The Roman capitals from Sirmium, particularly those of the Corinthian order, have attracted much attention on the part of the researchers of the city’s Roman architecture or of the form of capitals in this and the neighbouring regions. This is with good reason, since the collection of capitals is notable, whereby different stones in capitals coexisted almost throughout the town’s development. This was certainly the situation during the flourishing times of the late 3rd and the 4th century, when Sirmium, as one of the four capitals of the Roman Empire, stood within several formal circles of capitals. The plain-leaved capitals tie it to the rest of Pannonia, the Corinthianizing capitals to the provinces to the east and south, while part of the Asiatic capitals, the largest group, tie it to the wider area of the Mediterranean.

Key words. – Sirmium, Roman period, Roman architecture, Corinthian capitals, Corinthianizing capitals, Corinthian Asiatic capitals, marble analyses.
published information and encouraged by the new findings, I estimated that the capitals from Sirmium deserved renewed attention, which I will pay in the paper below.

The aim of the paper is to provide a formal analysis of each capital as well as its parallels, place within formal groups and date. Furthermore, it aspires to explore the formal, material and chronological features of these capitals in order to bring them in relation with the development of the Roman town in general. Having said that, the aim has two limitations. On the one hand, the analyses of the Mediterranean white marbles performed up to this point have proved inconclusive and await further analyses and checking of results. On the other hand, the formal analysis and analogies of a part of the Asiatic type Corinthian capitals made of Mediterranean marbles raise some chronological questions, the answering of which surpasses the boundaries of this paper.

EARLY CORINTHIAN CAPITALS

The earliest group of capitals so far known from Sirmium are the normal Corinthian capitals that came to light in the area at the presumed early Forum. They came to light already at the end of the 19th century in the vicinity of the later baths (so-called Licinius’ Baths), the construction of which in the early 4th century destroyed the earlier architecture on that spot. I documented five capitals, the size, form and find-spot of which point to the same large, public building.

The five normal Corinthian capitals (SRM 47, 48, 60, 493 and 606) bear two rows of independent acanthus mollis leaves of eight leaves per ring on the kalathos. The caulicules grow at a sharp angle from behind the central leaf of the second ring. The stem of the caulicule is fluted and the collar spirally decorated. Above the central leaf of the second ring rises a leaf that resembles most closely that of a palmette. Corner volutes and helices grow from calyces that stem from the caulicules. Both volutes are plain, their eyelets protruding. They are broad and slightly flattened against the kalathos. The abacus is moulded and decorated at the lower edge with fluting with crescent base. The capitals were part of approximately 5.5 m high columns.

Besides the common traits there are also slight formal differences in the rendering of the leaves. The capital of SRM 60, for example, has a sunken midvein. The same feature can be observed also on the leaves of SRM 606. The capitals of SRM 47 and 493 have a midrib, as does the capital of SRM 48, but the midrib on the latter narrows downwards. These differences, however, can hardly lead us to assume uses in different architectural complexes.

The closest formal parallel for these capitals can be found at Asseria (modern Podgrade near Benkovac, Croatia), dating to the Trajanic period. The upper curve of the helices, the shape of the palmette, shape and decoration of the caulicules (although they are more oblique on the Sirmium capitals) indicate that this parallel is closest of all. Other analogies come from Aquileia, Pula and Trieste, but also Salona. These are earlier and confirm the observations of earlier models for these capitals made by Nikolajević (1969) and Jeremić (2002b). The earliest date for the Sirmium capitals was the Flavian period, proposed by Nikolajević, who tied the capitals and the Forum to the new status of Sirmium as colonia Flavia Sirmium. This is a very tempting interpretation and one that the parallels, particularly from Aquileia, would not refute. However, the small finds from the systematic excavation that took place on Site 29, where these capitals had been uncovered, revealed a chronological span that began with the 2nd century. This would offer an indirect evidence of a date ante quem for the capitals, but would also come close to the date of the Asseria capitals (Trajanic period). The upper limit, on the other hand, is more elusive and the broad date, proposed by Ertel (first half of the 2nd century), cannot reliably be refuted or narrowed. Nevertheless, the Flavian–Trajanic date of the closest parallels from the eastern Adriatic coast favours the date of the Sirmium capitals into the Trajanic period.

These five capitals were all made of limestone, more precisely Lithotype I as defined by Rižnar and Jovanović for Sirmium’s material. As to the lithotype variants, two are made of Ic (SRM 47 and 48), one of Ib (SRM 60)
and one of Ia (SRM 493). All of these lithotypes of limestone are presumed to be of regional origin, more precisely to have been quarried at the Dardagani Quarry near Zvornik (north-eastern Bosnia) and thus imported from the province of Dalmatia via the Sapna, Drina and Sava Rivers to Sirmium. The regional origin of stone also points to a regional, if not local production. Having said that, the formal details reveal that the origin of craftsmen must surely be comparable, if not identical to those that produced the above-mentioned capitals at Pola, Asseria and Salona.

Another early capital was found at Site 47 during excavation that took place there in 1972, whereby the uncovered remains pointed to a building of public character in the central part of the Roman town. A public character of the building is indicated also by the size of the capital. The small finds from this site start at the end of the 1st century AD, which provides the date ante quem non for the capital, while formally the capital very much nears those from Site 29 discussed above.

**FRAGMENTS OF CORINTHIAN CAPITALS**

The Museum of Srem keeps numerous fragments of Corinthian capitals that are too small to enable any precise determination as to the form and consequently the time frame. These are SRM 109, 114, 212, 213, 521, 578, 577, 579, 580, 584, 587, 590 and 599, whereby some could also be of the Composite order.

Of these, the white marble fragment of SRM 521 deserves special mention. It was uncovered at Site 47. Considering the height of the abacus, it is larger than any other capital found in Sirmium and must thus have formed part of a public building at the Forum.

**CORINTHIAN ASIATIC CAPITALS**

This is the most numerous and varied group of capitals from Sirmium and covers an impressive span in time as well as material.

The earliest Corinthian capital of the Asiatic type found at Sirmium is that of SRM 397 (Fig. 3). It is a normal Corinthian capital with acanthus spinosus leaves. It was made of fine-grained white marble (Figs. 1, 2). Individual folioles have roundly pointed tips and are sunken at the vein. The capital is further characterised by relatively shallow lines defining the foliage, particularly at the lower ends of the second-ring leaves. The latter grow from triangularly shaped stems, executed in very low relief, placed between the leaves of the first ring. Only the spaces between individual lobes are carved deeper. The leaves are independent. They are not rendered fully organically, but do not show the geometric forms and the distinct chiaroscuro tendency, which are characteristic of later Asiatic capitals. Corner volutes and helices have canales and are fully developed and not flattened against the abacus. The leaf range hardly exceeds half the capital height. All these formal observations would speak for a rather early date of this capital within the Asiatic range. The closest parallel can be found at the Agora of Corinth, connected with the temple built by Commodus. Another parallel is a capital kept at the Museo Nazionale Romano in the Baths of Diocletian, dated towards the end of the 2nd century or the second third of the 2nd century. It shows all the details listed above for SRM 397, the only difference being in the rendering of the corner volutes and helices, which is slightly more abbreviated than on the capital from Sirmium. Due to the dates proposed for the paralleled capitals, I am inclined to date the capital to the end of the 2nd century. This date can, unfortunately, not be aided by find data.

There is a fragment that shows roughly comparable form and isotopic values as the above-discussed capital of SRM 397, namely SRM 340. Its original location is unknown. It resembles the capital of SRM 397 in a comparable low-relief leaves, in second-ring leaves growing out of a stem placed between the leaves of the first ring and in the spaced between individual lobes being of the same size and form (Fig. 4). They also share the same number of lobes and folioles within them. However, the capital of SRM 340 shows a deeply carved midvein of the third foliole of the medial lobe, which is not the case with the leaves of SRM 397. Also, the stem for the second-row leaves is higher in SRM 340 and the fragment shows much poorer workmanship. In light of the above, I can propose a date that is roughly in the same frame as SRM 397.

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8 The capital of SRM 606 is not kept at the Museum of Srem as are the other four and was located very late in the process of writing this paper. For that reason, its material has not yet been precisely identified.


10 Scranton 1944. This parallel was pointed out to me by John J. Herrmann (Dept. of Classical Art, Museum of Fine Arts Boston) and Fulvia Bianchi, for which I sincerely thank them. Fulvia Bianchi mentioned another parallel from Sparta.

11 Lupi 1984, XXIV, 6, 536.

Next is the capital of SRM 69, uncovered at Site 4. It is a Corinthian capital with acanthus spinosus leaves, made of light grey fine-grained marble (Figs. 1, 2). The kalathos shows two rings of independent leaves. First-ring leaves have three lobes, lower, medial and apex, of which the latter is quite luscious. The second-ring leaves show only the tips of the folioles of the medial lobes and the apex, they grow from stems carved high between the leaves of the first-ring leaves. As for the caulicules, they are in the form of triangular knobs. The upper part of the kalathos as well as the abacus has not been preserved. The surface of the capital is poorly preserved, but nevertheless reveals traces of chisel finish on the leaves. As for the context of the find, the publication of Site 4 reveals that «fragments of Corinthian capitals were found at different places in the peristyle.»  

13 There is also a photo of one of them, but it is not that of SRM 69 (Parović-Pesikan 1971, 42, T. XV, 50). In fact, that fragment shows contiguous leaves of the leaf range. I was unable to find the fragment on that photo among the material kept at the museum.
the publication to which constructional phase these belonged, though it is stated that they are earlier than Constructional phase III dated to the middle of the 4th century. Constructional phase I, when a building of public character was erected, is dated to the beginning of the 3rd century and Phase II to somewhere around the middle of the 3rd century. As for parallels, they are not rare. However, their dating varies. The unfortunate absence of corner volutes, helices and abacus, but more importantly the precise knowledge of its find-spot diminishes the certainty of dating. Nevertheless, the constructional activity at Site 4 leads me to refute the possibility of a 2nd-century date and orientates me rather to the first half of the 3rd century.

Broadly resembling the capital of SRM 69 in independent leaves of the leaf range is the fragment of SRM 280, also made of light grey fine-grained marble. The medial lobe of the first-ring leaves, however, shows five folioles. The lines are deeply drilled.

