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A LATE MEDIEVAL BATTLE KNIFE DISCOVERED IN MUREȘ COUNTY

ÁLDOR CSABA BALÁZS

Our study presents a medieval battle knife discovered near Gruîşor, Mureş county (Fig. 1), a type of weapon which was widespread in Central Europe towards the end of the Middle Ages (15th–16th centuries). Earlier studies considered this type of knife as „rare” in Transylvania,^{} but lately the number of these artifacts which entered museum collections has increased considerably, although most of them were found by metal detectorists. Even if their place of discovery is known, the archaeological context is missing, hence they are usually neglected by researchers. The weapon recently found at Gruîşor might be associated with the szekler insurrection from 1562.*

Keywords: Battle knife, Bauernwehr, weapons, Transylvania, metal-detecting

Cuvinte-cheie: Cuţit de luptă, cuţit ţărănesc, arme, Transilvania, detectarea metalelor

INTRODUCTION

A popular all-purpose knife for work, hunting or fighting, the *Bauernwehr* (referred as *tesák* in Czech and Slovak literature,¹ *hussite knives*² in Hungarian, *tasak* or *kord* in Polish,³ sometimes *Hauswehr* in German⁴) was a common sight in Germany, Switzerland, Bohemia and other Central European lands from the early 14th till the middle of the 16th centuries, but spread even eastwards. They are large knives with a wide hilt to which wooden or horn handles were riveted. Most of them had guard nails for hand protection and reached considerable lengths – 80cm is not uncommon. The side-mounted *nagel* on these peasant knives shows that their purpose was also for fighting and served as the people's weapon in the late Middle Ages. The first *Bauernwehr* must be even earlier as the 14th century, as during excavations in the castle from Veseli

nad Moravou (Czech Republic) a combat knife was discovered in a late 13th century context.⁵ In Buda (Hungary) a document mentions a knife maker in 1322⁶ while in Regensburg there are already 8 knife makers known in 1339–1346.⁷

The number of imported knives mentioned in Transylvanian documents suggests a high demand, which led also to the development of a local industry, with craftsmen in several cities and a local knife makers guild (*cultelificum fraternitas*) which dates back to 1376.⁸ The documents mention a Petrus Cultelifaber in 1413 in Bistriţa.⁹ In Sibiu, the chaplain Anton Cultelifaber surely came from a family of knife makers.¹⁰ Johannes Cultelificis de Castro Schegs (Sighişoara) was matriculated as student of Wien University in 1420.¹¹ One can assume

* MARTA–GHEMIŞ 2011, 113.

¹ ŽÁKOVSKÝ 2011, 136–145.

² KALMÁR 1971, 117–118.

³ GRABARCZYK–ŁAWRYNOWICZ 2013, 51–61.

⁴ WEGELI 1929, 19–25.

⁵ ŽÁKOVSKÝ 2014, 99.

⁶ HOLL 1994, 161.

⁷ HEIMPEL 1926, 131.

⁸ PASCU 1954, 67.

⁹ MÜLLER 1864, 37; GÜNDISCH 1976, 182.

¹⁰ RUSU 2008, 83.

¹¹ SCHRAUF 1892, 50.



Fig. 1. 1. The place of discovery mapped on the first Austrian military survey (1763–1785); 2. The place of discovery on Google Earth aerial view map.

that he was a knife maker's son from Sighișoara. The knife makers guild is mentioned in the city already in 1376, but in the 15th century we don't have information about their activity. Also, from Sighișoara, Georgius Cultilex was delegate in the saxons assembly in 1422 and later in 1474 in the Wien University we have again a knife maker, or a knife maker's son from the same city, Stephanus Cultifaber.¹² In Cluj Napoca the Hungarian citizens records (*Regestrum Hungarorum de Civitate Cluswar*) mention a *Keesgyartho* (knife

maker) in 1453.¹³ There were knife makers not only in the cities, but also in some villages, as we have information about a knife maker, Petrus, from Țigmandru (Mureș county),¹⁴ and a *Hans Messersmid* from Slimnic (Sibiu county).¹⁵

We must point out also the fact that the knife makers guild held all the craftsmen who were involved in the knife manufacturing process: the *Klingenschmied* who made the blades, the *Schröter* who made the handles, the *Schleifer* – the blade sharpeners, and the *Messerschmied* who



Fig. 2. Fresco from Ghelinta (Covasna County) depicting Saint Ladislaus with a long knife. Dated around the year 1330. (photo source: szentlaszlo.com)

¹² NUSSBÄCHER 1969, 227–228.

