

# ARCHAIC GREEK FAIENCE IMPORTS IN THE BLACK SEA AREA

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The archaeological excavations carried out at Histria over the last 10 years have led to the discovery — in a clear stratigraphical position — of a spherical faience aryballos. The scarceness of this kind of vase against the total amount of archaic Greek imports in the Milesian colony at Histria has determined us to proceed to a thorough examination of the older finds, in order to see if our piece was unique or if it belonged to a wider group of imports<sup>1</sup>.

Our investigations have proved successful and today we know of 6 faience vases from the city of Histria and its *chora*. Most of them belong to the spherical aryballoi from the 6th century B.C.<sup>2</sup> The examination of both the archaeological contexts and of the differences in decoration has enabled us to date them more accurately.

1. Aryballos. Fragmentary. Inv. B 2577 (fig. 1/1). Found during the excavations at Histria between 1914–1938, in the sacred area A or B. The piece is lost today and so we must reproduce the description given by Marcelle Lambrino who has published it: “Terre claire, de teinte grisâtre, en grains fins et réguliers, analogue à la fritte égyptienne. À la surface extérieure, enduit émaillé, très endommagé, où subsistent encore, çà et là, quelques traces de la couleur bleue primitive. La ligne d’attache de l’épaule à la panse est soulignée par deux cercles en relief. La panse est couverte d’imbrications en relief, en forme de losanges allongés, rappelant l’aspect de la pomme de pin. Parois très épaisses, très irrégulières à l’intérieur”<sup>3</sup>.

It belongs to the 1st group of spherical aryballoi (dating from the second quarter of the 6th century B.C.) characterized by a most elaborate decoration and by a finer technique of production<sup>4</sup>.

2. Aryballos. Fragmentary. Inv. B 2578 (fig. 1/2) belonging to the same set of discoveries as number 1. “La surface est couverte d’une glaçure d’un blanc jaunâtre où subsistent des traces du jaune primitif. La forme est celle des aryballes ronds les plus anciens (Forme A de Payne, *Necrocorinthia*, p. 287). Large et lourd rebord dont le plat s’incurve vers le centre. La panse côtelée”<sup>5</sup>.

It belongs to the group II d of early spherical aryballoi also dated to the second quarter of the 6th century B.C.<sup>6</sup>.

The archaeological contexts of these two pieces are not clearly defined in the text we have quoted. The latter only tells us that one of them was found in the temple of Aphrodite (in fact, as later investigations have proved, in the *temenos* of the sacred area A), together with a Saite scarab and a small terracotta Bes (both of them missing today) and the other piece in the sacred area B together with “Naukratite chalices”<sup>7</sup>. Fortunately, the latter have been published<sup>8</sup>. They have turned out to be 4 fragmentary pieces made in Chios. One of them belongs to the Animal Style group, while the other three to that of Simple Figure Chalices<sup>9</sup>. The dating of these chalices confirms the dating of the two aryballoi based on typological criteria.

<sup>1</sup> This paper could not have been written without the monograph of Virginia Webb, *Archaic Greek Faience*, Warminster, 1978, which, starting from a comprehensive information thoroughly analyses the faience production between 650–500 B.C., organizing the rich body of faience bottles in different groups. It establishes for each group successive evolution phases chronologically enframed.

<sup>2</sup> V. Webb, *op. cit.*, chap. 8, p. 108–121.

<sup>3</sup> Marcelle Lambrino, *Les vases archaïques d’Histria*, București, 1938, p. 34, 36, fig. 5.

<sup>4</sup> V. Webb, *op. cit.*, cat. no. 703–705.

<sup>5</sup> Marcelle Lambrino, *op. cit.*, p. 35, 36, fig. 6.

<sup>6</sup> V. Webb, *op. cit.*, cat. no. 751–757.

<sup>7</sup> Marcelle Lambrino, *op. cit.*, p. 35.

<sup>8</sup> *Ibidem*, p. 301–302, 304–305, fig. 286–289, 291, pl. 2.

<sup>9</sup> J. Boardman, *Greek Emporio*, Oxford, 1967, p. 157, notes 4 and 5; P. Alexandrescu, *Histria*, IV, București, 1978, cat. no. 140–142, pl. 13.

The two groups of spherical aryballoi have a very wide distribution both in the East and the West of the Mediterranean. Their relatively high concentration in Rhodos, in association with other faience objects, as well as formal criteria (such as the quality of the glaze, the fine decoration) have led to the hypothesis that the manufacturing workshop was on the island<sup>10</sup>.

