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Roman Sites and Discoveries around Potaissa (VII). New data and clarifications regarding the Viișoara commune territory

Andrei-Cătălin Dîscă

Abstract: In AD 106, Dacia became a Roman province. *Potaissa* (Turda, Cluj County) was one of the first settlements recorded in the new province from its first existing years. The settlement gradually developed over the course of the first decades after the province's establishment, growing faster after the quartering of *VMacedonica* there in the context of the Marcomannic Wars, turning by late 2nd century AD into one of the main urban centres of Dacia. For this reason, *Potaissa* and the legionary fortress of *V Macedonica* have been of particular interest among the researchers. The rapid growth of *Potaissa* once with AD 168 represented a catalyst for the rest of the region, many of the smaller settlements in the area evolving especially during the last decades of the 2nd century and in the 3rd century AD. These rural settlements, actively involved in the supply of agricultural products, raw materials and certain service types were key for the well functioning of the military unit and the civil settlement at *Potaissa* are presently much less investigated. Most lack data concerning their location, sizes and basic inventory. In order to clarify, at least in part, the situation of these sites, a series of investigations have been performed over the most recent years, which both resumed data from previous literature and accomplished new field surveys, documented with modern tools. Since 2019, their results have been published in a series of articles, of which the present study, which discusses the sites from the Viişoara commune territory, forms part.

Keywords: Roman Dacia; Potaissa; Viișoara; archaeological sites; archaeological mapping.

General framework

The territory of Viișoara commune lies in a marked rural area located at about 10 km east of Turda municipality, by the interflow of Arieș river valley and Valea Largă, on the western limit of the Transylvanian Plain (Fig. 1). Benefiting from highly fertile soils, grain crops dominate the landscape, where, apart from pasturelands, woodland clusters emerge here and there. Human settlements are mainly represented by small and middle-sized villages, as the scarce drinking water resources seriously prevented the development of more extended settlements¹.

Closely connected with the agricultural potential of the area, on one hand and the proximity of the centre at *Potaissa* on the other, many settlements² developed on the territory of Viișoara commune (in Hungarian *Egerbegy*; in German *Erlenmarkt*) during the Roman period. Most are yet known based only on reports made by early last century, the current state of research presenting many gaps in relation with both their topography and inventory and the amassment of finds.

Research methodology and objectives

In order to clarify, at least in part, the situation of Roman date sites from the area, a series of investigations have been performed over the course of the recent years, which both resumed data from previous literature and accomplished new field surveys documented with modern tools. These have been developed within the framework of a wider project directed at all sites located in the vicinity of *Potaissa*. Since 2019, their results have been published in a series of studies, of which this material is part of³.

¹ Mac et al. 1987, 543–545; Savu 1987, 511–512.

² *RepCj.*, 424–426; Nemeti *et al.* 2003, 69–75; *TIR*, 460–461.

³ This project is part of a doctoral thesis titled *Perioada romană în bazinul hidrografic al Arieșului (The Roman period in the Hydrographic Basin of Arieș River)*, drawn up under the supervision of conf. dr. habil. Florin Fodorean, with the "Babeș-Bolyai" University of Cluj-Napoca.

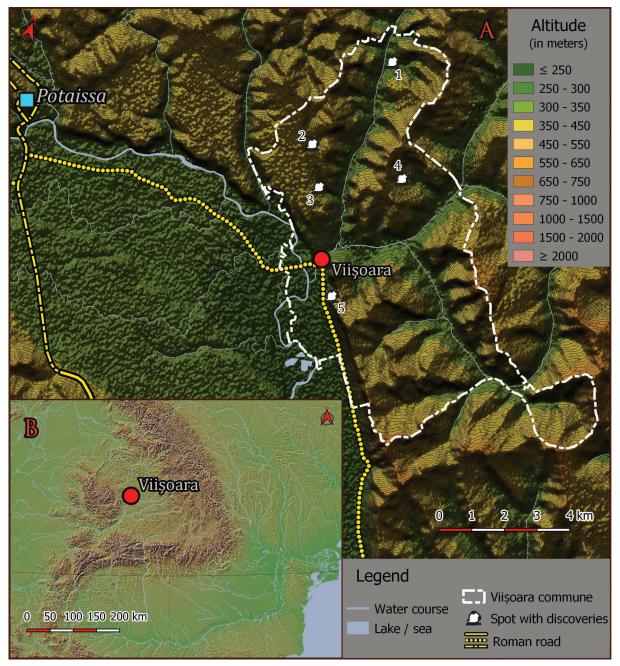


Fig. 1. Location of Viișoara village and commune (digital elevation model).

The methodology and tools used in the research have been presented in detail in previous studies, reason for which they shall not be addressed here⁴.

The investigations carried out in the sites from the Viișoara commune territory were aimed on one hand at identifying, mapping and determining the finds' density and on the other, at highlighting their status in both the province of Dacia and the Roman empire.

Spots with discoveries mentioned in the literature

The synthesis of available data from the literature, in the current state of research, evidence Roman date finds in the following points on the Viișoara commune territory:

1. *Dealul Bărbos* – at about 3 km north–north-west of Viișoara, on the left bank of Valea Popii (in Hungarian *Pap-völgy*), by the base of Săcălaș⁵ Hill (in Hungarian *Szakállas-hegy*), in the point known

⁴ Dîscă 2019; Dîscă *et al.* 2019; Dîscă 2020a; Dîscă 2020b; Dîscă 2021.

⁵ The Romanian form of the Hungarian toponym Szakállas-hegy, which literally means Dealul Bărbos (Bearded Hill). In LMI

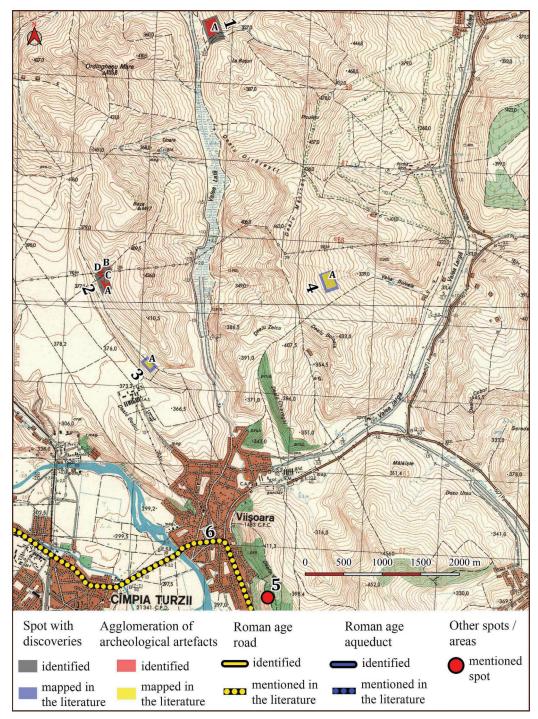


Fig. 2. Points with Roman date finds from the Viișoara commune territory.

as *Valea Dracului* (in Hungarian *Ördöngös-völgy*), I. Téglás reported numerous Roman date materials. Beside impressive quantities of stone, tiles, shingles and bricks, numerous pottery vessels and various metal objects were discovered, among which a silver beaker. A number of four coins, represented by one sestertius of Hadrian, one denarius of Antoninus Pius and two undetermined pieces (one in bronze and the other in gold) were also found. Lastly, a stone altar dedicated to *Jupiter Optimus Maximus Fulgurator*⁶ was also identified there.

