

# 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**

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## 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 zbranim 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*

# SLOVENSKA BISTRICA

Mira STRMČNIK GULIČ



## Izveček

Rimska naselbina v Slovenski Bistrici leži ob cesti Celeja–Petoviona. Zgodnjim lesenim stavbam, katerih tlorisi niso jasni in so datirane v 1.–2. st., sledijo v 3.–4. st. velike zidane stavbe, morda povezane s transportom in skladiščenjem. Odkriti so bili sledovi kovaške delavnice. Ob naselbini je ležalo grobišče z žganimi pokopi.

**Ključne besede:** Zgornja Panonija, Slovenska Bistrica, rimska doba, naselbina, grobišče, kovaška delavnica

## Abstract

The Roman settlement in Slovenska Bistrica is located on the road connecting Celeia and Poetovio. Excavations revealed it had wooden buildings in the 1<sup>st</sup>–2<sup>nd</sup> centuries, the ground plans of which could not be fully investigated. These were followed in the 3<sup>rd</sup>–4<sup>th</sup> centuries by large masonry buildings, presumably associated with transport and storage of goods. Remains of a smithy were found in the settlement, in its vicinity also a cemetery with cremation burials.

**Keywords:** Upper Pannonia, Slovenska Bistrica, Roman period, settlement, cemetery, smithy

## ZGODOVINA RAZISKAV

Stanko Pahič je leta 1982 podal prvi sistematični arheološki pregled na bistriskem območju in predstavil vse dotlej znano gradivo. Prispevek bogatijo in vsebinsko dopolnjujejo pregledne tabele gradiva, kronološke opredelitve, načrti najdišč in arheološki zemljevid pokrajine ob jugovzhodnem Pohorju.<sup>1</sup> Prav posebej se je posvetil vrednotenju številnih rimskih marmornih spomenikov kot enega najpomembnejših arheoloških virov teh krajev. Njihovo pogostnost lahko deloma pripisujemo bližini pohorskih kamnolomov, o čemer nam pričajo še danes razpoznavni in zapuščeni kamnolomi v okolici Šmartnega na Pohorju.<sup>2</sup> S poglobitnimi podatki in navajanjem napisov je Pahič poskušal razvozlati izvor in družbeni položaj pokojnikov. Pri tem je poudaril, da se je ob pristnih italjskih imenih obdržalo precej imen keltskega porekla in latiniziranih oblik.<sup>3</sup>

Na širšem bistriskem območju so se arheološke raziskave razmahnile v sedemdesetih letih prejšnjega stoletja s projektom raziskovanja odseka rimske ceste Celeja–Petoviona, ki je prečkala bistriški svet od jugozahoda proti severovzhodu. Ugotovitve so prinesle ključna spoznanja o poteku in izgradnji cest ter prispevale k razumevanju obcestnih postaj oz. naselbin.<sup>4</sup> Ob cesti so odkrili zaporedje naselij, ki so nastala v povezavi z državno cestno službo. Čeprav nobeno izmed najdišč ni bilo zadovoljivo raziskano, pa lega in najdbe naselbinskega značaja lahko govorijo za preprežne postaje pri Čadramu (ledina Belo mesto), v Spodnjem Grušovju (*mansio Ragando?*) in pri Spodnji Novi vasi.<sup>5</sup>

## NASELBINA

Na ožjem območju današnje Slovenske Bistrice je bila odkrita in delno raziskana trasa rimske ceste, dva sklopa rimskih stavb, ki sta drug od drugega oddaljena okoli 500 m, in del grobišča (*sl. 1*).

**Stavba A** (*sl. 1: 1; 2*)

*Stavba A* je stala na zahodnem delu rimske naselbine (*sl. 1: 1*), na nižji vzpetini, ob vzhodnem robu naravne terase. Jugovzhodni rob vzpetine je prečkala rimska cesta, ki je bila prislonsjena ob pobočje.

Ostanki stavbe A so bili prvič zaznani leta 1957.<sup>6</sup> Traso rimske ceste v bližini so ugotovili leta 1971. Z večjim arheološkim posegom leta 1974 so odkrili sko-

<sup>1</sup> Pahič 1982.

<sup>2</sup> Pahič 1982, 63–73; Djurić, Müller 2009.

<sup>3</sup> Pahič 1982, s poglobitno literaturo in epigrafskimi viri.

<sup>4</sup> Pahič 1969; Pahič 1978.

<sup>5</sup> Pahič 1969.

<sup>6</sup> Pahič 1960.

## HISTORY OF RESEARCH

The first systematic archaeological survey of the Slovenska Bistrica area was published in 1982. In this publication, Stanko Pahič presented the small finds known up to that time, their chronological attribution, plans of individual sites and an archaeological map of the area along the south-eastern part of the Pohorje Hills.<sup>1</sup> Of the movable artefacts, he paid particular attention to the Roman marble monuments as one of the most important archaeological sources from the area. Their high number is believed in part to be the result of the proximity of marble quarries in the Pohorje Hills, traces of which are still visible around Šmartno na Pohorju.<sup>2</sup> Pahič studied the monuments and their inscriptions to assess the origin and social status of the deceased, observing that Italic names appeared alongside numerous names of Celtic origin and Latinised forms.<sup>3</sup>

The Bistrica area was more intensively investigated in the 1970s, as part of the project of researching the Roman road from Celeia to Poetovio that crossed the area from southwest to northeast. The investigation results significantly advanced the knowledge of the course and construction of the Roman road, as well as of the roadside stations or settlements.<sup>4</sup> A succession of settlements was detected lining the road, associated with the state road services. None have been investigated in detail, but the location and recovered habitation finds do allow us to posit relay stations at Čadram (the Belo mesto site), Spodnje Grušovje (*mansio Ragando?*) and Spodnja Nova vas.<sup>5</sup>

## SETTLEMENT

Investigations in the area of the present-day town of Slovenska Bistrica unearthed sections of the Roman road, two groups of Roman buildings located at a distance of some 500 m from one another, as well as part of the associated cemetery (*Fig. 1*).

