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THE WIETENBERG CULTURE: PERIODIZATION AND CHRONOLOGY

GABRIEL BĂLAN*, COLIN P. QUINN**, GREGORY HODGINS***

Keywords: Middle Bronze Age, Wietenberg culture, ceramic style, periodization, chronology, ^{14}C dating

Abstract: Based on pottery shapes and ornaments, the study proposes a new periodization of the Wietenberg culture in three distinctive phases: early, classical and late. The early phase is represented by pottery with origins in the late Early Bronze Age; it coincides with Chidioşan I-II and Boroffka A1-2 phases. According to the ^{14}C results, this phase can be dated between the 20th and the 18th centuries BC. In the classical phase, new elements in the pottery technology (shapes and decorations) emerged, present in the last two levels of the settlement at Derşida. This phase is similar to the Chidioşan III and Boroffka B-C stages and, according to the ^{14}C dates it lasted between the 18th and the 16th centuries BC. The last phase was defined by N. Chidioşan, who identified at several sites vessels that were different in shape and ornament from the ones on the settlement at Derşida. The sites from this phase cover only the western half of the previously occupied area, as a consequence of the appearance of the Noua culture, contemporary for a short time with the Wietenberg. It is similar to Chidioşan IV and Boroffka D phases. The ^{14}C dates for the Noua and the late Wietenberg sites limit chronologically the late Wietenberg phase to the 16th and 15th centuries BC.

Cuvinte-cheie: epoca bronzului mijlociu, cultura Wietenberg, stiluri ceramice, periodizare, cronologie, datare ^{14}C

Rezumat: Studiul propune o nouă periodizare a culturii Wietenberg în trei faze distincte bazate pe formele și ornamentele ceramice: timpurie, clasice și târzie. Faza timpurie se caracterizează printr-o ceramică cu tradiții în bronzul timpuriu final și este similară fazelor I-II potrivit periodizării propuse de N. Chidioşan și fazelor A1-2 definite de N. Boroffka. Conform datelor ^{14}C , această fază poate fi datată în intervalul secolelor al XX-lea și al XVIII-lea a.Chr. Faza clasice prezintă noi elemente în confecționarea ceramică (forme și ornamente), evidențiate în ultimele două niveluri din așezarea de la Derşida. Acum sunt create vase bogat ornamentate specifice culturii Wietenberg, care au stat la baza definirii ei. Este similară fazelor III Chidioşan și B-C Boroffka și poate fi datată în intervalul secolelor XVIII-XVI a.Chr., conform datelor ^{14}C . Faza Wietenberg târzie este caracterizată de materiale ceramice diferite din punct de vedere al formelor și ornamentelor față cele descoperite în așezarea de la Derşida. Aria de răspândire se restrâne în jumătatea de vest a spațiului ocupat anterior, fapt care poate fi pus în legătură cu apariția culturii Noua, care este contemporană pentru o scurtă perioadă de timp cu faza Wietenberg finală. Este similară fazelor IV Chidioşan și D Boroffka. Datele ^{14}C din aria culturii Noua și din siturile specifice fazei Wietenberg târzii limitează această etapă într-un interval de timp între secolele al XVI-lea și al XV-lea a.Chr.

The Middle Bronze Age in the Intra-Carpathian Basin is represented by the Wietenberg culture, distinguishable from the nearby communities (Otomani-Füzesabony, Mureş/Periam-Pecica, Suciu de Sus, Balta Sărătă, Tei, Verbicioara, Monteoro and Costişa) by the ceramic decoration styles and pottery shapes. Even though it drew the attention of several scholars, the periodization of this culture remains an open subject, as the limits of the phases have not been clarified yet.

Our knowledge of the Wietenberg culture, together with its periodization and chronology, are related to the several stages of the archaeological research in Romania:

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1. The *early stage*. The first contributions related to the relative chronology of the culture were those of I. Nestor and K. Horedt. Although the specific materials of the culture were already known, I. Nestor was the first to use the term “Wietenberg” for a culture he believed started with the Reinecke Br. A to Br. D¹. In 1960, K. Horedt recognized 182 sites of this culture, outlining its area of distribution as well as a typology of ceramic forms and decorations. Wietenberg ceramics are primarily fine-ware vessels with rich decoration, mainly typical of the classical phase². During the early stage of research, scholars identified the meander and spiral motifs as characteristic of the Wietenberg pottery but did not discuss discrete evolution phases³.

2. The *Derşida stage*. The excavations at the Derşida settlement, which took place between 1963 and 1966, represented the breaking point with the past. Several studies⁴ together with the monographic volume of the excavations at Derşida⁵ set the foundation for the Wietenberg periodization, split into four phases. The first three phases were established according to the stratigraphy at Derşida, where five levels were identified (first level = phase I; levels 2 and 3 = phase II; the last two levels = phase III). The fourth phase is characterized by a range of archaeological materials identified at other sites, typologically different from those at Derşida. Until 1994, the specialists, without exception, accepted this periodization⁶. The Wietenberg culture correlates with the Central European Br. A-D stages: generally, phase I = Br. A2, phase II = Br. B, phase III = Br. B-C; phase IV = Br. D⁷.

3. The *Boroffka stage*. Prior to 1994 when N. Boroffka⁸ published his monographic volume of the Wietenberg culture, few materials were together with their archaeological contexts. N. Boroffka published a considerable quantity of material forgotten in the storage areas of various Romanian institutions. It is worth mentioning that for the majority of these materials the archaeological context was unknown. According to the stratigraphy at Derşida and the statistic-combinatory analysis for the ceramic forms and ornaments from several sites, N. Boroffka established a new periodization of the culture: phase A, with sub-phases A1 (= Hänsel FD III – Reinecke Br. A2 – Mozsolics BII) and A2 (= FD III/SD I – Br. A2 late – B. II), phase B (=MD I-II/III, Br. B-C early – BIII-III/IV) phase C (= MD III/SD I – Br. C – BIV) and phase D (= SD I – Br. D early – BIV-V)⁹.

At the same time or immediately after 1994 new contributions were brought to the last phase of the culture¹⁰. M. Rotea suggested the name of “Bădeni III – Deva”¹¹, while F. Gogâltan coined the term “Gligoreşti” for a series of sites where late Wietenberg type of materials were discovered together with the Noua type ceramics¹².

4. The *recent stage*. For the past 20 years, researchers have continued to use the two existing periodization systems. Recently, new artefacts in secure stratigraphical positions and archaeological contexts have been published: Oarța de Sus¹³, Micești – Ciagașe¹⁴, Șeușa¹⁵, Păulenii¹⁶, Sebeș – Între răstoace¹⁷,

¹ Nestor 1933, p. 92-94.

² Horedt 1960.

³ Berciu 1966, p. 193: the author proposed four phases based on comparisons to the Monteoro and the Otomani cultures, without argumentation.

⁴ Chidioșan 1968; Chidioșan 1970; Chidioșan 1974; Horedt 1967, p. 138-141.

⁵ Chidioșan 1980, p. 68-84.

⁶ Crișan 1970; Székely 1971; Soroceanu 1973; Soroceanu, Blăjan, Cerghi 1976, p. 61-65; Soroceanu 1984, p. 438; Lazarovici, Milea 1976; Morintz 1978, p. 115-120; Andrițoiu 1978, p. 251-254; Andrițoiu 1986-1987; Andrițoiu 1992, p. 49-54; Kacsó 1987, p. 69-75; Ciugudean 1990, p. 72-76; Gogâltan, Cociș, Paki 1992, p. 9-13; Gogâltan, Tamba 1992, p. 63-64; Rotea 1993, p. 30-32; Rotea 1994a; Rotea 1994b, p. 135-138.

⁷ Chidioșan 1980, p. 68-84; Andrițoiu 1992, p. 49-54.

⁸ Boroffka 1994.

⁹ Boroffka 1994, p. 285-290.

¹⁰ Rotea 1994a; Ciugudean 1997, p. 65-97; Ciugudean 1999.

¹¹ Rotea 1994a.

¹² Gogâltan, Aldea, Ursuțiu 2004, p. 73-74; Gogâltan, Popa 2016.

¹³ Kacsó 2013; Kacsó 2015, p. 428-433, fig. 188-209.

¹⁴ Bălan 2014.

¹⁵ Ciută 2009, p. 83-92.

¹⁶ Rotea 2000; Cavruc, Rotea 2000; Cavruc, Buzea 2002.

¹⁷ Fântâneanu *et alii* 2013.

Stolna – *Podurile Domnești* and *Băstioara*¹⁸, Rotbav¹⁹, Măhăceni²⁰, Geoagiu de Sus²¹, Bratei²², Turia²³, Luduș²⁴, Lancrăm – *Glod*²⁵, Cluj-Napoca – *Str. Banat*²⁶, Șimleu Silvaniei²⁷, Stejeriș²⁸ and Aiud – *Groapa de gunoi*²⁹. Several new ¹⁴C dates were published from Early and Middle Bronze Age sites³⁰ during the past 20 years. According to the latest ¹⁴C dates, the Middle Bronze Age cultures from the Carpathian Basin were dated between the 20th and the 16th centuries BC³¹.

In conclusion, the researchers can choose between two periodization systems to date the sites and materials of the Wietenberg culture. These periodisations are not perfect fits with each other or the growing body of archaeological evidence. For example, it is difficult to synchronize the early phases – the Chidioșan I-II and Boroffka A1-A2. The archaeological research at the cemetery at Sebeș, through the great number of burials (61), the funerary rite, the typology of the pottery forms and ornamentation styles has led to a better knowledge of the early horizon of the Wietenberg culture³². Building on the insights provided by the study of this cemetery, the settlement at Derșida and other recently published sites (with published materials from both features or undisturbed levels), we distinguished three main phases in the evolution of the Wietenberg culture: *early*, *classical* and *late*³³.

THE EARLY WIETENBERG PHASE

Understanding the early Wietenberg phase requires unpacking the *Wietenberg I phase* ceramics at Derșida. Level 1, with Wietenberg I pottery, did not appear across the entire surface of the Derșida settlement. It included features such as pit-dwellings, sometimes with other pits inside, outside hearths, a crouched skeleton and a skull. The pottery is made from fine and coarse paste, with 15 typical forms (11 of which are fine), and 11 ornamentation types. A2 and I.e shape types were found in the first two levels of the settlement. In the upper levels, type A2 was manufactured only from coarse paste (type I.d). Other seven shape types from the first level (A1, B1, B2, B4, B7, E7 and I.a) occurred also in the next two levels at Derșida. Three of the forms originated in the first four levels (A3, G1 and I.b), and other three (C5, E6 and I.c) in all levels. Only one of the decoration types was common to the first two levels (type 1e). Four decoration types were specific to the first three levels (types 3i, 3j, 3bII and 3fI), other two were found in the first four (types 3k and 3l) and four types appeared in all Derșida levels (types 1c, 2a, 2b and 3e). In the first level a very small number of potsherds decorated with incisions made with a broom or comb was mentioned. But according to

¹⁸ Daróczi, Ursuțiu 2015.

¹⁹ Dietrich 2014a.

²⁰ Ciugudean 1997, p. 67-70, fig. 1-4; 5/1; Ciugudean 1999, p. 108-110, fig. 3-6; 7/1.

²¹ Ciugudean 1997, p. 70-73, fig. 5/2; 6-12; Ciugudean 1999, p. 110-116, fig. 7/2; 8-14.

²² Popa 2010, p. 156-159, pl. 45: the cemetery, published earlier by E. Zaharia (1999), is attributed to the Wietenberg culture.

²³ Székely 1995.

²⁴ Berecki 2016.

²⁵ Popa, Simina 2004, p. 17-31.

²⁶ Rotea, Wittenberger 1999.

²⁷ Rotea, Tecar, Tamba 2007.

²⁸ Dumitrașcu *et alii* 2014.

²⁹ Bălan, Burlacu-Timofte, Muntean 2016.

³⁰ Palincaș 1996; Popa, Boroffka 1996, p. 56, note 40; Gogâltan 1999, p. 62-67, 216-226; Kacsó 2004, p. 60; Görsdorf 2005, p. 68; Uhner 2010, p. 347-352; Bolohan 2010, p. 237-240; Motzoi-Chicideanu, Sandor-Chicideanu, Constantinescu 2012, p. 52-53; Jaeger, Kulcsár 2013, p. 294-313; Popescu 2013, p. 184-188; Vasilescu 2013; Popescu, Băjenaru 2015, p. 36; Dietrich 2014b; Bălan, Quinn 2014; Bolohan, Gafincu, Stoleriu 2015, p. 136-140; Nicodemus, O'Shea 2015; Gogâltan 2015, p. 70-79; Ciugudean, Quinn 2015, p. 148-153; Németh 2015, p. 186-187; Kiss *et alii* 2015.

³¹ Popescu, Băjenaru 2015, p. 36; Nicodemus, O'Shea 2015; Gogâltan 2015, p. 70-78.

³² Fântâneanu *et alii* 2013; Bălan, Fântâneanu, Anghel 2014.

³³ We preferred to use different terms, not to be confused with the previous periodizations (I-IV and A-D).

the author of the research, such fragments were found in the upper levels too. In the first level, there were no bronze objects, only bone and stone ones dated by the author to the Reinecke Br. A³⁴.

In 1994, N. Boroffka, taking into consideration the characteristics of the first three levels at Derşida, and following a statistic-combinatorial analysis, proposed the introduction of phases A1 and A2. Phase A1 comprised elements discovered in the first two levels, while phase A2 was similar to phase Chidioşan II, including the common elements of Derşida levels 2-4³⁵. In 2000, M. Rotea attributed the sites at Păuleni, Turia and Suatu to the first Wietenberg phase, as the ceramics had shapes and ornamentation similar to those encountered in the first two levels at Derşida³⁶. Later on, all the sites attributed by various researchers to phase Chidioşan I (Păuleni, Turia, Suatu, Lancrăm – *Glod*, Şeuşa, Plopiş and Bădeni II) were attributed by C.I. Popa to phase II, as some of the elements existed also in level 2 at Derşida (mainly the spiral decoration and the lobate vessels). At the same time, the latter author expressed certain doubts regarding the existence of phase I³⁷.

In conclusion, level I at Derşida should be attributed to phase Wietenberg II³⁸, as defined by K. Horedt and N. Chidioşan, based on the following arguments: a) the small number of forms (15) and ornamentation types (11) compared to those specific to the next two levels (47 shapes and 28 ornaments); b) none of the ceramic types from level 1 are specific only to phase I; c) within the Wietenberg area, no published settlement or cemetery has been definitively attributed to this phase; at the same time, phases Boroffka A1 and A2, considered separately, were not identified in any of the sites (N. Boroffka assigned to phase A1 a series of sites with mixed materials, generally specific to phases II and III, using the term of *early elements* or *rather early elements*³⁹; there were situations when early elements were chosen, elements that in combination with others from the same place could have been assigned a later date: e.g. Lechinţa – *Livada intensivă* and *Poderei*, Ocna Sibiului – *Dealul Trestiei*, Porumbenii Mici, Sibişeni, Uioara de Jos, Unirea, Voivodenii); d) in contemporary cultures, ceramic materials specific to phase I were not seen as imports.

Consequently, phase Wietenberg II / A represents the *early horizon* of the culture. The first evidence of the characteristics of this phase are in levels 1-3 at Derşida, with 47 specific forms and 28 specific ornamentation types. To be noted that only five of the 47 forms have lobes while the spiral motif appears only on three main decoration types.

Based on the characteristics of the levels 1-3 at Derşida and the vessels from the cemetery at Sebeş – Între răstoace, the first of the two authors noticed common elements on several other sites, which represent the grounds of the early phase: Sebeş – *Podul Pripocului*⁴⁰, Suatu⁴¹, Păuleni⁴², Oarţa de Sus – *Ghiile Botii*⁴³, Bădeni II⁴⁴, Boiu⁴⁵, Telna – *Pe coastă*⁴⁶, Turia⁴⁷, Bratei⁴⁸, Cerişor⁴⁹, Sfântu Gheorghe – *Eprestetă*⁵⁰, Stejeriș⁵¹,

³⁴ Chidioşan 1980, p. 27-66, 69-72, fig. 2-4.

³⁵ Boroffka 1994, p. 249.

³⁶ Rotea 2000, p. 29-31; Cavruc, Rotea 2000, p. 158.

³⁷ Popa 2010, p. 129-134, 136, 153-156.

³⁸ Boroffka 1994, p. 249: the first scholar who expressed the opinion that the level 1 at Derşida was not typical for a phase.

³⁹ Boroffka 1994, p. 252.

⁴⁰ Boroffka 1994, p. 72, pl. 117/1-7; Popa 2010, p. 151-152, pl. 42/3; 43-44.

⁴¹ Rotea 1994b.

