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ROMAN FIBULAE FROM *ULPIANA* (Archaeological investigations 1981–87.)

Abstract. – During systematic archaeological excavations of the Roman town *Ulpiana*, from 1981 to 1987, which were carried out by the Archaeological Institute in Belgrade and the Regional Institute for Protection of Cultural Monuments in Priština under supervision of dr. Maja Parović-Pešikan, the north and west gate complex of the fortress and part of the town nucleus, 40 m along the main street *cardo maximus*, were investigated. On that occasion, fourteen fibulae and six fragments of fibulae, in clearly stratified layers and life horizons, were found at that site. Nine types of fibulae from the chronological period 1st to 5th century A.D. were identified. The majority of fibulae are made of bronze, one example is of silver and two of iron. The chronological determination of investigated horizons, which was ascertained by the author of excavations, is confirmed on the basis of the fibula finds dealt with in this study.

Key words. – fibulae, *Ulpiana*, Roman period

The Roman town *Ulpiana*, which was most probably founded at the beginning of the 2nd century AD, soon achieved the status of municipium and flourished throughout the 3rd and 4th century. Destroyed by the invasion of the Huns and Goths in mid 5th century and catastrophic earthquake in 518 A.D., it was rebuilt by the emperor Justinian as *Iustiniana Secunda* in mid 6th century. The town was finally abandoned in 618 A.D., just before the invasion of the Avars and Slavs from the Danube valley towards Thessalonica.¹

During its long history, *Ulpiana* rebuilt many times, had several life phases, which have been confirmed by archaeological investigation. The town rampart, the north gate complex, part of the north necropolis together with the memorial and the tomb structures in the west necropolis, as well as the early Byzantine basilica and, to the north, a complex of buildings and termals, have been partly investigated.² However, only the systematic investigations of this site, from 1981 to 1987, under the supervision of Maja Parović-Pešikan, which were carried out by the Archaeological Institute in Belgrade and the Regional Institute for Protection of Cultural Monuments in Priština, provided the opportunity for more precise chronological differentiation of the life phases in *Ulpiana*.³

During systematic archaeological excavations at *Ulpiana* from 1981 to 1987, which included the north gate complex, the west gate and the town nucleus, approximately 40 m along the main street, *cardo maximus*, fourteen fibulae, which could be typologically defined and six atypical fragments of the arches and pins of bronze fibulae, were found. We considered it useful to present this chronologically indicative archaeological material in the framework of already defined life phases at the site.

Of the twenty fibulae and fragments of fibulae found, the majority is cast bronze (85%), only one is silver (cat. no. 13) and two are iron (cat. no. 10 and 11).

Fibulae from *Ulpiana* have been classified into nine types, which belong to a wide chronological

¹ Parović-Pešikan, M. 1982, 57–58; Fidanovski, S. 1990, 7–9.

² Concerning previous archaeological excavations at *Ulpiana* see: Čerškov, E. – Popović, Lj. 1956, 319–326; Čerškov, E. – Popović, Lj. 1957, 321–325; Čerškov, E. – Popović, Lj. 1958, 275–280; Čerškov, E. 1959, 371–375; Čerškov, E. 1959, 133–136; Čerškov, E. 1969; Parović-Pešikan, M. 1982, 59 ff.; Fidanovski, S. 1990, 11–14.

³ Parović-Pešikan, M. 1985, 82–86; Parović-Pešikan, M. 1986, 95–96; Parović-Pešikan, M. 1987, 136–142; Parović-Pešikan, M. 1989, 45–51; Parović-Pešikan, M. 1989, A, 117–121. A monograph by the same author concerning the investigations at *Ulpiana* is in preparation.

period from the end of 1st to mid 5th century. Individual examples in the catalogue are dated on the bases of stratigraphic data of the archaeological entities from which they originate, in the framework of already defined chronological phases of the sector investigated in the period from 1981 to 1987.⁴

Fibulae found at *Ulpiana* in the course of the systematic archaeological investigations from 1981 to 1987 belong to the following types:

1. Fibulae with hinge and plate arch decorated with enamel, are dated in the 1st and 2nd century:⁵

1. Plate-like bronze fibula with hinge mechanism, with wide trapezoid foot and a short catch-pin. Decoration, with »fish bone« motif carved along the arch and two »zigzag« lines on the foot, was filled with enamel. The pin is missing. The fibula, in shape and decoration, represents a stylized snake.

Pl. I, 1

dimensions: 45 mm

finding place: sq. G/7, building, horizon I

dating: end of 1st – beginning of 3rd century

analogy: No direct analogies

2. Strongly profiled arch fibulae with short pin-catch, button shaped foot ending and head in the shape of a trumpet, characteristic of the 2nd century:⁶

2. Strongly profiled bronze arch fibula with a short pin-catch, button shaped foot and head in the shape of a trumpet. There is a ring-like thickening where the arch and foot meet. The pin-catch is damaged and the pin is missing.

Pl. I, 2

dimensions: 46 mm

finding place: sq. B/3, layer C, horizon III

dating: 2nd–3rd century

analogy: Bojović, D. 1983., pl. XVI, 141; Jovanović, A. 1978, 52, local variant, Fig. 102, 2nd–3rd century; Bichir, Gh. 1984, 45–46, Pl. XXXVIII, 4, 2nd century; Vádáy, A. 1989, 77, Abb. 12, 7, 2nd century; Jobst, W. 1975, 39–40, type I/5 b, pl. 7, 48–49, 2nd century; Lyoubenova, V. 1981, 166, Type 1, Fig. 105, 1–2, end of 2nd century.

3. Strongly profiled arch fibulae with a high pin-catch and button shaped foot ending, dated to the 2nd and beginning of 3rd century:⁷

3. Strongly profiled arch fibula with a high pin-catch and button shaped foot ending. The profiling on the arch is divided and the triangular foot is profiled with a crest in the middle.

