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EXTENDED SCIENTIFIC REPORT

Excavations in Lək I settlement KP277.0 SCPX pipeline

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1 SUMMARY

The report describes the course of archaeological excavations that took place on 8-26 May 2015 in the Lak I settlement discovered on KP 277.04 of the SCPX export gas pipeline corridor on the outskirts of the village of Lak in Samukh District and the material cultural remains discovered there. During the archaeological excavations, furnaces, tandirs, wells, stripes of burns as well as rich ceramic products, metal and stone finds were discovered here. Actual archaeological materials that clarified the economic activity and living conditions of residents of the rural settlement were obtained here. Based on the analysis of the archaeological materials, it was established that the settlement belonged to the antique period and that there was a rural settlement here in the period from the 2nd century BC to the 2nd century AD.

2 INTRODUCTION

2.1 SITE DISCOVERY

The Lak I settlement, located at KP 277.04 of the SCPX pipeline, was registered in the first and second stages. In 2005, archaeological excavations were carried out on this monument and rich archaeological materials were found when the BTC main oil export route was laid nearby. Therefore, archaeologists were aware of the existence of this monument. Since the territory of the monument is still used as a sowing area like in previous years and its terrain does not differ from its surroundings, it is difficult to determine visually the existence of a settlement here. Only the large number of ceramics and stone products on the surface prove the archaeological potential here. On the basis of an agreement between the IoAE (Archaeology and Ethnography Institute) and BP (SCPX), the Lak I settlement was registered and was listed as one of the monuments where archaeological excavations would be carried out in the SCPX corridor.

2.2 BRIEF DESCRIPTION OF THE SITE

The settlement is located in the territory of Samukh District at a height of 208-210 metres above sea level at N-4517801.199; N-4517824494; E-8623813.046; E-8623766.545. It is located 550-600 metres southwest of the Hajjalili village in Samukh District, on the left side of the Samukh-Hajjalili highway, on KP 277.04 of the SCPX route. The settlement is surrounded by sowing areas on all sides. The terrain of the site is plainland. Soft soil has been used as a sowing area for many years [1, p. 1-2].

2.3 WHO CARRIED OUT THE EXCAVATIONS AND WHEN

The archaeological expedition group of the Archaeology and Ethnography Institute of the Azerbaijan National Academy of Sciences carried out archaeological excavations in the Lak I settlement from May 8 to May 26, 2015 under the leadership of PhD in History and leading scientific worker Vagif Asadov and with the participation of employees of the institute, PhD in History, leading fellow Anar Agalarzadeh and senior

fellow Ahliman Abdurahmanov. Mahammad Novruzov, the SCPX Cultural Heritage Site Manager, participated in the excavation work as an observer.

3 RESULTS OF THE EXCAVATIONS

3.1 GENERAL DESCRIPTION OF THE SITE

Lak I settlement is located in the village of Lak in Samukh District. The settlement is among the archaeological sites on the pipeline route and studied in connection with the construction of the Shah Deniz-2 gas pipeline. Archaeological excavations carried out at this monument can be considered as efficient. During the excavations carried out at a site of 192 square metres (12x4 metres), numerous tandirs and hearths were discovered and a large amount of archaeological material was obtained.

The area where the Lak I settlement is located is a plain. The monument is located at N-4517801.199; N-4517824494; E-8623813.046; E-8623766.545. The name given to the settlement has a common nature and administratively belongs to the village of Lak in Samukh District. This name was given to the monument during BTC excavations. The only reason it was named Lak I was that there is another settlement (Lak II) nearby. The surface of the settlement is a sowing area. There is a sparse forest in the form of stripes about 2.5 km southwest. This plain land, where chernozemic sowing areas are available, has been used as a sowing areas for many years.

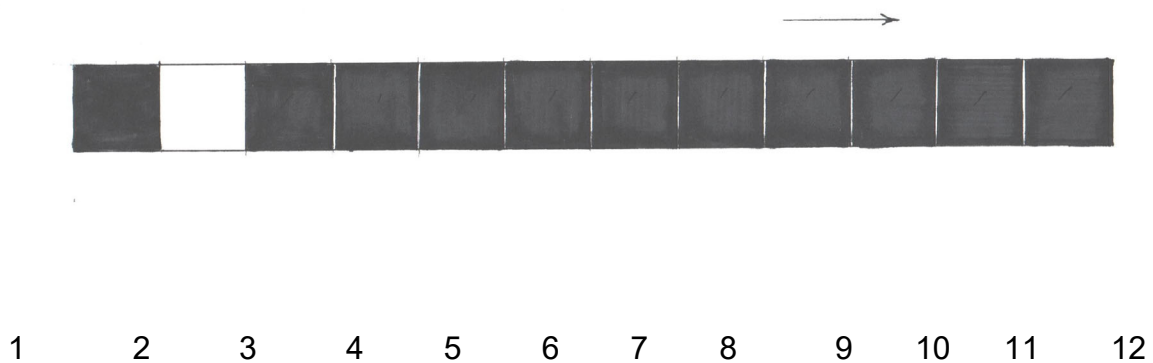


Figure 1. Schematic plan of site of archaeological excavations (No excavations were carried in white unit).

When traveling to the area where the settlement is located and the surrounding area, it is possible to see a large number of surface ceramics. The remains of material culture found in the abovementioned areas are important in terms of the archaeological evaluation of these areas. The great number and variety of ceramic pieces, which belong to distant centuries, in the area also allow us to conclude that life was intense in those times.

The position of the settlement is very favourable in terms of town planning. There is a fertile land fund and a source of water for farming around the settlement. Perhaps, livestock breeding had a considerable share for residents of the settlement. But artifacts prove that there was a very favourable environment for agriculture here.



Figure 2. View of site of archaeological excavations, view to east



- ⊙ - Təndir
- ⊗ - Ocag yeri
- ⊕ - Keramika qırıqları
- - Təsərrüfat quyusu
- ⊙ - Küp

Figure 3. Cross section of richer units of site of archaeological excavations.

3.2 GENERAL DESCRIPTION OF CULTURAL LAYERS

Archaeological excavations in the area began initially with the selection of the excavation site. The area chosen for excavations was in a new pipeline corridor 40 metres from the BTC and SCP pipeline corridor. The excavation area was 48 metres

long and 4 metres wide. A total of 12 squares metres were established (4 x 4 metres in size). The units were numbered as south-east-north-west, i.e. in the direction of the pipeline and excavations were planned in the form of a chessboard. Initially, the top fertile layer of the soil with a thickness of 20cm was removed and was placed at the edge of the excavation area. Despite many years of sowing work here, there was much pottery on the surface. This also reflects the richness of the cultural layer of the settlement. The 48-metre excavation tract also was also inside the sowing area. A large number of ceramic pieces were found inside the 20-cm layer of soil that was removed.

During the excavations it was established that the Lak I settlement has one layer and the thickness of the cultural layer is between 100-120cm. Observations revealed that the material remains of the top 25-cm-thick part of the cultural layer are not rich. Of course, this was because the top layer of soil once was cultivated for a long time. The coal and ash layers of the cultural layer rich in earthenware vessels, animal and bird bones begin at 30cm and continue to the depth of 1-1.2 metres. Numerous tandirs and hearths were studied in the excavation area.

The depth of digging in the excavation area was as follows:

Unit 1 - 70cm deep

Unit 2- not excavated

Unit 3- 60cm deep

Unit 4 - 90cm deep

Unit 5 - 120cm deep

Unit 6 - 100cm deep

Unit 7 - 90cm deep

Unit 8 - 105cm deep

Unit 9 - 100cm deep

Unit 10 - 80cm deep

Unit 11 - 110cm deep

Unit 12 - 40cm deep

As noted, the excavation area was divided into 12 units. Archaeological materials were found at a depth of 10cm in the first three units. The lower part of a red jar was found in the southern corner of the third unit, which provided more material than the two other units at this depth. This vessel with a thick wall was broken. The diameter of the intact part of the body was 35cm (Figure 18).

A burnt spot at a depth of 35cm was found between this vessel and the southwestern wall of the unit. After the spot was cleaned, it was found out that it was a hearth (No 1). In addition, two more hearths (No 2 and 3) were found in this unit. Hearths 1 and 2 were 40cm in diameter and the third one - 35cm. The hearths were not very deep (7-10cm). Burnt fragments of soil, coal and animal bones were found in all three of the hearths, and a small number of fragments of earthenware vessels were found only in the second hearth. Half of the wall of the third hearth was covered with clay (Figure 19-20).

In the north of this hearth, there was a round burnt clay layer. Once the clay was removed, it was determined that it was another hearth (No 4). The diameter of this hearth, which was a perfect circle, was 35cm and its depth was 10cm. The fifth hearth was found at a depth of 50cm at the southeastern wall of the third unit. There were fragments belonging to clay vessels around the hearth (fragments of a jar with thin walls and stout body and a fragment of a grind stone made of riverstone) (Figure 21).

The size of the fifth oval-shaped furnace was 60x40cm and its depth was 35cm. During cleaning, burned soil, bones of large horned beasts and hunting birds, and fragments of thick walled pottery were discovered here.

Another hearth (No 6) was found at a depth of 60cm almost in the centre of the third unit. Half of the wall consisted of a burnt clay layer. The diameter of the hearth was 30cm and depth 10cm (Figure 22).

It should be noted that similar hearths were found at different depths in many units of the excavation area, a total of 14 hearths were found. An interesting hearth that attracted attention was hearth No 10 discovered in Unit 6. The hearth was found at a depth of 60cm at the southwestern wall of the unit. Some of the edges of the hearth were made of burnt clay. When the hearth was cleaned, an ash layer and then burnt soil were found here. There were also ceramic fragments, animal and bird bones here. The diameter of the hearth was 85cm from outside and 60cm from inside. Its depth reached 90cm. There was a burnt layer which was 70cm thick inside the hearth. Then, this layer was replaced by a 20-cm-thick yellow sand layer. Charcoal, as well as pieces of clay mixed with sand were found inside the hearth. These pieces apparently belonged to a fired clay oven. When the surface of the clay strip on the edge of the hearth was cleared, it was discovered that this was a massive tandir of 1.2 metres in diameter. It was established that the hearth was literally inside the tandir. Apart from the common wall of the hearth (in the west and northwest), the southern and southeastern walls divided the tandir almost into two parts. This wall of the hearth was made of burnt soil and was reinforced with a large and several medium-sized rocks. Perhaps, the function of this tandir was changed and then turned into a hearth, or the tandir was supposed to have two sections from the very beginning (Figure 23).

