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## ANTIQUAE ARCHAEOLOGICAL SITES REGISTERED IN THE VICINITY OF HEALING SPRINGS IN THE AREA OF BELGRADE

### ABSTRACT

*There are several healing springs in the area encompassed by the territory of the City of Belgrade today. Alongside some of these springs, archaeological sites have been registered. The topic of this paper is the question of whether some of these springs had been known and used by the people of the Antiquity period, including the question of continuity of their exploitation in Prehistory and/or the Middle Ages. The sites presented are: Višnjička Banja, Leštane, Vrčin and Jakovo.*

**KEYWORDS: HEALING SPRINGS, ANTIQUITY, BELGRADE, VIŠNJIČKA BANJA, LEŠTANE, VRČIN, JAKOVO.**

Bearing in mind basic theoretical demands, on one hand, as well as the complexity and diversity of the geological structure of the territory of Serbia and the existing structure-geological, geomorphological, hydrogeological, physical-geographical and other circumstances on the other, B. Filipović divided the territory of Serbia into the following six hydrogeological regions:

- Dacian Basin region
- *Carpatho-Balkan region*
- Serbian crystalline core region
- Šumadija-Kopaonik-Kosovo region
- Dinaric region in Western Serbia
- Pannonian basin region (Филиповић, Б. 2003: 15).

The topic of this paper is archaeological finds (movable or otherwise) discovered in the vicinity of healing springs in the area of Belgrade. We should stress here that only those sites are listed for which we believe that their inhabitants, during

the period that interests us, knew about the nearby healing springs and used them. The accent in this paper is placed on the Antiquity period, but the existence of prehistoric and medieval layers will also be mentioned, in order to provide insight into a possible continuity of use of thermal springs.

Within the mentioned division by B. Filipović, the springs from Višnjička Banja, Leštane and Vrčin belong to the Šumadija-Kopaonik-Kosovo region, while the healing springs in Jakovo belong to the Dinaric region in Western Serbia (Васиљевић 2014).

### VIŠNJIČKA AND VIŠNJIČKA BANJA

Višnjička Banja is a settlement within the area of Višnjica. It was named after a hot spring, originating from the bank of the Dunavac. The tem-

<b>VIŠNJICA AND VIŠNJIČKA BANJA</b>			
Bronze Age	The culture Žuto Brdo	SETTLEMENT	
Late Iron Age		Pottery	
Antiquity		-Building -Votive inscription (?) -Ring with a carnelian gem -Coins -The site of Bela Stena -four tombs made of bricks	
Early Middle Ages		The site of Bela Stena Byzantine, Sarmatian-Iazygian and Slav pottery	
Middle Ages		There were remains of a round tower on the bank of the Danube and a medieval monastery	

perature of the water is 14.4°C, and its pH level is 7.5. The water is characterised by the presence of hydrogen sulphide (Филиповић, Б. 2003: 76).

The necropolis from the Bronze Age represents the oldest known trace of settlements on the territory of Višnjica, a discovery provided by M. Vasić. There are finds of the fragments of La Tène pottery (ceramics) from this area in Belgrade City Museum. The travel writer Kanitz mentions the existence of the Roman fortress wall. The Roman presence is also confirmed by the votive scripture findings dedicated to an unknown deity (possibly a forgery), antefix, jewelry, and ceramics. The Roman necropolis where four brick built tombs were

discovered especially stands out. The Gradina site clearly reveals the existence of the Byzantine fortification, placed on the dominant plateau above the river Danube.

