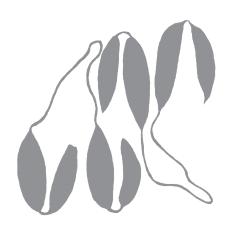
ZIRIDAVA STUDIA ARCHAEOLOGICA

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ZIRIDAVA STUDIA ARCHAEOLOGICA

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The content of the papers totally involve the responsibility of the authors.

Layout: Francisc Baja, Florin Mărginean, Victor Sava

ISSN 2392-8786



EDITURA MEGA | www.edituramega.ro e-mail: mega@edituramega.ro

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Preliminary report on the rescue archaeological excavations in Dudeștii Vechi – 54*

Dorel Micle, Remus Dincă, Octavian Cristian Rogozea, Sergiu Gabriel Enache

Abstract: The archaeological research conducted during the winter of 2020 was determined by the construction of platforms for the extraction of oil and natural gas. Three areas were excavated, with a total surface of 495 m². The discovered features may be ascribed to the 4th and 11th–12th century. From the total of 3rd – 4th century features, 11 are burials (inhumations in simple rectangular gravepits or within circular ditches that surround them). We also connected to magical-funerary aspects a rectangular feature overlapped by a grave surrounded by a circular ditch, where two small dogs were buried. The rest of the 3rd – 4th century features may be interpreted as domestic waste pits. The medieval features belong entirely to the household sphere, three houses and several waste pits being discovered.

Keywords: western Romania; Sarmatian; burial; cemetery; Middle Ages.

The site we investigated¹ between 23.11.2020 and 04.03.2021 lies within the administrative border of the Dudeștii Vechi commune², Timiș County, more precisely, it is located 4.6 km NE of the Orthodox church of Valcani, at 2.9 km SW of the Catholic church of Dudeștii Vechi, 8 km NW of the Roman Catholic church of Teremia Mică and 130 m west of the Valcani – Dudeștii Vechi road (59F). (Fig. 1; Pl. I/1–2).

In the vicinity are known to date, based on field research or systematic excavations, 14 archaeological points of interest with gray pottery (3 sites within the border of Vălcani commune³ and 11 sites within the border of the Dudestii Vechi commune⁴) (Fig. 2).

Assemblages of medieval materials near the area of our research, merge in the vicinity of three archaeological points of interest⁵, to the west and south – west (Fig. 3).

The site was discovered by Francisc Mirciov and Gheorghe Drăgoi. Other field researches were carried out by O. C. Rogozea, F. Mirciov and Gh. Drăgoi in 20.10.2016. during the rescue archaeological excavations performed in the site of Dudeștii Vechi–25 / Mihoc / Cociohatul Mic Ferma 3, the GPS coordinates of the sites known in the Beba Veche-Dudeștii Vechi-Vălcani area were registered or new sites were identified⁶.

The construction of an oil extraction platform led to the first intrusive archaeological research, more specifically in the autumn of 2020, Dorel Micle excavated in the project perimeter 16 diagnostic trenches with a length of eight meters and a width of 1.2 m. The rescue archaeological excavations were initiated subsequent to the intrusive diagnosis, and three areas were excavated, totalling $495 \, \mathrm{m}^2$.

^{*} English translation: Gabriela Safta.

Daniel Hex, whom we would like to thank here as well, also took part in the rescue archaeological excavation. Our thanks also go to our colleague Bogdan Muscalu, who supported us during all draft stages of this text.

² Land Registry 403216.

³ Vălcani-1 (46° 0'48.00"N 20°26'38.39"E); Vălcani-2 (46° 0'49.49"N, 20°26'23.83"E, see: Muscalu 2015, 47-71.); Vălcani-3 (46° 0'48.00"N 20°26'38.39"E).

Dudestii Vechi–15/Movila lui Dragomir- 46° 1'19.70"N 20°28'22.88"E (see: Luca 2006, 100. with the related bibliography); Dudeștii Vechi–36, 37, 51, 52 (see: Micle, Rogozea 2017, 490–494.); Dudeștii Vechi–18 (46° 0'25.88"N 20°28'54.58"E); Dudeștii Vechi–19 (46° 0'51.54"N 20°28'19.40"E); Dudeștii Vechi–20 (46° 0'51.92"N 20°28'40.30"E); Dudeștii Vechi–53 (46°1'8.46"N 20°27'33.75"E); Dudeștii Vechi–63 (46°0'50.03"N 20°27'37.60"E).

⁵ Dudeştii Vechi–*54/a* (46° 1'7.86"N 20°27'2.54"E); Dudeştii Vechi–*54/b* (46° 1'7.36"N 20°27'8.53"E); Dudeştii Vechi–*54/c* (46° 1'20.70"N 20°26'52.79"E).

⁶ See: Rogozea, Rogozea 2016, 152–158; Craiovan, Rogozea 2016, 106–107; Micle, Rogozea 2017, 488–494; Rogozea *et al.* 2018, 266–269; Ciubotaru *et al.* 2020, 45–46.



Fig. 1. Location of the Dudeștii Vechi – 54 site on satellite image (©Google Earth).



Fig. 2. The archaeological points with medieval materials in the proximity of the researched area (© Google Earth).

Area 1 (Pl. 3)

The area was oriented NW-SE. In size terms, it was 27 m long and 10 m wide. The maximum depth reached was of -0.5 m at the north-west end and -1 m at the south-east end. Six archaeological features were identified.

Feature 1 (Pl. 6/1)

Functionality: drainage ditch?

Sizes (outlined): length: 3.1 m; width: 0.59 m; \mathbf{V}_{max} = 0.5 m.



Fig. 3. Archaeological points with 3rd – 4th century materials in the proximity of the researched area (@Google Earth).

Shape: rectangular.

Intrusions: cuts (overlaps) feature 2 (ditch) and feature 4 (waste pit).

Archaeological material: a fragment of iron wire was discovered in the ditch filling.

Dating: -

Notes: in the profile it could be observed that the ditch starts just below the farming layer.

Feature 2 (Pl. 6/1, 2)

Functionality: circular ditch.

Sizes (outlined): length: 3.8 m; width in the upper part (by its mouth): 2.7 m; width of the lower part (by its bottom): 0.5 m; $\Psi_{\text{max}} = 0.7$ m; measured interior diameter: 8.5–9 m.

Shape: circular.

Intrusions: cut by Feature 1, cut by Feature 6.

Archaeological material: in the filling was discovered a gray pottery fragment degreased with fine sand, wheelthrown, and a brick fragment with chaff in the paste, 3.5 cm thick.

Dating: 3rd - 4th century AD

Notes: profile in "pyramid trunk" shape; enters the north-east profile.

Feature 3 (Pl. 6/3)

Functionality: waste pit.

Sizes (outlined): diameter: 2.6 m; $\nabla_{max} = 0.4 \text{ m}$.

Shape: circular.

Intrusions: cut by Feature 4.

Archaeological material: two bone flakes; a base fragment of a pot degreased with sand, a pot wall fragment degreased with sand and crushed shards.

Dating: 3rd - 4th century AD

Notes: on the pit bottom there is a layer of burnt earth, 2–3 cm thick.

Feature 4 (Pl. 6/1, 3)

Functionality: waste pit.

Sizes (outlined): diameter: 2.2 m; ∇ _{max} = 0.5 m.

Shape: circular.

Intrusions: cuts Feature 3. Archaeological material: -. Dating: 3rd - 4th century AD

Notes: -

Feature 5 (Pl. 6/4)

Functionality: posthole.

Sizes (outlined): diameter: 0.4 m; $\nabla_{max} = 0.44$ m.

Shape: circular. Intrusions: -

Archaeological material: ovicaprine bones?⁷.

Dating: -

Notes: enters the north-east and north-west profiles.

Feature 6 (Pl. 6/2)

Functionality: waste pit?

Sizes (outlined): diameter: 1.2 m; $\nabla_{max} = 0.2 \text{ m}$.

Shape: circular.

Intrusions: cuts Feature 2. Archaeological material: -

Dating: -

Notes: enters the north-east profile.

Feature 7 (Pl. 6/1, 5)

Functionality: drainage ditch?

Sizes (outlined): length: 7 m; width: 2.7 m; $\nabla_{max} = 0.75$ m.

Shape: irregular

Filling: black clayish soil.

Intrusions: -.

Archaeological material: -

Dating: -

Notes: oriented SW-NE.

Area 2 (Pl. 4)

The area was oriented NW-SE. In size terms, it was 27 m long and 10 m wide. The maximum reached depth was 0.9–1 m. 30 archaeological features were identified:

Feature 1(Pl. 8/1)

Functionality: house?

Sizes (outlined): width: 2.4 m; $\nabla_{max} = 0.22 \text{ m}$.

Shape: rectangular.

Intrusions: -

Archaeological material: -. Dating: 11th – 12th century?

Notes: enters the south-west and south-east profile.

Feature 2 (Pl. 8/5; Pl. 9/6)

Functionality: pit.

Sizes (outlined): length: 4.36 m; width: 0.9 m; ∇ _{max} = 0.24 m.

Shape: rectangular with rounded corners. Intrusions: cut by Feature 3 (grave).

Archaeological material: -.

Dating: -Notes: -**Feature 3**

Functionality: inhumation

Description: inhumation grave, with the deceased placed on his back, head towards the south and hands stretched at the side of the body (Pl. 8/5; Pl. 9/6). A small pot made of coarse fabric was discovered between the feet. Next to the left femur (stuck to it) there was discovered a biconical spindle whorl. A bronze brooch and bead clustering were deposited in the area of the left clavicle and neck vertebrae. Beads also clustered at the base of the left tibia (Pl. 16/8–35). An oxidized coin was found near the right collarbone. A fragmented copper bracelet (three fragments), circular, was identified on the left forearm. The bracelet green oxide also transferred to the forearm bones. Five limestone beads were found on the left side of the chest, arranged one below the other. Above the right collarbone, near the neck vertebrae, a very poorly preserved limestone bead was also discovered. Another bead was identified midway the left forearm, at approx. 1.5 cm from it, on the interior (on the chest). Under

⁷ The species was determined by Cristian Oprean. We would like to thank him here too.

the right elbow, approximately midway the forearm, on the interior (on the chest) another limestone bead was found. The skeleton is relatively well preserved, except for the skull of which only the mandible and a few bones from the cranial box survived. (Pl.10/1-2).

Sizes (outlined): length: 3.8 m; width: 1 m; ∇ = 0.55 m.

Shape: rectangular.

Intrusions: cuts Feature 2.

Archaeological material:

- 1. Pot with an everted rim, handmade of a coarse fabric degreased with crushed shards. Both surfaces are light brown. Pot sizes are as follows: rim diameter 6 cm; base diameter 4.9 cm; height 9.2 cm; wall thickness 0.7 cm (Pl. 10/6);
- 2. Biconical spindle whorl, modelled of a fine fabric, degreased with fine sand, with smooth surfaces. The spindle whorl weighs 34.8 grams, is 3 cm high, has a maximum diameter of 4.8 cm and a 1.2 cm diameter of the hole (Pl. 10/3);
- 3. Bronze brooch, cross-bow type (Pl. 10/4);
- 4. Clustering of 32 beads (in the left collarbone and neck vertebrae area) (Tab. 1).
- 5. Clustering composed of 925 intact beads and 134 various fragments (by the base of the left tibia) (Tab. 2).
- 6. Silver coin, very poorly preserved, illegible, with a diameter of 1.6 cm and a weight of 1.2 grams (Pl. 10/5);
- 7. Bronze bracelet with a diameter of 6 cm, circular in section (diameter of 0.3 cm) (Pl. 10/7);
- 8. Fragment of limestone bead, circular in section (diameter of 1 cm), 2 cm long, hole diameter of 0.6 cm (Pl. 16/1);
- 9. Limestone bead, circular in section (diameter 1.5 cm), 2.5 cm long, hole diameter of 0.5 cm (Pl. 16/2);
- 10. Limestone bead, circular in section (extremity diameter 0.9 cm, max. diameter 1 cm), 2 cm long, hole diameter 0.6 cm (Pl. 16/3);
- 11. Limestone bead, pentagonal in section (with a side of approx. 1 cm), 2.5 cm long, hole diameter of 0.6 cm (Pl. 16/4);
- 12. Limestone bead, well preserved, 2 cm long, hole diameter of 0.6 cm, max. diameter of 1.5 cm, extremity diameter of 1.3 cm (Pl. 16/5);
- 13. Limestone bead, circular in section (1.1 cm in diameter), 0.6 cm long, hole diameter of 0.6 cm (Pl. 16/6);
- 14. Limestone bead (poorly preserved), circular in section (1 cm in diameter), 1.9 cm long, hole diameter of 0.7 cm (Pl. 16/7);

Dating: 4th century AD

Notes: -

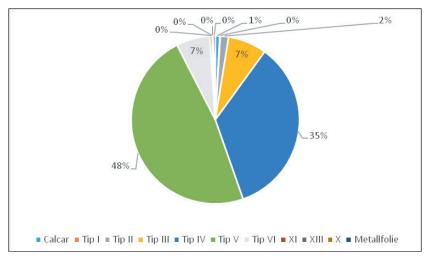


Fig. 4. The share of bead types in Feature 3/grave.

