

ACTA TERRAE SEPTEMCASTRENSIS

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**“LUCIAN BLAGA” UNIVERSITY OF SIBIU
FACULTY OF HISTORY AND PATRIMONY
INSTITUTE FOR THE STUDY AND VALORIFICATION OF THE
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X

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ASSOCIATIONS OF ARCHAEOLOGICAL FINDS IN MIDDLE BRONZE AGE CENTRES OF THE EASTERN CARPATHIAN BASIN - ASPECTS OF POWER¹

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Abstract: *In this study, the issues of aspects of power and power centres in the Middle Bronze Age in the eastern Carpathian Basin are briefly addressed. The nature and aspects of power is discussed, next to a survey of selected important sites of the period. The rare material culture and find associations of some special contexts is presented in order to establish a pattern of how aspects of power manifest themselves in these associations. With this background in mind, some yet unpublished, special finds from Tilișca-Cetate are presented. Some of these finds are very distinctive in shape and function. Analogies for them are only found at a few sites and in low numbers. Their publication is important as new, as of yet, undocumented types add to knowledge of Bronze Age societies. These finds are presented in detail and certain areas of the site are placed in a broader landscape of the aspects of power in the eastern Carpathian Basin.*

Keywords: *aspects of power, material culture, hoof-shaped hearth-ring, antler disc*

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Prologue

The obvious question that might be raised is, what is ‘power’ and how do we recognise it in prehistoric material culture? The present paper will address this question and propose a means of identifying power based on the presence and association of moveable finds. Three major sites from the eastern Carpathian Basin are used as case studies (Sălacea – *Dealul Vida*, Oarța de Sus – *Ghiile Botii* and

¹ I would like to thank Alice M. Chyoke, Imola Kelemen and Diana Sztancs for their help and suggestions with the faunal material; furthermore I am grateful for the suggestions of Joseph Maran concerning the research of power and the useful information provided by Nikolaus G. O. Boroffka, and I would like to express my gratitude to Lærke Recht for comments made on previous drafts of the paper.

Sighișoara – *Wietenberg/Dealul Turcului*) in order to define the criteria through which aspects of power were enacted in the actual material contexts in this region (**map 1**). In the second part of the paper, new objects are presented, some of which are unique in shape and are compared to finds from the above mentioned sites in order to establish aspects of power at the site of Tilișca – *Cetate* during the Middle Bronze Age (MBA).

Power's moveable find contexts

Recent research has concentrated on defining power centres from the perspective of landscape studies, with only a minor contributions from the finds and their actual context (Dietrich 2010). Earlier studies are rather positivistic in identifying such sites and as such, rely only on the uniqueness of some finds and features, without any analysis of their context. Although the general interpretations of the sites seem valid, this lacking is addressed in what follows in the presentation of three case study sites. A building at the Otomani site of Sălacea – *Dealul Vida* was shortly after its discovery published as a “megaron”, due to its architectural shape, and given the function of a “temple” since “platforms/altars” and standardised “cultic” sets of objects were found in it (Chidioșan, Ordentlich 1975). The same thing might be said about the later finds of a somewhat similar (“cultic”) nature at the site of Oarța de Sus – *Ghiile Botii* (Kacsó 1980, 38-39, nr. 9a; Kacsó 1987, 69-70, fig. 22-28; Kacsó 1998). Another centre of the MBA in the eastern Carpathian Basin is undoubtedly the name giving site of the Wietenberg culture, *Wietenberg/Dealul Turcului*, explored from 1900 onwards (Seraphin 1899). Its uniqueness is somewhat different in character as its archaeological features (e.g. large, decorated, central hearths) and the specialised movable material culture is found in a milieu that not even the excavator brands as cultic, but rather sees it as a sort of “political” centre (Horedt, Seraphin 1971; Seraphin 1902). Several other sites might be added to this list, but these three were preferred, as they are regarded by most researchers as being centres of power at least in their region and maybe even beyond.

What the present study proposes is an analysis of the contextual elements found at these study sites, since their research is slightly neglected.

At the site of *Dealul Vida*, the assemblage of moveable archaeological finds of the “megaron” is quite overshadowed by the architectural features and elements of the building. Massive friezes decorated with flutes in the shape of running S-spirals, lavishly decorated daub walls and clay platforms (possible altars) are just a few of the more famous elements of the site (Chidioșan, Ordentlich 1975, 16, 22-23, fig. 2, pl. I-II). The finds of the innermost, third, room consist of two sets, of what might termed standardised groups, of objects found on the „altars”. Each group is made up of nine pyramid-shaped loom weights, three curved stone knives and a cylindrical stand (probably for vessels), with no further objects in the room save for a stone implement (Chidioșan, Ordentlich 1975, 18, 26, pl. 4/1-10). Furthermore, in front of the building's entrance, in a pit, next to the remains of a child, a four-footed vessel and similar cylindrical stand was also found (Chidioșan, Ordentlich 1975, 21-22, pl. 4/12-13). Without venturing into the discussion of the

“megaron’s” function (e.g. Schweitzer 1951; Werner 1993), its unique nature is clearly recognisable from the rarity and the association of certain types of objects discovered in it. As such, the occurrence of unique stands, stone knives and loom weights, along with a possible human sacrifice nearby with objects similar to the previous groups, might be one of the indications of a possible centre of power in the MBA eastern Carpathian Basin. The finds and their context are dated by the excavators to the Otomani II phase and the functionality of the building is described as “cultic” or “religious” (Chidioşan, Ordentlich 1975, 22).

Information about the site of *Ghiile Botii* is scarce compared to the previous one as final publication is still in progress. The peak of the site is artificially raised and it is strewn with evidence for rare practices and with unique materials. Instances of animal sacrifice are mentioned (Kacsó 1987, 69; Kacsó 2004, 59) and even evidence for human sacrifice is put forward (Haimovici 2003, 62-63). Unique finds at this site are the clay tubes (Kacsó 1998), gold and silver jewellery (Kacsó 1987, pl. 22-23) and different object of bone, antler, stone and terracotta (Kacsó 2004, 59, pl. 16-39/1,2). After this short account, the presence of human sacrifice and uniquely shaped clay tubes, specialised stone objects and installations might be considered evidence for what the excavator called a sanctuary dated to the Wietenberg II and III phases (Kacsó 1987, 70-71). Moreover, due to its location, terracing and levelling activities the site might be referred to as a peak sanctuary (Cherry 1986, 29-30).² The association of these archaeological finds and some of the actual material culture (shapes and functions) seem to fit, at least partially, the association of objects at the site of *Dealul Vida*. It might seem that the MBA centre at *Ghiile Botii* is also a place of power as the evidence for rare activities and the presence of specialised finds indicate it.

The name giving site of the Wietenberg culture is only partially published because most of the excavations were conducted in the first half of the last century (Horedt, Seraphin 1971, 2-17, 33-37; Seraphin 1899). The importance of the site comes from the fact that it has a number of rare installations and finds. The remains of a stone wall with mud binding, an uncommon feature for the Wietenberg culture, are documented over a stretch of 27 m and has a width of 1.5 m (Horedt, Seraphin 1971, 36, 37). Such walls are only found at a couple of sites, both of them from south-east Transylvania (Székely 1981, 22-23; Székely 1988, 154, 157). Another intriguing element of the site is the presence of two large, deep and wide incision (almost flute-like) decorated hearts (diameter ~160 cm and unknown) that were located in the centre of the settlement at a small distance from each other, probably belonging to two different phases of the site (Horedt, Seraphin 1971, 74-76, pl. 59, 60; Seraphin 1902; Wollmann 1999). Next to these features a few vessels that have a specialised use and some rare objects of terracotta are documented. Askos, hoof-shaped hearth-rings, figurines, specialised tools of bone, stone and copper/bronze

² For the BA in the eastern Carpathian Basin they can be defined as sites situated on the peak of a distinctive feature in the landscape with evidence, from the archaeological record, for specialised, rituals and religious activity, e.g. built structures, major terracing, votive objects, cult objects and possibly even sacrifice.

were found in great numbers in the area of the central decorated hearths (e.g. Horedt, Seraphin 1971, pl. 36/1, 55/14-19, 58/19-27). The site was in use during all the phases of the Wietenberg culture. The site's role as a centre, at least for the local communities, can hardly be questioned. Its nature as indicated by the finds is somewhat similar to the two other sites, but it lacks any evidence for human sacrifice or burial.³ The fragments of hoof-shaped hearth-rings, loom weights and rare shapes of spindle whorl, and the decorated hearths are the associations of objects at this site that are considered indicators of rare items used in specialised actions by the elites and, as such, evidence for the context of power.

