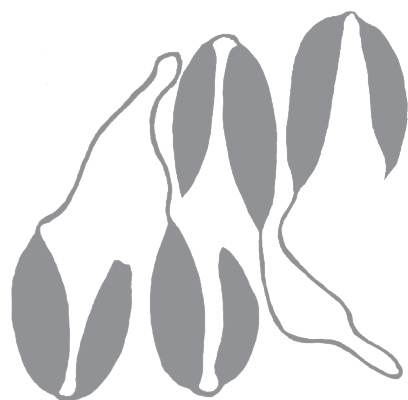


ZIRIDAVA
STUDIA ARCHAEOLOGICA

35

2021

MUSEUM ARAD



ZIRIDAVA
STUDIA ARCHAEOLOGICA

35
2021

Editura MEGA
Cluj-Napoca
2021

MUSEUM ARAD

EDITORIAL BOARD

Editor-in-chief: Victor Sava, Florin Mărginean.

Editorial Assistants: Norbert Kapcsos, Ioan Cristian Cireap.

EDITORIAL ADVISORY BOARD

Vitalie Bârcă (Institute of Archaeology and Art History, Cluj-Napoca, Romania)

Adina Boroneanț ("Vasile Pârvan" Institute of Archaeology, Bucharest, Romania)

Marin Cărciumaru (Valahia University of Târgoviște, Romania)

Sorin Cociș (Institute of Archaeology and Art History, Cluj-Napoca, Romania)

Dragoș Diaconescu (The National Museum of Banat, Timișoara, Romania)

Daria Loznjak Dizdar (Institute of Archaeology, Zagreb, Croatia)

Florin Drașovean (Romanian Academy, Timișoara branch, Timișoara, Romania)

Alin Frînculeasa (Prahova County Museum of History and Archaeology, Ploiești, Romania)

Erwin Gáll ("Vasile Pârvan" Institute of Archaeology, Bucharest, Romania)

Florin Gogâltan (Institute of Archaeology and Art History, Cluj-Napoca, Romania)

Adrian Ioniță ("Vasile Pârvan" Institute of Archaeology, Bucharest, Romania)

Hrvoje Kalafatić (Institute of Archaeology, Zagreb, Croatia)

Aleksandar Kapuran (Institute of Archaeology, Belgrade, Serbia)

Rüdiger Krause (Johann Wolfgang Goethe-Universität Frankfurt, Germany)

Tobias Kienlin (Universität zu Köln, Germany)

Valéria Kulcsár (University of Szeged, Hungary)

Sabin Adrian Luca (Lucian Blaga University, Sibiu, Romania)

Barry Molloy (University College Dublin, Ireland)

Sorin Nemeti (Babeș-Bolyai University, Romania)

John O'Shea (University of Michigan, USA)

Karl Zeno Pinter (Lucian Blaga University, Sibiu, Romania)

Ioan Stanciu (Institute of Archaeology and Art History, Cluj-Napoca, Romania)

Imre Szatmári (Munkácsy Mihály Museum, Békéscsaba, Hungary)

Miklos Takács (Institute of Archaeology of the Hungarian Academy of Sciences, Budapest, Hungary)

Ioan Marian Țipilic (Lucian Blaga University, Sibiu, Romania)

In Romania, the periodical can be obtained through subscription or exchange, sent as post shipment, from Museum Arad, Arad, Piata G. Enescu 1, 310131, Romania.

Tel. 0040-257-281847.

ZIRIDAVA STUDIA ARCHAEOLOGICA

Any correspondence will be sent to the editor:

Museum Arad

Piata George Enescu 1, 310131 Arad, RO

e-mail: ziridava2012@gmail.com

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

Contents

Petru Ciocani	
Early Neolithic inter-settlement pattern in the northwestern corner of the Banat.....	7
Astrid Vicas	
Seeking Opportunity: Mobility and Transmission of Innovation in the Chalcolithic.....	23
Alin Frînculeasa	
The Yamnaya mounds and the local cultural traditions of the first half of the 3rd millennium in Muntenia. The archaeological excavations of Moara Vlăsiei (Ilfov County).....	49
Mihai Remus Feraru	
The cult of goddess Hekate in Miletus and the Milesian colonies	107
Ioan Stanciu	
Archaeological evidence on land farming in the Someş river Plain – north-western Romania (1 st century BC?).....	127
Georgeta El Susi	
Animal management in the Latène settlement (2 nd century BC – 1 st century AD) at Săvârşin, Arad County.....	139
Sorin Cociş	
A new stamped <i>mortarium</i> from Napoca.....	153
Andrei-Cătălin Discă	
Roman Sites and Discoveries Around Potaissa (V). New Data and Clarifications Regarding the Cheia Settlement and the Stone Quarries of Roman Dacia	159
Vitalie Bârcă	
Roman bronze casseroles in the Sarmatae graves from the area between the Don and the Lower Danube..	179
Dorel Micle, Remus Dincă, Octavian Cristian Rogozea, Sergiu Gabriel Enache	
Preliminary report on the rescue archaeological excavations in Dudeştii Vechi – 54.....	225
Florin Mărginean, Erwin Gáll	
Traces of an Early Avar Period Settlement. The Archaeological Findings from Pecica – Rovine / Căprăvanul Mic (Arad County).....	263
Luminiţa Andreica-Szilagy	
Anthropological analysis of the skeletons discovered at Pecica “Rovine” (Arad County). Identification of certain occupational stress markers specific to horseback riding practice.....	273
Dan Băcuet-Crişan	
On the early medieval fast wheel-thrown pottery (of late ancient tradition) (<i>Lazuri-Nuşfalău type finds</i>) from north-western Romania. Relative and absolute chronological landmarks.....	283
Andrea Demjén	
Archaeological research of the Roman-Catholic church from Joseni (Harghita County).....	299
Dan Băcuet-Crişan, Horea Pop, Timea Keresztes	
The Kaolin Clay Medieval Pottery of <i>Măgura Hill</i> Moigrad (Sălaj County). A Few Notes on Finds of the Type from Transylvania and the Banat.....	321

