

RECENT ARCHAEOLOGICAL EXCAVATIONS IN THE *MESEŞ GATE* PASS (DACIA POROLISSENSIS, SĂLAJ COUNTY). THE ROMAN FRONTIER WATCHTOWER FROM *POGUIOR* HILL

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ABSTRACT: The *Meseş Gate* Pass represented a key crossing point used in different historical periods, from the Bronze Age up to the 20th century, by various populations and for different purposes. If the Prehistoric, the La Tène and the medieval communities controlled the pass by the means of strategic fortifications, the Romans integrated it in a larger and more organized system called *limes* – the frontier of the Roman Empire. During the existence of the province of Dacia (Porolissensis), the *Meseş Gate* Pass was organized as one of the main transit areas within the north-western frontier, being fortified with a linear fortification (a wall), surveyed by two watchtowers and controlled by a valley fortlet. In this article we will focus on the watchtower from *Poguior* Hill, a key element of the Roman frontier organization from the *Meseş Gate* Pass which was the subject of a recent archaeological excavation.

REZUMAT: Săpături ARHEOLOGICE RECENTE ÎN *POARTA MESEŞANĂ* (DACIA POROLISSENSIS, JUDEŢUL Sălaj COUNTY). TURNUL ROMAN DE FRONTIERĂ DE PE DEALUL *POGUIOR*

Trecătoarea *Poarta Meseşană* a reprezentat un punct strategic de trecere utilizat în diferite perioade istorice, din epoca bronzului şi până în secolul XX, de către diferite populaţii şi în diferite scopuri. Dacă comunităţile preistorice, ale epocii La Tène şi cele medievale au controlat trecătoarea prin fortificaţii strategice, romanii au integrat-o într-un sistem extins şi organizat numit *limes* – frontiera Imperiului Roman. Pe parcursul existenţei provinciei Dacia (Porolissensis) trecătoarea *Poarta Meseşană* a fost organizată ca una dintre principalele căi de tranzit din cadrul frontierei nord-vestice, fiind fortificată cu un zid, supravegheată de două turnuri de supraveghere şi controlată de o structură de tip burgus (fortlet). În acest studiu ne vom concentra pe turnul de supraveghere de pe Dealul *Poguior*, un element cheie al organizării frontierei romane din trecătoarea *Poarta Meseşană* care a fost subiectului unei cercetări arheologice recente.

KEYWORDS: Roman frontier, Dacia Porolissensis, *Poguior* Hill, watchtower, archaeological excavation.

CUVINTE CHEIE: Frontiera romană, Dacia Porolissensis, Dealul *Poguior*, turn de observaţie, săpătură arheologică.

From Prehistory up to the modern times, the transit route from the *Meseş Gate* Pass, located within the area of *Porolissum* – Moigrad (Sălaj County, Romania), represented the most efficient connection path between the northern half of Transylvania and the Upper Tisza region. At a closer look, the advantages of the investigated route are quite conspicuous. In contrast to the route that followed the course of the River Someş, much longer and way more sinuous or with the one located within the narrow, southern defile of the River Criş, the route thorough the *Meseş Gate* Pass was more accessible. The route falls between the confluence of Agrij Valley with the River Someş and the vicinity of Zalău having a rather low altitude pattern with an extremely narrow area called *La Strâmtură*, a placed heavily controlled by the Romans (Fig. 1). Starting with the Prehistory and up to the 20th century, the *Meseş Gate* Pass, flanked by two dominant steep hills and several others strategic points was in a continuous process of control due to its highly strategic importance.

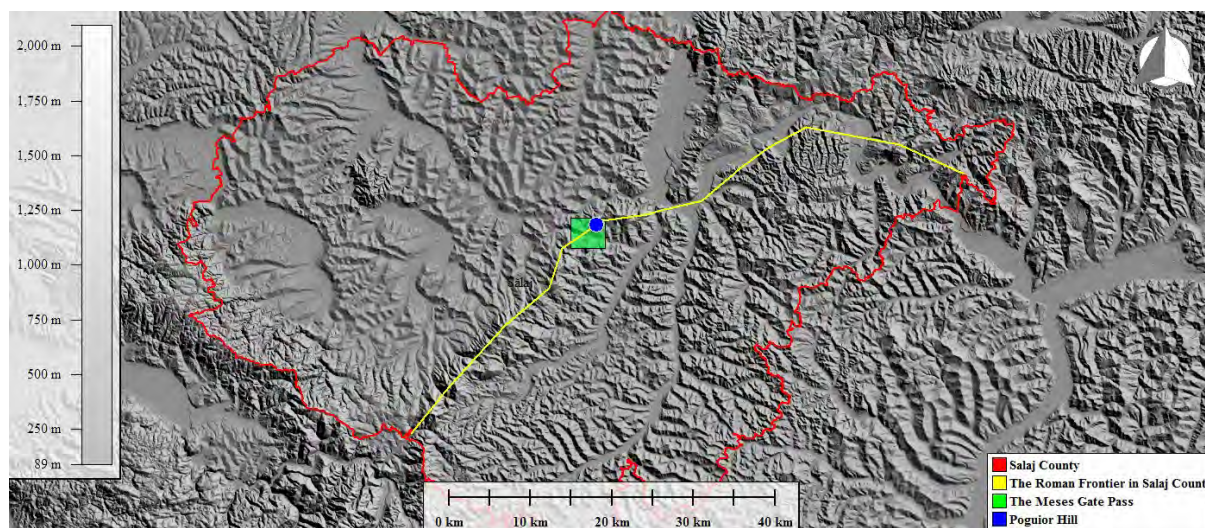


Figure 1. The Meseș Gate Pass and Poguior Hill in their landscape settings.

Historical background of the *Meseș Gate Pass*

In order to understand the variation of the strategy patterns applied within the *Meseș Gate Pass* over the centuries, one must analyze the dynamics of the regional control from Prehistory up to the 20th century AD. Thus, the first evidence of the human presence within the area of the Pass are coming from a nearby dominant hill called *Măgura Moigradului* on which traces of Neolithic and Eneolithic human habitation were found,¹ attesting most probably a first direct control of the strategic route mentioned above.

The presence of the Bronze Age settlers is attested also within the frame of this hill, the discoveries being assigned especially to the Wietenberg culture, phase II (the 1st third of the 2nd millennium BC).² Beside this, some isolated bronze deposits in the area of the *Meseș Gate Pass* are indicating a direct use of this micro-landscape in the Bronze Age period.

