

## DRAGONS ON THE ISLAND.

### Archaeological data to the foundation of Ráckeve and the Saint Abraham Monastery

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*The foundation of the Medieval settlement of Szentábrahámtelek (meaning Saint Abraham's grounds), the Saint Abraham Monastery, and the town of Ráckeve on Csepel Island have been in the focus of research since the 19th century; their entangled history provided research and the scholarly discussion with topics since long. Revisiting earlier research, it is striking to realise how existing hypotheses neglect archaeological finds and field observations. For this reason, after briefly outlining historic data and related theories, the present article focuses on new field observations and recovered artefacts, and concludes with a preliminary summary of the archaeological fieldwork conducted in the past five years.*

**Keywords:** Danube, Ráckeve, Csepel Island, settlement archaeology, non-destructive research, Middle Ages

#### HISTORIC SOURCES AND CURRENT HYPOTHESES

Antal Miskei summarised the entwining early history of the Saint Abraham Monastery, the related settlement of Szentábrahámtelek, and the town of Ráckeve on several occasions (MISKEI 2007; MISKEI 2018), while Norbert C. Tóth made critical remarks concerning some relevant royal decrees (C. TÓTH 2021). Currently, only secondary evidence is at hand of the circumstances of the foundation of the monastery (MISKEI 2007, 24, 30), the earliest possible mention of which is dated to 1211. Abrahamite canons appeared in Hungary during the reign of King Béla III (1172–1196). There are several hypotheses about the exact location of the Saint Abraham Monastery or provostry. Abrahamites do not appear in documents in relation with the monastery after the 13th century, and it is unclear which monastic order owned the buildings later (for a historiographic overview, see MISKEI 2007, 24–29).

Concerning the foundation of Ráckeve, the key question is when and where did the Rascian refugees from modern Serbia settle down, and whether they really occupied empty, previously uninhabited lands. Since this historic question, being related to local identity has been close to the heart of the current inhabitants of the town, the analysis of the royal decrees concerning the foundation of the settlement and the granting of municipal privileges have been in the focus of research for some time now (MISKEI 2015; MISKEI 2018). The abundance of literary evidence made Ráckeve an exemplar in the study of urban (market town) development in the Kingdom of Hungary. A royal decree issued by Władysław III (in Hungarian: I. Ulászló, King of Hungary in 1440–1444) on 10 October 1440, known only from a transcript, states that, due to the Ottoman occupation, the inhabitants of Keve and the nearby villages of Bálványos and Szkorenovc were forced to leave their homes in the Lower Danube Region and “settled on our Csepel Island, in a certain abandoned area near and around the church founded in honour of the patriarch Saint Abraham. It is said that in earlier times, there had been a village on that land. After they settled down and raised dwellings for themselves, they resumed their lives enjoying the same privileges they were granted while residing in the market town of Keve and the related villages” (MISKEI 2015, 86, No. 29). Norbert C. Tóth conducted a diplomatic analysis of the medieval decrees of Ráckeve in 2021. As for those that have only persisted in copy, he identified numerous contradictions and questioned the authenticity of the 18th-century transcripts (including the abovementioned decree issued by Władysław III in 1440), identifying, in the end, only thirteen of them as authentic. As for the original documents, the earliest one mentioning the settlement on Csepel Island is dated to 1455; it was issued by King Ladislaus V (1440–1457) to confirm the grants and rights of the Rascian immigrants who had settled on the domain entitled Szentábrahámtelek, also called Kiskevi (C. TÓTH 2021, 16).

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The Late Gothic Serbian Orthodox Church (ID No. 7229 in the national monument registry: monument ID: 7291, further reading: MISKEI 2008), built in 1478, is the earliest architectural monument of Ráckeve and an iconic building of the town. The 1862 excavation by Imre Henszlmann must be mentioned from the early research of the monument. He unearthed a “sepulchral chapel” north of Ráckeve as well as numerous Roman stone monuments (HENSZLMANN 1888). Sarolta Tettamanti conducted a rescue excavation in 1975 as part of a road construction project near the commuter train (HÉV) station Angyali-sziget (Angyali Island) north of Ráckeve, in the administrative area of Szigetszentmárton. She identified a cemetery part and recovered Roman stone monuments (including the re-carved Roman relief nicknamed “the King David relief”, which has been displayed in the permanent exhibit of the Árpád Museum). She identified the site as the 13th–14th-century village of Szentábrahámteleke (TETTAMANTI 1975).

### FIELD RESEARCH

In November 2015, the Árpád Museum in Ráckeve was reclassified as a regional museum with a local collection area, which granted its colleagues the right to conduct archaeological investigations. The first task was to identify and report the sites which professionals were already aware of but were missing from the national register. These sites included the historic urban centre of Ráckeve and other protected monuments which are clearly connected to archaeological sites, like the Gothic Church of Nagyboldogasszony (Assumption; the Greek Orthodox church of the Serbian community). Next, we focused on identifying other medieval sites. During fieldwalk sessions, the GPS coordinates of every find were recorded, and the site boundaries were determined based on their scatter and the characteristics of the terrain. The site at *Szigetszentmárton, Angyali-sziget HÉV megálló* (Angyali Island HÉV Station) was introduced in the national register of archaeological sites under ID 92187 (*Fig. 3*).