⁴² Rotea 2000; Cavruc, Rotea 2000; Cavruc, Buzea 2002, p. 46-50; pl. X-XIX, XXVII-XXX, XXXII.

⁴³ Kacsó 1987, fig. 22-28; Kacsó 2013; Kacsó 2015, p. 428-433, fig. 188-209.

⁴⁴ Lazarovici, Milea 1976, pl. VI-X.

⁴⁵ Andrițoiu 1992, p. 50, pl. 20; 23/13-14; 27/9; 28/8; 29/2, 6, 9; 30/1-2; 31/1, 4, 9, 13, 15; 32/2, 13; pl. 35/4, 9, 20; Boroffka 1994, p. 24-25; pl. 13/8-10; 14/1-3.

⁴⁶ Andrițoiu 1992, p. 50, pl. 23/3-5; 24/4; 28/ 1, 10; 31/7; 32/4; 33/1; 35/8, 18, 21, 25, 31; Boroffka 1994, p. 83-84; pl. 135/6-10.

⁴⁷ Székely 1995.

⁴⁸ Popa 2010, p. 156-159, pl. 45.

⁴⁹ Roman, Diaconescu, Luca 2000, p. 9, 14-17, pl. XIX-XXVII.

⁵⁰ Boroffka 1994, p. 74; pl. 118; 119/1-2.

⁵¹ Dumitraşcu *et alii* 2014.

Romos⁵², Brașov – *Bartolomeu*⁵³, Lancrăm – *Glod*⁵⁴, Stolna – *Podurile Domnești*⁵⁵ and *Băştioara*⁵⁶, Rotbav⁵⁷ and Șeușa⁵⁸. Some of the items from the sites at Chintelnic⁵⁹, Cicău⁶⁰, Feldioara⁶¹ and Sighișoara – *Wietenberg*⁶² can be added to this phase. They provided mixed materials (early and classical) with similar characteristics to the ones in the early sites mentioned above although published without the discovery context.

The pottery forms are conservative throughout the Wietenberg culture, with very small changes from one phase to another, contrary to the variation of the ornamentation styles. Specific to this early phase are pots, bowls, mugs, cups, pyxides, incense burners and lids. Among the pots, the biconical shaped with flat base and rims slanting outwards have a high frequency (Pl. I/1-15). In many cases, this type has applied handles or knobs on the area of maximum diameter (Pl. I/1-4, 7, 9, 11, 13). Generally, the decoration develops in friezes on the upper part of the body and is represented by wide diagonal incisions and grooves (Pl. I/1, 3, 4, 6), hatched triangles (Pl. I/8-9, 11), the herringbone motif (Pl. I/2, 13), garland motif (Pl. I/7), incised cross-hatching motif (Pl. I/12) and simple and complex spirals (Pl. I/5, 9, 15). It is rare for these motifs to appear grouped in several friezes on the same vessel (Pl. I/2, 10-11). Sometimes, the rims were decorated on the exterior or the interior with small diagonal incisions, incised triangles or lines (Pl. I/3, 10, 15-17). Some pots have a plastic decoration of spiral endings, applied on small handles under the maximum diameter (Pl. I/2). A shape derived from this pot type is the tall pot with rounded body, decorated with the spiral motif (Pl. I/16-17). Another type of pot is tall and slender, with a large rim, seldom decorated with grooves, spiral or alveoli rows (Pl. I/21-22). In some cases, the pots have knobs applied on or under the maximum diameter (Pl. I/22). There are also pots which resemble the ones presented above, but with the neck inclined towards the interior (Pl. I/25-28). Bag-shaped pots were discovered at Lancrăm and Oarța de Sus (Pl. I/23-24). A vessel that stands out is the slender pot with handles applied on the neck, seldom decorated (Pl. I/18-20). At the cemetery at Sebeș, a short type of pot decorated with the same motifs as the ones with the biconical body was found (Pl. I/29-32). A variant of the jar-pot was found in the settlement from Păuleni (Pl. II/10). The lobed bowl is different from the one of the classical period, having shorter lobes (Pl. II/12-15). Among the bowls, there are conical-shaped ones, tall or short (Pl. II/16-20), and the bowl from Sebeș with a strongly profiled shoulder and the rim inclined towards the exterior (Pl. II/11). The representative bowls have an S-shaped profile, sometimes with applied handles from the rim to the shoulder (Pl. III/1-7). Other bowls have straight or slightly inclined rims towards the interior, and in some cases small handles were applied under the rim (Pl. III/8-11). Some tall bowls have an S-shaped profile (Pl. II/1-9). Cups with a wide mouth and high handle, having a shape similar to the bowls, are present starting with this phase (Pl. III/12-18, 24). The mug with a high handle, sometimes with a spout, is specific for the early horizon (Pl. I/26-27). This type is not found in features dated to the classical phase at Sibișeni, Dumbrăvița, Bistrița, Aiton, Luduș, Cluj-Napoca, Porumbenii Mici, Voivodenii, Aiud – *Groapa de gunoi*, Șimleu Silvaniei etc. The decoration styles on this type of vessel are also archaic⁶³. Even though at Derșida the presence of cups with slender body, high handle and large mouth, was documented in levels 4-5, this form is generally found at the sites of the early phases (Pl. III/19-23, 25). At Oarța de Jos a two-mouthed cup with a handle was found, with

⁵² Archaeological research by G. Bălan, S. Popa, D. Tentiș and M. Râza.

⁵³ Boroffka 1994, p. 26; pl. 15/7-8; 16/1-9.

⁵⁴ Popa, Simina 2004, p. 17-31, pl. 2-6, 17-18: pit no. 12, vessels from a possible necropolis and some materials in the archaeological layer.

⁵⁵ Daróczi, Ursuțiu 2015, p. 14-26: some of the features date to the early Wietenberg phase (e.g. CsPD 001, 004, 005, 009, 026, CxPD 001).

⁵⁶ Daróczi, Ursuțiu 2015, p. 233-234 (features Cx.B 003-009).

⁵⁷ Dietrich 2014a, p. 157-179 (levels 1 and 2).

⁵⁸ Ciută 2009, p. 83-92.

⁵⁹ Boroffka 1994, p. 29-30, pl. 26/7; 27/6-9; 28/9; 29/ 1, 3.

⁶⁰ Boroffka 1994, p. 30, pl. 37/7; 38/21; 40/9-10; 42/4-6; 43/8; 47/9; 49/10; 50/8; 51/2.

⁶¹ Boroffka 1994, p. 42, pl. 73/4; 74/1-6; 75/15; 76/4; 78/1, 13-14; 79/7, 9-10.

⁶² Boroffka 1994, p. 76-77, pl. 131/5, 11, 14-15; 132/8; 133/10; 134, 1-2, 4; Andrițoiu, Rustoiu 1997, fig. 23/4.

⁶³ Boroffka 1994, pl. 16/10; 17/2; 26/7; 27/6-9; 80/6; 86/16-17; 109/3; 111/9; 115/8; 117/9; 118/6-10; 119/1-2; 139/15.

the handle decorated with pinches all the way from the rim to the body (Pl. III/28). Pyxides with a biconical or spherical body, sometimes with small handles are attested at Sebeş, Turia and Deva – *Dâmbul Popii*⁶⁴ (Pl. III/29-30). The lids with a straight rim or an inclined rim towards the exterior, sometimes decorated with specific motifs, including the Wietenberg cross motif, appeared from this phase on (Pl. III/31-33). Incense burners were found at Oarța de Sus⁶⁵.

Unlike the vessel shapes, the techniques and decorative motifs on ceramics change from one phase to another. According to the stratigraphy at Derşida, techniques such as the simultaneous and successive stiches, impressions of triangles or the meander motif are not present in the first three levels of the settlement. In the early horizon, the spiral motif appears very rarely and many times is just a simplified shape made from recumbent S-es (Pl. I/9, 15; III/16). These motifs represent the model for the complex spirals covering most of the pot bodies of the classical phase. They appear rarely in the early phase at Sebeş – Între răstoace⁶⁶, Oarța de Sus, Lancrăm – *Glod*, Sfântu Gheorghe – *Eprestetö*⁶⁷ and Șeușa (Pl. I/5, 16-17, 21). In the repertoire of the early ceramics, the technique of large incisions stands out (described frequently as the incised or grooved technique): ornaments in frieze made of triangles (Pl. I/8, 11, 31-32), diagonal lines (Pl. I/1-2, 31-32; 2/9), the herringbone (Pl. I/13, 31; III/15, 20-21, 24) and garland motifs (Pl. I/7). This technique is missing from the sites of the classical period. An interesting motif is the frieze made of diagonal grooves on the upper part of pots or cups (Pl. I/3-4, 6, 11, 29-30; II/8; III/1-3, 12-13, 19, 22-23, 30). On cups and mugs, this type of ornament often occurs in the next phase. The motif of the herringbone is an early element in the decoration repertoire of the culture. In a manner similar to the Sebeş – Între răstoace (Pl. I/31-32), this element only occurs on early sites: Romos (Pl. III/21), Păuleni⁶⁸, Șeușa⁶⁹, Oarța de Sus (Pl. III/20), Lancrăm – *Glod* (Pl. III/15), Telna – *Pe coastă* (Pl. III/24), Bădeni⁷⁰ and Stolna – *Podurile Domnești*⁷¹. Hatched triangles made of incisions or flutes on the pots are specific to the early horizon: Șeușa⁷², Oarța de Sus (Pl. I/26), Sebeş – Între răstoace (Pl. I/8, 31-32), Turia (Pl. I/11) and Deva – *Cartierul Progresul* (Pl. I/20). This motif is present also on the pottery of the classical phase, but there it was made of fine incisions on the body or the rim of the vessels. A decoration taken from the previous cultures is the incised zigzag line found on the pots

⁶⁴ Boroffka 1994, pl. 70/1.

⁶⁵ Kacsó 1987, fig. 28; Kacsó 1998; Kacsó 2013, fig. 9.

⁶⁶ Fântâneanu *et alii* 2013, fig. 7/7.

⁶⁷ Boroffka 1994, pl. 118/5.

⁶⁸ Rotea 2000, pl. VIII/2, 4.

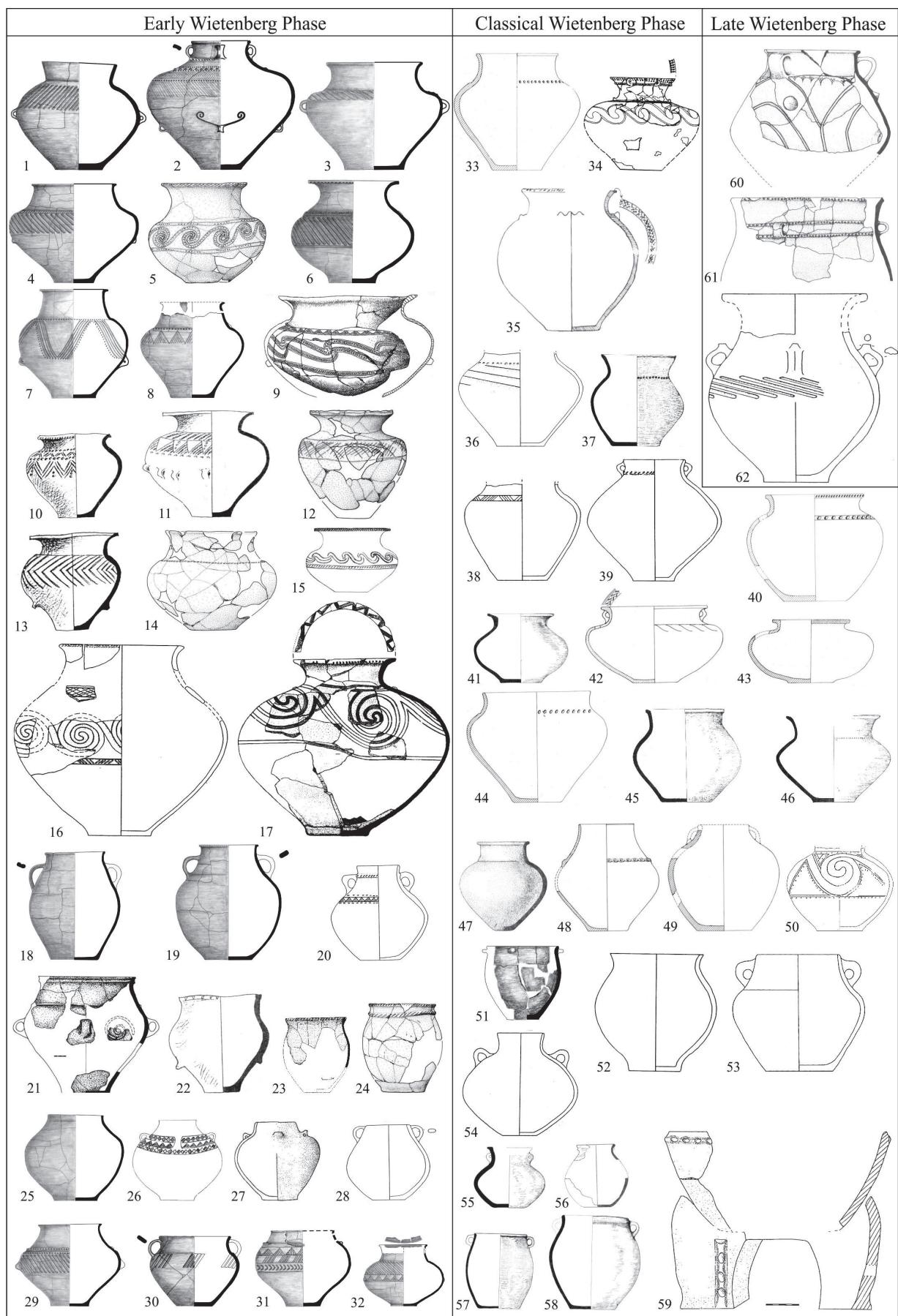
⁶⁹ Ciută 2009, pl. XLVI/8.

⁷⁰ Lazarovici, Milea 1976, pl. VII/1; XII/14.

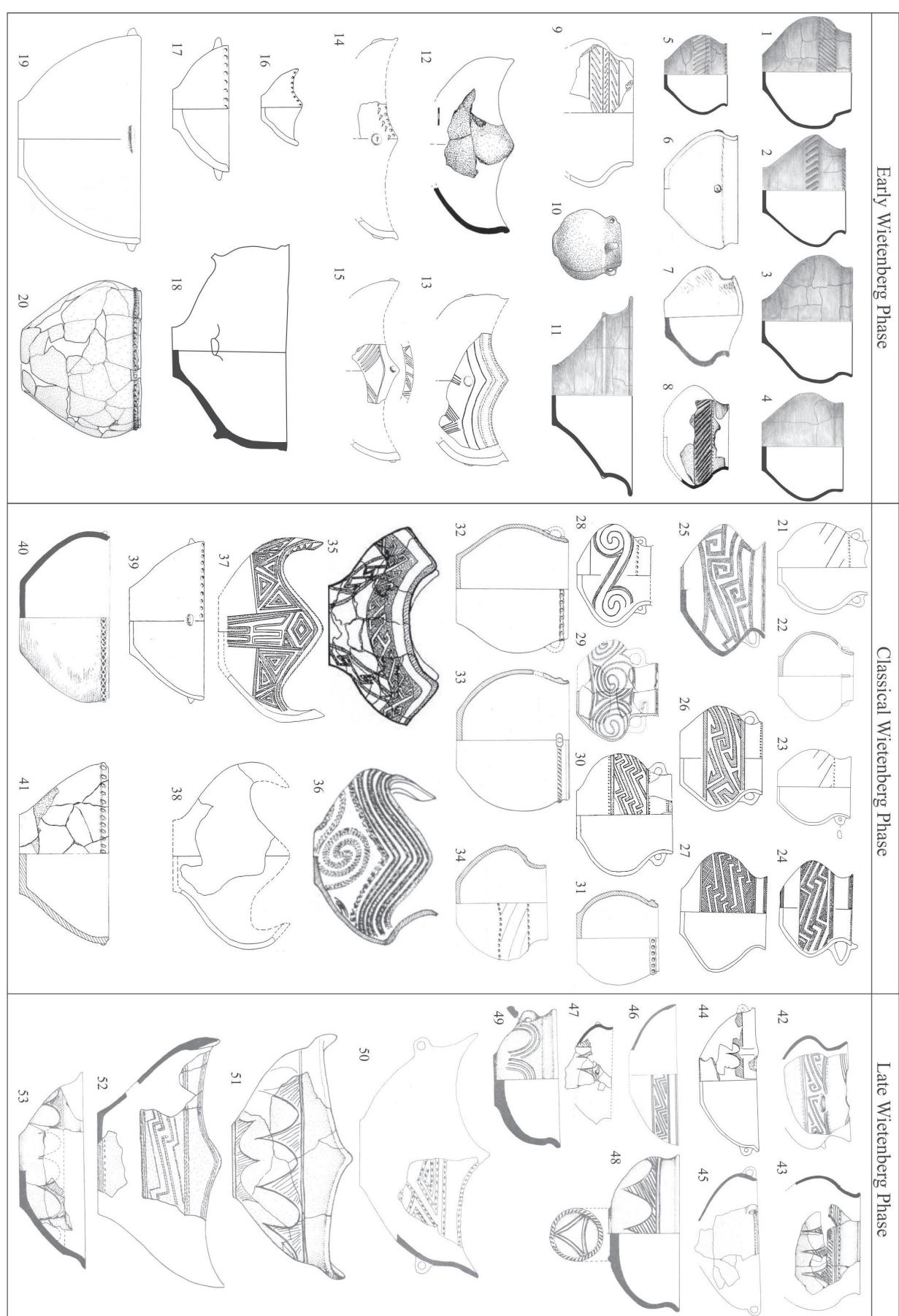
⁷¹ Daróczi, Ursuțiu 2015, pl. 109/1829; pl. 119.