2. Valea Popii - at about 1 km downstream the previously described point, on the right side of

and RAN this point is indicated in the Romanian version.

⁶ Téglás 1909, 161–163; Winkler, Hopârtean 1973, 133–136; Bajusz 2005, 146–149; *RepCj.*, 424–426; Code *RAN*: 60071.01; Code *LMI*: CJ-I-s-B–07232.

Valea Popii, close to the place where it joins Valea Lată, the same I. Téglás indicated another point with very consistent finds, among which clear masonry traces, tiles, bricks and pottery vessels⁷.

3. La Cărămidă – north-east of Vallea Popii, on the eastern slope of Dealul de Foc (in Hungarian Égőfő-hegy), near the springs of a brook which flows into Valea Largă (in Hungarian *Horgasalja*), on its right side, is mentioned point *La Cărămidă* (in Hungarian *Téglásfar*). There were identified numerous masonry remains, tiles, bricks and pottery fragments. To these adds a bronze coin with a diameter of 20 mm, likely issued under Gordian III and a sestertius with a diameter of 29 mm, on the obverse with a curly haired emperor bust and letters *AVG*, and the reverse with an enthroned figure and letters *S.C.*⁸.

4. Dealul Bătrân – south-west the point La Cărămidă, nearby the village, in the vineyards of Dealul Cetății (in Hungarian Várhegy)⁹ Roman bricks, tiles and wares were reported. In 1910, in the vineyards of the Reformed Church were discovered brick pieces, pottery fragments and small silver coins. Some of these coins displayed the portrait of Elagabalus on the obverse, with legend ANTONINVS PIVS FEL AVG., and a ship with hoisted vexillum, letters TENP under the ship and FELICITAS around it¹⁰ on the reverse.

5. The Roman Road – in a study by M. Hints discussing the toponymy of Viișoara, south-east of the village, by the edge of Dealul Viilor is mentioned a schist road, known in the area as *Drumul roman* (in Hungarian *Római ut*)¹¹.

Field survey results

The field surveys performed on the territory of Viișoara commune sought to identify both previously mentioned points with finds and new points. Based on obtained data, it is currently possible to make series of specifications about the following points:

1. Groapa Boilor – on the northern boundary of Viișoara commune, on the left side of Valea Lată, in the point known as Groapa Boilor a site not previously mentioned in the academic literature was identified. It lies at a distance of 0.5 km south-west the woodland cluster that on the 1:25.000 Scale Topographic Map appears as Pădurea Buțuri (Fig. 1/1; Fig. 2/1; Fig. 3). In the area in question, located on the very spot where a small valley flowing on left side joins Valea Lată there are significant quantities of un-worked stone, bricks, shingles, tiles and pottery fragments (Pl. 1, 4, 6, 7, 8). These finds group in several clusters, in which mentioned archaeological materials associate in various ways, with areas where all above materials appear and areas where only tiles or only pottery fragments emerge. All these clusters delimit an amassment of archaeological materials continue to emerge frequently on an area of about 7 ha¹².

Among pottery forms found on this site count: *dolium vessels*, bowls, tureens, dishes, plates, jugs, cups, amphorettes and various pot types (Catalogue nos. 1–27; Pl. 4; Pl. 6, Pl. 7, Pl. 8/1–6;). Among these stand out a series of bowls derived from Dragendorff 37 (Catalogue nos. 18, 27; Pl. 4/5, 7; Pl. 7/7; Pl. 8/6) and Dragendorff 44 types (Catalogue nos. 22; Pl. 4/17; Pl. 8/1) and a cup derived from type Dragendorff 35 (Catalogue no. 15; Pl. 4/29; Pl. 7/4).

Chronologically, above pottery types generally date to the $1^{st} - 4^{th}$ centuries AD. More specifically, type Dragendorf 44, one of the most frequent forms at *Napoca* and *Potaissa*, starts to be produced from the 1^{st} century AD, peaks during the $2^{nd}-3^{rd}$ centuries AD, but continues manufacture until the 4^{th} century AD. Derived from type Dragendorff 44, type Dragendorff 37 circulated from the Flavian Period until the 4^{th} century AD, being one of the most spread pottery forms throughout the empire. However, in the legionary fortress of *Potaissa*, this form is rather infrequent¹³. Lastly, type Dragendorff 35 was

⁷ Téglás 1909, 161–163; Bajusz 2005, 146–149; *RepCj.*, 424–426.

⁸ Bajusz 2005, 146–149; Winkler, Hopârtean 1973, 136; Code RAN: 60071.02; Code LMI: CJ-I-s-B–0723.

⁹ The point is mentioned by I. Téglás as Venhegy and Várhegy, the latter translated as Dealul Cetății, in the Cluj County Archaeological Repertory, however these finds are mentioned at point Dealul Bătrân (Old Hill).

¹⁰ Bajusz 2005, 146–149; *RepCj.*, 424–426.

¹¹ Hints 1993, 54, no. 129; Fodorean 2006, 168–169.

¹² UTM coordinates: 1) 46.61683896 N, 23.90691776 E; 2) 46.61406261 N, 23.90836774 E; 3) 46.61331829 N, 23.90574300 E; 4) 46.61613106 N, 23.90434437 E; Stereo 70 coordinates: 1) X – 569159.7316, Y – 416413.0317; 2) X – 568849.6552, Y – 416519.8168; 3) X – 568769.7091, Y – 416317.6675; 4) X – 569083.7829, Y – 416214.8798.

