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Frontiers.

The Transformation and Christianization of the Roman Empire between Centre and Periphery

ABSTRACTS

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PONTIFICIO ISTITUTO DI ARCHEOLOGIA CRISTIANA

The traces of Early Christianity in Serbia

The research of the traces from the period of Early Christianity on the territory of present-day Serbia has been in progress for over 135 years. The remains of the churches and necropolises in Sirmium, Singidunum, Viminacium, Naissus, Remesiana, Caričin Grad and in the area of metalla Pincensia on Kosmaj were among the first ones to be explored. So far, over ninety early Christian sacral structures have been discovered. The finds from the Early Christianity period, except for the smaller part of the objects belonging to the second half and the end of the 3rd century, originate from the period from the 4th century AD until the collapse of the Roman rule by the end of the 6th and the beginning of the 7th century. The territory of present-day Republic of Serbia during the Roman and Late antiquity period originally belonged to several different provinces. The provinces in this area were located along the important trans-Balkan roads and in certain segments they played a major role in the Late antiquity period (especially mining, agriculture and crafts). The emperors who ruled the Empire from the middle of the 3rd to the second half of the 6th century, and who were born on this territory, undoubtedly played an important role in shaping the architectural landscapes in the areas in which they were born. In the proposed contribution the questions of the degree of christianization, its resistance, as well as the persistence of the old, pagan practices and customs will be examined.







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