



Ancient Landscapes In the Gulf of Varna during the Antiquity

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In the area of the Gulf of Varna, Bulgaria are registered four ancient harbours. The most northern port is castle of Kastritzi. The very early pottery is Early Byzntian and it is dated IV – VI c. AD.

According to Pseudo Scymnos (*Ps. Sc.* 748 - 750) Odessos have been found by Milesians at the time of the Midian king Astiag (second quarter of VI c. BC). This information is repeat by *Ann. PPE* (79 - 80), too. At the same time we have to bring the beginning of function of the bay on the west of Cape Varna. The very early pottery is dated at the middle of VI c. BC.

Along the southern coast of the Gulf of Varna are situated two submerged harbour constructions – “Lazuren briag” and “Galata” from the Antiquity. The highest part of the constructions are at depth 2.5 m below present.

The present cost line in the region of Odessos is very different from the past. For its genesis and development the anthropogenic work is basic. Till now in the area of the modern port of Varna have been found two stone anchors and one lead stock with box. In spite of suitable location and optimum environment other artefacts like this are not found. The exception is one more stone anchors in the Gulf of Varna which is not excavated.

For the correct restoration of the ancient landscapes and location of the ports is clarification of the problem of the Black Sea level changes during the Antiquity. According to our data during the period VI c. \hat{A} \tilde{N} – VI c. AD the sea level was 5 m below present.