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ROMAN COSMETIC AND MEDICAL INSTRUMENTS FROM CĂLUGĂRENI / MIKHÁZA

Gergely BÁLINT^{*} – Szilamér-Péter PÁNCZÉL^{**}

One of the most valuable sources of Roman medical and cosmetic knowledge are the artefacts discovered at various archaeological sites. However, determining the exact functionality of these objects is challenging, as many tools could have served a dual purpose. Therefore, we can only speculate about their intended use, unless they are found in a clear context. Numerous objects belonging to these categories have been unearthed in Dacia, but this paper focuses on the 25 artefacts, which originate from the Roman military site of Călugăreni / Mikháza on the eastern limes of Dacia.

Keywords: cosmetics, medicine, Dacia, *limes*, artefacts Cuvinte-cheie: cosmetică, medicină, Dacia, *limes*, artefacte

Cosmetics played a significant role in the daily life and social identity of the Romans, serving both aesthetic and symbolic purposes. The use of makeup and personal grooming products was prevalent among women and men of varying social classes, though the extent and quality of these items often reflected one's status. Roman cosmetics were not solely about vanity but were deeply embedded in cultural practices, revealing insights into ideals of beauty, social stratification, and the interplay of identity and status within the society, even on the borders of the Empire.¹

The Roman medical practices were a blend of Greek influence, folk remedies, and evolving techniques shaped by the needs of an expansive and diverse Empire. Treatments often included dietary regulation, herbal remedies, bloodletting and surgery. While some practices were advanced for their time, others relied heavily on superstition and religious practices. Military medicine was also highly developed, surgeons performed amputations, removed projectiles, and treated wounds using tools remarkably similar to modern surgical instruments, mainly to preserve the fighting capacity of the army and the individual soldiers.²

The Cohors I Augusta Ituraeorum saggitariorum unit defended the upper Niraj Valley along the eastern *limes* of Roman Dacia for more than 150 years in the 2nd century and the first part of the 3rd century and it was stationed in the auxiliary fort of Călugăreni / Mikháza (Mureş / Maros County, Romania). The components of the site: the auxiliary fort (Area A, Area D), the bathhouse (area B) and the surrounding military *vicus* (Area C, ERC 2018) have been systematically researched since 2013 in the framework of research (Fig. 1) and rescue excavations (ERA, ERC, CAP, CAB).³

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¹ Olson 2008, 58–79; Gui 2011.

² Jackson 1990.

³ Due to various interconnected projects focusing on the research, conservation, and presentation of sites along the eastern border of Roman Dacia, aerial archaeological, geophysical, architectural and topographical surveys, as well as rescue and research excavations have been undertaken at Călugăreni since 2008. We would like to thank our colleagues who participated in the field researches and in the

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Fig. 1. The excavations until 2024 (auxiliary fort in turquoise): 1961 excavations in blue; 2004, 2011–2012 excavations in green; 2013–2024 excavations in orange (Made by P. Simon and Sz. P. Pánczél).

The archaeological site of Călugăreni presents a rich assemblage of artefacts, including a notable collection of cosmetic and medical tools. These artefacts provide valuable insight into the daily life of the Roman soldiers stationed at the *limes*, as well as the civilian population residing in the military vicus. The tools reflect the practical and personal concerns of the community, illustrating their practices of hygiene, health, and self-care. Such artefacts not only shed light on the utilitarian aspects of Roman frontier life, but also underscore the cultural exchange and adaptation within these border regions. The artefacts in question come from excavations at the *principia* of the auxiliary fort (14 objects), the military vicus (10 objects), and one was recovered from the close by watchtower on Pogor Hill⁴ during field survey.

The term palettes refers to those stone plaques that primarily served as lids for small boxes, which could be pushed in with the help of a rail. The boxes were not only suitable for storing the raw materials needed for various medicines, ointments and cosmetic products, but their owners could also keep valuables in them. Most boxes were probably made of wood, which is why only a few examples have survived, but in some cases bone, ivory and bronze were used as well. These boxes were usually 7–8 cm long and 5–6 cm wide, and had separate compartments covered with individual lids.⁵

Several rectangular and square palettes have been found in Dacia⁶ and our fragments belong to those made of limestone slate (schist).⁷ Besides serving as lids, on the even surface of the palettes medicine, ointments or cosmetic products were prepared.⁸ It is important to note that these lids

restoration process of the finds, especially Krisztina Csibi and Zsolt-Szabolcs Nagy for their help with the illustrations and Cloudscale Digital for the digital reconstruction of the mirror. For an overview concerning the state of research at Călugăreni, see: SZILÁGYI–PÁNCZÉL 2023, 45–46, and papers published since: KOVÁCS 2023; NAGY–PÁNCZÉL 2024; MATEI-POPESCU–PÁNCZÉL 2024.