**3. Aryballos. Complete.** Found in 1971 in the area of the archaic rampart wall (fig. 1/3). Ht. 5.2 cm; dm. of lip 3.7 cm; dm. of belly 4.8 cm. Glaze pale turquoise well preserved, faded on the belly. Lip and handle are undecorated except for a line of black brown glaze on the rim of lip. The shoulder has blobs of black brown glaze. An incised line separates the shoulder from the belly decorated with incised cross-hatching. The base is plain<sup>11</sup>.

### Context:

— Fragmentary tripod pyxis with concave sides (fig. 1/7). Ht. 4 cm; Dm. of lip 8 cm; dm. of foot 7.4 cm. Pale greenish buff clay. Linear style. On the outside, horizontal bands. On the foot, oblique lines between double bands. Inside, under the lip and around the base, circular band.

Late Corinthian II. N. G. G. Payne, *Necrocorinthia*, cat. no. 1506, fig. 175 B; CVA, *Heidelberg*, 1, pl. 18/10; CVA, *Sarajevo*, pl. 17/1.

— Fragmentary Greek Oriental dish with ring foot (fig. 1/8). Dm. 16 cm. Brick clay with a grey core. The outside is reserved. Inside a white yellow slip. Red brown glaze. Key pattern at rim: glaze bands.

Late Wild Goat style. Northern Ionia. S. Dimitriu, *Histria*, II, cat. no. 69–121; P. Alexandrescu, *Histria*, IV, cat. no. 121–129.

Fikellura style pottery:

— Fragmentary shoulder of oenochoe (?) (fig. 1/9). Traces of ancient repairs. Fine beige clay, with mica. Yellow beige slip with mica. Black-brown glaze. Chain of lotus buds and flowers. Underneath two rows of blobs. On the shoulder, there is a panel decorated with a winged silhouette and a bird. On the right, the shoulder scene is flanked with a row of blobs and a band of horizontal strokes. Details are reserved. Red retouches on the central petal of the lotus flower, at the base of the buds as well as on the wing and hair of the silhouette.

Group B? R. M. Cook, *BSA*, 34, 1933–34, p. 5–8.

— Fragmentary shoulder of amphora (fig. 1/10). Ochre clay with mica. White-yellow slip with mica. Red glaze. At the top of shoulder tongues pattern. Frieze with birds walking to the right, in full silhouette. Both the form of the tongues and the way the birds are rendered indicates a later Fikellura style.

The third quarter of the 6th century B.C. Group M II 8, R. M. Cook, *op. cit.*, p. 25.

— Fragmentary shoulder of oenochoe (fig. 2/1). Beige-pink clay with mica. White-yellow slip with mica. Black glaze turning to brown. Red retouches on some of the strokes. Panel decorated with diagonal rows of dots alternating with diagonal lines. Side frame of strokes.

The third quarter of the 6th century B.C. Group S, R. M. Cook, *op. cit.*, p. 39–42, pl. 17 g; idem, CVA, *British Museum*, 8, S 13, S 15, p. 3.

— Fragmentary body of oenochoe (fig. 2/2). Beige-pink clay with mica. White-yellow slip with mica. Black glaze. The decoration is divided into two zones, separated by a row of blobs. The right one with bars alternately painted and reserved and the left one with diagonal lines alternating with dots.

The third quarter of the 6th century B.C. The same group as the previous piece.

— Fragmentary body of amphora (fig. 2/3). Brick clay with mica. Black glaze turning to dark red and brown. Fragmentary panel decorated with scales limited by a double line. White retouch.

The third quarter of the 6th century B.C. Group E or S, R. M. Cook, *BSA*, 34, 1933–34, p. 10–11 and 39–42; idem, CVA, *British Museum*, 8, E 8; S 13, 24, p. 1 and 3.

— Fragmentary neck of oenochoe with trefoil lip (fig. 2/4). Fine beige-pink clay with mica. White-yellow slip with a small quantity of mica. Black glaze partially turning to brown. Row of blobs. Underneath open cable with central dot.

The third quarter of the 6th century B.C. Group D 2, R. M. Cook, CVA, *British Museum*, 8, p. 1.

Attic pottery with black figures. Little Master cups.

Lip-cups:

— Fragmentary lip. (fig. 2/5). Dm. 14 cm. Hen to the left. Feathered wing. Traces of white retouch, very decayed, on the breast and on the wing band.

