

Žarno grobišče Sumerje pri Gornji Bistrici (Črenšovci, SV Slovenija)

Urnfield culture cemetery Sumerje near Gornja Bistrica (Črenšovci, North–Eastern Slovenia)

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Primož PREDAN

Izvleček

V članku je predstavljeno grobišče Sumerje pri Gornji Bistrici, odkrito ob gradnji daljnovoda na trasi Cirkovce–Pince. Na izkopnem polju velikosti 40 × 40 m je bilo odkritih 80 žganih grobov. V pripravi je obširnejša monografija o grobišču, z nekaterimi analizami, ki še niso končane, zato je tu v celoti predstavljenih le nekaj izbranih grobov, dodana pa je tipološka opredelitev celotnega gradiva z osnovnimi podatki o grobišču. Uvrstimo ga lahko v čas mlajše in pozne kulture žarnih grobišč, v ruško žarnogrobiščno skupino (stopnje Ha B1 do Ha B3 po Müller-Karpejevi shemi). Ker se grobišče iz izkopnega polja širi na vse štiri strani, bi ga po velikosti domnevno lahko postavili ob bok velikim poznobronastodobnim grobiščem v Sloveniji, kot so Ruše, Pobrežje, Ljubljana, Dobova in Obrežje.

Ključne besede: Prekmurje; Sumerje pri Gornji Bistrici; pozna bronasta doba; kultura žarnih grobišč; ruška žarnogrobiščna skupina; žarno grobišče

Abstract

This article presents the Sumerje cemetery near Gornja Bistrica, discovered during the construction of the Cirkovce–Pince power line. In an excavation area measuring 40 m × 40 m, 80 cremation graves were unearthed. An extensive monograph on the cemetery is currently in preparation, with some ongoing analyses; therefore only a few selected graves are fully presented, along with a typological classification of the finds and basic information about the cemetery. The cemetery can be dated to the late phases of the Urnfield culture, among the Ruše Urnfield group (stages Ha B1 to Ha B3 according to Müller-Karpe's schema). Considering that the cemetery extends beyond the excavation field on all four sides, it is presumed to be a larger cemetery, comparable in size to other major Late Bronze Age cemeteries in Slovenia, such as Ruše, Pobrežje, Ljubljana, Dobova, and Obrežje.

Keywords: Prekmurje; Sumerje near Gornja Bistrica; Late Bronze Age; Urnfield culture; Ruše Urnfield group; cremation cemetery

Grobišče iz časa kulture žarnih grobišč v Sumerju pri Gornji Bistrici je bilo odkrito ob gradnji stojišča za kovinski steber (stojno mesto 196) na trasi daljnovoda Cirkovce–Pince. Stojno mesto 196 leži na območju arheološkega najdišča Gornja

Bistrica – Sumerje (EID 1-30034),¹ odkritega ob

¹ RKD Situla (<http://giskd2s.situla.org/rkd/Opis.asp?Esd=30034>).

ekstenzivnem arheološkem pregledu leta 2014.²

Po navedenem pregledu je bilo območje z ledinskim imenom Sumerje, ki leži dober kilometer severozahodno od središča vasi Gornja Bistrica v občini Črenšovci, na podlagi najdb odlomkov prazgodovinske, rimskodobne in srednjeveške lončenine ter rimskodobnega gradbenega materiala opredeljeno kot arheološko območje povečanega arheološkega potenciala. Arheološka izkopavanja so potekala na parc. št. 638, 639, 643 in 644 v k. o. Gornja Bistrica.³

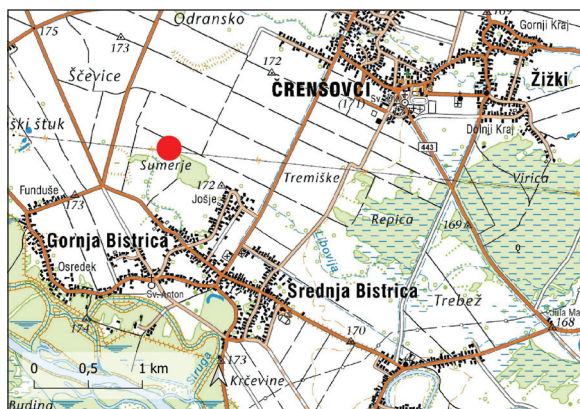
Gornja Bistrica je razvlečeno naselje na Dolinskem oz. Ravenskem, na levem bregu Mure, ob krajevni cesti Bakovci–Hotiza (sl. 1). Do regulacije je Mura naselje pogosto poplavljala, toda njegov severni del, tudi Sumerje, je nekoliko dvignjen, zunaj poplavnega območja in danes v celoti obdelan. Na pleistocenski ravnini prevladujejo njive, med njimi pa so tudi travniki. Ob Muri onkraj protipoplavnega nasipa rastejo obsežni gozdovi (Olas 1989, 293; Orožen Adamič et al. 1996, 114).

Pred navedenimi pregledi v Gornji Bistrici in njeni neposredni bližini arheološka najdišča niso bila poznana, na izkopavanjih avgusta 2021 pa je bilo v Sumerju odkrito večje plano poznobronastodobno grobišče iz časa kulture žarnih grobišč.

Do gradnje slovenskega avtocestnega križa smo v Prekmurju oz. Pomurju na splošno poznali redka arheološka najdišča iz pozne bronaste dobe, pravzaprav le ostanke naselbine iz zgodnje oz. starejše kulture žarnih grobišč v Olorisu pri Dolnjem Lakošu (Dular et al. 2002), ter iz pozne kulture žarnih grobišč oz. zgodnje železne dobe naselbino z več grobišči v Gornji Radgoni (Dular 2013, 179–206; Horvat-Šavel 1981; Šavel 1994, 86–95; 1996, 16–17; Teržan 1990, 83–89) in naselbino iz Križevcev pri Ljutomeru (Šavel 1994, 95–96; 1996, 16).

Med izkopavanji na trasi avtoceste skozi Prekmurje pa so bili odkriti ostanki več naselbin, v glavnem iz časa zgodnje oziroma starejše kulture žarnih grobišč.⁴

V letih 2018 in 2019 je arheološka izkopavanja v naselju Tišina, zahodno od Murske Sobote, izvajala ekipa Pomurskega muzeja Murska Sobota. Med drugim so našli 12 planih žganih grobov, ki



Sl. 1: Lokacija grobišča Sumerje pri Gornji Bistrici, občina Črenšovci.

Fig. 1: Location of the Sumerje cemetery near Gornja Bistrica, Črenšovci municipality.

(podlaga / basemap: DTK50©GURS)

so časovno uvrščeni na sam konec kulture žarnih grobišč, v stopnjo HaB (Sankovič 2022, 14–20, 52).⁵

REZULTATI IZKOPAVANJ⁶

Na grobišču v Sumerju pri Gornji Bistrici je bilo odkritih 80 grobov, a je treba računati, da se grobišče iz izkopnega polja širi v vse štiri smeri (sl. 2). Pred izkopavanji je bila površina delno uničena zaradi recentnega posega pri delni odstranitvi ornice. Stratigrafska slika najdišča Sumerje je bila precej enostavna (sl. 3). Izkazalo se je, da so na celotnem območju izkopnega polja v polpreteklem obdobju izvajali globoko oranje, to je arheološke ostanke uničilo do globine med 0,3 in 0,5 m. Izkopavanje je potekalo na območju kmetijskih obdelovalnih površin, zato je izkop posegel v ornico, ki smo jo označili kot SE 1, debeline do 0,3 m. Pod njo je na globini 0,3 m ležala do 0,2 m debela plast čvrste svetlo rjave glinaste ilovice (SE 2) brez arheoloških najdb. Domnevamo, da je plast ostanek poplavnega nanosa bližnje Mure. Pod njo smo odkrili plast temnejše rjave ilovice (SE 3), opredelili smo jo kot ostanek površine iz rimskega obdobja, kajti v plasti so bili kot najmlajše najdbe odkriti ostanki rimskodobnega gradbenega materiala. Približno na globini med 0,5 in 0,9 m se je pojavila geološka osnova (SE 4). Opredelili smo jo kot mešanje

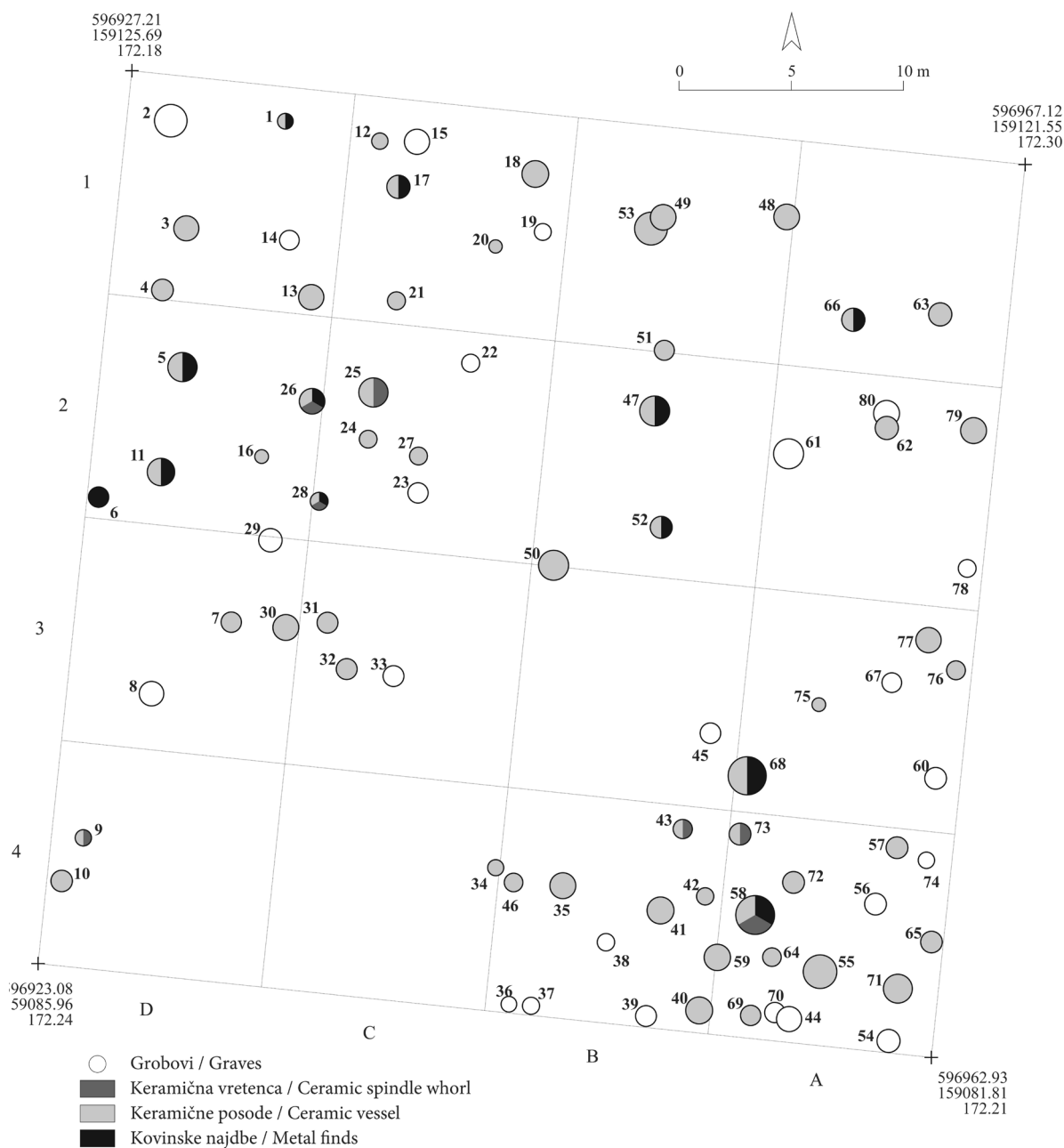
² M. Arh, N. Veršnik, G. Rutar, S. Hvalec 2014, Poročilo o izvedenih predhodnih arheoloških raziskavah na območju DPN za daljnovid 2 × 400 kV Cirkovce–Pince (neobjavljeno poročilo, hrani: Arhiv ZVKDS, Center za preventivno arheologijo).

³ Izkopavanja je avgusta 2021 pod vodstvom Primoža Predana na površini 1600 m² (40 × 40 m) izvedlo podjetje PJP, d. o. o., iz Slovenske Bistrice.

⁴ Glej tu Kerman.

⁵ Glej tu Sankovič.

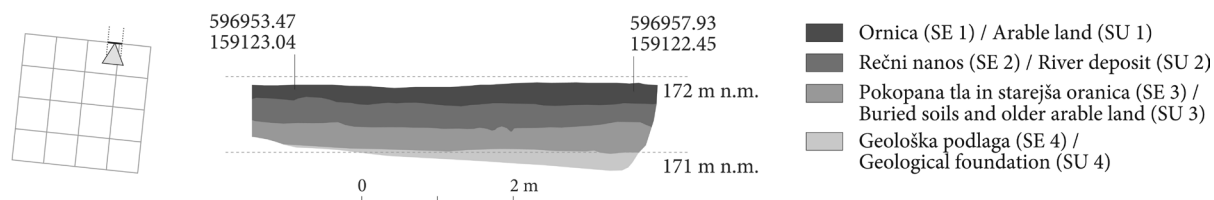
⁶ Celotna objava najdišča je v pripravi in bo predstavljena v samostojni monografiji, zato je tu prikazan le kratek pregled arheoloških izkopavanj.



Sl. 2: Sumerje pri Gornji Bistrici. Tloris grobišča z označenimi grobovi in vrsto najdb v njih. Velikost krožcev shematično prikazuje velikost grobov. M. = 1:300.

