A STYLISTIC ANALYSIS OF ARCHAEOLOGICAL CERAMICS FROM EVELYN (EV01) AND KLEIN BOLAYI (EV02), TWO 12TH -13TH CENTURY SETTLEMENTS IN THE LIMPOPO VALLEY, SOUTH AFRICA

By

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Declaration

I, Antoine Rossouw, declare that this dissertation is my own original work. Where any secondary material is used, this has been properly acknowledged and referenced in accordance with university requirements. This work has not been submitted before, in whole, or in any part, for any other degree or examination.

Signature: 

Date: 31 May 2021

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Abstract

Ceramics are an important find for archaeologists because they contain a wealth of information about a site, the inhabitants, and any connections they might have had to the larger cultural landscape. This project aims to study the pottery from two 13th century sites in the Middle Limpopo River Valley on the Klein Bolayi Lodge 20km west of Musina, South Africa. The sites; Evelyn 1 (EV01) and Klein Bolayi (EV02), were excavated by UP Archaeology under Alexander Antonites and Ceri Ashley with initial excavations in 2015 on Evelyn and 2016 on Klein Bolayi. Preliminary radiocarbon dating results show that these two sites were likely inhabited during the TK2 period, with Evelyn (EV01) being a more recent site, and Klein Bolayi (EV02) being the older site of the two. A stylistic analysis of the ceramic assemblages from both sites refines the chronology by cross referencing the radiocarbon dates, giving us a better idea of when these sites may have been occupied. Refining the chronology for these sites will add to the data we have for the Shashe Limpopo Confluence Area and can prove useful for future studies in the area.

Key words: Ceramics, South Africa, Middle Limpopo River Valley, stylistic analysis, Shashe Limpopo Confluence Area, chronology

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Chapter 1: Introduction and Rationale

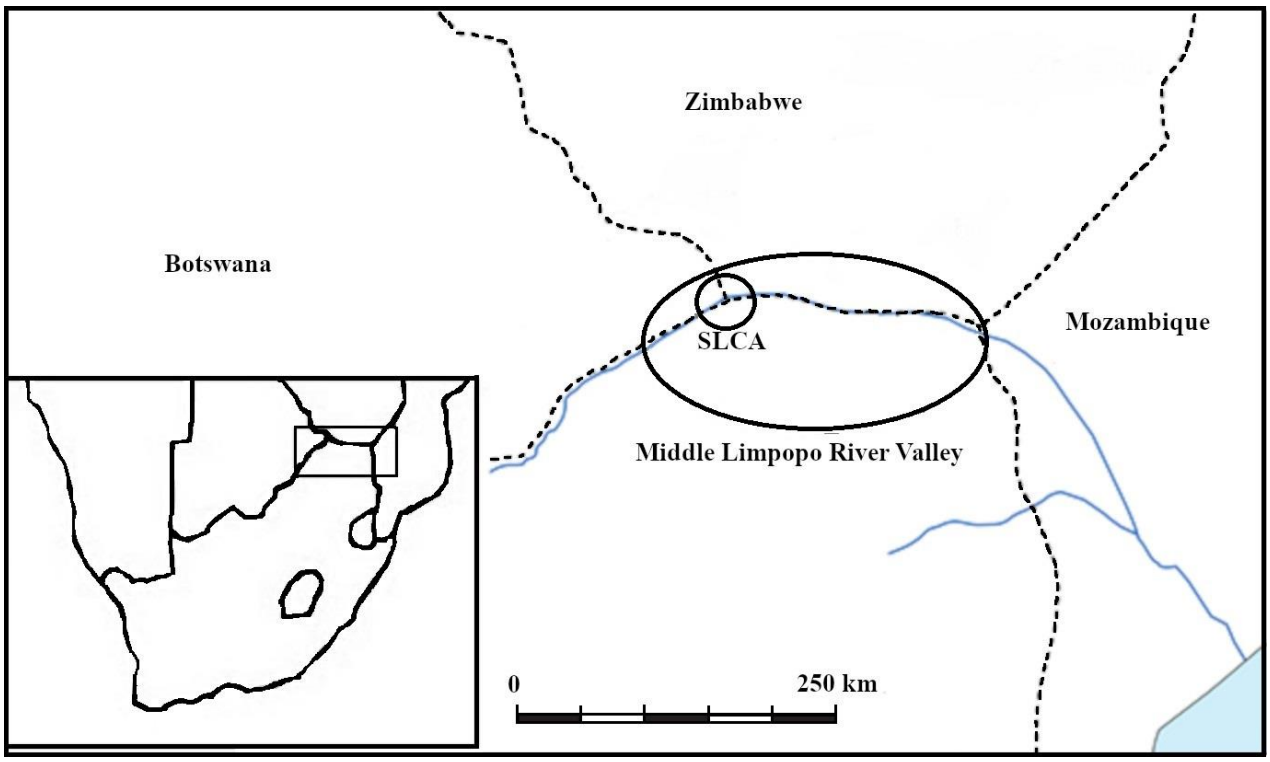


Figure 1: Regional map showing important locations (Adapted from Lippert 2020)

Ceramics contain a wealth of information about communities and their social and environmental interactions. This project aims to study the ceramics from two well-preserved single occupation 12th and 13th century sites in the Middle Limpopo River Valley. The sites are situated within the boundaries of the Klein Bolayi Game Lodge, located on the farm Evelyn 190MS, 20km west of Musina and about 50km east of Mapungubwe. The sites Evelyn (EV01) and Klein Bolayi (EV02) were excavated by A. Antonites and C. Ashley in 2015 and 2016 as parts of two larger research projects on Mapungubwe hinterland communities. This thesis will focus on stylistic analysis of ceramics from these excavations and how the stylistic aspects of ceramics can assist us with refining the chronology of these sites.

To understand the sites of Evelyn (EV01) and Klein Bolayi (EV02), we must first briefly focus on the site of Mapungubwe. Mapungubwe is a large settlement located at the Confluence of the Shashe and Limpopo rivers that plays an important role in our understanding of the southern African past. It was occupied between AD 1220 and AD

1300 and is commonly regarded as southern Africa's first kingdom (Calabrese 2007; Huffman 2007b; Meyer 2000). Initial inspection of the ceramics indicated that Evelyn (EV01) and Klein Bolayi (EV02) have clear links to Mapungubwe and other sites in the Shashe-Limpopo confluence area (Calabrese 2007; Gardner 1955; Huffman 2007a, 2007b; Meyer 2000; Schofield 1937, 1948; Van der Walt 2012). Research on the ceramics was initiated to investigate both links to regional ceramic facies such as K2, TK2, and Mapungubwe, but also to investigate how Evelyn (EV01) and Klein Bolayi (EV02) relate to each other in terms of ceramic style. The expectation is that, while large scale similarities will show overarching coherence with shared styles expressed throughout Limpopo Valley, site-level differences will reflect both conscious choices and subjective actions made by potters and ceramic users at a community level.

1.1. Background to Ceramic Stylistic Analysis

The archaeological material archaeologists excavate are the only manifestation of culture that we can still interact with and see hundreds of years after a group of people have gone, with ceramics being one of the more common types of material culture found in South Africa (Huffman 1970, 1980, 1989a, 2007b). Ceramics play an essential role in archaeological research – Gosselain and Smith (2013: 124) go as far as calling ceramics studies the backbone of archaeological research in terms of relative dating of sites - and the study thereof has been particularly significant for southern African archaeology.

Ceramics have been used in southern African Archaeology to correlate material patterns with social identities. Sub-Saharan archaeology still makes use of culture-historical approaches to material culture to a greater extent than elsewhere around the world, with scholars arguing both for and against the methods used in African ceramic studies (Ashley 2005:124-125). Ashley (2005: 18) states:

"…culture history remains the staple, bread-and-butter, archaeology for much of sub-Saharan Africa, particularly for the 'Iron Age' periods. As such, there is an enduring emphasis on cultural sequencing and ordering within these periods, and the identification of packages of archaeological traits across time and space".

The study of the migration and spread of farming communities in Sub-Saharan Africa is an example of ceramics being used on a large, continental scale (Phillipson 2005; Soper 1971a, 1971b; Huffman 1970, 1989b). Researchers have also used ceramics to create local spatio-temporal frameworks, such as Evers (1973, 1974, 1980, 1981) for Mpumalanga (former Eastern Transvaal) and in the SLCA, where it is incorporated into research on social complexity and the development of centres of political power (Calabrese 2007; Chirikure et al. 2013; Eloff & Meyer 1981; Hanisch 1974, 1980, 1981; Huffman 2007a, 2009; Meyer 1980). These studies all have one thing in common, which is the use of ceramics to answer the research questions and more than just the ceramics themselves.

Ceramic style remains an important area of inquiry in southern Africa and remains the most common factor in defining socio-cultural units in the Iron Age. Huffman (1980; 2007b), for example, argues that ceramic facies can be seen as representing cultural groups because pottery techniques and the stylistic aspects of ceramic production are passed on and taught within kinship communities. Huffman and Herbert (1994/1995) also argue that there is a clear correlation between language, worldview, and material culture, and that ceramic facies, represent linguistic entities. As a result, ceramic style is believed to not only be emblematic of different groups, but also to identify patterns of interaction. More recent ceramic studies use traditional stylistic analyses to move beyond space-time classifications to also investigate issues related to interaction, mobility and practice (Calabrese 2000, 2007; Ashley 2010; A. Antonites 2012, 2014). Ashley (2010) for example, argues for the continued usefulness of ceramics in archaeological research, proposing that besides the macro-analysis usually done, archaeologists should look at regional factors as well, so as to not fall back on culture-historical thinking in terms of homogeneity and stasis.

However, significant criticism has also been levelled toward the use of ceramics to outline cultures in the southern African past. Gosselain and Smith (2013) for example question the link between ornamentation, size, and shape of ceramics to language. Pikirayi (2007) criticises the limitation of using only ceramics from a site, stating that without accompanying material, ceramics are less meaningful and cannot provide enough information on its own. Gosselain (1992) argues that there are still large amounts of deduction involved and the archaeologist can only glean so much information from a decorated pot. Karega-Mũnene (2003: 31) states that it is

problematic to use modern ethnographic studies to define historic groups into what is essentially "…molds based on modern ethnic groups". The way that archaeologists relate the ceramic style boundaries to an environment to create cultural areas has also received criticism by scholars who argue that social interaction and group identities cannot be defined by social categories born from stylistic boundaries (Hall 1983).

My study follows the view that ceramic style represents communities of shared practice and therefore social interaction (c.f. A. Antonites 2012) Ethno-archaeological studies (Krause 1985; Van Der Lith 1960, 1972; Ortman 2000) found that children are encouraged to play with the clay at a young age, watching the artisans at work and experimenting on their own. This leads to the children attempting to replicate what they see without anyone actively teaching them, and they experiment until they eventually manage to make something similar to what they saw being made by the experienced members of the community. Communities of practice are a way of viewing how ceramics production was passed to the next generation without seeing the learning and use of style as a uniform mould throughout the community, but rather giving the community some agency and room to change slightly (c.f. Lave & Wenger 1991). As a result, ceramic style is seen as a valid and applicable resource in identifying interaction and agency in the past.

Taking this approach, this study will investigate the ceramics of Evelyn (EV01) and Klein Bolayi (EV02) in order to better understand interactions at a regional scale, as well as hyper-local site level interactions.

1.2. Structure of Thesis

In the following chapters I will first present the environmental and archaeological context for the research before moving to the methods and definitions used for this study. This will be followed by the ceramic data from each site and an in-depth study of the ceramic assemblages before moving to regional and local comparisons.

Chapter 2: Context of the Research

Evelyn (EV01) and Klein Bolayi (EV02) were both excavated as part of A. Antonites and C. Ashley's larger research projects which focus on the role of Mapungubwe commoners in the Limpopo River Valley. This research is ongoing and has to date resulted in a MA dissertation (Lippert 2020) on the trade goods and social valuables from sites in the study area (including Klein Bolayi and Evelyn) as well as published articles on the fauna (A. Antonites et al. 2016) and patterns of mobility (A. Antonites and Ashley 2016; A. Antonites et al. 2016).

The following chapter will briefly outline the environmental and archaeological context of the research on Evelyn (EV01) and Klein Bolayi (EV02).

2.1. Environmental Background

2.1.1. Geology

The research sites are located in a rich and complex geological landscape – part of the Central Zone (CZ) of the Limpopo Mobile Belt. This zone is composed of amphibolite- to granulite- facies granitoid gneisses and supracrustal sequences (Brandl 1981 c/o Kröner et al. 2018:320).

The CZ of the Limpopo Mobile Belt is comprised of a complex series of unique geological features which includes the Bulai Gneiss Suite on the farm Evelyn - on which both the research sites are located (Kröner et al. 2018). The landscape is dotted with granite outcrops, one of the most prominent being a massive bulbous extrusion of the Bulai Pluton known as Klein Bolayi (Bulaai/Bulai in some spellings) directly north of the Musina-Alldays road and within 2.1km from both the research sites. The Klein Bolayi, along with the larger Groot Bolayi extrusion found south-east of the Klein Bolayi Game Lodge would have been two very prominent landmarks for the inhabitants of Evelyn (EV01) and Klein Bolayi (EV02).

2.1.2. Climate, Ecology and Fauna

The surrounding environment is defined as a semi-arid climate, receiving around 350mm of precipitation annually. It has a rainy season that extends from October to March with a peak in rainfall during January and February, however rainfall is highly variable (Smith 2005). This climate allows for the farming of cereals such as sorghum and millet with a dependence on seasonal rains to water the crops.

The vegetation is Mopane Bushveld (part of the larger Savanna biome) that can sustain animal husbandry. The banks of the Limpopo River itself and smaller surrounding rivers such as the Klein Bolayi River are covered dense riverine growth (Van Rooyen and Bredenkamp 1996). Due to the numerous distinct plant communities occuring throughout the wider Limpopo Valley (Götze et al. 2008) a high plant and animal diversity is consistent throughout the Middle Limpopo River Valley.

2.1.3. Archaeological Context

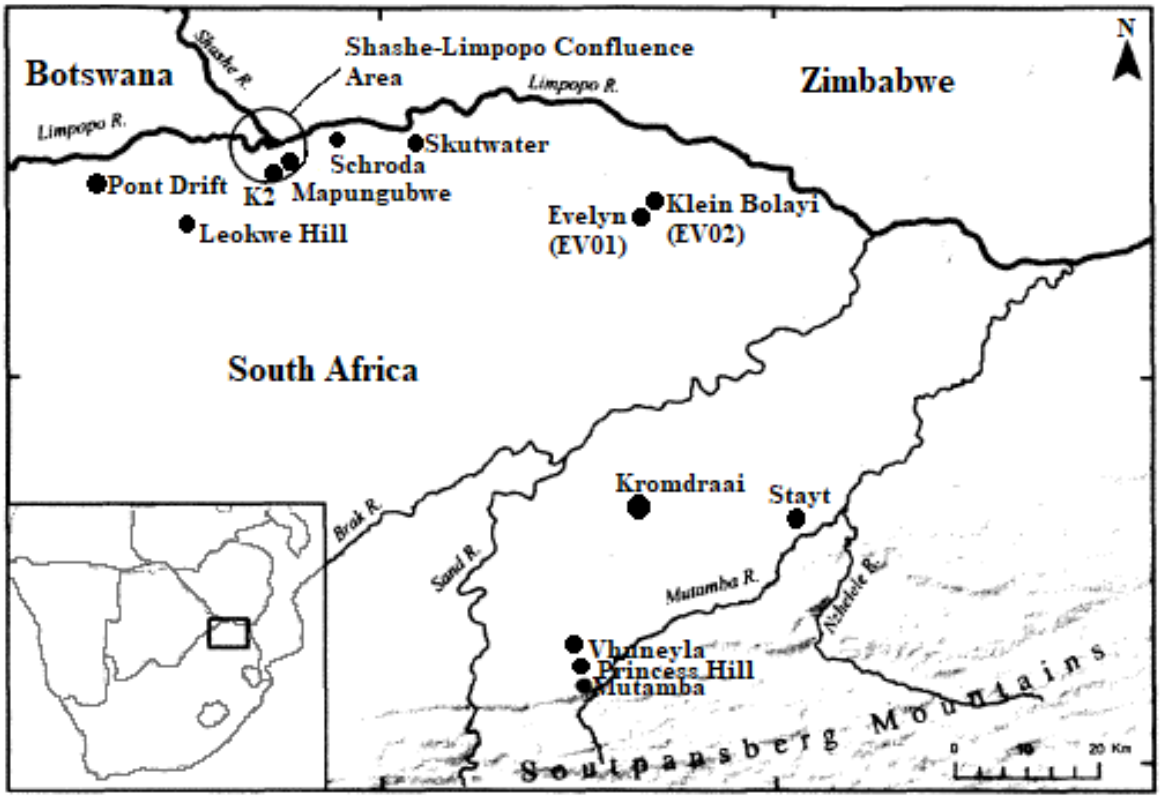


Figure 2: Location of Evelyn (EV01) and Klein Bolayi (EV02) in the Middle Limpopo River Valley and other sites mentioned in text (Adapted from Antonites 2012)

The archaeology of the Shashe-Limpopo Confluence Area and surrounding region has been the focus of numerous researchers since the 1920s (A. Antonites, A.R. Antonites, Calabrese, Fouchè, Gardner, Hall, Huffman, Meyer, Schoeman, Schofield, Smith, Steyn, Summers, Van der Walt, Van Ewyk).

The first Bantu-speaking communities moved into the SLCA region sometime between 350 and 450 AD. These communities produced Happy Rest (500-750 AD) and Mzonjani (450-750) ceramics, two distinct facies which spread to the West and the South-East of the Soutpansberg Mountains respectively (Huffman 2008, 2007b, 2009). Early Iron Age settlements have not yet been found in the Middle Limpopo River Valley and are most likely buried underneath more recent Middle- and Late Iron Age sites (Huffman 2009). The lack of Early Iron Age residential sites makes pinpointing the initial farmer occupation difficult.

According to Huffman (1996, 2008), from about 750 AD there was a relatively low population in the area between the Soutpansberg Mountains and the Shashe-Limpopo confluence with droughts making farming difficult, the dry climate eventually forcing the farming communities out of the area (A.R. Antonites 2018; A. Antonites; Smith et al. 2007; Huffman 2008, 2009).

Climatic data from pollen (Scott et al. 2003), faunal remains (Smith et al. 2007), and stalagmites (Holmgren et al. 2001; Lee-Thorp et al. 2001; Tyson et al. 2002; Holmgren et al. 2003; Lee-Thorp 2004) has given researchers new insights into the climate during the Iron Age in the SLCA regarding rainfall and humidity. These studies show that the dry period lasted until around 1030 AD. By 900AD, communities associated with *Zhizo* ceramics had started moving into the SLCA despite a generally unfavourable climate for agriculture. Regardless, crop and livestock production increased through the use of natural resources that could compensate for dry conditions. For agriculture, these include floodplains, riverbanks and soil types that are favourable for growing crops. For livestock, the dominant vegetation - mopane trees (*Colophospermum mopane*) – could compensate for drier periods where grass for grazing was scarcer (Smith et al. 2007). The geographical location of the SLCA was also a prime location in terms of the inland part of the Indian Ocean trade network, with the surrounding area rich in resources that were in demand by the Indian Ocean trade network (Hall 2007; Chirikure 2014). The trade

routes between coastal settlements and settlements in the interior traded gold, iron, animal skins and ivory for cloth, glass beads, and glazed ceramics (Chirikure 2014; Denbow et al. 2015; Huffman 2007b; Prinsloo et al 2005; Sinclair et al. 2012).

Largely contemporary with *Zhizo* communities, the period after 950AD also sees new communities settling south of the Soutpansberg Mountains. These communities are associated with the *Eiland* ceramic facies and its distinctive herringbone decorations (Evers & Van Der Merwe 1987; Loubser 1988). Though communities associated with *Eiland* ceramics did not inhabit settlements to the north of the Soutpansberg Mountains, *Eiland* ceramics are present in the assemblages from sites from the north of the Soutpansberg Mountains into the thirteenth century, this suggesting continued interaction.

By 1000AD settlements with *Leopard's Kopje* ceramics appear in the SLCA which suggests the movement of people from southern Zimbabwe and eastern Botswana into the SLCA (A. Antonites 2012; Calabrese 2000; 2005; Huffman 1984). An increase in rainfall to 500mm per annum during this time could be one of the reasons for the establishment and growth of larger settlements such as K2 as they could expand farming as well as herding due to the favourable climate (Smith *et al* 2007; Schoeman 2006, 2009).The heads of political power at K2 took over most of the trade, quickly establishing themselves as the main political power of the SLCA at the time, with K2 quickly becoming an important political and economic centre judging by the amount of exotic trade goods and the large cattle herds and population numbers (Calabrese 2000, 2007; Huffman 2009; Meyer 2000).

By 1150 AD, the large central kraal in K2 was abandoned in favour of distributing the cattle to some of the smaller surrounding settlements (Meyer 2000; Huffman 2009), and an exceptionally large midden started forming over the site of the central kraal. This midden grew rapidly and the deposit was nearly six meters deep by 1220 AD. A midden of this size is unique for sites from southern African prehistory and directly relates to the political status of the settlement's leader (Calabrese 2007; Huffman 2009; Meyer 1998, 2000).

With the political rise of K2, *Zhizo* ceramics users moved into Botswana, but the *Zhizo* style remained in use among other groups, with an increasing K2 influence incorporated into the *Zhizo* wares (Calabrese 2000, 2007). This K2 influenced facies

is known as *Leokwe*, with some arguing that *Leokwe* and K2 ceramics were made by different ethnic and class groups (Calabrese 2000, 2007; Huffman 2007b). From deposits at Leokwe Hill, Calabrese (2007)) identified a change in ceramics occurring near the end of the 12th century AD. This change in ceramics has been identified as the transition between K2 and Mapungubwe, and the resulting facies defined as Transitional K2 (TK2) (Huffman 2007b; Van der Walt 2012).

At this point, the political power of the K2 settlement shifted to Mapungubwe hill, approximately two kilometres east (Meyer 1980, 1998). *Leokwe* ceramics increasingly disappear from the archaeological record along with this shift in the central political power, suggesting that the groups making *Leokwe* ceramics were fully integrated into Mapungubwe society (Calabrese 2007). During the occupation of K2, the base of Mapungubwe Hill was occupied by commoners, but after K2 was abandoned, the hilltop of Mapungubwe Hill became the new seat for the sacred leadership for the next c.80 years. The status of the rulers of Mapungubwe Hill is evident in the large structures, trade goods, and rich burials found during the excavations (Huffman 2009; Meyer 1998; Vogel 2000).

The ruling elite and sacred leadership at Mapungubwe were separated from the commoners by the naturally difficult-to-access hilltop which was further isolated through the use of stone walling and guards, secluding the king from the people at the base of the hill by limiting access to the hill (A. Antonites 2012; Calabrese 2007; Huffman 2009). This points to a strongly enforced hierarchy, and is the first real evidence of using the geography to separate the commoners from the ruling elite, thereby reinforcing a class-based social system further through separation. While neither Schroda nor K2 were topographically suitable for this phenomenon which Huffman (2009) calls the elite pattern, Mapungubwe was ideal for it.

One of the factors that possibly played a role in this shift from K2 to Mapungubwe was settling around- and on hills suitable for rainmaking rituals and correlates drier conditions at around 1200 AD, with an average annual rainfall as low as 350mm in the SLCA area (Smith *et al* 2007; Schoeman 2006, 2009). As a result, rain-control rituals in the region become increasingly important. Hills with naturally occurring rock tanks or streams at the bases were often used as rainmaking ritual sites located away from settlements to be closer to nature. Before and during the K2 period, hunter-

gatherers were involved in rain-control rituals, as they were seen by farming communities as having stronger ties to nature and the ability to influence it (Schoeman 2006). The material culture found atop rain-control hills comprises mainly of hunter-gatherer artefacts such as Late Stone Age lithics, though K2 ceramics are present as well (Schoeman 2006). Later generations at K2 stopped incorporating hunter-gatherers in rain-control practices, as rain-control beliefs and practices possibly changed with the increase in population densities and floodplain agriculture (Schoeman 2006). Grain bins and gravel-floored structures were built on rain-making hills, changing the way these communities looked at these sites. They were no longer sites far from settlements and closer to nature, but rather sites 'owned' by the society using them (Schoeman 2006, 2009). During the Mapungubwe period, this was taken further by centralising rain-control to the capital and thereby incorporating it into the notions of class distinction.

Recent research at the site of Mapela in modern Zimbabwe is believed by some to show signs of class distinctions before Mapungubwe due to terracing on the site, and is one of the sites thought to play a role in social and political complexity in southern Africa due to possible social stratification (Chirikure et al 2014; House 2016). The material excavated at Mapela Hill included thousands of K2 and Mapungubwe glass beads, which shows that the settlement of Mapela was active in the Indian Ocean Trade network and had ties with K2 and later Mapungubwe (House 2016). Huffman (2015) has argued that the Mapela evidence does not support it being a peer of Mapungubwe but rather an intrusive Woolandale settlement in an otherwise Mapungubwe cultural area. The terracing on Mapela is not similar to that of elite architecture at Mapungubwe and but instead typical of Woolandale sites of central Zimbabwe.

Several sites in the Mapungubwe hinterlands and the archaeological material excavated from them has provided researchers with more information regarding the SLCA. While Mapungubwe was the political and economic seat of power during its habitation period, sites in the periphery were important in Mapungubwe's economy and trade. Due to raw materials being localized, a system of mutual interaction and production was necessary (Vogel 1990). When any settlement as large as

Mapungubwe was at its height of power, a support structure is needed, as trade goods and other important materials could not only be sourced from the immediate area. Settlements in the periphery would have been able to aid Mapungubwe in terms of being able to obtain raw materials and goods which were not obtainable in the immediate vicinity of Mapungubwe, or goods which were available in limited amounts. The hinterland sites that are associated with Mapungubwe include sites such as Mutamba, Vhunyela, Prince's Hill, and Kromdraai (A. Antonites 2012, 2014; Loubser 1991). Settlements in the hinterlands interacted with other groups such as the *Eiland* ceramic users south of the Soutpansberg Mountains. An example of this is found at Mutamba, which interacted with *Eiland* communities and traded with them, resulting in a society adopting cultural aspects from both the SLCA and South of the Soutpansberg Mountains. These interactions could include bride exchange for economic or political reasons, as well as trade in material culture (A. Antonites 2012; Loubser 1988). The material culture from many of these hinterland sites show that they relied on Mapungubwe for exotic goods such as glass beads, and Mapungubwe in turn relied upon the hinterland settlements for locally produced items such as ostrich eggshell beads, metal tools and -jewellery, cotton, and animal products such as skins and ivory (A. Antonites 2012, 2014; Calabrese 2000; Forssman 2017; Huffman 2015, 2007b; Pikirayi 2007; Pwiti 1997; Rice 2005).

The SLCA was abandoned around 1300 AD, likely due to both environmental as well as political factors playing a role. Though the rainfall had increased to an average of 500mm before the abandonment of Mapungubwe in 1290 AD, possible effects of a sudden increase in rainfall could be catastrophic for a society which had learned to specialise in growing crops in a semi-arid environment (Smith *et al* 2007). However, new paleoclimatic data (Huffman and Woodbourne 2016) suggests the onset of a severe draught in the early 14th-century drought were likely played a major role in the abandonment SLCA settlements. Trade between the Mapungubwe heartland and the Indian Ocean trade route started decreasing most likely due to Great Zimbabwe becoming a large and influential settlement and taking over trade networks due to a surplus of gold and ivory in the hinterlands surrounding it (Huffman 2009; Pikirayi 2001; Vogel 2000).

2.1.4. Ceramic Sequences of the 10th -13th century Limpopo Valley

Southern African ceramics, particularly from the SLCA, have received high levels of research interest, and have been studied in depth with the aim of better understanding the communities that created them. Ceramics research in the region started in earnest not long after the discovery of gold on Mapungubwe Hill in 1932, with large scale archaeological work starting on the Greefswald farm area in the 1930s and 1940s, mainly with the aim of studying the sites of K2 and Mapungubwe (Fouchè 1937; Gardner 1963; Meyer 1998, 2000).

Initial analysis of the SLCA ceramics were done by Schofield (1937, 1948) and Gardner (1963). Schofield emphasises vessel quality over other stylistic attributes and only discusses the chronological implication of the ceramics in broad terms, thus not quite creating a workable stylistic database to use. He defined three vessel classes based on the overall quality of the vessel's finish, and he ultimately glossed over what the more recent stylistic analyses find imperative to the study. Schofield's analysis provides us with 3 different grades of ceramic fineness, but he did not put much focus on the chronological implications (Meyer 1980, 1998; A. Antonites 2012). Gardner (1963) focused only collecting mostly intact vessels from Mapungubwe, choosing to ignore the "…thousands of sherds that littered the site" (Gardner 1963: 63). Gardner also ignored additions like burnishing, colour and the quality of the clay. As a result of these shortcomings, more recent scholars will be used for comparative analysis.

The two primary scholars are Huffman (1970, 1980, 1989a, 2007a, 2007b) and Meyer (1980, 1998). Meyer's work is based on the Greefswald sites, primarily Mapungubwe and K2, completed as a MA dissertation (1980). Huffman has several publications on the area as well, but his Handbook to the Iron Age (2007b) is a consolidation of his research on ceramics typologies and it makes for an ideal platform to use alongside my analysis. Other sources that will be helpful include Van Ewyk's (1987) MA dissertation on Skutwater, Van der Walt's (2012) MA dissertation on TK2 and the shift to Mapungubwe, and Huffman's (2017) paper on Liz 197, a TK2 homestead excavated in 2008.

K2 Ceramics

Robinson (1947) described pottery from the Khami ruins in Zimbabwe and identified two distinct phases: Leopard's Kopje A and Leopard's Kopje B. These phases are divided into northern and southern variants, with the southern variants of Leopard Kopje A and B being K2 and Mapungubwe respectively. Fouché (1937) and Gardner (1963) discussed the K2 capital and the ceramics associated with it, while Meyer (1980, 1988, 2000), Vogel (2000), and Vogel and Calabrese (2000) further discussed the K2 ceramics in depth. K2 ceramics are mostly described as spherical pots with short necks and beakers (Meyer 1980). The inclusion of spouts and openings on the vessels are also an attribute of K2 ceramics (Calabrese 2000; Meyer 1980). K2 vessels are mainly decorated with incisions and punctates, with bands around the neck. Incised Upward-facing triangles are commonly found on the necks of K2 vessels (Meyer 1980; Van Der Walt 2012)

TK2 Ceramics

Between K2 being the established capital and the shift to Mapungubwe, K2 society underwent changers in settlement organization, class distinction and leadership (Calabrese 2007). These changes are associated with changes in ceramic style, which was recognized by Meyer (1980) and Eloff and Meyer (1981) but it was only later that these changes were formally referred to as a new facies. Calabrese and Vogel (2000) identified a change in the ceramics at Leokwe hill and pointed out that it formed a transitional period between K2 and Mapungubwe. The ceramics from the TK2 period are different from K2, with a stylistic shift towards; but not quite the same as; Mapungubwe ceramics (Huffman 2007b). TK2 ceramics are mostly described as spherical pots with longer necks. The motifs on TK2 vessels mainly comprise of downward-pointing incised triangles or alternating triangles on the shoulder of the vessel (Van Der Walt 2012).

Mapungubwe Ceramics

TK2 ceramics changed into Mapungubwe ceramics at around AD 1250 (Huffman 2007b) with the style changing to include more burnishing and cross-hatched triangles on vessel shoulders. Mapungubwe ceramics comprise mostly of round-bellied pots with necks, shallow bowls, and deep bowls with restricted openings (Meyer 1980).

Chapter 3: Methods

This chapter outlines the field procedures and analytical methods employed in the analysis of the ceramics from Evelyn (EV01) and Klein Bolayi (EV02). This includes the field-, preparation- and analytical methods used in this project.

3.1. Field Methods

Dr. Antonites was first shown the sites of Evelyn (EV01) and Klein Bolayi (EV02) by Mr Uys, owner of the Klein Bolayi Game Lodge. A subsequent full coverage survey was conducted of Klein Bolayi to identify other sites. One additional MIA site, EV03, was identified. This site was a small isolated homestead and not included in this study.

Inspection of surface material from Evelyn (EV01) and Klein Bolayi (EV02) identified large amounts of ceramic material and deposits of grey, ashy soil on the surface, indicating the presence of large kraal-midden deposits at both sites. Grain-bin stands and grinding stones found on the surface at both sites also implied the presence of a residential element around the kraals.

Excavation units were set up within a site grid orientated to magnetic north. Minimum excavation units were 2x2m squares placed within the grid. Larger, aerial exposures were made up of contiguous 2x2m units. Areas for excavation were selected to test various spatial components of the site such as kraals, middens, and household zones. All excavation proceeded with trowels, brushes and where appropriate, a spade. The removal of material was done in loci: discrete units of definable cultural or depositional content within an excavation unit. Contexts were defined using the stratigraphy, matrix and material culture of the various loci. A form containing as much archaeologically relevant information about each locus as possible was filled out by the excavators. Excavated deposits were screened through a 3mm screen and all cultural material collected. Initial processing and cleaning of material was conducted in the field lab.

At the start of each new locus, a ten-litre flotation sample was taken from the center of the locus. This sample was floated off-site using the University of Pretoria's archaeobotanical flotation system. Along with the flotation samples, a small sample of

10cm³ was also collected from where the flotation sample was taken for the identification of phytoliths. The flotation samples will form part of an upcoming PhD thesis by B. Steyn (University of Pretoria).

3.2. Ceramic Laboratory Methods

All ceramics were analysed in the University of Pretoria Archaeology Lab. All sherds were cleaned with water and soft brushing to remove adhering soil without damaging the artefact. Sherds were labelled with context information (site code and locus) in white ink on a thin strip of Paraloid® B72 painted on the inside of the sherd.

Once all the sherds were marked, all the ceramics were laid out on tables in groups comprising of the contexts in which they had been found. Any sherds that were part of the same vessel and fit together were then glued using Paraloid® B72 as an adhesive. Sherds that were clearly from the same vessel were kept together even if they could not be refitted. After refitting, diagnostic sherds were separated from the bulk of the assemblage.

3.3. Stylistic Analysis

The analysis followed a vessel-based approach rather than a sherd-based classification. All attempts were made to group sherds from the same vessel in order to avoid analysing the same vessel twice. Sherds that belong to the same vessel were analysed as a single vessel, rather than as individual sherds. In total, 712 diagnostic vessels were identified. For analysis at the facies level, only those vessels with large enough portions to identify profile, decoration and placement were used to define Types. Stylistic attributes were recorded on smaller sherds, but these were not used to define Vessel Types.

For the facies analysis, I adopted Huffman's (1980) standardized multi-dimensional approach to type ceramics assemblages to facies level. According to Huffman (2007b:111), there are three dimensions to consider: the profile of the vessel, the design layout, and the category of the motif. The combination of these three dimensions leads to the ability to define stylistic types.

