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## EARLY BYZANTINE FINDS FROM ČEČAN AND GORNJI STREOC (KOSOVO)

*Abstract.* – In this article, we presented the archaeological finds from Čečan and Gornji Streoc – hill-forts on Mount Čičevica in the immediate vicinity of Vučitrn (Kosovo). We studied the archaeological material from the Roman, Late Roman and, in particular from the Early Byzantine period. A large number of archaeological objects and especially iron tools found on the Čečan and Gornji Streoc fortresses indicate a well-developed level of production in the crafts and iron manufacturer. We emphasize the importance of these fortresses in Late Roman times and we highlight the fortification of the interior regions of Illyricum. This suggests that Dardania had a considerable population in the Late Roman period as is confirmed by the many fortresses constructed throughout the entire region, often on almost inaccessible terrain.

*Key words.* – Dardania, Kosovo, Fortifications, Late Roman, Early Byzantine, Finds, Coins.

Very little is known about the material culture of Kosovo in Late Roman times. Thus, the period from the tetrarchy to the time of Heraclius is represented with very few finds in the catalogue of the exhibition *Arheološko blago Kosova i Metohije* (Archaeological treasures of Kosovo and Metohija). Barring the well-known female burial mound in the northern necropolis in Ulpiana, the period of the VI century represents a kind of gap, with only a few general lines devoted to that time.<sup>1</sup> The aim of this work is not to supplement these deficiencies but, using the sites of Čečan and Gornji Streoc as an example, to point to the importance of the material culture of this period in the Kosovo region, which is situated in the heart of the former province of Dardania.

Judging by the list of constructed and reconstructed fortifications in the time of the emperor Justinian I (527–565), recorded by Procopius, Dardania itself was intersected by a network of fortifications.<sup>2</sup> The renowned chronicler mentioned eight new and 61 reconstructed fortresses. According to him, the emperor also reconstructed the city of Ulpiana and named it Iustiniana Secunda and, in its vicinity, he built the new town of Iustinopolis.<sup>3</sup>

This province owed its prosperity to its natural resources. The geographic features of Kosovo and Metohija as a region of hilly and mountainous terrains,

abounding in pastures and intersected by fertile river valleys, were favourable for the development of agriculture and cattle-raising. The mountain chains, rich in primary deposits of copper, iron and silver ore contributed to the development of mining as an important economic activity in Dardania.<sup>4</sup> Trading also played a significant role, conducted along the network of roads running through this region. The main routes of communication ran between *Naissus – Vindenis – Viciano – Therandia – Lissus*, as well as the road running from Thessalonica, through the ancient town of *Scupi*, to the ancient settlement of *Viciano* in the neighbourhood of present-day Priština (Map 1). Along the easily negotiable river valleys was a network of secondary roads.<sup>5</sup>

One should emphasize that Dardania's rich past has not been researched in detail. There has been no systematic survey of the territory or its many monuments, neither have its hill-forts, been investigated. The majority of these hill-forts were just recorded without any basic

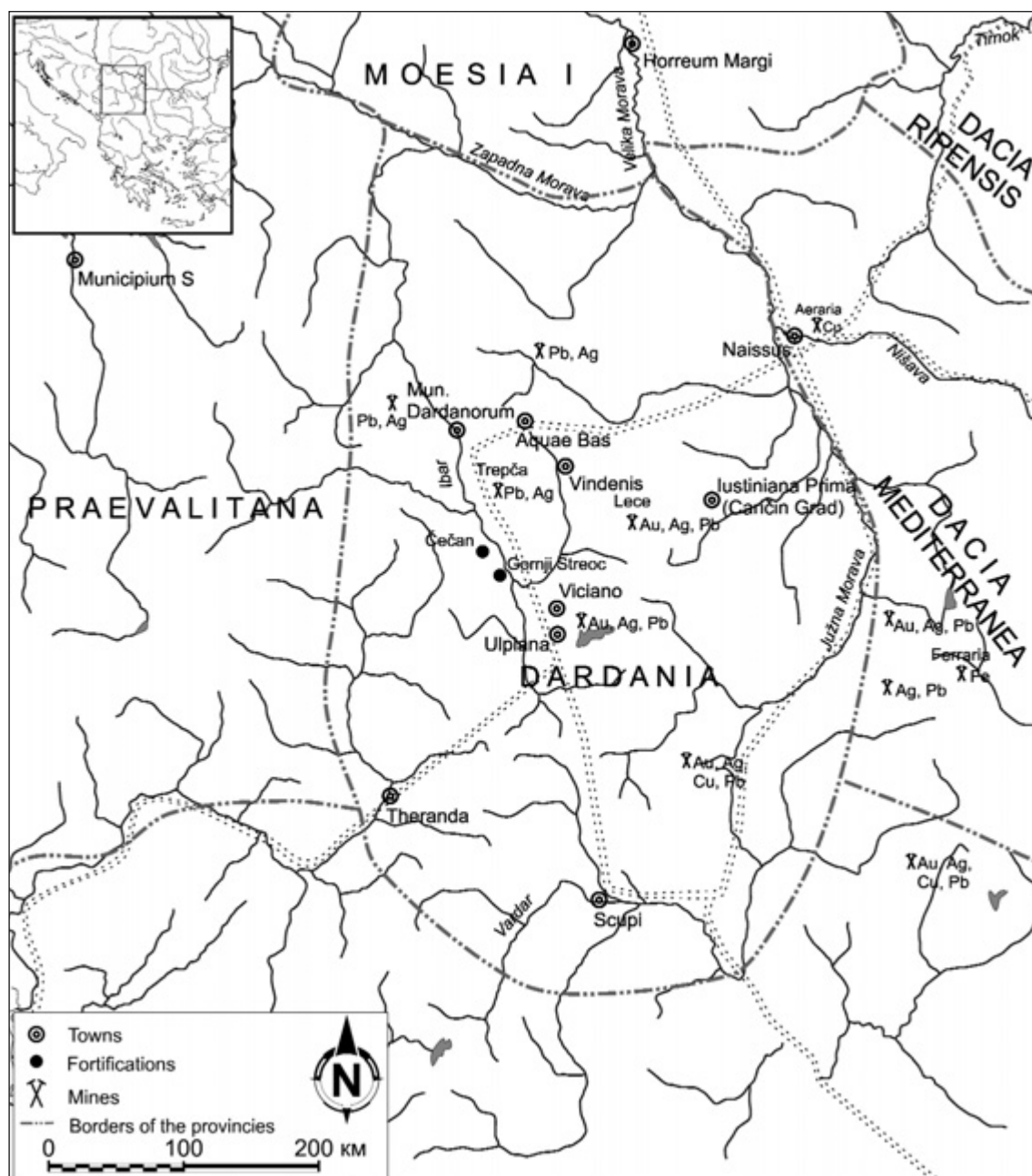
<sup>1</sup> Археолошко благо Косова и Метохије 1998, 336–348.

<sup>2</sup> Procop., *De aedif.* IV.4: Византиски извори I, 60–61; Mirković 1996, 68–73: states that the list of fortifications does not include the whole of Dardania but it does comprise the territories of other provinces like Dalmatia and Prevalitana.

<sup>3</sup> Procop., *De aedif.* IV.4: Византиски извори I, 56–57.

<sup>4</sup> Dušanić 1977, 52–94; Душанић 1980, 7–55.

<sup>5</sup> Čerškov 1969, 43–49.



Map 1: Dardania in Late Roman times

Карта 1: Дарданија у касној антици

information about the date of their origin or their duration, size or appearance. Some of these fortifications were partly investigated in the 1970s within the framework of the project *Kosovo u ranom srednjem veku* (Kosovo in the Early Middle Ages), directed by historian Relja Novaković.<sup>6</sup> In the course of these investigations, archaeological material from prehistory, the ancient period and the Middle Ages was collected from two hill-forts near the villages of Čečan and Gor-

nji Streoc, near Vučitrn.<sup>7</sup> Finds from the prehistoric and medieval periods were published, while the most abundant material from Late Roman times has remained

<sup>6</sup> Novaković 1984, 99–116.

<sup>7</sup> R. Novaković bought from Zumer Kamber the finds discovered at the Čečan and Gornji Streoc sites. These finds are in the National Museum in Belgrade and in the Historical Museum of Serbia. Cf. Jovanović 1976, 123 and note 1.

unknown.<sup>8</sup> For this reason, but also because the complete material was unidentified, some of the items, e.g. tools were attributed to medieval times although, as we shall see, these were objects from the Late Roman period.<sup>9</sup>

The Čečan site is situated near the village of Dubovac, about eight kilometres southwest of Vučitrn, on a hill called Gradina (Kaljaja), which is a ridge of Mount Čičevica. The hill top with its highest point of elevation at 473 meters is a plateau surrounded on all sides except from the north, by steep slopes. The favourable strategic position was already noticed in the Early Iron Age, when a fort was erected and, judging by the archaeological finds, the fortification also survived during the Late Iron Age.<sup>10</sup> The new fortification of the area took place in the Roman period when, according to V. Jovanović, a fortification – refugium was built, reaching its full importance in the IV and especially in the VI century. After a rather long interval, this area was fortified once again in the X century<sup>11</sup> and R. Novaković, who studied this region, assumes that the hill-fort at Čečan also existed in the XIV century.<sup>12</sup> The well-preserved ramparts were demolished by the local population in the XX century. In spite of many decades of the systematic destruction of this site, it was still possible at the end of the last century to identify the fragment of a Roman funerary monument with just the two bottom lines preserved: *IANUS/F (aciendum) C(uravit)*. The Gradina site belongs to the series of fortifications, extending from Čečan to Kosmač and Gradina near Vrbovac, to Korovljeva.<sup>13</sup>

Further to the south, three hill-forts were registered, at Crni Vrh, Žilivode and Gornji Streoc, on the slopes of Čičevica.<sup>14</sup> The hill-fort best known to archaeologists is situated on the south-eastern slopes of Mount Čičevica, around seven kilometres to the northwest of Obilić, and it is in the area of the village of Gornji Streoc. In the course of surveying the site, the remains of a rampart were recorded, encompassing an area of about 250 x 150 feet. At this site, R. Novaković registered the remains of massive parallel walls, which were only a few dozen centimetres away from each other in some places, while at some other spots, they were built next to each other. To all appearances, the ramparts date from different phases in the life of the fortification. The proximity of the ramparts to each other and the overlapping of the outline at some sections suggest the reconstruction of the outline and not the existence of a double rampart. The fortification was approached by way of the mountain ridge.

All the material collected from the hill-forts at Čečan and Gornji Streoc is kept together in the National

Museum in Belgrade and in the Historical Museum of Serbia. So, today, it is impossible to distinguish each of the finds accurately, and ascribe them to one or the other site. Therefore, in the ensuing presentation, we shall treat this material jointly, given that it concerns two unique stratum – Roman, Late Roman and in particular the Early Byzantine, which is represented with numerous finds and coins.

## ROMAN STRATUM

This period is represented by a small number of objects, which it was possible to classify into four basic categories: costume elements, weighing implements, glass vessels and coins.

### Costume Elements

Three bronze fibulae, which could be classified as two types, and one broken bronze buckle, were found during excavations at these two sites.

The first, earlier type of fibula known as the *Auccisa* type is characteristic of the early Imperial period, and its existence, most probably, may have been prolonged until the first half of the II century (Fig. 1.1).<sup>15</sup> The closest parallel came from the area of Viminacium – from the Više grobalja site, in grave no. 67, where a fibula was found that had a slightly shorter and broader foot, dating from the end of the I century to the end of Hadrian's reign.<sup>16</sup> Similar fibulae have been encountered in the broader area of Siscia.<sup>17</sup>

The second type is a cruciform fibula – *Zwiebelknopffibeln* (Fig. 1.2–3), represented by two specimens. Judging by the preserved presentations and the circumstances of the discovery, as they were usually found in male burial mounds, we can conclude that these fibulae were primarily worn by men. They were produced of various materials so there are specimens of bronze, which could be gilded or silver-plated, but we also came across silver and gold specimens, which

<sup>8</sup> Jovanović 1976, 123–145; Shukriu 1989, 158; Томовић, Г. 1991, 5; Јовановић 2004, 158.

<sup>9</sup> Guillou 1986.

<sup>10</sup> Shukriu 1989.

<sup>11</sup> Томовић, Г. 1991, 5; Јовановић 2004, 158.

<sup>12</sup> Новаковић 1984, 100.

<sup>13</sup> Новаковић 1984, 104.

<sup>14</sup> Новаковић 1984, 103.

<sup>15</sup> Jobst 1975, 26; Koščević 1980, 15; Vojović 1983, 21.

<sup>16</sup> Зотовић, Јордовић 1990, 85, Т. ХСII/10.

<sup>17</sup> Koščević 1980, Т. III/16–21.

