Up and down. From Inner Curvature to Northern Wallachia and back during the 5th millennium BC*

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Abstract*: The rescue research carried out within the site Olteni - Sand Quarry (Site B), between 2005-2012, highlighted the existence of a settlement with dwelling features belonging to the cultures of Linear Pottery, Boian-Giuleşti and Precucuteni, phase I. In this study we present the anthropomorphic figurines attributed to the early Eneolithic discovered in this site, while discussing also the archaeological and chronological contexts from which they originate*

Keywords*: Neolithic, Eneolithic, Linearbandkeramik, Boian - Giuleşti, Precucuteni, anthropomorphic figurines.*

Introduction

The turning point between the 6th and 5th millennia, which corresponds to the end of the Neolithic and the beginning of the Eneolithic, represents a period in which numerous contacts and cultural interpenetrations take place, especially on the outside of the Carpathians, crossing the mountain range towards west.

Northeastern Muntenia and southeastern Transylvania were an area of contact, and perhaps even of mixture, for various population groups, some coming from the south, others from the north or northeast or from the west. These contacts are observed especially in the shapes and ornamentation of ceramic vessels or anthropomorphic figurines. This last category of artefacts is the subject of this note. The entire lot comes from the settlement of Olteni (Covasna County) and is in the patrimony of the National Museum of the Eastern Carpathians (MNCR).

General data about the Neo-Eneolithic settlement in Olteni

Olteni village belongs to Bodoc commune, Covasna County, and is located 10 km north of Sfântu Gheorghe town, on both sides of DN 12 (National Road No. 12), connecting Brașov and Miercurea Ciuc.

The archeological site from Olteni "*Cariera de nisip*" ("Sand quarry") is located in the southern part of the village, on a high non-floodable terrace of the Olt river. Archaeological remains were discovered during preventive excavations started by the National Museum of the Eastern Carpathians in 2001. Due to the fact that research was carried out in two sectors, they were conventionally named **Site**

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A - preventive archaeological research 2001 - 2005[1] and **Site B** - preventive archaeological research 2005 - 2012[2] (Figure 1.1).

Olteni - Site A, a sector in which a surface of about 15,000 sqm was preventively researched, revealing 410 features from the *Neolithic*, the *Bronze Age*, the *early Dacian period* and the *post-Roman* period.

Olteni - Site B, in this sector a surface of 30,000 sqm was preventively researched, discovering 50 features from the *Neolithic*, the *Bronze Age* and the *early Dacian period*.

The high terraces on both banks of the Olt were preferred for establishing settlements from prehistoric times to the present day. The land offers optimal conditions for agriculture and animal husbandry. An advantage of the area is the fact that near the settlements, besides the mineral water springs, there is a *spring with slightly salty mineral water*. Salty water could provide the minimum necessary for raising domestic animals, but also for domestic consumption.

The presence of the spring with salty mineral water from Olteni also explains the density of the archeological objectives on a relatively small surface. In the vicinity of this spring there are 8 archeological sites known at present, each of them with vestiges from several periods: **1.** Olteni Sud "*Cariera de Nisip*" - Site A (*Bronze Age*, *Second Iron Age*, *Post-Roman period*) ; **2.** Olteni Sud "*Cariera de Nisip*" - Site B (*Neo-Eneolithic*, *necropolis from the second Iron Age*); **3.** În Dosul Cetăţii - "Vármege" Settlement (*Eneolithic*, *Cucuteni-Ariuşd-Trypillia culture*); **4.** "Cetatea Fetii" - "Leánykavár" settlement (*Eneolithic*, *Cucuteni-Ariuşd-Trypillia culture*); **5.** The Roman fort from Olteni (*Roman period*); **6.** Olteni Nord "Carieră"

[1] D. Buzea, *Şantierul arheologic de salvare Olteni - „Cariera de nisip", în anul 2000*, in *Angustia*, 7 2002, 183-226; idem, *Descoperirile arheologice de la Olteni, jud. Covasna*, in *Corviniana*, X (2006), 67-122 2006, 67-122; V. Cavruc, D. Buzea. *Vestigiile dacice timpurii de la Olteni. Raport preliminar*, in *Angustia*, 9 (2005), 121-154; D. Buzea, R. Zăgreanu, *Posztrómai település Oltszem – Homokbánya lelőhelyen (Kovászna megye). Locuirea post-romană de la Olteni "Cariera de nisip", jud. Covasna. Consideraţii preliminare. The Post – Roman habitation from Olteni, "The sand quarry", Covasna Country. Preliminary report*, in *Molnár István Muzeum Kiadványai 3. ErdélY és Kapcsolatai a Kora Népvándorlás Korában / Publicaţiile Muzeului Molnár István 3. Transilvania şi relaţiile ei în Epoca Migraţiilor Timpurii*, (2011) Székelykeresztúr / Cristurul Secuiesc, 39-61.

[2] V. Sîrbu, V. Cavruc, D. Buzea, *A 4th-3rd centuries BC Dacian community in Southeastern Transilvanya: the findings from Olteni, Covasna County*, in V. Sîrbu and D. L. Vaida (eds.), *Thracians and Celts. Proceedings of the International Colloquium from Bistriţa "Thracians and Celts"* (Cluj-Napoca, Ed. Mega, 2006), 229-251; V. Sîrbu, V. Cavruc, D. Buzea, *A Dacian Necropolis from 4th - 3rd centuries B.C., found in Olteni (South-Eastern Transylvania)*, in V. Sîrbu and D. L. Vaida (eds.), *Funerary Practices of the Bronze and Iron Ages in Central and South-Eastern Europe. Proceedings of the International Colloquium „Funerary Practices of the Bronze and Iron Ages in Central and South-Eastern Europe"* (Cluj-Napoca, Ed. Mega, 2008), 109-148; D. Buzea, A. Mateş, *Modele miniaturale de altare descoperite la Olteni -„Cariera de nisip", Situl B, jud. Covasna*, in *Angustia*, 12 (2008), 41-56.

