Background, the extent of the site and a short history of the research

The site of Bolnica is located in the north-eastern part of the present-day city of Paraćin and lies on the first terrace of the Crnica River, which in fact represents the southern slopes of Karadordevo Hill. The altitude of the terrace varies between 130 and 140 m. The western part of the site is marked as “Crkva”, due to the presence of a church.

1 The site itself is marked as Bolnica, which means hospital in Serbian. As seen in the paper, there is a distinction between these two terms, as the archaeological site of Bolnica is partially located within the present-day General Hospital complex in Paraćin. Therefore, the term Bolnica refers to the site itself and the term hospital refers the area incorporated within the present day General Hospital in Paraćin.

2 Translates as church in Serbian.
to the fact that certain archaeological finds originate from the infrastructural works which were conducted in front of the Holy Trinity churchyard. Additionally, this part of the site lies closest to the river.

Nowadays, almost the complete area of the archaeological site is underneath the modern settlement, and only certain green spaces are available, in the General Hospital complex and church yard. The Hometown Museum of Paračin registered the site in 1982, and even then the site was partially positioned within the urbanised part of the city. The rapid development of the city towards the south and east in relation to the General Hospital progressively covered the site, which was neither registered or protected as cultural heritage. From that point, and on those occasions when the owners would allow access, archaeological material was collected during the construction of private houses. Regardless of the various adversities and due to the persistence of museum archaeologists M. Brmbolić, P. Vučković and A. Srdaković, during the 1980s and 1990s, today we have sufficient data to approximately define the borders of this site, which possesses a complex horizontal and vertical stratigraphy. It should be noted that the site of Bolnica remained unregistered even in the 1950s and 60s, during the first post-war excavations conducted by M. and D. Garašanin on the prehistoric and protohistoric necropolis of Gloždak, on the opposite bank of the Crnica River, some 550 m southeast of the central part of the site of Bolnica.

The first data on the archaeological material from the right bank of the Crnica River originates from the former Zelengorska and Tatar Bogdanova Streets, while the recognition of the cultural layer within the General Hospital complex, in the 1990s, confirmed that the archaeological site spreads towards the west. Only

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3 The installation of a gas pipeline and the replacement of worn installations in the last 20 years.
4 Certain small green spaces are available in the vicinity of several residential buildings, although this part of the city has been urbanised by private objects.
5 Гарашићи 1958: 301 and further, note no. 25; Garašanin 1962: 62–64; Garašanin 1964: 79 and further.
6 Present-day Ivo Andrić Street.
7 In the documentation of the Museum, the aforementioned streets in the eastern part of the site were treated as Sector I, while the western part, which encompasses the General Hospital complex and later the churchyard with surroundings, was treated as Sector II.
New archaeological excavations at the site of Bolnica, preventive in character, were conducted in 2018. A total of two trenches (control trenches) measuring a surface area of 10 and 6 m² were excavated in order to verify the stratigraphy and determine the degree of preservation of layers in this part of the site and to assess the potential endangerment of the site due to the planned construction. The overall stratigraphy in these two trenches is uniform and similar to that recorded during the previous excavations at the site. However, it should be noted that the cultural layer in this part of the site is quite disturbed, due to the existence of remains of the 19th century buildings and the 20th century gas pipeline. The remains of the 19th century buildings were recorded below the humus layer measuring a depth of between 0.3 and 0.4 m, and were in fact buried into the succeeding layer of loose brown soil. A layer of rubble, 0.2–0.3 m thick, stands in relation to the remains of buildings. The sporadic occurrence of prehistoric potsherds starts from this layer, although those potsherds were most certainly secondarily deposited. The archaeological finds were mostly recorded in the following layer comprised of loose brown soil, measuring a thickness of between 0.6 and 0.8 m. The finds are represented by sherds of hand-thrown and wheel-thrown pottery, which are preliminarily dated to the Iron Age (Early and Late) and the Early Roman period in the area. Apart from the prehistoric potsherds, small lumps of daub and Roman bricks were also recorded in this layer. The virgin soil occurs at a relative depth of between 1.3 and 1.4 m.

8 Живанић, Срндаковић 2002, 125 and further.
9 Documentation of the Hometown Museum of Paraćin (hereinafter HMP), unpublished.
10 The excavations were led by the archaeologist A. Smadaković, curator of HMP.
11 Живанић, Срндаковић 2002, 129.
12 Institute for Health Protection of Mother and Child.
13 Zelengorska Street (Жарка Зренjanina).
14 Zelengorska Street, Parezanović and Jezdić backyard.
15 The years in which this material was collected remain unknown to the authors.
16 The excavations which took place during November 2018 were conducted due to the project for the expansion of the General Hospital, involving the connecting of the Surgery Department and the Children’s Department. The excavations were organised by HMP and led by B. Stojanović and V. Vučković from HMP and V. Filipović from the Institute of Archaeology in Belgrade. Other members of the excavation team were the archaeologist Filip Stefanović from HMP, and the archaeologists Ognjen Mladenović and Jasmina Bogić from Belgrade.
The chronology and horizontal and vertical stratigraphy of the site

According to the situation presented above, and due to the fact that the archaeological finds ended up in museums by various means during the last four decades, the archaeological material will be presented according to the origin points, which can be tracked on the provided map of the wider area of the General Hospital complex (Fig. 2). The numbers marking the points from which the archaeological material originates correspond to the numbers on the map.\(^{17}\)

1. and 2. Mali Jaz 1 and Zelengorska Street (present-day Ive Andrića Street)\(^{18}\)

Since 1982, archaeologists of the HMP have successively visited the construction sites for residential buildings in this area of Parćin in order to collect archaeological material which originates from the area east of the General Hospital complex, in Zelengorska Street. Both points represent a row of several connected parcels in Zelengorska Street.

A fragment of a beaker with a handle that has an irregular circular cross-section and slightly surpasses the rim, decorated with a casually incised spiral motif (Pl. III/3), a fragment of a beaker (?) with a handle with modelled application on the top, starting from the rim (Pl. III/4), a fragment of a shallow cup with preserved root of a handle and a fragment of a rim and funnelled neck of a vessel with tongue-shaped decoration on the joint of the upper cone and the neck (Pl. III/6, 7), all

\(^{17}\) The illustrated material does not originate from all of the points, but is rather a selection of the most relevant potsherds in terms of chronological and cultural attribution. All of the remaining material will be processed and presented in the volume of the Institute of Archaeology – Arheološka Građa Srbije – Paracin, which is currently in preparation.

