

EXCAVATIONS AT “CENTRAL STORE”, CLUJ-NAPOCA

ALEXANDRU DIACONESCU

(WITH THE CONTRIBUTIONS OF DORU BOGDAN, CRISTIAN GĂZDAC,
VIORICA RUSU-BOLINDEȚ, LÓRÁNT VASS, SORANA ARDELEANU,
MARIUS ARDELEANU)

Abstract: The excavations due to the extension of „Central Store” reached the extreme north-east *insula* of the Roman town of Napoca. The area is situated east of the first Mediaeval enclosure (Altstadt - Óvár), built in the 13th-14th centuries, but inside the new town (Neustadt - Újvár), built in the 15th century. Some of the main achievements of this investigation are the following:

For the first time traces of a native (Dacian) settlement in the area, later occupied by the Roman town of Napoca, were discovered.

The succession of Roman phases is also significant. In this part of the town the first phase (some poor industrial timber structures) started later than in the rest, and lasted till the middle of the 2nd century. Timber and clay buildings, with the appearance of barrack-blocks (phases 2 and 3), followed in the second half of the 2nd century. The adobe structures of phase 3 had glass windows. Both phases ended in a demolition fire and none can be related directly to the Marcomanic wars. At the turn of the 2nd and 3rd century a stone building with an apse was started in the north area, but was soon abandoned. In the first decade of the 3rd century, a stone house (a *domus*) was erected over most of the surface. To the north it had a yard, followed by a corridor and a row of rooms. The building was repaired at least once and lasted till the end of the Roman province, if not later. A crossbow brooch and a bone amulet in shape of “Hercules club” are the latest Roman artefacts. From the collapsed roof a single tile bearing the stamp of *cohors II Hispanorum*, stationed at Bologa, was found, the rest of the tiles being not stamped.

From the Migrations period dates a Late Roman - Barbarian strep terminal without clear context.

The 11th-12th centuries inhabitants left a few traces of light timber structures, besides pottery and a lot of bones. Most of the still standing Roman walls were now pushed to the ground. Probably in the 14th-15th centuries, when the new mediaeval town was erected, the remaining Roman walls were robbed.

The most interesting finds date from the Renaissance period. In an early 16th century pit, two glazed stove tiles with the coat of arms of Matthias Corvinus were found, along with pottery and roof tiles. In a late 16th pit further stove tiles were found along with glazed pottery, which helps dating the spread of this new technique in the town of Cluj.

Later structures are rare and have little significance.

Keywords: Dacian pottery; Roman timber structures; *domus*; small finds; Mediaeval; Renaissance.

Rezumat: Săpăturile de la “Magazinul Central - extensie” au atins insula din extremitatea nord-estică a orașului roman Napoca. Zona este situată la est de prima incintă medievală a “vechiului oraș” (Altstadt - Óvár), construită prin secolele XIII-XIV și în interiorul celei de-a doua, aparținând “orașului nou” (Neustadt - Újvár), care datează începând cu primele decenii ale secolului al XV-lea. Cele mai importante rezultate ale acestei cercetări au fost:

Descoperirea, pentru prima oară pe teritoriul viitorului oraș roman Napoca, a unor urme arheologice dacice.

Succesiunea fazelor romane s-a dovedit de asemenea semnificativă. În această parte a oraşului prima fază (reprezentată de câteva structuri industriale de tipul cuptoarelor) a început mai târziu decât în rest şi a durat până către mijlocul secolului al II-lea p. Chr. Au urmat, în a doua jumătate a secolului al II-lea p. Chr. (fazele 2 şi 3), clădirile propriu-zise de lemn şi chirpic, cu aspectul unor barăci cu mai multe încăperi aliniate. Clădirile de chirpic ale fazei 3 aveau şi geamuri de sticlă. Ambele faze au sfârşit printr-un incendiu controlat (de demolare) şi prin urmare nici una dintre distrugerii nu poate fi legată direct de războaiele marcomanice. La graniţa dintre secolele II şi III, în partea de nord a suprafeţei cercetate, a început să fie construit primul edificiu de piatră. El cuprindea şi o încăpăre cu absidă, dar construcţia a fost abandonată înainte de a fi terminată. Apoi, în cursul primului deceniu al secolului al III-lea p. Chr. a fost construită aici o vilă (*domus*), care acoperea cea mai mare parte a suprafeţei cercetate. În partea de nord se găsea o curte, dincolo de care fusese amplasat un coridor, urmat de un şir de încăperi. Casa a fost refăcută cel puţin o dată şi a durat până în a doua jumătate a secolului al III-lea p. Chr., atingând sfârşitul provinciei, dacă nu l-a şi depăşit. Cele mai târzii artefacte sunt o fibulă în formă de T cu capete incipiente de ceapă şi o amuletă de os în forma ghioagei lui Hercules. Din numeroasele tegule ale acoperişului clădirii romane numai una singură purta o şampilă, a trupei *cohors II Hispanorum*, staţionată la Bologna.

Din perioada migraţiilor datează un capăt de curea din bronz de tip roman târziu sau barbar, dar fără un context clar de descoperire.

Urmele din secolele XI-XII sunt mai consistente, căci pe lângă ceramică şi oase au fost identificate şi structuri uşoare de lemn. Cea mai mare parte a zidurilor edificiilor romane au fost acum trântite la pământ. Probabil prin secolele XIV-XV, când s-a extins oraşul medieval, a început şi scoaterea zidurilor aflate în pământ (fundaţiile zidurilor făcute din piatră de carieră cu mortar erau foarte adânci).

Cele mai interesante descoperiri datează din perioada Renaşterii. Într-o groapă datată în primele decenii ale secolului al XVI-lea au fost descoperite două cahle glazurate şi decorate cu stema lui Matthias Corvinus, împreună cu ceramică neglazurată şi ţigle de acoperiş. Într-o altă groapă, din a doua jumătate a secolului al XVI-lea, au fost găsite numeroase cahle decorate cu mica, precum şi fragmente ceramice glazurate, ceea ce ajută la datarea pătrunderii acestei tehnologii ceramice în oraşul de pe Someş.

Structurile ulterioare sunt puţine şi au o mică relevanţă.

Cuvinte-cheie: ceramică dacică; structuri romane din lemn; *domus*; material special; epoca medievală; Renaştere.

Location, circumstances of excavation and previous research in the area

The Central Store is situated in the north-east corner of the former Roman town of Napoca (Pl. I*). The first Mediaeval town (Altstadt - Óvár), built in the 13th-14th centuries, was situated west of our area, which was to be included only in the new town (Neustadt - Újvár), built in the 15th century. The extension of the previous store, which was to descend to a depth of -4.5 m from ground level, was limited by Cotită street to the east and Tipografiei street to the north (in the rest there are private buildings). The store was built in 1975 when no regular archaeological excavations was carried out. In addition, the area mechanically excavated, and consequently damaged, was larger than the actual building. On that occasion several chance finds were recorded, such as four entire column shafts, an altar dedicated to *I(uppiter) O(ptimus) M(aximus)* and Silvanus, hence the naive supposition there would have been located a temple¹. From the same spot several tiles with the stamp "FISC(I)" were recovered,

¹ RepCluj, 131, no. 22.

which relates this site to the seat of the imperial procurator of Dacia Porolissensis. However no traces of official building were found in our excavation. The excavation was financed by the private society „Magazinul Central S.A., Cluj-Napoca”.

The excavations (Pl. I-III) took place between 15.09.2006 - 15.12.2006. For the record we placed the reference point, m 100E/200N, in the north-eastern corner of the area to be excavated. Its Stereo 70 coordinates are: X = 586904.01; Y = 392457.33. For the level we used as 0 a point at + 355.79 m in Over Sea level. After the excavation the only extending wall with buttresses was reproduced *in situ* on the floor of the basement of Central Store, where it can be visited at any time. After the excavation the area investigated and cleared of any charges has the following coordinates:

1: x = 586905.24 2: x = 586876.41 3: x = 586902.48 4: x = 586873.42
y = 392457.24...y = 392470.73 y = 392445.75 y = 392459.12.

1. The stratigraphic sequence

Alexandru Diaconescu, Doru Bogdan

1.1. The site prior to the Romans

This site is placed in the meadow of Someşul Mic river, so that below the level -3 m we found a layer of geological gravel (bedrock = soil horizon D), which was covered by a dark surface soil (horizon A). However in the northern and western part of the surface we identified a grey sandy-clay layer (parent rock = horizon C), covered by an ochre clay subsoil (horizon B), but no mature topsoil (A), which must have been damaged by the Romans at their arrival. Here they met some kind of a mound which had to be levelled, the upper soil being pushed towards south-east. The dark surface soil from this area, which covers the gravel, contains small Roman pottery fragments, which must have been removed during this activity (C. 1016, 1036, 1056 and lower part of C. 1063). In the north-western corner (at m 89-90 E / 197-198 N) we found a pit (C. 1037), not easy to define because it was filled with the same ochre-yellowish clay in which it has been originally excavated. It contained three hand made pots. Two are almost complete (catalogue 2.1.1.-2.1.2, Pl. X/1-2). One has a row of sockets on the shoulder, the other a series of stitches in the same area. They belong to the Late Iron Age pottery (1st century - the first decades of 2nd century AD) and should be attributed to the local Dacian inhabitants. We cannot define the nature of the pit and its deposits, but with certitude it was not a grave, since we did not find any ashes or bones, neither in the pots, nor in the pit. This feature might be a trace of the pre Roman settlement, which gave the name of *Napoca* (or *Napuca*) to this place.

1.2. First Roman phase. First half of the 2nd century AD

Among the earliest features encountered by us is a small (maximum depth 30 cm) strait ditch, perfectly aligned north-south. In the trench S II we also found a less deep ditch which runs east-west and meets the first one at a right angle (Pl. IV/1). We have no comments on the function of these features. Above the initial levelling

layers (C. 1016, 1036, 1056 and lower part of 1063) we found in trench S I a kiln (C. 1017, Pl. IV/2) and in trench S II a rectangular pit, filled with burnt clay (mud bricks?) (C. 1038). Quite similar seems to be the pit found in S IV (see for details C. 1063). Their nature is not easy to define, but they look more like some industrial facilities than like traces of average dwellings. The demolition layers of these first timber and clay structures are contexts 1058, 1035, 1053 and the upper part of 1063, all containing burnt clay and charcoal. The area investigated by us seems not to have been intensively inhabited under Trajan, or in the first decades of the province, since the pottery worked in Late Iron Age tradition is scarce here, by comparison to other sites from Roman Napoca². In addition to that it must be taken into consideration that the structures of the first phase were demolished by fire towards the middle of the 2nd century. This is proven by a Samian ware (catalogue 2.2.4.1.2, Pl. XVII/2), discovered in C. 1063 and which was produced at Lezoux in the workshop of CINNAMVS, in the years AD 140-160. Such industrial facilities, demolished towards the middle of the 2nd century could not have been too old, so that the beginning of activity in the area investigated by us must have started later than in other places of Roman Napoca.

1.3. Phases 2 and 3: timber buildings. Second half of the 2nd century AD

The houses (barracks) belonging to these phases had a clay pavement (probably covered by a floor of planks) (C. 1013 - phase 2 and C. 1012 - phase 3, from the trenches S I and S III; C. 1052 - phase 2 and C. 1024A - phase 3, both in trench S II; C. 1066 - phase 3 in S IV). The timber walls had no other foundation but a bean, serving as putlog (see Pl. VI/1). One face of the wall was covered with planks; the other was plastered with white lime. The core had a timber skeleton and a filling with clay and wickerwork (C. 1029 - phase 2 and C. 1026 - phase 3) (Pl. V/1). At least in phase 3 these buildings had glass windows, and one of the rooms had an *opus signinum* floor (C. 1066). The timber phase 3 lasted well after AD 161 when the coin 2.2.1.4 was issued. It was found in the levelling layer of the yard north to the 2nd and 3rd phase buildings, in C. 1011 and might have been lost during the functioning period of these structures. A "knee brooch" (catalogue 2.2.2.1) was found in the same context C. 1011. It is to be dated in the second half of the 2nd century and at the beginning of the next one. Both phases (2 and 3) ended in a fire (cf. C. 1028, Pl. V/2). The lack of any valuable small find or of entire pottery wares pleads against an accidental one. The absence of broken tiles could also be explained by an intentional demolishing of the roofs. In conclusion, there is no element that could relate any of these fire destructions to the Marcomanic wars, although it would be tempting to place the end of 2nd phase around AD 170.

According to the data from trenches S II and S III, the buildings of phases 2 and 3 were some kind of barrack-blocks. The ground plan is far from being complete, not even an entire room could be defined, but it seems that the buildings were "L" shaped, with a wing oriented east-west and another north-south. In addition, in trench S IV we identified another row of rooms, oriented east-west, and parallel to the first one. The

² Some handmade fragments were found in C. 1036, the first leveling layer of the Roman settlement, and another in C. 1023, a late 2nd century context, so that it must be considered residual.

width of the rooms was exceeding 5 m (probably it was 5.60 m = 20 Roman feet) and the length was similar, which indicates rather some industrial facilities than normal houses. A military occupation is out of the question; by then Napoca was a *municipium* for some decades and in the last decades of the 2nd century it gained colonial status. The belt fittings (catalogue 2.2.2.4–2.2.2.6, Pl. XII) which might be considered parts of a *cingulum militare* all belong to the stone phase and are to be dated in the 3rd century. The stone buildings of the next phase do not reproduce the plan of the timber structures, what pleads for a change in function, and even for a transfer of property. However we did not find any industrial outfit, which could give a hint on the functionality of the timber structures of 2nd and 3rd phases.

From the transition period between 2nd and 3rd phase dates a stone ring (C. 1054, Pl. IV/3) and a circular pit (C. 1050), whose use and nature remains beyond our knowledge.

1.4. Transition to stone buildings. End of 2nd century – beginning of 3rd century AD

In the northern part of the area a building with an apse was projected (Z1-1a, 2, Pl. II). The foundation trenches, which descend rather deep and reach the gravel layer, were filled with stones and mortar. The bed-plate of the foundations reaches the same level as the upper part of the demolishing and levelling layer of the timber buildings (C. 1011). There is no trace of any wall or of a floor corresponding to these foundations, so that the most reasonable conclusion is that the building was never finished.

1.5. Phase 5. Stone buildings. A *domus*. 3rd century AD

In the rest of the area, above the debris of timber structures, a levelling layer of sandy clay was brought (C.1010, 1046, 1061). Consequently a rich building, a *domus* was erected. In the northern part a low wall with buttresses was built (Z3), partly over the unfinished stone structure with apse (Pl. II). It was probably marking the northern limit of the property which occupied the south-eastern corner of the *insula*³. The distance between buttresses is around 5.80 m (almost 20 Roman feet), quite large, but acceptable in the case of a precinct wall. A good analogy was encountered by us in Apulum, at the shrine of Liber Pater, where a similar wall with buttresses surrounding the sacred area was identified. In the case of the Napoca wall we could not find any clear and doubtless trace of a demolishing trench, so that our impression is that this wall was not higher than found by us. It was probably a socle for a timber fence⁴.

South of the wall with buttresses (Z3) there was a yard, 8.75 m (30 feet) large. Further south there was an imposing building which had a walking layer some 50 cm higher than that of the yard (see Pl. VI/2). The house was at least once repaired and enlarged. Initially the wall Z5 was the northern limit of the building. A long corridor

³ Further north, under Tipografiei street, we noticed in the next year stone buildings with *opus signinum* floors, but the developers did not allow any further investigation „under color” of safety.

⁴ However, the context 1004 of broken stones could represent the traces of demolishment of this wall in the 11th–12th centuries.

(hall) was soon added towards the yard, by erecting Z4. The collapsed portion of this wall (C.1057) which could be followed to a length of 3 m from the line of the foundation (and robbing trench, C. 1059), shows that this wall was around 40 cm thick and was built of local limestone blocks, from the quarry of Baciú, held together with a lot of mortar. Towards west there was a passage door to the yard. The corridor was 3.40 m large and over 10 m long (it could not be followed further away). In a first stage the corridor had a clay floor (C. 1064), probably covered with planks, which already functioned in the first phase of the building, being contemporary with floor 1047 (see below). In a second stage the corridor paved with an *opus signinum* floor (C. 1067). In the third stage a thick levelling layer (C. 1041), consisting mainly of gravel, was spread out and then a white mortar floor was added (C. 1040). It was provided with a foundation of rolling stones. It is possible that this floor was covered with 8 shaped brick *tesserae*, but recent disturbances have damaged large portions of the floor. It is difficult to define the use of this hall, which might have been designated with the term of *cryptopoticus*. Being placed in the back of the house and being oriented towards north, it could have served as a storage room, because it was cooler than the rest of the house.

South of this structure there was a row of rooms, which was almost completely destroyed by later activities. A great deal of the walls was partly demolished and robbed during the Middle Ages. Only a fragment of Z5, separating the corridor from the rest of the rooms, has survived (Pl. VI/2). In addition large parts of the floors were destroyed by huge modern holes, descending to the Roman timber layers. Thus only a portion of around 1 m² from the *opus signinum* floor (C. 1048) of the south western room has survived. Under it there is a thick levelling layer (C. 1045) and then another floor of white mortar (C. 1047), the first one in chronological order. In the room next to it, towards east (a sort of corridor, 2.30 m wide) there is another filling, a clay one (C. 1060), probably a foundation of a more sophisticated floor, which corresponded to the first stone phase. Both floors cover the levelling layer for the first phase of the stone building (C. 1064 and 1046). To the same first phase belongs a fragment of wall dividing the room. Unfortunately no further details on the stone buildings have been registered because of the scarce level of preservation of the Roman layers.

