

# Almgren 236 Fibulae from Poiana (Romania)

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## Abstract

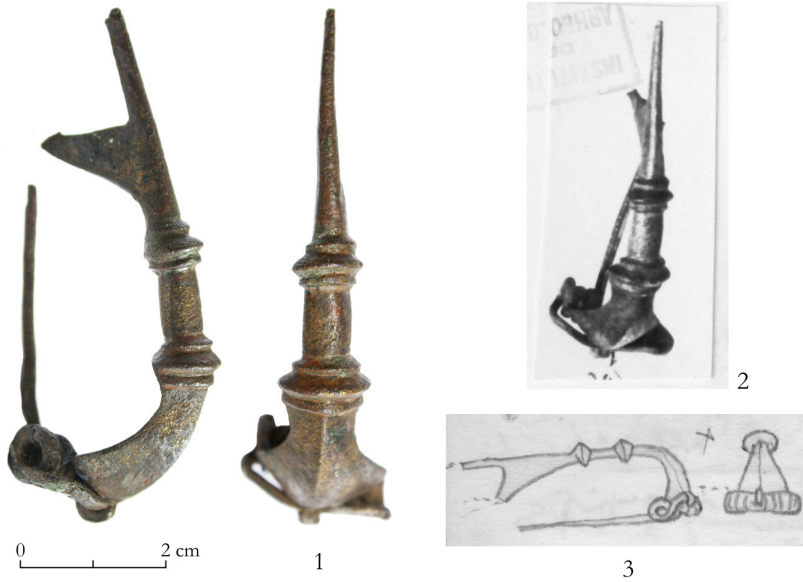
Among the numerous Early Roman fibulae discovered at Poiana (Galați County, Romania) there are also some specimens of the Almgren 236/237 type, also called Norican-Pannonian fibulae (Germ, *Doppelknopffibeln*). Three of them (figs. 1 and 2) are still preserved today in collections from Tecuci and Bucharest. Three other specimens were probably lost during 2nd World War, but their existence is attested by Radu Vulpe's sketches drawn in his field journals (fig. 3). One fibula was discovered in the funeral pyre of the "Movila Hârtop" tumulus in Poiana (fig. 2/2). All the others come the protohistoric settlement on the "Cetățuie" site, but their contexts were insufficiently documented. The Almgren 236/237 type fibulae from Poiana exceeds the number of similar specimens found so far in other sites dated before the conquest of Dacia by Trajan on the territory of today Romania (fig. 4). The presented fibulae from Poiana indicate the close cultural contacts with the Alpine provinces in the early period of Roman Principate. The typological and chronological framing of the fibulae from Poiana are deficient due to their fragmentary state of preservation. However, the reception of Norican-Pannonian fibulae in local cultural milieus since the Augustus-Claudius time is suggested by a local imitation on silver discovered in the Remetea Mare hoard (fig. 5).

**Keywords:** Almgren 236/237 type fibulae, Roman imports in Barbaricum, Early Roman period, Romania, acculturation, imitation.

## 1. An Unpublished Almgren 236 Fibula from Poiana

In the collections of the National Museum of Romanian History in Bucharest (hereinafter MNIR) is preserved an until yet unpublished Roman fibula of Almgren type 236 (also called „Norican-Pannonian” fibula, germ.: *Doppel-knopffibel*” ; the fibula was documented by the author of these lines in April 2018 with the consent of the director of MNIR, Dr. Ernest Oberlender-Târnovanu and with the support of Dr. Alexandru Bădescu, head of the Heritage section). The item inventoried today under no. 16357 is fragmentary. The lower part of the catch-plate and part of the needle are missing. The preserved part of the fibula measures 7 cm in length (fig. 1/1). According to the inventory register of MNIR, the fibula comes from the excavations of Radu Vulpe in Poiana, but other information related to the date, circumstances and context of the discovery were not recorded.

