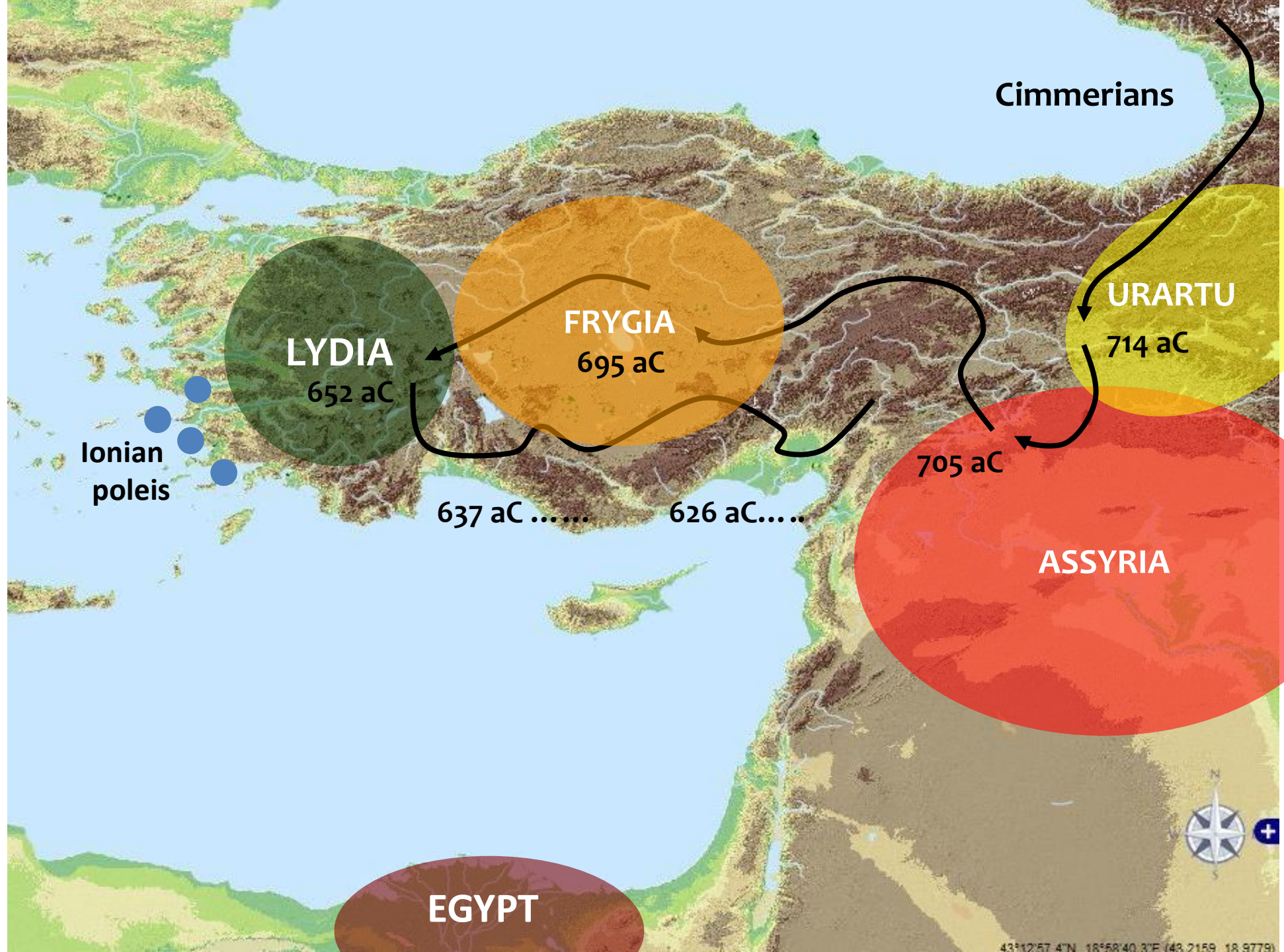


# **COMING OF THE IRON AGE**

**orientalising period – Ha C–D1 – East Hallstatt area**



Cimmerians

URARTU

714 aC

FRYGIA

695 aC

LYDIA

652 aC

ASSYRIA

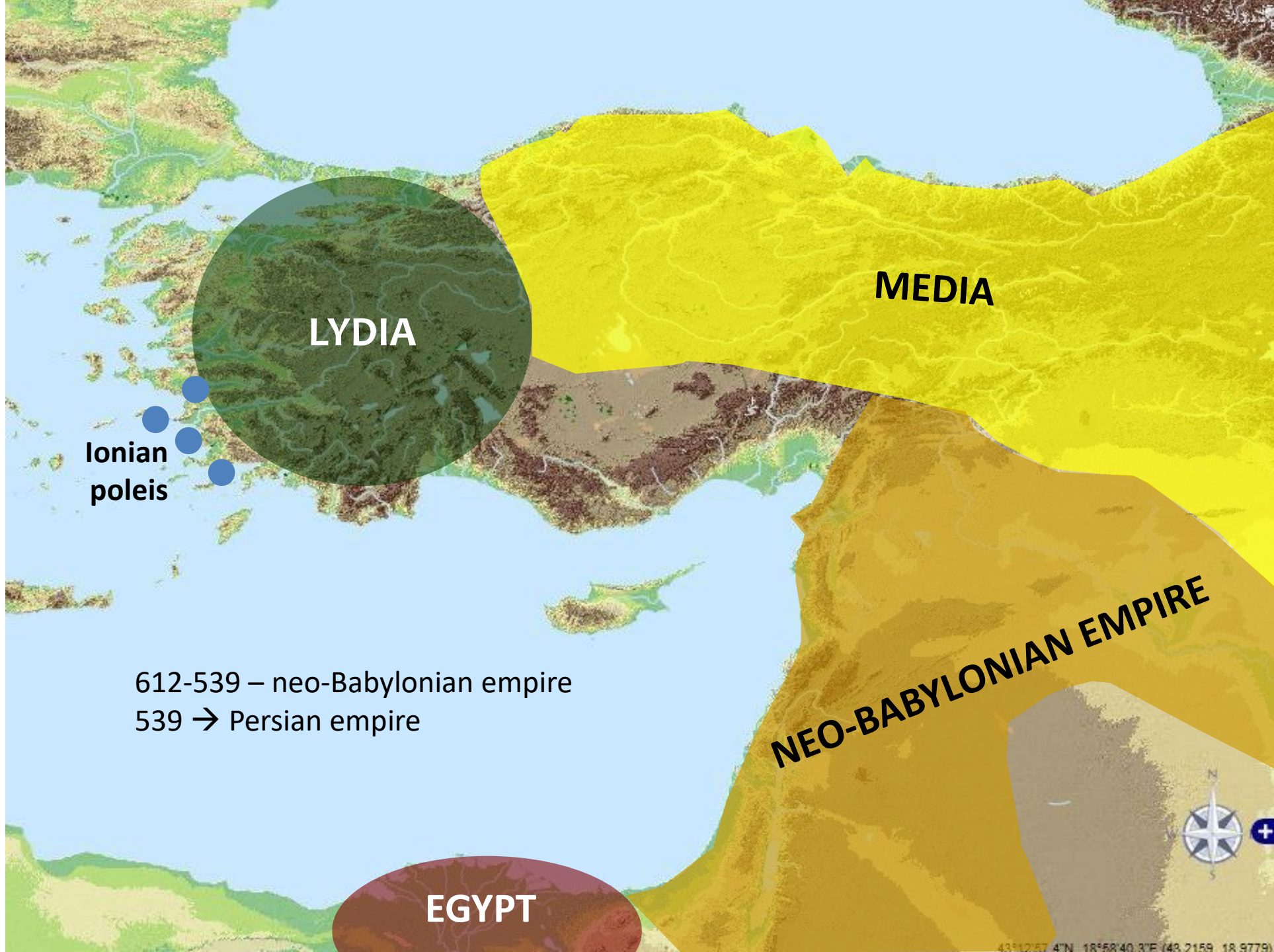
705 aC

EGYPT

Ionian poleis

637 aC .....

626 aC.....



**LYDIA**

**MEDIA**

**Ionian  
poleis**

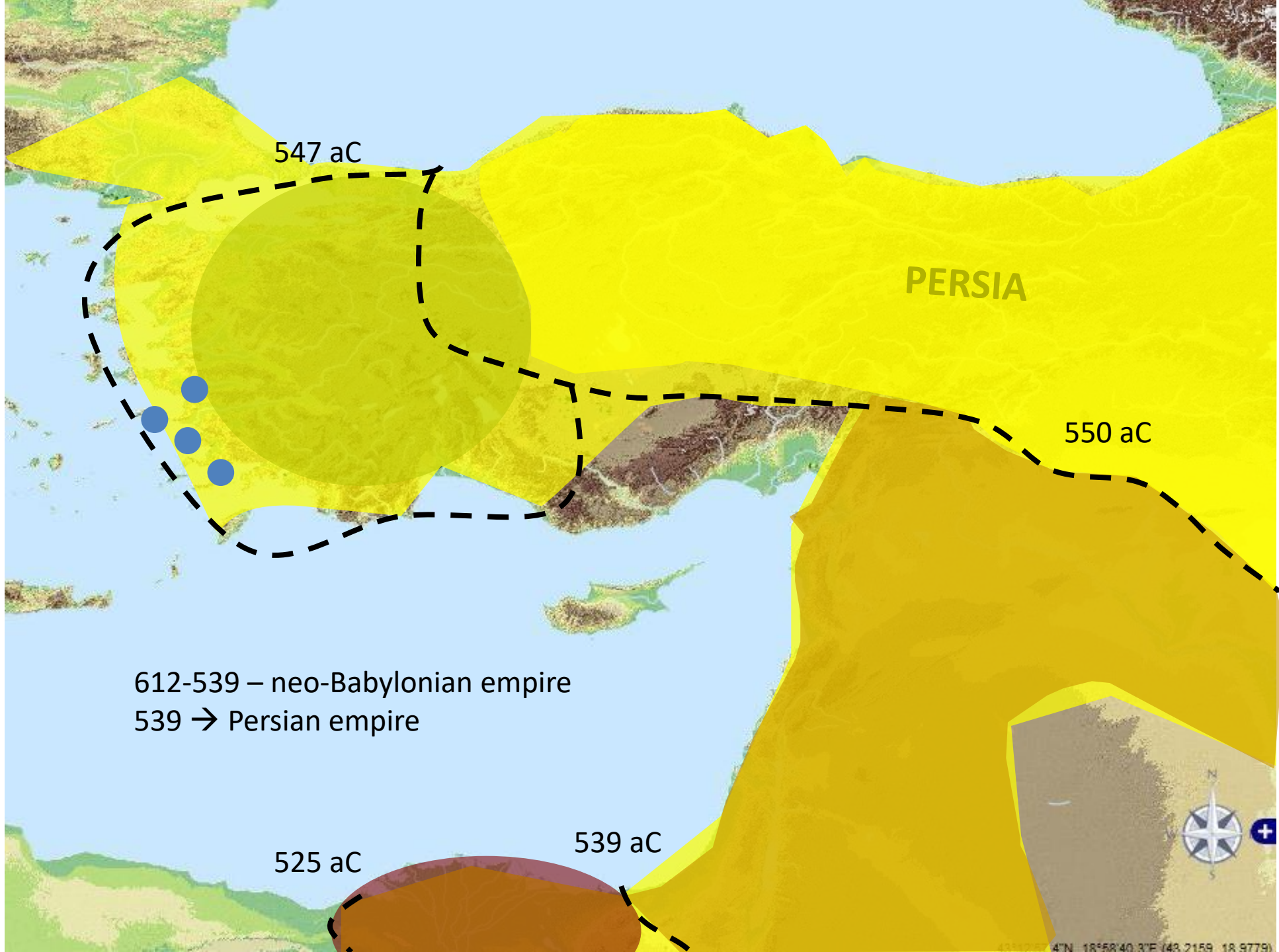
**NEO-BABYLONIAN EMPIRE**

**EGYPT**

612-539 – neo-Babylonian empire  
539 → Persian empire



43°12'57.4"N 18°58'40.3"E (43.2159, 18.9779)



547 aC

PERSIA

550 aC

612-539 – neo-Babylonian empire  
539 → Persian empire

525 aC

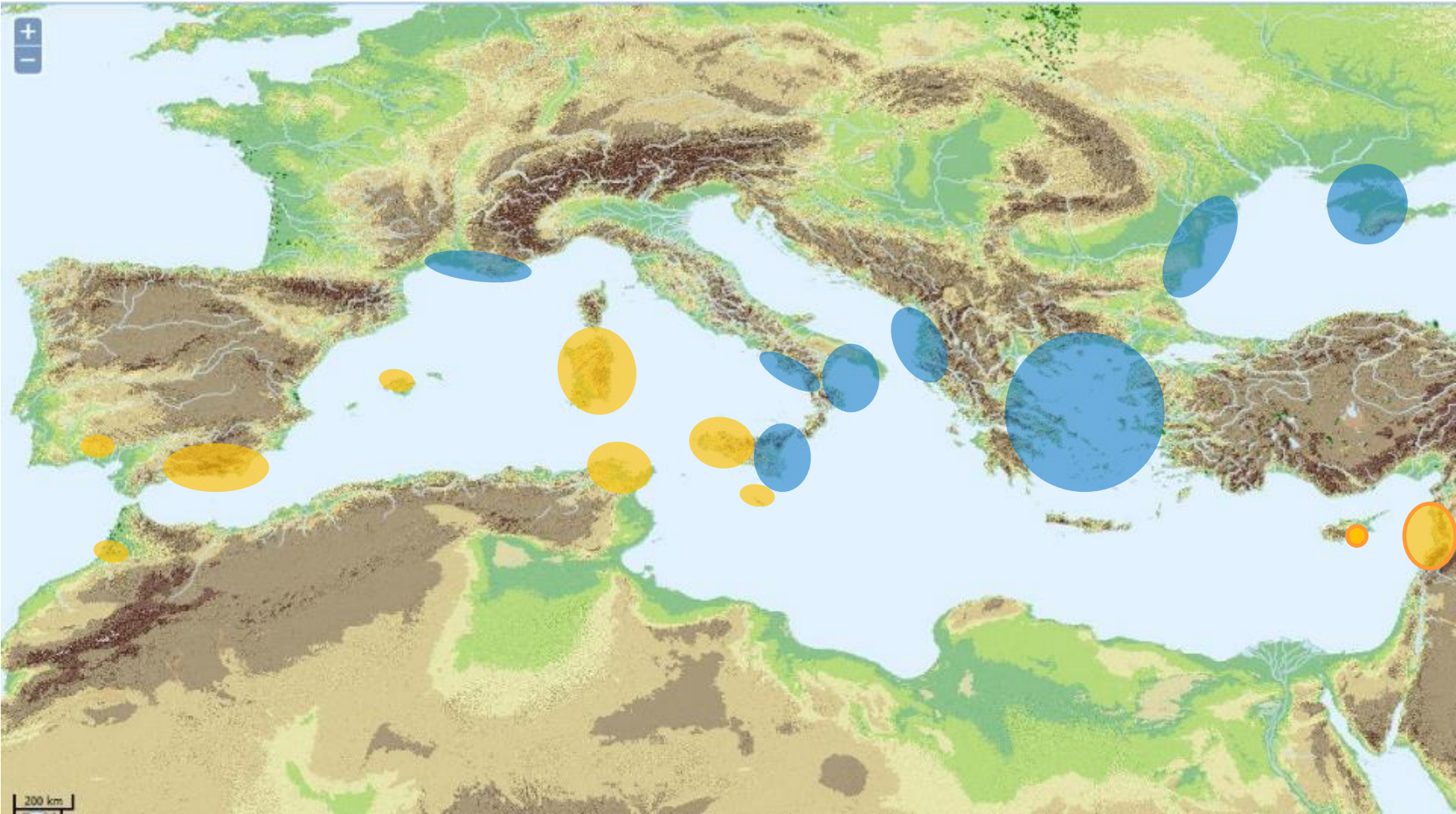
539 aC



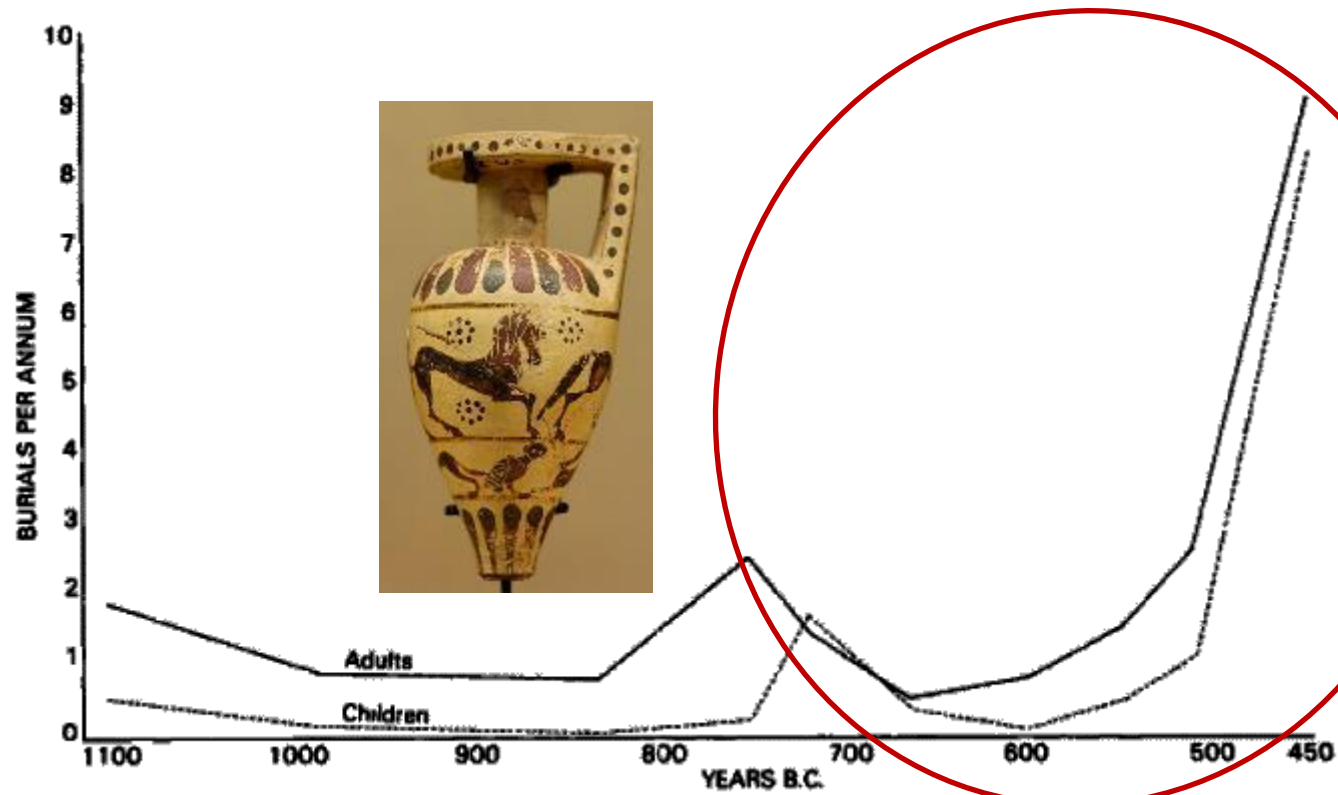
512 aC – Darius' campaign  
against the Scythians  
across the Danube  
=> Scythians in Carpath.  
basin



# IX–VIII BC – expansion of Phoenicians (IX–VIII BC) and Greeks (VIII–VII BC) in the Western Mediterranean



## Greece in the VIII–VII BC



-massive social and economic transformation

-aristocratic oligarchies replaced with tyrannies relying on middle class

-surge in production and trade

=> Birth of poleis, city states ruled by citizen bodies



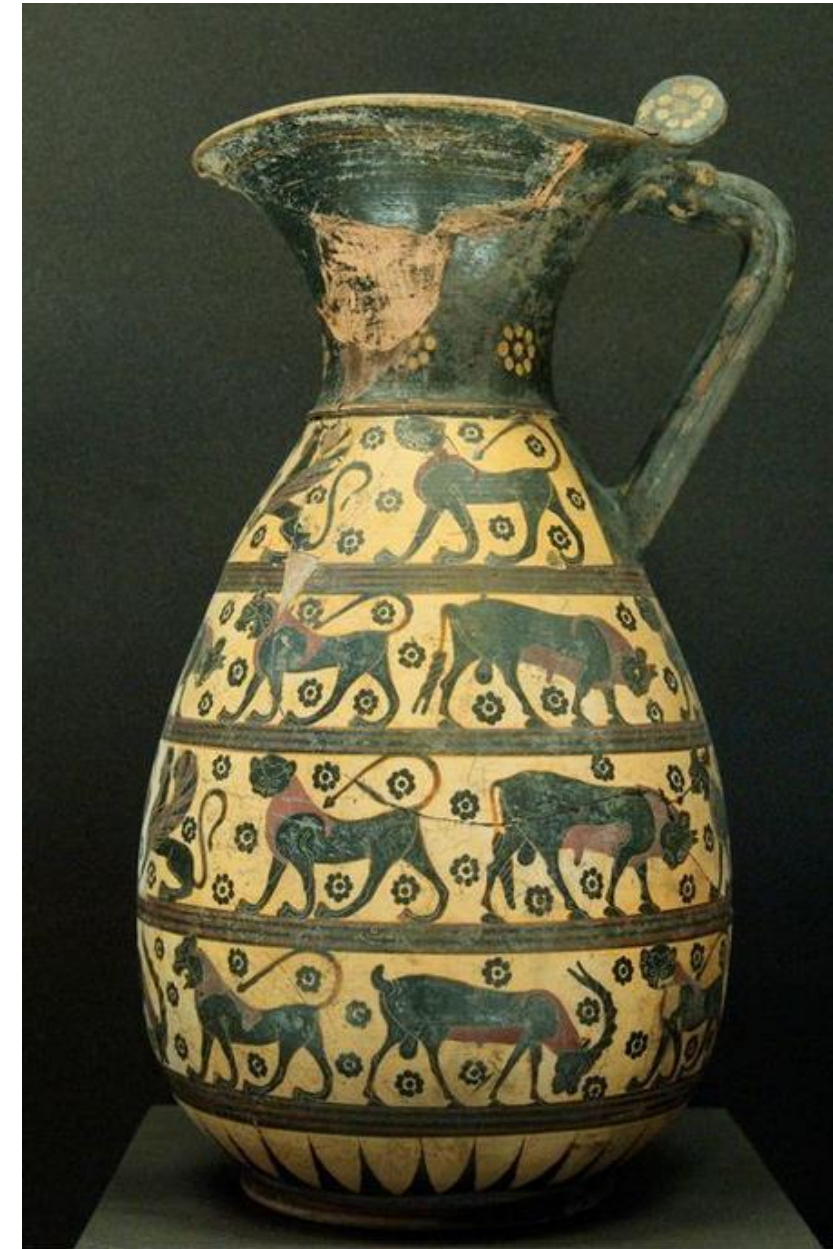
colonisation

phalanx and hoplites



-new artistic style of oriental  
inspiration

-depiction of humans and animals  
(real or fantastic) usually arranged in  
friezes

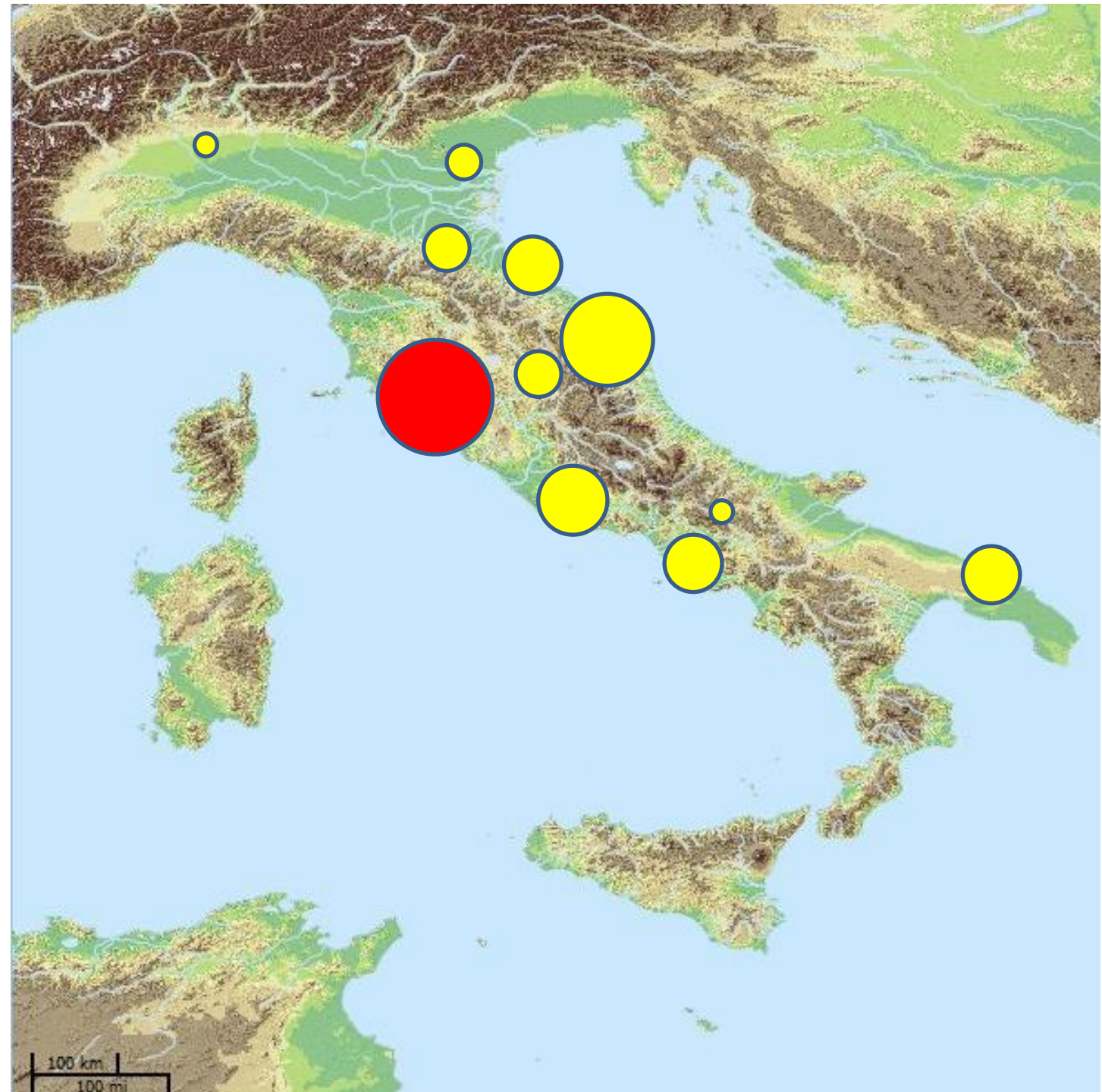




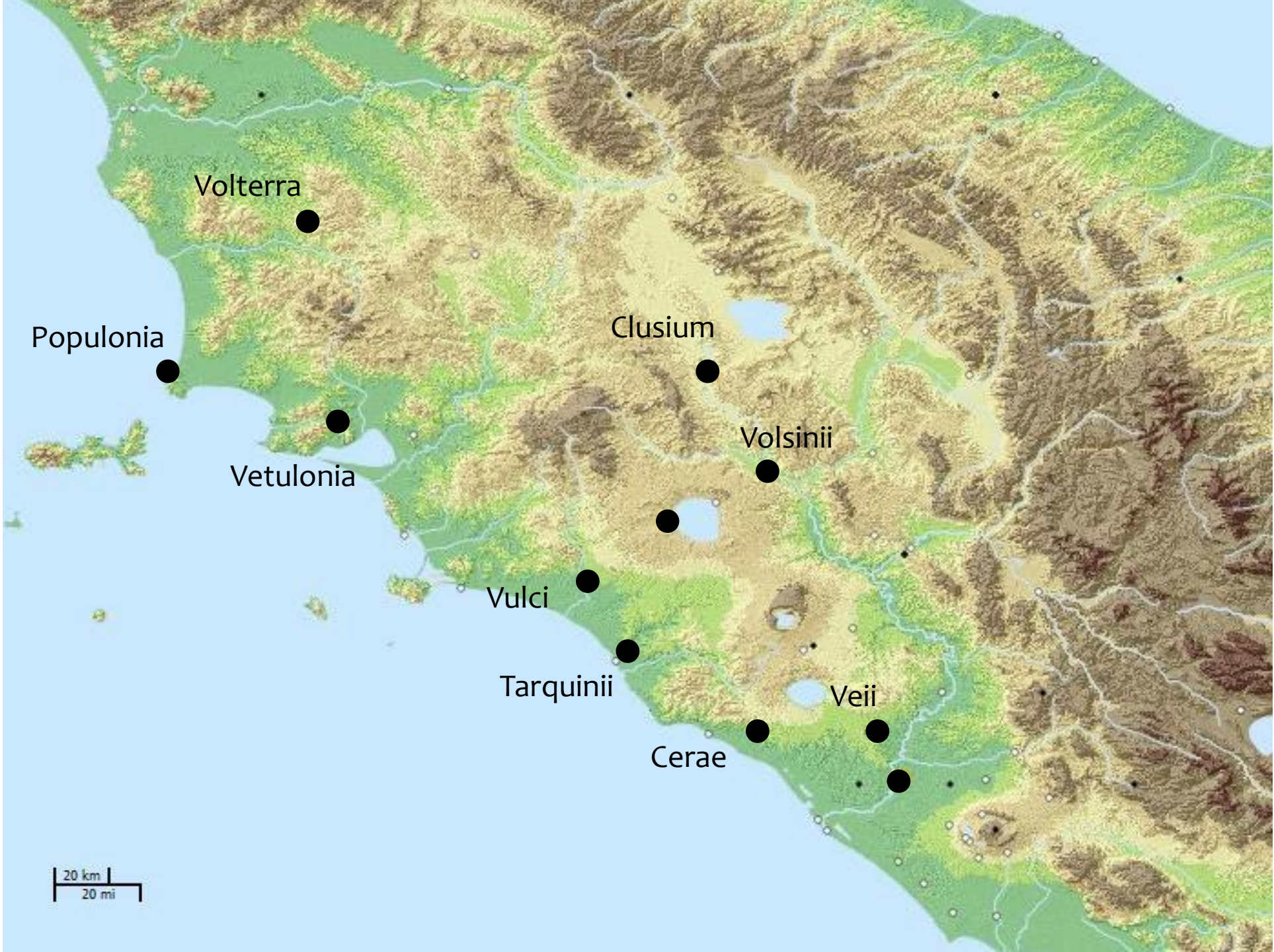
**Italy in the Orientalising period**

**VIII–VII/VI BC**

**Etruria**



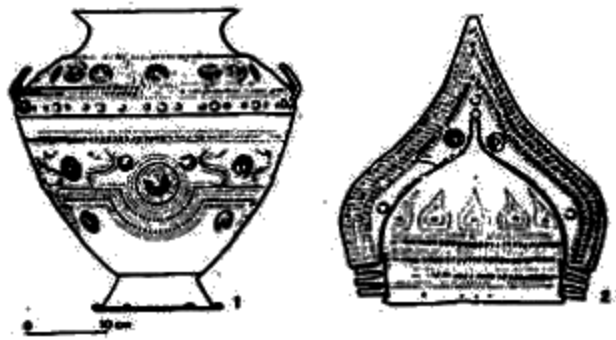
When we left,  
protourban centres of  
Villanova culture were  
being established and  
were steadily  
developing



