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## KUTIJE ZA SVITKE U ISTRI

## ISTRIAN SCROLL BOXES

Predmet rada rimske su cilindrične kutije za svitke pronađene u Istri, čiji su brončani i željezni elementi zabilježeni jedino u Nezakciju. U interpretaciji izgubljene cjeline predmeta posebna je pažnja posvećena kamenim kipovima muškaraca iz Pule koji prikazuju kutije za svitke. Kiparski prikazi pokazuju ručke izrađene od različitih materijala i različite dužine te različite načine pričvršćivanja ručki za tijelo kutije. U Nezakciju su pronađene barem dvije kutije za svitke kojima pripadaju dvije brave sa zasunima. Jedna figuralno ukrašena brončana nožica iz Nezakcija zbog svog se cilindričnog oblika i promjera može pripisati kutiji za svitke.

**Cljučne riječi:** bronca, Istra, kip, kutija, Nezakcij, Pula, svitak, željezo

This paper deals with the cylindrical scroll boxes found in Istria. Their bronze and iron elements were recorded only in Nesactium. As the male stone statues from Pula that include scroll boxes are very useful for interpreting the appearance of these boxes in their entirety – for only their elements remain – the paper pays particular attention to them. Handles of various lengths, made of various materials and attached to the boxes in various ways can be seen on the statues. At least two scroll boxes with appertaining locks with latches were found in Nesactium. Due to its cylindrical shape and diameter, one bronze foot with figural decorations can be associated with a scroll box.

**Key words:** bronze, Istria, statue, box, Nesactium, Pula, scroll, iron

## UVOD

Kutije za svitke predstavljaju slabo poznato područje antičke arheologije u Istri i njihovi materijalni ostatci nisu još bili predmetom zasebne studije. Organski materijal brzo bi propao, ostavivši samo brončane i željezne elemente brave, okova, ručki i lančića za vješanje. Preostaje samo pretpostavka da je tijelo kutije bilo izrađeno od drveta i obloženo kožom ili tkaninom. Metalni elementi često su sačuvani u vrlo lošem i nepotpunom stanju, što otežava prepoznavanje i interpretaciju. U potrazi za ostacima kutija za svitke na antičkim lokalitetima Istre, jedini sačuvani metalni elementi koji im se mogu pripisati pronađeni su među grobnim priložima u paljevinskoj nekropoli Nezakcija (*Nesactium*) nedaleko od Pule. Nekoliko kamenih kipova muškaraca, rimskih građana iz Pule (*Pola*), sadrže uz nogu prikaz cilindrične kutije za svitke. Korisno je usporediti prikaze kutija za svitke na kipovima iz Pule sa sačuvanim metalnim elementima kutija iz Nezakcija. Usporedba s kamenim kipovima pomogla je u interpretaciji metalnih nalaza i rekonstrukciji njihova smještaja na izgubljenom tijelu kutije, a osim toga pruža informacije o prosječnim proporcijama kutije i njezinih pojedinih dijelova.

## KUTIJE ZA SVITKE

Cilindrična kutija za svitke (*capsa libraria*, *scrinium*) izrađivala se od organskih materijala koji su rijetko gdje sačuvani. Tijelo i poklopac kutije bili su izrađeni od drveta, brava s ključićem i držači pomične ručke od metala, a ručka od tkanine, užeta ili kože. Kutija je mogla imati i dodatne metalne elemente poput ukrasnih okova, ručke na poklopcu, tri niske nožice i alke za vješanje spojene s poklopcem pomoću četiri metalna lančića s kukicama.<sup>1</sup> Kutija se koristila za prijenos svitaka ispisanih papira, koji su se u bibliotekama slagali vodoravno. Osim u cilindričnoj kutiji koja je bila standardni i najuobičajeniji spremnik za prijenos papirnatih spisa, spisi su se mogli prenositi i u pravokutnim kovčežićima s izbočenim poklopcem, dugim ručkama i malim nožicama, kakvi su prikazani na nadgrobni spomenicima iz Male Azije.<sup>2</sup> Erupcija Vezuva 79. karbonizirala je biblioteku vile Kalpurnija Pizona (*Calpurnius Piso*), poznatu pod imenom Vila papira (*Villa dei Papiri*) u Herculaneumu (*Herculaneum*). Iz Vile papira potječe velika količina od oko 700 ispisanih papirnatih svitaka koja pruža uvid u standarde vrijedeće u 1. st.<sup>3</sup> Jedan svitak mogao je sadržavati najviše dvadesetak listova papira. Dimenzije lista papira najčešće su se kretale između

1 E. Künzl 1994, 623–626, sl. 77; M. Feugère 2006, 238, sl. 4–5; F. Baratta 2018, 27–28, sl. 16. Rim, Villa del Giurista, freska s izvanrednim prikazom pisačkog pribora i zatvorene živo crvene cilindrične kutije za svitke s brončanom kvadratnom bravom konkavnih stranica i crvenom kožnom pomičnom ručkom pričvršćenom pomoću brončanih alki.

2 N. Firatli 1964, 33, br. 128; T. XLVI: 188; T. LXXI: 2; M. Feugère 2006, 237.

3 D. Delattre 1997, 81–98; 2006, 22.

## INTRODUCTION

Scroll boxes constitute a less known discipline of the archaeology of Istrian Roman antiquity. No separate study of their material remains has been conducted yet. The organic material would soon decompose, leaving behind only the bronze and iron elements like locks, fittings, handles and suspension chains. We can only presume that the body of the box was made of wood and lined with leather or textile. The preserved metal elements are often in poor condition and incomplete, thus making identification and interpretation difficult. The only preserved metal elements that could be associated with Istria's Roman scroll boxes were found as grave goods in the incineration necropolis of Nesactium near Pula. Several male stone statues, representing Roman citizens of Pula (*Pola*), have cylindrical scroll boxes placed by their feet. Comparing the scroll boxes depicted on the Pula statues with the preserved metal elements of the Nesactium boxes was useful because it helped us interpret the metal finds and identify their respective positions on the lost wooden parts of the boxes. It also provided some information about the average size of such boxes and their individual parts.

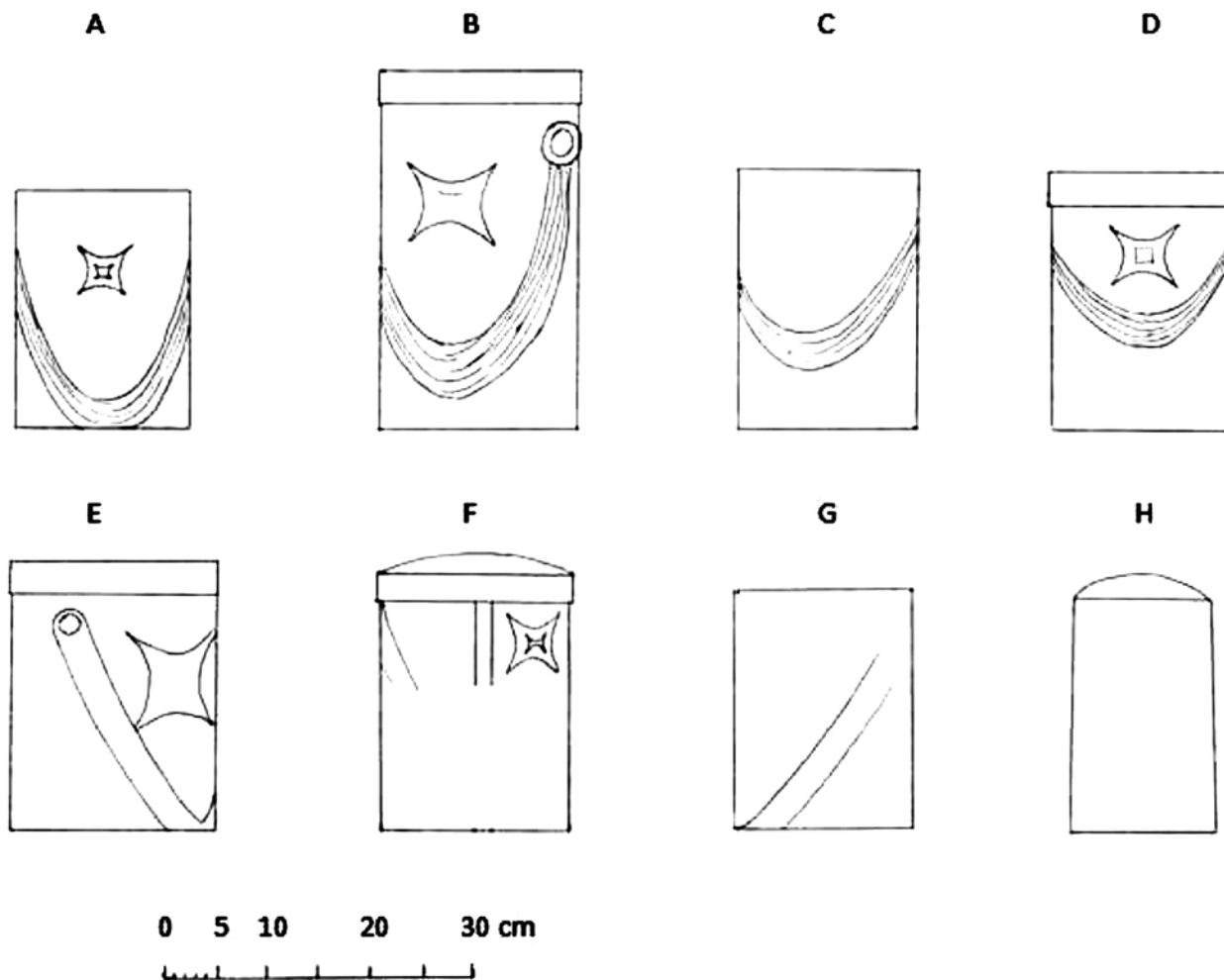
## SCROLL BOXES

Cylindrical scroll boxes (*capsae librariae*, *scrinia*) were made of organic materials – which are rarely preserved. The body and lid of a box were made of wood, its lock with a key and its movable handle holders were made of metal and the handle was made of textile, rope or leather. The box would sometimes have additional metal elements such as decorative fittings, lid handle, three short feet and a suspension ring attached to the lid with four metal chainlets with hooks.<sup>1</sup> The box was used for carrying of written documents. When stored in libraries, such paper documents would be stacked horizontally. Besides in a cylindrical box – a standard and most common paper document container – documents were also carried in little square chests with bulging lids, long handles and short feet, like the ones depicted on sepulchral monuments from Asia Minor.<sup>2</sup> The 79 AD eruption of Vesuvius carbonized the library in the villa that belonged to Calpurnius Piso, known as the Villa of the Papyri (*Villa dei Papiri*), in Herculaneum. Some 700 written paper scrolls were found in the villa's remnants, offering an insight into the standards of the 1<sup>st</sup> century AD.<sup>3</sup> A single scroll could contain up to twenty paper sheets. The sheets

1 E. Künzl 1994, 623–626, fig. 77; M. Feugère 2006, 238, figs. 4–5; F. Baratta 2018, 27–28, fig. 16. Rome, Villa del Giurista, a fresco with excellent depiction of stationery and closed bright-red cylindrical scroll box with bronze square lock with concave sides and movable red leather handles attached to the boxes by means of bronze rings.

