

ANNALES ZBORNÍK
MUSEI SLOVENSKEHO
NATIONALIS NÁRODNÉHO
SLOVACI MÚZEA

ROČNÍK CXVI

ARCHEOLOGIA 32

BRATISLAVA 2022

**ZBORNÍK SLOVENSKEHO NÁRODNÉHO MÚZEA
ANNALES MUSEI NATIONALIS SLOVACI**

**ROČNÍK / VOLUME CXVI
ARCHÉOLOGIA 32**

Recenzovaná publikácia / Peer-Reviewed Publication
Vychádza raz ročne / Published Once a Year
Otvorený prístup / Open Access
<https://archeologickemuzeum.sk>

Predseda redakčnej rady / Head of Editorial Board:
PhDr. Juraj Bartík, PhD.

Redakčná rada / Editorial Board:
Doc. PhDr. Gertrúda Březinová, CSc., Mgr. Radoslav Čambal, PhD., Dr. Wolfgang David M. A.,
PhDr. Zdeněk Farkaš, PhD., Mgr. David Parma, Ph.D., Doc. PhDr. Matej Ruttkay, CSc.,
Prof. PhDr. Stanislav Stuchlík, CSc., PhDr. Vladimír Turčan

Zostavovateľ / Edited by:
Mgr. Martin Hanuš, PhD.

Počítačové spracovanie / Graphic Layout: Michal Hricko – mh2
Preklad do cudzích jazykov / Translations: Enzo Passerini, Kristián Elschek, Lubomíra Kuzmová,
Viera Tejbusová a autori

Dátum vydania / Date of Issue: 2022
<https://doi.org/10.55015/zbsnm.arch.2022>

Príspevky sú indexované a evidované v databázach / Articles are indexed and covered in:
SCOPUS, EBSCO

Za obsah a znenie príspevkov zodpovedajú autori / Authors are responsible for their contributions

Redakcia, vydavateľ a distribútor / Office, Publisher and Distributor:

Slovenské národné múzeum – Archeologické múzeum
Žižkova 12, P. O. Box 13, SK – 810 06 Bratislava
IČO 00164721
archeologia.editor@snm.sk

Tlač / Print: Ultra Print, s. r. o.
Náklad / Print Run: 300 kusov / pieces

© Slovenské národné múzeum – Archeologické múzeum

ISBN 978-80-8060-537-7
ISSN 1336-6637



PhDr. Vladimír Turčan,
dlhoročný vedecký pracovník Slovenského národného múzea – Archeologického múzea,
zostavovateľ Zborníka SNM Archeológia v rokoch 2009 až 2020,
sa v tomto roku dožíva okrúhleho životného jubilea.

Kolegovia a priatelia želajú jubilantovi do ďalších rokov veľa zdravia, spokojnosti a úspechov!

PhDr. Vladimír Turčan,
long-term researcher of the Slovak National Museum – Archaeological Museum,
editor of the Zborník SNM Archeológia between 2009 and 2020,
is experiencing a round life jubilee this year.

Colleagues and friends wish the jubilant good health, satisfaction and success in the coming years!

TABULA GRATULATORIA

Anna Bajanová	Ivana Kvetánová
Peter Barta	Jozef Labuda
Juraj Bartík	Erika Makarová
Igor Bazovský	Ludovít Mathédesz
Zdeněk Beneš	Jana Mellnerová
Gertrúda Březinová	Robert Môc
Marek Budaj	Margaréta Musilová
Radoslav Čambal	Peter Nagy
Viktoria Čistáková	Andrea Námerová
Petr Daňhel	Mária Novotná
Miroslava Daňová	Karol Pieta
Klaudia Daňová	Lucia Pilková
Eduard Droberjar	Denis Pongrácz
Kristián Elschek	Nada Profantová
Zděnek Farkaš	Vania Radeva
Gabriel Fusek	Ján Rajtár
Barbara Gábriková	Anna Mária Rekemová
Lýdia Gačková	Branislav Resutík
Jakub Halama	Matej Ruttkay
Martin Hanuš	Jaroslava Ruttkayová
Katarína Harmadyová	Andrej Sabov
Katarína Hladíková	Helga Sedlmayer
Pavel Horník	Jaroslava Schmidtová
Juraj Hrica	Simona Sliacka
Erik Hrnčiarik	Danica Staššíková-Štukovská
Ivan Cheben	Ján Steinhübel
Igor Choma	Boris Stoklas
Ján Chovanec	Ondrej Šedo
Vladimír Janský	Alena Šefčáková
Pavol Jelínek	Peter Šimčík
Jan Jílek	Petra Šimončíčová Koóšová
Ľubomíra Kaminská	Vladimír Varsik
Maciej Karwowski	David Vích
Jiří Kmošek	Miroslav Vrablec
Tomáš Kolon	Jozef Zábojník
Anita Kozubová	Tomáš Zachar
Juraj Kucharík	Tomáš Zeman
Klára Kuzmová	Marína Zubajová

