

XXVIII  
2022

ISTROS

# ISTROS XXVIII

MUZEUL BRĂILEI  
„CAROL I”

ISSN: 1453-6943

BRĂILA, 2022

**MUZEUL BRĂILEI „CAROL I”**

**ISTROS  
XXVIII**



**EDITURA ISTROS A MUZEULUI BRĂILEI „CAROL I”**

**BRĂILA  
2022**

**COLEGIUL DE ONOARE / HONOUR BOARD:**

- Prof. Dr. **VICTOR SPINEI** – „Al. I. Cuza” University of Jassy and Institute of Archaeology Iași, member of Romanian Academy (Romania), *honour president*.
- Prof. Dr. **JAN BEMMANN** – Institut für Vor - und Frühgeschichtliche Archäologie, Rheinische „Friedrich-Wilhelms” - Universität Bonn (Germany), *honour member*.
- Prof. Dr. **JAN BOUZEK** – „Charles” University Prague (Czech Republic), *honour member*.
- Prof. Dr. **FALKO DAIM** - Römisch-Germanisches Zentralmuseum Mainz (Germany), *honour member*.
- Prof. Dr. **DIANA GERGOVA** – The National Institute of Archaeology and Museum Sofia (Bulgaria), *honour member*.
- Dr. **ANTON KERN** - Prahistorische Abteilung des Naturhistorisches Museum, Wien (Austria), *honour member*.
- Prof. Dr. **TIVADAR VIDA** - Institute of Archaeology, Budapest (Hungary), *honour member*.

**COLEGIUL DE REDACȚIE / EXECUTIVE BOARD**

- Prof. Dr. **IONEL CÂNDEA** – corresponding member of Romanian Academy, *editor in chief*.
- Prof. Dr. **VALERIU SÎRBU**, Romanian Academy - Institute of Archaeology „V. Pârvan” Bucharest, *scientific secretary*.
- Dr. **CRISTIAN LUCA** – „Lower Danube” University of Galați (Romania), *member*.
- Dr. **COSTIN CROITORU** - Museum of Brăila „Carol I” (Romania), *member*.

Computer processing: Rozalia Pîrlitu, Alina Mușat

Autorilor le revine responsabilitatea științifică a lucrărilor publicate.

© Toate drepturile asupra prezentei ediții sunt rezervate Editurii Istros a Muzeului Brăilei „Carol I”.

**ISSN: 1453-6943**

Orice corespondență referitoare la revista ISTROS se va adresa:  
Muzeul Brăilei „Carol I”,  
Piața Traian, nr. 3,  
810153 BRĂILA  
e-mail: [sediu@muzeulbrailei.ro](mailto:sediu@muzeulbrailei.ro)  
Any remark concerning ISTROS must be addressed to:

Muzeul Brăilei „Carol I”,  
Piața Traian, no. 3,  
810153 BRĂILA  
e-mail: [sediu@muzeulbrailei.ro](mailto:sediu@muzeulbrailei.ro)

## SUMAR / CONTENTS

Sergey Skoryi, Vitalii Okatenko, <i>The Scythian Campaigns to the Ancient East and Caravan Mounds in Ukraine</i> .....	1
Jelena Cvijetić, Marija Ljuština, <i>In Harmony With Fashion. The Earliest Graves in the Komini Necropolis, North Montenegro</i> .....	19
Cătălin Borangic, Călin Ghemiș, Ștefan Lipot, <i>Veriga Lipsă. Descoperiri Padea-Panagjurski Kolonii din nord-vestul României. Pumnalul de tip sica de la Sighiștel, Bihor / The Missing Link. Padea-Panagjurski Kolonii Discoveries in North-Western Romania. The sica-type dagger from Sighiștel, Bihor County</i> .....	35
Anișoara Topârceanu, Valeriu Sîrbu, <i>Așezarea getică de la Coslogeni – Măgura lui Negoită (jud. Călărași) / The Getic Settlement of Coslogeni – Magura lui Negoită</i> .....	81
Aurora Pețan, <i>Carierele de calcar din zona Măgurii Călanului în lumina datelor Lidar / The Limestone Quarries in the Area of Măgura Călanului in the light of Lidar Data</i> .....	109
Valeriu Sîrbu, Dragoș Măndescu, „Tezaurul” de fibule descoperit în zona Ocnele Mari/ Ocnița, jud. Vâlcea / The “Treasure” of Fibulae found in Ocnele Mari / Ocnița Area, Vâlcea County .....	213
Valeriu Sîrbu, Ioan Cernău, Cătălina Cernău, Florin Vlad, <i>Necropola medievală timpurie de la Crăsanii de Jos - Piscul Crăsani, com. Balaciu (jud. Ialomița) / Early Medieval Necropolis from Crăsanii de Jos-Piscul Crăsani, Balaciu Village (Ialomița County)</i> .....	257
Liviu Cîmpeanu, Claudiu-Ion Neagoe, <i>Iancu de Hunedoara versus Șehâbeddîn. Un bilanț al izvoarelor / Jean Hunyadi versus Șehabeddin. Un bilan des sources</i> .....	305
Vasile Diaconu, <i>Tumulii din zona Neamțului. O privire sintetică asupra contribuțiilor de până în prezent</i> .....	377



## ABBREVIERI / ABBREVIATIONS

AAC	= Acta Archaeologica Carpathica, Kraków
AARMSI	= Analele Academiei Române. Memoriile Secțiunii Istorice
AB, S.N.	= Analele Banatului. Serie Nouă. Arheologie-Istorie, Muzeul Banatului, Timișoara
ACL	= Acta Centri Lucusensis, revista Centrului de Studii DacoRomanistice Lucus, Timișoara.
Acta Arch. Acad. Sc. Hung	= Acta Archaeologica Academiae Scientiarum Hungaricae, Budapesta
ActaMM (AMM)	= Acta Moldaviae Meridionalis. Anuarul Muzeului „Ștefan cel Mare”, Vaslui
ActaMN (AMN)	= Acta Musei Napocensis, Cluj-Napoca
AEM	= Archäologisch-Epigraphische Mitteilungen aus Österreich-Ungarn, Viena (I-XX, 1877-1896)
AIÉSEE	= Annuaire de l'Institut des Études Sud-Est Européennes, București
AIIAI	= Anuarul Institutului de Istorie și Arheologie «A. D. Xenopol» din Iași
AJA	= American Journal of Archeology, The Journal of the Archaeological Institute of America, Boston University
AM	= Athener Mitteilungen
AMN	= Acta Musei Napocensis, Cluj-Napoca
AMP	= Acta Musei Porolissensis, Muzeul Județean de Istorie și Artă, Zalău.
Angustia	= Angustia, Muzeul Național al Carpaților Răsăriteni, Sfântu-Gheorghe
AO	= Arhivele Olteniei, Craiova
AOASH	= Acta Orientalia Academiae Scientiarum Hungariae
Apulum	= Apulum. Acta Musei Apulensis, Alba-Iulia
Archeologia Bulgarica	= Archaeologia Bulgarica, Sofia
ArheoVest	= Simpozion ArheoVest, Ediția a II-a: In Honorem Gheorghe Lazarovici, Interdisciplinaritate în Arheologie, Timișoara, 6 decembrie 2014, Vol. 1: Arheologie, Vol. 2:

