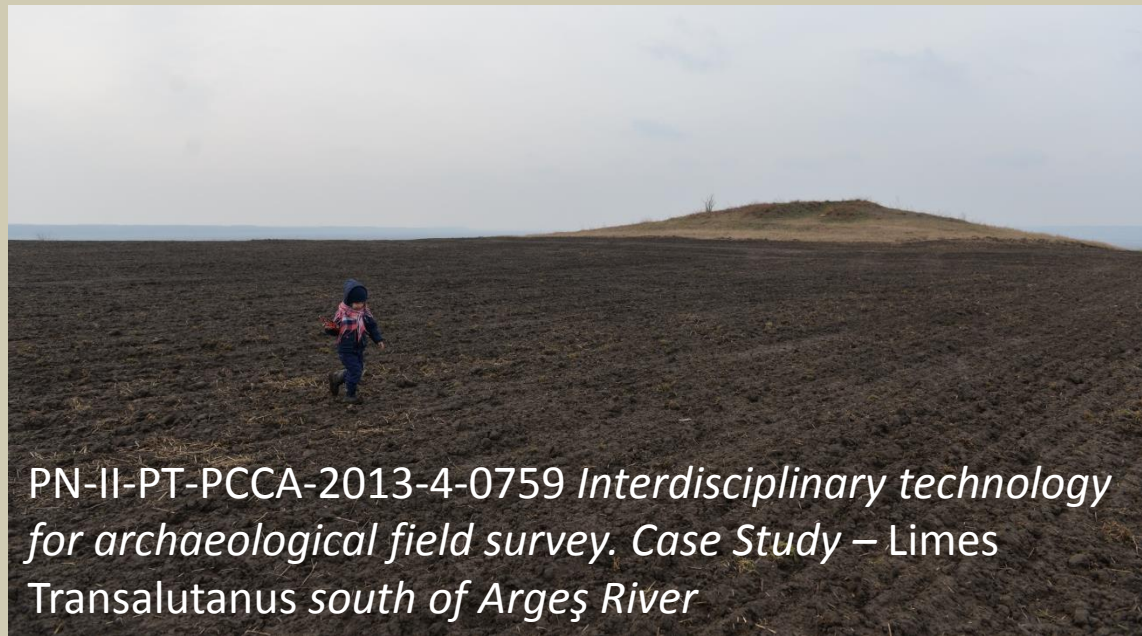


# Tumuli in the Danubian plane – from Funerary Landscape to Roman Military Strategy

Eugen S. TEODOR  
Dan ȘTEFAN  
Magdalena ȘTEFAN



PN-II-PT-PCCA-2013-4-0759 *Interdisciplinary technology  
for archaeological field survey. Case Study – Limes  
Transalutanus south of Argeș River*

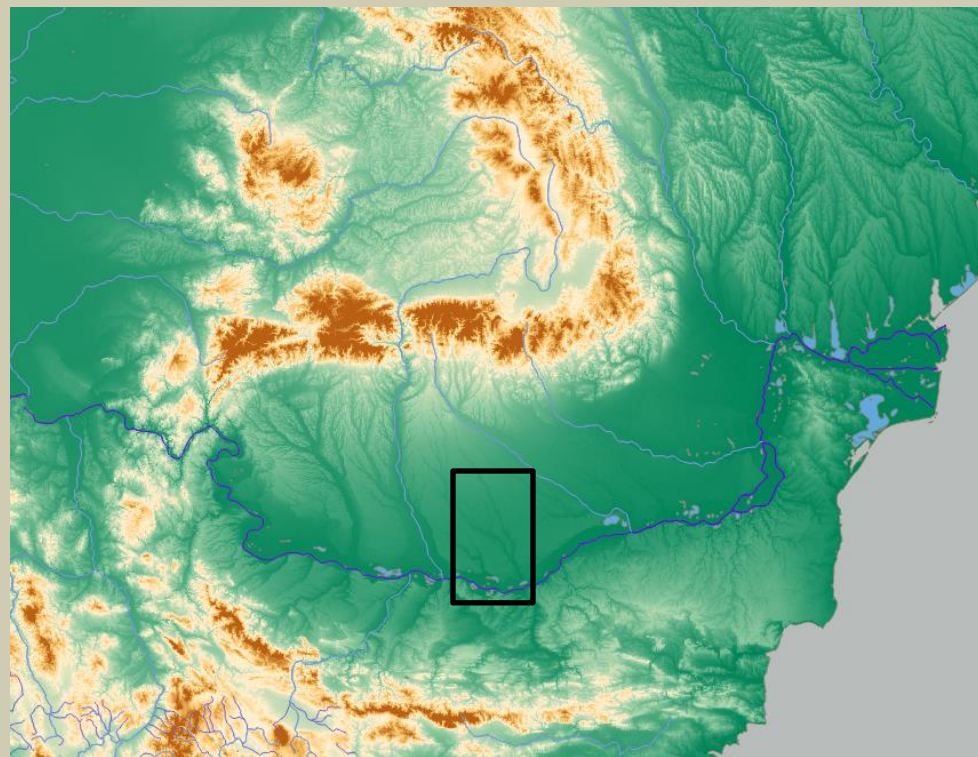
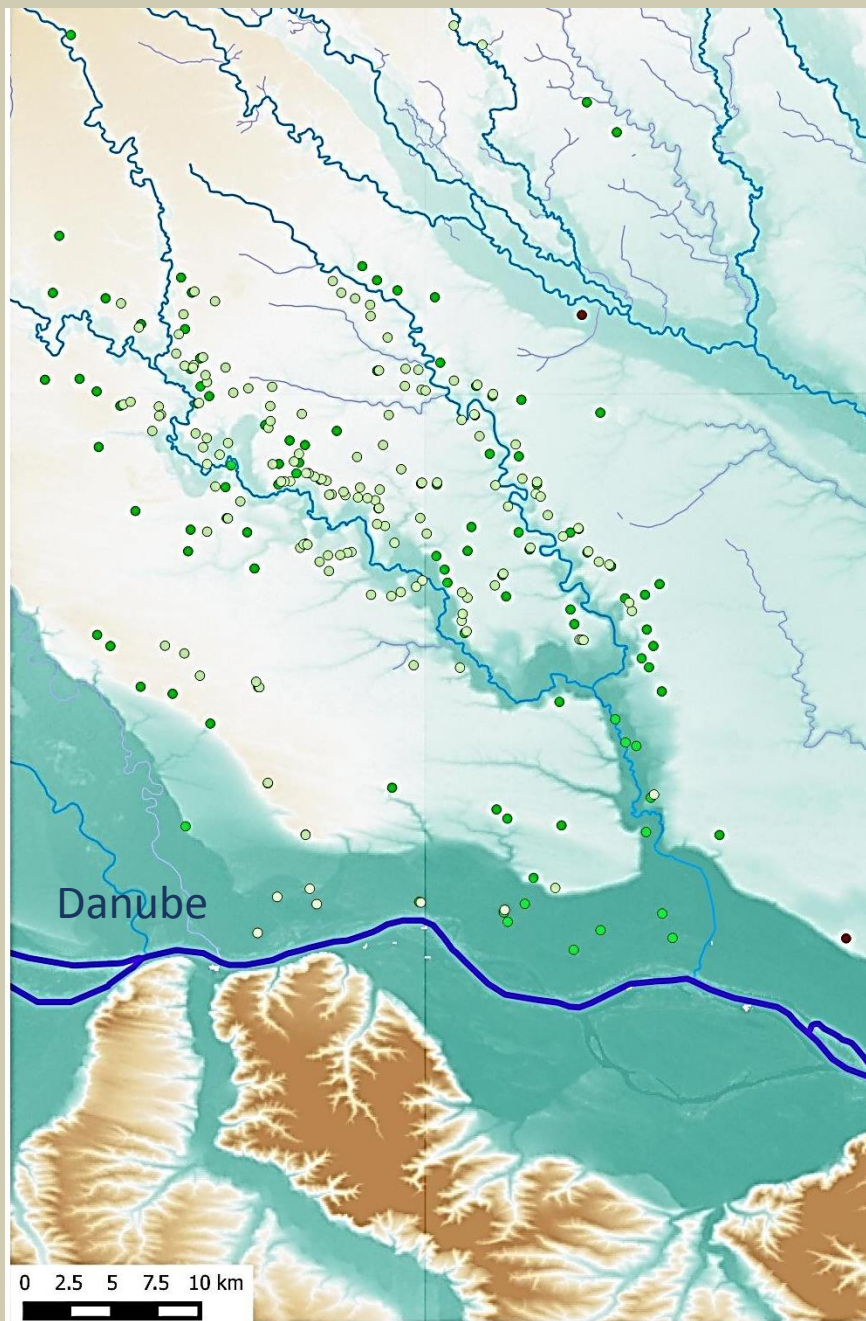
14TH INTERNATIONAL COLLOQUIUM OF FUNERARY ARCHAEOLOGY“

Funerary Practices during the Bronze and the Iron Ages in the Central and Southeast Europe”

NATIONAL MUSEUM ČAČAK (SERBIA)