Prior to the founding of MNIR in 1971, the fibula was part of the collections of the National Museum of Antiquities (hereinafter: MNA), today a sector



**Fig. 1.** Almgren 236 type fibula from the National Museum in Bucharest. 1: photo D.S. with the consent of the MNIR management. 2: photograph (1959) of the same fibula on file II 6120 from the Catalog of the National Museum of Antiquities in Bucharest. 3: the sketch of the fibula made by Radu Vulpe in his field journal (after Vulpe 1950, 92).

of the Institute of Archeology in Bucharest. Between 1957 and 1971, the fibula had been exposed in showcase no. 53 of the MNA. Also here, the item was photographed (cliché no. 2842, fig. 1/2) and was inventoried (inv. II 6120).

According to the descriptive file written by Alexandra D. Alexadrescu in November 1959, the 7 cm long fibula was discovered in the 1950 campaign, in the K surface on the “Cetățuia” site (at Poiana), at a depth of 1.70 m. The identity between the fibula kept today at MNIR (inv. 16357) and the item described in the MNA file (inv. II 6120) can be proved by comparing the photographic reproductions (Figs. 1/1 and 1/2), as well as by the concordance of the technical descriptions.

The mentions of Alexandra D. Alexadrescu allowed the identification of the circumstances of the discovery of the fibula, as they were recorded in Radu Vulpe’s unpublished field diary, kept in the Archive of the Institute of Archeology. The fibula from MNIR can be recognized in a sketch (fig. 1/3) made by Radu Vulpe on August 10, 1950 (Vulpe 1950, 92).

According to the diary (see Appendix 1), in the vicinity of the fibula were identified, among others, fragments of imported Roman pottery and a republi-

can denarius. Most likely, the denarius mentioned by Radu Vulpe is an issue of Gaius Coelius Calvus from 104 BC (or 94/90 BC), and the inscription under the chariot is not „AED”, but must be read „[C]ALD(US)”. This coin has already been published (Mitrea 2011, 199, no. 26) and is kept in the Numismatic Collection of the Institute of Archeology in Bucharest (no. 296, 11). The fragments of imported Roman pottery have been described too briefly to be reidentified.

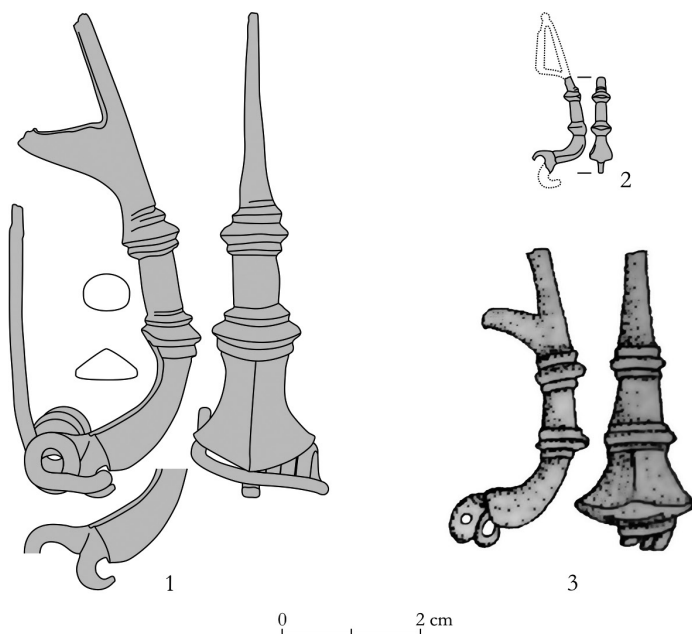
The K surface is located in the southern extremity of the “Cetățuia” site from Poiana (cf. Vulpe, Teodor 2003, 30). The method of archaeological investigation applied in 1950 did not involve the determination of stratigraphic units (features), and Radu Vulpe’s mentions do not allow a report of the fibula to the stratigraphy of the site (cf. Vulpe, Teodor 2003, 15-22). At the same time, no distinction can be made between the items discovered in primary or secondary fills. Practically, the characteristics of the archaeological context of the MNIR fibula remain uncertain.