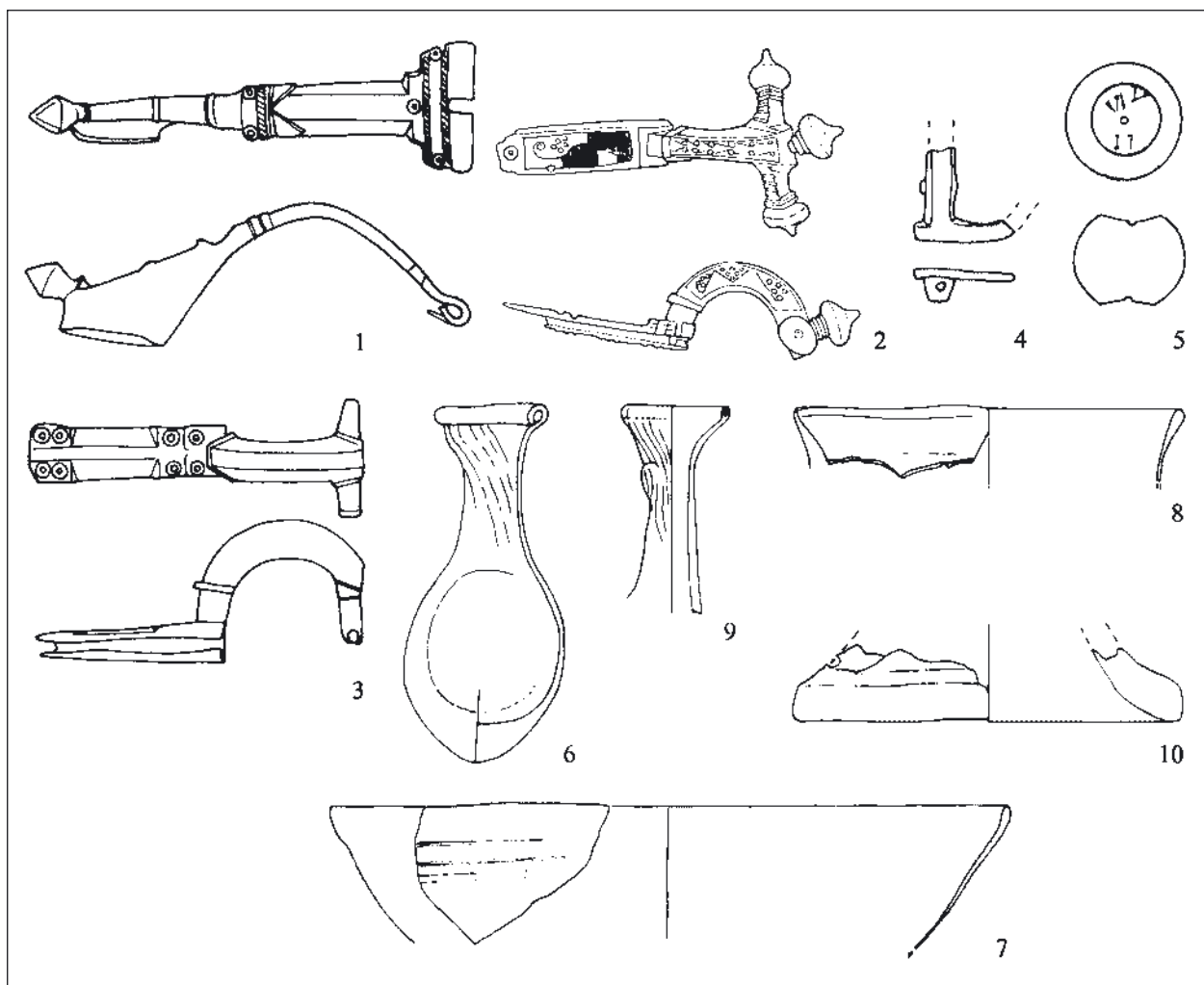


Fig. 1: Čečan (4, 7–8), Gornji Streoc (1, 3, 6, 10), unknown site (2, 5, 9); Scale 2:3

Сл. 1: Чечан (4, 7–8), Горњи Стреоц (1, 3, 6, 10), непознато налазиште (2, 5, 9); Раз. 2:3

depended on the social status of their owner. Nevertheless, it is necessary to mention that the bronze fibulae are more massive while the silver and gold specimens are of somewhat finer workmanship.<sup>18</sup> According to the study by E. Keller, six basic types with sub-variants could be identified on the basis of relation of the bow, the foot and the bulb. According to his generally accepted classification, both specimens belong to the type 4, variant A and can be dated to between 350 and 380,<sup>19</sup> although such a chronological determination should be treated with reserve.<sup>20</sup>

A silver-plated bronze fibula decorated with a vine motif (Fig. 1.2) has many similarities with the find from *Municipium Dardanorum* (Sočanica), dated by the investigator to the IV century.<sup>21</sup> As we do not know about other finds of cruciform fibulae decorated in this

way, it can be assumed that this type of decoration was characteristic of the Dardanian area and that, most probably, this motif was popular among the local population. A bronze, cruciform fibula (Fig. 1.3) of slightly more massive manufacture, on which the upper surface of the foot is decorated with eight concentric circles at the end of the foot (four circles arranged in two lines), is analogous to the find from the Rtkovo – Glamija I site. This fibula was discovered within a small interior fortification and dated according to the

<sup>18</sup> Keller 1971, 26–27.

<sup>19</sup> Keller 1971, 53, Abb. 11.

<sup>20</sup> Jobst 1975, 92–93.

<sup>21</sup> Археолошко благо Косова и Метохије 1998, 621, cat. no. 275.

coin finds to the end of the IV and the beginning of the V century.<sup>22</sup> There are similar finds from Singidunum,<sup>23</sup> the wider territory of Siscia<sup>24</sup> and from Lauriacum.<sup>25</sup>

Besides the fibulae, a broken bronze buckle (Fig. 1.4) also came from the Roman period.

### Weighing Implements

In the Roman stratum, there was a bronze, solid-cast spherically shaped weight with flat bases, the upper one of which was engraved with the inscription *VIV/III* (Fig. 1.5). This was a commercial weight of two ounces, as confirmed by its weight of 53,66 grams, which is close to its theoretical weight of 54,57 gr. (according to the Roman pound of 327,45 gr.).<sup>26</sup> We encountered the closest analogy in Municipium Dardanorum from where similar weights with slightly different inscriptions originated,<sup>27</sup> and also in Romuliana.<sup>28</sup>



Fig. 2: Gornji Streoc – bottle; Scale 1:1

Сл. 2: Горњи Стреоц – боца; Раз. 1:1

### Glass

A distinct group of finds, dating from the period of Antiquity, included glass vessels that could be classified into several groups.

The first type was a small bottle with a horizontal rim, a slightly twisted neck and a spherical recipient, slightly flattened on the front and rear sides. The base was slightly pointed (Fig. 1.6 and Fig. 2). A similar find came from the territory of Slovenia where I. Lazar dated it to the end of the I century and the beginning of the II century, although the circumstances in which the item was found are not certain.<sup>29</sup>

A slightly later type was the fragment of a glass bottle with a horizontal rim (Fig. 1.9), which is similar to the find from grave 239 in Viminacium and attributed by the author, according to the coin of Nerva, to the end of the I and the beginning of the II century.<sup>30</sup>

The next group includes shallow, oval-shaped bowls, with horizontal rims (Fig. 1.7). D. Whitehouse and M. Stern dated this type of vessel to the end of the II and the beginning of the III century,<sup>31</sup> while S. Nikolić dates this type to the IV century,<sup>32</sup> and Goethert-Polaschek to the second half of the IV century.<sup>33</sup> I. Lazar suggests a slightly later day, attributing it to the second half of the IV or first half of the V century.<sup>34</sup> Judging by the dates that were suggested, one may conclude that this type of vessel was in use for rather a long period of time.

There are vessels that are chronologically undeterminable because of their condition and among them is the rim fragment of a glass vessel, most probably a tumbler (Fig. 1.8) that one could date more extensively, according to the available, similar finds, to between the I and the IV centuries,<sup>35</sup> whereas for the foot of a glass of more massive proportions, manufactured of green glass (Fig. 1.10), it is not possible to suggest a more precise chronological determination.

### Coins

Twenty-four specimens of Roman coins minted from the III to the IV century (Cat. Nos. 1–24) were found in the area of Čečan and Donji Streoc. As they involve a rather small number of pieces, today, it is impossible to determine from which of these two sites they originate. They are rather poorly preserved.

The earliest issues are two worn-out middle bronzes of Alexander Severus (222–235), which came from an

<sup>22</sup> Gabričević 1986, 72–73, fig. 19/4.

<sup>23</sup> Vojović 1983, 85, cat. nos. 414–421, T. XLVI/414–415, T. XLVII/416–421.

<sup>24</sup> Koščević 1980, 34–35, T. XXXIII.

<sup>25</sup> Jobst 1975, 99–100, Taf. 35/251.

<sup>26</sup> Bendall 1996, 6–7.

<sup>27</sup> Čerškov 1970, 32, T. XVIII/4–6.

<sup>28</sup> Живић 2003, 159, cat. nos. 334–335.

<sup>29</sup> Lazar 2004, 22, cat. no. 9, fig. 9.

<sup>30</sup> Зотовић, Јордовић 1990, 70, T. XLI/7.

<sup>31</sup> Whitehouse 1997, 222, cat. no. 414; Stern 2001, 167–169, cat. nos. 63–65.

<sup>32</sup> Николић-Ђорђевић 1990, 42, T. 1/4; Ružić 1994, 39, T. XXVI/6.

<sup>33</sup> Goethert-Polaschek 1977, cat. nos. 1149–1158.

<sup>34</sup> Lazar 2002, 85, fig. 30.

<sup>35</sup> Rütli 1991, 168, cat. no. 3951; Lazar 2002, 113, figs. 33.120, 35.173, 49.193 and 55.



unidentified colonial mint, and of Gordian III (238–244), from the Viminacium mint. One can follow the monetary circulation only from the time of the emperors Aurelian (270–275) and Probus (276–282), i.e. from the time of Licinius I (307–323) and Constantine I (307–337), with the particular concentration of the issues of the *Iovi Conservatori* type. The second and final peak in money circulation is recorded with the issues of the emperors Constantius II (337–361) with the type *Fel Temp Reparatio* and Valens (364–378), when the money circulation ceased.

### EARLY BYZANTINE STRATUM

The majority of the finds could be attributed to the Early Byzantine stratum. They include costume elements and jewellery, various bone objects, weighing implements, lighting equipment, glass vessels, tools, weapons, lock implements, other objects used for miscellaneous purposes, coins and one lead seal.

#### Costume Elements and Jewellery

The first group of finds from the Early Byzantine period consists of costume elements and jewellery and they are represented by fibulae, buckles, finger rings and earrings.

It was possible to classify the fibulae into three basic groups: with an extended foot and a loop at the end – the Viminacium type, with a backward turned foot attached by a coil and with a backward turned foot attached by a pseudo-coil.

The fibulae of the Viminacium type with the extended foot with a loop at the end were identified as a distinct type by M. Schultze-Dörrlamm, who linked them geographically to the Danube limes (Fig. 3.1) and chronologically to the period between the middle of the V and the first half of the VI century.<sup>36</sup> Certain individual pieces were also encountered in the territories nominally under barbarian control. We found direct analogies in the Više grobalja necropolis in Viminacium, in graves 3, 14 and 38.<sup>37</sup>

Similar finds also came from the sites Carnuntum, Velatice, Vienna, Biharea, Penkivka and Iatrus–Krivina,<sup>38</sup> as well as from the Jakovo–Kormadin necropolis, where they were attributed to the first half and middle of the VI century.<sup>39</sup> There are also specimens from the Dabina–Čučar site in Macedonia,<sup>40</sup> as well as from Romuliana (Gamzigrad), where they were incorrectly ascribed to the end of the IV and the beginning of the V century.<sup>41</sup>

Two more types of fibulae, possessing a backward turned foot with a coil, or a backward turned foot with a pseudo-coil, are the most frequent fibulae types from the Early Byzantine period. Although of similar appearance, these two types differ considerably, from the technological point of view. The first type, which was attributed to a slightly earlier date, was made of bent sheet bronze, while the other was made by casting.<sup>42</sup>

The fibula with a backward turned foot and a coil had a foot decorated with four vertically arranged X motifs, while the bow was decorated with two dotted lines along the edges (Fig. 3.2). A similar fibula came from Romuliana and it had three vertical X motifs on the foot, underneath there were two horizontal ornaments, while the bow was decorated with two zigzag lines along the edges.<sup>43</sup>

A characteristic of the fibulae with backward turned feet and pseudo-coils, was the variable number of moulded ribs at the junction of the bow and foot that imitated coils of wire, while there could be ornaments on the foot, as well as on the bow. Two specimens of the fibulae of this type are known from the Čečan and Gornji Streoc sites. The first one had a bow decorated with rectilinear incisions (Fig. 3.3), whereas on the second, the upper segment of the bow was decorated with a semicircular ornament, terminating in a motif of concentric circles and the lower segment was decorated with five concentric circles, arranged to create the letter X (Fig. 3.4). Fibulae similar to the first specimen have been discovered at Pontes and Aquae.<sup>44</sup> A specimen similar to our second type also came from Aquae. The upper portion of its bow was decorated with a zigzag line, terminating in the mentioned semi-circular motif, while there was a dotted line along the edges of the bow.<sup>45</sup>

Besides the fibulae, a kidney-shaped (*nierförmig*) buckle was discovered, which had a ribbed upper surface (Fig. 3.5), and the pin, which was usually fashioned like the head of an animal was missing on our specimen. According to the classification of M. Schulze-Dörrlamm,

<sup>36</sup> Schultze-Dörrlamm 1986, 605–608.

<sup>37</sup> Зотовић 1980, 101–102, T. I–VI.

<sup>38</sup> Schultze-Dörrlamm 1986, 605–608, Abb. 11–12.

<sup>39</sup> Димитријевић 1960, 44, T. V/13–14.

<sup>40</sup> Микулчиќ, Лилчиќ 1995, pl. 3.6.

<sup>41</sup> Јанковић 1983, 114, fig. 88/2–3.

<sup>42</sup> Uenze 1992, 146–154.

<sup>43</sup> Јанковић 1983a, 136, cat. no. 194.

<sup>44</sup> Шпехар 2004, 111, cat. nos. 101–103, T. IV/101–103.

<sup>45</sup> Шпехар 2004, 111–113, cat. no. 96, T. IV/96.

