

# **Catalogue of Stone Objects**

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## **Abstract**

Various stone objects, tools and waste items were found in the graveyard and residential area of Shahr-i Sokhta, with significant amounts scattered over the surface. These items are mainly ornaments, tools or practical objects in everyday use, made of rubble from river beds or basalt. Most of these items were used without additional carving or other processing. This group of objects includes pestles; cylindrical and cubic pounders; long, almost cylindrical and oval abraders; other work tools such as sharpeners, cuboid tools, circular or oval discs and flat work surfaces in a variety of geometric shapes.

## **1. Stone items**

Items made of various materials including stone objects and tools were found during excavations in the graveyard and residential areas of Shahr-i Sokhta, and a significant amount of these materials and objects were scattered on the surface of

the site. The stone objects mainly consist of tools, utensils, ornaments and items used in daily life. Shahr-i Sokhta marble was widely used, and it seems that this area was a centre of production of various types of marble vessel (Ciarla 1979; 1981; 1985; 1990; Shirazi 2007; Boccuti *et al.* 2015; Festuccia 2019; Sajjadi - Sefidkhani 2019). However, unlike sites such as Shahdad (Hakemi 1997) and Konar Sandal (Majidzadeh 2003), chlorite/soapstone was less commonly used and is limited to small objects such as figurines (Figs. 2, 3), seals (Fig. 4) and decorative beads (Sajjadi 2017). The use of semiprecious stones such as jade, agate, turquoise and lapis lazuli (Fig. 5) was common (Tosi 1970; 1974a; 1974b; Bulgarelli 1981; 1998; Vidale - Lazzari 2017; Sajjadi, 2017; Beheshti *et al.* 2019). Tools and other practical objects used in daily life were mostly made of rubble from river beds and basalt rock. Most of these stone objects, with some exceptions such as grinding stones, were used in their natural form without additional carving or other processing (Figs. 6-9).

This group of objects includes pounders (hammers) including pestles, cylindrical and cubic pounders; abraders, some long and almost cylindrical; oval tools and grinding stones; other tools including sharpeners, cuboid tools, circular or oval disks and flat work surfaces in a variety of geometric shapes, mostly rectangular.

The present photographic catalogue deals with this group of stone objects. In the present catalogue, except for some very clear cases, no attempt has been made to show the type of use and function of objects and tools. On the other hand, in some rare cases and due to the possible variety of use of an item, a single object appears in two different groups of objects.

There is substantial evidence that these objects and tools were made at the site itself or in its satellite sites (Figs. 10-11). The remains of various workshops of varying dimensions, including pottery kilns, metallurgical furnaces and so on, are scattered along the road between Zahedan and Shahr-i Sokhta (Fig. 12).

## Catalogue



Fig. 1: alabaster vessels; 1. Bowl, G.N. 32; 2. Bowl, G.N. 4207/3; 3. Cup on cylindrical stand, G.N. 3208/5 ; 4. Cup on cylindrical stand, G.N. 1413/6; 5. Mortar, G.N,9005/10.

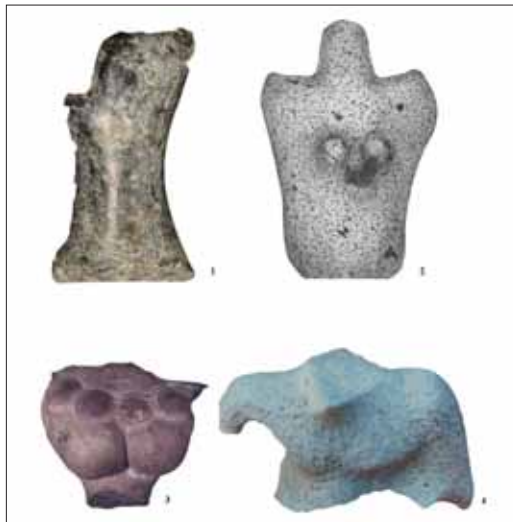


Fig. 2: anthropomorphic figurines: 1. Chlorite/soapstone male figurines, Workshop 26 Cat. No.26139; 2. Female figurines, surface survey; 3. Female figurines, surface survey; 4. Female figurines with a neckless, surface survey.

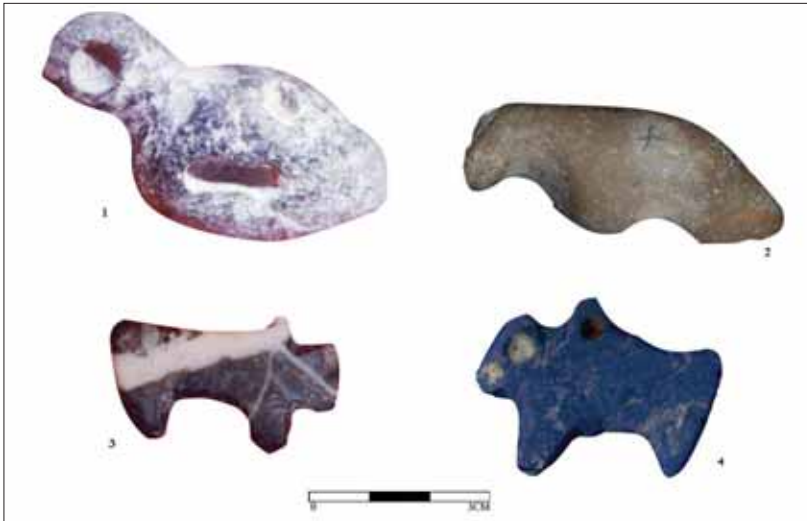


Fig. 3: zoomorphic figurines: 1. Chlorite/soapstone bird figurines, surface survey; 2. Animal figurine? G.N. 8606/5; 3. Cow figurine, surface survey; 4. Cow figurine, lapis lazuli, surface survey.



Fig. 4: chlorite/soapstone items: 1. Inlaid bead, surface survey; 2. Bowl, surface survey; 3. Inlaid bead, surface survey; 4. Stamp seal, surface survey.



Fig. 5: lapis lazuli wastage.



Fig. 6: stone mortars.



Fig. 7: chlorite/soapstone metates: 1. G.N.9018/29; 2. G.N.1713/8; 3. G.N.3910/4; 4. Workshop 29. Cat.No. 29020.

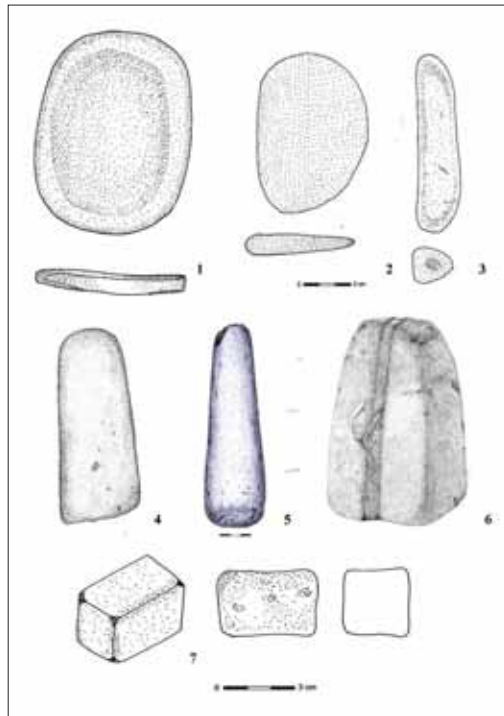


Fig. 8: stone tools.



Fig. 9: 1. Palette, G.N.1713/8; 2. Rounded stone, G.N.2511/5; 3. Sharpener, G.N.2503/3; 4. Mortar pestle, Workshop 1 Cat. No. 864; 5. Mortar pestle, Workshop 4 Cat. No. 4282; 6. Grooved cap-stone, G.N.3907/2; 7. Cubic stone, G.N.2901/2.



Fig. 10: unfinished items.

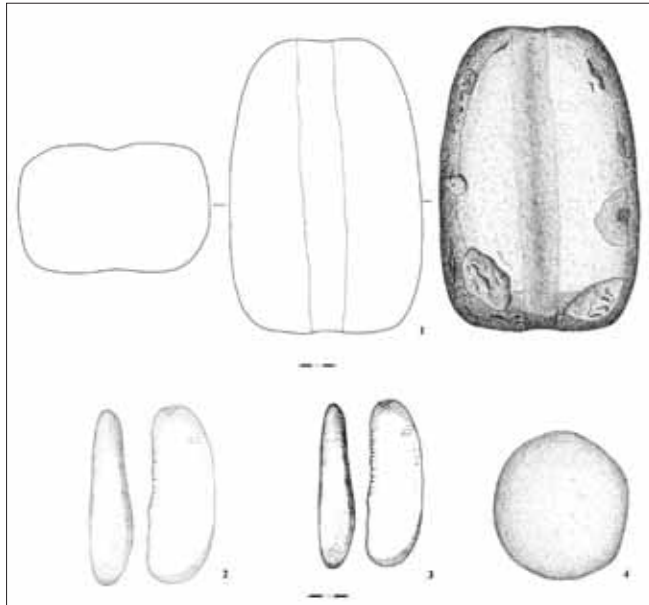


Fig. 11: stonemason's tools in the grave of a craftsman.



Fig. 12. small workshops along the Zahedan-Zabol road.



