

MANJŠA RIMSKA NASELJA NA SLOVENSKEM PROSTORU

MINOR ROMAN SETTLEMENTS IN SLOVENIA

Uredniki / Edited by:
Jana Horvat
Irena Lazar
Andrej Gaspari



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LJUBLJANA 2020

VSEBINA / CONTENTS

Predgovor / Preface (Jana HORVAT, Irena LAZAR, Andrej GASPARI)	7
<i>Fluvio Frigido, Castra</i> – Ajdovščina (Tina ŽERJAL, Vesna TRATNIK)	9
<i>Fluvio Frigido, Castra</i> – Ajdovščina. Raziskave / Investigations 2017–2019 (Maruša UREK, Ana KOVAČIČ)	47
<i>Ad Pirum</i> – Hrušica (Peter KOS)	61
<i>Longaticum</i> – Logatec (Ahac ŠINKOVEC)	77
<i>Nauportus</i> - Vrhnika (Jana HORVAT)	93
Vipava (Vesna TRATNIK)	113
Gradišče nad Knežakom (Boštjan LAHARNAR, Edisa LOZIĆ, Alenka MIŠKEC)	123
Ulaka (Andrej GASPARI)	141
Ig (Lucija GRAHEK, Anja RAGOLIČ)	173
Mengeš (Milan SAGADIN)	187
<i>Carnium</i> – Kranj (Milan SAGADIN)	201
Šmartno pri Cerkljah (Špela TOMAŽINČIČ, Draško JOSIPOVIČ)	213
Blagovica (Ana PLESTENJAK)	231
<i>Atrans</i> – Trojane (Janja ŽELEZNIKAR, Julijana VISOČNIK)	249
Šempeter v Savinjski dolini (Irena LAZAR)	295
<i>Colatio</i> – Stari trg pri Slovenj Gradcu (Saša DJURA JELENKO)	305
Zagrad (Saša DJURA JELENKO)	325
Slovenska Bistrica (Mira STRMČNIK GULIČ)	339
Ančnikovo gradišče (Zvezdana MODRIJAN)	349
<i>Praetorium Latobicorum</i> – Trebnje (Uroš BAVEC)	363
<i>Romula</i> – Ribnica (Irena LAZAR)	387
Primerjalni pregled manjših rimskih naselij / Minor Roman settlements – comparative overview (Jana HORVAT)	403

PREDGOVOR / PREFACE

Monografija je posvečena manjšim rimskim naseljem, ki ležijo na območju današnje Slovenije. Gre za prehodni in geografsko raznolik prostor, na katerega so segale tri velike upravne enote rimske države: Italija ter provinci Norik in Zgornja Panonija.

Strnjena naselja, ki jih predstavljamo, so po velikosti in pomenu vmesni člen med avtonomnimi mesti in razpršeno poselitvijo podeželja, katere osnova so bile vile rustike. V zadnjih desetletjih je arheologija z velikimi zaščitnimi izkopavanji pridobila obsežne in pomembne nove podatke o tovrstnih naseljih, ki pa do zdaj večinoma še niso bili poglobljeno analizirani in objavljeni. Potreba po zbranem vedenju se je npr. izrazito pokazala v sodelovanju z mednarodno skupino *Adriaticum mare* pri projektu Informatiziranega atlasa antičnega Jadrana (*AdriAtlas*). Tri ustanove, Inštitut za arheologijo Znanstvenoraziskovalnega centra Slovenske akademije znanosti in umetnosti, Inštitut za arheologijo in dediščino Fakultete za humanistične študije Univerze na Primorskem ter Oddelek za arheologijo Filozofske fakultete Univerze v Ljubljani, so leta 2015 dale pobudo, da bi vedenje o manjših naseljih zbrali, ustrezno ovrednotili in dvignili na višjo raven.

Delo je dozorelo v štirih letih. Šestindvajset avtorjev prihaja iz različnih ustanov, od univerz, raziskovalnih inštitutov in muzejev do Zavoda za varstvo kulturne dediščine Slovenije, ali pa gre za posameznike, ki delujejo kot samostojni raziskovalci. V samostojnih poglavjih predstavljajo dvajset naselij različnega tipa in stopnje raziskanosti. Avtorji so najboljši poznavalci oziroma aktivni raziskovalci najdišč, ki jih obravnavajo. Prav za potrebe monografije so se poglobili v primarno dokumentacijo novejših raziskav in poročila, v drobno gradivo in razpršene starejše objave. Zgoščene predstavitve naselij bolj ali manj sledijo skupnemu konceptu. Podatki so umeščeni v prostor, podprti s kartami in načrti, vsebinsko primerljivi in jasno ovrednoteni. Vsako poglavje vsebuje podatke o legi naselja in njegovem antičnem imenu, kratko zgodovino raziskav, morebitno obljudenost lokacije v prazgodovini, predstavitev antičnih literarnih virov in epigrafskih spomenikov. Osrednji del je usmerjen v pregled arheoloških ostankov rimske

The book discusses the minor settlements that dotted the territory of present-day Slovenia in the Roman period. This geographically diverse territory was crossed by important lines of communication and divided between three large administrative units of the Roman state: Italy and the provinces of Noricum and Upper Pannonia.

The compact minor settlements represent a link, in both size and significance, between the autonomous towns and the dispersed settlement of the countryside with countryside villas as its backbone. In recent decades, the large-scale rescue excavations across Slovenia have yielded vast and important data on these minor settlements, though they have for the most part not yet been analysed in detail and published. Clearly, there is a great desire for the information these excavations brought to light, but the consequent knowledge became even more desirable during the collaboration with the international *Adriaticum Mare* group on the *AdriAtlas* or *Computerised Atlas of the Antique Adriatic* project. In 2015, three institutions in Slovenia (Institute of Archaeology ZRC SAZU; Institute for Archaeology and Heritage, Faculty of Humanities, University of Primorska; Department of Archaeology, Faculty of Arts, University of Ljubljana) came together with the shared goal of advancing our knowledge on the minor Roman settlements in Slovenia by appropriately analysing and evaluating the data, new and old.

The book is the result of four years of work and research. Twenty-six authors wrote contributions on individual settlements. They come from different institutions – both universities, research institutes, museums, the Institute for the Protection of Cultural Heritage of Slovenia – and from the ranks of independent researchers, and present twenty settlements of different types and degrees of investigation in separate chapters. The authors are either those with the most in-depth knowledge on a specific site or those who actively investigated it. For the purposes of this book, they examined the excavation records and reports, the recovered small finds and different earlier publications, and presented their results in a comprehensive and clear manner roughly following

dobe: v topografijo, infrastrukturo, stavbe, grobišča in premične ostanke posebnega pomena. Sledijo podatki o statusu naselja, o družbenem položaju posameznih prebivalcev, njihovih administrativnih ali vojaških funkcijah, poklicih in etnični pripadnosti. Poglavje zaokroža oris zgodovinskega razvoja naselja.

Želimo si, da bi delo omogočilo primerjave med posameznimi naselji, da se bodo razjasnila nekatera vprašanja o njihovem gospodarskem in družbenem pomenu ter o njihovi vlogi v poselitveni sliki širšega prostora med Jadranom in Donavo. Predvsem pa si želimo, da bi spodbudilo nove analize in objave gradiva ter bilo z njimi kmalu preseženo.

Radi bi se zahvalili mnogim. Najprej Francisu Tassauxu iz Bordeauxa, duši združenja Adriaticum mare, za prijazno spodbudo. Poleg obeh glavnih recenzentov, Janeza Dularja in Ivana Šprajca, so h kakovosti posameznih besedil mnogo pripomogli številni kolegi, s katerimi so se posvetovali avtorji ali uredniki. Mateja Belak, Andreja Dolenc Vičič, Dragotin Valoh in Tamara Korošec (vsi ZRC SAZU – Inštitut za arheologijo) so poskrbeli za enotno podobo knjige. Prevodi v angleščino so delo Mete Osredkar, Andreje Maver, Gregorja Pobežina in Lucije Jelenko.

Jana Horvat, Irena Lazar, Andrej Gaspari

a common concept. The information they obtained is located in space, illustrated with maps and plans, clearly conveyed and properly evaluated. The presentation of each settlement opens with its location and name in Antiquity, possible habitation traces from prehistory, mentions in ancient literary texts and documents, and recovered epigraphic evidence. The next, main part offers an overview of the archaeological remains from the Roman period: topography, infrastructure, buildings, cemeteries and portable remains of particular significance. This is followed by the information on the status of a settlement, social standing of its inhabitants, their administrative or military functions, as well as professional or ethnical background. All is brought together in an outline of the historical development of each settlement.

It is our wish and aim that the information in this book enables and incites comparisons between individual sites in order to shed light on certain issues pertaining to their economic and social role in the settlement of the wider area between the Adriatic and the Danube. Even more importantly, it is our wish that the book would serve as a stepping stone for further research and better knowledge on the subject.

The book is a result of a concerted effort of authors and numerous other individuals. First of all, our thanks go to Francis Tassaux from Bordeaux, the soul of the Adriaticum Mare Association, for his kind incentive. In addition to the two main peer reviewers, Janez Dular and Ivan Šprajc, numerous colleagues shared their knowledge and offered professional advice to both the authors and the editors. Mateja Belak, Andreja Dolenc Vičič, Dragotin Valoh and Tamara Korošec (all ZRC SAZU – Institute of Archaeology) made sure that the book of numerous contributions functions as a whole. Meta Osredkar, Andreja Maver, Gregor Pobežin and Lucija Jelenko translated the contributions into English.

Jana Horvat, Irena Lazar, Andrej Gaspari

BLAGOVICA

Ana PLESTENJAK



Izleček

Članek obravnava ostanke antične naselbine z grobiščem, postavljene ob vznožje severnega pobočja doline Črni graben, na vzhodnem delu današnje Blagovice. Naselbino z velikopotezno zasnovno so najkasneje v 1. st. n. št. postavili Rimljani. Vzdrževali so jo vsaj do sredine 4. st. n. št. Zaradi plazovitosti terena so bile stavbe večkrat obnovljene in celo popolnoma na novo postavljene, a vselej upoštevajoč prvotno urbanistično zasnovno. V 2. st. je na vzhodnem delu nastalo tudi pripadajoče grobišče.