2 N. Firatli 1964, 33, no. 128; pl. XLVI: 188; pl. LXXI: 2; M. Feugère 2006, 237.

3 D. Delattre 1997, 81–98; 2006, 22.



**Slika 1. Prikazi cilindričnih kutija za svitke na kipovima muškaraca iz Pule**

Figure 1. Depictions of cylindrical scroll boxes on Pula male statues

crtež / drawing by: A. Starac

13 i 16 *digiti* (20 – 30 cm) u širinu i 3 *passus*, odnosno oko 4 i pol metra u dužinu. Tekst se pisao tintom u stupcima zdesna nalijevo. Pri čitanju se svitak (*volumen*) odmatavao isto tako zdesna nalijevo i namatao na desnom kraju, ostavljajući trenutno vidljivima dva ili tri stupca. Svitak se namatao na drveni štap cilindričnog oblika (*scapus, umbilicus*).<sup>4</sup> Prilikom prijenosa u kutiji, svitci su se slagali uspravno. O tome svjedoče prikazi otvorenih kutija sa svitcima na mozaicima iz Kuće maski u Hadrumetu (*Hadrumetum*) u Tunisu u sjevernoj Africi<sup>5</sup> i iz vile u Vichtenu, Luxembourg.<sup>6</sup> Mozaik iz Hadrumeta predstavlja kutiju za petnaest svitaka, a mozaik iz Vichtena prikazuje kutiju s dvanaest svitaka. Standardni kipovi magistrata te kipovi pokojnika i reljefni prikazi na nadgrobnim spomenicima

were usually 13-16 *digiti* (20-30cm) wide and 3 *passus* (approx. 4.5 meters) long. Sentences would be written in ink, in columns, from right to left. When reading a scroll (*volumen*), the reader would unwind it also from right to left and wind it up at its right end, leaving two or three columns visible. The scroll would be wound up around a cylindrical wooden stick (*scapus, umbilicus*).<sup>4</sup> When transported in a box, a scroll would be placed in it vertically. The depictions of open scroll boxes on the mosaics in the House of Masks in Hadrumet (*Hadrumetum*) in Tunisia in North Africa<sup>5</sup> and those from the villa in Vichten, Luxembourg<sup>6</sup> can be seen as evidence of it. The Hadrumet mosaic shows a box for fifteen scrolls and the one from Vichten a box with twelve scrolls. In general, standard statues of magistrates and those representing the dead, as well as reliefs on tombstones, include a closed scroll box placed by a foot and supporting the statue at the same time. The exceptions are the statues of famous philosophers and orators in public places, libraries, thermae,

4 M. Feugère 2006, 233.

5 K. Weitzmann 1979, 256–257, br. 239, T. VII; M. Feugère 2006, T. 16: 1.

6 J. Krier, F. Reinert 1995, 71–73; M. Feugère 2006, T. 16: 2.

4 M. Feugère 2006, 233.

5 K. Weitzmann 1979, 256–257, no. 239, pl. VII; M. Feugère 2006, pl. 16: 1.

6 J. Krier, F. Reinert 1995, 71–73; M. Feugère 2006, pl. 16: 2.



Slika 2. Kip A, kutija za svitke

Figure 2. Statue A, scroll box

foto / photo by: A. Starac



Slika 3. Kip B, kutija za svitke

Figure 3. Statue B, scroll box

foto / photo by: A. Starac



Slika 4. Kip C, kutija za svitke

Figure 4. Statue C, scroll box

foto / photo by: A. Starac

u pravilu prikazuju zatvorenu kutiju kao oslonac uz nogu. Otvorena cilindrična kutija s vidljivim svitcima izuzetno se može naći na kipovima slavnih filozofa i govornika koji su krasili javne prostore, biblioteke, terme i forume, na primjer na kipu Sofokla iz Terracine u Vatikanskim muzejima, u gregorijanskom Lateranskom muzeju (Museo Gregoriano Profano ex Lateranense).<sup>7</sup>

O njezinu izgledu rječito govore kipovi i reljefi rimskih građana s prikazom kutije za svitke. Kutija je sačuvana na čak osam kamenih kipova muškaraca iz Pule (tab. 1–3). S obzirom na relativno velik broj kiparskih prikaza kutije iz Pule, vrijedi ih detaljnije analizirati i usporediti sa sačuvanim metalnim predmetima iz Antičke zbirke Arheološkog muzeja Istre koji nisu prethodno bili predmetom zasebne studije i koji svojim funkcionalnim karakteristikama udovoljavaju opisu metalnih elemenata kutije za svitke.

Na svim spomenutim pulskim kipovima kutija je cilindričnog oblika, s vidljivom opuštenom ručkom od mekšeg materijala (tab. 2; sl. 1–9). Ni jedna kutija nema prikazan vodoravni profilirani prstenasti okov na dnu ni ispod poklopca i nema prikazane nožice. Poklopac kutije odvojen je reljefom od njezina tijela na većini kipova, osim na kipu A na kojemu je vrlo plitak reljef prilično izlizan od atmosferskih uvjeta (sl. 2), na kipu C gdje je gornji dio kutije pokriven okrajkom toge (sl. 4) te na kipu H na kojemu je kutija ostala nedovršena i samo grubo oblikovana (sl. 9). Na kipovima B (sl. 3) i G (sl. 9)

forums, such as the Sophocles' statue from Terracina in the Vatican Museums, in the Gregorian Lateran Museum (Museo Gregoriano Profano ex Lateranense), which include an open cylindrical box with visible scrolls.<sup>7</sup>

The appearance of the scroll box is particularly well-depicted on some statues and reliefs of Roman citizens. It can be seen on as many as eight male stone statues from Pula (Tab. 1–3). Given the relatively large number of the Pula sculptures containing scroll boxes, it is worth analyzing them in detail and comparing them with the preserved metal objects from the Roman Collection of the Archaeological Museum of Istria which have not been analyzed in a separate study yet and which have functional characteristics fitting the description of metal elements belonging to scroll boxes.

The boxes on all of the Pula statues are cylindrical, with a visible loose handle made of a soft material (Tab. 2; Figs. 1–9). Not one of the boxes contains the horizontal molded ring-shaped fittings either on the bottom or under the lid. None of the boxes contains little feet either. A relief separates the lid from the body of the box on most of the statues, except on Statue A with a very worn-out shallow-carved relief (Fig. 2), Statue C with the end of the toga covering the upper part of the box (Fig. 4) and Statue H with an unfinished, roughly depicted box (Fig. 9). On Statues B (Fig. 3) and G (Fig. 9), the edge of the lid is not very distinctive because the upper part of the box

7 C. Vorster 1993, 154, br. 67, sl. 297–308; P. Zanker 1995, 43, sl. 25; M. Feugère 2006, 235, T. 18: 2.

7 C. Vorster 1993, 154, no. 67, figs. 297–308; P. Zanker 1995, 43, fig. 25; M. Feugère 2006, 235, pl. 18: 2.



rub poklopca nije jasno raspoznavljiv zbog toga što nije sačuvan gornji rub kutije, no može se pretpostaviti da je bio naznačen. Poklopac je uvijek plitak, u gornjem dijelu ravan ili blago izbočen, i ima okomit neukrašen rub. Gornja strana poklopca uvijek je glatka, bez prikaza ručice u sredini i bez prikaza zakačenih lančića za vješanje. U većini slučajeva, na pet kipova, poklopac ima ravni gornji dio, a na kipu F (sl. 7) i u nedovršenom prikazu kutije na kipu H (sl. 9) oblikovan je s blago konveksnim gornjim dijelom. Pomična ručka nije vidljiva samo na jednom kipu (H) na kojemu je kutija ostala nedovršena (sl. 9). Na četiri kipa A (sl. 2), B (sl. 3), C (sl. 4), D (sl. 5) prikazana je ručka od tkanine s mekim naborima, a na tri kipa E (sl. 6), F (sl. 7), G (sl. 8) ručka ima oblik trake jasno definiranih i čvrstih rubova koja izgleda kao da predstavlja kožu (tab. 2). Ručke su smještene na krajevima osi koja prolazi kroz sredinu kutije i različitih su dužina. Ručke od kožnatih traka opuštene na kipovima E (sl. 6) i G (sl. 8) dosežu do dna kutije, dok su ručke s opuštenim naborima koji sugeriraju tkaninu različitih dužina. Na kipu A ručka doseže do dna kutije (sl. 2), na kipovima B (sl. 3) i C (sl. 4) do donje trećine kutije, a na kipu D (sl. 5) doseže do polovice visine kutije. Hvatište ručke vidljivo je na dva kipa neposredno ispod poklopca. U jednom slučaju (kip E) prikazano je kao polukalotasto udubljenje u kožnatoj traci ručke koje prikriva zakovicu (sl. 6), a u drugom (kip B) kao krupna metalna alka kružnog presjeka kroz koju je provučena tkanina ručke (sl. 3). Jedan prikaz kutije na kipu F ima ispod poklopca okomiti trakasti element za koji nije jasno prikazuje li zasun ili ukrasni okov (sl. 7). Brava s pločicom konkavnih stranica i izvučenih uglova prikazana je jednostavnim linearnim urezivanjem na pet pulskih kipova muškaraca s cilindričnom kutijom za svitke A (sl. 2), B (sl. 3), D (sl. 5), E (sl. 6), F (sl. 7). Brava je uvijek smještena u gornjem dijelu kutije, u gornjoj polovici ili gornjoj trećini. Mehanizam zatvaranja kutije sa zasunom pričvršćenim pomoću karičice na rub poklopca iziskivao je smještaj brave par centimetara ispod ruba poklopca, kako bi prošupljena istaka s unutrašnje strane zasuna mogla proći kroz predviđeni otvor na bravi. Okretanjem ključa u bravi pomicala se poluga mehanizma za zatvaranje koji je blokirao zasun.