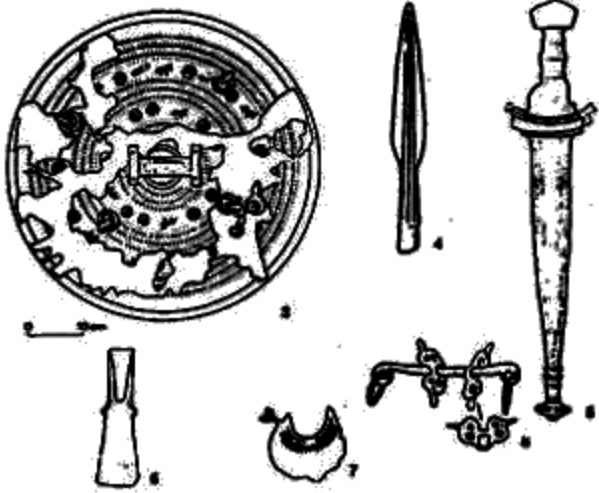
Over the VIII BC, villanovan burials undergo transformation of furnishing:

-a small part of the society is given burial richer in gravegoods with emphasis put on the role of the dead in the society (warrior role in male graves, housekeeper role in the female graves)





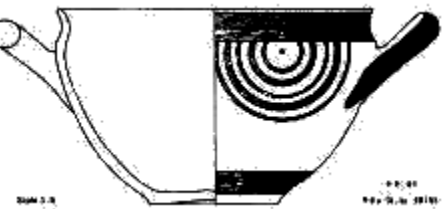
-in late VIII and beginning of the VII BC, the role-denoting objects are accompanied by more objects linked more to prestige (luxurious materials, imported goods)



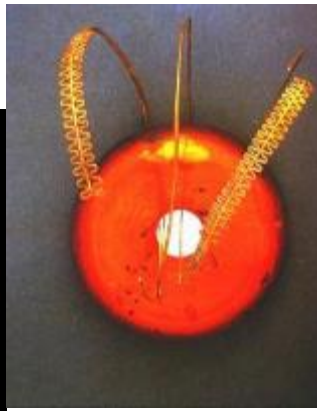
Verucchio

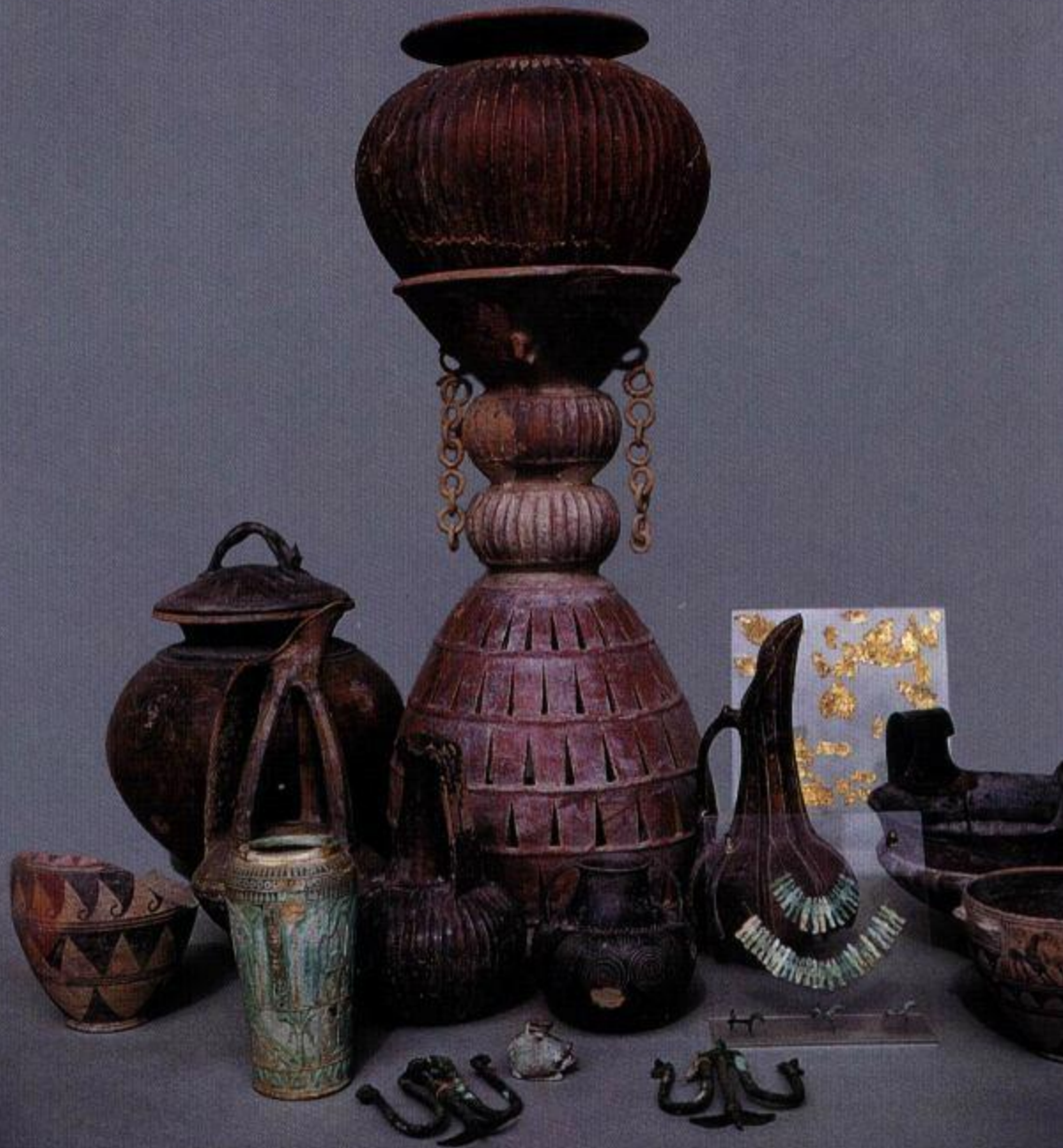


Volterra



Veii





the Bocchoris tomb  
Tarquinia late VIII c. BC  
(as an example)

-Late VIII / early VII century BC:  
thorough transformation of  
the grave goods  
nothing is left of the role  
markers – the grave goods  
consist in feasting vessels,  
imported goods (Greek  
painted pottery, Phoenician  
egyptising faience vessel and  
uashabti figurines), golden  
jewellery



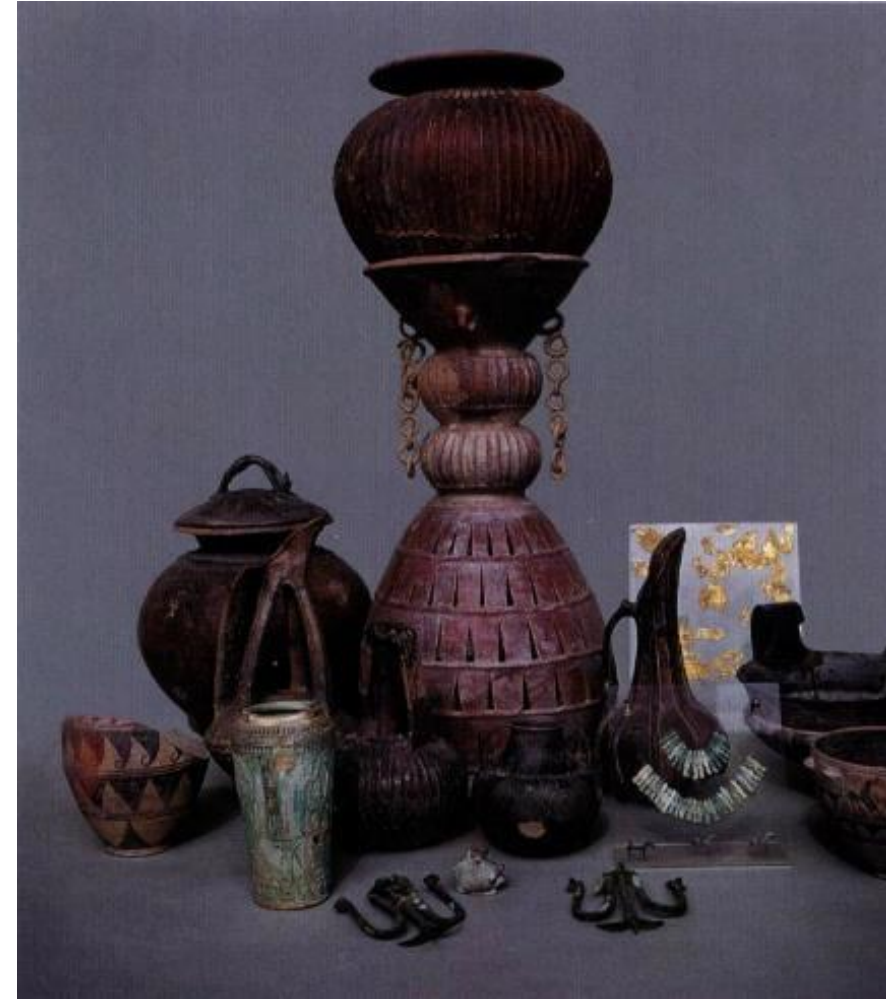
villanova culture = ,role'

×

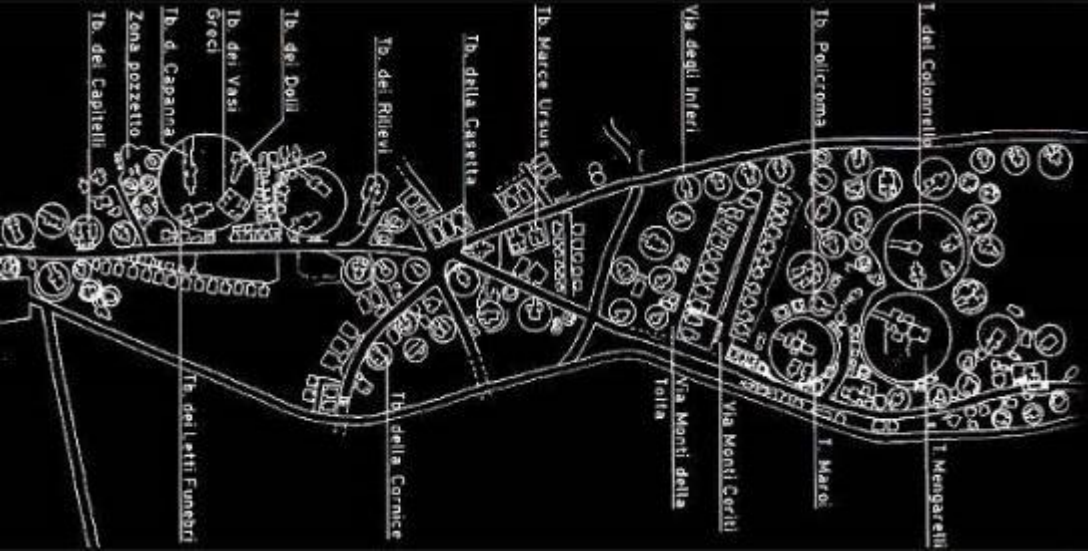
Orientalising = ,status'



Elite communicating with the whole community  
Burial = statement of the person's significance for all



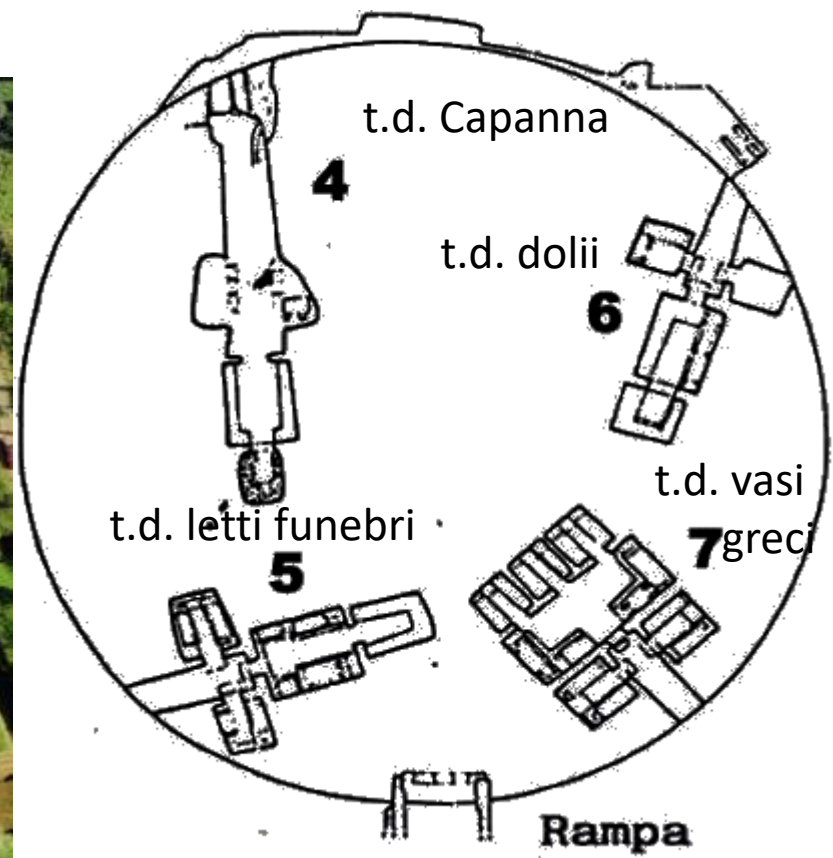
Elite communicating only with other members of the elite  
Burial = statement of sharing a common exclusively elite culture  
Competition in lavish spending indispensable and obligatory elite trait



-only elite burials are known (mainly because no one cared to publish non-elite graves)

Monumental underground chambre tombs covered by large tumuli (up to 40 m in diameter)

Banditaccia necropolis, Caere

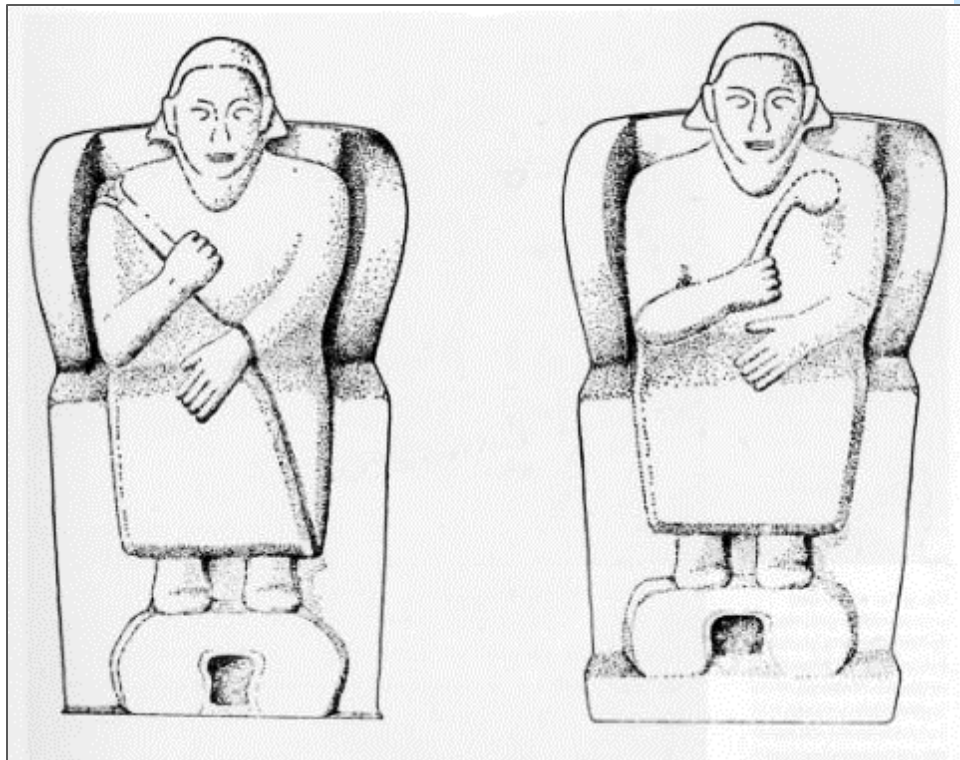




Cerveteri – tomba delle cinque sedie

2/2 VII c. BC

Ceri – tomba delle statue, 2/4 VII c. BC

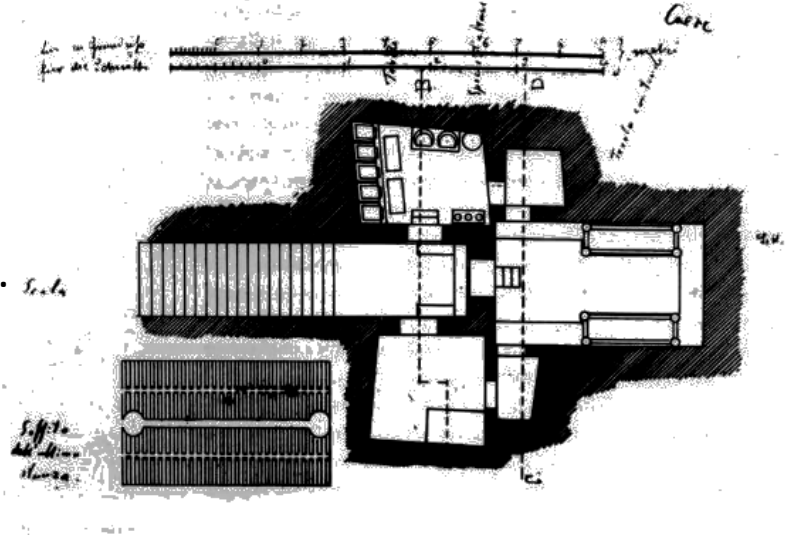




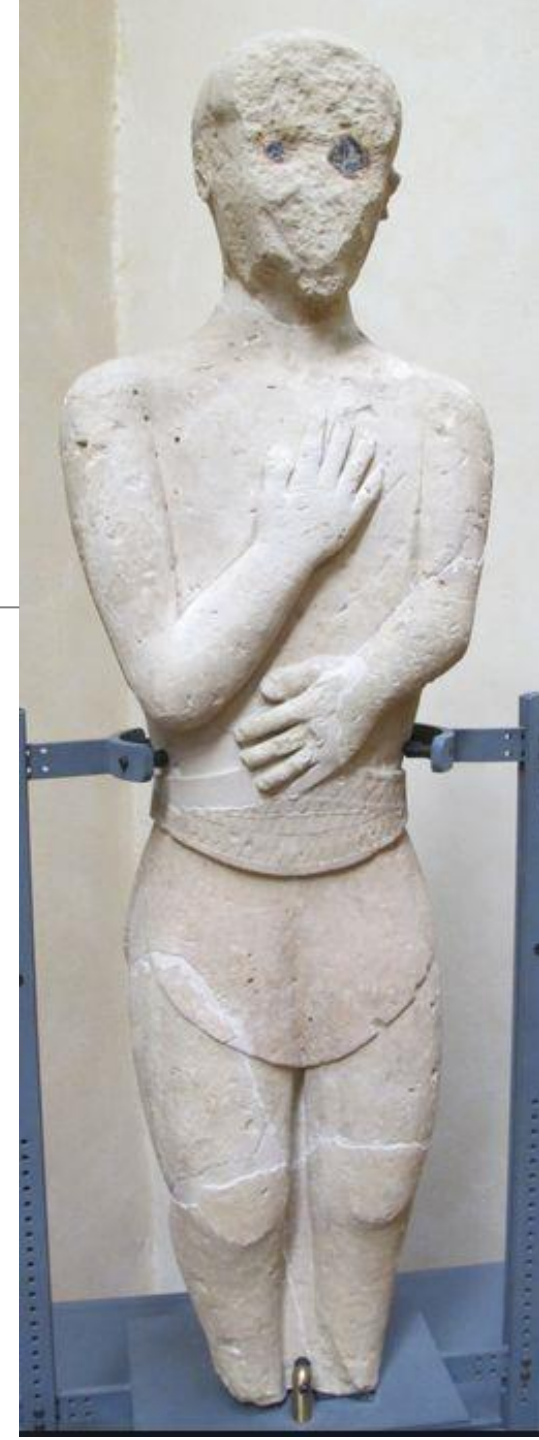


Cerveteri –  
tomba delle  
cinque sedie

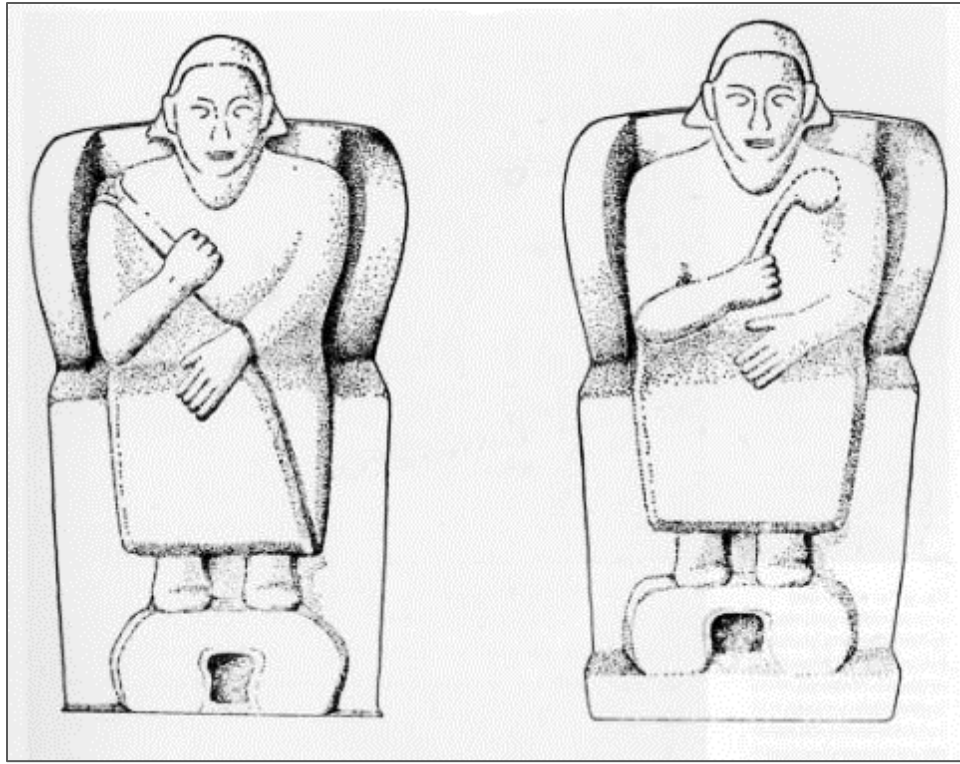
2nd half VII c.  
BC



Five 0.5m  
terracotta  
figurines in a  
separate side-  
chambre, each  
with a small table  
in front of it



Ceri – tomba delle statue, 2nd quart. VII c. BC



Two near-life size  
figures flanking  
entrance to the  
tomb

Three? stone figures  
standing on the  
tumulus body

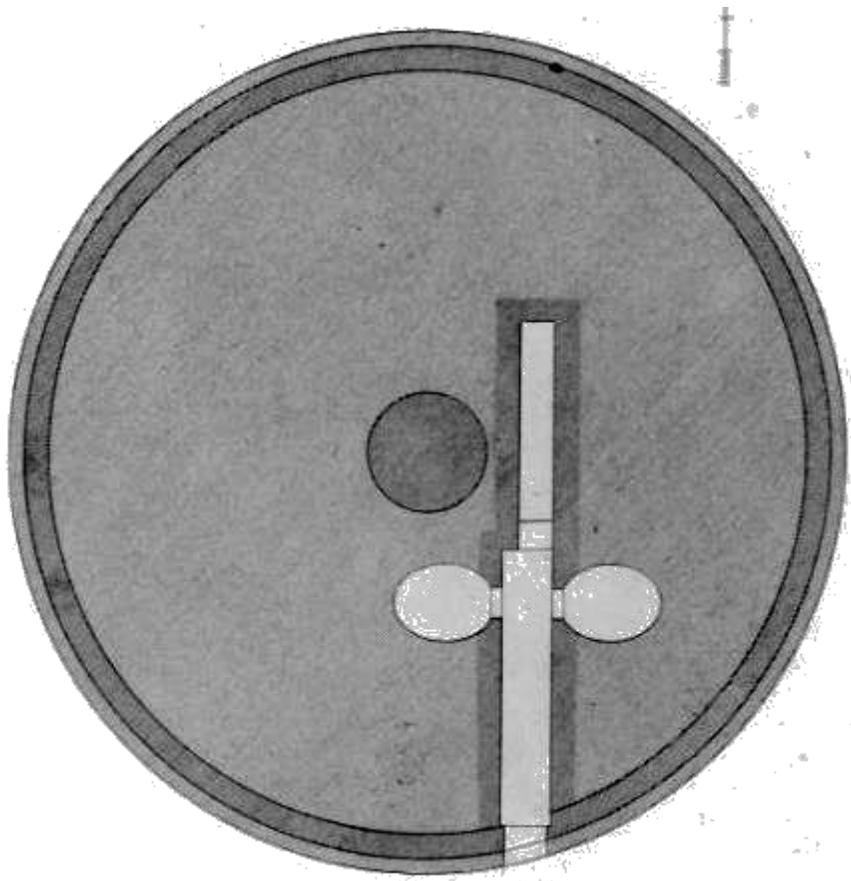
Heroized ancestor figures  
warranting the superhuman status  
of elite families?

## Regolini-Galassi tomb (Caere)

(as an example of high orientalising period tomb)  
-exceptional because discovered (in mid.19th century)  
intact (i.e. was robbed only by the excavators)

1st half VII c. BC

-length of the burial corridor/chamber. ca 20m





Phoenician gold bowl

Regolini Galassi tomb:  
Small selection of finds



dozens of bronze shields



Silver wine-service featuring phoenician (ph), greek (gr), and italic (it) forms (pottery was dumped during the excavation...)



