

NEW ARCHAEOLOGICAL INVESTIGATIONS ON  
THE UPPER MOESIAN LIMES.  
ĆETAĆE-RADUJEVAC SITE, LOCATED IN THE  
ROMAN AQUAE REGION, AT THE CONFLUENCE  
OF THE TIMOK AND DANUBE RIVERS<sup>1</sup>

Vladimir P. PETROVIĆ\*  
Gordan JANJIĆ\*\*

**Cuvinte-cheie:** *limesul roman în Serbia, aşezarea de la Ćetaće-Radujevac, fort roman, debutul cercetărilor arheologice.*

**Keywords:** *Roman limes in Serbia, site of Ćetaće-Radujevac, Roman fort, first archaeological investigations.*

**Rezumat:** *Având în vedere poziţionarea sa remarcabilă în vecinătatea confluenţei râului Timok cu Dunărea, pe limesul roman, precum şi indiciile privind o fondare foarte timpurie, situl Ćetaće, situat în apropierea satului Radujevac, oferă date importante pentru cunoaşterea statiei romane Aquae, a rolului acesteia din punct de vedere militar, economic, minier şi vamal. Pe baza a două campanii arheologice, în 2021 şi 2022, şi a unor intensive perieghete efectuate pe o zonă mai extinsă, s-a stabilit că situl are mai multe niveluri datând din perioadele protoistorică, romană şi bizantină timpurie şi păstrează o inerentă importanţă militară şi strategică până în perioada contemporană. Din fericire, situl se află pe o porţiune a limesului Dunării din Serbia care nu a fost pusă în pericol de construcţia hidrocentralelor de pe Dunăre. În ceea ce priveşte perioada romană, a fost atestată existenţa zidurilor de apărare şi a unui turn de colţ al unei fortificaţii, construit la sfârşitul secolului I, care a continuat să sufere modificări şi completări până la începutul perioadei bizantine. Cronologia parţial stabilită a fost confirmată de descoperiri relevante.*

**Abstract:** *Given its remarkable location in the vicinity of the confluence of the Timok and Danube rivers, on the Roman limes, as well as indications of very early construction, the site of Ćetaće near the village of Radujevac offers vital evidence for a closer characterization of the whole area of Roman Aquae (Prahovo) in terms of its military, communication,*

---

\* Vladimir P. PETROVIĆ: Institute for Balkan Studies Serbian Academy of Sciences and Arts, Belgrade; e-mail: vladimir.arheolog@gmail.com.

\*\* Gordan JANJIĆ: Museum of Krajina Negotin; e-mail: gordanjanjic62@gmail.com.

<sup>1</sup> The article was written as a result of the work at the Institute for Balkan Studies of Serbian Academy of Sciences and Arts, which is financed by the Ministry of Science, Technological Development and Innovation of the Republic of Serbia and on the basis of the Agreement on the implementation and financing of scientific research work in 2023, number: 451-03-47/2023-01 dated 17.01.2023.

*economic, mining and customs operation role. Based on two archaeological campaigns, in 2021 and 2022, and extensive field surveys of the broader area, the site has been determined to have several levels dating from the proto-historical, Roman and early Byzantine periods and retains an inherent military and strategic importance until in the contemporary period. As luck would have it, the site is located on a section of the Danube limes in Serbia which was not endangered by the construction of the hydroelectric power plants on the Danube. As far as the Roman period is concerned, the existence has been attested of the masonry defences and a corner tower of a fort built in the late first century which kept undergoing alterations and additions until the early Byzantine period. The partially established chronology has been confirmed by interesting finds.*

After the establishment of the Roman frontier in the area of the Danube limes, from the Tiberian age to Trajan intensive construction was taking place in the broader area of Djerdap (Iron Gates) from Golubac (*Cuppae*) to Prahovo (*Aquae*) of Roman border forts, overland and river communications, a port and a bridge across the Danube with a view to consolidating the border and in preparation for the Dacian War<sup>2</sup>.

In Roman times, *Egeta* (Brza Palanka)<sup>3</sup> and *Aquae*<sup>4</sup>, in eastern Serbia's region of Ključ, operated as two main nodes of overland routes as well as important river ports (**Map 1** and **Map 2**).

It seems highly likely that the port near present-day Prahovo (Kusjak), archaeologically investigated during the construction of the hydroelectric power plant Djerdap II<sup>5</sup>, was one of the four major construction projects attested by epigraphic monuments-Trajan's *tabulae*<sup>6</sup> (**Fig. 1**).