During a field survey in April 2016, we observed dense rubble comprising bones and brick and limestone fragments on the surface of an elevation stretching N–S near the local commute train station, with pottery sherds covering both the top and sides of the small hill. The finds could be dated to the Árpáadian Age and the Late Middle Ages; of them, a clay loom weight, two white potsherds with red painted surfaces (*Fig. 1*) and a spindle disc carved from an Árpáadian Age potsherd (*Fig. 2*) are worth mentioning. Most finds could be dated to the Late Middle Ages; many pottery fragments came from wheel-thrown pots with segmented rims. We planned to identify the northern boundary of the site in a subsequent fieldwalk session, which was conducted in December 2016. A few days earlier, the land had been deep ploughed, and big lumps of frozen



*Fig. 1. White potsherd with red painting*



*Fig. 2. Spindle disc carved from an Árpáadian Age potsherd*



Fig. 3. Szigetszentmárton, Angyali Island HÉV station. The perimeters and surroundings of the site

soil hindered our progress; thus, instead of collecting all finds, we focused only on determining the northern perimeters of the site. We moved parallel with the railway tracks on the former crop field and registered a continuous scatter of medieval potsherds. The recent plough disturbed the layers containing the remains of the wattle-and-daub dwellings of the one-time settlement, rendering them visible on the surface as reddish-brown patches ranging from one to five square metres in size. A line of patches running near the railway tracks was interpreted as a street with buildings on both sides that once ran parallel to the Danube. Towards the centre of the site, the patches lay in four instead of two rows, suggesting the presence of two parallel roads or a road and a minor passageway. Similar patches had also been observed during a previous field-walk session in the spring on the crop field in the southern zone of the site, but they were absent from the western half of the site. A total of 60 daub patches have been identified and recorded with GPS coordinates. A handful of late medieval sherds were recovered from the northernmost patch.

After the plot of land on the northern side of the site had been ploughed the next spring, another field-walk session was conducted in March 2017. Again, we found medieval sherds and a few daub, stone, and brick fragments on and near the low elevation marked on the map. An east-west depression (the bed of a former watercourse) marked the southern border of the site; the find scatter ceased on its northern bank. The topographical map depicts the part of the elevation of the site east of the community train's railways and the road. The two potsherds found among the roots of a fallen tree in the forest area indicate that the site extends eastwards towards the Danube. The archaeological site is more than a kilometre long and its area exceeds



Fig. 4. Blurred red-brown patches in the central and southern zones of the site on a drone photo



Fig. 5. Satellite image from August 2017 (Google Earth)

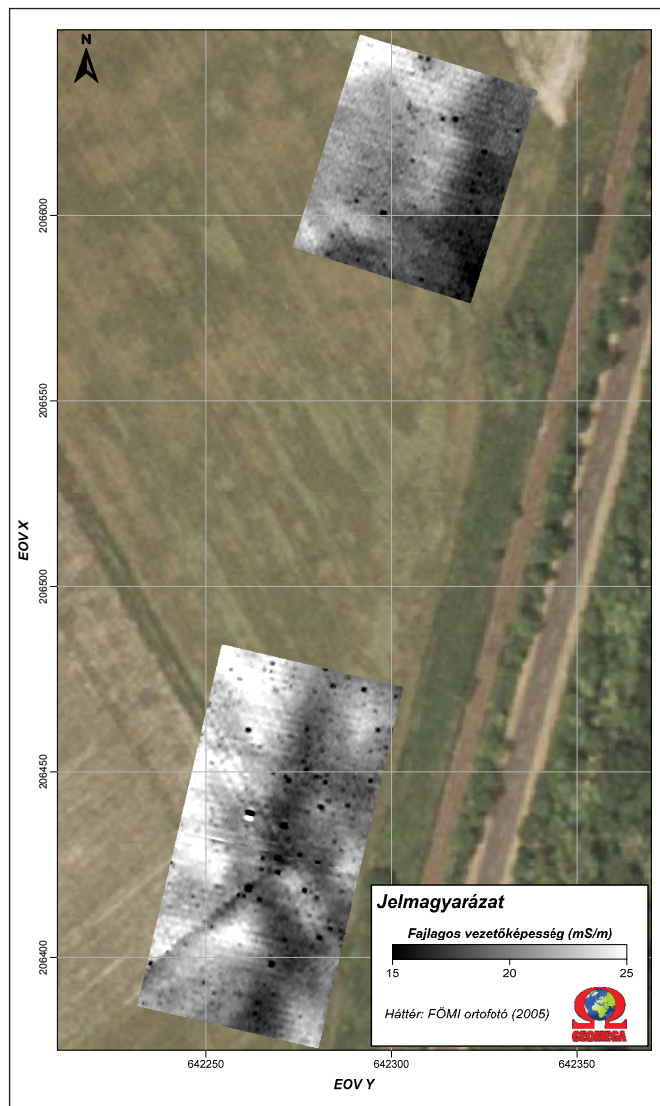


Fig. 6. Anomalies on the magnetometer map of the site by Geomega Ltd (2019)

11 hectares. Its northern part is narrow, following the approximately north-south bed of an old watercourse, and becomes wider south of the dirt road leading towards Angyali Island. The terrain along its borders is significantly lower in both the northern and southern zones.