The fragment of SRM 283 is very poorly preserved, but the form does indicate an Asiatic capital. It was found at Site 29, though it is not clear whether it belonged to the phase of the large baths (identified with Licinius’ Baths) or to earlier phases, to public buildings at the Forum.

Among the best preserved Asiatic capitals is one uncovered at the hippodrome, namely SRM 355 (Fig. 5). Based on the common form, material and, most likely the typological position, the capital would be closest to Types 6 or 3, dated to the Severan period to the mid-3rd century, respectively (Pensabene 1986). According to Fischer’s typology, on the other hand, the capitals would belong to Type II, dated from Hadrian to Antoninus Pius (Fischer 1990, 41-43, 55).

There is a very close parallel to this capital published by Lalovic (1993, 213, no. 57), for which she writes that it was found at Gamzigrad (Romuliana) and cites Matej-Verč (1978) as reference. However, the description of this capital and the photo beside it do not match and the cited publication does not include this particular capital either in the catalogue or in the photos. Therefore, I am at a loss as to where this capital was actually found or, if it was found at Gamzigrad, where is it published and how is it dated.

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15 Parović-Pešikan (1971, 42-43) mentions the possibility of a basilica. Jeremić, on the other hand, recently published an article (2006b, 173-176), in which he places the villa extra muros (thus villa suburbana) and the edifice of the second constructional phase underneath the later peristyle as possibly of a cult character, but does not mention the Corinthian capitals in connection with this edifice. Prior to Constructional phase I, a necropolis extended in this area.
16 According to Pensabene’s typology, the capital would be closest to Types 3 or 6, dated from the Severan period to the second quarter of the 3rd century and from the Severan period to the mid-3rd century, respectively (Pensabene 1986). According to Fischer’s typology, on the other hand, the capitals would belong to Type II, dated from Hadrian to Antoninus Pius (Fischer 1990, 41-43, 55).
17 There is a very close parallel to this capital published by Lalovic (1993, 213, no. 57), for which she writes that it was found at Gamzigrad (Romuliana) and cites Matej-Verč (1978) as reference.
importantly, size, it is reasonable to assume that the capital of SRM 65 shared its location. Both are normal Corinthian capitals with two rings of the leaf range, caulicules shaped as triangular knobs, double calyces, plain corner volutes and helices. First-ring leaves have three lobes (three folioles in the lower lobes, four in the middle lobe and five in the apex), whereby the two lower folioles of the lower and of the central lobes are contiguous. The leaves are touching by producing geometric forms. The second-ring leaves have only the upper two lobes or the medial lobe and the apex. The second-ring leaves grow from the mass of the kalathos and its bottom folioles form a roughly oval space, whereby the mass beneath the lower folioles is not deepened. The leaf range is high and pushes the volutes against the abacus. Neither corner volutes nor helices are perfectly round, but slightly horizontally elongated. Calyces are double, whereby the inner foliole of the inner part resembles in curve that of the helices. The abacus is moulded and not fully flat, but rather curved. The lip of the kalathos is also curvy. These structural irregularities appear on other capitals of the same type, but also on other capitals of light grey fine to medium-grained marble (SRM 69, 280, 283, 337, 526+527+528).

As for the date of the capitals in question, Nikolajević proposed the first quarter of the 4th century, while Jeremić proposed for SRM 355 a wider time frame, namely the first half of the 4th century. Jeremić is also the author that brings the information as to the find context of SRM 355, namely that it formed part of the northern range of the stand of Sirmium’s hippodrome. Parallels for these capitals are abundant and can be found across the Mediterranean as well as inland. They were treated by numerous authors. According to Pensabene’s classification, the capitals belong to Type 15, dated to the time of the Tetrarchy and the first Constantinian period.

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19 Jeremić 1995, 146, Fig. 1.
20 Heilmeyer 1970; Pensabene 1986; Fischer 1990; Freyberger 1990 and others.
According to the typology put forward by Fischer, they would belong to Type IIIDc.\textsuperscript{22} His chronological frame for the type, however, begins considerably earlier; he writes that it is most typical of the Severan period and is tied to Proconnesian marble. The parallel from Rome’s hippodrome has also been dated into the Severan period.\textsuperscript{23} Fischer adds further on that capitals of Types III–V generally appear to the mid-3rd century, but also at the end of the 3rd and even in the beginning of the 4th and writes: »Die Forscher sind sich im allgemeinen darüber einig, daß einige Kapitelle des 4. Jhs. n. Chr. solche des 2. Jhs. n. Chr. nachahmen, doch werden im allgemeinen die dazwischenliegenden zweiundhundert Jahre nicht berücksichtigt.«\textsuperscript{24} As for the latter, the capitals of 65 and 355 do not appear as imitations, but rather as constituent members of the said type. In view of the definition by Jeremić that the capital of SRM 355 formed part of the northern range of the stand of Sirmium’s hippodrome, the construction of which is dated between 312/313 to 324,\textsuperscript{25} however, the most obvious date for the capitals would be the first quarter of the 4th century, and not earlier.

The capitals of SRM 65 and 355 have a parallel at Sirmium in the capital of SRM 337, also made of light grey fine-grained marble. Its find spot is not known and the capital does not help in clearing the chronological issue brought about by the two capitals mentioned above. The same goes for the fragments of SRM 526+527+528.

\textsuperscript{22} Fischer 1990, 44–45. 
\textsuperscript{23} Freyberger 1990, 126, no. 303, Taf. 45b. 
\textsuperscript{24} Fischer 1990, 52. 
\textsuperscript{25} The publication by Popović and Ochsenschlager (1976) does not mention this type of capitals.
The capital of SRM 285 differs from those mentioned above in that it only has one ring of leaves on the kalathos (Fig. 7). The leaves are contiguous and form geometric figures. They are divided into three lobes (the lower ones are poorly preserved), whereby three of the four folioles of the medial lobe touch. The particular feature of this capital is the so-called Zungenblatt between the calyces, which is plain. A further distinguishing feature is the rather plump folioles, but also that the sunken mid-vein is very thin and the leaves show very narrow channels (Fig. 8). Furthermore, the general workmanship on the leaves is different from the one observed on the capitals of SRM 65 and 355, which is paralleled by the use of different marble (Figs. 1, 2). As for the date, Nikolajević proposed a date into the beginning of the 4th century on the basis of a parallel from Salona.\(^{26}\) The closest parallels I could find, however, come from the Near East. They were treated by Fischer under Type IV, particularly IVCb, broadly dated to the 2nd and 3rd centuries.\(^{27}\) The type is seen as a direct continuation of Type III. There is a difference, however, between Type IV and the capital of SRM 285 in that the latter only has one ring of leaves on the kalathos. Whether this points to a later date, I am as yet unable to say, also in view of the chronological discrepancy revealed by the capitals of SRM 65 and 355 as well as the absence of find data.

The Asiatic Corinthian capitals of Sirmium were also of limestone. One such is the pilaster capital of SRM 300. It did not form part of a single pilaster, since the leaves on the right side continue and suggest a double if not triple capital, thus standing at corner or terminal position of a wall. Formally, it is a normal Corinthian capital of the Asiatic type. It has two rings of contiguous acanthus spinosus leaves, whereby the first-ring leaves are poorly preserved and only the apices are visible. The second-ring leaves have three lobes, of the lower lobes only the tips of single folioles are visible and medial

\(^{26}\) Nikolajević 1969, 658.
\(^{27}\) Fischer 1990, 46–48, 55.
lobes have four folioles. Caulicules are summarily carved and are barely visible between the second-ring leaves. Growing out of them are double calyces as well as plain corner volutes and helices. Both volutes are carved only on the front, while they are absent on the right side. Its original location is not known, which makes its dating more difficult. It does, however, show a complete structure (with helices), which may point to an earlier date in comparison to the capital of SRM 593 treated below. It is made of limestone of a distant source, namely Lithotype IIa.

The capital of SRM 593 is made of Neogene limestone of Lithotype II (b). It is a free Corinthian capital with two rings of contiguous acanthus spinosus leaves in the leaf range. Caulicules are absent and bipartite calyces with slightly concave corner volutes grow from between the leaves of the second ring. The corner volutes do not run in a continuous curve, but first grow towards the abacus and just before touching it slightly change the direction to then run underneath it almost horizontally. The capital was found immured into a wall of the Imperial Palace and is dated on the basis of this context to the second half of the 3rd century. This is in agreement with the formal analysis, although the latter could also allow for a slightly later date as the absence of helices suggests a date from the second half of the 3rd century through to the Diocletian–Constantinian period.

The Asiatic Corinthian capital of SRM 604 is of smaller dimensions and probably does not represent a constructional element, but rather an element of interior furnishing or division. It is a free Corinthian capital with two rings of contiguous acanthus spinosus leaves, stylized corner volutes pushed against the abacus and calyces, of which the inner folioles lean towards the stem of the central motif. Helices and caulicules are absent. The central motif has a stem. The capital is further characterized by dense foliage with very little space between individual folioles, of which the tips are touching and sometimes even running into each other (folioles of the medial and lower lobes of the first-ring leaves). The first-ring leaves have three lobes, two folioles in the lower lobe, three in the medial lobe, while the second-ring leaves have the apices and tips of a pair of folioles of the medial lobes sticking almost vertically from behind the apices of the first-ring leaves. It is made of limestone of distant source, Lithotype II, and was uncovered at Site 70, where a statio beneficiarii with a Temple of Iuppiter was uncovered. Four constructional phases were identified at that site, spanning from AD 157 to 235. This date frame, however, does not correspond with the formal analysis of the capital. The above-observed form has parallels in much later capitals. One such capital was found at Lopata (FY Republic of Macedonia), which shows several similarities to SRM 604, particularly in the shape of the corner volutes and disposition of folioles. There are, however, also differences, namely that the foliage in SRM 604 is carved in lower relief and the capital from Lopata is devoid of calyces. The Lopata capital is dated to the first half of the 5th century. Further parallels, more distant, can be found at Ostia. The two capitals in question were found at the port and show a practically identical structure, shape of the corner volutes and abacus, with slight differences in the disposition of the folioles. Pensabene dated them from the end of the 4th to the first third of the 5th century. On the basis of the shape and curve of the corner volutes and the folioles as well as the absence or presence of structural parts, the capital of SRM 604 is not unlike the above-described

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28 Its shape indicates the collar of a caulicule.
SRM 593. I would estimate, though, that the capital of SRM 604 is later. In view of the earlier-dated archaeological context in which the capital was found, however, the final judgement on the capital’s date can only be given after a detailed analysis of the remains at Site 70. It is worth noting at this point that another Late Roman capital was uncovered at the same site, namely a plain-leaved capital of SRM 591.