Pl. I, 3

dimensions: 40 mm

finding place: sq. F/9, layer B2, horizon II

dating: 2nd–3rd century

analogy: Bojović, D. 1983, 37, type 9, var. 11, pl. X, 85–86, 2nd and beginning of 3rd century; Jobst, W. 1975, 35–36, type I/4 e, pl. 6, 36–43, second half of 2nd – beginning of 3rd century; Koščević, R. 1980, 22, pl. XVI, 108–110, 2nd – beginning of 3rd century.

4. Arch fibulae with hinge mechanism, crest on the arch, high pin-catch and button-shaped foot ending, dated to the end of the 2nd and 3rd century:⁸

4. Arch bronze fibula with hinge mechanism, profiled crest on the arch, high pin-catch and button-shaped foot ending, which is separated from the arch with a ring-like thickening. The pin-catch handle is damaged and the pin is missing.

Pl. I, 4

dimensions: 51 mm

finding place: sq. F/ 10, layer B, horizon III

dating: 3rd – beginning of 4th century

analogy: Bojović, D. 1983, type 14, var. 1, T. XVII, 150, end of 2nd century; Bichir, Gh. 1984, 45, type 14/1, Pl. XLV, 1, second half of 2nd – beginning of 3rd century; Grbić, D. 1996, 89, Fig. 3, 3–6, III – beginning of 4th century.

5. Arch bronze fibula with hinge, profiled crest on the arch, high pin-catch and button-shaped foot ending. The arch has divided profiling at the junction with the foot.

Pl. I, 5

dimensions: 56 mm

finding place: sq. F/9, layer B2, horizon II

⁴ Apart from the cited studies in note 3, archaeological documentation from the excavations was used with the permission, help and suggestions of the supervisor of excavations, Dr Maja Parović-Pešikan, the Scientific Councilor of the Archaeological Institute in Belgrade. Her suggestions about this work have been of great value, for which I thank her.

⁵ Bojović, D. 1983, 63, type 24, var. 1, pl. XXVIII, 268, end of 1st and first half of 2nd century; Ambroz, A. K. 1966, 29, group 7/3 a, pl. 14, 9–10, 2nd and beginning of 3rd century; Vádáy, A. H. 1989, 85–86, Abb. 14, 13–16, 1st and 2nd century.

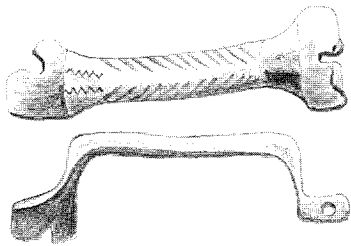
⁶ Bojović, D. 1983, 42–43, type 12, var. 2, 2nd and beginning of 3rd century; Jovanović, A. 1978, 51–52, end of 1st and 2nd century.

⁷ Jobst, W. 1975, 35–36, type I/4 E, second half of 2nd and beginning of 3rd century; Bojović, D. 1983, 37, type 9, var. 11, 2nd and beginning of 3rd century.

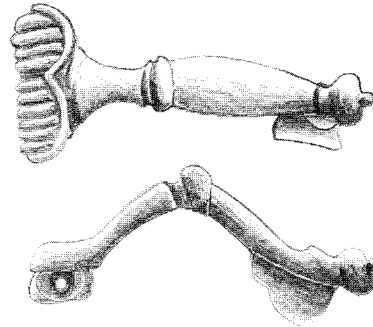
⁸ Bojović, D. 1983, 46–47, type 14, var. 1 and 2, end of 2nd century; Bichir, Gh. 1984, 45, 2/a, 2nd and first half of 3rd century; Grbić, D. 1996, 89, Fig. 1, 3rd and beginning of 4th century.

Plate I

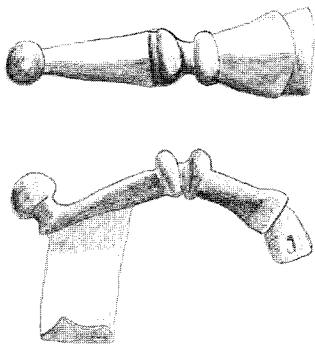
Табла I



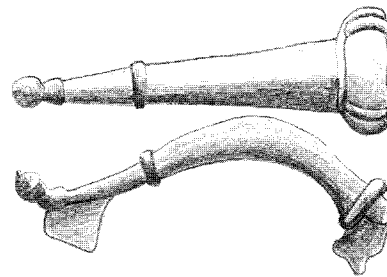
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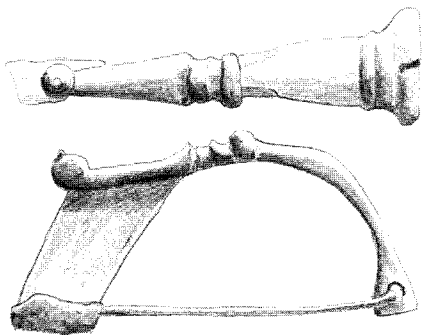
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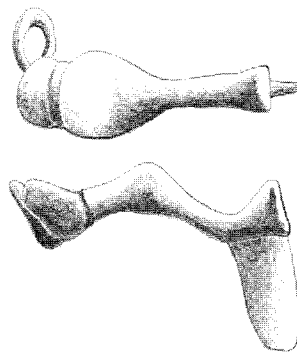
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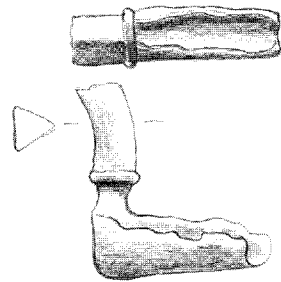
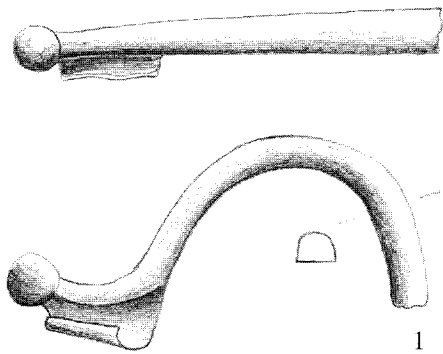