Zoltán Rózsa, Viktória P. Horváth, György Kerekes, Rajmund Péter Zsikai	
At the Intersection of Border Areas. Traces of an Inn of the 17 th and 18 th centuries on the Border of Today's Kaszaper and Végegyháza (Békés County, Hungary).....	335
Bogdan Ciupercă, Andrei-Cătălin Dîscă, Tudor Hila, Andrei Măgureanu	
The manufacture of lime on the Budureasca Valley (Prahova County) by late medieval and early modern period.....	357
Cristian Floca, Florin Gogăltan, Alexandru Hegyi, Patrick Chiroiu, Sorin Forțiu	
Using the water power in preindustrial Banat. A historical archaeology study on the Lower Timiș River..	371

REVIEWS

Florin Drașovean, Wolfram Schier (editors), in collaboration with Alex Bayliss, helmut Becker, Barbara Dammers, Bisserka Gaydarska, Christoph Menzler, Silviene Scharl, Stefan Suhrbier, Petru Urdea, Alasdait Whittle, Uivar "Gomilă". <i>A Prehistoric Settlement in the Romanian Banat Vol. I. Site, Architecture, Stratigraphy and Dating. Prähistorische Archäologie in Südosteuropa 32.</i> Verlag Marie Leidorf GmbH, Rahden/Westf. Leidorf 2020, (ISBN 978-3-8646-687-7), 585 pages (Victor Sava).....	419
Valeriu Sîrbu, Aurora Pețan (editors), <i>Temples and Cult Places from the Second Iron Age in Europe</i> (Proceedings of the 2nd International Colloquium "Iron Age Sanctuaries and Cult Places at the Thracians and their Neighbours", Alun, Romania, 7th–9th May 2019, Dacica press, Alun 2020 (ISBN 978-606-8538-02-0), 352 pages (Ioan Cristian Cireap).....	421
Radu Harhoiu, Nikolaus Boroffka, Rodica Boroffka, Erwin Gáll, Adrian Ioniță, Daniel Spânu, <i>Schäßburg – Weinberg (Sighișoara – Dealul Viilor) II Archäologische Grabungen bei der Fundstelle „Gräberfeld / Necropolă</i> , Cetatea de Scaun verlag, Târgoviște 2020 (ISBN 978-606-537-465-2), 577 Seiten, 75 Tafeln (Bianca Profiran).....	423
Abbreviations.....	425

Traces of an Early Avar Period Settlement. The Archaeological Findings from Pecica – Rovine / Căprăvanul Mic (Arad County)*

Florin Mărginean, Erwin Gáll

Abstract: Archaeological rescue excavations of the past decade, carried out due to infrastructure investments, have led to discovering new traces of the early medieval period in the Lower Mureş Basin. The building arrangements in 2014 of a parking area for trucks near Pecica revealed a multi-layered archaeological site (forty-nine archaeological features belonging to four archaeological periods), datable in four chronological horizons as follows: the Sarmatian period, the Early Avar period, the post-Avar period, and the late medieval period (overlapped by the Ottoman period). In the present article, only a few features will be analysed, which seem to belong to the Early Avar horizon of habitation like the two graves situated in the immediate vicinity, treated separately in another study.

In 2018, a new project extending the initial investment allowed the archaeological investigation of the remaining surface of the terrace to the east. New surveys have confirmed the eastward extension of both traces of habitation and of funerary spaces.

Keywords: habitation; dwelling; handmade pottery; Early Avar Age; Lower Mureş Basin.

Introduction

Recent discoveries around the town of Pecica shed new light on a less investigated chronological interval from the dawn of the Early Middle Ages. In connection with the period that we are considering here, in addition to chance discoveries or following research that did not necessarily concern the early medieval period, the discoveries of the last decade following large-scale work (such as the highway, construction work, etc.) are worth noting. Pieces in the collection of the Arad Museum, discovered at various points around Pecica, such as those from “Şanţul Mare” or the finds from “Forgaci” in the 80’s of the last century were not enough to outline this chronological horizon more clearly. The results of the most recent discoveries stemming from preventive archaeological excavations at sites such as Pecica “Site 15” (2011), Pecica “Smart Diesel” (2015, 2017) or Pecica “Duvenbeck” (2018), to which are added those of the present study, are of a different magnitude.

The preventive excavation carried out in 2014 following the development of a truck parking area led to the delimitation of a multistratigraphic site. On the surface delimited by the parking area, 49 features, datable in four chronological horizons, were documented as follows: the Sarmatian period, the Early Avar period, the post-Avar period and the late medieval (or Ottoman) period¹.

The complexity of the site was given by the fact that features attributable to funerary contexts, parts of settlements or workshops, were found scattered over a relatively large area of what appears to be only the edge of a multistratigraphic site.

In the present case, our attention will only focus on structures that define aspects of habitation datable to the Early Avar period, with 4 features being analyzed. The two discovered graves, which seem to belong to the same horizon, have been analysed in a separate study², to which the anthropological analysis has been added³.

An important contribution to the completion of the study was made by dating the two graves

* English translation: Alina-Ioana Piticar.

¹ George P. Hurezan (scientific coordinator), Florin Mărginean, Victor Sava, *Raport de cercetare arheologică preventivă. Pecica vest (Căprăvanul Mic / Rovine)*. Arad 2014. Initially, the site has been identified by Kapcsos Norbert.

² Gall, Mărginean 2021.

³ Data with the preliminary anthropological analyses carried out by Luminița Szilagyí have also been included in Gáll, Mărginean 2021, for which we thank our colleague.

and the dwelling using ^{14}C analyses, which allowed for a more refined chronological classification and historical contextualization.

In 2018, a new project to extend the initial investment led to an archaeological diagnosis in the remaining area to the east of the terrace, which led to the delimitation of several features⁴. The chance to carry out further preventive archaeological investigations could complete an overview of this site with several chronological horizons, both in terms of habitation and aspects related to funerary spaces.

In addition to the analyses and processing of ^{14}C data, in terms of dating the early medieval remains, the pottery analysis allows hypotheses to be issued regarding the relative dating of the types of habitation, as well as aspects relating to material culture, pottery production technology and life-style of the period, etc.