The dating of the two stone phases is quite problematic, but not impossible. From context C. 1046, a filling which precedes the first floor of the stone rooms, comes a brooch with twisted foot from underneath („mit umgeschlagenen Fuss”, catalogue 2.2.2.2, Pl. XI/1), datable in the 3rd century AD. A more accurate dating is provided by two coins of Caracalla (catalogue 2.2.1.6-2.2.1.7) from the period when he was co-emperor of Septimius Severus (AD 198-212). One was found in context C. 1023 (trench S II), a levelling layer for the yard of the first stone phase. It was more probably lost when the levelling was made, then later, during the use of the yard. The second coin of Caracalla was found in C. 1042 (trench S IV), a filling layer for the second stage of the northern corridor. From context C. 1041, which precedes the last floor in the corridor, comes an amulet of “Hercules club” type (“Herkuleskeule”, catalogue 2.2.6.4, Pl. XIX/8), which is dated relatively late, in the 3rd and 4th centuries AD. It follows that the first stone phase did not start earlier than the first decade of

the 3rd century and lasted well after the middle of the 3rd century. The second phase of the stone building was certainly functioning after AD 250 as proven by a cross-bow brooch with emerging onion-head buttons ("T-Fiebel"/ "Zwiebelkopffiebel", catalogue 2.2.2.3, Pl. XI/3), found in the last layer of the Roman yard (C. 1010).

1.6. Middle Ages

We found no clear traces from the Migration Period, excepting a Late Roman - Barbarian strep end, dating probably from the 5th century (catalogue 2.2.2.10, Pl. XI/4). Its finding spot (C. 1007) could not be related to any structure. The roof of the Roman buildings collapsed progressively, the corresponding layer being spread all over the excavated area (C. 1008). Some tiles were entirely preserved which proves that the layer containing the collapsed roof was mainly undisturbed. Despite the impressive quantity of tiles discovered here, no stamp was found, with one exception. It is a tile with the name of *cohors II Hispanorum* from Bologna (Pl. X/3)⁵. His situation is typical for civilian sites (such as Apulum, sanctuary of Liber Pater, where not less than 5 tons of tiles were found and only one stamp of *legio XIII Gemina*, obviously a random piece). It follows that the stone structures of phase 5 represented a private house which had no connection to the seat of the provincial governor, which is supposed to be situated in the *insula* to the west.

In the northern part of the excavation, above the collapsed roof, a 12th century layer was found (C. 1004). An impressive quantity of bones and typical pottery was found (Pl. XX/1-3)⁶. In trench S I, above the collapsed Roman roof, two clay floors were found (C. 1005-1006). They were related to a light timber structure. The presumed demolition layers of the Roman wall Z3 (C. 1008-1009) are quite loose, which makes possible that these timber buildings could be related to the 12th century inhabitants, who established themselves among the Roman ruins. Probably in the same period the north wall of the Roman building (Z4) was pushed to the ground. The structure of this collapsed wall was obvious and we could examine it over a length of 3 m from bottom to top (C. 1057). No windows could be identified, but in the western part an entrance was quite visible.

The 13th-14th centuries' material is scarce, the area being probably not inhabited by those times. Probably in this period could be dated the robbing trenches of the Roman walls and the huge pit from the southern part (C. 1044), which was filled with broken refuse stones, probably abandoned because they were too small to be used at the Mediaeval buildings.

1.7. Renaissance period

The 15th-16th century pits are the most spectacular discovery of this excavation. In the western part of trench S III, a pit with vertical walls (C. 1025) was discovered (Pl. VIII/2; XXIII/1-2). Only half of it was excavated (in a first instance a quarter), the rest of it being cut by the ancient building of "Central Store". The pit was at least 1.80 m deep, measured from the level; it was probably dug (its mouth was partly cut

⁵ Expertise of prof. Nicolae Gudea, to whom we are deeply indebted.

⁶ The material was processed by B. Gergely, who will publish it separately.

by later levelling). It was almost rectangular in plan, with a side 1.20 m long. After being excavated the pit was clad with vertical planks, resulting a circular shape in plan. The first impression was that of a huge barrel, used as a cellar. The other alternative is a well, but since the bottom of C. 1025 does not reach the parental rock, probably it could not get to the underground water table, unless this was higher than today. Actually in the 15th-16th centuries the climate, which was rainy and colder than today, could have caused a rise in the level of the underground water table. In the filling of this pit (C. 1030), many bones and several entire pots and jugs were found, all of good quality fabric but without glaze (Pl. XXI/1-3). In the same spot two identical stove tiles with green glaze were found. The relief on their face depicted the coat of arms of Matthias Corvinus (catalogue 2.4.1.1, Pl. XXII/1)⁷.

These stove tiles come from a richly decorated stove in the house of some local top ranking character, who wanted to express his attachment to the king born in Cluj. As PhD. A. A. Rusu has proven, similar stove tiles found in the residence of Stephen Báthory at Nyírabátor (north-west from Transylvania), might indicate that the owner of the stove from Cluj was the same voivode of Transylvania (between 1479 and 1493). The tiles must have been manufactured before the death of king Matthias in AD 1490. Soon after the end of Corvinus dynasty and the ascent on the Hungarian throne of the Jagello family such stove tiles were not welcome and ended in our pit. If they were just demolishing debris of some stove, we should have found in C. 1030 more traces of such a heating device. In fact there are demolition vestiges of such structures in pit C. 1025 (C. 1031 and 1031A), but they are placed above the filling containing the two stove tiles and cannot be directly related to them. On the other hand, A. A. Rusu rightfully remarked that in the case of a demolished stove, one would expect several tiles, such as in Nyírabátor, not only two. It has little relevance if the stove tiles were picked from a pottery workshop or taken from a functional stove. Anyway their presence indicates a dating of pit 1025 at the end of the 15th century and it's filling at the beginning of the 16th century⁸. A special mentioning deserves C. 1032, the layer of roof tiles in the upper part of pit 1025, which is quite rare in the epoqe. The impressive building from which the materials from C. 1030 come, must have been situated to the west (maybe facing the main street leading to the bridge over Someş river), and was probably destroyed in the mid' 1970-ies when the first body of "Central Store" was built. It could have belonged to the voievode Stephen Báthory. The refuse pit or well was situated in the back of the house, in a yard or a garden⁹.

Next to the above mentioned wall another pit was found (C. 1043, Pl. VI/2; IX/2; XXIII/3), this time conical in shape, with an upper diameter of 3 m and a depth of around 2 m, starting from the level it was dug. It also contains rich ceramic material,

⁷ Rusu 2012, 313-326.

⁸ Rusu 2012, 316.

⁹ The claim of A. A. Rusu (Rusu 2012, 313 and note 2) that the walls are too high to be Roman, so that they might represent 15th-16th centuries structures, cannot be sustained. The robbing trench of Z4, C. 1059, visible on the western profile of trench S III (Pl. VIII/2), starts from the 14th century level (upper part of C. 1007), when the still standing wall was dismantled, resulting a robbing trench. Prior to that, in the 12th century, the main part of the wall was pushed to the ground (C. 1057). To the south, the last Roman floor (C. 1040), associated to Z4, is some 50 cm higher the upper part of C. 1010, representing the leveling layer of the Roman yard.

including a complete stove tile with mica and several other fragments with a similar decoration, datable in the second half of the 16th century. The pit contained glazed pottery, while the previous one had none. It follows that the coarse glazed pottery was introduced in Cluj around the middle of the 16th century.

1.8. 17th – 19th centuries structures and layers

Were identified in the southern part of the investigated area, including a wall, Z8 (Pl. I). In the central and northern part of the excavated surface a small square functioned as a market place in recent time, which explains the absence of recent structures here. The modern layers contained glazed pottery and clay pipes.

2. Archaeological material. Catalogue of main finds

2.1. Pottery from pit 1037 (Pl. X/1–2)

Marius Ardeleanu

Despite the context of discovery, the two complete vessels from pit 1037 do not have all the characteristics of Pre-Roman – Late Iron Age pottery (from the 1st century AD). They have good analogies in the first Roman layers from other sites in Napoca, dating at the beginning of the 2nd century AD (for instance from Victor Deleu street¹⁰). The coarse fabric is typical for Dacian vessels, but the shape is slender and the rim is faceted, which are not common in Pre-Roman times. Such vessels belong to type 1.1 A1 established by V. Rusu-Bolindeț for the pottery of Roman Napoca¹¹. If Dacian, i.e. Pre-Roman, the pit with these pots should be dated in the last decades of the Dacian kingdom.

2.1.1. Cylindrical pot decorated with a row of sockets on the shoulder; 80% of the pot is preserved. Profile complete. H = 26 cm, rd = 14.5 cm, bd = 11.5 cm (Pl. X/1).

The vessel is slightly tapered at both ends. The rim is almost imperceptibly oblique. The bottom is flat. On the shoulder there are four groups of 5 to 6 sockets made with a pressing finger. They are mutually opposed. Obviously it is not an ornament, but a functional feature, serving for grabbing and holding the pot (probably with a dishcloth). The fabric is coarse, spongy, with small grains of sand, not bigger than 1 mm in diameter. In section there is a black core flanked by light brown crusts. On the outside the pot is ochre-brown from shoulder downwards and dark-brown in the upper part. The pot must have been currently buried in embers to the shoulder. On the inside there is a shell of white calcium carbonate, coming probably from the content of the vessel.

2.1.2. Cylindrical pot, decorated with a series of stitches on the shoulder; 70% of the pot is preserved. Profile complete. H = 30 cm, rd = 14.5 cm, bd = 12.5 cm (Pl. X/2).

The shape is similar to the preceding one. The walls are 0.5 to 1.3 thick. On the inner face there are faded traces of vertical stripes from the manufacturing. On the shoulder a series of stitches are barely visible. The fabric is similar to the preceding one. The crusts are brown with a brick like tint.

¹⁰ Cociș et alii 1995, 636.

¹¹ Rusu-Bolindeț 2007, 107, Pl. XIV.

2.2. Roman finds

2.2.1. Coins

Cristian Găzdac¹²

2.2.1.1. Dupondius? Bz. Vespasianus: Obverse: vague silhouette of head. Reverse corroded. S I, C. 1011 (setup wooden phases 2 and 3). SF 127.

2.2.1.2. Denarius. Ag. Vespasianus: Obverse: laureate head. Reverse: corroded. S I, C. 1011 (setup wooden phases 2 and 3). SF 130.

2.2.1.3. Denarius Ag. Illegible: Poor state of preservation. Surface covered with verdigris. Most likely, the pie was burned which led to its partial melting down and becoming illegible. S I, C. 1015, first Roman layer of inhabitancy. SF 253.

2.2.1.4. Sestertius. Bz. L. Verus, type of *Concordia Augustorum*: Obverse: legend erased. Bust silhouette of Lucius Verus. Reverse: two silhouettes (Lucius Verus and Marcus Aurelius) standing and clasping hands. RIC III, 1290, Rome, AD 161; S I, C. 1011 (setup wooden phases 2 and 3). SF 119.

2.2.1.5. Sestertius, Bz. Antoninus Pius or Marcus Aurelius (?): Obverse: vague silhouette of a bust. Reverse: corroded. S IV, C. 1045 (renamed 1046), setup of first stone phase. SF 501.

2.2.1.6. Denarius plated, M. Aurelius Antoninus, Caracalla. AD 198–212: Obverse: silhouette of bust laureate. Reverse: corroded. S II, C. 1023, the setup layer of the courtyard belonging to the stone building, similar to 1010. SF 272.

2.2.1.7. Denarius, Ag. Caracalla co-emperor, AD 198–212. Obverse: silhouette of bust laureate. Reverse: corroded. S IV, C. 1046 (former 1142), the setup for the corridor, first stone phase. SF 345.

2.2.2. Bronze objects (Pl. XI–XIV)

Alexandru Diaconescu

2.2.2.1. Knee brooch („Kniefibel” = „Fibulă cu genunchi”). Rather well preserved. Only the spring with pin is missing. L = 3.3 cm. Found in S I, C. 1011, levelling of yard north of the timber structures of phase 2–3. SF 120 (Pl. XI/2).

The arch is bent at a right angle, hence the similarity with a human knee. The „knee” is rounded and decorated with two moulds behind and below it, and above the head. Typical is the long foot and short catch plate, so that the pin was positioned horizontally.

This small brooch belongs to a variant which is characteristic to the Barbarian world, classified by Almgren in type 137¹³, which equals variant 19e1 by S. Cociş¹⁴. In Dacia, such pieces occurred only in Porolissum, on the *limes*, and one further case is known from Sopor de Câmpie¹⁵, south-east of Napoca (in Dacia Porolissensis). I. Peškař, who dealt with the brooches from Moravia, which are in close relation with those in the Roman Empire, is dating this type of brooch in the second half of the 2nd century and at the beginning of the 3rd one¹⁶.

2.2.2.2. Brooch with returned foot („mit umgeschlagenem Fuss” = „cu piciorul întors pe dedesubt”). Very well preserved. Complete. L = 4.2 mm. Found in S IV, C. 1046 (ex 1047), a levelling layer in view of building of the first stone phase (Pl. XI/1).

¹² Full text will be published in detail later.

¹³ Almgren 1923, Fig. 137.

¹⁴ Cociş 2004, 103.

¹⁵ Cociş 2004, nos. 1220–1222, Pl. LXXX (subvariant 19e1b).

¹⁶ Peškař 1972, 90–91.

The spring fastening mechanism consists of five windings on one side and four on the other side. The axle is made of iron. The catch plate is simple, and the returned foot is attached to the base of the bow by two windings.

Brooches with returned foot represent Cociş type 37, our piece belonging to the sub variant 37a5a2¹⁷. A similar piece was found in Napoca, in Victor Deleu St.¹⁸. This type of brooch is characteristic to the Dacian province and is largely dated in the 3rd century AD, because only a few pieces were found in well dated contexts. At Romula a brooch with returned foot was found in a grave where it was associated to two coins of Severus Alexander. A similar one, with a slight rib on the back, was found near the west gate, in the last layer of *via decumana*, which is to be dated after the middle of the 3rd century AD¹⁹. Another brooch with returned foot was found in a pit from Obreja, together with a crossbow brooch datable at the middle of the 4th century²⁰. Since the period of life of this type can be pushed till the middle of the 4th century, more significant is the moment of birth. Almost 5 decades ago Gh. Diaconu²¹ was placing the beginnings of the type immediately after AD 160, while K. Horedt pleaded for a dating only inside of the 3rd century²², a point of view accepted by S. Cociş too²³. Two coins of Caracalla from AD 198–212 were found in contexts contemporary to the one of our brooch.

2.2.2.3. T-shaped brooch. Well preserved, yet arms and pin are missing. L = 6.4 mm. Found in S III, C. 1010 (former 1032), last Roman level. SF 333 (Pl. XI/3).

The head ends in an egg shaped button. The cross section of the bow is D shaped. The foot with catch plate is faceted. At the end of the bow there are four windings.

Since both arms are broken we cannot say whether they ended in buttons or not. Anyhow this type of brooch (Cociş type 39b5b2a-b²⁴) is the direct predecessor of the crossbow brooches with onion head buttons, which begin with the Tetrarchy. A very close brooch to the one from Napoca was found in Sarmizegetusa, in the building conventionally called EM 23. As I have already shown, such brooches are to be dated in the period between AD 250 and 275, actually in the last decades of the province²⁵. They are more advanced than those on the „Obergermanische-rhetische Limes”, abandoned in 260²⁶ and from Doura-Europos, destroyed in AD 258.

2.2.2.4. Belt fitting with three lobe ends. Rather well preserved. Surface slightly corroded. One volute was broken after discovery, being restored. L = 5.7 cm. Found in S I, C. 1010, levelling of the yard of the stone phase building. SF 116 (Pl. XII/2).

The fitting has a rectangular body, decorated in the central zone with two parallel incisions. The heads have three lobes, the central one is lanceolate, and the lateral ones are in shape of a half a crescent. Only one stud is well preserved.

2.2.2.5. Belt fitting with fretwork decoration. Well preserved. Initially the surface was strongly corroded. L = 7.2 cm. Found in S II, C. 1010, same as the preceding one (Pl. XII/1).

The fitting has a rectangular shape. The sides are slightly in shape of curly brackets. The decoration consists of two rows of half circles, separated by a row of diamonds. In the corners there are four fitting holes. A similar belt fitting was found in the auxiliary fort at Răcari²⁷.

¹⁷ Cociş 2004, 144.

¹⁸ Cociş, Ciogradi, Bota 2001, Pl. IV/35.

¹⁹ Isac, Cociş 1995, 114, no. 43.

²⁰ Protase 2002, 72, Fig. 9 for the context; 180–181 for the brooch with returned foot.

²¹ Diaconu 1971, 248.

²² Horedt 1978, 222.

²³ Cociş 2004, 147.

²⁴ Cociş 2004, 153–154.

²⁵ Diaconescu 1999, 211–212. Surprisingly this study was not taken into consideration by S. Cociş (Cociş 2004, 154) when discussing this piece. Cf. Diaconescu, Bota, Voişian 2006, 886–887, Fig. 2/1.

²⁶ Böhme 1972, 27–28, type 28m.

²⁷ Bondoc, Gudea 2009, 215, no. 551, Pl. XCIX, with previous literature.

2.2.2.6. Belt fastener. Well preserved. L = 4.5 cm. Found in S IV, C. 1041, levelling layer in view of building the second period of the stone phase. SF 239 (Pl. XII/3).

At one end there is a rectangular bail, for a 1 cm large strep. The passage to the body of the fastener is represented by a hole, probably with a decorative purpose. The body, "D" shaped in section, its bottom being flat, is decorated by three grooves and ends in a circular socket. On the back there are two studs, 5-6 mm long, ending in circular heads, 7 mm in diameter, which helped fixing the fastener. The distance between them is 1.8 cm, meaning that on the belt there were several holes separated at this interval. The holes had an additional cut which helped the flattened heads of the studs pass throw. By a smart movement the belt could be fastened at once.

2.2.2.7. Two keys joined by a chain. Pretty well preserved. The smallest key is almost entire; the bigger one was broken in ancient times. Probably the broken cane was of iron. The chain partly disintegrated after the discovery but was eventually restored. Found in S IV, C. 1063, corresponding to the first timber phase. SF 533 (Pl. XIII/1-3).

The small key (Pl. XIII/3) is 6 cm long. The ring has an inner diameter of 1 cm. To it the coupling link with only one bail remained still attached. The foot, 2.7 cm long, had a pattern in shape of XIX. The bigger key (Pl. XIII/2) is now 6 cm long but is broken. The ring has an inner diameter of 1.8 cm. At the passage to the rod there is a fillet.

The chain had probably 10 links. Initially they had a rounded shape, but the central part was pressed so that an 8 shape was obtained. This chain proves that the keys were related and used together. Probably the bigger key served opening the main door and the small one a secondary door, or a chest (*arca*).