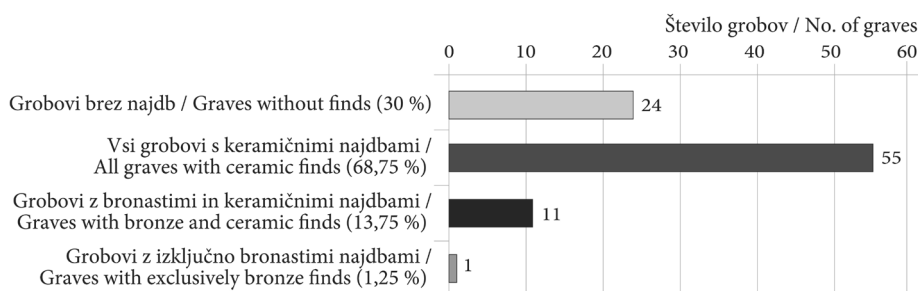
Fig. 2: Sumerje near Gornja Bistrica. Site plan of the cemetery with marked graves and the type of finds in them. The different sizes of the circles schematically show the size of the graves. Scale = 1:300.

(koordinatni sistem / coordinate system: D96/TM)



Sl. 3: Sumerje pri Gornji Bistrici. Del severnega profila izkopnega polja. M. = 1:100.

Fig. 3: Sumerje near Gornja Bistrica. Part of the northern profile of the excavated field. Scale = 1:100.



Sl. 4: Sumerje pri Gornji Bistrici. Deleži grobov glede na pridatke.

Fig. 4: Sumerje near Gornja Bistrica. The percentage of graves by grave goods.

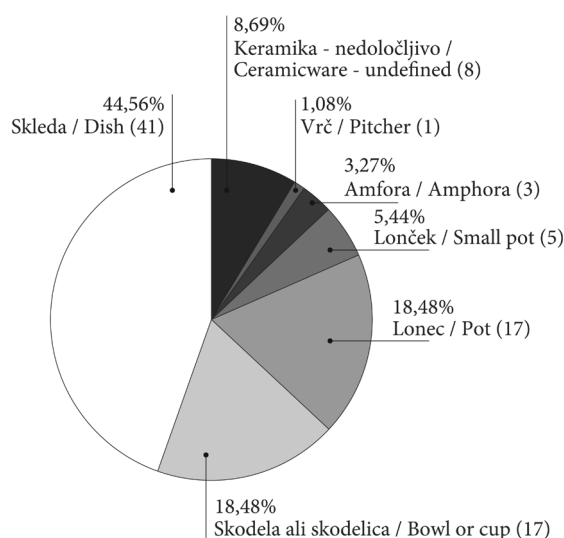
naplavljenega karbonatnega nanosa sedimenta Mure iz svetlo rjave gline ali drobnega proda. Razlike v globini od juga proti severu izkopnega polja so posledica padca terena oziroma geološke podlage. V to plast (SE 4) so bili vkopani grobovi iz pozne bronaste dobe. Odkrili smo 80 grobov različnih oblik, v večji meri so bili poškodovani zaradi oranja.

Grobovi so se pojavljali po celotnem izkopnem polju (sl. 2). Najmanj zgoščeni so bili na skrajnem severovzhodnem robu in proti sredini, kjer je grobišče v smeri severovzhod–jugozahod sekal do 10 m širok in 46 m dolg prazen prostor, morda pot znotraj grobišča. Zelo izrazita zgostitev grobov je bila na jugovzhodnem delu izkopnega polja, jugovzhodno od poti.

Grobne jame smo zaznali na globlinah med 0,5 in 0,9 m pod današnjo površino. Jame so večinoma ovalne ali okrogle, redkeje nepravilne oglate oblike. V preseku so vse imele bolj ali manj obliko črke U. V tlorisu so merile večinoma med 0,6 m in 1 m, le redko so bile večje. Tako med večje sodijo npr. grob 30 z okroglo grobno jamo premera 1,3 m (t. 2), grobovi 53 (1,3 × 1 m) (t. 4), 55 (1,5 × 0,9 m) in 68 (1,6 × 1 m) z ovalnimi grobnimi jamami ter grob 58 (1,4 × 1,2 m) (t. 5) z jamo nepravilne oglate oblike. Navedeni grobovi so med bogatejšimi na grobišču. Tudi ohranjena globina grobnih jam je različna. Večina je bila globoka med 0,1 in 0,2 m, najgloblji je bil s 0,45 m grob 4. Pri globini je treba upoštevati tudi to, da se zabeležena globina nanaša na trenutek, ko smo grobno jamo zaznali, kar pa je bilo zaradi konsistence geološke osnove, vročine in posledično hitrega sušenja zemlje oteženo. Kljub temu razlika med dejanskim pojavljanjem obrisov jam in našim zaznavanjem ni bila večja od nekaj centimetrov, največ do 10. V nekaj primerih grobne jame ni bilo mogoče zaznati in je le skupek lončenine kazal, da gre za ostanke groba, npr. pri grobu 1 (t. 1). V vseh primerih gre za navadne vkope in preprosta zasutja grobnih jam. Zasutja

grobov se razlikujejo le po deležu manjših prodnikov v njih, a to ne sme presenetiti, saj so tudi v plasti, v katero so bili grobovi vkopani, delež proda v primerjavi z meljem različni.

V 30 % grobov (24) nismo našli nobene najdbe (sl. 4). Pri tem pa ni bilo mogoče opredeliti, ali so bili ti grobovi prvotno brez najdb ali pa so bili uničeni že v preteklosti. V grobovih 14 in 78 nismo našli niti na ostanke sežganih kosti niti na drobce oglja, v grobovih 5, 6 in 54 pa ni bilo ostankov sežganih kosti, našli smo le koščke oglja. Tudi v grobovih 34 in 40, kjer smo našli nekaj odlomkov verjetno skodelice in amfore, ni bilo ostankov sežganih kosti ali drobcov oglja. V 70 grobovih so ostanki kosti in drobci oglja ležali v grobni jami, v šestih grobovih tako v grobni jami kot v posodi, položeni v grob, v grobovih 1 in 12 pa so bile sežgane kosti najdene v sledi oz. skodelici, ne pa tudi v grobni jami. Pri tem



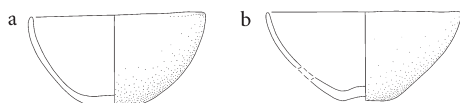
Sl. 5: Sumerje pri Gornji Bistrici. Deleži posameznih oblik keramičnih posod v grobovih.

Fig. 5: Sumerje near Gornja Bistrica. Percentage share of individual types of ceramic vessels in the graves.

Sklede / Dishes

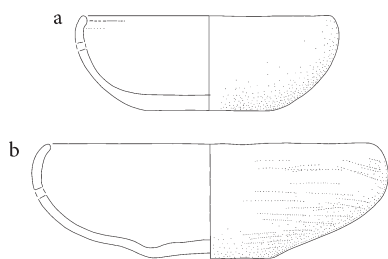
- 1 Globoke kroglaste sklede z ravnim ali rahlo uvitim ustjem in ravnim ali bolj ali manj vbočnim dnom / Deep spherical dishes with vertical or slightly curved rim and a flat or more or less concave base

Gr. 16, 18, 31, 35, 41, 47, 48, 50, 52, 55, 58, 63, 64, 68, 73, 76, 77



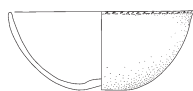
- 2 Plitve kroglaste sklede z rahlo uvitim ustjem / Shallow spherical dishes with a slightly flared rim

Gr. 53, 73

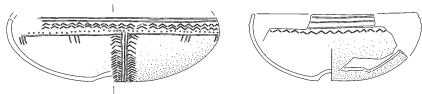


- 3 Okrašene kroglaste sklede / Decorated spherical dishes

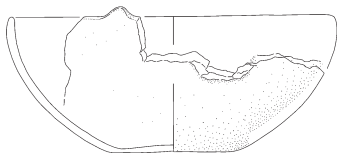
- a Prečno našlebljeno ustje / Thick transverse grooves on the rim
Gr. 1, 17



- b Okrašeno ostenje / Decorated surface
Gr. 9, 34, 55, 79

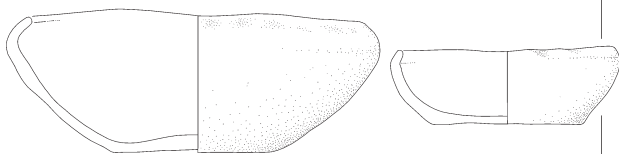


- c Rogljič na robu ustja / Rim bears a prong
Gr. 62



- 4 Neokrašene konične sklede z uvihanim ustjem / Plain conical dishes with inturned rims

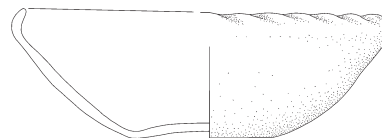
Gr. 49, 59, 65, 68



- 5 Okrašene konične sklede / Decorated conical dishes

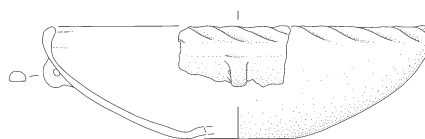
- a Poševno našlebljen rob uvihanega ustja / Obliquely grooved edge of a inturned rim

Gr. 30, 58



- b Poševno našlebljen rob z rahlo uvihanim ustjem in vodoravno predrtim jezičastim držajem pod robom / Obliquely grooved edge with a slightly inturned rim and a horizontally perforated, tongue-shaped handle below the rim

Gr. 71



- c Prečno našlebljen rob uvihanega ustja in vodoravnim držajem pod robom / Transversely grooved edge of an inturned rim with a horizontal handle below the rim

Gr. 55



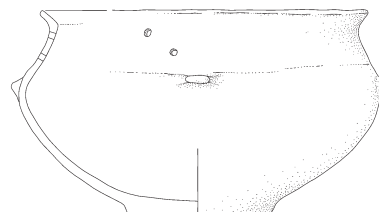
- 6 Globoka skleda z rahlo izvihanim ustjem / Deep dish with a slightly everted rim

Gr. 7



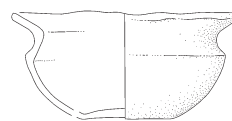
- 7 a Globoka skleda polkroglastega trupa z izvihanim ustjem / Deep hemispherical dish with an everted rim

Gr. 71



- b Skleda z izvihanim ustjem in klekom na prehodu vratu v trup / Dish with an everted rim and a carinated neck-to-body transition

Gr. 5



Sl. 6: Sumerje pri Gornji Bistrici. Tipološka razvrstitev skled. M. = 1:5.

Fig. 6: Sumerje near Gornja Bistrica. Typological classification of bowls. Scale = 1:5.

je zanimivo, da so bile sežgane kosti položene le v skledo (grobovi 1, 47, 49 in 71) in skodele oz. skodelice (grobovi 4, 12, 28, in 30). V niti enem primeru jih nismo našli v loncih, lončkih, amforah ali vrču. To velja tudi za grobove, v katere je bilo položenih več posod, sežgane kosti pa so ležale le v eni izmed njih. V grobu 12 smo našli skodelo in lonec, kosti so bile v skodeli, v grobu 30 sta bila poleg sklede najdena še dva lonca, a so bile kosti položene v skledo, v grobu 71 pa sta bili najdeni dve skledi, kosti so bile najdene le v eni. Na podlagi navedenih podatkov bi v Sumerju težko govorili o "pravih" žarah. Kot kaže, so pokojnikove ostanke po sežigu delno posuli v grobno jamo, delno pa so jih porazdelili v posode, in sicer v skledo in skodelice. Ponavadi na grobiščih, pripisanih kulturi žarnih grobišč, žare predstavljajo večje posode, največkrat lonci ali pitosi (npr. Črešnar 2010, 35; Kramberger, Črešnar 2021, 65, 68–69), to pa ne velja za Sumerje pri Gornji Bistrici.

Posode oz. njihove odlomke smo našli v 55 grobovih (*sl.* 2, 5). Največ je bilo skled različnih oblik, skupaj 41 (*sl.* 6), sledijo lonci (17) (*sl.* 8) in lončki (5) (*sl.* 9), skodele oz. skodelice, teh je bilo 14, prav tako za še tri primerke menimo, da bi njihovi odlomki lahko pripadali tej skupini posod (grobovi 3, 7 in 46) (*sl.* 7), na zadnjih dveh mestih so amfore (3) (*sl.* 10: 1) in vrč (*sl.* 10: 2).⁷ V osmih primerih ni bilo mogoče ugotoviti vrste posod (grobovi 13, 21, 42, 55, 62, 64, 70 in 75). Zanimivo je, da je bila v 14 primerih skleda (9) ali skodela oz. skodelica (5) z ustjem obrnjena navzdol.

Sklede smo našli v 31 grobovih, od tega v devetih kot edino najdbo (grobovi 16, 18, 34, 35, 48, 49, 50, 59 in 79), v dveh grobovih pa sta bili zastopani po dve (grobova 71 in 76). Poleg tega je bila skleda kot edina posoda pridana v petih grobovih, v katerih so bili tudi kovinski pridatki. V grobu 1 smo našli iglo z majhno vazasto glavico, v grobu 5 odlomke tordirane ovratnice, v grobu 17 očalasto fibulo in del gladke ovratnice okroglega preseka, v grobu 47 očalasto fibulo ter v grobu 52 tordirano ovratnico. V redkih primerih je bila najdena samo po ena skleda skupaj z le eno posodo drugačne oblike. Skupaj z amforo je bila najdena v grobu 63,

v grobovih 7 in 77 smo našli po eno skledo in eno skodelico, v grobu 65 skledo in lonček, v grobu 10 pa eno skledo in en lonec skupaj z vretencem.⁸ Po ena skleda z več drugimi posodami je bila le še v grobovih 30 in 31 s po dvema loncema ter v grobu 41 z dvema skodelicama in okrašenim lončkom z dvema ročajema. V grobu 73 sta bili dve skledi, lonec in vretence, v grobu 68 pa dve skledi, skodelica, lonec in manjši odlomek tordirane ovratnice. Po številu najdb med bogatejše sodijo grobovi s po tremi ali štirimi skledami, in sicer grob 53 (*t.* 4: 17–19), v katerem je bil najden tudi hruškast lonec (*t.* 4: 16), grob 55 s skodelico, hruškastim loncem in odlomki nedoločljive posode ter grob 58 (*t.* 5: 22–24) z loncem z zaobljenim ramenom in nalepljenim razčlenjenim rebrom (*t.* 5: 20), tordirano ovratnico (*t.* 5: 21), delom gladke zapestnice D-preseka (*t.* 5: 25) in vretencem (*t.* 5: 26).