In the middle of January 2017, Kálmán Benda forwarded some drone images to us. The debris patches on the former crop field in the vicinity of the commute train station (Fig. 4) appeared blurred on these, as the field was disced in December, following the fieldwalk, and they lost their clear outlines. We also studied open-access satellite (Google Earth) and aerial images ([fentrol.hu](http://fentrol.hu)), but these did not display the patches in detail. However, the position of the light spots on a satellite image from August 2017 matches well the patches observed on field (Fig. 5).

An offer by Geomega Ltd. enabled us to conduct an electromagnetic survey of a southern (100×50 m) and a northern (60×50 m) segment of the site at the end of January 2019 (Fig. 6). The specific conductivity map revealed faint traces of large-scale anomalies and tendencies, alongside numerous small, dotlike signs of low conductivity areas (marked black). Perhaps modern roads caused the large anomalies in the southern segment; as railway tracks and overhead cables seem to have impaired the efficiency of the survey, it will probably be worth switching to GPR surveys in this area in the future.

Parallel with the field projects of the Árpád Museum, metal detectorists of the Ferenczy Museum Centre also started research in the area; both teams were unaware of the other's work. The detectorists signed their

contracts unknowing of the newly established local collection area and acted in good faith. After the parties made contact, the finds they collected were deposited in the Árpád Museum. Afterwards, the museum-friendly metal detectorists József Meleg, Péter Tauser, and Zoltán Vinis joined our team to discover the northern perimeters of the site. After it had been located, metal detecting activities were concluded on the site. In December 2020, a museum friendly metal detectorist, Péter Farkas, noted from the window of the commute train that someone was illegally searching through the site with a metal detector, and notified the museum. Upon our request, he and Szabolcs Bán surveyed the area, uncovering a handful of new finds for the museum's collection (including the dragon-shaped gilded bronze mount presented in detail below).

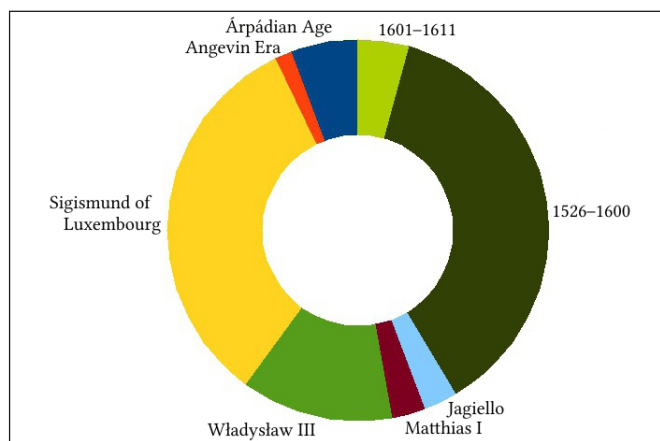
### GENERAL OVERVIEW OF THE SITE BASED ON FIELD OBSERVATIONS AND A PRELIMINARY EVALUATION OF THE FINDINGS

A glance at the site on the map makes it clear that the one-time settlement stretched long (*Fig. 3*). The railway tracks of the commute train and the road cover (and likely have destroyed most) archaeological features in the eastern zone of the site. East of the main road, the terrain lowers into a wet north-south depression towards the Ráckeve branch of the Danube. The contour lines of the topographical map clearly indicate that the channel was once an old Danube branch and the land east of it an island, the eastern banks of which are still washed by the Danube. Further east, the partially conjoined Angyali Island and Vesszős Shoal emerge from the present-day riverbed. Thus, the site was once located on a low riverside elevation with several isles directly east of it. The northern border of the site is in line with the northern, upstream end of the islands. The lands and inlets in the vicinity of the islands have always been considered as suitable for multiple purposes, including havens, ports, fishing, and watermills.

The spatial distribution of the finds indicates that the settlement flared southwards, covering a wider area in the southern part of the site. More stone and brick fragments were observed in this region than in the northern one. A small elevation is marked on the topographical map in the northern part of the site; we collected several stone and brick fragments and a stove tile from there. The settlement stretches in a more or less straight zone along the former Danube branch. Based on the observed features, the site was divided into three zones: a southern, central, and a northern one. Evaluating the finds collected during the fieldwalk sessions and metal detector surveys in relation to these three zones, the following conclusions emerged concerning the chronological phases of the site and the use of the area.

The few recovered prehistoric pottery sherds and a Roman bronze coin provide a basis unsuitable for further analysis; thus, in the following, we focus on the record of the medieval period and the Ottoman occupation.

Numerous knife handle fittings (mostly drop-shaped bronze pieces), buckles of various dimensions and materials, bronze sheets, and cast pieces usually broken into 1.5–2.5-cm-large fragments (possibly as a result of agricultural activity) made up the bulk of the metal detector finds. Besides, numerous coins have been found scattering evenly throughout the site. Most of them are worn and many pieces had been broken or cut deliberately, indicating that they were in everyday use and not part of a coin hoard. While the task of identifying the coins still awaits a numismatic expert, the dating most of the seventy coins recovered was published in a preliminary study. Their chronological distribution suggests alternating active and inactive periods in the life of the settlement (*Fig. 7*). The Árpáadian Age and the Angevin Era are scantily represented in the numismatic record, while a number of the coins found, including a few quartings, were issued under the reign of Sigismund of Luxembourg (1387–1437).