OBSAH / CONTENTS

ŠTÚDIE / STUDIES

ZDĚNEK FARKAŠ – BARBARA GÁBRIKOVÁ	
Medený sekeromlat typu Székely-Nádudvar z okolia Komárna	9
Die kupferne Hammeraxt vom Typ Székely-Nádudvar von der Umgebung von Komárno.	17
PAVOL JELÍNEK	
O jednom „náleze storočia“ – ohliadnutie sa za teóriami Jozefa Paulíka o náboženstve doby bronzovej	21
About one “find of the century” – a hindsight at the theories by Jozef Paulík regarding Bronze Age religion	42
JURAJ BARTÍK	
Ihlica s otvorom v krčku z Vištuku	47
Eine Lochhalsnadel aus Vištuk.	55
ERIKA MAKAROVÁ – PETER HARČAR	
Depot z mladšej až neskorej doby bronzovej zo Stakčína.	57
The Urnfield Period hoard from Stakčín.	70
ALENA ŠEFČÁKOVÁ – IGOR BALCIAR	
Nástenná uhľová značka z doby železnej v jaskyni Číkova diera v Slovenskom krase	71
A wall charcoal sign from Iron Age in the Číkova diera cave, in the Slovak Karst area.	78
EDUARD DROBERJAR	
Frühe römische Distelfibeln im Barbaricum	81
Včasnorímske bodliakovité spony (Distelfibeln) v barbariku	92
JAN JÍLEK – ELIŠKA PETŘEKOVÁ – MARÍNA ZUBAJOVÁ – STANISLAVA KUČOVÁ – VERONIKA BURIANOVÁ	
Pompeian bronze vessels of Chancellor K. W. N. L. Metternich from Kynžvart in Western Bohemia.	93
Pompejské bronzové nádoby kancléře K. W. N. L. Metternicha z Kynžvartu v západních Čechách	142
Vasi pompeiani in bronzo del cancelliere K. W. N. L. Metternich di Kynžvart nella Boemia occidentale	143
KRISTIÁN ELSCHKEK – HELGA SEDLMAYER	
<i>In caliga militari</i> – Ein Krughenkel mit Militärsandale und ein Aureus des Vespasianus für Titus aus der germanischen Großsiedlung von Kostolište im Marchland.	145
<i>In caliga militari</i> – držadlo krčahu s vojenským sandálom a aureus Vespasiana pre Tita z rozsiahleho germánskeho sídliska v Kostolišti v Pomoraví.	166
KLÁRA KUZMOVÁ †	
Ancient Routes North of Pannonia in the Light of Roman Products and Amber Artefacts ..	169
Staroveké cesty severne od Panónie vo svetle rímskych výrobkov a jantárových artefaktov. .	178
IGOR BAZOVSKÝ – KATARÍNA HLADÍKOVÁ – RADOSLAV ČAMBAL – JÁN RAJTÁR – JAKUB HALAMA – ALENA ŠEFČÁKOVÁ	
Žiarové pohrebisko z doby rímskej v Závode.	179
Das Brandgräberfeld aus der Römischen Kaiserzeit in Závod.	269

BORIS STOKLAS	
Mince a rímsko-provinciálna emailovaná spona z Pustých Sadov	273
Münzen und provinzialrömische Emailfibel aus Pusté Sady	282
VLADIMÍR VARSÍK	
Plastika hlineného vtáčika z doby rímskej zo Žitného ostrova	283
Roman Period earthen bird from Žitný Ostrov	294
DAVID VÍCH – JAN JÍLEK – JIŘÍ KMOŠEK – PETR DAŇHEL	
Provincial-Roman brooches from the hill Žalý in the District of Rakovník. A contribution to the first find of an annular brooch with openwork frame from Bohemia	297
Římsko-provinciální spony z kopce Žalý na Rakovnicku. Příspěvek k nálezu první kruhové spony s prolamovaným okrajem z Čech	304
IVANA KVETÁNOVÁ	
Plastika Tráckeho jazdca v zbierkach Archeologického múzea v Bratislave	307
A statuette of a Thracian horseman in the collections of the Bratislava Archaeological Museum	317
MIROSLAVA DAŇOVÁ – KLAUDIA DAŇOVÁ – MICHAL HALINÁR – MICHAL HOFFMAN – TIBOR LIESKOVSKÝ – ANDREJ KOPRIVŇANSKÝ – VALENTÍN SOČUVKA	
Hľadanie rímskeho prístavu. O počiatkoch systematického prieskumu riečneho dna Dunaja pri Iži	319
Searching the Roman port. About the beginnings of the systematic exploration of the bottom of the Danube river near Iža	327
VIKTORIA ČIŠŤAKOVA – ZDENĚK BENEŠ – ZUZANA ZLÁMALOVÁ CÍLOVÁ – RADEK HANUS – LADISLAV LAPČÁK – ŠÁRKA MSALLAMOVÁ – TOMÁŠ TROJEK	
Interdisciplinárny pohľad na zlaté kování z doby stěhování národů z Kounic	329
Interdisciplinary view on forged gold fittings during the Migration Period in Kounice	352
BEATE MARIA POMBERGER – JÖRG MÜHLHANS – KAYLEIGH SAUNDERSON	
Metallic idiophones of the Early History Period from the archaeological collection of the Slovakian National Museum in Bratislava	355
Ranohistorické kovové idiofóny z archeologickej zbierky Slovenského národného múzea v Bratislave	377
GERTRÚDA BŘEZINOVÁ	
Stredoveký pyrotechnický objekt z Mostnej ulice v Nitre	379
The medieval pyrotechnic feature from Mostná ulica street in Nitra	391
RADOSLAV ČAMBAL – MAREK BUDAJ – JURAJ HRICA	
Súbor nálezov z hradu Teplica	393
Funde von der Burg Teplica	432

RECENZIE / REVIEWS

VLADIMÍR TURČAN

Milan Hrabkovský: Germánsky kniežací dvorec v Milanovciach/Velkom Kýre a jeho
neskoroantický kultúrny kontext. 437

SAMUEL ŠPANIHEL

Martin Furman: Nové Objavy v Žilinskom kraji I. 438

ANCIENT ROUTES NORTH OF PANNONIA IN THE LIGHT OF ROMAN PRODUCTS AND AMBER ARTEFACTS¹

KLÁRA KUZMOVÁ†

Keywords: long-distance trade routes, amber, Barbaricum, southwestern Slovakia, Roman Period.

Abstract: *Ancient Routes North of Pannonia in the Light of Roman Products and Amber Artefacts.* In the Roman Period (1st–4th century AD), the territory north of Pannonia (SW Slovakia) was settled by the Germanic tribes of Marcomanni and Quadi. The contacts between the Romans and Germans in this area were far from ordinary. Italian and provincial wares (vessels, jewellery, parts of clothes and military equipment, toilet and work tools, coins, etc.) found their way to Barbaricum via ancient routes, most often by long-distance, cross-border and local trade. Raw materials and products from the outlying barbarian territories to the Roman Empire and the adjacent barbarian areas are much less common. The most significant among these were amber and amber artefacts, which prove connections between the Middle Danube region and the Baltic Sea. They are mostly beads and pendants, found in Roman burials on the frontier and in Germanic burials and settlements in Barbaricum.

The paper deals with the territory of south-western Slovakia, which lay beyond the northern frontier of Pannonia during the Roman Period, i.e. in the first four centuries AD (Fig. 1). The area was settled by the Germanic tribes of Marcomanni and Quadi. Archaeological and historical sources show that contacts between the Romans and Germans on this section of the *limes* and in the surrounding Barbaricum were far from ordinary (Bouzek/Ondřejová 1990; Hrnčiarik 2013; Kuzmová 1997; 2010; 2013). Although the Roman military presence has been testified in this territory, the quantity and assortment of Roman products north of Pannonia indicate that these products most often crossed the frontier by long-distance and cross-border trade. As is well known, two important transcontinental communications led through the Middle-Danube region in this period: the south-north Amber Road, which facilitated contacts between the Mediterranean and the Baltic Sea, and the west-east *Limes* Road along the river Danube. Their crossroads is assumed in the wider area of Carnuntum, adjacent to the confluence of the rivers Danube and Morava, and is known as Devín Gate or Hainburg Gate or Porta Hungarica.