Avtorica predpostavlja, da gre za ostanke rimske poštne postaje. Na osnovi več indicev jo povezuje s postajo *Ad publicanos*, ki jo omenja Tabula Peutingeriana.

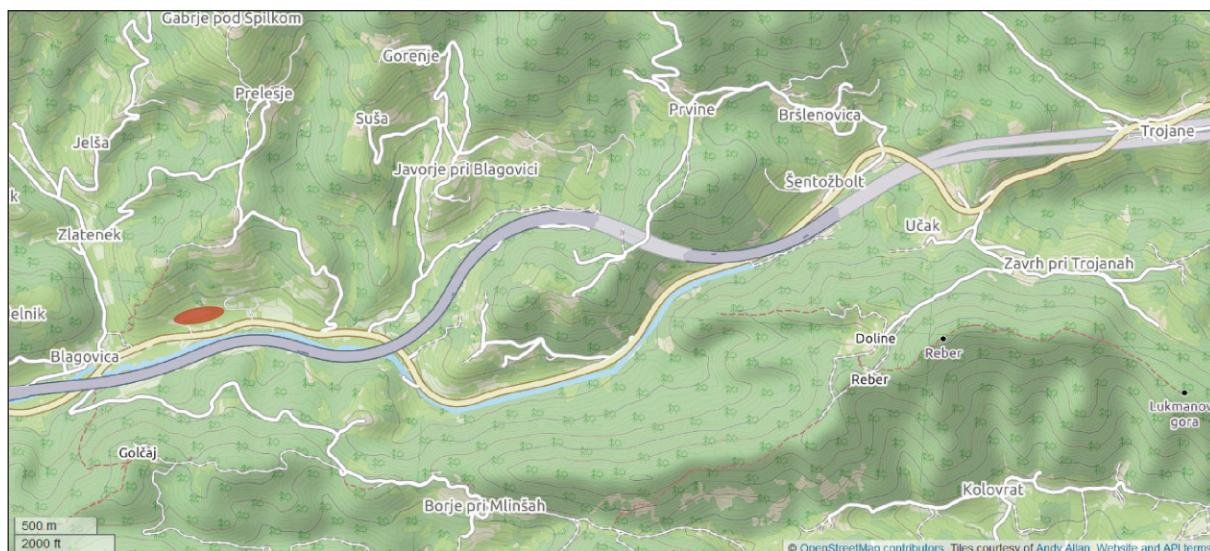
Ključne besede: Italija (10. regija), Blagovica, *Ad Publicanos*, rimska doba, naselbina, poštna postaja, grobišče

Abstract

This paper addresses the remains of a Roman settlement with a burial ground located at the foot of the northern slope of the Črni graben valley in the eastern part of today's Blagovica. The settlement with various types of large edifices was built no later than the 1st century AD; it remained in use at least until the mid-4th century AD. Since the terrain was prone to landslides, the buildings had to be repeatedly renovated or even wholly rebuilt, each time according to the original urban design. The cemetery was established in the 2nd century at the eastern side of the settlement.

It is assumed that the settlement is the remnants of the Roman postal station. Based on several indications, it might be the *Ad publicanos* station, mentioned by the Tabula Peutingeriana.

Keywords: Italy (Regio X), Blagovica, *Ad Publicanos*, Roman period, settlement, postal station, cemetery



Sl. 1: Blagovica. Lokacija rimske naselbine na topografski karti. M. = 1:50.000.

Fig. 1: Blagovica. The location of the Roman settlement on the topographic map. Scale 1:50,000.

(Vir / Source: <https://www.openstreetmap.org/#map=14/46.1853/14.8624&layers=CN>)

LEGA

Antična naselbina je ležala vzhodno od središča današnje vasi Blagovica in severno od današnje ceste proti Trojanam (sl. 1). Tu ob vznožju severnega pobočja doline Črni graben leži aluvialen vršaj (sl. 2; 3). Prepoznamo ga kot ozek pas pretežno izravnane zemljišča, ki je blago dvignjeno nad dnem doline in rahlo pada proti jugu, jugozahodu in jugovzhodu, torej proti reki Radomlji. Ta poplavna reka je v osnovi oblikovala dolino in na njenem dnu še danes odlaga svoje nanose. Podlaga, na kateri leži najdišče, je torej aluvialnega izvora. Ker pa je pobočje nad njim zelo vodonosno in že ob manjšem deževju nastajajo številni manjši vodotoki, ki tečejo po hribu ter spirajo zemlino, je na samo najdišče v preteklosti plazilo tudi več sedimentov s pobočja.

ZGODOVINA RAZISKAV

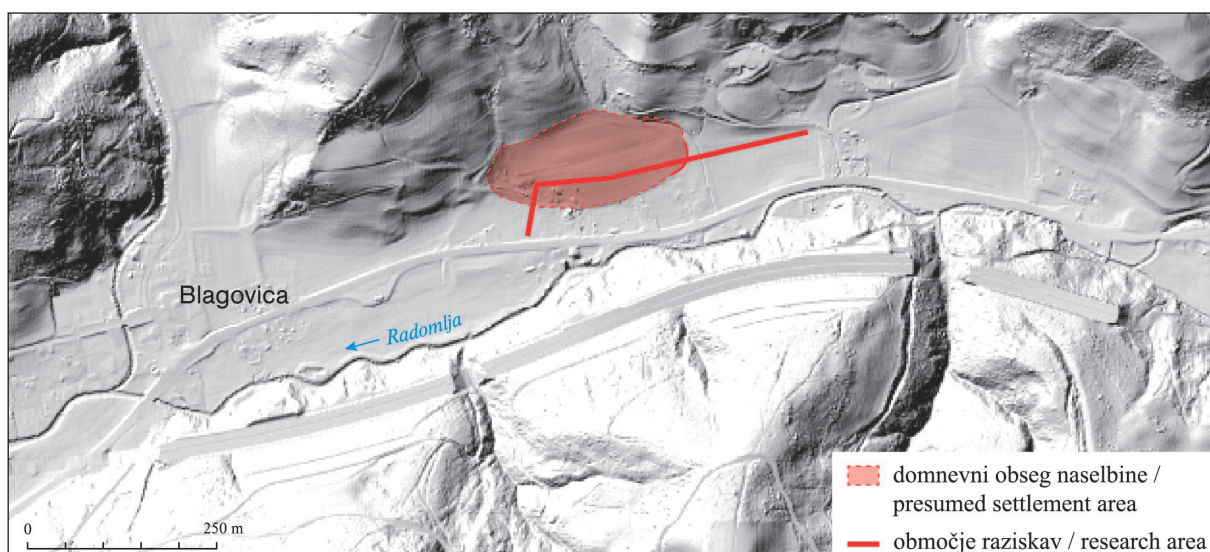
Že od leta 1879 se omenjajo najdbe rimskih grobov, kamnitih blokov in posameznih najdb na ledini, poimenovani Ajdovski ali Poganski britof (Stražar 1985, 75–83 s starejšo literaturo). Najdišče je bilo prvič raziskovano leta 1977, ko so ob gradnji plinovoda naleteli na arheološke ostanke in jih pripisali rimskodobnemu grobišču (Sagadin 1977; Zupančič 1979). Najdena sta bila dva večja postamenta, ki so ju pripisali grobnicama, več zidov in njihovih ruševin ter šest poznoantičnih skeletnih grobov. Sagadin (1977) navaja, da je grobišče tudi zgodnjesevredneješko (slovansko).

POSITION

The ancient settlement lay east of the centre of today's village of Blagovica and north of today's road towards Trojanam (Fig. 1). Here, at the foot of the northern slope of the Črni graben valley, lies an alluvial fan (Figs. 2; 3), recognizable as a narrow belt of predominantly levelled land, which is slightly raised above the bottom of the valley and slightly slanting to the south, south-west and south-east, i.e., towards the Radomlja River, which, with its flooding regime, basically shaped the valley, still laying its deposits on its bottom. The foundation on which the site lies is thus of alluvial origin; however, since the slope above it is very aquiferous, meaning that even small precipitation sets off several smaller watercourses, which wash off the soil running down the slopes. Several sediments from the slopes were deposited over the site in the past.

RESEARCH HISTORY

The earliest references to the discovery of Roman graves, stone blocks, and individual finds in the fallow called Ajdovski britof or Poganski britof date to as early as 1879 (Stražar 1985, 75–83 with earlier references). The site was first investigated in 1977, when the construction of a gas pipeline revealed archaeological remains attributed to the Roman cemetery (Sagadin 1977; Zupančič 1979). Two large pedestals were found and attributed to the tombs, several walls and ruins thereof, and six late Roman



Sl. 2: Blagovica. Lokacija rimske naselbine na lidarskem posnetku. M. = 1:10.000.
 Fig. 2: Blagovica. The location of the Roman settlement on lidar. Scale 1:10,000.
 (Vir / Source: http://gis.arso.gov.si/evode/profile.aspx?id=atlas_voda_Lidar@Arso)



Sl. 3: Blagovica. Pogled na izkopavanja leta 2013 proti severovzhodu. (Foto: Jašar Skorupan)
 Fig. 3: Blagovica. The view of excavations in 2013 towards northeast. (Photo: Jašar Skorupan)

Resnični pomen najdišča je bil ugotovljen šele l. 2013 ob gradnji druge cevi plinovoda, ki je tekla severno od prve cevi. Izsledki teh raziskav so pokazali, da je na ravnici pod severnim pobočjem doline Črni graben ležala rimskodobna naselbina z grobiščem (Plestenjak et al. 2014).