⁷² Ciută 2009, pl. LII/7

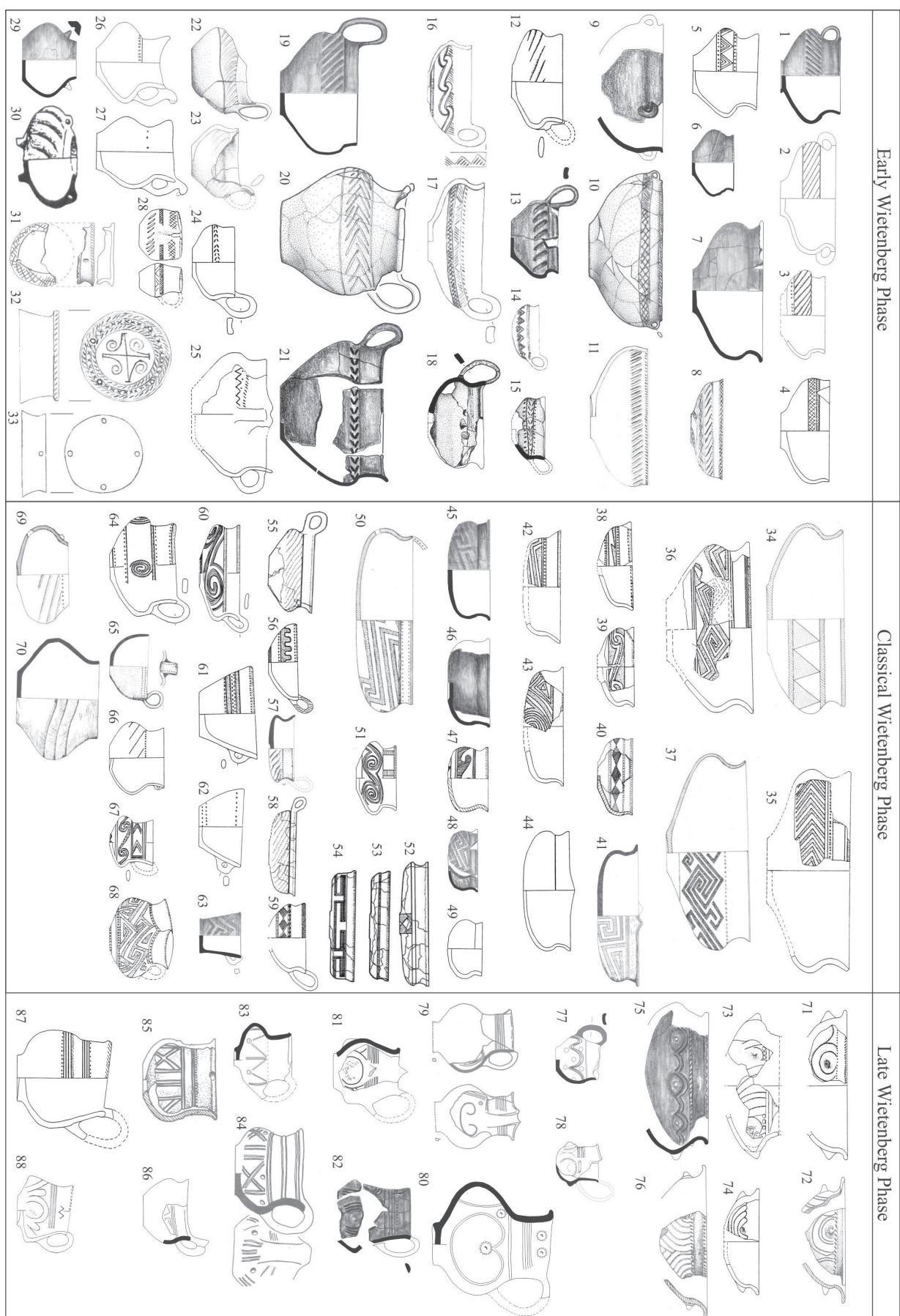
Pl. I. Wietenberg pottery: 1-4, 6-8, 18-19, 25, 29-32 Sebeş – *Între răstoace* (after C. Fântâneanu *et alii* 2013, 1 - fig. 5/4; 2 – fig. 5/8; 3 – fig. 6/2; 4 – fig. 6/8; 6 – fig. 7/2; 7 – fig. 6/4; 18 – fig. 7/4; 30 – fig. 5/11); 5, 12, 14-15, 24, 26 Oarța de Sus – *Ghiile Botii* (after Kacsó 2015, 5 – fig. 204; 12 – fig. 205; 14 – fig. 197; 24 – fig. 199; Kacsó 2013, 15 – fig. 12/3; 26 – fig. 11); 9 Păuleni (after Rotea 2000, pl. V/1); 10-11, 13, 22 Turia (after Székely 1995, 10 – pl. X; 11 – pl. V/5; 13 – pl. XI/3; 22 – pl. VI/3); 16 Cluj-Napoca – *Gura Baciuului* (after Boroffka 1994, pl. 60/1); 17, 23 Lancrăm – *Glod* (after Popa, Simina 2004, 17 – pl. 17/2; 18 – pl. 3/1); 20, 28 Deva – *Cartier Progresul* (after Boroffka 1994, 20 – pl. 69/6; 28 – pl. 69/5); 21 Șeușa (after Ciută 2009, pl. XLVIII/6); 27 Bratei (after Popa 2010, pl. 45/13); 33, 35, 40, 42-44, 48-49 Bistrița (after Crișan 1970, 33 – fig. 10/3/B; 35 – fig. 8/3/B; 40 – fig. 11/4; 42 – fig. 8/1; 43 – fig. 9/4; 44 – fig. 9/3; 48 – fig. 10/1; 49 – fig. 8/2); 34 Cluj-Napoca – *Str. Banat* (after Rotea, Wittenberger 1999, fig. XIII/2); 36, 38-39, 50, 52-54 Sibișeni (after Boroffka 1994, 36 – pl. 126/6; 38 – pl. 124/8; 39 – pl. 124/1; 50 – pl. 122/8; 52 – pl. 120/1; 53 – pl. 122/4; 54 – pl. 122/5); 37, 41, 45-46, 55, 57-58 Dumbrăvița (after Soroceanu, Retegan 1981, 37 – fig. 7/3; 41 – fig. 4/4; 45 – fig. 10/3; 46 – fig. 18/2; 55 – fig. 13/2; 57 – fig. 8/1; 58 – fig. 12/3); 47, 56 Aiton (after Soroceanu, Blăjan, Cerghi 1976, 47 – fig. 4/1; 56 – fig. 8/5); 51 Micești – *Cigașe* (after Bălan 2014, pl. 19/22); 59 Șimleu Silvaniei (after Rotea, Tecar, Tamba 2007, fig. 17/2), 60-61 Geoagiu de Sus (after Ciugudean 1997, 60 – fig. 6/1; 61 – fig. 6/2); 62 Băcăinți (after Boroffka 1994, pl. 3/1).



Pl. II. Wietenberg pottery: 1-5, 11 Sebeş – *Întră răstoace* (after Fântâneanu *et alii* 2013, 2 – fig. 6/3; 3 – fig. 7/5; 5 – fig. 5/1; 11 – fig. 6/11); 8 Lancrăm – *Glod* (after Popa, Simina 2004, pl. 3/2); 13 Sebeş – *Podul Prăpociului* (after Boroffka 1994, pl. 117/6); 6, 20 Oarţa de Sus – *Ghiile Botii* (after Kacsó 2013, 6 – fig. 13/5; 2015, 20 – fig. 200); 9 Braşov – *Valea Răcădăului* (after Boroffka 1994, pl. 18/7); 14-15 Braşov – *Barbolomeu* (after Boroffka 1994, 14 – pl. 15/8; 15 – pl. 15/7); 10 Păuleni (after Rotea 2000, pl. V/3); 12 Şeuşa (after Ciută 2009, pl. XLVIII/5); 19 Boiu (after Boroffka 1994, pl. 13/8); 7, 18 Turia (after Székely 1995, 7 – pl. VI/6; 18 – pl. VII/2); 16-17 Telna (after Boroffka 1994, 16 – pl. 135/7; 17 – pl. 135/10); 24 Obreja (after Boroffka 1994, pl. 106/1); 22, 31-34, 36 Bistriţa (after Crişan 1970, 22 – fig. 9/2/B; 31 – fig. 9/3/A; 32 – fig. 9/1/B; 33 – fig. 11/2; 34 – fig. 9/5; 36 – fig. 8/3/A); 29, 35 Cluj-Napoca – *Str. Banat* (after Rotea, Wittenberger 1999, 29 – pl. XIV/3; 35 – pl. VIII); 37 Sfântu Gheorghe – *Avasalija* (after Boroffka 1994, pl. 119/8); 38 Porumbenii Mici (after Boroffka 1994, pl. 112/10); 21, 23, 26-28, 30, 39 Sibişeni (after Boroffka 1994, 21 – pl. 121/6; 23 – pl. 120/4; 26 – pl. 123/8; 27 – pl. 122/1; 28 – pl. 123/6; 30 – pl. 120/5; 39 – pl. 123/7); 40 Dumbrăviţa (after Soroceanu, Rețegan 1981, fig. 8/2); 25 Aiton (after Soroceanu, Blăjan, Cerghi 1976, fig. 7); 41 Simleu Silvaniei (after Rotea, Tecar, Tamba 2007, fig. 15/2); 44 Ciceu-Corabia (after Boroffka 1994, pl. 55/10); 42, 45-46, 52 Geoagiu de Sus (after Ciugudean 1997, 42 – fig. 7/1; 45 – fig. 7/3; 46 – fig. 7/2; 52 – fig. 5/2); 43, 47-49, 51, 53 Măhăceni (after Ciugudean 1997, 43 – fig. 1/2; 47 – fig. 2/6; 48 – fig. 3/5; 49 – fig. 3/9; 51 – fig. 5/1; 53 – fig. 3/5); 50 Deva – *Cimitirul ceangăilor* (after Rotea 1994a, pl. V/1).



Pl. III. Wietenberg pottery: 1, 6-7, 19, 29 Sebeș – *Într-o răstoacă* (after Fântâneanu *et alii* 2013, 1 – fig. 5/10; 6 – fig. 5/7; 19 – fig. 6/5; 29 – fig. 5/9); 4, 28 Oarta de Jos – *Vîlceana Rusului* (after Boroffka 1994, 4 - pl. 102/8; 28 – pl. 102/11); 8, 10-11, 14, 16-17, 20, 32-33 Oarta de Sus – *Ghiile Boii* (after Kacsó 2013, 8 – fig. 13/2, 11 – fig. 13/3, 14 – fig. 11/2, 16 – fig. 11/5, 17 – fig. 11/3, 32 – fig. 11/4, 33 – fig. 11/6, 2015, 10 – fig. 20/3; 20 – fig. 20/2); 3 Brașov – *Valea Răcădăului* (after Boroffka 1994, pl. 18/2); 26 Brașov – *Bartolomeu/Schottergrube* (after Boroffka 1994, pl. 17/2); 25 Brașov – *Zimne* (after Boroffka 1994, pl. 19/11); 9, 13, 21 Romos; 22-23, 31 Păuleni (after Rotea 2000, 22 – pl. IV/5; 23 – pl. IV/2; 31 – pl. V/2); 2 Boiu (after Boroffka 1994, pl. 14/1); 30 Turia (after Székely 1995, pl. VII/3); 24 Telna (after Boroffka 1994, pl. 135/8); 5, 12, 27 Sfântu Gheorghe – *E-prestetö* (after Boroffka 1994, 5 – pl. 118/2; 12 – pl. 118/3; 27 – pl. 118/10); 15, 18 Lancerăm – *Glod* (after Popa, Simina 2004, 15 – pl. 2/1; 18 – pl. 2/3); 35, 42 Chintelnic (after Boroffka 1994, 35 – pl. 32/12; 42 – pl. 32/1); 36 Livezile – *Răcișlog-Poderei* (after Boroffka 1994, pl. 87/6); 34, 37, 50, 69 Bistrița (after Crișan 1970, 34 – fig. 10/4; 37 – fig. 103/A; 50 – fig. 102/A; 69 – fig. 92/A); 59 Săcueni (after Boroffka 1994, pl. 115/6); 62, 67-68 Șașeș (after Boroffka 1994, 62 – pl. 115/6; 67 – pl. 115/1; 68 – pl. 115/5); 40, 52-55, 58 Cluj-Napoca – *Str. Banat* (after Rotea, Wittenberger 1999, 40 – pl. V/3; 52 – pl. IV; 53 – pl. III/1; 54 – pl. III/2; 55 – pl. XI/2; 58 – pl. IX/3); 56 Deva – *Dealul cetății* (after Boroffka 1994, pl. 69/3); 44, 49, 51, 66 Sibișeni (after Boroffka 1994, 44 – pl. 126/6; 49 – pl. 123/2; 51 – pl. 123/5; 66 – pl. 121/11); 41, 57, 65, 70 Dumbrăvița (after Soroceanu, Retegan 1981, 41 – fig. 4/1; 57 – fig. 4/3; 65 – fig. 14/5; 70 – fig. 14/4); 38, 61, 64, 73-74 Ciceu-Corabia (after Boroffka 1994, 38 – pl. 55/9, 61 – pl. 55/6; 64 – pl. 59/6; 73 – pl. 56/3; 74 – pl. 56/2); 39, 43 Chintelnic (after Boroffka 1994, 39 – pl. 31/2; 43 – pl. 31/5); 45-46, 48, 63, 75, 82 Micești – *Cigașe* (after Bălan 2014, 45 – pl. 12/9; 46 – pl. 12/2; 48 – pl. 20/3; 63 – pl. 13/4; 75 – pl. 24/1; 82 – pl. 27/1); 47 Șimleu Silvaniei (after Rotea, Tecar, Tamba 2007, fig. 9/2); 60 Obreja (after Boroffka 1994, pl. 106/3); 71 Viștea – *Kikutverme* (after Boroffka 1994, pl. 145/6); 72 Cluj-Napoca – *Mănăștur* (after Rotea 1994a, pl. VI/5); 79-81, 83, 86 Deva – *Cimitirul ceangăilor* (after Rotea 1994a, 79 – pl. IV/1; 86 – pl. IV/4; Andrițoiu 1992, 80 – pl. 46/12; 81 – pl. 46/10; 83 – pl. 46/4); 84, 88 Bădeni (after Rotea 1994a, 84 – pl. I/6; after Boroffka 1994, pl. 4/3); 85 Deus (after Rotea 1994a, pl. III/8); 77-78 Șirolna – *Sesurile Rele* (after Daróczi, Ursutiu 2015, 77 – pl. 242/5320; 78 – pl. 242/5369); 67 Craiva (after Boroffka 1994, pl. 66/8).



at Brașov – *Zinne* (Pl. III/25), Suatu⁷³, Păuleni⁷⁴, Șeușa⁷⁵ and Rotbav⁷⁶. An early motif is the so-called Wietenberg cross motif, which decorates mainly the lids (Pl. III/32). The plastic decoration applied above or below the handle is representative for the early Wietenberg phase: Sebeș – Între răstoace (Pl. I/2), Bratei⁷⁷, Rotbav⁷⁸ and Oarța de Sus⁷⁹.

