
'PUT THE LIGHTS ON': EARLY BYZANTINE STEMMED GOBLETS AND LAMPS FROM THE ACROPOLIS CENTRE-SOUTH SECTOR IN HISTRIA (II)¹

Alexandra Țârlea

Department of Ancient History, Archaeology and History of Art,
Faculty of History, University of Bucharest
alexandra.tarlea@istorie.unibuc.ro

Laurențiu Cliante

Museum of National History and Archaeology, Constanța, Romania
cliante@gmail.com

Abstract: *This paper is the second to be published in a series presenting the glass goblets and lamps found in the Acropolis Centre-South Sector (ACS) from Histria/Istros (Romania). The items presented here were found during the 2017-2018 archaeological campaigns and belong to the category of goblets on folded stemmed foot (Isings form 111), being mainly dated, based on context and associations, to the 6th century – beginning of the 7th century AD.*

Rezumat: *Acest articol reprezintă partea a doua dintr-o serie dedicată publicării cupelor cu picior și lămpilor descoperite pe sectorul Acropolă Centru-Sud (ACS) de la Histria/Istros (România). Piese prezentate aici au fost descoperite în cursul campaniilor 2017-2018 și aparțin categoriei cupelor cu picior gol (Isings form 111), fiind datate în general, pe baza contextului și asocierilor cu alte categorii de materiale, în sec. VI și începutul sec. VII p.Chr.*

Keywords: *Early Byzantine; Histria; stemmed goblets*

Cuvinte cheie: *perioada bizantină timpurie; Histria; cupe cu picior*

INTRODUCTION

The archaeological research in the Acropolis Centre-South (ACS) Sector started in 2013, as a project of the University of Bucharest, with the main objective of bringing to light the Late Roman/Early Byzantine district between the *Cetate* Sector and *Domus* Sector, followed by uncovering what is left of the Early Roman district underneath and the Greek one further down. The ACS Sector covers a surface of approximately 50×40 m (2000m²) just south of the centre of the acropolis of Histria, having to the north the Episcopal Basilica, to the east the *Domus* sector, to the south the Late Roman defence wall, to the south-west another Christian basilica (*Basilica Pârvan* Sector), and to the west the Late Roman/Early Byzantine residential area named *Cetate* Sector².

¹ For the first part of the series, see Țârlea, Cliante 2020.

² Bottez *et alii* 2015, 157-158; Bottez *et alii* 2018, 282-283; Țârlea, Cliante 2020, 301-302.

The excavations conducted so far (2013-2023) brought to light a large structure, conventionally named **Roman building no. 1 (CR01)**, probably a residence similar to those unearthed previously in the *Domus* Sector, flanked to the east and west by two streets (**ST01** and **ST02**), and dated based on the archaeological material to the 6th century – the beginning of the 7th century AD, thus representing the last inhabitation phase in this area of the city³.

STRATIGRAPHY AND METHODOLOGY

The excavation units used for the ACS Sector are 4×4 m trenches, numbered from **C001** onwards; each trench is divided into 1×1 m squares, numbered from A to D on a south-north direction and from 1 to 4 on a west-east direction. The uncovered layers and complexes are recorded as contexts on sheets developed by MoLAS. Each context receives a name that contains the number of the trench (maximum of three digits) and that of the context (three digits). All depths are taken with the optical level from the same point (conventionally called **point 0**), identified in the terrain by a marker set between two large slabs in **street c**, with the Romanian national topographic coordinates (STEREO70) 799964.3467, 345599.9315. Under the vegetal layer of variable thickness there was identified a grey layer of debris (generally recorded as context **001** in all trenches), under which in most cases appeared a yellow layer of debris (generally recorded as context **002** in all trenches). Under these massive layers of debris, marking the destruction of the last Early Byzantine dwelling level, it was identified the living surface of **Roman Building no. 1 (CR01)**, consisting of pavements and highly solidified yellow silt layers⁴.

THE GLASS FINDS

Various categories of glass items are represented in the archaeological record of the sector so far, including window or door glass panes, glass vessels, glass beads⁵, and a lead frame mirror still preserving rests of its reflective glass surface. The first article of this series focused on a number of 31 fragments belonging to stemmed goblets, found during the first four archaeological campaigns on the ACS Sector (2013-2016)⁶. The present article adds to them a number of 11 fragments belonging to the same type of vessel, found during the excavations conducted on the sector in the 2017 and 2018

³ Bottez *et alii* 2015; Bottez *et alii* 2018, 285; Țârlea, Cliante 2020, 301-302, Fig. 1.

⁴ Bottez *et alii* 2015, 158-160; Bottez *et alii* 2018, 284; Țârlea, Cliante 2020, 303.

⁵ Bugoi *et alii* 2022a; Bugoi *et alii* 2022b; Bugoi *et alii* 2022c.