Svi su navedeni kipovi izrađeni približno u prirodnoj veličini i prikazane kutije proporcijama odgovaraju stvarnosti. Usporedba sa sačuvanim elementima cilindričnih kutija pokazuje da su prikazi kutija u skulpturi donekle umanjeni u odnosu na prirodnu veličinu (tab. 3; sl. 1). Visina kutije na kipovima kreće se između 23 i 35 cm, najčešće oko 26 cm, a promjer tijela između 14 i 20 cm, najčešće 17 cm. Visina ruba poklopca na kipu kreće se od 2,8 do 4,5 cm. Sačuvana nožica cilindrične kutije kat. br. 3 odgovara promjeru kutije od približno 30 cm i time pokazuje veće dimenzije u stvarnosti nego što je prikazano u skulpturi. Brava kat. br. 1 svojom zakrivljenošću pristaje cilindričnoj

is missing; however, we can assume it was clearly visible. The lid is always shallow, flat or slightly bulging in the upper part, with an unadorned vertical edge. The lid's upper side is always smooth, with no handle in the center and no suspension chainlets. In most cases, on five statues, the lid has a flat upper part. On Statue F (Fig. 7) and in the unfinished depiction on Statue H (Fig. 9), the upper part is slightly convex. The movable handle cannot be seen only on one statue (H), where the box was left unfinished (Fig. 9). Four statues – A (Fig. 2), B (Fig. 3), C (Fig. 4) and D (Fig. 5) – display a textile handle with soft creases, while three statues – E (Fig. 6), F (Fig. 7) and G (Fig. 8) – show a strap handle with clearly defined and sharp edges, as if suggesting it was made of leather (Tab. 2). The handles are placed at the ends of the axis passing through the box's center and are of various lengths. The leather-strap handles depicted as hanging loose on Statues E (Fig. 6) and G (Fig. 8) descend to the bottom of the box, while the handles the loose creases of which suggest they were made of textile are of various lengths. The handle on Statue A descends to the bottom of the box (Fig. 2), those on Statues B (Fig. 3) and C (Fig. 4) to the lower third of the box, and the one on Statue D (Fig. 5) to the half of the box's height. The handle's grip can be seen on two statues, just underneath the lid. In one case (Statue E), it is shown as a semi-calotte recess in the handle's leather strap that covers a stud (Fig. 6). In the other (Statue B), it looks like a massive circular metal ring with the handle textile threaded through it (Fig. 3). The box on Statue F has a vertical, ribbon-shaped element underneath the lid, but it is not certain whether it shows a latch or decorative fittings (Fig. 7). A simple linear carving of a lock with a concave-sided, corner-jutting plate can be seen on the cylindrical scroll box on each of five Pula male statues – A (Fig. 2), B (Fig. 3), D (Fig. 5), E (Fig. 6) and F (Fig. 7). The lock is always on the upper part of the box, in its upper half or third. The box's closing mechanism, with a latch attached to the lid's edge with a small link, required that the lock be placed a couple of centimeters under the lid's edge so that the hollow protrusion on the inside of the latch could pass through the corresponding opening on the lock. By turning the key in the lock, the lever of the closing mechanism for blocking the latch would be moved.

All these statues are near life-size and the boxes included in them are of actual size, too. By comparing the depicted boxes with the preserved elements of cylindrical boxes we can tell that the boxes on the statues are slightly smaller than the actual size (Tab. 3; Fig. 1). The boxes on the statues are 23-35cm high (usually approx. 26cm) and their diameter is 14-20cm (usually 17cm). The lid's edge on the statues is 2.8-4.5cm high. The remaining foot of a cylindrical box (Cat. No. 3) corresponds to a box diameter of approx. 30cm, so its actual size is somewhat larger than its depiction on the statue. By its curvature, the lock with Cat. No. 1 fits a 25cm-diameter box, but it is only a rough guide



Slika 5. Kip D, kutija za svitke  
Figure 5. Statue D, scroll box

foto / photo by: A. Starac



Slika 6. Kip E, kutija za svitke  
Figure 6. Statue E, scroll box

foto / photo by: A. Starac



Slika 7. Kip F, kutija za svitke  
Figure 7. Statue F, scroll box

foto / photo by: A. Starac

270 kutiji promjera oko 25 cm, no taj podatak zbog savitljivosti tankog brončanog lima ima samo orijentacijsku vrijednost. Proizlazi da su kiparski prikazi kutija na pulskim kipovima izrađeni u 60 – 80 % originalne veličine kutije, prosječno 70 %. Prema tome, slijedi izračun da se prosječna veličina cilindrične kutije za svitke kretala oko 33 – 50 cm u visinu i 20 – 29 cm u promjeru. Dimenzije prikazanih pločica brava s konkavnim stranicama na pojedinim kipovima (A, D, F) upola su manje od stvarnih dimenzija sačuvanih metalnih pločica brave iz Nezakcija, kat. br. 1 (9,2 x 11,1 cm) (sl. 10) i kat. br. 4 (8,3 x 10,2 cm) (sl. 13). Na drugim kipovima (B, E) dimenzije brave približno odgovaraju stvarnim veličinama sačuvanih metalnih brava (tab. 3; sl. 1).

Brava s konkavnim stranicama i izvučenim uglovima pločice karakteristična je vrstom i oblikom upravo za cilindričnu kutiju za čuvanje papirnatih svitaka (*volumina*). Pulske skulpture pokazuju da se brava mogla nalaziti na sredini ili u gornjem dijelu kutije, no uvijek u središnjoj osi između dva hvatišta pokretne ručke (sl. 1). Od nekoliko sačuvanih rimskih brava iz Antičke zbirke Arheološkog muzeja Istre, dvije se potpuno sigurno mogu pripisati cilindričnoj kutiji. Namjena cilindrične kutije manje je izvjesna, s obzirom na to da su se cilindrične kutije veće visine upotrebljavale za svitke, a one manje visine za kozmetičke ili liječničke instrumente i pribor. S obzirom na veličinu, dvije sačuvane brave konkavnih stranica pripadale su cilindričnoj kutiji većih dimenzija, prikladnoj za spremanje svitaka (tab. 4). Obje su brave pronađene u paljevinskoj nekropoli Nezakcija (*Nesactium*), u horizontu 1. – 2. st. i pripadaju tipu brave na dvostruko guranje. Jedna je izrađena od brončanog lima, ukrašena iskucavanjem i posrebrna (kat. br. 1–2; sl. 10–11), a druga je iskovana od željeza, s profiliranim glavama zakovica kao glavnim ukrasom (kat. br. 4; sl. 13).

because of the flexibility of the thin bronze sheet. It turns out the boxes depicted on the Pula statues are 60-80% of their original size – 70% on average. We can therefore calculate that an average cylindrical scroll box was 33-50cm high and 20-29cm in diameter. The dimensions of the concave-sided plates on locks depicted on some statues (A, D, F) are half the size of the actual size of the preserved metal plates of a lock from Nesactium (Cat. No. 1 [9.2x11.1cm] [Fig. 10] and Cat. No. 4 [8.3x10.2cm] [Fig. 13]). The sizes of the locks on other statues (B, E) roughly correspond with the actual sizes of metal locks (Tab. 3; Fig. 1).

Locks with concave-sided, corner-jutting plates are typical of cylindrical scroll boxes (*volumina*). The Pula statues show that the lock could have been either on the box's center or on its upper part, but always on the central axis between the two grips of the movable handle (Fig. 1). Of the few remaining Roman locks from the Roman Collection of the Archaeological Museum of Istria, two can positively be associated with cylindrical boxes. The purpose of the cylindrical boxes is less certain, as the higher ones among them were used for keeping scrolls and the lower ones for cosmetics or medical instruments and accessories. Given their size, the two preserved concave-sided locks belonged to larger cylindrical boxes, suitable for keeping scrolls (Tab. 4). Both locks were found at the incineration necropolis of Nesactium, in the horizon dating back to the 1<sup>st</sup>-2<sup>nd</sup> centuries AD. These are double-push locks. One is made of sheet bronze; it was decorated by embossing and silver-plating (Cat. No. 1–2; Figs. 10–11). The other is made of wrought iron and has molded rivet heads as its main decoration (Cat. No. 4; Fig. 13).

The more luxurious lock – the bronze silver-plated one – consists of a decorative plate with two latches (Cat. No. 1; Fig. 10) and closing mechanism (Cat. No. 2; Fig. 11).