24th-27th September 2015

# TUMULI MAP





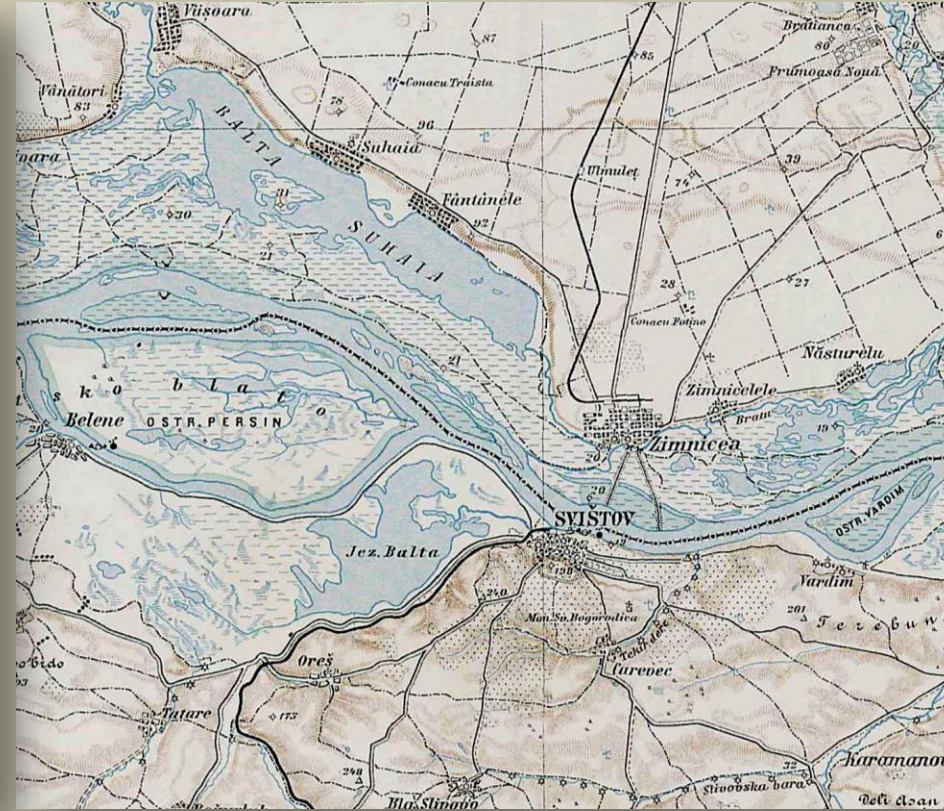
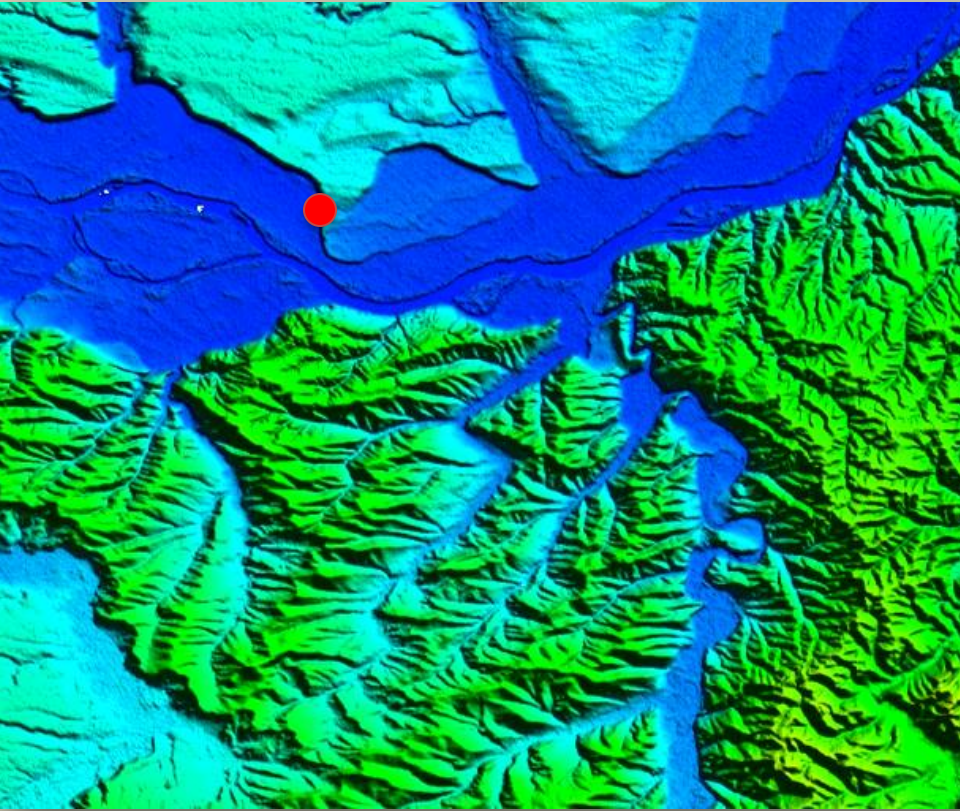
# THE ENVIRONMENT



Flat Danubian plane crossed by various waters



# Zimnicea



Major Passing point over the Danube

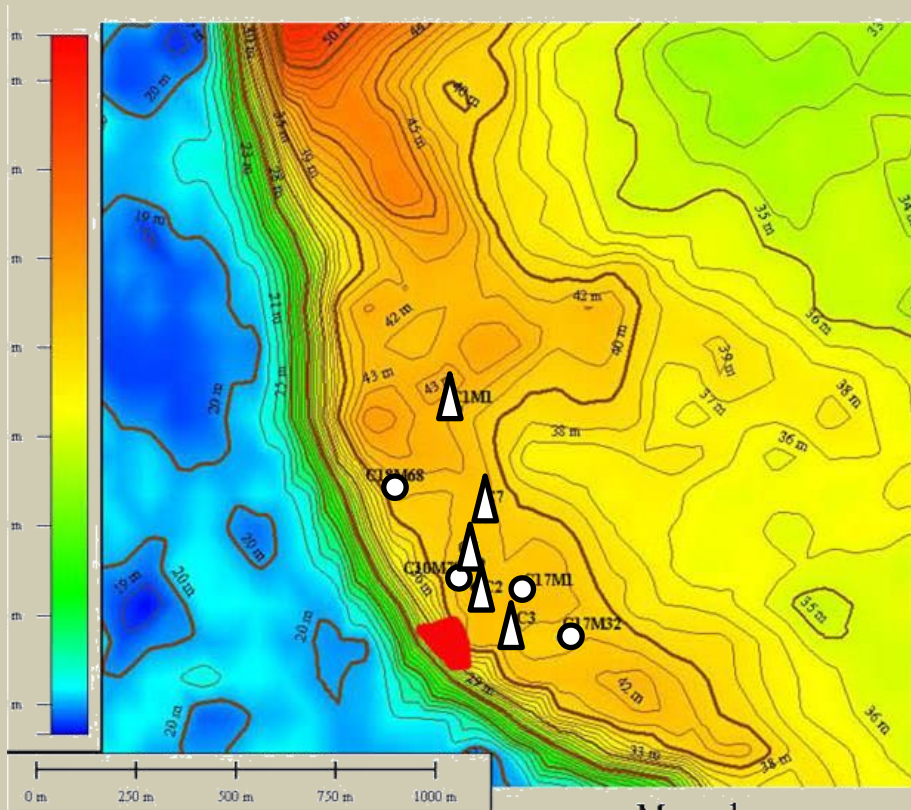
The most southern part of Romania – shortest way from south – to north

Massive ponds and swamps area bordering the high river terrace

A main road developed parallel with the Danube



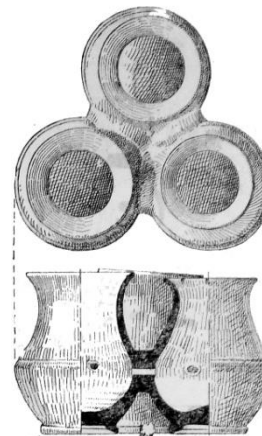
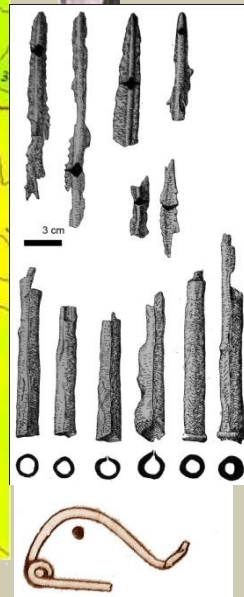
# ZIMNICEA



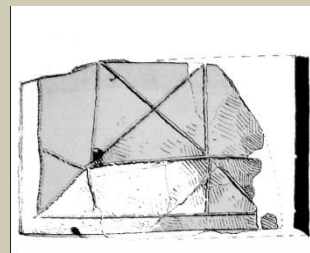
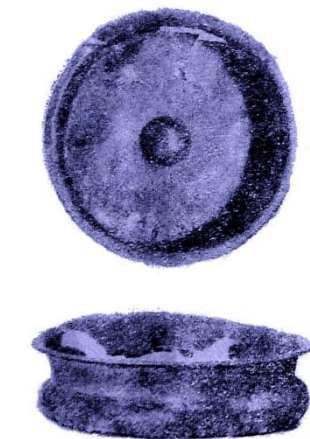
- Mound
- Main grave without mound
- ▲ Settlement