¹³ Rusu-Bolindet 2007, 207, 383–386; Nedelea 2017, 95, 107; Andone-Rotaru, Nedelea 2018, 82–83, Fig. 11.



Fig. 3. The Groapa Boilor site - view from north the site southwards, to Valea Lată.

mainly produced between the second half of the 1st century AD and first half of the 3rd Century AD, the form being duplicated on large scale by local artisans in all Danubian provinces¹⁴.

Beside Roman date materials, in the Groapa Boilor point also emerge medieval pottery fragments, most frequently found types being represented by pots in various shapes and sizes (Catalogue nos. 6, 17, 19–21, 26; pl. 4/15, 21, 23, 24–26, 28, 30; Pl. 6/6; Pl. 7/6, 8–10; Pl. 8/5).

2. Dealul Bărbos – the site mentioned by I. Téglás was also identified during the field surveys carried out in the last years on the Viișoara commune territory (Fig. 1/2; Fig. 2/2; Fig. 4). Arguments that support the hypothesis according to which we are dealing with the same point of finds partly rely on the above author's descriptions and plans¹⁵ and on the other hand, on data from various cartographic materials and surveys¹⁶. In connection with the latter, it is worth mentioning that toponym *Szakállas/ Săcălași* is recorded on both the second and third military survey of the Habsburg Empire¹⁷ and the Romanian Military Plans¹⁸.

The field surveys delimited four clusters of archaeological materials set on either side of a small valley flowing towards Valea Săcălaș (Săcălaș Valley) / Valea Popii (Popii Valley) on the left side. In these areas, which cumulatively cover a surface of about 1.10 ha (Fig. 2/2/A-D), mainly emerge poorly worked stone pieces, bricks, tiles, shingles and pottery fragments (Pl. 2, 3, 5, 8). Past the limits of such amassments, the area where archaeological materials continue to emerge frequently stretches on 5.4 ha¹⁹.

The repertory of Roman pottery from point Dealul Bărbos is rather modest, being mainly

¹⁴ Rusu-Bolindeț 2007, 159–160.

¹⁵ Téglás 1909, 161–163; Bajusz 2005, 146–249; 41/146–147. abra; 32/80. ábra.

¹⁶ Hints 1993, 54, no. 135–136.

¹⁷ https://maps.arcanum.com/en/map/europe-19century-secondsurvey/?layers=158%2C164&bbox=2656737.647 1614717%2C5873211.839705332%2C2662771.3950817324%2C5875395.072325728; https://maps.arcanum. com/en/map/thirdsurvey25000/?bbox=2656957.4036177904%2C5873485.739105286%2C2662991.151538051 %2C5875668.971725682&map-list=1&layers=129.

¹⁸ Planurile Directoare de Tragere; http://www.geo-spatial.org/harti/#/viewer/openlayers/10.

 ¹⁹ UTM coordinates: 1) 46.58766349 N, 23.88915332 E; 2) 46.58678934 N, 23.88984507 E; 3) 46.58612203 N, 23.88889997 E, 4) 46.58463798 N, 23.88988409 E; 5) 46.58377944 N, 23.88828432 E; 6) 46.58615645 N, 23.88679259 E; Stereo 70 coordinates: 1) X - 565936.2919, Y - 415007.2220; 2) X - 565838.4032, Y - 415058.8618, 3) X - 565765.2586, Y - 414985.4090; 4) X - 565599.2754, Y - 415058.5025; 5) X - 565505.5815, Y - 414934.5857; 6) X - 565771.3498; Y - 414823.9942.

represented by bowls, jugs, tureens and various pot types (Catalogue nos. 29–30, 32; Pl. 5/1–9, 12–15, 19, 23–25; Pl. 8/8–9, 11). Among these stand out, owing to the careful manner in which they are worked, a bowl (Catalogue no. 29; Pl. 5/2; Pl. 8/8) and a jug (Catalogue no. 30; Pl. 5/1; Pl. 8/9), covered with good quality orange-red colour-coating. Specimens similar in shape and sizes with the vessels discovered at Viișoara, date in Dacia mainly during the 2nd century AD and first part of the 3rd century AD²⁰.

Apart from Roman date materials, in this point sporadically emerged prehistory (Pl. 5/26–27), Migrations (Catalogue nos. 28, Pl. 5/10; Pl. 8/7) and Middle Ages (Catalogue nos. 28, 31; Pl. 5/10, 16; Pl. 8/7, 10) period potshards.

3. Valea Popii – just as in point Dealul Bărbos, the location in the field of the site is described and suggestively illustrated on a topographic sketch from I. Téglás's archaeological notes²¹ (Fig. 1/3; Fig. 2/3). Nevertheless, despite the fact that the area where this point lies is rather accurately outlined, the field surveys could not clearly delimit the Valea Popii site. The most plausible explanation is that the Roman settlement was entirely overlapped by the buildings of an animal farm, which presently covers this area on a stretch of ca. 1 ha.

4. La Cărămidă – the area which toponym La Cărămidă designates is clearly indicated in both I. Téglás's descriptions and the topographic sketches²² and a series of surveys²³ (Fig. 1/4; 2/4). Nevertheless, the point with Roman date finds was not identified during the field surveys, although the area was systematically and repeatedly investigated. This is the more difficult to explain as the volume of materials reported there is rather consistent, while at present, the area is mostly covered by farming lands.

5. Dealul Bătrân – the point which I. Téglás mentioned alternately as Várhegy (in Romanian Dealul Cetății) and Venhegy may be located with a certain accuracy degree starting from the indications provided by the quoted author and the position of toponym Venhegy on the Romanian Military Plans²⁴ (Fig. 1/5; Fig. 2/5). Nonetheless, the field surveys performed in this area did not yield specific results because since early the last century until now, part of the land was included in the built-up area of Viișoara village, while another more significant part was covered by perennial vegetation and shrubs.

6. The Roman Road – the toponym Dealului Viilor, which M. Hints mentions in connection with the Roman road of Viişoara²⁵ is recorded on the 1:25.000 Scale Topographic Map, being important evidence for the location of this site (Fig. 1; Fig. 2/6). Still, the field surveys failed to identify any traces of a possible Roman road. It is though worth mentioning that just as in the case of the previous point, investigations were to a great extent prevented by existing vegetation.

