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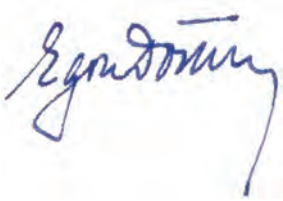
Contents

This volume is dedicated to the memory of Egon Dörner (1925–1993)



Archaeological Researches in Gheorgheni (Harghita County) and its surroundings (2009–2013, 2015)[1]

Andrea Demjén, Florin Gogâltan

Abstract: The present article briefly focuses on archaeological excavations organized between 2009 and 2013 and in 2015 in the city of Gheorgheni (Harghita County) and its surroundings: the fortification of Both (dated to the thirteenth century), the medieval St. Nicholas Roman-Catholic church, and the Austrian quarantine located at about 12 km north of the city of Gheorgheni and north-east from Pricske Peak (1545 m high). The systematic researches in these three sites were preceded by investigations based on non-destructive methods. These enabled specialists to verify and combine the results of georadar and magnetometric measurements with information provided by archaeological excavations. The researches included 3D reconstructions of the landscape and of certain architectural structures, aerial photographs as well as AMS measurements of several samples. The correlation of all the results with information from written sources has made possible the reconstruction of the main stages in the development of the settlement located on the bank of Creek Belchia during the Middle Ages and at the beginning of the Modern Period.

Keywords: Gheorgheni, Both Fortification, St. Nicholas Roman-Catholic church, Pricske quarantine, interdisciplinary research, Middle Ages, Modern Period.

Located in the north-eastern side of Transylvania, in the upper valley of Mureș River in the area between Izvorul Mureșului and Toplița, the Giurgeului Depression was one of the least known areas from an archaeological point of view[2]. Nevertheless, the employment of an archaeologist at the Tarisznyás Márton Museum in Gheorgheni in the autumn of 2007 has changed things radically. The present article briefly presents the archaeological researches in three sites at Gheorgheni and its surroundings: the fortification of Both, the St. Nicholas Roman-Catholic church in the city, and the quarantine near Pricske Peak (Fig. 1).

The systematic or rescue researches in these three archaeological sites, carried out over the last seven years, have been preceded by investigations with non-intrusive methods, such as georadar and magnetometric measurements. These were then verified by archaeological excavations. The present article briefly presents the results of these archaeological researches and correlates them with the written sources in order to reconstruct the main moments in the development of the settlement on the bank of Creek Belchia during the Middle Ages and in the beginning of the Modern Era.

The analysis of four AMS samples, prove the existence of a community in that location that seems to have been fully development in the middle of the thirteenth century. This modifies with more than half a century the dating previously known from written sources about the time when this area started to be colonized. The new data also confirm older hypotheses[3] and more recent ones, such as Elek Benkő's on the early history of eastern Transylvania[4].

Archaeological methods have essentially contributed to increase the knowledge about the history of the medieval St. Nicholas Roman-Catholic church at Gheorgheni as well. However, only further researches will allow the completion of existing data.

The systematic investigation of the Austrian quarantine at Pricske, a novelty in the Romanian archaeology and not only, widened our information on daily life in such border centers with details that written sources have not recorded. Significant steps have been thus made in the study of the material culture from the second half of the eighteenth century in the area of eastern Transylvania.

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1 English translation: Ana M. Gruia.
2 A history of research in Gogâltan *et al.* 2011c, 55–57.
3 Entz 1994, 61–65; Benkő 1998, 50–65.
4 Benkő 2010, 226; Benkő 2012, 126, 198, 208–215, 361–363.

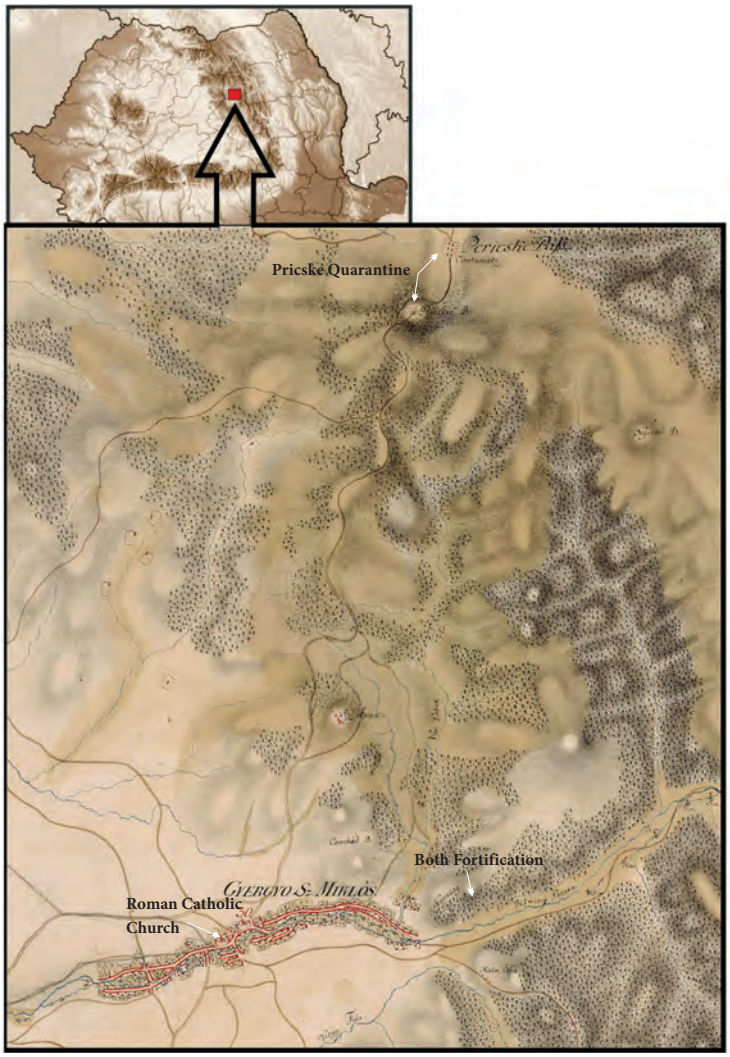

Fig. 1. Map of the city of Gheorgheni and its surroundings with the archaeological sites of Both Fortification, the Roman-Catholic church in the town, and the quarantine at Pricske (after the First Austrian Military Mapping Survey 1763–1787 – www.mapire.eu).

Both Fortification

The fortification at Both is located in the eastern part of the city of Gheorgheni, on the Plateau called "Dealul Cetății" (Hung. "Váraldal"). It is in the close proximity of the national road (DN 12C) towards Lacu Roşu, at the altitude of 914 m. In 1933 on the eastern part of the fortification was built a chapel, dedicated to the "Heart of Christ" (Fig. 2).

History of research

Like in the case of other medieval fortifications from the Szeklers' Land, the Both fortification was not mentioned in medieval or early modern written sources[5]. The first description of scientific value was written by the Szekler historian Balázs Orbán[6]. According to him, on the eastern and western part of the promontory two towers connected by a round precinct existed. By the middle of the nineteenth century they were already ruined. Orbán also mentioned the existence of two defense ditches on the eastern and one on the western side of the fortification (four fathoms wide and two fathoms deep – about 8 m wide and 4 m deep)[7]. His observations are very important since no other data concerning this fortification is known after Orbán's visit there 150 years ago[8].

5 Rusu 2005, 412–419.
6 Orbán 1869, 109–110.
7 Orbán 1869, 109.
8 At that time, the elevation walls were still visible on the northern side of the fortification standing ca. 0.31–0.62 m from

Fig. 2. Gheorgheni. Fortification of Both. Aerial photograph (András Sófalvi).

It is also noteworthy that two local legends are connected to the fortification at Both: the first describes the tragic fate of Hiripné's two sons whereas the second one mentions the fortification's repairing in the seventeenth century at a time when this was supposedly owned by the Both family[9]. Based on information provided by Leonárd Losteiner, Orbán also mentioned that the destruction of the fortification had been caused by the invasion of the Austrian general Acton in 1707 during the Kuruc War[10]. With Erzsébet Muckenhaupt's assistance we were able to study Losteiner's manuscript[11]. However, this provides no data on the destruction of the fortification of Both. Another renowned historian/chronicler of the period, Mihály Cserei, describes General Acton's invasion and the downfall of András Both, but does not mention the destruction of the fortification[12]. Cserei's description has been recently mentioned again by Miklós Endes[13] and Dezső Garda in *Monografia orașului Gheorgheni* [Monograph of the City of Gheorgheni][14].

In 1960 Zoltán Székely (director and archaeologist at the museum in Sfântu Gheorghe at the time) and Márton Tarisznyás (director of the museum in Gheorgheni at the time) began the first archaeological excavation inside the fortification[15]. According to the excavation diary[16] and taking into consideration the general ground plan of the excavation preserved in the Archive of the Tarisznyás Márton Museum[17], six test trenches were opened between June 20th and 25th 1960[18]. It has been noted that the

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the ground.

9 Balázs Orbán believed the fortification of Both to be the domain of some local lord.

10 Orbán 1869, 110.

11 Losteiner 1777, 557–558. The manuscript, preserved in the library of the Franciscan Monastery in Șumuleu-Ciuc (quota: A. VI. 7/5254), chronologically describes the history of the monastery in Șumuleu-Ciuc (Hung. Csíksomlyó) Harghita County, but also mentions some of the more important events in Transylvania and in the Szeklers' Land. The destruction of the Seat of Giurgiu in 1706 is briefly described in paragraph 445. Its information source is the diary (*diarium*) of priest Lászlóffi from Tomești (Hung. Csíkszenttamás) Harghita County. Unfortunately this diary has not been preserved. We hereby wish to thank again Erzsébet Muckenhaupt for her help and advice provided during the study of the manuscript.

12 Cserei 1852, 389.

13 Endes 1994, 174–175.

14 Garda 2001, 48.

15 Székely 1970, 303–304, Fig. 7; Székely 1977, 63; Tarisznyás 1982, 189.

16 We thank our colleague Zsolt Székely for his help in consulting the manuscript of the excavation diary preserved in the collection of his father Zoltán Székely.

17 AMTM D.II.1. The ground plan, drawn on tracing paper is only partially identical to the one published by Z. Székely (Székely 1970, 303).

18 The excavation diary does not mention the exact number of these test trenches. Their size has been reconstructed on the basis of the ground plan preserved in the museum's archive at Gheorgheni and the notes in the excavation diary: S I: 17 × 1 m, S II: 14 × 1 m, S III: 9 × 1 m, S IV: 11 × 1 m, S V: 6 × 1 m. The fortification's ground plan published by Z.

fortification was ellipsoidal in shape, measuring 33 × 18 m, with the axis oriented east-west. Its western and eastern parts were surrounded by a defensive ditch, while the southern and northern sides required no fortifications due to the steep rocks. Measuring 1.50 m in width the precinct wall was built of river rocks and slaked lime. On the eastern side of the precinct wall a wooden chapel was built in 1933. The shape of the hill suggests that the fortification entrance was also located there. No traces of dwellings have been found inside the precinct during the field researches. The fortification's ground plan and the poor archaeological material suggest that this was only occasionally used. According to Z. Székely and M. Tarisznyás the fortification served the local population as a refuge in times of danger (Fig. 3). The fortification has been dated to the end of the fifteenth and the beginning of the sixteenth century[19].

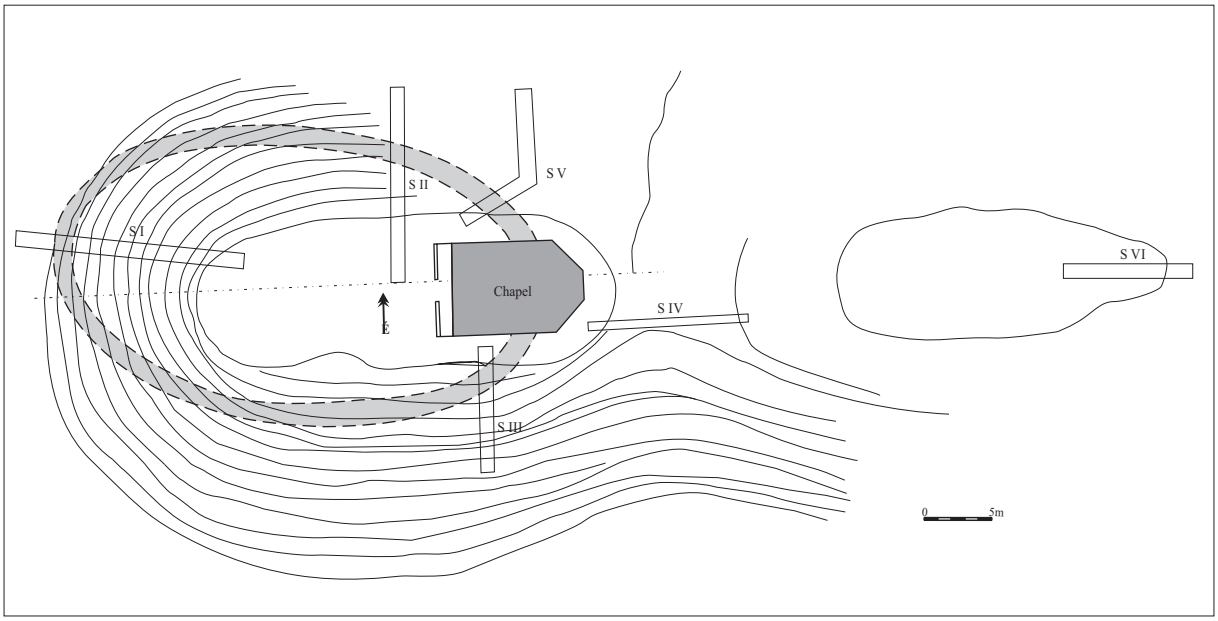

Fig. 3. Gheorgheni. Both Fortification. General ground plan of the excavations performed in 1960 (after AMTM D.II.1).

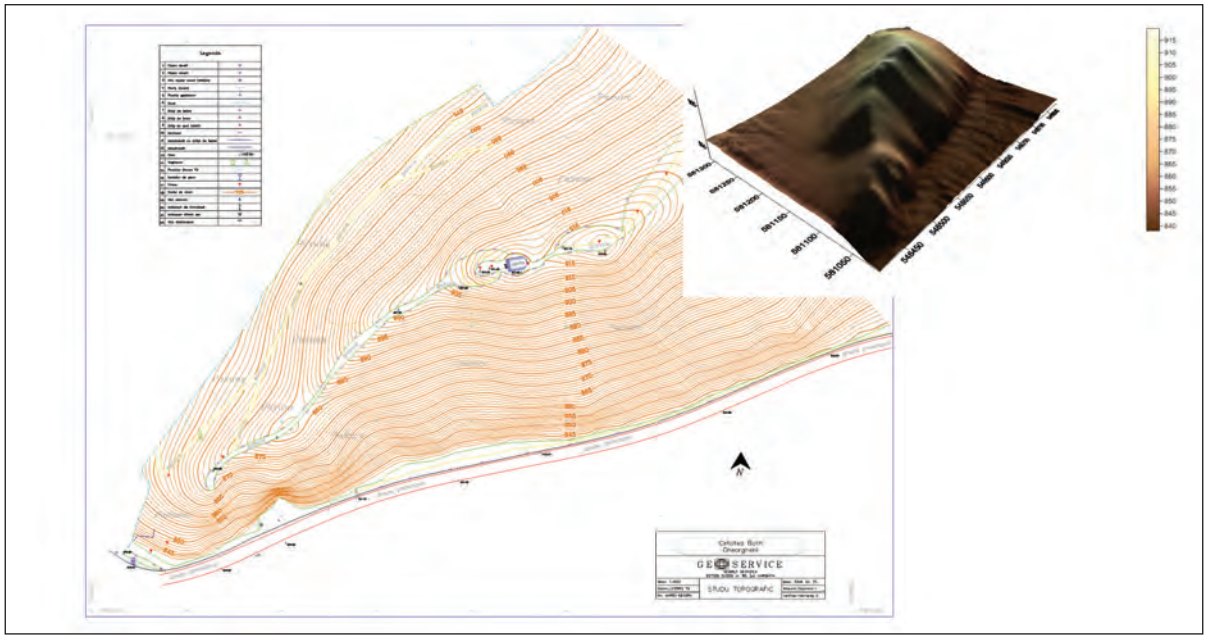

Fig. 4. Gheorgheni. Both Fortification. Topographic survey of Cetății Hill and 3D model.

