

# New Archaeological Researches on the Transition Period to the Bronze Age in the Siret and Nistru Areas - the Horodiştea - Gordineşti Culture

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“By the ethnical and cultural contents, South-Est Europe of the Bronze Age is the result of the integration, in its environment with multimillenary tradition, of a succession of allogenous groups, of different origins, which penetrated in these parts of the continent in three large periods: the late Aeneolithic, the transition to Bronze and at the end of the early Bronze” (Roman 1981: 241).

Our study proposes an analysis for one of the problems of the second period - the transition from the Aeneolithic to Bronze Age - namely the chronological contribution brought by the new archaeological researches made in the last few years regarding the Horodiştea or Gordineşti discoveries. The historiographical importance of the integral publication of these excavations<sup>1</sup> is also mentioned, for the understanding of their link with the Ariuşd-Cucuteni-Tripolje civilization, with the other cultures of the transition period, but also with the Early Bronze Age.

*1.1.* The beginning of the epoch under discussion, was prefigured, as we mentioned already, by repeated infiltrations in the area of the Cucuteni-Tripolje civilization, especially documented by the Cucuteni C<sup>2</sup> pottery. The archaeological arguments appear at least from the Cucuteni A<sub>3</sub>-Tripolje BI<sup>3</sup> subphase, growing in the A<sub>4</sub><sup>4</sup>. The prevalent role in the establishing of a chronology and a division into periods of the contact moments between the allogenous groups and the Ariuşd-Cucuteni-Tripolje civilization and then for the Horodiştea-Gordineşti culture, at least at present, is for the pottery. This was thordeghly examined, from the first systematic archaeological investigations until today, especially by the autors of the excavations done in the area of the transition period civilizations, from the Aeneolithic Age to the Bronze Age: to the East of the Carpathians by H.Schmidt (1932), H.Dumitrescu (1940-44), I.Nestor şi E.Zaharia (1968), M.Petrescu-Dîmboviţa and M.Dinu (1974; Petrescu-Dîmboviţa 1978; Dinu 1987), A.Niţu (1977), at South-East and South of Carpathians by D.Berciu, S.Morintz, P. Roman (cf. Roman 1992), or by the archaeologists from R.Moldova, Russia or Ukraina as T.S.Passek (1949), T.G.Movša (1984), V.I.Marchevici (1981), V.A.Dergacev (1989), V.M.Bikbaev (1990, 1994), generally from different angles.

## 1.2. General considerations attached to the molding of the new cultures.

P.Roman, repeatedly, analysed the impulse which led to the molding of the cultures of the Eastern Carpathians, from the South and the South-East of the country for the final Aeneolithic, the transition period from the Bronze Age and Early Bronze. This archaeological approach was permanently correlated, historically or linguistically, with the Europeanization process of these territories. P.Roman considers that the decisive role in this process was that of tribes from the East, ceaselessly moving. A wave of those brought about the displacing of the Gorodsk-Usatovo tribes. This great migration hurried the ending of the big Cucuteni complex, from the Carpathian-Nistru space (Roman 1992: 54, with bibliography). The old Aeneolithic population, assimilated, continued some anterior occupations, but on a small scale and with smaller performances - the agriculture practice, - the oxidant burning of pottery and its ornamentation with painting, etc. This local fund can be found in all the cultures of the transition period of the mentioned space. The percentage represented by this reporting to the new elements within the framework of the archaeological inventories discovered represents the main dating element.

So we underline the chronological ratio value of the two main pottery groups, oxidant or reducing burned. This grew for the transition period cultures, especially of those borned in the area or in the periphery of the civilizations with painted pottery, among which is Horodiște-Gordinești too. A.Nițu considered that "the different and reversed value's appreciation of the two components from this complex, C pottery and painted pottery" were framing base of this stations in the Cucuteni-Tripolje or Gorodsk-Usatovo and Horodiște-Foltești cultures. The last are a new synthesis which "constitutes the initial phase of the evolution of a new cycle (1977, 146-148, 180). These arguments lead to the role's exaggeration of the fine pottery, painted or not, by the importance's transposition which it had in the cultures with previous fine pottery. Although the fine pottery was taken by the new populations of the transition period cultures, most of the times as an luxury<sup>5</sup> object, was in quickly replaced by a more viable category (Sava/Manzura 1994: 170).