A small fragment of an acanthus spinosus leaf (SRM 207, from Site 47) is significant in this collection of Asiatic capitals because it shows that the regional limestone of Lithotype I c from the Dardagani Quarry, was also used in their production.

The use of regional limestone is further proven by the Asiatic capital of SRM 583 (Fig. 9). It was made of Lithotype III and uncovered at Site 1a (the Imperial Palace). The lower lobes have two folioles and the medial lobes three, two of which touch. The lines are deeply drilled, though not on all folioles equally. One of the folioles in each lobe is carved deeply, while others are flat, without sunken midveins. This rendering of the leaves ties it to the workshop that produced the Corinthianizing capitals for the hippodrome (see below). Only the lower half of the capital is preserved, with two rings of contiguous acanthus leaves. The contiguous leaves and, more importantly, the similarity of the leaves with the ones on the Corinthianizing capitals from the hippodrome leads me to set this capital into roughly the same time, that is the first quarter of the 4th century.

The last in the series of Asiatic capitals from Sirmium discussed in this article is SRM 588 uncovered at Site 1a (Fig. 10). It is a fragment of the leaf range, of which only about two thirds of the first ring of leaves are preserved. The fragment shows a pronounced geometric shape of the contiguous leaves, where the foliole of the lower lobe and the lower foliole of the medial lobe form a star (the so-called »stella di fogliette« motif). This feature indicates a late date, possibly the 4th (second half) or even the 5th century. Fragments of one or several very similar fragments were uncovered in 2006 during the excavations at the same site.33 These fragments show not only the leaf range, but also the tips of the abacus with corner volutes and calyces. The folioles shaped into a star have a good parallel in a pronouncedly elongated normal Corinthian capital from Szentendre (Ulcisia, later Constatia Castra, Pannonia), which is completely preserved and dated to the 4th century.34 Another parallel is kept at the Antiquarium in Carthage.35 This capital also shows a pronouncedly elongated form, though the upper part is quite different from the capital from Szentendre, but comparable to the fragments uncovered at Site 1a in 2006. The capital from Carthage is dated as late as the 5th–6th century AD. Parallels are far and far apart, but the material for the Sirmium example is limestone of regional origin, namely Lithotype III, brought from the Dardagani Quarry.

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33 I would like to thank Zorka Pejović from the Institute for the Protection of Cultural Monuments in Sremska Mitrovica for kindly offering me the material on view and for allowing me to discuss it in this article.
34 Kiss 1987, 31, 135, cat. no. XIV,2, Taf. 49,5.
35 Pensabene 1986, 409, fig. 50b.
The Imperial Palace (Site 85) yielded in recent excavations further Asiatic Corinthian capitals, which will certainly expand the formal range.\textsuperscript{36}

**CORINTHIANIZING ASIATIC CAPITALS\textsuperscript{37}**

By far the most extensive group of capitals from Sirmium are the Corinthianizing Asiatic capitals. They are also the most frequently cited capitals from this Roman town.\textsuperscript{38} They began to be unearthed at the end of the 19th century and are mostly kept in Sremska Mitrovica. At present, seventeen capitals are kept at the Museum of Srem (SRM 45, 46, 64, 67, 68, 71, 73, 216, 243, 274, 289, 350, 352, 356, 515, 529+533, 592, 601, 602),\textsuperscript{39} one is kept in the Banca Intesa not far from the mentioned museum in Sremska Mitrovica (SRM 603) and five at the Archaeological Museum in Zagreb, Croatia.\textsuperscript{40}

The capitals show a reduced form of the Corinthian capital (Fig. 11). The kalathos bears four large acanthus leaves. These are contiguous on most capitals; there is a slight gap on the capital of SRM 602, while a similar gap can be observed on some of the capitals made of marble (on SRM 529+533 and SRM 601). The leaves have a prominent midrib. They represent the leaf range.\textsuperscript{41} The corner volutes grow out of a lanceolate stem placed centrally between two leaves. They are quite broad and plain, with their eyes projecting slightly. Helices and calyces are absent. The abacus shows the same moulding on all capitals, while its central motif varies, even within the same capital, whereby two equal motifs often appear on two contiguous sides. Some flowers have a stem of the

\textsuperscript{36} Jeremić, Popović 2004, 281–288; Jeremić in this issue of Starinar.

\textsuperscript{37} They are usually referred to as the capitals with four leaves or four-leaved capitals. I find the use of the four leaves in the name of the type an easily recognizable, but not a precise or comprehensive enough term. Pensabene, on the other hand, writes of capitelli corinzeggianti d’influsso asiatico (Pensabene 1973, 159, 250). Corinthianizing signifies a capital that either imitates or approaches the Corinthian capital. However, taking into consideration the definition of a Corinthian capital provided by Ginouvès (1992), there is no reason not to determine these capitals as Corinthian proper, since they possess all the elements stated in the description. I initially opted for the name Corinthian capitals of reduced structure (Đurić, Davidović, Maver, Müller 2006), which I still consider to be most correct. Nevertheless, in order to avoid confusion with yet another name for an already discussed type, I decided to adopt the term Corinthianizing, together with the specification that it is Asiatic – Corinthianizing Asiatic capital.

\textsuperscript{38} Nikolajević-Stojković 1957, 62, Fig. 19; Nikolajević 1969, 658–659, Figs. 4, 5; Popović 1963, 64–65, T. XXVIII, 5; Itonoun, Ochsenschlager 1975, 60–61, T. I. 2; Itonoun, Ochsenschlager 1976, 163, 170, Taf. 28, 2; Kiss 1987, 133; Jeremić 1995, 142, Figs. 4, 5; Ertel 1997, 98; Ertel 2005, 314, Fig. 5; Đurić, Davidović, Maver, Müller 2006, 107–109, Fig. 5; Đurić, Davidović, Maver, Müller 2007. I was not able to identify precisely the nine capitals most frequently mentioned in literature.

\textsuperscript{39} SRM 243 probably formed the same capital as with SRM 529+533 and fragment SRM 216 could have chipped off one of the other capitals.

\textsuperscript{40} For those in Zagreb see Brušimid 1911, 66–68, nos. 528–532.

\textsuperscript{41} They do not represent calyces, as the position of the leaves underneath the corner volutes might indicate. This is proven by a fragment found at Ostia, which shows two large leaves and rising between them calicule, calyces and above them corner volutes (Pensabene 1973, 90, no. 279 and also no. 280). A further proof of a similar sort may be found at Salona, where a capital shows a much more stylized, but nevertheless similar structure with four large leaves, calicule, calyces and corner volutes (Kautzsch 1936, 13, Taf. 2,19).
central motif running in a more or less straight line down the kalathos to the caulicule. This common form, however, shows differences in detail, particularly in the shape and rendering of the leaves. There are also slight differences in the shape of the corner volutes, some are more oblique (for instance on SRM 46, 352) and others more vertical (SRM 45, 68, 603 and others). To return to the leaves, the main differences concern the edge of the leaves, individual folioles and the depth of the lines between the folioles. Most capitals have three lobes (lower, medial and apex) with five folioles in the lower, four folioles in the medial lobe and seven in the apex. There is one exception to this form (SRM 352, made of marble), which shows four lobes, with five folioles in the lower two lobes and four in the third. Furthermore, the leaf edge is usually defined by the tips of the folioles, while some capitals have a defined edge of the leaf mass, within which the tips are carved (Fig. 12). Such capitals are SRM 243, 350, 352, 529+533 and 601, which are in fact all the capitals of this type made of marble, but also the capital of limestone Lithotype Ib (SRM 73). The third point of difference is in the depth of the relief. The lines are carved most deeply in the capitals made of limestone Lithotypes Ia (SRM 67, 68, 289, 515, 592) and Ic (SRM 45), while the foliole tips on these capitals are very poorly preserved. The lines are slightly less deep on the capitals made of limestone Lithotype Ib (SRM 46, 64, 71, 274, 356, 603), where the tips are mostly well preserved. This would indicate that the differences were caused by the characteristics of the material, an observation that is confirmed by the depth of carving on the capitals made of either limestone Lithotype II or of marble, where the
relief is considerably lower. A feature in common to all the capitals regardless of the material is that one foliole in each lobe is carved very deeply and the other ones practically flat (Fig. 13). This is usually the third foliole of the lower lobe, the third of the medial lobe and the second of the apex. It is thus difficult to talk of acanthus spinosus proper. However, considering the parallels for the capitals and the fact that some folioles are sunken at midvein, the capitals are those defined as the Asiatic type.

As already mentioned above, the capitals of this formal group surpass the material limitation of a single stone. Most appear in limestone, more precisely Lithotype I, which had been subdivided into three subtypes on the basis of the material from Sremska Mitrovica. Five capitals appear in Ia (SRM 67, 68, 289, 515, 592), five in Ib (SRM 46, 64, 71, 274, 356) and two in Ic (SRM 45, 216). This is a regional stone, which was brought to Sirmium from the Dardagani Quarry in modern Bosnia and Herzegovina, near Zvornik, along the Sapna, Drina and Sava Rivers. Another limestone lithotype was also documented in this group, namely Lithotype IIb, which was used to make a small capital of SRM 73. The origin of this stone is to be sought farther away, possibly somewhere in Pannonia, whence it could have come to Sirmium via the same water routes used to transport Eastern Alpine marble. The third material is marble, more precisely white Eastern Alpine marble, used to make at least a capital of SRM 73. The origin of this stone is to be sought farther away, possibly somewhere in Pannonia, whence it could have come to Sirmium via the same water routes used to transport Eastern Alpine marble. The third material is marble, more precisely white Eastern Alpine marble, used to make at least a capital of SRM 73. The origin of this stone is to be sought farther away, possibly somewhere in Pannonia, whence it could have come to Sirmium via the same water routes used to transport Eastern Alpine marble.