*Fig. 7. Chronological distribution of the seventy identified medieval and early modern coins*

Most of the denars were emblazoned with the traditional Hungarian horizontal stripes but none featured the early Hungarian coat of arms with the quarterly parted field. More coins represent the merely four year-long rule of Władysław III than Matthias I of Hungary (1458–1493) and the two Jagiełło rulers combined. While the absence of Árpádian Age coins may be a result of coin use not having been widespread at the time, the scarcity of coins from the early 16th century can only be interpreted as marking a decline in the life of the settlement. Most coins recovered from the site can be dated to after 1526 (the first battle of Mohács). Most of these feature the Habsburg coat of arms, and only three are *akçes*. The youngest piece in the 16th-century series is dated to 1578 (in the evaluated part of the findings), while next coin in chronological order was minted in 1633. There are barely any coins from the 17th and 18th centuries. Next, the spatial distribution of the coin finds and our observations on settlement structure are presented jointly.

### COINS AND FIND MATERIAL

The southern zone of the site stretches along the railway tracks of the commute train. Stone and brick fragments have been recovered from this region, alongside human bones. The few Árpádian Age potsherds found on the site were all discovered in this zone, as well as three of the coeval coins, including two bowl-shaped pieces issued by King Béla III. Two gilded, dragon-shaped mounts were also found in this part; one of them (*Fig. 8*) is analogous to the ornamental horse bit representation at Zsámbék (LOVAG 2006, 208–211; VÖRÖS 2007). Zsuzsa Lovag examined photographs of the find and, based on the style of the dragon and the



*Fig. 8. Dragon-shaped gilded bronze mount  
(Inv. No. 2021.2.1)*



*Fig. 9. Dragon-shaped gilded silver mount  
(Inv. No. 2018.5.2)*



*Fig. 10. Lead pilgrim badge from the reliquary of the Virgin Mary in Aachen; 13-14th century (Inv. No. 2021.15.14)*



*Fig. 11. Bronze book with Gothic letters  
(Inv. No. 2018.1.2)*



Fig. 12. Bronze book clasp with palmette decoration  
(Inv. No. 2022.3.7)

braid, dated it to the second half of the 13th century, somewhat younger than the image from Zsámbék. The second dragon-shaped mount (Fig. 9) is also a one-sided cast, albeit more detailed than the previous one; the author of this paper dated it to the same period. A fragmentary lead pilgrim badge depicting the Virgin Mary from Aachen (ARADI 2018, 15, Fig. 4), as well as two further medieval pilgrim badges could be dated to the 13th–14th centuries (Fig. 10). Bronze book fittings, including gilded pieces (Fig. 11) and a possible book clasp (Fig. 12)