<sup>10</sup> V. Webb, *op. cit.*, p. 114. However, we would draw attention to the fact that, according to some recent studies (see P. Dupont, *Dacia*, N.S., 27, 1983, 1–2, p. 28–29, 37), the theory that in the archaic times Rhodos must have held a main place in the production of artistic pottery starts to be lacking any substance. Hence, we believe that, as long as the workshops have not been discovered, it is only physical-chemical analyses of both the samples selected from the large group of spherical aryballoi and those obtained following geological prospecting works in the areas where these vases are supposed to have been manufactured (Rhodos and Naucratis respectively) could account for their origin.

<sup>11</sup> Nowadays, we know quite well the ancient technological process used to produce faience ware (see A. Lucas, *Ancient Egyptian Materials and Industries*, 4th ed., 1962, p. 155–178; J. V. Noble, *AJA*, 73, 1969, p. 435–439, pl. 121–122; V. Webb, *op. cit.*, p. 2–5. Yet, we shall reproduce below the result of the microscopical analysis on thin

lamellas of the paste of this vase, done by Em. Zah, who presents its mineral composition: "The pottery paste is made up of a mass mainly of silica rough grains, with sizes ranging from 0.01–0.2 mm, representing about 90% of the composition. The spaces between the grains are occupied by a clay-like substance, representing 5–6% of the pottery paste mass. To a lesser extent, there also exist grains of magnetite and haematite. The latter ones are also diffused. Some grains of green Hornblende are sporadically found. The angular aspect of the silica grains suggests the eolian origin of the sand used for the pottery paste, thus certainly resulting from sand hills. The glaze is of silica origin, vitrified, optically isotopic. The pottery paste turns gradually into glaze, suggesting its formation by a superficial fusion of the silica grains at the surface of the vase.

The thickness of the vitrified layer ranges from 0.015 to 0.30 mm, and accidentally to 0.08 mm".

Tleson Painter? E. Pfuhl, *Malerei und Zeichnung der Griechen*, München, 1923, fig. 253; J. Hayes, *Tocra*, I, Oxford, 1966, cat. no. 1056, pl. 77, 78.

— Fragmentary bowl (fig. 2/6). Inside medallion surrounded by circular lines and alternative red and black tongues. Herakles with lion to the right. Red retouches (Herakles' hair and beard, the lion's mane) and white ones (the lion's teeth). Imitation of an inscription.

Band cups:

— Fragmentary bowl (fig. 2/7). Dancing Maenad (?) to the right. Red retouch on the upper side of the peplos. CVA, *Louvre*, 9, pl. 81/3–10; pl. 135/1–4; CVA, *Musei Capitolini*, I, pl. 26/1–3.

— Fragmentary lip and bowl (fig. 2/8). Dm. 20 cm. Sheep to the right. Red retouch on the neck. CVA, *Louvre*, 9, pl. 89/1–3.

— Fragmentary bowl (fig. 2/9). Panther to the right. Red retouches.

— Fragmentary bowl (fig. 2/10). Animal frieze. Panther and stag to the right.

— Fragmentary lip and bowl (fig. 2/11). Dm. 20 cm. Palmette with tendril. Red retouches on the petals and in the middle.

— Fragmentary bowl (fig. 2/12). Palmette with tendril. Red retouch in the middle.

4. Aryballos. Fragmentary (fig. 1/4). Found on the surface of the ground on the Western plateau of the city. Fine dark-coloured paste. Well-preserved turquoise glaze. Dark brown blobs on the shoulder. Belly decorated with incised cross-hatchings. Plain base. Incised line between the shoulder and the belly.

5. Aryballos. Fragmentary (fig. 1/5). Found in the excavations from Tariverde, Constanța county, in 1954<sup>12</sup>. Fine light-coloured paste. Decayed glaze, white-yellow. Traces of brown blobs on the shoulder. The belly has the same decoration as piece no. 4. Unknown context.

6. Hedgehog-aryballos. Fragmentary (fig. 1/6)<sup>13</sup>. Found during the archaeological excavations at Vișina, Tulcea county, in 1982<sup>14</sup>. Fine light-coloured paste. Turquoise glaze. The whole body, including the shoulders, is decorated with incised cross-hatchings. No clear context. It was found in a layer belonging to the 6th century B.C. and the beginning of the 5th century B.C., characterized by the presence of "East Greek coarse pottery, of wheel-shaped grey pottery and hand-made pottery"<sup>15</sup>.