**Building A** (*Fig. 1: 1; 2*)

It stood in the west part of the Roman settlement, on a low elevation at the eastern edge of a natural terrace (*Fig. 1: 1*). The Roman road passed not far from the building, along the south-eastern edge of this terrace.

<sup>1</sup> Pahič 1982.

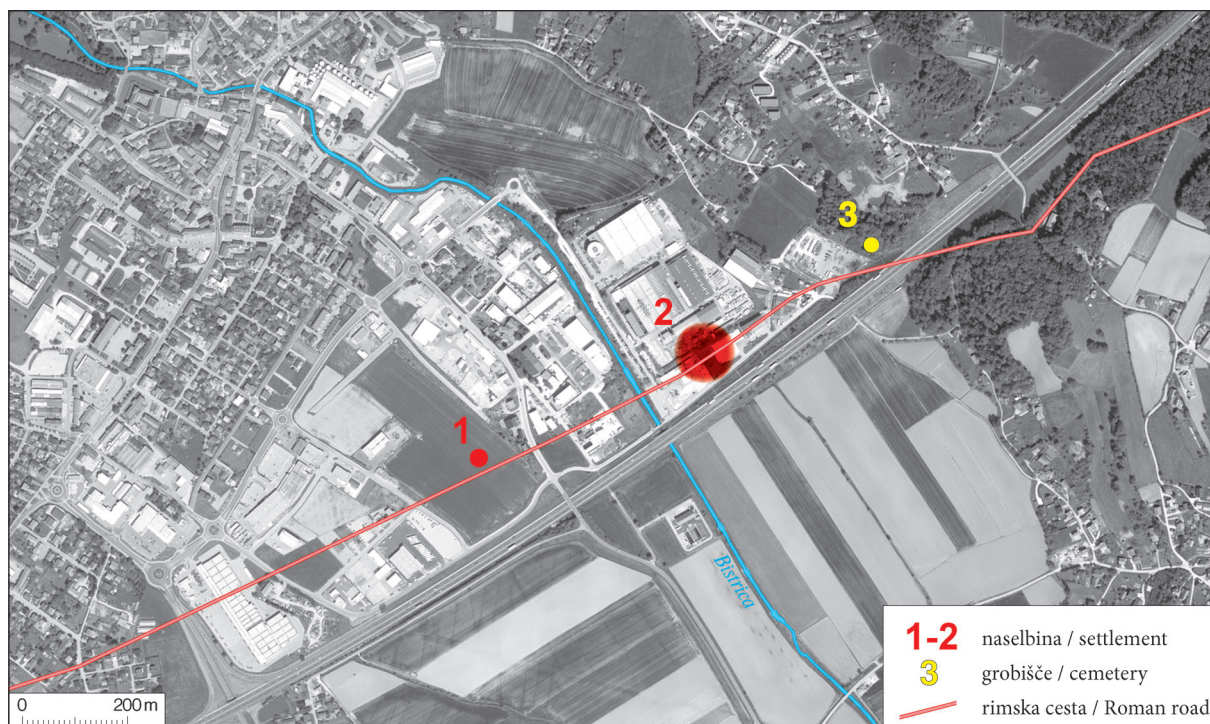
<sup>2</sup> Pahič 1982, 63–73; Djurić, Müller 2009.

<sup>3</sup> Pahič 1982, with main bibliography and epigraphic sources.

<sup>4</sup> Pahič 1969; Pahič 1978.

<sup>5</sup> Pahič 1969.





Sl. 1: Slovenska Bistrica. Raziskana območja rimske naselbine (1–2), grobišče (3) in potek ceste.

Fig. 1: Slovenska Bistrica. Investigated areas of the Roman settlement (1–2), cemetery and road.

(Vir / Source: <http://giskd6s.situla.org/evrd/>)

raj celotni tloris stavbe.<sup>7</sup> Izkopi so zajeli dobro tretjino površin v stavbi in okrog nje, vendar na različnih koncih in v vseh prostorih. S sondažnimi izkopi ob jugozahodni fasadi so poskušali ugotoviti razmerje med stavbo in cesto. Območje stavbe in njene okolice je bilo sondirano tudi leta 2004.<sup>8</sup>

Temelji stavbe A so ležali 0,30–0,50 m pod površino. Vkopani so bili v ilovico, na katero so nasuli plast gramoza in nanj položili kamne zidu. Ohranjena višina temeljev je bila 0,30–0,40 m in širina 0,80–0,90 m. Na temeljih se je ohranila tanka plast ilovice, na katero so postavili kamnit zid, vezan z malto. Z navzven razširjenimi vogali so poskrbeli še za dodatno trdnost stavbe. Temelji notranjih predelnih zidov, v širini 0,50–0,65 m, so bili postavljeni neposredno na ilovico.