The following attributes were analysed:

3.3.1. Profile

Profiles were variations of four basic vessel categories: jars, bowls, beakers, and plates. Based on differences within each of the four basic vessel shapes, nine profiles were defined. Several miniature vessels were found at both sites, and their profiles were defined in the same way as the regular vessels.

3.3.2. Motif

A motif is defined as a repetitive element – an element being the smallest self-contained component of a design e.g., a single incision or a single impression - or a combination of several elements combined to form a complex and repetitive pattern (Huffman 1980; Rice 2005). The motif variations were documented as analysis progressed. The motif techniques were:

Incisions – Cutting lines into the clay with a sharp implement. This can be done when the clay is soft or when it has started to harden. Incisions made on the surface of hardened vessels are known as engravings (Rice 2005: 144-147).

Punctates – Stamping or stabbing the soft clay with any of a variety of items, including fingernails or a sharp, pointed object (Rice 2005: 144-147).

3.3.3. Motif Placement

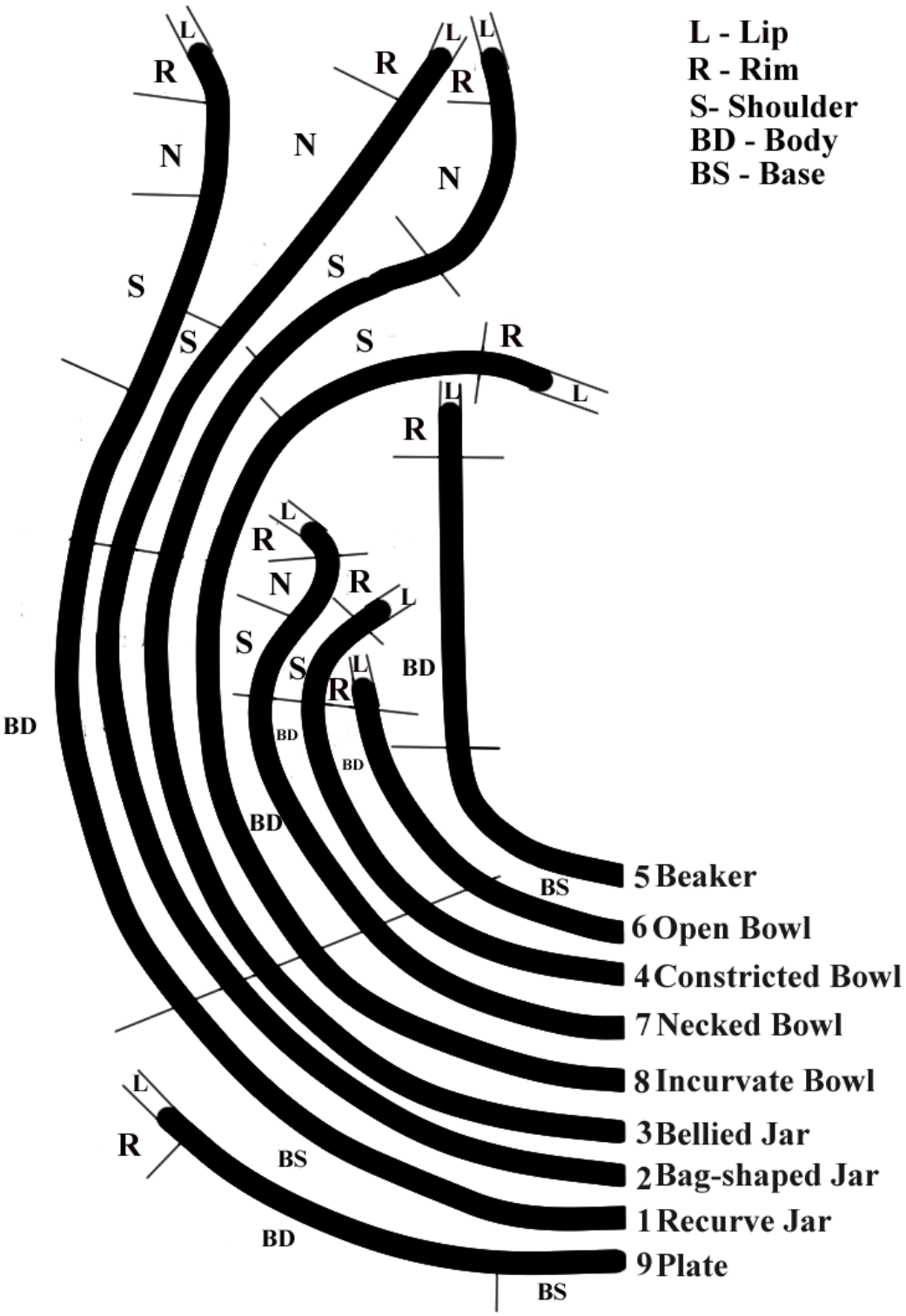


Figure 3: Motif placement categories

The placement of motifs on the vessel is an important diagnostic element in sub-Saharan African ceramic studies. The position of decorations on each vessel were recorded where diagnostic elements were present using the categories illustrated in Figure 3.

3.3.4. Appliqués

Rice (2005) defines an appliqué as "the application of small, shaped pieces of clay to the surface of the vessel, including fillets, pellets, spikes, flanges, and other attachments…" A small sample of the vessels from Evelyn (EV01) and Klein Bolayi (EV02) contained appliqués features such as spouts and lugs. These features were noted, though all but one of the four features found were on fragments that were too small to be used for Type classification. Where possible, the profile portion on where these features were found were recorded.

Chapter 4: The Archaeology of Evelyn (EV01) and Klein Bolayi (EV02)

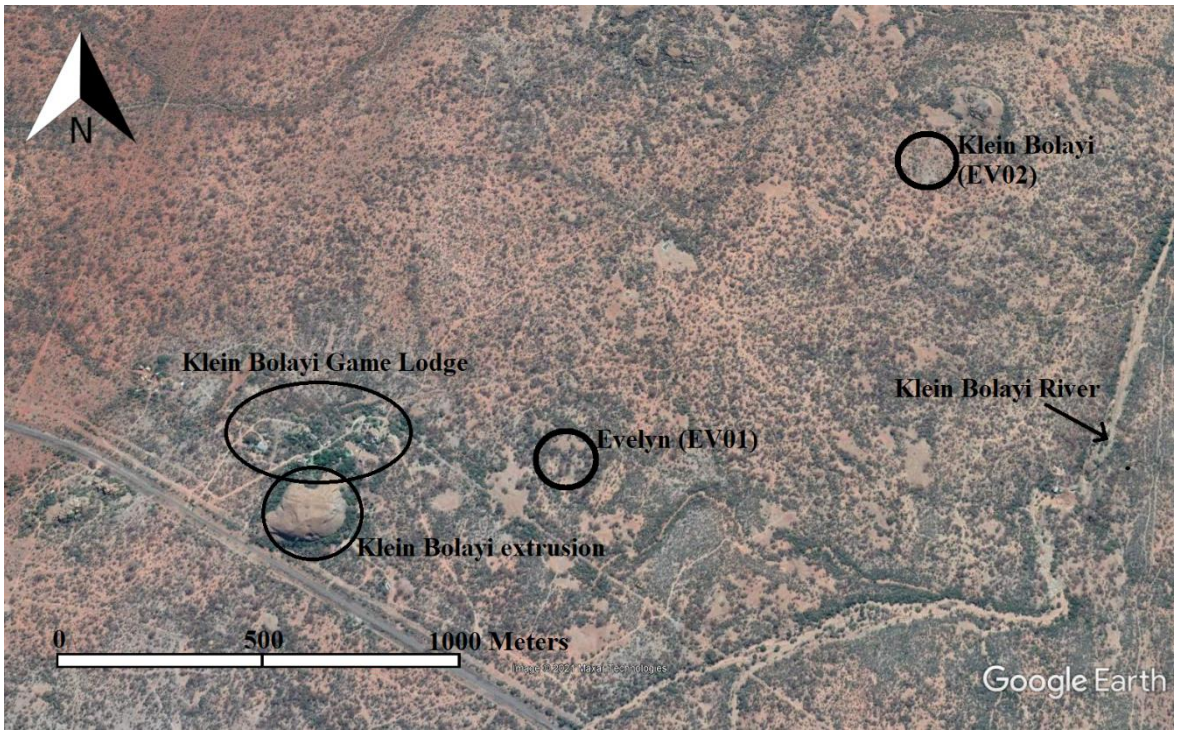


Figure 4: Map of the study area

This chapter will discuss the archaeology of each site along with descriptions of the layers excavated from each excavation square. Both sites are on the Klein Bolayi Game Lodge located 50km east of Mapungubwe. Evelyn (EV01) and Klein Bolayi (EV02) are situated within 2km from each other on the farm Evelyn 190MS. The sites are located 13km from the Limpopo River and are directly south of its tributary with the Mzingwane River. The Klein Bolayi River, a small perennial river, runs approximately 700m to the east of both sites.

4.1. Evelyn (EV01)

Evelyn (EV01) is a settlement located on the southern side of a large flat topped granite outcrop that forms a terrace above the site (Figure 5). The outcrop forms a large amphitheatre and most of the site is located within this space. A kraal is located in the centre of the settlement with household areas extending away from it. Portions

of the site are located on a natural terrace formed against the granite outcrop – effectively elevating this portion of the site above the rest of the settlement.

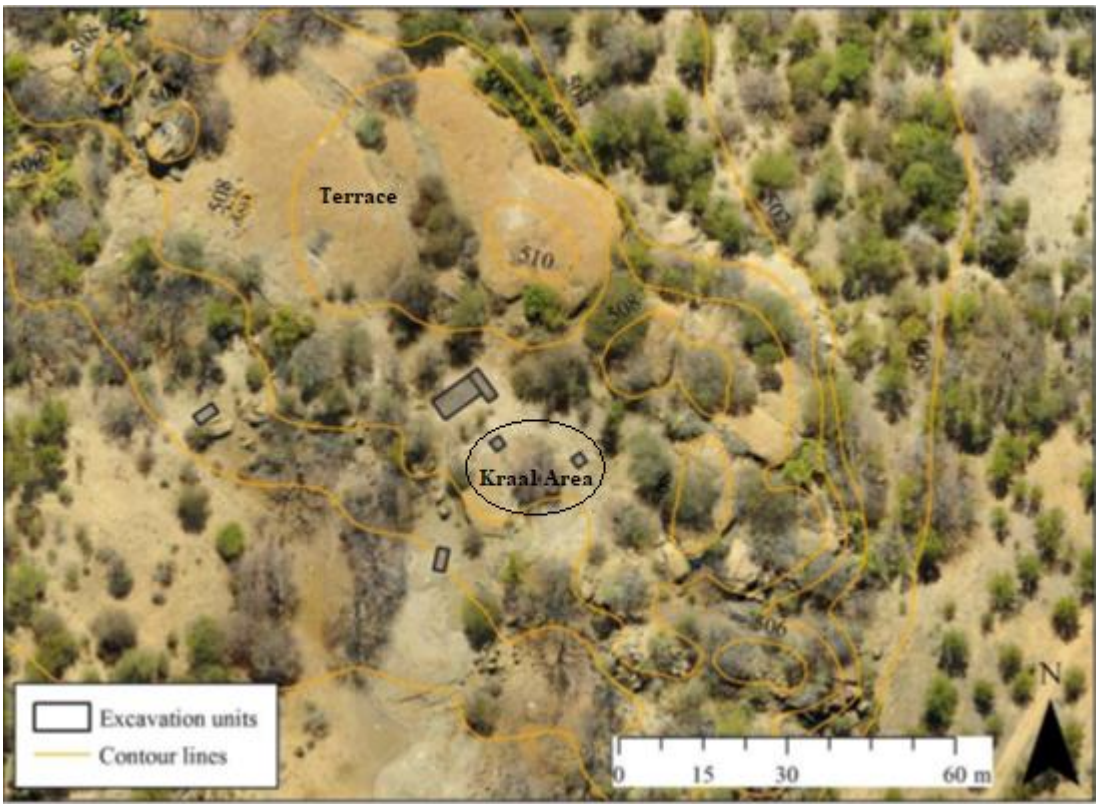


Figure 5: Overview of Evelyn (EV01) (Adapted from Lippert 2020)

4.1.1. Excavations of Evelyn (EV01)

The excavations at Evelyn (EV01) took place in July 2015. A total of seven excavation areas totalling 72m² were opened. Two of the units were joined during the course of the excavation, forming a large 'L'-shaped unit (Trench II and Trench VII) (Figure. 6).

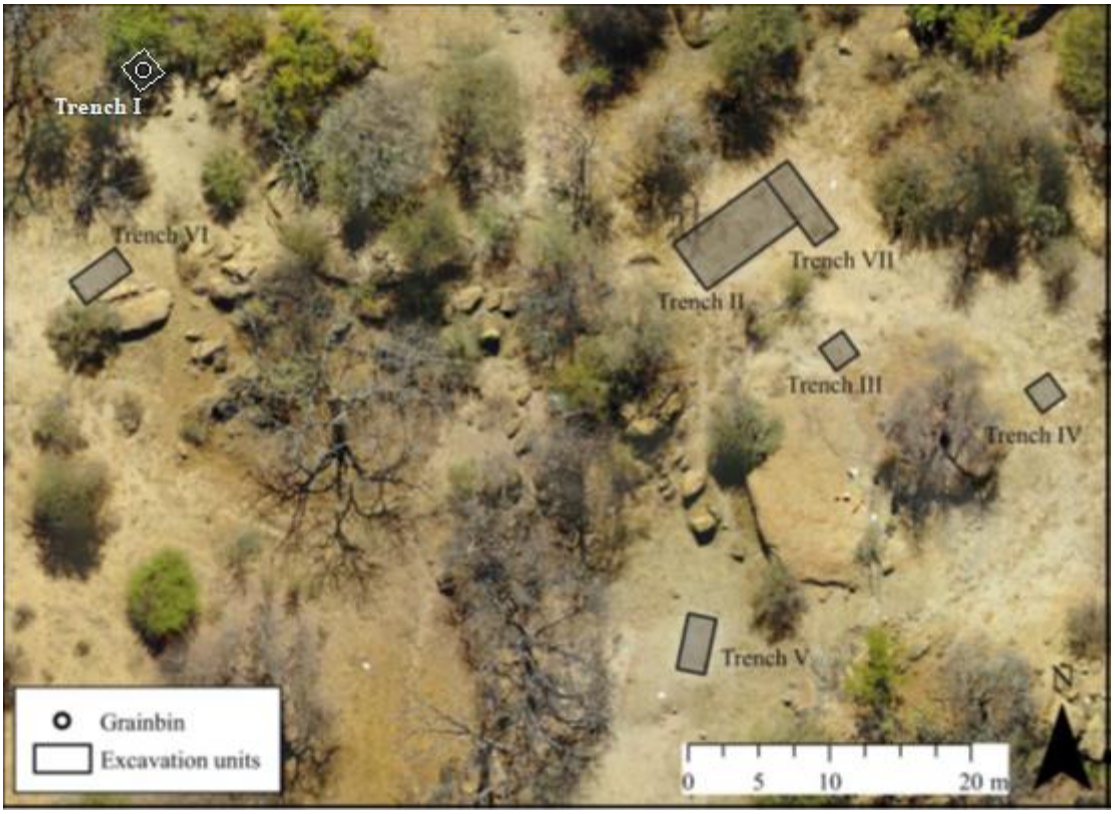


Figure 6: Evelyn (EV01) excavation units (Adapted from Lippert 2020)

Trench I (N971; E946)

This is a 2mx2m unit located on the western slope of the site, on an area of undefined archaeological fill that has collected in a flat area between two large boulders. Two gain bin bases were visible on the surface and exposed by excavation.

- C1015: Sandy surface context.
- C1016: Gravelly undefined archaeological fill layer that has collected between the grain bin bases.
- C1017: Material excavated from between the grain bins which was removed as a single context for flotation.

Trench II & VII (N1000; E976):

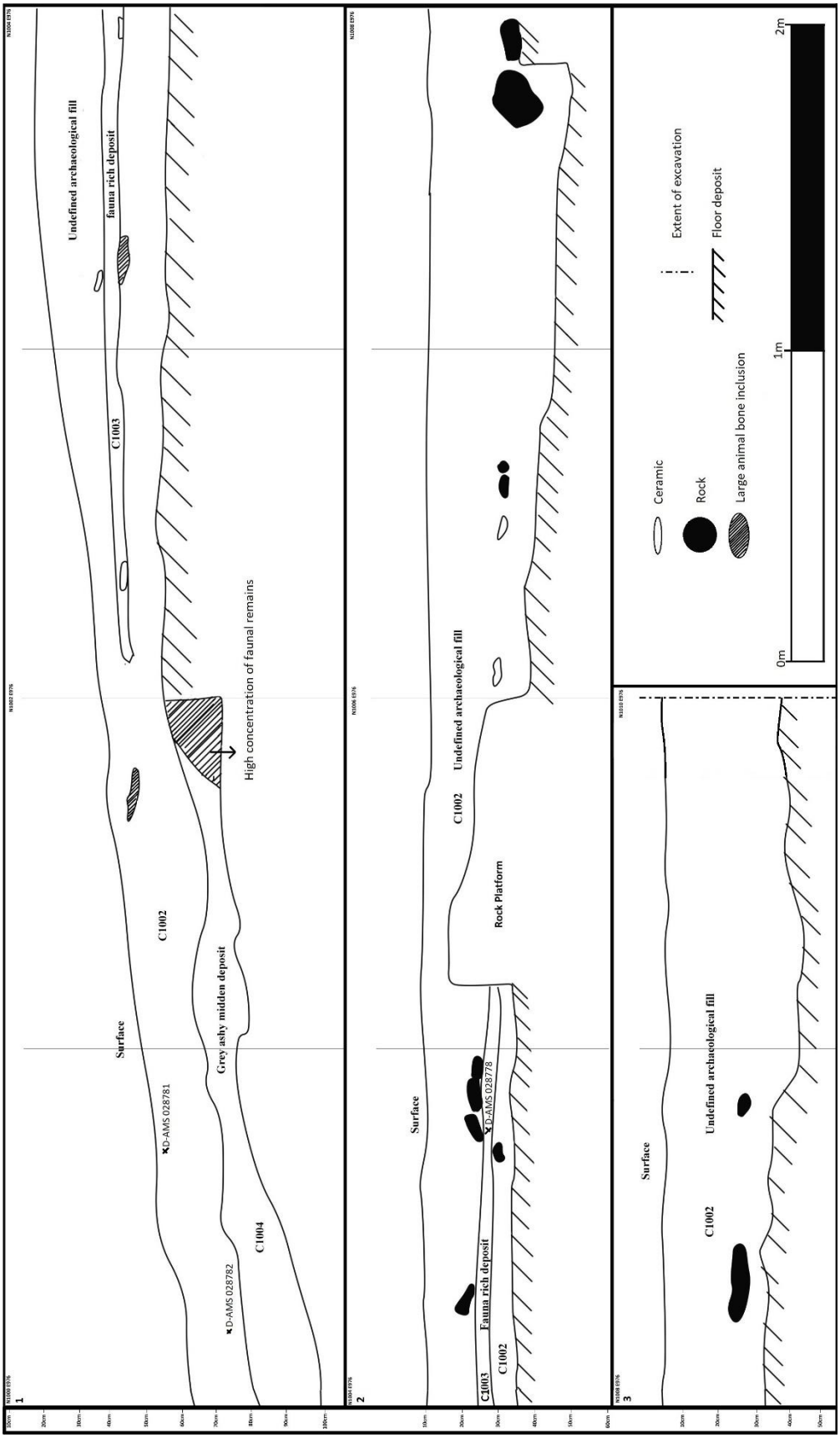


Figure 7: East-facing profile of Trench II & VII

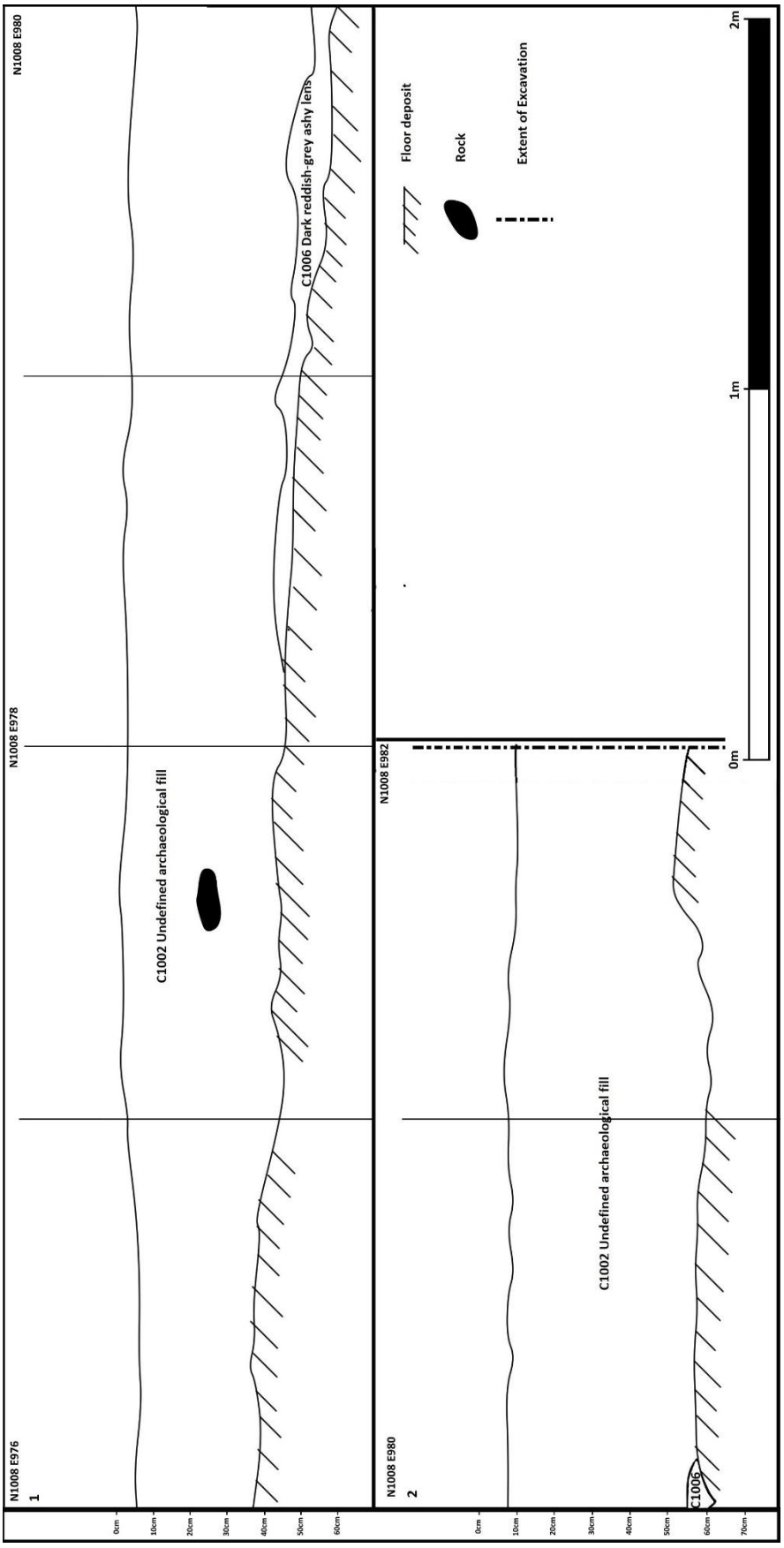


Figure 8: South-facing profile of Trench II and VII

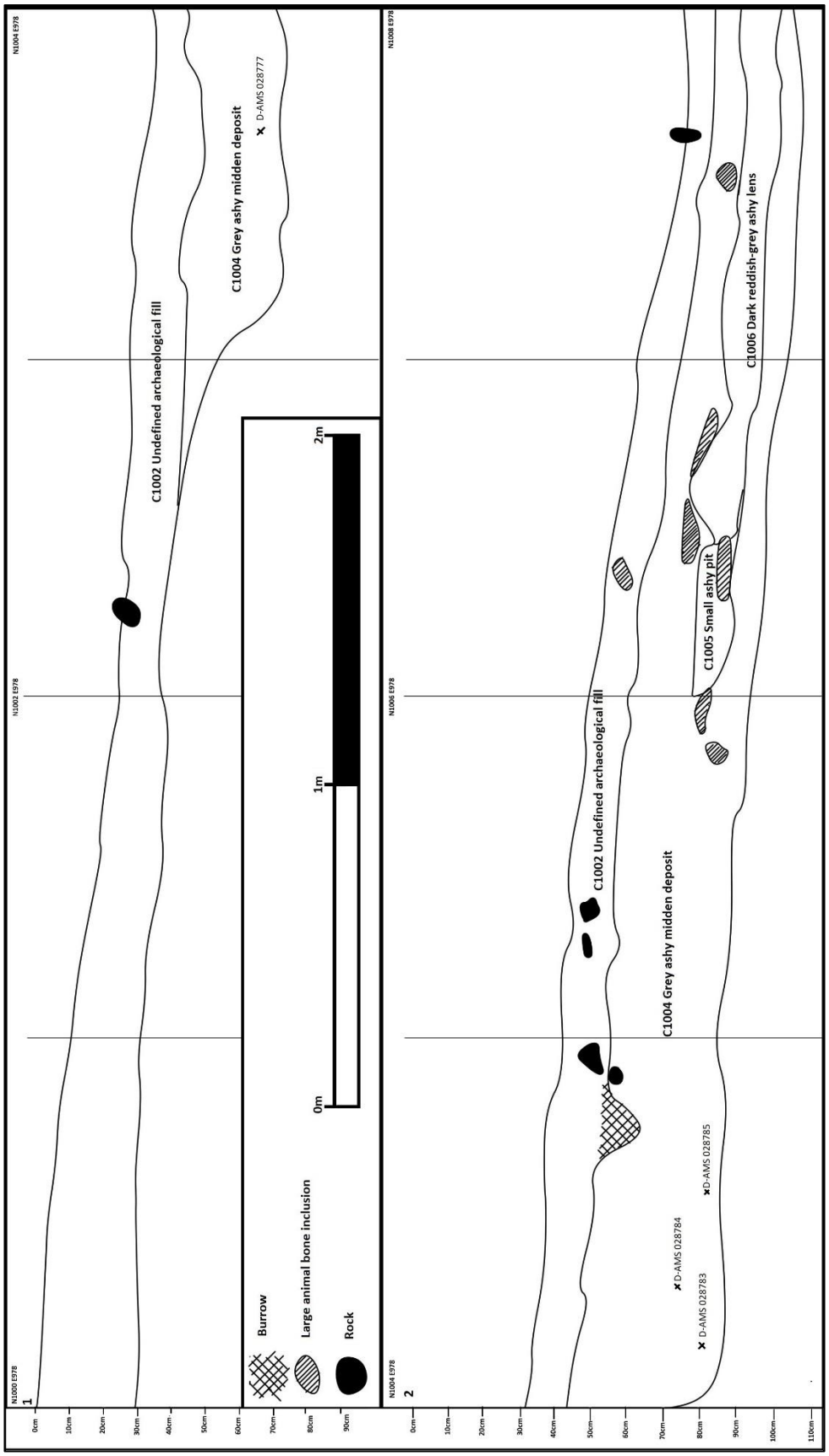


Figure 9: West-facing profile of Trench II and VII

Initially this unit was excavated as two separate areas but, both were expanded to link up to form an inverted L-shape of 24m² (Figure 5, Figure 7-9). It is located on a south facing slope that gets gradually steeper to the south. Contexts C1001 and C1002 cover the entire unit, the units in which other contexts appear will be stated where necessary. The combined units II and VII will be referred to as Trench II in the following.

- C1001: A layer of loose brown surface sand with root disturbances and slight erosion. This layer was the surface clean-up.
- C1002: Undefined archaeological fill layer likely slope washed material.
- C1003: A fauna rich deposit made up of looser soil with a high frequency of very friable animal bones.
- C1004: Grey ashy midden deposit with a marked decrease in material culture and fauna. This context contained a single human skeleton buried between two large rocks. No clear burial shaft, or cut, was visible.
- C1005: A small ashy pit removed as a separate unit. (This context is contained within C1004).
- C1006: Dark reddish grey ashy lens with an increase in gravel and daga (A Mixture of clay and cow dung) inclusions. (The base of this context ends on packed gravel flooring in both units).
- C1007: A gravel floor surface resting on a brown sterile sandy layer.

Trench III (N1014; E999) and Trench IV (N1004; E988):

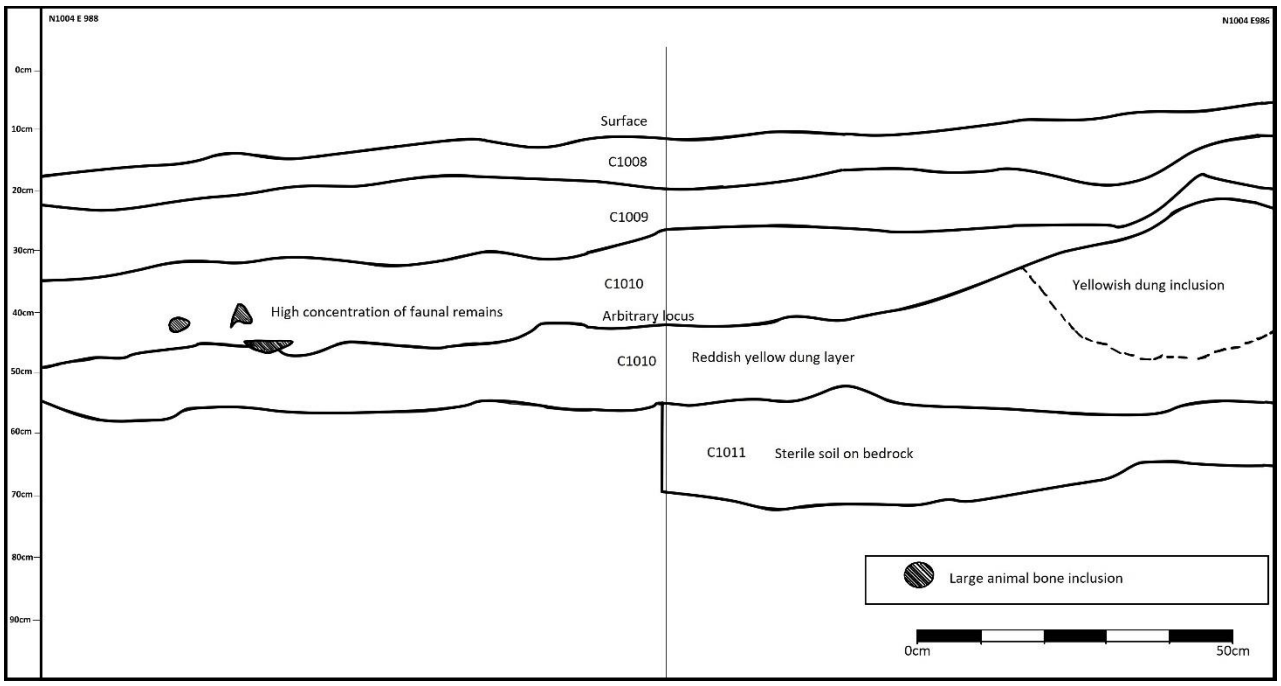


Figure 10: North-facing profile of Trench IV

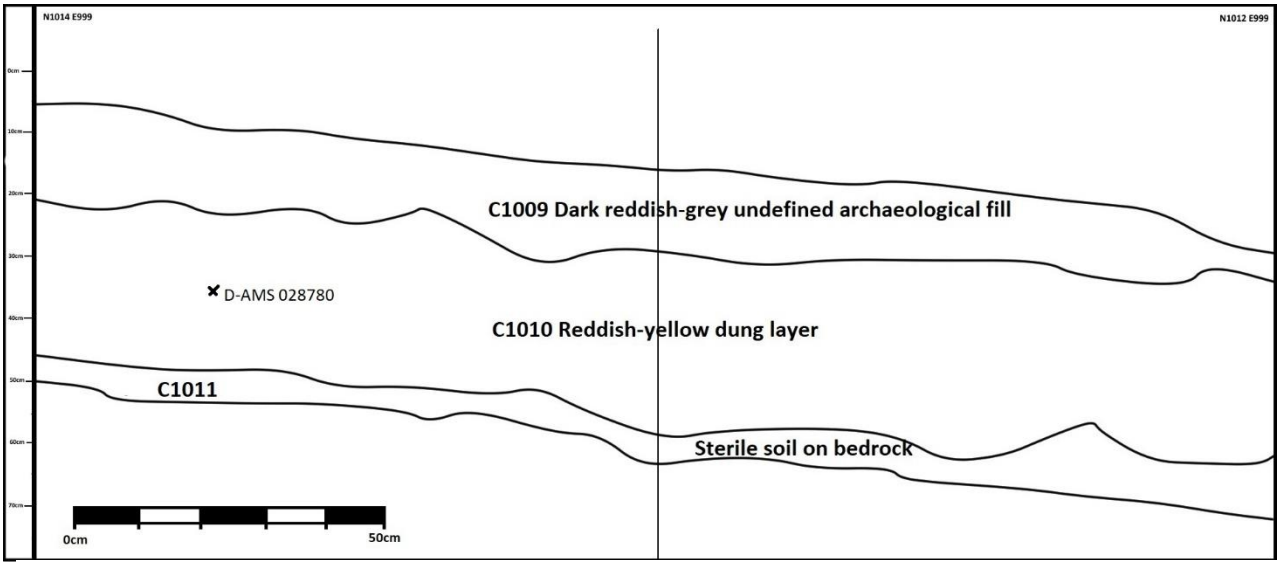


Figure 10: West-facing profile of Trench III

Both these 2mx2m units are located on a slight slope on the south east portion of the site (Figure 5, Figure 10-11).

The deposit is consistent between the two units as both fall within the kraal area of the site. Neither unit contained any distinct features.

- C1008: Loose surface layer slightly darker brown than other areas of the site with a loamy texture.
- C1009: A dark reddish grey gravel undefined archaeological fill layer with an increase in material culture towards the bottom on the unit. Small ashy inclusions as well as yellowish dung also appear towards the bottom of context.
- C1010: Reddish yellow dung layer which also has ashy inclusions and burnt dung towards the bottom of the context.
- C1011: Brown sterile sandy layer that ends on bedrock in both units.