In the northeast part of this unit, a bigger hearth was found one metre below the ground (No 11). The hearth was 65cm in diameter and 75cm in depth.

An interesting hearth was found in unit 7. Here, after the burnt soil layer found was cleared in the northwestern corner of the unit, the bottom of a hearth was found at a depth of 90cm here. The hearth was oval in shape and half of it extended to the northeastern wall of the unit (Figure 24). A wall of burnt clay was observed on the

northern and northwestern sides of the hearth. Burnt clay traces were also observed inside the hearth on the eastern side. The dimensions of the hearth were 1.2 x 0.8m together with the edges, and the inside size was 1 x 0.6 m. Ceramic fragments were found inside the hearth. These were mainly pieces of vessels with thick walls. Among them there was the neck of a Yaloylutapa-type vessel and a handle that was ribbon-like in cross section. It should be noted that in that period, original earthenware vessels that belong to the Yaloylutapa culture were used in ceramic art in many regions of present-day Azerbaijan [10; 11]

On the northern wall of unit 5, a large collection of ceramic fragments was found at a depth of 1-1.1 metres. This collection consisted of fragments of vessels of various shapes, mostly fragments of boiler-type vessels. Small bovine animal bones were also found among them (Figure 25). In addition, the remains of a fired clay oven and a small intact part of an oven were found inside the collection. The fired clay was red and was mixed with sand (Figure 26). There were also charcoal fragments inside the collection. The area occupied by the collection was 1 x 0.8m and its thickness was 30cm. After the collection of dishes was removed, fragments of a big jar were found at a depth of 1.2 metres under it. A similar dump was also discovered during excavations at the Hajjalili I settlement. At this bigger dump (4,75 x 1,8), osteological remains, earthenware fragments, and parts of a clay grill were found. Researchers do not rule out that it was remains of a building [12, pp. 69-68].

A tandir was found near the southeastern wall of unit 8. Here, after the burnt clay layer, which was discovered at a depth of 30cm, was completely cleaned, it became clear that it was a place where a tandir was located (No 1). The bottom of the tandir walls was intact. Inside the tandir there was an oval-shaped cavity separated by an inner wall. The tandir itself was oval-shaped. (Figure 31). Its eastern part was destroyed. The width of the tandir was 70cm, while the surviving part of its length reached 70cm. The cavity inside was 60 x 25cm. An oval-shaped area was covered with a burnt clay layer was found 40cm west of the tandir. The area was 1.2 x 0.7 metres in size.

It should be noted that another tandir was discovered during excavations in Unit 8 (No 4). This tandir was located at the centre of the unit at a depth of 1.05 metres. A layer of ash, animal and bird bones and ceramic fragments were found inside this tandir with a diameter of 60cm. The depth of the tandir was 50cm (Figure 32).

Another find discovered in Unit 8 is also remarkable. Two pitcher-type earthenware vessels were found on the western wall of the unit at a depth of 95cm here. One of the vessels was placed vertically. Its upper part was broken. Its body was pear-shaped. The colour of the clay was pink. Only the upper part of the second bowl survived and remained fragmented. The vessel was lying on its side. There was a small ribbon-like handle that was attached to the vessel vertically. Its mouth was slightly bent. The first vessel was measured on the spot because the vessels were full of cracks. The diameter of its body was 25cm, and the height of the surviving part was 30cm (Figure 33).

According to experts, these types of pitchers belong to earlier periods of antiquity. They are sometimes ornamented, sometimes simple [13, pp. 70-71]. A fragmented earthenware vessel was also found on the northeastern wall of Unit 11. At a depth of 1.05 metres, fragmentary pieces of the lower part of a large jar were found here. The

thickness of the walls of the jar was 1cm and 25cm in diameter at the bottom (Figure 34).

Large pits were also discovered during excavations in the Lak I settlement. One of was found at a depth of 85cm at the southeastern wall of Unit 4. The diameter of the pit was 45cm and the depth was 50cm. A burnt layer which was 10cm thick was observed on its walls. Fragments of earthenware vessels were also found in the pit (Figure 35). It should be noted that pits were found in many ancient settlements, including during excavations in the ancient city of Gabala. Not only food stores, but also remains of big jars buried in the ground were found here [14. p.217]. These may have functioned as storage pits, or wells.

In Unit 10, a burnt layer was found at a depth of 60cm, which stretches for about 3 metres along the western wall of the unit from the west to the north. The width of the layer was 2 metres. During the excavations it was established that this layer was 20cm thick. Another burnt layer of soil still occupied an area of 1 x 1 metres in size from the southwestern corner of the unit 1.4 metres to the north. In this layer, which is 10cm thick, there were fragments of coal and pieces of baked bricks. This possibly indicates that a building once caught fire and collapsed as a result of a strong fire here (Figure 36).

It should be noted that many fragments of earthenware vessels were found in the excavation area. They are mainly pitchers and boiler-type vessels, and in some cases, whole vessels broken into pieces. Earthenware vessels are pink, grey, brown, black and are high-quality products made by hand or on a pottery wheel. These vessels are used in farms and at home. Vessels used in farms have thick walls and round and wide mouths (Figure 37).

The medium-sized pitchers found during excavations have mainly thick bottoms. Their mouths widen like a funnel. Sometimes they have scratched and notched patterns. They are with or without handles. The surface is glazed in white. An example of this type of vessels can be the following vessel parts:

One of them is the upper part of an earthenware pitcher-type vessel, which has thick walls, is light brown and is made from pure clay. The narrow neck is completed with a mouth that widely opens to the side. The neck gradually flows into the shoulder. There is a ribbon-like wide handle on the shoulder. The handle connects the body and the neck. Before firing, a horizontal pattern of cutting lines was drawn on the lower part of the neck. The surface was well glazed before firing. The surface was glazed is white (Figures 6; 44).

The second find is the upper part of a medium-sized pitcher with thick walls. It was well made from clean clay. The narrow neck opens widely to the side. The neck flows directly into the thick body. The mouth is shaped like a funnel. There is a layer of scum on it. Traces of a pottery wheel are clearly seen inside. The colour of the clay is red, and its surface is pink (Figure 7; 45).

Another pitcher-type earthenware vessel, which was restored, has a pear-shaped form unlike others. Its neck is narrow. It has a broken mouth. The neck gradually flows into the shoulder. There are parallel scratched stripes on the shoulder. Below the shoulder,

the bottom of a thick and wide handle remains intact. The handle is ribbon-like in cross section. Apparently, its tip was connected to the neck or mouth. The bottom of the vessel narrows towards the bottom and ends with a flattened base. The clay is pure. The vessel is handmade. Its colour is red-pink. Its top is glazed in white (Figures 46, 76)

Relatively small pitchers with a wide mouth were also found in the Lak I settlement. For example, one of them is a fragment of a pitcher with thick walls finely made from brown and inorganic clay. The relatively narrow neck of the vessel ends with a wide mouth edge that opens to the side. The neck gradually flows into a shoulder. The mouth part of the vessel is connected to the shoulder by a narrow, ribbon-like handle that is reminiscent of the Kura-Aras-type shape. There is a burn on its surface. The earthenware vessel is rough and handmade (Figure 9-10; 33).

The mouths of the discovered vessels are broad or shaped like a funnel. Their low necks gradually flow into the shoulders (Figure 12; 50-52).

Among the fragments found, there are also fragments of vessels with single handles. Vessel handles are generally ribbon-like and circular. Sometimes, smaller semi-circular handles, which resemble handles of the Kura-Aras culture that existed during the early Bronze Age, were also discovered. Handles often connect the body of a vessel or its shoulder to the mouth (Figure 55-60).

The wide or narrow bases of earthenware vessels are mostly flat. Bases with legs or oval bases are rarely found (Figure 61-64).

Along with fragments of earthenware vessels found during excavations, there were also samples decorated with top scratched, notched and embossed patterns.

In addition to ceramic samples, grind stones, brushes, utilised stones and weight stones (Figure 70-74), as well as spindles made of clay and marble (Figure 76-77, 81 inv.7) were found at the site of excavations.

3.3 EXCAVATED FEATURES

Hearths:

No.	Unit	Description	Diameter	Depth
1	3	Found at a depth of 35cm between the southwestern wall of Unit 3 (Figure 19). Burnt ground, fragments of coal, and animal bones were found in it	40cm	10cm
2	3	Found at a depth of 35cm in the eastern corner of the northeastern wall of Unit 3 (picture 19). A burnt ground layer, fragments of coal, animal bones and fragments of pottery in small quantities were found in it	40cm	7cm
3	3	Found near the centre of Unit 3 at a depth of 35cm again (Figure 20). Its diameter was 35cm and depth - 7cm. Half of the hearth wall was made of clay. Burnt soil, fragments of coal, and animal bones were found in it	35cm	10cm
4	3	Found at the same depth in the north of the third hearth (Figure 22). In this hearth, which is perfectly circular, burnt soil, fragments of coal and animal bones were found	35cm	10cm