Slika 8. Kip G, kutija za svitke

Figure 8. Statue G, scroll box

foto / photo by: A. Starac



Slika 9. Kip H, nedovršena kutija za svitke

Figure 9. Statue H, incomplete scroll box

foto / photo by: A. Starac

Skuplja posrebrana brončana brava sastoji se od ukrasne pločice s dva zasuna (kat. br. 1; sl. 10) i mehanizma za zatvaranje (kat. br. 2; sl. 11). Pronađena je na području rimske paljevinske nekropole Nezakcija, pored gradskih vrata uz cestu prema Puli, izvan zatvorene grobne cjeline, ali u arheološkom kontekstu koji se može datirati u 1. st. S obzirom na nalaz u neposrednoj blizini gradskih vrata, horizontalna stratigrafija upućuje na ranije julijevsko-klaudijevsko razdoblje. Tanka brončana posrebrana pločica brave lagano je savijena po širini, prateći cilindrični oblik kutije promjera oko 25 cm. Četiri uska pravokutna otvora simetrično raspoređena u uglovima iskucanog dekorativnog pravokutnika nisu imala ulogu u mehanizmu zatvaranja, nego su služila za učvršćenje pločice na cilindrično drveno tijelo kutije. Izgubljene zakovice morale su imati nogu pravokutnog presjeka kako bi mogle proći kroz rupu. Uglati otvor u obliku slova L karakterističan je za brave na dvostruko guranje i predstavlja otvor za umetanje ključa, a kružni otvor ispod njega služio je za zakovicu koja je držala izgubljeni pomični zatvarač brave. Dva jednaka zasuna oblikovana u strelice bila su okrenuta nadolje i gornjim dijelom pričvršćena za poklopac kutije pomoću željezne kuke usađene u rub poklopca. Ni jedan od pulskih kipova ne prikazuje dva pomična okomita zasuna kakve ima posrebrana brava iz Nezakcija. Identična brava s dva okomita zasuna prikazana je na kutiji za svitke na nadgrobnom spomeniku Publija Pagnija Afrodizija (*P. Pagnius Aphrodisius*) iz Nikeje (*Nikaia/Nicaea*) u maloazijskoj Bitiniji (*provincia Bithynia et Pontus*).<sup>8</sup> Pagnijev spomenik pripada 2. st. i sastoji se od tri

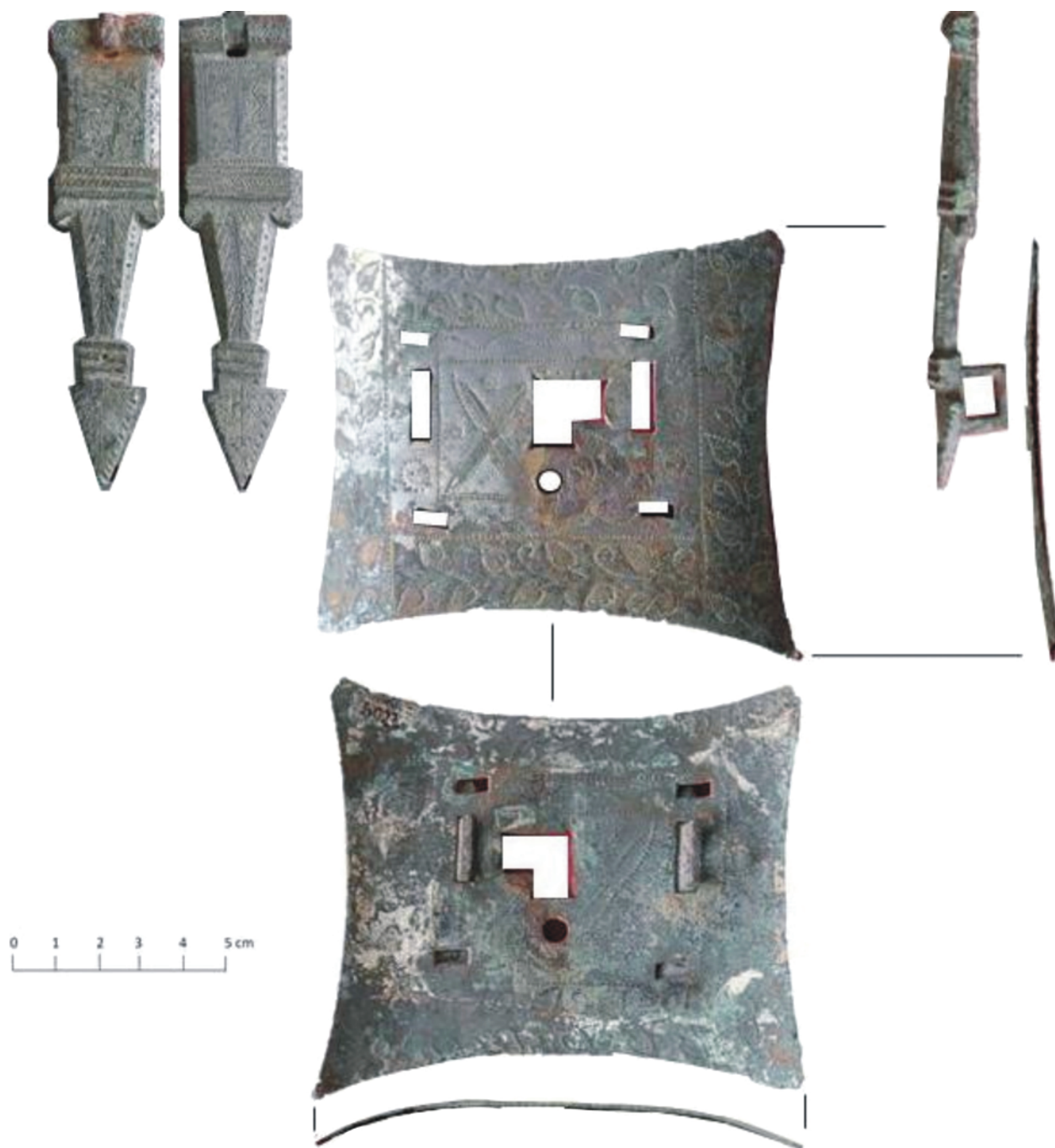
8 AÉ 1993, 1434; S. Durugönül, S. Şahin 1993, 57, T. 7: a–b; M. Feugère 2006, 236–237, sl. 3: 1–2.

It was found at the Roman incineration necropolis of Nesactium, near the town gate by the Pula road, but not as part of grave goods. Nevertheless, its archaeological context helps us date it to the 1<sup>st</sup> century AD. As it was found in the immediate vicinity of the town gate, the horizontal stratigraphy suggests the early Julio-Claudian period. The lock's thin silver-gilt plate is slightly bent laterally, following the cylindrical shape of a box with a diameter of approx. 25cm. Four narrow rectangular openings, symmetrically arranged in the corners of the embossed decorative rectangle, were not part of the closing mechanism; their purpose was to affix the plate on the box's cylindrical wooden body. The rivets – now lost – must have had square-section pins in

order to fit through the holes. An angular L-shaped opening is typical of the double-push locks. It was a keyhole. The purpose of the round opening underneath it was to receive the rivet fixing the (now lost) movable blocker of the lock. Two identical arrow-shaped latches were turned upside down and, with their upper parts, attached to the box's lid with an iron hook fixed into the edge of the lid. None of the Pula statues includes two movable vertical latches like the silver-plated lock from Nesactium. An identical lock with two vertical latches can be seen on the scroll box on the tombstone of Publius Pagnius Aphrodisius from Nicaea in the province of Bithynia (*provincia Bithynia et Pontus*) in Asia Minor.<sup>8</sup> Pagnius' monument is dated to the 2<sup>nd</sup> century AD. It consists of three grave altars (*arae*) on a common base, found *in situ*. Two lateral *arae* contain inscriptions dedicated by Pagnius Threptus to his brother Aphrodisius and his wife Caesonia Secunda, while the central *ara*, probably dedicated to Pagnius Threptus, has no inscription. Both the *ara* of Pagnius Aphrodisius' and the one with no inscription include a detailed sculpture of a scroll box – as a man's item – while the *ara* of Caesonia Secunda depicts a basket (*calathus*) for balls of wool – as an item indicating an exemplary matron. Both scroll boxes are cylindrical, with molded edges in the bottom and on the top. Each has a flat lid and a decorative, concave-sided and corner-jutting lock plate placed in the upper part of the box, right underneath the lid. Two vertical latch plates connect each lid with each lock. The latch plates are shaped as flat straps with semicircular points. The Pula and Nicaea

8 AÉ 1993, 1434; S. Durugönül, S. Şahin 1993, 57, pl. 7: a–b; M. Feugère 2006, 236–237, fig. 3: 1–2.





nadgrobna žrtvenika (*arae*) na zajedničkom postolju, pronađena *in situ*. Dvije bočne are nose natpise koje je *Pagnius Threptus* posvetio svom bratu Afrodiziju i svojoj supruzi imenom *Caesonia Secunda*, dok srednja, vjerojatno namijenjena Pagniju Treptu, nema natpis. Ara Pagnija Afrodizija i ara bez natpisa na vrhu nose svaka detaljno izvedenu skulpturu kutije za svitke, obilježja muškarca, dok ara Cezonije Sekunde nosi košaru (*calathus*) za klupka niti za tkanje, što predstavlja obilježje uzorne matrone. Obje kutije za svitke cilindričnog su oblika, profiliranog ruba na dnu i vrhu tijela, imaju nizak ravan poklopac i ukrasnu pločicu brave konkavnih stranica s izvučenim uglovima koja je smještena u gornjem dijelu kutije neposredno ispod poklopca te dvije okomite pločice zasuna koje povezuju poklopac s

**Slika 10. Brončana posrebrana pločica brave s dva zasuna, Nezakcij**

Figure 10. Bronze silver-plated two-latched lock plate, Nesactium

foto i izradila / photo and made by: A. Starac

sculptures can help us partially recreate the Nesactium scroll box. Its lock differed from those depicted on the Pagnius' funerary altars (*arae*) from Nicaea only in decorative details and the shape of its latch. The lock must have been on the upper third of the box, underneath the lid to which two movable vertical latches were attached. Based on the lock's curvature, the box's diameter was around 25cm; as for its height, it was approx. 40cm, based on the proportions of



bravom. Pločice zasuna imaju oblik ravne trake s polukružno zaobljenim vrhom. Prema kiparskim prikazima iz Pule i iz Nikeje, kutiju za svitke iz Nezakcija možemo djelomično rekonstruirati. Njezina brava razlikovala se tek u ukrasnim detaljima i obliku zasuna od prikaza na nadgrobnim arama Pagnija iz Nikeje. Brava se morala nalaziti u gornjoj trećini kutije, ispod poklopca na kojemu su bila učvršćena dva pomična okomita zasuna. Promjer kutije iznosio je oko 25 cm prema zakrivljenosti brave, a visina se kretala oko 40 cm sudeći prema proporcijama kutija za svitke prikazanih na pulskim kipovima (sl. 14). Ukrasni detalji posrebrene brave iz Nezakcija imaju mnogo sličnosti s ukrašenim bravama konkavnih stranica iz Emone i drugih udaljenijih nalazišta.<sup>9</sup> Motiv s četiri dijagonalno postavljena uska i zašiljena lista pripada u skupinu biljnih motiva uobičajenu na središnjem polju pločice brave.<sup>10</sup> Motiv vitice sa srcolikim glatkim listovima na posrebrenoj bravi iz Nezakcija krase vanjski rub pločice, a na srebrnoj bravi iz Emone nalazi se na pomičnom zasunu.<sup>11</sup> U nekropoli rimskog Zadra (*Iader*) pronađeni su brončani okovi dviju cilindričnih kutija za svitke, obje s aplikama u obliku glava erota ili Atisa.<sup>12</sup> Dva zadarska primjerka predstavljaju potpuno sačuvane cjelovite metalne opreme kutije s bravom konkavnih stranica s dva zasuna, pomičnom ručkom na poklopcu, snopovima od četiri duga i četiri kratka lančića za vješanje, alkama, zakovicama i okruglim ukrasnim pločicama koje su prikrivale mjesto zabijanja zakovice u drvo. Svaka je bila ukrašena s dvije aplikacije u obliku glave dječaka s dugom kosom. Glave dječaka na jednoj kutiji imaju šiške na čelu i pletenicu po sredini tjemena i predstavljaju erote s karakterističnom frizurinom baštinjenom iz helenističke ikonografije.<sup>13</sup> Glave na drugoj kutiji izgleda da nose frigijsku kapu i predstavljaju Atisa ili općenito orijentalca.