After this short survey of the material culture, which indicates the presence of aspects of power at certain sites of major importance in the MBA eastern Carpathian Basin, it can be concluded that there are some common traits and patterns in the types and associations of materials used for specialised activities at these sites. Such are the unique stands reoccurring in different shapes at all three of them, although the ones from *Dealul Vida* and *Ghiie Botii* are more closely related in their morphology and decoration than the ones from *Wietenberg*. Furthermore, weights of pyramid-shape, usually of rectangular cross-section with round corners, are associated with the stands. Their function as "loom weights", in the above mentioned instances, might be questioned, especially in the light of the evidence from the "megaron" of *Dealul Vida*. At the first two sites, human sacrifice appears to be associated with these activities and finds, and might even be seen as a regional manifestation of certain aspects of power of the elites. Given the nature of the architectural and landscaping features, and some of the contexts documented at these two sites, the aspect of power might be defined as overwhelmingly "cultic" or "religious", although a certain "political" power might be seen in them as well. In opposition to this, the site of *Wietenberg* is lacking evidence for sacrifice or contexts as in the previous two; in comparison it is a rather "mundane" site. The decorated hearths are reminiscent of the contexts of the two platforms ("altars") from *Dealul Vida*, but the features and the overall assemblage of this area does not give the impression of rigidity and high standardisation ("dogmatism") as at the other sites. It seems that the activities of power conducted in this area of the site are not within a static, set space, but rather that it is an area of constant movement. Aspects of power are displayed through large, decorated hearths, and activities involving the hoof-shaped hearth-rings. In this reasoning, and by the *Andersartigkeit* nature of any identity, the power centre located in the middle of the *Wietenberg* site might be referred to as an overwhelmingly "political" area with obvious minor elements of "cult" or "religion" associated with fire and the sense of group-belonging of the elites.

As shown above, power is recognisable in associations of material culture and even some aspects of power ("cultic/religious" and "political") can be inferred from these as in the argued cases.

³ Although nine graves were identified at the site, none of them can be associated with the area of the hearths or exclusively with the MBA save for one (Horedt, Seraphin 1971, 93-95).

Power and centres

Although some theoretical approaches suggest that all actions, and not only certain types of conduct, express power and as such they manifests themselves in all levels of society (for an overview see Maran 2006, 5), in this study, only the aspects of power associated with the highest levels of society are analysed. Power is an abstract concept in the sense that it cannot be perceived directly, but only through its aspects.⁴ Consequently, it is almost inapplicable for archaeological context, especially in the prehistory. Hence the attempt at identifying aspects of power in the material culture seems more applicable for the purpose of the present study. In this sense, aspects of power might be defined as an attribute of certain elements of society, which is characterised by restrictive access to specific social groups (what might be termed ‘elites’), involved in a series of specialised and uncommon activities that require a series of unique and specialised items (what might be termed ‘prestige goods’).⁵ Plainly put, aspects of power of the elites manifests itself in certain activities and the use of specific items. As such, certain sites with uncommon finds and features might indicate “religious” and/or “political” centres (or aspects) - once the arenas of the elites and dwelling places of power (Aldenderfer 2010, 88-92). In this sense, aspects of power may be used by the elites in the negotiation of a well-defined identity. These elites have to differentiate themselves from other elites and non-elites through *Andersartigkeit* (Lévinas 1972, 51-53, 62-63; Sartre 1949, 277-368). All identities have this feature (Daróczi 2011), and also have common elements that elites are associated with, through shared values (Heidegger 1967, 137-138; Sartre 1949, 431-484). That is to say, specialised and rare items, and seldom occurring practices, conducted by very few members of society, partially define the identity of the elites (Henrich, Gil-White 2001). This is further defined by the differentiation of non-elite elements of society, while distinguishing themselves from other regions, or maybe even from types of elites and their prestige goods, while still in contact with them (Aldenderfer 2010, 22-27). This vertical and horizontal differentiation of the elite groups creates similarities at a contextual level of the prestige assemblages and slight differences of shape and decoration within one period (Arnold 2000, 28-29).

The above instances may therefore, through their main characteristics of *wealth* and *unique* or *rare*, indicate several aspects of power at these sites. In what follows I will use this to argue that the finds from Tilişca-Cetate may also be interpreted as associations of materials belonging to a power centres.

Tilişca-Cetate: moveable finds and power

The first references to the prehistoric site date to the late 19th century. After a brief survey by Téglás István, two “barbarian”, earthen fortifications with

⁴ e.g. political power, economic power, social power etc.

⁵ For a detailed discussion on power, its emergence, structure and agency see: (Inomata, Coben 2006; Maisels 2010, esp. 21-35 and 349-359; Price, Feinman 2010; Whitehouse 1991; Wilkins 1991)

“primitive” pottery were identified on two opposing promontories (**map 2**), right on the north-western outskirt of the modern village (Téglás 1887, 190 nr. 200). Through this, the site enters the mainstream of literature and it is mentioned in all the major repertoires of the first half of the same century (Marțian 1909, 347 nr. 686; Marțian 1920, 89 nr. 687; Roska 1942, 282 nr. 42). In 1961, Nicolae Lupu, while excavating the Iron Age site on the eastern hill of the twin promontories, *Cățânaș*, conducted a brief survey on the *Cetate* Hill, followed by a short campaign of stratigraphic soundings in 1962 (Lupu 1962, 481, 483). The first BA finds with documented locations surfaced at this point (Lupu 1962, pl. 4/14-18). Between the years 1963-1965, Thomas Nögler undertook systematic excavations with the purpose of researching the medieval fortification at the site (**fig. 1**). As such, the documentation and final publication of the prehistoric stratigraphy, features and finds are not as thorough and prompt as for the medieval material (Nögler 1967, 80, footnote 3). In the closing years of the excavations, an alleged hoard was discovered at the site consisting of an elongated, trapez-shaped flanged axe (of the *Ațel* type) and a knife of unique shape from an unspecified point of the site (Vulpe 1975, 67, pl. 37/341, 60/1-2).⁶ As a last entry for the research history of the BA site at *Cetate*, Nikolaus Boroffka published a plate of new material from the site (Boroffka 1994, 84-85-nr 460, pl. 136, 3-10).⁷ As a final stage in the processing of the BA materials from the site, a thorough study campaign was conducted over several months in 2010 by the present author, and more than 2000 sherds and over 50 special objects were documented and classified.⁸ The partial results of the analysis of some of the special finds are presented here.

In this paper, the focus is on the special finds unearthed in the campaigns of 1964 and 1965, as they represent a distinctive group of objects, holding much information concerning the site’s functionality and its spatial differentiation. All of the special finds presented in the catalogue, below, were discovered in 1964 with the exception of a handle (**pl. 4/2**) and a fragment of a hoof-shaped hearth-ring (**pl. 4/12**), which were found in 1965. As far as it is possible to establish, in these two years, work was carried out in the north-eastern, eastern and south-eastern areas of the site - what might be called the tip of the promontory (**fig. 1**). The finds all come from these areas, more specifically from the following trenches: trenches 8, 9, 10,

⁶ In 1983 I. Paul, who was present at the moment of the discovery of both metal objects, confirmed that these were indeed associated with Wietenberg materials but that they were not a hoard as they are from different areas of the site. Pers. comm. N. Boroffka from 22.03.2010

⁷ The terracotta object with horns published on this plate (pl. 136/7) is not from the *Cetate* site but from *Cățânaș* and belongs to the Ha B period according to the find label that was accompanying it. According to a personal communication of N. Boroffka the finds on the mentioned plate are documented by B. Hänsel at the end of the ‘60s and beginning of the ‘70s and as such this inaccuracy has slipped into the documentation, which is addressed and corrected here.

⁸ A final publication of the entire BA assemblage and of the results of the conducted studies is expected in the coming years.

tower 4, “trench next to the south wall – south-east sector” (“south-east entrance – next to the south wall”), and “trench south of the surface wall” (= “exterior trench – south-east”) (**fig. 1**). Even from this short overview, it seems that only two areas of the entire eastern part, and for that matter the entire site, yielded special finds in the north-eastern and the south-eastern corners of the medieval fortification.

