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ARCHAEOLOGICAL MATERIAL

THE GLAZED EARTHENWARE OF SUTOR/OPTATIANA

Abstract: We discuss herein the glazed earthenware fragments discovered at Sutor during the rescue archaeological excavations conducted between 2021 and 2022. We thus address several key aspects regarding the study of glazed ceramics and make a brief introduction to the production history of such vessel types. Furthermore, we present the main production technologies and their development over the course of the centuries. We highlight the rareness of these earthenware categories, which due to the complex production technology involved higher costs that placed them among Roman-date luxury wares. The presence of these ceramic categories in the *vicus* at Sutor seems to suggest there existed trade relations with some of the centres in Dacia and, possibly, with a number of centres outside the province.

Key words: *Sutor/Optatiana, Roman wares, lead glaze, production techniques.*

INTRODUCTION

The presence of the Roman fort and adjacent civil settlement at Sutor (Sălaj County) was reported as early as the mid-19th century, when K. Torma identified the fort for the first time, locating it on the left bank of the Almaş River at a site called “Gura Câpuşului”.¹ Moreover, K. Torma was the first to report the presence of Roman roads in the fort’s vicinity. Thus, he describes the route of the imperial road that linked *Napoca* to *Porolissum*, running through the civil settlement at Sutor, where the road branched off westerly, towards the village of Cuzăplac, making the connection to the fort of Bologa (*Resculum*). Added to this is another possible branch of the Roman road, which linked the fort at Sutor to that of Buciumi, which Torma hypothesized based on information received from the local inhabitants.² In what the fort’s civil settlement is concerned, Torma identifies it as the ancient *Optatiana*, present on *Tabula Peutingeriana*.³

Nevertheless, due to frequent flooding of the Almaş river and shifts of its course over time, the entire fort and civil settlement area was covered by silt, which made their location in the field impossible. A series of archaeological materials were reported following the drainage and road restoration works carried out subsequent to the 1980-flood. Based on these finds, N. Gudea made the first attempt to re-locate the fort within a synthesis work on the *limes* of Dacia.⁴ However, the accurate location of the fort in the field was successfully achieved only after the initiation of systematic archaeological

¹ TORMA 1863, 10.

² TORMA 1863, 20-21; TORMA 1880, 114-115.

³ TORMA 1880, 32, 119-121.

⁴ GUDEA 1997, 101-102, no. 96.

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investigations in the area, which began in 2001,⁵ the entire perimeter of the fort being subsequently identified following the excavation campaigns of 2002, 2006⁶ and 2008.⁷ During this period, research in the military *vicus* area was sporadic, resulting in minor finds. The only structure delimited in the fort's civil settlement until 2021 was the building of the military baths, identified in a 2001-sondage,⁸ extended later in 2014.⁹

Except for the above-mentioned archaeological investigations, the military *vicus* of Sutor remained largely unknown to the academic community until the commencement of the rescue excavations carried out prior to the construction of the A3 motorway, whose route partly overlapped the Roman *vicus*. The rescue excavations occurred between 2021 and 2022 and led to the identification and research of the civil settlement in the area northeast and east of the fort. During the first year of the archaeological campaign, the two Roman roads that crossed the settlement were identified, specifically, the imperial road running from *Napoca* and the secondary road running from *Bologa*. In addition, there were identified traces of wooden structures, a pottery firing kiln repurposed as a waste pit and the building of civil baths, fully excavated that year.¹⁰ Research was extended the following year and led to the identification of three new stone structures, of numerous pottery firing kilns, as well as of a new stretch of the *Bologa-Porolissum* Roman road that transited the area.¹¹ These finds resulted in the documentation of an extended crafting centre within the settlement, likely dating to the its first phase, which included numerous kiln clusters, where earthenware, lamps and possibly even some terracotta figurines¹² were produced. Beside the many discovered archaeological features, the rescue excavations performed at Sutor yielded a large amount of archaeological materials. Amongst count a series of glazed ceramics sherds, which shall be analysed in detail herein.

LEAD GLAZE, HISTORY AND PRODUCTION TECHNOLOGY

Prior to the analysis of the glazed vessels of Sutor, it is appropriate to review the history and production technology of this earthenware category. Glaze is a thin, amorphous layer formed during the cooling of a silica-based melt (a supercooled liquid) that develops on the surface of a ceramic product subsequent to firing or as a result of a reaction with a refractory material.¹³

Pottery glazing is a technique firstly used in Mesopotamia as early as the mid-2nd millennium BC in order to provide a specific gloss, applied to various ware categories, including that decorative architectural.¹⁴

Beginning with the second half of the 1st century BC, different centres in Syria and Asia Minor (Antioch, Mytilene (Lesbos), Tarsus, Perge, Smyrna/Izmir)¹⁵ began production of vessels coated with lead glaze.¹⁶ The innovation consisted in replacing plant ash or sodium carbonate-based flux with lead oxide (litharge) as a flux, in order to reduce the silica melting temperature to approximately 717°C (at a litharge content of 70% SiO₂).¹⁷

Asia Minor products are mentioned by Cicero in 50 BC in a letter to his friend, Atticus, under the term of *Rhosica vasa*, after the city of Rhosos where he served as governor.¹⁸ The technology diffuses to western Mediterranean¹⁹ as a result of the migration of some artisans,²⁰ vessels of the type starting to be produced in Italic workshops in the southern (Puteoli),²¹ central (Rome—Janiculum, Nuovo Mercato Testaccio)²² and northern regions (Po Valley, Ticino)²³ by late 1st century BC and early 1st century AD.²⁴ Once with the 1st century, these vessels would be found in the repertoire of workshops from southern Gaul²⁵ (Lyon, Saint-Romain-en-Gal, Vienne), central Gaul²⁶ (Vichy, St.-Rémy-en-Rollat, Gannat, Lezoux) and eastern Gaul, on the Rhine Valley.²⁷ From the second half of the 1st century AD and early 2nd century,²⁸ glazed earthenware begins manufacture in Spain,²⁹ Britannia (Usk/Caerleon, Holt/Chester),³⁰ Germania Superior,³¹ Moesia Superior (*Viminacium*),³² Moesia Inferior (*Ulpia, Oescus, Novae*,³³ *Durostorum*³⁴) and Pannonia (*Brigetio, Aquincum*,

¹⁴ The vitreous layer was obtained from the ash resulted from burning various plants, whose composition consisted of large sodium and potassium quantities mixed with the calcium and silica oxides (Na₂O, K₂O)-CaO-SiO₂. The addition of alkaline substances played the role of flux to decrease the melting temperature of silica from 1670-1723°C to 793° C and which do produce a coloured layer, they being applied on surfaces polychromed with mineral-based oxide engobes (WALTON 2004, 5; GREENE 2007, 653; GIRALT 2014, 9; DI FEBBO *et alii* 2018, 2121).

¹⁵ GOHIER 2018a, 30-31; CERDÁN/MORAIS/CABELLO 2019, 152.

¹⁶ HATCHER *et alii* 1994, 446; GREENE 2007, 653; WALTON/TITE 2010, 733.

¹⁷ PRADELL/MOLERA 2020.

¹⁸ GREENE 2007, 653, 656; CERDÁN/MORAIS/CABELLO 2019, 153.

¹⁹ WALTON 2004, 2.

²⁰ MACCABRUNI 1987, 171; TABORELLI 2011, 129.

²¹ CERDÁN 2017, 401-402.

²² GOHIER 2018a, 31, 106, Fig. 53. The glazed pottery production is also recorded in Sicily in the form of imitations of micro-Asian prototypes (GIANNOSSA *et alii* 2015).

²³ BAUMANN 2010, 127.

²⁴ GOHIER 2018a, 31.

²⁵ DESBAT 1986a, 33; RUSU-BOLINDEȚ 2007, 324; GREENE 2007, 660; GOHIER *et alii* 2018, 478.

²⁶ VERTET 1986.

²⁷ MUȘEȚEANU 1993, 232.

²⁸ WALTON 2004, 12.

²⁹ CERDÁN/MORAIS/CABELLO 2019, 155-156.

³⁰ ARTHUR 1978; GREENE 1977, 124; PEACOCK 1982, 64; WALTON 2004, 15.

³¹ BAUMANN 2010, 127.