	Metode Interdisciplinare, Asociația „ArheoVest” Timișoara, JATEPress Kiadó, Szeged, 2014.
ArhGen	= Arhiva Genealogică
ArhMold	= Arheologia Moldovei. Institutul de Arheologie, Iași
AS	= Anatolian Studies
A.S.M.B.	= Arheologia satului medieval din Banat, Reșița, 1996
ATS	= Acta Terrae Septemcastrensis, Sibiu.
Banatica	= Banatica. Muzeul Banatului Montan, Reșița
BAR - București	= BAR – Biblioteca Academiei Române
BCIR	= Buletinul Comisiei Istorice a României
BCȘS	= Buletinul cercetării științifice studențești Alba-Iulia
BerRG	= Bericht der Römisch-Germanischen Kommission der DAI, Frankfurt am Main
BMI	= Buletinul Monumentelor Istorice, Bucharest
BOR	= Biserica Ortodoxă Română
BSNR Bucharest	= Buletinul Societății Numismatice Române, București
CA; Cercetări Arheologice	= Cercetări Arheologice, Muzeul Național de Istorie a României, București.
CAB	= Cercetări arheologice în București. Muzeul de Istorie și Artă al Municipiului București, București
Carpica	= Carpica. Muzeul de Istorie și Artă "Iulian Antonescu", Bacău
CAMNI CA(MNI)	= Cercetări Arheologice, Muzeul Național de Istorie a României, București
CCA	= Cronica Cercetărilor Arheologice din România, București
CCAR	= Cronica Cercetărilor Arheologice din România, Comisia Națională de Arheologie
CCDJ	= Cultură și Civilizație la Dunărea de Jos, Călărași
Celticum	= <i>Celticum</i> , Supplement a OGAM – Tradition celtique, Rennes
CercetArh	= Cercetări Arheologice. Muzeul Național de Istorie a României, București
CercIst	= Cercetări Istorice. Muzeul de Istorie a Moldovei, Iași
CercNum	= Cercetări Numismatice, Muzeul Național de Istorie a României, București

CIL	= Corpus Inscriptionum Latinarum, Berlin
CN	= Cercetări Numismatice, București
Com Arch	= Communicationes Archeologicae Hungariae, Budapesta
Hung	
Crisia	= Crisia. Culegere de materiale și studii, Muzeul Țării Crișurilor, Oradea.
Dacia, (N.S.)	= Dacia. (Nouvelle Série). Revue d'archéologie et d'histoire ancienne, București
Dacia	= Dacia. Recherches et découvertes archéologiques en Roumanie. București, I, (1924) – XII (1948), N.S.: Revue d'archéologie et d'histoire ancienne. Institutul de Arheologie „Vasile Pârvan”, București.
Danubius	= Danubius. Muzeul Județean de Istorie - Galați, Galați
DID	= Din istoria Dobrogei, I-III
DIR	= Documente privind istoria României
DRH	= Documenta Romaniae Historica (seria <i>A</i> : Moldova; seria <i>B</i> : Țara Românească; seria <i>C</i> : Transilvania; seria <i>D</i> : Relații între Țările române)
Drobeta	= Drobeta, Muzeul Regiunii Porților de Fier, Drobeta-Turnu Severin
EAIVR	= Enciclopedia arheologiei și istoriei vechi a României (ed. C Preda), Bucarest I(1994), II (1996), III (2000)
EphNap	= Ephemeris Napocensis. Institutul de Arheologie și Istoria Artei, Cluj- Napoca
Ét.Balk	= Études Balkaniques
FHDR	= Fontes Historiae Dacoromanae, București
FolArch	= Folia Archaeologica, Budapest
Germania	= Germania. Anzeiger der Römisch-Germanischen Kommission des Deutschen Archäologischen Instituts, Frankfurt am Main
Helis	= Helis. Archaeological Museum and Institute Sofia. Historical Museum-Isperih
IAB	= Institutul de Arheologie „Vasile Pârvan”, București.
ILS	= Inscriptiones Latinae Selectae
ISM	= Inscriptiile din Scythia Minor, București
ISMI	= Inscriptiones Scythiae Minoris Graecae et Latinae. Volumen primum Inscriptiones Histriae et viciniae, ed. D.M. Pippidi, Bucarest 1983
Istros	= Istros. Muzeul Brăilei, Brăila



