
Watchtowers and *burgus*-type structures reflected in Roman epigraphic sources (1st-3rd century A.D.).

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Keywords: watchtower, *burgus*, terminology, Roman inscriptions, Roman frontier, road security.

Cuvinte cheie: turn de supraveghere, *burgus*, terminologie, inscripții romane, frontiera Romană, securitatea drumurilor.

The watchtowers and the *burgus* type structures are considered in the modern literature minor fortifications or medium-sized fortifications, based on their reduced surface.¹ This study will bring together the epigraphic sources dated between 1st and the 3rd century A.D. concerning these structures, being also an attempt to establish, if possible, the terminological nuances and the given functionality in the frontier mechanism.

Before we start the excursus, it is worth mentioning that there are several Talmudic sources² dated in the 1st-3rd century AD which refer to some sort of minor fortification and their role in the frontier system of *limes Pal-estinae* and in the imperial road network. The fortifications are called *בִּירְגִין* (*burgin*) translated as *burgi*³ and *בִּירְגִין* (*burgussin*), some sort of smaller road defense fortification, most probably the equivalent of a watchtower.⁴ In a Tannaitic account dating back to late 2nd early 3rd century AD there are several *burgi* (*בִּירְגִין*) attested on the Imperial road north of Ptolemais, being mentioned also a Syrian *burgarius* (*הַבִּירְגִין* – *burganin*⁵ – station guardsmen⁶) on the name of Mavgai.⁷

The role of these installations as it is reflected in the above mentioned accounts is to guard the traffic on the imperial roads and also to provide shelter and camping points⁸ for the caravans that traveled from Arabian or Mediterranean trading posts.⁹ But how did these words (especially *burgin*) of clearly Latin extraction have entered in Hebrew? E. Pennick's theory seems very suitable in the context of Roman conquest of Judeea (70-74 A.D.) but also in the tradition of frontier defenses dating back to the Judean monarchy.¹⁰ As he explained, the term is '*un term dérivé directement de burgus et emprunté au parler populaire, à la langue des soldats romain* (n.a. *sermo castrensis*¹¹) *qui ont occupé le pays*.¹² These installation are similar in functionality with the ones from the frontiers of Egypt and Arabia called *hydreuma* – *ὑδρευμα* (pl. *hydreumata* – *ὑδρευματα*¹³) with the mentions that these structures are also

1 Bejinaru 2010, 9.

2 See *infra* the Appendix.

3 *Mekhlita Ba-Hodesh*, 1933, 194; *Tossephtha, Erubim*, VIII, 5; *Leviticus Rabbah* 7.4; *Midrash Tehillim* 10.2;

4 *Mekhlita Ba-Hodesh*, 1933, 194.

5 *Midrash Tehillim* 10.2.

6 Cohen 1981, 236.

7 *Tossephtha, Pesachim*, i.27 apud Isaac 1990, 181, n.109.

8 Isaac 1990, 183.

9 Cohen 1981, 235.

10 Cohen 1981, 231.

11 Pennick 1945, 10.

12 See for example Haynes 2013, 301-338.

13 Online LSJ Greek-English lexicon: *ὑδρευμα* from *ὑδωρ* (water).

guarding water tanks so necessary for the garrisons camped there and for the caravans.¹⁴ The watchtowers are also attested here, flanking the roads and signaling small raids responsible for banditry or marauding.¹⁵ These watchtowers are called *skopeloi* and the men in charge are called *skopelarioi*; their commander is called *dekanos*-δεκανός.¹⁶

Returning to our topic, we have to underscore the main theories regarding the origin of these two terms. Firstly, the origin of the term *burgus* is divided between two theories. The first one stipulates that the term has a German extraction, an argument for its German origin being represented by the place names that contains the word part – *burgium*, as for example *Teotoburgium*¹⁷ or *Asciburgium*. The second theory states that the term has a Hellenistic origin, being a derivate of πύργος¹⁸, initially some sort of fortified watchtower.¹⁹ This is why in my opinion the term *burgus* and the structure itself is frequently considered a watchtower.²⁰ As we will see, there is fairly obvious difference between a *burgus* and a *turris*, reflected both in the epigraphic sources and in landscape location and functionality. As Zs. Visy observed, the term does not occur in the literary sources of the period which interests us.²¹

