



ACADEMIA ROMÂNĂ
INSTITUTUL DE ARHEOLOGIE „VASILE PÂRVAN”

MATERIALE ȘI CERCETĂRI ARHEOLOGICE

SERIE NOUĂ
NR. XXI, 2025



EDITURA ACADEMIEI ROMÂNE

Colegiul de redacție

Dr. **STEFAN ALEXANDROV** (National Institute of Archaeology and Museum, Sofia), Dr. **SANDA BALESCU** (Université des Sciences et Technologies de Lille, Laboratoire de Préhistoire et Quaternaire, CNRS, France), Dr. **CONSTANTIN BĂJENARU** (Muzeul de Istorie Națională și Arheologie Constanța), Dr. **RADU BĂJENARU** (Institutul de Arheologie „Vasile Pârvan”, București), Dr. **LUMINIȚA BEJENARU** (Universitatea „Alexandru Ioan Cuza” Iași; Centrul de Antropologie „Olga Necrasov” al Academiei Române - Filiala Iași), Prof. Dr. **CLIVE BONSALL** (University of Edinburgh, U.K.), Prof. Dr. **NIKOLAUS BOROFFKA** (Deutsches Archäologisches Institut – Eurasien Abteilung, Berlin, Germany), Dr. **PIERRE DUPONT** (Université de Lyon, CNRS, France), Dr. **UWE FIEDLER** (Berlin, Germany), Dr. **RADU HARHOIU** (Institutul de Arheologie „Vasile Pârvan”, București), Dr. **DOMINIC MOREAU** (Université de Lille, Centre de recherche HALMA-UMR 8164, France), Dr. **CORIOLAN OPREANU** (Institutul de Arheologie și Istoria Artei, Cluj-Napoca), Prof. Dr. **ANNIE RENOUX** (Université du Maine, Le Mans), Dr. **ALEXANDER RUBEL** (Institutul de Arheologie, Iași), Dr. **VIORICA RUSU-BOLINDEȚ** (Muzeul Național de Istorie a Transilvaniei, Cluj-Napoca), Dr. **ANGELA SIMALCSIK** (Centrul de Antropologie „Olga Necrasov” al Academiei Române – Filiala Iași), Academician **VICTOR SPINEI** (Institutul de Arheologie, Iași), Prof. Dr. **ERIK TRINKAUS** (Department of Anthropology, Washington University), Prof. Dr. **ALAIN TUFFREAU** (Université des Sciences et Technologies de Lille, Laboratoire de Préhistoire et Quaternaire, CNRS, France)

Comitetul de redacție

ROXANA DOBRESU – redactor-șef
ADRIAN IONIȚĂ – redactor-șef adjunct

IRINA ACHIM, ADINA BORONEANȚ, MIRCEA DABÎCA, ADRIAN DOBOȘ, RADU-ALEXANDRU DRAGOMAN, ANDREI MĂGUREANU, LIANA OȚA, ADRIANA PANAITE, DANIEL SPÂNU, VLAD VINTILĂ ZIRRA – membri

DANA COSTIN, MĂDĂLINA MIHĂILĂ – secretare de redacție

OFELIA COȘMAN, SILVIU ILIUȚĂ – prelucrare ilustrație și tehnoredactare
PIERRE DUPONT (limba franceză), **ROXANA DOBRESU** (limba franceză), **CLIVE BONSALL** (limba engleză), **ADINA BORONEANȚ** (limba engleză) – consultanți limbi străine
ROMEO CÎRJAN – design copertă

www.mcajournal.ro

Orice corespondență se va trimite Comitetului de redacție pe adresa: Str. Henri Coandă nr. 11, 010667 București, tel./fax 4021 212 88 62 și iab.redactie@gmail.ro.

**Toate lucrările publicate în revista *Materiale și Cercetări Arheologice* sunt recenzate de specialiști în domeniu.
(peer-reviewed journal)**

**Revista *Materiale și Cercetări Arheologice* este indexată în următoarele baze de date:
Persée, Copernicus, ERIH PLUS, Scopus, CEEOL, EBSCO și DOAJ.**

Redactori Editura Academiei Române: **ADRIAN MIRCEA DOBRE**
Tehnoredactor Editura Academiei Române: **MARIANA MOCANU**

Revista se poate procura contracost la sediul EDITURII ACADEMIEI ROMÂNE, Calea 13 Septembrie nr. 13, sector 5, 050711, București, România; tel. 4021-318 8146, 4021-318 8106, Fax 4021-318 2444, e-mail: edacad@ear.ro, periodice@ear.ro

ORION PRESS IMPEX 2000 S.R.L., P.O. Box 77-19, București, România, Tel./Fax: 4021-610 6765, 4021-210 6787, Tel.: 0311 044 668, e-mail: office@orionpress.ro.

S.C.MANPRESS DISTRIBUTION S.R.L., Piața Presei Libere nr. 1, Corp B, Etaj 3, Cam. 301-302, sector 1, București, România, tel./fax: 4021-314 6339, e-mail: abonamente@manpres.ro, office@manpres.ro, www.romanianjournals.com.

DEREX COM S.R.L., e-mail: derec_com@yahoo.com.

SUMAR / SOMMAIRE / CONTENTS

PALEOLITIC / PALÉOLITHIQUE / PALAEOLITHIC

Adrian DOBOȘ	
Scurta viață fericită a lui <i>Australanthropus olteniensis</i>	5
The short happy life of <i>Australanthropus olteniensis</i>	

ENEOLITIC / ÉNÉOLITHIQUE / ENEOLITHIC

Raluca KOGĂLNICEANU	
A rhomboidal clay plate from Iepurești – <i>La Islaz</i> (Giurgiu County)	11
Adela KOVÁCS, Constantin APARASCHIVEI	
Vessels with zoomorphic painted decoration in the collections of the Botoșani County Museum	19

EPOCA BRONZULUI / L'ÂGE DU BRONZE / BRONZE AGE

Monica MĂRGĂRIT, Pavel MIREA	
Patinele din os: analiza comparativă a unor piese arheologice și etnografice	57
Bone skates: a comparative study of archaeological and ethnographical artefacts	
Alin FRÎNCULEASA, Octav NEGREA, Eduard GHINEA	
Tumuli preistorici cercetați în anul 2024 în localitatea Păulești (jud. Prahova)	69
Prehistoric burial mounds investigated in 2024 in Păulești (Prahova County)	
Gabriel VASILE	
Înmormântări tumulare pre-Yamnaya – Yamnaya recent descoperite în Câmpia Română, la Păulești (jud. Prahova). Analiză antropologică	97
Recently investigated pre-Yamnaya – Yamnaya mound burials from Păulești (Prahova County) in the Romanian Plain. An anthropological study	

EPOCA FIERULUI / L'ÂGE DU FER / IRON AGE

Dragoș MĂNDESCU, † Florin MOȚEI	
Între lumi și între epoci. Mormântul unui călăreț războinic în sud-estul Transilvaniei	107
Between worlds and between ages. A raider burial in south-eastern Transylvania	
Daniel SPĂNU	
About the sinuous fibulae (<i>Geschweifte fibeln</i>) in Romania	123

EPOCA GREACĂ / ÉPOQUE GRECQUE / GREEK PERIOD

Pierre DUPONT, Alexandre BARALIS, Alexey GOTSEV, Emil NANKOV, Vyara PETROVA, Tsvetelina SLAVKOVA	
The assumed “Pistiros” <i>emporion</i> . Preliminary inquiries about its trade purveyors	133
Ergün LAFLI, Maurizio BUORA, Fatih Hakan KAYA	
Hellenistic fibulae and pottery in Eastern Galatia	141

EPOCA ROMANĂ / ÉPOQUE ROMAINE / ROMAN PERIOD

Alev ÇETİNGÖZ	
Ancient Greek, Roman and Byzantine glass works from Cilicia	157
Yavuz YEĞİN	
A ring with a gemstone depicting Hermaphrodite from the Balgat tomb in Ankara.....	169
Işık ADAK ADIBELLI, Erkan ALKAÇ	
Certain amphora groups from the Roman Baths and the Olive Market of Tarsus: Sinope, Shelov Type D and Zeest 80	175
Theodor ISVORANU	
Monede din perioada romană provenite din vechile săpături arheologice de la Romula	183
Roman coins from the early archaeological excavations at Romula	
Bianca-Elena GRIGORAŞ, Adriana PANAIT	
Cooking wares from Tropaeum Traiani.....	197