It is assumed that the Amber Road – after crossing the Danube in this area – ran further

along the Morava valley across the barbarian territory. Archaeological objects and structures from both the Roman and barbarian territories, just like historical sources, confirm that the main route split into several side routes (Wielowiejski 1970, 209–217; 1996, 57–59, 61). Noteworthy among them is one of the eastern branches of the Amber Road, running from western Pannonia to Brigetio (from the town of Savaria via Arrabonna), where a legionary fortress and a large military and civilian settlement were situated. An important Roman position, which also included a bridgehead on the opposite bank of the Danube (in Iža), Brigetio controlled the territory around the confluence of the rivers Váh and Danube. The eastern branch of the Amber Road certainly crossed the Danube in this area and continued northwards across the barbarian territory. Finds of Roman products along the rivers Nitra, Žitava and Váh indicate its possible course (Fig. 1).

There is no doubt that the Amber Road was connected with local and regional routes, whose courses were determined mainly by geographic factors and by the location of contemporary Germanic settlements. The large mountain mass of the Little Carpathians, which divided the territory into two main parts (the western and the eastern), and the major rivers running from the

¹ This article has been written within the project VEGA no. 1/0051/22.

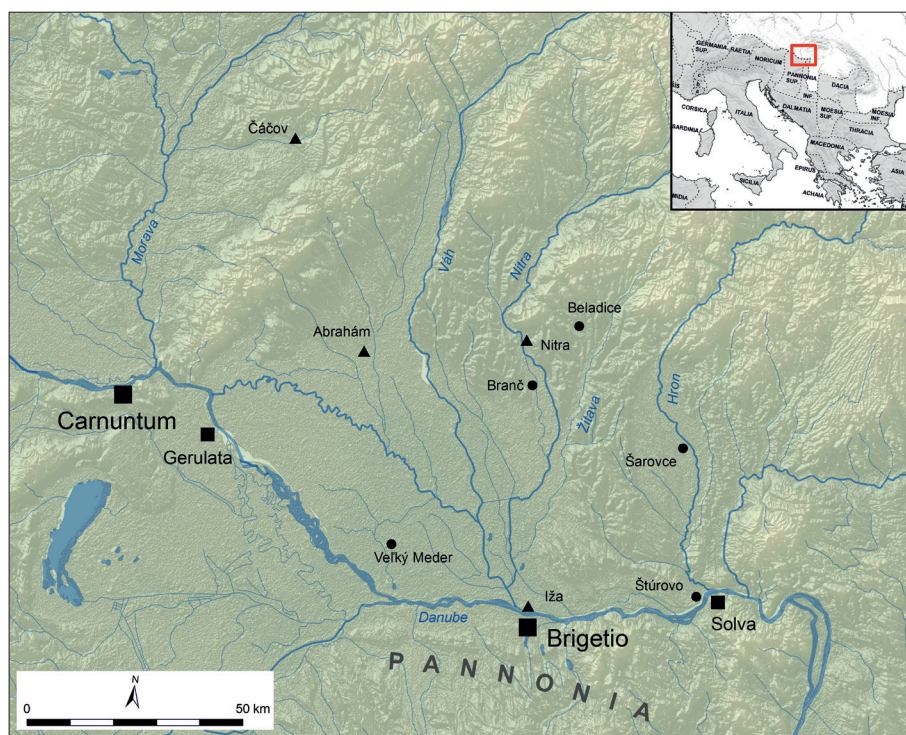


Fig. 1. Location of sites with amber artefacts in Barbaricum north of Pannonia (SW Slovakia; dot = settlement; triangle = burial).

Obr. 1. Lokality s jantárovými artefaktmi v barbariku severne od Panónie (juhozápadné Slovensko; bodka = osada; trojuholník = pohrebisko).

north to the south and flowing into the Danube (Morava, Váh, Nitra, Žitava and Hron) were particularly important in this respect (Fig. 1). From the geopolitical point of view, the North-Pannonian border zone played an important role in spreading the Italian and provincial products to the territory north of the Danube. Their presence in Barbaricum depended mostly on the military supply to the frontier and was strongly influenced by contemporary political, economic and cultural conditions, which are reflected in the finds and find circumstances. It was above all legionary fortresses (Carnuntum and Brigetio) and auxiliary forts (Gerulata and Solva) that played an important role in the inflow of the Roman products to the study area (Kuzmová 2010; 2013, 299). The products represent a wide range of artefacts – bronze, silver and glass vessels, terra sigillata and coarse pottery, jewellery, parts of clothes and military equipment, toilet and work tools, coins and others.

1. FINDS OF ROMAN PRODUCTS

From the chronological point of view, the occurrence of these products north of Pannonia falls into two main periods. The first period covers

the first and the second centuries AD (the Roman Period, Stage B) and the second period the third and the fourth centuries AD (the Roman Period, Stage C). Typical for the first century AD are bronze and glass vessels, glazed pottery, parts of traditional costume from Noricum and Pannonia and beads from Italy, Mediterranean and the two provinces. They were mostly found in native burials uncovered in the western part of the study area, and showed strong Roman influence. The burials were on the Quadi cemeteries in Abrahám, Kostolná and Sládkovičovo, east of the Little Carpathians, where the so-called Vannius's kingdom (*Regnum Vannianum*) was located, which formed a buffer-zone between the province of Pannonia and other Germanic tribes in the first half of the first century AD (summarized by Hrnčiarik 2013, 222, 232, 233, map 93). In the period that followed, the existence of a central settlement is assumed west of the Little Carpathians (between the Carpathians and the Morava river), at Zohor, which – having a control function of the Amber Road – became an important residence of this region. Its exceptional position is also attested by burials of the native elites from the Late Flavian – Early Trajanic Period, which were richly equipped with Roman artefacts. Archaeological

sources show that the settlement retained its central function until the Severan Period. The Roman building complex at the nearby site of Stupava also played an important role in this section of the Amber Road during the second century AD (*Elschek 2009, 247, 248; 2012; Hrnčiarik 2013, 233*). In general, the Quadi territory witnessed a significant increase in Roman products on both cemeteries and settlements from the end of the first century AD. They were mostly bronze vessels, drinking vessels made of bronze, glass and ceramics, and jewellery and coins. The inflow of terra sigillata vessels produced in Lezoux and Rheinzabern took place from the middle of the second century AD (*Hrnčiarik 2013, 232, 233; Kuzmová 1997, 18–27*).