2.1. We consider that the *concept of Horodiște-Gordinești culture* can be used for the stations which were stratigraphically, chronologically and topologically dated, post Cucuteni-Tripolje - ante Early Bronze Age, from the unitary cultural areal, represented by the geographic space crossed by the Prut and Siret rivers - middle and superior course, the Nistru river - upper and middle course from the north of Soroca and southern Bug - the upper course.

The material complexes of these sites and these necropolis are the local-fund transformations, a result of the Cucuteni culture, primarily by the normal end of this Aeneolithic culture, which represented also, as we already underlined, the

end of an historical cycle, and secondarily by the new massive penetrations of the steppe populations at the beginning of the transition period. The archaeological material has its own characteristics for the new period, by the new types of sites, sometimes fortified, other shapes of dwellings and household annexes, tools and weapons, modifications of the Aeneolithic plastics, of the rites and funeral rituals, but also by the adaptation or the transformation of the techniques in the frame of the pottery trade. Agriculture is not any more the main occupation, being outrun by the animal-breeding.

*2.1.1. The historiography of the problem* is related, on the one hand, for the space west of the Prut by the researches made in the first eponym station in 1929 by H.Dumitrescu, who included these discoveries in a new period, different from the preceding (1934: 112; 1940-44: 127). With a view to the explanation for the evolution stages of this new culture, also at Horodiştea-Mălăişte were taken back the excavations by M.Dinu, between 1969-1970. Concomitantly, the systematic investigations at the Erbiceni-Dealul Sărăturilor and Dealul Mănăstirea led to the definition of the Horodiştea culture, and consequently the Erbiceni term was added, and the culture was named Horodiştea-Erbiceni (Dinu 1978: 6-8), within the frame of the great complex Horodiştea-Folteşti (Petrescu-Dîmboviţa/Dinu 1974: 19 and the following), sometimes also called, for the continuity of the painted pottery, Gorodsk-Horodiştea (Passek 1949:215; Niţu 1977:208).

The new excavations at Erbiceni, through the important discoveries made here, contributed to the definition of at least two phases and many evolution stages (Dinu 1978: 18). From now on, in the speciality literature for this culture, the term Horodiştea-Erbiceni was used (Dinu 1968: 129-141; idem 1987 with the bibliography; Roman 1981a: 38-39; Chirica/Tănăsache 1994 şi 1995; Maxim-Alaiba 1995), although sometimes parallelly with that, especially in synthesis, the Horodiştea term continued to be used too (Roman 1986: 15; Dumitrescu/Vulpe 1988: 53). Also, for the territory west of the Prut the use of the Horodiştea-Folteşti complex term continued, as it was initially defined (Dinu: 1978: 11-21; Petrescu-Dîmboviţa 1978: 72-73; Niţu 1977, *passim*; idem 1980). Recently the complex was unitarily presented with the name of Horodiştea-Erbiceni-Folteşti (Petrescu-Dîmboviţa, cf. vol.1995: 69-71), through the continuation in the first stages of the Cucutenian painted pottery, fully analysed within the framework of the pottery with painting of the Gorodsk-Usatovo civilization (Niţu 1977: *passim*; idem 1983-84: 62, 66).

*2.1.2.* On the other hand, *the historiography of the area between the Prut and the Nistru*, the silvo-steppe zone is outlined as a consequence of the excavations made at Gordineşti in 1973, by V.A.Dergacev, with a distinct group, the last with-