IzvestijaSofia	= Izvestija na Arheologhičeski Institut, Sofia
JAHA	= Journal of Ancient History and Archaeology, Cluj-Napoca (online journal)
JRGZM	= Jahrbuch des Römisch - Germanischen Zentralmuseums, Mainz
KCIA	= Краткие сообщения Института археологии, Москва
Klio	= Klio. Beiträge zur Alten Geschichte, Berlin
Marisia	= <i>Marisia. Studii și materiale</i> , Târgu-Mureș.
Materiale	= Materiale și Cercetări Arheologice, Bucharest
MatIstMuz Buc	= Materiale de Istorie și Muzeografie București
MB	= Mitropolia Banatului, Timișoara
MCA	= Materiale și Cercetări Arheologice. Institutul de Arheologie București; Comisia Națională de Arheologie, București
MCDR	= Muzeul Civilizației Dacice și Romane, Deva.
MemAntiq	= Memoria Antiquitatis. Acta Musei Petrodavensis. Complexul Muzeal Neamț, Piatra-Neamț
MN	= Muzeul Național, București
MNA	= Muzeul Național de Antichități, București (astăzi Institutul de Arheologie „Vasile Pârvan”).
MNIR	= Muzeul Național de Istorie a României, București.
MNIT	= Muzeul Național de Istorie a Transilvaniei, Cluj-Napoca.
MNU	= Muzeul Național al Unirii, Alba Iulia.
Mousaios	= Mousaios. Muzeul Județean Buzău, Buzău
MPK	= Muzei i pametnimi na kulturata, Sofia
Muzeul Național	= <i>Muzeul Național</i> , Muzeul Național de Istorie a României, București
NAC	= Numismatica e antichità classiche, Lugano
Novaensia (Novaensia)	= Novaensia. Ośrodek Badań Archeologicznych w Novae. Uniwersytetu Warszawskiego, Varșovia
Peuce	= Peuce, Studii și comunicări de istorie veche, arheologie și numismatică, Institutul de Cercetări Eco-Muzeale, Tulcea
Pontica	= Pontica. Muzeul de Istorie Națională și Arheologie, Constanța
Pulpudeva	= Academie Bulgare des Sciences – Institut de Thracologie, Sofia

QfA	= Quaderni friulani di archeologia, Udine
RadVM	= Rad Vojvodjanskih Muzeja, Novi Sad
RE	= Pauly's Real-Encyclopädie der classischen Altertumswissenschaft, 1901
RdI	= Revista de Istorie
RESEE	= Revue des Études Sud-Est Européennes, Bucarest
RFR	= Revista Fundațiilor Regale
RI	= Revista Istorică
RIR	= Revista Istorică Română
RM	= Revista Muzeelor, București
RMM	= Revista Muzeelor și Monumentelor - Muze, București
RMM-MIA	= Revista Muzeelor și Monumentelor, seria Monumente Istorice și de Artă, București
RMV	= Rad Muzeja Vojvodine
Sargetia	= Sargetia. Acta Musei Devensis, Deva
SC	= Studii Clasice, București
SCB	= Studii și cercetări de bibliologie
SCIV(A)	= Studii și Cercetări de Istorie Veche (și Arheologie). Institutul de Arheologie „V. Pârvan”, București
SCN	= Studii și cercetări numismatice
SMIM	= Studii și Materiale de Istorie Medie
SMMIM	= Studii și Materiale de Muzeografie și Istorie Militară, București
StAntArch	= Studia Antiqua et Archaeologica, Iași
Starinar	= Starinar, Arheološki Institut, Belgrade
Starini	= Starini. Journal of Balkan Archaeology, Sofia
StCl	= Studii clasice, București
StCom	= Studii și Comunicări. Arheologie și istorie, Muzeul Brukenthal, Sibiu.
Sibiu	
StLLF	= Studii de Limbă, Literatură și Folclor, Reșița
„Studii”	= Studii. Revistă de Istorie
Terra Sebus	= Acta Musei Sabesiensis, Muzeul Municipal „Ioan Raica”, Sebeș.
Thraco-Dacica	= Thraco-Dacica, Institutul de Tracologie, București.
Vrancea	= Vrancea. Studii și Comunicări. Muzeul Județean Vrancea, Focșani



**IN HARMONY WITH FASHION.  
THE EARLIEST GRAVES IN THE KOMINI NECROPOLIS,  
NORTH MONTENEGRO\***

**JELENA CVIJETIĆ, MARIJA LJUŠTINA (BELGRADE – SERBIA)**

**Keywords:** Northern Montenegro, Komini, necropolis, fibulae, La Tène period

**Cuvinte cheie:** Muntenegru de Nord, Komini, necropole, fibule, perioada La Tène

**Abstract:** The paper presents observations about the beginnings of burials in the old necropolis of the settlement in Komini near Pljevlja, which is known in scientific literature as Municipium S... It is broadly believed that the earliest burials at Necropolis I were chronologically positioned in the 1<sup>st</sup> century AD or as early as the 1<sup>st</sup> century BC. Still, with a more detailed insight into archaeological material from graves discovered in 1973, which has not been thoroughly analysed up to now, data were obtained indicating that the earliest burials in Komini should be dated as early as the end of the 4<sup>th</sup> and the beginning of the 3<sup>rd</sup> century BC. These observations are even more significant because until now there have not been any data about funerary practice and grave forms for the period of the Late Iron Age in this area.

**Rezumat:** Articolul prezintă observații despre începuturile înmormântărilor în vechea necropolă a așezării din Komini, de lângă Pljevlja, care este cunoscută în literatura științifică sub numele de Municipium S... Se crede că cele mai vechi înmormântări din Necropola I au fost plasate cronologic în secolul I p. Chr. sau încă din secolul I a.Chr. Cu toate acestea, o analiză mai detaliată a materialului arheologic din mormintele descoperite în 1973, care nu a fost analizat amănunțit

---

\* Realization of this research is financially supported by the Ministry of Education, Science and Technological Development of the Republic of Serbia, within financing of scientific work at the University of Belgrade, Faculty of Philosophy (no. 451-03-68/2022-14/2000162).

We owe special gratitude to the colleagues from the Regional Museum of Pljevlja, who allowed us access to the museum photo documentation.

până acum, a arătat date care indică faptul că cele mai vechi înmormântări din Komini ar trebui datate încă de la sfârșitul secolului al IV-lea și începutul al secolului al III-lea a. Chr. Aceste observații sunt cu atât mai semnificative deoarece până în prezent nu au existat date despre practica funerară și formele funerare pentru perioada Epocii Târzii a Fierului în această zonă.

Archaeological site *Municipium S...* is located in mountainous areas at the far north of today's Montenegro, in Komini near Pljevlja (Fig. 4). It is in the vicinity of Čehotina, i.e. by the left bank of the Babić Potok, after which it was often called by the first explorers and travel writers who left records about old Pljevlja. The village of Komini/Komine extends on the southern edge of Pljevlja basin, at an altitude of over 700 m and it is surrounded by hills higher than 1000 m on almost all sides. Pre-Roman settlement and *Municipium S...* developed near the river, in whose gorge, caves and notches traces of human habitation as far back as the Palaeolithic were discovered, i.e. in the area which was inhabited even in the prehistoric times, as shown in previous archaeological research<sup>1</sup>.

