural complexes CK-6, CK-15 and CK-16 were situated near Road-1 and their positions seem to have been influenced by it. Building complex-6 (CK-6) is located slightly aside from Road-1 constituting the second row of the structures. This has the same orientation as all the others and was constructed in a similar building technique.

CK-6, excavated in 2001–2002 turned out to be one of the most uncommon and distinctive among the structures uncovered.¹⁸ It is of rectangular plan with an internal room measuring about 3.0 × 6.0 m. During the excavation of its fill, a gravestone with a representation of seven-branched candlesticks was found along with a stone pavement constructed of five other similar tombstones.¹⁹

¹⁸ Kashaev, Kashovskaya 2008 [С. В. Кашаев, Н. В. Кашовская, “Культовый комплекс (СК-6) и эпиграфические материалы с поселения Вышестеблиевская-11”, *Древности Боспора*], 340–362.

¹⁹ Kashaev, Kashovskaya 2009 [С. В. Кашаев, Н. В. Кашовская, “Иудейская диаспора на Боспоре по данным археологии”, in: *Archeologia Abrahamica. Исследования в области археологии и художественной традиции иудаизма, христианства и ислама*], 62.

Almost all of the uncovered architectural complexes (CK-6 to CK-16) are similar in their design and were constructed in the same technique and tradition. They all constituted a single building system, probably representing one of the 'houseblocks' of the settlement.

From one of the houses (CK-12), the bases of walls constructed of small undressed stones have survived. This structure is marked by the technique of its construction, but it generally corresponds to the given system of building layout. CK-12 was constructed at the location of a previous structure (CK-14) covering the latter over its area. Thus new houses were erected in the places of the destroyed older ones, while the existing plan of the 'houseblocks' was preserved.

No orientation of any houses on the cardinal points has been identified. Their orientation was linked primarily with the relief and topography of the locality, the close shore precipice, as well as with the earthen fortifications in the Northern section of the site. It is exactly the fortress that may have been the centre to which the layout of the unfortified part of the settlement was tied.²⁰

Building complexes CK-8 to CK-16, on the basis of ceramic finds retrieved from their fills, belong to a later period of occupation of the settlement, and are preliminarily dated to the 2nd–6th centuries AD. Continuation of the studies of the ceramic finds from the complexes under consideration will be helpful in obtaining more precise dates.

The complexes most interesting for us at Excavation-1 are dated from the second half of the 5th century BC. They yielded a large quantity of finds including black-glossed and painted ware (Fig. 8).

In Excavation-3, the investigations were expanded throughout the area of 112.5 sq. m with the thickness of the excavated layer extending up to 1.4 m. The total area investigated at Excavation-3 during all these years has amounted to 425 sq. m (Table 3).

A series of newly discovered household pits has been registered (nos. 26–31). Of fair interest was the excavated building complex CK-2. It had a structure of rectangular plan slightly sunk into the soil. On the South-Eastern side there was a long narrow entrance. In the centre of CK-2 there was an oven measuring 1.0 × 1.1 m constructed of red-brown fired clay. Lateral walls of the oven have survived to the height of 15–20 cm while its upper vault with a rounded mouth in the centre collapsed inside

²⁰ Tsin'ko 2013 [А. С. Цинько, "Геофизические исследования крепости на поселении Вышестеблиевская-11", in: *Боспорский феномен: греки и варвары на евразийском перекрестке*], 712–717.

the oven. The fire chamber was constructed inside the North-Eastern wall, and around it there was much ash and many pieces of charcoal. No cinders nor ceramics, nor other materials suggesting any manufacturing process, have been discovered. So it seems that this oven was used exclusively for domestic purposes.

All the artefacts and structures uncovered in Excavation-3 are dated from the 4th–2nd centuries BC. Notable among the finds are a fragmentary blade of a machaira,²¹ a phallus-shaped nozzle of a black-gloss ceramic vessel,²² a terracotta figurine of sitting Silenus²³ and a redware plate (Fig. 9).

Settlement of Vyshesteblievskaya-3

At the settlement of Vyshesteblievskaya-3, which probably belonged to the rural surroundings of Phanagoria situated in the area of construction and reconstruction of the railway station Vyshesteblievskaya, rescue archaeological investigations have been carried out. The site under consideration is 4 km North-East from the Cossack village of Vyshesteblievskaya.

In accordance with the terms of the rescue works, the excavation was started at the area of 6 × 500 m measuring 3000 sq. m. The excavation was extended along the line of the railroad from West to East. This site had never been excavated before; only archaeological reconnaissance had been conducted.

The finds from the cultural deposits are datable to within the 5th century BC – 1st century AD. The earliest finds may be attributed to the late 6th or the turn of the 6th and 5th centuries BC.

In the course of the excavations, various objects were uncovered: 31 household pits (including a well and an underground passage) and a feature arbitrarily named “Ditch”. Originally the latter may have served a defensive purpose, but afterwards it became a dump and was covered

²¹ Gritsik 2004 [Е. В. Грицик, “Находки предметов вооружения на поселении Вышестеблиевская-11”, in: *Боспор Киммерийский, Понт и варварский мир в период античности и средневековья. Этнические процессы. Сборник научных материалов V Боспорских чтений*], 104–108.

²² Kashaev 2006 [С. В. Кашаев, “Фигурный носик сосуда из раскопок поселения Вышестеблиевская-11”, in: *Боспор Киммерийский, Понт и варварский мир в период античности и средневековья. Ойкос. Сборник научных материалов VII Боспорских чтений*], 176–179.

²³ Tsin'ko 2007 [А. С. Цинько, “Терракотовые статуэтки сельского поселения Вышестеблиевская-11”, in: *Боспорский Феномен. Сакральный смысл региона, памятников, находок*], Part 1, 217–220.

with soil. The excavated archaeological complexes are dated to the 5th–2nd centuries BC.

In the course of the excavation of the cultural deposits and of the fill of the complexes, a considerable number of ceramic fragments, mostly sherds of amphorae, have been found.

Table 4 presents information on the total number of finds retrieved from layers, pits and the “Ditch” according to the types of finds and their percentage. As the table demonstrates, 43 997 artefacts in total have been retrieved during the excavations, including 246 fragments of tiles (0.56%), 39 428 fragments of amphorae (89.62%), 2 409 sherds of tableware (5.48%), 921 fragments of handmade vessels (2.09%), 182 glossed vessels (0.41%), 811 miscellaneous other finds (1.84%).

Table 4. The total amount of finds retrieved from the cultural deposits and archaeological complexes and their percentage.

	Tiles	Amphorae	Tableware	Handmade	Glossed	Other
Total	246	39428	2409	921	182	811
%	0,56	89,62	5,48	2,09	0,41	1,84

Along with fragments of amphorae, several almost complete vessels have been found (Fig. 10). Over 70 amphora stamps and impressions from diverse Greek centres have also been obtained (Sinope, Herakleia, Thasos, Chios, Rhodes etc.).²⁴ Of interest is an almost complete Sinopean amphora with a dipinto on the throat.

From the fill of household pits, not only large fragments but also archaeologically complete vessels have been retrieved (Fig. 11). Finds reflecting religious beliefs of the ancient dwellers of the settlement comprise terracotta figurines and reliefs representing the most worshiped goddesses – Demeter and Aphrodite (Fig. 12, 1–2). This cultural layer holds small fragments of black-glossed and painted ware of Attic manufacture. Pit 22 yielded a rare kylix dated to the first quarter of the 4th century BC. (Fig. 13, 3). Its painting is close in its type to works of Master Q from the circle of the Jena Painter who was active during that period. In the strata of the settlement and the uncovered structures, a considerable series of bronze coins (over 40 pieces) from the 4th century BC to the 1st century AD

²⁴ Kashaev, Pavlichenko 2014 “Kollekcija...” [С. В. Кашаев, Н. А. Павличенко, “Коллекция амфорных клейм из раскопок поселения Вышестеблиевская-3”, *Затиски ИИМК*], in press.

have been found. The finds also include bronze arrowheads, a leaden sling shot, grindstones and fragmentary lamps. Among the unique finds are two Greek inscriptions on ostraca.²⁵

In general, the materials obtained during excavation of the settlement of Vyshesteblievskaya-3 are dated to the time span from between the 5th century BC and the 1st century AD.

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²⁵ Kashaev, Pavlichenko 2014 “O datirovke...” [С. В. Кашаев, Н. А. Павличенко, “О датировке письма на остраконе с поселения Вышестеблиевская-3”, in: *Боспорские чтения XV. Боспор Киммерийский и варварский мир в период античности и средневековья. Актуальные проблемы хронологии*], 219–225.

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A survey of the excavations at the necropolis and settlement-site of Artyushchenko-2, rural sites of Vyshesteblievskaya-11 and Vyshesteblievskaya-3 (the Southern part of the Taman Peninsula) conducted by the Taman team of the Bosporan Expedition of the Institute of the History of Material Culture (ИИМК), RAS, 2006–2013.

Обзор раскопок некрополя и поселений Артющенко-2, Вышестеблиевская-11 и Вышестеблиевская-3 (юг Таманского п-ова), проводившихся Таманским отрядом Боспорской экспедиции Института материальной культуры РАН в 2006–2013 гг.