⁶ Țârlea, Cliante 2020.

campaigns⁷. As this series of articles is designed to cover the entire batch of stemmed goblets and lamps from the sector, which will be then re-discussed and placed into context in a dedicated monograph volume, the catalogue numbers will run continuously from one paper to the next, each item having associated a unique catalogue number (thus, the items discussed below will range between Cat. Nos. 32 and 42, coming in the continuation of the glass finds published in 2020 in a previous issue of the *Peuce Journal*).

STATE OF PRESERVATION

As already emphasised in the first article of the series, all the glass items from the last inhabitation level of the sector were found in an advanced state of fragmentation, and frequently are affected by iridescence, pitting, and dark weathering crusts, due to preservation conditions in the soil⁸, as well as in some cases exposure to fire. This situation is very similar to that noticed in the case of other glass finds from Histria, such as those from the Episcopal Basilica⁹ and the Centre-North Sector¹⁰.

TYOLOGY

All the glass fragments discussed in the present paper presumably belong to the category of stemmed goblets (Isings form 111)¹¹. Their degree of fragmentation allowed so far mainly the identification of feet belonging to this type of vessels in the case of the finds recovered during the 2013-2016 archaeological excavations¹², the finds from the neighbouring Centre-North Sector being in a similar situation.¹³

The fragments selected from the total of glass finds excavated during the 2017 and 2018 campaigns consist of 10 feet and a wall fragment with a small vertical handle still attached. The difficulty of identifying body fragments, especially small ones, in the case of the stemmed goblets was previously discussed in the literature concerning ancient glass¹⁴, as they may belong to various types of vessels. A possible exception is the variant of stemmed goblet which presents on the body, below the rim, three small vertical handles with “rat-tails”, disposed at equal distance from each other, allowing the use of the vessel as a suspended lamp if necessary or preferred, possibly in parallel

⁷ For a detailed presentation of the stratigraphical situation and structures, see Bottez 2022.

⁸ Țârlea, Cliante 2020, 303.

⁹ Băjenaru, Bâltâc 2000-2001, 471.

¹⁰ Cliante, Țârlea 2019, 237.

¹¹ Isings 1957, 139-140.

¹² Țârlea, Cliante 2020, 304.

¹³ Cliante, Țârlea 2019, 237; Paraschiv, Țârlea 2022.

¹⁴ Khruškova 2009, 343.

with its use placed on a horizontal surface.¹⁵ Such vessels with three small vertical handles on the upper part of the body, close to the rim, are already attested at Histria, being found, complete or in a state of preservation allowing reconstruction, together with other variants, at the Episcopal Basilica¹⁶.

FABRIC AND COLOUR

The items taken into consideration here are made of medium quality glass, transparent but characterised by bubbles usually less than one millimetre in diameter, mostly spherical, and only in a few cases both spherical and elongated. As it could be also noticed in the case of the previously published fragments from the ACS Sector, usually the spherical bubbles are present in the fabric of the base, while the elongated ones are present, in combination with spherical ones, in the glass of the preserved parts of the walls, as a result of the fabrication process (for example, Cat. Nos. 1, 30¹⁷, and 36).

From the point of view of the glass quality, the selected fragments match very well the items published in the previous paper, and reflect the general situation of the vessels belonging to Isings form 111.¹⁸ Most of the fragments have a medium amount of bubbles, but they cover the whole range from very rare bubbles (Cat. Nos. 9, 10¹⁹, and 39) to large amounts of bubbles (Cat. Nos. 6, 7, 14, 21²⁰, and 36-38).

Starting with the publication of several fragments belonging to glass goblets found in the Centre-North Sector from Histria, the authors decided to assign the finds to four colour groups – green colour, greenish tinge, olive oil colour, and bluish tinge²¹, and this system was also used both for the publication of the first batch of similar finds from the ACS Sector²² and for the publication of a second batch of finds from the Centre-North Sector²³, with the intention of extending its use for future papers, in an attempt to have a homogeneous approach to this matter. Still, it should

¹⁵ Țârlea, Cliante 2020, 304; although even in such cases if the wall fragment is too reduced in size, the possibility that the handle belonged initially to a bowl-shaped variant of lamp cannot be completely excluded (see, for example, items found at the Episcopal Basilica – see Băjenaru, Băltâc 2000-2001, 480, Fig. 4/1).

¹⁶ Băjenaru, Băltâc 2000-2001, 475, Fig. 3/1-2.

¹⁷ Țârlea, Cliante 2020, 305 and catalogue.

¹⁸ Băjenaru, Băltâc 2000-2001, 471, 476; Golofast 2009, 302; Stern 2001, 309-311, Cat. Nos. 172-174; Cliante, Țârlea 2019, 238 and catalogue; Țârlea, Cliante 2020, 305 and catalogue.