This locality may be identified with the fortification called Octavus, and it was registered by Procopius in his work. The continuity of the process of people forming settlements is confirmed by findings dating from the Great migration period and the Slav period. The remains of the monasteries and most likely a circular tower, which are connected with despot Stefan, also belong to the late medieval period. The writer of these lines described in more detail the mentioned localities

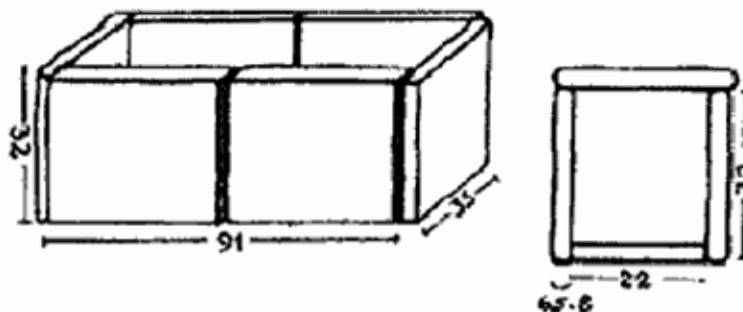


Fig. 1 Construction of a child's tomb from the site of Gradina near Višnjica (according to: Тодоровић, Кондић и Бирташевић 1956, 77, сл. 5).

<b>LEŠTANE</b>			
Bronze Age and Older Iron Age		The site near Bubanj Potok NECROPOLIS with skeletal burials and urns	
Antiquity		The site of Zabran Accidental finding of an iron PICKAXE	
Antiquity		The site near Bubanj Potok POTTERY	

in his article dedicated to the exploitation of the healing water springs alongside the Danube limes (Vasiljević 2018: 51–53).

There is no direct evidence on the exploitation of healing springs in the area of Višnjička Banja during Antiquity. On the other hand, there is ample evidence of the tumultuous life and the existence of a Roman settlement, fort, and necropolis in this place, whose development was probably largely influenced by those healing springs.

## LEŠTANE

Leštane is a settlement in the Municipality of Grocka, in the City of Belgrade. There are two healing springs in the area of Leštane. They belong to the nitrogenous water group. The temperature of the water at the source of L-1 is 21°C, and the pH value 8, while the temperature at the spring L-2 reaches 25°C, and the pH value is also 8 (Филиповић, Б. 2003: 76).

The findings from Višnjička Banja are represented in this article, as well as the localities in Leštane. In the vicinity of this settlement, at Bubanj Potok, there is evidence of the existence

of Bronze and older [earlier] Iron Age necropolis with urns. The fragments of La Tène and Roman ceramics were also found in that locality. The finding of the Antique pickaxe comes from Zabran locality (Vasiljević 2018: 53–54).

Findings from Antiquity are too few for us to be able to talk about a horizon at Leštane. The existence of a prehistoric necropolis would suggest a cult place, which could be linked to healing springs. An answer to questions on the further continuity of this cult place and possible exploitation of healing springs can be provided only by future research.

## VRČIN – ZAVOJNIČKA REKA

Vrčin is a settlement in the Municipality of Grocka, in the City of Belgrade. The temperature of the water is 21–24°C, and the pH value 8.5. It belongs to the nitrogenous water group (Филиповић, Б. 2003: 76).

The site of Šuplja Stena in Vrčin is located on the right side of the road Belgrade–Kragujevac, and it is known for being a prehistoric mine (Гарашанин, М. и Гарашанин, Д. 1951: 27).

<b>VRČIN – ZAVOJNIČKA REKA</b>			
Bronze Age		The site near Bubanj Potok MINE	
Bronze Age		The site near Bubanj Potok SETTLEMENT	

<b>JAKOVO</b>			
Neolithic	The Vinča culture	The site of Bršljenak SETTLEMENT	
Neolithic/Eneolithic	The Vinča culture Horizon I – end of Vinča B – beginning of Vinča C Horizon II – Vinča C/D Horizon III – Vinča D	The site of Kormadin SETTLEMENT	Horizon I (5050–4700 BC) Horizon II (4700–4600 BC) Horizon III (4600–4400 (?) BC)
Bronze Age		The site of Kaluđerske Livade NECROPOLIS 88 graves with urns	
Late Bronze Age	The culture of Belegiš	SETTLEMENT	
Older Iron Age	Iron Age IV	The site of Ekonomija “Sava”, a multi-layer prehistoric SETTLE- MENT with a SET- TLING HORIZON from the Iron Age IV	
Late Iron Age		The site of Ekonomija “Sava” THE LA TÈNE HORI- ZON	
Antiquity		The site of Kaluđerske Livade SETTLEMENT	From the 1 <sup>st</sup> to the 4 <sup>th</sup> century
Early Middle Ages		The site of Kormadin A Gepid NECROPOLIS	5 <sup>th</sup> – 6 <sup>th</sup> centuries
Middle Ages		NECROPOLIS 108 graves	From the 12 <sup>th</sup> to the 14 <sup>th</sup> centuries The largest number is from the second half of the 13 <sup>th</sup> and the begin- ning of the 14 <sup>th</sup> century
Late Middle Ages		THE MONASTERY OF FENEK	15 <sup>th</sup> – 16 <sup>th</sup> centuries