\(^{18}\) Cadaster parcel 2204/11.
Two semi-globular beakers or small bowls with a slightly everted rim and a distinct groove below also originate from this point (Pl. III/12–13). Both vessels are wheel-thrown, fired orange, and have thin walls. These vessels most certainly do not represent products of the Late La Tène ceramic traditions, and would rather be connected with certain Roman shapes which are common for this area during the 1st and the 2nd century AD, as seen in Tekija 26 and Sirmium. 27 Small wheel-thrown and grey fired bowls resemble the Roman shapes, although both the colour and the surface treatment indicate the Late La Tène ceramic tradition (Pl. III/14). This bowl possesses an everted rim, with two parallel grooves below and an acute biconical belly. In terms of form, similar vessels are recorded in Singidunum during the 2nd century AD, 28 and the site of Napoca in Transylvania, 29 where a similar example is dated to a period of the first half of the 2nd century AD. 30 In terms of grey pottery, which seems to display La Tène ceramic traditions, a wheel-thrown pot, with an everted rim, fired dark grey and decorated with vertically grouped burnished bands should be noted (Pl. III/15). In terms of the form of the vessel, similar examples are found at sites in southern Pannonia, such as Čarnok, 31 Jaša Tomić, 32 Golomlava, 33 Kuzmin 34 and Minel in Karaburma. 35 Their chronological attribution falls within the period between the 1st century BC and the 1st century AD. A pot fragment similar to this example, although larger, undecorated and with a groove on the neck is also recorded at this point (Pl. III/11). Similar examples are recorded at the sites of Damija gradina, 36 Sarorci, 37 Mokranje, 38 Zlokoučani, 39 and the site of Locusteni in Romania. 40 A fragment of a wheel-thrown beaker with the ribbon-like handle that is decorated with burning and two vertical grooves and fired grey is also recorded at this point (Pl. III/16). The profile of this fragment resembles an example from the site of Židovar, 41 which also possesses grooved handles, which is, in fact, a common method of decoration.

20 Стојић 1982, Т. III/9, 10; Стојић 1997, Пл. III/1, 3, 4, 7, 8, 10.
21 Стојић 1986, 151, Сл. 35, 44, 45.
22 Будаговић 2008, 223 and further, Сл. 4/1, 2.
27 Brčkner 1981, 95, Т. 88/110.
28 Николић-Дордеvić 2000, 47, тип 1/73.
30 Rusu-Bolindeţi 2007, 260.
32 Сладић 1998, 37, 2.
33 Dautova Ruševljan, Brčkner 1992, 46, Т. 12/84.
34 Брусар 1995, 118, Т. VIII/72.
38 Будаговић et al. 2013, 151, Т. LXVII/31.
40 Popilian, Bondoc 2014, Fig. 11/3.
41 Сладић 1986, Т. XIX/2.
during the Late La Tène period. Also worth noting is a fragment of a wheel-thrown pithos with an inverted and jutted rim, fired in nuances of brown and orange (Pl. III/17). Similar pithoi, although rarely with the inverted rim, are known from throughout the Danube Region, while the most similar examples are found on several sites in present-day Romania, such as the sites of Vârădia de Mureş and Locusteni. A fragment of a conical bowl with a slanted and triangularly profiled rim (Pl. III/18) can be connected with the territory of present-day Romania and the period between the 1st century BC and the 2nd century AD. In terms of hand-thrown pottery, two characteristic fragments are presented. A pot with an everted rim, a concave circular lines (Pl. V/6), represents a common form in the Danube Region, but also in the hinterland, and the territory of present-day Romania. A fragment of a vessel belly decorated with a modelled pinched band occurs on several sites in present-day Romania, such as the archaeological site of Bolnica in Paraćin and its importance for the prehistory of the Central Morava Region (113–138).

**3. Tatar Bogdanova Street**

A find of a pot which could be broadly dated to the Ha A/B period is recorded at this point.

**4. Majora Marka Street**

Numerous potsherds attributed to the period between the 1st century BC and the 1st or even the 2nd century AD.

