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## HONT-PARASSA III, ORGONÁS, UPPER PALÆOLITHIC SETTLEMENT

The study of the Palaeolithic sites in the Ipoly valley has an about 140 years old history (SZABÓ 1863; MAJER 1920). Since then the archaeological work has been carried out sometimes with greater but mostly rather lesser intensity. There are data about numerous field walkings, surface collections, occasional reports to museums about finds and a few authenticating excavations on both the Hungarian and the Slovakian sides of the valley. We described the research history of the short stretch from the boundary

of Nógrád county to Hont and carried out the topographic identification of the find spots in a paper published in the book dedicated to Miklós Gábori and Veronika Gábori-Csánk (DOBOSI-SIMÁN 2000). From the authenticating excavations we planned after the field walkings, it was only this site where we conducted excavations in three seasons: 1996, 1997 and 1998. However, at the time this paper was written, we had not yet terminated the excavations of the Parassa III/Orgonás site, so we could only give an interim

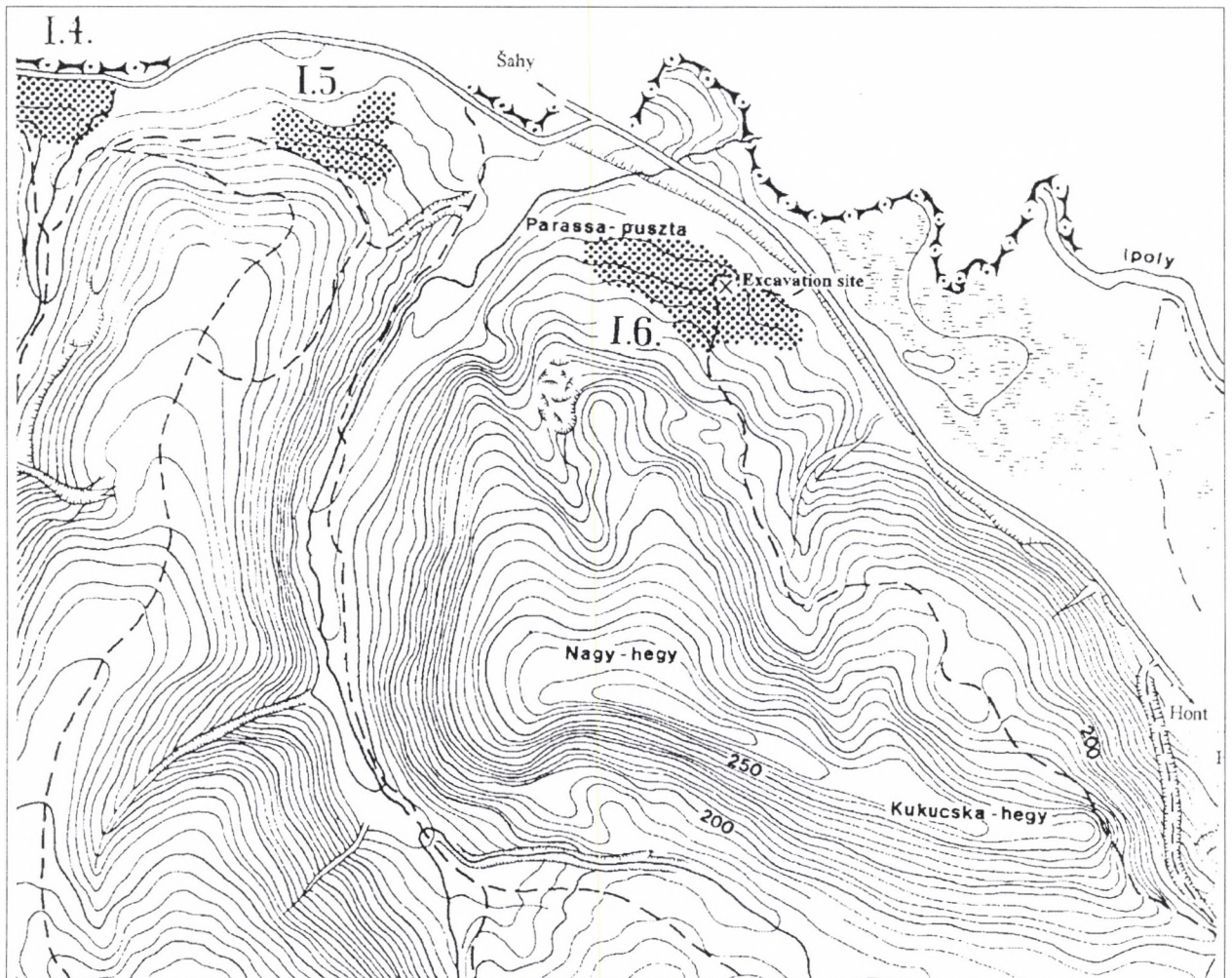


Fig. 1 Hont-Parassa III. Orgonás site

evaluation. In the present paper we shall describe the results of the three seasons of excavations and the analyses of the finds.

### Topography

The different sources refer to the site under various names (Ipolyvölgy 6, Parassa III, the vineyard of the Cseh family, "higher terrace above the railroad" GÁBORI 1956; 1957; GÁBORI–CSÁNK 1958; PATAY 1955), which generated misunderstandings in some publications. We will keep the "working name" given to the site during the excavations: Orgonás is an evident distinctive name.

It can be found in the bend of the dirt road forking from main road no. 2 about 350 m before the Hungarian/Slovakian border station at Parassa-puszta. Surface finds could be collected in large numbers on a surface measuring about 100 m in diameter where the dirt road sharply turns southward (Fig. 1). We also found a few scattered artefacts in the terraced hillside adjacent to the site, which was used as a hay field by the manor of the Fehér family at the time of the excavations, and also on the dirt-road that connected the manor with the site.

The Orgonás site itself can be found in classical topographic situation. The wide flood plain of the Ipoly is bordered by a well developed late Pleistocene terrace system. The terraces are segmented by active stream valleys running toward the river and dry, desiccated valley. The Upper Palaeolithic sites, including Orgonás, are distributed a few hundred metres from one another along the edge of these terraces.

The younger terraces, which can be found in diverse absolute and relative height, were partly destroyed by industrial activity (road, railway, industrial plants on the left side and the town of Sahy on the right side). The pebble mantle covering the older terraces is sometimes wedged out in hollow roads or on the tops of the terraces. The terrace system of the Ipoly valley appears as a natural continuation of the foothill slopes of the north-eastern Börzsöny.

### Recent archaeological investigations of the site

Katalin Simán and Sára Kató collected palaeolithic tools and prehistoric sherds on the terrace above the riding-school at site Parassa III in the spring of 1994: In 1995, 2–3 May, Katalin Simán and Viola Dobosi carried out field walking. The results were the site series indicated in the contour map (DOBOSI–SIMÁN 2000). From these find spots nos. 1–3 were new sites, nos. 4–6 were sites identified after M. Gábori's reports and publications.