Traces of a smaller settlement from the Bronze Age period were registered in the immediate vicinity (Bošković 1956: 13). Possible connections of these sites and the near-by healing springs are yet to be examined.

### **JAKOVO**

Jakovo is a settlement in the Municipality of Surčin, in the City of Belgrade. Until 2004, when a new municipality was formed, it belonged to the Municipality of Zemun. Jakovo is located in

south-eastern Srem, 24 kilometres the south-west of the centre of Belgrade, and 4 kilometres from the bank of the river Sava. The Monastery of Fenek is located in its immediate vicinity.

The temperature of the mineral water in Jakovo is 18.5 °C, and the pH value is 6.4. It belongs to the hydrocarbonate waters group, more specifically, to the subclass of sodium waters (Филиповић, Б. 2003: 112–113).

A large number of archaeological sites have been registered in the area of Jakovo. The first archaeological research activities were conducted in this region even before the beginning of World War I.

The oldest layers, determined in the Vinča culture period, belong to prehistoric settlements registered at the sites of Kormadin (a multi-layer site, which encompasses three horizons determined as belonging to the Vinča culture) and Bršljenak. When it comes to the multi-layer site of Kaluđerske Livade, the oldest layer belongs to a necropolis from the Bronze Age Belegiš culture. The settlement located at the site of Ekonomija “Sava” belongs to the Late Bronze Age period. At the same site, the presence of a settlement from the Late Iron Age IV was also registered, as well as a La Tène layer.

The most interesting layer for our topic is the Antiquity horizon at the above-mentioned site of Kaluđerske Livade, where the existence of a long-term Antique settlement was confirmed, inhabited from the first to the fourth centuries. It is assumed that, at the beginning of the new era, there was an autochthonous settlement in this place. The inhabitants of this settlement had been exposed to the Romanisation process, which resulted in a quicker development of the settlement and very intense life in it during the third to the fourth centuries. The chronological sequence of the site in Kupinovo is continued with a Germanic necropolis from the fifth to sixth centuries, discovered at the site of Kormadin. The archaeological picture of the site of Kaluđerske Livade is complemented with a medieval necropolis from the 12<sup>th</sup>–14<sup>th</sup> centuries.

The story about the past of Jakovo is completed by the Monastery of Fenek, the founding of which is dated into the second half of the 15<sup>th</sup> century, according to folklore, although the oldest written mention of the Monastery dates from 1563.

The site of Kormadin (older names: Jakovački Vinogradi and Kurmadin) in Jakovo has been known to the scientific public for a very long time. The first research activities, of smaller range, were performed before the World War I, and the finds were placed in the Archaeological Museum in Zagreb afterwards (Šeper 1952: 25).

Due to vast damage at the site, which occurred between the two world wars as well as during the construction of the modern settlement, the Museum of Zemun performed archaeological rescue excavations in the period from 1956 to 1958.

Kormadin is located on the northern periphery of Jakovo, i.e. on the south-western border of the suburb of Surčin. It consists of a low, spacious hill, bordered by the canal of the river Galovica in the north, and a Roman canal in the south-east. The height of the hill in respect of the surrounding terrain is approximately three metres. Once surrounded with a swamp, but out of the reach of high water, the hill served as a suitable place for settling. Similar favourable conditions had been taken advantage of on the nearby hill of Bršljenak as well, where a Vinča settlement was registered (Јовановић и Глишић 1960: 113).