(*Post-Roman period*); **7.** Olteni Est "Canton C.F.R" (*the second Iron Age*); **8.** Heretz Fortress (*medieval period*)[3] (Figure 1.2).

Catalogue of the figurines

The artifacts we will discuss in the following lines fall into the category of anthropomorphic figurines. According to the data from the excavations, they come from contexts belonging to the first half of the 5th millennium BC (Boian - *Giuleşti* or Precucuteni I). From a morphological point of view, some of them seem to find analogies in other cultural environments. On this chronological and cultural level, the discoveries that can be included in the category of anthropomorphic artifacts are few, this observation being also valid for the Boian culture - *Giuleşti* phase[4] and Precucuteni, phase I[5]. The paucity of materials to which one can relate and compare is an impediment in our approach. This situation may be caused by the lack of new research in similar sites, but it may also be an archaeological reality.

We are aware that the paucity of discoveries of this type, both in the settlement of Olteni and in the cultural environments mentioned, can lead to an erroneous conclusion, but we consider their presentation is necessary, this approach being also a step towards better understanding the Neo-Eneolithic habitation of this site.

1. Anthropomorphic figurine (Figure 2.1)

House 1; c. B/ 5; - 0.55 m

It probably represents a female character in an upright position. The item is well smoothed, has a brown engobe (mostly fallen), oxidizing burning, brown on the outside and dark gray in section. The pelvic area and partially the legs are preserved.

Preserved dimensions: height - 52 mm; width - 38 mm.

2. Anthropomorphic figurine (Figure 2.2)

House 1; c. B/ 4; - 0.60 m

It represents a female character in an upright position. It was shaped from two or three pieces of clay, and then attached together, it is well smoothed, the burning is oxidizing, orange-brown engobe, the core of the item is gray.

The pelvis and legs have been preserved. The navel was rendered through a circular alveolus. The legs are shaped separately and then glued together. The soles are joined to the foot, which has a notch in the middle area. The groin area is

[3] D. Buzea, A. Deák (Chiricescu), *Cercetările etnoarheologice de la Olteni, jud. Covasna*, in D. Monah, Gh. Dumitroaia and D. Garvăn (eds.), *Sarea, de la prezent la trecut* (Piatra Neamţ, Ed. Constantin Matasă, 2008).

[4] M. Neagu, *Neoliticul mijlociu la Dunărea de Jos* (Călăraşi, 2003), 130.

[5] S. Marinescu-Bîlcu, *Cultura Precucuteni pe teritoriul României* (Bucureşti, Ed. Academiei R.S.R, 1974), 89.

highlighted by two incised, arched lines, which start from the hip area and join in the sole area.

Preserved dimensions: height - 55 mm; width - 38 mm.

3. Anthropomorphic figurine (Figure 3.1)

House 1; c. C/ 4; - 0.60 m

It represents a female character modeled in an upright position. It was modeled from two or three pieces of clay then glued together, well smoothed, burned oxidizing, covered with orange-brown engobe.

The legs and part of the pelvis have been preserved. The legs are shaped separately and then glued together. The soles are joined with the flat foot. The groin area is highlighted by two incised, oblique lines that start from the hip area and join under the pelvis.

Preserved dimensions: height - 33 mm; width - 30 mm.

4. Anthropomorphic figurine (Figure 3.2)

c. L/ 9; - 0.60 m

It is a stylized rendering of a female character in sitting position. The artifact, modeled from clay, with fine sand and chaff mixed in the composition, is well smoothed, burnt oxidizing, orange color. The pelvis and thighs have been preserved. The hips and buttocks are oversized compared to natural features. The pelvis and legs are delimited by an incised line.

Preserved dimensions: height - 34 mm; width - 28 mm.

5. Anthropomorphic figurine (Figure 4.1)

Ditch 3; c. K/ 9; - 0.85 m

It represents a female character modeled in an upright position. Made of clay with fine sand in the composition. The figurine is well smoothed, burnt oxidizing, gray. The neck, torso and partially the pelvis have been preserved. The neck and body of the statuette have a cylindrical shape. The arms are represented by two small conical protrusions. On the body, on the same line with the arms, the breasts are shaped. The pelvis has a rhombic shape.

Preserved dimensions: height - 61 mm; width - 33 mm.

6. Anthropomorphic figurine (Figure 4.2)

Ditch 3; c. L/ 9; - 0.85 m

A character is rendered in an upright position. It was modeled from clay with fine sand, crushed shards and chaff in the composition. The item is smoothed, oxidizing burning, orange color with gray spots and engobe fallen from almost the entire surface. The body is flattened, has a trapezoidal shape and rounded edges. The figurine can be classified as “en violon” type.

Preserved dimensions: height - 45 mm; width - 34 mm.

7. Anthropomorphic figurine (Figure 5.1)

Ditch 2; c. I/ 10; - 1.0 m

It represents a female character rendered in an upright position. It was modeled from clay with fine sand and pebbles in the composition. It is well smoothed, burnt oxidizing, it has a brown color with shades of gray. The legs, torso and left arm are preserved. The legs are short compared to the body, they are connected and end in a joint, flat sole. The hips are strongly flattened and slightly pulled back. The buttocks are placed below the normal position of the body and are shaped separately and have been delimited by a vertical incised line, which extends to the soles of the feet. The body of the statuette is short, flattened, oval in section. The neck has a circular section. The navel is rendered through a circular poke.

Preserved dimensions: height - 52 mm; width - 36 mm.

8. Anthropomorphic figurine (Figure 5.2)

House 20; c. UU / 5' – 0.70 m

The legs of a figurine modeled in an upright position are preserved. It was made of clay mixed with fine sand, chaff and pebbles. The artifact was well smoothed, burnt oxidizing and covered with an orange-brown engobe. The breaks are gray. The legs are shaped separately and then joined together. The soles are joined with the flat foot.

Preserved dimensions: height - 41 mm; width - 38 mm.