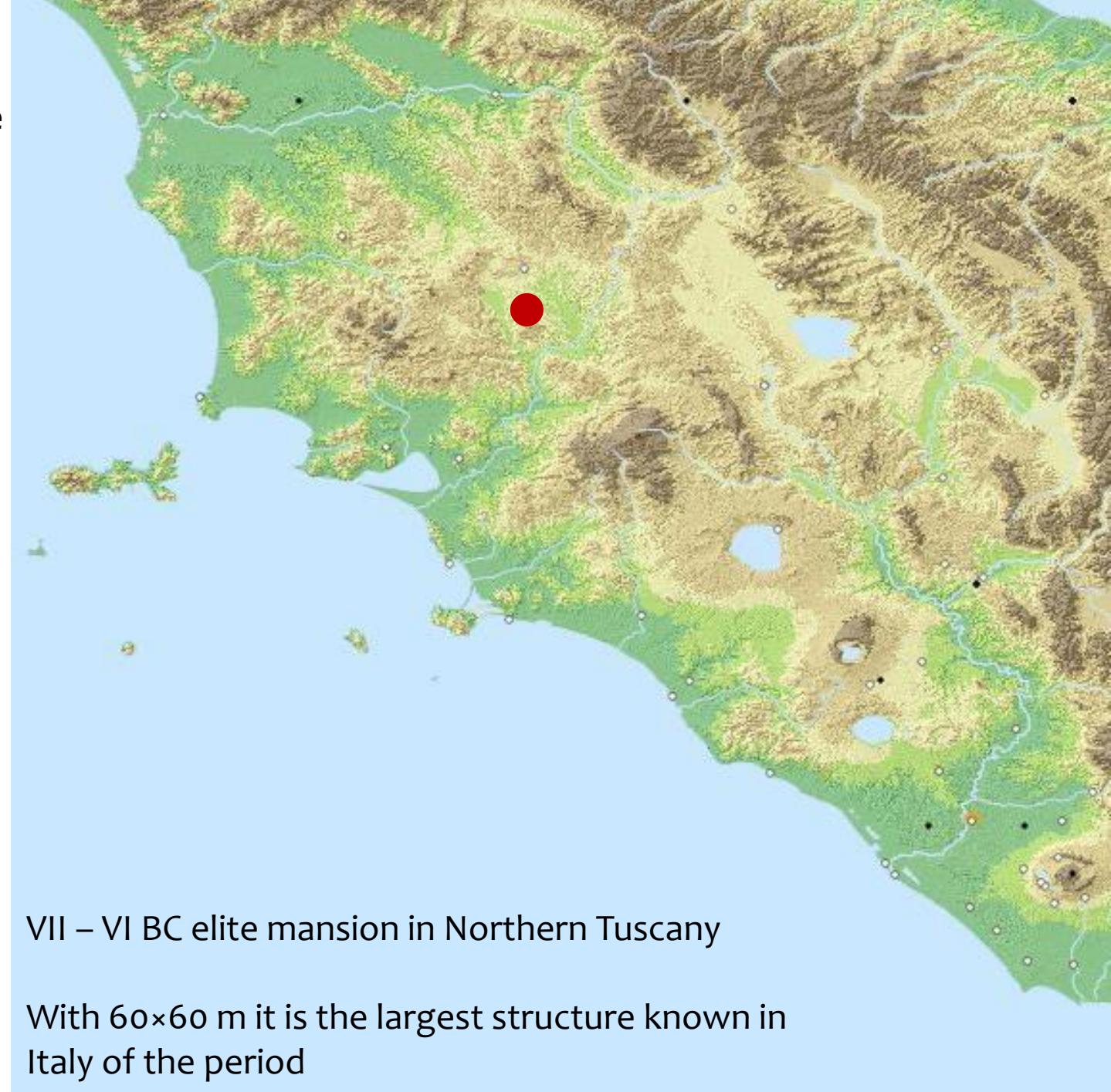
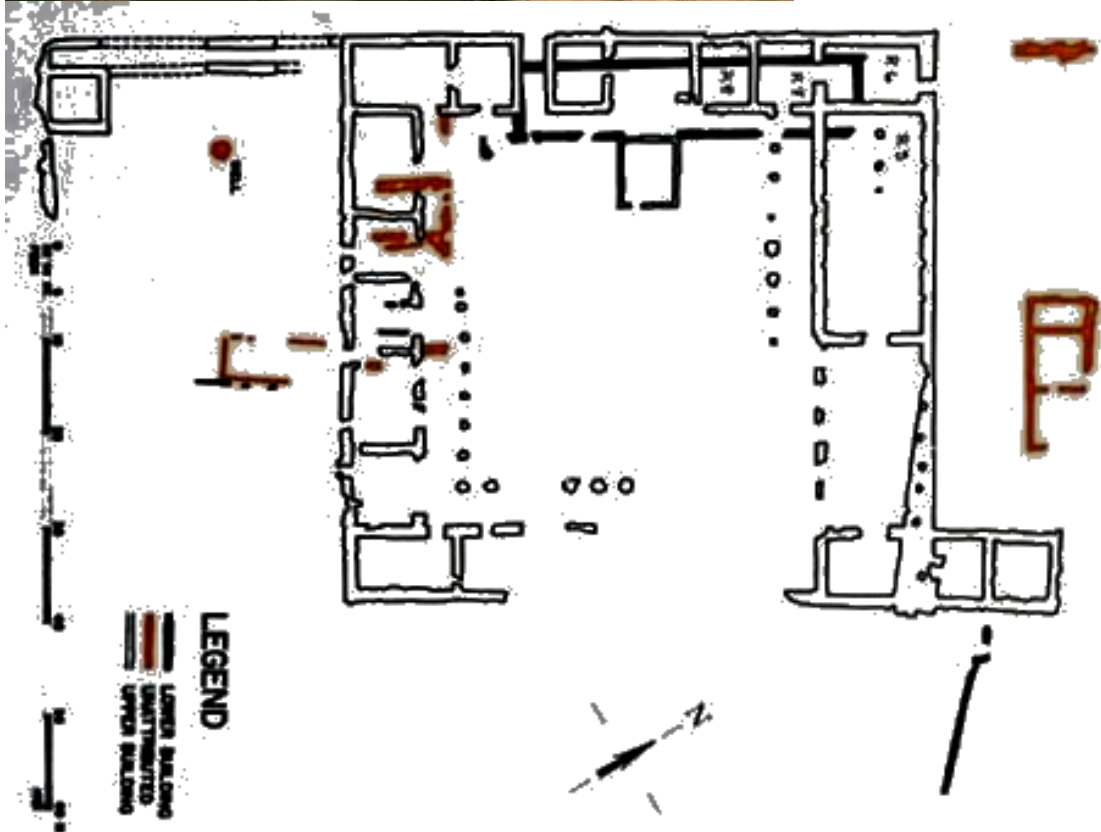
Gold brooch  
(ca. 25 × 20 cm)



Reconstruction of one of two (three?) wagons /chariots

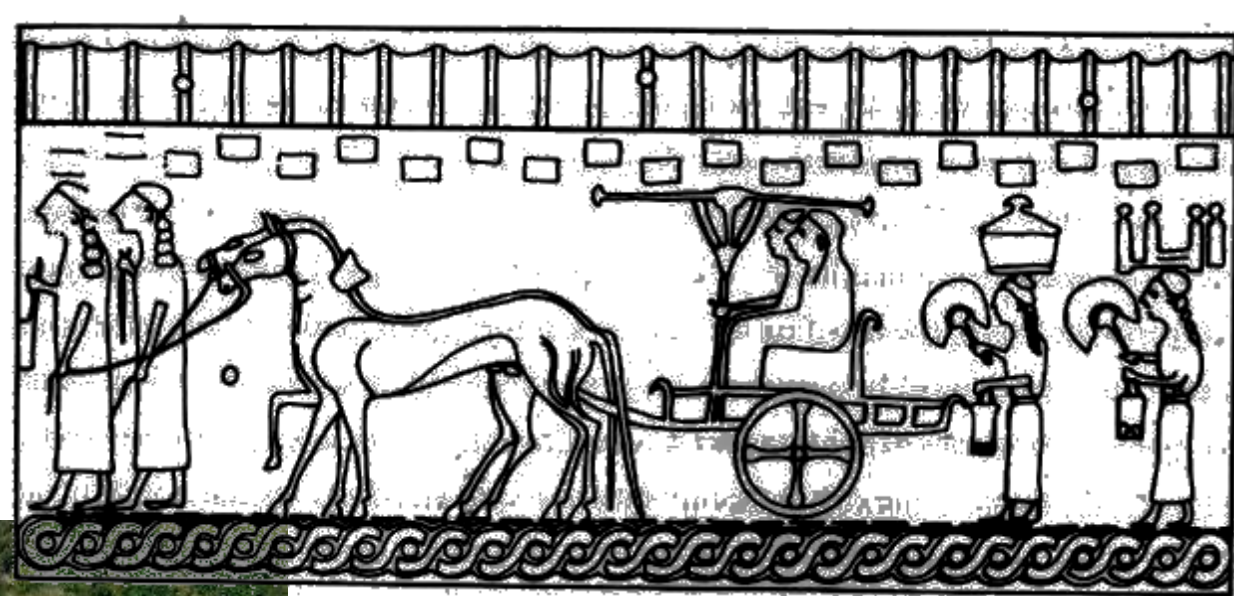
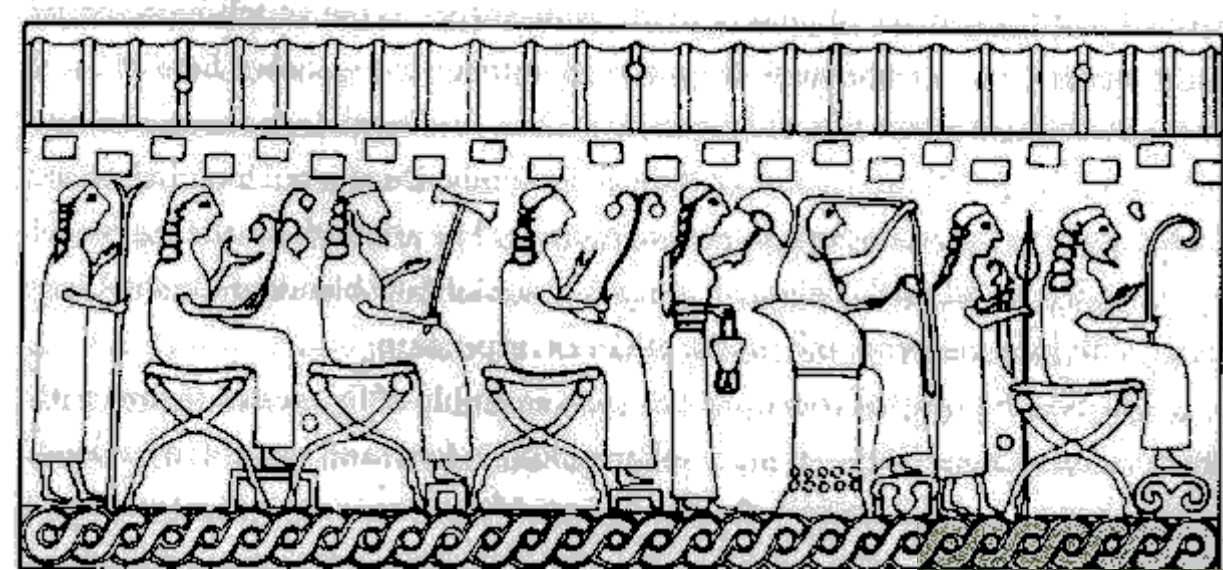


Murlo -  
Poggio Civitate

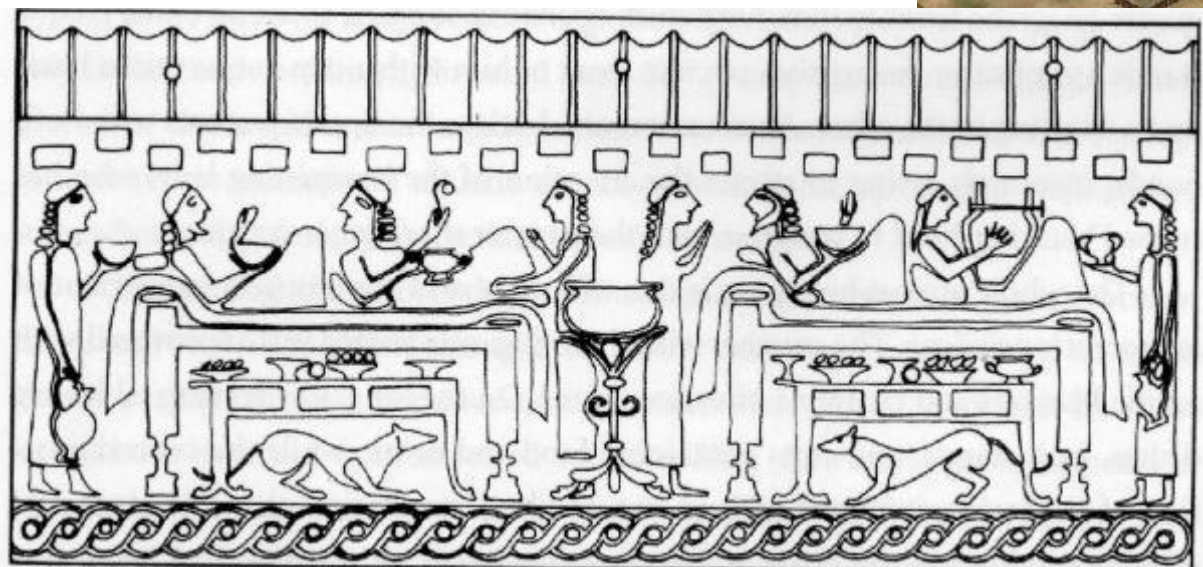
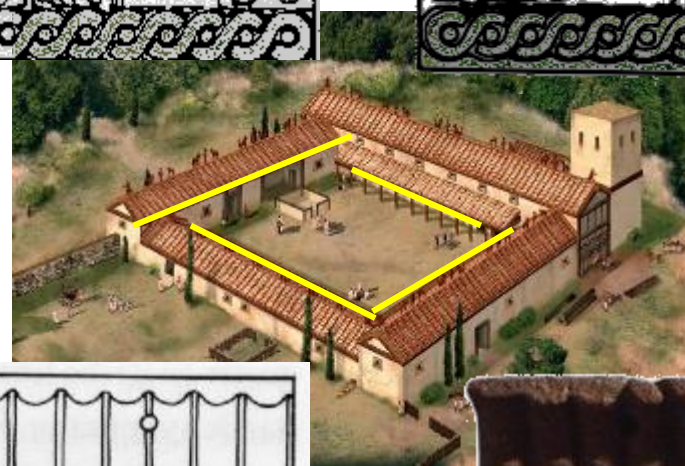


VII – VI BC elite mansion in Northern Tuscany

With 60×60 m it is the largest structure known in Italy of the period



Relief terracotta slabs  
decorating the inner court  
-scenes of elite life activities

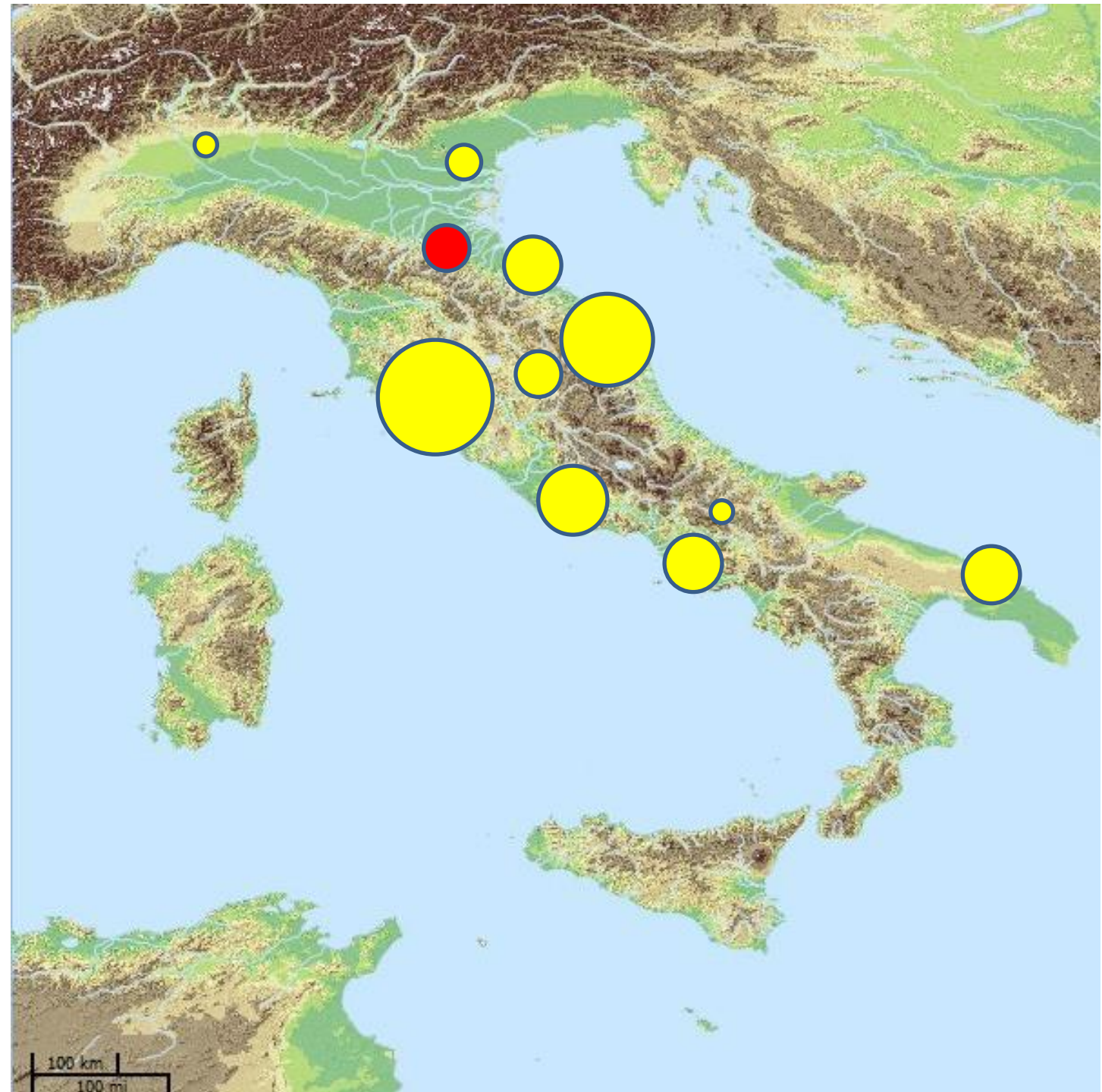


# Italy in the Orientalising period

VIII–VII/VI BC

## Bologna

- prevalently villanovan down to the end of VI BC
- a proto-urban centre of ca 200 ha





-little evidence of exceptionally rich burials  
-large amount of stone sculpture of orientlising inspiration



Bologna  
tomba degli ori



And  
some  
rare  
luxury

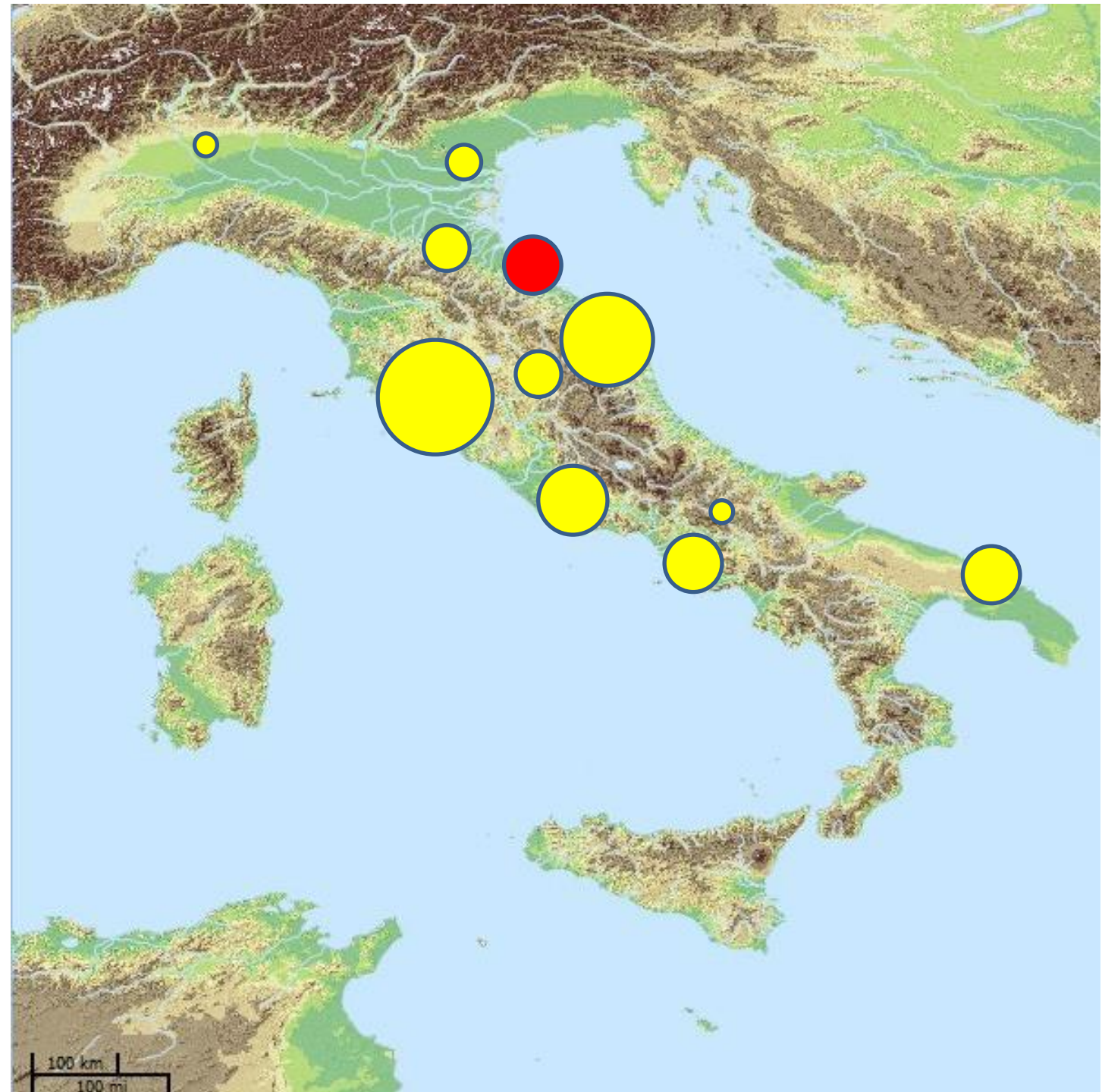




# Italy in the Orientalising period

VIII–VII/VI BC

Verucchio

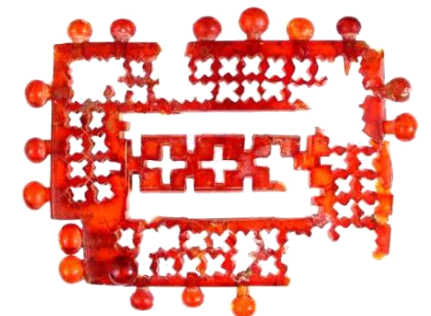
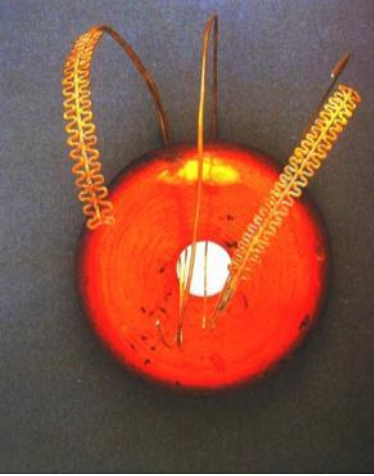


-burials of basically villanovan type through the VII/ VI BC

-large number of rich burials

-status demonstrated by multiplication of prestige objects of villanovan type

-enormous quantities of amber



## Italy in the Orientalising period

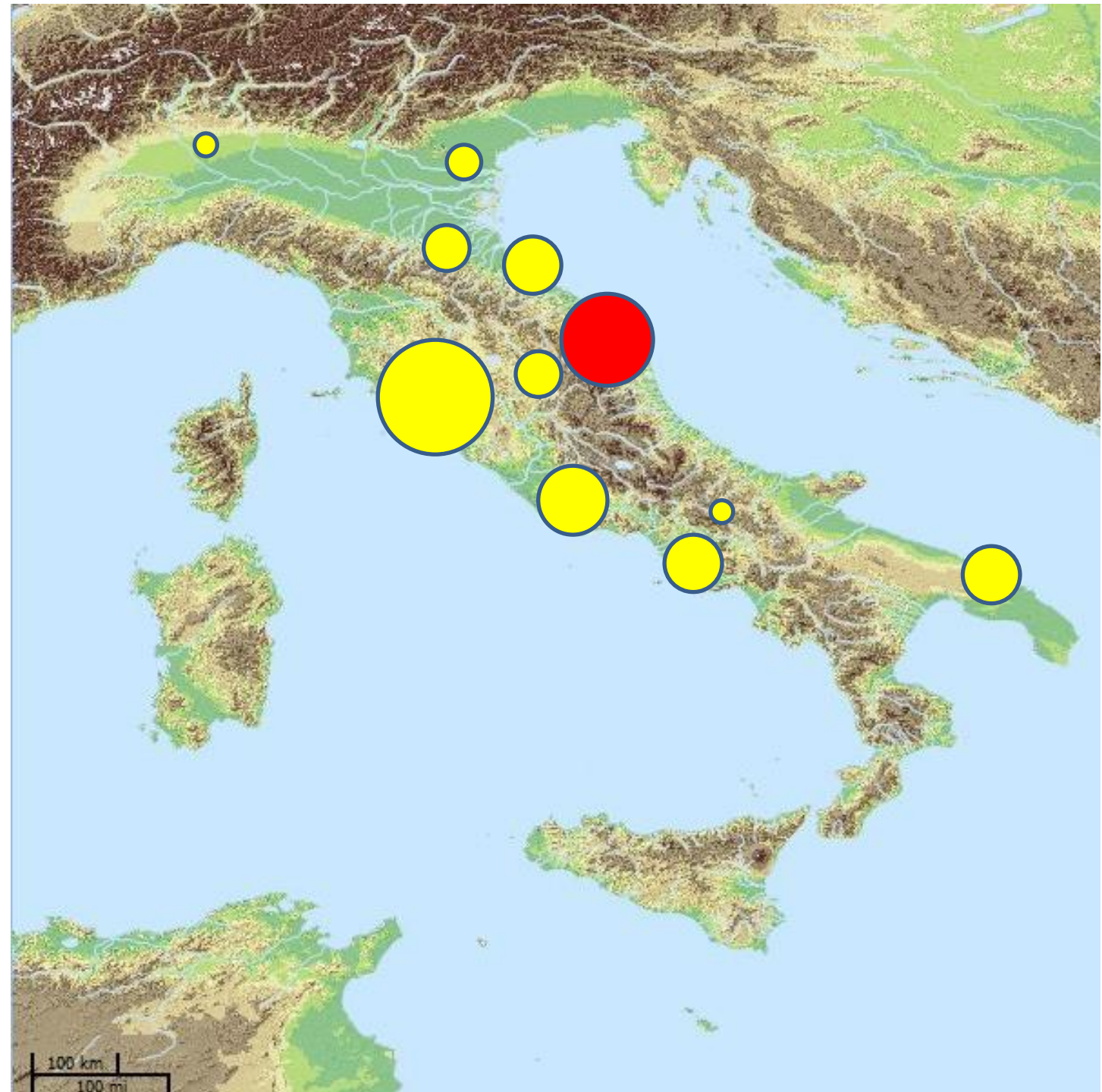
VIII–VII/VI BC

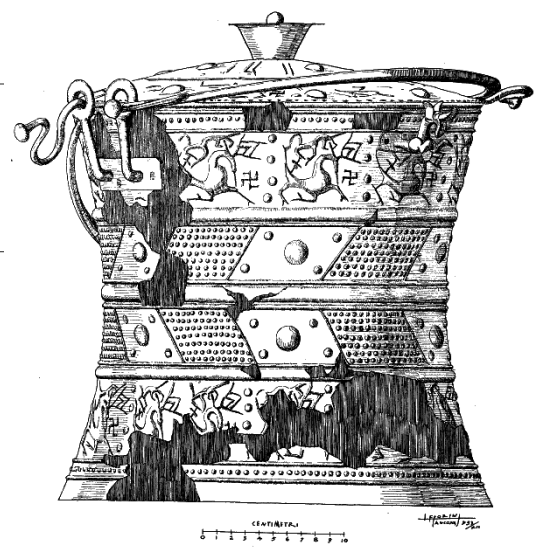
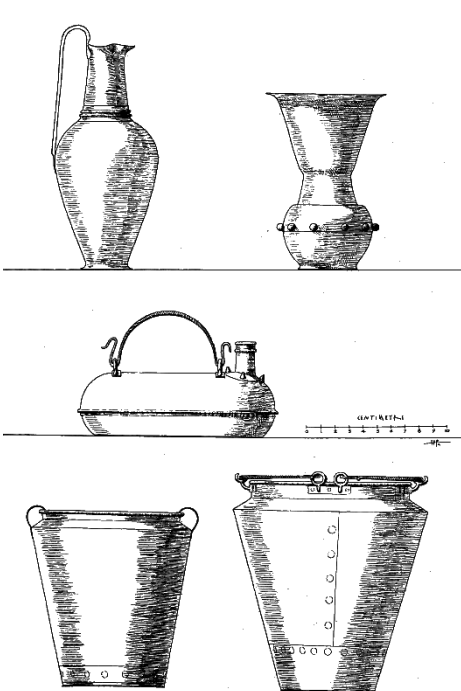
### Picenum

- A region neither carrying on the crematory tradition of the urnfield burial rite nor showing settlement structure characteristic of Etruria or Po valley

-inhumations

-entirely dispersed population with complete absence of urbanisation

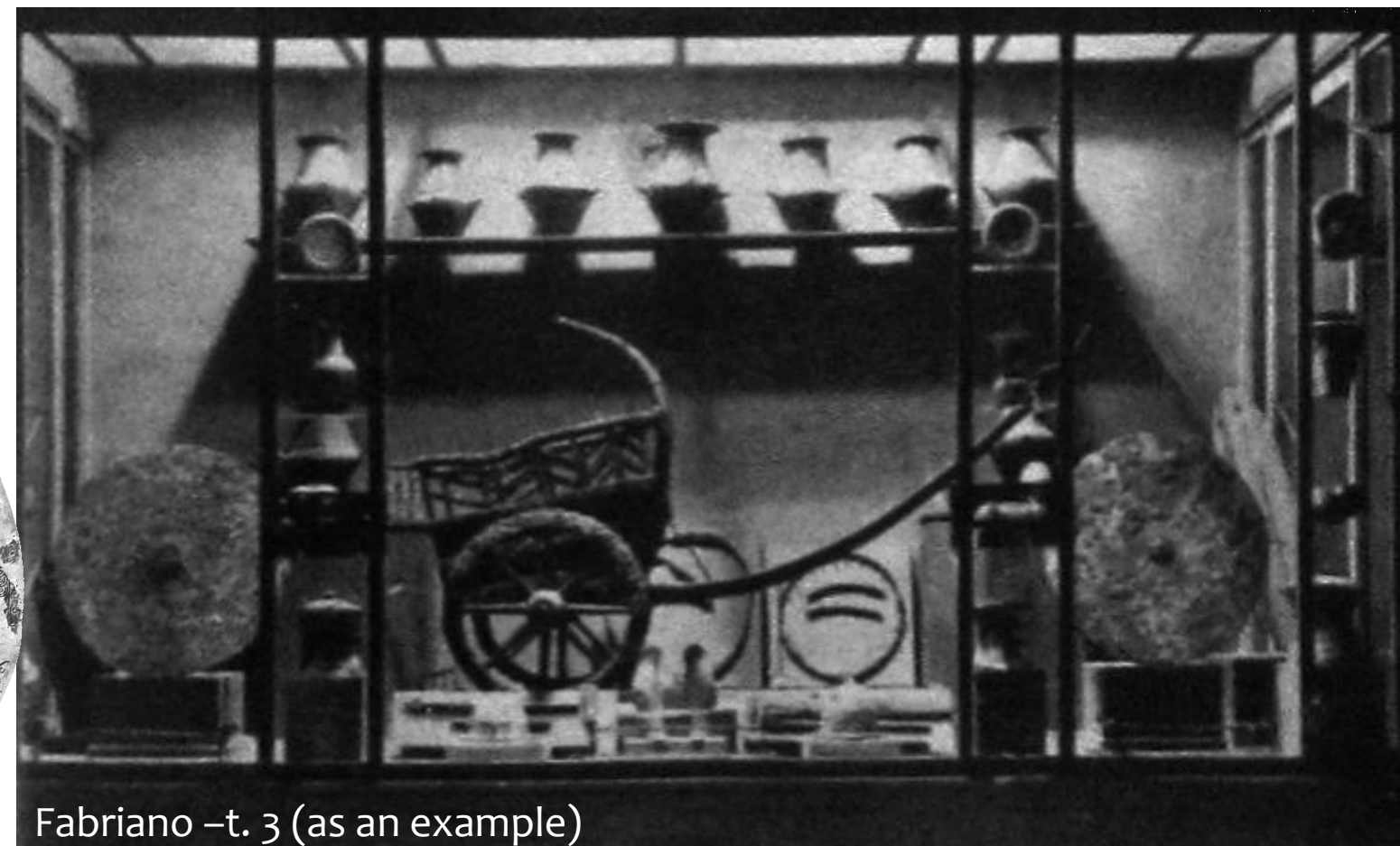
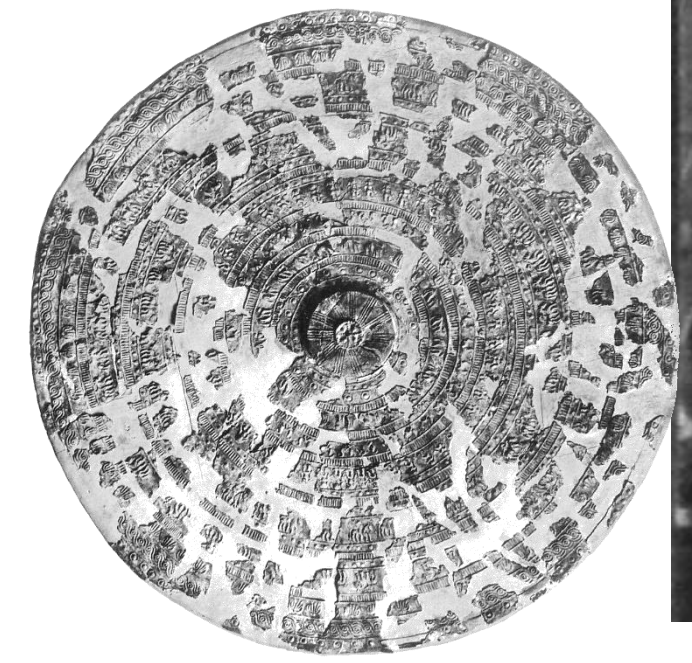




bronze



silver



Fabriano -t. 3 (as an example)  
2 (or 3?) chariots, 17 bronze vessels... For a single burial