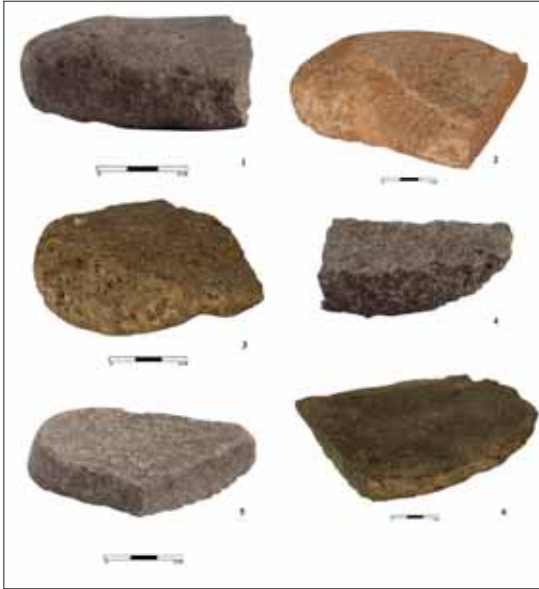


Fig. 13: grinding stones, surface survey.



Fig. 14: grinding stones, surface survey.

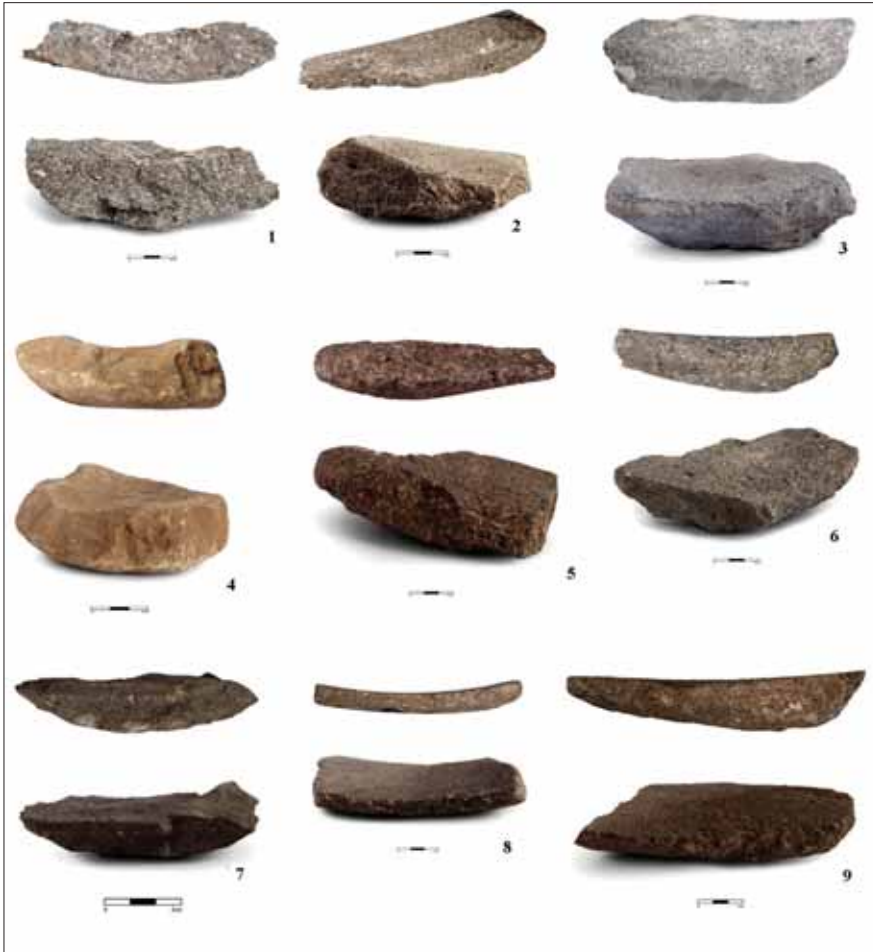


Fig. 15: grinding stones: 1-6, 8. Surface survey; 7. G.N.6104/4; 9. G.N.6104/3.

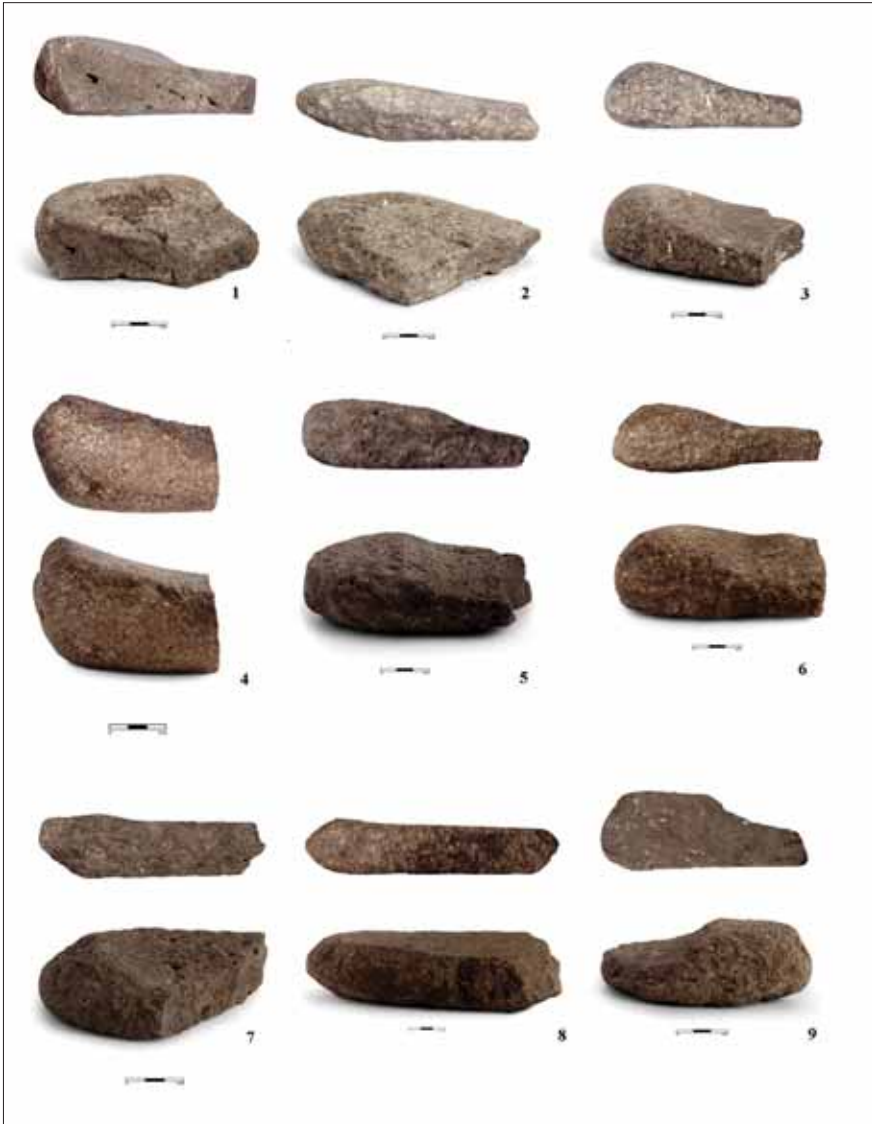


Fig. 16: grinding stones: 1-3, 5-9. Surface survey; 4. GN.3509/8.

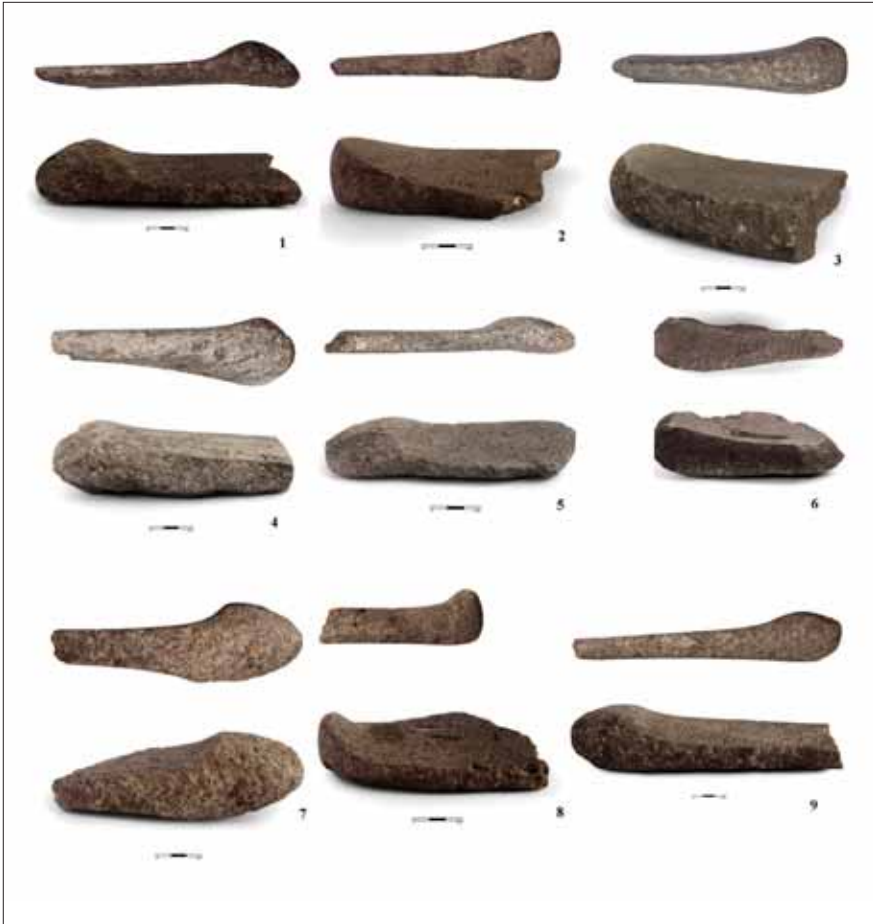


Fig. 17: grinding stones, surface survey.



