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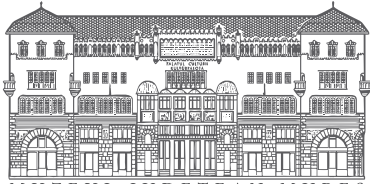
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## CERAMIC FOOTWEAR ITEMS IN THE COLLECTION OF THE MUREŞ COUNTY MUSEUM

Sándor BERECKI\*

*During the inventory process of the Mureş County Museum collection, five unpublished Early Iron Age ceramic footwear pieces were identified. In Transylvania, analogous objects have been found in HaB–HaC settlements. Although in the wider region ceramic footwear items and boot-shaped vessels are known from Bronze Age settlements and burials, the Iron Age pieces form a unique group due to certain characteristics like their solid body or the breakage at the shin. Besides providing an insight into the footwear worn at the time, these objects are important artefacts for understanding the customs, beliefs and worldview of the period.*

**Keywords:** Early Iron Age, footwear, fragmentation, apotropaic, amulets

**Cuvinte-cheie:** prima epocă a fierului, încălțăminte, fragmentare, apotropaic, amulete

Besides the finds from rescue and systematic excavations carried out continuously over the last few decades in the region, the collection of the Mureş County Museum also includes several former private and local collections from Mureş County, which were donated or purchased by the institution. During the inventory of these artefacts, a category of objects came to attention which, together with zoomorphic, anthropomorphic, and amorphous figurines, provide insight into the customs, beliefs, and worldview of communities across a wide area at the beginning of the Early Iron Age. In the following, five ceramic footwear items from the collection of the Mureş County Museum, which were discovered in the past but remain unpublished, will be presented.

**Târgu Mureş–Fortress** (Marosvásárhely–Vár, Mureş County, RO) (Fig. 1/1)

Both the sole and the upper part of the ceramic footwear from Târgu Mureş–Fortress are fragmentary. The object is well fired, its colour is dark grey with brownish spots, the core is dark grey, its surface is slightly smoothed,

it was reduction fired, the clay was tempered with fine sand. The item schematically depicts a footwear; the craftsman combined alternating angular and curved shapes. The sole is flat and shield-shaped, tapering toward the heel. The vertical shin part is slightly curved, with a thin rib visible on the outer curve, which is most prominent at the heel as it moves towards the sole. To the right and left of the rib are two small buttons, which probably represent the buttons that fasten the cross strap.

Length: 39.5 mm; height: 38 mm; width at the button: 23 mm; width at the shin: 22 mm; width of the sole: 24.50 mm; thickness at the sole: 12.50 mm; thickness at the shin: 16 mm. Weight: 33 g. Find circumstances: Târgu Mureş–Fortress, 2001, section 12, grid 3, –1.60 m (inv. no. 8355).

**Moreşti–Podei** (Malomfalva, Mureş County, RO) (Fig. 1/2)

During the 1990 excavations in Moreşti, a fragment of a ceramic footwear was found in pit 1 (G1/1990). Several ceramic fragments were also found in the pit, including fragments of black polished, bichrome, channelled pottery, as well as a black mug decorated on the inside,

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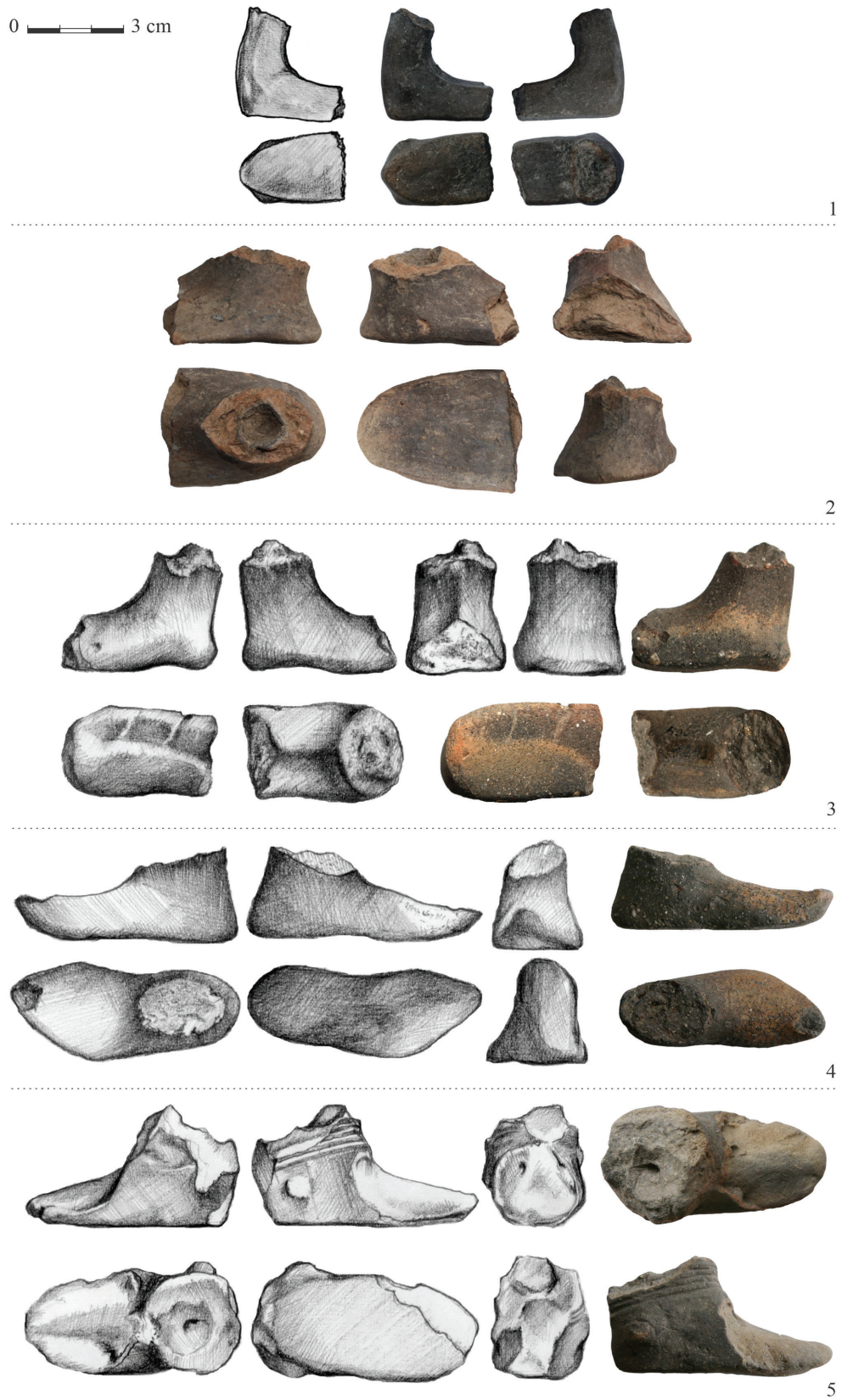


