

**A new, late Pleistocene, vitrinid species (Gastropoda Pulmonata: Vitrinidae)
from the islet of Andikithira, Greece**

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Vitrina (Oligolimax) cerigottana spec. nov. is described from a late Pleistocene deposit on the islet of Andikithira, Greece. With only conchological characters being available, the generic assignation of this vitrinid species can only be tentative.

Key words: Gastropoda, Pulmonata, Vitrinidae, *Vitrina*, taxonomy, Pleistocene, Greece.

The (sub)generic assignation of vitrinid species (Vitrinidae) should be based on anatomical characters because of the frequent occurrence of very similar shells in taxa with strikingly different genitalia. Whether this conchological similarity is due to either convergent evolution, or evolutionary stasis in shell form, cannot easily be decided. Fossil species can only be tentatively classified, taking into account both morphological and biogeographical data, that are known to be potentially misleading in recent taxa (Kerney & Cameron, 1979). With this in mind, a new vitrinid species is described from a late Pleistocene deposit on the Greek islet of Andikithira, once called Cerigotto by the Venetians, which is memorized by the epithet *cerigottana*.

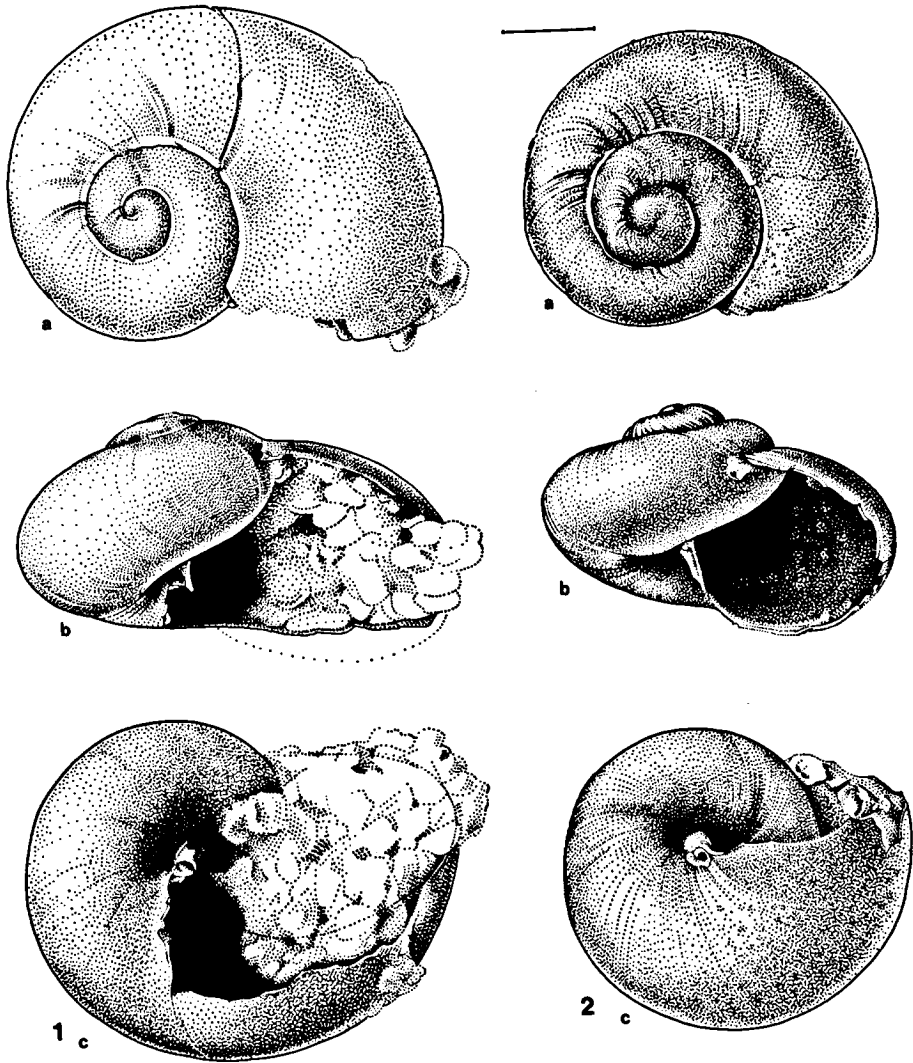
The material cited in this paper was collected by the author and is kept in the Nationaal Natuurhistorisch Museum, Leiden, The Netherlands (= NNM).

***Vitrina (Oligolimax) cerigottana* spec. nov.
(figs. 1, 3)**

Material. — Greece, islet of Andikithira (situated halfway between Kithira and NW Crete), Potamos; 2.5-3.0 m deep, late Pleistocene (16,000 yr B.P.) deposit along a path at the southern side of the village below a chapel, at 25 m altitude (see Gittenberger & Goodfriend [in prep.] for additional details concerning the type locality): holotype (55262) and 24 paratypes (55867), all with the body whorl damaged, in the Nationaal Natuurhistorisch Museum, Leiden, The Netherlands.