The finds from the Iron Age, however, are much more articulated, denoting a control pattern of the main routes and the secondary access valleys, connected with the Pass. We have to mention here the fortification from *Cămnin Hill*, dated initially in the early Middle Ages,³ the recent archaeological investigations correcting this interpretation error and placing the fortification in the first Iron Age, especially within the Gava culture, phase II (9th-8th centuries BC).⁴ Based on some recent observations, it seems that the purpose of this fortification is to control two secondary valleys which bypass the main route of the gorge. Starting with the end of the 19th century there are identified several First Iron Age Bronze hoards within the area of the Pass and a few discoveries assigned to the so-called Scythian culture.⁵

A more articulated control pattern of the studied microzone is observed starting with the La Tène period, mainly during the classic Dacian period. We mention here the fortified settlement from *Măgura Moigradului* whose habitation core and steep slopes of the hill were fortified on the eve of the military contacts with the Romans.⁶ Also, several coin hoards dating in the 1st c. BC-2nd c. AD were discovered within the frame of *Măgura Moigradului* and *La Strâmtură* areas;⁷ also, several other silver coins dated even earlier were discovered in the mentioned sites.⁸

A second Dacian fortification is located in the area of *Poguior Hill*.⁹ Even if its chronology was more speculated than clearly established,¹⁰ the recent archaeological research carried out on the external, western precinct of the

¹ Bejinariu 1994, 25-36.

² Hampel 1886, pl. LXXII/ 4.

³ Rusu 1974, 266-267; Cosma 2002, 489.

⁴ Bejinariu 2018, 101, fig. 5.

⁵ Hampel 1892, 93; Roska 1942, 184-185, nr. 252; Petrescu-Dîmbovița 1977, 149; Petrescu-Dîmbovița 1978, 153, 157; Bejinariu 2008, 33, 62-63, 65-67, 69; Bejinariu 2018, 102-104; Bejinariu 2018a, 45-49.

⁶ Pop 2006, 29.

⁷ Pop 2008, 51-54, fig. 41-44.

⁸ Pop 2008, 21-22.

⁹ Torma 1880, 76-79; Finály 1904, 9-15; Ferenczi 1941, 209-210; Matei 1979, 13-14; Gudea 1983, 304; Gudea 1985, 178; Gudea 1997, 76-77; Bejinariu 2005, 64; Pop 2005, 11; Pop 2008, 131.

¹⁰ Pop 2008, 131.

defensive elements attested for the first time the Dacian origins of these earthworks.¹¹ Most probably we deal with a military fortification located in this strategic point with the purpose to control the main route toward *Măgura Moigradului*. Several Early Bronze Age (Coţofeni culture) potsherds were found during different archaeological excavations in the area.¹² On the western hill top road located west of *Poguior* Hill was recently identified a tumular necropolis composed of at least 13 *tumuli* of a yet unknown chronological period. The research of this funeral assembly is a desideratum, currently two of the component *tumuli* being subjected to a geophysical survey.

In the Roman period, the *Meseş Gate* pass was tactically integrated within the frame of the Roman frontier system from the north-western area of Dacia Porolissensis, being used as a main, heavily fortified acces point into the province due to its particular geographic characteristics.¹³ The *Meseş Gate* traffic control system is composed of a fortlet (called *burgus*-type structure in the Romanian literature¹⁴) of 55 x 50 m located in the narrowest point called *La Strâmtură*,¹⁵ this structure being the main phisical element of the frontier organization on this particular line.

The other two physical elements are located on two opposite hills. One of them is located on *Măgurice* Hill¹⁶ and the second one on *Poguior* Hill, the subject of our research. In order to have an extra security element where the *pax Romana* needed it more,¹⁷ a linear fortification was erected in the form of a 3.5 km continuous wall,¹⁸ blocking and controlling the main valley pass and other secondary access routes.¹⁹

After the Roman withdrawal a *hiatus* in the pattern of control is observed. Only in the Middle Ages the *Meseş Gate* Pass regained its strategic role after the Hungarian conquest of Transylvania. The earth and timber fortification from Ortelec – *Cetate*, dated in the 11th c. AD 20 follows the same model of territorial control, being located on the western end of the pass. It is worth mentioning that this narrow road through the pass was used as a *Salt Road* in the Middle Ages.²¹

Finally, the most recent traces of valley control in the specified area are also identified on the surface of *Poguior* Hill, in the form of a World War II trench and anti-aircraft gun carriage that basically destroyed a considerable part of the Dacian fortification, using its earthworks in a deffensive purpose.

Now we are able to see how the control pattern of the *Meseş Gate* Pass changed and evolved over the course of millennia and different historical periods in order to respond at various local strategies (Fig. 2). In this study we will focus only on the usage of the Pass in the Roman times, the central topic being the frontier watchtower from *Poguior* Hill which was the subject of a recent archaeological excavation carried out in order to achieve as much data as possible, due to the fact that the stone structure is 80% destroyed by older excavations and natural factors. We mention here that up to this excavation there was no archaeological profile to show the inner and outer stratigraphy of the tower neither a ground plan to see its internal features or its defensive elements.

Archaeological accounts on *Poguior* Hill²²

The first written accounts on the archaeological features from *Poguior* Hill are dating back to the 19th century. The first scholar who saw the fortification elements was K. Torma, back in the 2nd half of the 19th century. He described an earth and timber fortification with the dimensions of 59 x 31.4 m considered to be a *propugnaculum* or a *castellum* with a direct surveillance purpose of the frontier.²³ Even then, the surface of the fortification was affected

¹¹ The archaeological investigations carried out in 2019 on the external earth and timber fortification will be valorized in a separate study.

¹² Bejinariu 2005, 64.

¹³ See especially the interpretations from Cociş 2016, *passim*; Cociş 2018, 38-39.

¹⁴ For a detailed discussion see mainly Ferenczi 1968, 75-86 and Ferenczi 1971, 599-625; Cociş 2017, 43-51; See also Ţentea, Matei-Popescu 2015, 109-130.

¹⁵ Marţian 1921, 6-8, 10; Matei 1979, 129; Gudea 1985, 177-178; Gudea 1989, 102-103; Gudea 1997, 74-75; Pop, Csók 2010, 250-251; Cociş 2018, 38-39.

¹⁶ Ferenczi 1941, 208; Radnóti 1945, 146; Gudea 1985, 176; Gudea 1997, 72-73; Pop, Cociş 2018, 65-68.

¹⁷ Symonds 2018, 3.

¹⁸ Torma 1880, 72; Finály 1904, 15; Marţian 1921, 10; Radnóti 1945, 146; Rusu 1974, 270-271; Matei, Lako 1976, 129; Gudea 1989, 105-106; Matei 1996, 63-73; Gudea 1997, 73-78; Matei 2007, 250-269; Opreanu, Lăzărescu 2016, 109-111; Cociş 2016, *passim*.

¹⁹ See the larger context in Cociş 2016, 41-75.

²⁰ Ardevan 1977, 133-134; Matei 1979, 482-483; Matei, Lako 1979, 129; Iambor 1983, 501, 503; Cosma 1996, 275; Cosma 2000, 472-475; Băcuet-Crişan 2000, 526; Stanciu 2001, 483, 488; Cosma 2002, 210-212; Cosma, Rustoiu 2002; Băcuet-Crişan 2006, 835-836; Ţiplic 2006, 254-265; Luca, Gudea 2010, 81; Băcuet-Crişan 2015, 74-75.

²¹ Măluţan 1984, 252.

²² We wish to thank our colleague Ágota Ábrán, Phd. for the translation of the Hungarian accounts on *Poguior* Hill.