No.	Unit	Description	Diameter	Depth
5	3	Found at a depth of 50cm near the southeastern wall of Unit 3. The hearth was located 20cm from the southwestern wall and 55cm from southeastern wall of the unit. Around this oval-shaped hearth, there were fragments of clay vessels (fragments of a jar with thin walls, a thick bottom and a funnel-shaped mouth and a piece of grind stone made from riverstone). When the interior of the hearth was cleaned, burnt ground, burnt bones of large cattle and hunting birds, and fragments of earthenware vessels with thick walls were discovered.	40 x 60cm	35cm
6	3	Found in the centre of Unit 3, at a distance of 1.4 metres from the northern wall, 1.3 metres from the western wall, and 2 metres from the eastern wall at a depth of 60cm. Half of the wall consisted of a burnt clay layer. Half of the hearth wall consisted of a burnt clay layer	30cm	10cm
7	5	Found on the southeastern wall of Unit 5 at a depth of 50cm. The hearth was at a distance of 70cm from the southern corner of the unit. An ash layer, animal bones and ceramic fragments were found inside	1.1m	1m
8	7	Found in the northwestern corner of Unit 7 at a depth of 30cm. Half of this oval-shaped hearth stretches into the northern wall of the unit. In the northern and northwestern part of the hearth, a band made of burnt clay was observed. Burnt clay traces were also observed inside the hearth, on the eastern side (Figure 24). Ceramic fragments were found inside. They were mainly fragments of vessels with thick walls, a Yaloylutapa-type vessel neck, and a ribbon-like handle	Outside dimension 1.1 x 0.8 m Inside 1 x 0.6 m	
9	4	Found at a depth of 40cm in the southeastern corner of unit 4. An ash layer and ceramic fragments were found inside	50cm	40cm
10	6	found near the southwestern wall of Unit 6, at a distance of 60cm from the wall, 60cm below the ground (Figure 27). Some of the edges of the hearth consisted of a burnt clay layer. When it was cleaned, an ash layer and then burnt soil were found here. Fragments of coals, earthenware vessels, sandy clay pieces, which supposedly belonged to a grill, as well as animal and bird bones were also found among them. The diameter of the hearth was 85cm from outside and 60cm from inside, and its depth was 90cm. The 70-cm burnt layer on the hearth's walls flow into a 20-cm yellow sand layer. The edges of the hearth were covered with a burnt clay stripe	External 85cm, Internal 60cm	90cm
11	6	Found on the northeastern side of Unit 6 at a depth of 100cm (Figure 28). The hearth was located at a distance of 60cm from the northeastern wall	65cm	75cm
12	10	Found at a depth of 60cm at a distance of 30cm from the western wall of Unit 10 (Figure 29). The hearth was full of burnt soil and fragments of coal	40cm	15cm
13	6	Found near the northern wall of Unit 6 at a distance of 60cm from the wall and at a depth of 60cm (Figure 30).	50cm	25cm
14	6	Found at a distance of 85cm from the northern wall of Unit 6, near hearth 13 and and at the same level as it (Figure 30).	43cm	25cm

Tandirs:

No.	Unit	Description	Diameter	Depth
1	8	Found at a depth of 30cm near the southeastern wall of Unit 8 (Figure 31). The bottom wall of the tandir band intact. There was an oval cavity inside the inner wall. The tandir itself was oval-shaped. Its eastern part was destroyed.	70 x 70cm Internal cavity 60 x 25cm	

No.	Unit	Description	Diameter	Depth
		There was an oval-shaped area covered with a 40-cm clay layer west of the tandir. The size of the area was 1.2 x 0.7 metres.		
2	9	A tandir or fragments of a fired clay oven were found in an area of a quadrangular shape near the eastern corner of the southeastern wall of Unit 9 at the depth of 1 metre. There were sand and straw mixtures in the clay. Their surface was plastered on both sides.	1.2 x 1 m	
3	6	When the clay on the edges of the surface of the tandir, which was found at a depth of 60cm in Unit 6, was cleared, it became known that this place was a large tandir (Figure 23). It was established that the hearth was literally inside the tandir. Apart from the common wall of the hearth and the tandir (on the western and northwestern side), the southern and southeastern walls almost divided the tandir into two parts. This wall of the tandir was made of burnt soil and was reinforced with a large and a few medium-sized riverstones. Perhaps, the function of this tandir was changed later and turned into a hearth, or the tandir was intended to have two layers from the very beginning	1.2 m	90cm
4	6	ound almost in the centre of Unit 8 at a depth of 1.05 metres. The tandir was located at a distance of 2 metres from the southeastern wall of the unit, 2.3 metres from the southwestern corner, 2.55 metres from the northwestern corner and 2.1 metres from the northeastern corner. An ash layer, animal and bird bones and ceramic fragments were discovered inside	60cm	60cm

Pits:

No.	Unit	Description	Diameter	Depth
1	4	Found at a depth of 85cm near the southeastern wall of Unit 4 (Figure 35). The pit was located at a distance of 50cm from the southern corner of the unit. A 10-cm burnt layer was observed on the wall of the well at a depth of 25cm. Ceramic fragments were found inside the pit	45-50cm	50cm

Thus, the excavations in Lak I settlement allow us to conclude that it used to be part of a larger settlement before. Although no remains of buildings were found here as the excavations had a limited nature, their existence is undoubted. According to the correct opinion of archaeologist J. Khalilov, the existence of buried jars, as well as other material and cultural remains in settlements where no remains of buildings were found shows that the monument was inhabited [4, p. 31]. An initial analysis of the materials obtained during the excavations led to the fact that this monument belongs to the ancient period - the third or first centuries BC.

4 ARCHAEOLOGICAL FINDS

Ceramics:

The ceramics found in the excavation area are identical to the materials of Yaldili and Girag Kasaman in terms of form and content. Based on the typological features of these materials, we can attribute them to the second century BC - second century AD.

Examples of earthenware vessels were also found in surface materials, and these samples consist mainly of mouth, base and body parts of clay vessels. Even though the clay in earthenware vessels is mixed with sand and sometimes gravel, there are also fine clay vessels with a well-polished surface. The vessels were also made on pottery wheels. Among the ceramic samples that were found, the most commonly found vessels are brown and grey while some have brighter shades. Sometimes brown, red and light yellow clay vessels are found too. In some cases, red stripes were painted on top of the vessels, and in many cases, they were covered with different glazes.

The samples found at the excavation site are more perfect and varied. These examples are parts of clay vessels like pots, pitchers, chalices, jugs, small jars and bowls. Fragments of a lid were also found. Clay lids were found only in fragments. The lids are disc-shaped, the lower parts are flat and the upper parts are slightly bulky. The edges of some are wavy, rough, handmade and have dimples. They were made by hand or on a pottery wheel.

Pitchers and jars were the most discovered items in the excavation area. They were often found in the form of fragments, sometimes in whole or in half. Their bases are generally flat, the necks are low and wide, or narrow, the mouths are round and funnel-shaped (Figure 12) or in a form that opens to the side (Figure 37; 50-52). Their bodies are broad or flat (Figure 42-43). Pitchers and jars usually have scratched, notched, embossed or molded patterns (Figures 38-41, 65-67). One of the finds is the top part of a high-quality well-fired light brown pitcher-type earthenware vessel with thick walls made of pure clay. The narrow neck ends with a mouth that opens widely to the side. The neck gradually flows into the shoulder. On one side, there is a ribbon-like wide handle on the side of the shoulder. The handle connects the body and the neck. A pattern of cutting lines was drawn horizontally on the lower part of the neck and on the shoulder before firing. The top is glazed in white. Mouth diameter = 11.2cm; neck height = 5cm; handle width = 2.2cm; body = 26.5cm (Figure 6; 44). The second pitcher (upper part) has a thick wall, the upper part of a medium-sized pitcher. It is well baked from clean clay. The narrow neck opens widely to the side. The neck flows directly into the stout body. The mouth is shaped like a funnel. There is a thin layer of scum on it. Traces of a pottery wheel are clearly noticeable inside. The colour of the clay is red and the surface is light pink. Mouth diameter = 12.7cm; neck height = 4.5cm (Figure 7; 45). Another fragment is part of a pitcher with a thick wall, is brown and is delicately baked from non-organic clay. The relatively narrow neck of the vessel ends with the edge of a mouth that opens widely to the side. The neck gradually flows into the shoulder. The mouth part of the vessel and its shoulder are connected by a wide bolt-

like handle that is ribbon-like in cross section and is reminiscent of the Kura-Aras type. The earthenware vessel is roughly shaped (Figure 47).

During the excavations, dopus (small jars), which are small types of pitchers, were also often found. It was possible to find only mouth fragments of dopus. One of the artifacts that were found is a fragment of the mouth of a small dopu-type vessel. It has a wide mouth. The mouth edge is straight, and the mouth is slightly folded to the side. Its colour is light brown. The low neck gradually flows into the shoulder. The second fragment is a Yaloylutapa-type fragment, a fragment of the mouth that belongs to the archaic type of dopus. A button-shaped pattern is placed on the edge of the wide neck of the vessel that has a trough on its mouth edge. It has a thick wall, is light yellow and was well baked from pure clay (Figure 53).

During the excavations in the Lak I settlement, fragments of chalice-type vessels were also found. Chalices had narrow and long necks which flowed straight into the shoulder. The shoulders and mouth edges at the cross section are connected with a circular handle. Sometimes a button-shaped pattern is applied to the handle (Figure 54).

Mouth fragments of bowl-shaped clay vessels were also found. Their mouth edges are flat. The walls are thin.

Cooking pots (or jars) are among the rarest archaeological artifacts. For example, the body of a large cooking pot was acquired in the form of parts. It has a thin wall. Its relatively narrow mouth opens slightly to the side. The mouth edge is round. Its low neck flows directly into the body. Notched and printed patterns are engraved on the upper part of the body. The surface of the vessel below them is combed. Two small bolt-like handles that connect the mouth and the neck were found. The handles are ribbon-like and flat in cross section and their middle is slightly spiked along the handle. The clay is rich in sand. Its colour is grey. Its interior and partially upper surface are covered with strong burns (Figure 49).

Most jugs had narrow necks that end with thin mouth edges. They have a longitudinally-shaped body and flat bases. The neck fragment of one of the jugs is light yellow and is baked from pure clay. The vessel was made on a pottery wheel.

As an example of tea bowls, the following piece can be cited. It is a delicately-baked tea bowl with thick walls and greyish-brown colour made from non-organic mixed clay. Part of it is broken. It has a biconic body. The mouth edge opens widely to the side. A ribbon-like handle connects the bottom part of the vessel and the mouth. Its base is oval. Burns are observed on the surface of the ribbon. It is handmade (Figure 48).

There is also a vase-type vessel base inside ceramic products. The base is narrow and flat. The body expands towards the sides and becomes wider. The content of the clay is clean. Its color is light pink. Its top is polished. The thickness of the wall is 0.8cm.

Among the fragments of pottery, there is a fragment of the spout of an aftava-type vessel (aftava - a jug with a long spout used for ablutions). The tip of the pipe-shaped circular spout is edged (Figure 84, inv.42).

A sufficient number of fragments of handles and bases were found in the excavation area. The handles are ribbon-like, circular and semi-circular in cross section (Figure 55-60). By their form, the smaller semi-circular handles resemble the Kura-Aras culture that dates back to the Early Bronze Age. The handles usually connect the mouth edge to the body or the shoulder. The vessel bases that were discovered are mostly flat. In very rare cases, oval-shaped or slightly heeled bases were encountered (Figure 61-64).

