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ARCHAEOLOGICAL MAPPING

MAPS OF ROMAN DACIA. VII. ADRIEN-HUBERT BRUÉ (1786-1832) AND 'CARTE DE LA DACIE ANCIENNE DE LA PANNONIE DE L'ILLYRIE ET MOESIE' (1875)

Abstract: We continue our series of studies on the maps of Roman Dacia with this short note about a map depicting the former province of Dacia, entitled 'Carte de la Dacie ancienne de la Pannonie de l'Illyrie et Moesie' (1875). This map was part of an atlas called 'Atlas universel de géographie physique, politique, ancienne et moderne, contenant les cartes générales et particulières de toutes les parties du monde, mis au courant des Progrès de la Science, pour servir à l'intelligence de l'histoire, de la géographie et des voyages, dressé par Adrien-Hubert Brué (1786-1832), géographe, nouvelle édition revue par E. Levasseur, membre de l'Institut, professeur au Collège de France, comprenant 66 cartes et 85 cartouches tenant lieu d'autant de cartes'. The atlas was published by the Institut Géographique de Paris in 1875. The author is the cartographer Adrien-Hubert Brué (1786-1832), and this new edition of the atlas was reviewed by Pierre Émile Levasseur (1911-1828), a French historian and professor of geography and history in the Collège de France.

Keywords: *Dacia, maps, topography, historical cartography, historical atlases.*

Florin-Gheorghe FODOREAN

Babes-Bolyai University Cluj-Napoca, Romania
fodorean_f@yahoo.com

1. INTRODUCTION. ADRIEN-HUBERT BRUÉ (1786-1832)

We have already outlined the continuing efforts of numerous authors to provide insights into the history of cartography. The most famous project on this large topic is *The History of Cartography*, initiated in 1987 by J. Brian Harley and David Woodward, with exceptional results.¹ Other

¹ A total of 8,856 pages in several volumes: 1. *Cartography in Prehistoric, Ancient, and Medieval Europe and the Mediterranean*, [History of Cartography: Volume One in PDF \(uchicago.edu\)](#); 2.1. *Cartography in the Traditional Islamic and South Asian Societies*, [History of Cartography: Volume Two, Book One in PDF \(uchicago.edu\)](#); 2.2. *Cartography in the Traditional East and Southeast Asian Societies*, [History of Cartography: Volume Two, Book Two in PDF \(uchicago.edu\)](#); 2.3. *Cartography in the Traditional African, Arctic, Australian, and Pacific Societies*, [History of Cartography: Volume Two, Book Three in PDF \(uchicago.edu\)](#); 3.1. *Cartography in the European Renaissance*, [History of Cartography: Volume Three, Part 1 in PDF \(uchicago.edu\)](#); 3.2. *Cartography in the European Renaissance*, [History of Cartography: Volume Three, Part 2 in PDF \(uchicago.edu\)](#); 4. *Cartography in the European Enlightenment*, [The History of Cartography, Volume 4: Cartography in the European Enlightenment \(uchicago.edu\)](#); 5. [Volume 5, Cartography in the Nineteenth Century, Forthcoming – History of Cartography Project \(wisc.edu\)](#); 6. *Cartography in the Twentieth Century*, [History of Cartography: Volume Six in PDF \(uchicago.edu\)](#).

contributions in the 20th century also focused on the study of maps.² We continue our series of studies on the maps of Roman Dacia³ with this short note about a map depicting

² Some examples: BEAZLEY 1897-1906 ([The dawn of modern geography. A history of exploration and geographical science ... : Beazley, C. Raymond \(Charles Raymond\), 1868-1955 : Free Download, Borrow, and Streaming : Internet Archive](#); [The dawn of modern geography. A history of exploration and geographical science ... : Beazley, C. Raymond \(Charles Raymond\), 1868-1955 : Free Download, Borrow, and Streaming : Internet Archive](#)); MILLER 1895-1898; THOMSON 1948; BROWN 1949; BAGROW 1951; THROWER 1972; WALLIS 1973; WOODWARD 1974, 101-105; AUJAC 1975; CRONE 1978 ([Maps and their makers: an introduction to the history of cartography \(archive.org\)](#); first edition 1953); TOOLEY 1979; HARVEY 1980; JANNI 1984; DILKE 1985; HARLEY 1987, 1-42; BLACK 2000; VAN DER HEIJDEN 2002, 222-244; ALEXANDER 2010; LIEBENBERG/DEMARDT 2012; EDNEY 2019; EDNEY 2021 ([Origins of Map Libraries in the mid-Nineteenth Century — Mapping as Process](#)).