After the results of the field walkings, we came to the decision that Parassa III – Orgonás site was the

most promising find spot, which offered ideal conditions for archaeological work. The first test excavations were conducted by Viola T. Dobosi and Katalin Simán between 17 and 27 September, 1996.

The first 20 m long N-S directed trench was opened in the southeastern bend of the dirt road, where it sharply turns southwards, up the hill. The trench crossed the terrace between the road and the forest (Fig. 2). In the middle of the trench we cut through a Bronze Age pit (with a diameter of 180–200 cm),

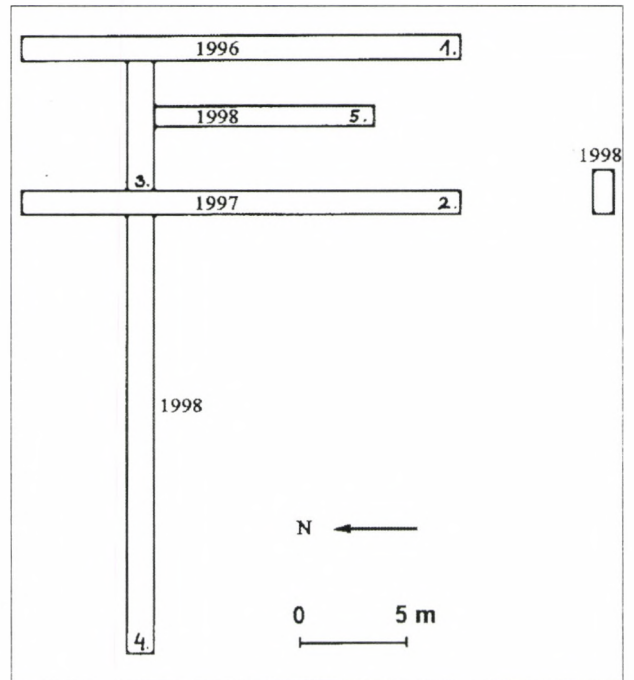


Fig. 2 Plan of the excavations

which ended in the depth of 60 cm. We deepened the trench to 140 cm. The following stratigraphic sequence could be observed: humus A, leached level B of humus, typical loess, calcareous loess, brown interstadial soil, weathered piroxene-andesite. Three palaeolithic habitation levels were distinguished in the depth of 60–70 cm, on the bottom of the loess and in the depth of 80–90 cm in the strongly calcareous brown soil. The habitation levels were marked in the three levels by scattered bones, charcoal fragments, tools and artefacts. The central area of the settlement was not found on any level. The stratigraphical respect, the southern end of trench 2 showed the same sequence as Trench 1, while in the northern end, the brown calcareous soil was reached only in the depth of 170 cm. Here the lower culture bearing layer appeared in the depth of 190–195 cm.

In 1998 the excavations were continued between 6 and 24 July. We elongated the 5 m long E-W trench west of trench 2 in a lenoil strongly mixed with char-

coal, which contained long bone fragments, but no trace of human activity. A large, beehive-shaped Bronze Age pit occupied the centre of trench 5 until the depth of 140 cm. The test pit opened in the elongation of trench 2 did not bring new results either. We could not find the centre of the settlement in any of the trenches, and the archaeological features were similar to the ones observed in the previous two seasons.

*Stratigraphy (Fig. 3)*

- 8 m from the northern end of trench 1: 1-30 cm - humus A; 30-55 cm - humus B; 55-80 cm - loess; 80-110 cm - strongly calcareous loess; 110-150 cm - a gradually darkening brown soil with linear calcareous precipitations
- 9 m from the northern end of trench 2: 0-22 cm - humus; 22-65 cm - yellowish brown loess;

