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GALABOVO POTTERY AND A NEW SYNCHRONISATION FOR THE BRONZE AGE IN UPPER THRACE WITH ANATOLIA

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The rescue excavations of the Galabovo Tell ("Assara") near the village of Rozov Kladenets[2] brought to light a number of new problems concerning different aspects of the prehistoric cultures in Southeast Europe (for example economic models and the trade system cf. Leshtakov 1996). Although the investigations are incomplete and only a quarter of the settled area has been excavated at a depth of c. 1 m, the finds from levels 4-1a have provoked considerable interest.

In this study I would only like to summarise the information on the pottery from Galabovo 4-1a levels and to discuss the possibility of working out a new stage of synchronisation of the cultures in Upper Thrace with those in Anatolia and the Aegean (Fig. 1). In order to ensure the success of this attempt, first we should try to avoid one methodological instrument called "The Chronological fault line" still present in relative chronology of the late prehistory in the Balkans. The term was introduced in literature by C. Renfrew in the early seventies after the application of the radiocarbon dating and the interpretation of the cultural development within the autochtonic theory [3]. A well-known fact is that the synchronisation of Troy I with the Vinča–Karanovo III – Vesselinovo horizon was the "cornerstone" for the "short chronology". This problem has been widely discussed and a consideration of the old

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[2] Today the village is under the waters of the dam-lake Rozov Kladenets, and its vicinity now belongs to the town of Galabovo. The site is known in the current literature under the name "Tell Galabovo", since the toponym "Assara" ("Fortress") is very popular – there are other two sites nearby bearing the same names. The following abbreviations are used in the study: BA – Bronze Age; EBA, MBA and LBA – Early, Middle and Late Bronze Age; EIA - Early Iron Age; EH, MH and LH – Early Helladic, Middle Helladic and Late Helladic (Age); EC and MC – Early Cycladic and Middle Cycladic (Age); EM and MM – Early Minoan and Middle Minoan (Age).

[3] The basic ideas of this study were summarised in a brief report titled "Is it possible to break down C. Renfrew's "The Chronological fault line" held on the 7th Congress on Thracology in Constanţa at the end of May 1996. The problems of synchronisation provoked a discussion. It became clear that the new data are important and are to be considered on a broader basis. A short Bulgarian variant of the report was published in "Minalo", cf. Leshtakov 1997, 4-17. In order not to interrupt the logic of the statement, part of the text of the above mentioned report ought to be reproduced here as well. The manuscript was prepared for print in the early 1998 but due to economical and political changes that time it was not possible to publish it. The author hopes that the item is still actual for the Balkan and Anatolian prehistory. Some new references were added in course of my study in DAI Istanbul in February 2001. I am grateful to the former Director Prof. Dr. H. Hauptmann for the opportunity to meet the new information there.

arguments is meaningless[4]. The application of the new dating method has proved in general, that the Balkan Late Neolithic cultures are much earlier, than had been thought before[5]. Gradually the EBA in Southeast Europe emerged as a separate entity seen side by side with the Chalcolithic cultures. As C. Renfrew has pointed out, the radiocarbon dating is of primary importance in the new synchronisation, but nevertheless, Troy preserved its position as a chronological standard (Renfrew C. 1973:103-104). The crucial site of Troy is linked with other locations along the Northern Aegean coast in an arch-shaped line. Dates from the 3rd millennium BC onwards remain unchanged, but the cultures beyond the line go back at least several centuries. The idea of "The Chronological fault line" (Fig. 2) which was adopted from geology, stands for the sinking of a section of the strata which leads to a break of the links. Thus, the geological layers are divided by the borderline into two parts. The geological layers in both sides of the line preserve their stratigraphy, but the main picture is lost. In archaeological terms, the process indicates "sinking" into time of the whole region from one side of the line, while the chronological horizons from the other side remain in the same position. In this case, a "sinking" Neolithic block in Southeast Europe is replaced by the EBA block (Renfrew C. 1973:44, Fig. 7; 104, Fig. 20).

The re-orientation of the European specialists in prehistory according to the new scheme requires considerable time. Compromise variants are also suggested which further complicates the situation. A case in point of this confusion is an erudite such as Prof. H. Thomas. According to him the Late Chalcolithic in Southeast Europe is dated in the 3rd millennium BC. Bulgarian sites are correctly synchronised with Anatolian EBA, but are referred as "Late Chalcolithic" according to the Central European terminology. On the other hand, the real Late Chalcolithic cultures in the North (Sălcuţa, Krivodol and Gumelniţa) are synchronised with Karanovo VII, Sv. Kirilovo and Vesselinovo II, on no ground at all. During the first stage of his "Late Chalcolithic" period the sites Karanovo VII and Mihalich (ca. 3000-2600 BC) indicated the strong influence of Troy. The second stage of the "Late Chalcolithic" (c. 2600-2300 BC) is synchronised with Troy II and the Macedonian EBA. The horizon includes Karanovo VII, Sălkuţa IVa, late Gumelmiţa IV, late Krivodol and Cherna Voda. The third stage of the "Late Chalcolithic" is represented by the Coţofeni culture in the Danube, which continued until the beginning of the EBA (Thomas H. 1967: 98-112).

The radiocarbon dating and the adoption of the "The Chronological fault line" method lead to the establishment of new synchronisation lines in the frameworks of "a long

[4] About the "Vesselinovo Syndrome" cf. Nikolov V. 1998:10-16, esp. 10-11.

[5] Quite recently, the classical methods of Vl. Milojčič was successfully applied on the synchronisation of the complex Vinča – Karanovo III with Anatolia. The comparative analysis indicates that the method is correct in the current archaeology, if it is based on a large information basis (Nikolov V. 1998). The same conclusion has already been made also from Anatolian point of view, "... if the dates of the Central Anatolian cultures are lowered, the so-called "chronological fault line separating Asia from Europe" (Renfrew C. 1973:103-106) will disappear" (Özdoğan M., Y. Miyake, O. Dede. 1991:65).

chronology"[6]. However, most scholars even now could hardly accept the equalization of the EBA 3/MBA cultures in Upper Thrace with Troy II-V or with the Aegean EBA/MBA. Accordingly, the zones separated by the "fault line" those times could not practically have been connected, which would lead to a new line of separation. This situation is due to the lack of concrete artefacts in the discussed areas that could provide clear line or chain-comparison. According to C. Renfrew the radiocarbon dating has a leading role to the north of the "fault line", while in the south the dating relied mainly on true imports and "chain dating". These two basic methods are used to "transfer" historical dates from Egypt and Mesopotamia to the Cyclades and Central Anatolia. However, C. Renfrew has made a small proviso. According to him the comparative dating can be achieved well enough even without radiocarbon dates, only when well-excavated sites with precise stratigraphy and detailed typology of the artefacts are available. Radiocarbon dates are used for correlating the sequence in separate regions, and the traditional methods are also applicable: "... crossdating by means of undoubted exports and imports remains a legitimate procedure" (Renfrew C. 1973:105). However, at that time the author could not break up the "fault line", i.e. could not prolong the historical chronology to the north in the Balkans.

Hence, a real dividing line appears between the Balkans and the Aegean-Anatolian region, referring to the BA. Initially, it only had a chronological value without any cultural meaning (Fig. 2, 2). However, the existence of real imports is confined to the south, while Southeast Europe could chiefly rely on the radiocarbon dating. Beyond any doubt, this situation was caused by the lack of true imports in Southeast Europe and the scarcity of comparable finds after the time of Troy I. Thus the line becomes concrete, theoretically connecting BA cultures and at the same time separating them as different dating methods were applied.

This line has been dividing Southeast Europe from the Aegean for more than twenty years. Some authors had already tried to break it up by incorporating Upper Thrace into the Aegean cultural sphere (Katinčarov R. 1982; Treuil R. 1983:2, 15-18), but there was no real ground for their comparisons. The arguments were not based on the "chain dating" and isolated imports known that time have not been profoundly discussed[7]. Researchers mainly used parallels taken from the mass-pottery production (Georgiev G. Il., N. J. Merpert, R.V. Katinčarov etc. 1979: 306-315, 499-504). This way one can only prove the common historical development of Thrace, Macedonia, Thessaly and Troad (Katinčarov R. 1982). Even recent investigations do not indicate considerable progress, despite the meticulousness of the authors

[6] The idea was adopted with admiration in Bulgarian archaeology. According to one of the outlined links, the Ezero culture should be contemporary with Troy I-II or, in the most daring assumptions, before Troy I until Troy V, which could hardly be accepted without any reactions even in Bulgaria.

[7] The overestimation of the time statistic-mathematical methods in this case fully excluded the taxonomy – for instance the Ezero monograph is a good example for the incorrect usage of statistics. The parallels of mass-production of two or more geographically separated sites (for instance Ezero – Troy – Poliochni – Termi) lead only to the idea for a common imaginary line of development. The imports are considered as exotic exceptions in this picture, and *vice versa* only the imports could properly correlate the incomparable stratigrahpical sequence of the "village" Ezero and the "Anatolian town" Troy or "Aegean city" Poliochni.

(Parzinger H. 1993). In this case the "credit" goes to the almost unreadable database in Upper Thrace and the fact that besides Ezero, no other site has been published in detail.

Some foreign authors divide the Bulgarian lands into two parts. Northern Bulgaria with the Stara Planina is connected to the Danube and Central Europe, and South Bulgaria is included in the Thracian-Macedonian cultural sphere. This area comprises the lands from the Stara Planina mountains to the Aegean coastal zone, and its centre is localised in Upper Thrace. Considered from the south, the Bulgarian BA is an isolated phenomenon and a contact zone to the South as well (Harding A. 1983:176). In the latter aspect the confrontation between the Central European and Aegean chronologies is obvious. The authors agree that the ^{14}C dates of Ezero are of primal importance for Southeast Europe, but the assigning of the pottery from this site to the EBA in general is tentative. According to some scholars[8], real EBA in Central Europe begins with the "Bell-beaker culture", i.e. after 2300 BC and continues until 2100/1850 BC. In the Southeast, for example in Upper Thrace, it might have begun earlier, still the years around 2300 BC are generalised as the most appropriate for the transition from the Late Chalcolithic to the EBA in the entire Southeast of Europe (Erich R., H. Bankoff 1992:394 with. ref.).

After another opinion, Bulgaria and Upper Thrace are divided into two other parts – East and West. According to some authors, natural geographic passes connect the eastern part with the western Black Sea coast and via Dobrugea with the steppes of the North Pontic region, and to the south – via the valleys of Tundzha, Maritsa and Arda – with the Aegean region and Anatolia. The western area is connected with Northern Greece by the Struma valley, to the north of the Sofia plain with the Middle Danube, and to the west with the Central Balkans (Fol A., J. Lichardus, R. Katinčarov et al. 1989:7). In this case the correlation of the stratigraphic sequence of the East and West Upper Thracian tells (Ezero, Karanovo, Nova Zagora, Galabovo with Yunatsite and Razkopanitsa) is of a great value for the synchronisation of the Central European scheme with the Aegean one.

The total rejection of the hypothesis that Thrace was a part of the vast Aegean-Anatolian cultural sphere should also be pointed out. Arguments are drawn from a "general cultural" picture and the differences in economic models on the both sides of the "fault line" (Özdoğan M. 1991:217-225; 1993:151-163 with. ref.). Other authors have criticised the concrete pottery parallels, and hence the chronological horizons based on them, without regarding the nature of the society in general (Parzinger H. 1993:84-141). The synchronisation of Ezero with Kum Tepe, Poliochni and Troy is tentative due to the lack of published true imports in a steady archaeological context. On the other hand, the high ^{14}C dates from the earliest Ezero levels have not been a decisive argument for the existence of a real pre-Troy stage of the EBA in Upper Thrace (Manning S. 1995:168 with ref.).

After the decline of enthusiasm towards mathematical methods applied to mass-pottery

[8] The subject of the discussion is not the total terminological confusion in Romanian, Serbian, and Bulgarian literature regarding what should be called "Chalcolithic", what is "a transitional period" and when does EBA start. As a matter of fact, one and the same phenomenon occurring in the three present states has three different names.

evidence, many realised that the correlation of large information massifs or excerpts serves its purpose well only within dialectical materialism but not in the proper archaeological studies. The common traits of the pottery manufacture turned out to be an insufficient argument as to defend the Thracian-Trojan cultural and/or even ethnical unity. Lacking historical sources[9], today more and more authors rely on the important individual finds, rather than only on the statistical analysis.

The wheel-made "Depata" drinking-cups from Baadere nearby the village of Michalich have been seen in the foreign literature as the only true imports without any objections. Until recently there were no other symptomatic artefacts with a definite southern origin. Depata, however, are chance finds and eventually turned out to be of little significance to Bulgarian prehistory. Assigning them to the EBA II, i.e. associating them uncritically with the Michalich-Troy I pottery from the Michalich site itself, excavated by V. Mikov, led to the synchronisation of the EBA II in Thrace with the EBA III in Anatolia. Accordingly, the EBA III in Upper Thrace should be contemporary with the MBA in Anatolia (opposition of the idea is in Leshtakov K. 1993a: 556-560 with ref.). Thus, the tri-partial division of the EBA, which corresponded well to the Aegean and Anatolia EBA, was changed[10]. Chronologically incomparable phenomena were synchronised, but since there were no empirical grounds for this and none could be found, the following was done:

a) EBA in Thrace was divided into two stages, and the third one (Sv. Kirilovo) was indicated as MBA ("Nova Zagora MBA culture");
   The lack of parallels between the "Nova Zagora MBA culture" after R. Katinčarov (i.e. EBA III - "Sv. Kirilovo" after G. Il. Georgiev) and the EBA II in Anatolia and the Aegean was explained with the greater independence of cultural development and with the obliteration of the links between them;
b) The "Nova Zagora MBA culture" was synchronised in a western direction with the "Yunatsite culture", whose last stage was placed in the time of Bubanj Hum III or even in the second stage of this group in East Serbia. Hence, according to the "imported Minyan pottery" (MH II in Southern Greece), found without context in Velika Humska Čuka, the MBA in Upper Thrace was dated not through Anatolia, but along the line of the geographically remote Continental Greece. Today this operation is justifiably criticised and "the Minyan pottery" – presumably "grey Thracian ware" from the LIA – is not considered as a chronological argument. Thus, a large number of authors lost faith that the

[9] I do not envisage here the super-interpretations of mythical "historical" sources and the heroic genealogies, so conveniently giving proof of the Thracian centralist thesis about the military blocks during the Trojan War.

[10] The hypothesis about the existence of three stages of the EBA in Thrace is well grounded and is shared by most of the pre-historians in Bulgaria. The arguments concern the existence of EBA III. G. Il. Georgiev (1967:124) includes the Ezero culture, IV-I level to the Sv. Kiril-Methodievo stage, differentiating it by a number of features in the pottery. Later, the same author has divided Ezero into stages I, II and III. Stage II corresponds to Mihalich and is dated to 2400-2300 BC. Stage III, represented also in Karanovo VIIb, is a development of the culture from the EBA II-stage Mihalich (Georgiev G. Il. 1979, 81). The same is the opinion of N.J. Merpert, who dates Sv. Kirilovo (or Sv. Kiril-Methodievo) and Vesselinovo II to the EBA, and not to the MBA, as supposed R. Katinčarov later (cf. Merpert N.J. 1972:240 and summary in Leshtakov 1994:556-557).

relationship Anatolia – Upper Thrace during the EBA III/MBA could be proved. Bearing in mind these speculations, H. Parzinger included Upper Thrace in the "Eastern Balkans and the Lower Danube valley", and not in the Aegean-Anatolian cultural zone, i.e. Anatolia and the Aegean are separated again, but this time in a cultural aspect. The foreign authors are prone to set the borderline between the two culture zones after the time of the Troy I-Michalich horizon along the Marmara coast and obviously prefer the European one[11]. According to them, the lack of true imports springs out of the disharmony in the different types of society. Logically, there follows the uncertainty in the correlation of radiocarbon and historical chronology (criticism of the doubt in Maran J. 1997:171-192). This dividing line is drawn up in a number of studies, as Southeast Europe with its chronology is attached to Central Europe (Thomas H. 1967; Erich R., H. Bankoff 1992:375-394).