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42 Sladić 1986, T. XIX/3 – Židovar; Sladić 1986, T. XXXVIII/8 – Turski Šanac; Popović, Mirkobrad 1986, Fig. 9/7 – Ljubičevac–Obala; Popilian, Bondoc 2014, Pl. 1/5 – Vărădia de Mureş; Dizdar 2001, T. 11/1 – Dirov Brijeg; Popović 2000, Pl. 1/15 – Saracoci.
43 Brozovan 2014, Pl. 4/5.
44 Popilian, Bondoc 2014, Fig. 41/2–4, Fig. 42/8, Fig. 45/10.
45 For detailed analogies and dating refer to the fragment originating from the only enclosed context at this site – a pit excavated in 1991, point 6, fragment Pl. IV/16.
48 Berzovan 2014, 105, Pl. 1/5, Pl. 106/5 – Vârâdia de Mureș; Rusu-Bolindoţ 2007, XIV/V-9–10 – Napoca; Popilian, Bondoc 2014, Fig. 6/11, Fig. 51/2, Fig. 55/4 Locusteni; Guna Rusu, Rastoiu, Sacarini 1995, Pl. IX/5 – Divici; Sirbu, Dâvâncă 2014, 300, Fig. 9/13–14 – Moigrad; Sirbu et al. 2014, Fig. 6/9 – Gruii Dârii; Crişan, Sirbu 2010, Pl. 7/5 – Covasna; Sirbu, Arsenescu 2006, Fig. 11/6 – Lancram.
49 Nikolić-Dordević 2000, 80, tip II/34 – upper left.
50 Crişan 1969, Pl. LXI/7.
51 Crişan 1969, Pl. LXIV/4; Sirbu, Dâvâncă 2014, 300, Fig. 9/15.
52 Sirbu, Arsenescu 2006, Fig. 9/12, 17.
53 Popa 2004, 156, Pl. 7/5.
54 Popilian, Bondoc 2014, Fig. 1/5.
55 Sirbu, Matei 2013, Fig. 18/7.
57 The authors would like to thank MA Ivana Stojanović and Nemanja Marković, Ph.D. from the Institute of Archaeology in Belgrade for their helpful comments and suggestions.
60 Ferencz, Beldiman 2012, Pl.16/ARC 14, Pl. 17/ARC 15, Pl. 30/ARC 31.
61 Cadastre parcel 2234.
62 Cadastre parcel 1942/1.
century AD, were collected during the digging of foundations for a residential building at 61 Majora Marka Street. A fragment of a wheel-thrown bowl with a widely everted rim, fired grey originates from this point (Pl. IV/2). The recipient of the bowl, below the rim, is decorated with incised lines and a burnished wavy line, which undoubtedly has a La Tène origin. This type of vessel is common for the Late La Tène and Early Principate ceramic production in the Morava and Danube regions, and similar examples are recorded at sites in the wider area of the Serbian Danube Region, such as Židovar,63 Vrtozi near Šimanovci,64 Gomolava,65 Čurug66 and Orašje near Dubravica.67 Similar examples, in terms of the form of the vessel are recorded in the territory of eastern Banat, such as two examples from the site of Vărădia de Mureş, dated to a period between the 1st century BC and the 1st century AD,68 or in Wallachia at the site of Gruiu Dării, where two similar examples have been recorded.69 Similar ornamentation of the inner side of the recipient of La Tène vessels occurs during the 1st century BC, and probably lasts throughout the 1st century AD.70 Such a manner of decoration is also noted on retarded La Tène pottery of the 2nd century AD.71 Another vessel which could be attributed to the Late La Tène period is an S-profiled wheel-thrown bowl, fired in nuances of brown and orange (Pl. IV/1). Similar examples are recorded at numerous Late La Tène sites in the Danube Region, such as Židovar,72 Popov Salaš,73 Gomolava,74 Pantelejeva kruška,75 Saraorci,76 Panjevački rit,77 and an almost identical example, fired redish, originates from the so-called Dacian pit at the site of Ljubičevac-Obala in Đerdap.78 Analogous examples are found within the so-called Daco-Roman horizon in the territory of present-day Romania, such is the case with the example from the site of Locusteni.79 All of the examples attributed to the Late La Tène period are dated to the second half of the 1st century BC and the 1st century AD. However, similar bowls are common for the Early Provincial Roman pottery in this part of the Danube Region, which is noted at the sites of Gomolava80 and Vojka,81 and related forms prevail up to the 4th century AD.82 There are also certain similarities with some bowls dated to the 2nd/3rd century AD, which could connect the Early and Late Antique examples.83 A small wheel-thrown bag-shaped beaker, fired grey is quite interesting (Pl. IV/3). Such beakers rarely appear within the Late La Tène ceramic inventory, and similar examples, although fired red, are attributed to a period between the 1st and the 3rd century AD, such as the examples from Singidunum84 and Saldum,85 while the examples from Tekija86 and Hajdučka Vodenica87 could be slightly earlier, considering that the example from Hajdučka Vodenica was recorded together with a coin of Emperor Tiberius.

5. Nemanjina Street (former Žarka Zrenjanina Street)88

There is no precise data regarding the origin of the archaeological material from this point in the documentation of the HMP. The only existing data is that the potsherds came to the Museum in 1996 and that the potsherds were collected during the construction of the foundation for an object located some 100 m south of the Glass Factory in Paračin. Only a couple of pottery fragments have been selected from this location:

64 Бруховер 1995, 100, Т. XIX/193.
66 Trifunović 2014, 229, Fig. 7/2, 5–6.
68 Bezovan 2014, 109, Pl. 5/2, 4.
69 Sîrbu et al. 2014, Fig. 10/1, u.
70 Sladić 1986, Жидовар – T. XVII/8, Т. XVIII/7, Т. XXV/6, XXVI/6, Сремска Митрова – T. XLV/7, Аркана – T. L/5; Dizdar 2001, Думича градина – Т. 38/4–5; Brukner 1981, Dumbovo – Т. IV/2; Бугаровић, Филиповић 2011, Т. 4/1–2; Popović 2011 Крсевица – fig. 21/1, 4
73 Sladić 1986, Т. XXXVIII/7.
74 Jovanović, Jovanović 1988, 159, Т. XXXI/3.
75 Капуран 2014, Т. 32/37, with a more elongated rim, yet the same form.
77 Sladić 1998, 93, 1/2.
78 Popović, Mrkobrad 1986, 308, Сл. 9/1.
79 Popilian, Bondoc 2014, fig. 6/16, fig. 17/5–7, fig. 19/14, fig. 20/5.
83 Nikolić-Dordević 2000, 38, tip I/47.
86 Cermanović-Kuzmanović, Jovanović 2004, 151, кат. 7.
87 Jovanović 1984, 321, T. I/1.
88 Cadastral parcel 2279/2.
a fragment of a bowl with an inverted rim (Pl. III/1) and a fragment of a large pot with a slightly everted rim and a massive ribbon-like handle, ellipsoid in cross-section (Pl. III/5). A more precise chronological attribution is not possible at the moment and, in terms of general considerations, it can be noted that these fragments most likely originate from the Bronze Age or the Early Iron Age.

**6. Zelengorska Street, General Hospital complex, archaeological excavations**

Four test trenches measuring a total of 18 m² were excavated during 1991 and 1992 in the area of former Zelengorska Street, in the south-eastern part of the General Hospital complex. Besides the portable finds from the layer, represented by potsherds and animal bones, a pit measuring a diameter of 1.4 m and a depth of 0.7 m, filled with burnt black soil, ash and soot mixed with potsherds and animal bones, was also recorded. The finds originating from this pit have only been partially published so far, and those finds are dated to the Late Iron Age and Early Roman period in the area. The archaeological excavations confirmed the existence of an earlier layer in this area as well, defined as the Early Iron Age layer.