¹³ KOVÁCS 2018, 199.

¹⁴ PASCU 1954, 238.

¹⁵ RUSU 2008, 83.



1.

2.

3.

4.

Fig. 3. Representations of late medieval long knife owners. 1. *Speculum humanae salvationis*, cca. 1309–1324. 2. *Astrologisch-astronomische Sammlung*; Ms. germ. Fol. 244. Mittelrhein. Cca. 1445–1455. 3. *Book of Hours*, Utrecht, cca. 1410–1420, 4. *Tacuinum sanitatis*, Renania, cca. 1400–1425.

assembled the components and delivered the finished product to the merchants. The sheath, an accessory, was produced by the *Messerscheiden-roller*.¹⁶ So far no workshop specialized in the production of battle knives were found in Romania, but the discoveries of hilts in the course of processing in a couple of fortifications might indicate local production or maintenance works.¹⁷

Beside the local production we can observe very high numbers of knives imported. In Braşov the commerce registries mention for 1503 a total of 2.402.650 knives exported to Wallachia.¹⁸ Most of these must have been imports from Europe, re-exported. In that year a total of 381.000 knives were imported to Braşov only from Styria.¹⁹ The fact that such quantities had to be imported suggests a high demand which could not be fulfilled by the local guild, or a need for higher quality products. The terms used in contemporary customs registries and documents for the swords, spades, knives are in Latin (*gladium*, *bicellum*, *cultellum*) and slavic (меч, корѡ, ножевех) and doesn't differentiate the knives by their function.²⁰ European documents use the term *Messer*, but it is debatable when mean knives or spades.²¹ A campaign

order from may 1447, Weimar, mentions what will happen if comrade soldiers draw *Messer* (knife/spade) or *Schwert* (sword) against each other. In the same year, after Prince Wilhelm III's failed siege on Soest, the listings of the lost equipment by his 12.000-strong army of Bohemian mercenaries mentions 103 *Schwerter* and 48 *Messer*. The occasionally mentioned *šavle* in the same source was interpreted as *tesák*,²² while an isolated *kord* also can be seen in the same lists.²³ The *šavle* – *szabel* is mentioned along with the *Messer* in the German language report²⁴ of the killing of Ulrich II, Count of Celje, by the men of Ioannes Hunyadi in 1456.²⁵

sol man im die band abhawen. Schiebt einer den andern tod, so sal man im den koph abehouwen." (FRA XLII, 36. Nr. 22.)

²² TRESP 2004, 380.

²³ WAGNER ET AL. 1957, 46.

²⁴ „Man hatte dort ausgeschlossen alle Teutsch oder Pehamer der mit im trug ein wer, swert, messer oder spiess; zu Ulrich kommen dann die knechte mit swertern, szabeln, wauffen zu ym in sein gemah, er begunt ein swert emboren; der Bedrohte, welcher tragt ein joppen, die was gemacht für schüss, und sah, wie auf in die. Ungern mit ihren grossen Sabin trungen, zog aus sein messer und schlueg. Hunadt zukt sein Messer von der Scheidt; Cili greift ritterlich zu seiner wehr und schlug aug fen Hunadt einen geschwinden schlag. Hunadt fangt ihn auf wird aber in das Haupt gewundt und einen daumen und schlug ihm das Gehülz ab an dem messer und ain gulden Ring am daumen, drauff sprangen die Knechte aus der Klammer mit Schwertern und mit Tartschen, schluegen ihn todt.“

²⁵ PICHLER 1880, 61.

¹⁶ HOLL 1994, 159.

¹⁷ OŢA-SAMSON 2016, 192–193.

¹⁸ MANOLESCU 1957, 163.

¹⁹ MANOLESCU 1957, 160–161.

²⁰ PURDEA 2018, 177.