Stavba je pravokotnega tlorisa, velika okoli 20 × 31 m. Vzdlž daljših stranic so bili razporejeni po trije oziroma štiri prostori (A–D, H–F), v sredini je ležalo odprto dvorišče (I). Z gramozom posuta površina vodi od ceste proti južnemu vogalu stavbe in nakazuje lego vhoda (sl. 2).

Po Pahičevem mnenju je bil 20 × 4 m velik prostor G hlev za vprežno živino, drugi prostori okrog dvorišča pa bi lahko bili skladiščni in bivalni. Tla v prostoru A

Remains of Building A were first recorded in 1957,<sup>6</sup> while the road was documented in 1971. A more extensive archaeological investigation in 1974 unearthed over one third of the building interior and the area around it, but in different places and in all the rooms, revealing the layout almost in its entirety.<sup>7</sup> The trial trenching along the southwest façade was aimed at establishing the relationship between the building and the adjacent road. The building and its surroundings were again trial trenched in 2004.<sup>8</sup>

The foundations of Building A were found 0.30–0.50 m under the surface. The foundation trench was dug into loamy soil, a layer of gravel was then deposited on the bottom of the trench and the foundations constructed on top. The foundations survived to the height of 0.30–0.40 m and width of 0.80–0.90 m. A thin layer of loam survived on top of the foundations, onto which a mortar-bound stone wall was built. The construction was strengthened by widening the walls in the corners. The 0.50–0.65 m wide foundations of the interior partition walls were laid directly onto the loamy soil.

The building was rectangular in plan and measured roughly 20 × 31 m. Three and four rooms (A–D, H–F) were arranged along its respective longer sides, with an

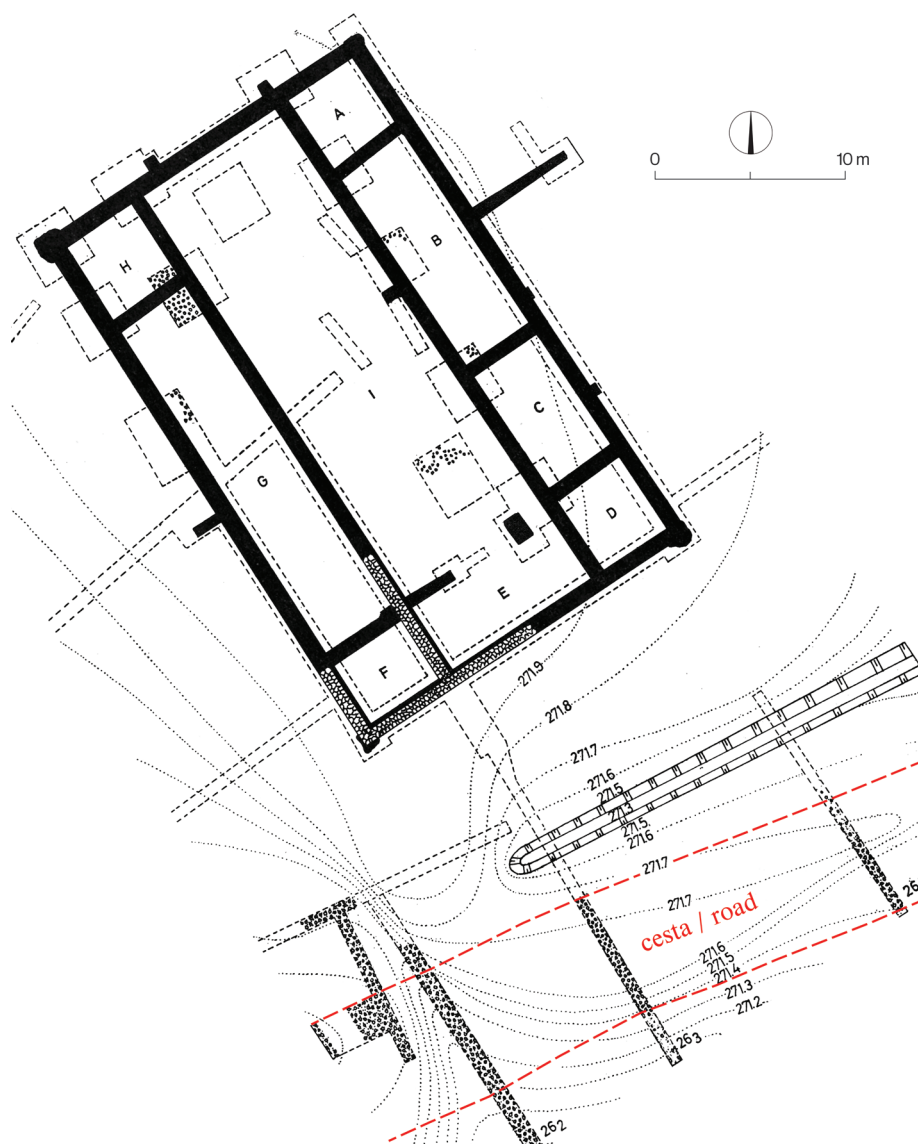
<sup>6</sup> Pahič 1960.

<sup>7</sup> Jerman 1976; 1977; Pahič 1976, 246, sl. 8; 1978, 138–140.

<sup>8</sup> Strmčnik Gulič, Kajzer Cafnik 2004.