Roman *Aquae*, at the confluence of the Timok river and Danube as a prominent and strategically important point in its broader area, was not only a military but also a trading hub, an important logistics centre and the administrative seat of a large mining district under imperial control<sup>7</sup>. The site of Četaće near the village of Radujevac,<sup>8</sup> given its proximity to the confluence of the Timok river and Danube, on the Roman limes, as well as indications of very early construction, offers vital evidence for a closer characterization of the whole area of Roman *Aquae* (Prahovo) in terms of its military, communication, economic, mining and customs operation role (*portorium*).<sup>9</sup>

<sup>2</sup> PETROVIĆ, VASIĆ 1996, p. 15–27; PETROVIĆ 2017, p. 387–396; PETROVIĆ 2019.

<sup>3</sup> *TIR*, L–34, 57; PETROVIĆ 1984, p. 153–166.

<sup>4</sup> *TIR*, L–34, 93; PETROVIĆ 2018, p. 386–393.

<sup>5</sup> PETROVIĆ 1989–1990, p. 207–216; PETROVIĆ 1991, p. 295–298.

<sup>6</sup> *CIL* III, 1699 = 8267 = *ILS* 5863 = *ILJug* I, 63 = *AE* 1978, 474; *CIL* III, 1642 = *ILJug*. 3, 1362; *ILJug*. II, 468 = *AE* 1973, 475; PETROVIĆ 1972, p. 31–40.

<sup>7</sup> DUŠANIĆ 2004, p. 247–270.

<sup>8</sup> The site of Četaće is situated near the village of Radujevac, Negotin Municipality. Its geographic coordinates are: N44° 13.730' E22° 39.377'. The toponym Četaće comes from the Romanian word *cetate* (from Lat. *civitas*, -atis) and in Serbian denotes a "fort", a "fortification" (<https://dexonline.ro/definitie/cetate>). Its pronunciation in standard Romanian is "četate", but regionally, in the Romanian dialects (Banat and Transylvania) a sound change takes place (palatalization) and in those areas the word is pronounced *četaće* or *šetetaće*. We are grateful to our colleague dr. Annemarie Sorescu-Marinković for the explanation of the exact meaning and Romanian origin of the toponym.

<sup>9</sup> A Roman customs station might have been located at the site of Četaće not far from the crossing over the Timok, analogously to what is recorded for the stations near the bridge across

The area of the confluence of the Timok and Danube rivers has not been much explored archaeologically. Field surveys carried out after the Second World War recorded the site of "Ćetaće" not far from the Timok river and Danube<sup>10</sup>. Given the history of inundation of the two rivers, the site was likely located on the terrain unexposed to periodic flooding. In its immediate vicinity is also the place where the Dupljanska river joins the Danube, which means that the site had access to abundant water resources. In a short article published in 1961 the first explorer of the site, N. Petrović, described a rectangular fortification with rounded corners and stated that trial trenching established the presence of a fort with its entrance on the north and an encircling ditch. The site was defended by rubble-and-earth ramparts. The excavator identified it as a "Byzantine" fort based on the plentiful fragments of Byzantine pottery found in the rubble. Situated in the military zone along the border with Bulgaria and Romania, the site of Ćetaće remained unexplored and practically forgotten until the 2010s.

In 2016 the Museum of Krajina in Negotin undertook an extensive field survey of the area under its responsibility in order to establish the actual state of preservation of the archaeological heritage eligible for the preliminary list of sites on the Danube limes in Serbia to be nominated for the UNESCO World Heritage List<sup>11</sup>. The site of Ćetaće was also surveyed. The state of its preservation was identified and its chronology established as undoubtedly beginning in the proto-historical period based on the presence of fragments of so-called La Tène pottery, with the other remains dated to the Roman and early Byzantine periods (remains of a smaller masonry structure—a tower (?), plentiful finds of fragmented pottery, brick, slag, building stones and, sporadically, bones).