Székely does not mention the fact that trench V was extended towards the north with 7 m and it does not include S VI (dimensions: 9 × 1 m). AMTM D.II.1.

19 Székely 1970, 303. See also Benkő 1990, 72; Rusu 2005, 550–551; Sófalvi 2006, 24, with doubts concerning its dating to the thirteenth-fourteenth century.

New excavations were performed on the plateau of "Dealul Cetății" beginning with the summer of 2009. The archaeological researches were preceded by a topographic survey[20] and a 3D representation of the hill (Fig. 4)[21,] aerial photographs (Fig. 2)[22] and georadar investigations (Fig. 5)[23]. The archaeological excavations were completed by magnetometric measurements (Fig. 6), C14 dating[24] (Fig. 8–9) of the monuments, and archaeozoological analyses[25].

Georadar and magnetometric researches

The aim of the georadar research was to identify the older test trenches made in the 1960s, to localize the precinct wall exactly, and to identify possible inner buildings. The abrupt terrain, covered in thick undergrowth, has limited the area where measurements could be taken. The method employed in this case was to use sections measured along the segment and to interpret a single segment[26].

Georadar measurements were made with a system comprising: 270 MHz GSSI antenna; GSSI SIR–3000 data collector; data acquisition format *.dzt; number of samples per channel: 512; range: 20 ns; sample taking frequency: 25.6 GHz. The computer assisted processing of the radar segments was made with the Linux-based Seismic Unix software and with subroutines developed by the Geoservice S.R.L. Company.

Three different "agents" could be identified in the interpretation of segmental measurements: areas disturbed by excavations, presumed walls or wall foundations, and one section excavated and subsequently filled or a natural ditch – a deep ditch with abrupt banks filled for the formation of a plateau (Fig. 5).

The results of the georadar measurements have been indicated on the ground plan of the 1960 excavation. We were unable to find much about the old test trenches. In the north-eastern and south-eastern parts the situation of the precinct wall was totally different than that shown on the ground plan from 1960 (Fig. 3). After comparing these results we realized that the towers' walls were located on the western margin of the plateau. This supposition was verified by archaeological excavations made in 2009–2010 and 2012–2013. These revealed the location of the fortification's precinct wall and tower.

Magnetometric analysis were organized in August 2013 on a restricted area in order to evaluate the way in which the archaeological site could be researched with the help of geophysical investigations. In this first test specialists used a dual instrument of the Bartington Grad 601–2 type that measures and records the vertical magnetic gradient of Earth's magnetic field. The investigated surface measured approximately 600 m^2. The magnetic signal was intensely disturbed by numerous modern objects and especially by structures containing large-size metals. The data recorded in the building's proximity on the small plateau could not be used. The areas where the magnetometer has recorded either extremely high (red) or extremely low (blue) values were marked in red and blue. These extreme values were caused by modern structures (the chapel, crosses, and iron objects). By comparing the archaeological

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[20] The topographic survey of the fortification was financed by the County Council Harghita as part of the project *Cercetări arheologice în jud. Harghita* no. 8/2009 [Archaeological researches in Harghita County]. The measurements were made by Geoservice S.R.L. of Gheorgheni.

[21] The creation of the 3D landscape model of the fortification hill was financed by the Communitas Foundation (sponsorship contract no.: MUV–10/1–0793).

[22] The aerial photographs were taken by our colleague András Sófalvi from the Haáz Rezső Museum in Odorheiu-Secuiesc, and we hereby express our gratitude for his help and for his support in the first excavation campaign.

[23] The georadar researches were performed by the company Geoservice S.R.L (Zsigmond *et al.* 2009a, 2–10).

[24] The analysis was made at the HEKAL AMS Lab, MTA ATOMKI – Isotoptech Zrt, Debrecen. The sample from S9/2013 (DeA–4874; I/974/3) was financed by the County Council Harghita through the program *Cercetări arheologice în jud. Harghita. Ediția 2014* [Archaeological researches in Harghita County. 2014 edition] (cooperation contract no: 20628/26.09.2014). The analysis of the other sample from S6/2010 (DeA–4875; I/974/4) was performed on the basis of a scientific cooperation between the museum in Gheorgheni and HEKAL AMS Lab Debrecen. We thank Dr. Mihály Molnár for his help and collaboration.

[25] The animal bone analysis was performed by Beáta Tugya from the Thúry György Museum in Nagykanizsa (Hungary).

[26] Two types of investigation may be distinguished in the georadar researches: along the segment and cartographic. In the case of the first, as the name indicates, a single segment was measured and interpreted. Several parallel segments were measured in the case of cartographic measurements. They were located 0.50 m apart and the plot was also covered in segments perpendicular to the original direction of the segments. During the evaluation, the program processes all the measurement at the same time and generates a 3D model of the landscape (Zsigmond *et al.* 2009a, 2).

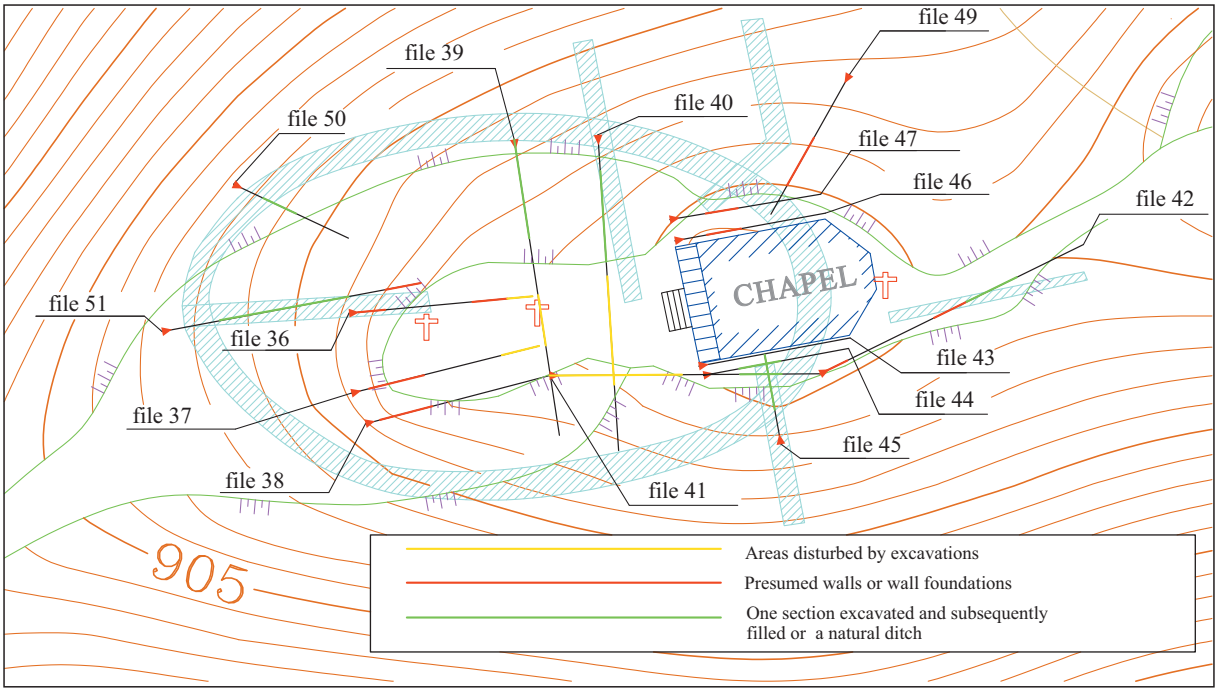

Fig. 5. Gheorgheni. Both Fortification. Results of the georadar research (after Zsigmond *et al.* 2009a).

discoveries and the results of the preliminary magnetometric investigations in the fortification at Both, one notices the lack of direct correspondences between the position of the magnetic anomalies and the position of the main archaeological structures (Fig. 6). The metal quantity and the elements of local mineralogy have had much stronger influences on the terrestrial magnetic field than the underground archaeological structures. Geophysical investigations in the fortification of Both should be continued with other methods such as lateral profiling electrometric, electrical resistivity, tomography or through magnetic susceptibility measurements made on the surface[27].

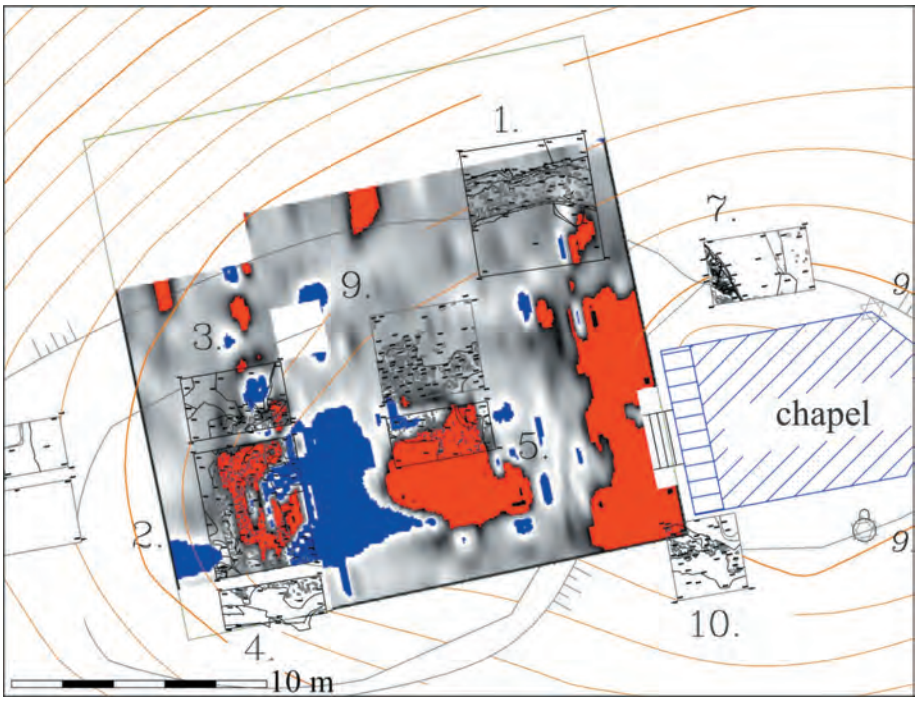

Fig. 6. Gheorgheni. Both fortification. Magnetic map, in relation to the topographic plan and the plan of the archaeological excavations (after Ștefan 2013a).

[27] Ștefan 2013a.

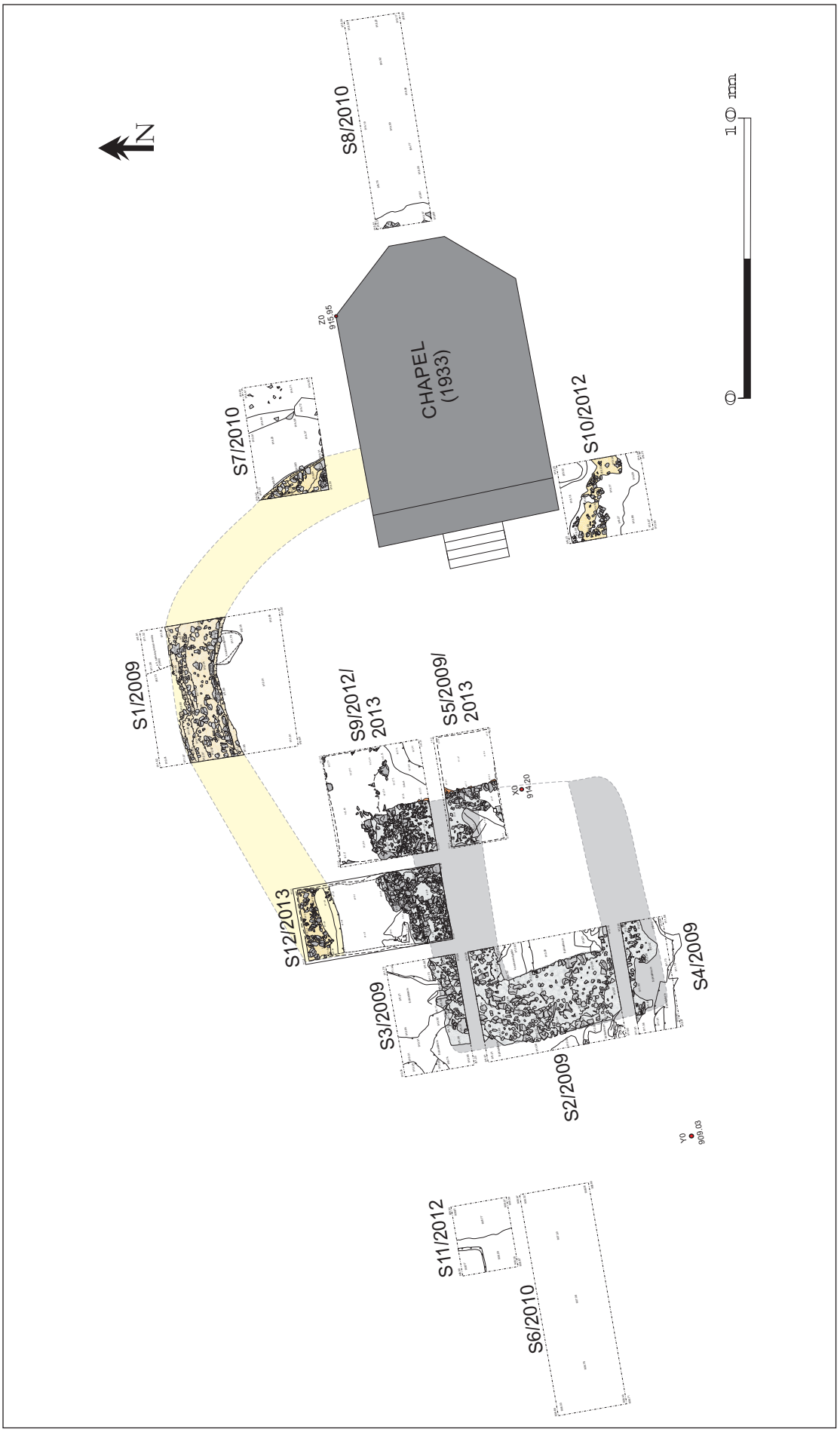

Fig. 7. Gheorgheni. Both fortification. General ground plan of the excavations performed in 2009–2010, 2012–2013.

The archaeological excavations (2009–2010, 2012–2013)[28]

Five sections were opened during the researches made in the autumn of 2009. One section (S1/2009) was located over the former section II from the previous excavations, whereas the others were placed over the alleged keep identified through the georadar investigations. A significant part of the previously formulated conclusions have changed after the excavations. The precinct wall was built on the outside and on the inside with large processed mica-schist blocks whereas the filling (*emplecton*) was made of crushed mica-schist, slaked lime and a few bricks. The wall was built in layers: a mortar layer was placed over a layer of stone that was followed by another layer of stone. The wall measured 1.94–2.20 m in width.