³ FODOREAN 2014, 40-43; FODOREAN 2021, 47-51; FODOREAN 2022, 125-128; FODOREAN 2022a; FODOREAN 2023, 91-95; FODOREAN 2023a, 47-49; FODOREAN 2024, 337-340; FODOREAN 2022a, ch. 2 (The cartographic image of Dacia during the medieval and the modern ages: from the 16th century to the 19th century), 27-80, ch. 3 (Chapter 3. The representation of Roman Dacia in specialized books, atlases, and school manuals from the 18th century until 1945), 81-98 (2.1. Dacia in 1541. Laurent Fries (1485–1532), “*Europae tabula nona. Continet Iaziges Metanastas, Daciam, Mysiam superiorem*”, Trechsel, Vienne; 2.2. Dacia in 1612. “*Daciarum Moesiarum qve, vetus descriptio*”, Abraham Ortelius (1527–1598) and “*Theatrum orbis terrarum*”; 2.3. “*Vetus Descriptio Daciarum nec non Moesiarum*” (approximately 1650). Dacia on the map of Petrus Kaerius (1571–1646?); 2.4. Giacomo Cantelli (1643–1695) and Dacia on the map “*Illyricum orientis: in quo partes II Moesia et Thracia, provinciae XI Moesia Prima, sive Superior, Praevalis, Dardania, Dacia Ripsis. Et Mediterranea, Moesia Secunda sive Inferior, et Scythia, Thracia, Haemimontus, Rhodope, et Europa*” (1692); 2.5. Edward Wells (1667–1727) and the map of Dacia (1700): “*A new map of Sarmatia Europaea, Pannonia and Dacia*”; 2.6. Christoph Weigel (1654–1725) and the map of Dacia (1720): “*Regiones Danubianae, Pannoniae Dacia Moesiae cum Vicino Illyrico*”; 2.7. Johann van der Bruggen (1695–1740) and the map of Dacia (1701–1750): “*Tabula Veteris Pannoniae, Daciae et Illyrici*”; 2.8. Luigi Ferdinando Marsigli (1658–1730): “*Theatrum Antiquitatum Romanarum in Hungaria: sive Mappa Geographica Regionum Danubio Circumjacentium, Pannoniarum, Daciarum, Mysiar: Etc. in Qvibus Antiquitates Romanae Svis Singulae Figuris in Hoc Tomo Descriptae Reperiuntur*” (1741); 2.9. Dacia in 1750: “*Dacia atque Moesia*”; 2.10. Giovanni Maria Cassini (1745–1824) and Dacia in 1801: “*La Pannonia la Dacia l’Illyrico e la Moesia*”; 2.11. Robert Wilkinson (approximately 1768–1825) and Dacia in 1823: “*Pannonia, Dacia, Illyricum et Moesia*”; 2.12. Adrien Hubert (1786–1832) and Dacia in 1826: “*Dacie ancienne, Pannonie, Illyrie, Moesie*”; 2.13. Aaron Jr. Arrowsmith (1802–1854) and Dacia in 1828: “*Illyricum, Dacia, Moesia, Macedonia et Thracia*”; 2.14. “*The Society for the Diffusion of Useful Knowledge*” and Dacia in 1830: “*Ancient Macedonia, Thracia, Illyria, Moesia, and Dacia*”; 2.15. Joseph Thomas and Dacia in 1835: “*Germania, Dacia*”; 2.16. “*Orbis Romanus ad Illustranda Itineraria*”: Pierre Lapie (1777–1850) and Dacia in 1845; 2.17. Karl Spruner von Merz (1803–1892) and Dacia in 1865: “*Pannonia, Illyricum, Dacia, Moesia, Thracia, Macedonia, Epirus*”; 2.17.1. The Justus Perthes map collection; 2.17.2. Karl Spruner von Merz and his atlases: “*Historisch-Geographischer Hand-Atlas*” (1854–1855) and “*Spruner-Menke Atlas antiquus*” (1865); 2.17.3. Map no. 15 from “*Spruner-Menke Atlas antiquus*”: “*Imperium Romanum inde a bello Actiaco usque a Diocletiani tempus*” (1865); 2.17.4. The map of Dacia in “*Spruner-Menke Atlas antiquus*” (1865); 2.17.5. Heinrich Theodor Menke (1819–1892) and his atlas “*Orbis antiqui descriptio*” (1865); 2.18. Louis Bonaffont (1825–1881) and Dacia in 1868: “*Dacia romana a Traiano Aug. Usque ad Aureliani Aug. Tempus secundum A. Tr. Lauriani Tabulam Ab Lud. Bonnefort descripta*”; 2.19. William Smith (1813–1893) and Dacia in 1874: “*Thracia, Moesia, Illyria, Pannonia, Dacia*”; 2.20. Johann Gustav Ferdinand Droysen (1838–1908) and Dacia in 1886: “*Die unteren Donauländer zur Römerzeit*”; 3.1. Franz Josef Sulzer (1727–1791) and Dacia in 1781; 3.2. Johann Ferdinand Neugebauer (1783–1866) and Dacia in 1851: “*Uibersichts Karte des Trajanischen Daciens*”; 3.3. Johann Michael Ackner (1782–1862) and the Roman discoveries from Transylvania in 1854; 3.4. Carl Gooss (1844–1881) and Dacia in 1874; 3.5. Torma Karoly (1829–1897) and Dacia in 1863; 3.6. Torma Karoly and Dacia in 1880: “*Eszaki Dacia terkepe*”; 3.7. Victoria Vaschide and the cartographic representation of Dacia in 1903; 3.8. “*Atlas istoric geografic al neamului romanesc*” and Dacia in 1920; 3.9. Constantin C. Giurescu and the map of Roman Dacia in 1942).