¹⁹ Țârlea, Cliante 2020, 305 and catalogue.

²⁰ Țârlea, Cliante 2020, 305 and catalogue.

²¹ Cliante, Țârlea 2019, 238.

²² Țârlea, Cliante 2020.

²³ Paraschiv, Țârlea 2022.

be emphasised that the proposed system covers in reality a vast range of hues, situation already noticed both in the case of the finds from the Centre-North Sector and from the ACS Sector.

Even more, the variation in shade could also characterise in many cases the different parts of the same vessel, due to variations in the thickness of the glass²⁴, a criterion playing an important role in this matter. The fact that the thinner the glass the paler is the shade could be easily noticed previously when the shade of the base was compared to that of the stem and to that of the wall in the case of more completely preserved items from Centre-North Sector²⁵ and ACS Sector²⁶, to which Cat. Nos. 36 and 39 can be added now. Also, in the case of Cat. No. 41, the small handle, clearly made of the same glass as the rest of the vessel, presents a stronger greenish tinge than the wall fragment to which it is attached, due to its comparative thickness.

In the previous paper it was noticed that the fragments characterized by a greenish tinge were predominant, representing 54% of the total of 31 items (17 fragments), while the other colour groups were falling quite far behind: the olive oil colour was present in 20% (six fragments), the bluish tinge in 16% (five fragments) and the green colour in 10% (three fragments) of the cases.²⁷ Out of the 11 items discussed here, eight have a greenish tinge (covering quite a large range of hues, including ones bordering olive oil colour), two are green and one has an olive oil colour, meaning that the greenish tinge group is again the best represented, with approximately 72.8% of the total. The rest of the fragments represent approximately 18.2% and 9% respectively. It can be noticed that, as expected, adding the 11 fragments found during the 2017 and 2018 campaigns to the previously published 31 fragments changes slightly the percentages in which the four colour groups are represented, although the overall image tends to remain quite stable. Thus, the greenish tinge group continues to lead with approximately 59.3% of the total, while the olive oil group remains the second best represented, with 16.7% of the total, and the green colour and the bluish tinge represent each almost 12% of the total. Taking into consideration together the shards displaying greenish tinge and green colour, as drawing a well-defined line between them proves to be difficult in many cases (the variation in shades of green could be probably best described as a continuum), there is a clear predominance of this glass, with more than 70% of the total.

²⁴ Golofast 2009, 302.

²⁵ Cliante, Țârlea 2019, Cat. No. 4.

²⁶ Țârlea, Cliante 2020, Cat. No. 30.

²⁷ Țârlea, Cliante 2020, 306.

DIMENSIONS

As it was previously stated, the advanced state of fragmentation of the discussed items impedes the estimation of the initial height of the goblets and of the diameter of their mouth²⁸, the dimensions most often indicated in the dedicated literature. Thus, the dimensions taken into consideration are the preserved height of the item, the diameter of the stem and/or base, the diameter of the pontil mark (when present or identifiable), and the thickness of the glass in all measurable parts.

In the case of the 11 fragments published here, the diameter of the base, either measured or estimated, falls between 3.7 cm and 5 cm, with most items situated between 4 cm and 4.8 cm. From this point of view, they tend to match extremely well the previously published material from ACS Sector, which presented base diameters between 3.8 cm and 5.5 cm, with most of the measurements falling in the range between 4 cm and 4.8 cm²⁹. Still, it should be emphasised that in the cases where the base was represented only by a fragment the estimation could lack precision, as sometimes the complete items belonging to this type tend to have less than perfectly round bases.

The diameter of the stem ranges between 0.75 cm and 1.3 cm, again a perfect match with the previously published material³⁰.

The thickness of the body wall varies, from 0.06 cm (Cat. No. 39) to 0.15 cm (Cat. No. 36), measured in the bottom area, thus being comparable with the previously published items from ACS Sector³¹. The wall can become as thin as 0.03 cm for the upper part of the body, as it could be noticed in the case of the fragment with the handle still attached, which was situated in the area below the rim (Cat. No. 41). The thickness of the base ranges between 0.2 cm and 0.4 cm, while the thickness of the ring encircling the base varies from 0.25 cm to 0.5 cm. These dimensions also represent a good match to those already published.³² It should be mentioned that there are several instances in which the ring proved to be slightly thinner than the base encircled by it, as is the case with Cat. Nos. 36 and 37.

The diameter of the pontil mark, when present or identifiable, is between 0.8 cm and 1 cm, thus situated a little below the average of 1.1 cm measured in the case of the items found during the 2013-2016 campaigns.³³

²⁸ Țârlea, Cliante 2020, 306-307.

²⁹ Țârlea, Cliante 2020, 307.

³⁰ Țârlea, Cliante 2020, 307.

³¹ Țârlea, Cliante 2020, 307 (thickness of the body wall between 0.1 and 0.2 cm).