Research activities have shown that the oldest layer at the site of Kormadin is a Vinča culture settlement. Aside from the prehistoric cultural layer, a Germanic necropolis from the fifth to 6<sup>th</sup> centuries was also registered. During research conducted in the 1950s, 26 graves were examined (Јовановић и Глишић 1960: 113–142).

Among the finds from Kormadin, especially interesting ones are miniature vessels with tubular spouts. L. Balj defines this type of vessel as “miniature vessels which don’t belong to children toys” (Balj 2009: 26). Three small vessels of this type were found at Kormadin (Šeper 1952: T. 2/1, T. 5/6, T. 9/4).

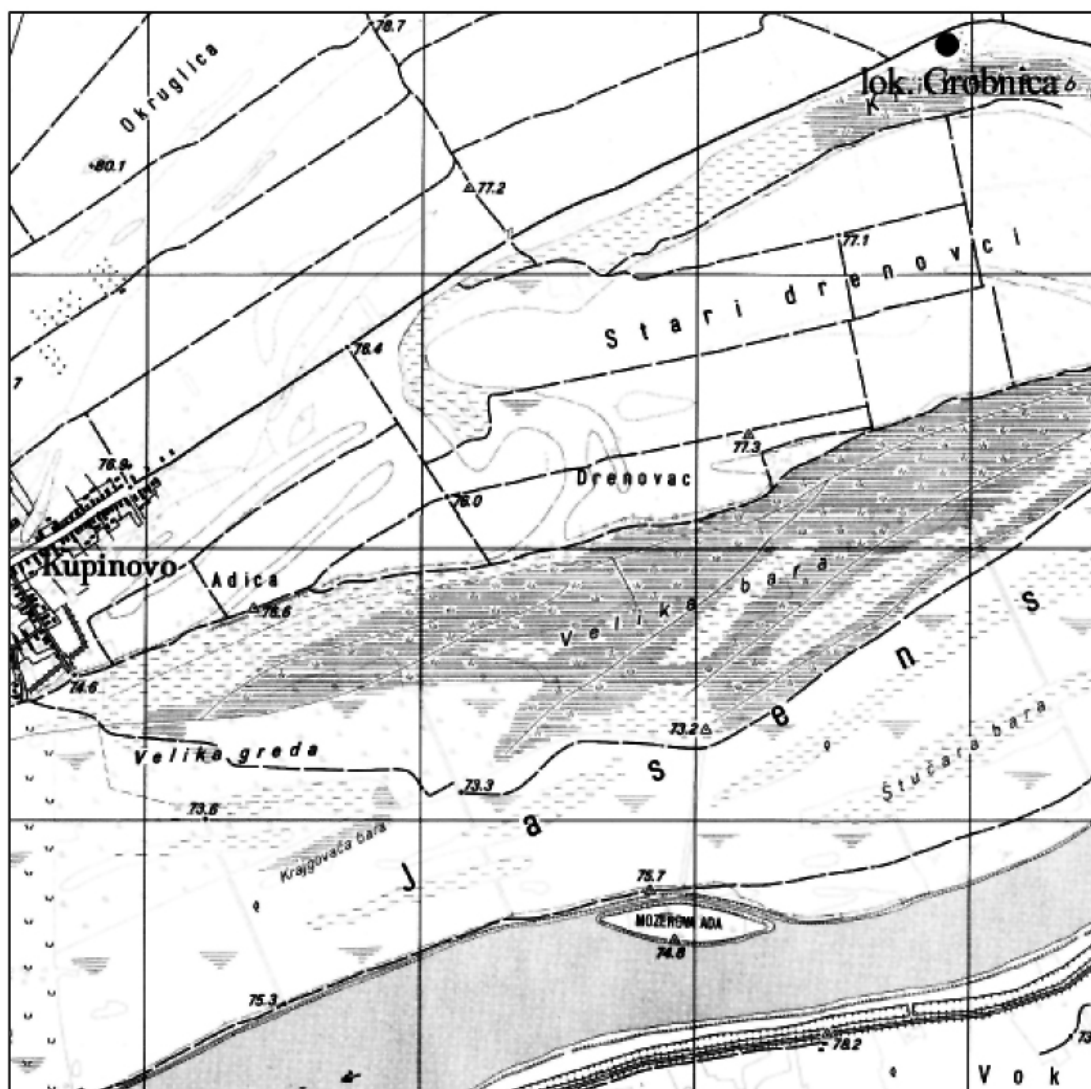


Fig. 2 Detail from a situation plan of the site of Kormadin – excavation campaign in 2008 (according to: Булатовић, Капуран и Стругар 2010: 40).