²³ Torma 1880, 78-79.

by treasure hunters, a habit perpetuated even today by the modern *metal detectorists* whose interest in *Poguior Hill* is visible in the traces left by their illegal excavations.

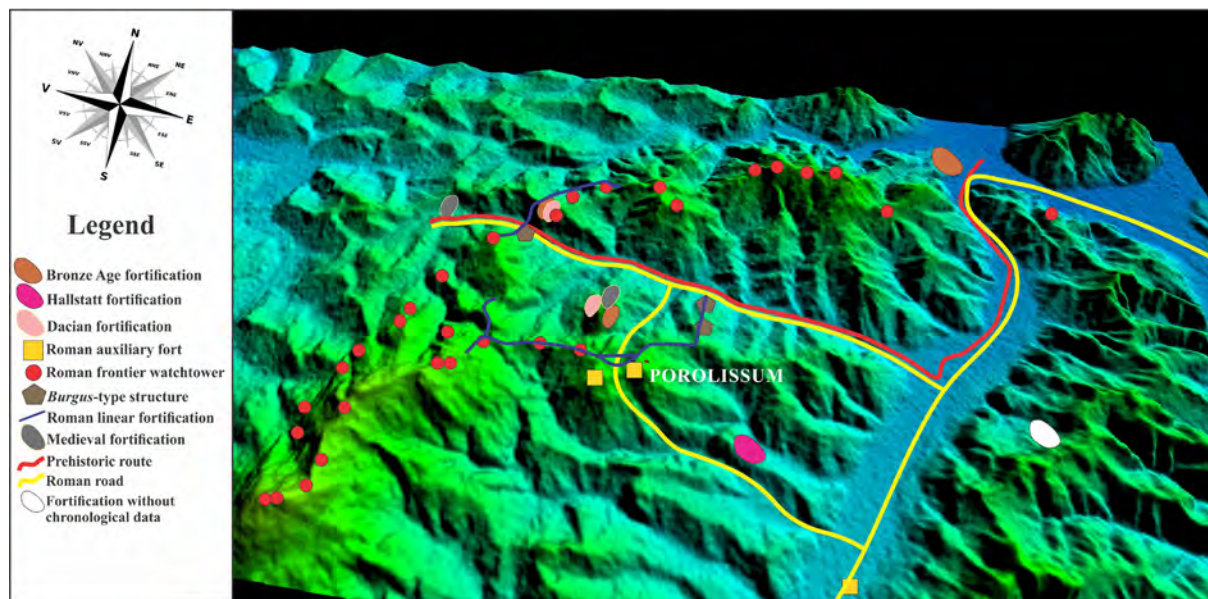


Figure 2. The chronological span of the Meseş Gate Pass. Patterns of territorial control.

In Torma's description, the earthwork had a height of 1.4 m with a defensive ditch of 4 m wide and a depth of -2 m.²⁴ An interesting fact is that Torma saw a stone structure in the middle of this fortification (not on the western extremity where is actually located the stone watchtower), having a diameter of 4.8 m and a preserved height of 4.5 m, considered by him a sort of *limes* watchtower.²⁵ Torma excavated in 1878 somewhere on *Poguior Hill* (most probably in the area of the mentioned structure), finding potsherds and fragments of *tegulae*. If in this account he does not refer to another structure located in the middle of the earth fortification, a place destroyed completely by the WW2 features, then it could be the first visual description of the Roman watchtower from *Poguior Hill*, with some errors on location and general measurements. The assertion that the structure was made of local sandstones combined with chalk²⁶ could indicate a structure built in the *opus incertum* technique, thus similar with the watchtower excavated by us.

Engaged in a mission of re-identification the physical elements of the north-western frontier of Dacia Porolissensis,²⁷ Finály Gábor was the next Hungarian scholar who saw, described and excavated the ruins from *Poguior*. Adopting a quite mechanical interpretation of the Dacian frontier based on the operating principles of the linear *limes Germaniae Superioris et Raetiae* mechanism²⁸ and criticizing Torma's descriptions, he completely denied the Roman origins of the archaeological features from *Poguior Hill*.²⁹

By surveying the structures and creating the first ground plan of the archaeological features, Finály has rectified the measurements of Torma. Thus, based on his statements, the length of the fortification is not 59 m but 90 m the width being 55 m.³⁰ As we observe from his description, the point of interest was the stone mound (probably the same as the one described by Torma). By the means of two archaeological trenches (S1/1903 of 51.7 x 1 m and S2/1903, unspecified data), he uncovered a part of the mound, reaching the conclusion that the structure is a circular wall with a diameter of 10 m with a thickness of 1.4-1.5 m and a preserved height of 80 cm. The structure was built using sandstones in the *opus incertum* technique with the foundation made of dry stones.³¹ Despite the fact that he found several potsherd and a silver ring,³² he ignored these direct evidences considering that

²⁴ Torma 1880, 78.

²⁵ See Torma 1880, 76-79.

²⁶ Torma 1880, 77-78.

²⁷ See the detailed discussion in Cociş 2016, 42-46.

²⁸ Cociş 2016, 43.

²⁹ Finály 1904, 14.

³⁰ Finály 1904, 11.

³¹ Finály 1904, 14. See also Finály 1904, 13, fig. 3.

³² Finály 1904, 14, fig. 4. In Gudea 1985, 178 and Gudea 1997, 77 the silver artifact is considered to be a bracelet, due to an

Due to the fact that all of these excavations overlapped the circular stone structure of the watchtower, the archaeological trench carried out in 2019 (S2/2019 of 5 x 1.5 m) was placed on the only surface unaffected by excavations or stone removal. Together with this archaeological demarche, we applied a series of documentation techniques in order to: create a brand new topographic plan of the site, to geo-reference our excavations and the older ones from the rest of the surface, to have an aerial image of the site.

Recent archaeological excavations at Poguior Hill. The stratigraphic sequence

The particular aim of this excavation was to establish as much as it is possible the inner, the outer stratigraphy and the planimetry of a frontier watchtower almost completely destroyed.³⁹ In order to do that, firstly we identified the traces of the ruins, we calculated and located the older archaeological excavation and we placed our trench in such way to gather as much *undisturbed* data as possible. Thus, our archaeological trench is located on the western side of the structure, having the dimensions of 5 x 1.5 m (Fig. 6.)