S. V. Kashaev
Artyushchenko-2, Vyshesteblievskaya-11, Vyshesteblievskaya-3 (Taman Peninsula)

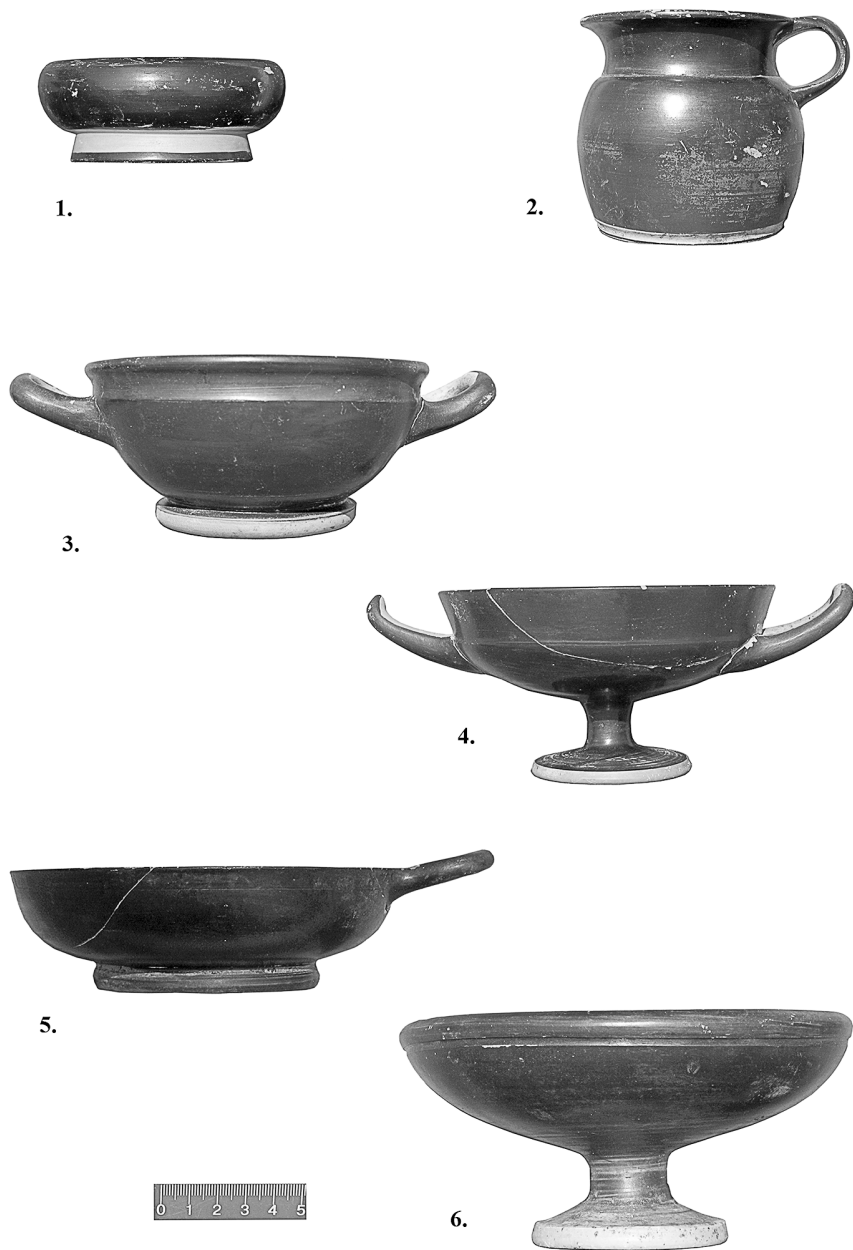
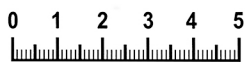


Fig. 1. Necropolis of Artyushchenko-2. Black-glossed ware.
1 – Burial 32; 2 – Burial 38; 3 – Burial 40; 4 – Burial 55;
5 – Burial 83; 6 – Burial 43.

S. V. Kashaev
Artyushchenko-2, Vyshesteblievskaya-11, Vyshesteblievskaya-3 (Taman Peninsula)



Fig. 2. Necropolis of Artyushchenko-2. Painted pottery.
1 – Burial 47; 2 – Burial 6; 3 – Burial 6; 4 – Burial 70;
5 – Burial 93; 6 – Burial 83; 7 – Burial 39.



1.



2.

Fig. 3. Necropolis of Artyushchenko-2.
1, 2 – amphora with a graffito from Burial 120.

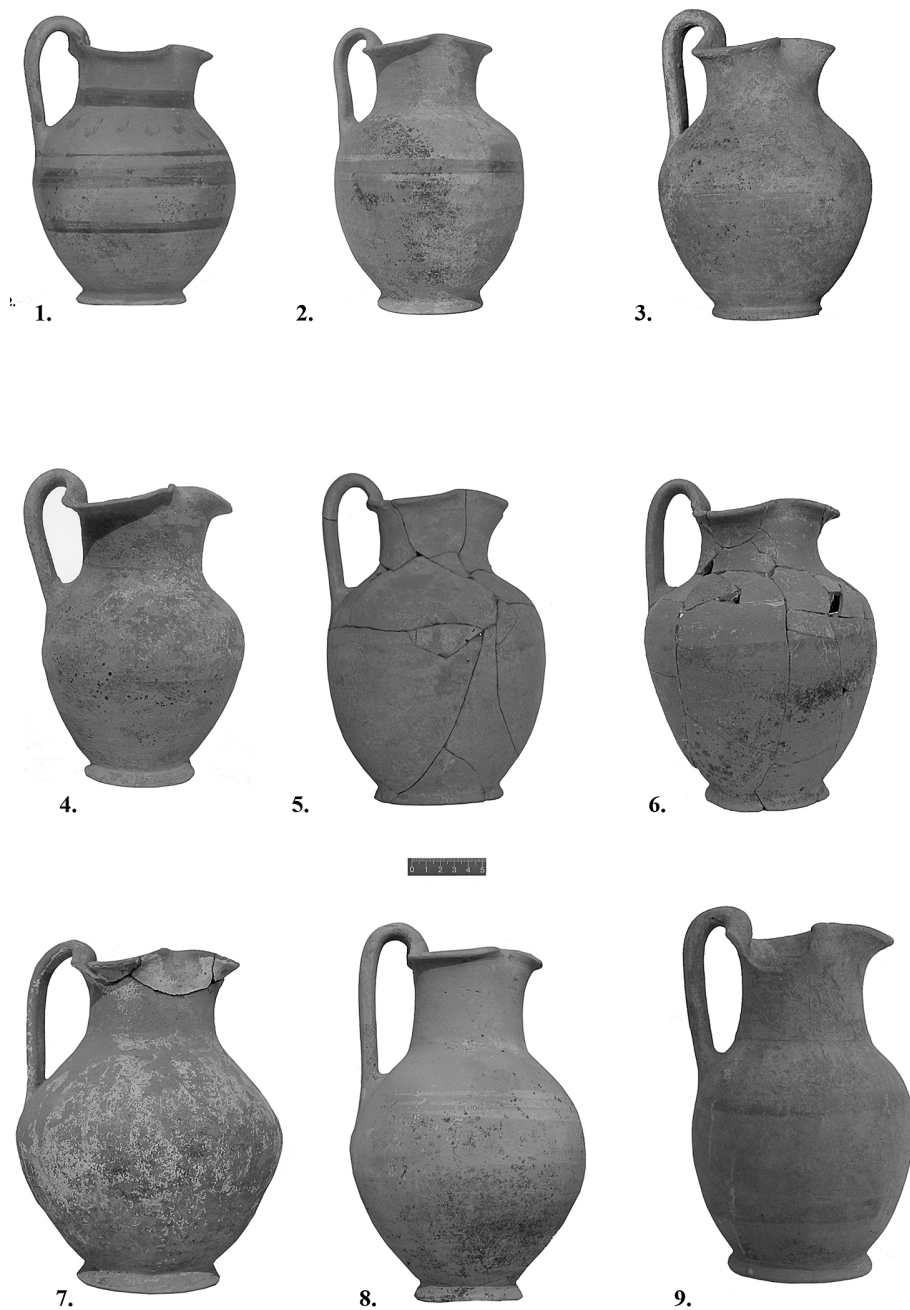


Fig. 4. Necropolis of Artyushchenko-2. Oinochoes.
1 – Burial Г10; 2 – Burial 67; 3 – Burial 52; 4 – Burial 78; 5 – Burial 103;
6 – Burial 81; 7 – Burial 82; 8 – Burial 86; 9 – Burial 112.

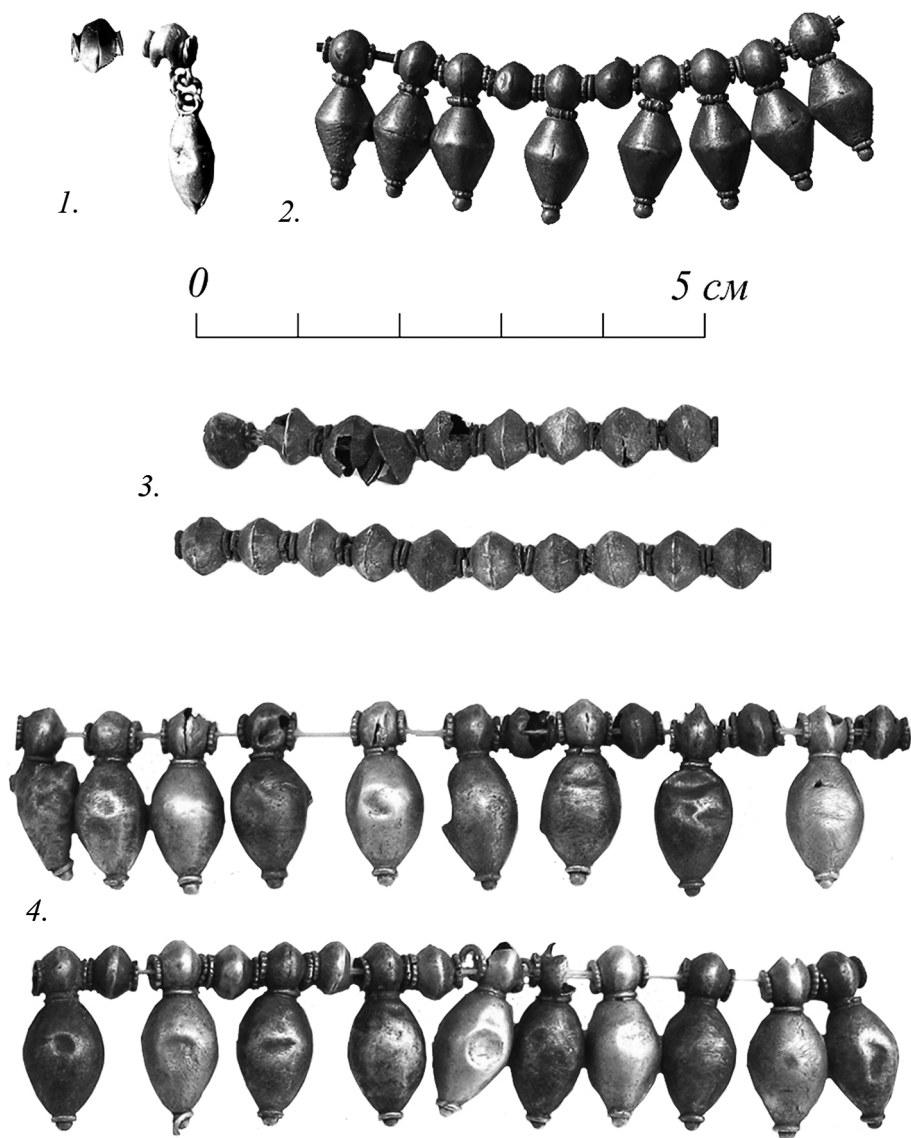


Fig. 5. Necropolis of Artyushchenko-2. Gold ornaments.
1 – Burial 20; 2 – Burial 69; 3 – Burial 66; 4 – Burial 47.

