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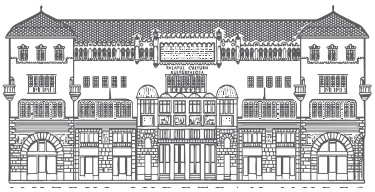
Târgu Mureș
2025



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CORRESPONDENCE

Muzeul Județean Mureș / Mureș County Museum
CP 85, str. Mărăști nr. 8A, 540328 Târgu Mureș, România
e-mail: marisiaedit@gmail.com

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CONTENTS

RADIOCARBON DATING BRONZE AGE GRAVES FROM THE BURIAL GROUND AT FLOREȘTI–*POLUS CENTER* (CLUJ COUNTY)

Tibor-Tamás DARÓCZI[*] – Mihai ROTEA[**] – Jesper OLSEN[***]

Six cremation burials were selected for radiocarbon dating from the burial ground located in sector K_6 at the site of Florești–Polus Center (Szászfenes, Cluj County, RO). This data provides valuable, preliminary insights into the chronological framing of a major archaeological field research in Transylvania, which has been pending publication for the past two decades. More importantly, the association of certain types of vessels with metal finds offers a unique opportunity to bridge the gap of relative chronology between the two types of archaeological find-groups.

Keywords: radiocarbon dating, Bronze Age, Iron Age, grave, burial, Transylvania
Cuvinte-Cheie: datare radiocarbon, Epoca Bronzului, Epoca Fierului, mormânt, înmormântare, Transilvania

INTRODUCTION

The site of Florești–*Șapca Verde*[1] has commonly become known under the name Florești–*Polus Center*, due to the shopping centre built on this site, the construction of which prompted a large-scale rescue excavation in 2006–2007.[2] The archaeological site contains several Bronze Age burial grounds, among many other and significant discoveries. One of the burial grounds was dated, based on the recovered archaeological finds, to the later Middle Bronze Age (MBA) and the earlier Late Bronze Age (LBA).[3] Almost two decades later, the archaeological finds are still in restoration and a preliminary, or even final, publication of the field research is still pending. Albeit, seven inhumation burials have been sampled for a DNA analysis and one of them, Grave 17 from sector C, was radiocarbon dated.[4] The present paper is a minor contribution to this bigger picture, by publishing six radiocarbon dated cremation burials. The future shopping mall was divided in several sectors, out of which the Muzeul Național de Istorie a Transilvaniei excavated five, sectors A–C and K_5–K_6 (Pl. I). Bronze Age burials have been found in several of these, however the burial ground that we are presently discussing is located in the western sectors, i.e. K_5–K_6.[5]

THE GRAVES

Six cremation burials were selected in 2019 for radiocarbon dating, which was subsequently carried out in 2020 at AARAMS[6] (Aarhus AMS Centre). The selection criteria focused on graves with metals and characteristic finds or special features, which will be detailed below.

Grave 3 from sector K_6 is a cremation burial

[*] Institutul de Arheologie „Vasile Pârvan", Academia Română, București, RO, csibike3@yahoo.com
[**] Muzeul Național de Istorie a Transilvaniei, Cluj-Napoca, RO, rotea_mihai@yahoo.com
[***] Aarhus AMS Centre, Aarhus University, Aarhus, DK, jesper.olsen@phys.au.dk

[1] Cociș et al. 2008.
[2] Mustață et al. 2009; Rotea et al. 2014, 30.
[3] Rotea 2009, 26, 47, 50.
[4] Rotea et al. 2014, 32–34, pl. XII–XIX.
[5] Rotea et al. 2007, 47–48, pl. II–III.
[6] https://c14websub.au.dk/

Fig. 1. Location of the site Floreşti–*Polus Center* (aerial photography map).