The most frequently occurring special objects are the finds referred to as “staff knobs” (**pl. 1/3, 2/2, 3/4, 4/4, 5, 7 -9, 11**), with shapes ranging from bi-truncated to spherical crushed. They are not completely pierced through. Objects with similar shapes but with the shaft hole running completely through the objects are referred to as spindle whorls (**pl. 3/5, 4/6, 10**). Some of them are quite rare throughout the entire range of the culture (*e.g.* **pl. 4/11**) and most of them usually occur within northern Transylvanian sites, with a single one at Sighișoara-Wietenberg (Boroffka 1994, 170-173). Since the ‘80s the term “staff knobs” has appeared in the literature (Chidioșan 1980, 50), to differentiate these finds from the ones that are completely pierced through. However, so far no conclusive evidence has been brought forth for the function of these objects and the functional division between “staff knobs” and spindle whorls is unfounded. The two ‘groups’ share common shapes (*e.g.* **pl. 4/6** and **pl. 4/7** or **pl. 4/8, 9** and **pl. 4/10**) and the diameters of the shaft holes are also within the same range, roughly around 1 cm. Moreover, the central piercing of the sherd modified to a spindle whorl (**pl. 4/3**) has a diameter of the same size. Based on these arguments, it can be concluded that the similarities that unite them into a single group, probably as spindle whorls, are far more numerous than those separating their functionality into two groups. In the present paper, they are all considered spindle whorls, but the two morphological types at hand are still acknowledged.

Further evidence for activities related to weaving comes from so called loom weights of the pyramid-shape with a square cross-section and rounded corners. In two instances, a small and shallow hollow is recognisable on the narrower base (**pl. 1/1, 3/6**), which is also found in other cases at MBA sites of the eastern Carpathian Basin (*e.g.* Boroffka 1994, pl. 5/2, 91/10). Unique features on the third loom weight (**pl. 1/4**) are the two shallow, circular flutes on the unpierced sides. For these examples, no analogies can be put forward. It should be kept in mind that usually these weights are associated with weaving activities, but the case of the *in situ* weight-sets at *Sălacea* does not even suggest such and is seen as *ex voto*.

A unique object is the flat, circular terracotta object with interlinked S-spirals on top (**pl. 1/6**). The decoration consists of wide and shallow flutes and there are traces on its top part of a light yellowish-brown wash. It suggests a large, circular and flat object with a big hollow in its middle. The best analogies for this object are the two decorated hearths from Sighișoara-Wietenberg (Seraphin 1902; Wollmann 1999), although another smaller and spiral decorated hearth is also mentioned from Eliseni (Cavruc 2000, 208 XLIb-2, nr. 686). In this case the piece from Tilișca-Cetate would be one of the outer bands of a hearth.

A number of fragments of terracotta objects have a very distinctive shape with several neatly finished sides (**pl. 1/1, 2, 5, 2/5, 3/2, 4/1, 12**). The only analogies for these finds are from Cernat and *Wietenberg*, from the area of the large, decorated hearths (Horedt, Seraphin 1971, pl. 55/14-19; Székely K. 1988). These objects are called hoof-shaped hearth-rings (Boroffka 1994, 169, type pl. 6/7 - TN3). They are envisaged as supports for medium sized pots that are placed over the hearth, and as such would have needed to have an opening on one side (**fig. 2**) for air circulation and fuel introduction (Boroffka 1994, 169). In the case of the yet unpublished complete example, found *in situ* at Cernat, this function and shape is confirmed by this context (Székely K. 1988). The fragments from *Cetate* are from either the middle arched part of the objects (**pl. 1/1-2, 2/5, 3/2, 4/1**) or from the ends (**pl. 1/5, 4/12**). Only one fragment is decorated with incised meanders filled with *Zahnstempelung* (**pl. 2/5**). The two end fragments have a distinctive shape: one with a half-disc shaped, possible, decoration on top (**pl. 1/5**) the other has three finger marks on one of its vertical outer edges, which might be either functional or decoration (**pl. 4/12**). Another fragment has a lobe on its top side (**pl. 1/2**) and is an addition to the typology of these objects. All the fragments are either from the north-eastern or south-eastern area. The number of known objects of this type, even if in fragmentary condition, is doubled with the current publication.

The site also yielded two fragmented bone objects. The first is a pointy object (**pl. 3/3**), most likely an awl or a pin (Boroffka 1994, 224 - KC). It is quite common in shape and found throughout the MBA in the Carpathian Basin and further afield. The second is more distinct in its shape. It is disc-shaped and is most probably made from an antler (**pl. 3/1**). It is centrally pierced with a medium-sized hole, and its front side is decorated with a triple-lined running spiral as a border pattern with a radiant motif around the central hole. These objects are intended as decoration⁹ for horse bridles (Choyke *et al.* 2002, 184, 185 fig. 10) and due to the level of sophistication, specialised craftsmanship is envisaged and it is suggested that the audience for such a display is well beyond the local elites (Choyke 2009, 33). This specific example is the first published example from the MBA of the eastern Carpathian Basin. They appear in the late EBA and examples are known as late as the early Hallstatt period from the Carpathian Basin to the regions of the Alps (*e.g.* Kimmig 1992, 53-54, pl. 21, 22/5-6).

Finally, three small object of terracotta might be mentioned: a fragment of a miniature chariot wheel (**pl. 2/4**), a leg (?) of a possible figurine or vessel (**pl. 2/6**) and the fragment of a uniquely shaped handle with a circular and flat knob at the end (**pl. 4/2**). The circular fragment it is considered a wheel because of the bulges around the middle perforation can be seen as part of a *nave* and thus as an imitation of real life wheels (Crouwel 1981, 26 fig. 4). Analogies can be found from throughout the period, and usually they are associated with miniature wagons and chariots (Bóna 1960). The cylindrical terracotta fragment is very difficult to identify. Similar objects appear every so often at MBA eastern Carpathian Basin

⁹ A decorative disc on the horse bridle *e.g.* behind the eyes and below the ears (Hüttel 1981, 7- Abb. 1/9a).

sites.¹⁰ This specific find belongs either to a footed vessel just like the one from *Sălacea* (Chidioşan, Ordentlich 1975, 21, 26 pl. 4/12) or to a figurine (Székely 1988, 156, 182 pl. 17/1, 4). The unique shape of the handle(?) - fragment suggests the possibility that it belongs to an object like the miniature stand found in the settlement of *Sălacea* (Chidioşan, Ordentlich 1975, 20, 26, pl. 4/11).

From this account of the finds at *Tilişca-Cetate* it is clear that, although their archaeological context is not documented accurately, their presence and concentration indicate a specialised area within the site. The association of the possible large, decorated hearth fragment (**pl. 1/6**) with further fragments of hoof-shaped hearth-rings (**pl. 1/1-2, 5, 2/5**) and loom weights (**pl. 1/4, 2/1**) suggest a space of somewhat similar nature as the one at *Wietenberg*. Also, the presence of small moveable finds like spindle whorls, of the “staff knob” type, of rare shape and fluted decoration (**pl. 1/3**), miniature chariots/wagons (**pl. 2/4**) and even footed vessels or figurines (**pl. 1/6**) cannot but confirm the importance of the area within the region and the site. The space was most probably a built space as the daub fragment suggests (**pl. 2/3**), with walls typical for the architecture of the *Wietenberg* culture (Chidioşan 1980, 19). The existence of this built space is further confirmed by a restoration sheet in the Brukenthal Museum, Sibiu (“nr. curent 203”) where the presence of a “house” is noted in trench 10 between meters 13.10-11.20. As noted in the catalogue (below), all of these finds have analogies in the power centres discussed above, in contexts that are deemed to be sites of focused “religious” or “political” importance in the MBA eastern Carpathian Basin. Their specific and rare association pattern allows the postulation that the presence of elites cannot be doubted and that in the north-eastern part of the site, aspects of power of the local elites is manifested through the use of these specialised items and features. In this sense, in this area of the site, a focal point of the activities of the bearers of power is clearly recognisable through this rare association of specialised finds. Based on this ensemble, it is safe to state that this centre is more “political” in nature than “religious”, although it is stressed that the braiding of the two is obvious in all other sites mentioned.