⁴ Höpken et al. 2016, 246–247.

⁵ Baker 2009, 5.

⁶ See mainly: GUDEA-BAJUSZ 1992, 266–258, 288–291 pl. XIV-XVII; VARGA 2015, 191–192, pl. IV/5, V/8.

⁷ RIHA 1986, 46–48, Kat. 189–203, 133–135; Taf. 18–20/189–203.

⁸ VARGA 2015, 184; Weller et al. 2016, 33, 35–36, 41–43.

were always rectangular or square and should not be confused with the round lids of cosmetic *pyxis*,⁹ or the elongated bronze *theca vulneraria*, in which medical instruments were kept.¹⁰

Two palette fragments were found in Călugăreni (Cat. 1–2), both are rectangular box lids, but the boxes were not recovered. In one case (Cat. 2) we can determine the width of the lid and imply the width of the box, which is 7.3 cm, and this is wider than most of the known examples from Dacia. Both came from the *principia* so it can be presumed, that they had a medical or pharmacological utility.

The needles (*acus*) are one of the most common finds at Roman archaeological sites, they are mostly made of bone, bronze, or iron. The needles were basic tools of the *medicus* since they were used for sewing wounds or bandages, but they had a more important role in the textile industry.¹¹

There are needles documented from several sites in the province of Dacia, but the thick bone needles were used for sewing rather than medical purposes, so only metal ones can be considered, such as those from Apulum,¹² Ulpia Traiana Sarmizegetusa¹³ or Porolissum.¹⁴

Of the Călugăreni needles, only one (Cat. 3) is better preserved, even if most of the head is missing, the lower part of a round eye is visible on the preserved shaft. The other two needles (Cat. 4–5) are quite fragmentary and only their corroded tip is preserved, so we cannot exclude, that they might be hairpin or *stylus* fragments. One (Cat. 4) is made of copper alloy, the other (Cat. 5) is made of iron.

The forceps or tweezers (*vulsellae*, *volsellae*) are perhaps the most frequent tools in both medical and cosmetic practice. The larger forceps were mainly used in medicine to lift the skin tissue during surgery and to remove foreign bodies from the human body.¹⁵ For dental sur-

- ¹¹ Alicu-Cociş 1989, 225.
- ¹² Igna 1936, 225–226, no. 15, 17, pl. X/15, 17.
- ¹³ Alicu-Cociş 1989, 225, 234, 231 pl. III/16; Alicu et
- AL. 1994, 108, no. 718–722, pl. 38–39/718–722.
- ¹⁴ Gudea-Bajusz 1992, 260–261, pl. VII/1–12.
- ¹⁵ Alicu-Cociş 1989, 226.

gery, the *forfex*, a special forceps with stronger teeth or the *staphylocaust* were used.¹⁶

The smaller *vulsellae* could also be used for healing purposes – removing smaller foreign bodies (arrow fragments), or meddling with sensitive parts of the human body, such as the eyes,¹⁷ but they were mainly used for epilation by both genders. They were a common tool in baths, where professional hair removal was often carried out by the *alipilus*.¹⁸ They were also used for tweezing the eyebrows as nowadays.¹⁹

Forceps were found at several sites in Dacia and the biggest one is the 16.9 cm long forceps from Berzovia, which narrows down its purpose to a surgical instrument, and the hooked end could have served to remove bladder or kidney stones.²⁰

Our material contains one complete forceps (Cat. 6) and six fragmentary ones (Cat. 7-12), all of them made of copper alloy. The complete one (Cat. 6) was most likely used for cosmetic purposes, which is also supported by the fact that it was discovered in the vicus. The head is omegashaped and the arms are slightly curved inwards and have pointed tips.²¹ Two non-joining fragments of another forceps (Cat. 7) were found, which is quite similar to the previous one, except that the arms seem to be rather parallel.²² The slightly larger forceps head fragment (Cat. 8) may have had a medical purpose. The smaller forceps head fragments (Cat. 9-12) had rather a cosmetic purpose. Three forceps arm fragments were also identified (Cat. 13-15), but they do not belong to the other fragments. One of them (Cat. 15) was used with certainty for cosmetic purposes, the length of another (Cat. 13) suggests that it might have been used for surgery. One is in very poor condition (Cat. 14), but a small cavity can also be seen on one side and it is significantly thicker than the other two (Cat. 13 and 15).