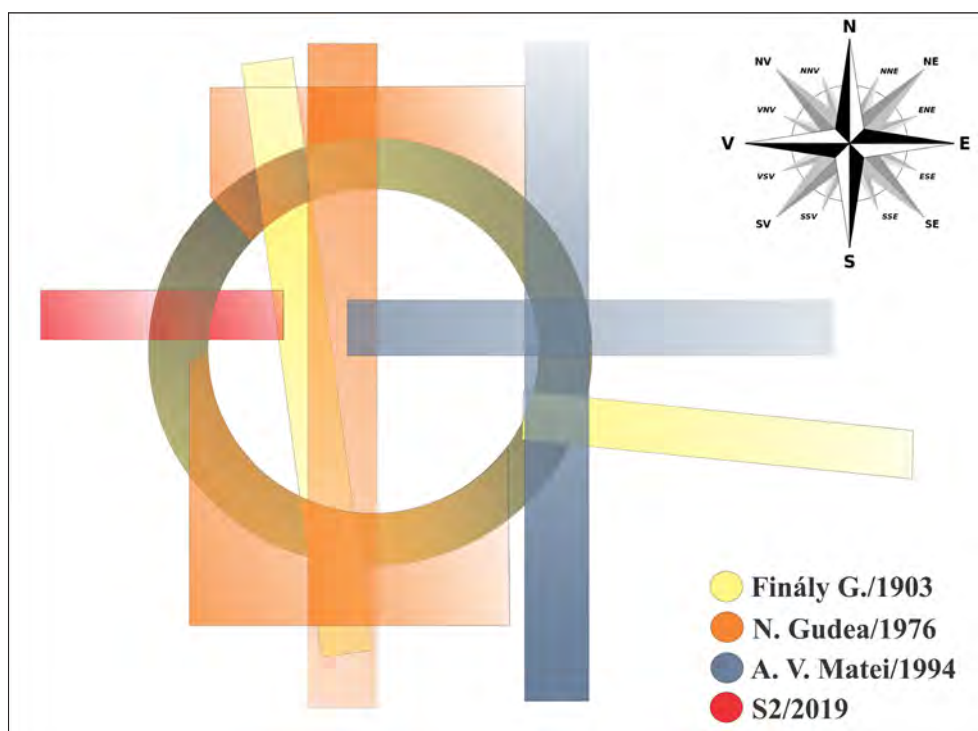


Figure 5. The evolution of archaeological excavations from Poguior watchtower.

Immediate below the vegetal soil of the forest, a layer composed of limestones mixed with mortar was discovered (Cx 1), this being what was left of the demolition layer. Near it, the wall of the watchtower was discovered (Z 1). The wall is heavily destroyed, being preserved only two stones rows, measuring at most 23 cm. The thickness of the wall varies between 0.8 – 1.15 m. It is made of local limestone with mortar, in the *opus incertum* technique.

Simultaneous with Cx. 1 we identified three distinct features resulted from the burning process of the wooden elements of the watchtower, mixed together and unevenly stratified, although on the southern profile of the trench the stratigraphic sequence is perfectly observable. Thus, Cx. 2 is a stratigraphic layer composed of earth and ash, having a thickness of approximately 6 cm and a grayish color.

Cx. 3 is represented by a reddish heavy burnt layer containing mostly pieces of adobe. Based on their shape, the adobe pieces were most probably used to isolate the wooden floor of the first story. This layer is about 5 cm thick. Underneath and around Cx. 3, a thin burnt coal layer was identified, having a general thickness of 1-4 cm (Cx. 9).

The habitation layer inside the tower (Cx. 5, the floor of the ground floor level) was discovered after the removal of the abovementioned layers. It is composed of a heavily treated dark grey sandy clay layer of approximately 6-7 cm. At the same time, this layer contained the majority of the archaeological material, formed entirely of common

³⁹ The excavation was carried out in the spring of 2019. We wish to thank our colleagues Dan Deac, Phd. (Zalău County Museum of History and Art), Paul Chiorean, PhD student (Turda History Museum) and Bogdan Bere, Phd. Student (Babeș-Bolyai University of Cluj-Napoca) for their help during the excavation process.

potsherds. Located on the eastern side of trench and cutting the floor, a supply pit was found (Cx. 6). More than half of it was destroyed by the trench S1/1976 of N. Gudea. The pit has a maximum length of 81 cm, a preserved width of 76 cm and depth of – 0.35 m. The fill of this pit was composed mostly of dark soil mixed with ashes, four potsherd and several animal bones.⁴⁰

The external stratigraphy is also quite interesting. Outside the watchtower's wall we identified the traces of the foundation ditch belonging to Z 1, not very deepened (Cx. 4), having a depth of – 30 cm and width of 50 cm. The outer defensive ditch of the watchtower (Cx. 8) is located at approximately 1 m from the precinct wall. It has an opening of 1.15 m and depth of maximum – 0.6 m. The fill of this defensive element was a dark-grey soil mixed with stones and a few potsherd.

Between Cx. 4 and Cx. 8, thus between the foundation ditch of the stone wall and the outer defensive ditch of the watchtower, we identified a platform that contained the barely visible traces of a post hole and wooden beam, quite destroyed by both of the mentioned features. We strongly believe that the platform and the rest of the elements are representing the remains of a former wooden watchtower, superimposed and destroyed by the erection of the stone structure.

Conclusions

The aim of this brief excavation was to obtain valid data on the stratigraphy sequence and the planimetry of an almost completely destroyed frontier watchtower. It is more than clear that we are dealing with a circular type stone watchtower⁴¹ with the diameter of 11 m, thus confirming the measurements of N. Gudea, being among the largest circular watchtowers from Dacia Porolissensis so far.⁴² The diameter of this type of frontier minor fortifications are falling within the frame of minimum 5 m⁴³ and maximum 13 m.⁴⁴ Based on Torma's description on the preserved elevation of the structure⁴⁵ and also on some of Gudea's archaeological accounts,⁴⁶ we believe that the circular stone watchtowers and in particular the watchtower from *Poguior* Hill are fully built in stone, with the roof structure made of wood and covered with organic material⁴⁷ or tiles.⁴⁸

The aspect related to the internal planning and organization of the stone watchtowers is still not so well known. It was proposed an organization based on three distinct floors,⁴⁹ the first floor being a storage room, this being confirmed for Dacia Porolissensis due to the discovery of several fireplaces,⁵⁰ storage pits,⁵¹ *amphorae* and *dolia*;⁵² the second one is considered to be a room with the function of *arma* and *papilia* for the garrisoned soldiers and the third one a sort of working office for the soldier on duty and also the floor which supports the patrol balcony.⁵³ Regarding the central post hole discovered by Gudea in the center of the watchtower, a direct analogy indicated the fact that it comes from a central post that supports the first floor wooden decking.⁵⁴

In the case of our excavation, we were able to identify a part of a destroyed storage pit and the habitation layer. This layer is a particular aspect of *Poguior*, due to the fact that most of them are composed of a well trodden earth layer

⁴⁰ The archaeological material identified during the excavation from 2019 is extremely poor, being composed of only several potsherd. See Pl. VIII.

⁴¹ Up to now, the circular watchtowers are the most numerous minor fortifications from the frontier of Dacia Porolissensis, the current known number of them being 30, 22% from all the structures currently identified.

⁴² The circular watchtower from *Dealul Vlaşinului* (Fildu de Sus, Fildu de Jos commune, Sălaj County; d = 10.8 m; inedited), *Dealul Cozmii* (Huta, Buciumi commune, Sălaj County; d = 11-13 m; Torma 1864, 35; Torma 1880, 73; Buday 1912, 111; Ferenczi 1967, 147; Gudea 1985, 165; Gudea 1997, 47-48) or *Măgura Stânii 2* (Zălău, Sălaj County; d = 10.6 m; Gudea 1985, 174; Gudea 1997, 67; Bejinariu, Băcuet-Crişan 2002, 345-346; Cociş *et al.* 2018, 85-102).