The second area of interest is the south-eastern part of the site where the presence of hoof-shaped hearth-rings (**pl. 3/2, 4/1, 12**), loom weights (**pl. 3/6**) and a surprisingly large number of spindle whorls, of all three types, (**pl. 3/4-5, 4/3-11**) suggest an association of finds that seems similar not only to the north-eastern part of the site but to the three other centres as well. This is further reinforced by the presence of a handle (**pl. 4/2**) that possibly belongs to a small, specialised terracotta object. Further evidence for the importance of this south-eastern area, and of the site as a whole, comes in the form of a rare bridle decoration of an antler disc (**pl. 3/1**) and, to the best of my knowledge, the presence of such a display object is until now undocumented in the easternmost areas of the MBA eastern Carpathian Basin. These finds are also associated with evidence for built space (**pl. 3/7**). Based on the association of this second group of finds, this second area is seen as another focus

¹⁰ Personal communication of N. Boroffka.

point of the local elites where a somewhat different but still prevalently “political” power is performed and expressed.

Epilogue

After this account of the finds and their associations, it is clear that certain elements of the MBA site of Tilișca-*Cetate* fit the patterns of contexts of aspects of power from other centres of the eastern Carpathian Basin. The power held by these social groups is measurable through the presence of rare and in some case unique finds. These are used in activities specific to them and more likely express a “political”, rather than a “religious”, power, that most certainly exceeds the borders of local social structure.

Although the excavation that yielded the rich MBA material did not have as a goal the research of the BA its “side effects” are welcomed. The richness and rareness of the finds shows the immense potential that the site holds for archaeology. As the excavations of the ‘60s left most of the site untouched and the medieval habitation ensured that the lower layers are sealed, it is a perfect candidate for future field research. The bearings for such an endeavour are facilitated by the materials that are discovered here and the prosperity of this undertaking is emphasized by the find contexts of the aspects of power that once dwelled here.

Catalogue of finds:

1. **Awl**, fragment; **Pl. 3/3**
Inv. nr. Sp 48
Trench next to the south wall – South-East sector, 1964
L: 6 cm; ▲ base: 1x1x1 cm; ▲ top: 0,5x0,5x0,5 cm
It is a small-sized object of bone (probably a mammal's long bone, *e.g.* horse's metacarpal¹¹). It has a triangular cross-section gradually narrowing towards its tip. It has a smooth, shiny surface (probably due to usage). Although its top and bottom end are broken off, its function as an awl can hardly be doubted.
Analogies: (Boroffka 1994, 224, type pl. 31/3 - KC; Horedt, Seraphin 1971, 24, pl. 10/24)
2. **Daub**, fragment; **Pl. 2/3**
Inv. nr. Sp 5
Trench 10, 1964
H: 1,7 cm; L: 6,8 cm; W: 4,1 cm
Small burnt fragment of daub. The impressions on it suggest that the clay was applied over a construction of twigs (Dm: ~1 cm), possibly organised in a wattle system. The twigs in this case are placed parallel to each other. Such a construction would account for an overall wall thickness of about 10-15 cm, slightly thinner than in the case of Sp 31 (cat. no. 3).
Analogies: (Chidioşan 1980, 19)
3. **Daub**, fragment; **Pl. 3/7**
Inv. nr. Sp 31
Tower 4, 1964
H: 2,8 cm; L: 6,6 cm; W: 5 cm
Small burnt fragment of daub. The impressions on it suggest that the clay was applied over a construction of twigs (Dm: ~1,5 cm), possibly organised in a wattle system. The twigs in this case are placed parallel to each other. Such a construction would account for an overall wall thickness of about 10-15 cm, slightly thinner than in the case of Sp 5 (cat. no. 2).
Analogies: (Chidioşan 1980, 19)
4. **Disc**, fragment; **Pl. 3/1**
Inv. nr. Sp 45
Exterior Trench – South-East, 1964
Dm: 6,6 cm; Th: 0,3-0,4 cm; Dm hole: 0,9 cm; L hole: 0,3 cm
It is a small-sized object (most likely antlers¹²). It has a circular shape and it is gradually narrowing at its edges. In its middle part it has a circular piercing, with horizontal and cylindrical shaft. Its surface is neatly smoothed and on both sides, and surfaces not eroded have usage shine. One of its surfaces is decorated with incised, triple-lined, linked spirals which are bordered by two incised, concentric lines. The central hole is also bordered by two incised, concentric lines out of which the outer one has radiating incisions with “V”-s close to their top. The function of this object is uncertain. It does not have a nave like Sp 1 (cat. no. 18), hence it cannot be described as a miniature wheel. This sort of items occur from the MBA onwards in central and eastern Europe and are referred to as bridle decorations, which is most probably the case for this object as well.
Analogies: similar disc at the Szekler Museum at Ciuc, inv. nr. 474,¹³ (Bóna 1975, 265-266, pl. 197/6; Choyke *et al.* 2002, 184, 185 fig. 10; Tasić 1984, 69, pl. 18/5,9,10)
5. **Handle?**, fragmentary; **Pl. 4/2**
Inv. nr. Sp 51
Trench south of the surface wall, 1965

¹¹ Personal communication of Imola Kelemen and Diana Sztancs.

¹² Personal communication of Alice Choyke and Imola Kelemen.

¹³ Forthcoming publication of Daróczi Tibor-Tamás & Kelemen Imola in *Csíki Székely Múzeum Évkönyve* VII, 2011.

H: 3,2 cm; W: 2,3 cm; L: 6 cm; Dm button: 3,7 cm

Small-sized terracotta object. It has a light pale-brown colour due to its oxidising firing. At one end it has a circular ending that is continued in a somewhat narrower cylindrical section which broadens into a rectangular shaped part with rounded corners. It has neatly smoothed surfaces. As most of the object is preserved, its function as a handle, probably belonging to a special terracotta object, is safely assignable.

Analogies: (Chidioşan, Ordentlich 1975, 20, pl. 4/11)

6. **Hearth?**, fragmentary; **Pl. 1/6**

Inv. nr. Sp 33

Trench 9, 1964

H: 3-3,8 cm; L: 11,2 cm; W: ~7 cm

Medium-sized terracotta object. It has a dark pale-brown colour due to its oxidising firing. A further note on to this aspect is that it is the hardest fired object of the entire assemblage. Its shape is unique; of considerably smaller height than width; moreover, it is curved around its vertical axe. The small arch of the preserved curvature does not allow for the establishment of the diameter. On its top side it has flute (very shallow and broad) decoration with interlinked S-spirals. The bottom part is levelled and its outer side has slightly projecting edges. The surfaces are neatly smoothed and especially on its top side a pale whitish wash (engobe) is clearly recognisable. Since it only appears to continue onto its left and right side, its shape must have been circular, enclosing a major empty area in the middle of it. As such, its functionality might be put in relation with its shape and it can be the outer edge of a large, probably central hearth, just as in the examples from Wietenberg-Sighişoara.

Analogies: (Cavruc 2000, 208 XLIIb-2, nr. 686; Horedt, Seraphin 1971, 74-76, pl. 59, 60; Seraphin 1902; Wollmann 1999)

7. **Hearth-ring**, fragmentary; **Pl. 1/1**

Inv. nr. Sp 38

Trench 9, 1964

H: 11 cm; W: 10 cm; Th: 1-3,5 cm

Medium-sized terracotta object. It has a light pale-brown colour due to its oxidising firing. It is slightly curved (toward the inside of the object), although its diameter is not possible to be inferred from this curvature. Furthermore, it tilts slightly outwards. It has neatly smoothed surfaces. It might be established as a hoof-shaped hearth-ring. This fragment is probably the middle part of the same object as Sp 34 (cat. no. 8) and Sp 37 (cat. no. 9).

Analogies: (Boroffka 1994, 169, type pl. 6/7 - TN3; Horedt, Seraphin 1971, 70-71, pl. 55/14, 18, 19; Székely K. 1988)

8. **Hearth-ring**, fragmentary; **Pl. 1/2**

Inv. nr. Sp 34

Trench 9, 1964

H: 12 cm; W: 10,6 cm; Th: 1,6-4,8 cm

Medium-sized terracotta object. It has a dark pale-brown colour due to its oxidising firing. It is slightly curved, although its diameter is not possible to be inferred from this curvature. Its outer surface is almost vertical, whereas the inner side is gradually sloping downwards, hence creating the general impression of being a short funnel. On its top part, a small upward pointing lobe is still preserved. It has neatly smoothed surfaces. It might be established as a hoof-shaped hearth-ring. It is probably the middle part of the same object as Sp 37 (cat. no. 9) and Sp 38 (cat. no. 7).