Notes and interpretations regarding the presented findspots

According to their topographic peculiarities and density, the type and features of the finds, discussed sites may be theoretically framed in one of the classes attested in the Roman world. In practice though, circumstances are much more complex, while the existing gaps in the current state of research hinder high accuracy degrees. Past these shortcomings, one may appreciate the following in connection with the presented points:

1. Groapa Boilor – it likely represents a small grouped settlement, which had developed in a more remote area, at a few kilometres' distance from main circulation arteries of the region²⁶. The most significant arguments in the support of such hypothesis are the site's considerable sizes, the layout of areas with finds and the volume and qualitative diversity of the archaeological inventory.

To the extent these may be specified, the decisive factors in the settlement's development were

²⁰ Rusu-Bolindeț 2007, 159, 256; Popilian 1976, Pl. LXXXI/2.

²¹ Bajusz 2005, 148, 32/80. ábra.

²² Bajusz 2005, 146–249; 41/146–147. abra; 32/80. ábra.

²³ https://maps.arcanum.com/en/map/secondsurvey-transylvania/?bbox=2658539.8652792685%2C5871210.2 81583129%2C2670607.361119791%2C5875576.746823921&map-list=1&layers=54; https://maps.arcanum. com/en/map/thirdsurvey75000/?bbox=2652768.378517182%2C5869424.291454005%2C2676903.370198226 %2C5878157.221935586&map-list=1&layers=43.

²⁴ Bajusz 2005, 146–149; http://www.geo-spatial.org/harti/#/viewer/openlayers/10.

²⁵ Hints 1993, 54, no. 129.

²⁶ Allen, Smith 2016, 41–43.

represented by the productivity of adjacent lands, the evolution of *Potaissa* as administrative and military centre and the area's topographic peculiarities²⁷.

From available data, it may be assumed that architecturally, in the discussed settlement, masonry constructions alternated with timber structures, the latter being common in Roman provincial settlements²⁸.

2. *Dealul Bărbos* – the finds yielded by this point so far, may be connected with a *villa*. Such interpretation is based on the size and layout of find areas and inventory volume, homogeneity and quality²⁹.

Another possible interpretation is that of a group of official buildings fulfilling an administrative or economic purpose³⁰. Nevertheless, since none of the tile fragments analysed by I. Téglás bore the stamp of *Legio V Macedonica* such hypothesis is unlikely. This is also an indication that the tiles and bricks used in the site's buildings originated from another production centre than *Potaissa* or that these were made prior to the legion's arrival³¹.

3. Valea Popii – just like in previous points, according to the site's position and topography on one hand, and the density and find types on the other, it may be argued there existed a farm or a $villa^{32}$ during the Roman period.



Fig. 4. The *Dealul Bărbos* site – view from north the site southwards, to *Valea Popii*.

4. La Cărămidă – inasmuch as it may argue in the current state of research, the finds yielded by this site may be connected to a farm or *villa*³³.

5. Dealul Bătrân – located by the interflow of Valea Largă and Arieș River, in the vicinity of a possible Roman road, not far from where it had to cross said river in order to run further towards *Potaissa*, this site occupied a more than favourable position for settlement development. Its location practically

²⁷ Bărbulescu 1987, 34–62; Bărbulescu 1994, 33–92; Mac *et al.* 1987, 543- 545; Savu 1987, 511–512.

²⁸ Knötzele 2005, 340–343.

²⁹ The features and representative functions of settlements in this category were discussed in some of the previous studies. See: Dîscă 2019; Dîscă *et al.* 2019; Dîscă 2020a; Dîscă 2020b; Dîscă 2021.

 $^{^{\}rm 30}$ $\,$ In connection with a series of structures of the kind, see: Dîscă 2020a, 101–105.

³¹ Téglás 1909, 161–163; Bajusz 2005, 146–149.

³² Wightman 1970, 139; Roymans, Derks 2011, 2; Czysz 2013, 266; Rind 2015, 63; Dîscă *et al.* 2019, 110–111.

³³ Wightman 1970, 139; Roymans, Derks 2011, 2; Czysz 2013, 266; Rind 2015, 63; Dîscă *et al.* 2019, 110–111.

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ensured the control of a river crossing from the right bank of Arieş River to the fertile lands on its left bank, in the Transylvanian Plain³⁴.

Development of more important settlements in such transit-points along circulation arteries is frequent throughout the Roman world. In Dacia, best examples are the settlements of Aiton, Gligorești or *Potaissa*³⁵ itself. Within the empire, among such countless cases, one may mention the settlement of Marsal in Gallia Belgica, that of Seveux in Germania superior or Scole in Britannia³⁶.

It is though worth mentioning that in the current state of research it is difficult to support a certain hypothesis in connection with the Roman finds from this point as the volume of available data is quite small.

6. The Roman Road – corroborating data from M. Hints's study with those reporting a Roman road stretch in the vicinity of Câmpia Turzii, the hypothesis of a second road connecting *Potaissa* to the Mureș Valley (after that between Războieni-Cetate and Turda), becomes more substantial³⁷. South of Viișoara, this road's route should be sought on the left, not right side of Arieș River.

Catalogue³⁸

1. *Dolium* vessel (Pl. 4/18; Pl. 6/1) – fast wheel-thrown; homogenous oxidised firing (Munssel 2.5 YR 7/8); semifine fabric; compact structure in which frequently occur pores, cracks and cavities; W.t. = 0.85 cm; R.t. = 2.6 cm; R.d. = 24 cm; findspot: *Groapa Boilor*, farming layer; Rusu-Bolindet 2007, Pl. CV/641.

2. Amphorette (Pl. 4/1; Pl. 6/2) – fast wheel-thrown; homogenous oxidised firing (Munssel 7.5 YR 8/4); smooth surface; semifine fabric; compact structure in which sporadically occur pores, cracks and cavities; W.t. = 0.5 cm; R.t. = 1.7 cm; R.d. = 16 cm; findspot: *Groapa Boilor*, farming layer; Rusu-Bolindeț 2007, Pl. CIII/630.

3. *Dolium* vessel (Pl. 4/22; Pl. 6/3) – fast wheel-thrown; homogenous oxidised firing (Munssel 7.5 YR 7/8); semifine fabric; compact structure in which frequently occur pores, cracks and cavities; on the exterior survive traces of poor quality colour-coating (Munssel 5 YR 3/4); W.t. = 1.20 cm; R.t. = 4.3 cm; R.d. = 33.5 cm; findspot: *Groapa Boilor,* farming layer; Rusu-Bolindeț 2007, Pl. CV/641.