Many of the shapes and ornaments on the pottery of the early phase have their origins in the cultures and cultural groups that existed at the end of the Early Bronze Age. The pot with the highest frequency (Pl. I/1-15) has analogies in the burial or group of burials at Movila, phase Monteoru Ic4⁸⁰, but also in the Odaia Turcului group⁸¹. A bowl type from Sebeș (Pl. III/3-4) has analogies at Năeni – *Colarea*, where it was discovered in burial 8, together with a cup of the Năeni-Schneckenberg type⁸². The slender mug with a tall handle (Pl. III/26-27) has analogies in Transylvania in the Early Bronze Age IIb at Gligorești⁸³ and Tărtăria⁸⁴, but also in the area of the Monteoru culture (phase Ic4, 3) at Cârlomănești⁸⁵. The bowl discovered in burial M. 32 at Sebeș (Pl. II/11) has analogies in the Odaia Turcului group⁸⁶, the Nagyrév⁸⁷ and Kisapostag⁸⁸ cultures. Another pot type from Sebeș (Pl. I/1) resembles the Early Bronze Age pots with spherical bodies and handles applied on the maximum diameter of the vessels⁸⁹. The type of lid most frequently encountered in the Wietenberg culture (Pl. III/31, 33) is present in the Odaia Turcului group⁹⁰. The small lobed bowl from Telna (Pl. II/16) has analogies in the Odaia Turcului group⁹¹. The plastic decoration applied above or below the handle has its origins at the end of the Early Bronze Age⁹². The incised decoration rendering the zigzag motif is encountered at Odaia Turcului, in level 4⁹³, București – *Fundeni*⁹⁴ and Sărata Monteoru⁹⁵. More V-s made from parallel incised lines (Pl. I/10; II/13; III/5, 14), with the V-tip pointing up, are present on the vessels at Gligorești, Pianu de Jos, Șibot, Tureni, Sfântu Gheorghe, Sărata Monteoru and Dalnic⁹⁶. The incised cross-hatching motif (Pl. I/12, 16; III/4, 10, 17, 28, 31) has origins in the late Early Bronze Age⁹⁷, and the triangles filled with dots are present in Ciomortan-Costișa⁹⁸ and Monteoru Ic4, 3 – Ic3⁹⁹. The pot with knobs on the inside found at Oarța de Sus has analogies in the Mako, Nyirség, Nagyrév and Sanislău groups¹⁰⁰.

⁷³ Rotea 1994b, pl. III/3.

⁷⁴ Rotea 2000, pl. VIII/3.

⁷⁵ Ciută 2009, pl. XLVIII/2.

⁷⁶ Dietrich 2014a, pl. 105/1.

⁷⁷ Popa 2010, pl. 45/18.

⁷⁸ Dietrich 2014a, pl. 105/8.

⁷⁹ Kacsó 2004, pl. XXXI-XXXII.

⁸⁰ Băjenaru 2014, p. 86, 227, fig. 62/C/7.

⁸¹ Băjenaru 2003, fig. 2.

⁸² Băjenaru 2014, fig. 62/11.

⁸³ Popa 2010, pl. 3/1

⁸⁴ Popa 2010, pl. 3/2

⁸⁵ Zaharia 1990, fig. 21/3; Munteanu 2010, pl. 37/2.

⁸⁶ Băjenaru 2003, fig. 2; Băjenaru 2014, pl. 7/2-3 (Type I.B.7-8).

⁸⁷ Vicze 2011, pl. 11/13; 2/9; 3/16; 6/7, 11; 7/3, 6, 13; 8/1, 12, 14; 11/10.

⁸⁸ Vicze 2011, pl. 13/13; 14/2; 17/8; 18/13; 22/11; 23/2.

⁸⁹ Kalicz 1984, pl. XXVII/1, 3; Schreiber-Kalicz 1984, pl. XXXVIII/1; Popa 2010, pl. 6/10; Munteanu 2010, fig. 65/5-6; Vicze 2011, fig. 26, pl. 12/3; 13/11; 14/6; 15/8; 16/6; 18/4, 11, 14; 19/2, 6; 20/1.

⁹⁰ Băjenaru 2014, pl. 48/9.

⁹¹ Băjenaru 2014, pl. 50/4.

⁹² Schreiber-Kalicz 1984, pl. XXXV/19; XXXVI/3; XLII/1, 5, 11; Ciugudean 1996, pl. 58/3.

⁹³ Băjenaru 2014, pl. 47/8.

⁹⁴ Băjenaru 2014, pl. 50/8.

⁹⁵ Băjenaru 2014, pl. 53/11.

⁹⁶ Popa 2010, pl. 2/1-8.

⁹⁷ Ciugudean 1996, fig. 1/10; fig. 6/4, 6; 10/3; 16/1, 7; 43/14; Băjenaru 2014, fig. 21/5-6; 22/3; 23/9; 24/2.

⁹⁸ Munteanu 2010, fig. 50.

⁹⁹ Munteanu 2010, fig. 33; Băjenaru 2014, pl. 41/3; 43/B/24.

¹⁰⁰ Kacsó 2013, p. 115-117.

In conclusion, the repertoire of forms and decorations specific to this early Wietenberg phase has connections to some specific traditions of the groups and cultures from the end of the Early Bronze Age, suggesting contributions from different areas (Nagyrév, Nyirség, Sanislău, Gornea-Orlești, Odaia Turcului). Timewise, the closest cultural manifestations/pottery styles are the Andrid / Otomani I type¹⁰¹ and the Ciomortan-Costișa type¹⁰², dated to 21st-20th centuries BC. Many ornamental motifs were adapted from these cultural groups during the early phase of Wietenberg culture. A great importance has the stratigraphy from Păuleni where the Ciomortan-Costișa level was directly overlapped by the early Wietenberg level¹⁰³. The funerary rite is different from most contemporary neighbouring groups and cultures (Mureş, Otomani, Monteioru, Tei and Costișa)¹⁰⁴. The deposition of cinerary urns is encountered at the end of the Early Bronze Age at the Nagyrév¹⁰⁵ and Nyirség¹⁰⁶ communities. The Nagyrév group is mostly responsible for shaping the Vatya culture¹⁰⁷, with a funerary rite similar to the Wietenberg one¹⁰⁸. The discussion about this aspect leads to the question whether the funerary rite got adopted from the Early Bronze Age communities or from the Vatya ones.

Metal finds and moulds are rare at Wietenberg sites. The few finds attributed to the early phase came from Derşida (a chisel from the 2nd level and a mould for casting socketed chisels found in the 3rd level¹⁰⁹), Oarța de Sus (bronze, gold and silver artefacts and moulds for casting Apa and Țufalău type objects, dated to the Bz. A2)¹¹⁰ and Păuleni (a heart-shaped pendant and a paddle-head pin)¹¹¹. The bronze pin with a disc head from Sebeş – *Podul Pripocului*¹¹² and the sword from Boiu¹¹³ were assigned to the Wietenberg II phase. Both the sickle and the spearhead from Sighișoara – *Wietenberg* were attributed to the early Wietenberg phase, but the context of the discovery is unknown. The settlement, disturbed by later Dacian occupation, was attributed to the early and classical phases¹¹⁴. The hoards from Deva and Sebeş, with bronze objects specific to the western area, are also attributed to the early Wietenberg phase¹¹⁵.

The relative chronology: There were ceramic exchanges between the Wietenberg communities and the neighbouring cultures starting in the early phase, contemporary with the Otomani II¹¹⁶, Mureş / Periam-Pecica Ib¹¹⁷, Hatvan II¹¹⁸ and Monteioru Ic2-1¹¹⁹. Reported to the chronological systems, the early phase correlates to the Reinecke Br. A2, Boná MB 2, Mozsolics B III, Gogâltan BM II stages.

The absolute chronology. The ¹⁴C dates for the Wietenberg culture are few, but compared to three years ago¹²⁰, the situation is much better. The following dates belong to sites attributed to the early phase (Pl. V):

¹⁰¹ Roman, Németh 1990, p. 46-47; Németh, Molnár 2001; Popa 2010, p. 134-138. The level with the Andrid/Otomani I type artifacts overlaps the Sanislău level and is directly beneath the Otomani II level at Carei – *Bobald*.

¹⁰² Cavruc, Dumitroaia 2000; Cavruc 2002; Munteanu 2010, p. 202-209; Popa 2010, p. 106-116, pl. 33.

¹⁰³ Rotea 2000, p. 30; Cavruc, Rotea 2000, p. 157-158; Cavruc 2002, p. 191.

¹⁰⁴ Motzoi-Chicideanu 2011, p. 330-369 (Mureş/Periam-Pecica); 369-432 (Monteioru); 432-441 (Costișa); 441-444 (Tei); 451-496 (Otomani); 527-546 (Wietenberg).

¹⁰⁵ Schreiber-Kalicz 1984, p. 155.

¹⁰⁶ Kalicz 1984, p. 111-112; Motzoi-Chicideanu 2011, p. 317-320.

¹⁰⁷ Boná 1975, p. 31-32; Kovács 1984, p. 220.

¹⁰⁸ Boná 1975, p. 32-44, 52, 59.

¹⁰⁹ Chidioşan 1980, p. 60.

¹¹⁰ Kacsó 1987, p. 70, fig. 22-23; Kacsó 2004, p. 60, pl. XXXVIII-XXXIX.

¹¹¹ Popa 2010, p. 146.

¹¹² Boroffka 1994, p. 286.

¹¹³ Boroffka 1994, p. 286.

¹¹⁴ Boroffka 1994, p. 286; Andrițoiu, Rustoiu 1997, p. 32.

¹¹⁵ Popa 2010, p. 138-153.

¹¹⁶ Chidioşan 1974, p. 157-159; Chidioşan 1980, p. 90-91; Boroffka 1994, p. 287.

¹¹⁷ Chidioşan 1980, p. 88; Soroceanu 1991, p. 119, pl. 49/15; Szabó 1999, p. 24-25, fig. 36/Gr. 102/5; fig. 52/Gr. 127/3.

¹¹⁸ Boroffka 1994, p. 286.

¹¹⁹ Florescu 1971; Chidioşan 1980, p. 85-86; Boroffka 1994, p. 286-287; Motzoi-Chicideanu 1995, p. 223; Popescu 2008; Puskás 2015, p. 105.

¹²⁰ Bălan, Quinn 2014.

- Oarța de Sus – *Ghiile Botii* – Bln-5626: 3507 ± 37 BP, 1931-1701 cal BC (95.4%)¹²¹;
- Rotbav – Hd-28203: 3547 ± 24 BP, 1954 - 1774 cal BC (95.4%)¹²²;
- Păuleni – the Costișa-Ciomortan level: 3620 ± 16 BP, 2031-1925 cal BC (95%)¹²³; Wietenberg level: 3440 ± 25 BP, 1877-1683 cal BC (95.4%)¹²⁴;
- Sebeș – *Între râstoace* (Pl. IV) – AA-103611: 3445 ± 41 BP, 1883-1660 cal BC (95.4%); AA-103613: 3517 ± 41 BP, 1950-1700 cal BC (95.4%); AA-103614: 3533 ± 41 BP, 2007-1746 cal BC (95.4%); AA-103615: 3555 ± 41 BP, 2021-1746 cal BC (95.4%); AA-103616: 3562 ± 42 BP, 2026-1771 cal BC (95.4%); AA-103617: 3425 ± 41 BP, 1878-1629 cal BC (95.4%); AA-103618: 3520 ± 41 BP, 1953-1701 cal BC (95.4%); AA-103619: 3495 ± 40 BP, 1923-1695 cal BC (95.4%); AA-103620: 3501 ± 40 BP, 1933-1697 cal BC (95.4%)¹²⁵.

Two ^{14}C dates on seed samples found in the same pit (no. 22) at Oarța de Sus have been published. The Bln-5626 date is comparable to the ones at Rotbav, Păuleni and Sebeș and match the expectations. There are 12 radiocarbon dates covering the time period between 2026 and 1664 cal BC, but the timespan which can be considered 100% accurate for this phase is between 1830 and 1774 cal BC. Obviously, this phase lasts longer. These ^{14}C data suggest a starting date in the 20th century BC and an ending in the first half of the 18th century BC, especially taking into account the dates for the classical phase (see below).

CLASSICAL WIETENBERG PHASE

The classical Wietenberg phase is similar to the Chidioșan III phase and the Boroffka B-C phases. According to the stratigraphy at Dersida, the last two levels have ornamental elements different from the first three ones: the meander motif, techniques such as successive and simultaneous stitches, double rows of stamped triangles and white lime encrustation. Many of the shapes from levels 2 and 3 were still in use. This horizon is confirmed by several discoveries: Sibișeni¹²⁶, Bistrița¹²⁷, Dumbrăvița¹²⁸, Aiton – Ciolt¹²⁹, Porumbenii Mici¹³⁰, Voivodenii¹³¹, Luduș¹³², Tureni¹³³, Micești – Cigase¹³⁴, Bixad¹³⁵, Șimleu Silvaniei¹³⁶, Cluj-Napoca – Str. Banat¹³⁷, Stolna – Podurile Domnești¹³⁸, Rotbav (level 3)¹³⁹ and Aiud – Groapa de gunoi¹⁴⁰. A series of sites published by N. Boroffka¹⁴¹ should also be added: Aiton – Locul lui Poju, Băgău, Bernadea, Bonț, Brașov – Valea Răcădăului and Ziegelei Schmidt, Cetea, Chintelnic, Cicău, Ciceu-Corabia,

¹²¹ Kacsó 2004, p. 60; Görtsdorf 2005, p. 468; Kacsó 2015, p. 432; Gogâltan 2015, p. 75, fig. 25.

¹²² Dietrich 2014b, p. 60-61; Gogâltan 2015, p. 77.

¹²³ Gogâltan 2015, p. 76-77, fig. 30.

¹²⁴ Gogâltan 2015, p. 77, fig. 31.

¹²⁵ Samples analysed within the Bronze Age Transylvania Survey project; the project is a partnership between the University of Michigan Museum of Anthropological Archaeology (C. Quinn and J. O'Shea) and the National Museum of the Union, Alba Iulia (H. Ciugudean). These samples were run on calcinated bones at the NSF-University of Arizona AMS laboratory with the assistance of G. Hodgins and were funded through an NSF DDIG Grant (BCS-1341329).

¹²⁶ Boroffka 1994, p. 75, pl. 120-126; Paul 1995.

¹²⁷ Crișan 1970.

¹²⁸ Soroceanu, Retegan 1981, p. 195-207.

¹²⁹ Soroceanu, Blăjan, Cerghî 1976.

¹³⁰ Székely 1984.

¹³¹ Petică 1981; Németh 2015.

¹³² Berecki 2016.

¹³³ Gogâltan 1989-1993.

¹³⁴ Bălan 2014, p. 27-35.

¹³⁵ Daróczi, Dobos 2009.

¹³⁶ Gogâltan, Tamba 1992; Rotea, Tecar, Tamba 2007.

¹³⁷ Rotea, Wittenberger 1999.

¹³⁸ Daróczi, Ursuțiu 2015, p. 14-26 (e.g. features CxPD 021, 032, 085, 109, 110, 116, 122A, 124, 129, 155A, 156, 161, 163, 168, 177).

¹³⁹ Dietrich 2014a, p. 180-187.

¹⁴⁰ Bălan, Burlacu-Timofte, Muntean 2016.

¹⁴¹ Boroffka 1994.

Cluj-Napoca – *Strada Maxim Gorki*, Comandău, Corpadea, Corvineşti, Deva – *Dealul Cetății*, Dorolțu, Feldioara, Gârbău, Ilișua, Lechința – *Livada intensivă*, *Poderei* and *La izvorul popii*, Livezile – *Răcișlog-Poderei*, Lopadea Veche – *Râpa Albă*, Malnaș-Băi, Mediaș – *Baia de nisip*, Merești – *Almașer Höhle*, Meșcreac, Nicula, Noșlac – *Şumughi* and *Pe șes*, Nușeni, Ocna Sibiului – *Dealul Trestiei*, Obreja, Oiejdea, Ormeniș – *Cânepi*, *Pe ogoarea* and *Gruial cu mazăre*, Ocnița, Petreștii de Sus, Poiana Aiudului – *Între pietri*, Rîmeț – *La curmătură* and *La cruce*, Porumbenii Mici, Rotbav – *Unghiul gardului*, Șaeș, Săndulești – *Cheile Turzii/Porlik Höhle*, Sfântu Gheorghe – *Avasalja*, Șieu Măgheruș – *Cetate* and *Între hotare*, Tilișca, Uioara de Jos – *Valea Orăzleci* – *Grui*, Unirea, Vremeș, Viștea – *Farkasberek* and *Kikutverme*. Most of the published Sighișoara – *Wietenberg* material dates to the classical phase¹⁴². Some of those sites were also occupied during the previous phase, as indicated by the published materials. Those sites were identified based on the presence of new ornamental elements, unique in Transylvania and the surrounding area. At Derșida, the last two levels contained 44 ceramic shapes and 33 ornamental types. The new ornamental elements represent a *terminus post quem* in dating the materials of the Wietenberg culture. This opinion contradicts the periodization of N. Boroffka, who included some of the new elements in phase B, together with the ones discovered in level 3¹⁴³.