Trench V (N983; E1000)

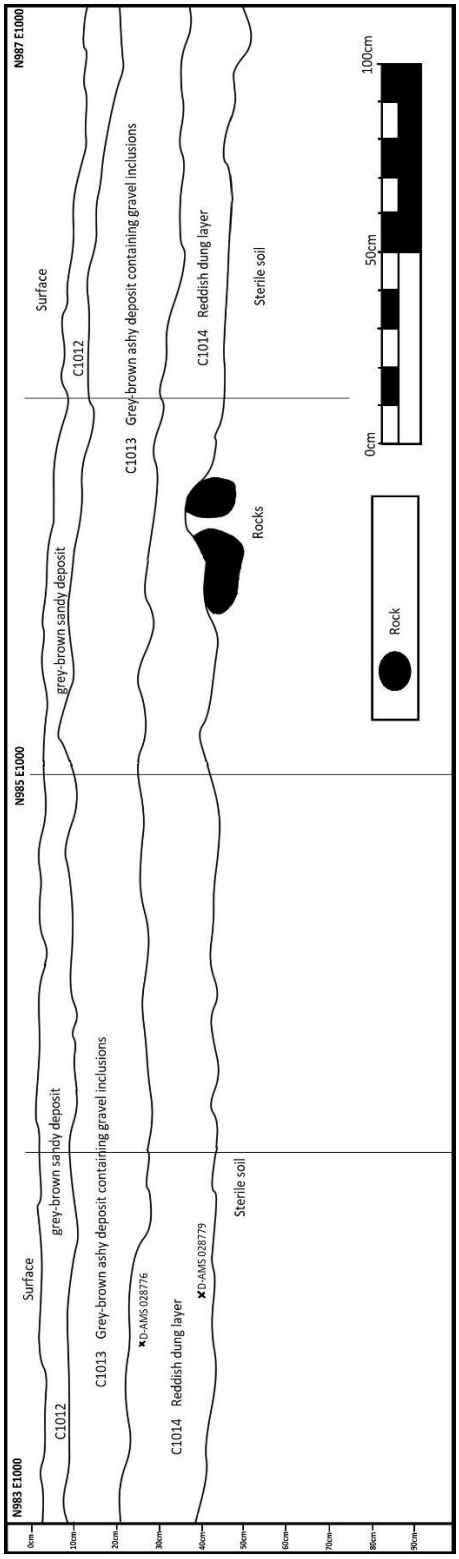


Figure 11: West-facing profile of Trench V

A 4mx2m unit which was placed over an ashy deposit near the base of the southern slope of the site (Figure 5, Figure 12).

- C1012: Loose surface greyish brown sandy deposit with ashy inclusions.
- C1013: Greyish brown ashy deposit containing slight gravel inclusions towards the bottom.
- C1014: Reddish dung layer that contains ashy burnt inclusions and ends on sterile soil.

Trench VI (N961; E942)

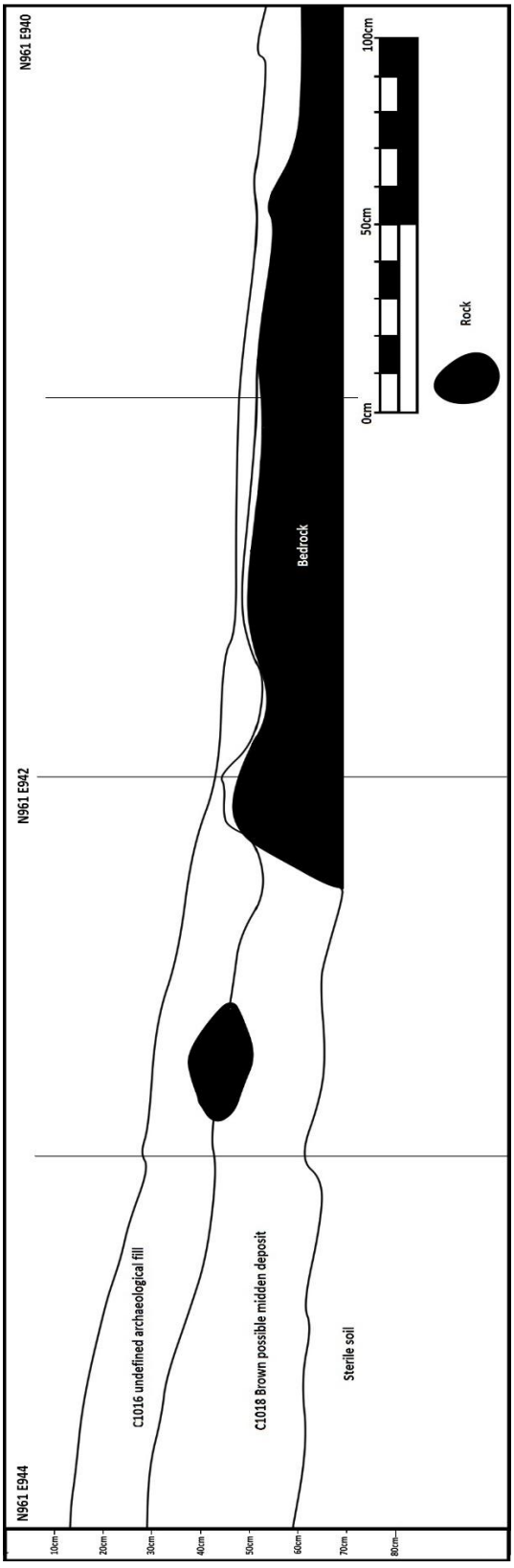


Figure 12: South-facing profile of Trench VI

N961 E942 is a 4mx2m unit that has similar depositional layers to Trench I. The northern edge of the unit is formed by a boulder (Figure 5, Figure 13).

- Both C1015 and C1016 (see Trench I) are present in this unit.
- C1018: Brown possible midden deposit that has collected against the boulder. This context ends on a brown sterile sandy layer.

4.2. Klein Bolayi (EV02):

Klein Bolayi (EV02) is located around 2km to the north-east of Evelyn (EV01). The site is situated on flat ground 1km south of a steep-sided hill. A modern 4x4 track cuts through the site, going past a large ashy midden that shows on the surface and helped with the initial identification of the site (Lippert 2020). The site is characterised by a large central kraal and household areas extending outwards. A smaller kraal area is located 120m north of the main kraal (Figure 14).

Figure 13: Overview of Klein Bolayi (EV02) (Adapted from Lippert 2020)

4.2.1. Excavations of Klein Bolayi (EV02)

Excavations at Klein Bolayi (EV02) took place in July 2016. A total of six excavation areas totalling 96m² were opened. The site included a large cattle kraal area, midden deposit and a large stone feature (Lippert 2020). The site was divided in 2 parts, with four areas excavated in the southern part of the site (Figure 15), and a second kraal being excavated 70m north of the central kraal (Figure 16).

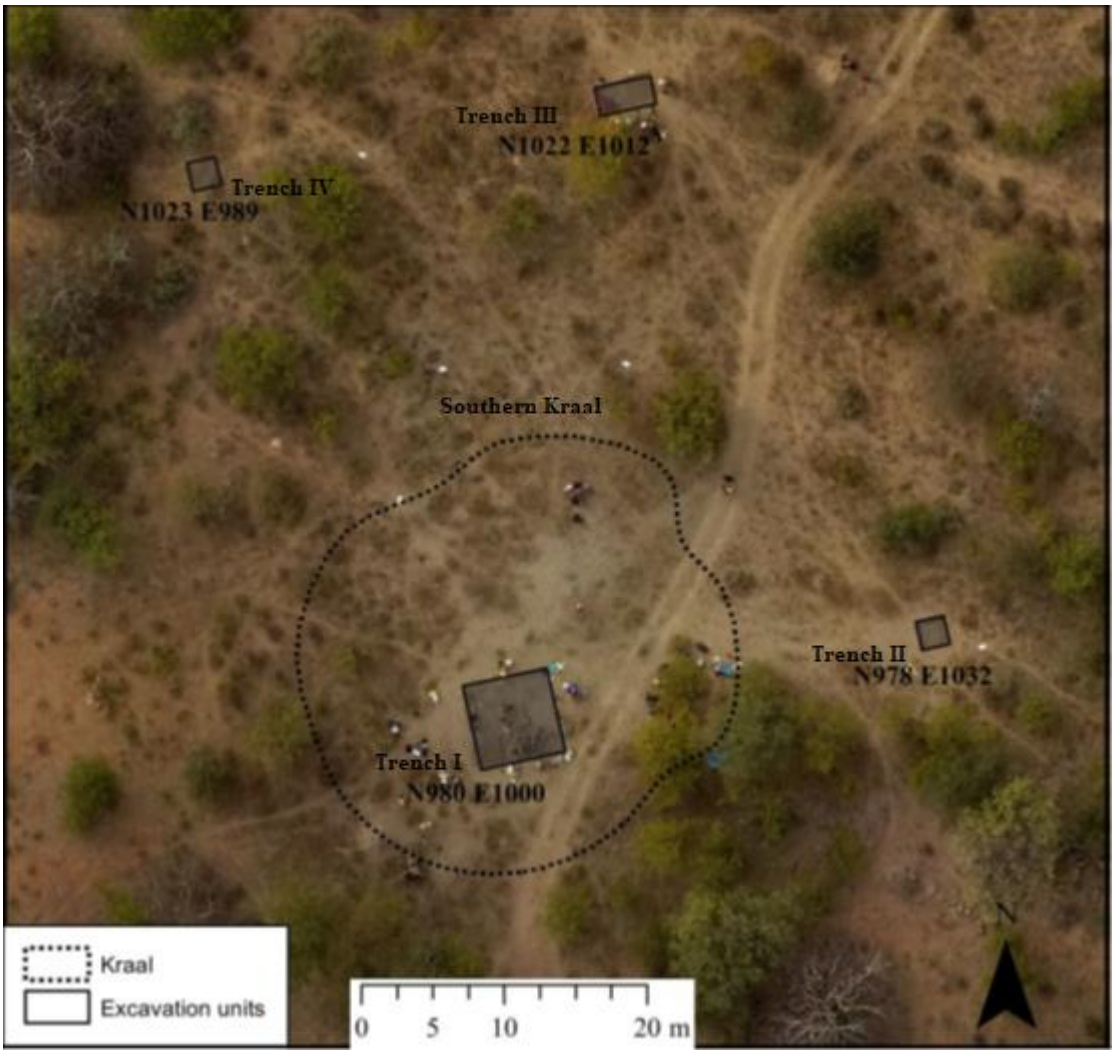


Figure 14: Klein Bolayi (EV 02) southern excavation units (Adapted from Lippert 2020)

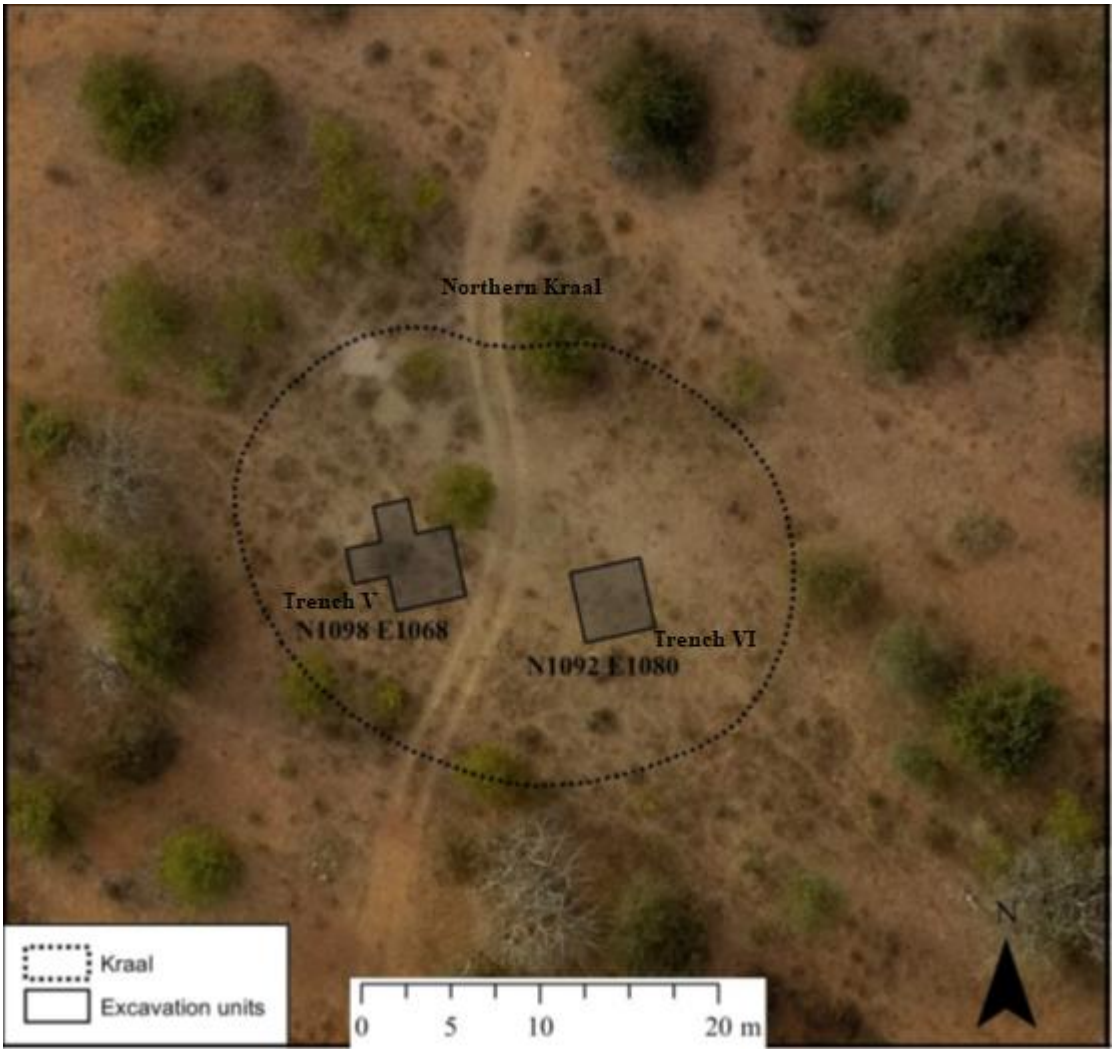


Figure 15: Klein Bolayi (EV 02) northern excavation units (Adapted from Lippert 2020)

Trench I (N980; E1000)

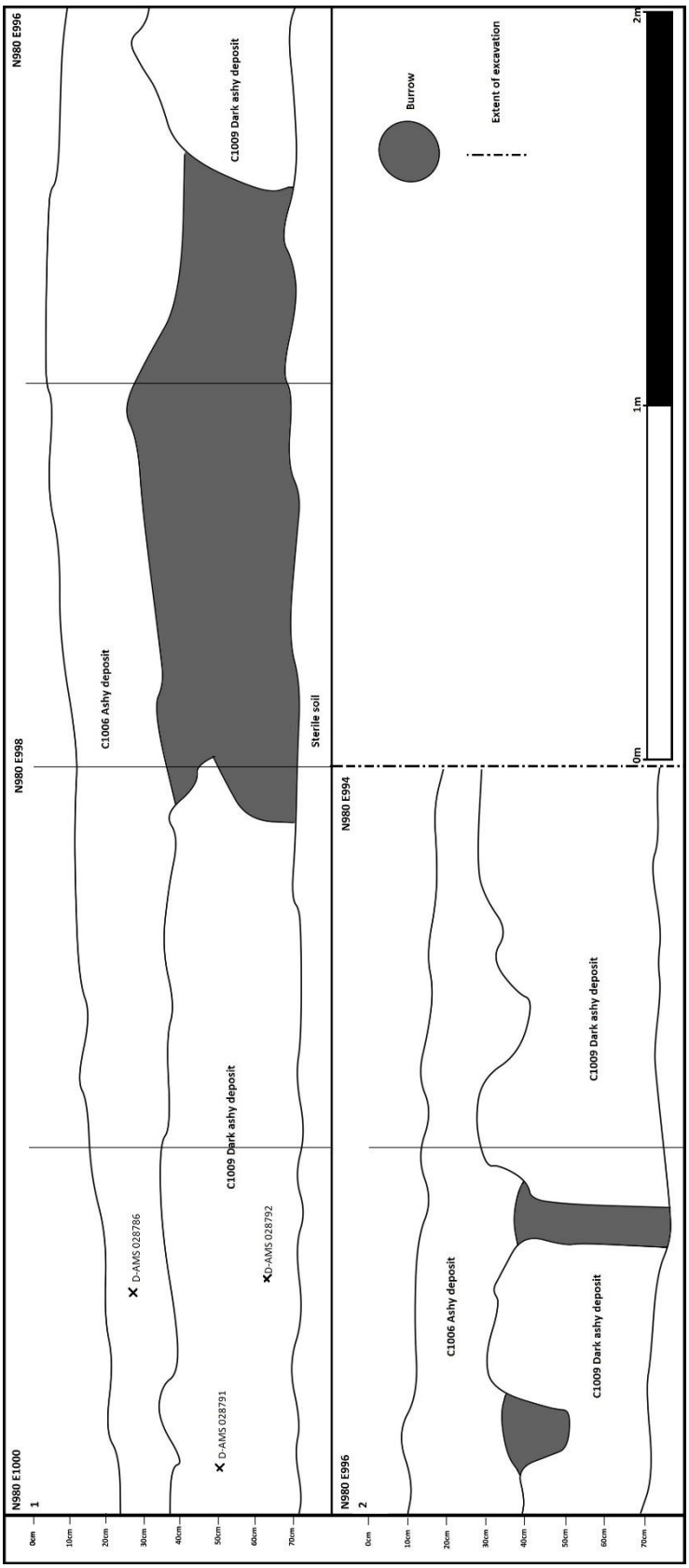


Figure 16: North-facing profile (Divided in two sections)

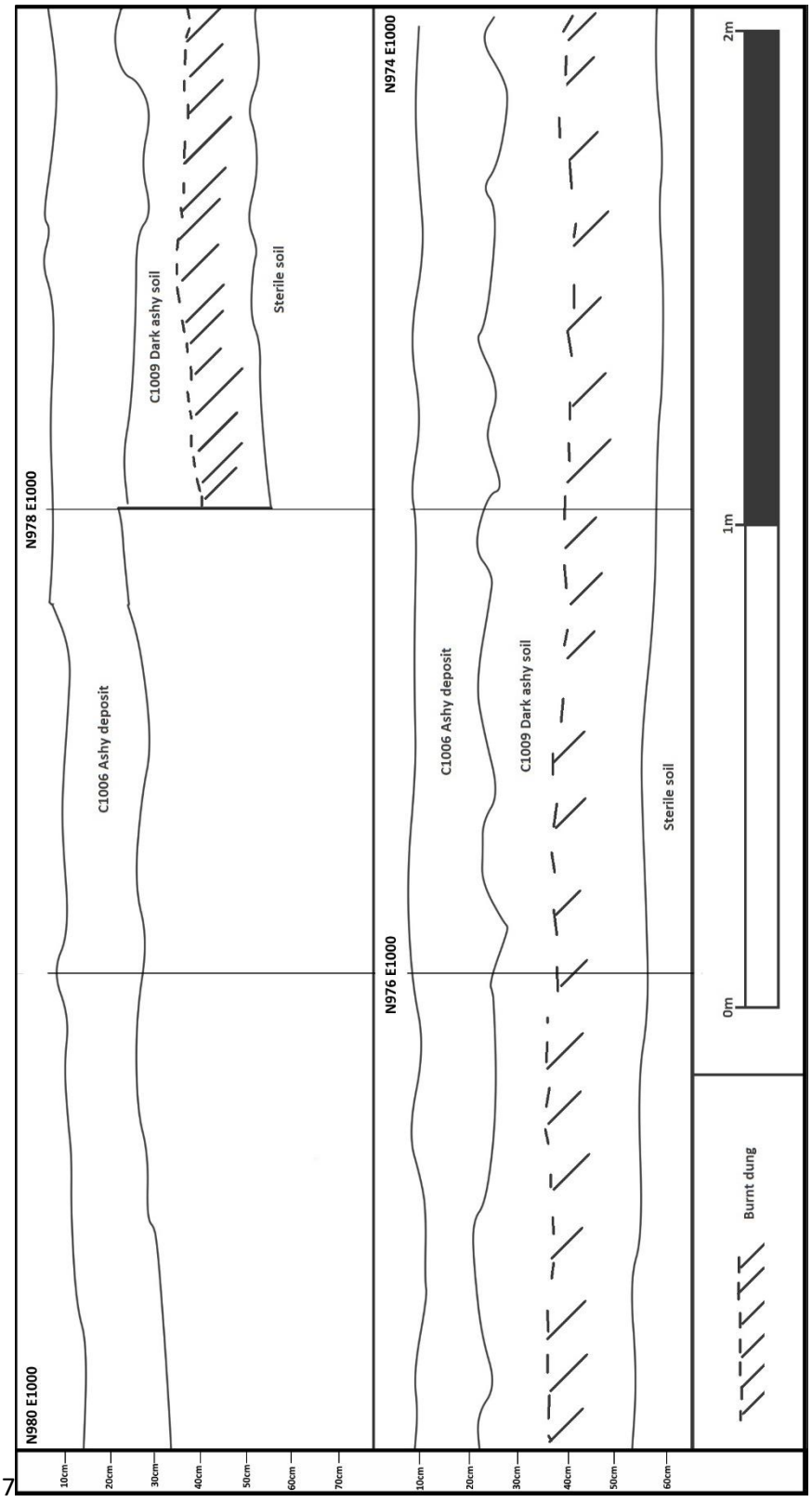


Figure 17: West-facing profile (Divided in two sections)

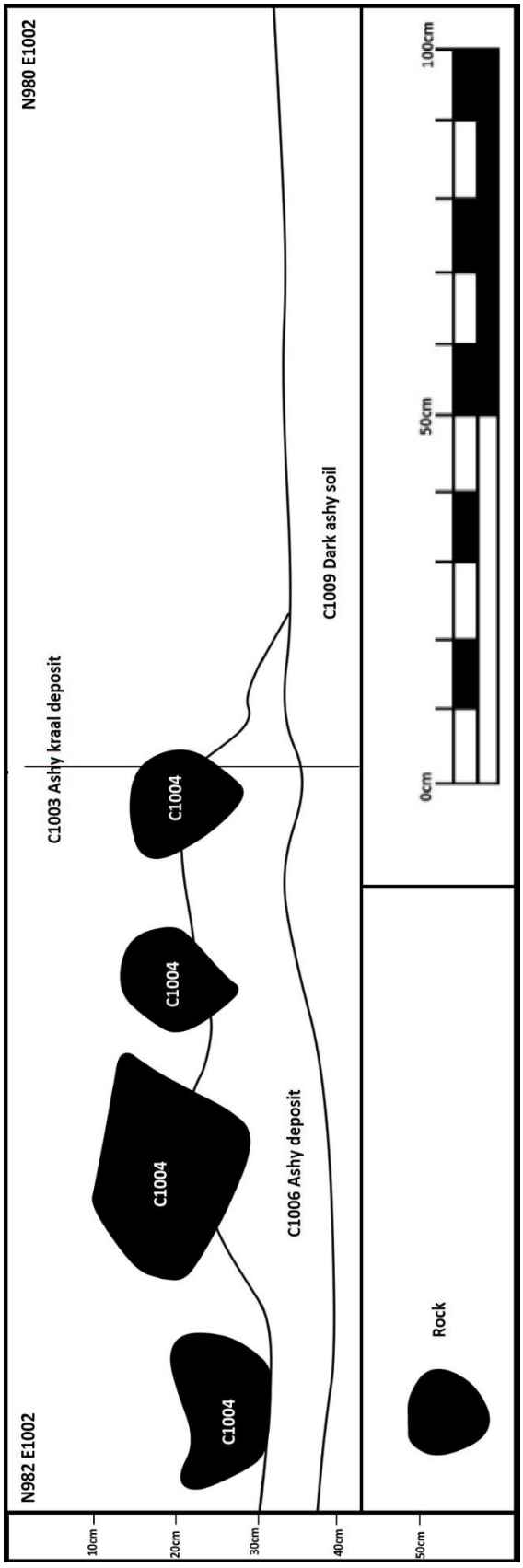


Figure 18: East-facing profile (Including profile underneath the stone feature C1004, prior to the removal of C1004)

A large unit of 6mx6m was opened, in nine contiguous 2mx2m units, over ashy kraal deposits in the centre of the site (Figure 15, Figure 17-19).

- C1001: The surface consisted of a loose ashy kraal-midden deposit disturbed by animal activity.
- C1003: Undisturbed ashy kraal deposit of variable consistency. This context ends on a layer of with a high concentration of ceramics and faunal remains.
- C1004: A stone feature roughly 1m by 1m in diameter. Comprises of a single layer of packed stones (the midpoint of the feature is N982; E1004).
- C1006: This is an artefact rich deposit of ashy matrix; containing a stone feature (C1004).
- C1009: Dark ashy soil that includes greyish white dung inclusions towards the bottom. Most likely a kraal.
- C1016: Sterile surface under the kraal context that was not excavated.

Trench II (N978; E1030)

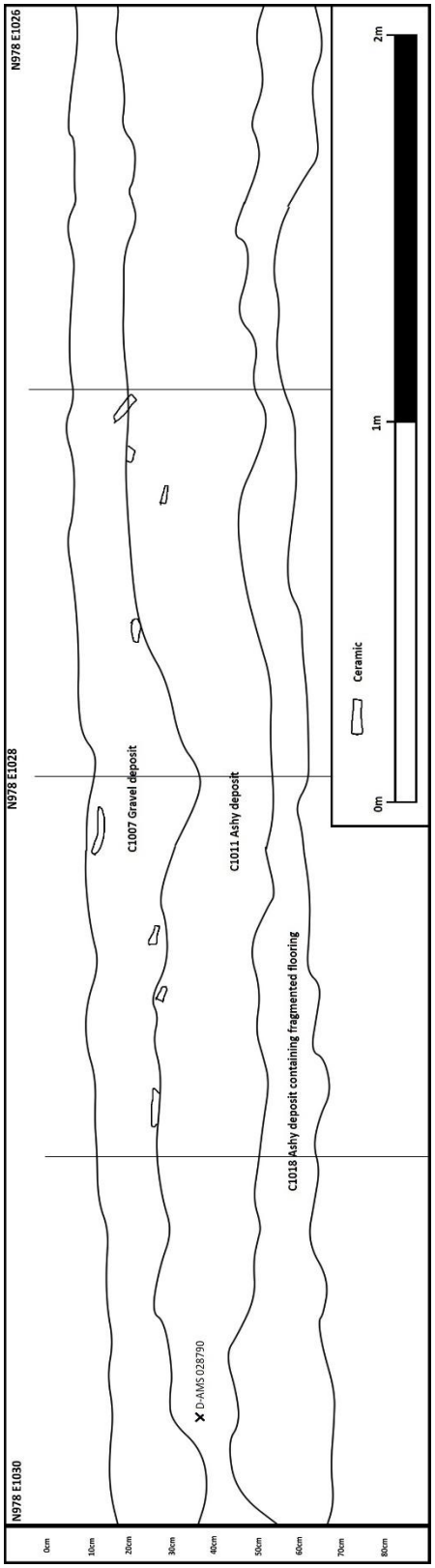


Figure 19:North-facing profile

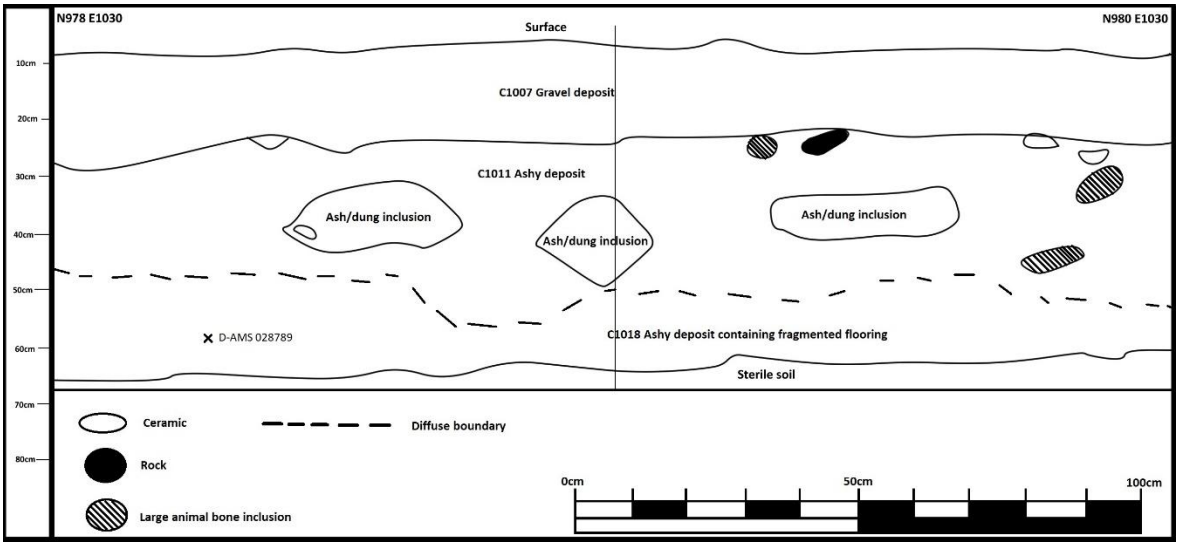


Figure 20: East-facing profile

A 2mx4m which uncovered an area of household occupation as it contains the remains of a hut floor which sits on brown sterile soil (Figure 15, Figure 20-21).

- C1007: A gravel layer exposed after surface clean up.
- C1011: A distinct ashy deposit that containing animal bones and a few ceramic sherds and pieces of daga. This ashy deposit had more consolidated red patches present within it. These patches were the remains of hut debris associated with C1018.
- C1018: Fragmented hut floor, with a posthole.

Trench III (N1022; E1021)

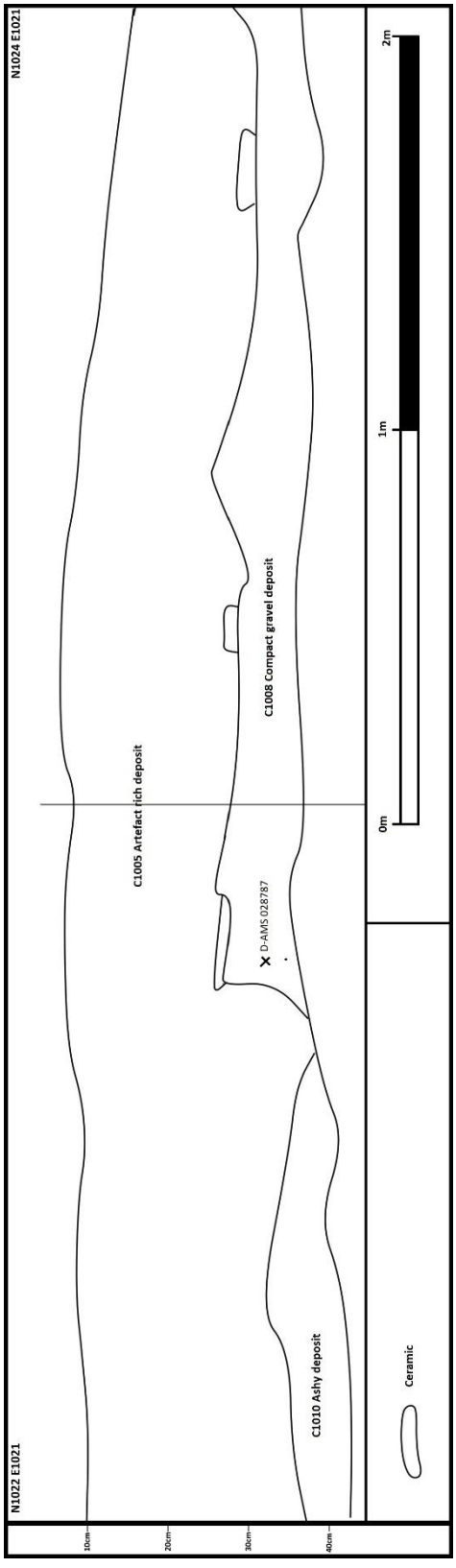


Figure 21: East-facing profile

To the north another 2mx4m unit was excavated on a slight downward slope (Figure 15, Figure 22).

- C1002: Top soil layer with animal disturbances. Includes undefined archaeological fill.
- C1005: A rich artefact layer resting on a compact gravel deposit.
- C1008: Compact gravel layer with pebble and cobble inclusions.
- C1010: A small ashy deposit present in the eastern quadrant of the unit which was caused by root disturbance.

Trench IV (N1023; E989)

A number of small pieces of slag were found lying on the surface to the east of this unit and prompted the excavation of a single 2m x 2m unit (Figure 15). This unit yielded very little cultural material and the deposit was shallow (less than 10cm). It is likely that items located here were washed from elsewhere on site.

- C1015: Compact sandy layer with gravel inclusions.
- C1017: The unit ends on sterile reddish soil which extends throughout. This context was not excavated.

Trench V (N1096; E1068)

A 6mx6m grid placed to investigate the northernmost extent of the site of which six were excavated (Figure 16). This unit extends over a kraal area covered by a shallow ashy layer.

- C1012: Loose ashy soil with a low density of ceramics present.
- C1019: Clearly defined compact kraal layer which has formed a whitish laminate surface of vitrified dung. This surface was not excavated.

Trench VI (N1092; E1080)

A second unit was a 4mx4m placed to the southeast of the previous unit to investigate the extent of the kraal context (Figure 16). A modern vehicle track separates the two units. The deposit was shallow and excavation ended on a compact dung layer with friable edges that made defining its extent difficult in some places as in the unit above.

- C1013: Loose ashy surface deposit.
- C1014: Dung deposit that lacks the vitrified characteristics of Trench V's C1019

4.3. Dating

Charcoal samples were collected from both Evelyn (EV01) and Klein Bolayi (EV02) for radiocarbon analysis. All samples were sent to the Direct AMS (USA) for dating.

4.3.1. Evelyn (EV01)

A total of 10 charcoal samples from Evelyn (EV01) were sent for radiocarbon analysis (Figure 23; Table 1). Two of these samples, D-AMS 028776 and D-AMS 028779, were from context C1014 (See Figure 12). D-AMS 028776 returned a 2-sigma calibrated date of cal. AD 1045-1212 whereas D-AMS 028779 was cal. AD 1187-1217.

D-AMS 028778 came from C1003, the bone rich lens in N1004; E976 (See Figure 7), and returned a calibrated date of cal. AD 1220-1279. From the context below, C1004 which is made up of a grey ashy midden deposit (See Figure 7-9), the sample D-AMS 028777 returned a calibrated date range of cal. AD 1014-1206.

D-AMS 028780 was taken from the kraal area, C1010 (Figure 10-11) in N1014; E999, D-AMS 028780 returned a 2-sigma calibrated date of cal. AD 1045-1209.

D-AMS 028781 and D-AMS 028782 both came from C1002, the gravel undefined archaeological fill layer in N1000; E976 (See Figure 7-9). The dates were combined and returned a 2-sigma calibrated date of cal. AD 1180-1266.

The final three samples D-AMS 028783, D-AMS 028784 and D-AMS 028785 were all collected from around a ceramic vessel associated with the burial in C1004 (See Figure 7-9). Their consistent context allowed for these dates to be combined which resulted in a 2-sigma calibrated date range of cal. AD 1150-1200.