The spatulas were primarily used as dosing spoons, but they could also replace the probes,

- ¹⁸ Facsády 2013, 20–21.
- ¹⁹ Facsády 2013, 36.
- ²⁰ Flutur-Flutur 2007, 75.
- ²¹ WELLER ET AL. 2016, 50, type 1.1.9.
- ²² WELLER ET AL. 2016, 49, type 1.1.5.
- WELLER ET AL. 2010, 49, type 1.1

⁹ Facsády 2013, 32–34.

¹⁰ Giunio 2010, 26–27.

¹⁶ BAKER 2009, 3.

¹⁷ VARGA 2015, 184.

so they were common in both the doctor's and the average person's equipment.²³

The *spatomella* was a type of spatula-probe that had two different ends. With its egg-shaped end, powders were mixed in vessels or on palettes, making it the primary tool for mixing paints, ointments, medicines and even cauterising small wounds.²⁴ Its leaf-shaped end was used for dispensing, as well as for covering the nasal cavity to stop nosebleeds. *Spatomellae* were also used to examine the oral cavity and provided protection around the ribs during bone surgery. The length of these spatula-probes ranged from 6 to 15 centimetres on average, so they came in several sizes.²⁵

Another type of spatula were the spoonsprobes, the *cyathiscomele*, which were similar to the aforementioned, but ended in a leaf-shaped form. These were used when medicine had to be measured and extracted from vessels. Their size also varied, as did the volume of medicine containers.²⁶

The spatulas and spatula-probes were mainly made of bronze, as evidenced by the

examples found at Ulpia Traiana Sarmizegetusa,²⁷ Apulum,²⁸ Porolissum,²⁹ or other sites in Dacia,³⁰ but in some cases bone was used as well.³¹

Of the objects from Călugăreni, six items belong to this category (Cat. 16-21) and all are made of copper alloy. They may have been used for mixing and dispensing pharmaceutical or cosmetic products. The first spatula is a fragment (Cat 16.) with a square spoon and hollow handle. The second one (Cat.17) is complete and has a flat rounded spoon, while the tip of the handle is pointed. The next one (Cat. 18) has a slightly curved spoon, while in the case of the almost complete one (Cat. 19) the handle is bent and the spoon is flat and angular and slightly recessed. Two unconnected fragments of another spatula with a leaf-shaped spoon and decorated handle (Cat. 20) are strongly corroded. A slightly curved spatula, with a square spoon (Cat. 21) is one of the better preserved.

The scientific name for the ear probe is *oricularium speculum / specillum oricularium*, although the Romans referred to it as *ligula*. Two types can be distinguished in this category:



Fig. 2. Digital reconstructions of the mirror (Cat. 24) from Pogor Hill (Made by Cloudscale Digital)

²³ Suciu 2006, 245, 277.

- ²⁴ VARGA 2015, 184.
- ²⁵ Baker 2009, 7.

²⁶ BAKER 2009, 8.

²⁷ Alicu-Cociş 1989, 224–225, 230–231, pl. II/7–11, III/12–15.

- ²⁸ Igna 1936, 226, no. 6–11, pl. XI/6–11.
- ²⁹ Gudea-Bajusz 1992, 264, no. 11–13, pl. 11–13.
- ³⁰ Cociș 1990, 241–249, no. 6–13, fig. 1/2–4, 6–7, 2/1–2, 7.
- 7. ³¹ Cociş 1990, 242, 248, no. 14–17, 245, fig. 3/1, 3, 5, 4/3.

we can talk about ear probes ending in a flat head, as well as those with a circular end. Their handles are always thin and usually decorated; they are mainly made of copper alloy. The physician used the ear probe for examining and treating the ear; for example, parasites, foreign bodies in the ear were removed with a probe dipped in wax.³² Not only doctors, but also ordinary citizens had this type of item in their toolkit, since it could be used for cleaning the inside of the ear.³³ Interestingly, one would think of a tool explicitly utilized for the ear, but in the case of other sensory organs, such as the eyes, it also proved useful when dripping medicinal fluid into the iris.³⁴ Such objects have also been found at Sarmizegetusa,³⁵ Apulum,³⁶ Porolissum³⁷ and other sites from Dacia.³⁸