<sup>7</sup> Jerman 1976; 1977; Pahič 1976, 246, Fig. 8; 1978, 138–140.

<sup>8</sup> Strmčnik Gulič, Kajzer Cafnik 2004.



Sl. 2: Slovenska Bistrica. Stavba A in rimska cesta s plastnicami antične površine (po Pahič 1977, 245, sl. 8).

Fig. 2: Slovenska Bistrica. Building A and road with the contour lines of the Roman-period ground (from Pahič 1977, 245, Fig. 8).

so bila pomešana z drobci žganine, kamnja in ostanki ilovnatega ometa, z oblicami pa so bili tlakovani prostori B, H in G. V prostoru F najdena žganina na steptanih ilovnatih tleh je verjetno ostanek lesenega poda. Tu je bilo v ruševinski plasti odkrite precej razbite opeke, zlasti tegul.

V stavbi je bilo skromno število keramičnih in drugih najdb, pa še te le v severni in vzhodni polovici poslopja. Gre za domačo kuhinjsko lončenino, ki jo v glavnem datiramo v 4. st. Datacija je podkrepljena z novcema cesarjev Konstantina in Valensa.<sup>9</sup>

13 m jugovzhodno od stavbe A poteka cestna trasa in ob njej plitev obcestni jarek.<sup>10</sup> Od glavne ceste se je

open courtyard along the centre (I). Leading from the road towards the south corner of the building was a gravel path that indicates the location of the entrance to the building (Fig. 2).

According to Pahič, the 20 × 4 m large Room G was a stable for draught animals, while other rooms around the courtyard were intended for either storage or habitation. The floor in Room A was a mixture of earth, bits of burnt remains, stones and patches of loam wall plaster. Rooms B, H and G had a cobbled floor. Room F had a floor of beaten loam with burnt remains that were presumably the remains of wooden floor boards; the debris layer in this room also revealed a fair amount of broken bricks, particularly tegulae.

<sup>9</sup> Pahič 1978, 138–140, t. 2: 1–8.

<sup>10</sup> Jerman 1977.

proti severu odcepila še ena cesta in vodila vzhodno od stavbe A. Severovzhodno od stavbe A so bili odkriti tudi sledovi kovaške dejavnosti.<sup>11</sup>

### Stavbe B–E (sl. 1: 2; 3–5)

Območje leži ob rimski cesti, na najnižjem prosotoru Bistriškega polja, pod rečno teraso blizu potoka Bistrice, ki je vseskozi poplavljal in nanašal debele plasti naplavin.<sup>12</sup> V več raziskovalnih etapah je bilo odkritih pet stavb (sl. 1: 2). Ob gradbenih delih so našli tudi posamezne zelo poškodovane temelje in kamnite tlake, ki pričajo o obstoju še drugih stavb.<sup>13</sup>

Po predhodnih sondažnih izkopih so bili v letih 1973–1974 odkriti kamniti temelji stavbe B (sl. 3; 4), kvadratnega tlorisa v velikosti 19,8 × 19,8 m.<sup>14</sup> Stala je 6,5 m južno od rimske ceste. Vhoda se ni dalo zanesljivo prepoznati. Razčlenjena je bila na notranje dvorišče (prostor L), ki ga je obkrožalo 11 različno velikih prostorov (A–K). Drobne najdbe kažejo začetek v prvi polovici 2. st. in življenje vsaj do konca 3. st.<sup>15</sup>

Južno od rimske ceste sta bili evidentirani še dve skupini temeljev in drobnih najdb, opredeljenih kot stavbi C in Č (sl. 3).<sup>16</sup> Pri občasnih arheoloških nadzorih so prišle na dan posamezne raztresene najdbe, tako da je bilo na tem območju po vsej verjetnosti še več stavb, ki pa so jih novodobni posegi poškodovali ali celo uničili.

Severno od rimske ceste sta bili leta 1984 odkriti stavbi D in E (sl. 3).<sup>17</sup>

Na območju stavbe D je bilo najprej leseno poslopje, ki ga nakazujejo ostanki jam. Zidana stavba D je bila velika 26,5 × 13,50 m (sl. 3). Kamniti temelji so bili grajeni iz večjih rečnih prodnikov in lomljenecv z vmesnim drobnim peskom, brez sledov malte. Večinoma so bili ohranjeni še v dveh nizih do 35 cm visoko. Vhod je bil na vzhodni strani.<sup>18</sup> Stavba je bila po dolgem predeljena z dvema vrstama kamnitih temeljev za lesene stebre, ki so podpirali strešno konstrukcijo. V severovzhodni vrsti so bili ohranjeni trije temelji, v jugozahodni pa samo eden. Ostali temelji so se videli samo še kot temne lise. Razdalja med stebri v vrstah je bila po 3,2 m. Vrsti sta bili oddaljeni okoli 4,5 m od sten. V stavbi je bilo skupaj odkritih 42 različno globokih jam (globine od 0,20 do 1,70 m) z ostanki ožganih sten, ožganega lesa in kame-

The building yielded rare pottery and other finds, and only in the north and east parts. The pottery belongs to coarseware, mainly attributable to the 4<sup>th</sup> century. This dating is corroborated by two coins of Constantine and Valens, respectively.<sup>9</sup>

Building A was located 13 m northwest of the main road that was lined with a shallow roadside ditch.<sup>10</sup> A road forked off the main one east of Building A to lead northwards. Northeast of Building A, archaeologists found traces of smithing activities.<sup>11</sup>