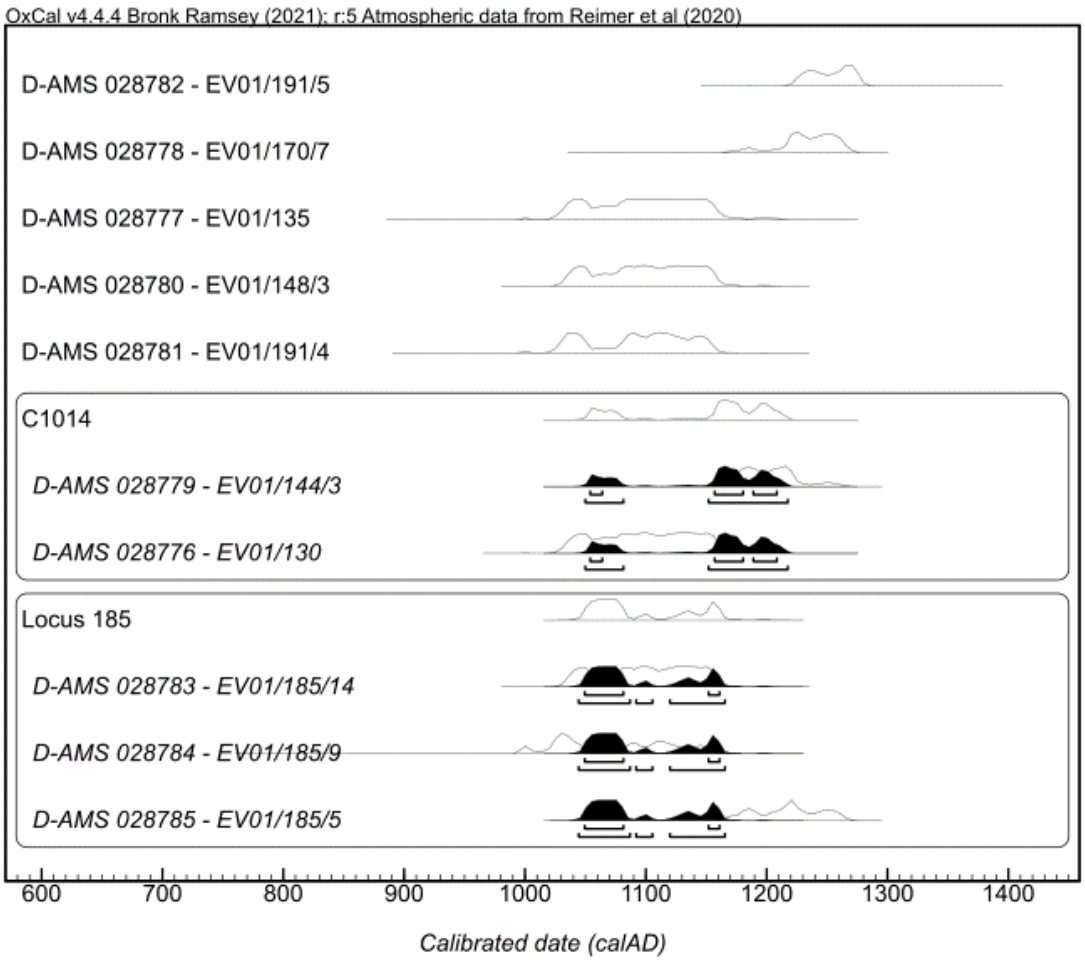


Figure 22: Radiocarbon dates from Evelyn (EV01). Results are calibrated using the Southern Hemisphere calibration curve (Hogg *et al*. 2013) and are plotted in OxCal v4.4 (Bronk Ramsey 2017).

The early 13th century calibrated ranges of D-AMS 028778 and D-AMS 028779 are slightly more recent than the rest of the site which firmly sits at mid-11th to 12th century. Since D-AMS 028779 is also stratigraphically below D-AMS 028776 which provided us with an older date it could suggest a degree of reverse stratigraphy

occurring on site potentially due to animal burrowing or human actions. Regardless, the lack of a significant break in the radiocarbon sequence and possible overlap around 1200 AD suggests possible continuous settlement between the mid-11th century and the early 13th century.

Table 1: Radiocarbon dates from Evelyn (EV01). Results are calibrated using the Southern Hemisphere calibration curve (Hogg et al. 2013) and are plotted in OxCal v4.4 (Bronk Ramsay 2017)

Laboratory Number	Uncalibrated age BP	1-Sigma range (cal. AD)	2-Sigma range (cal. AD)
D-AMS 028776	943± 27	1050-1187	1045-1212
D-AMS 028777	951± 29	1047-1183	1041-1206
D-AMS 028778	821± 22	1230-1271	1220-1279
D-AMS 028779	856± 24	1212-1182	1045-1209
D-AMS 028780	946± 22	1051-1182	1045-1209
D-AMS 028781	965± 24	1046-1160	1035-1179
D-AMS 028782	776± 24	1266-1293	1226-1300
D-AMS 028783	944± 21	1051-1183	1045-1211
D-AMS 028784	988± 27	1042-1146	1028-1157
D-AMS 028785	837± 24	1224-1266	1210-1215
Combined Date 2		1158-1200	1150-1215

4.3.2. Klein Bolayi (EV02)

Seven wood charcoal samples from EV02 were submitted for radiocarbon analysis (Figure 24; Table 2). Three of these samples were taken from N980; E1000 (the 6mx6m unit). The first sample from this unit (D-AMS 028786) is associated with the ashy midden deposit C1006 (See Figure 17-19) that contains the stone feature and returned a 2-sigma calibrated date of cal. AD1021-1150. The two further dates from this unit (D-AMS 028791 and D-AMS 028792) area came from the bottom of the midden deposit where the kraal deposit begins (C1009) and returned dates of cal. AD 893-1025 and 1046-1217 respectively (Figure 17-19).

The sample D-AMS 028787 was taken from the area of undefined archaeological fill from N1022; E1021 (C1008) and this sample returned a 2-sigma date of cal. AD

1071-1224 (Figure 22). D-AMS 028790 was collected in N978; E1030, the northern most trench on the site, and returned a 2-sigma date of cal. AD 1042-1178 (Figure 20-21). The final two samples were from the kraal area located on the northern edge of the site. D-AMS 028788, which came from C1012 in N1098 E1070, and D-AMS 028789, from C1011, returned dates of cal. AD 895-1018 and 770-963 respectively.

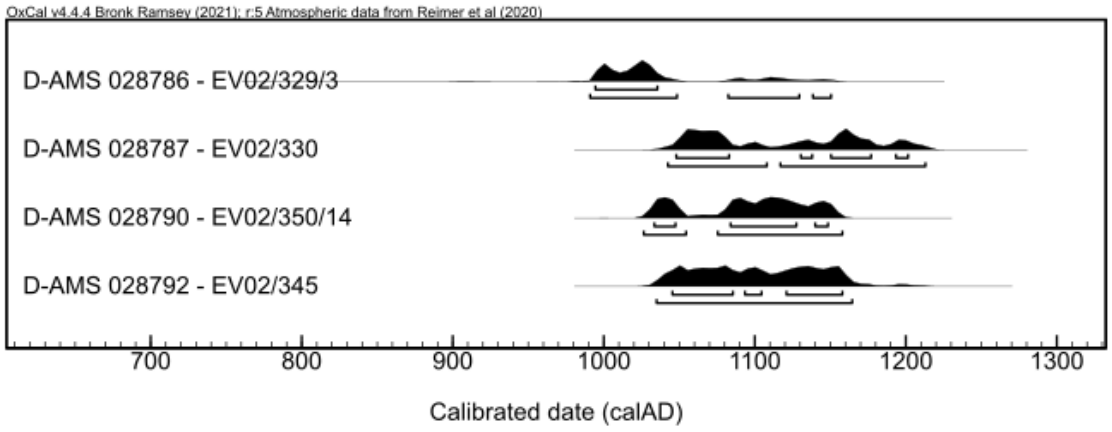


Figure 23: Radiocarbon dates from Klein Bolayi (EV02). Results are calibrated using the Southern Hemisphere calibration curve (Hogg *et al*. 2013) and are plotted in OxCal v4.3.2 (Bronk Ramsey 2017).

Table 2: Radiocarbon dates from Klein Bolayi (EV02). Results are calibrated using the Southern Hemisphere calibration curve (Hogg *et al*. 2013) and are plotted in OxCal v4.4 (Bronk Ramsey 2017).

Laboratory Number	**Uncalibrated age BP**	**1-Sigma range (cal. AD)**	**2-Sigma range (cal. AD)**
D-AMS 028786	1012± 27	1028-1136	1021-1150
D_AMS 028787	910± 22	1163-1210	1071-1224
D-AMS 028790	963± 19	1047-1160	1042-1178
D-AMS 028792	934± 23	1071-1203	1046-1217
Anomalous samples			
D-AMS 028788	1127± 19	901-995	895-1018
D-AMS 028789	1227± 27	776-890	770-963
D-AMS 028791	1115± 31	905-1018	893-1025

Three of the resulting dates are much older than the average, though none of the material culture associated with these older dates (ceramics and glass beads) suggest a

pre-1200 date. The most likely explanation for these older dates could be old wood (e.g., large dry stumps used for fence poles, construction or firewood). Given the absence of any pre1200 material culture, these samples were excluded from Figures 24 and 25.

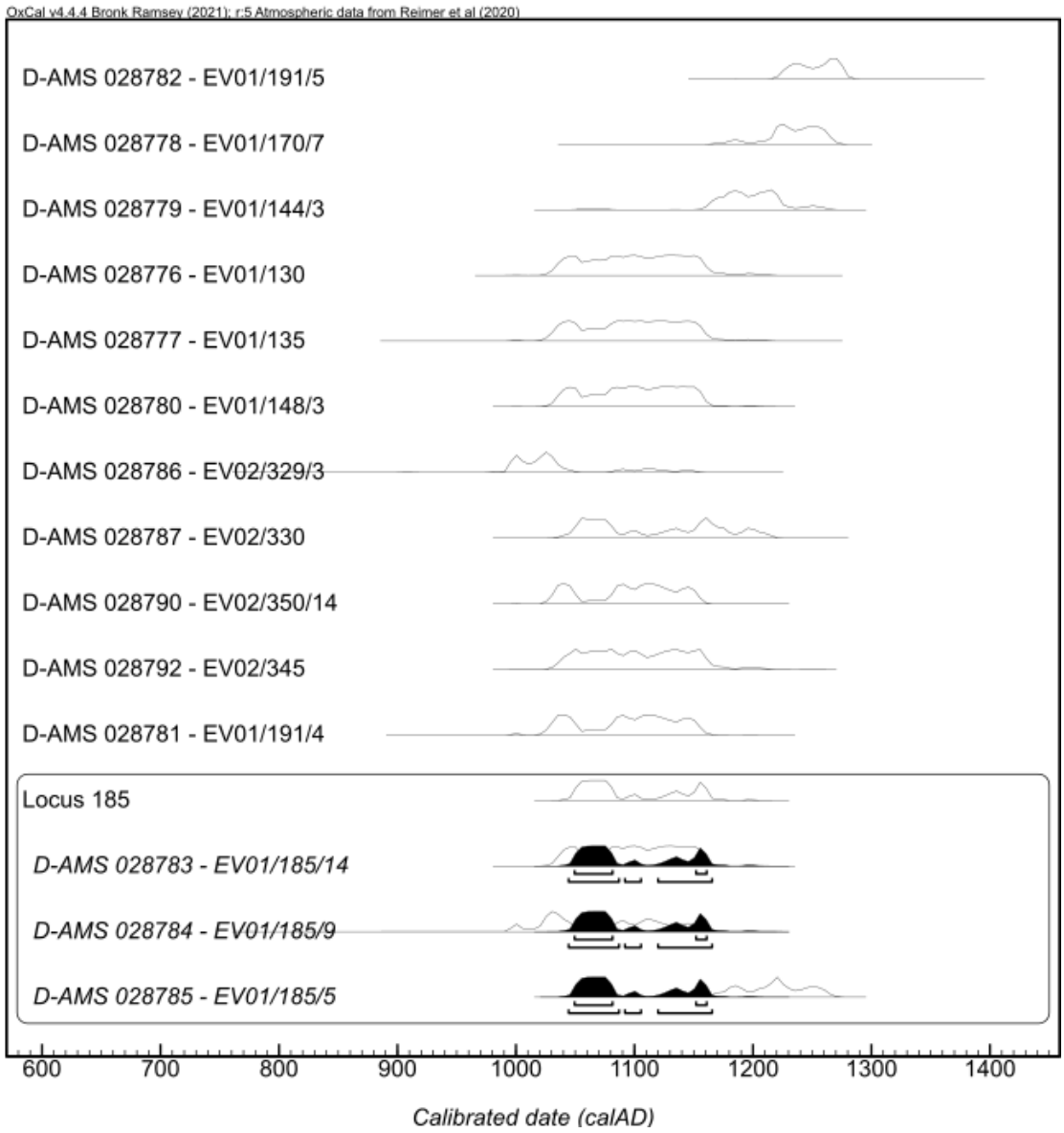


Figure 24: Radiocarbon dates from Evelyn (EV01) and Klein Bolayi (EV02). Results are calibrated using the Southern Hemisphere calibration curve (Hogg *et al*. 2013) and are plotted in OxCal v4.3.2 (Bronk Ramsey 2017).

The flatness of the calibration curve between AD1000 and AD1300 produce relatively large probabilities – placing the occupation of each as somewhere between the twelfth to thirteenth centuries. The general tendency is that the dates from Klein Bolayi (EV02) tend to be slightly earlier, although the probability ranges do overlap with

Evelyn (EV01) around the late 12th and early 13th century – therefore not discounting the possibility that the sites may have been contemporary. Due to the limitations of the radiocarbon dates however, it is impossible to state whether the sites were occupied successively or whether they were contemporaneous. This problem will be addressed in Chapter 6 using the results of the ceramic analysis.

Chapter 5: Results

Before moving to a discussion of the data, it is important to consolidate the data and present it in a format that facilitates the discussion and allows the reader to quickly grasp the results of the analysis. This chapter will summarise the data, focusing only on the data germane to this project.

The sample of diagnostic sherds from both sites totalled 712, with 432 from Evelyn (EV01) and 280 from Klein Bolayi (EV02). Diagnostic sherds were those that included information on motif and/or the profile of the vessel.

5.2. Vessel Types

The multimodal classification identified 167 that could be placed into 8 distinct Types. Combinations of the attributes of vessel profile types, decorative motifs and motif placement were used to define vessel types. Subtypes were created to express internal variation within a Type.

Type 1: Bellied Jars with variations of a band of incised decorations on the shoulder of the vessel (Figures.26-30; Figure 31 and Table 6)

Subtype 1.1: Bellied jar, with triangles on the shoulder.

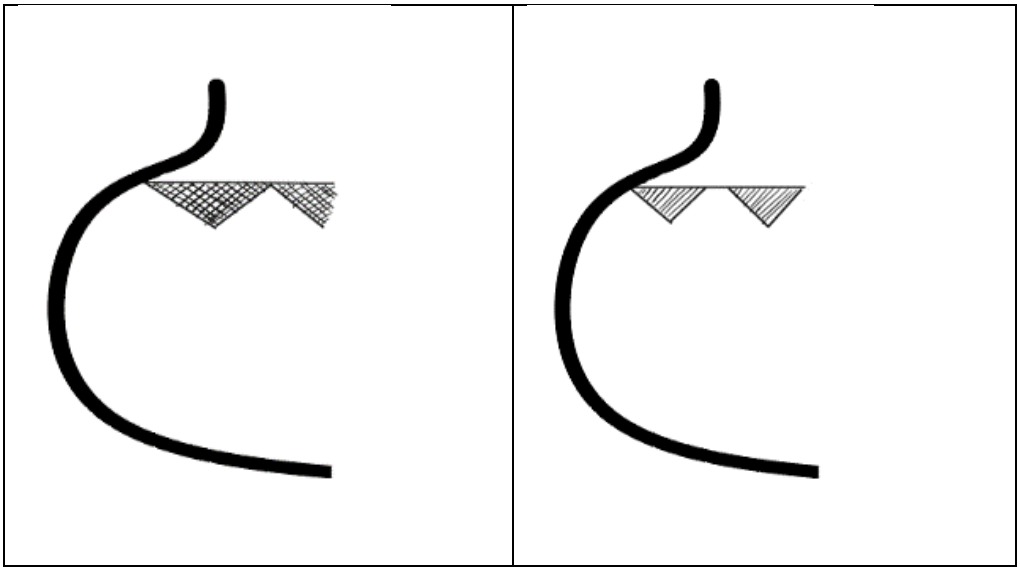


Figure 25: Schematic of subtype 1.1 vessels

Subtype 1.2: Bellied jar, with interlocking triangles on the shoulder.

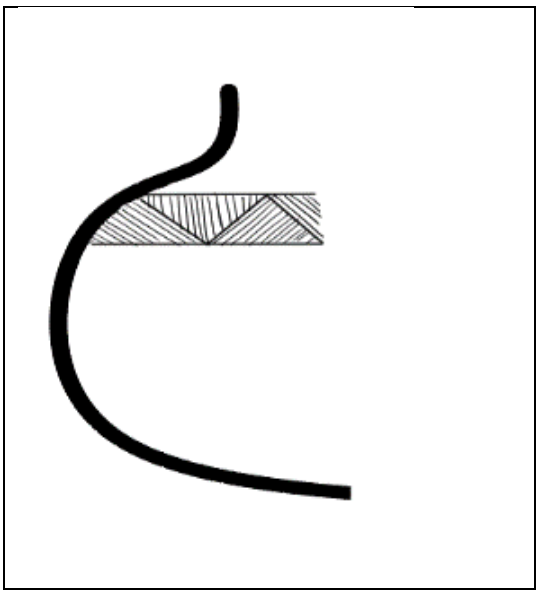


Figure 26: Schematic of a subtype 1.2 vessel

Subtype 1.3: Bellied jar, with arcades on the shoulder.

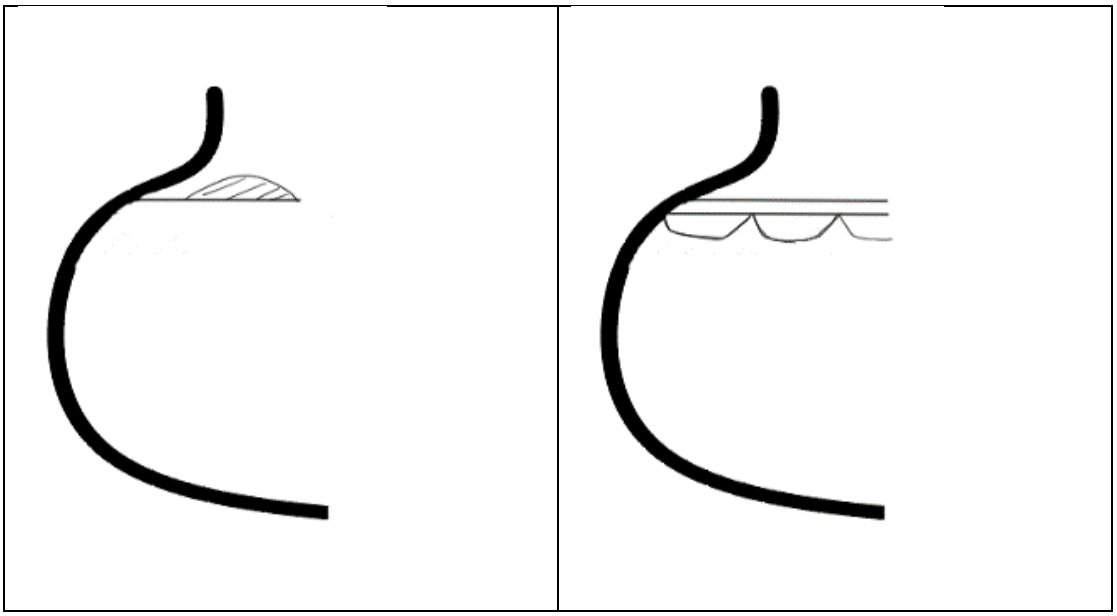


Figure 27: Schematic of subtype 1.3 vessels

Subtype 1.4: Bellied jar, with horizontally incised bands on the lower neck/upper shoulder area.

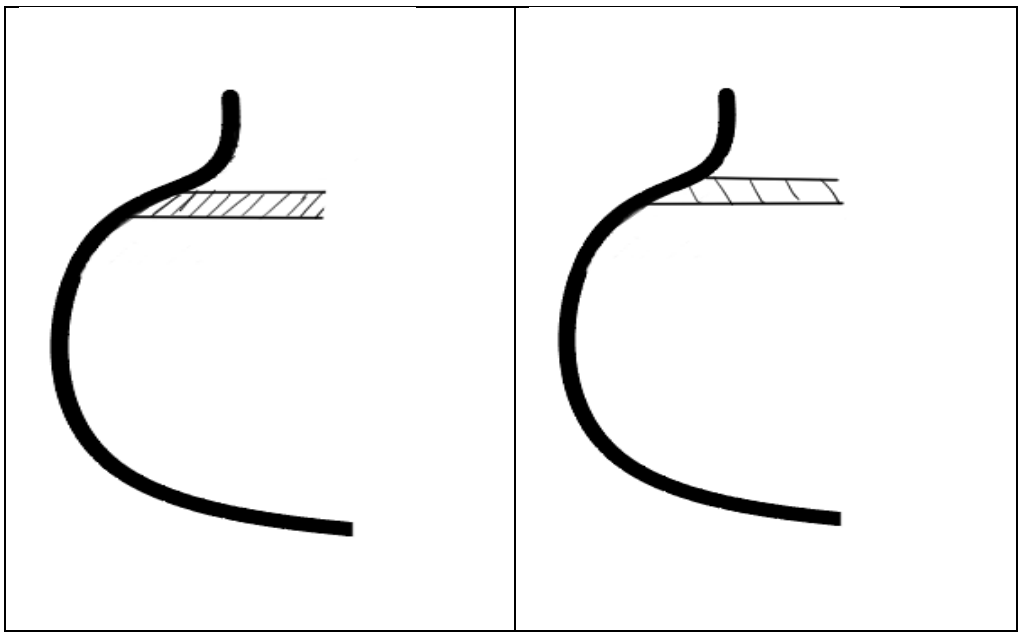


Figure 28: Schematic of subtype 1.4 vessels

Subtype 1.5: Bellied jar, with herringbone decoration on shoulder.

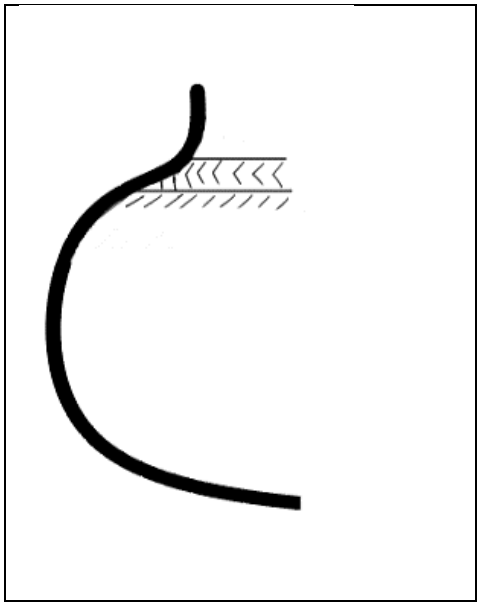


Figure 29: Schematic of subtype 1.5 vessels

Table 3: Distribution of Type 1 subtypes from Evelyn (EV01) and Klein Bolayi (EV02)

	Evelyn (EV01)		Klein Bolayi (EV02)	
Subtype	***n***	**Percentage (%)**	***n***	**Percentage (%)**
Subtype 1.1	28	71	1	6
Subtype 1.2	4	10	1	6
Subtype 1.3	5	13	7	44
Subtype 1.4	1	3	7	44
Subtype 1.5	1	3	-	-
Total	**39**	**100%**	**16**	**100%**

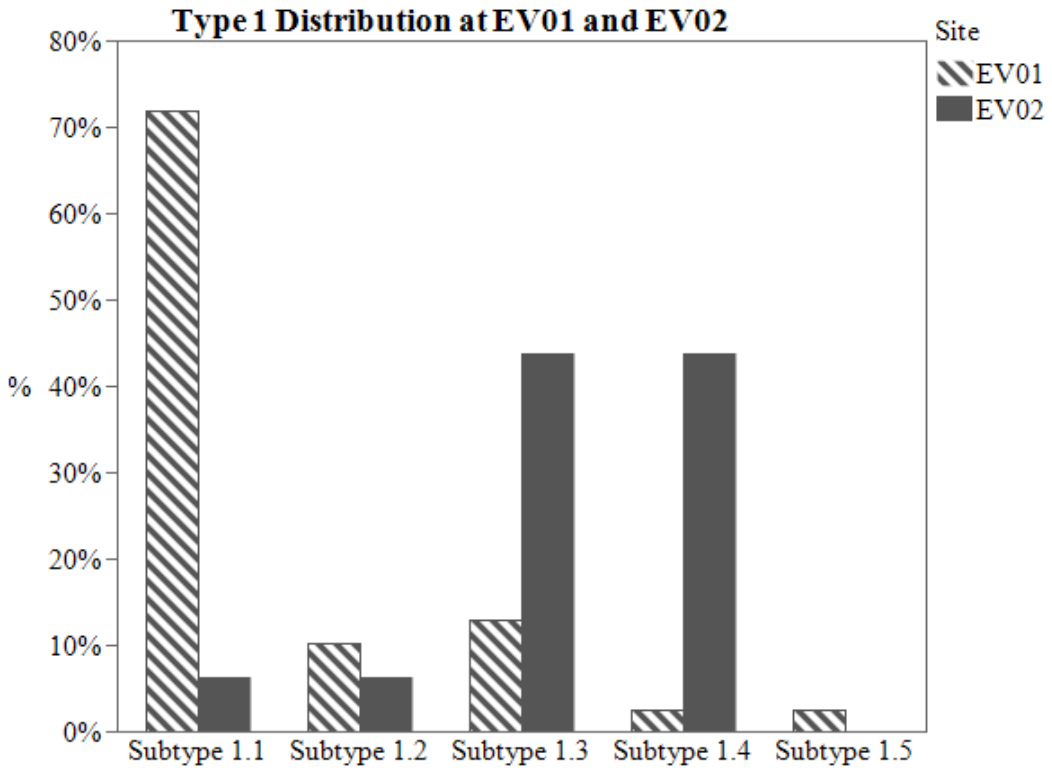


Figure 30: Distribution of Type 1 subtypes at Evelyn (EV01) and Klein Bolayi (EV02)

Type 2: Recurved Jars with variations of a band of incised decorations on the shoulder/neck of the vessel (Figures 32-34, Figure 35 and Table 7).

Subtype 2.1: Recurved jar, with horizontal band along the lower neck/upper shoulder area.

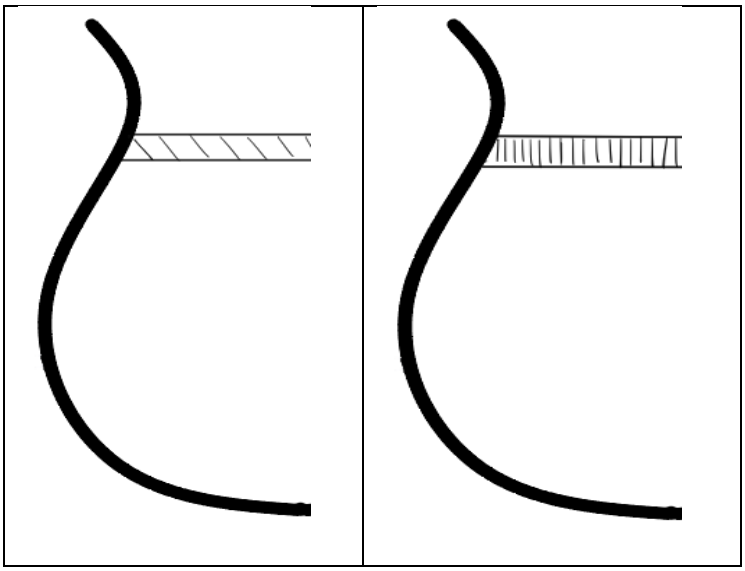


Figure 31:Schematic of subtype 2.1 vessels

Subtype 2.2: Recurved jar, with triangles on the shoulder.

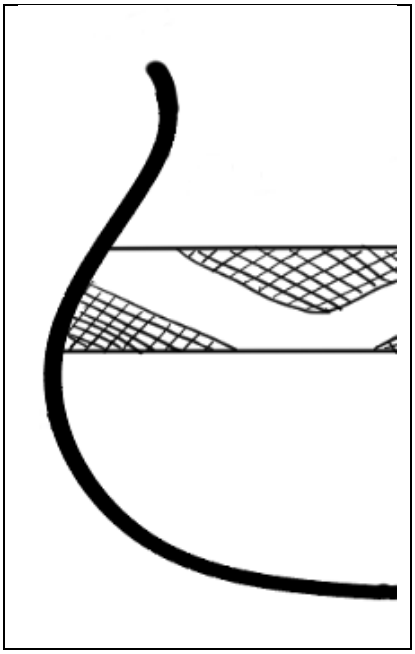


Figure 32: Schematic of a subtype 2.2 vessel

Subtype 2.3: Recurved jar, with arcades on the lower neck-upper shoulder area.

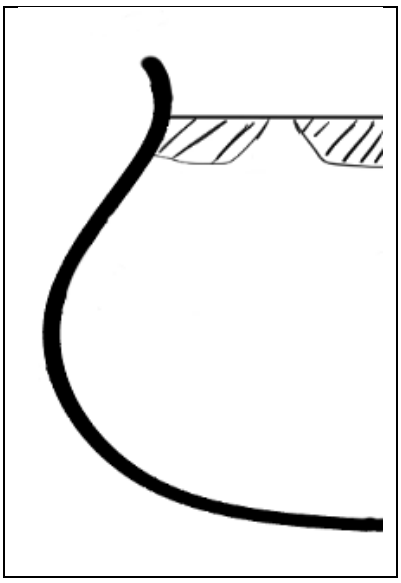


Figure 33: Schematic of a subtype 2.3 vessel

Table 4: Distribution of Type 2 subtypes from Evelyn (EV01) and Klein Bolayi (EV02)

	Evelyn (EV01)		**Klein Bolayi (EV02)**	
Subtype	***n***	**Percentage (%)**	***n***	**Percentage (%)**
Subtype 2.1	1	20	2	100
Subtype 2.2	3	60	-	-
Subtype 2.3	1	20	-	-
Total	**5**	**100%**	**2**	**100%**

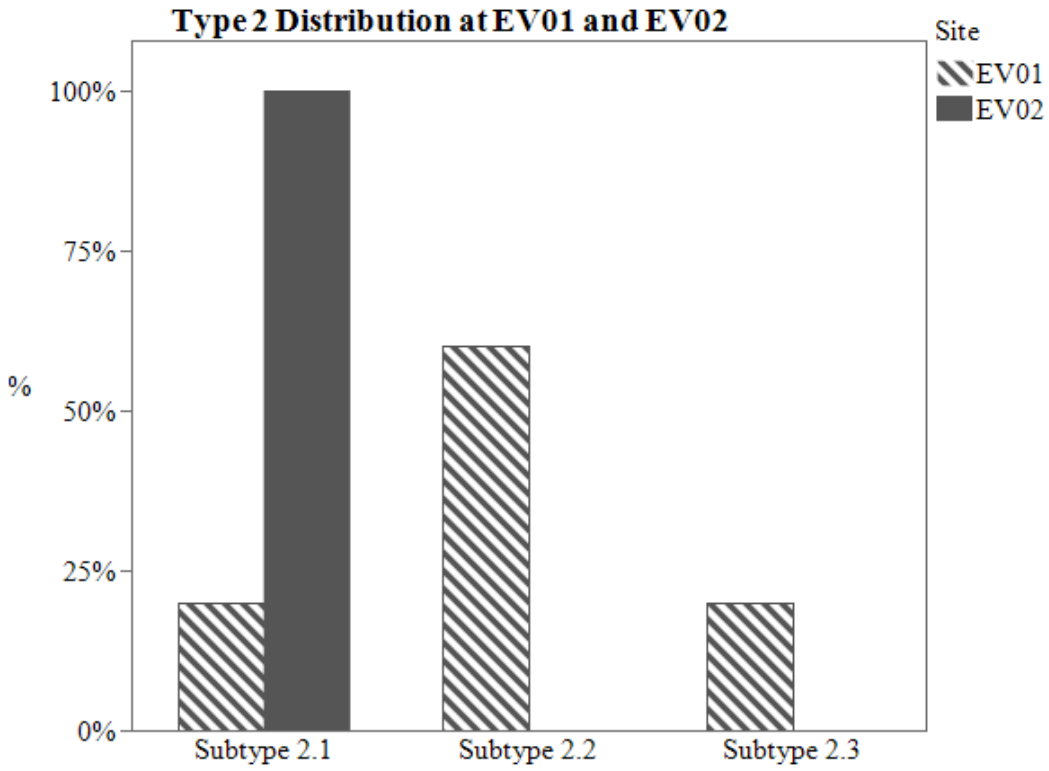


Figure 34: Distribution of Type 2 subtypes at Evelyn (EV01) and Klein Bolayi (EV02)

Type 3: Bag-shaped jars with variations of a band of incised decorations on the shoulder/neck of the vessel (Figures 36-38, Table 8).

Subtype 3.1: Bag-shaped jar, with diamonds on the shoulder.

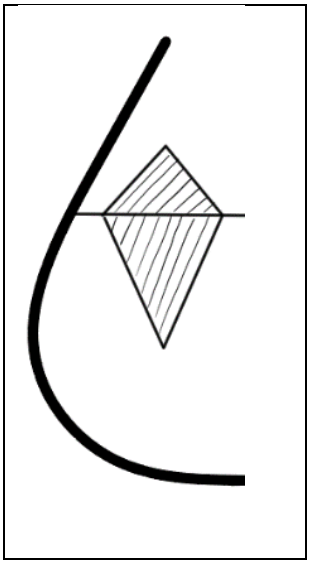


Figure 35: Schematic of a subtype 3.1 vessel

Subtype 3.2: Bag-shaped jar, with arcades on the shoulder.

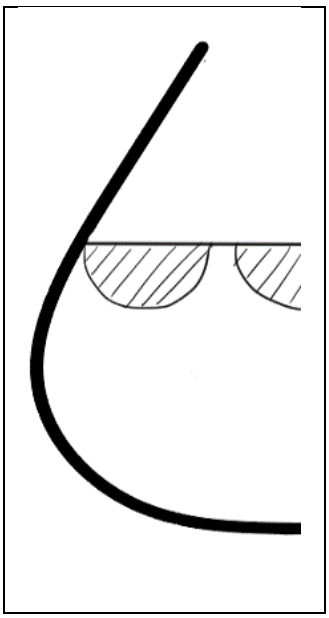


Figure 36: Schematic of a subtype 3.2 vessel

Subtype 3.3: Bag-shaped jar, with herringbone decoration on neck.