Fig. 18: work tools. Rectangular and polished stone plates: 1. Area 33 Cat. No. 33xx9; 2, 5. Surface survey; 3. G.N.7703/2; 4. Surface survey.

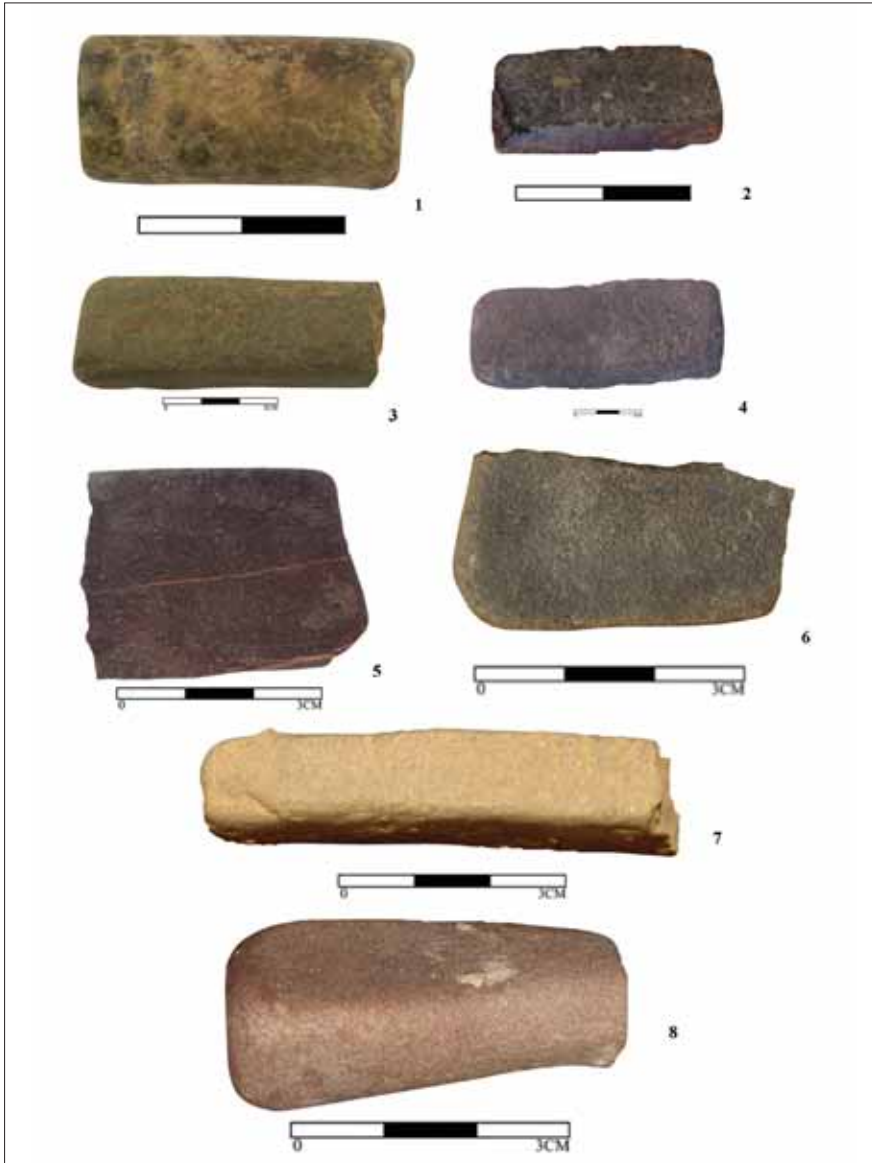


Fig. 19: work tools. Rectangular and square polished stone plates: 1. Workshop 36 Cat. No. 36009; 2. Workshop 4 Cat. No. 2164; 3. Workshop 36 Cat. No. 36001; 4. G.N.1519; 5. Area 33 Cat. No. 33034; 6. Workshop 28 Cat. No. 28098; 7. Workshop 1 Cat. No. 2501; 8. Workshop 26 Cat. No. 26171.

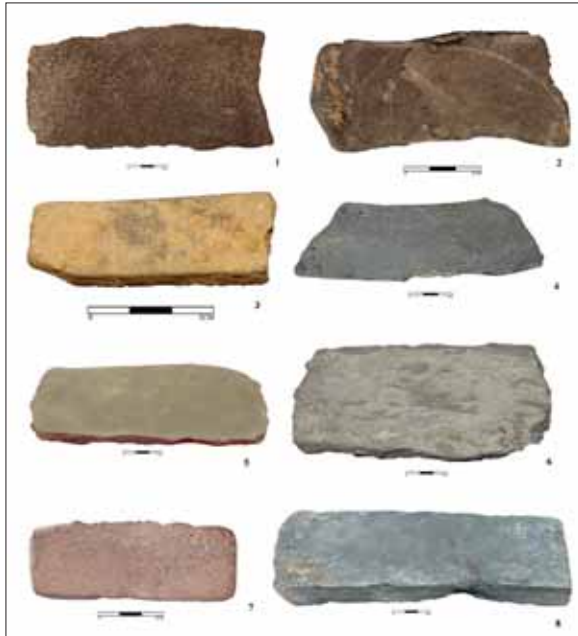


Fig. 20: work tools. Rectangular and square polished stone plates: 1. Workshop 26 Cat. No. 26091; 2. Workshop 26 Cat. No. 26061; 3. Workshop 1 Cat. No. 2502, with a smooth and heat-treated surface; 4. G.N.8601/4; 5. G.N.5302/1; 6. G.N.5202/1; 7. G.N.1519/8, with a flat and porous surface; 8. Surface survey.

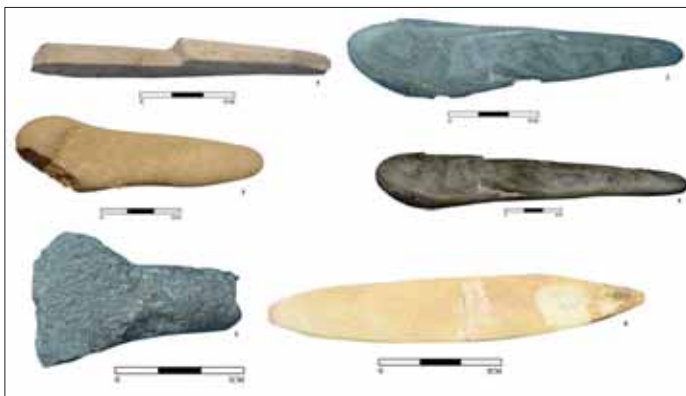


Fig. 21: cutters and sharp items: 1. G.N.5809/18; 2. Surface survey; 3. Workshop 24 Cat. No. 2412; 4-5. Surface survey; 6. G.N.5302/3.

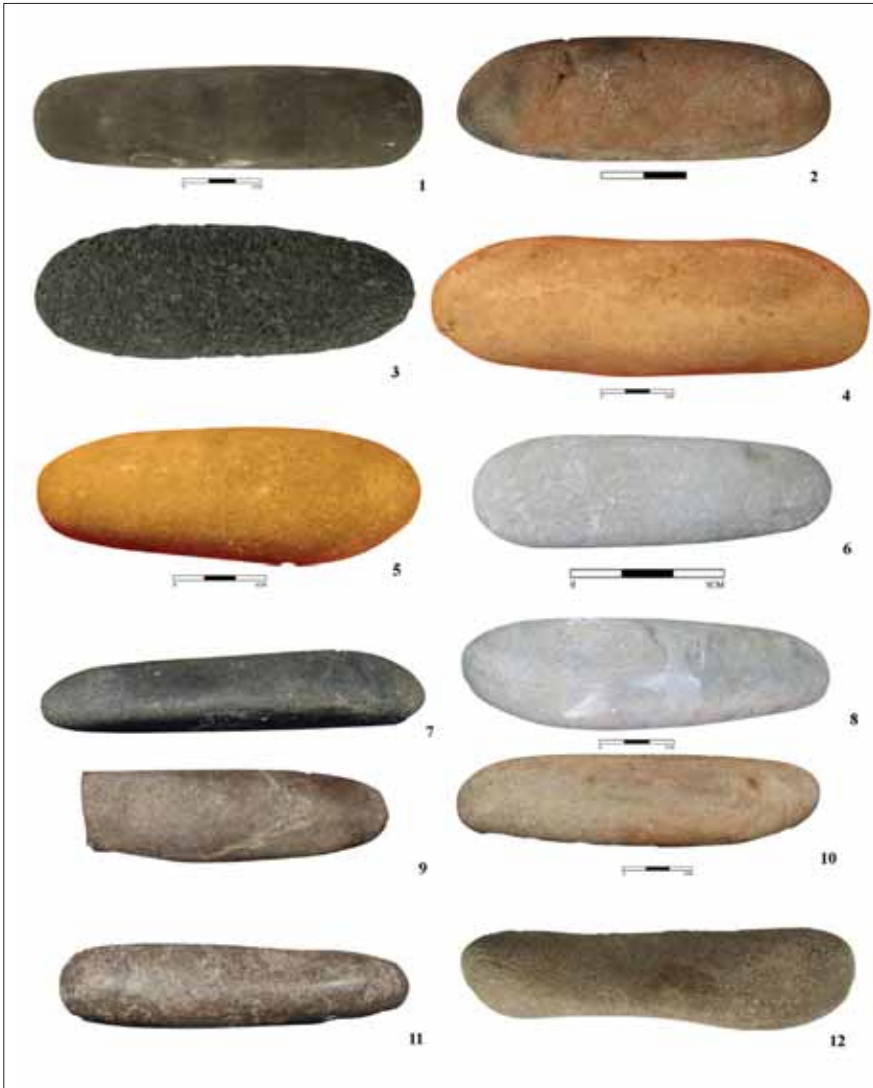


Fig. 22: long and narrow tools, in some cases cylindrical with one or two slight concavities and traces of heating: 1. Item with concavity, Area 33 Cat. No. 33548; 2. Item with concavity and traces of heat, Area 33 Cat. No. 33548b; 3. Area 33 Cat. No. 33xx1; 5. Cylindrical item with almost imperceptible concavity; 6. Item with two concavities, surface survey; 7. Item with concavity, surface survey; 8. Surface survey; 9. Cylindrical item, surface survey; 10. Item with concavity, surface survey; 11. Item with concavity, surface survey; 12. Item with concavity, surface survey.