The silver ear probe (Cat. 22) is special because of the state of conservation and its material, since in eastern Dacia everyday tools were rarely made of precious metals. The spoon of the ear probe is rounded, and we can observe a double horizontal groove decoration around its neck, in the Bajusz–Gudea typology it belongs to type SA2.³⁹

The origins of Roman mirrors (*speculum*) can be traced back to the Greeks and Etruscans, although its widespread use began during the early Roman Imperial period. Mirrors from this era were circular or oval and designed to be handheld, though it was not entirely uncommon to hang mirrors on walls. Handles and the back were often elaborately decorated, reflecting the artistic craftsmanship of the time, and most mirrors were crafted from metal, predominantly copper alloys or lead, although examples made from precious metals also existed.⁴⁰

K. Roth-Rubi classified Roman mirrors based on whether they feature handles or not,⁴¹

- ³⁴ Alicu-Cociş 1989, 224.
- ³⁵ ALICU-COCIS 1989, 227, no. 2-6, 229, pl. I/2-6.
- ³⁶ Igna 1936, 225, no. 2–5, pl. X/2–5.
- ³⁷ GUDEA-BAJUSZ 1992, 261, no. 1–6, 282, pl. VIII/1–7.
- ³⁸ Cociș 1990, 241–242, no. 2–5, 243–245, fig. 1/5, 2/5–6, 3/4.
- ³⁹ GUDEA-BAJUSZ 1992, 274, fig. 5/SA2.
- ⁴⁰ Alicu et al. 1994, 55.
- ⁴¹ Roth-Rubi 1977, 31–41.

and G. Lloyd-Morgan developed a more complex typology that is still in use.⁴²

Our mirror fragments (Cat. 23–24) were decorated on the lathe, and were made of tinned bronze.⁴³ The decoration of concentric circles indicates that the mirror had a disk shape, but the size of the fragment makes it impossible to determine whether it had a handle or how it was attached to the disk. Based on the decoration, we can presume that it belongs to Riha version C or D⁴⁴ and the Lloyd-Morgan type G.⁴⁵

As far as razors (*novaculum*) are concerned, J. Garbsch⁴⁶ and E. Riha⁴⁷ thought that shorthandled knives measuring 11–18 centimetres could also have been razors, G. C. Boon contradicts their theory, stating that Roman razors were rather wide and did not have sharp blades. These knives, which appear in written sources under the name *cultellus tonsorius* (barber's small knife), were nail-cutting tools, as there is no mention of nail scissors.⁴⁸

We have iconographic sources that provide a realistic appearance of razors, but several types can be distinguished in the archaeological material. The triangular razor was most popular during the reign of the Julio-Claudian dynasty; the framed razor was mainly used later and its defining features were the zoomorphic figures at the end of the handle. There were also folding razors with a trapezoidal shape and wide blades; several of these have been found in good condition in Pompeii, where they must have been highly popular. There are also the so-called dolphin razors, named after their shape. Boon also mentions spatulas resembling trapezoidal razors, but these were used to spread wax on tablets that were later used for writing.49

⁴⁴ Riha 1986, 13–15, 117–118, Taf. 2/7–12, Taf. 3/21–24.

- ⁴⁶ Garbsch 1975, 69–73.
- ⁴⁷ Riha 1986, 28–30.

⁴⁹ Boon 1991, 24–32.

³² Baker 2009, 7.

³³ VARGA 2015, 184.

⁴² Lloyd-Morgan 1977.

⁴³ The analysis was made with XRF in the archaeometry laboratory of the Transylvanian Museum Society from Cluj Napoca in the framework of the External Research Programs.

⁴⁵ For parallels concerning this type of decorations, see examples from Ulpia Traiana Sarmizegetusa: ALICU ET AL. 1994, 56, 110, no. 742, pl. 42/742.

⁴⁸ Boon 1991, 21–23.



Fig. 3. Functionality of the analysed material.

Our razor (Cat. 25) is of the trapezoidal type. Because it was found in the *vicus*, it is conceivable that it belonged to one of the veterans or civilians living there.

In our material (Fig. 3) we have two palettes made of stone, three needles (one made of iron and two of bronze), ten bronze forceps / tweezers, six bronze spatulas, one silver ear probe, one bronze razor and two tinned bronze mirror fragments. The majority of these objects are quite fragmentary and not so well preserved, they have a simple decoration and are made of accessible materials. As an exception, we shall mention the silver ear probe (Cat. 22) and the two tinned mirror fragments (Cat. 23–24), which were also decorated.