-imported Greek vessels (very few)

-local use of orientalising imaginary and style

-development of orientlising-inspired imaginary in local style

-massive use of luxurious materials (including ostrich eggs and ivory) nad mainly of amber in personal ornament





-several instances of monumental stone statuary

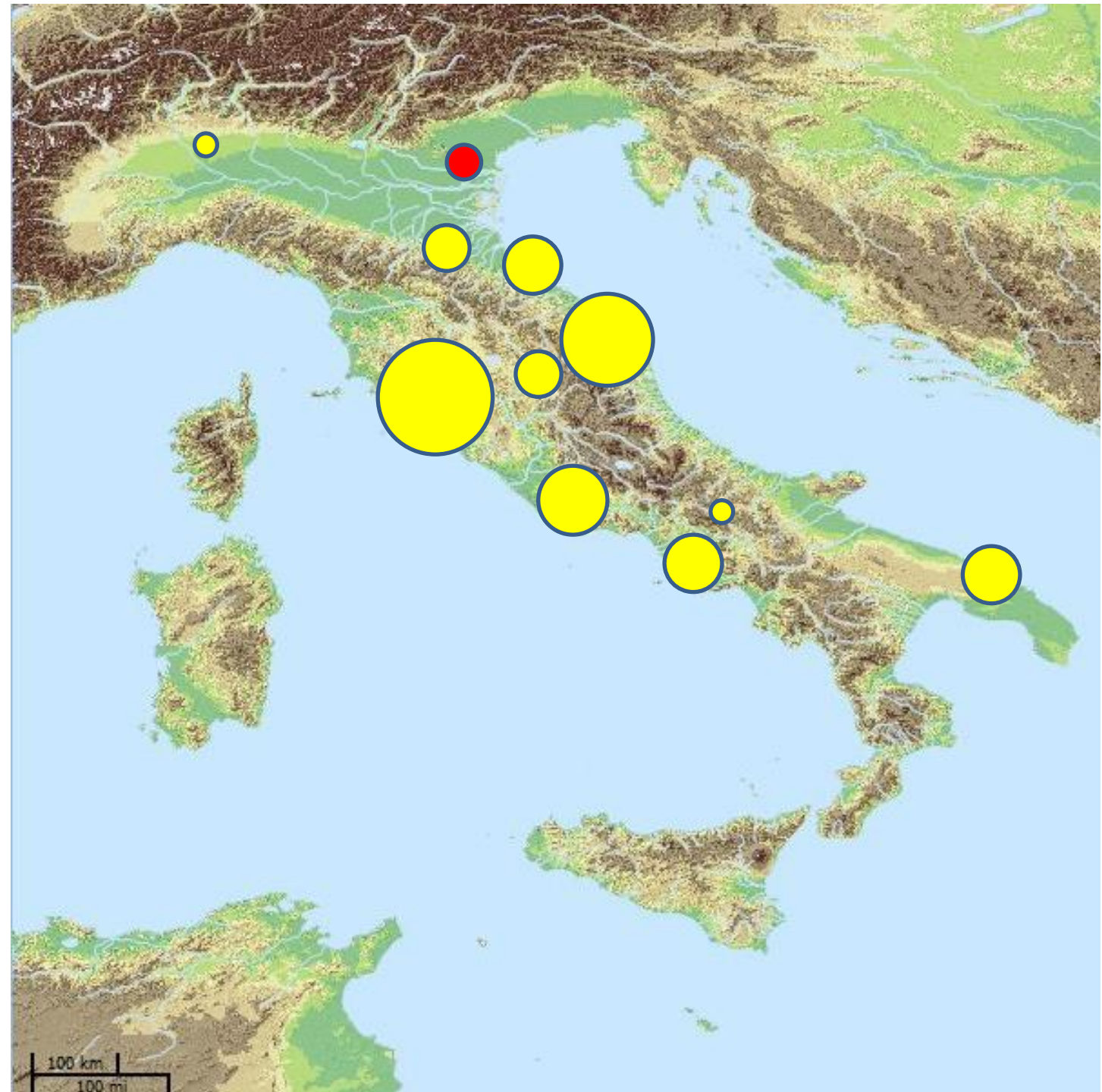
Capistrano (AQ)

# Italy in the Orientalising period

VIII–VII/VI BC

## Veneto the Este culture

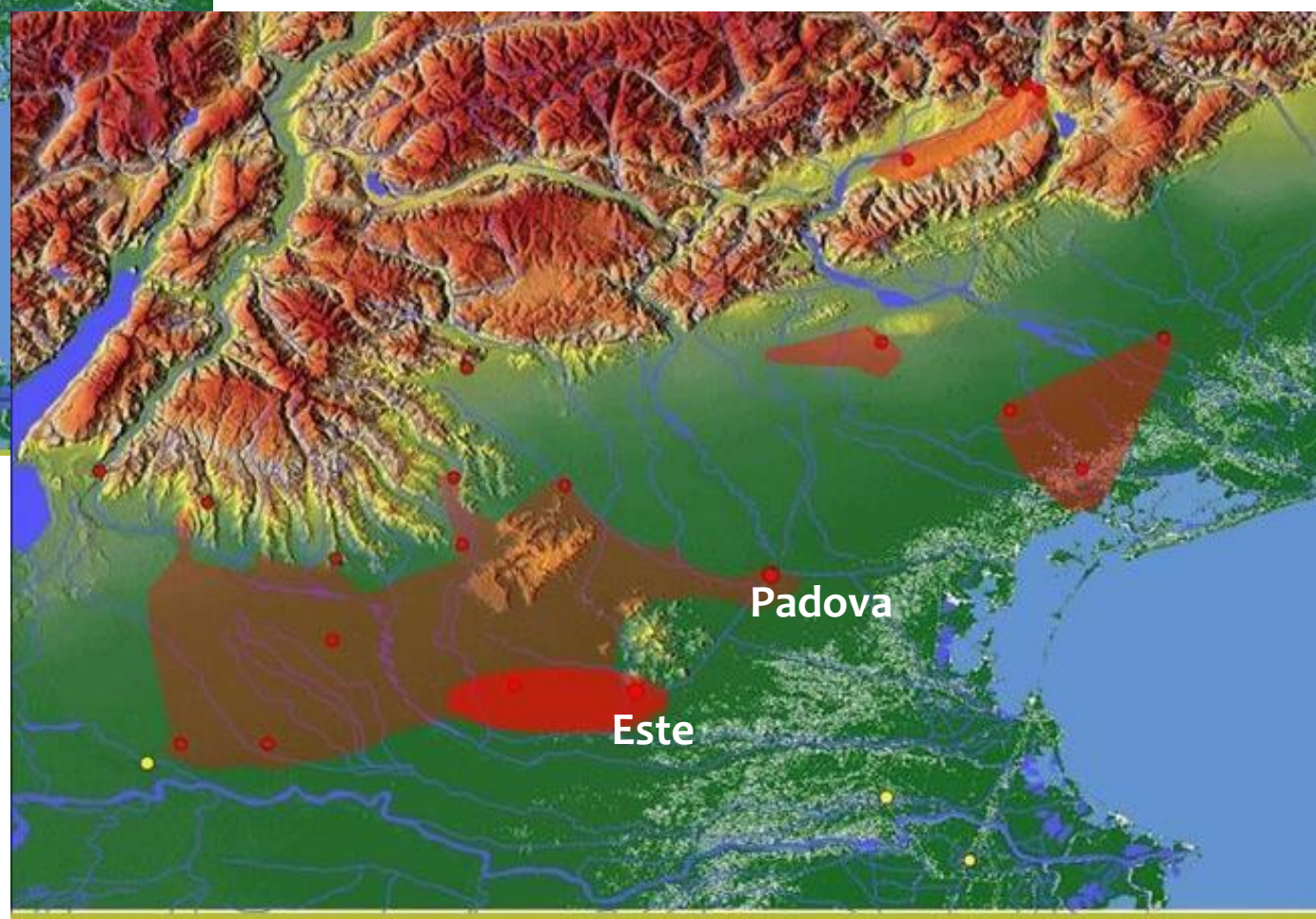
-occupation around two proto-urban centres of Este and Padua





VI BC

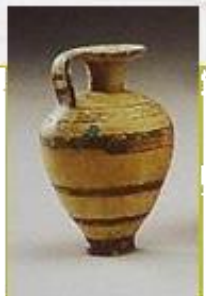
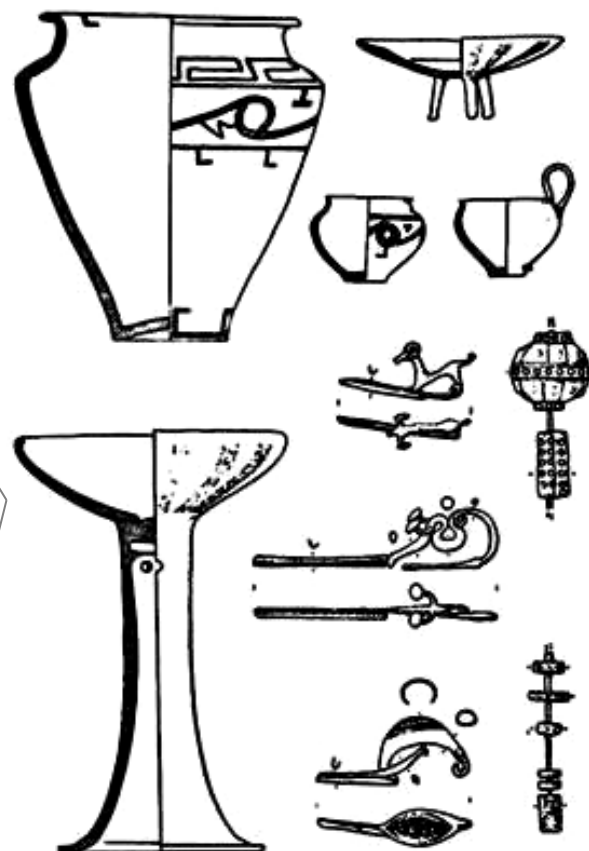
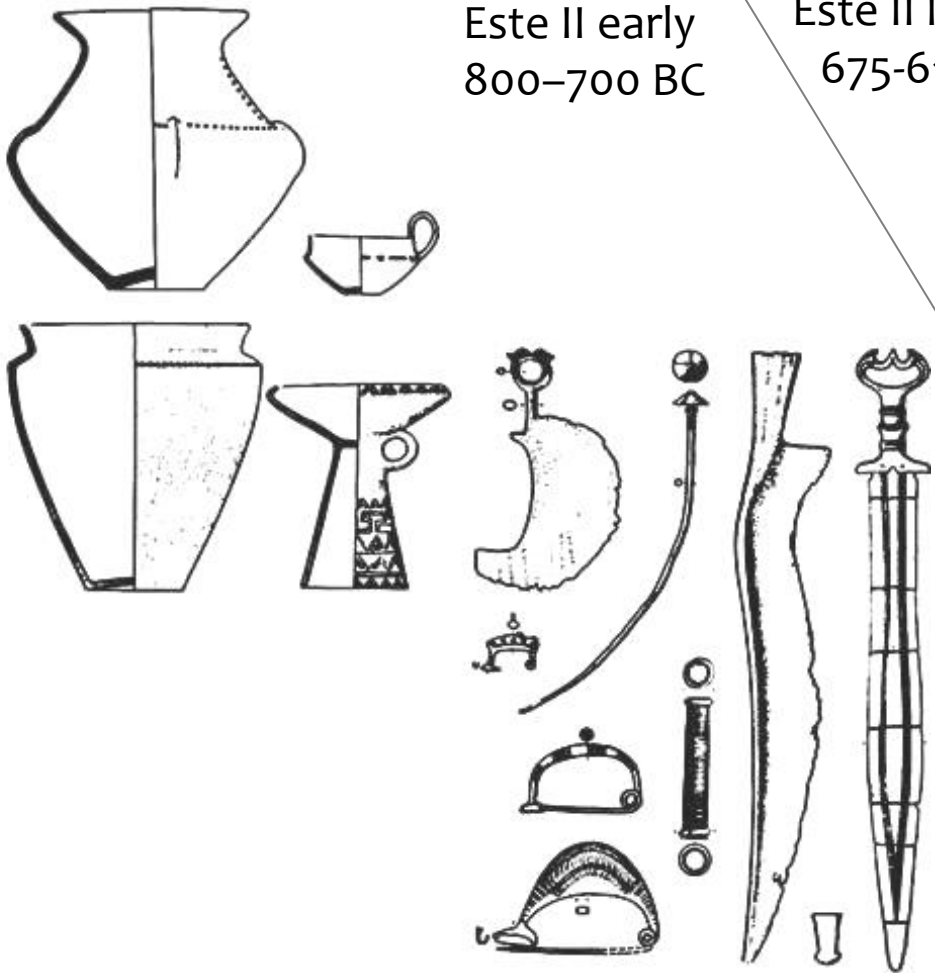
VIII-VII  
BC



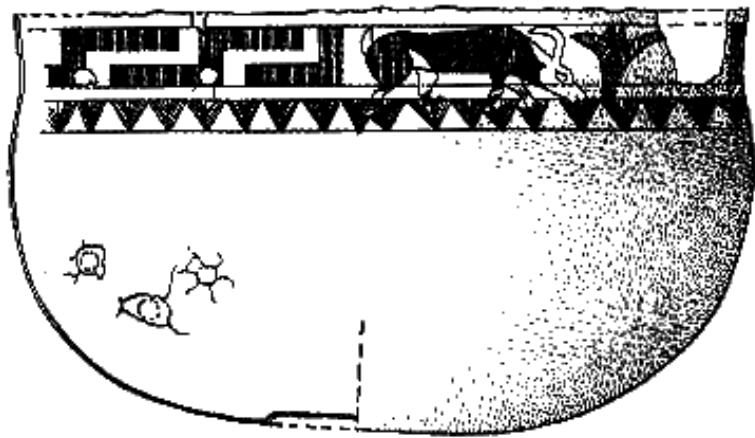


Este II early  
800-700 BC

Este II late  
675-610

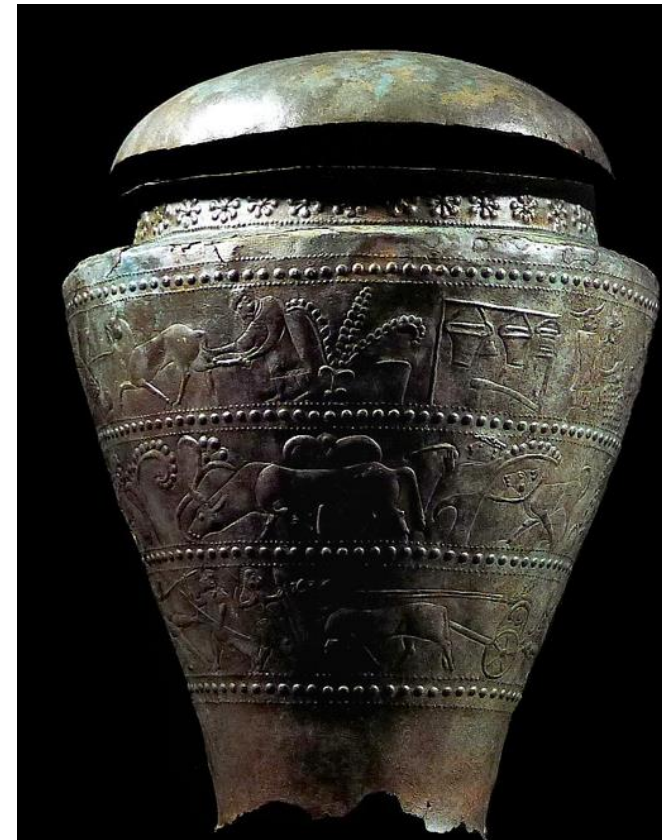


-Orientalising period elite representation is sober but still present

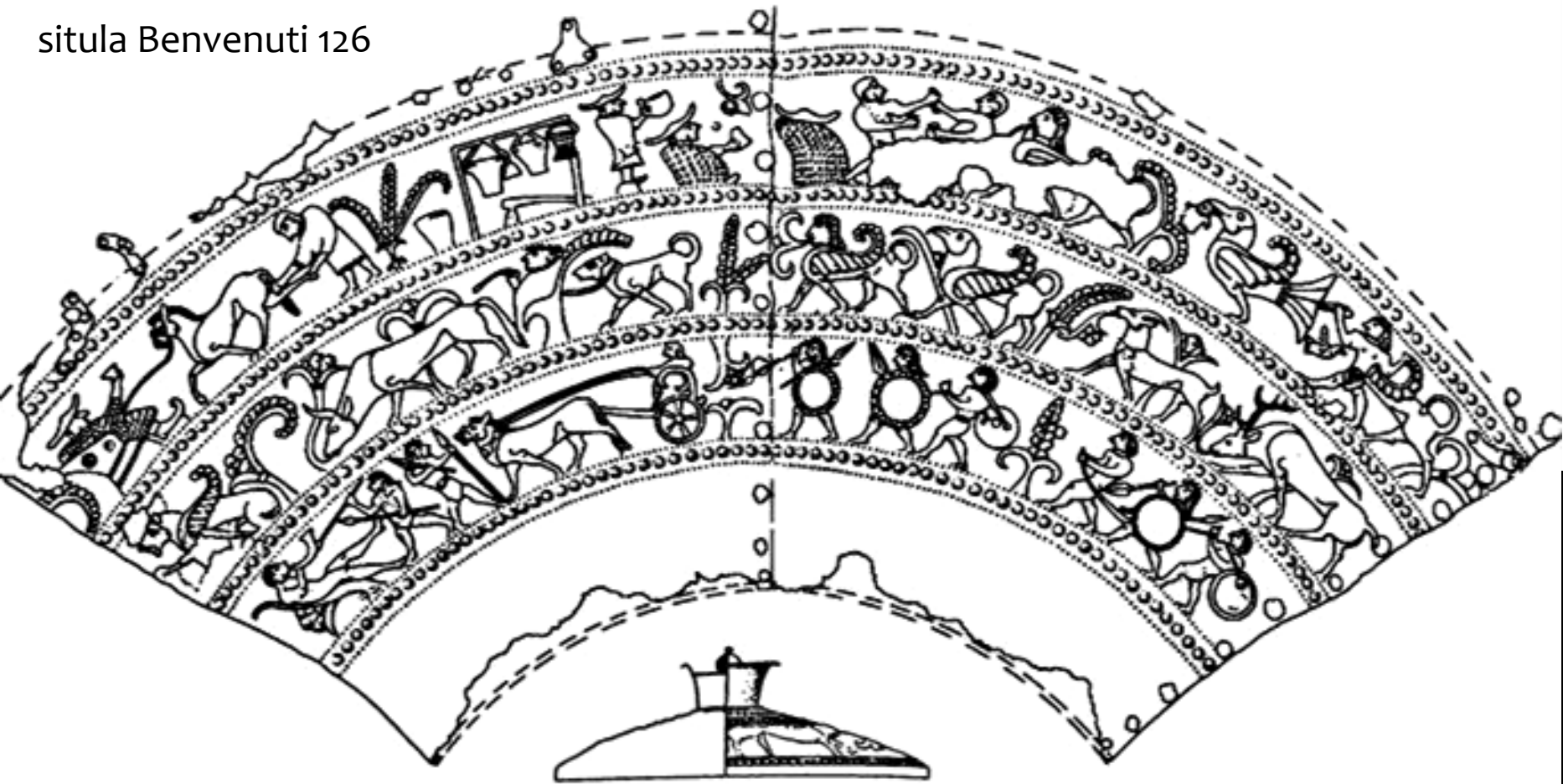


## The Situla art

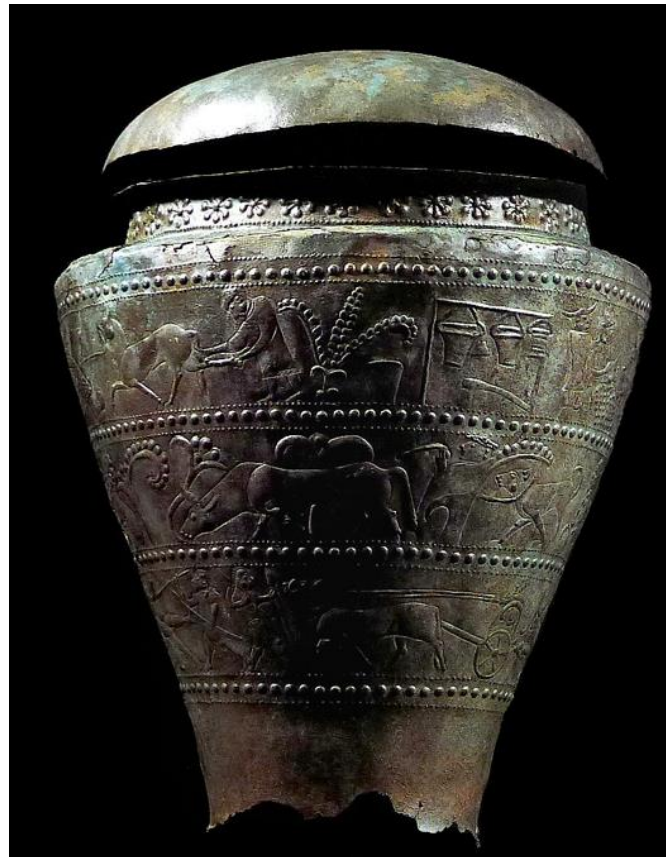
- developing in the second half of VII BC in Este
- early punched and engraved decoration - - - >
- relief repoussé decoration which then becomes the norm of the situlae
- animal and human friezes of orientalising inspiration



situla Benvenuti 126



lid Rebato 187

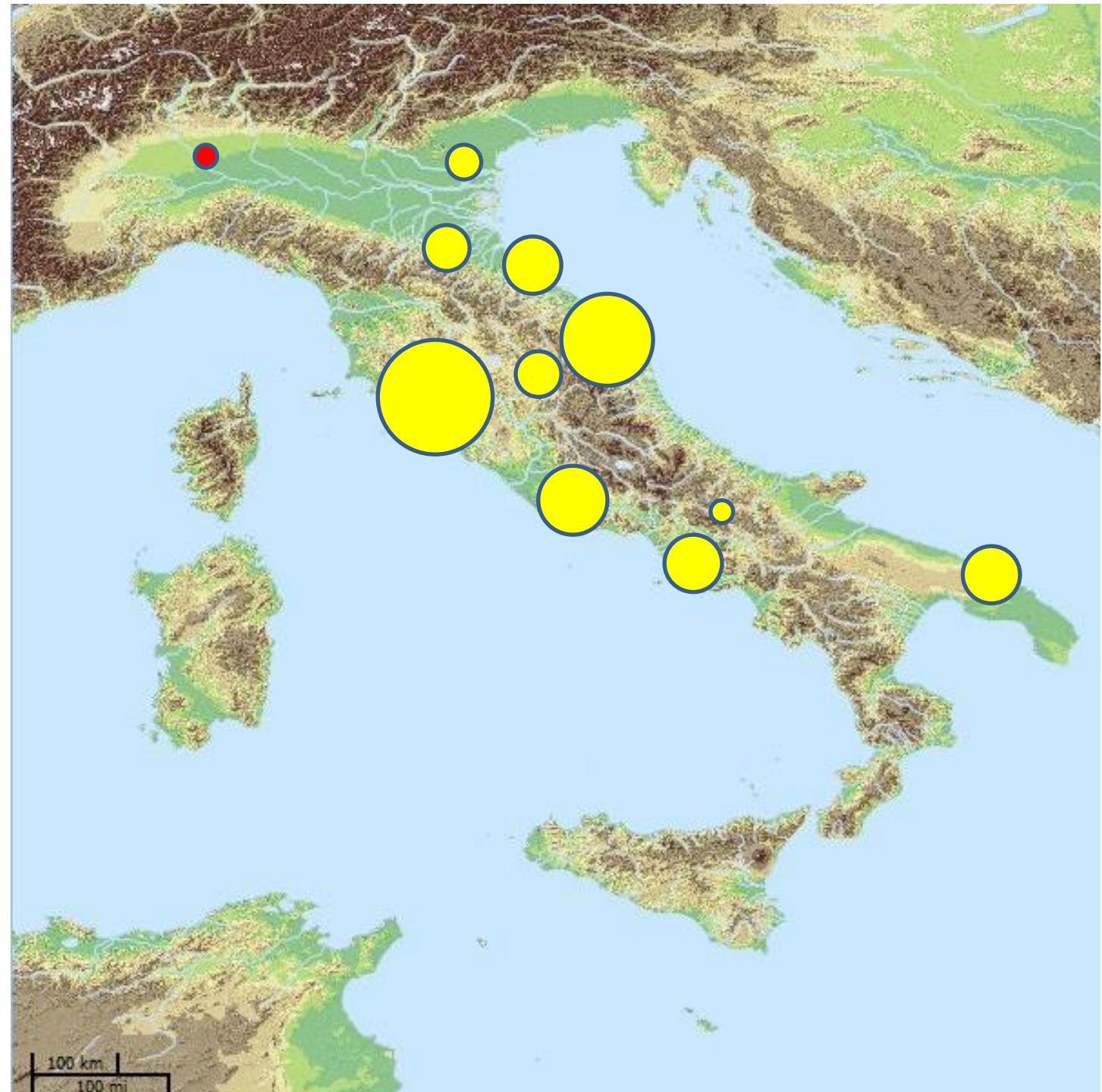


**Italy in the Orientalising period**

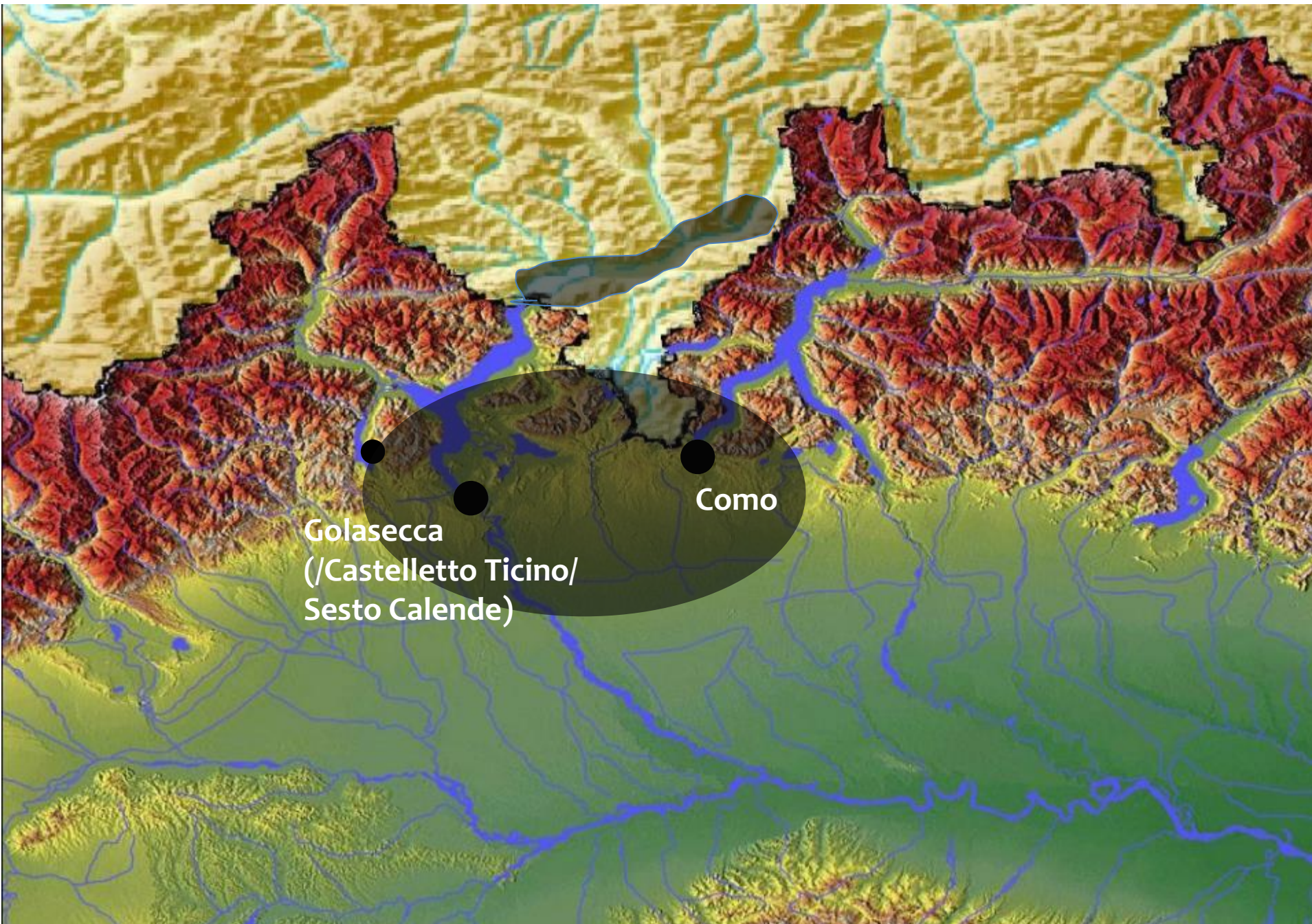
**VIII–VII/VI BC**

**the Golasecca culture**

**Lombardy – Piedmont**



## GOLASECCA I B- IIB (VIII-VI c. BC)



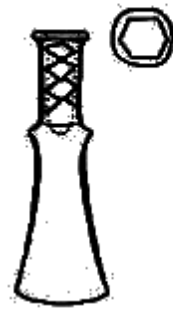
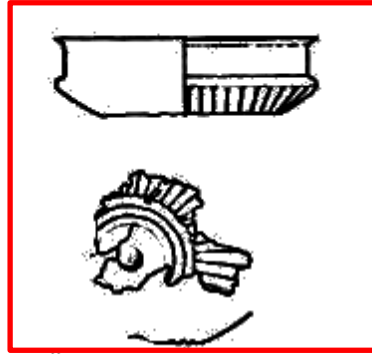
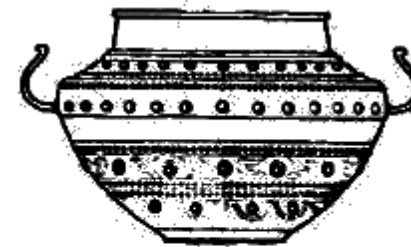
-occupation concentrating around two protourban centres of Como and Golasecca