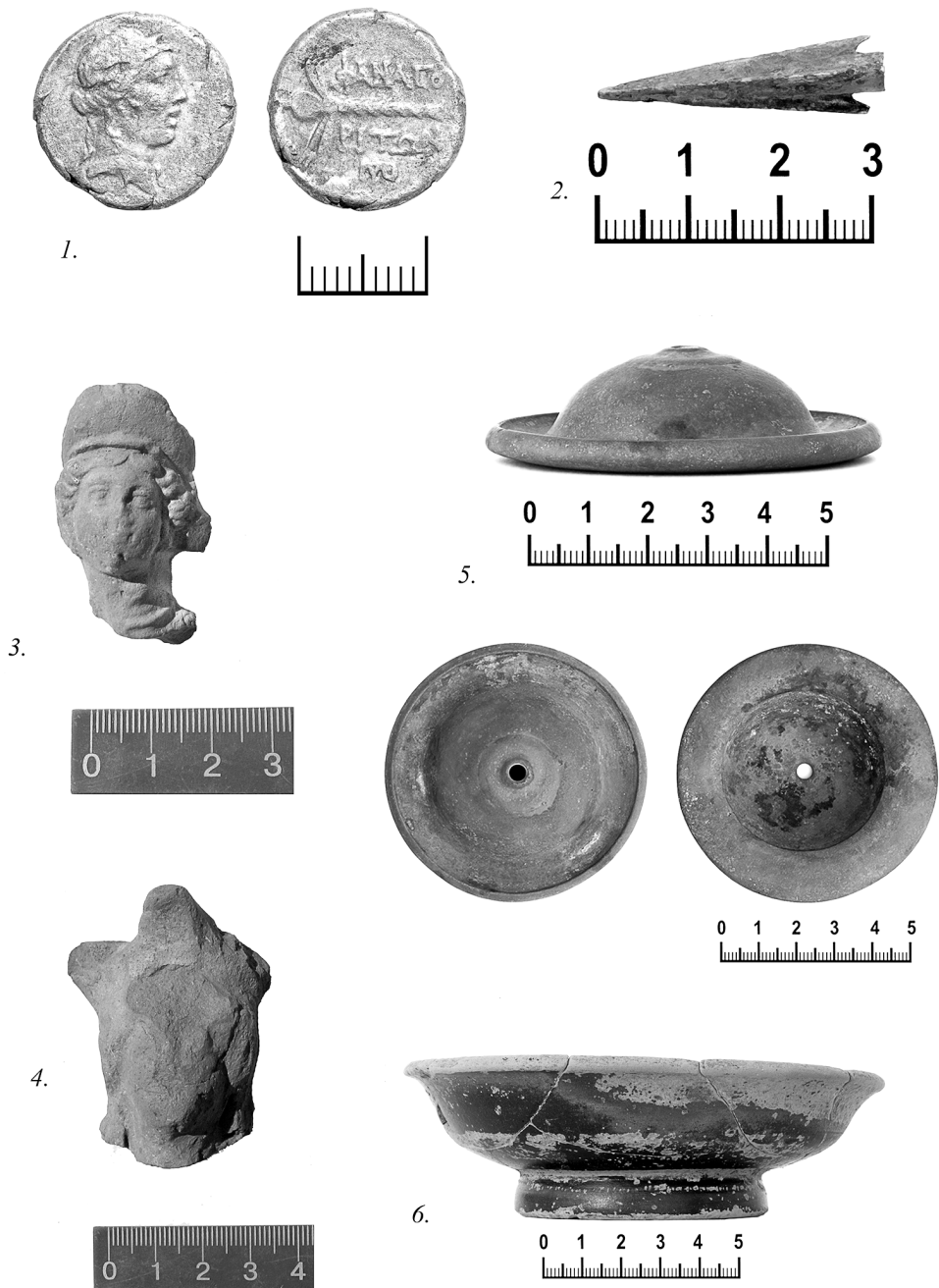


Fig. 6. Settlement of Artyushchenko-2. Excavation-5, finds.

1 – silver coin; 2 – bronze arrowhead; 3 – head of a terracotta figurine;
4 – head of a terracotta figurine, 5 – bronze cymbal; 6 – small black-glossed plate.

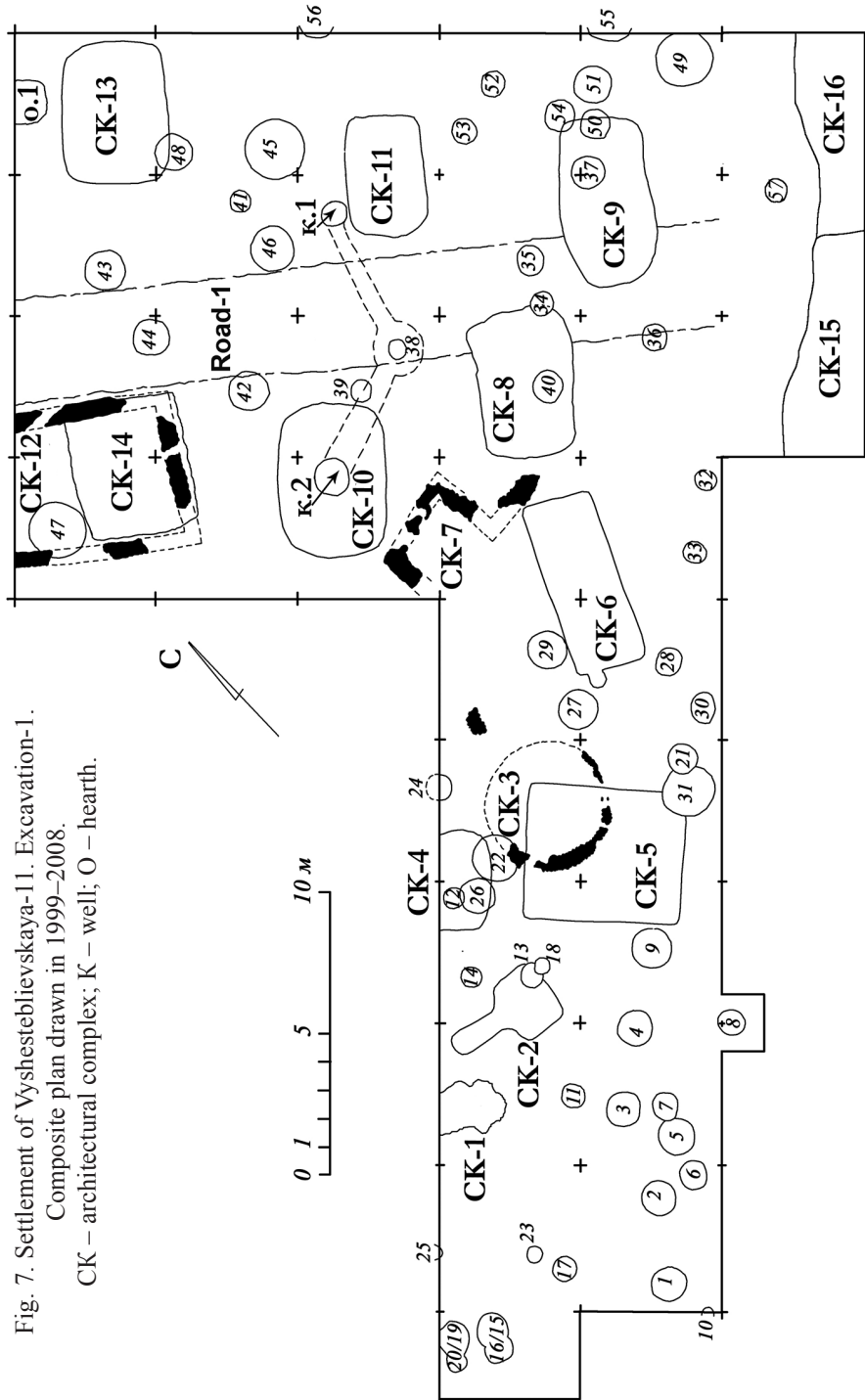


Fig. 7. Settlement of Vyshesteblievskaya-11. Excavation-1.
 Composite plan drawn in 1999–2008.
 CK – architectural complex; K – well; O – hearth.