### Buildings B–E (Fig. 1: 2; 3–5)

This group of Roman buildings also lies along the Roman road, in the lowest part of the plain of Bistriško polje and below the river terrace along the Bistrice stream that is prone to flooding and deposited thick alluvial layers (Fig. 1: 2).<sup>12</sup> The area has been investigated in several campaigns and revealed five buildings. Recent construction activities in the area also revealed individual sections of heavily damaged foundations and stone floors/pavings that indicate the existence of additional buildings.<sup>13</sup>

The trial trenching in 1973–1974 unearthed the masonry foundations of Building B (Fig. 3; 4), of a square plan measuring 19.8 × 19.8 m.<sup>14</sup> It stood 6.5 m south of the Roman road. Its entrance could not be positively identified. It had a central courtyard (Room L) surrounded by eleven variously large rooms (A–K). The recovered small finds suggest the building was in use from the first half of the 2<sup>nd</sup> century to at least the late 3<sup>rd</sup> century.<sup>15</sup>

Two more groups of foundations and small finds were recorded south of the Roman road, interpreted as Buildings C and Č (Fig. 3).<sup>16</sup> The watching briefs in this area revealed stray finds, suggesting the existence of other buildings damaged or even destroyed during modern earthwork or construction activities.

In 1984, Buildings D and E were found north of the Roman road (Fig. 3).<sup>17</sup>

Postholes indicate that a wooden building preceded the masonry Building D, the latter measuring 26.5 × 13.50 m (Fig. 3). Its foundations were constructed of large cobbles and rubble mixed with fine sand, without the use of mortar and mostly surviving in two courses up to 35 cm high. The entrance was in the east.<sup>18</sup> The building was

<sup>11</sup> Strmčnik Gulič, Kajzer Cafnik 2004.

<sup>12</sup> Pahič 1978, 131, karta 1.

<sup>13</sup> Pahič 1978, 140–148; Mikl-Curk 1976, 23–27; Strmčnik Gulič, Pahič 1985, 257.

<sup>14</sup> Pahič 1978, 145, sl. 5.

<sup>15</sup> Pahič 1978, 147.

<sup>16</sup> Mikl-Curk 1976, 23–26.

<sup>17</sup> Strmčnik Gulič, Pahič 1985; Strmčnik Gulič 1990.

<sup>18</sup> Kljub močno razmočenemu terenu in visoki talni vodi je bilo mogoče odkriti tri zunanje stene objekta z vogali, četrti – severni –, pa je ležal dva metra pod nivojem in bil v celoti poplavljen.

<sup>9</sup> Pahič 1978, 138–140, Pl. 2: 1–8.

<sup>10</sup> Jerman 1977.

<sup>11</sup> Strmčnik Gulič, Kajzer Cafnik 2004.

<sup>12</sup> Pahič 1978, 131, Map 1.

<sup>13</sup> Pahič 1978, 140–148; Mikl-Curk 1976, 23–27; Strmčnik Gulič, Pahič 1985, 257.

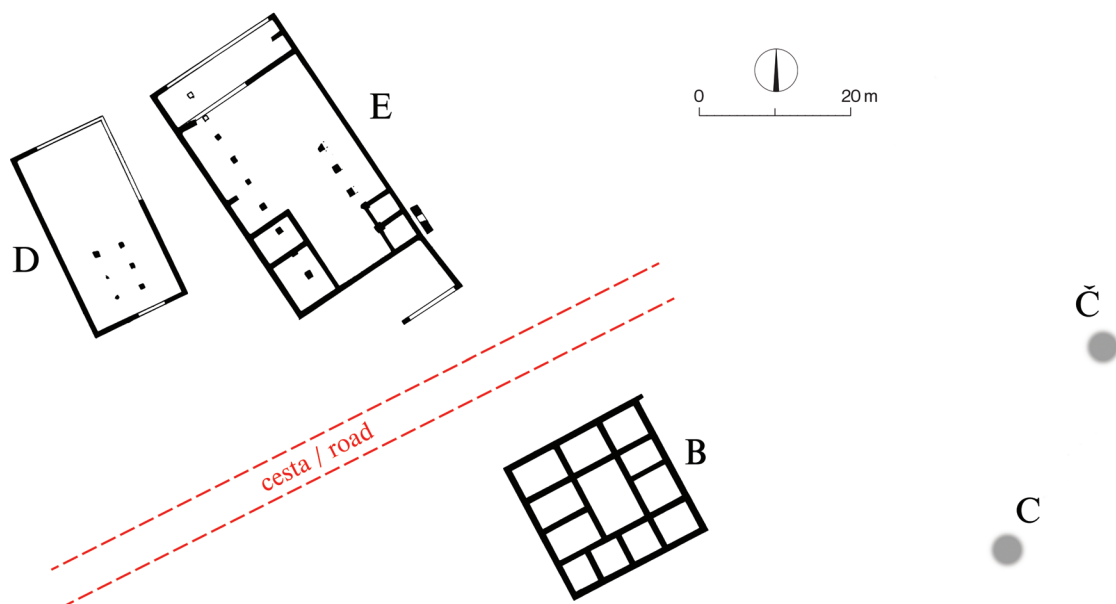
<sup>14</sup> Pahič 1978, 145, Fig. 5.

<sup>15</sup> Pahič 1978, 147.

