

РУМЕН ИВАНОВ ГЕОРГИ АТАНАСОВ ПЕТИ ДОНЕВСКИ

АНТИЧНИЯТ ДУРОСТОРОМ

ИСТОРИЯ НА СИЛИСТРА
HISTORY OF SILISTRA

I^{ТОМ}
VOLUME



THE ANCIENT DUROSTORUM

RUMEN IVANOV GEORGI ATANASOV PETI DONEVSKI



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том I

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HISTORY OF SILISTRA
volume I

THE ANCIENT DUROSTORUM

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DUROSTORUM - DRASTAR - SILISTRA



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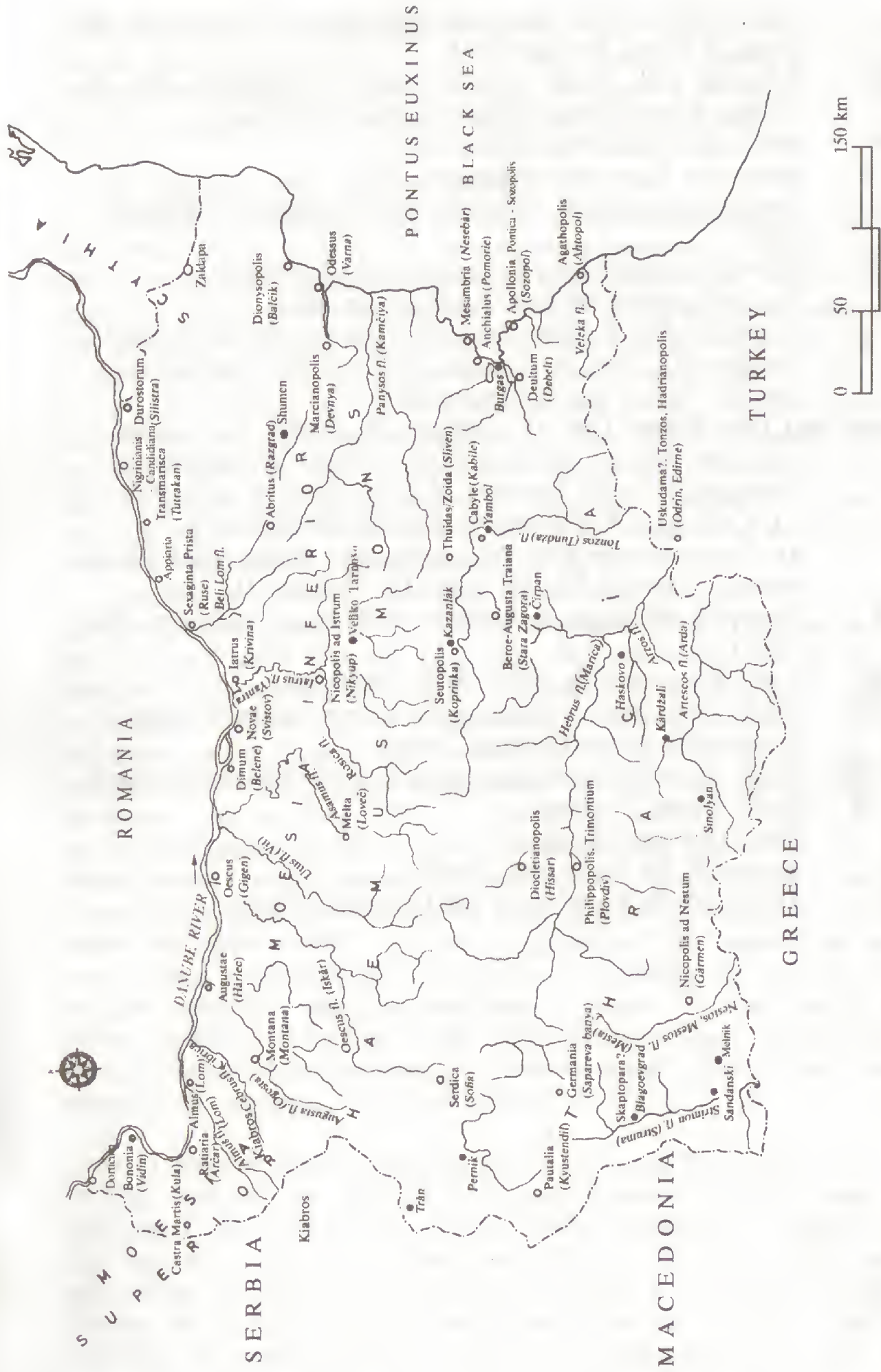
GEOGRAPHICAL CHARACTERISTICS AND CHRONOLOGY OF THE STUDIES

Dobruja is the most northeastern part of the Balkans and represents a peninsula. The Danube runs from the west, north and northeast to the east. The coast is washed by the Black Sea. After the Berlin Treaty of 1878 Dobruja was divided into Northern and Southern Dobruja. The northern part with an area of 15,536 sq. km. is in Romania and the Southern part is in Bulgaria - 7 696 sq. km. The land border between the two parts is in fact the state boundary between Bulgaria and Romania and begins from the eastern outskirts of Silistra, finishing at the Black Sea at the village of Zmeevo, Dobrich region. At present Bulgarian Dobruja consists of two districts - Silistra District and Dobrich District. The southern border of the region is frequently subject to discussion. Most geographers, historians and local historians accept the decisions of the Bucharest peace (1913), when the southwestern and southern border of Dobruja began immediately to the west of the town of Toutrakan, Silistra District, ran along Dulovo, Karapelit, the upper reaches of Suha river, and the Frangia lake, ending at the village of Kranevo, Varna region - a total of 23 232 sq. km (Енчев 2004, p. 66). The southern land border passed over into the hilly Ludogorije region. The territory of the Late Roman province of Scythia does not completely overlap

with Dobruja. Thus for example the town of Silistra and the lands to the west-southwest from it do not fall in the territory of this province. Durostorum and its immediate vicinity were inhabited by the Getai. According to many contemporary scholars the name stands for the collective name of the northern Thracian community in the north-eastern part of the Balkans. Other scholars mention these tribes as Daco-Gaetae tribes. In his campaign of 28 B. C. M. Licinius Crassus took the side of the Odryssae against the Bessi. Later, in 11 B. C. L. Calpurnius Piso finally conquered the Bessi, who inhabited the lands along the upper stretches of the Hebrus river (Maritsa) in present day Bulgaria. Part of the tribe crossed the Balkan Range and settled in the lands in Dobruja, including those in the region of present day Silistra and the immediate vicinity. However so far remains from Getae settlements prior to Roman Durostorum have not been found. Chance finds from the pre-Roman period have been found and are kept in the Historical Museum at Silistra, as well as in other museums and private collections in Bulgaria and Romania. These are a bronze fibula from the 9th century B. C. from the Early Halstadt; along the fortress wall next to the Danube banks a grey-black Thracian cup with a handle going up was found, which is a familiar type of Thracian pottery (6th century B. C.). At the excavations on the same spot a clay candlestick was also found, attributed to the Hellenistic period; amphorae from the first half of the 4th century B. C. imported from the Black Sea center Heraclea Pontica (4th c. B. C.), together with gold earrings and a pin, decorated with small pearls, placed in gold sockets. They are attributed, according to the latest studies not to the Mycenaean period, but the Hellenistic age (3rd century B. C.). The collections of the Silistra Historical Museum possess silver coins of Philip II of Macedon and tetradrachmae of Alexander the Great. In 1975 seventeen drachmae of the Alexander the Great type were acquired, but the exact location is not known - it varies from Silistra or the vicinity in Northeast Bulgaria. The hoard was buried somewhere between 285 - 280 B. C.

The fortification of Durostorum and Drustar are connected with the studies of Stefka Angelova on the very banks of the Danube. Part of the unearthed walls were used intensively during the Roman period, Late Antiquity and the Middle Ages. Several construction periods and repairs on it have been unearthed. In this area she also excavated the ruins of an early Christian church. The emergency excavation, carried out by Peti Donevski in the 70s and the early 80s of the last century provided the final answer to the academic dispute. The outlines of the castra (the camp of the legion) were situated some 800 - 900 m south of the banks of the great river in the central part of the present day city. P. Donevski revealed part of the fortress walls, together with dwellings, connected with daily military life of legionnaires and their commanders (centurions). My colleague Donevski has also studied large areas of canabae in the vicinity, to the north, northeast, northwest and west. Studied were large private buildings and several small and larger baths. My colleague Ivan Bachvarov has also partially studied a balneum and finally established the camp of the legion. A vicus (village) was situated four kilometers east of the camp, which now is in the lands of the village of Ostrov. Here the excavations were done by Romanian archeologists (recently by P. Damian, A. Baltac, Ch. Stirbulescu, V. Apostol, D. Vleja, E. Dumitrascu, G. Balan, D. Elefterescu). Georgi Atanasov has studied the problems of the penetration of Christianity and its consolidation (the study of two early Christian basilicas on bulv. Macedonia, opposite the building of the Police). Part of his views have been included in the volumes on the history of Silistra. Karel Skorpil and capt. Michail Vankov have written on Roman roads in the region of Durostorum at the end of the 19th and 20th century. Their information is very valuable because at the time these roads were comparatively well preserved, so today we have an idea of these communications. Mentioned here is the important trans-Danubian road along the

right banks of the major European river. Recently Sergei Torbatov also published valuable results on the Marcianopolis (Devnia) - Durostorum road, as well as the localization of fortresses in regions in his commentary on chapter Four of Procopius' work *De Edificiis* and has corrected some inaccuracies of the Byzantine chronicler. S. Torbatov also further clarified the border between the two provinces of Moesia Secunda and Scythia. A considerable quantity of construction ceramics (bricks, tiles, pipes etc.) made both in the *figlinae* and in private workshops came from the *castra*, *canabae*, *vici* as well as from the necropolises and the adjacent area. Much of this production has seals on the finished products. Karel Skorpil mentions them, together with a description of the fortresses along the Danubian road. A relatively precise typology has been drawn up based on a historical, epigraphical and archeological analysis. Here we should note the names of Romanian archeologists Krişan Muşetianu, Mihail Zahariade and Dan Elefterescu, who created an important structural table of these seals. P. Donevski and Klaus Wachtel (PIR-Berlin) have also worked on these seals and their framework. We cannot fail to mention intensive work on the question by V. Culică (1970 - 1978) (pottery from the village of Ostrov), as well as separate works on the legion from Durostorum, the adjacent area, Moesia Inferior and Moesia Secunda by T. Sarnowski (1985; 1980 (Warszawa), Rumen Ivanov (2002) (AIM-Sofia) etc. A considerable number of sculptures also come from here. They have been published by Petko Georgiev, Vanya Popova-Moroz, Ivan Bachvarov, and jewelry (largely from the necropolises of Durostorum) have been published by I. Popović (Belgrade) and P. Donevski. The epigraphical material has been published by K. and M. Banev. Two authors - (Y. Todorov, 1928, his work on paganism in Moesia Inferior during the Principate) and M. Tacheva (Tacheva-Hitova 1982) (a book on eastern cults in Moesia and Thrace) have dealt with religious life in this region around the Danube. Epigraphic material also raises the debate which settlement (*canabae* or *vici*) later grew into a city center (*municipium*) and under the reign of which emperor they were raised to the status of *municipium*. In the debate on *castra-canabae-vici-municipium* we should mention the names of V. Pârvan (1924), K. Patsch (1905), R. Vulpe (1953), V. Velkov (B. Велков) (19070, 1980), V. Culică (19700, B. Gerov (1977), Б. Геров (1952); F. Vittinghoff (1968), E. Doruţiu-Boilă (1978, 1980), I. Piso (1991), П. Донеvckу (1990), P. Donevski (1990), R. Ivanov (1997), M. Zahariade (1999), R. Ivanov (P. Иванов, 1999; 2002). The famous Silistra tomb, discussed by many a Bulgarian and foreign specialist originates from this area. We should also mention the publications of D. P. Dimitrov, M. Čičikova (Д. П. Димитров, М. Чичикова, 1968) as well as the reviews on this book. Another burial site, was published recently by P. Donevski and G. Milošević (1999) (Belgrade). S. Conrad (2004) (Leipzig) wrote a doctoral thesis on burial inscriptions from Moesia Inferior, also including monuments in Silistra. Lastly we should finish with some general works related to ancient Durostorum. The first general study is that of V. Parvan, which came out in Italian in Torino. Some time later the eminent Bulgarian linguist and historian Yanko Todorov published the first Bulgaria study of Durostorum in 1927. Monographs on military matters along the lower Danube, including the role of the *legio XI Claudia* in this region of the province appear in E. Ritterling (1925), T. Sarnowski (1988), A. Aricescu (1980), R. Ivanov (P. Иванов, 1999; 2002), while books on provinces and dioceses from Late Antiquity in general and in particular on Durostorum V. Velkov (B. Велков) (1958, 1984), M. Zahariade (1988). This is also the place to mention R. Vulpe's contributions, I. Barnea's (1968) contribution as well as those of A. Suceveanu, A. Barnea etc.



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WRITTEN SOURCES, NAME, HISTORICAL-GEOGRAPHICAL MAPS AND ROADS

Claudius Ptolemaeus (*Geographia*, III, 10, 5); *Tabular Peutingeriana* - Durostero (Tegulicio XI - Durostero - XVIII Sagadava - Sucidava XVI; (*Itinerarium Antonini*, Augusti 223, 4 - Dorostoro, leg. XI CI.; (*Notitia Dignitatum*, Orientis XL, 26, 33 (a document compiled for the region of the lower Danube in 393 - 394, reflecting the military contingent here during the 4th century. *Milites quarti Constantini*, Durostoro, as well as a *Praefectus legionis undecimae Claudiae*, Durostoro; in: *Codex Theodosianus* X, 1, 11, anno 337 the names appear as *Dorostori*, and in *Hieronym. Chr. ab Abr. 2379 = anno 363* we read *Dorosthori* (a document, which represents a Code of laws amended between 312 - 337); *Ammianus Marcellinus* XXVII, 12 notes *Dorostorus*; In *Codex Iustinianus*, VIII, 41, 6 anno 294 a mention of a edict on debts and their payments, published by Diocletian and Maximian in *Dorostolo*; *Eusebius Hieronimus*, XXXVIII, II) reports that in the reign of Emperor Julian (361 - 363), *Capitolinus*, who was in charge of the Diocese, gave orders to burn the Christian *Aemilianus*, a citizen of *Dorostori*; *Bishop Ambrosius* from Trier (c. 340), an opponent of the Arians, in one of his letters speaks of *Auxentius*, bishop of *Scythia*. In 380 - 381 he was bishop of *Durostorum*; In *Chron. Pasch.*, I, 549, No 17/B we read *έν Δοροστόλω*; *Hieroclis Synecdemos* (527 - 528) - *Δορόστολος*; *Procopius. De aedificiis.*, IV, 7 notes that the Emperor *Justinian* repaired the walls of the fortress of *Δορόστολος*; (*Teophilactus Simocatta*) worked during the reign of *Heraclius* (610 - 640), but describes events under *Mauricius* (582 - 602) in 8 parts. In his *Historiae* I, 8, 10, VI, 6, 5. refers to *Durostorum* in connection with the campaign of *Priskos* against the Slavs beyond the Lower Danube at the end of the Emperor *Mauricius* (τήν Δόροόστολον).

Elsewhere there is a citation that the Khan of the Avars constantly posed a threat the inhabitants of *Scythia* and *Moesia* with his raids. He even overran several large towns, among them the town we are dealing with; In *Propyl. Ad Acta SS. Nov. 827, 3 Juli No 1* it is noted *έν Δωροστόλου*; *Ravenas Anonymus* in his work *Cosmographia*, IV, 7, in 5 volumes at the end of the 7th century cite *Durostolun* as an important town in *Moesia*, quoting an older author - *Livianus*; The Gothic historian *Iordanes. Getica*, 176 (6th century) especially reports the commander *Fl. Aetius*, born at *Dorostorena* had defeated *Atilla* at the *Catalaunian fields* together with the courageous *Moesians*; In a Latin and Greek inscription from *Histria* the form *Durosterum* occurs - d(ecurio) m(unicipi) Durosteri.