Products that predominate in the second period, i.e. in the third and the fourth centuries AD (Roman Period, Stage C), are those made in the western provinces and Pannonia. Noteworthy among them is a large collection of terra sigillata made in the production centres of Rheinzabern, Westerndorf and Pfaffenhofen in the Severan Period (*Kuzmová 1997, 21–31*). Other products that found their way beyond the northern frontier of Pannonia were mostly vessels, jewellery and parts of clothes. However, they were less varied than in the previous period. Another important fact is that new centres of Quadi society were formed east of the Little Carpathians. This is evidenced not only by concentrations of settlements, but also burials of native elites, which were uncovered in Krakovany-Stráže, and a residence with Roman or Roman-like buildings in Cifer-Pác (summarized by *Hrnčiarik 2013, 223, 234, map 94*).

As finds and find-circumstances show, Roman products formed part of the equipment of Germanic settlements and of the inventory of cemeteries – cremation and inhumation graves, both standard ones and those which belonged to elites. Besides the standard barbarian villages, Roman products have also been found in areas of civilian settlements, where Roman or Roman-like buildings and provincial products were recorded along with Germanic structures and objects. This means that the Roman products occur here in different contexts.

Archaeological and historical sources allow us to assume that it was not only by trade that Roman products found their way to the territory outside the Roman Empire. They could get to Barbaricum via military and civilian activities of provincial inhabitants and Germanic natives, for instance in the form of gifts, or as subsidies, plunder, and part of the equipment of the Roman troops.

2. FINDS OF AMBER AND AMBER ARTEFACTS

A more valuable evidence of the long-distance trade, and of local trade and exchange that took place between the Roman and the barbarian world, and also within the barbarian society, are products and raw materials that came from Barbaricum to the Roman provinces, particularly from the outlying barbarian territories to the Roman Empire and to the barbarian areas beyond the Roman frontier. The most significant are fragments of amber and amber artefacts. Several of them were found on the northern frontier of Pannonia, for instance in the cemeteries of Gerulata (I–III). They include amber beads and pendants from female and child burials, and from cremation and inhumation burials, dated to the period from the second half of the first century to the fourth century AD. The majority come from the earlier part (end of the 1st century – 2nd century AD) and are from the burials of Gerulata II cemetery. According to J. Wielowiejski (1996, 61), this is a period when amber trade culminated (70–166 AD). In general, the beads from Gerulata come in different forms (e.g. cylindrical, discoid, globular, oval and drop-shaped) and the pendants (amulets) are shaped as phalluses, corn, lunulae and hearts. From the typological point of view, their parallels are known from other Pannonian sites (*Kolník 1984, Figs. 118, 119, 155; Kraskovská 1988, 94–98; Pichlerová 1981, 28*).

By contrast, the situation beyond the frontier was vastly different. Only a few amber beads and one possible pendant came from this territory. They were mostly found as separate finds in the context of second to third century native settlements and in the context of burials dated to the

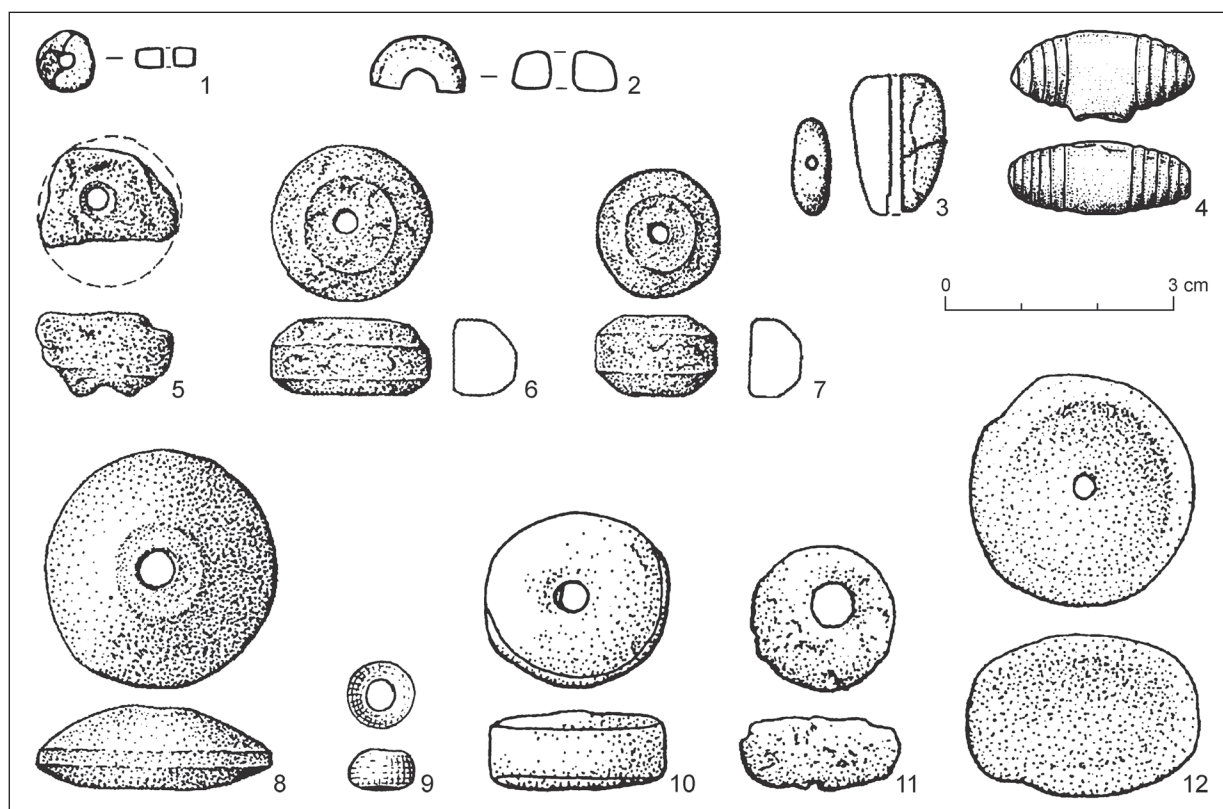


Fig. 2. Amber artefacts from the barbarian territory north of Pannonia (SW Slovakia). 1–2 – Veľký Meder, 3 – Branč, 4 – Šarovce, 5–8 – Čáčov, 9 – Abrahám, 10 – Nitra, 11–12 – Iža.