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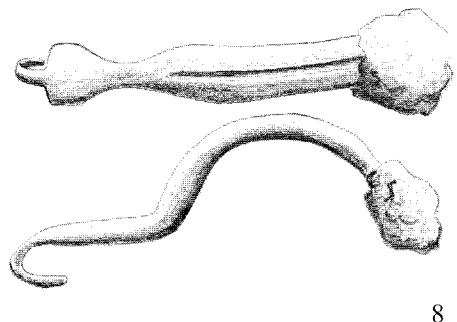
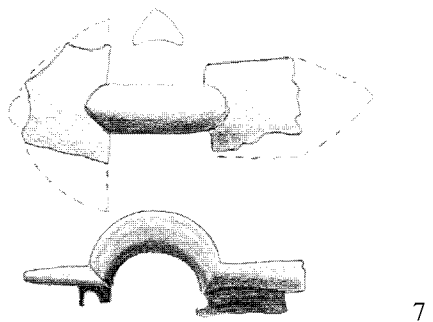
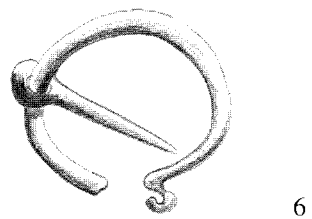
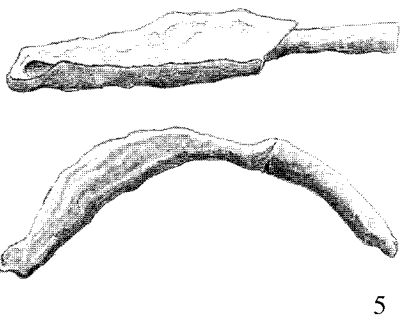
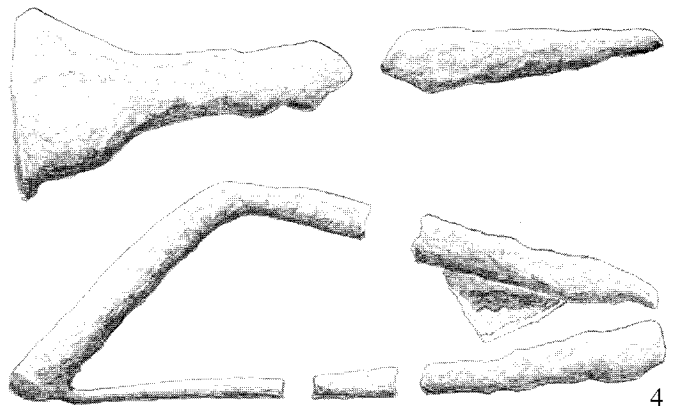
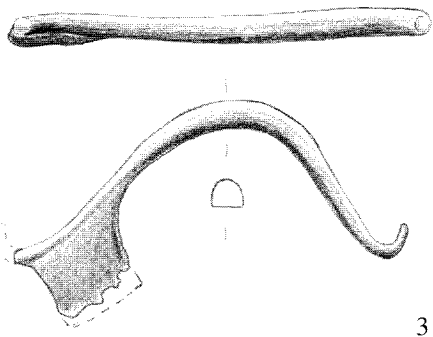


Plate II

Табла II



0 1 cm



dating: 2nd–3rd century

analogy: Bojović, D. 1983, type 14, var. 2, T. XVII, 152, end of 2nd century; Grbić, D. 1996, analogies like under cat. no. 44.

5. Knee-like fibulae with a high pin-catch, characteristic from the 2nd to 4th century:⁹

6. Bronze knee-like fibula with plate head and high pin-catch. The head and the pin-catch are damaged and the pin is missing.

Pl. I, 6

dimensions: 37 mm

finding place: sq. A/3, layer A, horizon IV

dating: 4th century

analogy: Bojović, D. 1983, 55, type 20, var. 2, pl. XX, 176–177, 2nd–3rd century; Jobst, W. 1975, 65–66, type 13/13 c–d, pl. 20–23, second half of 2nd – beginning of 3rd century; Bichir, Gh. 1984, 48, type 2/e, Pl. XXXIX, 3–4, 2nd – first half of 3rd century; Lyoubenova, V. 1981, 167–168, type 3, fig. 105, 4, 2nd–3rd century; Vádáy, A. H. 1989, 79–80, Abb. 13, 1–11, 2nd–3rd century; Koščević, I. 1980, 27, pl. XIII, 180, 189, 2nd–3rd century;

6. Simple arch fibulae with head in the shape of a coil, most frequently of four coils and a short pin-catch, can be; of bronze with gutter-shaped pin-catch and, sometimes, with button-shaped foot ending – **variant 1**; or with curve on the head and foot and plate-like pin-catch – **variant 2**; which are dated from the end of 1st to 4th century¹⁰, as well as iron imitations of the previous variant – **variant 3**, characteristic of the 3rd and 4th century¹¹:

7. Arch fragment with foot of a bronze arch fibula, with a short tubular pin-catch and button-shaped foot ending. The arch is semicircular in cross section.

Pl. II, 1

dimensions: 57 mm

finding place: sq. G/7, layer B1, horizon III

dating: 3rd–4th century

analogy: Riha, E. 1979, 61, type 1/6, var. 3, T. 3, 127, 1st century.

8. Arch fragment with foot of a bronze arch fibula, with a short tubular pin-catch. The arch is a triangular in cross section.