EPOCA MIGRAȚIILOR / ÉPOQUE DES MIGRATIONS / MIGRATION PERIOD

Silviu ENE, Talida RADU, Alin DIACONU, Ștefan MARIȘ	
Descoperiri arheologice pe traseul autostrăzii A7 Ploiești–Buzău. Cercetarea preventivă a sitului Conduratu 1 (km 19+350 – 20+750). Campania 2022–2023.....	239
Archaeological investigations on the A7 Motorway (Ploiești–Buzău): preventive research at Conduratu Site 1 (km 19+350 – 20+750), 2022–2023 season.	
Erwin GÁLL, Réka FÜLOP, Szabolcz NAGY	
From the Central Region towards the peripheries. A chronological analysis of a prestige good – the mount ornamented sabretache	291
Tiberiu VASILESCU, Dorin SÂRBU, Erwin GÁLL, Gabriel VASILE	
Nomazi și nomadism în Câmpia Română? Mormintele din secolele X–XII de la Cioceni – <i>tumul</i> , jud. Prahova	315
Nomads and nomadism in the Romanian Plain? The 10 th –12 th burials of Cioceni – <i>Burial Mound</i> (Prahova County)	

EPOCA MEDIEVALĂ / ÉPOQUE MÉDIÉVALE / MIDDLE AGES

Adrian IONIȚĂ	
Date noi despre cetatea Poenari (jud. Argeș).....	341
New data on the Poenari fortress (Argeș County)	
David BACIU	
Notă asupra materialului faunistic de la Cetatea Poenari	363
Note on the faunal assemblage from the Poenari Fortress	
Daniela MARCU ISTRATE, Gabriel IZDRĂILĂ, Sebastian DOBROTĂ	
Cetatea Făgăraș – cercetări arheologice pe latura de sud-est a incintei exterioare (clădirea corpului de gardă)	367
Făgăraș Fortress – Archaeological research in the south-eastern area of the outer ward (the guardhouse)	

RECENZII / COMPTES RENDUS / BOOK REVIEWS

Radosław Liwoch, Małgorzata Wawer, Dakowie nad górnym Dniestrem. Eponimiczne cmentarzysko kultury Lipickiej w Lipicy Górnej (Ukraina)/The Dacians on the Upper Dniester. The eponymic cemetery of the Lipitsa Culture in Verhna Lipica (Ukraine), Tom XIV, seria Biblioteca Muzeului de Arheologie din Cracovia, Cracovia, 2024, 402 pagini, 163 figuri, ISBN: 978–83–911543–4–2 (seria), ISBN: 978–83–956157–9–5 (tom), (Mihai Purici)	419
Ioan Marian Țiplic, Putere și religie în Transilvania, Cluj-Napoca, Editura Mega, 2024, 424 pagini, ISBN: 978-606-020-860-0 (Raluca Postolea)	420
Abrevieri / Abréviations / Abbreviations.....	425

A RHOMBOIDAL CLAY PLATE FROM IEPUREȘTI – LA ISLAZ (GIURGIU COUNTY)

Raluca KOGĂLNICEANU

"1 Decembrie 1918" University, Alba Iulia, Romania; e-mails: raluca.kogalniceanu@gmail.com, raluca.kogalniceanu@uab.ro.

Keywords: decorative plate, rhomb, clay, Gumelnița A1

Abstract: The paper presents an incomplete, undecorated, burned rhomboidal clay plate discovered in the Gumelnița A1 settlement at Iepurești – La Islaz (Giurgiu County). Its importance relies on the fact it is one of the two westernmost known artefacts of the kind, discovered far from the main bulk of such finds in northern Muntenia, southern Moldavia, southern Moldova and southern Ukraine. The plate is discussed in the context of other similar items. Current interpretations relate them to the presence of rhomboidal decorations on certain female figurines.

Cuvinte-cheie: placă decorativă, romb, lut, Gumelnița A1

Rezumat: Articolul prezintă un fragment de plăcuță din lut ars, nedecorată, de formă rombică, descoperit în cadrul așezării Gumelnița A1 de la Iepurești – La Islaz (jud. Giurgiu). Artefactul este important deoarece este unul din cele două exemplare cele mai vestice, descoperite la o distanță apreciabilă de majoritatea pieselor similare, identificate în nordul Munteniei, sudul Moldovei, sudul Republicii Moldova și sudul Ucrainei. Plăcuța este discutată în contextul celorlalte descoperiri similare și a interpretărilor curente care le leagă de unele figurine feminine ce au reprezentat pe ele un decor romboidal.

INTRODUCTION

The site of Iepurești – La Islaz is located in southern Romania, approximately 30 km south-west of Bucharest, in the basin of the Neajlov River, between the villages of Stâlpu and Iepurești (Giurgiu County) (Fig. 1). It has been investigated on a yearly basis from 2007 to 2013. As it will be seen below, it is important that the first two excavation seasons were conducted by two different archaeologists (2007 – A. Mocanu and 2008 – I. Gheorghe), while the following ones (2009–2013) by the author of this paper. The different field directors, different teams, and different excavation and recording techniques triggered subsequently some unfortunate loss of information.

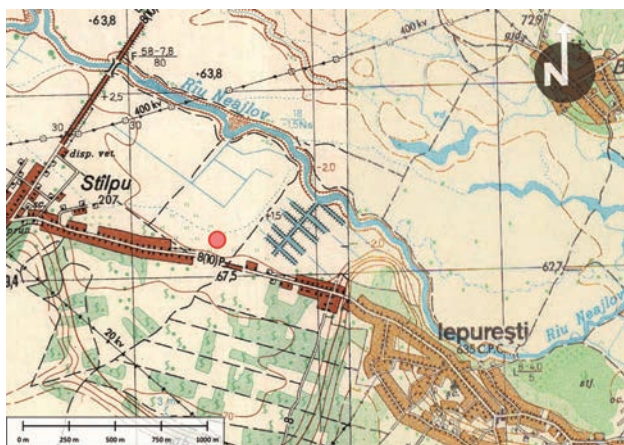


Figure 1. Location of the site (red circle).

Only a few papers have been published so far on the results of the excavations (Markussen, Vornicu 2011; Morintz 2011; Morintz, Kogălniceanu 2012; Kogălniceanu et alii 2012; 2014; Ilie, Kogălniceanu 2023). Only the northern part of what was believed initially to be a tell-type settlement was investigated. The materials indicated the existence of a Gumelnița settlement (A1 phase – see Ilie, Kogălniceanu 2023) overlapped by a Bronze Age Glina occupation layer.

A comprehensive synthesis on the topic of clay plates was published by S. Pandrea (2001), that also brought forward the discovery of several decorated items further south of their expected area of occurrence, in Bulgaria. Following his overview, the topic made the subject of two presentations at the Pontica 56 conference in 2003 (Mistreanu 2003 and Pandrea 2003 – *non vidi*), while only one more clay plate was published (Mirea 2007).

THE ARTEFACT AND ITS CONTEXT

Our clay plate (collection inventory no. 086) was discovered in my first field campaign (2009), in Sector S1, □ A1–2/B1, between -0.75 and -1.00 m. The contextual data is unclear particularly because the item was discovered during the excavation of one corner of S1 (left unfinished by the previous field director) and the enlargement of the section by 0.40 m towards the north (Fig. 2 and 3). What can be said with certainty is that, given the depth and the pottery associated with it, it can be attributed to the Gumelnița A1 cultural level.

The artefact (Fig. 4/a–b) is incomplete. It preserves part of the large central hole and one of the small corner ones. The plate was made of a clay with small pebbles and other inclusions as temper (Fig. 4/e) and was well fired in a reducing atmosphere. The colour of the plate is red, both the exterior and the core, with the difference that on one side the colour tends towards a brick red (Fig. 4/a), while on the other side dark orange (Fig. 4/b).