The name *Durostorum* increasingly has been provoking polemics between linguists and historians. It comes from Indo-european origins, however the differences between scholars are whether it is comes from *Thracian*, *Celtic* or *Latin-Celtic* origins. (*Pârvan* 1924, 307 - 309; *Togopob* 1927, 8 - 11; *Philippide* 1925; *Jokl* 1929, 278 - 298; *Дечев* 1922 154 - 159, 1952, 2, 18, 32, 40; *Mateescu*, 460; *Dottin* 1915; *Романску* 1933, 657 - 658; *Holder* 1963; *Beševliev* 1970, S. 125; *Detschew* 1976, S. 149). In latin the verb *duro* means "to harden, to strengthen,

to make solid”, and the noun *durus* is translated as “strong, hard”. In Gaelic (Celtic) *duro* has the same meaning. For instance a town in Gaul bears the name Durocortorum; another settlement bears the name Durobrivae. The second part of the name - *στυρον*, - *στουρα* - *στοπος*, according to some in Thracian stands for “strong, healthy, large”. According still to third scholars the origins are Latin-Celtic and mean “to fold out, to open out”. An opinion has been voiced that the word Durostorum consists of two halves, the second *storon* being familiar in Old Celtic. However the first word (*duro*, *durum*) occurs in Thracian and probably means “a town on a hill top, a fortified town”. In general the translation is a “strong fortress”. Nevertheless it should be noted that along the lower reaches of the Danube, not far from Durostorum, there are settlements with Celtic names - Arrubium (Macin), Noviodunum (Isaccea), Aliobrix, as well as information on the settlement of the Celtic tribe of Βριτοάγαι in Bessarabia.

In the great number of historical and geographical maps examined here Durostorum - Dristra - Silistria (Silistria) is the most frequently noted fortification along the lower Danube. Probably this is not by chance. After the early second century the site of the castra of the legion was the main fulcrum in the defensive system of this region. This was also the case throughout the Early Byzantine period. Durostorum is mentioned by numerous chroniclers on a variety of occasions. During the times of Turkish bondage the fortress was one of the most important along the large border river of the Empire. Three main military points are given in maps: Vidin (Viddin, Widdin), Nigeboli (occasionally Nicopolis) and as Silistria (sometimes Durostorum). In many later historical maps the region is given as Silistre, Silistria (not very precise, as in Jacopo Gastaldi's work). Other maps give the Ottoman administrative division, where the sanjak of Silistra takes up a principle place. It natural for cartographers to borrow in their work from the copies of the work and maps of Claudius Ptolemaeus (IX European map), as well as exerting influence on one another. Abraham Ortelius was used later by Petrus K(a)erius and by John Speed. Nicolas Sanson, the founder of French “modern cartography” was familiar with the work of Ptolemy, Ortelius and Kerius. Between Frederik de Vit and Giacomo Cantelli da Vignola, who worked some time after him there are considerable similarities. Of course some of the inaccuracies could be explained by the fact that these authors had never visited the then Ottoman lands. Nevertheless they had marked the territories north of the Balkan range as Bulgaria or Regnum Bulgariae, while those to the south as Romania, i. e. Rumelia. The aim of some historical maps is to indicate these locations, alongside with ancient ones, where the Christian west waged wars with the new heathen invaders. Homann's school has produced many maps and atlases, which are extremely valuable for the European cultural heritage. With time cartography showed its natural advancement, like all sciences. Maps became more precise (for example those of Johan(n) Mathias Haas).

The second stretch up to the Danube Delta was completed during the Flavian dynasty (69 - 96). It is best described by K. Škorpil and in particular by capt.

M. Vankov of the Border Guards, who was responsible for the Guard stations at Svishtov and Silistra early at the turn of the century. We shall begin from the Nigrinianis-Candidiana stretch, in the Silistra region, which ran along the slope itself. The remains of the road were only preserved on the surface. It was about 5 m wide, and the road rose by 0,50 m above the surrounding ground (Банков 1906, 462 seq.) At the last settlement there were remains of some old bridge, probably from the Roman period. In the section at Tegulicium (the village of Vetren, Silistra region) the road went in by half a kilometer. One kilometer to the west of the village of Popina, in the last decades of the 19th c. 80 m of a section of the ancient road, which rose by about 0,30 - 0,40 m above the ground, were still visible. From Tegulicium to Durostorum the road climbed up the hill of the present day village of Vetren and then went down the even Danubian bank. (Skorpil 1905, 445; Банков 1906, 465 et seq.) From Silistra the Danubian road went down in a northeast direction in present day Romanian Dobruja. The first-class artery was above all a military road, both during the Principate and the Dominate. Another important provincial road which led to Marcianopolis (Devnya) began from Durostorum. Probably its beginning was linked as far back as the reign of Trojan (98 - 117), when the legion arrived here and the location acquired strategical importance for the Roman defensive system. (Torbatov 2000, 59 - 72). With the establishment of the new province of Moesia Secunda, when Marcianopolis became its main seat, no doubt its importance increased. Positively it existed to the end of the 6th century. The Durostorum-Marcianopolis road had a section to the northeast towards the nearby urban center of Tropaeum Traiani at the village of Adamklisi, Constanta region in Northern Dobruja. Recently the hypothesis has been put forth, that Durostorum could be connected with Nicopolis ad Istrum (the village of Nikjup, Veliko Tarnovo region) via Abritus (Пенков 2002, 315 - 316). From the road on the right bank of the Danube it went back to the west towards Tegulicium and Nigrinianis-Candidiana (Malak Preslavets, Silistra region). After that it went to the south towards the northern routes on the Ludogorije plateau and Krapinets and Sveshtari (in the vicinity of the town of Isperih), via the village of Voden and the Beli Lom valley. Further on through Voden and the Beli Lom valley towards Abritus. Further on the road passed by the ancient Pimasa at the village of Blagoevo and the Cherni Lom valley towards the fortification at the present day Kovachevo kale (to the west of the town of Popovo). Further on it runs towards the valley of the Yantra river towards Trajan's Nicopolis ad Istrum.

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DUROSTORUM IN THE STRUCTURE OF THE PROVINCES OF MOESIA AND MOESIA INFERIOR

During his campaigns on both sides of the Balkan range (29/28 B.C.), and to be more precise in the second year: Licinius Crassus turned towards the region known as Scythia (Minor). Roles, the Chief of the Getae, who ruled the lands around the place of the future garrison of Durostorum, was engaged in a war with Dapix, another Getae ruler, who was preparing a serious rebellion against the Romans. M. Crassus came to the assistance of his "old ally" Roles, and defeated both Dapix, as well as still another ruler Zirax. The Legio IIII became known for its courageous action and was called Scythica. Later the Legio XX, in 2 - 3 A.D. also took part in an operation along the lower Danube in the area around Durostorum and further northeast. Durostorum did not fall within the limits of the new province of Moesia, founded in 12 A.D. To the east the border of the province originally reached the estuary of the Oescus (Iskar river), some time later to the Asamus river (the present day Osam river) and the Utus river (the present day Vit river). After 45, when the new province Thracia was established, the border to the east reached the Iatrus river (Yantra river). The complete integration of Dobruja in the provincial system of Moesia

began in the reign of emperor Vespasian (69 - 79) and was further strengthened under his sons Titus (79 - 81) and in particular Domitian (81 - 96). Thus Durostrorum (Silistra) temporarily became the seat of cohorts II Flavia Brittonum, and possibly after that cohorts II Gallorum (?). During the Bellum civile legio III Gallica passed along the lower reaches of the Danube, going to the road to the Apennines. The hypothesis has been expressed that Durostorum was a temporary camp. It is possible that an early inscription of C(aius) Iul(ius) Apo[llinariis] /ex tess[erario].../v(eteranus), e(ques) R(omanus) p(rimi)/p(ilaris) might have belonged to a person belonging to this unit. After 86 Durostorum fell in the new province of Moesia Inferior. In the autumn of 101, when Rome began the great offensive towards Sarmizegetusa, the capital of the Dacian kingdom of Decebalus, Dacians and their foederati made a surprise counteroffensive in a totally different place - on the Danube in the province of Moesia Inferior. The Roman command was forced to urgently transfer the legio XI Claudia here. At first it was stationed at Oescus (the village of Gigen, Pleven region). Namely at that time the legio XI Claudia was divided into three parts. The first crossed the great river and took part in punitive operations in the Alutus valley (the Olt river) (together with vexillatio of the legio V Macedonia and Legio I Italica s), while a smaller part remained at Oescus to defend it, together with the region around it (as the legio V Macedonia was also along the Alutus and part of it in the new garrison of Troesmis-Iglisa in northern Dobruja; a third vexillatio went eastward where it established itself temporarily at Novae (Svishtov) and we are certain it wintered there as late as 104. In 106 the headquarters of the legio XI Claudia was stationed in Durostorum. This unit took an active part in both of Trajan's wars against the Dacians (101 - 102 and 105 - 106). Thus three legions were regularly stationed in Moesia Inferior: legio I Italica remained in its old station at Novae, the new legio XI Claudia was stationed in Durostorum and the V Macedonian legion transferred from Oescus to Troesmis. Each of the three legions had its own command zone and control. Generally the legions were situated at equal distances from one another. Three settlements in the hinterland of Moesia inferior were occupied by military units. One was Abritus, at the present day town of Razgrad, the second Montana (formerly Mihailovgrad, present day Montana) and the third Sostra, at the village of Lovech, Troyan municipality, Lovech region, which protected the important Troyan pass (up to the reign of Septimius Severus this region fell in Thracia, and subsequently to Moesia Inferior). After 134/136 vexillatios of the legio I Italica and legio XI Claudia were stationed here. The period of the Antonines and the Severus were a period of prosperity on Moesia Inferior and Thracia, one of the reasons being the relative peace along the limes. Nevertheless several incursions of the Costoboci in 170 A.D. who crossed the Danube, then the Balkan range and even set out towards Macedonia and Northern Achaia. There is no direct information in Durostorum so far, however in Tropaeum Traiani a monument has been found, erected by a person captured and killed by the Costoboci. Under the reign of Gordian

III (238 - 244) Carpes, Goths and Sarmathians interrupted the peace along the limes (238 - 239 - 242 A.D.) Durostorum suffered greatly, and an inscription from Durostorum speaks of a person released from barbarian captivity, when consuls in Rome were Pius and Proclus (238). During the first great Gothic invasion of 250 - 251 the decisive battle took place at Abritus (Razgrad). After the battle the Goths went across the Transmarisca stretch (Tutrakan) - Durostorum. Under Aurelian (270 - 275) short alliances of Goths, Alans, and later Carpes and Roxolanes attempted to break the limes in 272 - 273. Durostorum was among the towns affected. The Romans succeeded in driving them back around Cius - Carsium area. In a fragmented construction inscription from Durostorum we hear of successful campaigns of the Emperor against Zenobia in Palmyra and against the "enemy Carpes", who were defeated around the region of Carsium-Sucidava (in present day Dobrugea in Romania), east of and close to Durostorum. (272 - 273). The Carpes were finally defeated in 297 A.D. During the reigns of Trajan and Hadrian Dacia was consolidated, and Moesia Inferior had a strong military contingent. The offensive policy towards the Crimea was already a fact. Closest to these places were the camp of the Legio V Macedonia at Troesmis, not far from the estuary. The contingent of Moesia Inferior was under the command of a Tribune (tribunus militum), who had several centurions under him. They in turn were responsible for centuria, selected from the respective legions. From the reign of Commodus (180 - 192) and after that every commander of a vexillatio had the rank of praepositus. Probably up to 166 - 167 A.D. the presence of units of legio V Macedonia was evident. After that, however, it left Troesmis and Moesia Inferior and was sent far away to the north west in Dacia Porolissensis, in the new garrison of Potaissa, (present day Turda in Romania). Only two legions remained in Moesia Inferior - I Italic at Novae and the legio XI Claudia at Durostorum. It was namely from these units that the garrisons in the Crimea peninsula were augmented. Thus a short time before the last quarter of the 2nd century the units in Tyras, Olbia, Harax were mixed. Those of Olbia and Harax were under the direct command of the centurion of the legio XI Claudia, while those at Tyras and Chersonesus - under the command of the centurion of the I Italic legion. Legionaires from the legio XI were stationed in Chersonesus and the vicinity almost to the end of the second quarter of the 3rd century.

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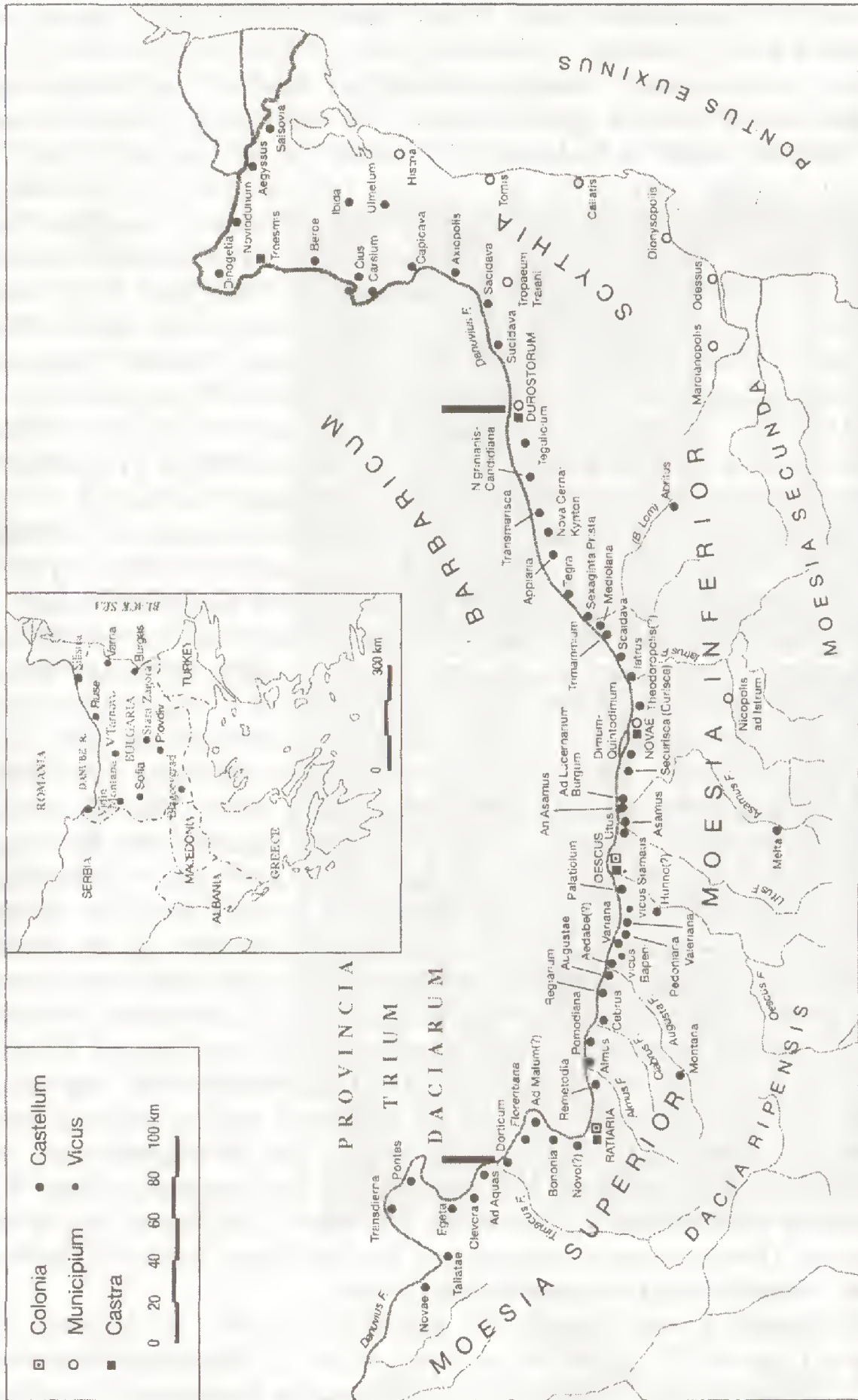
LEGIO XI CLAUDIA

Probably in the times of the early republic some old XI legion existed, which was recruited anew by C. Iulius Caesar (100 - 44) in 58 B.C. After that the legion was disbanded (46 - 45). Several years later, between 41 - 40 the young Octavian created the new - "old" XI legion, which was temporarily stationed in Perusia (the present day Perugia, not far from the Trasimene lake. Subsequently in the course of ten years the legion was among the most trusted by Octavian. The legion XI took part in the battle at Actium on 2nd September 31 against M. Anthony and Cleopatra VII. Its emblem was the God Neptune. Later the legio XI was stationed northeast towards Illyricum, and was stationed at Poetovio for some time and subsequently moved anew to Burnum in Illyricum Superior (Dalmatia) along the Kerka river. Towards the end of 69 the legio XI Claudia was moved to Germania Superior, stationed at Vindonissa (Windisch, Switzerland). By 100 A.D. (or at the latest early 101 A.D.) the legion from the limes of the upper reaches of the Rhein was stationed again to Pannonia, at Brigetio, while a small part was moved to Aquincum (near Budapest). The Daco-Sarmatian invasion in Moesia Inferior during the first Dacian war of Trajan however made the Supreme command to send the legio XI Claudia in Moesia Inferior. Initially the legion was stationed at Oescus (the village of Gigen, Pleven District). Together with the vexillatio of the legio V Macedonia and Legio I Italica it took part in the spring of 102 in the operation along the Alutus (Olt) valley. However the unit during the pause between the two wars was sent to the east along the road along the Danube towards Novae (the castrum of the Legio I Italica at present day Svishtov), where it remained for some time (probably 104 - 105). Subsequently it was stationed by Sexaginta Prista (Rousse) and ended up at its new garrison at Durostroum (Silistra). The vexillatio of the legion took part in the Judea campaign of Emperor Hadrian (117 - 138). The two legions in Moesia Inferior - legio I Italica and legio XI Claudia - took the side of Septimus Severus in the battle for the throne against Pescenius Niger. From the third quarter of the second century the units of the

legio XI Claudia (together with parts of the legio I Italica) were stationed in the northern Black Sea area and the Crimea peninsula (in the place of units of the legio V Macedonia). The stationing of the legio XI Claudia is given in Table I.