The most interesting discovery made during the survey was a double rampart built of rubble and earth. This fact suggested a Roman military fortification, possibly of a very early date, built on a markedly important strategic location<sup>12</sup>. The archaeological record for this section of the Danube frontier produces a vague picture of the early Roman military and civilian presence. The polygonal plan of the fort with a double rampart and a ditch could have made one thought of parallels with Roman military camps such as occur in the neighbouring areas in the early phase of Roman domination (Mora Vagei/*Clevora*, Glamija in Rtkovo)<sup>13</sup>. The results of the first trial excavation known from N. Petrović's brief report from 1961 have never been fully published. We know nothing of the characteristics of the movable finds discovered at the time and not even the recent surveys could tell us much more about the site.

In 2021 the Institute for Balkan Studies, Serbian Academy of Sciences and Arts, in collaboration with the Negotin-based Museum of Krajina, started the first archaeological investigation of the site of Ćetaće near the village of Radujevac.<sup>14</sup> The inves-

---

the Sava at Sirmium (Sremska Mitrovica) and near the crossing over the Velika Morava at Margum (Orašje), see FRANCE, NELIS-CLÉMENT 2014, p. 171 and 239, n. 502.

<sup>10</sup> PETROVIĆ 1961, p. 142.

<sup>11</sup> <https://whc.unesco.org/en/tentativelists/6475/>; GOLUBOVIĆ, MRDIĆ 2013, p. 101–118.

<sup>12</sup> Under emperor Claudius many temporary earthen and wooden fortifications were built on the Upper Moesian limes, see KORAĆ *et alii* 2014, p. 39.

<sup>13</sup> On Mora Vagei (*Clevora*): TIR, L-34, 48; CERMANOVIĆ-KUZMANOVIĆ, STANKOVIĆ 1986, p. 453–466. On the site of Glamija in Rtkovo, see GABRIČEVIĆ 1986, p. 71–91.

<sup>14</sup> The project of archaeological excavation on the site of Ćetaće-Radujevac is directed by the

tigation, resumed in 2022, was carefully designed so as to ensure it brought fresh information and reliable scientific results (Fig. 2).

The 2021 archaeological campaign began by opening Trench 1 (6 m by 5 m) in the north-western sector of the site which was presumed, based on the configuration of the terrain, to be a part of the outer rampart of the fort. It revealed five stratigraphic units and a circular or semi-circular wall whose curve could be traced along the length of 3.1 m. The thickness of the wall from its exterior face to its interior semi-circular side is 1.9 m and the inner diameter is about 1.8 m. The wall is built of variously sized broken stones bound with white lime mortar, and its surviving upper side is coated with a layer of strong plaster. The western profile showed “negative” imprints of the walls of a structure. The trench was explored to a relative depth of 1.1 m.

Trench 1a (3.5 m long north to east by 1.5 m wide) was dug at a distance of 0.5 m east of Trench 1. The space between them was intended to be used as a control profile. Trench 1a showed seven stratigraphic units of a relative depth of 1.9 m. The wall of the structure found in Trench 1 did not extend into it, contrary to what could be expected. But the exposure of the control profile between the two trenches produced a completely unexpected discovery. Namely, the oval shape of the structure was fully confirmed. A fragment of stamped brick was found on the quite well-levelled layer of strong plaster, preserving only the letters: *coh(ors)* (Fig. 3, 4, 4a).

It became clear, therefore, that an auxiliary unit of the Roman army had taken part in the construction of the discovered structure. Its full name could not be established because of a thick layer of plaster covering the rest of the stamped inscription. The answer to this question will have to wait for some other discovery or chance find. Apart from exploring the oval structure in Trench 1, the situation in the area of the inner earthen rampart was also investigated. Trench 2 (5 m long west to east by 2.5 m wide) was excavated in the middle of the western inner rampart. It yielded seven stratigraphic units. An unexpected discovery in the layer of loose light brown soil was a necropolis, in fact Grave 1 oriented west to east and Grave 2, identically oriented but with the skeleton subsequently disturbed by wild animals. The same layer yielded a brick fragment incised with a cross (Fig. 5, 5a).

As a result of the discovery of the necropolis, the examination of Trench 2 was suspended and rescheduled for another campaign. The trench was explored to a relative depth of 1.8 m.

Trench 3 (7 m long north to south by 1.5 m wide) was opened on the inner northern “earthen rampart” of the fort. It showed ten stratigraphic units. Unexpectedly, its southern half also contained a part of the necropolis with Grave 1 oriented south to north discovered in a layer of loose yellow soil. Grave 2, holding a skeleton oriented west to east, was discovered at a lower level in a layer of loose light brown soil. It contained no grave goods. The same layer yielded a brick fragment incised with a cross. Grave 2 is contemporary with the burials found in Trench 2, whereas Grave 1 is of a later date. The trench was explored to a relative depth of 2.9 m (Fig. 6, 7, 7a).