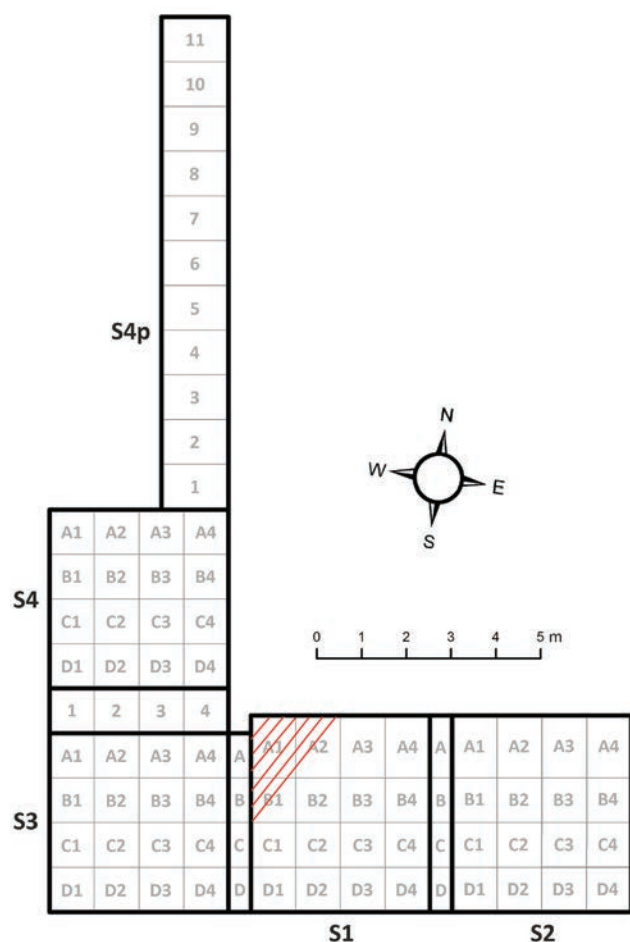


Figure 2. Excavation plan with area of discovery marked in red hatches.

While the central hole (Fig. 4/c) appears to be made carefully before firing, as indicated by its aspect and the slightly elevated margins on one side, the corner hole (Fig. 4/d) is slightly oval, and the direction of the perforation is diagonal. This smaller hole seems to have been made with an improper tool, that did not leave smooth walls as in the case of the central one. Judging by the rough edges of the perforation and the way it was drilled through the polished margins of the plate, it is likely made after the firing of the item.

The plate is not decorated. The only thing close to decoration is the polishing of the margins, resulting in a shiny band of ca. 1 cm in width on both sides. The rest of the plate is covered with fine scratches. If it was painted in the past, the acidity of the soil destroyed all traces.

The hypothetical reconstruction of the plate (Fig. 4/f) yielded the following dimensions: length = 14.7 cm, width = 12.4 cm, $\varnothing$ of the central large hole = 1.8×2.0 cm, $\varnothing$ of the small corner hole = 0.7×1.0 cm, thickness = 1.18–1.47 cm (thicker around the central hole), weight of the preserved part = 65 g. The fragment is estimated to represent between one third and 30% of the complete artefact, suggesting an estimated weight of the complete item of approximately 200 g. This is quite heavy for an artefact allegedly worn hanging around the neck!

Moreover, neither the holes nor the plate show clear use-wear traces indicative of the way it was used or worn.

ANALOGIES

This type of artefacts was mentioned so far only in the area outside the Carpathian Bend in the southern part of the Republic of Moldova and southern Ukraine, namely in the territory of the Stoicani-Aldeni “cultural aspect” (Fig. 5). S. Pandrea pointed in his study of the plates that several items were also found further south, in Bulgaria (Pandrea 2001, p. 105).



Figure 3. Photo of the north-western corner area of Sector S1, before dismantling.

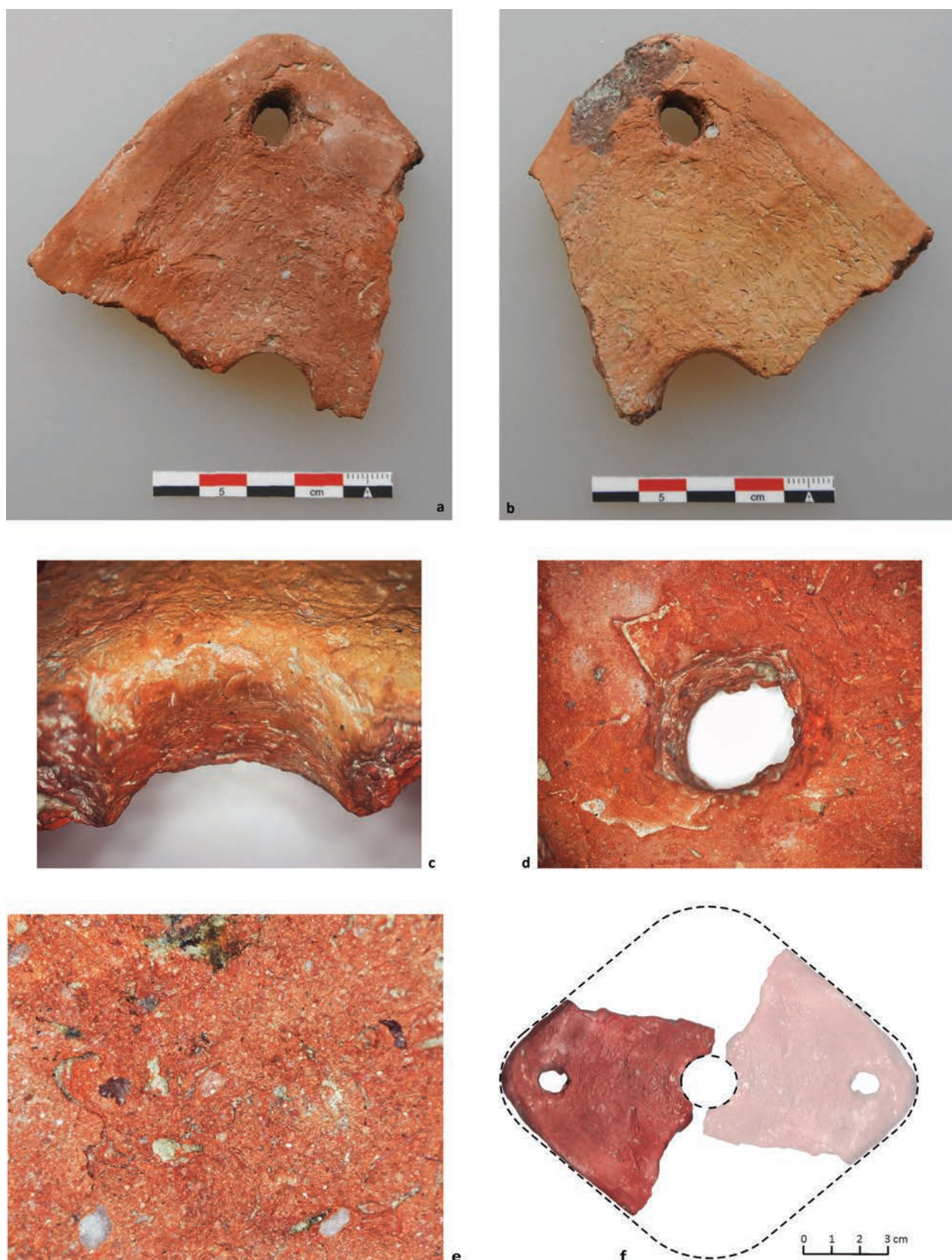


Figure 4. The rhomboidal plate from Iepurești. a–b) view of both sides; c) detail of the large central hole; d) detail of the small corner hole; e) detail of pottery fabric; f) reconstitution of the item's dimensions.

We will focus our attention on the items in Romania, especially those occurring at sites attributed at one point to the Stoicani-Aldeni cultural aspect.

An attempt to make an exhaustive catalogue of these finds proved pointless, since most of the artefacts were only briefly mentioned, with no details concerning their number, context or size. Concerning the dimensions, even in the rare cases when they were mentioned in the description, their dimensions did not correspond to those in the artefact's filing record (see below the observations on the complete piece from Stoicani, for example). In another case, the scale indicated on the published drawing does not match the graphic scale on the same figure (such is the case of the items from Igești or Bârlălești, see below). Finally, when the same item was republished, the graphic scales were different from one instance to the other (see the plate from Lișcoteanca), the decoration differed in terms of reported number of incised lines (Lățești), the profile was described as both curved and straight (again the item from Lățești), or the item had or did not have corner holes (Lățești). In most cases, the photographs were of extremely poor quality.

From north to south, the sites where decorative plates were found are the following, with numbers corresponding to the ones in Fig. 5:

1. Dodești (Vaslui County) – one rhomboidal clay plate, with corner holes and three concentric incised lines forming rhomb shapes as decoration. It was published as a drawing showing two fragments of the same artefact (Coman 1980, fig. 96/1) and as a black and white photo of the restored piece (Dragomir 1983, fig. 56/11). The central hole was reconstructed in the drawing, but not at the restored piece. The graphic scale of the published photo does not match the written value on the drawing.

