

digkeit" und „makrohistorische Entscheidungsfreiheit" ist eine Wirklichkeit, aber -- was eine ganze kulturelle Tradition betrifft -- können wir in der anderen Extreme fallen, und damit gemeint ist Y die Verdünnung der archäologischen Einheiten über eine Relevanzschwelle (die auch eine theoretische Voraussetzung ist).

Alle diese Elemente rühren, wie gesagt, an den besonderen Wert der Arbeit von D. Mania und Th. Weber nicht. Im Ge-

genteil, es ist ein Buch welches zur Suchenach neuen Lösungen und Analysenkettens mahnt; ein Beispiel für die aktive Position des Forschers den statistischen Methoden gegenüber. Im gleichen Masse, für den rumänischen Leser ist dieser Buch eine Einladung für die Neuberwertung des bis jetzt geleisteten Arbeit.

Carol Căpișă

MATHILDE GRÜNEWALD, *Ausgrabungen im Legionslager von Carnuntum (Grabungen 1969–1977) Keramik und Kleinfunde 1976–1977*, Verlag der Österreichischen Akademie der Wissenschaften, Vienne, 1986, 20 p. + 15 Tafeln und ein Grundriß.

Dans la série des découvertes de Carnuntum, cet ouvrage, le 31^e cahier du « Limes Romain en Autriche », comprend, après un avant-propos de l'auteur, une brève présentation du matériel, la description des couches rencontrées dans la *praetentura* orientale du camp et la présentation proprement dite du matériel, par catégories. Une annexe rédigée par Günther Dembski à propos d'une bague en fer avec la représentation de *Bonus Eventus* (II^e s) en pâte de verre, objet qui, malheureusement, n'est pas illustré.

Les couches identifiées dans le secteur dont les découvertes forment l'objet du cahier présent se rattachent aux sept périodes dont les dernières quatre (IV^e–V^e et, la dernière, IX^e–X^e s.) étaient déjà présentées par Mme Grünwald dans les cahiers nos 29, 31 et 32 de la même série. Les trois couches plus anciennes de l'époque romaine sont datées entre e I^{er} et III^e s. ap. J.C.

Le catalogue systématique des découvertes comprend quelques fragments de *terra sigillata* dont les plus anciens appartiennent à la première moitié du I^{er} s. ap. J. C., céramique jaune à glaçure rouge, de l'ainsi dite « céramique fine », des amphores, de la céramique jaune et de la céramique grise (la plus ancienne de cette catégorie appartenant au moins à part à la tradition La Tène locale), céramique pannonienne à glaçure, des lampes, objets divers en terre cuite, en os ou corne, pierre, métal et verre. En général, le matériel ne dépasse pas le IV^e s. ap. J. C.

Présentation et étude claires, découvertes très bien illustrées (seulement dessin) se rassemblent dans un cahier utile, qui se recommande par soi-même aux spécialistes.

Alexandru Barnea

J. C. COULSTON (ed.), *Military Equipment and the Identity of Roman Soldiers. Proceedings of the Fourth Roman Military Equipment Conference*, Oxford, BAR S 394, 1988, pp. XI + 341.

Mirroring the growth of specialization in archaeology, a group of young scholars led by M. Bishop have decided to organize annual meetings dedicated to the study of Roman Military Equipment. These seminars and their proceedings promptly issued with the aid of BAR publishing house have caused a spectacular raise of interest for this important field of research, which has been somewhat neglected so far.

As my review of the papers of the second seminar has also appeared in *Dacia*¹, I shall continue to present the volumes of the next meetings in the same journal.

The proceedings of the 3rd seminar were rather unsubstantial in terms of academical research, as they concentrated on the reconstruction of weapons and their testing². Due to these circumstances, they are beyond both my concerns and the scope of *Dacia*.

Thus I shall resume the presentation with the 4th volume of papers edited by J. C. Coulston, one of the enthusiasts of the meetings. These proceedings contain the lectures held at the Newcastle Conference in 1986 as well as two monographs by M. C. Bishop and S. James. The contributions can be divided into several groups. First, there are four papers dealing with certain objects or types of military equipment belonging to different kinds of military units. Next, two lectures present the whole military equipment from a certain type of site or from a geographical area. The volume ends with James' monograph about the production of weapons during the late Empire.

The first paper written by J. C. Coulston deals with a well-known relief from Croy Hill (Strathclyde), representing three militarymen. The author examines competently the equipment of the three soldiers in detail: *paenulae*, *pila*, shields,

helmets, in comparison with both the real pieces and other figurative representations of the 2nd century. He finds convincing arguments in explaining why *lorica segmentata* is not represented on monument and taking into account both battlefield practices and garrisoning policies, he reaches the conclusion that the three soldiers should be considered as legionaries. As concerns another problem which has been lately subject to many debates, namely whether the auxiliaries have used *lorica segmentata*, Coulston's conclusion seems to be right and it is worth being cited here: "It is difficult to see the widespread supply of auxiliary troops with *lorica segmentata* as a practical explanation if these troops were to have maintained their battlefield support function".

The next paper, due to A. G. Poulter, deals with "Certain doubts and doubtful conclusions: the *lorica segmentata* from Newstead and the Antonine garrison". Half of the paper discussed the different reconstructions proposed so far for the fragments of *lorica* from Newstead, but the conclusions are really doubtful. Moreover, the fact the Poulter offers only two illustrations of reconstructed *loricae* but none of the original fragments, makes it even more difficult to follow the text. Unlike Coulston, Poulter feels inclined to believe that in the West of the Empire *lorica segmentata* was also used by auxiliaries, but he gives no evidence in support of this statement. He also states that, "there is equally a suspicion that auxiliaries in Dacia were being supplied with *lorica segmentata* during the 2nd century", yet the only evidence he brings forth is the discovery of some hooks and hinges at Buciumi. However, it is possible that a legionary *vezillatio* was temporarily garrisoned in this fort, and might have been used even for the construction of the fortification itself. Anyway, an isolated case cannot provide sound evidence for general con-

¹ *Dacia*, 31, 1987, pp. 194–196. The first seminar has produced only a small number of papers which is also mentioned in *Dacia*, 31, 1987, p. 194, note 1.

² M. Dawson (ed.), *Roman Military Equipment; The Accountments of War*, BAR S 336, Oxford, 1987.