Due to their size and the fact that most of the artefacts were found scattered all around the site, we can conclude that they served most probably a cosmetic purpose. However, the possibility that some of them were also used for medical purposes, can't be completely ruled out, considering the fact that the majority were recovered from the auxiliary fort, where the preservation of bodily integrity and health would undoubtedly have been important. Even if they were discovered in the fort, it is difficult to ascertain that a particular artefact really belonged to a surgeon or doctor and was used for medical purposes, unless it is part of a set, or comes from a clear context.⁵⁰

CATALOGUE⁵¹

1. Cosmetic palette (Pl. I/1). Limestone slate; corner fragment of a cosmetic palette with finely profiled edges: conserved. L = 58.20 mm; W = 33.23 mm; T = 8.34 mm; Lupper surface = 31.02 mm; Wt = 16.25 g. CAL 2013; A *principia*; Cx. 003; Sf. 321; Inv. 15632.

2. Cosmetic palette (Pl. I/2).

Limestone slate; fragment of a cosmetic palette with finely profiled edges; conserved. L = 60.39 mm; W = 73.02 mm; T = 7.50 mm; L

upper surface = 50.10 mm; W upper surface = 56.68 mm; Wt = 65.30 g.

⁵⁰ Jackson 2003, 312–313.

⁵¹ The following datasets and abbreviations have been used: catalogue number; object name; illustration; material; description; state of conservation; dimensions (L = length, W = Width; T = Thickness; D = diameter; Wt = weight); site code, excavation area; Cx. = context number; Sf. = small find number; Inv. = inventory number. The artefacts belong to the Archaeological collection of the Mureş County Museum.

CAL 2015; A3 <i>principia</i> ; Cx. 114; Sf. 10125; Inv. 15633.	9. Bronze forceps (Pl. I/9). Copper alloy; fragment of a double-armed for- ceps, omega-shaped head; not restored.
3. Bronze needle (Pl. I/3).	L = 21.21 mm; W = 7.16 mm; T = 7.32 mm; Wt
Copper alloy; fragment of a needle with round	= 0.76 g.
eye, flattened head, tapering towards the tip; conserved.	ERC 2018; AIII/80 CM/1-12 vicus; passim; Sf. 417; Inv. 15530.
L = 62.03 mm; D = 2.39 mm; Wt = 0.79 g.	
CAL 2015; A3 <i>principia</i> ; Cx. 113; Sf. 958; Inv. 14539.	10. Bronze forceps (Pl. I/10). Copper alloy; fragment of a double-armed for-
	ceps, omega-shaped head; not restored.
4. Bronze needle (Pl. 1/4).	L = 14.2 mm; W = 8.2 mm; T = 3.4 mm; Wt =
Copper alloy; fragment of a slightly curved nee-	0.37 g.
dle tip, tapering towards the tip; conserved. L = 16.90 mm; D = 2.09 mm; G = 0.04 g.	CAL 2021; A8 <i>principia</i> ; Cx. 649; St. 12143; Inv. 17242.
CAL 2015; A1 <i>principia</i> ; Cx. 127; SI. 10170; INV.	11 Droppe formers (DI 1/11)
1/230.	Copper alloy; fragment of a double-armed for-
J. from frequence (FI. 1/3).	L = 15.15 mm; W = 5.65 mm; T = 3.82 mm; Wt
the tip: conserved	$L = 15.15$ mm, $W = 5.05$ mm, $1 = 5.02$ mm, $Vt = 0.45 \sigma$
$I = 16.14 \text{ mm} \cdot D = 1.09 \text{ mm} \cdot Wt = 0.02 \text{ g}$	-0.13 g. CAI 2023: A/2023 principia: Cx 868: Sf 13469:
CAL 2015; A1 <i>principia</i> ; Cx. 108; Sf. 10143; Inv.	Inv. 17237.
15797.	
6. Bronze forceps (Pl. I/6). Copper alloy; complete double-armed forceps	12. Bronze forceps (Pl. I/12). Copper alloy; fragment of a double-armed for- ceps, omega-shaped head; not restored.
with slightly curved handles, omega-shaped head; conserved. L = 72.77 mm; W = 10.55 mm; T = 6.50 mm;	L = 11.67 mm; W = 7.02 mm; T = 3.72 mm, Wt = 0.35 g. CAL 2023; A/2023 <i>principia</i> ; Cx. 865; Sf. 13514;
Wt = 8.10 g.	Inv. 17238.
14593	13 Bronze forceps (PLI/13)
7 Bronze forceps (PLI/7)	Copper alloy; fragment of the slightly curved forceps arm: not restored
Copper alloy; 2 fragments of a double-armed forceps, omega-shaped head; not restored	L = 76.6 mm; W = 3.96 mm; T = 2.05 mm; Wt = 1.5 g
L1 = 31.78 mm; W1= 8,20 mm; T1= 8 mm; L2 = 22.77 mm; W2= 2.20 mm; T2= 8 mm; Wt = 5	ERC 2018; AIII/80 CM/10–11 <i>vicus</i> ; Cx. 270; Sf.
CAL 2021; <i>vicus</i> ; <i>passim</i> ; Inv. 17243.	450a, IIIV. 15554.
8. Bronze forceps (Pl. I/8).	Copper alloy; fragment of the slightly curved
copper alloy; fragment of a double-armed for- ceps, omega-shaped head; not restored.	hollow forceps arm (?); not restored. L = 39.36 mm ; W = 4.45 mm ; T = 1.86 mm ; Wt
L = 29.10 mm; W = 14.55 mm; T = 8.2 mm; Wt = 2.9 4g.	= 3 g. CAL 2014; C2 <i>vicus</i> ; Cx. 2039; Sf. 4003c; Inv.
ERC 2018; AIII/80 CM10–11 <i>vicus</i> ; Cx. 270; Sf. 448; Inv. 15533.	14593.