4. Bowl (Pl. 4/12; Pl. 6/4) – fast wheel-thrown; homogenous oxidised firing (Munssel 7.5 YR 8/4); semifine fabric; compact structure in which sporadically occur pores and cavities; on the inner part of rim area and whole external surface is covered with good quality colour-coating (Munssel 7.5 YR 4/4); W.t. = 0.5 cm; R.t.= 0.95 cm; R.d. = 15 cm; findspot: *Groapa Boilor*, farming layer; Rusu-Bolindet 2007, Pl. XCII/552.

5. Pot (Pl. 4/20; Pl. 6/5) – fast wheel-thrown; homogenous oxidised firing (Munssel 7.5 YR 8/6); semifine fabric; compact structure in which frequently occur pores, cracks and cavities; W.t. = 0.70 cm; R.t. = 1.2 cm; R.d. = 16 cm; findspot: *Groapa Boilor*, farming layer; Nedelea 2017, Pl. LXXI/3.

6. Pot (Pl. 4/23; Pl. 6/6) – fast wheel-thrown; homogenous reduced firing (Munssel GLEY 1/10Y 8/1); coarse fabric; W.t. = 0.75 cm; R.t. = 1.7 cm; R.d. = 27.5 cm; findspot: *Groapa Boilor*, farming layer.

7. Lid (Pl. 4/13; Pl. 6/7) – fast wheel-thrown; homogenous oxidised firing (Munssel 7.5 YR 8/6); semifine fabric; compact structure in which frequently occur pores, cracks and cavities; on the external part it is covered with an average quality colour-coating, partially surviving (Munssel 5 YR 7/8); W.t. = 0.38 cm; B.t.= 0.65 cm; B.d. = 3.75 cm; findspot: *Groapa Boilor*, farming layer.

8. Pot (Pl. 4/14; Pl. 6/8) – fast wheel-thrown; oxidised firing (Munssel 7.5 YR 8/6); semifine fabric; compact structure in which frequently occur pores, cracks and cavities; W.t. = 0.65 cm; B.t.= 1.60 cm; B.d. = 14 cm; find-spot: *Groapa Boilor*, farming layer.

9. Cup (Pl. 4/16; Pl. 6/9) – fast wheel-thrown; homogenous oxidised firing (Munssel 5 YR 7/8); semifine fabric; compact structure in which frequently occur pores, cracks and cavities; on the external side it is covered with an average quality colour-coating (Munssel 5 YR 4/6); W.t. = 0.65 cm; M.d. = 11.5 cm; findspot: *Groapa Boilor*, farming layer.

10. Cup (Pl. 4/8; Pl. 6/10) – fast wheel-thrown; sandwich type firing (exterior: Munssel 10 YR 2/1; interior: Munssel 5 YR 7/6); coarse fabric; W.t. = 0.5 cm; R.t. = 0.8 cm; R.d. = 15 cm; findspot: *Groapa Boilor*, farming layer.
11. Pot (Pl. 4/16; Pl. 6/11) – fast wheel-thrown; sandwich type firing, oxidised on the exterior (Munssel 7.5 YR 7/6; reducing on the interior: Munssel 10 YR 5/1); coarse fabric; W.t. = 0.9 cm; R.t. = 2.2 cm; R.d. = 16 cm; findspot: *Groapa Boilor*, farming layer.

- ³⁶ Rorison 2001, 217–218; Rorison 2001, 192–193; Ashwin, Tester 2014, 216–218.
- ³⁷ Hints 1993, 54, no. 129; Fodorean 2006, 168–169.

³⁴ Mac et al. 1987, 543- 545; Savu 1987, 511–512; Pedological Map scale 1:200.000.

³⁵ Dîscă 2020a, 269–270.

³⁸ Abbreviations used in pottery description: R.d. = rim diameter; B.d. = base diameter; M.d. = maximum diameter; R.t.= rim thickness; B.t. = base thickness; W.t. = wall thickness.

12. Bowl (Pl. 4/10; Pl. 7/1) – fast wheel-thrown; homogenous oxidised firing (Munssel 10 YR 7/6); semifine fabric; compact structure in which sporadically occur pores and cavities; covered both on the interior and the exterior with an average quality colour-coating, partially surviving (Munssel 2.5 YR 4/4); W.t. = 0.70 cm; R.t. = 1 cm; R.d. = 18.5 cm; findspot: *Groapa Boilor*, farming layer; Rusu-Bolindeț 2007, Pl. LXXXIV/448.

13. Plate (Pl. 4/6; Pl. 7/2) – fast wheel-thrown; homogenous oxidised firing (Munssel 5YR 8/6); semifine fabric; compact structure in which sporadically occur pores and cavities; covered both on the interior and the exterior with high quality colour-coating (Munssel 2.5 YR 7/8); W.t. = 0.65 cm; R.t. = 0.80 cm; R.d. = 18.5 cm; findspot: *Groapa Boilor*, farming layer; Rusu-Bolindet 2007, Pl. LXXXIII/443.

14. Plate (Pl. 4/4; Pl. 7/3) – fast wheel-thrown; homogenous oxidised firing (Munssel 5 YR 7/6); semifine fabric; compact structure in which sporadically occur pores and cavities; covered both on the interior and the exterior with a high quality colour-coating (Munssel 5 YR 4/6); W.t. = 0.70 cm; R.t. = 1.5 cm; R.d. = 24.5 cm; findspot: *Groapa Boilor*, farming layer; Nedelea 2017, Pl. LIV/2.

15. Cup (Pl. 4/29; Pl. 7/4) – derived from type Dragendorf 35; fast wheel-thrown; homogenous reduced firing (Munssel 2.5 Y 6/2); coarse fabric; compact structure in which frequently occur pores and cavities; W.t. = 0.60 cm; R.t. = 1.5 cm; R.d. = 16 cm; findspot: *Groapa Boilor*, farming layer; Rusu-Bolindeț 2007, Pl. XXXVIII/170.

16. Bowl (Pl. 4/3; Pl. 7/5) – fast wheel-thrown; homogenous oxidised firing (Munssel 5 YR 8/3); semifine fabric; compact structure in which sporadically occur pores and cavities; covered both on the interior and the exterior with a high quality colour-coating (Munssel 5 YR 6/8); W.t. = 0.95 cm; R.t. = 1.5 cm; R.d. = 24.5 cm; findspot: *Groapa Boilor*, farming layer; Rusu-Bolindet 2007, Pl. LXXXVI/458.

17. Pot (Pl. 4/26; Pl. 7/6) – handmade; non-uniform reduced firing (Munssel 10 Y 3/2); coarse fabric; W.t. = 1 cm; B.t.= 1.15 cm; B.d. = 8.5 cm; findspot: *Groapa Boilor*, farming layer.