A fragment of a bowl with an inverted rim is characteristic for this earlier horizon. The neck of the bowl is decorated with parallel horizontal incisions and combined zigzag incisions below (Pl. 1/11). Such a motif is characteristic of the Basarabi phase of the Early Iron Age.

In terms of the younger horizon, only potsherds originating from the aforementioned pit have been selected for presentation, due to the fact that the pit represents the only enclosed archaeological context. Previously published vessels are wheel-thrown pithoi, hand-thrown pots, and small Early Roman bowls fired in nuances of red. This inventory should be complemented with several characteristic fragmented vessels, such as a wheel-thrown slightly S profiled bowl, fired grey (Pl. II/15), which is a common form throughout the Serbian part of the Danube Region during the Late La Tène period. Similar examples have been recorded at the sites of Dirov brijeg, Đamča gradina, Židovar, Toplik, Rgotina, Lazarev grad, Panjevački rit, Medijana, Gomolava, Saraorci, and Čurug. The examples from all of these sites are dated to the second half of the very end of the 1st century BC, although similar examples are known from the 1st century AD as well. On the other hand, analogous and concurrent examples are also found in present-day Romania, at the sites of Locusteni and Divici. A fragment of a wheel-thrown phitos with a horizontal rim and fired in nuances of dark grey and black is quite unique.
interesting (Pl. II/17), considering the fact that there are no similar examples within the Late La Tène ceramic inventory of the Danube Region, as their occurrence is connected with the Final La Tène and the 1st century AD. A decoration composed of parallel lines performed with some sort of combed tool is positioned on the lower portion of the neck of the pithos and similar yet wavy lines are performed directly below. Since the fragment is not complete, we can only assume that the parallel lines repeated below the wavy lines. Similar examples have been recorded at the sites of Sikirica, Selenča, Singidunum, Gomolava, Sirmium, and Ljubičevac–Obala. Aside from the examples from Sikirica, Selenča, and Ljubičevac–Obala, which originate from the Late La Tène contexts, finds from Srem would rather belong to the Early Roman-Provincional ceramic forms, according to O. Brukner. Such forms are common for the period of the 1st and the first half of the 2nd century and occur together with autochthonous latenoid pithoi. A fragment of a wheel-thrown conical bowl with an inverted and triangularly profiled rim and fired grey also originates from the pit (Pl. II/16). This form of vessel is uncharacteristic for the La Tène period pottery in the Serbian part of the Danube Region, as it is often recorded in the territory of present-day Romania, for example, at the sites of Locusteni, Sighișoara and Sanziendi, where such bowls are dated to a period between the 1st century BC and the 2nd century AD. Several analogous examples have also been recorded in the territory of the Danube Region, although in Roman contexts, such as one example from Gomolava, one example from Singidunum and two examples from the site of Zbradila-Fund. The chronological attribution of the examples from the sites of Gomolava and Zbradila-Fund falls to the end of the 1st century and the first half of the 2nd century AD, while the example from Singidunum falls within the very end of the 2nd century AD. In terms of hand-thrown pottery, two ovoid pots with an everted rim and fired brown were recorded in the pit. Such pots are common for the Late La Tène ceramic inventory from sites in the Lower Danube Region and neighbouring territories during the transition between the old and new era. One of the pots possesses a modelled horizontal band decorated with pinching and with a modelled triangular prong-shaped application (Pl. II/14). Such decoration is uncommon for the Serbian part of the Danube Region, but represents a common characteristic of the modelled pinched bands in the territories of present-day Romania and Banat, as such applications have been recorded at the sites of Napoca, Covasna, and Zidovar. All of the examples which possess such a decoration are attributed to a wide chronological span from the 2nd century BC to the 2nd century AD. A similar pot, although decorated with a horizontally positioned double modelled band with sharp incisions which are not as common as the pinching, has analogies at the sites of Tekija, Viminacium, Zbradila-Fund, Napoca, Covasna, Locusteni and Turda–Luncă. It is similarly dated as the previously discussed example.

7. Boiler room, General Hospital complex

Among the usual ceramic inventory of the Bronze Age, Early and Late Iron Age, two fragments attributed to the Starčevo culture are recorded at this point. The first fragment of a conical bowl (Pl. II/9) has analogies at the nearby site of Drenovac, and from the site of Blagotin. The other fragment probably belongs to a pot with a concave neck and slightly thickened rim (Pl. II/1). This example resembles examples from the site of Drenovac and from object 3 at the site of Blagotin. Both fragments could be attributed to the early phase of the Starčevo culture, but due to the considerable fragmentation, such a chronological determination should be treated with caution.

8. Institute for Health Protection of Mother and Child, General Hospital complex

In the course of 1993, several potsherds came to the HMP. These potsherds were recovered during the placement of utilities (?) near the Institute for Health Protection of Mother and Child, to the west of the aforementioned boiler room. The potsherds belong to bowls and pots, which can broadly be dated to the Ha A1/A2 period.

9. Holy Trinity Church

The church is located on the edge of the river terrace and probably represents the western border of the site. Several portable finds collected during the construction of the gas pipeline, north of the churchyard, are attributed to the Early Iron Age, without the possibility of a more precise chronological determination.

10. Green space between the Surgery Department and Children’s Department

In the course of preventive archaeological excavations in 2018, potsherds attributed to the Early Iron Age (Transitional period) were recorded in trenches (control trenches) 1 and 2. Particularly characteristic are fragments of a slightly biconical bowl with an inverted rim and faceted upper cone (Pl. I/1), a shallow bowl with an inverted rim and neck decorated with vertical channels and a vertically positioned S motif (Pl. I/2), a conical bowl with a slightly inverted rim (Pl. II/1), a bowl with an inverted rim or S profile decorated with incised lines and oblique channels (Pl. II/2), and pots or amphorae with more or less everted rims which sometimes possess horizontal channels on the neck (Pl. I/3, 4, Pl. II/3, 4). In terms of handles, massive ribbon-like handles with a triangular cross-section, vertically channelled ribbon-like handles with an ellipsoid cross-section and small tongue-shaped handles (Pl. I/5–7, Pl. II/5–7) are recorded at this point. The atypical fragments of bellies are decorated with double incised zigzag lines, and horizontal and oblique channels (Pl. I/8, 9). All of the potsherds are made of clay tempered with small stones, fired in nuances of black, grey and brown, and possess slightly burnished surfaces. The slightly biconical bowl with an inverted rim and horizontally faceted upper cone belongs to the type Ia, according to the division proposed by A. Bulatović (Pl. I/1). This type of bowl is recorded at the nearby sites of Panjevački rit, Sarina Međa, and Vrbica in Dragocvet, near Jagodina. The occurrence of this type of bowl in the Central Morava Region is connected with the Ha A1/A2 period, according to Reinecke, meaning a period starting from the 13th century BC, although this type of bowl has quite a prolonged duration. In terms of chronology, the manner of decoration is somewhat indicative. The fragment of a bowl with an inverted rim and a tongue-shaped handle below is decorated with vertical channels and a vertically positioned S motif (Pl. I/2). Such a motif has been registered at numerous sites in the territory of Vojvodina, which