the former province of Dacia, a map entitled ‘Carte de la Dacie ancienne de la Pannonie de l’Illyrie et Moesie (1875).’⁴

This map was part of an atlas called ‘Atlas universel de géographie physique, politique, ancienne et moderne, contenant les cartes générales et particulières de toutes les parties du monde, mis au courant des Progrès de la Science, pour servir à l’intelligence de l’histoire, de la géographie et des voyages, dressé par A. Brué, géographe, nouvelle édition revue par E. Levasseur, membre de l’Institut, professeur au Collège de France, comprenant 66 cartes et 85 cartouches tenant lieu d’autant de cartes’. The atlas was published by the Institut Géographique de Paris in 1875. The author is the cartographer Adrien-Hubert Brué (1786–1832),⁵ and this new edition of the atlas was reviewed by Pierre Émile Levasseur (1911–1828), a French historian and professor of geography and history in the Collège de France.

To what extent do we know about the life and activities of Adrien-Hubert Brué?

Well, we know that he was very young when he participated aboard the ship *Naturaliste* during the so-called Baudin expedition (1800–1804). This expedition, which also included the ship *Géographe*, was primarily focused on mapping the coast of New Holland, today’s Australia. He then became the geographer of the king.⁶ He published numerous maps and several atlases,⁷ such as *Atlas universel*, in 1816, followed by another edition in 1820 with 36 maps. This atlas was further expanded in 1830 (see *Atlas universel de géographie physique, politique, ancienne et moderne*, Paris, 1830), when Brué collaborated with Charles Picquet, who was geographer of Napoléon Bonaparte.

2. THE MAP: ‘CARTE DE LA DACIE ANCIENNE DE LA PANNONIE DE L’ILLYRIE ET MOESIE’ (1875)

2.1. Dacia

The scale of the map (1:2.886.000) is indicated in the right, upper corner, where the title is also located: ‘Carte de la Dacie ancienne de la Pannonie de l’Illyrie et Moesie, dressée par A. Brué, Géographe, revue par E. Levasseur, membre de l’Institut. Institut Géographique de Paris Ch. Delagrave, Editeur de la Société de Géographie, 58, Rue des Écoles’.

