

## SOME DATA CONCERNING THE POTTERY WORKSHOPS FROM NAPOCA (Abstract)

The purpose of the present paper is to identify the direct sources for the study of the pottery workshops from *Napoca* (moulds, stamps, names of local producers, archaeological traces of workshops – kilns, rejection pits, etc). The result of the analysis is that there is a small number of such sources: a lamp mould (pl. III/2), three medallions/*crustulae* moulds (pl. II/1/2, pl. III/1), a *sigillum* (pl. IV/1 a/b), a stamp of a producer of *mortaria*, or maybe for marking building materials, a certain AELIUS (pl. IV/3), the name of a local producer of lamps RUSTIK(VS) (pl. V/6-7), a fragment of a name of a producer of stamped pottery NV... or AN... (pl. IV/2), possible producers of construction materials. There are no positives of the known moulds but there is a poinçon for the decoration of the local *sigillata*, but no ornaments made with it. There are some local *sigillata* with relief decorations (pl. V/1-5) that confirm the situation of *Napoca* among the workshops producing such fine pottery.

As for the traces of a local workshop, the situation is not clear. There are four ovens found in 1984 on the no. 25-27, 22 December Boulevard (pl. VI-VII). They have the form of a hearth, without oven floor and central pillar. The author of the discovery, Radu Ardevan, considered them as being for pottery, on the basis of analogies from Britain. But there are no rejection, no pottery shreds, no other elements in or around the ovens to confirm the existence of a workshop. The discovery of the *sigillum* near the brooch workshop in the south-east corner of the settlement can suggest a possible situation of a workshop in the same area where an iron-smithing shop is also found. It seems that in the pre-municipal phase of *Napoca* (Trajan-Hadrian) in that area could have been situated a kind of craftsmen district. In the next period (Hadrian-Antonine), those workshops were moved. But it is impossible to say where; certainly somewhere outside the walls, as usual.

We can thus integrate *Napoca* among the Roman-Dacian centers for pottery production on the basis of direct data gathered until now and that are considered enough for the record of a local workshop. We also considered the analysis of the fabric, and of the great quantity of pottery found during excavations. We hope that the chance of new findings will clear the activity of pottery workshops from *Napoca*.

### LIST OF ILLUSTRATIONS

Pl. I. Plan of the Roman town *Napoca* (reproduced after *Repertoriul arheologic al județului Cluj* fig. 72); legend: place of discovery of kilns; place of discovery of the *sigillum* for decorating the moulds of *terra sigillata*.

Pl. II. Moulds of medallions/*crustula* found in *Napoca*: 1. Representation of Mars.; 2. Dionysiac representations (after *Cociș-Ruscu 1995*).

Pl. III. 1. Mould of medallion/*crustula* representing a gladiator (after *Cociș-Ruscu 1995*); 2. lamp mould.

Pl. IV. 1. *Sigillum* for the decoration of the moulds of *terra sigillata*: a. the poinçon; b. pozitiv after the original; 2. fragmentary stamp with the name of a local producer (after *Crișan 1996*); 3. poinçon with the name of a local producer for the stamping of the *mortaria* or of building materials.

Pl. V. 1-3, 5. Fragments of vessels Drag. 37, local *terra sigillata*; 4. decorative motives of the *terra sigillata* vessels produced at *Napoca*; 6-7. *lucernae* with names of local producer from *Napoca* (after *Gostar 1961*).

Pl. VI. 1. Ovens from *Napoca*: 1-2. Northern and Southern profiles of Section 1 (after *Ardevan 2001*)

Pl. VII. Ovens from *Napoca*: plan of section S1, with the situation of the ovens (after *Ardevan 2001*).