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RADOVI ARHEOLOŠKOG ZAVODA  
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O F A R C H A E O L O G Y

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*Hrvoje KALAFATIĆ, Saša KOVAČEVIĆ & Amelio VEKIĆ*

## GROB KASNOGA BRONČANOG DOBA IZ ZBELAVE KOD VARAŽDINA

### LATE BRONZE AGE GRAVE IN ZBELAVA NEAR VARAŽDIN

Izvorni znanstveni članak / Original scientific paper

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Hrvoje Kalafatić  
Institut za arheologiju  
Ulica grada Vukovara 68  
HR-10000 Zagreb  
hrvoje.kalafatic@iarh.hr

Saša Kovačević  
Institut za arheologiju  
Ulica grada Vukovara 68  
HR-10000 Zagreb  
sasa.kovacevic@iarh.hr

Amelio Vekić  
Ministarstvo kulture  
Konzervatorski odjel u Zagrebu  
Mesnička 49  
HR-10000 Zagreb  
amelio.vekick@min-kulture.hr

*Godine 1997. provedena su zaštitna arheološka istraživanja na lokalitetu Zbelava – Pod lipom na trasi autoceste Zagreb – Goričan u varaždinskoj Podravini. Položaj Pod lipom bio je naseljen u više epoha, a najintenzivnije u kasnoj fazi starijega željeznog doba. Tijekom istraživanja 1997. pronađen je i jedan grob sa spaljenim ostacima pokojnika položenim u žaru koji se u kulturno-kronološkome smislu svrstava u razdoblje kasnoga brončanog doba. To je ujedno i jedini takav nalaz pronađen za istraživanja u Zbelavi, a pripada rjeđim nalazima te vrste na području varaždinske Podravine i šire.*

*Ključne riječi: sjeverozapadna Hrvatska, Podravina, Zbelava, kasno brončano doba, kultura polja sa žarama, grupa Virovitica, žarni grob*

*In 1997 archaeological rescue excavations were conducted at the Zbelava-Pod lipom site on a section of the Zagreb-Goričan motorway in the Drava River zone (Podravina) near the city of Varaždin. The Pod lipom site was inhabited in several epochs, most intensively in the late phase of the Early Iron Age. During research in 1997, a grave was found containing the charred remains of a deceased person placed in an urn, which was culturally and chronologically classified as Late Bronze Age. This is also the only such find discovered during excavations in Zbelava, and it belongs among the rarer finds of this type in the territory of Varaždin's Podravina and beyond.*

*Key words: North-west Croatia, Podravina, Zbelava, Late Bronze Age, Urnfield culture, Virovitica group, urn grave*

#### UVOD

Lokalitet Zbelava – Pod lipom već dulje vrijeme privlači pozornost kako amatera i zaljubljenika u varaždinski kraj tako i kulturnih i znanstvenih dje-

#### INTRODUCTION

The Zbelava-Pod lipom site has long attracted the attention of both amateurs and enthusiasts of the Varaždin region, as well as professional cultural

latnika – profesionalaca.<sup>1</sup> Početkom šezdesetih godina prošloga stoljeća u seriji članaka o tumulima varaždinskoga kraja Miroslav Fulir donosi legendu vezanu za zbelavski kraj:

“U Šemovcu, Štefancu, Bartolovcu, Žabniku, Zbelavi, Pihovcu, Lužanu i drugim, čut ćete priču o selima koja su nekada postojala, a sada im se više ne vidi traga ili pak se samo na oranica-ma primjećuje trag cigle i kamena lomljenca... Zapadno od sela Žabnik uz Dravu je mjesto, gdje su nekada živjeli današnji mještani sela Zbelava. Tradicija tvrdi da je razlog napuštanja starih ognjišta bijeg pred “Pesjanima”, koji su u literaturi opisani kao Pasoglavci...” (Fulir 1961).

Prilično je jasno da u tome tekstu nije opisano staro naselje sadašnjih stanovnika Zbelave prije nego što su ih “pasoglavi” Tatari natjerali da se presele, već mjesto na kojemu se nalazi mnogo starije naselje, zapravo i više njih, u Zbelavi – Pod lipom. Obilje izoranih nalaza na površini zbelavskih njiva moralo je biti okidač koji je pokrenuo ovu priču i njoj slične priče o dalekoj “tatarskoj” prošlosti. Kako to obično biva, priče su tijekom vremena obogaćivane domišljatim detaljima, pa su prerastale u prave legende. Tijekom arheoloških istraživanja 1997. pojavile su se i druge znakovite narodne priče vezane za neposredni okoliš lokaliteta i za sam položaj Pod lipom. Takva je i priča o potonuloj zlatnoj kočiji i o lipi koja je davnih dana rasla na vrhu uzvišenja na kojemu se smjestio lokalitet. Od nje potječe naziv položaja ‘Pod lipom’.

## POLOŽAJ LOKALITETA I POVIJEST ISTRAŽIVANJA

Zbelava se nalazi desetak kilometara istočno od Varaždina, u podravskoj ravnici. Selo se smjestilo u nizinskome kraju kojemu sa sjeverne strane prirodnu granicu čini rijeka Drava, a s južne se strane, u zaleđu zbelavskoga kraja, iz podravske ravnice izdižu obronci Varaždinsko-topličkoga gorja. Arheološki lokalitet na položaju Pod lipom smješten je oko 2,5 km jugoistočno od središta sela, na uzvisini okrugloga tlocrta i promjera od stotinjak metara koja je 2–2,5 m uzdignuta iznad okolnoga nizinskog kraja. U neposrednoj blizini lokaliteta, prema jugu, teče rijeka Plitvica, a sa sjeverne se strane nalazi potok Zbel (Šimek 1987: 42; sl. 1, 2; Registar 1997: 141).

<sup>1</sup> Autori posvećuju ovaj članak dr. Korneliji Minichreiter iz Instituta za arheologiju u Zagrebu. Njezin predani rad i ljubav prema arheologiji u dugome i plodnome radnom vijeku dotakli su brojne studente i suradnike, pa tako i nas koji njezinu odlasku u mirovinu posvećujemo ovaj skromni rad.

and scholarly researchers.<sup>1</sup> At the beginning of the 1960s, in a series of articles on the tumuli of the wider Varaždin area, Miroslav Fulir recounted a legend tied to Zbelava:

“In Šemovec, Štefanec, Bartolovec, Žabnik, Zbelava, Pihovec, Lužan and elsewhere, you’ll hear the story about villages which used to exist, but of which there is now no trace, or you can only notice pieces of brick or broken construction stone in plough-fields... West of the village of Žabnik, along the Drava River, there is a place where the denizens of today’s village of Zbelava once lived. According to tradition, the reason why they abandoned their hearths and households was to flee before the ‘*Pesjani*’, who have been described in the literature as *Pasoglavci* (‘Dog-heads’)...” (Fulir 1961).

It is rather clear that this text does not describe the old settlement of today’s residents of Zbelava before the “dog-headed” Tatars forced them to move, but rather the location of a much older settlement, several actually, in Zbelava- Pod lipom. The abundance of finds unearthed on the surface of Zbelava’s plough land by cultivation had to have served as the trigger for this and similar stories of a distant “Tatar” past. As usual, over time the stories were embellished with imaginative details, thus growing into genuine legends. During archaeological research conducted in 1997, other significant stories associated with the immediate vicinity of the site and the actual Pod lipom location also emerged. One such story tells of a sunken golden carriage and a linden tree (*lipa*) which grew long ago at the crest of the rise at which the site is situated. This is the origin of the name ‘*Pod lipom*’ (literally: ‘under the linden tree’).

## LOCATION OF THE SITE AND RESEARCH HISTORY

Zbelava is approximately ten kilometres east of Varaždin, on the Drava Valley (Podravina) plains. The village is situated in a lowland area which is naturally bordered to the north by the Drava River, while the foothills of the Varaždinske Toplice highlands rise to its south on the Podravina plains, in Zbelava’s hinterland. The archaeological site at Pod lipom is approximately 2.5 km south-east of the village’s centre, at an elevation with a round layout and a diameter of approximately one hundred

<sup>1</sup> The authors would like to dedicate this paper to Dr. Kornelija Minichreiter from the Institute of Archaeology in Zagreb. Her devotion, commitment and love for archeology during her long and fruitful career, inspired numerous students and colleagues, as well as us. We dedicate this modest paper in honour of her retirement.



Arheološki lokalitet Zbelava – Pod lipom otkriven je za rekognosciranja koja su provodili djelatnici Gradskoga muzeja Varaždin, a 1986. M. Šimek iz istoga muzeja izvršila je probno sondiranje lokaliteta koje je potvrdilo da na tome mjestu treba računati na veliku koncentraciju nalaza iz više epoha (Šimek 1987: 42). Iako su djelatnici varaždinskoga muzeja i nakon sondiranja nastavili obilaziti lokalitet i skupljati izorane nalaze, opsežnija arheološka istraživanja na lokalitetu Zbelava – Pod lipom započela su tek 1997. kad se lokalitet igrom slučaja našao nasred trase planirane (danas već izgrađene) autoceste Zagreb – Goričan (Kovačević 2008: 48).

Višemjesečna istraživanja vodio je Amelio Vekić iz zagrebačkoga Konzervatorskog odjela Uprave za zaštitu kulturne baštine Ministarstva kulture. Tada je istraženo preko 3100 m<sup>2</sup> lokaliteta. Metodološku osnovu terenskih istraživanja činio je sistem stratigrafskih jedinica popraćen nužnim predefiniranim obrascima, koordinatni sustav s kvadrantima dimenzija pet puta pet metara te kontrolni profili. Važno je istaknuti da lokalitet nije istražen u cijelosti jer su zaštitna istraživanja morala biti koncentrirana na područje najugroženije prolaskom autoceste. Tako je za neka buduća revizijska istraživanja ostala neistražena jedna trećina područja za koje se pretpostavlja da je obuhvaćeno lokalitetom. Valja spomenuti da se u neposrednoj blizini lokaliteta Pod lipom nalazi više vrlo zanimljivih lokaliteta iz protopovijesti i antike, na što smo već upozoravali u ranijim objavama zbelavskih nalaza (Kovačević 2007: 91).

Arheološka su istraživanja pokazala da je položaj Pod lipom bio naseljen tijekom eneolitika, ranoga brončanog i starijega željeznog doba te u ranome srednjem vijeku (Kovačević 2007: 94). S jedne strane stratigrafska slika lokaliteta velikim je dijelom uvjetovana činjenicom da su isti položaj za kraće ili dulje naseljavanje koristili ljudi u više prapovijesnih i povijesnih epoha, što je nužno dovodilo do određenih preslojavanja. Za to je izvrstan primjer grob koji predstavljamo i analiziramo u ovome tekstu. S druge strane arheološki slojevi (poput prapovijesnih hodnih površina, primjerice) gotovo su u potpunosti



Slika 1. Položaj Zbelave u širem geografskom kontekstu.