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The artifacts described under numbers 1, 2 and 3 come from a deepened, oval-shaped house, measuring 12 x 6.5 - 8 m. For phase I of the Precucuteni culture, only surface dwellings are documented, such features being researched at Eresteghin[6], Traian - *Dealul Viei*[7] and Baia[8]. The deepened dwellings seem to be characteristic of the *Giuleşti* phase of the Boian culture, but there are also surface dwellings[9]. The fragments of vessels with which these figurines are associated are Precucuteni I, having analogies at Traian - *Dealul Viei* (Figure 6.1-2). The way of making the figurines and the paste from which they were modeled differs from what is known about this stage, but these differences may be the consequence of a longer evolution and the constant reception of external influences.

The figurine from number 4, which is also associated with Precucuteni I ceramics, seems closer to the phase II figurines.

The anthropomorphic representation number 5 is different from the others both by the quality of the paste and by the manner of rendering. The long neck and

[6] Z. Székely, *Contribuţie la studiul culturii Precucuteni în valea Oltului,* in *Culegere de studii şi cercetări*, I (1967), 76.

[7] Marinescu-Bîlcu, op.cit, 25-28.

[8] B.-P. Niculică, C.-E. Ursu, *Baia, com. Baia, jud. Suceava. Punct: În Muchie*, inn *Cronica Cercetărilor Arheologice din România. Campania* 2013 (2014), 219-223.

[9] C.-E. Ștefan, *Unele observaţii privind habitatul fazei Giuleşti a culturii Boian*, in *Studii şi Cercetări de Istorie Veche şi Arheologie*, 61/1-2 (2010), 12, fig. 3.

rhomboidal body bring it closer to the Neolithic plastic from the south of the Danube, maybe Karanovo III[10], which would place it in the level attributed to the Linear Pottery culture. This presence would indicate the existence of some connections, direct or indirect (through the Dudeşti communities), between the Linear Pottery communities from the south-east of Transylvania with those from the south of the Danube.

The other figurines (6 - 8), even if they do not belong to the known typology, based on the associations with the fragments of vessels, we attribute them to the same early phase of the Precucuteni culture.

The cultural context

As previously mentioned, in the Olteni site were identified traces of habitation attributed to the Linear Pottery culture, Boian - *Giuleşti* and Precucuteni, phase I. Southeastern Transylvania is so far the only area where all three cultures are found together (Figures 7 - 9). If the first two cultures contribute to the emergence of the latter, it is natural that there is a chronological gap between them.

Boian culture

Over time, there have been several theories about the origin of these communities. All identify the formation area south of the Carpathians. One of the theories proposes as an area of formation the northeastern area of Muntenia, based on the *Sudiţi cultural aspect*, the latter being the result of contacts between the Linear Pottery culture and Dudeşti[11]. The discovery of Sudiţi-type elements in southeastern Transylvania leads Z. Székely to include this zone in the formation area[12]. The idea was abandoned, not supported by consistent archaeological discoveries. Two other theories identify the area of origin of the Boian culture in southern Muntenia, against the background of the evolution and transformation of the Dudeşti culture[13], or south of the Danube, from where it migrates north[14]. By

[10] H. Todorova, I. Vaisov, *Novo kamennata epokha v Bŭlgariya* (Sofia, Nauka i Izkustvo, 1993), 198-199; K. Bacvarov, *Keramichni antropomorfni figuri i miniatyurni predmeti*, in K. Bacvarov, M. Tonkova and G. Katsarov (eds.), *Sŭrnevo Vkopani strukturi ot kŭsniya neolit, rannata i kŭsnata zhelyazna epokha i rimskiya period Tom 1. Kŭsnoneolitnoto yamno pole*, 2017, Sofia (2017), 312, Fig. 7.1.

[11] Gh. Cantacuzino, S. Morintz, *Die jungsteinzeitlichen Funde in Cernica (Bukarest)*, in *Dacia N.S.*, VII, 1963, 50; V. Teodorescu, *Date preliminare privind cultura cu ceramică liniară din teritoriul de la sud de Carpaţi al României*, in *Studii şi Cercetări de Istorie Veche*, 17/2 1966; N. Ursulescu, *La civilisation de la céramique rebanée dans les regions orientales de la Roumanie*, in V. Chirica, D. Monah (eds.), *Le Paléolithique et le Néolithique de la Roumanie en contexte Européen* (Iaşi, Bibliotheca Archaeologica Iassiensis, 1991), 199-202.

[12] Z. Székely, *Contribuţie la studiul culturii Precucuteni în valea Oltului*, in *Culegere de studii şi cercetări*, I (1967), 82.

[13] E. Comșa, *Consideraţii cu privire la evoluţia culturii Boian*, In *Studii şi Cercetări de Istorie Veche*, V/3-4, 1954, 363 ; Idem, E. Comşa, *Istoria comunităţilor culturii Boian* (Bucureşti, Ed. Academiei R.S.R, 1974), 226.

accepting any of these theories, we deduce that these communities enter the southeast of Transylvania from the northeast of Muntenia, bringing with them the entire informational baggage (Figure 8).

Precucuteni culture

Viewed as a result of the contacts between the Linear Pottery culture and Boian - *Giuleşti*, these communities occupy especially the area east of the Carpathians, in certain phases of evolution exceeding these limits. The settlements attributed to the first phase (Precucuteni I) are found especially in the southeast of Transylvania, but also in the western half of Moldova (Figure 9). During phase II these communities occupy the territory of Moldova[15] descending along the Subcarpathians and in the northeast of Muntenia[16], however, inside the Carpathian arc the communities with material features specific to the first phase continue their evolution, this fact being confirmed by some anthropomorphic figurines (figurine no. 4), but also by a radiocarbon dating made for this site.