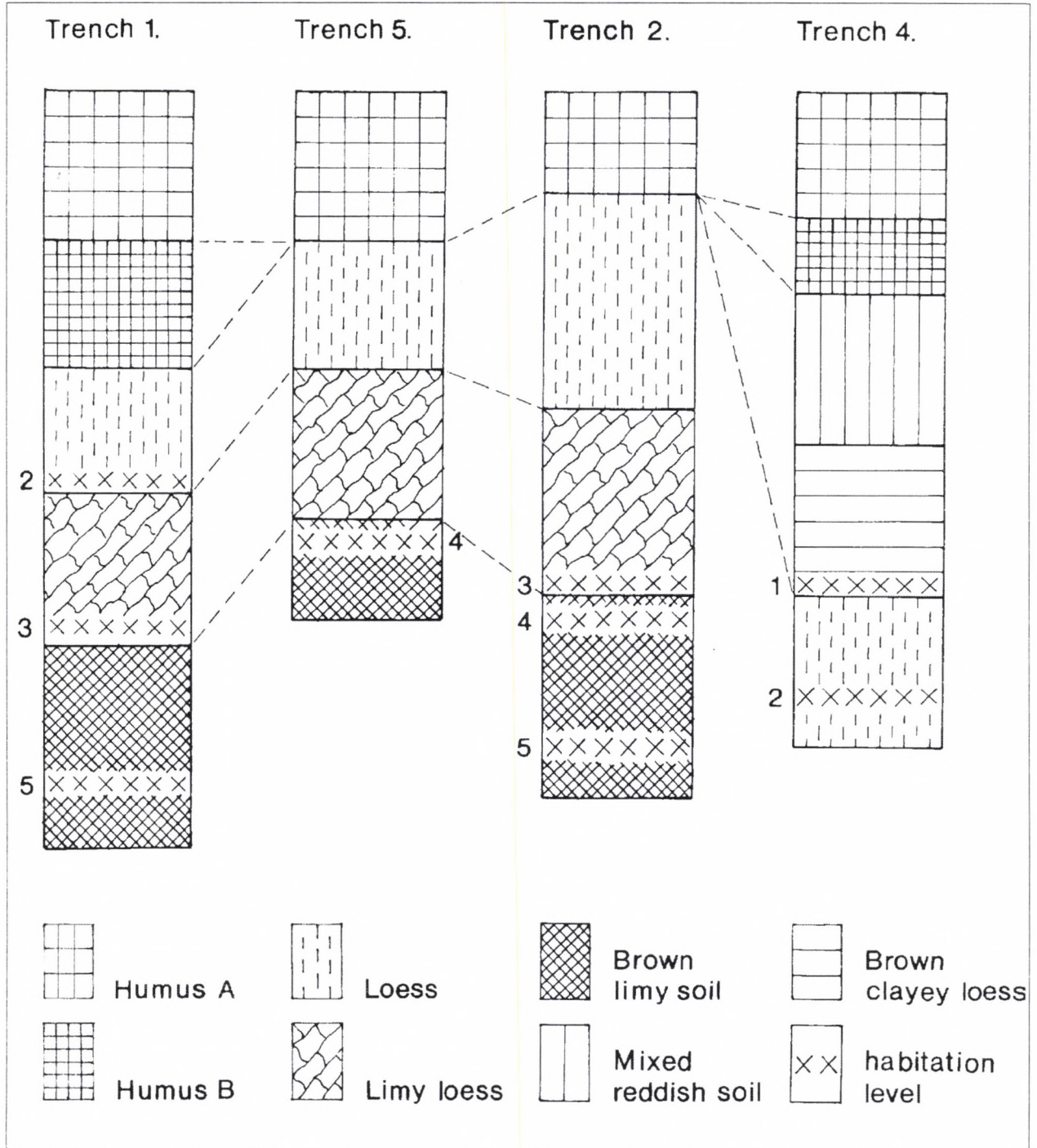


Fig. 3 Stratigraphic sequences

- 65–103 cm – calcareous light-coloured loess, which gradually wedges out in a southerly direction and disappears at 17 m from the north; 103–140 cm – a calcareous humus with charcoal grains
- 1 m from the western end of trench 3: 0–21 cm – humus A; 21–33 cm – humic loess; 33–55 cm – yellow loess; 55–90 cm – calcareous loess; 90–110 cm – calcareous brown fossil loess
  - 2 m from the western end of trench 4: 0–25 cm – humus A; 25–40 cm – humus B; 40–70 – a mixed reddish soil; 70–100 cm – a brown soil; 100–130 cm – loess
  - 9 m from the western end of trench 4: 0–20 cm – humus A; 20–25 cm – humus B; 25–30 cm – mixed, compact reddish clay; 30–70 cm – brown, clayey loess; 70–140 cm – loess; 140–165 cm – calcareous loess; 165–170 cm – brownish loess
  - 19 m from the western end of trench 4: 0–10 cm – humus A; 10–30 cm – humus B; 30–55 cm – brown soil; 55–70 cm – loess; 70–90 cm – calcareous loess; 90–100 cm – brownish loess
  - 9 m from the southern end of trench 5: 0–30 cm – humus; 30–55 cm – yellow loess; 55–85 cm – calcareous loess; 85–115 cm – humic, calcareous loess
  - test pit 6: 0–80 cm – disturbed soil/humus densely interwoven by roots; 80–160 – dark, uniform, moist loessy grainy deposit with finds

The 20 m long section of the northern profile of trench 4 reveals that the modern surface was more-or-less horizontal in the investigated territory. The sloping toward west of the uppermost Pleistocene layer started at 11 m from the east, and it sinks 60 cm in 9 m. The top of the loess layer appeared in the eastern end of the trench 20 cm under the modern surface. In 1 m it sank 20 cm toward west, then continued relatively horizontally in the next 16 m. In the last 3 m of the trench it sank another 30 cm. The underlying calcareous loess, at the same time gradually slanted westwards from the 3<sup>rd</sup> m from the eastern end, and 10 m farther to the west we already found it 60 m deeper. It indicates that the one-time surface was gradually filled up. The levelling of the surface, the repeated re-deposition can be the reason that we could not find a traditional culture-bearing layer in the site. The same phenomenon can be experienced in the rest of the contemporary sites. There must be a general climatic-pedologic explanation to the phenomenon experienced in distant sites within different sediments and orographic conditions, an explanation we have not yet found.

We could not exactly measure the absolute depth of the culture-bearing layers from the uneven modern

surface, so the habitation levels were determined after the imbedding layers. The traditionally settlement feature we had expected was found only in a few square metres in the northern end of trench 2. Even this settlement feature was only represented by two small, concentrated ashy spots containing a few bone and stone flakes in the lowermost level of trench 2 in the depth of 130–140 cm. At other spots, only a few objects (bone fragments, tooth enamels, artefacts, perhaps a few tools) indicated the habitation levels. The habitation levels were found in the following stratigraphic positions from the top downwards:

- *habitation level 1*: on the bottom of the brown, clayey loess in the western end of trench 4,
- *habitation level 2*: on the bottom of the loess in trenches 1 and 4,
- *habitation level 3*: on the bottom of the strongly calcareous loess in trenches 1 and 2,
- *habitation level 4*: the top of the calcareous, humic loess with calcareous precipitations in trenches 5 and 2(?)
- *habitation level 5*: in the brown calcareous soil, 20 cm deeper under habitation level 4 in trenches 1 and 2.

The concentration of the finds (if we can speak about concentration at all) outlines two distinct units: one in the western part of the unearthed territory and another one east of it. The two units are separated by a 10–12 m long archaeologically sterile zone.

The many habitation levels were actually not astonishing since the field walkings had already indicated that more than one chronological and cultural phases of the Upper Palaeolithic (Pavlovian, leaf-shaped industry, Epigravettian) are present in the region from the border of Nógrád county to the village of Hont. Regrettably, the low number of finds and the extreme scarcity of settlement features in the individual habitation layers do not afford a more exact chronological determination or cultural affiliation.

## BRONZE AGE

I. Szathmári affiliated the pottery material of the late Bronze Age pits to the early Kyjatice culture (Reinecke B-D, Hallstatt A1 transition) (Fig. 4).

The animal bones were determined by László Bartosiewicz. According to him the pits contained the long bones and jaw fragments of small and medium large cattle (*Bos* sp.), goat or sheep (*Ovis/Capra*) and roe deer (*Capreolus*). (We are grateful to both colleagues for their help.)

The chipped stone material contains 47 items. They come from the Bronze Age pits and a few items were