⁴³ The watchtower from *Vîşina Hill* (Matei 1995, 55-56; Matei 1996, 64-65; Matei 2007, 253; Pop, Cociş 2018, 68-69).

⁴⁴ The watchtower from *Dealul Cozmii*.

⁴⁵ Torma 1880, 78.

⁴⁶ Gudea 1997, *passim*.

⁴⁷ van Dierendonck 2004, 87.

⁴⁸ Even if the lack of the bricks and tiles is normal for the watchtowers located within the frontier of Germania or Britannia (Baatz 1976, 26-27; van Dierendonck 2004, 88), in the case of the surveillance watchtowers from Dacia Porolissensis this type of roofing material is well attested.

⁴⁹ See the discussion in Baatz 1973, 122-124; Baatz 1976, 13-20; Schallmayer 1984, 35-36.

⁵⁰ Up to now we know seven examples of fireplaces located at the first floor; see for this Gudea 1997, 38, 42, 60, 62, 69, 72; Cociş *et al.* 2018, 89, 96, Pl. 3.

⁵¹ Gudea 1997, 39-40.

⁵² Cociş *et al.* 2018, 90-92.

⁵³ van Dierendonck 2004, 85.

⁵⁴ Hristov 2015, 47-62.

and only in some cases of a more elaborate thin layer of mortar,⁵⁵ both used as a ground floor improvements. The burnt adobe is most probably coming from the second floor isolation, due to the wooden marks left on the wet clay. The defensive ditch, a common element of every watchtower is still a rarity for the provincial area of Dacia Porolissensis, the situation being a direct result of a not so appropriate excavation method: following the path of the walls and emptying the interior of the ruins, basically ignoring the area outside the precinct wall.⁵⁶

A surprising element was indeed the remains of a previous wooden watchtower superimposed by the stone structure. On the frontier of Dacia Porolissensis are only several examples of wooden structures identified through the means of the archaeological excavations,⁵⁷ most of them being located in the proximity of the stone ruins not overlapped by them. The wooden watchtower from *Poguior* confirms again an early frontier organization in the *Meseș Gate* Pass,⁵⁸ early structural elements from the first decades of the 2nd c. AD being discovered during the excavations from the fortlet of *La Strâmtură*,⁵⁹ from the circular stone watchtower of *Făjiște*⁶⁰ and probably from the linear fortification from *Vișina-Pârâul Lupilor*.⁶¹

Without proper protection and conservation techniques, the stone watchtower from *Poguior* Hill will be a clear target of the irreversible process of destruction. By excavating it, we obtained extra valuable data on the structure and the organization of these type of minor border fortification from the fringe of Dacia Porolissensis.

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⁵⁵ A thin mortar layer was identified during the excavations from *Coasta Lată* (Meseșeni de Sus, Meseșeni de Sus commune, Sălaj County; Torma 1864, 35; Buday 1912, 113-114; Ferenczi 1967, 147; Ferenczi 1968, 80; Gudea 1985, 170; Gudea 1997, 58-59) and *Coasta Ciungii I* (Ferenczi 1967, 147; Ferenczi 1968, 80; Gudea 1985, 171; Gudea 1997, 60-61).

⁵⁶ See especially Gudea 1997 *passim*.

⁵⁷ For example the wooden phase from *Poiana Moigrădanilor* (Moigrad-Porolissum, Mireșid commune, Sălaj county; see especially Cociș 2019, 45-59.)

⁵⁸ For a detailed discussion see Nedelea *et al.* 2019, 195-200.

⁵⁹ Gudea 1997, 75-75; Cociș 2018, 38-39, 68, Pl. IV.

⁶⁰ Cociș 2018a, 22-23.

⁶¹ See the detailed discussion in Matei 2007, 250-269.

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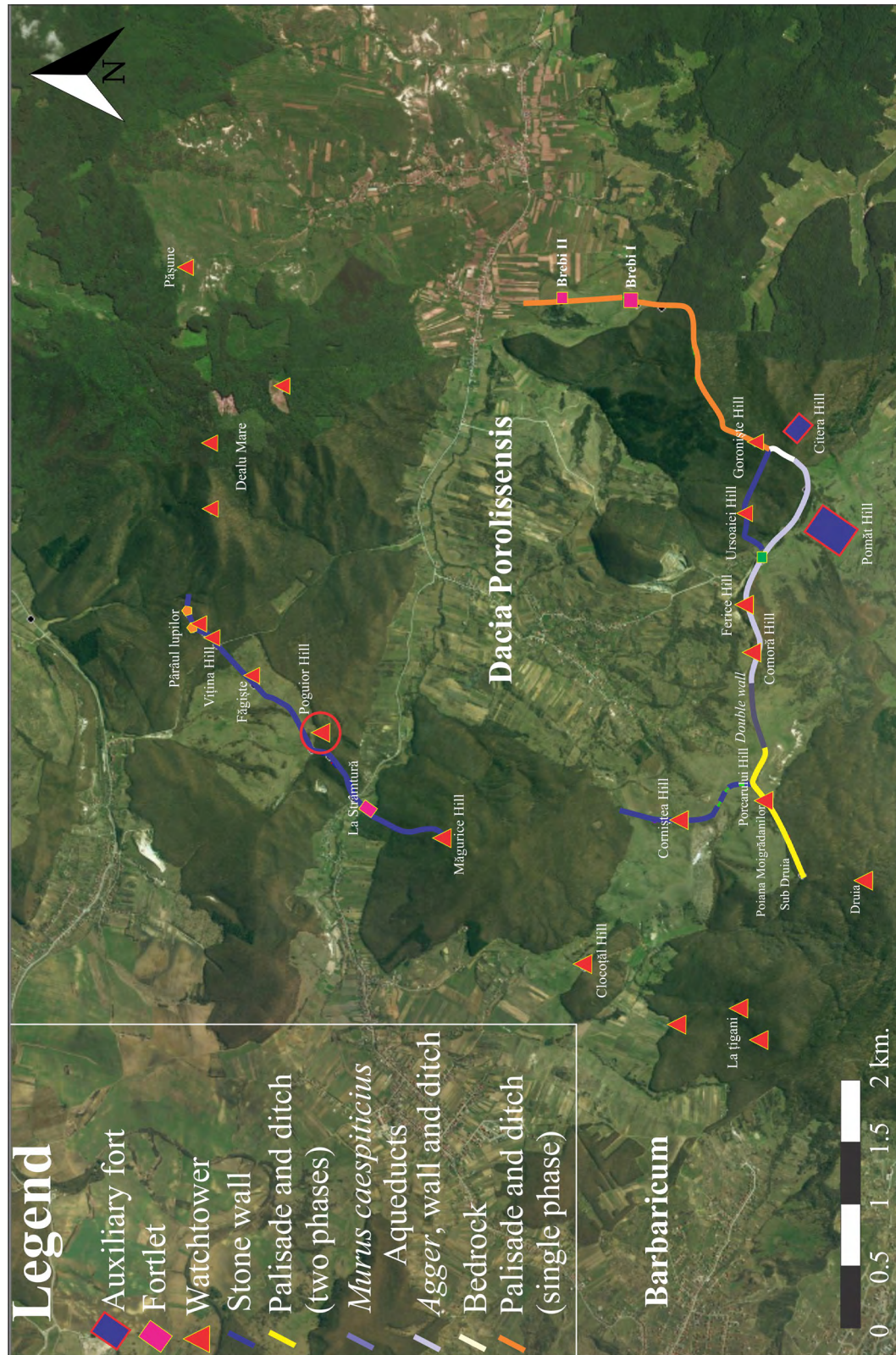
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LISTA ILUSTRAȚIILOR