in the framework of the Cucuteni-Tripolje culture (Dergacev 1973: 100). The discoveries at Gordinești were paralleled from the beginning, by the author of the excavations, with the materials from Horodișteea-*Mălăiște* (1973:100; *ibidem* 1980:119). V.I.Markevici, also at the beginning of the '70s, through the excavations from Brânzeni-Țiganca<sup>6</sup> defined an earlier group, in relation with the one of Gordinești (Markevici 1973: 66; idem 1973a: 56; idem 1981: 46, fig. 89). Nowadays, in the R.Moldova the discoveries of Brânzeni and Gordinești aspects are known in the specialty literature as cultural variants (Dergacev 1989: 135), or cultural groups, defined as relatively independent units (Manzura/Tel'nov 1992: 118-119), or as a cultural type or final period of the Cucuteni-Tripolje culture, constantly dated Tripolje CII, or Tripolje CII - Cucuteni B<sub>3</sub> (Bikbaev 1990: 147-148; Petrenko 1994: only in the explanatory text of the map), but always associated with the discoveries of Horodișteea.

First V.Bikbaev and then also V.Petrenko included in their studies the naming of cultural group Horodișteea, for the final period of the Cucuteni-Tripolje culture. This group was terminologically appointed as a distinct cultural type *Horodișteea (Gorodișteea)-Gordinești*, specifically for the final phase of the Cucuteni-Tripolje culture, for the silvo-steppe area between the Prut and the Nistru (Bikbaev 1990:66; Petrenko 1994: 64). Under the same naming - *Gordinești-Horodișteea* - the type appears mentioned also for the discoveries from Tătărauca Nouă-*Piscul Gol* - (Sava et alii 1995: 296).

### The Internal Chronology and the Division into Periods of the Horodișteea - Gordinești Culture

#### *3.0. The Archaeological Researches in the North of the Romanian Moldova.*

The chronology and the division into periods of the Horodișteea-Foltești culture according to the last manifestations of the painted pottery, was structured by A.Nițu in three phases. He marked the Gorodsk-Usatovo/Horodișteea-Foltești culture with B<sub>3</sub>, indicating the continuation of the painted pottery, not the Cucuteni-Tripolje civilization, until its extinction within the framework of the Horodișteea-Gordinești culture. He included into phase I the settlements of Horodișteea I and II, Erbiceni I, Cucuteni-*Cetățuie (Platoul Laiu)*, phase II with the settlements of Erbiceni II and Cucuteni-*Cetățuie* and phase III, the settlement of Izvoare III (Nițu 1977: 150, fig.1; idem 1984: 96-97, fig.1). Subsequently, he did not renounce this division into periods, even if new investigations in settlements without painted pottery were not made. It is possible that some of the signaled stations in the archaeological repertoires for the Iași and Botoșani counties belong to a level without painted pottery.

D. Marin defined in the evolution of the Horodiştea-Folteşti culture at least two phases, based on the excavations at Horodiştea and Erbiceni. The first phase, Horodiştea I, with many stages, keeps the painted pottery characteristic for the ε and ζ groups. At Horodiştea-*Mălăişte* the first phase was stratigraphically detected through the oldest living level which stretched from the northern edge of the terrace to the defence ditch of that. This phase also includes the settlements of Cucuteni-*Cetăţuie*, Bălteni, Iaşi, Erbiceni-*Dealul Mânăstirea* (Marin 1974: 266-267).

The following phase, Horodiştea II, is present in the settlement of Horodiştea-*Mălăişte* in the newest living level, which contains the dwellings built on both sides of the wall. In this the phase painted pottery is not present, or it appears in a very small ratio. Here are ranged the settlements of Horodiştea II, Erbiceni-*Dealul Sărăturilor*, both levels, Cucuteni-*Cetăţuia*, Cărnicieni-*Pe Coastă* (Marin 1978:18-19; Cucoş 1982: 256-257; Maxim-Alaiba/Grădinaru 1995, *passim*).

VI. Dumitrescu recently established, for the Horodiştea-Folteşti complex, three phases, the first developed at the East of the Prut, "as if its essential elements would be of Cucutenian tradition and continuity, the first phase would have to be met also west of the Prut". This is the reason for our inclusion of the settlements with a Brânzeni aspect in an earlier stage, as it can be noticed from the cumulative table of the most important stations, (cf. Table 1). In phase II the culture extended west of the Prut. Now it is defined through a reduced ratio of style ζ pottery, near the gray pottery with shapes and foreign Cucuteni pottery decor. In phase III "the Cucutenian tradition elements completely vanished, as a result of the total assimilation of the autochthonous population and the disappearance of its cultural character" (Dumitrescu/ Vulpe 1988: 53).