Figure 1. Location of Zbelava in the wider geographic context.

meters, which is 2-2.5 m above the surrounding lowlands. The Plitvica River flows in the immediate vicinity of the site, toward the south, while the stream Zbel passes on its northern side (Šimek 1987: 42; Figs. 1, 2; Register 1997: 141).

The Zbelava-Pod lipom archaeological site was uncovered during field survey conducted by the staff of the Varaždin City Museum, while in 1986 M. Šimek from the same museum conducted a test trench at the site, which confirmed that a great concentration of finds from a number of periods could be expected there (Šimek 1987: 42). Even though the staff of the Varaždin museum continued to tour the site even after the test dig and collect items unearthed by ploughs, more extensive archaeological research only began at the Zbelava-Pod lipom site in 1997, when the site ended up in the middle of the then planned (and today already constructed) section of the Zagreb-Goričan motorway (Kovačević 2008: 48). The research, spanning several months, was led by Amelio Vekić from the Conservation Section of the Cultural Heritage Preservation Department of the Ministry of Culture. At the time, over 3,100 m<sup>2</sup> of the site were examined. The methodological foundation for the field research consisted of a system of stratigraphic units accompanied by the necessary pre-defined forms, a coordinate system with quadrants having dimensions of five by five meters, and



Slika 2. Zračna fotografija lokaliteta Zbelava – Pod lipom tijekom zaštitnih istraživanja na trasi autoceste Zagreb – Goričan 1997. (u donjem dijelu potok Zbel, s gornje strane lokaliteta stari tok Plitvice; snimila: M. Šimek, 1997).

Figure 2. Aerial photograph of the Zbelava-Pod lipom site during rescue excavations on a section of the Zagreb-Goričan motorway in 1997 (Zbel stream in lower section, former course of Plitvica River in upper section; photograph: M. Šimek, 1997).

uništeni erozijom i poljoprivrednim zahvatima. Tek je na sjevernim padinama uzvišenja mjestimično sačuvan kasnohalštatski kulturni sloj SJ 150 (*ibid.* 95; sl. 3 – koso iscrtano područje). Ispod sloja recentnoga, oranoga humusa (označenoga u terenskoj dokumentaciji kao SJ 01) ponegdje se primjećuje nalazima vrlo bogat sloj SJ 03. Nažalost, pomna analiza pokretnoga arheološkog materijala iz toga sloja pokazala je da se ne radi o zatvorenoj arheološkoj cjelini; nalazi različite kulturne i vremenske pripadnosti našli su se u tome ispremiješanom sloju tamnije smeđe boje zahvaljujući pomicanju zemlje plugovima ili erozijom (Kovačević 2005: 33). Valja istaknuti da je položaj Pod lipom najintenzivnije bio naseljen tijekom kasne faze starijega željeznog doba kad je ondje postojalo trajnije naselje sa zemuničkim i nadzemnim stambenim objektima, no važan je i horizont s ukopanim objektima lasinjske kulture. Znatno su slabije zastupljeni objekti s licenskom i ranosrednjovjekovnom keramikom (Kovačević 2005: 30–32; 2007: 90–91; 2008: 49–52). Zdravicu (SJ 02) na lokalitetu u Zbelavi činila je rahla, pjeskovita zemlja mrljaste žuto-crvenkasto-smeđe boje, ponegdje s kongrecijama željeznoga oksida.

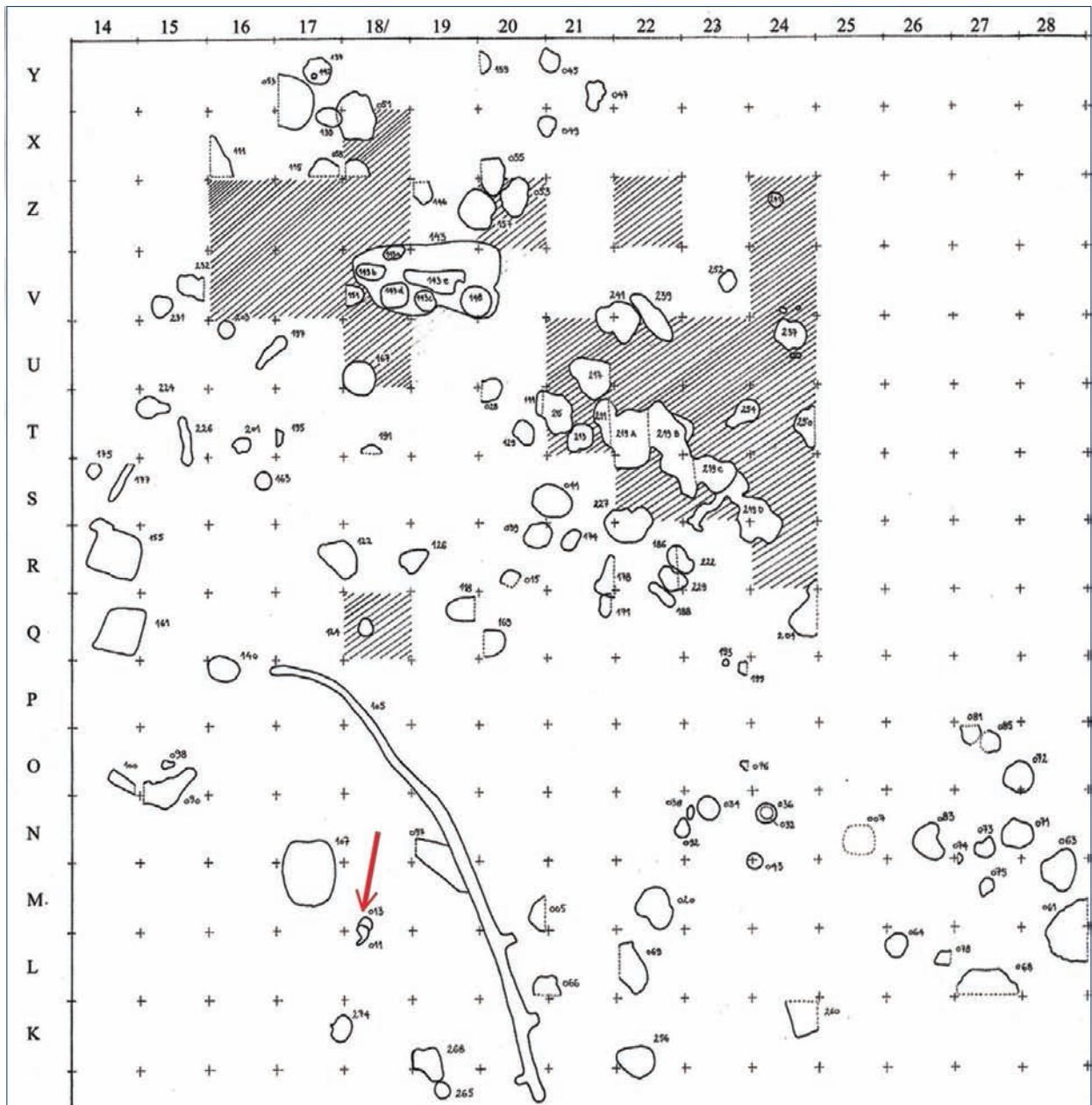
Usamljeni nalaz koji odudara od ostalih nalaza na seobinskoga karaktera jest paljevinski grob otkriven

a control profile. It is important to note that the site was not fully explored, because the rescue excavations had to concentrate on the area most threatened by the passage of the motorway. Therefore, a third of the area assumed to be encompassed by the site was left unexamined, for some future revisionary research. Also worth mentioning is that there are several very interesting sites from protohistory and Antiquity in the immediate vicinity of Pod lipom, which has already been noted in earlier publications of the Zbelava finds (Kovačević 2007: 91).

Archaeological research has shown that the Pod lipom site was inhabited during the Eneolithic, the Early Bronze and Early Iron Age and in the Early Middle Age (Kovačević 2007: 94). On the one hand, the stratigraphic picture of the site is largely influenced by the fact that the same place was used by people for shorter or longer periods in a number of prehistoric and historical eras, which necessarily led to a certain interference of layers. A grave presented and analyzed in this text is an excellent example of this phenomenon. On the other hand, the archaeological layers (such as the prehistoric walking level, for example) have almost been completely destroyed by erosion and agricultural activities. A late Halstatt cultural layer, SU 150, was only preserved partially on the northern slopes of the elevation (*ibid.* 95; Fig.

u travnju 1997. (sl. 3). Već pri čišćenju nalaza s pravom je pretpostavljeno da se radi o ukopu iz razdoblja kasnoga brončanog doba. Upravo taj nalaz osnovni je predmet analize u ovome tekstu. Oraći sloj SJ 01 skidan je ručno i da je bilo ikakvih naznaka ili ostataka drugih grobova, oni bi bili zabilježeni. Nije bilo ni drugih izmještenih keramičkih ili metalnih nalaza koji bi ukazivali na pripadnost ranoj fazi kasnoga brončanog doba u Zbelavi. Zato bismo mogli zaključiti da je ovo jedini takav nalaz na istraženoj dijelu lokaliteta u Zbelavi.

3 – area indicated with diagonal lines). Beneath the layer of recent, ploughed humus (designated in the field documentation as SU 01), the very rich layer SU 03 can be observed at places. Unfortunately, careful analysis of the portable archaeological finds from this layer has shown that this is not a closed archaeological unit; finds from various cultures and periods were in this disturbed layer of darker brown thanks to movement of the soil by ploughs and erosion (Kovačević 2005: 33). It is worthwhile noting that the Pod lipom site was most intensely populated during the late phase of the Early Iron Age, when there was a permanent settlement there with various pits, sun-

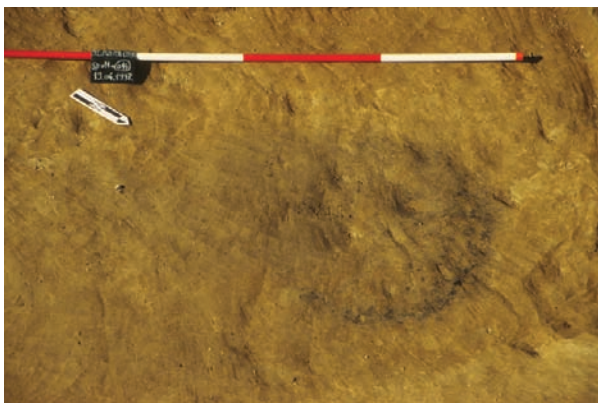


Slika 3. Položaj groba SJ 013, 014 unutar istraženoga dijela lokaliteta Zbelava – Pod lipom (crtež: M. Galić, M. Želle & S. Kovačević, 1997).  
 Figure 3. Position of grave SJ 013, 014 inside the examined portion of the Zbelava-Pod lipom site (drawing: M. Galić, M. Želle & S. Kovačević, 1997).