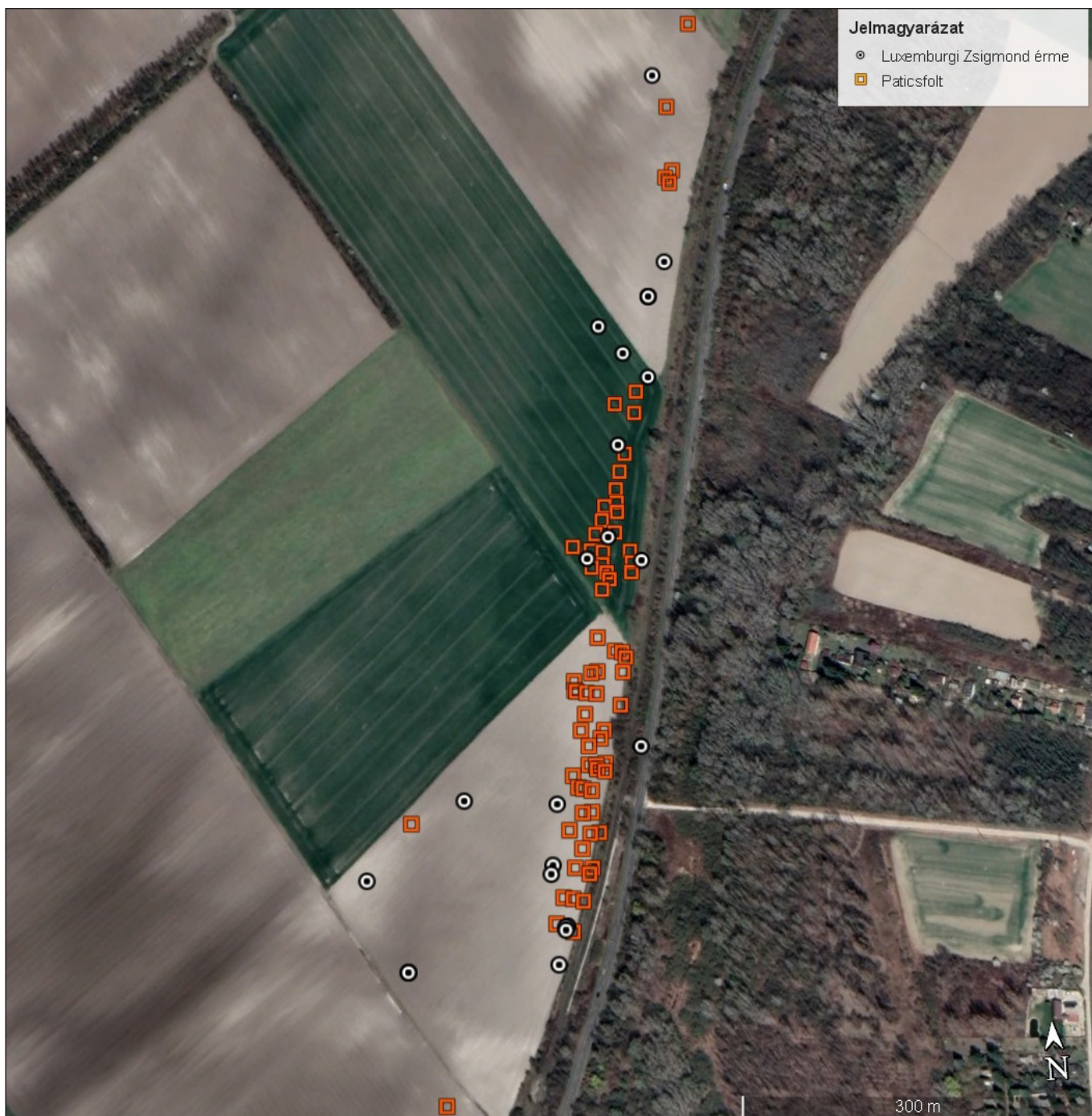


Fig. 13. Findspots of the coins issued by Sigismund of Luxembourg and the scatter of the daub patches



Fig. 14. Findspots of the coins issued by Władysław III and the scatter of the daub patches

have also been recovered from this area. These indicate that the southern zone of the site was in use from the Árpáadian Age on and that perhaps an ecclesiastic building once stood there. The bowl-shaped coins fit the hypothesis that the Saint Abraham Monastery was founded during the reign of Béla III, although none of the finds offers conclusive evidence of the presence of the monastic order.

The central zone is characterised by the abundance of daub patches which gradually tail off northwards. The reasons behind may lie in increased tilling, as otherwise, similar 15th–16th-century sherds of dark-





Fig. 15. Findspots of the post-1526 coins and the scatter of the daub patches

and-light-grey-stained everyday pottery cover the entire zone. The characteristic pots of the period have smooth or segmented rims, and occasional incised horizontal stripes decorating the side. Some of these late medieval potsherds were found in the daub patches, indicating that the settlement expanded northward perhaps in the 15th and 16th centuries. The distribution of daub patches corresponds to that of coins issued by Sigismund of Luxembourg (*Fig. 13*) and ones minted after 1526 (*Fig. 15*). Fewer mints represent the period of the reign of Władysław III (*Fig. 14*); while such coins scattered in all three zones of the site, most of them were collected from the southern zone and the southern part of the central zone.

The northern zone encompasses a small elevation. Unlike the central zone, this was also covered in stone and brick fragments; even two stove tiles were found there, which indicate that a significant building once stood near the northern edge of the settlement. Save for a bowl-shaped coin of King Béla III, the dating of the coins and pottery matches the central zone.

The map displaying the scatter of lead textile seals and finds related to commerce and crafts (an iron broad-headed ship nail,<sup>2</sup> a padlock,<sup>3</sup> a small metalsmithing hammer<sup>4</sup> and a Nuremberg type counting jetton;<sup>5</sup> *Fig. 16*) reveals that these artefacts were common in the southern zone and the southern part of the cen-

<sup>2</sup> Inv. No.: 2018.1.20.

<sup>3</sup> Inv. No.: 2019.3.23.

<sup>4</sup> Inv. No.: 2019.3.3.

<sup>5</sup> Inv. No.: 2019.3.41.



Fig. 16. Counting jetton from Nuremberg with a rose encircled by radially placed crowns in the centre of the obverse and an Imperial orb in a three-lobed frame on the reverse; 16th century, Hans Schultes (?) 1553–1584. Inv. No. 2019.3.41

tral zone, areas densely packed with daub patches. Three fragmentary stove tiles have also been recovered from the same part of the site. As the research of the site is still in an early phase, we cannot draw final conclusions; however, the evidence currently at hand suggests that the monastery once stood in the southern zone of the site and the commercial and industrial centre of the settlement with the stove-heated houses of the affluent was located north of it.