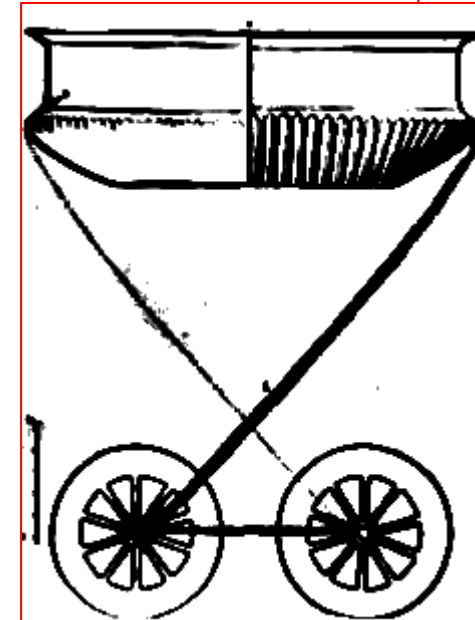
VIII BC

- prevalently poor cremations
- exceptional presence of weapons

- In late VIII BC exceptional appearance of prestige objects



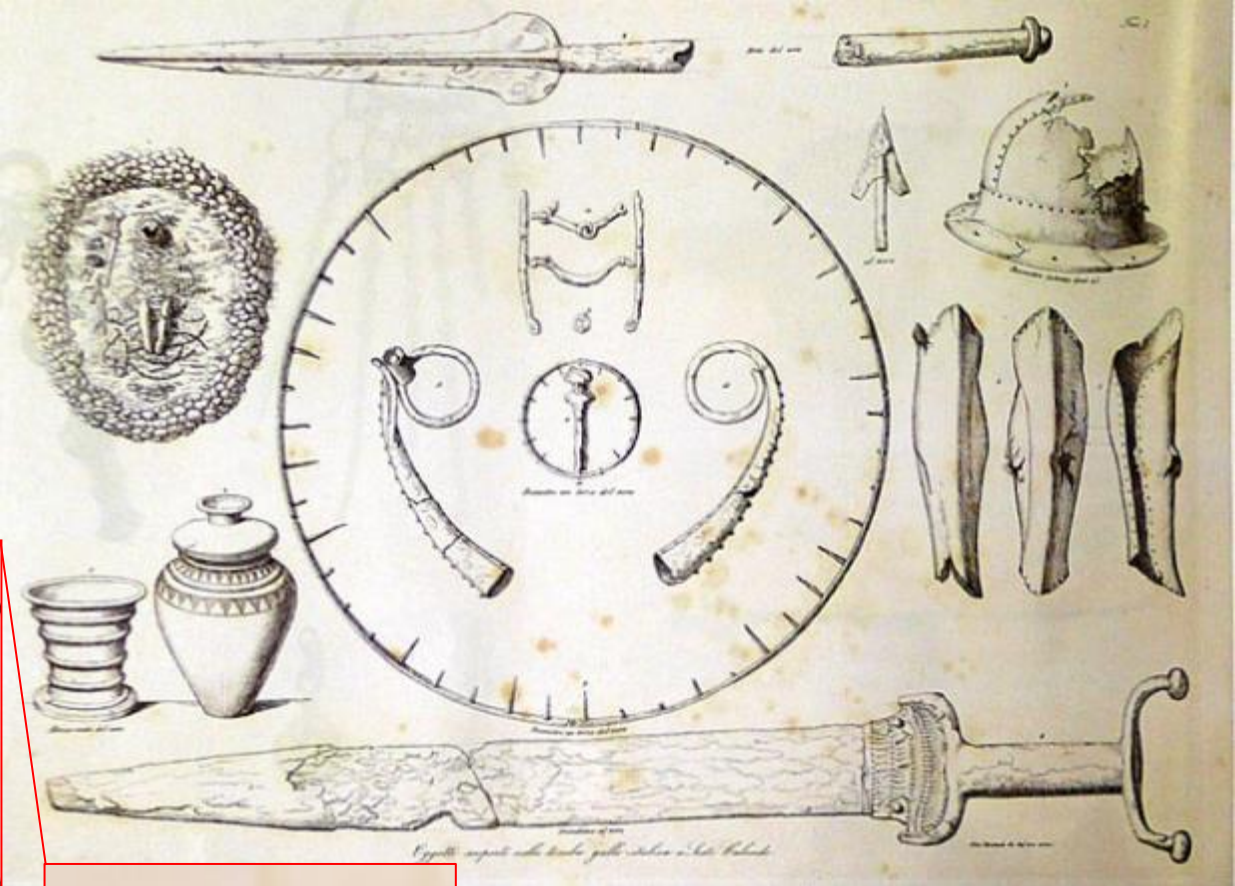
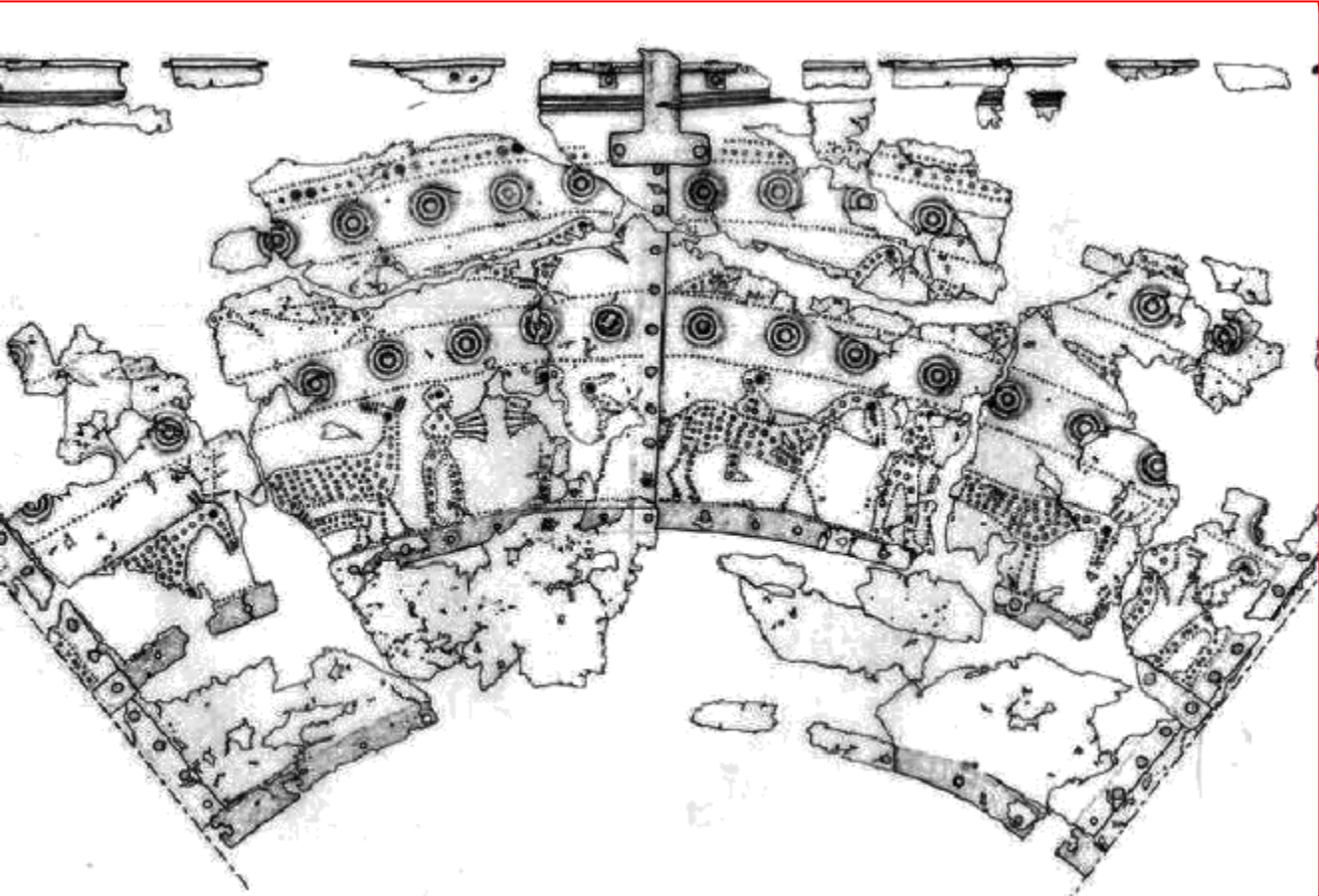
Como, Ca' Morta – tomba del carretino



Sesto Calende – tomba di guerriero (VII/VI aC)

-a wagon, weaponry (Picenian helmet and greaves, Hallstatt culture weapons)

-a bronze situla with figural decoration (besides other bronze vessels)



⇒ All around Italy there is a relatively uniform social development regardless of the degree of urbanisation (advanced in Etruria, Bologna, Este; decent in Golasecca; none in Picenum)



## Early Iron Age in Central Europe

(-to simplify)

Ca 800 BC  
-the Bronze Age urnfield  
cultures of central Europe are  
substituted by the Hallstatt  
culture(s)

-traditionally Western and  
Eastern Hallstatt are  
distinguished based on feeble  
criteria

-principally in the earlier  
period rather a series of small  
cultural groups than large  
uniform phenomena

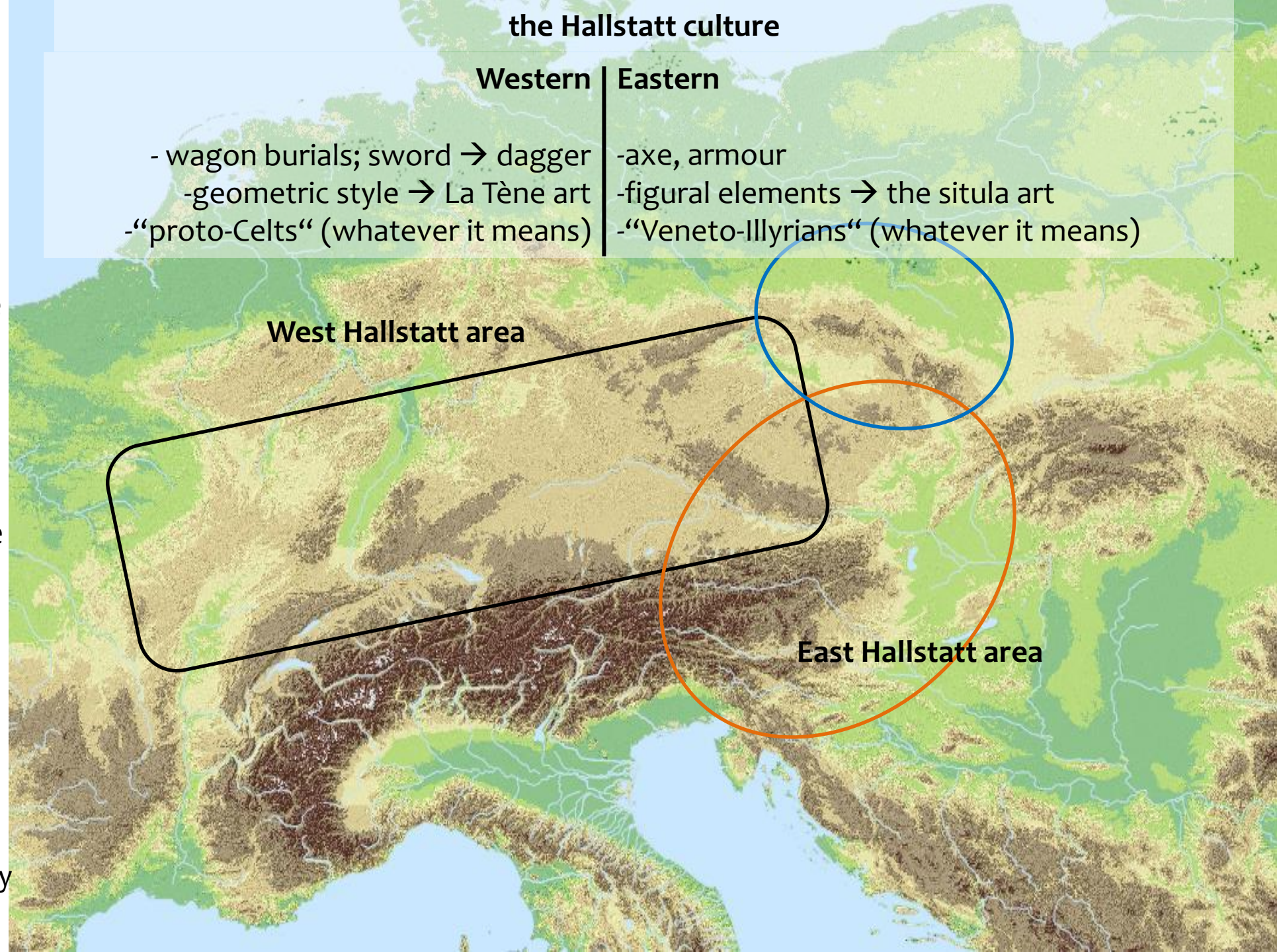
-all ethnic labels used in the  
19th/20th century archaeology  
are just BS

## the Hallstatt culture

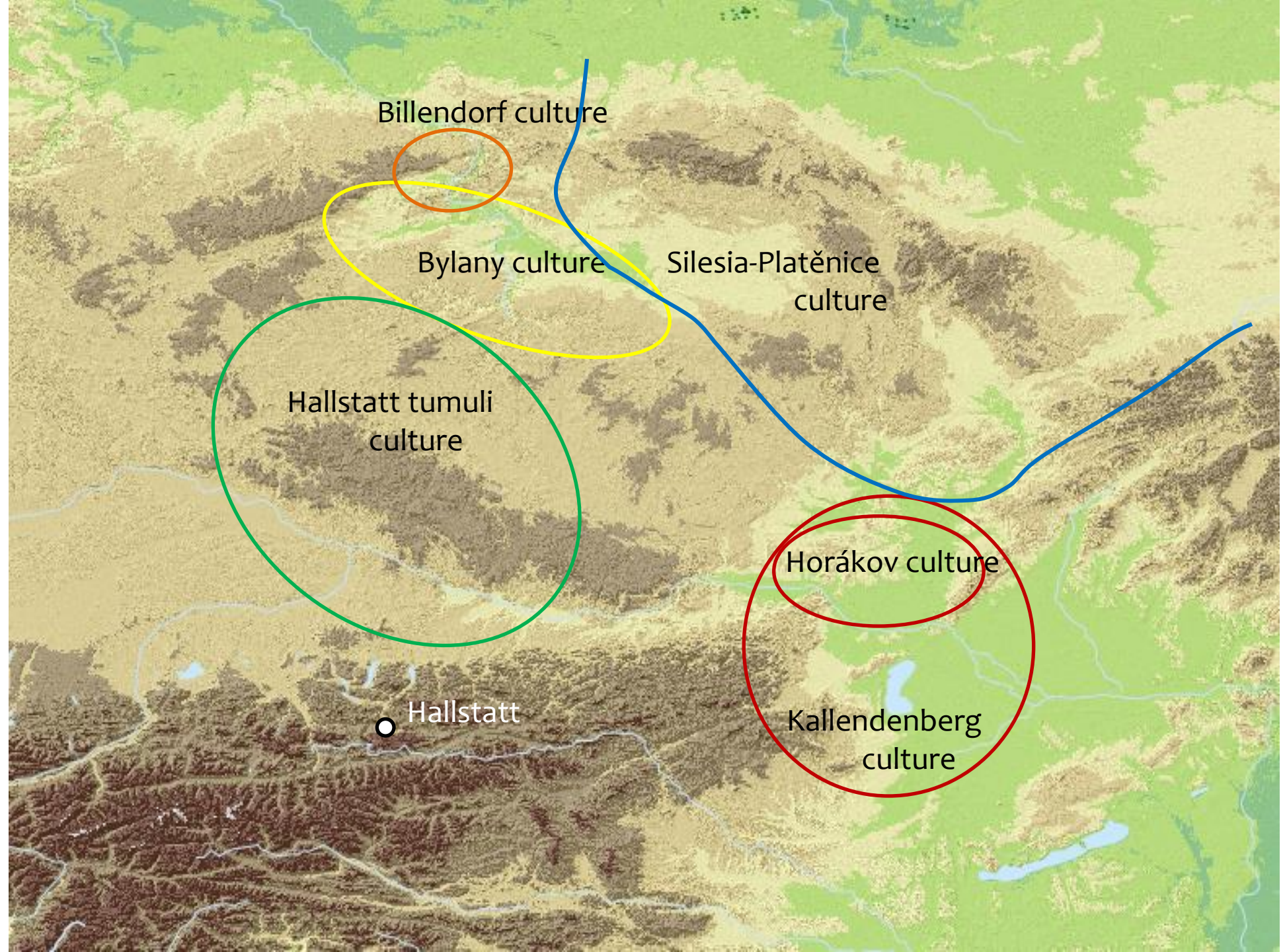
Western	Eastern
- wagon burials; sword → dagger -geometric style → La Tène art -"proto-Celts" (whatever it means)	-axe, armour -figural elements → the situla art -"Veneto-Illyrians" (whatever it means)

**West Hallstatt area**

**East Hallstatt area**



Ha C – D 1  
=  
800–550/540 aC



Ha D2-3

=

550/540

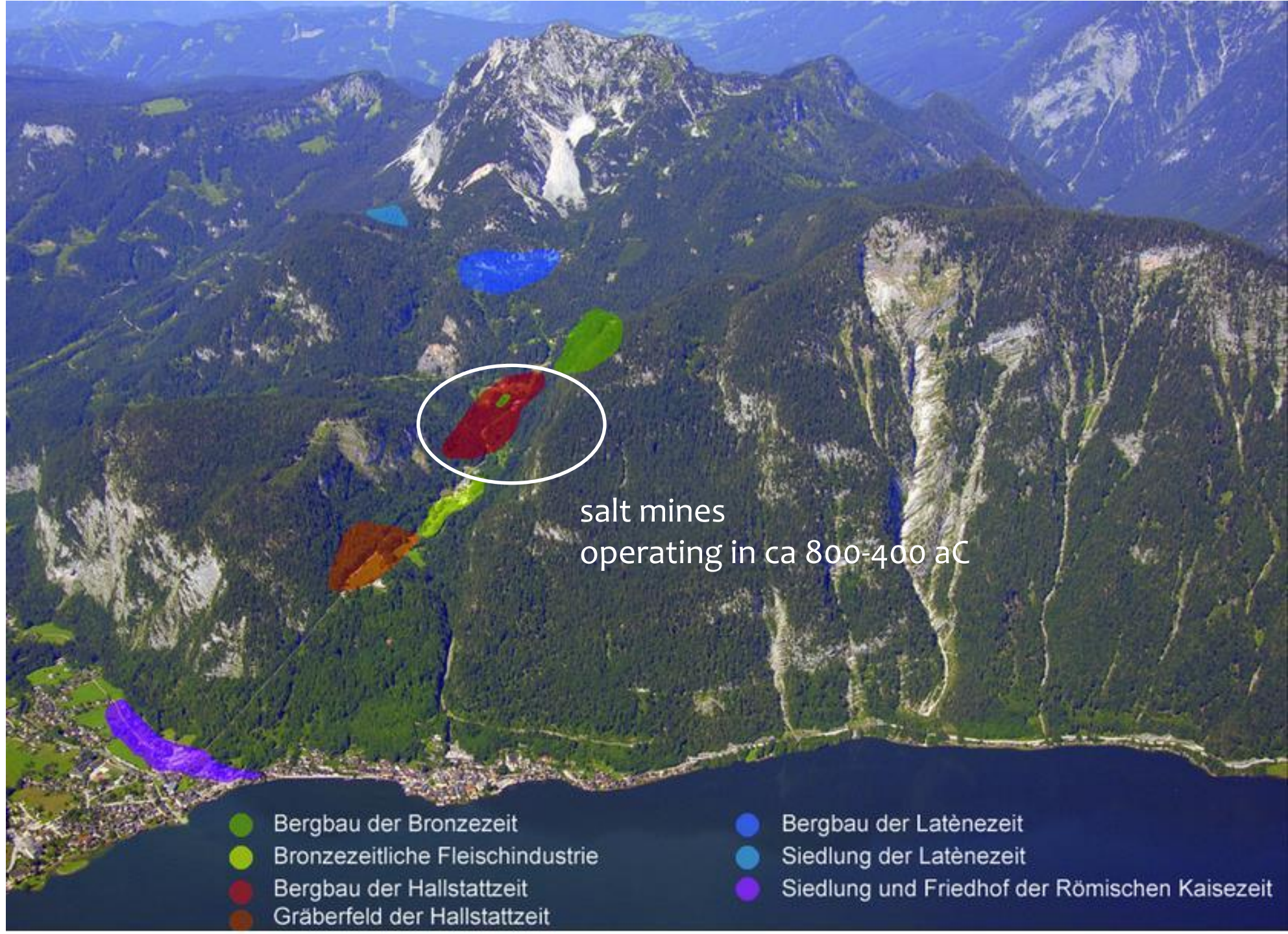
- 480/450 aC



Hallstatt culture

● Hallstat (not culture but site)





salt mines  
operating in ca 800-400 aC

- Bergbau der Bronzezeit
- Bronzezeitliche Fleischindustrie
- Bergbau der Hallstattzeit
- Gräberfeld der Hallstattzeit
- Bergbau der Latènezeit
- Siedlung der Latènezeit
- Siedlung und Friedhof der Römischen Kaisezeit

### Traces of ancient mining

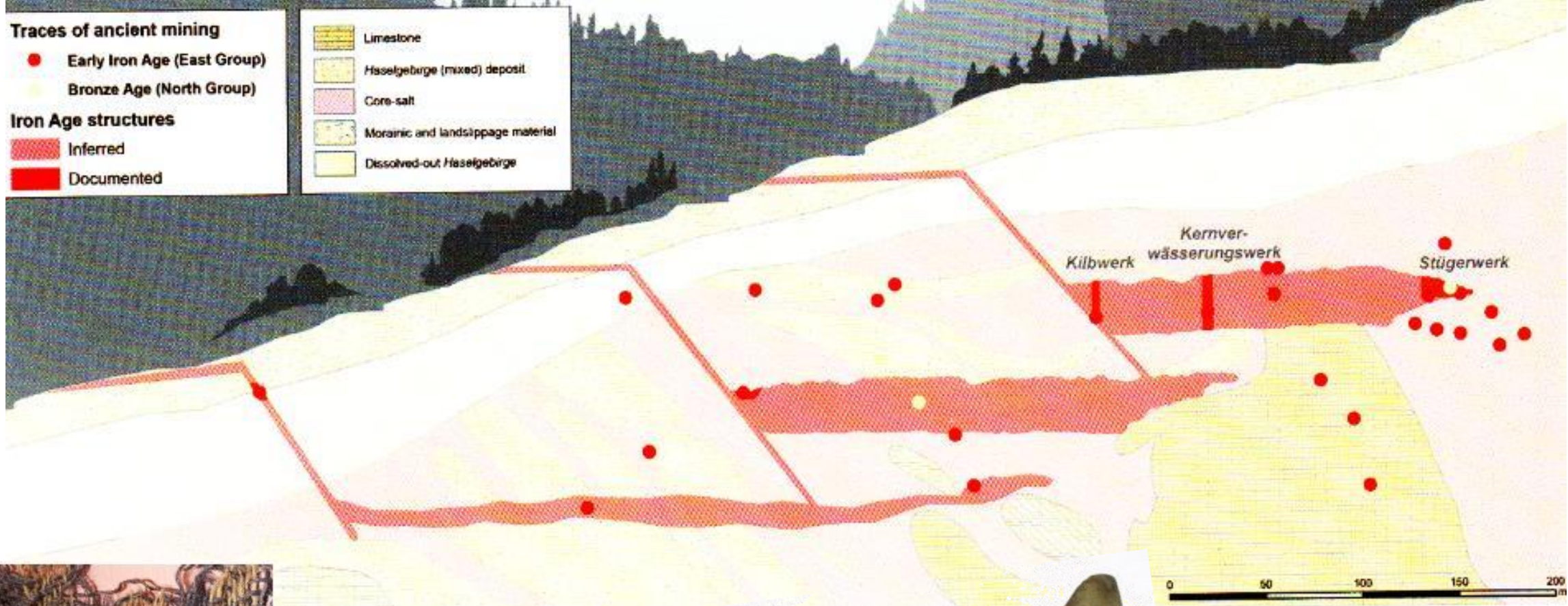
● Early Iron Age (East Group)

● Bronze Age (North Group)

### Iron Age structures

■ Inferred

■ Documented



-cca 5-6000 (?)  
burials  
-800-400 BC  
-excavations in  
mid-1850s











⇒

Hallstatt is similar to Etruscan metropoleis  
-run by an elite managing valuable raw material  
-long time occupation  
-extraordinary population ...

...but in the early phases of the Hallstatt period it is the only site like this around in this period (mainly in the west)

## West Hallstatt area

### ca 800 aC

-hilltop settlements and agglomerations of the urn-field culture get abandoned  
-sudden decrease of population

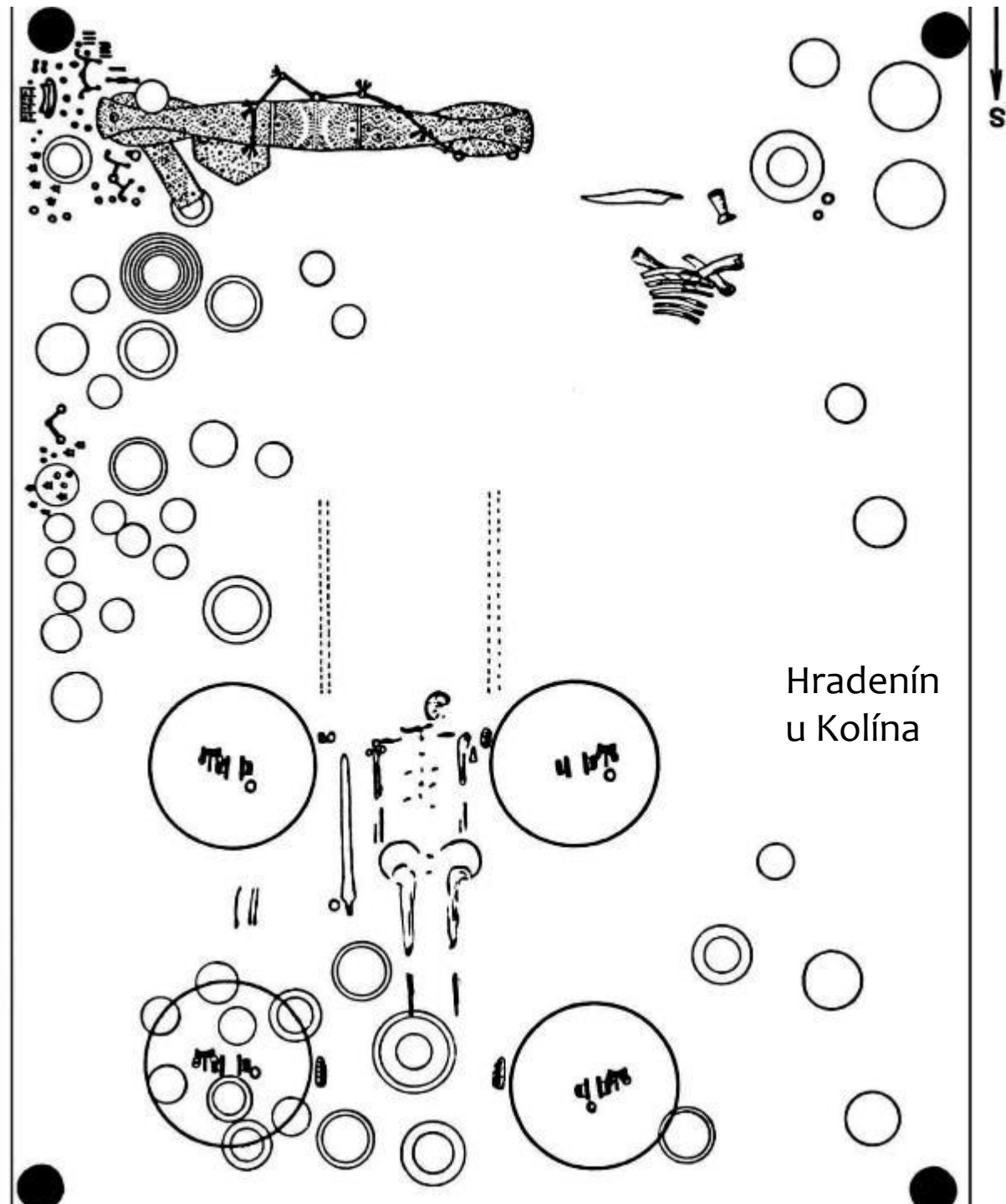
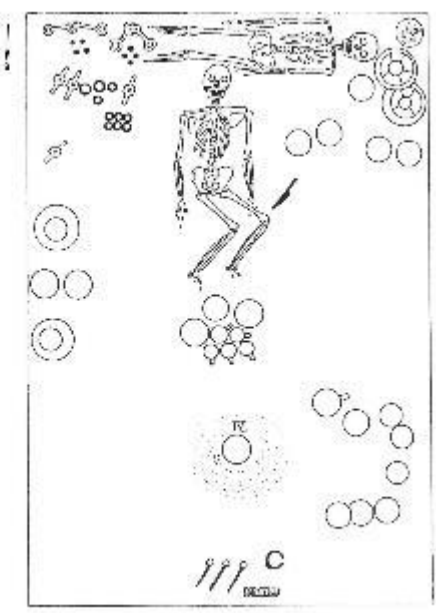
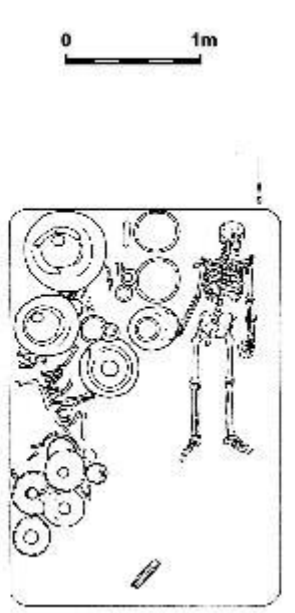
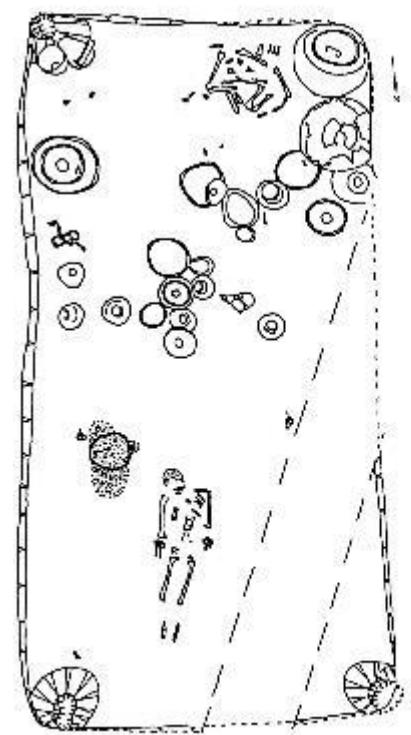
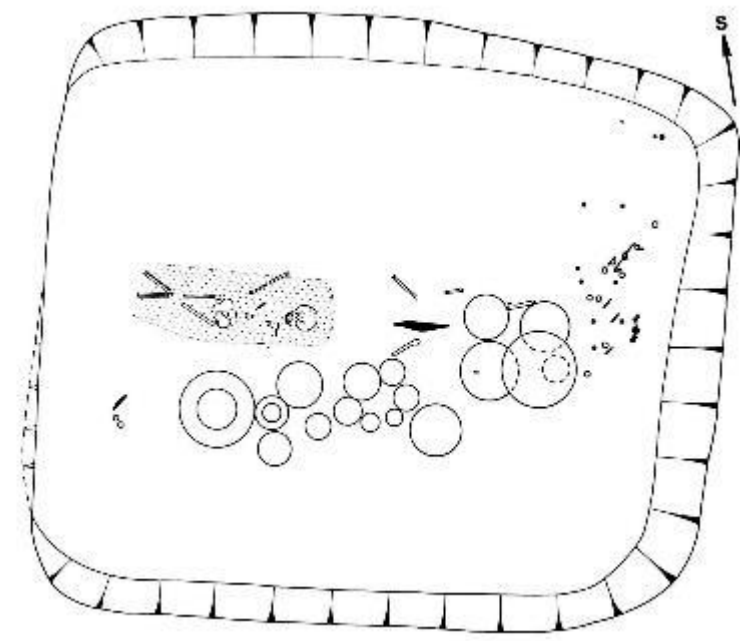
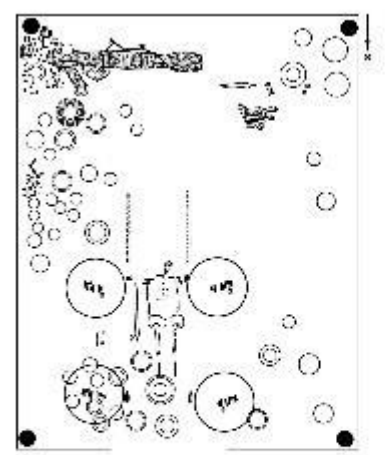
⇒power and territorial fragmentarisation  
⇒rise of (tiny and petty) local elites