³² Țârlea, Cliante 2020, 307 (thickness of the base between 0.15 and 0.4 cm).

³³ Țârlea, Cliante 2020, 307 (diameter of pontil mark between 1 and 1.2 cm).

TECHNOLOGY

The 10 preserved stems among the 31 items previously published were represented by 7 cylindrical/conical stems (70%) and 3 beaded stems (30%).³⁴ Out of the number of 11 items discussed in this paper, only four preserved enough of their stems to allow identification: three are slightly conical stems (75% of the identified stems), while one is beaded (25%). Thus, they do not change the general image, as the total number of 14 surviving stems identified so far is composed of 10 cylindrical/conical stems (ca. 71.5%) and 4 beaded stems (ca. 28.5%). The first variant, the cylindrical/conical stem, is also better represented than the beaded variant (75% to 25%) in the case of the finds which were initially published from the Centre-North Sector³⁵, thus presenting a great similarity to the situation identified so far on the ACS Sector. The second batch of fragments published from that sector contains a number of six out of the total of 11 items which had the stem well-preserved enough to allow the identification of the variant³⁶. Thus, two of the goblets clearly had a beaded stem, while in four cases it is either certain or there are good enough chances to have had cylindrical/conical stems. It can be noticed that taking into consideration all the identifiable stems from the Centre-North Sector leads to a representativeness of 70% cylindrical/conical stems in comparison to 30% beaded stems, so the above-mentioned similarity is still present.

The degree of fragmentation of the discussed items does not allow in all the cases the identification of the manner in which the hollow stem was blocked in order to not let the contained liquid pour or drip. Still, five of the 11 fragments preserve enough of the base and stem to offer the possibility of determining the used method. In all five cases (Cat. Nos. 32, 35, 36, 37, and 39), the stem is blocked with the help of the pontil at the point where it splays to form the base, while in one case (Cat. No. 35) the stem is supplementary blocked also at the upper part by the "bubble" formed by the inferior fold of glass used to create the base and then pushed through the stem towards the bowl of the vessel. These technological choices were noticed in the case of other stemmed goblets as well, the closest analogies coming from the same sector. Several of the previously published items present the same characteristic, with the stem blocked by means of pontil³⁷, while others have the stem blocked at the upper end by a "bubble"³⁸. It could be interesting to notice the tendency of the vessels with beaded stem to have it blocked by "bubble", while the vessels with cylindrical/conical stem

³⁴ Țârlea, Cliante 2020, 308.

³⁵ Cliante, Țârlea 2019, 240-241.

³⁶ Paraschiv, Țârlea 2022 (Cat. Nos. 1 and 4 with beaded stem, Cat. Nos. 3, 5, 8 and 9 with cylindrical/conical stem)

³⁷ Țârlea, Cliante 2020 (for example, Cat. Nos. 5, 7, 13, 26, all vessels with cylindrical/conical stems).

³⁸ Țârlea, Cliante 2020 (for example, Cat. Nos. 1, 2, 12, all vessels with beaded stem).

tend to have it blocked by glass added with the pontil. The fragment blocked both by “bubble” and by pontil (Cat. No. 35) is part of a vessel with beaded stem, but it presents similarities from the point of view of this technological solution with an item with cylindrical stem found in 2015³⁹, so most probably the approach to this matter was far from strictly regulated. The fact that the base is only fragmentary preserved in the case of Cat. No. 35, the ring being broken, represents in this circumstance a happy occurrence, as it helps identifying the technological approach. The superposition of the glass sheet after the ring was created is now extremely visible, and it can be seen how the lower layer was pushed inside the stem in order to close it, creating the “bubble”. Still, it should be emphasised that in many cases the pontil does not survive or survives only as a trace, so it is often difficult to ascertain to which category the finds should be ascribed from this perspective.

Also the creation of the ring of the base seems to be open to various approaches: while in most cases the glass sheet is brought at least at the bottom of the foot, if not pushed inside, creating the “bubble”, for one of the discussed items (Cat. No. 32) the ring looks as if it was created folding the end of the glass sheet. It is, of course, unclear if this treatment was by choice or reflects a technological mistake salvaged in this manner. From this perspective, this item is similar to another fragmentary goblet found on the ACS Sector, which presented an incompletely folded base⁴⁰.

Another aspect to be briefly approached concerns the presence of a poorly preserved decorative pattern on the upper surface of one of the bases (Cat. No. 38). The pattern consists of a radial disposition of relief lines (or channels), spreading from the stem towards the ring. Although preserved almost on the entire surface of the base, its presence can be at present determined mainly by touch, and only on a small part by eyesight. There is no doubt that the amount of pitting and weathering played an important role in the poor preservation of the decoration, but it also seems that this was from the beginning quite discreet, with the channelling pattern barely visible. The closest analogy identified in the area so far is a base fragment from Tropaeum Traiani (Adamclisi, Constanța county, Romania), presenting similar, but seemingly better preserved, radial relief lines⁴¹. In both cases it looks as if the intervention for creating the decoration was made by pressure, before the glass cooled completely.⁴² Another fragment displaying a radial decoration comes from the neighbouring Centre-North Sector in Histria, but in that case the radial lines start from two waving lines closely

³⁹ Țârlea, Cliante 2020 (Cat. No. 15).

