



This has been determined to be the earliest gold found in the Balkans. It was unearthed near the village of Hotnitsa, about 14 km northwest of Veliko Turnovo and it dates back to 4100 B.C. The treasure weighs a total of 310 grammes and consists of 44 gold objects: 30 little rings, probably parts of a necklace of a priest, a bracelet of spirally wound wire and 4 anthropomorphic amulets. The objects were found amidst the remains of a building from the Aeneolithic Age. During the excavations, traces were found of buildings, fortifications, a sanctuary, and a workshop for prehistoric idols made of bone. A great number of vessels, sculptured idols, and most varied jewels were also unearthed.