The size of the capitals varies considerably, from around 30.5 to 50.5 cm in height, from 22 to 47 cm in abacus width and from 18 to 39 cm in lower diameter. If we take capitals with comparable lower diameters as the basis, from 36 to 39 cm, the abacus width also shows comparable values (from 44 to 47), but not the height, which still varies from 40.5 to 50.5 cm. This points to the use of these capitals in various positions or levels. The location of at least nine of these limestone capitals is known to be the hippodrome, where they were found among the ruins of a round corridor and originally belonged to a colonnade that supported the roof over the highest stand. Jeremić writes that the marble capital of SRM 352 was also found at the hippodrome, which opens up the possibility that all of the capitals of this form formed part of the hippodrome. The construction of the hippodrome is dated most probably between 312 and 313 during the presence of Licinius or during the later stays by Constantine between 316 and 324, which gives the date into the first quarter of the 4th century AD for the capitals.

Corinthianizing Asiatic capitals of the particular form of the capitals from Sirmium appear from the 3rd and into the 4th century. Apart from Sirmium, they were uncovered, for example, at Konjuh (Dardania / Dacia Mediterranea), Stobi (Macedonia Secunda), Singidunum (Moesia Superior), Ganzigrad / Romuliana (Moesia Superior), Sarmizegetusa (Dacia), Potaissa (Dacia), but also at Ostia. Apart from the latter, the distribution in the period stated concentrates across the Balkan Peninsula, as was established already by previous authors. In spite of the analogous structure, the rendering of the leaves on the paralleled capitals is different, since the leaves there are clearly those of acanthus spinosus, where every folioles is carved to be sunken at the midvein. The Sirmium capitals show flat folioles. A strikingly similar rendering of leaves was observed on the capital of SRM 583 from Site 1a (limestone, Lithotype III). It can also be observed on a pilaster capital from Ostijek (Mursa), though the capital structure there is more complete. Moreover, this particular rendering of folioles, some almost flat and others sunken at the midvein, can be seen on one of the Corinthianizing Asiatic capitals from Ostia, made of lunense. It is true that the rendering is

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42 Ržinar, Jovanović 2006, 139–152.
43 Djurić, Davidović, Maver, Müller 2006, 105.
44 The capital of SRM 243 probably formed a whole with that of SRM 529+533.
46 Ponouh, Ochsenschlager 1975, 170; Jeremić 1995, 142, Fig. 4, 5; Ertel 2005, 314–315, Abb. 5.
47 Jeremić (1995, 142) dates these capitals to the very beginning of the 4th century. Ertel (2005, 314–315) also dates the capitals to the beginning of the 4th century.
48 See also, for instance, Milea, Bărbulescu 1972, 481; Pensabene 1973, 159–162, Tav. LXI–LXIII.
50 Николаевић-Стојковић 1957, 11, Fig. 21; Личина 2002, 856.
51 Николаевић-Стојковић 1957, 63, Fig. 20.
52 Чапак-Малић 1978, 64, 183, cat. no. 13, sl. 45, 47 (found in the first gallery of the western gate of the later fort, dated to the 4th century).
54 Milea, Bărbulescu 1972, 479–480, nos. 19, 22–24, Figs. 16, 19–21 (dated to the 3rd century).
55 Pensabene 1973, 159–162, 250–251, particularly the capital under no. 660.
56 Николаевић-Стојковић (1957, 659) writes that they seemed to be much in vogue in the regions of the Danubian limes, while Kiss (1987, 133) states that they were widely known across the Balkan–Oriental regions.
57 Pinterović 1978, T. XLVIII, 1.
58 Pensabene 1973, 160, nn. 660, Tav. LXII (the capital is of unknown provenance).
less pronounced there than at Sirmium or Mursa, the
general form of the kalathos is slightly different and the
caulicules are missing. Nevertheless, the capital from
Ostia appears to stand in some close connection with
the Corinthianizing Asiatic capitals from Sirmium’s
hippodrome.

The particular rendering of the leaves on the
Corinthianizing Asiatic capitals from Sirmium brings
up the question of workshop. It is easy to imagine that
a workshop was set up to meet the demands of the
construction of the hippodrome, possibly also other
buildings that were being put up at the end of the 3rd and
the first half of the 4th centuries in Sirmium (Imperial
Palace, the so-called Licinius’ Baths). An observation
that strengthens the hypothesis of a Sirmium-based work-
shop is the material used to make the capitals in question,
which included regional limestone, distant-source lime-
stone and distant-source marble. The diversity of the
origin of stones and the specific rendering of the leaves,
coupled with the fact that Pannonia, as the probable
source of one of the limestone and the province of transit
for the marble, does not know the capitals of this form,59
leads me to conclude that the specific form of leaves
does, in fact, point to a workshop active in or around
Sirmium at least during the first quarter of the 4th
century. The capital of SRM 583 from Site 1a suggests
that its production was not limited to the hippodrome
and the pilaster capital from Mursa might even suggest
export of its products or masters. There is another obser-
vation to be made concerning the masters of the Corinthi-
anizing capitals of Sirmium’s hippodrome, namely that
certain formal features tie them to the masters working
on limestone capitals of Diocletian’s Palace at Split.
The most prominent of these features is certainly the
lanceolate stem.60

The material from Sirmium includes another
Corinthianizing Asiatic capital, but it differs from the
above-mentioned in the form of the acanthus leaves and
the shape of the kalathos (SRM 72). The leaves are
those of acanthus spinosus, with three folioles in lower
and medial lobes, all sunken at the midvein. The midveins
of folioles are carved either as lines or as channels. The
corner volutes rise in a regular curve from behind the
leaves. Caulicules, calyces and helices are absent. The
leaves are independent, but are joined at the lower
folioles of the lower lobes by a round bead. The corner
volutes are separated above the leaves by a spiral cordon.
The abacus is moulded, whereby the moulding continues
across the semicircular central motif. The kalathos does
not show a steady widening towards the abacus, as is
observed on the capitals from the hippodrome, but rises
vertically the first third, after which it begins to curve out-
wards. The capital is made of Lithotype Ib. The closest
parallels for this capital can be found at Gamzigrad, which
show slight differences in the leaves (narrower) and the
corner volutes, the eyes of which are projecting, and
does not have the bead at the standing surface.61 Čanak-
Medić brought them into connection with the other
Corinthianizing capitals from the same gallery, dated to
the 4th century. This is also a date proposed for the ca-
pital of SRM 72, which is without a known find spot.

**PLAIN-LEAVED CORINTHIAN CAPITALS**

The stone material of Sirmium includes also a num-
ber of Corinthian capitals with plain leaves, which all
show a structure where the leaf range takes up a dominant
part of or almost the entire kalathos.

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59 Kiss 1987; Ertel 1991.
61 Čanak-Medić 1978, 82–83, 205–206, cat. no. 48, sl. 52, 53,
who cites that a similar capital is kept at the National Museum at
Zaječar.
The capital that stands at the beginning of the chronological range of these capitals is now on display in front of the elementary school of Slobodan Bajić – Baja in Sremska Mitrovica (SRM 605; Fig. 14). It was made together with shaft and base, of limestone (total height over 1.25 m).62 It has four large independent plain leaves with a carved midvein and cleft apex on the kalathos. Between each pair is a plain caulicule with a plain collar, out of which grows a pair of broad corner volutes. The kalathos has a projecting lip. The abacus is plain, as is the central motif. The find spot of this capital is not known. The parallels I could find for this capital, in Pannonia,63 indicate that this capital, through the number and shape of the leaves as well as the shape of the caulicule, dates roughly to the second half of the 3rd century and less likely further into the 4th century.

The Museum of Srem keeps another plain-leaved capital made of limestone, more precisely of Lithotype I (SRM 591). It is of smaller size and was found at Site 70 (statio beneficiarii and the Temple of Jupiter).64 It has a single ring of plain leaves with cleft apices, above which rise corner volutes as well as helices. The latter are only indicated with a carved line with a rounded tip on the kalathos. Caulicules are missing. In the space above the leaf range and between the corner volutes there is some mass left, but this cannot be interpreted as calyces, since it bears no formal resemblance. The abacus is plain with two preserved stemless central motifs, differently decorated. I was not able to find close parallels for the capital. The general form, but particularly the leaf range, however, leads me to date it roughly to the 4th century.

At least four Corinthian capitals with plain leaves (SRM 79, 80, 81, 82)65 were uncovered at Site 4 and formed part of the peristyle of a villa suburbana.66 They do not show the exact same form. In fact, of the four capitals only two share the same structure, namely SRM 80 and 81. Their kalathoi are composed of two rings of contiguous plain leaves, whereby the first ring is considerably lower than the second one. Helices are absent, while the radically reduced corner volutes are flattened against and into the plain abacus. SRM 79 also shows two rings of plain leaves with cleft apices, but the second row is composed of only four leaves (the first ring has the standard eight). The corner volutes are carved in very low relief, while the semicircular feature between them might represent the caulicule. The kalathos and the abacus are not separated. Of the capital of SRM 82 only the lower half is preserved, but resembles most that of SRM 79 with eight plain leaves in the first and four larger leaves in the second ring. The capitals show two size groups. One is composed of SRM 79, 80 and 81, which are relatively comparable in size, and the other is SRM 82, which is considerably larger. As for the material, they are all made of Eastern Alpine marble. The villa suburbana is dated to the mid 4th century and with it the capitals.67 The closest parallel to these capitals, particularly to the low first ring of the plain leaves, can again be found in Pannonia, more precisely at Intercisa, also dated to the beginning or the first half of the 4th century,68 which broadly matches the date provided by the architectural context at Sirmium.

The capital of SRM 83+523 was found either at the above-mentioned villa suburbana or at the Imperial Palace.69 It shows a kalathos dominated by the leaf range in two rings. The leaves of the first ring are contiguous, while the second-ring leaves continue one into the other without separation. The corner volutes and helices are radically reduced and flattened against and into the abacus, which is plain. Its date is broadly the first half of the 4th century, while its material is the same as for the capitals from the villa suburbana, that is Eastern Alpine marble. A completely preserved Corinthian capital with plain leaves was uncovered at Site 85.70 In its structure it is most similar to capitals of SRM 82 and 79, both from the villa suburbana (Site 4) dated to the mid-4th century. An interesting feature of this marble capital is a rosette that adorns one side between the leaves of the second ring and a stylized rosette or dot with a cross that adorns the side contiguous to it.