³² WALTON/TITE 2010, 734, 141; JEREMIC *et alii* 2018; 141.

³³ KABAKCHIEVA 2018, 583.

³⁴ MUȘEȚEANU 1993.

⁵ ILIEȘ *et alii* 2002; ILIEȘ *et alii* 2002a.

⁶ ILIEȘ *et alii* 2007.

⁷ ILIEȘ *et alii* 2009.

⁸ ILIEȘ *et alii* 2002, 131-151.

⁹ COCIȘ *et alii* 2015, 134-137. For a wider description of the archaeological research conducted in the civil settlement during these years see COCIȘ/LĂZĂRESCU/SOCACIU 2022, 88-91.

¹⁰ GĂZDAC *et alii* 2021, 75-76; COCIȘ/LĂZĂRESCU/SOCACIU 2021, 228-231; COCIȘ/LĂZĂRESCU/SOCACIU 2022, 91-94.

¹¹ SOCACIU/LĂZĂRESCU/COCIȘ 2023, 86-90.

¹² SOCACIU/LĂZĂRESCU/COCIȘ 2023, 88-89; COCIȘ/LĂZĂRESCU/SOCACIU 2023, 200-201; SOCACIU/LĂZĂRESCU/COCIȘ 2023a, 170.

¹³ PRADELL/MOLERA 2020.

Sirmium),³⁵ particularly in areas rich in lead ore.³⁶ Lead oxide (litharge) is not found in natural state. It is a byproduct resulting from crafting activities that involved lead smelting³⁷ or from processing associated ores, specifically the reduction of galena (lead sulfide) PbS for silver extraction.³⁸

In Roman Dacia, production of glazed ceramics is documented at *Ampelum*,³⁹ *Micăsasa*,⁴⁰ likely *Ulpia Traiana Sarmizegetusa*⁴¹ and *Apulum*, evidenced by finds of artefacts, discarded pieces (wasters) and elements related to the production operation chain (such as kiln spacers and residues).⁴² After the first half of the 2nd century AD, other artefact classes such as lamps and figurines⁴³ also began to be glazed. Early Asia Minor and Italic products are characterised by mould-modelling,⁴⁴ so that later, glaze began to replace the red or black slip of wheel-thrown vessels specific to thinned-wall pottery decorated by incising, stamping or relief in the barbotine technique,⁴⁵ although the mould-casting technique was never entirely abandoned.⁴⁶

The production technology involves two working phases. In the first phase, recipients fired in the kiln at temperatures specific to common wares (ca. 900°C) in either a reducing or oxidising atmosphere are modelled and decorated. This process achieves dimensional stabilization (phase known as bisque firing (or *biscuit firing*)).⁴⁷

The next step consists in refiring the vessels at temperatures between 800–1000°C⁴⁸ without the need for specific temperature plateaus, as the clay body no longer undergoes major shrinkage, while the chemically and molecularly bound water had already been removed from composition.⁴⁹ The glaze contraction during cooling (ca. 500°C) must be less than that of the clay body as incompatibilities could lead to cracking and peeling of the vitreous layer.⁵⁰ Simultaneously, maximum temperature must be maintained for a longer duration in order to “mature” the glaze and remove the gases escaping between the clay body and the vitreous layer, which may cause defects such as porous surfaces, craters or pinholes.⁵¹

Another technique utilized starting with the second half of the 1st century AD consists of direct application of lead

oxide onto the bodies of unfired vessels, which is a specific signature of Gallic production and, later, of those in Danube related areas.⁵²

The litharge quantity represents 50–70% of the suspension volume, while the applied layer had to be relatively thick in order to ensure uniform coverage⁵³ and superior gloss.⁵⁴

The method to apply glaze on a fired clay body results in a much more homogeneous vitreous layer, free of cracks and distinctly visible in the shard section.⁵⁵ In contrast, if the glaze mixture is applied to an unfired clay body, the reaction between body and glaze is significant and results in the formation of crystals at body-glaze interface, which then fuse together.⁵⁶

Glaze obtained via the two-firing system is translucent, colour change being imparted by iron ions in the clay body, which offer different shades depending on the kiln firing atmosphere. Green and yellow intense hues are obtained by adding metal oxides to the solution, particularly iron and copper compounds, while depending on the nature and valence of metal ions (Fe²⁺, Fe³⁺, Cu²⁺, Cu⁺), crystals that absorb light differently form.⁵⁷ Fe³⁺ oxides yield yellow hues, while Fe²⁺ yields green. Copper imparts red or brown tints in a reducing atmosphere, green in the presence of oxygen⁵⁸ and an intense blue colour if alkalis are added to the suspension.⁵⁹ If the composition contains more iron than copper, the glaze colour will still be yellow.⁶⁰

Another precaution consists in avoiding contact between the vessels during firing, as molten glaze is viscous, tends to leak and causes the pieces to merge.⁶¹ This shortcoming was prevented by the use of firing supports. Spacers, interposed between the pottery pieces in order to achieve uniform firing conditions were extensively used in the production of *terra sigillata*,⁶² but their specific forms could only be partially adapted to the new requirements imposed by the vitreous layer.

Potters experimented with a series of methods to separate products in the attempt to stack these so that contact points were minimal. Techniques included using potsherds fixed inside sand-filled vessels,⁶³ three-armed wedges⁶⁴ and cylindrical supports on which vessels were placed mouth down.⁶⁵ Most common are circular spacers supported by three legs of varying sizes⁶⁶ or pottery cones.⁶⁷ In Dacia, pottery supports have been documented in *officinae* B and G

³⁵ NAGY 1945; BRUKNER 1981, 34; MUȘTEANU 1993, 132; WALTON/TITE 2010, 734; CERDÁN/MORAIS/CABELLO 2019, 154, Fig. 2.

³⁶ PEACOCK 1982, 64; BAUMANN 2010, 127.

³⁷ At Durostorum are recorded lead working workshops connected to earthenware glazing (BAUMANN 2010, 128, note 155).

³⁸ HODGES 1965, 444; CUOMO DI CAPRIO 2017, 263; DI FEBO *et alii* 2018.

³⁹ LIPOVAN 1983–1984; LIPOVAN 1990.

⁴⁰ MITROFAN 1990, 137, Fig. 33/3; 35/1; ANGHEL/TĂNĂSELIA/BOER 2021, 237, pl. I/3.

⁴¹ ALICU/SOROCEANU 1982; BENEĂ 2004, 210; RUSU-BOLINDEȚ 1995; RUSU-BOLINDEȚ 2007, 323.

⁴² ANGHEL *et alii* 2021; ANGHEL/NAGY/BALTEȘ 2022; ANGHEL 2023, 249–250.

⁴³ ALICU/SOROCEANU 1982, 55, pl. VI/1, 4–6; LIPOVAN 1983–1984; DESBAT 1986a; MARTIN 1995, 64.

⁴⁴ GREENE 2007, 653.

⁴⁵ DESBAT 1986a, 33; RUSU-BOLINDEȚ 2007, 323; BAUMANN 2010, 127.

⁴⁶ GREENE 1978; DESBAT 1986a; DESBAT 1986b.

⁴⁷ CUOMO DI CAPRIO 1985, 97–103; LIPOVAN 1990, 274; CUOMO DI CAPRIO 2017, 261, graph. 14. CERDÁN/MORAIS/CABELLO 2019, 152.

⁴⁸ CERDÁN/MORAIS/CABELLO 2019, 152; DI FEBO *et alii* 2018, 2121.

⁴⁹ CUOMO DI CAPRIO 2017, 331–332.

⁵⁰ TITE *et alii* 1998, 246.

⁵¹ HODGES 1965, 47; LIPOVAN 1990, 280; TITE *et alii* 1998, 246.

⁵² WALTON/TITE 2010, 754.

⁵³ WALTON 2004, 5, 16; 45–60%, after TITE *et alii* 1998, 242; 75% PbO and 25% SiO₂, after DI FEBO *et alii* 2018, 2119; 70% PbO + 30% SiO₂ after PRADELL/MOLERA 2020.

⁵⁴ CUOMO DI CAPRIO 2017, 264.

⁵⁵ CERDÁN/MORAIS/CABELLO 2019, 152.

⁵⁶ DE VITO *et alii* 2017, 1780.

⁵⁷ PRADELL/MOLERA 2020.