The interesting artifacts found during the excavations include a piece made from stone. The piece has a conical shape and is four-edged. One end gradually becomes narrow and is broken at the point of connection. Since there is a circular cavity here, one end of the piece becomes forked. The bottom of the other wider tip is broken. The surface of the piece is strongly polished. Its height is 4.5cm, the wide end - 3x3.5cm, the narrow end - 2x1cm, the wide side - 2.3cm, the narrow side - 1.5cm (Figure 82, inv.115). Another fragment is the foot of the pad made of clay. It has a conical shape and becomes thinner towards the bottom. Although the tip is broken, it appears to be flat. The clay is sandy. Its colour is pink. Its diameter is 4.2-2cm and height is 6.5cm (Figure 83, inv.96).

Metal products:

During the archaeological excavations, one iron piece was found. This is a fragment of a flat knife blade. In addition, iron extracts were also discovered, which suggests the presence of iron production in the settlement (Figures 68-69). Unfortunately, since iron tools are often exposed to corrosion, no other fragments were found.

4.1 GENERAL SUMMARY OF TYPES AND NUMBERS OF FINDS

The archaeological finds discovered in the settlement can be classified as follows:

labour instruments: grind stone remains, brushes, forged tools and utilised stones (Figure 13-16; 70-72; 74; 78), obsidian horse-combs and cutters (Figure 61), as well as circular, biconic, and wheel-shaped spindles made from clay and marble (Figure 17; 76-77, 81, inv.7).

household items: these are clay vessels, ovens made from fired clay (Figure 79), utilised stones (Figure 64), iron knives (Figure 54) and weight stones (Figure 66, inv.102).

weapons: only circular sling stones that were made lighter by firing were discovered in the excavation area (Figure 81, inv.6).

ornaments: decorative items are represented only by one red-coloured round agate bead (diameter = 0.7cm) (Figure 82).

The labour tools are mainly graters and forged tools. Bottom quernstones are fragmentary and few.

Household items are used mainly in the household and in the kitchen, as well as in farming. First of all, they include clay vessels. Clay vessels are different in their purpose and functions. They include jars, pitchers, cauldrons, chalices and jugs, bowl-

shaped clay vessels, vases, and lids (Figure 37-67). The clay vessels are made by hand or in a pottery wheel and consist of pure clay or are mixed with sand. They were baked at constant fire temperatures and very rarely at unstable temperatures. Some of them have yellowish or white engobe, others are painted red. Jars and pitchers have thick walls.

As we noted above, only one ornamental bead was found among the decorations (Figure 82).

4.2 GENERAL ANALYSIS OF RESULTS OBTAINED AT THE SITE

The archaeological excavations in the settlement were generally very successful. During the excavations, valuable information was collected on various spheres of economic life and craftsmanship of residents of the ancient rural settlement. The Lak I settlement had an agrarian character. In other words, along with cattle-breeding, the local population was engaged in agriculture. In addition to the paleontological remains of big and small cattle found in archaeological excavations, the discovery of tandirs and wells is evidence of the very high level of agriculture along with cattle-breeding.

The tandirs found in the Lak I settlement are round and oval-shaped. The surroundings of some tandirs are plastered in the form of a clay area. Tandirs occupy first place among the material evidence indicating that bread baking was highly developed in the households and farms of residents of the Lak I settlement.

The majority of the hearths and tandirs discovered as a result of the excavations also provide a certain idea about the number of the rural population.

5 ANALYTICAL RESULTS OFFICE AND LABORATORY WORK

It should be noted that the archaeological excavations in the Lak I settlement were successfully completed and taking the excavations in the previous BTC and SCP corridors, we can say that most of the settlement was excavated. These step-by-step excavations provide us with a wealth of information about the nature, type and time of the settlement, while the artifacts that were obtained give us enough information about the economic life and occupation of the medieval village resident.

5.1 COLLECTION OF RESULTS

Pottery scattered around the site cover about 1-2 hectares. The area in the pipeline corridor where surface materials are more widespread is more than 100 metres. The features of the topography of the monument, as well as the nature of the surface materials give us grounds to determine the nature of the ancient settlement. The excavation area is likely to cover the farming area of the settlement because the walls and foundations of living houses were discovered in this excavation area. While the surface materials are rich southeast and east of the corridor, they are rarely found west and north of the corridor. The definition of the chronological framework of the archaeological complexes discovered in the Lak I settlement was based on typological and comparative analysis methods, and scientific conclusions were made.

5.2 PALEONTOLOGICAL, PALEOZOOLOGICAL AND PALEOBOTANIC REMAINS

During the excavations in Lak I settlement, only animal bones were found among paleontological remains. These are mostly small cattle bones, and bones belonging to beef animals. Most animal bones were found in Unit 3.

Archaeological research shows that in ancient times, small cattle-breeding was developed in the Ganja-Gazakh region and became a leader in cattle-breeding. The study of rural settlements of the region shows that small cattle took a leading place in cattle-breeding in the second century BC – second century AD. The reason was rich pastures and herbs. The study of animals bones found in Lak I shows that sheep and goats had a special place among small cattle. Some of their body parts - ribs, spine, and thigh bones were found. It is undoubtedly related to the important role of small animals in cattle-breeding and their great importance in the lives of people.

In addition to the small cattle, large cattle also occupied a certain place in cattle-breeding. Large cattle was also used as draught animals. Undoubtedly, large cattle also played a certain role in the development of wheeled transport. Two-wheel bull carts were used until recently in Azerbaijan.

Bones belonging to wild birds were also found in the settlement, which indicates that along with the main economic activities, the population was also engaged in hunting.

No bone remains were analyzed.

No paleobotanic remains were found in the settlement.

6 CHRONOLOGY AND PERIOD

The definition of the chronological framework of the ancient Lak I settlement is based on stratigraphic observations and a comparative analysis of acquired samples of material culture.

The ancient Lak I settlement was a village-type settlement and has examples of high cultural and economic development. Despite the fact that the settlement is composed of only one cultural layer, facts prove that it was inhabited for several centuries. The fact that some of the clay samples belong to the Yaloylutapa culture is the basis for a more accurate idea about the chronology of the monument. Along with that, it is possible that this chronological breakdown will change as a result of future studies.

The features of highly developed Albanian craftsmanship are observed in the material-cultural examples of the settlement. Certainly, some of the material and cultural samples found during excavations were not locally-made products and were brought here from a nearby city by exchange.

Radiocarbon and dendrochronic analyzes were not undertaken.

6.1 ARCHIVE AND DATABASE OF ARTEFACTS

All archaeological artifacts found in the Lak I settlement were given inventory numbers, packaged, cleaned, placed in archaeological boxes and sent to the archive. Archaeological materials were first processed in a laboratory at the Archeological Research Sector of New Construction Sites of the Archaeology and Ethnography Institute of the ANAS, systematized, grouped and then handed over to the Archaeological Fund of the Archaeology and Ethnography Institute. The inventory book which systematized and numbered archaeological materials and excavation chief's field log on the archaeological excavation were handed over to the Institute's Scientific Archives. The archaeological materials found in the you are Lak I settlement, the photographs reflecting the archaeological excavation process, excavation plans and schedules are open to the whole scientific community, and scientific workers and researchers engaged in archaeology can benefit from these materials.

7 DISCUSSION

When submitting the results of the work for open discussion by summarizing the results of archaeological excavations, the scientific position of the author who wrote the report and the final results are summarized. These scientific findings have been confirmed by the observations of other scientists involved in the archaeological excavations.

7.1 INTERPRETATION OF RESULTS OF ARCHAEOLOGICAL EXCAVATIONS IN THE AREA.

The archaeological excavations at the site of the pipeline trench had a rescue character. Observations of the cultural layer, as well as studies carried out at the site of excavations allows us to make the conclusion that the length of the settlement in the pipeline corridor is more than 70 metres and the archaeological excavations are most likely to be carried out in the southern areas of the monument.

Based on the typology and method of analysis, the remains of products found in the cultural layer, the hearths and tandirs, fragments of ceramic vessels found in a well, the stone items and tools and agate beads belong to the second century BC – second century AD. Apparently, there was a village-type settlement here during that period. The discovery of remains of iron production and metal slags in the excavation area confirms that residents of this settlement engaged not only in agriculture, but also in smithery and that the necessary iron tools and household items were prepared here.

For some reason, life in the settlement was interrupted. Perhaps, archaeological excavations to be performed in different parts of the settlement in future will reveal detailed archaeological facts about this.