Skupno 17 skodel oz. skodelic je bilo v 15 grobovih (*sl.* 7). V le dveh grobovih sta bili po dve skodelici, in sicer skupaj s skledo in okrašenim dvojnoročajnim lončkom v že omenjenem grobu 41 (*t.* 3) ter v grobu 11 skupaj s poševno nažlebljeno ovratnico. V štirih grobovih je skodela ali skodelica predstavljala edino najdbo (grobovi 3, 4, 27 in 34). V dveh grobovih je bila skodelica poleg drugih najdb edina posoda. V grobu 66 je bil najden tudi bronast obroček, v grobu 26 pa poleg skodele še vretence, odlomek tordirane ovratnice, odlomek trakaste zapestnice D-preseka in svitka verjetno iste očalaste fibule (*t.* 1: 3–8). Poleg že omenjenih grobov 7, 55, 68 in 77, v katerih so bile skodelice skupaj s skledami in loncema, so bili v grobovih 12 in 46 poleg skodelice še po en lonec, v grobu 43 odlomki vrča in vretence ter v grobu 69 odlomki nedoločljive posode.

Skupno 17 loncev in 5 lončkov smo našli v 20 grobovih (*sl.* 8, 9). Lonec je bil edina najdba v grobovih 10, 24 in 72, lončki pa v grobovih 32, 51 in 57. Lonec kot edina posoda, a skupaj z vretencem, je bil v grobu 25, z vretencem in trakasto zapestnico D-preseka pa v grobu 28. Kot smo že navedli, sta bila po dva lonca, skupaj s po eno skledo, v grobovih 30 (*t.* 2: 9–10) in 31. Skupaj s skledami in/ali skodelami oz. skodelicami je bil po en lonec ali lonček v že omenjenih grobovih 9, 12, 41 (*t.* 3: 12), 46, 53 (*t.* 4: 16), 55, 58 (*t.* 5: 20), 65, 68 in 73, od tega v grobu 58 skupaj z odlomki ovratnice in zapestnice ter vretencem (*t.* 5: 21, 25–26).

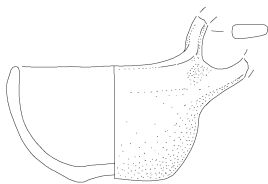
⁷ Pri skoraj vseh tipih posod so navedeni vsi njihovi odlomki, na prikazih tipoloških oblik pa odlomki iz nekaterih grobov niso navedeni, saj njihova ohranjenost ne omogoča tipološke opredelitve. Pri prikazih tipoloških oblik se lahko (predvsem pri skledah) v istem grobu pojavi več posod istega tipa, grob pa je naveden le enkrat (npr. grob 55, pri katerem sta dve od štirih skodel uvrščeni v tip 1).

⁸ V vsakem izmed grobov 62 in 64 smo prav tako našli po eno skledo in odlomke po ene nedoločljive posode.

Skodele in skodelice / Cups and bowls

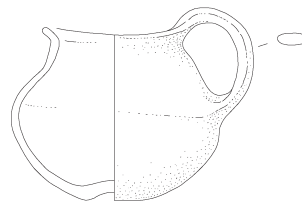
- 1 Skodele/skodelice kroglastega trupa z ravnim ali rahlo uvihanim ustjem, in presegajočim ročajem / Bowls/cups with a spherical body flat or slightly inturned rim, and an extended handle

Gr. 4, 26, 68



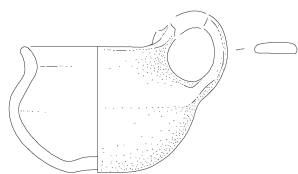
- 4 Skodelica z vbočnim dnom, zaobljenim trupom, usločnim vratom, izvihanim ustjem in presegajočim ročajem / Cup with a concave base rounded body, curved neck, everted rim, and an extended handle

Gr. 41



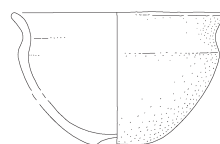
- 2 Skodelice kroglastega trupa z izvihanim ustjem in presegajočim ročajem / Cups with a spherical body, everted rim, and an extended handle

Gr. 41, 55, 66



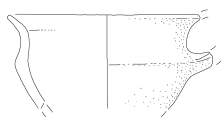
- 5 Skodelici koničnega trupa, z usločnim vratom, izvihanim ustjem in brez ročaja / Cups with a conical body, curved neck, everted rim, and without a handle

Gr. 1, 77



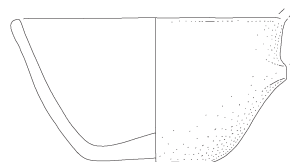
- 3 Skodelice koničnega trupa, z usločnim vratom, izvihanim ustjem in presegajočim ročajem. / Cups with a conical body, curved neck, everted rim, and an extended handle.

Gr. 12, 27, 43



- 6 Skodela koničnega trupa z ravnim ustjem in presegajočim ročajem / Bowl with a conical body, vertical rim, and an extended handle

Gr. 14



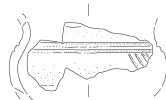
- 7 Okrašene skodelice in skodele nedoločljivega tipa / Ornamented bowls and cups of indefinable type

Gr. 7, 46, 69

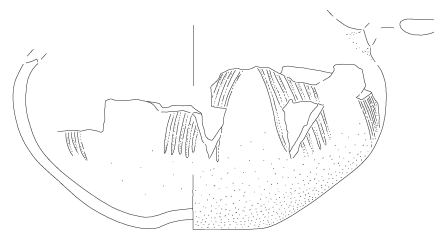
a



b



c

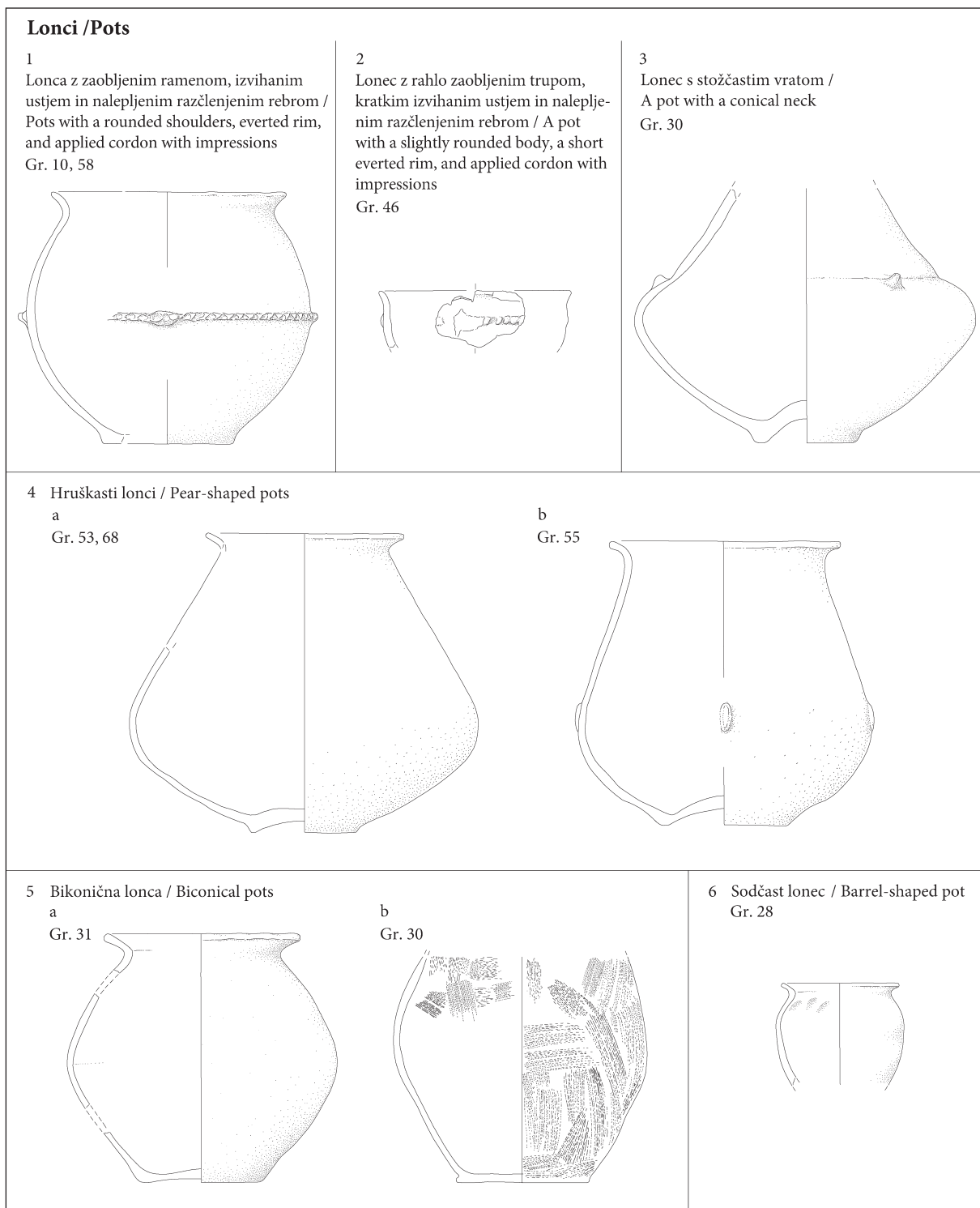


Sl. 7: Sumerje pri Gornji Bistrici. Tipološka razvrstitev skodel in skodelic. M. = 1:3.

Fig. 7: Sumerje near Gornja Bistrica. Typological classification of bowls and cups. Scale = 1:3.

Preostale tipološko opredeljive posode so v Sumerju redke. Gre za le tri amfore in odlomke vrča (*sl. 10*). V že omenjenem grobu 63 je bila amfora skupaj s skledo, v grobovih 21 in 40 pa je predstavljala edino najdbo v grobu. Vrč je bil le v grobu 43, skupaj s skodelico in vretencem.

Tudi drugih najdb je bilo na grobišču razmeroma malo. Med keramičnimi smo že navedli vretenca. Skupaj jih je bilo sedem v sedmih grobovih (grobovi 9, 25, 26, 28, 43, 58 in 73) (*sl. 11*). V grobu so vedno skupaj z različnimi posodami, teh je bilo lahko tudi več (grobovi 9, 43, 58 (*t. 5*)).



Sl. 8: Sumerje pri Gornji Bistrici. Tipološka razvrstitev loncev. M. = 1:6.

Fig. 8: Sumerje near Gornja Bistrica. Typological classification of pots. Scale = 1:6.

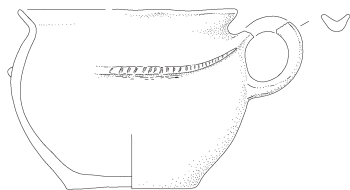
in 73). V grobovih 26 (*t. 1*: 5–8), 28 in 58 (*t. 5*: 21, 25) smo poleg vretenca in posode našli tudi dele bronastega nakita, enkrat zapestnico (grob 28), enkrat zapestnico in ovratnico (grob 58) ter enkrat fibulo, zapestnico in ovratnico (grob 26).

V 12 grobovih je bilo skupaj najdenih 16 bronastih predmetov (*sl. 12, 13*). Gre za dele noše, in sicer iglo v grobu 1 (*t. 1*: 2), očalaste fibule v grobovih 6, 17, 26 (*t. 1*: 7–8) in 47, nakit, kot so ovratnice v grobovih 5, 11, 17, 26 (*t. 1*: 5), 52, 58 (*t. 5*: 21)

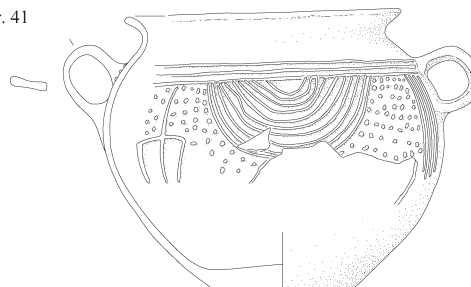
Lončki / Small pots

- 1 Kroglasta lončka z enim in dvema trakastima ročajema / Spherical small pots with one and two strap handles

a
Gr. 57



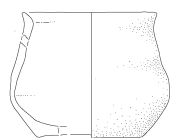
b
Gr. 41



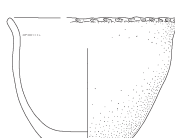
- 2 Različni majhni lončki / Various small pots

Gr. 32, 51, 65

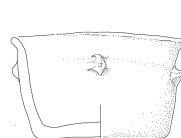
a



b



c



Sl. 9: Sumerje pri Gornji Bistrici. Tipološka razvrstitev lončkov. M. = 1:5.

Fig. 9: Sumerje near Gornja Bistrica. Typological classification of small pots. Scale = 1:5.

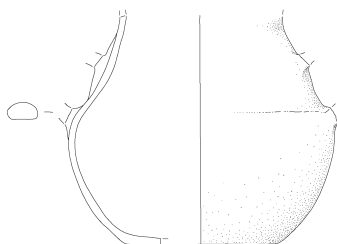
Amfore / Amphorae

1

- a Bikonični amfori / Biconic amphorae
Gr. 21, 63

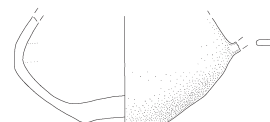


- b Trebušasta amfora / Bulbous amphora
Gr. 40

**Vrč / Pitcher**

1

- Vrč / Pitcher
Gr. 43



Sl. 10: Sumerje pri Gornji Bistrici. Tipološka razvrstitev amfor in vrča. M. = 1:6.