D. Balen Letunić believes that they had been suitable for feeding children. It is very interesting to note that Schliemann also interpreted similar vessels discovered in Troy in the same manner (Balen Letunić 1982: 72). A different opinion is offered by J. Živković, who believes that the mentioned small vessels had been used for measuring liquid (Živković 2001: 21).

A completely new view on this type of vessel was given by V. Filipović. According to him, the spout on those miniature vessels was never placed close to the rim, which would mean that

the amount of liquid they could receive would be very small and, thus, this type of vessel had never been used for pouring. The diameters of spout openings, ranging up to 5 millimetres, would also suggest such a conclusion (Filipović, V. 2007: 99).

On the basis of their shape, V. Filipović believes that pipes are in fact the most similar to this type of vessel. The mentioned vessels also have suitable functional traits, such as thick walls, a very narrow opening, and a small spout onto which a longer, wooden pipe could have been attached for smoking. The thickness of walls, com-

pared to the dimensions of the items, suggests a heat isolation function, as is also the case in modern pipes. On the basis of ethnological and ethno-medial material from these areas, the author concludes that the Vinča culture miniature vessels with a spout had been used for smoking medicinal herbs (Filipović, V. 2007: 99–102).

In order to confirm this assumption, it is necessary to perform a chemical analysis of the traces of substances preserved in those vessels. We should also mention that L. Balj states that no traces of burning had been noted inside vessels of this type from Gomolava, which would have, probably, existed had they been used as pipes, that is to say, if herbs had been burnt in them (Balj 2009: 29).

Especially interesting for our topic is the opinion of M. Živković that the mentioned miniature vessels represent liquid measuring cups. It is, perhaps, too much to assume that the said measuring cups could have been used for measuring the necessary amount of healing water from a nearby spring, but we believe that this possibility also deserves to be noted.

The first finds from the Germanic necropolis at the site of Kormadin were discovered in 1902, when a trustee of the Archaeological Museum in Zagreb, a teacher from Surčin, A. Poturičić, performed minor archaeological excavations of the prehistoric necropolis. Poturičić informed the Museum in Zagreb of the results of his research. It can be seen from his letters that, aside from a significant Eneolithic layer, there were traces of a considerably later necropolis as well, dug into the ruins of the settlement, profiting from its suitable, elevated position. A. Poturičić bears witness to the findings of three skeletons with grave offerings and one without them, oriented along the west–east axis. When it comes to grave offerings, belt buckles were mentioned, as well as iron knives and scissors, and glass and amber pearls. In the three years that followed, excavations continued, headed by Poturičić, and later J. Brunšmid. During the research, more grave offerings were discovered, but they have not been published in detail.

Right until the middle of the 20<sup>th</sup> century, no attention was given to the medieval findings from Kormadin, even though the site had been damaged on several occasions (Димитријевић 1960: 5).

The exception is a finding discovered while preparing earth for making bricks at the brickyard. On that occasion, six skeletal graves were discovered, oriented along the west–east axis; five of them had grave offerings and one did not. The finds discovered are kept at the Museum of Vojvodina (Димитријевић 1960: 5).

After the founding of the Museum in Zemun in 1955, significantly more attention was given to the site. Since it was determined during a field survey that the site was endangered by earthworks, archaeological rescue excavations began, conducted in three campaigns. The research showed that, in this case, it was probably not a necropolis with continuous rows, but rather an example of the custom of burying the deceased in large groups. D. Dimitrijević mentions that this type of burial can be noted among Germanic tribes from the fifth century, being especially widespread during the sixth and seventh centuries, and gradually ceasing to be practiced in the eighth century. This type of burial reflected the differentiation degree of Germanic society of that period (Димитријевић 1960: 8).

