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# Traces of a Late Iron Age Settlement at Szeged-Kiskundorozsma-Tóth János dombja I.

ABSTRACT I The multiperiod site of Szeged-Kiskundorozsma-Tóth János dombja I. is located on the former riverside of the Maty Stream, 2.5 km northwest of Kiskundorozsma, Hungary. Archaeological excavations in the area in 2003–2004, in connection with the construction of the M5 and M43 motorways, revealed Bronze Age, Sarmatian and Late Medieval—Early Modern features, as well as traces of a Late Iron Age settlement. The seven semi-sunken buildings and their pits dated to the LT (B2)—C period were scattered in three well-defined groups in a north-south direction. The present study aims to interpret Late Iron Age findings recovered from the site.

KEYWORDS | Late Iron Age, settlement, Maty Stream, La Tène culture

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## Késő vaskori településnyomok Szeged-Kiskundorozsma-Tóth János dombja I. határában

ABSZTRAKT I Szeged-Kiskundorozsma-Tóth János dombja I. többkorszakos lelőhelye a Maty-ér egyik hajdani ága mellett, Kiskundorozsmától 2,5 km-re északnyugatra található. A területen 2003–2004-ben, az M5-ös és M43-as autópályaépítkezésekhez kötődő régészeti feltárások alkalmával bronzkori, szarmata és késő középkori – kora újkori jelenségek mellett egy késő vaskori megtelepedés nyomai is előkerültek. A LT (B2)–C időszakra keltezhető hét félig földbe mélyített épület és a hozzájuk tartozó gödrök elszórtan, három jól elkülöníthető csoportban, észak–déli irányban szóródtak. Jelen tanulmány célja a lelőhely késő vaskori leletanyagának közreadása, értelmezése.

KULCSSZAVAK | késő vaskor, település, Maty-ér, La Tène-kultúra

The extensive archaeological site Tóth János dombja I. in Szeged-Kiskundorozsma (26/66; M5 No. 60 = M43/2;ID 34668) is located in the southern part of the Great Hungarian Plain, 2.5 km northwest of Kiskundorozsma (now a district of the city of Szeged). Previous archaeological research confirmed the presence of Bronze Age, Sarmatian, Late Medieval, and Early Modern features, and recent surveys revealed that the site was also inhabited in the Late Iron Age. Preliminary fieldwalks conducted along the "null" phase track of highway M43 in 1999–2000 identified the site along the former riverbed of the Maty Stream, situated atop a low hillock, rising barely above its environs. In 2003-2004, preceding the construction of the M5 and M43 highways, a team from the Móra Ferenc Museum in Szeged led by Patrícia Mészáros, Tibor Paluch and Csaba Szalontai conducted a preventive archaeological excavation, uncovering an area of 42 740 m<sup>2</sup>, which bisected the archaeological site along a west–east axis (0 + 400 - 0 + 650 km). Fieldwork revealed that the two riverbeds of the Maty Stream marked the western and eastern boundaries of the site, and 488 archaeological features were discovered in the intermittent ca. 80–100 m wide belt (Fig. 1).2 The Late Iron Age settlement spanned an approximately 180 × 50 m large area, which was thoroughly excavated. Anita Lesi processed hand-made pottery recovered from the site in her thesis.<sup>3</sup> Selected finds were discussed within the framework of a preliminary report.4 The present study aims to interpret Late Iron Age finds recovered from the site.

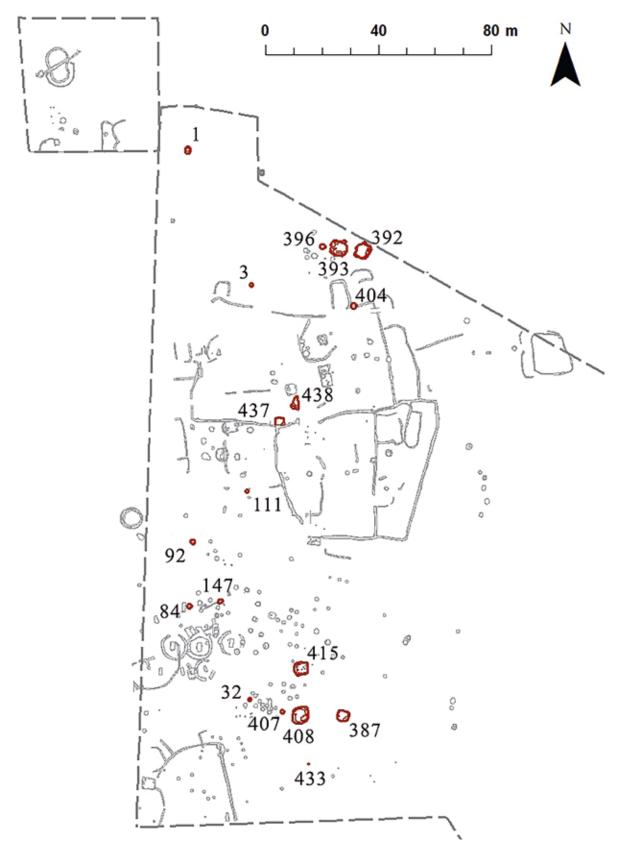
## Traces of a Late Iron Age settlements on the bank of the Maty Stream

Until the countrywide river regulations of the 19th century, the Maty Stream flowed within a medium streambed and was a decisive landscape feature between the sandy plateau in the Danube–Tisza interfluves region and the floodplains of the Tisza. It influenced the locations of Late Iron Age settlements in the southwestern part of the Southern Tisza Valley, and those situated on the eastern edge of the Dorozsma–Majsa sand ridge (Fig. 2).

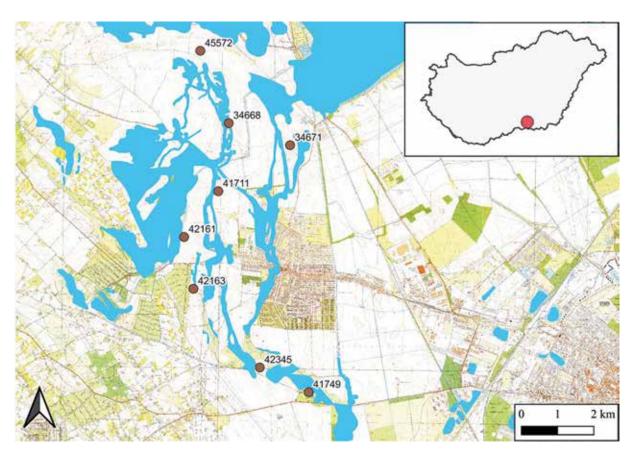
In terms of urban geography, the surroundings of the Maty Stream were outstanding. The watercourse not only defined the region, but improved its carrying capacity, enhanced communications and provided a defensive measure for local communities. The features discovered at Szeged-Kiskundorozsma-Tóth János dombja I do not stand out in the region, as other sites occupied the low banks both during the La Tène as well as other archaeological periods. Fieldwalks and large-scale archaeological excavations related to the construction of the M5 and M43 highways revealed additional archaeological sites in these two microregions, although new find material has been processed and published on only partially.

In 2004, the remains of a bi-chambered pottery kiln with vertical drought and latticed oven floor, dated to the LT B2 – C period, were discovered at Szeged-Kiskundorozsma-Kettőshatár I (26/4; M5 No. 63 = M43 Site 5; ID 34671).<sup>6</sup> This kiln type is quite uncommon in the region, only a single analogy (on which nothing has been published) is known from Hódmezővásárhely-Kingéc in Csongrád-Csanád county.<sup>7</sup> Four semi-sunk-

- 1 Hungarian National Museum Archaeology Database, https://archeodatabase.hnm.hu/hu/node/38374, March 13, 2023.
- 2 Szalontai 2002; Szalontai 2003, 11–13; Mészáros–Paluch–Szalontai 2005a; Mészáros–Paluch–Szalontai 2005b.
- 3 Lesi 2013.
- 4 SÖRÖS-SZALONTAI forthcoming.
- 5 Szalontai 2019, 71–83, 153–162, 167–169, Fig. 39.
- 6 Szalontai 2002; Mészáros-Paluch-Szalontai 2005a, 284; Lesi 2013; Sörös-Szalontai forthcoming.
- 7 Csányi 2010, 223.



**Fig. 1.** Overview of the site, Late Iron Age features highlighted with red (map by F. Zsófia Sörös and Csaba Szalontai) **1.kép.** A lelőhely átnézeti térképe, a késő vaskori jelenségek piros színnel kiemelve (térkép: Sörös F. Zsófia – Szalontai Csaba)



**Fig. 2.** Late Iron Age sites along the Maty Stream. 45572: Szeged-Kiskundorozsma-Pick ülepítő tározó, 34668: Szeged-Kiskundorozsma-Tóth János dombja I (highlighted with red), 34671: Szeged-Kiskundorozsma-Kettőshatár 1, 41711: Szeged-Kiskundorozsma-Nagyszék IV, 42161: Szeged-Kiskundorozsma-M5 autópálya Site Nr. 26/76, 42163: Szeged-Kiskundorozsma-Subasa, 42345: Szeged-Kiskundorozsma-Subasa-hegy, 41749: Szeged-Kiskundorozsma IV. homokbánya (map by F. Zsófia Sörös and Csaba Szalontai)

2. kép. Késő vaskori lelőhelyek a Maty-ér mentén. 45572: Szeged-Kiskundorozsma-Pick ülepítő tározó, 34668: Szeged-Kiskundorozsma-Tóth János dombja I. (pirossal jelölve), 34671: Szeged-Kiskundorozsma-Kettőshatár 1., 41711: Szeged-Kiskundorozsma-Nagyszék IV., 42161: Szeged-Kiskundorozsma-M5 autópálya 26/76.lh., 42163: Szeged-Kiskundorozsma-Subasa, 42345: Szeged-Kiskundorozsma-Subasa-hegy, 41749: Szeged-Kiskundorozsma IV. homokbánya (térkép: Sörös F. Zsófia – Szalontai Csaba).

en buildings and related pits were uncovered at Szeged-Kiskundorozsma-Pick ülepítő tározó, which can be dated to the LT (B2/)C1–C2(/D) period, or in a more restricted context, to the LT C2(/D) period.<sup>8</sup> A settlement part consisting of fifteen buildings, dated to the LT C1b–LT C2/D period was excavated at Szeged-Kiskundorozsma-Subasa-hegy (= sandpit IV, II; ID 42345).<sup>9</sup> Traces of another major settlement were discovered at Szeged-Kiskundorozsma-Subasa (= site No. 26/78 on

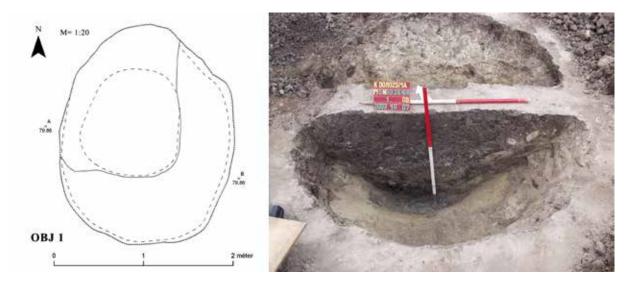
highway M5; ID 42163); the recovered finds are mostly unpublished. Pew settlement-related finds were recovered from Szeged-Kiskundorozsma-Nagyszék IV (ID 41711), Szeged-Kiskundorozsma-IV. homokbánya (ID 41749) and Szeged-Kiskundorozsma-M5 autópálya 26/76. lh. (ID 42161). Fieldwalks conducted at these sites revealed traces of further Late Iron Age settlements. All of these sites were situated along different branches of the Maty Stream, located 1–2 km apart.