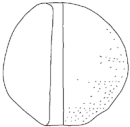
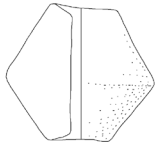
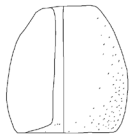
Fig. 10: Sumerje near Gornja Bistrica. Typological division of amphorae and pitcher. Scale = 1:6.

in 68 ter zapestnice v grobovih 26 (*t. 1: 6*), 28 in 58 (*t. 5: 25*). V grobu 66 je bil tudi majhen okrogel ploščat obroček. Med bronastimi najdbami prevladujejo ovratnice (7), sledijo očalaste fibule (4), zapestnice (3), igla in okrogel bronast obroček (*t. 12: 8*).

Med bronastimi pridatki le svitek očalaste fibule v grobu 6 predstavlja edino najdbo v grobu. V vseh preostalih grobovih bronaste pridatke spremljajo keramične posode (*sl. 13*), največkrat skleda, lahko tudi po dve ali tri, pa tudi druge posode (grobovi 1, 5, 17, 47, 52, 58 (*t. 5: 20, 22–24*) in 68), ena ali dve skodeli oz. skodelici so skupaj z bronastimi

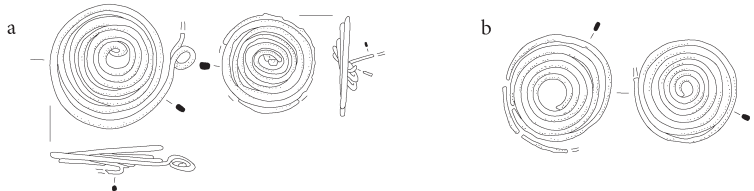
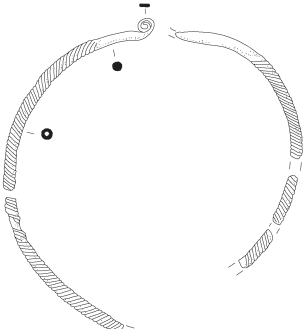
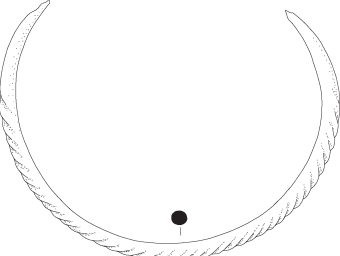
pridatki kot edina pridana posoda v grobovih 11, 26 (*t. 1: 3*) in 66, v grobu 68 pa sta bili poleg skodelice še dve skledi in lonec. V grobu 28 smo poleg zapestnice in vretenca našli lonec. Na grobišču so bila tri vretenca od sedmih pridana v grobove skupaj z bronastimi najdbami, in sicer v grobovih 26 (*t. 1: 4*), 28 in 58 (*t. 5: 26*).

Kot edini bronast pridelek poleg očalaste fibule v grobu 6 najdemo iglo v grobu 1 (*sl. 12: 1; t. 1: 2*), ovratnice v grobovih 5 (*sl. 12: 3*), 11 (*sl. 12: 4*), 52 (*sl. 12: 3*) in 68 (*sl. 12: 3*), zapestnico v grobu 28 skupaj s keramičnim vretencem (*sl. 11: 3; 12: 6*), očalasto fibulo v grobu 47 (*sl. 12: 2*) ter okrogel

Vretenca / Spindle whorls		
1 Kroglasto-ovalne vretence / Globular-oval spindle whorl Gr. 73	2 Bikonična vretenca / Biconical spindle whorls Gr. 9, 25, 26, 43	3 Sodčasto oblikovani vretenci / Barrel-shaped spindle whorls Gr. 28, 58
		

Sl. 11: Sumerje pri Gornji Bistrici. Tipološka razvrstitev vretenc. M. = 1:2.

Fig. 11: Sumerje near Gornja Bistrica. Typological classification of whorls. Scale = 1:2.

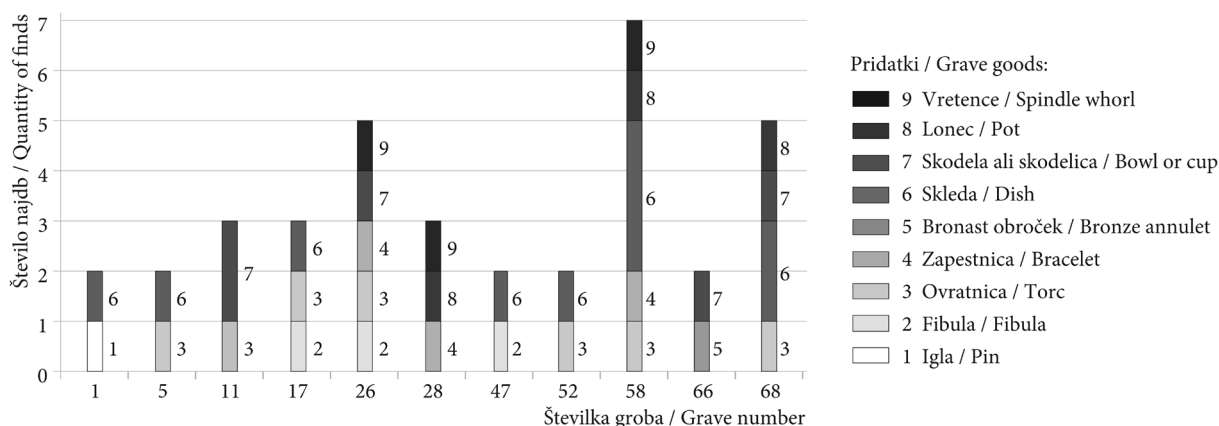
Bronasti predmeti / Bronze finds		
1 Igla z majhno vazasto glavico s koščenim ščitnikom / Pin with a small vase-shaped head and a bone guard Gr. 1	2 Očalaste fibule / Spectacle fibulae Gr. 6, 17, 26, 47	
		
3 Tordirane ovratnice / wisted torcs Gr. 5, 26, 52, 58, 68	4 Poševno nažlebljena ovratnica / Obliquely grooved torc Gr. 11	5 Gladka ovratnica okroglega preseka / Smooth torc with a circular cross-section Gr. 17
		
6 Trakasti zapestnici / Band bracelets Gr. 26, 28	7 Zapestnica D preseka / D-sectioned bracelet Gr. 58	8 Bronast obroček / Bronze annulet Gr. 66
		

Sl. 12: Sumerje pri Gornji Bistrici. Tipološka razvrstitev bronastih najdb. M. = 1:3.

Fig. 12: Sumerje near Gornja Bistrica. Typological classification of bronze finds. Scale = 1:3.

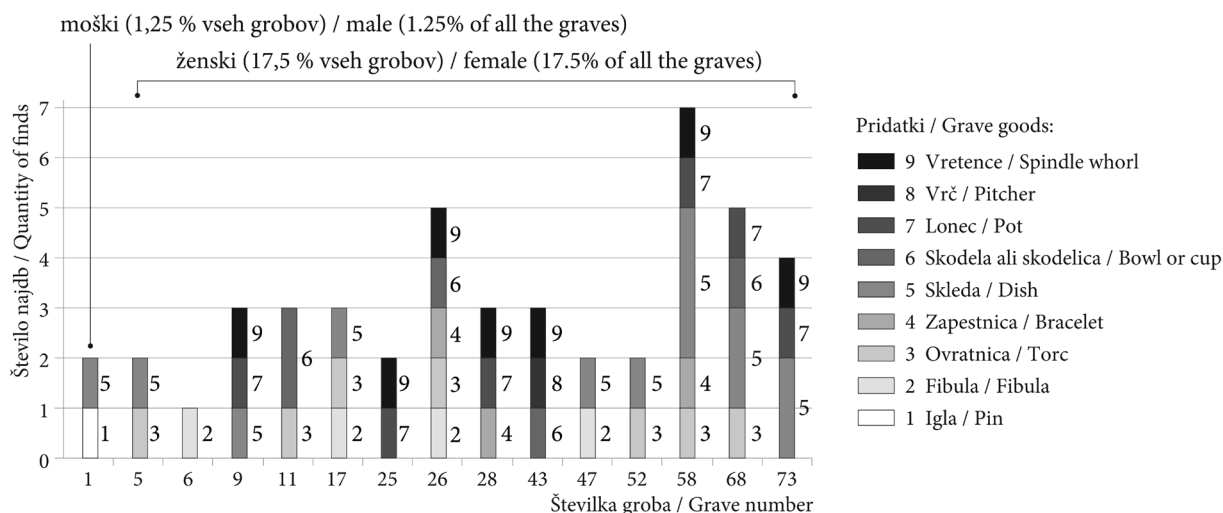
bronast obroček v grobu 66 (sl. 12: 8). Le v treh grobovih se pojavlja več kot ena bronasta najdba. V grobu 58 sta bili najdeni ovratnica in zapestnica (tudi keramično vretenca) (t. 5: 21, 25–26), v grobu 17 očalasta fibula in ovratnica (sl. 12: 2,5) ter v grobu 26 očalasta fibula, ovratnica in zapestnica (tudi keramično vretenca) (t. 1: 4–8).

Če upoštevamo sestav določenih najdb z vidika spola pokojnika (glej npr. Koprivnik, Teržan 2021), bi med moške lahko uvrstili le grob 1, v katerem je bila najdena igla z majhno vazasto glavico. Za ženske grobove pa naj bi bile značilne očalaste fibule, zapestnice, ovratnice in keramična vretenca. Tako lahko v Sumerju kot ženske opredelimo grobove 5,



Sl. 13: Sumerje pri Gornji Bistrici. Zastopanost in razmerje med različnimi pridatki v grobovih z bronastimi in keramičnimi najdbami.

Fig. 13: Representation and relationship between different finds in the graves with bronze and ceramic finds.



Sl. 14: Sumerje pri Gornji Bistrici. Delež moških in ženskih grobov glede na grobne pridatke.

Fig. 14: Sumerje near Gornja Bistrica. The percentage of men's and women's graves in relation to grave goods.

6, 11, 17, 26, 28, 47, 52, 58 in 68 (očalaste fibule, zapestnice, ovratnice in keramična vretenca) ter še grobove 9, 25, 43 in 73, v katerih so bila najdena keramična vretenca, ne pa tudi bronasti predmeti. Na podlagi najdb bi torej od 80 grobov le enega lahko označili za moškega (grob 1) in 14 za ženske (grobovi 5, 6, 9, 11, 17, 25, 26, 28, 43, 47, 52, 58, 68 in 73) (sl. 14).

ČASOVNA OPREDELITEV

Raziskani del grobišča v Sumerju pri Gornji Bistrici je bil v preteklosti v precejšnji meri uničen, verjetno ob poljedelskih delih, saj so zgornji deli grobov v večini "odrezani".

Pridatki iz grobov kažejo, da gre za grobišče iz mlajše in pozne faze kulture žarnih grobišč, torej stopnje od Ha B1 do Ha B3 po Müller-Karpejevi shemi. Med vsemi najdbami na grobišču je za časovno opredelitev še najzanesljivejša očalasta fibula z majhno osmico iz groba 26 (*t. 1: 7–8*), ki smo jo uvrstili v tip Wels. Tovrstne fibule naj bi se pojavile v stopnji Ha A2/Ha B1 oz. vsaj v Ha B1, vsekakor pa so značilne za Ha B1 in Ha B2 (Teržan 2021, 308, 313, sl. 3: 2a–d). Čeprav naj bi bile najstarejše preproste polkroglaste skleda (*sl. 6: 1*) lahko še iz časa Ha A2 (Váczi 2010, 252), pa naj se v vzhodni Sloveniji ne bi pojavljale pred stopnjo Ha B (Črešnar 2006, 125; Dular 2013, 40; Kramberger, Črešnar 2021, 78). Tudi zapestnice z D-presekom (*t. 5: 25*) in igle z majhno vazasto

glavico (*t. 1: 2*) naj bi se po mnenju nekaterih avtorjev pojavljale oz. predstavljale enega od vodilnih tipov šele v stopnjah Ha B1/Ha B2 oz. Ha B2/Ha B3 (Mason, Kramberger 2022, 97, sl. 41: Z4; Teržan 2021: 313, op. 50). Preostalo gradivo je za kronološko uvrščanje manj občutljivo, a gre v vseh primerih za oblike, ki jih pogosto najdemo tudi na najdiščih iz časa mlajše oz. pozne kulture žarnih grobišč – in čeprav bi začetki nekaterih grobišč morda segali še v stopnjo Ha A (Dular 2013, 109), gre za najdišča, ki so svoj razcvet dosegla v stopnjah od Ha B1 do Ha B3.

Pred odkritjem planega žarnega grobišča v Sumerju pri Gornji Bistrici smo v Prekmurju poznali le dve grobišči iz časa kulture žarnih grobišč. Prvo je majhna skupina štirih ali petih grobov iz Goric pri Turnišču, ki pa sodi v zgodnjo oz. starejšo stopnjo kulture žarnih grobišč (Plestenjak 2010; 2014). Ana Plestenjak je največ primerjav zanj našla v Panoniji (zahod Madžarske, vzhod Avstrije in jug Slovaške), med slovenskimi najdišči pa v starejši

Dobovi in ne na grobiščih in naselbinah bližje, a mlajše ruške skupine. Grobišče je uvrstila v stopnjo BdD/HaA (Plestenjak 2010, 44; 2014, 93). V letih 2018 in 2019 pa je bila v središču Tišine pri Murski Soboti odkrita skupina 12 planih žganih grobov, med njimi tudi zelo bogati, opredeljeni v stopnjo Ha B (Sankovič 2022).⁹

Grobišče iz Sumerja pri Gornji Bistrici lahko uvrstimo med velika grobišča mlajše kulture žarnih grobišč, v ruško žarnogrobiščno skupino, v stopnjo od Ha B1 do Ha B3. Že Irena Šavel je ugotovila, da sta naselbina v Križevcih pri Ljutomeru in naselbina s pripadajočimi grobišči v Gornji Radgoni del ruške (Šavlova sicer navaja t. i. ruško-mariborsko) kulturne skupine pozne kulture žarnih grobišč, ki je bila razširjena tako ob Dravi kot ob Muri (Šavel 1996, 16; 1997, 20), kar naše raziskave grobišča v Gornji Bistrici potrjujejo.