As I will show below (§ 2), the specimen illustrated in fig. 1 is not the only Almgren 236 fibula from Poiana. This item is not an isolated import, but must be understood in the context of the influx of early imperial imports in Poiana.

## 2. Already Published or Lost Almgren 236 Fibulae from Poiana

The first fibula Almgren 236 discovered in modern times in Poiana comes from the excavations carried out by Radu Vulpe in 1931 and 1936, in the tumulus “Movila Hârtop” (fig. 2/2). The small fibula is kept today at the „Teodor Cincu” Museum (hereinafter MTC) in Tecuci and was recently published (Spânu 2019a, 428, fig. 3 / bottom-center; Spânu 2019b; previously the fibula had only been mentioned by Vulpe 1976, 208).

From the protohistoric settlement from Poiana comes an other fibula similar to the one from MNIR (fig. 2/3). This fibula was also discovered in the 1950 campaign, also in the K surface of the „Cetățuia” site and is kept at MTC-Tecuci (inv. no. 2144; Teodor, Țău 1997, 102, nr. 291, 88, fig. 22/10; Vulpe, Teodor 2003, 225, nr. 291, 591, fig. 112/10). I could not find mentions or sketches of the latter fibula in the diaries of the excavations at Poiana („Radu Vulpe” Archive, Institute of Archeology, Bucharest). Certainly, the fibula kept at Tecuci is not the one sketched by Radu Vulpe on August 10, 1950 (Fig. 1/3). The former lacks half the spring; the other’s spring has been preserved intact. Instead, reading Radu Vulpe’s diaries led me to identify the sketches of three Norico-Pannonian brooches discovered in Poiana in the 1939 and 1940 campaigns (Fig. 2/4-6):



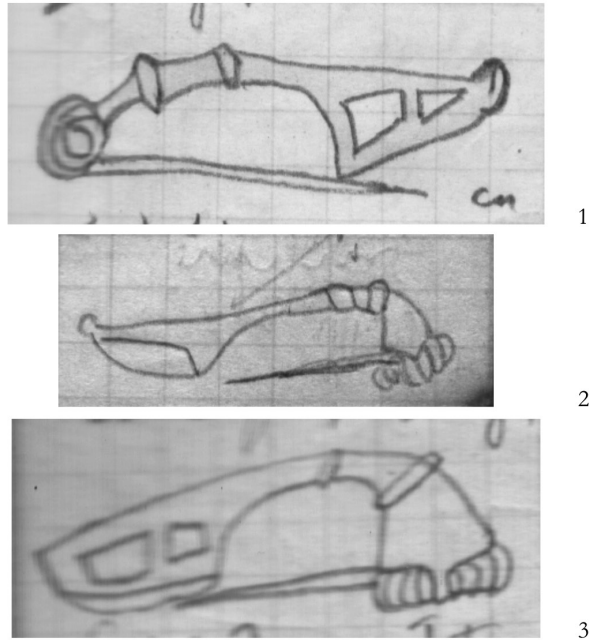
**Fig. 2.** Almgren 236 type fibulae from Poiana (all bronze). 1: Poiana, protohistoric settlement, area K, drawing after the original (MNIR, Bucharest). 2: Poiana, „Movila Hârtop” tumulus (funeral pyre), drawing after the original (MTC Tecuci). 3: Poiana, protohistoric settlement, area K, after Vulpe, Teodor 2003, 591, fig. 112/10.

(1) Discovery made on Friday, July 21, 1939 in surface F, at the depth of the 5th spade (-1 / -1.20 m depth); description: „*fibulă de bronz, dublu ajurată, Latène III*” (bronze brooch, double openwork, La Tène III; Vulpe 1939, sheet 14; Fig. 3/1).