At the time when the first amateur excavations were carried out in Komini, at the end of the 19<sup>th</sup> century and early 20<sup>th</sup> century, the 1<sup>st</sup>, and later the 9<sup>th</sup> Mountain Brigade of the Austro-Hungarian Army was stationed in Pljevlja<sup>2</sup>, which built the military camp into which a considerable number of ancient monuments from Komini was transferred. Some of them were built into the pavilions of the military camp, and some were handed over to the National Museum of Bosnia and Herzegovina in Sarajevo. Judging by the records, these excavations were carried out in the area of the so-called early city necropolis, where the first professional excavations had started in Komini in 1964, after the accidental discovery of a tomb during earthworks on a private estate. Excavations started at the foot of Bijelo Brdo, approximately 300-350 m south-east from the settlement, stretching from the area where the first and, at the same time, the best-preserved above-ground tomb was found, in professional and

---

<sup>1</sup> For position of the prehistoric sites in the area of Pljevlja municipality, see: Срејовић 2009, p. 37-47.

<sup>2</sup> Amateur excavations carried out in 1899 and 1906 were supervised by Captain Franjo Ivanović, First Lieutenant Vilim Faltin and General Rudolph Langer, and then Captain Rukavina, see: Пач 1909, p. 105, 106, 120.

scientific literature known as tomb I<sup>3</sup>. Systematic excavations on the plateau, slopes and in the foothills of Bijelo Brdo were carried out in the period from 1965 to 1967 and from 1971 to 1976, when the necropolises of the pre-Roman settlement and the Roman town formed most likely in the 2<sup>nd</sup> century on the eastern periphery of the province of Dalmatia were examined to a considerable extent. The works supervised by the Professors Aleksandrina Cermanović-Kuzmanović and Dragoslav Srejšović, as well as dr Čedomir Marković, were conducted in cooperation with the Regional Museum in Pljevlja, Faculty of Philosophy in Belgrade and the Institute for Protection of Cultural Monuments of Montenegro, and almost 700 graves were investigated<sup>4</sup>.

During these excavation campaigns, it was established that initially the plateau and the south slope of Bijelo Brdo were used for burials, and later, from the mid-2<sup>nd</sup> to the 4<sup>th</sup> century, the foothill of the same-name hill towards river Vezišnica. Due to differences in grave forms and chronology, the researchers marked the area on the plateau and the south slope as Necropolis I, and the one at the foothill as Necropolis II<sup>5</sup>.

\*

Necropolis I comprised 392 excavated grave units. They were all, without exception, with cremations. Human remains were laid in grave pits. A high density of burials is observed, with pits that were very close to one another. The field documentation does not mention tombstones, except in several cases in the western part of the Necropolis I, where parts of stela were discovered during excavations in 1972, which might be

---

<sup>3</sup> The mentioned tomb discovered at the estate of Ljuban Popović and investigated during June of 1964 presents the above-ground quadrangular structure and it belongs to the type of *area maceria cincta* or the so-called Aquileian family tombs.

<sup>4</sup> For results of archaeological excavations at necropolises in Komini in the period from 1964 to 1976, see Cermanović-Kuzmanović et alii 1964, p. 105; Cermanović-Kuzmanović, Srejšović 1965, p. 144, 145; Cermanović-Kuzmanović et alii 1968a, p. 115, 116; Cermanović-Kuzmanović et alii 1968b, p. 113-115; Cermanović-Kuzmanović, Srejšović 1967, p. 21-28; Cermanović-Kuzmanović 1967, p. 77-84; 1968, p. 201-206; 1969a, 101-109; 1969b, 116-123; 1970a, 25-28; 1970b, 75-81; 1971, 287-302; Cermanović-Kuzmanović, Srejšović 1972, p. 91-92; Cermanović-Kuzmanović 1972, p. 92-93; 1973, p. 3-9; Cermanović-Kuzmanović et alii 1973, p. 71-72; Cermanović-Kuzmanović 1974, p. 34-37; Cermanović-Kuzmanović et alii 1974, p. 89, 90; 1975, p. 104-105; Cermanović-Kuzmanović 1998; Cermanović-Kuzmanović 2009.

<sup>5</sup> Cermanović-Kuzmanović, Srejšović 1965, p. 144, 145. See also ref. 4.

connected to some graves where remains of cremated deceased were placed in stone boxes. As to how the rest of the graves were marked, it can only be speculated. Whether those were wooden or stone markings, small stone or earth mounds or something else, it could not be determined. It is certain, however, that they were marked and noticeable. This is confirmed by the fact that there is no overlapping among such densely buried graves and negation of older burials in the longer period of time. Judging by grave inventories and the method of cremated deceased burial, inhabitants of the pre-Roman settlement in Komini were buried in Necropolis I, and the settlement was most likely not located on the plateau where Municipium S... was later formed, as new archaeological investigations show. By all accounts, it should be sought on one of the plateaus or slopes surrounding the plain where Necropolis I was located<sup>6</sup>. During the second half of the 2<sup>nd</sup> century and the first half of the 3<sup>rd</sup> century, in the heyday of Municipium S..., burials on the necropolis seem to have continued, primarily in its western part, but at the same time they also started in the Necropolis II, which belong to the newly established Municipium.

In the ritual after cremation, two basic methods of treating remains of the deceased are observed. The first meant placing all remains from the pyre (char from the burnt wood, cremated bones) directly into the prepared grave pit, mostly quite shallow (depth 0.20 – 0.30 m). In the second case, cremated bones were carefully collected, cleaned and disposed of in the special receptacle (ceramic urn or stone urn, i.e. stone box), which was laid in the prepared grave pit and often filled in with the remains from the pyre.

Graves at the Necropolis I are classified in three basic types within which several forms can be distinguished:

I – grave pit of circular or elliptical base, in which remains from the pyre were directly laid, without removing the bones of the deceased (a pit without structure; a pit with remains from the pyre covered with stone slab or less often with a fragment of ceramic receptacle);

---

<sup>6</sup> This was indicated by the results of the latest archaeological investigations in Komini supervised by dr Mira Ružić, conducted in the period from 2007 to 2009 in cooperation with the Regional Museum in Pljevlja and Faculty of Philosophy in Belgrade. Project manager of the “Archaeological investigations on the site Grad” was Radoman Risto Manojlović, Director of the Museum in Pljevlja.