Military personnel of the legio XI Claudia in the province of Moesia Inferior are given in Table II. Epigraphic monuments of persons of various ranks, serving in the legio XI Claudia originate from Moesia Inferior (the territory of present day Bulgarian and Romanian Dobruja).

In our opinion they are not many. Only in one inscription from Montana their number is 75 military personnel, and at the shrine of Diana and Apollo part of the dedicators come from this legion. Generally the inscriptions are concentrated in three centres - Durostorum (the garrison and headquarters of the legion), Montana (the present day town of Montana) (the location of the vexillatio of this unit), Tomis (present day Constanta) - the capital of the province of Moesia Inferior, where military personnel were sent for various reasons, including the legio XI Claudia which is the subject of this study.



Обр. 1. Карта на Долия Дунав през I - VI в. (по R. Ivanov 1997, S. 470)
 Fig. 1. Map of the Lower Danube during the 1st - 6th century (after R. Ivanov, 1997, S. 470)

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DUROSTORUM IN THE STRUCTURE OF THE PROVINCE OF MOESIA SECUNDA

The new province of Scythia was established between 286 and 293. Probably the province of Moesia Secunda was also established at the same time, Durostorum being situated in its most eastern part along the Danubian banks. The Emperor Diocletian visited the town on the 21 and 22th of October 294 and on 8th of June 303 and even issued decrees. A year later the Carpes and Goths and their temporary allies invaded the northern diocese of Thrace, crossing the Danube, which occurred in the vicinity of Durostorum. Transmarisca and Tropaeum Traiani and many settlements in Dobruja suffered from the invasion. Probably it was these invasions which provoked the beginnings some stabilization construction work in many places along the limes. In the area we are interested in three are the settlements evidenced epigraphically - Sexaginta Prista (Russe), Transmarisca and Durostorum (298 - 299 A.D.) After the reforms of Emperor Diocletian (284-305) four legions were stationed in the two provinces: legio I Italica and legio XI Claudia in Moesia Secunda and in Scythia legio I Iovia and legio II Herculia. In the border territories (the ripae) another two or three vexillationes of the same units were stationed under the

command of the prefect of the respective legion. It is from that period (possibly some time earlier) that we know the names of other units such as: scutariorum, solensium, catafractariorum. Table I shows in general the dislocation of the various types of units over a century - from the time of the tetrarchy to the Gothic wars of 376 - 378. At the time of Constantine the Great the imperial army was eventually divided into two main types - border guards (limitanei) and a mobile internal force (comitatenses) which occurred in 311 - 324 A.D. and in the sector of the Lower Danube in 316 - 324 A.D. This coincided with the clash for power between Licinius and Constantine I, many of which were resolved on the territory of the Diocese of Thrace in 323 - 324. During the second part of the reign of Constantine the Great we can positively note a base camp, a seat of a Praefectus of the legion with 5 cohorts in *pedatura superior* and the same number in *pedatura inferior*. Under his reign the structure of the military contingent in Scythia and Moesia Secunda was as follows: legions, *cunei*, *milites*, *classis*. From the time of Constantius II, one of the sons of Constantine, military units of the *cunei* type and the *milites* type were stationed at Durostorum, Tegra, Troesmis and Salsovia. *Vexillatio* of the legions along the right banks of the Danube were sent for various periods as *comitatensis* and respectively were given the following names: *Tertiodecimani* (from the *legio XIII Gemina*), *Quintani* (from the *legio V Macedonia*), *Primani* (from the *legio I Italica*), *Undecimani* (from the *legio XI Claudia*), *Ioviani* (from the *legio I Iovia*), *Herculani* (from the *legio II Herculana*). The name of Durostorum is connected with the Second Gothic war of 376 - 378 and the dramatic rule of the Emperor Valens (364 - 378). Moreover in 367 Valens established himself namely here and issued several decrees.

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DAILY LIFE

Durostorum was an important station along the Illyrian dues (publicum portorii Illyrici), similarly to Ratiaria, Ulpia Oescus and Almus after 136 A.D. when certain changes occurred within the limits of Moesia Superior and Inferior. No doubt this was center along the Trans Danubian road and the commercial exchange of the region. East of Durostorum, at Izvoraele 130 lead seals have been found, with the images of the emperors on some of them, thus giving them an official character, besides the "unofficial" seals. Seals with Christian symbols, connected with the newly adopted religion have also been found. Probably the great number of found lead seals marked the goods of the individual merchants. Also there are part of

them which probably were confirmation of the portorium tax. Probably some of the seals indicate the existence of a customs bureau with the respective taxes, and others certify a reduction or absence of taxes (especially in the case of official goods). The types of architectural detail fall in the following categories: attic-ionic bases and pilasters with fine acanthus ornamentation (from the reign of Hadrian and Antoninus Pius and later); Corinthian capitals (from Hadrian up to the Severi); parts of friezes and architrave blocks with plant ornamentation and soffite ornamentation (generally between Hadrian-Antoninus Pius to the mid of the 3rd century); ionic cornices with professionally worked smooths leaves (from the reign of the Severi); casseted ceiling slabs; capitals with acanthus volute ornamentation, copies of fine models from Asia Minor from the times of the Antonines. Most probably the stone material was drawn from the small valley of the Suha river nearby, as well as the Gurlitsa lake (lacul Budeac), where many small quarries existed, worked in Late antiquity and the Middle Ages. Numerous brick kilns officinae functioned in the region under the directions of officinatores. The large brick-works were figlinae. Amidst the pottery in Durostorum and the vicinity there were instances of imported pottery, which came from several centres - settlements from Gaul, the Rhein limes and Moesia Superior. Information about the eastern Pontic sigilata as well as the imitation forms of the pottery centres on the territory of Nicopolis ad Istrum (north of the walls, together with the settlements of Pavlikeni, Butovo, Hotnitsa, Veliko Tarnovo district) is scant. Several sherds from amphorae from Late Antiquity fall here. About 150 lamps of the so called Firmalampen type (see Table I) have been gathered from Silistra and the vicinity, where we can read the names of the producer: Group I - FORTIS, OCTAVI, STROBILI, VETTI, (the names of well known and highly productive Northern Italic producers from the 2nd century); Group II - ARMENI, ATIMENI, CASSI, FLAVI, IANUARI, SEXTI, RESTUTUS, RETUTU (well established provincial representatives of this produce dated between the mid 2nd century and the last decades of the 3rd century. Bronze plastic works are comparatively few. The quality is not very high. Probably local workshops, which satisfied the needs of the military and civilian population existed here. The Historical Museum at Silistra as well as the Archeological Museums in Sofia and Constanta, together with private collections possess over 20 sculptures. Workshops for the needs of the local inhabitants existed at Durostorum. The sculptures found here indicate a high degree of Romanization, which had penetrated the region through the long presence of the legion. The Greek and Eastern influence, at least at this stage in sculptures is sporadic. Sculptures discussed here fall within the chronological range between the 1st and 4th century A.D. Several cameos originate from Durostorum. For the present it is impossible to say for certain whether a local atelier existed or they were imported. A goldsmiths atelier or ateliers existed in Durostorum, working with gold and other precious metals, similarly to many other settlements in the mid stretches and lower stretches of the Danube. Many rings, necklaces, fibulae, medallions etc. come from the necropolises. Some have been found at excavations in canabae. Ateliers for metal working (lead and iron) were established at the

village of Ostrov.

Small quantities of rye, wheat, flax, millet, linen were grown in Roman Dobruja. Of the fauna we can speak of hares, deer, wild goats, roe deer, bears, wild boars. For certain the area had numerous forests in some parts. A household would possess a horse, a donkey, pigs, sheep, goats, cats, dogs. Bee-keeping was developed. Dobruja borders on almost three sides by the Danube and the Black Sea. Large quantities of fish was caught, especially carp, herring, tunny, belted bonito. West of Dorustorum is the fortification of Tegulicium at the village of Vetren, where part of a necropolis from the Roman period was found. Charred plant remains were found there and studied. There is information for the presence of date trees, cherries, morello-cherries, acorns (oaks), hazelnuts, walnuts, grapes. No doubt the dates were imported. The cherries and morello cherries came from the Apennines to the Black sea region after the campaigns of Marcus Lucullus against Mithridates VI. Probably the fig tree came from the Crimea peninsula or from Asia Minor and the Caucasus. The fig tree can grow in the west Black sea area and probably along the lower reaches of the Danube. Plant seeds, which also cast light on this subject in a sub chapter of the volume have been found in Silistra, however from the medieval layer of Drustar. Seeds from soft wheat, rye, hard wheat, the so called Italian millet (more resistant to drought than ordinary millet) and in the end peas and weeds prevail. An analysis of wheat offers interesting conclusions. In antiquity and the Middle Ages there was a change of seed wheat. This statement was made on the ground of studies between the Eneolithic settlement at Omourtag and those at Silistra. This wheat occurs almost everywhere in Europe.

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ETHNIC COMPOSITION, ROMANIZATION, RELIGION AND FEASTS

When the legio XI Claudia was stationed from Germania Superior through Pannonia to Moesia Inferior its composition was not homogenous. The only preserved tombstone of a legionnaire of the legio XI Claudia from the original basic camp of Oescus (Gigen on the Danube) is that of C. Cornelius Iustus from Pelagonia (nearby Bitolia in Macedonia). The name Cornelius probably indicates a not distant Romanization. No doubt the military unit in Germania Superior was additionally recruited, part of the recruits coming from Germany. Many of the relatives of the legionnaires remained in the canabae, yet some followed the legion and settled in Moesia Inferior and in particular Durostorum. B. Gerov at the time offered an extensive analysis on the ethnic composition of the vexillatio of legio XI Claudia at Montana from 155 A.D. The legionnaires mainly had an imperial nomen gentile, Aurelii being the most frequent - 17, followed by Valerii - 12, Iulii - 11, Flavii - 9, Aelii - 9, Ulpii - 2, Cocceius - 1. According to Gerov the largest number of names of newly recruited legionnaires in the unit were during the principate of Emperor Hadrian (117 - 138) and the first half of the reign of Antoninus Pius (138 - 161). He believes this was particularly the case with those bearing the preanomen Aurelius, who hardly had inherited it from their parents. This is based on an inscription concerning the legio VII Claudia (CIL III, 81 10), where 36 newly recruited legionnaires are mentioned, out of which only one

bears the name Aurelius (dated 134 - 135). The Aelii however number 14, Aelius representing the nomen gentile of Hadrian. There are no clear indications for the period of the presence of persons of Thracian origins; most probably this would have occurred in the reign of Marcus Aurelius (161 - 180) and later. In the same monument from Montana a *beneficiarii consularis* is mentioned, together with a doctor (*medicus*), who are of Greek origin. In the inscription from Durostorum dated 209 A.D. from the end of the reign Emperor Septimus Severus (193 - 211) quite banal names prevail. Amidst the *prae-nomen* prevail Valerii - 7 veterans, Iulii - 2, Flavii - 2 as well as one Aelius, Aurelius, Septimius, Cocceius. The origin of Aurelius Asclas is somewhat difficult. During the times of the Severi there were cases of recruiting local men. There were cases when relatives built monuments to persons when they had returned to the places of their birth. We suppose they were of Thracian origin. Thus a tombstone originating from the village of Chomakovtsi, near Byala Slatina of a veteran of the *legio XI Claudia*, whose name is quite ordinary indicates non-Roman origins (*Antonius Valens*). Another stelae originates from Razgrad, in the memory of Aurelius Victor (quite an ordinary name), indicates a veteran of the same unit. Nevertheless the name Driza is also mentioned in the preserved part of the broken inscription, which beyond doubt was Thracian. Aurelius Maturus from Durostorum made a dedication to the Thracian Horseman.

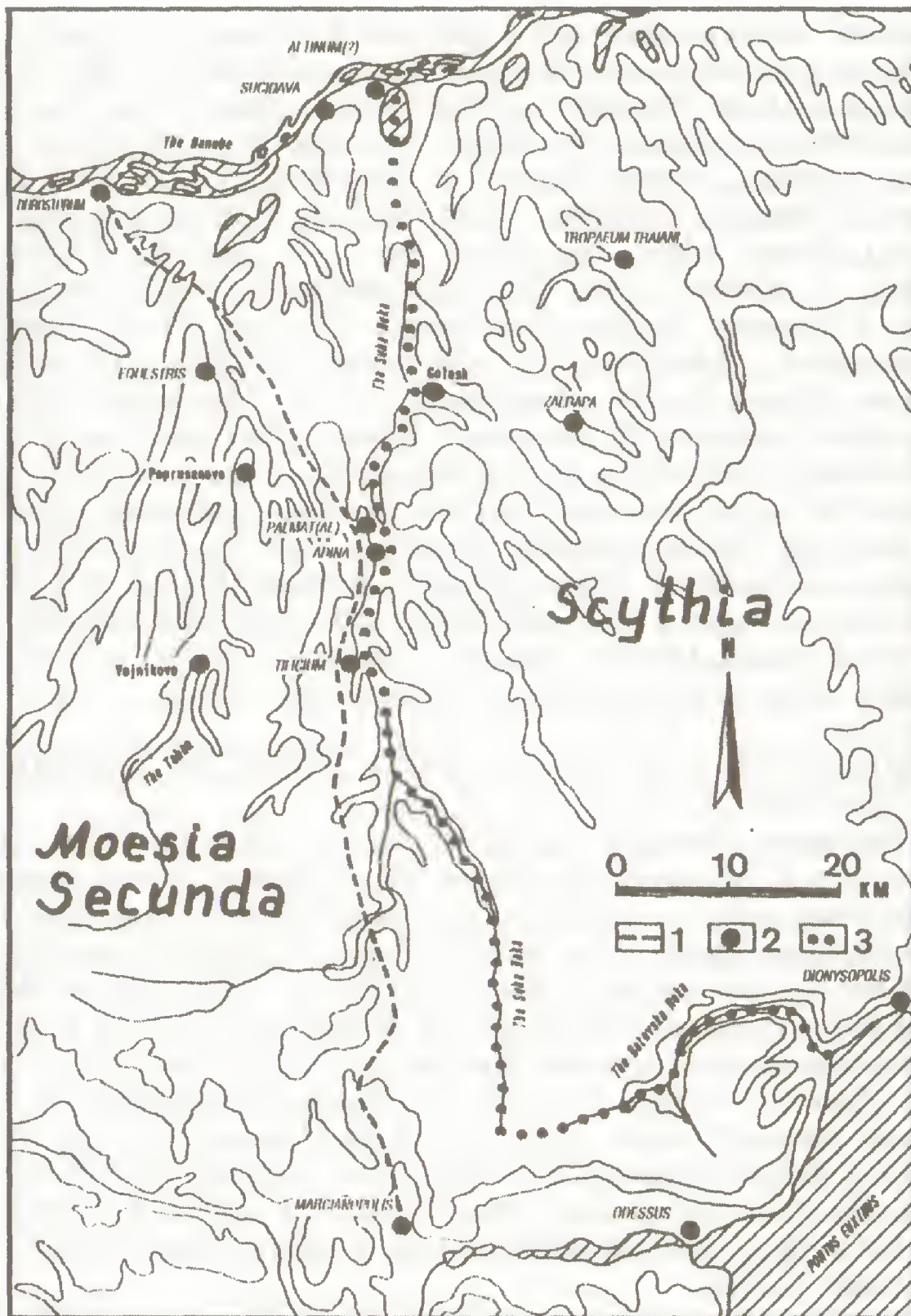
In late antiquity matters changed even more with the introduction of a new military system for the defense of the borders. Numerous tribal groups were granted the status of *foederati* settling along the *limes* along the lower reaches of the Danube. There are data of Goths *foederati*, and towards the mid 5th century the Skires, Alanes, and Sadagres settled here as well. In the last quarter of the 6th century the invasions of the Avars and the Slavs could not be checked. A large part of the population was slaughtered (as early as the invasion of the Huns in the mid 5th century), another part left the place. Up to the coming of the Proto-Bulgarians of Khan Asparuch a large part of the inhabitants of Dorostol were of Slav origin. While early Slav pottery was considered to have originally belonged to *foederati*, the archeological material after the first decades belong to a settled Slav population.