⁵⁸ DESBAT 1986a, 33; PRADELL/MOLERA 2020.

⁵⁹ HODGES 1965, 45.

⁶⁰ TEKKÖK *et alii* 2009, 5.

⁶¹ DOMŹALSKI 2003, 187.

⁶² LERAT/JEANNIN 1960, 7, Fig. 2; ANGHEL 2019.

⁶³ HÖPKEN 2003, 365, Fig. 1.

⁶⁴ PASSELAC 1992, 216, Fig. 3/8; 5/8; 6/2; 7/10; 10/7–9; 12–13.

⁶⁵ ORANSKY 2001, 52, Fig. 2/a.

⁶⁶ GOHIER 2018b, 206, 208, Fig. 3, 5.

⁶⁷ ANGHEL/NAGY/BALTEȘ 2022, 87, pl. III.

at *Apulum*⁶⁸ and Micăsasa, with lead residues also originating from these contexts.⁶⁹

The production of glazed earthenware during the 2nd–3rd century AD represented a secondary activity of the Roman *officinae*, its magic consisting in the resemblance with the shine or patina of metalware and the fact that vessel walls were waterproof.⁷⁰ The large quantity of litharge required to prepare the suspension limited the areas where production could unfold and the requirement of two firings for the same product, involving additional precautions, resulted in expensive and likely less accessible products.⁷¹ Constraints related to the manufacturing operation chain are evidenced by the extremely low frequency of glazed earthenware discovered in most Roman-date sites throughout the Roman empire during the 1st century BC–3rd century AD.⁷²

Many of the pieces duplicate metal or glass-made vessels, interpreted according to the artisan's inspiration that in some cases, acquired the character of a “unique”⁷³ object. Their rareness made them a “luxury product”,⁷⁴ which also lead to a wider dispersion of vessels that stand out by their higher workmanship quality in various centres. Thus, Asia Minor products diffuse throughout the Mediterranean basin⁷⁵ and the northern Black Sea region (*Moesia Inferior*),⁷⁶ while Italic products reached southern Gaul,⁷⁷ the Iberian Peninsula, Britain⁷⁸ and northern Pannonia.⁷⁹ These are found as objects that mirror the social standing in graves from the Germanic peoples' territories north of the Rhine.⁸⁰ Vessels manufactured in workshops from Central Gaul⁸¹ and the Rhineland (Cologne)⁸² were exported to Belgica and Britannia, yet their numbers remained limited.

On the other hand, the limited production of smaller workshops or of individual potters, such as Caius Iulius Proculus of *Ampelum*,⁸³ resulted in a regional distribution of their products, quantitatively restricted, while the little information renders difficult the establishment of the place of origin based solely on typological interpretations. To date, no definitive imports from the Eastern Mediterranean or products from Gallic workshops have been identified in Dacia. The only piece that may be ascribed, with certain reservations, to Italic workshops is a *lanx* fragment bearing the CRISPINVS stamp, discovered at *Tibiscum*.⁸⁴

⁶⁸ CIAUȘESCU 2004, 321, Fig. 7-8; ANGHEL/TĂNĂSELIA/BOER 2021, 247, pl. I/4; ANGHEL *et alii* 2021, 11, Fig. 3; ANGHEL 2023, 237, pl. VI/5-7.

⁶⁹ MITROFAN 1990, 137, Fig. 33/3; 35/1; ANGHEL/CIULAVU/BOUNEGRU 2021, 135; ANGHEL/NAGY/BALTEȘ 2022b, 99.

⁷⁰ CERDÁN/MORAIS/CABELLO 2019, 152.

⁷¹ RUSU-BOLINDEȚ 2007, 322; HÖPKEN *et alii* 2009, 130.

⁷² DESBAT 1986a, 33; MARTIN 1995, 63.

⁷³ BÓNIS 24, 1990; MARTIN 64, 1995; CERDÁN 383, 2017; MACCABRUNI 168, 1987, note 9.

⁷⁴ MACCABRUNI 1987, 174; CERDÁN 2017, 384.

⁷⁵ CERDÁN 2017, 397; CERDÁN/MORAIS/CABELLO 2019, 159-160, Fig. 4-6.

⁷⁶ KABAKCHIEVA 2018, 582.

⁷⁷ GOHIER 2018a, 65-73.

⁷⁸ CERDÁN 2017, 385.

⁷⁹ BÓNIS 24, 1990, Fig. 1.

⁸⁰ KREKOVICI 1991.

⁸¹ GREENE 1978.

⁸² MONAGHAN 1997, 882-883, Fig. 325-326; HÖPKEN *et alii* 2009.

⁸³ LIPOVAN 1983-1984; LIPOVAN 1990.

⁸⁴ BENE 2004, 204, no. 1, Fig. 3/6.

The find context

The items discussed here were almost exclusively yielded by the rescue excavations conducted at Sutor in 2022 (Pl. I). Only a single platter fragment (cat. no. 13) was discovered in 2021 during the earth removal phase of the area near the Bologa–*Porolissum* Roman road. The other analysed examples mostly originate from the filling of irregular pits that likely served as refuse pits. The filling of these pits generally consisted of various pottery fragments and animal bones, suggestive of their use as waste pits. Three of the analysed fragments (cat. nos. 5, 8, 14) come from the filling of the same pit (feature 1856), beside numerous other pottery fragments, including stamped pottery. From a similar context (feature 1206) comes a glazed bowl (cat. no. 11), discovered beside other archaeological materials, including a bronze knee brooch of type Cociș 19a1b1b, dated starting with the period between the reign of Trajan until approximately the second half of the 2nd century AD.⁸⁵ Beside the variety of materials and animal bones discovered, the refuse nature of this feature is also suggested by the find of a small fragment from the aforementioned glazed bowl in the filling of another waste pit (feature 1172), located several meters to the south. Regarding the dating of these features, the presence of an early brooch in the filling of a waste pit appears to indicate a relatively early date of their filling, thus framing sometime during the first development phases of the settlement, when, as already mentioned, an extensive crafting centre developed and operated there. Nevertheless, there is no specific indication that would confirm a certain relationship between respective features and therefore, their contemporaneity with the pit that contained the mentioned brooch remains merely a working hypothesis.

Out of the pieces discussed herein, only a single fragment originates from a more complex archaeological feature. This is a fragment of a small hemispherical bowl (cat. no. 10), discovered in a rectangular feature (4.96 × 2.38 m) interpreted as a possible house (feature 4334). Various archaeological materials were recovered from the filling of this feature, including glass and iron fragments, as well as various potshards, including a *terra sigillata* fragment and two fragments of a terracotta figurine.⁸⁶ In what the dating of the feature is concerned, there are no materials to allow a more restricted chronological framing, which places it within the general timeframe of Roman rule in Dacia.

Discussion

The excavations carried out at Sutor yielded fifteen glazed pieces, either fragmentary or restorable, of a wide typological and technological diversity.

The largest sample of glazed pottery produced by the Roman potters consists of drinking wares, one or two-handled cups, imitations of *skyphos* or *kantharos* types adopted from the repertoire of thin-walled wares or imitations of vessels made of other materials.

⁸⁵ COCIȘ 2004, 89-90.

⁸⁶ SOCACIU/LĂZĂRESCU/COCIȘ 2023a, 165, 176-177, nos. 26-27.

A common feature of many of the items is represented by the truncate cone base, hollow on the inside and the short foot (cat. nos. 3–4), which is also the part of recipients best preserved due to their bulkiness.⁸⁷ Another dominant feature of the glazed ceramics is the decoration made in the barbotine technique, set in the form of “pine needles” or “fish scales”, in some cases these motifs predominating on this vessel category.⁸⁸

Four of the pieces discovered at Sutor may be classified as *kantharos* imitations, three of which exhibit the specificities of thin-walled wares, the recipients being small-sized (cat. nos. 1–2, 4). To these also add three fragments (a base and two handles) that cannot be ascribed to a specific form (cat. nos. 3, 5–6).

The inspiration source is represented by the Hellenistic *kantharoi* produced after mid-3rd century BC,⁸⁹ a form transmitted via metal wares, although earthenware reproductions are few and their interpretation is rather varied (including versions of Dragendorff VII and Dragendorff VIII forms,⁹⁰ or of items in the thin-walled wares class).⁹¹ Glazed *kantharoi* are documented at *Aventicum*,⁹² the Athenian Agora⁹³ and Tienen (Belgium)⁹⁴ and are infrequent pieces.