## POLOŽAJ I OPIS GROBA

U posljednjoj trećini travnja 1997. u □ M/18, pri vrhu uzvišenja na kojemu se nalazi lokalitet Zbelava – Pod lipom, definirana je struktura koja se činila kao ukopani objekt nepravilnoga tlocrta. Kako je sjeverni dio strukture bio tamnije boje zbog primjesa ugljena u zapuni, s pravom je pretpostavljeno da se zapravo radi o dvama ukopanim objektima od kojih je jedan presjekao drugi. Zbog toga su objekti obilježeni kao SJ 011, 012 (južni dio) i SJ 013, 014 (sjeverni dio) (sl. 4; T. 1).

Da se uistinu radi o dvama različitim objektima od kojih je prvi znatno stariji od drugoga, potvrdio je nastavak arheoloških istraživanja jer je sredinom svibnja 1997. otkriveno da je SJ 013, 014 paljevin-ski grob u žari koji je presjekla manja i nešto dublja



Slika 4. Grob SJ 013, 014 nakon definiranja (snimio: M. Burić, 1997).  
Figure 4. Grave SU 013, 014 after definition (photograph: M. Burić, 1997).



Slika 5. Grob SJ 013, 014 s kontrolnim profilom (snimio: M. Burić, 1997).  
Figure 5. Grave SU 013, 014 with control profile (photograph: M. Burić, 1997).

ken houses and above-ground settlement structures, but also important is the horizon with structures of the Lasinja culture. Much scarce are structures with Litzén and early medieval pottery (Kovačević 2005: 30-32; 2007: 90-91; 2008: 49-52). The sterile soil (SU 02) at the site at Zbelava appeared friable and sandy, with a spotty yellow-reddish brown colour, and occasional iron oxide concretions.

An isolated find which contrasts to the remaining finds of settlement character is the incineration grave discovered in April 1997 (Fig. 3). Already during the cleaning of finds, it was correctly assumed that it dated to the Late Bronze Age. This find is in fact the basic item of analysis in this work. The ploughed layer SU 01 was removed manually, and had there been any indications or remains of more graves, they would have been registered. There were no other intermixed ceramic nor metallic finds which would indicate that it belonged to the earlier phase of the Late Bronze Age in Zbelava. This is why it may be concluded that this is the only such find in the examined section of the site at Zbelava.

## POSITION AND DESCRIPTION OF GRAVE

In the last third of April 1997, at □ M/18, near the top of the rise on which the Zbelava-Pod lipom site is situated, a dig in structure was defined, with an irregular layout. Since the northern part of the structure was darker due to the mixture of charcoal in the fill, it was correctly assumed that this was actually two buried structures, of which one cut through the other. This is why the structures were designated as SU 011, 012 (southern section) and SU 013, 014 (northern section) (Fig. 4; Pl. 1).

Continued archaeological research did in fact confirm that these were two different structures, of which one is older than the other, for in mid-May 1997 it was discovered that SU 013, 014 was an urn grave intersected by the smaller and somewhat deeper pit SU 012 with fill SU 011. Upon subsequent, close analysis of the ceramic finds, it was ascertained that pit SU 011, 012, like a great majority of the structures at the site, belongs to the late Halstatt period. It is important to note that the structures described herein are at the very top of a rise which incurred the most damage over time, so that, due to agriculture and erosion, the archaeological structures were considerably reduced. This can be clearly seen precisely in one of the illustrations accompanying the text (Fig. 5). The bottom of a bowl with moulded body which served as an urn lid was found directly beneath the more recently ploughed layer SU 01.

jama SJ 012 sa zapunom SJ 011. Kasnijom pomnom analizom keramičkih nalaza ustanovljeno je da jama SJ 011, 012, kao i velika većina objekata na lokalitetu, pripada kasnohaštatskomu razdoblju. Važno je istaknuti da se objekti koje opisujemo nalaze na samome vrhu uzvišenja koje je tijekom vremena najteže stradalo, pa su zbog poljoprivredne obrade zemlje i erozije arheološki objekti ondje znatno sniženi. To se dobro vidi upravo na jednoj od slika koju donosimo u tekstu (sl. 5). Dno zdjele profiliranoga tijela koja je funkcionirala kao poklopac žare nalazilo se neposredno ispod recentnoga oranog sloja SJ 01.

Grobna raka SJ 014 ima gotovo pravilan kružni tlocrt promjera oko 90 cm, dok joj sačuvana dubina iznosi tek 22 cm, što je posljedica spomenutih teških oštećenja lokaliteta. U sačuvanom dijelu grobna je raka imala gotovo vertikalne stijenke i obično ravno dno. Bila je zapunjena kompaktnom smeđom zemljom i uz njezin se rub nalazio pojas s većom koncentracijom drvenoga ugljena koji se odlično vidio nakon poliranja zapune objekta (sl. 4). U zapuni je osim ugljena bilo i više ulomaka keramičkih posuda različite kvalitete izrade od kojih su neki vrlo slabo pečeni (sl. 6; T. 3, 4). Na dnu središnjega dijela grobne rake nalazila se dublja zdjela sa spaljenim ljudskim kostima i nešto pepela, dakle služila je kao žara (T. 1). Žara je bila pokrivena zdjelom profiliranoga tijela koja funkcionira kao poklopac, a promjerom svojega ruba savršeno odgovara promjeru ruba dublje zdjele, odnosno žare (T. 2). To na određeni način upućuje na "pogrebni servis" koji je posebno izrađen za prigodu sahrane pokojnika.

Na spaljenim kostima izvršene su antropološke analize.<sup>2</sup> Rezultati analize pokazali su da se radi o ženskoj osobi, staroj između 30 i 45 godina. Posmrtni su ostaci žene bijele i svijetlosive boje, što ukazuje na to da su spaljeni na dobro pripremljenoj lomači (na barem 800 °C). Kako se među sačuvanim fragmentima nalaze dijelovi gotovo svih većih kostiju, može se pretpostaviti da su nakon spaljivanja s lomače skupljeni svi ostaci i položeni u žaru. Valja spomenuti da među spaljenim kostima nije pronađen nijedan ulomak koji bi pripadao životinjskim kostima (Novak 2009).

Dakle može se zaključiti da je radi ukopa preminule osobe iskopana grobna raka gotovo pravilna kružnoga tlocrta, vertikalnih stijenki i ravnoga dna. Na dno grobne rake položena je dublja zdjela u kojoj su se nalazili ostaci spaljene pokojnice (kosti i pepeo) doneseni s lomače (sl. 7). Između žare položene na sredinu dna i ruba grobne rake očito je bilo dosta slobodnoga prostora, odnosno grobna je raka bila

Grave pit SU 014 has an almost perfect circular layout with a diameter of approximately 90 cm, while its preserved depth is only 22 cm, which is the result of the aforementioned severe damage to the site. In its preserved portion, the grave pit had almost vertical walls and a standard flat bottom. It was filled with compact brown soil and there was a zone along its edge with a higher concentration of charcoal which could be seen quite well after the structure's fill was carefully scraped off layer by layer (Fig. 4). Besides charcoal, the fill also contained several fragments of ceramic vessels of varying quality, of which some were only very lightly fired (Fig. 6; Pl. 3, 4). At the bottom of the middle section of the grave pit, there was a deeper bowl containing charred human bones and some ash, i.e. it served as an urn (Pl. 1). The urn was covered with a bowl with moulded body which functioned as a lid, while the diameter of its rim perfectly corresponds to the diameter of the rim of the deeper bowl/urn (Pl. 2). To a degree, this indicates a "funeral set" which was specially made for the interment of the deceased.

Anthropological analyses were conducted on the charred bones.<sup>2</sup> The results showed that the bones belonged to a woman, aged between 30 and 45. The remains of this woman are white and light grey, which indicates that they were burned on a well-prepared pyre (a minimum temperature of 800° C). Since pieces of almost all of the larger bones can be found among the preserved fragments, it can be assumed that after burning on a pyre all of the remains were collected and placed in the urn. It is worth mentioning that not one fragment was found among the charred bones which could be an animal bone (Novak 2009).

One may therefore conclude that in order to inter the deceased woman, a grave pit with almost perfectly circular layout, vertical walls and flat bottom was dug. At the bottom of the pit, a deep bowl was placed which contained the remains of the cremated deceased woman (bones and ashes) brought from the pyre (Fig. 7). There was apparently considerable free space between the urn placed on the middle of the grave's bottom and the edge of the grave pit, i.e. the grave pit had a considerably larger diameter than the actual urn bearing the bones. The urn was covered with another bowl which served as a lid, and then the grave began to be filled with soil. At this point, particular care was dedicated to the charcoal and ashes which were probably brought from the pyre and thrown in around the urn, along the edge of the grave pit. Fragments of several different types of ceramic vessels were found in the fill, which pro-

<sup>2</sup> Analize je obavio dr. sc. Mario Novak iz Odsjeka za arheologiju Hrvatske akademije znanosti i umjetnosti. Na tome mu srdačno zahvaljujemo.

<sup>2</sup> Analyses were conducted by Mario Novak Ph.D. from the Croatian Academy of Arts and Science Archaeology Department. For this we extend our sincere thanks.

znatno većega promjera od same žare s kostima. Žara je pokrivena drugom zdjelom koja je funkcionirala kao poklopac te se grob počeo zatrpavati zemljom. Pritom je očito posebna pozornost posvećena ugljenu i paljevini koja je vjerojatno donesena s lomače i nabacana oko žare, uz rub grobne rake. U zapuni su pronađeni ulomci više različitih vrsta keramičkih posuda koji vjerojatno upućuju na neke vrste pogrebnih, odnosno žrtvenih radnji (T. 3, 4). S obzirom na to da je grob gotovo sigurno usamljen nalaz, nije teško zamisliti mogućnost da su se u okviru pripreme za pokop preminule pripadnice neke zajednice (možda skupine koja je na putu, daleko od doma) na licu mjesta izrađivale keramičke posude nužne za ukop. Da je tomu tako, pouzdano potvrđuju spomenuti ulomci vrlo grube keramike koji su pronađeni u zapuni groba. No o detaljnoj analizi keramičkih nalaza bit će riječi malo kasnije.

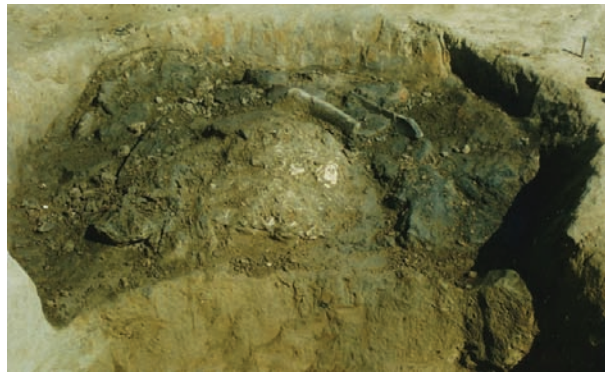


Slika 6. Očišćeni grob SJ 013, 014 (snimio: M. Burić, 1997).  
Figure 6. Cleaned grave SU 013, 014 (photograph: M. Burić, 1997).