The analysis of these finds is obviously only one link in the chain of what the habitation of this micro-region in the Carpathian Basin meant, which, when correlated with older and especially newer information, could complete the historiographical puzzle related to the evolution of the space between the Pannonian Plain and Transylvania (Trans-Tisa) at the beginning of the second half of the 1st millennium AD.

Geographical location of finds

One example of habitation from the Early Avar Age in Rovine/Căpravanul Mic is situated right out of Pecica, on the road to Nădlac, between the channel under the grapevines and the European Arad-Nădlac road.

From a geographical point of view, the area is positioned in the Western Plain or Banato-Crișana Plain, a subdivision of the Nădlac Plain.

Due to anthropic interventions, especially in the last two centuries, the landscape of the Mureș River floodplain areas has changed radically. The hydrographic development work has led to the disappearance of the secondary arms (channels) and with them the specific fauna and flora of the floodplain⁵. In our case as well, the site is located on a terrace 2.5 km north of the current course of the Mureș River, in an area with arms or channels that were already visible on the Austrian military maps, most likely active during the early medieval period of habitation. The presence of finds from both the Sarmatian and late medieval periods suggests the good positioning of the site in the landscape of the Mureș floodplain.

Research methodology

As this is a preventive archaeological excavation, the entire surface affected by the project was stripped mechanically to the level where the archaeological features could be delimited. Due to the land being intensively farmed, the annual ploughing disturbed the stratigraphy up to ca. 0.50 m. All the archaeological features required a uniform excavation and documentation technique, with the information being recorded analogically, graphically, and digitally. The features that were deep into the ground were initially half emptied, in order to get a profile, or in the case of the graves, the sepulchral pit was emptied of bones and inventories, as appropriate.

Description of the findings related to the Early Avar period habitation

The features analysed in the present study were clustered in the eastern part of the perimeter investigated in 2014. In view of the results of the archaeological diagnostics carried out in 2018, mentioned above, the conclusions regarding the types of habitation will be made with caution.

Feature 9. The mechanized stripping outlined the boundaries of a dwelling of a deep quadrilateral shape with straight walls and a flat bottom. Approximately in the center of the dwelling, fragments of coarse handmade ceramic pots with an incised and alveolate lip were recovered from the contouring level. Alongside these, a pig tusk was also recovered, from which a sample for ^{14}C dating

⁴ Adrian Ursuțiu (scientific coordinator), Florin Mărginean, Victor Sava, Malvinka Urak. *Raport diagnostic arheologic. Zonă prestări servicii și comerț. Oraș Pecica, extravilan, jud. Arad*. Cluj-Napoca 2018.

⁵ Györfy, Zólyomi 1994, 17, 27–31, fig. 1–2, 4–5.

was extracted. Apparently the only internal fittings were preserved in the SW corner, consisting of a cluster of boulders and relatively large brick fragments. Externally, on the SW corner, on the western and southern sides, the traces of two postholes were preserved, most likely pertaining to the entrance of the dwelling. Fragments of animal bones were also recovered from the fill. A spur of land was preserved in the NW corner.

The dimensions of the dwelling are: 3.6 m long, 3.3 m wide and 0.4/0.5 m internal depth from the contouring level (Pl. 2).

Feature 15. Ditch, probably drainage, with slightly oblique walls and a flat bottom. Length: 3.4 m. Width: 0.4 m. Internal depth: – 0.10/0.20 m.

Feature 28. Posthole. – circular pit when contoured. After ca. 5 cm it bends and progressively narrows towards the bottom. Dimensions: 0.26 × 0.29 m. Internal depth: – 0.35 m.

Feature 30. Posthole. – oval pit when contoured. After ca. 10 cm it bends and progressively narrows towards the bottom. Two pottery fragments (a handmade lip and an atypical fragment) emerged from the pit. Dimensions: 0.40 × 0.56 m. Internal depth: – 0.54 m.

A few comments about the living space

As this is a preventive excavation limited to the perimeter affected by the private investment, we will express our reservations from the onset about the possible extent of the settlement. It should be noted that from the primary analysis of the finds pertaining to the other features, apart from the two graves located near the dwelling and analysed in a separate study⁶, no other artefacts have been found that can be attributed to this chronological horizon.

The 11.88 m² surface area places it in the category of medium-sized dwellings, in relation to the possibilities, but especially the mobility, of an early medieval period “family”⁷. Oriented on the long north-south axis, the sunken dwelling has two massive postholes located on the exterior of the south-west corner. Given the location, it would be difficult to imagine an exit through that place, especially since towards the middle of the southern side it was possible to contour the imprint of a pit emerging from the southern alignment of the dwelling. This might suggest that the gable roof was rather laid out on the north-south axis. In this case, the placement of a simple hearth – disturbed after the abandonment of the living space – in the south-western corner remains questionable. In addition, the utility of the two posts placed on the exterior of the south-west corner outside the dwelling remains questionable.

The internal depth of 0.4/0.5 m from the level at which it was contoured following mechanical stripping was probably greater, considering that the land was intensively cultivated. The lack of any traces of posts in the interior to support the roof or walls could be another clue regarding the greater sinking into the ground of the dwelling, the light roof most likely also being supported by the edge of the pit. This would also have provided better thermal insulation, considering the intensity of the air currents in the Lower Mureş floodplain⁸. The boulder agglomeration of a brick fragment in the fill of the south-west corner can hardly be attributed to a fire installation. The meagre material culture recovered from the fill, the probable existence of a mere simple hearth, can be taken into account with regard to the seasonality of the use of this space. Given all these aspects, including older assessments⁹, we can say that both the house and the pottery fragments are typical for this chronological horizon.

At this stage of the research until the investigation of the eastern perimeter of the site, delimited by archaeological diagnostics in 2018, we consider it hazardous to issue any strong opinions regarding how extensive the habitation of the Early Avar period was here.