Table 1. Bead types from feature 3 (grave), by the left collarbone and neck vertebrae area.

| | Bead type | Description | No. | Notes |
|-----|-----------|---------------------------|-----|--|
| no. | | | | |
| 1 | Benea I | Flat, circular, dull blue | 1 | beads of the type were discovered in workshop I of Tibiscum, in the inhabitancy level contemporary |
| | | | | with the reign of Marcus Aurelius* |

| Crt. | Bead type | Description | No. | Notes |
|------|--------------------|--|-----|----------------------|
| no. | | | | |
| 2 | Benea V | dark blue, dull | 1 | |
| 3 | Benea V | carmine-pink, opaque | 1 | |
| 4 | Benea V | white, opaque, double (glued together) | 2 | |
| 5 | Benea V | blue, translucent | 1 | |
| 6 | Benea V | dark blue, dull | 7 | |
| 7 | Benea V | dark brown, porous | 1 | 2 fragments, friable |
| 8 | Benea V | pinkish-beige, porous | 1 | half bead |
| 9 | Metallfolie Perlen | triple (3 glued spheres) | 3 | |
| 10 | Metallfolie Perlen | double (2 glued spheres) | 1 | |
| 11 | Metallfolie Perlen | individual spheres | 5 | |
| 12 | | white, tubular, in limestone, diam. | 1 | |
| 13 | Karneol Perlen | brownish-red, translucent | 8 | |

^{*} Benea 2011, 238.

Table 2. Bead types from feature 3 (grave), by the base of the left tibia.

| Crt. | Bead type | Description | No. | Notes |
|------|-----------|-------------------------------|-----|--|
| no. | | _ | | |
| 1 | Benea II | beige, dull | 1 | |
| 2 | Benea II | slightly greenish-white, dull | 7 | |
| 3 | Benea II | green, dull | 1 | |
| 4 | Benea II | white, dull | 6 | |
| 5 | Benea III | greenish, opaque | 59 | Some beads preserve a whitish film in some areas |
| 6 | Benea III | beige, porous | 11 | |
| 7 | Benea IV | blue, translucent | 35 | 56 fragments |
| 8 | Benea IV | green, translucent | 11 | 5 fragments |
| 9 | Benea IV | white, dull | 50 | 34 fragments |
| 10 | Benea IV | green, dull | 159 | 19 fragments |
| 11 | Benea IV | carmine-red, dull | 71 | |
| 12 | Benea V | white, dull, double | 3 | |
| 13 | Benea V | blue, dull, double | 1 | |
| 14 | Benea V | silvery, triple | 1 | |
| 15 | Benea V | green, dull, spherical | 79 | some beads preserve a whitish patch in certain areas |
| 16 | Benea V | green, dull, slightly flat | 65 | some beads preserve a whitish patch in certain areas |
| 17 | Benea V | white, porous | 61 | 60 fragments |
| 18 | Benea V | white, dull | 100 | possibly of the type glued together |
| 19 | Benea V | beige, porous | 12 | |
| 20 | Benea V | light red | 9 | some beads preserve a whitish patch in certain areas |
| 21 | Benea V | light-brown, slightly flat | 19 | |
| 22 | Benea V | beige-orange, dull | 6 | |
| 23 | Benea V | greenish, with read patches | 34 | some beads preserve a whitish patch in certain areas |
| 24 | Benea V | orange, porous | 12 | |
| 25 | Benea V | greenish-beige, porous | 10 | |
| 26 | Benea V | orange | 2 | |
| 27 | Benea V | greenish, porous | 4 | |
| 28 | Benea V | blue, translucent | 18 | |
| 29 | Benea VI | carmine-red | 59 | some beads preserve a whitish patch in certain areas |
| 30 | Benea VI | white, dull | 1 | |

| Crt. | Bead type | Description | No. | Notes |
|------|----------------|-------------|-----|-------|
| 31 | Benea VI | blue, dull | 1 | |
| 32 | Benea VII | | 3 | |
| 33 | Benea XI | | 4 | |
| 34 | Benea XIII | | 1 | |
| 35 | Benea XV | | 1 | |
| 36 | Karneol Perlen | | 11 | |

Feature 4 (Pl. 7/1)

Functionality: ditch.

Sizes (outlined): length: 22.22 m; width: 1.4 m; $\nabla_{max} = 0.6$ m.

Shape: irregular

Intrusions: cuts Feature 15 and Feature 25.

Archaeological material: -.

Dating: -

Notes: oriented NE-SW. Feature 5 (Pl. 7/3)

Functionality: ditch.

Sizes (outlined): length: 11 m; width: 0.36 m; ▼_{max (measured from beneath the faming layer)} = 0.7 m.

Shape: rectangular

Intrusions: cuts Feature 4 and Feature 17.

Archaeological material: -.

Dating: -

Notes: on the SW profiles it may be noted that the ditch starts from -0.35-0.4 m (just below the farming layer), oriented NEE-SWW (parallel to Feature 5a), "U"-shaped profile.

Feature 5a (Pl. 7/3)

Functionality: ditch.

Sizes (outlined): length: 11 m; width: 0.36 m; ▼_{max (measured from beneath the farming layer)} = 0.9 m.

Shape: rectangular

Intrusions: cuts Feature 4 and Feature 17.

Archaeological material: -.

Dating: -

Notes: on the SW profiles it may be noted that the ditch starts from -0.35-0.4 m (just below the farming layer), oriented NEE-SWW (parallel to Feature 5), profile shaped as a "pyramid trunk"

Feature 6

Functionality: inhumation

Description: inhumation grave, with the deceased placed on the back, head towards SW and hands at the side of the body. The skeleton is quite poorly preserved, bones being brittle. The skull (strongly fragmented), hand bones (except the palms), leg bones (except the feet), pelvis and vertebrae fragments survive (Pl. 11/1-2). The grave goods of the deceased consist of a pot placed at the base of the left tibia, an iron knife set near the left femur, parallel to it, on the exterior, a silver coin discovered between the spine and the left hand (approximately at elbow level), an iron brooch discovered on the chest, between the humerus and the spine, and eight iron clamps. The teeth of the deceased show signs of severe abrasion⁸ (Pl. 18/4–6)

Sizes (outlined): length: 1.9 m; width: 0.8 m; ∇ _{max} = 0.5 m.

Shape: rectangular.

Intrusions: -

Archaeological material:

- 1. Ovoid jar with everted rim discovered in the left leg area, handmade, modelled of coarse fabric and degreased with crushed shards. The exterior surface is orange, with black spot (in the upper part). The pot is 10 cm high, 0.8 cm thick, it has a base diameter of 6.5 cm and a rim diameter of 9.5 cm (Pl. 11/3);
- 2. Coin (subaerate denarius) made of silver, with a diameter of 1.7 cm and a weight of 2.8 grams. Coin of Marcus Aurelius, issued between AD 172–1749 (Pl. 11/6);
- 3. Iron knife, with a maximum length of 16 cm (blade length 12 cm), a maximum width of 2.2 cm and a maximum thickness of 0.2 cm. Discovered near the left femur, parallel to it (Pl. 11/4).

Determination kindly made by dr. Laura Beschiu.

Coin determination made by Dr. Cosmin Matei, whom we express our thanks.

- 4. Iron brooch (Pl. 11/5).
- 5. Iron clamps. The pieces are strongly oxidized and fragmented. They seem to have been made by folding metal sheets, their central part (core) being empty (Pl. 11/7).
- 6. Iron clamp (2 fragments), found slightly above the skull, west of it, 0.4 cm thick, 1 cm wide, surviving length of 8.7 cm (Pl. 11/8);
- 7. Iron brace (8 fragments), 0.4 m thick, with a maximum width of 1.5 cm, a minimum width of 0.4 cm. Was discovered to the left of the jaw;
- 8. Iron clamp (2 fragments), with a maximum thickness of 0.5 m, a minimum thickness of 0.4 m, a maximum width of 1 cm, a minimum width of 0.9 cm and a surviving length of 14 cm. Discovered on the left side of the chest, between the spine and the humerus (Pl. 11/10);
- 9. Iron clamp (5 fragments), with a maximum width of 2 cm, a minimum width of 1 cm, thickness of 0.5 cm and a surviving length of approx. 10.4 cm;
- 10. Iron clamp (3 fragments), with a maximum width of 1.6 cm, a minimum width of 0.7 cm, a thickness width of 0.4 cm and a surviving length of 12.7 cm. Discovered precisely on the left femur, midway;
- 11. Iron clamp (3 fragments), with a surviving length of approx. 7.2 cm, with a maximum width of 1 cm, a minimum width of 0.6 cm. The thickness is 0.3 cm. Discovered by the base of the left tibia;
- 12. Iron clamp (1 fragment), with a maximum width of 1.5 cm, a minimum width of 0.7 cm, a thickness of 0.4 cm and a surviving length of 5.8 cm. Discovered on the right side of the pelvis (Pl. 11/9);
- 13. Iron clamp (2 fragments), with a maximum width of 1.3 cm, a minimum width of 0.9 cm, a thickness of 0.4 cm and a surviving length of approx. 4.4 cm. Discovered on the west side of the left femur;

Dating: 4th century AD

Notes:

Feature 7 (Pl. 6/6)

Functionality: waste pit.

Sizes (outlined): diameter: 1 m; ∇ _{max} = 0.5 m.

Shape: circular Intrusions: -

Archaeological material: animal bones.

Dating: -Notes: -

Feature 8 (Pl. 7/5)

Functionality: circular ditch.

Sizes (outlined): outlined diameter: 3.7 m; width: 0.9 m; $\nabla_{max} = 0.7$ m.

Shape: circular

Intrusions: cut by Feature 9 (posthole).

Archaeological material: -Dating: 3rd – 4th century AD

Notes: the ditch starts just below the farming layer, at -0.4 m and enters the NE profile. The ditch likely surrounds an inhumation.

Feature 9 (Pl. 7/2)

Functionality: posthole.

Sizes (outlined): diameter: 0.37 m; $\nabla_{max} = 0.3 \text{ m}$.

Shape: circular.

Intrusions: cuts Feature 8 (circular ditch).

Archaeological material: -.

Dating: – Notes: -

Feature 10 (Pl. 7/4)

Functionality: waste pit?

Sizes (outlined): diameter: 1.2 m; $\nabla_{max} = 0.3 \text{ m}$.

Shape: circular.

Intrusions: -

Archaeological material: -.

Dating: -Notes: -

Feature 11 (Pl. 8/6; Pl. 9/9)

Functionality: pit to re-excavate the feature? Feature 12 (grave).

Sizes (outlined): length: 1.75 m; width: 1 m; ∇ _{max} = 0.57 m.

Shape: oval.

Intrusions: cuts Feature 12 (grave).

Archaeological material: -.

Dating: -

Notes: -

Feature 12

Functionality: inhumation

Description: the deceased lies on the back, with head turned towards south (Pl. 14/3-4). Only the femur and left tibia survive from the skeleton. A pot was discovered by the base of the left tibia, on the interior. Near the left tibia and partially beneath it there was also discovered a cluster of beads.

Archaeological material:

- 1. pot (small cup), wheel-thrown of fine fabric, degreased with fine sand, with grayish-black surface. The pot has a slightly chipped, everted rim and a handle (broken from Antiquity). The pot has the following sizes: height 7.5 cm; rim diameter 5.5 cm; base diameter 3.2 cm; careen diameter 7 cm; wall thickness 0.4-0.5 cm (Pl. 14/1).
- $2.\ bead$ clustering (181 intact beads and 42 fragments).
- 3. Sizes (outlined): length: 1.2 m; width: 0.95 m; ∇ _{max} = 0.4 m.

Shape: rectangular.

Intrusions: cut by Feature 11.

Dating: 4th century AD.

Notes: destroyed in a percentage of 90% by Feature 11.

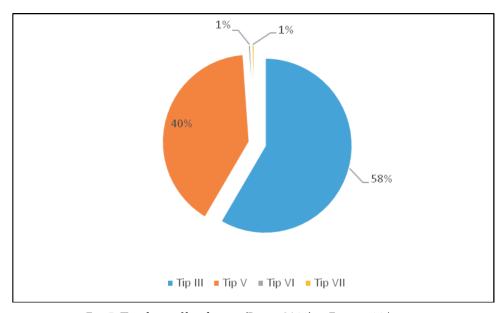


Fig. 5. The share of bead types (Benea 2011) in Feature 11/grave.