The 2022 archaeological season focused on the remains of military architecture

in order to establishing the chronology and function of the discovered part of the fort more clearly. A trial trench (2 m by 2.3 m) was dug south of the last-year's Trench 1a and southeast of Trench 1 in order to release Structure 1 from a massive tree stump with the root system and to cause the eastern and southern profiles of Trench 1 to meet at a right angle. The resulting dimensions of Trench 1 were 7 m by 6 m. In the trial trench, which thus became an integral part of Trench 1, six stratigraphic units documented during the previous season were observed. After the bottom of Trench 1 was levelled, imprints of walls were noted. The imprint of the southern wall runs SW-NE along the length of 4.5 m, its maximum width being 1.3m. Its actual dimensions were not established because it extends into the profile of the trench. Next to the western profile of the trench was a row of collapsed stones, presumably from the wall of the structure which continues in the shape of the Cyrillic letter "Г" in the direction of the inner circular (apsidal?) part of Structure 1. This wall connects to the imprint of the southern wall also at a right angle, which suggests yet another masonry structure, designated as Structure 2.

In order to establish the depth of the foundation belonging to the Structure 1 is, a trial trench (2.5 m by 1.1 m) was dug next to the exterior face of its wall. It was discovered that Structure 1 had in fact been added to an already existing structure, also oval in plan, as clearly visible on the face of the wall. This earlier circular shape structure, designated as Structure 3, may be presumed to be a semi-circular corner tower of the Roman fort from the period of the first – second century. The tower was repaired, reinforced and added to in the third – fourth century, when Structures 1 and 3 in fact formed a structural whole. The bottom of the foundation trench of Structure 3, which formed a whole with Structure 1 in the second construction phase, is at a relative depth of 2.4 m (Fig. 8, 9).

In the third building phase the interior semi-circular portion of Structure 1 was given the shape of an apse and connected to the part of the exterior face of the wall in the eastern part of the trench with a levelling layer of strong plaster. As in the first excavation season, in 2022 yet another fragment of fresco plaster was found in the apsidal part of Structure 1. Therefore, the presence of a religious, possibly Christian, building may be presumed in the third phase.

The early Byzantine, Christian period of the site (fifth – sixth century) is further indicated by the graves found in Trenches 2 and 3 with bricks incised with a cross.

The first two excavation campaigns discovered an abundance of movable archaeological material, mostly Roman pottery dating from the end of the first to the end of the fourth century<sup>15</sup>. To be singled out is the fragment of an amphora which may be dated to the end of the first and beginning of the second century based on analogies. It is potentially indicative of the heterogeneous character of the site, but it is too early to make any speculations. The date of the amphora allows us nonetheless to confirm the presumed early date of the fort at the confluence of the Timok and Danube rivers, the period of the consolidation of the Roman limes and preparations for the conquest of Dacia. On the other hand, it seems increasingly certain from these finds that the late – first – century Roman fort was closely connected with

---

<sup>15</sup> NIKOLIĆ-ĐORĐEVIĆ 2000, p. 11–244; JEREMIĆ 2009; BOJOVIĆ 1977, p. 5–23; BJELAJAC, SIMIĆ 1991, p. 17–21; BJELAJAC 1996; BIKIĆ, IVANIŠEVIĆ 1996, p. 253–271.

Roman *Aquae* and its port, the first major infrastructural project in the Iron Gates area completed under Trajan, as evidenced by the now sadly lost inscription of 99 AD<sup>16</sup> (**Tab. 1**).

A remarkable find of interest to the chronology of the site is an almost intact pear-shaped oil lamp with concave discus, reliably dateable to the fourth century based on the analogies from Singidunum<sup>17</sup>. The lamp, made of kaolin clay, is 10 cm in length and 6.9 cm in width. Its height at the handle is 4 cm, the diameter of the discus is 3.5 cm, and the diameter of the base, 3.8 cm (**Fig. 10**).