- 8 Balogh-Türk 2005; Ujvári 2010.
- 9 Kulcsár-Fogas-Sántha 2010; Pilling-Ujvári 2012, 218-222.
- 10 Bozsik-Kürti 2002; Kürti 2005; Lesi 2013.
- 11 NAGY 1995; SÓSKÚTI Sz. WILHELM 2006; LESI 2013; Hungarian National Museum Archaeology Database, https://archeodatabase.hnm.hu/hu/node/20338, March 13, 2023.

## Description of archaeological features and finds<sup>12</sup>

Feature 1: Oval pit, with downwards tapering sidewalls and flat base. It had a mixed, layered black humic fill. L: 237 cm, W: 192 cm, D: 93 cm (Fig. 3).

II.6 handle (?) CTFG, W: 4.3 cm; T: 0.9 cm (Inv. no. 2005.2.3) (Fig. 27/1).



**Fig. 3.** Feature 1 (plans and section drawings were based on the Archaeological Registry of the Móra Ferenc Museum; Inv. no. 4202-2003)

3. kép. OBJ. 11 (az objektum és metszetrajzok a Móra Ferenc Múzeum Régészeti Adattára nyomán készültek, ltsz. 4202-2003)

Feature 3: Round pit with slightly downwards flaring sidewalls and flat base. It had a loose humic fill with clayey and ashy patches. Diam.: 124 cm, D: 60 cm (Fig. 4).

CNTGC, I.2/I.3?, T: 0.7 cm (Inv. no. 2005.2.12) (Fig. 25/4).

I.5.2, CNTFC, RD: 15 cm, T: 0.8 cm (Inv. no. 2005.2.9) (Fig. 25/5).

I.5.2, CNTGC, a narrow, horizontal cordon with slanting incisions alongside a separate wavy (?) cordon, T: 0.7 cm (Inv. no. 2005.2.29) (Fig. 25/8).

I.5.2.1, CNTFC, a row of finger impressions beneath the rim, RD: 15.5 cm, T: 1.1 cm (Inv. no. 2005.2.14) (Fig. 25/6).

I.5.2.1, CNTFC, a narrow, wavy (?) finger-impressed cordon, RD: 16.2 cm, T: 0.7 cm (Inv. no. 2005.2.13) (Fig. 25/7).

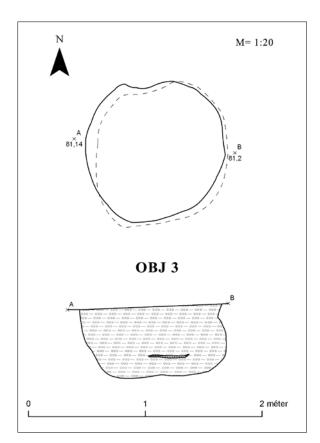
II.1.2, CTFC, a dent is visible near the centre of the base of the vessel, encircled by a shallow groove, RD: 27 cm, T: 0.5 cm (Inv. no. 2005.2.26) (Fig. 25/2).

II.2.2.1, CCTG, a horizontal cordon beneath the neck of the vessel, adorned with right slanting lines impressed with a comb, T: 0.6 cm (Inv. no. 2005.2.10, 2005.2.25) (Fig. 25/3).

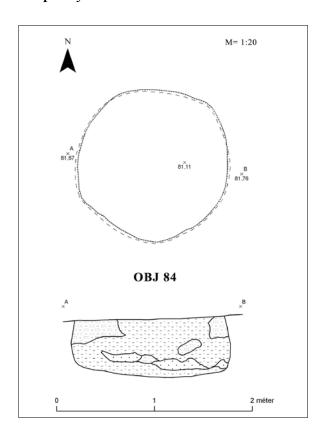
12 The find material is in the Móra Ferenc Museum in Szeged. The pottery classification is based on Szabó-Tankó-Szabó 2007, 234–235. Acronyms refer to the following categories: CTF: Céramique tournée fine – fast wheel-thrown vessel with fine fabric: CTF claire (CTFC): light-coloured, from beige to orange; CTF grise (CTFG): grey; CTF sombre (CTFS): dark-coloured, from brown to black.

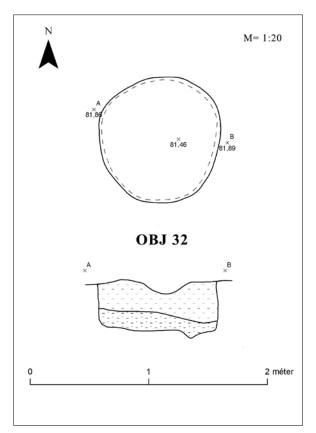
CCT: Céramique commune tournassée – slow wheel-thrown, home-made vessel: CCT claire/sombre (CCTC/CCTS): light or dark coloured; CCT graphitée (CCTG): gray, graphite gray.

CNT: Céramique non tournée (modelée): CNT fine (CNTF): – hand-made vessel with fine fabric, CNTF claire / sombre (CNTFC/CNTFS): light or dark coloured; CNT grossière (CNTG): hand-made vessel with coarse fabric; CNTG claire/sombre: light/dark coloured (CNTGC/CNTGS).



**Fig. 4.** Feature 3 **4. kép.** OBJ. 3





**Fig. 5.** Feature 32 **5. kép.** OBJ. 32

Feature 32: A round, shallow pit with vertical sidewalls and flat base. It had a grey humic fill with clayey spots. Diam.: 105 cm, D: 41 cm (Fig. 5).

Feature 84: Round pit with slightly bulging sidewalls and base. It had a grey humic fill with clayey spots, transected by numerous anima tunnels. Diam.: 154 cm, D: 57 cm (Fig. 6).

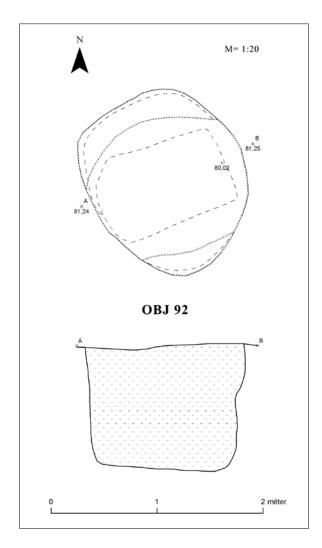
Feature 92: Oval pit with vertical sidewalls, conically tapering mouth and flat base. It had a burnt, grey humic fill mixed with clayey spots. L: 174 cm, W: 150 cm, D: 120 cm (Fig. 7).

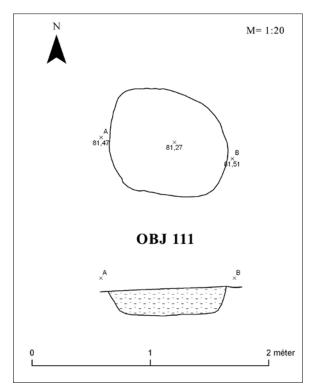
Iron knife (Fig. 25/9).

I.5, CNTGC, a tongue-shaped knob, T: 1 cm (Inv. no. 2005.2.109) (Fig. 25/10).

I.5, CNTGC, a wide, bulging knob, T: 1 cm (Inv. no. 2005.2.108) (Fig. 25/11).

**Fig. 6.** Feature 84. **6. kép.** OBJ. 84.





**Fig. 7.** Feature 92. **7. kép.** OBJ. 92.

**Fig. 8.** Feature 111. **8. kép.** OBJ. 111.

II.8, CTFC, a horizontal cordon runs along the top of the neck, RD: 15 cm, T: 0.7 cm (Inv. no. 2005.2.92) (Fig. 25/12).

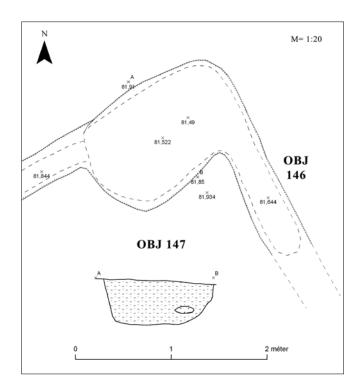
Feature 111: Round pit with downwards tapering, slanting sidewalls and flat base. It had a dark brown humic fill mixed with clayey spots. Diam.: 97 cm, D: 18 cm (Fig. 8).

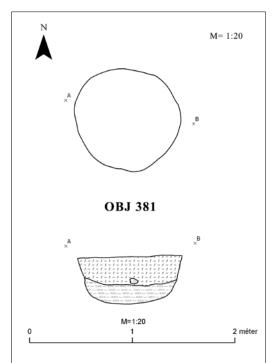
Feature 147: Oval pit with inwards slanted sidewall in the north, outwards flaring sidewall in the south, and a flat base. It had a grey humic fill with clayey spots. The pit was intersected by a ditch (OBJ 146). L: 172 cm, W: 112 cm, D: 45 cm (Fig. 9).

Feature 381: Round pit with slightly sloping sidewalls and base. It had a mixed black humic fill. Diam.:  $100 \, \text{cm}$ , D:  $46 \, \text{cm}$  (Fig. 10).

I.5.3.3, CNTGS, the vessel wall was perforated, RD: 35.8 cm, T: 0.9 cm (Inv. no. 2005.2.237) (Fig. 25/13).

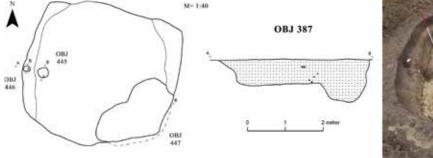
Feature 387 (postholes: OBJ. 445, OBJ. 446; pit: OBJ. 447): Semi-sunken building with a slightly irregular rectangular layout with rounded corners, downwards tapering slanting sidewalls, berms along its western and eastern sides, and a flat base. During the removal of the topsoil animal bones and a concentration of pottery sherds in the western half of the feature were revealed. Excavation identified a hard-packed layer at





**Fig. 9.** Feature 147. **9. kép.** OBJ. 147.

**Fig. 10.** Feature 381. **10. kép.** OBJ. 381.





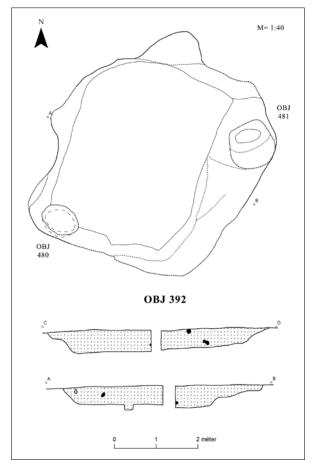
**Fig. 11.** Feature 387. **11. kép.** OBJ. 387.