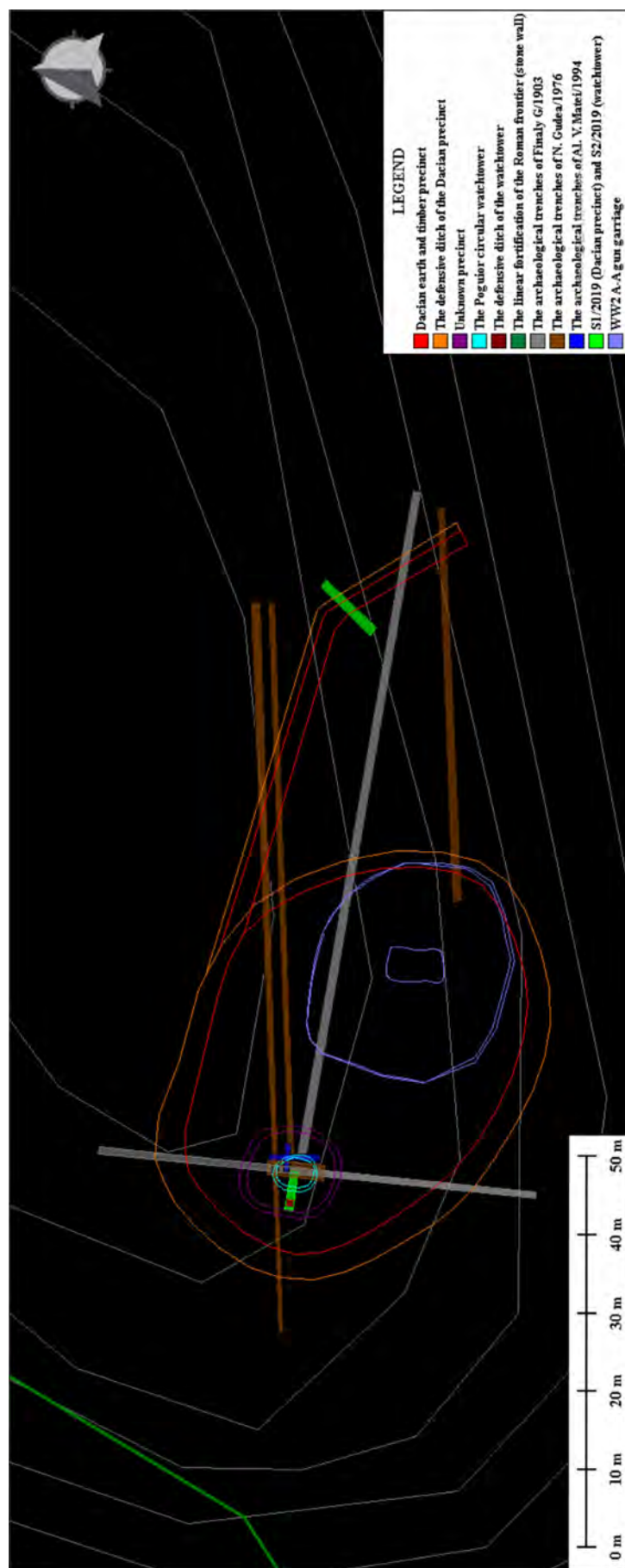
- Figura 1. Amplasamentul trecătorii Poarta Meseşului şi Dealul Poguior.
- Figura 2. Intervalul cronologic al trecătorii Poarta Meseşană. Modele de control teritorial.
- Figura 3. Profilul altimetric al turnului Poguior văzut de K. Torma K. (după Torma 1880, 77, fig. 5).
- Figura 4. Prima investigaţie de pe Dealul Poguior realizată de G. Finály în 1903 (after Finály 1904, 13, fig. 2).
- Figura 5. Evoluţia săpăturii arheologice de pe Dealul Poguior.

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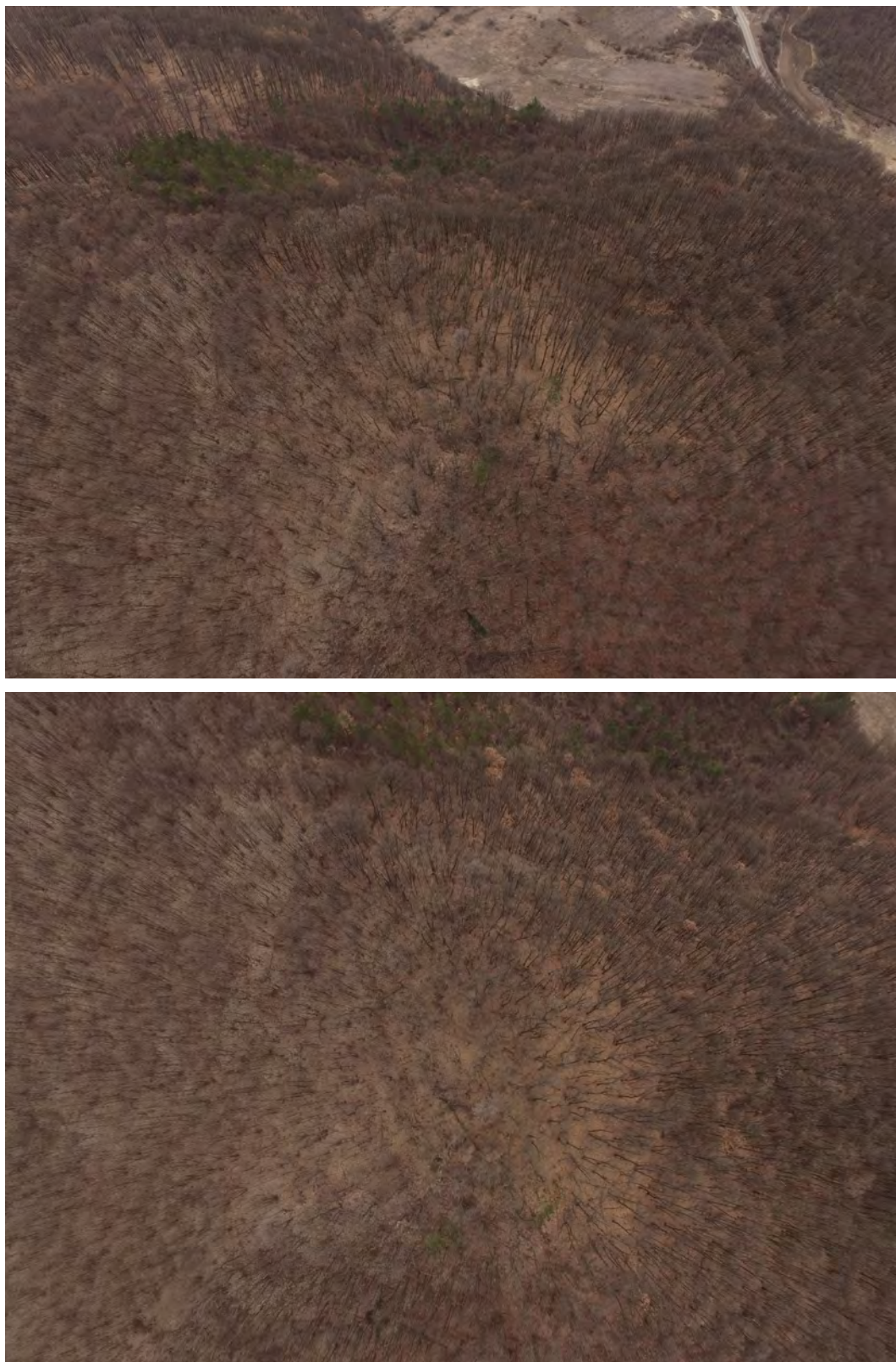
PLATES