As previously mentioned, a keep was identified by the georadar researches. The tower's elevation and foundation walls (Z–2) were uncovered in S 2/2009, 3/2009, 4/2009, and 5/2009. The tower's wall was built of large mica-schist blocks, processed and crushed, connected with a hard, grey-white mortar consisting of pebbles mixed with slaked lime and pieces of brick. The wall was made of a mortar similar to the one used in the construction of the precinct wall (Z- 1), but the layered technique was not applied to the tower. The walls vary in thickness: the western wall measures 2.10–2.50 m, the northern wall 2.30 m, whereas the southern wall is only 1.30 m thick. The tower was built directly on the rock, following its inclination and contours. The inner dimensions of the tower are 6.70 × 3.80 m (Fig. 7).

During the excavations in the summer of 2009 we investigated the fortification system on the eastern, northern, and western sides. The trench S 8/2010 was made in order to verify the existence of a defense ditch on the more accessible part of the fortification. However, no such ditch could be identified. In the northern part, in S 7/2010, we have partially discovered the precinct wall. Opened on the western side of the fortification, the section 6/2010 did not lead to the expected results. We had hoped to find the precinct wall there as well, but it seems that it was located somewhere on the northern wall of the tower (Fig. 7). The archaeological materials discovered in S 6/2010 may be dated to the thirteenth century (Fig. 10/). An animal bone from the culture layer provided the ^{14}C date of 758±16: 1245 (93.7% probability) – 1281 calAD (Fig. 8).

Three stratigraphic sections were excavated during the summer of 2012. S 9/2012 was made in order to find the location of the walls on the northern and eastern sides and uncover the tower's plan. The section led to unexpected results regarding the tower's dimensions and structure: a buttress was identified on the northern side, built in the same technique as the rest of the walls; on the eastern side we noticed that the presumed eastern tower wall, identified in S 5/2009 and S 9/2012 was in fact its demolition. There, a silver Polish coin issued by King Sigismund III in 1624 was found (Fig. 10/8). In this section we were unable to identify the northern wall of the precinct. In S 10/2012, opened in the southern part of the plateau, we have uncovered the southern traces of the precinct. Oriented E-W this was very poorly preserved. We were unable to discover its exterior part as it had slid on the hill's steep slope. The preserved traces consisted of small pieces of crushed mica- schist with very poor mortar, light grey in color, mixed with a bit of lime and pebbles. The wall's thickness could not be established in this area (Fig. 7).

In the summer of 2013 we dug the sections S 5/2009 and S 9/2012 in order to take apart the demolition layer from the eastern side of the tower. Under the debris we were unable to identify the ground level, but we noticed a mortar leak belonging to the construction level. We also found there several animal bone fragments that provided the ^{14}C date of 698±16: 1270 (92.1% probability) – 1300 calAD (Fig. 9). Another section was opened between S 3/2009 and S 9/2012 (outliers of 0.5 m were left in between sections), that was meant to discover the connection between precinct and tower. In this area, the northern wall of the tower was built in the same technique as the rest of the tower. An interesting fact is that the buttress uncovered in S 9/2012 over a width of 1.60 m continued in S 12/2013 as well over a width of 1.40 m, thus measuring ca. 3.50 m in width (together with the outlier between the two sections). The width of the outlier raises the question of whether it actually functioned as a

[28] Gogâltan *et al*. 2010a, 65; Gogâltan *et al*. 2011a, 38–39; Demjén 2012, 149–168; Demjén, 2013, 8–10; Gogâltan *et al*. 2013a, 55–56; Gogâltan *et al*. 2014a, 53–54. The archaeological excavations were financed by the County Council Harghita through the program *Cercetări arheologice în județul Harghita* [Archaeological researches in Harghita County].

buttress or not. A part of the precinct wall was identified in S 12/2013. In this section, the northern wall of the precinct was rather poorly preserved. On the southern side we have only identified the foundation ditch with traces of mortar. Its outer part was outside the margins of the section. The preserved traces consisted of small pieces of crushed mica-schist connected with very poor mortar, light grey in colour, with a bit of lime and pebbles. The thickness of the wall could not be measured (Fig. 7).

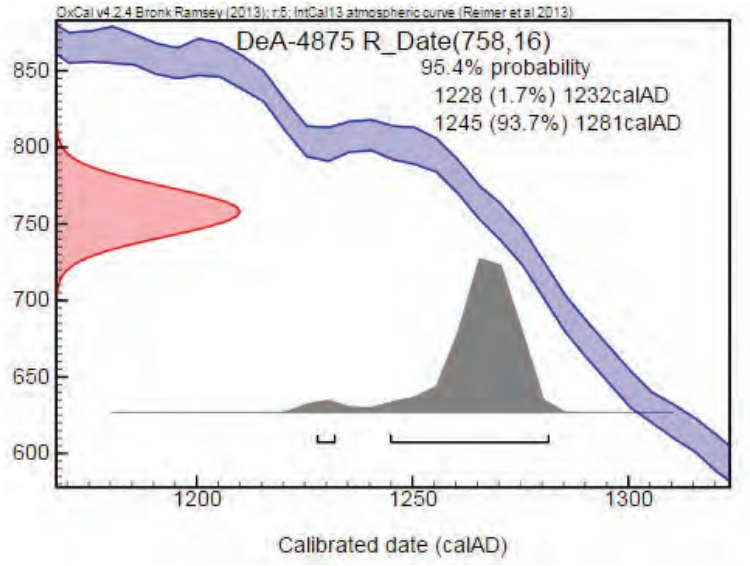

Fig. 8. Gheorgheni. Both fortification. Calibration of date DeA–4875

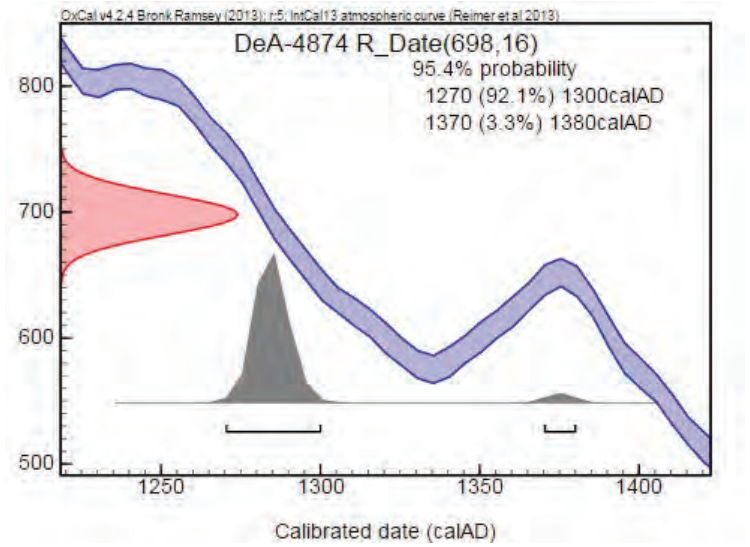

Fig. 9. Gheorgheni. Both fortification. Calibration of date DeA–4874.

Conclusions

The archaeological excavations have revealed the fortification's tower and precinct. A large part of the tower wall has been uncovered. This was placed directly on the rock, following its shape (the outer side of the southern wall was built right on the rock's edge). The inner dimensions of the wall were of 6.70 × 3.80 m and the outer ones measured 8.75 × 8 m. The entrance was probably located on the eastern side. The mortar's composition and the construction technique suggest that the round precinct that surrounded the tower on the eastern and northern sides was built in different stages. The absence of archaeological materials made its dating difficult. Moreover, the connection between tower and precinct has not been discovered. In S3/2009, S4/2009, S9/2013, and S12/2013 we found no proof of how the precinct was closed in the tower's north-western, north-eastern, and south-western

Fig. 10. Gheorgheni. Both Fortification. 1–6, 9–12: Ceramics fragments; 7. Iron razor blade; 8. Coin.

corners. From a strategic point of view, the existence of the precinct was useless, as the tower was enough for defense[29].

Based on stratigraphic observations, we may argue that the archaeological material discovered at the base of the tower and dated to the end of the thirteenth century, (Fig. 10/1–6, 9–12), ended up there while the tower was still in use. The structure's debris was found above the culture layer (grey-brown, aerated, mixed with rocks, coal, animal bones, and pottery fragments). In the researched section, where very few archaeological materials were found (pottery fragments, animal bones, and one iron razor blade – Fig. 10/7), we were unable to identify the ground level of the fortification (very likely lost due to erosion). The low quantity of archaeological material and the absence of the ground level indicate that the fortification was only used occasionally. On the basis of the archaeological materials discovered during the 2010, 2012, and 2013 campaigns and two AMS samples, we concluded that the tower was built during the second half of the thirteenth century. The discovery of a coin dated 1624, suggests that the structure was demolished at the beginning of the seventeenth century. The closest analogies for the fortification of Both can be found in the Szeklers' Land in the fortifications of Álmos vára/Almásvár from Mereni (Hung: Kézdialmás), Covasna County[30], Kustaly from Ocland (Hung: Okland), Harghita County[31], and the towers in Racoșu de Sus (Pădurea Rica/Rika)[32].

The new researches clarified the issues concerning the construction and the use of the fortification at Both. Recent discussions have increasingly focused on the fortifications built by the Szekler elites, despite the fact that neither the identity of the founders nor the situation of the property is known[33]. On the basis of the shape and archaeological material discovered in fortifications located in the Szeklers' Land, András Sófalvi has attempted to establish their typology[34]. He included the fortification of Both from Gheorgheni in the category of small fortifications with one tower and one fortified precinct[35]. According to its characteristics, shape, and location, we can state that the fortification was the private domain of a noble family[36]. The tower was probably several stories high and in time of danger it was enough to protect the owner and his family. The scarce archaeological material from the fortification suggests that it was rarely used, as its owner's permanent residence was probably in the settlement of Gheorgheni[37].

Saint Nicholas' Roman-Catholic church

Written records

The settlement at Gheorgheni was first mentioned in the papal tithes of 1333–1334[38]. The document records the names of three clergymen (*Nycolaus sacerdos de Gorgio, Stephanus sacerdos, Thomas sacerdos*), though it does not mention the name of their parishes. According to some researchers, these might have been Gheorgheni, Lăzarea, and Joseni[39].

There are very few written documents on the medieval history of the Seat of Giurgiu. Gheorgheni features in a document issued by King Mathias Corvinus on June 27th 1466 for the Szekler Seats of Arieș, Mureș, Odorhei, Ciuc, and Giurgeu; the king ordered the usual tithe to be paid to the

[29] Rusu 2005, 184–192.

[30] Both Z. Székely (Székely 1980, 39–43) and A.A. Rusu (Rusu 2005, 522) locate the fortification of Álmos/Almás on the territory of the settlement of Lemnia (Hung. Lemhény), Covasna County. The more recent works locates it in Mereni (Sófalvi 2011, 241–249; Karcag, Szabó 2012, 252–253). The note is necessary as in Lemnia one can also find the fortification of *Hajduk vára* dated to the end of the seventeenth century and the beginning of the eighteenth century (Karcag, Szabó 2012, 287–288).

[31] A.A. Rusu locates the fortification in Vârghiș (Rusu 2005, 541–542, with the older bibliography). For the new researches, see Sófalvi 2009, 5–30; Sófalvi 2011, 247; Karcag, Szabó 2012, 356–357.

[32] Székely 1977, 63; Rusu 2005, 556; Bordi 2007, 287–300; Karcag, Szabó 2012, 187–189.

[33] Rusu 2005, 412–419; Benkő 2009, 230–231; Benkő 2010, 239; Sófalvi 2011, 241–249.

[34] Sófalvi 2011, 243–249.

[35] Sófalvi 2011, 247. According to the typological classification suggested by A.A. Rusu, the monument is a hill fortification, small, of circular ground plan, made of stone, with a keep, owned by a noble (Rusu 2005, 74–75).

[36] Rusu 2005, 185.

[37] Benkő, Székely 2008, 36; Benkő, 2009, 232; Benkő, 2010, 239.

[38] MonVat I/1, 112, 116, 132.

[39] Vámszer 2000, 118–119, 125.

Transylvanian bishop[40]. Later, in 1495, the parish priest Bartolomeo from Nagyboldogasszonyfalva[41], viceprotopope in the Seat of Ciuc and Giurgiu[42], was mentioned in a litigation document. A further document, dated to July 1st 1506, concerning the same case is mentioning Laurențiu, the priest in Nagyboldogasszonyfalva, viceprotopope of the Seats of Ciuc and Giurgiu *("Laurentius Praesbiter de Olahfalu, Plebanus de Nagy Boldog Asszony et Vice Archidiaconus Sedium Csik et Gyergyo")*[43].

Fig. 11. Gheorgheni. Saint Nicholas Roman-Catholic church. The entrance to the tower.

Concerning the oldest ecclesiastical building, we can state that the entrance on the western side of the tower included a semicircular door frame with the inscription 1498[44] (Fig. 11). A stone cup-shaped baptismal font has also been preserved from the Gothic period (dimensions: 79 × 43 cm)[45]. In his ledger (*Regestrum Ecclesiae S. Nicolai in Girgio*)[46] György Ferenczi mentions a donation letter of 1499, since the time of Archpriest Benedict, in which Mrs. Gergelyfi Györgyné Luca of Gheorgheni left three land plots to the church so that every week, on Friday, a memorial mass be held for the dead[47].

The seventeenth century is the next significant period in the development of the church dedicated to St. Nicholas in Gheorgheni. There are numerous documents that may be related to the history of the church. Besides the above mentioned ledger of Gheorghe Ferenczi of 1629–1666, one may mention the *Historia Domus* (from 1672 until 1836)[48]. Important information appear in the visitation protocols

[40] Sz. O. I., 203–204. The reedited corrected text in: Sz. O. VIII., 114–116.

[41] Nagyboldogasszonyfalva or Csík-Nagyboldogasszonyfalva (Harghita County) consisted of four municipalities: Dănești (Hung.: Csíkdánfalva), Ineu (Hung.: Jenőfalva), Cârța (Hung.: Karcfalva), and Mădăraș (Hung.: Csíkmadaras). The four municipalities together formed the eparchy of Nagyboldogasszonyfalva.

[42] Benkő 1853, 39–42; Sz. O. I., 286–287. There is an erroneous dating to 1496 instead of 1495. For the correct editing of the document see: Sz. O. VIII. 167–169.

[43] Sz. O. I., 100. The 1406 dating of the document is wrong; 1506 seems more accurate.

[44] In May 2013 István Botár and Boglárka Tóth of the Dendrochronological Laboratory of Transylvania took 34 wooden samples from the church tower. The results have confirmed that the building of the tower took place in the second half of the fifteenth century. We thank the authors for the possibility of consulting their manuscript (Tóth, Botár 2013).

[45] Vámszer 2000, 129.

[46] György Ferenczi was a priest in Gheorgheni between 1614 and 1633, while between 1634 and 1641 he became vicar bishop (*Vicarius Generalis*). His leger/diary was written between 1629 and 1666 and contains important data on the daily life of the community, the renovations of the church etc. The original ledger has been lost; there is only Károly Veszely's transcription (Veszely 1860, 115–157).

[47] Veszely 1860, 125–126. Mrs. Gergelyfi Györgyné Luca's donation constituted the subject of an abuse: on one of the plots priest Fábián built in 1588 a house for his family. In 1633 priest Delnej Imre reclaimed this property for the church (Veszely 1860, 130–134).

[48] SJHAN, F 175.

of 1717–1775 preserved in the Archdiocesan Archive in Alba Iulia[49]. Taking into consideration that the goal of the present article is to present the archaeological research, we shall only mention the most significant sources regarding the church.