In Dacia, glazed *kantharoi* of relatively similar forms are recorded at Ghirbom (Alba County)⁹⁵ and *Ulpia Traiana Sarmizegetusa*,⁹⁶ while an imitation of glass vessels (Isings 38c type)⁹⁷ was found at *Napoca*.⁹⁸

A relatively large number of complete and fragmentary examples originate from *Apulum*, some being discarded pieces discovered in *officina G*, being crafted in a manner similar to the exemplars of Sutor in terms of form and decoration.⁹⁹ Differences lie in the fact that the vessels of *Apulum* are decorated on the neck with parallel vertical incisions, rarely horizontal, while the rim edge is plain, such decoration being specific to other cup categories produced in this centre, particularly *skyphos* replicas.¹⁰⁰

Still in the class of *kantharos* imitations is a three-handled large vessel to which conical-shaped protrusions are applied to both the upper part and base (cat. no. 7).

Similar two or three-handled exemplars, unglazed, are frequent and produced for a prolonged period in Moesia,¹⁰¹

Pannonia¹⁰² and Dacia¹⁰³ during the 2nd–3rd centuries AD, some vessels being also decorated using various techniques.¹⁰⁴

Starting with the 4th century, this form, yet glaze-coated, becomes highly frequent south of the Danube.¹⁰⁵

This vessel stands out by the presence of applied decoration and a more vertically modelled ringfoot compared to unglazed examples. Other peculiarities consist of high-quality, deep green glaze, homogenous, lacking the micro-fissures present on local pottery.¹⁰⁶ Most glazed exemplars in Dacia,¹⁰⁷ Moesia Inferior,¹⁰⁸ Moesia Superior¹⁰⁹ and Pannonia¹¹⁰ exhibit olive-yellow, brown and yellowish-brown hues, associated with a fabric fired in mixed or predominantly reducing atmosphere, the glaze being applied on the unfired vessel. In this case, glaze was clearly applied on the fired ceramic body, the deep colour being achieved through the addition of copper oxides. Glazes of deep green hues associated with a fabric fired in an oxidizing atmosphere are specific to glazed pottery of the Rhineland.¹¹¹ A *kantharos* of a similar form, provided with two handles and decorated with applied motifs¹¹² also originates from Cologne, its technological peculiarities being similar to those of the item from Sutor. Furthermore, several fragments of richly decorated *kantharoi* using various techniques (applied motifs, barbotine technique) are documented still in the Rhineland, characterised by the same previously mentioned technological parameters.¹¹³ Decorated *kantharoi* produced in these workshops were also discovered at Tienen (Belgium)¹¹⁴ and York (Britannia), being dated to early 3rd century AD.¹¹⁵ A similar piece, undecorated and two-handled was discovered at Arles-Rhône and is framed between late 1st century and mid-2nd century AD.¹¹⁶ Technological peculiarities and size parameters similar to this example are also present in an undeterminable fragment discovered also at Sutor (cat. no. 15).

Two handles, which belong to small-sized vessels (cat. nos. 5–6) may also be included in the cup category.

Decorating handles with rectangular or oval profiles in the barbotine technique is a common practice for vessels in this class. Circular handles are less frequent, with just a single cup discovered at *Alburnus Maior* (the cemetery of Tăul Secuilor/Pârâul Porcului).¹¹⁷

⁸⁷ ANGHEL *et alii* 2021, cat. no. 31–35.

⁸⁸ ANGHEL/NAGY/BALTEȘ 2022, 99.

⁸⁹ EDWARDS 1975, 87, pl. 16/802.

⁹⁰ BÓNIS 1942, 44, pl. XIX/2; SCHÖRGENDORFER 1942, 207, form 536; BELTRÁN LLORIS 1990, 40, Fig. 13/105–106.

⁹¹ RICCI 1985, 260, pl. LXXXIII/1.

⁹² CASTELLA/MEYLAN-KRAUSE 1994, 43, no. 112.

⁹³ Late 1st century BC, first half of the 1st century AD (HAYES 2008, 58, Fig. 28/881).

⁹⁴ MARTENS 2004, 34, Fig. 9,3.

⁹⁵ ANGHEL *et alii* 2021, cat.no. 13.

⁹⁶ ALICU/SOROCEANU 1982, 56, pl. II/4.

⁹⁷ ISINGS 1957, 54.

⁹⁸ RUSU-BOLINDEȚ 2007, 324–325, no. 396, pl. LXXIV.

⁹⁹ ANGHEL *et alii* 2021, cat.nos. 14, 15, ANGHEL/NAGY/BALTEȘ 2022, 91, pl. IV/8–10.

¹⁰⁰ ANGHEL *et alii* 2021, cat.nos. 9–10

¹⁰¹ NIKOLIĆ *et alii* 2023, 84, Fig. 19c.

¹⁰² BRUKNER 1981, 188, T. 103; T. 105

¹⁰³ Apulum (CIAUȘESCU 2004, 325, no. 63–64; ANGHEL/CIULAVU/BOUNEGRU 2021, 132, pl. IX/3a; MOGA *et alii* 2007, 93, cat.nos. 93, 99, cat.no. 121); Cristești (RUSU-BOLINDEȚ/BOTIȘ 2018, 97, cat.nos. 247–248); Gârla Mare (HAMAT 2018, 182, Fig. 12/1, 8); Ilișua (PROTASE *et alii* 1997, XLVII/5; L/7–8; RUSU-BOLINDEȚ *et alii* 2018, 44, cat.co. 97); Napoca (RUSU-BOLINDEȚ/BOTIȘ 2018, 47, cat.no. 106); Tibiscum (ARDEȚ 2009, 106–107, pl. LX–LXIII).

¹⁰⁴ NIKOLIĆ *et alii* 2023, 84, Fig. 18a–18c; 19a–19c.

¹⁰⁵ NÁDORFI 47, 1992, pl. II; KÖLCZE 22, 2018, table 1, Fig. 3.

¹⁰⁶ ANGHEL/TÂNĂSELIA/BOER 2021.

¹⁰⁷ ANGHEL *et alii* 2021.

¹⁰⁸ MUȘTEANU 1993.

¹⁰⁹ NIKOLIĆ *et alii* 2023, 33–34.

¹¹⁰ BARKÓCZI 1992.

¹¹¹ HÖPKEN *et alii* 2009.

¹¹² HÖPKEN *et alii* 2009, 138, Abb. 8.

¹¹³ HÖPKEN *et alii* 2009, 136–138, Abb. 7.

¹¹⁴ MARTENS 2004, 34, Abb. 9,3.

¹¹⁵ MONAGHAN 1997, 882–883, Fig. 325–326.

¹¹⁶ GOHIER 2018a, 399, pl. 148, type 6.6.

¹¹⁷ RUSU-BOLINDEȚ/BOTIȘ 2018, 58, cat.no. 135.

Bowls and tureens are also vessel categories frequently found among the lead-glazed earthenware. At Sutor were identified four fragments and one restorable vessel of different types, ranging from hemispherical forms to biconical vessels (cat. nos. 8–12).

Some of the exemplars are fragmentary, therefore their interpretation is possible only in part. In this class is included a tureen rim fragment (cat. no. 8) provided with a twisted handle and a triangular-shaped protome applied vertically on the rim.

A twisted handle originated from *Ulpia Traiana Sarmizegetusa*,¹¹⁸ with counterparts among the glazed ceramics manufactured in central Italy starting with late 1st century AD until early 3rd century AD¹¹⁹ and in southern Gaul during the 2nd century AD.¹²⁰ Protome application on handles is also encountered on glazed specimens produced in the workshop of Caius Iulius Proclus at *Ampelum*,¹²¹ yet the style and glaze specificities are different.