Očito je da je pod pritiskom zemlje veći recipijent, u koji su položene spaljene kosti pokojnice i poklopljene zdjelom, popucao i slegao se na dno grobne rake. Zahvaljujući upravo toj činjenici, inventar groba ostao je sačuvan, odnosno nije odrezan i raznesen plugom, što bi se sigurno dogodilo da je zdjela koja funkcionira kao žara ostala sačuvana u svojoj punoj visini. Druga sretna okolnost koja nam je omogućila gotovo cjelovit uvid u izgled i sastav toga grobnog nalaza proizlazi iz činjenice da je mlađa jama SJ 011, 012 presjekla tek manji dio južnoga ruba grobne rake SJ 014 i tako od znatnije devastacije “sačuvala” najvrednije nalaze – keramičko posude grupirano u centru groba.

bably indicate some manner of funeral or sacrificial rituals (Pl. 3, 4). Given that the grave is almost certainly an isolated find, it is not difficult to conceive of the possibility that the ceramic vessels necessary for the burial were made on the spot as part of preparations for the burial of the deceased member of some community (perhaps a travelling group, far from home?). This possibility is reliably confirmed by the aforementioned fragments of very coarse ceramics found in the grave's fill. More will be said of the detailed analysis of the ceramics below.

It is obvious that under pressure from the soil, the larger recipient, containing the charred bones of the deceased woman and covered with a bowl, cracked and moved down to the bottom of the grave pit. Thanks precisely to this fact, the grave's contents were preserved, meaning it was not cut and displaced by a plough, which would certainly have happened had



Slika 7. Detalj spaljenih kostiju nakon djelomičnoga dizanja keramičkih ulomaka poklopca i žare (snimio: M. Burić, 1997).  
Figure 7. Detail of charred bones after partial raising of ceramic fragments of lid and urn (photograph: M. Burić, 1997).

the bowl which functioned as an urn remained preserved in its full height. The other fortunate circumstance which permitted an almost complete insight into the appearance and content of this grave is a result of the fact that the younger pit SU 011, 012 intersected only a smaller portion of the southern edge of grave pit SU 014 and thus “saved” the most valuable finds – the ceramic vessels grouped in the centre of the grave – from more extensive devastation.

## INVENTAR GROBA

### ŽARA S POKLOPCEM (T. 2)

1. Žara. Duboka zaobljena zdjela širokoga, gotovo vertikalnoga vrata; prijelaz vrata u tijelo posude naglašen je blago urezanom horizontalnom crtom. Bočno, na najširem dijelu posude, nalaze se dvije široke trakaste ručke širine 4,5 cm na hvatištu. Na preostalim dvjema stranama nalaze se dekorativna bradavičasta izbočenja. Zdjela je nejednolike svjetlosmeđe i sivosmeđe boje.

Visina zdjele: 25 cm, promjer na rubu: 31,5 cm, promjer dna: 13 cm, promjer bradavičastoga ukrasa: 3 cm, širina trakaste ručke na hvatištu: 4,5 cm (T. 2: 1; sl. 8).



Slika 8. Rekonstrukcija položaja žare i zdjele iz groba u Zbelavi (snimio: H. Kalafatić, 2009).

Figure 8. Reconstruction of position of urn and bowl from the grave in Zbelava (photograph: H. Kalafatić, 2009).

2. Zdjela-poklopac. Zdjela izrazito široko razgrnuta ruba s jednom trakastom ručkom. Zdjela je nejednolike svjetlosmeđe i sivosmeđe boje. Dno je posude usko i malo izvučeno. Rub zdjele točno se poklapa sa širinom ruba žare (T. 2: 2; sl. 8).

Visina zdjele: 13 cm na jednoj i 14 cm na drugoj strani, širina zdjele na rubu: 32 cm, promjer dna: 10 cm.

## INVENTORY OF THE GRAVE

### URN WITH LID (PL. 2)

1. Urn. Deep rounded bowl with wide, almost vertical, neck; transition of neck into body emphasized by a gently incised horizontal line. Laterally, on the widest part of the vessel, there are two wide, ribbon-like handles that are 4.5 cm wide at the grip. On the remaining two sides there are decorative wart-like protrusions. The colour of the bowl is a uneven light brown and grey-brown.

Height of bowl: 25 cm, diameter at rim: 31.5 cm, diameter of bottom: 13 cm, diameter of wart-like decoration: 3 cm, width of ribbon-like handle at grip: 4.5 cm (Pl. 2: 1; Fig. 8).

2. Bowl/lid. The bowl with a very outwardly drawn rim and one ribbon-like handle. The bowl's colour is an uneven light brown and grey-brown. The bottom is narrow and slightly drawn inward. The bowl's rim corresponds precisely to the width of the urn rim (Pl. 2: 2; Fig. 8).

Height of bowl: 13 cm on one side and 14 cm on the other; width of the bowl at rim: 32 cm, diameter of bottom: 10 cm.

### GRAVE GOODS (PL. 3-4)

3. Pot with S-profile and ribbon-like handle below rim. The vessel has medium coarse facture; exterior is orange and exterior is grey-orange, cross-section is grey. Several fragments which cannot be assembled but belong to this vessel were found. Diameter at rim: 17 cm, width of handle: 3 cm (Pl. 3: 1).

4. Pot or bowl with S-profile. Diameter at rim: 18.5 cm. Original shape partially reconstructed from four fragments. Several fragments which cannot be assembled but belong to this vessel have been preserved (Pl. 3: 2).

5. Deep biconical bowl decorated with wart-like protrusions. The original shape was reconstructed from two fragments (Pl. 3: 3).

6. Fragment of outwardly drawn rim decorated with tongue-shaped protrusion (Pl. 3: 4).

7. Bowl with conical body and slightly inwardly drawn, non-prominent rim. Diameter: 36 cm, height: 15 cm. Original shape reconstructed on the basis of two larger fragments. Fracture of fragments is coarse, ocher outside and light grey inside (Pl. 4: 1).

8. Fragment of moulded bottom, diameter: 8.5 cm (Pl. 4: 2).

9. Fragment of body of biconical vessel (height: 4.8 cm, width: 5.3 cm, thickness: 0.6 cm) (Pl. 4: 3).

## PRILOZI U GROBU (T. 3–4)

3. Lonac s-profilacije s trakastom ručkom ispod ruba. Posuda ima srednje grubu fakturu; narančaste je boje izvana i sivonarančaste iznutra, presjek je sive boje. Sačuvano je više fragmenata koji se ne spajaju, ali pripadaju tomu loncu. Promjer na rubu: 17 cm, širina ručke: 3 cm (T. 3: 1).

4. Lonac ili zdjela s-profilacije. Promjer na rubu: 18,5 cm. Izvorni oblik djelomično je rekonstruiran iz četiriju fragmenata. Sačuvano je više fragmenata koji se ne spajaju, ali pripadaju toj posudi (T. 3: 2).

5. Duboka bikonična zdjela ukrašena bradavičastim izbočenjem. Izvorni joj je oblik rekonstruiran iz dvaju fragmenata (T. 3: 3).

6. Fragment izvučena ruba ukrašen jezičastim izbočenjem (T. 3: 4).

7. Zdjela konična tijela i blago uvučena, nenaglašen na ruba. Promjer: 36 cm, visina: 15 cm. Izvorni je oblik rekonstruiran prema dvama većim fragmentima. Faktura je fragmenata gruba, oker izvana, svjetlosive boje iznutra (T. 4: 1).

8. Fragment profilirana dna promjera 8,5 cm (T. 4: 2).

9. Fragment tijela bikonične posude (visina: 4,8 cm, širina: 5,3 cm, debljina 0,6 cm) (T. 4: 3).

10. Fragment lonca s plastičnom horizontalnom trakom na kojoj se nalazi niz manjih ovalnih nemarno utisnutih udubina (6 cm × 3,3 cm × 0,9 i 1,2 cm) (T. 4: 4).

11. Spojeni fragmenti lonca izdužena, zaobljena tijela i ravna dna; loše fature. Rubovi fragmenata jako su izlizani i oštećeni, faktura im je gruba. Posuda je izvana oker, a iznutra okersive boje. Debljina stijenke iznosi 10–12 mm (T. 4: 5).

Fragmentiranost keramičkih priloga u grobu (T. 2–4) i tragovi gorenja na njima upućuju na to da su bili ritualno razbijani pri obredu spaljivanja ili neposredno prije ukopa. Ulomci su skupljeni i ubačeni zajedno s paljevinom s lomače (crna zemlja bogata ugljenom u zapuni groba, uz rub ukopa) u grobnu raku nakon što je u nju stavljena poklopljena žara s kostima.

## KULTURNA I KRONOLOŠKA RAZMATRANJA

Grob kasnoga brončanog doba otkriven na lokalitetu Pod lipom u Zbelavi paradigmatički je primjer grobnoga ritusa virovitičke grupe kulture polja sa žarama. Cijeli je nalaz zatvoren i dobro očuvan te iscrpno dokumentiran, a istražena površina lokaliteta velika, što omogućuje donošenje širih zaključaka.

10. Fragment of pot with sculpted horizontal band on which there are a series of carelessly impressed small, oval depressions (6 cm × 3.3 cm × 0.9 and 1.2 cm) (Pl. 4: 4).

11. Connected fragments of pot with extended, rounded body and flat bottom; poor facture. Edges of fragments very worn and damaged, facture is coarse. Vessel's exterior is light ocher, interior is ocher-grey. Thickness of walls are 10-12 mm (Pl. 4: 5).

The fragmentary nature of the ceramic goods in the grave (Pl. 2-4) and the traces of burning on them indicate that they were ritually broken apart during the cremation rite or immediately prior to burial. The fragments were collected and thrown into the grave pit together with the ash from the pyre (black soil rich in charcoal in the grave's fill, along the edges of the cut) after the urn containing the bones was placed in it.

## CULTURAL AND CHRONOLOGICAL CONSIDERATIONS

The Late Bronze Age grave at the Pod lipom site in Zbelava is a paradigmatic example of a burial rite of the Virovitica Urnfield culture group. The entire find is closed, well-preserved and exhaustively documented, and the researched area of the site is extensive, which makes it possible to make broad conclusions.