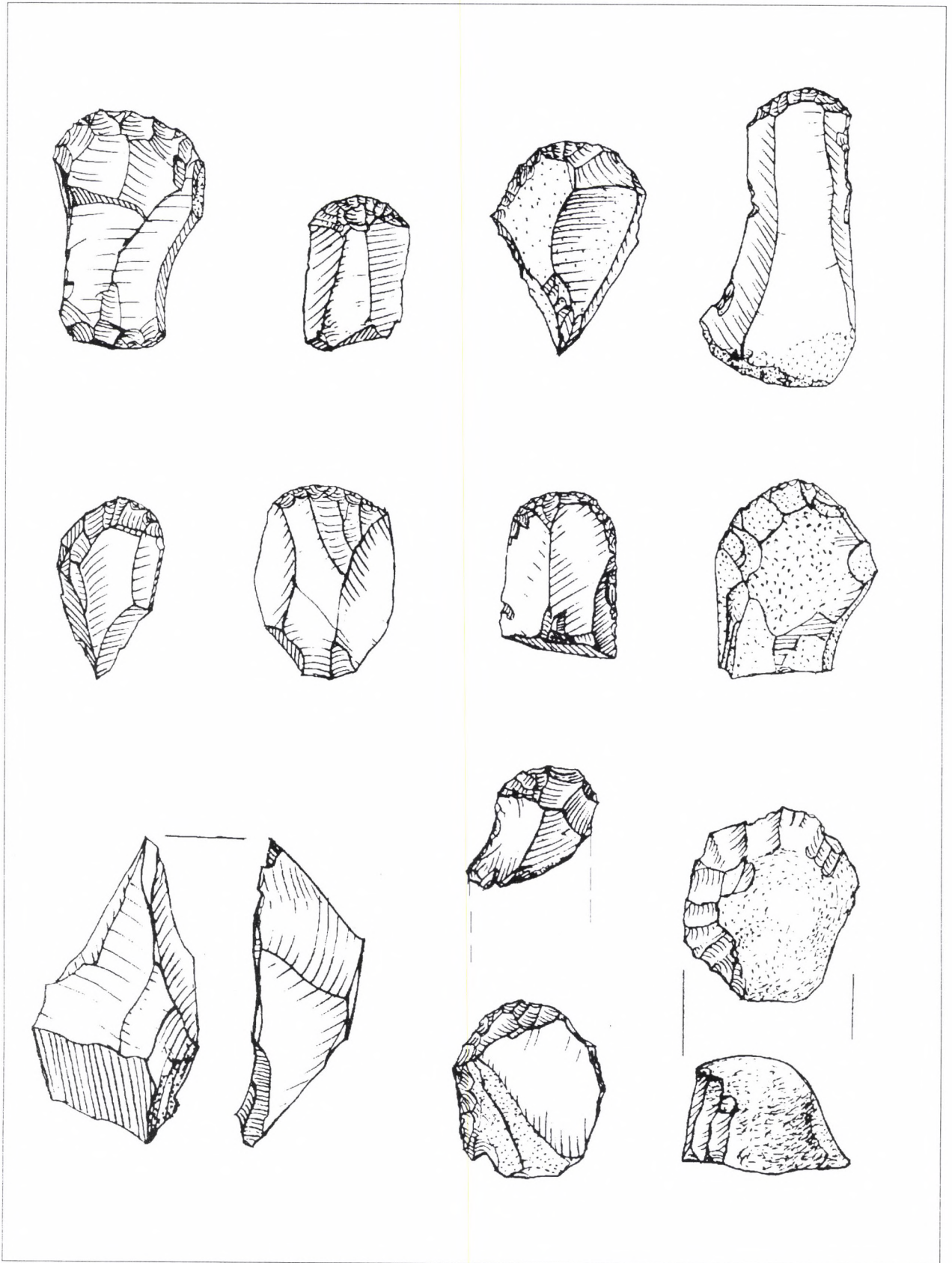


Fig. 4 Palaeolithic artefacts

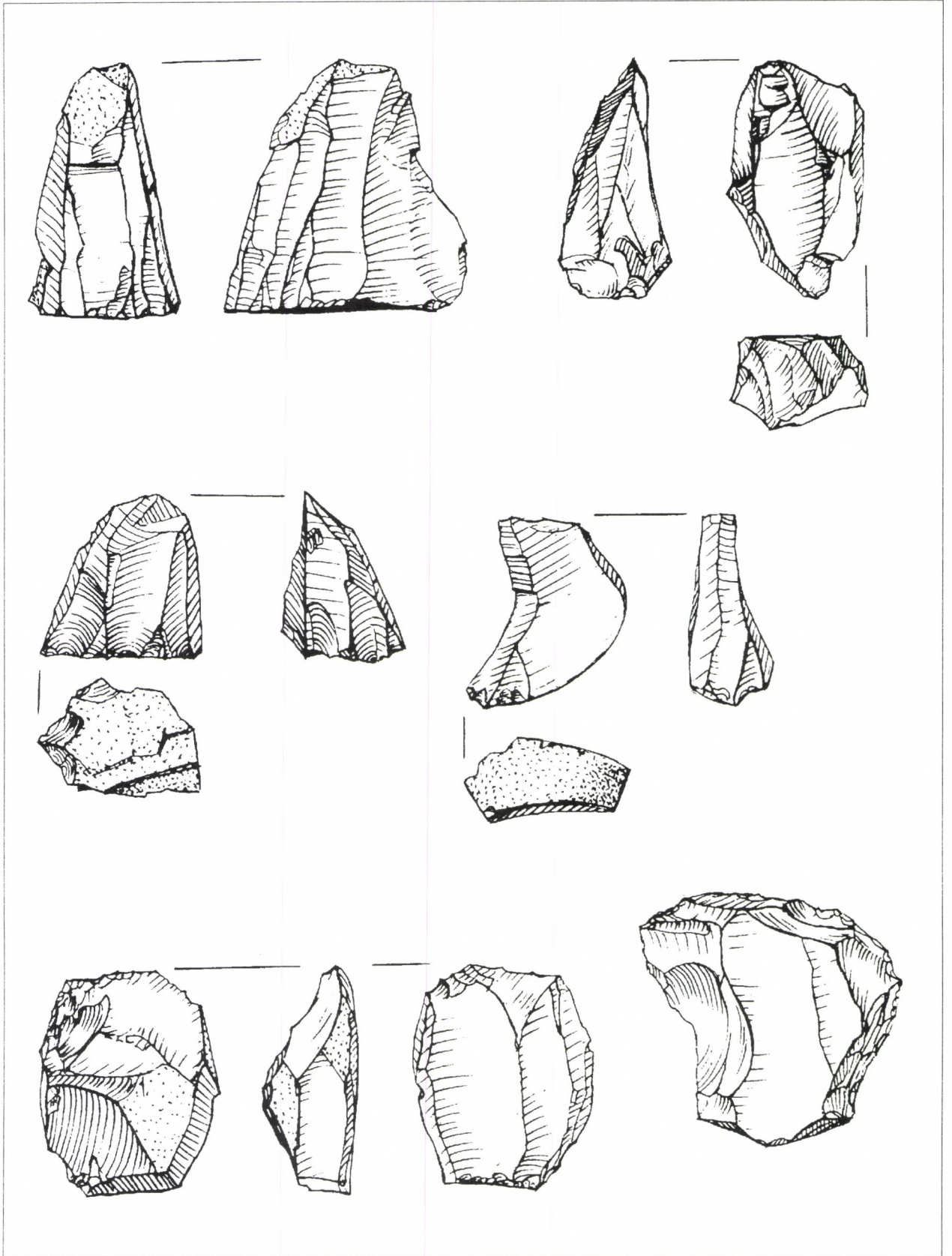


Fig. 5 Palaeolithic artefacts

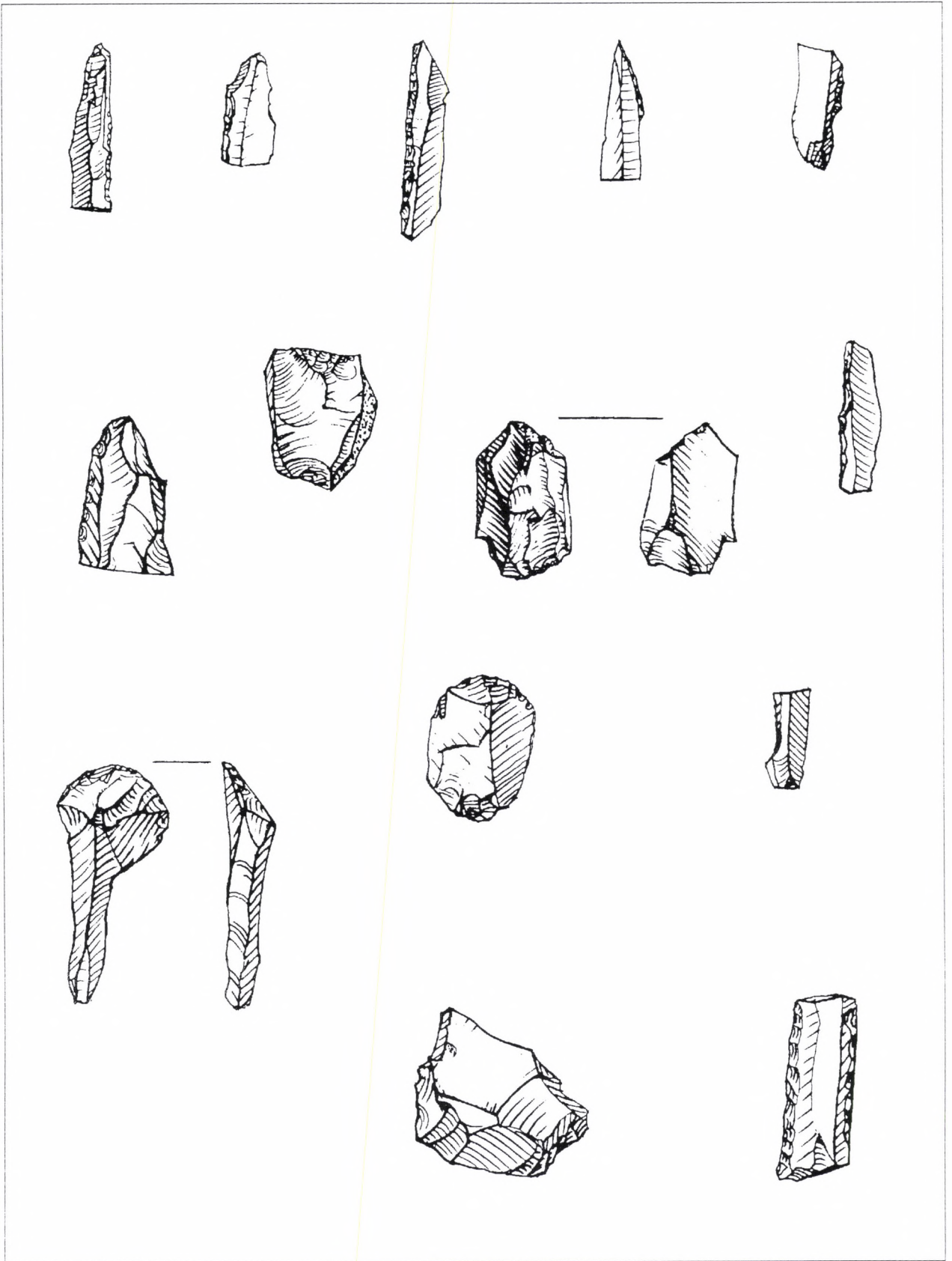


Fig. 6 Palaeolithic artefacts

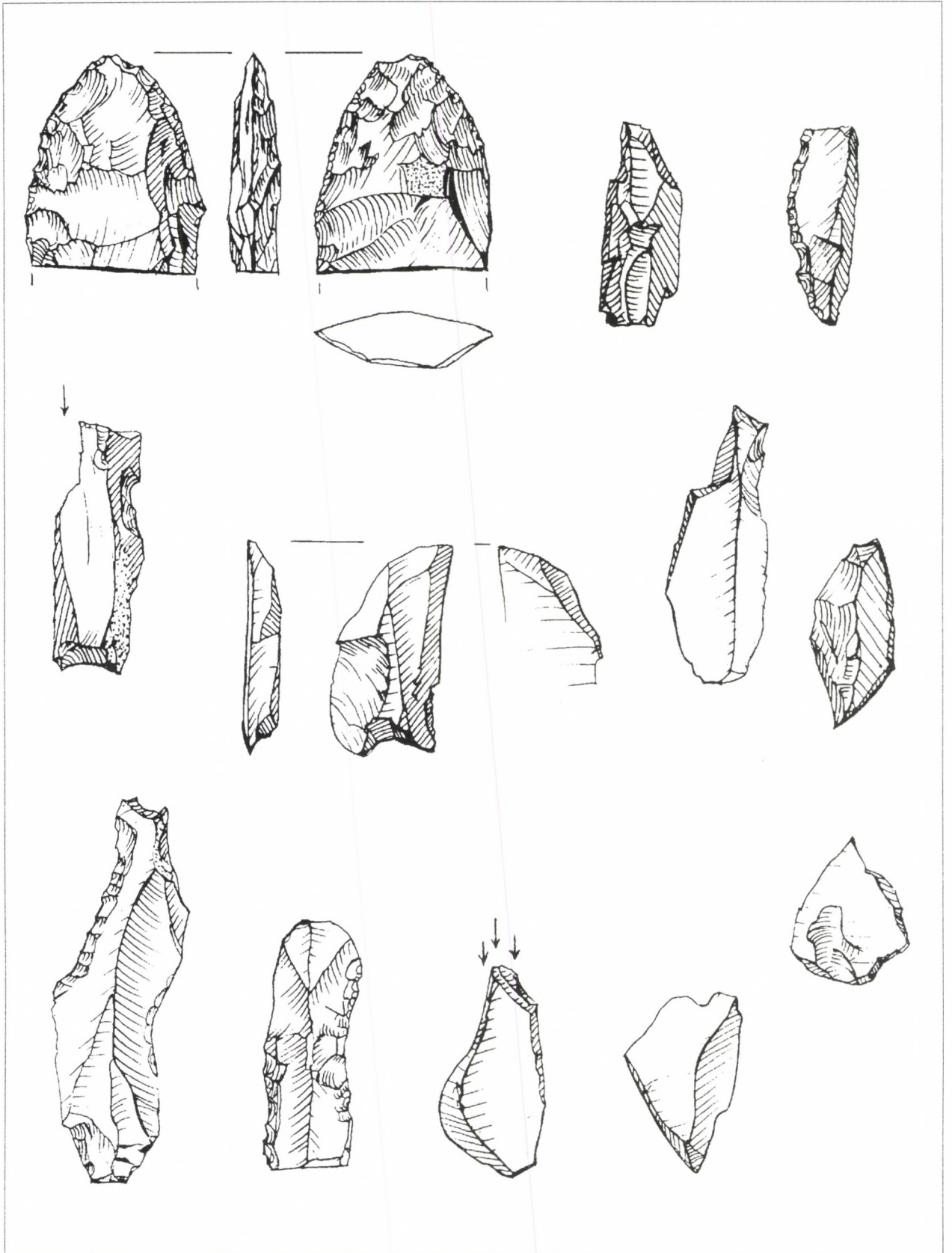


Fig. 7 Palaeolithic artefacts

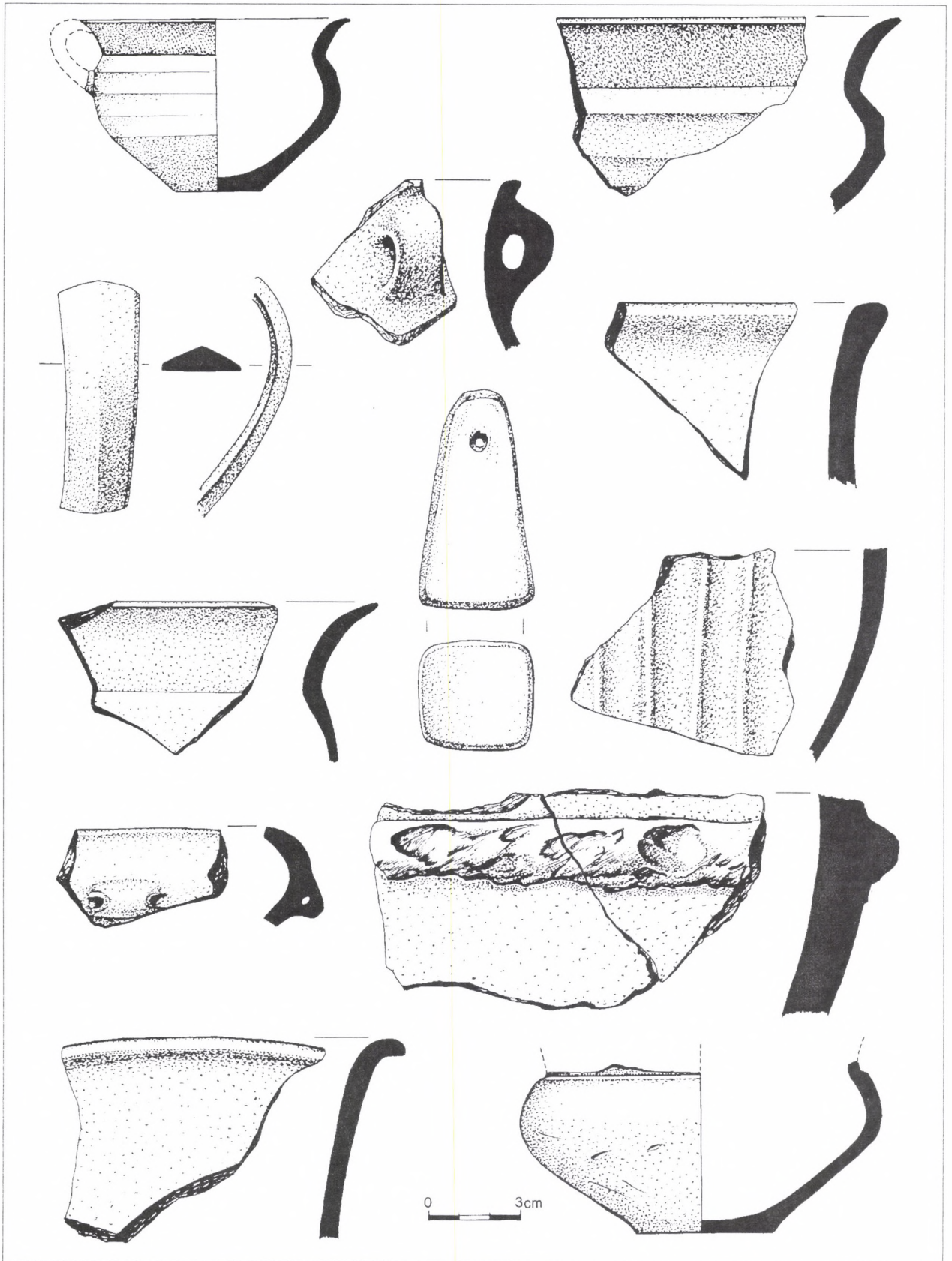


Fig. 8 Finds from the Bronze Age pits

selected from the surface collection, which latter certainly did not belong to the Palaeolithic material judged from their raw material, technique or type. At the same time, we cannot be certain that the artefacts found in the pits certainly came from the Bronze Age since the pits intersected at least one palaeolithic habitation level. So the analysis of the Bronze Age stone material is only of information value.

29 of the 49 items are flakes, 4 are blades. Besides a single tablet implies local tool production. The remaining 15 items are retouched tools: end-scrapers, burins and their combination and truncated blades. A single tool deserves special attention, which is a half finished