Istoj cilindričnoj kutiji kao brava kat. br. 1–2 možda pripada reljefno ukrašena nožica cilindrične kutije kat. br. 3 za koju je poznato samo da potječe iz Nezakcija (tab. 4). Nožica s reljefom borbe bika i lava kat. br. 3 iz Nezakcija (sl. 12) predstavlja rijedak nalaz reljefno ukrašene nožice kutije cilindričnog tijela promjera oko 30 cm. Iz nekropole sjevernoitalskog grada *Iulia Concordia* kod Portogruara potječe usporediv nalaz nožice sličnih dimenzija (5 x 3,2 cm) s reljefom dvaju dupina isprepletenih repova i poprsjem



Slika 11. Brončani mehanizam brave, Nezakcija  
Figure 11. Bronze mechanism of a lock, Nesactium

foto i izradila / photo and made by: A. Starac

the scroll boxes on the Pula sculptures (Fig. 14). The decorative details on the silver-plated Nesactium lock are very similar to the decorated concave-sided locks from Emona and other, more distant sites.<sup>9</sup> The motif with four diagonal narrow and pointed leaves belongs to the plant motifs often found on the central field of lock plates.<sup>10</sup> The motif of a tendril with heart-shaped smooth leaves adorns the outer edge of the silver-plated Nesactium lock and the movable latch of the silver-plated Emona lock.<sup>11</sup> Bronze fittings of two cylindrical scroll boxes, both with appliqués shaped as Eroses' or Attis' heads, were found in the necropolis of the Roman Zadar (*Iader*).<sup>12</sup> Two Zadar specimens constitute well-preserved sets of box fittings with two-latched concave-sided locks, a movable handle on the lid, bundles of four long and four short suspension chainlets, rings, rivets and round decorative plates for covering the rivets driven into wood. Each was decorated with two appliqués shaped as long-haired boy's heads. The heads of one of the boxes have bangs on their foreheads and a braid descending centrally on the back of the head; they represent Erotes with the typical hairstyle inherited from the Hellenistic iconography.<sup>13</sup> The heads on the other box seem to have Phrygian caps on them; they represent Attis or some oriental character in general.

It is possible that the small relief-decorated foot of a cylindrical box (Cat. No. 3) – known only to originate from

9 Ljubljana: S. Petru 1972, 72, Grob 803, br. 1, T. LIII, Grob 803: 1; 99, Grob 75, br. 2, T. LXXXVII, Grob 75: 3; 114, Grob 2, br. 2, T. CXVI, Grob 2: 19; Lj. Plesničar-Gec 1972, 247, Grob 700, br. 10, T. CLX, Grob 700: 10. Magdalensberg: M. Deimel 1987, T. 39: 2–3; K. Gostenčnik 2004, 384, sl. 13; Ptuj: M. Tomanič-Jevremov, Z. Šubič, I. Tušek 2001, 108, kat. br. 28. Španjolska: M. Feugère 2006, 239, sl. 5: A 46.  
10 S. Petru 1972, 114, Grob 2, br. 2, T. CXVI, Grob 2: 19; Lj. Plesničar-Gec 1972, 247, Grob 700, br. 10, T. CLX, Grob 700: 10; K. Gostenčnik 2004, 384, sl. 13; M. Feugère 2006, 239, sl. 5: A 46.  
11 Lj. Plesničar-Gec 1972, 247, Grob 700, br. 10, T. CLX, Grob 700: 10.  
12 T. Alihodžić 2015, 21–23, sl. 18–19, Grob 23, Vrt Relja 2005 i Grob 246, Trgovački centar Relja 2005.  
13 V. Galliazzo 1979, 108–109, kat. br. 22, s bibliografijom.

9 Ljubljana: S. Petru 1972, 72, Grave 803, no. 1, pl. LIII, Grave 803: 1; 99, Grave 75, no. 2, pl. LXXXVII, Grave 75: 3; 114, Grave 2, no. 2, pl. CXVI, Grave 2: 19; Lj. Plesničar-Gec 1972, 247, Grave 700, no. 10, pl. CLX, Grave 700: 10. Magdalensberg: M. Deimel 1987, pl. 39: 2–3; K. Gostenčnik 2004, 384, fig. 13; Ptuj: M. Tomanič-Jevremov, Z. Šubič, I. Tušek 2001, 108, cat. no. 28. Spain: M. Feugère 2006, 239, fig. 5: A 46.  
10 S. Petru 1972, 114, Grave 2, no. 2, pl. CXVI, Grave 2: 19; Lj. Plesničar-Gec 1972, 247, Grave 700, no. 10, pl. CLX, Grave 700: 10; K. Gostenčnik 2004, 384, fig. 13; M. Feugère 2006, 239, fig. 5: A 46.  
11 Lj. Plesničar-Gec 1972, 247, Grave 700, no. 10, pl. CLX, Grave 700: 10.  
12 T. Alihodžić 2015, 21–23, figs. 18–19, Grave 23, Relja Garden site 2005 and Grave 246, Relja Shopping Mall site 2005.  
13 V. Galliazzo 1979, 108–109, cat. no. 22, with bibliography.



Slika 12. Brončana figuralno ukrašena nožica, Nesactij  
Figure 12. Bronze foot with figural decorations, Nesactium

foto i izradila / photo and made by: A. Starac

erota u sredini.<sup>14</sup> Nožica iz Portogruara na jednak je način opremljena ravnim produžetkom na gornjoj strani koji je služio za učvršćenje, no ravnina pločice pokazuje da je pripadala škrinjici pravokutnog oblika za razliku od reljefne noge kat. br. 3 iz Nezakcija. Osim kutije, zakrivljena figuralno ukrašena brončana nožica konkavnih okomitih strana mogla je pripadati ranocarskom kotliću u obliku situle.<sup>15</sup> U Pompejima su luksuzne brončane situle upotrebljavane u trikliniju pri gozbama, a bile su ukrašene ispod otvora geometrijskim i biljnim motivima te opremljene s tri niske zakrivljene nožice konkavnih okomitih strana.<sup>16</sup> Po tri nožice konkavnih strana na situlama nasljeđe su kasnolatenskog razdoblja.<sup>17</sup> Nožice luksuznih situla iz Pompeja ukrašene su geometrijskim motivima ili su glatke. Za razliku od običnih neukrašenih kotlića u obliku situle koji su služili za donošenje vode, ukrašene situle s nožicama vezane su za posluživanje pića, osobito vina. Promjer dna pompejanskih situla s nožicama kreće se oko 14 – 18 cm, dvostruko manje od promjera predmeta kojemu je pripadala nožica iz Nezakcija. To je dodatni argument koji ide u korist pretpostavci o pripadnosti figuralno ukrašene nožice iz Nezakcija kutiji za svitke.

Željezna brava kat. br. 4 (sl. 13) potječe iz iste paljevinske nekropole ispred gradskih vrata Nezakcija kao i brončana posrebrana brava kat. br. 1–2. Ima sačuvane

Nesactium (Tab. 4) – belongs to the same cylindrical box as the lock with Cat. No. 1–2. The Nesactium foot's relief (Cat. No. 3; Fig. 12) represents a fight between a bull and a lion. Such relief-decorated feet belonging to cylindrical boxes with approx. 30cm diameter are a rare find. A comparable foot of a similar size (5x3.2cm), adorned with a relief depicting two dolphins with entangled tails and a bust of an Eros in between, originates from the necropolis of the North Italian town of *Iulia Concordia* near Portogruaro.<sup>14</sup> The Portogruaro foot has the same flat extension on its upper side (used for fixing), but the plate's flatness indicates that it belonged to a small rectangular chest, unlike the relief foot from Nesactium (Cat. No. 3). In addition to a box, the curved bronze foot with figural decorations and vertical concave sides could have also belonged to a situla-shaped Early Imperial kettle.<sup>15</sup> In Pompeii, luxurious bronze situlae were used in triclinia during feasts. Underneath the opening they were adorned with geometrical patterns and plant motifs. They had three small curved feet with concave vertical sides.<sup>16</sup> These situlae with three small concave-sided feet were a heritage of the Late La Tene period.<sup>17</sup> The feet of the luxurious situlae from Pompeii are decorated with geometrical patterns or are smooth. Unlike common, undecorated situla-shaped kettles used for fetching water, the decorated footed situlae were primarily used for serving drinks, particularly wine. The diameters of the Pompeiian footed situla bottoms range from 14-18cm, half the diameter of the object the Nesactium foot belonged to. This is the only additional argument supporting the assumption that the Nesactium foot with figural decorations belonged to a scroll box.

