

ROMAN URBAN LANDSCAPE

Aguntum Teurnia

Virunum

Aquileia

Emona
Nauportus

Tergeste

Stein/St. Pantaleon
Ovilava Lauriacum

Iuvavum

Flavia Solva

Poetovio

Celeia

Aquae Iasae

Savaria

Rhipspia

Edited by:
Jana Horvat, Stefan Groh,
Karl Strobel, Mateja Belak

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FROM AQUILEIA TO THE DANUBE**

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Jederna ocena gostote za avtonomna mesta v rimski Panoniji
Kernel density estimator for the autonomous towns in Roman Pannonia
(after Donev (in this book), Fig. 2)

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ROMAN URBAN LANDSCAPE

TOWNS AND MINOR SETTLEMENTS

FROM AQUILEIA TO THE DANUBE

Edited by

Jana Horvat
Stefan Groh
Karl Strobel
Mateja Belak



LJUBLJANA 2024

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FOREWORD



Roman towns and minor settlements in the area of Caput Adriae, Noricum and Pannoniae. The settlements discussed in the book are marked in red (revised version of Šašel Kos, M., P. Scherrer (eds.) *The Autonomous Towns of Noricum and Pannonia*, Situla 40–42, 2002–2004).

More than two decades ago, the proceedings of the conference held in Brdo, Slovenia (1999) were published in three important volumes, which provided an overview of the Roman towns in Noricum, in the Pannonian provinces, as well as of Emona (Ljubljana) in the north-eastern corner of Regio X: Marjeta Šašel Kos, Peter Scherrer (eds.), *The autonomous towns of Noricum and Pannonia*, *Noricum* (2002), *Pannonia I* (2003), *Pannonia II* (2004). Three further conferences were devoted to various aspects of life in the Danube provinces: László Borhy, Paula Zsidi (eds.), *Die norisch-pannonischen Städte und das römische Heer im Lichte der neuesten archäologischen Forschungen* (2005), Peter Scherrer (ed.), *Domus. Das Haus in den Städten der römischen Donauprovinzen* (2008) and Irena Lazar (ed.), *Religion in public and private sphere* (2011).

Since then, new and exciting evidence on these topics has accumulated in the areas between the northern

Adriatic and the middle Danube region, and several new interpretations have been presented for the development of *municipia* and *coloniae*, but also of minor settlements with a different status. Karl Strobel considered taking a fresh look at Roman urban settlements by evaluating the new research results and reassessing our understanding of local and regional development from different and sometimes new perspectives. At his initiative, from 20 to 22 October 2022, Celje hosted the conference ‘Roman urbanism in the north-eastern part of Regio X, in Noricum and the Pannonian provinces: towns and secondary settlements, New results and perspectives.’ It was organised in cooperation with four institutions: Pokrajinski muzej Celje, Universität Klagenfurt – Abt. Alte Geschichte, Altertumskunde und Archäologie, ZRC SAZU – Inštitut za arheologijo, and Österreichisches Archäologisches Institut der Österreichischen Akademie der Wissenschaften.

In view of the wealth of new knowledge, it was decided to prepare a book presenting new elements of the urbanistic aspects of Roman towns and minor settlements in the large area of Caput Adriae, Noricum, and Pannonia. The result of these efforts is twenty-six contributions by 54 authors from eight countries (Austria, Slovenia, Italy, Croatia, Hungary, Serbia, Montenegro, North Macedonia). With this publication, we have attempted to expand the knowledge about the development of towns and some other important settlements and their integration into a larger network of urban and rural agglomerations.

The initial two articles present broader but different perspectives on urbanisation. In the next part, twenty-two settlements are discussed. The extreme north-east of Regio X is represented by four settlements (Aquileia, Tergeste, Emona and Nauportus). The book includes most of the autonomous towns in Noricum as well as some other settlement areas (Celeia, Flavia Solva, Virunum, Magdalensberg, Teurnia, Aguntum, Iuvavum, Ovilava, Lauriacum, Stein). Selected towns and minor settlements are presented from the provinces of Pannonia Superior (Vindobona, Carnuntum, Strebersdorf-Frankenau, Savaria, Poetovio, Aquae Iasae) and Pannonia Inferior (Mursa, Bassiane).