NASELBINA

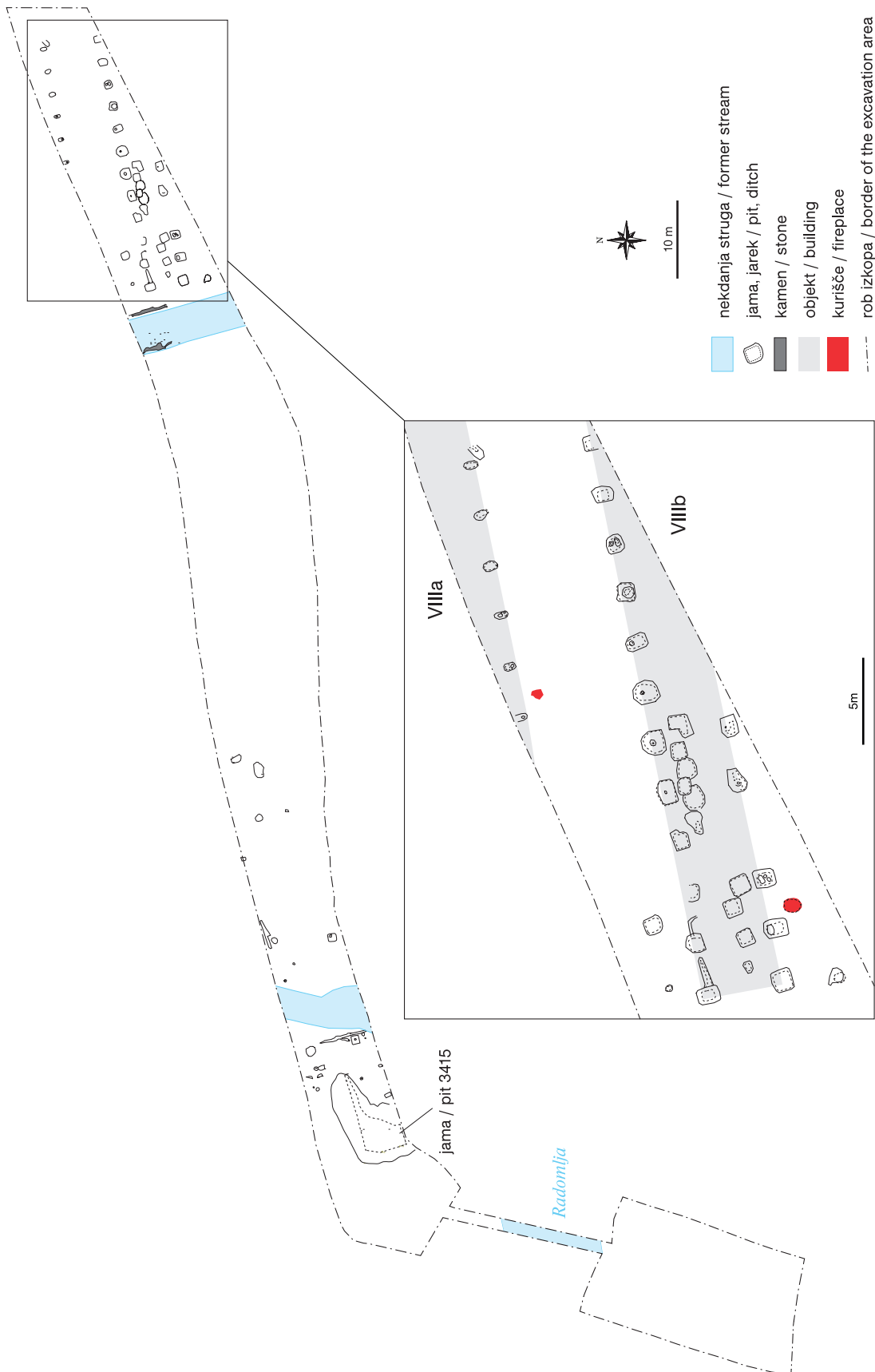
Obseg naselbine pri Blagovici ni natančno določen. Raziskan je bil le 15 m širok pas v dolžini 300 m, kar ponuja omejen vpogled v najdišče (sl. 2). Znan in zame-

inhumation graves. According to Sagadin, the cemetery is also of early medieval (Slavic) origin (Sagadin 1977).

The real significance of the site was only realised in 2013 during the construction of the second gas pipeline running north of the first one. The results of this investigation showed that on the plain below the northern slopes of the Črni graben valley there was a Roman settlement with a cemetery (Plestenjak et al. 2014).

SETTLEMENT

The whole settlement area cannot be precisely specified; only the 15 m wide zone was explored in the length of 300 m, which provides limited insight into the site (Fig. 2). Only the eastern edge of the settlement is well-known. In the northern part, the settlement probably bordered on the slope of the valley, while it possibly bordered the Radomlja River to the south, which used to flow further to the northern side of the valley than today. It is not known how far the settlement extended towards the west. It was presumably confined to the alluvial fan, other areas being less suitable for settlement. It can be surmised from the findings that the settlement was founded by the Romans no later than the 1st century AD. As early as the first phase, the basic layout of the settlement was put into place and remained unaltered until its abandonment in the 4th century. Its main feature was a series of large buildings, their longer sides facing north and south. This orientation changed only slightly over time, indicating their probable position along the road running on the east–west direc-



Sl. 4: Blagovica. Tloris prve faze poselitve.
 Fig. 4: Blagovica. Ground plan of settlement Phase 1.

jen je le vzhodni rob naselja. Na severnem delu je bila verjetno meja pobočje doline, na južnem delu pa reka Radomlja, ki je nekdanj tekla bolj po severni strani doline kot danes (med izkopavanji je bila domnevna nekdanja struga odkrita le nekaj metrov južno od stavb; prim. *sl. 4; 6; 8; 12*). Kako daleč je poselitev segala proti zahodu, ni znano. Domnevno je bila naselbina vezana na aluvialni vršaj, saj so bili ostali predeli za poselitev manj primerni.

Izsledki kažejo, da so naselbino najkasneje v 1. st. n. št. zasnovali Rimljani. Že v prvi fazi poselitve je bila načrtovana osnovna stavbna zasnova, ki jo je naselbina ohranjala vse do opustitve v 4. st. Glavna značilnost so velike stavbe, ki so se nizale druga ob drugi. Z daljšima stranicama so bile obrnjene proti severu oz. jugu. Ta usmeritev se je skozi čas le minimalno spreminjala, kar nakazuje lego ob cestni povezavi, usmerjeni vzhod–zahod. Cesta ni bila odkrita, vendar domnevamo, da je ležala severno od raziskanega območja.

Kljub ohranjanju osnovne zasnove se je naselbina skozi čas nenehno spreminjala. Glavni vzrok za to so naravni procesi. Zaradi velike vodonosnosti pobočja nad najdiščem ob večjem deževju nastajajo hudourniki, ki so si (do regulacije v sedemdesetih letih 20. stoletja) pot v dolino utirali po površju in s seboj prenašali material. Prvi poskusi regulacije so bili izvedeni že takoj ob rimski naselitvi območja, ko so naravna korita skušali zamejiti z zidci (*sl. 4; 8; 12*). Vendar pa pri tem niso bili najuspešnejši. Struge so se nenehno premikale.

Prebivalcem so preglavice povzročala tudi pogosta plazenja zemljine s pobočja. Nekateri zdrsi so tako močno poškodovali objekte, da so se ti podrli. Zato je naselbina doživela številne pozidave in prezidave, večkrat pa tudi celovite prenovne. Ob tem so graditelji preizkušali tudi različne tehnike gradnje, s katerimi so bolj ali manj učinkovito kljubovali naravnim procesom.

Prav te razmere, ki so bile za prebivalce izrazito neugodne, so omogočile stratigrafsko lepo berljiv arheološki zapis. Na podlagi odlaganja plazin smo dogajanje lahko umestili v 4 glavne kronološke faze, ki jih lahko le okvirno časovno opredelimo, saj so se zaradi plazenja starejše najdbe mešale z mlajšimi.

FAZA 1

Najstarejši ostanki so vezani na zahodni del raziskanega območja (*sl. 4*). Tu so bili najdeni številni jarki in jame, ki jim težko pripisujemo funkcijo. Izpostaviti velja le večjo naravno jamo (SE 3415 = 3432), globoko 1,2 m, ki je bila popolnoma z ostanki kurjenja (plasti bogate z ogljem in ožgano zemljo). Ti ostanki nakazujejo, da so v bližini delovale peči ali podobni objekti. V spodnjih polnih ni bilo najdb. Radiokarbonska analiza oglja enega izmed njih je pokazala datacijo 2045 ± 30 BP,¹

¹ Poz-63337, 95 cal. BC – 2 cal. AD (kalibrirana starost 1- δ : (68,2% ver.) oziroma 165 cal. BC – 24 cal. AD (kalibri-

tion. The road was not discovered, but it is supposed it lay north of the explored area.

Despite its unaltered *basic* outline, the settlement has undergone constant change, mainly due to natural processes. Because of the aquiferous nature of the slopes above the site, torrents are regular during heavy rainfall; prior to the amelioration projects in the 20th century, they deposited debris in the valley below. The first attempts at amelioration were conducted in the Roman period when walls were installed in order to block the waterways but to no avail (cf. *Figs.: 4; 6; 8; 12*): the troughs were constantly moving.

Frequent landslides were another concern. Sometimes they damaged the houses so severely they collapsed; this is why the settlement underwent several restorations, which could be quite extensive. During these restoration projects, new construction techniques were employed in order to hinder the detrimental natural processes.

It was precisely these unfavourable conditions that created a neat, archaeologically readable stratigraphy. Based on landslide deposits, the events could be divided into four major chronological phases, which division is only very approximate, since the earlier layers tended to mix with the later ones due to constant landslides.

PHASE 1

The earliest remains are confined to the western part of the investigated area (*Fig. 4*), where several ditches and pits were found. Their function is difficult to ascertain, with the exception of the large natural pit (SE 3415=3432) 1.2 m deep, which was filled with burning residues (layers rich in charcoal and burnt soil). The latter indicates the close vicinity of furnaces or similar objects. There were no finds in the lower fills. Radiocarbon analysis of the charcoal from one of these fills yielded the dating of 2045 ± 30 BP,¹ which, calibrated, places the origin of charcoal between the mid- 2nd century BC and the first quarter of the 1st century AD.