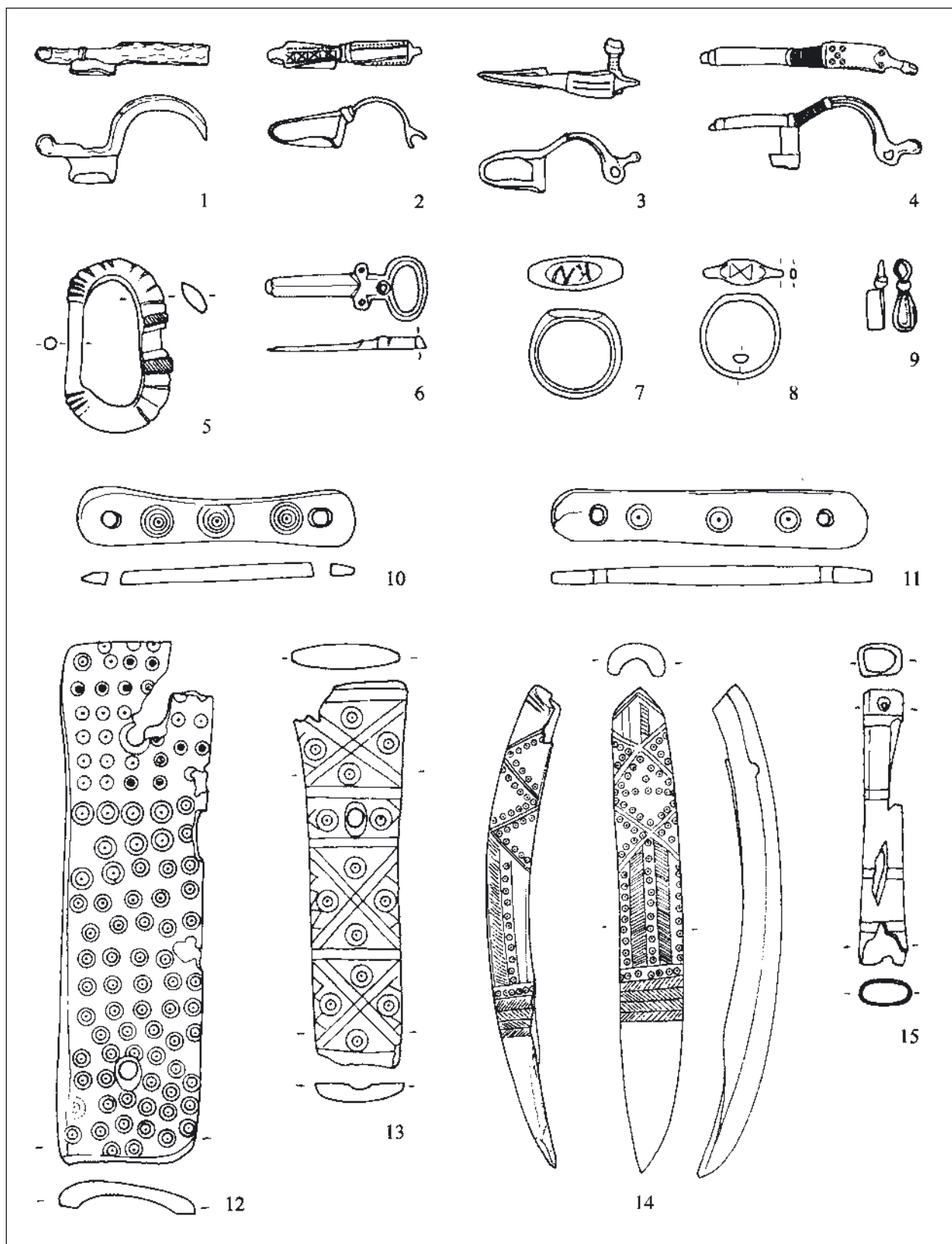


Fig. 3: Čečan (7, 9), Gornji Streoc (1-5, 8, 10-15), unknown site (6); Scale 2:3

Сл. 3: Чечан (7, 9), Горњи Стреоц (1-5, 8, 10-15), непознато налазиште (6); Раз. 2:3

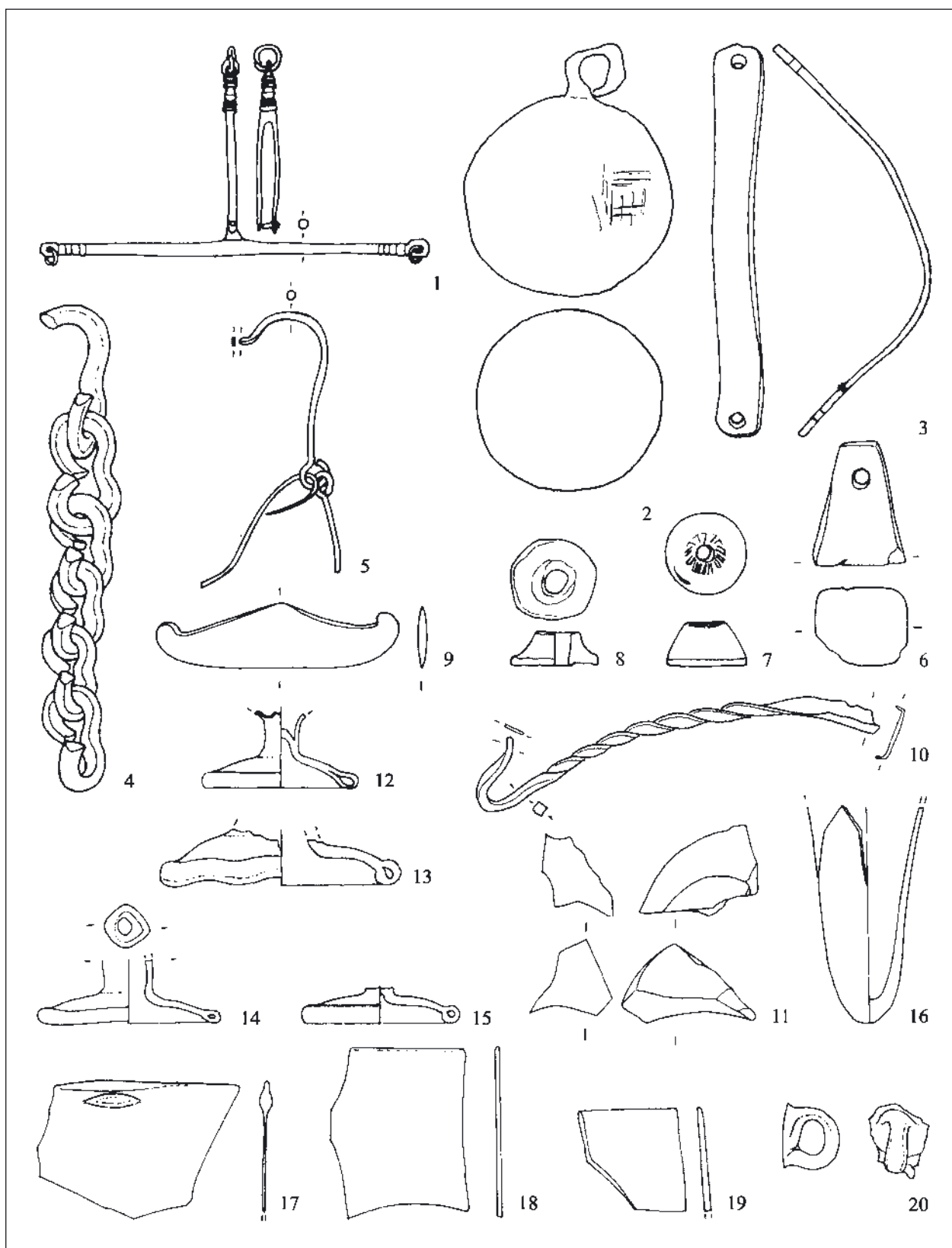


Fig. 4: Čečan (6, 8–10, 13–14, 16, 18, 20), Gornji Streoc (1–5, 11, 15, 17, 19), unknown site (7, 12); Scale 2:3  
 Сл. 4: Чечан (6, 8–10, 13–14, 16, 18, 20), Горњи Стреоц (1–5, 11, 15, 17, 19), нејознајто налазиште (7, 12); Раз. 2:3



this buckle belongs to type A5 of the Early Byzantine buckles, which are dated to the end of the V and the beginning of the VI century.<sup>46</sup> A silver buckle with an elongated rectangular body, a reinforced neck with three perforations and an oval head (Fig. 3.6) was an interesting find. A similar specimen with the upper segment shaped as a rectangular loop, but made of bronze, came from Romuliana.<sup>47</sup>

Two finger rings and the fragment of an earring were also found besides the buckles (Fig. 3.9). Both bronze finger rings were solid cast specimens with an oval flat head with inscriptions that were illegible, due to their poor state of preservation (Fig. 3. 7–8).

### Bone Objects

A particular kind of finds belonging to the Early Byzantine period was numerous bone objects, which could be classified into several categories.

The first group consisted of perforated bone plates of rectangular shape with a semi-circular cross-section – most probably the handles of tools or weapons.

The first specimen was a handle decorated with a series of concentric circles (Fig. 3.12), resembling to some extent, an object discovered at the Mihajlovac–Blato site. This find was incorrectly identified as comb plating and, on the basis of the cruciform fibula, was attributed to the third quarter of the IV century.<sup>48</sup> A similar object with a flat rear side originated from the Early Byzantine layer at the Gradina site on Jelica.<sup>49</sup>

A second handle, from the Gornji Streoc site was decorated with an engraved criss-cross pattern of double lines, separated by perpendicular lines and concentric circles in the empty spaces (Fig. 3.13).

In addition to the handles there was a particular item with a semi-circular shape and cross-section, richly decorated with engraved lines and concentric circles (Fig. 3.14). This type of object is usually identified as a »tool for untying knots« and is frequently found in the Avarian material culture.<sup>50</sup> Such tools have been also encountered in the Early Byzantine fortifications including Caričin Grad<sup>51</sup> and Romuliana.<sup>52</sup>

Another find was a cylindrical bone object made of a long bone that was perforated in the upper segment and its outer surface was decorated with horizontal incisions (Fig. 3.15). We assumed it was the handle of a knife.

Another group of bone tools included items for everyday use – bag clasps,<sup>53</sup> shaped like rectangular plates with arched and slightly expanded, perforated ends. The upper surface of these clasps was decorated with a series of concentric circles (Fig. 3.10–11). Judging by the second specimen, which was an unfinished arte-

fact, there was a workshop for working bone in this area. In other words, the second clasp was only roughly worked, without any polished surfaces or trimmed sides. There are many analogies from the sites of Pontes,<sup>54</sup> Campsa (Ravna),<sup>55</sup> and Romuliana,<sup>56</sup> Petrus in the central Morava basin,<sup>57</sup> Caričin Grad,<sup>58</sup> and many others.

### Weighing Implements

Small monetary scales and four weights from Čečan and Gornji Streoc also belong to the group of objects used in everyday life.

The small, bronze, monetary scales consisted of two parts. The movable part of the scales is shaped like the inverted letter T, with the horizontal arm shaped as a thin rod with a circular section attached in the middle to the measuring pin. The fixed part of the scales consists of a handle with a cylindrically shaped moulded rod, which is forked so it could be attached to the mobile part of the scales (Fig. 4.1). This kind of object has many analogies, which includes specimens in the hoard from Hajdučka Vodenica<sup>59</sup> from the Caričin Grad,<sup>60</sup> Jelica,<sup>61</sup> Kranj<sup>62</sup> and Pernik.<sup>63</sup> From the territory of Hungary, identical types of scales were discovered within the Avarian necropolis, such as the specimen from the Kunszentmárton site, dated to the end of the VI and first half of the VII century.<sup>64</sup>

Four weights were found at Čečan and Gornji Streoc, one of them is a commercial specimen and three others are monetary weights.

<sup>46</sup> Schulze-Dörlamm 2002, 12–14.

<sup>47</sup> Живић 2003, 177, cat. no. 406.

<sup>48</sup> Tomović, M. 1984, 406; Petković 1995, 87, cat. no. 412, T. XXIV/2.

<sup>49</sup> Milinković 2002, 122, Abb. 35/10.

<sup>50</sup> Dimitrijević et al. 1962, fig. 61/2; Ерцеговић-Павловић 1975, 110, T. П/І; Török 1975, 299; Daim 1987, 219; Daim 1996, 360.

<sup>51</sup> Unpublished, C–297/00.

<sup>52</sup> Живић 2003, 136, cat. no. 242.

<sup>53</sup> For an illustrative example of the use of this type of find cf. Uenze 1992, Abb. 16.

<sup>54</sup> Petković 1995, 85, cat. no. 396, T. XXII/8.

<sup>55</sup> Petković 1995, 85, cat. no. 390, T. XXII/2.

<sup>56</sup> Живић 2003, 118, cat. no. 171. We think that these specimens are incorrectly dated by the author in the period from the IV to the V century.

<sup>57</sup> Брмболић 2003, 282, T. IV/1.

<sup>58</sup> Unpublished, C–210/01.

<sup>59</sup> Археолошко благо Ђердапа 1978, 70, cat. no. 60; Kondić 1984, 179.

<sup>60</sup> Unpublished, C–76/02.

<sup>61</sup> Milinković 2002, Abb. 38/4.

<sup>62</sup> Od Rimljanov do Slovanov, 63, cat. no. 189.

<sup>63</sup> Любенова 1981, fig. 34/4–5; Garam 2001, Taf. 120/1.

<sup>64</sup> Garam 2001, Taf. 120/1.

A flat specimen of one ounce, marked on the front with the symbols  $\Gamma + A$  within a wreath (Fig. 5.1) was identified as a commercial weight. Its weight was 25,50 grams, which is less than the theoretical weight of 27,287 gr. for an ounce.<sup>65</sup>

The second group of monetary weights consisted of three square weights of one nomisma, i.e. one solidus. The weights were marked with different symbols. The first one had the engraved letter N,<sup>66</sup> the second had a monogram within which was the clearly distinguishable letter N as the mark of the weight, while the surface of the third specimen was so worn-out that the symbol could not be identified (Fig. 5.2–4). The first two weights were punched with a thin awl, creating dots or circlets. The weights had been made in this way primarily in order to balance the weight. Their weights were 4,02 gr., 3,85 gr. and 3,90 gr. As in the case of the commercial weight, they were considerably less than the official value of 4,54 gr. One should mention that these weights were damaged but one can also assume that their edges were subsequently cut off, which explains the significant difference in their weight.