-lack of central sites  
-poor knowledge of settlements

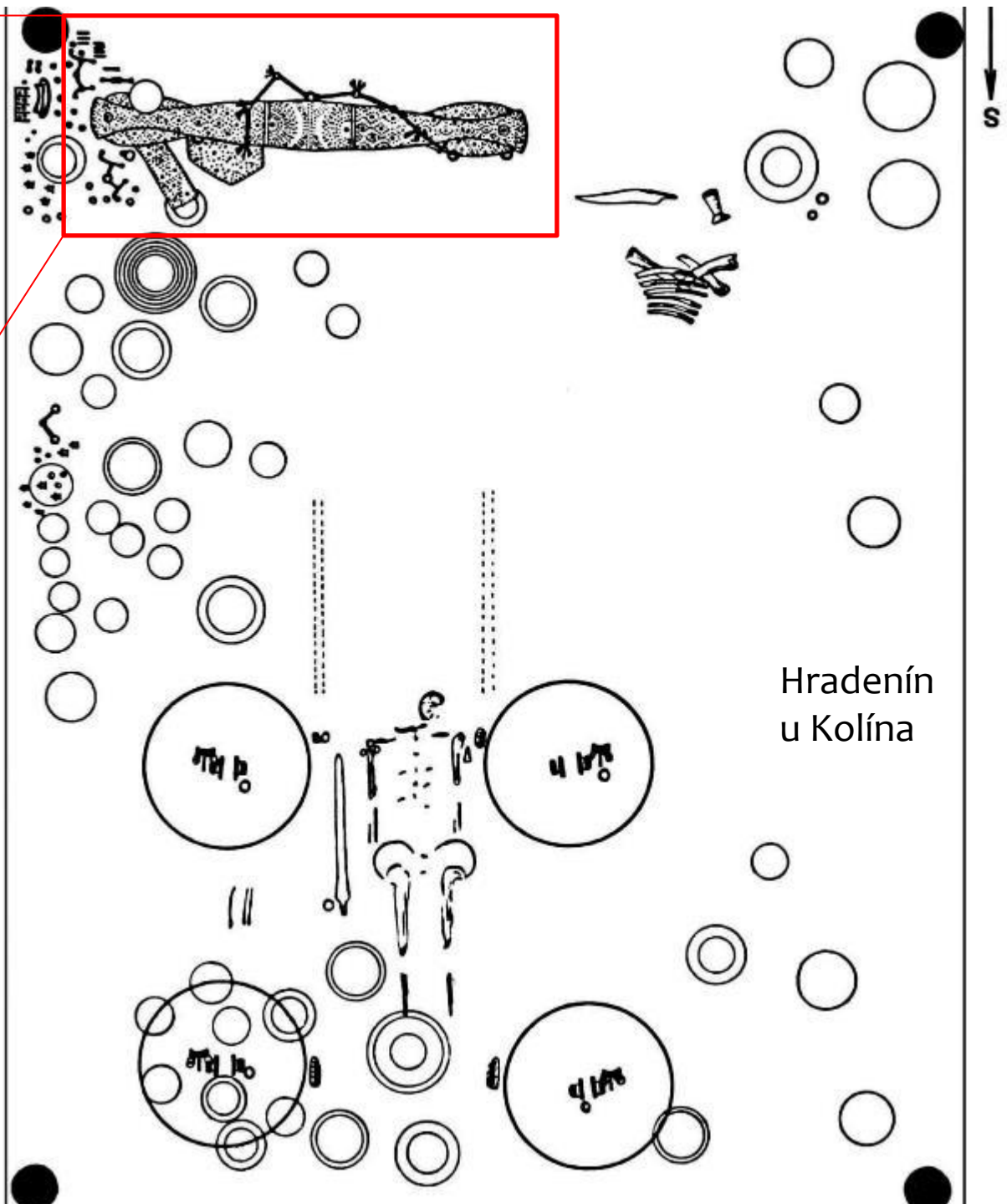
-relatively good knowledge of cemeteries with research emphasis put on (rare) elite burials on wagons



CHAMBER TOMBS

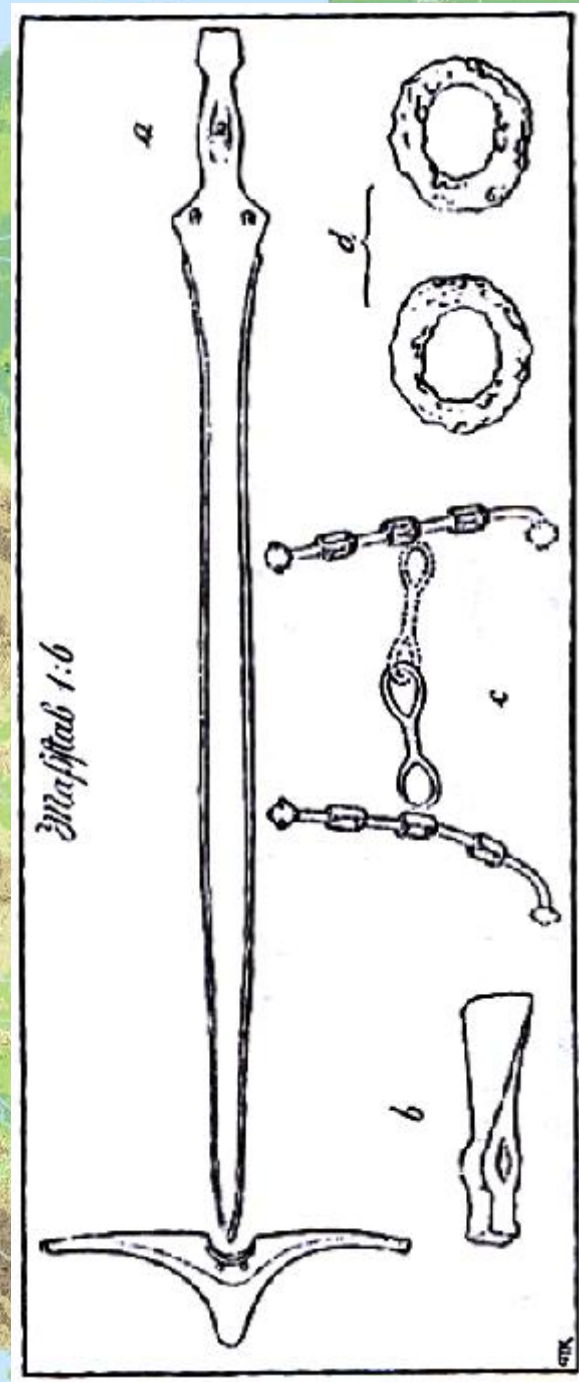
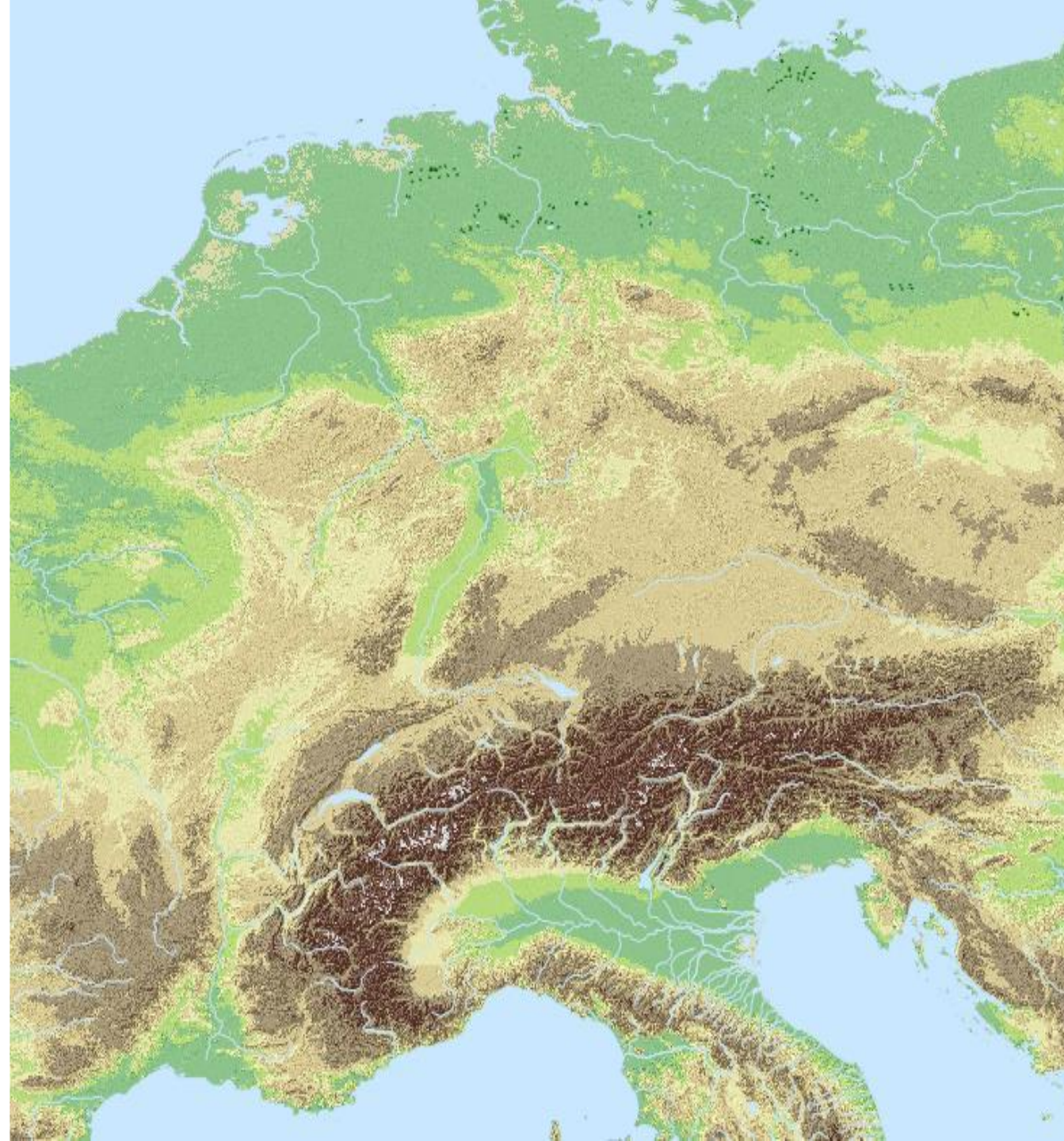


Hradenín  
u Kolína



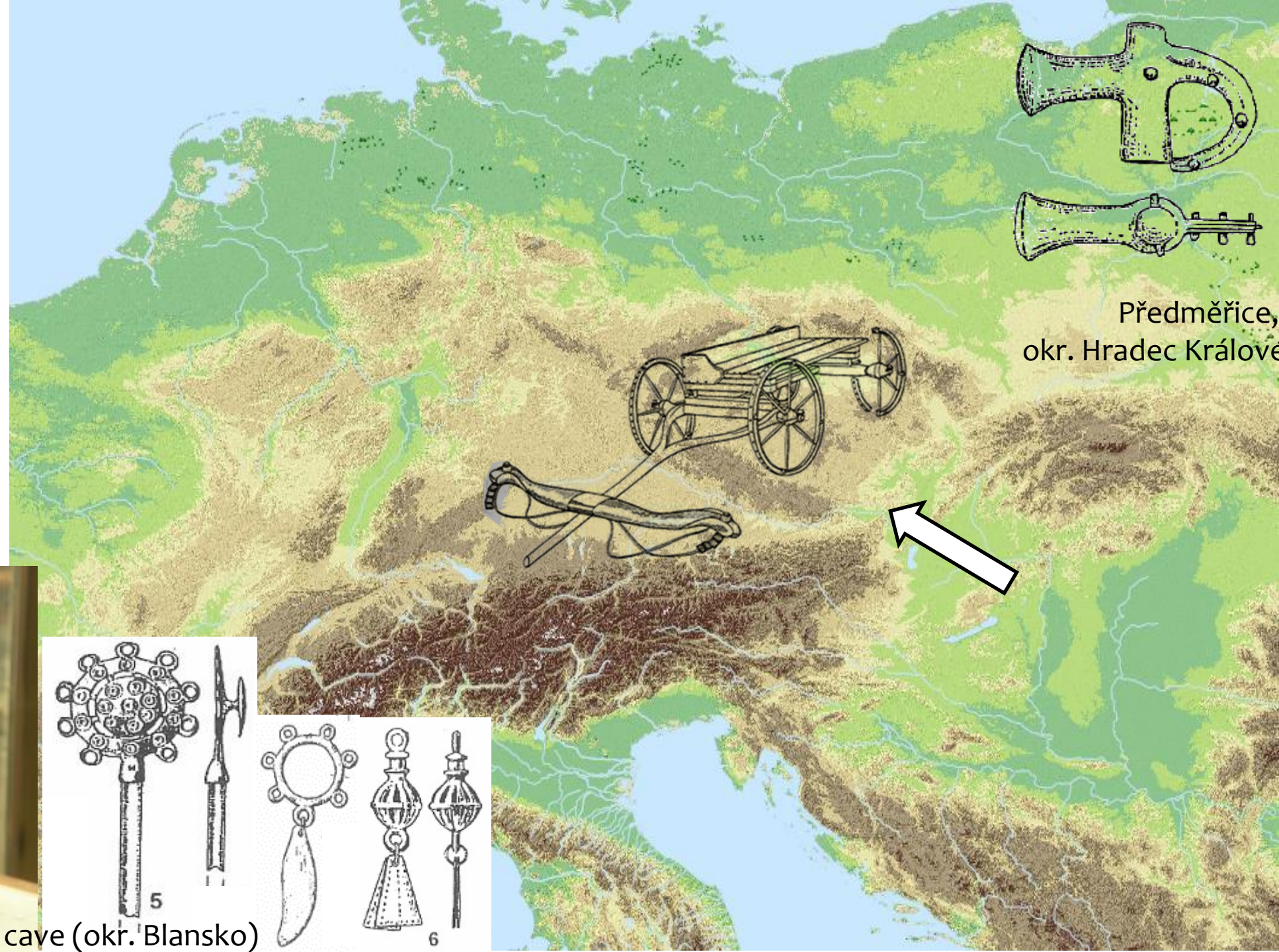
Hradenín  
u Kolína

- the early Ha elites are individual, independent .. and petty
- not controlled but also not controlling much...
- breakdown / weakening of Late Bronze Age interregional exchange nets => breakdown of bronze age social systems
- Inaccessibility of bronze in sufficient quantity => beginnings of iron working
- very little in common with what was going on in Italy both socially and artefactually
  - no Italic analogy for the four-wheeled wagons nor for the long swords characterising Ha C–D1 elite



-emphasis on wagon driving  
may be due to impulses  
from the east of which  
there are various  
indications in late Urnfield  
and early Hallstatt period

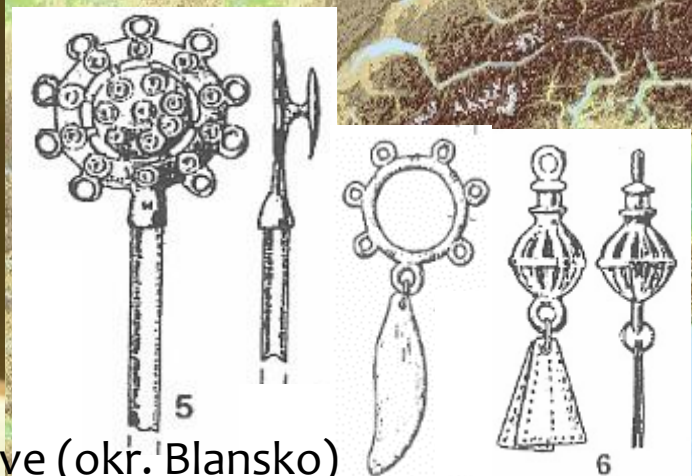
-chronologically these  
impulses correspond with  
the information about  
Cimmerians in the Near East

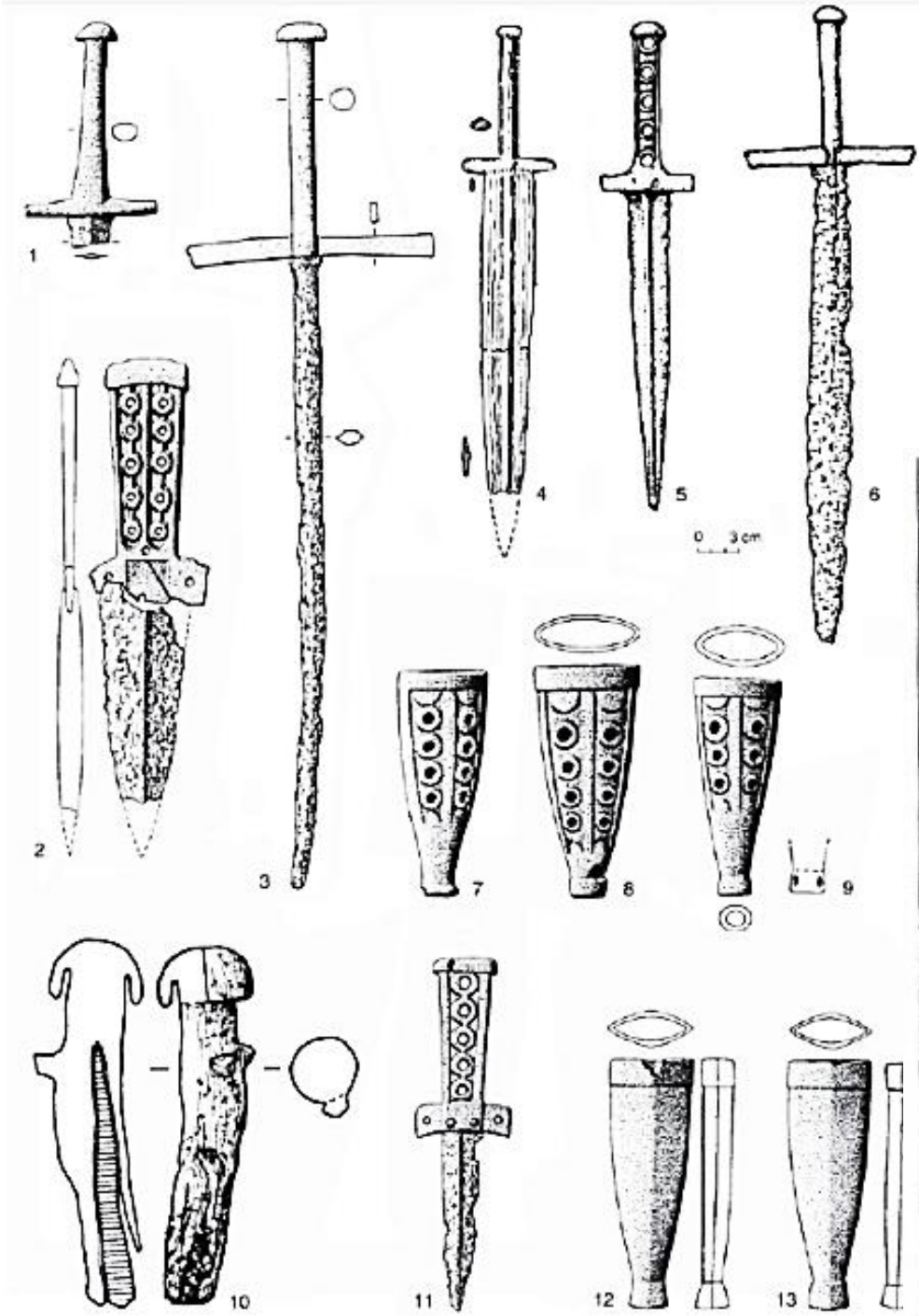


Předměřice,  
okr. Hradec Králové

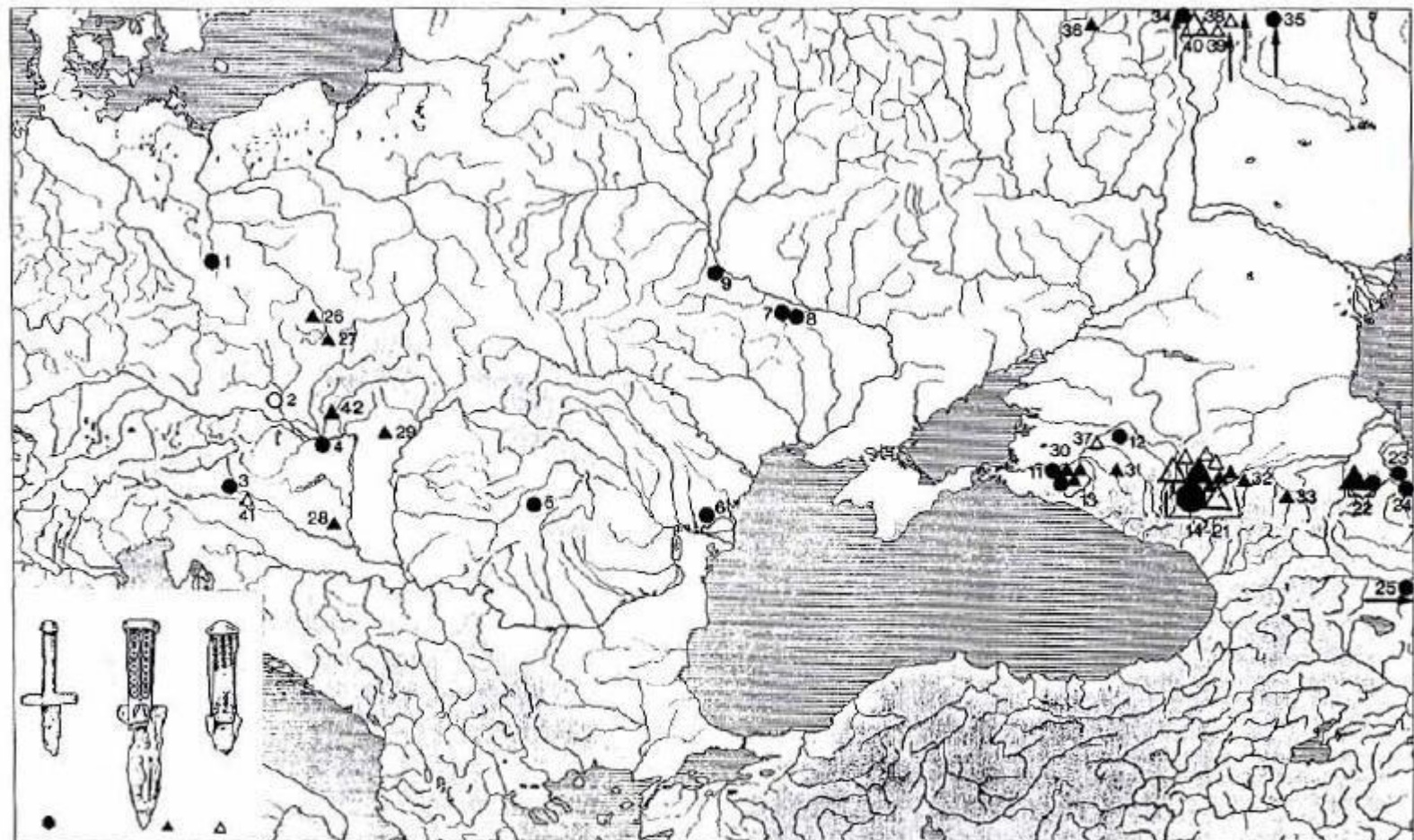


Býčí Skála cave (okr. Blansko)



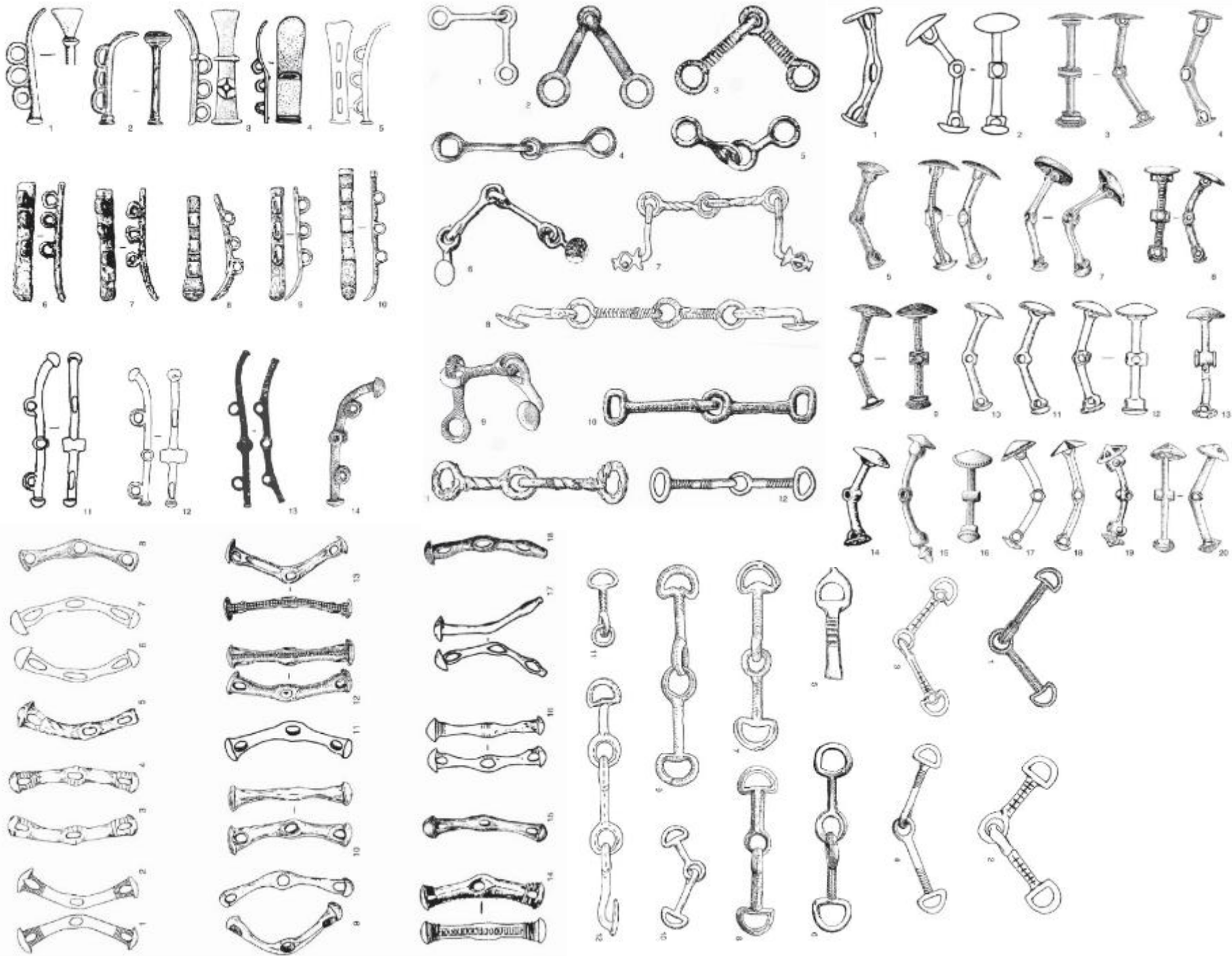


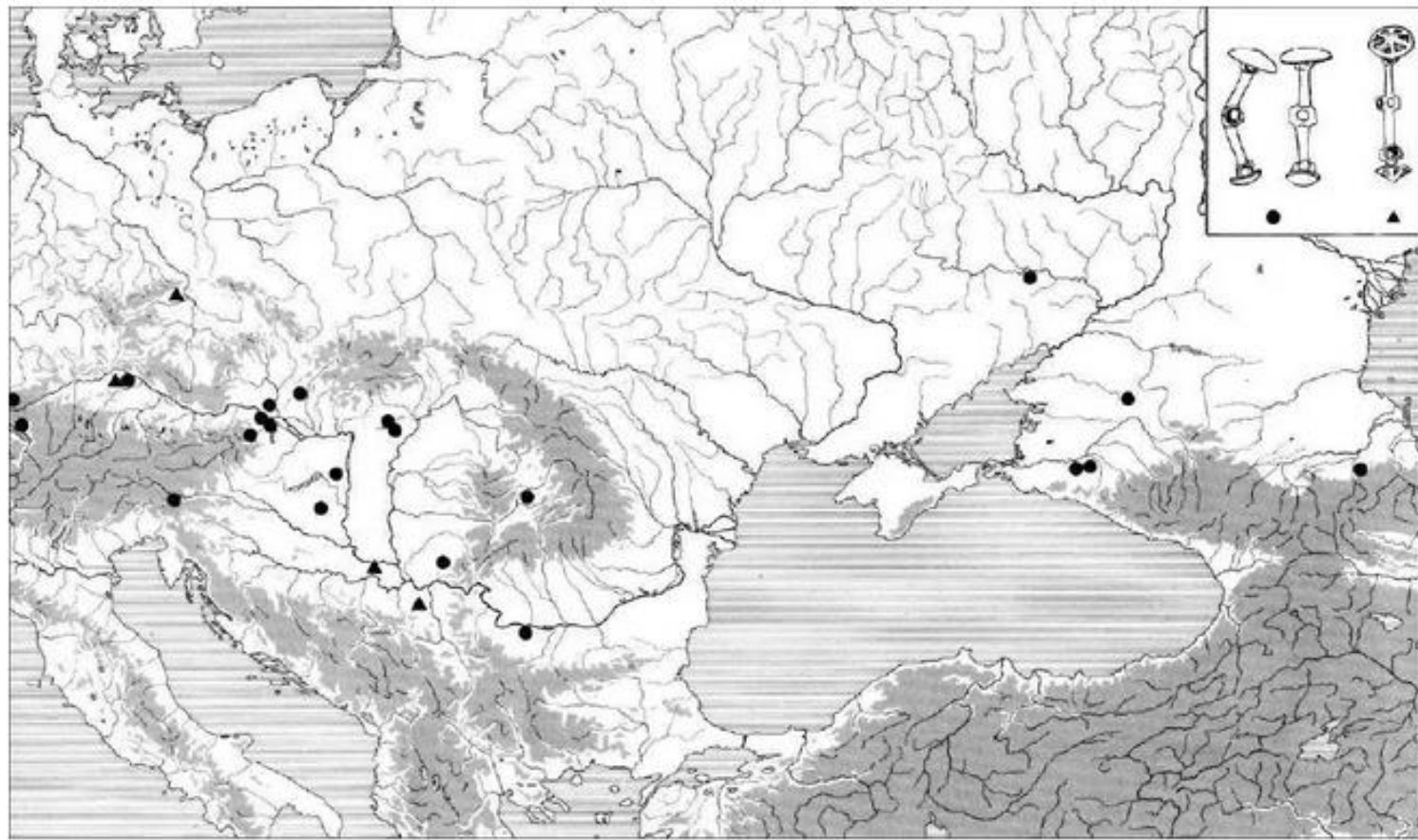
-distribution of ,Cimmerian' bimetalic daggers