This archaeological-inventory diversity of the Horodiştea-Gordineşti culture stations, justify a division into periods based on three phases, of which the first two keep an ever smaller percentage of painted pottery.

The painted pottery from Erbiceni, especially the shapes of the secondary pottery - tureens with thickened lip -, and the ornament types made I. Manzura consider that the Erbiceni stage, from the chronological viewpoint represents a final stage within the framework of the Horodiştea-Gordineşti group - culture, unknown in the space between the Prut and the Nistru, where the evolution of these stations is suddenly interrupted (Manzura 1994:108). The recent discoveries at Trinca-*Izvorul lui Luca* etc. weakened this supposition.

4.0. *The Researches in the North of R. Moldova*, especially in the '70s, gathered information about two types from the transition period from Aeneolithic Age to Bronze Age, Brânzeni and Gordineşti, well known in the specialty literature. These may be considered, we believe, as eponyms for the first and second

phase of the Horodiște-Gordinești culture, for the space between the Prut and the Nistru. Brânzeni is the earliest phase, archaeologically documented, at least in the present stage of research, with earlier stages related to the ones of its western area, and Gordinești is the following, with numerous parallelisms in the settlements west of the Prut. It is future research which may lead to the discovery of the third phase, which may not have the category of the unpainted pottery. V.I. Marchevici already pointed out, through surface researches, within the framework of the Edineț district, sites without painted pottery.

4.1. The Brânzeni Phase was documented in R. Moldova in at least 30 stations, among which the eponymous settlement of Brânzeni-*Țiganca*, considered as an earlier stage, followed by Costești IV, Văratice-Holm etc. to which are new investigations are added.

The discoveries of the Brânzeni phase are paralleled in South with the earlier stages Vâhvatini and early Usatovo, in the Tripoljan area or in its outskirts with the Jvaneț type, in the Volhynja zone with the Trojanov type and on the middle Nipru with the Lucașeuca type. In the East it was contemporary with the Srednyi Stog culture too, the Derievka stage and the first phase of the Mihailovka culture (Dodd-Oprițescu 1978: 92 and next; Manzura 1994:105-106, fig.1). In the West it is parallel with the first phase of the Renie II, Sălcuța IV-Herculane II-III-Cheile Turzii, then with the Lažnany group, the classical phase of the Trichterbecher culture (Roman 1981a: 26-27, fig.1).

4.1.1. *The Chirileni Stage.* Recently V. Bikbaev proposed, on the base of the numerous stations discovered in the Ciuluk-Soloneț zone, but also in some points of the areas crossed by the middle course of the Prut and the Nistru, a new *type* within the framework of the so called Horodiște-Gordinești group. This was defined following the investigations of the Chirileni III settlement, partially excavated. The new documented *type* is called, as we specified, either Chirileni, after the eponymous settlement, or Pregordinești - as a link between the earlier types Brânzeni or Vâhvatini and Gordinești. The framing in the Chirileni type was achieved on the base of the specific pottery complexes, grouped, like the ones of type Brânzeni and Gordinești, in three pottery categories: - of clay without degreaser, oxidant burned; - of paste with ground shell; - and with fireclay<sup>7</sup> (Bikbaev, 1990:147-148; idem 1994: 66-68, fig.1-2).

Within the framework of the Chirileni *type* V. Bikbaev included numerous stations discovered especially by him, but also by other archaeologists, by surface investigations. So in the middle Nistru basin were mentioned the investigations near the village Climăuții de Jos, but also at Coteala I, Petrușeni III, Alexeevca,

Costești II or, to the north at the Tătărauca Veche and Nouă, Rudi, Arionești. The few fragments from Calfa did not allow their exact inclusion in the Chirileni or Gordinești types (Bikbaev 1994: 66-68, tab. I.A; Sava et al. 1995: 282-290). Discoveries of the Chirileni stage proceed from the East of the Prut, the middle basin, from Perkovcy, Zastynka II, Katerinovka, Miguleni (Bikbaev 1994: 64; map 1A).