The commercial weight, as well as the monetary ones, was attributed, on the basis of chronologically well established analogies, to the VI and VII century. They were discovered in monetary hoards along with gold currency and scales. Both types of weights were found in the hoard from Hajdučka Vodenica at the Danube limes together with 29 solidi, one tremissis and scales. The hoard was deposited around 544.<sup>67</sup> Weights found in the hoard from Zaldapa, in the province of Scythia belonged to a slightly later date, to the end of the VI century. Three weights were found, weighing 3 solidi, 1 solidus and 1 tremissis, together with a rather large amount of gold coins.<sup>68</sup> We should also mention the finds of mainly commercial weights in the wrecked ship near Yassi Ada that, according to the numismatic finds, had sunk around 626.<sup>69</sup> There are also analogies from the nearby Caričin Grad, with its unique cultural stratum dating from the VI and the beginning of the VII century, where many specimens of commercial and monetary weights have been found.<sup>70</sup>

The weights from Čečan and Gornji Streoc are small weights primarily for measuring the basic monetary unit of the solidus. These were weights of simple manufacture and decoration, which, like most finds of this character, belonged to private persons, who used them in daily transactions with golden coins. In addition to the mentioned monetary weights, also discovered was a lead steelyard weight of spherical shape with a loop added to the top, for suspension (Fig. 4.2). Identically



Fig. 5: Unknown site; Scale 1:1

Сл. 5: Нејпознатио налазиште; Раз. 1:1

shaped weights used for measuring larger quantities of various goods are known from the Gradac site in Donji Dubič (vicinity of Kruševac),<sup>71</sup> from Romuliana,<sup>72</sup> Diana,<sup>73</sup> as well as from Sardis, where one was discovered together with a steelyard,<sup>74</sup> and another from the sunken ship at Yassi Ada.<sup>75</sup>

### Lighting Equipment

The next group of finds that one ascribe to the Early Byzantine period includes an lamp holder made of bronze wire with a circular section (Fig. 4.5), which has analogies with finds discovered at Diana and Pontes,<sup>76</sup> Caričin Grad<sup>77</sup> and at Sardis.<sup>78</sup> Given that during the excavations of the south-western quarter of the Lower Town in Caričin Grad, rather simple made lamp holders were found in dwellings, they should not be exclusively considered as items of church furnishings but also as household equipment.

In addition to the simple lamp holders, we also encountered a carrier, the upper part of which was attached to a holder, while the lower part of the vertical arm was attached to the chain that held icon lamps or lamps (Fig. 4.3). A similar object, discovered together

<sup>65</sup> Calculated according to the pound weight of 327,45 gr: Bendall 1996, 6–7.

<sup>66</sup> Bendall 1996, 42–43, nos. 103–104.

<sup>67</sup> Kondić 1984, 179–188; Morrisson et al. 2006, 312–313, cat. no. 234.

<sup>68</sup> Торбатов 1998, 64–69; Morrisson et al. 2006, 181, cat. no. 82.

<sup>69</sup> Sams 1982, 217–230.

<sup>70</sup> According to the documentation of the Caričin Grad Project of the Institute of Archaeology in Belgrade.

<sup>71</sup> Рашковић и др. 2000, 95, fig. 412.

<sup>72</sup> Живић 2003, 184, cat. no. 433.

<sup>73</sup> Шпехар 2004, 133, cat. no. 284, T. XI/248.

<sup>74</sup> Waldbaum 1983, pl. 28/436 and 29/447.

<sup>75</sup> Sams 1982, fig. 10/19–20.

<sup>76</sup> Шпехар 2004, 126, cat. nos. 186–188, T. VIII/187.

<sup>77</sup> Bavant 1990, 205, cat. no. 69, pl. XXXI/69; Bavant, Ivanišević 2003, 63, cat. no. 10; Unpublished, C–29/84.

<sup>78</sup> Waldbaum 1983, pl. 38/600.

with a suspension chain is known from Sadovec<sup>79</sup> and also from Romuliana.<sup>80</sup>

Consequently, a bronze chain, consisting of six links (Fig. 4.4), discovered at the Gornji Streoc site could have been part of a polykandelon.

### Glass

The majority of the glass vessels from the Early Byzantine period most often originated in the VI century, although their production had started much earlier, already in the IV century.<sup>81</sup> The feet of the specimens that were collected had different shapes and diameters, varying from four to six centimetres. Apart from the differences in shape, there were conspicuous differences in colour, so there were specimens made of various shades of yellow or green glass. The glasses with feet, discovered at the two mentioned sites (Fig. 4.12–15), were similar to the items found at the sites of Pontes and Diana<sup>82</sup> and also at Caričin Grad,<sup>83</sup> at Nicopolis<sup>84</sup> and at the Salamis site in Cyprus.<sup>85</sup>

In addition, this group also includes an object, which, in our opinion, is a balsamarium with a flat base (Fig. 4.16), although it should be mentioned that according to Isings, this type of vessel could be a goblet, dating from the IV century.<sup>86</sup>

Specimens of similar manufacture were encountered in the territory of Hungary<sup>87</sup> and at Sadovec – at the Golemanovo Kale site.<sup>88</sup>

In the group of glass vessels, there was also the handle of a lamp with a bell-shaped receptacle (Fig. 4.20). This type of object is known from many sites and we should also mention the specimens from Caričin Grad<sup>89</sup> and from Gradina on Jelica.<sup>90</sup>

In addition to the glass vessels, a considerable number of yellowish window panes (Fig. 4.17–19) were discovered at these two sites. Similar examples of oculi were discovered at many sites in the region of the Iron Gates, including Pontes, Hajdučka Vodenica, and Diana,<sup>91</sup> and they were also encountered at Caričin Grad<sup>92</sup> and at Gradina on Jelica.<sup>93</sup>

Besides all these items from the Gornji Streoc site, there were the raw materials for glass production, indicating the existence, probably, of a small workshop for glass blowing (Fig. 4.11).

### Tools

In addition to the above described archaeological objects, a substantial number of tools came from the Čečan and Gornji Streoc sites, which, according to their use, could be classified as tools for agriculture, wool production, leather working and woodworking.<sup>94</sup>

### Agricultural Tools

Most of the agricultural tools were used for soil cultivation, harvesting, cutting reeds and pruning trees, whereas we rarely came across tools used for cattle-raising.

There was a hoe used for tilling the soil, with a triangular working surface and rounded corners, which was slightly bent downwards in relation to the reinforced shaft-hole, which extended into a fairly small, vertical extension of rectangular shape and section (Fig. 6.1). Judging by the finds from Ravna, Lisovici, Saldum and Boljetin, this type of hoe was used in the IV century, but it was also in use in the VI and at the beginning of the VII century, as we see from the specimens from Diana<sup>95</sup> and Caričin Grad.<sup>96</sup>

To this group, one can also attribute two mattocks, one of which had a bent blade of a more prominent, trapezoidal shape and a slightly longer cutting edge, and also the larger and more massive addition of a rectangular section on the rear side of the shaft-hole (Fig. 6.2). The second specimen had a bent trapezoidal blade and a small rectangular addition of a rectangular section at the rear of the shaft-hole (Fig. 6.3). We encountered corresponding analogies for these objects within the territory of Serbia (Veliki Gradac, Pontes, Diana, Paraćin, and Caričin Grad) and, based on the accompanying material, they date from the III to the VI century.<sup>97</sup> Except for direct parallels, similar specimens were discovered at Tekija,<sup>98</sup> Caričin Grad,<sup>99</sup>

<sup>79</sup> Uenze 1992, Taf. 32/5–6.

<sup>80</sup> Јанковић 1983а, 136, cat. no. 183.

<sup>81</sup> Isings 1957, 162.

<sup>82</sup> Ružić 1994, 53, cat. nos. 1118–1123, T. XL/10–11; Шпехар 2004, 96, cat. nos. 14–15, T. 1/14.

<sup>83</sup> Unpublished, C–25/89 and C–26/89.

<sup>84</sup> Shepherd 1999, 339, cat. no. 274, fig. 11.12; 340, cat. no. 293, fig. 11.12.

<sup>85</sup> Chavane 1975, pl. 63/160.

<sup>86</sup> Isings 1957, 130.

<sup>87</sup> Barkóczy 1988, fig. 158.

<sup>88</sup> Uenze 1992, Taf. 50/7.

<sup>89</sup> Bavant 1990, 211, cat. nos 108–109, pl. XXXII/108–109.

<sup>90</sup> Гавриловић 1989, 88–89, T. 1/1–2; Ružić 1994, 55, cat. nos. 1147–1148, T. XLIII/3–4.

<sup>91</sup> Шпехар 2004, 144, cat. nos. 311–320, T. XIV/311.

<sup>92</sup> Unpublished, C–8/78 and C–36/81.

<sup>93</sup> Milinković 2002, Abb. 36.

<sup>94</sup> Some of the tools from the Čečan and Gornji Streoc sites are incorrectly identified as medieval. Cf. Guillou 1986.

<sup>95</sup> Поповић, И. 1988, 45, T. IV/1.

<sup>96</sup> Bavant, Ivanišević 2003, 66–67, cat. no. 23.

<sup>97</sup> Поповић, И. 1988, 37, T. 1/4.

<sup>98</sup> Cermanović-Kuzmanović, Jovanović 2004, 290, cat. no. 9.

<sup>99</sup> Unpublished, NML 25, C–16/89 and C–25/89.

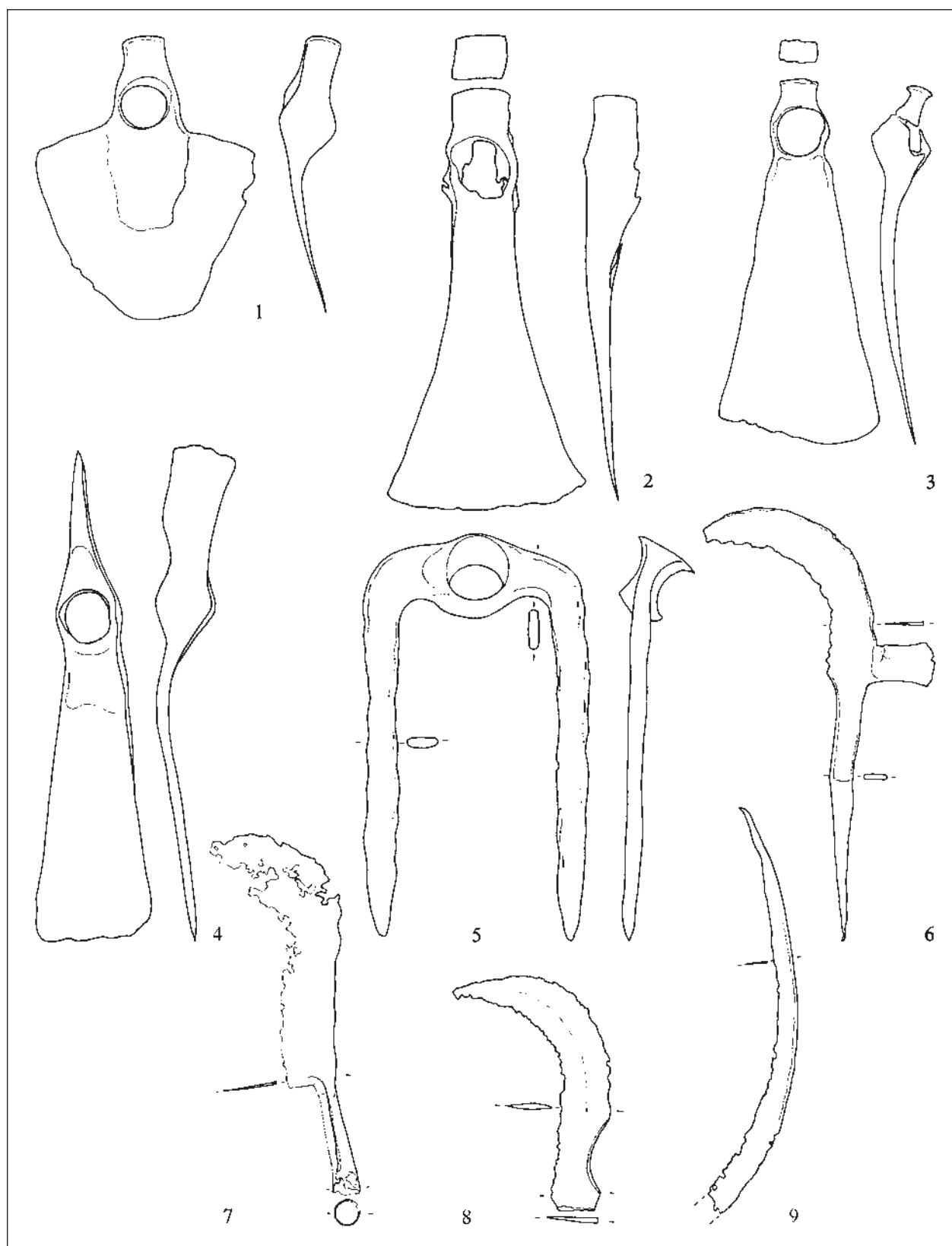


Fig. 6: Čečan (8), Gornji Streoc (1–7, 9); Scale 1:4

Сл. 6: Чечан (8), Горњи Стреоц (1–7, 9); Раз. 1:4

Gradina on Jelica,<sup>100</sup> and at the Golemanovo Kale site, in Sadovec.<sup>101</sup>

Another agricultural implement was the pickaxe, which like the mattock could have been used for digging channels, pits and the like. Fixed on the front side of a circular shaft-hole, this tool has a trapezoidal bent blade, and on its rear is an elongated rectangular addition of rectangular cross-section, which is slightly bent (Fig. 6.4). We encountered similar objects at Caričin Grad,<sup>102</sup> and also in the habitation stratum at the sites of Diana,<sup>103</sup> Ljubičevac–Glamija or Ušće Slatinske reke,<sup>104</sup> where they date from the VI century.