In other words, what we should point out is that the authors in general regard the contacts after the EBA II with the South as limited ones and EBA III culture in Upper Thrace has only few similarities with Anatolia and the Aegean. Moreover, the existence of MBA culture in Upper Thrace is unprovable in general. Thus, "The Chronological fault line" from 1973 is actually modernised, but this time in a cultural meaning, i.e. the term turns into "The Cultural "fault line". Accordingly, four main reasons could be placed in the very base of this construction:

1. The difficult comparison between the radiocarbon and archaeo-historical dating methods without additional correlation by dendrochronology in general. This operation can hardly be applied for Southeast Europe due to lack of the necessary samples of wood, with the exceptions of the Bulgarian Black Sea littoral (Kuniholn P., B. Kromer, S. Trater and C. Griggs 1998:401-407). The information from submerged Black Sea sites could be applied after serious re-estimation of the specific features of the pottery repertoire that should be correlated with Ezero sequence (Leshtakov K. 1994). Moreover, there is no single coastal site explored which could offer control of the insufficient under water site-stratigraphy.
2. No concordance can be reached between the chronology of Southeast Europe, Anatolia and the Aegean in the EBA III/MBA. Yet this thesis was considered as an axiom. There was a total lack of imports coming from regions with historical chronology and written sources. "chain dating" ("Ketten Datierung") method was not applied here due to the "white spot" Eastern Thrace as a link of the diagonal line from Anatolia to Central Europe. Furthermore, the Troy – Central Anatolia connections were very debatable (Efe T. 1994: 5, 16). Until recently there were no true imports from the South Aegean into Northern Greece, which also isolated the region as a link in the second chronological line "Egypt - Crete - Greece – South Bulgaria". The exotic Mesopotamian seal found in Poliochni was the only exception, but the island is in the Renfrew's arch.

[11] M. Özdoğan (1991:223) limits the penetration of the vessels of the "Salhane" type, which he himself synchronises with Karanovo VI, only to southern Strandzha-mountain. They do not reach the coast of Marmara, where "Kum Tepe IB" ware occur, despite of the fact that the chronological relation between both groups has not been clear enough. According to the author these differences are symptomatic of the time after the EBA 2 (Özdoğan M., Y. Miyake, O. Dede. 1991:65), and they became especially contrasting during the EBA III-MBA (Özdoğan M. 1993).

3. According to some authors, there are definite differences in the economic and social systems on both sides of the "fault line", increasing in time. They focus on the urbanisation of the Aegean and Anatolia after the beginning of the second millennium BC. This leads to the domination of the "pastoral" model in the Balkans, and the "urban" model in Anatolia and Aegean during the MBA.
4. The methods of pottery investigation in Anatolian-Aegean region and in Upper Thrace were different, so the old information bases were not comparable and any correlation between the pottery repertoires could be easily attacked.

This study aims at defending the existence of real imports in Galabovo, coming from regions with historical chronology, and thus proving the parallelism of EBA III/MBA cultures in Upper Thrace. The direction of the main synchronisation line runs along "Central Anatolia - Western Anatolia - Eastern Thrace –Upper Thrace". One basic dating method is applicable here - through true imports. Unfortunately it is too early to apply the "chain dating" and Crossdating methods due to the lack of comparable finds in Macedonia and Aegean Thrace. On the other hand, we miss the very important results from new excavations in Eastern Thrace, known just from short preliminary reports, written by M. Özdoğan and H. Parzinger. The suggested parallels with Anatolia – in case they sustain a well-grounded criticism – have an additional value: They could prove the existence of the MBA sites in Thrace – a fact doubted even today by most European prehistorians.

From the methodological point of view, we can hardly expect something more than what is already known from the '40s, when K. Schaefer and Vl. Milojčič systematised the archaeo-historical method. It is based precisely on the comparative stratigraphy and the "chain dating", serving as a "bridge" between the written tradition of the Near East and Egypt and the non "barbarian" cultures of Europe (Maran J. 1997: 171 with ref.). The only novelty here is the information after the '80s and the considerations about the character of the EBA III/MBA, turning Upper Thrace from depopulated region into a real part of the Eastmediterranean cultural sphere[12].

So far only Galabovo has yielded well-stratified wheel-made pottery[13]. These finds can be interpreted as real imports due to their shape and technology, but the phenomenon was isolated in the Eastern Balkans. Gradually Eastern Thrace and the North Aegean region were also emerged as a zone of trading contacts with stratified imports, which not only indicates the

[12] Recently we can see some attempts for reanimation of the archaeological perspectives of the Indo-European researches. Thus, cultures of Anatolia have strong traces of East-European steppe elements or even Southeast European "roots". We would not comment on these tendencies, lastly summarised by J. Yakar (1998:13-25 with. ref.), because they are almost as extreme as the Chalcolithic idea of "Ex Balkanice Lux" from the end of the 70-ies.

[13] Some new finds, which can be surely dated to the EBA III/the beginning of the MBA and have indisputable Anatolian parallels should be mentioned. They originate from the fortified centre Mihalich (excavations of M. Stefanova with the author's consultations from 1998-99), Tell Altan Tepe (excavations of P. Kalchev and the author) and the cult-place Cherna Gora (excavations of the author 1997-1999). It is not possible to discuss them here, the more so as their publication is forthcoming.

trade roads (Leshtakov 1996:227-278, Figs. 2.2, 3.1), but also prolongs the comparative stratigraphy to Upper Thrace.

Main data on the stratigraphy and the complexes in Galabovo (Fig. 3)

Excavations were carried out in 1988-1991 and 1995 over an area of more than 1000 sq. m. in a step-trench on the southern slope and in the highest part of the tell (Leshtakov 1993:193, Abb. 2; 1998)[14]. The basic two layers are from the BA and the Late Chalcolithic. Earlier sherds were also found. Middle Neolithic and Early Chalcolithic settlements, either under the Late Chalcolithic layer, or in the vicinity, could be assumed.

According to 1988-1991 data, the BA levels are 13 or 14 (Fig. 3, 3-5). The uppermost level was added to the sequence after widening the excavated area and clearing the highest part of the site in 1995, so today they are at least 15. The general stratigraphy has already been published (Leshtakov K. 1993:194-204); therefore the new evidence and the main information of the complexes and pottery from the levels 1a-4 will be only briefly present here.

Level "1a" (or "zero" level) was identified in the highest area of the tell, which was only cleaned up from the cinders from the thermo-electricity plant in 1995. The burnt debris of the settlement suggested the existence of several dwellings, however, complete plans or closed complexes have not been preserved. The settlement obviously collapsed after a severe fire. After that the site was not inhabited for at least several years. The wall-pieces were scattered over a large area and their surface was strongly eroded.

A dwelling floor, hearths, a pithos and a pit in the northern and the central part of the site were found at the first level. The settlement was partly represented by a compacted clay layer; it served the purpose of levelling the surface under the houses and passages over a larger area. This was a yellow-greenish beaten clay of different thicknesses. A rich humus black layer, saturated in the lower part with burnt sherds of wall daub, was situated between level 2 and the clay level. It presumably indicates a short interruption occurred or an area free of building activity.

Dwelling I-1 in the central part of the site (Sq. N_7 - M_7) was partly investigated in 1995. The plan is rectangular, with north-south orientation. There were probably two rooms, along a longitudinal axis and separated by a light partition wall. The wattle-and-daub construction of the walls burnt in a severe fire. The clay vessels in the house were grouped around the pithos and the eastern wall. Two intact vessels were deposited under the floor of the southern room – a bowl and a cup, which probably could be interpreted as building offering (?). A fragmented "Depas amphikypellon" was found by the wall outside the house (OF-177). Fourteen clay vessels were found in the investigated area: Nos. OF 127-186, 198, 206, bowls; 143 - a bowl with two handles; 140, 173 - jugs, 170 - a pot; 204 - a ladle; 205 - a pot-stand; 211 - amphora; fragmented amphorae, pot, and "tee-pot".

The information from the ritual pit in sq. O_6, where a bronze dagger and a wheel-made

[14] The members of the archaeological team were Dr. I. Panayotov, Dr. St . Alexandrov, Dr. Tz. Popova, Mrs. I. Zmeikova, Miss N. Todorova and S. Savatinov and the author.

"pilgrim flask" – a true import, was deposited, is very important (Leshtakov K. 1993:199, Abb. 5). Besides the 15 vessels with definite stratigraphy: 1 OF, a cup; 43 OF, a pot; 129 OF, a bowl; 14-15 NSF, jugs etc., some others could also be added to levels 1a and 1.

Level 2 was represented by the two dwelling-floors in sq. L_{4-5}/M_{4-5} (Fig. 4,1), M_7, J_8 and $J_{5-6}/K_{5-6}/L_{5-6,}$ which have different niveaus due to the strong erosion in the western part of the tell. Other dwellings were also documented, but not entirely investigated. In dwelling L_{4-5}/M_{4-5} eight intact vessels were found, part of them already published (Leshtakov K. 1993:208-212): Nos. OF 35, 37, 103, 105-106, bowls; 40, amphorae; 50, a cup; 112-NSF, a cup. A wheel-made amphorae neck was found nearby (Leshtakov K. 1993:209, Abb. 12.4).

The dwelling in areas $O_7/O_8/P_8/N_8$ is covered by debris of the first level dwelling and has a definite stratigrahpical position. Its plan presumably was rectangular and oriented North-South. What is special about this building is that the walls were built in pisé technique. Their internal surface was coated by white mortar daub, as well as the floor. A big stone tool was revealed in the foundation of the wall and under the floor, presumably sacrificed before the erection of the house. The vessels found close to the wall were highly fragmented.

A part of the third dwelling, also in well-preserved stratigrahpical position, was cleared in the central area of the site. The sequence in the plan-scheme of the settlement is underlined by the almost full coincidence of the positions of the hearths and the oven. The plan of the house is rectangular and oriented North-South with a small deviation. There were presumably two rooms, divided by a light partition wall; the floor is covered with white gypsum daub. The finds in the dwelling are *in situ*. The vessels were found in two spots – near the oven and upon the hearth. A fragmented bowl and a cup were found east of the oven (163-OF). Two other bowls were beside them. The depositories were placed in the eastern part of the room. Other vessels stood on a shelf near the hearth, which is indicated by the three consecutive levels of carbonised wood between them. There are three pits in the floor; the one by the hearth is more important. The pit was filled by grey-blackish soil, mixed with burnt organic pieces and heavily burnt domestic animal bones[15]. A multi-spiral golden hear-ring was found in the pit at a depth of 0.05 m under the floor. It is of great value because of its excellent parallels in the Northwest (Bertemés Fr. 1990:117, Fig. 9.1-10). Six vessels were found in the dwelling: Nos. OF 168 – a cup; 187 – a bowl; 207, 209-210 – depositories; 208 – a pot.

Floors of dwelling and heating facilities in sqs. J_{3-6}, K_{3-5} and L_{3-5} indicated the niveau of the third level. Dwelling $J_4/J_5/K_4/K_5/L_4/L_5$ (investigated area 70 sq. m) is covered by dwelling debris of level 2 (Leshtakov K. 1993:202, Abb. 7), and the floor base itself covers the debris of wattle-and-daub dwelling from the level 4. A large stone axe was found in the foundations of the west wall – presumably a building offering. The vessels are grouped in two places of 11 and 5 vessels near the oven and the horseshoe-shaped portable hearth, placed on

[15] I was given this information by Prof. A. Henning (Frankfurt am Main), and the identification of the bones was carried out by Dr. N. Benke, to whom I am grateful for the analyses. Bones of two species were found in the pit – a sheep/goat, premolar of a domestic pig, two vertebrae of cattle, caudal vertebra of another cattle and femur – proximal part, also of cattle. In fact, bone samples of all domestic animals, used by the inhabitants occur in the pit. This selection is hardly accidental. The fact that the pit was near the hearth and the golden ring was placed in it suggests that it could have been related to ritual activities.

the floor. Other isolated vessels were also found near the ware in the storage-area (Fig 4,2). Altogether 27 intact vessels were in the dwelling: 88 OF, a wheel-made "Syrian bottle" – a true import; Nos. OF 65-66, 89, 92, 94, 97, 114, 107 – jugs; 90-91, 95-96, 109, 115, 116 – cups; 81, 104, 112 – bowls; 81A, 93, 108, 113 – pots; 85 – depository; 138 – amphorae; 64 – "tee-pot"

Several dwellings were partly cleaned at the fourth level, destroyed by a strong fire. The house in sq. $F_3/G_3/F_4$ (investigated area 38.60 sq. m) is rectangular, divided into two rooms and with a north-east/southwest orientation. Digging works for a modern ditch have destroyed the eastern part of the dwelling. The construction was wattle-and-daub, and a central column supports the roof. There were a rectangular oven in the dwelling, a hearth and a loom. The loom-weights were found very close to the dividing wall and the vessels in the close proximity of the oven and in the southern room. They are nine in number: Nos. OF 72, 135, 139, 150, 212 – jugs; 124 – a bowl; 126 – an amphora; 141 – a dish; 144 – a shovel and a fragmented amphora.

Basic technological groups and forms in Galabovo 1a-4[16]

The ware is hand- and wheel made (Fig. 6, 5; 7, 3-4; 11, 1; 13, 1; 14, 1-2) The intact vessels from closed complexes have generally been used in the classification of the pottery. Some ware found outside the dwellings have also been analysed, but their information is not so precise. The pottery sherds are partly used in the analysis – only those found in the dwellings. The classification consists of 14 functional classes: shallow-bowls, deep-bowls, jugs, cups, pots, amphorae, storage-pots (so-called pitoi) etc., classified in shapes and types. For example, the shallow bowls are in seven shapes and in 15 types. Closed shapes are generally prevailing. Jug-shapes are six in over 10 types; the cups are presented by 16 types; the amphorae by 5 types, etc. Some new classes for BA Upper Thrace are recorded – pot-stands, flasks, etc. There are also a lot of new shapes, especially in the class of the jugs, cups, deep bowls, amphorae, and to a lesser degree – shallow bowls. All this allows us to separate the pottery repertoire of Galabovo 1a-4 from the information we already have for the EBA 3 in Upper Thrace from a formative point of view.

The patterns and the decoration techniques during the EBA III/MBA have never been a subject of a detailed analysis. The literature presents only the classification and methodical base (Leshtakov K. 1988), as well as case studies of Ezero and the tell near Dyadovo village (Georgiev G. Il, N.J. Merpert, R.V. Katinčarov et al. 1979:316-360, comments by Parzinger H. 1993:115-119; Katinčarov R., J. Best, V. Nikolov et al. 1980:49-59). The following decoration techniques have been used in Galabovo 1a-4: plastic decoration (bands, knobs, etc); incised decoration (with incrustation or not), stamped decoration, strokes, and "Furchenstich". The knobs are rounded or double-conical, carefully shaped and dominate in the plastic decoration. They were placed on bowls, pots, amphorae and depositories, sometimes on the

[16] On the general principle of pottery classification cf. Leshtakov K. (1988 with ref.). The former scheme is supplemented with new shapes and types, unknown at the time – flasks, amphorae etc.

bodies of the jugs and the cups. Plastic bands occur more rarely, in contrast to the EBA patterns. The incised decoration is surpassingly well presented on jugs, cups, shallow bowls and amphorae. The decoration on an intact jug is the only example of "Furchenstich" technique. The plastic bands with finger impressions or strokes were used for the decoration of bigger and rougher vessels – urn-like pots and pithoi. It is worth to note the absence of "Schnurtechnik"-pattern in Galabovo 1a-4. The specific character of the decoration is identified not only by this negative observation, but also by the comparatively high percentage of incised decoration. Moreover, the knobs between the two handles of the deep bowls and amphorae and their absence as handle-projections of the jugs and cups distinguish Galabovo pottery from the typical "Sv. Kirilovo" pottery repertoire.