Fig. 1. Ceramic footwears from the collection of the Mureș County Museum: 1. Târgu Mureș–Fortress; 2. Morești–Podei; 3. Iernut–Galahegy; 4. ‘Sângeorgiu de Pădure’ 1; ‘Sângeorgiu de Pădure’ 2.

with a protruding bottom, surrounded by circular incisions. The footwear is dark brown in colour with a light brown core, its surface is predominantly evened, it was oxidising fired, the clay was tempered with fine sand. The object is extremely fragmentary, with the stem broken and the entire forefoot missing. The heel protrudes, the lower, horizontal part of the object is flat and oval-shaped, tapering slightly towards the heel. There is a small indentation on the upper part of the object. The shin part is cylindrical, the Achilles tendon is marked. A thin ridge can be seen on the inner curve (on the front of the lower leg and upper foot).

Length: 47 mm; height: 29 mm; maximum width of sole: 35.5 mm; width at heel: 23 mm; width at shin: 21.5 mm; remaining thickness of sole: 18.5 mm. Weight: 35 g. Find circumstances: G1/1990 (inv. no. 7664/26).

*Iernut–Galahegy* (Radnót, Mureş County, RO) (Fig. 1/3)

The footwear in the Nicolae Vlassa collection was found at the Late Bronze Age and Early Iron Age settlement of *Iernut–Galahegy*.<sup>1</sup> Both the sole and the shin of the ceramic object are fragmented. The artefact is well fired, its colour is dark grey with brownish spots, the core is dark grey, its surface is rough, its firing is mixed, mainly oxidised, the clay was tempered with coarse sand. The lower, horizontal base of the object is flat and oval-shaped, slightly concave towards the prominent heel. The upright part is cylindrical, the concavity of the Achilles tendon is prominent. A thin ridge can be observed on the inner arch (on the front of the lower leg and upper forefoot).

Length: 44.5 mm; height: 35.5 mm; width at the Achilles tendon: 25 mm; width at the shin: 25 mm; sole width: 29 mm; sole thickness: 19 mm. Weight: 41 g. Find circumstances are unknown (inv. no. 4067/1243).

*‘Sângeorgiu de Pădure’ 1* (Erdőszentgyörgy, Mureş County, RO) (Fig. 1/4)

The upper part of the first ceramic footwear from the former *Sângeorgiu de Pădure* collection is broken, and the toe of the shoe is slightly damaged. The object is well fired, brown and dark grey in colour, with a dark grey core and a rough surface. It is mixed fired, mainly oxidised, and the clay was tempered with coarse sand. The sole is flat, elongated, slightly narrowing towards the heel, thickening at the pad of the foot, then narrowing again at the toes and curving slightly upwards. The shin part is cylindrical, with a slight indentation at the heel. The object depicts a boot-like left footwear.

Length: 64 mm; height: 24.5 mm; width of the shin: 19.5 mm; width of sole at heel: 20 mm; width of sole at pad of foot: 25 mm; thickness of sole: 13 mm. Weight: 35 g. Find circumstances unknown (inv. no. 5124).

*‘Sângeorgiu de Pădure’ 2* (Fig. 1/5)

The upper part of the second item from the former *Sângeorgiu de Pădure* collection is fragmentary, and the outer layer has detached from the forefoot. The heel and Achilles tendon areas of the object are damaged. The object is well fired, dark grey in colour, with a grey core and a slightly rough surface. It was mixed fired, mainly reductive, with the clay tempered with fine sand. The sole of the item is flat, oval in shape, tapering at the toes. The shin is cylindrical, with two round knobs near the heel. Above them, four circular incisions are visible on the lower part of the shin, but as this part of the object is incomplete, the exact number of incisions cannot be determined. The upper part of the object and the forefoot, at the navicular bone, were perforated before firing.

Length: 63.5 mm; height: 34 mm; width at the ankle: 33.5 mm; width at the heel: 27 mm; width at the shin: 31 mm; remaining thickness of the sole: 13.5 mm. Weight: 54 g. Find circumstances unknown (inv. no. 5123).