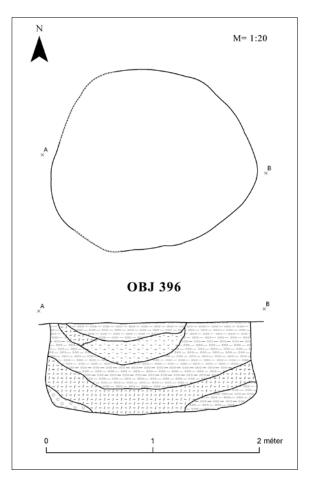
65 cm depth, which can be interpreted as the floor. The feature had a homogenous greyish brown humic fill mixed with daub pieces. Two postholes were documented near the middle of the western sidewall of the dwelling, in line with its central axis (OBJ. 445: oval posthole with sloping sidewalls, Diam.: 29 cm, D: 22 cm; OBJ. 446: posthole with vertical sidewalls and a flat base, Diam.: 19 cm, D: 7 cm). An elongated, irregular pit was dug into the southeastern corner of the dwelling (OBJ. 447: Diam.:  $200 \times 250$  cm). The fill of this latter pit is identical to the fill of the dwelling, indicating that it was part of the building. L: 408 cm, W: 373 cm, Depth of floor level: 61 cm, Depth of pit: 112 cm (Fig. 11).

II.1.2, CTFC, RD: 25.4 cm, BD: 9.1 cm, H: 9 cm (Inv. no. 2005.2.258) (Fig. 26/2).

II.1.2/5, transition, CTFS, four oval knobs spaced symmetrically across the shoulder. The bowl was perforated in two places, RD: 34.5 cm, H: 14.2 cm (Inv. no. 2005.2.257) (Fig. 26/1).

II.8, CTFC, one horizontal cordon runs beneath the rim, another on the shoulder, RD: 16.4 cm, T: 0.5 cm (Inv. no. 2005.2.256) (Fig. 26/3).





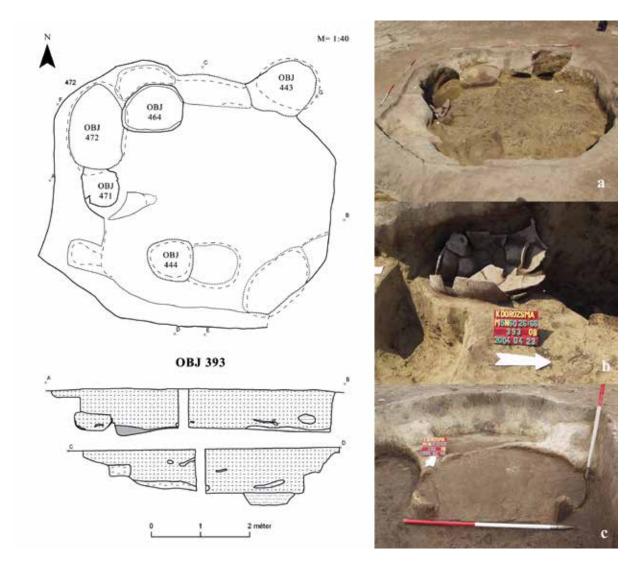
**Fig. 12.** Feature 392. **12. kép.** OBJ. 392.

**Fig. 14.** Feature 396. **14. kép.** OBJ. 396.

CTFG, base ring, BD: 10 cm, T: 0.5 cm, sherds from the same vessel were recovered from Feature 393 (Inv. no. 2005.2.454, 2005.2.376) (Fig. 26/8).

Feature 392 (pits: OBJ. 480, OBJ. 481): Semi-sunken building with a slightly irregular rectangular layout with rounded corners, downwards tapering slanting sidewalls with berms running along the sides, and a flat base. A semicircular extrusion was observed on the northern part of the feature (D: 10 cm). It had a dark grey humic fill. A round pit was dug into the northwestern half of the building; the northwestern sidewall of the pit ran rather straight (OBJ. 481: Diam.:  $110 \times 120$  cm, D: 86 cm). The fill of the pit is identical to the fill of the dwelling, indicating that it was part of the building. A contemporary oval pit was dug into the southwestern corner of the dwelling (OBJ. 480: Diam.:  $70 \times 90$  cm, D: 101 cm). L: 570 cm, W: 512 cm, D: 35 cm. (Fig. 12).

Feature 393 (pits: OBJ. 443, OBJ. 444, OBJ. 471, OBJ. 472, oven: OBJ. 464): Semi-sunken building with a slightly irregular square layout with rounded corners, vertical sidewalls, berms running along the western and southern sides, and a flat base. It had a dark grey humic fill. Animal bones were revealed when the topsoil was removed. The entrance of the dwelling was plausibly located in its southwestern corner. The dwelling intersected Pit 444 (OBJ. 444, Bronze Age, Diam.: 85 cm, D: 102 cm), which was situated approximately at the middle of its southern side. Pit 443 was dug into the northeastern corner of the dwelling (OBJ. 443:



**Fig. 13.** Feature 393. **13. kép.** OBJ. 393.

younger than the dwelling, Diam.:  $126 \times 104$  cm, D: 168 cm). The pit observed near the centre of the western sidewall of the dwelling (OBJ. 471: Diam.: 71 cm, D: 84 cm), and the pit excavated in the northern half of the dwelling (OBJ. 472: Diam.:  $119 \times 174$  cm, D: 142 cm), as well as the oven discovered near the northwestern corner of the dwelling (OBJ. 464: Diam.:  $135 \times 87$  cm, T: 3 cm) are contemporary with the building. Matching fragments of a *dolium* were found *in situ* in the fill of Feature 471. L: 581 cm, W: 521 cm, D: 100 cm (Fig. 13).

- I.2.2, CNTGC, RD: 31 cm, T: 0.7 cm (Inv. no. 2005.2.423, 2005.2.427) (Fig. 26/10).
- I.3, CNTFC, round knob with drawn-out, round impressions, RD: 16 cm, T: 0.5 cm (Inv. no. 2005.2.417) (Fig. 27/6).
- I.3.2, CNTGS, RD: 5 cm, T: 0.5 cm (Inv. no. 2005.2.424) (Fig. 27/9).
- I.5.2, CNTGC, a horizontal row of incised vertical lines runs beneath the rim, RD: 22 cm, T: 0.8 cm (Inv. no. 2005.2.420) (Fig. 27/4).
- I.5.2, CNTGC, tongue-shaped knob, T: 1 cm (Inv. no. 2005.2.417) (Fig. 27/10).
- I.5.2, CNTGS, shallow knob, RD: 9.2 cm, BD: 6.2 cm, H: 6.1 cm, T: 0.5 cm (Inv. no. 2005.2.417) (Fig. 27/1).
- I.5.3.2, CNTFC, RD: 34 cm, T: 1.2 cm (Inv. no. 2005.2.412) (Fig. 27/11).

II.1.1, CTFS, RD: 32.2 cm, T: 0.8 cm (Inv. no. 2005.2.409) (Fig. 26/9).

II.1.2, CTFC, the vessel was perforated in one place, RD: 23.3 cm, T: 0.5 cm (Inv. No: 2005.2.406) (Fig. 26/4).

II.2, CCTG, RD: 13.8 cm, T: 0.8 cm (Inv. no. 2005.2.738) (Fig. 27/8).

II.2, CCTG, RD: 36.2 cm, T: 1 cm (Inv. no. 2005.2.739) (Fig. 27/12).

II.3, CTFC, two horizontal grooves run along the surface of the vessel, it was perforated in one place, T: 1 cm (Inv. no. 2005.2.433) (Fig. 27/2).

II.3.1, CTFG, a horizontal cordon runs along the neck, RD: 20 cm, T: 0.4 cm (Inv. no. 2005.2.407) (Fig. 26/6).

II.4, CTFC. The top part of the vessel is beige, its base is dark brown. A burnished horizontal line runs along the rim. A flaring, triangle-shaped burnished grid pattern alternating with glossy surfaces adorn the top part of the vessel. Four curving rod handles were spaced evenly on the lower body of the vessel. H: 76 cm, RD: 34 cm, BoD: 65 cm, BD: 19 cm (Inv. no. 2005.2.405) (Fig. 28/5, Fig. 32).

II.8, CTFG, a horizontal cordon runs along the neck, RD: 16.6 cm, T: 0.5 cm (Inv. no. 2005.2.408) (Fig. 26/7). CTFC, two small perforations, T: 0.5 cm (Inv. no. 2005.2.443) (Fig. 27/3).

CTFG, base ring, BD: 10 cm, T: 0.5 cm, sherds from the same vessel were recovered from Feature 387 (Inv. no. 2005.2.454, 2005.2.376) (Fig. 26/8).

CTFG, the base of the vessel is dented, BD: 8.6 cm, T: 0.3 cm (Inv. no. 2005.2.456) (Fig. 26/5).

Intact biconical spindle whorl, CNTFC, Diam.: 4.1 cm (Inv. no. 2005.2.430) (Fig. 27/7).

Damaged spindle whorl, CNTGG. It has an irregular, flattened globular shape, tapering towards its top, and graphite-tempered fabric. Diam.: 2.9 cm (Inv. no. 2005.2.431) (Fig. 27/5).

Feature 396: Nearly oval, beehive-shaped pit with a slightly scooped base. Animal bones were recovered from the top of its fill. A thin, ashy layer was observed at the base of the pit. It had a dark and light grey humic fill mixed with clayey specks, layered with yellow clay stripes, indicating that the pit had been filled gradually. L: 190 cm, W: 172 cm, D: 86 cm (Fig. 14).

II.1.1, CTFG, RD: 23.8 cm, T: 0.6 cm (Inv. no. 2005.2.462) (Fig. 28/1).

CCTC, burnished lattice pattern (?), T: 1.1 cm (Inv. no. 2005.2.770) (Fig. 28/2).

Miniature vessel, RD: 3 cm (Inv. no. 2005.2.463) (Fig. 28/16).

Feature 404: Oval, beehive-shaped pit with gently flaring base. It had a grey humic fill mixed with daub. A shallow modern ditch (Feature 403) had been dug onto it. L: 180 cm, W: 150 cm, D: 70 cm (Fig. 15). II.2.2.1, CCTG, a horizontal row of downward-facing crescent-shaped impressions runs beneath the rim, RD: 30 cm, T: 0.7 cm (Inv. no. 2005.2.475) (Fig. 28/3).

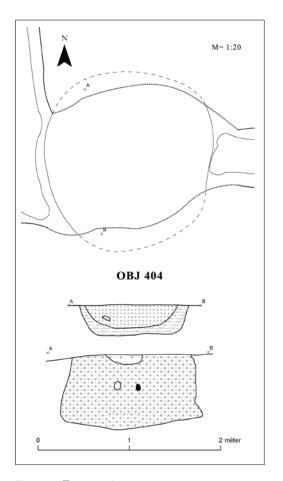
Feature 407: Round pit with sloping sidewalls and flat base. Diam.: 128 cm, D: 42 cm (Fig. 16).