bifacial scraper. Although it is not impossible that bifacial tools were produced in the Bronze Age, the palaeolithic finds of the Orgonás site and the tools collected at other sites in the region make it more probable that the bifacial scraper got into the Bronze Age pit from a palaeolithic habitation level. The distribution of the raw materials does not indicate any special characteristic: the local

hydroquartzite dominates followed by radiolarite and silex.

## PALAEOLITHIC

### Fauna

Relatively few animal bones could be collected during the excavations and even these were often poorly preserved. The faunistic remains were determined by István Vörös, for which we are grateful to him:

*Coelodonta antiquitatis* (15 pieces) – sin. M<sup>3</sup> dental germ, M sup. dental germ, dext. humerus diaph., fragments of a radius and a rib and indet. fragments

*Mammuthus primigenius* (1 piece) – tusk fragment

*Bison* sp. (1 piece) M sup juv.

The remains of at least 3 animals could not support a population for a longer period of time even though they represent a large meat quantity (especially if we also consider that the bones were scattered in five habitation levels!). The hunted types agree with the experiences from other contemporary sites.

### Stone artefacts (Fig. 5–8, Table 1)

Table 1. Distribution according to typological and technical categories

	Surface collection	Humus (0–50cm)	Habitation level 1	Habitation level 2	Habitation level 3	Habitation level 4	Trench fill stray find	Total	
End-scraper	2	21		1		1	1	26	
Burin	6	30	4	5			5	50	
Borer			1					1	
Gravette point	1	4						5	
Backed blade	1	8	1		1			11	
Truncated blade		1	1					2	
Retouched blade	1	7		1		2		11	
Leaf point		1						1	
Notched blade	1							1	
Piece esquillée			1					1	
Side scraper		6		2				8	
Diverse	3	7	1	1			1	13	
<b>Total</b>	<b>15</b>	<b>85</b>	<b>9</b>	<b>10</b>	<b>1</b>	<b>3</b>	<b>7</b>	<b>130</b>	<b>9,3%</b>
	11,5%	65,4%	6,9%	7,7%	0,8%	2,3%	5,4%		
Pre-core		4		2				6	
Core	5	29	1	2	2		4	43	
<b>Total</b>	<b>5</b>	<b>33</b>	<b>1</b>	<b>4</b>	<b>2</b>		<b>4</b>	<b>49</b>	<b>3,5%</b>
	10,2%	67,3%	2,0%	8,2%	4,1%	0,0%	8,2%		