Deep rounded bowl with wide, almost vertical, neck found in this grave is the most common type of urn in the graves of the Virovitica group. Thus far, it has been registered in several variants and roughly identical dimensions at almost all discovered necropoleis of the Virovitica group, although in all necropoleis thus far examined in Croatia very few graves have been found. Thus it can be found at the eponymous site of the entire group in Virovitica at Ciglana (Brick Factory) in graves 2 and 4 (Vinski-Gasparini 1973: pl. 7: 6; 8: 1); there are also variants with three vertical ribs in grave 1 (*ibid.* pl. 7: 1) and several examples from destroyed graves (*ibid.* pl. 11). The same form appears in Sedlarica, next to Virovitica (*ibid.* pl. 16: 5) and at the Sirova Katalena necropolis at Đurđevac in graves 1 and 10 (*ibid.* pl. 14: 1; 16: 1).<sup>3</sup> Eleven graves were examined at this necropolis in 1966. Besides an entirely identical urn, grave 1 also contained a bowl used to cover the urn exactly like the one from Zbelava. The correspondence in the burial ritual is complete.

<sup>3</sup> It is interesting that the actual location of the necropolis in Sirova Katalena is called "Pod lipik", which is very similar to the name of the site covered in this paper.



Duboka zaobljena zdjela gotovo vertikalnoga vrata nađena u tome grobu najčešći je oblik žare u grobovima virovitičke grupe. Dosad je u više varijanata i približno jednakih dimenzija zabilježena na skoro svim otkrivenim nekropolama virovitičke grupe, iako je u svim dosad istraženim nekropolama u Hrvatskoj pronađeno vrlo malo grobova. Tako se nalazi na eponimnome lokalitetu cijele grupe u Virovitici na Ciglani u grobovima 2 i 4 (Vinski-Gasparini 1973: T. 7: 6, T. 8: 1); postoji i varijanta s trima vertikalnim rebrima u grobu 1 (*ibid.* T. 7: 1) i više primjeraka iz uništenih grobova (*ibid.* T. 11). Isti oblik žare javlja se u Sedlarici pored Virovitice (*ibid.* T. 16: 5) i na nekropoli Sirova Katalena kod Đurđevca u grobovima 1 i 10 (*ibid.* T. 14: 1, T. 16: 1).<sup>3</sup> Na toj je nekropoli 1966. istraženo jedanaest grobova. Osim potpuno jednake žare grob 1 ima i zdjelu kojom je poklopljena žara jednaka onoj iz Zbelave. Podudarnost je u grobnome ritusu potpuna.

Majnarić-Pandžić (1988; 1994) objavila je više grobova s nekoliko nekropola u okolici Bjelovara. Na njima je zabilježen vrlo sličan tip žare s manjim lokalnim varijacijama. Tako umjesto trakastih ručki imaju jezičaste ručke okrenute prema dolje. U Drljanovcu se javljaju u grobovima 2, 4, 6 (Majnarić-Pandžić 1988: T. 1: 1, T. 2: 3, T. 4: 1) i u grobovima 11 i 12 (Majnarić-Pandžić 1994: T. 1: 2, T. 2: 4). Na nekropoli u Maloj Pupelici u grobu 1 javlja se žara pokrivena posudom kao u Zbelavi (Majnarić-Pandžić 1988: T. 2: 1). Dodatna su posebnost zaobljene zdjele na visokoj nozi kojima se u nekim grobovima (4 i 6) pokriva žara (Majnarić-Pandžić 1988: T. 2: 3, T. 4: 1). Nekropola Moravče kod Sesveta ima isti tip žare u grobu 2 (Sokol 1986; 1996: 43, sl. 5), grobu 4 (Sokol 1996: 45–46, sl. 8–9) i grobu 7 (Sokol 1989; 1996: 49). Svih deset grobova u nekropoli pripadaju I. fazi kulture polja sa žarama, Br C/Br D.

Na nekropoli Dvorišće, preko Drave u Međimurju, otkriveno je više grobova pod niskim humcima koje autor datira u prijelaz kasnoga brončanog doba u starije željezno doba (Vidović 1989). Iako nedostaje detaljniji opis nalaza, u tekstu je prikazan grob iz humka 2 (*ibid.* T. 14). Riječ je o zaobljenoj posudi širokoga, gotovo vertikalnoga vrata s dvama nasuprotno postavljenim bradavičastim ukrasima i s dvjema jezičastim ručkama. Posuda je poklopljena zdjelom široko razgrnuta ruba, što jako podsjeća na sve grobove koje razmatramo u ovome članku. Zato bi grob iz humka 2 u Dvorišću vjerojatno trebalo datirati na početak kulture polja sa žarama i virovitičku grupu. Samo će detaljna analiza cjelokupnoga pronađenog ansambla nalaza riješiti probleme kro-

Majnarić-Pandžić (1988; 1994) published a number of graves from several necropoleis in the vicinity of Bjelovar. A very similar type of urn was observed in them, with minor local variations. Thus, instead of ribbon-like handles, they have downward-turned tongue-shaped handles. In Drljanovac they appeared in graves 2, 4, 6 (Majnarić-Pandžić 1988: pl. 1: 1; 2: 3; 4: 1) and in graves 11 and 12 (Majnarić-Pandžić 1994: pl. 1: 2; 2: 4). An urn covered with a vessel as in Zbelava appeared in the necropolis in Mala Pupelica in grave 1 (Majnarić-Pandžić 1988: pl. 2: 1). Another specific phenomenon is the rounded bowl on a high foot, used in some graves (4 and 6) to cover an urn (Majnarić-Pandžić 1988: pl. 2: 3; 4: 1).

The Moravče necropolis at Sesvete has the same type of urns in grave 2 (Sokol 1986; 1996: 43, fig. 5), grave 4 (Sokol 1996: 45–46, fig. 8–9) and grave 7 (Sokol 1989; 1996: 49). All ten graves in the necropolis belong to phase I of the Urnfield culture, Br C/Br D.

At the Dvorišće necropolis, across the Drava in Međimurje, several graves were discovered under low mounds which were dated to the transition from the Late Bronze Age into the Early Iron Age (Vidović 1989). Although a more detailed description of the finds is lacking, the text contains a presentation of the grave from mound 2 (*ibid.* pl. 14). This is a rounded vessel with a wide, almost vertical neck and two wart-like decorations placed on opposite sides and two tongue-shaped handles. The vessel was covered with a bowl that has a broadly drawn out rim, which very much recalls all graves considered in this paper. This is why the grave from mound 2 in Dvorišće can probably be dated to the beginning of the Urnfield culture and the Virovitica group. Only a detailed analysis of the entire discovered assembly of finds will solve the problems underlying the chronological and cultural attribution of this site. Even Vidović advocates a revisionary exploration of the mounds, because they were not fully examined.

Šimek (2003) published a Virovitica group grave from Lepoglava discovered in 1999 during construction works. The person who found it gathered all finds, so all vessels and the appearance of the entire grave could be reconstructed (*ibid.* 155). The urn and the bowl covering it were almost completely identical to the finds from the grave in Zbelava. The question of the size of the necropolis in Lepoglava remains unanswered due to the small excavated surface on the foundations of a house and the absence of exploration of the remainder of the plot. It is possible that this is an entire necropolis, as in Virovitica or Drljanovac, but the possibility of a single isolated burial as in Zbelava should not be discounted.

Besides several medieval phases, the rescue excavation in a church in Lobar uncovered numerous

<sup>3</sup> Zanimljivo je da se sam položaj nekropole u Sirovoj Kataleni zove "Pod lipik", što je vrlo slično imenu položaja lokaliteta o kojemu se govori u ovome članku.

nološke i kulturne atribucije toga lokaliteta. I sam se autor zalaže za revizijsko istraživanje humaka jer nisu potpuno istraženi.

Šimek (2003) je objavila grob virovitičke grupe iz Lepoglave pronađen 1999. prilikom građevinskih radova. Nalaznik je prikupio sve nalaze, pa su se mogle rekonstruirati sve posude i izgled cijeloga groba (*ibid.* 155). Žara i zdjela kojom je žara bila poklopljena gotovo su potpuno jednake nalazima iz groba u Zbelavi. Pitanje o veličini nekropole u Lepoglavi ostaje bez odgovora zbog male otkopane površine za temelje kuće i neistraženosti ostatka parcele. Moguće je da je riječ o cijeloj nekropoli, kao u Virovitici ili Drljanovcu, ali ne treba isključiti mogućnost da je riječ o jednome izoliranom ukopu kao u Zbelavi.

Osim više srednjovjekovnih faza zaštitna istraživanja crkve u Loboru otkrila su i brojne prapovijesne nalaze od kojih su u ovome kontekstu zanimljivi fragmenti keramike ukrašeni bradavičastim ukrasima datirani u Br C (Filipec *et al.* 2002: 16, 38). Uklapaju se u vrijeme početka virovitičke grupe i potvrđuju njezinu rasprostranjenost u Hrvatskome zagorju južno od planine Ivanščice.

Naselje Kalnik datirano u razdoblje Br D/Ha A2 (Vrdoljak 1995: 39) ima u keramici ranije faze podudarnosti sa zbelavskim nalazom, pogotovo zdjela široko razgrnuta ruba (*ibid.* T. 13) i manji lonci s-profilacije.

Fragment ruba s jezičastim izbočenjem (T. 3: 4) ima analogije u Podravini na lokalitetu Medinci – Svetinja kod Slatine pripisanome virovitičkoj grupi (Ložnjak Dizdar 2005: 44, 58).

Prilikom zaštitnih arheoloških istraživanja 2003. na trasi autoceste Zagreb – Varaždin na lokalitetu Blizna kod Jakopovca (na području čvora Varaždin) otkriven je grob rane faze kulture polja sa žarama, i to zdjela široko razgrnuta ruba s trakastom ručkom i sa spaljenim kostima, okrenuta naopako, to jest dnom prema gore (Bekić 2006: 108, 110, T. 9). Zdjeli nedostaje dno, ali je vrlo slična zdjeli kojom je poklopljena žara groba u Zbelavi. Grob iz Blizne nađen je u rovu, pa nije utvrđena veličina nekropole, a moguće je da se i u tome slučaju radi o samostalnome ukopu. Slučajni nalazi iz neposredne okolice rova (*ibid.* 158; T. 11: 3, T. 11: 9) ukazuju na pripadnost virovitičkoj grupi, a iste oblike ima i grupa Barice-Gređani (Čović 1988: 60–61; Dular 2002: 207–212; Karavanić, Mihaljević & Kalafatić 2002: 52; Minichreiter 1982–1983: 115–117; Marković 2003: 51). U svakome je pogledu zanimljiva pojava ritusa pokopavanja karakterističnoga za kulturno blisku i kronološki istodobnu grupu Barice-Gređani koja se razvija u Posavini (Čović 1958: 88–95; Mihaljević & Kalafatić 2006: 48; 2007; 2008), a javlja

prehistoric finds, of which, in this context, the ceramic fragments decorated with wart-like decorations, dated to Br C, are interesting (Filipec *et al.* 2002: 16, 38). They can be placed at the time of the beginnings of the Virovitica group and confirm its distribution in the Hrvatsko Zagorje south of the mountain Ivanščica.