The pottery assigned to the classical phase is generally similar to the descriptions of N. Chidioșan¹⁴⁴, K. Horedt¹⁴⁵, I. Andrițoiu (phase III) and N. Boroffka (phases B and C)¹⁴⁶. Several aspects should be highlighted. In the cemeteries of the classical phase, pots with shapes similar to the ones of the early phase were discovered, but many of them were decorated with simple rows on the neck (Pl. I/33, 39, 40, 44, 46). In a few cases, an oblique fluted ornamentation was present (Pl. I/36, 42). Sometimes only the rim was decorated (Pl. I/35). The knobs and the handles placed on or under the maximum diameter of the vessel were not present. Bowls with four lobes strongly inclined towards the interior appeared during this period. In most cases, those bowls have a rich decoration (Pl. II/35-37), although simpler variants were also found (Pl. III/38). Bowls and cups with very rich decorations in the new techniques emerged in this phase (Pl. II/24-27, 30, 35, 37; III/34-43, 45, 47-48, 50, 56, 61, 63, 68), but techniques from the previous phase were still in use: the incised cross-hatching decoration or the oblique grooves (Pl. I/36, 42, 21, 23, 34, 55, 57-58, 66, 69-70), sometimes combined on the same vessel, with the new elements. A varied number of spirals was created in this phase (Pl. I/34, 50; II/28-29, 36, 39, 43, 51, 60, 64, 67). It is also the time when the portable cooking vessel was created: Șimleu Silvaniei (Pl. I/59)¹⁴⁷, Ciceu-Corabia¹⁴⁸, Dorolțu¹⁴⁹, Obreja¹⁵⁰, Voivodenii¹⁵¹ and Viștea – *Kikutverme*¹⁵².

Contrary to N. Boroffka¹⁵³, we consider the cemeteries at Sibișeni and Bistrița to date only to the classical phase. None of the specific elements from the previous horizon were present on the vessels from those cemeteries. Undecorated vessels and the cups decorated with diagonal grooves already brought into discussion were specific to this horizon and do not have earlier elements (see the pottery from the sites at Luduș, Micești – *Cigăse*, Voivodenii, Cluj Napoca – *Str. Banat*, Șimleu Silvaniei). Together with the two cemeteries mentioned above, specific for this phase were also the cemeteries at Dumbrăvița, Aiton and Luduș.

Metal artifacts were rare at the sites of the classical period. Few bronze objects and moulds associated with specific pottery were discovered in secure contexts at Aiud – *Groapa de gunoi* (a flat axe, a pin, two

¹⁴² Andrițoiu, Rustoiu 1997, p. 15-43.

¹⁴³ Boroffka 1994, p. 250.

¹⁴⁴ Chidioșan 1980, p. 77-81, fig. 3-4.

¹⁴⁵ Horedt 1967, p. 138.

¹⁴⁶ Boroffka 1994, p. 250.

¹⁴⁷ Rotea, Tecar, Tamba 2007, fig. 17/2.

¹⁴⁸ Boroffka 1994, pl. 53/1-2.

¹⁴⁹ Boroffka 1994, pl. 70/9.

¹⁵⁰ Boroffka 1994, pl. 105/10.

¹⁵¹ Németh 2015, pl. 8/8.

¹⁵² Boroffka 1994, pl. 144/12.

¹⁵³ Boroffka 1994, p. 251, fig. 26.

fragments of a knife handle, stone and ceramic moulds)¹⁵⁴ and Luduş (two pendants – one of them moonshaped –, and a pin)¹⁵⁵. At Râmet – *La cruce*, ceramic specific to the classical phase was mentioned, as well as a flat axe, similar to the one at Aiud, but associated with two socketed axes specific to the Br. D¹⁵⁶. More metal finds were published from Sighișoara – *Wietenberg*, where the greatest amount of material was specific to this phase, but the archaeological context was unknown. Many of them were attributed to the early horizon (dated to the Br. A2-B)¹⁵⁷, but I believe some of them belong to the classical phase. Among them is a flat axe similar to those at Aiud and Râmet.

The relative chronology. During this phase the contacts with the eastern part of the Carpathians diminished. On the other hand, the first exchanges between the Wietenberg and the Tei (phase III) communities began during this stage. The classical Wietenberg phase is contemporary to the Monteoru Ia-IIa¹⁵⁸. A lot of material specific to the classical phase was discovered at Otomani III and IIIA settlements¹⁵⁹ and at Derşida, in levels 4 and 5, Otomani III pottery was found¹⁶⁰. There are also some opinions that consider the classical Wietenberg contemporary with the early Noua phase¹⁶¹. This phase correlates with the Reinecke Br. A2-B1, Boná MB 3, Mozsolics B III and Gogâltan BM II-III.

The absolute chronology. Most of the ¹⁴C dates for the classical phase were recently published (Pl. V):

- Sighișoara – *Cartierul viilor* – Bln-4622: 3330±51 BP, 1742-1501 cal BC (95.4%)¹⁶²;
- Alba Iulia – *Recea* – Hd-29515: 3448±21 BP, 1876-1689 cal BC (95.4%)¹⁶³;
- Sibişeni – *Deasupra satului* – AA-103610: 3454±46 BP, 1891-1645 cal BC (95.4%)¹⁶⁴;
- Geoagiu de Sus – *Vile satului* – OS-107666: 3370±45 BP, 1767-1530 cal BC (95.4%); OS-107554: 3470±25, 1882-1697 BC (95.4%)¹⁶⁵;
- Voivodeni – *La școală* – DeA-2002.1.1: 3337±38 BP, 1736-1521 cal BC (95.4%); DeA-2003.1.1: 3412±42 BP, 1877-1619 cal BC (95.4%); DeA-2004.1.1: 3407±38 BP, 1874-1617 cal BC (95.4%)¹⁶⁶;
- Luduş – RoAMS-16-03 (Cx. 5): 3346±73 BP, 1876-1452 cal BC (95.4%); RoAMS-16-05 (stepping level): 3147±66, 1607-1232 cal BC (95.4%); RoAMS-16-07 (Cx. 22): 3422±36 BP, 1876-1629 cal BC (95.4%); RoAMS-16-08 (Cx. 22): 3345±78 BP, 1876-1451 cal BC (95.4%)¹⁶⁷.

The date RoAMS-16-07 from Luduş (feature Cx. 22) fits with the dates obtained from other sites attributed to the classical phase. Unfortunately, the other dates cover large time intervals due to the large error ranges. They do not exclude the result obtained for RoAMS-16-07. The two dates from the third level at Rotbav (classical Wietenberg) are similar to those of the fourth level (attributed to the Noua culture), and later than might be expected (Pl. V)¹⁶⁸. Most probably, the changes from the early to the classical phase took place starting with the middle of the 18th century BC. This phase lasted until the first half of the 16th century BC.

¹⁵⁴ Bălan *et alii* 2016, pl. 26/3-7.

¹⁵⁵ Rezi 2016.

¹⁵⁶ Boroffka 1994, p. 69, 287.

¹⁵⁷ Andrițoiu, Rustoiu 1997, p. 31-33.

¹⁵⁸ Boroffka 1994, p. 288; Dietrich 2014a, p. 279; Puskás 2015, p. 105.

¹⁵⁹ Chidioşan 1970, p. 289-290; Chidioşan 1974, p. 154-161; Chidioşan 1980, p. 88-89, 92; Emödi 2002; Németi, Molnár 2007, pl. 65/2.

¹⁶⁰ Chidioşan 1970, p. 290.

¹⁶¹ Boroffka 1994, p. 288.

¹⁶² Ciugudean, Quinn 2015, p. 149; Popa, Boroffka 1996, p. 56, n. 40: the initial date proposed was 1685-1524 cal BC.

¹⁶³ Ciugudean, Quinn 2015, p. 151.

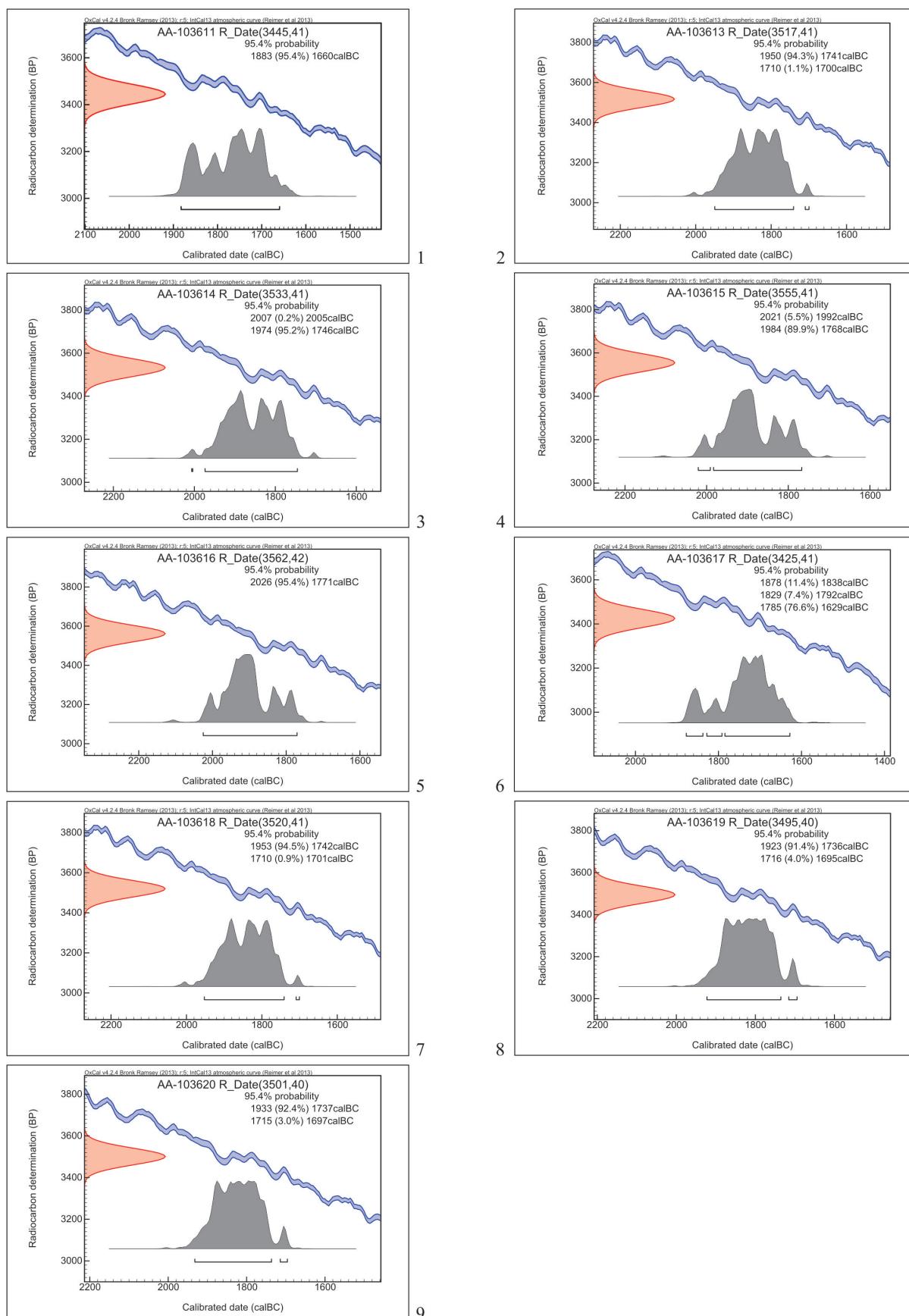
¹⁶⁴ Ciugudean, Quinn 2015, p. 151.

¹⁶⁵ Ciugudean, Quinn 2015, p. 151, fig. 3: the third date from the same pit might be interpreted as a consequence of the *old wood effect*: 3260±25, 1614-1460 cal BC.

¹⁶⁶ Németh 2015, p. 186-187.

¹⁶⁷ Berecki 2016, p. 134-142, fig. 33.

¹⁶⁸ Dietrich 2014b, fig. 3.

Pl. IV. ^{14}C dates at Sebeș – *Între răstoace*.

Pl. V. Wietenberg culture ^{14}C dates: 10. Kacsó 2004, p. 60; Bălan, Quinn 2014, p. 119-120; Kacsó 2015, p. 432; Gogâltan 2015, p. 75, fig. 24; Berecki 2016, table 26; 11. Bălan, Quinn 2014, p. 120; Kacsó 2015, p. 432; Gogâltan 2015, p. 75, fig. 25; Berecki 2016, table 26; 12. Dietrich 2014a, p. 171; Dietrich 2014b, p. 60-61, fig. 3-4; Bălan, Quinn 2014, p. 120; Gogâltan 2015, p. 77, fig. 32; Berecki 2016, table 26; 13. Gogâltan 2015, p. 77, fig. 31; Berecki 2016, table 26; 14. Dietrich 2014a, p. 182; Dietrich 2014b, p. 61, fig. 3-4; Bălan, Quinn 2014, p. 120; Gogâltan 2015, p. 77, fig. 32; Gogâltan, Popa 2016, p. 196; Berecki 2016, table 26; 15. Dietrich 2014a, p. 182; Dietrich 2014b, p. 61, fig. 3-4; Bălan, Quinn 2014, p. 120; Gogâltan 2015, p. 77, fig. 32; Gogâltan, Popa 2016, p. 196; Berecki 2016, table 26; 16. Popa, Borofka 1996, p. 56, n. 40; Bălan, Quinn 2014, p. 120; Ciugudean, Quinn 2015, p. 149, fig. 4; Gogâltan 2015, p. 75, fig. 26; Berecki 2016, table 26 (3380±51 BP); 17. Ciugudean, Quinn 2015, p. 149, fig. 3-4, table 1; Berecki 2016, table 26; 18. Ciugudean, Quinn 2015, p. 150-151, fig. 3-4, table 1; Berecki 2016, table 26; 19. Ciugudean, Quinn 2015, p. 151, fig. 3-4, table 1; Berecki 2016, table 26; 20. Ciugudean, Quinn 2015, p. 151, fig. 3-4, table 1; Berecki 2016, table 26; 21. Ciugudean, Quinn 2015, p. 151, fig. 3-4, table 1; Berecki 2016, table 26; 22. Németh 2015, p. 186-187, fig. 4; Gogâltan, Popa 2016, p. 197; Berecki 2016, table 26; 23. Németh 2015, p. 186-187, fig. 5; Gogâltan, Popa 2016, p. 197; Berecki 2016, table 26; 24. Németh 2015, p. 186-187, fig. 6; Gogâltan, Popa 2016, p. 197; Berecki 2016, table 26; 25. Berecki 2016, fig. 33, table 27; 26. Berecki 2016, fig. 33, table 27; 27. Berecki 2016, fig. 33, table 27; 28. Berecki 2016, fig. 33, table 27; 29. Berecki 2016, fig. 33, table 27; 30. Bălan, Quinn 2014, p. 119, fig. 1-2; Ciugudean, Quinn 2015, p. 153; Gogâltan 2015, p. 75, n. 47; Németh 2015, p. 187; Gogâltan, Popa 2016, p. 197; Berecki 2016, table 26; 31. Bălan, Quinn 2014, p. 119, fig. 1-2; Ciugudean, Quinn 2015, p. 153; Gogâltan 2015, p. 75, n. 47; Németh 2015, p. 187; Gogâltan, Popa 2016, p. 197; Berecki 2016, table 26; 32. Gogâltan 2015, p. 76, fig. 29; Gogâltan, Popa 2016, p. 198, fig. 15; Berecki 2016, table 26; 33. Gogâltan 2015, p. 76, fig. 27; Gogâltan, Popa 2016, p. 198, fig. 16; Berecki 2016, table 26; 34. Gogâltan 2015, p. 76, fig. 27; Gogâltan, Popa 2016, p. 198, fig. 16; Berecki 2016, table 26.