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62 The column is broken in two and both halves are stuck into the ground, whereby I could not determine how deep into the earth are the fragments inserted.
63 Ertel 1991, 80, Taf. 46 (Sopianae A), 83–84, Abb. 3 (Aquincum Museum 6), 84, Plan 1 (Gorsium 1).
64 Ertel (2005, 313, Abb. 4) speaks of Site 4.
65 For the capital of SRM 82, it is not certain that it was found at Site 4. The field inventory made for the excavation at Site 1a (part of the Imperial Palace) in 1960 gives a drawing of a capital fragment that very much resembles our SRM 82 (no. 55, 29.X.1960, described as a stone capital with nine lotus leaves all around), even the dimensions roughly match (H. 27, diameter 28).
66 Parović-Pesikan (1971, 15–44), but also all other authors until very recently, writes of villa urbana. Recent publication (Jeremić 2006b, 174), however, rectifies the location of the city walls, whereby the villa stands just outside them and is thus a villa suburbana.
68 Ertel 1991, 71, Taf. 45 (Intercisa 1) and 76–77, Taf. 46 (Intercisa 265).
69 Villa suburbana: Parović-Pesikan 1971, sl. 48; Ertel 2005, Abb. 3. Imperial Palace: Jeremić 1995, Fig. 8.
70 Jeremić 2009, 488, Fig. 18.
The fragment of SRM 524 is even more stylized than the capitals discussed above, since the corner volutes are represented by an incised line on the abacus. The fragment shows the tip of the abacus and tip of a leaf, which is plain. However, it is not to exclude the possibility that the capitals otherwise had carved leaves, but not on the sides hidden from view. As opposed to the capitals mentioned above, the marble it is made of did not come from the Eastern Alps (Figs. 1,2).

The Museum of Srem also keeps a Corinthianizing capital with plain leaves, uncovered at the basilica of St. Sinerotes. It is a marble capital with four large independent leaves of the leaf range, between which corner volutes rise without indicated caulicules. The kalathos and abacus are not separated. This capital shows a structure comparable to the Corinthianizing capitals from the hippodrome, but even more reduced. The capital is dated to the middle of the 4th century,\(^\text{71}\) which is confirmed also by the date of an almost identical capital from a Roman villa at Magyarfalva.\(^\text{72}\)

A very similar structure can be found on the capital of SRM 247, made of Eastern Alpine marble. The difference is that the leaves on this capital have a midvein carved. Further difference might also have been visible on the abacus, but that is not preserved. Nevertheless, the similarities between these two capitals, on the one hand, and the similar structure to the one shown by the Corinthianizing Asiatic capitals from the hippodrome, would lead me to date this capital roughly to the mid-4th century.

There are further three Corinthian capitals with plain leaves from Sremska Mitrovica, which are kept at the Archaeological Museum in Zagreb.\(^\text{73}\) One of them (no. 534) is a flattened normal Corinthian capital and should be dated roughly to the 3rd century, while the other two (nos. 533 and 541) show a reduced structure and are later, probably both from the 4th century.

**LEAF CAPITALS**

The Museum of Srem also keeps leaf capitals, which, as opposed to Corinthian capitals, are devoid of volutes. One such capital is that of SRM 245. It shows a simple structure of eight plain leaves on the kalathos, topped by a plain square abacus. The closest parallels to this one are again to be found in Pannonia.\(^\text{74}\) which date it roughly to the 4th century. It was made of Eastern Alpine marble.

The second leaf capital is that of SRM 582. The kalathos consists of a single row of leaves, which appear in two sizes – the larger four leaves rise towards the corners of the abacus and the smaller four leaves stand in front of them, one on each side of the abacus. The latter are not contiguous. The leaves are decorated with horizontal lines along their lengths. The upper rim of the kalathos underneath the lip is decorated with a sort of a dentil, though enclosed both above and beneath. The abacus is a moulded square slab. Its original location is not known.

**COMPOSITE CAPITALS**

The Sirmium stone material revealed two capitals of the Composite order, both made of limestone.

The first one (SRM 585) is made of Lithotype Ib. Its kalathos has a single row of plain leaves, a plain fillet, stylized palmettes on the echinus and volutes with spirals. Its original location is unknown. Its date is roughly the Late Roman period.

The second, fragmented Composite capital is made of Lithotype III and was found at Site 47 (SRM 586; Fig. 15). The capital did not stand independently, which is indicated by two roughly carved protrusions on one side. The kalathos has probably a single ring of contiguous acanthus leaves. Their folioles are not arranged in lobes, but appear in an odd-pinnate form.\(^\text{75}\) The echinus takes the form of a double row of a thick torsade, separated by a line. The volutes have a rosette in the centre and pairs of corner volutes have a double row of a thick torsade, separated by a line, between them. The main comparative feature on this capital is the form of the leaves. It can be observed on a number of fragments found at Sirmium, on cornice fragments,\(^\text{76}\) and other capitals from sites 1a (Imperial Palace) and 47 (building at the Forum). The capital dates to the Late Roman period.

**DISCUSSION**

The earliest Roman capitals known from Sirmium, Pannonia, are made of regional Neogene limestone. Since the town was devoid of either on-site or local sources of stones, the adjacent region to the south of it,
in the province of Dalmatia, provided the material, defined more precisely as Lithotype I. It was transported to town via river routes, always downstream (the Sapna – the Drina – the Sava). This was, in fact, the earliest stone documented to have been used at Sirmium for architectural purposes and continued to be in this use at least until the mid-4th century. Together with the material connection with the province of Dalmatia, the closest parallels for these early capitals from the first half of the 2nd century, used in a public architecture at the Forum, can also be found in Dalmatia, with wider parallels further in the Adriatic region (Aquileia, Trieste, Pula, Salona). The formal relations are also confirmed, for instance, by the stelae from Sirmium made of Lithotype I, which have closest parallels in the Domavia area (modern Gradina near Srebrenica). The route via Domavia along the Drina is, of course, well known for another reason. Namely, the Drina valley was of great importance for the mineral resources, which were exploited, under the supervision of an imperial procurator (for Pannonian and Dalmatian silver mines), at least from the time of Marcus Aurelius onwards.

These earliest capitals in Sirmium cannot be directly connected with the change of the status of Sirmium in the Flavian period, when it became colonia Flavia Sirmium. This change is believed to be brought about by Domitian’s war in the Danubian basin, where Sirmium served as a military base in the hinterland of the frontier.

From that time onwards, Sirmium entered upon a period of peace that lasted, except for a brief interruption under Marcus Aurelius, until the 30s of the 3rd century. In connection with that it is difficult to say whether imperial presence necessitated or incited the construction of new buildings. The architectural remains dated to this period continue to be scarce. They do, however, include the earliest marble capital, which formally suggests a date into the late 2nd century. It is a Corinthian capital of the Asiatic type and inaugurates the long line of Asiatic-type capitals from Sirmium, on the one hand, and testifies to the burgeoning production of this capital type in the centres of Asia Minor, on the other. The second half of the 3rd century represents the earliest date when the Asiatic form appears transplanted into local stones in Sirmium’s wider regional or provincial frame.

The second half of the 3rd century also inaugurates for Sirmium a period of rise and of a concentrated presence of Roman emperors, the latter necessitated by the wars with the tribes on the Danubian frontier. Sirmium was known as the native city of many emperors from the 2nd to the 4th century; from the later half of the 2nd until the end of the 4th century sources indicate that emperors stayed in Sirmium on different occasions and for various periods of time. Sirmium was probably the seat

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75 The leaves show a developed form of acanthus spinosus. However, the leaves on a capital from the museum of Savaria (Kiss 1987, 15, Taf. 29,3), on the other hand, show a form that nears that of a palmette.
76 Jeremić 2006b, Figs. 18, 19, 28.
77 For the range of products from various stones documented in Sirmium see Djurić, Davidović, Mauer, Müller 2006.
78 Djurić, Davidović, Mauer, Müller 2006, 105.
79 Wilkes 1969, 125.
80 Colonia Flavia Sirmium / Sirmiensium / Sirmiatium; for a historical overview of Sirmium see Mirkovic 1971 and 2004.
81 Mirkovic 1971, 26–33.
of the praetorian prefect of Illyricum. From the time of the Diocletian’s reform of the provincial system, Sirmium became the seat of the governor of the province Pannonia Secunda, as well as the seat of some high-ranking military commanders of Illyricum.82

There were at least three important buildings being erected in this time, the Baths of Licinius (Imperial Baths), the hippodrome and the Imperial Palace. The column capitals of the Imperial Baths are historically most famous, since they were mentioned in written sources.83 A particularly important find in connection with these is the inscription on a votive altar from the Island of Brač, which provides evidence of a continued connection between Sirmium and the Dalmatian coast, which existed for capitals from the second half of the 2nd to at least the 4th century.84 This complex is usually identified with the large baths uncovered at Site 29, though there is no direct evidence to support this. Moreover, no capital could positively be tied to the phase of this bath complex.85

Quite a different state of capital preservation is true of the hippodrome, to which at least 18, but possibly as many as 25 capitals can be attributed. They are all Asiatic, whereby two are normal Corinthian and others Corinthianizing. If the formal appearance of capitals is heterogeneous, the provenance of stone is even more so and reveals four different sources. One is regional, that is the Dardagani Quarry for limestone of Lithotype I. The other three are distant: presumably Pannonia for limestone of Lithotype II (b),86 Eastern Alpine marble and light grey fine to medium-grained marble of Mediterranean provenance, whereby the latter was used to make the normal capitals. There is yet another observation that points to a heterogeneous nature of the hippodrome at Sirmium. While the Corinthianizing capitals reveal a general form that is spread across the Balkans, the normal Asiatic capitals belong to the type that was spread across the empire.87 Concerning the possibility of a single team producing both types of capitals, I am of the opinion that it is not possible. The form, structural irregularities, visible chisel finish and material of the Corinthian capitals are those observed on the same type capitals across the empire. On all of these points, the Corinthianizing capitals differ. I would much sooner believe that the Corinthian Asiatic capitals either came to Sirmium as finished products or that masters travelled with the material to the location of use.88

As mentioned above, the hippodrome’s Corinthian Asiatic capitals of light grey fine to medium-grained marble, in literature generally believed to be Proconnesian, raise chronological questions. They have numerous parallels across the Empire, the dating of which has been pushed from the Tetrarchy to the Severan period. In view of the find context, however, this new dating hardly seems acceptable in the case in question. Furthermore, a problem of the same sort can be perceived with other Corinthian Asiatic capitals of the said marble from Sirmium.89 It is true that their find contexts are either completely unknown or offer only a very broad chronological support. Nevertheless, dating most of them to a time prior to the end of the 3rd century, the flourishing period that witnessed repeated presence of Emperors at Sirmium, is not an obvious choice. This would also signify that the great building activity documented for the Tetrarchy in written sources, but more importantly through architectural remains across town, was not reflected in capitals. Outside Sirmium, a situation very much similar can be observed at Gamzigrad (Romuliana), built by Emperor Galerius.90 In view of this, a more detailed study of the capitals of the Tetrarchy, both in the Balkans as well as across the Empire, is a desideratum. For the time being, however, this chronological question must remain unanswered.