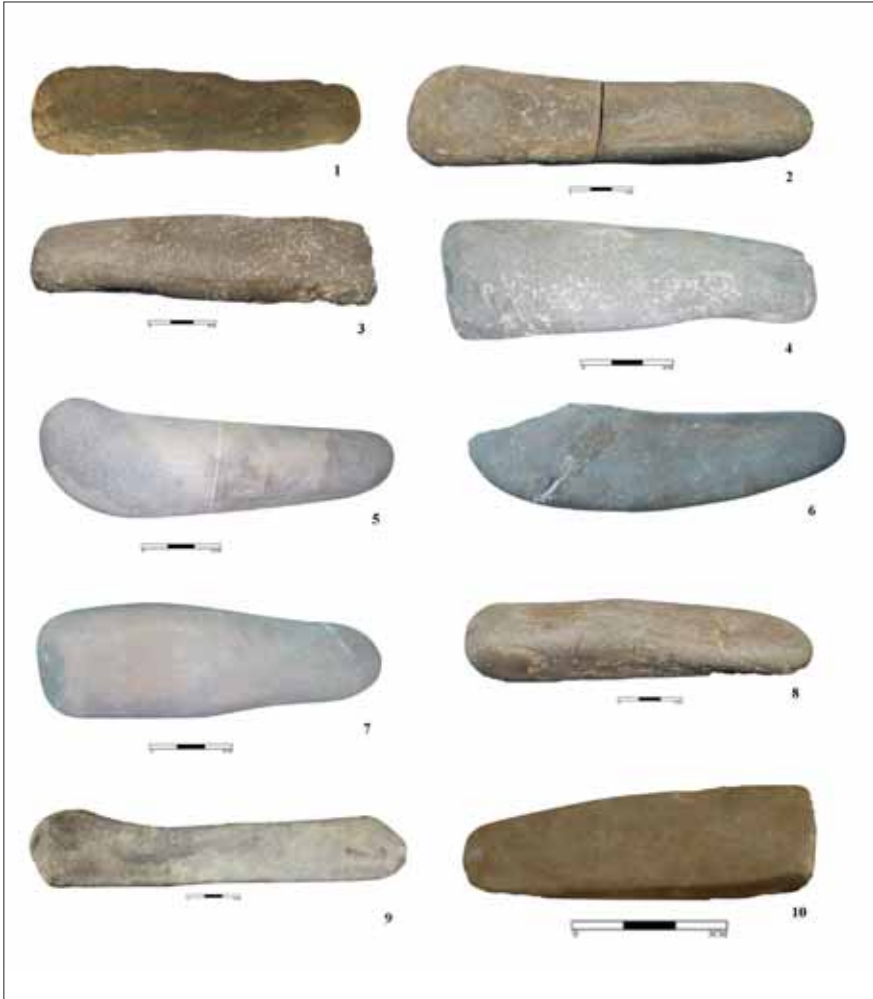


Fig. 23: long, flat and wide tools with almost imperceptible concavities: 1. Item with long concavity and traces of heat, Area 33 Cat. No. 33441; 2. Item with concavity, surface survey; 3. Item with almost imperceptible concavity, surface survey; 4. Surface survey; 5. Almost circular item, surface survey; 6. Item with almost imperceptible concavity, surface survey; 7. Flat item, surface survey; 8. Item with two concavities, surface survey; 9. Item with concavity, surface survey; 10. G.N.7834/9.

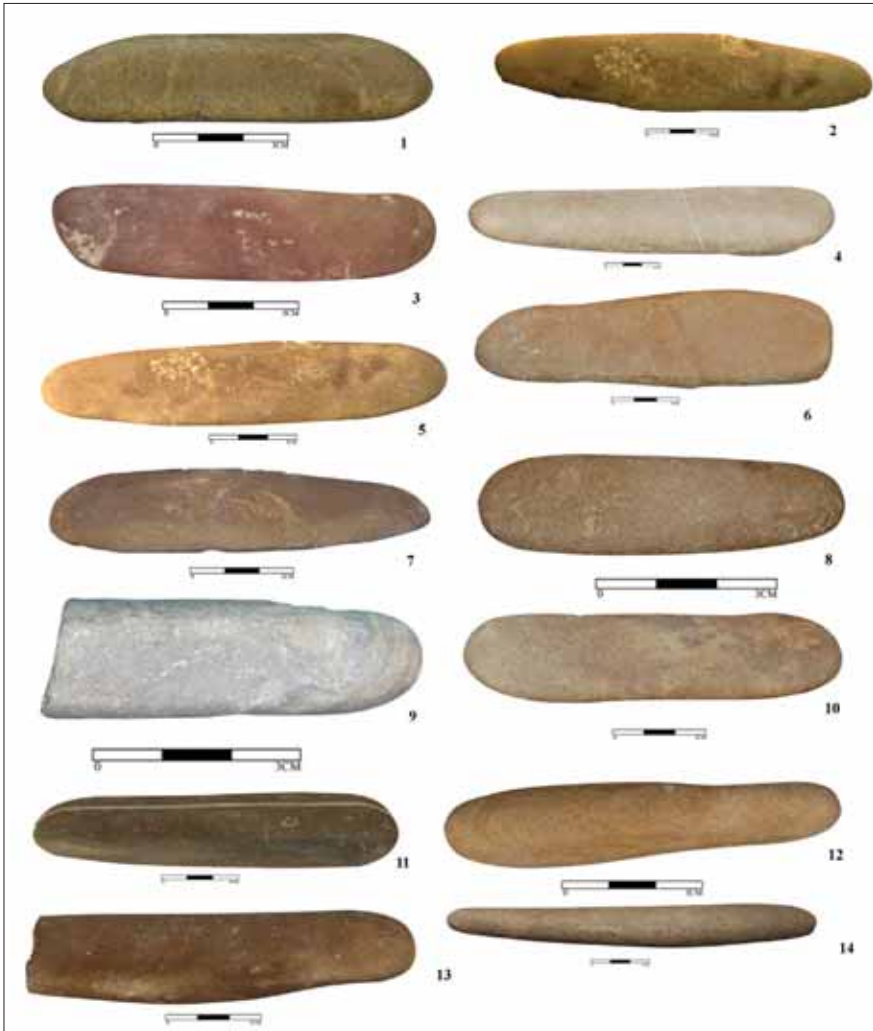


Fig. 24: long, almost oval tools with slight concavities and traces of heating: 1. Item with slight concavity, G.N.9333/7; 2. Cylindrical item with slight concavity, surface survey; 3. Item with flat surface, G.N.8617/14; 4. Item with slight concavity, surface survey; 5. Item with slight concavity, traces of heating, G.N.8119/3; 6. Item with slight concavity, traces of heating, surface survey; 7. Item with slight concavity, G.N.6511/2; 8. Item with slight concavity, surface survey; 9. Item with slight concavity, surface survey; 10. Item with slight concavity, traces of heating, surface survey; 11. Item with slight concavity, traces of heating, surface survey; 12. Item with slight concavity, G.N.8913/8; 13. Item with slight concavity, surface survey; 14. Rod with slight concavity, Workshop 26 Cat. 26151.

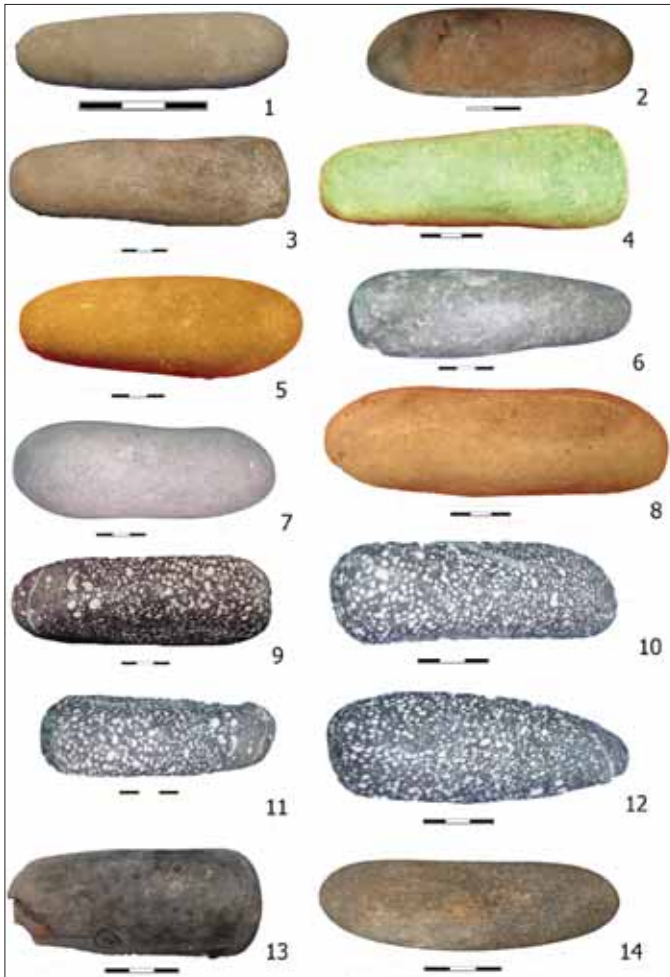


Fig. 25: long, almost oval tools with flat surfaces, slight concavities and traces of heating: 1. Almost cylindrical item with concavity and traces of heating, surface survey; 2. Item with concavity, Area 33 Cat. No. 33420; 3. Item with concavity, surface survey; 4. Item with concavity, surface survey; 5. Item with slight concavity, Workshop 18 Cat. No. 18096; 7. Item with slight concavity, surface survey; 8. Item with slight concavity, Workshop 18 Cat. No. 18104; 9. Roughly cuboid item with slight concavity on two sides, surface survey; 10. Item with slight concavity, surface survey; 11. Item with slight concavity, surface survey; 12. Item with slight concavity, surface survey; 13. Almost regular cube with slight concavity on two sides, surface survey; 14. Item with concavity, G.N.9024.