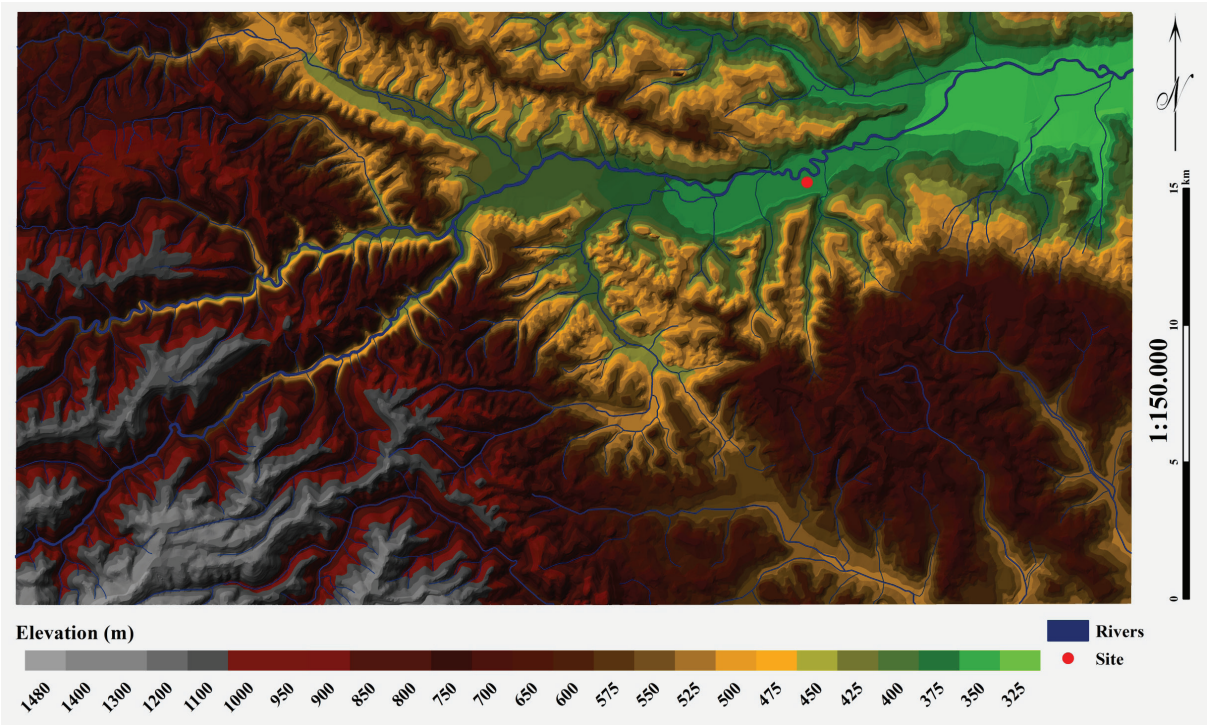

Fig. 2. Location of the site Floreşti–*Polus Center* (geomorphological map).

with the human remains deposited in a reddish urn, decorated with incisions and circular stitches organised into lines, with a fragmentary saltaleone found among the human remains (Pl. I/2). A larger limestone block has been found slightly above and to the east of the grave, possibly marking the location of the interment.

Grave 29 is also a cremation burial with the human remains placed in a blackish, decorated amphora, which itself was placed in a cist, constructed from limestone-blocks (Pl. II/1). One of the best analogies for this shape is found in grave 18 from the Bronze Age burial ground of Luduş (Marosludas, Mureş County,

RO), where a detailed discussion on its further analogies and dating, that is throughout the MBA, can also be found.[7] The grave is located farther away from the main group of burials[8] and its possible social importance and ranking has already been discussed in the literature.[9] The urn further contained a golden lock-ring, uncharred, which was attributed to the B-type of the Zaharia typology.[10] Less than half meter to the north from the burial, roughly on the same level as the bottom of the urn, a twice-bent, bronze, perforated-neck pin (*Lochhalsnadel*) with double-conical head was found.[11] This type is usually dated to the Bz B–C1 period.[12] In central Europe the best analogies are found in the *Paarstadl*-type dated to the Lochham stage.[13] One of the best dateable analogy, albeit decorated, is found in grave 547 at Dunaújváros–*Duna-dűlő* (Fejér County, HU), dated to the very last stage of the MBA.[14]

Grave 32 is also a cremation burial with the human remains placed inside an urn, a deep dish that has fluted decorations on the inside, in the shoulder area. The grave and surrounding area was covered with large limestone slabs (Pl. II/2). Both the presence of these stones and especially the fluted inner decoration, most commonly found during the Early Iron Age (EIA), prompted the selection of the grave for the radiocarbon dating.