(2) Discovery made at the beginning of the 1940 campaign (date not specified) in surface G, at the depth of the third spade (-0.60 / -0.90 m depth); description: „*fibulă romană cu cap triung(hiular) și dublu resort cu spire scurte de bronz*” (Roman brooch with triangular head and double spring with short bronze coils; Vulpe 1940, sheet 3; Fig. 3/2).

(3) Discovery made at the beginning of the 1940 campaign (date not specified) in surface G, at the depth of the 4th spade (-0.90 / -1.20 m depth); description: „*fibulă de bronz romană, masivă cu cap triung(hiular), 2 noduri pe arc, (portagrafa) ajurată, lungă*” (Roman bronze brooch, massive with triangular head, 2 knots on the bow, openwork catch-plate, long; Vulpe 1940, sheet 6; Fig. 3/3).

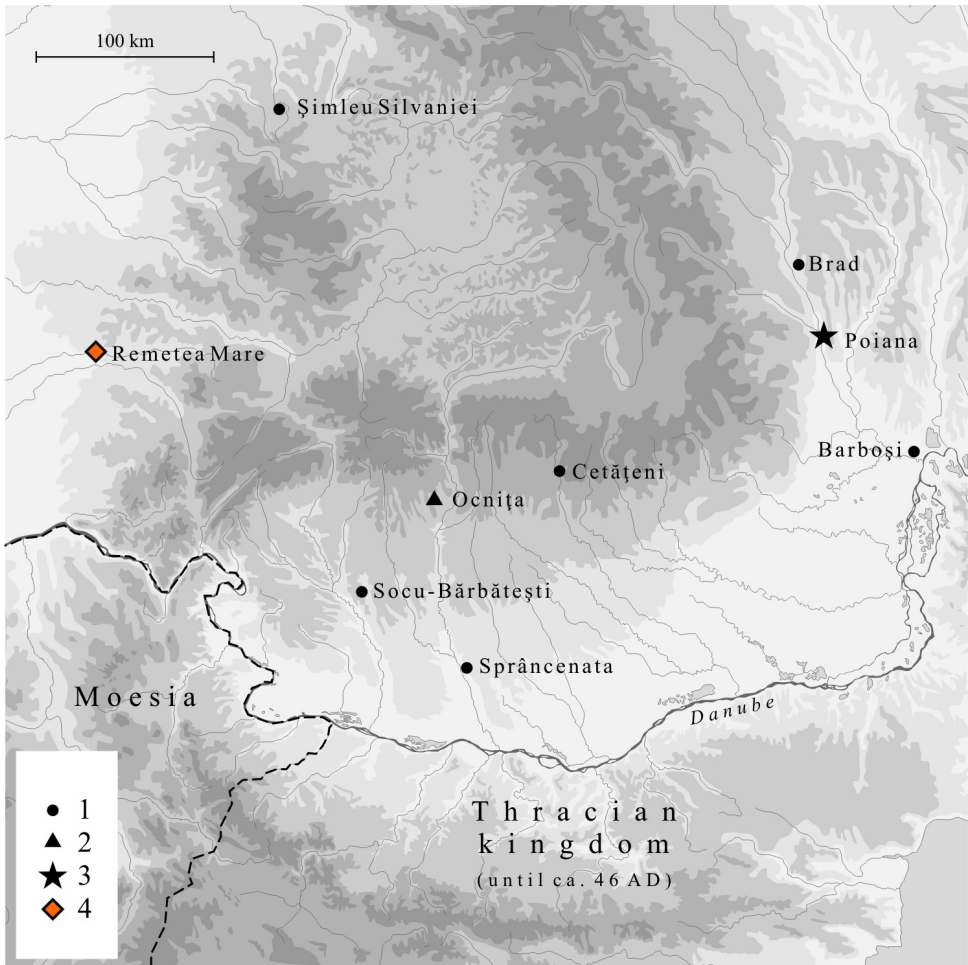
These three brooches have never been published and are not found in the records of the institutions holding archaeological materials from Poiana (MTC,



**Fig. 3.** Almgren 236 type fibulae from Poiana, protohistoric settlement. 1. area F, sketch by Radu Vulpe (2:1 scale from the original). 2: area G, sketch by Radu Vulpe (2:1 scale from the original). 3: area G, sketch by Radu Vulpe (2:1 scale from the original).