Altogether 19 lead projectiles have been recovered from the site (Fig. 17); only a few of them displayed impact damage. All bullets are round and mould-cast, some still have the spurs on them; their diameters vary between 1.4 and 1.5 cm. They scattered all over the site, yet the southern zone yielded the most. The distribution of lead projectiles and 16th-century coins corresponds, suggesting that the presence of the former is connected to a 16th-

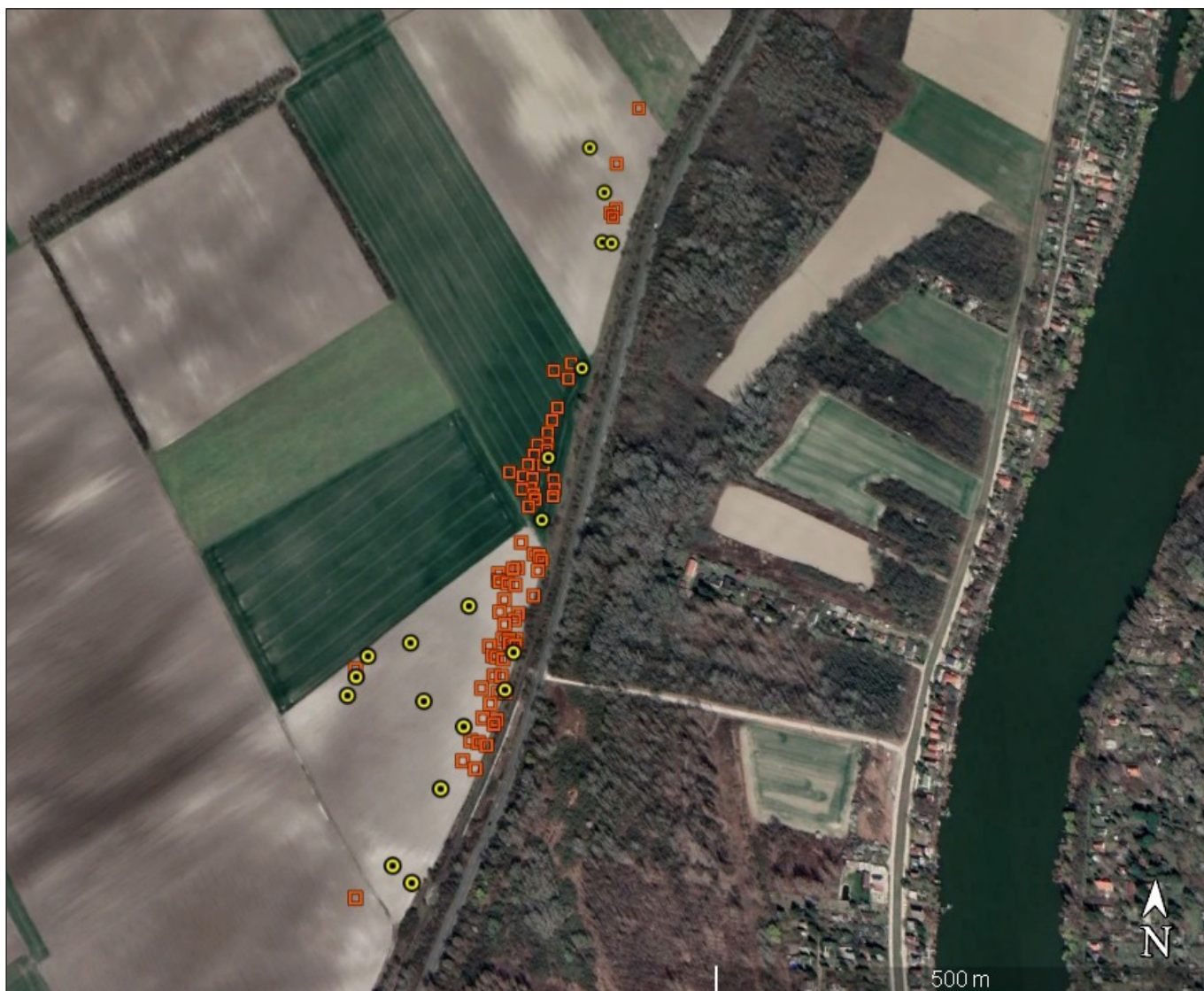


Fig. 17. Findspots of the round lead shots and the scatter of the daub patches

century event. A possible explanation is that soldiers were temporarily housed in ecclesial buildings and perhaps some other parts of the settlement sometime in the 16th century. However, the presence of civilians cannot be excluded either – consider the inner migration caused by the Ottoman occupation. Eighteenth-century maps still marked ecclesial buildings on the site; these buildings were only dismantled at the end of the century for building material.