C10M70

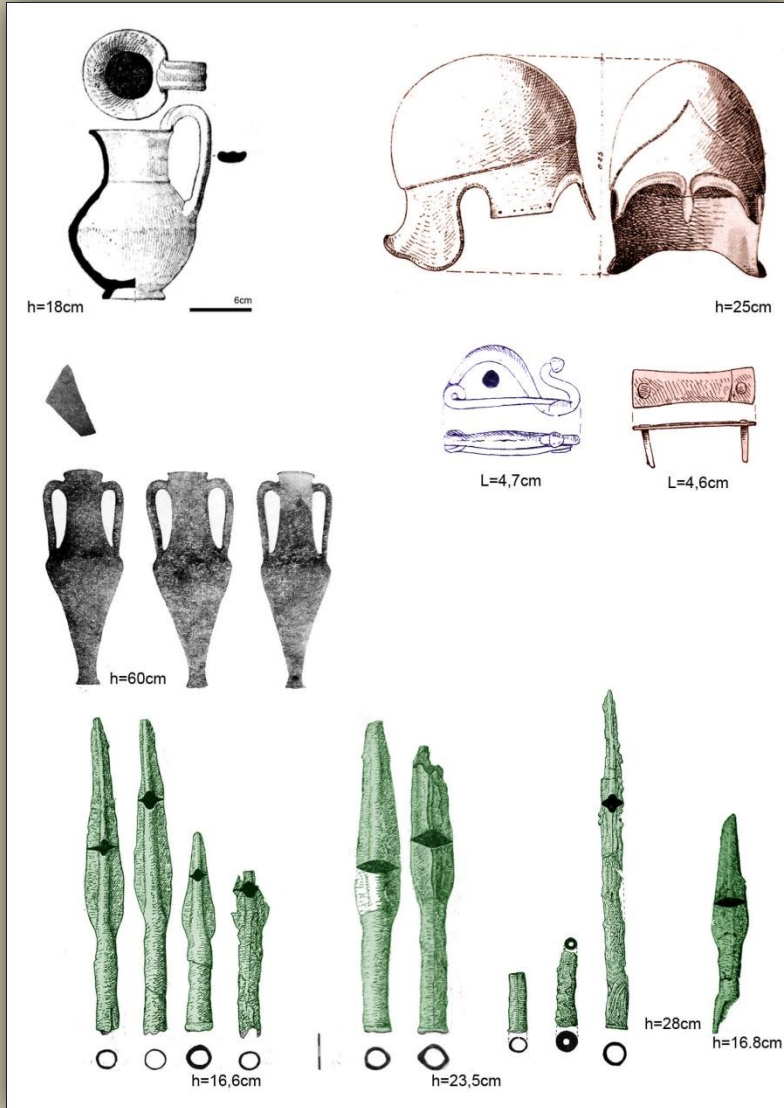


C2M10



# ZIMNICEA-C1M1

Al. Alexandrescu 1980



Armor

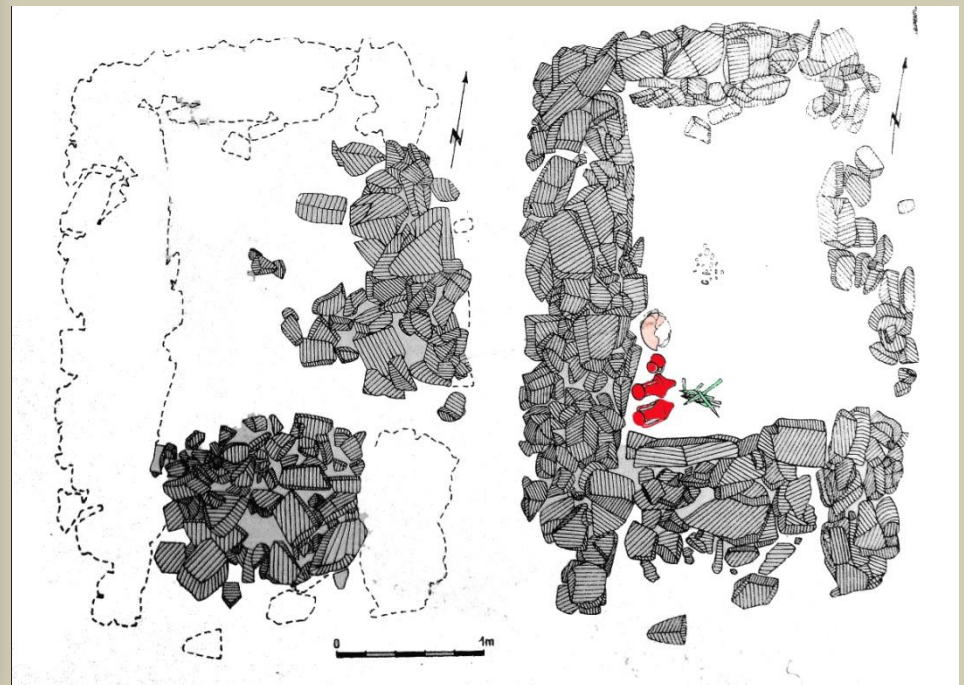
Weapons

Local and imported ceramic

Dress items

Chronology: second half 4<sup>th</sup> century BC

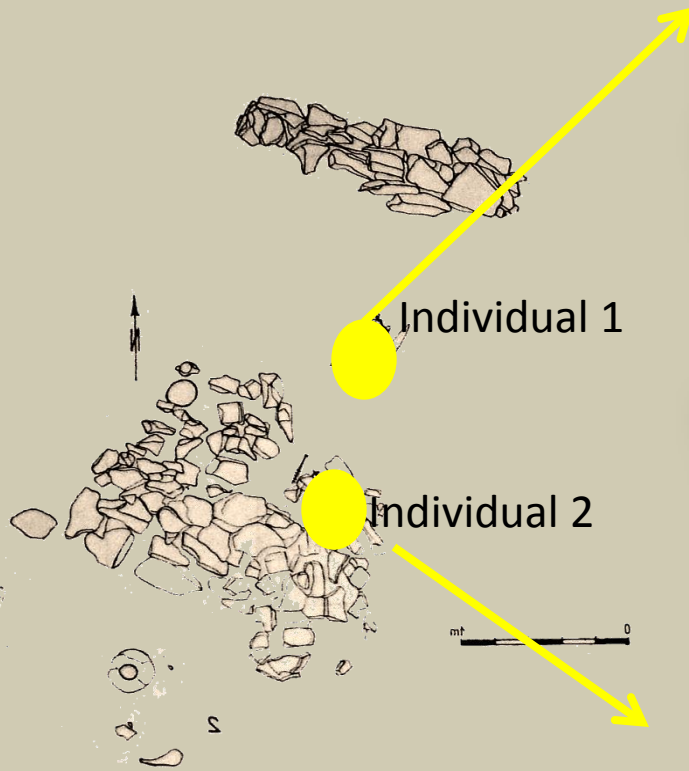
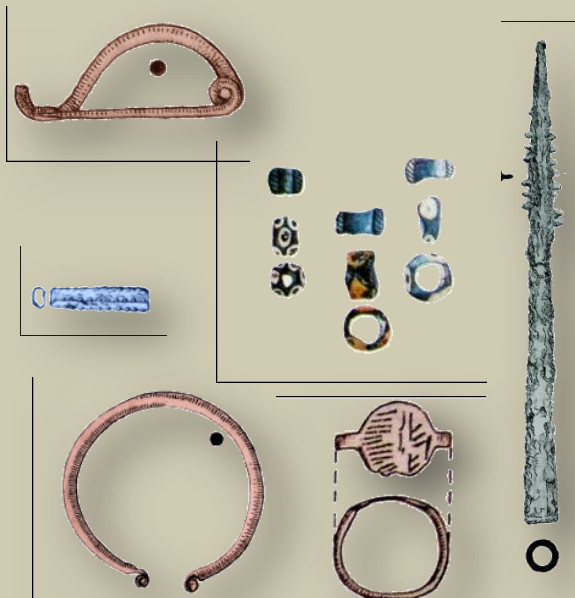
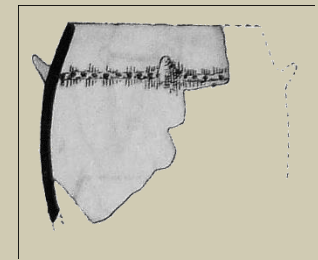
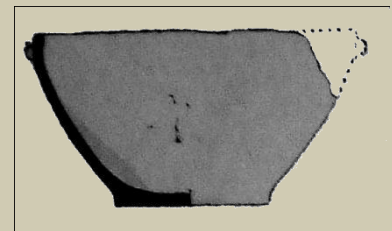
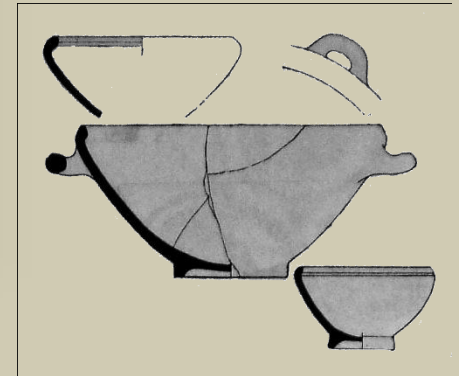
Stone rectangular chamber with entrance





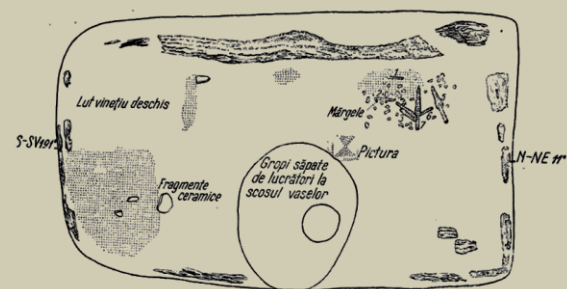
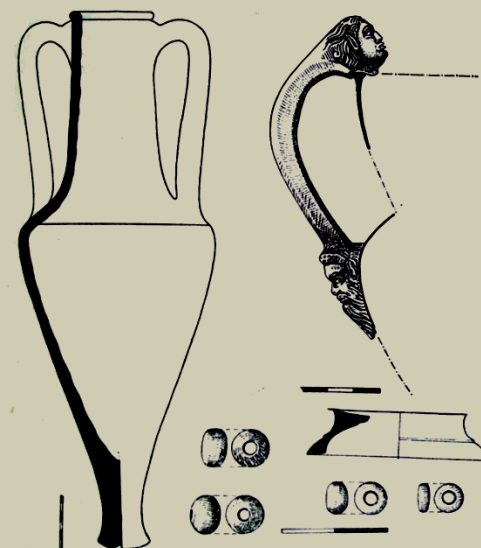
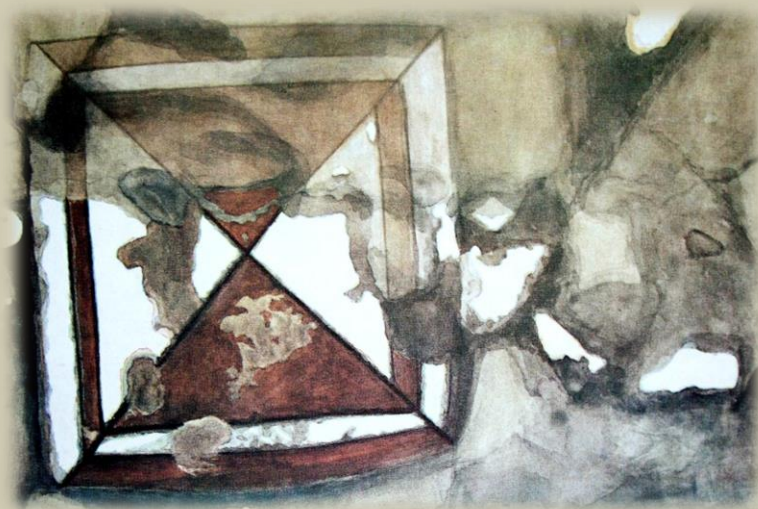
# ZIMNICEA