The pieces described above under numbers 3, 4 and 5 belong to the group of spherical aryballoi of the Crudest type<sup>16</sup> with a poor ornamentation, produced in the second half of the 6th century B.C.<sup>17</sup> They derived their form and ornamentation from the earlier types (see our nos 1 and 2) but they closely resemble, in style and fabric the types of hedgehog-aryballoi (see no. 6) and fish-aryballoi which were rendering Egyptian species (*Hemiechinus auritus* and *Tilapia nilotica*). This has led to the hypothesis that the manufacturing workshop was at Naukratis, where at the end of the last century a factory was discovered which manufactured not only scarabs and faience amulets but also the so-called pilgrim-flasks and glazed tiles<sup>18</sup>. If the hypothesis proves right<sup>19</sup> the year 525 B.C.—when Egypt was conquered by the Persians—might be considered as a *terminus ante quem* for the whole production all the more so since it had no successors in the next centuries<sup>20</sup>.

The distribution area of faience aryballoi from Phase III (6th century B.C.) is extremely large, including the whole Mediterranean and the Black Sea. We will not dwell upon the discoveries from the Mediterranean as most of them are well known. Rather, we shall focus on those from the Black Sea, since there exists, as yet, no paper studying them as a whole. They concentrate on the Milesian colonies of Histria, Berezan-Ōlbia, Pantikapaion. No vase of this kind is yet known in the Greek cities on the Bulgarian coast<sup>21</sup>, or in those on the Eastern and Southern shores of the Black Sea.

Our documentation referring to the Northern Pontic area is extremely old<sup>22</sup> and often incomplete (as the illustration and detailed descriptions are missing). We have tried to complete it resorting to Soviet scholars. The information we received<sup>23</sup> has helped us to come up with a more accurate picture of the archaic faience vase imports in the Northern Black Sea area.

<sup>12</sup> Native Greek settlement from the Histrian *chora*, founded in the second quarter of the 6th century B.C. C. Preda, *Pontica*, 5, 1972, p. 77–88.

<sup>13</sup> Thanks are due to our colleague Mihaela Mănușu Adameșteanu from the Danube Delta Museum, Tulcea, who has offered us this piece to publish it.

<sup>14</sup> Native Greek settlement from the Histrian *chora*, 6th century B.C.—early 5th century B.C. See Mihaela Mănușu Adameșteanu, *Materialie*, Tulcea, 1980, p. 157–160.

<sup>15</sup> *Ibidem*, p. 157.

<sup>16</sup> V. Webb, *op. cit.*, p. 119–121.

<sup>17</sup> We think that the context of aryballos no. 3 from Histria enables us to set up a more accurate chronological framework of the production of this type of vase in the third quarter of the 6th century B.C.

<sup>18</sup> J. Boardman, *The Greeks Overseas*, 3rd ed., London 1980, p. 128, fig. 137; V. Webb, *op. cit.*, p. 5.

<sup>19</sup> See note 10.

<sup>20</sup> V. Webb, *op. cit.*, p. 121.

<sup>21</sup> A study trip to Bulgaria has made it possible for us to look thoroughly for this category of pottery in the museums. The result has been negative. We think that its absence is due to the limited character of the excavations on the archaic Greek epoch.

<sup>22</sup> It comes from the archaeological reports published in A.A., 1903–1914.

<sup>23</sup> We would like to thank the Soviet scholar S.P. Borisovskaja from the Hermitage Museum in Leningrad, for the information she provided us.

**Berezan :**

- 5 “spherical aryballoi” (excavations 1900—1901), (Hermitage);<sup>24</sup>
- “many bluish faience aryballoi”, found in the archaic necropolis excavated in 1903 by G. L. Skadowsky<sup>25</sup>;
- 4 aryballoi partly fragmentary, discovered during the excavations from 1968—1980 (Hermitage)<sup>26</sup>;
- figured aryballos representing a grig<sup>27</sup> or a grasshopper<sup>28</sup>, decorated with black spots on the body and incised details (Hermitage, inv. 13267);
- ram-aryballos with a mouse on the back (Hermitage)<sup>29</sup>;
- hedgehog-aryballos (Hermitage)<sup>30</sup>.

**Olbia :**

- 7 aryballoi (Hermitage)<sup>31</sup>;
- 2 hedgehog-aryballoi, one of them having a “kneeling man” on the back<sup>32</sup> and the other (partly preserved) a woman’s head (Hermitage)<sup>33</sup>;
- hedgehog-aryballos, having above a monkey head, crudely outlined (the findplace being probably Olbia)<sup>34</sup>.

This category of hedgehog-aryballoi is a variety of the common type, to which a human head was added, probably standing for a parody of the Pharaonic Sphinx.

- figured aryballos representing a warrior’s head wearing a Ionian type of helmet<sup>35</sup>;
- figured aryballos — Achelous’ head with negroid features (likely to be traced back to Olbia)<sup>36</sup>.