The last type of tool we discovered for soil cultivation was the two-pronged hoe with a circular shaft-hole (Fig. 6.5) intended, according to I. Popović, primarily for tending vineyards, thus indicating vine growing as a specialized agricultural activity. However, the possibility should not be excluded that this implement was also used in truck farming. We know of this kind of implement from Caričin Grad, Majdanpek and Boljetin, where it was dated to the VI and the beginning of the VII century.<sup>105</sup>

Of tools intended for harvesting, we have a fragmented sickle with a semi-circular blade (Fig. 6.9), but as it was rather damaged we could not identify any corresponding analogies.

Pruning hooks intended for the removal of small bushes were rather more numerous, however, and we identified two types of them. The first was a pruning hook with a tang and a crescent shaped blade, with a small rectangular addition with a rectangular section on the right side of the junction between the blade and the tang (Fig. 6.6). The second type of pruning hook had a semi-circular blade with the socket of circular section and the rear side of the blade was straight (Fig. 6.7). We also found a fragmented pruning hook with a semi-circular blade, the type of which was impossible to distinguish precisely (Fig. 6.8). Pruning hooks with a tang and a moulded reinforcement are known from Gradina on Jelica, but the transition from the handle to the blade was at a less acute angle,<sup>106</sup> and from Caričin Grad, although in this case its curve was slightly less prominent near the top, and the extension on the side was at a right angle,<sup>107</sup> and there were more pruning hooks from the Konopljar site in the village of Čitluk in the vicinity of Kruševac,<sup>108</sup> as well as from the Iron Gates region, from Hajdučka Vodenica and Diana.<sup>109</sup>

Cattle-raising activities were attested by the finds of a conical shaped, iron cowbell reinforced by a horizontal rib in the upper section, and with a semicircular hoop on top (Fig. 7.1) and a bronze bell with a circular

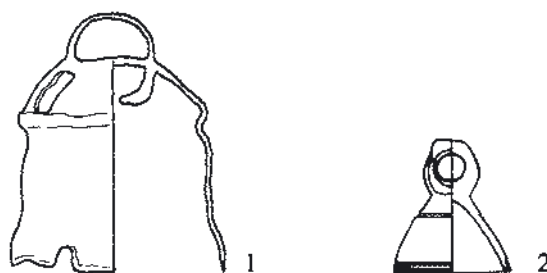


Fig. 7: Gornji Streoc (1), unknown site (2); Scale 2:3

Сл. 7: Горњи Стреоц (1), непознато налазиште (2); Раз. 2:3

hoop decorated with horizontal incisions (Fig. 7.2) Judging by their size, these objects were most probably intended for sheep and goats. An identically shaped iron cowbell came from the Golemanovo Kale site in Sadovec, Bulgaria.<sup>110</sup>

#### Tools for Leather Working and Wool Production

Implements for processing leather and wool including rather large number of knives and fragments of arched, single-piece scissors for shearing sheep, besides the cowbell, are evidence of stock-breeding activities.

The leather working knives with a vertical socketed handle (Fig. 8.1–2) or with a tang (Fig. 8.3) had curved blades of different sizes. A small knife with a tang (Fig. 8.3) has analogies with a tool that has a serrated blade, found at the Grdanov hrib site in, dated to the end of the III and the beginning of the IV century,<sup>111</sup> and with finds from Caričin Grad,<sup>112</sup> Romuliana,<sup>113</sup> Mihajlovac, Pontes, Ljubičevac–Glamija and Diana,<sup>114</sup> dating from

<sup>100</sup> Milinković 2002, Abb. 28/12.

<sup>101</sup> Uenze 1992, T. 21/9.

<sup>102</sup> Unpublished, C-58/01 and NMLK-924.

<sup>103</sup> Шпехар 2004, 149, cat. nos. 328–330.

<sup>104</sup> Korać 1980, T. XXXVIII/LIV.

<sup>105</sup> Поповић, И. 1988, 41–42, Т. II/6; Popović, I. 1990, 271, fig. 177/a.

<sup>106</sup> Milinković 2002, Abb. 27/8.

<sup>107</sup> Popović, I. 1990, 277, fig. 184/b; Unpublished, C-91/84 and inv. no. 04/55.

<sup>108</sup> Рашковић и др. 2000, 89, fig. 15.

<sup>109</sup> Поповић, И. 1988, 78–79, Т. XIV/3.

<sup>110</sup> Uenze 1992, T. 26/12–13.

<sup>111</sup> Od Rimljanov do Slovanov, 14, cat. no. 15/5.

<sup>112</sup> Popović, I. 1990, 280, type V, no. 1, fig. 188/b.

<sup>113</sup> Живић 2003, 145, cat. nos. 278–279.

<sup>114</sup> Шпехар 2004, 165, cat. nos. 454–457, Т. XVI/454–455.



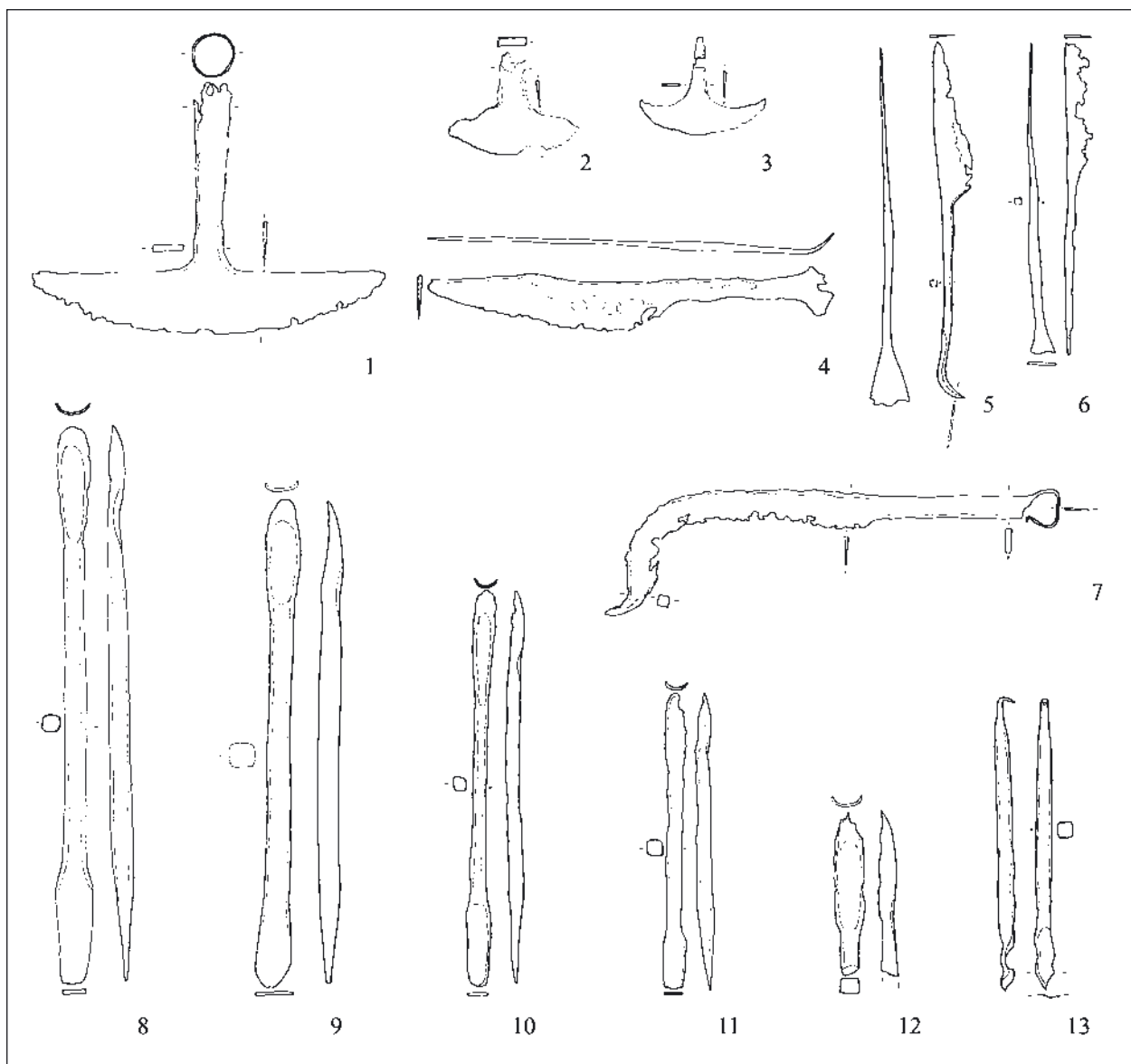


Fig. 8: Čečan (5, 10–13), Gornji Streoc (1–4, 6–9); Scale 1:4

Сл. 8: Чечан (5, 10–13), Горњи Стреоц (1–4, 6–9); Раз. 1:4

the VI and the beginning of the VII century. We encountered objects similar to this type of leather scraper in a hoard of tools discovered in Slovenia at the Limbrek site, deposited around 400,<sup>115</sup> as well as at Caričin Grad, in the stratum dating from the VI and beginning of the VII century.<sup>116</sup> As for specimens of a slightly larger size and with a socket (Fig. 8.1), corresponding parallels were encountered in south-western Serbia at the Šarski krš site, where they originated in the IV century,<sup>117</sup> and at Caričin Grad,<sup>118</sup> Gradina on Jelica,<sup>119</sup> and Diana,<sup>120</sup> where they are linked to the VI century stratum.

Another type of leather working knife is the specimen with a triangular blade and a straight upper edge. From the back of the blade there extends a handle of rectangular shape and section, with the end hammered

<sup>115</sup> Od Rimljanov do Slovanov, 33, cat. no. 87/54.

<sup>116</sup> Bavant 1990, cat. nos. 205 and 220, pl. XXXVII/205; Unpublished, C-411/00 and NML 46.

<sup>117</sup> Поповић, М. 1983, 11, Т. IV/4.

<sup>118</sup> Unpublished, NML 672.

<sup>119</sup> Milinković 2002, Abb. 27/6.

<sup>120</sup> Шпехар 2004, 165, cat. no. 459, Т. XVII/459.

into a fan shape (Fig. 8.4). Such knife types are known from Romuliana, where the author attributed the discovered specimen to the IV and first half of the V century,<sup>121</sup> and from Caričin Grad,<sup>122</sup> Donje Butorke<sup>123</sup> and Pontes<sup>124</sup> where the specimens were dated to the VI and to the beginning of the VII century.

There are two fragmented blades of arched, one-piece scissors, used for sheep-shearing (Fig. 8.5–6). This type of objects is known from many sites throughout the empire, as well as from Serbia, where they were dated on the basis of the accompanying material to the period from the IV to the VI century.<sup>125</sup> Similar specimens came from a warrior's grave in the region of Westheim in Germany, and from a male burial mound at the necropolis Romans d' Isonco in the Friuli region in Italy.<sup>126</sup> Likewise, similar specimens are known from the hoards from Slovenia, from Limberk, dated to around 400,<sup>127</sup> and from Tinja nad Loko dated to the end of the VI century,<sup>128</sup> and also from Caričin Grad.<sup>129</sup>

### Woodworking Tools

The implements for woodworking include a plane for the crude removal of bark, five double chisels and one drill.

The plane consists of an arched blade, terminating at one end in a rectangular handle with a loop, and ending at the other in a small handle of rectangular shape and section (Fig. 8.7). Analogies for this type of objects are known from the territory of Slovenia, where a completely preserved plane was found at the Grdanov hrib site, dated according to the accompanying material to the end of the III and the beginning of the IV century.<sup>130</sup> Similar specimens were also found at Romuliana in the hoard of tools dated to the final quarter of the IV and first half of the V century,<sup>131</sup> and at the Ajdovski gradec site where a scraper was found, dated to the period from the V to the VI centuries.<sup>132</sup> These objects were also found at the Ušće Porečke reke site,<sup>133</sup> in the VI century stratums.

Double tools of different sizes are special tools for woodworking that have a rectangular chisel at one end and, at the other, a scoop for hollowing (Fig. 8.8–12). Finds of double chisels are numerous and they are generally dated to the VI century as is the case in the Biograci–Lištice site, in Bosnia and Herzegovina.<sup>134</sup> Identical tools found in the territory of Serbia, in our opinion, are incorrectly dated from the III to the VII centuries,<sup>135</sup> and this is also the case with finds from the territory of Bulgaria.<sup>136</sup> In addition to the direct parallels, similar specimens were discovered in the hoard from the territory of Slovenia, at the Ajdovski

gradec site, where such a specimen was dated from the V to the VI century,<sup>137</sup> as were specimens from the Early Byzantine layers at Caričin Grad,<sup>138</sup> from Diana,<sup>139</sup> and from the Golemanovo kale site in Sadovec.<sup>140</sup>

Another implement identified for woodworking was a drill with a body of circular cross-section, the upper section of which was curved in a semi-circle and the bottom section was bent (Fig. 8.13).

### Weapons

The finds of weaponry discovered at these two sites were relatively small in number and could be classified in terms of function as offensive weapons (the bone plating of a bow and two iron spearheads) and defensive weapons (five iron plates from lamellar armour).