MNIR, MNA). Probably, these three pieces were lost during the Second World War. The irony of fate is that the lost fibulae were whole, without missing parts (Fig. 3), while the preserved specimens are all fragmentary (Fig. 2). The three sketched and lost brooches were discovered in the „Cetățuie” site, in the upper part of the stratigraphy of the protohistoric settlement from Poiana. Additional data on the contexts of discovery remain uncertain for the same reasons why the contextual origin of the fibula from MNIR-Bucharest remains obscure. All three lost specimens are made of bronze. Their size has not been indicated, but they all appear to have been massive. Their length was probably about. 6-8 cm.

The number of Norican-Pannonian fibulae from Poiana - lost or not - rises to six: five come from the settlement on “Cetățuie” and one from the tumulus “Movila Hârtop”. The number of Norican-Pannonian fibulae from Poiana therefore exceeds the number of similar fibulae discovered in other pre-Trajan sites on the current territory of Romania. The six items from from Poiana, as well as a specimen from Cetățeni (Babeș 1999, 29, fig. 10/4; Măndescu 2003,



**Fig. 4.** Spread of Almgren 236 fibulae in pre-Roman Dacia. 1: one specimen; 2: three specimens; 3: six specimens; 4: one local imitation.

131, fig. 1/7; Măndescu 2006, 50, pl. 22/9) must be added to the other Almgren 236 fibulae from pre-Roman Dacia known so far (Rustoiu 1997, 57, 113-114, type 24, 220, fig. 64/1, 224, fig. 68). This update of the information confirms the image of the predominantly extracarpatic spread of the Norican-Pannonian fibulae (Fig. 4). In the intra-Carpathian area, their presence in contexts prior to the Roman conquest of Dacia is exceptional (only Şimleu Silvaniei). After the Roman conquest of Dacia, the situation would be reversed: all Norican-Pannonian fibulae from certain post-Trajan contexts are found inside the Carpathian arch (Cociş 2004, 72-73, type 11; cf. Cociş 2009), but are missing to the south or east of the Carpathians.

### 3. Typology and Chronology of the Almgren 236 Fibulae from Poiana

The ornamental diversity (especially the openwork or not of the catch-plate) and the different dimensions of the Norican-Pannonian fibulae determined Jochen Garbsch to distinguish several variants of this type: Almgren 236 a-n and Almgren 237 a-d variants (Garbsch 1965, 26-43, fig. 2-14). The chronological differentiation postulated by Oscar Almgren (Almgren 1923, 109) between an earlier type (A. 236) and a later type (A. 237) has not been confirmed by further research. The variants A. 236 a-b and A. 237 a-d are found in provincial contexts from the last two decades of the 1st century BC and from the first half of the 1st century AD. Variant A. 236 c comes from discoveries dated throughout the 1<sup>st</sup> century AD, and the other variants fall either in the second half of the 1<sup>st</sup> century AD (variants A. 236 d-f), or between the end of the same century and the middle of the 2<sup>nd</sup> century AD (variants A236 g-n) (Garbsch 1965, 26-43; Garbsch 1965, 555, fig. 4; Demetz 1999, 55 for early variants).