**Pantikapaion :**

- aryballos with cartouche (Hermitage)<sup>37</sup>. The incised name is unfortunately illegible;
- aryballos Crudest type<sup>38</sup>;
- 2 spherical aryballoi (bought in Kerei)<sup>39</sup>;
- figured aryballos representing a monkey and its baby (Hermitage)<sup>40</sup>;
- figured aryballos representing a sitting monkey (bought in Kerei)<sup>41</sup>.

We are fully aware that this list is far from being complete, either with respect to the description or to the number of pieces (there might be other items in the local museums and their stores). However, correlated with the West Pontic finds, it offers a more complete picture of the trade distribution of this kind of pottery in *Pontus Eurinus*:

— Most of the archaic faience vases having circulated in the Black Sea area belong to the group of spherical aryballoi; the Crudest type pieces prevail.

— Figured aryballoi in a variety of forms are also present; among these the hedgehog-aryballoi are the most numerous, the others being represented only by one, or at most two items.

— The manufacturing home for most of the pieces discovered in the Pontus (aryballos with cartouche, Crudest type, hedgehog-, mouse-, grasshopper-, monkey- Achelous’head-aryballoi) seems to be Naucratis, but the workshop or the workshops supposed to have functioned in Eastern Greece are also represented by some vases (the two aryballoi Early Fine Group from Histria, the figured aryballos showing a head wearing a Ionian type helmet from Olbia, and there may be others discovered in the Northern *Pontus*, which have been but vaguely described).

— Chronologically, the distribution of aryballoi in the Black Sea basin covers the entire final phase of archaic faience production (from the second quarter to the end of the 6th century B.C.). However, their distribution is more intense in the second half of the 6th century B.C.<sup>42</sup>

<sup>24</sup> Information S. P. Boriskovskaja.

<sup>25</sup> AA, 19, 1904, p. 106.

<sup>26</sup> Information S. P. Boriskovskaja.

<sup>27</sup> AA, 19, 1904, p. 106; M. I. Maximova, *Les vases plastiques dans l'antiquité*, Paris, 1927, p. 122, pl. 33.

<sup>28</sup> V. Webb, *op. cit.*, cat. no. 953.

<sup>29</sup> Information S. P. Boriskovskaja. As the inventory number of this piece is unknown, we cannot state whether it is identical with the one published by M. I. Maximova, *op. cit.*, p. 103, inv. 13292 “souris égyptienne, engobe bleu, taches noires”, or there are two different pieces.

<sup>30</sup> M. I. Maximova, *op. cit.*, p. 101, note 2.

<sup>31</sup> Information S. P. Boriskovskaja.

<sup>32</sup> AA, 25, 1910, p. 234, 238, fig. 33; V. Webb, *op. cit.*, cat. no. 931.

<sup>33</sup> M. I. Maximova, *op. cit.*, p. 103, note 1.

<sup>34</sup> GNA, Varsovie, Musée National, 2, pl. 41/3—4, inv. 148502; V. Webb, *op. cit.*, cat. no. 932.

<sup>35</sup> M. I. Maximova, *op. cit.*, p. 156, note 2.

<sup>36</sup> GNA, Varsovie, Musée National, 2, pl. 41/1—2, inv. 148501; V. Webb, *op. cit.*, cat. no. 855.

<sup>37</sup> AA, 18, 1903, p. 83; V. Webb, *op. cit.*, cat. no. 773.

<sup>38</sup> AA, 27, 1912, p. 342.

<sup>39</sup> AA, 27, 1912, p. 347; V. Webb, *op. cit.*, cat. no. 811.

<sup>40</sup> AA, 27, 1912, p. 342, 345, fig. 30; V. Webb, *op. cit.*, cat. no. 835; S. P. Boriskovskaja informs us that the piece does not come from Pantikapaion, but from Taman.

<sup>41</sup> AA, 18, 1903, p. 83.

<sup>42</sup> According to the available information, only four vases dating from the second quarter of the 6th century