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136 The exact year in which the archaeological material from this point came to the HMP is unknown.
137 Perić 2008, Pl. I/5, Pl. II/1.
139 Vuković 2004, T. II/1–2.
142 Cadastral parcel 1977/1.
143 According to the church elder, skeletal remains were recorded on that occasion as well, although such data should be treated with caution. A metal cross indicating the altar of the previous St. Mark’s Church, which was supposedly erected during the first half of the 19th century AD, is located in the northern part of the churchyard. Unfortunately, historical sources related to that church are scarce, as the entire archive was burned during WWI.
144 This fragment could belong to the neck of an amphora or a pot and, if that is the case, the channels would be positioned on the vessel belly, with horizontal parallel incisions at the very bottom of the vessel neck.
147 Стројнић 1982, 33, T. I/2; Stojić 1986, 21–22, T. 1/1, 2.
149 Бугаровић 2009, 99–121, with cited literature.
are ascribed to the Bosut culture, and more precisely the Bosut-Basarabi phase, for which this motif is quite characteristic. However, at the eponymous site of Bolnica, such a manner of decoration sporadically appears in the enclosed features of settlement horizons 1 and 2, which are attributed to a slightly earlier Bosut-Kalakača phase (phase Iva). Still, the running S motif occurs at the nearby site of Panjevački rit starting from the Lanište I phase (Ha B3), which begins around 800 BC according to the chronological division proposed by M. Stojić, and it therefore encompasses the Kalakača (IVa) and Basarabi (IVb) phases of the Bosut culture. A bowl decorated in a similar manner, with a vertically positioned running S motif is recorded at the site of Prkljavica and dated, similarly, to the Ha B/C period.

The Late La Tène and Early Roman periods at this point are characterised by hand-thrown potsherds, fired in nuances of brown and decorated with modelled bands with oblique incisions or pinching (Pl. I/15–18) and some of the examples possess slanted rims (Pl. I/10, 11). Such a repertoire of the so-called Dacian pottery is recorded at certain points within the site of Bolnica, as well as at the surrounding sites, but the significant fragmentation does not allow a precise reconstruction of the original forms of the vessels. Wheel-thrown vessels (Pl. I/12–14, 20, 21), which are without a doubt of Late La Tène origin, are simultaneous with the aforementioned hand-thrown vessels. Such vessels are decorated with an incised wavy line framed by parallel horizontal lines, which are characteristic of the period between the end of the 1st century BC and the 1st century AD (Pl. I/19), although the decoration comprised of a combination of incised parallel bands and wavy lines continues throughout the Late Antique and even later.

11. The corner of Čika Ljubina and Tatar Bogdanova Streets

This point is located in the central part of the assumed location of the site. In the course of digging the foundations for a residential building during the 1990s, at the Milenković estate, numerous potsherds were collected from a relative depth of 1 m. The potsherds belong to large vessels, pitchers, pots and bowls which could be dated to the Late La Tène and Early Roman periods, meaning the second half of the 1st century AD for this part of the Morava Region.

Conclusion

There are several important conclusions which can be drawn from the foregoing information. Likewise, certain problems arise concerning the site of Bolnica, which has, so far, been almost irrelevant in professional literature. In the first place, there are questions concerning the extension of the site, its surface, and horizontal stratigraphy, as well as its relationship to the site of Motel Slatina. Namely, if we observe the site as it is represented on the map (Fig. 2), based on the recorded points, it can be concluded that the site encompasses an area of approximately 16 hectares: 700 m on the west-east axis, from the Holy Trinity Church to the administrative building of the Serbian Glass Factory (hereinafter SGF), and 230 m on the north-south axis (width), from the southern part of the General Hospital complex to the northern side of Major Marko Street. On the other hand, based on observations by M. Brmolić and the results of the excavations at the site of Motel Slatina during the 1980s, which yielded Early Iron Age finds, besides the Early and Late Neolithic finds, the possibility cannot be excluded that the site of Bolnica encompasses a much larger area. With that in mind, the site of Bolnica could be considered the same site as Motel Slatina. This is supported by the fact that the site of Motel Slatina was artificially interrupted on the north-south axis by the construction of the E75 highway and that, in fact, its western portion borders with the area of the SGF, while the eastern border of the site is represented by the graveyard in the village of Glavica. During the 19th century, a textile factory was erected at the present location of the SGF. In 1906, the first glass factory was built following a great fire which burned the textile factory. There is no data to indicate if any archaeological remains were recorded