⁹ Glej tudi tu Sankovič.

KATALOG IZBRANIH GROBOV

Gradivo se trenutno hrani v prostorih podjetja PJP d.o.o. v Slovenski Bistrici, po celostni objavi najdišča bo predano Pokrajinskemu muzeju v Mariboru.

Okrajšave:

db. = debelina	gl. = globina	najv. = največji/-a	pr. = premer	šir. = širina	t. = teža	v. = višina
dl. = dolžina	kv. = kvadrat	odl. = odlomek	š. = širina	št. = število	u. = ustje	

Grob 1 (*t. 1: 1–2*)

Lega: v severnem delu kv. D1, na globini 60 cm od recentne hodne površine, na dnu (SE 3), na prehodu v aluvialen nanos (SE 4). Oblika: ostanek groba v zelo slabem stanju, grobne jame se ni dalo prepoznati. V jami je bila skleda, z ustjem posode obrnjena navzdol. Polnilo skleda je tvoril temnorjav melj čvrste konsistence, v njem so bili tudi ostanki ožganih kosti in oglja ter igla z vazasto glavico s koščnim ščitnikom.

1. Odlomek ustja in ostenja kroglaste skleda. Masa: redko fino zrnata. Žganje: redukcijsko, končna faza oksidacijska. Barva: zunanja površina svetlo rjava; notranja površina svetlo rjava; prelom črna. Okras: prečno nazlebljen rob ustja. Mere: db. 0,4 cm, pr. u. 12,9 cm, t. 76 g. Št. odl. 22.
2. Bronasta igla z majhno vazasto glavico s koščnim ščitnikom. Mere: dl. 6,5 cm, t. 2 g. Igla je bila najdena v polnilu skleda.

Grob 26 (*t. 1: 3–8*)

Lega: v vzhodnem delu kv. D2. Oblika: grobna jama ovalne oblike, v preseku v obliki črke U, zaznana na globini 50 cm od recentne hodne površine, dl. 90 cm, š. 60 cm, gl. 10 cm; jama je bila z nivoja stare ornice (SE 3) vkopana v aluvi-

alen nanos (SE 4). Polnilo: čvrste konsistence (melj 80 %, prodniki 20 %); v njem tudi ostanki oglja in ožganih kosti.

3. Skodela kroglastega trupa z rahlo vbočenim dnom, rahlo izvihanim ustjem in s presegajočim ročajem. Masa: obilno drobno zrnata. Žganje: redukcijsko, končna faza oksidacijska. Barva: zunanja površina lisasta, rjava; notranja površina: sivo rjava; prelom: črna. Mere: v. 8,1 cm, db. 0,8 cm, pr. u. 13,3 cm, pr. dna 8,6 cm, t. 406 g. Št. odl. 21.
4. Bikonično vretence. Masa: obilno drobno zrnata. Žganje: redukcijsko. Barva zunanje površine: temno siva. Mere: v. 3,7 cm, najv. pr. 4 cm, t. 40 g. Št. odl. 1.
5. Odlomek bronaste tordirane ovratnice. Mere: dl. 9,1 cm, najv. db. 0,3 cm, t. 5 g. Št. odl. 1. Odlomek v slabem stanju, tordirana skorja okoli jedra ovratnice propada.
6. Odlomka bronaste trakaste zapestnice D preseka. Mere: dl. 5,8 in 3 cm, š. 0,9 cm, db. 0,3 cm, t. 3 g. Št. odl. 2.
7. Svitek bronaste očalaste fibule z delom vmesne osmičaste pentlje iz žice okroglega preseka. Mere: pr. 5,8 cm; db. žice 0,3 cm, t. 25 g. Št. odl. 1.
8. Svitek bronaste očalaste fibule iz žice okroglega preseka. Mere: pr. 3,9 cm; db. žice 0,2 cm, t. 12 g. Št. odl. 4. Svitka sta verjetno pripadala isti fibuli.

Grob 30 (t. 2)

Lega: v severnem delu kv. D3. Oblika: grobna jama krožne oblike, v preseku v obliki črke U, zaznana je bila na globini 50 cm od recentne hodne površine, pr. 1,3 m, gl. 20 cm; jama je bila z nivoja stare ornice (SE 3) vkopana v aluvialen nanos (SE 4). Polnilo: čvrste konsistence (60 % melj, 30 % glinast melj, 10 % prodniki); v njem tudi ostanki oglja in ožganih kosti.

9. Lonec s prstanastim, močno vbočenim dnom, izbočenim trebuhom, poudarjenim prehodom ramena v vrat in visokim stožčastim vratom. Masa: obilno drobno zrnata. Žganje: redukcijsko, končna faza oksidacijska. Barva: zunanja površina: svetlo rjava; notranja površina: temno siva; prelom: temno siva. Okras: na prehodu iz ramena v vrat (3 bradavice). Mere: v. 24,9 cm, db. 1 cm, najv. pr. 33,4 cm, pr. dna 9,8 cm, t. 2689 g. Št. odl. 97.
10. Trebušast lonec s sedlastim prehodom iz dna v ostenje. Masa: redko drobno zrnata. Žganje: redukcijsko, končna faza oksidacijska. Barva: zunanja površina: rjava; notranja površina: svetlo rjava; prelom: črna. Okras: zelo slabo vidno metličenje. Mere: v. 22,2 cm, db. 1 cm, najv. pr. 24,7 cm, pr. dna 12,8 cm, t. 1957 g. Št. odl. 37.
11. Skleda z uvihanim ustjem. Masa: obilno drobno zrnata. Žganje: redukcijsko. Barva: zunanja površina: sivo črna; notranja površina: sivo črna; prelom: sivo črna. Okras: poševo nažlebljen rob ustja. Mere: v. 9,3 cm, db. 0,5 cm, pr. u. 22,6 cm, pr. dna 10,6 cm, t. 692 g. Št. odl. 79. Znotraj meljastega polnila skleda so bili tudi ostanki oglja in ožganih kosti.

Grob 41 (t. 3)

Lega: v osrednjem delu kv. B4. Oblika: grobna jama krožne oblike, v preseku v obliki črke U, zaznana je bila na globini 50 cm od recentne hodne površine, pr. 80 cm, gl. 20 cm; jama je bila z nivoja stare ornice (SE 3) vkopana v aluvialen nanos (SE 4). Polnilo: čvrste konsistence (60 % melj, 20 % glinast melj, 20 % prodniki); v njem tudi ostanki oglja in ožganih kosti.

12. Lonček z ravnim odebeljenim dnom, kroglastim trupom, izvihanim ustjem in trakastima točajema na prehodu trupa v vrat posode. Masa: obilno drobno zrnata. Žganje: redukcijsko, končna faza oksidacijska. Barva: zunanja površina oranžna; notranja površina lisasta, sivo rjava do oranžna; prelom črna. Okras: apliciranje oziroma fini barbotin (zapleten okras). Mere: v. 18,4 cm, db. 0,5 cm, pr. u. 18,3 cm, pr. dna 9,1 cm, t. 1061 g. Št. odl. 68.
13. Kroglasta skleda z rahlo vbočenim dnom. Masa: redko fino zrnata. Žganje: redukcijsko. Barva: zunanja površina temno siva; notranja površina črna; prelom temno rjava. Mere: v. 5 cm, db. 0,6 cm, pr. u. 11,8 cm, pr. dna 4 cm, t. 169 g. Št. odl. 17.
14. Skodelica z vbočenim dnom, zaobljenim trupom, izvihanim ustjem in presegajočim ročajem. Masa: obilno drobno zrnata. Žganje: redukcijsko, končna faza oksidacijska. Barva: zunanja površina rjava; notranja površina temno siva; prelom temno siva. Mere: v. 7,8 cm, db. 0,4 cm, pr. u. 6,2 cm, pr. dna 2,3 cm, t. 110 g. Št. odl. 35.
15. Skodelica z močno vbočenim dnom, zaobljenim trupom, rahlo izvihanim ustjem in presegajočim ročajem. Masa: obilno fino zrnata. Žganje: redukcijsko.

Barva: zunanja površina temno siva; notranja površina temno siva; prelom temno siva. Mere: v. 5,4 cm, db. 0,3 cm, pr. u. 6,6 cm, pr. dna 2,6 cm, t. 90 g. Št. odl. 24.

Grob 53 (t. 4)

Lega: v osrednjem delu kv. B1. Oblika: grobna jama ovalne oblike, v preseku v obliki črke U, zaznana na globini 80 cm od recentne hodne površine, dl. 1,3 m, š. 1 m, gl. 20 cm; jama je bila z nivoja stare ornice (SE 3) vkopana v aluvialen nanos (SE 4). Polnilo: čvrste konsistence (75 % melj, 15 % glinast melj, 10 % prodniki); v njem tudi ostanki oglja in ožganih kosti. Grob je bil delno poškodovan z vkopom groba 49.

16. Hruškast lonec z vbočenim dnom in kratkim (ostro) izvihanim ustjem. Masa: obilno drobno zrnata. Žganje: redukcijsko. Barva: zunanja površina črna; notranja površina temno siva; prelom temno siva. Mere: v. 29,2 cm, db. 0,7 cm, pr. u. 19,6 cm, pr. dna 10 cm, t. 1899 g. Št. odl. 231.
17. Kroglasta skleda z odebeljenim ravnim dnom in rahlo uvihanim ustjem. Masa: zmerno grobo zrnata. Žganje: redukcijsko, končna faza oksidacijska. Barva: zunanja površina temno sivo rjava; notranja površina sivo rjava; prelom temno siva. Mere: v. 4 cm, db. 0,6 cm, pr. u. 16,4 cm, pr. dna 8,2 cm, t. 343 g. Št. odl. 78.
18. Kroglasta skleda z odebeljenim ravnim dnom in rahlo uvihanim ustjem. Masa: obilno drobno zrnata. Žganje: redukcijsko, končna faza oksidacijska. Barva: zunanja površina rjava; notranja površina temno siva; prelom črna. Mere: v. 5,5 cm, db. 0,6 cm, pr. u. 13,2 cm, pr. dna 2,8 cm, t. 234 g. Št. odl. 51.
19. Kroglasta skleda z ravnim dnom in rahlo uvihanim ustjem. Masa: obilno drobno zrnata. Žganje: redukcijsko, končna faza oksidacijska. Barva: zunanja površina lisasta, rjava do črna; notranja površina lisasta, siva do črna; prelom črna. Mere: v. 4,6 cm, db. 0,6 cm, pr. u. 12,3 cm, pr. dna 3,2 cm, t. 152 g. Št. odl. 30.

Grob 58 (t. 5)

Lega: v zahodnem delu kv. A4. Oblika: grobna jama oglate oblike, v preseku v obliki črke U, zaznana na globini 60 cm od recentne hodne površine, dl. 1,4 m, š. 1,2 m, gl. 40 cm. Polnilo: čvrste konsistence (75 % melj, 15 % glinast melj, 10 % prodniki); v njem tudi ostanki oglja in ožganih kosti.

20. Lonec z ravnim dnom in sedlastim prehodom iz dna v ostenje, zaobljenim ramenom in izvihanim ustjem. Masa: zmerno drobno zrnata. Žganje: redukcijsko. Barva: zunanja površina lisasta, svetlo rjava, temno siva do oranžna; notranja površina temno siva; prelom temno siva. Okras: nalepljeno razčlenjeno rebro na najširšem delu. Mere: v. 24,5 cm, db. 0,8 cm, pr. u. 23,1 cm, pr. dna 12,8 cm, t. 2166 g. Št. odl. 137.
21. Odlomki bronaste tordirane ovratnice okroglega preseka z uvitima zaključkoma. Mere: skupna dl. 13 cm, najv. db. 0,5 cm, t. 23 g. Št. odl. 5. Del odlomkov v slabem stanju, tordirana skorja okoli jedra ovratnice propada.
22. Kroglasta skleda z vbočenim dnom. Masa: obilno drobno zrnata. Žganje: redukcijsko, končna faza oksidacijska. Barva: zunanja površina lisasta, črna do rjava; notranja površina rjava; prelom črna. Mere: v. 4,5 cm, db. 0,5 cm, pr. u. 10,5 cm, pr. dna 3,3 cm, t. 115 g. Št. odl. 26.