The chronological frame

For the Linear Pottery culture in the space east of the Carpathians, the chronological interval 5300 - 5100 CAL BC is proposed, based on two radiocarbon data from the settlement of Târpeşti[17]. Radiocarbon data from LBK settlements[18] indicate a chronological interval contemporary to the end of the Dudeşti culture and the Vădastra culture, approximately between 5200-5000 cal BC[19]. The parallelism with Vădastra implicitly presupposes a relationship of contemporaneity

[14] M. Neagu, *Comunităţile Bolintineanu în Câmpia Dunării*, in *Istros*, VIII, 1997, 14-15; Idem, *Neoliticul mijlociu la Dunărea de Jos*, (Călăraşi, 2003); S. Pandrea, *Observaţii referitoare la evoluţia culturii Boian în nord-estul Câmpiei Române*, in *Istros*, IX (1999), 18-21.

[15] Marinescu-Bâlcu, op. cit., Fig. 1;

[16] E. Comşa, *O aşezare Precucuteni în nord-estul Munteniei*. In *Studii şi Cercetări de Istorie Veche şi Arheologie*, 38/2 (1987); D. Garvăn, R. Munteanu, C. Dinu, A. Frînculeasa, C. Haită, *Gherăseni, com. Gherăseni, jud. Buzău. Punct: Movila Cremenea*, in *Cronica Cercetărilor Arheologice din România. Campania 2017* (2018); D. Garvăn, R. Munteanu, C. Dinu, A. Frînculeasa, V. Dumitraşcu, *Lipia, com. Merei, jud. Buzău. Punct: Movila Drumul Oilor*. In *Cronica Cercetărilor Arheologice din România. Campania 2018*, 2019; D. Garvăn, C. Dinu, *Un sit Precucuteni în Câmpia Râmnicului*, in *Cercetări Istorice* S.N., XXXIX (2020).

[17] C. M. Lazarovici, Gh. Lazarovici, *Arhitectura neoliticului şi epocii cuprului din România. I. Neoliticul*, (Iaşi, Ed. Trinitas, 2006), 461.

[18] M. Nowak, M. Moskal-Del Hoyo, A. Mueller-Bieniek, M. Lityńska-Zając, K. Kotynia, *Benefits and Weaknesses of Radiocarbon Dating of Plant Material ss Reflected by Neolithic Archaeological Sites from Poland, Slovakia and Hungary*, in *Geochronometria*, 44 (2017), Fig 6; D. Kiosak, *Kamyane-Zavallia, the Easternmost Linear Pottery Culture Settlement Ever Excavated*, in *Sprawozdania Archeologiczne*, 69 (2017), 258; Lazarovici, Lazarovici, op. cit, 461.

[19] P. Mirea, *Between everyday and ritual use – „small altars" or „cult tables" from Măgura-Buduiasca, Teleorman county (II): the developed neolithic finds*, in *Buletinul Muzeului Judeţean Teleorman*, 7 (2015), 45.

with the Bolintineanu phase of the Boian culture, fact proved by some associations of materials[20].

For the Dudeşti culture, the most relevant radiocarbon data remain those from Măgura, Teleorman County[21]. Attributed to an early stage of the culture, they are placed in a range between 5500-5300 cal BC[22].

The Linear Pottery culture and the *Giuleşti* phase of the Boian culture have a major contribution in the emergence of the Precucuteni culture, which shows a contemporaneity between the two. In the northeast of Muntenia, the *Giuleşti* phase has a longer evolution than on the Danube valley. For this period too the radiocarbon data are few. The data from the site from Isaccea (Tulcea County) indicate the interval 4900-4800 cal BC[23], and the one from Ciulniţa is placed in the interval 4730 - 4540 cal BC[24], one almost identical to the one for Precucuteni III and Boian - *Spanţov*[25].

The radiocarbon date from Olteni, collected from a sample of wood taken from House 8 from Olteni 4800 - 4606 cal BC, placing, at least this feature, in an interval contemporary with the Giuleşti phase of the Boian culture and Precucuteni culture, phase II and, probably, beginning of phase III. We consider that this date is closer to the end of the settlement.

CONCLUSIONS

One of the special elements found at Olteni - *Cariera de nisip*, Covasna County, for the prehistoric living of this area (*Linear Pottery Culture with musical notes - LBK*, Boian and Precucuteni), is the excavation of large pits, rectangular or oval, arranging hearths and ovens, in which representative archeological material was discovered for each cultural entity present in this site.

The *LBK*, Boian and Precucuteni discoveries from Olteni are very important for understanding some cultural phenomena that took place in this part of Romania (southeastern and eastern Transylvania) during the late Neolithic and

[20] M. Neagu, op. cit, 145.

[21] L. Thissen, *Middle Neolithic ceramics from Teleor 003, Southern Romani*a, in *Buletinul Muzeului Judeţean Teleorman*, 5 (2013), 25, tab. 1.

[22] P. Mirea, *Between everyday and ritual use – „small altars" or „cult tables" from Măgura-Buduiasca, Teleorman county (II): the developed neolithic finds*, in *Buletinul Muzeului Judeţean Teleorman*, 7 (2015), 45.

[23] L. Carozza, C. Micu, A. Bălăşescu, S. Ailincăi, A. Burens, O. Gâza, C. Mănăilescu, *Pour une relecture des collections archéologiques néolithiques et chalcolithiques dans la zone de Hamangia-Baia: nouvelles données chronologiques relatives aux recherches conduites par Dumitru Berciu*, in *Cercetări Arheologice*, XXVII (2020), 151, Fig. 9.

[24] S. Bréhard, A. Bălăşescu, *What's behind the tell phenomenon? An archaeozoological approach of Eneolithic sites in Romania*, in *Journal of Archaeological Science*, 39/10 (2012), p. table 1.

[25] A. Frînculeasa, *Nordul Munteniei şi cronologia aspectului cultural Stoicani-Aldeni – stratigrafie, elemente de reper şi date radiocarbon din situl de la Mălăieştii de Jos (jud. Prahova)*. In *Buletinul Muzeului Judeţean Teleorman*, 8 (2016), annex.

the beginning of the Eneolithic, marked by the penetration in this area of the Boian and Precucuteni cultural communities.