The first epigraphic mentions of *burgus*-type structures occurs in the reign of Antoninus Pius, even if the function of *burgarius*²² is attested a little bit earlier than the term *burgus*,²³ in the reign of Hadrianus.²⁴ There are two inscription which attests the building program of Antoninus Pius for securing the Thracian roads²⁵ and also the terrestrial link with Asia²⁶: *Imp(erator) Caes(ar) T(itus) Ael(ius) Hadrian(us) / Antoninus Aug(ustus) Pius p(ater) p(atriciae) trib(unicia) / potestate XV co(n)s(ul) IIII praesidia / et burgos ob tutelam provinci(ae) / Thraciae fecit curante C(aio) Gallonio / Frontone Q(uinto) Marcio Turbone leg(ato) / Aug(usti) pr(o) pr(aetore) per fines civitatis / Serd(ica) ensium regione Dyptens(ium) / praesidia n(umero) IIII burgi n(umero) XII phruri // n(umero) CIX.*²⁷

The inscription dated between 151-152 AD states clearly the reason for this building program: *ob tutelam provinciae Thraciae*, the guardianship of Thrace. C. Băjenaru observed that there is a logic between the numbers as for every *praesidium* there are three *burgi* and for every *burgus* there are nine *phruri* or watchtowers.²⁸ As we can see there are different terms to name different structures. Some authors considered that in this case the *burgi* are towers and the *phruri* are some sort of guard posts.²⁹ However, there are several researchers that considered based on the numbers that the *praesidia* are the biggest structures, the *burgi* are the middle ones and the *phruri* the smallest,³⁰ being established in that way a tripartite scheme, applied mostly in the case of non-linear frontier system where we can clearly observed an organization on three lines: towers, *burgi* and auxiliary forts.³¹ We can see that in this case, the construction of road installations was under the supervision of the *legatus Augusti pro praetore*. M. Gichon suggested that the *burgi* from these inscription could be a sort of static installation with troops drawn from *praesidia*, (*burgarii*?) the larger installations, for mobile actions,³² administrating also most probably the *phruri*.

An almost identical inscription, dated between 154-155 AD testifies again the building program of Antoninus Pius, the idea being the same: *burgi* and *praesidia* built for the province's safety, under the supervision of a *legatus*

14 Bagnall 1982, 125-126. See also the account of Pliny, *HN*, VI, 102-104; 417.

15 Bagnall 1982, 126. See also Bagnall, Bülow-Jacobsen, Cuvigny 2001, 325-333.

16 Bagnall 2006, 110.

17 Visy 2009, 989.

18 In ThLL 2250, 17, the Greek counterpart of *burgus* is πύργος; Procop. *Aed.* III, 6 and IV, 6, 36 uses the transliteration βούργος, late in the 6th century AD. For a theory concerning the Greek origin of the term see Pennick 1945, 5-21.

19 Alföldi 1941, 47; Visy 2009, 989.

20 See for example Goetz 2010, 426.

21 Visy 2009, 989.

22 CIL III 13795 and CIL 13796 = ILS 9180.

23 ThLL II 2249 f; Diz. Ep. IV, 1089 f.; Isaac 1990, 179.

24 Isaac 1990, 179. For the role and the evolution of the *burgarii* see mainly Labrousse 1939, 151-167.

25 Kovács 2008, 134.

26 Gichon 1974, 538.

27 AÉ 1957, nr. 279 = AÉ 2000, nr. 1291. See also AÉ 2000, nr. 1268, from the same building program of Antoninus Pius (-----] / [--- curante C(aio) Gal]lonio Fr[ontone Q(uinto) Marcio] / Turbone leg(ato) A[ug(usti) pr(o) pr(aetore)] / per fines civitat[is Mar]cianopolitano[rum re]l[gion]e Gelegetio[rum in? propi?]/nquo phruri n(umero)[---]).