In the layer above this fill, a fragment of the Dresel 6B type amphora was discovered (appearing between the second half of the 1st century BC and the end of the 1st century AD (Bezczky 1998, 6–10; Carre, Pesavento Mattioli 2003, 461–463)), based on which the earliest traces of settlement in Blagovica can be dated no later than the first half of the 1st century AD, possibly even the end of the 1st century BC.

At the same time, two large, parallel adjacent wooden Buildings VIIIa and VIIIb were erected (7.3 m apart) in the eastern part of the settlement. They were over 30 m long (*Fig. 5*). Building VIIIb was 5 m wide, while the width of Building VIIIa was not determined.

¹ Poz-63337, 95 cal. BC – 2 cal. AD (calibrated age 1- δ : (68.2% ver.) or 165 cal. BC – 24 cal. AD (calibrated age 2- δ (95.4% ver.))



Sl. 5: Blagovica. Prva faza, objekt VIIIb, pogled proti severozahodu.

Fig. 5: Blagovica. Phase 1, Building VIIIb, view towards northeast.

(Foto / Photo: Maja Korošec)

kar ob kalibraciji nastanek oglja uvršča med sredino 2. st. pr. n. št. do prve četrtine 1. st. n. št.

V plasti, ki je ležala nad tem polnilom, je bil odkrit odlomek amfore tipa Dressel 6B, kakršne se pojavljajo od druge polovice 1. st. pr. n. št. do konca 1. st. n. št. (Bezeczky 1998, 6–10; Carre, Pesavento Mattioli 2003, 461–463). Na podlagi slednjega začetke poselitve na Blagovici umeščamo najkasneje v prvo polovico 1. st. n. št., morda pa že v konec 1. st. pr. n. št.

Sočasno sta bila na vzhodnem delu naselja postavljena dva velika lesena objekta VIIIa in VIIIb, ki sta ležala vzporedno, drug ob drugem (razdalja med njima je znašala 7,3 m). Dolga sta bila več kot 30 m (sl. 5). Širina objekta VIIIb je znašala 5 m, širine objekta VIIIa pa ne poznamo. Nosilno konstrukcijo obeh so sestavljali vertikalni tramovi, zabiti v zemljo (razdalja med njimi pribl. 3 m). Zaradi pomanjkanja najdb ni jasno, čemu sta objekta služila. Lahko le domnevamo, da gre za gospodarska objekta – hlev, skladišče ipd.

Velikost objektov in močni temelji kažejo, da poselitev že od začetka ni bila prepuščena naključnemu razvoju, temveč lahko že vse od njenega začetka govorimo o načrtni obsežni izgradnji naselja, ki je potrebovalo objekte velikih dimenzij. Prav tako že v 1. fazi lahko govorimo o funkcionalni razdelitvi naselbine. Na zahodnem delu so prepoznani znaki obrtnih dejavnosti, na vzhodnem delu pa so verjetno hlevi oz. skladišča.

FAZA 2

Enaka funkcionalna delitev je značilna tudi za drugo fazo gradnje. Na vzhodnem delu je v tem času objekta VIIIa in VIIIb nadomestil objekt IX (sl. 6; 7). Tudi v tem primeru gre za veliko, več kot 30 m dolgo in vsaj 8 m široko leseno stavbo. Zanj so uporabili drugačno tehniko gradnje. Stavba je bila zgrajena iz kombinacije horizontalnih tramov, položenih v vnaprej izkopane järke, in vertikalnih tramov, zabitih v tla, med katere so bile vpete stene. Stavbo je obdajal portik. V notranjosti je bila razdeljena na manjše prostore (4,5–3,5 m × 3,3 m). Zaradi tega je najverjetnejša domneva, da je stavba rana starost 2-8 (95,4 % ver.).

The supporting construction of both buildings was made up of vertical posts, driven into the ground (set approx. 3 m apart). Due to the lack of finds, it is not clear what the purpose of these two buildings was. We can only assume they were commercial-related constructions, such as stables, warehouses, etc.

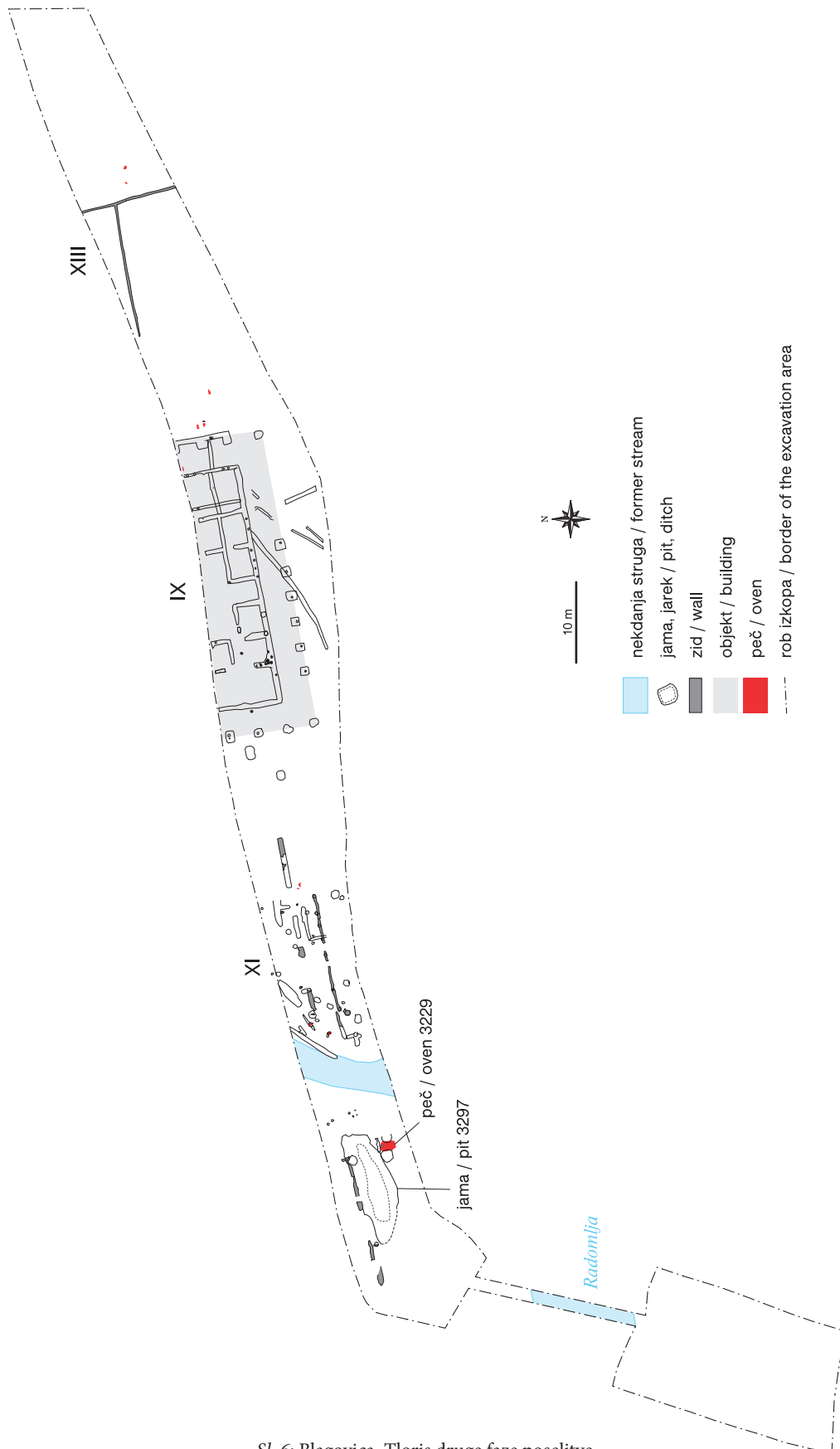
The size of the buildings and the strong foundations indicate that the development of the settlement was carefully planned from the very beginning and that this was a large-scale building project. It is also safe to say that the settlement had a utilitarian ground plan established in Phase 1, according to which crafts were concentrated in the western part of the settlement, while the stables and warehouses were located to the east.

PHASE 2

The same functional division was still in place during the second construction phase. In the eastern part of the settlement, the Buildings VIIIa and VIIIb were replaced by Building IX (Figs. 6; 7), a large, over 30 m long and 8 m wide wooden construction. In this case, a different construction technique was employed, using a combination of wooden beams horizontally placed into pre-dug ditches and vertical posts driven into the ground, between which walls were constructed. The building was surrounded by a portico. It was divided into smaller rooms (4.5–3.5 m x 3.3 m). For this reason, the most likely assumption is that the building served as a warehouse. Unfortunately, the in situ finds were scarce.

At the same time, a small furnace (SE 3229) was constructed in the western part of the site (near the filled earlier pit 3415). Next to it, a large pit was excavated (SE 3297) alongside several smaller waste pits. It was filled (like the pit SE 3415 from Phase 1) with several sediments containing fire residues. Judging by such a large amount of waste, it is safe to assume that there were several furnaces located nearby.

During Phase 2, stone was first used as a building material. Pebbles and quarry stones were used for foundations (wall above the furnace, Building XI, Building XIII). In some parts, impressions of wooden posts were



Sl. 6: Blagovica. Tloris druge faze poselitve.
Fig. 6: Blagovica. Ground plan of settlement Phase 2.



Sl. 7: Blagovica. Druga faza, objekt IX, pogled proti severu.
 Fig. 7: Blagovica. Phase 2, Building IX, view towards north
 (Foto / Photo: Maja Korošec)

služila kot skladišče. Žal pa so bile tudi v tem objektu najdbe *in situ* redke.