²¹ “Czuckt aber darüber imands swert ader messer, dem sal man die band durchstechen ; wundt er den andern, so

THE KNIFE

The battle knife (Fig. 4) was discovered at south from Gruişor,²⁶ on a forested hilltop (Fig.1). It belongs to the A4 type from the Czech scientist Petr Žákovský's classification,²⁷ its total

T-shaped guard nail (*Nagel*, variant of Žákovský type t_{12a}).³⁰ The corroded area most likely also had other holes for rivets. The guarding nail (Fig.5), with 40mm total length, is not perpendicular to the blade-tang plane, but is slightly bent towards the hand. Its head length is 24mm

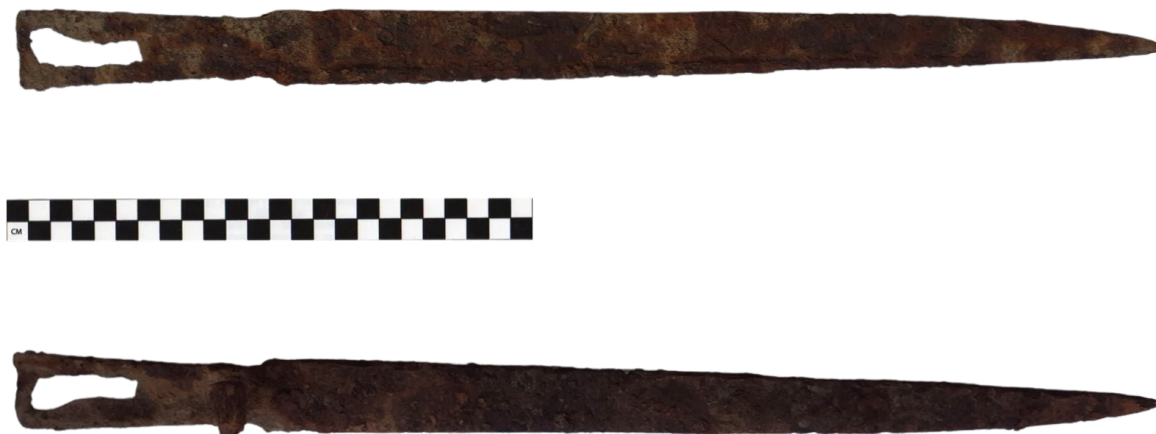


Fig. 4. The late medieval battle knife discovered at Gruişor, Mureş county.

length is 547mm, with a 116mm tang. Weight: 455gr. The 431mm blade has a straight dull part, while the edged part curves and narrows to a sharp point (type Žákovský B_1).²⁸ The tang has a rectangular section (type Žákovský d^{29}) and

with 10mm thickness and rectangular section, while the neck thickness is 9mm. The blade has d type section, from the Žákovský classification,³¹ while its thickness on the dull side is 9mm near the tang and narrows to about



Fig. 5. Detail of the knife's guard nail (no scale).

a shape that expands slightly at the edges, with 36mm width and 6mm thickness. The tang's surface has a concavity, which was opened by heavy corrosion. Only one rivet hole is still visible.

At the base of the tang there is a thick,

5–6mm towards the tip. Along almost the entire length of the back of the blade is a narrow fuller. There are several chips on the blade at about its two-third, which suggest the knife was used and most likely it was a weapon, especially taking into consideration the size of the blade.

²⁶ The knife was found by means of metal detecting and now is in the Mureş County Museum collection.

²⁷ ŽÁKOVSKÝ 2014, 212–213.

²⁸ ŽÁKOVSKÝ 2014, 223, fig. 207.

²⁹ ŽÁKOVSKÝ 2014, 260, fig. 212.

³⁰ ŽÁKOVSKÝ 2014, 449, fig. 384, 386.

³¹ ŽÁKOVSKÝ 2014, 253, fig. 205.

CHRONOLOGY

While this type of combat knife (Žákovský type A4) is very common all-over Central Europe, they have been found also in Bulgaria, mostly in the northeastern part of the country,³² where it is assumed they appeared with the Crusader Army of the Hungarian-Polish king Vladislav III Jagello, during his 1443–1444 campaigns against the Ottomans.³³

The T-shaped guard nail was dated in literature from the 15th century up to the early 16th century in Bohemia and Moravia.³⁴ From East Europe, Ukraine, we have a very early example from middle of the second half of the 14th century, dated by its context.³⁵ This *kord* found in the hillfort from Zelena Lypa village has the T-shaped guard nail parallel to the blade (Fig. 6).