Obr. 2. Jantárové artefakty z barbarika severne od Panónie (juhozápadné Slovensko). 1–2 – Veľký Meder, 3 – Branč, 4 – Šarovce, 5–8 – Čáčov, 9 – Abrahám, 10 – Nitra, 11–12 – Iža.

Late Roman or Early Migration Period (end of the 4th – beginning of the 5th century AD). The amber artefacts have been recorded in areas of five native settlements (Veľký Meder, Branč, Beladice, Štúrovo and Šarovce – ordered from the west to the east; Fig. 1). They are located in the central and eastern parts of the study area, in the valleys of major rivers, in a relatively short distance from both the Danube and the northern border of Pannonia.² In Veľký Meder, two amber disc-shaped beads were found, dating to the Severan Period and classified to type 388 (handmade amber beads, group XXX) in the typology of M. Tempelmann-Maczyńska (1985, 24, pl. 15). One of them is smaller (0.8 cm in diameter; Fig. 2: 1) and was found in a borrow pit (no. 48) along with fragments of native and imported pottery, including terra sigillata produced in Westerndorf,

in the workshop of Comitalis (Varsík 1998, 15, no. 14, pl. 13: 14). The second bead is bigger (1.3 cm in diameter, 0.5 cm high; Fig. 2: 2), but only half of it has been preserved; it was found in an earth-house with a post-in-ground construction (no. 129) along with native and imported pottery (Central Gaulish terra sigillata; Varsík 1998, 50, no. 3, pl. 47: 3). We should also mention two formless amber fragments (with diameters of 0.7 and 0.75 cm) from a pit (no. 135/136), dating to the second and third centuries AD (Varsík 1998, 55, pl. 51). A small watermelon seed-shaped bead (1.9 cm long; Fig. 2: 3), found in an earth-house with a post-in-ground construction (no. 123, M/32), is known from the native settlement in Branč. The inventory of the house consisted predominantly of native pottery, and dates to the second century AD (Kolník/Varsík/

² The site of Veľký Meder is situated near an abandoned Danube meander, in a distance of 7 km from the main river-basin; Branč in the Nitra valley – 50 km, Beladice in the Žitava valley – 67 km, Štúrovo and Šarovce in the Hron valley – 5 and 38 km respectively from the northern frontier of Pannonia.

Vladár 2007, 110, pl. 104). The typology of M. Tempelmann-Mączyńska does not include this bead form; its closest parallel is the drop-shaped form, which, unlike the item from Branč, which is bored lengthwise, has a transverse opening, so that it has been interpreted as a pendant (group XL, type 417; *Tempelmann-Mączyńska 1985*, 24, pl. 15).

Other, unspecified amber beads were found in an earth-house with a post-in-ground construction (no. 12) uncovered during a rescue excavation in Beladice. Its context, dated to the end of the second and beginning of the third century AD, included both native and Roman provincial products (e.g. fragments of plain and decorated terra sigillata from Lezoux, and a bronze coin; *Ruttkey et al. 2013*, 216, Fig. 145). An amorphous fragment of a damaged amber artefact, probably of a bead, was found in a sunken-featured rectangular house without a post-in-ground construction (no. 1) in the settlement in Štúrovo (*Beljak 2010a*, Fig. 3: 8). It was found together with numerous finds of pottery with a relatively high proportion of imported pottery (16.5 %), including fragments of terra sigillata produced in the workshop of Cinnamus in Lezoux. The context dates to the second half of the second century AD (Roman Period, Stage B2–B2/C1). It is assumed that this structure was destroyed during the Marcomannic wars (*Beljak 2008*, pl. 7: 7; *2010a*, 135, 137, 139, Figs. 3–12; *Beljak/Kolník 2008*, 134, tab. 1).

The last amber artefact in this group is known from a Germanic settlement uncovered in Šarovce. It is a fragment of a pendant from an earth-house with a post-in-ground construction (no. 35/2005). The pendant has a longitudinal, loaf-like shape; its rounded ends have five transverse cuts, while its centre is plain and incomplete – what was likely a loop has been broken off (Fig. 2: 4). This form does not occur among the finds from the Central European Barbaricum published by M. Tempelmann-Mączyńska, but

we may assume that it belongs to the amber artefacts produced on a lathe. J. Beljak (*2010b*, 38) notes as its parallels an unpublished find from the area of the Przeworsk culture (Jakuszowice, Poland), and a similarly shaped vessel from the Sarmatian environment (Tiszassas, Hungary). As for its find circumstances, only handmade native pottery was found in the related inventory, and the Roman provincial pottery comprised as much as 9%. Noteworthy among the accompanying finds was a necklace from a thin silver wire with a pear-shaped closing, known also from sites in the wider area of Barbaricum, settled by Germanic and Sarmatian tribes, and in the Roman provinces. The context mentioned above is dated to the Late Roman Period (Roman Period, Stage C2/C3, around 300 AD; *Beckmann 1981*, 16; *Beljak 2010b*, 35, 38, 46, Fig. 9: 2).

As far as finds from burials are concerned, the majority of them were located in the central part of the study area (Fig. 1) and date from the Late Roman to the Early Migration Period. Notable among them are four disc-shaped amber beads (Fig. 2: 5–8) from a single, probably female inhumation burial uncovered at Čáčov, west of the Carpathians (around 60 km north of the *limes*, not far from the main course of the Amber Road). The beads date to the second half of the second century AD (Roman Period, stage B2/C1) and are from a necklace which also included alabaster, clay and glass beads. They were found together with items of Roman provincial and Germanic provenance. The burial has a special position in this area not only due to its geographical and chronological particularities but due to the fact that its inventory reflects several influences.³ The amber beads represent types 388 and 389 (handmade amber beads, group XXX) in the typology of M. Tempelmann-Mączyńska (*1985*, 24, 265, no. 564, pl. 15).