18. Bowl (Pl. 4/7; Pl. 7/7) – derived from type Dragendorf 37; fast wheel-thrown; homogenous oxidised firing (Munssel 7.5 YR 8/4); semifine fabric; compact structure in which sporadically occur pores and cavities; covered on the interior and exterior with colour-coating surviving only partially (Munssel 5 YR 7/8); 0.65 cm; R.t. = 1.15 cm; R.d. = 17.5 cm; findspot: *Groapa Boilor*, farming layer; Rusu-Bolindet 2007, Pl. XL/181.

19. Pot (Pl. 4/24; Pl. 7/8) – fast wheel-thrown; homogenous reduced firing (Munssel 10 YR 4/2); coarse fabric; W.t. = 0.6 cm; R.t. = 1.6 cm; R.d. = 19.5 cm; findspot: *Groapa Boilor*, in plowing.

20. Pot (Pl. 4/30; Pl. 7/9) – handmade; uniform reducing sandwich type firing (exterior: Munssel 10 YR 4/4; interior: Munssel 2.5 YR 3/6); coarse fabric; W.t. = 0.7 cm; R.t. = 1.1 cm; R.d. = 16.5 cm; findspot: *Groapa Boilor*, farming layer.

21. Pot (Pl. 7/10) – fast wheel-thrown; bizone reducing firing (exterior: Munssel 5 Y 4/1; interior: Munssel 5 Y 7/1); coarse fabric; W.t. = 1.1 cm; R.t. = 1.5 cm; R.d. = 18.5 cm; findspot: *Groapa Boilor*, farming layer.

22. Bowl (Pl. 4/17; Pl. 8/1) – derived from type Dragendorf 44; fast wheel-thrown; homogenous reduced firing (Munssel 5 Y 7/1); smooth surface; semifine fabric; compact structure in which sporadically occur pores and cavities; covered both on the interior and the exterior with good quality colour-coating (Munssel 2.5 Y 4/1); W.t. = 0.95 cm; R.t. = 1.5 cm; R.d. = 44 cm; findspot: *Groapa Boilor*, farming layer; Rusu-Bolindeț 2007, Pl. LXXXVII/488. **23.** Bowl (Pl. 4/2; Pl. 8/2) – fast wheel-thrown; homogenous oxidised firing (Munssel 5 YR 7/6); on the internal and external side covered by good quality colour-coating (Munssel 2.5 YR 7/8); semifine fabric; compact structure in which sporadically occur pores and cavities; W.t. = 0.95 cm; R.t. = 1.5 cm; R.d. = 19.5 cm; findspot: *Groapa Boilor*, farming layer; Rusu-Bolindeț 2007, Pl. LXXXVII/488.

24. Bowl (Pl. 4/11; Pl. 8/3) – fast wheel-thrown; homogenous oxidised firing (Munssel 5 YR 7/8); semifine fabric; compact structure in which frequently occur pores, cracks and cavities; W.t. = 0.60 cm; R.t. = 1.1 cm; R.d. = 18.5 cm; findspot: *Groapa Boilor*, farming layer; Nedelea 2017, Pl. LXI/2.

25. Porringer (Pl. 4/9; Pl. 8/4) – fast wheel-thrown; homogenous oxidised firing (Munssel 7.5YR 8/6); compact structure in which sporadically occur pores and cavities; on the internal side of rim area and whole external surface covered by good quality colour-coating (Munssel 2.5 Y 4/4); W.t. = 0.65 cm; R.t. = 1.75 cm; R.d. = 22.5 cm; findspot: *Groapa Boilor*, farming layer; Nedelea 2017, Pl. LV/7.

26. Pot (Pl. 4/28; Pl. 8/5) – fast wheel-thrown; homogenous oxidised firing (Munssel 5 Y 8/1); coarse paste; W.t. = 0.6 cm; R.d. = 16 cm; findspot: *Groapa Boilor*, farming layer.

27. Bowl (Pl. 4/5; Pl. 8/6) – derived from type Dragendorf 37; fast wheel-thrown; homogenous oxidised firing (Munssel 7.5 YR 8/6); semifine fabric; compact structure in which sporadically occur pores and cavities; covered on internal and external sides by average quality colour-coating (Munssel 5 YR 7/8); W.t. = 0.65 cm; R.t. = 1.25 cm; R.d. = 20.5 cm; findspot: *Groapa Boilor*, farming layer; Rusu-Bolindet 2007, Pl. LXXXV/457.

28. Pot (Pl. 5/10; Pl. 8/7) – fast wheel-thrown; homogenous reduced firing (Munssel 5 Y 5/2); coarse fabric; W.t. = 0.60 cm; R.t. = 0.75 cm; R.d. = 14.5 cm; findspot: *Dealul Bărbos*, farming layer.

29. Bowl (Pl. 5/2; Pl. 8/8) – fast wheel-thrown; homogenous oxidised firing (Munssel 2.5 YR 7/6); semifine fabric; compact structure in which sporadically occur pores and cavities; covered both on the interior and the

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exterior with high quality colour-coating (Munssel 2.5 YR 7/8); W.t. = 0.65 cm; R.t. = 1.2 cm; R.d. = 20.5 cm; findspot: *Dealul Bărbos*, farming layer; Rusu-Bolindeț 2007, Pl. LXVIII/37.

30. Jug (Pl. 5/1; Pl. 8/9) – fast wheel-thrown; homogenous oxidised firing (Munssel 2.5 YR 6/8); semifine fabric; compact structure in which sporadically occurred pores and cavities; covered both on the interior and the exterior by high quality colour-coating, partially preserved (Munssel 2.5 YR 7/8); W.t. = 0.75 cm; R.t. = 0.9 cm; R.d. = 11 cm; findspot: *Dealul Bătrân*, farming layer; Popilian 1976, Pl. LXXXI/2; Rusu-Bolindet 2007, Pl. C/614.

31. Pot (Pl. 5/16; Pl. 8/10) – fast wheel-thrown; sandwich reducing type firing (exterior: Munssel 7.5 YR 2.5/3; interior: Munssel 10 YR 5/2); coarse fabric; W.t. = 0.8 cm; R.t. = 0.9 cm; R.d. = 27 cm; findspot: *Dealul Bărbos*, farming layer.

32. Vessel base (Pl. 8/11) – fast wheel-thrown; bizone firing, oxidised on the exterior (Munssel 10 YR 8/4), reducing on the interior (Munssel 10 YR 8/1); semifine fabric; compact structure in which frequently occurred pores, cracks and cavities; W.t. = 0.5 cm; B.t.= 0.65 cm; R.d. = 6.5 cm; findspot: *Dealul Bărbos*, farming layer.