151 Medović, Medović 2010, Sl. 33/9, Sl. 38/3, Sl. 48/11, SL50/6, Sl. 51/13, Sl. 54/10.
152 Medović, Medović 2010, 72, 272.
154 For the Basarabi phase sites in the vicinity of Jagodina refer to Стројш 1979, 97 and further.
156 For the analogies for the Dacian and La Tène forms refer to the archaeological material originating from other points in this paper.
158 Мадас 1988, 90.
159 Perić et al. 2016, 12.
during the construction of the glass factory, although the construction of the factory lasted for decades and subsequently expanded the area connected with the factory some 1.2 km on the west-east axis. S. Vetnić states that “most of the site is devastated by the construction of economic buildings for the SGF”, but provides no additional data on that matter.\textsuperscript{161} The distance between the graveyard in the village of Glavica and the area connected with the SGF is around 750 m on the right terrace of the Crnica River. The site of Bolnica is located on the same terrace, west of the area of the SGF. If the sites of Bolnica and Motel Slatina are in fact one site, which, based on current data, seems plausible, the total area of the site would measure 2,750 x 2,000 m,\textsuperscript{162} which is an area of more than a 50 hectares (Fig. 3). Based on our current knowledge, it seems as though the thickest cultural layers are located in the area east of the SGF and the part of the site interrupted by the highway, although, most of the contexts from that area belong to the Starčevo and Vinča cultures but, as we have presented, the archaeological material attributed to the Starčevo culture is recorded in the central portion of the General Hospital complex as well. The Iron Age settlement also encompassed a large area, considering that similar archaeological material is recorded both in the area of the General Hospital and at the site of Motel Slatina. Such vast plain settlements from the given period are not rare in the Central Morava Region.\textsuperscript{163} The Bronze Age and Late Iron Age/Early Roman period finds are recorded solely within the General Hospital complex.

The second important fact arising from the previous discussion on the horizontal stratigraphy and the extension of the site, is the comparison of the site of Bolnica, i.e. the site of Bolnica–Motel Slatina with multi-layered sites in the immediate proximity, which are located on the right bank of the Velika Morava River. A

\begin{figure}[h]
\centering
\includegraphics[width=\textwidth]{fig3.png}
\caption{The position of the sites of Bolnica, Motel Slatina and Gloždak on the topographic map (Kruševac 2–4), scale 1:25,000}
\end{figure}

\textsuperscript{161} Vetnić 1974, 139.
\textsuperscript{162} The minimum average width.
\textsuperscript{163} Stojić 1986, 63–65.
total of seven sites have been recorded, of which only the site of Bolnica possesses four chronological horizons (Early Neolithic, Bronze Age, Early Iron Age, and Late Iron Age). Three sites possess three chronological horizons – Ložionica–Paraćin, Motel Slatina and Slatina–Turska Česma in the village of Drenovac, while four sites possess only two chronological horizons – Gorunje and Kneselačka česma in the wider area of Paraćin, and the sites of Livade and Zorkina njiva in the village of Striža (Fig. 4a). However, if we treat the sites of Bolnica and Motel Slatina as one site, as previously suggested and argued, the site would possess a total of five chronological horizons, two sites would possess three, and four sites would possess two chronological horizons (Fig. 4b).

Based on the size of the site and the number of chronological horizons, a logical question regarding the importance of the site of Bolnica–Motel Slatina for the prehistory of the Central Morava Region arises. According to Jovan Cvijić, a series of large rifts in a meridian direction, with a length of more than 100 km, occur from Golubac on the right bank of the Danube River to the city of Paraćin. In that direction the masses of Homolje, the Beljanica Mountain and the Kučaj Mountain separate the Velika Morava and Mlava valleys from the Timok Basin. However, Jovan Cvijic also states: from Paraćin, through the Crnica Valley and Grza Valley, the terrain rises towards the Stolice mountain pass and from that point on falls towards the Čestobrodbica with the Stolice mountain pass are the most easily accessible natural communication from the Morava Valley towards the Timok Basin, in the territory south of the Danube River. Such a situation, with the natural communications in mind, explains the problem of the existence of a large and chronologically versatile site (Bolnica–Motel Slatina) on the right bank of the Crnica River, some 4.5 km east of its confluence with the Velika Morava River. In that area the Crnica River comes out of a small glen between the Strana and Glavica hills and starts into its valley with a slightly meandering flow. The later Roman road, the Via Militaris, followed the Mlava Valley from Viminacium and entered the Velika Morava Valley near Dražimirovac, where it continued further to the south, following the right bank of the river. In the area or in the vicinity of the site of Bolnica–Motel Slatina, the Via Militaris had to cross the transversal road which followed the aforementioned natural communication towards the Crni Timok Valley.

164 Seven single layered archaeological sites were recorded within the given territory, but were not relevant to the discussion.
165 There is a possibility that Eneolithic pottery occurs at the site of Bolnica–Motel Slatina as well, which has yet to be confirmed, since the archaeological material from the site of Motel Slatina is stored in at least three different museums in Serbia (National Museum in Belgrade, Hometown Museum of Paraćin and Hometown Museum of Jagodina). If that is the case, the site would possess a total of six chronological horizons.
166 Цвијић 2000, 59.
167 Crni Timok Valley.
168 Цвијић 2000, 59.
169 Николић 2015, 304.
In a manner, the site discussed in this paper had to represent an important intersection of those two roads, and a major strategic point of great significance. This route is the only east-west communication presented on the Austro-Hungarian map from 1718, although on that map the route follows the left bank of the Crnica River. According to the General Staff map from 1894, the route followed the left bank for only 500 m. Numerous sites in the valleys of Crnica, Grza, Čestobrodica and Crni Timok utilised this communication, starting from early prehistory. In the Grza Valley, several sites are recorded near the villages of Lešje and Mutnica – Trševine, Vrela, Ćurčar, Slanište and Selište, which have yielded Iron Age finds. On the other hand, numerous prehistoric sites have been recorded in the Crni Timok Valley, such as the Neolithic sites in Zlotska pećina and the villages of Savinac and Podgorac, the Eneolithic sites in Bogovinska pećina and the village of Sumrakovac, and sites from later prehistoric periods such as those in the villages of Strmljane, Lukovo or Podgorac.