Further four finds, dating from the Late Roman to the Early Migration Period, have been found in three burials situated at Abrahám, Ni-

³ This burial, which was discovered by chance and has been known for some time, has recently been analysed by K. Pieta (*2002*). Pieta noted the presence of cultural elements and influences from various parts of Barbaricum, particularly from the north (Przeworsk and Wielbark cultures) and the east (Tschernjachov culture, Sarmatian milieu). He also noted a clear Roman provincial context. With regard to the unclear find-circumstances and the peculiar composition of the inventory he assumes that these are likely two separate collections, of which one may come from an earlier male burial and the other from a later female burial (or that they may have been part of a settlement structure or may come from a hoard).

tra and Iža. All of these sites lie east of the Carpathians, in the valleys of Váh, Nitra and Danube respectively.⁴ The amber bead from Abrahám was found in a disrupted, probably female inhumation burial (no. 4) on a small cemetery, along with 15 mostly glass, but also clay beads placed in the belt area. The amber bead was published by T. Kolník (1973, 362–364, 390, no. 4, pl. IV: 7; *Pieta* 1999, 171) as a damaged loaf-shaped bead (diameter 0.9 cm, height 0.6 cm; Fig. 2: 9), which was later defined by M. Tempelmann-Mączyńska (1985, 24, 264, no. 559, pl. 15) as a barrel-shaped type 394 and classified with the handmade beads (group XXXI). The amber bead found in Nitra, site Mikov dvor, was placed in a single female inhumation burial (no. 52/84) with a relatively poor inventory. Most of its finds, including the amber bead, were placed at the left shoulder of the buried woman. From the typological point of view, the amber bead (diameter 2.3 cm, height 1.1 cm; Fig. 2: 10) corresponds to the disc-shaped type 389 of M. Tempelmann-Mączyńska (1985, 24, pl. 15; handmade amber beads, group XXX). The last two among the studied amber beads (Fig. 2: 11, 12) were found north-west of the Roman auxiliary fort at Iža, the bridgehead of Brigetio on the opposite bank of the Danube. They were found in a single female inhumation burial (no. 1/87) like the bead mentioned above, but unlike it, the inventory of this burial included more finds, most of which were concentrated at the right shoulder of the buried woman.⁵ One of the amber beads can be associated with Tempelmann-Mączyńska's disc-shaped type 388/389 (diameter 1.9 cm, height 0.9 cm; Fig. 2: 11), while the other (diameter 2.9 cm, height 2.1 cm; Fig. 2: 12) represents her barrel-shaped type 393 (handmade amber beads, group XXX; *Tempelmann-Mączyńska* 1985, 24, pl. 15).

3. CONCLUSION

The huge number and wide assortment of the Roman products recorded north of Pannonia

(SW Slovakia) found their way to the barbarian territory, which was settled by the Germanic tribes of Marcomanni and Quadi, via ancient routes, most often by long-distance, cross-border and local trade and exchange. The key role in the process was played by the south-north Amber Road, which connected the Mediterranean with the Baltic Sea area, and the west-east *Limes*-Road, which helped spread wares and influences along the river Danube. The presence of Italian and provincial wares in this part of Barbaricum depended mostly on the military supply to the frontier. By contrast, the finds of raw amber and amber artefacts attesting connections between the outlying barbarian territories and the Roman Empire are extremely rare despite the area's proximity to both the Amber Road and the province of Pannonia. Indeed, from the Germanic contexts north of Pannonia we know only eleven typologically identified amber beads, one pendant and three amorphous fragments of raw amber or damaged artefacts. They mostly represent simple handmade beads, which obviously formed parts of necklaces. The disc-shaped beads (*Tempelmann-Mączyńska* 1985, 24, 65–67, pl. 15, 58, group XXX, types 388 and 389) are frequent forms not only in the study area but also in the wider territory of the Central-European Barbaricum. They were mainly found in the native burials (Čáčov, Nitra, Iža, 6 pcs in total), but also in one settlement north of Pannonia (Veľký Meder, 2 pcs). The barrel-shaped beads (*Tempelmann-Mączyńska* 1985, 24, 67, 68, pl. 15, 60, group XXXI, types 393 and 394) have also been attested on large barbarian areas, but in lower numbers than the disc-shaped ones. On the study area, they came only from burials (Abrahám, Iža, 2 pcs in total). Two unique types are known from settlements – a watermelon seed-shaped bead (Branč) and a possible pendant (Šarovce).

From the point of view of the find-circumstances, we can summarise that the studied amber artefacts were mostly single finds, which were found either in the areas of settlements (an

⁴ Their distance from the Roman frontier (Danube) is also relatively short: Abrahám – 35 km, Nitra – 60 km; Iža is situated right on the Danube bank.

⁵ Glass and clay beads as well as two bronze fibulae and one bronze ring were found along with the amber bead (*Pieta* 1999, 175, Fig. 2: 9, 10).

exception being Velký Meder – 2 pcs), where they had likely been lost objects, or in graves (exceptions being Čáčov – 4 pcs, and Iža – 2 pcs), where they were parts of jewellery and costumes, as well as proofs of the uniqueness of the burial rite. The majority of finds from settlements come from houses from the second to the third century AD, the earliest from them being dated to the second half of the second century AD, more specifically to the period of the Marcomannic wars (Štúrovo), and the latest to the late third/early fourth century (Šarovce). It should be emphasized that the relevant settlement contexts contained, besides domestic products, also provincial products (mostly coarse pottery and terra sigillata), which proves more or less intensive contacts between the Romans and the Germanic populations in the field of trade and exchange. Grave finds come mostly from rare female inhumation burials from the end of the fourth and beginning of the fifth century AD (Abrahám, Nitra, Iža). While the function of beads is generally known, their position in grave contexts can be specified on the basis of particular find-circumstances. Two burials contained, besides amber beads, also glass and clay beads (Abrahám, Iža), and another burial contained only one amber bead (Nitra). The placement of the beads in the graves differed, too: the beads were placed either in the belt area (Abrahám), at the right shoulder (Iža) or at the left shoulder of the buried woman (Nitra). Specific among the burials with amber bead finds is the collection from Čáčov, dating to the second half of the second century AD, to the period of the Marcomannic wars. Unlike other burials (Abrahám, Nitra, Iža), it contained the highest number of amber beads (4 pcs) and reflected varied influences and contacts, mostly with northern and eastern barbarian territories as well as with the Roman provinces. All the finds mentioned are related to the inventories

of female burials, which confirms the existing knowledge that in the Roman Period, amber was mostly used in female jewellery production.⁶

The above said indicates not only the rare occurrence of amber beads, but also their rare use in contemporary Germanic society. The fact that the beads were only found in standard settlements and burials of the native populations, and are not attested in the burials or residences of their elites, is also interesting. The reasons for this phenomenon may be several. One of them has to do with the burial rite of the Germanic tribes. The absence of amber finds in burials dated to the first two centuries AD (Roman Period, Stage B) may have had connection with the prevailing cremation burial rite, in which these pieces of jewellery may have been completely destroyed (Kvetánová 2008, 142; Tempelmann-Mączyńska 1985, 8). However, their occurrence is not frequent in inhumation burials from the Late Roman and Early Migration Period either (Abrahám, Nitra, Iža). On the other hand, amber beads do occur in the Roman provincial cremation burials (e.g. Gerulata II, burial no. 108, necklace of 45 pcs; Pichlerová 1981, 28, 158, 159, pl. CXXXIII), which indicates a different cremation burial rite.