Pl. II, 2

dimensions: 21 mm

finding place: sq. E/10, layer A1, horizon IV

dating: 4th century

analogy: Bojović, D. 1983, 48–49, type 15, var. 1, Pl. XVIII, 155, 2nd – beginning of 3rd century; Bichir,

Gh. 1984, 49, type 2/k, Pl. XXXVIII, 11, Pl. XLV, 6, 3rd–4th century; Koščević, I. 1980, 26, Pl. XXV, 202, second half of 1st – first half of 3rd century; Riha, E. 1979, 61, type 1/6, Var. 4, Pl. 3, 128, 130, second half of 2nd – beginning of 4th century.

9. Arch bronze fibula with short pin-catch and curves on the head and foot. The head, foot and pin-catch are damaged, and the pin is missing.

Pl. II, 3

dimensions: 52 mm

finding place: sq. A/3, layer C, horizon III

dating: 3rd–4th century

analogy: Bojović, D. 1983, 48–49, type 15, var. 2, Pl. XVIII, 156–157, end of 1st – beginning of 3rd century; Jovanović, A. 1978., 52–53, Fig. 103–107, 2nd–4th century; Lyoubenova, V. 1981, 168, type 4, Fig. 106; Davidson, G. 1952, 266, cat. 2169, Pl. 113, 1st – beginning of 2nd century.

10. Large iron arch fibula with short pin-catch, fragmented and corroded.

Pl. II, 4

dimensions: 87 mm

finding place: sq. H/4, layer B1, horizon III

dating: 3rd–4th century

analogy: Bichir, Gh. 1984, 49, type 2/k, Pl. XXXVIII, 7–10, 3rd–4th century;

Lyoubenova, V. 1981, 168, type 4, Fig. 108, 1, 3rd–4th century;

Košćević, I. 1980, 26, Pl. XXV, 205, second half of 1st – first half of 3rd century.

11. Fragment of the arch and foot of an iron arch fibula, with short pin-catch,

Pl. II, 5

dimensions: 53 mm

finding place: sq. E/12, layer A1, horizon IV

⁹ Bojović, D. 1983, 55, type 20, var. 2, 2nd and 3rd century; Jobst, W. 1975, 65–66, type I/13 C and 13 D, second quarter of the 2nd to first half of the 3rd century; Riha, E. 1979, 84–85, type 3/12, var. 1, from the 2nd to the 3rd or beginning of 4th century; Vádáy, A. 1989, 79–80, 2nd and 3rd century; Peškar, I. 1972, 95–96, pl. 17, pl. 18, 1–7, from 2nd to 4th century; Bichir, Gh. 1984, 48, 2/e, 2nd and first half of 3rd century; Lyoubenova, V. 1981, 167–168, type 3, 2nd and 3rd century.

¹⁰ Bojović, D. 1984, 48–49, type 15, var. 1 and 2, from the end of 1st to the beginning of 3rd century; Jovanović, A. 1978, 52–53, from 2nd to the end of 3rd or beginning of 4th century; Bichir, Gh. 1984, 49, 2/k, 3rd and 4th century; Lyoubenova, V. 1981, 168, type 4, 3rd and 4th century.

¹¹ Janković, Đ. 1983, 114, fig. 88, 2–3, first half of 5th century; Jovanović, S. 1993, 64, pl. I, 7, last quarter of 4th to first half of 5th century; Bichir, Gh. 1984, 49, 2/k, 3rd and 4th century; Lyoubenova, V. 1981, 168, type 4, 3rd and 4th century.

dating: 4th century

analogy: like the cat. No. 8.

7. Ring-like »omega« fibulae – clasps with spirally twisted ends, characteristic of the period 3rd and 4th century:¹²

12. Ring-like bronze »omega« fibula, damaged at one end.

Pl. II, 6

dimensions: R=27 mm

finding place: sq. F/ 9, layer B, horizon III

dating: 3–4th century

analogy: Bojović, D. 1983, 70, type 30, Pl. XXXI, 303–307, 3rd century; Marijanski-Manojlović, M. 1987, 40, grave 13, Pl. 15, 1, with coins of Licinius from the year 313, Pl. 46, 7, 4th century; Dautova-Ruševljan, V. 1995, 112, Pl. III, 16, 4th century; Jobst, W. 1975, 124, type III/35, Pl. 49, 357, 3rd–4th century; Riha, E. 1979, 209, type 8/2, Var. 4, Pl. 69, 1834, 1836, 3rd–4th century; Keller, E. 1971, 55–56, T. 7, 4, T. 29, 9, T. 43, 22, end of 3rd–4th century.

8. Small arch fibulae with plate-like round head, rhomboid plate-like foot and tubular pin-catch, belong to the early finds of the Great Migration, that is the final phase of the Tchernyahov–Sintana de Mures culture and are dated in the 4th and beginning of 5th century.¹³

13. Little silver arch fibula with arched head, rhomboid foot and tubular pin-catch. The head and foot are damaged, and the pin is missing.

Pl. II, 7

dimensions: 33 mm

finding place: sq. E/10, layer A, horizon IV

dating: end of 4th and first half of 5th century

analogy: Jovanović, A. 1989, 91, fig. 4, bronze example from Mediana; Diaconu, Gh. i 1965, M. 107, pl. XCIII, 3–4, a pair of silver fibulae, end of 4th – beginning of 5th century; Mitrea B.–Preda C. 1966, 138, Spantov, M. 63, fig. 87, 3, M. 65, fig. 91, 1,

Izvorul, M. 32, fig. 206, 1, 4, a pair of silver fibulae, end of 4th century; Hoerd, *op. cit.*, 589–590, fig. 2, Alexandru Odobescu, Cluj, Curcani, Izvoare, Izvorul, Lechinta de Mures, Oinac, Palaica, Sintana de Mures, Spantov, Tirgsor, Valea Strimba; Petrov, V. P. 1964, 107, grave 160, fig. 11, 17–18, a pair of silver fibulae.