The building was extended at the initiative of the parish priest and of the vicar György Ferenczi. According to the data in the ledger, the works started in 1629 and envisaged the enlargement of the church, the construction of a tribune, and the changing of the roof[50]. In 1633 the parishioners of Valea Stâmbă (Hung.: Tekerőpatak) and of Chileni (Hung.: Kilyénfalva) built together a tribune (*the eparchy is too large and the church is too small*) on the side towards the chapel. They employed the builder János Selyem and the painter Pál Simó for this task. It seems that even so there were not enough seats, since the community of Chileni built another tribune[51]. During 1633, due to the plague epidemics, 700 people died and were buried until October 1st, so that the precinct wall of the church had to be enlarged[52]. Building works started the next year, on March 14th, under the supervision of mason Péter Dánfalvi and were completed on June 16th[53]. The same documents mention the existence of a bastion in the corner of the precinct wall, for which shingles, shingle nails, and a globe for the roof were bought in 1636[54]. The church windows were repaired several times in 1647 and 1650[55], while in 1653 they were changed and replaced[56]. Half a century later, on May 16th 1701, a German master made three new windows for the church, for the sum of 16 florins[57]. Numerous repairs of the church and around it were made starting with 1701: the buttresses were repaired in 1701[58]; the precinct wall was renovated between 1703 and 1716 and it was endowed with buttresses[59]; masons were employed in 1710 for the construction of a mortuary chapel[60]; the precinct wall had to be enlarged again after the plague epidemics of 1719[61], as its renovation is mentioned in the visitation protocol of 1735[62].

The visitation protocol of 1731 contains the detailed description of the church: it was covered in roof tiles, surrounded by a stone fence, and the tower had three bells[63]. *Historia Domus* recorded the fact that in 1733 the priest István Atyhai built with his own money a crypt for the priests under the sacristy[64]. This was completed in 1734[65]. The same writing records the names of the clerics buried there: T. P. Tamás Bertalan, the priest of Valea Strâmbă, on August 5th 1745, T. P. Pál Simoni, the priest of Gheorgheni, on October 14th of the same year, the priest of Chileni in 1757, and József Sikó, priest, archdeacon, and cannon priest, on April 10th 1775[66]. The visitation protocol of 1735 mentions the fact that the stone tower is connected to the church nave[67]. Preparations for the construction of the new church probably begun around 1755, as 1900 florins were donated before the works started[68]. The construction of the new Baroque church begun in 1756, under the coordination of architect György Fogarassi, on the location of the old church, and was consecrated by bishop Antal Bajthay in 1772[69].

Georadar researches

Georadar researches were performed in the summer of 2009 in the southern part of the present-day

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49 AAAI 1717, 112–113, 196–197; AAAI 1731, 260–263; AAAI 1732, 131; AAAI 1735, 127–128, 132; AAAI 1744, 278; AAAI 1755, 250; AAAI 1775, 214.
50 Veszely 1860, 120–121, 149.
51 Veszely 1860, 137–138.
52 Veszely 1860, 143, 148.
53 Veszely 1860, 143.
54 Veszely 1860, 152.
55 Veszely 1860, 152–154.
56 Veszely 1860, 154.
57 SJHAN F 175, 18a.
58 SJHAN F 175, 18a.
59 SJHAN F 175, 19–22.
60 SJHAN F 175, 23a.
61 SJHAN F 175, 3a.
62 AAAI 1735, 127.
63 AAAI 1731, 261; ERKEJ 2002, 116.
64 SJHAN F 175, 35.
65 ACG AAAI 1735.
66 SJHAN F 175, 35.
67 AAAI 1735, 127.
68 AAAI 1755, 250.
69 AAAI 1775, 214; Schematismus 1882, 85; Endes 1994, 351–353; Léstyán 2000, 264–265.

church, at the request of the Roman-Catholic parish of Gheorgheni. The aim of the investigation was to identify and localize exactly the southern wall of the old church[70]. The measurements were performed in the area between the entrance to the western tribune and between the two secondary southern entrances in the church; the existing constructions delimited the researched area (Fig. 12). In this case the sections were cartographically measured[71].

The geogradar measurements were performed with a system that included a 270 MHz GSSI antenna; GSSI SIR–3000 data collector; data acquisition format *.dzt; number of samples per channel: 512; range: 20 ns; sample taking frequency: 25.6 GHz. The computer assisted processing of the radar segments was made with the Linux-based Seismic Unix software and with subroutines developed by the Geoservice S.R.L. Company.

The results of the research showed that the nave wall, as well as two buttresses of the medieval church, was located between the entrance to the western tribune and the southern porch. The choir of the old church with a southern and an eastern buttress was found between the two secondary entrances. Another wall was identified inside the medieval nave, oriented north-south. This proved to be the wall of the stairs to a modern crypt (Fig. 12).

The results of the georadar research were verified by archaeological excavations in the summer of 2013. These revealed the nave wall and the southern choir of the church, with buttresses.

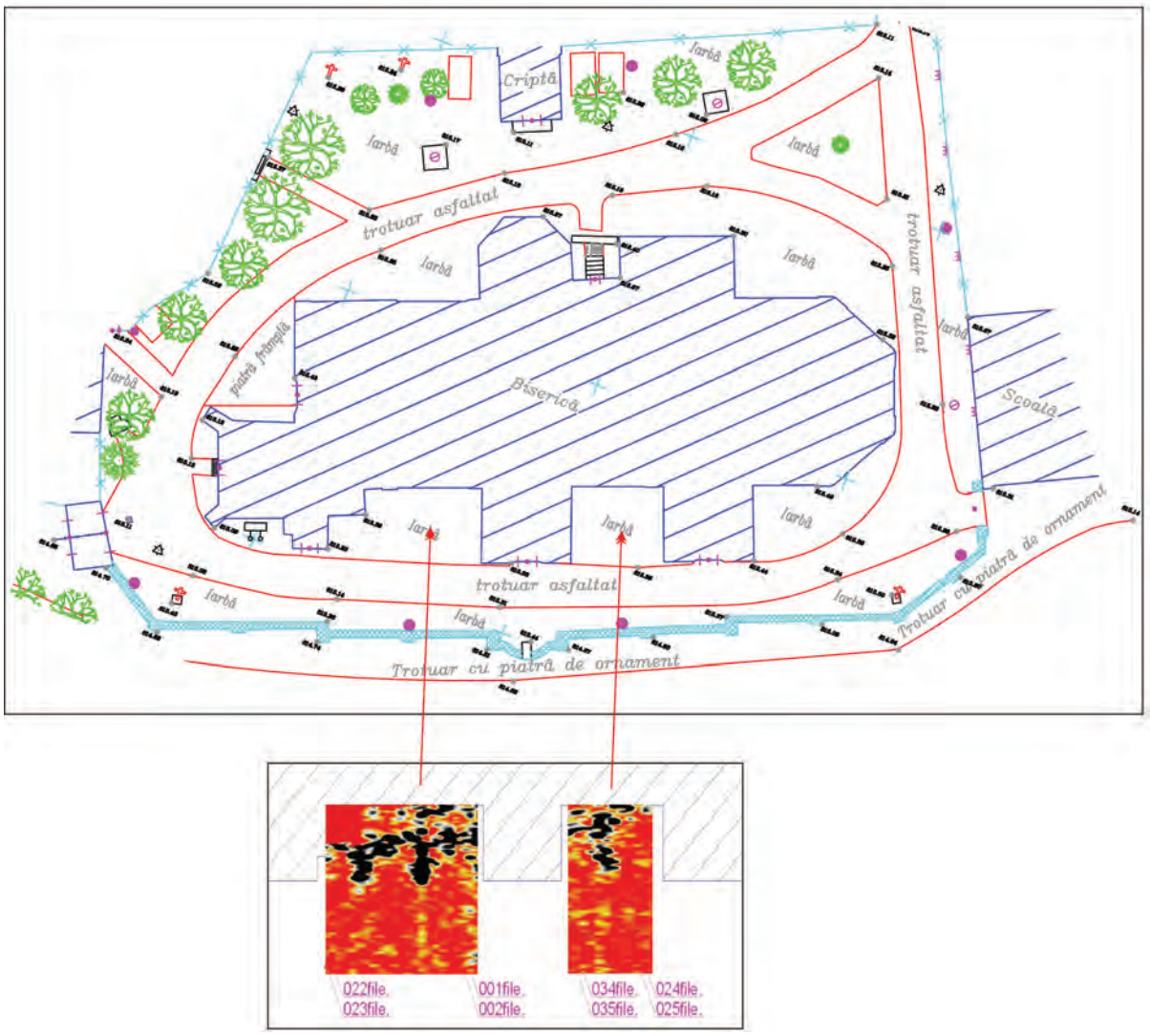


Fig. 12. Gheorgheni. St. Nicholas Roman-Catholic church. Results of the georadar research (after Zsigmond *et al.* 2009b).

[70] Zsigmond et al. 2009b.

[71] See the description of the method in footnote 25.

Archaeological excavations

In 1964, during the restoration works inside the church, a small archaeological excavation was made by Márton Tarisznyás and István Molnár (the former director of the museum in Cristuru-Secuiesc). The research envisaged the opening of a test trench perpendicular to the southern wall of the present-day church (dimensions 0.65 × 5 m), about 2.65 m away from that wall. The wall of the old church was identified at a depth of 0.45 m and it had a width of about 1 m. Another section was opened outside the church, at approximately 1.92–2 m distance from the southern wall. There, the southern wall of the medieval church and a buttress were identified[72]. According to the authors of the excavation, the old church measured approximately 25–28 m in length and 6.5 m in width[73]. The only dating element in this church is an inscription mentioning the year 1498. This is located on the upper part of the semicircular portal, preserved on the western side of the tower. Inside the tower, on the first floor, one may notice the existence of Late Gothic windows. Their presence suggests that this part of the construction was also built at the end of the fifteenth century.

The preventive archaeological excavation performed in the summer of 2013 was necessary in the context of the initiative of the Roman-Catholic Church from Gheorgheni to perform wall-face researches on St. Nicholas church.

The aim of this excavation was to discover the depth of the tower's foundation as well as its connection to the nave, and, most importantly, the dating of the architectural elements. We also wanted to find out more about the foundations of the Baroque church[74]. The three sections opened in 2013 (two in the southern part of the actual church and one in front of the main entrance) have proven that the Gothic church went through several phases of construction and renovation.

Sections S1 (Fig. 14) and S2 (Fig. 16) have revealed the foundation and the walls of the Gothic church's nave and sanctuary. In the section S1 we have researched the southern wall of the nave (Z–1) with its two buttresses (Z–2 and Z–3). The nave wall was oriented west-east; it was built of sandstone blocks and river rocks connected with low-quality, white-grayish mortar mixed with pebbles. The wall measured 1–1.20 m and the sole of the foundation reached down to the relative depth of 0.40 m from the last medieval ground level. Under the Gothic church's foundation we identified the remains of a previous foundation (Z–5) made of sandstone blocks, connected with light grey mortar, compact, with a lot of pebbles and a bit of limestone. Between the two foundations (Z–1 and Z–5) one noticed an earth level that might suggest the existence of two different building stages. This phase cannot be dated from an archaeological point of view because the late burials destroyed the entire stratigraphy of the church. No datable discoveries have been revealed near the foundation. However, we suspect that this phase belongs to a previous church that was torn down to its foundations when the Gothic church was built. In the trench S3, opened on the northern side of the tower, we have researched a tomb (M 27) located under the north-eastern buttress of the tower (Fig. 13/1). The ^{14}C date of M 27 has indicated 757±16: 1245 (94.3% probability) – 1282 calAD[75] (Fig. 13/2). Dated to the first quarter of the second half of the thirteenth century the tomb 27 anticipates the first written sources and dates the church in Gheorgheni more than half century earlier. The relation between this burial and the walls cannot be established. This might be connected to the foundation discovered under the Gothic church. Further researches inside the Baroque church might provide clarifications and establish the dating of medieval church.

The two buttresses (Z–2 and Z–3) were subsequently built on the southern wall of the church. On the nave walls between the two buttresses several layers of plastering were noticed. The first layer is in connection with the first ground level and was made before the construction of the two buttresses. Two other plaster layers resulted from periodic renovations. Both were made after the buttresses were

[72] AMTM 1964, 1–3.

[73] Tarisznyás 1982, 188.

[74] Gogâltan *et al.* 2014d, 183–185. The archaeological researches have been financed by the Roman-Catholic Parish and Archbishop in Gheorgheni as well as the Association for the Promotion of Archaeological Heritage in Transylvania (APPAT).

[75] The analysis was performed at the HEKAL AMS Lab, MTA ATOMKI – Isotoptech Zrt, Debrecen. The sample from S3/2013/M 27 (DeA–4872; I/974/2) was financed by the County Council Harghita with the program *Cercetări arheologice în jud. Harghita. Ediția 2014* [Archaeological researches in Harghita County. 2014 edition] (cooperation contract no: 20628/26.09.2014).

constructed. Plaster was also found in the inner part of the nave, where it also contained the imprints of the stones of an altar table. We were unable to identify the foundation of the triumphal arch that separated the sanctuary from the nave, as it had been destroyed by the entrance to a crypt. The crypt entrance was built near the southern foundation of the present church and the south-eastern corner of the porch. The northern and southern walls of the crypt (Z–4) were made of bricks and in some places of stones, connected with gray, compact mortar. During the construction of the northern wall, at the entrance to the crypt, the foundation of the southern wall of the present church was used and plastered. The latter preserves imprints of four wooden beams that supported the steps leading into the crypt. Near and in some places under the wooden beams the soil was battered and rocks and bricks were placed to support the steps. The entrance to the crypt was walled in around 1960, as indicated by an inscribed bottom of a bottle found in the masonry.

Fig. 14. Gheorgheni. St. Nicholas Roman-Catholic church. S1.

Outside the walls of the Gothic church it was noticeable that the ground level was in close connection to the construction and renovation levels of the church. Several tombs were disturbed during the last (?) renovation. A pit, a sort of ossuary, was dug for the bones taken out from the graves, on the south-eastern corner of the nave. Three ground levels were found inside the nave, the last one consisting of a brick floor that was, unfortunately, disturbed by burials. Among the archaeological objects discovered in the demolition level inside the Gothic church we mention some pieces of stained glass, one fragment from a stone window frame, one pilgrim medallion[76] (Fig. 15), and several fragments of painted plaster.

[76] The medallion is square, with cut corners, made of a red copper plate (dimensions: 1.5 × 1.5 cm). On the obverse it contains a depiction of the Adoration of the Magi, while on the reverse one finds the inscription: SANCTIS 3 REGES GASPAR MELCHIOR BALTASAR ORATE PRO NOBIS ET IN HORA MORTIS NOSTRAE – to the three kings Gaspar, Melchior, and Balthazar, pray for us now, in the hour of our death. A very good analogy, though dated to the beginning of the nineteenth century, is kept in a collection from Pannonhalma (Sólymos 2002, 118).

Fig. 15. Gheorgheni. St. Nicholas Roman-Catholic church. Pilgrim medallion.

Fig. 16. Gheorgheni. St. Nicholas Roman-Catholic church. S2.

Section 2 (Fig. 16) has revealed the southern wall of the Gothic sanctuary and the south-eastern buttress (Z–6). The foundation of the buttress had been built together with the wall of the sanctuary, but the latter's elevation was not finished since the outer plastering of the sanctuary continues on the buttress as well. The sanctuary has a polygonal ending. Westwards from the buttress the sanctuary wall measures 1.10 m in width and eastwards 0.80 m in width. The sole of the foundation reaches down to the relative depth of 1.6 m from the current ground level. Plastering was noticed both inside and outside the sanctuary of the Gothic church. Stones from the foundation were excavated during grave digging inside the sanctuary. The ground level inside the sanctuary could not be identified.

The north-eastern buttress (Z–7, demolished during the construction of the Baroque church) became apparent in S 3 (Fig. 17), under the debris, connected to the tower. Several layers of plaster were discovered on the tower in the north-western corner of the buttress and they continued on the buttress as well. The sole of the foundation reached down to approximately 1.90 m from the current ground level. We have identified another wall, oriented south-north (Z–8), on the northern side of the buttress. The small size of the researched area prevented to establish the role of this wall. It is possible that it was the foundation of some subsequent enlargement or a possible tribune (?) mentioned by the written sources.