23. Kroglasta skleda z vbočenim dnom. Masa: redko drobno zrnata. Žganje: redukcijsko, končna faza oksidacijska. Barva: zunanja površina sivo rjava; notranja površina svetlo rjava; prelom temno siva. Mere: v. 4,7 cm, db. 0,6 cm, pr. u. 11 cm, pr. dna 4,1 cm, t. 88 g. Št. odl. 19.
24. Skleda z rahlo vbočenim dnom in uvihanim ustjem. Masa: zmerno drobno zrnata. Žganje: redukcijsko. Barva: zunanja površina lisasta, rjava do črna; notranja površina črna; prelom črna. Okras: poševno nazlebljen rob ustja. Mere: v. 8,3 cm, db. 0,5 cm, pr. u. 24,5 cm, pr. dna 9 cm, t. 820 g. Št. odl. 61.
25. Odlomka gladke bronaste zapestnice D preseka. Mere: skupna dl. 6,5 cm, š. 0,6 cm, db. 0,4 cm, t. 6 g. Št. odl. 2.
26. Vretence zaobljene konične oblike. Masa: redko drobno zrnata. Žganje: redukcijsko. Barva: zunanje površine temno siva, lisasta. Mere: v. 3,4 cm, najv. pr. 3,2 cm, t. 24 g. Št. odl. 1.
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Urnfield culture cemetery Sumerje near Gornja Bistrica (Črenšovci, North-Eastern Slovenia)

Translation

The Urnfield culture cemetery in Sumerje near Gornja Bistrica was discovered during the construction of a base for a metal transmission tower (location no. 196) of the Cirkovce–Pince power line. Location no. 196 lies within the archaeological site of Gornja Bistrica–Sumerje (EID 1-30034),¹ which was identified based on an extensive field survey conducted in 2014.²

Based on this survey, the area known as Sumerje, located about a kilometre northwest of the centre of the village Gornja Bistrica in the Črenšovci municipality, was defined as an archaeological area of increased potential due to the discovery of fragments of prehistoric, Roman-era, and medieval pottery, and Roman-era building materials. Archaeological excavations were carried out on parcels no. 638, 639, 643, and 644 in the cadastral community of Gornja Bistrica.³

Gornja Bistrica is an elongated settlement in Dolinsko (or Ravensko), situated on the left bank of the Mura River, along the local Bakovci–Hotiza road (Fig. 1). Before its regulation, the Mura River frequently flooded the settlement, but the northern part, including Sumerje, is slightly elevated and outside the flood zone. Today, it is entirely cultivated. Fields are prevalent on the Pleistocene plain, interspersed with meadows. Beyond the flood protection dyke along the Mura, there are extensive forests (Olas 1989, 293; Orožen Adamič et al. 1996, 114).

Before the aforementioned surveys in Gornja Bistrica and its immediate vicinity, no archaeological sites were known in this area. However, during the excavations in August 2021 in Sumerje, a larger Late Bronze Age flat cemetery from the Urnfield culture period was discovered.

Before the construction of the Slovenian highway network, known archaeological sites from the Late Bronze Age in Prekmurje or Pomurje were rare. In fact, there were only remnants of a settlement from the early or older Urnfield culture in Oloris near Dolnji Lakoš (Dular et al. 2002) and from the late Urnfield culture or early Iron Age, a settlement with several cemeteries in Gornja Radgona (Dular 2013, 179–206; Horvat–Šavel 1981; Šavel 1994, 86–95; 1996, 16–17; Teržan 1990, 83–89) and a settlement from Križevci near Ljutomer (Šavel 1994, 95–96; 1996, 16).

During the excavations along the highway route through Prekmurje, remnants of several settlements, mainly from the early or older Urnfield culture period, were discovered.⁴

In 2018 and 2019, archaeological excavations in the Tišina settlement, west of Murska Sobota, were conducted by a team from the Pomurje Museum Murska Sobota. Among other finds, they discovered 12 flat cremation graves, chronologically placed at the very end of the Urnfield culture period, in the Ha B stage (Sankovič 2022, 14–20, 52).⁵

THE EXCAVATION RESULTS⁶

At the cemetery in Sumerje near Gornja Bistrica, a total of 80 graves were discovered. It should be noted that the cemetery extends in all four directions beyond the excavation field (Fig. 2). Before the excavations, the surface was destroyed to a certain degree due to a partial removal of the topsoil.

The stratigraphy of the Sumerje site was relatively simple (Fig. 3). It turned out that deep ploughing had taken place across the entire area of the excavation field in the recent past, destroying archaeological remains to a depth of between 30 and 50 cm. The excavations took place on agricultural land. The field soil, which we labelled as SU 1, was up to 30

¹ RKD Situla (<http://giskd2s.situla.org/rkd/Opis.asp?Esd=30034>).

² M. Arh, N. Veršnik, G. Rutar, S. Hvalec 2014, Poročilo o izvedenih predhodnih arheoloških raziskavah na območju DPN za daljnovid 2 × 400 kV Cirkovce–Pince (unpublished report, kept by: Arhiv ZVKDS, Center za preventivno arheologijo).

³ Excavations were carried out in August 2021 by PJP d.o.o. from Slovenska Bistrica under the leadership of Primož Predan on an area of 1600 m² (40 × 40 m).

⁴ See here Kerman.

⁵ See here Sankovič.

⁶ The complete publication of the site is in preparation and will be presented in a separate monograph; therefore, only a brief overview of the archaeological excavations is presented here.

cm thick. Beneath it, at a depth of 30 cm, was a layer of firm light brown clay loam (SU 2) up to 20 cm thick, which contained no archaeological finds. We assume this layer is a remnant of flood deposits from the nearby Mura River. Below that, we discovered a layer of darker brown loam (SU 3), which we identified as a remnant of the old ground level from the Roman period, as the youngest finds in this layer were fragments of Roman-era building materials. At a depth of approximately 50 cm to 90 cm, the geological sterile layer (SU 4) appeared. We defined it as a mixture of deposited carbonate sediment from the Mura River, consisting of light brown clay or fine gravel. The differences in depth from south to north of the excavation field are due to the slope of the terrain or geological layer. The Late Bronze Age graves were dug into this layer (SU 4). We discovered 80 graves of various shapes. The majority of the graves were significantly damaged due to ploughing.

The graves were spread across the entire excavation field (Fig. 2). The smallest concentration of graves was at the far north-eastern edge of the excavation field and towards the centre, where the cemetery was intersected by a 10 m wide and 46 m long empty space. This is possibly a path within the cemetery in a northeast-southwest direction. There was a highly pronounced concentration of graves in the southeast part of the excavation field, southeast of the path.

The grave pits were detected at depths between 50 cm and 90 cm below the present-day surface. The pits were mostly oval or round, less frequently of irregular angular shape. In cross-section, they all had more or less the shape of the letter U. The grave pits measured mainly between 60 cm and 1 m; only rarely were they larger. Among the larger ones, for example, were grave 30 with a round grave pit of 1.3 m in diameter (Pl. 2), graves 53 (1.3 m × 1 m) (Pl. 4), 55 (1.5 m × 90 cm), and 68 (1.6 m × 1 m) with oval grave pits, or grave 58 (1.4 m × 1.2 m) (Pl. 5) with a pit of irregular angular shape. All these graves, according to the finds found in them, belong to the richer graves in the cemetery. The preserved depth of the grave pits also varied. Most were between 10 and 20 cm deep, with the deepest being grave 4 at 45 cm. However, it should be taken into account that the recorded depth refers to the moment when we detected the grave pit, which was made difficult due to the loose consistency of the geological layer, heat, and, consequently, rapid drying of the soil. Nonetheless, the difference between the actual

appearance of the outlines of the pits and our detection was no more than a few centimetres, at most 10. In some cases, the grave pit could not be detected, and only a collection of pottery indicated the remains of a grave, as in the case of grave 1 (Pl. 1). In all cases, these were standard digs and simple fillings of the grave pits. The fillings of the graves differ only in terms of the percentage of smaller pebbles within the filling, which is not surprising, as the percentage of gravel varies in the layer into which the graves were dug.

In 30% of all graves (24), there were no findings at all (Fig. 4). However, it was not possible to determine whether these graves were originally without grave goods or if they had been destroyed in the past. In graves 14 and 78, no remains of cremated bones or charcoal fragments were encountered, while in graves 5, 6, and 54, there were no remains of cremated bones, only pieces of charcoal in the grave pit. Also, in graves 34 and 40, where some fragments of what are likely a mug and an amphora were found, no remains of cremated bones or charcoal fragments were present. In 70 graves, remains of bones and charcoal fragments were located in the grave pit; in six graves, both in the grave pit and in a vessel placed in the grave, and in graves 1 and 12, cremated bones were found in a dish or a bowl but not in the grave pit. Interestingly, cremated bones were only placed in dishes (graves 1, 47, 49, and 71) and cups or bowls (graves 4, 12, 28, and 30). In no case were cremated bones found in pots, small pots, amphorae, or pitchers. This also applies to graves where multiple vessels were placed, but the cremated bones were only found in one of them. In grave 12, a cup and a pot were found, with bones in the cup; in grave 30, alongside a dish, two pots were found, but the bones were placed in the bowl; and in grave 71, two bowls were found, but bones were only in one of them. Given these findings, it would be difficult to speak of 'true' urns in Sumerje. It seems that after cremation, the remains of the deceased were partially scattered in the grave pit and partially distributed in the vessels, specifically in dishes and bowls. Usually, in cemeteries attributed to the Urnfield culture, larger vessels represent the urns. Most often, pots or pithoi are used (e.g., Črešnar 2010, 35; Kramberger, Črešnar 2021, 65, 68–69), which is not the case for the cemetery in Sumerje near Gornja Bistrica.

Vessels or their fragments were found in 55 graves (Fig. 2, 5). The majority were dishes of various shapes, totalling 41 (Fig. 6), followed by

pots (17) (Fig. 8) and small pots (5) (Fig. 9), cups or bowls, of which there were 14, with three more cases where fragments might belong to cups or bowls (graves 3, 7, and 46) (Fig. 7), amphorae (3) (Fig. 10: 1), and a pitcher (Fig. 10: 2).⁷ In eight cases, it was not possible to determine the type of vessel (graves 13, 21, 42, 55, 62, 64, 70, and 75) (Fig. 5). Interestingly, in 14 cases a dish (9) or a cup/bowl (5) was placed with the opening facing downward.

Dishes were found in 31 graves, of which in nine they were the only find (graves 16, 18, 34, 35, 48, 49, 50, 59, and 79), and in two graves, there were two dishes each (graves 71 and 76). Additionally, a dish as the only vessel was added in five graves that also contained metal artefacts. In grave 1, a pin with a small bulbous head was found; in grave 5, fragments of a torqued necklace; in grave 17, a spectacle fibula and part of a smooth necklace with a circular cross-section; in grave 47, a spectacle fibula; and in grave 52, a torqued necklace. In rare cases, only one dish was found along with just one other differently shaped vessel. A dish with an amphora was found in grave 63; in graves 7 and 77, one dish and one bowl each; in grave 65, a dish and a small pot; and one dish and one pot, along with a whorl, in grave 10.⁸ Furthermore, one dish with several other vessels was only found in graves 30 and 31, with two pots each, and in grave 41, with two bowls and a decorated two-handled small pot. In grave 73, there were two dishes, a pot and a whorl, and in grave 68, there were two dishes, a bowl and pot, and a small fragment of a torqued necklace. Among the richer graves in terms of the number of findings are graves with three or four dishes, such as grave 53 (Pl. 4: 17–19), which also contained a pear-shaped pot (Pl. 4: 16), grave 55 with a bowl, a pear-shaped pot, and fragments of an indeterminate vessel, and grave 58 (Pl. 5: 22 – 24) with a pot with rounded shoulders and an attached segmented rib (Pl. 5: 20), a torqued necklace (Pl. 5: 21), a part of a smooth D-shaped bracelet (Pl. 5: 25), and a whorl (Pl. 5: 26).

Seventeen cups or bowls were found in 15 graves (Fig. 7). In only two graves were there two bowls

each, along with a dish and a decorated double-handled small pot in the aforementioned grave 41 (Pl. 3) and in grave 11 along with an obliquely grooved necklace. In four graves, a cup or a bowl was the only find (graves 3, 4, 27, and 34). In two graves, a bowl was the only vessel among other findings. In grave 66, a bronze annulet was also found, and in grave 26, besides the cup, there was a whorl, a fragment of a torqued necklace, a fragment of a D-shaped strap bracelet, and two coils of probably the same spectacle fibula (Pl. 1: 3–8). Besides the already mentioned graves 7, 55, 68, and 77, where bowls were found along with bowls and pots, in graves 12 and 46, there was a pot alongside the bowl; in grave 43, fragments of a pitcher and a whorl, and in grave 69 fragments of an indeterminate vessel.

Seventeen pots and 5 small pots were found in 20 graves (Fig. 8 – 9). A pot as the only found in a grave was in graves 10, 24, and 72, and small pots in graves 32, 51, and 57. A pot as the only vessel, but along with a whorl, was in grave 25, with a whorl and a D-shaped strap bracelet in grave 28. As already mentioned, two pots, with one dish each, were in graves 30 (Pl. 2: 9–10) and 31. Along with dishes and/or cups or bowls, one pot or small pot was in the aforementioned graves 9, 12, 41 (Pl. 3: 12), 46, 53 (Pl. 4: 16), 55, 58 (Pl. 5: 20), 65, 68, and 73, including grave 58 with fragments of a necklace and bracelet and a whorl (Pl. 5: 21, 25 – 26).

Other typologically identifiable vessels in Sumerje are rare. There were only 3 amphorae and fragments of a pitcher (Fig. 10). In the aforementioned grave 63, an amphora was found along with a dish, and in graves 21 and 40, it was the only find in the grave. The pitcher was only in grave 43, along with a bowl and a whorl.

Other findings at the cemetery were relatively scarce. Among the ceramic findings, we have already mentioned whorls. There were a total of seven in seven graves (graves 9, 25, 26, 28, 43, 58, and 73) (Fig. 11). In the grave, they were always found together with various vessels, which could be multiple (graves 9, 43, 58 (Pl. 5), and 73). In graves 26 (Pl. 1: 5 – 8), 28, and 58 (Pl. 5: 21, 25), besides the whorl and the vessel, there were also parts of bronze jewellery, once a bracelet (grave 28), once a bracelet and a necklace (grave 58), and once a fibula, a bracelet, and a necklace (grave 26).

A total of 16 bronze objects were found in 12 graves (Fig. 12 – 13). These are parts of attire,

⁷ For almost all types of vessels, all fragments are listed on the typological forms, except for fragments from some graves, which were in very poor condition. In the typology, several vessels of the same type appear in the same grave, but the grave is mentioned only once (e.g., grave 55, where two of the four cups are classified as type 1).