2.2.2.8. Medical pharmacy-cosmetic spoon. Almost entire. Only the end of the bowl is missing. On the other end the handle is bent at a right angle. L to the bent = 11 cm (Pl. XIV/1).

The small spoon had a shallow longue bowl, which helped well balancing the powders. The handle has three segments. The central one, 3.5 cm longue, is square in section, which provided a fast hold for the fingers. The end of the handle, now bent, would have some 4 cm in length. It is circular in section and ends in an egg shaped bulb, which facilitated the balance of the tool. The two parts of the handle are separated by three incisions, delimiting two pirouettes. The separation between handle and bowl is marked by a similar decoration, consisting of a pearl and two pirouettes. Such instruments served preparing powders for medical and cosmetic purposes.

2.2.2.9. Chest fittings, two fragments which do not match together. Preserved L = 9.5 cm, respectively 9.2 cm. Found in S IV, C. 1046 (wrongly registered as 1041), levelling for the first stone phase. SF 439 (Pl. XIV/2).

A first bronze plate was rectangular, almost square. In the middle there is an elevated circle, which has a hole in the centre. Here a decorated stud or a handle was fitted. The second fragment belongs to a similar fitting. Such plates were set on chests and boxes, the main deposit device in Roman furniture. Similar pieces were found in the auxiliary fort at Răcari, where they were considered shield ornaments²⁸.

2.2.2.10. Strep terminal. Well preserved. Broken only at the joint to the strep. L = 10.5 cm. Found in S IV, modern hole, C. 1007 (Pl. XI/4).

The strep terminal has the shape of a longue and narrow tongue, ending in a simplified vegetable motive. It is decorated with fine, barely visible incisions. Could be late Roman or Early Migration Period (4th-6th centuries AD).

²⁸ Bondoc, Gudea 2009, 229, nos. 681-682, Pl. CXIV, (of 8, 9 and 11 cm length).

2.2.3. Lamps (Pl. XV–XVI)

Alexandru Diaconescu

2.2.3.1. Wheel made lamp. Rather well preserved. Only nozzle is partly broken, a few parts of the rim and part of the handle are broken. H = 4 cm, rd = 4.5 cm. Discovered in C. 1063 (wrongly registered as 1043). First Roman timber phase. SF 534 (Pl. XV/1).

This lamp has the shape of a spherical ware, with flat bottom and obliquely expanded rim. The handle has a simple circular shape. On the shoulder there are two conical outgrowths, probably with purely decorative purpose. Unfortunately we cannot define the shape of the nozzle. On the bottom there is an incised circle. The fabric is coarse, and has a grey colour on both faces and black in fracture.

Such wheel made lamps inspired by coarse pottery bowls occur in periods of crisis in specialised production and in fine oil supply. Most of such cases come from the Late Roman Period, when both conditions were met, and when imported olive oil was replaced by local sheep suet. Similar dysfunctions existed at the beginnings of the Roman province. For instance in Sarmizegetusa there are wheel made lamps in the first Trajanic layers²⁹, imitating industrial lamps and not small pots, such as this one.

2.2.3.2. Lamp of Loeschcke X type (Firmalampe). Without stamp. Almost complete. Only the point of the nozzle is missing. L = 8 cm. Found in trench S IV, C. 1063. First Roman phase. SF 528 (Pl. XVI/1).

The lamp belongs to the well-known Loeschcke X type, the variant with opened channel. On the shoulder there are two buttons, placed on the sides. The inscription on the bottom is illegible but its presence can be guessed.

The fabric is spongy, light ochre-orange in colour. On the outer surface there are tiny holes, probably from the granules of stones removed while polishing. There are also traces of orange-brown slip. The nozzle is partly smoked.

2.2.3.3. Lamp of Loeschcke X type (Firmalampe). Without stamp. Complete. The surface slightly corroded and part of the glazing was wiped out. L = 7.8 cm. Found in trench S II, C. 1029 (demolishing layer of second timber phase). SF 352 (Pl. XVI/2).

Similar to the preceeding. The bottom bares no stamp and the few holes which appear here do not form a coherent pattern.

Slightly spongy fabric, light ochre-orange in colour. The brick-red slip was applied on the upper part of the lamp and flew over the shoulders. In the areas where the paint is thicker it turns reddish-brown. The nozzle is partly smoked.

2.2.3.4. Lamp of Loeschcke X type (Firmalampe), with the stamp "C. DESSI". Almost complete. Only the nozzle is partly broken. Disc is also missing and part of the channel is broken on the length. L = 8 cm. Found in the south-west room, in C. 1045 (former 1048), which is a levelling in view of the second stone phase. SF 485 (Pl. XV/2).

Similar in shape with the two previous ones. On the shoulder there are three buttons. On the bottom, surrounded by three concentric circles, there is a quite dim stamp reading "C. Dessi". Replicas after original lamps of the workshop of C. DESSIVS occur in the second half of the 2nd century and in the 3rd century. In our case the context is mid-3rd century if not later.

²⁹ Roman 2000, 99–140; Roman 2001, 129–168, 200. The article contains several confusions, but for the Trajanic lamps from Sarmizegetusa it is reliable.

2.2.4. Pottery

2.2.4.1. *Terra sigillata* (Pl. XVII)

Viorica Rusu-Bolindeț

2.2.4.1.1. Fragment from the body of a bowl Drag. 37; 5.2 × 4 cm. Found in trench S III, C. 1026. SF 248 (Pl. XVII/1).

Fine dark gray fabric (Munsell N, 4/), with limestone and silver mica inclusions; black slip of high quality on the surface (Munsell, 2.5/N).

Decoration set in medallions and panels, divided by pearly lines. In a double framed medallion there is a hippocampus (marine monster) turned right (O 48 = D 76). Beyond there are three leaves. Made at Lezoux, workshop of LIBERTVS, between AD 100-120³⁰. It comes from the demolishing layer of the 3rd timber phase.

2.2.4.1.2. Fragmentary bowl Drag. 37. Broken in two pieces, now restored; 8.5 × 5.5 cm. Found in S IV, C. 1063, levelling of first Roman phase. SF 526 (Pl. XVII/2).

Fine, hard red-brown fabric (Munsell 10R, 5/6), with limestone, silver and red-brown iron-rich grains inclusions; red slip, smooth and lustrous (Munsell 10R, 5/8).

The fragments come from the lower part, carren shaped, of a Dragendorf 37 type bowl. Decoration set in panels, delimited by pearly lines (Rogers 1976, A9). Various gods are depicted in the panels: 1. Aesculapius, fragmentarily preserved (O 905 = D 523), wearing a *himation*, descending to the middle of the shank. An end of the mantle, passed over the shoulder, is hanging free on the back; 2. Below Aesculapius, vegetal motif - composite leaf (Rogers 1976, L 11); 3. Vulcanus (O 66 = D 39) wearing a short *chiton* leaving all limbs uncovered, and fastened on the left shoulder. He is turned to our left, with the right foot on an anvil, right hand bent from elbow and leaning on the knee, while the left hand, slightly bent from elbow, rests along the body; 4. Dionysos (Liber Pater) (O 581 = D 331) nude, turned to the left, *thyrsus* in left hand, *nebris* on the right shoulder. Leaning on the right foot and left foot flexed and bent over the right. 5. Below Dionysos, emerges a fruit basket, with two combined motifs above (Rogers 1976, Q 58). 6. In the following panel, double rhomb, tilted leftwards (Rogers 1976, U 33).

The complex depiction of certain divinities in the Roman Pantheon (Aesculapius, Vulcanus, Dionysos-Liber Pater) is specific for the mid style of artisan CINNAMVS at Lezoux, that may be dated around AD 135-170³¹ or around AD 140-160³². The second Roman phase must have lasted well after this date. There are analogies, in terms of the means for the depiction of the gods preserved on the discussed fragment, however under other combinations, on several vessels discovered in Britannia and belonging to the same artisan, in the same activity period³³.

The discovery of the two Drag. 37 type bowl fragments, decorated in relief and produced at Lezoux, confirm the prevalence of imports coming from Central Gaul,

³⁰ PGC, 104-109, Pl. 55; Rogers 1999, 157-161.

³¹ PGC, 310.

³² G. B. Rogers proposed a nuanced dating for the work of CINNAMVS, the artisan from Lezoux, separating among his three decorative styles based on decorative elements, complexity of representations and decorative stamps: the early style (AD 135-145), the mid style (AD 140-160+) and a late style (AD 160-180). In addition, the author improved the general dating proposed by J. A. Stanfield and G. Simpson (PGC, 310), based on more recent archaeological finds from Britannia and the Danube provinces (Rogers 1999, 99-100). See also Rusu-Bolindeț 2007, 153-154.

³³ Aesculapius: PGC, Pl. 157/6, 8; 158/19 (where in medallion, Vulcanus appears beside goddess Venus); Vulcan: PGC, Pl. 158/21; 159/23-25; Dionysos: PGC, Pls. 157/6; 159/32 etc.

and especially, of those produced in the mentioned *terra sigillata* workshops, both at Napoca³⁴, as well as the rest of the province of Dacia³⁵.

The potter LIBERTVS is the most important among the *terra sigillata* manufacturers from Lezoux, working in the Trajanic period, being the one to exercise prevalent influence on the artisans/potters who followed. It seems he was the creator of more than a quarter of figured decorative motifs used in the pottery workshops at Lezoux. He singled out by both the variety of decoration and the pottery forms it applied on³⁶. Another peculiarity of his products is also the use of the black slip on the produced wares³⁷, which was only occasionally used by his successors, BVTRIO and PATERNVS. The decorative motif preserved on the pottery fragment found at Napoca - the marine monster - is likely to be part of a marine theme of free style³⁸ or in which the depicted characters are not necessarily related to one another or with the ensemble of the decoration on the vessel, these being other peculiarities of the decorative style of LIBERTVS³⁹. In what the vessel fragment discovered at Napoca is concerned, it is hitherto unique among the import *sigillata* identified on the site⁴⁰. It is furthermore valuable since, being produced in the Trajanic period (AD 100-120), the earliest at Lezoux, record the entrance of the *terra sigillata* wares produced in these workshops as early as the establishment of the province of Dacia⁴¹. The only specimens, extremely fragmentary, likely pertaining to the same artisan, were discovered in Oltenia, at Acidava and Romula⁴² but also in Dacia Porolissensis, in the auxiliary forts from Buciumi⁴³ and Ilişua⁴⁴.

Concerning CINNAMVS's products, of very good quality and of great variety of decoration, they are extremely distributed in the province of Dacia, especially in Oltenia⁴⁵, but also at Apulum, Porolissum, Ilişua, Orheiul Bistriţei, Gilău, Buciumi, Cristeşti, Bulci (Arad county), Micia⁴⁶. From Napoca come another two pottery fragments, made by CINNAMVS: one in a very fragmentary state⁴⁷, hence difficult to assign to any of his decorative styles, while the other, much better preserved, the potter's intradecorative stamp included, was framed still in his mid style⁴⁸.

³⁴ Rusu-Bolindeţ 2007, 153-154.

³⁵ Rusu-Bolindeţ 2007, 153.

³⁶ PGC, 108-109, Pls. 51-55.

³⁷ For detail concerning to the production technique of the black firnis wares and the types of wares such coating was applied onto see PGC, 108-109, Pl. 51/600-602.

³⁸ PGC, 106, Pl. 53/626-627.

³⁹ PGC, 106.

⁴⁰ Rusu-Bolindeţ 2007, 152-156, 168-172; Rusu-Bolindeţ 2007a.

⁴¹ Isac 1985, 41.

⁴² Popilian, Ciucă 1988, 62, 74, catalogue nos. 10-11, Fig. 1/10-11.

⁴³ Isac 1985, 101, catalogue no. 40, Pl. 4/40.

⁴⁴ Isac 1985, 101, catalogue no. 41, Pl. 5/41.

⁴⁵ Popilian, Ciucă 1988, 62; Popilian, Ciucă 1993, 30-31; Rusu-Bolindeţ 2007, 153.

⁴⁶ See Isac 1985, 42, who classified 39 samples - 120-126, catalogue nos. 162-201, Pls. 19-24; more recently see Rusu-Bolindeţ 2007, 153 and note 151.

⁴⁷ Rusu-Bolindeţ 2007, 153-154; 180, catalogue no. 101, Pl. XXIV.

⁴⁸ Rusu-Bolindeţ 2007, 162-163; 185, catalogue no. 127, Pl. XXIX - this fragment belongs to the *terra sigillata* warehouse from Napoca - see Rusu-Bolindeţ 2007, 161-168, Pls. XXIX-XXXIII.

2.2.4.2. Stamped pottery (Pl. XVIII)

Sorana Ardeleanu⁴⁹

The number of stamped fragments is rather poor, a total of 18 fragments being discovered in our excavation. All pieces are found in contexts dating in the second half of the 2nd century (C. 1011 and 1015) and in the 3rd century AD (C. 1023), even in its second half (C. 1004 and 1041-1042). Several fragments are residual, being found in late Roman - Mediaeval contexts (C. 1007, 1030, 1032, and 1042). The fragment found in C. 1015 belongs to type 3H of V. Rusu-Bolindeț⁵⁰, which was previously dated under Trajan, but in our case the context of find dates from the second half of the 2nd century AD, when the levelling of the 3rd phase (timber structures) took place. The other pieces were so far dated between Hadrian-Antoninus Pius and the end of the Roman province. Most of them belong to a kind of bowl, type 3 DR37 of V. Rusu-Bolindeț⁵¹. Seven fragments have a similar fabric, light grey with black slip, one is also grey, but has a brown slip. Other eleven fragments have a brick-reddish colour, eight have a red slip, one has a dark brown slip, and other has no slip at all. The decorative patterns, both geometric and vegetal, are common to the pottery from Napoca⁵², but there some which have no previous parallel.

2.2.4.3. Coarse pottery⁵³

2.2.5. Glass⁵⁴

2.2.6. Bone objects (Pl. XIX)

Lóránt Vass

From the 23 bone objects discovered, 53% are hair pins and further 38% sewing needles.

2.2.6.1. Hair-pins: 6 of the 11 hair-pins found during the excavations come from the same context 1041, which represents the levelling layer for the last floor of the northern corridor, one of the latest Roman features. Two further pieces come from the fitting out of the same stone building and date from the beginning of the 3rd century. Other two come from the disturbed C. 1000. All pins are handmade, mostly by the use of a scraper and of a knife, for better delimiting the head from the body or for the collar. Following types were identified:

2.2.6.1.1. Pins with globular head (Type Gudea-Bajusz II/6; Ciugudean 1.1) (Pl. XIX/1-4). The 6 pieces of this type are the simplest pins in Roman times. Similar items were found in Porolissum⁵⁵, Vețel⁵⁶, Buciumi⁵⁷, *colonia Dacica Sarmizegetusa*⁵⁸, Apulum⁵⁹. C. 1141/SF 402.1,

⁴⁹ Full text will be published later.

⁵⁰ Rusu-Bolindeț 2007, 254.

⁵¹ Rusu-Bolindeț 2007, 252.

⁵² Rusu-Bolindeț 2007, Pls. LXIX-LXXI.

⁵³ Processed by S. Ardeleanu. Full text will be published in another context.

⁵⁴ Processed by Sz. Pánczél, who will publish the material later.

⁵⁵ Gudea, Bajusz 1991, Pls. XI/1-7; XII/8-13; XIII/14-22.

⁵⁶ Cociș, Alicu 1993, Pl. IV/4, 7-8.

⁵⁷ Pop 1972, Pl. C/7-9.

⁵⁸ Alicu, Nemeș 1982, Pl. I/8.

⁵⁹ Ciugudean 1997, Pls. II-III.

L = 5.4 cm; C. 1141/SF 402.2, L = 5.5 cm; C. 1141/SF 292, L = 10.5 cm; C. 1061/SF 521, L = 7.5 cm; C. 1000/SF 311; L = 6.8 cm; C. 1000/SF 105, L = 6.9 cm.

2.2.6.1.2. Pin with double pyramid head (Type Gudea-Bajusz IV/5) (Pl. XIX/5). This type was less popular than the previous one. Analogies for the two pins in our catalogue come from the auxiliary fort at Feldioara⁶⁰, and from Porolissum⁶¹, all dated in the 2nd-3rd centuries. C. 1141/SF 409, L = 5.9 cm; C. 1041/SF 356, L = 5.7 cm.

2.2.6.1.3. Pin with double pyramid head and collar (Type Gudea-Bajusz II/6; Ciugudean 1.10) (Pl. XIX/6). Despite its popularity in Dacia⁶², in our excavation only one piece was found: C. 1041/SF 434; L = 8 cm. The type is generally dated in the 2nd century, but in our case it was found in one of the latest Roman layers, which proves that it had a longer period of existence, similar to other provinces⁶³.

2.2.6.1.4. Pin with head separated by a succession of grooves and fillets (Type Gudea-Bajusz V/5, Ciugudean I.10; Bajusz-Isac V.2) (Pl. XIX/7). These kinds of pins are similar to those of previous type, only they are provided with several collars and the shape of head is less uniform. The only pin of the kind in our catalogue, C. 1060/SF 531, L = 8 cm has good analogies in Dacia⁶⁴, and in other provinces⁶⁵.

2.2.6.1.5. Pin with pine cone head (Type Gudea-Bajusz IV/6, Ciugudean 1.6, Bajusz-Isac III). The pine cone is a well-known symbol of afterlife. It has good analogies in Dacia⁶⁶. Such pieces started to be produced at the end of the 2nd century and largely used in the 3rd century⁶⁷. Our pin was found in C. 1000/SF 164, L = 3.9 cm.

2.2.6.1.6. Unfinished pin (probably a pine cone headed one) (Pl. XIX/9). C. 1041/SF 503. L = 8.9 cm.

2.2.6.2. Sewing needles (Pl. XIX/10-16). Most of the 8 needles in our catalogue come from the timber phases. Only three of them are preserved enough to allow a typology.

2.2.6.2.1. Sewing needle with flat head. SF 293, L = 8.9 cm. The hole is 8 shaped, due to the fact that two bores were executed. Such needles are generally dated in the 2nd-3rd centuries⁶⁸. Analogies from Dacia are in Porolissum and Apulum⁶⁹.