Similar pieces to those from the collections of the Mureş County Museum and dated to the beginning of the Early Iron Age are known in Transylvania (Fig. 2–3) from the settlement

<sup>1</sup> For the site, see: VLASSA 1965, 32; LAZĂR 1995, 154.

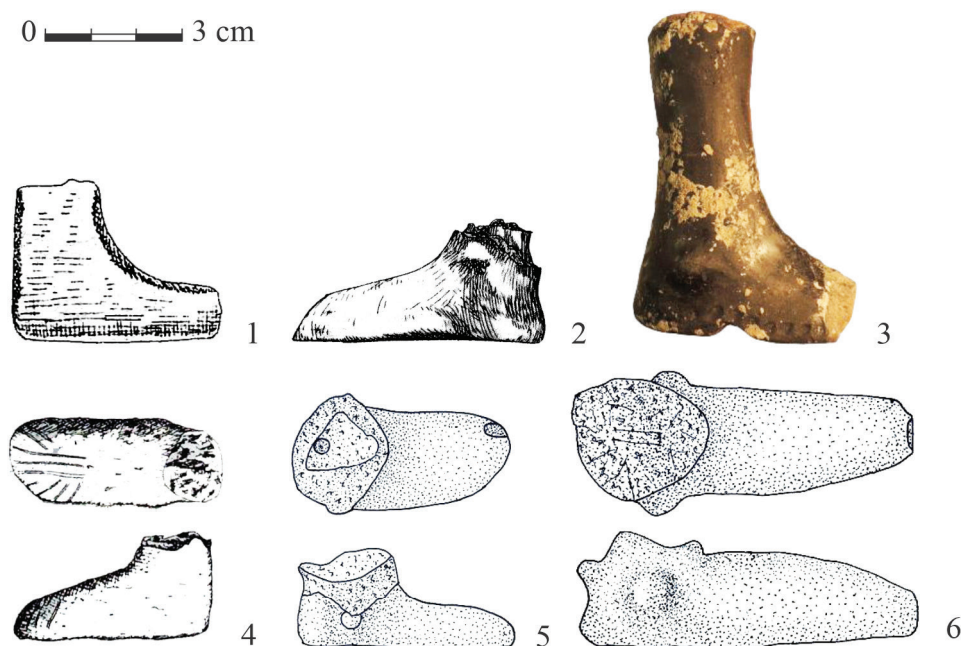


Fig. 2. Early Iron Age ceramic footwear representations in Transylvania. 1. Teleac (after VASILIEV 1986); 2. Teleac (after HOREDT ET AL. 1962); 3. Arcuș (unpublished); 4. Tilișca (after LUPU 1989, without scale); 5–6. Alba Iulia (after LASCU 2007).

dated to HaB2–HaD at Teleac (Telek, Alba County, RO),<sup>2</sup> from the HaA2–HaC settlement in Tilișca (Tiliske, Sibiu County, RO)<sup>3</sup> and from the HaB settlement in Alba Iulia–*Dealul Furcilor-Monolit* (Gyulafehérvár, Alba County, RO).<sup>4</sup> An unpublished item, discovered accidentally, is mentioned from Oarda (Alsóváradja, Alba County, RO),<sup>5</sup> another unpublished piece comes from Arcuș (Árkos, Covasna County, RO).<sup>6</sup> A similar footwear was discovered east of the Carpathians, in Chișinău (Republic of Moldova),<sup>7</sup> while another type, but also dated to the Early Iron Age, comes from Chitila (Ilfov County, RO).<sup>8</sup>

In the case of the Transylvanian pieces, two types can be distinguished according to the detail of the modelling. The first artefact from

Târgu Mureș (Fig. 1/1) and the one from Teleac (Fig. 2/1) are both schematically executed; only the shape of the sole and the button suggest that these represent footwear. The other items clearly depict footwear, sometimes with detailed features, as in the case of those from ‘Sângeorgiu de Pădure’.

The first piece from ‘Sângeorgiu de Pădure’ displays a left shoe, while the other pieces from the Mureș County Museum lack elements that would indicate whether they are right or left footwear, although in other cases these could be distinguished and a meaning was attributed to them. In the case of several pieces from other periods, it can also be observed that the representation does not specify whether it is the right or left shoe. This suggests that these ceramic objects did not aim to represent the anatomical foot or a realistic shoe, as would be expected in the case of a statue or figurine, but that the primary intention was to evoke concepts associated with the foot and footwear.

In cases where the right or left foot is clearly distinguishable, the right foot appears significantly more often. The abundance of representations of the right foot has been interpreted as

<sup>2</sup> HOREDT ET AL. 1962, fig. 6/6; VASILIEV 1986, 79, fig. 2/10; VASILIEV ET AL. 1991, 70, fig. 28/10.

<sup>3</sup> LUPU 1989, 60, pl. 26/20.

<sup>4</sup> LASCU 2007.

<sup>5</sup> DAMIAN 2009, 2, 7–8.

<sup>6</sup> <https://clasate.cimec.ro/Detaliu.asp?tit=Fragment-picior-de-lut&k=d0f7eb4f7f6548aea98a36e94c595e25>, accessed on 06.12.2025.

<sup>7</sup> LEVIŢKI 1994, 110, fig. 59/3.

<sup>8</sup> BORONEANŢ 1984, 160, 164, fig. 7/14.