Laboratory code	Site	Phase	Context	Sample	BP	cal BC (95.4%)	Software	
1	AA-103611	Sebeş – <i>Între râsoace</i>	Early Wietenberg	burial M.2	cremated human bone	3445±41	1883-1660	Oxcal v4.2.4
2	AA-103613	Sebeş – <i>Între râsoace</i>	Early Wietenberg	burial M.17	cremated human bone	3517±41	1950-1700	Oxcal v4.2.4
3	AA-103614	Sebeş – <i>Între râsoace</i>	Early Wietenberg	burial M.25	cremated human bone	3533±41	2007-1746	Oxcal v4.2.4
4	AA-103615	Sebeş – <i>Între râsoace</i>	Early Wietenberg	burial M.32	cremated human bone	3555±41	2021-1746	Oxcal v4.2.4
5	AA-103616	Sebeş – <i>Între râsoace</i>	Early Wietenberg	burial M.34	cremated human bone	3562±42	2026-1771	Oxcal v4.2.4
6	AA-103617	Sebeş – <i>Între râsoace</i>	Early Wietenberg	burial M.36	cremated human bone	3425±41	1878-1629	Oxcal v4.2.4
7	AA-103618	Sebeş – <i>Între râsoace</i>	Early Wietenberg	burial M.43	cremated human bone	3520±41	1953-1701	Oxcal v4.2.4
8	AA-103619	Sebeş – <i>Între râsoace</i>	Early Wietenberg	burial M.44	cremated human bone	3495±40	1923-1695	Oxcal v4.2.4
9	AA-103620	Sebeş – <i>Între râsoace</i>	Early Wietenberg	burial M.45	cremated human bone	3501±40	1933-1697	Oxcal v4.2.4
10	Ly-9190	Oarta de Sus – Ghilele Botii	Early Wietenberg	pit no. 22	burnt seed	3265±30	1619-1458	Oxcal v4.2.4
11	Bln-5626	Oarta de Sus – Ghilele Botii	Early Wietenberg	pit no. 22	burnt seed	3507±37	1931-1701	Oxcal v4.2.4
12	Hd-28203	Robav – <i>La părău</i>	Early Wietenberg	level - Rt. 2	animal bone	3547±24	1954-1774	Oxcal v4.2.3
13		Păuleni	Early Wietenberg	level 2	wood	3440±25	1877-1683	Oxcal v4.2.3
14	Hd-27967	Robav – <i>La părău</i>	Classical Wietenberg	level - Rt. 3	animal bone	3195±19	1501-1430	Oxcal v4.2.3
15	Hd-27989	Robav – <i>La părău</i>	Classical Wietenberg	level - Rt. 3	animal bone	3174±16	1497-1416	Oxcal v4.2.3
16	Bln-4622	Sighișoara – <i>Cartierul viilor</i>	Classical Wietenberg and Noua	feature	charcoal	3330±51	1742-1501	Oxcal v4.2.4
17	Hd-29515	Alba Iulia – <i>Recea</i>	Classical Wietenberg		animal bone	3448±21	1876-1689	Oxcal v4.2.4
18	AA-103610	Sibiu	Classical Wietenberg	burial	calcined human bone	3454±46	1891-1645	Oxcal v4.2.4
19	OS-107666	Geoagiu de Sus – <i>Vile satului</i>	Classical/Late Wietenberg	pit	charcoal	3370±45	1767-1530	Oxcal v4.2.4
20	OS-107554	Geoagiu de Sus – <i>Vile satului</i>	Classical/Late Wietenberg	pit	charcoal	3470±25	1882-1697	Oxcal v4.2.4
21	OS-107555	Geoagiu de Sus – <i>Vile satului</i>	Classical/Late Wietenberg	pit	charcoal	3260±25	1614-1460	Oxcal v4.2.4
22	DeA-2002.1.1	Voinoveni – <i>La școală</i>	Classical Wietenberg	skeleton 1	human bone	3337±38	1736-1521	Calib 6.1.1
23	DeA-2003.1.1	Voinoveni – <i>La școală</i>	Classical Wietenberg	skeleton 5	human bone	3412±42	1877-1619	Calib 6.1.1
24	DeA-2004.1.1	Voinoveni – <i>La școală</i>	Classical Wietenberg	skeleton 4	human bone	3407±38	1874-1617	Calib 6.1.1
25	RoAMS-16-03	Luduş – <i>Fabrica de zahăr</i>	Classical Wietenberg	pit Cx.5	animal bone	3346±73	1876-1452	Oxcal v4.2.4
26	RoAMS-16-05	Luduş – <i>Fabrica de zahăr</i>	Classical Wietenberg	stepping level	animal bone	3147±66	1607-1232	Oxcal v4.2.4
27	RoAMS-16-07	Luduş – <i>Fabrica de zahăr</i>	Classical Wietenberg	feature Cx.22	animal bone	3422±36	1876-1629	Oxcal v4.2.4
28	RoAMS-16-08	Luduş – <i>Fabrica de zahăr</i>	Classical Wietenberg	feature Cx.22	animal bone	3345±78	1876-1451	Oxcal v4.2.4
29	RoAMS-16-04	Luduş – <i>Fabrica de zahăr</i>	Late Wietenberg?	feature Cx. 6	animal bone	3186±73	1626-1277	Oxcal v4.2.4
30	OS-108811	Micesti – <i>Cigăre</i>	Late Wietenberg?	pit C.11/2012	human bone	3460±25	1745-1627	Oxcal v4.2.3
31	OS-108311	Micesti – <i>Cigăre</i>	Late Wietenberg?	pit C.7/2009	human bone	3390±25	1880-1693	Oxcal v4.2.3
32	DeA-5021	Gliogeneşti – <i>Holocene</i>	Gliogeneşti	level	animal bone	3296±38	1682-1498	Oxcal v4.2.4
33	DeA-5096	Vlaha – <i>Pad</i>	Late Wietenberg	feature		3249±30	1612-1451	Oxcal v4.2.4
34	DeA-5152	Vlaha – <i>Pad</i>	Late Wietenberg	feature		3236±41	1612-1433	Oxcal v4.2.4

THE LATE WIETENBERG PHASE

This phase is characterized by a series of vessels different from the ones discovered at Dersida. Both previously proposed periodisations of this phase are similar (the Chidioşan IV / Boroffka D phases)¹⁶⁹. Noteworthy is the opinion of M. Rotea from 1994, who considered that what was previously considered as an Otomani intrusion in the Wietenberg area was in fact the contents of a different phase. He proposed the name of Bădeni III – Deva for this horizon characterised by late Wietenberg and Otomani pottery¹⁷⁰. Later, H. Ciugudean proposed the use of Wietenberg IV for this type of materials¹⁷¹. Elements that have their origins in the pottery of the classical Wietenberg are easy to notice: lobed (Pl. II/50-52) and simple bowls (Pl. II/53), cups, the presence of the broken spiral (Pl. II/50), the wavy ornamentation, the meander and (Pl. II/42, 46, 52) the spiral motif, the successive stitches in the wide-flutes technique (Pl. II/42, 46, 50, 52) represent a different variant of the successive stitches from the previous phase. Together with those elements appeared forms and ornaments encountered in the Mureş, Suciu de Sus and Otomani cultures: cups with high handles (Pl. III/78-83), bowls (Pl. II/43-44, 48-49; III/71-76), pots (Pl. I/60), successive arcades rendering the garland motif made of grooves (Pl. II/29; III/75) and hatched incisions (Pl. II/43-44, 48, 51, 53), prominences pushed out from the interior which are present on cups and bowls (Pl. III/71-76, 78, 81, 88), in many cases accompanied by grooved arcades (Pl. III/71-76, 81-82), diagonal and vertical, simple or grouped lines (Pl. III/83-85)¹⁷². These may not represent imports, but they are part of the repertoire of the final phase of the Wietenberg culture. The discoveries specific to this phase are concentrated to the western half of the area attested in the previous phase. The eastern-most point of such discoveries is Mereşti¹⁷³. The other discoveries in South-Eastern Transylvania attributed by N. Boroffka to phase D lack the late Wietenberg elements¹⁷⁴. The sites specific to the late phase are Măhăceni¹⁷⁵, Geoagiu de Sus¹⁷⁶, Miceşti – Cigaşe¹⁷⁷, Deuş¹⁷⁸, Cluj Napoca – Becaş¹⁷⁹ and Mănăstur¹⁸⁰, Bădeni III¹⁸¹, Deva – Cimitirul ceangăilor¹⁸², Stolna – Şesurile Rele¹⁸³, Floreşti – Polus¹⁸⁴, Cicău¹⁸⁵, Ciceu-Corabia¹⁸⁶, Mereşti, Gârbău¹⁸⁷, Craiva¹⁸⁸, Nicula¹⁸⁹, Viştea – Kisrét¹⁹⁰, Kikutverme¹⁹¹ and Farkasberek¹⁹². The metal finds previously attributed to this phase were not found in features directly related with the late Wietenberg pottery¹⁹³.

¹⁶⁹ Chidioşan 1980, p. 81-84; Boroffka 1994, p. 251, 287-288.

¹⁷⁰ Rotea 1994a.

¹⁷¹ Ciugudean 1997, p. 65-97; Ciugudean 1999.

¹⁷² Rotea 1994a; Ciugudean 1997, p. 65-97; Ciugudean 1999.

¹⁷³ Boroffka 1994, map 54, p. 56, pl. 91/5-14.

¹⁷⁴ Boroffka 1994, map 54: Baraolt (no. 46, pl. 8/2-6, 8), Braşov (no. 81-88, pl. 15/7-8; 16-19; 20/1, 3, 6), Odorheiul Secuiesc (no. 308); Sfântu Gheorghe (no. 381-388, pl. 118; 119/1-2, 8).

¹⁷⁵ Ciugudean 1997, p. 67-70, fig. 1-5; 5/1; Ciugudean 1999, p. 108-110, fig. 3-6; 7/1.

¹⁷⁶ Ciugudean 1997, p. 70-73, fig. 5/2; 6-12; Ciugudean 1999, p. 110-116, fig. 7/2; 8-14.

¹⁷⁷ Bălan 2014, p. 27-29, 35-39, 47-49.

¹⁷⁸ Rotea 1994a, pl. III.

¹⁷⁹ Rotea 1994a, pl. II.

¹⁸⁰ Rotea 1994a, pl. VI.

¹⁸¹ Rotea 1994a, pl. I.

¹⁸² Andriţoiu 1992, p. 56, pl. 34; 46/1, 4, 8, 10, 12; 47/1; Rotea 1994a, pl. IV-V.

¹⁸³ Daróczi, Ursuțiu 2015, p. 269-296.

¹⁸⁴ Rotea *et alii* 2006-2007, p. 51-54, pl. XVIII-XIX; Rotea *et alii* 2008, p. 162-164, pl. V; Alicu 2008, p. 6.

¹⁸⁵ Boroffka 1994, p. 30, pl. 51/9-11; 52/1-9.

¹⁸⁶ Boroffka 1994, p. 30, pl. 54/1, 10; 55/1, 10; 56/2-3, 8.

¹⁸⁷ Boroffka 1994, p. 46, pl. 82/5, 10-12.

¹⁸⁸ Boroffka 1994, p. 34, pl. 66/5-8.

¹⁸⁹ Boroffka 1994, p. 59, pl. 99/2, 6-8.

¹⁹⁰ Boroffka 1994, p. 91, pl. 142/5-6, 9-10.

¹⁹¹ Boroffka 1994, p. 91, pl. 144/11; 145/2-6, 12.

¹⁹² Boroffka 1994, p. 91, pl. 143/1-3, 7-9, 11.

¹⁹³ Bălan 2014, p. 47-48.

The relative chronology. From a chronological point of view, phase IV/D was included initially to the Br. D¹⁹⁴, later attributed to the Late Bronze Age I (Reinecke Br. B2-C)¹⁹⁵. New elements of the late Wietenberg pottery suggest its contemporaneity with the Cehăluț-Hajdúbagos¹⁹⁶ and the late Mureș groups¹⁹⁷. Potsherds belonging to the Suciu de Sus II were mentioned in the settlement at Deus¹⁹⁸. For a short period of time, the late Wietenberg phase developed in parallel with the Noua manifestations from Transylvania, already visible in the eastern part of the intra-Carpathian area¹⁹⁹. In terms of chronological systems, phase IV/D correlates to the Reinecke Br. B2-C, Boná SB 1, Mozsolics B IV and Gogăltan BT I phases.

The absolute chronology. The Micești – Cigașe ¹⁴C dates on human bone samples collected from features belonging to the late Wietenberg phase are too early for our expectations (Pl. V)²⁰⁰. This might be the consequence of an *aquatic reservoir effect*²⁰¹, but other interpretations can be accepted²⁰². Three ¹⁴C dates were recently published for two Late Bronze Age I sites (Pl. V):

- Gligorești (late Wietenberg and Noua pottery, the Gligorești group) – DeA-5021: 3298±38 BP, 1682-1498 cal BC (95.4%)²⁰³;

- Vlaha (late Wietenberg pottery) – DeA-5096: 3249±30 BP, 1612-1451 cal BC; DeA-5152: 3236±41 BP, 1612-1433 cal BC²⁰⁴.

Another ¹⁴C date was published from the settlement at Luduș – *Fabrica de zahăr* and dated to the Wietenberg IV (Pl. V), but in the feature Cx. 6, together with the bone sample for dating, there was no typical element for classical or late phase²⁰⁵. The late Wietenberg stage follows the classical phase (see the ¹⁴C dates above) and was replaced by the Noua culture, dated between 1500 and 1200 BC²⁰⁶. According to Noua and late Wietenberg ¹⁴C dates, the final phase of Wietenberg culture took place between the 16th century and the first half of the 15th century BC²⁰⁷.

CONCLUSIONS

According to the current state of the research, the Wietenberg culture has three different phases (*early, classical and late*) identifiable through the changes in the shapes and decoration of pottery. This culture covered the intra-Carpathian area between the 20th and 15th centuries BC. Based on the pottery characteristics of the early phase, the new culture, specific to Middle Bronze Age, had its origins in the local groups of the late Early Bronze Age. The stratigraphy at Derșida was confirmed by both earlier and more recent excavated sites; the exception is the first level, erroneously attributed to a different phase. During the last phase, a concentration of the Wietenberg discoveries in the Western Transylvania, on the middle Mureș, Someșul Cald and Someșul Rece rivers can be noted, perhaps as a consequence of the emergence of the Noua culture.

¹⁹⁴ Chidioșan 1980, p. 83; Andrițoiu 1992, p. 54, pl. 76; Boroffka 1994, p. 288.

¹⁹⁵ Rotea 1994a, p. 54; Gogăltan 2001, p. 196-197.

¹⁹⁶ Kovács 1970; Rotea 1994a, p. 46, 55; Kacsó 1997; Németi 2009.

¹⁹⁷ Ciugudean 1997, p. 79.

¹⁹⁸ Rotea 1994a, p. 46, 55.

¹⁹⁹ Rotea 1994a, p. 55; Ciugudean 1997, p. 79-80; Ciugudean 1999, p. 129-130; Ciugudean, Quinn 2015, p. 153-155.

²⁰⁰ Bălan, Quinn 2014.

²⁰¹ Ciugudean, Quinn 2015, p. 153: “This reservoir effect could be present due to very plausible inclusion of aquatic resources from the River Mureș (and most probably Ampoi too) in the diets of the Bronze Age inhabitants”.

²⁰² An erroneous datation to late Wietenberg phase for C. 11 (cups with similar decoration are known from the Otomani III phase); a ritual related to the pit and the skeleton placed at the bottom (C. 7): the ¹⁴C date was obtained from a human bone; it is possible that some time has passed between the deposition of the skeleton and the filling of the pit (with late Wietenberg ceramics); it is also possible the sample correctly dates the burial and ceramic earlier than expected; these hypotheses need to be verified by new ¹⁴C dates of the pit infill.

²⁰³ Gogăltan 2015, p. 76, fig. 29; Gogăltan, Popa 2016, p. 198, fig. 15.

²⁰⁴ Gogăltan 2015, p. 76, fig. 27-28; Gogăltan, Popa 2016, p. 198, fig. 16.

²⁰⁵ Berecki 2016, p. 137-138, pl. 19-20.

²⁰⁶ Bălan, Quinn 2014, fig. 3; Ciugudean, Quinn 2015, p. 153-155; Berecki 2016, p. 134-142.

²⁰⁷ Gogăltan, Popa 2016, p. 197: Gligorești group and Noua I culture start around 1500 BC.