⁸ In graves 62 and 64, we also found one dish each and fragments of one unidentifiable vessel.

namely a pin in grave 1 (*Pl. 1: 2*), spectacle fibulae in graves 6, 17, 26 (*Pl. 1: 7 – 8*), and 47, jewellery such as necklaces in graves 5, 11, 17, 26 (*Pl. 1: 5*), 52, 58 (*Pl. 5: 21*), and 68, and bracelets in graves 26 (*Pl. 1: 6*), 28, and 58 (*Pl. 5: 25*). In grave 66, there was also a small round flat annulet. Among the bronze findings, necklaces predominate (7), followed by spectacle fibulae (4), bracelets (3), one pin, and one round bronze annulet (*Fig. 12: 8*).

Only the coil of a spectacle fibula in grave 6 represents the only bronze find in a grave among the bronze grave goods. In all other graves, bronze items accompany ceramic vessels (*Fig. 13*), most often dishes, sometimes two or three, and also other vessels (graves 1, 5, 17, 47, 52, 58 (*Pl. 5: 20, 22 – 24*), and 68), one or two cups or bowls as the only added vessel along with bronze items in graves 11, 26 (*Pl. 1: 3*), and 66, and in grave 68, besides the bowl, two dishes and a pot were added to the grave. In grave 28, along with the bracelet and whorl, a pot was also added. In the cemetery, three whorls, out of seven, were added to graves along with bronze finds (graves 26 (*Pl. 1: 4*), 28, and 58 (*Pl. 5: 26*)).

As the only bronze find in the grave, apart from the spectacle fibula in grave 6, we found a pin in grave 1 (*Fig. 12: 1; Pl. 1: 2*), necklaces in graves 5 (*Fig. 12: 3*), 11 (*Fig. 12: 4*), 52 (*Fig. 12: 3*), and 68 (*Fig. 12: 3*), a bracelet in grave 28, together with a ceramic whorl (*Fig. 12: 6; 11: 3*), a spectacle fibula in grave 47 (*Fig. 12: 2*), and a round bronze annulet in grave 66 (*Fig. 12: 8*). Only in three graves do more than one bronze find appear. In grave 58, a necklace and a bracelet were found (also a ceramic whorl) (*Pl. 5: 21, 25 – 26*); in grave 17, a spectacle fibula and a necklace (*Fig. 12: 2, 5*), and in grave 26 a spectacle fibula, a necklace, and a bracelet (also a ceramic whorl) (*Pl. 1: 4–8*).

Considering the selection of grave goods in relation to the gender of the deceased (see, for example, Koprivnik, Teržan 2021), we could categorise only grave 1 as male, in which a pin with a small bulbous head was found. Graves typically associated with females would feature spectacle fibulae, bracelets, necklaces, and ceramic whorls. Thus, in Sumerje, we can identify graves 5, 6, 11, 17, 26, 28, 47, 52, 58, and 68 as female (spectacle fibulae, bracelets, necklaces, and ceramic whorls), and additionally, graves 9, 25, 43, and 73, which contained ceramic whorls but no bronze items. Based on these findings, out of the 80 graves, only one could be identified as male (grave 1) and 14 as female (graves 5, 6, 9, 11, 17, 25, 26, 28, 43, 47, 52, 58, 68, and 73) (*Fig. 14*).

THE CHRONOLOGY

For the researched part of the cemetery in Sumerje near Gornja Bistrica, it can be said that it had been significantly damaged in the past, probably due to agricultural activities. This is primarily evident in the fact that the upper parts of the graves were largely 'cut off'.

The grave goods indicate that the cemetery belongs to the younger and late phase of the Urnfield culture, that is, to stages Ha B1 to Ha B3 according to Müller-Karpe's schema. Among all the finds in the cemetery, the most reliable for chronological classification is the spectacle fibula with a small figure-eight from grave 26 (*Pl. 1: 7 – 8*), which we classified as the Wels type. Such fibulae are believed to have appeared in stage Ha A2/Ha B1 or at least in stage Ha B1 but are characteristic of stages Ha B1 and Ha B2 (Teržan 2021, 308, 313, *Fig. 3: 2a–d*). Although the simple hemispherical dishes (*Fig. 6: 1*) could be the oldest, from the Ha A2 period (Vácz 2010, 252), they are not thought to have appeared in eastern Slovenia before the Ha B stage (Črešnar 2006, 125; Dular 2013, 40; Kramberger, Črešnar 2021, 78). D-shaped bracelets (*Pl. 5: 25*) and pins with a small bulbous head (*Pl. 1: 2*) are believed by some authors to have appeared or represented one of the leading types only in stages Ha B1/Ha B2 or Ha B2/Ha B3 (Mason, Kramberger 2022, 97, *Fig. 41: Z4*; Teržan 2021: 313, note 50). The rest of the material is chronologically less reliable, but in all cases, these are types that are often found at sites dating to the younger or late Urnfield culture. Although the beginnings of some cemeteries might reach back to the Ha A stage (Dular 2013, 109), these are sites that reached their peak in stages Ha B1 to Ha B3.

Before the discovery of the flat cremation cemetery in Sumerje near Gornja Bistrica, only two cemeteries from the Urnfield culture period were known in Prekmurje. The first is a small group of four or five graves from Gorice near Turnišče, which belongs to the early or older stage of the Urnfield culture (Plestenjak 2010; 2014). Ana Plestenjak found the most comparisons for it in Pannonia (western Hungary, eastern Austria, and southern Slovakia). Among Slovenian sites, older ones like Dobova were similar, but not the cemeteries and settlements were closer but younger than the Ruše group. She classified the cemetery in the BdD/Ha A stage (Plestenjak 2010, 44; 2014, 93). In 2018 and 2019, a group of 12 flat cremation graves, also very rich, was discovered in the

centre of Tišina near Murska Sobota, identified in the Ha B stage (Sankovič 2022).⁹

The cemetery from Sumerje near Gornja Bistrica can be classified among the large cemeteries of the younger Urnfield culture, which are placed in the Ruše cremation group in stages from Ha B1 to Ha B3. Irena Šavel found that the settlement in Križevci near Ljutomer and the settlement with

associated cemeteries in Gornja Radgona are part of the Ruše (Šavel also mentions the so-called Ruše–Maribor) cultural group of the late Urnfield culture, which was spread along both the Drava and the Mura rivers (Šavel 1996, 16; 1997, 20), which our research of the cemetery in Gornja Bistrica confirms.

⁹ See here Sankovič.

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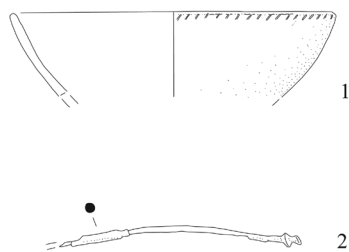
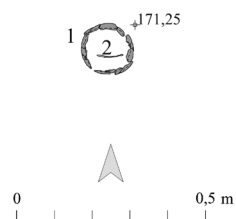
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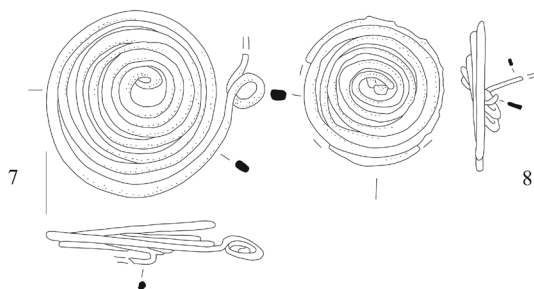
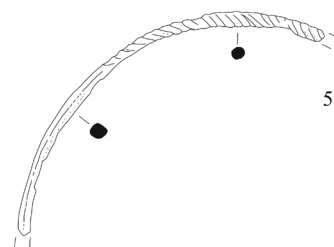
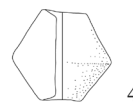
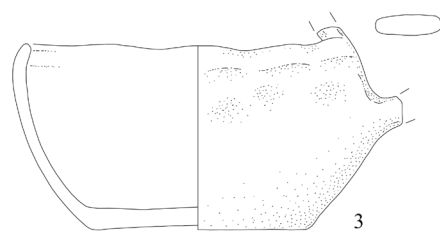
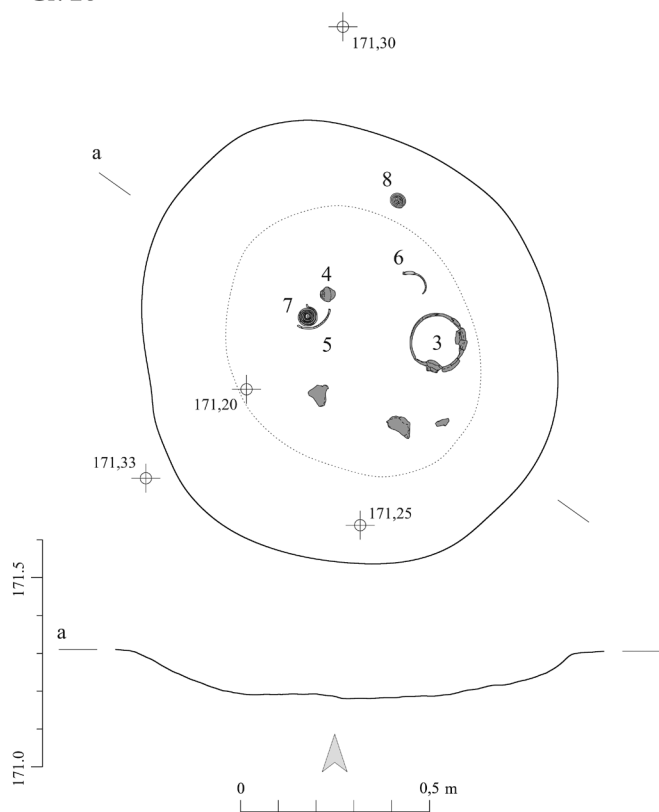
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Gr. 01

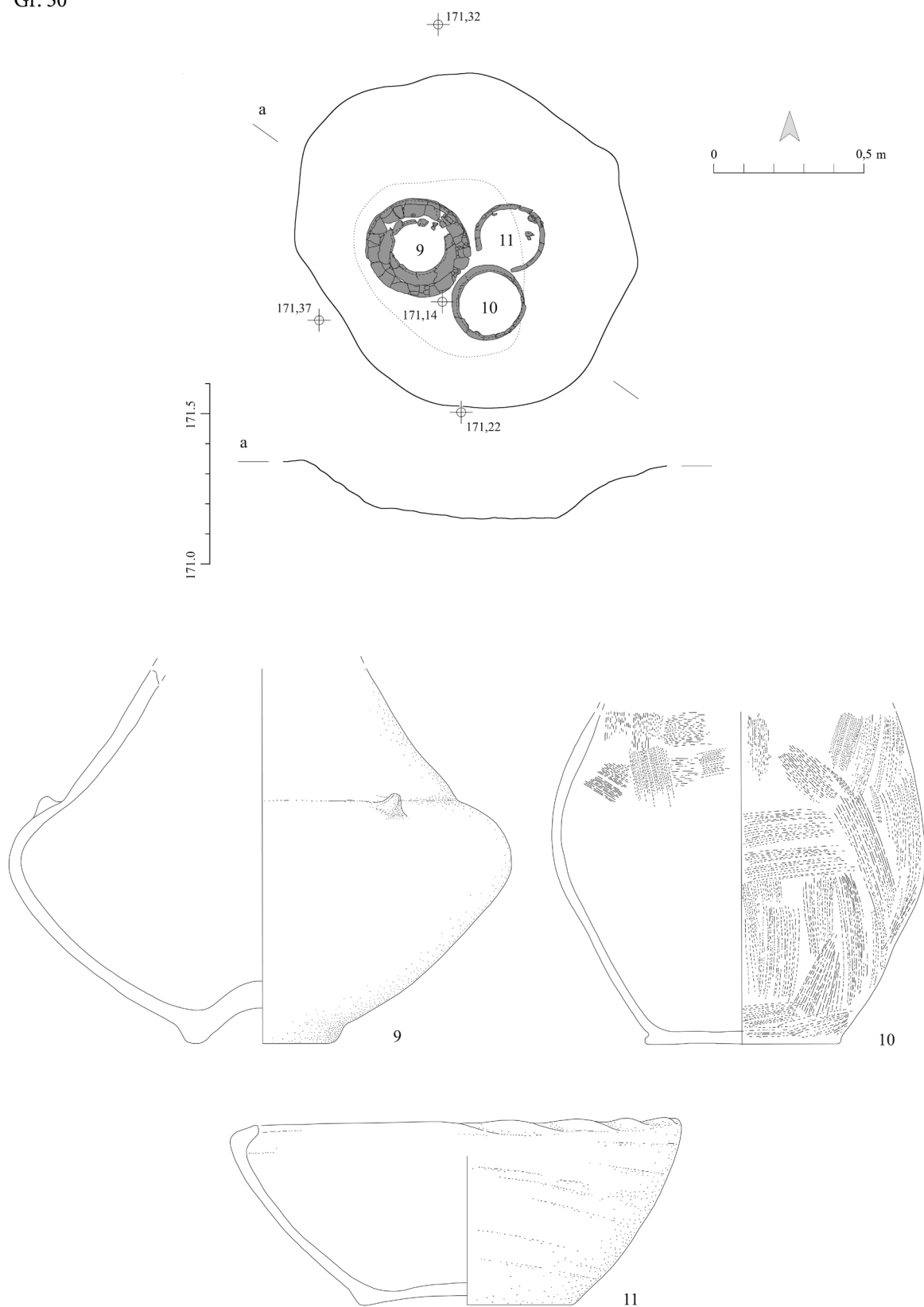


Gr. 26



T. 1: Sumerje pri Gornji Bistrici. Grobova 1 in 26. 1,3,4 keramika; 2 bron in kost; 5–8 bron. M. 1,3–4 = 1:3; preostalo 1:2.
Pl. 1: Sumerje near Gornja Bistrica. Graves 1 and 26. 1,3,4 ceramics; 2 bronze and bone; 5–8 bronze. Scale 1,3–4 = 1:3; other 1:2.

