A Burial Ground and Settlement of the Lusatian Culture at Dolný Kubín. Results obtained during the rescue excavations in 2008 caused by a shopping centre construction in the area of former military quarters in Dolný Kubín are presented in the study. The area under research is situated on the river Orava left bank terrace at the Ožnica position, which is in 300 m distance of the present-day river flow. The cremation burial ground dated to the Late Bronze Age has been known in professional literature since the 1930s already under the name of Dolný Kubín I.

New excavations at this locality were realized at the positions of Kapustné hrady and Kukučínova Street. Six cremation burials and two settlement objects of the Lusatian culture were found there. The graves were considerably damaged by previous building activities. Some graves were represented by clusters of fragments of several vessels, which contained only small number of charred human bones; there were sandstone fragments found among the potsherds, which probably were remains of covering or underlying plates. Other burials were pit graves with stone facing. Considering the shape and decoration of the pottery fragments, the necropolis can be dated to the Late Bronze Age generally. Revealing of a sunken feature – dwelling of 9 x 6 m in size – was an extraordinary significant find. Inner sunken sides of the walls were faced with rectangular sandstone plates. Two amphorae were found under the floor level in the north-eastern corner. Another vessel was situated on the floor level in the centre. The find of a bronze pin with globular head and moulded neck together with dagger fragments are dating the dwelling into the BD stage.

The excavated feature proves a Lusatian-culture settlement was situated in the close vicinity of the burial ground. The preserved construction details helped creating the dwelling space reconstruction.

Key words: Slovakia, Orava region, Lusatian culture, settlement, burial ground.

Four-bossed Rings from the La Téne Burial Ground in Ipeľské Predmostie. A pair of four-bossed rings from the La Téne cremation burial ground in Ipeľské Predmostie (distr. of Šahy), that has been known from the year 1950, is analysed in the article. In addition to the morphology, typological analysis and space spreading, the author thoroughly describes production technology of the unique engraved decoration on outer side of all the bosses preserved. The decoration consists of double circles and their segments. Based on detailed study of the original artefacts, a principle of the decoration construction was established and method of its application on particular bosses was described. The motif engraved on the bosses by a pair of compasses with double point is representing “triskelion”, one of the most frequently used motifs in Celtic art. Chemical analysis of the ring proved usage of lead that probably played important part in the decoration work. In the article the special attention is paid to assumed technology of production of this type of circular personal ornament. Theory of its production was consulted with artisans and experts in experimental production of La Téne jewellery replicas. Having studied four-bossed rings from the territory of Slovakia very thoroughly, the author of the article states the methods in production of these rings can be different. To support the hypothesis, he gives examples of four-bossed rings from sites in Ipeľské Predmostie, Holiare and Dolné Trhovište.

Key words: South-western Slovakia, La Téne period, flat Celtic burial grounds, feminine circular personal ornament, engraved decoration, production technology.

Necropolis of the Roman Period at Velatice. The study is focused on evaluation of archaeological finds from a necropolis dated to the Roman period at Velatice (distr. of Brno-venkov) obtained within the years 1923 – 2000. Concerning the necropolis, only grave units comprising artefacts of chronological information value have been published up to now. At the burial ground, forty nine graves were discovered; forty seven of them were cremation burials and two inhumation ones. The dead were buried here within the time of the early to the late Roman periods. Most of the cremation burials are of the late to the final Roman period. The study includes all the
archaeological and anthropological material from the necropolis that we succeeded to obtain from deposits of various institutions and private collections until 2009. Analysis of the archaeological finds was complicated by their finding situations and lack of quality documentation in majority of grave units. The cremation burials that were excavated more recently were situated within the distance of 2 to 5 m; but there is no information on the arrangement of all graves at the burial site, therefore the space relations among the graves cannot be studied. Anthropological analysis of bone remains brought no sex determination of the deceased caused by lack of representative samples. The richest grave excavated at the site was the grave 9, which included artefacts of both the Germanic and Roman provenience. Sex of the buried individual cannot be determined thoroughly. The catalogue comprises of register of graves and finds including those from disturbed grave units as well as vessels without finding situations.

Key words: Moravia, necropolis, Roman period, imports, pottery, tiny metal artefacts, anthropology.

Péter Kovács – Jaroslava Schmidtová
Rímsky miľník z Gerulaty
A Roman Milestone from Gerulata
(Slov. Arch. 59/2, 2011, 311 – 318)

A Roman Milestone from Gerulata. Archaeological excavations of the vicus northwest of the Roman castellum Gerulata at Rusovce, the city district of Bratislava, near the way leading to Carnuntum – via Carnuntina. Surprising finds of rich objects built of stone in the vicus were caused by the excavation in front of a family house at Irkútška Street. The stone construction built by advanced technology and with underfloor heating – hypocaustum – is representing a larger structure, three rooms of which with hypocaust pillars have been unearthed until now. At the line of southwestern wall of praefurnium at the southern part, a damaged, loosely situated fragment of stone with traces of inscription, a milestone made of limestone according to its shape, with broken upper and lower part, was found. The back and sides of the milestone were cut before its secondary use to fit to the masonry. Based on Volusianus tribunicia potestas (II, III or IV), the inscription is dated to the time interval between January 252 and August 253. The last line on the milestone probably gives the distance between the finding spot and the caput viae. As Gerulata was situated nearby the limit road, Carnuntum could be the only between January 252 and August 253. The last line on the milestone probably gives the distance between the finding spot and the caput viae. As Gerulata was situated nearby the limit road, Carnuntum could be the only caput viae in this case. The milestone the most probably stood at the road leading along the Danube to the present-day Hainburg, perhaps by the Gerulata porta principalis sinistra (or 1 – 2 miles westward, on the road from Gerulata to Ad Flexum/Mosonmagyaróvár). The milestone of Trebonianus Gallus and his son Volusianus at Gerulata is complementing the recent knowledge about the way milestones were erected in Pannonia under the reign of military emperors. The milestone sets the dating of the building with hypocaust to the last third of the 3rd century. Its erection in the years 252 – 253 suppose its secondary use during the third construction phase of the camp, when a smaller fort on square ground plan with mighty fortification walls was formed. Its construction is dated to the period after Aurelian’s reign, to the period typical with military reforms lasting from Gallienus (235 – 268) to Diocletian (284 – 305).