Pottery from I-IV level of Galabovo and their parallels in the contemporary Anatolian sites

"The flaring bowls" (Fig. 5, 3) are known from the H. Schliemann's excavations in Troy, but in general they were dated to Troy II-V then (Dörpfeld W. 1902:267, Fig. 146, the second sherd from the left to the right). The American excavators specified their dating and the bowls were regarded as symptomatic for Troy V – early Troy VI finds (Blegen C. et al. 1951, Fig. 43). This shape usually has one horizontal handle above the mouth rim, with plastic decoration on the base. These handles are above the rim in early Troy VI, and as a general impression come close to the Thracian "Assenovets type" from the LBA. Flutes on the flaring rim, however, occur also in bowls with different rim-type (Blegen C. et al. 1951, Fig. 251.19; Fig. 253.13-14 – stage Va; Parzinger H. 1993, Taf. 149, 93a-b). The "flaring bowls" were very popular during the EBA III/MBA in almost entire Anatolia. Similar wheel-made one handled bowls were also found in EBA III layers of Tarsus (Goldman H. 1956, Pl. 267.436).

The carinated bowls (Fig. 5, 4) were also popular in the EBA III/MBA in Anatolia. Two complete samples with soft profiles and one handle were published from Troy II-V (Dörpfeld W. 1902:265, Fig. 140-141). Almost identical vessels were found in Karaağaçtepe-Protesilaos II (Demangel R. 1926:41, Fig. 52.3). Karaağaçtepe I-II has been synchronised on the basis of small numbers of parallels with Troy Ia-c, and Protesilaos III-IV – with Troy IId-f, with the proviso that a more exact date could hardly be given (Parzinger H. 1993:204-205). From a Thracian point of view the suggested date is unsatisfactory. The site yielded vessels, which could be definitely set in the second half of the Thracian EBA 3 even to its very end[17].

The bowl-types with an outwardly profiled orifice known from Galabovo (Fig. 5, 2) were also manufactured in Anatolia – either hand- or wheel-made, decorated with plastic bands. The EBA III vessels in Tarsus are hand-made, and the plastic bands are four, in-groups of two; the profiles are very similar to those in Galabovo (Goldman H. 1956:137, Pl. 264. 405-

[17] The vessels are from Karaağaçtepe II and III-IV (cf. Demangel R. 1926:39, Fig. 46) – a cup with a round bottom and oblique mouth; (Ibid. 54, Fig. 68) – a jug with a round bottom and a knob on it, from below; (Ibid. Fig. 70.40; 57, Fig. 72) – a jug with oblique mouth and a spout on the body, with parallels in late EBA 3 at Vesselinovo II, Costantia and the tell near the village of Dyadovo.

406, 38.1810).

The bowls with a flute below the rim (Fig. 5, 5) were recorded at the American excavations in Troy V. The flutes are wide, shaped by the potter's finger. The specific character of the technology, however, occurs in different shapes – A 18, A 19 and A 21 (Blegen C et al. 1951:250, Fig. 252, 2; 254, 18-21, 256, 12-19), including carinated bowls (Parzinger H. 1993, Taf. 149, 92). Therefore, this parallel indicates common traits of the manufacture, rather than exact formative parallel.

The bowls with Z-profile (Fig. 5,1), fully comparable to those from Galabovo, are also known from Troy V. Sometimes they display two horizontal handles above the mouth (Parzinger H. 1993, Taf. 149, 91).

The "trefoil-mouthed jugs" (Fig. 6, 1-1a, cf. sherds from similar vessels in Fig. 6, 2, 2-4) have not been published so far from other sites in Upper Thrace, but are very popular in the South. In the typology of the pottery from kārum Kanish they are divided into three groups[18]. Parallels to the Galabovo jug can be found in the second group. The neck is short and wide; the body is rounded and there is plastic decoration. Considering the number of these jugs – 20 intact specimens, they should have beeen very popular (Özgüç T., N. Özgüç 1953:157-158). These jugs were spread over a large area of the Eastern Mediterranean, however, except for their common feature – the peculiar mouth, the shape differences are considerable. According to K. Bittel, the jugs in Boğazköy resemble some Syrian and Palestinian samples (Ras-Shamra and Megiddo). On the other hand, the earlier "trefoil-mouthed jugs" in the necropolis Yortan are compared, also by him, to these from the Cyclades. Thus, at least two different regions of manufacture are assumed for Anatolia. The one from inner Anatolia seems to have been connected with Syria and Palestine, but the very vessels are local production, so there is no question of imports. The specific vessels often occur also in Alishar. In general, according to the authors, this is a very popular pottery type (Kull Br. 1989:61, 63 with ref., Anm. 67, Abb. 10). In Northwest Anatolia the "trefoil-mouthed jugs" appear in Troy IV (shape B 35), setting the beginning of a long series, continuing also in the 2nd millennium BC (Mellaart J. 1974, 684). The jugs from early Troy VI have a profile and size different from Galabovo jug. According to the body proportions our vessel is close to shape B 28, but the jugs of that group are with plain mouths (Blegen C. et al. 1951:293). Hence, there is no precise parallel from the American excavations of Troy. Schliemann found two "trefoil-mouthed jugs", one of which is quite comparable to those from Galabovo[19]. Unfortunately, it cannot be a chronological indicator, as the whole group of Troy VI-VII vessels is assigned to the "Mycenaean Age" (Schmidt H. 1902:146-148, No. 3002, No. 3007; Dörpfeld W. 1902, Abb. 187). This type of mouth appears in Beycesultan for the first time in level V (MBA), but also occurs in level IV (1750-1450 BC). The body-profiles are different, but the mouths and the position of the handle do not change and as a whole are very close to those from Galabovo

[18] The first group of jugs has a rounded body and narrow neck. The bottom can be round. The section of the handle is oval or circular. The third type has a very widened from the upside trefoil mouth without any parallels in Galabovo. On the excavations and the pottery cf. Özgüç T. 1950; 1953.

[19] The second jug has a rounded bottom and it is larger in size – 42 cm high.

(Lloyd S., J. Mellaart. 1956:126-127, 131; Fig. 3.15, 4.6-7). In the Pontic Anatolian region the "trefoil-mouthed jugs" does not seem to be very popular. In Ikiztepe intact specimens have not been found, only sherds, most similar to those from Hattusha. They are dated to the so-called Transitional period and are wheel-made (Alkim U. et al. 1988:168, Pl. V, 6).

The "trefoil-mouthed jugs" from Galabovo have parallels also in Crete, but they concern only the "beak". The comparable vessels from Knossos were found in MM I dwelling. They have a specific narrowing of the lower part of the body and soft biconical shape, but unlike our vessel the upper part of the body is bulging. The jugs have not been profoundly commented, as Sir A. Evans considers only the vessels, which in value come close to the works of art (Evans A. 1921:172-173, Fig. 122, Nos. 2, 4-5, 19). The same shape survives until the MM III (Evans A. 1921:661, Fig. 449b), judging by the parallel from Zakro, MM IIIb (Evans A. 1928:220, Fig. 125).

The S-profiled open cups with one handle, very close to those from Galabovo (Fig. 6, 6), are known from Kültepe. Their decoration, however, is painted (Orthmann W. 1963, Taf. 1, 1/04-06, 1/11-12). Cup-sherds in the same style were also published from Alishar. They have plastic knobs on the wall (Orthmann W. 1963, Taf. 13, 2/87-88, 2/95-97 incl. lit.) like the Galabovo cup. The vessels from Boğazköy (MBA) are also quite comparable – the profile and the place of the handle are almost identical (Orthmann W. 1963, Taf. 56, 14/11, Taf. 59, 14/28, Taf. 59, 14/29). Precise parallels of the wide cups form Galabovo could be found also in Troy II-V (H. Schliemann's excavations). According to their features (Dörpfeld W. 1902:265, Fig. 139) they can be referred to the end of the period, i.e. to the beginning of the MBA. More general are the similarities in EBA III of Tarsus (Goldman H. 1956, Fig. 358.451, 459).

The bell-shaped shallow cups with two handles (Fig. 7, 1) in Anatolia (E 4.2 after J. -L. Huot) are also very close to this from Galabovo. According to the authors this shape does not have exact parallels in Troy, but it is well presented in Polatlı IV, Herayon-Samos and Beycesultan XIIIa. In general, the cups are a very good chronological indicator as they are dated later than Beycesultan XIII and after the beginning of the EBA III in Tarsus (Huot J.-L. 1982:548-549 and map 63). The analogue of the cups from Tarsus with those from Upper Thrace is very impressive (Goldman H. 1956, Fig. 356. 491, 495).

The Anatolian "tankards" have not been found yet in Thrace (Fig. 7, 2). They have swollen bodies and one or two vertical handles[20]. They are considered to be drinking vessels, not for serving. According to the number of handles they are divided into two sub-groups (Hout J.-L. 1982:549-552). Those with one handle (Troy A 39) are extremely popular in West Anatolia. The cups from the second sub-group (A 43) are close to "Depata", but have different body profile. They appear in Troy IId-g and are genetically connected with the shape A 39 (Troy IIa). The development can be traced up in Troy IVc, i.e. to the end of the EBA III. In the large treasure of Troy IIg there is a silver cup identical with the clay tankards. It justifies the assumption that the most popular clay shapes were imitated as metal items, in order to

[20] The term "tankards" gains popularity after the American excavations of Troy and in the first half of the 20th c. BC. Their dimensions are comparatively small – from 7 to 15 cm, rarely reaching 20 cm height.

make special variants "de luxe". One of the manufacture centres is localised in Troy because of the numerous pieces found there, especially in Troy IIg, and the second one in the Central Anatolia. The cups from Troy have parallels in Karatash and in Tarsus EBA III, which turns them into a chronological indicator. Except for Tarsus, the shape is also presented in Bozüyük (in Northwest Anatolia), Karatash (Lycia) and Tarsus in Cilicia (Huot J.-L. 1982:549-552 with ref.).

The Depata (Fig. 7, 3), or shape A 45 after C. Blegen, have a mythical name and identification[21], but nobody undertakes to change the popular name (Huot J.-L. 1982:540). The literature on these vessels is large (cf. review by Spanos R. 1972; Podzuweit Chr. 1979; Huot J.-L. 1982:540-548; Hüryılmaz H. 1995:177- 185 with ref.) *Depata amphikypella* from Southeast Bulgaria have also been the subject of many commentaries (summary by Leshtakov 1996:243-246 wit ref.) and were considered as true Anatolian imports (Mellaart J. 1971:129-131). "Depata" appeared in the EBA III and were manufactured until Troy V, i.e. during the EBA III/MBA. In this case of great importance is the upper chronological limit, as the Galabovo vessel seems to be earlier than the rest of the pottery form the first building level, which has good parallels in the 2nd millennium BC (Leshtakov 1996).

"Depata" are considered to be a new element in the pottery after Troy IIb (EBA III), along with the "tankards", "flaring bowls" and the big ornamented pithoi (Blegen C. et al. 1951:206). The group of "red-coated ware" is also a novelty (Blegen C. et al. 1951:221). Very important for the dating of these vessels in Troy is the imported Aegean ware, as well as its imitations (Blegen C. et al. 1951:6). Red slipped "depata" occur rarely in Troy IV in the context of "grey" and "black burnish ware". However, the intact vessels from Schliemann's excavations are more (Blegen C. et al. 1951:127)[22]. One of the latest fragments originates from Troy IVe (Blegen C. et al. 1951:204, Fig. 186, and No. 11); i.e. comes within EBA III/MBA period. After 2300 BC "Depata" became very popular in West Anatolia and in the adjacent islands, for example in Samos (Herayon) or Siros (Kastri), demonstrating a variety of local variants. The type with a wide body is popular in Central Anatolia – Kültepe and in Alishar, and a similar piece was found in Eastern Thrace[23]. "Depata" were also found along the trade road from Northwest to Central Anatolia. The same type in Greece, in the time of Troy IV, have flat wide bottom and ring-shaped stem. Such were found in the EBA III at Tirinth and Lerna. Gradually "Depata" were replaced by the cups with high "metallic" band-handles, which appeared together with the "grey Minyan wheel-made pottery" (Mellaart J. 1974:683-684).

Two sherds of "Trojan cups" in the context of the "grey Inegöl ware" were found in Ilipinar III, on the Anatolian Marmara coast. They are dated to the very end of the 3rd millennium BC. According to the authors, the wide chronological range of the "Depata" (Troy

[21] According to H. Schliemann, this ware was used only for drinking wine.

[22] List of the vessels and comment on the shape in Blegen C. et al. 1950:209-230.

[23] Unpublished results form the investigations of H. Parzinger and M. Özdoğan, owing to which I acquired information about the vessel. On the excavations and their significance for the comparative stratigraphy cf. the reports by Özdoğan M., H. Parzinger 1994; 1995; 1997; Parzinger H., M. Özdoğan 1996:5-29; Özdoğan M., H. Parzinger, N. Karul. 1998, 123-149.

II-V) does not contradict the existence of the grey ware (Roodenberg J., L. Thissen, H. Builtenbuis 1990:107, 139, Fig. 18.8)[24]. In Polatlı 7-9 the wheel-made "Depata" were assigned to the time of Troy II-V, c. 2100 BC (Lloyd S., N. Gökçe 1951: 33, fig. 5, 42-43, fig. 10, 24).

The shape and manufacture of "Depata" at the end of the EBA III in Tarsus have local features (Goldman H. 1956, Fig. 356. 484, 495; Fig. 357. 497, 508, 512). At the beginning of the EBA IIIB the potters had begun to change the traditional for Troy shape (Mellink M. 1993:504), which explains the later differences there. On the other hand, two of the cups in Alaca were found in the context of red Hittite ware and are justifiably compared to the ones from Troy. According to the head of the excavations R. Arık, cups of the Westanatolian type were found in Karaoğlan, and what is more important – also at the beginning of the 2nd millennium BC. Therefore, it could be assumed that the tradition of "Depata" in the Central Anatolia continued later in comparison with Troy, i.e. in Old Hittite time. "Depata" were manufactured also in the "Intermediate ceramic" style (3rd/2nd millennium BC, cf. Öktü A. 1973:29, Taf. 16-17[25], Taf. 37, cat. No. II-C/01-03). This style is described by H. von der Osten at the excavations of Alishar and is distinguished for its painted decoration. The two handled cups in kārum Kanish, some of them strongly influenced by "Depata", represent the latest manifestation of this tradition. They are divided into three groups: cups with sharp-pointed bottom and handles in the upper part of the body (Özgüç T., N. Özgüç 1953, Abb. 203-208)[26]; shallow cups (Özgüç T., N. Özgüç 1953, Abb. 195) and cups in the tradition of "Depata" (Özgüç T., N. Özgüç 1953, Abb. 194-195). The last group, however, has only an additional significance for the dating of the pottery from Galabovo.

On the edge of the 3rd and 2nd millennium BC the flasks with an oval body also appeared (cf. below). A combination of "depas" – "pilgrim flask" is so far registered only in the acropolis of Aphrodisias, Southwest Anatolia. Complexes B and C (MBA) are synchronised with Beycesultan IVb-c, and the pottery unearthed from the layer under them (EBA 3) is related not only to Beycesultan, but also to Troy. In this context "depas" and a "pilgrim flask" with "Özenhenkel" were found (Kull Br. 1988:166 with ref.), and the last one, however, is a distant parallel to the flask from Galabovo[27].

The amphorae in Galabovo are in several types (Fig. 8). The vessel from dwelling M_{4-5} (level 2) is wheel-made and coated with black "metal" slip (Fig. 7, 5). Precise parallels could be find in the pottery of MH I-II and in sherds from Karaevli-altı in Turkish Thrace (Leshtakov K. 1993:210-212, Abb. 11.5; 1996 with ref.). The other amphorae have parallels in Anatolia. In the EBA III in Tarsus the shape have narrower and higher neck, but the mouth and handles are the same (Goldman H. 1956, pl. 290. 597, 605). Amphorae with two vertical handles and

[24] The illustrated sherd belongs to a small cup-base with quite narrow body, similar to that from Galabovo and very different to the cup Kanlıgečit.

[25] The vessels from Kültepe and Alishar are I-C/01 and I-C/02 after Öktü's catalogue.

[26] One "depas" with two handles, pointed bottom and wide conical body originates from Kültepe (Özgüç T., N. Özgüç 1953:257, Lev. XLI, 399, Lev. XXX, 194). The handles and a part of the mouth are broken. The cup from Abb. 194 (Ibid. 170, No. 385) was found in kārum Kanish, in annals no. 2 together with clay cuneiform tables and it is very well dated. This cup, however, typologically is too far from the Galabovo vessel as a type.