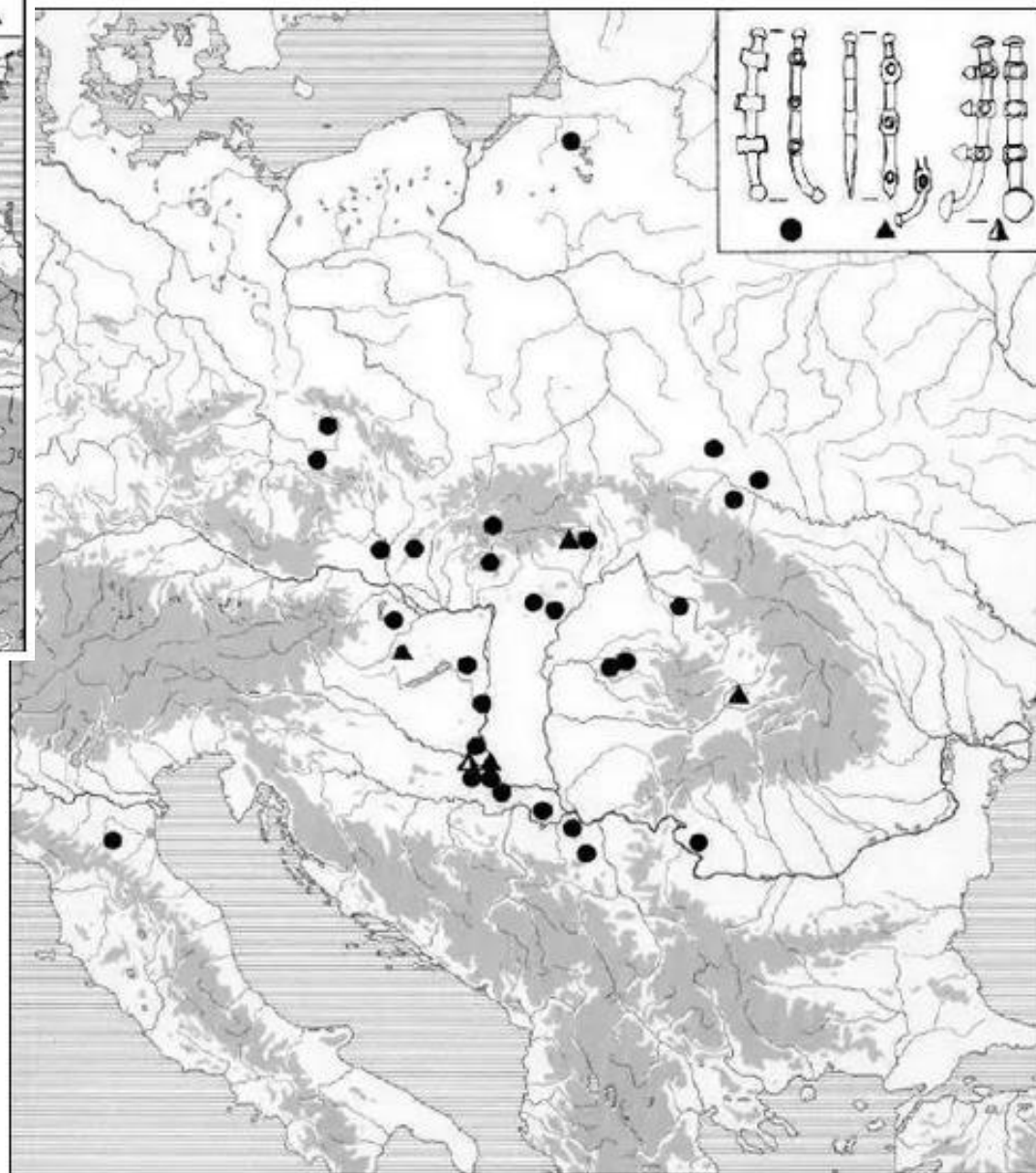


Cimmerian and 'Cimmerian'  
horse bits



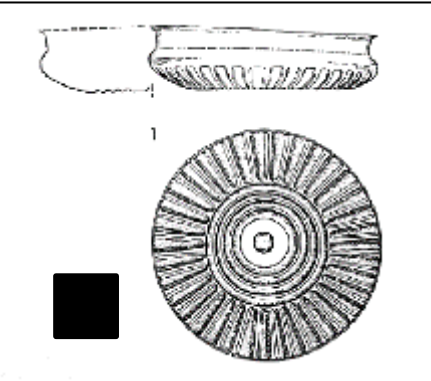
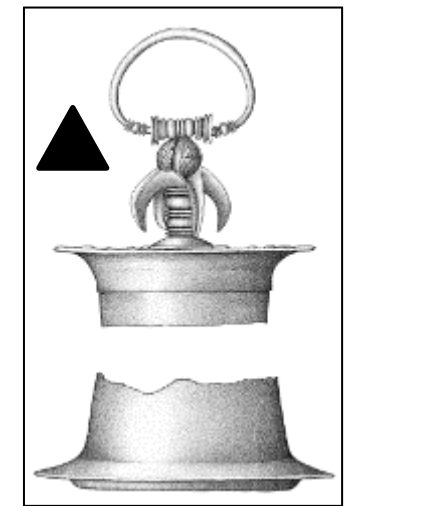
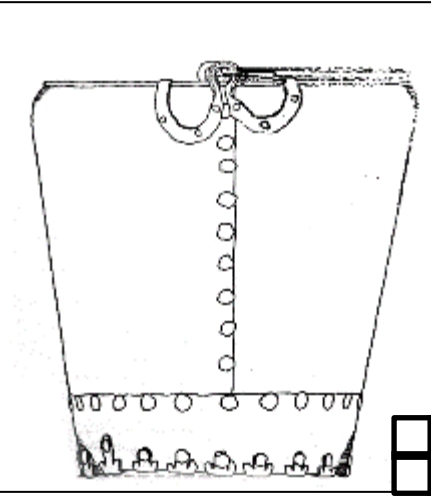


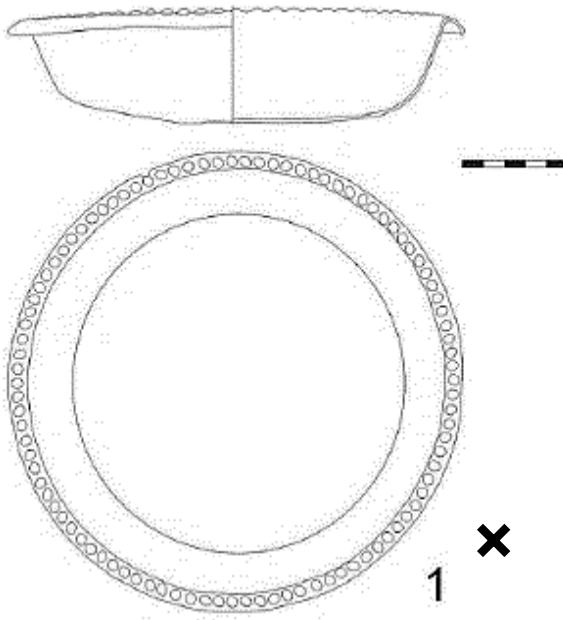
Not all ,Cimmerian‘ stuff necesarilly came from the steppes – some types are characteristic only of the Carpathian basin or central Europe



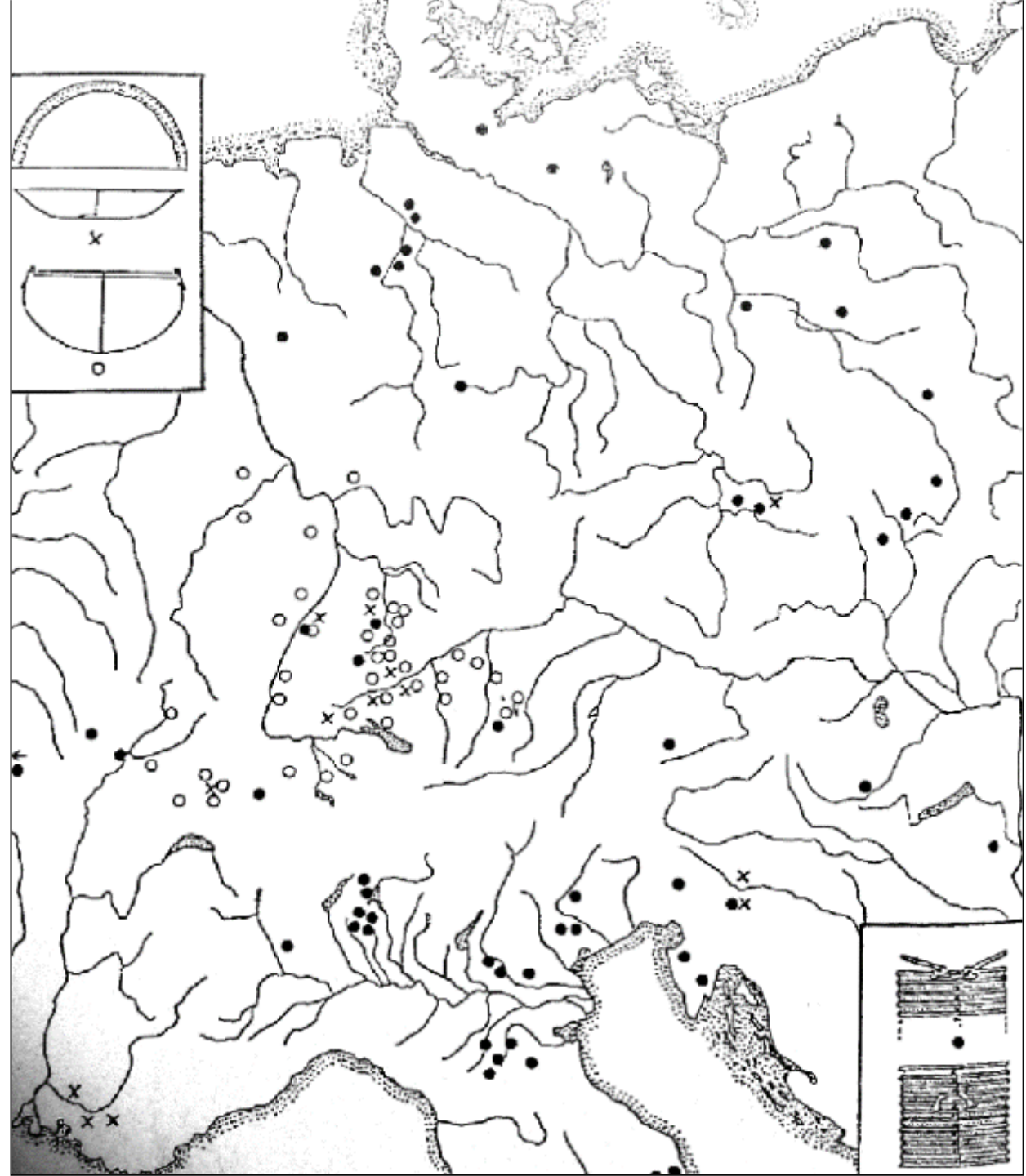
## Italian (Etruscan) metal ware VII–(VI) BC

- clearly distinct Italian types
- beyond the Alp present in elite graves
- concentration in Bologna, Golasecca and Este with further presence in the Rhine valley and the Eastern Alps
- => presaging contacts in the decades to come





Perlrandsbecken/  
 Basins with beaded rim/  
 Bacini ad orlo perlinato



**Italian (Etruscan)  
 metal ware  
 VII-(VI) BC**

-other vessels types remain  
 uncertain and transpine  
 production is not excluded (x)  
 or is probable (●)

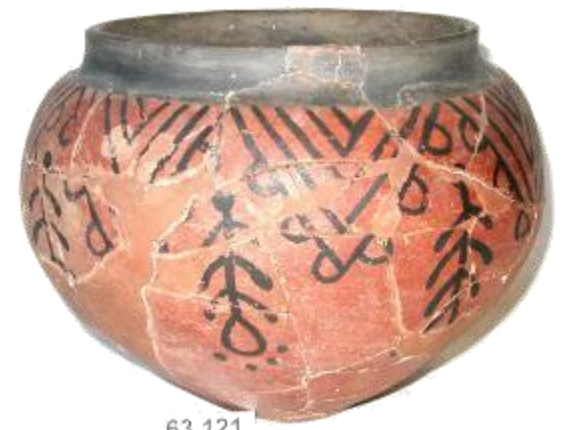
Rippencisten/  
 Ribbed cistae/  
 Ciste a cordoni



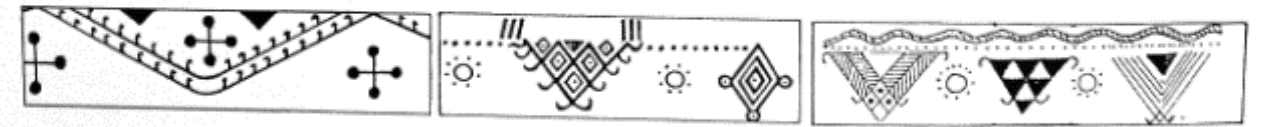
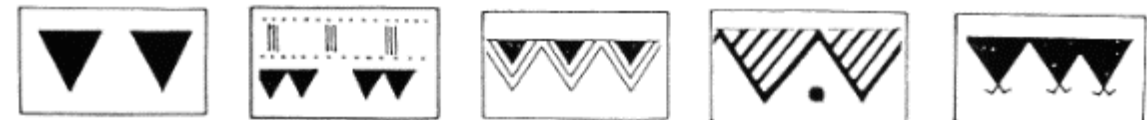
# Hallstatt period pottery decoration

Makes part of a koiné of geometric styles shared with the Early Iron Age cultures in Italy -incised, applied (as in Italy), or painted (unlike Italy)

-shared tradition rather than contacts



63 121



Golasecca

Este



**Adriatic koine'** = shared material culture between:

- the Adriatic coast of Italy (Este culture, Picenum) and
- the Japodian culture of the eastern Adriatic coast (types of objects, predilection for amber, stone statuary on both coasts)

-Este culture is closely linked with the East Hallstat culture of the eastern Alps and frankly is as much and East Hallstatt culture group as it is part of Italian Early Iron Age

The image is a composite of a topographic map and several archaeological artifacts. The map shows the Adriatic coast of Italy and the eastern Adriatic coast, with labels for 'Este', 'Nesactium', 'Verucchio', and 'Picenum'. Red circles highlight the 'Este' and 'Nesactium' areas. Arrows point from various artifacts to these locations. The artifacts include a bronze helmet, a stone figurine, a bronze helmet, a red circular object with spiral patterns, a necklace of amber beads, and a tall stone statue of a man with a wide hat.



Pitino di San Severino



Strettweg



Bisenzio





-links between Eastern Hallstatt culture and the Este culture (in the regions inhabited by Veneti in historical period) and their closeness to Japodic culture + wild linguistics

⇒ In late 19th and 20th century the East Hallstatt and Lusatian cultures are variably considered to be those of 'Venetian' or 'Illyrian' peoples

- Those are just artefacts of history of research.. Don't take them seriously...



# East Hallstatt, 'Princely graves' The example of Kleinklein



Markus Egg · Diether Kramer (Hrsg.)

Die hallstattzeitlichen Fürstengräber  
von Kleinklein in der Steiermark:  
der Kröllkogel

Steirisch-Gemeinschaftliches  
Zentralmuseum  
Fürstentum Steiermark  
archaeologie.at

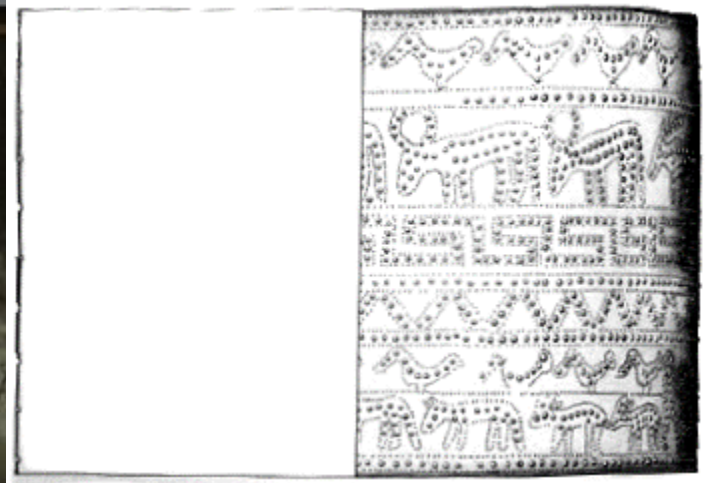
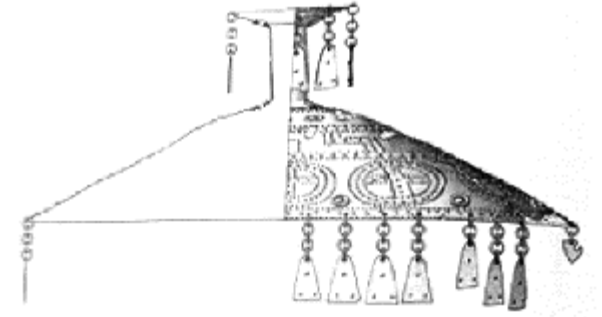
**R G Z M**

-Kleinklein – a series of tumuli  
with rich burials spanning  
from VIII to early VI century BC





The Kröllkogel tumulus (early VI BC) – overview of the grave-goods  
(yes, the people other than the buried person may have been goods, too)



-later in the VI BC, a new element appears in the Carpathian basin, the **Szentes-Vekerzug culture**

-chronologically it corresponds with information on arrival of Scythians (~ Persian campaign in the Balkans)

-archaeologically it is characterised with numerous nomadic features with analogies in the steppes of Eurasia (though as in case of Cimmerians, these elements are blended with local features)

-many (not all) earlier Hallstatt hillforts come to their end – often accredited to Scythian incursions (though ....)



-the most emblematic ,Scythian‘ artefact are three-winged or three-sided arrowheads

-widespread in burials and settlements of Eurasia, Caucasus, Near East, and Carpathian basin

-400 ,Scythian‘ arrowheads were found in the destruction horizon of Molpír hillfort

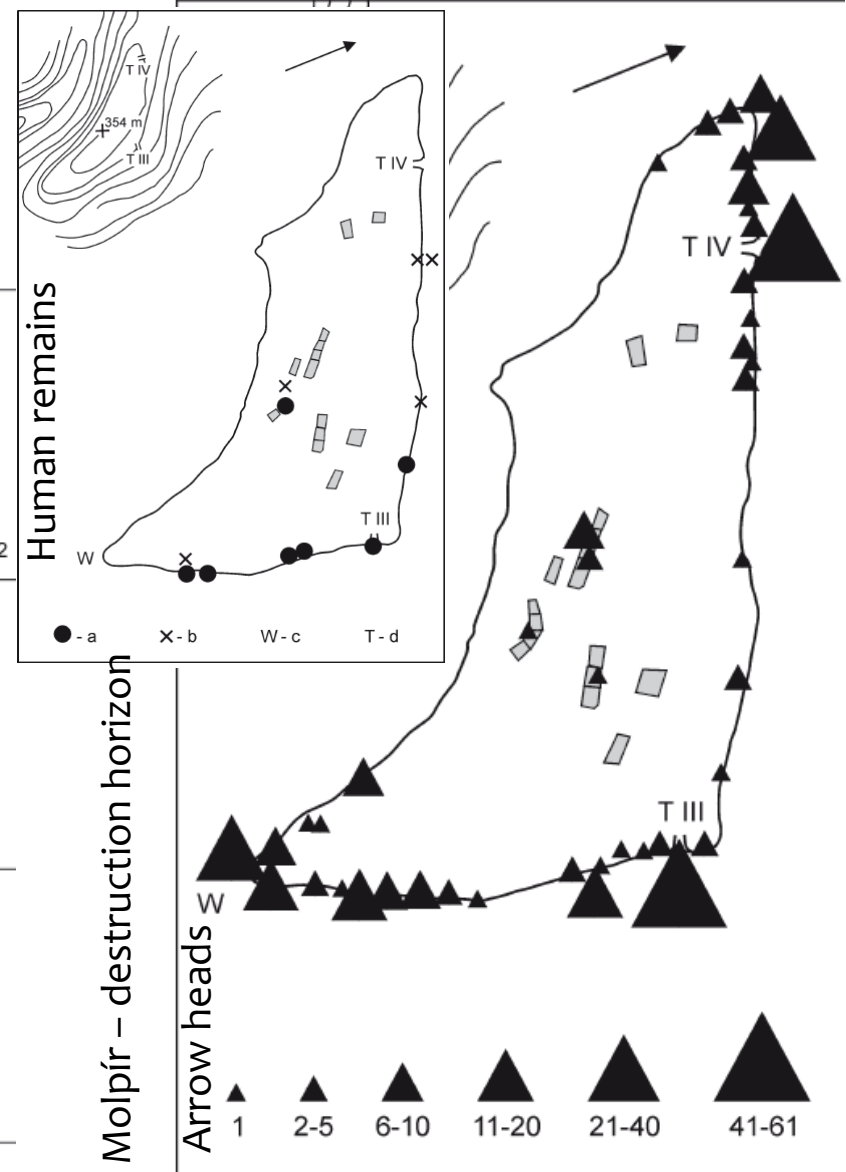
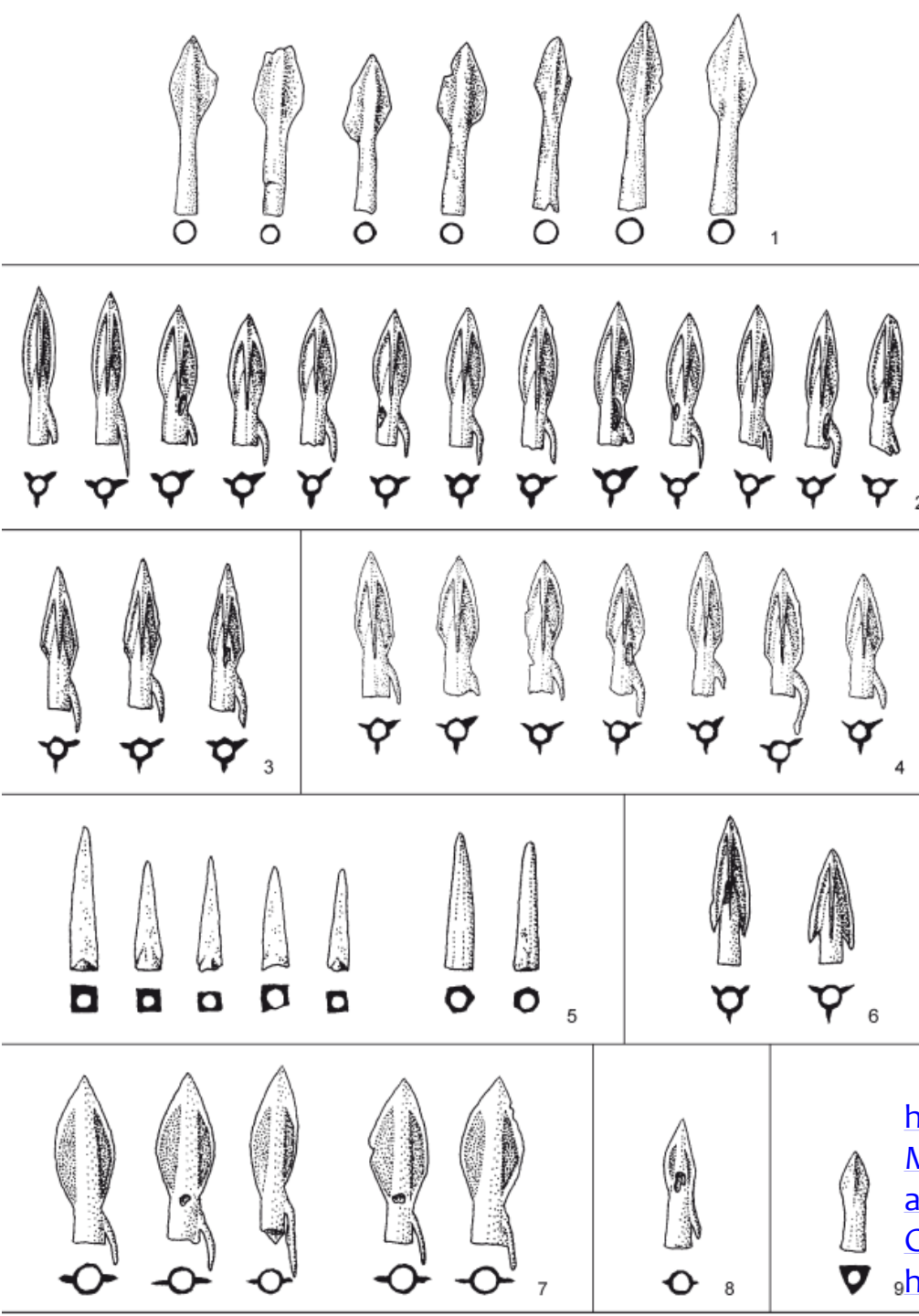
(but the destruction of Molpír dates to mid-VII century BC =>

70–100 years before establishment of Vekrezug culture in Carpathian basin

=> Scythian vanguard?

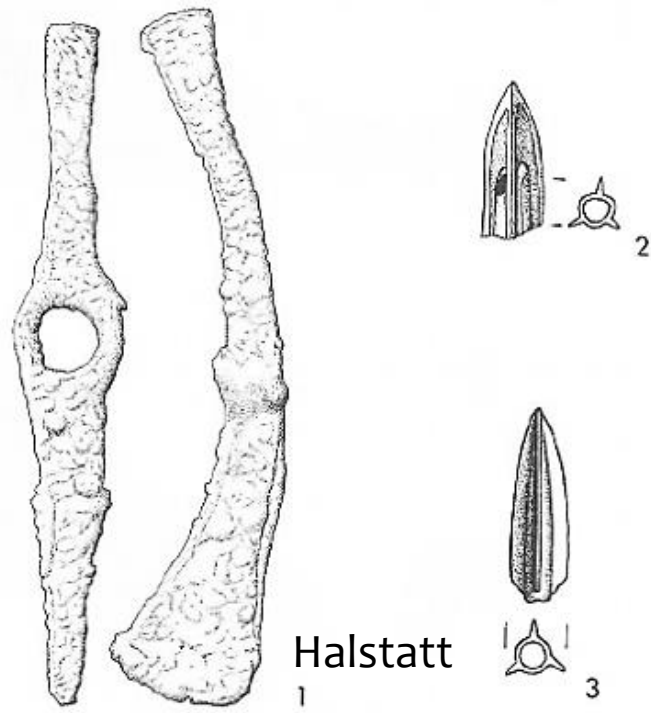
=> Late Cimmerians?

=> Or is everything more complicated than we imagine?