The settlement of Kalnik, dated to the Br D/Ha A2 period (Vrdoljak 1995: 39), has points in common with the Zbelava find in the earlier-phase ceramics, particularly the bowl with broadly drawn out rim (*ibid.* pl. 13) and a smaller pot with S-profile.

The rim fragment with tongue-shaped protrusion (Pl. 3: 4) has analogies in Podravina at the Medinci-Svetinja site at Slatine, ascribed to the Virovitica Group (Ložnjak Dizdar 2005: 44, 58).

During archaeological rescue excavations conducted on a section of the Zagreb-Varaždin motorway in 2003 at the Blizna site near Jakopovec (in the vicinity of the Varaždin interchange), a grave from the early phase of the Urnfield culture was discovered, containing a bowl with a broadly drawn out rim with ribbon-like handle, turned upside-down (i.e. with bottom turned upward), in which there were charred bones (Bekić 2006: 108, 110, pl. 9). The bottom of the bowl is missing, but it is very similar to the bowl used to cover the urn from the grave in Zbelava. The grave from Blizna was discovered in a trench, so the size of the necropolis was not ascertained, although it is possible that it constituted a lone burial in this case as well. Chance finds in the immediate vicinity of the trench (*ibid.* 158; pl. 11: 3; 11: 9) indicate that it belongs to the Virovitica group, although the Barice-Gređani group exhibits the same shapes (Čović 1988: 60–61; Dular 2002: 207–212; Karavanić, Mihaljević & Kalafatić 2002: 52; Minichreiter 1982–1983: 115–117; Marković 2003: 51). By all means interesting is the appearance of a burial ritual characteristic of the culturally similar and chronologically simultaneous Barice-Gređani group that developed in Posavina (Čović 1958: 88–95; Mihaljević & Kalafatić 2006: 48; 2007; 2008), and also appeared in the Požega Valley (Minichreiter & Sokač-Štimac 1998). Such burials sometimes appeared in western Hungary as well, but there is insufficient data for comparison (Honti 1993: 147).

Graves of the earlier phase at the Balatonmagyarod-Hidvepuszta necropolis (Horváth 1994: 231–233) contain urns with tongue-like handles which, in profile, recall broad ribbon-like handles, and they are were covered with bowls having broad outwardly drawn rims. The goods in the grave correspond to the range of forms from Zbelava, particularly the smaller biconical bowls (Pl. 4: 2; 3: 3). The same biconical bowl was found in a grave in the necropolis

se i u Požeškoj kotlini (Minichreiter & Sokač-Štimac 1998). Takvi ukopi ponekad se javljaju i u zapadnoj Mađarskoj, ali nema dovoljno podataka da bismo ih mogli uspoređivati (Honti 1993: 147).

Grobovi starije faze nekropole Balatonmagyarod-Hidvegpuszta (Horváth 1994: 231–233) imaju žare s jezičastim ručkama koje u profilu podsjećaju na široke trakaste ručke, a pokrivene su zdjelama široko razgrnuta ruba. Prilozi u grobu poklapaju se s repertoarom oblika iz Zbelave, pogotovo manje bikonične zdjele (T. 4: 2; T. 3: 3). Ista se bikonična zdjelica nalazi u grobu u nekropoli u Voćinu (Ložnjak 2003: T. 3). Valja spomenuti i da nekropola Vors Papkert B, gdje je istraženo mnogo grobova, dosta često ima jednak tip žare i poklopca (Honti 1993: 151–155). Taj tip grobova Horváth i Honti smještaju u inicijalnu fazu navedenih nekropola i datiraju ih u Br D. Prilikom gradnje aerodroma u mjestu Sarmellek u blizini Balatona otkriveno je više grobova datiranih u razdoblje Br D/Ha A (Patek 1968: 148). Ansambl nalaza tipičan je za virovitičku grupu, a grobovi 1 i 2 sadrže žare gotovo identične zbelavskomu nalazu (*ibid.* T. 50). U grobu 2 i poklopac žare jednak je zbelavskomu. Po nekropolama i naseljima zapadno i južno od Balatona Kőszegi je (1988: 20) na tome području Mađarske definirao kulturnu grupu Balaton kasnoga brončanog doba. Nova velika istraživanja južno od Balatona (Horváth 2001; Honti 2004; 2006) otkrivaju i nove lokalitete kulture grobnih humaka i kulture polja sa žarama, pa će sigurno pridonijeti još preciznijemu definiranju kulturnih pojava na prijelazu srednjega u kasno brončano doba na tome području. Grupa Bakony sjeverno od Balatona ima zajedničkih točaka s nalazima iz Zbelave (Jankovits 1992: 25). Grobni humak s lokaliteta Isztimer – Csoszpuszta (Kustar 2000) ima karakteristike grupe Bakony i obiluje keramikom koje je dio blizak priložima u grobu iz Zbelave. Ukupni korpus nalaza i grobni ritus grupe Bakony više je povezuju sa sjevernim područjima preko Dunava, nego s grupama Balaton i Virovitica. Svi istraživači (Müller-Karpe 1980: 236; Jankovits 1992: 78; 1992a: 340; Kustar 2000) povezuju grupu Bakony s grupom Čaka u Slovačkoj.

Malobrojni grobovi iz Ptuja sadržavali su nalaze koji također ulaze u isti kulturni krug (Jevremov 1989: 172–175). Nekropola vjerojatno pripada obližnjemu naselju u Rabelčjoj vasi (Strmčnik-Gulič 1988–1989; Dular 2002: 179). Bikonične zdjele i lonci s-profilacije iz naselja tipološki se podudaraju s fragmentima priloga u grobu iz Zbelave. Ptujski lokaliteti datirani su u razdoblje Br C/Ha A (Dular 2002: 173–174), iako je otkrivena i jama s mlađim materijalom. Ona je interpretirana kao naknadni ukop na prostoru starijega naselja (*ibid.* 174).

in Voćin (Ložnjak 2003: pl. 3). Worth mentioning is that the Vors Papkert B necropolis, where many graves were examined, also frequently has the same type of urn and lid (Honti 1993: 151–155). This type of grave is classified by Horváth and Honti in the initial phase of these necropoleis and dated to the Br D. During construction of an airport at Sarmellek, near Balaton, several graves dated to the Br D/Ha A period were discovered (Patek 1968: 148). The ensemble of finds was typical of the Virovitica group, and graves 1 and 2 contained urns almost identical to the Zbelava find (*ibid.* pl. 50). In grave 2, even the urn lid is identical to the Zbelava lid. Based on the necropoleis and settlements west and south of Balaton Kőszegi (1988: 20), the Balaton group of the Late Bronze Age was defined for this area in Hungary. New major research south of Balaton (Horváth 2001; Honti 2004; 2006) has uncovered new sites of the Tumulus culture and the Urnfield culture, so it shall certainly contribute to an even more precise definition of cultural phenomena at the transition from the Middle to Late Bronze Age in this region.

The Bakony group north of Balaton has points in common with the finds from Zbelava (Jankovits 1992: 25). The grave mound from the Isztimer-Csoszpuszta (Kustar 2000) bears features of the Bakony group and abounds in ceramics, some of which are similar to the grave goods from Zbelava. The total body of finds and the grave rituals of the Bakony group associate it much more with the northern territories across the Danube than with the Balaton and Virovitica groups. All researchers (Müller-Karpe 1980: 236; Jankovits 1992: 78; 1992a: 340; Kustar 2000) tie the Bakony group with the Čaka group in Slovakia.

The few graves from Ptuj contained finds which also place them in the same cultural sphere (Jevremov 1989: 172–175). The necropolis probably belonged to the nearby settlement in Rabelčja vas (Strmčnik-Gulič 1988–1989; Dular 2002: 179). Biconical bowls and S-profile pots from the settlement typologically correspond to the fragments of grave goods from Zbelava. The Ptuj sites have been dated to the Br C/Ha A period (Dular 2002: 173–174), even though a pit was found containing younger materials. It has been interpreted as a subsequent burial in the area of the oldest settlement (*ibid.* 174).

The settlement of Oloris at Donji Lakoš in Prekmurje, covered in a monograph (Dular, Šavel & Tecco Hvala 2002), also provides sound footing for the cultural and chronological determination of the Zbelava discovery. All Zbelava finds, except for the urn, have their analogies at this site, which should not be surprising, as it seems that the urn shape from Zbelava is specific to graves, and these have not yet been discovered in Oloris.

Monografski obrađeno naselje Oloris kod Donjega Lakoša u Prekmurju (Dular, Šavel & Tecco Hvala 2002) također pruža dobar oslonac za kulturnu i kronološku determinaciju zbelavskoga nalaza. Svi zbelavski nalazi osim žare imaju analogije na tome lokalitetu, što ne začuđuje jer se čini da je oblik žare iz Zbelave vezan specifično za grobove, a oni u Olorisu zasad nisu otkriveni.

Zdjela široko razgrnuta ruba (T. 2: 2) često se nalazi kao poklopac žare na nekropolama virovitičke grupe, a u grupi Barice-Gređani jedan je od glavnih oblika žara (Čović 1958: T. 1; Minichreiter 1982–1983: 115; 1984; 1984a). U prostor grupe Barice-Gređani ulazio bi i lokalitet Crno Polje u Ljusini u bosanske Pounju s nalazom dubokih zdjela ukrašenih bradavicom (Raunig 1987: 54, sl. 1) poput žare iz Zbelave.

Novi radovi o nalazima iz srednjega i kasnoga brončanog doba u Štajerskoj pokazali su da su nalazi istoga virovitičkog kulturnog miljea zastupljeni i brojni duboko na zapadu uz Muru, u austrijskoj dijelu Štajerske (Tiefengraber 2007; 2007a; Heymans 2007).

## ZAKLJUČAK

Grob iz Zbelave pokazuje i djelomično rasvjetljiva složene pogrebne rituale u kasnome brončanom dobu u sjeverozapadnoj Hrvatskoj i susjednim regijama. Analiza je pokazala da ima mnogo dodirnih točaka s nekropolama Virovitica, Sirova Katalena, Drljanovac, Mala Pupelica, Moravče te nekropolama u jugozapadnoj i zapadnoj Mađarskoj. Analogije su brojne i u Posavini, a nalazimo ih i u Pounju. U Hrvatskoj se virovitička grupa rasprostire Podravinom i na istok sigurno do Čepina i Osijeka (Kalafatić 2009: 22), a nalazi keramike dopiru sve do Vukovara i Sotina (Vinski Gasparini 1973: T. 17). Posebno je zanimljiv odnos i razgraničenje prema grupi Barice-Gređani za koju se vjerovalo da je na đakovačkome ravnjaku, ali istraživanja na trasi autoceste Osijek – Sredanci posljednjih godina pokazuju drugačiju sliku i pomiču granicu (to jest granično područje) više prema sjeveru. Na nekropoli Štrosmajerovac Pustara sjeverno od Đakova (Bojčić & Hršak 2009) i na lokalitetu Čepinski Martinci-Dubrava (Kalafatić 2009: 22; 2010) zastupljeniji je grobni ritus grupe Barice-Gređani, uz prisutnost ritusa virovitičke grupe. To pokazuje da se ne može povući ravna crta razgraničenja, nego valja prepoznati prostor kontakta dviju grupa gdje se kulturni utjecaji i običaji isprepleću.