The borders and extent of the former Roman province of Dacia are not accurately depicted. To the south, the frontier is marked by the Danube River. In the eastern part, the boundary follows the river *Tisianus v. Tysia vel Tibiscus v. Pathyscus Fl.* Additionally, a line called “*Vallum Romanorum*” is depicted in purple, starting east of *Singidunum* and extending northward to the river *Crisia vel Grissia Fl.*

To the North, the frontier follows the lines of the *Carpatum Montes*. To the east, it follows the line of the *Tyras qui et Danaster Fl.* Such projection of the limes and the extent of the province do not correspond to the former topography of the province.

⁴ [Harta Dacia Brue Adrien Hubert.jpg \(7452x5386\); Dacie, Pannonie, Illyrie, Moesie Ancienne. - David Rumsey Historical Map Collection.](#)

⁵ [Brué, Adrien-Hubert: Geographical Rare Antique Maps; Brué, Adrien-Hubert – Antiquemapsandprints.com.](#)

⁶ [Brué, Adrien-Hubert – Antiquemapsandprints.com.](#)

⁷ [Adrien-Hubert Brué \(1786-1832\) - Toutes ses œuvres.](#)

Instead, concerning the location of the settlements, things are better. Even a Roman road is depicted. It is named *Iter Traiani* and it connects *Lederata* with *Arcidava*, *Centum Putea*, *Bersovia* v. *Bersobis*, *Asisis* (sic!), *Caput Bubale* (sic!) and *Tibiscum*. This road continues towards East and North, connecting *Tibiscum* with *Acmonia* v. *Agnavae*, *Pons Augusti*, and *Acmonia* (Porte de Fer). The repetition of *Acmonia* is obviously an error. The next settlement is *Sarmizegethusa*, v. *Ulpia Traiana*, *Colonia Metropolis*. This road is depicted with a dashed line. Another road branch is the one connecting *Zernes* v. *Tierna* (sic!) with *Tibiscum*. The road is depicted as an interrupted line. Along this branch, the following settlements are mapped: *ad Mediam* (*Aquae Herculi dedicatae*), *Praetorium Gaganae* (sic!), and *Mascliana* (sic!). The valley of the Bistra River is named *Bustricius Fl.* The imperial road continues as an interrupted line from *Ulpia Traiana* up to North, connecting the settlements *ad Aquas* (sic!), *Blandiana* and *Apulum Colonia*. The following settlements are not connected to any road. These are: *Brucla*, *Marcodava*, *Salinum* v. *Salinae*, *Patavissum* v. *Patavissa*, *Napoca Colonia*, *Macedonica*, *Optatiana*, *Cargiana* v. *Largiana*, *Cersia* (sic!), and *Paralissum Colonia* (sic!). Other settlements recorded in this area are: *Alburnum Majus* (sic!), *Ulpianum*, *Rhuconium?* (sic!). In the north-western part, a settlement named *Docirana* is mapped, and, south of it, *Vardaeorum caput*.

Along the Danube, on the right and the left sides of the river, several settlements are mapped: *Singidunum*, *Tricornium*, *Mons Aureus*, *Vinceja*, *Margus*, *Contra Margus*, *Viminacium*, *Lederata*, *Punicum* v. *Picnus*, *Cuppae*, *ad Novas*, *ad Fofulas* (sic!), *Cantabasates*, *Smornes*, *Campses*, *Taliata*, *Laccoburgis*, *Gerulatae*, *Transtierna*, *Ducepractum*, *Pons Trajani*, *Pontes*, *Glevosa*, *Aquae*, *Dorticum*, *Burgumalta*, *Turrisalta*, *Gombes*, *Crispa*, *Longiniana*, *Pons Serium*, *Bononia*, *Ratiaria*, *Remetodia*, *Almum*, *Triseca*, *Valeriana*, *Nicopolis ad Istrum*, *ad Novas*, *Scaidava*, *Trimanium*, *Sexanta Prista*, *Appiaria*, *Transmarisca*, *Nigriniana*, *Candidiana*, *Tegulisium*, *Dorostolum* v. *Durostorum*, *Sagadava*, *Succidava*, *Axiopolis*, *Calidava*, *Carsus*, *Cius*, *Bereum*, *Trosmi?* (sic!), *Arrubium*, *Dinogetia*, *Noviodunum*, *Aegissus*, *Salsovia*, *Halmyris* v. *Salmorudis*.