<sup>16</sup> Mikl-Curk 1976, 23–26.

<sup>17</sup> Strmčnik Gulič, Pahič 1985; Strmčnik Gulič 1990.

<sup>18</sup> In spite of the rain-sodden conditions with high



Sl. 3: Slovenska Bistrica. Stavbe B, D in E ter lega stavb C in Č (dopolnjeno po Strmčnik Gulič, Pahič 1985, 254).

Fig. 3: Slovenska Bistrica. Buildings B, D and E, as well as the location of Buildings C and Č (supplemented after Strmčnik Gulič, Pahič 1985, 254).

njem, v nekaterih so bili tudi odlomki lončenih posod. Poslopje je bilo po vsej verjetnosti uničeno v požaru, nadgradnja se je porušila navzven, kjer je ob zidovju ležala do 30 cm debela ruševinska plast z žganino, kosi oglja in keramiko. Tudi zunaj objekta so bili ostanki lesenih stebrov in kolov, ki govorijo za lesene prizidke ali morda za samostojne lesene gradnje. Na zunanji strani severovzhodnega zidu je bilo odkrito ovalno kurišče.

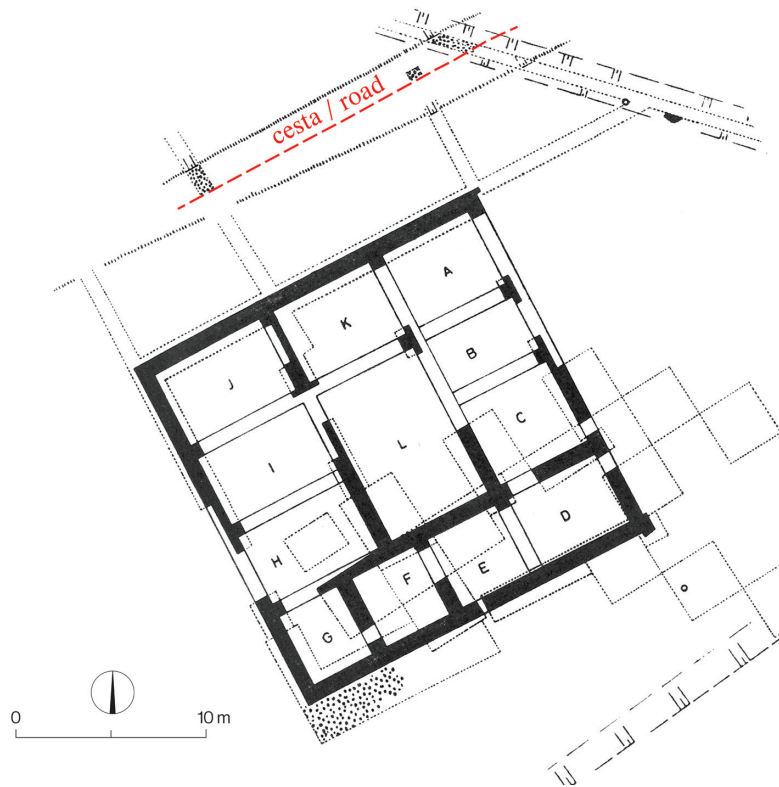
Keramične najdbe so bile redke (največ jih je bilo v žganini zunaj severovzhodnega zidu), zaradi česar sklepamo na gospodarsko funkcijo objekta. Prevladujejo ostanki grobe hišne lončenine, katere začetek sodi v 2. st., glavnina v 3. st., nadaljuje pa se še v 4. st. Najden je bil tudi novc Konstancija Gala (352–354).

Tudi na območju stavbe E je najprej stalo leseno poslopje, od katerega so se ohranile jame za stebre ter 17 m dolg in do 0,35 m globok jarek (sl. 3; 5). Zidana stavba E je bila velika 35,20 × 19,65 m. Imela je osrednje dvorišče, ki je v širini 8 m potekalo po celotni dolžini stavbe in ob katerem so bili razporejeni različno veliki prostori. V naslednji fazi so vsaj del prostorov opustili. V notranjosti so postavili dve vrsti kamnitih temeljev za stebre, v medsebojni razdalji 3,5 m. Na jugozahodni strani se je ohranila linija devetih temeljev stebrov, od katerih sta dva stala na predelnih stenah starejših prostorov. Na severovzhodni strani stavbe so bili ohranjeni

longitudinally divided with two rows of masonry plinths for wooden columns or posts that supported the roof construction. Three plinths survived of the northeast row and only one of the southwest row, while all others were detectable as dark patches. The columns were positioned at a distance of 3.2 m from one another and the rows stood roughly 4.5 m from the walls. The building also revealed a total of 42 pits of different depths (0.20 to 1.70 m) that contained the remains of burned walls, burnt wood and stones, some also pottery sherds. The building was most probably destroyed in a fire with the superstructure collapsing outward, as suggested by an up to 30 cm thick debris layer with burnt remains, pieces of charcoal and pottery alongside the exterior walls. Traces of wooden posts were also found outside the building, indicating the existence of wooden buildings or structures, either as extensions or as independent units. An oval fireplace was unearthed on the exterior side of the northeast wall.

Pottery finds were rare (most recovered among the burnt remains outside the northeast wall), which indicates that the building was not used as living quarters. Most sherds are coarseware; they begin in the 2<sup>nd</sup> century, the

groundwater levels, archaeologists were able to identify three exterior walls of the building and three corners, while the fourth one in the north lay two metres below the ground and was completely submerged.