2.2.6.2.2. Sewing needle with rounded head. C. 1036/SF 262, L = 6.9 cm. The hole is also 8 shaped. Analogies: Dacia Porolissensis, Porolissum, Apulum⁷⁰.

2.2.6.2.3. Sewing needle with triangular head and oblong, rectangular hole. C. 1024/SF 213, L = 9.4 cm. The large dimensions of the hole, made with a special borer, plead for a special use for sewing leather. Analogies: Dacia Porolissensis⁷¹.

Fragments: C. 1024/SF 213, L = 12 cm; C. unknown/SF 267, L = 13.1 cm; C. 1024/SF 213, L = 11.8 cm; C. 1023, SF 307, L = 7.2 cm; l = 0.5 cm; thick. = 0.4 cm.

2.2.6.3. Handle. C. 1023, S.F. 965, L = 9.9 cm; slightly curved handle, with an interior piercing.

2.2.6.4. „Club of Hercules” (*Herkuleskeule*) type pendant (Pl. XIX/8).

⁶⁰ Gudea 1991, Pl. XVIII/3.

⁶¹ Gudea 1989, 828.

⁶² Porolissum: Gudea, Bajusz 1991, Pl. XVIII/3; Bajusz, Isac 2001, Pl. VI/53; Dacia Porolissensis: Cociş, Alicu 1993, Pl. VII/9; Buciumi: Pop 1972, Pl. C/4.

⁶³ Bajusz, Isac 2001, 403.

⁶⁴ Porolissum: Bajusz, Isac 2001, Pl. VI/50; Dacia Porolissensis: Cociş, Alicu 1993, Pl. VIII/1-13.

⁶⁵ Britannia: Crummy 1979, 162; Germania: Obmann 1997, Pl. 24/334.

⁶⁶ Porolissum: Bajusz, Isac 2001, Pl. V/38-43; Apulum: Ciugudean 1997, Pl. X/1-3; *colonia Dacica Sarmizegetusa*: Alicu, Cociş 1988, Pl. VII/67; Dacia Porolissensis: Cociş, Alicu 1993, Pl. VII/1-12.

⁶⁷ Biró 1994, 34.

⁶⁸ Ruprechtsberger 1979, 34-34.

⁶⁹ Ciugudean 1997, Pl. XXIV/2; Vass 2006, Fig. 4/18-22.

⁷⁰ Cociş, Alicu 1993, Pl. XIV/15; Ciugudean 1997, Pl. XVI/1; Vass 2006, Fig. 4/13-17.

⁷¹ Cociş, Alicu 1993, Pl. XIV/10.

Such protective pendants were used mainly by women and children, as several funerary finds seem to indicate⁷². They were usually made of precious metals⁷³, but in moments of crisis, such the 3rd-4th centuries and in the Migration Period⁷⁴, they could be manufactured in cheaper materials⁷⁵. Bone pendants of this kind are known from Drobeta (three pieces)⁷⁶, Ampelum⁷⁷ and Micia⁷⁸. Our piece comes from the latest Roman phases. C. 1041/SF 407, L = 8.5 cm. Worked on the lathe it is carefully polished.

2.2.6.5. Unidentified object

This object comes from a disturbed layer containing also Mediaeval and Modern artefacts. It has a pierced base and a body in shape of a leaf. It might have belonged to a pipe. C. 1023/SF 268; L = 5.4 cm.

2.3. Mediaeval material (11th-12th centuries)⁷⁹ (Pl. XX)

2.4. Renaissance

2.4.1. Stove tiles

2.4.1.1. Two identical tiles with the coat of arms of Matthias Corvinus (Pl. XXII/1).

Found in C. 1030, filling of pit 1025. Each stove tile has an almost square front plate, 23.8 × 25.4 cm and 18.5 cm deep conical tubes attached on the reverse, having each one slightly splay orifice with a diameter of 20 cm. Decorated in relief. At the back there is a conical device, 9.5 cm long, in shape of a pot with circular rim (diameter 17 cm). The inside is smoked⁸⁰. The stove tiles were recently published and largely commented by PhD. A. A. Rusu (see above note 6).

In a tournament shield, serving as escutcheon, is inserted a smaller shield bearing the symbols of the Hungarian kingdom: double cross and bars. Above the shield there is coronet from which emerges, as a sort of crest, the raven with the ring in the beak, obviously the symbol of the Hunyadi family. Above it there is a crown supported with the upper two legs by two rampant lions. With a third leg they hold the coronet above the Hungarian state blazon. Due to the originality of the design we have no reason not to believe this was a local product. The perfect analogies found by PhD. A. A. Rusu in north-east Hungary, at Nyírábátor⁸¹, the residence of the voievode of Transylvania Stephen Báthory (between 1479 and 1493), link this high ranking character to our find. The stove tiles from there seem to be copies after the ones in Cluj. They must have been produced before the death of Matthias Corvinus in 1490 and dismantled shortly after.

⁷² Ciugudean 1999, 249.

⁷³ From Dacia such cases are known from: Dierna, Miercurea Sibiului, Târgu-Mureş and Potaissa (Bărbulescu 1980, 179-180, Fig. 5/1-4).

⁷⁴ Werner 1964, 176-177.

⁷⁵ Bărbulescu 1994, 179-180; Ciugudean 1999, 248.

⁷⁶ Stângă 1998, 119, Pl. LXXXIV/8-10.

⁷⁷ Ciugudean 1999, 247-251, Fig. I.

⁷⁸ Cociş, Alicu 1993, Pl. XVI/3.

⁷⁹ Processed by B. Gergely. Material will be published elsewhere.

⁸⁰ At least this was our impression immediately after the discovery. A. A. Rusu, who examined them after cleaning, considers that the tiles were not used in a stove, so that he is inclined to consider them part of the collection of a potter's workshop. Indeed, the presences of entire pots associated with these tiles plead for a workshop. In this case the "*vicus latifigulorum*", the suburb of potters, attested since 1453 (Rusu 2012, 315, note 10), must have been situated in the northeastern part of the Late Mediaeval town. On the other hand the later "lane of potters" is placed in the opposite, western part of the town.

⁸¹ Rusu 2012, 314-315 and Pl. II a-b.

2.4.1.2. Several fragments of green glazed stove tiles (Pl. XXIII/1-2). Found in pit C. 1043. High quality green glaze. Decorated with geometrical and vegetal motifs.

2.4.1.3. Stove tile with decorative pattern (Pl. XXII/2). Found in pit 1043. It cracked in the central area, probably during combustion in the pottery kiln. Since it bears traces of smoke on the backside it was probably never used in a stove. The decorated plate has a square shape, 21 × 21 cm. The face has a lot of mica spangles. The decoration is geometric and contains simplified vegetal patterns. On the back of the tile there is a 3.5 cm high frame which helped fixing it to the stove.

2.4.1.4. Fragments of stove tiles without glaze (Pl. XXIII/3-5). Found in the pit C. 1043. Decorated with vegetal motifs.

2.4.2. Coarse pottery⁸²

2.4.3. Glass⁸⁵

2.5. Modern (18th) finds⁸⁴

2.6. Bones⁸⁵

3. List of contexts

Alexandru Diaconescu

C. 1000 (trench S I) is a filling layer, between 12 and 55 cm thick (frequently around 20–30 cm). It is easy to separate from 1001, which is covered by this context. The colour is greyish-brown. It is made of silky sand, with a firm fine-grained texture. Intrusions: bricks, pieces of mortar and small stones. It is a recent layer containing glass, wire and modern bricks.

C. 1001 (trench S I and III) is a levelling layer, between 15 and 40 cm (frequently 30 cm) thick. It consists of stiff and homogenous brown sandy silk. Contains sporadic tiny pieces of chalk coal. Intrusions: pottery from the 11th to the 18th century, well sorted, with no traces of walking layers or floors. It is similar to C. 1020 and covers the 16th century pits C. 1025 and C. 1043. Probably till late in the 19th century the area was not built and used as a garden behind some house in the south of it. More recently it was a small market place.

C. 1002 (trench S I) is the filling of pit 1003 and consists of a yellowish-brown soft sandy clay. Intrusions: pottery and bones. It was not easy to define from C 1001, 1007–1008, 1010 and 1011 in which the pit was dug. In the upper part of the filling there was a big stone, covering the pit.

C. 1003 (trench S I) is a modern pit with irregular contour in the upper part where it measures 2.40 × 1.60 m. Deeper it becomes round in plan and V shaped in section, descending to -1.60 m. It is filled by 1002 and cuts 1000, 1001, 1004, 1007, 1008, 1010 and 1011, affecting partly the wall of the apse from trench S I.

⁸² Material will be published later.

⁸³ Material will be published later.

⁸⁴ Material will be published later.

⁸⁵ See separate report of Al. Gudea herein (ActaMN, 49/I, 2012).

C. 1004 (trench S I) is a stiff greyish-black sandy clay, some 5-10 cm thick. It contains small stones (50/60 %). It could be a subdivision of demolishing layer C. 1008-1009, but the stones in it are considerably smaller. The upper part of C. 1004 is a walking layer above the deposit of Roman debris, and contemporary to the floors 1005-1006, which are associated to 11th-12th century pottery. Over 1004 is placed C. 1007, which appears in several trenches (S I-III), but 1004 is only present in the one of the wall with buttresses. We cannot reject the possibility that this deposit was related to the demolishing of the wall.

C. 1005 (trench S I) is a 5 cm thick fitting up - levelling layer made of an yellowish-ochre clay, with intrusions of dark humus and chalk coal. Sporadically there are red traces of burnt clay. It covers the layers of debris C. 1008-1009, is bounded by C. 1004 and similar to C. 1006. It is a floor laid over the Roman debris. North to it there is another floor of the same kind, C. 1006. Probably a timber wall was separating the two floors. They belonged to light timber structures of the 11th-12th, centuries contemporary with C. 1004.

C. 1006 (trench S I) is a floor made of ochre-orange clay, similar with C. 1005, and belonging to a room north to C. 1005.

C. 1007 (trenches S I-IV) is a deposit above the Roman debris, representing a natural soil which grove in time. It is 15/40 cm thick (mainly 25 cm) stiff sandy-clay dark grey deposit. Intrusions: small pieces of limestone (2/5%) and sporadically a stone. It covers the debris layers C. 1008-1009 and 1057. It is cut by the mediaeval robbing trench (of the Roman wall) C. 1059 and by pits C. 1025 and 1043, belonging to the 16th century. Probably in Renaissance times here was a back garden of an important house (see the roof debris C. 1032).

C. 1008 (trenches S I-III) is a debris layer, 20-50 cm thick. Made of clayey sand, light brown in colour and containing in proportion of 20 % stones from the wall with buttresses and from the north wall of the Roman building. In the lower part there are tiles (35-50 %) broken in large pieces. Sporadically there are pieces of yellowish-white mortar. It is similar to C. 1009, is covered by 1004 and 1007 and is partly intermingled with 1010, which is also covered by it. It is adjacent to the collapsed wall C. 1057.

C. 1009 (trench S I) is a demolishing layer similar to C. 1008, only it contains more stones.

C. 1010 (trenches S I-IV) is a filling layer immediately under the debris of the Roman building (C. 1008, 1009 and 1057) which extends north of the Roman structures. It consists of a soft, dark brown soil, with intrusions of pebbles, mortar and bits of tiles. It looks like a fitting out of a yard, where from time to time broken tiles were spread to avoid the mud. This layer covers the demolition of the last timber phase and is contemporary to the stone buildings. Although it contains several layers of broken tiles it is difficult to distinguish between several adjustments on the yard. From here a T shaped brooch from the second half of the 3rd century was found (catalogue 2.2.2.3.).

C. 1011 (trenches S I-II) is a levelling layer, made of a soft, brown, clayey sand, with intrusions of unsorted pebbles. It is 20-30 cm thick. It is covered by C. 1010 and covers C. 1014. It represents the out fitting of the space outside the timber building of phase III, a sort of yard.

C. 1012 (trenches S I-III) is a firm and clean fitting out, 10 cm thick, made of ochre-yellowish sandy clay. It covers layer 1033 and is covered by the demolishing of phase 3 (C. 1026 and 1028). It must be the floor of the western row of rooms of the timber building from phase 3.

C. 1012A (trench S I) clay floor, visible only on the north profile, probably part of C. 1012.

C. 1013 (trenches S I-III) is a fitting out layer, 10 cm thick, made of stiff sandy clay, partly ochre-yellow, partly ochre-grey with small intrusions of charcoal. It is covered by C. 1033 and covers C. 1035, representing the floor of the western row of rooms of phase 2 timber buildings.

C. 1014 (trenches S I and S II), clearly visible on the south profile of S I, similar with C. 1011, which is slightly darker. Covered by C. 1011, it covers C. 1036 and 1056, and represents the out fitting of the yard north to the phase 2 timber buildings (floor C. 1013).

C. 1015 (trench S I) is a stiff layer of light greyish-brown sandy clay, containing sporadically small stones and traces of charcoal. At the bottom there is a layer of pebbles. Covered by C. 1010, it covers C. 1016 and is bound on C. 1012A. It represents the levelling of the space outside phase 3 timber buildings.

C. 1016 (trench S I) is a stiff levelling layer made of dark brown well sorted silky sand. It has intrusions of small pieces of charcoal and burnt clay. Along with C. 1056 it covers the undisturbed ground clay, being covered by 1015 and 1012. It belongs to 1st and 2nd phase.

C. 1017 (trench S I) is a kiln, circular in plan. D = 65 cm. The walls were built in yellow clay with a few stones, more frequent in the southern and eastern side. The charge whole was to the north and is partly contained by the wall of trench S I, and consequently could not be excavated. Because of the high temperatures the inside of the kiln turned red. Over the hearth there is a 2-3 cm thick layer of ashes, covered by the collapsed walls. Some 0.5 m west of the kiln we found a calcinated beam, which was limiting a layer of ashes. It must have been connected to the kiln, but was later cut by pit C. 1003. The kiln was built over the levelling layer C. 1036 and belongs to the first Roman phase. We cannot say whether the kiln had a domestic or an industrial use.

C. 1018 = abolished.

C. 1019 = abolished.

C. 1020 (trench S II) is a deposit similar to C. 1001.

C. 1021 (trench S II) is the filling of a Modern-Contemporary pit (19th-20th centuries), C. 1022, not easy to distinguish from 1020, merely by its consistency and not by colour.

C. 1022 (trench S II) is a pit, rectangular in plan, with vertical walls and horizontal bottom. It cuts 1020 and is filled by 1021. It is a recent pit, which was partly damaged by works from 1975.

C. 1023 (trench S II) is the levelling layer between the wall with buttresses (Z3) and the building to the south (wall Z5, later Z4). It is 35-40 cm thick, and made of loose clayey sand, with sporadic intrusions of charcoal, small pieces of mortar, tiny stones, and traces of burnt clay and bits of tiles. A coin from the end of the 2nd and the

beginning of the 3rd century was found here (2.2.1.6.) It is easy to separate from the debris layer. Probably is the same as C. 1010, being covered by C. 1057, 1008, 1009 and covers C. 1026, 1050, 1029, 1024.

C. 1024 (trench S III) is a levelling layer for the last timber building complex. It consists of a stiff dark greyish-brown sandy clay with quite frequent intrusions of charcoal, and sporadic pieces of mortar, and burnt clay. It is 15-20 cm thick, being covered by C. 1026, 1023 and covering 1029. At the top of this layer, towards west, there is a yellow-greenish clay floor C. 1024 A.

C. 1025 (trench S III) is a pit, rectangular in plan, with the sides 120 cm long, very well defined. The walls are slightly oblique, and the bottom is horizontal. Maximum depth -1.80 m. It cuts C. 1001, 1007, 1008, 1026, 1033, 1013, 1031, 1035. Is filled by C. 1030, 1031 and 1032, which contain materials from the first decades of the 16th century. In the lower part another pit, round in plan, emerged in the middle or the first one. Its walls were clad in timber. Possibly a well.

C. 1026 (trench S III and partly in S II, not more than 1 m east from the western edge). It is a collapsed adobe wall, burnt when demolished. One face was clad with planks the other was plastered with white lime. The core was provided with loamed wickerwork. The wall had no foundation. The layer, 8-10 cm thick, consists of brick read burnt clay and traces of rods, which were turned into charcoal. On the top there is a layer of white lime, and at the bottom a dark line from the carbonized planks. It is covered by C. 1023 and covers 1024 and 1028. It belongs to the demolishing of phase 3.

C. 1028 (trench S II) is a demolishing layer of the buildings of the last timber phase (3), which were burnt. This loose layer contains brick-read burnt clay (adobe) and sporadically small pieces of charcoal (under 1 cm) and mortar. Actually the roof, after the tiles must have been collected, was set on fire. The still standing walls were then pushed to the ground (C. 1026). This layer is covered by C. 1026 and 1010 and covers 1033 and 1012.

C. 1028A is a subdivision of C. 1028 which contains less burnt adobe.

C. 1029 (trench S II) is a demolished wall of phase 2, between 8 and 12 cm thick. It contains burnt adobe. At the bottom there is a black stripe of charcoal. The layer is partly loose, partly compact, ochre and brick-red in colour, with pieces of burnt rods. In the eastern part it is looser and ends strait at 80-90 cm from the edge of S II. Covered by C. 1024 and covers C. 1052, 1058, 1050, 1051.

C. 1030 (trench S III) is the filling of pit C. 1025. The context is ill-sorted, containing several filling layers. It is made of several strata of soil of different origins. The most frequent is a dark grey clayey sand. At the bottom there is a lens of orange and red-brick clay, followed by a stripe of rotten wood, which turned reddish-brown. The edges have the aspect of barrels (a rounded well?). The filling contains a lot of bones and coarse pottery without glaze. In the upper part there is a layer of tiles, coming from a demolished roof (C. 1032). The two glazed stove tiles with the coat of arms of Matthias Corvinus were also found in 1030 towards the bottom of the pit. Stratigraphically they cannot not be directly related to the demolished stove or kiln (C. 1031 and 1031A) which lay above. C. 1030 is covered by C. 1031A and 1031.