8 INVENTORY

No	Type	Description	Place	Dimension	Figure
1	Handle	A fragment of a small earthenware vessel. It is ribbon-like in cross section and has a convex surface and a concave bottom. It connects to the vessel vertically. Its colour is pink.	sq.1 depth:20-50cm	Cross section-2cm	Fig. 80
2	Rim	A fragment of the mouth of a small earthenware vessel. It has a wide mouth that slightly bends to the side. The mouth edge is circular. There are traces of burns on it. Its low neck gradually flows into the shoulder. Its colour is brown. Its surface is polished on both sides.	sq.3 depth:20-50cm	Neck height-2cm Wall thickness-0.5cm	Fig. 80
3		A fragment of a dopu-type vessel. It has a wide mouth. Its mouth bends slightly to the side. Its mouth edge is straight. It was baked at an unstable temperature. Sand was mixed with its clay. Its colour is bright brown. Its low neck gradually flows into the shoulder.		Neck height-1cm Wall thickness-0.7cm	Fig. 80
4		A fragment of the mouth of a medium-sized vessel with flat walls. The mouth edge is circular and flows directly into the body. The clay is mixed with sand and shells. Its colour is light pink.		Wall thickness-1-1.2cm	Fig. 80
5		A fragment of the mouth of a pitcher-type earthenware vessel. The mouth edge is fringed. Its low and wide neck gradually flows into the shoulder. Its colour is light pink. Its surface is polished on both sides. Its surface is covered with traces of strong burns.		Neck height-4cm Wall thickness -1cm	Fig. 80, 51
6	Sling stone	A round riverstone used for slinging		depth-3.5cm	Fig. 80
7	Spindle whorl	A spindle of biconic shape made from clay. Its middle is protruding and has holes. Its colour is grey.		depth-2.5cm	Fig. 80
8	Pitcher	The upper part of a light brown pitcher-type earthenware vessel well baked from pure clay. Its narrow neck ends with a mouth that widely opens to the side. Its neck gradually flows into the shoulder. On one side, there is a wide ribbon-like handle on the shoulder. The handle connects the neck and the body. There is a pattern of transverse horizontal cutting lines that were made in advance without baking on the lower part of the handle and on the shoulder. Its surface has whitish engobe.	sq-3 d: 20-50cm	Mouth depth-11.2cm Neck height-5cm Handle width-2.2cm Body depth-26.5cm	Fig. 44
9	Handle	A fragment of the handle of a wide earthenware vessel. It is baked from red clay mixed with sand. There is a red pattern with wide stripes painted on the handle. There is a ribbon-like pattern that was made on its upper side without baking.		Handle width-3cm	Fig. 56
10	Pitcher	The upper part of a medium-sized pitcher with thick walls. It is well baked from pure clay. Its narrow neck opens widely to the side. The neck flows directly into the stout body. Its mouth is shaped like a funnel. There is a layer of scum on it. Traces of a pottery wheel are clearly seen inside. The clay is red and its surface is light pink.	sq 3	Mouth depth-12.7cm Neck height-4.5cm	Fig. 45
11	Jar	A fragment of a mouth that belongs to a large jar. It has thick walls, brown colour and is well baked from clay mixed with sand. Its funnel-shaped mouth edge opens widely. A belt-like pattern was made on the mouth edge before baking. There is a trace of a burn inside.		Wall thickness-1.8cm	
12	Pitcher	A fragment of a shoulder that belongs to a small pitcher. It has a mouth edge that bends to the side. Embossed patterns were made on the shoulder before baking. It has thick walls and is well baked from pure light pink clay.		Wall thickness -1cm	
13	Handle	A fragment of a circular handle with a wide cross section. There is a channel-like line on the right-hand side of the handle.		diam. 2.3cm	

No	Type	Description	Place	Dimension	Figure
14	Bowl	A fragment of a mouth that belongs to a small bowl-type earthenware vessel. The mouth edge is straight. It was baked from light red pure clay. There are traces of rotation in a pottery wheel inside.		Wall thickness-5 mm	
15	Pitcher	A fragment of a shoulder that belongs to a small pitcher. It has thick walls, black colour and was delicately baked from clay mixed with sand. It has a ball-shaped body. It is rough and handmade.		Wall thickness-7 mm	
16	Dopu	Rim fragment of a Yaloylutapa-type archaic dopu. There is a button-shaped molded pattern on the edge of the wide neck of the vessel with a trough on the mouth edge. It has thick walls, light yellow colour and is well baked from pure clay. Found under the bottom of hearth no. 5.	sq 3	Wall thickness-6 mm	Fig. 53
17	Base	Base fragment of a pitcher-type grey-brown earthenware vessel with thick walls. It has a flat base. Its surface is well polished. However, it is rough and handmade.	sq 3 d:1.1m	Wall thickness-8 mm	
18	Handle	A fragment of a circular handle with a wide cross section. It is light yellow and is well baked from pure clay.		diam-2.4cm	
19		A fragment of a handle that belongs to a small earthenware vessel. It is circular with a wide cross section. It has light yellow clay and is well baked.		diam-2cm	
20	Stone item	A fragment of a stone tool made from light cream-coloured stone. It is assumed that it was used.		width-4cm length-7.5cm	
21	Pitcher	A fragment of a mouth that belongs to a light red pitcher that has thick walls and is well baked from clay mixed with sand. The mouth edge of the vessel is bent outwards. There is white engobe on it.	sq 5 20-40cm	Wall thickness-1.5cm	
22	Base	Base fragment of a flat and wide pitcher-type earthenware vessel. The body gradually flows into the base. It has thick walls, is light brown and is well baked from clay mixed with sand.		Wall thickness-1.3cm	
23	Base	A fragment of base and body that belongs to a pitcher-type earthenware vessel. The base is wide and flat. The edges of the base are slightly convex. It is red and is well baked from clay mixed with sand.		Wall thickness-8 mm	
24	Handle	A fragment of a circular handle with cross section. It is light brown and is well baked from pure clay. Its surface is well polished.		diam-2.3cm	Fig. 58
25		A fragment of the handle of an earthenware vessel that is circular in cross section, is light red and is well baked from pure clay. Patterns in the form of notches and cuts were made on the upper part of the handle before baking.		diam-2cm	Fig. 58
26	Pitcher	A fragment of a the and base of a pitcher-type earthenware vessel. The mouth edge of the vessel opens widely to the side. It has a relatively compact neck shape. It is grey-brown and is delicately baked from mixed clay. Traces of burns can be seen on its surface.	sq 5 d:1,2cm	Mouth depth-11.5cm Wall thickness-8 mm	
27		A fragment of the mouth and base of a light brown pitcher-type earthenware vessel delicately baked from clay mixed with sand. The earthenware is rough and handmade.		Wall thickness-7 mm	
28	Base	Base fragment of a large pitcher. It has a flat base. It has thick walls, is red and big and is delicately baked from clay mixed with sand.		Wall thickness-1.2cm	
29	Jar	A fragment of a mouth that belongs to a large jar. It has thick walls, is light brown and is well baked from clay mixed with sand. Its funnel-shaped mouth edge is bent outwards. Its mouth edge is decorated with a rolling pattern.	sq 4 d:50cm	Wall thickness-2cm	Fig. 39, 66
30	Pitcher	The body of a pitcher-type earthenware vessel that has thick walls, is light red and is well baked from pure clay. Its base is flat. It has a jar-shaped body.		Wall thickness-7 mm depth-13cm	Fig. 43
31		A fragment that belongs to a pitcher with a wide body which has thick walls, is light brown and is well-baked from clay mixed with sand. It has a flat and wide base. Its body is strongly bent at the base.		Wall thickness-1,2cm	Fig. 42

No	Type	Description	Place	Dimension	Figure
32	Jar	Fragment of a mouth that belongs to a red jar with thick walls well baked from clay with a non-organic mixture. It has a funnel-shaped mouth edge. The mouth edge is framed by a belt-like pattern made before baking.	sq 5 60-80cm	Wall thickness-2cm	
33	Pitcher	A fragment of the mouth of a grey-brown pitcher-type earthenware vessel with thick walls well baked from clay mixed with sand. The mouth edge is bent outwards. It is rough and handmade.		Wall thickness-1cm	
34	Handle	A fragment of a circular handle in cross section. It is well baked from pure red clay. Its surface is well polished.		diam-2cm	
35		A fragment of a ribbon-like handle in cross section. It is delicately baked from brown clay mixed with sand.		width-3cm	
36	Pitcher	A fragment that belongs to a grey-brown pitcher with thick walls delicately baked from clay mixed with sand. The mouth edge of the pitcher opens widely to the side. It has a relatively high neck. The neck flows sharply into the shoulder. The shoulder and mouth edge of the vessel are connected by a ribbon-like handle. There is a trace of a burn inside.	sq 5 d:1.1m	Wall thickness-1cm	Fig. 59
37		Fragment of a pitcher that has a ball-shaped body. The body sharply narrows towards the base. It has thick walls, is light pink and is well baked from pure clay.	sq 5 60-80cm	Wall thickness-1.2cm	
38		A fragment of the mouth of a black pitcher-type earthenware vessel with thick walls well baked from clay mixed with sand. The mouth edge of the vessel opens widely to the side. There is a trace of a burn inside.		Wall thickness-1cm	
39	Base	A fragment of a flat and wide base. It has thick walls, is red and is well baked from pure clay.	sq 5 d:70cm	Wall thickness-1cm Depth-13cm	Fig. 63
40		A fragment of a base that belongs to a small earthenware pitcher. It has thick walls, is red and is well baked from pure clay. It has a flat base. There is a trace of a wheel inside.		Wall thickness-8mm	Fig. 63
41	Bowl	A fragment of a mouth that belongs to a light brown bowl-type earthenware vessel with thick walls well baked from clay. The mouth edge of the vessel is straight and is bent outwards. There is a red pattern painted inside the mouth edge. There is part of a pattern from a comb-like line made on the external surface before baking. It was made on a pottery wheel.		Wall thickness-1cm	Fig. 63
42	Spout	A fragment of a spout that belongs to an earthenware vessel. It is shaped like a pipe. It is light red and is well baked from pure clay.		Length-3cm Wall thickness-7mm	Fig. 63
43	Utilised stone	A utilised stone tool made from a flat elongated riverstone.		Length-21cm	Fig. 78
44	Chalice	A fragment of a light red chalice-type earthenware vessel with thick walls well baked from pure clay. Its narrow and long neck sharply flows into the shoulder. The shoulder and mouth edge are connected by a circular handle in cross section. There is a button-shaped pattern on the handle.	sq	Wall thickness-6mm	Fig. 60
45	Spindle whorl	A circular head. It is made from grey clay. There is a hole in the middle.		diam-2.2cm	Fig. 77
46	Grind stone	A fragment of a grind stone made from white porous stone. It is shaped like a boat. Its surface is smooth and flat.		width-12cm	Fig. 74
47	Lid	An earthenware lid-like fragment with thick walls. It is rough and handmade. Its clay is red and mixed with sand. It is well baked. The mouth edge is wavy, rough and handmade and is covered with dents. Its handle is broken.	sq 7		
48	Utilised stone	A tool made from a flat elongated riverstone.	20-50cm	diam-12cm	Fig. 72
49	Iron knife	A wide board-shaped knife fragment		Length-11.5cm	Fig. 68
50	Handle	A fragment of a handle that belongs to a large earthenware vessel. It is shaped like a ribbon. It is dark brown and is delicately baked from clay mixed with sand.	d:50cm	Length-3.7cm Width-1.7cm	
51		A fragment of a handle that belongs to a chalice-type earthenware vessel. It is circular in cross section. It is light	sq 4 d:40cm	Width-4cm	