Table 3. Bead types from feature 12 (grave), by the base of the left tibia.

| No. | Bead type | Description | No. | Observations |
|-----|-----------|----------------------------|-----|--------------|
| 1 | Benea III | greenish, dull | 5 | |
| 2 | Benea III | white, dull | 14 | |
| 3 | Benea III | greenish, beige | 5 | |
| 4 | Benea III | blue | 4 | |
| 5 | Benea III | carmine | 7 | |
| 6 | Benea III | greenish, beige | 25 | |
| 7 | Benea III | greenish, translucent | 44 | |
| 8 | Benea V | white, dull | 21 | |
| 9 | Benea V | greenish-blue | 16 | |
| 10 | Benea V | light-gray | 1 | |
| 11 | Benea V | greenish-yellow | 8 | |
| 12 | Benea V | greenish, with red, purple | 11 | |
| 13 | Benea V | greenish pink | 5 | |

| No. | Bead type | Description | No. | Observations |
|-----|----------------|---------------------------|-----|--------------|
| 14 | Benea V | white, porous | 10 | |
| 15 | Benea VI | beige | 1 | |
| 16 | Benea VII | white | 1 | |
| 17 | Karneol Perlen | brownish-red, translucent | 3 | |

Feature 13

Functionality: inhumation

Description: the deceased lies on the back, with the head towards south-west. Only a few fragments of parietal bones, rib remains, spine and right femur have survived from the skeleton.

Sizes (outlined): Shape: rectangular.

Intrusions: overlaps Feature 20 (house).

Archaeological material: strongly oxidized iron appears on the left side of the right femur.

Dating: 3rd century AD

Notes: very poorly preserved, brittle bones.

Feature 14

Functionality: inhumation

Description: the deceased lies on the back, head turned to SW, left hand flexed at the elbow and placed on the pelvis, right hand stretched at the side of the body, palm on the pelvis, looking NE. Hand bones (except the phalanges), leg bones (except the fee), skull, pelvis fragments, ribs and vertebrae (poorly preserved) survive from the skeleton. (**Pl.12/1–2**). A pot was deposited by the feet of the deceased (**Pl.12/3**).

Archaeological material:

1. handmade pot, made of coarse fabric, degreased with large-grain sand. The pot is very brittle and porous because of poor firing, implicitly very poorly preserved. Because of the poor preservation state, it could not be recovered. Careen diameter of approx. 7 cm.

Sizes (outlined): length: 1.7 m; width: 0.7 m; $\nabla_{max} = 0.1 \text{ m}$.

Shape: rectangular.

Intrusions: -

Dating: 4th century AD

Notes: -

Feature 15 (Pl. 7/8)

Functionality: circular ditch.

Sizes (outlined): interior diameter: 7.6 m; width: 1.5 m; $\nabla_{max} = 0.9^{10}$ m.

Shape: circular.

Intrusions: cut (overlapped) by Feature 4, Feature 5, Feature 5a, Feature 19, Feature 22.

Archaeological material:

1. at the bottom of the ditch, in its northern area, 27 pottery fragments were discovered scattered over an area of approx. 2 m. Of the total pottery fragments, 25 come from one pot, two from another pot. The 25 ceramic fragments are part of a handmade pot, modelled of a coarse fabric, degreased with crushed shards. The pot has smooth, orange surfaces with black spot. Circular alveoli were modelled on the everted rim. The pot has the following sizes: rim diameter 15 cm; base diameter 14 cm; wall thickness 1.6 cm (Pl. 12/4-5). The rest of the pottery fragments are orange, wheel-thrown and the fabric is degreased with crushed shards.

Dating: 3rd - 4th century AD

Notes: enters the south-west profile. On the south-west profile it could be seen that the ditch starts just under the farming layer (at -0.4 m). The ditch is related to Feature 17 (grave).

Feature 16 (Pl. 7/10)

Functionality: posthole?

Sizes (outlined): diameter: 0.73 m; $\nabla_{max} = 0.38 \text{ m}$.

Shape: circular

Intrusions: -

Archaeological material: -.

Dating: – Notes: -

Feature 17

¹⁰ Depth measured on the SW profile.

Functionality: inhumation

Description: the deceased lies on the back, hands stretched at the side of the body, head towards the SSE, looking NE. Most bones survive from the skeleton, except for the feet and the left palm. (Pl. 13/1-2). Among the grave goods count a pot deposited on the left side of the skull, a spindle whorl on the right side and an iron buckle on the left side of the pelvis. The teeth of the individual are strongly abraded (Pl. 18/3).

Archaeological material:

- 1. Pot with everted rim, handmade from a coarse fabric degreased with shards, poorly fired (brittle), with orange surfaces with black spot, crudely smoothened. The pot has the following sizes: rim diameter 10 cm; base diameter 10.5 cm; wall thickness 0.6 cm (Pl. 12/3-4).
- 2. Spindle whorl cut from the wall of a wheel-thrown pot made of a fine fabric, degreased with fine sand. Sizes: diameter 4 cm; hole diameter 0.7 cm; thickness 0.8 cm; weight 21.1 grams (Pl. 12/6);
- 3. Iron buckle (3 fragments). The piece also preserves a fragment of the prong. Sizes: length 3 cm; width 2.5 cm; max thickness 0.3 cm (Pl. 12/7).

Sizes (outlined): length: 2 m; width: 0.74 m; $\nabla_{\text{max}} = 0.55 \text{ m}$.

Shape: rectangular.

Intrusions: overlapped by Feature 5 and 5a, overlaps Feature 28.

Dating: 4th century AD Notes: sinks into Feature 28.

Feature 18

Functionality: inhumation

Description: the deceased lies on the back, with hands stretched at the body side, head towards the NE, looking towards SE. Temporary and permanent teeth may be noted on the individual's jaw (Pl. 18/1-2) suggestive of an age of 7-8 years¹¹. Preserved from the skeleton: skull, left collarbone, left hand (except palm), lower left hand, pelvis (poorly preserved), both legs (except feet) (Pl. 14/5-6). Between the legs, at knee level were discovered animal teeth and a phalanx (ovicaprine) (Pl. 14/7).

Archaeological material: -

Sizes (outlined): length: 1.67 m; width: 0.54 m; $\nabla_{max} = 0.1 \text{ m}$.

Shape: rectangular.

Intrusions: overlapped (cut) by Feature 28.

Dating: 4th century AD?

Notes: -

Feature 19 (Pl. 7/7)

Functionality: waste pit.

Sizes (outlined): diameter: 1 m; ∇ _{max} = 0.16 m.

Shape: circular.

Intrusions: cuts Feature 15. Archaeological material: -.

Dating: -Notes: -

Feature 20 (Pl. 8/2)

Functionality: house

Sizes (outlined): length: 4 m; width: 3 m; ∇ _{max} = 0.25 m.

Shape: rectangular with rounded corners Intrusions: overlapped by Feature 13 (grave).

Archaeological material: -

Dating: -Notes: -

Feature 21 (Pl. 7/6)

Functionality: posthole.

Sizes (outlined): diameter: 0.4 m; $\nabla_{max} = 0.25 \text{ m}$.

Shape: circular

Intrusions: cuts Feature 22. Archaeological material: -Dating: 11th - 12th century AD.

Notes: posthole from the composition of Feature 22 (house).

Feature 22 (Pl. 8/3)

 $^{^{11}\,\,}$ Determination made by dr. Laura Beschiu, whom we express our thanks here too.

Functionality: house

Sizes (outlined): width: 2.4 m; $\nabla_{max} = 0.3 \text{ m}$.

Shape: square

Intrusions: overlapped by Feature 21, Feature 23, Feature 24, Feature 26, Feature 30; overlaps Feature 15 (circular ditch).

Archaeological material:

- 1. Animal bones.
- 2. Fragment of tuff grinder.
- 3. A pottery fragment, orange-brown, wheel-thrown, degreased with large grain sand and decorated with a horizontal incision (**Pl.12/6**).
- 4. Spindle whorl, made from a pot's ringbase, wheel-thrown, from a fine fabric, degreased with fine sand. Sizes: upper diameter: 4.3 cm; lower diameter: 3.3 cm; hole diameter: 1.4 cm; weight: 23.4 grams; thickness: 1.6 cm. Dating: 11th 12th century AD.

Notes: -.

Feature 23

Functionality: waste pit.

Sizes (outlined): diameter: 1.2 m; $\nabla_{max} = 0.25 \text{ m}$.

Shape: circular.

Intrusions: overlaps Feature 22.

Archaeological material: two fragments of a tuff grinder, a fragment of vitrified adobe, animal bones and a pottery fragment

Dating: 11th - 12th century?

Notes: -

Feature 24 (Pl. 7/11)

Functionality: domestic kiln.

Sizes (outlined): height: 0.26 m; base diameter: 0.44 m; wall thickness (baked layer) = 1 cm.

Shape: circular.

Intrusions: is part of Feature 22 (kiln of Feature 22 – house).

Dating: 11th – 12th century AD.

Notes: enters the north-west profile; oven from the composition of Feature 22 (house).

Feature 25 (Pl. 7/9)

Functionality: house

Sizes (outlined): length: 1.3 m; width: 1.2 m; $\nabla_{\text{max}} = 0.4 \text{ m}$.

Shape: rectangular.

Intrusions: overlapped by Feature 15. Archaeological material: animal bones.

Dating: 11th – 12th century AD?

Notes: -

Feature 26

Functionality: posthole.

Sizes (outlined): diameter: 0.6 m; $\nabla_{max} = 0.26$ m.

Shape: circular

Intrusions: overlaps Feature 22.

Archaeological material: -.

Dating: 11th – 12th century AD.

Notes: outlined on the bottom of Feature 22; posthole from the composition of Feature 22 (house).

Feature 28 (Pl. 8/7-8)

Functionality: ritual pit?

Sizes (outlined): length: 3.2 m; width: 1.5 m; $\nabla_{\text{max}} = 0.85 \text{ m}$.

Shape: rectangular, oriented NW-SE.

Intrusions: overlapped by Feature 5, Feature 5A and Feature 17 (grave).

Archaeological material:

- 1. Small dog skeleton, with head southwards (Pl. 9/7).
- 2. Small dog skeleton, head northwards (Pl .9/8), associated with a handled gray pot (handle broken from Antiquity), with everted rim, wheel-thrown, degreased with fine sand, and two glass beads, one square in section and one tubular. The pot has a rim diameter of 6 cm; base diameter of 3.6 cm; height 9 cm; careen diameter 9 cm; wall thickness 0.3-0.4 cm (Pl .14/2).

Dating: 4th century AD

Notes:

Feature 29 (Pl. 8/4)

Functionality: posthole.

Sizes (outlined): diameter: 20 m; $\nabla_{max} = 0.10 \text{ m}$.

Shape: circular

Intrusions: cuts Feature 22 (house).

Archaeological material: -

Dating: 11th - 12th century AD.

Notes: posthole from the composition of Feature 22 (house).

Feature 30 (Pl. 7/11)

Functionality: posthole.

Sizes (outlined): diameter: 0.3 m $\nabla_{\text{max}} = 0.5 \text{ m}$.

Shape: circular.

Intrusions: overlaps Feature 22 (house).

Archaeological material: -

Dating: 11th - 12th century AD.

Notes: outlined in the north-west profile, posthole from the composition of Feature 22 (house).

Area 3 (Pl. 5)

The area was oriented NW-SE. In terms of size, it was 27 m long and 10 m wide. The maximum reached depth was 0.9-1 m. 10 archaeological features were identified:

Feature 1 (Pl. 9/1)

Functionality: waste pit?

Sizes (outlined): diameter: m; $\nabla_{max} = 0.32 \text{ m}$.

Shape: circular Intrusions: -

Archaeological material: -

Dating: -

Notes: enters the south-west profile.

Feature 2

Functionality: inhumation

Description: inhumation with the deceased placed on the back, head towards SW, looking north, left hand stretched at the side of the body, his right hand (palm) placed on the pelvis, feet tips oriented outwards. Between the feet was discovered a small gray pot, an iron knife blade, attached to the left hand joint, with a white limestone bead (attached to the left cheekbone) on the left side of the face and a piece of copper sheet (strongly oxidized) discovered between the spine and the left collarbone in the neck area (possibly fibula with fretted disc¹²). The skeleton is relatively well preserved, except for the straight area of the skull (fragmented skull because of soil pressure) (Pl. 15/1-2).

Sizes (outlined): length: 2 m; width: 0.8 m; ▼_{max (captured)} = 0.1 m.

Shape: rectangular.

Intrusions: -

Dating: the 4th century AD.