28 Băjenaru 2010, 56.

29 Fuhrmann 2012, 224.

30 Alföldi 1941, 41-48; Mihajlov 1961, 42-56; Isaac 1990, 180; Kovács 2008, 134.

31 See for example the case of Dacia Porolissensis in Zăgreanu, Cociș *et alli* 2017, 25-45.

32 Gichon 1974, 538.

*Augusti: Imp(erator) Caes(ar) T(itus) Ael(ius) Hadrian(us) / Antoninus Aug(ustus) Pius p(ater) p(atriciae) tri[b(unicia)] / potestate XVIII co(n)s(ul) IIII burgos et/ praesidia ob tutelam provin(ciae) / Thraciae fecit curante C(aio) Iu(l)io Commodo Orfitiano leg(ato) / Aug(usti) pr(o) pr(aetore) per fin(es) col(oniae) Fl(av)iae Deult(ensium) burgos / e[st] praesidium.*³³

Moving in the frontier area of Numidia, more precisely in the El-Kantara region, we have several inscriptions attesting the construction of *burgi* in connection with the imperial road, and, most important, with the frontier area. In the first case from Ksar Sidi el Hadj the structure is called *burgum Commodianum speculatorium*, dating in the reign of Commodus, built *inter duas vias*, the purpose being clear: *ad salutem commeanantium constitutum*.³⁴ The second example is from Loth Bordj: *Imp(eratore) Case(are) M(arco) Aurelio / Severo Antonino Aug(usto) bur / gum speculator(i)um Anto(ninianum) / Marcus Val(erius) Senecio leg(at)us eius pr(o) / pr(aetore) c(larissimus) v(ir) fieri iussit c(uram) a(gente) C(aio) Iulio Ae / lurione [(centurione) leg(ionis) III] Aug(ustae) Anto(niniana) prae(posito) n(umeri) H(emesenorum) Ant(oniniani) // Ti(tulum) bis posuit Caletamera in te(m)pore suo.*³⁵

In the late 19th century R. Gagnat believed that the inscriptions came from two watchtowers located above the El-Kantara pass (he associated the term *speculatorium / speculatorum* with the term *specula*-watchtowers).³⁶ Later, J. Baradez demonstrated that the inscriptions are in conjunction with two *burgus*-type structures located in the El-Kantara defile,³⁷ the crossing point and the roads being controlled both by the *speculatores*.³⁸ In contradistinction with the inscriptions from Antoninus Pius which attested road *burgi*, these *burgi*, beside the road function, they are included in the frontier system of Numidia, being different from the road installations³⁹ (those *praesidia*, *burgi* and *phruri* mentioned in AÉ 1957, nr. 270 = AÉ 2000 or AÉ 1927, nr. 49). In this case, the construction is supervised by Caius Iulius Aelurio, centurion of the 4th legion and also the *praepositus numeri Hemesenorum*.

The construction of *burgi* under military supervision of a centurion from legio III Augusta is attested in another inscription from Gheriat el-Garbia in Africa Proconsularis. We do not know precisely if it is a road-*burgus* or a frontier-*burgus*, but being in a frontier province and built under military supervision it could be the second variant: *Imp(eratori) Caes(ari) M(arco) Aurel(io) / Seve[r]o [[lexandr]o] / Pio Fe[[lic]i] Aug(usto) [[et Iuliae]] / [[Mamaeae Augustae matri Aug(usti)]] et cas/trorum M(arcus A[---] / [[c(enturio) leg(ionis) III Aug(ustae) p(iae) v(indicis)]] [[S[e]v]erian(a) e pr(a)po/situs vex[ill]ationis leg(ionis) eius/dem burgum [a] solo per eandem / vexillationem instituit.*⁴⁰

Another two inscriptions from Mauretania Caesariensis testify road-*burgi* construction program in the reign of Commodus. The first one is a cylindrical fragment coming from Ain Temouchent (*Ad Albulas*) with a text that tells us that some new *burgi* are erected to fortify, to defend the province (*...burgis novis provincia munita...*) the structures being in connection with a series of *milliaria* (*...miliaria conlapsa vetustate restituit...*).⁴¹ The other one it takes its rise from Bou-Tlélis in Algeria, and testify also the construction of some road-*burgus* structure (*...burgum [n]stitu[tum]...*) under the coordination of Titus Flavius Serenus, *procurator* (?).⁴²