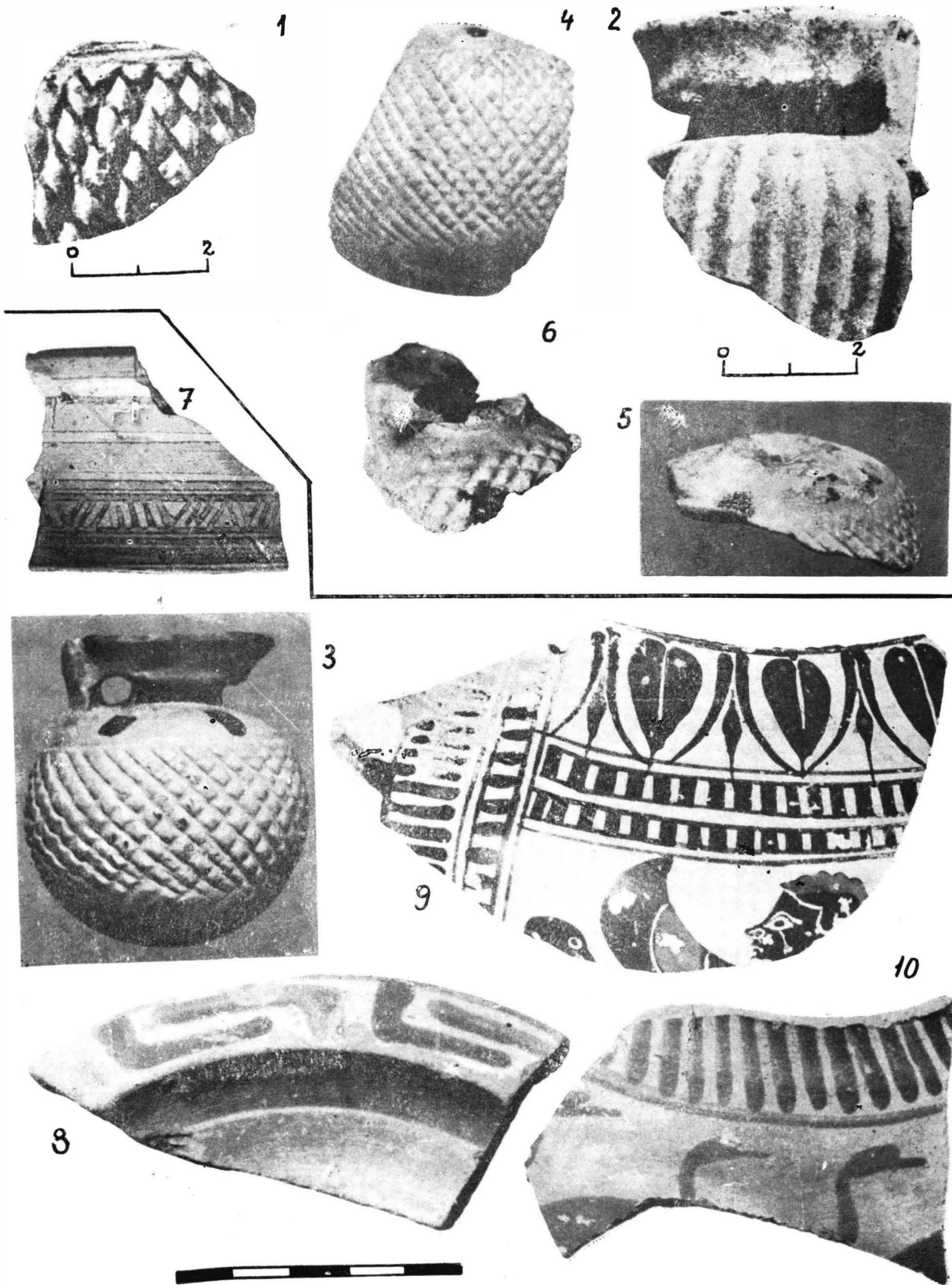


Fig. 1.—1–6 Faience Aryballoi from Histria and its *chora* (1–2 after Marcelle Lambrino, *Les Vases archaïques d’Histria*, București, 1938, fig. 5–6); 7–10 Context of the aryballos n<sup>o</sup>. 3. Corinthian and East Greek pottery.