The book offers the most important results of mainly large research groups. Two research strategies stand out in particular, with which it was possible to record comprehensive data on large or even massive ancient settlements. Systematic and large-scale geophysical surveys have provided excellent insight into areas that were not built on in modern times. These surveys are combined with various other methods such as aerial photography, LiDAR images, surface surveys and archaeological excavations (e.g., Carnuntum, Flavia

Solva, Stein, Teurnia). In modern, heavily built-up areas, however, researchers relied mainly on the accurate recording and mapping of all kinds of archaeological evidence, from chance finds to preventive excavations. After several decades, this tedious and laborious work led to rich results (e.g., Ovilava, Iuvavum, Celeia, Mursa, Emona, Aquileia). In most cases, however, combining all possible traditional and modern methods enabled an enormous increase in knowledge.

We wish and intend that the information in this book will enable and stimulate an understanding of the individual towns and provide a more general picture to shed light on certain questions concerning the economic and social role of the settlement in the wider area between the Adriatic and the Danube. The area is located in the contact zone between the eastern and western halves of the Empire and encompasses parts of the three geographical areas (i.e., the Mediterranean, Alpine and Continental worlds), which could make the book interesting for a broader understanding of the functioning of the Roman Empire. Ultimately, we hope the publication will be a starting point for further research.

The book is based on the collaboration of three institutions (ZRC SAZU - Inštitut za arheologijo, Universität Klagenfurt, Österreichisches Archäologisches Institut der Österreichischen Akademie der Wissenschaften). It is the result of the concentrated efforts of the authors and numerous other individuals. In addition to the two main reviewers, Katarina Šmid and Julijana Visočnik, numerous colleagues shared their knowledge with the authors and the editors and provided them with expert advice.

Jana Horvat, Karl Strobel, Stefan Groh

URBANISATION

Karl STROBEL

For a long time, Tacitus' statement about an urbanizing policy of Agricola in Britain (Agric. 21, 1-2) was seen to be the contemporary key marker of the Roman strategy of civilizing the conquered provinces in north-western and south-eastern Europe by urbanisation creating an urban *romanitas* as a new identity and lifestyle of the elites and of the people living in the new cities. This model of urban Romanisation is being discussed especially for Roman Britain, but it is now included into the debates of identity-culture, post-colonialism and imperialism theories emerging in the later 20th century. The structural determinant of urbanisation within the organisation of the Empire and its administrative government is more and more neglected. Also the modern theoretical concepts of urbanism and urbanisation being a megatrend of modern civilisation and meaning the population shift from rural countries to cities and the development of mega-cities cannot be used for analysing the urbanisation in the Roman Empire.

Urbanisation is an obvious phenomenon in the western provinces of the Roman Empire; it is based on the autonomous city-state or municipality represented in the East by the Greek and Hellenistic *polis*, in the West by the model of the Roman-Italic *civitas*. In the Roman definition, the terminus *civitas* had different meanings: the territory of a statutory corporation of citizens or municipality, also the central settlement or town of such a territorial unit, then the common right of a statutory corporation of people, i. e. the specific citizenship, and at last the *multitudo* or *corpus hominum*, the constituting body of free human beings of a *civitas*. It is always the community or corporate body of all free citizens who formed the *civitas* which represented the territorial sovereignty as an autonomous territorial unit under Roman provincial supremacy. Such a statutory corporation could be a peregrine *civitas*, a *civitas* with Latin

citizenship, a *municipium* with *ius Latii minus* or *maius* or a *colonia* with Latin legal status or a *colonia* of Roman citizens. All these communities in the provinces had to pay the *tributum solis* for possession and *ususfructus* of the provincial land, only the land of the few Roman colonies with *ius Italicum* had the same legal status as the land of Roman citizens in Italy, the soil being tax-free and with the full right of personal property (*proprietas*, *dominium ex iure Quiritium*). The elected magistrates of the communities with Latin legal status received the Roman citizenship together with their families. The rest of the free population remained in their peregrine status. Even in Roman colonies not all free inhabitants of the city-territory had the Roman citizenship. Still in Late Antiquity, the imperial authority considered the cities not only as administrative sub-unities, but as autonomous territorial entities with its own constitution, self-government and administration, with legislative competences and traditional jurisdiction. The system of autonomous cities being the decentralised organisation of the provinces remained a basic structure of the Empire into the 6th c. AD; there was no break in the later 3rd c. AD as often supposed.

The autonomous city-states or municipalities with their self-administration provided the basic structure for the decentralised system of Roman administration and dominance in the empire with a minimum of centralised institutions and personal. This system provided stability for the Roman rule and integrated the local and regional elites. The legal hierarchy of the different levels of communities in the provinces which differentiated not only the *civitates* themselves but also settlements within the decentralised inner organisation of the *civitates* made the system even more efficient. This element of structural organisation of the Empire was the main focus of the imperial policy concerning urbanisation.