A bowl fragment rendering the shape of a seashell valve (cat. no. 9) is still a transposition into pottery of vessels originally made of metal¹²² or glass.¹²³ Items that faithfully duplicate containers made of other materials are produced by mould-pressing, a vessel of the type being documented at *Aventicum*.¹²⁴ In the case of the Sutor fragment, decoration is rendered by wide incisions made on the interior of the vessel. In Dacia, finds of glazed vessels decorated in the same technique have been reported at *Apulum* (a fragment dated to the first half of the 2nd century AD) and Micăsasa (two fragments with a general dating).¹²⁵

A rim fragment of a small bowl, decorated with oval impressions and on both the exterior and interior with horizontal incisions (cat. no. 10), also belongs to the class of thin-walled wares. This bowl type is widely distributed,¹²⁶ some specimens being glazed,¹²⁷ representing in such cases a customised model made by a specific potter. In Dacia, similar bowls were produced in the *Ampelum*¹²⁸ workshop, however the making technique, fabric and colour of the vitreous layer are different.

The most interesting piece discovered at Sutor is a biconical bowl with a decorated upper section, featuring two applied ornamental handles attached to the vessel body, imitating metalware lugs (cat. no. 11). The shape, however, is uncommon to pottery vessels and we have been unable to identify any correspondences within metalware examples. The glaze is homogenous and of very high quality, differing from that of most exemplars produced in Dacia (the workshops at *Ampelum* and *Apulum*), with similarities with

that present on a *kantharos* discovered at Berghin, which is also a “unique” piece within the ensemble of this ceramic category.¹²⁹

A form less commonly found among lead-glazed vessel types produced in the Roman empire during the 1st–3rd century AD is represented by *mortarium*-type vessels, evidenced at Sutor still by a single fragment (cat. no. 12).

Alike other ceramic classes, *mortarium*, *pelves* are an adoption and adaptation of forms developed in the Aegean region (Corinth), from where they diffuse throughout the Mediterranean basin.¹³⁰ Their production in the Italian Peninsula¹³¹ is attested starting from the 3rd century BC. They are made of coarse or semi-fine fabric, typical of common wares intended for to grind grains¹³² and plain *terra sigillata* (Drag. 43, Drag. 45, Ritterling 12, Curle 11 and Curle 21), being used for mixing and pouring various products. Glazed *mortaria* were produced in the workshops of central Italy during the 2nd–3rd century AD, however they are relatively rare.¹³³ Small bowls that reproduce the specific *mortarium* shape were manufactured in the Iberian Peninsula.¹³⁴ A *mortarium* fragment with flange decorated in the barbotine technique is attested in Pannonia at *Gorsium* and may be attributed to workshops operating at *Aquincum*,¹³⁵ while another vessel was found in Moesia Superior at *Viminacium Margum*.¹³⁶ During the late Roman period, large-size *mortaria* coated with lead glaze¹³⁷ would be mass-produced in centres across Raetia, Moesia and Pannonia.

The only exemplar of the type known to date in Dacia originates from *Apulum*,¹³⁸ being discovered in a context that may be dated to early 2nd century AD, framing in Ritterling 12 type, a *mortarium* variant specific to workshops in Southern Gaul.¹³⁹ The small sizes of the vessel of Sutor correspond to a container used to prepare various potions.

Platters are represented by a single exemplar, an imitation of form Drag. 39 in the *terra sigillata* repertoire, a platter (*lanx*), oval-shaped, rarely circular or rectangular, characterized by two large, decorated handles and occasionally transversally perforated.

These platters were originally produced in Central Gaul starting with the first half of the 2nd century AD,¹⁴⁰ the form being adopted from the repertoire of metal¹⁴¹ or glass¹⁴² vessels. They represent the only recipient type in the relief-decorated *terra sigillata* produced using a convex mould, a fact that makes them easy to copy and multiply. This type of platter is a common form in Dacia, found among both glazed and unglazed pieces.

¹²⁹ ANGHEL *et alii* 2021, cat. no. 13.

¹³⁰ VILLING/PEMBERTON 2010, 556; ESPINOSA 2011, 285.

¹³¹ RUSU-BOLINDEȚ 2007, 407.

¹³² CRAMP/EVERSHED/ECKARDT 2011, 1341.

¹³³ GOHIER 2018a, 346, pl.122.

¹³⁴ BELTRÁN LLORIS 1990, 185, pl. 93/855, type López XIb.

¹³⁵ BARKÓCZI 1992, 21, Abb. 35.

¹³⁶ NIKOLIĆ *et alii* 2023, 270, no. III/96.

¹³⁷ BJELAJAC 1995; CVJETIĆANIN 2006, 22–32; RUSU-BOLINDEȚ 2007, 408.

¹³⁸ Novel (forthcoming).

¹³⁹ BELTRÁN LLORIS 1990, 90, Fig. 41/343; DELAGE 2010, 63.

¹⁴⁰ BELTRÁN LLORIS 1990, Fig. 39/313.

¹⁴¹ BIENERT 2007, 182–184.

¹⁴² ISINGS 1957, 117; WELKER 1985, 55.

¹¹⁸ ALICU/SOROCLEANU 1982, 56, pl. I/2.

¹¹⁹ GOHIER 2018a, 178, 179, 187, pl. 23/108, 116; 47/242–243.

¹²⁰ GOHIER 2018a, 197, pl. 73/376.

¹²¹ LIPOVAN 1990, 288, no. 22, 23, 26, Fig. 8/5–6; 9/2; ANGHEL *et alii* 2021, cat. nos. 77–78.

¹²² TASSINARI 1993, type N. 2100; JEIIEHA 1995, 184, T. 1/1a.

¹²³ ISINGS 1957, 18, type 3 bowl.

¹²⁴ CASTELLA/MEYLAN-KRAUSE 1994, 59, tip. 183.

¹²⁵ Novel, forthcoming (Dan Anghel, *Ceramica glazurată din Dacia*).

¹²⁶ RICCI 1985, tav. XCIII–XCIV.

¹²⁷ GOHIER 2018a, pl. 98/525; pl. 105/556; pl. 125/ type 3.3.1

¹²⁸ LIPOVAN 1990 287, no. 10, Fig. 7/6; ANGHEL *et alii* 2021, cat.nos. 60, 67.

Glazed vessels with the same type of rim decoration are known at Micăsasa (decorated on the interior with a fish),¹⁴³ where a mould for this type of container was also discovered¹⁴⁴ and at *Tibiscum* (two pieces).¹⁴⁵ From *Apulum* come several platters discovered in the southern cemetery,¹⁴⁶ the inventory of *officina* G¹⁴⁷ and the southern area of the *canabae*.¹⁴⁸ A fragment originating from the waste pit of the workshop at *Apulum* is identical in firing, sizes and colour to the exemplar here. A glazed piece with a more elaborate decoration, with a partially surviving handle, is documented in the fort at Bologa.¹⁴⁹ Glazed platters of the Drag. 39 type were also produced in Moesia Inferior (*Durostorum*),¹⁵⁰ Moesia Superior (*Viminacium Margum*¹⁵¹ and *Singidunum*)¹⁵² and Germania Inferior.¹⁵³ A *lanx*, dated to the Hadrianic period, was discovered in a burial at *Aquincum*.¹⁵⁴ Each centre distinguishes itself through the production of specific forms that are not found in neighboring areas. In the case of the specimens from Dacia, the crafting manner is similar to the vessel of *Aquincum*. Moreover, glazed forms of Drag. 39 type are absent or very rare in the repertoire of workshops of the Italian Peninsula,¹⁵⁵ Gaul,¹⁵⁶ the Iberian Peninsula¹⁵⁷ or Britannia.¹⁵⁸

TECHNOLOGICAL DETAILS

Most of the pieces exhibit micro-fissures and glaze “bubbling” (a spongy appearance) as a result of applying it directly onto the unfired clay, making in these cases, the fusion of the glaze into the clay body obvious. Exceptions are two exemplars (the three-handled *kantharos* and a similar atypical fragment), which exhibit a homogeneous vitreous layer and limited crazing.

Reduced atmosphere (cat. no. 11) or mixed firing (cat. nos. 1-5; 9-10; 12-14) predominate, evidenced by a very thin oxidised layer formed on the exterior of the sherd in the contact area with the glaze. Uniform oxidizing firing is present in four fragments (cat. nos. 6-8; 15).

The biconical bowl exhibits the same distinct glaze layer, yet of a smaller thickness. The item is also notable for the ceramic residues on its base, resulting from the vessel sticking to the kiln floor during firing and its subsequent forced removal.

¹⁴³ MITROFAN 1990, 138, Fig. 36/1; MITROFAN 1995, 9, pl. 21/2; MITROFAN/POP 1996, 23, Pl. XXIV/293; RUSU-BOLINDEȚ/BOTIȘ 2018, cat.no. 302.