Pl. I. Poguir Hill in its Roman landscape settings (after Nedelea et al. 2019, 229, Pl. VII.a).



Pl. II. The new topographic survey of Poguitor archaeological features and trenches



Pl. III. Aerial photos of Poguior Hill (photos H. Cociş).



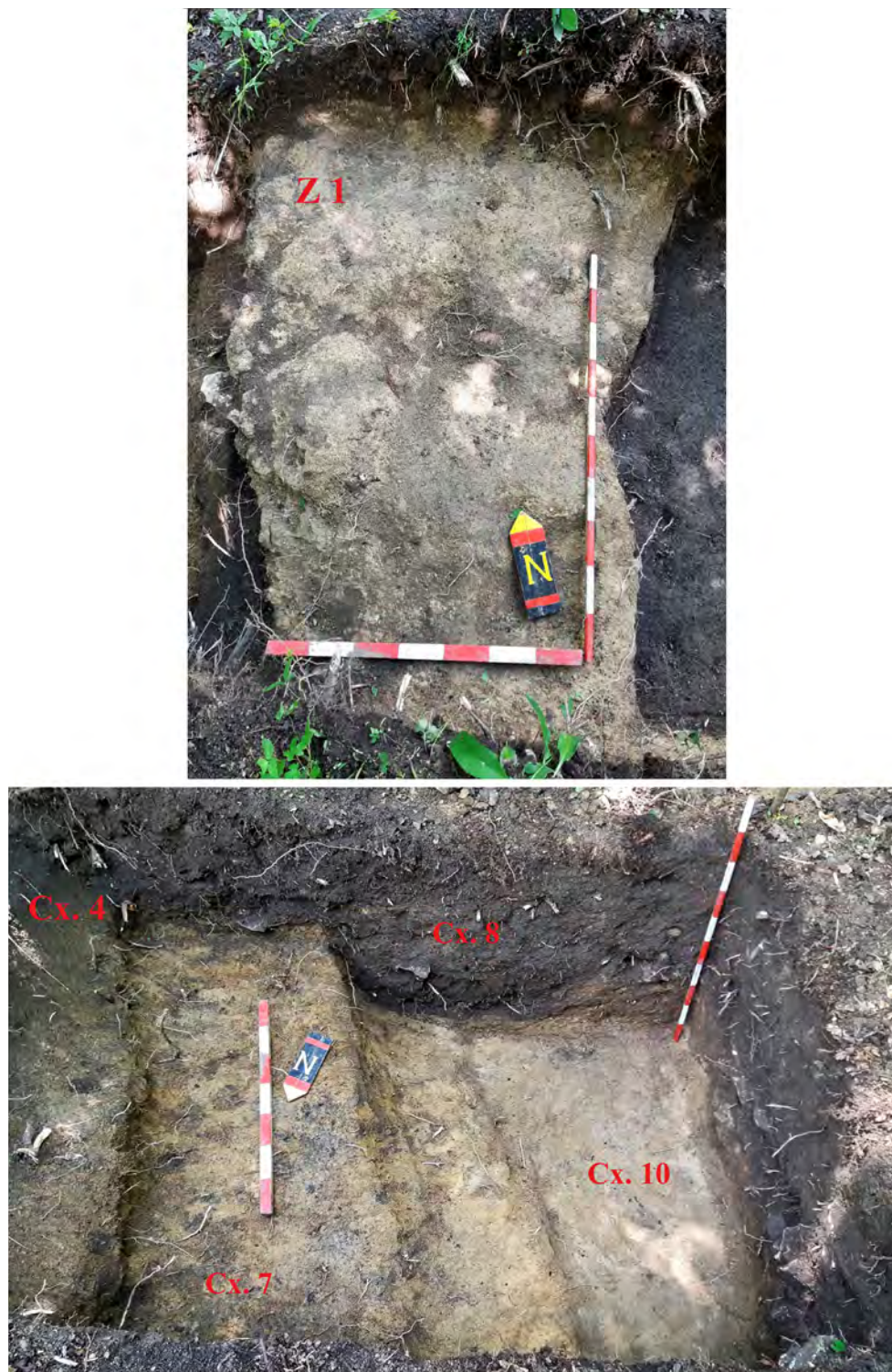
Pl. IV. Archaeological contexts inside Poguior watchtower (1).