The numismatic material found with the knife is from the decades 8 and 9 of the 14th century which made it chronologically earlier as its Western European analogies known to the authors of the study, hence they suspected that a similar type of weapon was formed in Eastern European lands and later penetrated towards west.³⁶ In the light of the above mentioned knife discovered in the castle from Veseli nad Mora-

vou, from a late 13th century context, we believe that such a theory can be scrapped. At the site from Zelena Lypa beside the material which shows the presence of a professional army, also imported dishes were found which indicate the presence of traders. Therefore, we

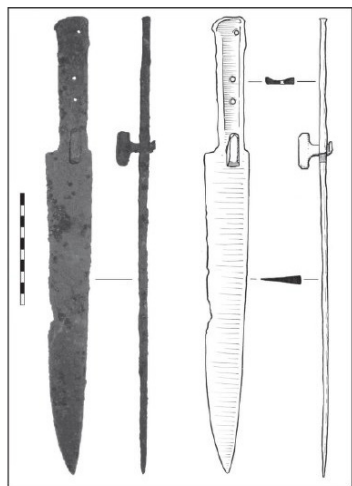


Fig. 6. The knife from Zelena Lypa, Ukraine (apud Pyvovarov 2012, Fig. 1).

believe there is a good possibility that the *kord* is also an import. A further evidence of east-west trade ties could be also the *kord* found among grave goods in the 15th – 16th century burial ground in the village of Kovashi (Lomonosov District, Leningrad Region, northwestern European Russia).³⁷

A good analogy we have from Păcureni (Glodeni commune, Mureș County) where a similar knife, with identical guard nail, was found in 2024 by a metal detectorist³⁸ (Fig. 7). We must mention also a knife found near Oradea,³⁹ and one from the Mediaș City Museum collection.⁴⁰ For the knife found near Oradea a 13th – 14th century horizon was proposed by the authors of the study based on a possible analogy with two knives discovered at Dăbâca.⁴¹ We do not share their opinion, while the knives from Dăbâca are clearly a different type (much smaller blade with totally different handle) and we believe that the knife from Oradea is at least a century later.

At the medieval site from Șibot, spot Cânepiște (Alba County), during preventive archaeological researches several knives were found⁴² in complexes dated to the 15th century. All are badly preserved, but some seem to show good similarities to the knife from Grușor. At Șibot the knives were clearly used in combat, as they were found among the numerous remains of the battle of Câmpia Pâinii from 1479, which has led to the destruction of the medieval settlement. In the MNIR collection there are at least two more battle knives which are clearly the same, A4 type, one from Potigrafu (Prahova County) and one from Fălchiu (Vaslui county), but unfortunately both with unknown context of discovery.⁴³

Finds from Ukraine, near the Carpathian Mountain ridge Kostrych⁴⁴ (Verkhnovynskyi district, Ivano-Frankivsk region) show how

³² POPOV 2018, 27–28.

³³ POPOV 2018, 28.

³⁴ ŽÁKOVSKÝ 2014, 449.

³⁵ PYVOVAROV 2012, Fig. 1.

³⁶ PYVOVAROV 2012, 32.

³⁷ SHMELEV–GORODILOV 2023, Pl. 3.

³⁸ Unpublished, the knife is in the Mureș County Museum collection.

³⁹ MARTA–GHEMIȘ 2011, Pl. I. 2.

⁴⁰ PURDEA 2018, Pl. I/3, II/3.

⁴¹ IAMBOR 2005, pl. LIV.

⁴² OȚA–SAMSON 2016, Pl. 10–11.

⁴³ OȚA–SAMSON 2016, 194.

⁴⁴ SYCHEVSKYJ ET AL. 2017, fig. 3.