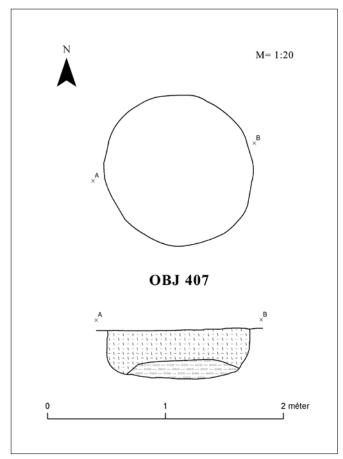
Feature 408: Semi-sunken building. It had a square layout with prominently rounded corners and a flat base; its slanting sidewalls tapered downwards, and berms ran along its western side. It had grey humic fill mixed with daub. An unnumbered posthole was observed in the western half of the dwelling, in line with the central axis of the structure. Three unrelated pits with sloping sides had been dug into the eastern part of the dwelling; none of them were recorded as separate archaeological features. The southernmost pit cut the sidewall of the dwelling. The northeastern corner of the dwelling was destroyed by a ditch. L: 566 cm, W: 550 cm, D: 151 cm (Fig. 17).

CNTGC handle, W: 2.1 cm, T: 0.8 cm (Inv. no. 2005.2.532) (Fig. 30/8).

I.5, CNTGC, a horizontal row of fingernail impressions runs beneath the rim, T: 0.7 cm (Inv. no. 2005.2.526) (Fig. 30/6).

I.5, CNTGC, a wavy appliqué cordon, T: 1 cm (Inv. no. 2005.2.545) (Fig. 30/7).





**Fig. 15.** Feature 404. **15. kép.** OBJ. 404.

**Fig. 16.** Feature 407. **16. kép.** OBJ. 407.

I.5, CNTGC, a cordon with finger impressions, T: 0.8 cm (Inv. no. 2005.2.533) (Fig. 28/15).

I.5.2, CNTGC, with burnished wavy pattern and round knobs with impressions on their tops, T: 0.7 cm (Inv. no. 2005.2.523) (Fig. 28/9).

I.5.2.1, CNTGS, a round knob with an impression on its top, perforated in one place, RD: 10.8 cm, T: 1 cm (Inv. no. 2005.2.521) (Fig. 28/10).

II.1.1–2, CTFG, T: 0.7 cm (Inv. no. 2005.2.519) (Fig. 28/4).

II.1.1–2, CTFC, RD: 28.2 cm, T: 0.6 cm (Inv. no. 2005.2.510) (Fig. 28/12).

II.1.2, CTFS, RD: 25 cm, T: 0.4 cm (Inv. no. 2005.2.506) (Fig. 28/13).

II.1.2, CTFG, perforated in two places, RD: 27.2 cm, T: 0.4 cm (Inv. no. 2005.2.507) (Fig. 28/14).

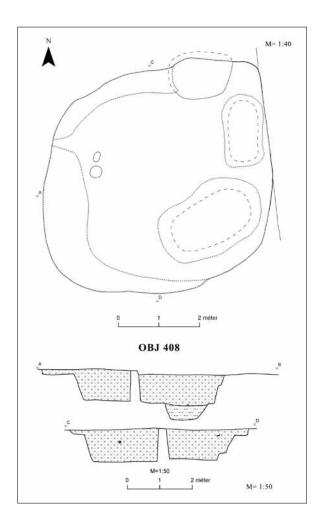
II.2.2, CCTG, decorated with vertical lines incised with a comb, perforated in one place, T: 1 cm (Inv. no. 2005.2.534) (Fig. 28/11).

II.2.2.1, CCTG, right slanting, impressed straight lines, RD: 31.2 cm, T: 0.7 cm (Inv. no. 2005.2.517) (Fig. 28/17).

Damaged spindle whorl, CNTFG. graphite-tempered, has a globular body, and its sides are decorated with vertical incisions. Diam.: 4.3 cm, H: 2.4 cm (Inv. no. 2005.2.529).

Spindle whorl fragment, CNTFC. It has a globular body, and its sides are adorned with vertical incisions. H: 2.6 cm (Inv. no. 2005.2.530).

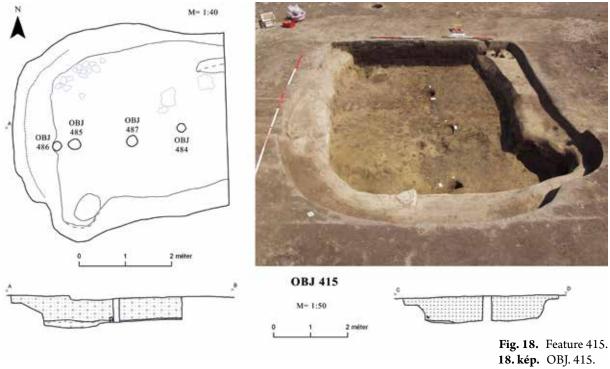
Biconical spindle whorl fragment, CNTFC, H: 2.4 cm (Inv. no. 2005.2.531).

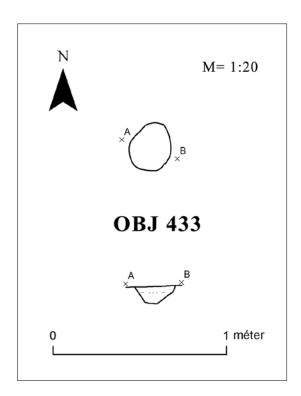


**Fig. 17.** Feature 408. **17. kép.** OBJ. 408.

Feature 415 (postholes: OBJ. 484, OBJ. 485, OBJ. 486, OBJ. 487): Semi-sunken building. It had a rectangular layout with rounded corners. Some of its sidewalls tapered downwards conically, some sloped evenly, and some were vertical. Its floor was flat and it had a dark grey humic fill mixed with clayey specks. Four shallow postholes were dug in line with its west-east central axis (OBJ. 486: vertical sidewalls, Diam.: 24 cm, D: 27 cm; OBJ. 485: vertical sidewalls, Diam.: 27 × 23 cm, D: 27 cm; OBJ. 487: vertical sidewalls, Diam.: 26 × 30 cm, D: 6 cm; OBJ. 484: slightly sloping sidewalls, Diam.: 23 cm, D: 17 cm). A 20th century ditch was dug into the eastern part of the dwelling. Plausibly a hearth was located in the northeastern corner of the building. L: 468 cm, W: 435 cm, D: 82 cm (Fig. 18).

I.5.3.4, CNTFC, single-handled vessel, a chain of interconnected semicircular incisions runs inside the rim, an incised fishbone motif adorns the surface where the top of the handle joins the body, RD: 12.4 cm, H: 17.5 cm, BD: 8.7 cm (Inv. no. 2005.2.749) (Fig. 29/1).





**Fig. 19.** Feature 433. **19. kép.** OBJ. 433.

CTFC/CTFS?, BD: 12.2 cm, T: 0.6 cm (Inv. no. 2005.2.594, 2005.2.595) (Fig. 29/2).

CNTFS handle, W: 2.1 cm, T: 1 cm (Inv. no. 2005.2.579) (Fig. 29/5).

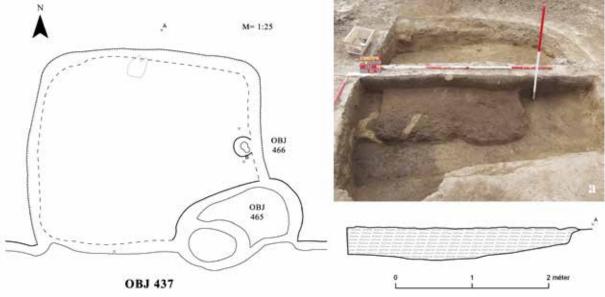
Spindle whorl, CNTFC, Diam.: 4.9 cm, T: 1 cm (Inv. no. 2005.2.577) (Fig. 29/4).

Damaged spindle whorl, CNTGS, globular, Diam.: 4.5 cm (Inv. no. 2005.2.578).

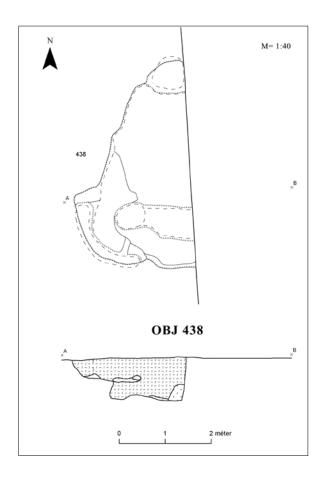
Feature 433: Round posthole with sloping sidewalls and a flat base. Diam.: 26 cm, D: 11 cm (Fig. 19).

Feature 437 (pit: 465, posthole: OBJ. 466): Semi-sunken building. It had a rectangular layout with rounded corners. Its sidewalls tapered downwards. Excavation revealed a hard-packed floor at 10 cm depth, which spanned the entire surface of the dwelling. After clearing away this floor level,

beneath a ca. 5-10 cm thick humic fill, a second, approx.  $200 \times 70$  cm hard-packed floor was discovered in the eastern half of the dwelling. An oval pit with sloping sidewalls and a flat floor connected to the southeastern wall of the building from the inside (OBJ. 465: Diam.:  $82 \times 77$  cm, D: 65 cm). This pit was located beneath the lower floor level and it seems likely that it was dug onto another pit. Large quantities of pottery sherds and antlers were uncovered beneath the lower floor level, forming a near continuous layer. A round posthole was observed near the centre of the eastern sidewall of the building (OBJ. 466: Diam.:  $25 \times 20$  cm, D: 16 cm). The southern side of the dwelling was demolished by a younger ditch (OBJ. 142) (Fig. 20). II.2, CCTG, perforated one place, BD: 19.2 cm, T: 0.8 cm (OBJ. 465, Inv. no. 2005.2.748) (Fig. 31/3).



**Fig. 20.** Feature 437. **20. kép.** OBJ. 437.



**Fig. 21.** Feature 438. **21. kép.** OBJ. 438.

II.2.2.1, CCTG, a horizontal row of right-slanting, impressed straight lines beneath the rim, RD: 22 cm, T: 0.5 cm (Inv. no. 2005.2.647) (Fig. 29/6).

II.2.2.1, CCTG, a horizontal row of impressed zigzag lines beneath the rim, RD: 18.8 cm, T: 0.5 cm (Inv. no. 2005.2.648) (Fig. 29/7).

II.2.2.1, CCTG, a horizontal row of right-slanting, impressed straight lines beneath the rim, perforated in one place, RD: 20.2 cm, T: 0.7 cm (Inv. no. 2005.2.649) (Fig. 29/8).

II.2.2.1, CCTG, a horizontal row of impressed zigzag lines beneath the rim, perforated in one place, with traces of iron in it, T: 1.1 cm (Inv. no. 2005.2.750) (Fig. 30/4).

II.2.2.1, CCTG, combed lines organized in groups of three, that slant towards one another, RD: 31.8 cm, T: 0.5 cm (Inv. no. 2005.2.645) (Fig. 30/5).

II.2.2.1, CCTG, a horizontal row of right-slanting, impressed straight lines beneath the rim. At one place, this motif is overlapped by a pattern of downward-facing crescent-shaped impressions. RD: 20 cm, T: 0.8 cm (Inv. no. 2005.2.646) (Fig. 30/6).

II.2.2.2, CCTG, perforated in one place, RD: 34.2 cm, T: 0.9 cm (Inv. no. 2005.2.644) (Fig. 29/9).

II.2.2.2, CCTG, RD: 54.2, T: 1.1 cm (Inv. no. 2005.2.643) (Fig. 29/10).

II.2.2.2, CCTG, a horizontal row of impressed zigzag lines beneath the rim, perforated in one place, RD: 17.5 cm, H: 16 cm, BD: 12.1 cm (Inv. no. 2005.2.771) (Fig. 30/1).