Pottery

Analyses carried out over time have shown that a larger proportion of handmade pottery allows dating in the Early and Middle Avar periods. As for the domestic space, on the eastern side of the

⁶ Gáll, Mărginean 2021.

⁷ Takács 2002.

⁸ On these issues, see also Stanciu *et al.* 2021, 23–24.

⁹ Bóna 1973, 62–70.

investigated area a sunken dwelling was discovered, from which some handmade pottery fragments were recovered, parts of three pots. Two lips present alveoli and incisions, alongside several animal bones.

A flared lip fragment of a handmade pot was also recovered from a posthole outside the dwelling.
Handmade pot lip with alveoli (Pl. 3/1)

Technology. Only the lip of a handmade pot has been preserved. The temper consists of small and medium-grained sand. Reduction firing, with traces of secondary firing on the inner side below the lip and towards the belly on the outside.

Shape. Even though only the upper part has been preserved, we consider that it can be classified in the same category of medium-sized pots.

Decoration. The lip was decorated with successive alveoli, created by pressing with a rounded tool before firing.

Handmade pot lip, incised (Pl. 3/2)

Technology. Sherds of another handmade pot, very fragmentary, tempered with medium-grained sand.

Shape. As in the case above, the judgements regarding the shape are orientative in relation to the diameter of the mouth, which also suggests a medium-sized pot.

Decoration. In this case, the decoration of the lip of the pot was created through oblique incisions made before firing.

Handmade pot (Pl. 3/3)

Technology. Handmade pot, plain lipped, reduction firing, light brown colour, with traces of secondary firing both outside and inside. The temper consists of small-grained sand with a few medium-sized pebbles.

Shape. Pot, mouth diameter 13 cm, bottom diameter 9.5 cm. The wall thickness varies from thin towards the mouth (0.8 cm), thickening towards the belly (1 cm) and thicker towards the bottom (1.3 cm). The lip of the pot is flared, plain.

Decoration. No decoration.

Handmade pot lip (Ftr. 30)

Flared lip of a handmade jar, with a plain lip, tempered with medium, as well as larger, grained sand. Reduction firing.

The presence of handmade pottery and the lip decorated with alveoli or incised is also noticeable in the Gepidic horizon. This doesn't exclude an early interaction between this horizon and the specific early Avar one¹⁰. As far as handmade pottery with alveoli or incisions is concerned, I. Bóna called it "nomadic pottery", an idea also taken up by T. Vida¹¹. The pottery with a flared lip and a zigzag incision made before firing can be broadly dated over the course of the 7th century and is classified in T. Vida's typology as type IIIId1/c/g¹². This is also confirmed by the ¹⁴C data, which would place the dating of the feature in the first half of the 7th century (see Fig. 2). It is worth mentioning the lack of slow-wheeled pottery, which, as it is known¹³, began to be produced and used in the Kaghanate, especially in the second half of the 7th century.

If from the territory of the Great Plain and Trans Tisa the graves and funerary sites of the newcomers are known very well¹⁴, the same cannot be said for the state of research of the settlements, respectively traces of their settlements¹⁵. If we take a look at the Trans Tisa territory, not much earlier, Dániel Pópity could only gather 9 traces of settlements¹⁶. Against this situation we have listed 168 funerary sites or traces of these only from the Trans Tisa region¹⁷, respectively 39 in the Lower Mureş Valley¹⁸. It is quite

¹⁰ Stanciu 2013, 345, nota 22.

¹¹ Vida 1999, 16–24.

¹² Vida 1999, 138–143, Abb. 58.

¹³ Vida 1999, 138–143.

¹⁴ For a synthesis of these, see: Vida 2008, 47–74. The cemeteries from the Avar Age have been listed in 2002 by ADAM 2002 (Vol. 1), respectively in 2020 by Gáll, Mărginean 2020, regarding the funerary sites from the territory of Trans Tisa.

¹⁵ For a repertory of the settlements, see ADAM 2002 (Vol. 2). On the material culture of the settlements in the 7–8th centuries, see Vida 2011, 701–817.

¹⁶ Pópity 2015, 93–114.

¹⁷ Gáll, Mărginean 2020, 391, Fig. 12.

¹⁸ Mărginean, Gáll 2021, u. pr.

clearly a serious contrast between the state of research of the funerary sites, respectively of the settlements of the 6th and 7th centuries east of the Tisa, especially in the Lower Mureş Basin.

Thus, if we solely analyse the Lower Mureş region, Pópity mentioned only 3 settlements or very likely traces of settlements: Csanádpalota¹⁹, Szeged-Tápé, SZGT-24²⁰. Interestingly, in both cases they are not large settlements: at Csanádpalota, 2 dwellings and a hearth have been found²¹, while at Szeged-Tápé, SZGT-24, unpublished to date, according to the very vague mention, it would be Early Avar period features situated around two ovens.

Thus, the Pecica-Rovine/Căprăvanul Mic dwelling, as well as the Csanádpalota, Szeged-Tápé-SZGT-24 habitation sites, rather point to traces of a scattered settlement, used seasonally by a likely nomadic population²². The singular dwelling at Pecica in this sense underlines our view, indicating a mobility of the 7th century communities of the Lower Mureş Basin. At the same time, considering that out of 168 burial sites located east of the Tisa, 81 have single graves and 28 others have between 2–5 graves, we consider that they reinforce this mobile character of the aforementioned lifestyle (Fig. 1).