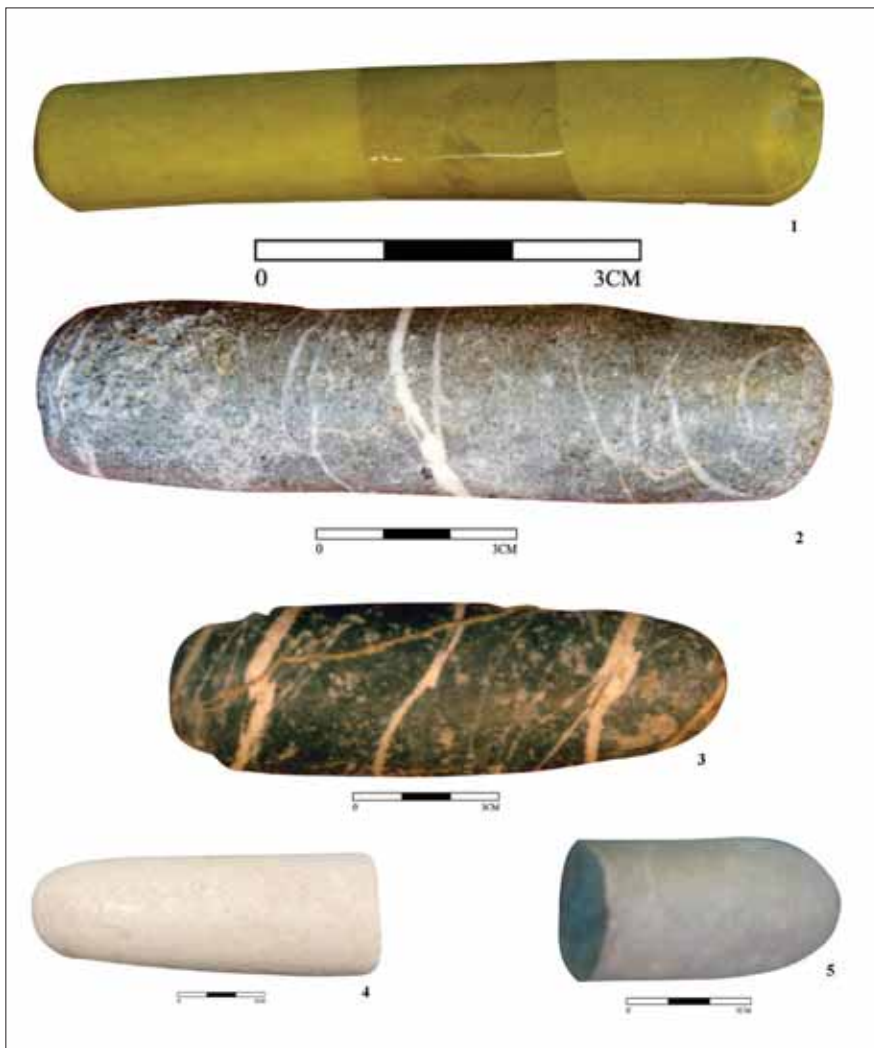


Fig. 26: cylindrical tubes and pestles: 1-3. Polished cylindrical tubes, surface survey; 4-5. Mortar pestles, surface survey.

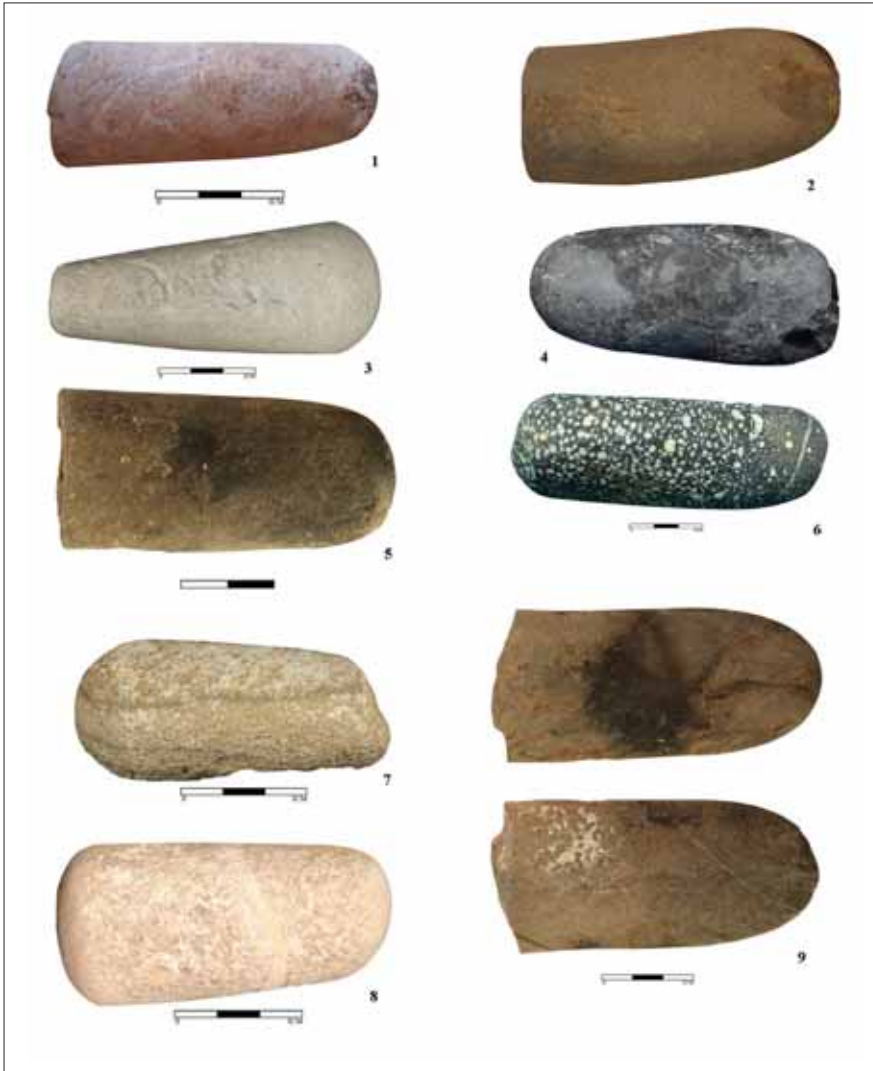


Fig. 27: broad and long cylindrical tools with slight concavity and traces of heating: 1. Pestle, Workshop 1 Cat. No. 864; 2. Pestle, Area 33 Cat. No. 33xx2; 3. Item with flat surface, surface survey; 4. Item with concavity, surface survey; 5. Cylindrical item with slight concavity and traces of heating, Area 33 Cat. No. 33584; 6. Item with slight concavity on two sides, Workshop 11 Cat. No. 1116; 7. Surface survey; 8. Item with flat surface, Workshop 26 Cat. No. 26060; 9. Item with traces of heating, Area 33 Cat. No. 33341.