9. Arch fibulae with reversed, enlarged trapezoid foot and a crest on the arch, also represent a characteristic type for the final phase of the Tchernya-

hov–Sintana de Mures culture and date to the 4th and beginning of 5th century:¹⁴

14. Biparted, bronze arch fibula with reversed, trapezoid enlarged foot and a crest on the arch. The head and foot are damaged and the pin is missing.

Pl. II, 8

dimensions: 58 mm

finding place: sq. E/11, layer A, horizon IV

dating: end of 4th and first half of 5th century

analogy: Diaconu, Gh. 1965, M. 5, pl. LXXIII, 1; M. 136, pl. XCVIII, 6–7; M. 277, pl. CXXXI, 8, 4th century; Mitrea B.–Preda C. 1966, *Independenta*, M. 19, fig. 132, 1, 4th century; Bichir, Gh. 1984, 50, type 2/m 4, pl. XL, 7, Matasaru level III 2, 4th century; Peškar, I. 1972, 117, Grab 320, Kostelec, pl. 31, 3–4, end of 4th – beginning of 5th century.

The oldest fibula type from Ulpiana are fibulae with hinge mechanism on the head, with which the pin is fixed. Our type 1 is of this shape, decorated with incisions and filled with enamel, so that on the basis of the motifs on the arch and foot it is possible to consider the fibula as a stylized snake (Pl I, 1). Regardless of the fact that we did not find any direct analogy for our example, we think that it belongs to the Pannonian type of plate-like hinge fibulae decorated with enamel, which is characteristic of the period of the Flavius and Antonine dynasties.¹⁵ The plate-like arch of these fibulae, which was made in different shapes, was decorated with impressions or incisions, filled with enamel, while the foot, sometimes, ends in the shape of an animal head.¹⁶ Our type 4 also belongs to the hinge – fibulae, synthetic shape derived from the Italic *Aucissa* fibulae and strongly profiled arch fibulae, which is characteristic of the Lower Danube Valley, that is, the provinces Dacia and Upper and Lower Moesia. This type was probably produced in some center on the Danube Limes during the 2nd and 3rd century, perhaps in *Drobeta* or *Diana*.¹⁷

¹² Bojović, D. 1983, 70, type 30, 3rd century; Jobst, W. 1975, 124, type III/35; Riha, E. 1979, type 8/2, var. 4, 3rd and 4th century.

¹³ Ambroz, A. K. 1966, 83, group 21/I ab, fig. 4, 13–14, pl. 13, 13; Diaconu, Gh. 1973, 263 ff.; Horedt, K. 1967, 577–581.

¹⁴ Ambroz, A. K. 1966, 69, group 16, subgroup 4, series III, pl. 12, 8–11, 4th and the beginning of 5th century; Diaconu, Gh. 1971, 251–253, pl. VIII, 3, 10–11, 330–400 AD.

¹⁵ Bojović, D. 1983, 62–63, end of 1st and first half of 2nd century; Košćević, I. 1980, 30–31, pl. XXVIII, 246, 249, 252, 253, 1st century; Riha, E. 1979, 159, pl. 47, 1394–1402, pl. 48, 1403–1418, end of 1st and first third of 2nd century.

¹⁶ Bojović, D. 1983, 62.

¹⁷ Bojović, D. 1983, 46–47; Grbić, D. 1996, 90.

Strongly profiled arch fibulae also belong to the Early Imperial period, dated in the 2nd and first half of the 3rd century, that is during the Antonine and Severan dynasties. Our type 2 is particularly Pannonian-Noric shape of the 1st and 2nd century, which, during the 2nd and 3rd century, had spread in the border provinces of the Lower Danube valley (Pl. I, 2).¹⁸ In the interior of the Upper Moesia province this type of fibulae may have been imported along the road *Pontes – Timacum Minus – Naissus*.¹⁹

Type 3 is characteristic of the border provinces in the Danube Valley, while in Upper Moesia it is frequent on the Limes (Pl. I, 3).²⁰

Knee-like fibulae, to which our type 5 (Pl. I, 6) belongs, was a very widespread shape of Roman provincial fibulae in the border regions of the Danube and Rhine during the 2nd and 3rd century.²¹

Simple arch fibulae with coils on the head and short pin-catch, the so-called »legionary fibulae« to which our type 6 belongs, developed from the oldest types of the Imperial period. These were wire fibulae with coil on the head, so called Middle La Tene scheme, dated in the 1st century BC and 1st century AD.²² The oldest shapes of this type, characteristic of the provinces *Germania* and *Raetia*, could have had a button-shaped foot ending according to the model of *Aucissa* fibulae, like our example var.1 (Pl. II, 1).²³ Fibulae of the same variant, but with a tubular pin-catch (Pl. II, 2) can be found on the border in the Lower Danube Valley and Dacia from the 2nd to the end of 3rd and beginning of the 4th century.²⁴ The »legionary« fibula variant with short plate-like pin-catch and with curves on the head and foot, our var 2. (Pl. II, 3) is characteristic of the 3rd and 4th century, only in the Lower Danube Valley, that is the provinces of Upper and Lower Moesia and Dacia.²⁵ Fibulae var. 3, made of iron (Pl. II, 4–5) also belong to the local production.