No	Type	Description	Place	Dimension	Figure
		red and is well baked from pure clay. There is a layer of white engobe on the vessel.			
52		A fragment of a ribbon-like cross section handle that belongs to a chalice-type earthenware vessel. There is a channel-like line on the handle. It is light red and is well baked from pure clay.		diam-2cm	
53		A fragment of a ribbon-like handle. It is light red and is well baked from clay mixed with sand. There is a channel-like line on the handle.		Width-2.5	
54	Pattern	A button-shaped molded pattern on an earthenware vessel. It is light red and is well baked from clay mixed with sand.		Wall thickness-8mm	
55	Base	A fragment of a base that belongs to a small earthenware vessel. It has thick walls, is light red and is well baked from pure clay. There are traces of a wheel inside.		Wall thickness-1cm	
56	Handle	A fragment of a wide and ribbon-like handle. It is pink and is well baked from clay mixed with sand.		Width-2.5cm	
57	Pitcher	A fragment of a mouth that belongs to a pitcher-type earthenware vessel. It has thick walls, is white-yellowish and is well baked from clay mixed with sand. Its mouth edge opens to the side. Its neck sharply flows into the shoulder. It was made on a pottery wheel.		Wall thickness-5 mm	
58	Base	A fragment of the base of an earthenware vessel. It is red and is well baked from pure clay. The surface of the vessel is well polished.	sq 9 d:80cm	Wall thickness-1cm	
59		A fragment of a base that belongs to an earthenware vessel with thick walls and is delicately baked from non-organic blends and light red clay.		Wall thickness-1cm	
60	Handle	A fragment of a handle that belongs to a circular cross-section small vessel. It is light yellow and is well baked from pure clay. Its surface is well polished.		diam.-2cm	
61		A fragment of a handle that belongs to a chalice-type earthenware vessel. The handle connects the mouth edge and shoulder of the vessel. It is circular. It is baked from red clay mixed with sand.	sq 9 d:90cm	diam-2cm	
62	Iron slag	Production waste that appeared during metal production			Fig. 69
63	Lid	A fragment of an earthenware lid that was used for covering a large earthenware vessel. It has thick walls and is delicately baked from clay mixed with plants and sand. Its colour is light brown. Its surface is uneven. It is rough and handmade.	sq 4 d:60cm	Wall thickness-3cm	
64	Base	A fragment of a flat and wide base. It is believed to belong to a chalice or pitcher-type earthenware vessel. It has thick walls and is well baked from brown-red clay mixed with sand.		diam-11cm	Fig. 62
65	Pitcher	A fragment of a mouth that belongs to a pitcher-type earthenware vessel that has thick walls, is red and is well baked from clay mixed with sand. The mouth of the vessel opens widely to the side.		Wall thickness-6 mm	
66	Mouth	A fragment of a mouth that belongs to a pitcher-type earthenware vessel that has thick walls, is brown and is delicately baked from clay mixed with sand. There are traces of a pottery wheel inside.		Wall thickness-7 mm	
67	Frying pan or grill	A fragment of a frying pan or grill-type earthenware vessel. It has thick walls, is delicately built and is mixed with plants. Its colour is light brown. It has a straight wall and mouth edge and a thick body.	sq 7 60-80cm	Wall thickness-2.5 mm	
68	Base	A fragment of a base that belongs to a pitcher-type earthenware vessel. It has thick walls, is light red and is well baked from clay mixed with sand.		Wall thickness-8 mm	
69	Jug	A fragment of a neck that belongs to a small jug-type earthenware vessel. The narrow neck ends with a narrow mouth edge. It is well baked from light yellow and pure clay. It was made in a pottery wheel.		Mouth depth-5cm Wall thickness-5 mm	

No	Type	Description	Place	Dimension	Figure
70	Handle	A fragment of a flat and wide handle. It belongs to a pitcher-type earthenware vessel. Its brown clay is mixed with sand and is delicately baked.		Width-2.5cm	
71	Pitcher	A fragment of the neck of a light brown pitcher-type earthenware vessel with thick walls delicately baked from clay with a non-organic blend. The mouth edge of the neck opens widely to the side. The neck gradually flows into the shoulder. There are traces of burns on its surface.	sq 5 1-1.2	Mouth depth-18.5cm Wall thickness-8 mm	Fig. 52
72	Pitcher	Part of a brown pitcher with thick walls delicately baked from clay with a non-organic blend. The relatively narrow neck of the vessel ends in a mouth edge that opens to the side. The mouth edge and shoulder of the vessel are connected by a wide latch-like handle which is ribbon-like in cross section and resembles the Kura-Aras form. There is a trace of burns on its surface. The earthenware vessel is rough and handmade.		Wall thickness-7mm	Fig. 72
73	Small bowl	An earthenware pitcher that has thick walls, is greyish-brown and is delicately baked from clay with a non-organic blend and looks like a bowl. It has a biconic body. The mouth edge opens widely to the side. The ribbon-like handle connects the lower part of the body and the mouth. Its base is oval. There are traces of burns on the surface of the vessel. It is handmade.		Wall thickness-7 mm	Fig. 48
74	Grindstone	An oval-shaped and bluish grater-type tool made from riverstone. The working part of the tool is broken because of friction. The surface is flat and smooth. Its upper part has cavities.		Size: 10x10cm	Fig. 73
75	Base	A fragment of a base that belongs to an earthenware vessel which has thick walls, is light red and is well baked from pure clay.	sq 8 d: 50cm	Wall thickness-8 mm	
76	Pitcher	A fragment of a mouth that belongs to a brown pitcher-type earthenware vessel with thick walls delicately baked from clay mixed with sand. Its mouth edge opens to the side.		Wall thickness-7 mm	
77		A fragment of a mouth that belonged to a light brown pitcher with thick walls baked from clay with a non-organic blend. The mouth edge opens widely to the side. There is a channel-like line on the shoulder.		Wall thickness-8 mm	
78	Base	A piece of a base that belongs to an earthenware vessel with thick walls. It is flat and wide. It is light brown, and its clay has a non-organic blend and is delicately baked.	sq 4 d: 1.1 m	Wall thickness-3cm	Fig. 64
79		A fragment of a base that belongs to a jar or chalice-type earthenware vessel. It has pure red clay and is well baked.		Wall thickness-1.3cm	Fig. 64
80	Clay waste	Grey clay waste.		Length-4cm	Fig. 75
81	Obsidian	A tool made from semi-transparent black obsidian. The tool is two-edged in the upper part. It is retouched as a scraper from the right and left sides.		Length-5cm Width-4,5cm	Fig. 75
82	Pitcher	A pitcher-type earthenware vessel. It is pear-shaped. Its neck is narrow. Its mouth is broken. The neck gradually flows into the shoulder. There are parallel stripes on the shoulder. Below the shoulder there is the lower part of the wide and thick handle. The handle is ribbon-like in cross section. It is likely that its tip was connected to the neck or mouth. The body of the vessel becomes narrower at the bottom and ends with a wide and flat base. The clay is pure. The vessel is handmade. Its colour is red-pink. Its surface has whitish engobe.	sq 4 depth: 1.1m	Body depth-17.5cm Intact height -17cm Neck depth-7.5cm Base depth-11cm Handle cross section-2cm Wall thickness-0.6-0.9cm	Fig. 46
83		A part and fragments of an earthenware vessel with a stout body. It was impossible to put it together completely. Its base is narrow and flat. The clay is mixed with sand. Its colour is brown. There are traces of burns on it. There is grey engobe on its surface.		Base depth-10.5cm Wall thickness-0.6-0.9cm	
84	Rim	A part of the mouth of a pitcher-type earthenware vessel. Its mouth is relatively narrow and opens to the side. Its edges	sq 5	Mouth depth-10cm	

No	Type	Description	Place	Dimension	Figure
		are round. There is a trace of a ribbon-like handle on its mouth, which connected the mouth to the body. Its low neck gradually flows into the shoulder. The clay is mixed with sand. Its colour is greyish brown. It has thin walls. Its interior and partly exterior are covered with strong traces of burns.	depth:1-1.2m	Wall thickness-0.7cm	
85	Utilised stone	Half of a tool made from an elongated and narrow riverstone. Its surface is polished as it was used too much.		Width-3.5cm	
86	Weight stone	A round riverstone. It is believed to have been used as a weight stone.		Depth-6.5cm	
87	Bead	A round bead made from a red agate stone. Its middle has protrusions and holes.	sq 5 depth:1-1.2	Depth -0.7cm	Fig. 81
88	rim	Part of the mouth of a small vessel with thin walls. It has a narrow mouth. Its mouth opens slightly to the side. Its mouth edge is round. Its low neck gradually flows into the shoulder. The clay is slightly mixed with sand. Its colour is grey.	sq 8 depth:50-60cm	Mouth depth-5cm Wall thickness-0.3cm	
89	Spindle whorl	A biconic-shaped spindle made from clay. Its middle is two-edged. It has a hole with protrusions. Its colour is greyish-brown. Part of it has fallen off.		diam-3cm	Fig. 76
90		A wheel-shaped spindle made from white marble. Its upper and lower parts are flat. Its hole with protrusions is closer to the edge. Part of it has fallen off.		diam-2.6cm	Fig. 90
91	Clay items	Cylindric clay items made from grey or greyish clay (two pieces). They were dried after they were made.		diam: 1-0.5cm 2-0.7cm	
92	Lid	A fragment of the lid of an earthenware vessel. It is disc-shaped. The bottom is flat and the upper part is slightly convex. The clay is mixed with sand. Its exterior and interior are grey and the bottom is pink. There are traces of burns and soot on it.	sq 5 depth:1-1.2cm	Wall thickness-1.3-2cm	Fig. 57
93	Handle	The handle of an earthenware lid that belongs to a large jar. The handle is arched and is situated in the middle of the lid. The clay is pure. Although the interior of the lid is smooth, traces of a pottery wheel can be seen there. There are also traces of a wheel on the polished exterior of the lid. There is yellowish engobe on the lid and handle. The handle is circular in cross section.		Handle depth-8cm Thickness of lid wall-0.5cm	Fig. 57
94		A handle that belongs to the lid of a large jar. It is arched. The handle, which is circular in cross section, becomes narrower towards the upper part. The clay is pure. It is light pink. There is yellowish engobe on it. On one of its tips there is a trace of a hole for the protrusion on the lid.		diam-9.5cm Cross section depth -3.6cm	Fig. 57
95		The base of a handle that belongs to an earthenware vessel. It is circular in cross section. The clay is pure. Its colour is pink. Yellowish engobe was put on its surface after it was polished. There is a cavity opposite the handle inside.		Handle cross section depth -2cm Wall thickness-0.9cm	Fig. 57
96	Foot	The foot of a pad made from clay. It is cone-shaped and becomes narrower towards the bottom. Although its tip has fallen off, one can feel that it was flat. The clay is mixed with sand. Its colour is pink.		diam-4.2-2cm height:6.5cm	Fig. 57
97	Grindstone	A grater made from a round riverstone. Its bottom is flat. A part of it has fallen off.		Bottom-7.7cm Height-7cm	Fig. 57
98	Obsidian	A fragment of a cutting tool made from transparent black obsidian. It is three-edged and flat. Its edges become wider in the form of a trapezium.	sq.9 depth:80cm	Width-4cm	
99	Mouth	A fragment of the mouth of a dopu-type vessel. It has thin walls. Its mouth slightly opens to the side. Its mouth edge is circular. Its low neck gradually flows into the shoulder. The clay is mixed with fine sand. Its colour is dark grey. Its surface is polished.	sq.6 depth:60cm	Mouth depth-6.5cm Wall thickness-0.3cm	Fig. 79
100	Handle	Half of the handle of a medium-sized earthenware vessel. It is ribbon-like with a convex surface. It is attached to the		Base size 4.5cm	Fig. 79