[27] The vessel is published by Ekim, K. T. TürkAD 19-1, 1970:85, Abb. 55.

shorter, broadening at the top neck were also found at the site (Goldman h. 1956, Pl. 267.589). The amphorae in Kültepe have two horizontal and two vertical handles or only two vertical handles, and they are always decorated in the area between the two handles (Özgüç T., N. Özgüç 1953, lev. XXXII. 220, 222; Lev. XXXIII. 229, 232).

The spouted vessels or the "tee-pots" (Fig. 9) in Anatolia occurred as early as in the EBA II, according to Tarsus evidence (Goldman H. 1956, Pl. 347 (BD). The mentioned sherds belong to an open bowls with large diameter of the orifice. Typologically the spout differs from the later shapes in the site, as well as from the vessels from Galabovo. The teapot from Galabovo 1 finds a precise parallel in Tarsus EBA III (Goldman H. 1956, Pl. 273. 571)[28] and later. Very similar vessels were manufactured in the Assirian trade emporia – for example, in kārum Kanish IV-III (Emre K. 1989:123, Fig. A1, 3 – level IV; A1, 9-11 – level III; Pl. 23, 5-8; Pl. 24). The tee-pots continue to be symptomatic shape in the next MBA period of kārum Kanish I-II. According to T. Özgüç the tee-pots from levels IV and III have more round-bellied bodies in comparison with those from level II (Emre K. 1989:111-115 incl. lit.)[29]. They were used in the everyday life, as well as grave goods. A sherd in "Intermediate ware" style, interim to vessels from level II was unearthed in level III (Emre K. 1989:111-119). A teapot from Alaca is in the same style (Öktü A. 1973:29, Taf. 39, and No. III/01). Two different types of teapots, reconstructed by fragments, were recorded also in Ikiztepe in the Anatolian Pontic region. As a whole they follow the style of the Hittite vessels from Central Anatolia (Alkım U. et al. 1988:167, Pl. IV, 3-17; type I – Pl. IV, 3-6, type II – Pl. IV, 7-8).

In general it is considered that the vessels with spouts were used for the storage and pouring of different liquids. A deep spouted bowl from EBA III level at Dyadovo has internal surface covered by a thick deposit of fur and presumably was used for boiling water[30]. Other spouted vessels, having size of cups, were presumably used for drinking or for special liquids. In the Upper Thracian EBA III, however, there were spouted vessels, which by shape and capacity were closer to the pots. Obviously their function has been different from those, mentioned above. An idea for their purpose can be taken from the similar Anatolian ware. M. Mellink called a large vessel with four spouts from Karatash "a crater" (EBA II or Early Dynastic II/III period in Mesopotamia). Similar craters are known from roll-seals in Ur and other sites in Mesopotamia. According to the author the four spouts were designed for collective beer drinking, as suggested by the mentioned images - priests, holding big straws dipped into a similar vessel. This manner of drinking was imposed because of the fact that the beer was not filtrated (Mellink, M. 1971:69-73, Pl. 1-3). It is possible that some of the specimens here with the shape of pots and jugs may have been used similarly. Of course, in our case the spout is only one on a vessel, which suggest certain alienation of the participants

[28] The body of the vessel from Tarsus is flatter. There is no definite information of a handle, though such appears on the picture. Wheel-made.

[29] There are two tee-pot's types. Those of the first type are divided into two groups. Group 6.1 includes the vessels of beige-washed surface and flat base. Group 6.2 includes the vessels with dark red slip, burnished at the upper part. Most of them have a ring-base. The vessels of the second type are with basket-handles. (Emre K. 1989:123, Fig. A1, 12-13; Pl. 25, 1-3).

[30] Unpublished data from the excavations of R. Katinčarov with the participation of the author.

in the ritual. Recently, a EIA drinking vessel for some special liquid – presumably also beer – was found during the excavations of Eastern Thrace (Özdoğan, M. 1987: 29 and Fig. 4, 30 and Fig. 5a-b). It, however, is quite later, which on the other hand is a certain argument on behalf of the idea for the continuity of this peculiar and important ritual.

The pots with an elongated body (Fig. 10) could well be compared with those from Tarsus EBA III levels (Goldman H. 1956:158, Pl. 280. 663). They are defined as kitchen vessels and are in general hand-made. The pots with wide bulky body and two vertical handles also have parallels in Tarsus (Goldman H. 1956, Pl. 276.660-661 hand-made). We could prolong the parallels to Acemhöyük where a pot with elongated body and two handles was unearthed in a child's grave No. 1 under the floor of dwelling BB/51. It is dated to the beginning of the EBA III (Özgüç N. 1993:517-519, Fig. 2), which could give the *terminus ante quem* of the manufacture of this pot-type. However, the upper limit of their production is not clear, but it is definitely after the beginning of the "Transitional period".

The most precise parallel of the flask (so-called Syrian flask) from Galabovo 3 (Fig. 11, 1), an undoubted import (Leshtakov K. 1996: 260, Fig. 10. 1, Cat. No. 25), is unfortunately not stratified and originates from the Karkemish vicinity (Orthmann W. 1963:176, Taf. 96, 4)[31]. The Syrian flasks are one of the most important finds for the comparative chronology of Anatolia. They were wheel-made and have dark to light-grey fine paste. A special technological feature is the typical double thickening of the mouth and the alabastron-like shape. They were unearthed in Kültepe 11-12, EBA IIIC of Tarsus etc. (Öktü A. 1973:105), which is explained with a large intensification of their trade contacts with the Southwest. The flasks were presumably used as perfume containers and were interpreted as a clear evidence for the active trade exchange. All the vessels imported from Syria were wheel-made (Goldman H. 1956:154, Fig. 26.8; Mellink M. 1992:215), but the Anatolian imitations were also hand-made. In general, the shape has a parallel the golden flask from Troy II (Dörpfeld W. 1902, Fig. 257), which could be considered as a "delux" variant.

The numerous examples from Tarsus include "alabastron" type (Goldmann H. 1956, Fig. 361. 614, 616), as well as flasks with ovoidal body. The bottoms were rounded and slightly pointed. The closeness of the Galabovo piece to the last type is very impressive and they are almost identical (cf. Goldmann H. 1956:180, Fig. 294. 913, 915-917). A flask also very close to the Galabovo example originates from Alishar 13 T, grave dX46. According to M. Mellink it has parallels in the Early Dynastic period of Ur and Fara. All these allow us to define the Thracian find as a real import, most probably from Central, and possibly from Southwest Anatolia.

The "Pilgrim flask" or "Linsenflaschen" from Galabovo 1 (Fig. 13, 1) is also a true import and has so precise parallels in North Central Anatolia so it can definitely be considered as manufactured there (Leštakov K. 1993:200-201). The shape is so specific that with its

[31] The flask was manufactured in the same manner, the surface is covered with polished yellow-brown slip. Kept in London, British Museum, No. 1922.5/11.500. The name of the site is known also as Karkemiš (after Orthmann W. 1963) as well as Carchemish (cf. for instance Mellink M. 1956:53).

types[32] it represents an excellent chronological indicator. The flask corresponds exactly to type A by F. Fischer (Boğazköy), whose manufacture could be set in the first part of MBA according to kārum Kanish chronology. It is worth to note that the discussion about the origins of the type is very important, but this is not the place proper for it. However, we cannot adopt the assumption that the type is genetically connected with Cycladic repertoire beyond any doubt (Fischer F. 1963:50, Anm. 198; a summary of the flasks in Kull Br. 1989:49-53). The slightly later types appear in Boğazköy also in MBA (Fischer F. 1963:50, 53). During the LBA the types have two or three handles and plastic edge at the connection of the two lenses (Özgüç T. 1978, Pl. 49, 1-3, from Mashathüyük, Hittite level I; 1982, Pl. 7a-b). They were found in a larger region in comparison with that of the MBA – from Troy to Palestine, Cyprus and in Egypt (Blegen C. et al. 1953:337, Pl. 342), including in Tarsus (Goldmann H. 1956, Pl. 377. 1024).

The dimensions of the MBA flasks vary in a wide range. The small ones, to which Galabovo vessel pertains, presumably were personal, as they contain ca. 1-l liquid. They were wheel-made of two lens-shaped parts, the neck and the handle were added afterward (Müller-Karpe A. 1988:27-30). The Galabovo vessel was also made in this manner.

The Galabovo flask has the most close analogues in Alishar, Korucutepe (intact vessels), Polatlı[33], Hattusha (sherds of the same type) and kārum Kanish Ib (Özgüç T. 1959, T 31.4). The last find is accurately dated through written records. The vessel from Alishar III (d 2414) is earlier and was found as a grave good in d X33 (Osten von der H. 1937:188, Fig. 194). Later it was dated before kārum Kanish II (Fischer F. 1963:95, Anm. 141). The flask from Korucutepe, as that from Galabovo, is not a local production. It, however, is dated to 1800-1600 BC (Loon van M. 1983:71, Pl. 8, 9A). The vessels from Boğazköy are from layer IVc of Buyükkale and from layer IV of "Unterstadt" (Fischer F. 1963, Abb. 18-19, Taf. 46. 468, 487, 50.468). The flask from "Unterstadt" originates from the Old-Assirian trading factory kārum Hattush, synchronised with kārum Kanish Ib, while the other one is dated slightly after that, in the time of Hattusili I (Fischer F. 1963:98-101, Abb. 22). Thus, the dating of the Galabovo flask to the Early Hittite period is confirmed by two independent sources with historical chronology – kārum Hattush and kārum Kanish.

The typology of the funnels (Fig. 13, 3) in Anatolia includes two groups, differentiated in 1949 during the excavation of Kültepe[34]. Similar artefacts are known from Alaca and from Gözlü Kule – an Old Hittite layer (Özgüç T., N. Özgüç 1953:173, and 177-178, Abb. 137, Lev. XXIX). Only one fragment from wheel-made funnel has been published from the excavations

[32] The typology of the "Pilgrim flasks" is after F. Fischer and O. Bilgy (cf. Müller-Karpe A. 1988:30, Anm. 85).
[33] The Polatlı sherd belongs to the group of the Hittite pottery from level 28 and it is dated after the beginning of the 2nd millennium BC (Lloyd S., N. Gökçe 1951:50-51, Fig. 12, 21; about the corrections in the stratigraphy of the Polatlı and comment on the pottery cf. Orthmann W. 1963:28, Anms. 75-76, 98). The flasks from Southwest Anatolia are very different from the Galabovo vessel (cf. Kull Br. 1988:166, Anm. 681; Parzinger H. 1993:221-223 incl. lit., Beil. 5).
[34] The first group is represented by only one piece with small dimensions – 4.9 cm high (Kültepe II, sondage B, No. 473). The second group comprises funnels of larger size and without handles (Kültepe Ib, sondage B).

of Ikiztepe, dated to the "Transitional period" (Alkım U. et al. 1988:169, Pl. V, 8. Typ I)[35]. The parallels with the Thracian specimens are obvious, although they could be used only as an argument for a general similarities in the function, and not for synchronisation.

The artefact from Galabovo 4 (Fig. 13, 4-4a), known as shovel or crucible[36] in Anatolia, have the closest parallels in Ikiztepe. These from the EBA II-III levels were most probably used for scooping grain or liquids, after the authors' opinion. An intact piece of the same type was also found in the "transitional period" layer (until the 19th millennium BC). This specimen has the shape of a shovel and one handle with a rounded section. It was found in a large granary, which supports its explanation as a measuring grain tool – crucible or grain ladle (Alkım U. et al. 1988:207-209, Pl. XLVI, 6; Fig. 156), or why not – as a grain standard[37]. The very similar artefact from Alaca was interpreted, however, as a melting ceramic tool (Alkım U. et al. 1988:179-181, note 130, Pl. XXI, 5-6).

The small double pot-stand from Galabovo (Fig. 13, 2) was also known in Anatolia. Two similar pot-stands were published from Boğazköy (level NW-Hang 9). The first one is short, double conical and wide and the second has a cylindrical shape and vertical slots in the walls (Orthmann W. 1963:148, Taf. 14/18-19). The double conical pot-stand from Alishar is closer to that from Galabovo, but has not been stratified. The same value has a pot-stand from Ahlatlibel (Orthmann W. 1963:116, Taf. 2/108; 121, 126, Taf. 26, 5/66). A small bowl on a high stand, called "Fruchtständer" originates from layer 12 of the Kültepe (Citadel). The parallel is quite problematic, considering the typological features and the painted decoration of the vessel (Orthmann W. 1963:105, Taf. 1/10). It is rather an example that the large bowls on a high stand, quite popular in Anatolia, were imitated in miniatures. Similar were the examples found even in Tarsus LBA I (Goldman H. 1956, Fig. 377. 974-976; on their diffusion and zones of production cf. Huot J.-L. 1982). These are scarce and rather general parallels, which allow defining the Galabovo piece as a "pot-stand". The similarities are only functional. It was probably a local manufacture, but on the other hand, its occurrence in Galabovo is in unison with the series "strange" for the Upper Thrace Bronze Age ware.

Parallels in the decoration and technology of the pottery

The incised decoration (Fig. 7, 5; 8, 1; 11, 3-4, 7-7a; 12, 1-2) during the EBA III-MBA in Anatolia is not very popular. Vessels with vertical strips, formed by incised lines and filled by dots were published from the earliest excavations of Troy II-V (Dörpfeld W. 1902:273,

[35] About one hypothetical function of the clay funnels cf. Amoroso P., P. Jewell 1963:126-137, as well as Leshtakov 1993. Some of them could be used for metallurgical purposes, attaching to the blast-pipe of bellows.
[36]There is a second example of this type found in Nebet tepe, excavations of A. Pejkov, but it is not published. Information from the Plovdiv Archaeological museum.
[37]All of the grain ladles that I knew have almost the same size, including the Nebet tepe example. It would be a challenge to presuppose that the measuring standards in Upper Thrace and Anatolia in the EBA 3-MBA could be the one and the same.

Beil. 37. V, VIII)[38]. These patterns are known from Galabovo, but they are also scarce here. There are parallels regarding the incised lines, flanked with oblong piercing (Dörpfeld W. 1902:275, Fig. 163). Very close are the triples hanging angles laid three times on the shoulders of jugs (Dörpfeld W. 1902:280, Beil. 38. IV). Sherds with incised lines, strokes and dots were also recorded during the American excavation in Troy V, but their number is small. The patterns are single or in grouped lines, areas with vertical fill of incised lines, rectangles or triangles, filled with dots (Blegen C. et al. 1951:250), sometimes with white incrustation (Blegen C. et al. 1951, Fig. 245, 249). Incised and pierced decoration, arranged in strips with oblique grooves or oblong piercing are also recorded in the MBA levels at Tarsus. They are absolutely similar to those from Galabovo (cf. Goldman H. 1956, Pl. 300).

The "pattern burnish" decoration (Fig. 5, 6-7) is known in Eastern Thrace and the Marmara region on wheel-made as well as hand-made vessels (Özdoğan M. 1993:158-161). One very important fact that should be mentioned is that some of them pertain to the "fine metallic ware" type, very similar to the amphorae from Galabovo 2. The examples come from the region of Yenishehir and Iznik (Özdoğan M. 1993, Fig. 2. 15-18). These data, however, are from field surveys, and the conclusions about the exact dating are not definite. Stratified vessels with "pattern burnish" were also published from Troy V (Blegen C. et al. 1951:251). There are cross-line patterns as well as other decorative schemes (Blegen C. et al. 1951, Fig. 146, Nos. 4a-b, F 197, Shape A19; Fig. 245, No. 5). It seems that in Troy V mostly bone-tools were used for burnishing and the pebble polishing is more rare than in earlier times (Blegen C. et al. 1951:36, 138).