Fig. 7. The battle knife discovered at west from Păcureni, Mureș County. Photo made by the authors of the discovery.

widespread this type of combat knife was in the late Middle Ages. It has penetrated even much further north, as we can see from the finds from Vilnius castle, Lithuania.⁴⁵ Regarding the knives with T-shaped guard nail, Central European specimens from the Berlin Museum were placed by researchers at late 15th – early 16th centuries.⁴⁶ Analogies from Olomouc,⁴⁷ Dukovany,⁴⁸ made Ukrainian researchers to suspect a Moravian origin for the knives found at mountain ridge Kostrych and Zelena Lypa.⁴⁹ While all published knives with T-shaped guard nail from Moravia (Bludov,⁵⁰ Dukovany,⁵¹ Olomouc,⁵² Bradlo,⁵³ Němčic⁵⁴) were chance finds (Fig. 8), the Czech researcher points out that dating this variant of protective guard is difficult, and also places these around 15th – early 16th centuries.⁵⁵ Both knives found in Mureș county have this type of guard nail, but their size is much bigger (54 cm) as each of the above-mentioned specimens (all have less than 40cm total length).

Some researchers noticed a very close resemblance between the European *Bauernwehr* and the late medieval – modern Persian *kārd* (*kard* is the equivalent in the Persian language for knife from

which the Hungarian word for sword – *kard* – descends, the same way as the Polish *kord*),⁵⁶ without drawing any conclusions. It was mostly a stabbing weapon and often the point would be reinforced to penetrate chain mail. The *kard* had straight, single-edged blades, no guard and they were worn on the left side of the belt in a sheath.

We must take into consideration the possibility this knife could be connected to the 1562 uprising. The Borsos Sebestyén chronicle⁵⁷ from 1562 mentions that the szeklers gathered in camp near Acățari in the meadows. The forces from this camp were to secure the Mureș County. From this base camp a 2000-strong force went on raids up on the Mureș valley, attacked and ransacked Reghin, Gurghiu and Gornești. They

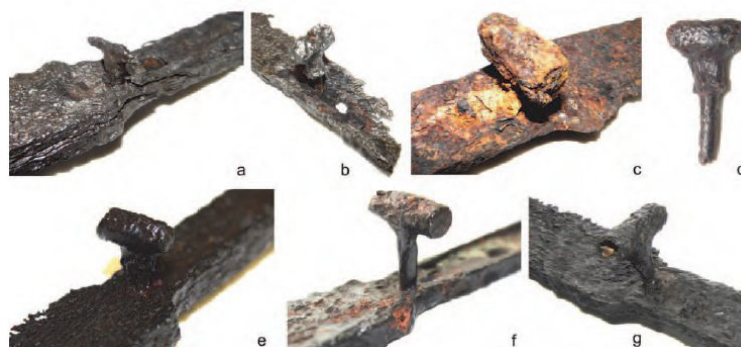


Fig. 8. Knives from Moravia with t_{12a} type guard nail (apud Zakovsky 2014, fig. 384), a – Dukovany, b – Bludov, c – unknown location, d – Olomouc.

⁴⁵ BUGYS 2012, 6.

⁴⁶ MÜLLER–KÖLLING 1981, nr. 186–189.

⁴⁷ ŽÁKOVSKÝ 2014, cat. nr. 183.

⁴⁸ ŽÁKOVSKÝ 2014, cat. nr. 44.

⁴⁹ SYCHEVSKYI 2017, 131.

⁵⁰ ŽÁKOVSKÝ 2014, Fig. 384b.

⁵¹ ŽÁKOVSKÝ 2014, Fig. 384e.

⁵² ŽÁKOVSKÝ 2014, Fig. 384f.

⁵³ ŽÁKOVSKÝ 2014, Fig. 384g.

⁵⁴ KNÁPEK 2013, fig. 1.B.

⁵⁵ ŽÁKOVSKÝ 2014, 449.

were returning from a raid in Corunca and were heading towards Văleni with the intention to move further south to the main szekler camp at Hoghilag, when they were met by the army of János Zsigmond. In the battle which followed, near Grușor, by the Niraj River, many

⁵⁶ KOVÁCS 2010, note 32; KHORASANI 2006, 230–236.

⁵⁷ MIKÓ 1855, 18.