Twenty-six skeletal graves were discovered on the systematically researched part of the terrain, dug directly into the Eneolithic layer. The burials were performed in simple pits, relatively narrow, with rounded ends. Out of the total number of 26 skeletons, eight male individuals were registered, nine female, six children, and three individuals whose sex could not be determined. The position of the skeletons was almost uniform. All the skeletons were laid on their back, stretched out, with legs placed in parallel. The heads of most skeletons were facing forward, but heads were also often turned towards the right shoulder, i.e. towards the north, which led D. Dimitrijević to consider the possibility of this being a remnant of older burial rituals (Димитријевић 1960: 9).

Only two of the researched graves had no

grave offerings. Those were children graves, marked with numbers 22 and 24. In terms of grave offerings, a sword, spear, arrows, quiver, *fibulae*, belt buckles, rings, coins, tinder, whorls, combs, glass et al. were registered. On the basis of analysis of research results, D. Dimitrijević concluded that this was a necropolis of the Gepids, settled in the area of Srem during the fifth and the sixth centuries (Димитријевић 1960: 11–44).

We will mention that, on the basis of results obtained through anthropological analyses performed by Ž. Mikić, three out of the total of nineteen analysed skulls from the Germanic necropolis had artificial deformations (Микић 1994: 133).

The research of the necropolis continued in 2008, when, aside from the researched medieval grave, the stratigraphy of the Vinča settlement was additionally and more precisely determined (Булатовић, Капуран и Стругар 2010: 11–42).

During the construction of the by-pass on the highway around Belgrade, in June 1991, an archaeological site located in the place called Kaluđerske Livade was accidentally demolished. The position of the site had not been noted on the map of archaeological sites which the constructor obtained before beginning the works. The site is located in the south-eastern part of Srem that belongs to the city area of Belgrade. It is on the section Dobanovci–Ostružnica, on the left bank of the Sava, between Surčin and Jakovo.

The site is located on the southernmost elevation of the western part of a long loess ridge, oriented along the north-east/south-west axis, running in parallel with the flow of the Sava and surrounded by a swamp. The name of the site probably originates from the fact that, in the period from the 16<sup>th</sup> to the 19<sup>th</sup> centuries, this area belonged to the near-by Monastery of Fenek.

Archaeological research, performed on the surface of ca 1 ha, determined the existence of a layer from the Bronze Age period, with 88 graves of incinerated individuals, buried in urns (Петровић 1998: 13–15). I. Bogdanović draws attention to the finding of a dagger, a rare occur-

rence in this region (Богдановић 1995/1996: 27).

When it comes to the Antiquity period, part of an Antique settlement was researched, with an uninterrupted continuity in the period from the first up to the fourth century. This continuous existence is explained by its location directly next to the Antique road Singidunum–Sirmium, i.e. Taurunum–Bassianae–Sirmium. Movable and immovable findings bear witness to the existence of a settlement of an autochthonous population from the first century, which went through a Romanisation process after the Roman conquest, after which the life at the settlement continued, with special intensity during the third to fourth centuries (Петровић 1996: 13–31; Црнобрња 1996: 33–36).

The largest number of Antique metal finds were made of bronze and iron. Out of the total of 64 processed finds, thirty were made of bronze, thirty (very corroded and damaged) from iron, one from silver, one was coated with silver, and two were made of lead. Most findings were discovered in the surface layer, created after the removal of humus, and a smaller number were discovered in settlement layers, pits and trenches. Among the metal objects, there are *fibulae*, bracelets, buckles, rings, keys, medical instruments (tweezers, hooks, probes etc), tools (axes, adzes), as well as fragments of larger objects whose purpose could not be defined with certainty. A total of fifteen *fibulae* of different types was discovered, dated to the fourth century. B. Petrović mentions that some of the *fibulae* that were found represent the first examples of those types discovered in the surroundings of Belgrade. The *fibulae* had been made in the wider area of the province Pannonia, except for iron ones, which were products of local workshops (Петровић 1996: 13–31).