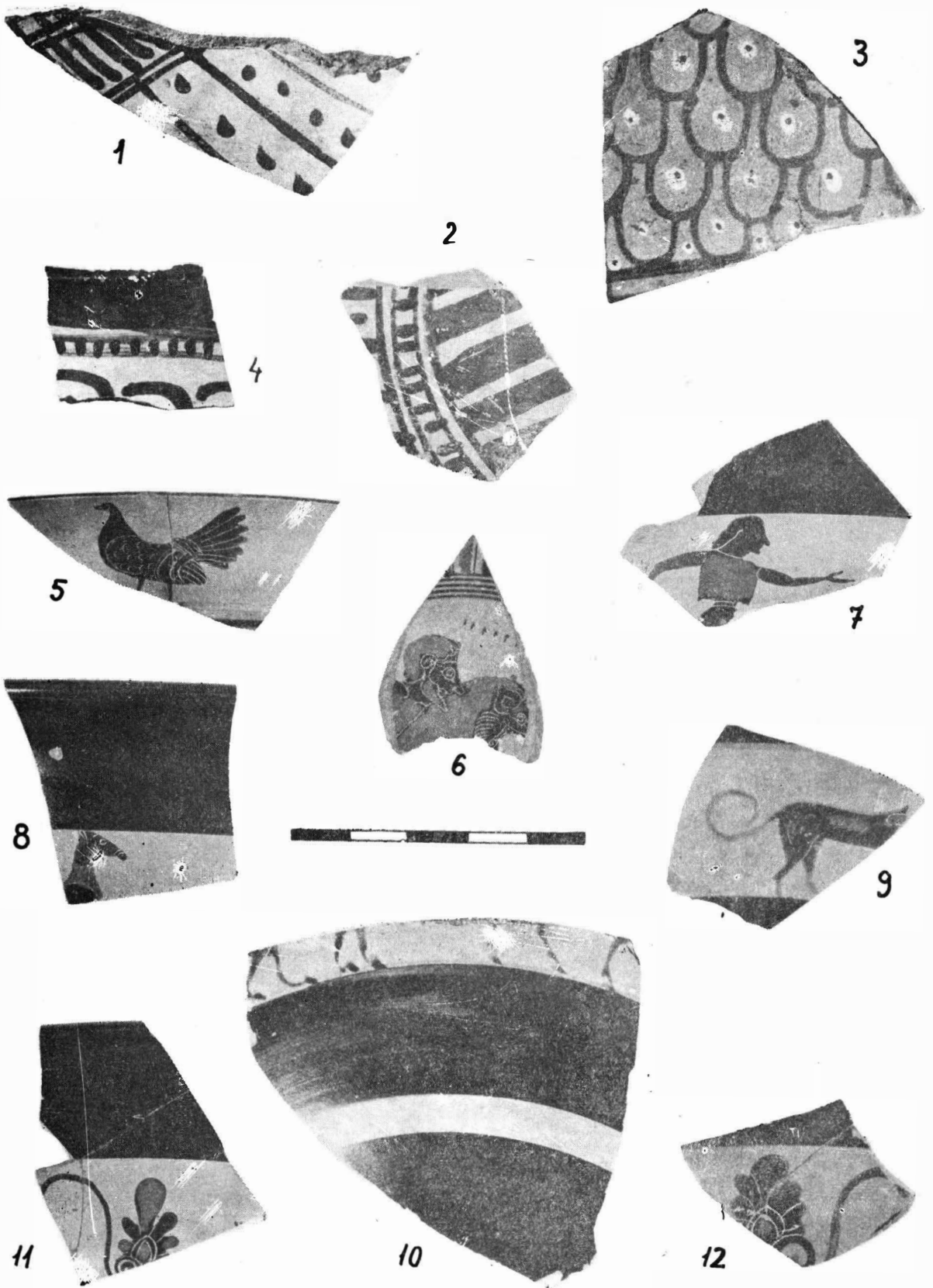


Fig. 2-1-12 Context of the aryballos n. 3. East-Greek and A tice Black-figured pottery.

— We do not observe any preference for a certain category of faience vases (during the 6th century B.C.) which could point to a difference in the sale of these merchandises when comparing the Greek colonies of the Black Sea to those of the Mediterranean. Their almost equal spreading, both in the West and the East of the Greek World, makes it fast impossible for us to establish any main trading routes. There is, however, one thing we can state namely, that faience aryballoi are found in places in which the Greeks from the cities on the Asia Minor shore had interests. Although of separate origins, Aeolians, Ionians, Dorians, they were closely linked, culturally and politically, and had a common interest in their commercial enterprises<sup>43</sup>.

The founding of the factory in Naucratis, in which Chios, Theos, Phocea, Clazomenai, Rhodos, Cnidos, Halicarnass, Phaselis, Mytilene, Samos, Milet and Aegina (as related by Herodot II, 178) had taken part, offers us a clue as to the way the Minor Asian cities were trading.

Aegina, the only city from central Greece associated to this Eastern Greek *koiné*, might raise some questions. Known in the archaic epoch as an important sea power, it was directly involved in the Egyptian grain trade since it was interested in supplying to its own needs and, maybe, in distributing the grain in central Greece<sup>44</sup>. The rich series of East Greek pottery discovered on the island<sup>45</sup>, as well as the Chian chalices offered by Aristophanes to Aphrodite, at Naucratis and Aegina<sup>46</sup>, are supplementary evidence of its connections with the cities on the shore of Asia Minor. Moreover, nowadays it looks like certain that it had taken part, within the same *koiné* in the trade of the Black Sea<sup>47</sup> and Etruria<sup>48</sup>.