Analogies: (Boroffka 1994, 169, type pl. 6/7 - TN3; Horedt, Seraphin 1971, 70-71, pl. 55/15, 18, 19; Székely K. 1988)

9. **Hearth-ring**, fragmentary; **Pl. 1/5**

Inv. nr. Sp 37

Trench 9, 1964

H: 4,4 cm; L: 12,5 cm; W: 5,6-6,4 cm

Medium-sized terracotta object. It has a light pale-brown colour due to its oxidising firing. It has a unique shape; the top part is half-circle shaped slightly projecting to the side and it has

- a lightly sloping back part somewhat similar to Sp 3 (cat. no. 13). The lower part is roughly rectangular in cross-section with its upper back broken up suggesting a continuation of the object horizontally just as in the case of the better preserved Sp 3 (cat. no. 13). It has neatly smoothed surfaces. Its functionality might be established as a hoof-shaped hearth-ring. It probably is the end part of the same object as Sp 34 (cat. no. 8) and Sp 38 (cat. no. 7). Analogies: (Boroffka 1994, 169, type pl. 6/7 - TN3; Horedt, Seraphin 1971, 70-71, pl. 55/16, 19; Székely K. 1988)
10. **Hearth-ring**, fragmentary; **Pl. 2/5**
Inv. nr. Sp 39
Trench 10, 1964
H: 7,3 cm; W: 8,9 cm; Th: 2,4-3,5 cm
Medium-sized terracotta object. It has a light pale-brown colour due to its oxidising firing. It is slightly curved, although its diameter is not possible to be inferred from this curvature. The top part is decorated with incised, slightly tilted triangles filled with Zahnstempelung, so the original pattern would have been a radial and whirling one. The outer side is decorated with incised and Zahnstempelung filled meanders and rectangular hooks. It has neatly smoothed surfaces. It most closely resembles Sp 38 (cat. no. 7). It might be established as a hoof-shaped hearth-ring.
Analogies: (Boroffka 1994, 169, 185-187, type pl. 6/7 - TN3, 26/6 - VC27, 27/6 - VC46; Horedt, Seraphin 1971, 70-71, pl. 55/18, 19; Székely K. 1988)
11. **Hearth-ring**, fragmentary; **Pl. 3/2**
Inv. nr. Sp 7
Tower 4, 1964
H: 3 cm; W: 2,5 cm; Th: 2,5 cm
Small-sized terracotta object. It has a dark pale-brown colour due to its oxidising firing. It is a rectangular fragment with rounded corners suggesting that it belongs to an object with straight sides just as in the case of Sp 32 (cat. no. 12) or the upper part of Sp 3 (cat. no. 13) or Sp 37 (cat. no. 9). It has neatly smoothed surfaces. It might be established as a hoof-shaped hearth-ring. It is probably the top part of an object like Sp 32 (cat. no. 12).
Analogies: (Boroffka 1994, 169, type pl. 6/7 - TN3; Horedt, Seraphin 1971, 70-71, pl. 55/14-16, 17, 18 ; Székely K. 1988)
12. **Hearth-ring**, fragmentary; **Pl. 4/1**
Inv. nr. Sp 32
Trench 8, 1964
H: 7 cm; W: 6 cm; Th: 1,2-3,4 cm
Medium-sized terracotta object. It has a dark pale-brown colour due to its oxidising firing. It has a base part, which is broader than its upper part. The latter has straight and parallel running sides resembling Sp 7 (cat. no. 11). It has neatly smoothed surfaces. It might be established as a hoof-shaped hearth-ring. It is probably the middle of the object and most likely belongs to the same one as Sp 3 (cat. no. 13).
Analogies: (Boroffka 1994, 169, type pl. 6/7 - TN3; Horedt, Seraphin 1971, 70-71, pl. 55/15, 18, 19; Székely K. 1988)
13. **Hearth-ring**, fragmentary; **Pl. 4/12**
Inv. nr. Sp 3
Tower 4?, 1965
H: 8,4 cm; L: 9 cm; W: 3,5-4,9 cm
Medium-sized terracotta object. It has a light pale-brown colour due to its oxidising firing. It has a unique shape; the front part is half-circle shaped of which the upper part is lightly sloping somewhat resembling Sp 37 (cat. no. 9). The lower part is roughly rectangular in cross-section with its back part broken off, suggesting a continuation of the object horizontally as in the case of Sp 37 (cat. no. 9). On the outer long side, three finger prints are clearly visible. It has neatly smoothed surfaces. It might be established as a hoof-shaped hearth-ring. It is probably the end part of the object and most likely belongs to the same one as Sp 32 (cat. no. 12).

- Analogies: (Boroffka 1994, 169, type pl. 6/7 - TN3; Horedt, Seraphin 1971, 70-71, pl. 55/16, 19; Székely K. 1988)
14. **Leg?**, fragmentary; **Pl. 2/6**
Inv. nr. Sp 40
Trench 10, 1964
H: 5 cm; Dm: 2,7 cm
Small-sized terracotta object. It has a light pale-brown colour due to its oxidising firing. It has a cylindrical shape and it is slightly tilted forward and curved. Its bottom is somewhat thicker. It has neatly smoothed surfaces. It only appears to be broken off at its top end and as such its interpretation as a spool is unlikely; more probably, it is a leg of a vessel or of some terracotta object.
Analogies: (Chidioşan, Ordentlich 1975, 21, pl. 4/12; Székely 1988, 156, 182 pl. 17/1, 4)
15. **Loom weight**, complete; **Pl. 3/6**
Inv. nr. Sp 43
South-east entrance – next to the south wall, 1964
H: 16,3 cm; ■ base: 8x8,1 cm; ■ top: 3,2x3,6 cm; Dm hole: 1 cm; L hole: 4,7 cm
Medium-sized terracotta object. It has a light pale-brown colour due to its oxidising firing. It has a rough surface with many indentations. The object has a pyramidal shape with rounded edges, hence with a square cross-section with rounded corners. It has a horizontal and cylindrical perforation at its narrower end. On its top is an oval (1,3x1,8 cm) and shallow (D 0,4 cm) hollow. Its functionality as a weight is obvious and its use as a loom weight is the most probable.
Analogies: (Horedt, Seraphin 1971, 71-72, pl. 56/1)
16. **Loom weight**, fragmentary; **Pl. 1/4**
Inv. nr. Sp 35
Trench 9, 1964
H: 14,3 cm; ■ base: 6,9x6,7 cm; ■ top: 4,2x4,4 cm; Dm hole: 0,7 cm; L hole: 4 cm
Medium-sized terracotta object. It has a dark reddish-brown colour due to its oxidising firing. On its surface heavy soil depositions, due to corrosion, are clearly recognisable. Otherwise it has neatly smoothed surfaces. The object has a pyramidal shape with sharp edges, hence with a square cross-section. A horizontal and cylindrical perforation at its narrower end is only partially preserved. The unperforated sides have two, one each, O-shaped flutes (Dm 2,5 cm). Its functionality as a weight is obvious and its use as a loom weight is the most probable.
Analogies: (Boroffka 1994, 177, type pl. 7/47?, 48? - TT13d?-e?)
17. **Loom weight**, fragmentary; **Pl. 2/1**
Inv. nr. Sp 4
Trench 10, 1964
H: 13,2 cm; ■ base: 8,1x8,1 cm; ■ top: 3,7x4,9 cm; Dm hole: 0,7 cm; L hole: 5,5 cm
Medium-sized terracotta object. It has a light pale-brown colour due to its oxidising firing. It has a rough surface with many indentations. The object has a pyramidal shape with rounded edges, hence with a square cross-section with rounded corners. It has a horizontal and cylindrical perforation at its narrower end. On its top is an oval (1,6x2,8 cm) and shallow (~D 0,7 cm) hollow. Its functionality as a weight is obvious and its use as a loom weight is the most probable.
Analogies: (Chidioşan, Ordentlich 1975, 18, pl. 4/6, 7; Horedt, Seraphin 1971, 71-72, pl. 56/4)
18. **Miniature wheel**, fragment; **Pl. 2/4**
Inv. nr. Sp 1
Trench 10, 1964
Dm: 5,8 cm; Th: 0,6-1,5 cm; Dm hole: 0,5 cm; L hole: 1,5 cm
Small-sized terracotta object. It has a dark reddish-brown colour due to its oxidising firing. It has a circular shape of uniform width save for its middle where it is slightly thicker. In this part it has a circular piercing, with a horizontal and cylindrical shaft. Its surface is neatly

smoothed. Due to its central hole and slight projection, which could coincide with the nave of a wheel, a function as a miniature wheel, possibly belonging to a miniature wagon or chariot, is attributed to this object.