15. Bronze forceps (Pl. I/15).

Copper alloy; fragment of the slightly curved forceps arm; not restored.

L = 39.36 mm; W = 4.45 mm; T = 1.86 mm; Wt = 0.94 g.

CAL 2022; A/2022 *principia*; Cx. 767; Sf. 13157; Inv. 17239.

16. Bronze spatula (Pl. II/16).

Copper alloy; fragment of the slightly curved spatula handle with partly preserved spoon; conserved.

L = 21.07 mm; W = 4.16 mm; D = 2.03 mm; Wt = 0.83 g.

CAL 2014; A *principia*; Cx. 67; Sf. 824; Inv. 15780.

17. Bronze spatula (Pl. II/17).

Copper alloy; completely preserved curved spatula with rounded spoon; conserved.

L = 36.02 mm; W = 9.29 mm; T =2.19 mm; Wt = 2.47 g.

CAL 2015; A1 *principia*; Cx. 108; Sf. 940; Inv. 14552.

18. Bronze spatula/specillum (Pl. II/18).

Copper alloy; fragment of a slightly curved spatula or *specillum* handle; conserved.

L = 60.58 mm; W = 3.39 mm; D = 3.30 mm; Wt = 2 g.

CAL 2015; C3 vicus; Cx. 2082; Sf. 5102; Inv. 14563.

19. Bronze spatula (Pl. II/19).

Copper alloy; fragment of a spatula with a bent handle and a flat rectangular-shaped spoon; conserved.

L = 63.48 mm; W = 5.17 mm; D = 2.85 mm; Wt = 1,55 g.

CAL 2015; A2 *principia*; Cx. 121; Sf. 10282; Inv. 14537.

20. Bronze spatula (Pl. II/20).

Copper alloy; 2 fragments of a spatula with a flat oval spoon, cylindrical handle decorated with two strongly corroded horizontal grooves; conserved.

L1 = 34.29 mm; D1 = 3.31 mm; L2 = 22.04 mm; W2 = 4.27 mm; D2 = 1.60 mm; Wt = 1.81 g. CAL 2017; A7 *principia*; Cx. 404; Sf. 10848; Inv. 17241.

21. Bronze probe (Pl. II/21).

Copper alloy; fragment of a flat-headed probe; conserved.

L = 63.45 mm; D = 3.26 mm; W = 5.77 mm; Wt = 1.36 g.

CAL 2014; C1 vicus; Cx. 2035; Sf. 2158; Inv. 14599.

22. Silver ear-probe (Pl. II/22).

Silver alloy; completely preserved ear-probe with a flat circular spoon, curved cylindrical handle decorated with a double horizontal groove; conserved.

L = 73.91 mm; W = 3.38 mm; D = 3.06 mm; Wt = 3.41 g.

CAL 2016; C3–C5 *vicus*; *passim*; Sf. 5960; Inv. 15729.

23. Tinned bronze mirror (Pl. II/23).

Bronze alloy with tin; rim fragment of a polished mirror with three incised concentric grooves on the back; not restored.

L = 18.92 mm; D = 114 mm; W = 15.45 mm; T = 2.26 mm; Wt = 2.7 g.