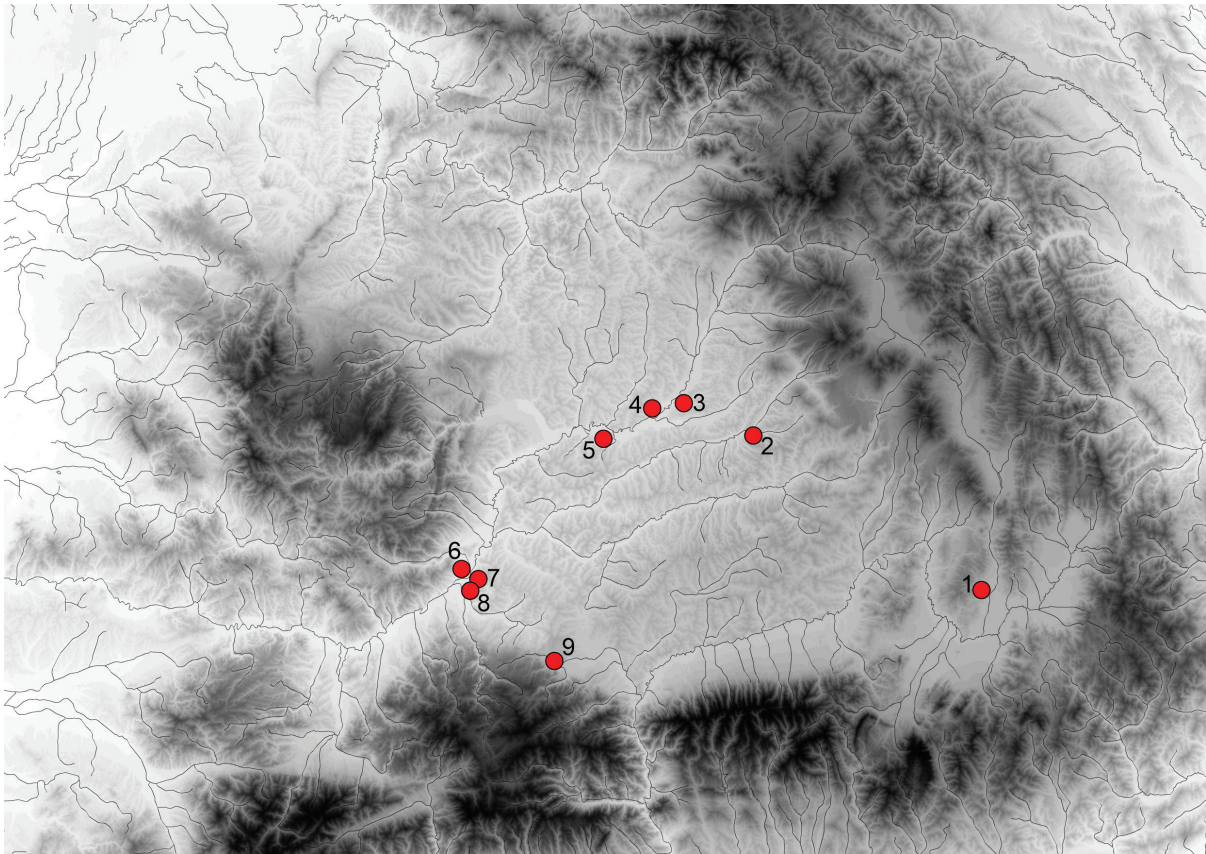


Fig. 3. Early Iron Age ceramic footwear items in Transylvania. 1. Arcuş; 2. 'Sângeorgiu de Pădure' (2 pcs); 3. Târgu Mureş; 4. Moreşti; 5. Iernut; 6. Alba Iulia (2 pcs); 7. Teleac (2 pcs); 8. Oarda; 9. Tilişca.

the superior value of the right over the left,<sup>9</sup> the left side being associated with the 'bad' and the right side with the 'good', or with the duality of woman (left) and man (right), chthonic (left) and Olympian (right).<sup>10</sup> The unpublished piece from Arcuş represents the left foot, and among those from Alba Iulia, one represents the right foot (Fig. 2/5).<sup>11</sup> In the case of the Bronze Age boot-shaped vessels (*Stiefelgefäße*), the same preponderance of the representation of the right foot can be observed.<sup>12</sup> However, it cannot be ruled out that these depictions reflect the dominance of right-handedness (and right-footedness) in society as opposed to latent left-handedness.

On the pieces from Târgu Mureş and the second piece from 'Sângeorgiu de Pădure', the knobs marking the buttons fastening the strap

or representing a simple decorative button are visible, as is the case of both pieces from Alba Iulia (Fig. 2/5–6) and the piece from Arcuş. These buttons are usually found alone on the external part of the footwear, on the right side of the right shoe and on the left side of the left shoe, mostly below the ankle, at the sinus tarsi, between the calcaneus and the talus. In some cases, they occur in pairs, as in the Alba Iulia or Arcuş discoveries. Similar buttons, often interpreted as ankles,<sup>13</sup> can also be observed on Bronze Age boot-shaped vessels from the Carpathian Basin,<sup>14</sup> while in other cases these knobs are decorative components of bronze protector spiral patterns.<sup>15</sup> None of these pieces show any plastic or ornamental separation (ridge,

<sup>9</sup> SCHUSTER 2000, 267–268; ŞTEFAN 2010, 127.

<sup>10</sup> RUSTOIU 2023, 148.

<sup>11</sup> LASCU 2007, 68.

<sup>12</sup> KALICZ-SCHREIBER 1991, 175; KALICZ-SCHREIBER 2010, 259; RIŞCUŢĂ ET AL. 2018.

<sup>13</sup> IGNAT 1984, 11; LASCU 2007, 68; TUŢULESCU 2008, 37; NEAGOE 2011, 111; FÜLÖP 2017, 122.