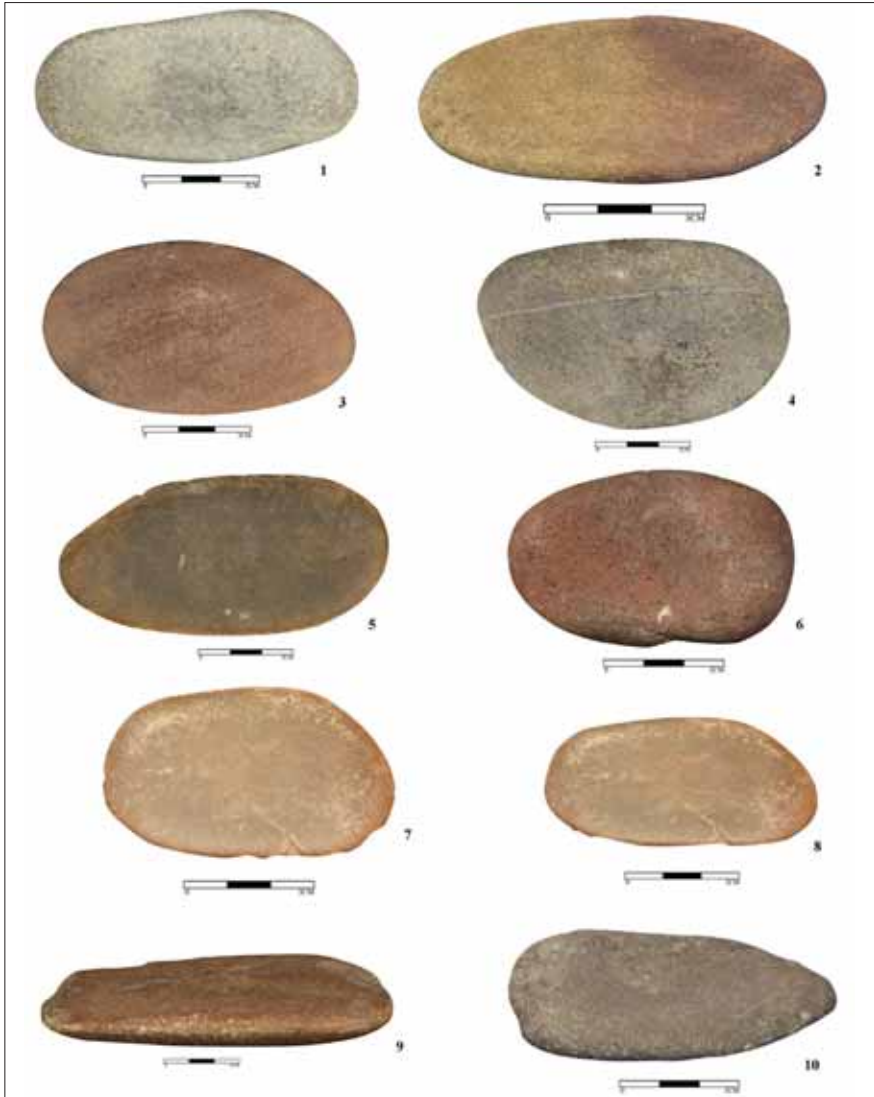


Fig. 28: almost oval stone plates, flat or concave: 1. Item with concavity and concave surface, surface survey; 2. Item with concavity and concave surface, G.N.6508/6; 3. Item with slight concavity, Workshop 26 Cat. No. 26192; 4. Item with concave surface, surface survey; 5. Item with concavity and concave surface, traces of heating, Workshop 28 Cat. No. 28129; 6. Item with concavity and concave surface, Workshop 28 Cat. No. 28130; 7. Concave item, G.N.7809/7; 9. Item with flat and polished surface, G.N.9345/11; 10. Item with concave surface, G.N.5505/1.

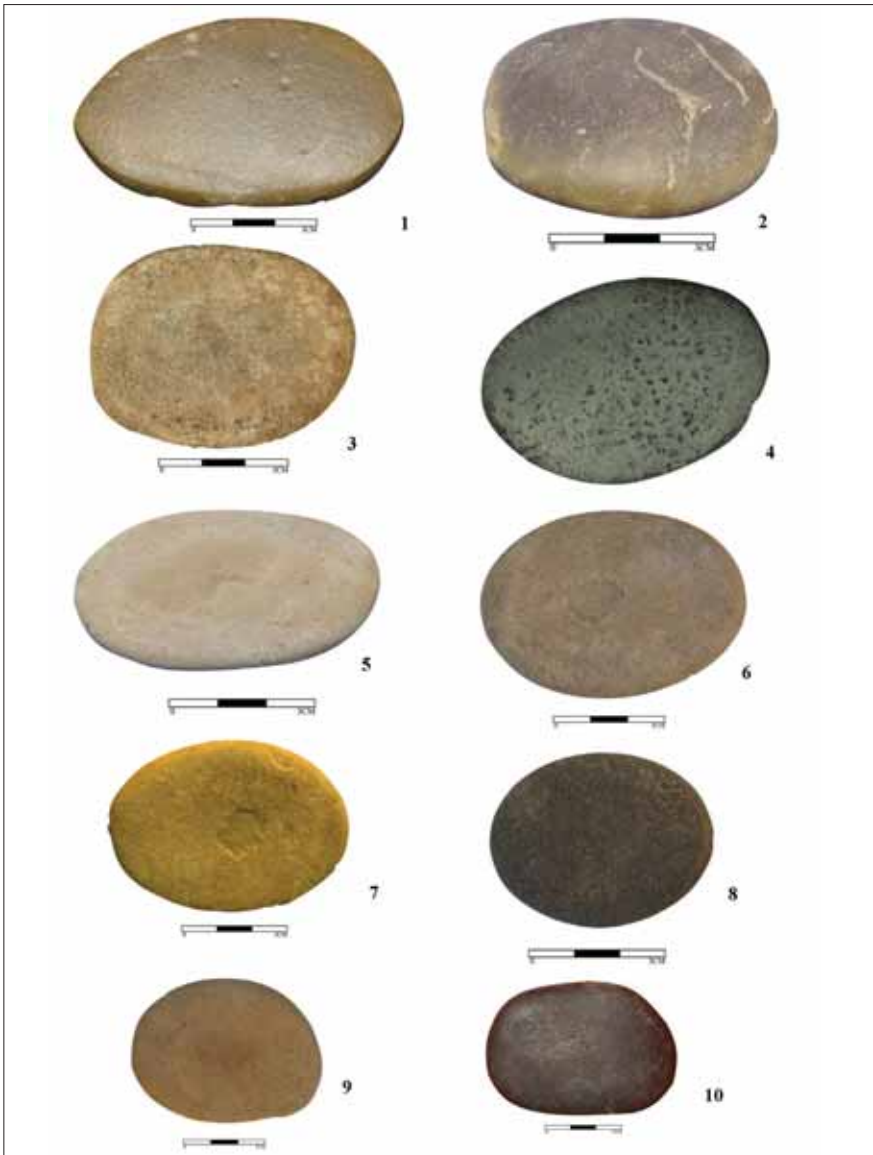


Fig. 29: almost oval stone plates, flat or concave: 1. Item with flat and polished surface, surface survey; 2. Area 33 Cat. No.33xx3; 3. G.N.9338/6; 4. Area 33 Cat. No.33xx4; 5. G.N.5902/4; 6. G.N.2912/4; 7. G.N.2912/4a; 8. Item with slight concavity, G.N.3106/4; 9. G.N.3107/2; 10. Item with traces of heating, Area 33 Cat. No. .33xx5

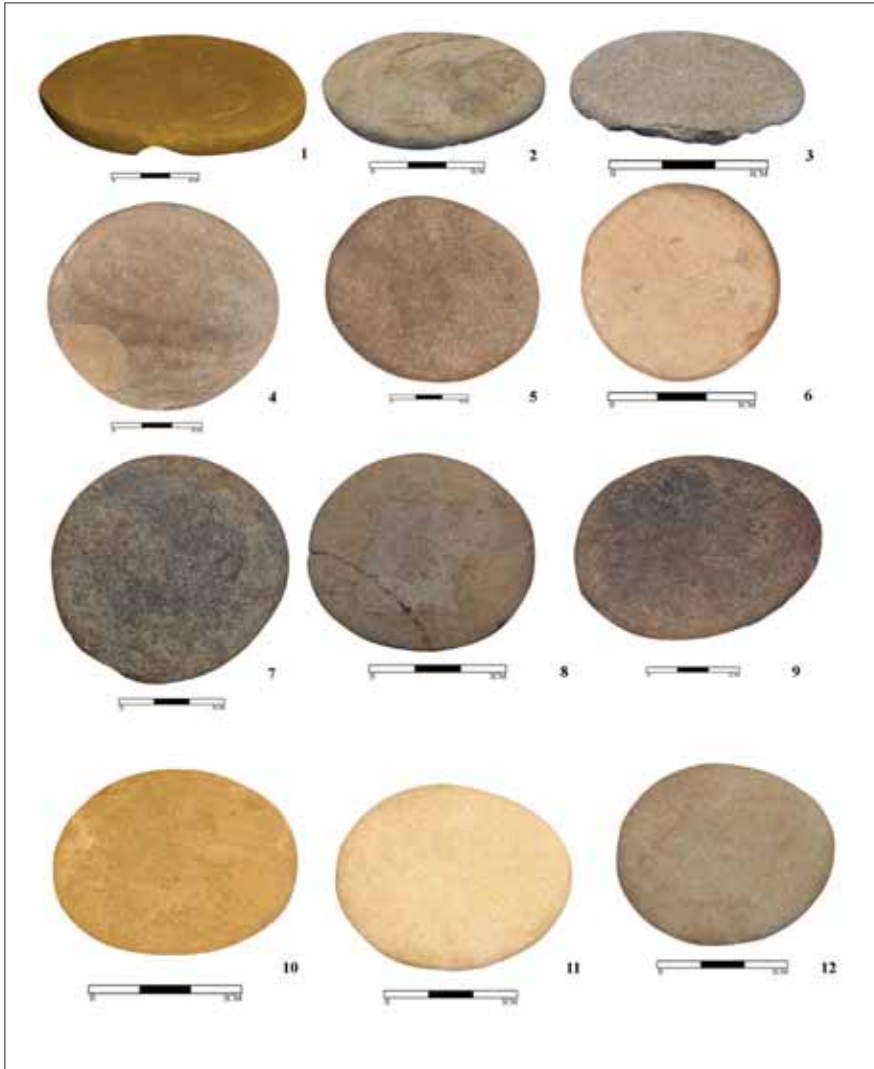


Fig. 30: circular stone disks, concave with slight concavities and traces of heating: 1. Item with flat polished surface with very slight concavity, G.N.4214/5; 2. G.N.5701/1; 3. G.N.5717/8; 4. G.N.8917/3; 5. Area 33 Cat. No. 33046; 6. Workshop 18 Cat. No. 18083; 7. Surface survey; 9. G.N.8313/11; 10. G.N.6905/4; 11. G.N.7801/2; 12. 7801/85.