The role of the frontier *burgi*-structures is best known from a series of inscriptions found on the frontier of Pannonia Inferior,⁴³ with an almost identical text, dating in the time of Commodus, somewhere between 182-185 A.D.:⁴⁴ *Imp(erator) Caes(ar) M(arcus) Aur(elius) [[Commod]us] / Antoninus Aug(ustus) Pius Sarm(aticus) Germ(anicus) Britt(anicus) / pont(ifex) max(imus) trib(unicia) pot(estate) VI imp(erator) IIII co(n)s(ul) IIII p(ater) p(atriciae) / ripam omnem burgis a solo ex/structis item praesidi(i)s per loca / opportuna ad clandestinos latrun/culorum transitus oppositis mu/nivit per [[L(ucium) Cornelium Felicem] / [[Plotianum leg(atum) pr(o) pr(aetore)]]].⁴⁵*

Several significant aspects for our discussion emerge from this batch of inscriptions. Firstly, we can see a general imperial policy carried out by Emperor Commodus for the fortifications of the whole Pannonian

33 AÉ 1927, nr. 49.

34 CIL VIII 2495 = AÉ 1909, nr. 73.

35 CIL VIII 2494 = ILS 2636.

36 Gagnat 1892, 568.

37 Baradez 1949, 235-242; Pringle 2001, 78-79, 280-281.

38 Sheldon 2004, 167.

39 Kovács 2008, 129.

40 IRT 895.

41 CIL VIII 22629.

42 CIL VIII 21662.

43 RIU 1135; RIU 1136; RIU 1127; RIU 1128; RIU 1129; RIU 1130; RIU 1131; AÉ1998, 1057; PIR C 1359; AE 2001, 1685b; Tit. Aq. 0935.

44 See mainly Kovács 2008, 130-131.

45 RIU 1135

frontier.⁴⁶ Secondly, it is clear how the term *burgus* is used in this context: to name a medium-size structure strategically located *per loca oportuna*, in the frontier areas where Barbarians could have easily penetrate into the province. Furthermore, the inscription tells us what the purpose of these *burgi*-structures in the frontier areas was, namely to stop clandestine crossing of the *limes* by *latrunculi* (*ad clandestinos latrunculorum transitus oppositis*). In this case, the *latrunculi* from these inscriptions are the Sarmatian riders from the frontier area,⁴⁷ those responsible for the so-called *hit-and-run raids*.⁴⁸ The role of the *praesidia* mentioned in the texts is quite similar, with the observation that the Hungarian scholars agreed with the fact that are bigger than the *burgi*, being built against barbarians in peacetime.⁴⁹

The epigraphic sources dated between the 1st and the 3rd century regarding the frontier watchtowers are considerably poorer,⁵⁰ yet we can make a terminological and functional difference. We saw previously that the minor fortifications are called *phuri* in the inscriptions from Antoninus Pius. In the *ostrakon O.Amst 8*, coming from Luxor, the watchtowers are called *skopeloi*, being also mentioned the location of these minor fortifications (Hebeion, Ision, Palaia Kome).⁵¹

But both, *phuri* and *skopeloi* are not *all* frontier watchtowers.⁵² The structures are in connection with roads, the security of various rural or urban settlements and *villas*, their number increasing in the late 1st century AD⁵³ and in many cases were manned by civilians, under military supervision (a *centurio regionarius* for example).⁵⁴ Also, in the case of *skopeloi*, there is evidence for non-military personnel, the *skopelarioi* being sometimes Egyptians (the case from Kôm Kolzum where the names of the *skopelarioi* are different from the names of the soldiers from *cohors I Lusitanorum*).⁵⁵

In the cases where the epigraphic sources refers to frontier watchtowers, the term used is *turris*. The first example is an inscription found in a high spot near Aumale, (Mauretania Caesariensis) that testify the construction of new frontier watchtowers and also the repair of the old ones, by soldiers: '*... turres novas instituit et veteres refecit oper(a) militum ...*'.⁵⁶ Another inscription, also from Mauretania Caesariensis, is using the same term to designate interior watchtowers, in the reign of Septimius Severus. The text refers probably to a security tower near a settlement: '*... turrim / ruina lapsam ex praecepto P(ubli) Aeli Peregrini / v(iri) e(gregii) proc(uratoris) Auggg(ustorum) Rusadi/tani restituer[unt]*'.⁵⁷ Publius Aelius Peregrinus has a civil function not a military one. We can see here, as in the case of *burgi*-structures discussed previously, that the frontier installations are majority constructed, manned and administrated by the army, not by civilians as in the case of road structures or settlement security towers.