Some ambiguities persist in the archaeological literature regarding the construction of Almgren 236/237 fibulae. In some cases, the spring develops organically from the bow. In other cases, the spring was made separately from the rest of the fibula. This technological distinction was noticed and signaled by Jochen Garbsch or Sorin Cociș (Garbsch 1965, 26; Cociș 2004, 72), but it did not become a first-rate criterion of morphological classification. The construction system can only be determined by direct and careful examination of the fibulae, often only after they have been cleaned by professional procedures. In general, the two-elements construction (spring made separately from the bow) was more frequently identified in the case of later specimens, respectively A 236 h and A 236 l-n variants (Garbsch 1965, 37, 41-43; cf. Cociș 2004, 293-295, pl. XXXIX-XLI, nr. 602, 605, 611, 616, 619, 623, 626.). The construction of specimens discovered in pre-Trajan contexts in Romania has not been satisfactorily specified in the literature; graphic reproductions without sections are not explicit (e.g. Rustoiu 1997, 113-114, list 21, with previous literature, 224, fig. 68).

The constructive system of the lost Almgren 236 fibulae from Poiana can no longer be determined with certainty. However, the catch-plates provided with two large openings (Figs. 3/1 and 3) correspond to the Garbsch variant A 236 b. In general, a one-element construction can be assumed for this variant. The sketch in FIG. 3/2 indicates a hole-free catch-plate - a feature specific to the Garbsch A 236 n variant. The specimens of this variant generally have a two-elements construction. Perhaps, this was also the construction of the first Almgren 236 fibula sketched by Radu Vulpe in 1940.



The catch-plate of the fibula kept at MNIR-Bucharest (Figs. 1 and 2/1) is fragmentary. Thus, it is not possible to specify whether or not the opening of the catch-plate was separated by ribs, but the wide opening is certain. The spring develops organically from the bow. These characteristics correspond to variants A 236 b or A 236 c from Garbsch's classification (cf. Rustoiu 24 b-c).

The same uncertainties persist in the case of the fibula kept at MTC-Tecuci. From the published drawing (Teodor, Țau 1997, 88, fig. 22/10; Vulpe, Teodor 2003, 591, fig. 112/10) and reproduced here in Fig. 2/3, it seems that the fibula is made of two parts (the spring seems separate from the bow). However, the catch-plate with one or two wide openings is not specific to the late specimens with two-elements construction (Garbsch 1965, 22-26; Demetz 1999, 49-52; Hellström 2018, 76). The question may be asked whether the published drawing of the Tecuci fibula is erroneous (by the way, the view and the profile do not match). Regardless of the construction, this fibula has a catch-plate corresponding to the Almgren 236 b and c variants.

The fragmentary state of preservation of the fibula discovered in the "Movila Hârtop" tumulus (its catch-plate is completely missing; Fig. 2/2) prevents a precise typological classification. Certainly, however, the spring of this fibula was developed following the bow (they were cast together). The small size of this item could correspond to specimens of the Almgren 236 b or c variants.

Almgren 236/237 fibulae were designed and used extensively in Raetia, Noricum and Pannonia, from where they spread to barbaricum, especially in central-northern Europe (Demetz 1999, 54; Łuczkiwicz 2009, 412-413, map 1). Some specimens were also distributed to the northern regions of the Black Sea (Kropotov 2010, 259, form 3, fig. 73/3 and 74; Hellström 2018, 75-76, type IIA1, cat. nr. 34.4, 155, 333, 459.1-2). The number of specimens from sites near the Black Sea is generally modest (1-2 specimens *per* site). With the five Almgren 236/237 fibulae discovered here, the protohistoric settlement of Poiana is distinguished as the site with the most Norican-Pannonian fibulae in the regions near the Black Sea.