Along the valley of the river Olt, named on the map *Aluta Fl.*, several settlements are named (from North to South): *Praetoria Augusta*, *Stenae* v. *Burridava* v. *Tabae*, *Pons Alutae*, *Praetorium*, *Castra Traiani*, *Acidava*, *Romula*, and *Castra Nova*. Along the Jiu River (*Gilfil Fl.*, *Tiarantos Fl.*), the following localities are mapped (from North to South): *Tiriscum*, *Arcinna*, and *Amutria*. The so-called 'Brazda lui Novac de Nord' is represented in the form of a dashed line, and the indication is 'Rudera Vallorum Romanorum?'. Three lines of defense are also represented in the western part of the province. One is drawn very close to the Tisa River, and it is named 'Vallum Romanum'. The other two are shorter and they are represented in the same manner, as two interrupted lines, named 'Vallum Romanum', starting from *Lederata*.

Obviously, there are some errors on the map. For example, *Germizera* (sic!), in fact *Germisara*, is located South of the Mureş River, in a location rather corresponding to the city of Hunedoara.

The name of several tribes and populations are also recorded, based on the information from Ptolemy's *Geographia*: *CARPI?*, *TAURISCI*, *CISTOBOCI* (sic!), *VARDAEI* (sic!), *ANARTI* vel *ANARTES*, *RATACENSES*, *CAUCOENSES*, *Saldenses?*, *Burredenses?*, *ALBOCENSES*, *SINSII* (sic!), *PIEPHIGI*, and *CIAGISI* (sic!). One special mention is the so-called *Cocajon vell Cogaionon* (*M. Sacer apud Getas*).

2.2. Pannonia

The province is depicted in pink. A red line divides the two provinces: Pannonia Superior and Pannonia Inferior. Along the Danube River, corresponding to the so-called *Ripa Pannonica*, the cartographer depicted the settlements which were positioned along the limes road. These settlements are (from West to South-East): *Cetium*, *Vindobona*, *Villagai*, *Carnuntum*, *Gerulata*, *Ad Flexum*, *Quadrata*, *Stailucus*, *Bregetio* (sic!), *Crumerum*, *ad Herculem Cas.*, *Ulcisia Castra*, *Aquincum*, *Contra Acincum*, *Pessium*, *Jasulones*, *Corsio* s. *Herculeum*, *Annamatia* (sic!), *Lussunum* (sic!), *Alisca*, *Alta Ripa*, *Altina*, *Lugio*, *Antiana*, *Domatiana*, *Teutoburgum* (sic!), and *Cornacum*.

No roads are depicted inside the province. The two main rivers crossing Pannonia are mapped: *Dravus Fl.* and *Savus Fl.* Other settlements recorded in the province are: *Scarabantia Julia*, *Bassiana*, *Mestriana*, *Cimbriana*, *Mursa*, or *Cibalis*.

2.3. Moesia

A red line separates in the West Pannonia from Moesia. South of the Danube, two distinctive areas are mapped: Moesia Superior and Moesia Inferior. What is striking is that two areas are named *Dacia Interior* and *Dacia Ripensis*. The area of Dobroudja is named *Scythia Minor*. Some important settlements are recorded in this area, such as *Jovis Pagus*, *Horreum Margi*, *Timacus Minor*, *Timacus Major?* (both mapped along the *Timacus Fl.*), *ad Herculem*, *Sardica*, *Oescus*, *Securisca*, *Nicopolis*, *Marcianopolis*, *Odessus*, *Parthenopolis*, *Callatis*, *Tomi* (sic!).

3. SHORT CONCLUDING REMARKS

This map provides only a basic level on understanding the former topographical features of the province of Dacia. Some data rely on information derived from Ptolemy's *Geographia*, like the name of the tribes and also some toponyms. The most important feature is the recording of the imperial Roman road along the alignment *Lederata – Tibiscum – Ulpia Traiana*. For Pannonia and Moesia, the map also provides only general data.

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