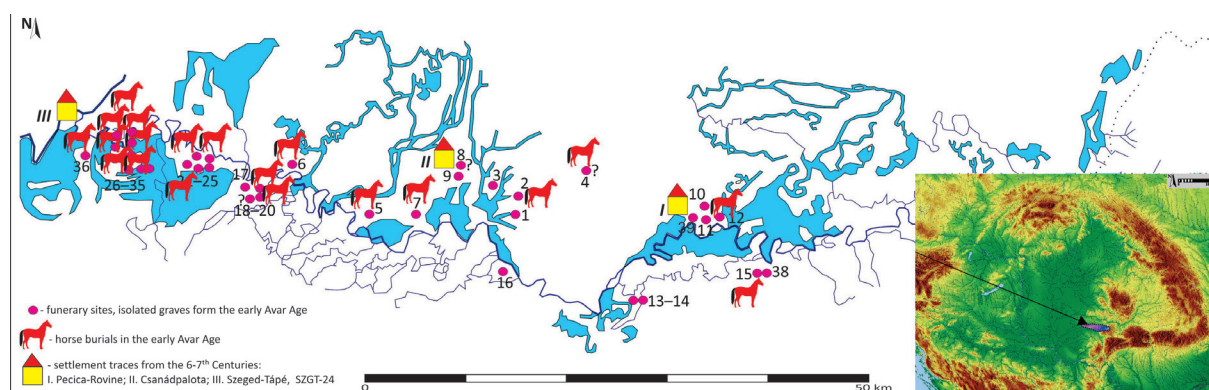


Fig. 1. The settlements and the funerary sites in the Lower Mureş Basin (the list of the funerary sites, see: Gáll, Mărginean 2020, Table 1 and Fig. 12).

Returning to the issue of the dwelling from Pecica-Rovine/Căprăvanul Mic, the question of the connection between the dwelling and the two graves discovered near it can undoubtedly be asked. However, based on the ¹⁴C analyses, this would rather indicate a slightly earlier dating of the graves compared to the dwelling (see Fig. 2).

At the same time, it should not be ignored, at this stage of the investigations, that such small groups of graves indicate a mobile life of the 6th–7th century communities around the present-day town of Pecica. Evidence in this regard is found in the eastern part of Pecica, such as those from Site 15-Cluster 1 and Cluster 2²³, Smart Diesel²⁴, or Nădlac-1M or 9M²⁵, which strengthen our conviction that we are dealing with small mobile communities from the Lower Mureş Basin with a nomadic lifestyle. Obviously, for a more solid argumentation, these aspects need to be complemented with interdisciplinary analyses, such as those related to the diet of the deceased individuals, oxygen, stable isotopes, which could give us more numerous and more reliable information about their lifestyle²⁶. Already considering the directions outlined by the new archaeological discoveries, we can think about the possibility that these communities may have been moving along the Mureş River to the salt areas located in the “heart” of Transylvania²⁷.

¹⁹ Pópity 2015, 93–114.

²⁰ Gulyás 2009, 286–287; Pópity 2015, 99.

²¹ Pópity 2015, 100–107.

²² Gáll, Mărginean 2021, 149–169.

²³ Mărginean *et al.* 2021, u. pr.

²⁴ Mărginean, Gáll 2021, u. pr.

²⁵ Gáll 2017; Gáll, Mărginean 2020.

²⁶ István Fodor, quoting Valentij Silov (1975, 79), mentions that the nomads’ burial sites – if there was a possibility – were established next to the winter dwellings! Fodor 2015, 289. note 10.

²⁷ In contrast to a nomadization of this type, according to István Fodor we can rather speak of a perpendicular movement towards rivers, over distances of 10 – 30 km (Fodor 2015, 289, note 13). If we accept these observations, for example in the Lower Mureş area there should be dozens of burial sites further north and south at a distance of up to 30 km from the Mureş! But so far, the field reality seems to be the reverse, most burial sites being known near the Mureş River. See Map 1.

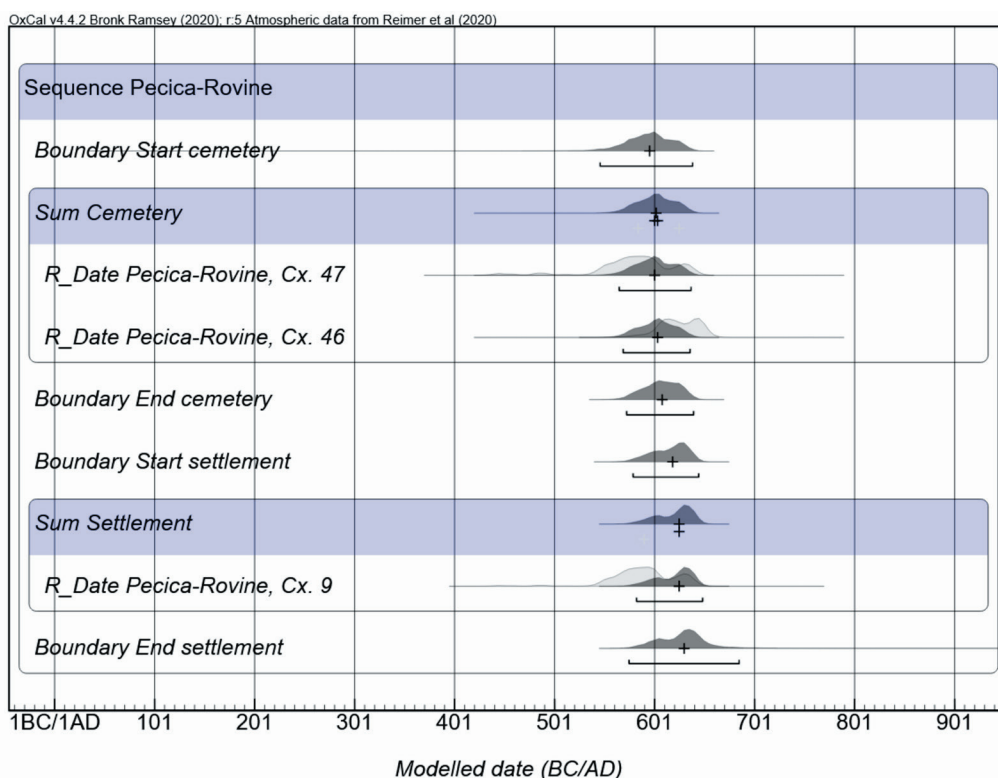


Fig. 2. The Bayesian analysis of the ^{14}C samples from Pecica-Rovine / Căprăvanul Mic (For the individual ^{14}C sample dating of the dwelling, see Pl. 2).

Thus, the dwelling from Pecica-Rovine/Căprăvanul Mic is the first one that can be dated quite clearly within the Avar habitation of the Lower Mureș Basin in the first half of the 7th century, this chronological classification being assured by the ^{14}C data.