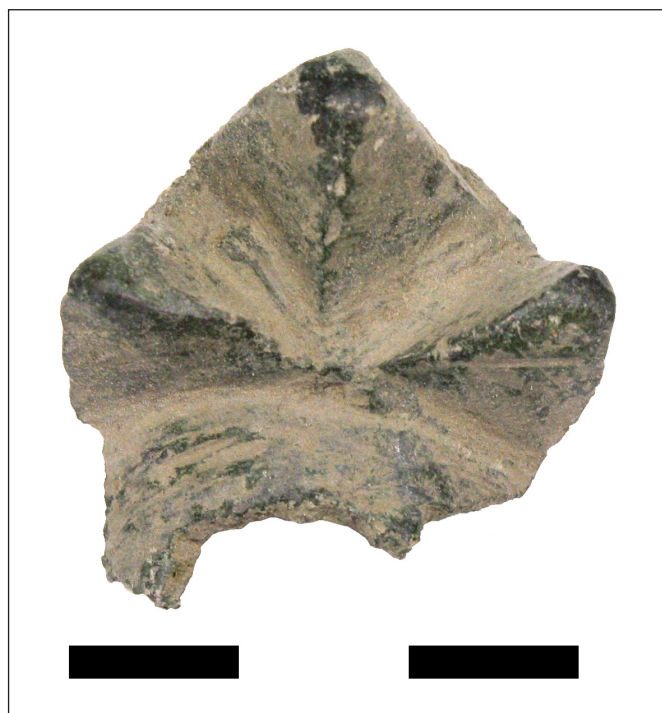
### SUMMARY

Regarding the foundation of Ráckeve, it is a key question whether the area (including that of the present-day town and the site at the Angyali Island HÉV station five kilometres to the north) was inhabited around 1440. The pottery sherds, belt buckles, and knife handle fittings cannot be dated precisely enough to provide decisive evidence. While many coins were minted during the reign of King Sigismund of Luxembourg, most of the numismatic record were issued later. The refugees who fled the village of Keve arrived to the region a few years after King Sigismund's death (provided one accepts that the relevant, dubious decree can be relied on); thus, they could possess coins minted under his reign. However, the high proportion of such coins in the numismatic record of the settlement brings about questions about the actual date of its foundation.

Several cloth seals were recovered from the site, including a Flemish seal from Tournai, Belgium (*Fig. 18*). The obverse depicts a tower surmounted by a conical spire with three lilies above it and the letters „SE” and „LE” bracketing the image. The reverse is missing.<sup>6</sup> The seal can be classified as type II. 1B



*Fig. 18. Flemish cloth seal from Tournai, Belgium; second half of the 14th century (Inv. No. 2018.6.1)*



*Fig. 19. Fragment of a twelve-spike socketed mace head; 14th century (Inv. No. 2018.6.22)*

in the system of Musin and Toropov (MUSIN & TOROPOV 2020, 368). Its analogies suggest that it was produced between the second half of the 14th century and the early 15th century. A star-shaped twelve-spike socketed mace head fragment from the 14th century was recovered from the southern zone of the site (*Fig. 19*). The surface finds also included two red-painted white potsherds from the same period (*Fig. 1*). Nei-

<sup>6</sup> Inv. No.: 2018.6.1. The object is likely identical to Find No. 33 in the catalogue Mordovin 2021, which was erroneously located to Ráckeve.

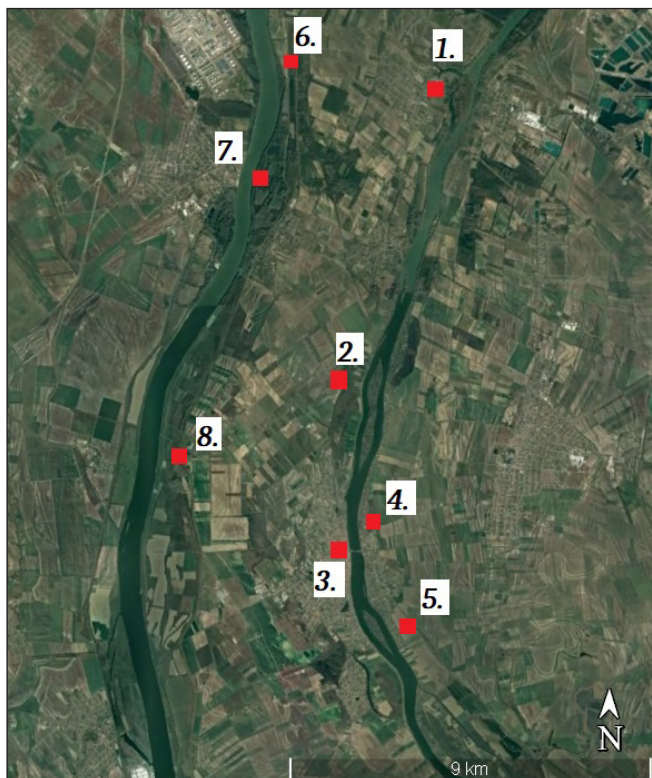


Fig. 20. Archaeological sites in the vicinity. 1: Szigetsép, Nagy-földek, 2: Szigetszentmárton, Angyali Island HÉV station, 3: The medieval market town of Ráckeve, 4: Ráckeve, Külső ráckevei út, 5: Ráckeve, Fanyilas-dűlő, 6: Szigetsép, Szentmihály, 7: Szigetújfalu, Újfalusi-sziget, Ercsi bencés monostor (Benedictine monastery), 8. Ráckeve, Vízművek

is an extensive site complex north of Ráckeve, along the banks of the Danube, in line with Csúpic (Csépi) Island at Szigetsép, Nagy-földek; it is rich in medieval finds, and encompasses features from several archaeological periods. Another, slightly smaller multi-period site was outlined at Ráckeve, Vízműtelep (Waterworks) on a flood-free elevation between two former islands, an area suitable for a haven. Two medieval settlements were identified on the left bank of the Danube east of Ráckeve: Külső Ráckevei út is located along the road to Kiskunlacháza, while Fanyilas-dűlő is situated south of the town, alongside Kerekzátany Island. Apart from the discovery of the few monuments mentioned above, no excavations were conducted in the area of the medieval market town in Ráckeve; moreover, not even archaeological observation followed the construction of most modern buildings.