Grave 33 is also a cremation burial, where the human remains were found inside the urn, which in this case was a reddish, decorated amphora (Pl. III). One of the best analogies for this vessel comes from Grave 4 of the burial ground at Dumbrăviţa–*Stricata* (Bistriţa-Năsăud County, RO),[15] where a significant number of cremation burials was radiocarbon dated to the later MBA and the earliest LBA.[16]

Grave 45 is also an incineration burial in urn, an amphora of similar type as the one in grave 33. However, in this case the urn had a lid, a decorated, conical, deep-dish with a single, vertical lug-handle (Pl. III/2). While the shape is quite generic, the decoration is only encountered in the latest phase of the MBA in Transylvania.[17] The funerary vessel also contained an armband made of a bronze wire with circular cross-section and with different sized spirals at the ends (Pl. III/2). This type is encountered from around the transition from the MBA to the LBA until the EIA in the Eastern Carpathian Basin.[18]

Grave 61 is an incineration burial, part of a triple burial, where the human remains were placed in an urn (Pl. IV/1). The vessel is also an amphora decorated on the shoulder with flutes, similar in the shape to the ones found in graves 33 and 45.

RADIOCARBON DATING OF THE GRAVES

The samples followed the standard protocols for pretreatment[19] and AMS measurements[20] of AARAMS for cremated bones, the steps of which have been previously detailed in publications.[21] Furthermore, the sample from Grave 29 was also used in a study on the reliability of two different pretreatment methods, one using Sulfix and the other CuO and Ag for the purification of CO_2, for cremated bones.[22] Lastly, the software employed to calibrate was Oxcal 4.4.4[23] and the calibration curve used was IntCal 20.[24]

The cremated human remains from *Grave 3*, AAR–31619 (Pl. I/2), have been dated to 3292

[7] Berecki 2016, 83–84, type I.6, pl. 13/6.
[8] Rotea 2009, 50, fig. 36.
[9] Rotea et al. 2007, 52–53, pl. XVIII/3, XIX/2.
[10] Zaharia 1959; Rotea et al. 2007, 52–53.
[11] Vasić 2003, 30–31, pl. 10/148–150; Gedl 1983, 36–38, pl. 107–108; Říhovský 1983, 10, pl. 3/34.
[12] Vasić 2003, 31, pl. 70; Gedl 1983, pl. 39; Říhovský 1983, 10.
[13] Innerhofer 2000, 34–37, pl. 2/7, 8, 11.
[14] Vicze 2011, 137–139, fig. 30, pl. 198/3.
[15] Soroceanu–Retegan 1981, 197, fig. 5/7.
[16] Daróczi et al. 2022, 48–49.
[17] Boroffka 1994, 189, 250, type plate 15/18, VD23.
[18] Petrescu–Dîmboviţa 1998, 32, 34–35, Taf. 15/118–119; Mozsolics 1967, 81, Taf. 52/6, 67/4, 69/1–4.
[19] Olsen et al. 2011; Olsen et al. 2008.
[20] Klein et al. 2014; Heinemeier et al. 2015; Olsen et al. 2017.
[21] Daróczi et al. 2023a, 164–165.
[22] Olsen et al. 2023.
[23] Bronk Ramsey 2021.
[24] Reimer et al. 2020.

± 28 ^{14}C years BP and the felling of the wood used as fuel in the funerary pyre is calibrated to a year within the period of 1609–1517 BCE (68.2% confidence interval) and 1619–1504 BCE (95.4% confidence interval). Furthermore, the human remains of *Grave 29*, AAR–31620 (Pl. II/1), have been dated to 3290 ± 27 ^{14}C years BP, which places the felling of the wood used for the fuel in the funerary pyre in a year within the range of 1609–1513 BCE (68.2% confidence interval) and 1617–1505 BCE (95.4% confidence interval).

The incinerated human remains from *Grave 32*, AAR–31622 (Pl. II/2), have been dated to 2765 ± 36 ^{14}C years BP and the harvesting of the wood used in the pyre that incinerated the human body occurred in a year within the period of 971–835 BCE (68.2% confidence interval) and 1004–827 BCE (95.4% confidence interval).

The cremated human remains from *Grave 33*, AAR–31623 (Pl. III/1), were dated to 3145 ± 26 ^{14}C years BP and the felling of the trees used in the pyre occurred in a year sometime in the period 1490–1398 BCE (68.2% confidence interval) and 1498–1315 BCE (95.4% confidence interval). Similarly, the incinerated human remains from *Grave 45*, AAR–31624 (Pl. III/2), were dated to 3152 ± 29 ^{14}C years BP and the harvesting of the pyre–wood occurred in a year within the period of 1492–1406 BCE (68.2% confidence interval) and 1500–1318 BCE (95.4% confidence interval).