Analogies: (Boroffka 1994, 174, type pl. 7/24 - TT3a)

19. **Spindle whorl**, complete; **Pl. 3/5**

Inv. nr. Sp 44

South-east entrance – next to the south wall, 1964

H: 2,3 cm; Dm max: 3,4 cm; H hole: 2,3 cm; Dm hole: 0,7 cm

Small-sized terracotta object. It has a light pale-brown colour due to its oxidising firing. It has a squashed spherical shape and its surface is smoothed, with occasional indentations. The shaft-hole is of cylindrical shape and it completely pierces through the object. Its functionality might be established as a spindle whorl.

Analogies: (Boroffka 1994, 170-171, type pl. 7/1 - TT1a)

20. **Spindle whorl**, complete; **Pl. 4/10**

Inv. nr. Sp 53

Trench unknown, 1964

H: 2,6 cm; Dm max: 4 cm; Dm min: 2,2 cm; H hole: 2,6 cm; Dm hole: 1 cm

Small-sized terracotta object. It has a light pale-brown colour due to its oxidising firing. It has a conical shape with its sides slightly arched inwards. The shaft-hole is cylindrical and it completely pierces through the object. Its functionality might be established as a spindle whorl.

Analogies: (Boroffka 1994, 172, type pl. 7/9 - TT1j)

21. **Spindle whorl**, complete; **Pl. 4/11**

Inv. nr. Sp 47

Trench south of the surface wall, 1964

H: 1,9 cm; Dm max: 2,9 cm; Dm min: 2,1 cm; H hole: 1,3 cm; Dm hole: 0,5 cm

Small-sized terracotta object. It has a dark pale-brown colour due to its oxidising firing. It has a conical shape with its sides arched inwards. The shaft-hole is slightly conical with a conical end at its bottom. Its functionality might be established as a spindle whorl.

Analogies: (Boroffka 1994, 172, type pl. 7/10 - TT1k; Rustoiu 1995, 61-62, 68, pl. 1/III f)

22. **Spindle whorl**, complete; **Pl. 4/3**

Inv. nr. Sp 46

Trench south of the surface wall, 1964

Dm: 4,3x4,5 cm; Dm hole: 0,5 cm; L hole: 0,6 cm

Small-sized terracotta object. It has a dark greyish, pale-brown colour due to its reducing firing. It has an irregular circular shape and a slight curvature, which suggests that it is a reused and reshaped pottery fragment. The shaft-hole is of cylindrical shape and it completely pierces through the object. Its functionality might be established as a spindle whorl.

Analogies: (Horedt, Seraphin 1971, 72-73, pl. 56/25-31)

23. **Spindle whorl**, complete; **Pl. 4/4**

Inv. nr. Sp 54

Trench unknown, 1964

H: 3,1 cm; Dm max: 4 cm; H hole: 1,4 cm; Dm hole: 1 cm

Small-sized terracotta object. It has a dark pale-brown colour due to its oxidising firing. It has a cylindrical segment followed by a bi-truncated part. It has neatly smoothed surface. The shaft-hole is cylindrical with a conical end at its bottom. Its shape might argue for its functionality as a spindle whorl.

Analogies: (Boroffka 1994, 171, type pl. 7/4 - TT1d; Rustoiu 1995, 61-62, 66, pl. 1/II d)

24. **Spindle whorl**, complete; **Pl. 4/5**

Inv. nr. Sp 52

Trench unknown, 1964

H: 2,9 cm; Dm max: 2,8 cm; H hole: 0,6 cm; Dm hole: 0,9 cm

Small-sized terracotta object. It has a dark pale-brown colour due to its oxidising firing. It has a cylindrical segment followed by a bi-truncated part. It has neatly smoothed surfaces. The shaft-hole is cylindrical and very short with a conical end at its bottom. Its shape might argue for its functionality as a spindle whorl.

Analogies: (Boroffka 1994, 171, type pl. 7/4 - TT1d; Rustoiu 1995, 61-62, 66, pl. 1/IId)

25. **Spindle whorl**, complete; **Pl. 4/6**

Inv. nr. Sp 58

Trench unknown, 1964

H: 3,2 cm; Dm max: 4,6 cm; H hole: 3,2 cm; Dm hole: 0,9 cm

Small-sized terracotta object. It has a light pale-brown colour due to its oxidising firing. It has a bi-truncated shape with a short conical stem at one of its ends and its surface is neatly smoothed. The shaft-hole is cylindrical and it completely pierces through the object. Its functionality might be established as a spindle whorl.

Analogies: (Boroffka 1994, 171, type pl. 7/3 - TT1c)

26. **Spindle whorl**, complete; **Pl. 4/7**

Inv. nr. Sp 56

Trench unknown, 1964

H: 2,9 cm; Dm max: 4,4 cm; H hole: 2 cm; Dm hole: 1,2 cm

Small-sized terracotta object. It has a light pale-brown colour due to its oxidising firing. It has a bi-truncated shape with a short conical and stumpy stem at one of its ends and its surface is smoothed, with occasional indentations. The shaft-hole is cylindrical with a conical end at its bottom. Its functionality might be established as a spindle whorl.

Analogies: (Boroffka 1994, 171, type pl. 7/3 - TT1c; Rustoiu 1995, 61-62, 64, pl. 1/IIB)

27. **Spindle whorl**, complete; **Pl. 4/8**

Inv. nr. Sp 55

Trench unknown, 1964

H: 3 cm; Dm max: 4,4 cm; Dm min: 2,2 cm; H hole: 2,4 cm; Dm hole: 1,3 cm

Small-sized terracotta object. It has a light pale-brown colour due to its oxidising firing. It has a conical shape with its sides arched inwards. The piercing of the shaft-hole is on its maximum diameter side and it is of cylindrical shape with a conical end at its bottom. Its functionality might be established as a spindle whorl.

Analogies: (Boroffka 1994, 172, type pl. 7/9 - TT1j; Rustoiu 1995, 61-62, 68, pl. 1/IIId)

28. **Spindle whorl**, complete; **Pl. 4/9**

Inv. nr. Sp 57

Trench unknown, 1964

H: 2,3 cm; Dm max: 4,2 cm; Dm min: 2,2 cm; H hole: 1,2 cm; Dm hole: 1 cm

Small-sized terracotta object. It has a dark pale-brown colour due to its oxidising firing. It has a conical shape with its sides slightly arched inwards. The piercing of the short shaft-hole is on its maximum diameter side and it is of cylindrical shape with a conical end at its bottom. Its functionality might be established as a spindle whorl.

Analogies: (Boroffka 1994, 172, type pl. 7/9 - TT1j; Rustoiu 1995, 61-62, 68, pl. 1/IIId)

29. **Spindle whorl**, fragmentary; **Pl. 1/3**

Inv. nr. Sp 36

Trench 9, 1964

H: 3,4 cm; Dm max: 4 cm; H hole: 2,4 cm; Dm hole: 1 cm

Small-sized terracotta object. It has a light pale-brown colour due to its oxidising firing. It has a cylindrical segment followed by a bi-truncated part, on the maximum diameter of the latter diagonal flutes are clearly recognisable. It has neatly smoothed surfaces. The shaft-hole is cylindrical with a small ledge at its bottom. This ledge of the shaft hole might have a

functional purpose as it might obstruct the spinning of the stem inserted into the object. Its shape might argue for its functionality as a spindle whorl.

Analogies: (Boroffka 1994, 171, type pl. 7/3 - TT1d; Rustoiu 1995, 61-62, 66, pl. 1/IId)

30. **Spindle whorl**, fragmentary; **Pl. 3/4**

Inv. nr. Sp 30

Tower 4, 1964

H: 3 cm; Dm max: 4,2 cm; H hole: 2,9 cm; Dm hole: 0,7 cm

Small-sized terracotta object. It has a dark pale-brown colour due to its oxidising firing. It has a bi-truncated shape and its surface is smoothed, with occasional indentations. The shaft-hole is of cylindrical shape and its bottom is slightly swollen, suggesting that the hole was made with a hollow object. Its functionality might be established as a spindle whorl.