No doubt among the venerated cults we should mention that of Iup(p)iter Optimus Maximus and the Capitoline trinity. A large shrine was excavated in Montana to Diana and Apollo, part of those who had made dedications coming from the *legio XI Claudia*. Other dedications are in honour of *Roma aeterna* (the Eternal Goddess Roma), the Genius of the Province, Mercury (venerated by merchants), Sylvanus, Hercules (especially among the legionaires). Health deities Asclepius and Hygia naturally enjoyed great respect. The Thracian Horseman was found in a dedication to [He]roni Surgethie.

Eastern cults also penetrated this region of the Empire. No doubt this was through people of eastern origin, both military and civilian, who had settled here temporarily or for a longer period. Many "eastern settlers" established themselves comparatively close to Durostorum in Pontic centres like Tomis, Histria, Callatis,

Dionysopolis, Odessus and elsewhere. The region we are studying was easily accessible both via the Danube and the road network between the provinces. The mixture of an ethnically varied population coming from different provinces of the Empire led to the loss of the purely Roman religious character of the cults. This is particularly valid for the late Principate, when the penetration of eastern cults and syncretism was a mass phenomenon. We know of dedications to Mitra in the canabae or the municipium at a temple of Uippiter Optimus Maximus Dolihenus. At Balaclava (the northern outskirts of Sebastopol) recently a shrine was revealed with very rich and interesting material. An altar was found in situ in the cella of the cult building with a dedication to Volcano sacrum from the centurion of the legio XI Claudia. From the canabae of Durostorum comes a stone solar dial with the image of Isis, Serapis and Orpheus. Probably a temple dedicated to Isis stood here. A number of bronze statuettes of deities come from Durostorum and the vicinity, indicating the cults which the population venerated. We should note Mercury, Ares, Hercules, Hermes, Aphrodites, Hephestus, Priapus. Four small lead reliefs of Artemis also come from here.

Many feasts were celebrated in Durostorum and the vicinity. We have information about the Saturnalia. The due attention was shown to military cults, as well as to Neptune, the emblem of the legio XI Claudia stationed here. The solar dial with the images of Egyptian deities comes to show, that settlers from the east venerated Isis and Serapis. It was natural for them also to celebrate the official Roman feasts to the principle Gods from the pantheon.



Обр. 3. Границата между късноримските провинции Втора Мизия и Скития: 1. Римският път от Дуросторум до Марцианопол; 2. Късноримски селища и укрепления; 3. Границата между Втора Мизия и Скития (по Torbatov 2000 b, p. 74, fig. 7)

Fig. 3. The border between the Late Roman provinces of Moesia Secunda and Scythia: The Roman road from Durostorum to Marcianopolis; 2. Late Roman cities and fortifications; 3. The border between Moesia Secunda and Scythia (after Torbatov 2000 b, p. 74, fig. 7)

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DUROSTORUM - THE CASTRA AND THE FORTIFICATIONS ON THE BANKS OF THE DANUBE

The identification of the present day town of Silistra and its adjacent vicinity with the ancient Durostorum was carried out a long time ago based on the fortress wall, visible to this day on the banks of the Danube, epigraphic monuments, chance discoveries of walls, bricks with seals, coins, and other small finds. However it was only with systematic and emergency excavations from the end of the 60s of the last century in the town and the studies of Romanian colleagues east of it that it was possible to outline with sufficient clarity the separate elements of the concept of Roman Durostorum, as the studies along the Rhein limes and the remaining part of the Danubian limes of the Empire point to the existence of two civilian structures canabae, settlement off the castra, and a village (vicus), at a distance of 1,5 - 2,5 km from a legionary military camp, as was the case with Durostrorum. These in principle, at a certain moment were granted the status of self-governing municipality (municipium).

The excavations between 1972 - 1976 allowed the localization of the stone castra of the legio XI Claudia in the southeastern part of present day Silistra. At first two internal and one external tower, part of the dwelling of a centurion, and two barracks were found in the southwest corner. Later by chance the northwestern corner was found by chance. Thus we established its length about 510 m, its width 430 m, covering a common area of 22 ha.

The foundations of the wall are 2.70 - 3 m wide (in the substructions, and 2,10 m in the superstruction. The external face of the wall was made of small stone blocks, while the internal face of irregularly shaped stones with over plastered joints. This is held together by white plaster with a large amount of river ballast. However observations show that the original thickness of the foundations is 1.50 m and they were deeper by 0.70 m through the later thickening on the interior wall. This is clearly seen at the southern internal tower, which originally had external dimensions of 6,40 by 4,90 m and internal dimensions 3,50 by 3,30 m; after the widening of the wall they respectively became 6,40 x 4,00 and 3,50 x 1,80 m. The foundations of the tower are structurally linked with the castra wall and are 1,50 m. wide. The wall was built of semi-worked stones with the same plaster connection. The sparsely preserved cover on the west wall presupposes a

width of 0,90 - 1,00 m width in the superstruction. At another tower, preserved only in its foundations, has a trapeze shape and is in the southwestern corner of the castra. Its external dimensions are 9,40 x 7,95 x 6,50 m reduced as is the case with the other tower after repairs of the wall. What is specific here, is that the external angles are protruding by about half a meter before the curtain wall. Thickness of the foundations is identical to those of the previous tower.

A building with an orientation south-north with dimensions 23 x 11,5; and an area of 264,5 sq. m. and 0,55 m thickness and connected with white plaster was found 16,70 m from the southern wall. Its situation and size, analogous to internal buildings in other castra point to it having been the centurion's headquarters. This was also supported by two more narrow buildings with a western-eastern orientation, seen as barracks. They are 8,50 m wide, the length of the premises varies between 3,80 - 4,40 m. The space between them, 2,10 m, is covered by a layer of 0,10 - 0,15 m deep ballast. There is ground to suppose that the strengthening of the foundations of the early castra wall, to a height of 0,70 m and the building of a 2,10 m wide wall with a superstruction occurred after the raids of the Costoboci (kostobikai) in 170 A.D. Indications are found in written sources, of the unusual width of the castra wall for the 2nd century, the excavations of the fortifications of Serdica, Philipopolis etc., as well as the upper layers within the castra and those of the canabae, dated by coins from the period. Probably the street 1,80 m to the south, beyond the wall dates from the same period.

Several facts give ground for this dating. First of all, in soundings below the street spots and layers of white plaster and small stones were found, which can be associated with the construction of the castra wall and the fosses. In the second place the exterior faces of the curb stones were done in an approximately similar manner, and the width of the curta superstruction was 2,10 m wide. The third circumstance was that it was built before the barbarian invasions of the 3rd century and its position facing west was cut by the large exterior tower. This is why the period when it served as a *via sagularis* (the external street surrounding the castra) could fall between the end of the 2nd and the mid 3rd century.

The next reconstruction established in this section of the fort occurred after the Gothic invasions in the mid 3rd century when the external corner tower ceased to function and a rectangular 21,70 x 12,80 m external tower appeared. There also was a second building period, linked to rebuilding with evidently larger stones, with red plaster. Such a reconstruction has also been established with the wall, which, after being knocked down was built up with large stone blocks, characteristics for the so called Binder-Laufer system of the 5th - 6th c A.D.

The wall, 2,60 m thick and with a superstructure of large stones with pink plaster, found to the south of the rectangular interior tower, in its orientation (it is transverse to the wall) and position, can be interpreted as part of another exterior tower built in the 5th - 6th c. A.D.

Excavations in the southwestern part of the military camp show it does not differ from the familiar pattern of similar castra from the Imperial period.

It is rectangular with internal towers. The situation of the interior dwell-

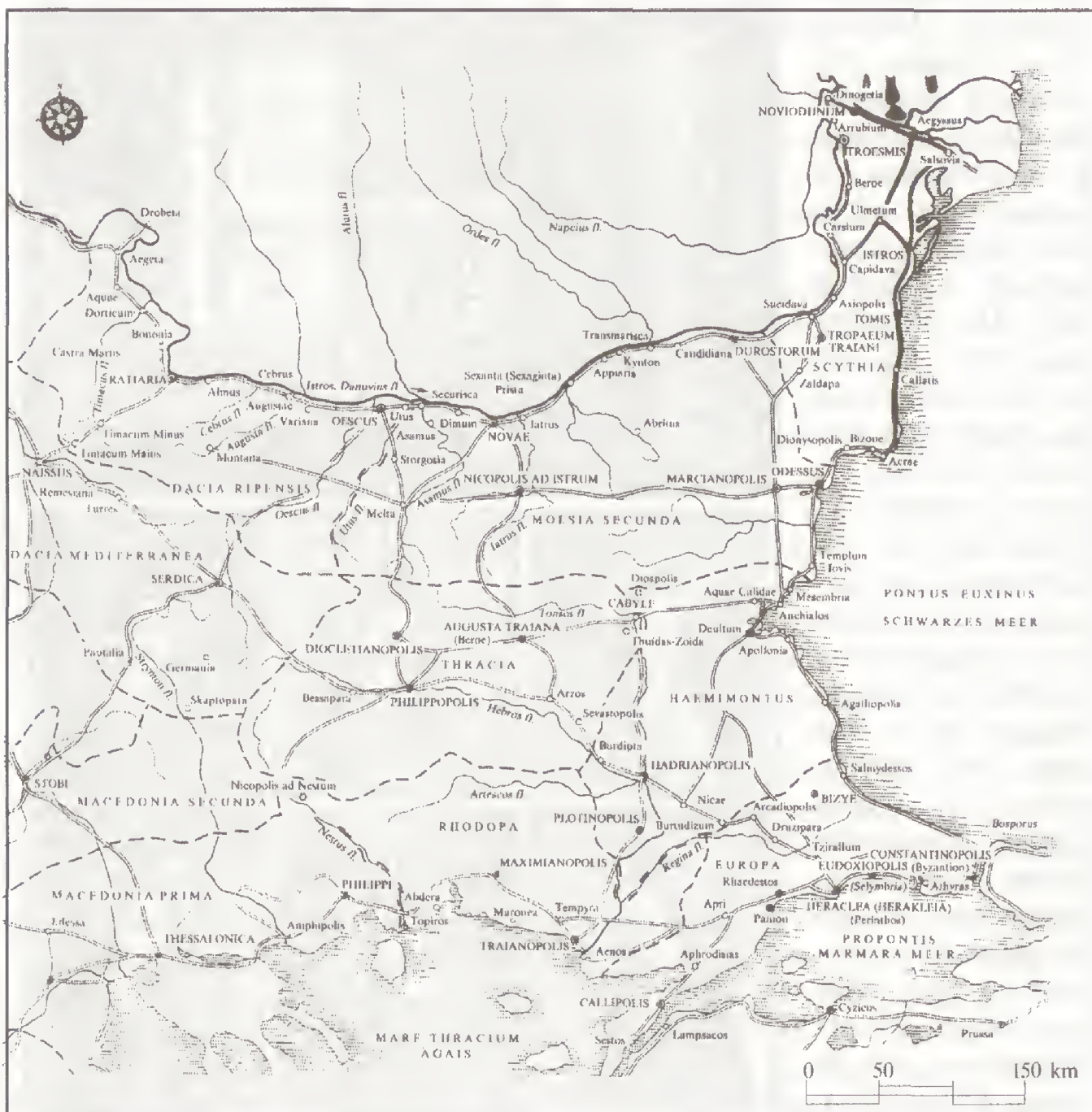
ing of the centurion and the two barracks are fully in line with the plan of such castra from other sites along the Roman limes. In future we expect to excavate the four gates and the streets leading to the central buildings - the principia (the headquarters of the legion), the praetorium (the residence of the legatus legionis), the scamnum tribunorum (dwelling of senior officers), the valetudinarium (the hospital) and the thermae (the baths). Like elsewhere the barracks of the ten cohorts should be expected to be found nearby along the city walls.

THE FORTRESS ON THE BANKS OF THE DANUBBE

It should be noted that a new fortress was built in Late Antiquity close to the banks of the Danube. The wall here follows a northwestern-southeastern direction for 55 m. The foundations are 3,60 m deep, made of broken rock with pink plaster between the stones. The curcina is 2,30 - 260 m wide. The first layer and part of the second row row of carefully cut ashlar with pink plaster are preserved from the superstructure. The structure of the section in the so called south-east sector has a similar structure and was used as the foundation of a later wall. The earlier wall underwent serious damage, most evident on the bank of the river and to a lesser extent in the southeast sector. The line of the second wall was moved by about 1 - 1,5 m to the north and was built with new foundations contrary to the southeast sector, where, the earlier wall had served as a foundation. Its thickness varies - 3,45 m, 3,58 m to 4,20 m. The filling consisted of broken and worked stones (probably from the destroyed earlier wall), as well as of abundant resin, covered with red plaster. The facing consists of well worked ashlar, placed in a Binder-Laufer system. It should be noted that in the section along the river banks the foundation of the wall lies on. Pylons, covered with red plaster 0,30 m thick. Two triangular and two pentagonal towers, at places where the wall makes a bend, belong to this construction period. The author of the study has dated the first wall towards the end of the 3rd c A.D. and the beginning of the 4th c A.D., while the second one at least after the Hun invasion towards mid the 5th c. A.D. and most probably during the reign of Justinian (527 - 565).

посоката се променя в направление изток до изворите на Батовска река до с. Изворско (общ. Аксаково, обл. Варна). “Полосата” минава по течението на реката до устието в Черно море, северно от с. Кранево, обл. Варна, и южно от Дионисополис (Торбатов 2002, 19 - 20, обр. 1).

Смята се, че провинция Скития е основана между 21 юли 286 и 1 март 293 г. Навярно по същото време е образувана и интересуващата ни тук Втора Мизия, която има следните граници. На изток това са



Обр. 2. Късноантични провинции в югоизточната част на Балканския полуостров (по Р. Иванов, Л. Рачева)

Fig. 2. Provinces in Antiquity in the Southeastern Part of the Balkan Peninsula (after R. Ivanov, L. Racheva)

Vittinghoff 1970: Fr. Vittinghoff. Die Entstehung von städtischen Gemeinden in der Nachbarschaft römischer Legionslager. Ein Vergleich Leons mit den Entwicklungslinien im Imperium Romanum. - In: Legio VII Gemina, Leon 1970

CANABAE LEGIONIS XI CLAUDIAE

The emergence and development of the canabae, mentioned chiefly in epigraphic monuments have been studied by many scholars since the 19th century. From a purely theoretical issue, it gradually has assumed more concrete dimensions and interpretations with the expansion of the scope of archeological studies. There is no doubt at present that after the stationing of legions at a certain site, civilian settlements arose around them and in their immediate proximity. This is a tradition which goes back to republican days, when the army was quite mobile, and such settlements were temporary. However throughout the Imperial period, when the stationed legions stayed in one place for a longer time, canabae gradually became settlements which in their architectural appearance, lay out, and internal organization began to resemble the real town in the provinces. We could suppose that their population were entrusted with important assignments connected with supplies to the garrisons, production and supply of a variety of goods. This can explain somewhat why they were attractive centers for many artisans and merchants, who wished to gain from meeting of the personal needs of men and officers. On the other hand the commanders of the legion were interested having military workshops repairing armaments and providing supplies, as well as carrying out maintenance work.

These settlements were closely linked with the legion and this was clearly expressed in their name as is the case of Troesmis - the canabae of the legio V Macedonian, or the canabae of the legio XI Claudia, as is the case with Durostrorum.

The place of the settlement was given in very few cases. It would be wrong however to speak of military rule or strict military control over the entire castra settlement and associate it with the so called *lustrum primipili* which we know from the 3rd century and the inventory and control was carried out by the military every five years. The commanders of the legion naturally would be interested in controlling activities beyond the fortifications and control the workshops run by the army and for it. Otherwise it would be in contradiction with Roman managerial principles to believe, that they would not allow "autonomous" bodies of the settlers of the canabae to carry out the necessary administrative tasks. If that were not the case, such a time consuming role would have increased the load on the military personnel of the castra. This is also supported by the existing epigraphic monuments which clearly point to the existence of a corporative organization of Roman citizens with juridical rights among the inhabitants of the canabae - *consistentes ad canabas legionis* or *ad legionem* (settled in canabae of the legion) and *veterani et cives Romani ad*

canabas (veterans and Roman citizens of the canabae...)

The association of veterans and Roman citizens was led by two magisters. Inscriptions also speak of aediles, responsible for markets, roads, games and the distribution of grain. For four settlements we have direct or indirect information of the existence of an *ordo decurionum* - a town council, which probably existed everywhere. Thus the town council of certain canabae could order the raising of a commemorative inscription with a text *locus datus decreto decurionum* (the place was given by decree of the councilors), and in another case "a public - place". At Aquincum he even has at his disposal "public funds" *pecunia publica*.