Grave goods:

- 1. gray pot, wheel-thrown, made of fine fabric degreased with fine sand with the following sizes: height 10 cm, rim diameter 8.7 cm, base diameter 4.5 cm (Pl. 15/6);
- 2. iron knife (fragmented, two fragments): length 10 cm, maximum width 1.6 cm, maximum thickness 0.3 cm (Pl. 15/4);
- 3. chalk bead approximately oval in section: hole diameter 0.8 cm, length 2 cm, width 1.6 cm, height 1.8 cm (Pl. 15/3);
- 4. copper piece (fragmented, five fragments), with sharp extremity and square piercing of approx. 2 mm: maximum thickness 1 mm, maximum width 0.5 cm (Pl. 15/5);

Feature 3 (Pl. 9/2)

Functionality: ditch.

Description: oriented E-W

Sizes (outlined): length: 1.8 m; width: 0.5 m; $\nabla_{max} = 0.22 \text{ m}$.

Shape: rectangular.

Determination made (with necessary reserves owing to the poor preservation state) by C. Timoc, whom we would like to thank here too.

Intrusions: cuts Feature 4.

Archaeological material: -

Dating: -

Notes: enters the NW and NE profiles.

Feature 4 (Pl. 9/3)

Functionality: ditch.

Sizes (outlined): length: 17.2 m; width: 0.6 m; ∇ _{max} = 0.96 m.

Shape: rectangular, oriented SE – NW. Intrusions: cut by Feature 3 and Feature 5.

Archaeological material: -

Dating: -

Notes: crosses the entire area, enters the NW and SW profiles.

Feature 5 (Pl. 9/3)

Functionality: waste pit.

Sizes (outlined): diameter: 1.34 m; $\nabla_{max} = 0.14 \text{ m}$.

Shape: circular

Intrusions: cuts (overlaps) Feature 4 (ditch).

Archaeological material: osteological fragments of an animal and a pottery fragment, degreased with large-grain sand, with brown surfaces and decorated with a horizontal incision (Pl. 12/6).

Dating: 11th - 12th century AD.

Notes: -

Feature 6 (Pl. 9/4)

Functionality: ditch.

Sizes (outlined): length: 3.3 m; width: 0.52 m; ∇ _{max} = 8 cm.

Shape: rectangular

Intrusions: -

Archaeological material: -

Dating: -

Notes: enters the NW profile, oriented N − S.

Feature 7

Functionality: inhumation

Description: the deceased is placed on the back, hands likely stretched at the side of the body, head towards south-west, looking northwards. Poorly preserved (grounded), some rib fragments, skull fragments and fragments of the upper hand bones survive (Pl. 15/7).

Sizes (outlined): length: 0.3 m; width: 0.25 m.

Shape: rectangular?

Intrusions: -

Archaeological material: -

Dating: 4th century AD.

Notes: outlined at -0.8 m (from the topsoil).

Feature 8 (Pl. 9/5)

Functionality: ditch.

Sizes (outlined): length: 6.7 m; width: 0.4 m; ∇ _{max} = 0.22 m.

Shape: rectangular.

Intrusions: cut by Feature 5.

Archaeological material: -

Dating: -

Notes: oriented SE-NW, enters the SE profile; parallel to Feature 9.

Feature 9 (Pl. 9/5)

Functionality: ditch.

Sizes (outlined): length: 6.3 m; width: 0.4 m; $\nabla_{\text{max}} = 0.34 \text{ m}$.

Shape: rectangular

Intrusions: -

Archaeological material: -

Dating: -

Notes: oriented SE-NW, enters the SE profile; parallel to Feature 8.

Feature 10

Functionality: waste pit.

Sizes (outlined): diameter: 0.4 m; $\nabla_{max} = 1.2 \text{ m}$.

Shape: circular.

Intrusions: cuts Feature 8 (ditch).

Archaeological material: -

Dating: -Notes: -

The emergence of the two dog skeletons, one of which is associated with two glass beads and a small gray pot in feature 28, under feature 17 (grave) allows us to assume that this was a ritual deposition. The find in burial contexts of certain dog skeletons was documented in the Sarmatae environment also at Arad-Barieră (Cx. 008)13, Cornești-Iarcuri14, Dunakeszi - Alagi major (pit 138)15, Giarmata-Sit 10¹⁶, Nerău (barrow I)¹⁷ and Tiszaföldvár – *Téglagyár* (Cx. 26/1982)¹⁸.

Regarding the deposition of a dog skeleton together with beads, we note this type of association is found in the Sarmatian environment elsewhere too. A similar case is known in the Timisoara-Freidorf site, where in 1986 with a 90-100 cm diameter pit, at a depth of 1.13-1.25, in the vicinity of a house, was discovered a white fabric bead (destroyed when removed) associated with a dog skeleton with the head facing south and legs to the north (limbs seemed tied). Under the dog's skeleton emerged a layer of reddish ash, 1-7 cm thick. Animal bones were found around the skeleton, set up without specific order. Above the grave, after a clay layer, small hearths were discovered. To the pit exterior, on the same level, eastwards, two ovoid jars were found, Dacian in origin, with traces of charcoal and remains of burnt twigs¹⁹.

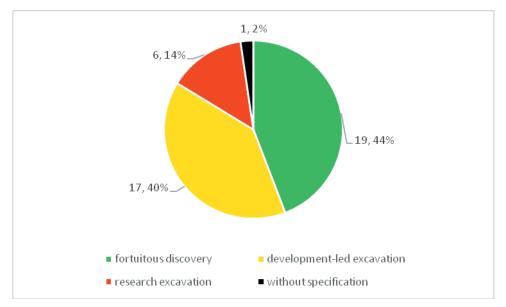


Fig. 6. The share of graves discovered by research excavations, development led excavations, fortuitous discovery or graves without specification.

A possible origin of this type of deposition would be the Dacian world²⁰, where dog burials dated in the 3rd century appear at: Bonești (Botoșani County); București-Militari-Tei; Liești-Tecuci; Mătăsaru

Grumeza et al. 2013, 26-28.

The rescue archaeological excavation conducted by the Banat Museum in the area of the III vallum of the prehistoric fortification in 2013 also led to the discovery of two Sarmatian burials. In the vicinity of the two graves was also identified a pit in which a dog skeleton was identified (novel information kindly provided by Andrei Bălărie).

Istvánovits 1999, 176.

Grumeza 2014, 53.

¹⁷ Kisléghi-Nagy 2015, 49.

Vaday 1997, 82.

Benea 1995-1996, 375.

Benea 1995-1996, 375; Grumeza 2014, 53.

și Stolnicei (Vîlcea County); Udeni (Telorman County)²¹ or at Ostrovul Corbului (Mehedinți County) in features dated to the 2nd–3rd century²².

Our research from Dudeștii Vechi–54 complements the approx. 43 funerary finds ascribed to the Sarmatae from the Banat area (see Annex 1, Pl. 2). Although many at first sight, these are often the result of fortuitous finds (many many early this century) or the more recent rescue excavations. Statistically, according to the find / research type (Fig. 6), it may be noted that the largest share is represented by stray finds (19 finds), followed by rescue excavations (17 finds). The smallest share belongs to systematic excavations (6 finds), half of which were made according to the methods and techniques of the early 20th century.

Although this may be the result of a lack of research, of a field research or systematic excavation phase, nevertheless, statistically, even though merely a sample, it is impossible not to note that 39 out of 43 funerary finds from this area group west of the second vallum (the middle, largest and best preserved of the 3), and that only 4 lie between the second and third vallum (easternmost), while past the third vallum, in the Dacian and later the province area, such find types no longer exist. Only one find is incongruous, namely that of Vrăniuț (Caraș Severin County). In this case, it may be argued that likely, it was ethno-culturally ascribed with imprecision. In fact, there are several inconsistencies, among which the most obvious is the cremation rite, which is not specific to the Sarmatian Iazyges from the area. A more careful examination of the specialised bibliography did not provide further more specific clues regarding the date of these finds. Most research attributes them to a broad chronological period between the 2nd and 4th century AD. For this reason, it is impossible to pinpoint the evolution of spatial distribution, which we suspect to have occurred nonetheless, from west to east, once with the demographic growth of this Sarmatae populace.

Regardless, the new find of Dudeștii Vechi, object of analysis here, syncretically adds to those made to date, thus contributing to the overall picture on this population which until the arrival of the Huns, was a determining factor in the history of the region.

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²¹ Benea 1995–1996 375. (with related bibliography)

²² Simion 1989, 405.

APPENDIX I Sarmatae funerary finds from the territory of the Romanian Banat

| No. | Site | GPS | | Dating | Find type | References | | | | | | | |
|-----|--|---|--------------|---|------------------------|---|--|--|--|--|--|--|--|
| | | N | Е | | /* | | | | | | | | |
| 1 | Arad-site B-06 Arad-Timişoara Motorway | 46° 5'44.95" | 21°20'2.08" | 3rd century | Rescue excavation | Bârcă <i>et al</i> . 2011, 239-242. | | | | | | | |
| 2 | Aradu Nou-Barieră | 46° 7'32.08" | 21°18'57.67" | 4th century | Rescue excavation | Grumeza et al. 2013 | | | | | | | |
| 3 | Beba Veche | - | - | 2nd-3rd century | Stray find | Milleker 1906, 207. | | | | | | | |
| 4 | Checea-Cărămidă- ria Kovaković | 45°44'17.66" 20°49'11.91" 3rd-4th century | | | Stray find | Protase 2000, 217. | | | | | | | |
| 5 | Checea | - | - | - | Stray find | Amicable information Ghorghe Manea | | | | | | | |
| 6 | Cherestur | - | - | 3rd century? | Without details | Dorner 1971, 689. | | | | | | | |
| 7 | Comloșu Mare | - | - | 4th-5th century | Stray find | Tănase 2013, 72. | | | | | | | |
| 8 | Cornești-Iarcuri | 45°56'6.07" | 21°13'23.05" | 2nd-4th century | Rescue excavation | Amicable information A. Bălărie | | | | | | | |
| 9 | Ciacova-Liceul Agricol | 45°29'8.56" | 21° 8'41.04" | 2nd-4th century | Stray find | Milleker 1897, 209. | | | | | | | |
| 10 | Dudeștii Vechi- <i>Moghila</i> | - | - | - | Systematic excavations | Parducz 1950, 211-212. | | | | | | | |
| 11 | Dudeștii Vechi-15 | 46° 1'19.79" | 20°28'20.01" | 3rd-4th century | Systematic excavations | Tănase 2002-2003, 233-244. | | | | | | | |
| 12 | Dudeștii Vechi-43 | 46° 3'4.85" | 20°21'57.01" | - | Stray find | Micle, Rogozea 2017, 491–492. | | | | | | | |
| 13 | Dudeștii Vechi-45 | 46° 0'11.73" | 20°29'2.62" | - | Stray find | Amicable information Francisc Mirciov ¹ | | | | | | | |
| 14 | Dudeștii Vechi-46 | 46° 3'5.32" | 20°26'43.97" | - | Stray find | Micle, Rogozea 2017, 492. | | | | | | | |
| 15 | Dudeștii Vechi-54 | 46° 1'21.49" | 20°27'23.78" | 3rd century -4th century | Rescue excavation | Cercetare 2020/Nis Petrol | | | | | | | |
| 16 | Felnac-Complexul Zootehnic | 46° 7'43.92" | 21°10'7.79" | 3rd-4th century | Rescue excavation | Grumeza 2014, 178-179. | | | | | | | |
| 17 | Foeni-Cimitirul Ortodox | 45°29'45.64" | 20°52'0.17" | 2nd-3rd century | Systematic excavations | Grumeza 2014, 179-185. | | | | | | | |
| 18 | Gelu-2 | 46° 0'2.82" | 21° 2'41.56" | 3rd-4th century | Stray find | Georgescu, Bălărie 2017, 119-137. Possible barrow burial (information A. Bălărie) | | | | | | | |
| 19 | Giarmata-Sit 10 | 45°51'45.34" | 21°18'35.71" | 2nd-3rd cen- tury /3rd -4th century | Rescue excavation | Grumeza 2014, 185-198. | | | | | | | |
| 20 | Hunedoara Timişană- <i>B0</i> _7- <i>B0</i> _8 | 46° 1'50.63" | 21°18'2.12" | 3rd century | Rescue excavation | Bârcă 2014 | | | | | | | |
| 21 | Jebel-1/Fabrica de cărămidă | 45°34'29.02" | 21°12'34.26" | 3rd-4th century | Stray find | Bejan 1981, 21. | | | | | | | |
| 22 | Lovirn | - | - | 3rd century -4th century | Stray find | Parducz 1950, 149. | | | | | | | |
| 23 | Moșnița Veche-16 | 45°44'3.60" | 21°18'26.42" | 2nd-4th century | Rescue excavation | Stavilă, Craiovean 2020, 297-312. | | | | | | | |
| 24 | Murani- <i>Ob.</i> 4 | 45°57'7.86" | 21°17'1.87" | 2nd-3rd century | Rescue excavation | Pâslaru <i>et al</i> . 2010, 202. | | | | | | | |

