

Ako to uzmemo u obzir, onda bismo još mogli dodati, da je tretiranje očiju na našoj portretnoj glavi već prešlo u stilizovanost.

I pored toga, te apstrahirajući izjedenu, neravnu površinu i oštećenje na glavi, mora se ovaj primjerak rimske provincijalne portretne umjetnosti ocijeniti kao dobar rad.

Komparativnog materijala u ovoj grani rimske umjetnosti muzej zasada uopće ne posjeduje.⁴

S u m m a r y

1) In June 1947 a Roman brick-grave was by chance excavated at Osijek (the old Roman Mursa). This grave could be photographed, measured and studied from top to bottom. Special bricks pointed at one of the smaller edges were used in double rows to form the roof. For the walls and foundation fragments of bricks were used. It was not the foundation as in a house, but the roofs and the upper parts which were the most important because they bore the load of earth above the grave. This logical rule could be stated by our specimen where the upper parts and the roof were built of whole, solid bricks whereas the lower parts were built of fragments only.

In earlier days M. Valtrović (1882) and M. Vasić (1903) excavated the Roman cemetery at Kostolac (the old Roman Viminacium) and found that there the brick graves by far prevailed other forms of graves and that they were the last domiciles for the middle and lower classes. At Kostolac 3 types of brick-graves could be stated: 1) graves with horizontal lids, 2) with roofs as in the above mentioned case, 3) with vaults. So far Osijek has shown us some examples of the first and second type of which the above described grave is a good representation.

2) This example of fibula by chance excavated at Osijek in June 1947 is the well known type called in branch literature »cross-bow«-fibula or more specially »onion-bulb« — fibula and belongs to the 4th century.

A clever device was found on this piece for preventing the needle eventually to drop out of its holder. At one end of the holder, near the bow, a little peg was placed loosely into a small hole so that it could easily fall into the hole or out of it by turning the fibula head down or head up. When the needle was stuck in the holder the peg having protruded of its hole pressed against the needle and prevented its dropping out of the holder. This clever invention is a proof of the high degree the Roman applied art attained.

3) A woman's marble head was also by chance excavated in the same year.

The whole treatment of the face is stylish, and the features strike us as being oriental or greek ones. Taking into consideration that Roman portraiting art shows a slight decline from the third century onwards (which can be seen in stylish art-objects), and also judging by the hair-dressing — it is not unlikely that this Roman sculpture had been worked in the third century when realism died out and impressionism, influenced by the East took its place.

⁴ Kod ovog opisa, kao i kod prethodna dva pomogla mi je savjetom i kritičkim opaskama prof. I. Degmedžić, kustos Arheol. muzeja u Zagrebu.