In the current stage of the archaeological researches from Olteni, regarding the *LBK*, Boian and Precucuteni communities that occupied the south-eastern and eastern Transylvanian space, in different periods of time, the site from Olteni, is the most representative for the intra-Carpathian and eastern Transylvanian territory, in their relationship with the extra-Carpathian areas.

Although the archaeological discoveries that can be attributed to the end of the 6th millennium and the first centuries of the 5th millennium BC are not very consistent, except for the site of Olteni, they manage to highlight a series of links between southeastern Transylvania and the extra-Carpathian areas. The lot of artifacts presented is a heterogeneous one, with few analogies in the specific cultural environments. Even in other Boian - *Giuleşti* or Precucuteni I settlements such artifacts are not numerous. The cultural attribution was made on the basis of the ceramic fragments with which they were associated. As the area was frequented in later eras, we do not rule out a possible mixing of materials. Research into this period in the area is still in its infancy, with most discoveries coming from random discoveries, small surveys. The settlement of Olteni remains a singular case for the time being, but without an interdisciplinary approach and without research in other similar sites, the dynamics of the populations from the beginning of the Eneolithic on both sides of the Carpathians cannot be understood.

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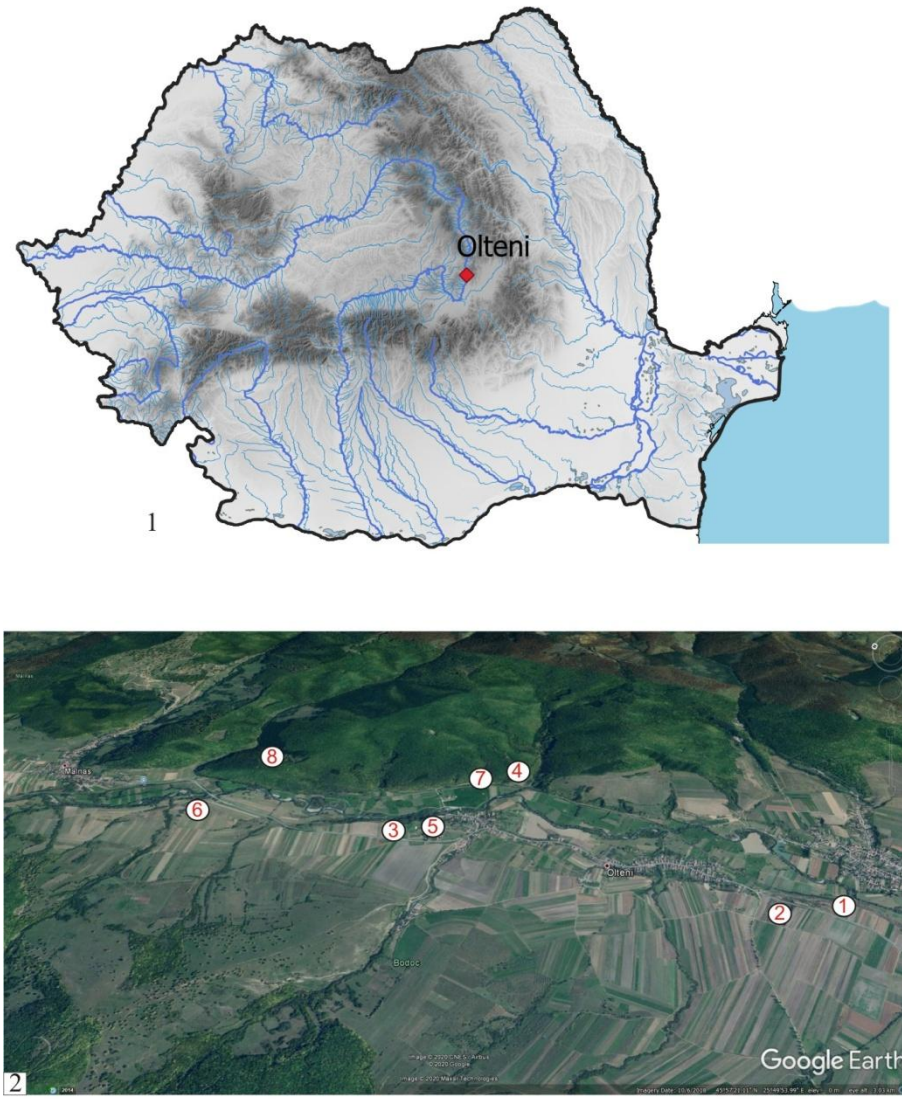


Figure 1. Geographical location of the Olteni site (1); Distribution of sites discovered in the Olteni area (2)