| No. | Site | GPS | | Dating | Find type | References | | | | | |
|-----|--|---------------|--------------|--------------------|------------------------|--|--|--|--|--|--|
| | | N | E | | | | | | | | |
| 25 | Nerău | - | - | - | Systematic | Kisléghi-Nagy 2015, | | | | | |
| | | | | | excavations | 49. | | | | | |
| 26 | Parța- <i>Cărămidărie</i> ² | 45°39'53.52" | 21° 9'2.56" | - | Stray find | Benea 2011, 241. | | | | | |
| 27 | Periam- <i>Şura Dijmei</i> | - | - | 3rd century | Stray find | Miloia 1931, 187-188. | | | | | |
| 28 | Timișoara-Freidor- | 45°43'16.59" | 21°11'4.21" | 3rd-4th | Rescue | Amicable information | | | | | |
| | 7Barum | | | century | excavation | Călin Timoc | | | | | |
| 29 | Timișoara-37/Prop. | 45°47'51.77" | 21°10'2.98" | 2nd-4th | Rescue | Amicable information | | | | | |
| | Buga | | | century | excavation | B. Craiovan | | | | | |
| 30 | Timișoara- <i>Pădurea</i> | 45°46'37.64" | 21°15'36.03" | 3rd-4th | Rescue | Radu 1973, 147-148. | | | | | |
| | Verde/UMT³ | | | century | excavation | | | | | | |
| 31 | Timișoara-6/ | 45°41'2.02" | 21°10'4.70" | 3rd-4th | Rescue | Fântâneanu 2020 | | | | | |
| | Hladik ⁴ | | | century | excavation | | | | | | |
| 32 | Timișoara-Str. Popa | 45°45'42.92" | 21°13'48.84" | 2nd-4th | Rescue | Amicable information | | | | | |
| | Şapcă | | | century | excavation | Silviu Ene | | | | | |
| 33 | Tomnatic-Cărămi- | - | - | 3rd-4th | Stray find | Párducz 1931, 86. | | | | | |
| 0.4 | dărie | 400 4140 5511 | 20000154 541 | century | | D 1 1 2011 | | | | | |
| 34 | Sânnicolau Mare- <i>Seliște</i> | 46° 4'49.55" | 20°39'56.76" | 1st-2nd | Systematic excavations | Bejan <i>et al</i> . 2011, 161-180. | | | | | |
| 35 | Sânnicolau | 46° 3'46.01" | 20°38'49.85" | century 2nd-3rd | 1 | Milleker 1906, 233. | | | | | |
| 33 | Mare- <i>Cărămidărie</i> ⁵ | 46 3 46.01 | 20 36 49.65 | century | Stray find | Willeker 1906, 255. | | | | | |
| 36 | Sânpetru German- | 46° 6'53.18" | 21° 3'45.57" | 3rd-4th | Rescue | Dörner 1970, | | | | | |
| 30 | Fântâna Vacilor | 40 0 33.10 | 21 343.37 | century | excavation | 451-455. | | | | | |
| 37 | Sânpetru | _ | _ | 3rd-4th | Stray find | Dörner 1970, 455. | | | | | |
| | German-Resch | | | century | Stray IIIIa | Dollier 1070, 100. | | | | | |
| 38 | Seceani-ob. 2 | _ | _ | 2nd-4th | Rescue | Ionescu et al. 2010, | | | | | |
| | | | | century | excavation | 229-230. | | | | | |
| 39 | Seceani-ob. 3 | - | _ | 2nd-4th | Rescue | Pâslaru et al. 2010, | | | | | |
| | | | | century | excavation | 231-232. | | | | | |
| 40 | Satchinez ⁶ -propri- | 45°57'26.86" | 21° 2'59.23" | - | Stray find | Milleker 1906, | | | | | |
| | etatea Kratochwill | | | | | 230-231. | | | | | |
| | Nikolaus | | | | | | | | | | |
| 41 | Saravale | - | - | 3rd-4th | Stray find | Micle 1996, 68-74. | | | | | |
| | | | | century | | | | | | | |
| 42 | Vizejdia- <i>Movila</i> | _ | _ | 2nd-3rd | Systematic | Párducz 1950, 76-79. | | | | | |
| | Szeiler | | | century | excavations | | | | | | |
| 43 | Vrăniuț- <i>Ulița Popii</i> ⁷ | 45° 0'13.97" | 21°32'50.75" | 3rd-4th | Stray find | Ţeicu, Rancu 2000, | | | | | |
| | | | | century | | 242. | | | | | |

- Gheorghe Dragoi and Francisc Mirciov also discovered there an inhumation (destroyed by land improvement works) with small pots by the feet and a bronze bracelet on the right hand. The materials are preserved with the Museum of the Banat in the Gheorghe Dragoi collection.
- Two brickyards functioned in the vicinity of Parţa locality. The first one was located in the boundary of Parţa Commune (having the GPS coordinates that we mentioned at point 26) and the second one was located in the boundary of Şag Commune (45°40'42.93"N 21°10'0.35"E), at 2 km N-E from the first one. The second brickyard is now covered by the former landfill of Timişoara. The bibliographical source cited (Benea 2011, 241) does not offer any clues to allow a precise location identification of the brickyard where the grave was found.
- ³ Approximate coordinates.
- ⁴ The results of the recent rescue archaeological excavation were made available to us courtesy of C. Fântâneanu, whom we thank this way too.
- ⁵ The Cărămidărie archaeological point of interest was re-identified by C. Floca. For the issue of the finds there (see: Floca *et al.* 2018, 145-149, 176-177)
- Bodóg Milleker mentions the find of the Sarmatae graves during the construction of the Satchinez-Variaș railway, at 1.5 km from Satchinez, towards Bărăteaz (see: Milleker 1906, 230-231 and Grumeza 2014, 253). The field research of Alin Motogna led to the identification or re-identification of several archaeological points of interest with 2nd 4th century gray pottery westwards the railway, at ca. 1.2-1.3 km north of Satchinez. Geographical coordinates were recorded in this area for two archaeological points of interest: Satchinez-*Rezervație 4* (possibly property of Kratochwill Nikolaus) and Satchinez-*Pământul Galben*/45°57'16.98"N 21° 3'0.06"E (see: Bejan 1981, 22-23).
- ⁷ Approximate coordinates.

APPENDIX 2

Metallographic 23 composition of the metal items found in Cx. 3/S2 and Cx. 6/S2

| Surface/Feature | Name | Duration | Unit | Ti Ti +/ | - V | V +/- | Cr | Cr +/- | Mn | Mn +/- | Fe | Fe +/ | Co | Co +/- | - Ni | Ni +/- | Cu | Cu +/- | Zn | Zn +/- | Ga Ga+ | / As | As +/ | - Rh | Rh+ | /- Pd | Pd - | +/- Ag | Ag | +/- C | d Cd | /- In | In +/ | - Sn | Sn +/ | - Sb | Sb +/- | - W W | 1+/- | lr Ir | +/- P | Pt Pt | t +/- / | Au A | w +/- f | Pb Pb | +/- |
|-----------------|------------------|----------|------|----------|-----|--------|------|--------|------|--------|-------|-------|------|--------|------|--------|------|--------|------|--------|-----------|------|-------|------|------|-------|-------|--------|-------|-------|-------|-------|-------|------|-------|------|--------|-------|------|-------|--------|-------|---------|--------|---------|--------|-----|
| S2/3 (grave) | coin | 20 | % | | | | | | | | | | 0.02 | 0.03 | 0 | 0.02 | 4.5 | 0.04 | 0.01 | 0.02 | | | | 0.03 | 0.01 | 0.0 | 8 0.0 | 2 94.6 | 2 0.0 | 6 0.3 | 5 0.0 | 2 0 | 0.03 | | | | | 0 0 | 0.04 | 0 0 | 0.02 0 | 0 0 | 0.02 0 | J.39 C | 0.01 | | |
| S2/3 (grave) | coin | 20 | % | | | | | | | | | | 0 | 0.03 | 0 | 0.02 | 2.98 | 0.04 | 0.01 | 0.02 | | | | 0.03 | 0.01 | 0.0 | 8 0.0 | 96.0 | 0.0 | 4 0.3 | 8 0.0 | 2 0 | 0.03 | | | | | 0 0 | 0.03 | 0 0 | 0.02 0 | 0 0 | 0.02 0 | J.46 F | 0.01 | | |
| S2/3 (grave) | fibulae | 20.2 | % | 0 0.11 | | | 0.03 | 0.05 | 0 | 0.03 | 0.49 | 0.03 | 0.02 | 0.02 | 0 | 0.02 | 44.8 | 0.07 | 0.18 | 0.03 | | | | | | | | 0.0 | 4 0.0 | 0.0 | 1 0.0 | 1 | | 5.81 | 0.04 | 0.03 | 0.03 | | | | | | | | | 48 0.0 | 19 |
| S2/3 (grave) | fibulae-foot | 20 | % | | | | | | | | | | | | | | 26.8 | 0.06 | 0.1 | 0.03 | 0.12 0.03 | 0 | 0.11 | | | | | 0.0 | 6 0.0 | 0.0 | 2 0.0 | 2 0.0 | 0.01 | 7.83 | 0.06 | 0.05 | 0.04 | | | | | | | | | 65 0.0 | 18 |
| S2/3 (grave) | bracelet-frag. 1 | 20.2 | % | 0 0.09 |) | | 0 | 0.04 | 0 | 0.03 | 0.56 | 0.03 | 0.03 | 0.02 | 0.08 | 0.02 | 85.6 | 0.05 | 9.38 | 0.04 | | | | | | | | 0.12 | 2 0.0 | 0.0 | 1 0.0 | 1 | | 2.06 | 0.03 | 0.14 | 0.03 | | | | | | | | | 2 0.0 | 14 |
| S2/3 (grave) | bracelet-frag. 2 | 20.1 | % | 0 0.09 |) | | 0 | 0.03 | 0 | 0.03 | 0.27 | 0.03 | 0.02 | 0.02 | 0.04 | 0.02 | 85.3 | 0.05 | 6.81 | 0.04 | | | | | | | | 0.13 | 3 0.0 | 0.0 | 1 0.0 | 1 | | 2.18 | 0.03 | 0.14 | 0.03 | | | | | | | | | 5 0.0 | |
| S2/3 (grave) | bracelet-frag. 3 | 20 | % | 0 0.09 |) | | 0.02 | 0.04 | 0 | 0.03 | 0.21 | 0.03 | 0.03 | 0.02 | 0.0 | 0.02 | 67.9 | 0.07 | 9.55 | 0.04 | | | | | | | | 0.3 | 0.0 | 11 (| 0.0 | 1 | | 3.3 | 0.03 | 0.08 | 0.03 | | | | | | | | | 18 0.0 | 18 |
| S2/6 (grave) | knife | 20.1 | % | 0 0.07 | 0.0 | 1 0.03 | 0.03 | 0.02 | 0.13 | 0.02 | 99.54 | 0.02 | 0.04 | 0.06 | 0.08 | 0.02 | 0.09 | 0.01 | | | | 0.01 | 0 | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | 0 0 | 0.02 | | | | | | | | |
| S2/6 (grave) | coin avers | 20 | % | | | | | | | | | | 0.03 | 0.03 | 0 | 0.02 | 7.64 | 0.05 | 0.01 | 0.03 | | | | 0.03 | 0.01 | 0.0 | 7 0.0 | 1 91.7 | 7 0.0 | 6 0.3 | 7 0.0 | 2 0 | 0.03 | | | | | 0 0 | 0.04 | 0 0 | 0.03 0 | 0 0 | 0.02 0 | J.08 C | 0.01 | | |
| S2/6 (grave) | coin revers | 20 | % | | | | | | | | | | 0 | 0.03 | 0.0 | 0.02 | 5.16 | 0.05 | 0.01 | 0.02 | | | | 0.03 | 0.01 | 0.0 | 8 0.0 | 2 94.3 | 6 0.0 | 6 0.3 | 6 0.0 | 2 0 | 0.03 | | | | | 0 0 | 0.04 | 0 0 | 0.02 0 | 0 0 | 0.02 | 0 0 | 0.02 | | |
| S2/6 (grave) | fibula | 20.2 | % | 0 0.07 | 0.0 | 1 0.03 | 0.03 | 0.02 | 0.05 | 0.02 | 98.22 | 0.02 | 0.02 | 0.06 | 0.08 | 0.03 | 1.41 | 0.02 | | | | 0.08 | 0 | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | 0 0 | 0.03 | | | | | | | | |

 $^{^{23}}$ The metallographic analysis was performed by an ElvaX ProSpector 3 X-Ray fluorescence spectrometer.