2. Bârlălești – *Stanția* (Vaslui County) – two rhomboidal clay plates and an oval one. The former two have three large holes each, set approximately along the long axis of the items. Apparently, these two do not have corner holes, although in one case the drawing of the profile indicates small perforations at the obtuse corners while the drawings of the sides do not illustrate such perforations (Coman 1980, fig. 96/2). In the third case, the drawing of the profile illustrates a particularity, namely two transversal small perforations, at least one on each pointed corner (Dragomir 1983, fig. 57/1). Each piece is illustrated as drawing in only one publication (see above). The oval plate is incomplete and presents only a central perforation (drawing – Coman 1980, fig. 96/4). All three items were decorated on both sides with incised lines forming V-shaped or rhomb-shaped motifs. The graphic scale published with the drawing in one of the cases (Dragomir 1983, fig. 57/1) does not match the written value.

3. Lățești (Vaslui County) – one rhomboidal clay plate. Published as a drawing in two different publications (Coman 1980, fig. 96/3; Dragomir 1983, fig. 57/3), with small differences. One central medium-sized hole. The presence of corner holes is not certain: in one drawing there are incised dots at the corners, and the curved profile

does not illustrate any perforation, while in the other case, small holes are illustrated at all four corners, both on the two sides of the piece and on the straight profile. The plate is decorated with sets of incised curved concentric lines around the corners, but the number of lines differs from one drawing to the other (four or five).

4. Igești (Vaslui County) – several rhomboidal clay plates (Coman 1980, p. 77). Only one is illustrated in a drawing (Dragomir 1983, fig. 57/2). It presents three large holes set approximately along the long axis of the piece. No corner holes, but the drawing of the profile illustrates a particularity, namely two transversal small perforations, at least one at each pointed corner. It is decorated on both sides with lines forming four concentric rhomb shapes around the holes.

5. Suceveni – *Stoborăni* (Galați County) – two rhomboidal decorative plates: one made of greenish sandstone (Dragomir 1970, p. 34, fig. 9/10; Dragomir 1983, p. 29; Dragomir 1996, p. 192) and one made of clay (Dragomir 1970, p. 34, fig. 9/11; Dragomir 1983, p. 29). Both were found in the north-eastern corner of House I, in the hearth area, from the upper occupation level. In the 1983 publication, I. T. Dragomir mentions two clay plates and no stone one, but it could just be an error. Both published as black and white photos. The stone plate has more rounded corners, no central hole and four small corner holes. A small copper wire fragment was found in one of the corner perforations (Dragomir 1970, caption of fig. 9/10). The clay plate has two large holes in the centre, set along the long axis of the artefact and no corner holes. It is decorated, at least on one side, with incised lines forming two concentric rhomb shapes around the central area.

6. Stoicani – *Cetățuie* (Galați County) – one complete and four incomplete clay plates. The complete item was found in the first occupation layer from the 1948 excavation and was illustrated as a drawing and a black and white photo. It has one central large hole and four small holes at the corners. According to the description, it was decorated only on one side, with the other side polished; it displayed an incised line at the margins, a rhomboidal band between this line and the central perforation having the contour lines incised and painted with red on a slightly scratched background, an arched incised line on each side of the central orifice towards the pointed corners of the item (Petrescu-Dîmbovița 1953, p. 17 and 106, fig. 42/16 and 44/8). The dimensions given by the author of the excavation (7.8 × 7.6 cm) do not match the dimensions provided in the file for the classification of the item (18.3 × 11.9 cm), where a colour photo was also included (file compiled by S. Țurcanu and approved by OMC 2270/19.04.2008).

Another plate, incomplete, is illustrated by a drawing as a fragment decorated on both sides with incised lines forming, probably, a rhomb-shaped motif (Petrescu-Dîmbovița 1953, p. 106–107, fig. 42/14). The fragment had one small corner hole. The drawing of the profile though, does not seem to illustrate this hole, but

a transversal perforation, as in the case of the items from Bârlălești and Igești.

A second (incomplete) plate illustrated also by drawing is represented by a fragment preserving one of the pointed corners with a small hole (Petrescu-Dîmbovița 1953, p. 106–107, fig. 42/15). The decorative motif, present probably on one side only, consists of rhombuses, but the execution technique remains obscure.

From the third fragment was preserved an unperforated pointed corner, according to the drawing, but with a transversal perforation based on the drawing of the profile (Petrescu-Dîmbovița 1953, p. 106–107, fig. 42/17). The decoration, on only one side, seems to be painted. The motif is that of rhombuses.

The last fragment, illustrated by drawing, consists of a corner area with a small hole. The decoration on only one side seems to be made by incised lines forming concentric rhomb-shapes (Petrescu-Dîmbovița 1953, p. 106–107, fig. 42/18).

All fragments were discovered in occupation layers 5 or 6 of the settlement (Petrescu-Dîmbovița 1953, p. 106).

7. Drăgănești-Tecuci (Galați County) – at least one decorative plate (Comșa 1963, p. 19). No details.

8. Lișcoteanca – *Movila Olarului* (Brăila County) – one rhomboidal clay plate. It was illustrated as a black and white photo (Harțuche, Anastasiu 1976, cat. no. 215; Dragomir 1983, fig. 56/11) and recently as a colour photo (Garvăn 2021, pl. 240/1). The graphic scales of the 1983 and 2021 publications do not match; the original one states textually the dimensions of 19.5 x 18.5 cm with a thickness of 1.5–1.9 cm (thicker at the margins), $\varnothing$ of the central hole = 1.4 cm, $\varnothing$ of the transversal orifices = 0.3–0.4 cm; the small holes in the corners have an oblique trajectory (Harțuche, Anastasiu 1976, p. 117, cat. no. 215). The plate was discovered in a burned pit together with several complete painted vessels, two necklaces of burned clay beads and a large quantity of burned wheat grains (Dragomir 1983, p. 93 – note 2, p. 104). It presents one large central hole and four small corner holes. It seems to be decorated on both sides, with a solar symbol incised around the central hole, four curved lines incised around the corner holes and filled with white colour, forming two alternate bands painted