Analogies: (Boroffka 1994, 173, type pl. 7/17 - TT2b; Rustoiu 1995, 61-62, 70, pl. 1/IVa)

31. **Spindle whorl**, complete; **Pl. 2/2**

Inv. nr. Sp 41

Trench 10, 1964

H: 2,8 cm; Dm max: 4 cm; H hole: 1,4 cm; Dm hole: 1,1 cm

Small-sized terracotta object. It has a light pale-brown colour due to its oxidising firing. It has a bi-truncated shape and its surface is smoothed, with occasional indentations. The shaft-hole is slightly conical. Its functionality might be established as a spindle whorl.

Analogies: (Boroffka 1994, 173, type pl. 7/17 - TT2b; Rustoiu 1995, 61-62, 68, pl. 1/IVa)

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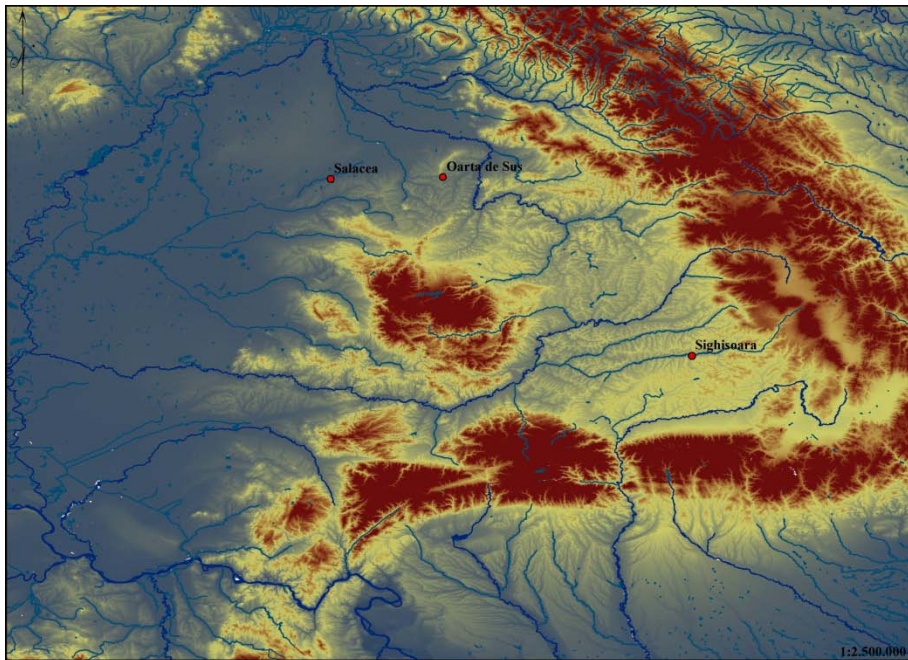
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LIST OF ABBREVIATIONS

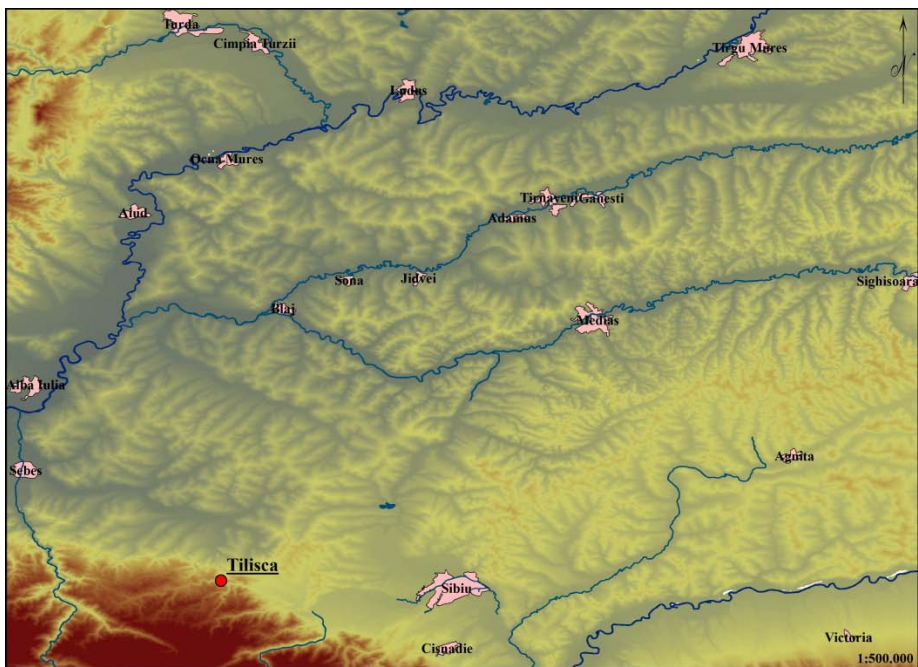
H	- height;
H hole	- height of the hole;
L	- length;
L hole	- length of the hole;
W	- width;
Th	- thickness;
Dm	- diameter;
Dm max	- diameter at the broadest point;
Dm min	- diameter at the narrowest point;
Dm hole	- diameter of the hole;
Dm button	- diameter of the button;
■ base	- measurements of the square base;
■ top	- measurements of the square top;
▲ base	- measurements of the triangular base;
▲ top	- measurements of the triangular top.

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Map 1 - Eastern Carpathian Basin



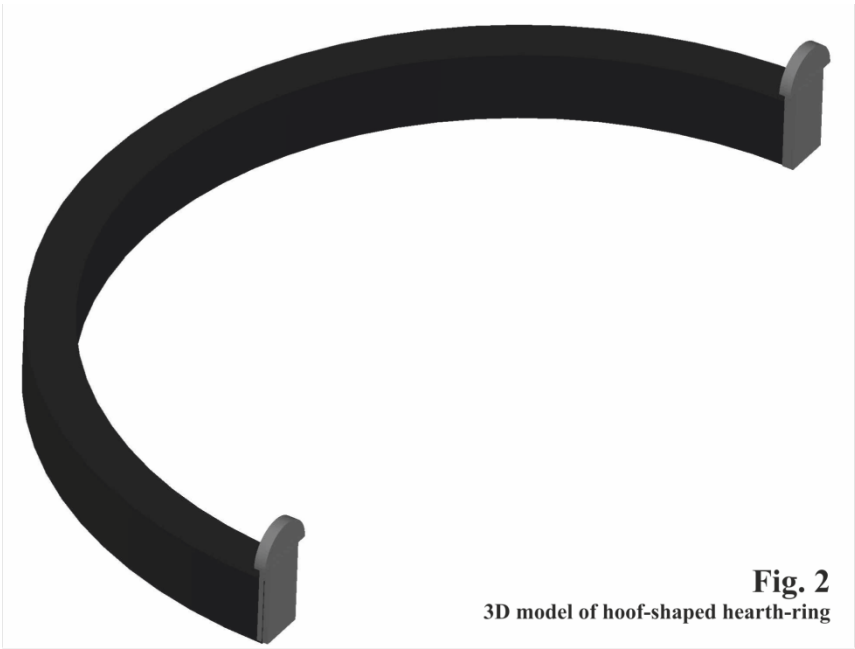
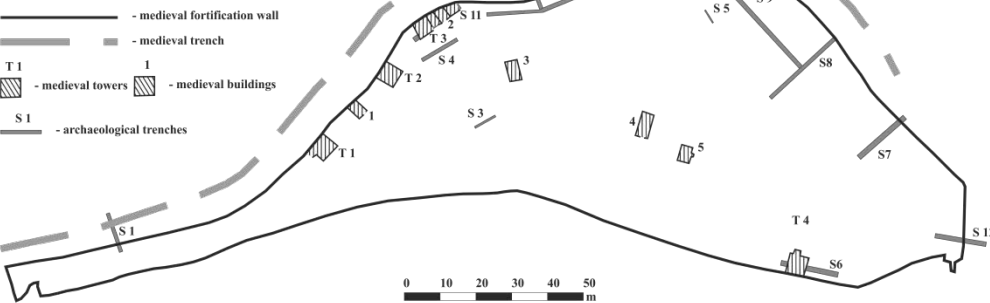
Map 2 -Tilișca