The nozzle is relatively short. The concave discus is separated from the shoulders by a low moulding which continues towards the nozzle and around its tip, flanking the nozzle channel. The discus is decorated with curved lines slanted anti-clockwise and arranged radially from the filling hole. The sloping shoulders are decorated with a row of short ribs along the either side of the moulding. At the point where the shoulders taper to form the nozzle, these ornamental rows terminate with a circular ornament with a dot in the middle. The wick hole at the tip of the nozzle is charred from use. The solid handle is set symmetrically to the nozzle. Its ends are shaped into two cylindrical enlargements, one of which is missing (chipped off). The inner side of the surviving enlargement is decorated with concentric circles. The lamp rests on a base ring<sup>18</sup>.

Based on all the information presented here, some preliminary thoughts following from only two, partly limited, archaeological seasons seem worthy of being put forward. The site of Četaće near the village of Radujevac was spared from destruction during the construction of the hydroelectric power plant owing to its position at the confluence of the Timok and Danube rivers, certainly a section of the Roman Danube frontier in present-day Serbia worthy of researchers' particular attention. It is the strategic location of the site that decided its importance and purpose. It was the point that defended the entrance to the Timok valley on the section of the Roman road *Aquae-Dorticum*<sup>19</sup>, at a crossing over the Timok. It quite certainly was built in the early period of the construction of the limes before the conquest of Dacia. It may have lost its primary military importance over time, especially after the creation of the Roman province of Dacia, when it may have become customs point and a major centre of the Roman mining district of *Aquae* (slag). It seems at the moment that the original Roman masonry fort built in the first century (Structure 3) received additions and was enlarged between the second and fourth century (Structures 1 and 2). Then, in the early Byzantine period, apart from the possible restoration of its military structure, it was given markedly Christian elements (apse with fresco plaster, early Christian burials). Taking into account the proto-historical Dacian context on the site, four chronological phases may be identified clearly. The importance of the proto-historical element, with Dacian pottery noted in a broader area of the site, should not be neglected. Based on the data about the proto-historical Dacian

<sup>16</sup> PETROVIĆ 1989–1990, p. 295–298.

<sup>17</sup> KRUNIĆ 2011, p. 317–318.

<sup>18</sup> The authors are grateful to their colleague dr. Milica TAPAVIČKI-ILIĆ for her generous help regarding the possible date of and analogies to this significant find.

<sup>19</sup> Roman Dorticum is situated on the bank of the Danube in the vicinity of the right bank of the Timok near the village of Vrav, Bulgaria. See TIR, L–34, 55; IVANOV, STOICHKOV 1992.

material recorded in the Morava River valley, in Paraćin, it is clear that the Timok river valley was an important, perhaps even primary communication route between the Danube valley and the interior of the Balkans as early as pre-Roman times and that it retained the importance in the Roman period.

The double earthen rampart visible in the field and confirmed by LiDAR images seems to negate all previous building phases on the site, perhaps indicating some later emergency phase of fortifying this location of an inherent military importance. The presence of a multi-period necropolis within an originally Roman fort seems to support the hypothesis. The archaeological excavations carried out so far as well as those that will hopefully follow strongly justify the inclusion of the site of Četaće-Radujevac in the tentative UNESCO list pertaining to the Roman Danube frontier-limes in Serbia both by the ascertained structural remains of a Roman fort and by the movable material which defines it in terms of chronology and character.