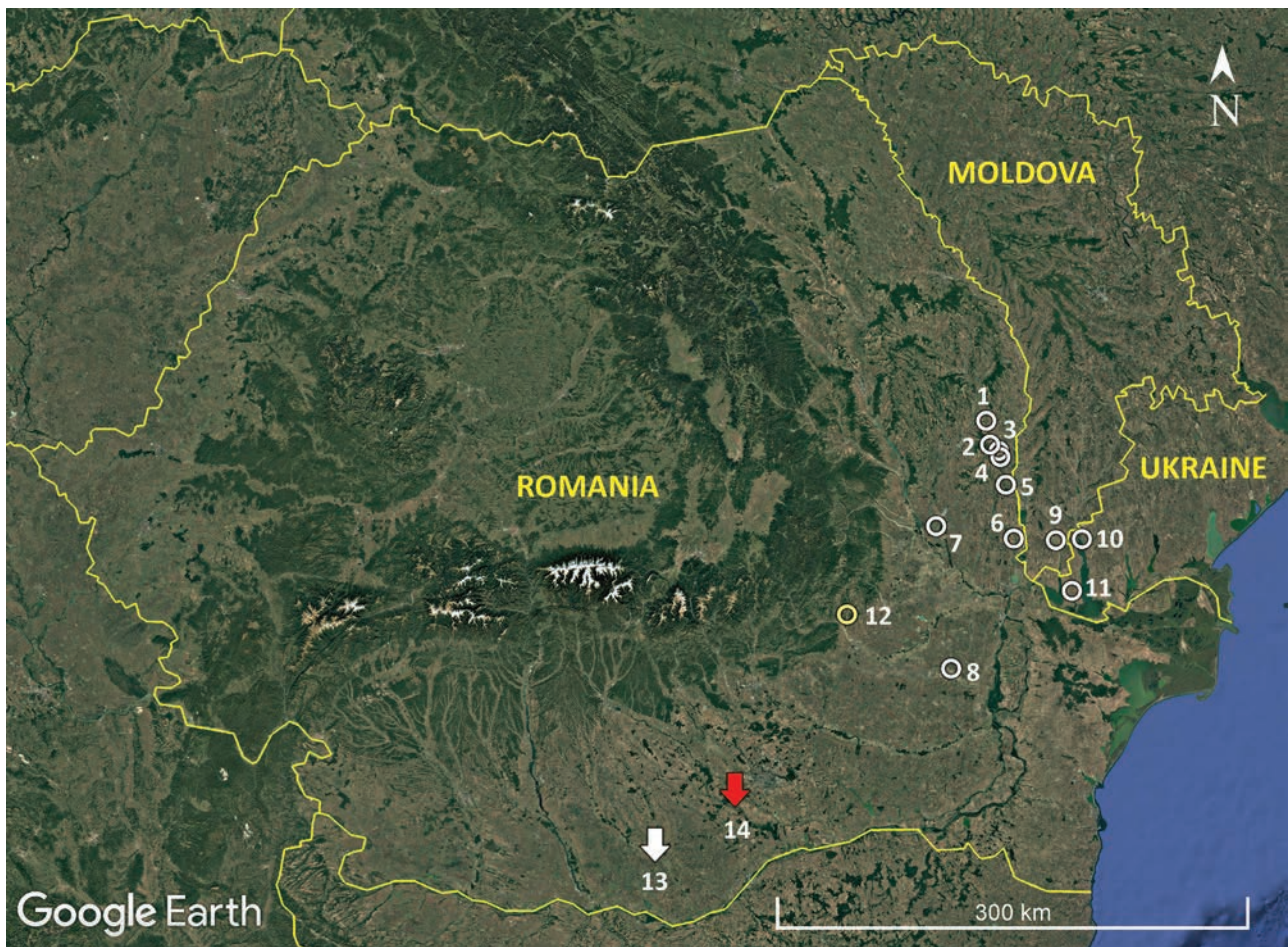


Figure 5. Distribution of rhomboidal plates. 1. Dodești, 2. Bârlălești – Stanția, 3. Lătești, 4. Igești – Scândureni, 5. Suceveni – Stoborâni, 6. Stoicani – Cetățuie, 7. Drăgănești-Tecuci, 8. Lișcoteanca – *Movila Olarului*, 9. Vulcănești, 10. Bolgrad, 11. Nagornoye II, 12. Aldeni – Gurguiul Balaurlui, 13. Alexandria – Nanoveanca-Baraj, 14. Iepurești – La Islaz. Circles – discoveries included in Pandrea 2001 review and in Mirea 2007: white = verified, yellow = unverified; arrows – newer discoveries: white = previously published, red = current artefact. Base map: Google Earth.

with red colour between lines, around each corner. It also has incised lines in angles on the sides (Harțuce, Anastasiu 1976, p. 117–118; Dragomir 1983, p. 93 – note 2, p. 104).

9. Vulcănești (Republic of Moldova) – only one plate (fragment) illustrated, without other details (Pandrea 2001, fig. 1/3). It seems the plate shape has deviated slightly from the rhombic standard, with the obtuse corner angles rounded heavily. A central large hole is illustrated, as well as a small corner hole. Undecorated.

10. Bolgrad (Ukraine) – no info other than the presence of decorative plate(s) at this site (Comșa 1963, p. 19).

11. Nagornoye II (Ukraine) – several fragments of decorative plates were found. They were published as drawings, with no exact number (the drawings illustrate fragments from four or five different items) or detailed description of the context (Skakun 1996, p. 153 and fig. 7 and 8/4, 7–8). Small corner holes are visible, as well as one and two large central holes, incised decoration similar to the one encountered on the Romanian territory, but also different. It is worth highlighting two things: one fragment presents both multiple central holes and corner holes and different motifs encountered at decoration, already mentioned above.

12. Aldeni – *Gurguiul Balaurului* (Buzău County) – references were made to the discovery of decorative plate(s) at this site (Pandrea 2001, p. 106; Mirea 2007, p. 142), but the indicated paper (Comșa 1963, p. 19) does not mention anything of the kind, and neither does the recent volume that reanalyses the finds from this site (Ștefan 2023). We consider it to be a case of perpetuated error.

13. Alexandria – *Nanoveanca-Baraj* (Teleorman County). Chance discovery. One fragment of a decorative clay plate, with a central large hole and at least one small hole at the pointed corner. Decorated on both sides with a combination of incised lines, circles and dots, in an asymmetrical layout. It was made of micaceous clay with sand and chaff and was burned in a reducing atmosphere, acquiring a greyish colour. The preserved fragment has a length of 12.0 cm and a thickness of 1.3 cm (Mirea 2007).

Although we did not illustrate the location on the map, it should be listed here the discovery of several decorative plates at the Drama – *Medžumekja tell* settlement in Bulgaria (*apud* Pandrea 2001). It should be mentioned that all of the four items illustrated by drawings (Pandrea 2001, fig. 3) are missing the central hole. Small corner holes are present. Except for two cases where the rhomb motif is present in the decoration, in two cases the spiral motif is exclusive and in one case circles combine with rhombuses. One of the plates, although tends towards a rhomb shape, seems to have extremely rounded corners.

DISCUSSION

The space and time issues

Since the first item discovered (Petrescu-Dîmbovița 1953) and until the end of the 20th century (Skakun 1996), these plates were attributed to the Stoicani-Aldeni cultural

aspect (except for the Lișcoteanca plate, attributed to the Gumelnița culture, A1 phase – Harțuce, Anastasiu 1976, p. 117), defined as a combination of Precucuteni III / Cucuteni A and Gumelnița A features developing in the north-western part of Muntenia (Petrescu-Dîmbovița 2001, p. 153). The synthesis published on the topic in 2001 (Pandrea 2001) attributes them to the Gumelnița culture. Although we do not completely agree with this bulk reattribution, we would like to point out that some of the plates were found on the territory of the Vaslui County (no. 1 to 4 from the catalogue and map) where Gumelnița culture did not reach.

The plate discovered near Alexandria is the westernmost one and appears to be the earliest, as it was attributed to the Boian culture, the Spanțov phase (Mirea 2007, p. 143). The plate from Iepurești can be added to this western areal of distribution. As recent analysis on the materials from Iepurești concluded that the Copper Age level from the site can be attributed to the phase A1 of the Gumelnița culture (Ilie, Kogălniceanu 2023), the decorative clay plate can be ascribed to the same phase, being probably one of the earlier examples.

Trends

While compiling the catalogue of finds, several trends were noticed that are worth highlighting.

The plates were not always made of burned clay; in one case the item was made of stone (Suceveni), although it is difficult to assess whether this particular plate can be placed in the same category with all the others.

The plates do not always have corner holes as stipulated before (Pandrea 2001, p. 105). At most plates with multiple large central holes, the corner small holes seem to be missing (Bârlălești, Igești, Suceveni).

Also, in the case of the plates with multiple central holes (Bârlălești, Igești), and of several fragments that might or might not come from plates with multiple central holes (Stoicani), the drawings seem to indicate the existence of some transversal small perforation at the pointed corners – an element not mentioned before by anyone, except once, when the plate from Lișcoteanca was first published (Harțuce, Anastasiu 1976, p. 117). Though we initially suspected a drawing error, as the first cases we encountered together one publication (Dragomir 1983), we noticed that they were also present in a much earlier paper (Petrescu-Dîmbovița 1953) and at completely different artefacts. Moreover, by combining the textual description of the transversal small holes at the pointed corners, and the normal small corner holes in the case of Lișcoteanca plate, we completely eliminated the possibility of a drawing error.

There seems to be a trend for multiple central holes in the northernmost area of distribution (Vaslui County, no. 2 and 4 on the map, multiple items), with the stipulation that a fragment from a plate with at least two central holes and corner holes was found at Nagornoye (no. 11 on the map).

Not all plates were decorated, as shown by the fragment found at Iepurești and published here and as mentioned in reference to some of the finds from Moldova (Mistreanu 2003, p. 54).

Concerning the decoration, it should be pointed out that, while most of the items found in the main distribution area presented motifs related to the rhomb shape; further away, at Lișcoteanca, a possible solar motif is illustrated, combined with curvilinear motifs (present also at Lățești), while at Alexandria the decoration seems more abstract, with circles and lines that are far from the rhomb shape, but closer to the decoration encountered on the Bulgarian plates from Drama (circular plus lines/abstract – Pandrea 2001, fig. 3/3, spiral motif – Pandrea 2001, fig. 3/4 and rhomb plus circle – Pandrea 2001, fig. 3/1). The bi-facial decoration of some items could be related to the manner in which the plates were used.