Sl. 4: Slovenska Bistrica. Stavba B (po Pahič 1978, 145, sl. 5).  
 Fig. 4: Slovenska Bistrica. Building B (from Pahič 1978, 145, Fig. 5).



Sl. 5: Slovenska Bistrica. Stavba E, pogled proti severozahodu, izkopavanja 1983  
 Fig. 5: Slovenska Bistrica. Building E, view towards nord west. Excavations in 1983.  
 (Foto / Photo: arhiv / archives ZVKDS OE Maribor)

trije temelji stebrov. Ob jugovzhodnem pročelju je ležal obsežen predprostor, od katerega se je ohranil le severovzhodni zid.

V primerjavi s stavbo D je bilo v stavbi E več opeke in keramike. Lesena faza stavbe je datirana v 1.–2. st., zidana stavba s prezidavami pa v 3.–4. st.

## GROBIŠČE

Na položnem grebenu na Brinju, severozahodno od naselbine, je bilo med arheološkim nadzorom odkritih 26 žganih grobov, a grobišče ni bilo v celoti raziskano (sl. 1: 3).<sup>19</sup> Grobovi so skromni, pri nekaterih je bila v grobno jamo položena glinena žara, pri drugih pa je bil pepel prosto nasut v grobno jamo. Večinoma so bili brez pridatkov, razen nekaj kosov keramike; tudi ostankov nagrobnikov ni bilo.

Apnena peč, datirana v antiko, je bila zgrajena na prostoru grobišča in ga je deloma uničila. Bila je nepravilno pravokotno oblikovana z merami 6 × 2,50 m in 0,50 m globoka, na dnu so bili ožgani kamni, na robovih debela plast ožgane gline in oglja. V peči so lahko žgali bližnje marmorne kamne, bodisi nagrobne spomenike bodisi nanose potokov Bistrice in Devine.

## RIMSKA CESTA

Na bistriškem območju je bila rimska cesta podrobno raziskovana (sl. 1: 6). Profili so pokazali prerez cestišča s 6,6 m širokim gramoznim nasutjem in obcestnimi jarki ob straneh. Ponekod leži cestišče tik pod površino, drugod so ga prekrile meter ali več debele naplavine v dolinah pohorskih potokov. Na Bistriškem polju je bila podlaga ceste večinoma narejena iz različno velikih prodnikov, površina pa še dodatno utrjena z drobnejšim prodom. Gramoz je bil lahko nasut na nekdanja tla, izjemoma na podlago iz gline. Ohranil se je v debelini okrog 15 cm, redko do 40 cm, na nekaterih odsekih tudi več.<sup>20</sup> Ponekod so bile ugotovljene obnove cestišča in kolesnice ter različno globoki obcestni jarki na eni ali obeh straneh. Na sistematično raziskanem odseku (pri gradnji trgovine Spar) v dolžini skoraj 60 m je največja ohranjena širina vključno s spranim peskom s cestišča v tlorisu znašala 12,64 m, najmanjša pa 6,04 m. V najbolj ohranjenem profilu je širina ceste znašala 7,1 m, debelina nasutja pa 0,31 m.<sup>21</sup>

Novejši podatki o izgradnji cestišča so znani tudi iz jugozahodnega dela Slovenske Bistrice, kjer je bila prav tako zgrajena iz zbitega gramoza, prodnikov, zbitega drobnega peska in ilovice. Nasutje je bilo debelo

majority is attributable to the 3<sup>rd</sup> and some to the 4<sup>th</sup> century. Also found was a coin of Constantius Gallus (352–354).

A wooden building also preceded *Building E*, surviving as postholes, as well as a 17 m long and up to 0.35 m deep ditch (Figs. 3; 5). Masonry *Building E* measured 35.20 × 19.65 m. It had a central courtyard that ran along the whole length of the building in the width of 8 m and was flanked on both sides by variously large rooms. In the second phase, at least some of the rooms were abandoned. Two rows of masonry plinths for columns or posts were set up in the interior, at a distance of 3.5 m from one another. Nine plinths survived of the southwest row, two of which stood on top of the partition walls of earlier rooms. Three plinths survived of the northeast row. A large anteroom was located at the southeast façade, of which only the northeast wall survived.

In contrast with *Building D*, *Building E* yielded more bricks and pottery. Its wooden phase is dated to the 1<sup>st</sup>–2<sup>nd</sup> centuries, the masonry phase with renovations to the 3<sup>rd</sup>–4<sup>th</sup> centuries.

## CEMETERY

The watching brief on the gentle slope called Brinje, to the northwest of the settlement, revealed 26 cremation burials that form part of the cemetery associated with the Roman settlement (Fig. 1: 3).<sup>19</sup> Burials were modest; some burial pits held a ceramic urn, others had the cremated remains simply strewn across the bottom. Most only contained the odd piece of pottery. There were no remains of tombstones or other burial markers.

A limekiln from the Roman period was also found in the area of the cemetery that destroyed part of the burials. It was sub-rectangular in plan, measuring 6 m in length, 2.50 m in width and 0.50 m in depth. It held burned stones on the bottom and a thick layer of burned clay and charcoal along the edges. The kiln may have been used to burn pieces of marble found in the vicinity, either funerary monuments or pieces carried down by the Bistrice and Devina streams.