CAL 2022; A/2022 *principia*; Cx. 771; Sf. 13151; Inv. 17240.

24. Tinned bronze mirror (Pl. II/24, digital reconstruction Fig. 2).

Bronze alloy with tin; rim fragment of a polished mirror with an incised circle on the front and an incised geometric decoration on the back; conserved.

L = 17.85 mm; D = 100 mm; W = 17.64 mm; T = 1.18 mm; Wt = 1.51 g.

Pogor watchtower; fieldwalking; PSf. 65; Inv. 15657.

25. Bronze razor (Pl. I/25).

Copper alloy; fragment of the slightly curved razor blade, the handle was fixed to the grip with two rivets, from which one is preserved; conserved.

L = 79.13 mm; W = 23.98 mm; T = 2. 9mm; Wt = 18.43 g.

CAL 2014; C2 vicus; Cx. 2039; Sf. 4003b; Inv. 14593.

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Plate I. Cat. 1-15.



Plate II. Cat. 16-25.

ABBREVIATIONS

ActaAntHung	Acta Antiqua Academiae Scientiarum Hungaricae, Budapest
ActaArchHung	Acta Archaeologica Academiae Scientiarum Hungaricae, Budapest
ActaMilMed	Acta Militaria Mediaevalia
ActaMN	Acta Musei Napocensis, Cluj-Napoca
ActaMP	Acta Musei Porolissensis, Zalău
ActaPraehistA	Acta Praehistorica et Archaeologica
AnB	Analele Banatului
Angustia	Angustia. Muzeul Carpaților Răsăriteni, Sfântu Gheorghe
Antiquity	Antiquity. A Quarterly Review of Archaeology
Apulum	Apulum. Acta Musei Apulensis, Alba Iulia
ArchÉrt	Archaeologiai Értesítő, Budapest
ArchKorr	Archäologisches Korrespondenzblatt, Römisch-Germanischen Zentralmu- seum Mainz
ArhMold	Arheologia Moldovei
Banatica	Banatica, Muzeul Banatului Montan, Reșița
BAR (I.S./B.S.)	British Archaeological Reports, International Series / British Series, Oxford
BayVgBl	Bayerische Vorgeschichtsblätter
BerRGK	Bericht der Römisch-Germanischen Kommission
BHAUT	Bibliotheca Historica et Archaeologica Universitatis Timisiensis
BMA	Bibliotheca Musei Apulensis
BMusBrux	Bulletin des Musées Royaux d'Art et d'Histoire, Bruxelles
CA	Cercetări Arheologice
CommArchHung	Communicationes Archaeologicae Hungariae, Budapest
Complutum	Complutum. Publicaciones del Departamento de prehistoria de la Universi-
	dad complutense de Madrid
Crisia	Crisia. Muzeul Țării Crișurilor, Oradea
Dacia (N. S.)	Dacia. Recherches et décuvertes archéologiques en Roumanie, I–XII (1924–1948), București; Nouvelle série (N. S.): Dacia. Revue d'archéologie et
DiccArch	u instone ancienne, Ducurești Discortaționes, Archaelogica, av Institute, Archaeologica, Universitație, de
DISSAICH	Rolando Eötvös Nominatae, Budapest
EphemNap	Ephemeris Napocensis, Cluj-Napoca
EurAnt	Eurasia Antiqua
FI	File de Istorie. Muzeul de Istorie al Județului Bistrița-Năsăud, Bistrița
FolArch	Folia Archaeologica, Budapest
Germania	Germania. Anzeiger der Römisch-Germanischen Kommission des
	Deutschen Archäologischen Instituts
HOMÉ	A Herman Ottó Múzeum Évkönyve, Miskolc
JAHA	Journal of Ancient History and Archaeology
JAMÉ	A Nyíregyházi Jósa András Múzeum Évkönyve, Nyíregyháza
JASc	Journal of Archaeological Science
JbRGZM	Jahrbuch des Römisch-Germanischen Zentralmuseums, Mainz
JRA	Journal of Roman Archaeology

