

## BILJEŠKE

- <sup>1</sup> Kratak prethodni izvještaj o tome iskapanju štampan je u Starinaru, n. s. VII—VIII, 1956—1957, str. 309.
- <sup>2</sup> Pinterović, Topografija Murse, Osj. zbornik V, 1956, str. 74—75.
- <sup>3</sup> Pinterović, Ostaci života rim. Murse, Glas Slavonije od 27. IV. 1950.
- <sup>4</sup> Isto.
- <sup>5</sup> Schober, Römerzeit in Österreich, Wien, Rohrer Verlag, str. 159—162.

## A CONSERVATORY EXCAVATION AT OSIJEK 1955

In the course of the year 1955 electricity workers while digging a ditch for poles (for electric cables in front of No. 89 Vukovar Street happened to discover 1.10 m deep part of a Roman floor. A conservatory excavation had to be undertaken immediately in order to explore the position and extension of the Roman house, and this was carried out in several days under the care and control of the Museum.

Sketch No. 1 shows the result: in the south-west corner, corner-walls were found in the same level with the floor (ill. No. 2); to the east and north, it could be stated the walls were extracted long ago; on the northern side a telephone cable prevented the excavating and a probe had to be made beyond the cable where part of a wall appeared. On the east side the workers were confronted with an old Austrian sewer and found that at the south-east corner the floor was destroyed (ill. No. 3); in the north-east corner the floor could be followed even beyond the Austrian sewer till again part of a wall was found.

In this way it could be assumed that the room with the floor had an extension of  $6.5 \times 7.3$  m, equal to  $47.45 \text{ m}^2$ . It also could be stated that the position of the house diverged a little to the NE from the line of the present street, which harmonizes with the supposed line of the »cardo« and »decumanus« at the walled city of Mursa.

In the dug earth fragments of bricks, tiles, nails, lamps, vessels, glass, a bronze fibula and coins (in bad condition) were found. The floor was made of crushed bricks and quick lime with a smooth surface glazing of a light pink colour.

When the workers had to destroy the floor, under it, many pieces of mortar with wall paint were found. This gave the impression that at the same spot there subsequently stood two Roman houses. The first, to which the mortar belonged, was destroyed to make place for the second, to which the floor belonged, to be built upon the ruins of the first.

In the course of the following years, pieces of mortar with the same paint-patterns were discovered occasionally east and west near this house immured in Roman substructions which lead us to the conclusion that there were two periods of building operations at Mursa in Roman times.

We also got two more results from this hasty task: 1) we obtained knowledge about a type of Roman floor which so far was not known to us and, 2) the many mortar-pieces gave the possibility of studying Roman wall-painting in this country which contained patterns similar to Pompeian wall-painting having dark-red background and figurative motifs on it.

For the moment we abstain from dating these houses because we prefer to collect more examples and more experience in order to be able one day to show on a map how Mursa's plan looked and how it developed in the course of 5 centuries of Roman domination.