No	Type	Description	Place	Dimension	Figure
		vessel vertically. The clay is pure. Its colour is light pink. Its surface is polished and covered with white engobe.			
101		Half of the handle of a miniature earthenware vessel. Its cross section is circular. It is attached to the vessel vertically. Its colour is pink.		Cross section depth-0.5cm	Fig. 79
102	Weight stone	A round riverstone used as a weight stone.		Depth-5cm	Fig. 79
103	Iron ingot	Iron ingot or waste.			
104	Rim	A fragment of the mouth of a medium-sized pitcher. Its mouth edge is round. Its low neck gradually flows into the shoulder. One can feel that its body was stout. Its wall becomes narrower towards the body. The clay is mixed with sand. Its colour is grey from inside and pink and grey from outside.	sq 6 interior of tandir 3	Neck height-1cm Wall thickness-0.5-1cm	
105	Handle	Part of the handle of a large earthenware vessel. The handle is ribbon-like and flat. It is attached to the vessel vertically. The clay is slightly mixed with sand. Its colour is light pink. Its surface is glazed.		Cross section-3.5cm	
106	Forged tool	Elongated riverstone. It was used as a forged tool. There are traces of use at both ends.		Length-12cm Width-5cm	Fig. 70
107	Neck	A fragment of the neck of a medium-sized pitcher-type earthenware vessel. Its wide and low neck gradually flows into the shoulder. Its mouth bends to the side. Its mouth edge is round. The clay is pure. Its colour is black. Its surface is polished on both sides. There are traces of burns on it.	sq 6 interior of hearth 10	Neck height-3.5cm Wall thickness-0.7cm	
108	Handle	A fragment of the handle of a medium-sized earthenware vessel. Its shape is ribbon-like and flat. The clay is mixed with sand. It is attached to the vessel vertically and is black. Its surface is polished.		Cross section-2cm	
109	Spindle whorl	Half of a spindle made from clay in the form of a small wheel. Its surface is convex and the bottom is flat. A hole with protrusions can be seen in the middle. The clay is mixed with sand. Its colour is grey. There are traces of strong burns on it.		diam-6cm thicknes-1.5cm	
110	Body	A fragment of the body of a large thick pitcher. There is a stripe made from convex triangles placed on each other on its surface. The clay is mixed with sand. Its colour is reddish and pink.	sq 8 depth: 90cm	wall-2.5cm	
111	Rim	A fragment of the mouth of a large earthenware pitcher. It has a wide mouth. Its mouth bends to the side. Its mouth edge is decorated with delicately made cavities. Its low and wide neck gradually flows into the shoulder. The clay is mixed with sand with a lot of shells. Its colour is light pink. Its surface is covered with white engobe.		Mouth width-3.5cm Neck height-1.5cm Wall thickness-2cm	
112	Rim	A fragment of a mouth that belongs to a large jar. It has a wide mouth that bends to the side. The mouth edge is framed with a stripe of molded chain-like patterns. Its low and wide neck flows directly into the body. The passage part is covered with edges. The clay is pure. Its colour is pink. Its surface is covered with light pink engobe. There are traces of strong burns on its surface.		Wall thickness-24.5cm Mouth width-3cm Neck height-1cm	Fig. 38
113		A fragment of the mouth of a medium-sized vessel with a wide mouth. The mouth is straight with circular edges. A big handle which is round in cross section is attached to the mouth. The clay is pure. Its colour is pink. The surface was covered with yellowish engobe after polishing. It has thin walls.		Wall thickness-0.5cm Handle depth-2.6cm	Fig. 82
114		A fragment of the mouth of a dopu-type vessel. Its low and wide neck gradually flows into the shoulder. One can feel that the body is stout. The clay is mixed with sand. Its colour is brown. Its surface is polished.		Neck height-1.5cm Wall thickness-0.6cm	Fig. 82
115	Stone item	A fragment of a stone item. It is cone-shaped and has four edges. One tip gradually becomes narrower and is broken at		Height-4.5cm Wide end: 3x3.5cm	Fig. 82

No	Type	Description	Place	Dimension	Figure
		the point of connection. Since there is circular cavity here, one tip of the item becomes forked. The bottom of another wide tip has fallen off. The surface of the item is strongly polished.		Narrow end: 2x1cm Wide side: 2.3cm Narrow side: 1.5cm	
116	Rim	A fragment of the mouth of a medium-sized earthenware pitcher. Its mouth slightly bends to the side. The mouth edge is round. Its wide neck gradually flows into the shoulder. It has thin walls. The clay is mixed with sand. Its exterior and especially interior are covered with traces of strong burns.	sq 8 interior of tandir 3	Neck height-4cm Wall thickness- 0.5cm	
117	Body	A fragment of the body of an earthenware vessel with thick walls. A convex edge goes through the middle of the body. The body becomes thicker towards the bottom. The clay is mixed with sand. Its colour is pink. There are traces of burns on its surface.		Wall thickness-0.6- 1.5cm	
118	Base	Part of the base of a small vase-type vessel. The base is narrow and flat. The body becomes wider on the sides. The clay is pure. Its colour is light pink. Its surface is polished.		Wall thickness- 0.8cm	
119	Handle	The handle of a small vessel with a stout body. The handle is round in cross section and is believed to have connected the upper part of the body with the mouth of the vessel. The clay is pure. Its colour is light pink. Its surface is glazed. There are traces of burns left on its surface and inside. The vessel has thin walls.		Handle cross section depth - 1.2cm Wall thickness- 0.6cm	
120	Clay item	A fragment of a clay item in the form of fingers, which is round in cross section. The clay contains sand. Its interior is grey and its surface is light pink.		Length-4cm Cross section depth- 1cm	
121	Grindstone	A grater made from a round riverstone. Its upper part and bottom are smooth. Its sides are slightly flat as it was used too much.		8.5x8x5.5cm	
122	Grindstone	A grater made from a narrow and elongated riverstone. Its upper part is convex while the bottom is flat because it was used too much.		10x5.5x3.9cm	
123	Base	A fragment of the base of a large jar with thick walls. The base is wide and flat. The body becomes wider towards the upper part. The clay contains sand. Its colour is light pink. Its surface is completely covered with scum.	sq 11 depth: 90cm	Base depth-3cm	Fig. 61
124	Mouth	A fragment of the mouth of a large jar with thick walls. Its mouth is wide and flat. It is square and edged. The lower part of the edge is decorated with notched almond-shaped patterns. Its wide and low neck gradually flows into the shoulder. The clay contains a little bit of sand. Its colour is pink. Its surface is covered with scum.		Neck height- 4cm Mouth width-3cm Wall thickness-2cm	Fig. 40
125		A fragment of the mouth of a large pitcher with thick walls. It belongs to a vessel with a wide mouth. Although the mouth is wide and bends to the side, it tends towards the interior. It is square and edged. The bottom of the edge is covered with a stripe made from embossed chain-like patterns. The clay contains a little bit of sand. Its colour is pink. Its low and wide neck gradually flows into the shoulder.		Mouth width-4cm Wall thickness-2cm Neck height-2.5cm	Fig. 41
126	Cooking jar	Fragments of the body of a large cooking jar. It has thin walls. Its relatively narrow mouth opens to the side. Its low neck flows directly into the shoulder. The upper part of the body is covered with notched and embossed patterns. Below them, the surface of the vessel is combed. Two small latch-like handles that connect the mouth and the neck were found. The handles are ribbon-like and flat in cross section, and its middle is slightly channelled along the length of the handle. Its clay is mixed with a lot of sand. Its colour is grey. There are traces of strong burns inside and partly on the external surface.			Fig. 49
127	Base	Fragment of the base of a small vessel. The base is wide and flat. The body becomes slightly wider and then turns inside. Although the clay is pure, the vessel is roughly made.		Base depth-8cm Wall thickness- 0.8cm	