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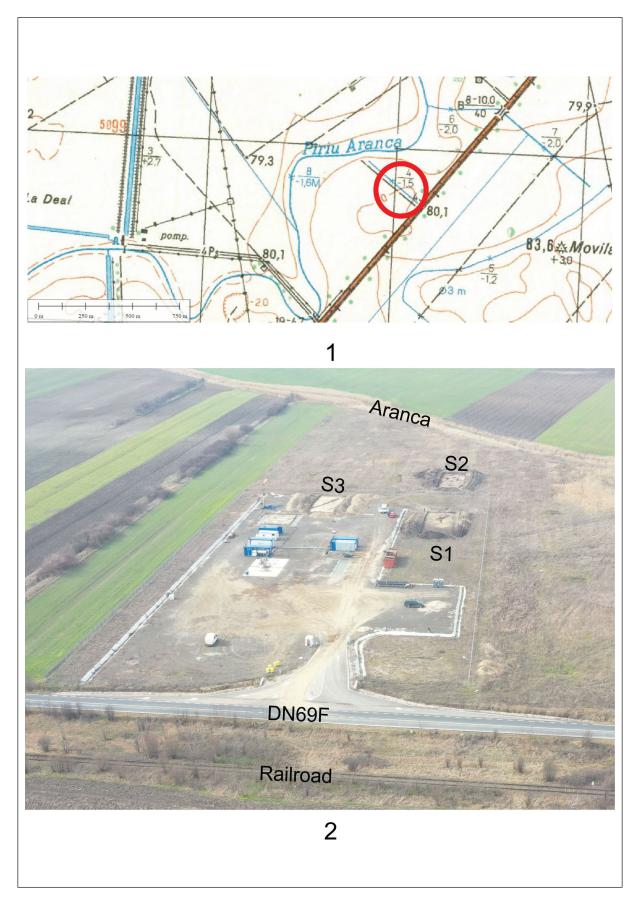


Plate 1, 1. Location of the researched area on the topographic map 1–25000; 2. Aerial image with the researched perimeter.

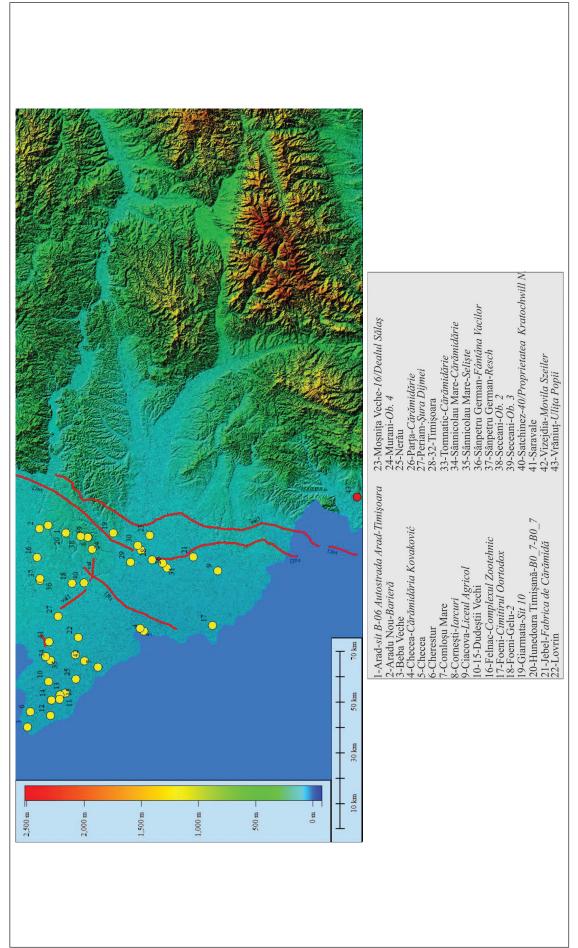


Plate 2. Funeral finds from the Banat region dated to the 2nd-4th century.

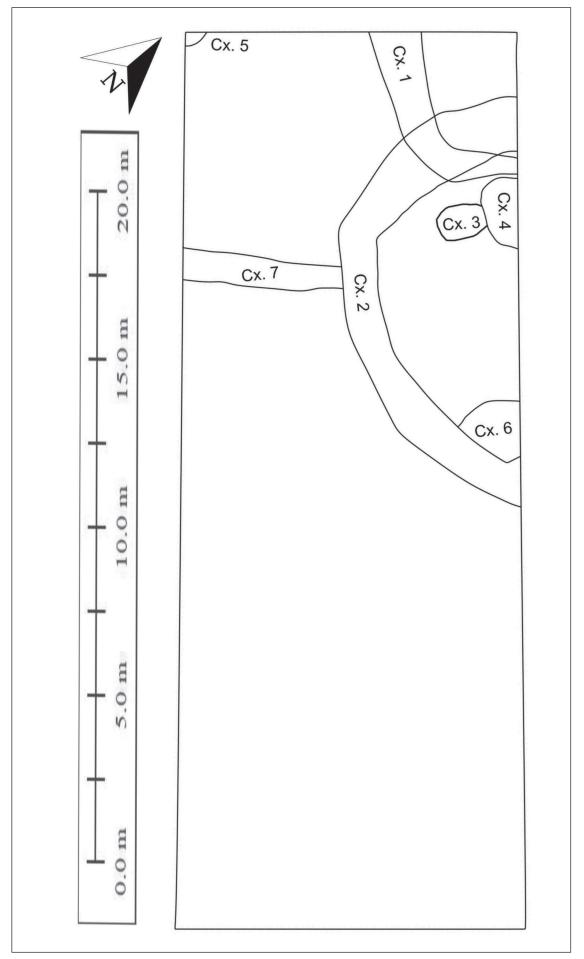


Plate 3. The plan of S1.

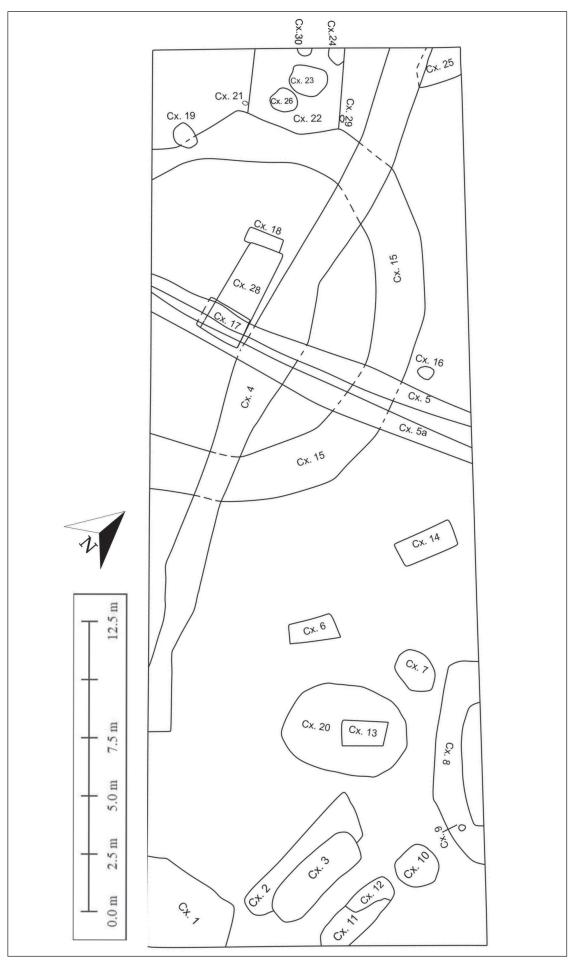


Plate 4. The plan of S2.

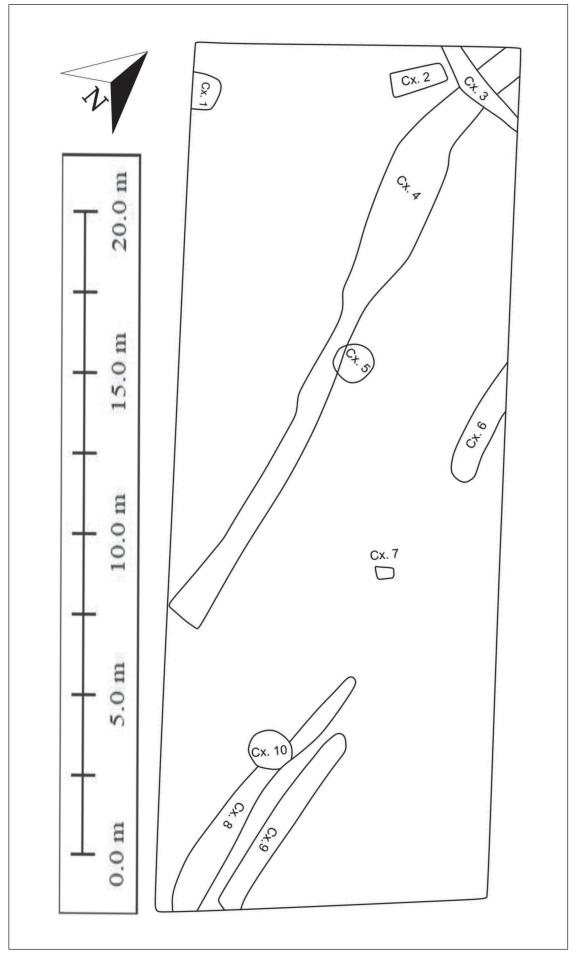


Plate 5. The plan of S3

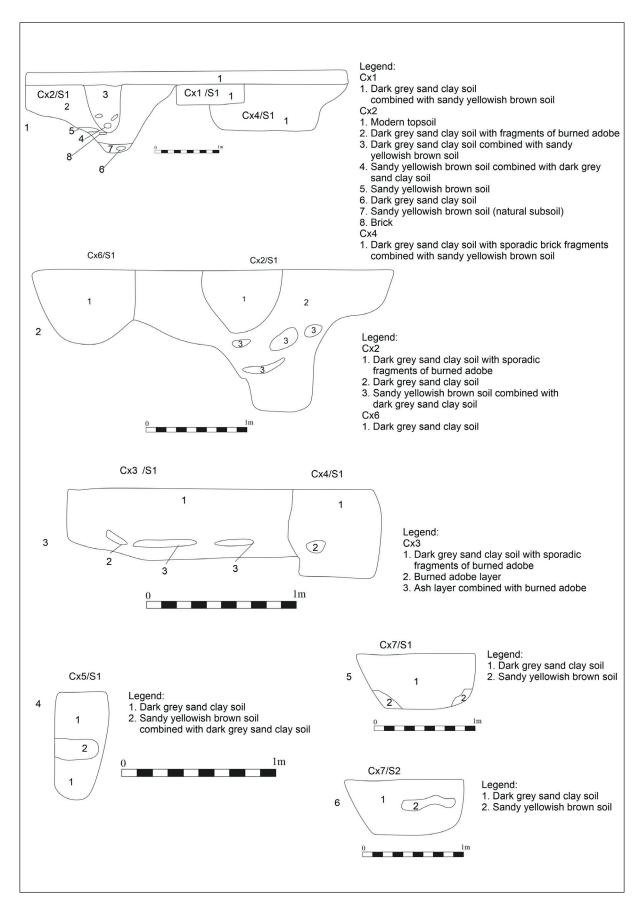


Plate 6. Feature profiles: 1-5 S1/2020; 6. S2/2020.

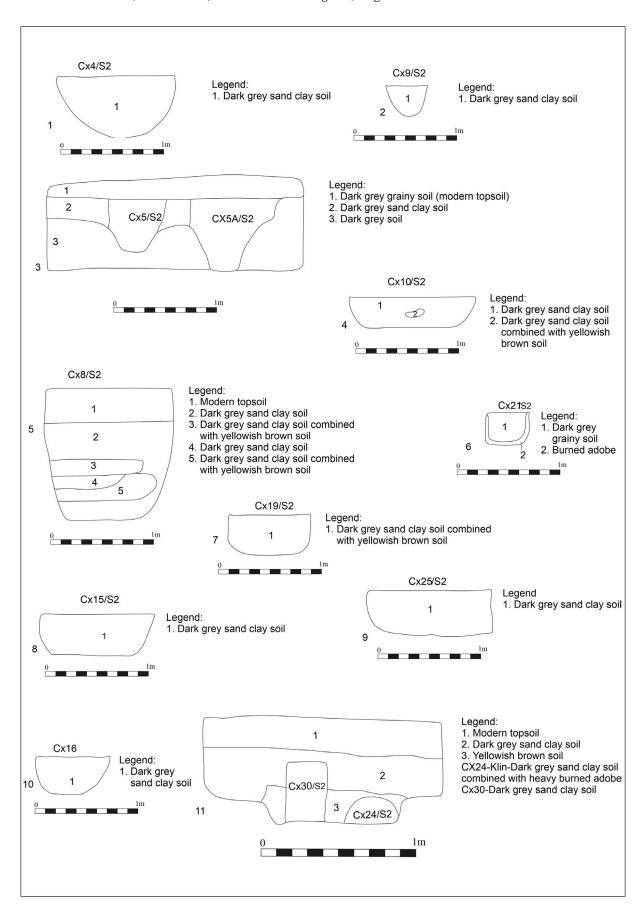


Plate 7. Feature profiles S2/2020.