### BIBLIOGRAPHY

- BIKIĆ, IVANIŠEVIĆ 1996 – V. Bikić, V. Ivanišević, *South gate area in the Upper town of Belgrade fortress*, *Starinar* 47 (1996), p. 253–271.
- BJELAJAC 1996 – Lj. Bjelajac, *Amfore gornjomezijskog Podunavlja*, Belgrade, 1996.
- BJELAJAC, SIMIĆ 1991 – Lj. Bjelajac, Z. Simić, *Rezultati zaštitnih arheoloških iskopavanja na prostoru ulice Kneza Mihaila*, *Godišnjak grada Beograda* 37 (1991), p. 17–21.
- BOJOVIĆ 1977 – D. Bojović, *Rimske terme u parku na Studentskom trgu u Beogradu*, *Godišnjak grada Beograda* 34 (1977), p. 5–23.
- CERMANOVIC-KUZMANOVIC, STANKOVIC 1986 – A. Cermanović-Kuzmanović, S. Stanković, *La forteresse antique Mora Vagei près de Mihajlovac*, *Djerdapske sveske/Cahiers des Portes de Fer* 3 (1986), p. 453–466.
- DUSANIC 2004 – S. Dusanic, *Roman mining in Illyricum: historical aspects*, in: G. Urso, (ed.): *Dall'Adriatico al Danubio. L'Illirico nell'età greca e romana*, *Atti del Convegno internazionale*, Cividale del Friuli, 25–27 settembre 2003 (I convegni della Fondazione Niccolo Canussio 3), Pisa, p. 247–270.
- FRANCE, NELIS-CLEMENT 2014 – J. France, J. Nelis-Clément (eds.), *La statio. Archéologie d'un lieu de pouvoir dans l'empire romain*, Bordeaux, 2014.
- GABRICEVIC 1986 – M. Gabričević, *Rtkovo–Glamija I – une forteresse de la basse époque*, *fouilles de 1980–1982*, *Djerdapske sveske/Cahiers des Portes de Fer* 3 (1986), p. 71–91.
- GOLUBOVIĆ, MRĐIĆ 2013 – S. Golubović, N. Mrđić, *Danube Limes as a UNESCO World Heritage Site*, *Archaeology and Science* 9 (2013), p. 101–118.
- IVANOV, STOICHKOV 1992 – R. Ivanov, V. Stoichkov, *Dolnodunavska limes ot Dortikum do Bononia*, *Voennoistoričeski sbornik* 1 (1992), p. 76–93.
- JEREMIĆ 2009 – G. Jeremić, *Saldum: Roman and Early Byzantine Fortification*, Belgrade, 2009.
- KORAĆ *et alii* 2014 – M. Korać, S. Golubović, N. Mrđić, G. Jeremić, S. Pop-Lazić, *Roman Limes in Serbia*, Belgrade, 2014.
- KRUNIĆ 2011 – S. Krunic, *Antičke svetiljke iz Muzeja grada Beograda*, Belgrade, 2011.
- NIKOLIĆ-ĐORĐEVIĆ 2000 – S. Nikolić-Đorđević, *Antička keramika Singidunuma-oblici posuda*, *Singidunum* 2 (2000), p. 11–244.
- PETROVIĆ 1961 – N. Petrović, *Utvrđenja na limesu kod Negotina*, in: M. Grbić (ed.), *Limes u Jugoslaviji I*, Belgrade, 1961, p. 141–144.
- PETROVIĆ 1972 – P. Petrović, *Nova Trajanova tabla u Djerdapu*, *Starinar* 21 (1972), p. 31–39.

PETROVIĆ 1984 – P. Petrović, *Brza Palanka-Egeta*, Djerdapske sveske/Cahiers des Portes de Fer 2 (1984), p. 153–166.

PETROVIĆ 1989 – 1990 – P. Petrović, *Classis Flavia Moesica na Dunavu i Gornjoj Meziji* (*Classis Flavia Moesica on the Danube in Upper Moesia*), *Starinar* 40–41 (1989–1990), p. 207–216.

PETROVIĆ 1991 – P. Petrović, *Ein Donauhafen von Trajan bei dem Kastell Aquae (Moesia Superior)*, in: V. A. Maxfield, M. J. Dobson (eds.), *Roman Frontier Studies 1989: Proceedings of the XV<sup>th</sup> International Congress of Roman Frontiers Studies*, Canterbury, 2–10 September 1989, Exeter, p. 295–298.

PETROVIĆ 1996 – P. Petrović (ed.), *Roman Limes on the Middle and Lower Danube*, Belgrade, 1996.

PETROVIĆ, VASIĆ 1996 – P. Petrović, M. Vasić, *The Roman Frontier in Upper Moesia: Archeological Investigations in the Iron Gate Area-Main Results*, in: P. Petrović (ed.), *Roman Limes on the Middle and Lower Danube*, Belgrad, p. 15–27.