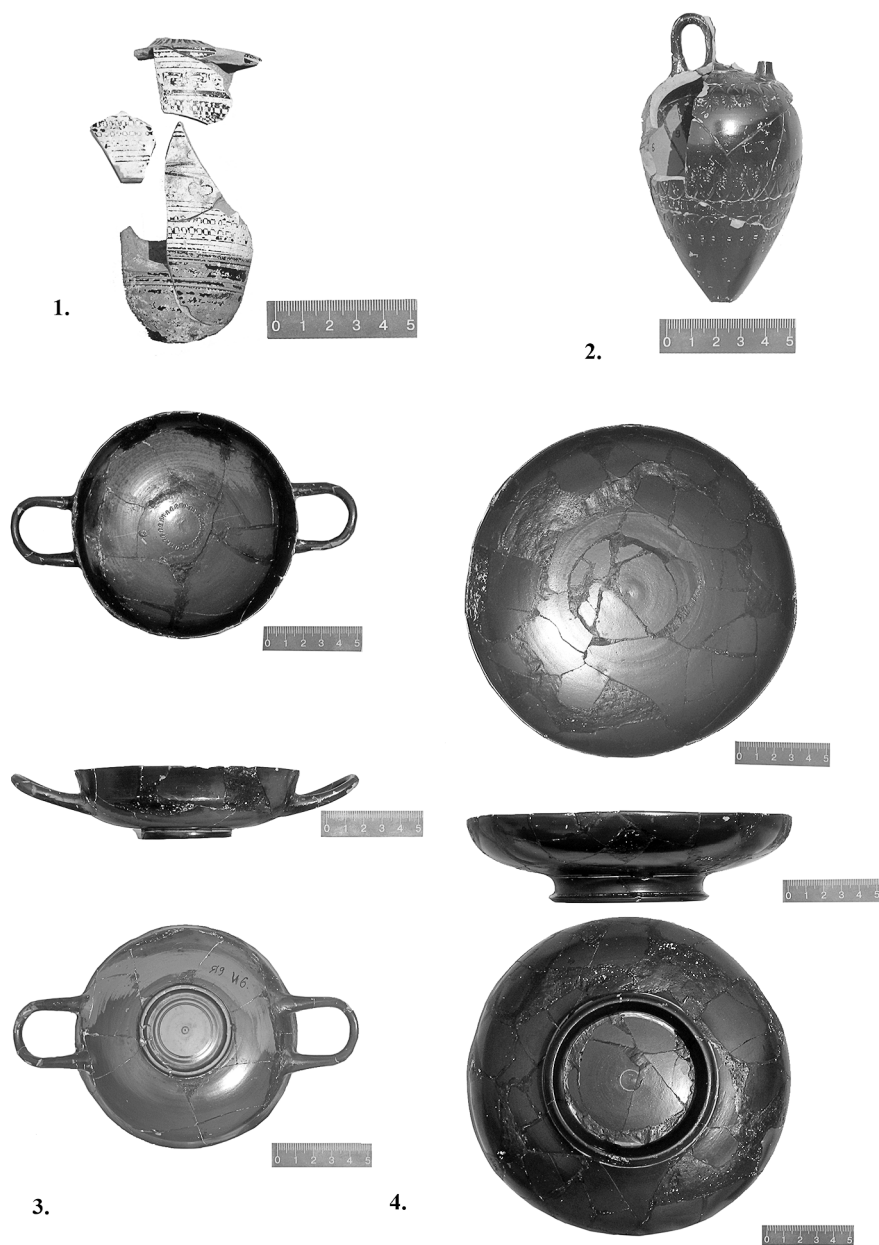


Fig. 8. Settlement of Vyshesteblievskaya-11. Excavation-1, finds.
1 – fragments of a cylindrical white-ground lekythos; 2 – black-glossed amphoriskos; 3 – black-glossed kylix; 4 – black-glossed plate.

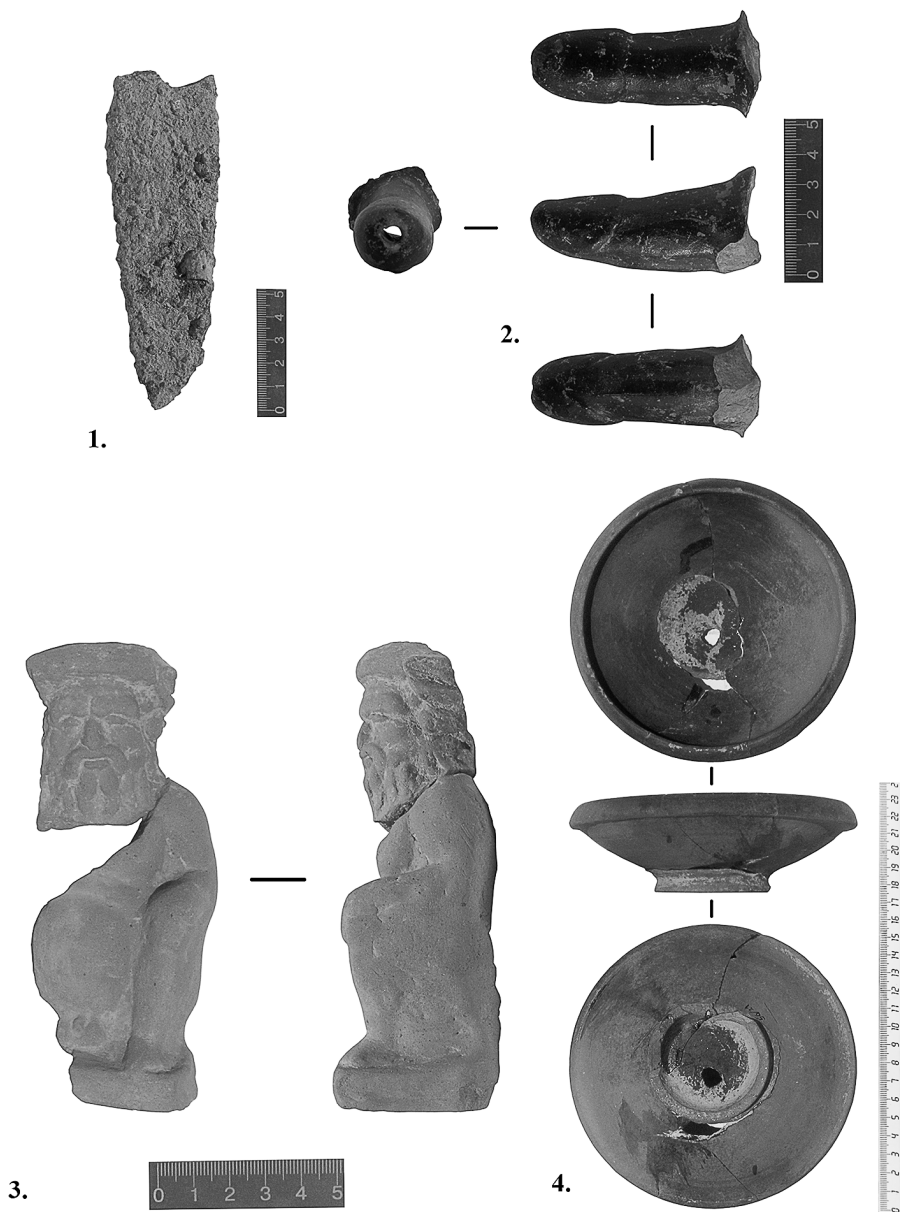


Fig. 9. Settlement of Vyshesteblievskaya-11. Excavation-3, finds.
1 – fragment of a steel machaira; 2 – nozzle of a black-glossed vessel in the form of phallus; 3 – terracotta statuette, Silenus; 4 – redware plate.

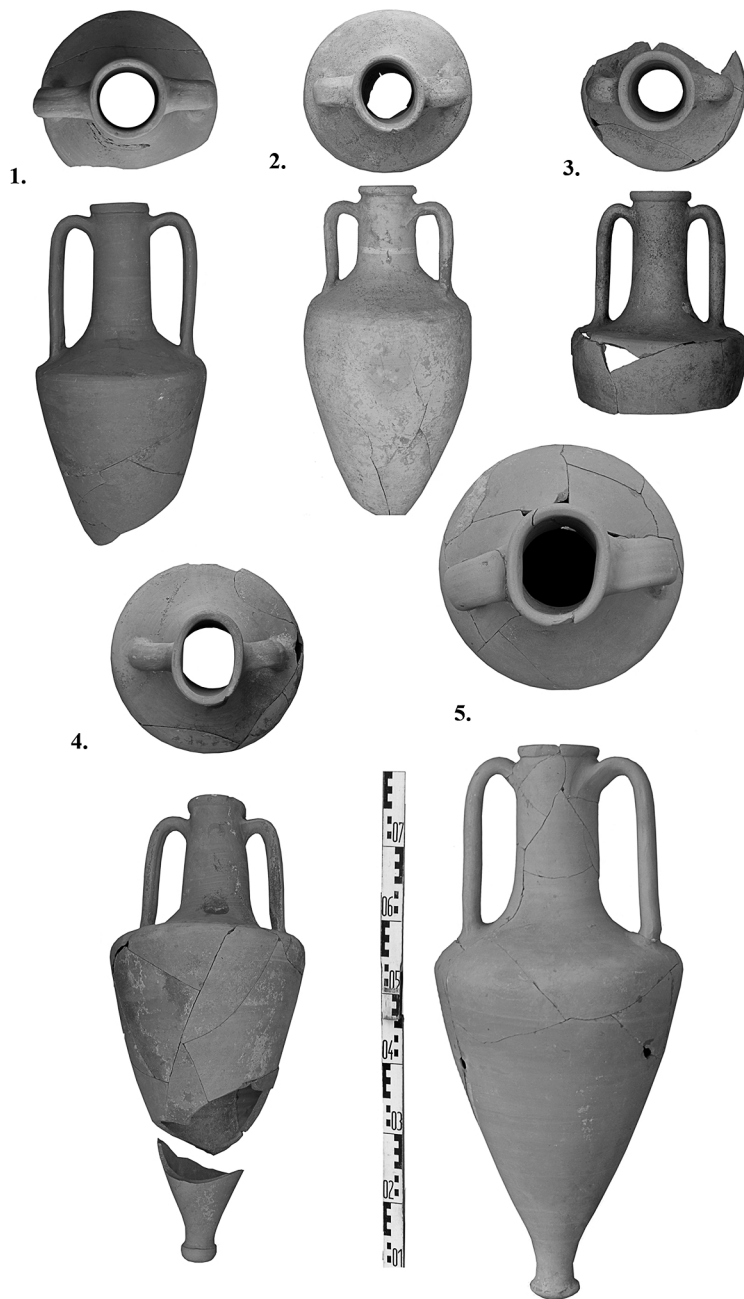


Fig. 10. Settlement of Vyshesteblievskaya-3. Finds, amphorae.
1 – pit 23; 2 – pit 27; 3 – pit 10; 4 – pit 14a; 5 – pit 25.



Fig. 11. Settlement of Vyshesteblievskaya-3. Finds, pit 13.
1 – rim of a painted black-glossed kylix; 2 – black-glossed lekythos;
3 – lamp; 4 – oinochoe; 5 – pot.