Fig. 17. Gheorgheni. St. Nicholas Roman-Catholic church. S3.

Under this wall's foundation we researched M 26 (Fig. 18/1), that was dated ^{14}C 420±15: 1437 (95.4% probability) – 1476 calAD[77] (Fig. 18/2). It is important to underline that M 26 was not cut by the wall in question (there was a layer of soil measuring 0.20 m in thickness between the sole of the foundation and M 26) and thus it does not date the wall.

A number of 27 tombs were researched during the excavation[78]. 20 burials discovered inside and outside the nave and choir are from a later stage, from the seventeenth-eighteenth centuries, whereas seven tombs researched in S 3/2013 were from the medieval period (M 27 from the thirteenth century and M 26 from the fifteenth century). In S 1 and S 2 the late burials have destroyed the medieval ones. As this was the church of the Seat of Giurgeu and the church of the Gheorgheni Diocese, Valea Strâmbă and Chileni branch[79], it was a privilege for the deceased to the buried inside or near the church. It is also important to recall the fact that numerous people were buried during some of the big plague epidemics (for example 700 people were buried in 1633 until October[80]; the ecclesiastic protocol of 1721 mentions the fact that out of a population of 1251 inhabitants in Gheorgheni together with the branch of Valea Strâmbă, 713 died of plague[81]). Thus the cemetery was probably very crowded. No burials were made near the tower during the Early Modern Period, probably in order to protect the stability of its walls. This led to the preservation of the medieval tombs in this area.

The archaeological excavations were unable to establish the length of the medieval church. The fourth buttress in the north-eastern corner of the tower, uncovered in S 3 confirmed the hypothesis that the medieval tower was built independently from the church's nave. Therefore, it is arguable that the medieval church and tower were initially built separately and later, during some extension works,

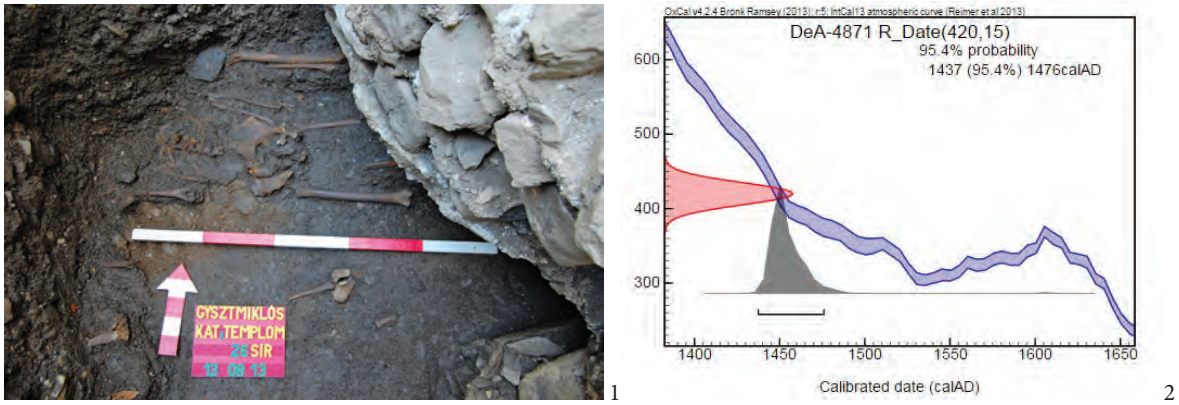
77 The analysis was performed at the HEKAL AMS Lab, MTA ATOMKI – Isotoptech Zrt, Debrecen. The sample from S3/2013/M26 (DeA–4871; I/974/1) was analyzed on the basis of a scientific cooperation between the museum in Gheorgheni and HEKAL AMS Lab Debrecen. We thank Dr. Mihály Molnár for his help and collaboration!

78 The anthropological analysis of the tombs was performed by Claudia Radu, Norbert Szeredai, Lajos Király, and Beatrice Kelemen from the Center of Molecular Biology, the Institute of Interdisciplinary Researches in Bio-Nano Sciences of the "Babeș-Bolyai" University in Cluj-Napoca.

79 Valea Strâmbă became an independent parish in 1724 and until 1732 it shared the priest with Chileni. Beginning with 1743 Chilieni received a priest and the church from the middle of the village was built between 1758 and 1761. Bernád 2009, 310–311, 324.

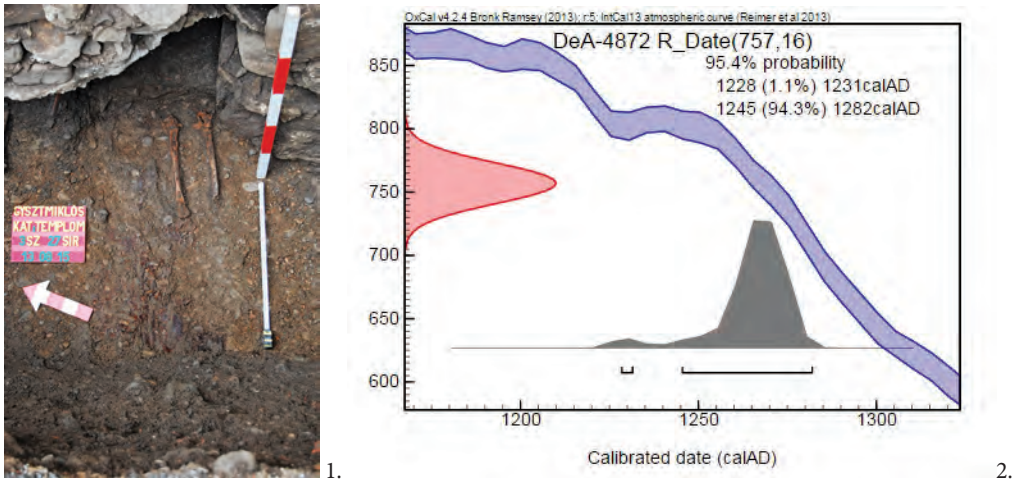
80 Veszely 1860, 143, 148.

81 AAAI 1717, 196.



1 2

Fig. 18. Gheorgheni. St. Nicholas Roman-Catholic church. 1. M 26; 2. Date Calibration DeA–4871.



1. 2.

Fig. 13. Gheorgheni. St. Nicholas Roman-Catholic church. 1. M 27; 2. Calibration of date DeA–4872.

the nave was annexed to the tower[82]. Therefore, it is rather difficult to establish the exact length of the Gothic church. On the basis of our calculations, we suppose that the nave had the same width as the choir: 5 m (Fig. 19).

Conclusions

The preventive archaeological excavations performed in the summer of 2013 enabled us to prove the fact that the Late Gothic St. Nicholas church in Gheorgheni was built during several construction stages. The results of the georadar measurements match the ground plans of the archaeological excavations. The tomb 27 from S3, dated to the first quarter of the second half of the thirteenth century – 1245 (94.3% probability) – 1282 calAD (Fig. 13), anticipates with more than half a century the first written sources on the existence of the church in Gheorgheni. We believe that the burial in question can be connected to the foundation discovered under the foundation of the Gothic church. New researches inside the Baroque church are needed for the clarification and dating of this foundation.

The new archaeological researches in the Roman-Catholic church and the tower of the fortification at Both dated to the second half of the thirteenth century[83] indicate the existence of a private domain with a rather significant economic and social potential, that was not mentioned in written documents. The Roman-Catholic church and the fortification of Both were rather important in the history of the Seat of Giurgiu, as they provide the first evidence on the existence of the Arpadian settlement of Gheorgheni.

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82 The visitation protocol of 1735 records the fact that the stone tower was connected to the church nave (AAAI 1735, 127).

83 The date of sample ^{14}C from M 27/S3 (1245 (94.3% probability – 1282 calAD) from the Roman-Catholic church matches that of the two samples from S6/2010 (1245 (93.7% probability – 1281 calAD) and S9/2013 (1270 (92.1% probability – 1300 calAD) from the fortification of Both.

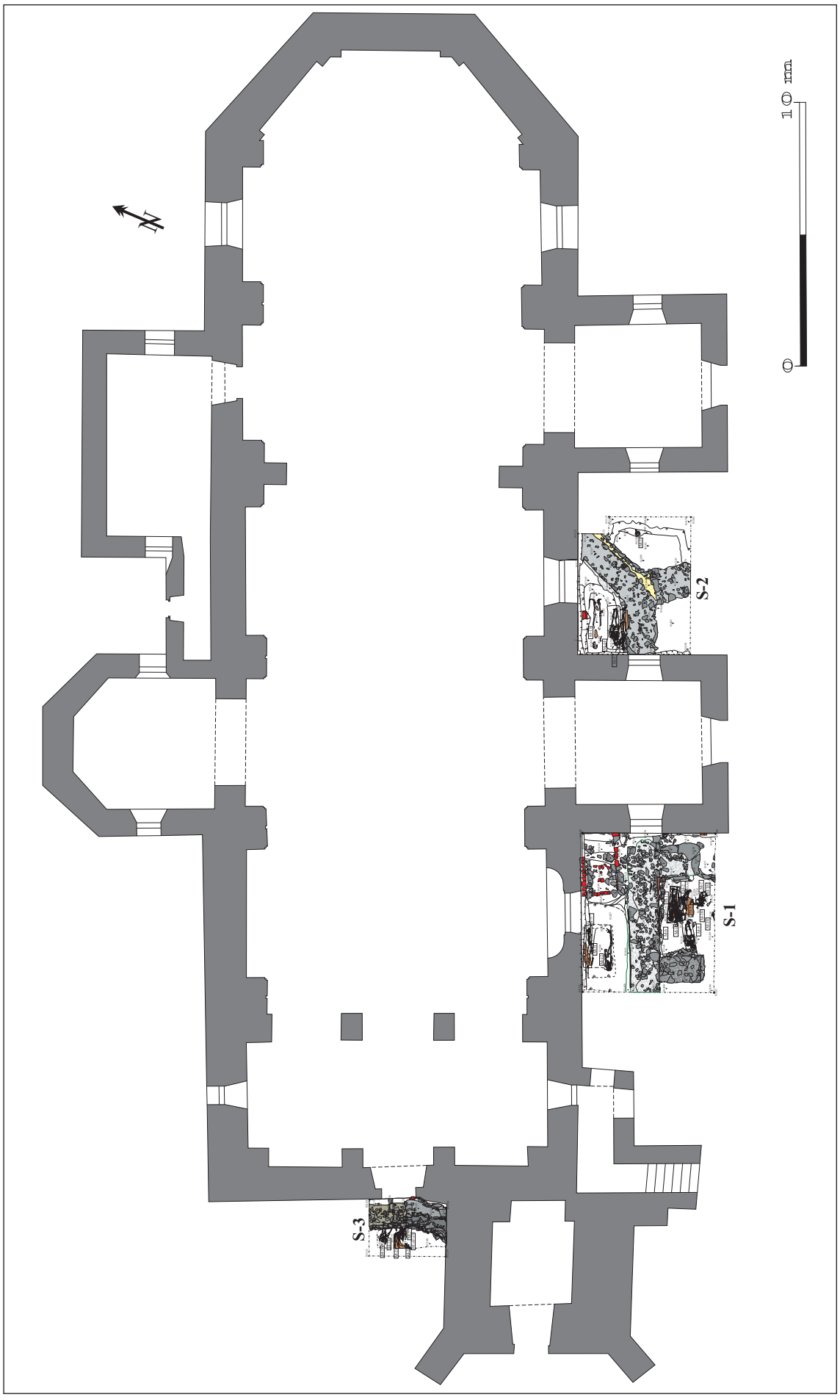

Fig. 19. Gheorgheni. St. Nicholas Roman-Catholic church. General ground plan of the 2013 excavations.

The quarantine at Pricske

Located on the eastern and southern border of the Austrian Empire, bordered by the Carpathians, Transylvania had an essential defensive role against the Ottoman Empire[84]. This defensive policy included the establishment of a *cordon sanitaire* aimed at the surveillance of the border against outer contagious diseases[85]. The *cordon sanitaire* represented defense lines in the anti-epidemics fight, connecting quarantine stations. This line controlled the coming and going of people and merchandize in and from the country, in order to prevent the spread of disease[86]. A chain of surveillance towers was built along the border; the towers were located on the more important strategic spots. Border guards patrolled between posts and their goal was to prevent illegal border crossings[87]. The border could only be crossed at the quarantine stations by travelers and merchandize[88] (Fig. 20).

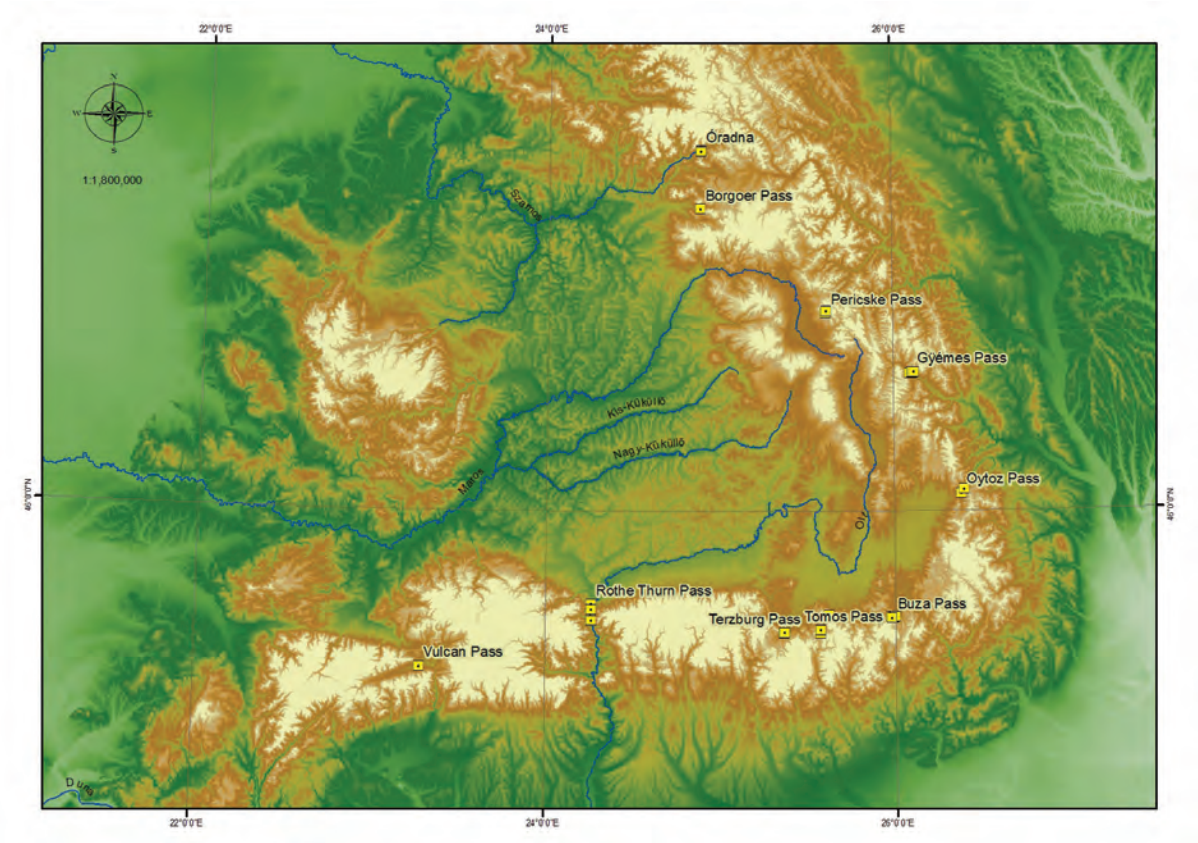

Fig. 20. Map of quarantines in eastern and southern Transylvania (graphics by Antal Kosza).