Based on the presented archaeological material, the question arises regarding the presence of the Dacian material culture in this area, together with the Late La Tène and Early Roman material. Also, it should be noted that in terms of the Bronze and Early Iron Age, this site represents a lowland settlement and that the Bronze Age material corresponds to the Gloždak necropolis on the opposite bank of the Crnica River (Fig. 2). The presence of the Dacians in the area of Paraćin was discussed more than 50 years ago by D. Garašanin, following the excavations at the aforementioned Gloždak necropolis. Since then, no renewed or extensive research has addressed that particular problem, and conclusions have primarily been based on the works of D. Garašanin. P. Popović made interesting statements that the graves from Paraćin possess no similarities with the Dacian necropolises in present-day Romania and that these graves represent the traces of a forced relocation of the population during the 1st century AD. The archaeological material recorded at the site of Bolnica, and especially in pit 1, which is an enclosed context, suggests a strong presence of Dacians in this area, who lived together with the autochthonous population of Scordiscian origin, while the Roman material culture is recorded to a lesser extent. As previously presented, most of the Dacian archaeological material corresponds to the territory of present-day Romania, and some of the elements which are registered on hand-thrown pottery (double modelled pinched bands, bands with sharp incisions, suspended modelled pinched bands, branch motifs, and triangularly modelled prong-shaped applications) originate exclusively from the Late Dacian culture in their original territories. A similar situation can be noted for certain elements on the wheel-thrown pottery, such as the bowl with an inverted and triangularly profiled rim or the pithos with an inverted and jutted rim. These forms of vessels and decoration motifs are characteristic for the original Dacian regions and occur from the 2nd century BC to the 2nd century AD, when we find them mixed with Roman material, which is also the case with the sites of Bolnica and Gloždak. D. Garašanin and M. Garašanin, and P. Popović assume that the site of Gloždak represents the results of Dacian deportations during the 1st century AD, which are confirmed in historical sources, although there was no precise data detailing which of several deportations. Based on the latest excavations at the site of Gloždak–Lidl, in which a thick layer of the Dacian La Tène period was recorded, which completely corresponds to the archaeological material from the previous excavations at the site of Gloždak and the site of Bolnica, together with numismatic finds from the 1st century AD, it can be assumed that the deportation in question is connected with the displacement of 100,000 “Tansdanubians” by Silvanus Aelianus, the legate with pro-praetorian authority in Moesia (legatus praepraetore Moesiae), during the reign of Emperor Nero. The first 13 lines from the inscription of Silvanus Aelianus’ tombstone, which was found near present-day Tivoli, not far from Rome, state:

\[\text{CIL XIV, 3608.}\]
Tiberius Plautius, son of Marcus, (of the tribe) [Aniensis], Silvanus Aelianus, pontifex, fellow of the priesthood of the deified Augustus, triumph in charge of the mint, quaestor of Tiberius Caesar, legate of the Fifth Legion in Germany, urban praetor, legate and companion of Claudius Caesar in Britain, consul, proconsul of Asia, legate (pro praetore) Moesiae in qua plura quam centum mill(a) in praestanda tributa cum coniugib(us) ac liberis et principibus aut regibus suis transduxit;

Tiberius Plautius, son of Marcus, (of the tribe) [Aniensis], Silvanus Aelianus, pontifex, fellow of the priesthood of the deified Augustus, triumph in charge of the mint, quaestor of Tiberius Caesar, legate of the Fifth Legion in Germany, urban praetor, legate and companion of Claudius Caesar in Britain, consul, proconsul of Asia, legate (pro praetore) Moesiae in qua plura quam centum mill(a) in praestanda tributa cum coniugib(us) ac liberis et principibus aut regibus suis transduxit;

TI PLAVTIO M F [---]  
SILVANO AE LI ANO  
PONTIF SODALI AVG  
IIIVIR A A F F Q TI CAESARIS  
5 LEG LEG V IN GER MA NIA  
PR VRB LEGAT ET COMITI CLAVD  
CAESARIS IN BRITTAN NIA CONSVL  
PROCOS AS I AE LEGAT PRO PRAET MOESIAE  
IN QVA PLVRA QVAM CENTVM MILL  
10 EX NVME RO TRANS DANV V IANOR  
AD PRAESTANDA TRIBVTA CVM CONIVGIB  
AC LIBERIS ET PRINCIPIBVS AVT REGIBVS SVIS  
TRANS DVX IT

183 Sherk (ed.) 1988, 104.
184 Griffin 2000, 24.
185 Jovanović 1996, 69 and further.
186 Димитријевић 1984, 32.
189 Петровић 2015, 304; Danković 2015, with cited literature.
Another interesting observation can be made in terms of the situla-shaped pots. Such pots, which are a characteristic hand-thrown form of the Late La Tène period, are characterised by the situla-shaped profile, a shallow groove below the rim and, in most cases, a combed ornament which covers the entire surface of the vessel. In comparison to other forms, such as the so-called Dacian cups or hand-thrown pots decorated in a characteristic “Dacian” manner, which originate from the territories predominantly inhabited by Dacian populations, the distribution of the situla-shaped pots in the territory of Serbia is connected with the Late La Tène Scordisci settlements in Srem, southern Banat and on the right bank of the Danube River, from the mouth of the Morava river to the Đerdap region. Their occurrence is quite sporadic in the hinterland of the Danube Region and further to the south. In the territory of the Central Morava Region, fragments of such pots have been recorded at the site of Panjevački rit near Paraćin, and at the sites of Maskare Bedem and Lazarev grad near Krusevac and the site of Dautovac–Koričani near Kragujevac. East of the Central Morava Region, situla-shaped pots are recorded at the sites of Ćetaće, in the village of Sena and the site of Staro groblje, in Bor. Further to the south, similar pots

190 Such decoration can be organised in various ways, horizontally, obliquely, spirally, vertically, comprising rhomboid fields, or semi-circles which are connected to each other. If there is no combed ornamentation, the situla-shaped pots are mostly decorated with wide and deep incisions and vertical channels (Todorović 1968, 45).


196 Штарић 1998, 100–103, Т. 2/1, 2.
are quite scarce and recorded in the vicinity of Niš, Leskovac, Vranje, Priština, and Prizren, which is the southernmost find of a situla-shaped pot in the territory of present-day Serbia. It is interesting that no fragments of situla-shaped pots were recorded at the points presented in this paper, compared to the pots of Dacian provenance (Pl. I/10, 11, Pl. II/13, 14, Pl. III/10, 11). On the other hand, as previously noted, situla-shaped pots are the main form of handheld pottery within the Late La Tène ceramic inventory of wheel-thrown pottery in the Middle Danube Region. Therefore, it seems that, within the territory discussed in this paper, which is abundant both in Late La Tène, Dacian and Early Roman ceramic forms, pots of a Dacian provenance have completely taken over the role of the situla-shaped pots, whose production ceased, at least in the somewhat restricted area presented in this paper. The reason behind this can be found in the nature of the site of Bolnica and nearby sites in the territory of present-day Paraćin. Namely, the heterogeneous archaeological material indicates either a peaceful cohabitation of different communities which inhabited this area or the acceptance of certain forms by other communities. In both cases, the need for taking only certain ceramic forms could be caused by the greater utilisation value or qualities of such forms, compared to the analogous ceramic forms of the societies that accepted them. This resulted in the fact that the hand-thrown pottery of Dacian provenance was favoured, compared to the wheel-thrown pottery, where Late La Tène and Early Roman forms are dominant.