¹⁴⁴ MITROFAN 1990, 177, pl. 16/3; RUSU-BOLINDEȚ 2016, 286, Fig. XV, Fig. 8.

¹⁴⁵ BENEĂ 2004, Fig. 4/1, 3.

¹⁴⁶ BOLOG 2017, 47, Pl. 58; BOUNEGRU *et alii* 2021, 111, pl. I/2; ANGHEL *et alii* 2021, cat.no. 44.

¹⁴⁷ ANGHEL/CIULAVU/BOUNEGRU 2021, 135, pl. XV/9; ANGHEL *et alii* 2021, cat.no. 45.

¹⁴⁸ Unpublished (forthcoming).

¹⁴⁹ GUDEA 1990, 157, Taf. 2/2.

¹⁵⁰ MUȘEȚEANU 1993, 242, cat.no. 13–14, pl. III/13–14; RUSU-BOLINDEȚ/BOTIȘ 2018, cat.no. 816-817.

¹⁵¹ NIKOLIĆ *et alii* 2023, 252, type III/23.

¹⁵² NIKOLIĆ-ĐORĐEVIĆ 2000, type III/23; III/36.

¹⁵³ <https://www.antike-tischkultur.de/keramikglasurrheinisch.html>.

¹⁵⁴ BARKÓCZI 1992, 7.

¹⁵⁵ MARTIN 1995; GOHIER 2018a, 332-332, Fig. 112-113.

¹⁵⁶ VILVORDER 2010.

¹⁵⁷ BELTRÁN LLORIS 1990, 187-188.

¹⁵⁸ ARTHUR 1978.

Also evident is a glaze leak in the form of a drip that trickled down to the base of a cup foot during firing, a phenomenon frequently encountered in glazed ceramics.¹⁵⁹ Also common are light yellowish stains caused by the inhomogeneous composition of the litharge suspension, a technological flaw frequently found on the glazed earthenware from Dacia.

DETERMINATION OF THE CHEMICAL COMPOSITION

A group of five pieces have been non-invasively investigated through X-ray fluorescence (XRF)¹⁶⁰ using a pXRF Bruker Tracer 5i spectrometer (beryllium window, 8 mm collimator, without filters or controlled atmosphere, 60-second exposure: 30 sec. at 45kV/8μA, 30 sec. at 20kV/13μA) (Table I). While this method is only partially applicable to the study of archaeological pottery, it provides a database that, alongside the archaeological information offered by the object, may aid to confirm or refute certain hypotheses.

The working methodology is based on the comparative analysis aimed at identifying similarities and differences between the proportions of different chemical elements present in the pottery fabric of each object and their comparison with archaeological artefacts. Significant differences between the identified elements are taken into account, as well as the presence of common features specific only to certain analysed samples.

Table I.

mg/kg	s1	s2	s4	s5	s6
Mg	15183	14347	4918	34359	17242
Al	132844	67223	219056	37939	149852
Si	243419	254116	272425	204386	249598
P	757	285	1842	66	572
S	<LOD	<LOD	<LOD	61024	<LOD
K	137	2341	<LOD	1262	156
Ca	<LOD	<LOD	<LOD	1241	<LOD
V	24	32	19	18	12
Fe	<LOD	5317	<LOD	2353	<LOD
Ni	28	32	34	24	<LOD
Cu	<LOD	<LOD	<LOD	133	1054
Zn	292	257	240	187	260
Pb	224728	90765	208560	153564	271952
Sr	1409	590	1281	728	1501
Zr	9056	1343	12962	1876	13572
Cd	32587	8255	38544	11125	43636
Sn	9631	2375	14476	7292	17381
Hg	337	153	603	102	411

¹⁵⁹ ANGHEL/TĂNĂSELIA/BOER 2021.

¹⁶⁰ Analyses were performed within INCDO-INOE 2000 Cluj Branch of the Research Institute for ICIA Analytical Instrumenting courtesy of dr. Claudiu Tănăsolia.

The analyses confirm that a lead-based (Pb) emulsion was applied onto the clay body (Mg, Al, Si). In some cases, the high amount of silica and the amorphous structure of the vitreous layer impede the determination of certain elements, like for instance Fe, present in the composition of the ceramic body and/or the glaze (S1, S4, S6). Concurrently, a massive presence of copper (Cu) is noted in the composition of the emulsion used to glaze the three-handled *kantharos* (S6) and in smaller quantities in the case of the biconical bowl, these being the only items where Cu was identified. The calcium absence evidences the use of non-calcareous clays (Ca<5%), which is a specific signature of Gallic productions and of centres in the Danube region, glaze being applied directly onto the unfired ceramic body.¹⁶¹

The remaining determined values are variable and groups specific to one category or another cannot be observed.

CONCLUSIONS

The majority of the glazed earthenware of Sutor frames within the known typology of vessels manufactured in the workshops of Dacia and/or Pannonia, with close parallels existing in particular with the products of the *officinae* at *Apulum*. On the other hand, there are also pieces of a different provenance, which, in the current state of research, cannot be securely ascribed to a specific centre. Of real use in this endeavour would be the determination of lead isotopes in order to identify raw material sources (litharge) used to prepare the suspension.

Nevertheless, the presence of these vessel categories in the military *vicus* of Sutor is further indicative of the extensive economic activity that occurred in this centre. Moreover, it also suggests there existed trade relations with other centres in Dacia Porolissensis, particularly with *Apulum*, and possibly even with centres outside Dacia.

CATALOGUE

1. Cup (*kantharos*): Fragment of the maximum diameter area. Surviving the junction part of the walls, decorated in the barbotine technique with a “fish scale” motif set horizontally. In the upper part is present another point of profile change (Pl. II/1).

The fabric is fine, with very fine mica inclusions.

Firing in a reduced atmosphere on the interior and oxidised layers on the exterior of the ceramic body.

Yellowish-brown lead glaze (Munsell 10YR 5/6).

Dimensions: L. 35 mm; W. 16 mm.

Context: Sutor 2022, Sup. 2A; Feature 4630; SF. 1035; 13.10.2022.

2. Cup (*kantharos*): Surviving two fragments of the same vessel with biconical profile, cylindrical neck and a wide rim in the form of profiled sleeve on the exterior. The outer edge of the rim is decorated with three parallel incisions, while on the interior it is arched, tracing the exterior profile. The transition towards the neck is slightly diagonal, with two fine horizontal grooves present at the junction point. The body is decorated in the barbotine technique with horizontally set brace-shaped motifs, glaze in this area exhibiting a firing defect. Below the maximum diameter, there are two horizontal parallel incisions. The recipient is part of the

category of thin-walled pottery of very good quality, with a ceramic body thickness ranging between 1.5 and 2.2 mm (Pl. II/2).

The fabric is fine, with fine mica flakes.

The firing is mixed, black on the interior and a superficial red layer on the exterior.

Brownish-green lead glaze (Munsell 2.5Y 5/4), with light flecks in shades varying from yellow to reddish-brown, fused into the ceramic body.

Dimensions: Rim D. 96 mm.

Context: Sutor 2022; Sup. 2B; Feature 2148; SF. 580; 4.08.2022.

3. Cup base: Truncated cone shape, hollow on the interior, decorated above the edge with a horizontal incision. At foot base, it exhibits a horizontal rib that marks the transition to the recipient's body. The lower part of the base is profiled (Pl. II/3).

The fabric is fine, with mica inclusions. The firing is predominantly reducing with an oxidised layer on the exterior.

Dark-brown lead glaze (Munsell 7.5YR 6/6) and light-coloured spots (Munsell 2.5Y 8/4). A glaze leak formed on the upper edge of the foot, having trickled down during the vessel firing.

Dimensions: D. 65 mm; H. 53 mm; Stem D. 39 mm.

Context: Sutor 2022; Sup. 2A; Feature 4666; SF. 1023; 12.10.2022.

4. Cup base (*kantharos*?): Lower part of a cup with a truncated cone-shaped base, slightly flared edge, decorated with an incision. The lower part of the base, hollow on the interior, is profiled by a median incision. The foot is short and profiled with a rounded horizontal rib. The lower part of the recipient is truncated cone-shaped and slightly rounded. In the junction area of the walls, below the maximum diameter, a horizontal incision was traced (Pl. II/4).

