

HISTRIA. THE BASILICA “PÂRVAN” SECTOR (II). LATE ROMAN BUILDINGS WEST OF THE CHRISTIAN BASILICA (2001–2013)

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Abstract: This paper focuses on the results of excavations undertaken in the southern part of the so-called acropolis of Istros since 2001, by the team led by Mircea Victor Angelescu and the author of the present paper¹; more precisely we will present the data obtained on the area W and NW of the Christian basilica, conventionally called *Basilica Pârvan Sector*. Research in this part of the sector has not been completed, so our paper will be based on the present state of the research. We have also chosen to exclude from this article the data concerning the Christian basilica, a large Late Roman building located N of it (CR02), as well as most of the information on **street d**, which runs between the two previously-mentioned structures and descends westwards into the area that concerns us, as these three complexes – the basilica, the street and CR02 – will be the subject of a future article.

Cuvinte-cheie: Histria, perioada romană-târzie, Basilica Pârvan, evoluție urbană, tramă stradală.

Rezumat: Articolul de față tratează rezultatele săpăturilor arheologice efectuate de către o echipă condusă de M. V. Angelescu și de autorul prezentului articol, în zona sudică a așa-zisei acropole histriene cu începere din anul 2001. Sunt valorificate informații obținute până în prezent în zona de la vest de bazilica creștină, numită convențional *Basilica Pârvan*. Cercetarea în această parte a sectorului nu a fost finalizată, așa că lucrarea se va baza pe rezultatele pe care le avem la dispoziție în acest moment. Din analiză sunt însă excluse informațiile referitoare la bazilica creștină, la clădirea de la nord de aceasta (CR02) și majoritatea informațiilor despre **strada d**, care desparte cele două monumente menționate și coboară către vest, dat fiind faptul că aceste trei complexe arheologice vor constitui subiectul unui viitor articol.

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STATE OF THE RESEARCH: OLD DIGS

This part of the acropolis was first excavated by V. Pârvan, who concentrated on the exterior of the Late Roman defence wall and on the Christian basilica that came to bear his name². Research was continued by Marcelle Flot-Lambrino in between the two World Wars. Her excavation notes have not yet been published, but in her work on the Archaic pottery discovered at Istros³ she mentions having excavated in the area and having spared the uncovered Late Roman walls. Also, on the aerial photograph published in the same book, we can see that part of the area around the Christian basilica, including the perimeter in question, had been excavated⁴. In the first monograph dedicated to Istros, without mentioning their name – as Scarlat Lambrino and Marcelle Flot-Lambrino were designated *personae non gratae* by the communist regime – Gr. Florescu mentions that after Pârvan's research, the excavation extended 120m² westwards from the basilica. Also, that the walls uncovered then, made of stone bound with earth and exposed to the elements for a long time, were in a very poor state of preservation at the moment the volume was published (1954)⁵. Concerning the defence wall in this area, Gr. Florescu mentions that its entire inner (northern) face was “cleared” at the moment of publication⁶.

² Pârvan 1923–1924, p. 2; *Histria I*, p. 154–155.

³ Flot-Lambrino 1938, p. 14.

⁴ Flot-Lambrino 1938, p. 10, Fig. 1.

⁵ *Histria I*, p. 155.

⁶ *Histria I*, p. 92.

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