Ring-like fibulae – clasps are represented in our material by the omega fibula with spirally twisted ends (Pl. II, 6) **type 7**, with their Late Roman shape found over the whole territory of the Empire, especially in the west and Danubian provinces at the time of the Tetrarchy and Constantine dynasty.²⁶

Silver arch fibulae with semicircular plate-like head and rhomboid foot, our **type 8** (Pl. II, 7) are Gothic-Pontic fibula type characteristic for the final phase of the Tchernyahov–Sintana de Mures culture, dated in the 4th – first half of 5th century.²⁷ This shape of fibulae can also be of very big dimensions, decorated with inlays of semi-precious stones or glass paste, which is characteristic of examples made in Pontic workshops

on the Crimea, or it can have a reversed foot.²⁸ Women wore this kind of fibulae in pairs, on their shoulders, which is confirmed by numerous finds from the Gothic necropolises.²⁹ Examples found outside the necropolises like our fibula from *Ulpiana*, are very rare. Made mostly of silver, fibulae with plate-like semicircular head and rhomboid foot were also cast in bronze.³⁰ Silver fibulae with plate-like semicircular head and rhomboid foot were the status symbol of Gothic women and signified their noble origin.³¹

Our **type 9** (Pl. II, 8), which includes the arch fibulae shape with reversed foot, characteristic of the Tchernyahov–Sintana de Mures culture, over its entire area, also belongs to the older finds of the Great Migration period.³² This kind of fibulae can be found in several variants from the end of the 2nd to the beginning of the 3rd century; they are characteristic in the 4th and first half of the 5th century,³³ and in a slightly altered shape, in the Lower Danube Valley, they survive until the end of the 6th and the beginning of the 7th century.³⁴ Our example, on the basis of analogies and the conditions in which it was found can be dated in the end of the 4th and the beginning of 5th century.³⁵

These two fibulae from horizon IV at Ulpiana testify to the influence of the late phase of the Tchernyahov culture, which penetrated from the Danube Limes

¹⁸ Bojović, D. 1983, 42–43.

¹⁹ Jovanović, A. 1978, 52, Kladovo, Korbovo, Prahovo, *Naissus, Mediana*; Petrović P. – Jovanović S. 1997, 87, cat. no. 3, *Timacum Minus*.

²⁰ Jovanović, A. 1978, 52–53.

²¹ Bojović, D. 1983, 54; Jobst, W 1975, 65–66; Peškar, I. 1972, 95; Riha, E. 1979, 85.

²² Bojović, D. 1983, 48.

²³ Riha, E. 1979, 61, type 1/6, var. 3, known as type Hofheim IV/b, dated to the period of Claudius dynasty.

²⁴ Bojović, D. 1983, 48–49, type 15, var. 1; Riha, E. 1979, 61, type 1/6, var. 4; Bichir, Gh. 1984, 49, 2/k.

²⁵ Bojović, D. 1983, 49, type 15, var. 2; Jovanović, A. 1978, 52–53, *Naissus, Municipium DD, Scupi, Mediana*, Ražanj; Lyoubenova V. 1981, 168, type 4.

²⁶ Bojović, D. 1983, 70–71.

²⁷ Horedt, K. 1967, 577–581; Diaconu, Gh. 1973, 263 ff.

²⁸ Ambroz, A. K. 1966, 77 ff., group 21, subgroup I, pl. 13, 10–13, fig. 4, 1–8, 12–14; Petrov, V. P. 1964, 107.

²⁹ Sálamon A. – Barkoci L. 1979, 80–81; Bierbrauer V. 1980, 135.

³⁰ Jovanović, A. 1989, 91, Fig. 4. The closest analogy to our fibula, found in Mediana, made of bronze.

³¹ Bierbrauer, V. 1980, 139–140.

³² Diaconu, Gh. 1971, 239–240.

³³ Diaconu, Gh. 1971, 253–258; Ambroz, A. K. 1966, 69.

³⁴ Jovanović, A. 1978, 55; Janković, D. 1981, 168–169.

³⁵ See cat. No. 14.

through the Timok valley into the interior of the Upper Moesian territory, most probably during the last decades of the 4th century in the reign of Theodosius I, in the East part of the Empire.³⁶

As can be seen from a review of fibula types found at Ulpiana during the investigations in 1981–1987, they can be classified in three chronological groups:

1st group – fibula types which last from the the end of the 1st to mid 3rd century, generally dated in the 2nd century and first part of the 3rd, hinge – fibulae, strongly profiled arch fibulae and knee-like fibulae (type 1–5);

2nd group – types of the 3rd to 4th century, simple arch fibulae and ring-like omega fibula (type 6–7) and

3rd group – types characteristic of the beginning of the Great Migration period, silver fibula with semi-circular plate-like head and rhomboid foot and fibula with reversed trapezoid foot (type 8–9) dated to the end of the 4th and first half of the 5th century.

Among all typologically and chronologically defined fibulae 42,85% belong to the **1st group**, dated to the 2nd and first part of the 3rd century and to the **2nd group** attributed to the 3rd and 4th century, while 14,30% belong to the **3rd group**, dated to the end of 4th and beginning of 5th century. Thus, we can conclude that the fibulae of the Early Imperial period are equally represented as finds of this kind of jewelry dated to the 3rd and 4th century, while the fibulae from the beginning of the Great Migration, are relatively rare in the sector, investigated in 1981–1987.

The distribution of our chronological groups and fibula types in the habitational horizons³⁷, at Ulpiana in the course of investigation in 1981–1987 is as follows:

	horizon I	horizon II	horizon III	horizon IV
1st group				
type 1		1		
type 2			1	
type 3		1		
type 4		1	1	
type 5				1
2nd group				
type 6			3	2
type 7			1	
3rd group				
type 8				1
type 9			1	

Fibulae found during the excavations in Ulpiana in 1981–1987, in accordance with their finding place, correspond chronologically to the habitational phases

established on the basis of stratigraphic data and analyses of the architecture discovered. Fibula of type 2 (cat. no. 2, Pl. I, 2) and fibula of type 4 (cat. no. 4, Pl. I, 4), which were found in horizon III, as well as fibula of type 5 (cat. no. 6, Pl. I, 6) found in horizon IV are examples which do not entirely fit into this framework. However, if they are dated as local variants, the fibula of type 2 in the 2nd and 3rd century and the fibula of type 4 in the 3rd and 4th century, these examples fit chronologically in horizon III, that is the end of the 3rd and the 4th century. There are doubts about a fibula of type 5, found in horizon IV, dated, according to the analogies, in the 2nd and 3rd century. Having in mind the very wide dating of provincial variants of knee-like fibulae, from the 2nd to the 4th century³⁸, and the conditions under which they were found, our example is dated in the 4th century, with the possibility that it was also in use at the beginning of the 5th century.