V.G. Petrenko proposes some alternative schemes, which starts from the assertions of E.V. Țvek, who divides the Cucuteni-Tripolje civilization into two relatively independent areas - western and eastern. To put it differently one Cucutenian proper, the other Tripoljan, which was receiving the painted pottery from the Cucutenian communities and the porous one from the steppe groups. From this viewpoint the Odessa archaeologist agrees with the painted pottery area, regarding the existence of a Chirileni stage (called by him *type* too), anterior to the station of the Gordinești II - *Gorodiștea-Gordinești type*. As reasons for its chronological maintaining are enumerated also imports of painted pottery with Chirileni decorative aspects. We reproduce here the great number of stations with which he established parallelisms, mentioning that these could be also local productions: either in the Tripoljan area of Mitkov, Țviclovți, Cosijaneț, Sandrachi II, Gorodsk, or in the North-Pontic steppes at Vladimirovka, Jermolaevka, Liubimovka, Belozerka, Taraclia II/10, Dănceni, Suvorovo, Slobodka-Romanovka, Sadovoie and Purcari. Specific decorative aspects for the eponymous settlement of Chirileni III, as he considers, appear also on the pottery fragments discovered at Vâhvatiniți, Oxentija, Grudec Nadbujnyj, together with painted pots of Vâhvatiniți type (Petrenko 1994: 62,64).

The chronology and the division into periods of the Chirileni stage, within the framework of the Horodiștea-Gordinești culture, was achieved starting from the ratio for this two pottery categories and from the shapes typology and the decorative aspects of the painted pottery, sometimes with anthropomorphic motifs. *These reasons lead us to the inclusion of the Chirileni type into one of the final stages of the Brânzeni phase.*

4.2. *The Gordinești Phase* contains, at present like Brânzeni, at least 30 points: Costești, Hancăuți I, Coșcodeni I, Gordinești II, Mereșovca, the graves of Dumeni, Bursuceni, Costești etc., to which are added new discoveries, generally unpublished. The Gordinești phase was paralleled in the South with the late Vâhvatiniți stages, with Usatovo and Foltești. In Ukraine with the Kasperovcy type, through the stations of Pečera, Stena 2, also probably Malye Virmeny, with the Jivotilovka type (Petrenko 1994: 61,64, fig.4), in the Volhynjan plateau zone with Gorodsk, in the East on the Nipru with the late Sofievka variant (Dergacev/Manzura 1991: 211, tab. 2). In the West are paralleled with the Cernavodă II-III

cultures and the Boleráz group, then with the spherical amphoras (Roman 1981a: 30-32, fig. 1).

Worth mentioning is the hypothesis according to which the Horodiște-Gordinești culture has affinity with the Foltești, Cernavodă II and Coțofeni, and to be underlined is its role in the molding of the Foltești cultures of the Lower Prut area or the Lower Danube and Usatovo in the second sequence of evolution (Roman 1964: 315; idem 1976: 77-78; Dinu 1980: 1 and next; Sava/Manzura 1994: 163).

A settlement of the northern side of the Middle Nistru, at Tătărauca Nouă-*Piscul Gol*=V, investigated through a check excavation in 1993, in which we took part too, was analysed on the base of the inventory discovered in the excavated surfaces I and II, inside complexes or levelwise. Also, this time the pottery was the chronologic determinant factor (Maxim-Alaiba 1995: 27, fig. 3; 8/3). It was divided into two categories, fine and porous (rough). The first category contains the fine painted pottery group - with dark-brown paint, on a background with yellow shade through red<sup>8</sup>, in majority with decorative aspects of the Horodiște-Gordinești type, but also of Cucuteni-Tripolje tradition, ζ style. At Tătărauca Nouă-*Piscul Gol* there are the known pottery shapes, like the pots with short neck, externally inclined, with bulged body, ornamented with bands made of five short lines, most of times asymmetrically traced, provided with lids. The fine pottery group was ornamented also with decorative aspects near to the first, but created in another technique - by incisions traced on the ashen-gray walls of the pots, generally polished. The shapes are represented by spherical amphorae, with tall or short cylindrical neck, with turned-down or rounded lip, a emispherical tureens, bowls, lids with cylindrical, perforated handles (Sava et alii: 295-296; fig. 11/2-3; 12; 16-17; 18/8-9). The second category was made of paste with degreaser of ground shell, sand, probably fireclay too.