C12M1-double grave



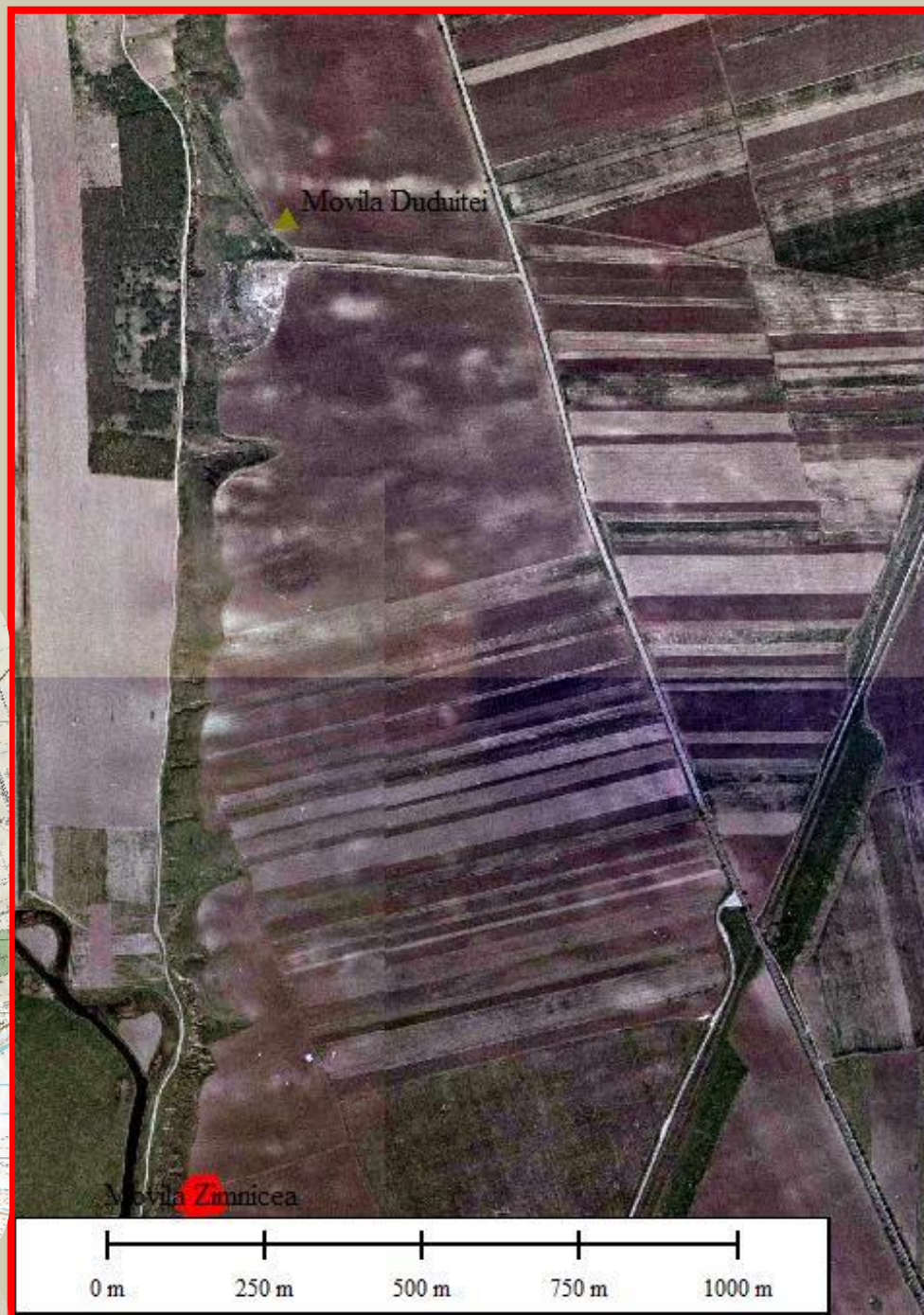
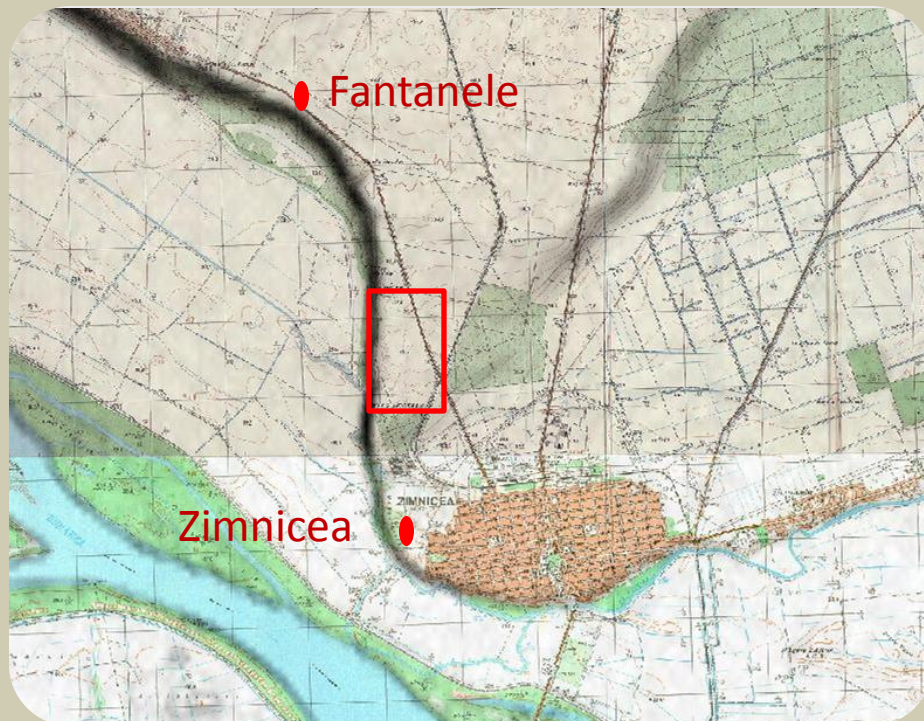
# FANTANELE

Mateescu, Babes, 1968



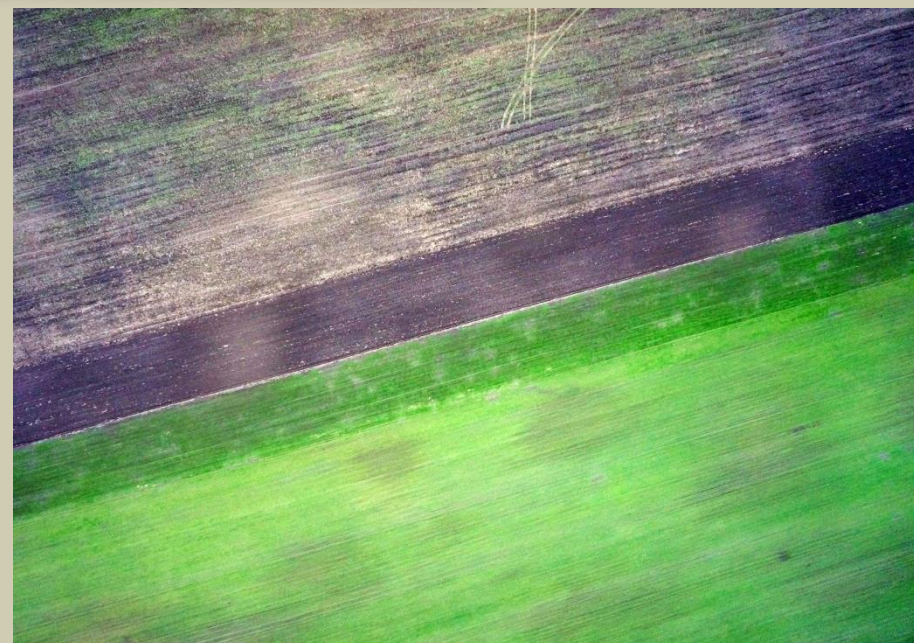
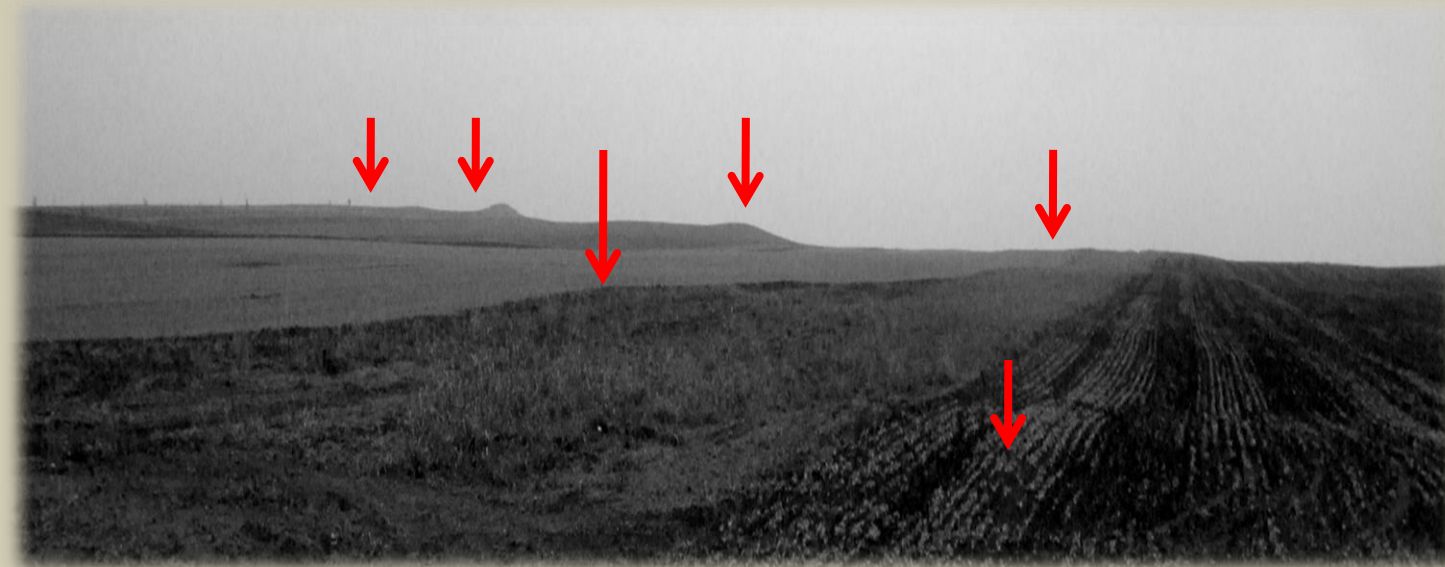