The assigning the stamped decoration on big vessels in Galabovo (Fig. 14, 3-4) to the BA is tentative by three main reasons: firstly, we have not an intact pot decorated in this technique; secondly, the larger part of the pot-sherds does not have a definite stratigraphic context; and thirdly, similar decoration occurs also during the EIA in Nebet Tepe, Pshenichevo and elsewhere in Upper Thrace. However, the sherds coming from mentioned EIA sites do not have a steady context and BA ware have also been reported from the same excavated areas. This confused the dating of the Galabovo stamped-sherds via internal Thracian parallels, so we ought to find additional arguments for their belonging. The EIA sherds and one intact vessel were found only in pits in Galabovo, and neither was among the discussed ones. Moreover, some of the big stamped patterned sherds (but not all of them!) were found in the second building level of the site. All these arguments give the reason to suggest very carefully that the Galabovo sherds could be referred to the MBA. Accordingly, if we analyse this information in the context of the true Anatolian imports, their native imitations and other Galabovo similarities with Centralanatolian pottery repertoire, we could avoid the old mistake to interpret much later ware as pre- or protohistorian[39]. On the other hand, the peculiarities of

[38] On the vessel Troy 37.VIII the strips are limited to the base of the neck and the at most protruding part of the body by two other strips, filled with one row of studs.

[39] Let us bear in mind the interpretation the Thracian Late Iron Age wheel-made grey ware in East Serbia as "minyan" imports or the dating of the Late Chalcolithic in Northeast Balkans in the 18th century BC for the same reasons.

the clay, the stamp-technique and the very patterns have close parallels in Anatolia. If we account the parallels in Southeast direction we should once more calculate the Centralanatolian examples. The stamped decoration is well presented among the Hittite pottery. The depositories from kārum Kanish supplement the mentioned pottery parallels, therefore I will not dwell on it. It should be pointed out that the stamps used there are very similar to Galabovo patters (Özgüç N. 1968). The same decoration could be found in Karahöyük (Konya), laid through round stamps also on the depositories (Alp S. 1968, Taf. 23, 55-57; 24, 58-59). The pattern displays circles, sometimes shouldered by interconnected spirals (Alp S. 1968, Taf. 27, 65-68; 28, 69-71, Nos. 69-71). Hence, the analogues concern not only in the techniques, but also in the basic patterns, the general shape and function of the vessels and the place of the decoration, which almost exclude the idea for accidental coincidences.

The parallels in plastic decoration are very popular on cups, little jugs, amphorae and some types of bowls (Fig. 6, 6; 7,1; 8, 1-2; 10, 4, 12, 3). The position of the plastic knobs on the body is usually between the handles. The parallels of the amphorae and cups in the compared repertoires are very close. Analogues could be also found among the smooth plastic bands and the place of their attaching (Fig. 9, 3; 12, 1).

Several technological groups among the intact vessels and the Galabovo 1a-4 sherds cold be considered as an additional argument to the discussed thesis. We do not know them in the EBA 3 ware in Upper Thrace: black "metal" coated ware; grey fine ware; the wheel-made uncoated ("tongründig") ware; white or cream-white coated ware. Red coated was found not only in the uppermost levels at Galabovo but in a number of EBA 3 sites in Upper Thrace - Constantia (Georgiev Pl. 1981) Tell Madrets (Gudzhova Mogila) and in the ritual ditch-complex Cherna Gora 1, Chirpan region[40] etc. All the above mentioned techniques have parallels in Anatolia or in the Aegean.

During the EBA III/MBA in Northwest Anatolia until the time of middle Troy VI the red coated ware were widespread, as well as the red wash ware and the grey ware, supplemented by "buff ware". The same ware was registered in the region of Balikesir, Inegöl and Iznik (Mellaart J. 1957:83). The red coated ware and the red wash ware were very popular in Troy, but gradually declining in MBA. The surface is polished, varying from red in different shades to wash-brown in colour; they are undecorated in general. In the group of "red coated ware" from Troy II are also some of "Depas" cups (Blegen C. et al. 1951:221). In Troy II the types "grey ware" and "black ware" are hand- and wheel-made. The slip and the polishing by the last most often obliterate potter-maker's finger lines and they are hardly distinguished from the hand-made pottery (Blegen C. et al. 1951:19). At the beginning of MBA (Troy V) "red coated ware" is wheel-made, and the slip entirely covers the body or only a part of it. Their colour is purple or brown-red, but there are also dark or light brown varieties. The surface is coated by thick to very fine slip, often – washed. The traces of the potter's wheel are usually obliterated. The same technique continues also in early Troy VI and in all categories of vessels (Blegen C. et al. 1951:235-236). The wheel-made "red wash" ware gradually established itself at the end of the EBA III/MBA. It is stratigrafically traced in Troy III-V and in Beycesultan

[40]The author conducted the excavations at the last two sites; the reports are forthcoming.

XII-VI, and regionally it comprises Western Anatolia and the west coastal region without significant local differences (Yakar J. 1985:84-85).

The grey ware in Western Anatolia from the end of the 3rd millennium BC is similar to the "red-slipped ware" as a manner of production. It is recorded mainly in the interior – Iznik, Yenishehir and Inegöl, where from it obtained its name - "Inegöl grey ware" (French D. 1973:51-52)[41]. "Pattern-burnish" decoration covers the internal surface of the bowls, as the lines are radial and vertical (French D. 1967:62), just like those from Galabovo. It seldom occurs to the east of the Eskishehir region, but it is recorded in Ilipinar III along with "Depas" sherds (cf. above). In Troy the type is considered to be a predecessor of the "Minyan" pottery (Yakar J. 1985:85). The vessels from Troy V are slipped and polished, but scarce in number – up to 7%. According to the authors, they are developed from the black and grey ware of Troy V and exist along with the "Minyan vessels" in early Troy VI (Blegen C. et al. 1951:118, 235).

The sherds with washed slip ("transparent" or "washed") in Troy V are fully comparable to ours. They are considered to be import from the Cyclades, and the manner of the slipping resembles the "urfirnis" technique – a fine brush was used. Small cups, bowls, jugs and pots of different size were manufactured in this manner (Blegen C. et al. 1951:236). At present, as far as I know, there is no evidence of existence of similar pottery in Eastern Thrace. This makes probable the assumption that the fragments with transparent slip in Galabovo could be import from the Cyclades, like those in Troy.

It would be important to mention some small finds which are alien for Upper Thrace in the Bronze Age at the very end of the expose – a brush handle, a small "table" with incised patterns and several loom-weights with stamped and incised signs (Fig. 14, 5-8). Obviously some of them have also Anatolian affinity.

Discussion

The parallels of the above mentioned intact vessels and the sherds, accomplished by decoration and specific ware from Galabovo are in well-stratified sites from the so-called Transitional period to the Hittite kingdom in Anatolia, not only in Troy. This is a quite new observation and a new line of parallelism in general. A part of these sites, like kārum Hattush, kārum Kanish and Acemhöyük (kārum Zalpa[42]) is with historic chronology and they are dated by cuneiform tablets. It could bridge the dates of Central Anatolia to the Balkans through the synchronous sites in West-Central Anatolia and in Eastern Thrace. On the ground of all discussed parallels, it seems that the hypothesis on dating of Galabovo 1a-4 at the end of the EBA III/beginning of the "Transitional period" in Anatolia till to the 18th millennium BC is logical and tenable. Of primary importance is the fact that the pottery from Galabovo has parallels also at Mikro Vouni in Samothrace Island. Bowls, dishes, tee-pots, fragments with pattern burnish, analogous to those in Galabovo were found there. The pottery from

[41] "Inegöl" ware was manufactured on a potter's wheel. Their surface is grey, washed, and polished.

[42] On the identification of Acemhüyük (or Acemhöyük) as kārum Zalpa see Steiner G. 1993:579-581 and esp. 582, note 68 on p. 583; 598-599.

Samothrace is dated ca. 18th millennium BC, because of the existence of true imports from Crete (Matsas D. 1991; 1995:235-247). Thus, the two lines of synchronisation – "Egyptian" and "Mesopotamian" meet not only in Troy, but also in Thrace. In order to adopt this cross-line of synchronisation we need additional arguments, new archaeological facts and comprehensive analysis of the old evidence.

The significance of the new synchronisation line with Anatolia is better substantiated and can be summarised in several points:

1. For the first time in Upper Thrace artefacts surely dating from the very end of the EBA III/the beginning of the MBA in Anatolian sense of the term were found.
2. The most important finds from Galabovo are not native. They represent true imports and "imitations" mainly from Western and even Central Anatolia. Accordingly, the region could be included in the economic and cultural sphere of the early historical societies, but as a northern periphery. The existence of real trade roads[43], through which these imports infiltrate in Upper Thrace, could hardly be doubted. This, in its turn, indicates the existence of a mutual interest presumably provoked by the availability of valuable goods for the Anatolian inhabitants. What exactly was the model of this ancient trade is still early to be supposed (Leshtakov 1996:239-287). Therefore, the confrontation of the two economic and social models, mentioned above in the expose, should be revised. On the other hand, if we exaggerate the available evidence, it would be very easy to cross the border of the over-interpretation of the facts.
3. For the first time true imports beyond the arch of the "Chronological "fault line" are recorded. That means that the dating of the BA on the Balkans can rely not only on the radiocarbon dates. Some will consider this assertion too far-fetched, and the attempt to "transfer" historical dates so far to the north looks at first sight like a result of over-interpretation. The further investigations will show whether that is true or not. For the time being, this idea, even in the form of a brave hypothesis, has the every reason to be discussed.
4. Undoubted novelty is the methodological equalisation of the investigations in the Aegean-Anatolian region and in Upper Thrace. For the dating of Galabovo 1a-4 both classical methods – "Chain dating" and dating through true imports could be applied. Thus, purely methodologically the investigations of the BA in Upper Thrace try to reach the level of the Near East, of course, with one basic difference – the lack of native written records. The historical dating of the earlier EBA in Crete, however, never relied on the local written tradition. The same is also the situation in Greece, located in the interior of "The Chronological "fault line".
5. According to me, it is possible through the "Chain dating" and the internal Thracian imports to synchronise Upper Thrace culture with the North and West – to the Lower Danube and the Central Balkans. So far, the correlation in the second direction seems to be better supported from a factual point of view. This is due to the long stratigraphic sequence in Yunatsite and the strong affinity of the pottery to the Central Balkans.

[43] The term "trade road" here bears the sense of "main directions of exchange of goods and raw materials".

I would like to sum up that "The chronological "fault line" – an undoubtedly useful, for its time, methodological instrument, is gradually fading away, accomplished its purpose – to emancipate the cultures of Southeast Europe towards the East Mediterranean. At the same time the term, as well as the whole idea turned out to be inapplicable to the present stage of the empirical base. As it was already mentioned in the exposé, they are attacked by the chronological positions of the Neolithic, as well as the EBA III/MBA. Therefore, the dividing line of the "Chronological "fault line" could not limit regions, whose cultures after the EBA II were dated by different methods.

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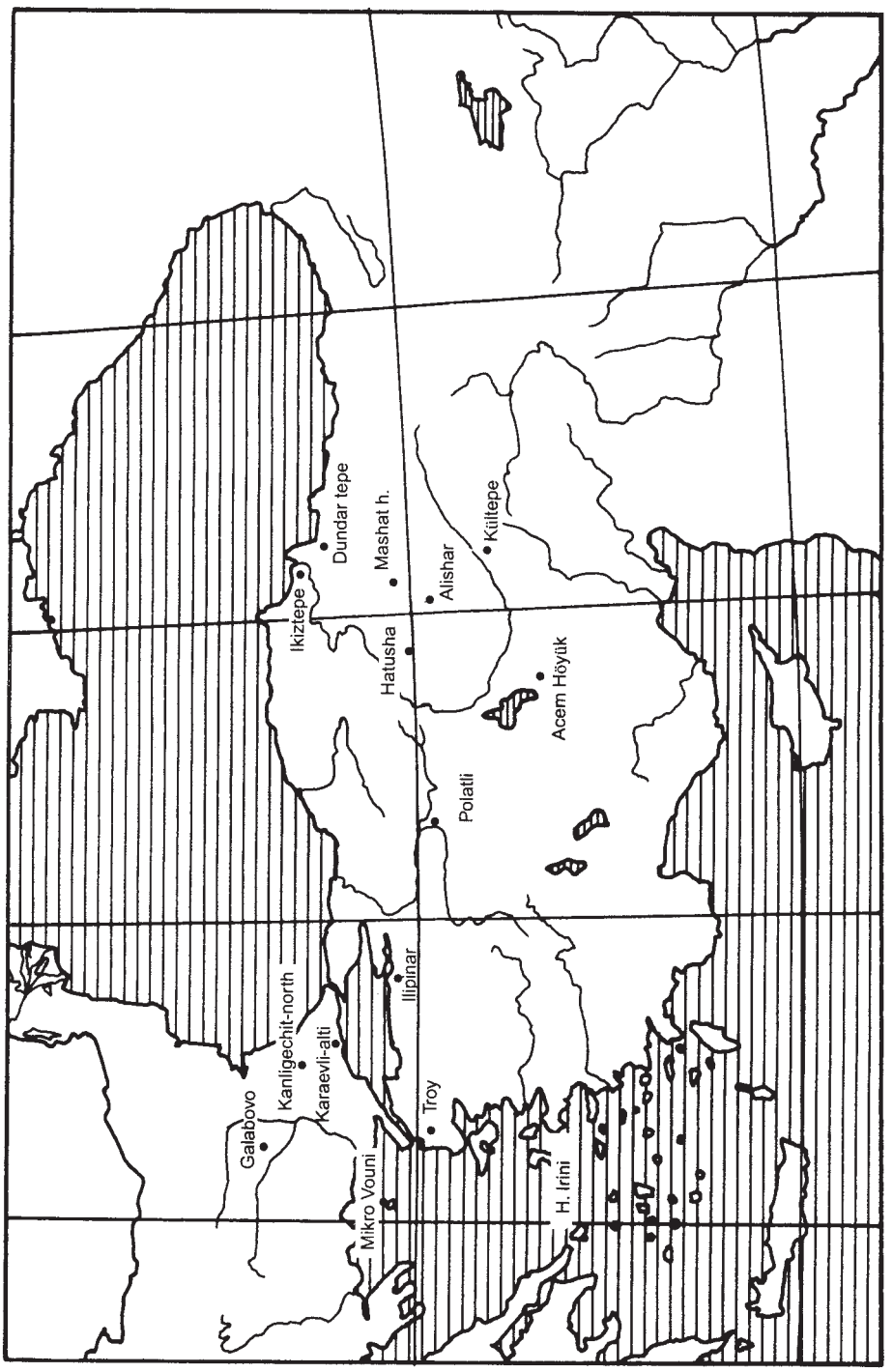

Fig. 1. Map of the major sites mentioned in the text.

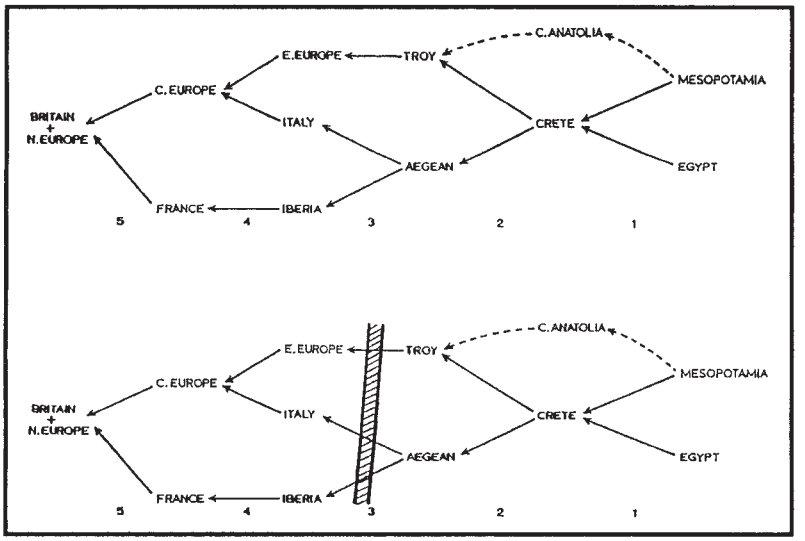

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Fig. 2.1. Logical structure of the conventional dating for European prehistory and the chronological "fault line" produced by the dendrochronological calibration of radiocarbon dates; after C. Renfrew 1973, Fig 3a-b.