II.2.2.2, CCTG, graphite coated, RD: 8.2 cm, T: 0.6 cm (Inv. no. 2005.2.655) (Fig. 30/3). Graphite clumps, 6 pc, 18, 65 grams (Inv. no. 2005.2.641) (Fig. 30/2).

Feature 438: Semi-sunken building. It possibly had a rectangular layout with rounded corners, uneven sidewalls, and a berm in its southwestern corner. Its base was flat, but sloped southwards. The dwelling had a dark grey humic fill mixed with daub pieces and yellow clayey patches. The eastern side of the building was destroyed by a modern ditch. An unnumbered pit with widening wall was observed in the northern corner of the dwelling, whose relation to the dwelling is unclear, although they were likely related. L: 457 cm, W: 249 cm, D: 103 cm (Fig. 21).

I.2.2, CNTGS, RD: 21.8 cm, T: 0.8 cm (Inv. no. 2005.2.684) (Fig. 31/1).

I.5, CNTGC, a finger-impressed, arching cordon, T: 0.7 cm (Inv. no. 2005.2.701) (Fig. 31/2).

I.S, CNTGC, a finger-impressed (?) cordon jutting from a tongue-shaped knob, T: 1.1 cm (Inv. no. 2005.2.702) (Fig. 31/5).

I.5.2, CNTGC, a rounded knob on the edge of the rim, T: 0.8 cm (Inv. no. 2005.2.680) (Fig. 31/4).

I.5.2.1, CNTGC, a horizontal row of vertical impressions, a broken off knob (?), RD: 13 cm, T: 0.9 cm (Inv. no. 2005.2.675) (Fig. 32/9).

I.5.2.1, CNTGC, tongue-shaped knob, RD: 15.8 cm, T: 0.7 cm (Inv. no. 2005.2.676) (Fig. 32/10).

I.5.2.1, CNTGC, perforated in one place, RD: 13 cm, T: 0.8 cm (Inv. no. 2005.2.685) (Fig. 32/11).

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I.8, CNTGC, RD: 15 cm, T: 1.1 cm (Inv. no. 2005.2.683) (Fig. 32/8).

II.1, CTFG, RD: 14.8 cm, T: 0.4 cm (Inv. no. 2005.2.671) (Fig. 32/7).

II.2, CCTG, a piece of corroded iron in the perforation, T: 0.7 cm (Inv. no. 2005.2.728) (Fig. 33/6).
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#### Settlement features

Excavation revealed seven Late Iron Age semi-sunken buildings, forming three distinct clusters along a north–south axis (Fig. 1). Two dwellings were uncovered near the centre of the trench (Features 437 and 438). The northern cluster (Features 392 and 393) was located ca. 60 m from the two central dwellings, and the southern cluster (Features 387, 408, and 415) was approx. 100 m from them.

Most buildings had a rectangular layout with rounded corners. The area of fully excavated buildings ranged between 14-31 m<sup>2</sup>. Nearly all features were oriented west-east, with the exception of Features 392 and 438, which were aligned northeast—southwest. The buildings discovered at Szeged-Kiskundorozsma-Subasa-hegy were also oriented west-east. 13 Postholes were observed in four buildings, in three cases these were dug along the short sidewall of the dwellings (Features 387, 408, and 437). In Feature 387, two postholes were placed close by (Fig. 11).<sup>14</sup> In the fourth case (Feature 415), four postholes were located along the longer central axis of the dwelling. These postholes can be interpreted as traces of some internal division or the supports of some facility (Fig. 18). Although the large number of pits and subsequent disturbances hinder structural reconstructions, the presence of postholes suggest that these dwellings had walls raised above ground. 15 If there were any surface buildings at these sites, they could not be observed. Only two instances of hard-packed floors were documented: Features 387 and 437; the latter dwelling had two distinct floor levels, attesting the practice of renovation. An oven was built into the northwestern corner of Feature 393 (Fig. 13/c); similar ovens were documented at other sites in the county,

including ovens built outside dwellings at Csongrád-Vidre-sziget and Szeged-Kiskundorozsma-Pick ülepítő tározó, and ovens built inside dwellings at Szeged-Kiskundorozsma-Subasa-hegy. <sup>16</sup> The low ratio of ovens to buildings observed at the present site is prevalent at sites from this period. <sup>17</sup>

Twelve Late Iron Age pits and a single posthole were scattered throughout the site. All of the pits appeared as round or oval patches, and were more or less cylindrical, with slightly tapering or beehive-shaped sidewalls and flat bases. The sole exception was Feature 1, with sidewalls tapering prominently downwards. Its unique shape, the barely discernible steps in its southern side, its black muddy fill, and the lower altitude it occupied compared to other pits suggest that it may have functioned as a water reservoir (Fig. 3). It contained barely any finds and was located markedly apart from all other features. Similar features were excavated at Győr-Ménfőcsanak, and have analogies in Hungarian ethnographic research, where they are called "grave wells".18 Pits with near vertical sidewalls were likely used for storage. Proportionally less pottery was recovered from pits than from buildings.

## Archaeological find material

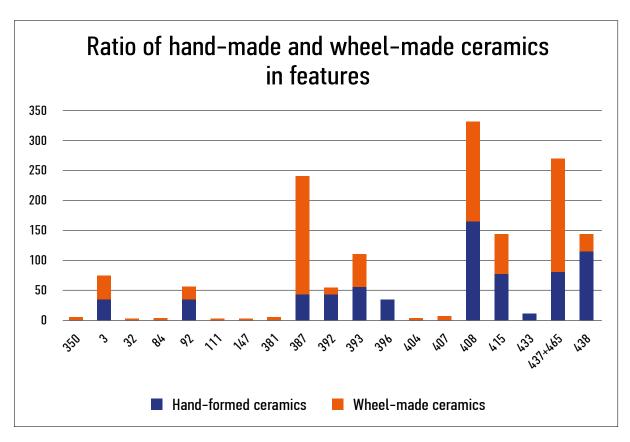
#### **Pottery**

For the typological and technological classification of pottery, we used the same system as employed for Sa-jópetri-Hosszúdűlő. <sup>19</sup> This enabled a statistical comparison with other sites utilizing the same method. <sup>20</sup> The sherds collected from Kiskundorozsma fit the categories established at Sajópetri, although the vessels used near the Maty Stream seem less varied. Pottery from Kiskundorozsma bear the characteristics of both the

- 13 Pilling-Ujvári 2012, 218.
- 14 For possible interpretation, see: TIMÁR 2007, 207.
- 15 Timár 2007, 203–219; Tankó 2020, 122–130.
- 16 Goldman 1974, 55–56; Ujvari 2010; Pilling–Ujvári 2012, 218.
- 17 For an overview, see: Tankó 2020, 118.
- 18 Dám 2015, 201; Tankó 2020, 132–133.
- 19 Szabó-Tankó-Szabó 2007.
- 20 Szabó et al. 2008; Tankó 2010; B. Szöllősi 2014.

Typology (MNI)			1	3	32	84	92	111	147	381	387	392	393	396	404	407	408	415	433	437	465	438	Σ	
								1				1						1			1			
Hand-formed ceramics			I.2.1										1											1
		I.2 I.2.2										1		1									3	- 11
	I.2.4																1							
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	I.3.2													1										2
								2				1						3					1	
cer		I.5.2			2									5				1					3	35
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land	1.3		I.5.3.1											1										
1 4		I.5.3	I.5.3.2											1										
			I.5.3.3								1													
			I.5.3.4																1					
		I.8.																					1	1
	Miniature vessel														1									1
	Non-identifiable			1	3	1	1	2				5	5	7	5		1	5	5	3	8		8	60
			II.1.1									1		4	1				1		1		1	1
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Wheel-turned ceramics						1						1		2							2	1	1	i
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¥	II.3				1							3		2				1	1	1			2	14
	II.3.1										1		1											
	II.4													1										1
	II.6?			1																				1
	II.5/II.7?			1																				1
	II.8							1		<u> </u>		1	_	1										3
	N	Non-identifiable					1	1		1	1	9	2	3	1			1	6		6	1		33
	Σ (MNI)				11	2	2	10	1	1	2	33	9	34	8	1	2	32	17	4	36	6	28	243
	. ,																				42			
400 (57)																								
	All fragments (Σ)			5	73	3	3	54	1	2	4	241	52	110	33	1	5	331	144	9	249	22	142	1485
	Hand-formed ceramics			1	37	1	1	33	,	1	1	45	43	52+R		,	4	164	75+R		59	22	115	694
	Wheel-made ceramics			4	36	2	2	21+R	1	1	3	196+3R	9	58	1	1	1	167	69	1	190+2R	_	28	791
	Rim fragments			2	13 56	2	2	5	1	1	2	170	6	37	1	1	2	57	15	2	98	4 17	34 87	326
	Belly fragments			2		1	3	41	1	1	2	178	46	59	31		3	259	116	6	143			1052
	Base fragments  Lug fragments			1	4			8				19		14	1			15	12	1	8	1	22	105
	Lug fr	agments		1															1					2
C	Spindle whorls (MNI)													2				2	2		I			
Spi											L				3						7			

**Table 1.** Distribution of pottery by vessel type and feature **1. táblázat.** A kerámia leletanyag megoszlása objektumok és edénytípusok alapján



**Fig. 22.** Ratio of hand-made to wheel-thrown sherds in the features **22. kép.** A kézzel formált és korongon készült kerámiatöredékek megoszlása az objektumokban

preceding Vekerzug culture and the La Tène culture, evincing a Celtic and Scythian coexistence observed at other sites on the Great Hungarian Plain as well. The ratio of hand-made to wheel-thrown (or combined) vessels is 110:133, which corresponds to other sites in Northeastern Hungary.<sup>21</sup>

A total of 1485(+R) pottery sherds were brought into the museum,<sup>22</sup> the minimum number of individual vessels (MNI)<sup>23</sup> recovered from the site was 243, including 150 vessels that could be classified by their shape (Table 1, Graph 2).

Different shapes and use-wear traces indicate that the community inhabiting the site used different vessels for specific purposes (cooking, storing, serving, consuming). Pottery types include bowls (Sajópetri I.2/II.1), pots (I.5/II.3), flaks (II.8), *situlae* or buckets

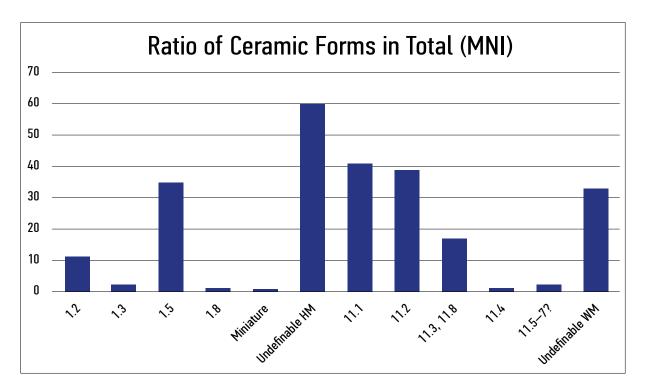
(II.2), and smaller vessels used for individual consumption, such as cups (II.5) and mugs (II.7). The remains of a sieve (I.8) were also recovered. Various bowls (21.4%), pots (21.81%) and *situlae* (16.05%) constitute the most common types (Fig. 23).