The bowl with broad outwardly drawn rim (Pl. 2: 2) is often found as an urn lid in Virovitica group necropoleis, while in the Barice-Gređani group it is one of the principal forms of urn (Čović 1958: pl. 1; Minichreiter 1982–1983: 115; 1984; 1984a). The Crno Polje site in Ljusina, in the Una River zone (Pounje) of Bosnia, falls within the territory of the Barice-Gređani group, with its finds of deep bowls decorated by wart-like protrusions (Raunig 1987: 54, Fig. 1) like the urn from Zbelava.

New works on the finds from the Middle and Late Bronze Age in Styria have shown that finds of the same Virovitica cultural milieu were present deep to the west along the Mura River, in the Austrian section of Styria (Tiefengraber 2007; 2007a; Heymans 2007).

## CONCLUSION

The grave from Zbelava exhibits and partially illuminates the funeral rituals of the Late Bronze Age in North-west Croatia and neighbouring regions. Analysis has shown that there are many points in common with the necropoleis of Virovitica, Sirova Katalena, Drljanovac, Mala Pupelica, Moravče and necropoleis in South-west and Western Hungary. Analogies are also numerous in the Sava River Valley (Posavina), and they can also be found in the Pounje. In Croatia, the Virovitica group extends along the Podravina eastward certainly to Čepin and Osijek (Kalafatić 2009: 22), and ceramics have been found as far afield as Vukovar and Sotin (Vinski Gasparini 1973: pl. 17). Particularly interesting is the relationship and boundaries with the Barice-Gređani group, which was believed to have existed on the Đakovo plain, although research conducted on a section of the Osijek-Sredanci motorway indicated a different picture and moved the boundary (or the peripheral zone) more toward the north. The grave ritual of the Barice-Gređani group, with the presence of Virovitica group rituals, are present at the Štrosmajerovac Pustara necropolis north of Đakovo (Bojčić & Hršak 2009) and at the Čepinski Martinci-Dubrava site (Kalafatić 2009: 22; 2010). This indicates that a clear line of demarcation cannot be drawn, rather it is worthwhile to recognize the contact zone between the two groups, where cultural influences and customs intermingled.

In North-west Croatia, the Virovitica group certainly extends south to the Sava River and upstream to Lower Carniola (Dular 2002: 217) and across the Sava in Turopolje and the Vukomerička Hills, and possibly to the Kupa River as well. The group's range

U sjeverozapadnoj se Hrvatskoj virovitička grupa rasprostire prema jugu sigurno do Save i dalje uzvodno u Dolenjsku (Dular 2002: 217) te preko Save u Turopolje i Vukomeričke gorice, a moguće i do Kupe. Protezanje grupe na jug dodatno potvrđuje istraženo naselje virovitičke grupe kod Kurilovca na trasi autoceste Zagreb – Sisak (Burmaz & Bugar 2007: 175). Na zapadu grupa prati rijeke Muru i Dravu u slovenski i austrijski dio Štajerske. Promatrani grobovi uvijek čine najstariju fazu pokopavanja na promatranim nekropolama. Tako i grob u Zbelavi pripada fazi I kulture polja sa žarama, odnosno virovitičkoj grupi (Vinski-Gasparini 1973; 1983). Prema Dularovu definiranju virovitičke grupe (Dular 2002: 217) uklapao bi se u stupanj Virovitica I. Istovjetnost grobnih nalaza potvrđuje snažne kulturne veze i zajedništvo na prikazanome području. Zato je opravdano da se balatonska (odnosno grupa Mali Balaton) i virovitička grupa promatraju kao integralna kulturna pojava i objedine pod imenom virovitičko-balatonska grupa, čime se naglašava kulturno jedinstvo spomenutoga prostora na početku kasnoga brončanog doba.

in the south alone is additionally confirmed by the researched Virovitica group village at Kurilovac on a section of the Zagreb-Sisak motorway (Burmaz & Bugar 2007: 175), where contacts with Barice-Gredani group are possible as well. In the west, the group follows the Mura and Drava Rivers into the Slovenian and Austrian sections of Styria (Steiermark). The examined graves always constitute the oldest phase of burials in necropoleis discussed in this paper. Thus, the grave in Zbelava also belongs to the phase 1 of the urnfield culture, i.e. to the Virovitica group according to Vinski-Gasparini (1973; 1983) and the Virovitica I phase according to Dular (2002: 217). The identical nature of the grave goods confirms the strong cultural ties and unity in observed region. Therefore it is justified to consider Balaton (i.e. Little Balaton group) and Virovitica group as an integral cultural phenomenon and to join them under the name of Virovitica-Balaton group; this will emphasize the cultural unity of the mentioned area at the beginning of the Late Bronze Age.

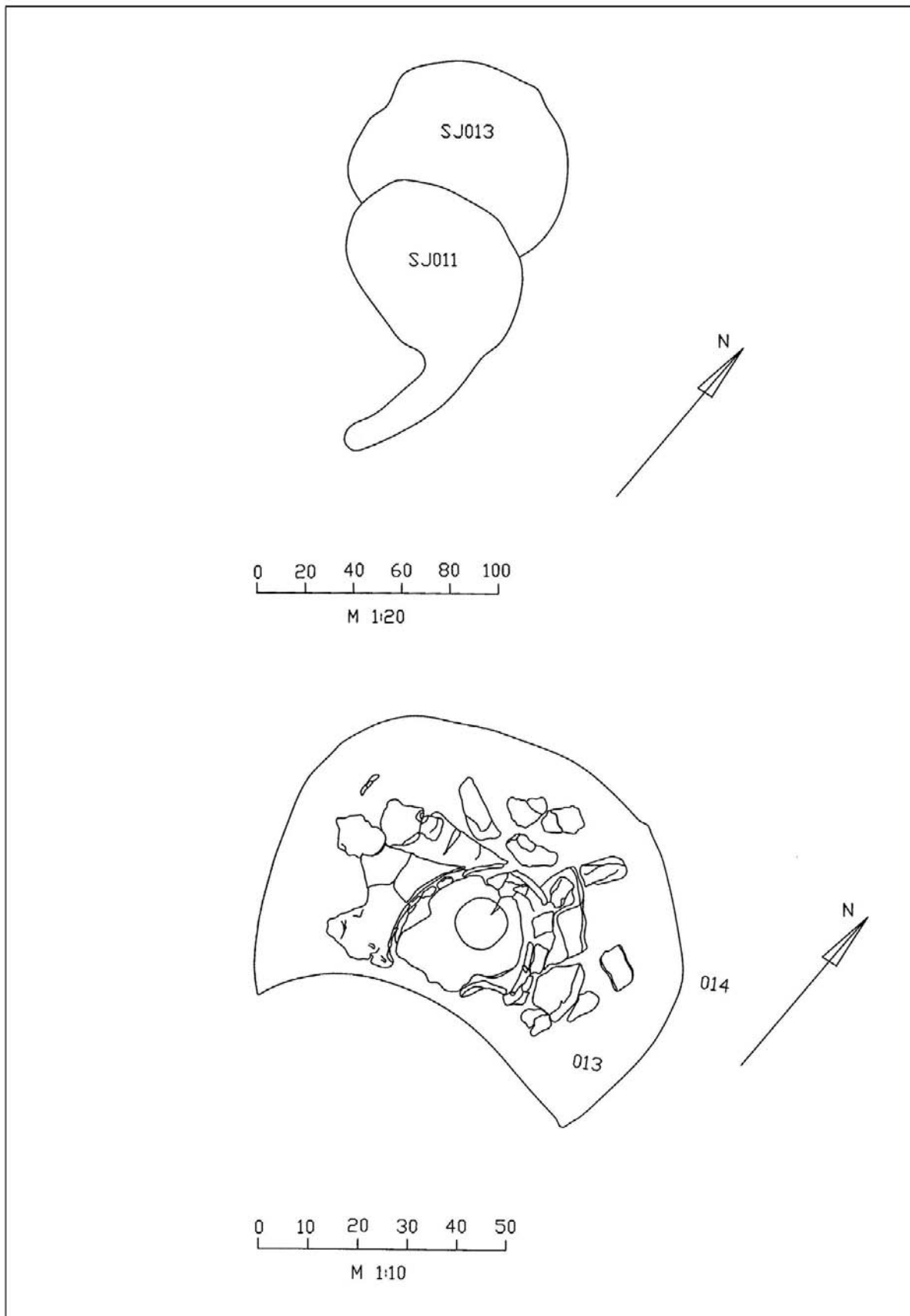


Tabla 1. Tlocrt zapune groba i istraženoga groba (crtež: M. Marijanović-Lešić, 2009).  
Plate 1. Layout of grave fill and examined grave (drawing: M. Marijanović-Lešić, 2009).