The picture offered by the Corinthianizing Asiatic capitals from the hippodrome is different. Although the
general form is present across a broader area, the particular structure and shape of the Corinthianizing Asiatic capitals from Sirmium’s hippodrome has parallels in the wider lower Danubian region (provinces of Moesia Superior, Macedonia Secunda, Dardania / Dacia Mediterranea, Dacia). The rendering of the leaves, however, is particular even within this Danubian group. A further important aspect of the Corinthianizing capitals is their material. The three different materials, coupled with the specific rendering of the leaves, point to a workshop that was set up at Sirmium at least during the construction of the hippodrome. The capital of SRM 583 from the Imperial Palace indicates that the masters of this workshop were not limited to working for the hippodrome, while the capital with comparable leaves from Mursa even indicates that they were not limited to working for Sirmium alone. The existence of a workshop at Sirmium is corroborated by a semi-product of a capital now kept at the Museum of Srem. The »hippodrome« workshop used various stones of regional or distant sources. In view of the fact that this particular type of Corinthianizing capital is not known in either Pannonia other than Sirmium and in Noricum (presumed origins of limestone Lithotype II and of the Pohorje and Gunnern marbles) or in north-eastern Dalmatia (origin of limestone Lithotype I), I presume that all these materials came to Sirmium either in blocks or in a rough state of semi-finish and were worked to their final shape in the workshop at Sirmium. The three materials, however, illustrate well the trading routes for stone within which Sirmium was set. It also shows that the trading routes do not match the areas of formal parallels.

The plain-leaved capitals from the Imperial Palace as well as Site 4 were made of Eastern Alpine marble. This is the earliest marble so far documented at Sirmium, which was coming to Sirmium in various forms (funerary altars, stelae, sarcophagi and others) since the end of the 1st century by way of the Danube. This route corresponds well to the formal analysis, since the nearest and most suitable parallels for these capitals can be found northwards in the province of Pannonia. The plain-leaved capitals of Sirmium go to confirm the observation made by Ertel on a specific Pannonian production in the 3rd and 4th centuries.\(^{91}\) The production of the above-mentioned altars, stelae and sarcophagi of Eastern Alpine marble is supposed to be near the quarries in western Pannonia Superior and southern Noricum.\(^{92}\) As far as the location of production is concerned, the plain-leaved capitals do not show the same picture, since they point to a production somewhere in Pannonia. This is confirmed by the two limestone plain-leaved capitals, both made of Lithotype II, the origin of which is also to be sought in Pannonia. The absence of Lithotypes I and III among these capitals might also prove telling in this respect and place the production in question completely outside Sirmium or its vicinity.

The abundance of capitals from the late 3rd and the 4th century mirrors the generally prosperous period of the town. It also reflects the intra and interprovincial connections of Sirmium during this period, where it stood within several formal circles, which were either overlapping or separate. There is the group of plain-leaved capitals, which leans towards Pannonia to the north as its main concentration. The group of Corinthianizing capitals extends across areas to the east and south of Sirmium, in other provinces, whereby the capitals from Sirmium show a unique characteristic. It is the Corinthian capitals of the Asiatic type and Mediterranean stone that show by far the widest distribution and provide material evidence, on a state level, of the importance that Sirmium gained through the presence of Emperors and the status of one of the capitals of the Empire, since they point to a production that enveloped large parts of the Roman state. Sirmium witnessed a continual use of the Asiatic capital type of Mediterranean marble, which appears to have ceased somewhere in the middle of the 4th century. The capitals from Sites 47 and 1a, on the other hand, point to a late building activity that turned to regional sources of stone, most notably to Lithotype III. For these, formal analysis does not provide reliable evidence of their date to either the end of the 4th or even the 5th and 6th centuries.\(^{93}\) An answer to this question might be provided by the study of the specific stratigraphic positions of these capitals. In that sense, the integral treatise on the architecture of Sirmium that is being prepared by Miroslav Jeremić is a publication that is eagerly expected.

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\(^{92}\) Djurić, Davidović, Maver, Müller 2006, 115–117.

\(^{93}\) Popović 1971, 130; Jeremić 2006a, 43.
CATALOGUE

LIST OF ABBREVIATIONS
Diag.a – diagonal width of the abacus;
F – original location;
H – height;
H.l – height of leaf range;
K – current location;
MS – Museum of Srem;
SM – Sremska Mitrovica;
W.a – width;
∅ – diameter.

SRM 45 (LT Ic)
Asiatic Corinthianizing capital. H. 49.5–50.5; W.a. 46;
Diag.a. 74; lower ∅ 33.5/37. First quarter of the 4th c.
F: SM, the hippodrome ? K: MS.
References: Nikolajević-Stojković 1957, 62; Niko-
lajević 1969, 658–659; Popović, Ochsenschlager 1976, 170;
Jeremić 1995, 133; Ertel 1997, 98; Ertel 2005, 314–315;

SRM 46 (LT Ib)
Asiatic Corinthianizing capital. H. 41.5; W.a. 44; Diag.a.
78.5; lower ∅ 34/38. First quarter of the 4th c.
F: SM, the hippodrome ? K: MS.
References: Nikolajević-Stojković 1957, 62; Niko-
lajević 1969, 658–659; Popović, Ochsenschlager 1976, 170;
Jeremić 1995, 133; Ertel 1997, 98; Ertel 2005, 314, Fig. 5;

SRM 47 (LT Ic)
Normal Corinthian capital. H. 62; H.l. 34; lower ∅ 54.
Trajanic.
F: SM, Site 29, probably from the hypothetical Forum.
K: MS.
References: Nikolajević 1969, 655; Jeremić 1995, 142;
Jepša 2002b, 21, sl. 3; Ertel 2005, 311; Djurić, Davidović,

SRM 48 (LT Ic)
Normal Corinthian capital. H. 46.5; W.a. 61. Trajanic.
F: SM, Site 29, probably from the hypothetical Forum.
K: MS.
References: Nikolajević 1969, 655; Jeremić 1995, 142;
Jepša 2002b, 21, sl. 3; Ertel 2005, 311; Djurić, Davidović,
Mauer, Müller 2006, 107,128.

SRM 49 (LT Ib)
Normal Corinthian capital. H. 50.5; W.a. 46; Diag.a.
75; lower ∅ 39. First quarter of the 4th c.
F: SM, southern city wall, Trench 150 A, extension.
K: MS.
References: Nikolajević-Stojković 1957, 62; Niko-
lajević 1969, 658–659; Popović, Ochsenschlager 1976, 170;
Jeremić 1995, 133; Ertel 1997, 98; Ertel 2005, 314–315;

SRM 50 (LT Ia)
Asiatic Corinthianizing capital. Resting surface broken off.
H. 38; W.a. 44–45; Diag.a. 77–78. First quarter of the 4th c.
F: SM, the hippodrome ? K: MS.
References: Nikolajević-Stojković 1957, 62; Niko-
lajević 1969, 658–659; Popović, Ochsenschlager 1976, 170;
Jeremić 1995, 133; Ertel 1997, 98; Ertel 2005, 314–315;

SRM 51 (LT Ia)
Asiatic Corinthianizing capital. Light grey fine-grained marble.
Kalathos with two rings of contiguous acanthus spinosus leaves, eight in each ring.
Caulicules shaped as triangular knobs, out of which grow bipartite calyces with flat corner volutes and helices.
Stemless central motifs vary in form. Moulded abacus. H. 51;
W.a. 48–49; lower ∅ 38. First quarter of the 4th c.
F: SM, the hippodrome, north range of the stand (?).
K: MS.
References: Nikolajević 1969, 656–657; Jeremić 1995,
142; Djurić, Davidović, Mauer, Müller 2006, 125.

SRM 52 (LT Ia)
Asiatic Corinthianizing capital. Light grey fine-grained marble.
Kalathos with opposite acanthus spinosus leaves, eight in each ring.
Caulicules shaped as triangular knobs, out of which grow bipartite calyces with flat corner volutes and helices.
Stemless central motifs vary in form. Moulded abacus. H. 51;
W.a. 48–49; lower ∅ 38. First quarter of the 4th c.
F: SM, the hippodrome, north range of the stand (?).
K: MS.
References: Nikolajević-Stojković 1957, 62; Niko-
lajević 1969, 658–659; Popović, Ochsenschlager 1976, 170;
Jeremić 1995, 133; Ertel 1997, 98; Ertel 2005, 314–315;
SRM 72 (LT Ib)
Asiatic Corinthianizing capital. Kalathos with four independent acanthus leaves. Lower folioles of the lower lobes are connected with a bead. Pair of slightly convex corner volutes grows between the leaves on each side. Corner volutes separated by a vertical cordon. Stemless semicircularly shaped central motif. Moulded abacus. H. 33; W.a. 34; lower Ω 31.5–33. 4th c.
F: unknown. K: MS.
References: Nikolajević 1969, 659–660, fig. 6; Djurić, Davidović, Mauer, Müller 2006, 109, 129.

SRM 73 (LT Ib)
Asiatic Corinthianizing capital. Standing surface broken off. H. 17 (estimated total H. 21); W.a. 22–23; Diag.a. 41. First quarter of the 4th c.
F: SM. K: MS.