Extrapolating the epigraphic (and archaeological) situation of the tripartite road security system in the frontier area, we can see, based on the distribution pattern and archaeological info how, in some cases, the frontier itself is organized in a tripartite way, having a line of watchtowers, placed in the majority of cases on high spots, *burgus*-type structures in valleys and on main access routes and auxiliary forts behind them.⁵⁸ Obviously, there are frontiers organized in other ways, but in my opinion, the non-linear and mountain frontiers type⁵⁹ are created in this way.

The inscriptions mentioned in this text express, even if not defining, a difference between these structures, both in the case of the road and frontier installations. We cannot tell if the Romans used so strictly these technical terms, but combining the epigraphic reality and the archaeological situation we can see how different structures

46 Kovács 2008, 130-131.

47 Alföldi 1941, 40-59; Grünwald 2004, 21-22; Kovács 2008, 128.

48 Southern 2015, 349.

49 Alföldi 1941, 48-41; Kovács 2006, 306-310; Visy 2009, 989.

50 For ancient accounts concerning different types of watchtowers see mainly Joey 2017, 45-53.

51 Bagnall 2006, 70.

52 Most of the *phuri* are a Hadriannic attempt to physically mark the border between Moesia and Thracia (see Talbert 2004, 21-37) but some of them are located within the pale of the Imperial frontier (Fuhrmann 2011, 224).

53 See Mac Mullen 1963, 37-42; Zitterkopf, Sidebotham 1989, 155-189; Fuhrmann 2011, 224 with bibliography.

54 Fuhrmann 2011, 224-225.

55 Bagnall 2006, 71.

56 CIL VIII 20816 = AÉ 1902 220 = AÉ 1952, nr. 5.

57 CIL VIII 8991 = AÉ 1911, 119.

58 See Gudea 1985, 143-218, Gudea 1997, Marcu, Cupcea 2013, 569-589 and Zăgreanu, Cociș *et alli* 2017, 24-45.

59 Breeze 2012, 53-164. See also Breeze 2011.

with different functionalities are placed and administrated so as to fulfill clear roles, mostly in the case of the Roman frontier.

From the 4th century onward, the terminology became more permeable. As for example, Vegetius considered that a *burgus* structure is a small *castellum* (*castellum parvulum*) its role being the safeguarding the water source of a city.⁶⁰ Another interesting situation is the case of Visegrád-Lepence *burgus* dated in 371, in the time of Valentinian. The Visegrád-Lepence *burgus* is a fortunate situation: the inscription of the building was preserved, the structure was excavated, and a plan with the known dimensions is available. For a 4th century *burgus*, it has an rectangular entrance of 18,3 x 18,3 m, a V-shaped ditch and a thickness of the walls of about 170 cm⁶¹. It is often called a tower, but in my opinion it is more than that, due to the structure characteristics.

This one belongs to the series of *burgi* constructed by Valentinian in a centralized schedule.⁶² An inscription from Illyricum dated also in the reign of Valentinian underlines that a *burgus* was raised in 48 days.⁶³ The interesting fact is that the *burgus* was also a trade center⁶⁴ (*burgum cui nomen Commercium*). In my opinion, this is a case of a road-type *burgus* engaged in trading activities, most probably a trading post along the road. In the Byzantine period the meaning of the term is totally changed, denoting for example a whole linear defense system (*per lineam limitum*).⁶⁵

In conclusion, two main ideas has to be underscore. The first one is that the term *burgus* is not a strictly 4th century term that defines a watchtower,⁶⁶ on the contrary, the term is used earlier, from the second half of the 2nd century, defining middle sized structures, in both cases, on the frontier and on the roads. Secondly, the term, the structure, the functionality, the position of a *burgus*, all of these are different from those of a tower (*turres-phruri-skopeloi*), the latter being mainly used for signaling and safeguarding from a high spot in case of the frontiers, and the first ones to administrate, to secure and to block small raids, on the main access routes in the Empire and on the Imperial roads.

Appendix. *Burgus*-type structures and watchtowers inscriptions.

1. AÉ 1957, 279 = AÉ 2000, 1291 = ILB 211 = PIR G50.

Dating: AD 151-152.

Province: Moesia Inferior.

Findspot: Teteven (Bulgaria).