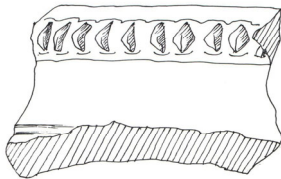
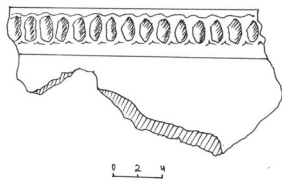
No	Type	Description	Place	Dimension	Figure
		Its surface is not smooth. Its colour is light pink. It is covered with whitish engobe.			
128	Mouth	A fragment of the mouth of a large jar. Its wide mouth is funnel-shaped. Its mouth edge is round. Its wide neck gradually flows into the shoulder. Its colour is pink. Its surface is slightly glazed.	sq.6 Hearth 10	Neck height-4cm Wall thickness-1cm	Fig. 50
129	Handle	A fragment of a handle. The handle is ribbon-like in cross section. It connects the upper part of the body with its middle and lower part. The clay is mixed with sand. Its colour is pink.		Cross section width-3.2cm Wall thickness-1cm	Fig. 55
130	Body	A fragment of the body of a pear-shaped earthenware vessel. There are traces of a handle on it. Its surface is uneven and polished. The clay is pure. Its colour is pink.		Wall thickness-1cm	
131	Neck	A fragment of the neck of a medium-sized vessel. Its neck is low and wide and gradually flows into the shoulder. Its mouth slightly bends to the side. Its mouth edge is flat. The surface of the neck is corrugated (horizontally). The clay is mixed with sand. Its colour is grey. Its surface is covered with traces of strong burns.			
132	Handle	The foundation of the handle of a medium-sized earthenware vessel. The handle is round in cross section. It is attached to the vessel vertically. The clay is mixed with sand. It is rough. Its colour is light pink.	sq.8 depth:1-1.2 m	Handle depth-3cm Wall thickness-1cm	
133		The handle of an earthenware vessel. It is attached to the vessel vertically like an arch. It is round in cross section. There are three notched lines at the foundation. The clay is pure. Its colour is light pink.		diam-7cm Cross section depth-2cm	
134	Base	A fragment of the bottom of an earthenware vessel. Its base is wide and flat. The body becomes wider towards the upper part. The clay is mixed with small sand. Its colour is grey. Its interior is covered with brown engobe.		Base depth-9.5cm Wall thickness-0.9cm	
135	Utilised stone	Elongated and narrow riverstone. It was used as a tool. One side is flat.		Length-16.5cm Width-3.5cm	Fig. 71
136	Rim	A fragment of a mouth that belongs to a large jar. It has a wide mouth. The mouth is flat with a slightly protruding edge. Its wide and low neck gradually flows into the shoulder. It has thick walls. The clay is mixed with sand and shells. It is rough. Its colour is pink.	sq.10 depth: 60-80cm	Wall thickness-2.7cm Mouth width-3cm	
137	Rim	A fragment of the mouth of a large pitcher-type vessel. It belongs to a vessel with a wide mouth. Its mouth is wide and its edges are square. The clay is mixed with sand. There are traces of white engobe left on it.		Mouth width-2.5cm Wall thickness-2cm	
138	Grindstone	Half of a round riverstone. Used as a grindstone. Its bottom is flat.		Width-7.8cm Height-8.5cm	

9 APPENDICES

9.1 REFERENCES

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9.2 ILLUSTRATIONS



Figures 4-5. Fragments of vessels with mouths with molded chain-like patterns.

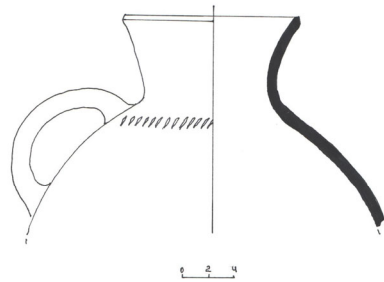


Figure 6. Upper part of vessel with narrow neck.

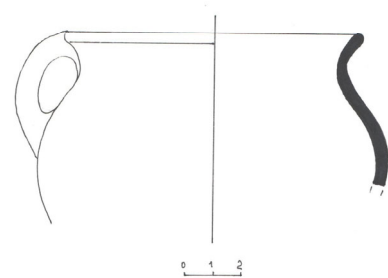
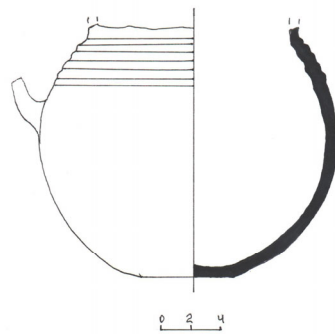
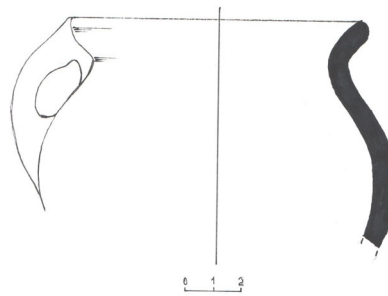
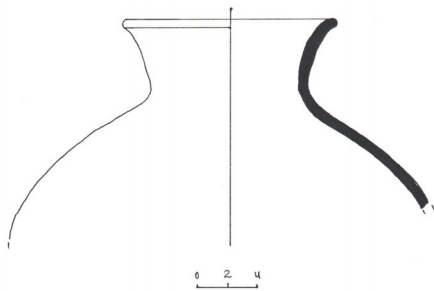


Figure 7. Upper part of pitcher with narrow neck and stout body. Figure 8. Vessel with pear-shaped body.

Figure 9-10. Small pitchers with wide mouths.

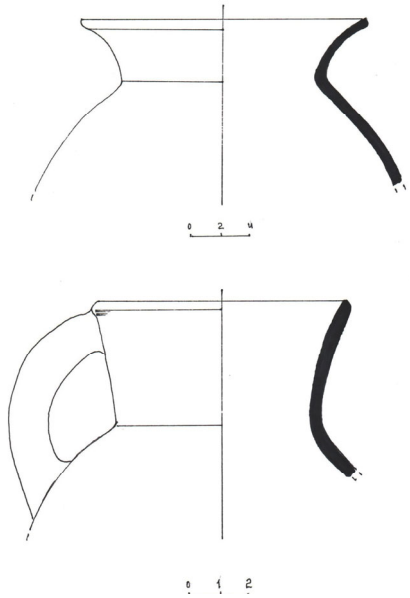


Figure 11. Pitcher with wide mouth and low neck;
 Figure 12. Pitcher with single handle and funnel-like
 mouth.

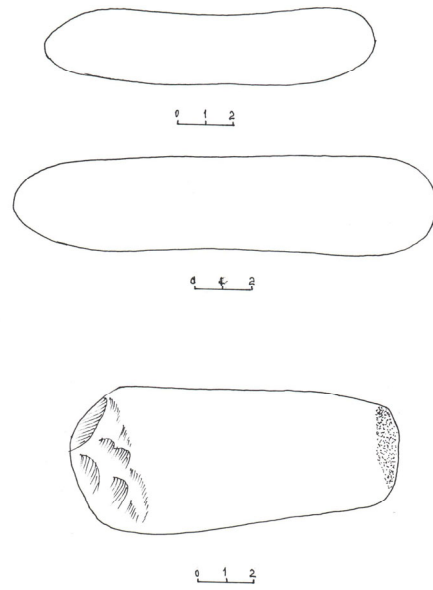


Figure 13-15. Utilised stone tools.

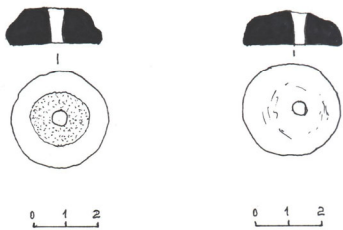
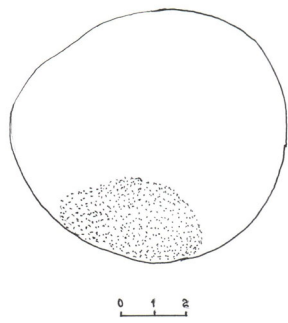


Figure 16. Grindstone. Figure 17. Spindle whorls.

9.3 PHOTOS



Figure 18. Lower part of large jar, unit 3, view to South.



Figure 19. Hearths 1 and 2, unit 3.



Figure 20. Hearth 3, unit 3



Figure 21. Hearth 4, unit 3.



Figure 22. Hearth 6, unit 3.



Figure 23. Tandır 3 and Hearth 10 joined together, unit 6.



Figure 24. Hearth 8, unit 7.



Figure 25. Collection of ceramics, unit 5.



Figure 26. Fragment of fired clay oven.



Figure 27. Hearth 10, unit 6.



Figure 28. Hearth 11, unit 6.



Figure 29. Hearth 12, unit 10.



Figure 30. Hearths 13 and 14, unit 10.



Figure 31. Tandır 1, unit 8.



Figure 32. Tandır 4, unit 8.



Figure 33. Earthenware vessels, unit 8.



Figure 34. Fragment of large jar, unit 11.



Figure 35. Storage pit, unit 4.



Figure 36. Layer of burnt material on section wall, unit 10.



Figure 37. Fragment of large jar with round mouth.



Figures 38-41. Fragments of vessels with chain-like patterns on mouth edge.



Figures 42-43. Lower parts of medium-sized jar bodies.



Figures 44-45. Upper part of pitchers with narrow necks and funnel-like mouths.



Figure 46. Pitcher with pear-shaped body.



Figure 47. Small pitcher with wide mouth.



Figure 48. Bowl with handle.



Figure 49. Body of cooking jar.



Figure 50-52. Fragments of pitcher with wide mouth and low neck.



Figure 53. Fragment of small jar.



Figure 54. Fragment of chalice-type vessel.



Figures 58-60. Handles.



Figure 61-64. Bases.



Figure 65-67. Patterns on vessels.



Figure 68. Iron knife blade.



Figure 69. Iron ingot.

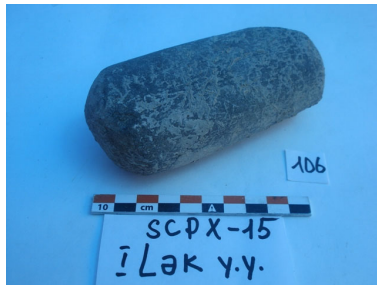


Figure 70. Forged tool.



Figure 71. Utilised stone



Figure 72. Utilised stone.



Figure 73. Weight stone.



Figure 74. Grindstone Fragment.



Figure 75. Obsidian tools.



Picture 76. Spindle whorls



Picture 77. Spindle whorls



Figure 78. Utilised stone.



Figure 79. inv. 102 Weight stones.



Figure 80. inv. 7. Spindlewhorls .

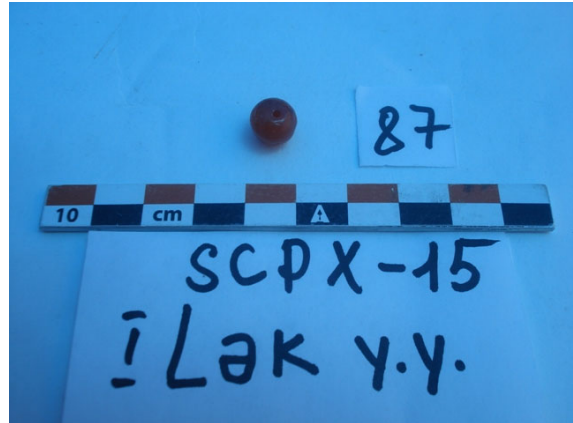


Figure 81. Agate bead.



Figure 82. inv. 115. Pad.



Figure 83. inv.96. Vessel lug .