Another reason for the rare occurrence of raw amber and amber artefacts north of Pannonia may be ethnicity and the related peculiarities of the native populations mostly in clothing and the burial rite. Here we can also mention Tacitus and his famous remark on amber, connected with the tribes of the *Aestii* living on the eastern shore of the Suevic (Baltic) sea, “whose rites and fashions and style of dress are those of the Suevi,”⁷ i.e. Germanic tribes. This means that unlike with the Romans, amber did not become popular with the native population, nor did it become widely used, which is also proved by archaeological finds from the period that Tacitus’ text refers to (Tempelmann-Mączyńska 1985, 148).

⁶ Pliny the Elder also notes that amber was popular with the Roman women (Plin. NH. 37, 11: „*The next place among luxuries, although as yet it is fancied only by women, is held by amber*”. Translation: Rackham/Jones/Eichholz 1949–1954. The connection between amber jewellery and women has been confirmed by finds from Pannonia and Barbaricum, areas settled by Sarmatians (Kószegi 1979, 122; Kőhegyi/Vörös 2011).

⁷ Tac. Germ. 45, 2, 5. “*Barbarians as they are they have not investigated or discovered what natural cause or process produces it. Nay, it even lay amid the sea’s other refuse, till our luxury gave it a name. To them it is utterly useless; they gather it in its raw state, bring it to us in shapeless lumps, and marvel at the price which they receive.*” Translation: Church/Brodribb/Cerrato 1942.

In the case of the Marcomanni and Quadi, who settled areas far from the resources, the reason may also be the unavailability of this material – in terms of both price and geography. The fact that the Amber Road ran through their territory, and the vicinity of Pannonia, may have been advantages in obtaining this commodity.⁸ The answer to the question why they did not exploit this opportunity may be their traditional jewellery and costume, in which beads did not play such a significant role as for instance in the Sarmatian traditions.⁹ Another reason may have been their market price.

The research of this topic, particularly the study of the wider context of the occurrence of raw amber and amber artefacts in the Middle-Danube region during the Roman Period has shown that a more complex analysis of available resources would be needed, which may include new, so far unpublished finds.

BIBLIOGRAPHY

- Beckmann 1981* – Chr. Beckmann: Arm- und Halsringe aus den Kastellen Felberg, Saalburg und Zugmantel. Saalburg-Jahrbuch 37, 1981, 10–22.
- Beljak 2008* – J. Beljak: Východná enkláva Kvádov. Osada v Štúrove v kontexte germánskeho osídlenia na Pohroní a Poiplí. Unpublished PhD thesis. Archeologický ústav SAV. Nitra 2008.
- Beljak 2010a* – J. Beljak: Germánske osídlenie v Štúrove a na dolnom Pohroní v staršej dobe rímskej. Zborník Slovenského národného múzea CIV, Archeológia 20, 2010, 134–166.
- Beljak 2010b* – J. Beljak: Germánska osada v Šarovciach. In: J. Beljak/G. Březinová/V. Varsík (eds.): Hospodárstvo Germánov, sídliskové
- a ekonomické štruktúry od neskorej doby la-ténskej po včasný stredovek. Archeológia barbarov 2009. Nitra 2010, 33–66.
- Beljak/Kolník 2008* – J. Beljak/T. Kolník: Štruktúra a vývoj germánskej osady v Štúrove. In: E. Droberjar/B. Komoróczy/D. Vachútová (eds.): Barbarická sídliská. Archeologie barbarů 2007. Brno 2008, 129–146.
- Bouzek/Ondřejová 1990* – J. Bouzek/I. Ondřejová: „Třetí zóna“ mezi Římem a barbarikem při noricko-panónském limitu. Archeologické rozhledy 42, 1990, 22–35.
- Elschek 2009* – K. Elschek: Der slowakische Abschnitt der Bernsteinstrasse im 1. Jahrhundert nach Chr. nördlich von Carnuntum und neue Grabfunde von Zahor. In: V. Salač/J. Bemmann (eds.): Mitteleuropa zur Zeit Marbods. Praha – Bonn 2009, 239–250.
- Elschek 2012* – K. Elschek: Römischer Baumaterial, Dachziegel und Ziegeln vom Záhorie-Gebiet und aus Zohor (Westslowakei). Zborník Slovenského národného múzea CVI, Archeológia 22, 2012, 259–266.
- Hrnčiarik 2013* – E. Hrnčiarik: Römischer Kulturgut in der Slowakei : Herstellung, Funktion und Export römischer Manufakturzeugnisse aus den Provinzen in der Slowakei. Teil 1, 2. Universitätsforschungen zur prähistorischen Archäologie. Band 222. Bonn 2013.
- Church/Brodribb/Cerrato 1942* – A. J. Church/W. J. Brodribb/L. Cerrato (eds.): Complete Works of Tacitus. New York 1942.
- Kolník 1973* – T. Kolník: Pohrebisko z doby stá-hovania národov v Abraháme. Slovenská archeológia 21/2, 1973, 359–399.
- Kolník 1984* – T. Kolník: Rímske a germánske umenie na Slovensku. Bratislava 1984.

⁸ It is assumed that amber trade from the Baltic Sea area to Italy through Pannonia existed until the second to third century, and that this commodity found its way to the Sarmatians by cross-border trade and exchange via *Pannonia Inferior*. J. Wielowiejski does not exclude the possibility that amber found its way from the north to the Sarmatians directly. Finds and historical events also indicate that, although the Amber Road continued to be in use in late antiquity, some of the trade related to amber moved from Pannonia eastwards (*Wielowiejski 1970*, 149; See also *Kőszegi 1979*, 122, 125; *Soproni 1982*, 16; *Tempelmann-Maczyńska 1985*, 109).