The iron lock Cat. No. 4 (Fig. 13) comes from the same incineration necropolis in front of Nesactium town gate like the bronze silver-plated lock Cat. No. 1–2. All four rivets once affixing it to the box have been preserved, and so has the movable bolt for opening the lock. The rivets with molded flat heads and a square-section foot make up this lock's only decoration. A rotating bolt for closing the keyhole has been preserved on the lock. The bolt is riveted to the lock underneath the angular keyhole. A separate aperture in the lock plate, underneath the bolt, enabled the bolt's guided movement, while the bolt handle's rounded bracket lies perpendicular to the lock plate. The fact that there is only one vertical rectangular opening for the latch indicates that the lock was a single-latch one and that the upper part of this asymmetrical vertical latch was attached to the lid. Several of the completely

14 P. Croce Da Villa 2002, 180–182, sl. 2.

15 H. J. Eggers 1951, T. 4: tip 24; M. Bolla 1994, 56, 60, kat. br. 65, T. L, brončana niska noga konkavnih okomitih stranica reljefno ukrašena ležećom sfigom, možda pripada situli Eggers 24, druga polovina 1. st. pr. Kr. – 1. st. po. Kr.

16 S. Tassinari 1993, I, 108, 233, tip X 1200; II, 302–303.

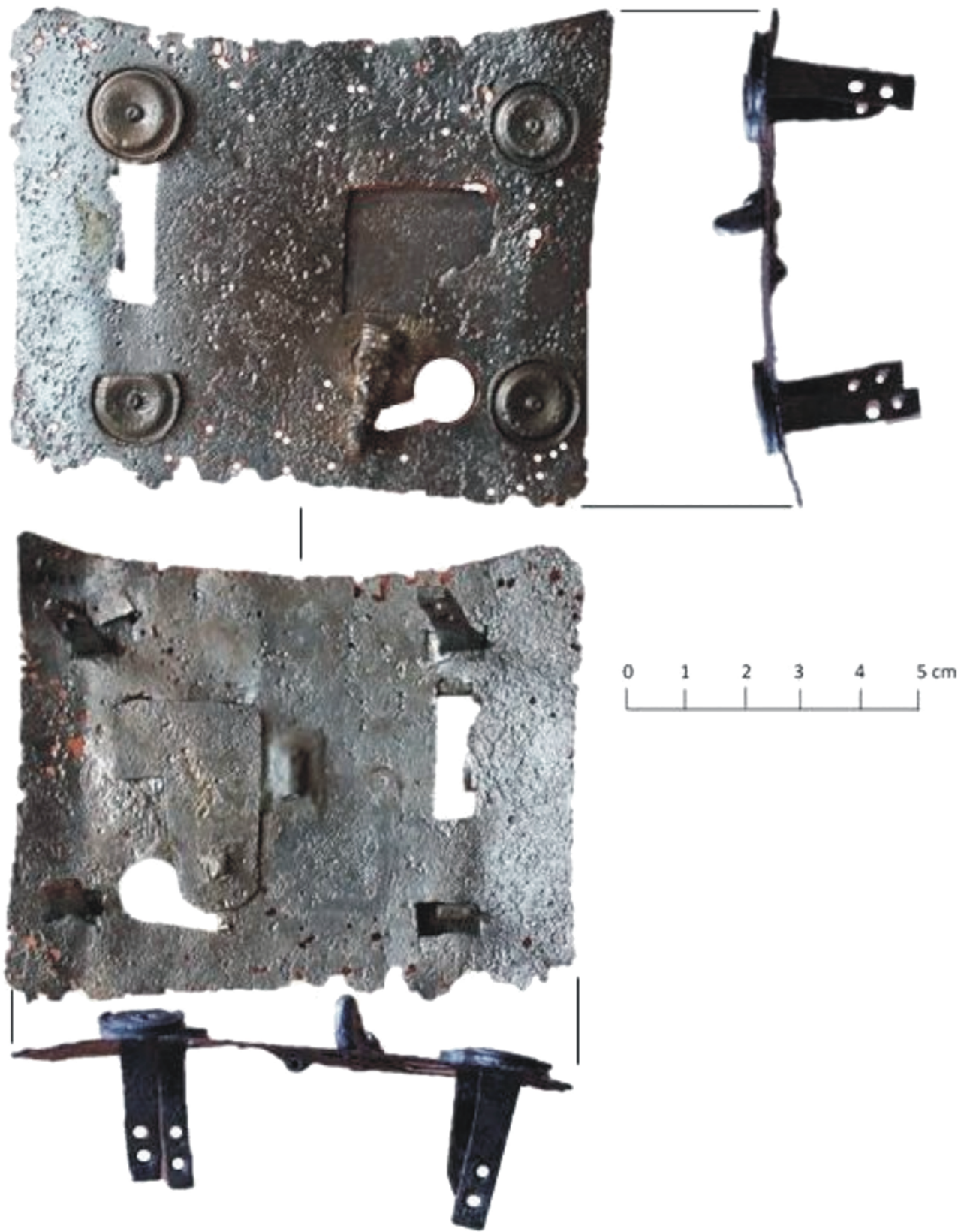
17 H. Willers 1907, 7, sl. 4–5; 24, sl. 16–18; T. V: 1–3; H. J. Eggers 1951, T. 4: tip 18–19; M. Bolla 1991, 10, sl. 6: 1.

14 P. Croce Da Villa 2002, 180–182, fig. 2.

15 H. J. Eggers 1951, pl. 4: type 24; M. Bolla 1994, 56, 60, cat. no. 65, pl. L, short bronze concave-sided foot decorated with relief of lying sphynx – probably belonging to a situla, Eggers 24, second half of 1st century BC-1st century AD.

16 S. Tassinari 1993, I, 108, 233, type X 1200; II, 302–303.

17 H. Willers 1907, 7, figs. 4–5; 24, figs. 16–18; pl. V: 1–3; H. J. Eggers 1951, pl. 4: type 18–19; M. Bolla 1991, 10, fig. 6: 1.

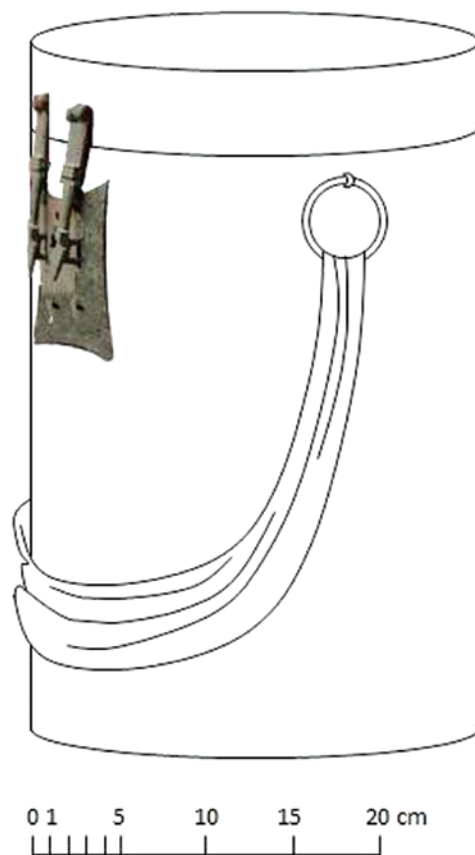


Slika 13. Željezna pločica brave s četiri zakovice, Nezakcij  
Figure 13. Iron lock plate with four rivets, Nesactium  
foto i izradila / photo and made by: A. Starac



sve četiri zakovice kojima je bila pričvršćena za kutiju i pomični zapornik za otvaranje brave. Zakovice profilirane plosnate glave s nogom pravokutnog presjeka jedini su ukras brave. Na bravi je sačuvan okretni zapornik za zatvaranje otvora za ključ, učvršćen zakovicom ispod uglatog otvora ključanice. Poseban otvor u pločici brave ispod zapornika omogućavao je njegovo usmjereno pomicanje, a zaobljena konzola ručke zapornika postavljena je okomito na pločicu brave. Samo jedan okomiti pravokutni otvor za provlačenje zasuna pokazuje da se brava zatvarala jednim, asimetrično smještenim okomitim zasunom koji je gornjim krajem bio učvršćen na poklopcu. Po jedan zasun imalo je nekoliko cjelovito sačuvanih brava konkavnih stranica iz nekropola u Ljubljani (*Emona*).<sup>18</sup> Zasuni na bravama iz nekropola Emone završavaju u obliku strelice, šiljka ili u jednostavnom pravokutnom obliku, uvijek imaju pri završetku s donje strane kvadratni prozor za zatvaranje, a učvršćivali su se na poklopac pomoću karičice dugih krakova koja je funkcionirala kao šarnir i omogućavala pokretnost zasuna. Brončana brava iz emonskog groba 803 oblikom i zakovicama veoma je slična bravi kat. br. 4 iz Nezakcija, a pripadao joj je jedan pomični zasun zašiljenog vrha. Nalazila se na kutiji opremljenoj alkama za dužu pomičnu ručku na tijelu, ručkom na poklopcu i snopom od četiri lančića s alkama za vješanje na poklopcu.<sup>19</sup> Kip muškarca iz Pule F (sl. 7) ima vidljiv poklopac kutije i ispod njega okomito postavljenu traku koja bi mogla predstavljati okov kutije ili ravno završenu traku pomičnog zasuna. Reljefni okomiti okov ili zasun nalazi se pored urezane male brave konkavnih stranica, dok je donji dio kutije odlomljen i reljefni prikazi na njoj nisu potpuni. S obzirom na to da je okomita reljefna traka odmaknuta u stranu od urezane brave, vjerojatnijim izgleda da predstavlja okov.