C. 1031 (trench S III) is the last filling of pit 1025. Its maximum depth is 35-40 cm. It is a loose, homogenous layer of burnt sandy clay, which turned dark brick-red. It must come from the demolishing of a stove, an oven or a kiln. It is covered by the levelling layer C. 1001, and covers C. 1031A.

C. 1031A (trench S III) is a filling of pit 1025, maximum depth 15 cm. It is a loose grey and pink layer of ashes and burnt clayey sand, coming from a demolished stove or a kiln. It is covered by C. 1031 and covers C. 1030 and C. 1032.

C. 1032. (trench S III) is a filling within C. 1030, maximum 15 cm thick, in the upper part of pit 1025. It consists of roof tiles, in proportion of 80-90%. The part of C. 1030 above this layer is so similar to the one below that we decided not to give it a separate number.

C. 1033 (trench S III) is the levelling layer after demolishing the second phase and the fitting out layer for the third phase. It is 10-15 cm thick and is made of firm greyish-black silky clay. It contains small pieces of charcoal and burnt clay. At the upper part there are layers of yellow clay from the subtractions' of the timber floors. It is covered by C. 1012 and covers C. 1013.

C. 1035 (trench S III) is the demolishing layer of Roman phase 1 and levelling for the next phase. It is a 10-15 cm thick firm mixture of grey, ochre and red silky clay and sandy clay. It contains burnt adobe in a proportion of 35 %. It is covered by C. 1013 and covers C. 1036.

C. 1036 (trenches S I and III) represents a levelling for the first Roman phase. It is difficult to distinguish it from C. 1035. The layer between 8 and 25 cm thick is firm and contains mixed pieces of ochre and grey clay, with sporadic intrusions of burnt clay. It is covered by C. 1035 (in trench S I also by C. 1014) and covers the natural clay.

C. 1037 (trench S II) is a pit, situated in the narrow space between Z1 and Z3, not easy to define because it was filled with the same ochre-grey clay in which it was initially dug. It contained three Late Iron Age type pots.

C. 1038 (trench S II) is a pit, rectangular in plan. H = 35-45 cm. The eastern and southern edges are beyond the limits of the excavation. The pit measured more than 2 m east-west and more than 1.5 m north-south. It was filled with pieces of ochre clay and burnt adobe. It was dug in the natural soil and belongs to the first phase. We cannot determine its use and nature.

C. 1039 (trench S III), is a layer of burnt adobe covering the natural clay. Covered by C. 1036 it belonged to the first Roman phase.

C. 1040 (trench S IV) between Z4 and Z5, it is the foundation of the last floor of the northern corridor of the stone building. It is a compact, well sorted, layer made of white mortar and pebbles. On the top there are traces of *opus signinum*. At the bottom there is a layer of rounded stones (ca. 15 m in diameter). It is cut by several modern pits and by C. 1043 and 1044, and covers C. 1041.

C. 1041 (trench S IV) between Z4 and Z5, is a levelling layer made of a loose silky sand. At the bottom there is a compact layer of greyish-brown gravel. Sporadic traces of charcoal appear. In it a bone pendant in shape of Hercules club was found. It represents a levelling for the last phase of the corridor, being covered by C. 1040. It covers the *opus signinum* floor C. 1067.

C. 1042 (trench S IV) between Z4 and Z5, is a levelling layer belonging to the second stage of the northern corridor of the Roman stone building. The coin of Caracalla (catalogue 2.2.1.7) comes from here. It is made of reddish-brown firm silky clay, with intrusions of white mortar and pebbles. It is covered by C. 1067 floor and covers C. 1064.

C. 1042A equals C. 1064.

C. 1043 (trench S IV, eastern profile) is a residual pit, circular in plan with oblique walls. Diameter of the mouth is around 3 m and the depth is 2 m. The bottom is slightly concave. This pit cuts the robbing trench of Z4 (C. 1059) and C. 1007, 1042, 1041, 1062 and 1063. It is covered by C. 1020.

C. 1043A (S IV) is the filling of pit 1043 made of loose, greyish-ochre, silky sand with intrusions of pebbles and charcoal. It contained 16th-17th centuries' glazed pottery and stove tiles.

C. 1044 (trench S V) is the filling of a modern hole made of a compact, black, silky sand, containing many rubbly stones. At the bottom there are bigger pieces of broken stones and traces of mortar, obviously coming from the Roman walls. The pit descends between 120 and 250 m and is related to the robbing trench of Z4, C. 1059. It is covered by C. 1000.

C. 1045 (trenches S IV-V) south-west room. It is the levelling after demolishing of first phase and in preparation for the second phase of the stone building. The layer is 70 cm thick, with a sub layer of 20 cm, made of mortar and plaster. The rest is made of firm, reddish-brown silky clay, with intrusions of plaster and stones. It is covered by C. 1048 and covers C. 1047.

C. 1046 (trenches S IV-V) south west and south-central room. It is the levelling layer for the first phase of the Roman building, made of a 40-60 cm thick mixed layer of greyish-sepia sandy clay, with intrusions of pebbles and charcoal. It is similar to C. 1061 and is covered by C. 1047, 1064 and 1064A.

C. 1047 (trenches S IV-V) south west room. It is the partly preserved floor of the first phase of the room. It is a compact, white, 7 cm thick layer of mortar with intrusions of small stones. It is covered by C. 1045 and covers C. 1046.

C. 1048 (trenches S IV-V) south-west room. It is the second phase *opus signinum*. It is a weekly cemented, 10 cm thick pink floor containing small pieces of brick. It is covered by C. 1049 and covers C. 1045.

C. 1049 (trenches S IV-V) are the post Roman debris in the south-west room, preserved on a surface of ca. 1 m². It is a 30 cm thick layer of a firm greyish-brown sand with rather big pieces of plaster. It was partly disturbed by a modern hole and covers C. 1048.

C. 1050 (trench S II) is a V shaped pit, circular in plan, with a diameter of 150 cm. Its depth, measured from the level it was dug is 120 cm. The bottom is concave. It cuts C. 1052, 1053, 1056, and the undisturbed clay, reaching to the parent-rock (gravel). It belongs to the transition from the 2nd to the 3rd century, together with C. 1054.

C. 1051 (S II) is the filling of pit 1050. In a first instance stones from structure 1054 were thrown in the pit (25%), then a 30 cm thick layer of grey clay of unknown origin was added (25%) and then burnt adobe from the demolition of phase two timber buildings (C. 1029) (50%), was laid on a depth of 40 cm. The filling and the pit is covered by C. 1029.

C. 1052 (trench S II) is the floor of the east-west oriented timber building from phase 2. It is a 20 cm thick layer, made of a firm dark greyish-brown sandy clay, with frequent intrusions of charcoal and sporadically pebbles. It covers C. 1053 and 1058, and is covered by C. 1029.

C. 1053 (trench S II) is the demolishing layer of timber buildings from first Roman phase. This layer contains 60% charcoal and 40% clay; sporadic intrusions of burnt clay and pebbles. It is covered by C. 1052, cut by C. 1050 and 1054, and covers C. 1056.

C. 1054 (trench S II) is a pit from the transition period between phases 2 and 3. It consists of a ring of stones set on the edges of a circular pit, only 10-15 cm deep, filled with C. 1055. The stones were held together with clay. Above the first row of stones there was at least another one, if not several. Some of these stones felt over the filling C.1055, others felt in and around the pit. We cannot identify the function and purpose of this pit.

C. 1055 (trench S II) is the filling of C. 1054, made of gravel.

C. 1056 (trench S II) is the topsoil of the first Roman phase, containing sporadically pottery sherds from the first out fitting and levelling. It is similar to C. 1036 from trench S III.

C. 1057 (trenches S II and S III) is a collapsed stone wall. It extends around 3 m north of the robbing trench of wall Z4 (C. 1059). It is poorly present in the western part of trench S III, where we suppose there was an entrance. The width of the wall was 30-40 cm. It was built of local limestone blocks, from the quarry of Baciú, held together by an abundance of mortar. Probably the Roman wall was intentionally pushed to the ground when the area was cleaned in the Advanced Middle Ages. Covered by C. 1007, it covers C. 1010-1023 and partly C. 1008-1009, which contains 12th century material. When the demolition took place the Roman walls were still standing at a considerable height.

C. 1058 (trench S II) is a burnt timber and clay wall which belongs to buildings from first Roman phase. It is contemporary with C. 1053.

C. 1059 (trenches S III-IV) is the robbing trench of wall Z4, the northern wall of the Roman building. It is 60 cm large and has a depth of 120 cm (measured from the level it was dug). The trench is filled with mortar and broken stones. On the bottom there is a layer, some 20 cm thick, of gravel (70 %). actually the diggers stopped when they reached the foundation of the wall, for which they paid no interest. Below the gravel there is a layer consisting of two rows of stones, with a depth of 20-30 cm. The trench cuts C. 1007, 1008, 1057, 1010, 1028A, 1052, 1053 and 1060. It is cut by pit C. 1043, dating from the 16th-17th centuries, and covered by C. 1001-1020. Probably the robbing of the Roman walls took place in the 14th-15th centuries, when stone was needed for the extended town (Neustadt - Újvár).

C. 1060 (trench S III) is a levelling layer south of the timber structures of phases 2 and 3, ending somewhere in the proximity of pit C. 1030. The 40 cm thick layer consists of firm greyish-brown silky clay with intrusions of charcoal and sporadic burnt adobe. It is difficult to distinguish it from 1010 and 1060A. It is cut by pit C. 1030 and trench 1059, being covered by C. 1028A, the demolishing of the third phase. It is similar to C. 1011 from S I-II and belongs to the timber structures.

C. 1060A (trench S III) is the levelling layer south of the timber building of phase 2, (floor 1013), difficult to distinguish from C. 1010 and 1060. It is made of a 40 cm thick layer of greyish-brown silky clay with frequent intrusions of charcoal and sporadic burnt clay. In the upper part it has a reddish touch. It covers the grey natural clay and 1036. It is covered and it interferes with C. 1060.

C. 1061 (trenches S IV-V) is a levelling layer for the first stone phase in the central-south room (actually a corridor). The foundations of the walls are dug into it. It is a 60-70 cm thick, stiff mixture of topsoil and ochre-grey sandy clay, with sporadic intrusions of pebbles, charcoal, and mortar. It is similar to C. 1046, 1042, covers 1065 and is covered by 1064.

C. 1062 (trench S IV) is the levelling layer for phase 3, difficult to distinguish from C. 1063 (only due to a tiny lens of gravel). It is made of a 20 cm thick, firm, dark ochre-grey (sepia), silky clay. It is cut by C. 1043 and other less obvious pits. Is covered by C. 1026, the *opus signinum* floor C. 1065, and covers C. 1063.

C. 1063 (trench S IV) is the levelling layer of the first Roman phase. At the lower part it is cleaner (this part probably represents the topsoil at the arrival of the Romans). It is a 30 cm thick layer of firm, grey-brown, silky clay, with frequent intrusions of charcoal, burnt clay and pieces of yellow clay. It contained a Samian ware fragment 2.2.4.1.2 (Pl. XVII/2), produced between AD 140-160. This layer is easy to be distinguished from the natural gravel, but very much alike C. 1062, which covers it. It is cut by C. 1043 and the foundations of the walls of the stone phase.

C. 1064 (trench S IV) northern corridor, between Z4 and Z5. It is the levelling of the first stone phase in this room, contemporary with floor 1047, from the south-west room. The 10-15 cm thick layer of yellowish-ochre sandy clay is easy to separate from other layers. It is covered by C. 1042, and covers C. 1046. Similar to C. 1064A.

C. 1064A (trench S V) is a floor of the first stone phase in the south-east room. It looks like C. 1064.

C. 1065 (S IV) is the demolishing layer of the timber building found in S IV, and consists of burnt clay and charcoal. It is 30 cm thick, loose, and has an average red-brick colour. It is covered by 1061 and covers 1062.

C. 1066 (trench S IV) It is the *opus signinum* floor of the last timber building in S IV. It is 15 cm thick and has a pink colour. The floor has a 10-15 cm thick foundation of ochre clay. The whole structure is easy to distinguish from C. 1042, which lays above it and from C. 1062 below it.

C. 1067 (trench S IV) is the *opus signinum* floor in the north corridor (between Z4 and Z5). It belongs to the second stage of this room, being covered by C. 1041, and covering C. 1042.

Bibliography

- Alicu, Cociș 1988 D. Alicu, S. Cociș, *Podoabe romane de la Ulpia Traiana*, Apulum, XXV, 1988, 225-246.
- Alicu, Nemeș 1982 D. Alicu, E. Nemeș, *Obiecte de os descoperite la Ulpia Traiana Sarmizegetusa*, ActaMN, XIX, 1982, 345-366.
- Almgren 1923 O. Almgren, Studien über nordeuropäische Fibelformen der ersten nachchristlichen Jahrhunderte mit berücksichtigung über provinzialrömischen und südrussischen Formen, Mannus Bibliothek 32, Leipzig 1923.
- Bajusz, Isac 2001 I. Bajusz, A. Isac, *Podoabele din amfiteatrul de la Porolissum*. In: C. Cosma, D. Tamba, A. Rustoiu (eds.), *Studia archaeologica et historica Nicolae Gudea dicata / Omagiu profesorului Nicolae Gudea la 60 de ani / Festschrift für Professor Nicolae Gudea gelegentlich des 60. Geburtstages*, Bibliotheca Musei Porolissensis IV, Zalău 2001, 397-430.
- Bărbulescu 1994 M. Bărbulescu, Potaissa. Studiu monografic, Turda 1994.
- Bíró 1994 M. T. Bíró, The bone objects of the Roman Collection. Catalogi Musei Nationalis Hungarici II, Budapest 1994.
- Bondoc, Gudea 2009 D. Bondoc, N. Gudea, *Castrul roman de la Răcari. Încercare de monografie*, Cluj-Napoca 2009.
- Böhme 1972 A. Böhme, *Die Fibeln der Kastelle Saalburg und Zugmantel*, SJ, XXIX, 1972, 5-112.
- Ciugudean 1997 D. Ciugudean, *Obiectele din os, corn și fildeș de la Apulum, Alba Iulia 1997*.
- Ciugudean 1999 D. Ciugudean, *O amuletă inedită de la Ampelum*, Apulum, XL, 2003, 247-251.
- Cociș 2004 S. Cociș, *Fibulele din Dacia romană / The brooches from Roman Dacia*, Cluj-Napoca 2004.
- Cociș, Alicu 1993 S. Cociș, D. Alicu, *Obiecte de os din Dacia Apulensis și Dacia Porolissensis*, ActaMP, XVII, 1993, 114-149.
- Cociș et alii 1995 S. Cociș, V. Voișian, A. Paki, M. Rotea, *Raport preliminar privind cercetările arheologice din strada Victor Deleu în Cluj-Napoca. Campaniile 1992-1994*, ActaMN, 32/I, 1995, 635-652.
- Cociș, Ciogradi, Bota 2001 S. Cociș, C. Ciongradi, E. Bota, V. Voișian, *Fibule romane de la Napoca*. In: C. Cosma, D. Tamba, A. Rustoiu (eds.), *Studia archaeologica et historica Nicolae Gudea dicata / Omagiu profesorului Nicolae Gudea la 60 de ani / Festschrift für Professor Nicolae Gudea gelegentlich des 60. Geburtstages*, Bibliotheca Musei Porolissensis IV, Zalău 2001, 431-440.
- Crummy 1979 N. Crummy, *A chronology of bone pins*, Britannia, X, 1979, 157-164.
- Diaconu 1971 Gh. Diaconu, *Über die Fibeln mit umgeschlagenem Fuß in Dazien*, Dacia N. S., XV, 1971, 239-267.
- Gudea 1989 N. Gudea, *Porolissum. Un complex daco-roman la marginea de nord a Imperiului roman*, ActaMP XIII, Zalău 1989.
- Gudea 1991 N. Gudea, *Römische Waffen aus den Kastellen von Dacia Porolissensis*, EN, I, 1991, 69-80.

- Gudea-Bajusz 1991 N. Gudea, I. Bajusz, *Ace de păr din os de la Porolissum. Câteva observații în legătură cu ace din os pentru prins părul din Dacia romană*, ActaMP, XIV-XV, 1991, 81-126.
- Horedt 1978 K. Horedt, *Die letzten Jahrzehnte der Provinz Dakien in Siebenbürgen*, Apulum, XVI, 1978, 211-237.
- Isac 1985 D. Isac, *Terra sigillata* în Dacia romană, PhD unpublished manuscript, Cluj-Napoca 1985.
- Isac, Cociș 1995 D. Isac, S. Cociș, *Fibulele din castrele romane de la Gilău și Cășeu. O analiză în context stratigrafic*, EN, V, 1995, 105-138.
- Oswald 1936-1937 F. Oswald, *Index of Figure-Types on Terra Sigillata*, London 1936-1937.
- Obmann 1997 J. Obmann, *Die römische Funde aus Bein von Nida-Hedderheim*. Schriften des Frankfurter Museums für Vor- und Frühgeschichte Archäologische Museum XIII, Bonn 1997.
- PGC J. A. Stanfield, G. Simpson, *Les potiers de la Gaule centrale, nouvelle édition française*, Revue Archéologique Sites, Hors-série n°. 37, Gonfaron 1990.
- Peškař 1972 I. Peškař, *Fibel aus der römischen Kaiserzeit in Mähren*, Praga 1972.
- Popilian, Ciucă 1993 Gh. Popilian, I. Ciucă, *Ceramica de tip terra sigillata de import descoperită la Enoșești-Acidava (jud. Olt)*, AO, 8, 1993, 29-42.
- Pop 1972 C. Pop, *Obiecte de podoabă*. In: E. Chirilă, N. Gudea, V. Lucăcel, C. Pop (eds.), *Castrul roman de la Buciumi. Contribuții la cercetarea limesului Daciei Porolissensis*, Cluj 1972, 86-93.
- Protase 2002 D. Protase, Obreja. Așezarea și cimitirul daco-roman, secolele II-IV. Dovezi ale continuității în Dacia, Cluj-Napoca 2002.
- Rogers 1999 G. B. Rogers, *Poteries sigillées de la Gaule centrale. II. Les potiers*, vol. I-II, Revue Archéologique Sites, Hors-série n°. 40, Lezoux 1999.
- Roman 2000 C. Roman, *Wheel made lamps of Roman Dacia*, ActaMN 37/I, 2000, 99-140.
- Roman 2001 C. Roman, *Opaițele din Dacia lucrate la roată*, Sargetia, XXX, 2001, 129-168.
- Ruprechtsberger 1979 G. M. Ruprechtsberger, *Die römische Bein- und Bronzenadeln aus den Museens Enns und Linz*, Linz 1979.
- Rusu 2012 A. A. Rusu, *Stove tiles with royal coat of arms of king Matthias I Corvinus*, EN, XXII, 2012, 313-326.
- Rusu-Bolindeț 2007 V. Rusu-Bolindeț, *Ceramica romană de la Napoca. Contribuții la studiul ceramicii din Dacia romană*, Bibliotheca Musei Napocensis XXV, Cluj-Napoca 2007.
- Rusu-Bolindeț 2007a V. Rusu-Bolindeț, *New data on the imported terra sigillata from Napoca*, ActaMN, 41-42/I, 2004-2005 (2007), 195-250.
- Stângă 1998 I. I. Stângă, *Viața economică la Drobeta în secolele II-VI p. Chr.*, Bibliotheca Thracologica XXVI, București 1998.