During the research, sixteen bronze Roman coins were found, dated mostly to the first or second century, up to the fourth century (Црнобрња 1996: 33–36).

The existence of a medieval necropolis was also established, with 108 graves examined. The necropolis is dated to the period from the 12<sup>th</sup> to



the 14<sup>th</sup> centuries, with traces of the most intense burying activities coming from the second half of the 13<sup>th</sup>, and the beginning of the 14<sup>th</sup> centuries (Јанковић 2003: 73–120).

The site of Ekonomija “Sava” is located not far from the current flow of the Sava, on an elevated ridge, with a dominant position over the swamp terrain in its surroundings. Trench archaeological excavations, conducted by the Homeland Museum in Zemun in 1959, provided enough data to register the existence of a multi-layer prehistoric settlement. The oldest layer belongs to the Belegiš culture of the Late Bronze Age, followed by a clearly located habitation horizon from the Older [Early] Iron Age, dated to Iron Age IV; the existence of a layer from the La Tène period was also established. The site was registered in 1958, when a hoard of fifty bronze objects – tools, arms [weapons], and various decoration items, was discovered during agricultural works. The field surveys of the terrain showed that the hoard came from the prehistoric settlement, with a surface of ca one square kilometre (Dimitrijević 1959: 60–65; Ташић 1962: 127–130; Ташић 1966: 16).

The Monastery of Fenek is located in the south-eastern part of Donji Srem, on the territory of Jakovo, twenty kilometres from Belgrade. The monastery complex encompasses the church dedicated to Saint Paraskeva, sleeping quarters of the monks, which surround the church on three sides, and a separate chapel, also dedicated to Saint Paraskeva. Even though it does not belong to the group of monasteries of Fruška Gora by its geographic location, Fenek has always been considered as belonging to this group, due to the manner in which it was founded, conditions of historical development, and architectonic shape,. From the very foundation of the monastery, it was an important centre of the cult of Saint Mother Paraskeva, which was especially developed from the beginning of the 15<sup>th</sup> century in the area of Belgrade and Donji Srem. There are no reliable data on the basis of which an exact date could be determined for when the monastery was built, nor the name

of its founder. According to folklore written down by Metropolitan Vikentije Jovanović in his report from December 2<sup>nd</sup> 1775, the Monastery of Fenek, like the monasteries of Krušedol and Hopovo, had been built in the second half of the 15<sup>th</sup> century by a Serbian Bishop Maksim Branković, with his brother Despot Jovan and their mother Angelina. The oldest historical mention of Fenek, however, comes from 1563 (Божовић 2010: 1).

We believe that it is not a coincidence that the Monastery of Fenek is dedicated to Saint Paraskeva; in fact, we believe that in this case we have an example of a site where the cult of a saint is the continuation of an Antique sacred place of iatric character, linked to the properties of healing waters.

From this overview of the sites, we may assume that thermal springs of the said locations had been known throughout prehistory, Antiquity, and/or Middle Ages. More specific evidence to confirm this assumption can only be provided by future research, on terrain or theoretical.

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## REZIME ANTIČKI ARHEOLOŠKI LOKALITETI REGISTROVANI U OKRUŽENJU LEKOVITIH IZVORA NA PROSTORU BEOGRADA

**KLJUČNE REČI: ARHEOLOŠKI LOKALITETI, LEKOVITI IZVORI, ANTIKA, BEOGRAD, VIŠNJIČKA BANJA, LEŠTANE, ZAVOJNIČKA REKA–VRČIN, JAKOVO.**

Temu rada predstavljaju arheološki nalazi (pokretni i nepokretni) otkriveni u blizini lekovitih izvora na prostoru Beograda. Isključivo su nabrojani lokaliteti za koje smatramo verovatnim da su njihovi žitelji, tokom perioda koji predstavlja temu proučavanja, poznavali i koristili obližnje lekovite izvore. Naglasak je dat na period antike, ali je navedeno i postojanje praistorijskih i srednjovekovnih slojeva. Na taj način omogućen je uvid u mogućnost postojanja kontinuiteta korišćenja lekovitih izvora.