JRomMilSt	Journal of Roman Military Equipment Studies
JRS	The Journal of Roman Studies
KuBA	Kölner und Bonner Archaeologica
Marisia	Marisia (V-), Studii și Materiale, Târgu Mureș
Marisia-AHP	Marisia: Archaeologia, Historia, Patrimonium, Târgu Mureș
MCA	Materiale și Cercetări Arheologice, București
MFMÉ	A Móra Ferenc Múzeum Évkönyve, Szeged
Oltenia	Oltenia. Studii și comunicări. Istorie-Arheologie
OxfJA	Oxford Journal of Archaeology
PBF	Prähistorische Bronzefunde, Stuttgart
ProcPrehistSoc	Proceedings of the Prehistoric Society
PZ	Praehistorische Zeitschrift
RA	Revue archéologique
RadMV	Rad vojvođanskih muzeja (1994- Rad Muzeja Vojvodine)
ReiCretActa	Rei Cretariae Romanae Fautorum Acta, Tongeren
RevBis	Revista Bistriței, Complexul Județean Muzeal Bistrița-Năsăud
SaalbJb	Saalburg-Jahrbuch. Bericht des Saalburg-Museums
Sargetia (S.N.)	Sargetia. Acta Musei Devensis, Deva
SCIV(A)	Studii și Cercetări de Istorie Veche (și Arheologie 1974-), București
SlovArch	Slovenská Archeológia, Bratislava
SMIM	Studii și Materiale de Istorie Medie
StComBrukenthal	Studii și comunicări – Muzeul Brukenthal
SUBB-Historia	Studia Universitatis Babeș–Bolyai, series Historia, Cluj-Napoca
Századok	Századok, A Magyar Történelmi Társulat Folyóírata, Budapest
Tibiscum	Tibiscum. Studii și comunicări. Muzeul Județean Caransebeș
Tisicum	A Jász-Nagykun-Szolnok Megyei Múzeumok Évkönyve
Tyragetia	Tyragetia. The National Museum of History of Moldova, Chișinău
UPA	Universitätsforschungen zur Prähistorischen Archäologie, Bonn
Ziridava	Ziridava (–2012 Studia Archaologica)
ZMúz	Zalai Múzeum. Közlemények Zala Megye Múzeumaiból
ZPE	Zeitschrift für Papyrologie und Epigraphik

MARISIA. ARCHAEOLOGIA, HISTORIA, PATRIMONIUM

With a publishing tradition since 1965, in 2019 the annual of the Mureş County Museum initiated a new series entitled: *Marisia. Archaeologia, Historia, Patrimonium.* The publication provides a panel for new research results in archeology, architecture and material heritage of the history of arts and culture. The studies mainly focus on the inner Transylvanian region that encompasses also Mureş County. Beyond local valuable contributions, the annual aims at a regional and global concern that is relevant for the whole of Transylvania. Among the annual's missions is to provide mutual interpretation of the research results produced by the Romanian and Hungarian scientific workshops. Therefore, the annual articles are mainly in English but based on the field of research and the approached topic studies in German, Romanian or Hungarian are also accepted.

Cu o tradiție din anul 1965, anuarul Muzeului Județean Mureș s-a relansat în 2019 sub titlul *Marisia. Archaeologia, Historia, Patrimonium.* Această publicație se descrie ca o platformă științifică care cuprinde rezultatele cercetărilor în domenii precum: arheologia, arhitectura și patrimoniul material din zona istoriei artelor și a culturii, studii localizate în regiunea centrală a Transilvaniei, din care face parte județul Mureș. In extenso, anuarul își propune să ofere un spațiu unitar contribuțiilor științifice valoroase, relevante din perspectiva geografică a ceea ce înseamnă întreaga regiune a Transilvaniei. Una dintre misiunile publicației este aceea de a oferi tuturor celor interesați spațiul de schimb pentru cele mai noi rezultate din atelierele științifice românești și maghiare. Articolele anuarului sunt scrise în general în limba engleză, existând totodată articole scrise în germană, română și maghiară, în funcție de specificul domeniului și a temei abordate.

A Maros Megyei Múzeum 1965 óta megjelenő évkönyvének 2019-ben útjára bocsátott új sorozata, a *Marisia. Archaeologia, Historia, Patrimonium* elsősorban a mai Maros megyét is magába foglaló belső-erdélyi régió régészeti, épített és tárgyi örökségére, nemkülönben az ezekhez kapcsolódó művészettörténeti, művelődéstörténeti kérdésekre vonatkozó újabb kutatások tudományos fóruma. A lokális perspektíván túl igyekszik kitekinteni a regionális és univerzális összefüggésekre, így a tágan értelmezett Erdély területére nézve is közöl kiemelkedő értékkel bíró tanulmányokat. Küldetésének tekinti a hazai román és magyar tudományos műhelyekben született eredmények kölcsönös tolmácsolását. A dolgozatok nyelve főként az angol, de szakterülettől és témától függően német, román vagy magyar nyelven is közöl írásokat.