The individual cremated in *Grave 61*, AAR–31625 (Pl. IV/1), was dated to 3261 ± 28 ^{14}C years BP and the wood used in the funerary pyre was harvested in a year within the period of 1600–1461 BCE (68.2% confidence interval) and 1613–1451 BCE (95.4% confidence interval).

DISCUSSION

The almost perfect overlapping of ^{14}C years BP years and standard deviation, but also of the calibration thereof, suggests that "old wood" effect for the cremated bones of graves 3 and 29 did not affect the AMS measurement.[25] Moreover, it is likely that either the same pyre or at least the same batch of fuel was used for the fire that has cremated the two bodies. At the same time, these two graves represent the earliest ones in the present batch, which if correlated with the newest high-precision radiocarbon series of multi-layered sites,[26] would place these graves in the earlier part of the first stage of the LBA, i.e. LBA Ia. A second and subsequent phase of cremation interments is represented by Grave 61, which, based on the present radiocarbon dating and its calibration, places the burial in the second stage of the earlier LBA, i.e. LBA Ib.

Graves 33 and 45 are almost overlapping in both ^{14}C years BP year-ranges, standard deviations and, naturally, calibrated age intervals, as well. Just as in the previous case, almost certainly eliminating any suspicion of "old wood" effect in cremated burials in these burials.[27] Their dating partially overlaps with the last stage of the earliest LBA and the second stage of LBA, i.e. LBA Ia or LBA II. It must be noted, that there is a possibility for some chronological overlap with the only, yet, dated inhumation from this burial ground, grave 17 from sector C. The mentioned grave, was dated 3050 ± 30 ^{14}C years BP (Beta–317259), which indicates the death of the individual in a year between 1386–1264 BCE (68.2% confidence interval) and 1405–1223 BCE (95.4% confidence interval).[28]

The youngest burial of the presently dated batch is the individual from Grave 32, which much to our surprise, falls outside the limits of the Bronze Age (BA). Therefore, the radiocarbon dating of this grave, with the inner fluted decoration of the deep dish used as an urn (Pl. II/2), confirmed our initial suspicion and places the present burial into the EIA, despite the fact that it was, seemingly, grouped, with other Bronze Age burials from sector K_6 of Florești–*Polus Center*.

[25] Olsen et al. 2013.

[26] Daróczi et al. 2023b; Jaeger et al. 2018.

[27] Olsen et al. 2013.

[28] Rotea et al. 2014, 33, 34, pl. XIX.

CONCLUSIONS

Radiocarbon dating the six cremation burials provides some preliminary anchor points on the burial ground K_6 of Floreşti–*Polus Center* indicating at least two major interment horizons, the former having two or three sub-horizons, dated from the LBA I to the LBA II (Pl. IV/2). Furthermore, the clear attribution of Grave 32 to the EIA is a major new development in the discussion that is to be followed in the subsequent publications of the presently discussed burial ground. The added value of these radiocarbon datings emerges from the absolute chronological ranges attributed to some very specific Bronze Age metal discoveries. While the saltaleone from grave 3 (Pl. I/2) does not have a relative chronological value, the golden lock-ring and the bronze pin from grave 29 (Pl. II/1) and the bronze armband from grave 45 (Pl. III/2) does! The absolute dates of all three finds suggest a certain temporal separation within, most likely, the first stage of the LBA. Lastly, some pottery shapes are more clearly associated with relative and absolute chronological phases, making the discussion of the latest MBA and earliest LBA in Transylvania somewhat easier in the future.