Although the shape of the artefact is, in most of the cases, that of a rhomb, there is one decorative plate that is oval (Bârlălești) and other two that maintain the rhomb shape in idea but are extremely rounded at corners (Vulcănești and Drama).

Symbolism and use

When first discovered and published, they were described as “decorative plates” (Petrescu-Dîmbovița 1953, p. 106). After the discovery of the Lișcoteanca plate and the interpretation of the decoration as illustrating a solar motif and of the context as a ritual one (Harțușche, Anastasiu 1976, p. 117–118), the clay plates became “ritual”. The item from Lișcoteanca was also interpreted at the time of the first publication as a possible calendar/watch (Harțușche, Anastasiu 1976, p. 117–118).

The rituality of the plates was reinforced not by an analysis of their context of discovery (whenever possible), but by the correlation drawn between their shape and a certain set of figurines decorated with rhombuses either in the pelvic (with the rhombuses placed horizontally) or in the neck area (the rhombuses placed vertically) (Dragomir 1983, p. 99, fig. 51/12–16; Pandrea 2001; 2003). On the figurines, it seems that only the pelvic rhombuses were decorated, while the neck ones were undecorated and smaller in size. None of the rhombuses on figurines had central holes represented. It should be mentioned that a bird figurine discovered at Suceveni also had a rhombus depicted in the neck area, in the same manner as on the female figurines (Dragomir 1983, p. 102, fig. 59/9). We consider the arguments brought by M. Secuiu (2016, p. 18–24) against the wear of the plates as pendants to be of the common-sense type, especially when considering the weight of the rhomboidal clay plates. Size of and use wear traces on the plates themselves and on the holes should be checked, where possible, to determine how the items might have been employed.

On the other hand, we do not dismiss the possible rituality of this set of artefacts. The rhombus shape has

deep symbolic meanings (reinforced in the case of most plates by the association of the general shape of the object with decorated motifs of the same shape) (just for exemplification purposes, see Cazac, Adăscălița 2022; Secuiu 2016, p. 24–25) and although the connection between plates and figurines might not be as direct as implied, they might bear the same message/meaning, whatever that may be.

CONCLUSION

The plate fragment from Iepurești, part of the larger category of similar items, is important mainly from the point of view of their distribution area. One of the two westernmost artefacts, together with the Drama pieces, fall outside the more homogenous Stoicani-Aldeni / Gumelnița cultural contexts in northern Muntenia, southern Moldavia, Moldova and Ukraine, both in terms of location and in that of decorative motifs.

Furthermore, a detailed analysis is definitely required, both in terms of context of discovery, shape, size, perforation number, location and direction, and decorative techniques and motifs, especially since most of the artefacts in this group have inadequately been published.

REFERENCES

- Cazac, Adăscălița 2022 – V. Cazac, L. Adăscălița, *Rhombus – meanings and interpretations*, in: *IV Міжнародна науково-практична конференція «Актуальні проблеми сучасного дизайну»*, Київ, КНУД, 27 квітня 2022 р., p. 11–13.
- Coman 1980 – Gh. Coman, *Statornicie, continuitate. Repertoriul arheologic al județului Vaslui*, București, 1980.
- Comșa 1963 – E. Comșa, *Unele probleme ale aspectului cultural Aldeni II (Pe baza săpăturilor de la Drăgănești-Tecuci)*, SCIVA 14(1), 1963, p. 2–31.
- Dragomir 1970 – *Aspectul cultural Stoicani-Aldeni în lumina săpăturilor de la Lișcoteanca, Băneasa și Suceveni*, MemAnt 2, 1970, p. 25–38 + Fig. 1–10.
- Dragomir 1983 – I. T. Dragomir, *Eneoliticul din sud-estul României. Aspectul cultural Stoicani-Aldeni*, București, 1983.
- Dragomir 1996 – I. T. Dragomir, *Contribuții privind ritul funerar și credințele magico-religioase la comunitățile aspectului cultural Stoicani-Aldeni*, in: I. T. Dragomir, *Monografia arheologică a Moldovei de Sud I (= Danubius 16)*, Galați, 1996, p. 187–220.
- Garvăn 2021 – D. Garvăn, *Valea Călmățuiului în neo-eneolitic*, Târgoviște, 2021.
- Harțușche, Anastasiu 1976 – N. Harțușche, F. Anastasiu, *Catalogul selectiv al colecției de arheologie a Muzeului Brăilei*, Brăila, 1976.
- Ilie, Kogălniceanu 2023 – A. Ilie, R. Kogălniceanu, *Plastica antropomorfă de lut din așezarea gumelnițeană de la Iepurești (jud. Giurgiu)*, CA 30(2), 2023, p. 457–478.
- Kogălniceanu et alii 2012 – R. Kogălniceanu, C. Haită, A. Morintz, *Investigations outside the settlement of Iepurești (Giurgiu County)*, in: A. Morintz, R. Kogălniceanu (eds.), *Survey in archaeology, often a neglected science*, Archaeological Debates 2, Giurgiu, 2012, p. 199–216.
- Kogălniceanu et alii 2014 – R. Kogălniceanu, A. Ilie, M. Mărgărit, A. Simalsik, V. Dumitrașcu, *A hoard of astragals discovered in the Copper Age settlement at Iepurești, Giurgiu County, Romania*, Documenta Praehistorica 41, 2014, p. 283–304.

- Markussen, Vornicu 2011 – Ch. Markussen, D.-M. Vornicu, *Magnetic survey at the archaeological site Iepurești (Giurgiu County)*, in: R. Kogălniceanu, A. Morintz (eds.), *Tells at the Lower Danube*, Archaeological Debates 1, Giurgiu, 2011, p. 89–96.
- Mirea 2007 – P. Mirea, *O plăcuță rombică de lut descoperită la Alexandria, jud. Teleorman*, Valachica 20, 2007, p. 141–143.
- Mistreanu 2003 – E. Mistreanu, *Despre plăcuțele de lut romboidale din mediul eneolitic gumelnițean de tip Bolgrad-Aldeni, noi descoperiri*, communication presented at Pontica 56 International Session, Constanța, 2003, p. 54–55 (<https://minac.ro/wp-content/uploads/2025/06/sesiunea-pontica-56.pdf>, consulted on 1st of July 2025).
- Morintz 2011 – S. Mornitz, *Topographic considerations regarding the archaeological site from Iepurești, location “La Izlaz” (Giurgiu County)*, in: S. Mills, P. Mirea (eds.), *The Lower Danube in Prehistory: landscape changes and human-environment interactions*, București, 2011, p. 233–240.
- Morintz, Kogălniceanu 2012 – S. Morintz, R. Kogălniceanu, *O piesă gumelnițeană de cupru descoperită în situl de la Iepurești, jud. Giurgiu*, SCIVA 63(1–2), 2012, p. 119–128.
- Pandrea 2001 – S. Pandrea, *Observații referitoare la plăcuțele rombice din lut descoperite în așezări Gumelnița din nord-estul Munteniei și sudul Moldovei*, SP 1, 2001, p. 105–113.
- Pandrea 2003 – S. Pandrea, *Câteva observații asupra figurinelor antropomorfe decorate, descoperite în așezări Boian și Gumelnița din Câmpia Brăilei*, communication presented at Pontica 56 International Session, Constanța, 2003, p. 55 (<https://minac.ro/wp-content/uploads/2025/06/sesiunea-pontica-56.pdf>, consulted on 1st of July 2025).
- Petrescu-Dîmbovița 1953 – M. Petrescu-Dîmbovița, *Cetățuia de la Stoicani*, MCA 1, 1953, p. 13–155.
- Petrescu-Dîmbovița 2001 – M. Petrescu-Dîmbovița, *F. Eneoliticul timpuriu*, in: M. Petrescu-Dîmbovița, A. Vulpe (eds.), *Istoria românilor*, Vol. I: *Moștenirea timpurilor îndepărtate*, București, 2001, p. 148–154.
- Secuiu 2016 – M. Secuiu, *Originea și vechimea obiceului de a colinda cu turca – prisneii neolitici. Unele considerații de paleoetnografie pe marginea unei piese arheologice din colecția muzeului Brăilei – descoperită la Lișcoteanca*, in: M. Secuiu, *Studii de Istorie* (second edition), Brașov, 2016, p. 5–63.
- Skakun 1996 – N. Skakun, *New excavations of a Eneolithic settlement in the Lower Danube region*, in: Gh. Dumitroaia, D. Monah (eds.), *Cucuteni aujourd’hui. 110 ans depuis la découverte en 1884 du site éponyme*, BiblMemAnt 2, Piatra Neamț, 1996, p. 141–158.
- Ștefan 2023 – C. E. Ștefan, *Așezarea neo-eneolitică de la Aldeni – Gurguicul Balaurului, jud. Buzău. O reevaluare interdisciplinară*, Biblioteca Mousaios 19, Târgoviște, 2023.