This practice comes to show, that with some caution we could examine developed canabae as something in-between a corporation and a community, i.e. a quasi municipality. Their supreme rulers, the magisters, could not be granted the title *quatuoviri* (*duo(m)viri* or *quatuoviri*, which is retained for the territorial corporation of the *coloniae*, *municipia*, *civitates*. Canabae never were granted local law, as they were seen *domicilia* of Roman citizens. This is why they did not possess their own *origo* (corporation). These legal limitations did not stop any canabae to compete in their area or building up or even surpass the adjacent villages (*vici*) and *municipia* as archeological excavations indicate to be the case along the imperial border. It appears this is best proven with the example of the canabae of the *legio XI Claudia* at *Durostorum*, which in the inscription from the reign of Emperor Antoninus Pius (138 - 161) were called *Aelieae*, in analogy to the Roman towns bearing the names of emperors.

The emergency excavations I conducted north of the *castra* of the legion in the 1973 - 1981 period allowed the documentation study of tens of buildings from the canabae. They have different plans and functions. These buildings were built of stone with white plaster up to the middle of the 3rd century and afterwards large pieces of broken bricks were added. The thickness of the walls varies between 0,50 - 1,20 m. Many of the buildings have a heating system (*hypocaustum*) and were connected with the water supply system and the sewers of the settlement. Among them several streets were found in a north-south and east-west direction, covered with small gravel and slabs, under them canals made of bricks or stones.

Most of the buildings, in spite of the fact that they are not completely excavated, evidently were private dwellings, while the scale and the plan of others indicate their character of a public buildings. The last one about 200 m north of the *thermae* of the *castra* is a fine example. Built in the first half of the 2nd century it belongs to the type with chambers in line. The *thermae* have three premises with pools and another basin for cold water. At first the *preaurnia* (furnaces) was to the north, however later they were rebuilt, and the eastern *excedra* was cut, to allow warm air to pass from the newly added *praefurnium*. With time there were many changes in the plan, new premises were added, floor levels were raised, new drains were built etc. The last clearly expressed construction period is from the first half of the 4th c. A.D. documented by coins and a

floor, covered with bricks with seals RVMORIDVS. No doubt it had been used secondarily, although not in its full size. Unfortunately the bad climatic conditions did not favour the conducted emergency excavations. Owing to that photographs, technical documentation is incomplete.

Another site (Mladost 1 - 2), some 260 m southwest from the thermae and a little more than 100 m north of the castra, offers for the present the clearest development of the private type of building in canabae of the legion in towns from Late Antiquity. This was a complex of structures from the first half of the 2nd century. Its eastern sector consists of three long rows of premises, oriented in a north-south direction, some of them supplied with a hypocaustus system. To the west, in spite of the serious damage from the excavations for the foundations of a block of flats, the traces of at least two rows of premises with the same orientation were found; together with the rest they enclose an interior space, where a private baths, consisting of four serial premises, attached to the eastern section of the complex existed. Buildings with totally different plans and probably different functions were erected in the early 4th century over the ruins of the urban villa. The eastern building consists of a large premise (over 100 sq. m) with an exedra in the southern part and two smaller premises. The praefurnium, found to the east of the building and traces of a hypocaustus show it was heated. The baths, which consist of two elongated premises ending in exedrae and another one, almost square in shape, uniting them, a 4 m southwest to it. The praefurnium originally was at the southern side, and later at the west. Later reconstructions and additions show the building existed up to the 6th century.

Another type of building established in two places were those with stone street covers, which were probably part of an interior court yard. In one case (block of flats 12, 7th September street) the area was 100 sq. m. and in the other (Dunav B block of flats) the area exceed 40 sq. m.

Excavations also show, that large buildings exist where the dwelling section and the baths were under one and the same roof ("Seres street", "Dunav bl. B1", "Block Yavorov 1 - 2", "7th September street"), as well as in smaller public baths ("Tolbuhin street"). Inscriptions suggest temple constructions existed together with the well-known sundial found south of the camp probably was placed on a square.

Although the buildings I have excavated in the eastern part of Silistra are over approx 30 ha, the traces of buildings in the vicinity of the Danubian fortress and the central part of the town indicate, that canabae spread over approx 60 ha.

селище. Може би късноантичното укрепление при с. Руйно, общ. Дулово, обл. Силистра, също да принадлежи към тази територия (Атанасов, Йотов, Русев 2003, с. 187). По на юг вече постепенно се навлиза в Лудогорието, а там единственият град е Абритус, който се споменава като такъв в много от късноантичните извори. На запад земите включват районите около Тегулицум (Ветрен), Нигринианис-Кандигуана (с. Малък Преславец) и дори Трансмариска (Тутракан)(?) (обр. 2). Тук обаче трябва да изключим “пратата” на военните части, които стануват през Принципата и Домината по тези места. Големи спорове възбужда намирането на граничен стълб с латински надпис от с. Смилец, на около 15 км югозападно по права линия от Силистра. Надписът гласи: *“Iul(ius) Ferox p(rimi)p(ilus) leg(ionis)/XI Cl(audiae) iussu v(iri) c(larissimi) Ser/vili Fabiani co(n)s(ularis) n(ostri)/terminus posuit/(5) in locum Subiati/secundum senten/[t]ias pr[ae]ceden[tis vel res...”* Датата е между 161/163 или 162/164 г. (Velkov 1970, 55 - 58; 1980, 111 - 116). Става дума за примипила Юлий Ферокс, който по нареждане на провинциалния управител поставя граничен камък. За съжаление в текста не е отбелязано за каква гранична територия става дума. Според Б.



Обр. 2. Дуросторум и близката околност (автор Р. Иванов)
 Fig. 2. Durostorum and the vicinity (author R. Ivanov)

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VICUS - MUNICIPIUM AURELIUM DUROSTORUM

The village - the vicus is the other civilian structure always off the castra, with its own name (generally before the Roman name or the Romanized name), as is the case of Troesmis, Aquincum, Brigetio and others.

Such a settlement is a continuation of an earlier autochthonous settlement, occupied by Romans, avoiding in this way the dependence on the military authorities, at the same time living close to the legion which provided a suitable market and guaranteed their security. Moreover such settlements could be granted the status of a Roman town (municipium), a status which as a rule vici were given, not canabae. And considering this from a legal point of view this meant total autonomy for the territory of the legion within the territory of the province it is understandable why the vicus in this way was receiving the rights of a town. Historical material shows that after the emergence of the municipium, canabae continued to exist, developing more or less intensively. The same sources point to the close links between the two settlements - frequently one and the same people performed various duties in the vicus (municipium) and the canabae.

The epigraphic and archeological material known so far allows the conclusion that it was correct to establish Roman towns not far from castra of legions, based on a vicus, not canabae, namely a vici, on terrains, regardless of the military laws, which corresponded to the requirements of a real municipium. Most of the Roman towns along the Rhein-Danubian limes were originally vici. Archeological studies confirm that towns like Vindobona, Carnutum, Brigetio, Aquincum are situated between 1,5 - 2,5 km from the legion castra, while colonia Ulpia Traiana (Vetera), even at 4 km .

The only case of granting civil rights to a canabae is Apulum in Dacia, yet this was done during the reign of the Severi. An instance is also known which we can look on as a break of the rule in another direction, namely the case of the development of a canabae and vicus not far from the castra of the legio XXII Primigenia, and neither of these municipalities being given civil rights. In spite of that a real city was born exactly nearby the fortress, which in the 3rd c. A.D. was surrounded by a fortified wall and had the function of capital of the province of Germania Superior - Mogontiacum, which in the 4th c. even included part of the former site of the castra of the legion. Both extreme cases defy any classification and are evidence for locally specific examples.

When V. Parvan published and provided his commentary on the text of the inscription where municipium Aurelium Durostorum is mentioned early in the 20th c., he did not hesitate to link it with quick development of the canabae. He wrote that they had become a municipium. He thought it logical that canabae, granted with such imperial indulgence, bearing the name of independent municipalities with the imperial name, under M. Aurelius received the status of a municipium. R. Vulpe and B. Gerov believed that the canabae were in

the territory of the present day town, while one kilometer to the east there was another civilian settlement, which developed on the site of the ancient Geto-Dacian oppidum. Special proof of B.Gerov's thesis came from the discoveries in 1970 of two Latin inscriptions dated 209 A.D., found about 500 m south of the castra of the legion. In the first inscription the inhabitants are referred to as *vicani* while in the second one the term used is *consistentes huius loci*. This gives Gerov ground to believe that 40 years after being granted the rights of a municipium of the canabae, a vicus also existed alongside the castra.

According to another scholar - E. Dorutiu-Boila, the same inscriptions are proof of the late raising of Durostorum to the rank of municipium. The author bases this on the conclusion, that in similar cases of parallel existence of two settlements - canabae and vicus alongside namely the latter becomes a municipium. In her opinion it is logical if beyond the legion there still is a vicus, that Durostorum at that time was not yet a municipium. Her view is that in the first inscription published by V. Parvan the name of the Emperor M. Aurelius Antoninus Augustus does not necessarily indicate the reign of Marcus Aurelius, as the same name was borne by M. Aurelius Antoninus Caracalla.

I feel in this case the data from these inscriptions concerning the status of the settlement are taken somewhat lightly. There are examples when a canabae is called a vicus canabarium, as is the case with Argentarate or vicus canabarium and vicani canabensium for example, particularly during the reign of the Severi. Nevertheless these arguments can hardly be arguments for the existence of a separate community in 209 A.D. which later under Caracalla would be granted the right of a municipium. And if in the first inscription the inhabitants are presented as *vicani*, in the second the term *consistentes huius loci (locus)* appears. The difference in the names probably reflects the lower status of the cited settlement. Besides this the commercial character of the two inscriptions and the legal status of the inhabitants (veterans and peregrines) are more adequate to the character of a settlement by the camps as is the case of the canabae.

Material from the pre-Roman period, found on the Silistra area are few and spread out. This is why they are insufficient to point to the site of the pre-Roman settlement. On the other hand monuments from the Roman period are in great abundance, variety and with positive locations. The archeological material found in the past and in the present days at 2 - 3 km east of Silistra, in Romanian territory is interesting. They consist of pottery, coins, bricks and lead seals with the seal of the legio XI Claudia, a cast for lamps, and cast for statuettes, lead mirrors, pottery furnaces, traces of building activities, and drainage systems. Late antiquity building material used secondarily and the inscription of the Durostorum municipium were found in the same region.

The intensity of the finds, their variety and character speak of the presence of the settlement. And after the excavating of the castra of Silistra and its canabae, it is evident that this settlement can only be the vicus. As is evident from the excavations in Silistra and the vicinity and here as well as elsewhere along the Danube and the Rhein with the arrival of the legion that two settle-

ments were established - 2 km. east of it, two canabae, close to the legion's camp and a vicus, situated at about two kilometers east of it.

All buildings from the 2 - 3rd A.D. were probably reconstructed and rebuilt during the 4th c.A.D. The construction in this period seems very intensive as is suggested by its size of the buildings and the building technology.

Many building burnt layers from from the 3rd c. A.D.

In the examined buildings the coins found go till the Emperors Arcadius (384 - 408), Honorius (393 - 423), as well as single coins of Justinian II an Sofia (Sophia 565 - 578). The last coins show that even with a transformed functions and size the buildings continued to exist up the times of the Slavs and Avars and their invasions. We are aware of the transformed functions by the appearances and construction technology, mostly evident in the big public baths north of the camp. Over the old massive walls, clay-plastered stone walls were raised and big premises were turned into a dwelling and storage rooms.

An important circumstance which should be noted, is that almost municipia close to legions castra do not coincide territorially with the canabae, and do not stem from them, but from the vicus, situated 1,2 - 2,5 km from the castrum. There are no sufficient factors of an archeological and epigraphical character at Durostorum to show any diversion from their almost universal practice. And if this is the case, it can be accepted with a high probability that municipium Aurelium Durostorum grew from the vicus two kilometers east of the camp of the legion at the time of the reign of Marcus Aurelius.

However incomplete, the above observations allow some preliminary conclusions:

1. The territory of the camp and the canabae were occupied to Late Antiquity, when during the 6th c A.D. the volumes of the buildings, their functions and construction techniques went through complete changes. The master plan was disturbed by the presence of a civilian population in the camp and the emergence of production complexes over the ruins of Roman buildings in canabae.

2. During the 4th c A.D. civilian buildings were highly representative. The camp walls were maintained and a new fortress was built to the northwest on the bank of the Danube. The function of this fort are not quite clear.

3. During the 4th century A.D., and probably throughout the 6th c A.D. a military unit was stationed in the fortress to the northwest of the camp. This fort has no clearly military functions as a numerous civilian population inhabits them.

4. As is evident from archeological material (pottery and iron-work) ethnically the inhabitants of Durostorum changes after the 4th c A.D. The presence of Goths has been established for certain, and the appearance of Slaves began from the second half of the 6th century A.D.

море), и западно от нея - провинция Родона (Rhodora, Rhodope) с център Енос (Aenos, Ainos) (обр. 1).

Така бившата провинция Долна Мизия (Moesia Inferior) е раздробена на 3 части: на изток от Скития, по средата от Втора Мизия и западните ѝ части от Крайбрежна Дакия (обр. 2).

Западната граница на Втора Мизия е р. Утус, а на изток се предполагаше една почти права линия в отсечката Дуросторум и Дионисополис (Dionysopolis, Балчик, обл. Добрич). Напоследък тази провинциална граница е коригирана и допълнена в някои сектори от колежата С. Торбатов (обр. 3). От север към юг тя се спуска от брега на Дунав при езерото Олтина, на малко повече от 20 км източно от Силистра, все по течението на малката Суха река до нейните извори недалеч от с. Изгрев, общ. Суворово. В този сектор западните части принадлежат към Втора Мизия, а източните - към Скития. Към Moesia Secunda спадам Altinum (Саму Ноу), Palmatae (с. Оногур), Adina (с. Баллик), Tilicum (с. Дряновец), Aquae (?) (Николаевка) и гр. След това



Обр. 1. Провинциите в диоцеза Тракия, представени като млади жени (ръкопис от Оксфорд, по История на България 1979)

Fig. 1. The provinces of diocese of Thrace, represented as young women (MS from Oxford, after History of Bulgaria, 1979)

е поместено червено камъче (рубин) и висулка, завършваща с перла. Размери: тегло - 2,41 гр, 24 карата (бл. "Ропотамо", каменен саркофаг дълбок 2 м, април 1981 г.) (Табл. VI, обр. 5).

2608 - обеца, злато. Има форма на осмостенна пресечена пирамида, завършваща с широка халкичка. През стена се редува украса от припоясни канковидни и подковообразни орнаменти. В основата има кръгово деформирано сечение, обковано с шнуровидна украса. Размери: височина - 4,8 см, диаметър на върха - 0,5 см, диаметър на основата 1 см, тегло - 2,5 гр, 24 карата (бл. "Ропотамо", каменен саркофаг, дълбок 2 м, април 1981 г.) (Табл. VI, обр. 6).

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NECROPOLISES OF DUROSTORUM

The establishment and location of the necropolises of Durostorum are closely linked with the camp of the legio XI Claudia, its canabae and municipium. Namely these components of a military and settlement structure, together with the terrain determine the location of the necropolises throughout the 2nd to the 6th c. A.D. They are situated west, south and east of the camp, respectively the canabae and west and south of the vicus, with three exceptions so far: the burial of a child in a sarcophagus and a Late Roman tomb on the

territory of the canabae, together with still a third one almost on the banks of the river. The burial inventory includes the whole variety of Roman and local traditions. Burials in the necropolises of Durostorum include brick graves and slab-covered burials, sarcophaguses, burial pits and built tombs.

Burials in brick laid graves or in burial pits with burning of bodies and laying the Deceased were found most often in a section of the necropolis southwest of the camp, when work was underway for the construction of a Combine on "Makarenko" street and "V. Kolarov" street. The inventory included a great variety of bronze, silver and gold objects and ornaments. The coins from Trajan to Marcus Aurelius date their use of the necropolis throughout the 2nd c. A.D.

Burials in sarcophagi found east and north of the fort of the legion are dated by coins from the second half of 2nd c. A.D.

The only built tomb found so far from the same period is on Romanian territory between the canabae and the vicus.

An increase in the number of built tombs is observed from the second half of the 3rd c. on to the 6th c. They have been found to the southwest, south, southeast of the camp.

The tombs in Silistra differ in their time of construction, in their plan and construction scheme used. According to plan there are two types of tombs - with one and two chambers. Nine are with one chamber, with a rectangular plan, with a different orientation and semi-rounded vaults with a varied surface. The smallest tomb has a surface of 4 - 5 sq. m., those with a medium size about 9 sq. m., and the largest between 14 to 17,50 sq. m. The height up to the vault varies between 1,80 to 2,30 m, although there also exists a height approx 4 m. The walls of the tombs are of broken stone and the vault construction is made of bricks of various sizes. The floors are made of bricks and plaster. The tombs are of the hypogeum type dug in over 2 m. The entrance consists of small openings, closed by thick stone slabs. On the interior they are plastered over with a plaster mixed with broken bricks, which give it a reddish colour. The traces of colours indicate that some of them were decorated. Tombs were used for burials many times. Such tombs have from one to three burials positions, but no traces have been found of sarcophaguses. Tombs from Late antiquity with one chamber are most numerous and have been found in many places in Bulgaria (Serдика, Pleven, Plovdiv, Hisaria, Sandanski, Bitritsa in the vicinity of Sofia, Belogradets in the vicinity of Novi Pazar, Devnja, Varna and elsewhere). Such tombs also exist in Viminacium, Margum, Ratiaria, Noviodunum as well as Tomi (Tomis), Serдика, Naissus, Sirmium.