Fine fabric, with mica inclusions.

The core of the ceramic body is reduction-fired, while the exterior is red.

Lead glaze, brownish-green (Munsell 2.5Y 5/4) with light yellowish spots (Munsell 2.5Y 8/4), fused to the ceramic body.

Dimensions: Base D. 44 mm; H. 42 mm; Foot H. 17 mm; Max. D. 86 mm.

Analysis 1

Context: Sutor 2022; Sup. 2B; Feature 1812; SF. 525; 28.07.2022.

5. Handle: It has an oval cross-section with straight-cut edges and a concave lower part.

The exterior is decorated in the barbotine technique with a “pine needle” motif applied above two horizontal, parallel incisions (Pl. II/5).

Fine fabric, reduced firing on the interior with oxidised superficial layer on the exterior.

Lead glaze, yellowish-brown (Munsell 10YR 5/6), fused to the ceramic body.

Dimensions: L. 31 mm; W. 15 mm; G. 9 mm.

Context: Sutor 2022; Sup. 2B; Feature 1856; SF. 238; 13.07.2022.

6. Handle: It has a round profile and is slightly arched upwards. The lower contact point with the vessel has partially survived. Fine fabric, without macroscopically visible inclusions, oxidizing firing (Pl. II/6).

Lead glaze, brownish-green (Munsell 2.5Y 8/4), very thin.

Dimensions: L. 55 mm; W. 11 mm; G. 12 mm.

Context: Sutor 2022; Sup. 2B; Feature Dec. 1188; SF. 904; 15.09.2022.

7. *Kantharos*: Biconical vessel, ovalised, with cylindrical neck slightly tapering towards the rim. The rim is flared with rounded

¹⁶¹ WALTON/TITE 2010.

edge, upper flat part, decorated with two concentric grooves. The recipient exhibits three wide, oval, bifid handles attached below the rim and above the maximum diameter, of which only one has survived. On the rim, above the handles and by their base, cylindrical-profiled protuberances were applied, but their overall shape cannot be determined due to the fragmentary state. Ring-foot (Pl. III/7).

Fine fabric, without macroscopically visible impurities, uniformly fired in an oxidizing atmosphere.

Dark green, lead glaze (Munsell 5GY 2/4).

Analysis: S6.

Dimensions: H. 178 mm; Rim D. 140 mm; Base D. 60 mm.

Context: Sutor 2022; Sup. 2; Feature 3524; SF. 900; 15.09.2022 (most fragments composing the vessel) and Sutor 2022; Sup. 2; Feature 3524; SF. 561; 03.08.2022 (two fragments).

8. Tureen (?): Preserving the upper part of the recipient, in the form of a dome, with straight rim, to which a triangular, slightly arched protome was applied vertically, marked on the interior by a vertical incision. To the exterior, aligned with the protome, is attached the upper end of a massive, twisted handle. Fine fabric, with small ferruginous nodules, oxidizing firing (Pl. IV/8).

Lead glaze of un-uniform colour, shifting from brownish-green (Munsell 2.5Y 8/4) to dark-brown (Munsell 10YR 3/2), with areas of excess accretion, fused to the ceramic body.

Dimensions: L. 52 mm; W. 37 mm; Rim D. 180 mm?.

Context: Sutor 2022; Sup. S2B; Feature 1856; SF 317; 15.07.2022.

9. Bowl: Hemispherical vessel (dome-shaped) with flared rim, rounded edge and straight upper section decorated with oval impressions. Below the rim, on the exterior, it is decorated with two horizontal, parallel incisions. On the interior, a horizontal incision was traced (Pl. IV/9).

Fine fabric, with reducing firing and an oxidising layer on the exterior.

Lead glaze, brownish-green (Munsell 2.5Y 8/4), fused into the ceramic body.

Dimensions: Rim D. 100 mm; L. 38 mm; W. 27 mm.

Context: Sutor 2022; Sup. 2; Feature 2606; SF. 765; 31.08.2022.

10. Bowl: Small-sized hemispherical vessel, decorated on the interior with wide, parallel incisions that converge towards the base, imitating the appearance of a seashell. On the exterior, it exhibits two parallel incisions traced on the maximum diameter, below the rim (Pl. IV/10).

Fine fabric, with mica inclusions; reducing firing with oxidising effects on the exterior. Lead glaze, olive-yellow (Munsell 5Y 6/6), fused into the ceramic body.

Dimensions: Max. D. 120 mm; L. 48 mm; W. 38 mm.

Context: Sutor 2022; Sup. 2; Feature 4334; SF. 865; 13.09.2022.

11. Bowl: Short vessel with a marked biconical profile. Ring-foot; the lower part is flat and slightly arched towards the maximum diameter. From the point of incidence, the upper section is sharply tilting inwards, ending in a slightly everted rim with a rounded edge. Below the rim, an ornamental handle is horizontally applied, attached to the vessel wall and decorated with three groups composed of two parallel lines placed by the extremities and centrally. The upper part is decorated with fine incisions in the form of parallelly-set meanders and braces. Several ceramic residues are fixed into the vitreous layer by the base, glued in the kiln during the vessel firing (Pl. IV/11).

Fine fabric, with fine, unevenly distributed white quartz sand particles; uniform reducing firing. Uniform lead glaze, dark olive-

green (Munsell 2.5GY 3/4), present as a distinct layer in the profile of the ceramic body.

Analysis: S5.

Dimensions: Base D. 100 mm; H. 61 mm; F 81 mm.

Context: Sutor 2022; Sup. 2B; Feature 1206; SF 62; 30.06.2022 and Sutor 2022; Sup. 2B; Feature 1172; SF. 460; 29.06.2022 (one small-sized fragment).

12. Bowl (*Mortaria*): A rim fragment in the form of a wide, horizontal flange, decorated with horizontal, parallel incisions set transversely has survived. To the interior, the rim displays a well-defined border, that turns outward, forming the right side of the spout. Below the border, on the interior, a horizontal incision was traced. The recipient body is hemispherical, the transition to the rim being marked by a brief shift of the angle vertically. The walls are thin, the thickness varying between 2 mm towards the base and 5 mm at the flange base (Pl. V/12).

Fine fabric, with very fine, irregularly distributed quartz sand grains. The ceramic body is reduction-fired with an oxidizing layer on the exterior.

Lead glaze, reddish-brown (Munsell 5YR 4/6) with lighter-coloured spots.

Analysis: S4.

Dimensions: Rim D. 110 mm; H. 25 mm; Flange W. 16 mm.

Context: Sutor 2022; Sup. 2; Feature 3494; SF. 1001; 10.01.2022.

13. *Lanx* (Drag. 39): Rim fragment of a platter with wide, everted lip, decorated on the upper part with parallel, transverse lines made by impression and bordered towards the exterior by an incision. Straight-cut edge. On the interior, it exhibited an incised decoration, of which a wavy line still survives (Pl. V/13).

Fine fabric, reducing firing with oxidizing effects in the form of a superficial layer on the exterior.

Lead glaze, dark-brown (Munsell 7.5YR 3/3). Yellowish-red spots (Munsell 7.5YR 7/8) present on the exterior. The layer is very thin, fused into the ceramic body mass.

Dimensions: L. 59 mm; W. 30 mm.

Analysis S2.

Context: Sutor 2021; CIC. 01; SF. 375; 05.05.2021.

14. Undetermined: Pottery fragment with a very slight curvature and fragmenting appearance in the area where the wall angle of incidence shifts (toward the rim?). It exhibits a fine horizontal incision. Fine fabric; reducing firing (Pl. V/14).

Lead glaze, brown (Munsell 7.5YR5.6).

Dimensions: L. 25 mm; W. 22 mm.

Context: Sutor 2022; Sup. 2B; Feature 1856; SF. 230; 13.07.2022.

15. Undetermined: Wall fragment from the area of the edge marking the transition toward the vessel base (Pl. V/15).

Fine fabric; oxidizing firing. In terms of shape, thickness, glaze appearance and fabric colour, the fragment may belong to a *kantharos* similar to number 5 in the catalogue.

Lead glaze, dark olive-brown (Munsell 5Y 3/2).

Dimensions: L. 48 mm; W. 37 mm.

Context: Sutor 2022; Sup. 2; Feature 2694; SF. 446; 22.07.2022.