Sočasno je bila na zahodnem delu najdišča (ob v tej fazi že zasuti starejši jami 3415) postavljena manjša peč (SE 3229). Ob njej je bila poleg več manjših odpadnih jam izkopana tudi večja jama (SE 3297). Ta je bila (prav tako kot jama 3415 iz 1. faze) zapolnjena z več sedimenti, ki so vsebovali ostanke kurjenja. Sodeč po tako veliki količini odpada domnevamo, da je bilo v bližini še več peči.

V 2. fazi se je kot gradbeni material prvič pojavil tudi kamen. Oblice in lomljenci so bili uporabljeni za temelje zidov (zidec nad pečjo, objekt XI, objekt XIII). Na nekaterih delih so bili na dnu jarkov za temelje najdeni odtisi kolov. To kaže, da so bili objekti še vedno leseni, vendar pa so imeli kamnite temelje. Zaradi slabe ohranjenosti teh ostalin je težko reči, ali gre za ostanke stavb. Morda v njih lahko prepoznamo ostanke urejanja s škarpami in palisadami.

Najdbe te faze so podobne najdbam prve faze. Večinoma izhajajo iz plazin in jih je težko ozko časovno zamejiti. Zato predvidevamo, da je druga faza prvi sledila zelo kmalu. Fazo 2 tako okvirno umeščamo v čas sredine oz. druge polovice 1. st. n. št., morda še v čas začetka 2. stoletja.

FAZA 3

Ob koncu 1. oz. na začetku 2. st. n. št. je večji plaz zasul osrednji del najdišča in uničil vse lesene objekte. Po tem dogodku je naselbina doživela celovito prenovo in tudi funkcionalne spremembe. Ostanki ruševin lesenih objektov so bili skrbno odstranjeni, predel pa izravnal s 30 cm debelim nasutjem in ponovno pozidan. Nekoliko se je spremenila tudi funkcionalna delitev prostora (sl. 8).

Na vzhodnem delu je bila že leta 1977 najdena pravokotna jama, velika $3,7 \times 3 \times 1$ m, zasuta s kamni. Interpretirali so jo kot postament za grobnico (Zupančič 1979, 279–281; Stražar 1985, 82). Ta ob gradnji

found on the bottom of foundations' ditches, indicating that buildings were wooden, but with stone foundations. Due to the poor state of these remains, it is difficult to say whether they belong to previous buildings; perhaps they can be seen as traces of scarps and palisades.

The finds from this phase are similar to the finds from Phase 1. They were mostly located in landslide deposits and are therefore difficult to date, which makes it possible to assume that Phase 2 closely followed Phase 1. Phase 2 can thus be dated to the mid-1st or the second half of the 1st century AD, possibly even the early 2nd century AD.

PHASE 3

By the end of the 1st century or the beginning of the 2nd century AD, a major landslide struck the central part of the settlement, ruining all wooden structures. After this, the settlement underwent major reconstruction as well as functional change. The remains of wooden structures were thoroughly removed; the central area was levelled with a 30 cm thick layer of gravel and then rebuilt. The functional division also changed (Fig. 8).

In the eastern part, a rectangular pit was found in 1977, measuring $3.7 \times 3 \times 1$ m. Filled with stones, it was interpreted as a pedestal of a burial chamber (Zupančič 1979, 279–281; Stražar 1985, 82). It was not removed during the construction of the gas pipeline, which allowed re-documenting in the time of new surveys. During the clearing of the surrounding area, traces of burnt material were found around the pedestal, in which several plates with red-slip were found that appeared between the 1st and 4th century (Plesničar-Gec 1972, 55, Pl. 33. 2; Plesničar-Gec 1977, 54–56, Pl. 7; Krajšek, Stergar 2008, 252).

During Phase 3, the riverbed ran west of the pedestal, next to which Building I was constructed. It was 29 m long and 14 m wide and had stone foundations. In the northern part, a portion of a stone wall was preserved on the foundations. On the SE corner, a rectangular stone extension was uncovered in 1977 (Fig. 8), which was



Sl. 9: Blagovica. Tretja faza. Steklene posode iz groba 1.

Fig. 9: Blagovica. Phase 3. Glass vessels from Grave 1.

(Foto / Photo: Jašar Skorupan)

plinovoda ni bil odstranjen, kar je omogočilo ponovno dokumentiranje ob novih raziskavah. Ob čiščenju okolice so bile ob postamentu najdene sledi žganine, v kateri je ležalo več krožnikov z rdečim premazom, ki se pojavljajo od 1. st. do 4. st. (Plesničar-Gec 1972, 55, t. 33: 2; Plesničar-Gec 1977, 54–56, t. 7; Krajšek, Stergar 2008, 252).

Zahodno od postamenta je v 3. fazi poselitve tekla struga. Tik ob njo so postavili t. i. objekt I. To je bil 29 m dolg in 14 m širok prostor s kamnitimi temelji. Na severnem delu se je na temeljih ohranil tudi del kamnitega zidu. Ob JV vogalu so l. 1977 našli pravokotno kamnito razširitev (sl. 8), ki so jo interpretirali kot še en postament za grobnico (Zupančič 1979, 279–281; Stražar 1985, 82). Razlog za to interpretacijo je bila podobnost s prvim postamentom in to, da je bilo v mlajših ruševinskih plasteh tega objekta najdenih nekaj poznorimskih oz. zgodnjerednjeveških skeletnih grobov. Na podlagi tega bi lahko domnevali, da objekt I predstavlja mejo grobne parcele. Vendar pa v notranjosti objekta z novimi izkopavanji do 4. faze ni bilo odkritih nobenih pokopov ali morebitnih drugih posegov. Z izjemo dveh manjših kurišč je bil prostor povsem prazen. Tudi tlak ni bil najden. Zato teze o grobni parceli ne moremo potrditi.

Le 7 m zahodno od objekta I je ležal še en večji objekt – objekt III. Na predelu med obema objektoma je bilo tik pod ornico najdenih več pravokotnih jam, ki so bile večinoma zasute s kamni. V nekaterih so bili najdeni odlomki lončenine in stekla, v dveh tudi izjemno redki drobcji ožganih kosti. Na dnu ene izmed jam je bil najden maltni tlak, stene pa so bile obzidane. V ruševini je ležalo več fragmentov keramičnih posod, 9 steklenih skodelic, dva steklena krožnika, steklen lonec, ki bi lahko služil kot žara, ter dva steklena balsamarija (sl. 9). Skodelice

interpretirane kot drugi grobni postament (Zupančič 1979, 279–281; Stražar 1985, 82). This explanation was based on the similarity to the first pedestal and the fact that several late Roman and early medieval inhumation graves were found in destruction layers of this construction. There is reason to believe that Building I represented the boundary of a grave plot. However, new excavations of Phase 4 yielded no burials or other interventions in the interior of Building I; with the exception of two small fireplaces, the room was empty and was not even paved. That is why the grave plot hypothesis cannot be confirmed.

Only 7 m west of Building I lay another large building, i.e. Building III. In the area between the two buildings, several rectangular pits were found immediately beneath the surface layer. Mostly filled with stones, some of these pits contained fragments of pottery and glass. Two pits also contained very few fragments of burnt bones. On the bottom of one of these pits, which happened to be walled, mortar paving was found. There were several fragments of ceramic vessels in the debris, nine glass cups, two glass plates, a glass pot, which could serve as an urn and two glass balsamaria (Fig. 9). The cups (Lazar 2003, 77, Figs. 29, 30), balsamaria (Lazar 2003, 180, 195, Fig. 50; Istenič 2000, 144) and the plates (Lazar 2003, 64, Fig. 28; Istenič 2000, 40) are dated to the second half of the 1st and the beginning of the 2nd centuries, while similar glass jars appear in the 2nd and 3rd centuries (Lazar 2003, 164–168, Fig. 48; Istenič 1999, 74, Fig. 56). Based on the inventory, it is assumed that this was a walled grave (Grave 1); according to the grave goods, the grave is dated to the early 2nd century. Other nearby pits can also be interpreted as potential graves or tombstone pedestals.

Building III was built only 3 metres from Grave 1 (Fig. 10). Its function is less ambiguous than that of

(Lazar 2003, 77; sl. 29, 30), balzamarija (Lazar 2003, 180, 195, sl. 50; Istenič 2000, 144) in krožnika (Lazar 2003, 64, sl. 28; Istenič 2000, 40) datiramo v drugo polovico 1. in začetek 2. st., podobni stekleni lonci pa se pojavljajo v 2. in 3. st. (Lazar 2003, 164–168, sl. 48; Istenič 1999, 74, sl. 56). Glede na inventar domnevamo, da gre za zidano grobnico (t. i. grob 1). Grob pa, glede na najdbe, datiramo v čas začetka 2. st. Tudi ostale jame v neposredni bližini interpretiramo kot potencialne grobne jame oz. postamente za nagrobnike.

Nenavadno pa je, da je bil le 3 metre zahodno od groba 1 postavljen objekt III (sl. 10). Funkcija slednjega je bolj nedvoumna od funkcije objekta I. Gre za stavbo s kamnitimi temelji, ki je bila predeljena na tri prostore. Vhod vanjo je bil iz zahodne smeri v prostoru IIIc. V srednjem in vzhodnem prostoru (IIIa in IIIb) je bilo v notranjosti še več manjših kamnitih temeljev, ki pa niso v pomoč pri določanju funkcije prostorov. V tem pogledu je zanimivejši manjši zahodni prostor (IIIc). V tem so bili najdeni trije vzporedni kamniti temelji. Razdalja med njimi je bila 0,9 m. Na podlagi slednjega domnevamo, da gre za ostanke kašče oz. skladišča za žito. Ti temelji bi lahko nosili lesena tla, ki so bila v kaščah zaradi potrebe po kroženju zraka dvignjena (Rickman 1971). Celoten objekt bi torej lahko služil kot skladišče.

Zahodno so bili v tem času postavljeni kar trije manjši objekti (V, VI, VII; sl. 8; 11). Vsi so imeli zidane temelje, objekta V in VI pa zagotovo tudi kamnite stene (oz. vsaj del njih). Malte med kamni ni bilo oz. se vsaj ni ohranila. Tudi strešne kritine ne poznamo. Na celotnem območju je bilo najdeno razmeroma malo tegul in imbreksov. Funkcije teh objektov ne poznamo, treba pa je izpostaviti, da se stavbe na tem delu po obliki in velikosti zelo razlikujejo od tistih na vzhodnem delu najdišča. Predvsem so manjše.