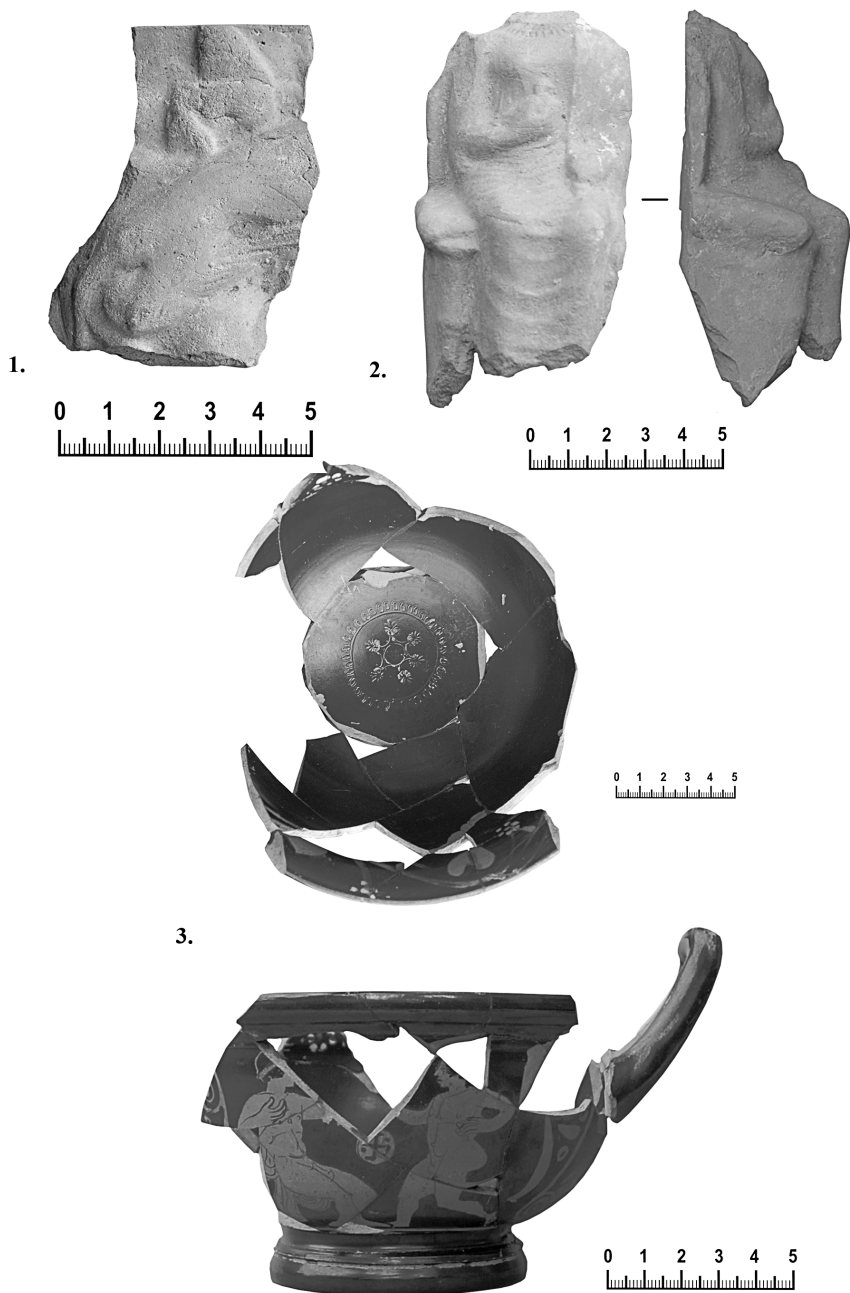


Fig. 12. Settlement of Vyshesteblievskaya-3. Finds.
1 – fragmentary terracotta relief; 2 – terracotta figurine, Aphrodite;
3 – red-figured kylix.

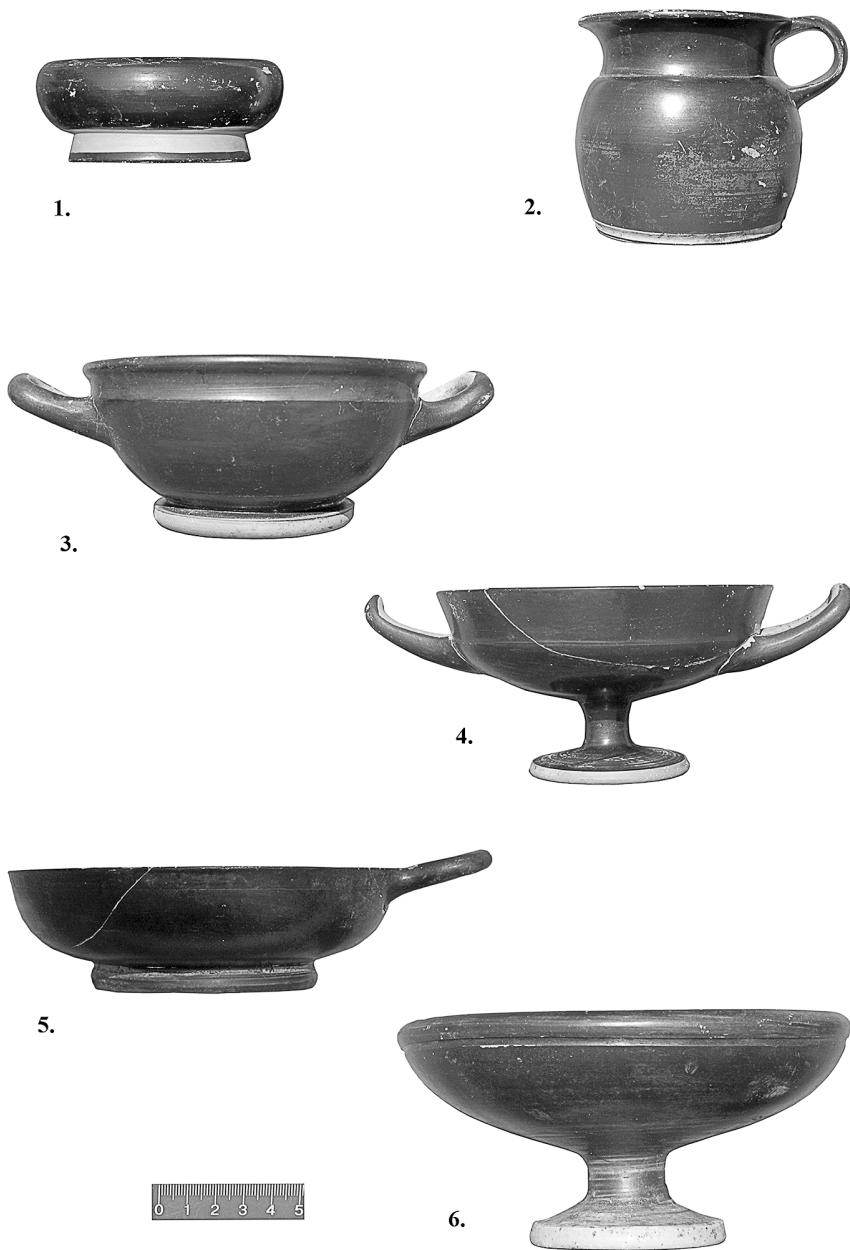


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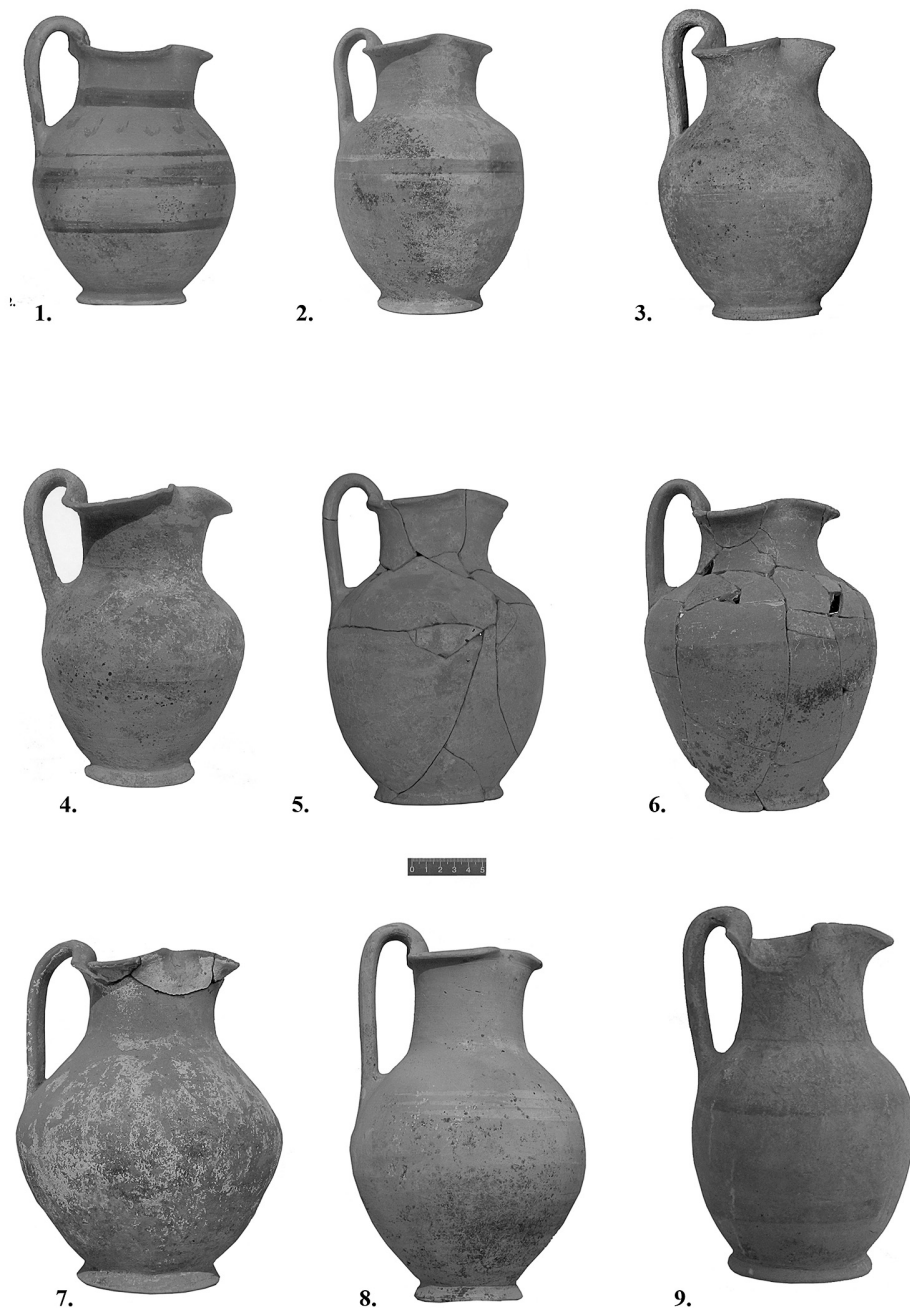


