
The most recent volume of Ovidiu Țentea represents a number of seven studies concentrated on the subject of one of the most important Roman mining areas from the Danbian provinces, but not only: Alburnus Maior (Roșia Montană). The central point of the studies are the archaeological excavations of the Roman baths from Carpeni Hill. The excavations were carried out between 2000 and 2003 as part of larger national research program called 'Alburnus Maior'. The book it is by itself an interdisciplinary study that includes connected topics from terminology, epigraphy, military studies, religion, numismatics, mineralogical - geological studies on the tegular material and 3D modelling applied on archaeological contexts, becoming this way a step forward in understanding the functional levels of the Romanized Dalmatian mining settlement from Alburnus Maior. Also, the volume comes with a bilingual (English – Romanian) format.

In the first study, 'History of archaeological research on Carpen Hill' (9-12, 97-100), the author is making an excursus through the history of the findings, starting with the second half of the 18th century due to the intensified mining activities in the area which led to an increasing number of artefacts. The map made by F. Prošepny in the second half of the 19th century is very important in the context of mapping the archaeological areas of Alburnus Maior.

One of the key points was the inclusion of some epigraphic monuments in the repertory made by Theodor Mommsen in 1875. Later, several inscription were found in the area of the Carpeni Hill by some locals together with a relatively high number of archaeological material. Within the 20th century, some excavation were carried out, identifying a structure with hypocaust and also a brick with the stamp of legion XIII Gemina. The archaeological research from 2000-2003 established that on the Carpeni Hill area there are composed of two buildings with hypocaustum facility an area with houses, a group of graves and some inscriptions which attest a cult area and some colegia.

The second study is orbiting around two main themes, 'Terminological notes on the Roman baths and their state of research in Roman Dacia' (13-20, 101-108). The author discusses in a few senteces the genesis of the public baths in the Roman world, and the main distictions between the legionary thermae from fortresses and the small balnea belonging to auxiliary forts, following mainly the arguments of Luise Revell, reinforced by epigraphic arguments. The second part of the study is an overview of the archaeological situation of the Roman baths from Dacia. In the last paragraphs, the author suggests that the 'classic' bathing circuit Frigidarium-Tepidarium-Caldarium was based on an organization near the prefurnium structure, maximizing the efficiency of the bath structure, an explanation for the 'preponderence of circular baths, especially of those located in smaller communities'.

The third part of the book represents the core of the study, mainly the archaeological research from 'The Roman baths at Alburnus Maior, Carpeni Hill'
The last but one study of the book is considering the numismatic finds from Alburnus Maior. As the authors states, there is a large number of numismatic finds, most of the coins being poorly conserved. There are over 120 coins but only 19 are discovered in a habitation context. From E2 building there are 13 coins starting with the Flavian dynasty and ending with a coin dated probably in the time of Iulia Mamaea, the chronological frame being correlated with the rest of the numismatic finds from Alburnus Maior.

An interesting fact spotted by the authors is that there is quite different evolution between Alburnus Maior and Ampelum regarding the currency. If at Alburnus Maior the coins indicates a circulation from Vespasian to Antoninus Pius with the most coins dated in the time of Hadrian, at Ampelum more de 40% of the coins are dated between the reign of Marcus Aurelius and Philippus Arabs and no coin from Hadrian. The authors noted that the use of coins at Alburnus Maior is chronologically connected with the dating of the tablets: 131-167.

The last chapter leads the story of Alburnus Maior into the sphere of geological and mineralogical studies of 22 bricks found at Alburnus Maior and Apulum (69-90, 157-178). The range of analyses incudes granulometry and fineness, the mineralogical and petrographical composition, polarized light microscopy, X-Ray diffraction and discussion regarding thermal transformation of mineral phases, and raw materials and firing conditions.

The Plates section is including maps and photos made during the excavations, archaeological drawings of profiles and phases, the two inscriptions, coins, brick stamps, microscopic photos and a well-documented 3D reconstructions of the phases with high quality visualization mode.

By its compositions and its quality, this collection of articles regarding the mining area of Alaburnus Maior leads us to a different level of understanding this bordering area of activity and also to new questions.