# ZIMNICEA



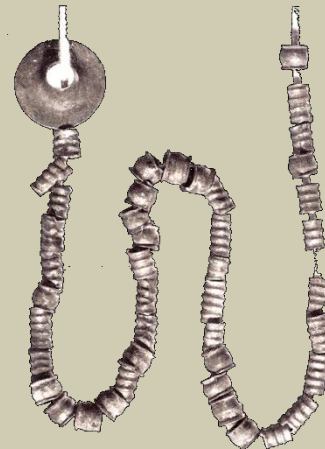
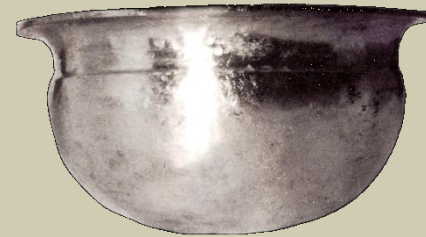
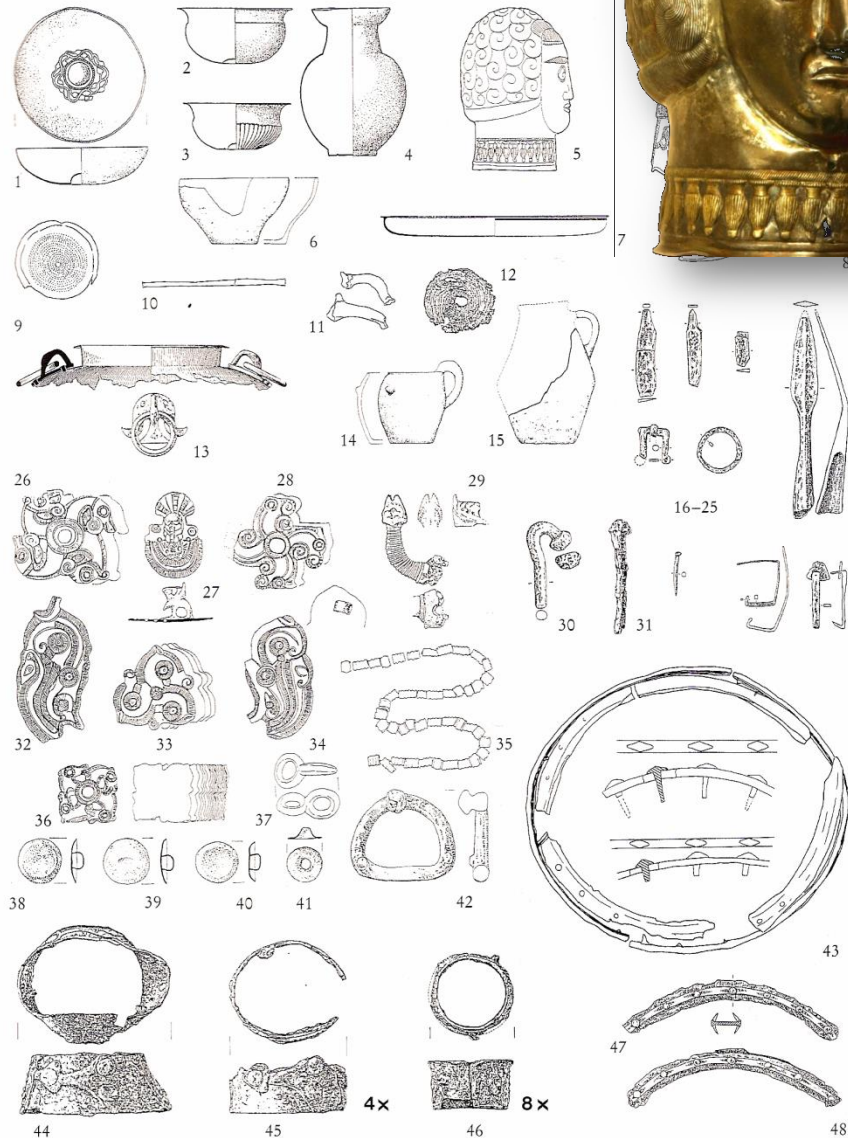


# ZIMNICEA-FANTANELE

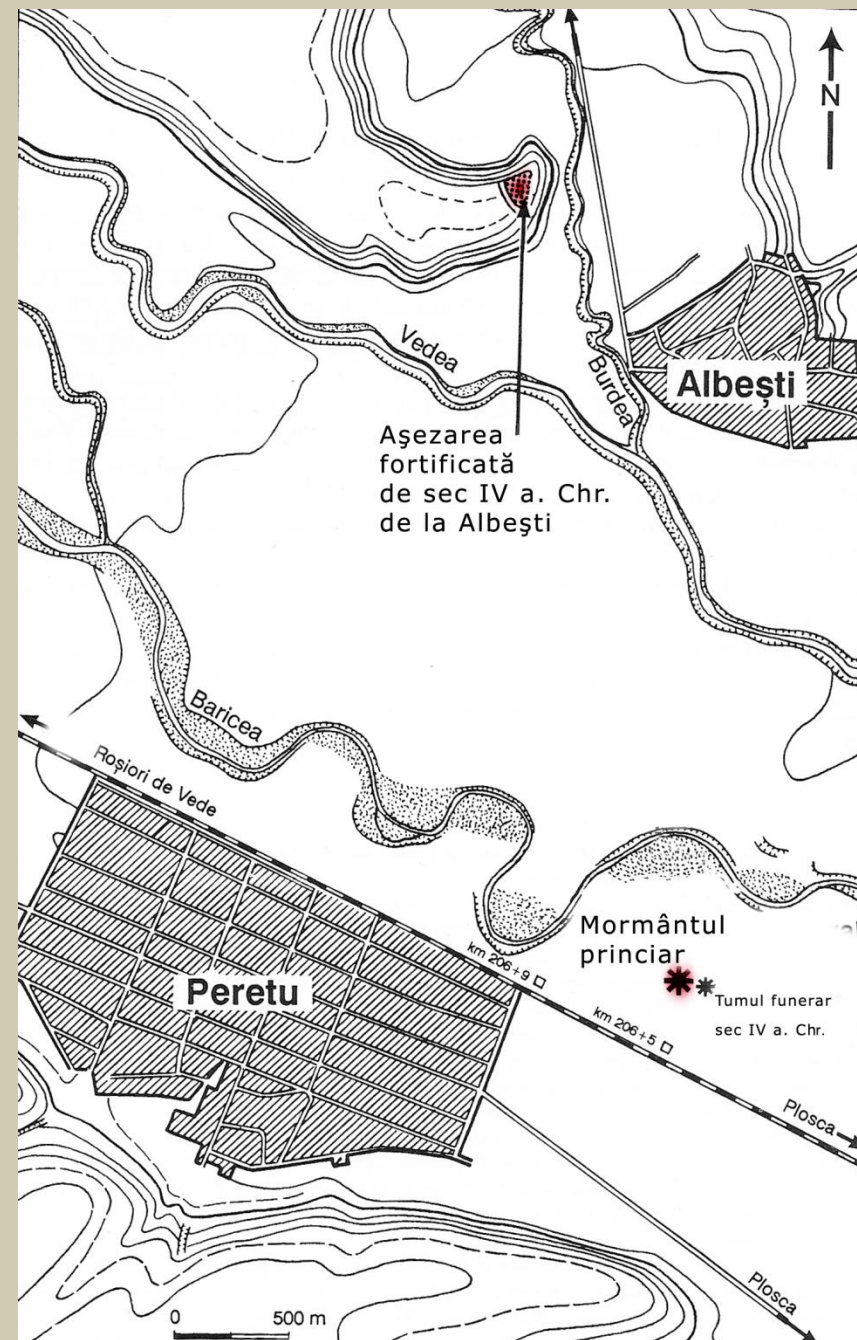
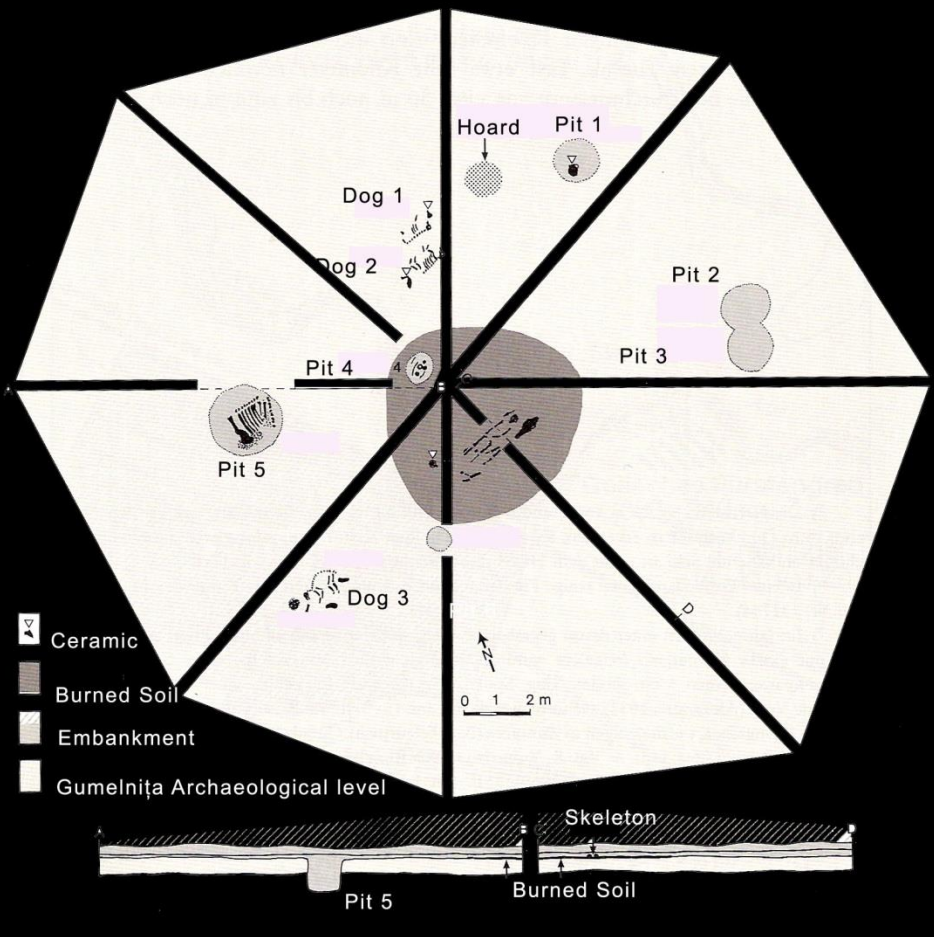