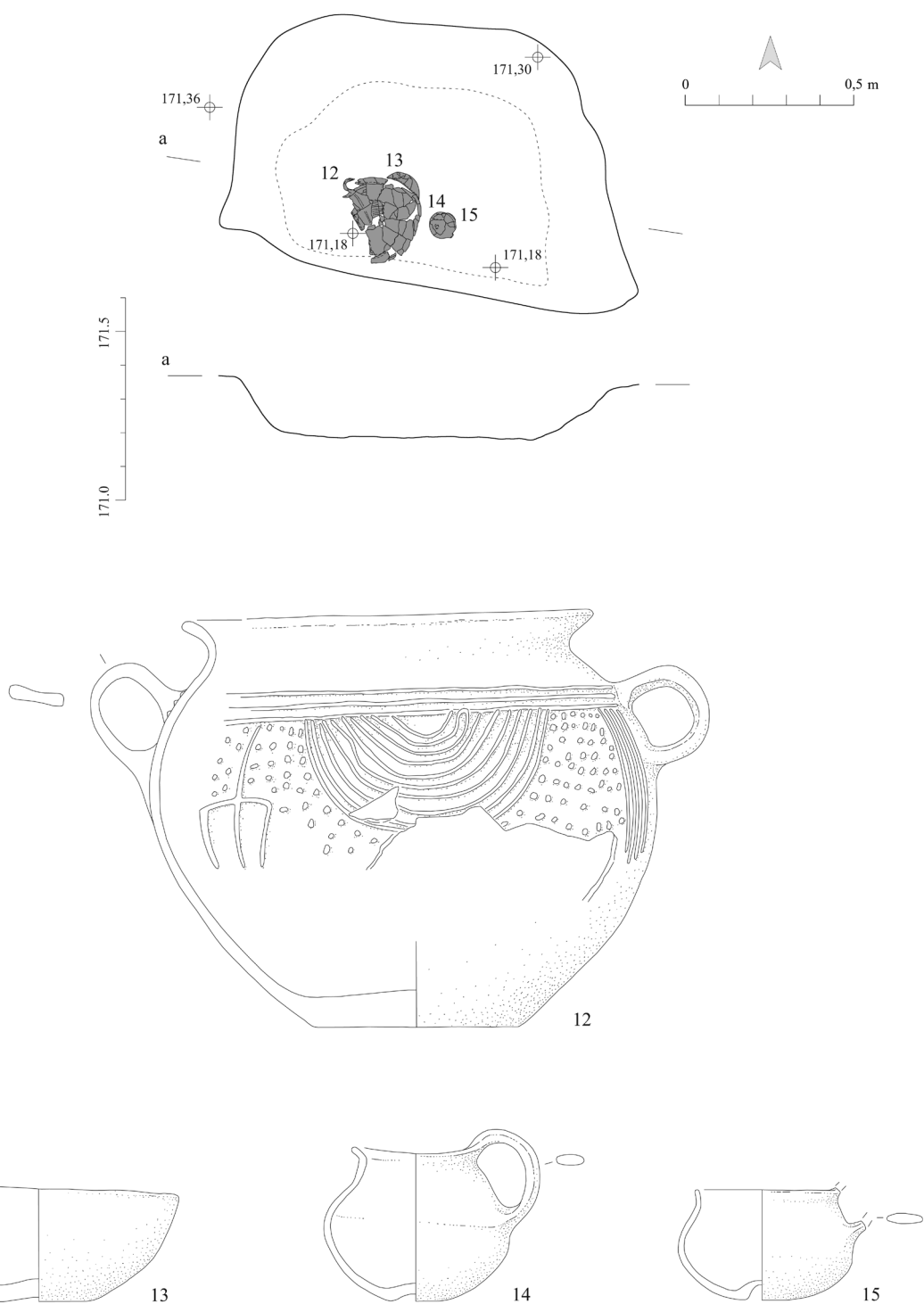
Gr. 30



T. 2: Sumerje pri Gornji Bistrici. Grob 30. Vse keramika. M. 9–10 = 1:4; 11 = 1:3.

Pl. 2: Sumerje near Gornja Bistrica. Grave 30. All ceramics. Scale 9–10 = 1:4; 11 = 1:3.

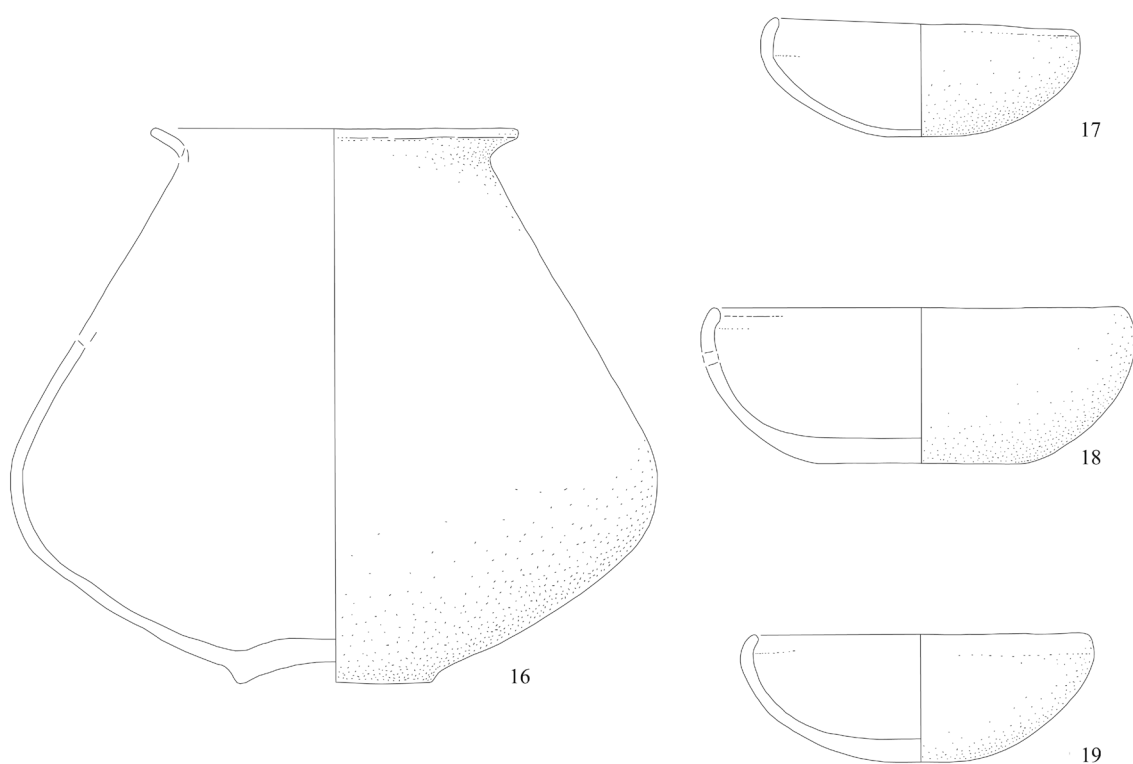
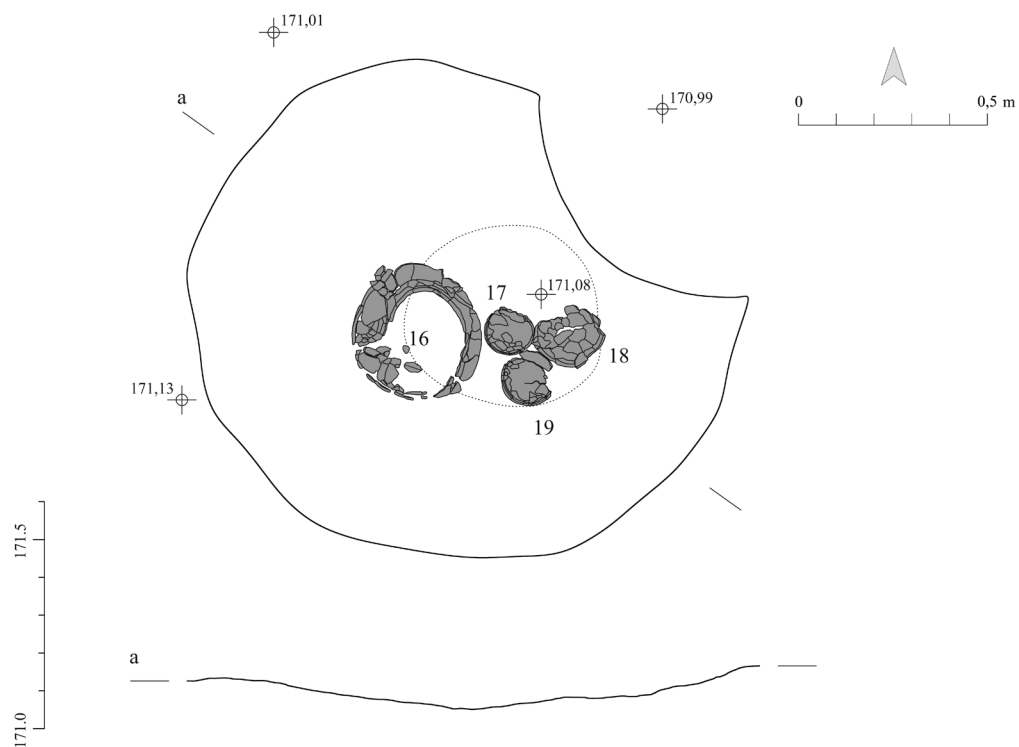
Gr. 41



T. 3: Sumerje pri Gornji Bistrici. Grob 41. Vse keramika. M. = 1:3.

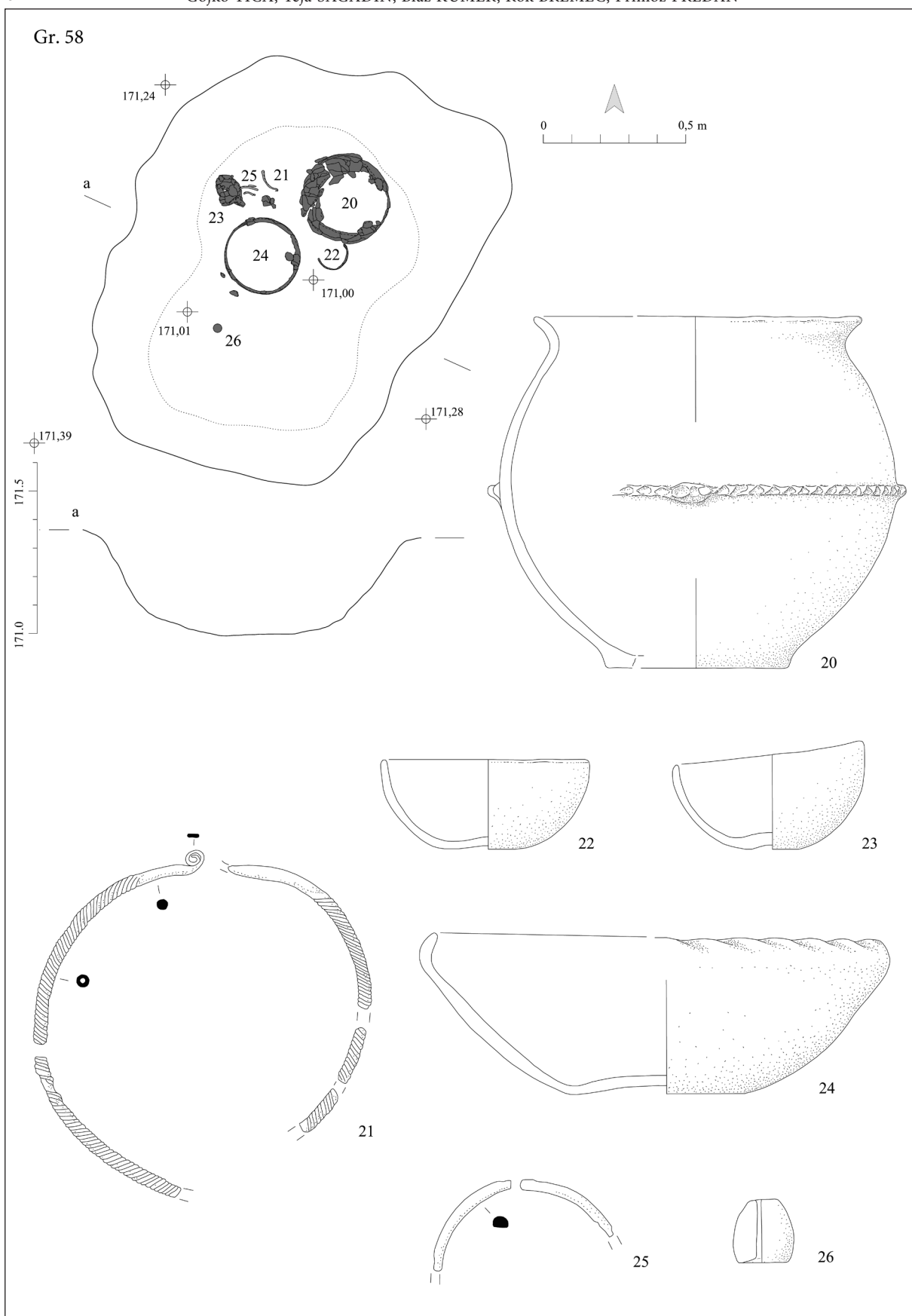
Pl. 3: Sumerje near Gornja Bistrica. Grave 41. All ceramics. Scale = 1:3.

Gr. 53



T. 4: Sumerje pri Gornji Bistrici. Grob 53. Vse keramika. M. 16 = 1:4; preostalo 1:3.

Pl. 4: Sumerje near Gornja Bistrica. Grave 53. All ceramics. Scale 16 = 1:4; other 1:3.



T. 5: Sumerje pri Gornji Bistrici. Grob 58. 20,22–24,26 keramika; 21,25 bron. M. 20 = 1:4; 21,25 = 1:2; preostalo 1:3.
 Pl. 5: Sumerje near Gornja Bistrica. Grave 58. 20,22–24, 26 ceramics; 21,25 bronze. Scale 20 = 1:4; 21, 25 = 1:2; other 1:3.