The quarantines were established along the main commercial routes, in mountain passes or river valleys, forming a defensive corridor from the Eastern Carpathians to the Adriatic Sea. Quarantine stations were built towards Bucovina (Borșa Cernăuți, and Brăiești)[89], towards Moldavia (Rodna,

84 Vaníček 1875; Szádeczky 1908; Göllner 1974; Wessely 1975; Wolf 2010.

85 Lesky 1972. See also the more recent contributions in Balázs 2007; Sechel, 2008, 117–118; Sechel 2011, 63.

86 Popovici, Stoian 2002, 25–26.

87 Săsăujan 2003, 16.

88 Quarantine or contumacy (Lat. contumacia, Rom. carantină, Hung. vesztegintézet, veszteglőhely). During the eighteenth century the quarantine station or contumacy house was called *locul de oprire pentru proba de boală* [stop point for the disease test] or *locul de așteptare a sănătății* [the health waiting place]. Initially, the quarantine was a period of 40 days that people and their merchandize had to spend in contumacies. The quarantine period was often changed, according to the seriousness and extent of the epidemics in Wallachia and Moldavia. It varied from 12 days, three weeks, 28 days, 42 days to even 84 days in more severe cases, according to the absence or presence of an epidemic. The quarantine, a synonym for contumacy, was also the complex of sanitary buildings meant to isolate people and merchandize suspected of some disease (like cholera or plague, for example), but also the shelter of the sanitary personnel that worked there or provided surveillance (Petri 1852, 209; Pierer's Universal-Lexikon 1858, 416–417; Bartal 1901, 173; Hurmuzaki 1913, 1675–1721; Negru 1972, 315; Stoian, Grecu 1987, 361; Binder 1985, 56; Huttmann 2000, 259; Popovici, Stoian 2002, 25).

89 Sechel 2014, 66. We thank Daniela Sechel for the bibliography she put at our disposal.

Gheorgheni – Pricske, Ciuc-Ghimeș, and Oituz)[90], towards Walachia (Buzău, Timișu de Sus, Bran, Turnu Roșu, and Vulcan), in the Banat Region (Mehadia, Pančevo, and Jupa)[91], in Croatia (Molivaț, Zabalia, Kostaita) and Slavonia (Brod, Semlin). Together with the border guards these quarantines formed a so-called *Pestcordon,* a *cordon sanitaire* meant to stop the plague at the borders of the Habsburg Empire. It was meant to protect not only the lands under Austrian rule, but also entire Europe from the plague that permanently afflicted the Ottoman Empire.

If the quarantines located along the old commercial roads leading to Transylvania at Ghimeș, Oituz, Buzău, Timiș, Bran, Turnu Roșu, and Vulcan are relatively well known, little is known about the quarantine located approximately 12 km north of the city of Gheorgheni and north-east from Pricske Peak (1545 m)[92], on the place called the Stone House – *Casa de piatră/Kőházak* by the locals (Fig. 21). Taking into consideration that the present paper aims to present the archaeological researches at Gheorgheni and its surroundings, we will mention only the most important archival documents referring to the quarantine at Pricske[93].

Archival sources

On January 11th 1732 Baron Gregor Sorger transmitted the Gubernium's order to the Seats of Ciuc and Gheorgheni concerning the construction of buildings in the mountain passes in the above-mentioned seats (at Pricske and Ghimeș)[94]. Nothing happened for a while, as on September 12th 1747 the General Bohm noted that the *Pilzker pass* was just a forest road and no vehicles could use it. The road started at "St. Miklos market town in Gheorgheni" and continued over the high Pilzka Mountain (the Pricske Peak), where the fortification guarding the pass was located[95].

A document dated to May 4th 1759 mentions the fact that the quarantine at Pricske was for a long time in a bad condition and the contumacy just started to be reorganized under director Carl Schauer[96]. The Archive of the Seat of Giurgiu preserves an *Inventory Ledger of Documents from 1650–1840* that records the fact that somebody intended to build a pub in 1761 at Pricske[97], while in 1762 the authorities intended to reconstruct the buildings of the office there[98]. An imperial decree dated July 12th 1762 records the fact that the order was sent to the Gubernium on June 12th 1761 to erect the inner buildings of the contumacy at Piricske; money for building expenses and maintenance was sent (expenses were envisaged for building materials, transportation and the salary of the master craftsmen)[99]. The erection of the buildings was finished by December 30th[100].

In 1773, during his visit in Transylvania, Emperor Joseph II also went to the quarantine at Pricske and described in detail the situation he saw there, namely one poorly built quarantine station that had no surgeons and no prison. There were 81 people in quarantine[101]. Archbishop Ladislas Kollonich and the Franciscans in Lăzarea received a letter from the General Commander of Transylvania on September 3rd 1779 regarding a Mass to be held at *Prytske pass*[102]. The letter informs us on the situation of the quarantine at Pricske: there were no new constructions, no chapel, and the Sunday Masses have been moved to a private house (*in domo privata*). Very likely, with the new organization of the border, the crossing point at Pricske was gradually moved to Tulgheș. According to the written sources the final move of the customs point from Pricske to Tulgheş took place in 1827[103].

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90 Vofkori 2009, 269–292; Sechel 2014, 65–66.
91 Balázs 2007, 250–255; Sechel 2014, 61–65.
92 Benkő 1853, 143.
93 See also Demjén, Gogâltan 2015.
94 DJHAN F 27, 37, 1–2.
95 KA, K VII K 330, 1–47.
96 DJHAN F 26, 48, 10. In 1755 he was also director of the contumacy. MOL F 58, fasc. 2, 32–34.
97 DJHAN F 26. Protocoale, 4, 3. The original document has been lost and only an inventory ledger of the documents is available.
98 DJHAN F 26. Protocoale, 4, 3a.
99 DJHAN F 26, 59, 1.
100 DJHAN F 26, 59, 1.
101 Bozac, Pavel 2006, 650–654.
102 ACG AAI, 1779.
103 The document mentions the fact that the territory where the customs in Tulgheș was located had been given on lease for contumacy by the local villages of Gheorgheni, Valea Strâmbă, and Chileni beginning with 1810. DJHAN F 1, 435, 4–5.

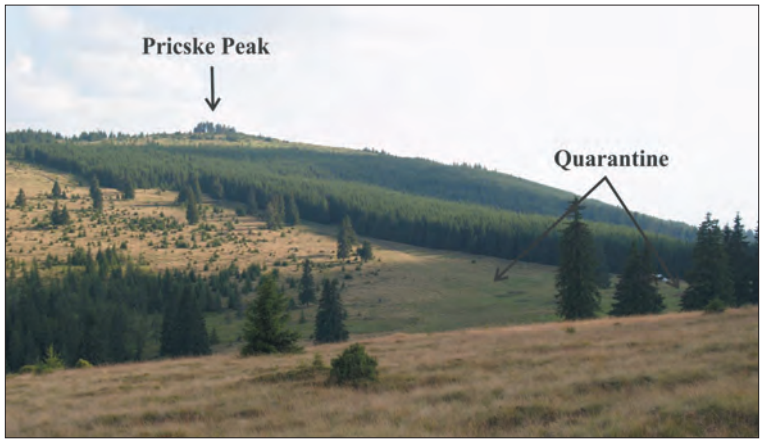


Fig. 21. Pricske Peak and the Pricske quarantine.

Georadar and magnetometric researches[104]

Beginning with 2009, on the area of the quarantine were made topographic surveys as well as 3D models of the location. In 2012 aerial photographs and georadar surveys were performed. The measurements were taken with the same instrument as those in the fortification of Both and the Roman-Catholic church at Gheorgheni. The customs point covered several hectares and the constructions built of stone were concentrated in an area well delimited by foundation traces of various buildings. Outside this territory we have found other buildings as well, the traces of which were less visible on the surface. This has led to georadar researches performed between the buildings. The results were unexpected, as the stone foundations under the green layer did not feature on the map of measurements. We have tried several variants, by valorizing the results of the segments at various depths, at 10 and 50 cm (Fig. 22), but this method has also failed to produce a general ground plan of the buildings[105].

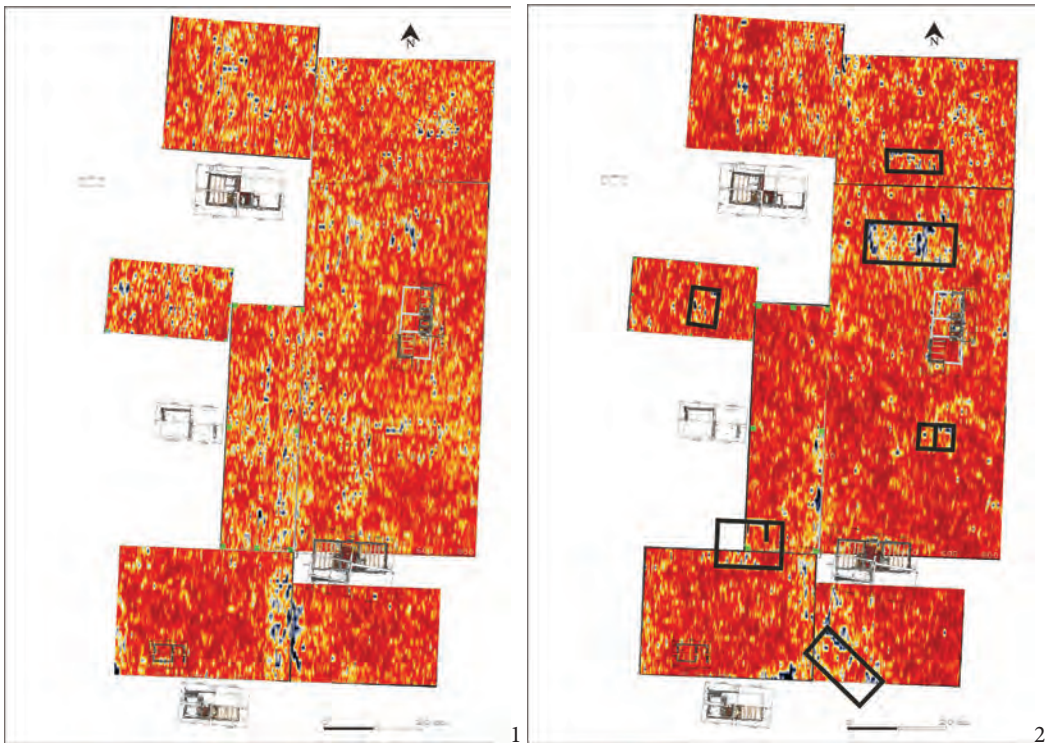


Fig. 22. Pricske Quarantine. Map of georadar researches: 1. Depth of 10 cm; 2. Depth of 50 cm.

[104] The georadar researches was financed by the County Council Harghita and by the Communitas Foundation as part of the project Cercetări georadar la vama și contumacia Pricske (MUV - 12/1 - 0875) [Georadar researches at the quarantine Pricske]. The magnetometric researches was financed by Bethlen Gábor Alap as part of the project Cercetări interdisciplinare la carantina Pricske (2545/2013) [Interdisciplinary research at quarantine Pricske] (2545/2013).

[105] Zsigmond *et al.* 2012, 1–18.

A new campaign of geophysical investigations was held in August 2013. While in 2012 the geophysical method employed was GPR – georadar, in 2013 we have used the magnetometric method, with a dual gradiometer-type tool – Bartington Grad 601–2. The investigations covered an area of 1.6 ha in the southern sector of the site (Fig. 23). This area was covered according to a grid with 10 square cells, each with the side measuring 40 m. The results of the magnetic investigations have especially stressed local geology, but also magnetic anomalies that can be interpreted as remains of rectangular constructions built in different techniques. There were also circular magnetic anomalies similar to those produced by the remains of thermal installations (ovens or kilns). Taking into consideration the size, orientation, and the ground plan of these anomalies, we have noted numerous similarities with archaeological structures known from previous excavations. The spatial distribution plan of the buildings, both those archaeologically researched and the possible buildings indicated by the magnetometric study, suggest their concentration in two parallel rows, probably separated by a road (the empty space between the buildings measures between 6 and 10 m)[106]. Due to the quantity of iron objects the results were not conclusive (Fig. 24). Specialists recommended electrometry as a research method (on the surface, but especially ERT profile) in this case as well.

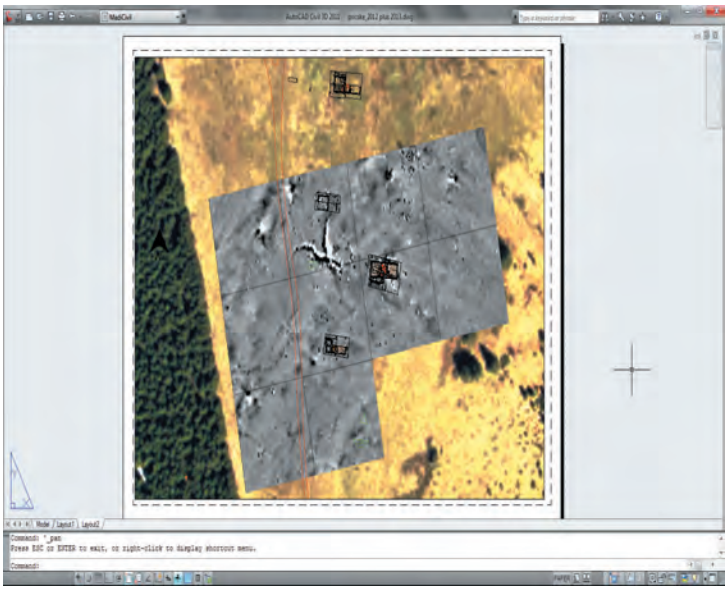


Fig. 23. Pricske quarantine. General ground plan of the geophysical investigations: red – georadar investigations; blue – magnetometric investigations.

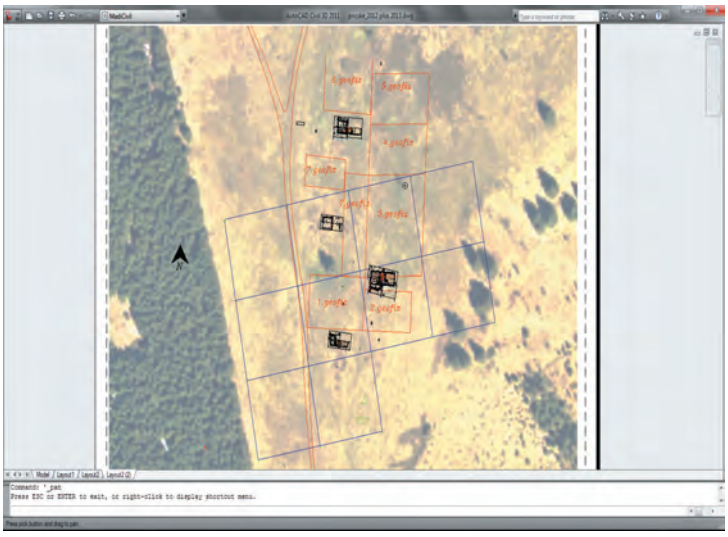


Fig. 24. Pricske quarantine. Magnetometric map.

[106] Ștefan 2013b.

Archaeological excavations (2009–2013, 2015)[107]

The traces of the quarantine's buildings are still quite well visible on the site (Fig. 25), due to the stone foundations. For this reason, the sections were located according to the dimensions of the buildings. Concerning the methodology of the archaeological research, it is important to mention that each building was divided into four areas and only the opposite sides were excavated. Between the areas we have left outliers measuring 0.30 m or 0.50 m. During the 2009–2013 archaeological campaign we have fully uncovered three dwellings and two stables, while in 2015 we have partially uncovered another building probably used for habitation (Fig. 31). Considering the fact that these buildings were researched over several years, this presentation includes the year when each section was excavated beside the name of the section.