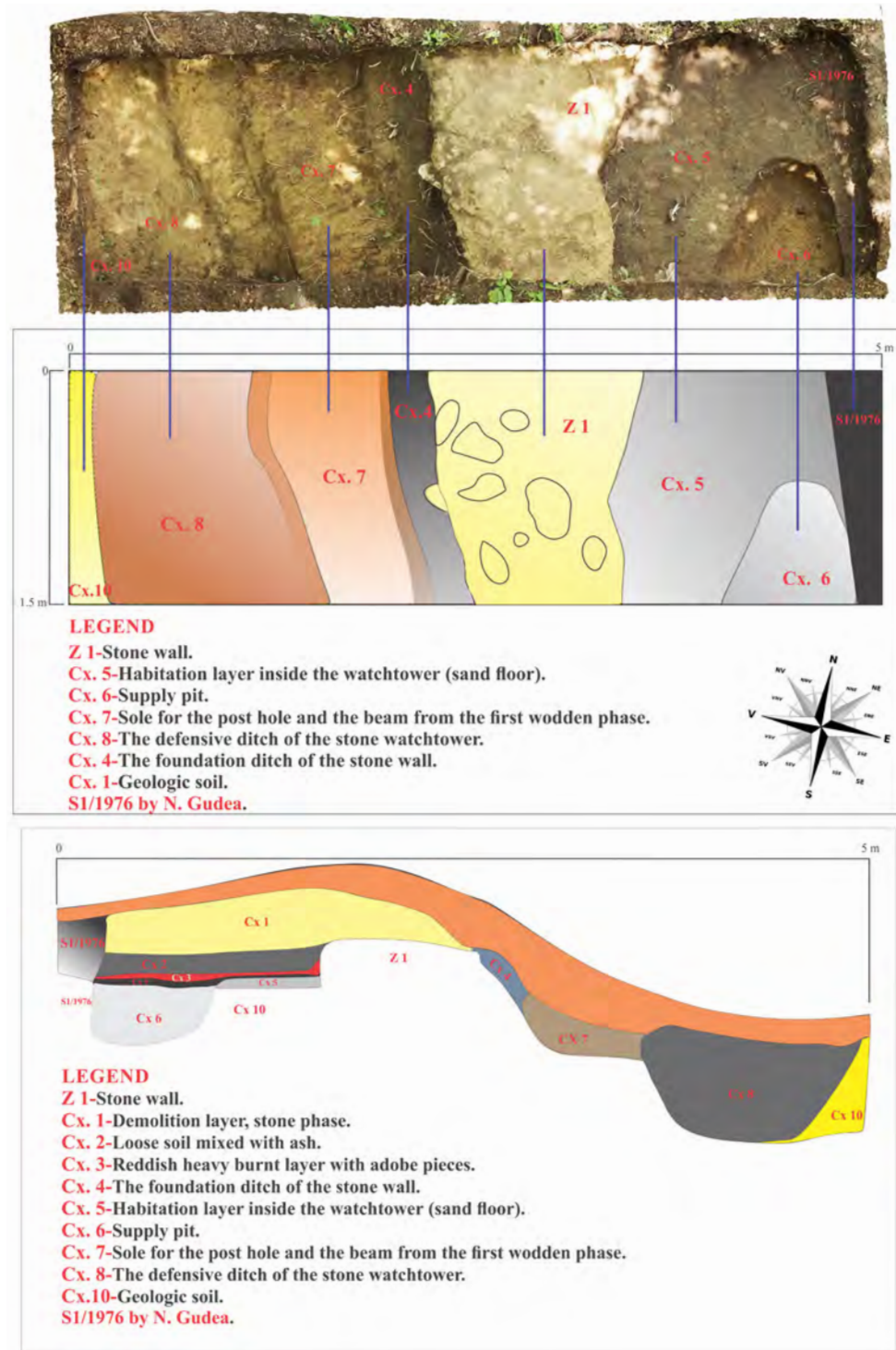
Pl. V. Archaeological contexts inside Poguior watchtower (2).



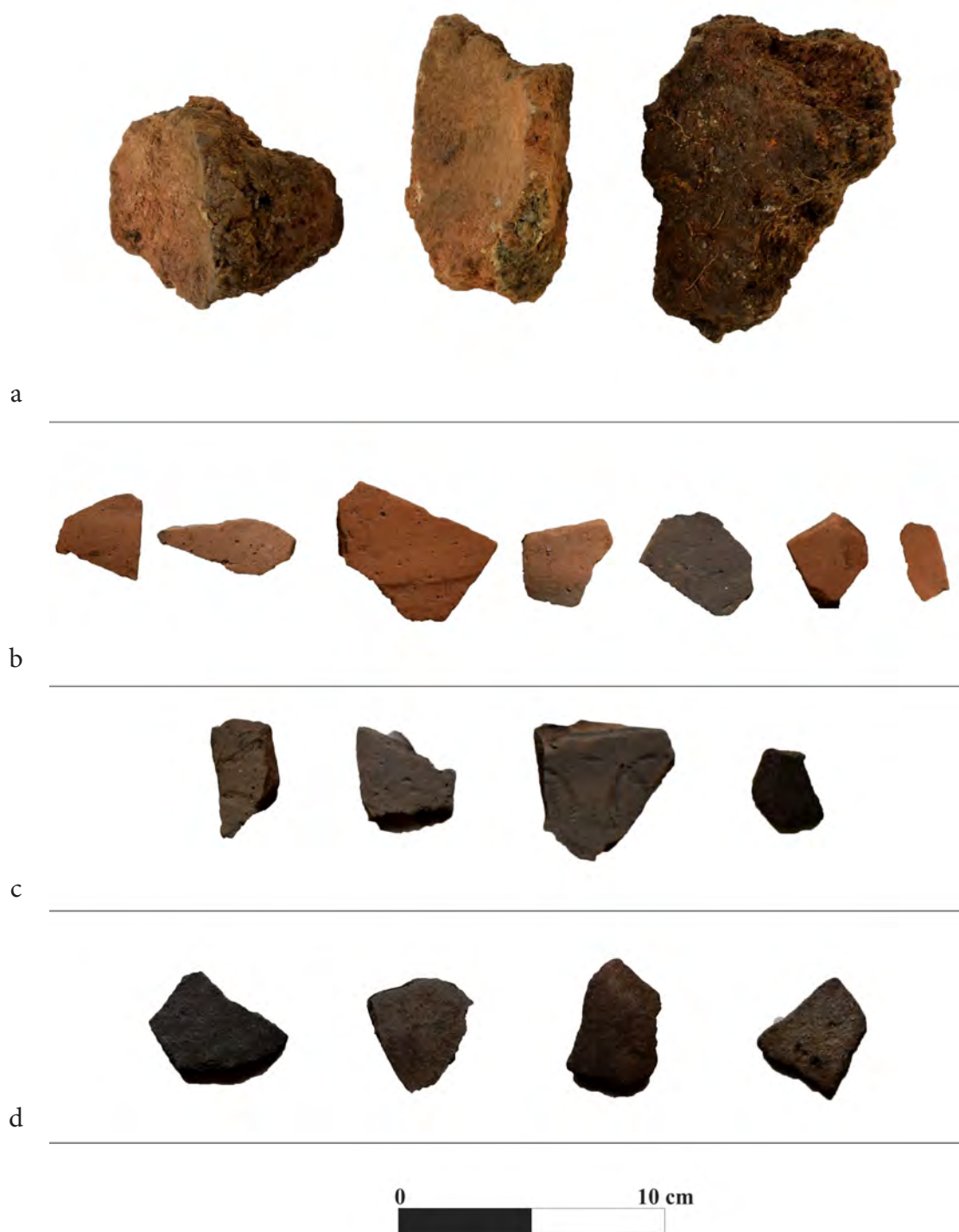
Pl. VI. Archaeological contexts inside Poguior watchtower (3).



Pl. VII. Archaeological contexts outside Poguior watchtower



Pl. VIII. Ground fotogrammetry of S2/2019-up, ground plan of S2/2019-middle, southern profile of S2/2019-down.



Pl. IX. The archaeological materials found in S2/2019: burnt adobe from Cx. 3-a, potsherd from Cx. 5 (the floor)-b, potsherds from Cx. 6 (supply pit)-c, potsherds from Cx. 8 (the defensive ditch)-d.