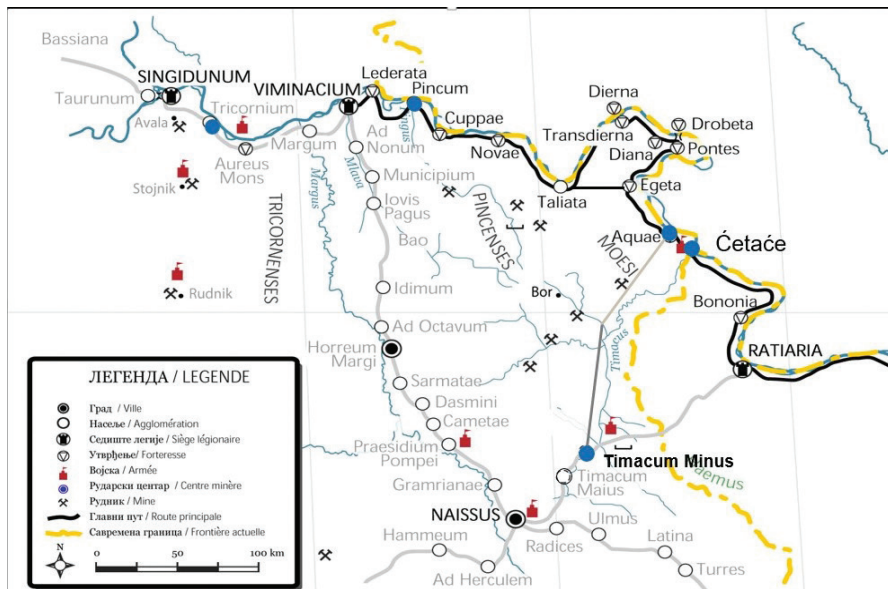
PETROVIĆ 2017 – V. P. Petrović, *Les travaux des Romains aux Portes de Fer*, in: A. Bouet, C. Petit-Aupert (eds.), *Bibere, ridere, gaudere, studere, hoc est vivere: hommages à Francis Tassaux*, Bordeaux, 2017, p. 387–396.

PETROVIĆ 2018 – V. P. Petrović, *The Aquae Station on the Roman Danube Limes Road in Upper Moesia*. *Danubian Provinces of the Roman Empire*, *Open Archaeology* 4 (2018), p. 386–393.

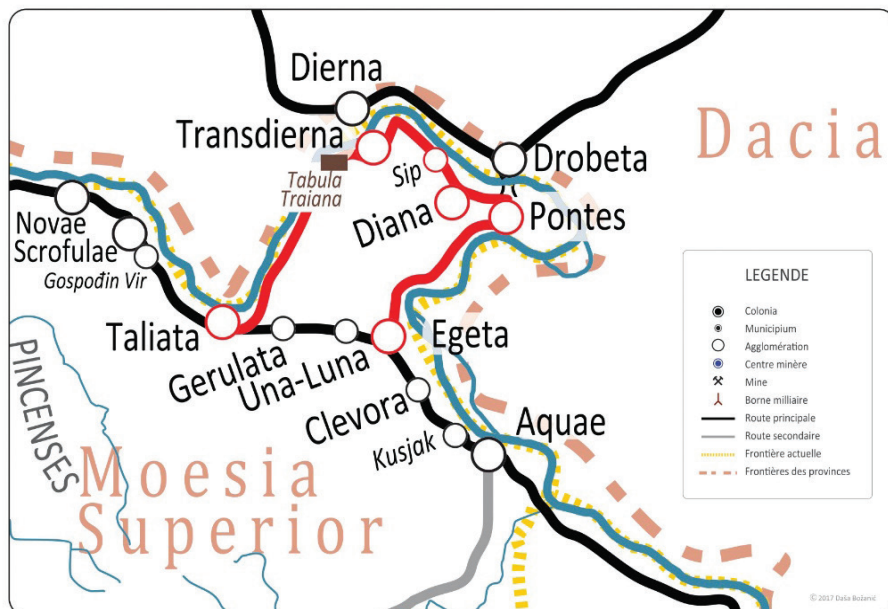
PETROVIĆ 2019 – V. P. Petrović, *Les voies et les agglomérations romaines au cœur des Balkans: Le cas de la Serbie*, Bordeaux, 2019.

URSO 2004 – G. Urso (ed.), *Dall'Adriatico al Danubio. L'Illirico nell'età greca e romana*, Atti del Convegno internazionale, Cividale del Friuli, 25–27 settembre 2003, I convegni della Fondazione Niccolo Canussio 3, Pisa, 2004.





Map 1. Uppermoesian Danube limes.



Map 2. Danube limes in the Iron Gates-Djerdap area.



Fig. 1. Roman port at Kusjak near Prahovo.