Vass 2006

L. Vass, *Unpublished Roman bone artefacts from the amphitheatre of Porolissum*. In: C. Gaiu, C. Găzdac (eds.), *Fontes Historiae. Studia in honorem Demetrii Protase*, Bistrița 2006, 641-656.

Werner 1964

J. Werner: *Herkuleskeule und Donau-Amulett*, *Jahrbuch des Römisch-Germanischen Zentralmuseums*, 11, 1964, 176-182.

Alexandru Diaconescu,

"Babeș-Bolyai University", Cluj-Napoca,

a_diaconescu@yahoo.co.uk

Doru Bogdan,

Institute of Systemic archaeology,

"1 Decembrie 1918" University, Alba Iulia

doru.bogdan@uab.ro

Cristian Găzdac,

Archaeology and History of Art Institute, Cluj-Napoca,

cgzdac2000@yahoo.co.uk

Viorica Rusu-Bolindeț,

National History Museum of Transylvania, Cluj-Napoca,

viorusu1@yahoo.com

Lóránt Vass,

"Babeș-Bolyai" University, Cluj-Napoca

v_lorant@yahoo.com

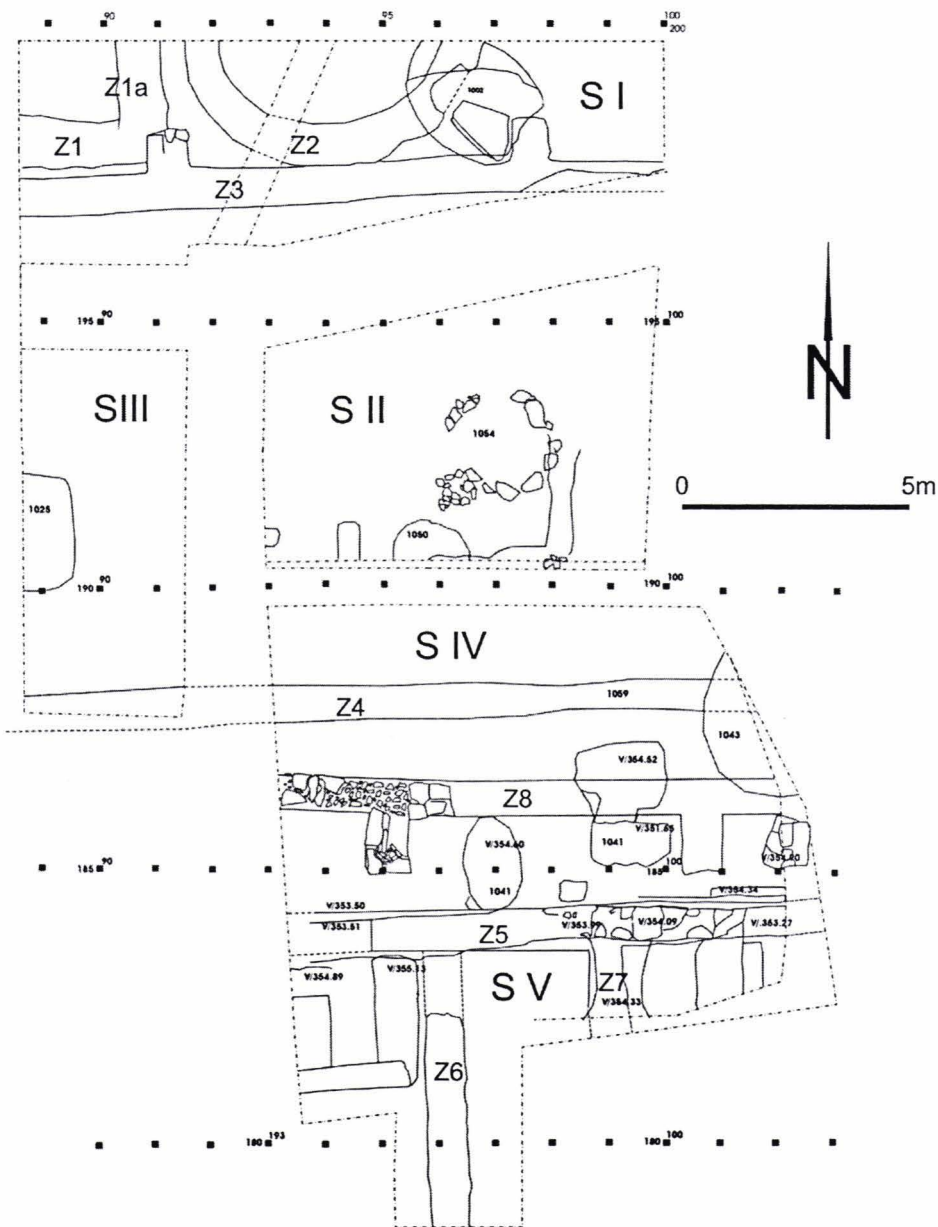
Sorana Ardeleanu,

sorana.ardeleanu@yahoo.com

Marius Ardeleanu,

ardeleanumarius@yahoo.com

County Museum of History and Archaeology Maramureș, Baia Mare



Pl. I. Central Store general plan with main features.

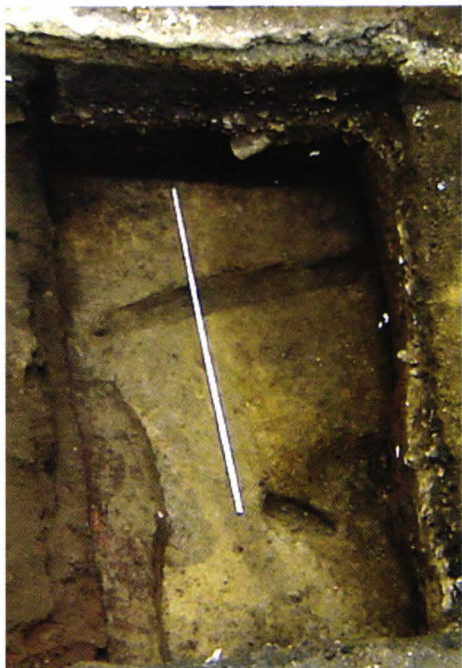


1



2

Pl. III. 1. General view of the excavation at Cenral Store; 2. Northern part of the excavation with Roman stone structures and earlier burnt layers (contexts 1058, 1035, 1053 and the upper part of 1063).



1

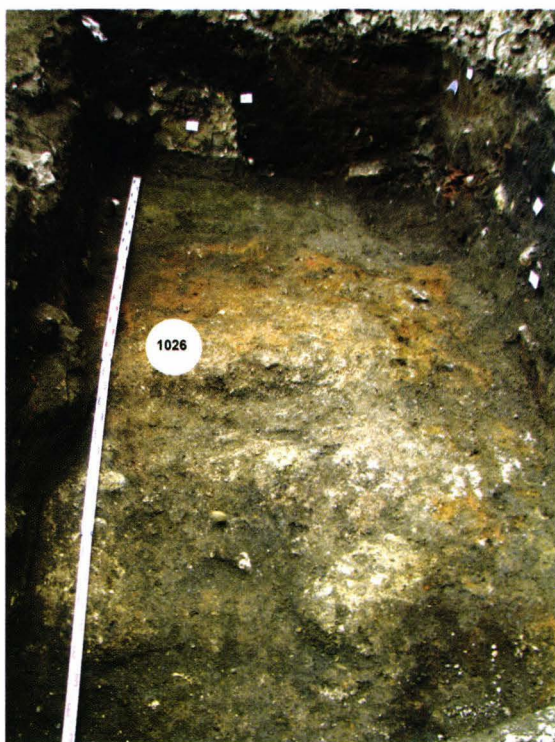


2



3

PL. IV. 1. First structures in the central area; 2. Trench S I, first Roman phase: kiln C. 1017; 3. Stone ring C. 1054, between second and third Roman phase (timber buildings).



1

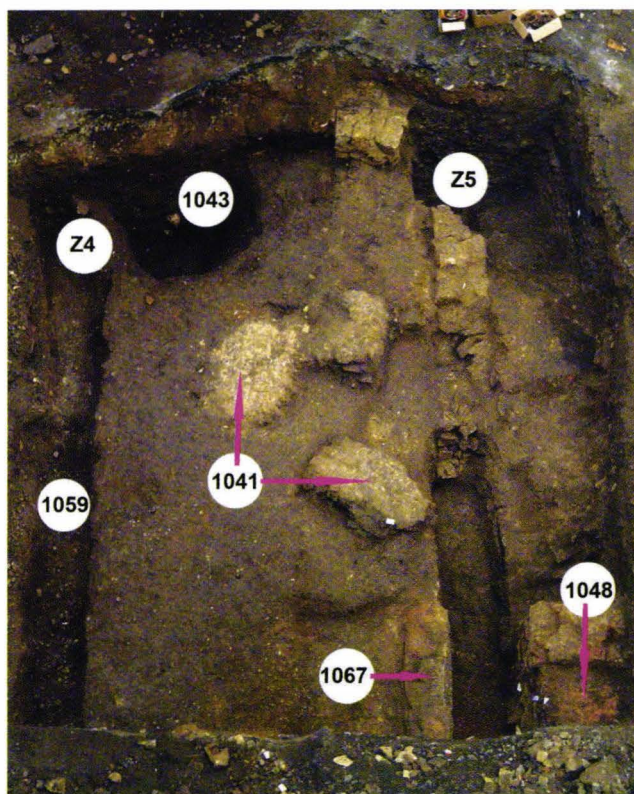


2

Pl. V. 1. Demolished timber wall C. 1026 from S III; 2. Demolished timber wall C. 1028 from S II.