## ROMAN ROAD

The Roman road running through the Bistrice area has been investigated in detail (Figs. 1; 6). Its cross sections have shown a 6.6 m wide road with a gravel surface flanked on both sides by roadside ditches. In some places, the road was found at a very shallow depth, elsewhere it was covered by a metre or more thick alluvial deposits of the streams running from the Pohorje Hills. In Bistriško polje, the bedding for the road was mainly composed of

<sup>19</sup> Strmčnik Gulič et al. 2008; Pahič 1978, 159 ss.

<sup>20</sup> Pahič 1983, 267–272.

<sup>21</sup> Kajzer Cafnik, Predan 2005.

<sup>19</sup> Strmčnik Gulič et al. 2008; Pahič 1978, 159 ff.



Sl. 6: Slovenska Bistrica. Profil rimske ceste v letu 2007.  
Fig. 6: Slovenska Bistrica. Cross section of the Roman road in 2007.  
(Foto / Photo: arhiv / archives PJP d.o.o.)

do 20 cm in rahlo napeto. Ohranjena širina cestišča je znašala 6,85 m, odtočnih jarkov niso odkrili.<sup>22</sup>

Na severovzhodni strani antične naselbine se je cesta iz ravninskega Bistriškega polja povzpela na Brinje, kjer so jo na zamočvirjenih tleh utrdili s hras-tovimi debli, nato pa je po vzhodnih pobočjih dosegla dolino potoka Devine in potekala dalje ob južnem robu Velenika.<sup>23</sup>

Druga cestna trasa se je od glavne ceste odcepila in potekala vzhodno od stavbe A proti severu.<sup>24</sup>

## ZAKLJUČEK

V južnem delu današnje Slovenske Bistrice so bili na obeh straneh rimske ceste odkriti ostanki vsaj šestih stavb. Tlorisi stavb A, B, D in E se dajo delno rekonstruirati, stavbi C in Č pa sta skoraj povsem uničeni. V bližini stavbe A so bili odkriti sledovi kovaške dejavnosti in ostanki še ene tlakovane ceste, ki je od glavne rimske ceste vodila proti severu, proti Pohorju. Sklepamo, da je bila naselbina z velikimi stavbami izrazito povezana s prometom po cesti, pri čemer moramo pomisliti tudi na transport, skladiščenje in grobo obdelavo marmorja iz pohorskih kamnolomov. Morda je pri prevozu marmorja s Pohorja imela določeno vlogo stranska cesta skozi naselbino.<sup>25</sup>

variously large cobbles covered with the surface layer of finer gravel, elsewhere gravel was laid directly onto the former ground or in rare cases onto a bedding of loam. The gravelly road surface in most cases survived in the thickness of roughly 15 cm, sometimes up to 40 and only exceptionally more.<sup>20</sup> Repairs to the road surface were established in some places, as well as rut marks and variously deep roadside ditches on one or both sides. An almost 60 m long section was systematically investigated in advance of constructing a Spar store, revealing the maximum surviving width of 12.64 m, including the gravel washed off the road, and the minimum width of 6.04 m; the best surviving cross section showed a road 7.1 m wide and 0.31 m thick.<sup>21</sup>

More recent data on the road construction come from the south-western part of Slovenska Bistrica. The road there was also constructed of beaten gravel, cobbles, beaten fine sand and loam. It was up to 20 cm thick, with the slightly elliptical surface surviving in the width of 6.85 m; no roadside ditches were detected.<sup>22</sup>

To the northeast of the Roman settlement, the road ascended from the flatland of Bistriško polje to the elevated terrain at Brinje, where the marshy ground dictated that the road be supported by oak logs. It then proceeded to the valley of the Devina stream and continued along the southern foot of the hill of Velenik.<sup>23</sup>

A road forked off the main road east of Building A to lead northwards.<sup>24</sup>

## CONCLUSION

The remains of at least six buildings have been unearthed in the southern part of present-day Slovenska Bistrica, on both sides of the Roman road. Buildings A, B, D and E can be partly reconstructed in ground plan, while Buildings C and Č were almost completely destroyed. Traces of smithing activities were found in the vicinity of Building A, as were the remains of a minor gravel road that forked off the main road to lead north towards the Pohorje Hills. The Roman settlement with large buildings was presumably closely linked with the traffic along the road, also with the transport, storage and rough processing of the marble quarried in the Pohorje Hills; the minor road that came to the settlement from the north may have been associated with the transport of marble.<sup>25</sup>

*Translation: Andreja Maver*

<sup>22</sup> Žerjal, Černe 2013.

<sup>23</sup> Strmčnik Gulič et al. 2008.

<sup>24</sup> Strmčnik Gulič, Kajzer Cafnik 2004.

<sup>25</sup> Strmčnik Gulič, Kajzer Cafnik 2004. Kolegici Miheli Kajzer Cafnik se iskreno zahvaljujem za tehnično pomoč pri nastajanju članka.

<sup>20</sup> Pahič 1983, 267–272.

<sup>21</sup> Kajzer Cafnik, Predan 2005.

<sup>22</sup> Žerjal, Černe 2013.

<sup>23</sup> Strmčnik Gulič et al. 2008.

<sup>24</sup> Strmčnik Gulič, Kajzer Cafnik 2004.

<sup>25</sup> Strmčnik Gulič, Kajzer Cafnik 2004. I would like to thank my colleague, Mihela Kajzer Cafnik, for her technical support in the contribution.

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