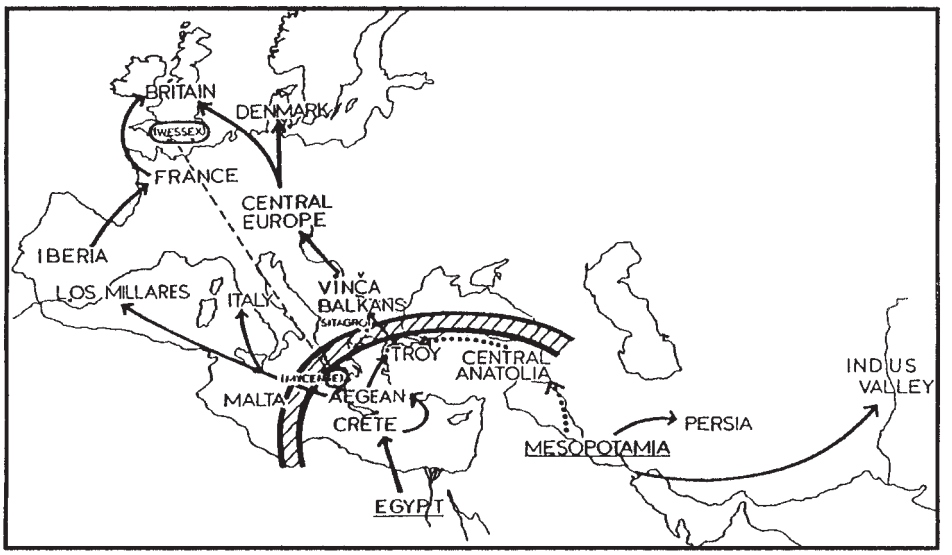

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Fig. 2.2. The chronological "fault line" in Europe; after C. Renfrew 1973, Fig. 4.

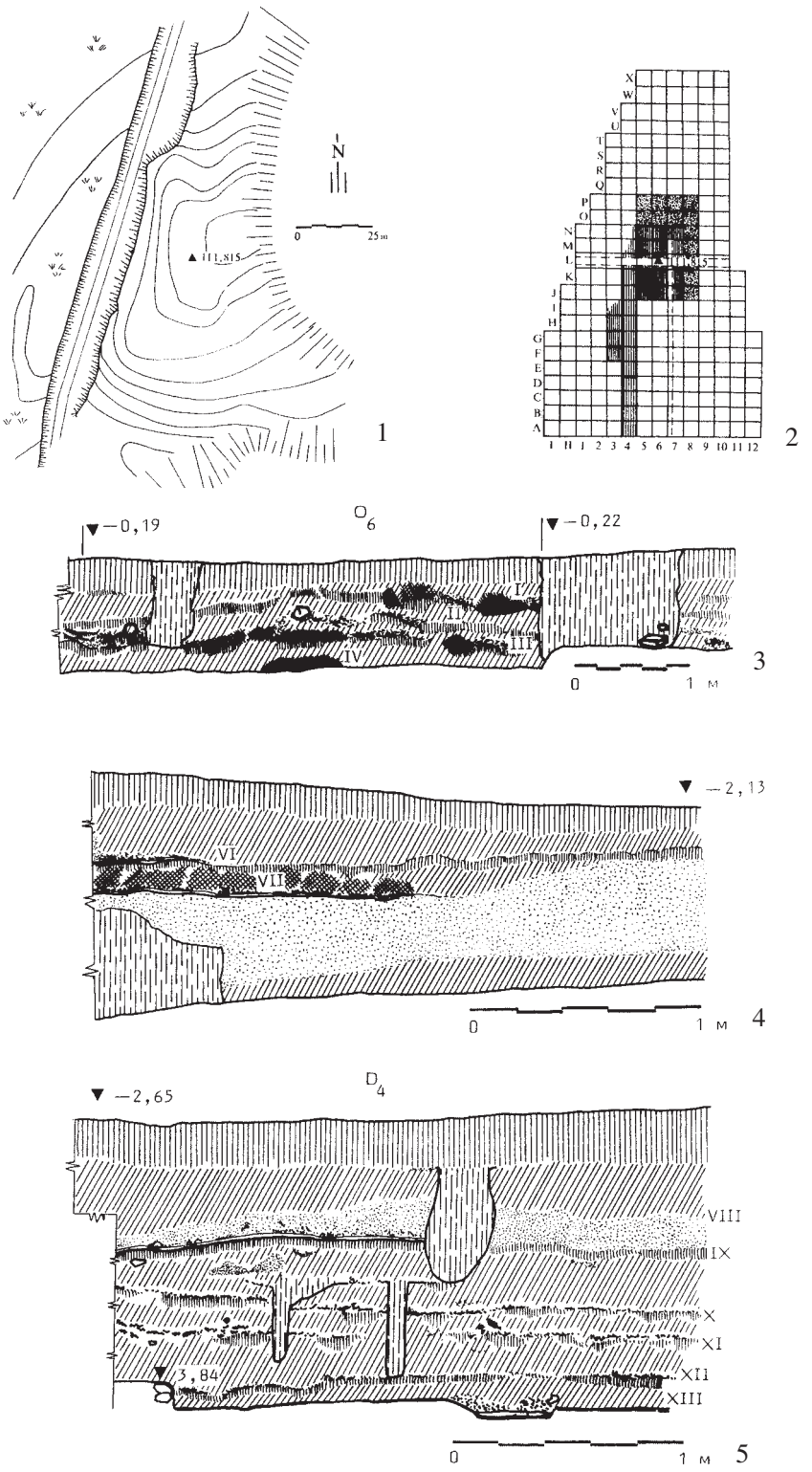
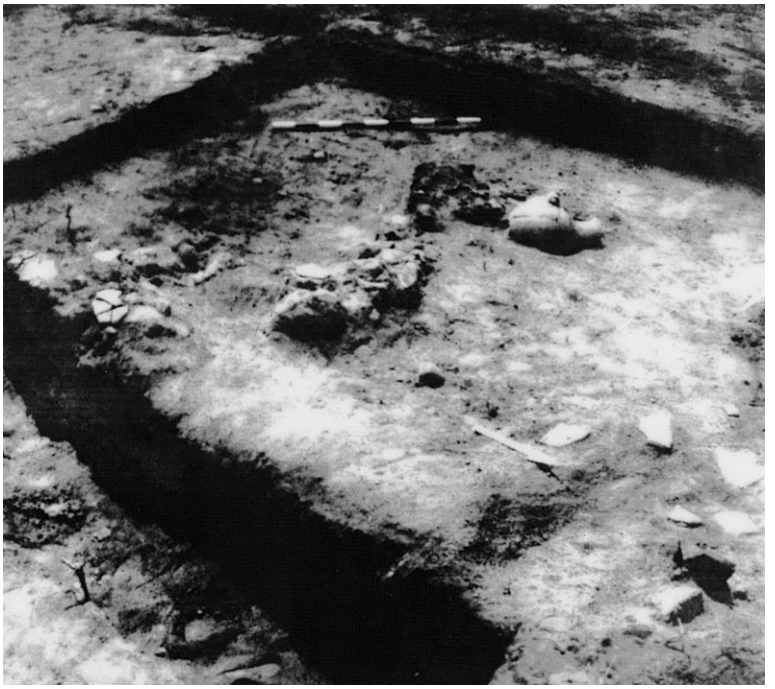


Fig. 3. Tell Galabovo — topographic scheme, excavated area till 1995 and profiles of the Bronze Age layer.



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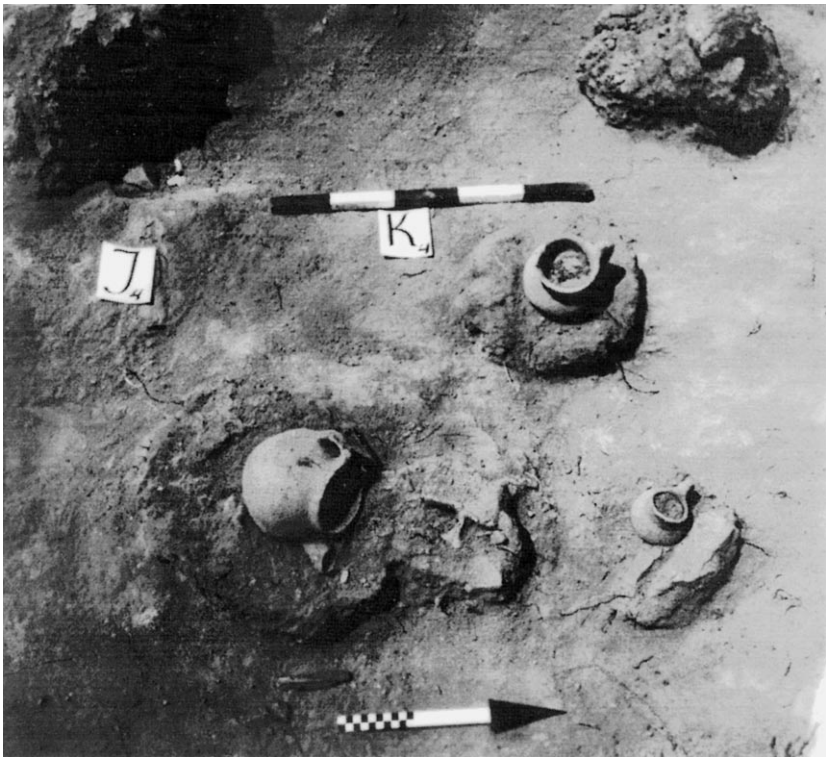

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Fig. 4. Dwellings from second and third building levels with pottery in situ.

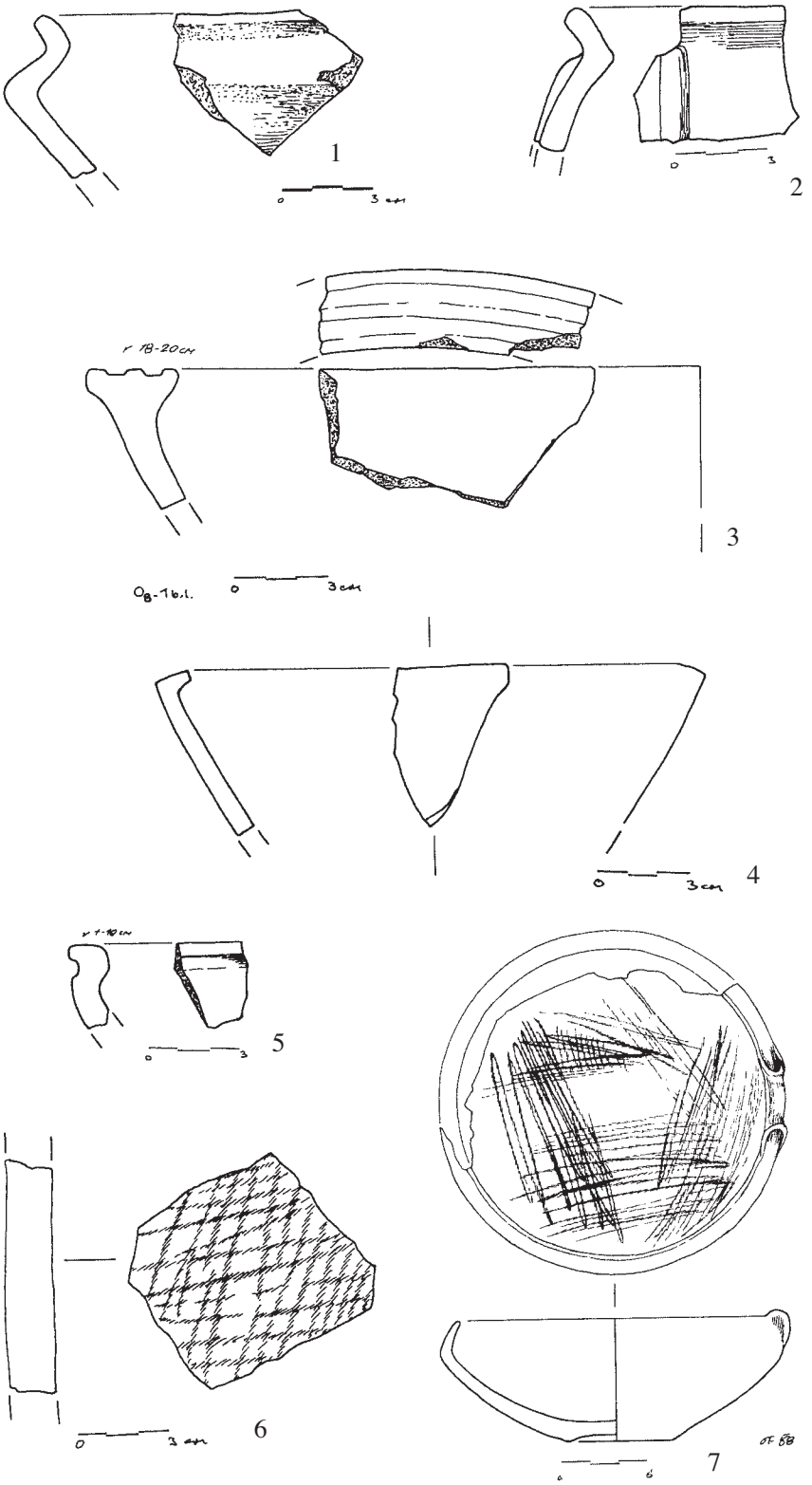

Fig. 5. Tell Galabovo — different bowl-types from first building level from house complexes.

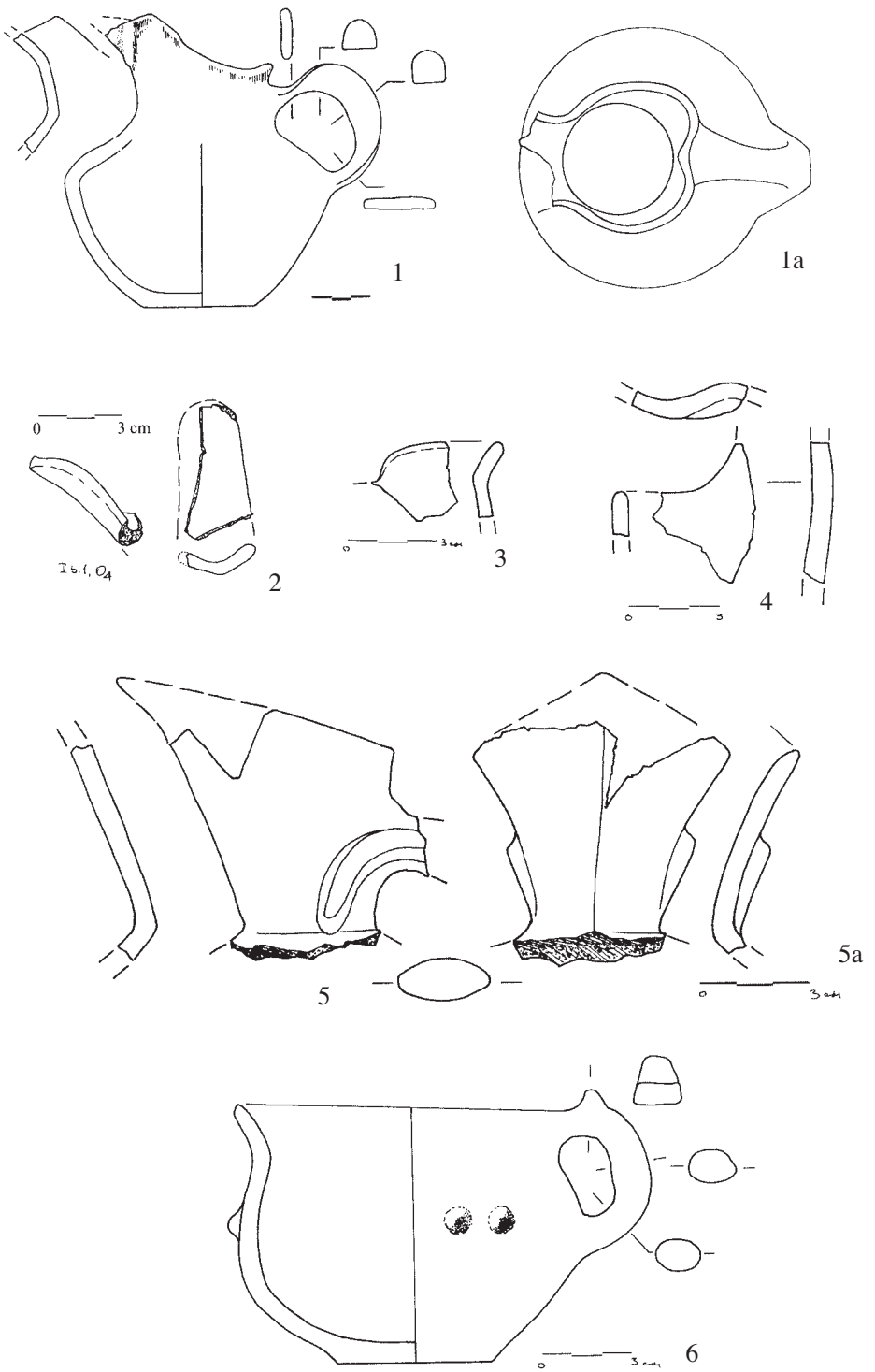

Fig. 6. Tell Galabovo — trefoil mounted jug from second building level (1-1a), beak-sherds from imported jugs from first building level (2-5) and S-profiled cup (6).