# PERETU



# PERETU

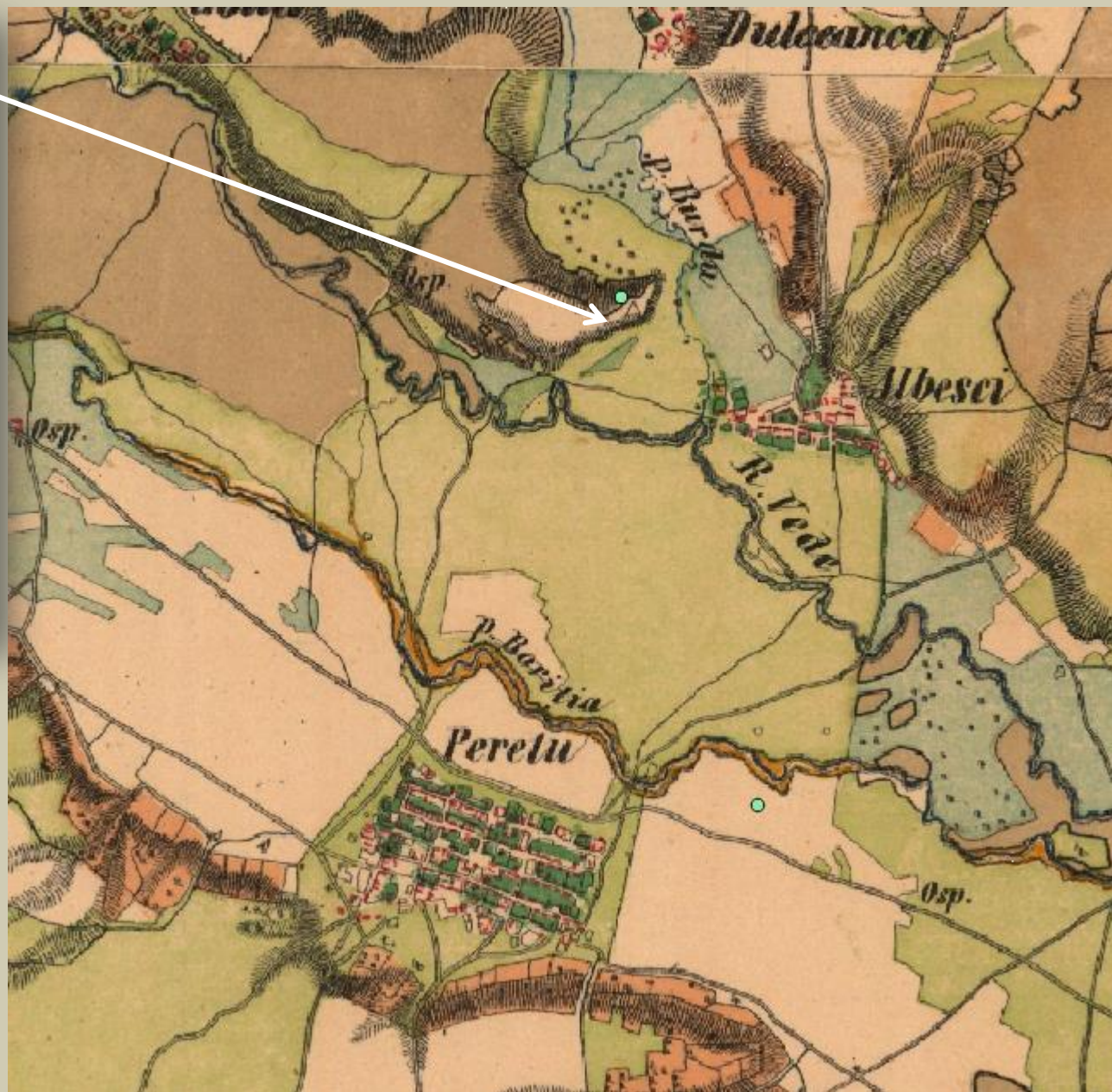




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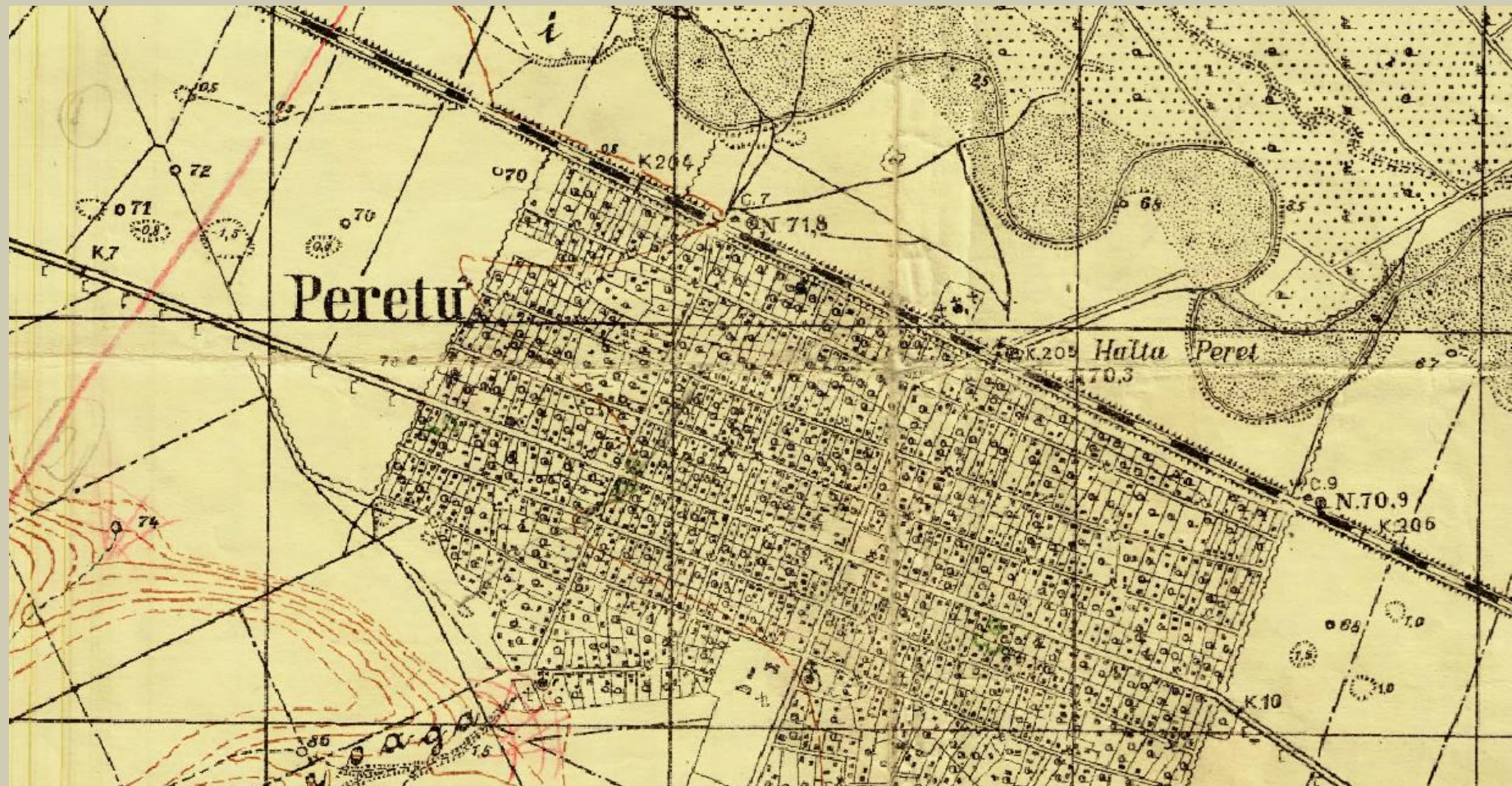