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LIST OF FIGURES

LIST OF PLATES

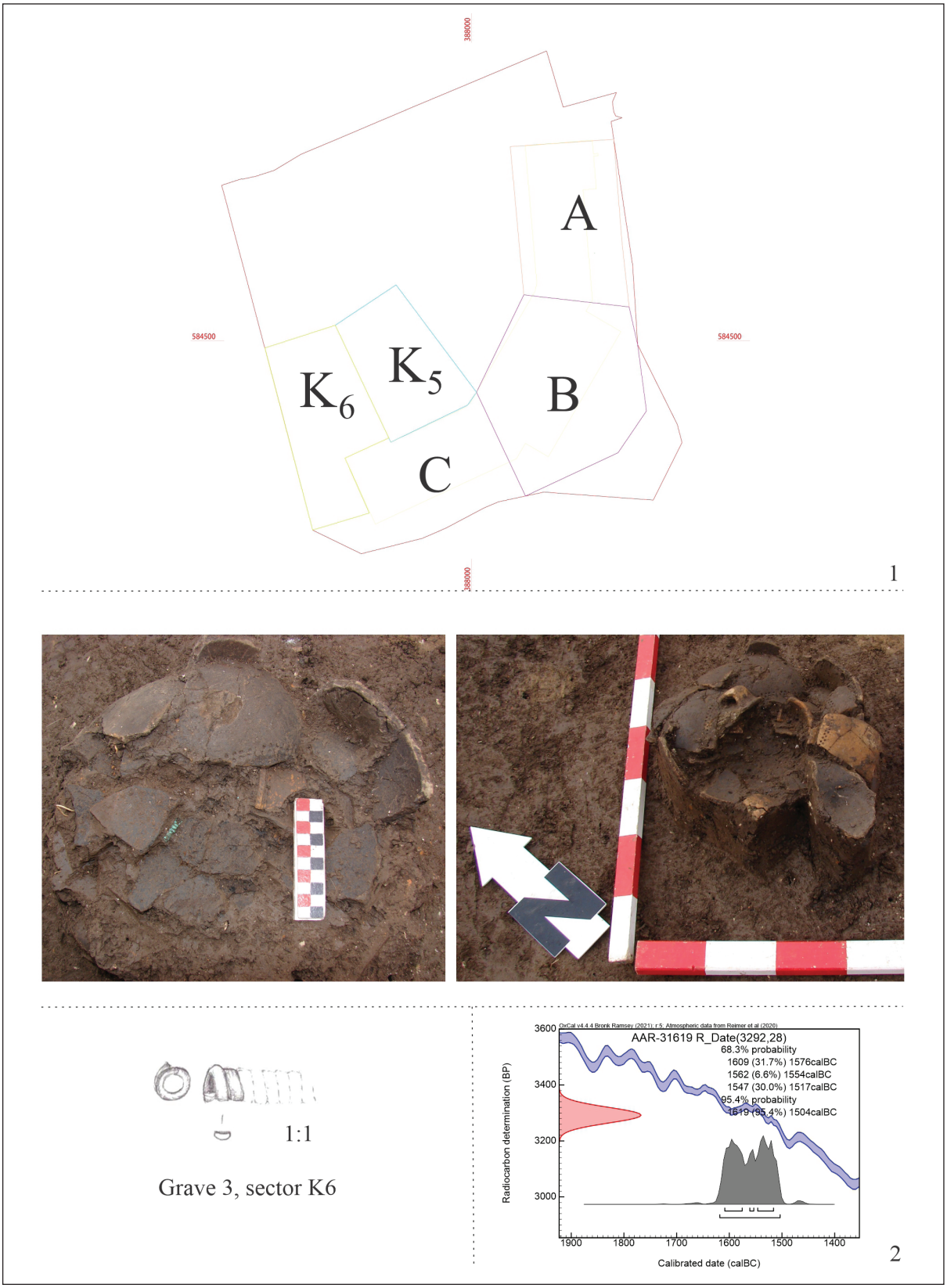
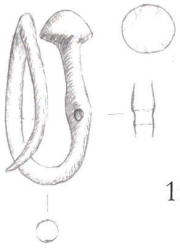
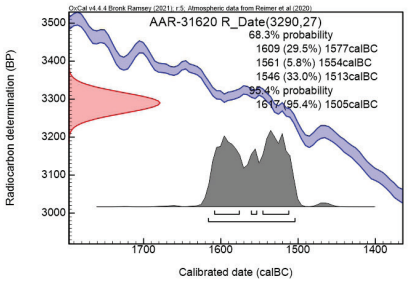


Plate I. Floreşti–*Polus Center*: Sectors of the site; 2. Grave 3.