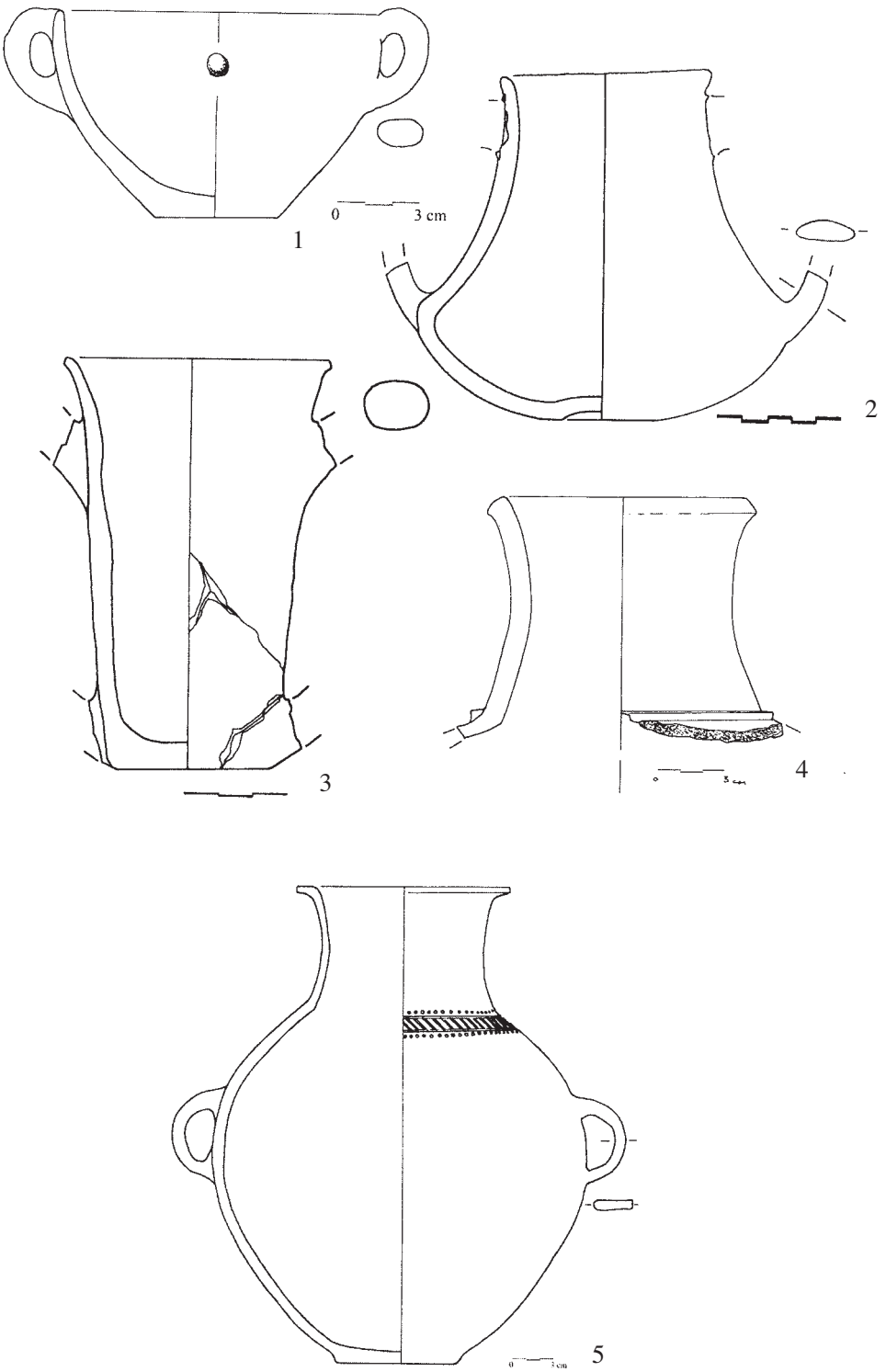

Fig. 7. Tell Galabovo — two handled cup, tankard, depas and wheel-made amphorae from house complexes (1-5, 5) and from a passage (4).

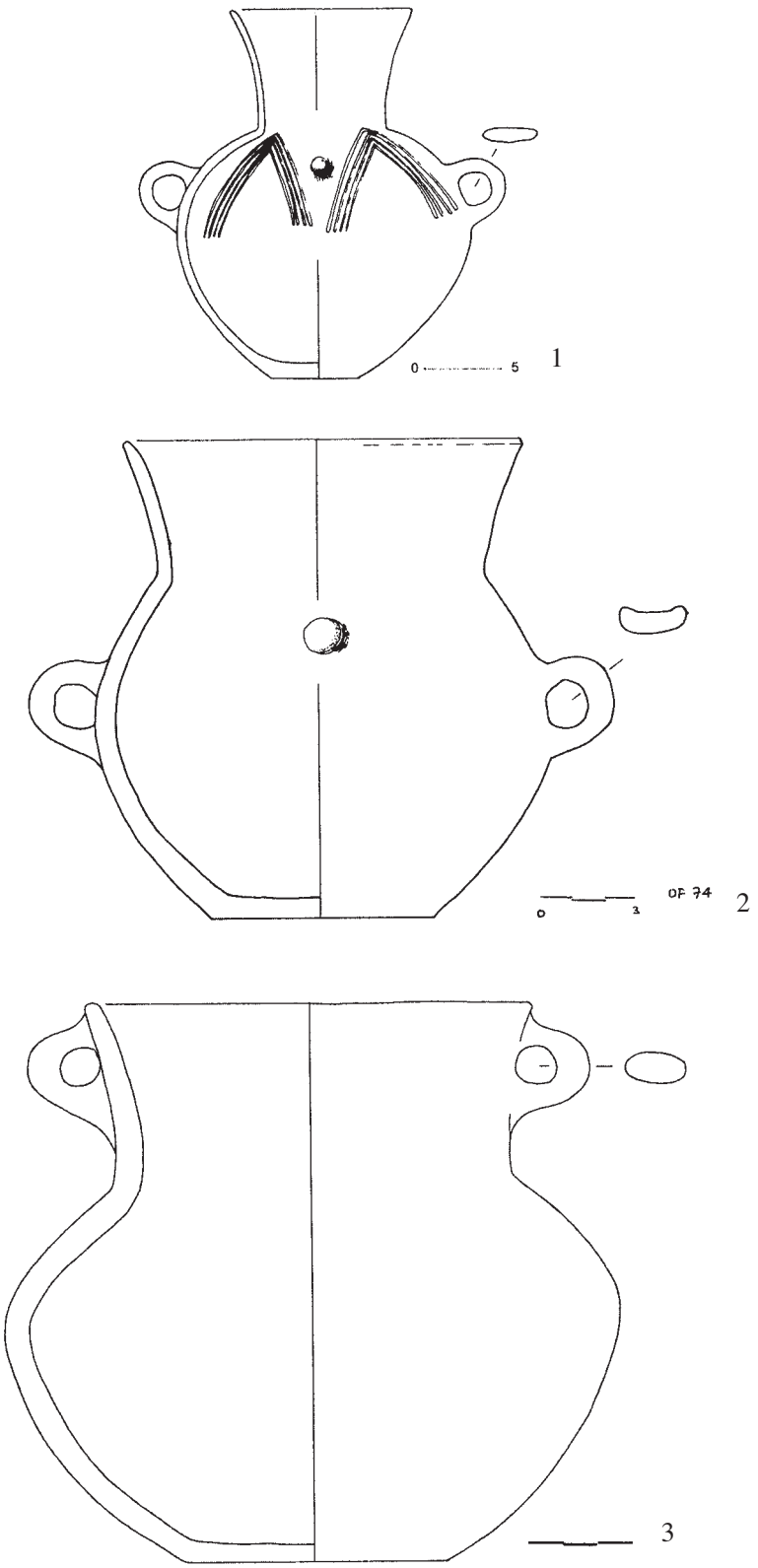

Fig. 8. Tell Galabovo — different types of amphorae, 1-3 rd building level.

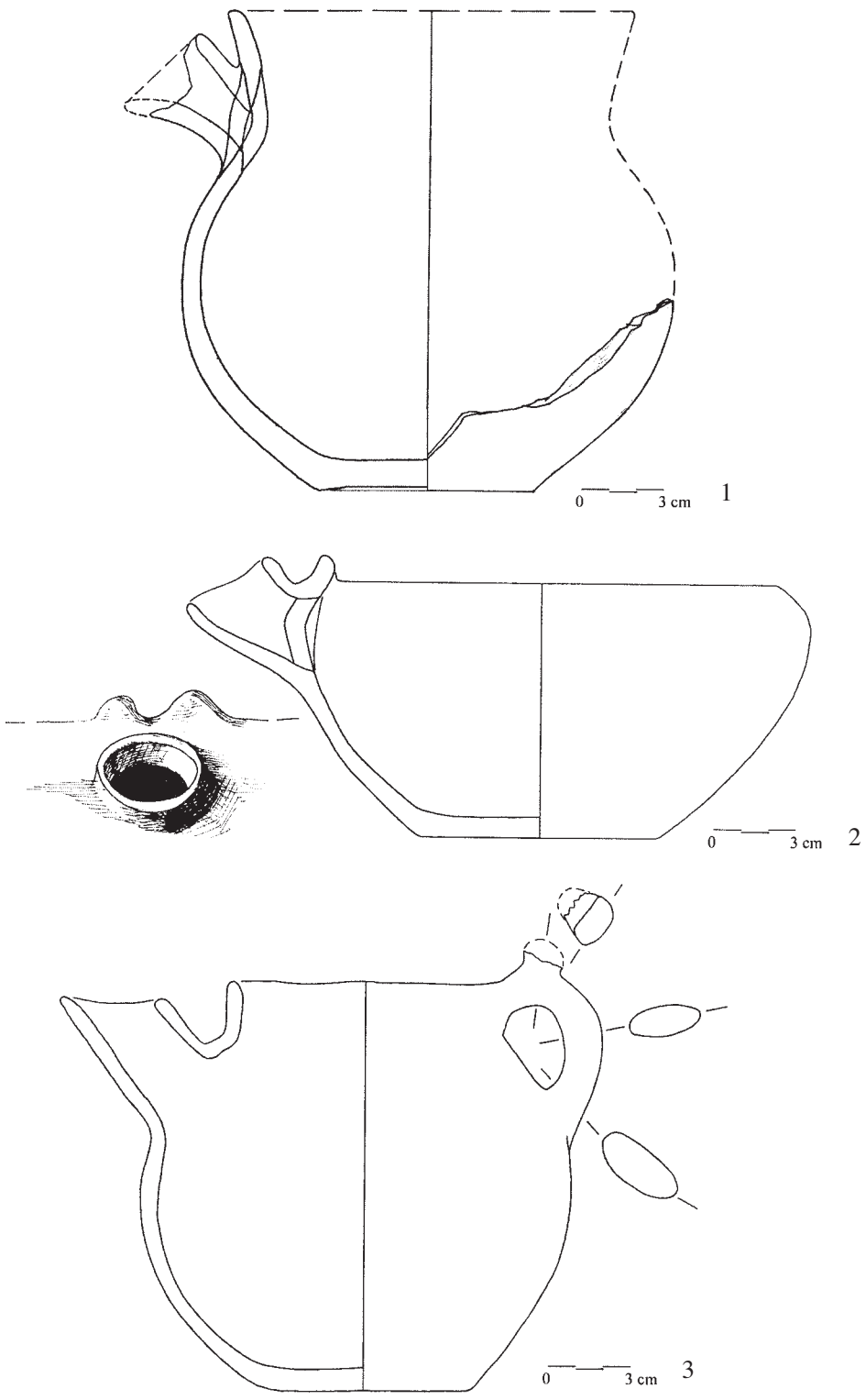

Fig. 9. Tell Galabovo — teapots, 1-3 rd building level.

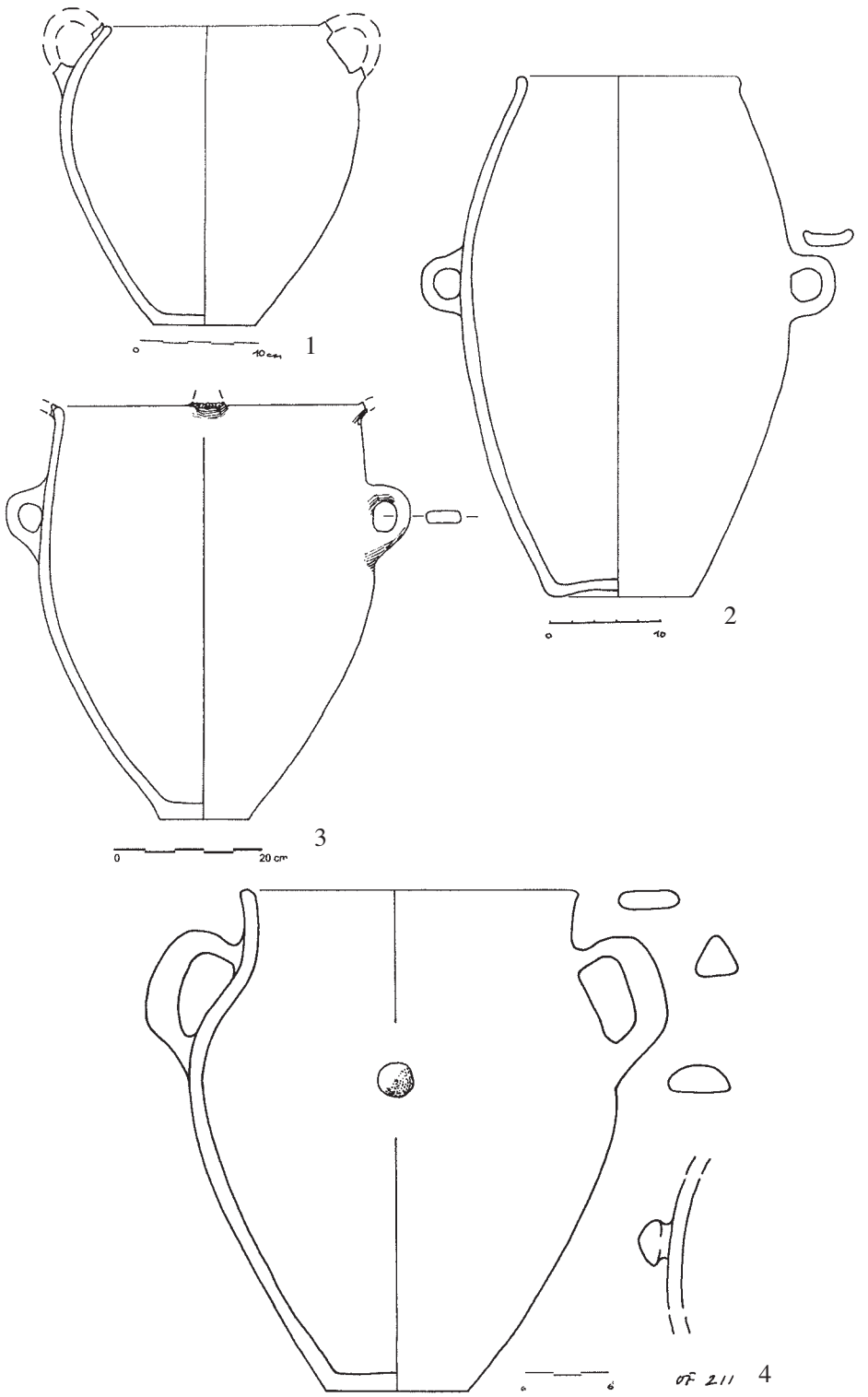

Fig. 10. Tell Galabovo — depositories unusual for the Thracian Bronze Age.