Acknowledgments

We would like to thank our colleagues George Pascu Hurezan †, Victor Sava, Luminița Szilagyi and Norbert Kapcsos for their efforts in the preventive archaeological excavations, documentation and subsequent processing of the early medieval finds included in this article. We would like to express our heartfelt thanks to Victor Sava for the carbon data processing, and Norbert Kapcsos for the graphic processing of the drawings. Last but not least, we would like to thank to professor Ioan Stanciu for the discussions and observations made on this small study.

Florin Mărginean

National Museum of Transylvanian History
Cluj-Napoca, RO
marginean.florin1979@gmail.com

Erwin Gáll

Romanian Academy, “Vasile Pârvan” Institute
of Archaeology
Bucharest, RO
erwin.gall@iabvp.ro

BIBLIOGRAPHY

- ADAM 2002 Archäologische Denkmäler der Awarenzeit in Mitteleuropa. Vol. I–II. In: J. Szentpéteri (hrsg.), (= VAH 13). Publicationes Instituti Archaeologici Academiae Scientiarum Hungaricae. Budapest 2002.
- Bóna 1973 I. Bóna, VII. Századi Avar települések és Árpád-kori magyar falu Dunaújvárosban. Budapest 1973.
- Fodor 2015 I. Fodor, *Voltak-e a 10–12. században „szállási” temetők?*. ArchÉrt 140, 287–295.

- Gáll 2017 E. Gáll, *At the Periphery of the Avar Core Region. 6th–8th Century Burial Sites near Nădlac (The Pecica–Nădlac Motorway Rescue Excavations)*. Patrimonium Archaeologicum Transylvanicum 13, Éditions L’Harmattan, 2017.
- Gáll, Mărginean 2020 E. Gáll, F. Mărginean, *Archaeological Discoveries linked to the “First generation” of the Avar Conquerors living east of the Tisa during the 6th–7th centuries. The grave cluster in Nădlac – site 1M*. Sprawozdania Archeologiczne 72/2, 373–407.
- Gáll, Mărginean 2021 E. Gáll, F. Mărginean, *The graves of Pecica-Rovine/Capravanul Mic, and distribution networks of amber and personal adornments in the 6th and 7th centuries*. VAMZ 3. Serija / Liv, 149–169.
- Györffy, Zólyomi 1994 G. Györffy, B. Zólyomi, *A Kárpát-medence és Etelköz képe egy évezred előtt*. In: L. Kovács (szerk.), *Honfoglalás és Régészet*. Budapest 1994, 13–37.
- Gulyás 2009 Gy. Gulyás, *Szeged-Tápé, 86. sz. kútkörzet*. In: Kisfaludi J. (szerk.), *Régészeti Kutatások Magyarországon 2008 / Archaeological Investigations in Hungary 2008*. Budapest 2009, 286–287.
- Mărginean, Gáll 2021 F. Mărginean, E. Gáll, *“The outskirts of the chagan” The First Avar Conquerors in the Lower Mureş in the Light of the Graves from Pecica “Est/Smart Diesel”: Archaeological and ¹⁴C Analyses*. Starinar (u. pr.).
- Mărginean et al. 2021 F. Mărginean, M. Huba K. Högyes, S. Peter, E. Gáll, *“The outskirts of the Khagans”. An overview of the Avar Age’s burial sites near Pecica*. Avar and Slavs (u. pr.).
- Pópity 2015 D. Pópity. *Avar kori települészet Csanádpalota-Országhatár lelőhelyen. A 7. századi telepék kérdése az Alföldön*. ArchErt 140, 2015, 93–114.
- Stanciu 2013 I. Stanciu, *The Problem of the Earliest Slavs in Intra-Carpathian Romania (Transylvania and the North-West Vicinity)*. SlovArch 61/2, 323–370.
- Stanciu et al. 2021 I. Stanciu, M. Urák, A. Ursuțiu, *O nouă așezare medievală timpurie din partea sud-vestică a României – Giarmata – „Baraj”, jud. Timiș. Alături de o examinare a locuirii medievale timpurii din Banatul românesc (secolele VII–IX–X)*. Cluj-Napoca 2021.
- Takács 2002 M. Takács, *„Der Hausbau in Ungarn vom 2. bis 13. Jahrhundert n. Chr. – ein Zeitalter einheitlicher Grubenhäuser?”*. In: Rurality IV (Ed. J. Klápště), *The rural house from the migration period to the oldest still standing buildings*. Conference 8.–13. September 2001, Bad Bederkesa, Lower Saxony, Germany [PA – Suppl. 15]. Prague 2002, 272–290.
- Vida 1999 T. Vida, *Die awarenzeitliche Keramik I (6–7. Jh.)*. VAH 8. Berlin-Budapest 1999.
- Vida 2011 T. Vida, *Sütőharangok és sütőfedők. Régészeti adatok Dél- és Közép-Európa étkezési kultúrájához*. In: Kolozsi B.–Szilágyi K. A. (szerk.), *Sötét idők falvai. 8–11. századi települések a Kárpát-medencében*. Debrecen 2011, 701–817.