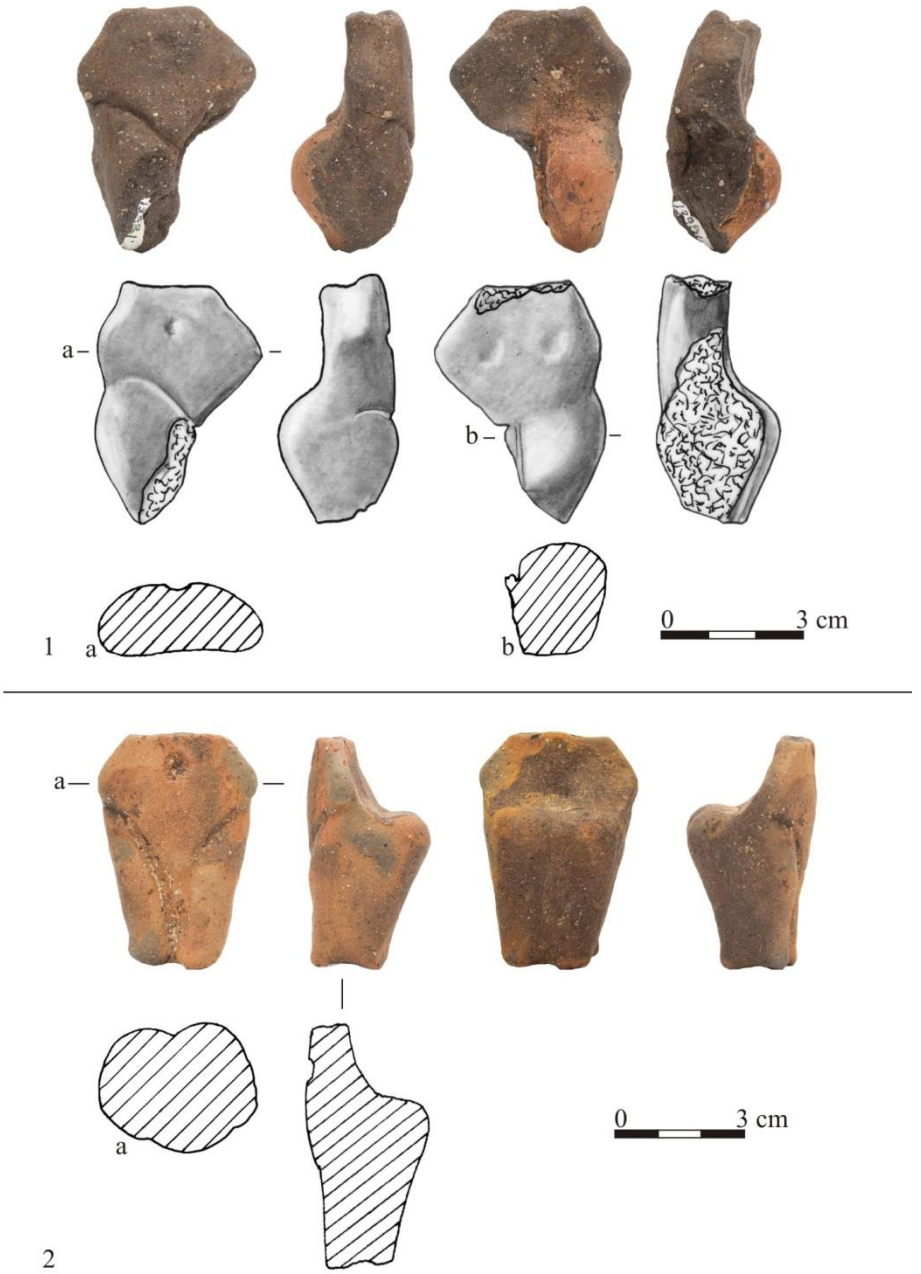


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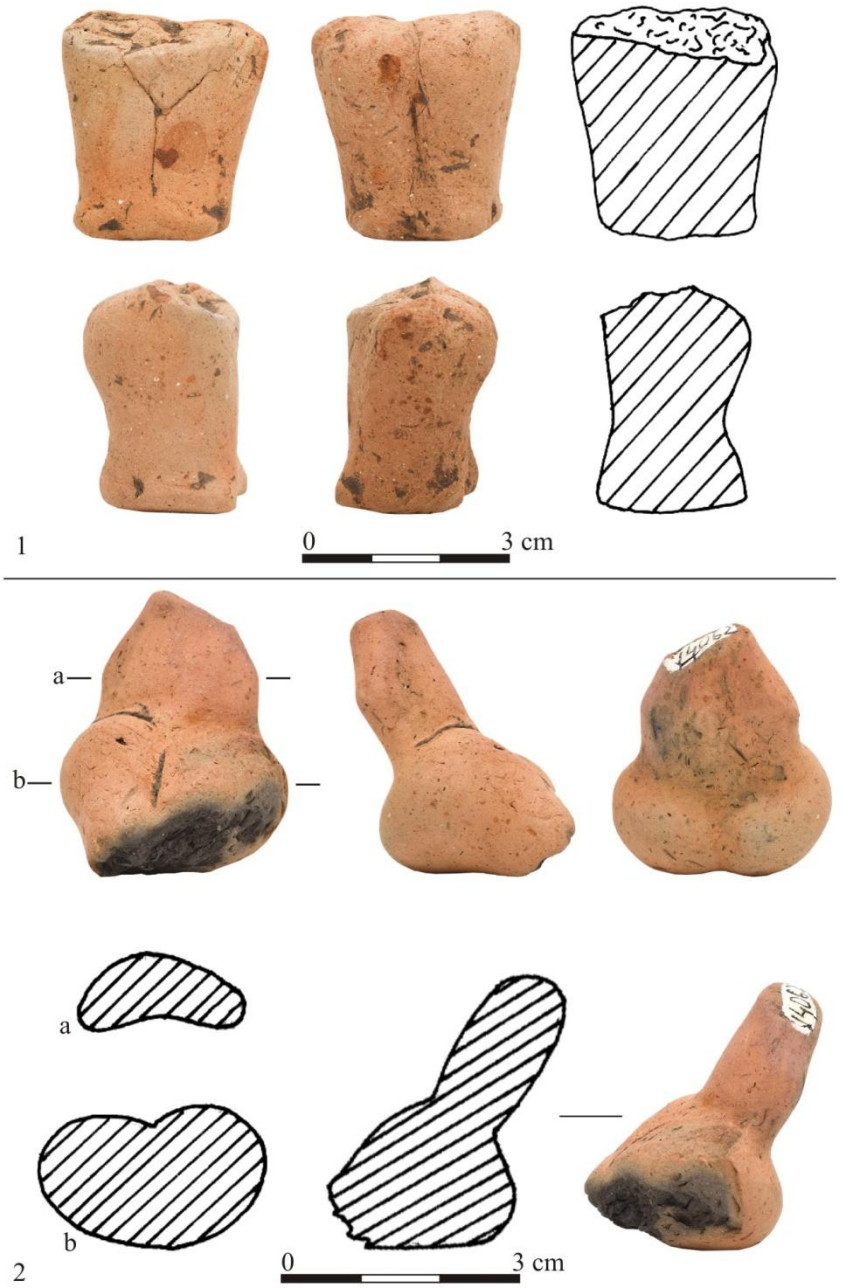


Figure 3. Anthropomorphic representations discovered at Olteni - *Cariera de nisip*