Albești



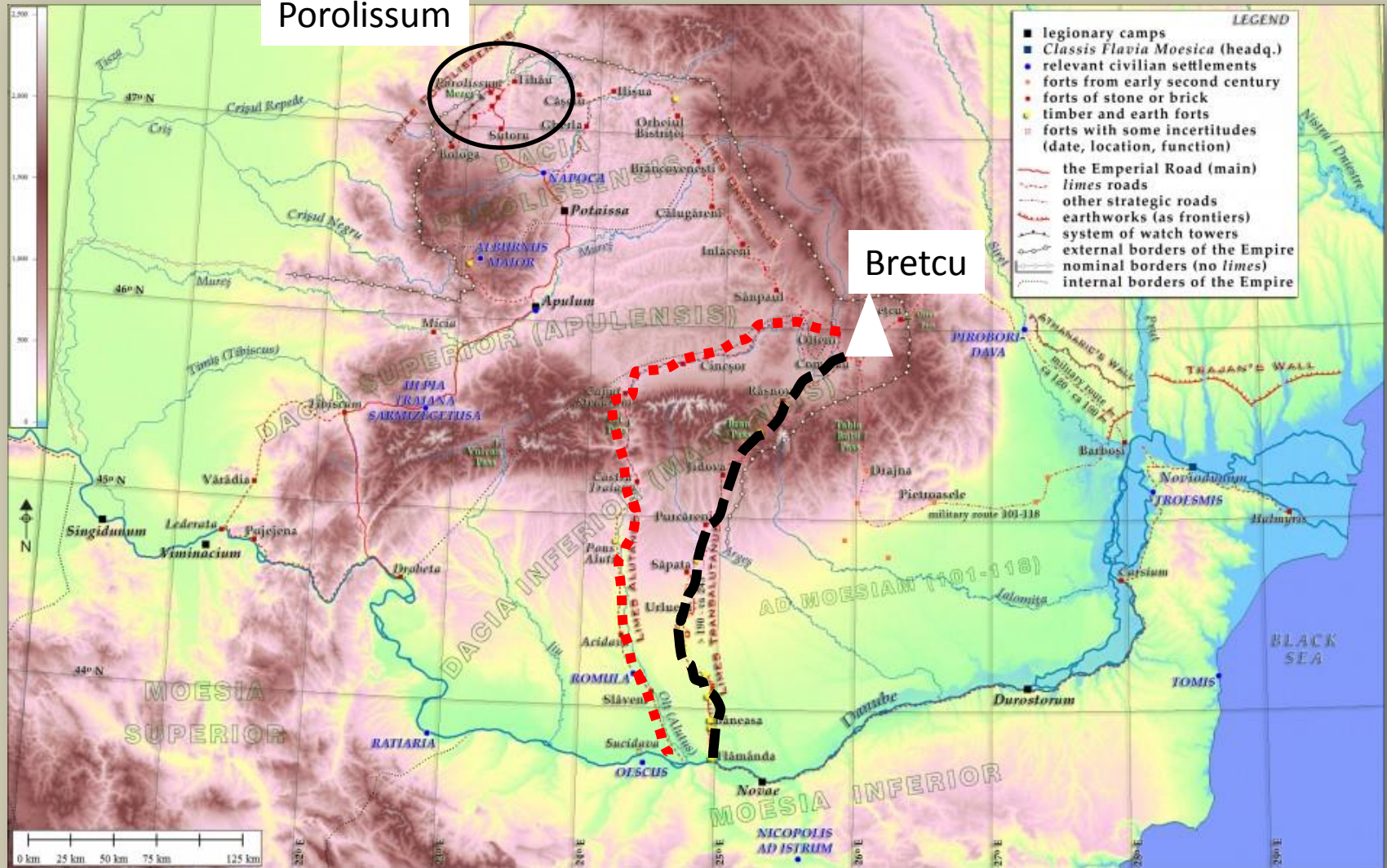


# PERETU





# ROMAN LIMES IN DACIA





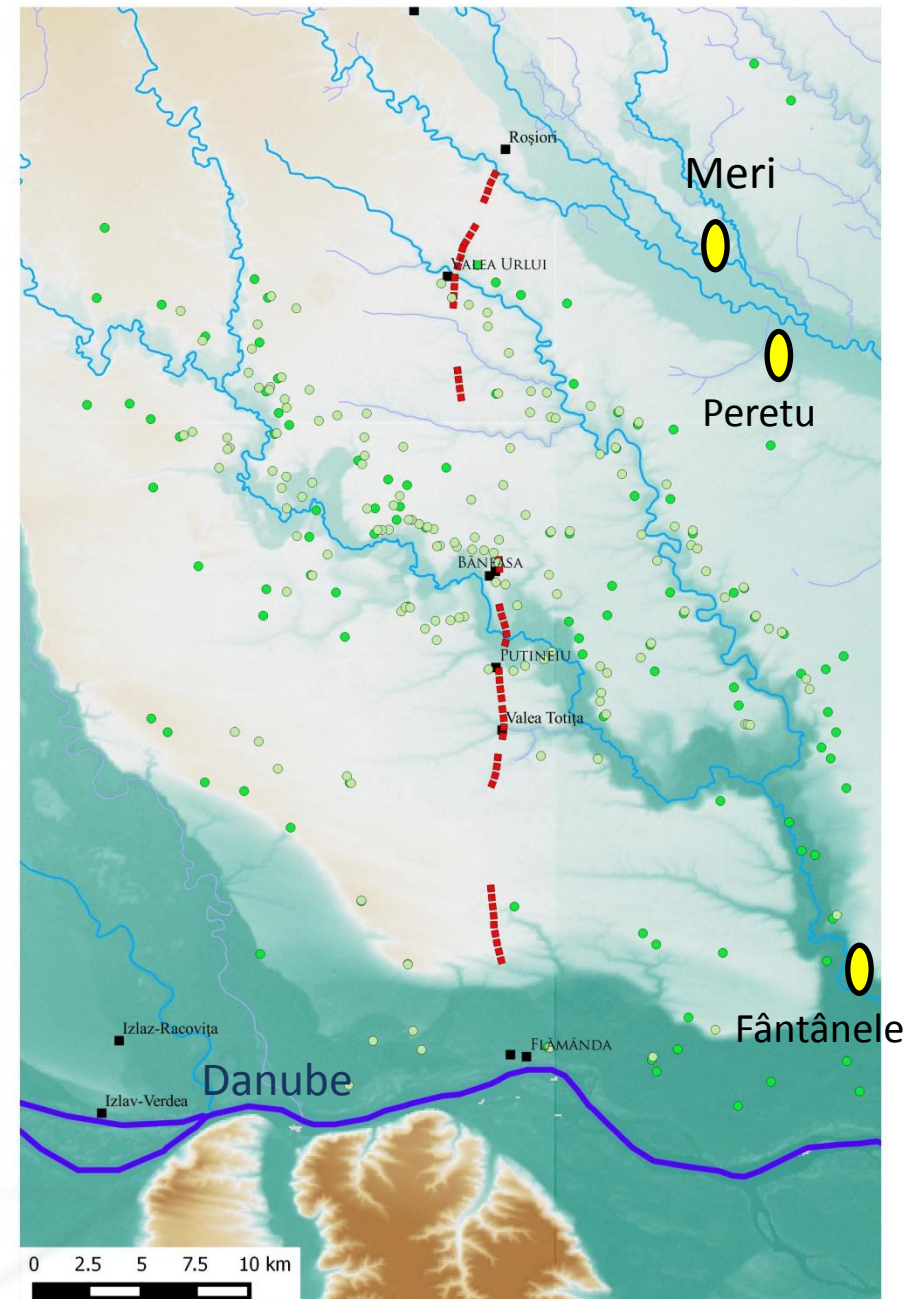
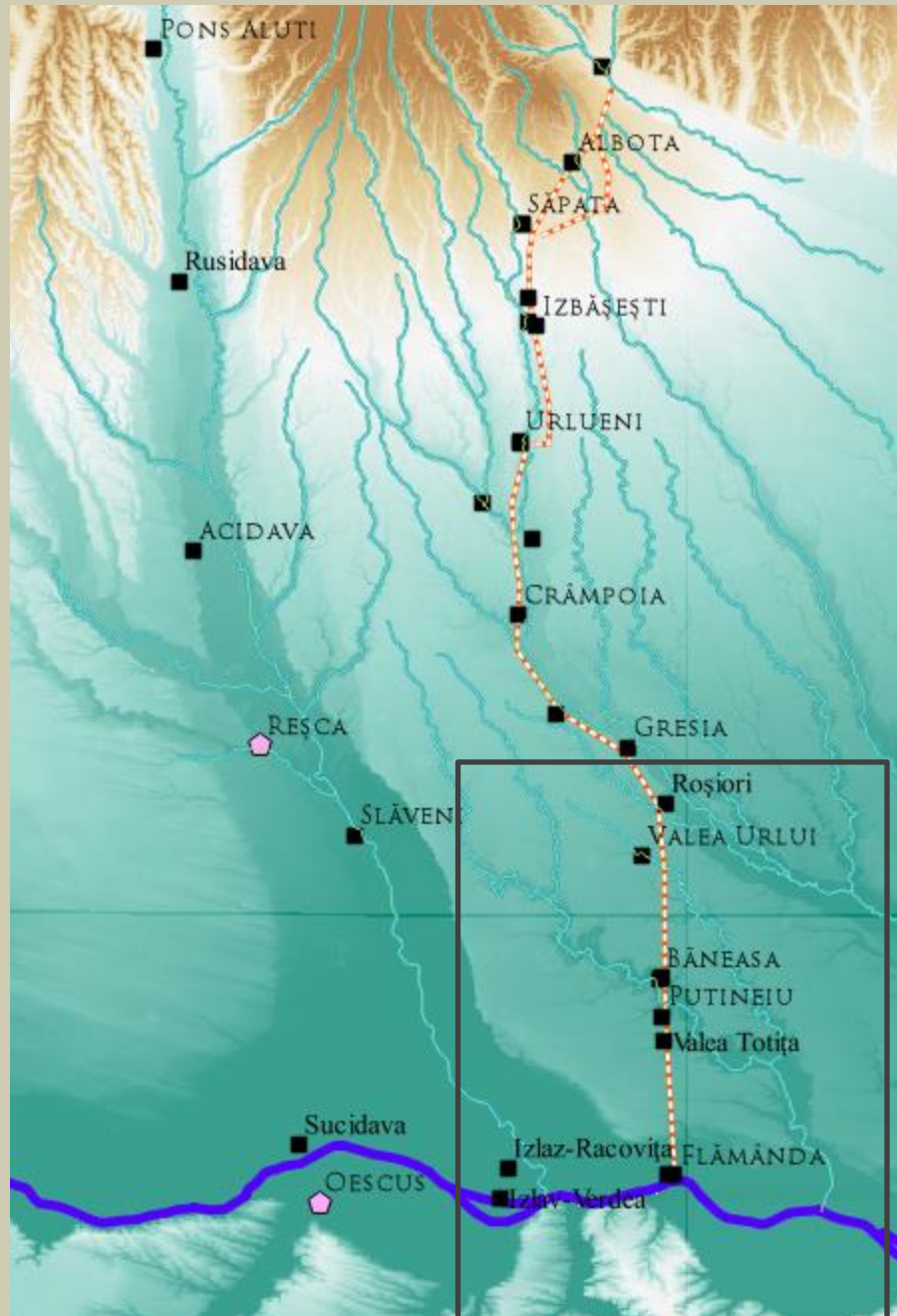
# CHALLENGES



Where are the limes Watch - towers?

Interpreting the anomalies observed during aerial survey: flattened tumuli or Roman watch towers?