Predstavljeni su višeslojni arheološki lokaliteti registrovani u Višnjičkoj Banji, Leštanima, Vrčinu (Zavojnička reka) i Jakovu.

Najstariji poznati nalazi iz Višnjičke Banje potiču iz bronzanog i gvozdenog doba. F. Kanic

navodi postojanje zidina koje pripisuje rimskom utvrđenju. Zabeleženi su i nalazi rimskih votivnih natpisa (mogući falsifikat) i antefiksa, kao i prstena, novca i keramike iz istog perioda. Na lokalitetu Gradina nalaze se ostaci vizantijskog utvrđenja, moguće kastela Octavum zabeleženog kod Prokopija. U blizini utvrđenja otkrivene su četiri rimske grobnice, zidane od opeka. Prilikom istraživanja lokaliteta Bela Stena utvrđeno je postojanje peći iz ranog srednjeg veka. U blizini je otkriven i grob sa prilozima u vidu zlatnog nakita iz VI–VII veka. Postoje i nagoveštaji o postojanja srednjovekovnog manastira i kule kružnog oblika.

Moguće je da se na prostoru Leštana nalazilo stanište iz paleolitskog perioda. Kod Bubanji Potoka postojala je nekropola, uništena radovima na izgradnji puta. Pored ostataka ljudskih skeleta i urni, otkriveni su i nalazi iz bronzanog doba, halštata, latena i rimskog perioda. Na lokalitetu Zabran, izvan arheološkog konteksta, otkriven je jedan rimski budak. Dugotrajno korišćenje nekropole u Bujanji Potoku ukazuje na mogućnost postojanja kulturnog mesta, čiji bi kontinuitet imao vezu sa postojanjem lekovitih izvora.

Na lokalitetu Šuplja stena u Vrčinu utvrđeno je postojanje praistorijskog rudnika. U neposrednoj blizini rudnika nalazilo se manje naselje iz perioda bronzanog doba. Tek treba utvrditi eventualnu povezanost ovih lokaliteta sa obližnjim lekovitim izvorima.

U ataru Jakova registrovano je više arheoloških lokaliteta. Vinčanskoj kulturi pripadaju naselja na nalazištima Kormadin i Bršljenak. U okviru višeslojnog lokaliteta Kaluđerske livade, najstariji horizont nastao je u okviru belegiške kulture bronzanog doba. Periodu poznog bronzanog doba pripada naselje otkriveno na lokalitetu Ekonomija Sava. Na istom lokalitetu egzistirala su i naselja u periodima starijeg gvozdenog doba IV i latena.

Za našu temu najznačajnije je antičko naselje na Kaluđerskim livadama, gde je kontinuiran život trajao od I–IV veka. Pretpostavlja se da je na ovom mestu, početkom nove ere, postojalo i domorodačko, predrimsko naselje.

Hronološki sled lokaliteta u Jakovu produžava se germanskom nekropolom iz V–VI veka, delimično istraženoj na lokalitetu Kormadin. Arheološku sliku na lokalitetu Kaluđerske livade dopunjuje srednjovekovna nekropola iz XII–XIV veka. Priču o prošlosti Jakova zaokružuje manastir Fenek, čije podizanje predanje vezuje za drugu polovinu XV veka, mada najstariji pisani pomen manastira datira iz 1563. godine. Manastir Fenek posvežen je Svetoj Petki–Paraskevi, svetiteljki čiji je kult povezan sa izvorima, što može poslužiti kao osnova za mogućnost da su lekovita vrela u Jakovu bila poznata i, u kontinuitetu, poštovana tokom više vremenskih epoha.

Pregled lokaliteta ukazuje na mogućnost da su lekoviti izvori na prostoru današnjeg Beograda bili poznati i korišćeni tokom praistorijskog, antičkog i srednjovekovnog perioda. Konkretnije dokaze za potvrdu ove pretpostavke mogu pružiti jedino buduća istraživanja, terenska i/ili teorijska.

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