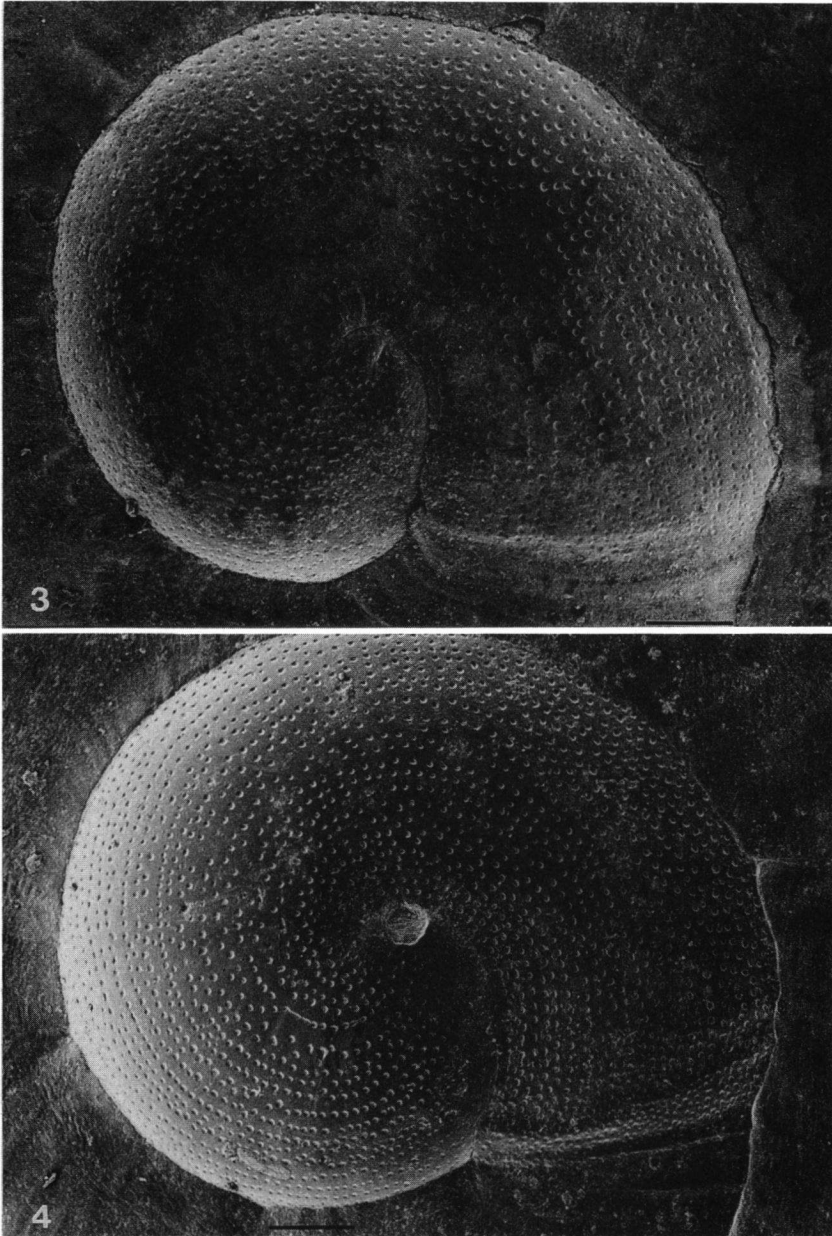
Description. — Shell with up to at least 2½ whorls, increasing rapidly in width and separated by a very shallow suture. Viewed from above, the visible part of the first whorl is about as broad as the second whorl, measured halfway, along the same line, between suture and periphery. In frontal view, there is a low, but distinctly raised spire with sloping sides; the aperture is probably slightly broader than high (uncertain, because the shell basis is usually lacking). The upper part of the columellar margin is reflexed, without closing the umbilicus completely. The embryonic shell has a microsculpture of pits that are more or less clearly spirally arranged only near the transition to the teleoconch (fig. 3).

The holotype has 2 3/8 whorls and is 4.7 mm broad. A relatively well preserved paratype with 2 1/4 whorls is 3.7 mm broad and 2.5 mm high.