**Bowls.** Most bowls were wheel-thrown (78.85%), and vessels with thickened rim were prevalent (65.85%). The majority of these belonged to the subgroup of neckless vessels with rounded shoulders (II.1.2: Fig. 25/2, Fig. 26/2, 4, Fig. 28/13, Fig. 29/1). The second most prominent subgroup (21.95%) consisted of bowls with S-shaped profiles (II.1.1: Fig. 28/9, Fig. 28/1, Fig. 30/7), showing great formal variety. Two vessels represent a transition between the two most popular subgroups, as they both had thickened rims and elongat-

<sup>21</sup> Szabó–Tankó 2007; Szabó–Tankó–Szabó 2007; B. Szöllősi 2014, 41–42.

<sup>22</sup> In case of restored vessels (8 pc) the exact amount of sherds could not be calculated (marked: +R).

<sup>23</sup> Paunier et al. 1994; Voss-Allen 2010.



**Fig. 23.** Ratio of pottery types at the site (based on MNI) **23. kép.** A különböző típusú edényformák megoszlása a lelőhelyen (MNI)

ed necks characteristic for bowls with S-shaped profiles (Fig. 28/12, 14). A hybrid vessel was recovered from Feature 387, and has a thickened and T-shaped rim. This bowl is decorated, which is unparalleled amongst bowls recovered from the site. Four knobs were placed symmetrically on the shoulder of this large vessel (Fig. 26/1). Based on the differences between the ratio of these two subgroups research has suggested that plates with a thickened rim became widespread in the LT C period.<sup>24</sup>

Relatively few hand-made pieces were recovered from the site (21.15%). These include a hemispheric cup or bowl (I.1/I.2.1?) and bowls with strongly everted rims (I.2.2: Fig. 26/10, Fig. 31/1).

**Pots, pitchers and a dolium.** Unlike bowls, most pots were hand-made (66.03%). Barrel-shaped pots were prevalent, at least 24 individual vessels were recovered from the site (I.5.2: Fig. 25/6-7, Fig. 27/4, 6, 10, Fig. 28/9, 15, Fig. 30/9-11). Only a handful of sherds from biconical (?) pots with different types of

everted rims were recovered (I.S.3: Fig. 25/13, Fig. 27/11). Based on the dimensions of sherds, the presence of flowerpot-shaped vessels at the site cannot be excluded (I.S.1: Fig. 31/4). Pots are generally too similar to allow further classification. Wheel-thrown pots, also called urn-shaped vessels (II.3: Fig. 26/6), can only be distinguished from pitchers (II.8: Fig. 25/12, Fig. 26/3, 7) if the diameters of the rim and the neck can be established.

With regard to wheel-thrown pots and flaks it can be generally ascertained that due to the use of the potter's wheel, the decorations are more uniform. Beyond the cordons (Fig. 25/12, Fig. 26/2, 6, 7), incised lines (Fig. 27/2) or burnished zigzag motifs (Fig. 28/2, 5) on the shoulders of pots and flaks, no other embellishments were observed at the site. Hand-made pots display considerably more diverse decorations, which can be categorized into three groups: 1. appliqués: various knobs (Fig. 27/10-11, Fig. 27/6, 10, Fig. 28/9-10, Fig. 30/10, Fig. 31/5) and cordons (Fig. 25/7-8, Fig. 28/7, 15, Fig. 31/2, 5), 2 impressed and incised decoration:

incisions (Fig. 27/4, Fig. 29/3, Fig. 30/9), impressions (Fig. 25/6, Fig. 27/6, Fig. 28/6), combing (Fig. 28/9), and 3. surface treatment: (graphite) smoothing and burnished stripes (Fig. 28/2, 5). It was common practice to combine evenly spaced knobs or short cordons with incised, impressed and burnished decorations or impressed cordons on the shoulder of vessels (Fig. 25/8, Fig. 27/6, Fig. 31/5). All these decorations were widely used not only in the Late Iron Age Great Hungarian Plain, but were common already during the Vekerzug culture.<sup>25</sup> Burnishing was the least common among decorations used on wheel-thrown vessels (Fig. 1/12). The dolium recovered from Feature 393 was adorned with a spectacular burnished lattice pattern divided by polished stripes (II.4: Fig. 28/5, Fig. 34). Previous research dated lattice patterns to the Late La Tène period;<sup>26</sup> however, recent research confirmed that it was in use earlier.<sup>27</sup> Analogies are known from other sites in the county: both burnished and painted lattice patterns were observed at Csongrád-Vidre-sziget, 28 and the closest burnished parallel is known from Szeged-Kiskundorozsma-Pick ülepítő tározó.<sup>29</sup>

One peculiar hand-made, single-handled, biconical jug is worth highlighting: it is unique both in terms of shape and decoration. The inside of its everted rim was adorned with a chain of interconnected semicircular incisions, and the area around the stub of its handle was embellished with an incised fishbone motif (Fig. 29/3). A similar crescent pattern was observed on a wheel-thrown, single-handled pitcher recovered from Körösszegapáti, dated to the 3rd century BC by Miklós Szabó.<sup>30</sup> Further analogies of crescent-shaped motifs are dated to the 3rd–2nd centuries BC.<sup>31</sup> Ilona Hunyady suggested that the Tisza region was the centre of its distribution area.<sup>32</sup> However, recent find material attests that crescent patterns were used from the Danube Bend to Transylvania.<sup>33</sup>

Graphitic situlae. Alongside bowls and pots, a large number of pottery *situlae* were recovered from the site (II.2). Most vessels contained varying amounts of graphite temper or were coated with graphite (Fig. 30/3). It is interesting that the largest vessel, the situla displays the highest frequency of graphite temper (Fig. 27/12). *Situlae* recovered from the site vary considerably in size, ranging from mug-sized to large-sized containers (e.g. pithos). Rim diameters and calculated minimal heights indicate that apart from a few specimens (Fig. 27/12, Fig. 30/3), most vessels were medium-sized. The presence of small *situlae* implies that the type was used for individual consumption as well (Fig. 27/8).

All body sherds were decorated with vertically combed lines on their outsides. Line thickness indicates that at least three different combs were used (Fig. 28/11, Fig. 30/1, 5). At least 28.2% of vessels were adorned with horizontal rows of different patterns beneath the neck. These patterns were varied, including right slanting (Fig. 28/17, Fig. 29/6, 8) or downward-facing intersecting crescent-shaped incisions (Fig. 28/3), zigzag lines (Fig. 29/6, Fig. 30/4-5), wheat ear motifs impressed with a comb, as well as single or multiple sets of lines, slanting towards one another, impressed with a comb (Fig. 25/3, Fig. 30/5). A single instance of stamped impressions was recorded, a pattern of downward-facing crescents alongside a horizontal row of slanting lines (Fig. 32/6). The rims and lips of both decorated and undecorated vessels are also rather varied (Fig. 29/9-10, Fig. 32/3).

The intrasite distribution of this pottery type is worth noting, as nearly half of the *situlae* were recovered from a single building (Feature 437) and from the pit dug into it (Feature 465). During excavation, six small graphite clods were recovered from Feature 437

- 25 Bottyán 1955, 13-42; Chochorowski 1985, 31-51.
- 26 Hunyady 1944, 59–61; Nováki 1961, 86.
- 27 See Hódmezővásárhely-Fehértó: PÁRDUCZ 1945, 69, XXI. t. 5; Sajópetri-Hosszú-dűlő: Szabó-Tankó-Szabó 2007, 243, Fig. 52; Perkáta-Nyúli-dűlő: Garczik 2022.
- 28 GOLDMAN 1974, 54, 56, 60, I. t. 3, II. t. 1b.
- 29 Ujvári 2010, LXXI. t. 1.
- 30 Szabó 2015, 56, Fig. 75.
- 31 E.g. B. Hellebrandt 1999, 95, XXXVI; Szabó-Tankó 2012, 145, Fig. 187, Pl. III/6; Szabó 2015, 55–56, Fig. 41.
- 32 Hunyady 1944, 53, Map 3.
- 33 Szabó-Tankó 2018, 206-207.

(Fig. 6/2). The presence of unprocessed graphite implies that raw graphite was traded, rather than graphitic vessels in the Late Iron Age.<sup>34</sup>

Cups and small-sized vessels. The scarcity of handle fragments and small-sized body sherds with carination indicate that the amount of mugs and one-handled cups used in the settlement was low (II.5/II.7: Fig. 28/4, 8, Fig. 29/5). One sherd may be interpreted as a kantharos (II.6: Fig. 25/1). The ratio of hand-made to wheel-thrown vessels is 1:1. One must bear in mind that handles alone are insufficient to determine the shape of the vessel they belonged to. Distinguishing body sherds from mugs and small-sized jars is difficult, if none of the handle survived. Generally, such small (Fig. 27/1), occasionally flowerpot-shaped vessels were used for individual consumption (Fig. 28/10, Fig. 31/4).

**Further types: sieves and miniature vessels.** Aunique, small-sized vessel pierced by many holes (Fig. 30/8) was recovered from one of the buildings (Feature 438). Such vessels are usually interpreted as sieves, ember screens or incense burners.<sup>35</sup> Its shape is a legacy of the Vekerzug culture.<sup>36</sup> Its closest analogy was discovered at Szeged-Tápé 86. sz. kútkörzet.<sup>37</sup> A miniature hemispherical vessel was recovered from Feature 396 (Fig. 28/16), which may be interpreted as a utensil made by or for children.

**Repairs and use-wear traces.** Out of all the pottery sherds recovered from the site, 23 were perforated. They can be classified into three groups by borehole diameter. Two small boreholes were observed on the body of a highly damaged vessel (Fig. 27/3, Diam.: 0.3 cm). Two large holes were documented on two unrelated sherds (Fig. 27/2, Fig. 29/4, Diam.: 1–1.5 cm), one is a nearly round disc with worn surfaces, the other is an irregular body fragment from a pot, probably the semifinished version of the previous disc. The interpretation of these

discs is unresolved, possible explanations include fishing net weights, spindle whorls, jettons or tokens.<sup>38</sup>

The rest of the boreholes were around 0.5 cm in diameter and were equally present on hand-made, wheel-thrown and graphitic vessels (Fig. 25/13, Fig.26/1,4,9,Fig.28/10,11,14,Fig.29/8–9,Fig.30/1,11, Fig. 31/3). Most holes were drilled right below the rim, and less on the side or base of the vessel. It is generally accepted, that boreholes indicate repairs, an interpretation reinforced by the presence of iron residue in the holes. In one instance, a corroded iron hinge fragment was observed in a hole (Fig. 30/4, Fig. 31/6).

The presence of boreholes enables us to draw a few conclusions on the pottery use of the community, similarly to observations made at the more distant sites of Perkáta-Nyúli-dűlő and Hajná Nová Ves.<sup>39</sup> Approximately one tenth of the vessels were repaired, including both fine, wheel-thrown pieces and coarse, hand-made ones, indicating that pottery was hard to come by (seasonal production and commerce). Boreholes containing iron residue were uncommon, suggesting that most broken vessels were put aside for subsequent repairs and were mended by specialists, who were not always present at the settlement. One may also argue that vessels had intrinsic value in the eyes of their owners.