[https://www.academia.edu/6145896/Smolenice-Molpir\\_im\\_Licht\\_skythischer\\_Angriffe\\_auf\\_die\\_hallst\\_zeitlichen\\_Siedlungen\\_n%C3%B6rdlich\\_und\\_s%C3%BDlich\\_der\\_M%C3%A4hrischen\\_Pforte\\_Slovenska\\_Archaeologia\\_LIV-2\\_2006\\_191-208](https://www.academia.edu/6145896/Smolenice-Molpir_im_Licht_skythischer_Angriffe_auf_die_hallst_zeitlichen_Siedlungen_n%C3%B6rdlich_und_s%C3%BDlich_der_M%C3%A4hrischen_Pforte_Slovenska_Archaeologia_LIV-2_2006_191-208)

Vekerzug  
axe-heads



Halstatt  
1

Molpír

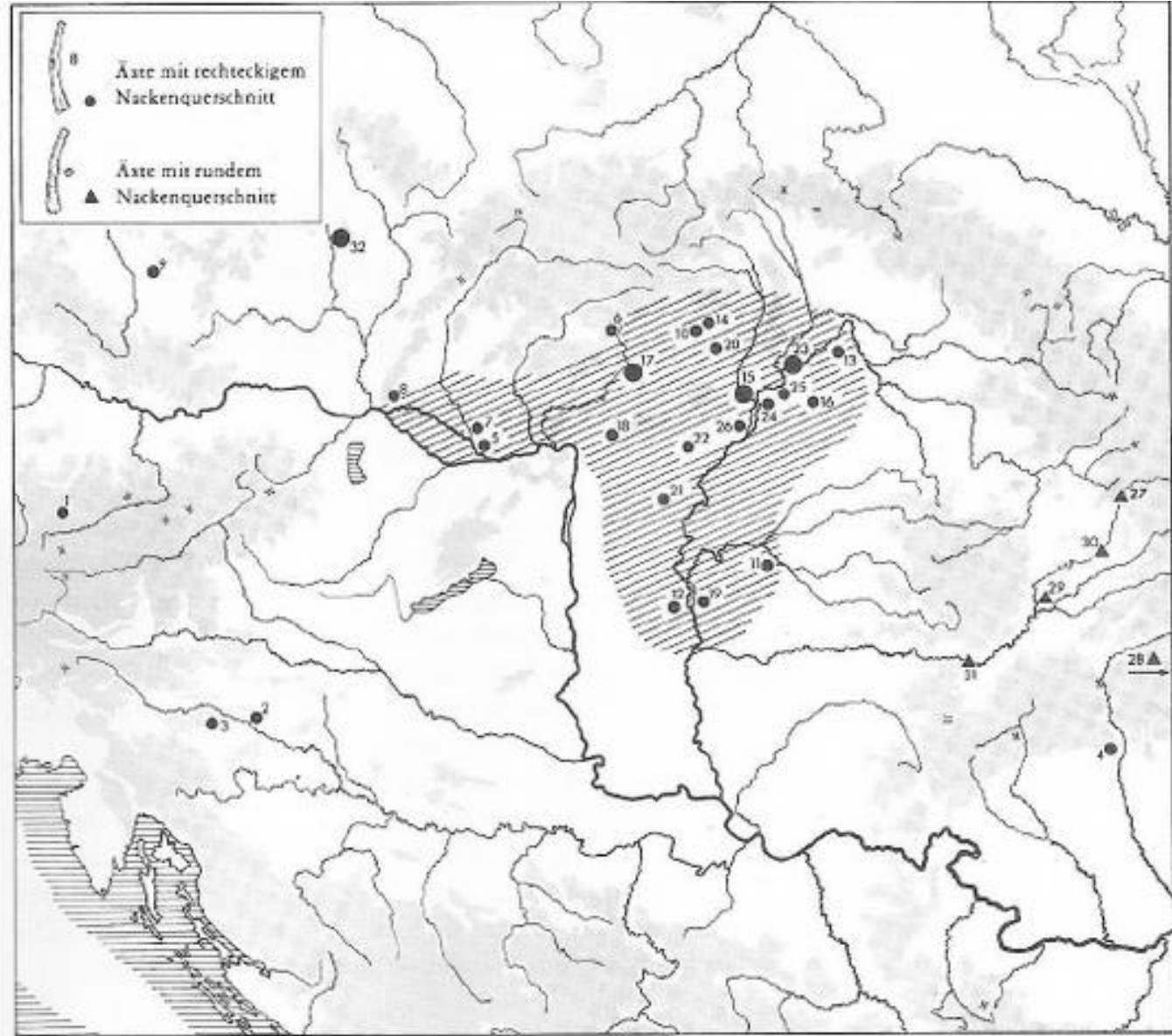
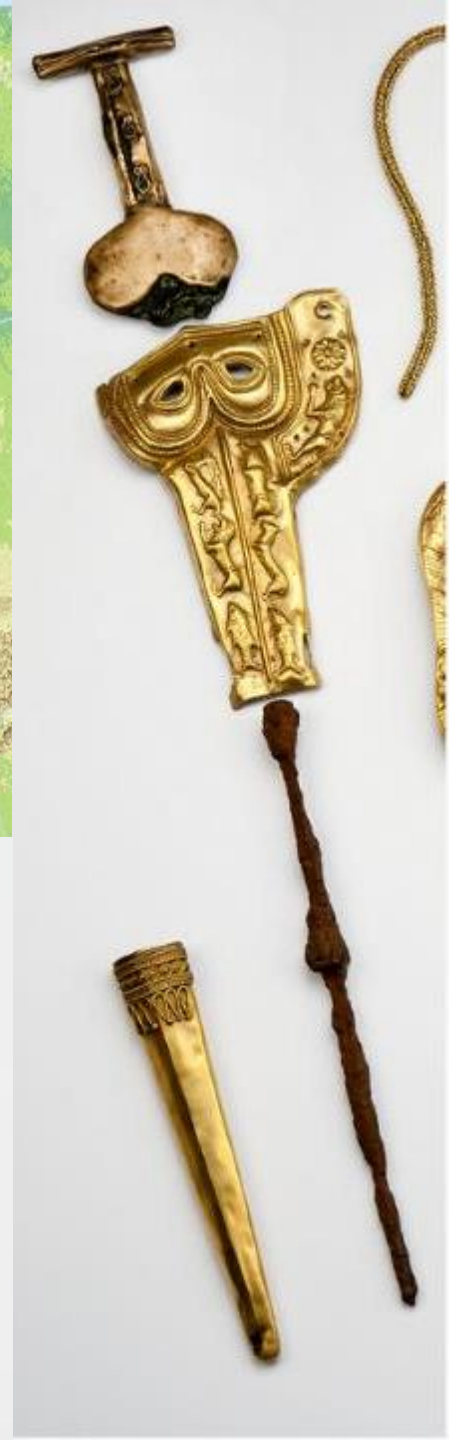


Abb. 5 Verbreitungskarte der Streitäxte vom Typus I Variante 1; der schraffierte Bereich bezeichnet das Verbreitungsgebiet der Vekerzug-Gruppe (die größeren Punkte bedeuten mehr als ein Exemplar): 1 Hallstatt — 2 Libna — 3 Volčje njive — 4 Fezigile — 5 Chotín — 6 Malé Zlievce — 7 Nové Zámky — 8 Senec — 9 Skalica — 10 Alsótelekes — 11 Békéscsaba — 12 Csanytelek — 13 Gégény — 14 Meszes — 15 Muhi — 16 Nyiregyháza — 17 Piliny — 18 Szanda — 19 Szentes-Vekerzug — 20 Szirmabesenyő — 21 Tápiószecske — 22 Tarnaörs — 23 Tiszabercel — 24 Tiszadob — 25 Tiszacsizár — 26 Tiszakeszi — 27 Báta — 28 Bírbesti — 29 Ciumbud — 30 Cristești — 31 Deva-Soimus — 32 Býčí skála.

## Vettersfelde – Witaszkowo

A hoard of golden objects  
decorated in Ionian style  
(characteristic of western Anatolia  
in mid-VI BC)

- a series of sew-on plates
- Scythian type sword (*akinakes*) in  
a scabbard
- golden fish (???)





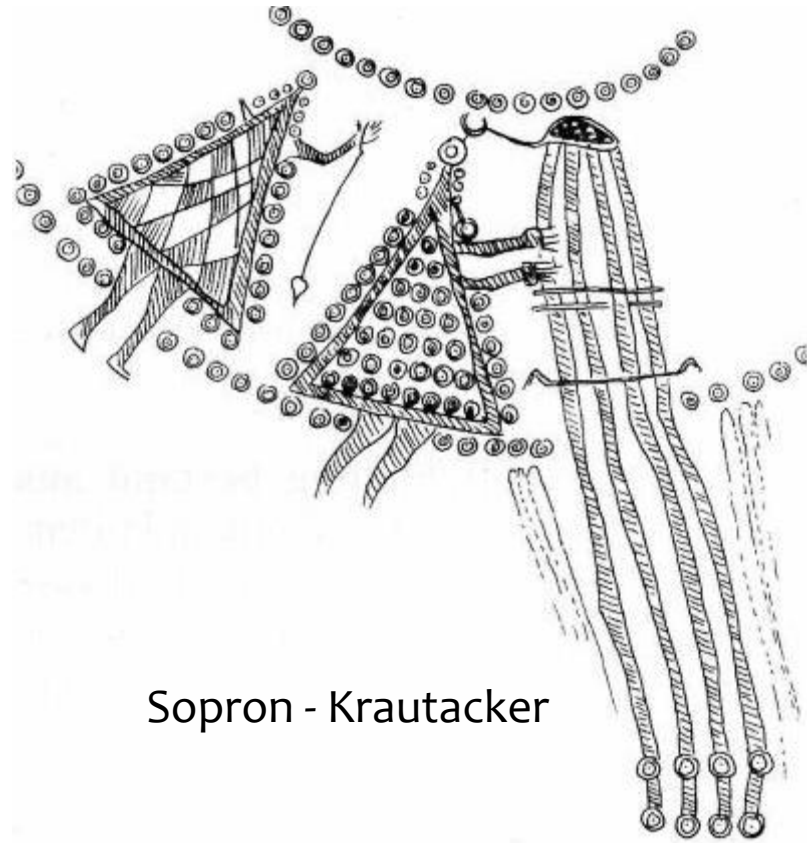




Bologna – tomba degli ori

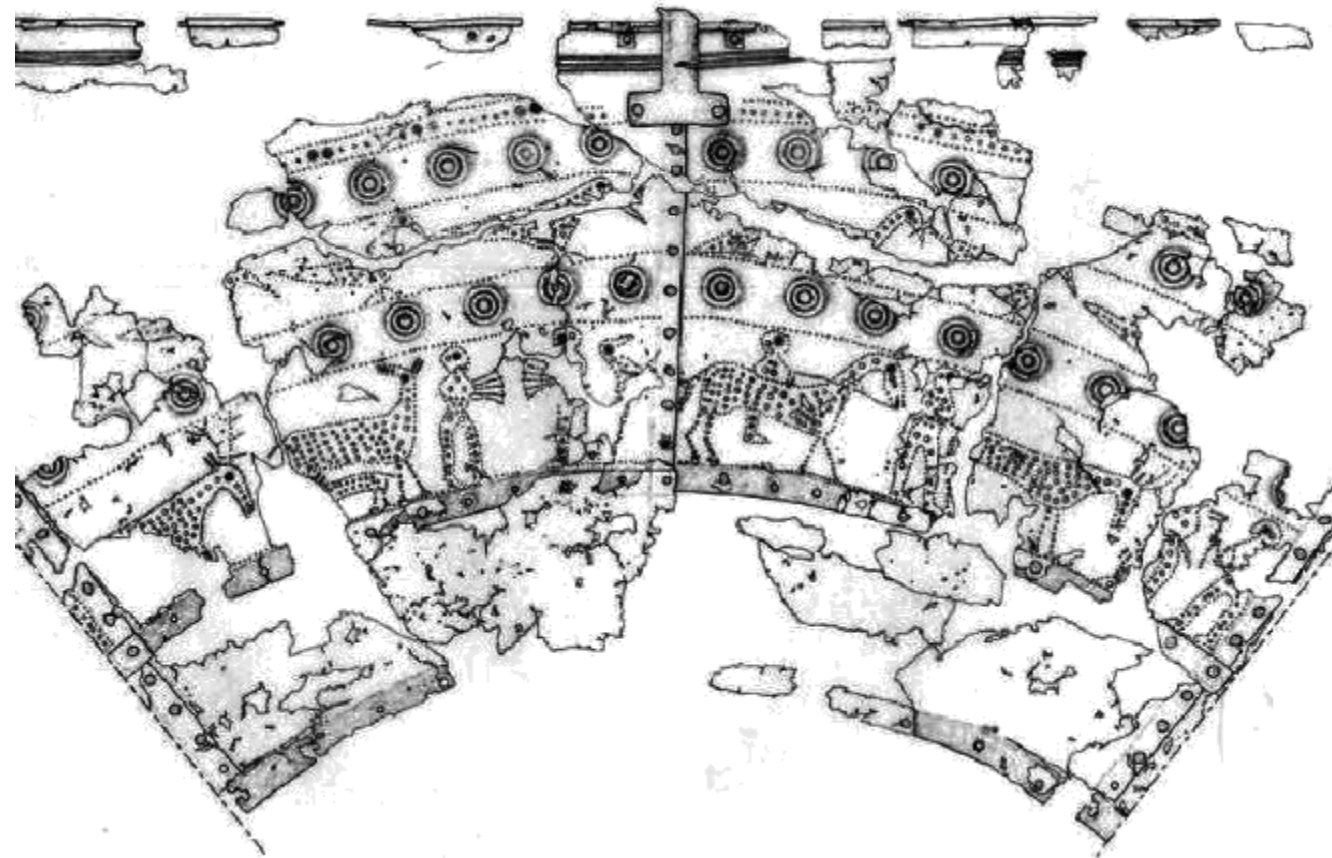
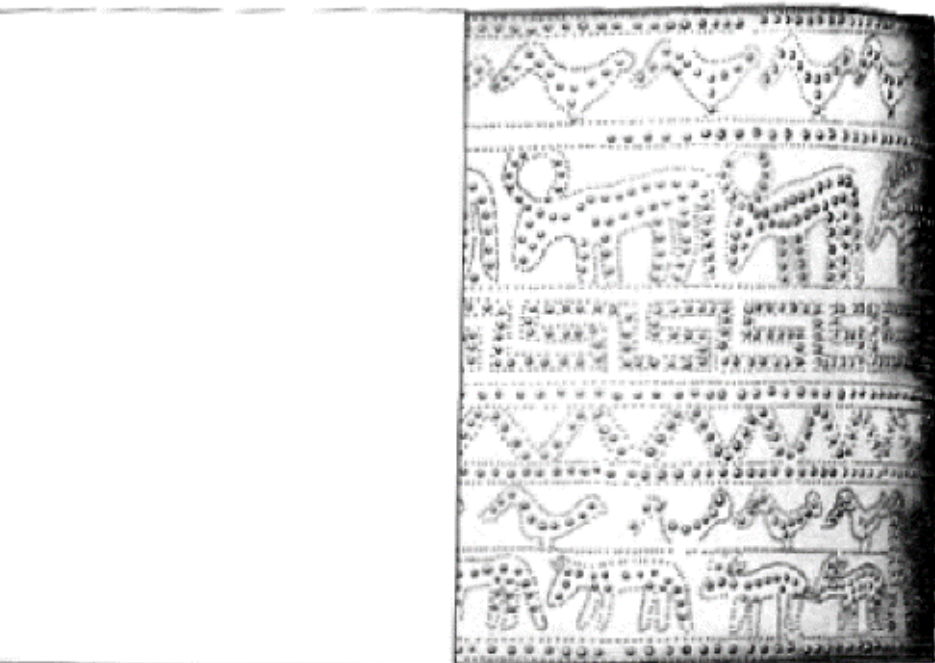
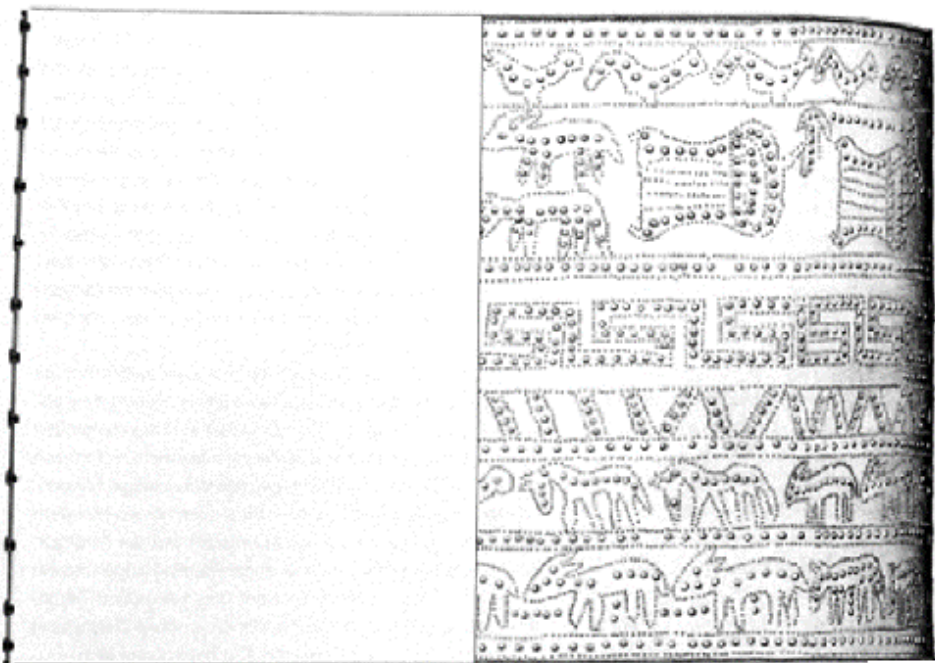
Points of contact between Italy  
and East Hallstatt area

Iconography and elite ideology



Sopron - Krautacker





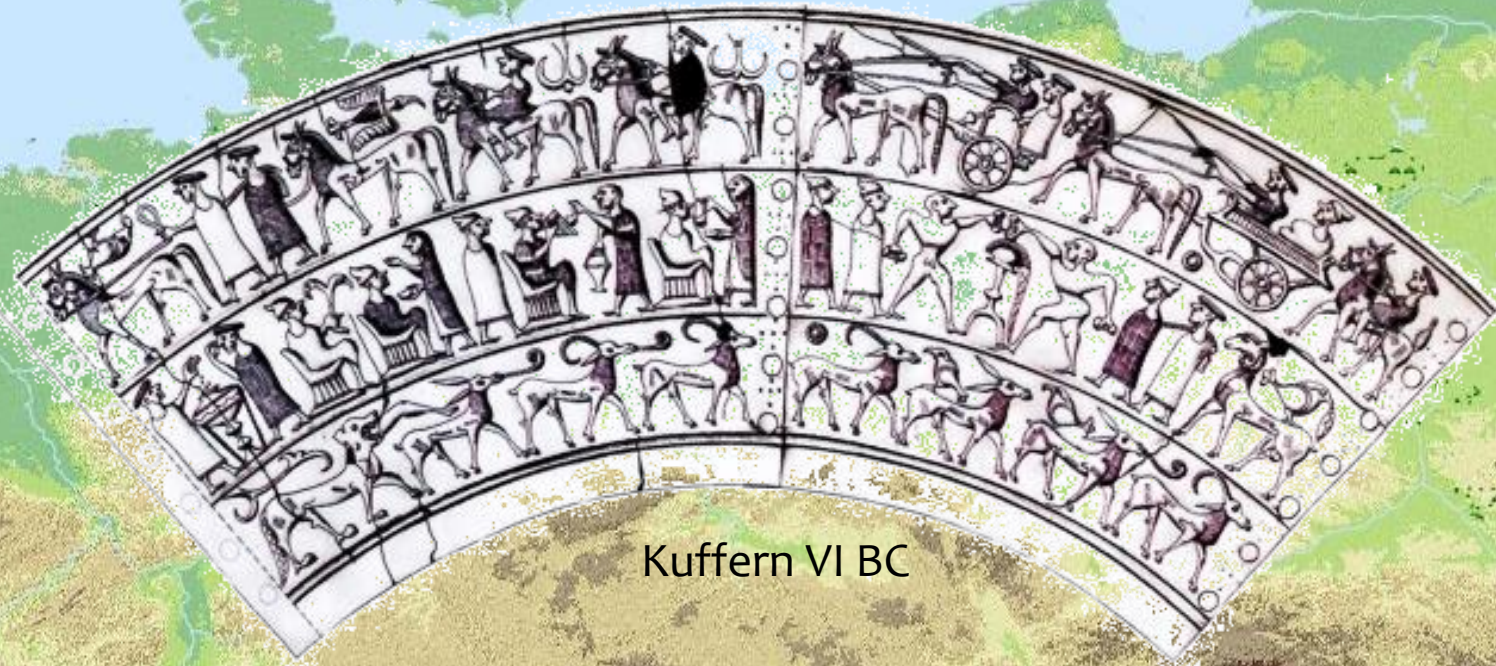
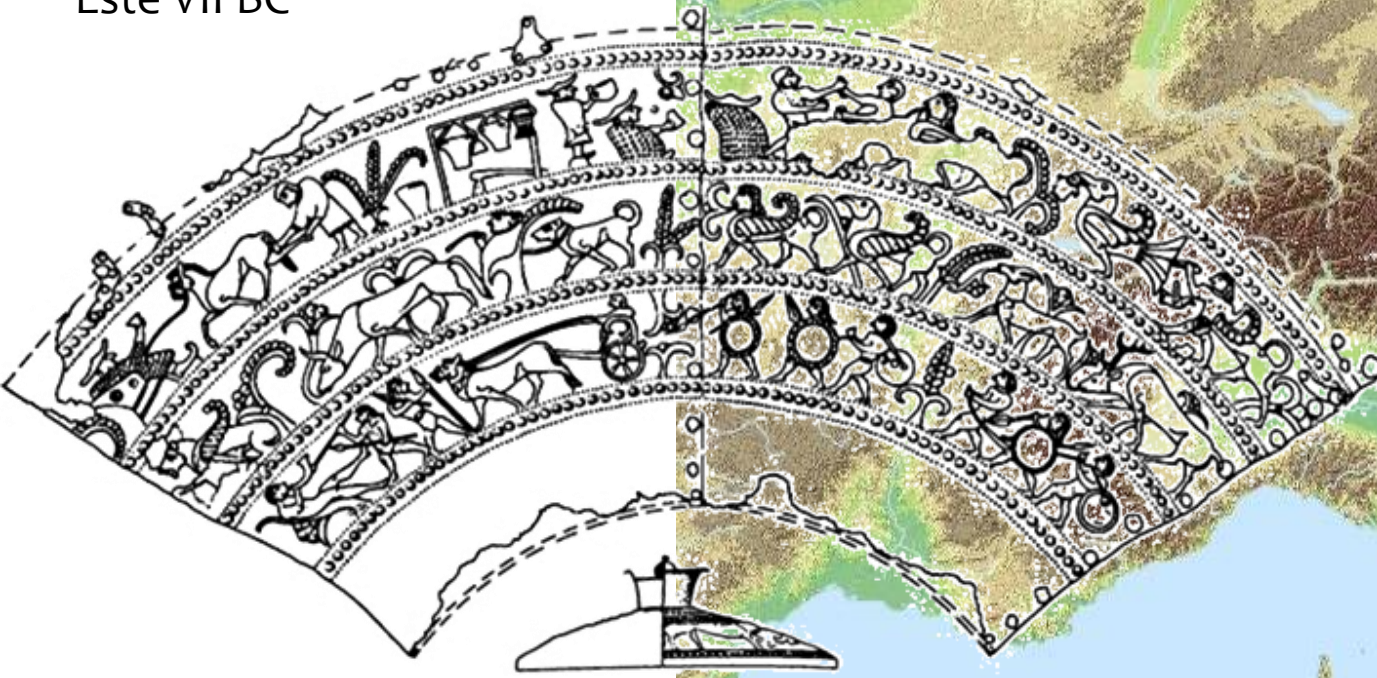
← A variation on situla art from Kleinklein

Not entirely unlike some ,would-be-situla' art from Golasecca

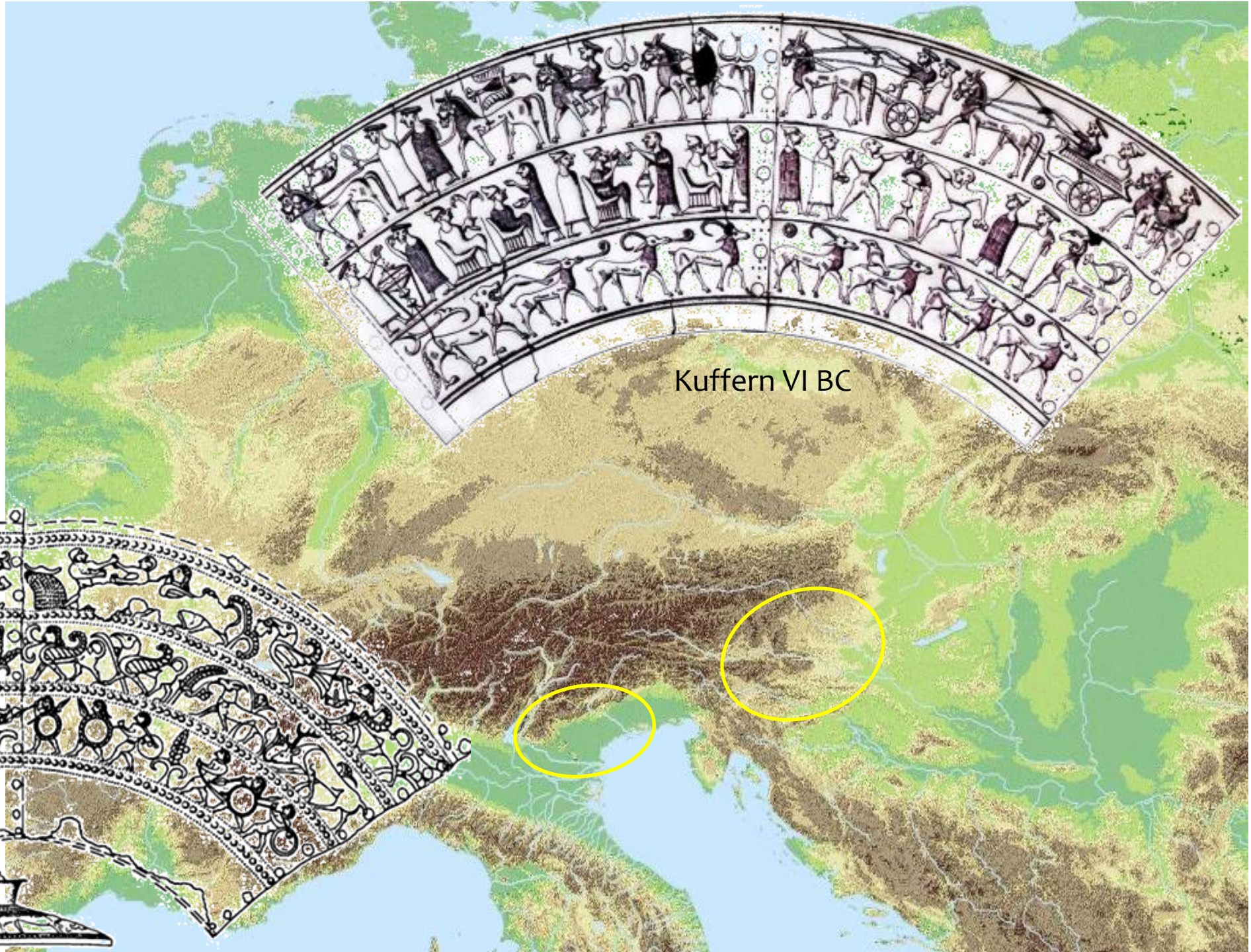
In the VI BC situla art production shifts from Este to east Alpine area

The style and iconography remain largely identical

Este VII BC



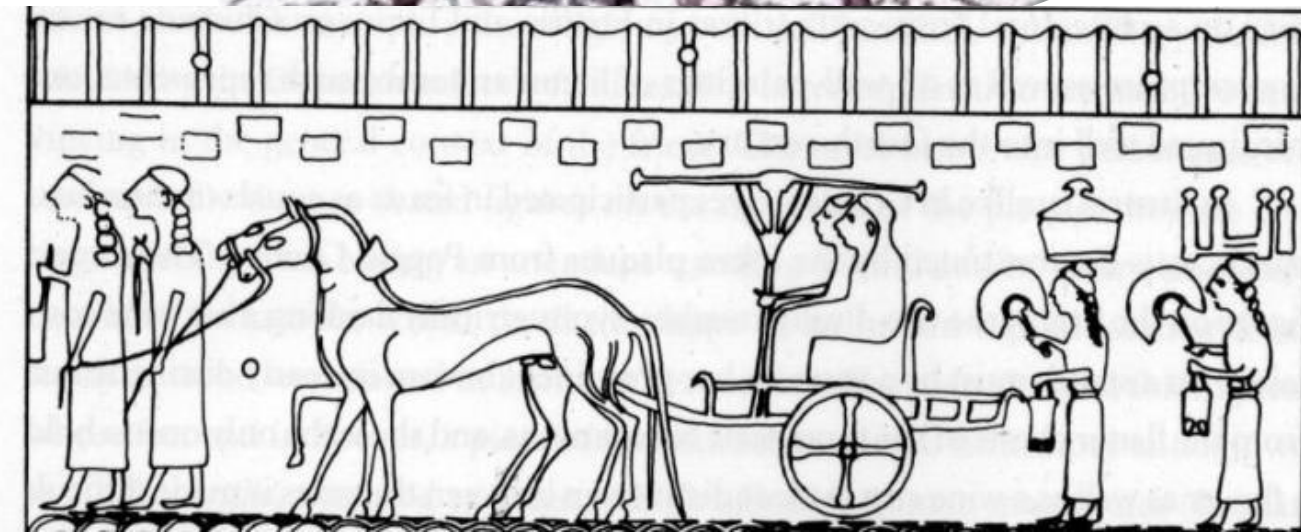
Kuffern VI BC



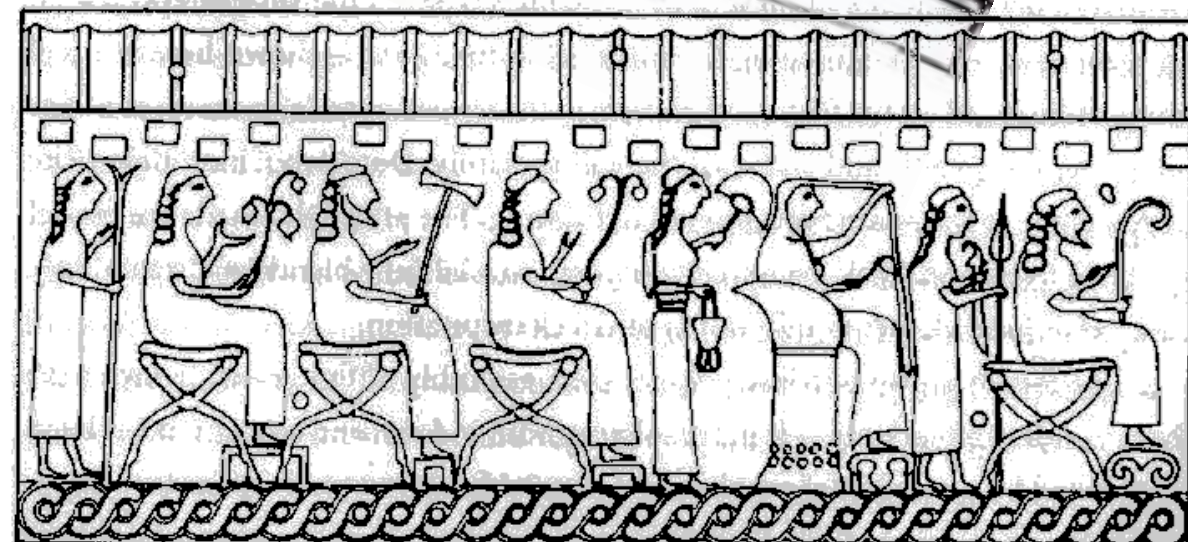
Kuffern



Murlo



Parading on chariots



Assemblies or baquets



-from Tuscany through Veneto to Eastern Alps the activities any ways through which elite represents themselves are identical

-shared values or only shared iconography?



Sporting events with prestigious prizes