Imp(erator) Caes(ar) T(itus) Ael(ius) Hadrian(us) / Antoninus Aug(ustus) Pius p(ater) p(atriciae) trib(unicia) / potestate XV co(n)s(ul) IIII pr(a)esidia / et burgos ob tutelam provinci(ae) / Thraciae fecit curante C(aio) Gallonio / Frontone Q(uinto) Marcio Turbone leg(ato) / Aug(usti) pr(o) pr(aetore) per fines civitatis / Serd(ic)ensium regione Dyptens(ium) / praesidia n(umero) IIII burgi n(umero) XII phruri // n(umero) CIX.

2. AÉ 1927, 49 = AÉ 1927, 168 = PIR I, 271.

Dating: AD 154-155.

Province: Thracia.

Findspot: Sredec (Bulgaria).

Imp(erator) Caes(ar) T(itus) Ael(ius) Hadrian(us) / Antoninus Aug(ustus) Pius p(ater) p(atriciae) tri[b(unicia)] / potestate XVIII co(n)s(ul) IIII burgos et/ praesidia ob tutelam provin(ciae) / Thraciae fecit curante C(aio) Iulio Commodo Orfitiano leg(ato) / Aug(usti) pr(o) pr(aetore) per fin(es) col(oniae) Fl(aviae) Deult(ensium) burgos / e[t] praesidium.

3. CIL VIII 2495 = AÉ 1909, nr. 73

Dating: AD 177-192.

Province: Numidia.

Findspot: Ksar Sidi el Hadj (Algeria).

60 Veg. Mil. X.3: "Quod si ultra ictum teli, in clivo tamen civitatis subiecta sit vena, castellum parvulum, quem burgum vocant, inter civitatem et fontem convenit fabricari ibique ballistas sagittariosque constitui, ut aqua defendatur ab hostibus".

61 Gróf, Gróh 2001, 117.

62 Nagy 1999, 125.

63 CIL III 3653.

64 Burns 2003, 342-345.

65 Gichon 1974, 540.

66 For this definition see Darvill 2008, 63.

Imp(eratori) Caes(ari) M(arco) Aurelio / Commodo Antoni/no Pio Felice Aug(usto) Germ(anico) / Sarm(atico) Britannico p(ater) p(atriciae) / trib(unicia) pote(estate) XIII co(n)s(uli) V / burgum commodi/anum speculato/rium inter duas vi/as ad salutem commel/antum nova tute/lla constitui iussit Ti(berius) / Claudius Gordianus v(ir) c(larissimus) leg(atus) Aug(us-ti) pr(o) pr(aetore) / cura agente [[...]].

4. CIL VIII 21662

Dating: AD 177-192.

Province: Mauretania Cesariensis.

Findspot: Bou-Tlélis (Algeria).

Imp(eratori) Caes(ari) M(arco) / Aurelio [...] / Pio Felice Aug(usto) / t(tribunicia) p(otestate) [...] / burgum institutum / per T(itum) Fla(v)ium / Serenum / [p]ro(curatorum) su[um].

5. AÉ 1910, 145 = AÉ 1952, 15 = RIU 1135 = PIR C 1359.⁶⁷

Dating: AD 180-183.

Province: Pannonia Inferior.

Find spot: Dunaúváros – *Intercisa* (Hungary).

Imp(erator) Caes(ar) M(arcus) Aur(elius) [[C[ommod]us]] / Antoninus Aug(ustus) Pius Sarm(aticus) Germ(anicus) Britt(anicus) / pont(ifex) max(imus) trib(unicia) pot(estate) VI imp(erator) IIII co(n)s(ul) IIII p(ater) p(atriciae) / ripam omnem burgis a solo ex/structis item praesidi(is) per loca / opportuna ad clandestinos latrun/culorum transitus oppositis mul/nivit per [[L(ucium) Cornelium Felicem]] / [[Plotianum leg(atum) pr(o) pr(aetore)]]].

6. CIL VIII 22629.

Dating: AD 184-192.

Province: Mauretania Cesariensis.

Findspot: Ain Temouchent – *Ad Albulas* (Algeria).

Imp(erator) Caesar M(arcus) Au(relius) Commodus / Antoninus Aug(ustus) Pi(us) Sarm(aticus) Ger(ma)nicus Britannicus / burgis novis pro/vincia munita miliaria conlapsa vel/estate restituit per [...]].