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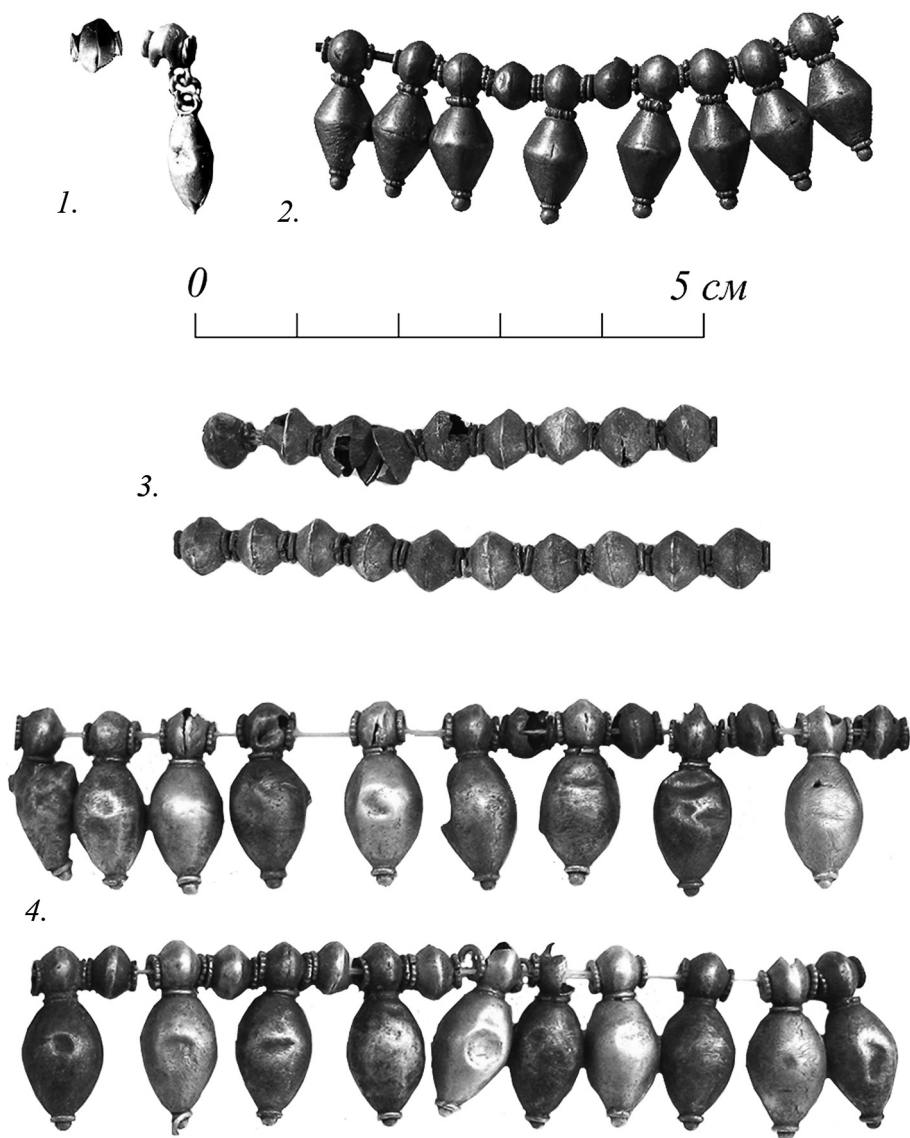


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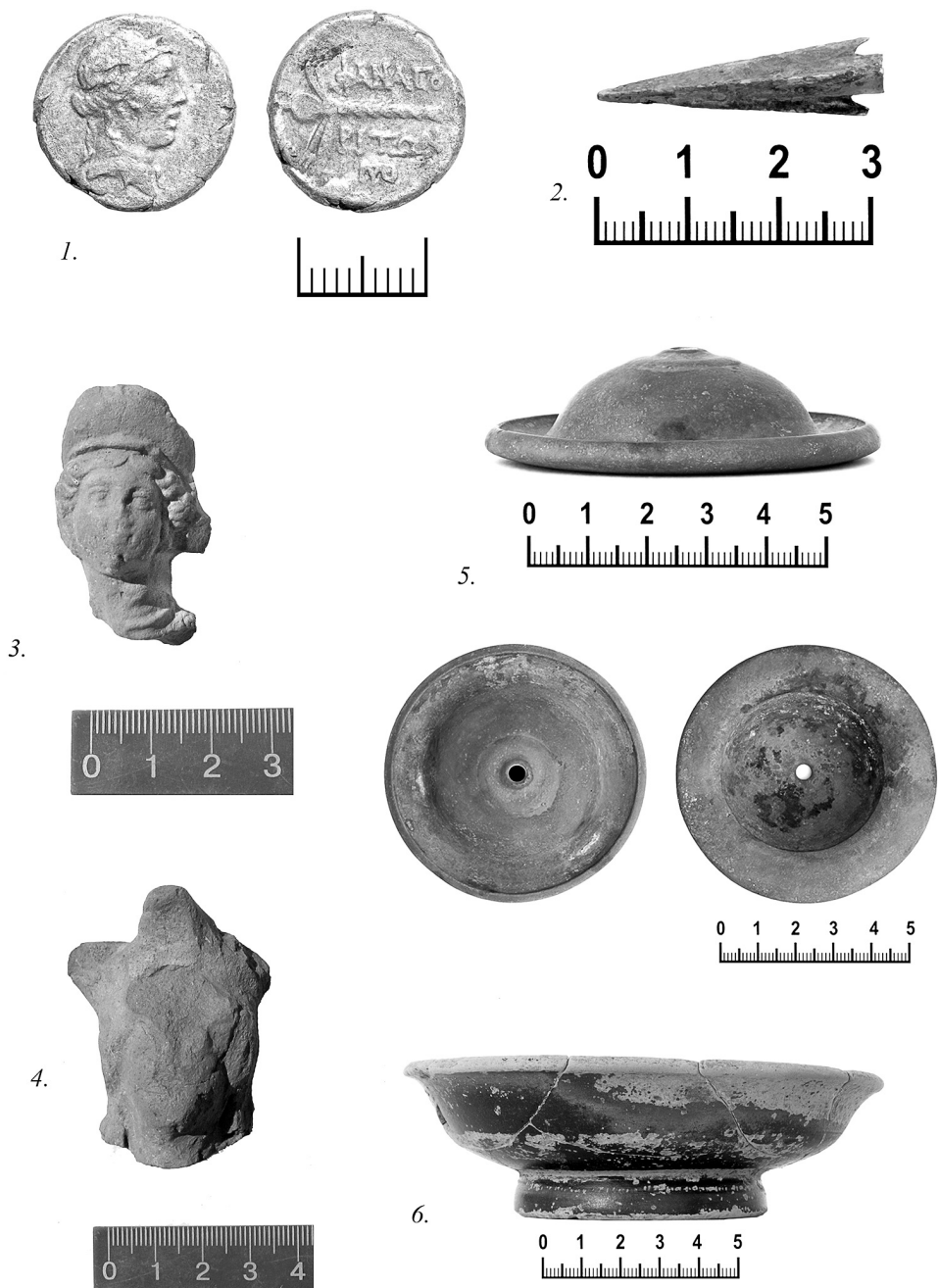


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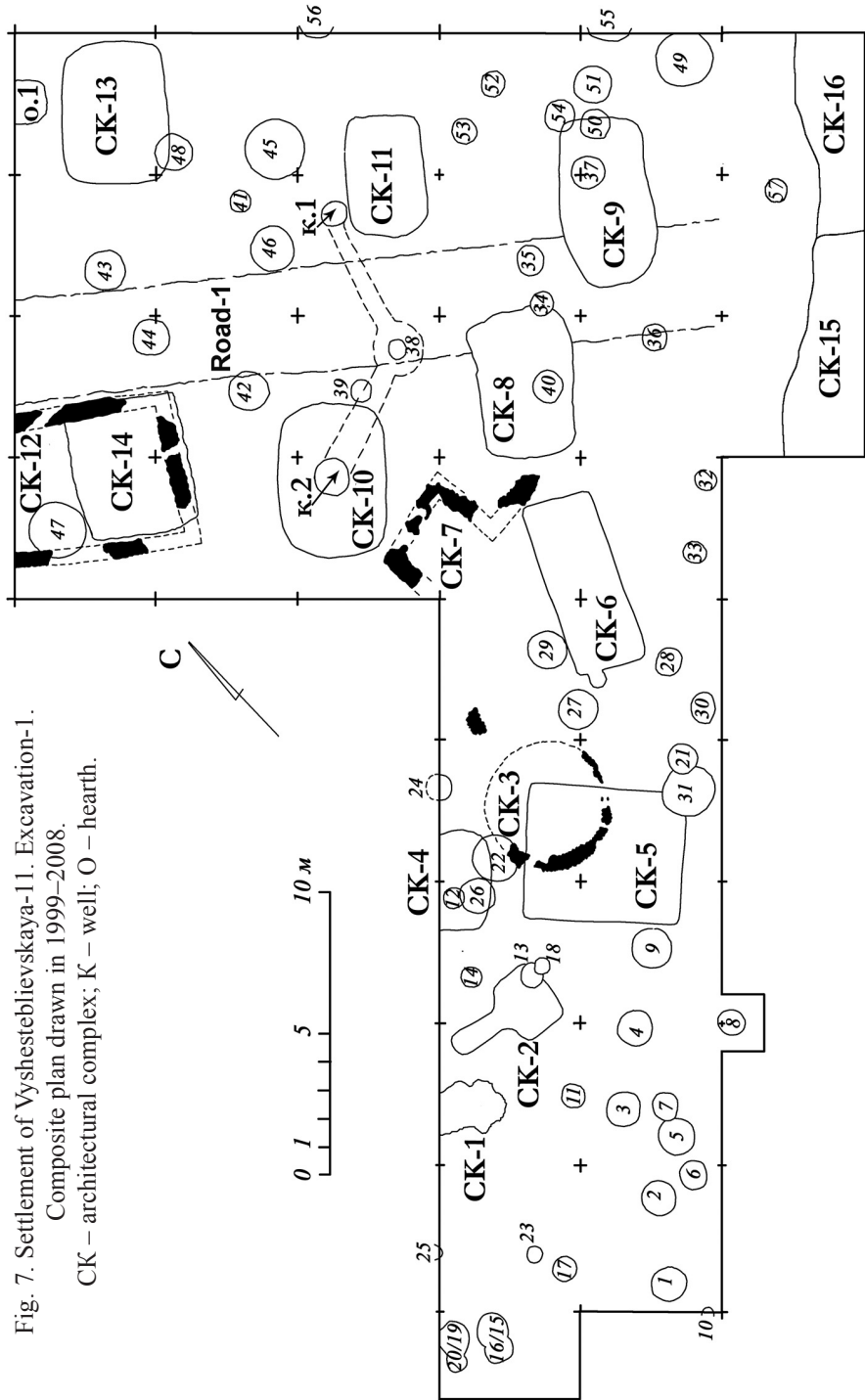