Only one tomb, found to the south of the camp differ from this plan. It too is a one-chamber plan, but with an unusual plan. This is expressed in its octagonal shape, with an inscribed square with three burial niches on each side of a cross. Deep rectangular niches were dug to lay the remains of the deceased. According to the archeological circumstances burials could have been done in stone sarcophaguses, nevertheless no traces of them have been found. In this way at given times there was enough space for rites in the central

part. Its appearance and construction can be reconstructed on the basis of the preserved parts. The cruciform shape of the interior premises was familiar and used within the empire. This was the appearance of above ground of tombs-mausoleums in Gala Placidia in Rome, with a dome, the tomb of St. Peter and Marcellinus, in the via Labicana in Rome and the tomb of Cecenius, close to Rome. Out of the dug-in tombs the closest analogy is the tomb at Kochagovo in Thrace, which is also cruciform. The octagonal shape was also known and applied: the mausoleum of Diocletian at Split, the octagon in Thesaloniki, the octagon in Pula, and one in Spain (Las Vegas de Pueblanova). The hypogeum of Varna (Odessus) is also an octagon with a dome with pendentives. The interior of the tomb had five bases for burials and five niches above them.

Tombs with two chambers are rare and in fact represent a double variant of the single chamber tombs. Most often they are referred to as tombs, divided by a common wall. The tombs have two parallel vaults and two entrances, as is the case of Ratiaria, Vidin Region, or that of Rgotini in Zajecar (Serbia) and Ravna, in the vicinity of Knjazevac. The remaining differences are as with single chamber tombs.

So far the octagonal tomb represents the only monumental tomb built on the territory of the town necropolis of Durostorum. Most probably it could be attributed to the early-Christian period and it is quite possible to have represented a mixture of a family mausoleum or martyrion. Immediately next the above described tomb is a tomb found in 1942 whose architectural solution is very simple contrary to the remarkable frescoes. The main idea of the murals on the dome is to depict the heavens and the world beyond. The lower part symbolizes a dwelling on earth and figural art and scenes, connected with the life of the owners prevail. Two opinions have been given on the dating this monument - before or after the Gothic invasions. We shall finish with examples of the great variety of burial practices at Durostorum with an unusual burial find in a lead sarcophagus and a chariot next to it, with rich ornamentation of six busts of bronze and inlaid with platinum and gold. The horse-trappings have a wealth of ornamentation of small gold plates. The burial inventory is exceptionally rich - two swords in wooden sheaths, on encased in silver and decorated with gilt silver plates with inlaid precious stones, together with a golden fibula and a ring with a cameo. The wealth of the burial rite indicates that the buried person enjoyed a high social status.

The burial sites in Silistra offer their modest contribution to the study of burial practices and architecture, which appears in a similar manner in the necropolises of Ratiaria, Serdica (Bulgaria), Viminacium, Margum, Sirmium (Serbia), Noviodunum, Tomis (Romania), as well as separate finds in a number of towns in the central part of the Balkans.

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EARLY-CHRISTIAN MARTYRS FROM THE 4TH CENTURY IN DUROSTORUM

The history of 12 martyrs from Durostorum is traced and examined. The most popular and eminent is given first.

1. St. Dasius of Durostorum. A review is made of the numerous studies and the abundant sources, especially the vita of the Martyr. The author is supposed to have been a Greek from Asia Minor, who was no witness of the event, but recalls it based on the reminiscences of his contemporaries towards the end of the 4th century and compiled the history of the martyr. The author speaks of the beheading of Dasius, the veteran of the IX Claudia legion, because of his refusal to take part in pagan cult feasts. It is considered that early in the 4th century the Roman Saturnalia in Durostorum were under the influence of the local Geto-Thracian cult of Zalmozis and its practices. The attempts of the martyrdom of St. Dasius to associate it with the town of Axiolpolis (present day Cerna voda), about 50 km northeast of Durostrum is rejected. Attention is drawn to the fact that according to the vita saint Dasius was questioned in the pretorium of the legion, and no legion was stationed here at the end of the 3rd century and early 4th century. In fact a slab from an altar table was found with the inscription in

one of the basilicas near Axiopolis running “DEDICATION (ΕΥΦΡΑΣΙΣ) for the martyrs Cyril, Kindeas and Tasius.” This however does not prove the death of Tasius/Dasius in Axiopolis as a martyr, but the circumstance that under the altar table in the church pieces of relics of the three martyrs were placed in confesio, similar to the those taken from the martyrion at Durostorum. Whether Dasius and Tasius were different saints cannot be excluded. Among the positive proof of the death of St. Dasius, the Martyr in Durostorum is his casket-with relics with the Greek inscription “Here lies the Holy martyr Dasius, translated from Dorolostolum” (Chap. XII, Fig. 6) on the lid.

2.3.4 St. Maximus, St. Dada and St. Quintilian. This group of martyrs is known from comparatively late sources (the Synaxarion of the Constantinopolitan Patriarchate from the end of 8th century and the Menologion of Basil II from the 11th century), which were based on an earlier life, which has come down to us. The sources note that they were slain in a settlement near Durostorum (vicus), called Osobia, on the 28th of April. From the context it is clear that this occurred in the reign of Maximinus Dasa (305 - 313), and in particular during the persecutions of 307 when many presbyters suffered. In his sources St. Maximus indeed is presented as a presbyter, while Dada and Quintilian as his friends and disciples. It is clear from the text that after 313 a Martyrium was built over the relics of the three saints, but later the site was abandoned. Probably this occurred at the time of the great destruction of Durostorum at the end of the 4th c. and early in the 5th c. during the invasions of the Goths and the Huns. Later in a supernatural manner the relics were found again and the martyrion was restored. A brick martyrion with three arcosolium graves was found in the ancient necropolis of Durostorum and was linked with this group of martyrs (Chap. XII, Fig. 6). The relics were probably translated to Constanopole on the eve of the conquest of Durostorum by the Avars and the Slavs in 579 and laid in the church of the Holy Virgin in the Byglention quarter, restored after 532 by a patrician lady Antonia, the wife of the general Belisarius.

5.6. St. Julius and St. Isichius We learn of the martyrdom of St. Julius in Durostorum from the surviving vita, describing the time of the great persecution against the Christians in 304. Julius, a veteran of the legion refused to make a sacrifice to the pagan deities. This is why he was tried and slain at the “usual place” in Durostorum on the 27th of May probably in 304. The further details are, that on the way to the scaffold St. Julius was hailed by other Christians, one of them Isichius, begging him to greet St. Valentianian, beheaded earlier, in the world beyond and declaring that he would follow in his death as a martyr. In fact according to Hieronymus the Blessed St. Isichius was slain in Durostorum on the 15th of July (probably 304).

7.8. St. Valentianian and St. Pasicrates. According to the vita of St. Julius Valentianian went through the death of a martyr a short time time before him, while according to the Synaxarion of the Constantinopolitan Patriarchate and the Menologium of Basil II this was done on the 24th of April (probably 304) and St. Pasikrates was slain together with him. Both were legionnaires in the legion under

the command of Ausolius. Their wives also accompanied them in their martyrdom.

9.10.11. St. Marcian, St. Nicander, St. Kalinik

The martyrdom of St. Marcian and St. Nicander is known from many sources, however the days are different.

Most probably, it is as given in the *vita*, was on the 27th of June. Besides with Durostorum they are associated with Tomi (Constanta), Alexandria, Athens, Southern Italy. It is possible that it might be the case of other martyrs with the same name or the translation of relics for example from Durostorum to nearby Tomi. Hieronymus is the link between the martyrdom of St. Nicander with St. Isichius. In the *vita* of St. Julius there is a link between Isichius, Valentinian and Julius. This presupposes a common martyrdom history of St. Valentinian, St. Pasikrates, St. Julius, St. Isichius, St. Markian (probably St. Kallinik should be included here), who were all beheaded in succession between April 24th and 28th July 304.

This was the peak of persecutions of Christians in the Empire, marked by special visits of Emperor Diocletian in the spring of 304 to Durostorum.

12. St. Aemilianus of Durostorum. One of the most popular martyrs of Durostorum was burnt on the banks of the Danube on the 18th of July 362 during the reign of Julian the Apostate (361 - 363). There are numerous sources on St. Aemilianus, including the two versions of the *vita*, known as Codex Parisiensis and Codex Vaticanus. It is clear from the two codices that Aemilianus was a Christian, coming from a local aristocratic family from Durostorum. At the time of the inspection of the vicarage of the diocese, Aemilianus, sharply reacted to Julian's attempts to restore the pagan shrines and with a hammer broke the idols in a temple. As it was possible to have an innocent peasant being sentenced Aemilianus handed himself to the authorities who sentenced him to death through burning. He was burnt on the banks of the Danube at the outskirts of Durostorum. With the assistance of the vicar Capitolinus the Christians were given the remains of Aemilianus, which were buried in the Gedina locality (Γηδινά), situated at 3 miles - 4500 m (according to Codex Vaticanus) or Gesidina (Γεσιδινα) (according to Codex Parisiensis) respectively at 3 *versti* (450 m) from the town. The authenticity of this event was confirmed about 380, twenty years after the martyrdom of St. Aemilian by St. Ambrose of Milan, Bishop of Milan, and the Syrian calendar of martyrs, compiled at the end of the 4th century. Also on the banks of the Danube on the ruins of buildings from late antiquity in the mid 9th century, a bishop's cathedral was built on the site where St. Aemilianus' pyre was. The supposition has been expressed that the *vita* was compiled at the end of the 4th century, based on real events, nevertheless there appears to be contaminations with the *vita* of St. George of Capadocia, written at the same time. Instances are cited from Antioch and other towns, where there were incidental persecutions of Christians, who resisted the restoration of pagan temples. In conclusion it is considered that the Gedina/Gesidina locality is in the necropolis of the ancient Duriostorum, which in fact was at 4,500 m from the Danubian banks where St. Aemilianus was burnt and about 450 m from the principia of the legion where the saint was questioned and sentenced.

Глава дванадесета

ПАЛЕОХРИСТИЯНСКИ ПАМЕТНИЦИ ОТ IV - V ВЕК, СВЪРЗАНИ С МЪЧЕНИЦИТЕ ОТ ДУРОСТОРИУМ

Авторите, които отхвърлят сведенията за действителното битие и мъченическата смърт на 12 ранни християни от Дуросторум, се аргументират с липсата на археологически паметници от началото на IV в. сл. Хр., илюстриращи култа към тях. Наистина ли е така?



Обр. 1. Рисушка на златен пръстен с камея от края на III - началото на IV в. от гроб с посечени християни в некропола на Дуросторум - Силистра

Fig. 1. Drawing of a golden ring with a cameo from the end of the 3rd century - early 4th century from a burial of slain Christians at the necropolis of Durostorum - Silistra

ГРОБЪТ С РАННОХРИСТИЯНСКИЯ ПРЪСТЕН ОТ СИЛИСТРА

Ще започна с едно археологическо откритие от 1988 г., което дава повод за размисли в тази насока. При строителни дейности в югоизточната част на Силистра, в границите на античния некропол (гл. XI, обр. 3) и в непосредствена близост до днешната българско-румънска граница, се попадна на дълбоко вкопана в терена яма с овална форма. На дъното ѝ са намерени горели кости на няколко (според участника в изкопните работи Ст. Стойчев четири) човешки индивида. Между тях е открит масивен златен пръстен с камея, върху която е изобразена котва, фланкирана от две риби. Под котвата е нанесен на гръцки език надписът ΖΗΓΑΛΩ или ΖΗΓΑΛΙ (обр. 1; Табл. IX, 1). Тъкмо тази любопитна и ценна находка способства за прецизиране на датировката на масовия гроб и подсказва за събитията, при които е направен.

Първо обаче ще заостря вниманието върху семантиката и популярността на котвата и рибите в раннохристиянската символика и култура. Според апостол Петър котвата означава живот в царството небесно, т. е. живот с Христос в

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EARLY - CHRISTIAN MONUMENTS LINKED WITH THE MARTYRS OF DUROSTORUM 4TH-5TH CENTURIES

1. Early Christian Ring. The first monument connected with the early-Christian past is a gold ring with a cameo and an engraved anchor flanked by two fish, and below it the text ZHGALI. It was found in the southeastern part of the necropolis of Durostorum in a burial pit of burnt and disturbed remains of skeletons of 4 individuals (Fig. 1). The ring is dated towards the early 4th c. and is considered to have belonged to one of the four killed and burnt early Christians, whom suffered in the persecutions in Durostorum in the 4th c. In Early Christian symbolism the anchor (symbol of belief and hope) and fish (a symbol of Christ himself, as the word ΙΧΘΥΣ, the Greek for fish, early Christians stood for the formula Ἰησοῦς Χριστός Θεοῦ Υἱός Σωτήρ (Jesus Christ Son of God and Saviour) cannot be doubted. The text ZHGEC is the conjunctive form of the verb Ζάω - "live" in the second person singular and could be translated "shall live", "may you live", "live!". If to this restoration of the text below the anchor we add the semantics of the fish and the anchor, in conclusion the following interpretation may be offered: "Live with trust, belief and hope in Christ, the Son of God and Saviour".

2. The martyrium in Silistra. The martyrium in Silistra was situated in the center of the ancient necropolis of Durostorum next to the famous tomb with murals from the 4th c. (Fig. 2 - 4) It was built as a massive brick octagon with exterior dimensions 7,70 by 7,60 m. Facing it and next to the entrance around a square hall are three arcosolium graves about 2,10 x 0,90 x 1,80 m

where the caskets with the relics of the three martyrs were placed (Fig. 2). It was already mentioned, that the octagon was a preferred construction plan of martyria during the 4th c. both in the East (the Holy lands) and the West, and even on the Balkans (Philipopolis, Serdica etc.) Examples are given of the layout of graves of martyrs in the forms of arcosolia. The martyrium with the three arcosolia in Durostorum is linked with the local martyrs St. St. St. Maximus, Dada, and Quintilian, who alone of the twelve martyrs of Dorostolum were slain and buried together. The translation of the relics to Constantinople in the 6th c. and their placing in the church of the Holy Virgin in the Biglention quarter is noted.

3. The urn-casket of St. Dasius of Dorostorum. Today the urn-casket of St. Dasius of Dorostorum is kept in the Diocesiano Museum opposite the cathedral in the town of Ancona. It was made of lime stone with the following dimensions: 1.02 x 0.50 x 0,44 cm and the cover is placed over marble. Three crosses are sculptured on it and a Greek text was engraved as well: Here lies the Holy martyr Dasius of Durostrorum (Fig. 6). It appears during the second half of the 5th or the early 6th c. the relics of St. Dasius were taken from the primary martyrion in Durostorum and kept in this urn, placed in some of the churches of the town. As early as the 4th c. throughout the 5th and in particular the 6th c. it was common practice to translate relics from the martyria on the outskirts of towns to city basilicas. Moreover this form of urn-casket and in particular the Greek inscription with the name Durostorum is dated towards the 6th c. When the Slav and Avar invasions began towards the end of the 6th c. and Durostorum was destroyed apparently the casket with the relics, similarly to the relics of St. St. St. Maximus, Dada, and Quintilian was translated to Constantinople or another major Byzantine centre. Most probably during the Fourth Crusade in 1204 the relics were moved to Ancona. This is evidenced by the fact that they are mentioned for the first time in the Ancona cathedral of San Salvatore after the reconstruction of 1213 - 1214. According to documents dated 1224 the casket with the relics of St. Dasius was placed in a large marble sarcophagus together with the relics of local saints Pelegrinus, Martin, Flavian etc. The urn with the relics of St. Dasius was registered as early as in documents from 1456, 1470, 1675, 1804. In 1948 it was translated in the church of St Kiriakos where they are kept to this day.

DOROSTORUM AND THE DOROSTORUM BISHOPRIC THROUGHOUT THE EARLY BYZANTINE PERIOD (END OF THE 4TH-7TH CENTURY)

According to sources from the 4th century most Balkan provinces and in particular those to the north of Hemus only had one bishop, who resided in the capital of the province. This was the situation in Moesia Secunda with a capital Marcianopolis, where Durostorum was also located. Nevertheless Durostorum is the first town in the northern provinces, with the exception of their capitals, to be granted a cathedra of a bishop as early as the 4th century.