7. CIL VII 2494 = ILS 2636.

Dating: AD 211-217.

Province: Numidia

Findspot: Loth Bordj (Algeria).

Imp(eratore) Case(are) M(arco) Aurelio / Severo Antonino Aug(usto) bur / gum speculato(r)i(um) Anto(ninianum) / Mar-cus Val(erius) Senecio leg(atus) eius pr(o) / pr(aetore) c(larissimus) v(ir) fieri iussit c(uram) a(gente) C(aio) Iulio Ae / lurione [[(centurione) leg(ionis) III]] Aug(ustae) Anto(niniana) prae(posito) n(umeri) H(emesenorum) Ant(oniniani) // Ti(tulum) bis posuit Caletamera in te(m)pore suo.

8. IRT 895

Dating: AD 222-235.

Province: Africa Proconsularis

Findspot: Gheriat el-Garbia (Libya).

Imp(eratori) Caes(ari) M(arco) Aurel(io) / Seve[r]o [[Alexandr]o] / Pi(o) Fe[l]ic[i] Aug(usto) [[et Iuliae] / [Mamaeae Augustae matri Aug(usti)]] et cas/torum M(arcus) A[...]/ [[c(enturio) leg(ionis) III Aug(ustae) p(iae) v(indicis)]] [[S[e]v] erian(a)e pr(a)epo/situs vex[ill]ationis leg(ionis) eiusdem burgum [a] solo per eandem / vexillationem instituit.

9. AÉ 2000, 1268.

Dating: AD 151-152.

Province: Thracia.

Findspot: Devnya (Bulgaria).

...] / [...curante C(aio) Gal]lonio Fr[ontone] Q(uinto) Marcio / Turbone leg(ato) A[ug(usti) pr(o) pr(aetore)] / per fines civitat[is Mar]cionopolitano[rum re]gion[e] Gelegetio[rum in? propi?]/nquo phruri n(umero)[...].

10. CIL VIII 20816 = AÉ 1902 220 = AÉ 1952, nr. 5.

Dating: AD 184-191.

Province: Mauretania Caesariensis.

⁶⁷ Identical text and dating with RIU 1136, RIU 1127, RIU 1128, RIU 1129, RIU 1130. Tit. Aq. 935, RIU 1131 and PIR C 1359 have similar texts, dating somewhere between AD 182-185.

Findspot: Aumale (Algeria).

Imp(erator) Caesar M(arcus) Aurel(ius) Commodus / Antoninus Aug(ustus) P(ius) Germanicus Sarmaticus Britannicus / Maximus securitati provincialium suorum c(o)nsulens / turres novas instituit et veteres refecit oper(a) militum / suorum curante / Cl(audio) Perpetuo proc(uratori) suo.

11. CIL VIII 8991 = AÉ 1911, 119.

Dating: AD 209-211.

Province: Mauretania Caesariensis.

Findspot: Daourak (Algeria).

Imp(eratori) Caes(ari) L(ucio) Septimio Seve(ro) Pio Pertinaci Aug(usto) Arab(ico) Adia/b(enico) Part(ico) pont(ifici) max(imo) [...] et / Imp(eratori) Caes(ari) M(arco) Aurelio Anto(nino) [...] / caes(arum) augg(ustorum) turrim / r(u)ina lapsam ex pre(cepto) P(ubli) Aeli Peregrini / v(iri) e(gregii) proc(uratoris) Auggg(ustorum) Rusadi/tani restituer[unt].

Turnuri de supraveghere și structuri de tip *burgus* în sursele epigrafice romane(sec. I-III e.n.)

(Rezumat)

Prezentul studiu își propune o sistematizare și o analiză a surselor epigrafice romane care menționează construcția sau existența turnurilor de supraveghere și a structurilor de tip *burgus* din cadrul frontierei Imperiului. Utilizând un spectru geografic larg, din Numidia și până în Pannonia, studiul și-a propus evidențierea terminologică, structurală și funcțională a diferenței dintre cele două fortificații minore existente în cadrul oricărei frontiere non-liniare, *turres* și *burgi*, demonstrând într-o măsură relativă că acești termeni se referă în majoritatea cazurilor la entități structurale distincte, cu rol propriu în mecanismul *limes*-ului