⁴⁰ Țârlea, Cliante 2020 (Cat. No. 9).

⁴¹ Boțan *et alii* 2020, Cat. No. 37, Fig. 37a-b.

⁴² Paraschiv, Țârlea 2022, 124.

surrounding the stem; the technique also seems to be different, the intervention being rather made by incision, at least in the case of the circular wavy lines.⁴³

CHRONOLOGY

Although the stemmed goblets belonging to Isings form 111 were in general considered to date from the 4th century AD and later⁴⁴, the finds from well-dated contexts seem to indicate that this shape does not predate in fact the mid of the 5th century AD, reaching a peak in use during the 6th and 7th centuries AD⁴⁵. As previously mentioned, the archaeological record available, both pottery and numismatic finds, so far concurs in placing the last phase of inhabitation of the building where the material was found during the second half of the 6th and the beginning of the 7th centuries AD⁴⁶. In conclusion, it can be reasonably presumed that most of the glass finds discussed in the present paper also belong to this phase, being in use during this time span.

CATALOGUE

32. Code: HIS 17 ACS

ID: 174/2017

Trench: C034

Depth: + 0.71 - + 0.58 m

Context: 34002

Preservation: fragment

Description: partially preserved base encircled by tubular ring; ring seemingly created by folding the end of the glass sheet; completely preserved hollow stem, conical in shape, blocked only at the point where it splays to form the base by means of pontil; pontil mark; iridescence; pitting

Transparency: transparent

Colour: greenish tinge

Bubbles: spherical (< 1 mm)

Quality: medium

Height: preserved 3.2 cm

Diameter:

- **Base:** estimated 4.8 cm
- **Stem:** 0.8 – 1.2 cm
- **Body:** not preserved

⁴³ Paraschiv, Țârlea 2022, 124, Cat. No. 6.

⁴⁴ Isings 1957, 139.

⁴⁵ Stern 2001, 271; Gorin-Rosen, Winter 2010, 168-169.

⁴⁶ Bottez *et alii* 2015; Bottez *et alii* 2018.

- **Rim:** not preserved
- **Pontil:** 1 cm

Thickness: 0.2 cm (base); 0.3 cm (ring); 0.2 (stem)

Analogies: Țârlea, Cliante 2020, Cat. No. 26, 30; Dussart 1998, Pl. 27/10

33. Code: HIS 17 ACS

ID: 286/2017

Trench: C038

Depth: + 0.37 - + 0.18 m

Context: 38000

Preservation: fragment

Description: fragment of a base encircled by tubular ring; iridescence

Transparency: transparent

Colour: greenish tinge

Bubbles: spherical (< 1 mm)

Quality: medium

Height: 1.3 cm

Diameter:

- **Base:** estimated 4.8 cm
- **Stem:** not preserved
- **Body:** not preserved
- **Rim:** not preserved
- **Pontil:** not noticed

Thickness: 0.35 cm (base); 0.4 cm (ring)

Analogies: Țârlea, Cliante 2020, Cat. No. 21; Băjenaru, Bâltâc 2006, Fig. 2/7-8

34. Code: HIS 17 ACS

ID: 470/2017

Trench: C036

Depth: + 0.57 - + 0.45 m

Context: 36001

Preservation: fragment

Description: fragment of base encircled by prominent, well defined, ring; iridescence

Transparency: transparent

Colour: greenish tinge

Bubbles: spherical (< 1 mm)

Quality: medium

Height: preserved 0.6 cm

Diameter:

- **Base:** estimated 4 cm
- **Stem:** not preserved
- **Body:** not preserved
- **Rim:** not preserved

- **Pontil:** not noticed

Thickness: 0.35 cm (base); 0.5 cm (ring)

Analogies: Țârlea, Cliante 2020, Cat. No. 28; Băjenaru, Băltăc 2006, Fig. 2/3, 5, 7, 8

35. Code: HIS ACS

ID: 743/2017

Trench: C023

Depth: passim (correction of the stratigraphical profile)

Context: 23001

Preservation: fragment

Description: almost complete base and stem; base encircled by tubular ring, which is presently strongly affected (margin broken all around the base); beaded stem with only slightly marked bead; small "bubble" formed at the upper part of the stem; iridescence; pitting

Transparency: transparent

Colour: greenish tinge

Bubbles: spherical (< 1 mm)