A composite bow, of which we have the plating (Fig. 9.1) is an element of weaponry that with three-ribbed arrows made it possible to wage war more effectively. Like the three-ribbed arrows,<sup>141</sup> composite bows were also used in the Roman army. Confirmation of this is the analogous find from the Bar Hill site in England, within the Antonine wall, and dated from the II to III century.<sup>142</sup>

Two similar specimens of plating of a composite bow with the end turned downwards were found in the Iron Gates region, at Pontes<sup>143</sup> and Tekija,<sup>144</sup> but also in

<sup>121</sup> Живић 2003, 142, cat. no. 268.

<sup>122</sup> Unpublished, inv. no. 19/53.

<sup>123</sup> Поповић, И. 1988, 94, Т. XVII/2.

<sup>124</sup> Шпехар 2004, 164, cat. no. 451, Т. XVI/450.

<sup>125</sup> Поповић, И. 1988, 97, Т. XVII/4; Bavant 1990, cat. nos. 166 and 217, pl. XXXV/164, 166; Milinković 2002, Abb. 28/10; Живић 2003, 145–146, cat. nos. 281–282.

<sup>126</sup> Schulze-Dörrlamm 2002, 131, Abb. 49/11, 183, Abb. 66/4.

<sup>127</sup> Od Rimljanov do Slovanov, 32–33, cat. nos. 87/59–60.

<sup>128</sup> Od Rimljanov do Slovanov, 57, cat. no. 167/17.

<sup>129</sup> Unpublished, C–50/98.

<sup>130</sup> Od Rimljanov do Slovanov, 14, cat. no. 15/3.

<sup>131</sup> Лаловић 1987, 131–133, cat. nos. 55–56, Т. VII/3–4.

<sup>132</sup> Od Rimljanov do Slovanov, 52, cat. no. 146/7.

<sup>133</sup> Шпехар 2004, 152, cat. nos. 362–363, Т. XXII/362.

<sup>134</sup> Čremošnik 1989, 97–98, Т. VII/2.

<sup>135</sup> Поповић, И. 1988, 120–122, Т. XXII/5; Bavant 1990, cat. nos. 221 and 226, pl. XXXIX/221; Живић 2003, 146, cat. no. 283.

<sup>136</sup> Любенова 1981, 164, fig. 103/2.

<sup>137</sup> Od Rimljanov do Slovanov, 52, cat. no. 146/10.

<sup>138</sup> Unpublished, inv. no. 7/65.

<sup>139</sup> Шпехар 2004, 153, cat. no. 366, Т. XXI/364.

<sup>140</sup> Uenze 1992, Т. 22/1–7.

<sup>141</sup> Freedon 1991, 595.

<sup>142</sup> Bishop, Coulston 1993, 112–113.

<sup>143</sup> Petković 1995, 102, cat. no. 629, Т. XXXVIII/3.

<sup>144</sup> Cermanović-Kuzmanović, Jovanović 2004, 241, cat. no. 17.

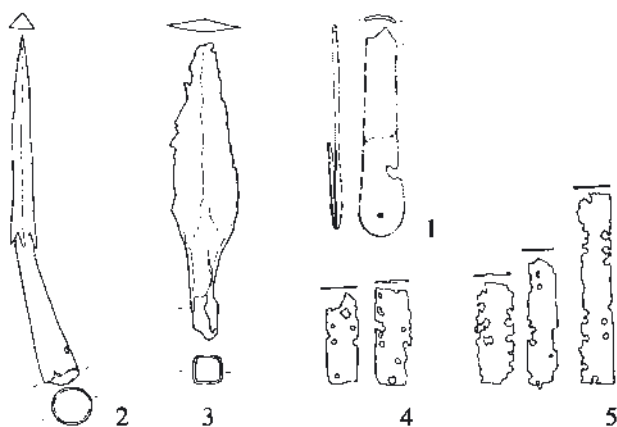


Fig. 9: Čečan (2, 4), Gornji Streoc (1, 3, 5); Scale 1:4

Сл. 9: Чечан (2, 4), Горњи Стреоц (1, 3, 5); Раз. 1:4

Bulgaria at the Golemanovo Kale site in Sadovec.<sup>145</sup> Similar specimens were encountered at Caričin Grad,<sup>146</sup> as well as in the territory of Hungary, where a specimen was discovered, dating from the early Avarian period.<sup>147</sup>

It was possible to classify the specimens of iron spearheads with a socket into two groups. To the first we ascribed a spearhead with an elongated slender tip shaped like a three-sided pyramid (Fig. 9.2), and to the other, a spearhead of deltoid shape (Fig. 9.3). We encountered analogous specimens at Caričin Grad.<sup>148</sup>

From the Čečan site there was one and from Gornji Streoc were four plates of rectangular shape with circular perforations for fixing, and they were mostly fragmented. These objects were elements of lamellar armour (Fig. 9.4–5). Such armour consisted of about 600 lamellae, overlapping each other and attached to the leather. The lamellae of this armour were found across a wide area from the East, where they originated, to Western Europe.<sup>149</sup> We mention the finds from Bokhondong in South Korea<sup>150</sup> and Altai,<sup>151</sup> to the territory of present-day Serbia, in Svetinja where armour was discovered in the *foederati* settlement,<sup>152</sup> at Caričin Grad,<sup>153</sup> at Gradina on Jelica,<sup>154</sup> at a necropolis in Hungary,<sup>155</sup> and at sites as far as Niederstotzingen<sup>156</sup> and Schretzheim.<sup>157</sup>

### Lock Implements

A distinctive kind of finds is a large number of keys and lock plates.

The keys consist of elongated iron rectangular rods, reinforced in the middle by a rhomboid extension and

terminating in a circular perforation or hoop for hanging the key. The head of the key, placed to the left or right of the handle was usually shaped as a rectangle and had two to five teeth (Fig. 10.1–10). For the two-tooth key with a loop-shaped end (Fig. 10.1) there are corresponding parallels at Caričin Grad,<sup>158</sup> while for the three-tooth keys (Fig. 10. 4–7) there are analogous finds at Gradina on Jelica<sup>159</sup> and at Caričin Grad,<sup>160</sup> where a specimen was found that was similar to the four-tooth key (Fig. 10.9).<sup>161</sup> The fragment of a lock plate with a rectangular section, which was inserted in the lateral side of a door, was identified as part of the mechanism for locking a door. This specimen had a rectangular opening on the front, divided by horizontal ribs into three segments (Fig. 10.11). A similar specimen was encountered at Caričin Grad.<sup>162</sup>

### Miscellaneous Finds

Objects of a heterogeneous character that were used in everyday life were classified in a separate group. It contained lead spindle whorls (Fig. 4.7–8) similar to those from Diana<sup>163</sup> and Caričin Grad.<sup>164</sup> We should mention a ceramic weight shaped like a pyramid (Fig. 4.6), which was most probably used in the process of weaving. Similar finds were encountered among the weights from Caričin Grad<sup>165</sup> and in Sadovec, which were slightly bigger.<sup>166</sup> In this group there was also a fire-steel with curved ends (Fig. 4.9). Finally, there was fragmented bucket handle made of a twisted iron bar with a rectangular extension, with slightly bent edges in

<sup>145</sup> Uenze 1992, T. 43/4.

<sup>146</sup> Unpublished, C–100/89 and C–353/00.

<sup>147</sup> Bona 2000, Taf. II/2a–b.

<sup>148</sup> Unpublished, C–98/3 and C–99/4.

<sup>149</sup> Kory 2004, 388–400.

<sup>150</sup> Werner 1988, 8.

<sup>151</sup> Гаврилова 1965, 18, fig. IV/3, T. V/I.

<sup>152</sup> Поповић, М. 1988, 28–30; Bugarski 2006.

<sup>153</sup> Bavant, Ivanišević 2003, 73–74, cat. no. 42.

<sup>154</sup> Milinković 2002, Abb. 15/2.

<sup>155</sup> Csallány 1933, 47, T.VI/1.

<sup>156</sup> Paulsen 1967, 125–133, T. 21–22.

<sup>157</sup> Koch 1977, T. 154.

<sup>158</sup> Unpublished, K–108.

<sup>159</sup> Milinković 2002, Abb. 12/1.

<sup>160</sup> Bavant 1990, 200, cat. n° 38, pl. XXIX/38; Unpublished, K–106, C–89/105 and C–04/51.

<sup>161</sup> Unpublished, K–115.

<sup>162</sup> Bavant 1990, 200–201, cat. nos. 44–45, pl. XXIX/44–45.

<sup>163</sup> Шпехар 2004, 165, cat. no. 433, T. XXIII/443.

<sup>164</sup> Unpublished, C–1/97.

<sup>165</sup> Unpublished, C–446/00.

<sup>166</sup> Uenze 1992, Taf. 17/1–3.

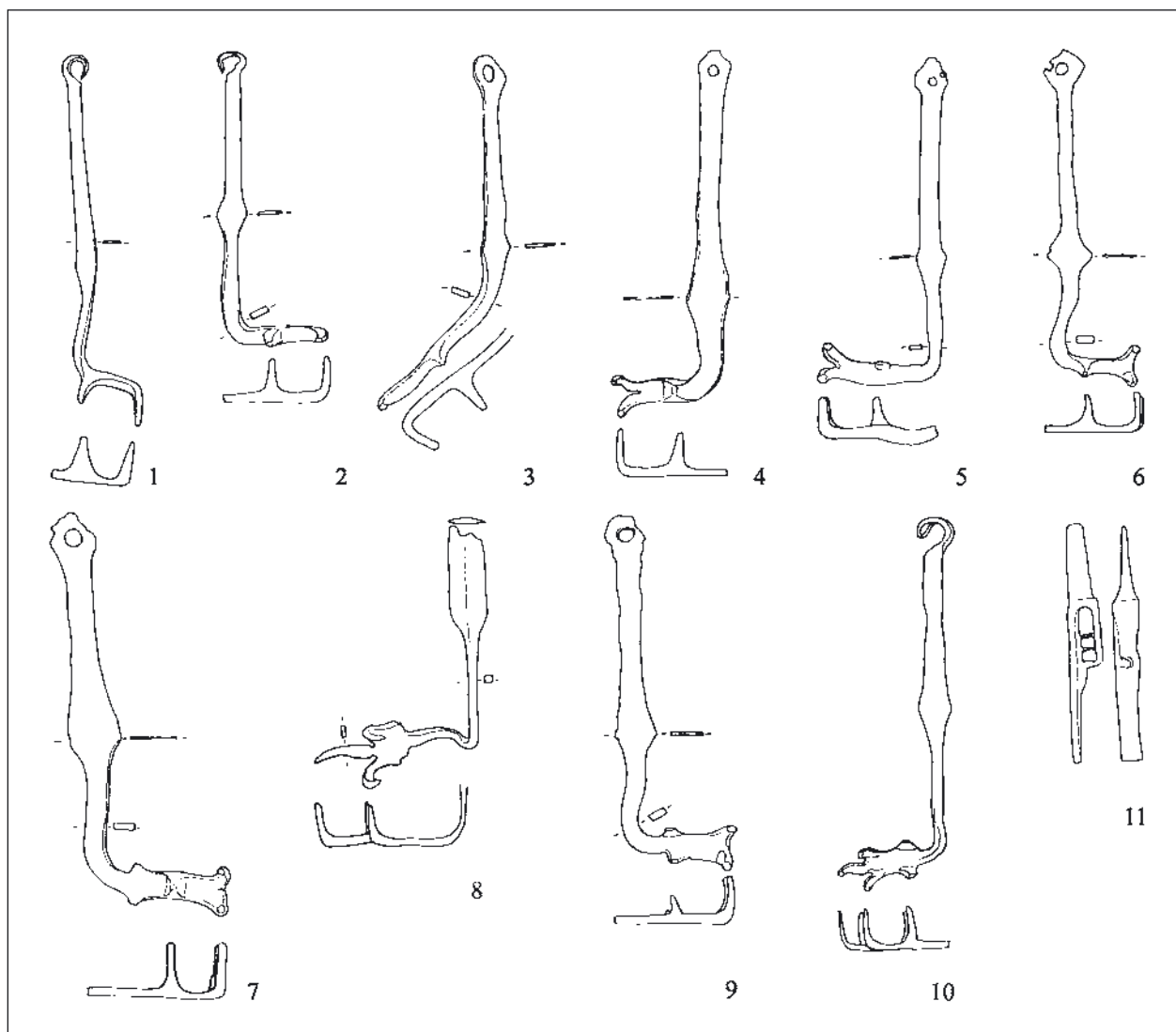


Fig. 10: Čečan (1, 8, 11), Gornji Streoc (2–7, 9–10); Scale 1:4

Сл. 10: Чеџан (1, 8, 11), Горњи Стреоц (2–7, 9–10); Раз. 1:4

the middle (Fig. 4.10), for which there were corresponding analogies in the material from Caričin Grad.<sup>167</sup>

### Coins

The coins are considered to be among the most interesting finds from these two sites. In comparison to Roman, Byzantine coins are considerably more numerous and diversified. This group includes 52 coins minted in the period from Anastasius I (491–518) to Justin II (565–578) (Cat. Nos. 25–77), which, unfortunately, were acquired without any information about the circumstances in which they were found.<sup>168</sup> Therefore, it is possible that some of these rather homogeneous groups of coins may have come from dispersed hoards.

Today, it is difficult to distinguish them with certainty, the more so because the patina was removed in the process of cleaning. Two groups were clearly distinguishable in the Byzantine monetary finds. One contained issues from the period of Anastasius I to Justinian I (527–565) and the other, which was slightly later, issues from Justinian I to Justin II.

The first group consisted of the folles and half-folles of Anastasius I, Justin I (518–527) and of Justinian I, minted before the monetary reform in 538 (Cat. Nos.

<sup>167</sup> Unpublished, C–89/105.

<sup>168</sup> Новаковић 1984, 104: mentions finds of gold and copper coins from Čečan.