<sup>14</sup> IGNAT 1984, 11, pl. VI/1, 3; COMŞA 1995, fig. 1–3; TUŢULESCU 2008, 37, pl. III; SZILAS 2017, fig. 4; RIŞCUŢĂ ET AL. 2018, fig. 11.

<sup>15</sup> EMÓDI 2011.

incision, etc.) between the knob and the upper part of a 'half shoe', whose top ends below the ankle, therefore most probably these knobs represent an integral part, an element or ornament of the footwear rather than the ankle bone.

A perforation similar to the one observed on the second piece from 'Sângeorgiu de Pădure' can be seen on the two footwear items from Alba Iulia; but in these cases, the perforation starts at the shin and ends at the tips of the toes. Regarding the pieces from Alba Iulia, the perforations were considered to be drainage holes for boot-shaped vessels used for libations.<sup>16</sup> However, in the case of the Bronze Age foot- or boot-shaped vessels, the base is usually hollow on the inside, being an integral part of the vessel,<sup>17</sup> and very rarely solid,<sup>18</sup> as are the Early Iron Age ceramic footwear items from the eastern Carpathian Basin.

The pieces from Alba Iulia differ from boot-shaped vessels since, based on the illustration, their upper part does not resemble a vessel or its base, but rather the compact part of the pieces discussed here. However, there are vessels on which the hole was actually located at the front, in place of the 'toes'.<sup>19</sup> Nevertheless, most examples from the Early Iron Age are not perforated.

The second piece from 'Sângeorgiu de Pădure' has an incised decoration running around the lower part of the shin. The piece from Tilișca (Fig. 2/4) has a decoration on the forefoot, which most likely represents the lacing. This is similar to the decoration on the Late Bronze Age footwear from Suplacu de Barcău (Berettyószéplak, sk. Siplak, Bihor County, RO).<sup>20</sup> The piece from Arcuș shows the indentations of the sole, together with a decoration placed at the heel and along the lower edge, consisting of rows of circular impressions.

Almost all items belonging to the Žuto Brdo – Gârla Mare culture were ornamented.<sup>21</sup> In Bogdănești (Ripajépi, Bacău County,

RO) (Monteoru culture), the ceramic footwear classified as cult object was decorated by incision and puncturing.<sup>22</sup> On some items from the Middle and Late Bronze Age in western Romania, bronze protector spirals were depicted.<sup>23</sup> Thus, these decorative elements sometimes represented structural parts of footwear (buttons, laces), while other times they represent ornaments or other independent decorative elements or accessories worn on the foot close to the shoe.

Although the objects in the collection of the Mureș County Museum and the analogous finds in Transylvania and neighbouring areas show many similarities, they were not actually made according to a single pattern, but each was created independently, with its own unique style of representation. In the case of the object from Târgu Mureș, the schematic nature of the design makes it difficult to determine whether the craftsman intended to depict a bare foot or footwear, but based on the curved sole, it is likely to represent a leather moccasin-like footwear, fitting tightly to the foot. Shoes with upturned toes similar to the first object from Sângeorgiu de Mureș also occur on the decoration of a vessel in the Bronze Age Monteoru culture,<sup>24</sup> and later, in the HaD and LTA periods they were also widespread throughout Europe.<sup>25</sup>

Regarding the chronology of the ceramic footwear items in the collection of the Mureș County Museum, it can be said that the piece from the fortress in Târgu Mureș was found in the Early Iron Age Gáva layer, while the one from Morești was unearthed in 1990 from an Early Iron Age pit, together with typical Gáva pottery. From Iernut–*Galahegy*, there is only one Noua handle in the N. Vlassa collection, while the other pottery fragments are characteristic of the Early Iron Age,<sup>26</sup> so it is most likely that the footwear also belongs to this later period.

Most of the objects in the Sângeorgiu de Mureș collection originate from one of the two Early Iron Age Gáva earthen hillforts located on

<sup>16</sup> LASCU 2007, 68, 71.

<sup>17</sup> KALICZ-SCHREIBER 1991, 175; KALICZ-SCHREIBER-KALICZ 1997, Abb. 4–9; KALICZ-SCHREIBER 2010, 259.

<sup>18</sup> GEDL 1989, ryc. 2; KALICZ-SCHREIBER 2010, 259, Taf. 1/3.

<sup>19</sup> NAGY 1979, 44, Abb. 42.

<sup>20</sup> IGNAT 1984, pl. VI/1.

<sup>21</sup> NEAGOE 2011.

<sup>22</sup> FLORESCU-BUZDUGAN 1972, 177, fig. 48/7.

<sup>23</sup> KACSÓ 2004, Abb. 7/8; EMÓDI 2011.

<sup>24</sup> SCHUSTER 2000, 265.

<sup>25</sup> SCHÖNFELDER 1999.

<sup>26</sup> VLASSA 1965, 32.

the outskirts of the town (Várhegy/Leánymező; Senyevára).<sup>27</sup> Although there are a few Bronze Age fragments in the collection, most of the finds date from the Early Iron Age. The city's collection only includes items from the immediate vicinity of the locality, so there is no reason to assume that the shoes did not originate from the valley of the Târnava Mică River near Sângeorgiu de Mureş.