Quality: medium

Height: preserved 2.1 cm (stem 1.3 cm)

Diameter:

- **Base:** 3.7 cm
- **Stem:** 1.15 cm (knob); 1.05 (upper and lower constrictions); 0.75 cm ("bubble")
- **Body:** not preserved
- **Rim:** not preserved
- **Pontil:** estimated 0.9 cm

Thickness: 0.3 cm (base), with each of the two sheets of glass superposed to form the base presenting a thickness of approximately 0.12 cm

Analogies: Țârlea, Cliante 2020, Cat. No. 12; Gorin-Rosen 1999, 211, Fig. 2/26

36. Code: HIS 17 ACS

ID: 748/2017

Trench: C005/C020

Depth: + 0.23/+ 0.52 - + 0.20 m

Context: 5002/7002

Preservation: fragment

Description: complete base and stem (broken in six fragments upon discovery); base encircled by a barely defined ring; slightly conical hollow stem, blocked by means of pontil at the point where it splays forming the base; small part of the bottom walls preserved; iridescence

Transparency: transparent

Colour: greenish tinge

Bubbles: large amounts; spherical (< 1 mm); elongated (on the preserved walls)

Quality: medium

Height: preserved 2.75 cm

Diameter:

- **Base:** 4.3 cm
- **Stem:** 0.9/1.1 cm
- **Body:** not preserved
- **Rim:** not preserved
- **Pontil:** 0.8 cm

Thickness: 0.4 cm (base); 0.25 cm (ring); 0.15 cm (wall)

Analogies: similar to Țârlea, Cliante 2020, Cat. Nos. 5, 7; Băjenaru, Băltâc 2006, fig. 2/3, 5, 7, 8; Gorin-Rosen, Winter 2010, fig. 2.8; Czurda-Ruth 2007, Taf. 19, 631; Atik 2009, fig. 59

37. **Code:** HIS 17 ACS

ID: 819/2017

Trench: C003/C006

Depth: + 0.73 - + 0.57 m

Context: 3000/6000

Preservation: fragment

Description: fragment of a base, encircled by a narrow tubular ring; the beginning of the stem still preserved; stem blocked by way of pontil; iridescence; pitting; pontil mark

Transparency: transparent

Colour: green

Bubbles: large amounts; spherical (< 1 mm)

Quality: medium

Height: preserved 2.2 cm

Diameter:

- **Base:** estimated 5 cm
- **Stem:** 0.75 cm
- **Body:** not preserved
- **Rim:** not preserved
- **Pontil:** 0.95 cm

Thickness: 0.4 cm (base); 0.3 cm (ring)

Analogies: similar to Țârlea, Cliante 2020, Cat. No. 20

38. **Code:** HIS 17 ACS

ID: 971/2017

Trench: C002/C003

Depth: + 0.51 - + 0.40/+ 0.20 m

Context: 2001/3001

Preservation: fragment

Description: completely preserved base encircled by tubular ring; the beginning of the stem also preserved; barely visible decoration preserved on a part of the base, in the shape of

radial lines, slightly prominent, starting from the stem; iridescence; pitting; roughness; barely visible traces of radial decoration on the base

Transparency: transparent

Colour: greenish tinge

Bubbles: large amounts; spherical (<1 mm)

Quality: medium

Height: 1.9 cm

Diameter:

- **Base:** 4.2 cm
- **Stem:** 0.75 cm
- **Body:** not preserved
- **Rim:** not preserved
- **Pontil:** not noticed

Thickness: 0.3 cm (ring)

Analogies: Boțan *et alii* 2020, Cat. No. 37, Fig. 37a-b; similar to Paraschiv, Țârlea 2022, Cat. No. 6

39. Code: HIS 18 ACS

ID: 61/2018

Trench: C041

Depth: + 0.70 - + 0.58 m

Context: 41001

Preservation: fragment

Description: completely preserved base and stem; base encircled by well-defined tubular ring; conical hollow stem blocked by way of pontil; small part of the bottom wall of the vessel also preserved; iridescence

Transparency: transparent

Colour: olive oil

Bubbles: very rare; spherical (<1 mm)

Quality: medium

Height: preserved 2.75 cm; 1.5 cm (base); 1.2 cm (stem)

Diameter:

- **Base:** 4 cm
- **Stem:** 0.9 cm – 1.3 cm
- **Body:** not preserved
- **Rim:** not preserved
- **Pontil:** 1 cm

Thickness: 0.4 cm (ring); 0.06 cm (wall)

Analogies: Țârlea, Cliante 2020, Cat. Nos. 9, 11; Paraschiv, Țârlea 2022, Cat. No. 5

40. Code: HIS 18 ACS

ID: 147/2018

Trench: C041

Depth: + 0.58 cm

Context: 41001

Preservation: fragment

Description: fragment of a base encircled by tubular ring; iridescence; pitting

Transparency: transparent

Colour: green

Bubbles: spherical (< 1 mm)