Fig. 31: stone disks with slight concavities and traces of heating: 1. Item with slight concavity, surface survey; 2. Item with slight concavity, G.N.5717/8; 3. Item with slight concavity, G.N.5727/8; 4. Item with slight concavity and traces of heating, G.N.5902/4; 5. Item with slight concavity, G.N.7004/11; 6. Item with slight concavity, G.N.2903/29; 7. Item with slight concavity, Workshop 26 Cat. No. 26945; 8. Item with slight concavity, Workshop 26 Cat. No. 26047; 9. Item with traces of heating, surface survey; 10. Item with traces of heating, surface survey; 11. G.N.9407/5; 12. G.N.3105/9; 13. Item with grooved body, Area 33 Cat. No. 33xx6; 14. Item with grooved body, Area 33 Cat. No. 33xx7; 15. Grooved item, surface survey; 16. Grooved item, surface survey.

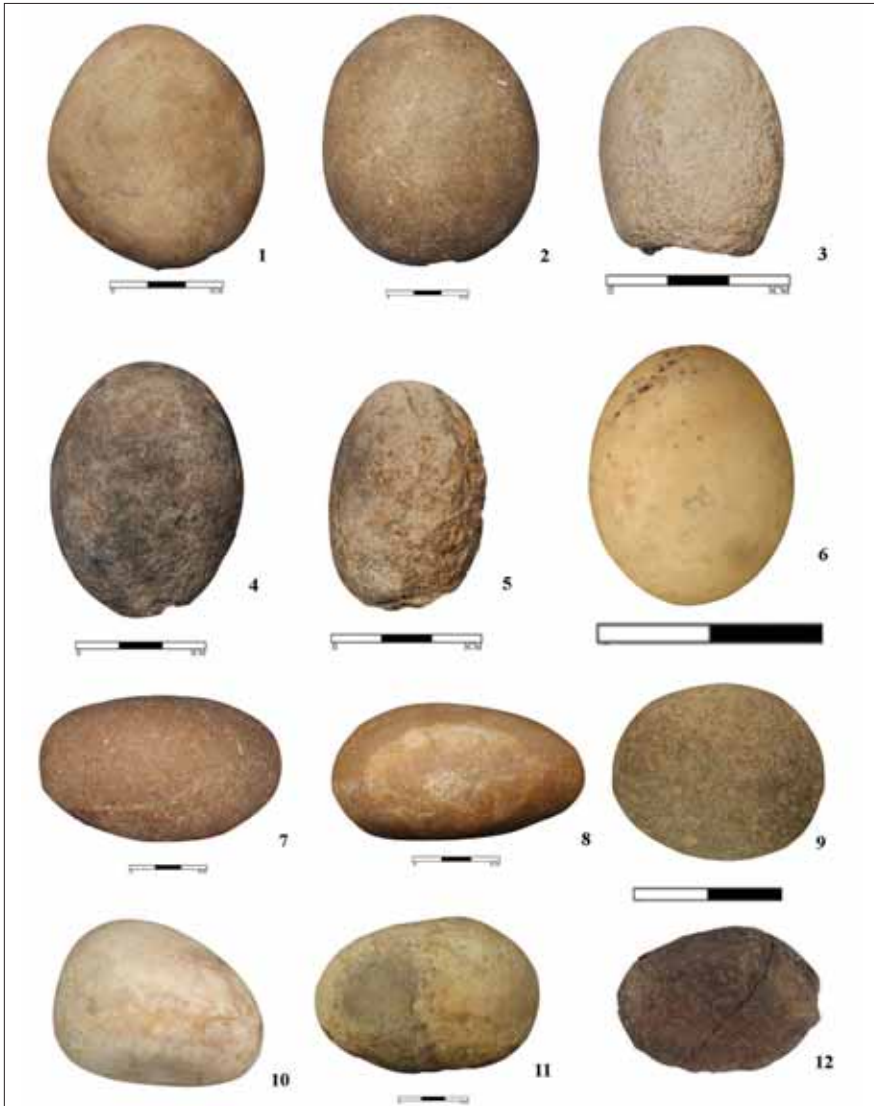


Fig. 32: egg-shaped grinding tools: 1-5. Items with slight concavities, surface survey; 6. Item with slight concavity, Area 33 Cat. No. 33418; 7. Item with slight concavity, G.N.8616/23; 8. Item with slight concavity, G.N.9031/56; 9. Item with slight concavity, Area 33 Cat. No. 33xx8; 10. Item with irregular shape and slight concavity on two sides, Area 33 Cat. No. 33x10; 11. Item with slight concavity, G.N.9727/2; 12 Area 33 Cat. No. 33x11.

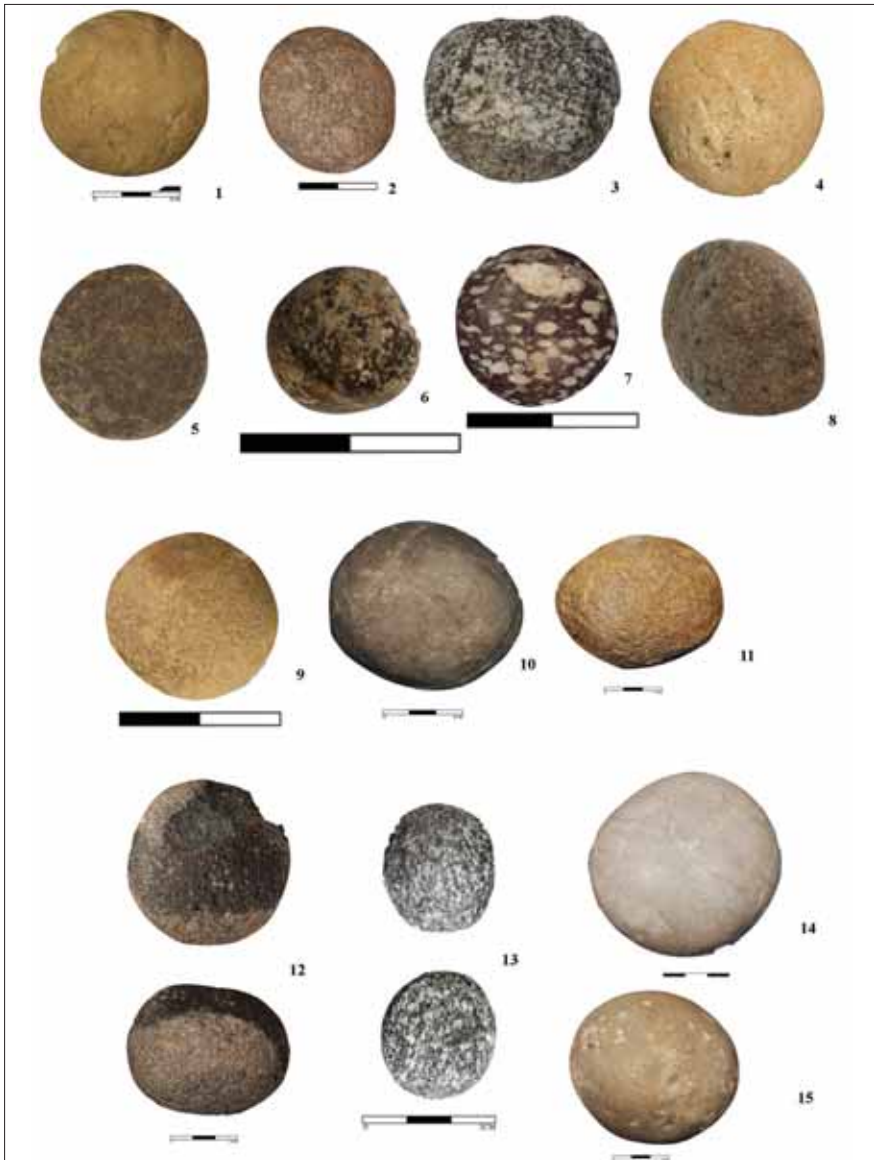


Fig. 33: spherical grinding tools: 1. Area 33 Cat. No. 33583; 2. Item with slight concavity, Area 33 Cat. No. 33045; 3-5. Area 33 Cat. No. 33x12; 6. Workshop 23 Cat. No. 23012; 7. Workshop 26 Cat. No. 26034; 8. Workshop 23 Cat. No. 23012; 9. Item with slight concavity, surface survey; 10. G.N.8321/47; 11. Surface survey; 12. G.N.8917/2; 13-14. Surface survey.

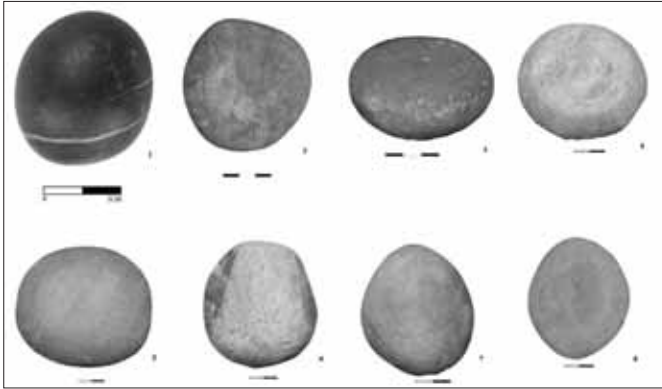


Fig. 34: hemispherical grinding tools: 1. Item with polished surface and concavity, Area 33 Cat. No. 33439; 2. Item with slight concavity and traces of heating, G.N.9344/7; 3. Item with slight concavity, G.N.9209/2; 4-8. Items with slight concavities.