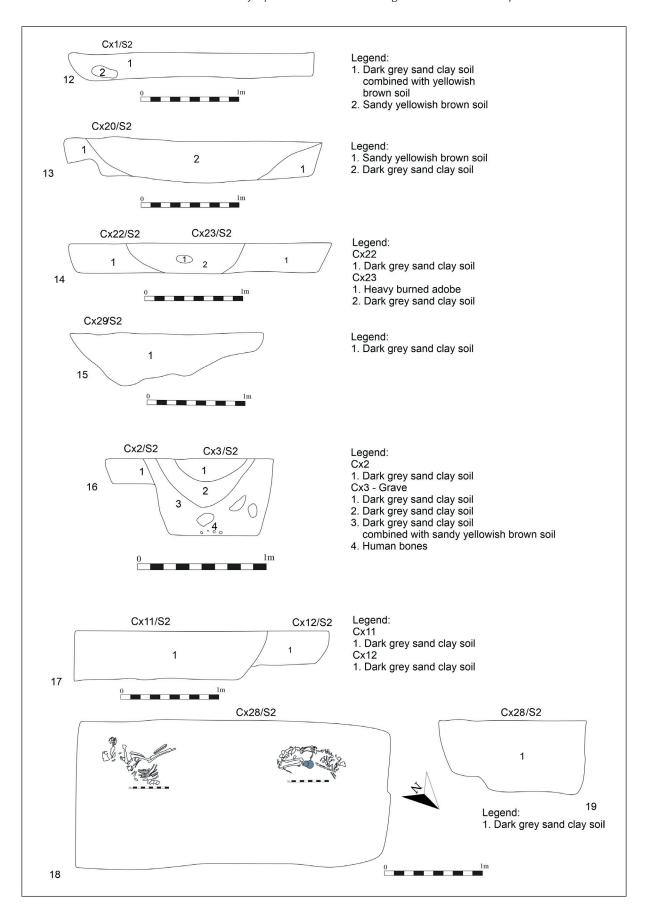


Plate 8. Feature profiles S2/2020.

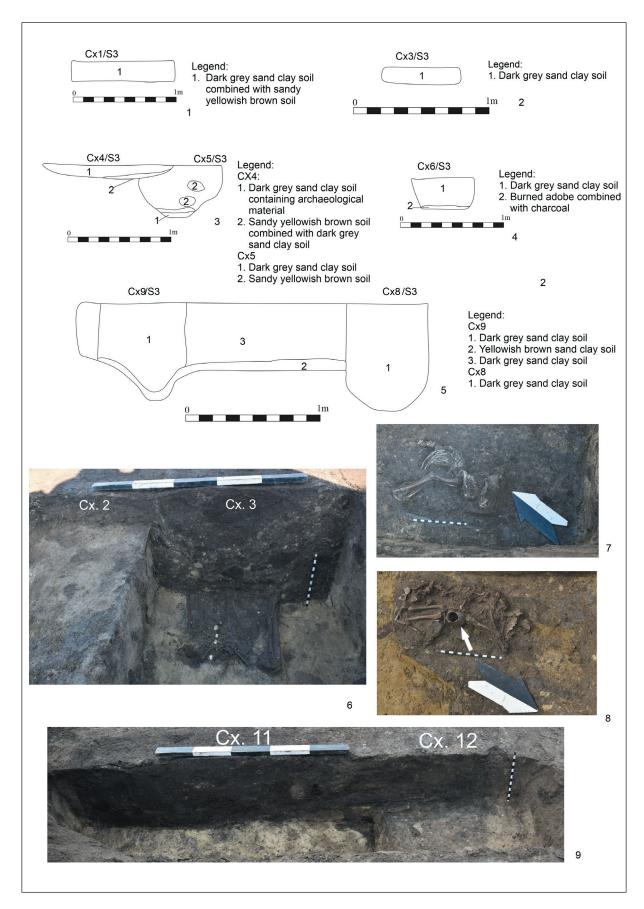


Plate 9. 1–5. Feature profiles of S3; 6, 9. Feature profiles of S2; 7–8. Animal skeleton details from feature 28/S2.

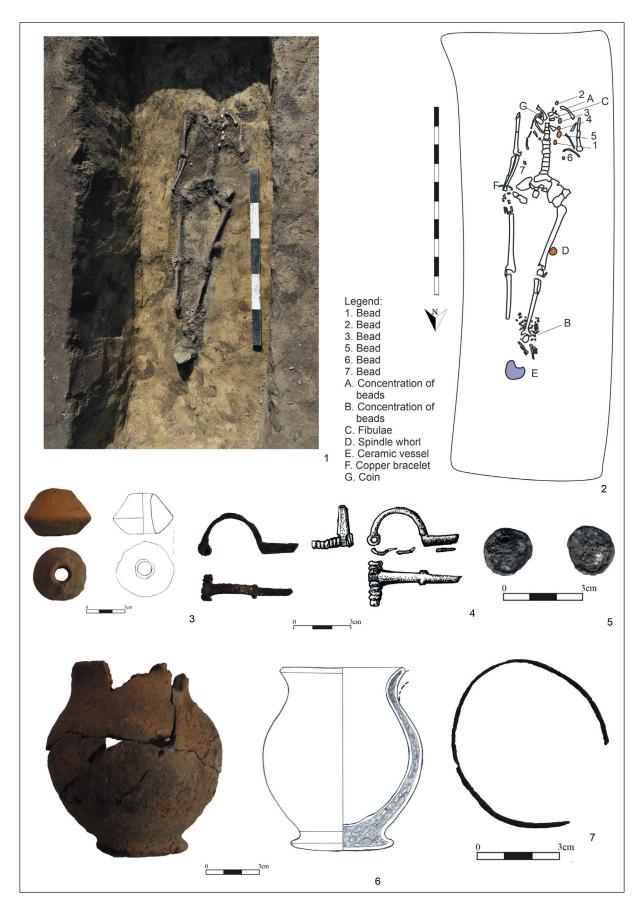


Plate 10. 1–2. Feature 3/S2 (grave). 3–7. Inventory of feature 3/S2.

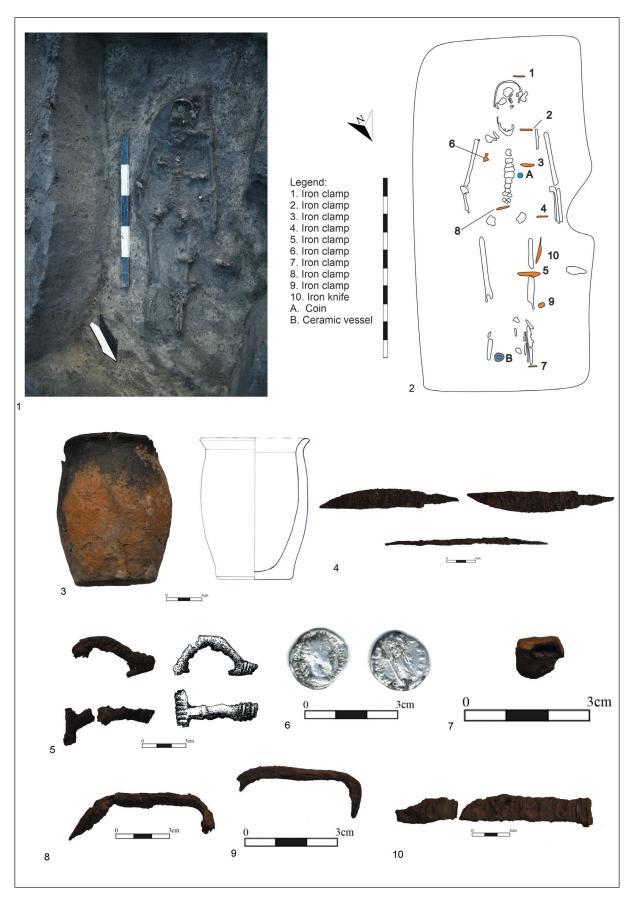


Plate 11. 1–2. Feature 6/S2 (grave). 3–10. Inventory of feature 6/S2.

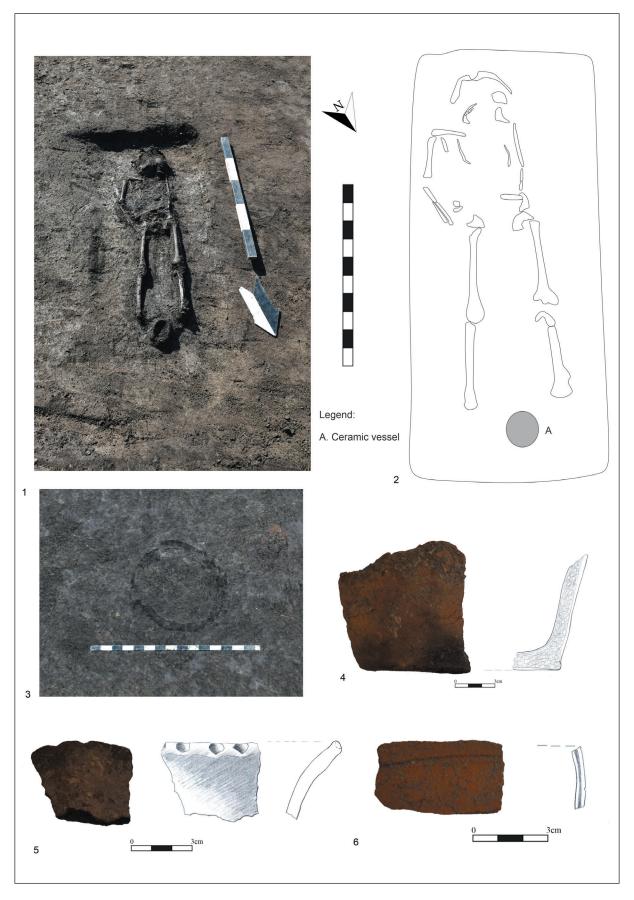


Plate 12. 1–3. Feature 14/S2 (grave); 4–5. Pottery fragments from feature 15/S2; 6. Pottery fragments from feature 22/S2.

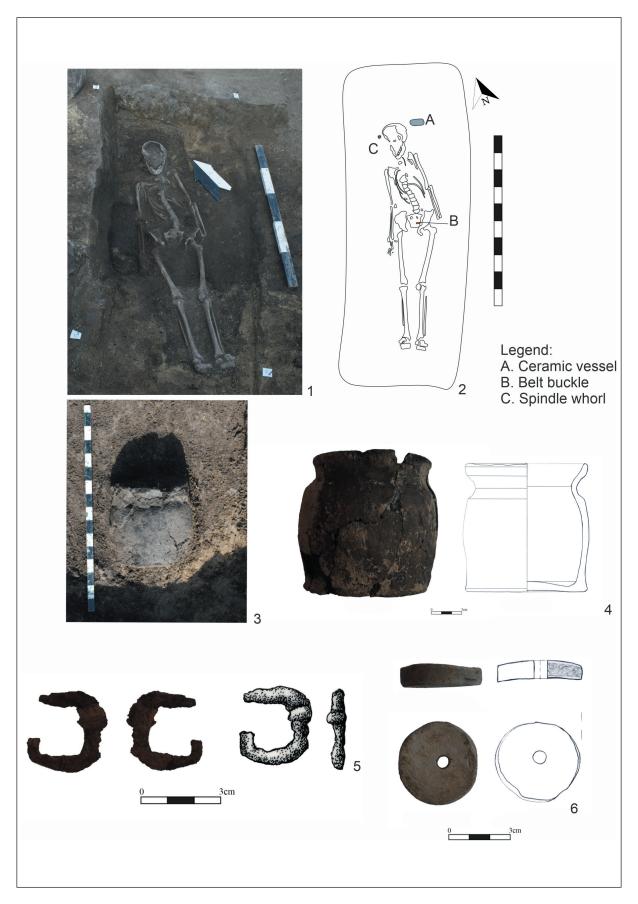


Plate 13. 1–2. Feature 17/S2 (grave); 3. Pot from feature 17/S2 ($in \, situ$); 4–6. Inventory from feature 17/S2.