Quality: medium

Height: preserved 1 cm

Diameter:

- **Base:** estimated 4.2 cm
- **Stem:** not preserved
- **Body:** not preserved
- **Rim:** not preserved
- **Pontil:** not noticed

Thickness: 0.25 cm (base); 0.35 cm (ring)

Analogies: Țârlea, Cliante 2020, Cat. No. 10

41. Code: HIS 18 ACS

ID: 819/2018

Trench: C035/C036

Depth: + 0.04 - 0.02 cm

Context: 35001/36001

Preservation: fragment

Description: fragment of a very thin wall with a small vertical handle still attached (height of handle 1.2 cm; length of "tail" 1.45 cm); iridescence

Transparency: transparent

Colour: greenish tinge

Bubbles: spherical (< 1 mm)

Quality: medium

Height: preserved 2.6 cm (with 2.5 cm width)

Diameter:

- **Base:** not preserved
- **Stem:** not preserved
- **Body:** not preserved
- **Rim:** not preserved
- **Pontil:** not noticed
- **Handle:** 0.2 cm

Thickness: 0.03 cm (wall)

Analogies: Băjenaru, Băltăc 2000-2001, 475, Fig. 3/1-2

42. Code: HIS 18 ACS

ID: 892/2018

Trench: C008/C036 (W of the walls)

Depth: + 0.51 - + 0.32 m

Context: 8001/36001

Preservation: fragment

Description: fragment of a base encircled by tubular ring; iridescence

Transparency: transparent

Colour: greenish tinge

Bubbles: spherical (< 1 mm)

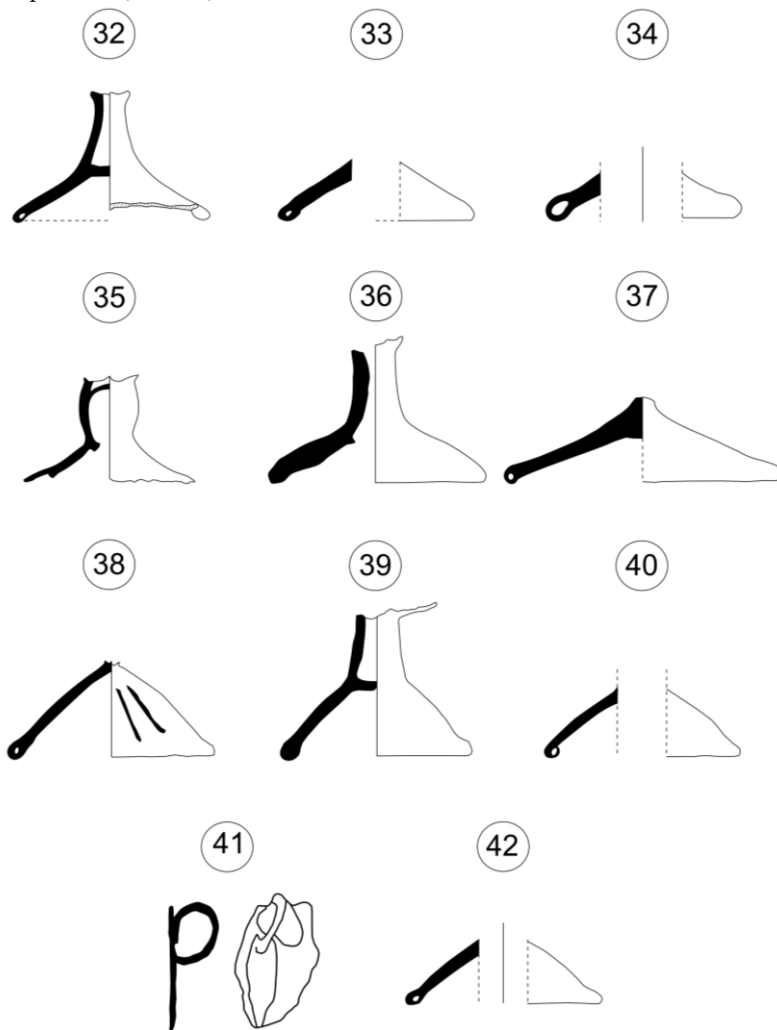


Fig. 1. Fragmentary stemmed goblets from the Acropolis Centre-South Sector (Histria).

Quality: medium

Height: preserved 1.4 cm

Diameter:

- **Base:** estimated 4.2 cm
- **Stem:** not preserved
- **Body:** not preserved
- **Rim:** not preserved
- **Pontil:** not noticed

Thickness: 0.35 cm (base); 0.35 cm (ring)

Analogies: Țârlea, Cliante 2020, Cat. No. 29



Fig. 2. Fragmentary stemmed goblets from the Acropolis Centre-South Sector (Histria).