Pulski kip B (sl. 3) odlikuje se još jednim raspoznatljivim detaljem, prikazom metalne alke okruglog presjeka kojom su krajevi ručke bili pričvršćeni na kutiju neposredno ispod poklopcu. U Antičkoj zbirci Arheološkog muzeja Istre čuvaju se brončane alke koje uglavnom nemaju zabilježen arheološki kontekst nalaza i koje su mogle imati različite namjene, od elementa konjske orme do kopče za odjeću. Između ostalih brojnih mogućih namjena, pojedine alke mogle su se upotrijebiti za učvršćenje ručke na kutiji za svitke. Alka se učvršćivala na drveno tijelo kutije pomoću metalne spojnice s kružnom glavicom i dva kraka za zabijanje u drvo, a mjesto učvršćenja pokrivalo se kružnom metalnom pločicom.<sup>20</sup>



**Slika 14. Rekonstrukcija položaja brave s dva zasuna na kutiji za svitke iz Nezakcija**

Figure 14. Recreated position of two-latched lock on Nesactium scroll box

foto i izradila / photo and made by: A. Starac

preserved concave-sided locks from Ljubljana (*Emona*) were of the single-latch type.<sup>18</sup> The latches on the locks from the Emona necropolis have arrow-shaped, pointy or simple rectangular ends. They always have a square closing aperture on the lower side near the end. They were affixed to the lid by means of a long link that functioned like a hinge, enabling the latch to move. The shape and rivets of the bronze lock from Grave 803 in Emona are very similar to those from the Nesactium lock Cat. No. 4. It had a single movable latch with a pointed end. It was installed on a box that contained rings for the longer movable handle on the body, a small handle on the lid and a bundle of four suspension chainlets on the lid.<sup>19</sup> Statue F from Pula (Fig. 7) has a visible box lid and, underneath it, a vertical strap that could have served as the

18 S. Petru 1972, 72, Grob 803, br. 1, T. LIII, Grob 803: 1–4; 99, Grob 75, br. 1–3, T. LXXXVII, Grob 75: 1–4; 114, Grob 2, br. 2–3, T. CXVI, Grob 2: 13, 19; Lj. Plesničar-Gec 1972, 247, Grob 700, br. 10, T. CLX, Grob 700: 10, srebrna brava.

19 S. Petru 1972, 72, Grob 803, br. 1–8, T. LIII, Grob 803: 1–14.

20 E. Künzl 1994, 623–626, sl. 77; M. Feugère 2006, 239, sl. 5: A53–A57.

18 S. Petru 1972, 72, Grave 803, no. 1, pl. LIII, Grave 803: 1–4; 99, Grave 75, no. 1–3, pl. LXXXVII, Grave 75: 1–4; 114, Grave 2, no. 2–3, pl. CXVI, Grave 2: 13, 19; Lj. Plesničar-Gec 1972, 247, Grave 700, no. 10, pl. CLX, Grave 700: 10, silver lock.

19 S. Petru 1972, 72, Grave 803, no. 1–8, pl. LIII, Grave 803: 1–14.

## ZAKLJUČAK

Elementi cilindričnih kutija za svitke pronađeni su u Istri samo u grobovima Nezakcija i s obzirom na okolnosti nalaza datirani su u julijevsko-klaudijevsko razdoblje. Zabilježeni su metalni elementi najmanje dviju cilindričnih kutija za svitke. Pri rekonstrukciji izvornog oblika kutije neposredne informacije pružili su prikazi cilindričnih kutija za svitke na kamenim kipovima rimskih građana kolonije Pole izrađenima približno u prirodnoj veličini. Kiparski prikazi kutija za svitke donose paletu modela s različitim poklopcima, ručkama i hvatištima ručki, dok brava uvijek ima konkavne stranice izvučenih uglova. Dvije brave za cilindričnu kutiju pronađene u nekropoli Nezakcija izrađene su od različitih materijala. Ona običnija izrađena je od željeza i nema nikakvih ukrasa osim profiliranih glava zakovica, dok je druga, skupocjenija, izrađena od posrebrene bronce i ukrašena iskucavanjem biljnim i geometrijskim motivima. Približno su jednakih dimenzija, bile su na isti način pomoću četiri zakovice pričvršćene na drveni cilindar kutije i opremljene mehanizmom za otključavanje, no razlikuju se u broju zasuna. Željezna brava imala je samo jedan okomiti zasun, a brončana dva. Kutije za svitke mogle su imati tri niske nožice. Brončana nožica iz Nezakcija ukrašena figurama bika i lava mogla je pripadati kutiji s brončanom posrebreanom bravom sudeći prema obliku i približnim dimenzijama, no to u nedostatku preciznijih podataka o okolnostima nalaza ostaje samo pretpostavkom.

box's fittings or a flat-end strap of the movable latch. The relief-decorated vertical fittings/latch are found next to a small carved concave-sided lock; the lower part of the box is broken off and the relief on it is incomplete. Since the vertical relief strap is placed away from the lock, it is more probable that it served as the fittings.

Pula Statue B (Fig. 3) is characterized by another distinguishing feature. It is a depiction of a round metal ring that once attached the handle's ends to the box, just underneath the lid. The Roman Collection of the Archaeological Museum of Istria contains bronze rings that could have been used for various purposes, including as elements of a horse harness or as clothing fasteners. Among other possible purposes, some of the rings could have been used for attaching a handle to a scroll box. A ring would be fixed to the wooden body using a two-pronged metal clamp with a round head. The affixed ring would be covered with a round metal plate.<sup>20</sup>

## CONCLUSION

In Istria, elements of cylindrical scroll boxes were found only in Nesactium graves. Based on the context of the finds, they were dated to the Julio-Claudian period. Metal elements of at least two cylindrical scroll boxes were recorded. Helpful in the recreation of the box's original shape was the direct information available thanks to the depictions of the cylindrical scroll boxes on the stone statues of the Roman citizens of the colony of *Pola*, made almost in actual size. These scroll boxes have a variety lids, handles and grips, but their locks always have concave sides and jutting corners. The two locks for cylindrical boxes found at the Nesactium necropolis are made of various materials. The simpler one is made of iron and has no decorations except for the molded rivet heads. The other, more luxurious one, is made of silver-plated bronze and is decorated with embossed plant motifs and geometrical patterns. Their sizes are almost equal. They were affixed to the wooden cylinders in the same way, with four rivets. Each had an unlocking mechanism, but they differed in the number of latches. The iron lock had a single vertical latch and the bronze one had two. Scroll boxes sometimes had three small low feet. Based on its shape and approximate size, the bronze Nesactium foot, decorated with bull and lion figures, could have belonged to a box with a bronze silver-plated lock. However, we can only speculate about it until some very exact data about the context of the find is obtained.

## KATALOG

**1. Inv. br. AMI-A-6027/a (sl. 10)**

Opis: Ukrasna brončana posrebrana pločica brave s dva streličasta zasuna. Pločica je četvrtastog oblika, blago zakrivljena, konkavnih stranica i izvučenih uglova. Iskucanim okvirima podijeljena je u središnje pravokutno polje i dva obruba. Vanjski široki obrub ukrašen je iskucanim biljnim listovima i viticama, a unutrašnji nešto užiji obrub iskucanim valovitim linijama na dužim stranama i kružićima na kraćim stranama. Središnje pravokutno polje ukrašeno je iskucanim motivom četiriju dijagonalno raspoređenih uskih i zašiljenih listova, kružićima i viticama. Na pločici se nalazi osam otvora, sedam uglatih i jedan kružni. Četiri vodoravna pravokutna otvora za zakovice i jedan okomiti pravokutni otvor za zasun nalaze se u unutrašnjem obrubu. U središnjem polju nalazi se drugi okomiti otvor za zasun, kružna rupa i uglata rupa u obliku slova L. Poluge zasuna završavaju u obliku strelice, na donjoj strani imaju svaka jedan kvadratni prozor za zatvaranje, u gornjem dijelu imaju mali otvor za provlačenje željezne karičice koja je omogućavala pomicanje zasuna. Profilirane su istaknutim trakama s poprečnim žljebovima i iskucanim točkastim i linearnim motivima valovitih i kosih crta. Bravi pripada mehanizam za zatvaranje A-6027.

Dimenzije: Visina ukupno 12,7 cm (potpuno). Pločica je visoka 9,2 cm, široka 11,1 cm (potpuno), debljine 0,08 cm i mase 50,10 g. Dvije streličaste poluge visoke su 10,4 cm, široke 2,5 cm i duge 0,7 cm u zadebljanju, u najtanjem dijelu 0,5 cm, s prozorom duge 2 cm (potpuno). Dimenzije prozora na polugama: visina 1,55 cm, širina 1,55 cm, dužina 0,3 cm. Jedna poluga mase 62,56 g, druga 63,26 g. Ukupna masa 175,95 g.

Nalazište: Nezakcij 1908. Nekropola uz gradska vrata, izvan grobne cjeline, Grob B 10–11.<sup>21</sup>

**2. Inv. br. AMI-A-6027 (sl. 11)**

Opis: Element mehanizma brave pravokutnog presjeka s dva izdužena pravokutna otvora na krajevima, izrađen lijevanjem bronce. Središnji puni dio izbušen je s devet mrežasto raspoređenih kružnih, romboidnih ili nepravilnih rupica. Element pripada istoj kutiji kao posrebrana pločica sa zasunima A-6027/a.

Dimenzije: Visina 1 cm (potpuno), širina 7,3 cm (potpuno), debljina 0,5 cm (potpuno). Širina punog dijela 2,5 cm, širina noge 3,1 cm, masa 17 g.

Nalazište: Nezakcij 1908. Nekropola uz gradska vrata, izvan grobne cjeline, Grob B 10–11.<sup>22</sup>

## CATALOGUE

**1. Inv. No. AMI-A-6027/a (Fig. 10)**

Description: Decorative bronze silver-plated lock plate with two arrow-shaped latches. The plate is rectangular, slightly curved, with concave sides and jutting corners. Embossed frames divide it into a central rectangular field and two edges. The outer, wider edge is decorated with embossed plant leaves and tendrils. The inner, somewhat narrower edge has embossed wavy lines on its longer sides and circlets on its shorter sides. The central rectangular field is decorated with the embossed motif containing four diagonally arranged narrow and pointed leaves, circlets and tendrils. There are eight openings on the plate – seven angular ones and a round one. Four horizontal rectangular openings for rivets and one vertical opening for the latch are placed on the inner edge. The central field contains the other vertical latch opening, a round aperture and an angular, L-shaped opening. The latch levers have arrow-shaped ends, with a square closing aperture on the lower side and a small opening for a small iron link that enabled latch action on the upper side. The latch levers are decorated with prominent straps with transversal troughs and embossed motifs consisting of dotted and full wavy and diagonal lines. The lock contains the closing mechanism A-6027.

Size: Total height 12.7cm (complete). The plate is 9.2cm high, 11.1cm wide (complete), 0.08cm thick and it weighs 50.10g. The two arrow-shaped levers are 10.4cm high, 2.5cm wide and 0.7cm long where thickened (0.5cm where thinnest); their (complete) length with aperture: 2cm. Dimensions of lever apertures: height: 1.55cm; width: 1.55cm; length: 0.3cm. One lever weighs 62.56g and the other 63.26g. Total weight: 175.95g.