The distribution of typologically defined fibulae in the habitational horizons identified by the investigation at Ulpiana in 1981–1987, is as follows: in horizon I 7,15%, in horizon II 14,30%, in horizon III 42,85%, and in horizon IV 35,70%. One should have in mind that the earlier layers, during these investigations at Ulpiana, have been examined more completely, so that the archaeological finds are relatively larger. However, a coincidence is noticed in the distribution of fibulae in horizon III, that is in the period from the end of the 3rd to the last quarter of the 4th century, and in the 2nd chronological group, dated in the 3rd and 4th century, which probably indicates intensive local production during this period.

We can assume that fibulae, as a relatively luxurious kind of jewelry reflected the general economic situation of the inhabitants in Ulpiana. Conditioned by the development of Roman mining in the Janjevo basin area,

³⁶ The complex historical circumstances in the Lower Danube Valley, following the defeat of the Romans at Hadrianopolis brought groups of barbarians, bearers of the Techernyahov–Sintana de Mures culture, into this territory on several occasions. Here we are considering primarily the passing of Goths, Huns and Alans under the leadership of Alatheus and Saphrac on their way to Pannonia, and invasions of Fritigern's Vizigoths in the course of 380 AD, as well as the constant presence of the latter in East Illiricum from 382. AD, when Theodosius I gave them *foedus*.

³⁷ Parović-Pesikan, M. 1989. A, 118–119. horizon I is dated from the end of the 1st to the mid 2nd century, horizon II in the 2nd and 3rd century, horizon III from the end of the 3rd to the end of 4th century and horizon IV from the end of the 4th to the mid 5th century. In horizon V dated in the 6th century there were no fibula finds.

³⁸ See note. 9.

the town flourished during the 2nd and 3rd century³⁹, but from the end of the 4th century a constant fall of standard is noticed which followed destruction of the Limes and penetration of the Huns into Upper Moesian territory in 441–443 and culminated with administrative and economic chaos in the Dardania province.

One should bear in mind that *Ulpiana*, located at the crossroads, which connected the Danube Limes of the provinces *Moesia Prima* and *Dacia Ripensis* with *Dalmatia* and *Macedonia*, and through *Naissus* with *Moesia Secunda* and *Thracia*, must have been a significant craft and trade center, so the variety of fibula types, including also those in modest materials, which were found during the excavations in 1981–1987, is understandable. Although, for the time being, there is not enough data on the local production of fibulae at *Ulpiana*, workshops for melting and processing metal, from the end of 3rd and beginning of 4th century, identified in horizon III, to the west of the North gate, favor the assumption that this kind of jewelry was actually made here.⁴⁰

We have already mentioned that on the basis of typologically chronological analysis of our fibulae, we could set aside the period, end of the 3rd and first half of the 4th century as a time of intensive local production. In any case, *Ulpiana* was the administrative center of the Dardanian mining area, so that metallurgy must have been a significant factor of the town economy.

The routes by which fibulae were imported to *Ulpiana* can clarify the trade connections and cultural influences between the Imperial provinces in the Balkans. It is interesting that the chronological groups of our fibula types correspond absolutely to the intensive production of individual provinces and cultural areas, while import and influence on local production in the Early Imperial period comes from the north, through the Danube and the Great Morava Valley, and the center of gravity moves to the Lower Danube Valley, from where it reaches our locality through the Timok valley in the Late Roman period. Thus, fibulae of the 1st group belong to the Pannonian types (type 1–3), with the exception of hinge fibulae with profile-ribbed arch, which were most probably produced in the Upper Moesian Limes. Fibulae of the 2nd group were produced locally, except type 7, finds of which, in Upper Moesia, are concentrated on the Limes, around *Singidunum*⁴¹, while Tchernyahov fibulae of the 3rd group (type 8–9) reach *Ulpiana* from *Dacia Ripensis* through the Timok valley.⁴² Fibula finds of the final phase of the Tchernyahov–Sintana de Mures culture at *Ulpiana*, which are not numerous in the interior of the Upper Moesian territory are especially significant.⁴³

It can be said, that fibulae from *Ulpiana* studied in this work, fit into the framework of the historic and economic picture of the Roman province Upper Moesia and latter diocese of Dacia, which is known to us from the archaeological finds and historical sources.

³⁹ Dušanić, S. 1980, 29–30.

⁴⁰ Parović-Pešikan, M. 1990, 33 ff.

⁴¹ Bojović, D. 1983, 70.

⁴² Concerning the previously mentioned road through the Timok Valley, which passed through the fortress *Timacum Minus* and *Naissus* to *Ulpiana*, during the early phase of the Great Migration, see Jovanović, S. 1993, 59 ff.

⁴³ Fibulae with reversed foot appear on the Danube Limes, in *Naissus* and its surroundings, as well as at the fortress *Timacum Minus* – Jovanović, A. 1978, 54–55, cat. No. 19–25; Jovanović, S. 1993, 64, pl. I, 6–8, 11; Petrović P.–Jovanović S. 1997, 89, cat. No. 8–9; while from the Upper Moesian territory, apart from one example of a bronze fibula with semicircular plate head and rhomboid foot, from *Mediana* – Jovanović, A. 1989, 91, fig. 4., just one other example of this type of fibula is known, from the fortress on the Danube Limes on the island *Sapaja* near *Stara Palanka* – Ivanišević, V. 1999, 97–98, Fig. 1, 1.

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Резиме:

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РИМСКЕ ФИБУЛЕ СА УЛПИЈАНЕ (археолошка истраживања 1981–1987.)