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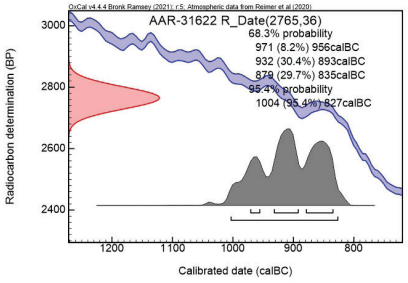

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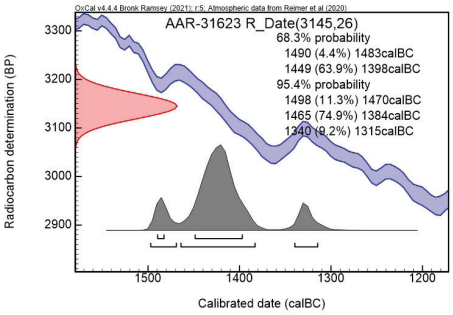
Plate II. Floreşti–*Polus Center*: 1. Grave 29, Sector K6; 2. Grave 32, Sector K6.



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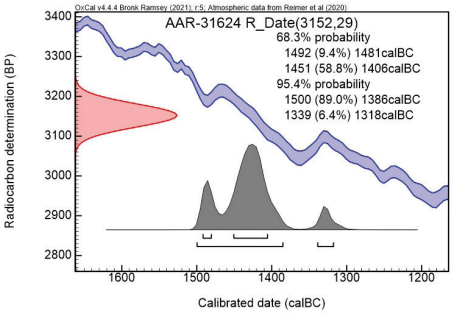

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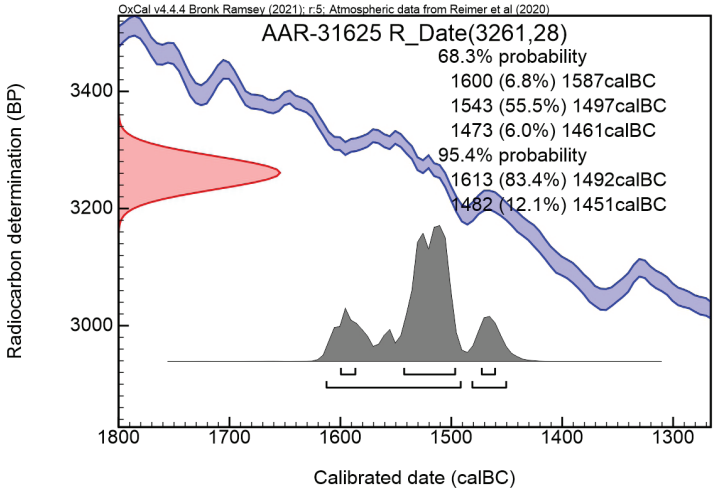
Plate III. Floreşti–*Polus Center*: 1. Grave 33, Sector K6; 2. Grave 45, Sector K6.



1

Feature	Excavation date	Sampling date	Dating date	Material	Species	AARAMS ID	BP	standard deviation	IntCal 20 68,2%	IntCal20 >95.4%	d13C
grave 3	2007	2019	2020	bone (calcin)	human	AAR-31619	3292	28	1610-1516	1619-1504	-22
grave 29	2007	2019	2020	bone (calcin)	human	AAR-31620	3290	27	1610-1515	1617-1504	-17,7
grave 32	2007	2019	2020	bone (calcin)	human	AAR-31622	2765	36	972-835	1004-828	-18,7
grave 33	2007	2019	2020	bone (calcin)	human	AAR-31623	3145	26	1491-1399	1497-1315	-22
grave 45	2007	2019	2020	bone (calcin)	human	AAR-31624	3152	29	1493-1405	1499-1319	-17,5
grave 61	2007	2019	2020	bone (calcin)	human	AAR-31625	3261	28	1599-1462	1612-1451	-20

2

Plate IV. Floreşti–*Polus Center*: 1. Grave 61, Sector K6; 2. Table with the radiocarbon dates.