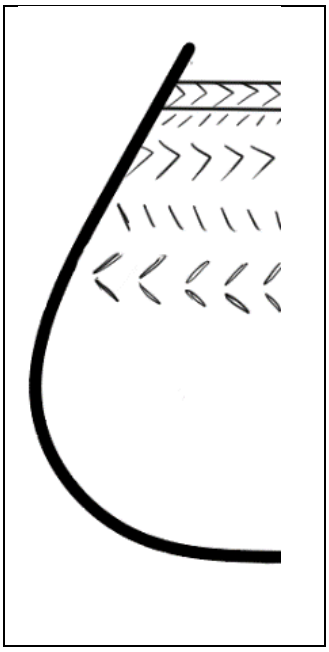


Figure 37: Schematic of a subtype 3.3 vessel

Table 5: Distribution of Type 3 subtypes from Evelyn (EV01) and Klein Bolayi (EV02)

	Evelyn (EV01)		Klein Bolayi (EV02)	
Subtype	***n***	**Percentage (%)**	***n***	**Percentage (%)**
Subtype 3.1	1	33.3	-	-
Subtype 3.2	1	33.3	-	-
Subtype 3.3	1	33.3	-	-
Total	**3**	**100%**	-	-

Type 4: Bellied Jars with variations of a band of punctates on the shoulder of the vessel. These motifs may contain incisions as well (Figures 39-42; Figure 43, and Table 9).

Subtype 4.1: Bellied jar, with triangles containing punctates on the shoulder.

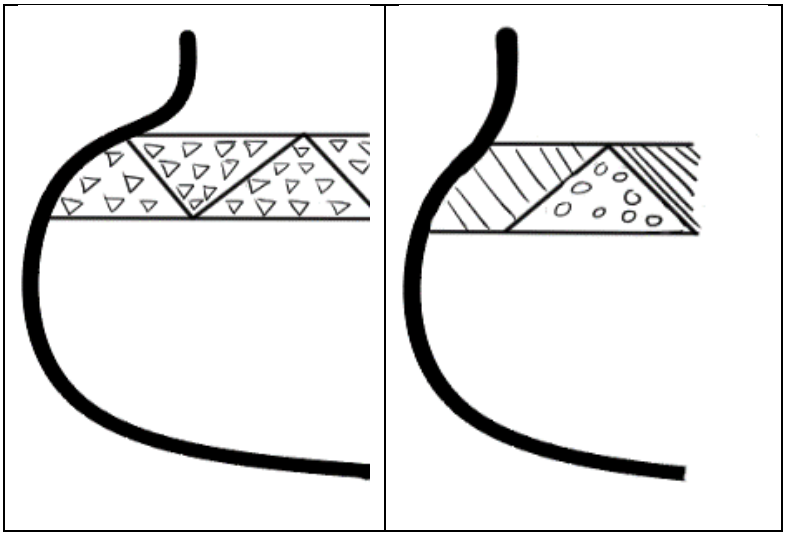


Figure 38: Schematic of subtype 4.1 vessels

Subtype 4.2: Bellied jar, with arcades containing punctates on the shoulder.

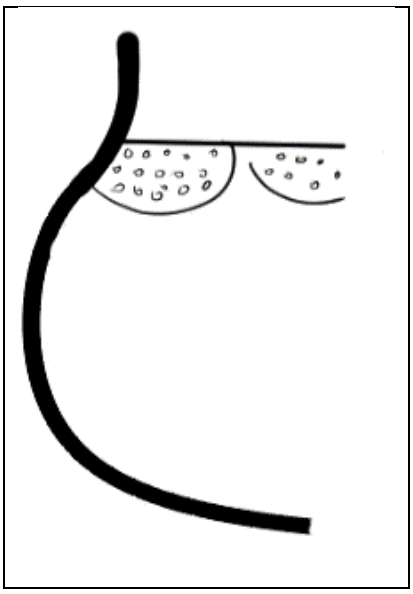


Figure 39: Schematic of a subtype 4.2 vessel

Subtype 4.3: Bellied jar, with a horizontal bar containing punctates on the shoulder.

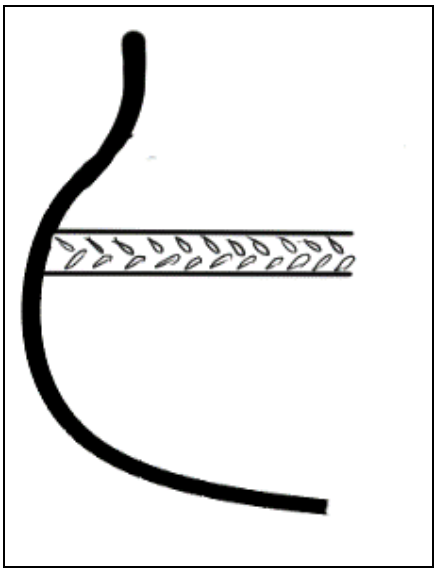


Figure 40: Schematic of a subtype 4.3 vessel

Subtype 4.4: Bellied jar, with a band made up of a horizontal line of punctates on the shoulder.

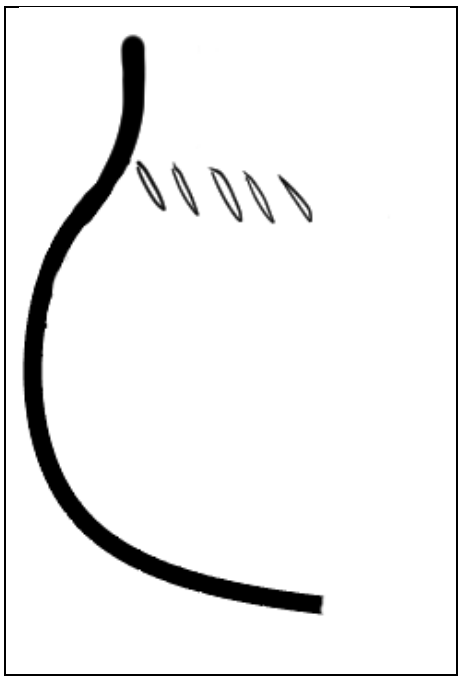


Figure 41: Schematic of a subtype 4.4 vessel

Table 6: Distribution of Type 4 subtypes from Evelyn (EV01) and Klein Bolayi (EV02)

	Evelyn (EV01)		Klein Bolayi (EV02)	
Subtype	***n***	**Percentage (%)**	***n***	**Percentage (%)**
Subtype 4.1	2	50	-	-
Subtype 4.2	2	50	-	-
Subtype 4.3	-	-	12	92
Subtype 4.4	-	-	1	8
Total	**4**	**100%**	**13**	**100%**

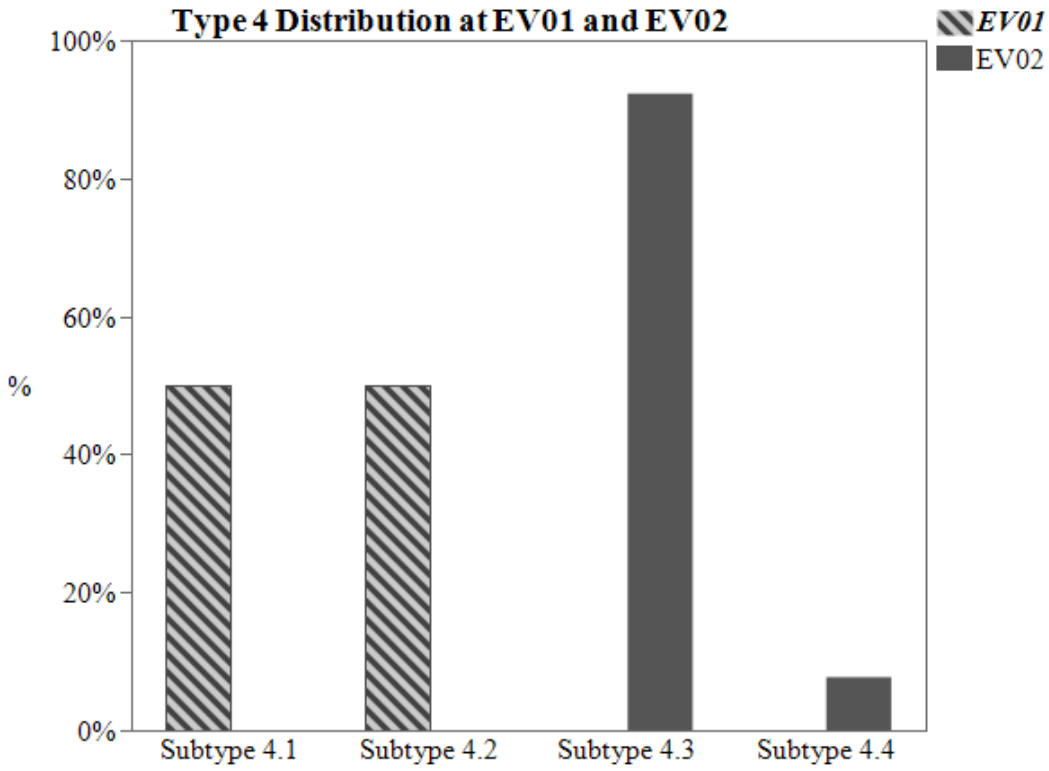


Figure 42: Distribution of Type 4 subtypes at Evelyn (EV01) and Klein Bolayi (EV02)

Type 5: Open Bowls with variations of a band of incised decorations on the lower neck/upper shoulder area of the vessel (Figures 44-48; Figure 49; Table 10).

Subtype 5.1: Open bowl, with triangles on the rim.

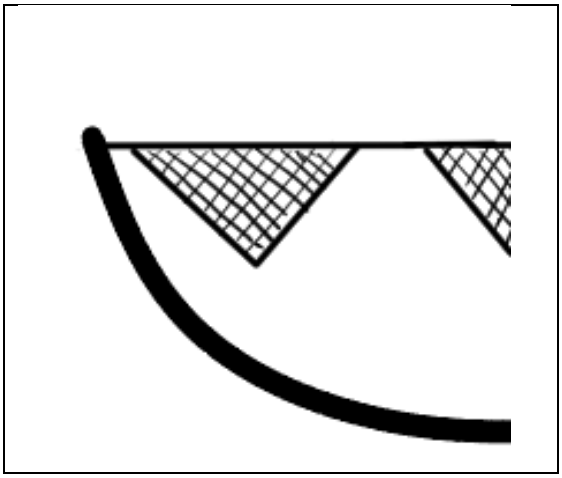


Figure 43: Schematic of a subtype 5.1 vessel

Subtype 5.2: Open bowl, with triangles on the body.

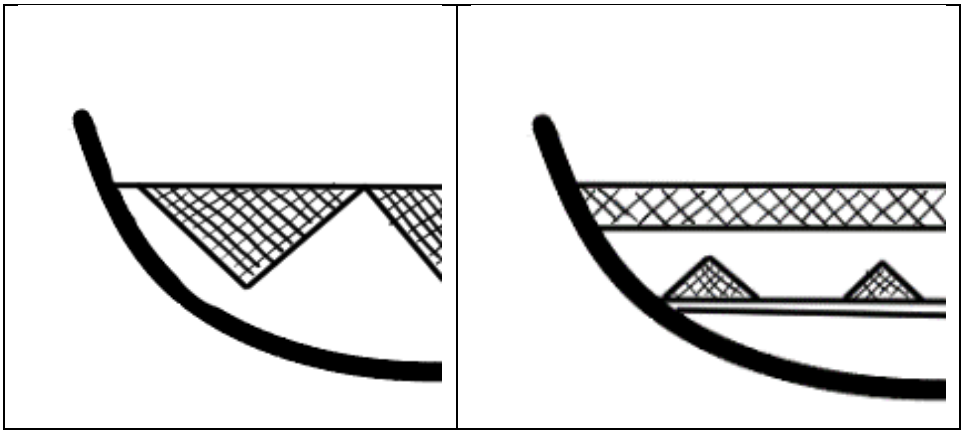


Figure 44: Schematic of subtype 5.2 vessels

Subtype 5.3: Open bowl, with diamonds on the body.

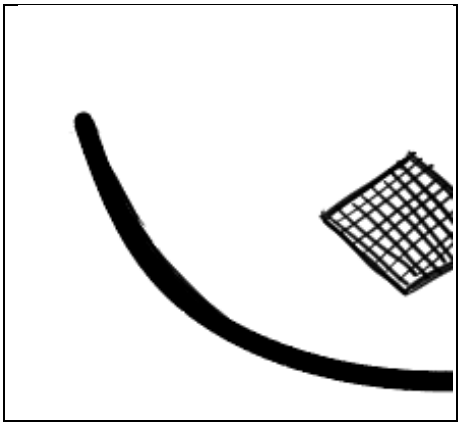


Figure 45: Schematic of a subtype 5.3 vessel

Subtype 5.4: Open bowl, with horizontal band on the rim.

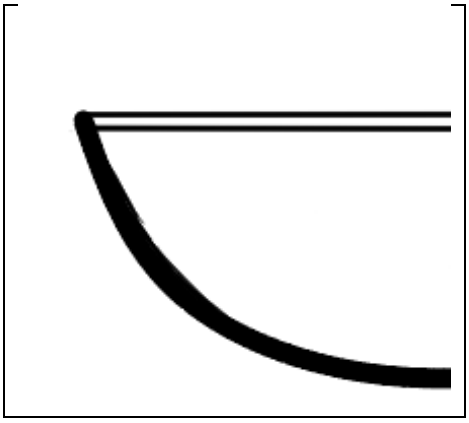


Figure 46: Schematic of a subtype 5.4 vessel

Subtype 5.5: Open bowl, with horizontal band with diagonal incisions on the body.

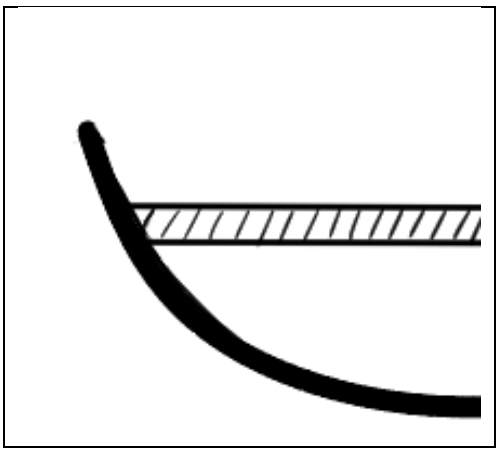


Figure 47: Schematic of a subtype 5.5 vessel

Table 7: Distribution of Type 5 subtypes from Evelyn (EV01) and Klein Bolayi (EV02)

	Evelyn (EV01)		**Klein Bolayi (EV02)**	
Subtype	***n***	**Percentage (%)**	***n***	**Percentage (%)**
Subtype 5.1	3		-	-
Subtype 5.2	1	-	4	80
Subtype 5.3	1		-	-
Subtype 5.4	1		-	-
Subtype 5.5	-	-	1	20
Total	**6**	**100%**	**5**	**100%**

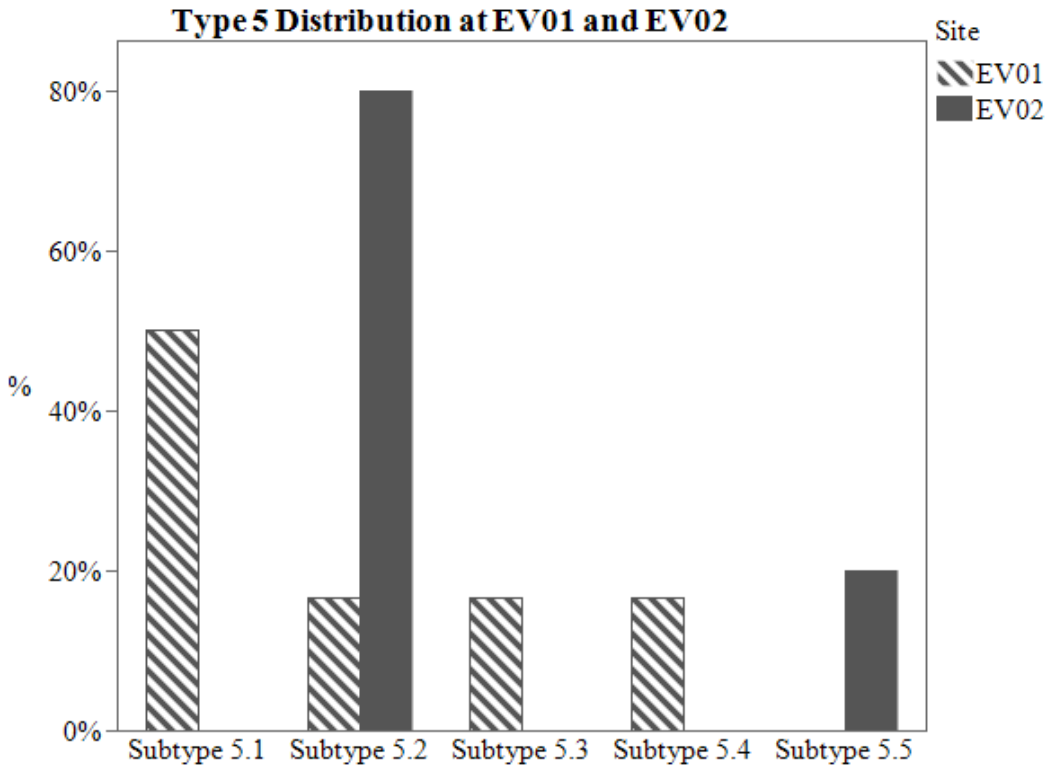


Figure 48: Distribution of Type 5 subtypes at Evelyn (EV01) and Klein Bolayi (EV02)

Type 6: Constricted bowls with variations of a band of incised decorations on the shoulder of the vessel (Figures 50-51; Table 11).

Subtype 6.1: Constricted bowl, with arcades on the shoulder/body.

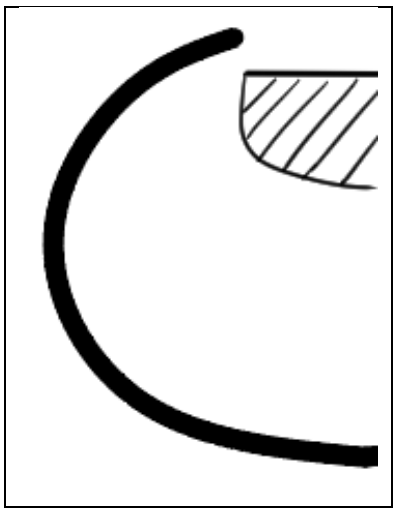


Figure 49: Schematic of a subtype 6.1 vessel

Subtype 6.2: Constricted bowl, with diamond motifs on the shoulder/body.

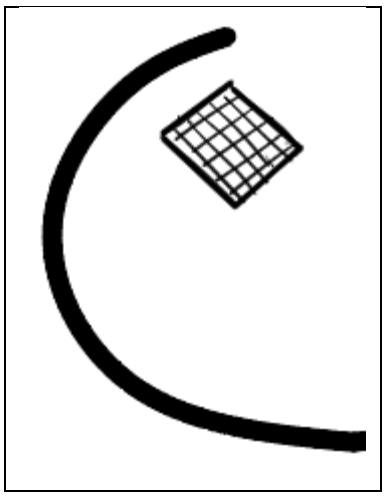


Figure 50: Schematic of a subtype 6.2 vessel

Table 8: Distribution of Type 6 subtypes from Evelyn (EV01) and Klein Bolayi (EV02)

	Evelyn (EV01)		Klein Bolayi (EV02)	
Subtype	***n***	**Percentage (%)**	***n***	**Percentage (%)**
Subtype 6.1	2	67	-	-
Subtype 6.2	1	33	-	-
Total	**3**	**100%**	-	-

Type 7: Necked bowls with variations of a band of incised decorations on the shoulder of the vessel (Figures 52-53; Table 12).

Subtype 7.1: Necked bowls, with diamond motifs on the shoulder.

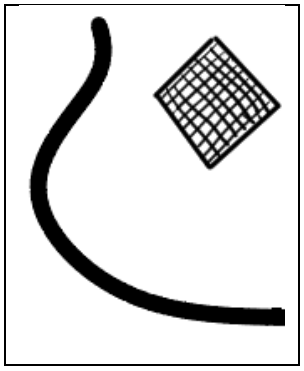


Figure 51: Schematic of a subtype 7.1 vessel

Subtype 7.2: Necked Bowl with triangles on the shoulder.

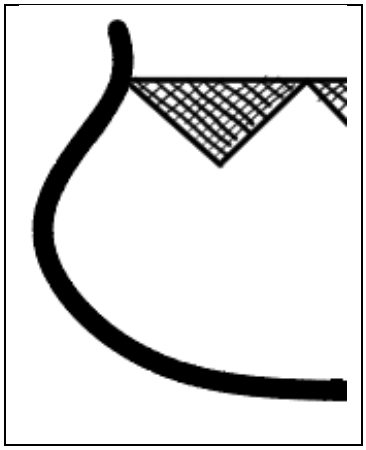


Figure 52: Schematic of a subtype 7.2 vessel

Table 9: Distribution of Type 7 subtypes from Evelyn (EV01) and Klein Bolayi (EV02)

	Evelyn (EV01)		Klein Bolayi (EV02)	
Subtype	***n***	**Percentage (%)**	***n***	**Percentage (%)**
Subtype 7.1	1	20	-	-
Subtype 7.2	4	80	-	-
Total	**5**	**100%**	**-**	**100%**

Type 8: Necked bowls with variations of a band of punctates on the shoulder of the vessel. These motifs may contain incisions as well (Figure 54; Table 13).

Subtype 8.1: Necked bowl, with triangles containing punctates on shoulder.

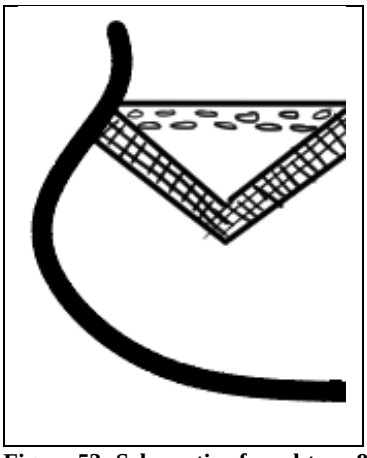


Figure 53: Schematic of a subtype 8.1 vessel

Table 10: Distribution of Type 8 subtypes from Evelyn (EV01) and Klein Bolayi (EV02)

	Evelyn (EV01)		Klein Bolayi (EV02)	
Subtype	***n***	**Percentage (%)**	***n***	**Percentage (%)**
Subtype 8.1	1	100	-	-
Total	**1**	**100%**	**-**	**100**

Other

Type 9: Spouted Vessels (Figure 55; Table 14). Three vessels with spouts were identified. One vessel from EV01 is an open bowl. The remaining two sherds are too small to determine profile type or whether the vessels were decorated, but the spouts mark them as a distinct category.

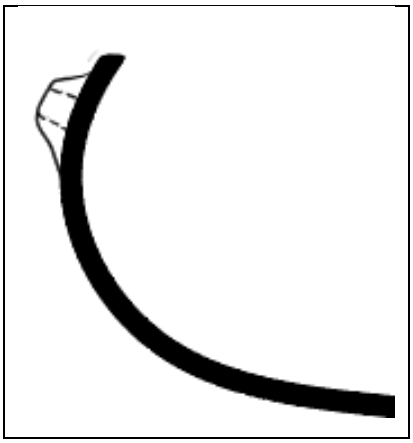


Figure 54: Schematic of the open bowl with the spout

Table 11: Distribution of Type 9 from Evelyn (EV01) and Klein Bolayi (EV02)

	Evelyn (EV01)		Klein Bolayi (EV02)	
	n	**Percentage (%)**	***n***	**Percentage (%)**
Type 9	1	100	2	100
Total	**1**	**100%**	**2**	**100%**

Type 10: Lugged vessels (Table 15) consists of two vessels with lugs. As with the spouted vessels, the sherds identified are too small to determine profile type or whether the vessels were decorated.

Table 12: Distribution of Type 10 from Evelyn (EV01) and Klein Bolayi (EV02)

	Evelyn (EV01)		**Klein Bolayi (EV02)**	
	n	**Percentage (%)**	***n***	**Percentage (%)**
Type 10	-	-	2	100
Total	**-**	**100%**	**2**	**100%**

Undecorated Vessels: There are 60 undecorated vessels for which the profiles could be confidently identified (Table 16; Figure 56).

Table 13: Distribution of undecorated vessels from Evelyn (EV01) and Klein Bolayi (EV02)

	Evelyn (EV01)		**Klein Bolayi (EV02)**	
Profile Type	***n***	**Percentage (%)**	***n***	**Percentage (%)**
Recurve Jars	2	4	-	-
Bag-shaped Jars	3	6	-	-
Bellied Jars	16	34	-	-
Constricted Bowls	3	6	1	8
Beakers	2	4	2	17
Open Bowls	13	28	5	42
Necked Bowls	2	4	-	-
Incurvate Bowls	2	4	-	-
Plates	1	2	-	-
Miniatures	4	8	4	33
Total	**48**	**100%**	**12**	**100%**

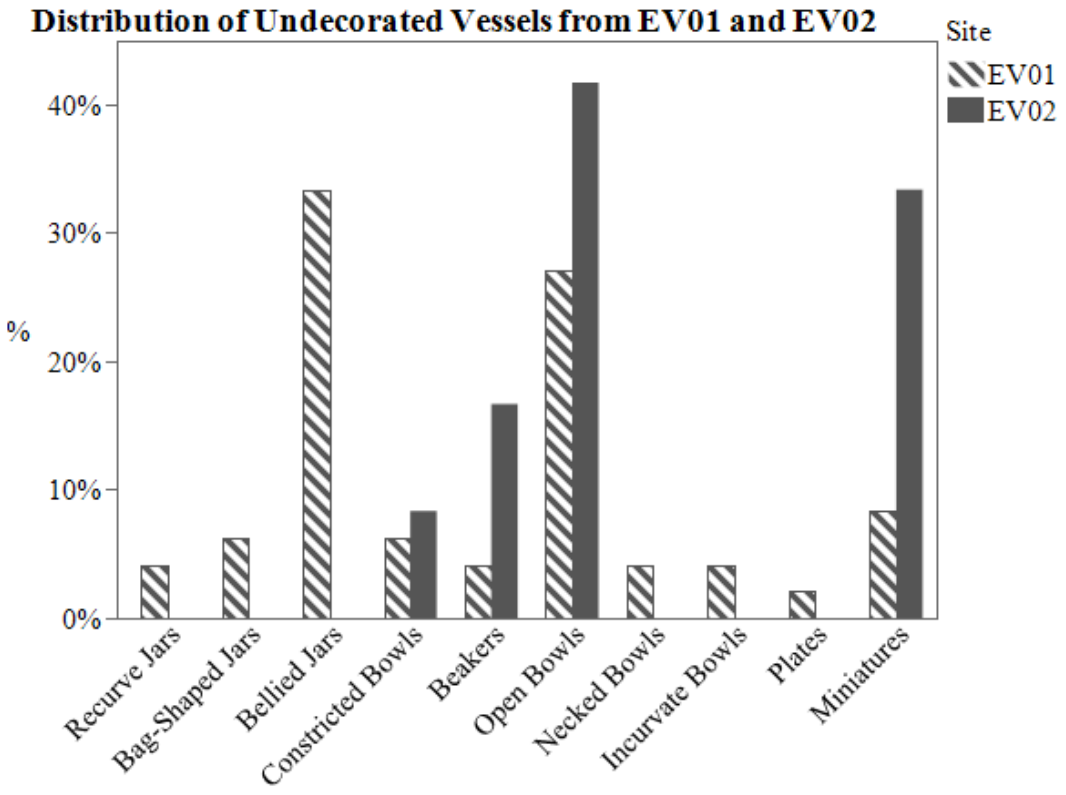


Figure 55: Distribution of undecorated vessels at Evelyn (EV01) and Klein Bolayi (EV02)

5.5. Distribution of Types

5.2.1. Distribution of Types at Evelyn (EV01)

Evelyn (EV01) shows a clear dominant type (Type 1), which represents the majority of the assemblage from Evelyn (EV01. The rest of the types present in the assemblage are represented by smaller percentages, with each type only represented by a small number of vessels. The Evelyn (EV01) assemblage has no Type 10 (lugged) vessels.

Trenches II/VII and V contain a higher number of Mapungubwe ceramics, particularly bellied jars with cross-hatched triangles on the shoulder, and as such should be granted additional consideration. The following tables show the types found in these excavation units, followed by the overall distribution of types at Evelyn (EV01):

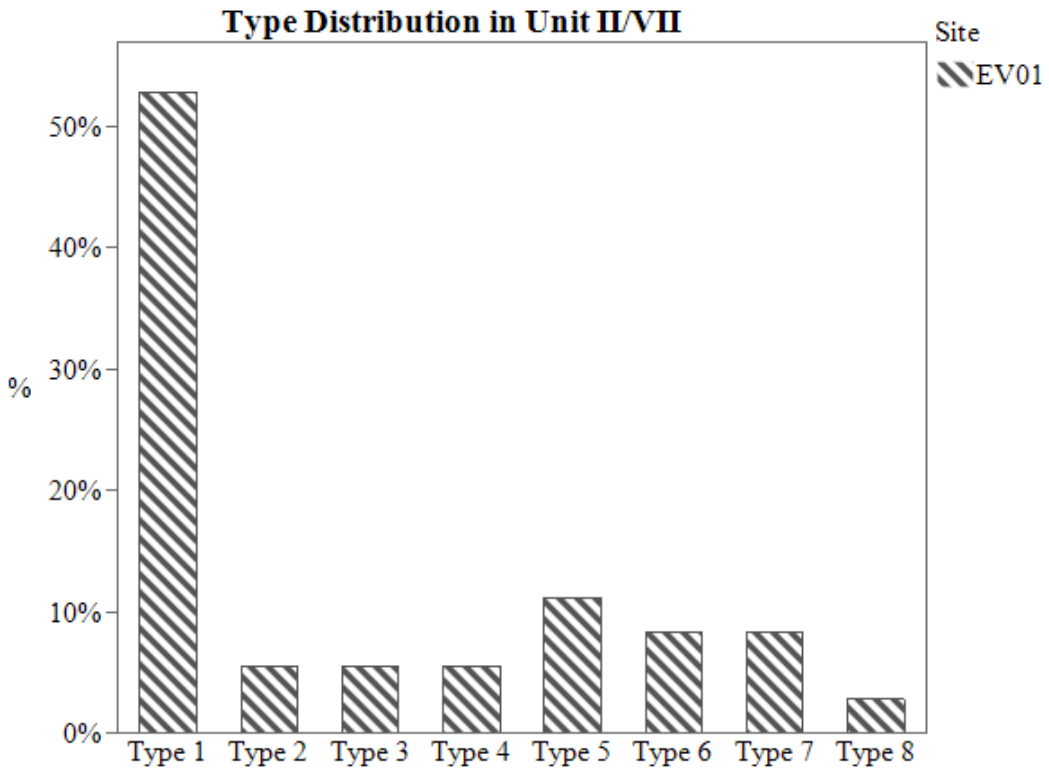


Figure 56: Distribution of types in Unit II/VII

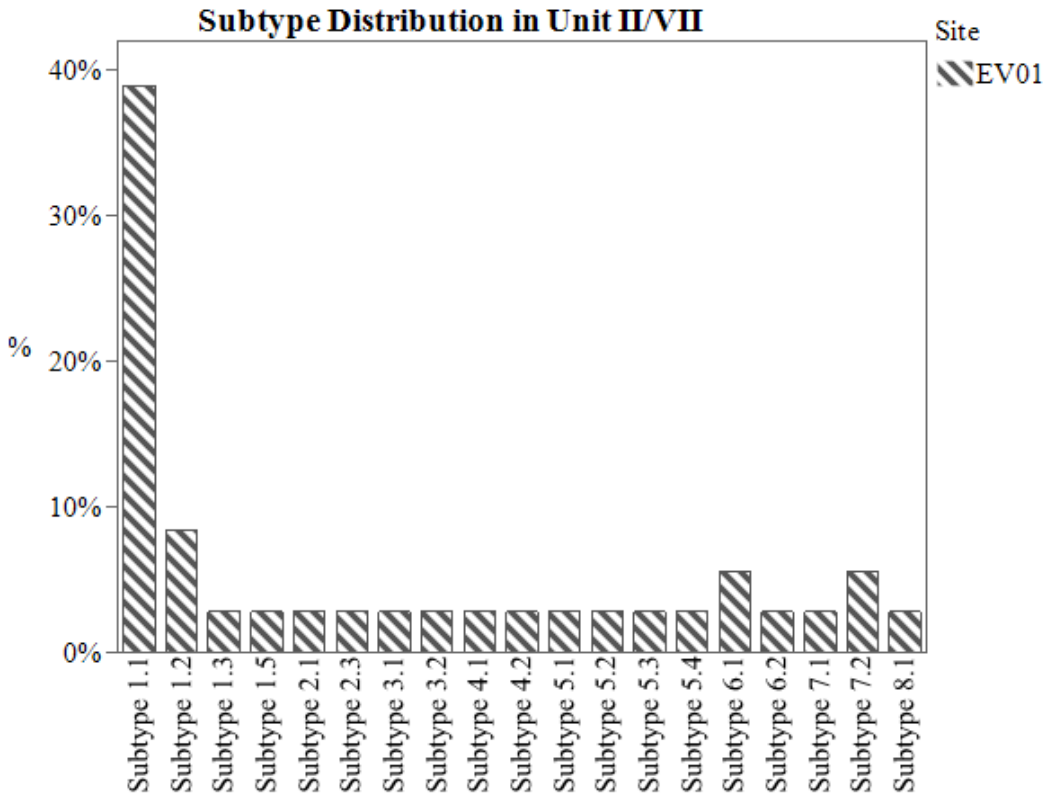


Figure 57: Distribution of subtypes in Unit II/VII

Unit II/VII has a clear dominant type and upon further subdividing the types, a clear subtype. Subtype 1.1 consists of bellied jars with triangular motifs on the shoulder. While this subtype includes vessels with motifs that can be from either TK2 or Mapungubwe, it includes a substantial number of vessels with cross-hatched triangles, which are associated with the Mapungubwe period.