The worn bases and base rings of the vessels attest to their everyday use (Fig. 25/2, Fig. 28/5, Fig. 29/2). Several sherds were burnt or chipped (e.g. Fig. 25/11, 13, Fig. 28/1, 9, Fig. 29/9, Fig. 30/9–11, Fig. 31/1). It is worth mentioning that some joining fragments were burnt differently (Fig. 26/10, Fig. 31/2), and dissimilar shades are physical testimony to the diverse impacts affecting the various fragments of the same vessel.

#### Small finds

None of the small finds recovered from the site can be dated with absolute precision. Apart from shapeless and fragmented iron pieces, a single noteworthy artifact was

<sup>34</sup> Havancsák et al. 2009; Szöllősi et al. 2009, 384–385.

<sup>35</sup> Tankó 2016, 172.

<sup>36</sup> CSEH 2001, 90, fig. 11.

<sup>37</sup> Gulyás 2009, 287.

<sup>38</sup> Herman 1887, 164–166; Hunyady 1944, 148, LXII/11; H. Hanny 1992, 253, Fig. 4/2–3; Szabó–Tankó–Szabó 2007, 233; Tankó 2020, 184.

<sup>39</sup> Březinová 2013, 120; Garczik 2022, 129, fn. 59.

овј.	Number of Individuals													
	Bos	Equus	Ovis	Sus	Gallus	Canis	Cervidae	Lepus	Unionidae	Σ				
1				1		1	1			3				
3			1				1			2				
32	1									1				
84	1									1				
92	1	1	1	1		1	1			6				
381	1		1							2				
387	1	1		1			1			4				
392	1		1				1			3				
393	1		1		1		1		3	7				
396	1	1	1			1				4				
404	1		1							2				
408	2		2	1		1	2	1	1	10				
415			1		1		1			3				
433			1				1			2				
437				1			1			2				
438	1	1	1		1		1			5				
Σ	12	4	12	5	3	4	12	1	4	57				

**Table 2.** Distribution of individual animals in the features **2. táblázat.** Az állatok egyedszámának megoszlása objektumonként

collected, an iron knife with arched back and flat tang (*Messer mit bogenartigem Rücken und Handgriffdorn*: Fig. 25/9) from Feature 92, which shows the survival of earlier traditions.<sup>40</sup> Similar knives were preferred grave goods in Late Iron Age burial sites in the Great Hungarian Plain.<sup>41</sup> The scarcity of iron objects and metal slag implies that ironworking was not practiced in the settlement.<sup>42</sup>

Six spindle whorls and a single spindle ring<sup>43</sup> were recovered, all of them from the fills of buildings (Features 393, 408, and 415). The shape of spindle whorls varies, including biconical (Fig. 27/7), flattened globular (Fig. 27/5), and globular pieces. Two spindle whorls were tempered with graphite, and fragments from a poorly made piece were also documented. Two spindle whorls were adorned with vertically incised lines.

A single, grey sandstone whetstone was recovered from the site (Feature 437). The following rocks and

minerals were documented: andesite (Feature 92), mica and greenschist with carved surfaces (Feature 408), and grey sandstone fragments with natural and carved surfaces (Feature 437 and 438).<sup>44</sup>

#### Animal bones<sup>45</sup>

Faunal analysis revealed that the inhabitants of the settlement acquired meat mainly through grazing, rather than hunting, as attested by the higher percentage of bovidae (Bos taurus) and ovidae (Ovis aries) compared to deer (Cervidae) and hare (Lepus) bones. Other domestic animals include horses (Equus caballus), pigs (Sus domesticus), dogs (Canis familiaris) and fowls (Gallus). Shells from thick shelled river mussels (Unio crassus), swollen river mussels (Unio tumidus) and painter's mussels (Unio pictorum) indicate that inhabitants fished in the nearby Maty Stream. <sup>46</sup> The remains of 57 individual animals were identified at the site (Fig. 24, Graph 2).

<sup>40</sup> Chochorowski 1985, 80.

<sup>41</sup> Pl. Hellebrandt 1999, VI/5; Szabó-Tankó 2012, 128-129, Fig. 175; Szabó et al. 2018, XXVIII/2-3.

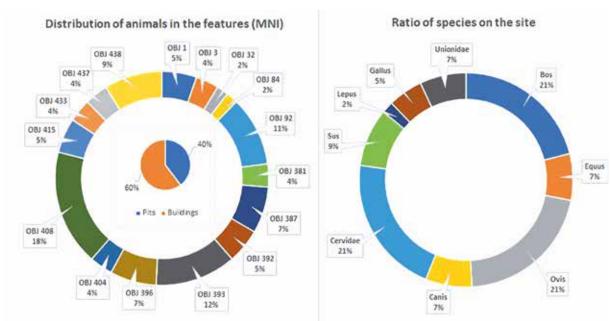
<sup>42</sup> Mészáros-Paluch-Szalontai 2005b, 141.

<sup>43</sup> For further details, see the section "Repairs and use-wear traces".

<sup>44</sup> The analysis of the archaeological lithic material was conducted by geologist Apolka Bárdossy (Móra Ferenc Museum, GIS Laboratory).

<sup>45</sup> Anikó Tóth, Csorba Attila (Móra Ferenc Museum, GIS Laboratory) and Erika Gál carried out the archaeozoological analyses (То́тн 2005; for the applied methodology, see То́тн 2006, 89).

<sup>46</sup> Тотн 2005, 2. ОВЈ. 408, ОВЈ. 393.



**Fig. 24.** 1: ratio of animals in the features; 2: ratio of individual animals per feature type; 3: ratio of species at the site **24. kép.** 1: az állatok megoszlásának aránya objektumonként; 2. az állatok egyedszámának megoszlása objektumtípusonként; 3. állatfajok arányos megoszlása a lelőhelyen

Age estimation indicates that mostly mature animals were slaughtered. Anthropogenic marks were observed on several bones and antlers from bovidae, ovidae, caprae, and cervidae.<sup>47</sup> Burn marks were observed mostly on ovine bones – among those whose species could be identified.

#### **Evaluation**

The buildings of the settlement formed three distinct clusters, located 50–80 metres apart, constituting a loose rural settlement reflecting the social structures common in the Late Iron Age.<sup>48</sup> No traces of surface buildings were visible during fieldwork. Archaeological observations affirm that the settlement was abandoned

peacefully. No chronologically sensitive finds were recovered from the settlement, thus only an approximate chronology can be established on the basis of the slowly evolving pottery. Vessels recorded at Kiskundorozsma fit the typological system implemented at Sajópetri-Hosszú-dűlő. Graphitic situlae adorned with horizontal rows of vertically combed lines were prominent in the LT B2-C1 periods, although they remained in use afterwards. Bowls with base rings became widespread during the LT C period. The earliest La Tène style one-handled jugs were manufactured in the second half of the 3rd-century BC. Crescent-shaped patterns can be dated to the 3rd-2nd centuries BC based on analogies. Features characteristic to later periods are absent from the find material, including burnished

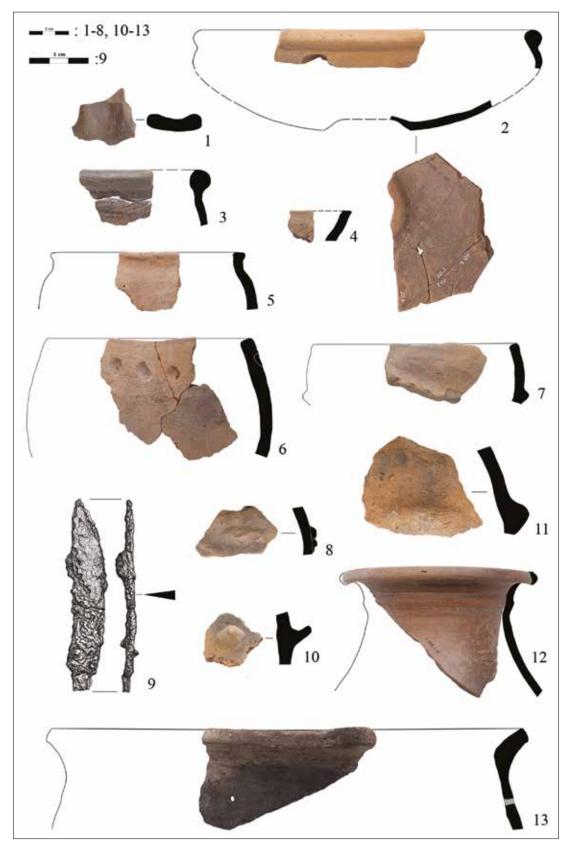
- 47 Traces of cutting: Feature 92 (1 pc Cervidae antler), Feature 392 (1 pc Ovis tibia), Feature 408 (1 pc Bos scapula dexter), Feature 415 (1 pc Cervidae antler, 1 pc Cervidae costa, 1 pc Cervidae femur), Feature 433 (1 pc Cervidae antler), Feature 437 (6 pcs os phragmentum), Feature 438 (1 pc Bos metatarsalia, 1 pc Cervidae primae, 2 pcs Cervidae antler).

  Traces of heating: Feature 3 (1 pc Ovis mandibula, 1 pc Ovis phalang primae, 1 pc Ovis tibia, 85 pcs os phragmentum), Feature 92 (42 pcs os phragmentum), Feature 392 (1 pc os phragmentum), Feature 415 (1 pc Ovis mandibula sinister, 1 pc os phragmentum), Feature 438 (1 pc Ovis ulna, 1 pc Cervidae metacarpale).
- 48 Berecki 2021, 30-33.
- 49 Szabó-Tankó-Szabó 2007.
- 50 Continuity: e.g. H.: Hanny 1992, 252, Fig. 33/1; Ujvári 2010, 197, LXXX. t. 4, LXXXI. t. 2, 7. Decorations: e.g. B. Hellebrandt 1999, 95, XXXVI; Szaβó–Tankó 2012, 145, Fig. 187, Pl. III/6; Szaβó 2015, 55–56, Fig. 41, Fig. 75.

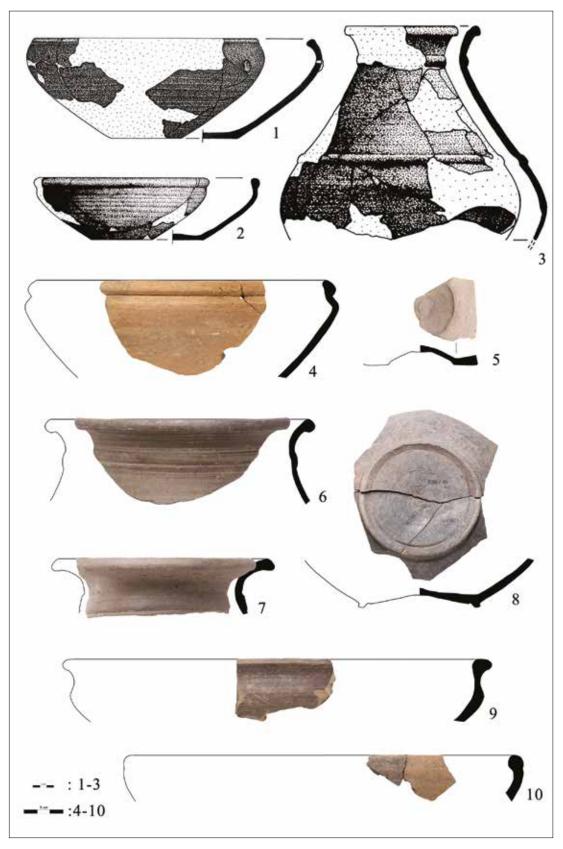
motifs inside bowls and pots, a decrease in the graphite temper of situlae, horizontal or slanting combed patterns, ovoid pots with tall necks, and the presence of lids. It is worth highlighting that dolia similar to the one found in situ at the site first appeared during the LT C1 period.<sup>51</sup> Based on these observations, one may conclude that the settlement at Kiskundorozsma was inhabited during the LT C period, but the existence of a LT B2 phase cannot be ruled out.