Each autonomous community or city state had its own internal constitution, its special civil laws, its own *religio* and its own local citizenship. All citizens inherited this local citizenship for lifetime, even if they lived in another city as foreigners or co-opted citizens. Even if they also have the Roman citizenship as a superior ‘international’ citizenship, they were obliged to fulfil the *munera* as citizens of their home-city or *patria*. The municipalities and their magistrates had to perform the regional and local administration, including tax obligations, and the lower jurisdiction in their territories, thus building up the decentralised administrative system of the Empire. However, still in the 3rd c. AD the imperial government preserved and respected the legal status of the *civitates liberae* (*et foederatae*) being officially sovereign states under the conditions of international law and of their interstate relations with Rome based upon mutual treaties or granted privileges. However, absolute loyalty to Roman rule had to be ensured.

A perfect example of structural urbanisation, of this strategy of administrative organisation on a regional level by establishing autonomous municipalities, is the creation of the town Augusta Treverorum probably on the 1st of August 12 BC by the Roman authority as the new centre of the peregrine Civitas Treverorum. The Civitas Treverorum with its new urban centre became a *colonia* of Latin citizenship under Claudius. In Noricum, a new administrative and political structure with urban settlements as the new regional centres was established under Claudius in a well-planned act of urbanisation policy, but only within the territory of the early *provincia in regno Norico* conquered in 16 BC and enlarged in 15 BC. The inner organisation of the new province was established in eight peregrine civitates of the Norici, Ambidravi, Ambilini, Ambisontes, Saevates, Laianci, Elvetti and Uperaci who formed the *concilium provinciae* already in 12/11 BC. The Claudian reorganisation created five municipia of Latin legal status, Virunum, Teurnia, Aguntum, Iuvavum and Celeia. All the central cities of these autonomous

communities were new creations, even the Roman city of Celeia was built on a totally new city-plan. The civitates of the Ambisontes, Elvetti and Alouni were merged into the municipium of Iuvavum, the Saevates, Laianci and Ambilini into the municipium of Aguntum, the civitas of the Norici was divided between Virunum in the north and Celeia in the south. Teurnia got the enlarged territory of the Ambridravi, the rest of the Uperaci was merged into the territory of Virunum.

However, the inner territorial organisation of the cities or civitates in the Not-Hellenised provinces of the empire was also formed by hierarchized sub-levels of decentralised administration within the municipalities, the *pagi* and the *vici* as semi-autonomous statutory corporate bodies equipped with inner autonomy and self-administration and low jurisdiction under the control of the civitas-magistrates. The definition of the *vicus* in Roman law and administration consider it to be a *res publica* of its own with its own elected magistrates and local jurisdiction or at least granted by the Roman authorities with a market and market jurisdiction. The Roman *vicus* is a legal person, a corporate body under public law with its own religious organisation, it is even the official place of birth (*patria, origo*) as mark of origin below the civitas-notification. The *vicus* is a non-urban *res publica vice civitatis* of a corporate body of inhabitants, and the *vicus* is at the same time the official central settlement of its territorial subunit in the territory of a civitas. The *vici* can be called “small cities”. The modern archaeological terminology uses the terminus *vicus* for different types of settlements, but this has nothing to do with the strict definition of the terminus in Antiquity. Especially there cannot be a *vicus* on the military territory around a Roman military camp, because a *res publica* of its own was not possible under the specific legal status of military soil being the direct property and possession of the *Populus Romanus*. They are always only *canabae*. The mark of origin for their indigenous population is *castris*.

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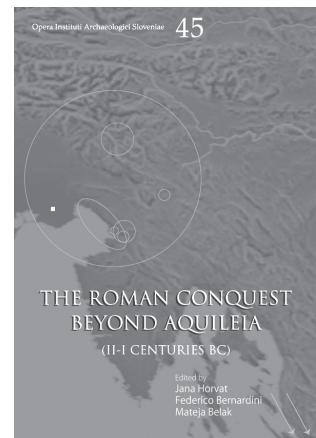
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The Roman conquest beyond Aquileia (II-I centuries BC)