Fig. 11: Čečan (1–3), unknown site (4–6); Scale 1:1

Сл. 11: Чечан (1–3), непознато налазиште (4–6); Раз. 1:1

25–42, 46–53, 56, 64 and 66). To this group, it was possible to ascribe a solidus and two tremisses of the emperor Justinian I (Cat. Nos. 43–45; Fig. 11.1–3). This last group of gold coins was remarkably homogeneous and it was, we believe, a hoard or part of a deposit of coins. At present, it is hard to determine whether the concentration of gold and copper coins from Anastasius I to Justinian I constituted a monetary hoard. However, the possibility should not be ruled out, bearing in mind that a deposit of similar content came from the village of Grnčar near Gnjilane, in Kosovo. This hoard, buried roughly in 544, mostly contained folles, issued before the monetary reform of 538, and one tremissis of Justinian I.<sup>169</sup>

The second group contains issues of Justinian I from the Thessalonica mint, mostly denominations of 16 nummi and the half-folles of Justin II (Cat. Nos. 59–63, 57–75). The latest specimen was the half-follis of Justin II, minted in 574/5. In this case too, the existence is known of deposits that have a similar content. It is interesting to mention a hoard from the nearby Caričin Grad (Caričin Grad B, 1952) deposited, according to V. Popović, around 571,<sup>170</sup> and one from Bašino selo near Veles in Macedonia that was concealed, according to M. Hadži-Maneva, around 573.<sup>171</sup>

Despite the similarities with the mentioned finds, it is hard to make out whether there were hoards among the purchased group of coins. However, with a fair degree of certainty we distinguished a solidus and two tremisses

of Justinian I, which, we are certain, were a hoard or portion of a hoard, buried after 542 or most probably around 544, at the time of an invasion by the Kutrigurs, in Illyricum.<sup>172</sup> A series of monetary hoards, distributed within two clearly distinguished zones date from this stratum. The first group included finds from the Danube limes with hoards from Hajdučka Vodenica (Dacia Ripensis) with 29 solidi and one tremissis,<sup>173</sup> and a hoard from Dobra in Moesia Prima.<sup>174</sup> The second group includes finds concentrated in the province of Dardania like the already mentioned deposit from Grnčari,<sup>175</sup> but also hoards from Klinovac,<sup>176</sup> and Suva Reka.<sup>177</sup> To this group one should add the deposit from Čečan, containing a solidus and two trienses of Justinian I and possibly folles, dating from Anastasius I to Justinian I.

<sup>169</sup> Радић 1991, 49–56; Morisson et al. 2006, 333, cat. no. 253.

<sup>170</sup> Popović, V. 1984, 64–66; Morisson et al. 2006, 296–297, cat. no. 214.

<sup>171</sup> Хаџи-Манева 2004; Morisson et al. 2006, 205–206, cat. no. 108.

<sup>172</sup> Popović, V. 1978, 610.

<sup>173</sup> Kondić 1984, 179–188; Morisson et al. 2006, 312–313, cat. no. 234.

<sup>174</sup> Minić 1984, 12–15; Morisson et al. 2006, 340–341, cat. no. 261.

<sup>175</sup> Радић 1991, 49–56; Morisson et al. 2006, 333, cat. no. 253.

<sup>176</sup> Gaj-Popović 1973, 25–37; Gaj-Popović 1984, 21–22; Morisson et al. 2006, 334, cat. no. 254.

<sup>177</sup> Gaj-Popović 1984, 18–21; Morisson et al. 2006, 337–338, cat. no. 258.



In addition to the mentioned issues, it is interesting also to cite two imitations, a follis of Justin I (Cat. Nos. 42; Fig. 11.4), and a 10 nummi of Justin I (Cat. Nos. 65; Fig. 11.5). So far, we know of a considerable number of imitations, mostly of folles, from the territory of Illyricum. Thus, in a large bronze coin hoard from Prahovo we registered 27 imitations of folles, three of Anastasius I, 19 of Justin I,<sup>178</sup> and five of Justinian I.<sup>179</sup> Most of these imitations were of the folles belonging to Justin I, which had obviously been counterfeited throughout Illyricum.<sup>180</sup> The imitation of a 10 nummi belonging to Justinian I was of a rather different origin and, according to W. Hahn and M. A. Metlich, was linked to similar issues in Italy.<sup>181</sup>

### Seal

Particularly interesting among the finds from these two fortifications was a lead seal that, according to its general characteristics, like most of the other objects, could be ascribed to the VI century. This seal had an irregularly oval base with a monogram engraved on the front and on the other side there was one-armed cross, flanked on each side of the base by an eight-pointed star. It was with some reservation that we read the monogram on the seal as APTEMIOV (Fig. 11.6). The weight of the seal was 6.59 gr. Monograms with letters arranged in a square block are generally dated to the VI century. Namely, this type of monogram occurred on coins and on control seals on silverware throughout the VI century, and then they were gradually replaced by cruciform monograms. Analogies of the presentation on the reverse, i.e. the cross flanked by eight-pointed stars could, perhaps, suggest a slightly closer chronological determination of our seal. The closest parallel was discovered on the coins of Justinian I (527–565), on the reverse of his denarius from the Rome mint, which had an identical presentation.<sup>182</sup> The presentation on the 10 nummi denomination of the same emperor from the Ravenna mint is also similar but it has four stars instead of two.<sup>183</sup> The finds of VI century seals are infrequent in the territory of Serbia. Most of them, six in all, were found at Caričin Grad and the most interesting among them is the seal of the emperor Maurice.<sup>184</sup> Another imperial seal, belonging to the emperor Justinian I was found in Zvečan, nearby.<sup>185</sup>

\* \* \*

The finds collected from two fortifications, near Čečan and Gornji Streoc indicate the importance of these fortifications in Late Roman times and especially in the

VI century. We know of a large number of fortifications in the territory of present-day Kosovo, in the centre of the province of Dardania but for most of them we have no information about the date of their origin or duration.<sup>186</sup> It is important to say that ancient fortifications were not the objective of specialized exploration. Some of them are mentioned in the work by E. Čerškov, *Rimljani na Kosovu i Metohiji* in which they were identified simply as Roman without a more precise chronological determination.<sup>187</sup> Even less information was available in the Catalogue of the exhibition *Arheološko blago Kosova i Metohije*, where only four Late Roman fortifications were mapped at the sites of Čečan (Dubovac), Gradina (Temeš dol), Prekopište (Stanišor) and Hisar (Kostrc).<sup>188</sup> Bearing in mind that in the neighbouring regions of the province of Dardania, a considerable number of Late Roman fortifications were registered and investigated, we can assume that many fortifications in the Kosovo and Metohija region were used or constructed in the period of the restoration of Illyricum in the first half of the VI century, i.e. in the time of the emperor Justinian I. Numerous Late Roman fortifications were registered in the more or less immediate vicinity of Scupi, in the southern part of Dardania.<sup>189</sup> An identical phenomenon was encountered in the western part of the province, in the vicinity of Arsa,<sup>190</sup> one of the few fortifications on Procopius' list of restored fortifications in Dardania, for which it was possible to give a more accurate geographical position and locate it in the Raška valley.<sup>191</sup>

<sup>178</sup> Two specimens from this hoard are illustrated in the catalogue MIBE – types X9 and X13.

<sup>179</sup> Popović, V. 1984, 58.

<sup>180</sup> Hahn 1976, 85–88; MIBE, 33–34.

<sup>181</sup> MIBE, 72–74.

<sup>182</sup> MIBE 231 dated between the years 533 and 539.

<sup>183</sup> MIBE 237 and 238 dated from 540 to 565.

<sup>184</sup> Кондић, Поповић 1977, Cat. nos. 76–81, pl. XXIII–XXV.

<sup>185</sup> Гај-Поповић 1980, 165–168.

<sup>186</sup> Јовановић 1987, 365–384, presents the most exhaustive list of fortifications in the region of Kosovo and Metohija but, unfortunately without a more precise chronological determination; Новаковић 1984, 99–116.

<sup>187</sup> Čerškov 1969, 32–33.

<sup>188</sup> Фидановски 1998, 258–259, map 1.

<sup>189</sup> Mikulčić 2002, 123–197: fortifications in the vicinity of Skopje and Kumanovo.

<sup>190</sup> Cf. Милинковић 1982, 131–140; Милинковић 1983, 29–37; Поповић, М. 1983, 5–14; Поповић, М. 1984, 11–18; Милинковић 1985, 49–57; Иванишевић 1987, 5–12; Иванишевић 1988, 5–12; Иванишевић 1989, 7–16; Иванишевић 1990, 7–18; Поповић, М. 1999, 73–138.

<sup>191</sup> Evans 1885, 49–55; Popović, M. 1999, 295–296.

Dardania was quite densely populated in the period of Late Antiquity as confirmed by the many fortifications constructed throughout its territory, often in almost inaccessible terrain and on mountain ridges. On the other hand, the province was not very urbanised. Thus, in the list of provinces and towns at the beginning of the VI century, Hierokles mentions three towns in the province of Dardania – Scupi, Merion and Ulpiana.<sup>192</sup> To this list one should add the small town of Iustinopolis, built by the emperor Justinian I, according to Procopius, in the vicinity of the reconstructed Ulpiana and renamed Iustiniana Secunda.<sup>193</sup> Iustinopolis has not been identified so far, nor has Merion.<sup>194</sup>

The reasons for inadequate urbanisation should be sought in the resistance to Hellenisation and the late and deficient process of the province's Romanisation. Towns with Roman organisation were not established till the II century, except the colony of Scupi, which was founded under the Flavians in the I century. In this, the autochthonous population certainly played a significant role, judging by the many villages with Pre-Roman names. And so, the autochthonous population remained for rather a long time, inhabiting considerable areas that had not been reached by urbanisation.<sup>195</sup> State, imperial and private estates were established on the land that was unoccupied. It is necessary to mention that large estates appeared relatively late, not before the III century and the time of the military emperors.<sup>196</sup>

Economic activities determined the internal organisation of the province, which in the first centuries AD were based on mining and agriculture, focusing on the local market and the supply of the troops stationed at the Danube limes.<sup>197</sup> E. Čerškov, a dedicated researcher of the ancient heritage of Kosovo and Metohija, noticed that Roman settlements in eastern Kosovo were established nearby or next to the mines. This author mentions the many fortifications erected near the mines, including Kaljaja near Binič, Gradina near Trpeza, the fortifications near Koprivnica and Ogošt and the Early Byzantine settlement near Mališevo, in the vicinity of Gnjilane.<sup>198</sup> It is hard to tell what the scale was of VI century mining activities without written sources or archaeological data.<sup>199</sup> The find of a solidus belonging to the emperor Leo I (457–474) in the mining gallery near Janjevo, in the immediate vicinity of Ulpiana indicates the exploitation of the mines at the end of the V century.<sup>200</sup> A considerable quantity of iron tools and other objects found at the hill-forts in Čečan and Veliki Streoc indicate a well-developed production in various trades, including iron working. The vast number of different types of keys, we believe, points to the exis-

tence of a locksmith's shop at the Gornji Streoc site. Other finds from Gornji Streoc also indicate the local manufacture of bone and glass items. Examples of this are a semi-finished bone bag clasp without polished edges and surfaces, and the finds of raw materials for glass production.

The many tools for soil cultivation, harvesting and fruit growing attest to agricultural activity. This is certainly in keeping with the region's economy, which focused on the exploitation of the fertile lowlands and valleys. The names of the fortifications in Dardania recorded by Procopius, which derive from the names of the earlier Roman owners Κεσίάνα – *Cassius*, Κελλιριανά – *Celerius*, etc. clearly confirm this process. The toponyms undoubtedly indicate the situation before the VI century and the important role of the private landowners in the economy of the province.<sup>201</sup>

Many enigmas concerning the past of Dardania, particularly in the crucial period of the VI century, could be solved by future systematic field survey and the archaeological exploration of the many fortifications scattered across the broad territory of Kosovo and Metohija and the neighbouring areas. Of no less importance is the investigation of the towns, especially the mining centres, the mines and foundries that have only been identified, but remain beyond the reach of research workers. Only the systematic study of historical sources, epigraphic monuments and archaeological material will contribute to the more exhaustive research of Dardania as the central region of Illyricum.

*Translated by Tamara Rodwell-Jovanović*

<sup>192</sup> Hierokles, *Synekdemos*, 655–656.

<sup>193</sup> Procop., *De aedif.* IV.4: Византиски извори I, 56–57.

<sup>194</sup> Mócsy 1970, 44 and 110: identifies Merion with municipium Dardanorum.

<sup>195</sup> Papazoglu 1988, 162–169, note 95.

<sup>196</sup> Mirković 1996, 57 and 69.

<sup>197</sup> Mirković 1996, 57.

<sup>198</sup> Čerškov 1969, 32–33.

<sup>199</sup> Dušanić 1995, 219–225.

<sup>200</sup> Čerškov 1969, 83, note 75.

<sup>201</sup> Mirković 1996, 69.