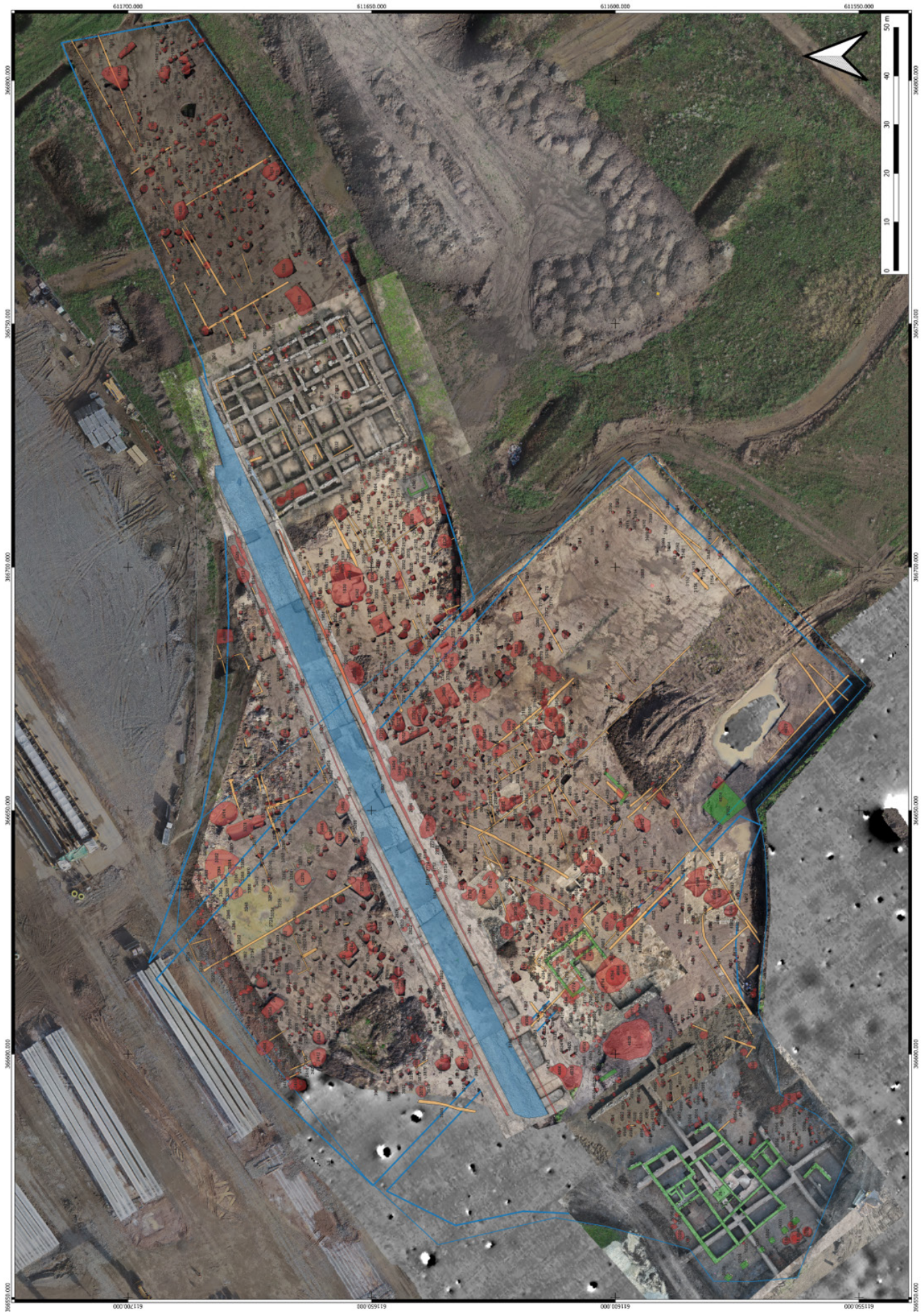
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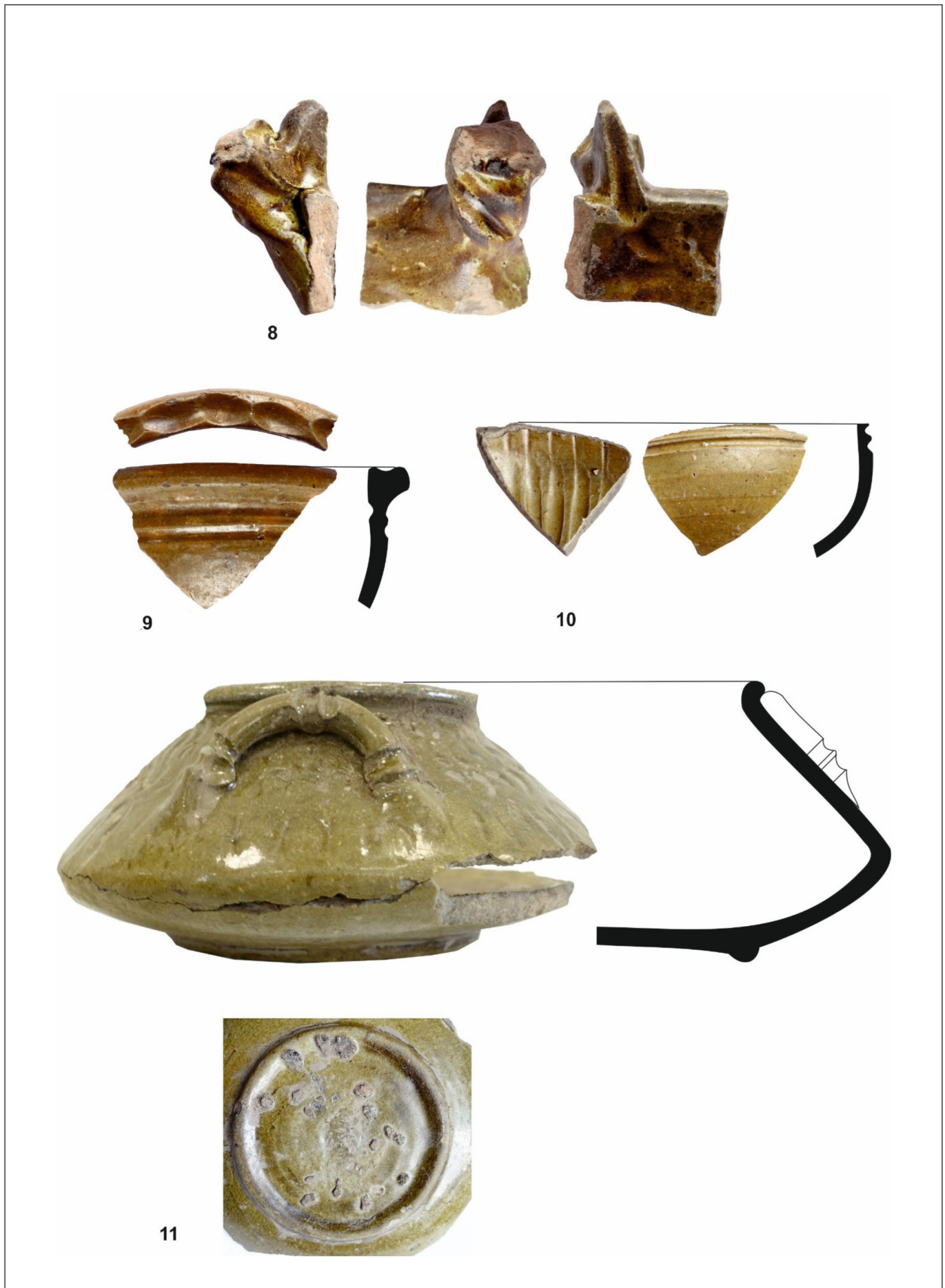
Pl. I. Area investigated during the preventive excavations carried out at Sutor in 2022.



Pl. II. Glazed pottery of Sutor: cups (nos. 1-2), cup bases (nos. 3-4), handles (nos. 5-6).



Pl. III. Glazed *kantharos* discovered at Sutor.



Pl. IV. Glazed pottery of Sutor: fragments of different bowl types.



Pl. V. Glazed pottery of Sutor: bowl of *mortarium* type (no. 12), *lanx* (no. 13), undetermined fragments (nos. 14-15).