Figure 4. Anthropomorphic representations discovered at Olteni - *Cariera de nisip*

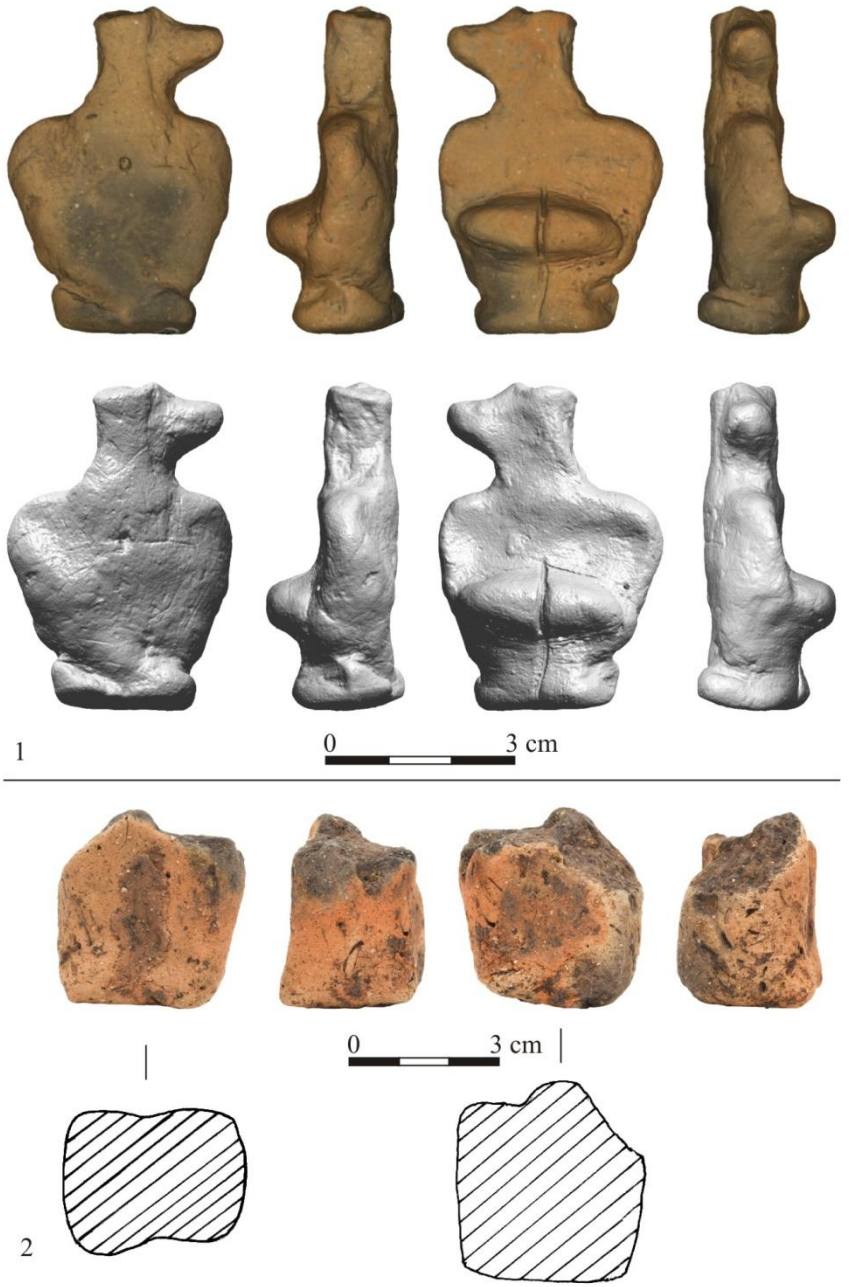


Figure 5. Anthropomorphic representations discovered at Olteni - *Cariera de nisip*