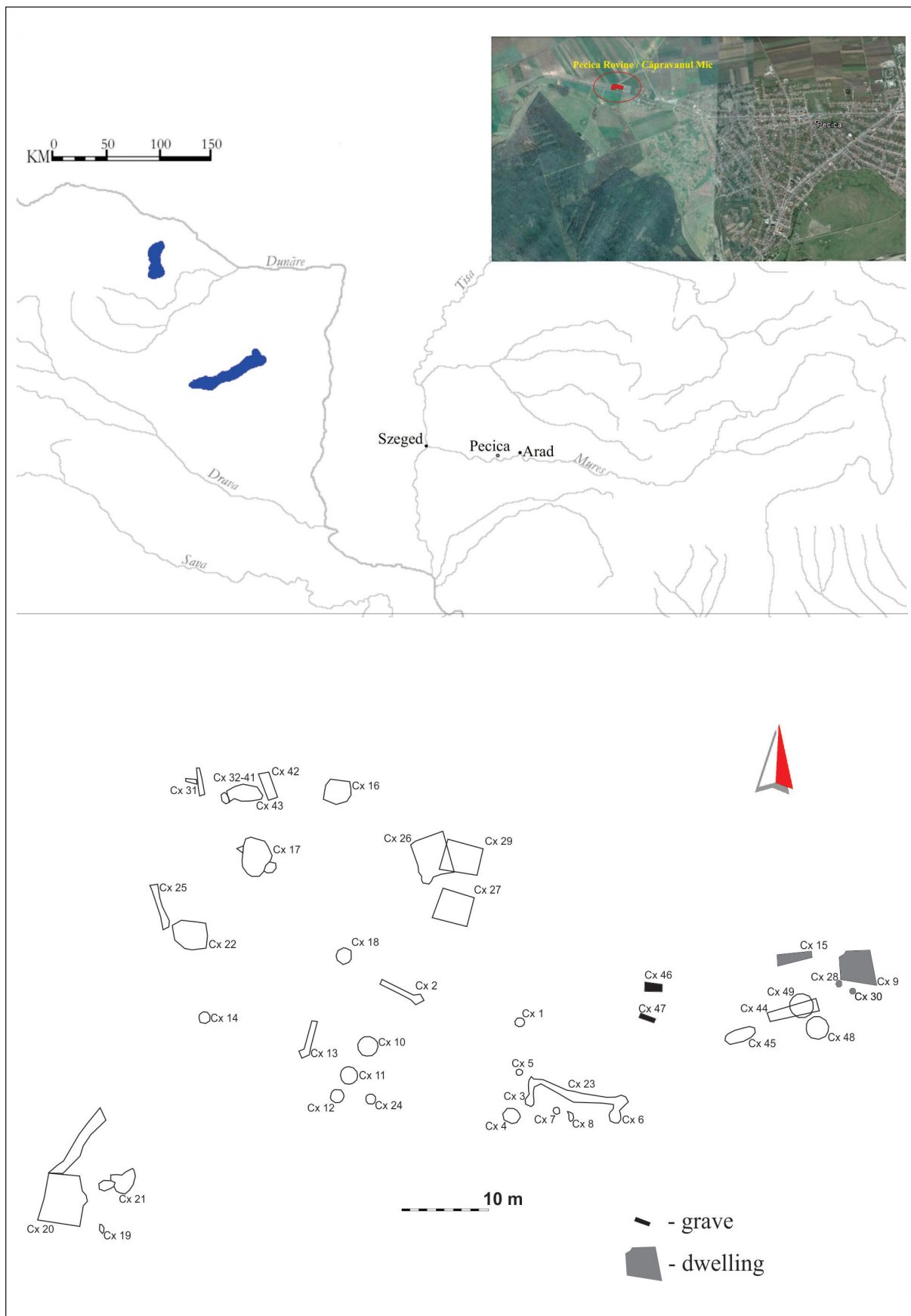


Plate 1. Pecica Rovine / Căprăvanul Mic. Geographical location of the site; General plan of excavations with marking of finds from the Early Avar period.