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LMI	Lista monumentelor istorice 2015. Județul Cluj, https://patrimoniu.gov.ro/images/
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NA 11 1004	Românesști și Depresiunea Transilvaniei. București 1987, 541–558.
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Nemeti <i>et al</i> . 2003	S. Nemeti, I Nemeti, F. Fodorean, <i>Territorium Potaissae</i> . RevBistr 17, 2003, 69–75.
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1:200.000	București 1963–1993.
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RAN	Repertoriul Arheologic Național, http://ran.cimec.ro/.
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TIR	Tabula Imperii Romani – Forma Orbis Romani: Dacia, M. Bărbulescu, FG. Fodorean,
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 $\label{eq:plate1} Plate1.\ Groapa\ Boilor-archaeological\ materials\ identified\ within\ the\ site's\ area.$



Plate 2. *Dealul Bărbos* – archaeological materials identified within the site's area (1).



 $\label{eq:plate 3.} \textit{Dealul B} \Barbos- archaeological materials identified within the site's area (2).$



Plate 4. Groapa Boilor – pottery and tile materials identified during the field surveys.



Plate 5. *Dealul Bărbos* – pottery and tile materials identified during the field surveys.

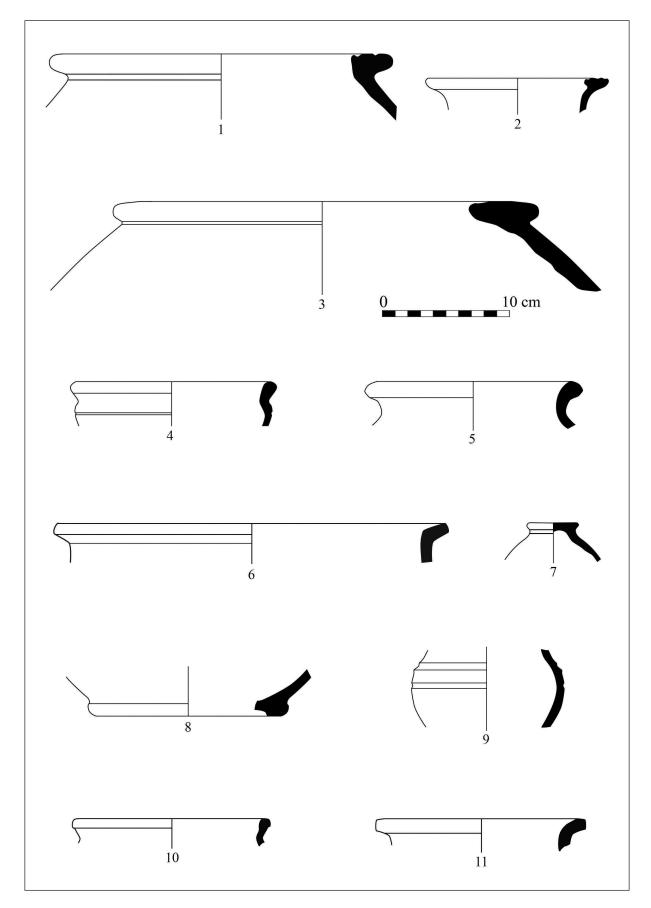


Plate 6. Pottery identified during the field surveys (1).

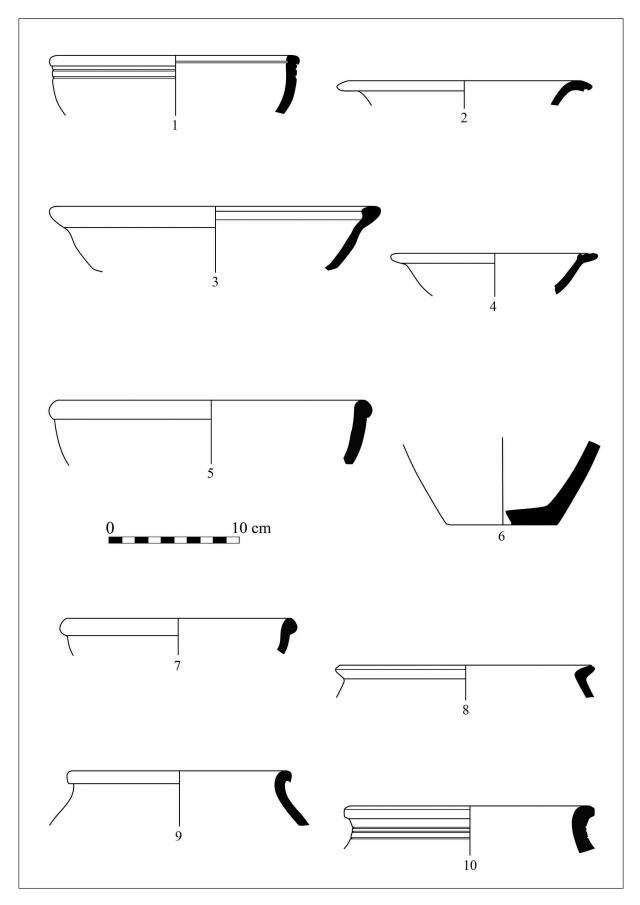


Plate 7. Pottery identified during the field surveys (2).

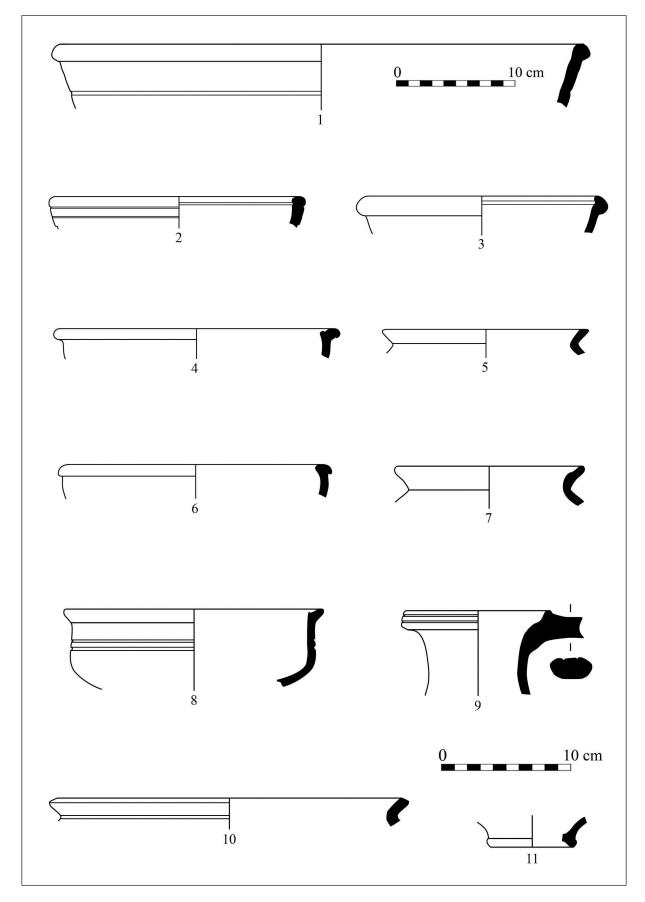


Plate 8. Pottery identified during the field surveys (3).