ABBREVIATION

ACMI	Anuarul Comisiunii Monumentelor Istorice, București
Acta Antiqua	Acta Antiqua Academiae Scientiarum Hungaricae, Budapest
Acta Siculica	Acta Siculica. A Székely Nemzeti Múzeum Évkönyve, Sfântu Gheorghe
ActaArchHung	Acta Archaeologica Academiae Scientiarum Hungaricae, Budapest
ActaMN	Acta Musei Napocensis, Cluj-Napoca
ActaMP	Acta Muzei Porolissensis, Zalău
AEM	Archaeologisch–Epigrapische Mitteilungen aus Oesterreich–Ungarn, Wien
American Antiquity	American Antiquity, Society for American Archaeology
Analele Banatului (S.N.)	Analele Banatului S.N., Arheologie – Istorie, Muzeul Național al Banatului, Timișoara
Angustia	Angustia, Muzeul Carpaților Răsăriteni, Sfântu Gheorghe
ANRC	Arhivele Naționale ale României, Cluj
Apulum	Apulum. Acta Musei Apulensis, Alba Iulia
Aquincumi Füzetek	Aquincumi Füzetek, Budapesti Történeti Múzeum, Budapest
Archaeolingua	Archaeolingua, Budapest
ArchÉrt	Archaeologiai Értesítő, Budapest
ArchKorr	Archäologisches Korrespondenzblatt: Urgeschichte, Römerzeit, Frühmittelalter, Mainz
ArchKözl	Archaeologiai Közlemények, (1859–1899), Magyar Tudományos Akadémia Archaeológiai Bizottsága, Budapest
ArhMold	Arheologia Moldovei, Institutul de arheologie Iași, Iași
ATF	Acta Terrae Fogarasiensis, Muzeul Țării Făgărașului, Făgăraș
AUA (SH)	Anuarul Universității 1 Decembrie 1918, Alba Iulia
AUASH	Annales Universitatis Apulensis. Series Historica, Universitatea 1 Decembrie 1918", Alba Iulia
BiblEphNap	Bibliotheca Ephemeris Napocensis, Institutul de Arheologie și Istoria Artei, Cluj-Napoca
Bibliotheca Marmatia	Bibliotheca Marmatia, Muzeul Județean de Istorie și Arheologie Maramureș
BiblThrac	Bibliotheca Thracologica, București
BMM	Bibliotheca Musei Marisiensis, Seria(es) Archaeologica, Târgu Mureș
BMN	Bibliotheca Musei Napocensis, Cluj-Napoca
Buridava	Buridava. Studii și materiale, Muzeul Județean „Aurelian Sacerdoțeanu" Vâlcea
Caiete ARA	Caiete ARA (Arhitectură. Restaurare. Arheologie), Asociația ARA, București
CAN	Cercetări arheologice în aria nord-tracă, Institutul de Thracologie, București
CCA	Cronica Cercetărilor Arheologice din România, București
CIL	Corpus Inscriptionum Latinarum, Berlin-Brandenburg Academy of Sciences and Humanities, Berlin
Coll. Med.	Collegium Mediense. Comunicări Științifice, Muzeul Municipal Mediaș, Mediaș
ComArchHung	Communicationes Archaeologicae Hungariae, Budapest
Complutum	Universidad Complutense de Madrid, Madrid
Crisia	Crisia, Muzeul Țării Crișurilor, Oradea

Dacia (N. S.)	Dacia. Recherches et décuvertes archéologiques en Roumanie, I–XII (1924–1948), Nouvelle série (N. S.): Dacia. Revue d'archéologie et d'histoire anciene
DissPan	Dissertationes Pannonicae, Budapest
EDR	Ephemeris Dacoromana. Annuario della Scuola Romena di Roma, Roma
EphNap	Ephemeris Napocensis, Cluj-Napoca
ErdÉvsz	Erdélyi Évszázadok, a Kolozsvári Magyar Történeti Intézet évkönyve, Kolozsvár
ErdMúz	Erdélyi Múzeum. Az Erdélyi Múzeum Egylet Történelmi Szakosztályának Közlönye, Kolozsvár
ETF	Erdélyi Tudományos Füzetek, Kolozsvár
FileIst	File de Istorie, Complexul Muzeal Bistrița-Năsăud, Bistrița-Năsăud
HTRTÉ	A Hunyadmegyei Történelmi és Régészeti Társulat Évkönyve (1880–1912), Déva
Hung. Archaeol.	Hungarian Archaeology, Archaeolingua, Budapest
Hungarian Archaeology	Hungarian Archaeology, Archeolingua, Budapest, e-Journal
IDR	Inscriptiones Daciae Romanae, Academia Română
Istros	I stros. Revue d'archéologie et d'histoire ancienne, Muzeul Brăilei, Brăila
JAHA	Journal of Ancient History and Archaeology, Institute of Archaeology and Art History of Romanian Academy Cluj-Napoca & Technical University of Cluj-Napoca, Cluj-Napoca
JAMÉ	A Nyíregyházi Jósa András Múzeum Évkönyve
JAMT	Journal of Archaeological Method and Theory, Springer Nature
JAS	Journal of Archaeological Science, Elsevier, e-Journal
JdI	Jahrbuch des Deutschen Archäologischen Instituts, Deutsches Archäologisches Institut, Berlin
JMS	Journal of Mithraic Studies
Journal of Applied Geophysics	Journal of Applied Geophysics, Amsterdam
JRA	Journal of Roman Archaeology, Cambridge University Press, https://journalofromanarchaeology.com/
JRMS	Journal of Roman Military Equipment Studies, Association for Roman Military Equipment Studies
LUPA	
Lustra	Lustra, Internationale Halbjahresschrift für Fragen des Klassischen Altertums, Göttingen
MAGW	Mitteilungen der Anthropologischen Gesellschaft in Wien, Wien
Marisia	Marisia (V–XXXV): Studii și Materiale, Târgu Mureș
Marisia-AHP	Marisia: Archaeologia, Historia, Patrimonium (2019–), Târgu Mureș
MBV	Münchner Beiträge zur Vor- und Frühgeschichte, München
MCA	Materiale și Cercetări Arheologice, Institutul de Arheologie „Vasile Pârvan", București
MIMK	Molnár István Múzeum Kiadványai, Székelykeresztúr
MNL DL	Magyar Nemzeti Levéltár, Diplomatikai Levéltár
NIMB	Nuclear Instruments and Methods in Physics Research Section B: Beam Interactions with Materials and Atoms, Elsevier, e-Journal
OJA	Oxford Journal of Archaeology, Oxford
Opitz Archaeologica	Opitz Archaeologica, Martin Opitz Kiadó, Budapest
Pásztortűz	Pásztortűz (1921–1944), Kolozsvár
PAT	Patrimonium Archaeologicum Transylvanicum, Cluj-Napoca