1. The establishment of the Bishopric of Durostorum. Mercurian-Auxentius is the first bishop of Durostorum known is Mercurian-Auxentius. He was known to have been a supporter and follower of the Bishop Wulfila, Apostle of the Goths, settled with his Arians Goths in Northeast Bulgaria in the second half of the 4th century. Auxentius was appointed bishop of Durostorum before 380. This became possible both on Wulfila's insistence and because of the circumstance that circa 376 Domnitius was the metropolitan of the capital city of Marcianopolis. After Wulfila's death in 383, because of his pro-Arian stand Mercurian was forced to emigrate in Mediolanum (Milan) where he enjoyed the protection of the mother-empress Justina, mother of the young emperor Valentinian II. In Milan he became bishop of the Arians, and adopted the name of the Arian bishop of the town Auxentius, and the main opponent of St. Ambrose of Mediolanum.

2. The bishopric of Durostorum and bishops of Durostorum throughout the 5th century. After driving out Mercurian-Auxentius, the bishops throne appears to have remained, as according to Gelasius Cyzicus one of the decisions of the Council of Nicea required, the Arian bishops to be replaced by Orthodox bishops. However it was only at the Third Oecumenical Council at Ephesus in 431 that the register gives the names of a bishop of Durostorum. This is Jacob, who in the first sessions supported the followers of Nestorius, and for that reason, together with Julian of Serdica and Dorotheus of Marcianopolis was condemned as a follower of the schism. In the decisions of the Fourth Oecumenical Council at Chalcedon in 451 no bishop from Durostorum was registered, however immediately after the council in 458 Monophilos of Durostorum with other followers from Moesia and Scythia signed a circular letter of Emperor Leo I (457 - 474) condemning monophysitism and supporting the decisions of the Council at Chalcedon.

3. The bishopric of Durostorum in the 6th century. Long after the letter of 458 there are no sources on the activities of the bishopric of Durostorum. It was only at the Fifth Oecumenical Council in Constantinople in 553 that the presence of Bishop John of Durostorum was registered. The name of last bishop from

early Christian days of the town is Dulcissimus. Information about him comes from an inscription from Odessos (Varna) which runs as follows: Here lies the pious and humble Daniel. Here lies the pious Dulcismus, bishop of Durostorum, deceased on the 27th of January, indiktion... (Fig. 6). Probably towards the end of invasions of the Avars in the end of the 6th century the Bishop of Durostorum moved to Odessos, where he died and was buried in a grave with the relics of bishop Daniel of Odessos who had died earlier. Registers of bishoprics are another source on the cathedra of the bishopric at Durostorum throughout the 6th - 7th century. The earliest register (the so called Pseudo Epiphanius register) was created in the reign of Heraclius (610 - 641) however reflects the church organization towards the second half of the reign of Justinian I the Great (527 - 565). These registers and the subsequent lists present Durostorum as one of the bishoprics in the diocese of the metropolitan of capital town of Marcianopolis. It appears that the town remained a seat of a bishop up to its conquest by Khan Asparuh's Proto Bulgarians approximately in 861 as it was registered in coin circulation up to the end of the 7th century.

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EARLY CHRISTIAN MONUMENTS FROM DUROSTORUM AND THE DUROSTORUM BISHOPRIC (END OF THE 4TH - 7TH CENTURY)

Presented are stationary and mobile early Christian monuments from Silistra and Durostorum bishopric whose diocese during the 4th - 6th century appears to have coincided with the urban territory of Durostorum.

1. Churches. In 2004 - 2005 an early Christian basilica was excavated, which was in the center of the town in Late Antiquity, approximately between

the camp of the Legion and the castellum on the Danube banks (Fig. 1 - 3). The northern half was destroyed, but from what has survived we find, that it was a three aisle single apse basilica with a narthex 27,80 m long and about 15 m wide, and a diameter of the apse 6,35 m. There appear to be traces of an atrium. The aisles were divided by seven columns, on a stylobat wide 0,70 m and about 1,00 - 1,30 m deep. According to vertical stratigraphy and the numerous coins the church was built after the Gothic invasions (traces of a great fire from the second half of the 4th century were found below the substructure) and with some repairs towards the end of the 4th century and with alterations in the plans it was used to the end of the 6th century. To the north there was a second larger basilica, built later, but the remains are almost destroyed by the foundations for construction work. Double basilicas throughout the 4th to 6th c. were common for seats of bishoprics which gives ground to suppose that this was the cathedral of the Durostorum bishop during the Early Byzantine period.

A public building was built in the 4th c. on the ruins of a urban villa from the 2nd to the 4th c. (Fig. 13, 14) about 80 m to the east of the basilica. The plan (a central hall with an apse with two side premises, dimensions 17 m by 11.60 m), the proximity to the church and the close plans of bishops residences at Stobi, Salona, Side and elsewhere should be noted. The supposition has been expressed that this was the bishop's residence at Durostorum throughout the 4th to the 7th c. The small bath next to the residence is similar in plan and dimensions to the bishop's bath at Novae.

Another basilica from Late Antiquity within the Durostorum bishopric has been studied at Golesh, Silistra District and there is ground to suppose the existence of churches at the castellum near Alfatar, Poprusinovo, Voinikovo and Onogur. A large monastic community of churches and monastery, dated from the 5th to the 6th c. exists along the eastern border of the bishopric (running along the Suha river).

2. Church plate and appliances. A treasure of church plate of copper and bronze vessels, censers, two liturgical lamps with a gryphon and a cross (Fig. 15 - 18) fall here. on the handle of a small cauldron. The following text †Θ(ΕΟΘΕΚΟ)C ΒΟΗΘΗ CON ΤΟ ΔΟΛΩΙ ΚΑΝΔΙΔΙΑΝΩ (Holy Virgin, help your slaves the Candidians) (Tabl. III, 14) appears on the handle of a small cauldron. Probably this was church plate of the church of Durostorum, presented by the citizens Christians from the near by Danubian fortress of Candidiana. The collection plate and the chalice, as the most valuable plate, were taken away by the priests and the remaining vessels hidden.

3. Crosses-enkolpions and ornaments. Early-Christian lead crosses with chrysmoi and geometric signs and ornaments from the 5th and 6th c. were found in Silistra, Vetren, Golesh and elsewhere around Silistra (Fig. 20, 21). Special attention is shown to several rings with chrysmoi and monograms from the 6th c. (Fig. 22 - 24).

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CONSTRUCTION CERAMICS WITH SEALS FROM DUROSTORUM

During its stay in Illyricum and Germania Superior the seals of legio XI Claudia on building ceramics were of one type; LEG XI C P F = LEG(ionis) C(laudiae) p(iae) f(idelis), i. e. made by the XI legion Claudia, pius, loyal (the reading is best in the genitive). Moving from Germania Superior and Pannonia to Moesia Inferior the units of the legion used the same stamps (LEGXICPF). The first base camp in the new province was Oescus at the present day village of Gigen. The abbreviations are the same, but the delineation of the letters and the frames in the construction ceramics is not identical. According to delineations there is similarity between the seals of the earlier castellums Windisch, Rottweil, Kloten and Huffingen in Germania Superior with those of Oescus and those the first years after the establishment of the legion at Durostorum. The seals from the castra at Brigetio on the other hand resemble more those from the several bricks found at Novae at Svishtov. Others are similar to seals of Huffingen and Sexaginta Prista (the town of Rousse). When the Italian archeologist Antonio Frova read the report on the excavations at Ulpia Oescus he noticed the abbreviation LEGXICPF on a photograph of a brick in tabula ansata and between the third and fourth letter there was a small triangle dividing them. It should be noted that that the six specimens found by Frova are similar to several bricks of the castra of the legion at Novae (Иванов 2002, 23 - 24). At Durostorum we find a great variety of types of seals, owing to the long presence of the legion at the site. According to the typology of Museteanu, Zahariade, Elefterescu 1979, 164 sqq. generally the following type are differentiated: Type A - LEG XI CPF = LEG(ionis) C(laudiae) p(iae) f(idelis). These seals are early and appear in Germania Superior and Pannonia Superior. They belong to the second half of the reign of Trajan (98 - 117) and the early reign of Hadrian (117 - 138); Type B - LEGXICLPF = LEG(ionis) XI Cl(audiae) p(iae) f(idelis). They came into great use during the second quarter of the second century and the middle of the same century (most probably the end of the reign of Antoninus Pius - (138 - 161); Type C - LEGXICL = LEG(ionis) XI Cl(audiae). The second half of the second century (Marcus Aurelius - 161-180), gradually substituting the preceding one, up to the second half of the third century; Type D - LEGIONISXICL = Legionis XI Cl(audiae). For a short time within the chronological perimeter of type C; Type E - LEGXICL/FIGKAS = Leg(ionis) XI Cl(audiae) (first line) fig(lina) kas(trorum) (second line). Similar to the preceding type; Type F - LEGXICLFTRAM = Leg(ionis) XI Cl(audiae) f(iglinae) Tra(ns)m(ariscae). Dated approx. towards the second half of the 3rd - early 4th century; Type G - LEGXICLFCAND = Leg(ionis) XI Cl(audiae) f(iglinae) Cand(idianae). Dating as in the preceding type (seals with the marking of the garrison are attributed at the earliest in the first years

of the 4th century. Type H - LEXICL = Le(gionis) XI CL(audiae). Besides in Durostorum such seals occur in the northwest Black Sea Coast in Charax and are attributed to the second half of the 2nd century - the first quarter of the 3rd century, even to the mid 3rd century) (Флауненко 1998, 110 et seq.; 2000, 97 - 98; Antonova, Kostromicev, 2000, 213 - 214; on more on Chersonesus - Sarnowski 1988A; Зубарь, Сорочан 1998, 118, seq.); Type I - LEGXICLAV. In the last three letters there is a ligature; in fact it stands for LEGXICLANT = Leg(ionis) XI Cl(audiae) Ant(oniniana). Date: Septimus Severus Caracalla. We believe it more correct to date it between 211 - 222; Type J - LEGXIC Leg(ionis) XI Cl(audiae). According to Romanian colleagues these seals recall seals from a twin legion - legio XIII, found at Mehadia, Brobeta, Sucidava - LEGXIIIIG, LXIIIIG, LEXIIIIG, which are interpreted as Leg(ionis) XIII G(eminae), L(egionis) XIII(Geminae), Le(gionis) XIII. If the analogy is correct, their dating should be attributed to the end of the 3rd century; Type K - LEGXI = Leg(ionis) XI; Type L LEXI = Le(gionis) XI; The last two types are more difficult in their identification. At Chersonesus on the Black Sea (the Ukraine) they are dated in a broad range between the second half of the 2nd century and the first half of the 3rd (Antonova, Antonova, Kostromicev 2000, 213 - 214). At Balacklava seals have been found with the text VEXLEXI, where the abbreviation VE stands for vexillatio. Among the earlier seals are those without the letter L - LEGXICPF, placed in a tabula ansata or in an ordinary rectangular frame. At the same time, together with them several seals of the legio I Italic (LEGIITAL) with the A with no horizontal line and the legio V Macedonia, which occur both in Oescus and in Troesmis. Smaller, later seals appear such as those of the LEGXICL type. At this site other seals are found whose reading remains unclear - ISC, IVIOT(?) BCVI, K(kastra?), CIM (Cohors I Mattiacorum? Or maybe a private producer).

Приложение 2

КЪСНОАНТИЧНАТА ГРОБНИЦА В ДУРОСТОРИУМ - СИЛИСТРА И НЕЙНИЯТ ГОСПОДАР



Силистренската гробница е сред най-известните, най-проучваните и най-дискутираните паметници на късноантичното изкуство в България и на Балканите (Димитров, Чичикова 1986; Frova 1954; Bianchi-Bandinelli 1955; Schneider 1983; Попова-Мороз 1991, 42 - 50; Pillinger, Popova, Zimmermann 1999, 22 - 28; Атанасов 2005, 9 - 18; Atanasov 2005, 1 - 32).

Открита е случайно през 1942 г. в южните покрайнини на Силистра - там където се развива античният некропол на Дуросторум - един от най-значителните римски градове на Долния Дунав през II - VI в. (Donevski 1990, S. 244). Приблизително в централната част на градския некропол, на 500 м южно от укрепения лагер на легиона, е открита римската гробница със стенописите (Milošević, Donevski 1999, 245 - 258). Явно това е зоната, в която са погребвани видните граждани на града, защото само на около 60 м западно от гробницата е разкрито погребение на високопоставен местен магистрат с колесница и великолепни дарове и оръжия от края на III в. (Atanasov 2001, 130 - 135). На около 100 м в южна посока пък е проучен внушителен раннохристиянски тухлен мавзолей - мартириум, където са положени мощите на трима светци-мъченици

Обр. 1. План и разрез на гробницата

Fig. 1. Plan and cross-section of the tomb

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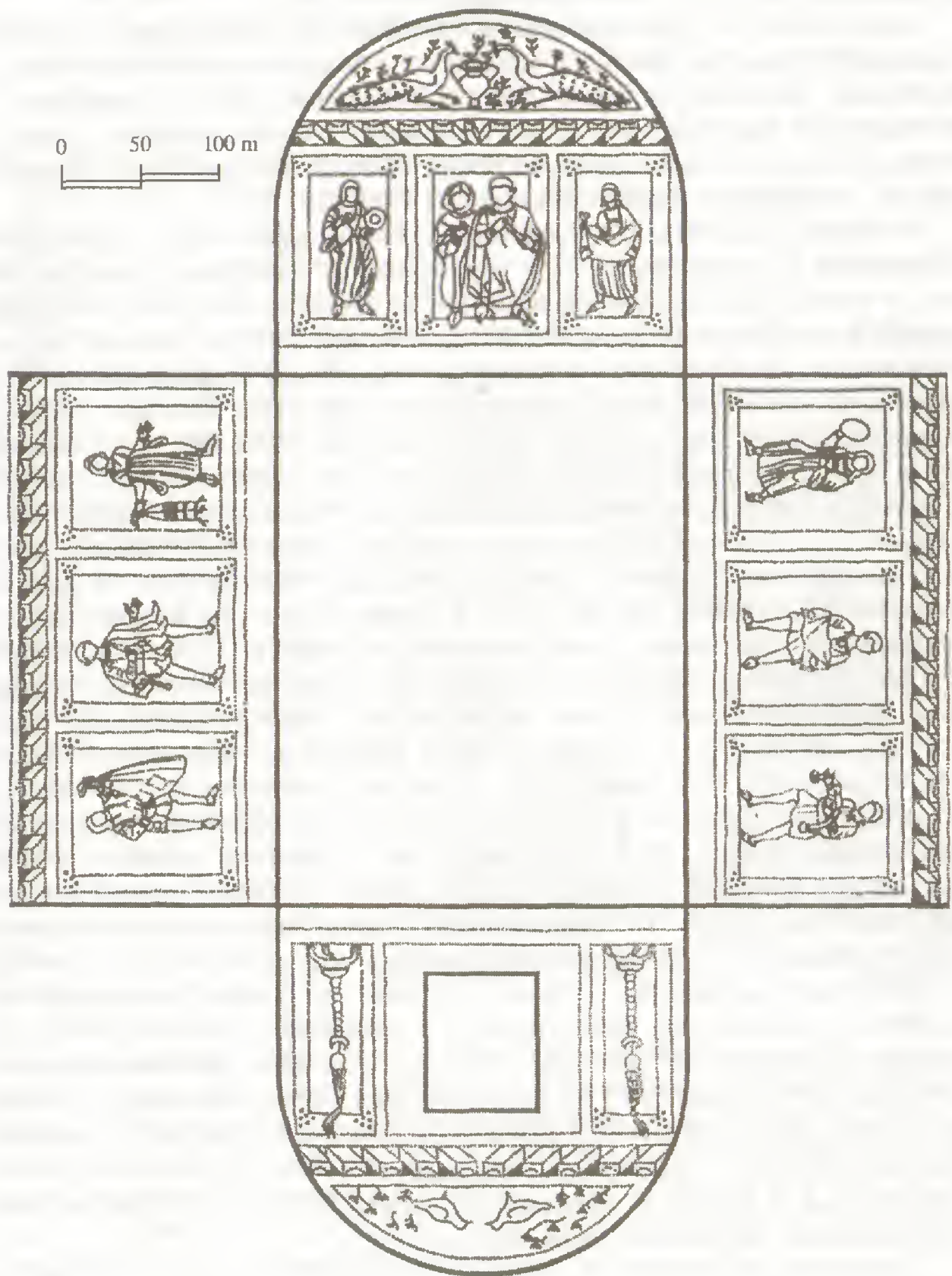
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THE TOMB AT DUROSTORUM- SILISTRA AND ITS OWNER

The Tomb at Silistra is on the one hand among the best known and studied monuments of Late Antiquity, on the other hand it remains among those monuments that cause the greatest amount of discussions on monuments of Late Antiquity in the Bulgarian lands. Contrary to the prevailing dating from the end of the 4th century (the reign Emperor Theodosius I 375 - 395), here the author assumes the tomb was built and decorated towards the mid- 4th century (under the reign of the successors of Constantine I (306 - 337) for the needs of a pagan aristocrat, decorated by an artist coming from the Eastern provinces of the Empire (Syria, Egypt).