Therefore, it can be confidently assumed that all five pieces of footwear presented above are products of the Early Iron Age Gáva culture in Transylvania, as supported by the fact that the number of ceramic anthropomorphic and zoomorphic representations during the Bronze Age in Transylvania is relatively low, while both types of objects are much more common during the Early Iron Age.<sup>28</sup>

Representations of decorated or simple feet and shoes are not only specific to the region and were not an invention of the Iron Age; they are known in the Carpathian-Danube area from the Neolithic (Starčevo–Criş–Körös culture), Copper Age (Gumelniţa, Cucuteni), Bronze Age (Glina, Tei, Monteoru, Mureş, Wietenberg, Otomani, Žuto Brdo – Gârla Mare, Verbicioara), with full, hollow, boot-shaped vessels or container supports, statuettes, altars or small ceramic tables.<sup>29</sup> Rarely, foot-shaped vessels also occur in Gáva burials<sup>30</sup> and among finds from the late period of the Early Iron Age or the beginning of the Late Iron Age.<sup>31</sup> Their wide chronological and geographical distribution indicates that footwear, feet, and movement often had symbolic meaning in human cultures.

Research on ceramic feet and footwear representations has yielded numerous opinions regarding the functionality of these objects. Most often, they have been associated with boot-shaped vessels (*Stiefelgefäße*), interpreted as the base of ritual vessels, or altars used in

libations.<sup>32</sup> Others consider these ceramic objects to be independent representations of human feet and footwear,<sup>33</sup> jewellery,<sup>34</sup> figurines or parts of idols,<sup>35</sup> representations of the 'divine foot',<sup>36</sup> *pars pro toto* objects,<sup>37</sup> symbols of power,<sup>38</sup> and tools used to decorate vessels.<sup>39</sup> Within their cultic role, they also took on the character of *ex-votos*, which were offered to the underground, chthonic gods,<sup>40</sup> a custom also found in Christianity, or as apotropaic pendants<sup>41</sup> and amulets.<sup>42</sup>

All of the Early Iron Age pieces from Transylvania show breakage at the shin, and sometimes the forefoot (toes) is broken off. The same type of fragmentation can be observed on the local Middle Bronze Age finds<sup>43</sup> or in other parts of Europe in Late Bronze Age and Early Iron Age<sup>44</sup> or late Early Iron Age and early Late Iron Age<sup>45</sup> pieces.

It would be obvious to conclude that these ceramic pieces of footwear were indeed parts of statues (which occurred in several cultures during prehistoric times), or perhaps the feet of vessels or altars.<sup>46</sup> However, we do not know of any intact sculptures or pottery from the Late Bronze Age and Early Iron Age in this region that could be compared to them. On the other hand, it is unlikely that all of the pieces would have broken in the same place, above the ankle (slightly higher in the case of the footwear found in Arcuş, which broke at the middle of the shin), and never at knee or thigh height.

It is therefore much more probable that the 'breakage' of the leg above the ankle was a

<sup>27</sup> SZÉKELY 1961, 182–184; SZÉKELY 1976, 117; REZI 2017, 55.

<sup>28</sup> BERECKI 2012; 2013a; 2013b; 2015.

<sup>29</sup> SCHUSTER 2000, 268.

<sup>30</sup> DANI 2001, 282.

<sup>31</sup> SCHÖNFELDER 1999.

<sup>32</sup> IGNAT 1984, 11; VASILIEV ET AL. 1991, 70; SCHUSTER 2000, 266; LASCU 2007, 68, 71; EMŐDI 2011, 187.

<sup>33</sup> VASILIEV ET AL. 1991, 70.

<sup>34</sup> NEAGOE 2011, 120–121.

<sup>35</sup> VASILIEV ET AL. 1991, 70; SCHUSTER 2000, 266; TUȚULESCU 2008; MARC 2013.

<sup>36</sup> NEAGOE 2011, 120–121.

<sup>37</sup> SÎRBU 1999.

<sup>38</sup> NEAGOE 2011, 120–121.

<sup>39</sup> NICA–ROGOZEA 1995, 202.

<sup>40</sup> SCHUSTER 2000, 266; NEAGOE 2011, 120–121.

<sup>41</sup> NEAGOE 2011, 120–121.

<sup>42</sup> NICA–ROGOZEA 1995, 202; NEAGOE 2011, 120–121.

<sup>43</sup> BOROFFKA 1994, Taf. 75/11, 135/4; TUȚULESCU 2008, pl. III; EMŐDI 2011; NEAGOE 2011.

<sup>44</sup> ILKIC 2006, 58, Taf. 4/4.

<sup>45</sup> ČIŽMÁŘ ET AL. 2021, 34, fig. 2/174.

<sup>46</sup> MARC 2013.

deliberate act, part of the concept associated with the artefact, which resulted in two objects, the broken-off 'leg' – presumably a small, apparently cylindrical part – and the footwear. Intentional fragmentation also occurred in the case of boot-shaped vessels.<sup>47</sup> The bronze stick with an unknown function, ending in a shoe, placed in the Geometric period cremation grave no. 13 in Kerameikos, Athens,<sup>48</sup> may have belonged to a similar circle of beliefs.

Perforations starting at the shin and ending inside the object, or sometimes extending to the top of the foot or toes, were also observed on items belonging to the Biharea/Hajdúbagos group<sup>49</sup> or the Žuto Brdo – Gârla Mare culture, where they were drilled through the sole in some cases.<sup>50</sup> The size of these perforations suggests that they were made for suspending the object, even if the position of the holes makes them unsuitable for wearing around the neck as jewellery.<sup>51</sup> Given their size, it is likely that these perforated objects were not worn as necklaces, but were 'accessories' attached to belts, clothing, or bags.