Abbreviations

AB	Analele Banatului, I-IV 1928–1931; S.N. I 1981-, The Museum of Banat/The National Museum of Banat, Timișoara.
АСТА	Yearbook of the Székely Museum in Csík and the Székely National Museum, Miercurea Ciuc – Sepsiszentgyörgy.
ActaArchHung	Acta Archaeologica Academiae Scentiarum Hungaricae, Budapest.
AÉ	Archaeologiai Értesitö, Budapest.
Acta Historica	Acta Universitatis Szegediensis (Szeged).
ArchHung	Archaeologia Hungarica.
ArhMed	Arheologia Medievală.
AM	Mitteilungen des Kaiserlich Deutschen Archaeologischen Instituts, Athenische
Alvi	Abteilung (Athenische Mitteilungen), Athen, (1876-).
AMM	Acta MoldaviaeMeridionalis (Vaslui).
AMN	Acta Musei Napocensis, The National History Museum of Transylvania, Cluj – Napoca.
AMP	Acta Musei Porolisensis, County History and Art Museum of Zalău.
ArhMold	Arheologia Moldovei, Iași.
BCH	Bulletin de Correspondence Hellénique, Paris, 1 (1877-).
BerRGK	Berichte der Römisch-Germanischen Kommission.Roman-Germanic
Demon	Commission. Frankfurt am Main.
EphNap	Ephemeris Napocensis, Cluj-Napoca.
CCA	Cronica Cercetărilor Arheologice din România, Ministry of Culture.
CCCA I	M. J. Vermaseren, Corpus cultus Cybelae Attidisque (CCCA), I. Asia Minor, Leiden, New York, København, Köln, 1987.
CIG	Corpus Inscriptionum Graecarum, I-IV, (ed. A. Boeckh), Berlin, 1828–1877.
CIL	Corpus Inscriptionum Latinarum, consilio et auctoritate Academiae litterarum regiae Borussicae editum. (1863-).
Dacia	Dacia. Recherches et découverts archéologiques en Roumanie, S.V. I-XII; N.S. Revue d´archéologie et d´histoire ancienne, I. 1957 și urm., Vasile Pârvan
	Institute of Archaeology, Bucharest.
DAGR	Dictionnaire des Antiquités grecques et romaines, I-X, sous la direction de Ch. Daremberg et E. Saglio, Paris, 1877–1929.
DolgSzeged	Dolgozatok a Szegedi Josef Tudomanyegyetem Archaeologiai Interzetbol (I, 1925XIX, 1943).
IGB V	Inscriptiones Graecae in Bulgaria repertae, (ed. Georgi Mihailov), vol. V: Supplementum, addenda et corrigenda. Sofia, 1997.
IGDOP	Inscriptions grecques dialectales d'Olbia du Pont, (ed. L. Dubois), Genève, 1996.
IGRR IV	Inscriptiones Graecae ad Res Romanas Pertinentes, IV (ed. G. Lafaye), Paris, 1927.
ISM I, II	Inscriptiones Scythiae Minoris – Inscripțiile din Scythia Minor, I: Histria și împrejurim- ile (ed. D. M. Pippidi), Bucharest, 1983; II: Tomis și teritoriul său, (ed. Iorgu Stoian), Bucharest, 1987.
LIMC	Lexicon Iconographicum Mythologiae Classicae, I–VIII + index vol., (eds. J. Ch. Balty, E. Berger, J. Boardman, Ph. Bruneau, F. Canciani, L. Kahil, V. Lambrinoudakis, E. Simon), Zürich, München, Düsseldorf, 1981–1999.
LSJ	Liddell H. G., Scott R., Jones H. S., A Greek-English Lexicon, with a revised supplement. Oxford, 1996.
MAA	Monumenta Avarorum Archaeologica.
ОМ	Orbis Mediaevalis.
PBF	Prähistorische Bronzefunde, München.

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RA	Revue Archéologique, Paris (1844-).
RAC	Rivista di archeologia cristiana, Rome (1924-).
RevBistr	Revista Bistritei, Bistrița-Năsăud Museum Complex, Bistrița.
RH	Revue historique, Paris, (1876-).
RIG	Recueil d'inscriptions grecques, par Ch. Michel, Bruxelles, 1900.
Sargetia	Sargetia. Acta Musei Devensis, Deva.
SCIV(A)	Studii și Cercetări de Istorie Veche, tom 1–25, Bucharest, 1950–1974; începând din 1974 (tom 25): Studii și Cercetări de Istorie Veche și Arheologie, Bucharest.
SCN	Studii și Cercetări de Numismatică, Bucharest.
SEG	Supplementum epigraphicum graecum, Lugdunum Batavorum, Leiden, 1923–1971; Alphen aan den Rijn 1979–1980; Amsterdam, 1979–2005; Boston, 2006
StCl	Studii Clasice, Bucharest.
Syll ³	Sylloge inscriptionum Graecarum, (3rd edition), (ed. W. Dittenberger), 1915–1924.
Terra Sebus	Terra Sebus, Sebeș.
ThesCRA	Thesaurus Cultus et Rituum Antiquorum, I–V + index vol., (eds. J. Ch. Balty, J. Boardman, Ph. Bruneau, R. G. A. Buxton, G. Camporeale, F. Canciani, F. Graf, T. Hölscher, V. Lambrinoudakis, E. Simon), Basel, Los Angeles, (2004–2006).
UPA	Uiversitätsforchungen zur Prähistorischen Archäologie, Institut für Ur-und Frühgeschichte der Universität Kiel.
ZSA	Ziridava. Studia Archaeologica, Arad Museum, Cluj-Napoca.