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ABRÉVIATIONS

- AA – Archäologischer Anzeiger. Deutsches Archäologisches Institut, Darmstadt, München, Tübingen – Berlin
- AAIN – Annali dell’Istituto Italiano di Numismatica, Roma
- AARMSI – Analele Academiei Române. Memoriile Secțiunii Istorice, București
- Academica – Academica. Revistă editată de Academia Română, București
- ACSS – Ancient Civilizations from Scythia to Siberia, Bordeaux – Moscow
- ActaArchCop – Acta Archaeologica, Copenhagen
- ActaArchHung – Acta Archaeologica Academiae Scientiarum Hungaricae, Budapest
- ActaMM – Acta Moldaviae Meridionalis, Vaslui
- ActaMN – Acta Musei Napocensis. Muzeul Național de Istorie a Transilvaniei, Cluj-Napoca
- ActaMP – Acta Musei Porolissensis. Muzeul Județean de Istorie și Artă, Zalău
- ActaMV – Acta Musei Varnaensis, Varna
- ActaMT – Acta Musei Tutovensis, Muzeul „Vasile Pârvan”, Bârlad
- ActaPraehArch – Acta Praehistorica et Archaeologica, Berlin
- ActaTS – Acta Terraes Septemcastrensis. Institutul pentru Cercetarea Patrimoniului Cultural Transilvănean
în Context European, Sibiu
- AÉ – L’Année Épigraphique, Paris
- AEM – Archäologisch-epigraphische Mitteilungen aus Österreich-Ungarn, Wien
- AISC – Anuarul Institutului de Studii Clasice, Cluj-Napoca
- AJA – American Journal of Archaeology, Boston
- AJS – The American Journal of Sociology, Chicago
- Alba Regia – Alba Regia. Annales Musei Stephani regis, Székesfehérvár
- Aluta – Muzeul Național Secuiesc, Sfântu Gheorghe
- Alt-Hildesheim – Alt-Hildesheim. Jahrbuch für Stadt und Stift Hildesheim, Hildesheim
- AM – Mitteilungen des Deutschen Archäologischen Instituts. Athenische Abteilung, Athen
- American Anthropologist – American Anthropologist. Journal of the American Anthropological Association,
([http://onlinelibrary.wiley.com/journal/10.1111/\(ISSN\)1548-1433](http://onlinelibrary.wiley.com/journal/10.1111/(ISSN)1548-1433))
- American Antiquity – American Antiquity. Society for American Archaeology, Washington
- Anatolia Antiqua – Anatolia Antiqua, Istanbul
- AnB – Analele Banatului, Muzeul Banatului, Timișoara
- Ancient Philosophy – Ancient Philosophy, Duquesne University, Pittsburgh
- AncWestEast – Ancient West & East, Leiden
- AnnalesESC – Annales. Économies, Sociétés, Civilisations, Paris
- AnnalesHSS – Annales. Histoire, Sciences Sociales, Paris
- Annals of Science – Annals of Science, Taylor and Francis Online (<http://www.tandfonline.com/loi/tasc20>)
- ANSNS – American Numismatic Society. Numismatic Studies, New York
- AnUA-SH – Annales Universitatis Apulensis, Series Historica, Alba Iulia
- AnUBucurești – Analele Universității București, București
- Angustia – Angustia. Arheologie, Etnografie, Sfântu Gheorghe
- ANSMN – American Numismatic Society; Museum Notes, New York
- AntCl – L’antiquité Classique, Revue interuniversitaire d’études classiques
- Antik Tanulmányok – Antik Tanulmányok. Studia Antiqua, Eötvös József Collegium, Budapest
- Antiquitas – Antiquitas, Museo Historico Municipal de Priego, Cordoba
- Antiquités Nationales – Antiquités Nationales, Musée des Antiquités Nationales, Saint-Germain-en-Laye
- Antiquity – Antiquity. A Review of World Archaeology, Durham
- AO – Arhivele Olteniei, Craiova
- APS News – The American Physical Society News
- Apulum – Apulum. Acta Musei Apulensis. Muzeul Național al Unirii, Alba Iulia
- Archaeological Dialogues – Archaeological Dialogues, Cambridge

- Archaeometry – Archaeometry, The Society for Archaeological Science, Gesellschaft fur Naturwissenschaftliche, Associazione Italian di Archeometria, University of Oxford, Willey
- ArchBulg – Archaeologia Bulgarica, Sofia
- ArchÉrt – Archeológiai Értesítő, Budapest
- ArchHung – Archaeologia Hungarica, Acta Archaeologica Musei Nationalis Hungarici, Budapest
- ArchKorr – Archäologisches Korrespondenzblatt, Mainz
- ArchRozhledy – Archeologické Rozhledy, Praha
- ArheologijaSSSR – Arheologija Soyuz Sovetskikh Sotsialisticheskikh Respublik, Moskova
- ArhMold – Arheologia Moldovei. Academia Română, Institutul de Arheologie, Iași
- ArhSofia – Arheologija. Organ na Arheologičeskiya i Muzej, Sofia
- Arqueología y Territorio Medieval – Arqueología y Territorio Medieval, Universidad de Jaén, Jaén
- Ausgrabungen und Funde – Ausgrabungen und Funde, Deutsche Akademie der Wissenschaften zu Berlin.
Sektion für Vor- und Frühgeschichte; Akademie der Wissenschaften der DDR. Zentralinstitut für Alte
Geschichte und Archäologie
- BARIntSer – British Archaeological Reports, International Series, Oxford
- BerRGK – Bericht der Römisch-Germanischen Kommission des Deutschen Archäologischen Instituts,
Frankfurt am Main
- BCH – Bulletin de Correspondance Hellénique, Athènes – Paris
- BHAUT – Bibliotheca Historica et Archaeologica Universitatis Timisiensis, Timișoara Biblioteca Historica
et Archaeologica Universitatis Timisiensis, Timișoara
- Biblioteca Ephemeris Napocensis – Biblioteca Ephemeris Napocensis, Institutul de Arheologie și Istoria
Artei al Academiei Române, Cluj-Napoca
- Biblioteca Historica Romaniae. Monographies – Biblioteca Historica Romaniae. Monographies,
Academia Republicii Socialiste România, Secția Științe Istorice, București
- Biblioteca Musei Napocensis – Biblioteca Musei Napocensis, Institutul de Arheologie și Istoria Artei al
Academiei Române, Cluj-Napoca
- BJb – Bonner Jahrbücher des Rheinischen Landesmuseums in Bonn, Bonn
- BMC, I – H. Mattingly, *Coins of the Roman Empire in the British Museum, I. Augustus to Vittelius*, London,
1923.
- BMC, II – H. Mattingly, *Coins of the Roman Empire in the British Museum, II, Vespasian to Domitian*,
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- BMC, III – H. Mattingly, *Coins of the Roman Empire in the British Museum, III, Nerva to Hadrian*, London,
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- BMC, IV – H. Mattingly, *Coins of the Roman Empire in the British Museum, IV, Antoninus Pius to Com-
modus*, London, 1940.
- BMC, V – H. Mattingly, *Coins of the Roman Empire in the British Museum, V, Pertinax to Elagabalus*,
London, 1950.
- BMC, VI – R. A. G. Carson, *Coins of the Roman Empire in the British Museum, VI, Severus Alexander to
Balbinus and Pupienus*, London, 1962.
- BMI – Buletinul Monumentelor Istorice, București
- BMJT – Buletinul Muzeului Județean Teleorman, Alexandria
- BMTAGiurgiu – Buletinul Muzeului „Teohari Antonescu”, Giurgiu
- Bosporskie issledovanija – Bosporskie Issledovaniya (Études bosphoraines), Académie nationale ukrainienne
des sciences, Simferopol
- BSFN – Bulletin de la Société Française de Numismatique, Paris
- BSNR – Buletinul Societății Numismatice Române, București
- BTM Mühely – BTM Mühely, Budapesti Történeti Múzeum, Budapest
- Budapest Régiségei – Budapest Régiségei, Budapesti Történeti Múzeum, Budapest
- BulBOR – Buletinul Bisericii Ortodoxe Române, București
- Buridava – Buridava. Muzeul Județean Vâlcea, Râmnicu Vâlcea
- CA – Cercetări Arheologice. Muzeul Național de Istorie a României, București
- CAB – Cercetări Arheologice în București, Muzeul Municipiului București, București
- Caiete ARA – Caiete ARA. Arhitectură, Restaurare, Arheologie. Asociația ARA, București
- Cahiers des Sciences Humaines – Cahiers des Sciences Humaines, O.R.S.T.O.M. (Agency: France)

- CAJ – Cambridge Archaeological Journal
- CANT – Cercetări arheologice în aria nord-tracă, Bucureşti (I – 1995, II – 1997, III - 1999)
- Carpica – Carpica, Carpica. Complexul Muzeal „Iulian Antonescu” Bacău, Bacău
- CCA, campania – Cronica Cercetărilor Arheologice din România, Bucureşti
- CCDJ – Cultură și Civilizație la Dunărea de Jos, Muzeul “Dunării de Jos”, Călărași
- CCGG – Cahiers du Centre Gustav-Glotz , Publications de la Sorbonne, Paris
- Centaurus – Centaurus, European Society for the History of Science, John Wiley & Sons Ltd
- CerC Ist – Cercetări Istorice, Iaşi
- Chiron – Mitteilungen der Kommission für Alte Geschichte und Epigraphik des Deutschen Archäologischen Instituts, München
- Chronica Valachica – Chronica Valachica. Studii si materiale de istorie si istorie a culturii, Târgovişte
- Chronométrophilia – Chronométrophilia, La Chaux-de-Fonds
- CICSA – Centrul de Istorie Comparată a Societăților Antice, Universitatea Bucureşti, Bucureşti
- CIL – *Corpus Inscriptionum Latinarum*, Berlin, 1862-.
- CIS – *Corpus Inscriptionum Semiticarum*, Paris, 1881-.
- Classica et Christiana – Classica et Christiana, Centrul de Studii Clasice și Creștine al Facultății de Istorie a Universității „Al.I. Cuza”, Iași
- ClQ – The Classical Quarterly, The Classical Association, Cambridge
- CN – Cercetări Numismatice. Muzeul Național de Istorie a României, Bucureşti
- CNM – Corpus Nummorum Moldaviae
- Collection de la Maison de l’Orient méditerranéen. Série Épigraphique – Collection de la Maison de l’Orient méditerranéen. Série Épigraphique, Maison de l’Orient et de la Méditerranée Jean Pouilloux, Fédération de recherche sur les sociétés anciennes, Université Lumière Lyon 2 - CNRS
- Communications – Communications. EHESS/CNRS-Centre Edgar Morin, Paris
- Comparative Criticism – Comparative Criticism, Cambridge University Press
- Corviniana – Corviniana. Acta Musei Corviniensis, Hunedoara
- CRAI – Comptes Rendus des Séances de l’Académie des Inscriptions et Belles-Lettres, Paris
- Crisia – Crisia. Muzeului Țării Crișurilor, Oradea
- Critica Storica – Critica Storica, Associazione degli storici europei, Firenze
- CSA – Current Swedish Archaeology, Swedish Archaeological Society
- Current Anthropology – Current Anthropology. University of California, Merced
- Dacia N.S. – Dacia (Nouvelle Série). Revue d’archéologie et d’histoire ancienne. Académie Roumaine. Institut d’archéologie « V. Pârvan », Bucureşti
- Danubius – Danubius, Revista Muzeului de Istorie Galați, Galați
- Das Altertum – Das Altertum, Berlin – Amsterdam – Oldenburg
- Das Mittelalter – Das Mittelalter, UTB GmbH, Stuttgart
- Der Anschnitt – Der Anschnitt, Vereinigung der Feunde von Kunst und Kultur im Bergbau, Bochum
- DHA – Dialogues d’Histoire ancienne, Université de Franche-Comté, Paris
- Die Kunde – Die Kunde. Zeitschrift für niedersächsische Archäologie, Hannover
- DissArch – Dissertationes Archaeologicae ex Instituto Archaeologico Universitatis de Rolando Eötvös Nominatae, Budapest
- DissPann – Dissertationes Pannonicae. Ex Instituto Numismatico et Archaeologico Universitatis de Petro Pázmány nominatae Budapestensis provenientes, Budapest
- DIVR – D.M. Pippidi (ed.), *Dicționar de istorie veche a României (Paleolitic – sec. X)*, Bucureşti, 1976.
- Documenta Praehistorica – Documenta Praehistorica, University of Ljubljana, Faculty of Arts, Department of Archaeology
- Documenta Valachica – Documenta Valachica. Studii si materiale de istorie si istorie a culturii, Târgovişte
- Drobeta – Drobeta. Muzeul Regiunii Porțile de Fier, Drobeta-Turnu Severin
- EAIVR – Enciclopedia Arheologiei și Istoriei Vechi a României (ed. C. Preda), Bucureşti, 1994
- EJS – European Journal of Sociology
- Epigraphische Studien – Epigraphische Studien, Rheinisches Landesmuseum Bonn, Köln
- EphemDAC – Ephemeris Dacoromana. Annuario della Scuola Romana di Roma
- EphemNap – Ephemeris Napocensis. Academia Română, Institutul de Arheologie și Istoria Artei, Cluj-Napoca
- Ethnic and Racial Studies – Ethnic and Racial Studies, London : Routhledge & Kegan Paul

- EurAnt – Eurasia Antiqua. Deutsche Archäologisches Institut, Berlin
- FI – File de Istorie. Muzeul Județean Bistrița-Năsăud, Bistrița
- FolArch – Folia Archaeologica, Budapest
- Fontes I – V. Iliescu, V. C. Popescu, Gh. Ștefan (ed.), Izvoare privind Istoria României, vol. I, București, 1964.
- Fontes II – H. Mihăescu, Gh. Ștefan, R. Hîncu, V. Iliescu, V. C. Popescu (ed.), Izvoare privind Istoria României, vol. I, București, 1970.
- FrühMitAltSt – Frühmittelalterliche Studien. Jahrbuch des Instituts für Frühmittelalterforschung der Universität Münster, Münster
- Gerión – Gerión. Revista de Historia Antigua
- Germania – Germania. Anzeiger der Römisch-Germanischen Kommission des Deutschen Archäologischen Instituts, Frankfurt am Main
- GlasnikSarajevo – Glasnik Zemlinskog Muzeja u Sarajevo, Sarajevo
- Greece & Rome – Greece & Rome, Classical Association, Cambridge University Press
- HispAnt – Hispania Antiqua. Revista de Historia Antigua (digital journal: <https://revistas.uva.es/index.php/hispaanti>)
- Hesperia – Hesperia. The Journal of the American School of Classical Studies at Athens, Athens
- Historia – Historia. Zeitschrift für Alte Geschichte, Franz Steiner Verlag, Stuttgart
- History and Anthropology – History and Anthropology, Taylor & Francis (Routledge)
- History and Theory – History and Theory. Studies in the Philosophy of History, Middletown
- History Compass – History Compass, Wiley-Blackwell
- Histria Antiqua – Histria Antiqua, Institut držvenih znanosti IVO PILAR, Zagreb
- HNE – M. Lidzbarski, *Handbuch der Nordsemitischen Epigraphik*, Weimar, 1898.
- HPQ – History of Philosophy Quarterly, University of Illinois Press
- IDR II – G. Florescu, C.C. Ptoleescu, *Inscripțiile Daciei Romane*, vol. II: *Oltenia și Muntenia*, Editura Academiei Române, București, 1977.
- IDR III/1 – I.I. Russu, N. Gudea, V. Wollmann, M. Dušanic, *Inscripțiile Daciei Romane*, vol. III/1: *Dacia Superior. Zona de sud-vest*, Editura Academiei Române, București, 1977.
- IDRE – C.C. Ptoleescu, *Inscriptiones Daciae Romanae. Inscriptions externes concernant l'histoire de la Dacie*, I-II, București, 1996-2000.
- IG XII 6.2 – K. Hallof, A.P. Matthaiou, *Inscriptiones Graecae XII 6. Inscriptiones Chii et Sami cum Corassiis Icariaque. Pars 2. Inscriptiones Sami insulae. Dedicationes. Tituli sepulcrales. Tituli Christiani, Byzantini, Iudaei. Varia. Tituli graphio incisi. Incerta. Tituli alieni. Inscriptiones Corassiarum. Inscriptiones Icariae insulae*, Berlin – New York, 2003.
- IGB – G. Mihailov, *Inscriptiones Graecae in Bulgaria Repertae*, 5 vol., Sofia, 1958–2001.
- IGLN – V. Božilova, J. Kolendo (eds.), *Inscriptions grecques et latines de Novae (Mésie inférieure)*, Ausonius, Bordeaux, 1997.
- IGLR – E. Popescu, *Inscripțiile grecești și latinești descoperite pe teritoriul României*, București, 1976.
- IGLS VI – J.-P. Rey-Coquais, *Inscriptions Grecques et Latines de la Syrie. VI. Baalbek et Beqa'*. Bibliothèque Archéologique et Historique 78, Paris, 1967.
- IGLS XVII.1 – J.-B. Yon, *Inscriptions grecques et latines de la Syrie. XVII/1. Palmyre* Bibliothèque archéologique et historique 195; Beirut, 2012.
- ILB – B. Gerov, *Inscriptiones Latinae in Bulgaria Repertae*, Sofia, 1989.
- Il Mar Nero – Il mar nero: annali di archeologia e storia, Roma
- ILS – H. Dessau, *Inscriptiones Latinae Selectae*, Berlin, I (1892), II (1902), III (1916).
- ISSJ – International Social Science Journal
- Interpretation – Interpretation. A Journal of Political Philosophy, Waco
- ISM I – D.M. Pippidi, *Inscripțiile din Scythia Minor*, vol. I. *Histria și împrejurimile*, București, 1983.
- ISM II – I. Stoian, *Inscripțiile din Scythia Minor grecești și latine*, vol. II. *Tomis și teritoriul său*, Bucarest, 1987.
- ISM III – A. Avram, *Inscriptions grecques et latines de Scythie Mineure*, vol. III. *Callatis et son territoire*, Bucharest–Paris, 1999.
- ISM IV – E. Popescu, *Inscriptions de Scythie Mineure*, vol. IV. *Tropaeum – Durostorum – Axiopolis*, Bucharest–Paris, 2015.