Edited by: Jana Horvat, Federico Bernardini, Mateja Belak

The increase in archaeological knowledge sheds new light on the presence of the Roman army and conflict archaeology in the Caput Adriae region and on the eastern coast of the Adriatic Sea. The nine contributions by 19 authors from four countries (Italy, Slovenia, Croatia and Austria) summarise the historical, epigraphic and archaeological evidence. The main part of the book is devoted to the northern Adriatic and its hinterland in the 2nd and 1st centuries BC. The topography of the first year of the Histrian War (178-177 BC) is examined in the context of a historical debate. The archaeological evidence of the early Roman military presence is discussed in the chapters on the military camps of San Rocco and Grociana piccola, the beginnings of Tergeste on the hill of San Giusto, the conflicts with the autochthonous population, and the epigraphic evidence of the Roman army. The remains of the early Roman camps provide a new insight into the landscape of central Dalmatia. On the basis of written sources, the Roman offensive policy in the southern Adriatic, in the Ionian region and in the interior of the Balkans is analysed.

Opera Instituti Archaeologici Sloveniae 45, 2023; 184 pages, 80 plans, photos and drawings
DOI: <https://doi.org/10.3986/9789610507116>; 37.00 EUR

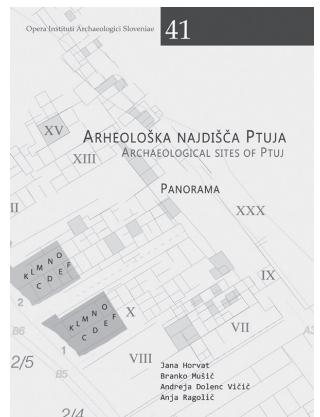


Arheološka najdišča Ptuja. Panorama Archaeological sites of Ptuj. Panorama

Jana Horvat, Branko Mušič, Andreja Dolenc Vičič, Anja Ragolič

The hill of Panorama in Ptuj is one of the most important areas of Roman Poetovio. Chance finds and small-scale excavations in the past centuries have revealed the existence of significant archaeological remains that included buildings with numerous rooms and objects dedicated to a variety of deities, the remains of a sanctuary dedicated to the Nutrices, an Early Christian church, an aqueduct and a cemetery. The geophysical investigations have revealed the urban design with a rectilinear grid of streets and building plots. The first few chapters of the book present the history of archaeological research on Panorama, the analytical approaches and the geophysical investigations with the methods employed and the final results. The main chapters correlate the archaeological data of differing quality and nature (chance finds, rescue excavations, old and modern archaeological investigations, geophysical surveys) and locate them with a series of plans. The comprehensive overview is supported by a Catalogue of stone monuments that presents the basic data, descriptions, bibliography, commentary and photographs of the stone objects recovered on Panorama.

Opera Instituti Archaeologici Sloveniae 41, 2020; 192 pages, 68 plans, 12 photographs of artefacts, 56 photographs and drawings
DOI: <https://doi.org/10.3986/9789610502722>; 33.00 EUR



Manjša rimska naselja na slovenskem prostoru Minor Roman settlements in Slovenia

Edited by: Jana Horvat, Irena Lazar, Andrej Gaspari

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. Twenty-six authors wrote contributions on individual settlements in a comprehensive and clear manner roughly following a common concept. 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.



Opera Instituti Archaeologici Sloveniae 40, 2020; 424 pages, 232 plans, photos and drawings
DOI: <https://doi.org/10.3986/9789610502586>; 49.00 EUR

Korinjski hrib in poznoantične vojaške utrdbe v Iliriku Korinjski hrib and late antique military forts in Illyricum

Slavko Ciglenečki, Zvezdana Modrijan, Tina Milavec

The monograph presents the results of two-year excavations (1982 and 1983) on the late-antique fortified hilltop settlement Korinjski hrib above Veliki Korinj in Suha Krajina, where the remains of five defence towers and an early Christian church were explored. The settlement was initially recognized as a military post and as such represented an exception in the Eastern Alpine area. Such a definition raised some doubts and dilemmas. These dilemmas are presented - in addition to geographical outline and research history - in the Introduction. The following set presents - in text and with abundant graphic material – field reports of excavations of towers, the church, and a small cemetery.

All groups of finds (non-pottery, pottery and coins) and anthropological and archaeological studies are also presented.

An extensive chapter is devoted to the interpretation of architectural remains (towers, church, the fort as a whole). The conclusion also discusses the prehistoric settlement, and the results of structural survey of the ruins of church of St George just below the fort.



Opera Instituti Archaeologici Sloveniae 39, 2020; 400 pages, 229 plans, drawings and photos, 13 graphs, 39 plates, appendix
DOI: <https://doi.org/10.3986/9789610502555>; 49.00 EUR



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