Key words: Gerulata, vicus, via Carnuntina, architecture with hypocaust, milestone, caput viae, Trebonianus Gallus and his son Volusianus.

Jozef Zábojník
Hrob 1/68 na pohrebu z obdobia avarského kaganátu v Radvaň nad Dunajom, v časti Žitava I.
K problematike falér typu Žitavská Tôň
Grab 1/68 auf dem Gräberfeld aus der Zeit des Awarischen Khaganats in Radvaň nad Dunajom, Teil Žitava I. Zur Problematik von Phaleren vom Typ Žitavská Tôň
(Slov. Arch. 59/2, 2011, 319 – 335)

Grave 1/68 at the Necropolis of the Avar Khaganate Period in Radvaň nad Dunajom, part Žitava I. On the Problem of Phaleres of the Žitavská Tôň type. The article presents data concerning a grave the content of which was retrieved in 1968. The grave pit was looming in a gravel pit wall. The grave belongs to the necropolis in which 82 burials were revealed during two preceding excavating seasons. In 23 of them riders were buried together with their horses. The grave 1/68 was one of them, but it was partially damaged by gravel mining and hence the grave pit shape and size could not be found. The grave was probably plundered as it was discovered during its emptying. Skeletons were preserved only in fragments. The grave orientation could not be fixed thoroughly. Presumably it was similar to that of other graves at the necropolis, i. e. approximately in the E or ESE – WNW direction. In addition to the fragments of skeletons, the grave pit included several finds. The most significant of them are three cast openwork bronze phaleras with zoomorphic decoration motif of raptor heads arranged to swastika. For these artefacts the term “phaleras of the Žitavská Tôň type” has been suggested. They are very much alike the openwork circular ornaments, which use to be part of female grave goods. The both artefact categories can be dated into the 8th century. Other grave artefacts (engraved bosses, stirrup, bridle bit, buckle, spear, ceramic vessel) cannot be used for dating. The grave assemblage presented was a part of the
necropolis, at which the deceased ranked to a superordinate social group were buried. In spite of remarkable secondary interventions into the graves during their plundering the necropolis in Radvaň nad Dunajom, part Žitava I offered extraordinary sumptuous archaeological monuments, such as sets of belt mounts or horse harness ornaments first of all. Gilded bronze artefacts were found in many graves. The luxurious artefacts comprised also iron phaleras inlaid with gilded copper plate. With its wealthy spectrum of types and shapes of artefacts, the necropolis ranks among significant sites of the Avar Khaganate period with their concentration on the northern bank of the Danube near Komárno.

Key words: South-western Slovakia, grave, Avar Khaganate period, cast bronze phaleras.

Ján Hunka
Mince z prikostolného cintorína v Ducovom
Coins from the Churchyard Cemetery in Ducové
(Slov. Arch. 59/2, 2011, 337 – 367)

Coins from the Churchyard Cemetery in Ducové. In the years 1968 – 1972 and 1975 A. Ruttkay excavated the medieval and modern-era cemetery of the nobiliary court in Ducové. During the research, 450 pieces of coins from the years 253 to 1859 were found. They are documenting the importance of the settlement in Ducové and its political and economic development. Some of coins in the collection founded at the site are very rare, e. g. a Bohemian silver denarius of Boleslaus II, the duke of Bohemia, from the end of 10th century; three Moravian denarii of bishop Bruno, minted at Olomouc in the 2nd half of 13th century; ten Bavarian broad denarii from the beginning of the 11th century; another Bavarian, Salzburgian and others pfennigs from the 15th century; Austrian pfennigs from the end of 12th century to 15th century. They were property of foreign guests from Austria? Hungarian coins from the beginning of 11th century to the years 1859 – 1860 are more usual. At Ducové a bigger collection of Arpádian coins from Slovakia dated to the reigning period of the rulers Stephanus I to Andreas II were found as well. They are proving the development of economic relations at the region of the central Váh river basin as well as the trade and other contacts of inhabitants living at this part of Slovakia with wide surroundings. At the same time the coins from Ducové are evidence of an unusual non-christian funeral custom of giving coins to graves. From the total number of 2000 graves, almost 450 contained also coins. This is the biggest collection of coins from graves in Slovakia and one of the utmost in central Europe, too. The Hungarian coins from Ducové give us a possibility to analyse similar groups of coins, e. g. from the time of Andreas I, Ladislaus I, Kolomanus, or Stephanus II, and to observe the legal order – exchange of several types of coins, once or twice to year. Difference between the value of older and younger coins compensated state duty. This order was applied from the 1060s to the 1st third of 14th century. Only few coins from the 14th and 15th centuries have been found at the site, as the local community was not very big. At the 2nd half of 15th century the region was occupied by enemies – the Hussite Brethren, who built a small fortress here. This was the reason the site was completely abandoned soon. Coins of modern era from Ducové documented the social position of local inhabitants. Only coins of low value – silver and copper denarii, poltura, and copper kreutzers were given to the graves. From this time, only a copper Salzburgian kreutzer from the year 1805 is unusual. The burial place was used to 1860. Younger coins were not found.

Key words: Slovakia, churchyard, the Middle Ages, Modern Era, 10th – 19th centuries, coins.

Jubileá

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