There have been discovered fragments of pots of large size, with spherical body, ornamented with notches or alveoli on the lip or the shoulder. There are also exemplars with cord-decorated necks, showing straight or wavy bands (*Ibidem*: 296, fig. 11/1, 4-6; 18/1-7).

Starting from the pottery finds of this campaign, from the burning techniques, shapes, or especially its decorative aspects, the settlement of Tătărauca Nouă-*Piscul Gol*, may be considered as part of a stage coming after Chirileni - pre-Gordinești.

A new investigation field for this culture will have the knowledge of the Gordinești materials from the tumular post-Mariupol graves, or of the early Jamnaja culture - Mihailovka II period (Manzura 1994: 107-108). In this sense, we mention the figurines of Serezlievska type in the Mihailovka culture - Siročjansk-Baratovsk stage (Teleghin 1971:15).



The settlement of Trinca-*Izvorul lui Luca*, because of the pottery ratio and the decorative aspects, is included into the classical phase of the Horodiște-Gordinești culture. The archaeological researches made here in 1990, 1994-1996 by O.Levițki in the Hallstatt settlement, and by us in the specific settlement of the Horodiște-Gordinești culture, will be presented in another study<sup>9</sup>.

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## NOTES

1. See in this sense the publication of the most recent excavations at Cărnicești-*Pe Coastă* (Alaiba/Grădinaru 1995), Tătărauca Nouă-*Piscul Gol* (Sava et alii 1995) and from Trinca-*Izvorul lui Luca* (R. Alaiba, in Cercetări arheologice în aria nord tracă, vol II in press). Are also important the surface researches made in this area published by Chirica/ Tanasachi, in Repertoriul arheologic al județului Iași, 2 vol.I-II/1994 și 1995, *passim*, and by the staff led by E.Sava as part of Rudi-Metionum Foundation (vezi Sava et alii 1995: 282-290).

2. Within the framework of the Cucuteni-Tripolje culture, at least for the end of the A phase and for AB, it comes out that a very small ratio, below 1% of the oxidant burned pottery category, painted or not, produced by these communities and those reducing burned, of low quality, considered of external origin. VI.Dumitrescu establishes a small ratio, which descends under 0,05%, without being based on certain statistics (1979: 69). This ceramic category did not direct influence the normal development of the stylistic phases of the Cucuteni-Tripolje painted pottery (Nițu 1977: 147), although it consisted sometimes, by shapes and sets, as dating elements.

3. See the discoveries of Berești-*Dealul Bulgarului* (Dragomir 1985: 101-102, fig.19/2-3; 20-21, Scânteia-*La Nuci* (Mantu/Boroffka 1997, in volume), also probably Coarnele Caprei-*Dealul lui Mercaș*, Bogonos-*Iazul Bogonos II* (Chirica/Tanasachi 1984: 84/XIV.1.B, fig.5/6; 219/XLI.2.D, fig.5/4), Todirești-*Piciorul Corbului* (Ibidem 1985: 400, LXXVI/1, fig.35/3).

4. For the discoveries from the Meridional Moldavian zone can be archaeologically confirmed the pottery fragments probably from Cernavodă I in the settlements of the Cucuteni A<sub>4</sub> subphase, from Dumești-*Între Pâraie*, systematic excavations made by R.Alaiba, or AB from Crasna-*Dealul Albești*, discovered *passim* by Merlan Vicu.

5. The fine pottery, oxidant burned often appears in the graves of the transition period from the necropolis from Vâhvați, Usatovo (Dergacev/Manzura 1991: *passim*).