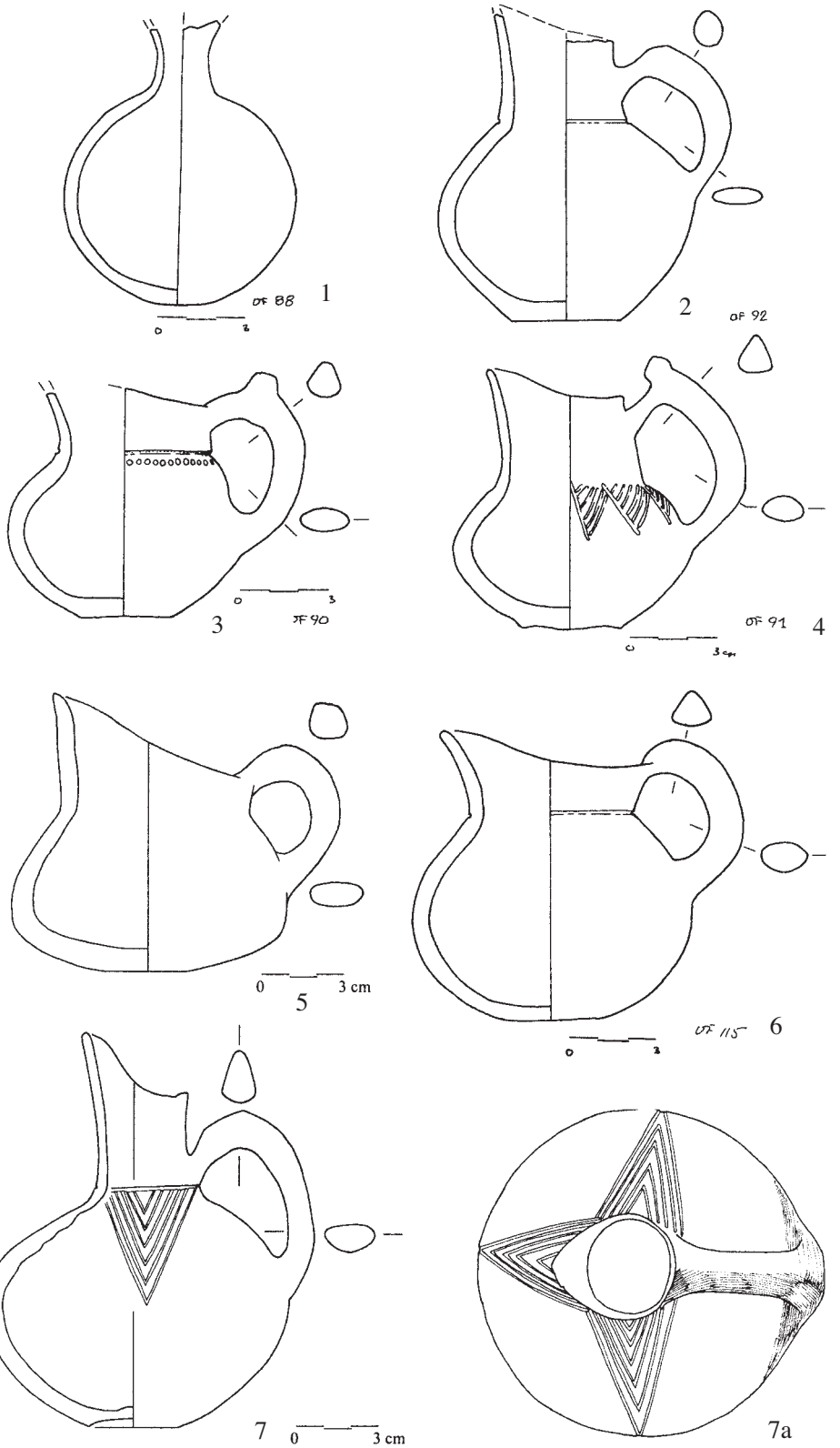

Fig. 11. Tell Galabovo — pottery from one house from third building level found together, wheel- and handmade.

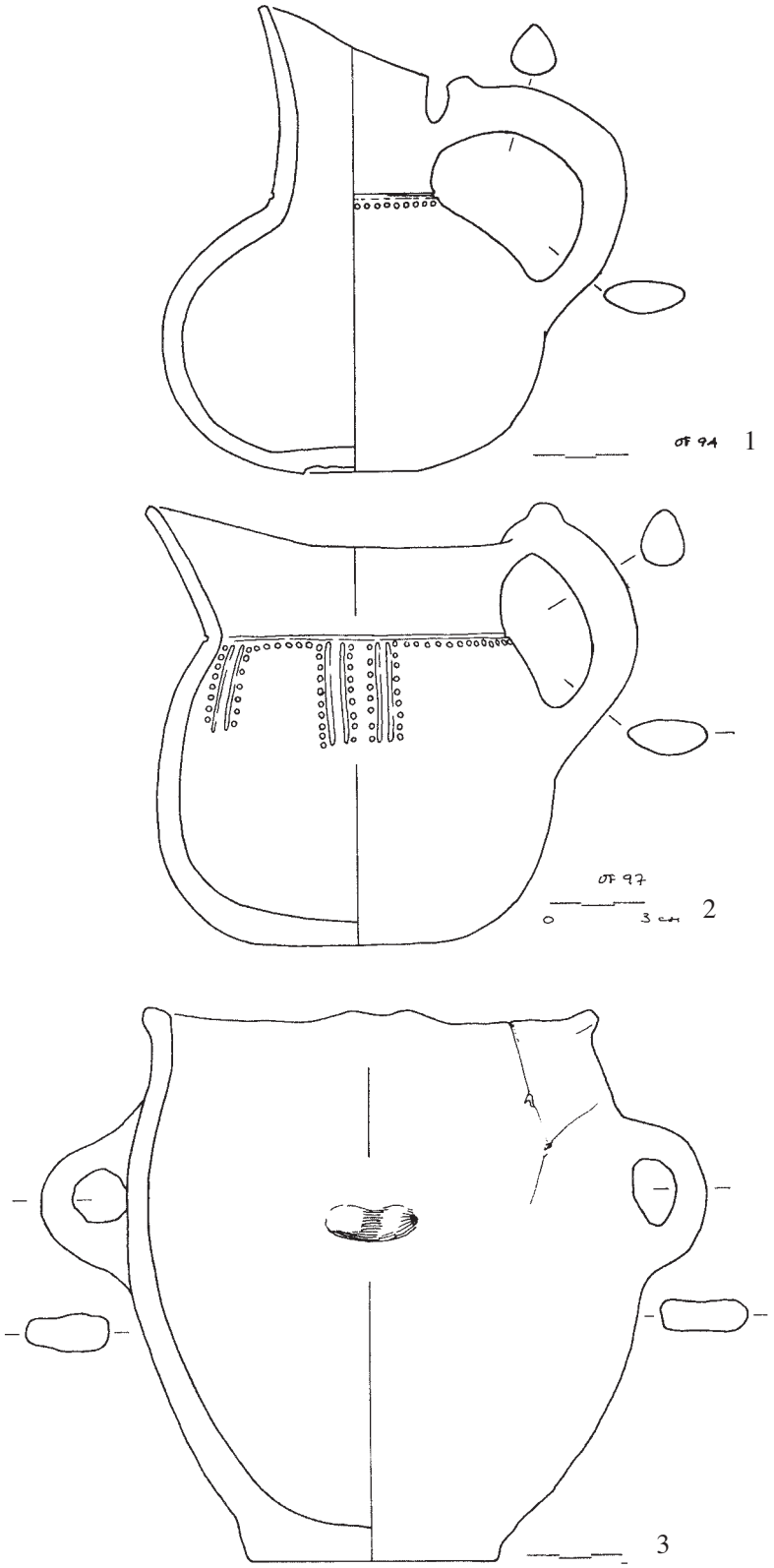

Fig. 12. Tell Galabovo — pottery from one house from third building level found together, 1 is wheelmade.

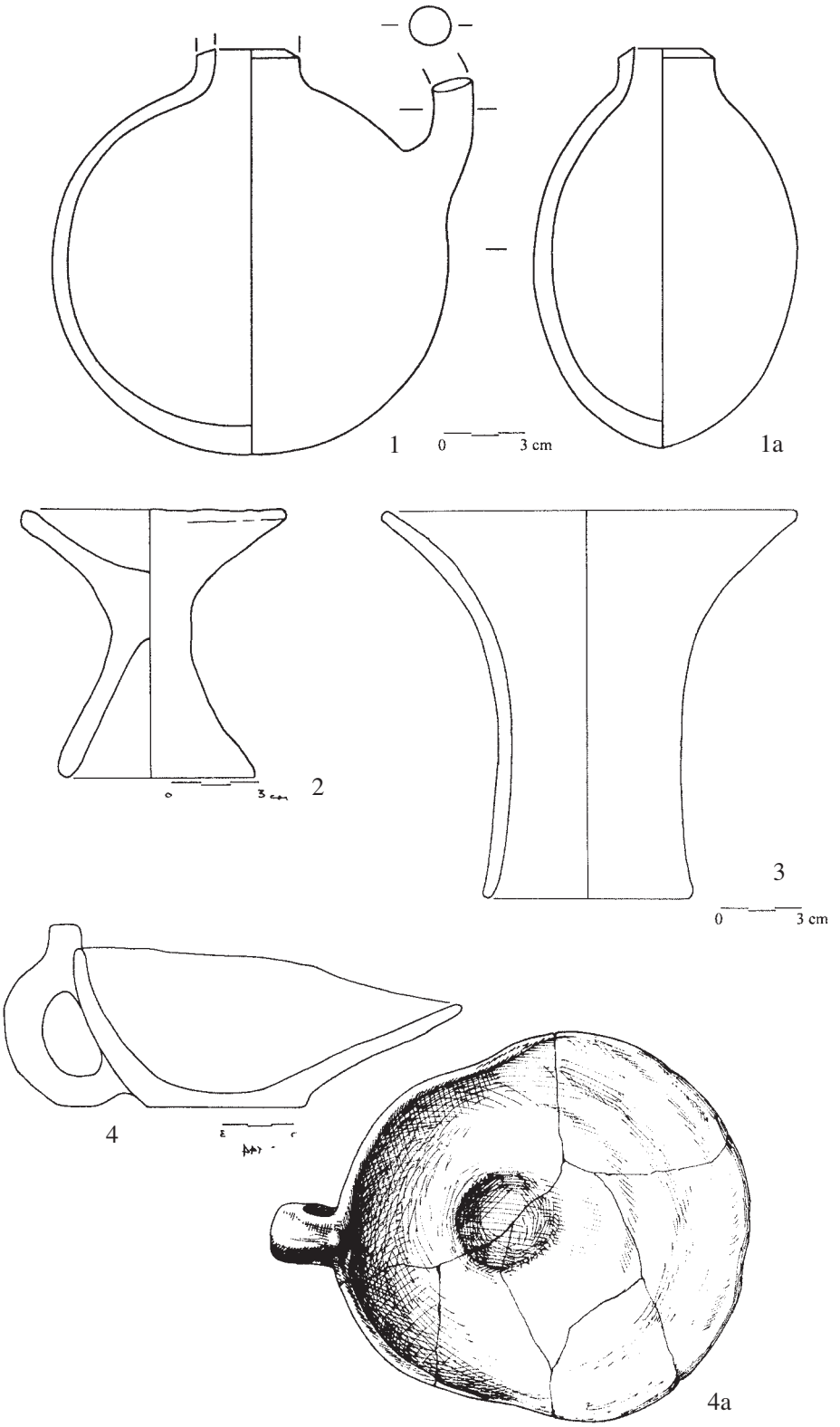

Fig. 13. Tell Galabovo — pilgrim flask (1-1a), potstand, funnel and grain ladle from first building level.

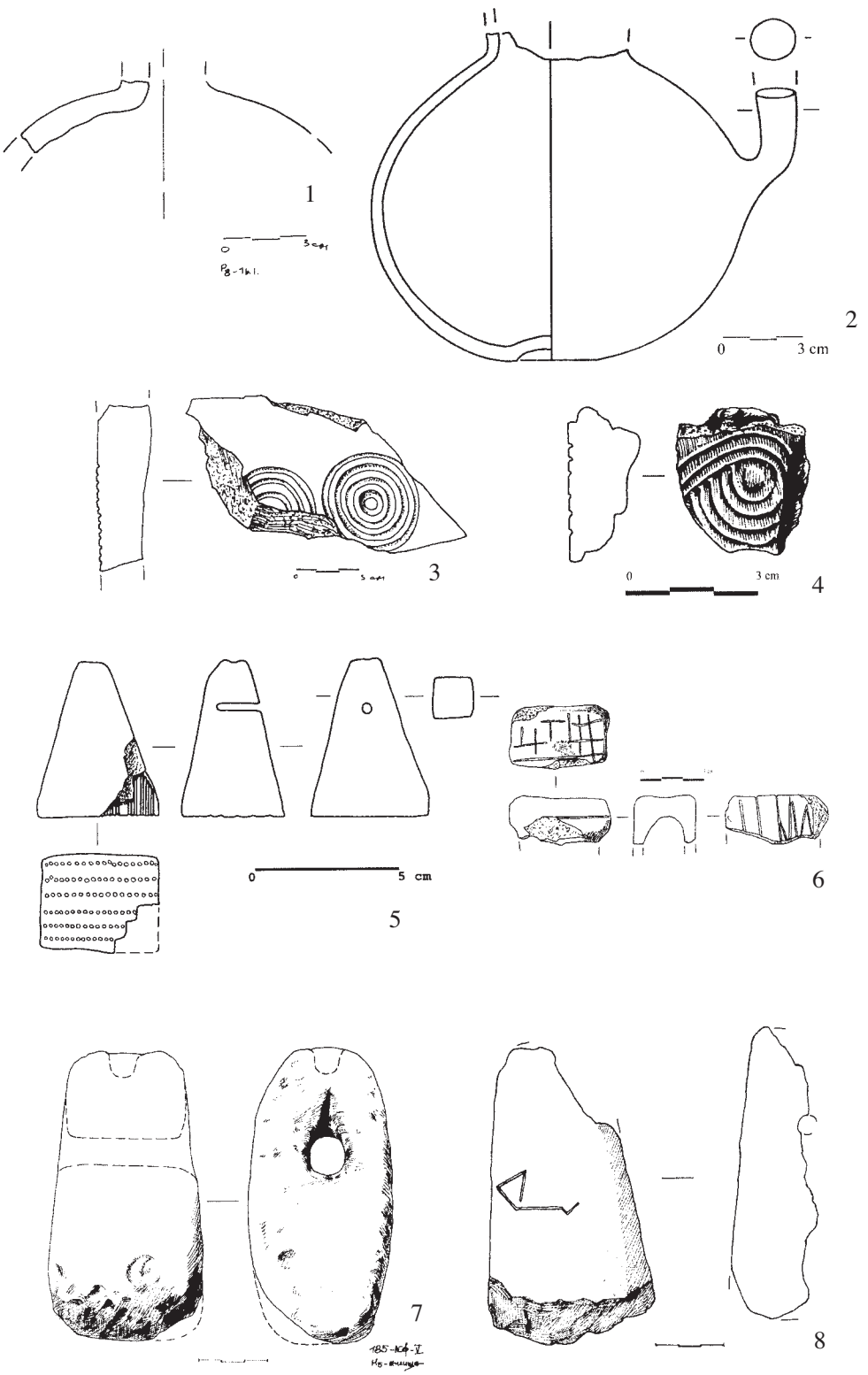

Fig. 14. Tell Galabovo — a sherd from a globular flask and an imported jug, wheelmade, from building level one (1-2), stamped patterns (3-4) and some rare finds from building levels 1-3.