Fig. 1

Tilișca - Cetate

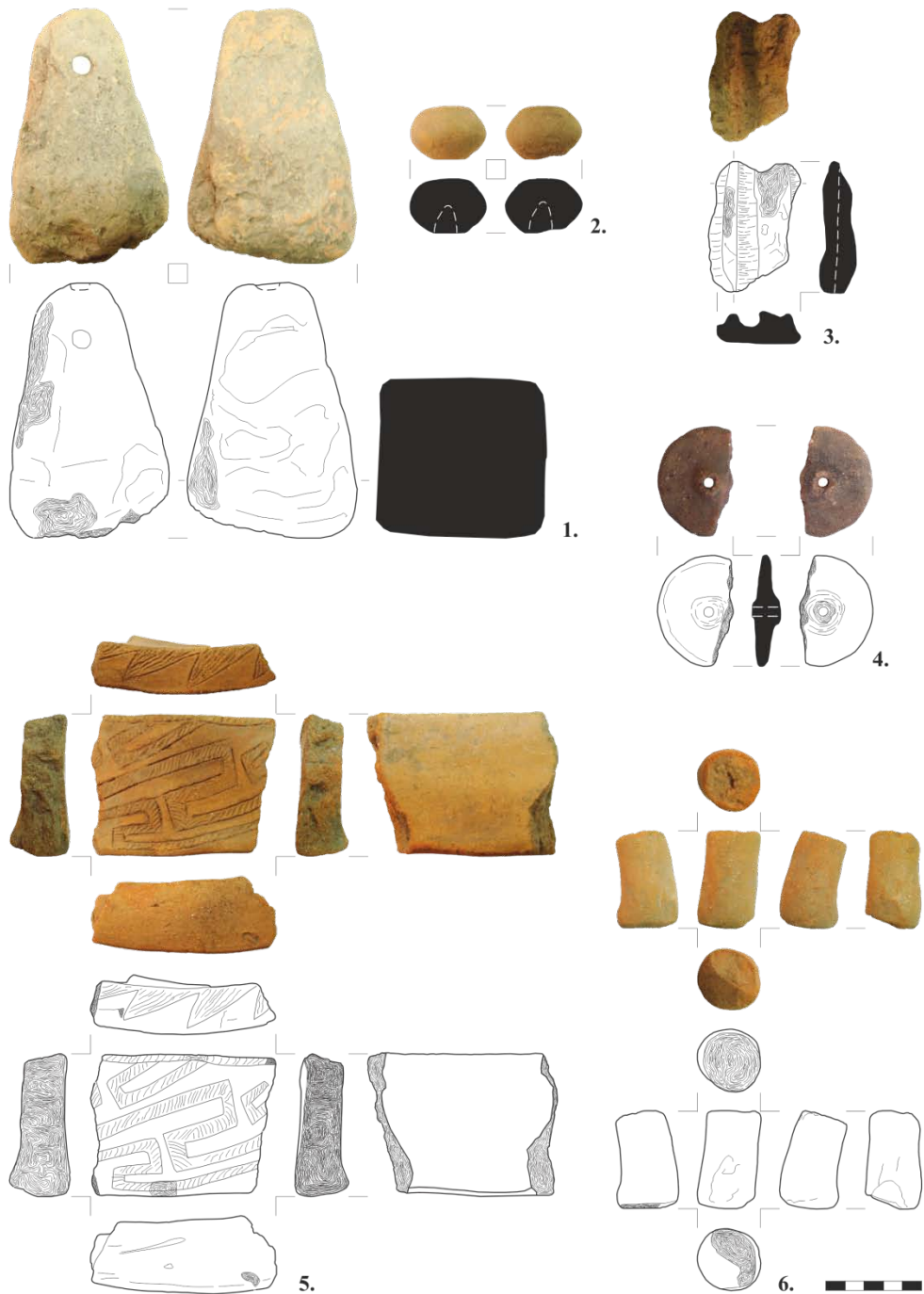
1963-1965

Excavation Plan

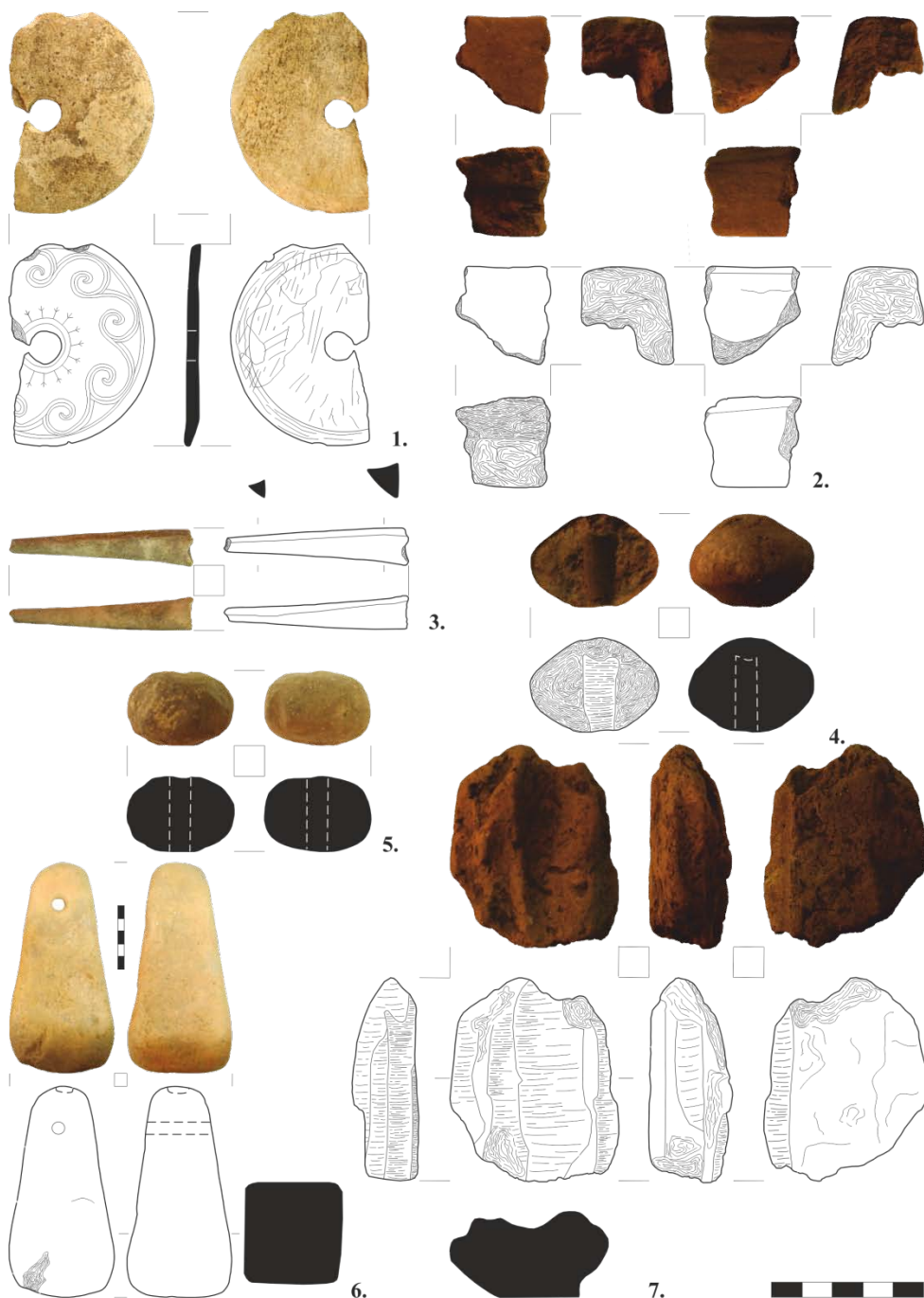




Pl. 1 - Trench 9
1. Sp 38; 2. Sp 34; 3. Sp 36; 4. Sp 35; 5. Sp 37; 6. Sp 33.



Pl. 2 - Trench 10
1. Sp 4; 2. Sp 41; 3. Sp 5; 4. Sp 1; 5. Sp 39; 6. Sp 40.



Pl. 3 - South-East Area (Tower 4; south-east trench; south-east entrance)

1. Sp 45; 2. Sp 7; 3. Sp 48; 4. Sp 30; 5. Sp 44; 6. Sp 43; 7. 31.



Pl. 4 - Trench 8, South-East (Tower 4?; south-east entrance) and other areas
 1. Sp 32; 2. Sp 51; 3. Sp 46; 4. Sp 54; 5. Sp 52; 6. Sp 58; 7. Sp 56; 8. Sp 55; 9. Sp 57; 10. Sp 53;
 11. Sp 47; 12. Sp 3.