

## ATELIERE DE STICLĂRIE ÎN COLONIA DACICA SARMIZEGETUSA

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**Cuvinte cheie:** sticlă, cuptor

**Key words:** glass, furnaces

**Abstract:** *Colonia Ulpia Traiana Augusta Sarmizegetusa was both one of the largest and most important urban centers of the province Dacia and a big handicraft center. Archaeological evidence for glass making in Dacia is scarce. Unfortunately, there is no study on this subject published so far.*

*Inside the sacred area, near the western side of Silvanus Temple, a building was excavated - EM 21. Two rooms out of the 10 discovered in this building were considered as places where glass was made and processed. The reason that led to this hypothesis is that inside one of these rooms three furnaces were discovered C1, C2 and C3, while in the other only two, C4 and C5.*

*Opinions on the use of this building and especially on the existence of a glass workshop are reserved. In this respect, on the one hand we are dealing with either a total denial motivated by the fact that the small number of glass and slag fragments make the presence of a glass workshop inadequate or the location of such establishment would not be appropriate in the temple area. Another point of view would be that there was a hypothetic glass workshop where a furnace to produce glass is supposed to have been discovered.*

*West of the colony forum, in the so-called Insula 3 the remains of a Roman furnace itself was made of burnt clay mixed with scum that after burning became light grey in colour and judging by the appearance it must have withstood temperatures of over 1000° C. The inner part (both walls and the tank) are covered with a broken glass layer of 3 cm thickness that must have been recycled.*

*The shape of the furnace and the thickness of the glass layer seem to indicate a closed installation without a cooling system.*

*The existence of a batteries from such installations near the temple area would fully justify the need for glass, at least in certain moments of urban development. On the other hand, just like in other places, they needn't be permanent and after significant demands being met, people would move the glass making shops. In the latter case we are dealing with at least a furnace to produce recyclable glass.*

*The question whether in Dacia raw glass was produced or whether this one was brought to be later processed cannot be answered yet.*