Fig. 25. Pricske quarantine (2009).

A large part of a habitation construction was uncovered in areas 5/2009, 7/2012, and 8/2011 (obj. 2; Fig. 26; 31) and we were able to establish its dimensions and to reach certain preliminary conclusions concerning its structure. The building measured 15.2 m in length and 6.6 m in width. It consisted of three rooms. The eastern and western ones had the same inner dimensions (5.60 × 5.20 m), while the middle one, very likely the kitchen, measured 5.40 × 2.90 m. Porches were placed on the western side (in the south-western corner of the building we have researched a posthole strengthened with rocks – S 7/2012) and probably on the northern side as well. Access into the building was possible on the northern side through the middle room, through the kitchen (in the case of S 16/2012 we have identified the traces of the stone steps), and then to the side rooms. A stove or an oven was built in each room. There is little information on the interior design of the rooms. In the middle room, the kitchen, we have identified the brick floor and in the western and eastern rooms traces of wooden floors (the traces of the transversal beams beneath the wooden floor were only identified in S 7/2012). A storage place, a sort of *cellar*, rectangular in shape (1.60 × 2

[107] Gogâltan *et al.* 2010b, 66–67; Gogâltan *et al.* 2011b, 45–46; Gogâltan *et al.* 2012a, 56–57; Gogâltan *et al.* 2013b, 56–57; Gogâltan *et al.* 2014b, 53–54; Demjén, Gogâltan 2015. Reconstruction 3D of the buildings was financed by the Bethlen Gábor Alap as part of the project Cercetări interdisciplinare la carantina de la Pricske (2545/2013) [Interdisciplinary research at quarantine Pricske].

m) had been excavated in the north-eastern corner of the western room under the contemporary ground level (–0.97 m). The sides and the bottom had been covered with horizontal wooden planks, while vertical beams had been placed in the north-western and south-western corners. A stone slab had been placed on the bottom of the pit, in the northern part, aimed at supporting the stair leading down into the *cellar*.

Fig. 26. Pricske quarantine. Photographs taken during the excavation: 1. S 8/2011; 2. S 7/2012.

In S 14/2010, 15/2011, 16/2012, 17/2012, and 18/2012 (obj. 5; Fig. 27–28; 31) we have fully researched another building part of the quarantine, that had the same ground plan as the construction uncovered in the areas 5/2009, 7/2012, and 8/2011. The difference between this building and the one from S 5, 7, and 8 consists in the presence of an annexed building and of a latrine erected subsequently on the outer foundation of the southern wall (these were partially researched during the 2010 and 2012 campaigns). The building uncovered in these areas had a length of 15.4 m and a width of 6.3 m and consisted of three rooms. The eastern room had an inner dimension of 5.60 × 5.40 m, the middle room measured 5.40 × 2.50 m, and the western one 5.40 × 5 m. A posthole was identified in the western part (in the north-western corner of the building, in S 16/2012) and a porch had been built on the northern side. The building could be accessed from the northern side, through the central room, where we have identified the traces of the stone steps; from there one could enter the side rooms. A niche was found on the north-western part of the dividing wall and it contained traces of a beam (beam dimensions: 0.20 × 0.40 m), animal bones, and egg shells. The niche and the beam inside it were very likely part of the supporting system of the door (such a niche with animal bones and wooden remains was also found on the other dividing wall, in S 15/2011). There were also the traces of a wooden threshold, measuring 0.60 m in width, on the dividing wall, north of the niche with the beam. This fact was also discovered in section 15/2011.

Bases for heating stoves were identified in each room. The stoves in the eastern and western rooms were annexed to the southern wall and the dividing wall between the rooms, while the stove in the central room was only attached to the southern wall of the building. Near the stoves, the elevation wall identified also in areas 5/2009, 7/2012, and 8/2011, was built in stone and was thicker in order to support the chimney and prevent the building from catching fire. There is little data concerning the inner design of the rooms. In the eastern and western rooms the ground level consisted of a plank floor. One could note the traces of five transversal beams in the western room and six in the eastern one, supporting the wooden floor. A coin dated 1781, probably fallen through the cracks in the floor, was found in the western room (S 16/2012), near the transversal beams that supported the floor. A brick floor covered the entire inner surface of the middle room. The bricks are very worn or broken and the floor is missing in the northern side.

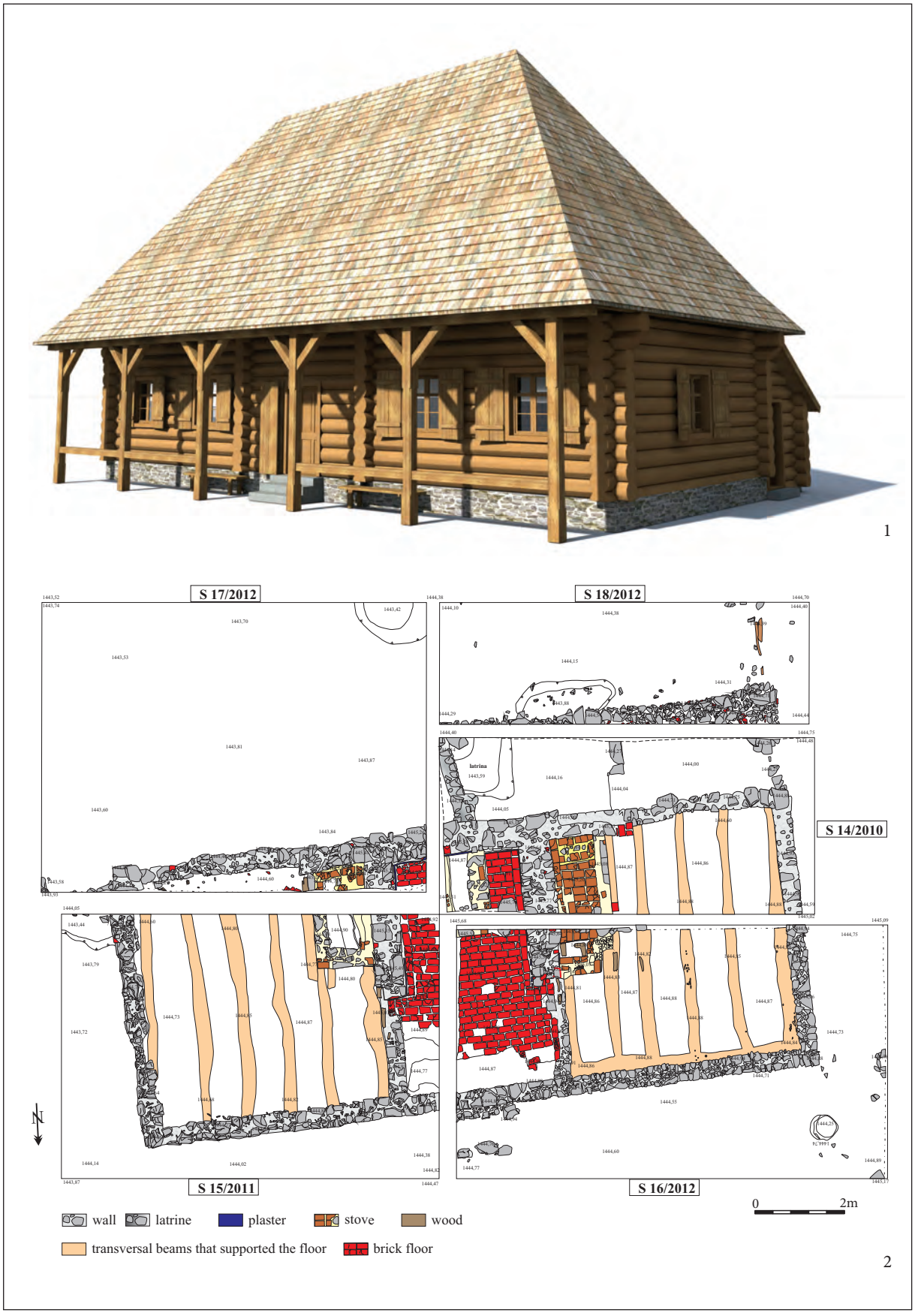


Fig. 27. Pricske quarantine. 1. Reconstruction of the building discovered in S 14, 15, 16, 17, and 18. View from the east. 2. General ground plan of sections 14, 15, 16, 17, and 18.

Fig. 28. Pricske quarantine. Photographs taken during the excavation: 1. S 17/2012; 2. S 14/2010; 3. S 15/2011; 4. S 16/2012.

Half of a habitation building was uncovered in areas 22/2015 and 23/2015 (obj. 6; Fig. 31). The building measured 15.6 m in length and 6.4 m in width. It consisted of three rooms. The southern and northern rooms had the same inner size (5.40 × 5.10 m), while the middle one, very likely the kitchen, measured 5.40 × 3.10 m. The entrance was located in the western side, through the middle room, that allowed access to the side rooms. The elevation walls were built of large syenite blocks and pieces of bricks connected with white-greyish mortar mixed with pebbles and mica. The walls varied in width: the dividing wall near the stove measured 0.62–0.70 m, while the southern, northern, eastern, and western walls measured 0.42–0.48 m. The depth of the foundation varied according to the thickness of the walls: the sole of the wall that measured between 0.62 and 0.70 m in thickness reached the depth of 1.13 m, while the foundation of the wall that measured between 0.42 and 0.48 m reached the depth of 0.63 m from the present ground level. The walls dividing the rooms were built more carefully, of stones with the flat surface towards the outside and the voids were filled with small stones and brick pieces. The elevation wall was made of stone near the stoves and was thicker as it supported the chimney and thus prevented the building from catching fire. The rest of the elevations were very probably made of wooden beams and just the foundation was made of stone. A stove or an oven was built in each room. There is little information on the inner design of the rooms. A worn and slightly sunken brick floor was identified in the middle room, i.e. the kitchen, but it was completely missing in the western part. In the southern and northern rooms one could identify four wooden beams placed under the wooden floor (four beam imprints, oriented east-west and measuring 0.20 m in thickness, were identified in the northern room and four others in the southern room).

Another building was researched in areas 10/2011, 11/2011, and 12/2011 (obj. 4; Fig. 29/1; 31). The two-room building measured 11.5 m in length and 5.40 m in width. The foundation of a stove, made of bricks, was discovered in the eastern room of this building. The bottom of an *oven* with an open hearth was uncovered in the western room.

Only in the eastern room we could identify the traces of six transversal beams that supported the wooden floor. In the western room, due to the collapsed basement located underneath, we cannot

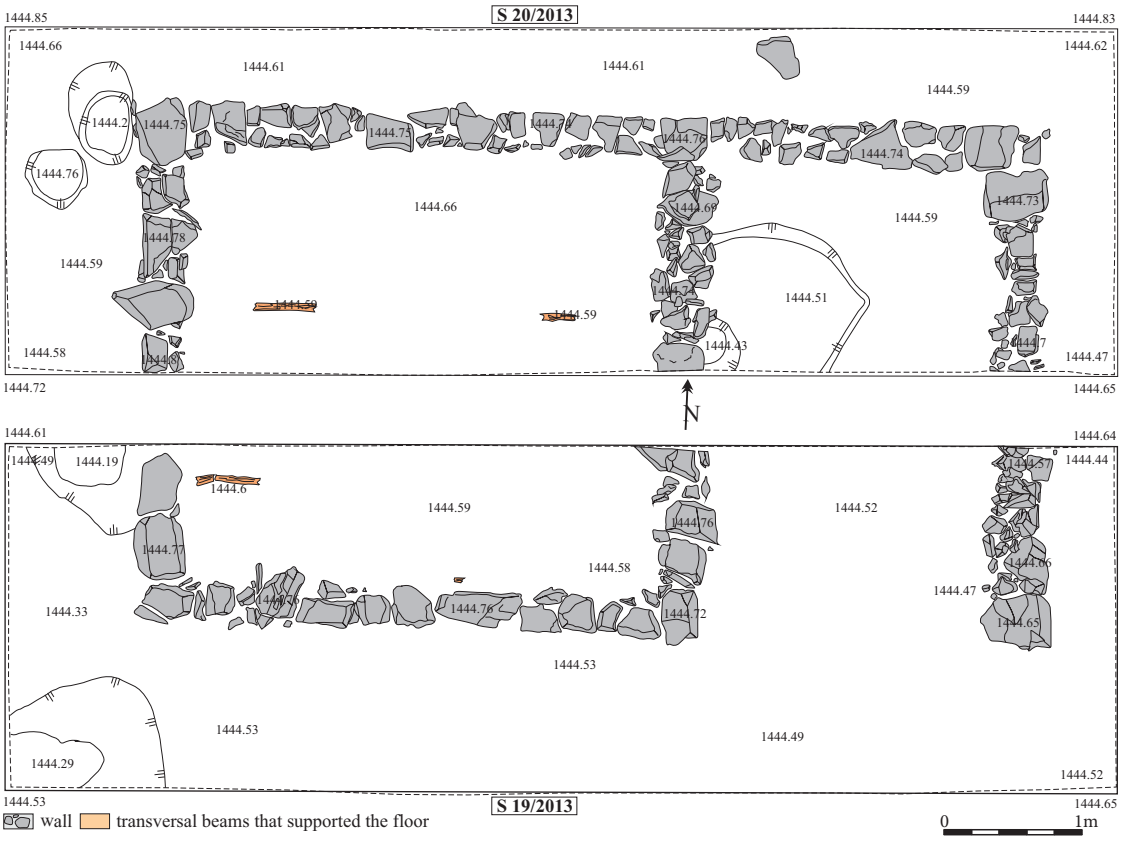
state the structure of the ground level. We presume that it was also made of wood. The basement measured 3.60 × 2.20 m and was at a depth of 1.83 m from the contemporary ground level. The northern, western, and southern sides of the basement were covered in superposed horizontal planks while a wall, measuring 0.82–0.92 m in thickness was built on the eastern side. In order to obtain a stronger structure for the walls made of the horizontal planks, vertical beams were placed a meter apart on the northern, western, and southern sides of the basement. The bottom was covered with yellow sand.

Fig. 29. Pricske quarantine. Photographs taken during the excavation: 1. S 10/2011, S 11/2011, and S 12/2011; 2. S 19/2013 and S 20/2013.

We have also excavated two smaller buildings on the territory of the quarantine. The first building is located north-westwards from the areas S 10/2011, S 11/2011, and S 12/2011. There we have researched the foundations of a building with the elevation made of wooden beams (building size: 6.6 m in length and 3.9 m in width). The foundation wall was identified and fully researched in the sections S 19/2013 and S 20/2013 (obj. 3; Fig. 29/2; 30; 31). Between the two sections we left an outlier measuring 0.50 m in width. The wall was built of large and average blocks of syenite without mortar. The foundation was made of flatter stones, a fact that suggests that the elevation wall was built of wooden beams. The wall was 0.25–0.50 m thick and the sole of the foundation reached down to the relative depth of 0.20 m from the current ground level. The foundations marked a small, two-room building. The western room was almost quadrilateral, with the inner dimensions of 3.10 × 3.50 m, while the eastern room was rectangular in shape, measuring 3.40 × 2 m. In the eastern room the foundation walls were only identified on the western, eastern, and northern sides of the building. The wall was missing on the southern side.