In conclusion, ceramic items of footwear from the Late Bronze Age and Early Iron Age were most likely amulets or apotropaic objects, which may have been associated with certain actions or events. Due to its chronological and universal nature, the motif of footwear sometimes differed from one period and region to another, sometimes remained the same, while not necessarily being derived from each other from a cultural-historical point of view.

Perhaps the most common example of mythological and belief-based thinking associated with footwear is the boots of Hermes / Turms / Mercurius, which had multiple roles and was an important aid in certain tasks, serving as a symbol of messengership, (long and unknown) journeys, speed in battle, or the connection between heaven, earth, and the underworld, as well as a psychopomp. Footwear had a similar

role in Germanic, Scandinavian, Irish, Baltic, and Slavic mythology (Loki's 'fire shoes', Odin's traveling boots, the 'seven-league boots' motif, 'Vejobatis' 'air shoes', or the shoe gifts of Slavic household spirits).

These ceramic footwear items are presumably related to mythological and magical thinking associated with real or 'interworld' travel, sometimes playing a psychopomp role. For this reason, it was not important for their crafters to explicitly depict the right or left foot, as the object did not represent a piece of clothing attached to an anatomical body part, but rather the actions and beliefs associated with it. Their spread in Transylvania reflects the complex system of individual and community mobility and social networks characteristic of the era and region. Although their makers did not intend to create artistic and detailed representations of real objects, certain features of these objects provide insight into a small part of the clothing of the era. Their decoration, lacing, buttons preceding buckles, and upward-curving toes provide specific information about the shoes of the period, which are not documented in other sources. Together with other plastic representations of the period, these apparently trivial objects offer an insight into the religious, mythological, ceremonial, and artistic aspects of the Early Iron Age<sup>52</sup> and the range of tools used to evoke and activate certain beliefs.

<sup>47</sup> FÜLÖP 2017, 126.

<sup>48</sup> MÜLLER-KARPE 1962, 66, Abb. 20/12.

<sup>49</sup> EMÓDI 2011, 187, fig. 2/2.

<sup>50</sup> ŞANDOR-CHICIDEANU 2012, pl. 1/b.

<sup>51</sup> NEAGOE 2011, 114, fn. 29; ŞANDOR-CHICIDEANU 2012, 24–25, pl. 1/b.

<sup>52</sup> MINA 2007, 264.

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- Fig. 1. Ceramic footwears from the collection of the Mureș County Museum: 1. Târgu Mureș–Fortress; 2. Morești–Podei; 3. Iernut–Galahegy; 4. ‘Sângeorgiu de Pădure’ 1; ‘Sângeorgiu de Pădure’ 2.
- Fig. 2. Early Iron Age ceramic footwear representations in Transylvania. 1. Teleac (after VASILIEV 1986); 2. Teleac (after HOREDȚ ET AL. 1962); 3. Arcuș (unpublished); 4. Tilișca (after LUPU 1989, without scale); 5–6. Alba Iulia (after LASCU 2007).
- Fig. 3. Early Iron Age ceramic footwear items in Transylvania. 1. Arcuș; 2. ‘Sângeorgiu de Pădure’ (2 pcs); 3. Târgu Mureș; 4. Morești; 5. Iernut; 6. Alba Iulia (2 pcs); 7. Teleac (2 pcs); 8. Oarda; 9. Tilișca.