Še posebej zanimiv je objekt VI, saj je dobro razvidno, s kakšnimi razmerami so se spopadali graditelji. Leži na predelu, ki močno pada proti jugu, kar pomeni, da je bila moč plazjenja tu še večja. Verjetno je imel prav zato objekt na vzhodni in zahodni strani dvojne temelje (sl. 11). Ali je bila taka gradnja že od samega začetka ali pa je bil drugi temelj dodan kasneje, ni jasno.

Južno od objekta VI je bila naselbina v tej fazi zamejena z zidom. Ohranila se je le ena lega kamnov zidu (sl. 8). Način gradnje in njegova majhna širina (30 cm) pa ne nakazujeta, da bi šlo morda za "obzidje", temveč prej za simbolično mejo naselja ali pa za obrambo pred reko. Struga slednje je namreč takrat tekla le 5 m južneje.

Enako usmerjenost kot zid ima plast kamnov na načrtu izkopavanja iz l. 1977 (sl. 8). To so sicer pripisovali ostankom ceste, a ni bila do konca raziskana. Zato obstaja možnost, da gre za ruševino zidu, ki je na jugu zamejeval naselje.

V tem obsegu je naselje delovalo vse do sredine 3. st.



Sl. 10: Blagovica. Tretja faza. Grobovi, v ozadju objekt III. Pogled proti zahodu. (Foto: Maja Korošec)

Fig. 10: Blagovica. Graves, Building III behind. View towards west. (Photo: Maja Korošec)

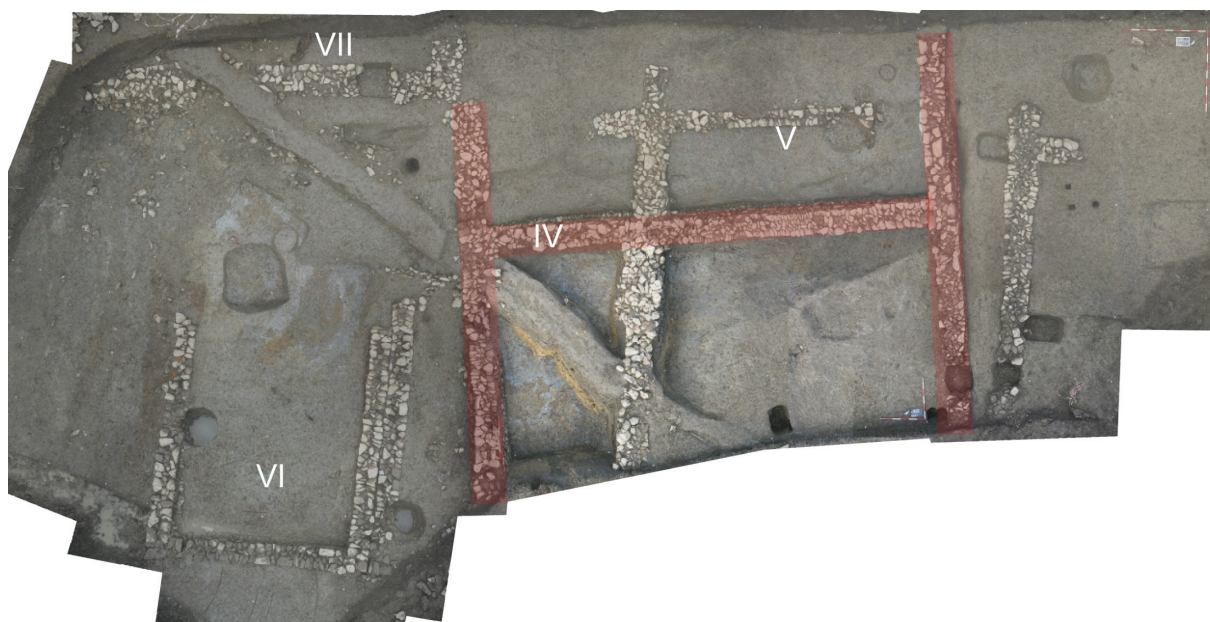
Building I. It was constructed with stone foundations and divided into three rooms. The entrance was from the west in Room IIIc. In both eastern rooms (IIIa and IIIb), several short stone foundations were found, which did not help determine the function of the rooms. In this respect, the small western room (IIIc) is more interesting. Here, three parallel stone foundations were found. The distance between them was 0,9 m, based on which it is safe to assume it is the remains of a granary; the foundations could have supported a raised wooden floor, which provided much-needed air circulation (Rickman 1971). The entire facility could have served as a warehouse.

During this period, three small buildings were constructed to the west (V, VI, VII; Figs. 8; 11), all with stone foundations. Buildings V and VI featured stone walls (at least partially) with no mortar; at least, none was preserved. Roofing is also unknown; in the whole area, relatively few tegulae and imbrices were found. The purpose of these constructions is unclear, but it should be pointed out that the buildings in this part are very different in shape and size than those in the eastern part of the site. They are smaller.

Building VI is of particular interest, as it shows the conditions masons faced. It lies in the section sloping towards the south, which means that land sliding was even more of an issue here. This is probably why the building was reinforced with double foundations on the eastern and western sides (Fig. 11). It is unclear whether this was the original plan or an additional improvement.

South of Building VI, the settlement was walled during this phase. Only one line of stones survived (Fig. 8); however, the construction and negligible width (30 cm) of the wall do not indicate that this was a protective rampart, but rather a symbolic boundary of the settlement or defence against the river, which flowed only 5 m to the south.

The layer of stones on the 1977 excavation plan features the same orientation (Fig. 8). This was attributed to the remains of the road, but it was not fully explored. Therefore, there is a possibility that it is, in fact, the re-



Sl. 11: Blagovica. Pogled na objekte V, VI, VII iz tretje faze poselitve ter objekt IV iz četrte faze (rdeče obarvano).
 Fig. 11: Blagovica. View of Buildings V, VI, VII from settlement Phase 3 and Building IV from Phase 4 (coloured red).
 (Foto / Photo: Maja Korošec)

FAZA 4

V naslednji fazi se je obseg naselja nekoliko zmanjšal (sl. 12), pomembnejši je postal zahodni predel. Na mestu nekdanjega objekta V so postavili nov objekt IV (sl. 11; 13). Razdeljen je bil v dva prostora. Tlak iz drobirja v južnem prostoru in peč v severnem kažeta, da so tu potekale gospodarske dejavnosti. Objekt IV je imel 1,1 m globoke temelje, zgrajene v tehniki ribje kosti, kar naj bi zagotavljalo tudi stabilnejšo gradnjo. Na tem delu je podlaga namreč statično izjemno nestabilna, kar kažejo temelji, ki so bili ob našem izkopu močno nagnjeni v smeri po pobočju navzdol. Zamik med zgornjim in spodnjim robom temelja je mestoma presegal 0,15 m, kar priča o silovitih pritiskih zemeljskih mas. Te so bile usodne tudi za starejši objekt VI, ki mu niso pomagali niti dvojni temelji. Ta objekt je bil v celoti porušen in prekrit s pobočnimi nanosi. Na njegovem mestu so postavili nov, lesen objekt XII (sl. 12).

Tudi objekt III (iz faze 3) je bil v tem času vsaj delno podrt. V nekdanjem prostoru IIIa je bil vzpostavljen metalurški obrat z več pečmi. Ob njih so bili najdeni številni kosi železne žilindre. Analiza je pokazala, da je šlo za žlindro iz rude lokalnega izvora z majhno vsebnostjo železa, ki so jo talili prav tu (Verbič 2014, 170–171). Torej ne govorimo le o izdelovanju končnih produktov, temveč se je na tem prostoru odvijal celoten postopek pridobivanja železa. Seveda le v manjših količinah.

V zasutjih peči sta bila najdena dva novca cesarja Konstantina II., kovana med letoma 351 in 355, ter novce Konstantina I., datiran v čas med letoma 330 in 333. V