ABREVIERI / ABRÉVIATIONS / ABBREVIATIONS

AAC – Acta Archaeologica Carpatica, Kraków
ACMI – Anuarul Comisiunii Monumentelor Istorice, București
ACMIT – Anuarul Comisiunii Monumentelor Istorice, Secțiunea pentru Transilvania, Cluj
ActaArchHung – Acta Archaeologica Academiae Scientiarum Hungaricae, Budapest
ActaMM – Acta Moldaviae Meridionalis, Vaslui
ActaMN – Acta Musei Napocensis, Cluj
ActaMP – Acta Musei Porolissensis, Zalău
ActaMT – Acta Musei Tutovens, Bârlad
AIGR – Anuarul Institutului Geologic al României, București
AJPA – American Journal of Physical Anthropology
Alt-Thüringen – Alt-Thüringen : Jahresschrift des Museums für Ur- und Frühgeschichte Thüringens
Aluta – Aluta. Revista Muzeului Național Secuiesc Sfântu Gheorghe
Anatolia Antiqua – Anatolia Antiqua. Revue internationale d'archéologie anatolienne. Institut Français d'Etudes anatoliennes d'Istanbul
Anatolica – Anatolica. The Netherlands Institute for the Near East in Leiden
AnB – Analele Banatului, Muzeul Banatului, Timișoara
AncNearEastSt – Ancient Near Eastern Studies, Leuven, Belgia
Angustia – Angustia. Arheologie, Etnografie, Sfântu Gheorghe
Anmed – Anmed. Anadolu Akdenizi Arkeoloji Haberleri, Antalya, Turcia
Antiquity – Antiquity. A Quarterly Review of Archaeology, University of York
AnUCraiova – Analele Universității din Craiova, Craiova (seria Istorie)
AO – Arhivele Olteniei
Apulum – Acta Musei Apulensis. Muzeul Național al Unirii, Alba Iulia
Archaeol Anthropol Sci – Archaeological and Anthropological Sciences
ArchBulg – Archaeologia Bulgarica, Sofia
ArchÉrt – Archaeológiai Értesítő, Budapest
ArchHung – Archaeologia Hungarica, Acta Archaeologica Musei Nationalis Hungarici, Budapest
Area – Area. Royal Geographical Society, London
Argesis – Argesis. Muzeul Județean Argeș. Pitești
ArhDIUkrajn – Arheologija i Danija Istorija Ukraini, Institut Arheologij NAN Ukrainj, Kijv
ArheologijaKiiv – Arheologija. Nacional'na akademija nauk Ukraini. Institut arheologii, Kiev
ArheologijaSSSR – Arheologija SSSR. Svod Archeologičeskih Istočnikov, Moscova
ArhMold – Arheologia Moldovei, Iași
ArhPrevMoldova – Arheologia Preventivă în Republica Moldova
BA – Biblioteca de Arheologie, București
BARIntSer – British Archaeological Reports. International Series, Oxford
BCH – Bulletin de Correspondance Hellénique, Athènes-Paris
BCMI – Buletinul Comisiunii Monumentelor Istorice
BerRGK – Bericht der Römisch-Germanischen Kommission des Deutschen Archäologischen Instituts, Frankfurt am Main
BibIstroPontica-A – Biblioteca Istro-Pontica. Seria Arheologie, Tulcea
BibIMemAnt – Bibliotheca Memoriae Antiquitatis, Piatra-Neamț
BibIThrac – Bibliotheca Thracologica, București
BMC – *Coins of the Roman Empire in the British Museum*, Londra; II, *Vespasian to Domitian*, 1930; IV, *Antoninus Pius to Commodus*, 1968; V, *Pertinax to Elagabalus*, 1950 (H. Mattingly)
BMI – Buletinul Monumentelor Istorice
BMJT – Buletinul Muzeului Județean Teleorman, Alexandria
BOR – Biserica Ortodoxă Română
BSA – British School at Athens, Athens
BSNR – Buletinul Societății Numismatice Române, București
BSPF – Bulletin de la Société Préhistorique Française, Paris
BSSC – Buletinul Societății de Științe din Cluj
CA – Cercetări Arheologice. Muzeul Național de Istorie a României, București
Carpica – Carpica. Complexul Muzeal „Iulian Antonescu” Bacău, Bacău

- CCA – Cronica Cercetărilor Arheologice din România, București
- CCDJ – Cultură și Civilizație la Dunărea de Jos, Călărași
- Cerclst – Cercetări Istorice, Muzeul de Istorie a Moldovei, Iași
- Cumidava – Cumidava. Culegere de studii și cercetări. Muzeul de Istorie Brașov
- Current Anthropology – Current Anthropology. University of California, Merced
- Dacia – Dacia (Nouvelle Série). Revue d'archéologie et d'histoire ancienne. Académie Roumaine. Institut d'archéologie « V. Pârvan », Bucarest
- Danubius – Danubius, Revista Muzeului de Istorie Galați
- DHA – Dialogues d'histoire ancienne, Institut des Sciences et Techniques de l'Antiquité
- DissArch – Dissertationes Archaeologicae. Eötvös Loránd University, Budapest
- Documenta Praehistorica – Documenta Praehistorica, University of Ljubljana, Faculty of Arts, Department of Archaeology, Ljubljana
- EphemNap – Ephemeris Napocensis. Academia Română, Institutul de Arheologie și Istoria Artei, Cluj-Napoca
- FolArchPoznan – Folia Praehistorica Posnaniensia, Instytut Archeologii, Poznań
- Germania – Germania. Anzeiger der Römisch-Germanischen Kommission des Deutschen Archäologischen Instituts, Frankfurt
- Hill¹ – P.V. Hill, *The dating and the arrangement of the undated coins of Rome, A.D. 98–148*, Londra, 1970
- Hill² – P.V. Hill, *The coinage of Septimius Severus and his family of the mint of Rome, A.D. 193–217*, Londra, 1964
- HOMO – HOMO. Journal of Comparative Human Biology, Stuttgart
- Howgego – C. J. Howgego, *Greek Imperial Countermarks. Studies in the provincial coinage of the Roman empire*, Londra, 1985
- Human Evolution – Human Evolution, International Institute for Humankind Studies and University of Florence
- IJO – International Journal of Osteoarchaeology
- Istros – Istros, Muzeul Brăilei, Brăila
- JAMÉ – A nyíregyházi Jósza András Múzeum Évkönyve
- JAnat – Journal of Anatomy
- JAS – Journal of Archaeological Science
- JDAI – Jahrbuch des Deutschen Archäologischen Instituts, Deutsches Archäologisches Institut, Berlin
- JFS – Journal of Forensic Sciences
- JHE – Journal of Human Evolution
- JRA – Journal of Roman Archaeology
- JRGZM – Jahrbuch des Römisch-Germanischen Zentralmuseums Mainz, Mainz
- JRS – The Journal of Roman Studies
- Klio – Klio. Beiträge zur Alten Geschichte, Berlin
- KST – T. C. Kültür Bakanlığı, Eski Eserler ve Müzeler Genel Müdürlüğü, I. Kazı Sonuçları Toplantısı, Ankara, Mayıs 1979 [Republic of Turkey, General Directorate of Ancient Monuments and Museums, first Turkish annual meeting for the results of excavations, Ankara, May 1979] (1979–2020).
- LRBC, I – *Late Roman Bronze Coinage A.D. 394–498*, Londra, 1965; I, *The Bronze Coinage of the House of Constantine A.D. 324–346* (P.V. Hill, J.P.C. Kent)
- LRCW – Late Roman Coarse Wares, Cooking Wares and Amphorae in the Mediterranean. Archaeology and Archaeometry
- MAIASP – Materialy po Arheologii i Istorii Antičnogo i Srednevekovogo Pričernomor'ja (Материалы по Археологии и Истории Античного и Средневекового Причерноморья), Nižnevarovsk.
- Marisia – Marisia. Studii și materiale. Arheologie – Istorie – Etnografie, Târgu Mureș
- MCA – Materiale și Cercetări Arheologice, București
- MemAnt – Memoria Antiquitatis, Piatra Neamț
- MHÁS – Magyarország honfoglalás kori és kora Árpád-kori sírleletei, Miskolc–Budapest–Szeged–Szombathely
- Mousaios – Mousaios. Buletinul Științific al Muzeului Județean Buzău
- MPR – I. Barnea, Les monuments paléochrétiens de Roumanie, Sussidi allo studio delle antichità cristiane pubblicati per cura del Pontificio Istituto di archeologia Cristiana 6, Città del Vaticano, 1977
- Musaica – Musaica Archaeologica, Univerzita Komenského v Bratislave, Bratislava
- Olba – Mersin University Publications of the Research Center of Cilician Archaeology, Mersin, Turkey
- Oltenia – Oltenia. Studii și Comunicări, Craiova
- Pallas – Pallas. Revue d'Etudes Antiques, Toulouse
- PATABS – *Production and Trade of Amphorae in the Black Sea*
- PBF – Prähistorische Bronzefunde, Münster
- Peuce – Peuce. Studii și cercetări de istorie și arheologie, Institutul de Cercetări Eco-Muzeale, Tulcea
- Pontica – Pontica. Studii și materiale de istorie, arheologie și muzeografie, Muzeul de Istorie Națională și Arheologie Constanța