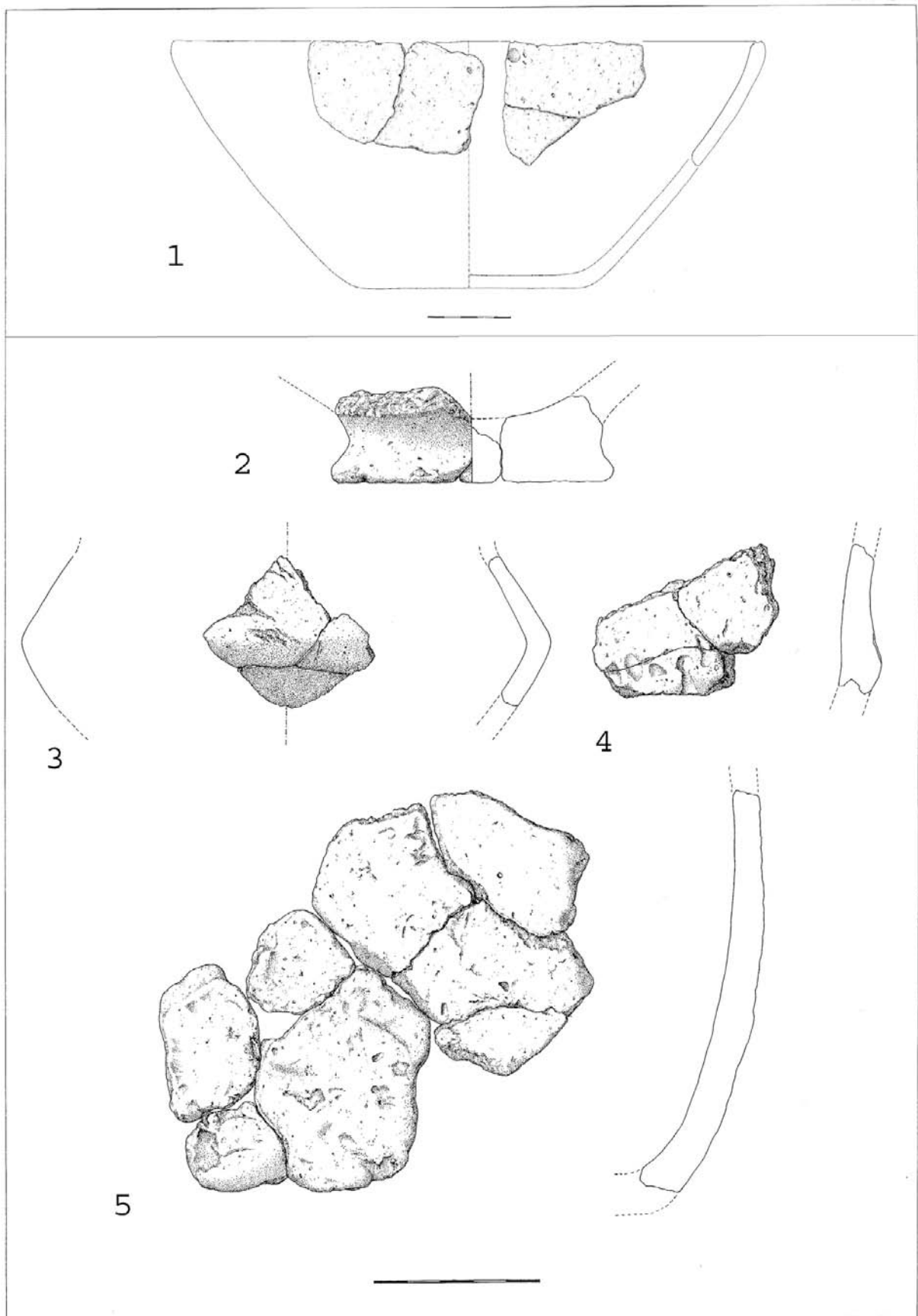


Tabla 4. Prilozi u grobu (crtež: M. Marijanović-Lešić, 2009).  
Plate 4. Grave goods (drawing: M. Marijanović-Lešić, 2009).

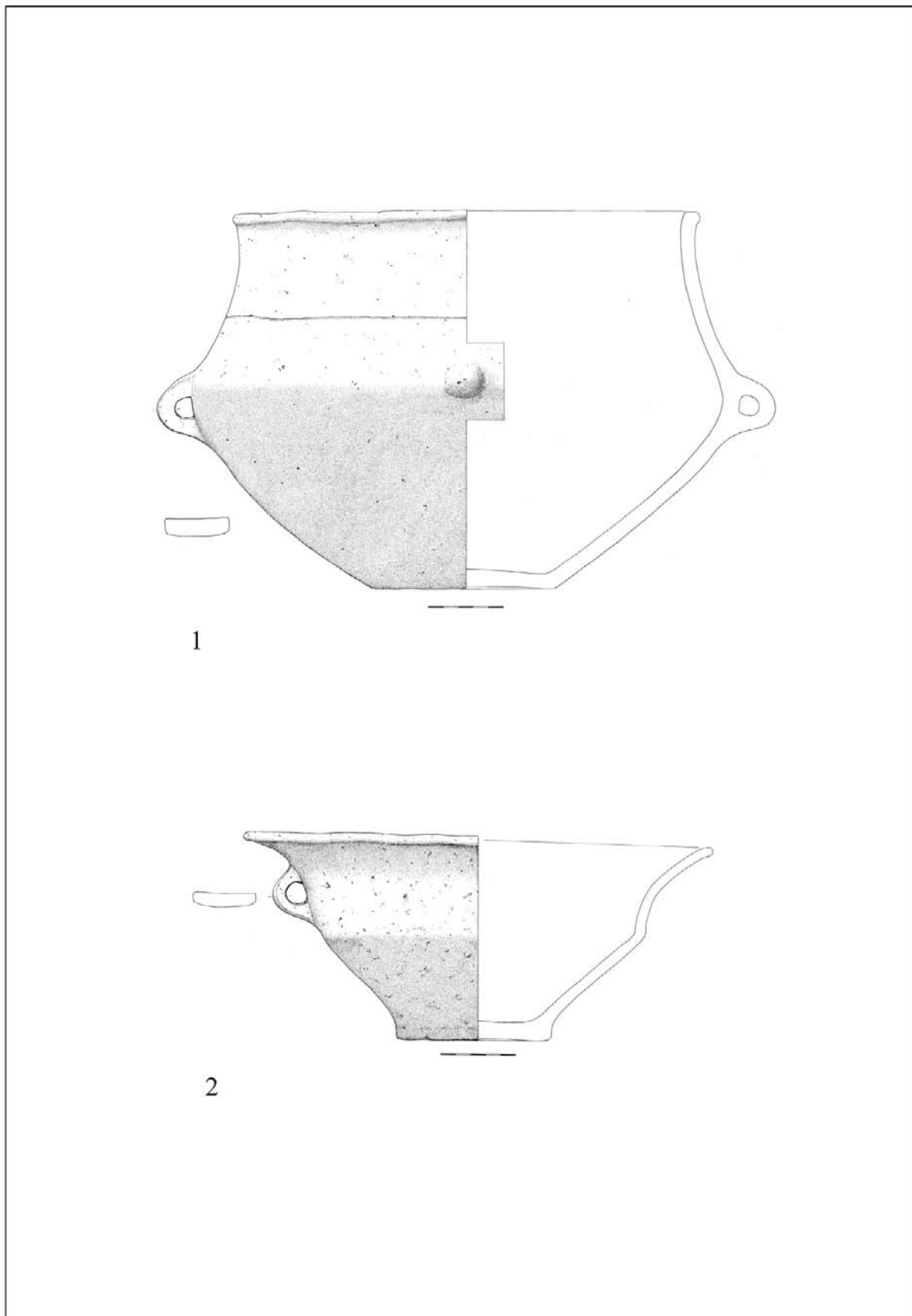


Tabla 2. Žara i zdjela/poklopac iz groba (crtež: M. Marijanović-Lešić, 2009).  
Plate 2. Urn and bowl/lid from the grave (drawing: M. Marijanović-Lešić, 2009).



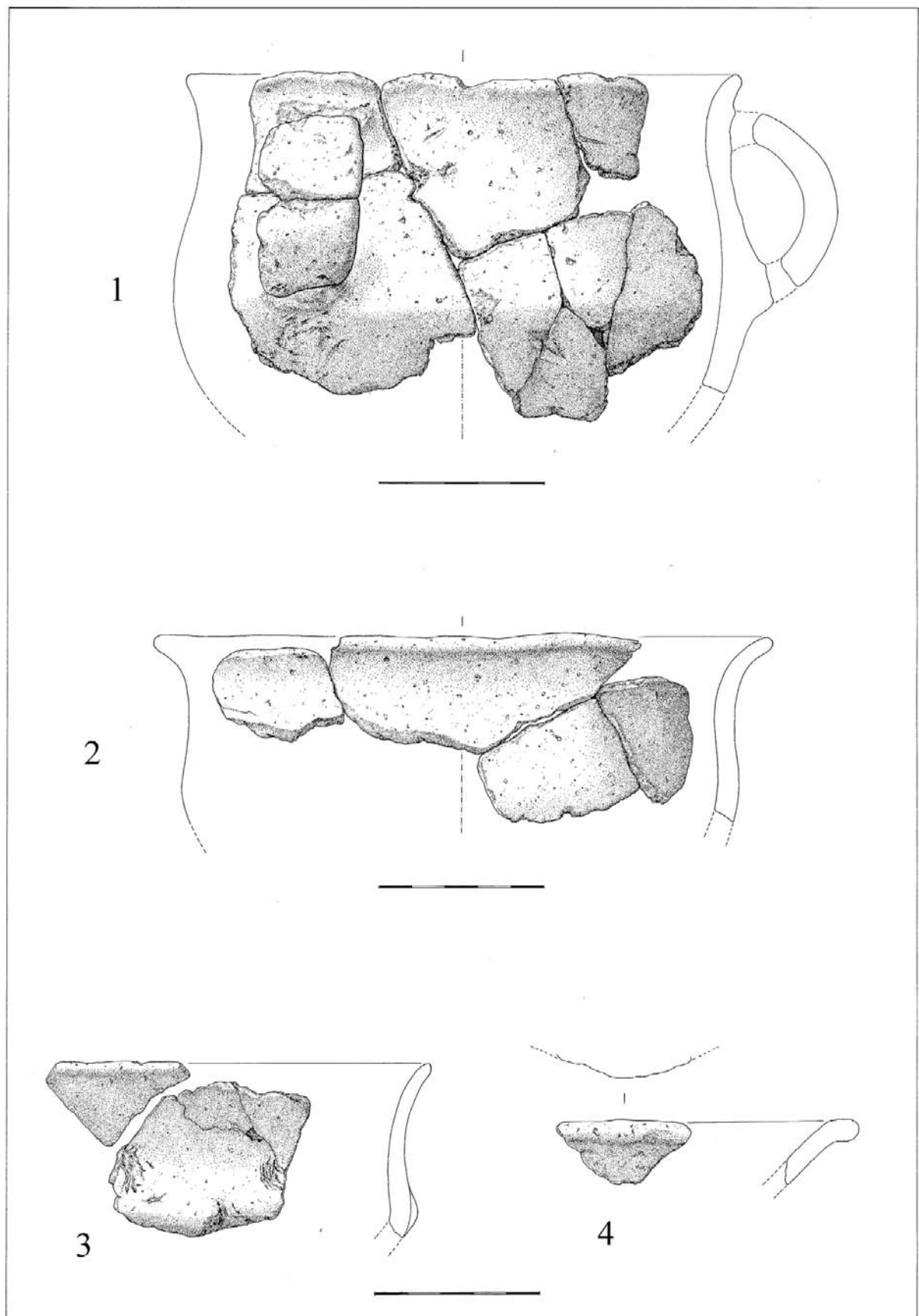


Tabla 3. Prilozi u grobu (crtež: M. Marijanović-Lešić, 2009).  
Plate 3. Grave goods (drawing: M. Marijanović-Lešić, 2009).

## KRATICE / ABBREVIATIONS

HAG *Hrvatski arheološki godišnjak*, Zagreb.

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