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Composite plan drawn in 1999–2008.
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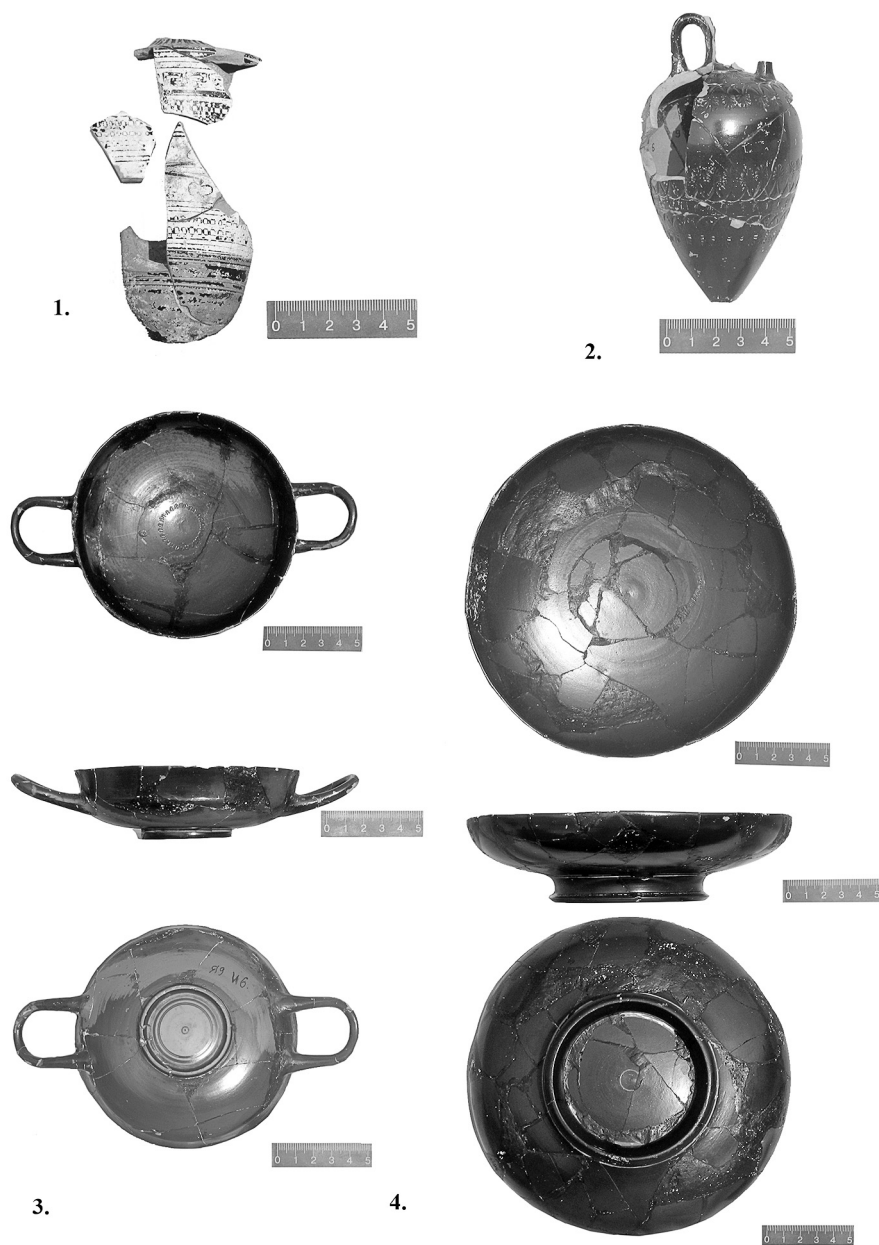


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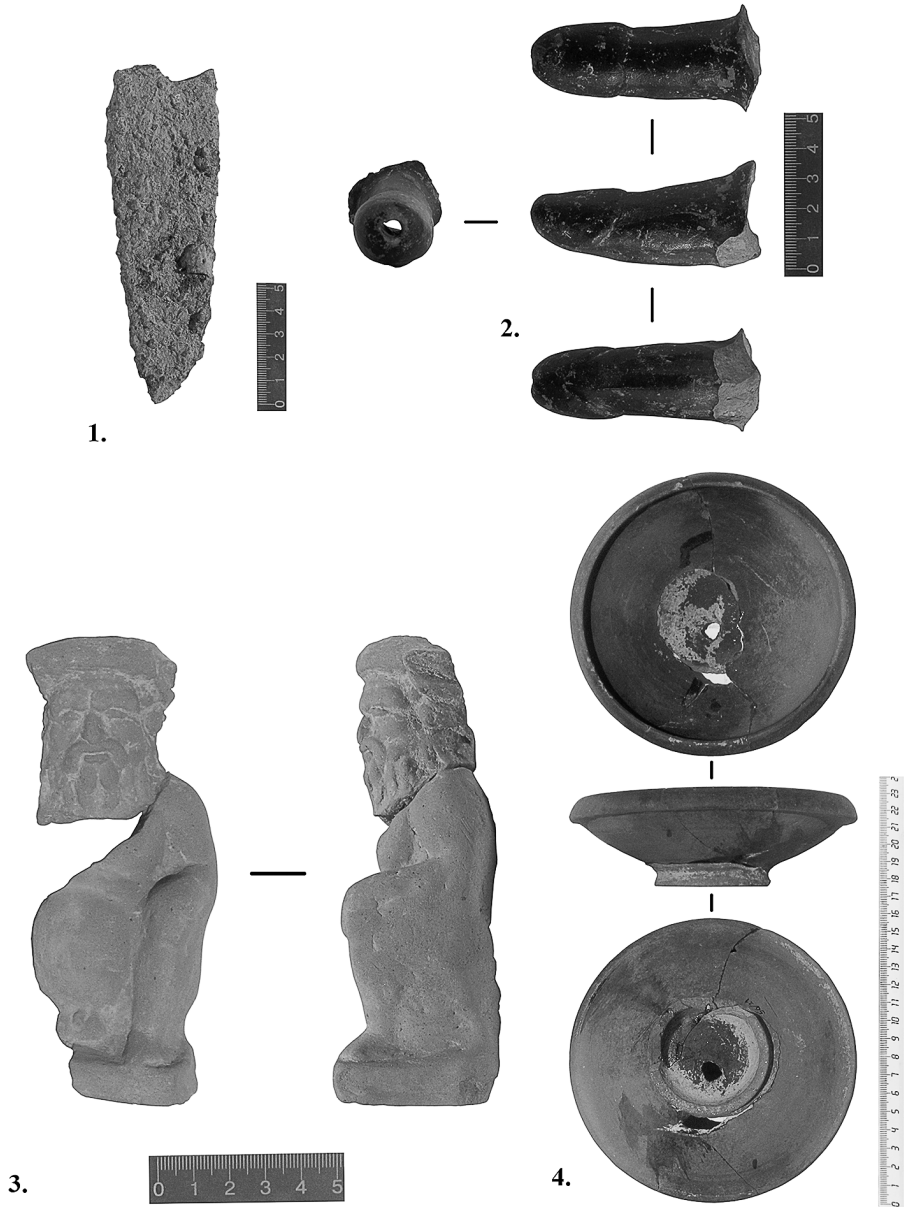


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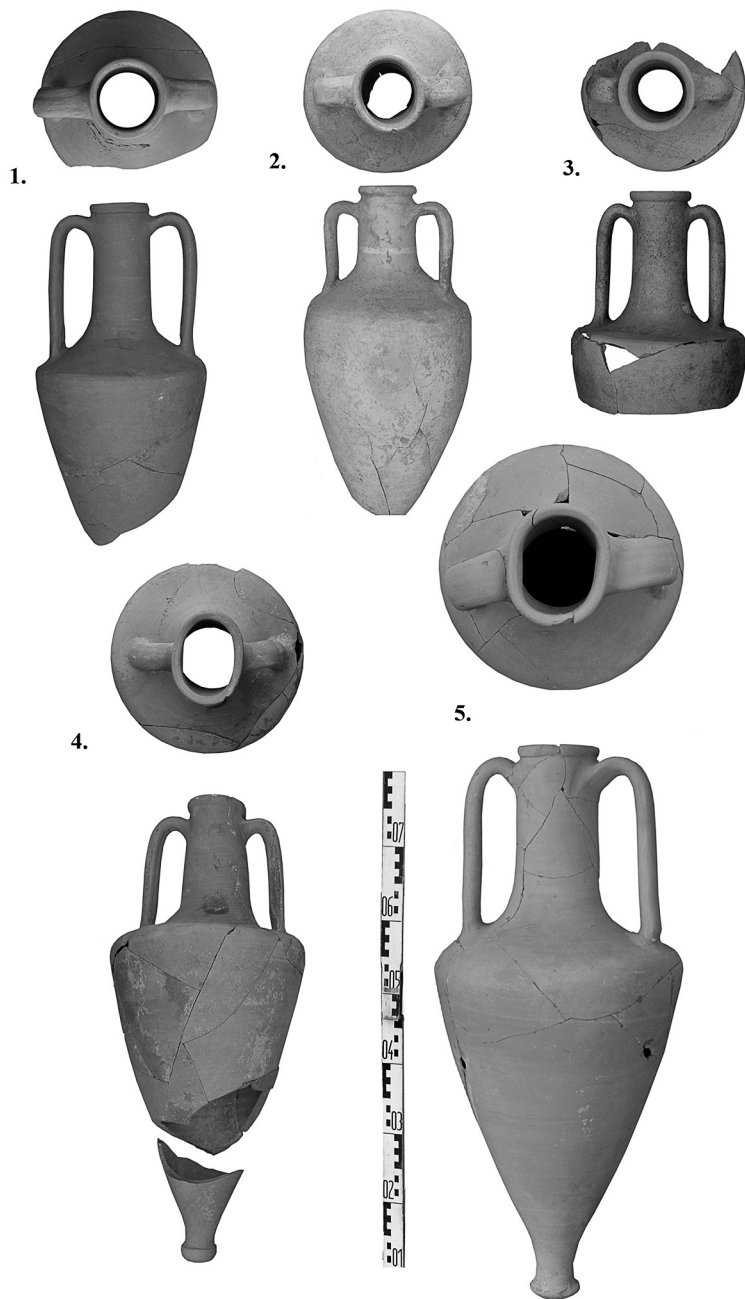