⁹ As is evidenced by excavation results, ethnic background of the population seems to have played an important role. This is proved by graves of Sarmatian women and children, which indicate that the beads were particularly popular as parts of jewellery (necklaces and bracelets) and as decorations such as clothing appliques (*Kőszegi 1979*; *Kőhegyi/Vörös 2011*). M. Tempelmann-Maczyńska believes that the low number of beads from the Roman Period from the territory north of the Danube (SW Slovakia) is due to the generally poorer inventories of graves from the Late Roman Period, but also due to the lack of researched and published finds (*Tempelmann-Maczyńska 1985*, 108, 118).

- Kolník/Varsík/Vladár 2007* – T. Kolník/V. Varsík/J. Vladár: Branč. Germánska osada z 2. až 4. storočia. Nitra 2007.
- Kőhegyi/Vörös 2011* – M. Kőhegyi/G. Vörös: Madaras-Halmok Kr. u. 2–5. századi szarmata temető. Szeged 2011.
- Kőszegi 1979* – M. Kőszegi: Borostyángyöngyök szarmata sírokban. Savaria 7–8, 1973–1974, 121–132.
- Kraskovská 1988* – E. Kraskovská: Typy perál z doby rímskej na Slovensku. Zborník Slovenského národného múzea 82, História 28, 93–105.
- Kuzmová 1997* – K. Kuzmová: Terra Sigillata im Vorfeld des nordpannonischen Limes (Südwestslowakei). Nitra 1997.
- Kuzmová 2010* – K. Kuzmová: Terra Sigillata in Barbaricum North of the Pannonian Frontier: Evidence of Long-Distance and Local Trade. In: E. M. Doksanalti/E. Aslan (eds.): Trade and Production Through the Ages. Konya 2010, 143–154.
- Kuzmová 2013* – K. Kuzmová: The occurrence and context of terra sigillata beyond the northern frontiers of Pannonia and Noricum. In: M. Fulford/E. Durham (eds.): Seeing Red: new economic and social perspectives on Terra Sigillata. London 2013, 299–305.
- Kvetánová 2008* – I. Kvetánová: Kroj a šperk stredodunajských Germánov v 1.–4. storočí po Kr. (na základe hrobových nálezov). Unpublished PhD thesis. Archeologický ústav SAV. Nitra 2008.
- Pieta 1999* – K. Pieta: Anfänge der Völkerwanderungszeit in der Slowakei (Fragenstellungen der zeitgenössischen Forschung). In: J. Tejral/Chr. Pilet/M. Kazanski: L 'Occident romain et l 'Europe centrale au début de l 'époques Grandes Migrations. Brno 1999, 171–189.
- Pieta 2002* – K. Pieta: Bemerkungen zum Grab aus Čáčov. In: K. Kuzmová /J. Rajtár (eds.): Zwischen Rom und dem Barbaricum. Festschrift für T. Kolník zum 70. Geburtstag. Nitra 2002, 343–354.
- Pichlerová 1981* – M. Pichlerová: Gerulata Rusovce. Rímske pohrebisko II. Bratislava 1981.
- Rackham/Jones/Eichholz 1949–1954* – H. Rackham/W. H. Jones/D. E. Eichholz: Pliny's Natural History. London 1949–1954.
- Soproni 1982* – S. Soproni: Angaben zur späten Geschichte der Bernsteinstraße. Savaria 16, 1982, 347–353.
- Ruttikay et al. 2013* – M. Ruttikay/H. Baliová/P. Bednár/M. Bielich/A. Bistáková/J. Ďuriš/M. Gabulová/J. Harušíak/M. Jakubčinová/R. Malček/V. Mitáš/M. Vojteček 2013: Záchranne archeologické výskumy na trase výstavby rýchlostnej cesty R1 v úseku Nitra-Selenec – Beladice. Archeologické výskumy a nálezy na Slovensku v roku 2009, 2013, 209–229.
- Tempelmann-Mączyńska 1985* – M. Tempelmann-Mączyńska: Die Perlen der römischen Kaiserzeit und der frühen Phase der Völkerwanderungszeit im mitteleuropäischen Barbaricum. Mainz am Rhein 1985.
- Varsík 1998* – V. Varsík: Štruktúra germánskych sídlisk z 2.–3. stor. na juhozápadnom Slovensku (Branč a Veľký Meder). Unpublished dissertation. Nitra 1998.
- Wielowiejski 1970* – J. Wielowiejski: Kontakty Noricum i Pannonii z ludami polnocnymi, Wrocław – Warszawa – Kraków 1970.
- Wielowiejski 1996* – J. Wielowiejski: Der Forschungsstand über den Hauptweg der Bernsteinstraße. In: Kontakte längs der Bernsteinstraße (zwischen Caput Adriae und den Ostseegebieten) in der Zeit um Christi Geburt. Kraków 1996, 57–62.

STAROVEKÉ CESTY SEVERNE OD PANÓNIE VO SVETLE RÍMSKÝCH VÝROBKOV A JANTÁROVÝCH ARTEFAKTOV

KLÁRA KUZMOVÁ†

Územie severne od Panónie (juhozápadné Slovensko) bolo v dobe rímskej (1.–4. storočie po Kr.) obývané germánskymi kmeňmi Markomanov a Kvádov. Kontakty medzi Rimanmi a Germánmi boli v tejto oblasti nadštandardné. Predmety z Itálie a provincií (nádoby, šperky, časti odevu či vojenskej výbavy, toaletné pomôcky, pracovné nástroje, mince, atď.) sa dostávali do barbarika po starovekých cestách, väčšinou prostredníctvom diaľkového, cezhraničného či lokálneho obchodu. Oveľa zriedkavejší bol vývoz

surovín a výrobkov zo vzdialených barbarských území do Rímskej ríše a jej susediacich barbarských oblastí. Najvýznamnejší príklad takéhoto obchodu predstavuje jantár a jantárové artefakty, ktoré dokazujú existenciu kontaktov medzi stredodunajskou oblasťou a Pobaltím. Vo väčšine prípadov ide o koráliky a prívesky, ktoré boli objavené v rímskych hrobách v pohraničných oblastiach, ako aj v germánskych hrobách a sídliskách v barbariku.