II – grave pit of circular base, in which urn with remains of cremated deceased was laid (a pit with urn that can be covered with earth or remains from the pyre; an urn protected by stone wreath, sometimes on the stone platform and covered with stone slab or a fragment of ceramic receptacle; an urn laid inside a cist of vertically placed stone slabs);

III – grave pit of circular, elliptical or quadrangular base, in which stone box with the remains of cremated deceased was laid<sup>7</sup>.

The predominant type of burial is the one where the cremated bones are separated from other remains from the pyre, placed in urns and then laid into prepared grave pit.

\*\*

As a large number of graves was investigated, it is somewhat surprising that the material found in them is relatively scanty. At Necropolis I, ceramic vessels were most often present, mainly handmade, and then metal objects such as parts of the costumes, but the emergence of long crooked knives is also significant, which were mostly driven into the ground with the tip beside the urn in the north-west part of the grave pit, according to available data from documentation and literature (Цермановић-Кузмановић 1977; Ружић 2009). Glass vessels, predominantly balsamaria, are rare; ceramic oil-lamps are completely missing, and a very small number of coins was recorded, which were often exposed to fire together with the remains of the deceased, judging by the damages.

As previously indicated, ceramic vessels were primarily handmade. Among them urns or vessels of various shapes dominate, used for storing cremated remains of the deceased. They are mostly rough in texture and unevenly fired. It is assumed that this is predominantly local production. According to observations of the necropolis research executives in Komini, the closest parallels are seen in the one on the “Iapodian territory from the period between 35 BC and 110 AD, as well as the pottery from the Cetina River Spring“ (Цермановић-Кузмановић 1977, p. 44)<sup>8</sup>. Among metal finds, there are predominantly fibulae with

---

<sup>7</sup> Typology was established by the Professor Aleksandrina Cermanović-Kuzmanović, and supplemented by dr Mira Ružić (Cermanović-Kuzmanović, 1977; 1979; 1998).

<sup>8</sup> About ceramic vessels, see Цермановић-Кузмановић 1975; Cermanović-Kuzmanović 1976; Цермановић-Кузмановић 1980; Ljuština, Cvijetić 2021; Vujić et al. 2021.



dozens of specimens, mostly bronze. On this occasion, we will draw attention to two finds discovered at the beginning of the campaign in 1973 in the graves that were marked in the field documentation with numbers 3 and 4.

In grave 4/1973, a pit of circular base, with diameter of 0.60 m and depth of 0.22 m, an urn with the remains from the pyre was found, in which bronze fibula and one smaller fragmented bronze bell were placed (Fig. 1). In the pit close to the urn there was a fragmented wheel-thrown vessel with handles, made from medium baked earth and light-brown firing colour (Terrain Inventory = TI 294/1973). The urn of smaller dimension (Ro = 11 cm; h = 20 cm; Rd = 9.5 cm), with recessed rim, dumpy, globular receptacle and non-profiled flat bottom with two horseshoe handles on the shoulder, was made by hand from rough baked earth and grey-brown firing colour (Fig. 2, TI 295/1973). Bronze fibula, 48mm in length, is characterized by a slightly curved leaf-like arch and reversed foot ending with a smaller button-shaped thickening (Fig. 3, 3a, TI 296/1973). This type of Early La Tène fibulae is defined as the Karaburma 63 type based on the find from the grave no. 63 from the necropolis of Karaburma in Belgrade. The grave belongs to an inhumed deceased, lying on the back with arms stretched next to the body. Lower parts of the stretched legs were damaged. The head is slightly turned leftwards. The skeleton is well preserved. Its orientation is W-E, the head being on the west and the legs on the east (Todorović 1972, p. 26). The skeleton was attributed to a female deceased, on the basis of the grave inventory. No detailed anthropological analysis has been performed so far. Two silver earrings made of twisted wire were on the left and right side of the head. There were 7 multi-coloured glass beads on the neck of the deceased. A bronze fibula of Duchcov/Dux type, 4.8 cm in length, with decorated arch and two pairs of chain pendants was on the right shoulder. Its foot is bent and spherically ended. Its widened arch has elliptical ornamentation. The spring is bilateral, with six coils. The four chain pendants, their lengths varying from 6 to 17cm, hang from the pivot bar. It was dated at the end of the 4<sup>th</sup> and the beginning of the 3<sup>rd</sup> century BC (Todorović 1972, p. 62). A large wheel-thrown clay bowl was placed some 40cm from the left side of the head. Next to the right side of the head there was a fragment of biconical iron object (Todorović 1972, p. 26-27; Ljuština, Spasić 2012, p. 368-369).

The Karaburma 63 type of fibulae was defined by D. Božič (Božič 1981, p. 317, note 52, 325, T. 3), being characteristic of the Belgrade 1 phase, that is of phase Lt B2 in the territory of Croatian and Serbian Danube region, although they have been found in the whole of the Western Balkans. These are fibulae of the Early La Tène scheme made of copper alloy, which generally speaking represent a local variant of the Duchcov type, with an eight-coil or, more rarely (as in the case of the specimen from the grave 4/1973 in Komini), six-coil spring and an external chord, a massive bow of square outline and lenticular or elliptical cross-section, and a back-bent foot with a large globular thickening in the middle, and a smaller button-shaped thickening at the bow end. The upper side of the bow can be decorated with various motifs rendered in relief, though finds with a smooth bow are the most numerous (Drnić 2015, p. 76).