Future excavations at the site of Bolnica and the publication of all material originating from both new and earlier excavations at the site of Gloždak, and several sites in the Central Morava Region that yielded similar material culture, could provide answers to certain questions which have arisen in this paper. Nevertheless, it seems that the site of Bolnica/Motel Slatina represents the largest and chronologically most durable settlement in the Central Morava Region, even though its potential excavations are limited by the modern infrastructure of the city of Paraćin.

Translated by Ognjen Mladenović

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197 The site of Velika česma in Vrtište (Crojia, 1984, 67–77, T. XVI/70), the site of Medijana (Perišić 2001, 12, T. I/1–3).
200 The site of Gladnice (Sladić 1998, 137–139, T. 2/8).
202 This data also refers to potsherds which are not presented in this paper, and which originate from the aforementioned points.
203 An identical situation was recorded during archaeological excavations at the site of Gloždak–Lidl in Paraćin, in 2018 (unpublished, documentation of the HMP). Likewise, there are no situla-shaped pots within the previously published Late La Tène material from the Gloždak necropolis (Garašanin 1964, 79 and further, Ionović 2003, 259 and further).
204 Several sites which yielded similar archaeological material were excavated by S. Vetnić and M. Stojić from the Hometown Museum in Jagodina, and that material corresponds to that from the sites of Gloždak and Bolnica, based on the personal insight of one of the authors.
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CIL – Corpus inscriptionum Latinarum, Berlin.


Ѓенералиштабна карта 1894 – Генералиштабна карта, 3.6. Параћин (1:75 000), Београд 1894. (Ѓенералиштабна карта, 3.6. Параћин (1:75 000), Београд 1894).


Локалитет Болници у Параћину налази се у североисточном делу данашњег града, на првој речној тераси Црнице, чија надморска висина варира између 130 м и 140 м, а која за­дупцова представља југозападне обронке Карађорђевог брда. Читав локалитет данас је прекривен модерним насељем, које је у великој мери одсекло његову стратиграфију, због чега нису могућа истраживања ширег обима. Последња археолошка истраживања, превентивног карактера, реализована су кра­јем 2018. године у самом болничком кругу.

Приказан одабир археолошког материјала потиче са укупно 11 тачака из круга данашње болнице у Па­раћину и његове непосредне околине, а прикупљен је сук­кесивно још од 80-их година прошлог века. Узбројени расправа је у претходне три деценије доспели у Завичајни Музеј у Параћину указују на постојање најмање четири културно хронолошка хоризонта на овом локалитету – ранонеолитски, бронзанодопски, хоризонт старијег гвозденог доба и хоризонт млађег гвозденог доба. Највећа пажња посвећена је пре свега намета из млађег гвозденог доба, чији обли­ци и карактер упућују на порекло са територије данашње Дачке провинције. Упоредна анализа керамичког инвентара са локалитета Болници, резултата старијих истраживања у Параћину и постојећих историјских извора указала је на могућност да постојање материјалне културе Дачана на овом простору може бити последица присилног премештања ста­новништва током 1 век наше ере.

Поређењем териториално-стратиграфских односа лока­литета Болници са њему териториално блиском локалитетом Мотел Слатина дошло се до одређених закључака који говоре у прилог томе да се ради о јединственом локалитету што је још почетком XX века вештачки подељен изградњом Српске фабрике стакла и ауто­пута Е–75. Тако посматрано, локалитет Болници, односно Болници / Мотел Слатина представља у стратиграфском погледу један од најбогатијих локалитета на простору централног Поморавља.

Посебно је разматран и положај локалитета Болници у односу на главне комуникационе правце у праисторијском и раноримском периоду, па је закључено да ова област представља важну раскрсницу на којој су сусретали путеви који су водили са севера на југ, али и према истоку, према просторима који су граница израдили територији насељавања дачких популација. Упоредна анализа керамичког инвентара са локалитета Болници, резултата старијих истраживања у Параћину и постојећих историјских извора указала је на могућност да постојање материјалне културе Дачана на овом простору може бити последица присилног премештања ста­новништва током 1 век наше ере.

Наиме, епиграфски извори говоре о томе да је током 1 век наше ере, а вероватно изме­ђу 61. и 64. године, известни Силван Елије, легат са претер­ским овлашћењима, насилно пре­селио 100.000 „прекодуна­ваца” на територију тадашње Мезије, данашње Србије.
Plate I – Bolnica, trench 1, excavations in 2018 (1–21) (drawing J. Bogić)

Табла I – Болница, сонца 1, исказања 2018. (1–21) (цртеж Ј. Богић)
Plate II – Bolnica, trench 1, excavations in 2018 (1–8); Boiler room (9–10); excavations in 1991 (11–17) (drawing J. Bogić)

Таблица II – Болница, сонда 1, ископавања 2018. (1–8); Котларница (9–10); ископавања 1991. (11–17) (цртеж Ј. Богић)
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Plate III – Nemanjina Street (1, 5); excavations in 1991 (2); points 1 and 2, Mali Jaz 1 and Zelengorska Street (3–4, 6–18) (drawing J. Bogić)

Табла III – Улица Немањина (1, 5); искошавања 1991. (2); Тачке 1. и 2. Мали Јаз 1 и Зеленгурска улица (3–4, 6–18) (цртеж Ј. Богић)
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Plate IV – Majora Marka Street (1–3); Mali Jaz 1 and Zelengorska Street (4–6)
(drawing J. Bogić)

Табла IV – Улица мајора Марка (1–3); Мали Јаз 1 и Зеленгorskа улица (4–6)
(цртеж Ј. Богић)