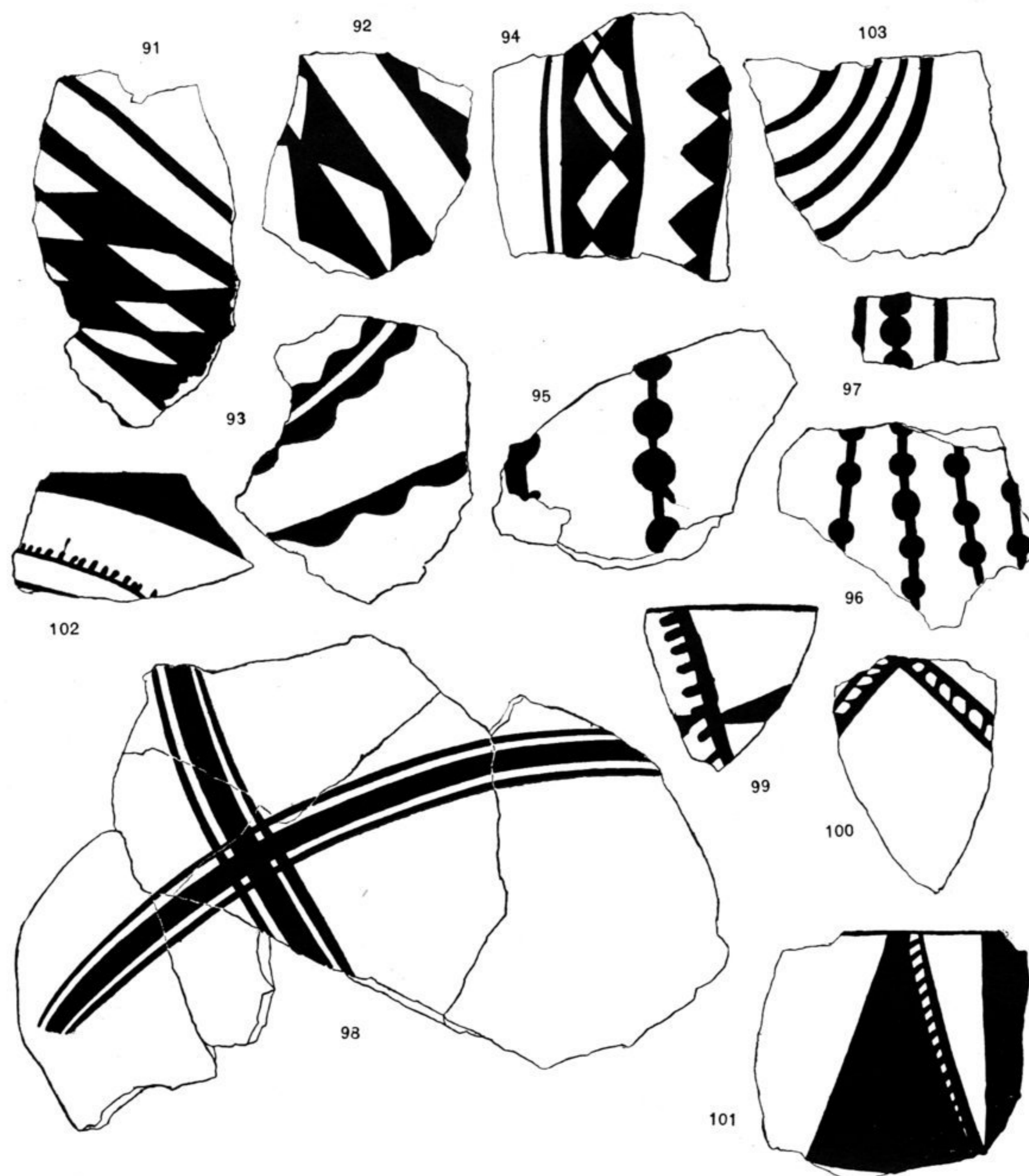


might very easily have gotten by accident into the middle layers. Taken as a whole, group *c* belongs decidedly to the lower and lowest strata of the northern kurgan.

*Technique.*—The fragments of group *c* were so characteristic and deviated so widely in their technique from those of group *a*, that upon their first appearance they were at once regarded as something special. Their clay is especially well



washed, almost always light-brown, having very rarely reddish shade, and very firm and hard-burnt. Traces of the potters' wheel were not observed, and as hand-work the vessels are excellent achievements. On the surface there is a very thin, fine, light-brown or light reddish-brown color-slip. A noticeable fact is the absence of all polish, the surface remaining dull and mat (see plate 22).