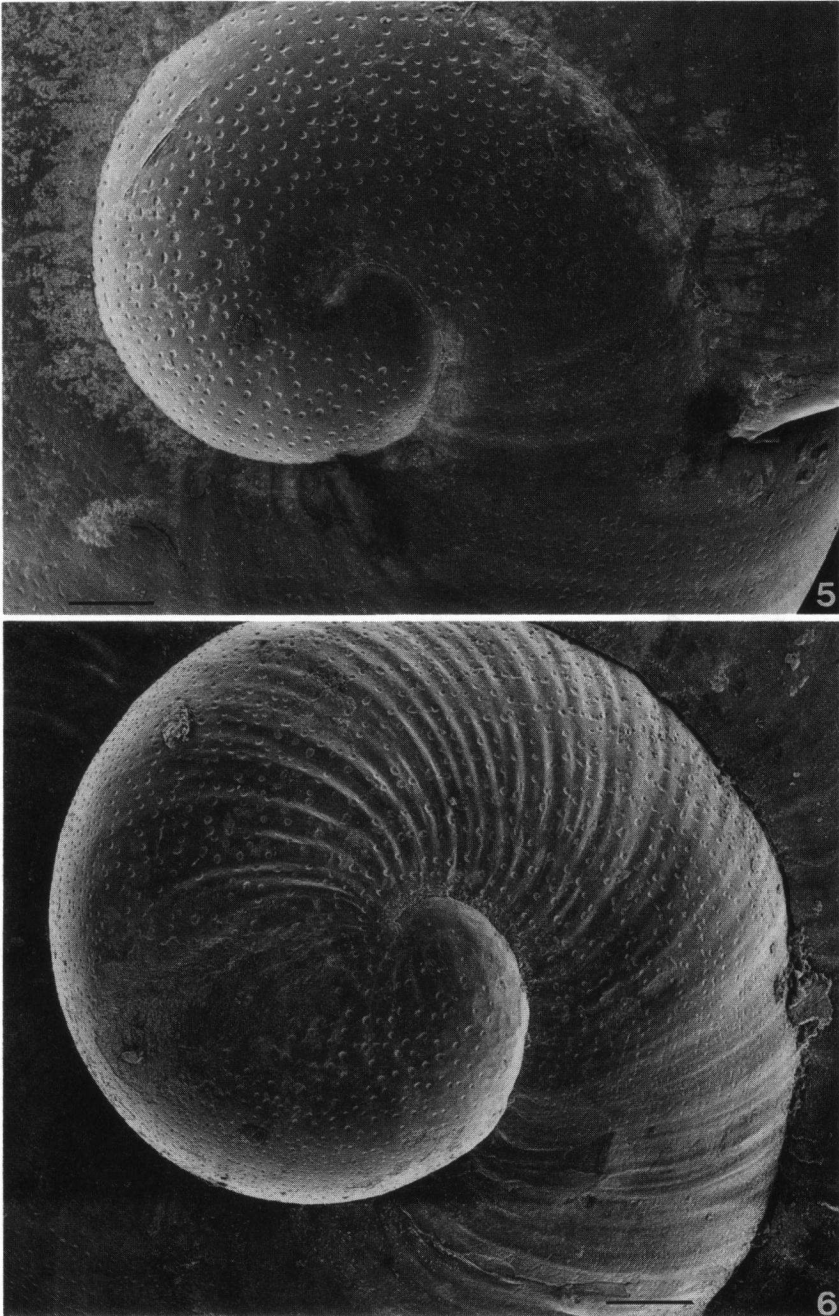


Figs. 1, 2. The two vitrinids of a late Pleistocene deposit at Potamos, Andikithira, Greece. 1, *Vitrina (Oligolimax) cerigottana* spec. nov., holotype (NNM 55262); 2, *Phenacolimax (Gallandia) annularis* (Studer, 1820). Scale bar, 1 mm. I. van Noortwijk del., 1992.

Discussion. — This species is classified with *Vitrina* Draparnaud, 1801, subgenus *Oligolimax* P. Fischer, 1878, because both *V. (O.) bonellii reitteri* O. Boettger, 1880, and *V. (O.) cephalonica* Rähle, 1980, are conchologically similar and geographically relatively close. *Phenacolimax (Gallandia) annularis* (Studer, 1820) (figs. 2, 6) occurs in the same deposit; it can easily be distinguished by a higher spire, more narrowly coiled



Figs. 3, 4. Microsculpture of the embryonic whorls in (3) a paratype of *Vitrina (Oligolimax) cerigottana* spec. nov., and (4) *V. (O.) cephalonica* Rähle, 1980, from the island of Kephallinia, Oros (Mtn.) Aenos, 1600 m altitude. Scale bar, 0.1 mm. Photographs J. Goud, 1992.



Figs. 5, 6. Microsculpture of the embryonic whorls in (5) *Vitrina (Oligolimax) bonellii reitteri* O. Boettger, 1880, from Makedhonia, reg. Kastoria, SE. side of the Grammos Mtn., E. slope of the Epano Arena, 1500 m altitude, and (6) *Phenacolimax (Gallandia) annularis* (Studer, 1820) from a late Pleistocene deposit at Potamos, Andikithira, Greece. Scale bar, 0.1 mm. Photographs J. Goud, 1992.

whorls that are separated by a deeper suture, and a relatively prominent radial sculpture on the apical part of the shell.

Vitrina (Oligolimax) bonellii reitteri, reported from northern Greece (Ipiros) northward to Slovenia (Rähle, 1980: 209), can be distinguished by: (1) a closed umbilicus, (2) initial whorls that increase more rapidly in width, and (3) more widely spaced pits on the embryonic shell (fig. 5).

V. (O.) cephalonica, described from the montane part of the Oros Aenos on the island of Kephallinia is provided with a narrowly open umbilicus, but differs from *V. (O.) cerigottana* by: in frontal view, (1) a more flattened spire, (2) an aperture that is clearly broader than high, (3) relatively lower whorls, and, viewed from above, (4) a second whorl that is relatively broader as compared to the first one, (5) more regularly spirally arranged pits all over the embryonic whorl (fig. 4).

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