Recently, we supervised the deepening of a shaft in the courtyard of the Greek Orthodox Church of the Serbian community, and found, under a thick modern infill layer, a mixed stratum containing archaeological finds, including animal and human bone, pottery, and brick fragments, two *denars* of Ferdinand I of Hungary (1526–1564), and the frag-

ther the mace, nor the cloth-seal or the Angevin coins prove that the monastery existed in the 14th century, yet they indicate that the area was already in use.

Considerably less evidence was collected on life on the settlement during the reigns of Matthias I and the Jagiello kings. A likely reason behind that lies in the market town of Ráckeve, which emerged at that time, as marked by the construction of the Gothic Greek Orthodox Church of the Serbian community under Matthias I. Thus, the centre of the settlement at the end of the 15th century was already under the modern city centre, approximately five kilometres from the site. The early 16th-century Late Gothic and Renaissance carved stone window frames recovered from Kossuth street, now in the collection of the Árpád Museum, are also remnants of this period (LÖVEI & TÓTH 2018, 6–7).

In summary, the site at Szigetszentmárton, Angyali Island HÉV station was a major settlement during the Middle Ages. The more than sixty discovered daub patches only scattered in a part of the site; considering that the zones of the modern road and the community train's tracks could not be investigated, it may consisted of about 120–150 buildings in total, although not all of them residential. The population corresponded to the size of a large village or a minor market town. Several further archaeological sites were identified nearby (Fig. 20). The largest of these

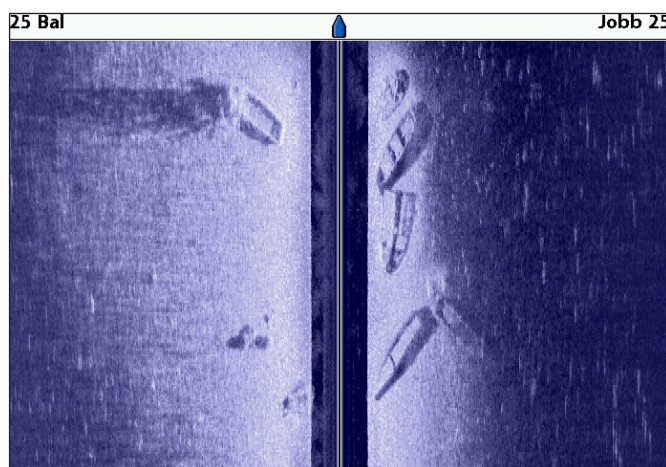


Fig. 21. Row of boats on the river bottom at the midline of the Danube west of Angyali Island on a side scan sonar image. The image displays a 2 x 25-metre-wide zone on both sides of the towfish

János Attila Tóth • *Dragons on the island.*

ment of a 16th century-Habsburg coin. All potsherds could be dated to after the mid-15th century. During the replacement of a waterpipe, workers intersected an already disturbed infill layer in Eötvös street; in the profile of the 1.5 meter wide trench, at the intersecting Sass köz, we could observe a road of small black cobbles. Green-glazed pottery sherds were collected from above the level of the road, which was built upon a levelled layer containing the remains of a Bronze Age settlement. Based on the monuments and the few finds, several Late Middle Age and Ottomani Occupation Period sites lay in the vicinity of Ráckeve and Angyali Island, while there is no evidence of mid-15th-century inhabitation from the area inside the present-day Ráckeve.

The future research of the site shall focus on the plough-lands and the Danube bank beside the forest. Non-destructive methods (mostly GPR surveys), repeated drone photography, grid-documented fieldwalks, and metal detector surveys coordinated by archaeologists can yield important data on settlement structure and the functions of the different districts. The extensive site mostly uncovered by modern features, most of it is available for further research; its significance can only be compared to the market town of Ete in Tolna County, where interdisciplinary research was carried out for years under Zsuzsa Miklós and Márta Vizi (MIKLÓS & VIZI 2013; VIZI 2017; VIZI 2018). We plan to invite experts to aid us in processing and interpreting the various finds recovered from the site. Later on, non-destructive surveys may be completed by targeted excavations and scientific research related to environmental history, as it is still unclear why the former settlement had been abandoned and the centre shifted to the present-day Ráckeve. The changes in the bed of the Danube and the islands, as well as the use of the area, were likely key factors in the process. Side scan sonar surveys were conducted in the vicinity of Angyali Island, revealing numerous anomalies which, currently, await to be identified by divers (*Fig. 21*). A combination of land, aerial, underwater, and geophysical surveys can improve our understanding of the settlement and the monastery.

No find from the site could be directly connected with the “Rascian” immigrants so far. The find material is closely similar to the record of the nearby coeval sites; the only remarkable items are the cloth seals, the pilgrim badges, and the two dragon-shaped mounts. It would be worth to compare the archaeological record of Ráckeve with that of the “homeland” area, namely the Kevevára (Kovin) region in Serbia, possibly in the framework of international collaboration.

### ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS

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