## **Acknowledgements**

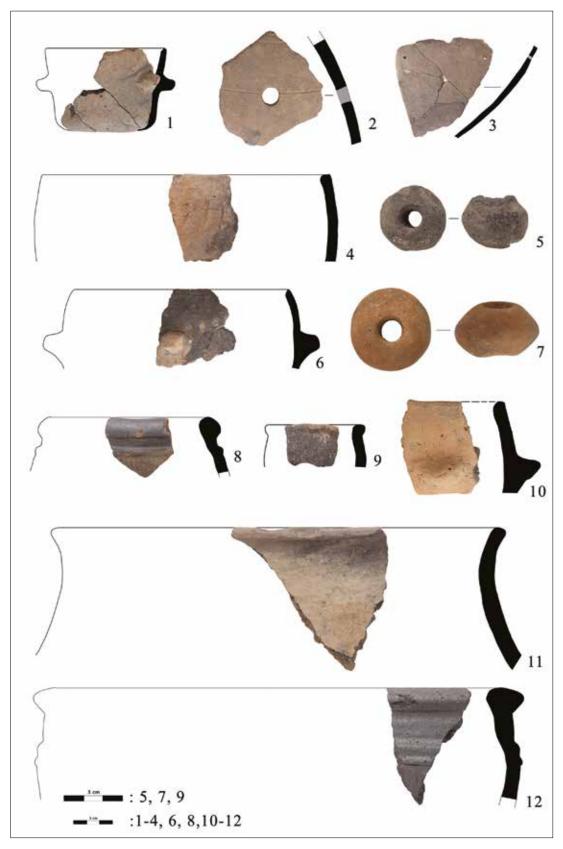
I would like to extend my gratitude to Patrícia Mészáros, Tibor Paluch, and Csaba Szalontai for granting publication rights. I would especially like to thank Csaba Szalontai for providing me with the finds and relevant documentation. I kindly thank Anikó Tóth, Erika Gál, and Attila Csorba for archaeozoological analyses and Apolka Bárdossy for the lithic analysis, Márton Takács for photography, Izabella Katkó for illustrations, and István Gergő Farkas for translation.



**Fig. 25.** 1: Feature 1; 2–8: Feature 3; 9–12: Feature 92; 13: Feature 381 **25. kép.** OBJ. 1; 2–8: OBJ. 3; 9–12: OBJ. 92; 13: OBJ. 381



**Fig. 26.** 1–3: Feature 387; 4–10: Feature 393 **26. kép.** 1–3: OBJ. 387; 4–10: OBJ. 393



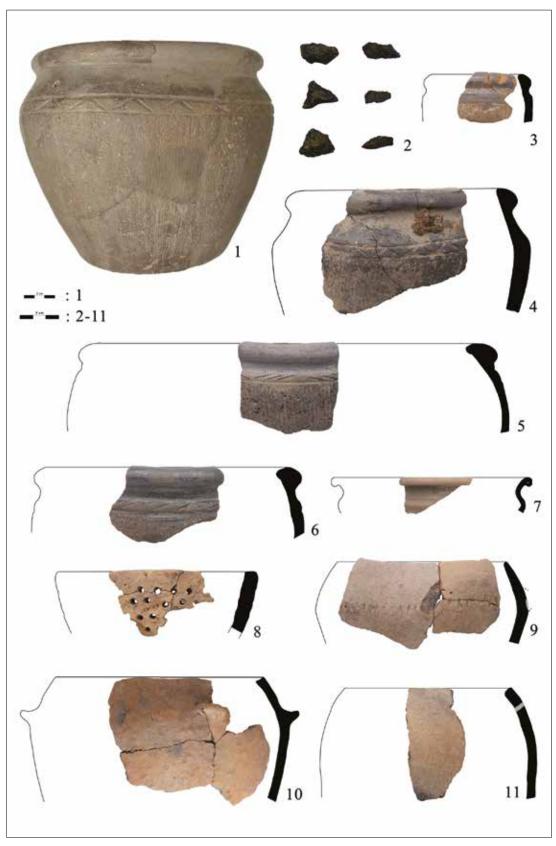
**Fig. 27.** 1–12: Feature 393 **27. kép.** 1–12: OBJ. 393



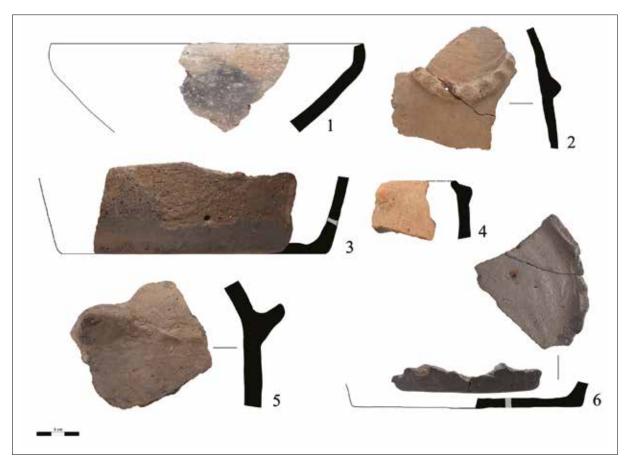
**Fig. 28.** 1–2, 16: Feature 396; 3: Feature 404; 4, 6–15, 17: Feature 408; 5: Feature 393 **28. kép.** 1–2, 16: OBJ. 396; 3: OBJ. 404; 4, 6–15, 17: OBJ. 408; 5: OBJ. 393



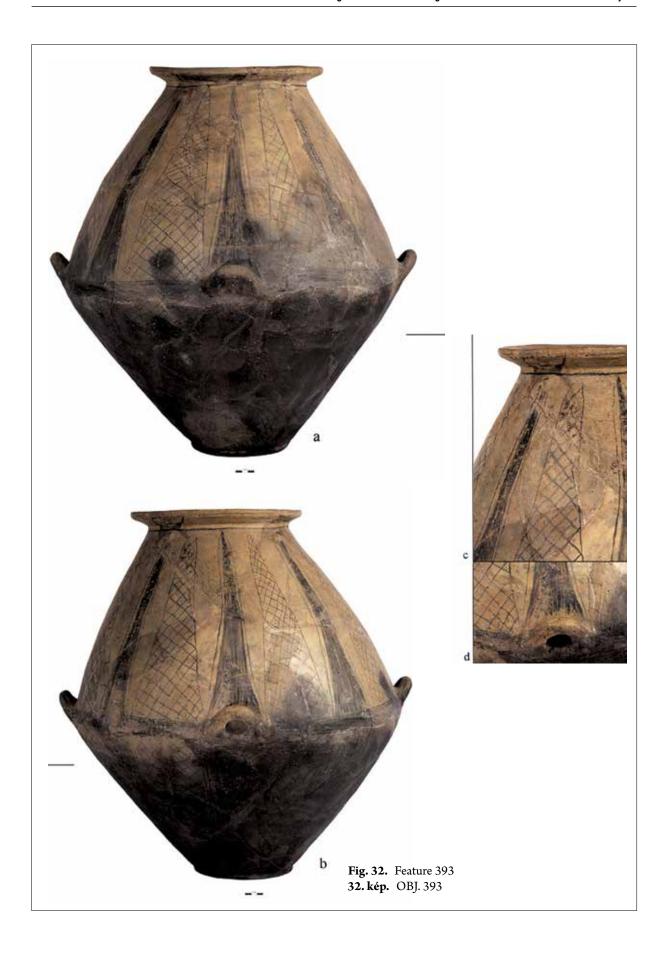
**Fig. 29.** 1–5: Feature 415; 6–10: Feature 437 **29. kép.** 1–5: OBJ. 415; 6–10: OBJ. 437



**Fig. 30.** 1–6, 8: Feature 437; 7, 9–11: Feature 438 **30. kép.** 1–6, 8: OBJ. 437; 7, 9–11: OBJ. 438



**Fig. 31.** 1–2, 4–6: Feature 438; 3: Feature 465 **31. kép.** 1–2, 4–6: OBJ. 438; 3: OBJ. 465



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## Késő vaskori településnyomok Szeged-Kiskundorozsma-Tóth János dombja I. határában

Az M5 és az M43 autópálya építéséhez kapcsolódóan 2003–2004-ben feltárásokat végeztek a szegedi Móra Ferenc Múzeum régészei Mészáros Patrícia, Paluch Tibor és Szalontai Csaba vezetésével Szeged-Kiskundorozsma-Tóth János dombja I. lelőhelyén (26/66; M5 Nr. 60 = M43/2; ID 34668), melynek során egy késő vaskori település nyomai is előkerültek. A hét, félig földbe mélyesztett épületből és gödreikből álló megtelepedés a Maty-ér ága mellett található, a környezetéből kiemelkedő kisebb magaslaton. A vízfolyás mentén, egymástól 1-2 km távolságra további késő vaskori települések sorakoznak. A Maty-ér meghatározó szerepet játszott az itt élő közösségek életében, hiszen élővilága fontos élelemforrásként, különböző ágai pedig kommunikációs és védelmi vonalként is funkcionáltak.

A három jól elkülöníthető épületcsoportba rendeződő, falusias jellegű települést az LT (B2)–C időszakban használhatta az itt élő közösség. Mindössze a 437. objektumban volt megfigyelhető padlómegújítás, ami a terület hosszabb használati idejére utalna. Az edények megoszlása kapcsán szintén külön figyelmet érdemel a fenti objektum, ahonnan a lelőhelyen talált grafitos szitulák közel fele került elő hat darab kisméretű grafit társaságában. A grafit jelenléte alátámasztja azt a felvetést, miszerint nem az edényekkel, hanem magával a nyersanyaggal kereskedtek a korszakban. Az OBJ. 393 jelzésű épületből egy sütőkemence maradványai mellett egy in situ feltárt, besimított hálómintával és felfényezett sávokkal díszített doliumot dokumentáltak (13. kép b). Az edénytípust elsősorban a késő La Tène-kor hagyatékénak gondolta a kutatás, de ma már korábbi megjelenésükkel is számolunk. A lelőhelyen feltárt edényt egy korai példánynak kell tekintenünk.

A kézzel formált és korongon készült edények kivitelezése és aránya jól illeszkedik az alföldi lelőhelyeken megfigyelt tendenciákba. A kerámia leletanyag magán hordozza mind a Vekerzug-, mind pedig a La Tène-kultúra formai hagyatékának jegyeit, ennek alapján egy békés kelta–szkíta együttélés vázolható fel.