6. The site appears also mentioned in Brânzeni III (Manzura 1994:105)

7. The last two categories were sometimes presented together, for example the pottery of the settlement from the Chirileni phase from Tătărauca Nouă-*Piscul Gol* (Sava et alii 1995: 295, 297).

8. At Tătărauca Nouă-*Piscul Gol* within the framework of the fine unpainted pottery

category is the most numerous. This fact is explained also through the existing here of an acid soil, which does not conserve the painting, on the contrary they are degrading it.

9. See note 1.

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## ABBREVIATIONS

|               |  |
|---------------|--|
| ActaMM        | Acta Moldaviae Meridionalis. Anuarul Muzeului „Șt. cel Mare”, Vaslui.  |
| AIM           | Arheologija Issledovanija Chișinău.  |
| AKM           | Arheologičeskaja Karta Moldovskoj SSSR, Chișinău.  |
| AȘUIași       | Anuarul Științific al Universității Iași.  |
| A             | Arheologija Kiev.  |
| Carpica       | Carpica. Muzeul Județean de Istorie Iulian Antonescu, Bacău.   |
| CI            | Cercetări Istorice. Muzeul de Istorie a Moldovei (Complexul Muzeistic), Iași.  |
| Dacia         | Dacia. Recherches et decouvertes archeologiques en Roumanie, I-XII, 1924-1947; NS. Revue d'archeologie et d'histoire ancienne, I 1957 et suiv., București. |
| MemAntiq      | Memoria Antiquitatis. Acta Musei Petrodavensis, Piatra Neamț.  |
| MIAEM         | Materialy i Issledovanija po Arheologija Etnografij MoldovySSR.  |
| Praehistorica | Praehistorica, Praga.  |
| RevMuz        | Revista Muzeelor, București.   |
| SCIV(A)       | Studii și Cercetări de Istorie Veche (și Arheologie) București.  |
| Thraco-Dacica | Thraco-Dacica, Institutul Român de Tracologie, București.  |

Table No.1.

The Periodization of the main stations of the Horodiște - Gordinești culture.

## Stations HORODIȘTEA-GORDINEȘTI CULTURE

| Phase               | Phase I  |   | Phase II  | Phase III          |
|---------------------|--|---|---|--------------------|
| Romania             | Bălteni,   | Horodiște<br>Horodiște-<br><i>Mălăiște I</i> ,<br>Cucuteni - <i>Cetățuie</i><br>( <i>Platoul Laiu</i> ),<br>Erbiceni- <i>Dealul</i><br><i>Mănăstirea</i> ,<br><i>Cârnicieni-Pe Deal I</i> | Erbiceni<br>Horodiște- <i>Mălăiște II</i> (?),<br>Erbiceni- <i>Dealul</i><br><i>Sărăturiilor</i> , Topile,<br>Cucuteni- <i>Cetățuie</i> ,<br>Bodești- <i>Frumușica</i> ,<br>Cârnicieni- <i>Pe Deal II</i> (?) | (?)<br>Izvoare III |
| R.Moldova           | Brânzeni   |   | Gordinești  |                    |
| Middle Prut         | Brânzeni-<br><i>Țiganca</i><br>Costești IV   |   | Costești IX, Hancăuți I,<br>Gordinești II, Trinca-<br><i>Izvorul lui Luca</i> ,<br>The graves from Costești,<br>Dumeni...   |                    |
| Middle Nistru       |  |   | Tătărauca Nouă- <i>Piscul Gol</i> ,<br>The Graves from<br>Mereșovca, Țiviklovty   |                    |
| Ciuluc-Soloneț Răut | Chirileni stage<br><br>Chirileni III, Valea<br>Grădinii Sloveanka,<br>Răzălăi, Pepeni I,<br>Coșcodeni Bilicenii<br>Noi |   | The graves from<br>Bursuceni.   |                    |
| Middle Prut         | Coteala I, Petrușeni<br>III, Alexeevka,<br>Costești II (?)   |   |   |                    |
| Middle Nistru       | Climăuții de Jos,<br>Perkovți, Zastynka II,<br>Katerinovka,<br>Miguleni  |   |   |                    |