- PZ – Prähistorische Zeitschrift, Berlin-Mainz
- Quaternary International – Quaternary International. The Journal of the International Union for Quaternary Research
- RAASI – Revista de Arheologie, Antropologie și Studii Interdisciplinare, Institutul de Cercetări Bioarheologice și Etnoculturale, Republica Moldova
- Radiocarbon – An International Journal of Cosmogenic Isotope Research, Cambridge
- RAN – Revue archéologique de Narbonnaise, Montpellier
- RCRF – Rei Cretariae Romanae Fautorum
- Recueil – W.H. Waddington, E. Babelon, Th. Reinach, *Recueil général des monnaies grecques d'Asie Mineure*, I-IV, Paris, 1904–1912
- RevArh – Revista Arheologică, Academia de Științe a Moldovei, Chișinău
- RevMuz – Revista Muzeelor, București
- RGZM – Römisch-Germanisches Zentralmuseums Mainz, Mainz
- RIC – *The Roman Imperial Coinage*, Londra. II, *Vespasian to Hadrian*, 1926; III, *Antoninus Pius to Commodus*, 1930; IV.1, *Pertinax to Geta*, 1968 (H. Mattingly, E.A. Sydenham); IV.2, *Macrinus to Pupienus*, 1938; IV.3, *Gordian III – Uranius Antoninus*, 1949 (H. Mattingly, E.A. Sydenham, C.H.V. Sutherland); VII, *Constantine and Licinius A.D. 313–337*, 1966 (P.M. Bruun)
- RIC, II².1 – I.A. Carradice, T.V. Buttrey, *The Roman Imperial Coinage*, II.1, *Vespasian to Domitian*, Londra, 2007 (ediția a II-a, revizuită)
- RossArch – Rossijskaya Arheologiya. Institut arheologii Rossijskoj akademii nauk, Moskva
- RPC III – M. Amandry, A. Burnett, J. Mairat, *Roman Provincial Coinage*, III, *From Nerva to Hadrian (AD 96–138)*, Londra / Paris, 2015; versiune online https://rpc.ashmus.ox.ac.uk/search/browse?volume_id=3
- RPC IV.1 – V. Heuchert, *Roman Provincial Coinage*, IV.1, *From Antoninus Pius to Commodus (AD 138–192): Cyrenaica to Bithynia-Pontus*, online (2005); https://rpc.ashmus.ox.ac.uk/search/browse?volume_id=4
- RPC V.3 – A. Burnett et alii, *Roman Provincial Coinage*, V.3, *From Pertinax to Macrinus (AD 193–218): Lycia-Pamphylia to Egypt*, online (2024); https://rpc.ashmus.ox.ac.uk/search/browse?volume_id=10
- RPC VI – D. Calomino, A. Burnett, *Roman Provincial Coinage*, VI, *From Elagabalus to Maximinus Thrax (AD 218–238)*, online (2017, 2022); https://rpc.ashmus.ox.ac.uk/search/browse?volume_id=11
- RPC VII.2 – J. Mairat, M.S. Butcher et alii, *Roman Provincial Coinage*, VII.2, *From Gordian I to Gordian III (AD 238–244): all provinces except Asia*, Londra / Paris, 2022; versiune online https://rpc.ashmus.ox.ac.uk/search/browse?volume_id=14
- RPC VIII – J. Mairat et alii, *Roman Provincial Coinage*, VIII, *Philip I (AD 244–249)*, online (2020); https://rpc.ashmus.ox.ac.uk/search/browse?volume_id=15
- SA – Sovetskaja Arheologija, Akademija Nauk SSSR, Institut Arheologii, Moskva
- SAA – Studia Antiqua et Archaeologica, Iași
- SCIV(A) – Studii și Cercetări de Istorie Veche (și Arheologie), București
- SCN – Studii și Cercetări de Numismatică, București
- SEAT – Studien zur Eisenzeitlichen Archäologie Thrakiens, Rahden/Westphalia
- Simpozion Chișinău 2004 – *Simpozion de numismatică organizat cu ocazia comemorării Sfântului Ștefan cel Mare, Domn al Moldovei (1504–2004)*, Chișinău, 29 septembrie – 2 octombrie 2004. *Comunicări, studii și note*, București, 2007.
- ŚląskieSprawArch – Śląskie Sprawozdania Archeologiczne, Wrocław, Polonia
- SMMIM – Studii și Materiale de Muzeografie și Istorie Militară, București
- SNG-ANS, *Macedonia I – Sylloge Nummorum Graecorum. The Collection of the American Numismatic Society, Part 7, Macedonia I: Cities, Thracio-Macedonian tribes, Paeonian kings*, New York, 1987
- SNGCop 5 – *Sylloge Nummorum Graecorum. The Royal Collection of Coins and Medals, Danish Royal National Museum*, Copenhaga, 1942–1969 (serie reeditată); V, *Ionia, Caria and Lydia*, West Milford, 1982
- SP – Studii de Preistorie, București
- SprawArch – Sprawozdania Archeologiczne, Warsaw
- StArchBrno – Studia Archaeologica Brunensia, Masaryk University, Brno
- Starinar – Starinar. Arheološki institut Beograd
- StComPitești – Studii și Comunicări, Seria Istorie, Muzeul Județean Argeș, Pitești
- StMatTârguMureș – Studii și Materiale, Târgu Mureș
- StratumPlus – Stratum Plus, Școala Superioară de Antropologie, Chișinău, St Petersburg, București
- Studia Hercynia – Studia Hercynia. Journal of the Institut of Classical Archaeology, Univerzita Karlova, Cehia
- Studia Praehistorica – National Archaeological Institute with Museum of the Bulgarian Academy of Sciences
- Syria – Syria. Archéologie, art et histoire. Institut Français du Proche-Orient
- Terra Sebus – Terra Sebus. Acta Musei Sabesiensis, Anuarul Muzeului Municipal „Ioan Raica”, Sebeș
- Th-D – Thraco-Dacica, București

Transylvanian Review – Transylvanian Review. Centrul de Studii Transilvane, Cluj-Napoca

Tyrageia – Tyrageia. Anuarul Muzeului Național de Istorie a Moldovei, Chișinău

UPA – Universitätsforschungen zur Prähistorischen Archäologie, Bonn

VAH – Varia Archaeologica Hungarica V. Redigit Csanád Bálint. Publicationes Instituti Archaeologici Academiae Scientiarum Hungaricae, Budapest

Valachica – Valachica. Studii și cercetări de istorie și istoria culturii, Complexul Muzeal Național Curtea Domnească Târgoviște

Varia Anatolica – Varia Anatolica. L'Institut Français d'Études Anatoliennes, Istanbul

Vărbănov I – I. Vărbănov, *Greek imperial coins and their values (the local coinage of the Roman Empire)*, I, Dacia, Moesia Superior, Moesia Inferior, Burgas, 2005

Vărbănov II – I. Vărbănov, *Greek imperial coins*, II, Thrace (from Abdera to Pautalia), Burgas, 2005

WorldA – World Archaeology

ZAM – Zeitschrift für Archäologie des Mittelalters, Bonn

Ziridava – Ziridava. Studia Archaeologica, Arad