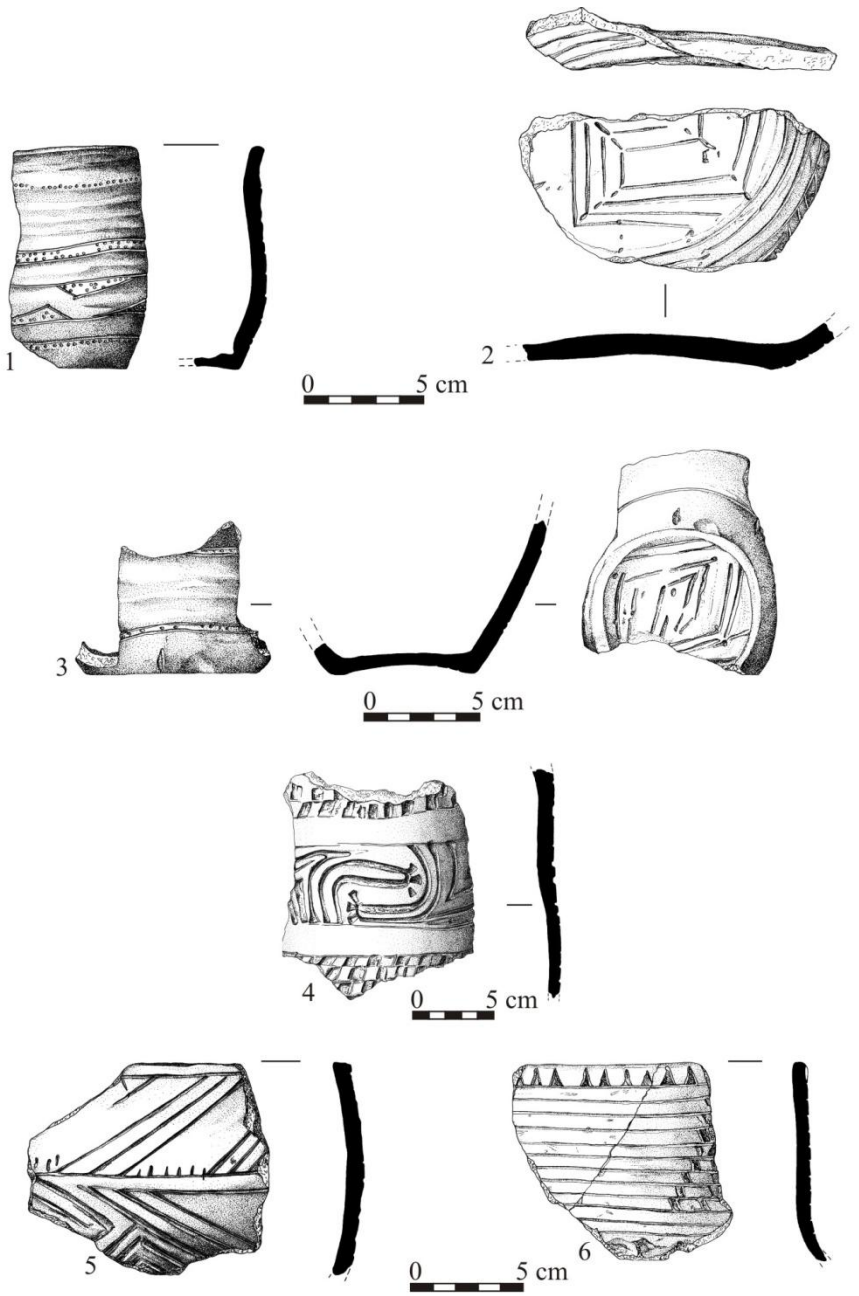


Figure 6. Fragments of vessels discovered near some of the anthropomorphic figurines

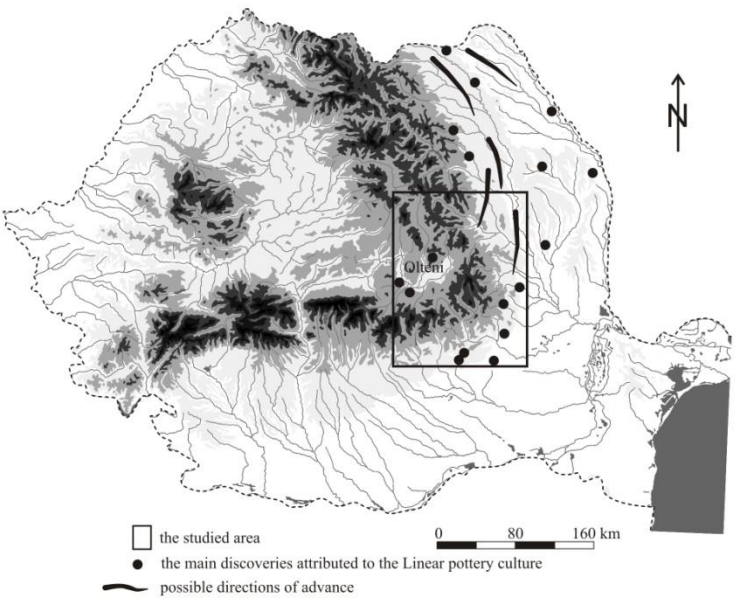


Figure 7. Distribution of the main discoveries attributed to the Linear pottery culture

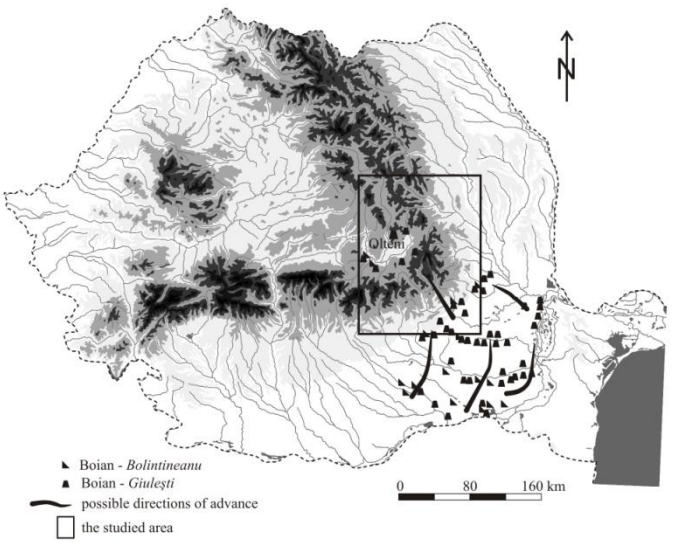


Figure 8. Distribution of Boian - *Bolintineanu* and *Giuleşti* discoveries and possible directions of advance

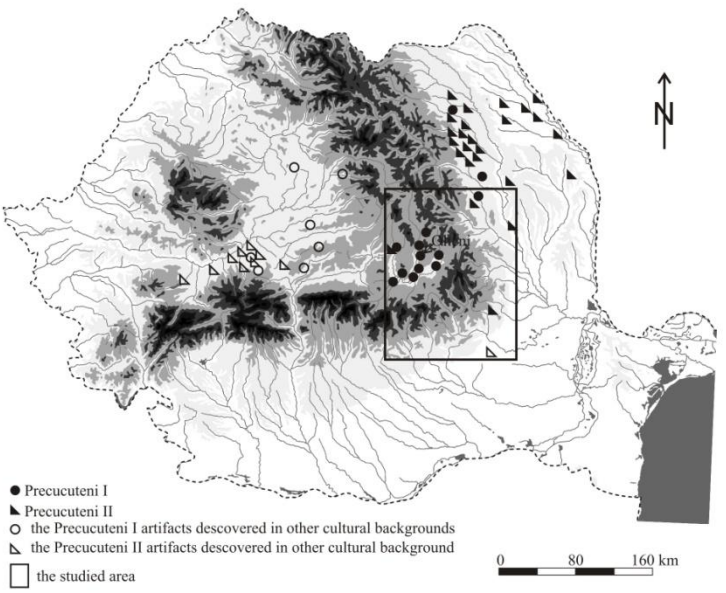


Figure 9. Distribution of Precucuteni discoveries, phases I and II