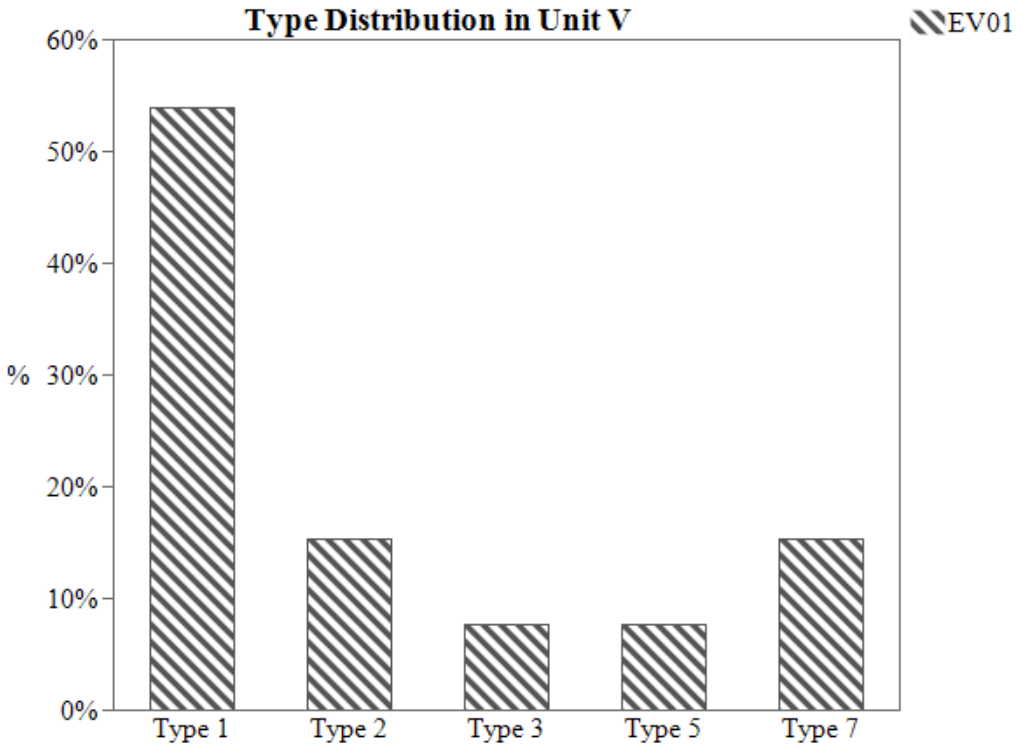


Figure 58: Distribution of types in Unit V

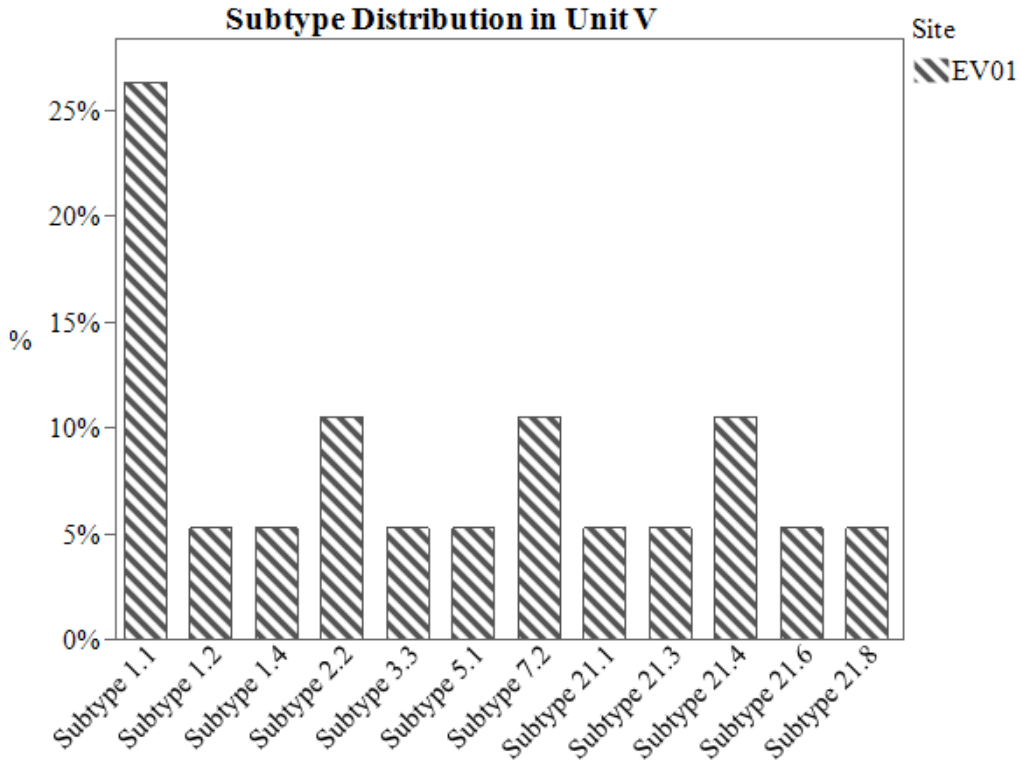


Figure 59: Distribution of subtypes in Unit V

As with Unit II/VII, Unit V has a clear dominant type and subtype (Type 1; Subtype 1.1). Subtype 1.1 includes vessels with cross-hatched triangles belonging to the Mapungubwe period, and as such this unit differs from the other units at Evelyn (EV01).

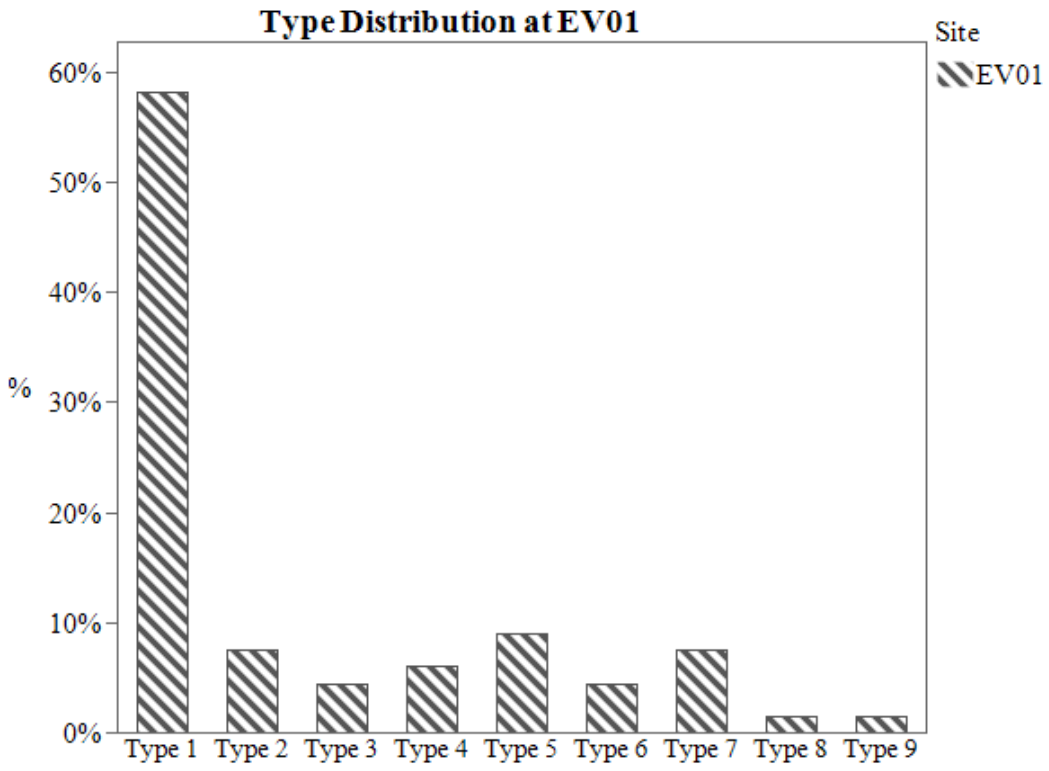


Figure 60: Distribution of types at EV01

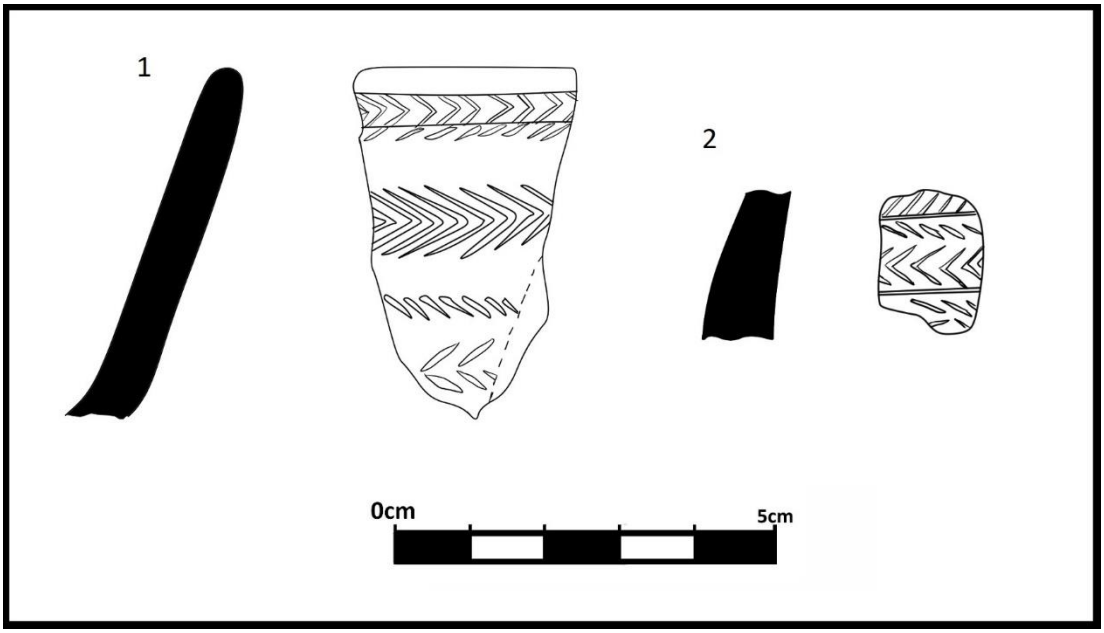


Figure 61: Eiland ceramics from Evelyn (EV01) representative of Subtype 3.3 (1&2).

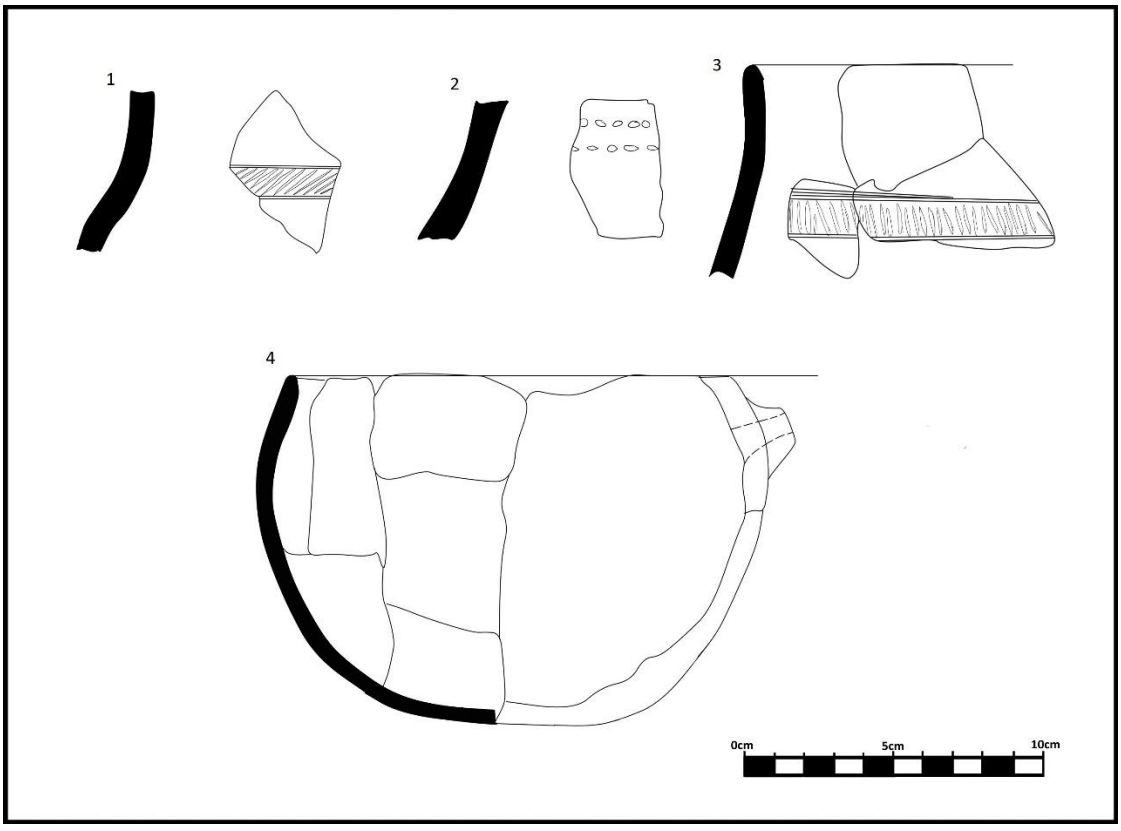


Figure 62: K2 ceramics from Evelyn (EV01) representative of Subtypes 1.4 (1&3), Subtype 4.4 (2) and Type 9 (4).

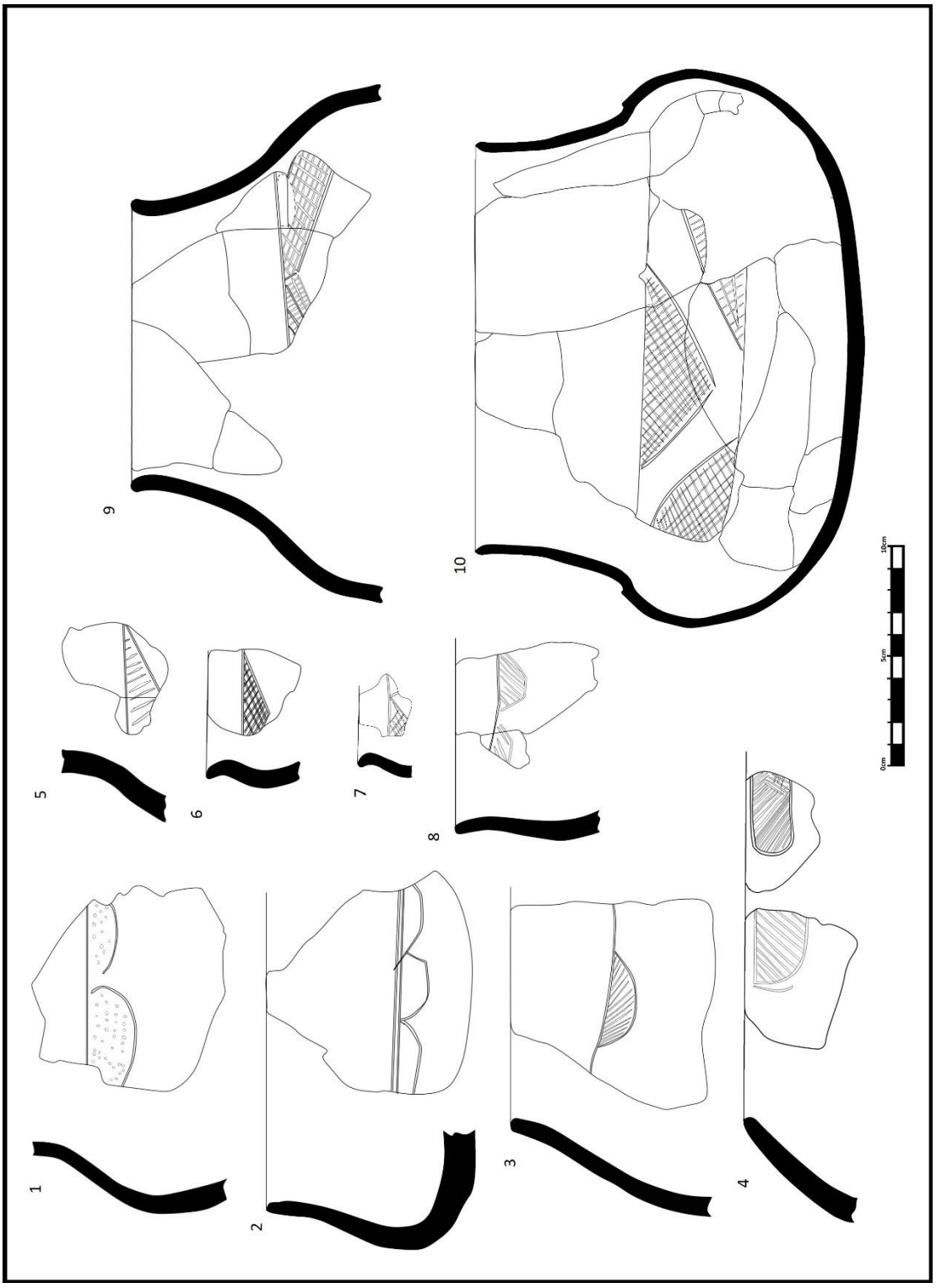


Figure 63: TK2 and Mapungubwe ceramics from Evelyn (EV01) representative of Subtype 1.4 (1-3), Subtype 6.1 (4), Subtype 7.2 (5-7) and Subtype 1.2 (10).

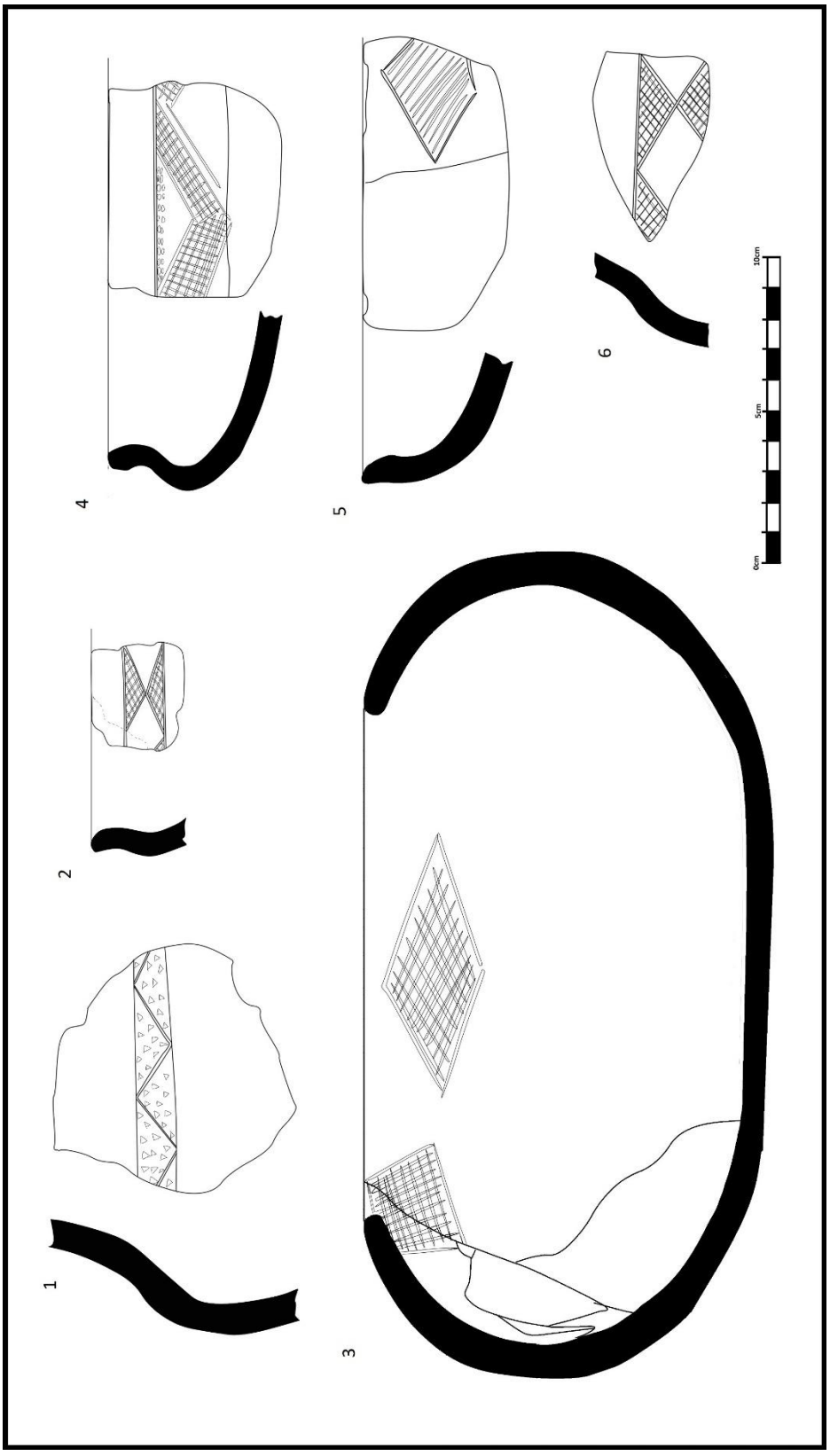


Figure 64: Mapungubwe ceramics from Evelyn (EV01) representative of Subtype 4.1 (1), Subtype 7.2 (2), Subtype 6.2 (3), Subtype 8.1 (4), Subtype 5.3 (5), and Subtype 1.2 (6).

5.2.2. Distribution of Types at Klein Bolayi (EV02)

EV02 yielded a smaller diagnostic assemblage than Evelyn (EV01), but the data contains enough information to elaborate on the frequency occurrence of types. While Evelyn (EV01) has a clear dominant type (Type 1), the Klein Bolayi (EV02) assemblage has two types that are represented by high percentages. Type 1 is represented by 40% of the assemblage, while Type 4 follows closely with 33% of the assemblage. The Klein Bolayi (EV02) assemblage contains no vessels representative of Type 3, Type 6, Type 7, and Type 8. The absence of these types will be discussed in Chapter 6. Type 10 (lugged vessels) are unique to Klein Bolayi (EV02) - making up 5% of the assemblage.

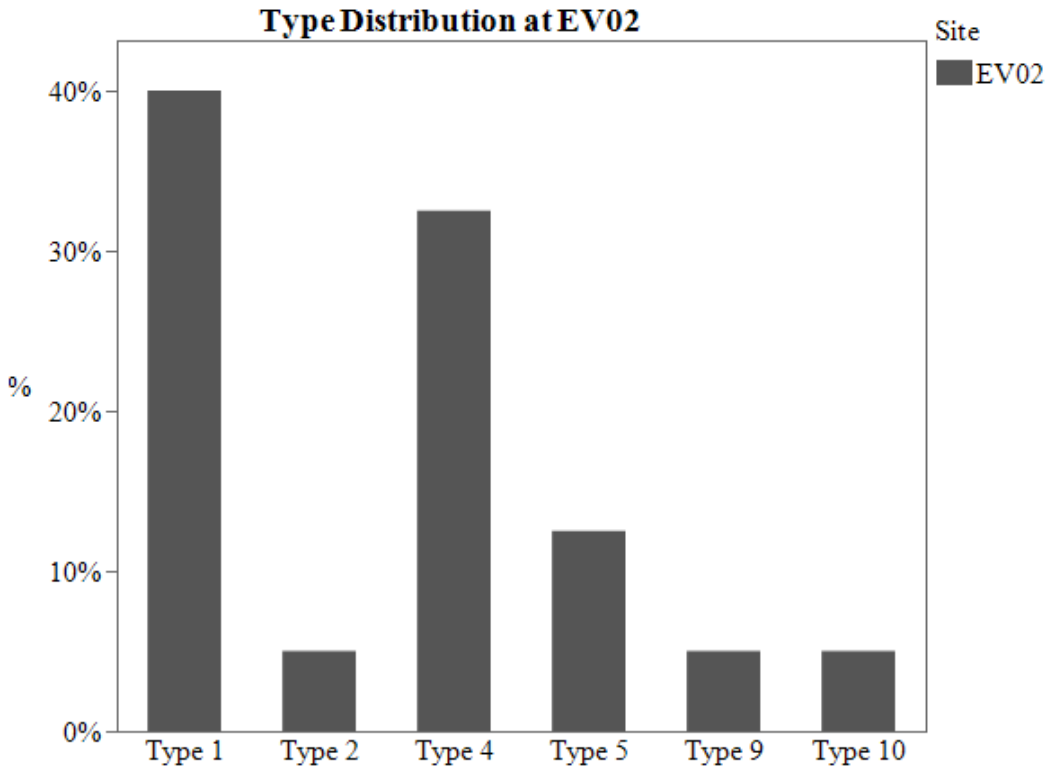


Figure 65: Distribution of types at EV02

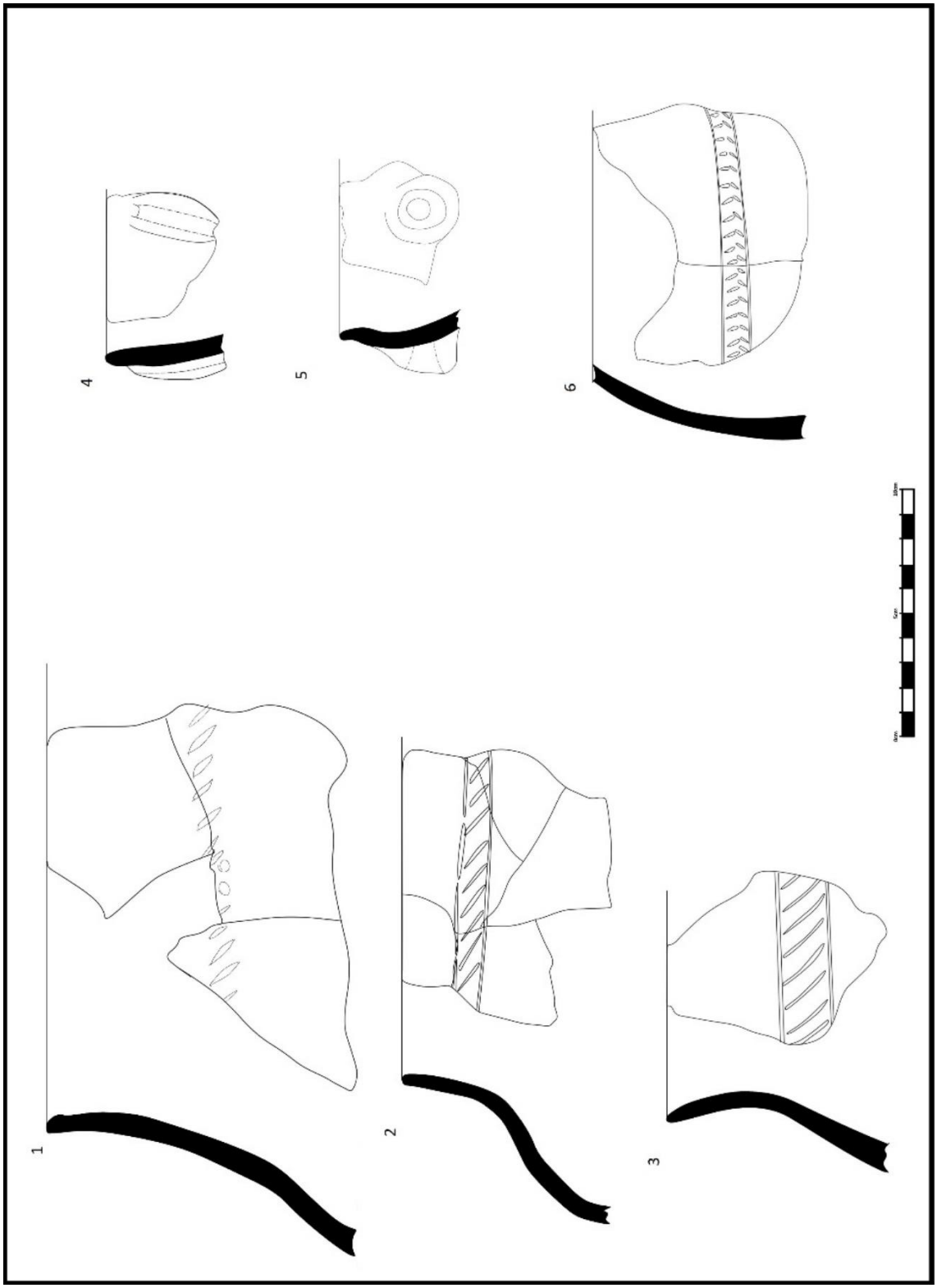


Figure 66: K2 ceramics from Klein Bolayi (EV02) representative of Subtype (4.), Subtype 1.4 (2), Subtype 2.1 (3), Type 8 (4), Type 9 (5), and Subtype 4.3 (6).

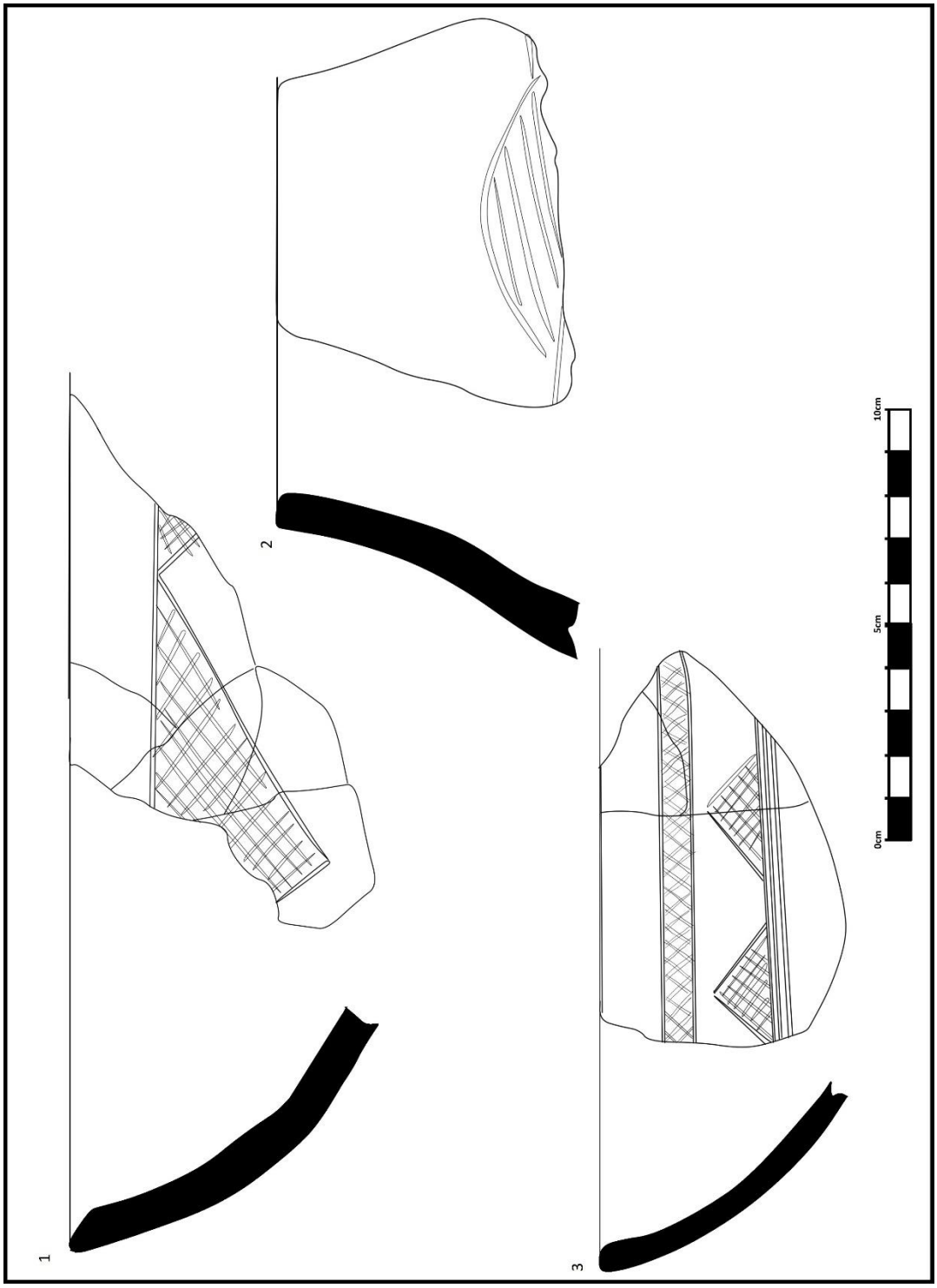


Figure 67: TK2 ceramics from Klein Bolayi (EV02) representative of Subtype 1.3 (1) and Subtype 5.3 (2&3).

5.2.3. Distribution of Types at both sites

The types represented by the diagnostic vessels from both sites, vary from having less than 10 representative vessels to 39. There are clear differences between the sites in terms of the dominant ceramic types that are found in the assemblages at each site. Evelyn (EV01) has a large percentage of Type 1 vessels (58% of the assemblage), whilst in the Klein Bolayi (EV02) assemblage Type 1 vessels make up 40% of the total. In addition, Evelyn (EV01) is dominated by variations of subtype 1 and 2 while at Klein Bolayi (EV02) subtype 3 and 4 is more common.

Both assemblages contain small percentages of Type 2 vessels, with Type 2 vessels making up 7% of the Evelyn (EV01) assemblage and 4% of the Klein Bolayi (EV02) assemblage.

Type 3 vessels are only present in in the Evelyn (EV01) assemblage, making up 3% of the assemblage. Type 3 vessels comprise of bag-shaped jars with incised bands of decoration around the shoulder of the vessel, and the absence of this type will be discussed in chapter 6.

Type 4 vessels make up 6% of the Evelyn (EV01), while Type 4 vessels make up 33% of the Klein Bolayi (EV02) assemblage. Type 4 vessels from Klein Bolayi (EV02) are the second-most dominant type found in the Klein Bolayi (EV02) assemblage, while it makes up one of the smaller percentages from Evelyn (EV01).

Type 5 vessels make up 9% of the Evelyn (EV01) assemblage and 13% of the Klein Bolayi (EV02) assemblage.

Type 6, Type 7, and Type 8 make up 4%, 7%, and 1% of the Evelyn (EV01) assemblage, respectively. Type 6, type 7, and Type 8 are completely absent from the Klein Bolayi (EV02) assemblage.

Type 9 makes up 1% of the Evelyn (EV01) assemblage and 5% of the Klein Bolayi (EV02) assemblage. Type 10 is absent in the Evelyn (EV01) assemblage, but makes up 5% in the Klein Bolayi (EV02) assemblage.