In search of the nearest analogies for the fibula from Komini, the importance of the sites from the Glasinac region in eastern Bosnia (Rusanovići, Podilijak, Breza on Fig. 4) was recognized. Overview of the sites from Bosnia and Herzegovina with the analogous material discovered by the mid-20<sup>th</sup> century and kept in the National Museum of Bosnia and Herzegovina was provided by R. Bižić (Bižić 1951), while recently the fibulae from the Early La Tène period was in research focus of A. Marić. She gave the lecture under the title “Tvarna stopnja Lt B2 v Bosni in Hercegovini” at the conference “Latenizacija na prostoru od jugovzhodnih Alp do hrvaško-srbskega Podonavja” held in Kobarid, Slovenia, between 23 and 25 November 2012 (Drnić 2015, p. 76, note 446) and further extended her work in the subsequent years (Marić 2015; Marić 2019). Fibulae of Karaburma 63 type are leading elements of the material culture of the LT B2 phase in Serbian-Croatian part of the Danube basin. A. Marić (Marić 2015, p. 152) recognised six main variants with sub-variants, depending on the way of bow and foot decoration. They are spread in the zone settled by the Scordisci, as well to the south from the Sava, in a few sites in present-day Bosnia and Herzegovina (Marić 2015, sl. 4), where they were dominant type of fibulae during the phase Lt B2. They are attributed to the Lt B2 phase based on the grave units no. 60 and 63 from the eponymous site of Karaburma in Belgrade, and considered to have been part of female attire (Marić 2015, p. 152). Dealing with the origin of Late Iron Age fibulae found in Bosnia and Herzegovina, A. Marić (Marić 2019, p. 23) reached

the conclusion that some of them were imported, but the majority of them were probably made locally under different influences. She used typological similarities and differences, quantity and distribution area as the basic tool for pointing out cultural connections and interactions during the Late Iron Age.

Clustering of the finds of only three subtypes and variants of Karaburma 63 type of fibulae (Fig. 4) has proven to be very instructive for our find from Komini. Already at this stage of research it is obvious that the nearest analogies can be found among the sites in the Glasinac region of eastern Bosnia, while the high concentration of the finds in Serbian-Croatian part of the Danube basin indicates the zone of original centres from which these highly appreciated elements of fashion reached the Central Balkan communities.

In the second grave pit, 3/1973, of circular base and dimension:  $R = 0.55$  m;  $d = 0.30$  m, which was filled with char, there was an urn with the remains from the pyre, covered with the stone slab (Fig. 5). In the urn there was a bronze fibula and a fragmented, handmade bowl of rough baked earth and dark red firing colour next to the urn (Fig. 6, TI 292/1973). The urn, also fragmented, of non-profile recessed rim, ovoid receptacle and slightly profiled flat bottom, was made of rough baked earth and dark red firing colour (TI 289/1973). Bronze fibula with the leg bent backwards and attached to the arch with one plastic ring of 48mm in length (Fig. 7, TI 290/1973) was found together with the fragment of "hinged fibula" according to one source, but no further information is available. This type, otherwise characteristic of the Middle La Tène period, is also present in a large number of sites in the surrounding area, primarily in numerous necropolises in the region of the neighbouring Bosnia and Herzegovina (the sites of Vir near Posušje, Donja Dolina, Zlatište and Debelo Brdo near Sarajevo), in graves with cremated deceased. Territorially the closest to our find are the specimens from the site Mahrevići (Marevići) near Čajniča (Truhelka 1909, fig. 16-20; Bižić 1951, p. 292, 293, T. III, 32; Tonc 2015, p. 140-141, fig. 15), which was partly investigated in early 20<sup>th</sup> century, and which is about 30 km away from Komini or Pljevlja by air. The fibulae from Mahrevići match the specimen from Komini by the size, too, their lengths varying between 4.7 and 5.5 cm. This type of fibulae is also much appreciated by the Late Iron Age communities of the western part of the Balkan peninsula – namely by

the Liburni, Iapodes, Colapians – during the phase Lt C (cf. Tonc 2015, p. 140-142, map 10). Interestingly, not many of them were found in the inventory of the Middle La Tène female graves at the territory of the Scordisci (cf. Dizdar 2020, p. 333-364), from where we expect cultural impetus revealed through the elements of costume to have come.

\*\*\*

It is important to note that graves 3 and 4 were located at the most prominent point in Necropolis I at an altitude of 760m, so that according to the finds – the fibulae in the first instance – they could most likely be assigned to the earliest burials in Komini.

The community continued to bury their deceased in the following centuries. The earliest burial units revealed that the community was incorporated in already established communication networks which provided the people from the vicinity of Komini with desirable goods, in harmony with the fashion common for both the Central and Western Balkan and south Pannonian areas. Another question in tracing identities of the populations within specific areas. In this sense differences shown in material culture, particularly in dress elements and their combinations as well as specificities in burial customs, can be very instructive, as testified in the zone of the Western Balkans (cf. Tonc 2015; Tonc 2017). Unfortunately, the region of north Montenegro is still insufficiently explored and our knowledge is restricted to very few sites. However, thorough publication of these sites – Komini being the one with the great potential – will undoubtedly shed light on numerous aspects of life of the local communities at the dawn of the new era.

Jelena Cvijetić  
University of Belgrade  
Faculty of Philosophy  
Department of Archaeology  
E-mail: jcvijeti@f.bg.ac.rs

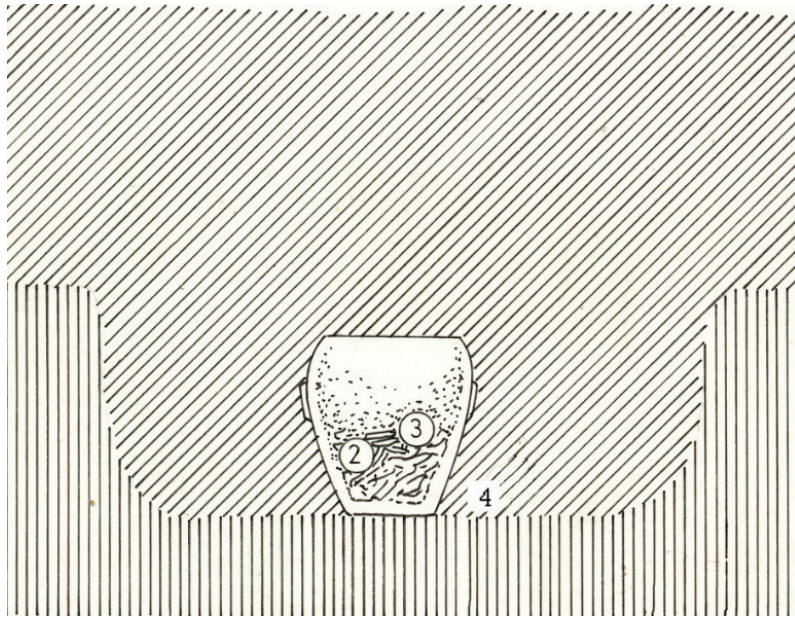
Marija Ljuština  
University of Belgrade  
Faculty of Philosophy  
Department of Archaeology  
E-mail: mljustin@f.bg.ac.rs