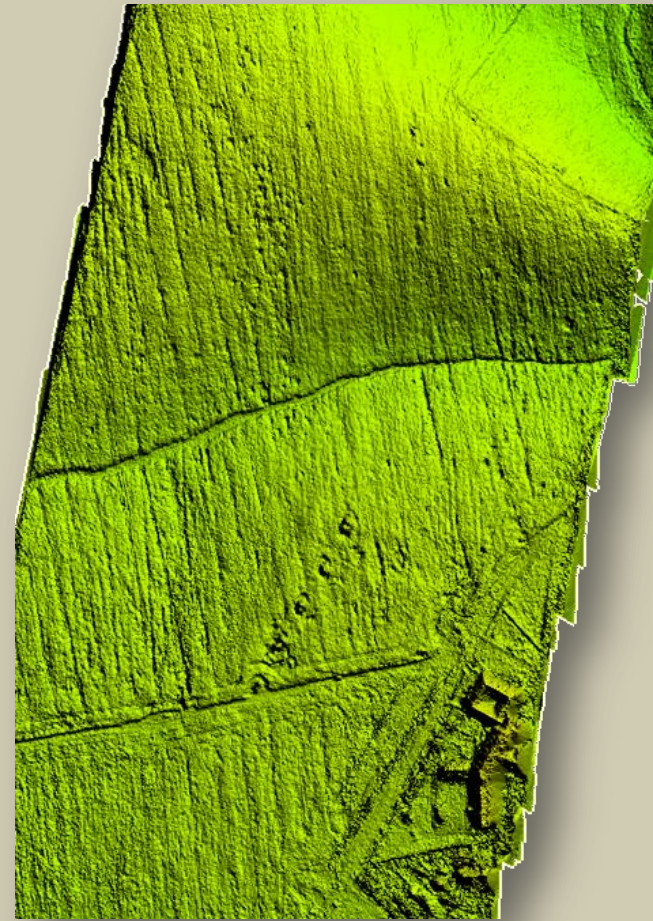
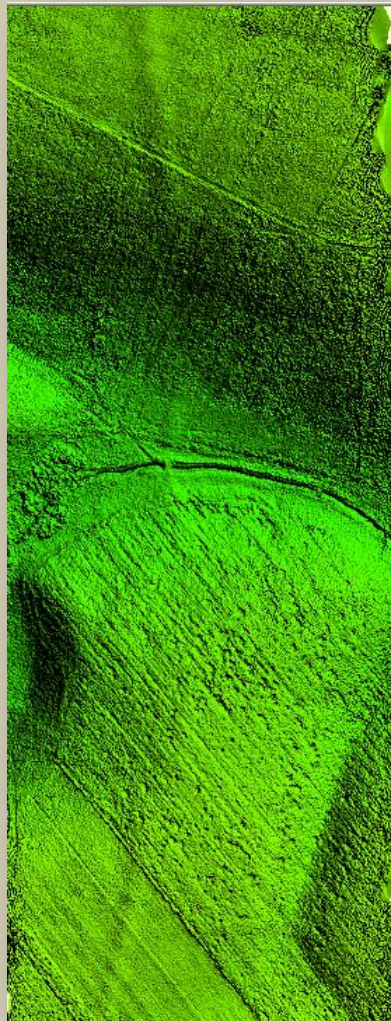
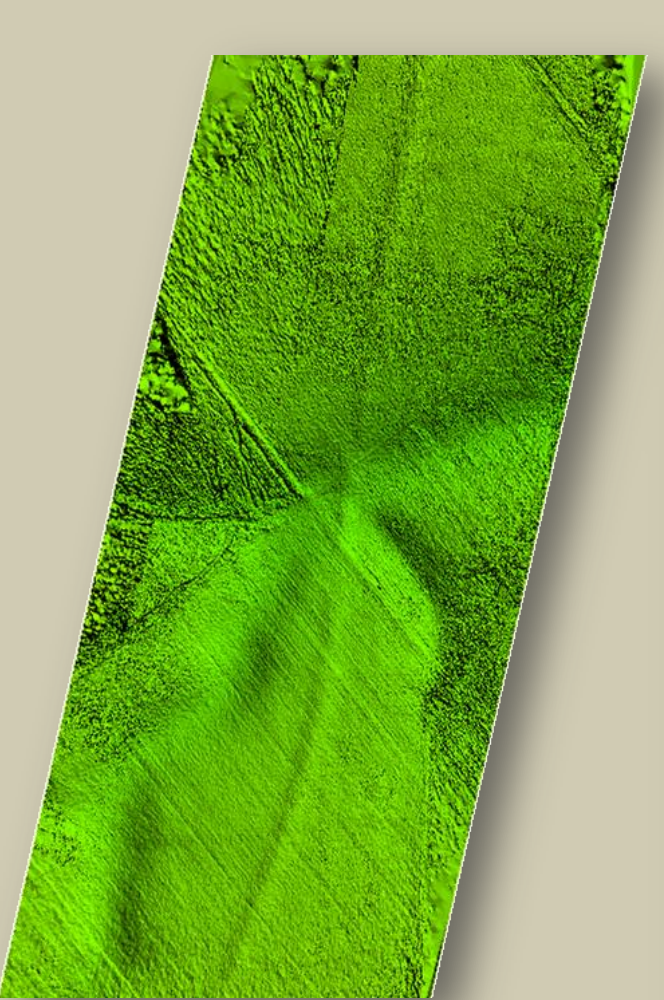






Limes is Crossing valleys

Tumuli follow prehistoric ridge routes along high terraces





# THE ROMAN MODEL

Prehistoric mound  
reused by Romans

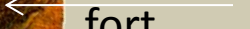
Dyke



tumulus



Roman  
fort

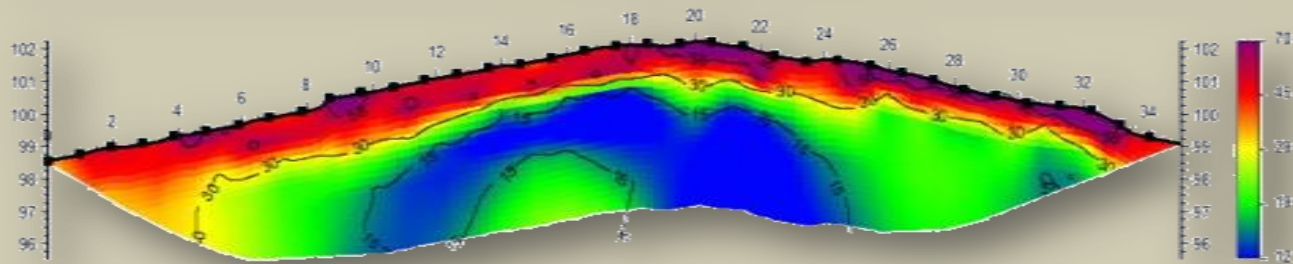


250 m

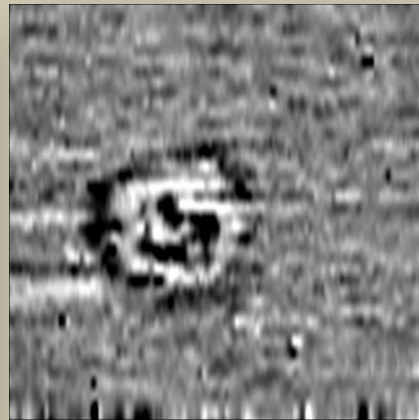
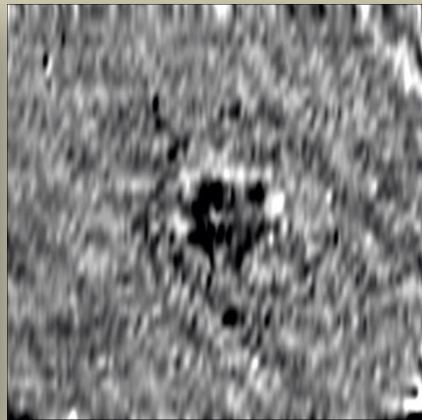
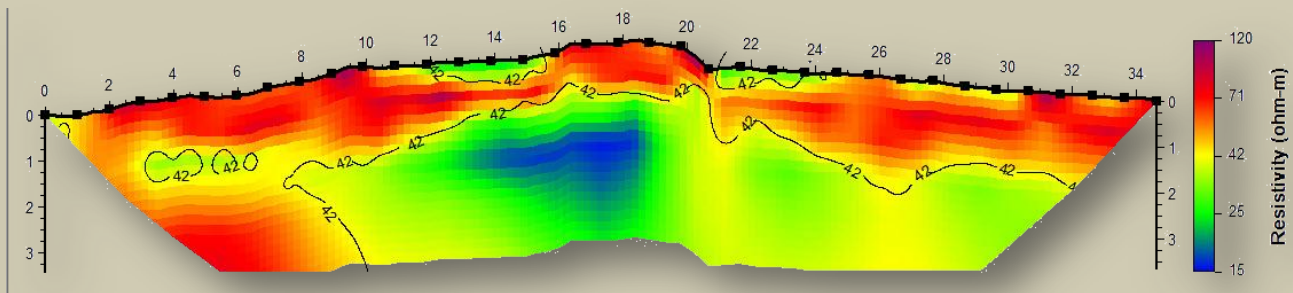




# ROMAN TOWERS



Prehistoric mound reused by Romans



Magnetic signature of a Roman tower which form the air looks like a flattened mound



# CONCLUSIONS

- Not all the anomalies observed from the air that look like flattened mounds are tumuli, they can be remains of Roman watch towers.
- Iron Age tumuli are low and simple in stratigraphy, they tend to gather in necropolises but because of their simple structure and intense agricultural activities remain difficult to be noticed in the landscape. There are no isolated Iron Age tumular graves; they were probably grouped in cemeteries and linked to settlements
- Large-scale tumuli in the Danubian plane are not so numerous.
- In the places where prehistoric roads intersected the dyke, the larger tumuli were reused by Romans in order to enhance the view range and defense of the dyke.

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*PN-II-PT-PCCA-2013-4-0759 Interdisciplinary technology for archaeological field survey. Case Study – Limes Transalutanus south of Argeş River*

*<http://www.limes-transalutanus.ro/>*