The author considers that the master, drawn on a the central piece, was is a senior magistrate from Durostorum with a high title, probably a patrician and a military commander. The robes he is wearing (which coincide with the robes of the patricians, described by John Liddus, Constantine Prophyrogenetus and images of the 4th to the 7th c.) and in particular the codicil he is holding all point in this direction. Patricians and other senior magistrates were given charters-codicilia by the Emperor himself in the palace in Constantinople.

The very procession of the servants is seen as a demonstration of the elements of the investiture, presented according to the order of dressing after the ritual washing and sprinkling with perfume. The supposition is made that the image of the mistress was added later in the course of decoration, as well as, that the youth depicted on the ceiling in a hunt, represents the master as a young man in his motherland, surrounded by plants and animals, characteristic for the provinces of Syria and Egypt.



Обр. 2. Рисунок на развитата стенна декорация (графична реконструкция по Г. Милошевич)
 Fig. 2. Drawing of the wall decorations
 (Reconstruction by G. Milosevic)

него, тъй като съществува опасение от всеобщ бунт. Не след дълго, през следващата 455 г., двама мъже от свитата му отпътуват за него. Те пробождат смъртоносно Валентиниан III по време на военни маневри, когато инспектира някаква част.

ПОСЛЕДНИЯТ ВЕЛИК РИМЛЯНИН

Наследник с таланта на Флавий Аеций така и не се намира и затова съвременниците му с основание го наричат *“последния римлянин”*. Не след дълго пред вечния град се появяват страховитите вандалски орди, водени от Геизерих. Рим е безпомощен. Вечният град е ограбен и унижен - дошъл е краят на античната цивилизация в Западна Европа.

Йорганес пише, че Аеций сякаш е роден да спаси великата Римска империя. И наистина, в продължение на четвърт век той отстоява на непрекъснатите варварски набези и нанася поражения на противниците. Патрицията Аеций, родом от галечния Дуросторум, е единственият човек, спрял Атила в грандиозната битка при Каталунските полета в Галия. А Римската империя тръгва към началото на края си. Това сякаш сега звучи логично, както пише Кенет Кларк, защото *“Римската цивилизация рухнала, понеже се изчерпала напълно”*.

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FLAVIUS AETIUS

Flavius Aetius was the last great Roman, according to many a writer from late antiquity and contemporary historians. He was born in 390 A.D. at Durostorum (Silistra). His father Gaudentius was probably of Gothic origins (after the mid 4th century, when Goths foederati settled here there were many of them), and his mother from a Roman family. His father made a remarkable

military career under Teodosius I, Arcadius, Honorius and Teodosius II. At the early 5th century Gaudentius was an *magister equitum* in Rome. He married the young Flavius Aetius to the daughter of the Roman commander Carpilio. They had a daughter who in 451 became Empress. The young Aetius was sent a political hostage on two occasions, once at the court of Alarich, ruler of the Goths and afterwards at the Huns - at the camp Rigula. Thus he became acquainted with the way of life, the psychology and military tactics of these large tribal communities. After 410 the young Aetius was back in Rome. Stilicho, the protector of Rome, was killed by Emperor Honorius. Flavius Aetius made a remarkable military and civilian career throughout the 20s and 30s of the 5th century (a defeat of the Goths at Aquileia; a close associate of Constantius - Commander of the forces of the Western Empire; the liberation of the Empress Placidia from Gothic capture; rendering decisive support to Joannes when he was to be proclaimed Emperor; participation in the conflict with the Eastern Roman Empire, which was an ally with the Goths and the Western Roman Empire, in an Alliance with the Huns; commander of the forces of the alliance). After 425 Flavius Aetius defended the northern limes of the Western Empire. In 429 he defeated the Goths and the Franks, and in the subsequent years - the German tribes Jutunges and Norikes. For his services he became Consul of the Empire on three occasions (432, 437, 446). Aetius became a Roman patrician and was responsible for foreign affairs of the Empire. Intrigues in Rome continued and Placidia, the wife of the underage Emperor Valentinian III controlled the situation. She made a stand against Aetius, by supporting the Comes Bonifacius, which led to a military conflict between them. Aetius mortally wounded his opponent. Placidia sent Sebastianus, another commander against Aetius, who was forced to flee to the Huns. With their assistance he returned to Rome and afterwards defeated the Burgundians and the Goths.

However in 451 the Goths invaded Gaul and the political situation forced Aetius to sign a peace with his enemy Theodoric, King of the Westgoths. At the Catalaunian field the two armies the world has ever seen met. On one side was the terrible Attila, commander of Huns, Ostgoths, Burgundians, Franks, Herules, Gepids and Proto-Bulgarians (altogether 300,000 strong), opposing him Aetius with 200,000 men, Roman legions, Westgoths, Alans. 165,000 men fell in the battle from both sides. Aetius won, Attila was beaten for the first-time and Christian civilization was saved. In the autumn of 451 Flavius Aetius returned in triumph to Rome. Three years later, during an audience with Valentinian, Aetius was unexpectedly stabbed by him. Only several years after his death the Eternal city was burnt down by the Vandals. Aetius was no longer there and no one could save ancient West European civilization.

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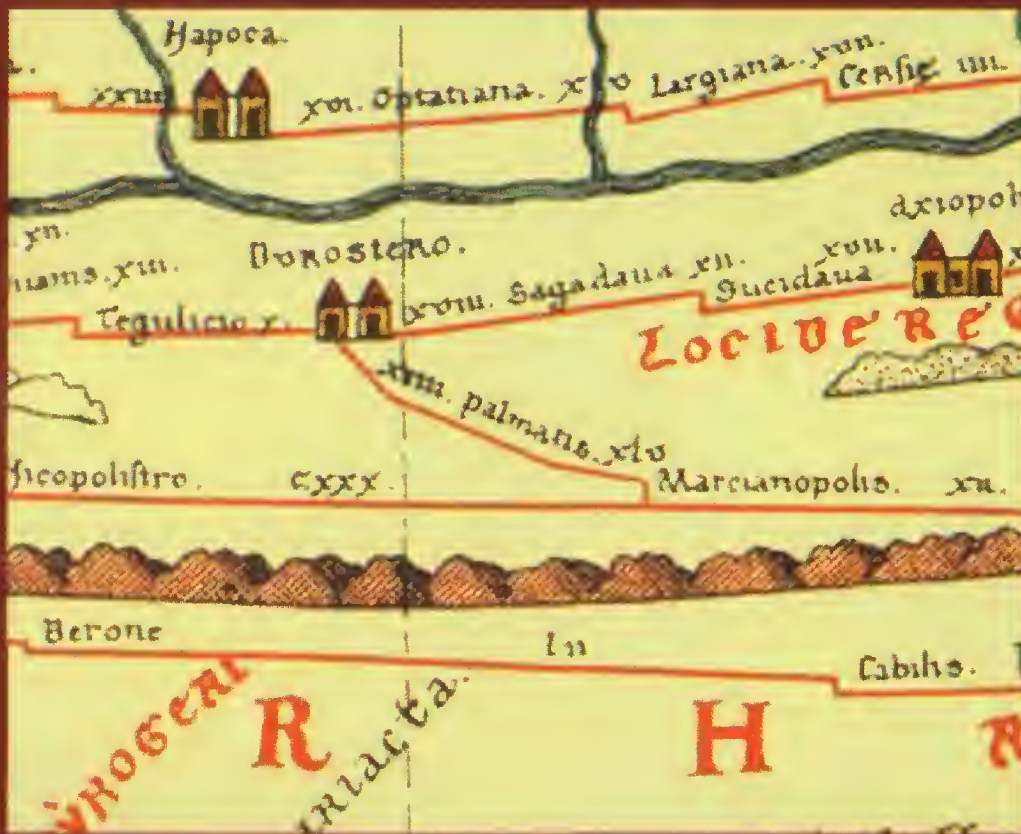
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ТАБЛИЦА I



DUROSTORUM (DUROSTERO) във фрагмент
от TABULA PEUTINGERIANA

DUROSTORUM (DUROSTERO) in a section of TABULA
PEUTINGERIANA



Дунава при Силистра

The Danube at Silistra

ТАБЛИЦА II



Римски капители от Дуросторум
Roman capitals from Durostorum

ТАБЛИЦА III



1



2



3



4

Находки от фона на градския музей в Силистра:

1. Каменно лъвче
2. Орле
3. Оброчна плочка на Митра
4. Кавалерийски параден шлем

Exhibits from the collections of the City museum, Silistra:

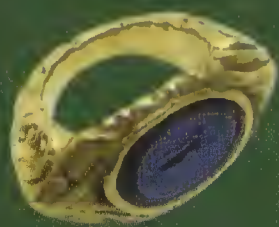
1. Small stone figure of a lion
2. Small figure of an eagle
3. Votive tablet of Mitra
4. Cavalryman's helmet from Vetren on the Danube

ТАБЛИЦА IV



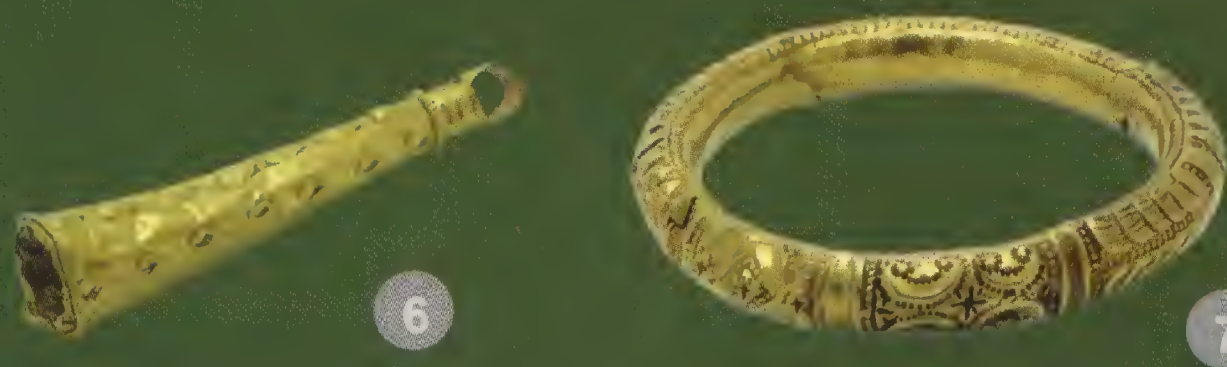
Битова керамика от Дуросторум (Археологически музей Силистра)
Pottery from Durostorum Archeological Museum, Silistra

ТАБЛИЦА V



Гробни находки от некропола на Дуросторум
Burial inventory from the necropolises of Durostorum

ТАБЛИЦА VI

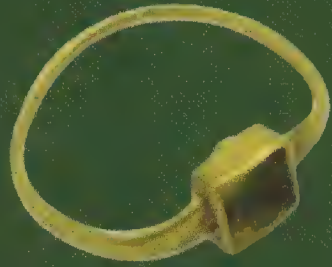


Гробни находки от некропола на Дуросторум
Burial inventory from the necropolises of Durostorum

ТАБЛИЦА VII



1



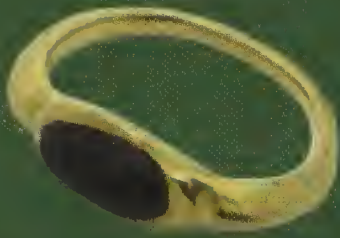
2



3



4



5



6

Гробни находки от некропола на Дуросторум
Burial inventory from the necropolises of Durostorum

ТАБЛИЦА VIII



Гробни находки от некропола на Дуросторум
Burial inventory from the necropolises of Durostorum

ТАБЛИЦА IX



1

1. Златен пръстен с
камей от края на III
- началото на IV в.

1. Golden ring with
cameo from the end
of the 3rd - 4th cen-
tury



2



3



4

2-4. Раннохристиянски пръстени от
Дуросторум (V - началото на VI в.)

2-4. Early Christian rings from Durostorum
(5th-6th century)



5

5. Раннохристиянски пръстен от
Тегулицум (Ветрен)

5. Early Christian rings from Tegulicium
(present day Vetren) (5th-6th century)



6

6. Посичането на св. Дазий Доростолски според миниатюра в
Менология на Василий II от началото на XI в.

6. The beheading of St. Dadius according to a miniature in the
Menologium of Emperor Basil II from the beginning of the 11th
century

ТАБЛИЦА X



7



8



9



10



11



12

7-12. Архитектурни детайли от раннохристиянската архитектура

7-12. Architectural details from the early Christian basilica at Durostorum

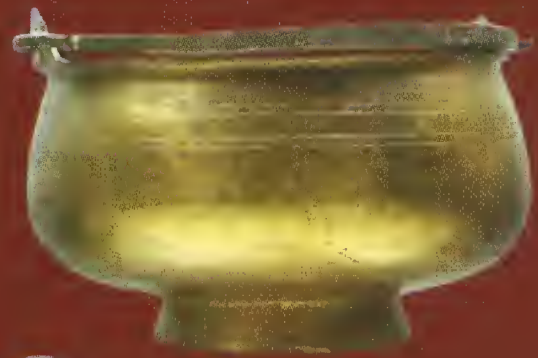
ТАБЛИЦА XI



13

13. Бронзови свещници от съкровище с църковна утвар от Дуросторум (V-VI в.)

13. Bronze candlesticks from a hoard of church plate from Durostorum (5th-6th century)



14

14. Котле с посветителен религиозен текст от съкровище с църковна утвар от Дуросторум (V-VI в.)

14. Cauldron with dedicatory inscription from a hoard with church plate from Durostorum (5th-6th century)



15

15. Дворецът на Доростолските епископи от края на IV-VI в.

15. The Palace of the Bishops of Dorostol from the end of the 4th-6th century



16

16. Скален манастир от V-VI в. по р. Суха до с. Голеш (късноантична крепост „Св. Кирил“)

16. Rock monasteries from the 5th - 6th century along the Suha river up to the village of Golets (the „St Cyril“ fortress from Late antiquity)



17

17. Скален манастир от V-VI в. по р. Суха до с. Балик (късноантична крепост Адина)

17. Rock monastery from the 5th-6th century along the Suha river to the village of Balik (the Late Antiquity fortress of Adina)

ТАБЛИЦА XIII



1. Интериор на гробницата - западна половина

1. Interior of the tomb - western half



2. Господарска двойка

2. The master and the mistress



3. Прислужница с кутия благовония

3. A slave with a box of fragrances



4. Рисунка на стенописите публикувана от А. Фрова през 1943 г.

4. A drawing of the wall paintings, published by A. Frova in 1943



5. Прислужник с панталони

5. A servant with trousers



6. Прислужник с туника

6. A servant with a tunic-paragodium

ТАБЛИЦА XV



7. Прислужник с хламида
7. Servant with chlamys



8. Прислужник с колан -
ценгулум
8. Servant with belt - cengu-
lum

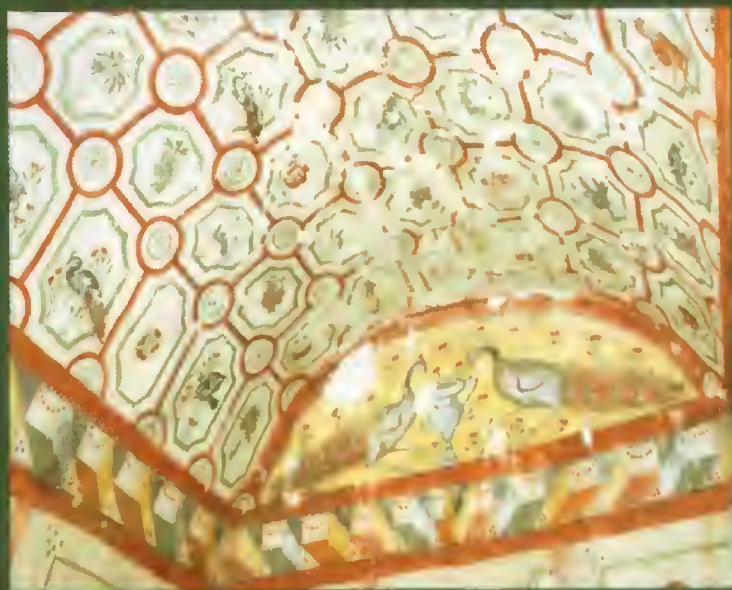


9. Интериор на гробницата - източната половина
9. Interior of the tomb - eastern half



10. Пауните върху западния люнет

10. Peacocks on the western lunette



11. Стенописите върху тавана на гробницата

11. Wall paintings over the ceiling of the tomb



12. Стенописи върху тавана - лов на леопард, флора и фауна

12. Wall paintings on the ceilings - the details with the young hunter, the leopard, the palm-tree, and the bird





Изда те лс тво ИВРАЙ

Този том се издава от
Община Силистра по
решение на Общински съвет
Силистра в чест на 1900
годишнината на Дуросторум –
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