## APPENDIX – CATALOGUE OF COINS:

| Emperor             | Mint           | Off. | Denomination  | Weight | Year      | Reference/Type                                  |
|---------------------|----------------|------|---------------|--------|-----------|---|
| 1 Severus Alexander | Colonial issue | –    | Middle bronze | 15,97  | 222/35    | –   |
| 2 Gordian III       | Vim            | –    | Middle bronze | 14,59  | 241/2?    | –   |
| 3 Aurelian          | –              | –    | Antoninian    | 2,51   | 270/5     | Type Iovi conservatori<br>– Jupiter             |
| 4 Probus            | –              | –    | Antoninian    | 3,70   | 276/80    | RIC 365   |
| 5 Licinius I        | Tes            | E    | Ae3           | 4,36   | c. 312    | RIC 49  |
| 6 Uncertain         | –              | –    | Ae2           | 6,65   | 310/5     | –   |
| 7 Constantine I     | –              | –    | Ae3           | 2,65   | 315/20    | Type Iovi conservatori<br>– Jupiter             |
| 8 Uncertain         | –              | –    | Ae3           | 1,91   | 315/20    | Type Iovi<br>conservatori – Jupiter             |
| 9 Uncertain         | –              | –    | Ae3           | 1,90   | 324/30    | Type Providentiae<br>avgg/caess – Camp<br>gate  |
| 10 Constantius II   | Sis            | A    | Ae3           | 2,48   | 330/3     | RIC 221   |
| 11 Uncertain        | –              | –    | Ae3           | 2,63   | 330/6     | Type Gloria exercitvs                           |
| 12 Urbs Roma        | –              | –    | Ae3           | 1,84   | 330/7     | –   |
| 13 Constantinopolis | –              | –    | Ae3           | 2,39   | 330/7     | –   |
| 14 Constantine I    | –              | –    | Ae4           | 1,49   | after 337 | Type Vn–Mr                                      |
| 15 Constans         | –              | –    | Ae4           | 1,10   | 347/8     | Type Vicotriae dd<br>avggq nn                   |
| 16 Constantius II   | Tes            | –    | Ae3           | 1,95   | 350/355   | Type Fel temp<br>reparatio – Fallen<br>horseman |
| 17 Constantius II   | Her            | –    | Ae3           | 1,85   | 355/60    | Type Fel temp<br>reparatio – Fallen<br>horseman |
| 18 Constantius II   | –              | –    | Ae3           | 3,88   | 355/60    | Type Fel temp<br>reparatio – Fallen<br>horseman |
| 19 Constantius II   | –              | –    | Ae3           | 1,92   | 355/60    | Type Fel temp<br>reparatio – Fallen<br>horseman |
| 20 Julian II        | –              | –    | Ae3           | 2,73   | 355/60    | Type Fel temp<br>reparatio – Fallen<br>horseman |
| 21 Valens           | Tes            | –    | Ae3           | 1,80   | 364/78    | Type Gloria<br>romanorum                        |
| 22 Valens           | Tes            | –    | Ae3           | 1,60   | 364/78    | Type Secvritas<br>reipvblicae                   |
| 23 Valens           | Tes?           | –    | Ae3           | 1,25   | 364/78    | Type Gloria<br>romanorum                        |
| 24 Uncertain        | Tes            | Δ    | Ae3           | 2,08   | 364/78    | Type Secvritas<br>reipvblicae                   |
| 25 Anastasius I     | Con            | A    | 40 nummi      | 16,06  | 512/7     | MIBE 27   |
| 26 Anastasius I     | Con            | B    | 40 nummi      | 17,82  | 512/7     | MIBE 27   |

|    |                              |     |   |           |       |         |                     |
|----|------------------------------|-----|---|-----------|-------|---------|---------------------|
| 27 | Anastasius I                 | Con | Γ | 40 nummi  | 15,33 | 512/7   | MIBE 27             |
| 28 | Anastasius I                 | Con | Γ | 40 nummi  | 17,95 | 512/7   | MIBE 27             |
| 29 | Anastasius I                 | Con | Δ | 40 nummi  | 14,59 | 512/7   | MIBE 27             |
| 30 | Anastasius I                 | Con | ? | 40 nummi  | 16,84 | 512/7   | MIBE 27             |
| 31 | Anastasius I                 | Ant | B | 40 nummi  | 15,75 | 517/8   | MIBE 57             |
| 32 | Justin I                     | Con | B | 40 nummi  | 15,67 | 518/22  | MIBE 11             |
| 33 | Justin I                     | Con | B | 40 nummi  | 4,87  | 518/22  | MIBE 11             |
| 34 | Justin I                     | Con | ? | 40 nummi  | 13,08 | 518/22  | MIBE 11             |
| 35 | Justin I                     | Con | A | 40 nummi  | 15,15 | 522/7   | MIBE 12             |
| 36 | Justin I                     | Con | A | 40 nummi  | 16,98 | 522/7   | MIBE 12             |
| 37 | Justin I                     | Con | Δ | 40 nummi  | 17,64 | 522/7   | MIBE 12             |
| 38 | Justin I                     | Con | – | 40 nummi  | 16,34 | 522/7   | MIBE 12             |
| 39 | Justin I                     | Con | – | 40 nummi  | 13,90 | 18/27   | MIBE 11–12          |
| 40 | Justin I                     | Nik | A | 40 nummi  | 16,97 | 518/22  | MIBE 35c            |
| 41 | Justin I                     | –   | – | 40 nummi  | 15,10 | 518/27  | MIBE –              |
| 42 | Justin I – imitative         | Con | E | 40 nummi  | 18,99 |         | MIBE X6X7 var.      |
| 43 | Justinian I                  | Con | E | Solidus   | 4,29  | 542/52  | MIBE 7              |
| 44 | Justinian I                  | Con | – | Tremissis | 1,49  | 527/65  | MIBE 19             |
| 45 | Justinian I                  | Con | – | Tremissis | 1,46  | 527/65  | MIBE 19             |
| 46 | Justinian I                  | Con | Γ | 40 nummi  | 14,25 | 527/37  | MIBE 84             |
| 47 | Justinian I                  | Con | Δ | 40 nummi  | 19,09 | 527/37  | MIBE 84             |
| 48 | Justinian I                  | Con | Δ | 40 nummi  | 16,93 | 527/37  | MIBE 84             |
| 49 | Justinian I                  | Con | – | 40 nummi  | 16,95 | 527/38  | MIBE 84, 83, 88, 85 |
| 50 | Justinian I                  | Con | – | 40 nummi  | 16,00 | 527/37  | MIBE 84, 87         |
| 51 | Justinian I                  | Con | E | 40 nummi  | 15,53 | 527/37  | MIBE 87             |
| 52 | Justinian I                  | Con | E | 40 nummi  | 15,02 | 527/37  | MIBE 87             |
| 53 | Justinian I                  | Con | Γ | 40 nummi  | 16,60 | 527/37  | MIBE V88            |
| 54 | Justinian I                  | Con | Γ | 40 nummi  | 15,31 | 556/7   | MIBE 95a            |
| 55 | Justinian I                  | Con | Δ | 20 nummi  | 9,67  | 541/2   | MIBE 96             |
| 56 | Justinian I                  | Nik | B | 40 nummi  | 17,27 | 527/37  | MIBE 107b           |
| 57 | Justinian I                  | Nik |   | 10 nummi  | 3,24  | 556/7?  | MIBE 118a           |
| 58 | Justinian I                  | Ant | A | 40 nummi  | 18,01 | 551/2   | MIBE 146a           |
| 59 | Justinian I                  | Tes |   | 6 nummi   | 6,24  | 538/52  | MIBE 169b           |
| 60 | Justinian I                  | Tes |   | 16 nummi  | 5,42  | 552/62  | MIBE 169c           |
| 61 | Justinian I                  | Tes |   | 16 nummi  | 5,43  | 538/52  | MIBE 169h?          |
| 62 | Justinian I                  | Tes |   | 16 nummi  | 5,41  | 538/62  | MIBE 169a–j         |
| 63 | Justinian I                  | Tes |   | 20 nummi  | 5,23  | 563/4   | MIBE 180            |
| 64 | Justinian I                  | –   | – | 40 nummi  | 14,56 | 527/38  | MIBE –              |
| 65 | Justinian I – imitative      | Ita |   | 10 nummi  | 1,74  | 556/7   | MIBE –              |
| 66 | Anastasius I – Justinian I   | Con | – | 20 nummi  | 6,37  | 512/538 | MIBE –              |
| 67 | Justin II                    | Tes |   | 20 nummi  | 4,72  | 566/7   | MIB 68b             |
| 68 | Justin II                    | Tes |   | 20 nummi  | 5,18  | 567/8   | MIB 68b             |
| 69 | Justin II                    | Tes |   | 20 nummi  | 5,25  | 568/9   | MIB 68b             |
| 70 | Justin II                    | Tes |   | 20 nummi  | 3,65  | 568/9   | MIB 70a             |
| 71 | Justin II                    | Tes |   | 20 nummi  | 4,23  | 568/9?  | MIB 70a             |
| 72 | Justin II                    | Tes |   | 20 nummi  | 4,46  | 569/70  | MIB 70a             |
| 73 | Justin II                    | Tes |   | 20 nummi  | 4,13  | 569/70  | MIB 70c             |
| 74 | Justin II                    | Tes |   | 20 nummi  | 5,02  | 570/1   | MIB 70c             |
| 75 | Justin II                    | Tes |   | 20 nummi  | 5,17  | 574/5   | MIB 70a             |
| 76 | Justin II                    | Tes |   | 20 nummi  | 5,51  | 568/77  | MIB 70a–f           |
| 77 | Justin II – Maurice Tiberius | Tes |   | 20 nummi  | 4,51  | 568/83  | MIB –               |

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**Резиме:** ВУЈАДИН ИВАНИШЕВИЋ, ПЕРИЦА ШПЕХАР, Археолошки институт, Београд

## КАСНОАНТИЧКИ НАЛАЗИ СА ЧЕЧАНА И ГОРЊИХ СТРЕОЦА (КОСОВО)

Материјална култура касноантичког периода Косова слабо је позната. Тако је у каталогу изложбе »Археолошко благо Косова и Метохије« период од тетрархије до времена Ираклија приказан малим бројем налаза. Посебну празнину у каталогу представља раздобље 6. века, коме је посвећено свега неколико општих редова. Овај рад нема за циљ да допуни ове недостатке већ да, на примеру два локалитета са овог подручја, укаже на значај материјалне културе овог периода на простору Косова, смештеног у срцу некадашње провинције Дарданије.

Треба нагласити да богата прошлост Дарданије није била предмет ширих проучавања. Изостало је систематско рекогносцирање територије и проучавање бројних споменика, посебно градина, које су, најчешће само пописане, без основних података о времену настанка и трајања, величини и изгледу. Један део ових утврђења делимично је истражен, током седамдесетих година 20. века, у оквиру пројекта »Косово у раном средњем веку«, којим је руководио историчар Реља Новаковић. Током ових истраживања прикупљена је археолошка грађа из праисторије, антике и средњег века која потиче са две градине код места Чечан и Горњи Стреоц, недалеко од Вучитрна. Праисторијски и средњовековни налази су публиковани, док је најбогатији фонд предмета из касне антике остао научној јавности непознат.

Локалитет Чечан налази се око 8 km југозападно од Вучитрна, на брду Градина (Каљаја) код села Дубовац, које представља огранак планине Чичавице. Врх брда, чија највиша тачка износи 473 m, представља плато, који је са свих страна, изумимајући северну, окружен стрмим падинама. Повољан стратешки положај запажен је још током старијег гвозденог доба када је подигнуто утврђење које ће трајати, судећи према налазима, и током млађег гвозденог доба. Ново фортификација простора започиње током римског периода када је, према В. Јовановића, подигнуто утврђење – рефугијум, који ће свој пуни значај добити у 4. а посебно у 6. веку. Након дужег прекида простор се поново утврђује у 10. столећу, а Р. Новаковић, који је проучавао ову област, претпоставља да је Градина на Чечану живела и у 14. веку. Локалитет Градина припада низу утврда које се простиру од Чечана преко Космача и Градине код Врбовца до Коровљеве.

Даље на југ, на падинама саме Чичевице, забележено је постојање три градине на Црном Врху, Жиливодама и Горњим Стреоцима. Археолошки најпознатија градина смештена је на југоисточним падинама планине Чичевица, око 7 km северозападно од Обилића и припада атару села Горњи Стреоц. Приликом обиласка терена, забележени су остаци бедема, који обухватају површину од око 250 x 150 корака.

Р. Новаковић је на овом локалитету забележио постојање масивних паралелних зидова који су на појединим трасама подигнути на растојању од само неколико десетина центиметара, док су на другим постављени један уз други. По свему судећи ради се о бедемима из различитих фаза живота утврђења. Близина између бедема и преклапање трасе на појединим деоницама указује на обнову трасе, а не на постојање, како је сам аутор мислио, протехизме – двојног бедема. Утврђењу се приступало преко грена.

Прикупљени налази из два утврђења, код Чечана и Горњих Стреоца, говоре о значају ових фортификација у раздобљу касне антике, а посебно у 6. веку. Дарданија је, судећи према постојању великог броја фортификација, била знатно насељена у раздобљу касне антике о чему сведоче утврде подигнуте широм територије, често и на тешко приступачним теренима и планинским венцима. Са друге стране, провинције је била слабо урбанизована. Разлоге слабе урбанизације треба потражити у отпору према хеленизацији и касном и слабом процесу романизације провинције.

Унутрашња организација провинције била је одређена привредним токовима који су почивали, у првим вековима наше ере на рударству и пољопривреди која је била окренута локалном тржишту и снабдевању трупа стационираних на дунавском лимесу. Знатна количина гвозденог алата и других предмета нађених на градинама у Чечану и Великом Строрцу говори у прилог развијене занатске производње и обраде гвожђа. Велики број нађених кључева различитих врста указује, верујемо, на постојање баварске радионице на локалитету Горњи Стреоц. О постојању занатске обраде кости и стакла сведоче и други налази са локалитета Горњи Стреоц. Поменимо полудовршени коштани затварача торбе, без углачаних ивица и површине, као и налазе сировине стакла.

Пољопривредна делатност је потврђена великим бројем налаза алата за обраду земље, за жетву и за воћарство. Ово је свакако у складу са економиком простора окренутог ка експлоатације плодних равница и удолина. О овом процесу јасно сведоче и називи утврда у Дарданији наведени код Прокопија која носе имена старих римских земљопоседника.

Многе непознанице везане за прошлост провинције Дарданије, посебно у преломном раздобљу 6. века, могу бити разрешене будућим систематским рекогносцирањем и археолошким истраживањима бројних утврђења расутих на широком простору Косова и Метохије и суседних области. Само систематска изучавања историјских извора, епиграфских споменика и археолошке грађе допринеће потпунијем проучавању провинције Дарданије, средишне области Илирика.