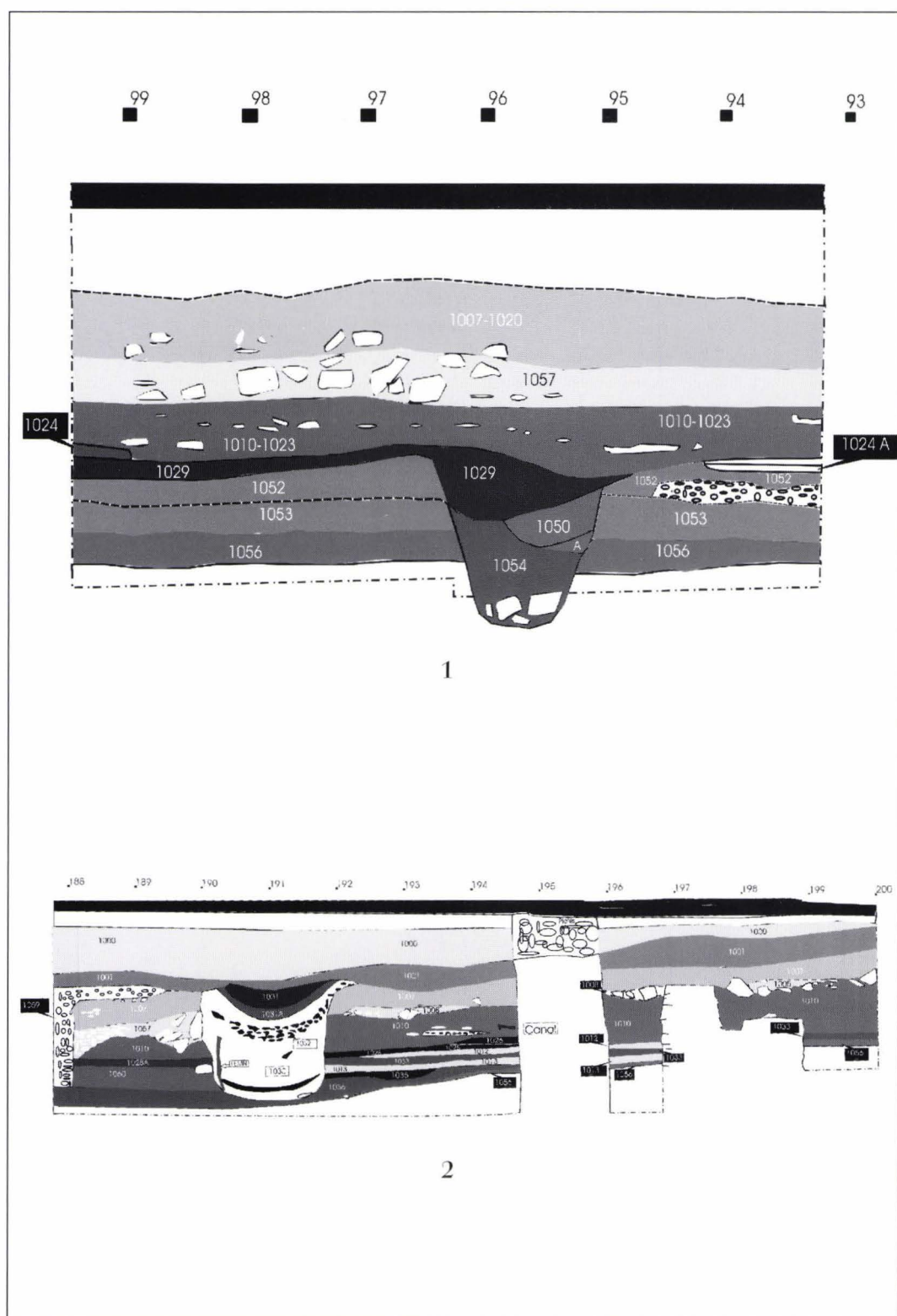


1

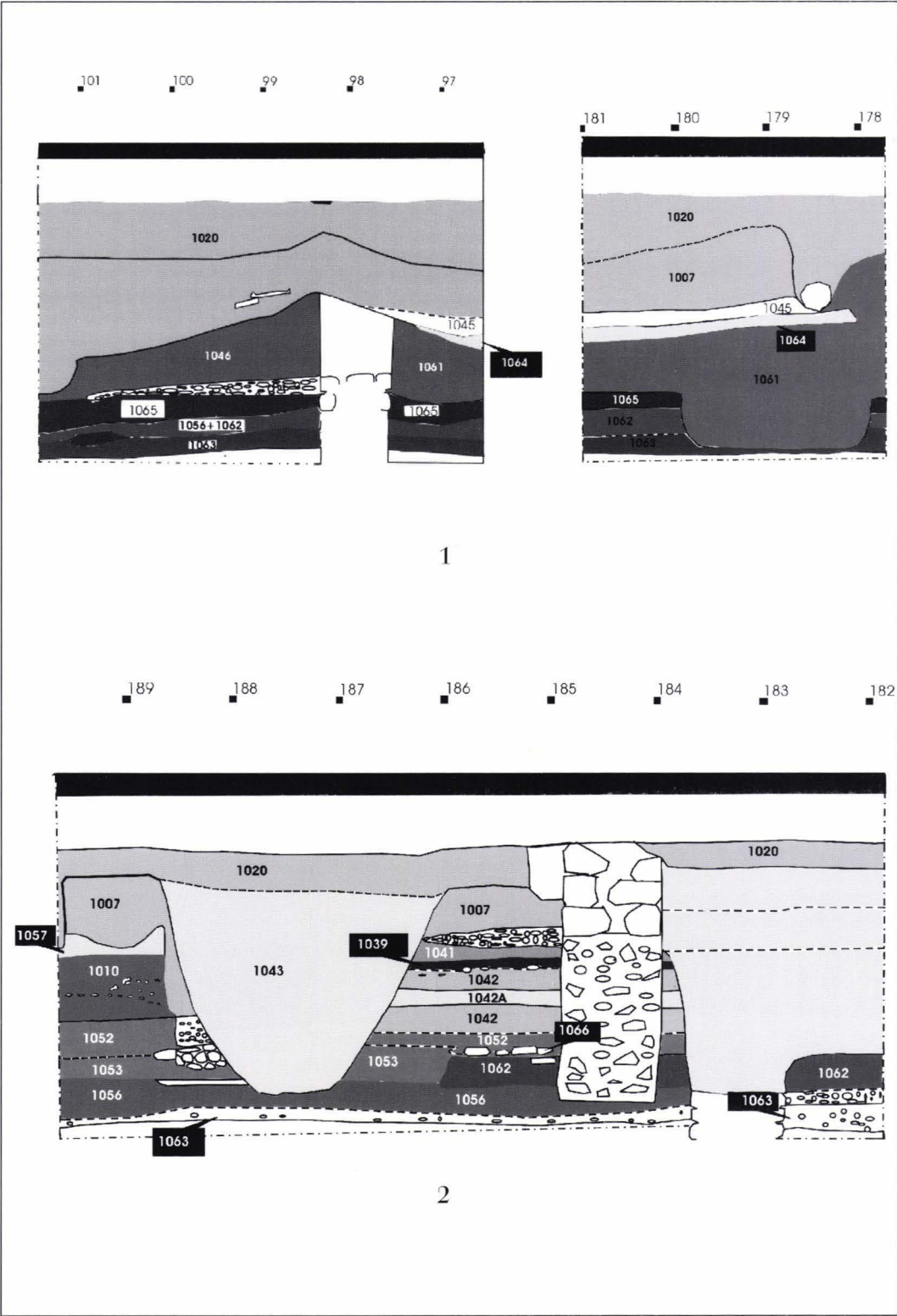


2

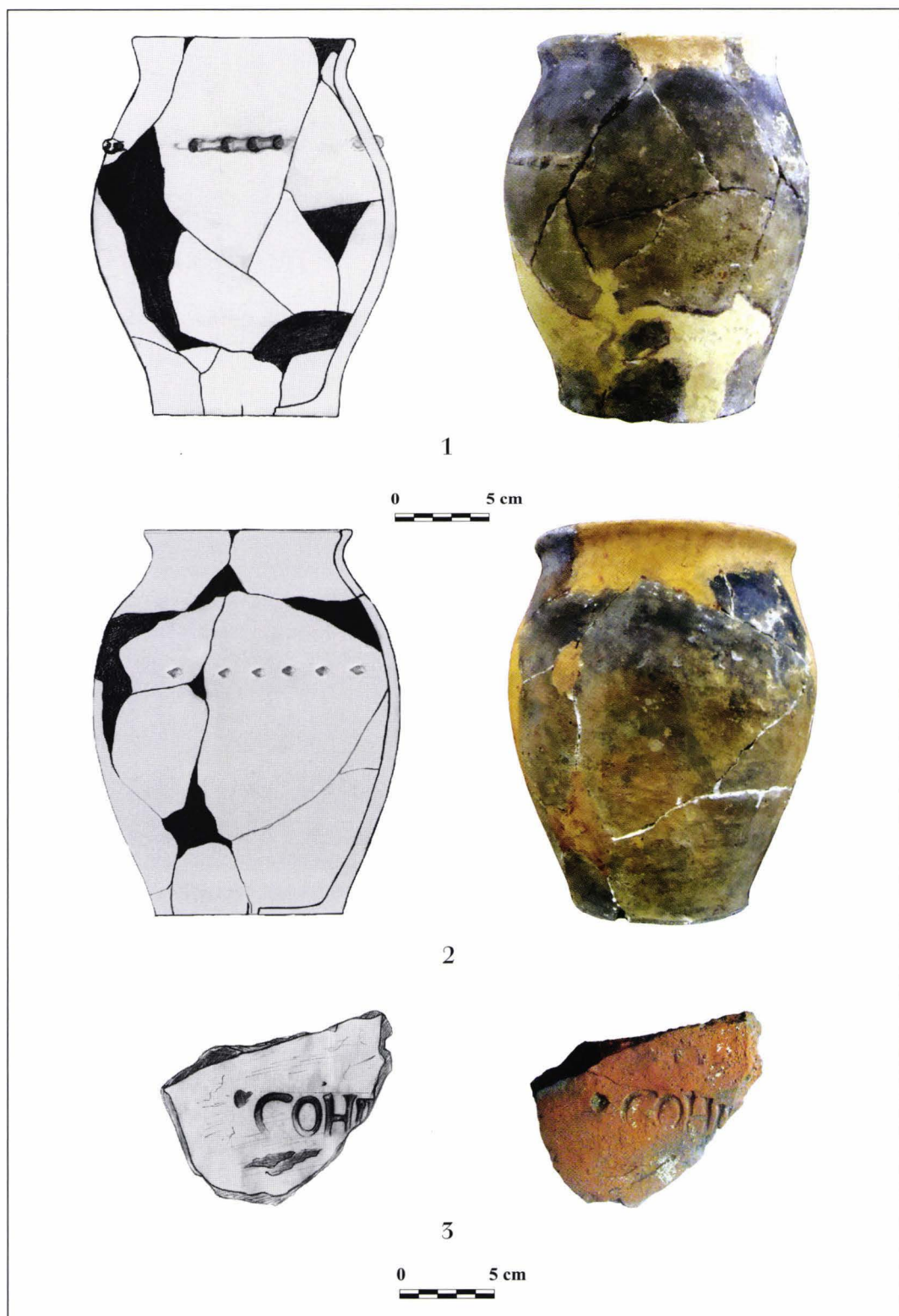
Pl. VI. 1. Traces of timber walls (indicated by arrows); **2.** Trench S IV. Southern area. The corridor of the Roman building (phase 5). Robbing trenches of the walls and fragmentary floors.



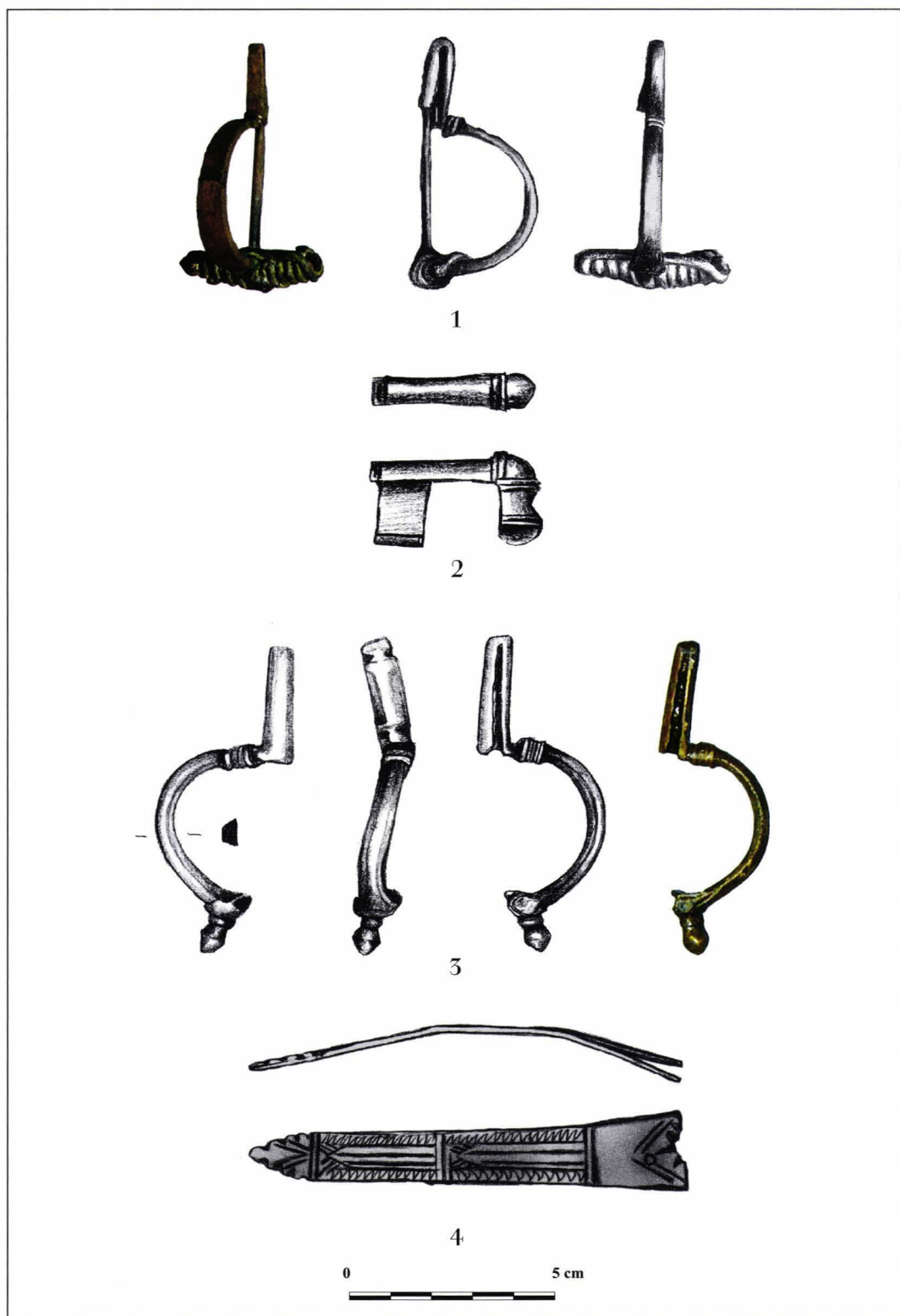
Pl. VIII. 1. Trench S II, south profile; 2. Trenches S III and S I, western profile.



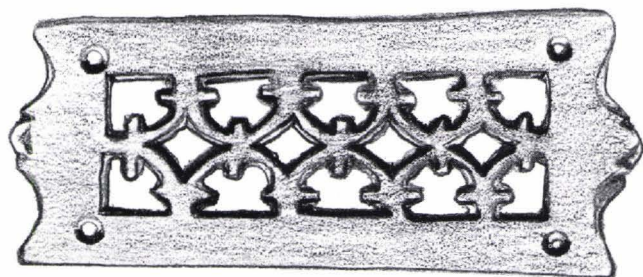
Pl. IX. 1. Trench S V, eastern profile; 2. Trench S IV, eastern profile.



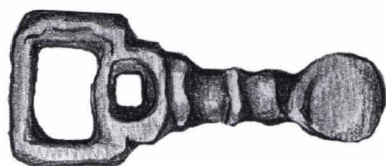
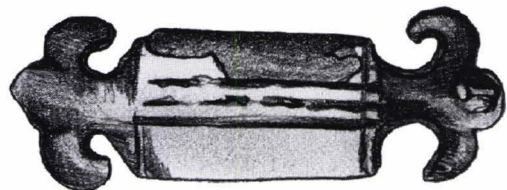
Pl. X. 1-2. Late Iron Age – Early Roman pottery (catalogue 2.1.1–2.1.2); 3. Tile with the stamp of *coh. II Hispanorum*.



PL. XI. 1-3. Brooches (catalogue 2.2.2.1–2.2.2.3); 4. Strep terminal (catalogue 2.2.2.10).



1



2

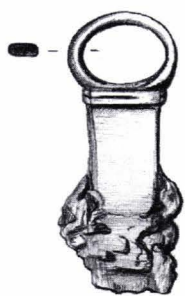
3



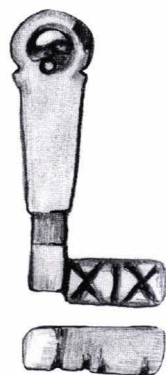
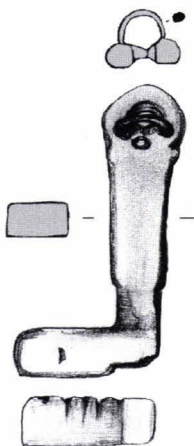
Pl. XII. 1-3. Belt fittings and fastener (catalogue 2.2.2.4–2.2.2.6).