### Bibliography

- Bižić, R.** 1951. *Tipovi preistorijskih fibula u Bosni i Hercegovini*, Glasnik Zemaljskog muzeja Bosne i Hercegovine n.s. VI, p. 281-300.
- Božič, D.** 1981. *Relativna kronologija mlađe železne dobe u jugoslovanskom Podonavju*, Arheološki vestnik, 32, p. 315-347.
- Цермановић-Кузмановић, А.** 1969. *Municipium S... и његова проблематика у светлу нових археолошких истраживања*, Старице XIX, p. 101-109.
- Сермановић-Кузмановић, А.** 1969. *Neue funde aus dem Municipium S.* p. 116-123. In: J. Bibauw (Ed.), *Homage á Marcel Renard III*, Collection Latomus 103, Bruxelles, Latomus.
- Цермановић-Кузмановић, А.** 1971. *Облици и хронологија римског стакленог материјала из некрополе Муниципија S...*, Жива антика XX-1, p. 287-302.
- Сермановић-Кузмановић, А.** 1972. *Komini, Pljevlja – nekropola antičkog grada*, Arheološki pregled 14, p. 92-93.
- Цермановић-Кузмановић, А.** 1975. *Сликана керамика и њена проблематика*, Старице XXIV-XXV, p. 103-106.
- Цермановић-Кузмановић, А.** 1976a. *Резултати нових археолошких истраживања на подручју Муниципија С у селу Комини*, p. 93-99. In: П. Влаховић (Ed.), *Симпозијум Сеоски дани Сретена Вукосављевића IV*, Заједница основног образовања, Пријепоље.
- Сермановић-Кузмановић, А.** 1976b. *Pregled i tipologija keramike u jugoistočnom delu rimske provincije Dalmacije u doba carstva*, Arheološki vestnik XXVI, p. 64-76.
- Цермановић-Кузмановић, А.** 1977. *Римско-илирске некрополе у Коминама*, p. 37-47, In: Б. Гавела (Ed.), *Велика археолошка налазишта у Црној Гори*, Коларчев народни универзитет, Београд.
- Цермановић-Кузмановић, А.** 1979. *Резултати археолошких истраживања у селу Комини (Municipium S...)*, Старице Црне Горе VI, p. 93-100.
- Цермановић-Кузмановић, А.** 1998. *Комини – Municipium S... некрополе = Komini – Municipium S... cemeteries*, Велика археолошка налазишта 3, Филозофски факултет, Центар за археолошка истраживања, Београд.

- Цермановић-Кузмановић, А.** 2009. *Пљеваљско подручје у римско и рановизантијско доба*. У: С. Терзић (Ed.), *Историја Пљеваља*, Општина Пљевља, Пљевља,
- Cermanović-Kuzmanović, A., Srejović, D.** 1965. *Komini, Pljevlja – rimska nekropola*, *Arheološki pregled* 7, p. 144-145.
- Cermanović-Kuzmanović, A., Srejović, D.** 1967. *Rezultati arheoloških istraživanja u jugoistočnom delu rimske provincije Dalmacije*, *Materijali* IV, p. 21-28.
- Cermanović-Kuzmanović, A., Srejović, D.** 1972. *Komini, Pljevlja – nekropola antičkog grada*, *Arheološki pregled* 14, p. 91-92.
- Cermanović-Kuzmanović, A., Srejović, D., Marković, Č.** 1972. *Necropoles romaines a Komini près de Pljevlja (Municipium S...)*, *Inventaria archaeologica fasc. 15*, Société archéologique de Yougoslavie; Pljevlja: Musée Régional; Cetinje: Institut pour la protection des monuments.
- Cermanović-Kuzmanović, A., Srejović, D., Marković, Č.** 1973. *Komini kod Pljevalja – rimske nekropole*, *Arheološki pregled* 15, p. 71-72.
- Cermanović-Kuzmanović, A., Srejović, D., Marković, Č.** 1974. *Komini, Pljevlja – Municipium S. rimske nekropole*, *Arheološki pregled* 16, p. 89-90.
- Cermanović-Kuzmanović, A., Srejović, D., Marković, Č.** 1975. *Komini, Pljevlja – rimske nekropole*, *Arheološki pregled* 17, p. 104-105.
- Dizdar, M.** 2020. *The Middle La Tène Women Costume of the Scordisci. The Identity of the Protohistoric Community in the Southern Carpathian Basin*. Institut za arheologiju, Zagreb.
- Drnić, I.** 2015. *Kupinovo. Groblje latenske kulture*. Arheološki muzej u Zagrebu, Zagreb.
- Јовановић, А.** 1984. *Римске некрополе на територији Југославије*. Универзитет у Београду-Филозофски факултет, Центар за археолошка истраживања, Београд.
- Ljuština, M., Cvijetić J.** 2021. *Echo from the past? A contribution to comprehension of the antique painted pottery from Montenegro*, *Arheovest*, IX, in honorem Valeriu Sîrbu, p. 421-435.
- Ljuština, M., Spasić, M.** 2012. *Celtic Newcomers between Traditional and Fashionable: Graves 63 and 67 from Karaburma*, p. 367-375. In: S. Berecki (Ed.), *Iron Age Rites and Rituals in the Carpathian*