SRM 79 (Pohorje)
Corinthian capital with plain leaves. Kalathos with a single ring of eight plain independent leaves with cleft apices. Above them calyces, also with cleft apices, and stylized corner volutes. Central motif is a plain semicircle. Kalathos runs without interruption into the plain abacus. H. 31; H.I. 11; W.a. 30–34; Diag.a. 54.5; lower Ω 27. Mid-4th c.

SRM 80 (Pohorje)
Corinthian capital with plain leaves. Lower part not preserved. Upper part has a ring of contiguous plain leaves with cleft apices. Above them calyces, also with cleft apices, and stylized corner volutes, central leaves touch the central motif directly. H. 18; W.a. 33; Diag.a. 58. Mid-4th c.

SRM 81 (Pohorje)
Corinthian capital with plain leaves. Kalathos with two rings of contiguous plain leaves with cleft apices, eight leaves per ring. Upper ring of plain leaves separated from the plain abacus by fully flattened corner volutes, central leaves touch the central motif directly. H. 35; W.a. 35; Diag.a. 61; lower Ω 26.5. Mid-4th c.
References: Паповић-Пешићан 1969, 267, sl. 1g; Parović-Pešikan 1971, 42, sl. 47; Jeremić 1995, 143, Fig. 6; Djurić, Davidović, Mauer, Müller 2006, 114–115, 125.

SRM 82 (Pohorje / Gummern)
Corinthian capital with plain leaves. Lower half preserved. Single ring of eight contiguous plain leaves. H. 28; H.I. 19; lower Ω 35. Mid-4th c.
F: SM, Site 4 (?). K: MS.

SRM 83 + 523 (Pohorje)
Corinthian capital with plain leaves. Kalathos with two rings of plain leaves, eight per ring. Leaves of the upper ring separated from the plain abacus by flattened and stylized corner volutes and helices. H. 32; W.a. 34; Diag.a. 58.5; lower Ω 28. First half of the 4th (Imperial Palace) or mid-4th c (Site 4).
References: Паповић-Пешићан 1969; Parović-Pešikan 1971, 42, sl. 48; Jeremić 1995, 143, Fig. 8; Ertel 2005, 312, Abb. 3; Djurić, Davidović, Mauer, Müller 2006, 114–115, 125.

SRM 107 (yellowish fine-grained marble)
Ionic capital, fragment of the volute with pulvinus, decorated with pointed water leaves, and part of the echinus, where only the angle palmette is visible. Bedding surface preserved. H. 10; inner Ω 25–26.
F: SM. K: MS.
References: unpublished.

SRM 108 (yellowish fine-grained marble)
Ionic capital, fragment of the central part of the pulvinus, decorated with pointed water leaves, with the body of the capital between the standing and bedding surfaces. H. 12; H standing-bedding surface 9; inner Ω 22–25.
F: SM, Site 35. K: MS.
References: unpublished.

SRM 109 (light grey fine to medium-grained marble)
Corinthian capital, fragment of the (concave) corner volutes and part of the calyx. H. 20; W. 26.
F: SM, Site 47. K: MS, no inv. no. (field no. 88/47).
References: unpublished.

SRM 110 (yellowish fine-grained marble)
Ionic capital, fragment of the echinus, decorated with a single egg-and-dart and angle palmettes. Body of the capital between the standing and bedding surfaces preserved. H. 9; inner Ω 21.
F: SM. K: MS.
References: unpublished.

SRM 114 (Pohorje / Gummern)
Corinthian capital, fragment of outer volutes with the abacus. H. 19; W. 22.
F: SM, Site 47. K: MS (field no. 50/47).
References: unpublished.

SRM 191 (white fine-grained marble)
References: unpublished.
SRM 207 (LT Ic)
Asiatic Corinthian capital, fragment of an acanthus spinosus leaf. H. 10.
F: SM, Site 47. K: MS (field no. 28/47).
References: Djurić, Davidović, Mauer, Müller 2006, 110, 131.

SRM 212 (LT Ic)
Corinthian capital, fragment. Tip of the abacus with the tips of the volutes and calyx. H. 19; W. 23.
F: unknown. K: MS.
References: Djurić, Davidović, Mauer, Müller 2006, 110, 131.

SRM 213 (LT III)
Corinthian capital, fragment. Tips of the volutes and calyx. H. 12; W. 13.5.
F: unknown. K: MS.
References: Djurić, Davidović, Mauer, Müller 2006, 110, 131.

SRM 216 (LT Ic)
Asiatic Corinthianizing capital, fragment of the upper part of the kalathos and the abacus with stemmed central motif. H. 18.
F: SM, southern city wall. K: MS.

SRM 235 (light grey fine-grained marble)
F: SM. K: MS.
References: unpublished.

SRM 243 (Pohorje / Gummern)
Asiatic Corinthianizing capital, fragment of the upper part. Probably formed a whole with SRM 529+533. H. 19; W.a. 29; Diag.a. 45. First quarter of the 4th c.
F: SM. K: MS.

SRM 245 (Pohorje)
Leaf capital with plain leaves, fragment. Kalathos with eight plain leaves, plain abacus. H. 17; W.a. 35. 4th c.
F: SM. K: MS.
References: unpublished.

SRM 247 (Pohorje / Gummern)
Corinthianizing capital with plain leaves. Four leaves with midrib carved in two lines that widen towards the tip. Outer volutes grow from between the leaves. H. 18.5; lower Ø 14. Mid-4th c.
F: SM. K: MS.
References: unpublished.
SRM 337 (light grey fine-grained marble)
Normal Asiatic Corinthian capital. Resting surface broken off. Kalathos with two rings of contiguous acanthus spinosus leaves, eight per ring. Caulicules shaped as knobs. Bipartite calyces, out of which grow plain volutes and helices. Moulded abacus with central motifs. Helices on one side tied with a thin band, no band on the side opposite, contiguous sides not preserved. H. 55; H.l. 32; lower Ø 44.
F: SM. K: MS.
References: Djurić, Davidović, Maver, Müller 2006, 117.

SRM 340 (white fine-grained marble) (Fig. 4)
Asiatic Corinthian capital, fragment. One ring of acanthus spinosus leaves preserved. H. 27; lower Ø 36.
F: SM. K: MS.
References: unpublished.

SRM 350 (Pohorje / Gummern) (Fig. 12)
Asiatic Corinthianizing capital. Resting surface broken off. H. 29; W.a. 41.5; Diag.a. 65; lower Ø 30/34. First quarter of the 4th c.
F: SM, the hippodrome ?. K: MS.

SRM 355 (light grey fine-grained marble) (Figs. 5,6)
Normal Asiatic Corinthian capital. H. 53; W.a. 52; Diag.a. 86; H.I. 33; lower Ø 36. First quarter of the 4th c.
F: SM. K: MS.
References: Nikolajević 1969, 656–657, Fig. 1; Jeremić 1995, 142, Fig. 5; Djurić, Davidović, Maver, Müller 2006, 107–108.

SRM 356 (LT I b)
Asiatic Corinthianizing capital. H. 45; W.a. 44; Diag.a. 79; lower Ø 31/37. First quarter of the 4th c.
F: SM, the hippodrome ?. K: MS.
References: Николаевич-Срежкович 1957, 62; Nikolajević 1969, 658–659, Fig. 2; Jeremić 1995, 142, Fig. 1; Djurić, Davidović, Maver, Müller 2006, 117.

SRM 397 (white fine-grained marble) (Fig. 3)
Normal Asiatic Corinthian capital. H. 43; H.I. 32; W.a. 45; Diag.a. 70; lower Ø 33. Late 2nd c.
F: SM. K: MS.
References: Kiss 1987, Abb. 114. 5; Ertel 2005, Abb. 1.
SRM 577 (LT III)
Corinthian capital, fragment of the tip of an acanthus leaf, possibly the spinosus type. H. 14.
F: SM, Site 47. K: MS (field no. 23/47).
References: unpublished.

SRM 578 (LT III)
Corinthian or Composite capital, fragment of the tip of a schematically carved leaf (possibly acanthus spinosus). H. 17.
F: SM, Site 47. K: MS (field no. 78/47).
References: unpublished.

SRM 579 (LT III)
Corinthian capital, fragment of the tip of a schematically carved leaf (possibly acanthus spinosus). H. 11.
F: SM, Site 47. K: MS (field no. 30/47).
References: unpublished.

SRM 580 (LT I)
Corinthian capital, fragment of the tip of a leaf. H. 9.
F: SM. K: MS.
References: unpublished.

SRM 581 (LT III)
Asiatic Corinthian capital, fragment of the tip of the moulded abacus, corner volutes and tips of the calyx, which is an acanthus spinosus leaf. H. 13.5.
F: SM. K: MS (field no. 555).
References: unpublished.

SRM 582 (LT I c (II))
Leaf capital. Kalathos with a single row of leaves in two sizes. The larger four leaves rise towards the corners of the abacus and the smaller independent four stand in front of them, one on each side of the abacus. Leaves decorated with vertical lines. Dentil underneath the lip of the kalathos. Abacus is a moulded square slab. H. 23; W.a. 28; Diag.a. 37; lower Ø 16.
F: SM. K: MS.
References: unpublished.

SRM 583 (LT III) (Fig. 9)
Asiatic Corinthian capital, fragment of the leaf range. Two rings of contiguous acanthus spinosus leaves. H. 23; lower Ø 22. First quarter of the 4th c.
F: SM, Site 1a. K: MS (field no. 36/60).
References: unpublished.

SRM 584 (LT II)
Corinthian capital, fragment of the tip of a leaf, probably calyx. H. 6.
F: SM. K: MS.
References: unpublished.

SRM 585 (LT I b)
Composite capital with plain leaves. Kalathos with a single ring of contiguous plain leaves. Echinus shows large, prolonged angle palmettes. Moulded abacus, central motif poorly preserved. H. 22; W.a. 20; Diag.a. 36, lower Ø 16.
F: SM. K: MS.
References: Djurić, Davidović, Mauer, Müller 2006, 110, Fig. 8.

SRM 586 (LT III) (Fig. 15)
F: SM, Site 47. K: MS (field nos. 69/47 and 80/47).
References: Djurić, Davidović, Mauer, Müller 2006, 110.