1

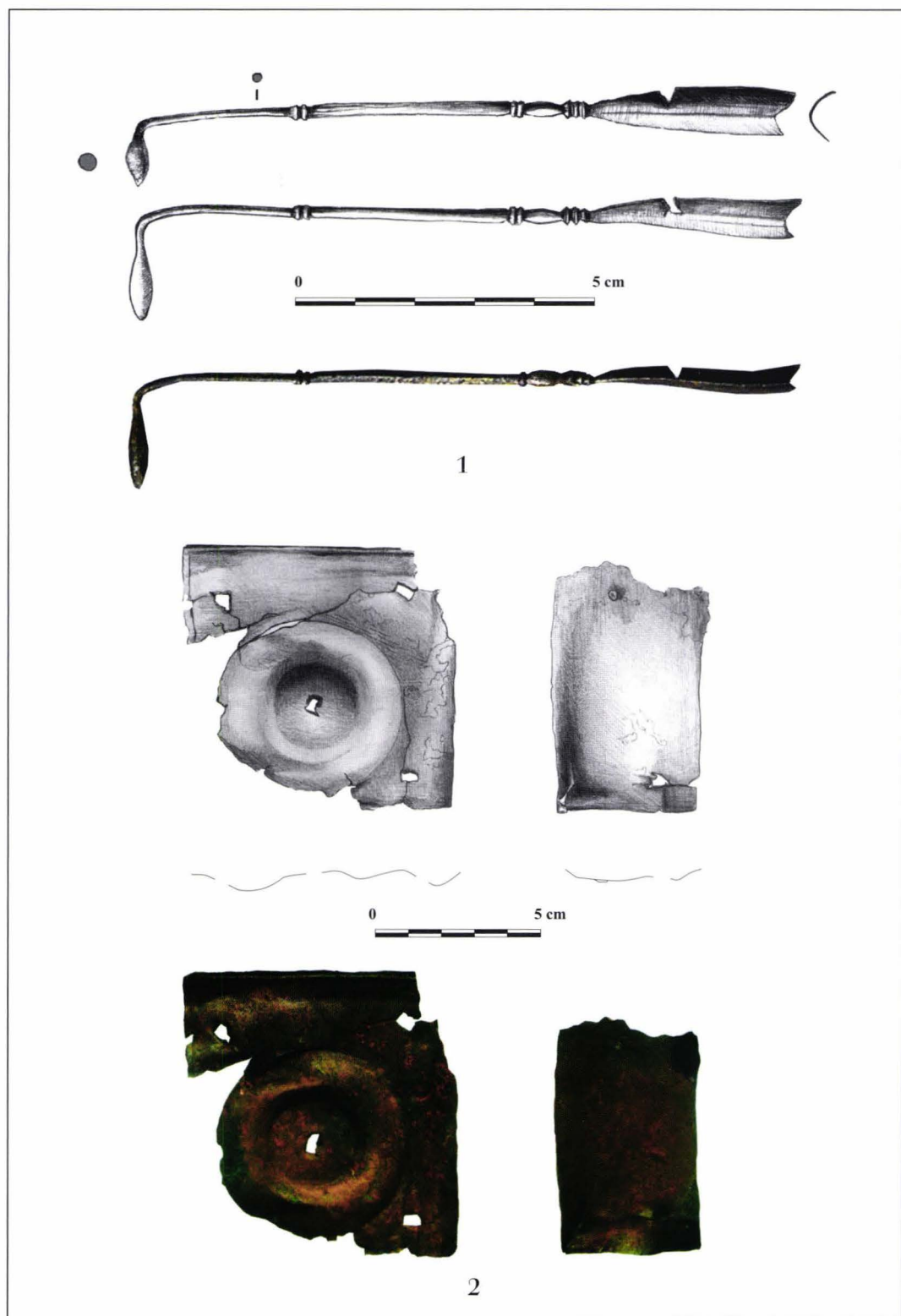


2

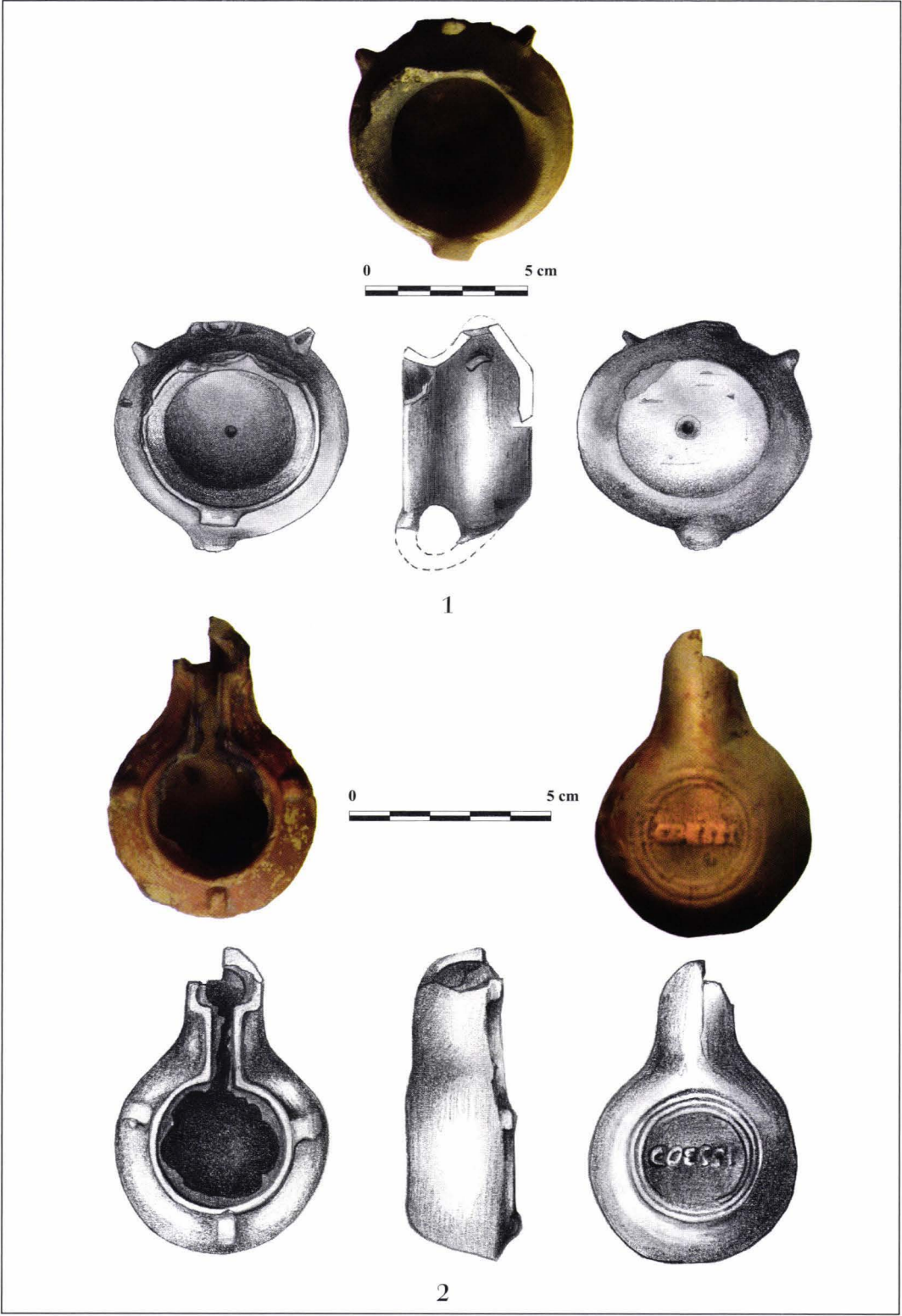


3

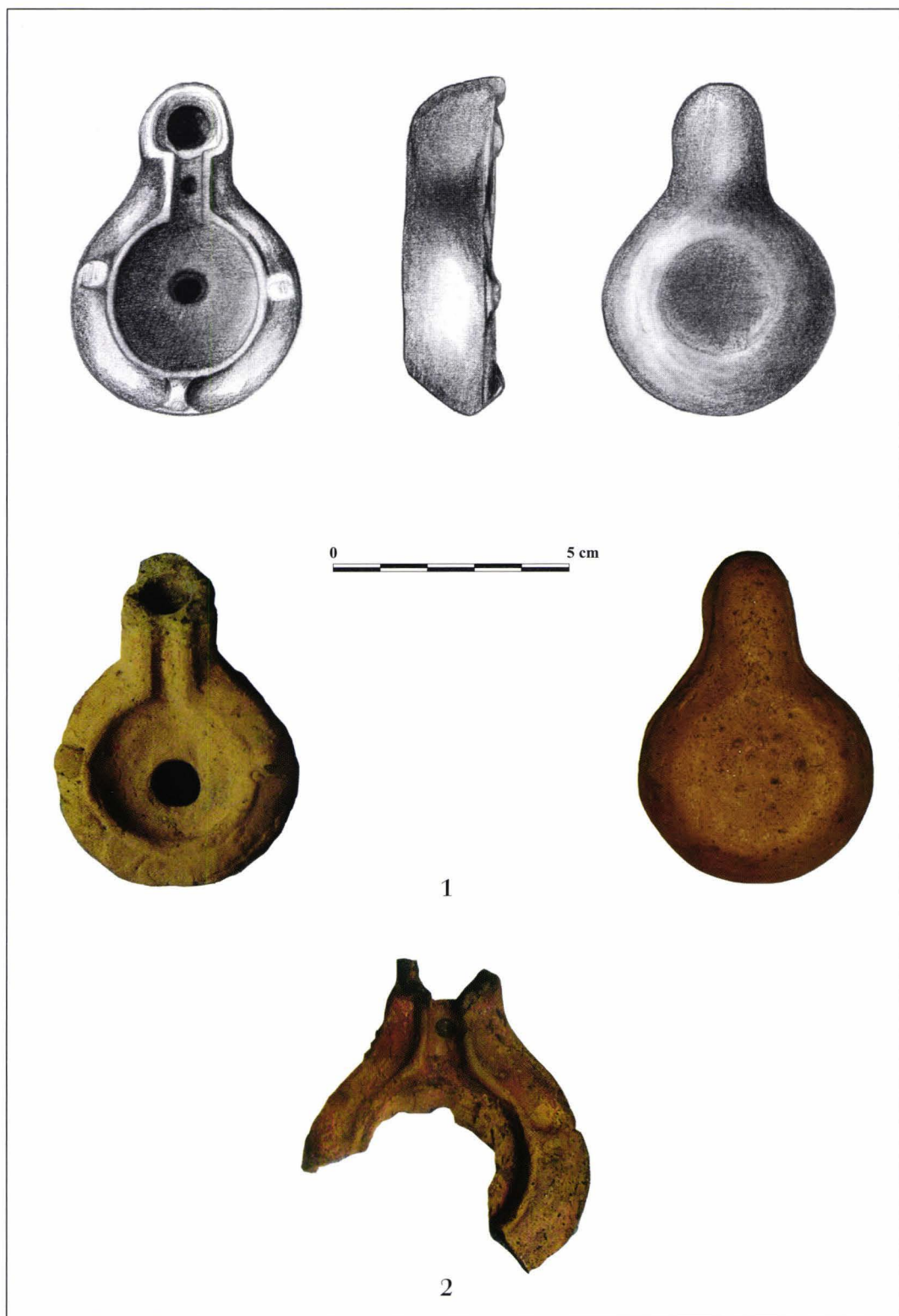
Pl. XIII. 1-3. Keys (catalogue 2.2.2.7).



Pl. XIV. 1. Medical pharmacy-cosmetic spoon (catalogue 2.2.2.8); 2. Chest fittings (catalogue 2.2.2.9).



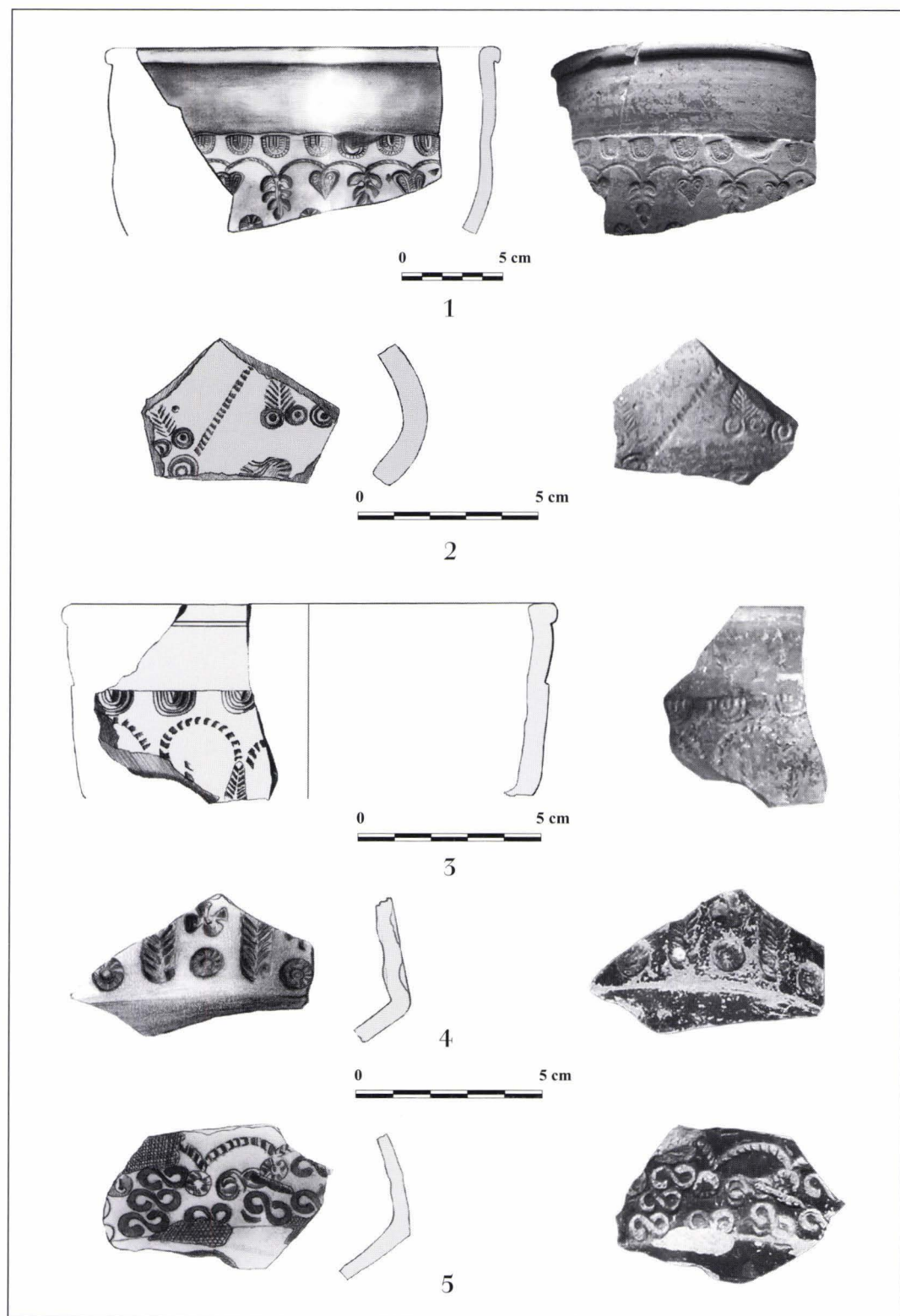
Pl. XV. 1-2. Roman lamps (catalogue 2.2.3.1, 2.2.3.4).



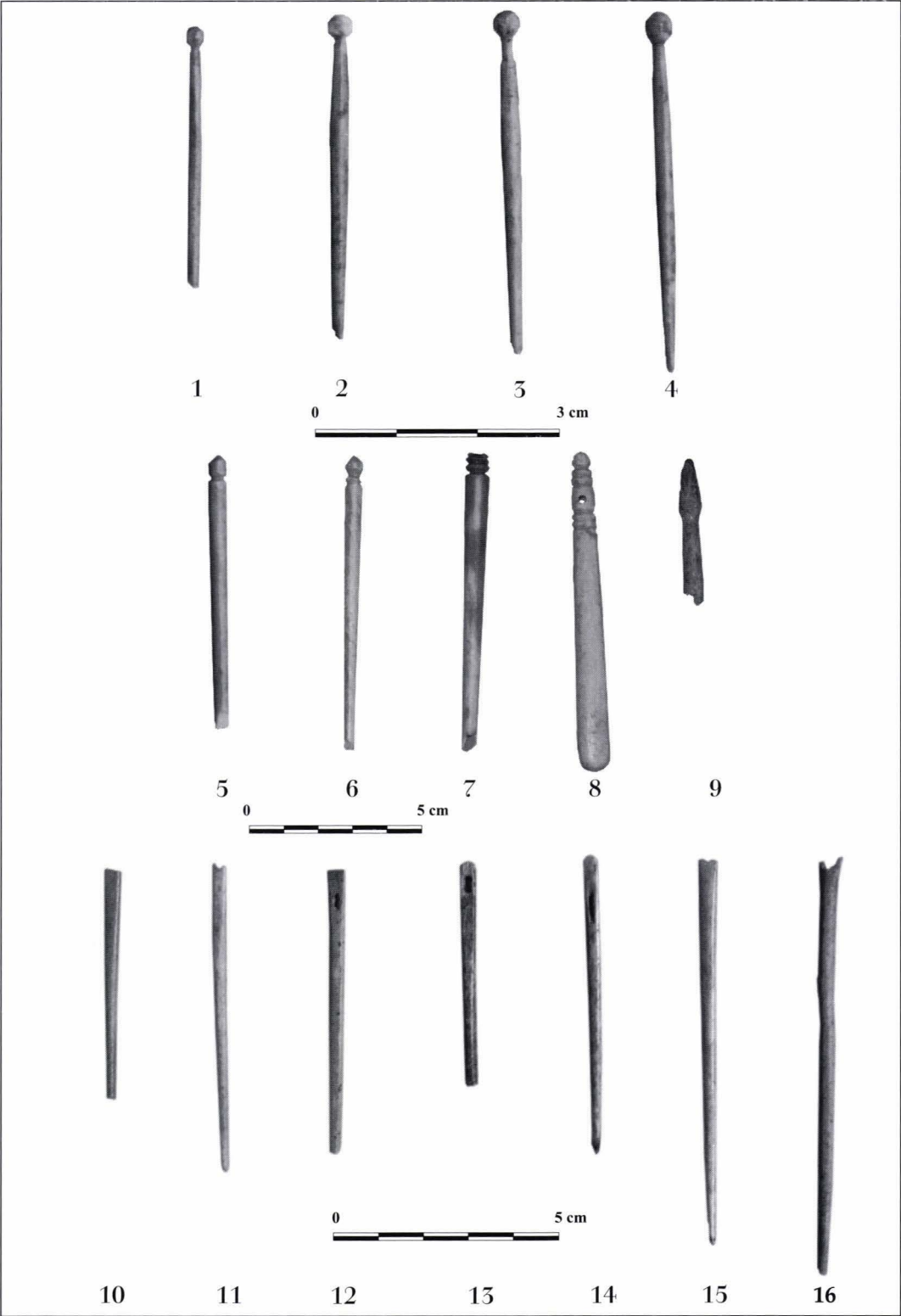
Pl. XVI. 1-2. Roman lamps (catalogue 2.2.3.2–2.2.3.3).



Pl. XVII. 1-2. Samian ware (catalogue 2.2.4.1.1-2.2.4.1.2).

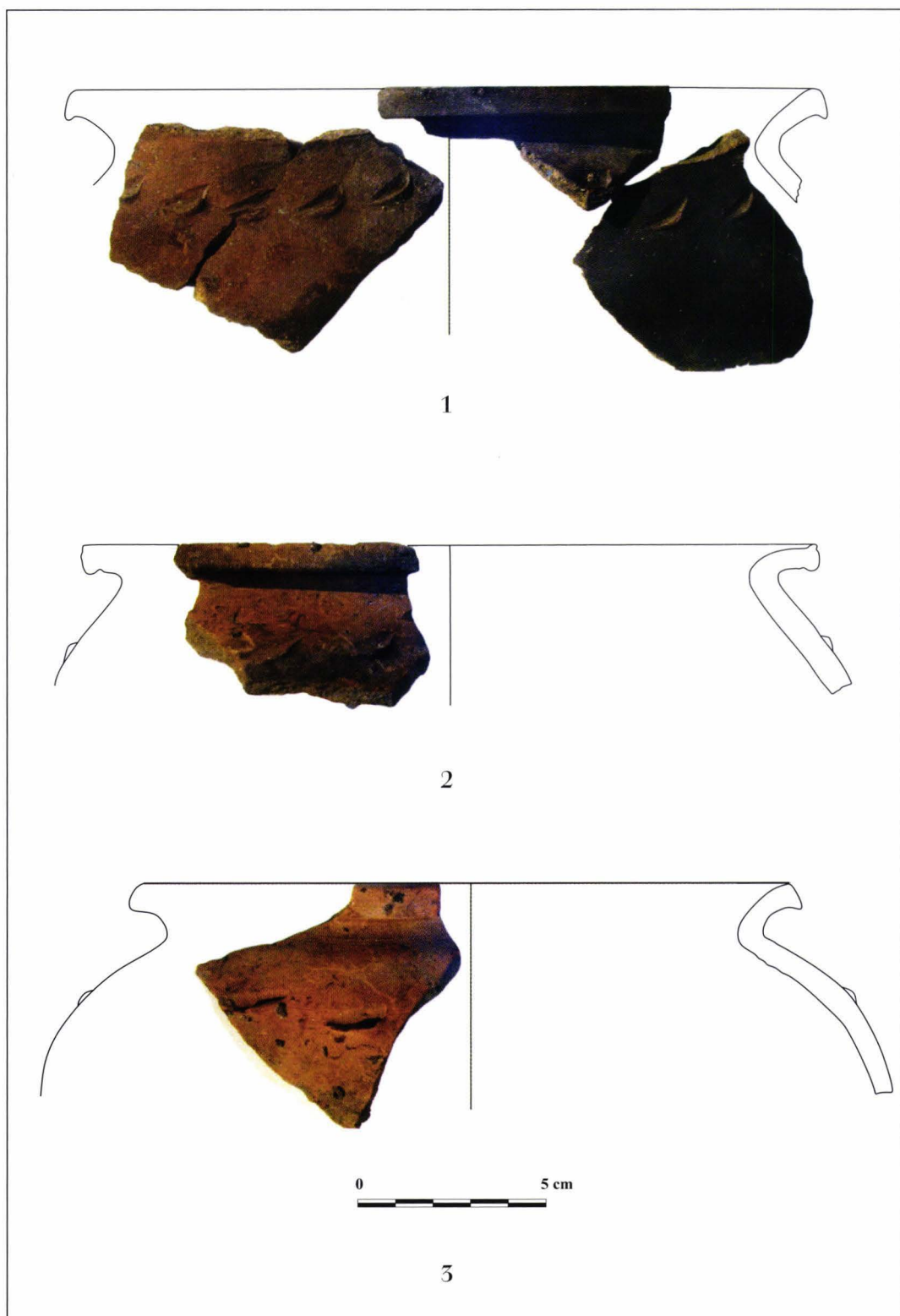


Pl. XVIII. 1-5. Stamped pottery (catalogue 2.4.2.2).



Pl. XIX. Bone objects: 1-4. Pins with globular heads (catalogue 2.2.6.1); 5. Pin with double pyramid head (catalogue 2.2.6.1.2); 6. Pin with double pyramid head and collar (catalogue 2.2.6.1.3); 7. Pin with head separated by a succession of grooves and fillets (catalogue 2.2.6.1.4); 8. Pendant in shape of Hercules club (catalogue 2.2.6.4); 9. Unfinished pin (catalogue 2.2.6.1.6); 10-16. Needles.

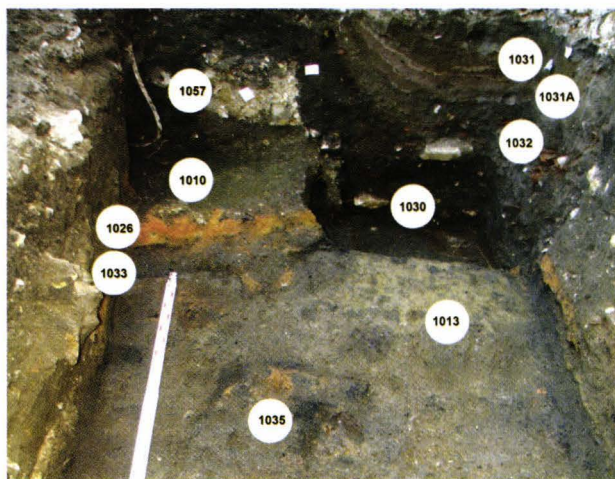
Pl. XXI. 1-3. Early 16th century pottery from C. 1030.



PL. XX. 1-3. Mediaeval pottery (11th-12th century).



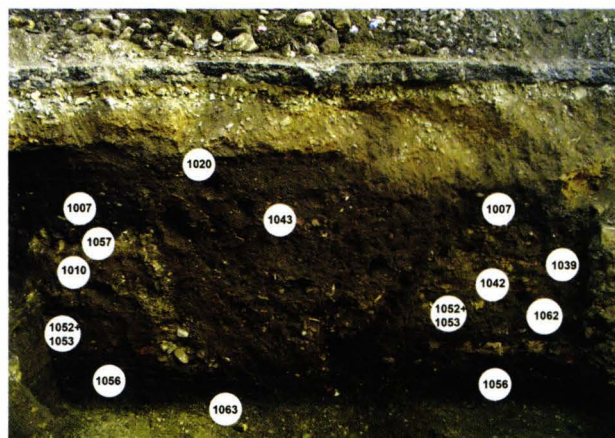
Pl. XXII. 1. Stove tile with the emblem of Mathias Rex; 2. Stove tile with stylized decoration from C. 1043.



1



2



3

Pl. XXIII. 1-2. Early 16th century pit cutting Roman layers. 3. Later 16th century pit, also cutting through Roman layers.