Site: Nesactium, 1908. Necropolis by town gate, outside Grave B 10-11.<sup>21</sup>

**2. Inv. No. AMI-A-6027 (Fig. 11)**

Description: Rectangular-section element of lock mechanism, with two elongated rectangular openings at ends; cast bronze. Solid central part perforated with nine circular, rhombic or irregular punctures placed in network pattern. This element belongs to the same box as the latched silver-gilt plate A-6027/a.

Size: Height 1cm (complete), width 7.3cm (complete), thickness 0.5cm (complete). Width of solid part: 2.5cm; width of foot: 3.1cm; weight: 17g.

Site: Nesactium, 1908. Necropolis by town gate, outside Grave B 10-11.<sup>22</sup>

21 A. Puschi 1914, 71, sl. 37; R. Matijašić 1996, 126, Grob B 10–11.

22 A. Puschi 1914, 71, sl. 37; R. Matijašić 1996, 126, Grob B 10–11.

21 A. Puschi 1914, 71, fig. 37; R. Matijašić 1996, 126, Grave B 10-11.

22 A. Puschi 1914, 71, fig. 37; R. Matijašić 1996, 126, Grave B 10-11.



### 3. Inv. br. AMI-A-5050 (stari inv. broj 3986) (sl. 12)

Opis: Brončana valjkasto zaobljena pravokutna pločica s reljefnim prikazom borbe lava i bika. S lijeve strane nalazi se pokleknuti bik s rogovima usmjerenima prema lavu i uzdignutog repa, desno se nalazi lav u napadu, a iznad njih stilizirane biljne vitice koje izlaze iz akantovog busena u sredini. Reljefno polje uokvireno je dvostrukim izbočenim rubom koji je na donjoj strani cijelom dužinom oštećen. Pločica je blago konveksno savijena prateći rub promjera 30 cm i na gornjoj strani ima produžetak za apliciranje širok 1,5 cm i ravan na gornjoj strani. Bočne su strane pločice uske i glatke. Manje oštećenje nalazi se na gornjem rubu reljefne pločice s desne strane, iznad prikaza lava.

Dimenzije: Visina 3 cm (potpuno), širina 6,3 cm (potpuno), dužina 1,65 cm (potpuno), masa 81,32 g.

Nalazište: Nezakcij, nalaz prije 1949. Neobjavljeno.

### 4. Inv. br. AMI-A-5740 (sl. 13)

Opis: Ukrasna kovana željezna pločica brave, četvrtastog oblika i glatka, konkavnih stranica i izvučenih uglova. Pločica je lagano zakrivljena po širini. U uglovima se nalaze četiri zakovice kružno profiliranih plosnatih glava. Zakovice imaju nožice četvrtastog presjeka 0,65 cm x 0,3 cm ispod glave, koje pri kraju imaju svaka po dvije rupice promjera 0,28 cm. Pločica još ima, osim četiriju pravokutnih rupa za zakovice, dimenzija 1,1 x 0,6 cm, tri perforacije u središnjem dijelu: jednu pravokutnu dimenzija 2,36 x 0,8 cm, jednu kružnu promjera 1,1 cm s klinastim urezom dužine 1,1 cm koji se pruža u smjeru zapornika i jednu perforaciju u obliku slova L, dimenzija 2,5 x 2,2 cm, koja je s donje strane zatvorena zasebnom zalemljenom pločicom u obliku slova L, dimenzija 3,86 x 2,7 cm. Obje pločice povezuje zapornik u obliku profilirane konzole, dug 2,2 cm, širok 0,65 cm i visok 1 cm, pričvršćen četvrtastom nožicom presjeka 0,5 x 0,3 cm.

Dimenzije: Visina 8,3 cm (potpuno), širina 10,2 cm (potpuno), dužina lima 0,1 cm, dužina zakovica 3,3 cm (potpuno), promjer glava zakovica 1,6 cm, visina glava zakovica 0,3 cm, masa 56,6 cm. Nalazište: Nezakcij, paljevinska nekropola, 1904.<sup>23</sup>

### 3. Inv. No. AMI-A-5050 (Old Inv. No. 3986) (Fig. 12)

Description: Bronze rectangular plate with cylindrical curvature, with relief depicting bull and lion fighting. Bull on bended knees on the left, horns pointed at lion, tail high. Lion in attack on the right. Stylized tendrils sprouting from centrally-placed acanthus cluster above them. The relief field is framed with a double bulging edge damaged along its entire lower side. The plate is slightly convex, following the edge with a 30cm diameter. On its upper part it has a 1.5cm-wide extension for appliqué, flat on the top. The plate's lateral sides are narrow and smooth. Minor damage can be seen on the right upper part of the relief plate, above the lion.

Size: height 3cm (complete); width 6.3cm (complete); length 1.65cm (complete); weight: 81.32g.

Site: Nesactium, pre-1949 find. Unpublished.

### 4. Inv. No. AMI-A-5740 (Fig. 13)

Description: Decorative wrought-iron lock plate, square and smooth, with concave sides and jutting corners. Slightly curved across its width. Four rivets with round molded flat heads can be seen in the corners. The rivets have square-section pins (0.65x0.3cm) underneath their heads. Every pin has two perforations at the end (0.28cm in diameter each). Besides the four rectangular holes for rivets (each 1.1x0.6cm), the plate also has three perforations in its central part: a rectangular one (2.36x0.8cm), a round one (1.1cm) with a wedge-shaped 1.1cm-long incision extending towards the bolt, and an L-shaped one (2.5x2.2cm), with its lower side closed by a separate soldered L-shaped plate (3.86x2.7cm). Both plates are connected with a bolt (2.2cm long, 0.65cm wide and 1cm high) shaped as a molded bracket and fixed with a rectangular-square foot (0.5x0.3cm).

Size: height 8.3cm (complete); width 10.2cm (complete); length of sheet: 0.1cm; length of rivets: 3.3cm (complete); diameter of rivet heads: 1.6cm; height of rivet heads: 0.3cm; weight: 56.6cm.

Site: Nesactium, incineration necropolis, 1904.<sup>23</sup>

Kip	Inventarni broj	Objava
Statue	Inventory no	Published by
A	AMI-A-505	W. Reichel 1892, 160, kat. br. 58; A. Starac 2008, 938, kat. br. 5, sl. 1. W. Reichel 1892, 160, Cat. No. 58; A. Starac 2008, 938, Cat. No. 5, Fig. 1
B	AMI-A-6694	W. Reichel 1892, 160, kat. br. 61; A. Starac 2008, 938, kat. br. 9, sl. 4. W. Reichel 1892, 160, Cat. No. 61; A. Starac 2008, 938, Cat. No. 9, Fig. 4.
C	AMI-A-29858	A. Starac 2008, 938, kat. br. 7. A. Starac 2008, 938, Cat. No. 7.
D	AMI-A-508	W. Reichel 1892, 160, kat. br. 59; A. Starac 2008, 938, kat. br. 6, sl. 2. W. Reichel 1892, 160, Cat. No. 59; A. Starac 2008, 938, Cat. No. 6, Fig. 2.
E	AMI-A-441	W. Reichel 1892, 160; A. Gnirs 1915, 77, kat. br. 120-123; A. Starac 2008, 939, kat. br. 12, sl. 7. W. Reichel 1892, 160; A. Gnirs 1915, 77, Cat. No. 120-123; A. Starac 2008, 939, Cat. No. 12, Fig. 7.
F	AMI-A-311	A. Gnirs 1912, 269; A. Starac 2008, 939, kat. br. 11, sl. 6. A. Gnirs 1912, 269; A. Starac 2008, 939, Cat. No. 11, Fig. 6.
G	AMI-A-6693	W. Reichel 1892, 160, kat. br. 60; A. Starac 2008, 938, kat. br. 8, sl. 3. W. Reichel 1892, 160, Cat. No. 60; A. Starac 2008, 938, Cat. No. 8, Fig. 3.
H	AMI-A-182	A. Starac 2008, 939, kat. br. 10, sl. 5. A. Starac 2008, 939, Cat. No. 10, Fig. 5.

**Tablica 1. Popis kipova iz Pule s prikazom cilindrične kutije za svitke**

Table 1. List of Pula statues depicting cylindrical scroll boxes

priredila / prepared by: A. Starac

Kip Statue	Poklopac Lid		Brava konkavnih stranica Concave-sided lock	Okomiti okov ili zasun Vertical fittings or latch	Obješena ručka Descending handle		Zakovica na hvatištu ručke Rivet on grip of handle	Alka na hvatištu ručke Ring on grip of handle
	Konveksni Convex	Ravni Flat			Ručka od tkanine Textile handle	Ručka od kože Leather handle		
A		+	+		+			
B		+	+		+			+
C					+			
D		+	+		+			
E		+	+			+	+	
F	+		+	+		+		
G		+				+		
H	+							

**Tablica 2. Elementi prikaza cilindričnih kutija za svitke na kipovima**

Table 2. Elements of the cylindrical scroll boxes on the statues

priredila / prepared by: A. Starac

	Kip / Statue							
	A	B	C	D	E	F	G	H
Visina kutije u cm Box height (cm)	23	35	25	25	26	27?	23?	26?
Promjer kutije u cm Box diameter (cm)	17	19	17	17	20	18	17	14
Visina poklopca u cm Lid height (cm)	-	3	-	2,8	3,5	4,5	-	-
Dimenzije brave u cm Dimensions of lock (cm)	3,8 x 4,3	7,7 x 8,5	-	5,2 x 5,7	11 x 11	4,6 x 5	-	-

**Tablica 3. Dimenzije cilindričnih kutija za svitke na kipovima**

Table 3. Dimensions of the cylindrical scroll boxes on the statues

priređila / prepared by: A. Starac

Cjelina kutije Elements of single box	kataloški broj Catalogue no.	Elementi cilindričnih kutija / Cylindrical box elements		
		Pločica brave konkavnih stranica Concave-sided lock	Mehanizam brave Lock mechanism	Nožica Foot
1	1.	+		
	2.		+	
?	3.			+
2	4.	+		

**Tablica 4. Nalazi elemenata cilindričnih kutija**

Table 4. Finds of cylindrical box elements

priređila / prepared by: A. Starac



**Kratice / Abbreviations**

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