Special emphasis has been laid on Aegina as the considerable quantity of faience discovered on the island might have indicated, as with Attic and Corinthian pottery<sup>49</sup>, that it was the main provider in the archaic Greek world. But, we believe that there exists as yet little evidence to lend support to such a hypothesis.

Under the circumstances, we believe that the category of pottery we have dealt with in the present paper had been distributed in the Black Sea and in the Mediterranean area by the same community of Eastern Greek cities together with Aegina. And it is only when the study of the pottery has made sufficient progress to break up the production by each of the major Eastern Greek centres, that we will be in a position to state, by re-analyzing the contexts where the faience vases were discovered—which city, or cities, in this *koiné* was, or were, interested in their sale.

B.C. have been discovered so far. They are: two spherical aryballoi Early Fine Group at Histria, a figured aryballosh-head with Ionian helmet at Olbia, and an aryballos with cartouche at Pantikapaion. We state this as there might be other pieces among the Northern *Pontus* discoveries that have not been accessible to us or others, and which, because of their compendious description could not be typologically and chronologically classified.

<sup>43</sup> C. Roeluck, *Ionian Trade and Colonisation*, New York, 1959, p. 134.

<sup>44</sup> J. Boardman, *op. cit.*, p. 129; M. M. Austin, *Greece and Egypt in the Archaic Age*, Cambridge, 1970, p. 25 and note 5.

<sup>45</sup> E. Walter Karydi, *Alt-Agina*, 11, 1, Mainz, 1982, p. 9–18.

<sup>46</sup> J. Boardman, *op. cit.*, p. 131.

<sup>47</sup> The oldest literary source concerning the relations between Aegina and *Pontus Euxinus* is an excerpt from Herodotus VII, 147, which refers to ships, unfortunately un-identified, perhaps Ionian, that were carrying grain from the Black Sea to Aegina and Peloponese during the Persian invasion of Xerxes.

We should add the discovery at Olbia of an anepigraphical amphora stamp, representing a marine turtle, Aegina's *parascamon*, also represented on coins (end of the 6th century—beginning of the 5th century B.C.) — see I. B. Brašinskij, *Melody issledovanija antičnoj toryopli*, Leningrad, 1984, p. 40–42 — and of a fragmentary sima, from the first half of the 6th century B.C., considered to have come from Aegina according to the macroscopic analysis of the paste — see I. B. Brašinskij, *Archeologia*, Warszawa, 19, (1968), 1969, p. 51–52: at Histria two chytrai have been found, one fragmentary and the other complete, dating from the third

quarter of the 6th century B.C. — the beginning of the 5th century B.C. respectively, supposed to have come from Aegina — see P. Alexandrescu, *op. cit.*, cat. no. 816. Nevertheless, we doubt that the sima from Olbia and the cooking wares at Histria can be assigned to a manufacturing centre (that is Aegina) only by a macroscopic analysis. In order to be sure we need at least thin layers mineral microscopic analyses. See for this subject B. A. Sparkes, Lucy Talcott, *The Athenian Agora*, XII, Princeton, 1970, p. 35–36, pl. 99b, 100a.

To complete the picture of the relations between Aegina and *Pontus Euxinus* we recall the hypothesis of the existence in the Black Sea area of a commercial factory on the Paphlagonian coast, founded by the Aeginetans in order to facilitate the grain trade, called Αἴγινα (RE I, 966) or Αἴγιναίτης (RE I, 968, Suppl. IX, 1037). However, this hypothesis is grounded on late sources.

<sup>48</sup> Concerning Aegina's commercial interests in the West of the Mediterranean we have several pieces of information: corroborated, they have led to the hypothesis of the existence of an Aeginetan merchant Sostratos who was selling Attic pottery in Etruria in the second half of the 6th century B.C.: see Herodot IV, 152; M. Torelli, *PdP*, 136, p. 55–60 (dedication on an anchor to the Aeginetan Apollo by Sostratos); A. W. Johnston, *PdP*, 147, p. 416–423 (SO graffiti and dipinti on Attic vases discovered in Etruria); J. Boardman, *op. cit.*, p. 206. There is another dedication to Apollo also by an Aeginetan, Euarchos, at Gravisca; see M. Torelli, *Les céramiques de la Grèce de l'est et leur diffusion en Occident*, Paris, 1978, p. 215.

Strabon, *Geografia*, VII, 16, 376, also says that the Aeginetans have sent colonists to the Umbrians.

<sup>49</sup> J. Boardman, *op. cit.*, p. 49, 125. For the Black Sea, P. Alexandrescu, *Pontica*, 18, p. 51–52.