Another such stable or shed was partially researched in the sections S 1/2009 and S 2/2009 (obj. 1; Fig. 31). The walls of this construction were made of flatter stones, suggesting that the elevation wall was built of wooden beams. The building measured 11.40 m in length and 5.90 m in width. The walls in S 1/2009 were only identified on the western, eastern, and northern sides of the building, and they were missing on the southern side. The western wall was built of large syenite blocks connected with grey mortar, with a lot of lime, mixed with pebbles, while the eastern wall was made of similar mortar mixed with soil and brick fragments, in more careless manner. The wall measures 0.46–0.50 m in width and the sole of the foundation reaches down to the relative depth of 0.42 m from the present ground level. The inner size of the room is 5.70 × 4.60 m. The continuation of the wall on the north-western side of the building was discovered in section S 2/2009. The wall was built with large syneite blocks with grey mortar, with a lot of lime, mixed with pebbles. The wall measures 0.46–0.52 m in width and the sole of the foundation reaches down to the relative depth of 0.76 m from the current ground level. The inner dimensions of the room are 5.36 × 4.60 m. The building in question was certainly used as a stable or a shed, a role that explains the absence of the wall on the southern side and of a heating system.

1



2

Fig. 30. Pricske quarantine. 1. Reconstruction of the building discovered in S 19 and 20. View from the South. 2. General ground plan of sections 19 and 20.

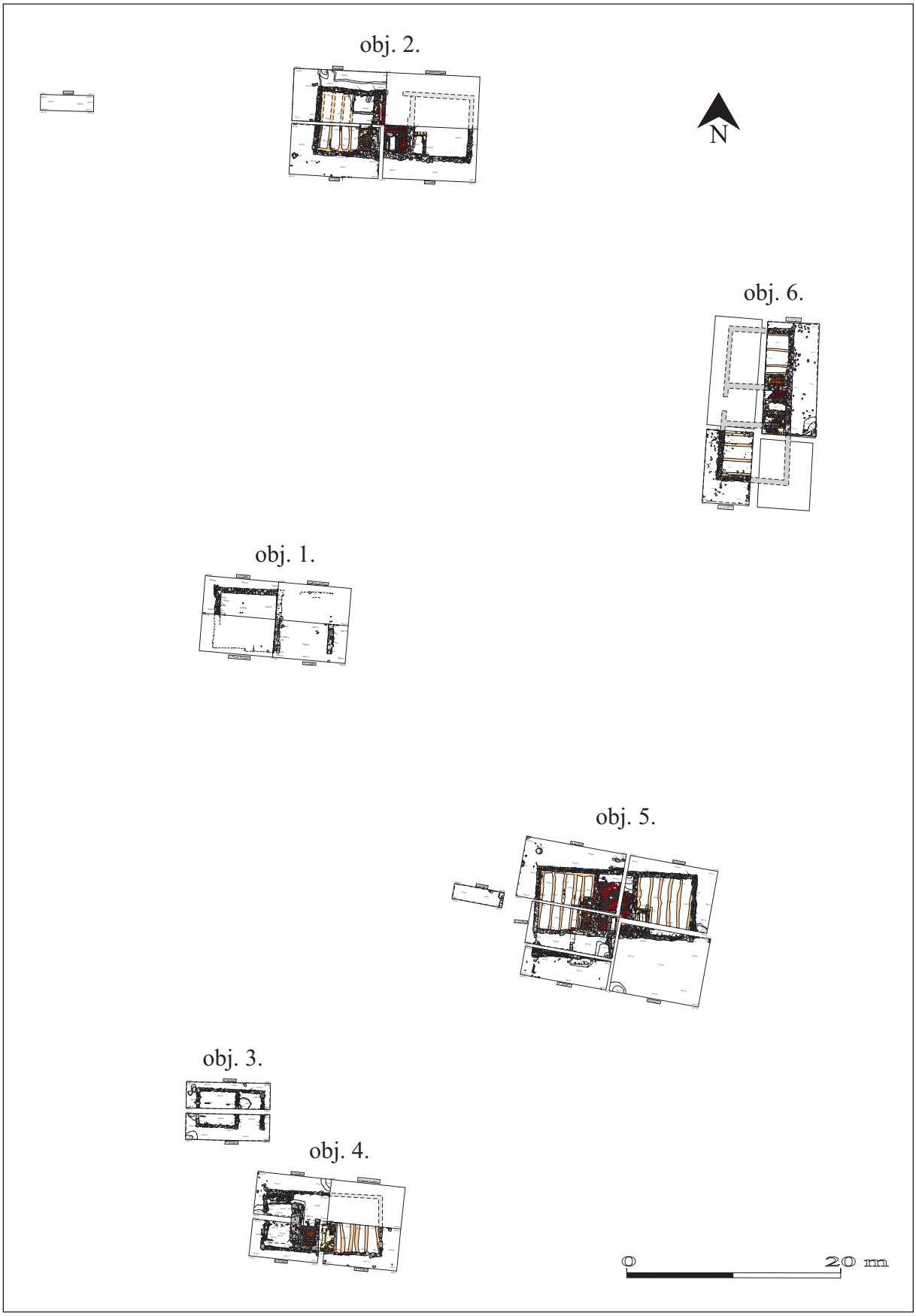


Fig. 31. Pricske quarantine. General ground plan of the excavations (2009–2013, 2015).

Fig. 32. Pricske quarantine. Pottery material from the latrine in building obj. 5 (S 14/2010).

Conclusions

The systematic archaeological excavations performed between 2009 and 2013 and in 2015 enabled specialists to prove that the quarantine at Pricske reached a period of maximum development during the second half of the eighteenth century. At the same time, the excavations attested that it consisted of a rather complex system of buildings (barracks for quarantine personnel, stables or sheds, buildings for people placed under quarantine etc.), necessary for specific sanitary activities (Fig. 31). The researches at the quarantine in Pricske are novel for Modern Period archaeology in Romania. Together with the documentary sources and the archaeozoological analyses[108] they allow the reconstruction of the daily life in an Austrian quarantine in the second half of the eighteenth century. They also represent a significant contribution to the knowledge of the archaeological material characteristic to this period in eastern Transylvania (Fig. 32). Another perspective open to researchers is the possibility to combine the archaeological inventory to the study of its functionality. Indications about that may be found in written sources as well as in the graphic images of that period.

Instead of other conclusions

Interest for the archaeological investigation of Giurgeului Depression started during the spring of 1999[109]. The excavation-school at the site in Lăzarea (Harghita County) prepared generations of students and began the studying of a Transylvanian region that was little known from an archaeological point of view. The above-mentioned results are only some of our team's accomplishments. One can add the excavation campaigns at Topliţa[110] and those at Lăzarea[111], as well as numerous ground researches that have radically changed our historical knowledge on this micro-region. Unfortunately, the archaeological potential of the Upper Mureș proved to be limited. The cold climate, the thermal inversion phenomenon that made communities avoid the favorable areas near the Mureș, and the absence of soil resources such as salt, copper, and iron have made Giurgeului Depression scarcely inhabited until the Middle Ages[112]. It was rather a transition area towards and from Moldavia[113], as the quarantine point at Pricske also indicates.

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[108] The archaeozoological analyses were performed, this time as well, by Beáta Tugya (Nagykanizsa Museum).
[109] Gogâltan *et al.* 2003, 301–329.
[110] Anghelinu *et al.* 2012, 272–273; Anghelinu *et al.* 2013, 187.
[111] Demjén, Lăzărescu 2011, 61–91; Gogâltan *et al.* 2012b, 81–82; Stanciu *et al.* 2013, 85; Gogâltan *et al.* 2014c, 81.
[112] See also Munteanu 2010; Dietrich 2014.
[113] Diaconu 2012, 203–212.

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Abbreviations

Acta Ant et Arch Suppl	Acta Antiqua et Archaeologica Supplementum. Szeged.
AAC	Acta Archaeologica Carpathica. Krakow.
ACMIT	Anuarul Comisiunii monumentelor istorice. Secţia pentru Transilvania. Cluj.
ActaArchHung	ActaArchHung Acta Archaeologica Academiae Scientiarum Hungaricae. Budapest.
AEM	Archäologische Epigraphische Mitteilungen aus Österreich-Ungarn.
AIIA Cluj	Anuarul Institutului de Istorie şi Arheologie. Cluj.
AMP	Acta Musei Porolissensis. Zalău.
ATF	Acta Terrae Fogarasiensis. Făgăraş.
ATS	Acta Terrae Septemcastrenses. Sibiu.
Agria	*Agria. Annales Musei Agriensis*. Az egri Dobó István Vármúzeum évkönyve. Eger.
AnB S.N.	Analele Banatului. Timişoara.
ArchÉrt	Archaelogiai Értesítő. A Magyar Régészeti és Művészettörténeti Társulat tudományos folyóirata. Budapest.
Arh. Pregled	Arheološki Pregled. Arheološko Društvo Jugoslavije. Beograd.
AM	Arheologia Moldovei. Iaşi.
AMN	Acta Musei Napocensis. Cluj-Napoca.
ArchRozhl	Archeologické Rozhledy. Praga.
ASMB	Arheologia Satului Medieval din Banat. Reşiţa 1996.
BAM	Brvkenthal Acta Mvsei. Sibiu.
BAR Int. Ser.	British Archaeological Reports. International Series. Oxford.
BCMI	Buletinul Comisiunii Monumentelor Istorice.
BerRGK	Bericht der RömischGermanischen Kommission, Frankfurt a. Main.
BHAB	Bibliotheca Historica et Archaeologica Banatica. Timişoara.
BMB. SH	Biblioteca Muzeului Bistriţa. Seria Historica. Bistriţa Năsăud.
BMI	Buletinul Monumentelor Istorice, Bucureşti.
BMN	Bibliotheca Musei Napocensis. Cluj-Napoca.
BMMK	A Békés Megyei Múzeumok Közleményei. Békéscsaba.
BMMN	Buletinul Muzeului Militar Naţional, Bucureşti.
BThr	Bibliotheca Thracologica. Institutul Român de Tracologie, Bucureşti.
CAB	
CAH	Communicationes Archaeologicae Hungariae. Budapest.
Carpica	Carpica. Muzeul Judeţean de Istorie şi Arheologie Bacău. Bacău.
CAMNI	Cercetări Arheologice. Muzeul de Istorie al R. S. România/Muzeul Naţional de Istorie. Bucureşti.
CCA	*Cronica cercetărilor arheologice* (*din România*), 1983–1992 *sqq*. (şi în variantă electronică pe *http://www.cimec.ro/scripts/arh/cronica/cercetariarh.asp*).
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CCA 2000 (2001)	M. V. Angelescu, C. Borş, I. Oberländer-Târnoveanu (Ed.), *CCA. Campania 2000. A XXXV-a sesiune naţională de rapoarte arheologice, Suceava, 23–27 mai 2001*. Bucureşti 2001.

CCA 2001 (2002)	M. V. Angelescu, C. Borş, I. Oberländer-Târnoveanu, F. Vasilescu (Ed.), *CCA. Campania 2001. A XXXVI-a sesiune naţională de rapoarte arheologice, Buziaş, 28 mai–1 iunie 2001*. Bucureşti 2002.
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CCA 2014 (2015)	Institutul Naţional al Patrimoniului (Ed.), *CCA 2015. Campania 2014. A XLIX-a sesiune naţională de rapoarte arheologice, Piteşti, 28–30 mai 2015, Muzeul judeţean Argeş*. [Bucureşti] 2015.
CRSCRCR	Coins from Roman sites and collections of Roman coins from Romania. Cluj-Napoca.
Dacia N.S.	Dacia. Revue d'archéologie et d'histoire ancienne. Nouvelle serie. Bucureşti.
Danubius	Danubius – Revista Muzeului de Istorie Galati. Galaţi.
DDME	A Debreceni Déri Múzeum Évkönyve. Debrecen.
DolgCluj	Dolgozatok az Erdélyi Nemzeti Érem- és Régiségtárából, Klozsvár (Cluj).
DolgSzeg	Dolgozatok. Arbeiten des Archäologischen Instituts der Universität. Szeged.
EphNap	Ephemeris Napocensis. Cluj-Napoca.
FADDP/GMADP	Führer zu archäologischen Denkmälern in Dacia Porolissensis/Ghid al monumentelor arheologice din Dacia Porolissensis.
FolArch	Folia Archaeologica. Budapest.
Forsch. u. Ber. z. Vor- u. Frühgesch. BW	Forschungen und Berichte zur Vor- und Frühgeschichte in Baden-Württemberg.
GPSKV	Gradja za proučavanje spomenika kulture Vojvodine. Novi Sad.
GSAD	Glasnik Srpskog Arheološkog Društva. Beograd.
HOMÉ	A Herman Ottó Múzeum Évkönyve. Miskolc.
JAMÉ	A nyíregyházi Jósa András Múzeum Évkönyve. Nyíregyháza.
JahrbuchRGZM	Jahrbuch des RömischGermanischen Zentralmuseums Mainz.
Lohanul	Lohanul. Revistă cultutal ştiinţifică. Huşi.
MCA	Materiale şi Cercetări Arheologice. Bucureşti.
MCA-S.N.	Materiale şi Cercetări Arheologice-Serie Nouă. Bucureşti.
MA	Memoria Antiqvitatis. Complexul Muzeal Judeţean Neamţ. Piatra Neamţ.
MFMÉ	A Móra Ferenc Múz. Évkönyve. Szeged.
MFMÉ StudArch	A Móra Ferenc Múzeum Évkönyve, Studia Archaelogica. Szeged.
MN	Muzeul Naţional. Bucureşti.
Opuscula Hungarica	Opuscula Hungarica. Budapest.
PamArch	*Památky Archeologické. Praha.*
Past and Present	*Past and Present. Oxford.*
PIKS/PISC	Die Publikationen des Institutes für klassische Studien/ Publicaţiile Institutului de studii clasice. Cluj-Napoca.
PBF	Praehistorische Bronzefunde. Berlin.
PZ	Prähistorische Zeitschrift. Berlin.
Rev. Muz.	Revista Muzeelor, Bucureşti.
RIR	Revista Istorică Română.
RMM-MIA	Revista Muzeelor şi Monumentelor. seria Monumente istorice şi de artă. Bucureşti.
RMMN	Revista Muzeului Militar Naţional. Bucureşti.
Ruralia	Ruralia. Památky Archeologické – Supplementum. Praha.
RVM	Rad Vojvodjanskih Muzeja, Novi Sad.
SCIV(A)	Studii şi Cercetări de Istorie Veche. Bucureşti.

SCN	Studii şi Cercetări Numismatice. Bucureşti.
SlovArch	Slovenská Archeológia. Nitra.
SIA	Studii de Istoria Artei. Cluj Napoca.
SIB	Studii de istorie a Banatului. Timişoara.
SKMÉ	A Szántó Kovács János Múzeum Évkönyve, Orosháza.
SMIM	Studii şi Materiale de Istorie Medie. Bucureşti.
SMMA	Szolnok Megyei Múzeumi Adattár. Szolnok.
SMMIM	Studii şi Materiale de Muzeografie şi Istorie Militară. Bucureşti.
Starinar	Starinar. Arheološki Institut. Beograd.
StCl	Studii Clasice, Bucureşti.
StComBrukenthal	*Studii şi comunicări*. Sibiu.
StudArch	Studia Archaeologica. *Budapest*.
StudCom	Studia Comitatensia. *Szentendre*.
StudUnivCib	Studia Universitatis Cibiniensis. Sibiu.
StudCom – Vrancea	Studii și Comunicări. Muzeul Județean de Istorie și Etnografie Vrancea. Focșani.
StudŽvest	Študijne Zvesti Arheologického Ústavu Slovenskej Akademie Vied. Nitra.
Symp. Thrac.	Symposia Thracologica. Bucureşti.
Tempora Obscura	Tempora Obscura. Békéscsaba 2012.
Tibiscus	Tibiscus. Timişoara.
VAH	Varia Archaeologica Hungarica. *Budapest*.
Ziridava	Ziridava. Arad.
ZSA	Ziridava Studia Archaeologica. Arad.