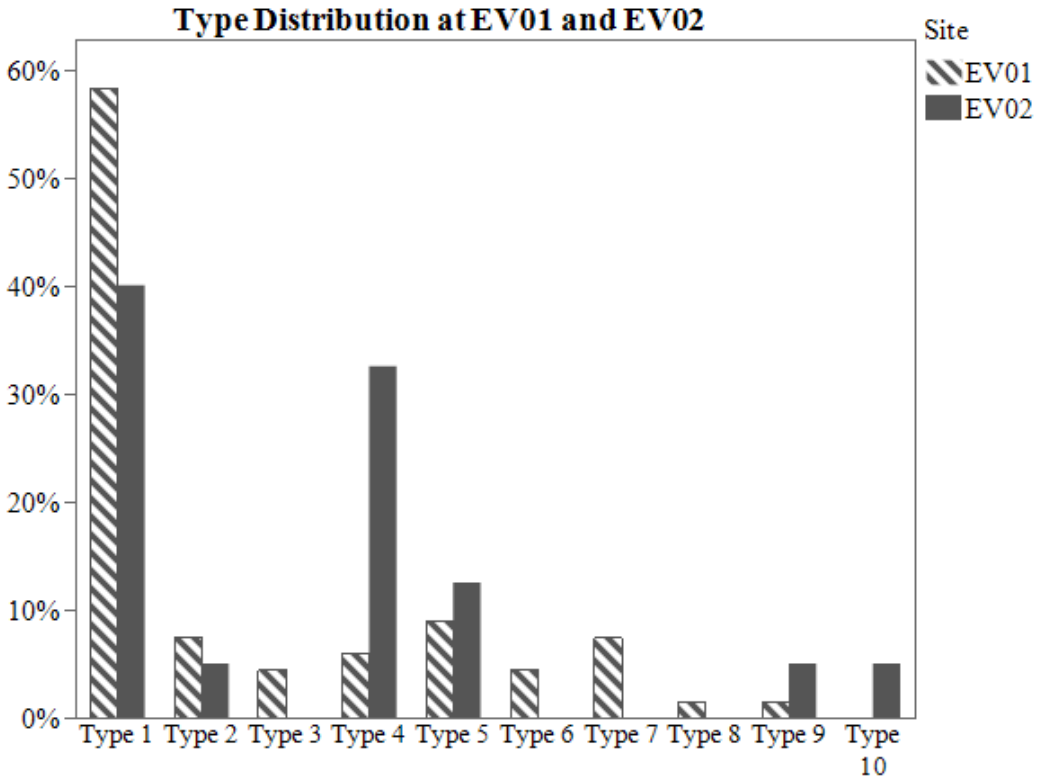


Figure 68: Distribution of types at both EV01 and EV02 excluding undecorated vessels

5.3. Profile Types

Nine distinct vessel profiles were identified from the Evelyn (EV01) and Klein Bolayi (EV02) assemblages. Prior research (A. Antonites 2012, Calabrese 2007, Van Ewyk 1987, Hanisch 1980, Meyer 1980, Van der Walt 2012) on SLCA ceramic vessels was used as reference material. Miniatures are added as a tenth profile type in this chapter so that they do not disappear into the other profile types.

Profile 1: Recurved Jars

Recurved jars are necked vessels with a spherical body and a height greater than the diameter of the vessel's mouth. The shoulder is sometimes distinct. Rim profiles range from almost vertical to highly excurvate. Calabrese (2007: 51) refers to these vessels as recurved/shouldered jars. This profile type corresponds to A. Antonites' (2012: 125) Shape 1. Hanisch (1980:19) includes these vessels in his necked pots category and Huffman's (1974:38-40) recurved and shouldered jars correspond to this shape. Meyer's (1980: 69-72) shapes 5.2, 5.3, 6.3, and 6.7 all correspond to this profile type with slight variations to the body and shoulder.

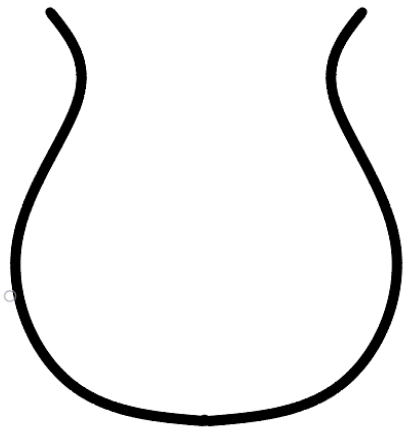


Figure 69: Schematic of a recurved jar

Profile 2: Bag-Shaped Jars

Bag-shaped jars are conical in shape with a height greater than the diameter of the vessel's mouth. Rim profiles range from almost-straight to inward sloping. This profile type corresponds to A. Antonites' (2012: 127) Shape 3, which he refers to as long-necked jars. This shape also corresponds to Hanisch's (1980: 19-24) vessel forms 19 and to some examples of 12. This vessel has no corresponding shapes in Huffman's (1974: 38-39) or Meyer's (1980) profile types.

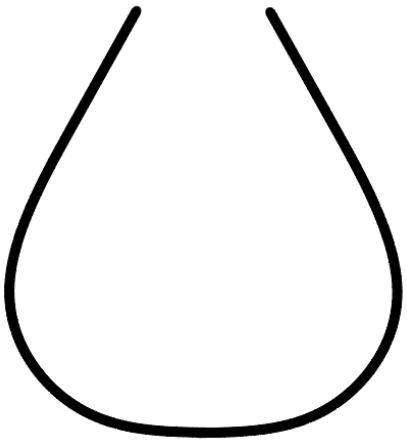


Figure 70: Schematic of a bag-shaped jar

Profile 3: Bellied Jars

Bellied jars are globular vessels with a height greater than the diameter of the vessel's mouth. The shoulder is very distinct. The neck can be best described as a cylinder sitting on top of a spherical body (Calabrese 2007: 51). This profile type corresponds to A. Antonites' (2012: 126) Shape 2 as well as Hanisch's (1980: 20) Shapes 11, 13, and 14. Huffman (1974) has no profiles which correspond to this profile type.

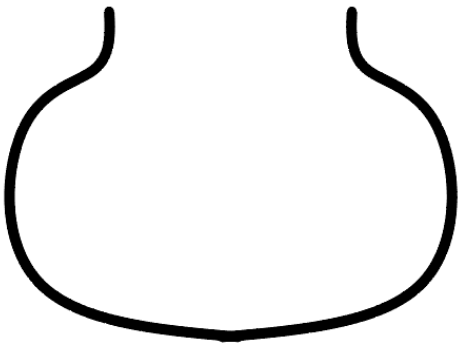


Figure 71: Schematic of a bellied jar

Profile 4: Constricted Bowls

Constricted bowls are spherical vessels with a mouth diameter smaller than the widest diameter of the vessel. The rim does not curve downwards and is the highest part of the vessel. This profile type corresponds to A. Antonites' (2012: 130) Shape 9. Calabrese (2007) does not have a corresponding Shape, though his incurvate bowl is very similar in terms of body shape. Hanisch's (1980) Shapes 15-17, 21-27, and 32 correspond to this profile type, as well as Meyer's (1980) Shapes 2.1, 2.2, 2.4, 3.2, 3.4, 3.5, and 4.1.

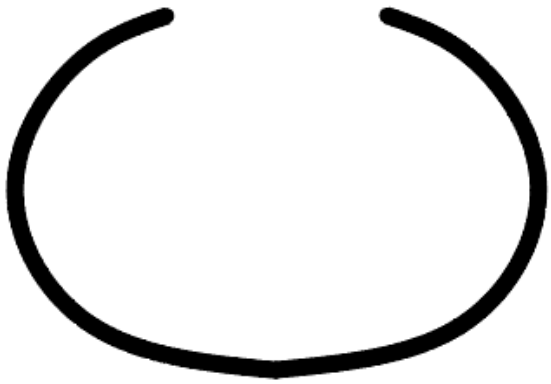


Figure 72: Schematic of a constricted bowl

Profile 5: Beakers

Beakers are vessels with vertical or nearly-vertical sides with a height greater than the diameter of the vessel's mouth (Calabrese 2007: 51). The base of the vessel is flattened, and the sides range from vertical to slightly excurvate (Calabrese 2007: 51). This profile type corresponds to A. Antonites' (2012: 127) Shape 4 and Huffman's (1974: 39-40) Shape 6 and 7. This profile also corresponds to Hanisch's (1980: 22-24) Shapes 39, 41, and 43 as well as with Meyer's 1.1, 1.2, 1.3, 1.4, 1.5, 1.7, 1.10, and 1.13.

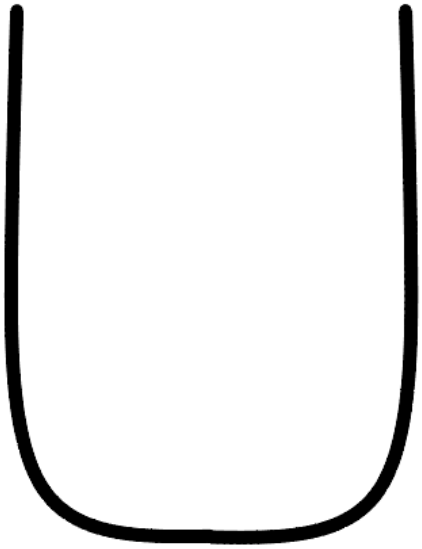


Figure 73: Schematic of a beaker

Profile 6: Open Bowls

Open Bowls are hemispherical vessels where the mouth diameter is the widest part of the vessel. The rim profile ranges from near-vertical to highly excurvate (Calabrese 2007: 55). A. Antonites (2012: 128) has two types of open bowls, namely Shape 5: Simple Open Bowls and Shape 6: Open Deep Bowls. Calabrese (2007: 55) also has several categories of open bowls, namely Simple Deep Bowls, Very Shallow Bowls, and Simple Shallow Bowls. Due to the sample size from both sites the open bowls were consolidated into one category. This profile type corresponds to Hanisch's (1980: 21-23) Shapes 20, 28, and 29 and Huffman's (1974 87-88) Shape 6.

This shape also corresponds with Meyer's (1980: 65-68) Shapes 2.3, 3.3, and 4.2.

Figure 74: Schematic of an open bowl

Profile 7: Necked Bowls

Necked bowls resemble constricted bowls in shape but necked bowls have a distinct shoulder and a rim profile that is excurvate (Calabrese 2007: 55). This profile type corresponds to A. Antonites' (2012: 129) Shape 8 and Meyer's (1980: 73-74) Shapes 9.1 and 9.2. This profile type would be included in Huffman's (1974: 87) Shape 1.

Figure 75: Schematic of a necked bowl

Profile 8: Incurvate Bowls

Incurvate bowls are similar to constricted bowls in shape. Incurvate bowls are spherical vessels with constricted mouths but the rim is moderately to highly incurvate, meaning that the mouth of the vessel is not the highest part of the vessel as is the case with a constricted bowl (Calabrese 2007: 56). This profile type corresponds to Hanisch's (1980) Shapes 15-17, 21-27, and 32 as well as Huffman's (1974: 39-40) Shapes 8 and 9.

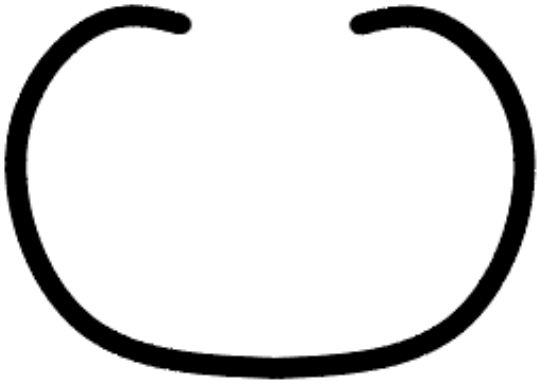


Figure 76: Schematic of an incurvate bowl

Profile 9: Plates

Plates are nearly flat and roughly circular with a height of one-fifth or less of the diameter of the vessel's mouth. The rim is slightly incurvate (Calabrese 2007: 55). This profile type corresponds to A. Antonites' (2012: 129) Shape 9 and Meyer's (1980: 68) Shape 4.3. Neither Huffman (1974) nor Hanisch (1980) have corresponding profiles.

Figure 77: Schematic of a plate

Profile 10: Miniatures

Miniatures were small vessels (typically less than 5cm in height) and resembled any of the other profile types. However, they were classified separately due to their diminutive size. These vessels are further discussed in the next chapter.

5.4. Distribution of Profile Types

Table 14: Distribution of profile types from Evelyn (EV01) and Klein Bolayi (EV02)

	Evelyn (EV01)		Klein Bolayi (EV02)	
Profile Type	***n***	**Percentage (%)**	***n***	**Percentage (%)**
Recurved Jars	7	6	2	4
Bag-Shaped Jars	6	5	-	-
Bellied Jars	57	51	27	58
Constricted Bowls	8	8	1	2
Beakers	2	2	2	4
Open Bowls	16	14	11	23
Necked Bowls	8	7	-	-
Incurvate Bowls	2	2	-	-
Plates	1	1	-	-
Miniatures	5	4	4	9
Total	**112**	**100**	**47**	**100**

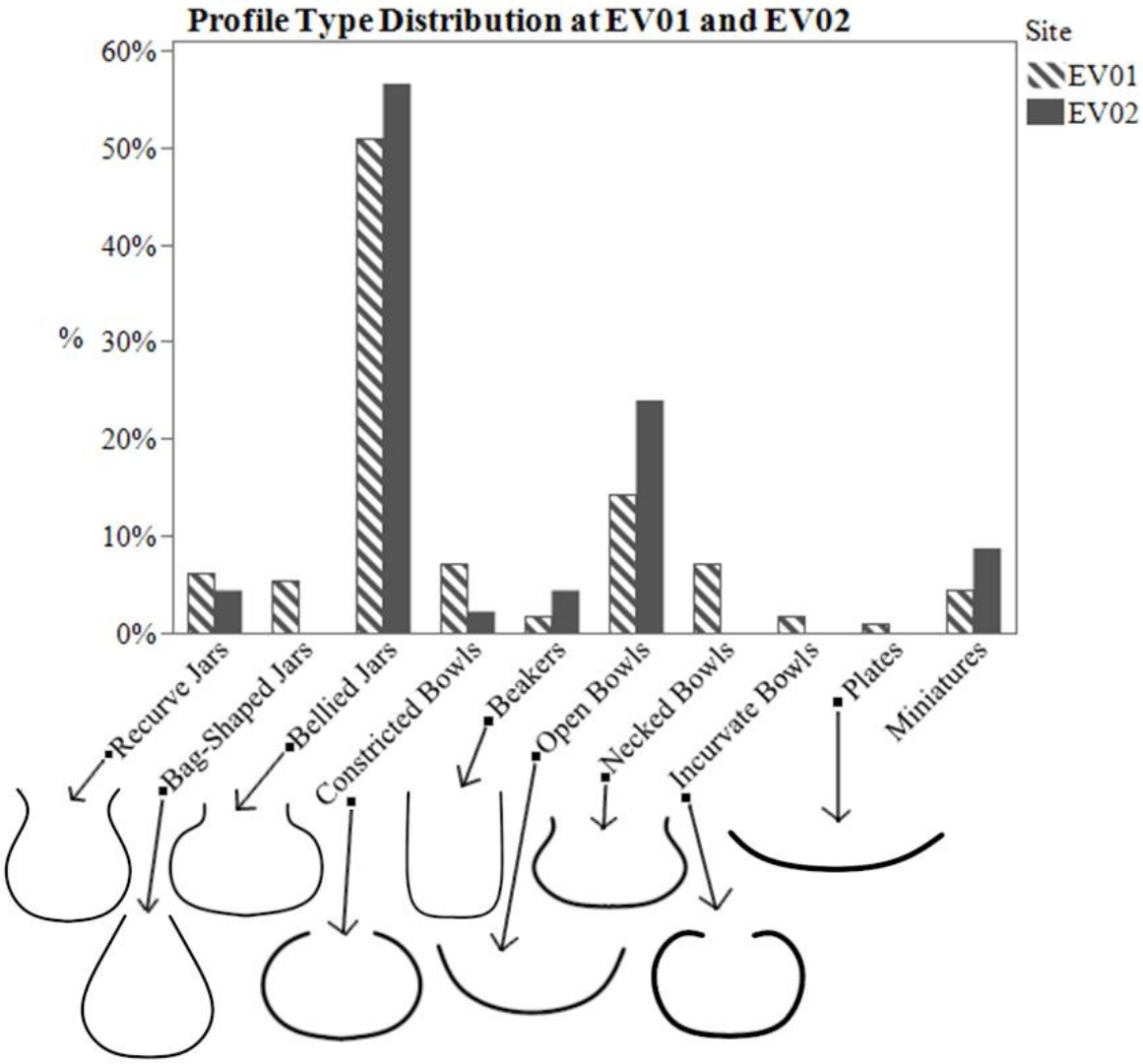


Figure 78: Distribution of profile types at EV01 and EV02 (includes profile type drawings)

Evelyn (EV01) shows a greater variety of profile types (n=10) when compared to Klein Bolayi (EV02) (n=6), which could be a reflection of the larger sample size of the former. Both sites are dominated by bellied jars (profile type 3) which account for around half of the assemblage at both sites. Open bowls (profile type 6) were the second most common shape, amounting to 14% (Evelyn) and 23% (Klein Bolayi) respectively.

At Evelyn (EV01), recurved jars were present in ashy deposits and dung layers, both contexts found in units which covered the kraal area of the site, as well as in the single burial context, C1004 (table 4). Bag-shaped jars are found in the burial context of C1004 as well as in undefined archaeological fill contexts kraal areas. Bellied jars, the predominant type from both sites is found in all contexts except C1009 and C1016,

which are both undefined archaeological fill contexts. Constricted bowls are found in midden and undefined archaeological fill deposits as well as in the burial context of C1004. Open bowls are distributed almost evenly throughout Evelyn (EV01) deposits, but were not found in Trench I at all. Four of the five miniatures were found in Trench II/VII. One of these was found in the undefined archaeological fill context, one was found in midden deposits, and two were found in the burial context. The last miniature was found against the boulder in Trench VI in a possible midden. The fact that most of the vessels were found in Trench II/VII can be attributed to the fact that this excavation unit contained a burial. Grave goods include glass beads, disk beads, and a single copper helix (Lippert 2019), as well as a complete ceramic vessel.

Table 15: Distribution of profile types by contexts at Evelyn (EV01)

Profile Type	No Context	Undefined Archaeological Fill	Midden	Burial	Above Hut Floor	Dung Deposit	Ashy Deposit
Recurved Jars	-	-	-	3	-	2	2
Bag-Shaped Jars	-	2	-	2	-	1	1
Bellied Jars	1	13	12	17	3	5	6
Constricted Bowls	-	1	2	2	-	2	1
Beakers	-	1	-	1	-	-	-
Open Bowls	2	1	4	6	2	-	1
Necked Bowls	-	2	2	2	-	2	-
Incurvate Bowls	-	-	-	1	-	1	-
Plates	-	-	-	1	-	-	-
Miniatures	-	1	2	2	-	-	-

Table 15

Continued

Total	**3**	**21**	**22**	**37**	**5**	**13**	**11**

There are only two recurved jars present at EV02, both from midden deposits. EV02 yielded no bag-shaped jars. Bellied jars are the dominant profile type at EV02, being found in three different excavation units. The majority of the bellied jars were found in a midden and on top of the kraal context in Trench I, while some were found in the dung layer which seems to be a combination of the midden and the kraal itself. Two more were found in a kraal context on the northern end of the site (Trench VI). Nine of the assemblage's bellied jars were found in the midden context which covered the hut floor (Trench II). There was only one constricted bowl from the site, found in Trench II. There were two beakers, one found from the same midden which contained the constricted bowl, the other from midden deposit of Trench I. As with Evelyn (EV01), open bowls were the second-most common profile type at Klein Bolayi (EV02). These were found in Trench I in the surface- and midden contexts, in Trench III, as well as in Trench II. There were no necked bowls, incurvate bowls, or plates at Klein Bolayi. Of the four miniature vessels, three were found in the midden context in Trench I, while the fourth has no context.

Table 16: Distribution of profile types by contexts at Klein Bolayi (EV02)

Profile Type	**No Context**	**Surface**	**Ashy Deposit**	**Archaeological Fill**	**Midden**	**Dung Deposit**
Recurve Jars	-	-	-	-	2	-
Bag-Shaped Jars	-	-	-	-	-	-
Bellied Jars	3	-	-	-	22	2
Constricted Bowls	-	-	-	-	1	-
Beakers	-	-	-	-	2	-
Open Bowls	-	1	1	2	7	1

Table 16 Continued

Necked Bowls	-	-	-	-	-	-
Incurvate Bowls	-	-	-	-	-	
PlatesIncurvate Bowls		--	--	--	--	-- -
MiniaturesPlates	1-	--	--	--	3-	-
TotalMiniatures	**4**1	**1**-	**1**-	**2**-	**37**3	-
Total	**4**	**1**	**1**	**2**	**37**	**2**

Chapter 6: Discussion and Conclusion

The two sites of Evelyn (EV01) and Klein Bolayi (EV02) provide us with a unique opportunity to analyse the expressions of style, production and use of ceramics at an intimate spatial scale. In this chapter I consider the differences and similarities between the ceramics from Evelyn (EV01) and Klein Bolayi (EV02). The ceramics from these sites can possibly help refine the chronology of the area, particularly with regards to TK2 and Mapungubwe. The results discussed in this chapter are relevant to answering the research questions posed in chapter 1 – namely whether the sites of Evelyn (EV01) and Klein Bolayi (EV02) were contemporary sites or not, refining the chronology of both sites by using a stylistic analysis of the ceramics, and presenting similarities and differences between Evelyn (EV01) and Klein Bolayi (EV02) in terms of ceramic style.

6.1 Profile Types

A total of 158 vessels were used to define stylistic types based on the combination of profile, motif and placement. Roughly two-thirds (68%) of these came from Evelyn (EV01) and one-third (32%) came from Klein Bolayi (EV02). The Evelyn (EV01) assemblage contains vessels representative of all ten profile (Chapter 3). The Klein Bolayi (EV02) assemblage only contains vessels corresponding to five of the defined profile types. Though this can be attributed to a difference in sample size, other reasons for this difference must be considered. The radiocarbon dates discussed in Chapter 5 suggest that the occupation of Klein Bolayi (EV02) was likely earlier than Evelyn (EV01), though the radiocarbon dates are not clear enough to rule out the possibility of contemporary habitation at both sites. Data on the amount and percentage frequency of these profile types is presented in the following table.

Table 17: Number and frequency of profile types

	Evelyn (EV01)		Klein Bolayi (EV02)	
Profile Type	***n***	**Percentage (%)**	***n***	**Percentage (%)**
Recurved Jars	7	6	2	4
Bag-Shaped Jars	6	5	-	-
Bellied Jars	57	51	27	57
Constricted Bowls	8	8	1	2
Beakers	2	2	2	4
Open Bowls	16	14	11	24
Necked Bowls	8	7	-	-
Incurvate Bowls	2	2	-	-
Plates	1	1	-	-
Miniatures	5	4	4	9
Total	**112**	**100**	**47**	**100**

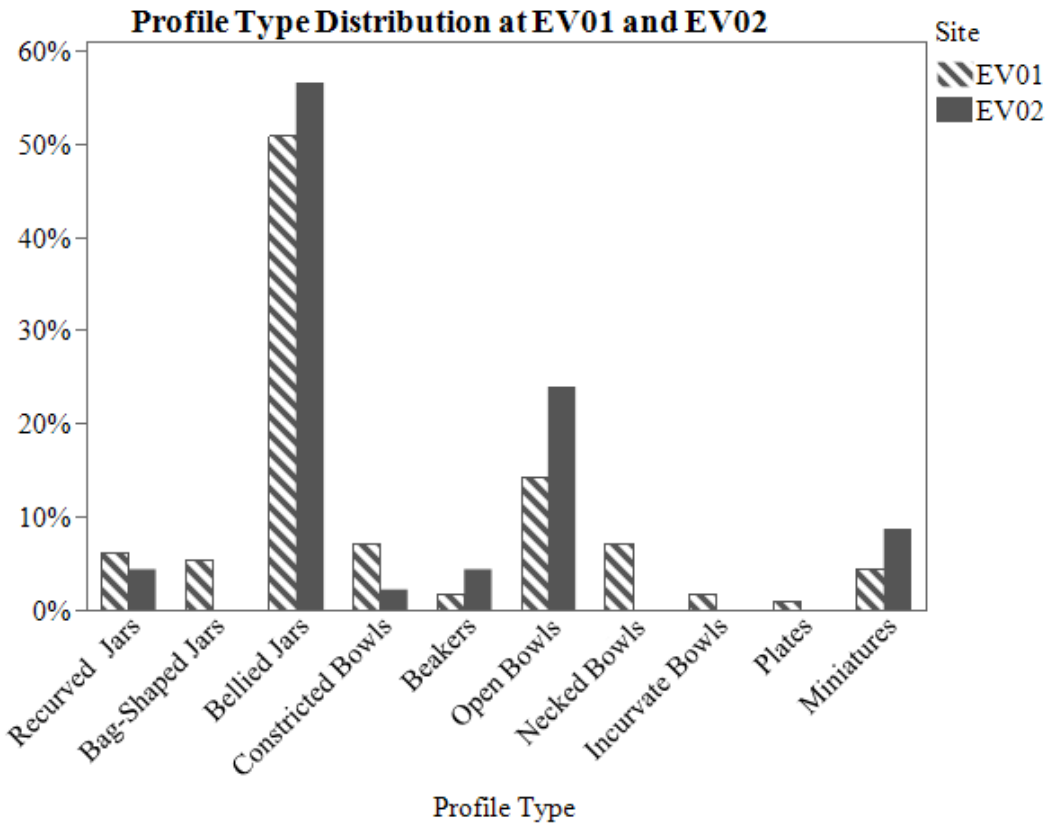


Figure 79: Distribution of Profile Types at EV01 and EV02 (includes profile type drawings)

6.1.1. Evelyn (EV01)

The assemblage from Evelyn (EV01) contained ceramic sherds that were diagnostic of all 10 profile types outlined in Chapter 5. Bellied jars are the dominant profile type (n=57) making up 50% of the assemblage, followed by open bowls (n=16 or 14%), constricted bowls (n=8 or 7%), necked bowls (n=8 or 7%), recurved jars (n=7 or 6%), bag-shaped jars (n=6 or 5%), miniatures (n=5 or 4%), beakers (n=2 or 2%), incurvate bowls (n=2 or 2%), and plates (n=1 or 1%). While not much can be said based on profile type alone, the presence of beakers suggests a K2 occupation, or at least an early TK2 period occupation. While one of the beakers was found in undefined archaeological fill, the other was found with the burial - similar to many of the graves found at K2 (Gardner 1963).

6.1.2. Klein Bolayi (EV02)

Bag-shaped jars, necked bowls, incurvate bowls, and plates are completely absent from the Klein Bolayi (EV02) assemblage. As with Evelyn (EV01), bellied jars dominate the assemblage (n=26 or 50%), followed by open bowls (n=11 or 21%), miniatures (n=4 or 8%), recurved jars (n=2 or 4%), beakers (n=2 or 3%), and constricted bowls (n=1 or 2%). As with Evelyn (EV01), the presence of beakers suggests K2 or early TK2 occupation.

6.1.3. Summary of Vessel Shapes

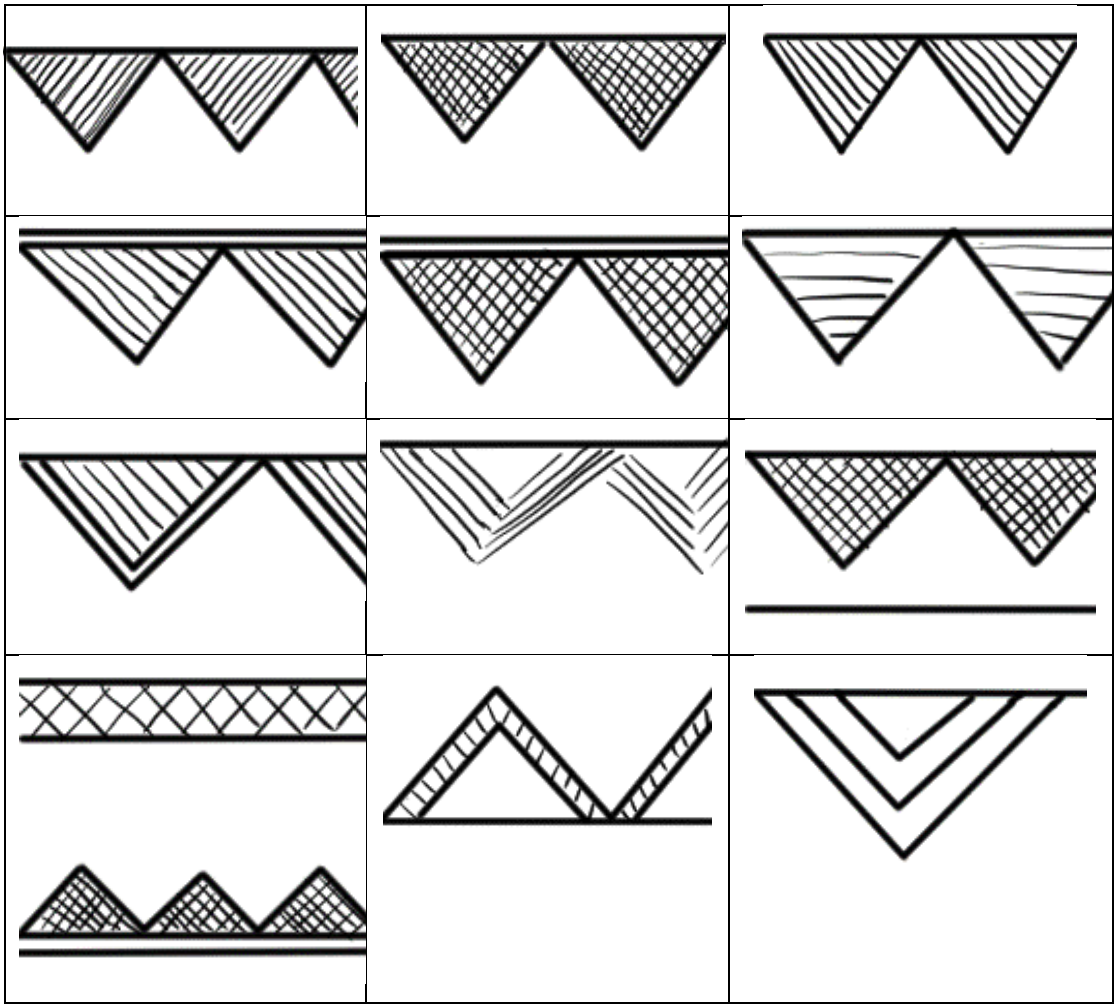
Evelyn (EV01) and Klein Bolayi (EV02) share the same dominant profile (bellied jars), which in both instances, account for almost half the assemblage (50%). Open bowls are the second-most dominant profile type at both Evelyn (EV01) (n=16 or 14%) and Klein Bolayi (EV02) (n=11 or 21%). Both Evelyn (EV01) and Klein Bolayi (EV02) contained two beakers (2% and 3% of each assemblage, respectively) which are characteristic of the K2 and TK2, but not the Mapungubwe facies.

5.1. Decorative Motifs

The motifs which were documented during analysis were sorted into sets which contained motifs with similarities in the technique used to make it, the geometry, and design. A total of 119 unique motifs were recorded and grouped into 11 sets based on core similarities. These decorative sets were used along with the profile and the motif placement to create the vessel types which follow hereafter. Unless specified the motifs are assumed to be continuous around the circumference of the vessel.

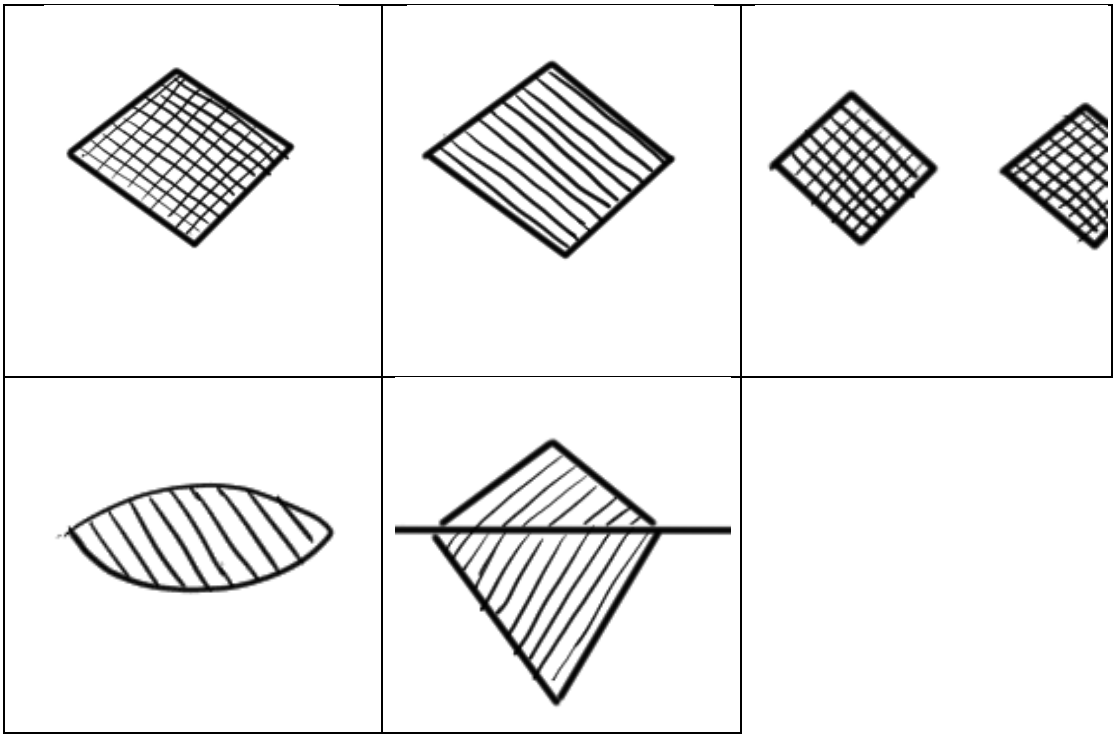
Decorative Motif 1:

Incised triangle variations.