	Surface collection	Humus (0–50cm)	Habitation level 1	Habitation level 2	Habitation level 3	Habitation level 4	Trench fill stray find	Total	
Gerincpenge	3	2						5	
Pointed bladelet			1				1	2	
Tanged blade							1	1	
Blade		33	10	3		1	3	60	
Blade-like flake	1	1						2	
Blade fragment	15	88	6	8	9		5	131	
Core rejuvenation blade		1						1	
Naturally backed blade		1						1	
<b>Total</b>	<b>19</b>	<b>126</b>	<b>17</b>	<b>11</b>	<b>9</b>	<b>1</b>	<b>10</b>	<b>193</b>	<b>13,8%</b>
	9,84%	65,28%	8,81%	5,70%	4,66%	0,52%	5,18%		
Geometric fragment		1						1	
Pebble segment	4	6	1	2			2	15	
Retouched flake		3						3	
Flake/waste	135	647	76	44	41	5	56	1004	
<b>Total</b>	<b>139</b>	<b>657</b>	<b>77</b>	<b>46</b>	<b>41</b>	<b>7</b>	<b>56</b>	<b>1023</b>	<b>73,1%</b>
	13,6%	64,2%	7,5%	4,5%	4,0%	0,7%	5,5%		
Riolite tuff block					1			1	
Flaked pebble		2		1				3	
<b>Palaeolithic total</b>	<b>178</b>	<b>903</b>	<b>104</b>	<b>72</b>	<b>54</b>	<b>11</b>	<b>77</b>	<b>1399</b>	<b>100%</b>
	<b>12,7%</b>	<b>64,5%</b>	<b>7,4%</b>	<b>5,1%</b>	<b>3,9%</b>	<b>0,8%</b>	<b>5,5%</b>	<b>100,0%</b>	

1399 artefacts came from the palaeolithic. In the table, the material was classified in 4 habitation levels, which were distinguished after excavation observations. The uppermost habitation level was differentiated only after the analysis of the excavation results. Thus the material of the upper culture-bearing layer of trench 1 was classified into habitation level 1 in the table, that of the lower culture-bearing layer into habitation level 2. But as the number of finds recovered from the habitation levels is very low and they do not show any distinctive features, the overall picture is not really modified with this combination. The percentage distribution within the individual habitation levels is actually nearly identical to that of the entire find material both typologically and regarding the raw materials. 78% of the finds came from surface collection and the humus layer, and 5% more were found during the refilling of the trenches. So the entire stone material of all 5 habitation layers makes no more than 17% of the total number of the artefacts. In details it means that 104 artefacts were found in habitation level 1 (7.4%), 72 artefacts (5.1%) in habitation level 2, 54 artefacts (3.9%) in habitation level 3 and only 11 artefacts (0.8%) in habitation level 4. These numbers are insufficient for a statistical analysis and do not really give a representative picture of the individual habitation levels. They only prove the periodi-

city of habitation. This is why we decided to analyse the material as a single unit.

49 items (3.5%) belonged in the category of cores. Only 6 of them were pre-cores, the rest were flake and blade cores, mostly exhausted or fragmentary, broken ones. Blade and flake cores are present in approximately the same ratio, which is not so much a technical feature, but rather the result of the raw material type and the size of the raw material nodules. These nodules or blocks were either of a lower quality hydroquartzite, or – mostly – silex nodules or pebbles probably collected from the pebble mantle wedged out in the terraces or in the Ipoly river.

There were 193 blades and blade fragments (13.8%) in the material. Some blades were by-products of core rejuvenation or modification. They also evidence local blank production and explain the high proportion of exhausted cores. Besides a shouldered blade and a blade with cortical back need to be mentioned. Morphologically both could be used as tools.

Flakes and waste were the most numerous artefacts in the assemblage making 73% (1023 items) of the entire material. Many of them attest to the processing of low quality raw materials and various phases of core modification. Cortical flakes are extremely rare. It seems that the testing and primary elaboration of the raw material was carried out elsewhere. Both the core

and the flake/waste material suggests that only blank and tool production was present in the site even though the majority of the raw materials was collected from the vicinity of the settlement.

Typical tools are represented by only 130 items (9%). Due to the small number and the special character of the finds we did not work with the classical typological lists but analysed the retouched tools in broader categories. Burins dominated among the tools (50 items – 38.5%). A great variety of the tool type was found ranging from burins made on the terminals of blades to the ad-hoc items. Accordingly, the number of burin spalls is also high. The second richest group is that of end-scrapers (26 items – 20%). The ones made on flakes dominate and there are relatively many carinate end-scrapers as well. A unique item in the material is an end-scrapers of bifacial retouching. Retouched blades and backed blades are represented with the same number (11 items – 8.5%), while only 5 Gravette points could be identified, even those were fragmentary. The ratio of side-scrapers and retouched

flakes is relatively high (8 items – 6.2%). The rest of the material consisted of the fragment of a laurel-leaf-shaped point, a borer (on a backed blade), a notched blade, a pièce esquillée and two truncated blades. The diverse category contains a chopper, a chopping-tool-burin combination, a shouldered retouched blade, 9 hammer stones and a chopper-hammer stone.

The typological-technical distribution shows the dispersion of a generalised settlement. The high number of flakes and hammer-stones could suggest a workshop site, yet the types of the flakes and the low number of pre-cores, just like diversity of the retouched tools refute this idea. The high number of burins could also suggest some specialisation – from which wood working could be acceptable, while a specialised butchering site seems unlikely with so few bone and tooth fragments. On the whole, the Orgonás sites seem to have been the temporary settlements of hunting groups, who stopped here for relatively longer periods of time while they replaced their tools and equipment, and made some occasional hunting trips to support themselves.

#### Raw materials (Table 2)

Table 2. Distribution according to raw materials

	hydro-quartzite	silex	exotic raw material	radiolarite	grey radiolarite	quartzite	obsidian	chert	flint	lidit	manuport	Total	
Surface and humus	455	159	8	327	1	81	15	7	17	4	7	1081	77,3%
Habitation level 1	36	19		33		7	4		4		1	104	7,4%
Habitation level 2	17	20	2	20		1	7		2	1	2	72	5,1%
Habitation level 3	9	9	1	21		9	1		1		3	54	3,9%
Habitation level 4	1	7		1		2						11	0,8%
Trench fill stray finds	28	16	1	23		1	2		5		1	77	5,5%
<b>Total</b>	<b>546</b>	<b>230</b>	<b>12</b>	<b>425</b>	<b>1</b>	<b>101</b>	<b>29</b>	<b>7</b>	<b>29</b>	<b>5</b>	<b>14</b>	<b>1399</b>	<b>100%</b>
	<b>39,0%</b>	<b>16,4%</b>	<b>0,9%</b>	<b>30,4%</b>	<b>0,1%</b>	<b>7,2%</b>	<b>2,1%</b>	<b>0,5%</b>	<b>2,1%</b>	<b>1,0%</b>	<b>1,0%</b>	<b>100,0%</b>	
End-scrapers	9	5	1	10					1			26	20,0%
Burin	18	5	1	23				1	2			50	38,5%
Borer				1								1	0,8%
Gravette point	1	2		2								5	3,8%
Backed blade	5		1	3	1				1			11	8,5%
Truncated blade				2								2	1,5%
Retouched blade	1	2	1	4			2	1				11	8,5%
Leaf point		1										1	0,8%
Notched blade	1											1	0,8%
Pièce esquillée				1								1	0,8%
Side scraper	1	2	1	2		1	1					8	6,2%
Diverse		2	1			7			1	1	1	13	10,0%
<b>Total</b>	<b>36</b>	<b>19</b>	<b>6</b>	<b>48</b>	<b>1</b>	<b>8</b>	<b>3</b>	<b>2</b>	<b>5</b>	<b>1</b>	<b>1</b>	<b>130</b>	<b>9,3%</b>
	<b>27,7%</b>	<b>14,6%</b>	<b>4,6%</b>	<b>36,9%</b>	<b>0,8%</b>	<b>6,2%</b>	<b>2,3%</b>	<b>1,5%</b>	<b>3,8%</b>	<b>0,8%</b>	<b>0,8%</b>		