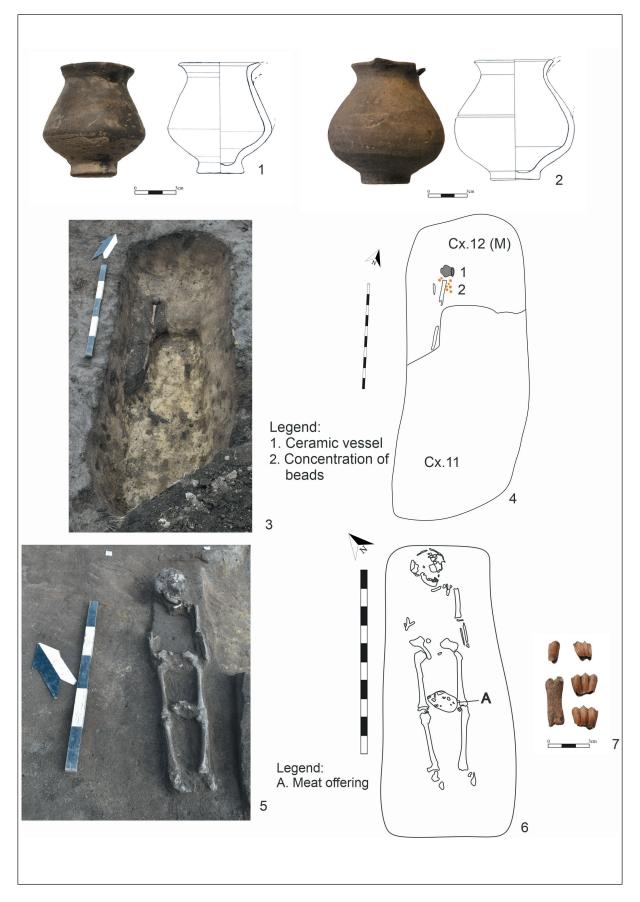
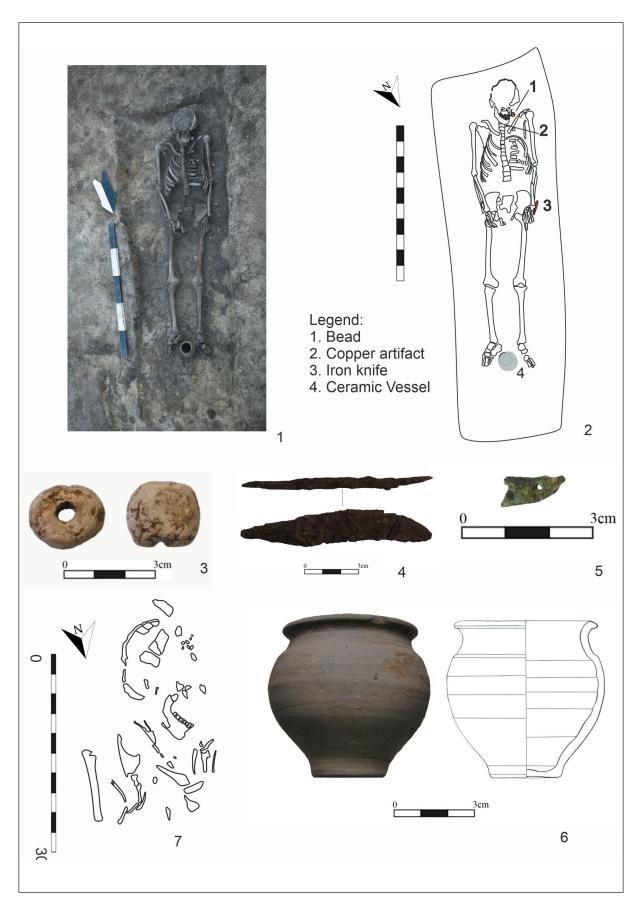


Plate 14. 1. Pot from feature 12/S2; 2. Pot from feature 28/S2; 3-4. Feature 12 (grave); 5-6. Feature 18/S2 (grave); 7. Animal bones from the knee area of the deceased from feature 18/S2.



 $Plate 15. \ 1-2. \ Feature \ 2/S3 \ (grave); \ 3-6. \ Inventory \ of \ feature \ 2/S3 \ (grave); \ 7. \ Feature \ 7/S3 \ (grave).$

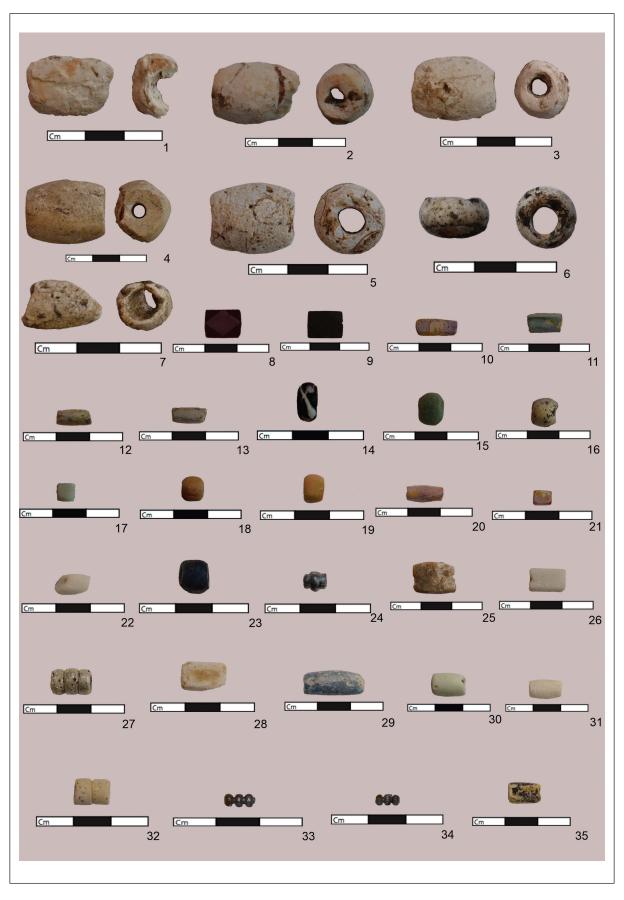


Plate 16. 1–35. Beads from feature 3/S2 (grave).

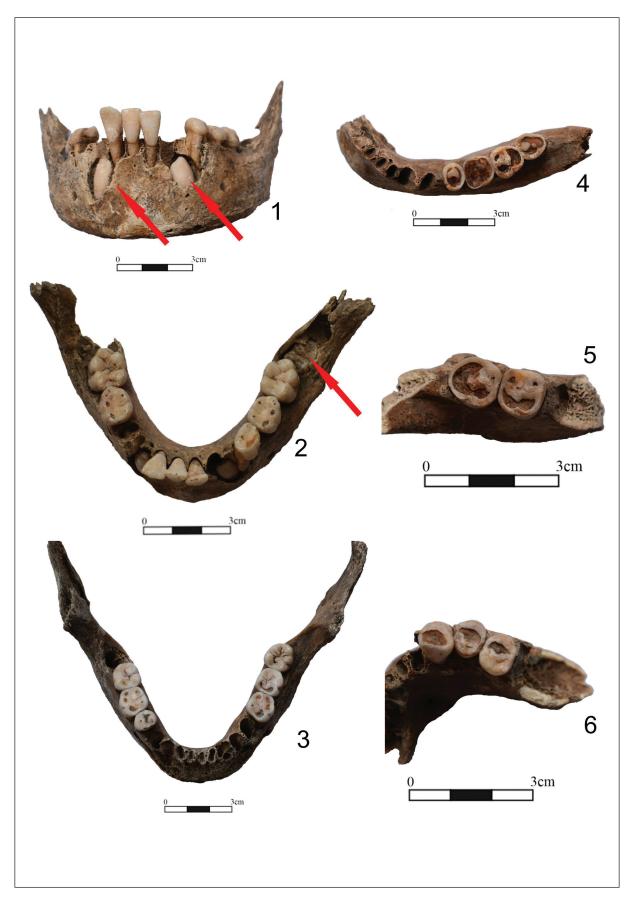


Plate 17. 1–2. Temporary teeth from feature 18/S2 (grave); 3. Teeth abrasion from feature 17/S2 (grave); 4–6; Teeth abrasion from feature 6/S2 (grave).

Abbreaviations

AEM Archäologisch-epigraphische Mitteilungen aus Österreich-Ungarn, Vienna.

AM Arheologia Moldovei, Iași.

AMN Acta Musei Napocensis, Cluj-Napoca.
AMP Acta Musei Porolissensis, Zalău.
AMV Acta Musei Varnaensis, Varna.

Angustia Angustia. Revista Muzeului Național al Carpaților Răsăriteni, Sf. Gheorghe. Anuarul MJIAP (S.N.) Anuarul Muzeului de Istorie și Arheologie Prahova, Serie Nouă, Ploiești.

Antiquity Antiquity. A review of world archaeology, Durham.

Archaeological Journal Archaeological Journal. New Series. Chişinău.

Archért Archaeologiai Értesitő, Budapest.
ArchPol Archaeologia Polona, Warsaw.
ArchRozhledy Archeologické Rozhledy, Praha.

ASM Archaeologica Slovaca Monographiae, Bratislava.

BAR (Int. S.) British Archaeological Reports (International Series), Oxford.

Biharea Biharea. Culegere de studii și materiale de etnografie și artă, Oradea.

BMG Bibliotheca Musei Giurgiuvensis, Giurgiu.

BMJT Buletinul Muzeului Județean Teleorman. Seria Arheologie, Alexandria.

BMM Bibliotheca Musei Marisiensis, Târgu Mureș.

Budapest Régiségei Budapest Régiségei Régészeti és Történeti Évkönyv. Budapest.

CA București Cercetări arheologice în București, București.
CCA Cronica Cercetărilor Arheologice, București.
CIL Corpus Inscriptionum Latinarum, Berlin.
CsSzMÉ A Csíki Székely Múzeum Évkönyve. Csíkszereda.

Dacia (N.S.) Dacia. Revue d'archéologie et d'histoire ancienne. Nouvelle serie. București.

Dolgozatok a Magyar Királyi Ferencz József Tudományegyetem Archaeológiai

Intézetéből. Szeged.

EphNap Ephemeris Napocensis, Cluj-Napoca.

Erdély. Turistai, fürdőügyi és néprajzi folyóirat, Cluj-Napoca.

FontArchPrag Fontes Archaeologici Pragenses, Prague.

Földtközl. Földtani közlöny, Budapest.

HOMÉ A Herman Ottó Muzeum Ėvkönyve, Miskolc.

ILD C. C. Petolescu, *Inscripții latine din Dacia*, Bucharest 2005.JAHA Journal of Ancient History and Archaeology, Cluj-Napoca.

Jahrb. RGZM Jahrbuch des Römisch Germanischen Zentralmuseums zu Mainz, Mainz.

JAMÉ Jósa András Múzeum Évkönyve, Nyiregyháza.

Karpatika Karpatika, Uzhorod.

LMI List of Historic Monuments, updated 2015.

Marisia Marisia. Studies and Materials. Archeology. Târgu-Mureș. MCA (S.N.) Materiale și Cercetări Arheologice Serie Nouă. București

MemAntiq Memoria Antiquitatis, Piatra Neamţ.

NNA Nordisk Numismatisk Årsskrift, Stockholm.

PAS Prähistorische Archäologie in Südosteuropa, Rahden/Westf.
PAT Patrimonium Archaeologicum Transylvanicum, Cluj-Napoca.

Paléo PALEO – Revue d'archéologie préhistorique, Les Eyzies-de-Tayac-Sireuil.

Pallas Pallas. Revue d'études antiques, Toulouse.

PNAS Proceedings of the National Academy of Sciences of the United States of America,

Washington.

PZ Prähistorische Zeitschrift. Berlin. RAN National Archaeological Repertory.

RM Revista Muzeelor, București.

Sargetia Sargetia. Acta Musei Devensis, Deva.
SatuMareSC Satu Mare Studii și Comunicări, Satu Mare.

SCIV(A) Studii și Cercetări de Istorie Veche și Arheologie, București.

SCȘMI Studii și Comunicări Științifice ale Muzeelor de Istorie, București.

SIB Studii de Istorie a Banatului, Timișoara.

SlovArch Slovenská archeológia, Nitra. SP Studii de Preiostorie, București.

St. Cerc. Antropol. Studii și Cercetări de Antropologie, București.

StudUBB-G Studia Universitatis Babeș-Bolyai. Seria Geologia, Cluj-Napoca. ZborníkSlovNMA Zborník Slovenského Národného Múzea. Archeológia, Bratislava.

ZSA Ziridava. Studia Archaeologica, Arad.

ИАИ Известия на Археолигическия Институт при БАН, София.