

Szeghalom-Dió-Ér: Middle Neolithic Artifacts from a Trans-Tisza Region site, Eastern Hungary (ALP-Szakálhát-Vinča)

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Abstract:

The author delineates the features and artifacts of the excavation of the details of a Late Neolithic settlement carried out in 1971 in the northern part of County Békés in Eastern Hungary, at the site named Szeghalom-Dió-ér. In the absence of ¹⁴C data, dating of the assemblages was performed in the traditional typochronologic way, by stylistic analyses of the ceramic assemblages. These have been sorted into the III-IVa period of the Alföld Linear Pottery (ALP), with a closer definition, classified as late Szakálhát and Szarvas-Érpart types. The article discusses the relationships of a previously unknown motif of ALP pottery, the spiny or blunt ending limb pattern. The qualification of the detail of the Neolithic settlement has remained open, however. One alternative is that the small community was involved in the establishment of a nearby tell-site of Szeghalom-Kovácsalom. Another is that the existence of the hamlet could be contemporaneous with the latter, and it may have been one of the seasonal farmsteads within a 5–6 km radius of its economic operation.

Keywords: *Middle Neolithic, Szeghalom-Dió-ér archaeological site, Szakálhát pottery, Alföld Linear Pottery (ALP), Hungarian Archaeological Topography*