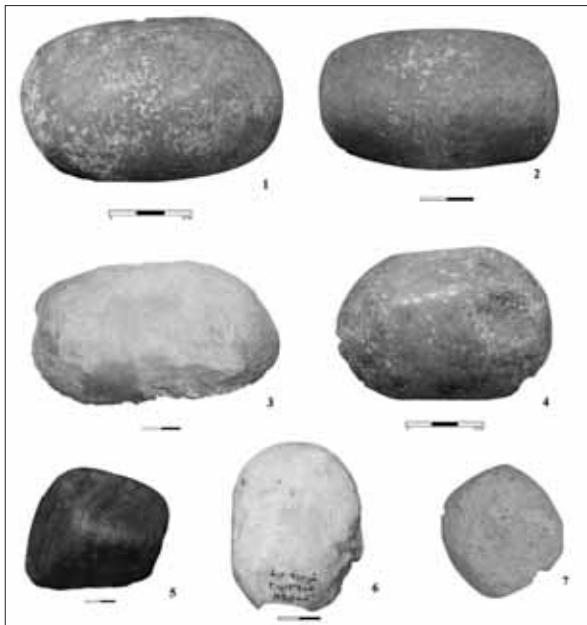


Fig. 35: stone grinding tools, roughly cuboid: 1. Item with concavity, G.N.8918/2; 2-3. Items with concavities, surface survey; 4. Polished item, Workshop 11 Cat. No. 1127; 5. Polished item with slight concavity, surface survey; 6. Workshop 1 Cat. No. 865; 7. Item with slight concavity, Area 33 Cat. 33xx13.



Fig. 36: stone columns: 1. Conical item, surface survey; 2. Conical polished item, surface survey; 3. Cylindrical item, surface survey; 4. Unfinished conical item, surface survey; 5. Cylindrical polished item, surface survey; 6. Grooved conical item, surface survey.



Fig. 37: stone vessels and mortars: 1-2 and 4-5. Mortars, surface survey; 3. Workshop 4 Cat. No. 4325; 6. Mortar, G.N.1615/24; 7. Beaker, Workshop 1 Cat. No. 818; 8. Workshop 4 Cat. No. 4188/4; 9. Chlorite beaker, Workshop 4 Cat. No. 4188.

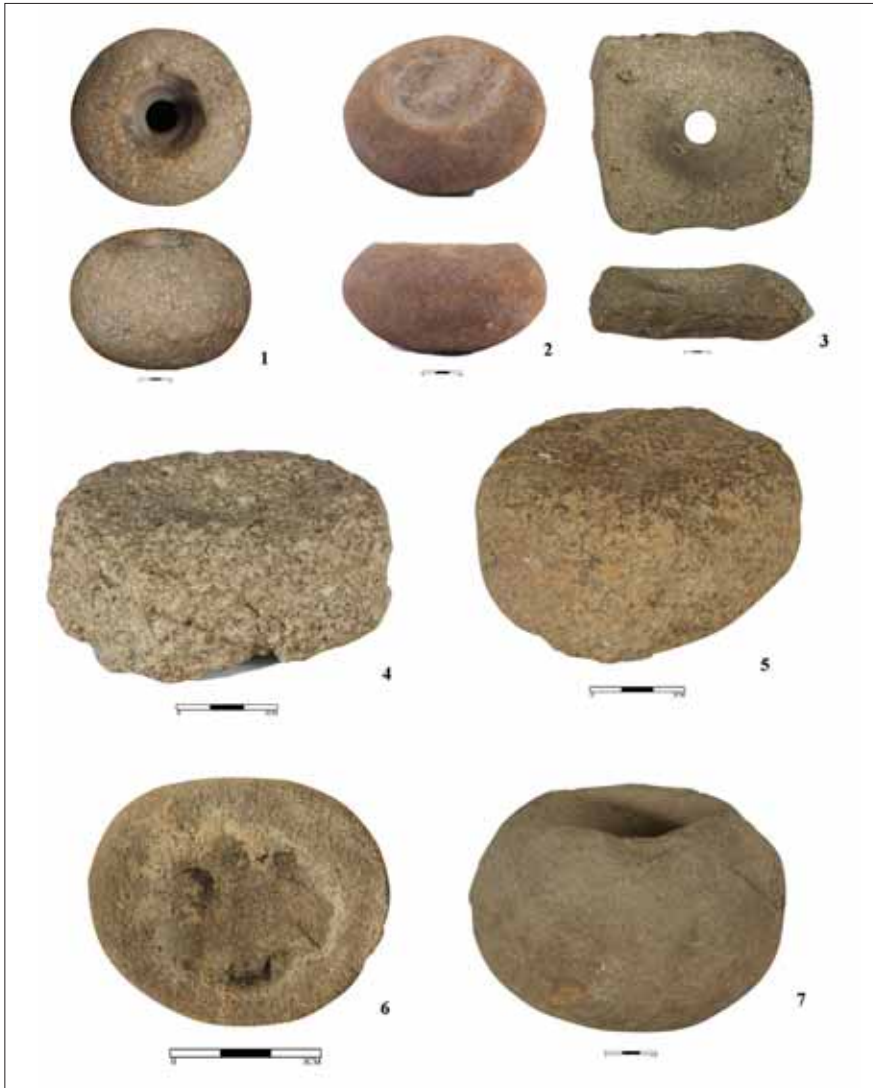


Fig. 38: spherical and cuboid stone items: 1. Possible pivot with a hole, Workshop 26. Cat. No. 26144; 2. Concave hemispherical item, surface survey; 3. Rectangular item with a hole, surface survey; 4. Square concave item, possibly a pivot, surface survey; 5. Concave cylindrical item, surface survey; 6. Concave hemispherical item, G.N.9215; 7. Spherical item with a hole, surface survey.

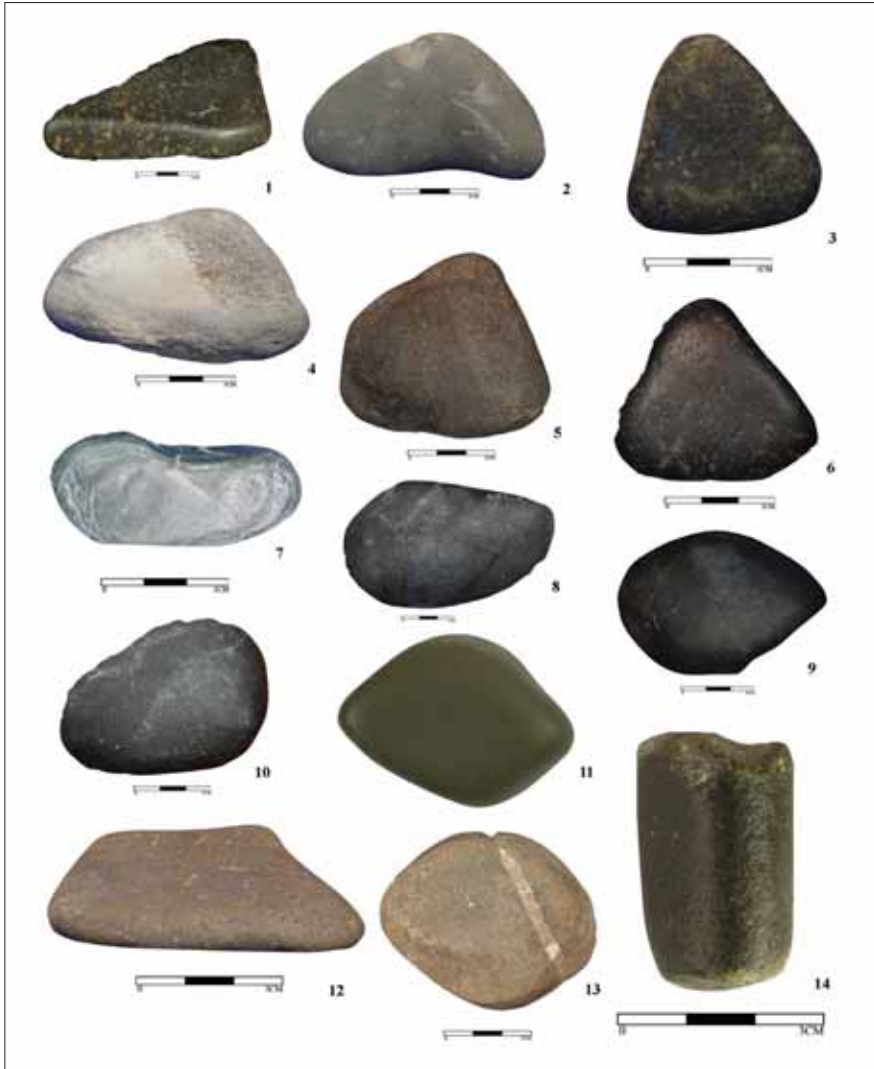


Fig. 39: other shapes including triangles and irregular shapes: 1. Polished triangle with slight concavity, Workshop 28 Cat. No. 28131; 2. Triangle, G.N.6007/6; 3. Triangle with slight concavity, Workshop 1 Cat. No. 1971; 4. Triangle with slight concavity, G.N.5301/5; 5-10. Irregular shaped items with slight concavities, surface survey; 11. Polished trapezoid item with slight concavity, Area 33 Cat. No. 33x14; 12. Irregular shaped item, almost square, with slight concavity, G.N.5812/2; 13. Concave grooved square item, G.N.9411/4; 14. Grooved cylindrical item, Area 33 Cat. No. 33xx15.



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