Римски град *Ulpiana* обнављан је више пута током своје дуге историје, од почетка II века н. е. до 618. године, када је дефинитивно напуштен пред најездом Авара и Словена. Археолошким истраживањима потврђено је више фаза живота на овом локалитету. Систематска ископавања Улпијане 1981–1987. године под руководством Маје Паровић-Пешикан, која су обавили Археолошки институт из Београда и Покрајински завод за заштиту споменика из Приштине, пружила су могућност њиховог прецизнијег хронолошког разграничења.

Током ових истраживања, којима су обухваћени комплекс северне капије, западна капија и градско језгро дуж главне улице, *cardo maximus*, пронађено је четрнаест фибула, које су могле бити типолошки одређене. Сматрали смо да би било корисно приказати овај хронолошки индикативан археолошки материјал у оквиру утврђених фаза живота на локалитету.

Фибуле са Улпијане разврстали смо у девет типова, који припадају широком хронолошком распону од краја I до средине V века. Датовање типова извршено је на основу аналогија и стратиграфских података о археолошким целинама из којих потичу:

1. *Бронзана фибула са шарниром и плочастим луком украшеним емајлом*, Т. I, 1, датује се у крај I – почетак III века.

2. *Бронзана лучна јако профилисана фибула са крајњим држачем игле, дуиметастим завршетком стипе и главом у облику шрубe*, Т. I, 2, датује се у II–III век.

3. *Бронзана лучна јако профилисана фибула са високим држачем игле и дуиметастим завршетком стипе*, Т. I, 3, датује се у II–III век.

4. *Бронзане лучне фибуле са шарнир механизмом, ирбеном на луку, високим држачем игле и дуиметастим завршетком стипе*, Т. I, 4–5, датују се у II–III век.

5. *Бронзана лучна коленаста фибула са високим држачем игле*, Т. I, 6, датује се од II до IV века.

6. *Једноставне лучне фибуле са главом у виду ошруте, најчешће од четири навоја и крајњим држачем игле, шкзв. »легионарске фибуле«*, могу бити бронзане са олучастим држачем игле и понекад дугметастим завршетком стопе – *варијанта 1* или са завијутцима на глави и стопи и плочастим носачем игле – *варијанта 2*, које се датују од краја I до IV века, као и гвоздене имитације претходне варијанте – *варијанта 3*, карактеристичне за III–IV век, Т. II, 1–5.

7. *Бронзана прстенаста »омега« фибула спирално увијених крајева*, Т. II, 6, датује се у крај III–IV век.

8. *Мала сребрна лучна фибула са плочастом полуокружном главом, плочастом ромбоидном стипом и олучастим држачем игле*, Т. II, 7, датује се у крај IV – прву половину V века.

9. *Бронзана лучна фибула са посувраћеном, шрајезастом проширеном стипом и ирбеном на луку*, Т. II, 8, датује се у крај IV – прву половину V века.

Као што се види из прегледа типова фибула нађених на Улпијани током истраживања 1981–1987. године, оне се могу сврстати у три хронолошке групе:

I група – типови фибула који трају од краја I до средине III века, генерално датовани у II – прву половину III века, шарнир – фибуле, јако профилисане лучне фибуле и коленасте фибуле (*шшш 1–5*),

II група – типови III–IV века, једноставне лучне фибуле и прстенаста омега – фибула (*шшш 6–7*) и

III група – типови карактеристични за почетак периода сеобе народа, сребрна фибула са полукружном плочастом главом и ромбоидном стопом и фибула са посувраћеном трапезастом стопом (*шшш 8–9*), датовани у крај IV – прву половину V века.

Наше хронолошке групе и типови фибула према месту налаза одговарају фазама живота на Улпијани утврђеним истраживањима 1981–1987. на основу стратиграфских података и анализе откривене архитектуре:

	хоризонт I	хоризонт II	хоризонт III	хоризонт IV
I група				
тип 1		1		
тип 2			1	
тип 3		1		
тип 4		1	1	
тип 5				1
II група				
тип 6			3	2
тип 7			1	
III група				
тип 8				1
тип 9			1	

Треба имати у виду да је *Ulpiana*, смештена на раскрсници путева који су повезивали Дунавски лимес са Далмацијом и Македонијом, а преко Ниша са Тракијом, морала бити значајан занатски и трговински центар, те је разумљива разноликост типова фибула и у скромном материјалу који смо обрадили.

Иако, за сада, нема довољно података о локалној производњи фибула на Улпијани, радионица за топљење и обраду метала с краја III – почетка IV века, констатована у III хоризонту, западно од Северне капије, говори у прилог претпостави да је ова врста накита израђивана на лицу места. На основу типолошко-хронолошке анализе наших фибула издвојили би период краја III – прве половине IV века као време њихове интензивне локалне производње. У сваком случају, Улпијана је била административно средиште

Дарданске рудне области, те је металургија морала чинити значајан фактор економије града.

Путеви импорта фибула на Улпијану и утицаји на локалну производњу у раноцарском периоду долазе са севера, Дунавом и долином Велике Мораве, док се у време касне антике тежиште помера на Доње Подунавље, одакле долином Тимока доспевају на наш локалитет.

Тако, фибуле *I iрyйe* припадају панонским типовима (*шyй 1–3*), с изузетком шарнир – фибула са ребрасто профилисаним луком, које су највероватније произвођене на

горњомезијском лимесу. Фибуле *II iрyйe* локално су произвођене, осим *шyйa 7*, чији се налази у Горњој Мезији концентришу на лимесу, око Сингидунума, док черњаховске фибуле *III iрyйe* (*шyй 8–9*) на Улпијану стижу из Приобалне Дакије долином Тимока.

Може се рећи, да се фибуле са Улпијане обрађене у овом раду уклапају у оквире историјске и економске слике о римској провинцији Горњој Мезији и касније диоцези Дакији, која нам је позната на основу археолошких налаза и историјских извора.