	hydro-quartzite	silex	exotic raw material	radiolarite	grey radiolarite	quartzite	obsidian	chert	flint	lidit	manuport	Total	
Pre-core		4		2								6	12,2%
Core	19	11	1	10			1		1			43	87,8%
<b>Total</b>	<b>19</b>	<b>15</b>	<b>1</b>	<b>12</b>			<b>1</b>		<b>1</b>			<b>49</b>	<b>3,5%</b>
	38,8%	30,6%	2,0%	24,5%			2,0%		2,0%				
lame a crete	1	2		2								5	2,6%
Pointed bladelet				1					1			2	1,0%
Tanged blade				1								1	0,5%
Blade	13	5	2	28					2			50	25,9%
Blake-like flake	2											2	1,0%
Blade fragment	28	25	1	68			6		2	1		131	67,9%
Core rejuvenation blade				1								1	0,5%
Naturally backed blade	1											1	0,5%
<b>Total</b>	<b>45</b>	<b>32</b>	<b>3</b>	<b>101</b>			<b>6</b>		<b>5</b>	<b>1</b>		<b>193</b>	<b>13,8%</b>
	23,2%	16,6%	1,6%	52,3%			3,1%		2,6%	0,5%			
Geometric fragment						1						1	0,1%
Pebble segment	2	4		7		2						15	1,5%
Retouched flake	2	1										3	0,3%
Flake/waste	442	157	2	257		90	19	5	18	3	11	1004	98,1%
<b>Total</b>	<b>446</b>	<b>162</b>	<b>2</b>	<b>264</b>		<b>93</b>	<b>19</b>	<b>5</b>	<b>18</b>	<b>3</b>	<b>11</b>	<b>1023</b>	<b>73,1%</b>
	43,6%	15,8%	0,2%	25,8%		9,1%	1,9%	0,5%	1,8%	0,3%	1,1%		
Riolite tuff block											1	1	
Flaked pebble		2									1	3	
<b>Palaeolithic total</b>	<b>546</b>	<b>230</b>	<b>12</b>	<b>425</b>	<b>1</b>	<b>101</b>	<b>29</b>	<b>7</b>	<b>29</b>	<b>5</b>	<b>14</b>	<b>1399</b>	<b>100,0%</b>
	39,0%	16,4%	0,9%	30,4%	0,1%	7,2%	2,1%	0,5%	2,1%	0,4%	1,0%		

The raw materials were also divided into main groups. *Hydroquartzite* is a local raw material, which dominates in the industry (564 items – 39%). The Börzsöny mountains is less known from a petroarchaeological aspect. Although geological maps indicate *hydroquartzite* occurrence in the southern part of the mountains, its has not yet been authenticated. Rich hydroquartzite sources and Upper Palaeolithic workshops settled on them are known from the southern feet of the Cserhát (Püspökhatvan). According to the categories accepted by the catalogue of the comparative raw material collection, however, this would already be a regional raw material. The large number of cores and flakes/waste, and the workshop site identified at the Parassa I site (a few hundred metres east of Orgonás) indicate that only a source in the vicinity can be considered. Another local raw material is *silex*, which can be collected even to date in the pebble deposits at the northern-northeastern feet of the Börzsöny. Altogether 240 artefacts (16.6%) were made of this material and it occurs in an especially large number among the cores and the blades. *Quartzite* can

be collected from the same source (104 artefacts – 7.2%). It is present first of all as flakes/waste and the raw material of choppers, chopping-tools and hammerstones.

*Radiolarites* were imported from more distant sources, probably from Transdanubia. Since this is the raw material group, which represents a higher quality than hydroquartzite and can be procured from a relatively close distance (although from the other side of the Danube!) they are present in a relatively high number (438 items – 30.9%). Many exhausted cores were made from them, and this is the dominant raw material group of the retouched tools (48 items – 36.9%).

Exotic raw materials imported from greater distances are present in a low proportion. They are two items from *radiolarite* imported from the Carpathians, 3 *rock crystal* fragments from the eastern region of the Alps, 3 items from *flint from the Prut* region, 2 *erratic Baltic flint* artefacts and 2 *Jurassic flint* artefacts imported from the territory of southern Poland. Most of them appear as retouched tools, it is only the erratic

Baltic flint where it is evident that it was imported in a core form. Another exotic raw material is *obsidian* (Tokaj-Eperjes mountains), which is relatively evenly distributed in the technical categories (3 retouched tool, 1 core, 6 blades, 19 flakes). We do not know the exact place of origin of some grey radiolarites, flints, cherts and lidit. Their presence in the material is certainly not determinant, they only colour the picture.

Finally the manuports need mentioning. They include rocks (riolite tuff, limestone, sandstone and conglomerate) that do not naturally occur in the territory of the site, they were certainly brought here by people.

The distribution of the raw materials shows that the groups that visited the site five times used first of all the local raw materials, while they had thorough knowledge of the raw materials in the northern zone of the Carpathian Basin. The fact that several retouched tools were made of non-local raw materials shows that they exhausted the tool kit and in a few cases the cores that they had brought with themselves and replaced them from local and meso-local sources. The fact that the raw material variety appeared with such a wide spectre (from the Alps to the Prut region) and in similar proportions in all the five settlement levels also indicates that the groups of people who repeatedly returned here had constant, well maintained contacts, which were not suspended in the course of migrations.

The lack of permanent winter camps and what we know about upper palaeolithic settlement structures along rivers imply that seasonal migrations were the organic, customary elements of their life style.

#### *Radiocarbon dating*

The charcoal samples collected in 1996 were analysed in the C 14 laboratory of the ATOMKI in Debrecen (CSONGOR-HERTELENDI 1986; HERTELENDI et al. 1989, 399)

The age of the lower habitation layer is:

deb-5027  $\delta^{13}\text{C}$ (PDB) -24.84 conventional  
radiocarbon age BP 27 350±610

#### *Parassa III/Orgonás site in the Carpathian Basin*

We do not intend to discuss the analogues of the site in details since we could only repeat what Viola T. Dobosi has already written in her book on the Bodrogkeresztúr site (DOBOSI 2000). From the sites listed in this book, Orgonás shows the greatest resemblance to Bodrogkeresztúr and Megyaszó. Regrettably we cannot really compare Orgonás to the topographically nearest Püspökhatvan because of the special character of the latter site.

The Parassa III/Orgonás site is another typical representative of the horizon of the first Gravettian/Pavlovian wave arriving in the Carpathian Basin.

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