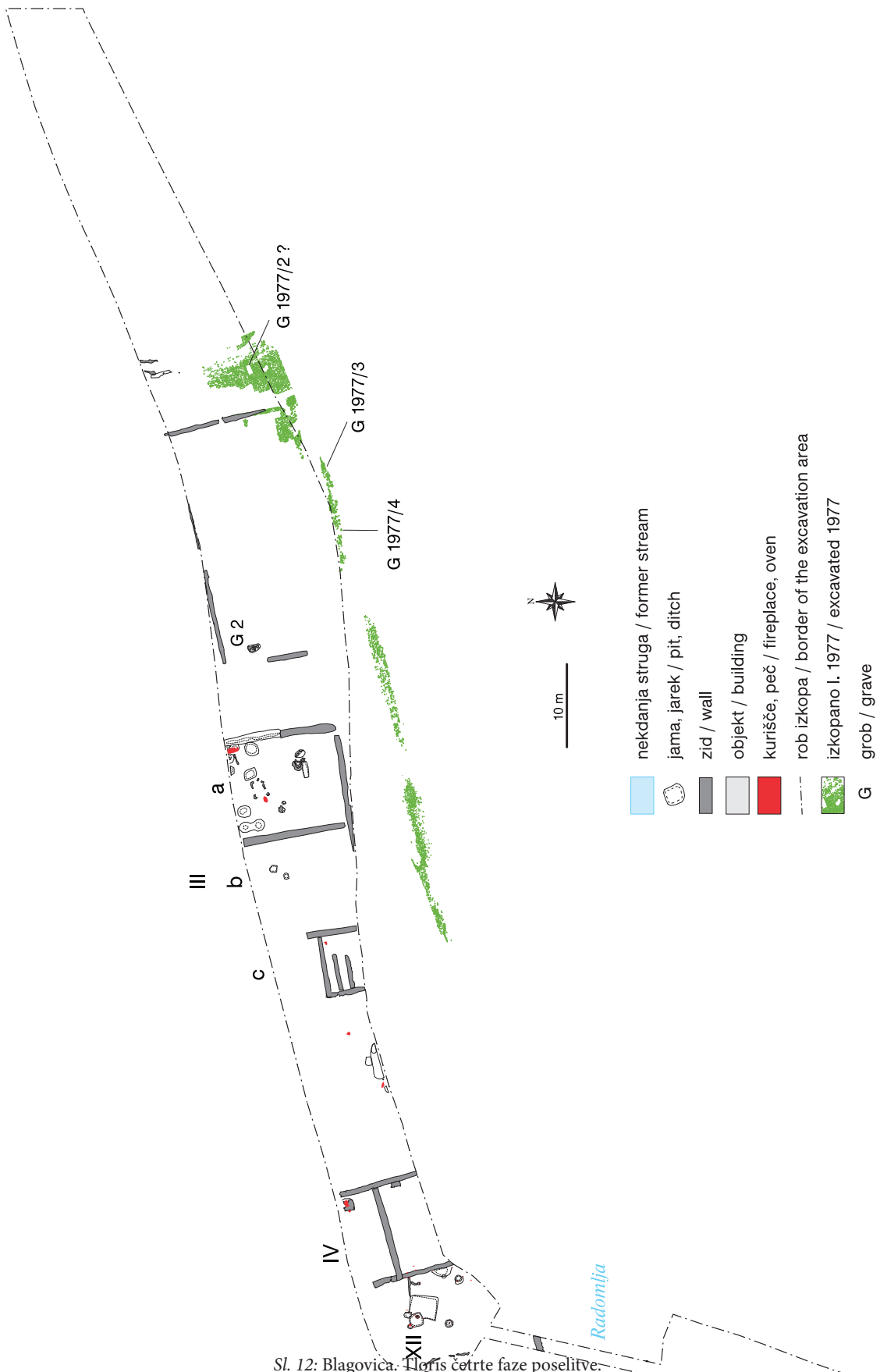
mains of the wall, which confined the settlement at the southern part.

The settlement remained in this layout until the mid-3rd century.

PHASE 4

The extent of the settlement decreased slightly (Fig. 12), its western part gaining in significance. At the site of the former Building V, the new Building IV was built (Figs. 11; 13), which was divided into two rooms. The gravel paving in the southern part and the furnace in the northern part of the room indicate that economic activities took place here. Building IV had a 1.1 m deep foundation, built in fishbone technique, which provided a more stable construction. The terrain is exceptionally unstable in this part: when excavated, the foundations were leaning heavily down the slope, the gap between their upper and lower edges exceeding 0.15 m at places, which indicates the severe pressure. This must have been the undoing of the earlier Building VI, which even the double foundation could not prevent. This building was completely demolished and covered by landslides from the slopes. In its place, the new, wooden Building XII was constructed (Fig. 12).

During this time, Building III (from Phase 3) was at least partly ruined. In former Room IIIa, a metallurgical plant with several furnaces was established. Quite a few pieces of iron slag were found nearby. Analyses showed that this was slag from local ore with a low iron content,



Sl. 12: Blagovica. Plan četirte faze poselitve.
 Fig. 12: Blagovica. Ground plan of settlement Phase 4.



Sl. 13: Blagovica. Pogled na objekte V, VI, VII iz tretje faze poselitve ter objekt IV iz četrte faze (v sredini). Pogled proti zahodu. (Foto: Maja Korošec)

Fig. 13: Blagovica. View of Buildings V, VI, VII from settlement Phase 3 and Building IV from Phase 4 (in front). View towards west. (Photo: Maja Korošec)

ruševini objekta III pa je bil najden tudi novec cesarja Jovijana (*Iovianus*), kovan v letih 363–364.

Na vzhodnem robu naselja iz tega časa ni sledi poselitve. Del zahodnega zidu objekta I (iz faze 3) je bil porušen, zato domnevamo, da ni bil več namenjen svoji prvotni funkciji. V notranjosti nekdanjega objekta I je bilo brez pridakov pokopano dekle staro med 12 in 15 let (t. i. grob 2). Ena izmed kosti roke je bila radiokarbonsko datirana.² Na podlagi tega grob datiramo med drugo polovico 3. in koncem 4. st.

V ta čas bi lahko umestili tudi štiri skeletne grobove, ki so bili v ruševini na jugovzhodni strani objekta I najdeni že l. 1977 (Zupančič 1979; sl. 12). Tudi ti grobovi so večinoma brez pridakov. Le v enem je bil najden kuhinjski lonček, okrašen z valovnico (Stražar 1985, 83).

Tudi to fazo z najdbami težko datiramo. Umeščamo jih pretežno med drugo polovico 1. in sredino 3. st., vendar je treba poudariti, da so najdbe večinoma sekundarno odložene (plazine, ruševinske plasti, ...) ter pravzaprav datirajo 3. fazo. Novčne najdbe v kontekstih 4. faze pa kažejo na čas sredine 4. st. Torej bi celotno fazo 4 nekako umestili v čas 3. in 4. st.

Mlajših sledov na raziskanem predelu ni bilo zaslediti. Od opustitve naselja je bil prostor izkoriščen le v kmetijske namene. Modernih posegov je bilo razmeroma malo. Izjema so le posegi ob obstoječem gospodarskem posloju na jugozahodnem delu raziskanega predela, kjer je bil zgrajen verjetno novoveški vodnjak. Tudi najdb iz mlajših zgodovinskih obdobjev je izjemno malo.

² Poz-63338. Datacija 1695 ± 30 BP ustreza času 264–273 cal. AD (kalibrirana starost 1- δ : 6,1 % ver.) ali 331–394 cal. AD (kalibrirana starost 1- δ : 62,1 % ver.), oziroma 255–302 cal. AD (kalibrirana starost 2- δ : 19,8 % ver.) ali 316–412 cal. AD (kalibrirana starost 2- δ : 75,6 % ver.).

which was melted at this location (Verbič 2014, 170–171). Therefore, not only finished products were produced here; instead, the whole process of iron extraction took place in the area, but in limited quantities.

In the filling of two furnaces, two coins were found from the period of Emperor Constantine II, minted between 351 and 355, and one coin of Constantine I, dating from the period between 330 and 333. In the ruins of Building III, a coin from the period of Emperor Jovian, minted 363–364, was found.

On the eastern edge of the excavation area, there is no trace of settlement during this period. The western wall of Building I was partially demolished, making it possible to assume that it no longer served its original purpose. In the interior of the former Building I, a girl aged between 12 and 15 years was buried without any grave goods (Grave 2). One of the arm bones was radiocarbon dated,² based on which the grave was dated between the second half of the 3rd and the end of the 4th centuries.

This could also be the timeframe for four inhumation graves, located in the ruins of the south-eastern side of Building I and found in 1977 (Zupančič, 1979). These graves, too, are mostly without any grave goods; only one featured a kitchen pot decorated with a wavy line (Stražar 1985, 83).

Phase 4 is not easily dated by small finds. It should be emphasized that most of the small finds were discovered in secondary deposits (landslides, ruins, etc.) and dated between the second half of the 1st and the mid-3rd centuries. Thus they originate from Phase 3. In contrast, the coins belonging to the contexts of Phase 4 indicate the time of the mid-4th century. Therefore, Phase 4 should be dated to the 3rd and 4th centuries.

No later traces were observed in the investigated area. After the abandoning of the settlement, the area was used only for agricultural purposes. Modern interventions were relatively scarce, with the exception of interventions alongside the existing farm building in the southwestern part of the explored area, where a modern-era fountain was most likely built. Finds from later historical periods are also scarce.

THE PURPOSE AND STATUS OF THE SETTLEMENT

The Roman settlement at Blagovica had a clearly defined layout from the very start. In the 1st century AD and quite possibly even as early as the 1st century BC, a settlement with several multi-purpose buildings was built. In the eastern part, large commercial buildings, possibly

² Poz-63338. Dating 1695 ± 30 BP corresponds to 264–273 cal. AD (calibrated age 1- δ : 6.1% ver.) or 331–394 cal. AD (calibrated age 1- δ : 62.1% ver.) or 255–302 cal. AD (calibrated age 2- δ : 19.8% ver.) or 316A–412 cal. AD (calibrated age 2- δ : 75.6 % ver.).

FUNKCIJA IN STATUS NASELJA

Antična naselbina pri Blagovici je imela že ob vzpostavitvi načrtno in velikopotezno urbanistično zasnovo. V 1. st. n. št., morda pa že v 1. st. pr. n. št. je bilo zgrajeno naselje z več poslopji, ki so imela različne funkcije. Na vzhodnem delu so se nizala velika gospodarska poslopja, morda skladišča ali hlevi (VIIIa in VIIIb). Na zahodnem delu je bilo več neopredeljivih jam z ostanki žganin. Čeprav so prvotne objekte že zelo kmalu opustili (v sredini 1. st.), je zasnova novih objektov sledila prvotni. Na zahodnem delu so stala gospodarska poslopja (XIII, XI in skladišče IX), na zahodnem delu pa znova predel s pečjo.

Največji razcvet je naselbina doživela med koncem 1. in 3. stoletjem, ko so lesene objekte zamenjali objekti s kamnitimi temelji. Na vzhodnem delu so še vedno stali veliki objekti, ki so lahko služili kot ograde oz. hlevi (I) in skladišča (III), na zahodu pa so zgradili več manjših objektov (VI, V, VII), katerih funkcije ne poznamo. Poleg tega je na vzhodnem delu naselbine najpozneje od 2. st. dalje ležalo tudi pripadajoče grobišče, ki je bilo stisnjeno kar med dva gospodarska objekta.

V sredini 3. st. se je naselje nekoliko skrčilo. Vzhodni objekti so bili opuščeni, v nekdanjem objektu I so začeli pokopavati. Na mestu objekta III je bil vzpostavljen predel namenjen metalurškim postopkom, ki je deloval vsaj do sredine 4. st. Neka gospodarska dejavnost je potekala tudi v novonastalem objektu V.