PBF	Prähistorische Bronzefunde, München, Stuttgart
Peabody Museum Bulletins	Peabody Museum Bulletins, Harvard University Series
PPS	Proceedings of the Prehistoric Society, London
Pril. Inst. arheol. Zagrebu	Prilozi Instituta za arheologiju u Zagrebu, Zagreb
PZ	Prähistorische Zeitschrift, Berlin
Quat.Int.	Quaternary International, International Union for Quaternary Research, Elsevier, e-Journal
Radiocarbon	Radiocarbon, Cambridge University Press
ReiCretActa	Rei Cretariae Romanae Fautorum Acta, Tongeren
Religion	Religion, e-Journal
RevBis	Revista Bistriței, Complexului Muzeal Bistrița-Năsăud, Bistrița
RevMuz	Revista Muzeelor Institutul Național pentru Cercetare și Formare Culturală, București
RMM – MIA	Revista Muzeelor și Monumentelor. Monumente istorice și de artă, Institutul Național al Patrimoniului, București
SaalbJb	Saalburg-Jahrbuch. Bericht des Saalburg-Museums
SAO	Studien zur Archäologie in Ostmitteleuropa, Berlin
Sargetia (N. S.)	Sargetia. Acta Musei Devensis, deva
Sbor. FFUK Historica	Sborník Filozofickej fakulty Univerzity Komenského, Historica, Bratislava
SCIV(A)	Studii și Cercetări de Istorie Veche (și Arheologie 1974–), București
SlovArch	Slovenská Archeológia, Nitra
StCom Satu Mare	Studii și comunicări Satu Mare, Muzeul Județean Satu Mare
StudPreist	Studii de preistorie, Asociația Română de Arheologie (ARA), București
Székelyföld	Székelyföld, Kultúrális folyóirat, Csikszereda
Terra Sebus	Terra Sebus, Acta Musei Sabesiensis, Muzeul Municipal „Ioan Raica", Sebeș
Thraco-Dacica	Thraco-Dacica, Institutul de Tracologie, București
Tisicum	Tisicum – A Jász-Nagykun-Szolnok Megyei Múzeumok Évkönyve, Szolnok
UPA	Universitätsforschungen zur Prähistorischen Archäologie, Bonn
VAH	Varia Archaeologica Hungarica, Budapest
VMMK	A Veszprém Megyei Múzeumok Közleményei, Veszprém
V PU	Vydavateľstvo Prešovskej univerzity, Prešov
WorldArch	World Archaeology, Taylor & Fracis, e-Journal
Xantener Berichte	Xantener Berichte. Grabung–Forschung–Präsentation, Meinz

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.