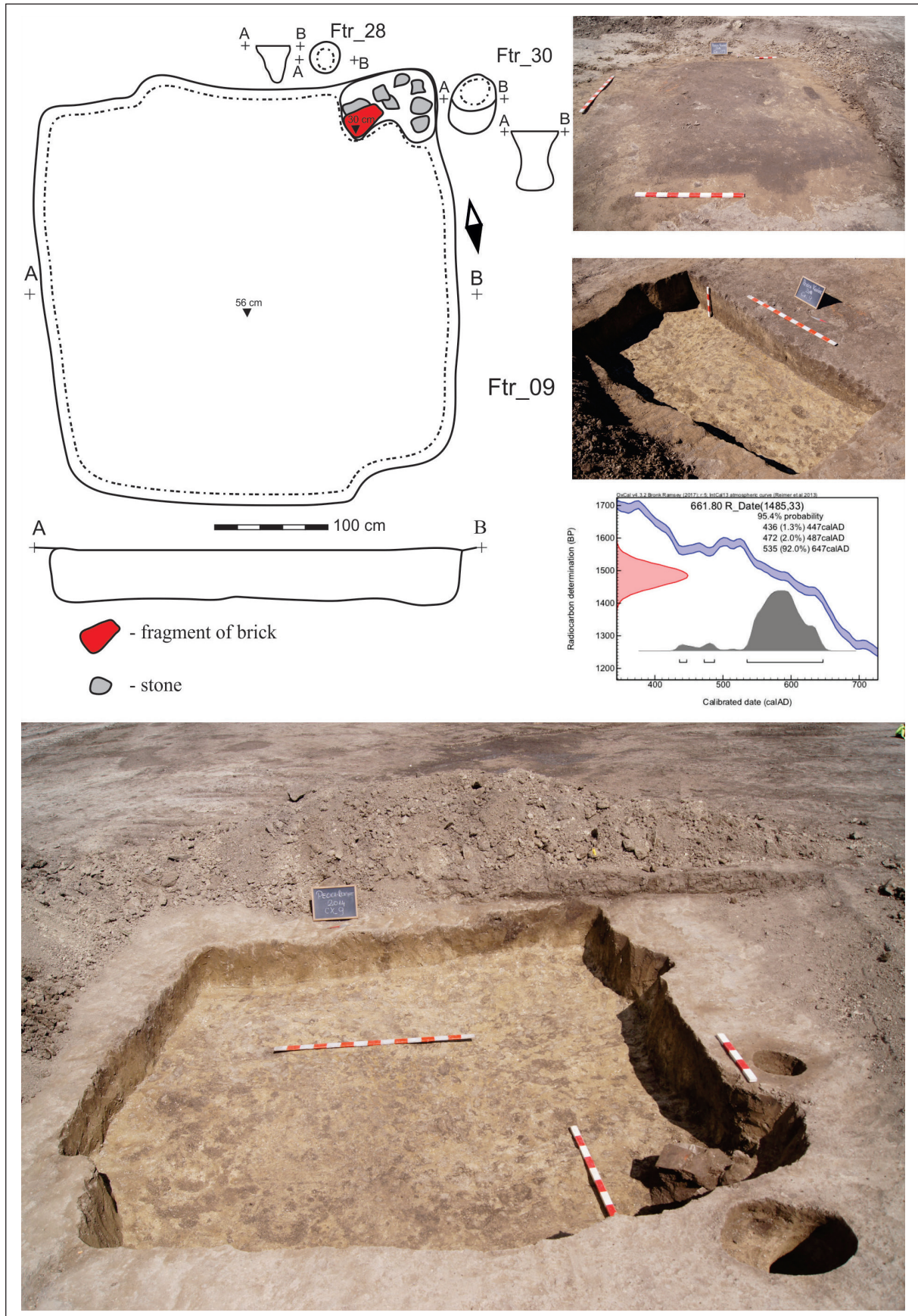
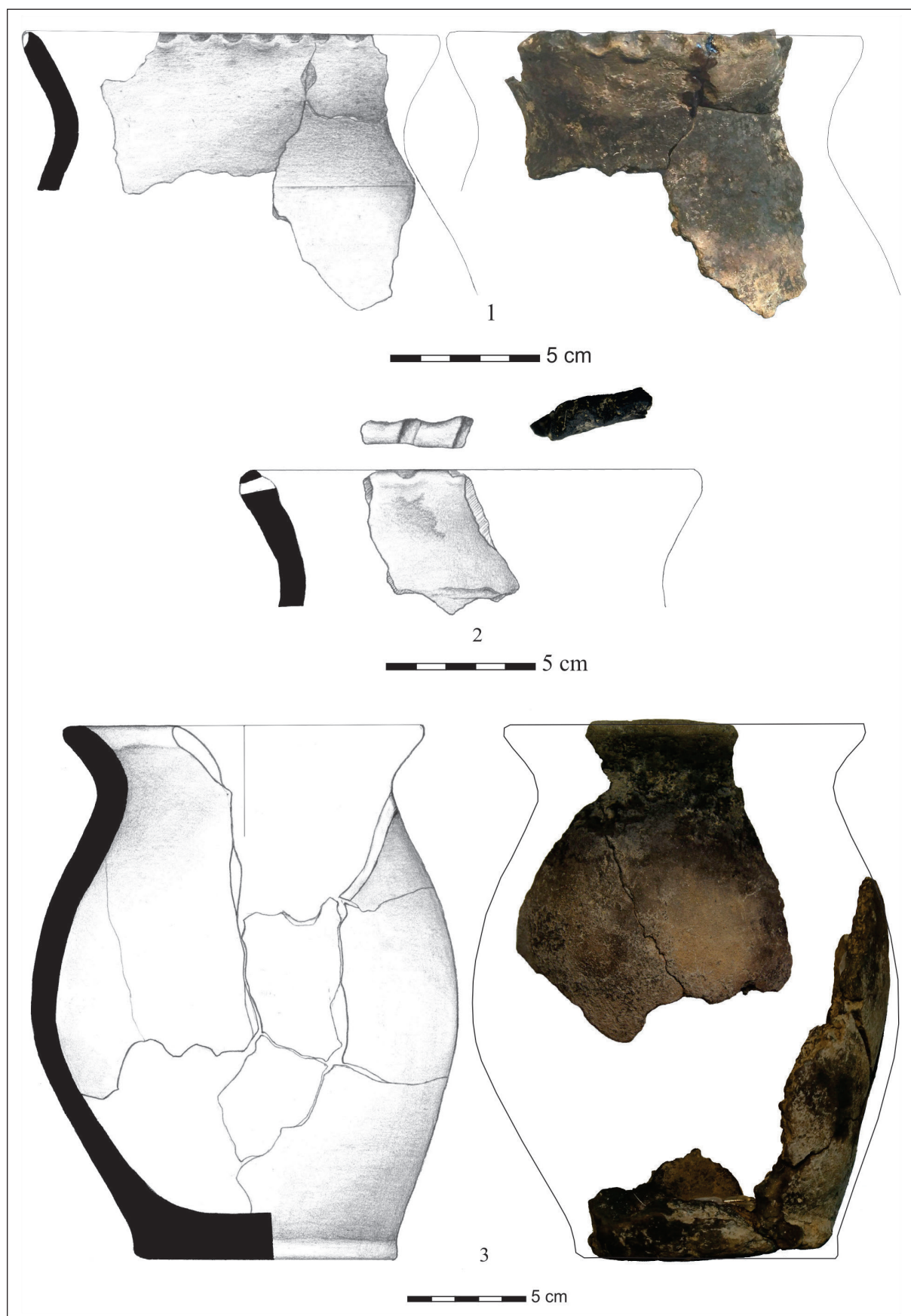


Plate 2. Pecica Rovine / Căprăvanul Mic. Drawings and photos of Features 09, 28, 30.



Planșa 3. Pecica Rovine / Căprăvanul Mic. Handmade pottery findings in Feature 9.

Abbreviations

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. Chișinău.
ArchÉrt	Archaeologiai Értesítő, 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.
CsSzME	A Csíki Székely Múzeum Évkönyve. Csíkszereda.
Dacia (N.S.)	Dacia. Revue d'archéologie et d'histoire ancienne. Nouvelle serie. București.
Dolgozatok	Dolgozatok a Magyar Királyi Ferencz József Tudományegyetem Archaeológiai Intézetéből. Szeged.
EphNap	Ephemeris Napocensis, Cluj-Napoca.
Erdély	Erdély. Turistai, fürdőügyi és néprajzi folyóirat, Cluj-Napoca.
FontArchPrag	Fontes Archaeologici Pragenses, Prague.
Földtközl.	Földtani közlöny, Budapest.
HOMÉ	A Herman Ottó Múzeum Évkönyve, Miskolc.
ILD	C. C. Petolescu, <i>Inscripții latine din Dacia</i> , 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 Neamț.
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 Preistorie, 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 Археологическия Институт при БАН, София.