- Basin*. Proceedings of the International Colloquium from Târgu Mureş 7-9 October 2011, Târgu Mureş.
- Marić, Z.** 1968. *Japodske nekropole u dolini Une*, Glasnik Zemaljskog muzeja Bosne i Hercegovine u Sarajevu XXIII, p. 5-80.
- Marić, A.** 2015. *Nova interpretacija groba sa skeletnim ukopom žene iz mlađeg željeznog doba s Kamenjače u Brezi kod Sarajeva*, Godišnjak Centra za balkanološka ispitivanja, 44, p. 143-157.
- Marić, A.** 2019. *Karaburma 63 and Karaburma 39 Types of Fibulae in Present-day Bosnia and Herzegovina – “First Cousins and Distant Relatives”*, p. 23. In: M. Ignjatović (Ed.). *Conference Jewellery remains NAOS 2.0*, Belgrade, 24-25 October 2019, Book of Abstracts, Belgrade.
- Marović, I.** 1959. *Iskopavanje kamenih gomila oko vrela rijeke Cetine 1953. 1954. I 1958. godine*, Vjesnik za arheologiju i historiju dalmatinsku 61, p. 5-80.
- Пач, К.** 1909. *Из Плеваљског Санџака*, Гласник Земаљског музеја XXI, p. 105-134.
- Ружић, М.** 2008. *Силван и Херкул у загробним веровањима становника Муниципијума С...*, Архаика 2, p. 103-118.
- Срејовић, Д.** 2009. *Пљеваљско подручје у праисторијско доба*, p. 35-48. In: С. Терзић (Ed.), *Историја Пљеваља*, Општина Пљевља, Пљевља.
- Todorović, J.** 1972. *Praistorijska Karaburma I – nekropola mlađeg gvozdenog doba*. Muzej grada Beograda, Beograd.
- Тонс, А.** 2015. *Protohistoric Communities in the Northern Part of the East Adriatic Coast and Its Hinterland*. University of Zagreb, Zagreb. – unpublished PhD thesis
- Тонс, А.** 2017. *Between the Sea and the Alps: Traces of Mobility and Trade of the Late Iron Age Societies in the Northern Adriatic*, p. 119-123. In: J. Wilczek, A. Cannot, T. Le Cozanet, J. Remy, J. Macháček, J. Klápště (Eds.), *Interdisciplinary and New Approaches in the Research of the Iron Age. Dissertationes Archaeologicae Brunenses/Pragensesque. Supplementum IV*. Masarykova univerzita, Brno.
- Трухелка, Ћ.** 1909. *Громила латенске добе у Махревићима, котар Чајница*, Гласник Земаљског музеја Босне и Херцеговине XXI, p. 425-442.

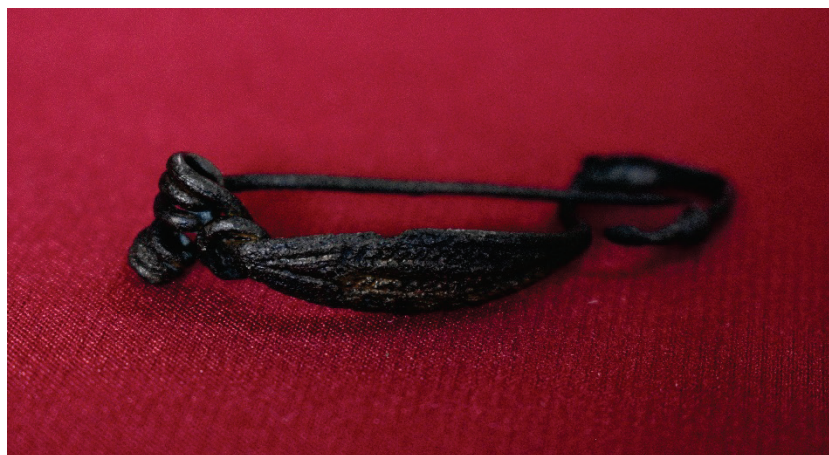


**Fig. 1.** Grave No. 4/1973



**Fig. 2.** Grave No. 4/1973, the urn.

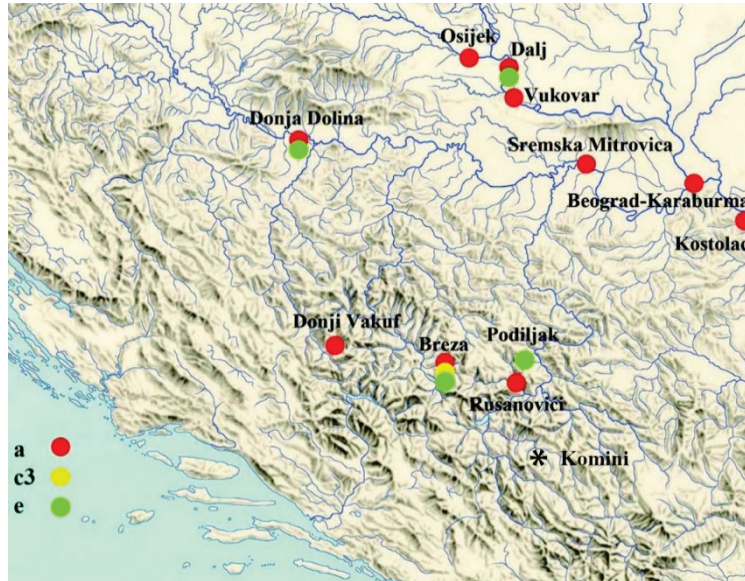




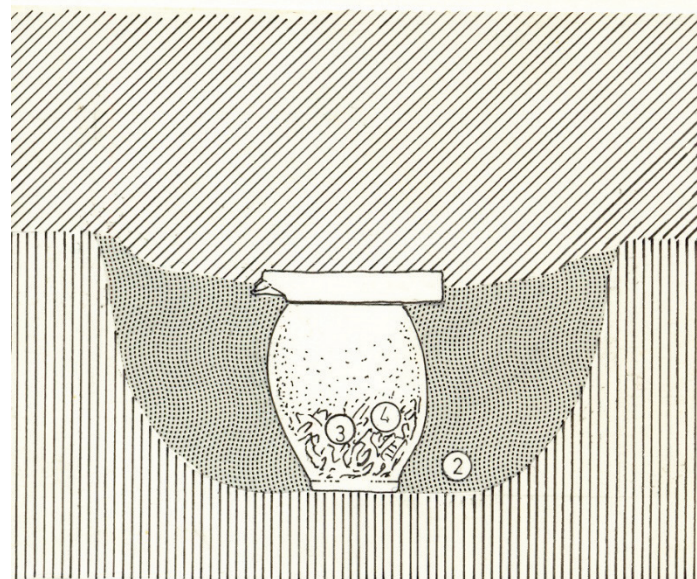
**Fig. 3.** Fibula from the grave No. 4/1973.



**Fig. 3a.** Fibula from the grave No. 4/1973.



**Fig 4.** Map of subtypes and variants a, c3, e of "Karaburma 63" type of fibulae (modified after Marić 2015, sl. 4), with the position of the Komini necropolis.



**Fig. 5.** Grave pit No. 3/1973.



**Fig. 6.** Little ceramic vessel from the grave No. 3/1973.

s



**Fig. 7.** Fibula from the grave No. 3/1973.