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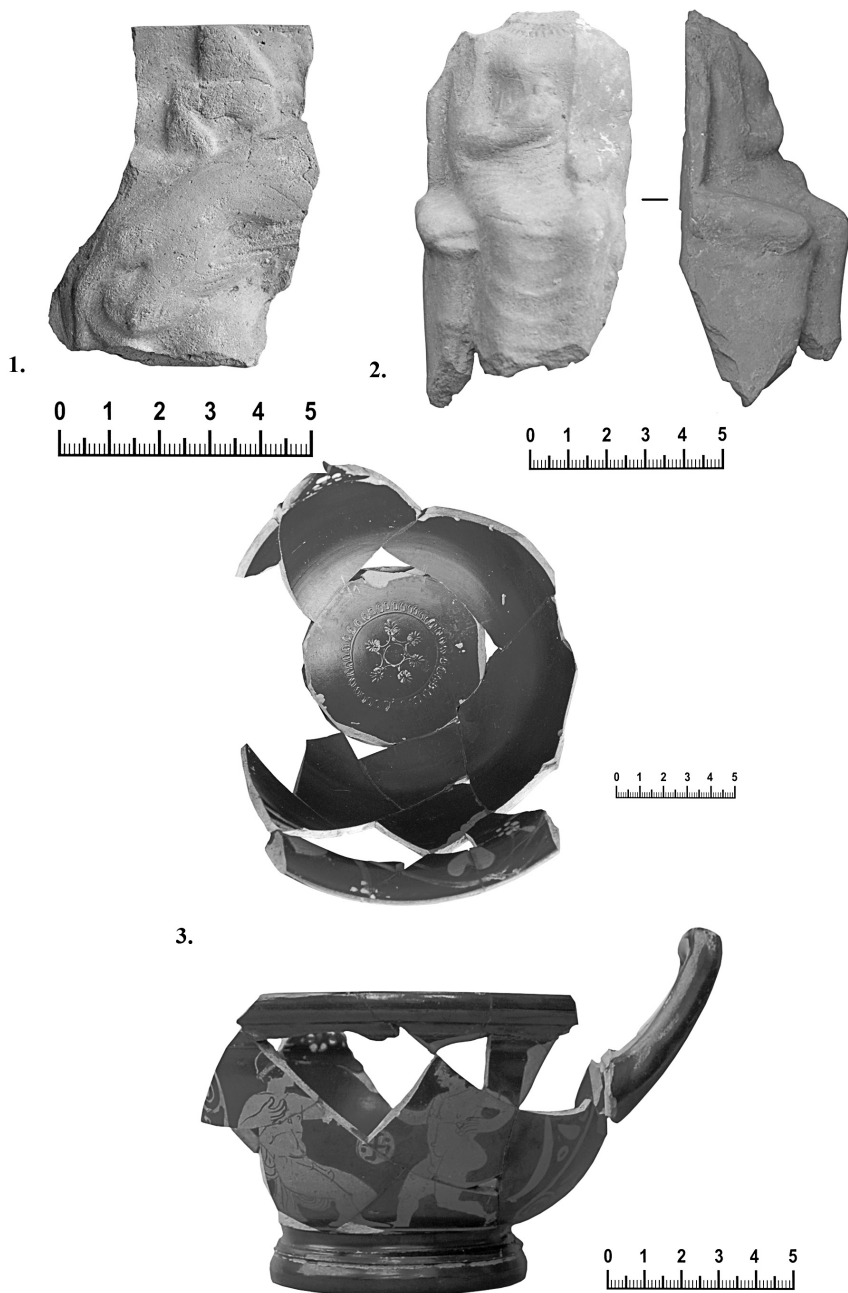
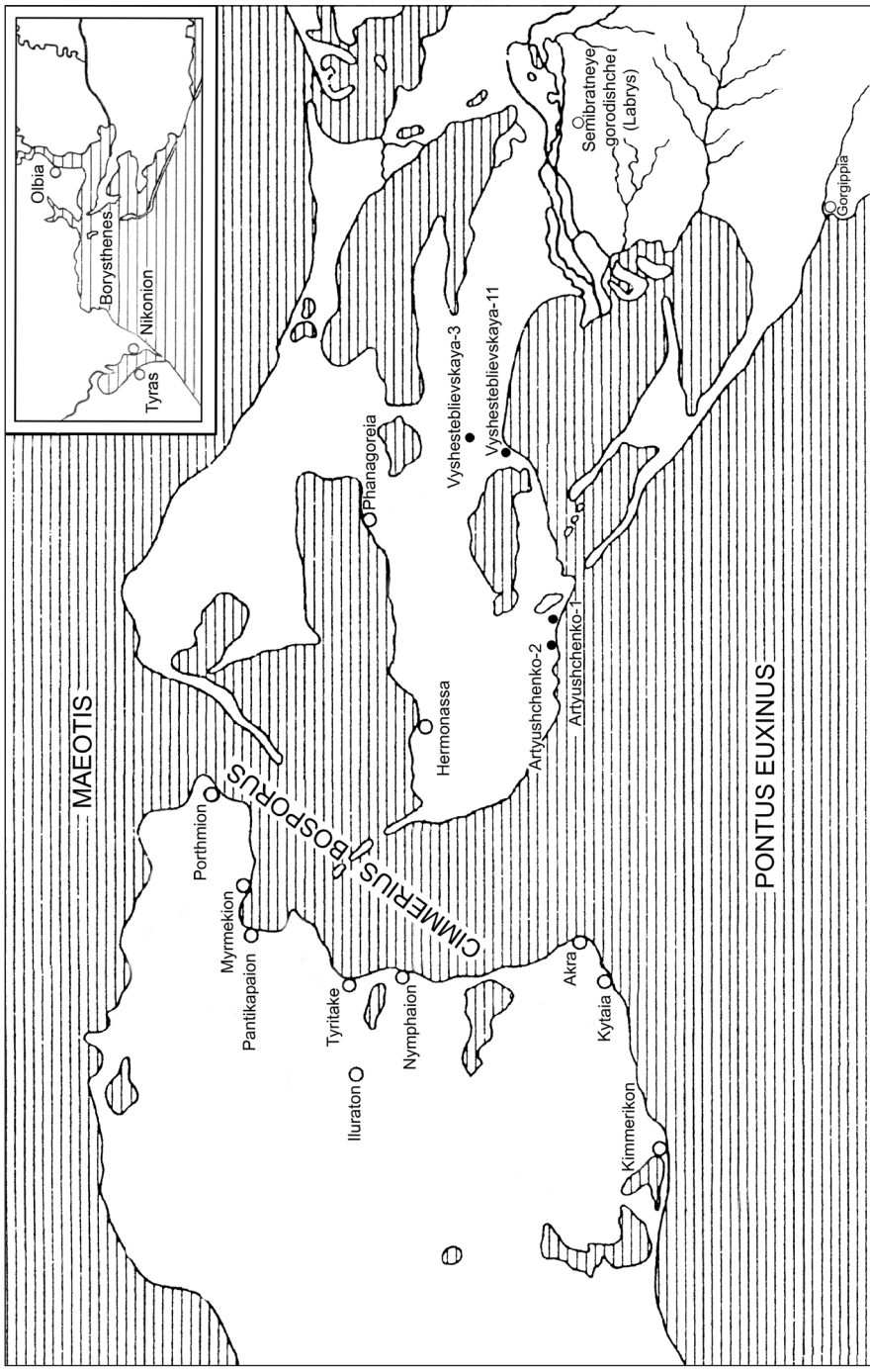


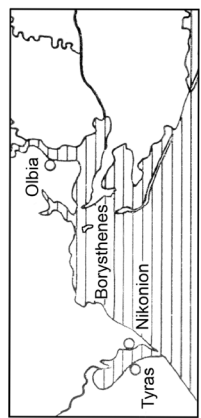
Fig. 12. Settlement of Vyshesteblievskaya-3. Finds.
1 – fragmentary terracotta relief; 2 – terracotta figurine, Aphrodite;
3 – red-figured kylix.



MAEOTIS

CIMMERIUS BOSPORUS

PONTUS EUXINUS



Olbia

Borystheneis

Tyras

Nikonion

Porthmion

Myrmekion

Pantikapaion

Tyritake

Iluraton

Nymphaton

Phanagoreia

Hermonassa

Artyushchenko-2

Artyushchenko-1

Vyshesteblevskaya-3

Vyshesteblevskaya-11

Semibratneye
gorodishche
(Labrys)

Gorgippia

Abbreviations

- KSIIMK = КСИИМК* – *Краткие сообщения Института истории материальной культуры [Kratkije soobshchenija Instituta istorii material'noj kultury]*
- MIA = МИА* – *Материалы и исследования по археологии СССР [Materialy i issledovanija po archeologii SSSR]*
- OAK = OAK* – *Отчет императорской Археологической комиссии [Otch'ot imperatorskoj Arkheologicheskoi komissii]*
- SA = СА* – *Советская археология [Sov'etskaja arkheologija]*
- VDI = ВДИ* – *Вестник древней истории [V'estnik drevnej istoriji]*

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