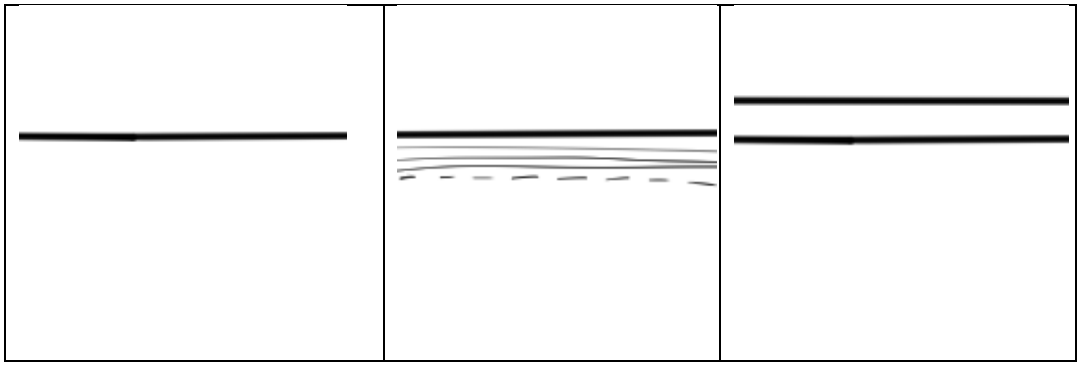
Decorative Motif 2:

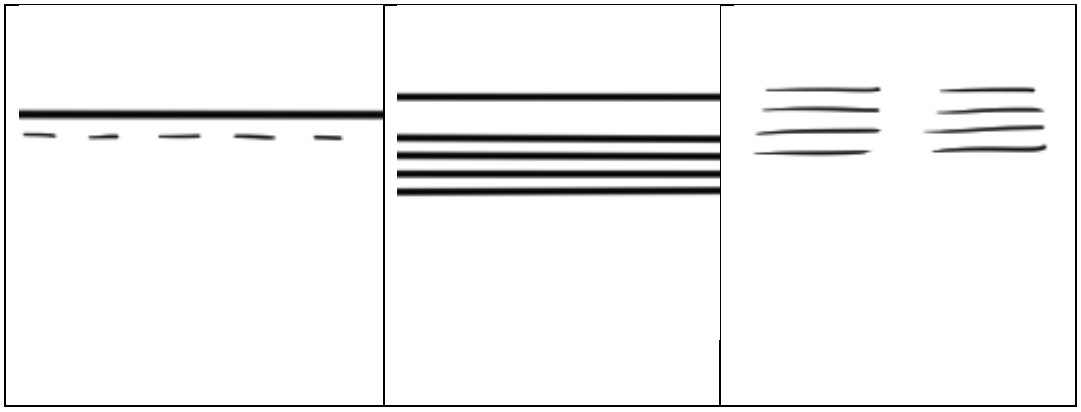
Diamond and lozenge variations



Decorative Motif 3:

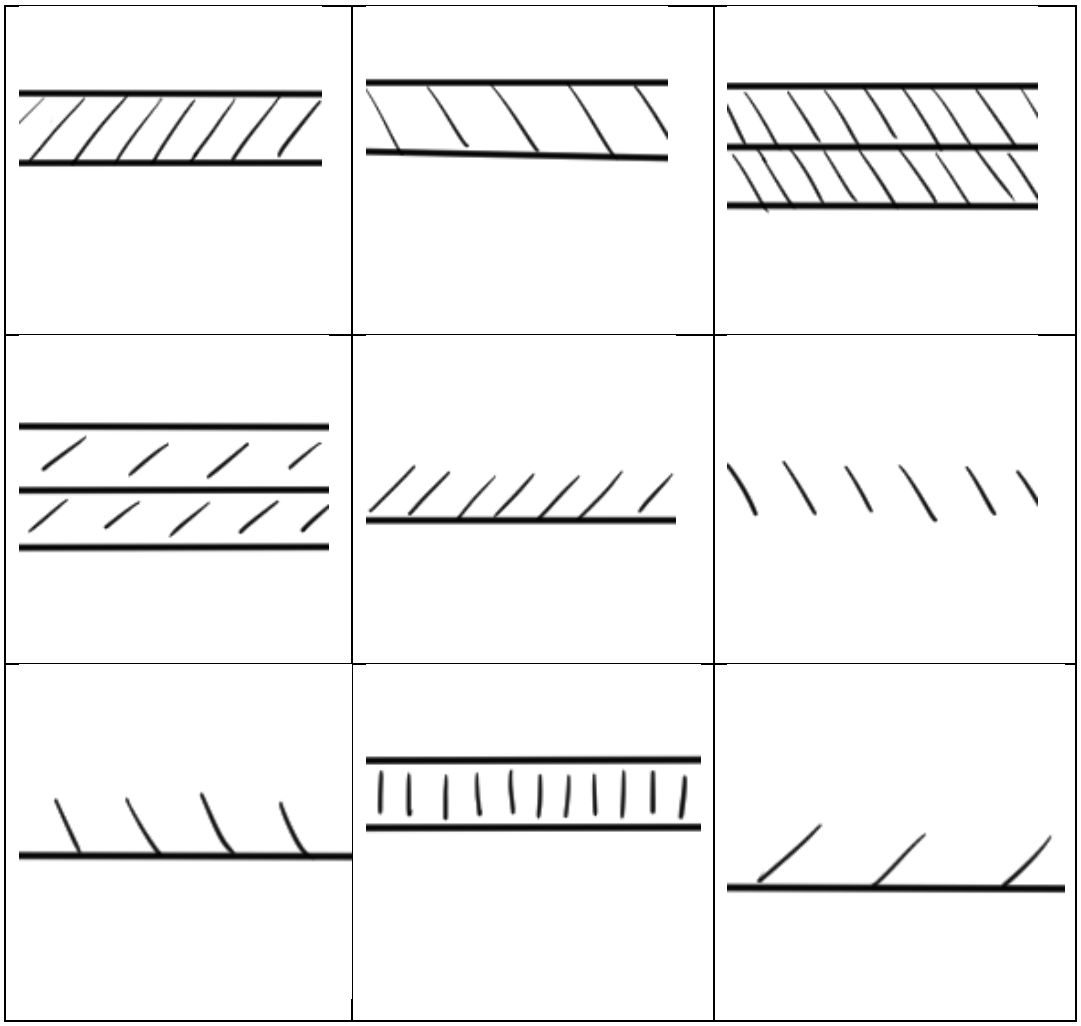
Incised horizontal line variations

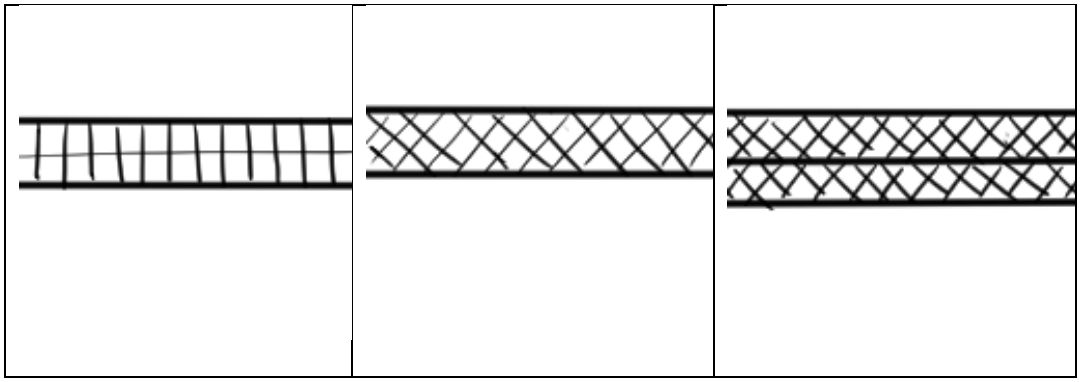




Decorative Motif 4:

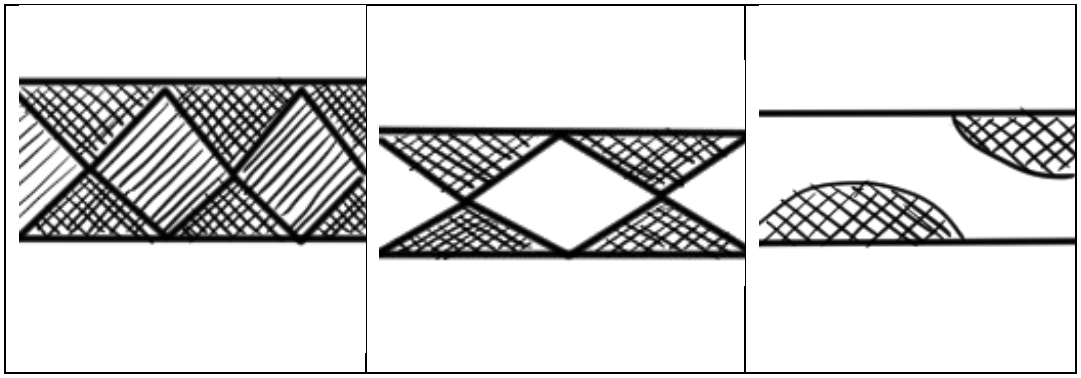
Diagonal lines and bars with diagonal lines between them





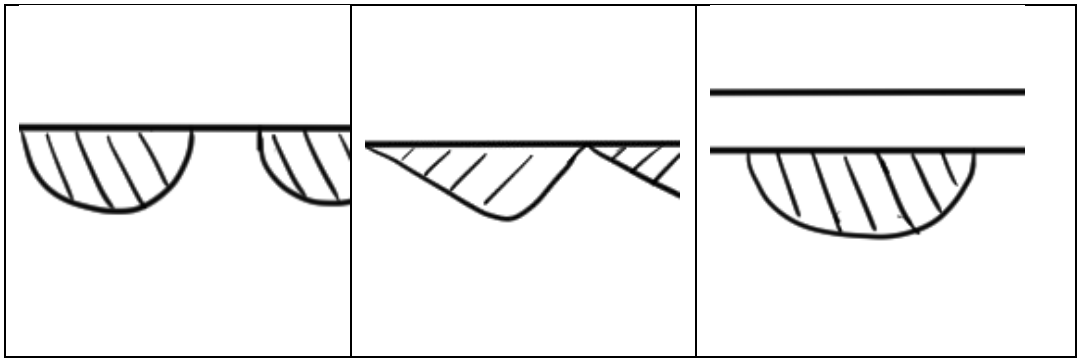
Decorative Motif 5:

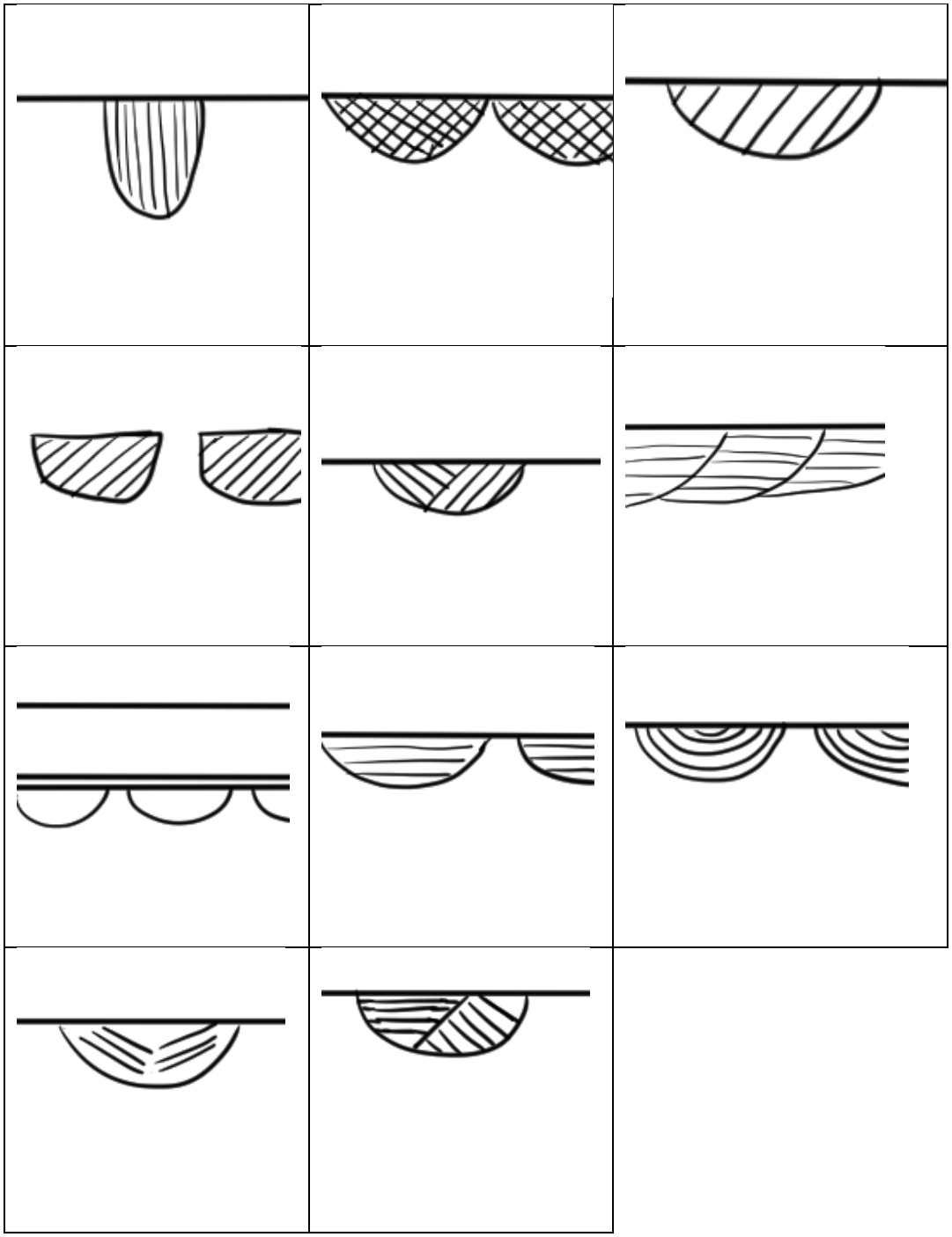
Complicated combinations which incorporate different geometric shapes into one motif



Decorative Motif 6:

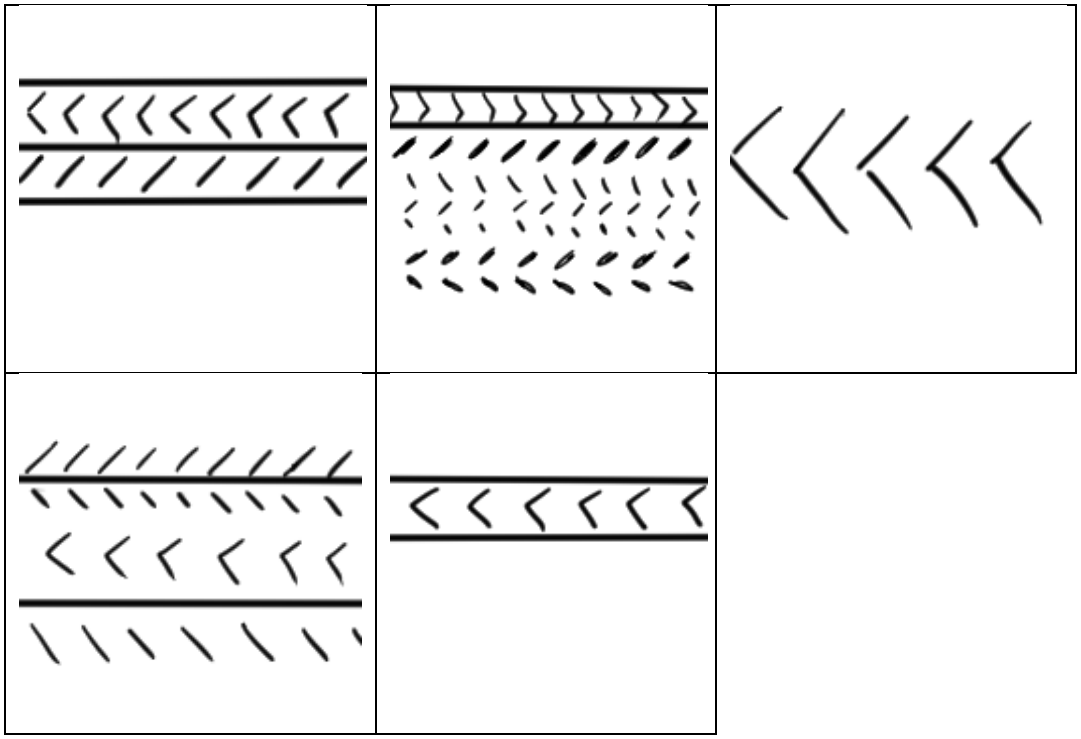
Incised arcade variations





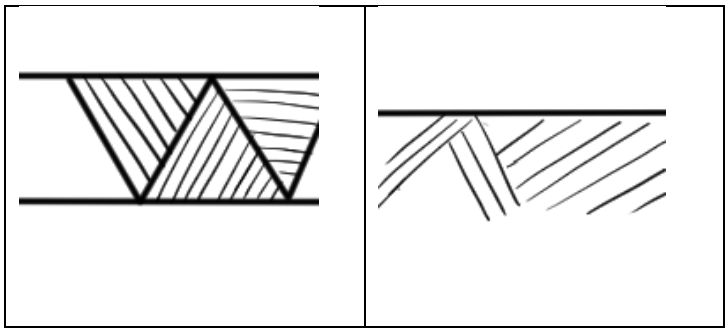
Decorative Motif 7:

Herringbone decoration variations



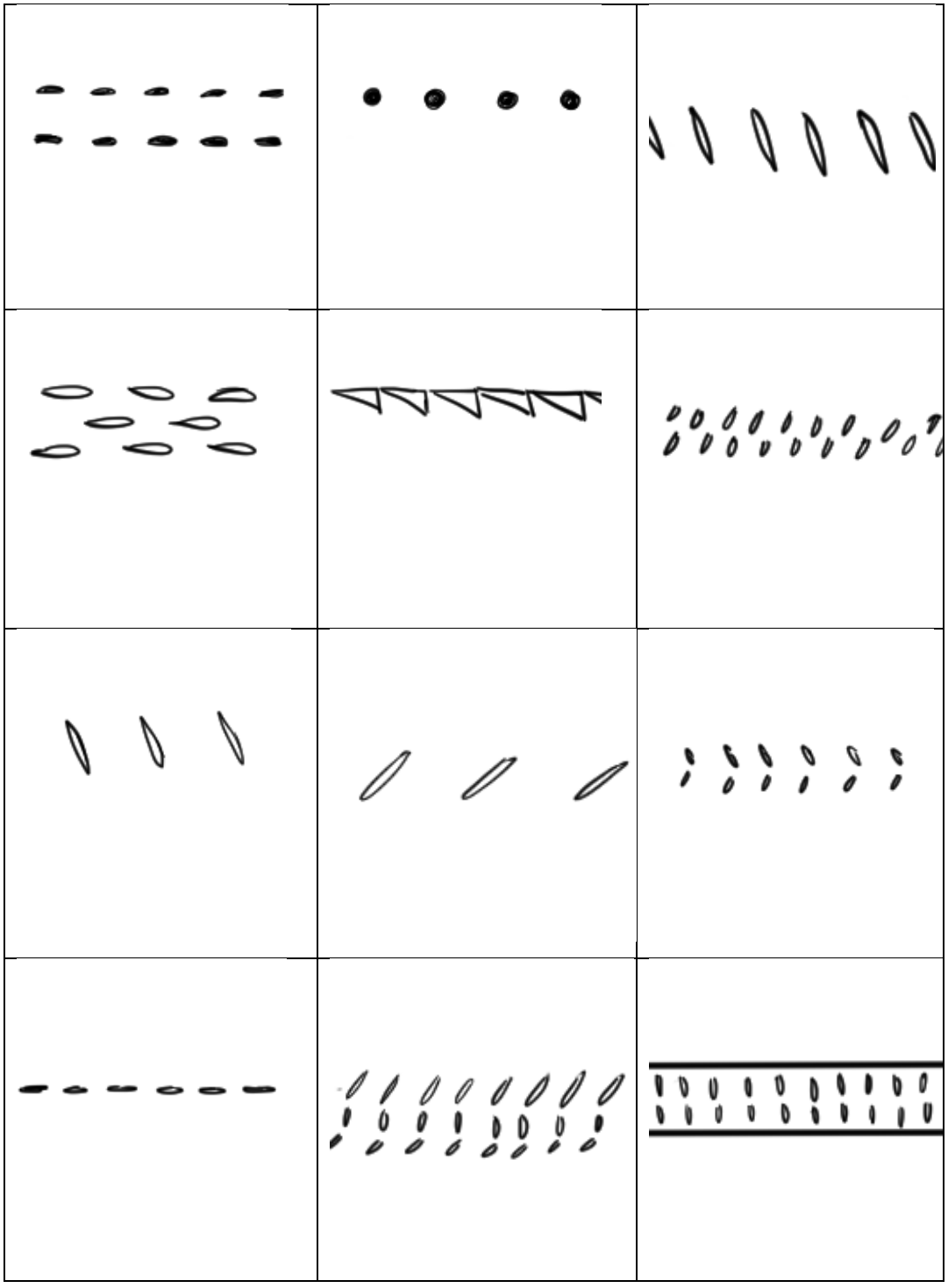
Decorative Motif 8:

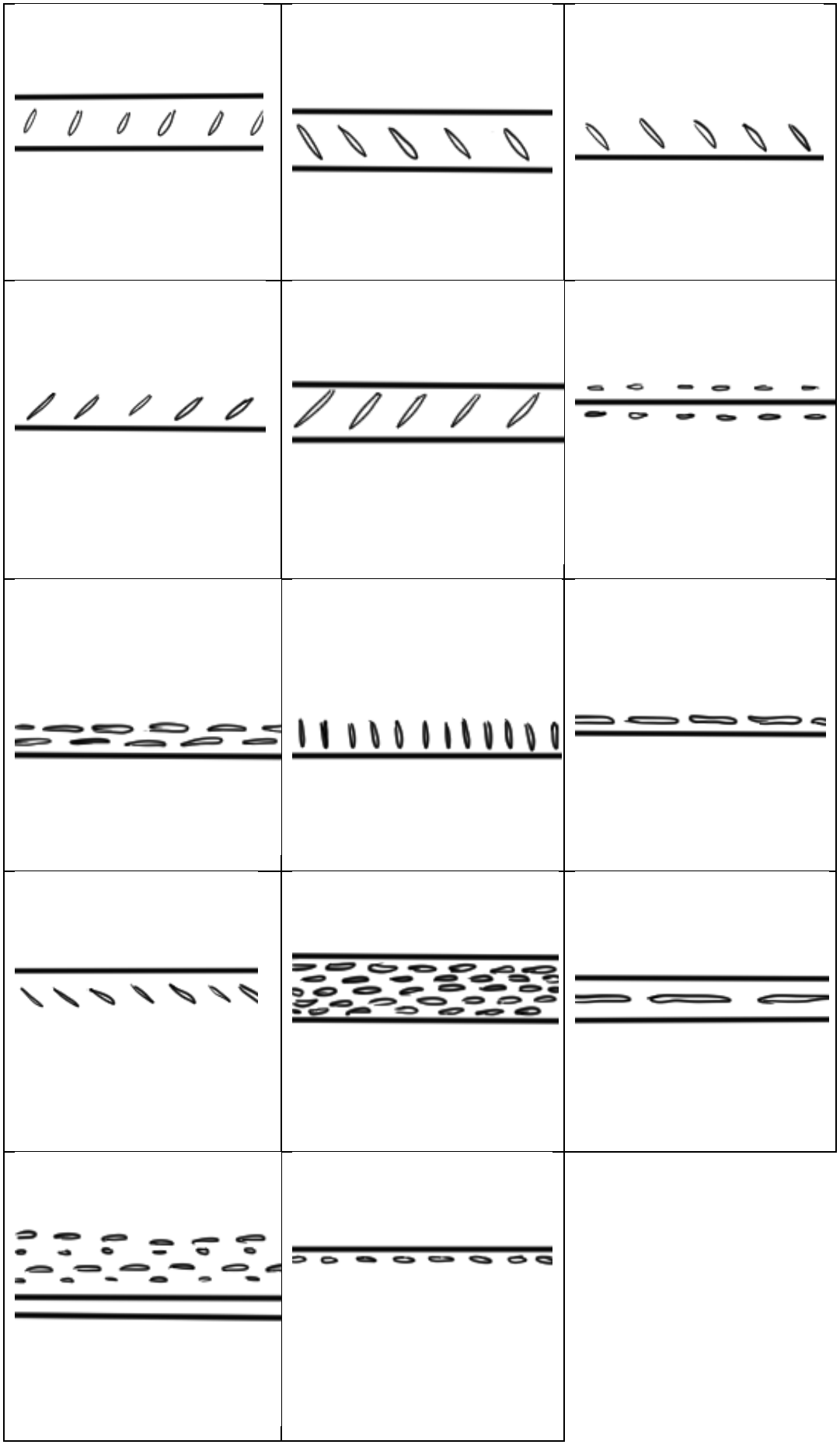
Incised interlocking triangle variations



Decorative Motif 9:

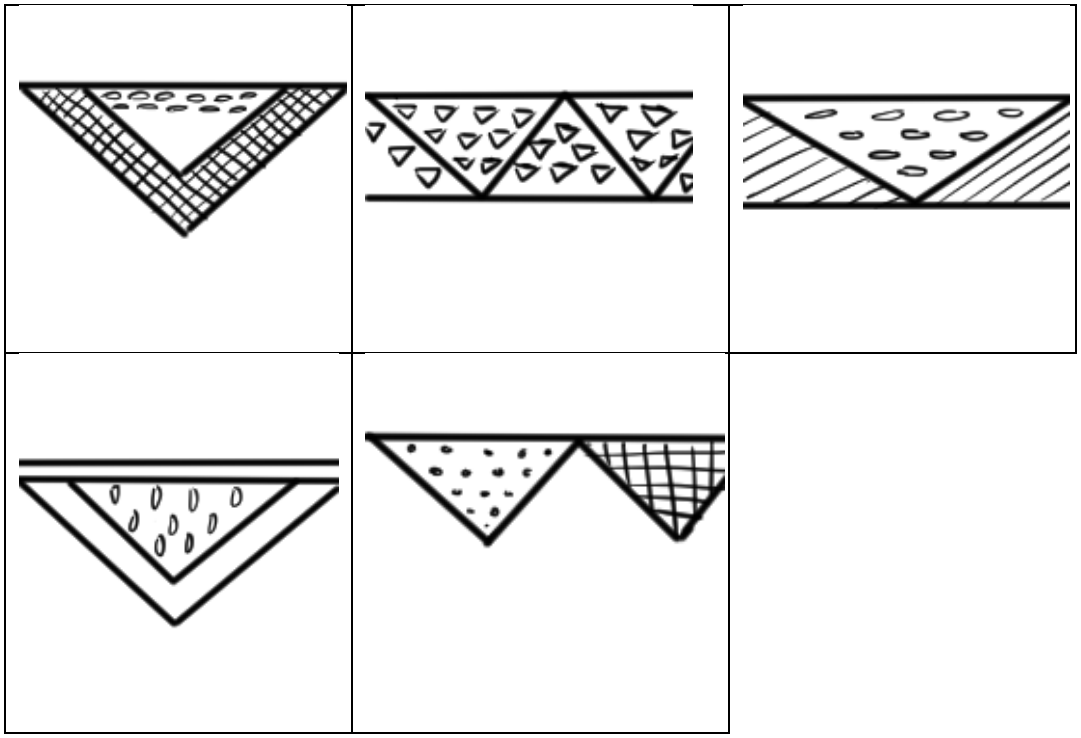
Punctate variations





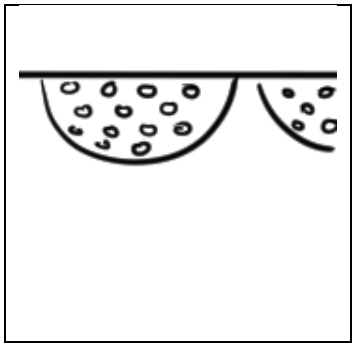
Decorative Motif 10:

Incised triangles which include punctates in the motif



Decorative Motif 11:

Incised arcades with punctates included in the motif.



6.2 Stylistic Analysis

6.2.1. Evelyn (EV01)

The Evelyn (EV01) ceramic assemblage is dominated by bellied jars featuring triangles on the lower neck and upper shoulder areas with styles primarily indicative of TK2 and Mapungubwe with incised triangles (Subtype 1.1). Units II/VII and V contain a large percentage of Subtype 1.1 vessels with cross-hatched triangles, which are indicative of Mapungubwe period vessels rather than TK2. There are five bellied jars with arcades (Subtype 1.3) on the shoulder which is also typical of TK2 (Huffman 2007; van der Walt 2012).

Since TK2 is a transitional facies, there is a degree of overlap with both K2 and Mapungubwe facies in terms of types. For example, bellied jars with a horizontal band on the shoulder (Subtype 1.4) is more akin to K2 types (cf Huffman's 2007b: 280) while vessels with fine downward pointing cross-hatched triangles on the shoulder (Subtype 1.1) and interlocking triangles on the shoulder (Subtype 1.2) are typical of Mapungubwe. Bellied jars decorated with incised triangles or arcades filled with punctates on the shoulder (Subtype 4.1) pointing down (Subtype 4.2) seem to be a characteristic TK2 type (Huffman 2007b; Van Der Walt 2012).

The recurved jars from Evelyn (EV01) consists of only 5 vessels. One jar with a horizontal band on the shoulder (Subtype 2.1) three vessels with downward-facing triangles on the shoulder (Subtype 2.2). A single vessel was decorated with arcades on the shoulder (Subtype 2.3). This placement of decoration on the shoulder is typical of both TK2 and K2 facies, but the downward facing triangles and arcades are suggestive of TK2 (Huffman 2007b: 283; Meyer 1980; Van Der Walt 2012).

There were only three decorated bag-shaped jars from Evelyn (EV01). One had diamond motifs on the shoulder (Subtype 3.1) while another had arcades on the shoulder (Subtype 3.2) (Huffman 2007b; Van Der Walt 2012).

Open bowls (Subtype 5.1) from Evelyn (EV01) were commonly decorated on the rim – most typically with downward pointing triangles (c.f. Huffman 2007b; Meyer 1980; Van Der Walt 2012). with triangles on the rim. One decorated open bowl has cross-hatched triangles on the body (Subtype 5.2).

Constricted bowls types were decorated on the shoulder with either arcades (Subtype 6.1) or diamond motifs (Subtype 6.2).

Necked bowls were rare, and become more common in later Mapungubwe assemblages (Huffman 2007b; Meyer 1980; Van Der Walt 2012). The motifs consist mainly of fine cross-hatched incisions and dark burnishing (2007b:287). One of the decorated necked bowls has diamond motifs on the shoulder (Subtype 7.1). Four necked bowls have incised triangles on the shoulder (Subtype 7.2). One of the necked bowls has triangles containing punctates on the shoulder (Subtype 8.1).

Though undecorated, the two beakers and spouted vessels are typically taken to be indicative of K2. (Huffman 1974: 109; Meyer 1980). Their presence on Evelyn clearly indicates that these vessel types, although rare, do occur in TK2 assemblages.

One bellied jar from Evelyn (EV01) has herringbone decoration (Subtype 1.5) and a bag-shaped jar with herringbone and fine ladder-stamping suggestive of the Eiland facies (Huffman 2007b: 227-229). These vessels suggest trade or perhaps exogamous marriage patterns with communities further afield.

6.2.2. Klein Bolayi (EV02)

The radiocarbon dates from Klein Bolayi (EV02) suggest an earlier occupation than Evelyn (EV01), with an occupation likely somewhere between AD 1020 – AD 1225. This also puts it in the range of both K2 and the TK2 periods. The ceramics, however, suggest that the assemblage resembles material from the TK2 facies, and therefore the likely during the early 13th century.

Klein Bolayi (EV02) has one decorated bellied jar with downward-facing triangles on the shoulder (Subtype 1.1) (Huffman 2007b: 283). There are seven bellied jars with arcades on the shoulder (Subtype 1.3) 2007b: 283) and seven with horizontal bars on the shoulder (Subtype 1.4) (Huffman 2007b: 280). There are 12 bellied jars with horizontal bands containing punctates on the shoulder (Subtype 4.3) and one bellied jar with a horizontal row of punctates on the shoulder (Subtype 4.4).

There are two decorated recurved jars from Klein Bolayi (EV02) with a horizontal band on the shoulder, which falls under Huffman's description of K2 vessels (2007b: 281).

There are five decorated open bowls from Klein Bolayi (EV02). One of these open bowls has a horizontal line with diagonal incisions on the line. The other four open bowls from Klein Bolayi (EV02) have cross-hatched triangles on the upper portion of the vessel (Subtype 5.2) which fits in with Mapungubwe.

As with Evelyn (EV01), the two undecorated beakers found at Klein Bolayi (EV02) are indicative of either K2 or TK2 period, the latter being supported by the radiocarbon dates. The two sherds found with spouts and the two sherds with lugs are indicative of K2 period (Huffman 1974: 109; Meyer 1980).

6.3 Conclusion

Both the Evelyn (EV01) and Klein Bolayi (EV02) assemblages can be most accurately classified as typical of the TK2 facies with the exception of Units II/VII and V from Evelyn (EV01), which contained several vessels representative of the Mapungubwe facies. The radiocarbon dates from Evelyn (EV01) have a range between 1028 AD - 1300 AD Klein Bolayi (EV02) between AD 1020 – AD 1225. Therefore, seen in isolation, the c14 dates does not resolve where the sites fit into the regional MIA sequence, the length of occupation, or issues of contemporaneity and/or a local sequence of occupation.

At an assemblage level, both contain a number of vessels that are typical of the Mapungubwe facies. The Klein Bolayi (EV02) assemblage however, contains a relatively greater number of K2 stylistic elements, such as vessels with beakers and spouts, bands of punctates (subtype 4.4), and thick-lined incisions (subtype 5.5) (see Huffman 2007b: 281). The greater stylistic similarity with K2 conforms to the C14 data from Klein Bolayi (EV02) which tends to produce older dates. This suggests that the sites are likely not contemporary, but that Klein Bolayi (EV02) was occupied first. The slightly later radiocarbon dates and the stylistic features more characteristic of Mapungubwe indicates that Evelyn was settled later – likely during towards the end of the 12th century and into the early 13th century. While it is possible that the occupation period at Evelyn (EV01) overlaps with that of Klein Bolayi (EV02) these sites were likely only contemporary for a very short period – if at all. The spatial proximity, potential lack of chronological overlap and general continuation of

material culture, it is also likely that it was the Klein Bolayi community that settled at Evelyn.

It needs to be emphasized that the ceramic assemblage is but a part of a site's material culture. Ceramics alone cannot give archaeologists the entire picture, but they can be exceptionally useful tools in an archaeologist's arsenal. The aim of this study was to refine the chronology of the sites of Evelyn (EV01) and Klein Bolayi (EV02) by using a stylistic analysis of the ceramics from both sites in tandem with the radiocarbon dates.

The Evelyn (EV01) and Klein Bolayi (EV02) assemblages contain vessels representative of the K2, TK2, and Mapungubwe facies. A closer look at the ceramic assemblages allowed me to better place the sites temporally. The evidence suggests that Klein Bolayi (EV02) was occupied mid to late 12th century with Evelyn (EV01) likely occupied by the late-12th century into the 13th century. Something to note at Evelyn (EV01) is that while the majority of vessels represent TK2 vessels, the presence of Mapungubwe vessels; especially prevalent in Units II/VII and V; could point towards multiple occupations at the same site. The sites both contain more than one kraal, and while Klein Bolayi (EV02) produced similar vessels from both its kraals, Evelyn (EV01) shows variation in the stylistic types from the separate kraals. Taking Huffman's research into account (1993, 2008, 2015), multiple kraals did not necessarily form a single settlement, and it is entirely possible that Evelyn (EV01) comprises of at least two different occupations. Further excavations and research will need to be done to confirm this.

Refining the chronology for these smaller sites and studying the occupation periods of sites in the SLCA will benefit future research into both the study of other smaller sites as well as large sites such as K2 or Mapungubwe.

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