BIBLIOGRAPHY

- Atik, Ş. 2009, *Late Roman/Early Byzantine Glass Finds from the Marmaray Rescue Excavation at Yenikapı in Istanbul*, in Lafli, E. (ed.), *Late Antique/Early Byzantine Glass in the Eastern Mediterranean, Colloquia Anatolica et Aegaea, Acta Congressus Internationalis Smyrnensis II*, Izmir, 1-16.
- Băjenaru, C., Băltăc, A. 2000-2001, *Depozitul de candelă din sticlă descoperit la bazilica episcopală de la Histria*, *Pontica* 33-34, 469-513.

- Băjenaru, C., Bâltâc, A. 2006, *Histria – Bazilica Episcopală. Catalogul descoperirilor de sticlă (1984-2000)*, Pontica 36, 219-247.
- Bottez, V., Lițu, A., Țârlea, A. 2015, *Preliminary results of the excavations at Histria, the Acropolă Centru-Sud Sector (2013-2014)*, Materiale și Cercetări Arheologice, serie nouă 11, 157-192.
- Bottez, V., Țârlea, A., Lițu, A., Iliescu, I. 2018, *Preliminary report of the excavations at Histria, the Acropolis Centre-South Sector (2015-2016)*, Peuce, serie nouă 16, 281-384.
- Boțan, S., Talmățchi, G., Cristea-Stan, D. 2020, *Câteva descoperiri vitrice din Dobrogea romană*, Peuce, serie nouă 18, 261-298.
- Bugoi, R., Țârlea, A., Szilagyi, V., Harsanyi, I., Cliante, L., Achim, I., Kasztovsky, Z. 2022a, *Shedding light on Roman glass consumption on the Western Coast of the Black Sea*, Materials 15, 1-15.
- Bugoi, R., Țârlea, A., Szilagyi, V., Harsanyi, I., Cliante, L., Kasztovsky, Z. 2022b, *Colour and beauty at the Black Sea coast: archaeometric analyses of selected small finds from Histria*, Romanian Reports in Physics 74, 1-12.
- Bugoi, R., Țârlea, A., Szilagyi, V., Harsanyi, I., Cliante, L., Kasztovsky, Z. 2022c, *Chemical analyses on late antique glass finds from Histria, Romania*, Archaeometry 64, 744-758.
- Cliante, L., Țârlea, A. 2019, *The 6th century AD glass stemmed goblets from excavations in Histria (Centre-North Sector)*, Peuce, serie nouă 17, 235-248.
- Czurda-Ruth, B. 2007, *Hanghaus I in Ephesos. Die Gläser*, Wien, Verlag der Österreichischen Akademie der Wissenschaften, Forschungen in Ephesos, VIII/7.
- Dussart, O. 1988, *Le verre en Jordanie et en Syrie du sud*, Beyrouth.
- Golofast, L. 2009, *Early Byzantine Glass from the Tauric Chersonesos (Crimea)*, in Lafli, E. (ed.), *Late Antique/Early Byzantine Glass in the Eastern Mediterranean, Colloquia Anatolica et Aegaea, Acta Congressus Internationalis Smyrnenensis II*, Izmir, 301-335.
- Gorin-Rosen, Y. 1999, *Glass Vessels from Ras Abu Ma'anuf (Pisgat Ze'ev East A)*, 'Atiqot 38, 205-214.
- Gorin-Rosen, Y., Winter, T. 2010, *Selected Insights into Byzantine Glass in the Holy Land, Glass in Byzantium – Production, Usage, Analyses, International Workshop organised by the Byzantine Archaeology Mainz, 17th -18th of January 2008*, RGZM – Tagungen, Band 8, 165-182.
- Isings, C. 1957, *Roman glass from dated finds*, Archaeologica Traiectina II, J.B. Wolters, Groningen/Djakarta.
- Khrůškova, L. 2009, *Late Antique Glass from the Eastern Black Sea: Christian Context*, in Lafli, E. (ed.), *Late Antique/Early Byzantine Glass in the Eastern*

Mediterranean, Colloquia Anatolica et Aegaea, Acta Congressus Internationalis Smyrnensis II, Izmir, 337-353.

Paraschiv, A., Țârlea, A. 2022, *Early Byzantine stemmed goblets from the Centre-North Sector in Histria (Romania)*, Revista CICSA 8, 119-137.

Stern, E.M. 2001, *Roman, Byzantine and Early Medieval Glass (10 BCE – 700 CE)*, Ernesto Wolf Collection, Hatje Cantz Publishers, Ostfildern-Ruit.

Țârlea, A., Cliante, L. 2020, *'Put the lights on': Early Byzantine stemmed goblets and lamps from the Acropolis Centre-South Sector in Histria (I)*, Peuce 18, 301-332.