SRM 587 (LT I a)
Corinthian capital, fragment of the tip of moulded abacus and corner volutes. Surface poorly preserved. H. 11.
F: SM. K: MS.
References: unpublished.

SRM 588 (LT III (Ic)) (Fig. 10)
Asiatic Corinthian capital, fragment of the leaf range. H. preserved 9; lower Ø 20. 4th – 5th c.
F: SM, Site 1a. K: MS (field no. 179/60).

SRM 590 (LT III)
Corinthian capital, fragment of the tip of the calyx. H. 20.
F: SM, Site 59. K: MS.
References: unpublished.

SRM 591 (LT I)
Corinthian capital with plain leaves, two fragments. H. 26; lower Ø 20. 4th c.
F: SM, Site 70. K: MS.

SRM 592 (LT I a)
Asiatic Corinthianizing capital, fragment. H. 44.5; lower Ø 32/36. First quarter of the 4th c.
F: SM, the hippodrome? K: MS.

SRM 593 (II b)
Asiatic Corinthian capital, fragment of the upper half and a small part of the leaf range. H. 23; W.a. 30. Second half of the 3rd c.
F: SM, Site 1a. K: MS.
References: Jeremić 1995, 142, Fig. 3; Djurić, Davidović, Mauer, Müller 2006, 109.
MAVER, MÜLLER, RIŽNAR, Roman Capitals from Sirmium (119–148)

SRM 600 (marble)
Corinthian capital with plain leaves. Kalathos with a single ring of eight plain independent leaves with cleft apices. Above them calyces, also with cleft apices, and stylized corner volutes. Central motif is a plain semicircle. Kalathos runs without interruption into the plain abacus. Stylized rosettes on contiguous sides between calyces. H. 50; H.1. 19; W. a. 39; Diag. a. 64; lower Ø 36. 4th c.
References: Jeremić 2009, 488, Fig. 18.

SRM 601 (marble)
Asiatic Corinthianizing capital, fragment of the standing surface and part of the kalathos. H. 15; lower Ø 29/33. First quarter of the 4th c.
F: SM, the hippodrome ? K: MS.
References: unpublished.

SRM 602 (limestone) (Fig. 13)
Asiatic Corinthianizing capital. H. 49; W. a. 45–46; Diag. a. 74; lower Ø 34/37. First quarter of the 4th c.
F: SM, the hippodrome ? K: MS.

SRM 603 (limestone) (Fig. 11)
Asiatic Corinthianizing capital. H. 40.5; W. a. 44.5; lower Ø 35/39. First quarter of the 4th c.
F: SM, the hippodrome ? K: Banca Intesa, Kralja Petra I, SM.
References: unpublished.

SRM 604 (limestone)
Free-style Corinthian capital of the Asiatic type, two fragments. H. 20.5; H.1. 12.5; W. a. 20; lower Ø 14.

SRM 605 (limestone) (Fig. 14)
Corinthian capital with plain leaves. Capital was made together with a plain shaft and Attic-Ionic base (total column height at least 1.25 m). H. 24; H.1. 13.5; W. a. 22; Diag. a. 38; lower Ø 19. Second half of the 3rd – 4th c.
References: unpublished.

SRM 606 (limestone)
F: SM, Site 29(?), probably from the hypothetical Forum.
K: SM, Stari Šor, garden behind the villa of the Manigodić family.

SRM 607 (limestone)
Normal Corinthian capital. Kalathos with two rings of independent acanthus mollis leaves, eight in each ring. Plain corner volutes and helices flattened against the kalathos, growing from organic fluted caulicules, with spirally decorated collars. Bipartite calyces. Palmettes grow on top of the apices of the second-ring leaves. Abacus poorly preserved. H. 60; W. a. 70; Diag. a. 107; lower Ø 42. First half of the 2nd c.
References: Jeremić 2002b, 19–24, sl. 1, 2.
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Miroslavčić-Stojković 1957 – I. Miroslavčić-Stojković, Римовизантийска архитектонска декора-


Богата збирка римских капитела Сирмијума је у процесности више пута била предмет проучавања стручњака за римску архитектуру града или стручњака за римске капители у овој и суседним областима. На капителе је поново скренута пажња кроз пројекат Stone Use in Roman Towns, Resources, Transport, Products and Clients. Case Study Sirmium, којим руководи др Бојан Турић. Овим пројектом је омогућен систематски преглед свих камених материјала присутних у Сирмијуму, па и оних од којих су били израђени капители. Најранјени капители из Сирмијума су израђени од регионалног неогеног кремена (литотип I). Пошто сам град нema локалних извора, камен је био воденим путем донешен из суседне провинције Далмације. Поред материјала, и најближе формалне паралеле потичу из ове провинције, дано у прву половину 2. века, мада се аналогија могу научи и шире на јадранском подручју (Aquileia, Trieste, Pula, Salona). Ови најранјени капители не могу се директно повезати са променом статуса града у флавијском раздобљу, као да је постојала colonia Flavia Sirmium.

Сирмијум је затим ушao у период мира који је трајao, изузевши кратак период под Марком Аврелијем, до треће деценије 3. века. Остаци архитектуре из тог времена су приличног ретки. Међу њима је најранјени мермерни капител датован у крај 2. века. Реч је о коринтском капителу азијатског типа, који отвара дугу линију капитела овог типа у Сирмијуму, патрло јужних и прешовима тога типа у центрима Мале Азије. Друга половина 3. века представља најранјени датум кад се азијски облик појављује израђиван у тзв. локалном камену.

У доба тетрахије у Сирмијуму су подигнута бар три важна грађевинска комплекса, наиме Лицијево или царске терме, хиподром и царска палата. Историјски су најважнији капители са царским термама, пошто се помињу у писаним изворима, мада се ниједан капител из садашњег збирке не може позитивно повезати са овим термама.

Савремени археолози степени очувању показују капители хиподрома, најмање 18 али можда чак и 25 капитела се може повезати са овим локалитетом. Сви су азијског типа, два коринтска, а остали коринтизирани. Провенцијија камена је хетерогена и указује на четири различита извора. Један је регионални, наиме каменолом Дардагани за кременак литотипа I. Остале три су: вероватно Панонија за кременак литотипа II, затим источноалпски мермер и светлосиво фино до средњевекашт мермер медитеранске провенције, који је коришћен посебно за израду коринтских капитела. Још једно препознавање потврђује хетероген характер сирмијумског хиподрома. Ако коринтизирани капители показују узорови облика који је проширен простором Балкана, азијатски коринтски капители припадају типу који је присутан у читавом царству. Они су стигли до Сирмијума или потом израђивани или су их путујући мајстори каменоресци израдили на месту употребе.

Коринтски капители са Хиподрома, раћени од светлосивог фино до средњевекашт мермера, који се у литератури наводи као проконекши мермер, отварају важна хронолошка питања. Они капители имају бројне паралеле по целом царству, и њихово датовање је померено из доба тетрахије у период Севера. Такву рану датацију, међутим, место налаза у случају сирмијумског Хиподрома не подржава. Надаље, исто важи и за друге азијске капители из истог мерица у Сирмијуму. Иако је, истина, контекст места налаза или комплетно непознат или пружа само веома широку хронолошку подршку, ипак је датовање свих њих у време знатно пре краја 3. века, тј. пре првих процвања и присутности императора у Сирмијуму, теже прихватити. То би значило да се велика грађевинска активност, која је за град у доба тетрахије позната уписаним изворима и осталима архитектуре, не показује у капителима. Изван Сирмијума, слична ситуација може бити констатована и у Гамзиграду (Ромулјево).

Савремени археолози слику пружају коринтизирани азијатски капители са Хиподрома. Мада је оштата форма ових капитела присутна на широком подручју, њихова специфична структура и облик указује на паралеле у широм простору Подунавља (провинције Moesia Superior, Macedonia Secunda, Dardania/Dacia Mediterranea, Dacia). Међутим, израда листа сирмијумских капителя и у овој групи се издаја. Посебно важан је и материјал од којег су израђени, наиме кременак литотипа I из каменолома Дардагани, кременак литотипа II (b) из удалегаоног, за сада непознатог панонског извора и источноалпски мермер. Камен, заједно са специфичним израдом листа указује на радионицу, која је била активна у Сирмијуму барем у период градње хиподрома. Такође један капител са царске палате, са сличном израдом листа, указује...
да мајстори ове радионице нису били ограничени само на хиподром, а други сличан капител из Мурсе, да вероватно нису били ограничени ни само на Сирмијум. Мајстори «хиподромске» радионице су користили различит камен регионалног или удаљеног порекла.

Пуноловсти коринтски капители са царске палате и Локалитета 4 били су израђени од источноалпског мермера. То је и најранје до сада документован мермер Сирмијума, који је путем реке Дунав стигао у град у различитим облицима од краја 1. века па налазе. Дунавски пат одговара формалној анализи капитела пошто се најближе и најбоље паралелне могу наћи у Панонији северозападно од Сирмијума. Пуноловсти капители потврђују посебну панонску продукцију 3. и 4. века. Производња се није догађала у Сирмијуму или његовој близини, што са једне стране показују два капитета израђена од кречњака литотипа ІІ, чији извор је, претпоставља се у Панонији, а са друге стране да за ове капители уопште није коришћен кречњак литотипа І и ІІІ.

Обиле капитела касних 3. и 4. века рефлектује процват Сирмијума. Такође показује и интра те интерпровинцијалне везе града у том периоду. Група пуноловних капитала се веже за северни део Паноније као места њихове веће концентрације. Група коринтизираних капитала се шири на подручја источно и југо од Сирмијума, премда капители градског хиподрома показују специфичан облик листова. Коринтски капители азијатског типа и медитеранске проVENIjenciјe показују најпотпунију локацију и пружају материјални доказ о важној улози града на државној нивоу, коју је Сирмијум добио због понављаног присуства императора и статусом једног од главних града царства, пошто говоре о продукцији која је обухватала велике делове Римске државе. Сирмијум је свештенски центар употребе азијатског типа капитала од медитеранског мермера, која је упакована у некад целокупним типом капитала 4. века. Капители са Локалитета 47 и 1а, са друге стране, указују на још већу активност која се обично суочава са регионалном везом камена, највише кречњака литотипа ІІІ.