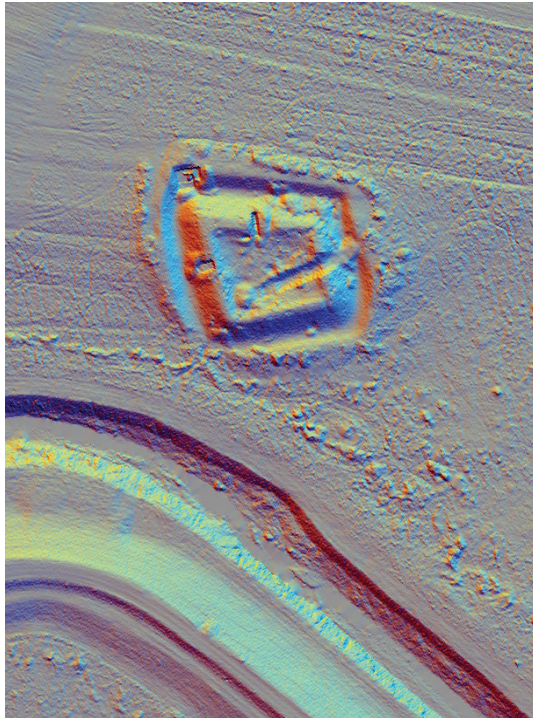


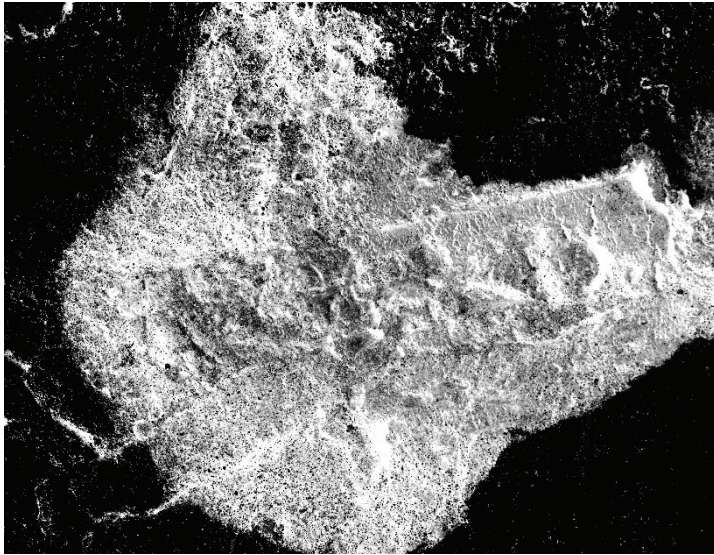
Fig. 2. LiDAR image of the fort.



Fig. 3. Trench 1. Corner tower of the Roman fort in 2021.



Fig. 4. Trench 1. Stamped brick.



**Fig. 4a.** Trench 1. Stamped brick.



**Fig. 5.** Trench 2.



9



**Fig. 5a.** Trench 2. Brick with the cross.



**Fig. 6.** Trench 1. Corner tower of the Roman fort in 2022.



Fig. 7. Trench 3.



7



Fig. 7a. Trench 3. Brick with the cross.



Fig. 8. Trench 1. Corner tower of the Roman fort.



Fig. 9. Trench 1. Trial trench: apsidal part of Structure 1.



Fig. 10. Trench 1: the lamp.



**Tab. 1.** Typology of the pottery finds from Trench 1.

1. Pot, mid-4<sup>th</sup> century; analogy: Type II/10 (NIKOLIĆ-ĐORĐEVIĆ 2000).
2. Pot, mid-2<sup>nd</sup>-end of 4<sup>th</sup> century; analogy: Type II/8 (JEREMIĆ 2009).
3. Pot, second half of 3<sup>rd</sup>-4<sup>th</sup> century; analogy: Type II/5 (NIKOLIĆ-ĐORĐEVIĆ 2000).
4. Pot, second half of 3<sup>rd</sup>-beginning of 5<sup>th</sup> century; analogy: Type II/2 (NIKOLIĆ-ĐORĐEVIĆ 2000).
5. Amphora, end of 1<sup>st</sup>-first half of 2<sup>nd</sup> century; analogy: Type V/3 (NIKOLIĆ-ĐORĐEVIĆ 2000; BOJOVIĆ 1977: T. LXIV/557, 558; BJELAJAC, SIMIĆ 1991, T. II/4; BJELAJAC 1996, photo I/1-4, 7, 8, 18-21; BIKIĆ, IVANIŠEVIĆ 1996, photo 5/5).
6. Pot, 4<sup>th</sup> century; analogy: Type II/12 (NIKOLIĆ-ĐORĐEVIĆ 2000).