Fig. 9. 15th century Persian *kard*. Photo: Salar Jung Museum, Hyderabad.

szeklers were killed, many taken captive, some ran away.⁵⁸

The equipment of the szekler army was on the agenda of the January 2, 1535, national assembly from Târgu Mures, where the fighters were divided in six categories, by their status or wealth. The only known source for this are the records of Somogyi Ambrus (Ambrosius Simigianus, notary from Belső-Szolnok County), who wrote it down in his notes about the June 24, 1536, national assembly. In the 19th century Seiwert Gustav authenticated Somogyi's notes in the Saxon archives from Braşov, and while the last to mention it is Rugonfalvi Kiss István,⁵⁹ a further check of these notes would be necessary. One can notice that swords are only for the top rank (primors), and the knives are mentioned as weapons only for the "poor".⁶⁰

- Primors (*primorok*): Horse, helmet, armor, spear, shield, sword.
- Primpili, equites (*lófők*): Horse, helmet, spear, shield, pickaxe or mace or bow and arrows.

- Pixidarii (*közsékelyek*): Horse, helmet, spear, shield, pickaxe or mace or bow and arrows (the same as above).

- Szeklers who own no land, but have six oxes: armor, spear, helmet, pickaxe or bow and arrows.

- The poor: Helmet, dagger/knife or scythe.
- Threshers (*cséplésből élők*): spear, shield.

In the 15th century there was a ruling for bohemian infantrymen who were serving in German princes' armies which mention that they must have sword and long knife: "*Ain jeder dannoch an seiner guts langs messer oder schwert*"⁶¹. The city of Pressburg in the middle of the 15th century mentions the *messer* in the equipment of a mercenary they've employed from Sopron.⁶² The widespread use of these battle knives among Bohemian, polish, Austrian soldiers, which became very popular during the Hussite war, is well illustrated in Dürer's *Fechtbuch* from 1512. A further proof for the knives popularity is the fact that polish knife makers from Kraków in 1503 were complaining that

⁵⁸ MIKÓ 1855, 19.

⁵⁹ RUGONFALVI KISS 1939, 226.

⁶⁰ EDER 1800, 140.

⁶¹ TRESP 2004, 391.

⁶² NÓGRÁDY 2008, 196–200.

long knives and sabres are widely used, while swords are unpopular.⁶³

CONCLUSIONS

The *Bauernwehr* was very popular among the lower social classes and owe their widespread distribution beside their low price⁶⁴ also to certain laws that prohibited some ranks of persons from wearing knightly swords in public. The long knives intended for self-defence were attached to the belt usually on the left side and were one of the elements of civilians' costume. The knife sheaths which came from clear context, were all found in fortresses,⁶⁵ which is another proof that they mainly served as a weapon. The fact that they had a sheath, a belt attachment system is an even more clear indication towards their use as a weapon. We also have some which were found among the remains of a battle.⁶⁶

The fact, that we have several analogies from Central Europe, Bohemia,⁶⁷ East Europe,

Silesia,⁶⁸ South-East Europe, Bulgaria,⁶⁹ and even Ukraine,⁷⁰ suggests that the knife is probably an import. The fact that the highest number of analogies with similar guard nail are from Moravia doesn't necessarily point towards a Moravian origin for the two knives found in Mureş county, but could be connected to current state of the research. Most of them are dated to the 15th century, but as they are often found with no context, such attributions should be taken with a grain of salt. For a group of knives found in the Mediaş area the researcher believes they are from the 15th–16th centuries.⁷¹ The knife from Gruişor also can't be later as the second half of the 16th century.

This large combat knife was a multifunctional type of weapon. It was used in close hand-to-hand combat, but also could have been used in hunting to finish off wounded game and skin it. Such big knives were also useful tool in the household for chopping, cutting, removing bark from the trees, and so on. But its main functional purpose was clearly combat.

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⁶³ NADOLSKI 1974, 28.

⁶⁴ PURDEA 2018, 178.

⁶⁵ RUSU 2008, 94; GYÖRFI 2015, 128.

⁶⁶ OŢA–SAMSON 2016, 195.

⁶⁷ ŽÁKOVSKÝ 2014, 10, 30, 38, 127.

⁶⁸ MAREK 2006, Fig 1a.

⁶⁹ PARUSHEV 2008, Fig. 2b.

⁷⁰ PROKOPENKO–SYCHEVSKYJ 2018, Fig 1.

⁷¹ PURDEA 2018, 193.

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ABBREVIATIONS

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

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

MARISIA. ARCHAEOLOGIA, HISTORIA, PATRIMONIUM

With a publishing tradition since 1965, in 2019 the annual of the Mureș 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 Mureș 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.