## ABBREVIATION

<i>ACMI</i>	Anuarul Comisiunii Monumentelor Istorice, București
<i>Acta Antiqua</i>	Acta Antiqua Academiae Scientiarum Hungaricae, Budapest
<i>Acta Siculica</i>	Acta Siculica. A Székely Nemzeti Múzeum Évkönyve, Sfântu Gheorghe
<i>ActaArchHung</i>	Acta Archaeologica Academiae Scientiarum Hungaricae, Budapest
<i>ActaMN</i>	Acta Musei Napocensis, Cluj-Napoca
<i>ActaMP</i>	Acta Musei Porolissensis, Zalău
<i>AEM</i>	Archaeologisch–Epigraphische Mitteilungen aus Oesterreich–Ungarn, Wien
<i>American Antiquity</i>	American Antiquity, Society for American Archaeology
<i>Analele Banatului (S.N.)</i>	Analele Banatului S.N., Arheologie – Istorie, Muzeul Național al Banatului, Timișoara
<i>Angustia</i>	Angustia, Muzeul Carpaților Răsăriteni, Sfântu Gheorghe
<i>ANRC</i>	Arhivele Naționale ale României, Cluj
<i>Apulum</i>	Apulum. Acta Musei Apulensis, Alba Iulia
<i>Aquincumi Füzetek</i>	Aquincumi Füzetek, Budapesti Történeti Múzeum, Budapest
<i>Archaeolingua</i>	Archaeolingua, Budapest
<i>ArchÉrt</i>	Archaeologiai Értesítő, Budapest
<i>ArchKorr</i>	Archäologisches Korrespondenzblatt: Urgeschichte, Römerzeit, Frühmittelalter, Mainz
<i>ArchKözl</i>	Archaeologiai Közlemények, (1859–1899), Magyar Tudományos Akadémia Archaeológiai Bizottsága, Budapest
<i>ArhMold</i>	Arheologia Moldovei, Institutul de arheologie Iași, Iași
<i>ATF</i>	Acta Terrae Fogarasiensis, Muzeul Țării Făgărașului, Făgăraș
<i>AUA (SH)</i>	Anuarul Universității 1 Decembrie 1918, Alba Iulia
<i>AUASH</i>	Annales Universitatis Apulensis. Series Historica, Universitatea 1 Decembrie 1918”, Alba Iulia
<i>BiblEphNap</i>	Bibliotheca Ephemeris Napocensis, Institutul de Arheologie și Istoria Artei, Cluj-Napoca
<i>Bibliotheca Marmatia</i>	Bibliotheca Marmatia, Muzeul Județean de Istorie și Arheologie Maramureș
<i>BiblThrac</i>	Bibliotheca Thracologica, București
<i>BMM</i>	Bibliotheca Musei Marisiensis, Seria(es) Archaeologica, Târgu Mureș
<i>BMN</i>	Bibliotheca Musei Napocensis, Cluj-Napoca
<i>Buridava</i>	Buridava. Studii și materiale, Muzeul Județean „Aurelian Sacerdoțeanu” Vâlcea
<i>Caiete ARA</i>	Caiete ARA (Arhitectură. Restaurare. Arheologie), Asociația ARA, București
<i>CAN</i>	Cercetări arheologice în aria nord-tracă, Institutul de Thracologie, București
<i>CCA</i>	Cronica Cercetărilor Arheologice din România, București
<i>CIL</i>	Corpus Inscriptionum Latinarum, Berlin-Brandenburg Academy of Sciences and Humanities, Berlin
<i>Coll. Med.</i>	Collegium Mediense. Comunicări Științifice, Muzeul Municipal Mediaș, Mediaș
<i>ComArchHung</i>	Communicationes Archaeologicae Hungariae, Budapest
<i>Complutum</i>	Universidad Complutense de Madrid, 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), Nouvelle série (N. S.): Dacia. Revue d'archéologie et d'histoire ancienne
<i>DissPan</i>	Dissertationes Pannonicae, Budapest
<i>EDR</i>	Ephemeris Dacoromana. Annuario della Scuola Romana di Roma, Roma
<i>EphNap</i>	Ephemeris Napocensis, Cluj-Napoca
<i>ErdÉvsz</i>	Erdélyi Évszázadok, a Kolozsvári Magyar Történelmi Intézet évkönyve, Kolozsvár
<i>ErdMúz</i>	Erdélyi Múzeum. Az Erdélyi Múzeum Egylet Történelmi Szakosztályának Közölnye, Kolozsvár
<i>ETF</i>	Erdélyi Tudományos Füzetek, Kolozsvár
<i>FileIst</i>	File de Istorie, Complexul Muzeal Bistrița-Năsăud, Bistrița-Năsăud
<i>HTRTÉ</i>	A Hunyadmegyei Történelmi és Régészeti Társulat Évkönyve (1880–1912), Déva
<i>Hung. Archaeol.</i>	Hungarian Archaeology, Archaeolingua, Budapest
<i>Hungarian Archaeology</i>	Hungarian Archaeology, Archeolingua, Budapest, e-Journal
<i>IDR</i>	Inscriptiones Daciae Romanae, Academia Română
<i>Istros</i>	I stros. Revue d'archéologie et d'histoire ancienne, Muzeul Brăilei, Brăila
<i>JAHA</i>	Journal of Ancient History and Archaeology, Institute of Archaeology and Art History of Romanian Academy Cluj-Napoca & Technical University of Cluj-Napoca, Cluj-Napoca
<i>JAMÉ</i>	A Nyíregyházi Jósa András Múzeum Évkönyve
<i>JAMT</i>	Journal of Archaeological Method and Theory, Springer Nature
<i>JAS</i>	Journal of Archaeological Science, Elsevier, e-Journal
<i>JdI</i>	Jahrbuch des Deutschen Archäologischen Instituts, Deutsches Archäologisches Institut, Berlin
<i>JMS</i>	Journal of Mithraic Studies
<i>Journal of Applied Geophysics</i>	Journal of Applied Geophysics, Amsterdam
<i>JRA</i>	Journal of Roman Archaeology, Cambridge University Press, <a href="https://journalofromanarchaeology.com/">https://journalofromanarchaeology.com/</a>
<i>JRMS</i>	Journal of Roman Military Equipment Studies, Association for Roman Military Equipment Studies
<i>LUPA</i>	
<i>Lustra</i>	Lustra, Internationale Halbjahresschrift für Fragen des Klassischen Altertums, Göttingen
<i>MAGW</i>	Mitteilungen der Anthropologischen Gesellschaft in Wien, Wien
<i>Marisia</i>	Marisia (V–XXXV): Studii și Materiale, Târgu Mureș
<i>Marisia-AHP</i>	Marisia: Archaeologia, Historia, Patrimonium (2019–), Târgu Mureș
<i>MBV</i>	Münchener Beiträge zur Vor- und Frühgeschichte, München
<i>MCA</i>	Materiale și Cercetări Arheologice, Institutul de Arheologie „Vasile Pârvan”, București
<i>MIMK</i>	Molnár István Múzeum Kiadványai, Székelykeresztúr
<i>MNL DL</i>	Magyar Nemzeti Levéltár, Diplomatikai Levéltár
<i>NIMB</i>	Nuclear Instruments and Methods in Physics Research Section B: Beam Interactions with Materials and Atoms, Elsevier, e-Journal
<i>OJA</i>	Oxford Journal of Archaeology, Oxford
<i>Opitz Archaeologica</i>	Opitz Archaeologica, Martin Opitz Kiadó, Budapest
<i>Páztortúz</i>	Páztortúz (1921–1944), Kolozsvár
<i>PAT</i>	Patrimonium Archaeologicum Transylvanicum, Cluj-Napoca

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

## 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 Mureş 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 Mureş. **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 atelierile 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 tágran 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.