- ISM V – E. Doruțiu Boilă, *Inscripțiile din Scythia Minor*, vol. V. *Capidava – Troesmis – Noviodunum*, București, 1980.
- IstMitt – Istanbuler Mitteilungen, Istanbul
- Istros – Istros, Muzeul Brăilei „Carol I”, Brăila
- IzvestijaSofia – Izvestija na Nacionalnija Arheologičeski Institut, Sofia
- JAMT – Journal of Archaeological Method and Theory, Springer
- JHS – Journal of Hellenic Studies, London
- JIES – Journal of Indo-European Studies, Washington
- JFA – Journal of Field Archaeology, Boston University, Taylor & Francis
- JMC – Journal of Material Culture, SAGE Publications Ltd.
- JNG – Jahrbuch für Numismatik und Geldgeschichte, Bayerische Numismatische Gesellschaft, München
- JÖAI – Jahreshefte des Österreichischen Archäologischen Institutes in Wien
- Journal of Value Inquiry – The Journal of Value Inquiry, Springer
- JRA – Journal of Roman Archaeology, Portsmouth, Rhode Island
- JRAI – Journal of Royal Anthropological Institute, London
- JRAI (N.S.) – The Journal of the Royal Anthropological Institute, London
- JRAI-GBI – Journal of Royal Anthropological Institute of Great Britain and Ireland, London
- JRGZM – Jahrbuch des Römisch-Germanischen Zentralmuseums Mainz, Mainz
- JRS – Journal of Roman Studies, London
- Kadmos – Kadmos. Zeitschrift für vor- und frühgriechische Epigraphik, Berlin
- Klio – Klio. Beiträge zur Alten Geschichte, Berlin
- La Cultura – La Cultura. Rivista de Filosofia, Letteratura e Storia
- LIMC – Lexicon iconographicum mythologiae classicae, Zürich, 1981-1999
- Lucerna – Lucerna. The Roman Finds Group Newsletter, Stevenage, UK
- Marmația – Marmația, Muzeul Județean de Istorie și Arheologie Baia Mare, Baia Mare
- MASP – Materiali po Arheologii Severnogo Pričernomorja, Odesa
- MCA – Materiale și cercetări arheologice. Academia Română, Institutul de Arheologie „Vasile Pârvan”, București
- MemAnt – Memoria Antiquitatis, Acta Musei Petrodavensis, Complexul Muzeal Județean Neamț, Piatra-Neamț
- MFMÉ – A Móra Ferenc Múzeum évkönyve. Móra Ferenc Múzeum, Szeged
- MIA – Materialy i issledovanija po arheologii SSSR, Moskva – Sk. Petersburg
- MitteilungenBerlin – Mitteilungen der Berliner Gesellschaft für Anthropologie, Ethnologie und Urgeschichte, Berlin
- Mitteilungen der Vorderasiatisch-Agyptischen Gesellschaft – Mitteilungen der Vorderasiatisch-Aegyptischen Gesellschaft, Leipzig
- MN – Muzeul Național, București
- MonographRGZM – Monographies des Römisch-Germanischen Zentralmuseums, Mainz
- Montana II – V. Velkov, G. Aleksandrov, *Epigrafski pametnitsi ot Montana i raiona*, Montana, 1994.
- Mousaios – Mousaios. Buletinul Științific al Muzeului Județean Buzău, Bacău
- MSSIA – Academia Română. Memoriile Secției de Științe Iсторice și Arheologie, București
- MusHelv – Museum Helveticum: schweizerische Zeitschrift für klassische Altertumswissenschaft = Revue suisse pour l'étude de l'antiquité classique = Rivista svizzera di filologia classica, Schwabe-Verlag
- NAC – Numismatica et Antichità Classiche. Quaderni Ticinesi, Lugano
- Nestor – Nestor, University of Cincinnati, Department of Classics, Cincinnati
- NC – Numismatic Chronicle, London
- NNM – Numismatic Notes and Monographs, New York
- Novensia – Novensia, Antiquity of Southeastern Europe Research Centre, University of Warsaw, Warsaw
- NZ – Numismatische Zeitschrift. Österreichische Numismatische Gesellschaft, Wien
- Oltenia – Oltenia. Studii și comunicări, Craiova
- Orientalia – Orientalia, Pontificio Istituto biblico, Roma
- Pact – Pact. Journal of the European Study Group on Physical, Chemical, Biological & Mathematical Techniques Applied to Archaeology, Strasbourg
- PAS – Praehistorische Archäologie in Südosteuropa, Berlin

- PAT – Patrimonium Archaeologicum Transylvanicum
- PAT – D.R. Hillers, E. Cussini, *Palmyrene Aramaic Texts*, The Comprehensive Aramaic Lexicon Project, Baltimore, 1996.
- PBF – Prähistorische Bronzefunde. Akademie der Wissenschaften und der Literatur, Mainz, Seminar für Vor- und Frühgeschichte der Goethe-Universität Frankfurt a. M, Abteilung für Ur- und Frühgeschichtliche Archäologie des Historischen Seminars der Westfälischen Wilhelms-Universität, Münster
- PCPhS – Proceedings of the Cambridge Philological Society, Cambridge
- Peuce – Peuce. Studii și Note de Istorie Veche și Arheologie. Muzeul Delta Dunării / Institutul de Cercetări Eco-Muzeale „Simion Gavrila”, Tulcea
- Peuce S.N. – Peuce, serie nouă. Studii și Cercetări de Istorie și Arheologie. Institutul de Cercetări Eco-Muzeale „Simion Gavrila”, Tulcea
- Philosophie – Philosophie, Les Éditions de Minuit, Paris
- Phronesis – Phronesis. A Journal for Ancient Philosophy, Leiden
- PIR² – *Prosopographia Imperii Romani, saec. I-III*, ed. II, Berlin–Leipzig
- PNAS – Proceedings of the National Academy of Sciences of the United States of America, Washington DC
- Poetics Today – Poetics Today, Duke University, Columbus, USA
- Polis – Polis. The Journal for Ancient Greek Political Thought, Exeter
- Pontica / Pontice – Pontica. Muzeul de Istorie Națională și Arheologie, Constanța
- PPS – Proceedings of the Prehistoric Society, Cambridge
- PZ – Praehistorische Zeitschrift. Freie Universität, Institut für Prähistorische Archäologie, Berlin
- QS – Quaderni di storia, Roma
- RAN – Repertoriul Arheologic Național (<http://ran.cimec.ro/>)
- RE – *Realencyclopädie der classischen Altertumswissenschaften*, Stuttgart, 1893-
- REA – Revue des Études Anciennes. Maison de l’Archéologie, Université Bordeaux Montaigne, Pessac
- RES – *Répertoire d'épigraphie sémitique*, Paris, 1900-1968.
- RÉSEE – Revue des Études Sud-Est Européennes. Academia Română, Institutul de Studii Sud-Est Europeene, București
- RevBistr – Revista Bistriței. Complexul Muzeal Bistrița-Năsăud, Bistrița
- Review of Metaphysics – The Review of Metaphysics. A Philosophical Quarterly, Washington DC
- Revista Arheologică – Revista Arheologică, Academia de Științe a Moldovei, Institutul Patrimoniului Cultural, Centrul de Arheologie, Chișinău
- Revista d’arqueologia de Ponent – Revista d’arqueologia de Ponent, Unitat d’Arqueologia, Prehistòria i Història Antiga del Departament d’Història de la Universitat de Lleida, Lleida
- RevMuz – Revista Muzeelor, București
- Révue d’Alsace – Revue d’Alsace, Fédération des Sociétés d’Histoire et d’Archéologie d’Alsace, Colmar
- Revue d’Archéométrie - ArchéoSciences, revue d’Archéométrie, Presses universitaires de Rennes
- Revue du Louvre – La Revue du Louvre et des musées de France, Conseil des musées nationaux (France), Paris
- Revue du Nord – Revue du Nord. Archéologie de la Picardie et du Nord de la France, Université de Lille, Villeneuve D’Asco
- RGA – *Reallexicon der Germanischen Altertumskunde*, Berlin
- RGZM – Jahrbuch des Römisch-Germanischen Zentralmuseums Mainz, Bonn
- Rhetorica – Rhetorica. A Journal of the History of Rhetoric, Berkley
- RI – Revista Iсториcă. Academia Română, Institutul de Istorie „Nicolae Iorga”, București
- RIB – Roman Inscriptions of Britain, London
- RIC, II – H. Mattingly, E. A. Sydenham, *The Roman Imperial Coinage, II, Vespasian to Hadrian*, London, 1926.
- RIC, III – H. Mattingly, E. A. Sydenham, *The Roman Imperial Coinage, III, Antoninus Pius to Commodus*, London, 1930.
- RIC, IV/1 – H. Mattingly, E. A. Sydenham, C.H.V. Shutherford, *The Roman Imperial Coinage, IV/I, Pertinax to Geta*, London, 1936.
- RIC, IV/2 – H. Mattingly, E. A. Sydenham, C. H. V. Shutherford, *The Roman Imperial Coinage, IV/2, Macrinus to Pupienus*, London, 1938.

- RIC, IV/3 – H. Mattingly, E. A. Sydenham, C. H. V. Shutherford, *The Roman Imperial Coinage, IV/3, Gordian III-Uranius Antoninus*, London, 1949.
- RIC, V/1 – P. H. Webb, *The Roman Imperial Coinage, V/I*, London, 1927.
- RIS – E. Weber (ed.), *Die römerzeitlichen Inschriften der Steiermark*, Graz, 1969.
- RIU III – L. Barkóczi, S. Soproni, *Die römische Inschriften Ungarns, 3. Liefereng: Brigetio (Fortsetzung) und die Limesstrecke am Donauknie*, Budapest–Bonn, 1981.
- RMD – *Roman Military Diplomas*, London, I (M.M. Roxan, 1978), II (M.M. Roxan, 1985), III (M.M. Roxan, 1993), IV (M.M. Roxan, P.A. Holder, 2003), V (P.A. Holder, 2006)
- RMM-MIA – Revista muzeelor și monumentelor. Monamente istorice și de artă, București
- RPC I – A. Burnett, M. Amandry, P.P. Ripollès, *Roman Provincial Coinage, I. From the death of Caesar to the death of Vitellius (44 BC-AD 69)*, London – Paris, 1992.
- RPC II – A. Burnett, M. Amandry, I. Carradice, *Roman Provincial Coinage, II. From Vespasian to Domitian (AD 69-96)*, London – Paris, 1999.
- SAA – Studia Antiqua et Archaeologica. Universitatea „Al. I. Cuza”, Iași
- SAI – Studii și Articole de Istorie, București
- Sargetia – Sargetia. Acta Musei Devensis. Muzeul Civilizatiei Dacice și Romane, Deva
- SchwNumRu – Schweizerische Numismatische Rundschau, Bern
- Science – Science, American Association for the Advancement of Science, Washington DC
- SCIV(A) – Studii și cercetări de istorie veche (și arheologie). Academia Română, Institutul de Arheologie „Vasile Pârvan”, București
- SCN – Studii și Cercetări de Numismatică. Academia Română, Institutul de Arheologie „Vasile Pârvan”, București
- Scripta Valachica – Scripta Valachica, Studii și materiale de istorie și istorie a culturii, Târgoviște
- SEG – *Supplementum Epigraphicum Graecum*, Leiden 1923-1971, Alphen aan den Rijn 1979-1980, Amsterdam 1979-2005, Boston 2006-
- Semitica et Classica – Semitica et Classica. Revue internationale d'études orientales et méditerranéennes. International Journal of Oriental and Mediterranean Studies, Paris – Turnhout
- SlovArch – Slovenská Archeológia, Nitra
- SMA – Studies in Mediterranean Archaeology Series
- SNG Copenhagen 2 – *Sylloge Nummorum Graecorum Copenhagen*. The Royal Collection of Coins and Medals. Danish National Museum, Volume 2. Macedonia and Thrace, reprint of original edition, New Jersey, 1981.
- SNG BM Black Sea – *Sylloge Nummorum Graecorum, Great Britain, Volume IX, British Museum, Part 1: The Black Sea*, London, 1993.
- SNG Stancomb – *Sylloge Nummorum Graecorum, Great Britain, Volume XI, The William Stancomb Collection of Coins of the Black Sea Region*, Oxford, 2000.
- Southwestern Journal of Anthropology – Southwestern Journal of Anthropology, University of Chicago, Chicago
- SP – Studii de Preistorie, București
- Starinar – Starinar, Arheologskog Instituta, Belgrade
- StCl – Studii Clasice, București
- StComPitești – Studii și Comunicări, Pitești
- StComBrukenthal – Studii și Comunicări, Muzeul Național Brukenthal, Sibiu
- StComSatuMare – Studii și Comunicări. Muzeul Județean Satu Mare, Satu Mare
- Stratum plus – Stratum, Vysshaya Antropologicheskaya Shkola, Chișinău
- Studio Palmyreńskie – Studio Palmyreńskie, Polish Centre of Mediterranean Archaeology, University of Warsaw, Warsaw
- Studio Troica – Studio Troica, Universität Tübingen, University of Cincinnati, Mainz am Rhein
- Südost-Forschungen – Südost-Institut München, Deutsches Auslandswissenschaftliches Institut (Berlin, Germany), Leipzig
- Symbolae Osloenses – Symbolae Osloenses. Norwegian Journal of Greek and Latin Studies, Oslo
- SympThrac 1 – *Symposia Thracologica*, I, Institutul de Tracologie, Craiova, 1983
- SympThrac 2 – *Symposia Thracologica*, II, Institutul de Tracologie, Drobeta-Turnu Severin, 1984
- SympThrac 5 – *Symposia Thracologica*, V, Institutul de Tracologie, Miercurea Ciuc, 1987

- SympThrac 7 – *Symposia Thracologica*, VII, Institutul de Tracologie, Tulcea, 1989
- Terra Sebus – *Terra Sebus. Acta Musei Sabesiensis*, Muzeul Municipal „Ioan Raica” Sebeş
- The Antiquaries Journal – *The Antiquaries Journal*, Society of Antiquaries of London
- Theory, Culture and Society – *Theory, Culture and Society*, Universitz of London, London
- ThesCRA – Thesaurus Cultus et Rituum Antiquorum*, Los Angeles, The J. Paul Getty Museum: I-II (2004), III-V (2005), VI (2011), VII-VIII (2012), Index (2014)
- The Numismatist – *The Numismatist*, The American Numismatic association
- Thracia – *Thracia*, Bŭlgarska akademia na naukite, Institut po trakologiia, Serdica
- Thracia Pontica 4 – M. Lazarov *et alii* (eds.), *Thracia Pontica. Quatrième Symposium International, Sozopol 6-12 Octobre 1988*, Sofia, 1991.
- Thraco-Dacica – *Thraco-Dacica. Academia Română, Institutul de Arheologie „Vasile Pârvan”*, Bucureşti
- TIR – *Tabula Imperii Romani*, Romula-Durostorum-Tomis, Bucarest, 1969.
- TPAphS – *Transactions and Proceedings of the American Philological Society*. Johns Hopkins University Press, Baltimore
- TÜBA-AR – *Türkiye Bilimler Akademisi Arkeoloji Dergisi*
- Tyche – *Tyche. Beiträge zur Alten Geschichte Papyrologie und Epigraphik*, Wien
- Tyragetia – *Tyragetia. Anuarul Muzeului Național de Istorie a Moldovei*, Chișinău
- Tyragetia International – *Tyragetia International*, Muzeul Național de Istorie a Moldovei, Chișinău
- UPA – *Universitätsforschungen zur prähistorischen Archäologie*, Bonn
- Valachica – *Studii și cercetări de istorie și istoria culturii*, Târgoviște
- VDI – *Vestnik Drevnej Istorii*, Moskva
- World Archaeology – *World Archaeology*, Taylor & Francis
- ZfE – *Zeitschrift für Ethnologie*, Berlin
- ZfN – *Zeitschrift für Numismatik*, Berlin
- ZPE – *Zeitschrift für Papyrologie und Epigraphik*, Bonn
- ZSav – *Zeitschrift der Savigny-Stiftung für Rechtsgeschichte. Romanistische Abteilung*, Wien