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Abbreviations

AÉ	<i>L'Année épigraphique</i> , Paris.
Bull Inst Fr Archeol Orient	Bulletin de l'Institut français d'archéologie orientale, Egypt.
CIL	<i>Corpus Inscriptionum Latinarum</i> , Berlin.
Diz. Ep.	<i>Dizionario Epigrafico di Antichità Romane</i> , Roma. <i>ILS Inscriptiones Latinae Selectae</i> .
Mél Rom	<i>Mélanges de l'école française de Rome</i> , Rome.
PIR	<i>Prosopographia Imperii Romani</i> , online edition, http://pir.bbaw.de
RIU	Römische Inschrift in Ungarn
SEBarc	Sylloge epigraphica Barcinonensis, Barcelona.
TitAq	<i>Tituli Aquincenses</i> , Budapesta, 2009-2011.

Table I. Inscriptions concerning the watchtowers.

AÉ 1957, 270	Moesia Inferior	151-152	Road towers	109	Caius Gallonius Fronti Quintus Marcus Turbo	legatus Augusti pro praetore	-
AÉ 2000, 1268	Moesia Inferior	151-152	Road towers	unspecified	Caius Gallonius Fronti Quintus Marcus Turbo	legatus Augusti pro praetore	-
CIL VIII 8991	Mauretania Cesariensis	209-211	Interior tower	1	Publius Aelius Peregrinus	procurator Augustorum	-
CIL VIII 20816	Mauretania Cesariensis	184-191	Frontier towers	unspecified	Claudius Perpetus	procurator	<i>opera militum</i>

Table II. Inscriptions concerning the *burgus*-type structures.

Source	Location	Date	<i>Burgus</i> -type	Supervision	Function	Unit
AÉ 1957, 279	Moesia Inferior	151-152	Road- <i>burgus</i>	Caius Gallonius Fronti Quintus Marcus Turbo	legatus Augusti pro praetore	-
AÉ 1927, 49	Thracia	154-155	Road- <i>burgus</i>	Caius Iulius Commo- dus Orfitianus	legatus Augusti pro praetore	-
CIL VIII, 2494	Numidia	211-217	Road- <i>burgus</i> Frontier- <i>burgus</i>	Caius Iulius Aelurio	centurion/ praepositus	leg. III. Augusta/numerus Hemesenorum Antoninianorum
CIL VIII, 2495	Numidia	177-192	Road- <i>burgus</i> Frontier- <i>burgus</i>	-	-	-
IRT 895	Africa Proconsularis	222-235	Frontier- <i>burgus</i> ?	Marcus A[...]	centurion/ praepositus	leg. III. Augusta/vexillatio legions III Auguste
CIL VIII 22629	Mauretania Cesariensis	184-192	Road- <i>burgus</i>	-	-	-
CIL VIII 21662	Mauretania Cesariensis	177-192	Road- <i>burgus</i>	Titus Flavius Serenus	procurator	-
RIU 1135	Pannonia Inferior	180-183	Frontier- <i>burgus</i>	Lucius Cornelius Felix Plotianus	legatus pro praetore	-
RIU 1136	Pannonia Inferior	180-183	Frontier- <i>burgus</i>	Lucius Cornelius Felix Plotianus	legatus pro praetore	-
RIU 1127	Pannonia Inferior	180-183	Frontier- <i>burgus</i>	Lucius Cornelius Felix Plotianus	legatus pro praetore	-
RIU 1128	Pannonia Inferior	180-183	Frontier- <i>burgus</i>	Lucius Cornelius Felix Plotianus	legatus pro praetore	-
RIU 1129	Pannonia Inferior	180-183	Frontier- <i>burgus</i>	Lucius Cornelius Felix Plotianus	legatus pro praetore	-
RIU 1130	Pannonia Inferior	180-183	Frontier- <i>burgus</i>	Lucius Cornelius Felix Plotianus	legatus pro praetore	-
RIU 1131	Pannonia Inferior	182-185	Frontier- <i>burgus</i>	Lucius Cornelius Felix Plotianus	legatus pro praetore	-
PIR C 1359	Pannonia Inferior	183-185	Frontier- <i>burgus</i>	Lucius Cornelius Felix Plotianus	legatus pro praetore	-
TIT AQ 935	Pannonia Inferior	183	Frontier- <i>burgus</i>	Lucius Cornelius Felix Plotianus	legatus pro praetore	-