Treba je poudariti, da se usmerjenost objektov ves čas obstoja naselbine ni spreminjala, kar sicer ni nenavadno, saj je bila stisnjena med takratno strugo Radomlje in brežino. Poleg tega je treba opozoriti tudi na za naselbino netipično majhno količino najdenega kuhinjskega posodja ter razmeroma veliko količino uvožene lončenine (fina namizna lončenina, sigillata ...). Sklop steklenih posod iz groba 1 pa priča tudi o visokem standardu prebivalcev. Dostop do uvoženih predmetov kaže, da je naselbina ležala ob prometni cestni povezavi, verjetno kar ob glavni prometnici med Italijo in Norikom.

Tudi urbanistična zasnova naselja nakazuje, da je tu najverjetneje ležala poštna postaja. Te so bile v rimskem času navadno nekoliko zunaj naselij ali pa so ležale celo povsem na samem. Sestavljal jih je sklop več poslopij. Od gospodarskih do skladišč, shramb za vozove, poslopij za cestno policijo, do bivalnih predelov, ki so po možnosti imeli še terme (Šašel Kos 1997, 24). Slednje sicer niso bile odkrite, vse ostalo pa bi v Blagovici lahko prepoznali.

Ob tej predpostavki lahko domnevamo, da bi tu lahko stala na Tabuli Peutingeriani omenjena rimska poštna postaja *Ad publicanos*.³ Ta naj bi ležala ob cesti *Emona* (Ljubljana)–*Celeia* (Celje) pred *Atransom* (Trojane). Od Emone naj bi bila oddaljena 20 milj, od *Atransa*

warehouses or stables, were concentrated (VIIIa and VIIIb). In the western part, several hard-to-explain pits with burnt residues were located. Although the original buildings were abandoned rather soon (mid-1st century AD), the original architectural design was followed. In the western part, there were commercial Buildings XIII and XI and Warehouse IX, and in the western part again an area with a furnace.

The settlement mainly flourished between the late 1st and the 3rd centuries, when wooden buildings were replaced by buildings with stone foundations. The eastern part still featured large buildings, which either served as stables (I) or warehouses (III), while several smaller facilities (VI, V, VII) with unknown purpose were built to the west. In the eastern part of the settlement, there was a small 2nd-century cemetery, which was positioned between two commercial buildings.

In the mid- 3rd century the settlement shrunk a bit. The eastern buildings were abandoned, in the former Building I burials took place. At the site of former Building III, a metallurgical plant was established, which operated at least until the mid-4th century. No well-defined activity took place in the newly constructed Building V.

It should be emphasized that the orientation of the buildings did not change during the time, which is not unusual since it was compressed between the Radomlja River and the adjacent slopes. The structure of the ceramic finds is not quite typical for the ordinary rural settlement. A small quantity of kitchenware was found, and a relatively large quantity of imported pottery (fine tableware, terra sigillata, etc.). A set of glass vessels from Grave 1 shows a high standard of living. Access to imported items indicates that the settlement lay along a busy road connection, probably just off the main road between Italy and Noricum.

The layout of the settlement suggests that this was most likely the location of a Roman postal station. They were usually somewhat outside of settlements, or even completely on their own, comprising a set of several buildings from commercial facilities to warehouses, cart storages, road police buildings, to residential areas and possibly *thermae* (Šašel Kos 1997, 24). The latter were not discovered, but everything else could be recognized in Blagovica.

This leads to the assumption that this could be the *Ad publicanos* postal station mentioned by the *Tabula Peutingeriana*.³ It supposedly lay along the *Emona* (Ljubljana)–*Celeia* (Celje) road before *Atrans* (Trojane), about 20 miles from *Emona* and 6 miles from *Atrans*. The Roman mile estimated at 1.48 km, the station was lying approximately 8.88 km from today's Trojane and 29.6 km from Ljubljana.

In the past, researchers placed the *Ad Publicanos* station around Lukovica, Podpeč, or in Krašnja (Müllner 1879, 37, 85; Šašel 1954, 16). This thesis was influenced

³ Tab. Peut. IV, 2.

³ Tab. Peut. IV, 2.

pa 6 milj. Rimska milja znaša današnjih 1,48 km, kar pomeni, da je postaja ležala pribl. 8,88 km od Trojan in 29,6 km od Ljubljane.

V preteklosti so raziskovalci *Ad publicanos* postavljali na območje Lukovice, v Podpeč ali v Krašnje (Müllner 1879, 37, 85; Šašel 1954, 16). Na te teze je vplivalo dejstvo, da je v novem veku v Podpeči pri Lukovici delovala pomembna poštna postaja, zadnja pred Trojanami. Poleg tega do l. 2013 rimskodobne naselbinske ostaline v dolini Črnega grabna niso bile poznane. Vendar pa razdalje med kraji ponujenih tez ne potrjujejo najboljše. Razdalja med Podpečjo in Trojanami po današnji cesti namreč znaša 16,25 km. Ustreznejše bi bilo, da bi postajo locirali na območje Blagovice, saj so Trojanje od središča vasi po današnji cesti oddaljene 7,3 km (od našega najdišča pa 7 km; *sl. 1*). To je ob dejstvu, da natančne trase rimske ceste ne poznamo,⁴ zagotovo bližje 6 milj, kot Lukovica.

Tabula Peutingeriana ne navaja statusa naselja *Ad publicanos*. Ne vemo torej, ali gre za postajo s prenočiščem (*mansio*) ali postajo za menjavo vprege (*mutatio*). Slednje se sicer omenjajo šele od 4. st. dalje (zlasti na Burdigalskem oz. Jeruzalemskem itinerariju, ki pa postaja *Ad publicanos* ne omenjata). Razdalje med postajami so znašale med 6 in 12 milj, pri čemer je bilo razmerje med *mansio* in *mutatio* 1:2 ali 1:3. Ker za Atrans vemo, da gre za *mansio*, je mogoče sklepati, da le 6 milj pred počivališčem ni ležala postaja, ki bi služila enakemu namenu (Šašel Kos 1997, 31).

Nekaj več o statusu naselja lahko izvemo iz njegovega imena. *Ad publicanos* (Pri zakupnikih) po mnenju Marjete Šašel Kos nakazuje, da je v naselju delovala mitnica, saj so te službe v rimskem času pogosto dajali v zakup (Šašel Kos 1997, 31). Poleg tega je ime naselja povsem rimskega izvora, kar nakazuje, da pred nastankom pošte v bližini ni bilo starejše naselbine, saj bi bila v tem primeru postaja poimenovana po njej (Šašel Kos 1997, 31).

Tudi to se sklada s tezo o lociranju te postaje na Blagovico. Na najdišču namreč ni bilo najdenih predmetov, ki bi jih lahko povezovali s staroselsko poselitvijo. Tudi v kuhinjskih posodah ni sledi staroselske tradicije. Naselbino so na samem povsem na novo postavili Rimljani. Poleg tega ne smemo pozabiti, da leži na točki, ko se razmeroma ravni del doline Črni graben zaključuje, cesta pa se začne dvigovati proti Trojanam. Torej na točki, kjer bi popotnik zagotovo želel zamenjati vprego.

⁴ Obstajajo domneve, da se je rimska cesta ognila dolini Črnega grabna in je tekla po zalednih hribih (Sagadin, ustno 19.11.2013). Možno je, da se je ognila zoženemu zgornjemu delu doline Radomlje, ki je bila v tem delu izrazito hudaourniška. Če bi se pri Petelinjeku povzpela proti Javorniku in tekla mimo Prvin do Šentožbolta, bi razdalja do Trojan povsem ustrezala 6 milj.

by the fact that in Podpeč near Lukovica an important modern postal station was located, the last one before Trojanje. Furthermore, until 2013, Roman settlements in the Črni graben valley were not known. However, the distances between the sites do not quite confirm this thesis. The distance between Podpeč and Trojanje on today's road is 16.25 km. It would be more appropriate to locate the station in the area of Blagovica, since Trojanje is now 7.3 km away from the centre of the village (7 km from our site; *Fig. 1*). Accounting for the fact that we do not know the exact route of the Roman road,⁴ this is certainly closer to 6 miles than Lukovica.

Tabula Peutingeriana does not mention the status of the *Ad publicanos* settlement. We do not know, therefore, whether it was a *mansio* or a *mutatio*. The latter are mentioned only from the 4th century onwards e.g. in Itinerarium Burdigalense, which does not mention the *Ad publicanos* station. The distances between stations ranged between 6 and 12 miles, the ratio between *mansio* and *mutatio* being 1:2 or 1:3. Since we know that Atrans was a *mansio*, it can be concluded that only 6 miles before the resting place there was no station that would serve the same purpose (Šašel Kos 1997, 31).

We can learn more about the status of the settlement from its name. According to Marjeta Šašel Kos, the name *Ad publicanos* (at "The tax collection agents") indicates that a toll station was operating in the settlement, as these services were frequently leased (Šašel Kos 1997, 31). Furthermore, the name of the settlement is of purely Roman origin, which suggests that prior to the creation of the post office there was no earlier settlement, since in this case the station would be named after it (Šašel Kos 1997, 31).

This confirms the location of the station at Blagovica. Namely, there were no objects found on the site that could be associated with the indigenous settlement. Even the kitchenwares have no trace of indigenous tradition. The settlement was completely built anew by the Romans. It must not be forgotten that the settlement lies on a point at which the relatively levelled part of the Črni graben valley ends, and the road begins to rise towards Trojanje – at a point, then, where a traveller would definitely want to replace their beasts of burden.

Translation: Gregor Pobežin

⁴ There are assumptions that the Roman road took a turn away from the Črni graben valley, running along the surrounding hills (Sagadin, orally 19.11.2013). It is possible it avoided the torrential upper part of the Radomlja River valley. If it took a turn towards Javornik at Petelinjek, running past Prvine to Šentožbolt, the distance to Trojanje would perfectly correspond 6 miles.

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