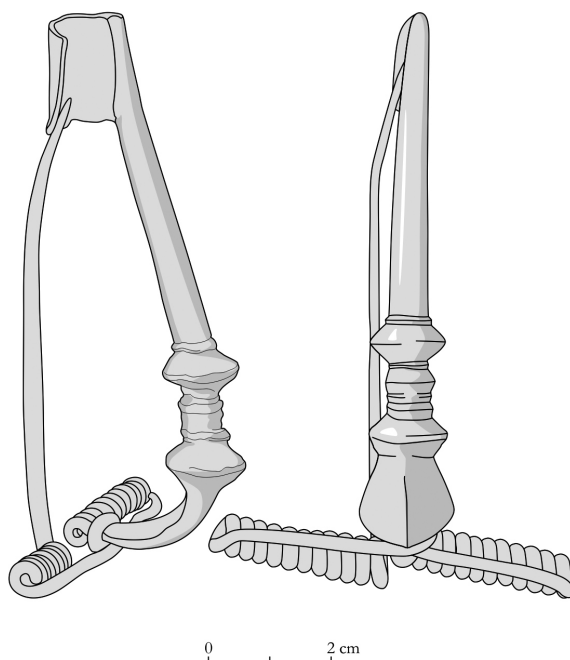
Despite the typological and chronological uncertainties, it can be considered that the Almgren 236 fibulae from the Poiana settlement were imported here before the Roman conquest of Dacia. The specimen from „Movila Hârtop” comes from a context dating to the middle of the 1<sup>st</sup> century AD (Spânu 2019b, 117). As will be seen from the following, the hypothesis of the penetration of Norican-Pannonian fibulae into pre-Roman Dacia since the beginning of the first century AD is very plausible.



#### 4. Almgren 236 Fibulae in the Frame of Roman Imports in pre-Roman Dacia. Import and Imitation

The earliest Roman imports from pre-Roman Dacia are republican denarii and some samples of late republican bronze vessels. These imports occur in local contexts that can be synchronized to La Tène D1 and D2a phases of the local chronological system (Spânu 2019c). Most of the republican denarii imported in Dacia was hoarded (Chițescu 1981, 20-21; Lockyear 1996, 314). The samples of imported late republican vessels were integrated in the inventories of some magnificent burials (e.g. Cugir - tumulus 2), of some hoards (e.g. Lupu, Bobaia) or of some mountain fortifications such as those from Costești, Divici or Piatra Neamț (Glodariu 1976; Beldiman 1988; Rustoiu 2009). These inventories can be perceived as an expression of the reconfiguration of the local (“Dacian”) political superstructures at the beginning / middle of the 1<sup>st</sup> century BC.

The imports from the early imperial period reveal a completely different picture. Since the Augustan era, Roman imports no longer consist of luxury vessels or large coin batches, but of provincial workshop products, especially brooches and glassware (Teodor, Țau 1997; Boțan 2015). A relevant conjuncture: Roman fibulae are completely missing from local hoards, even when they were made of silver (Spânu 2019a, 430-431, 433-434, fig. 4). Local funerary contexts with early imperial fibulae are few in number (e.g. Ariușd: Székely 1982; Hunedoara „Grădina Castelului”: Sîrbu et al. 2007, 25-39, 227, fig. 13/1-8; Poiana „Movila Hârtoș”: Spânu 2019b, 116-117). Most of the Roman imports from the period Augustus - Domitianus are found frequently and sometimes even in impressive quantities, in settlements such as those from Poiana and Ocnița (Vulpe, Teodor 2003; Berciu 1981). These imports also include specimens of early variants (a-c) of Almgren 236 brooches discovered in Brad, Poiana, Sprâncenata or Ocnița (cf. Rustoiu 1997, 113-114, liste 21; the contexts from Cetățeni, Socu-Bărbătești and Șimleu Silvaniei were not specified satisfactorily). We are therefore witnessing a double change: both the substance of imports and their integration into the local habitus are changing. This change has taken place since the Augustan period and most likely should be correlated with the firm installation of Rome’s power in Pannonia and Western Moesia. In 1<sup>st</sup> century AD Dacia, the cultural markers of individual prestige were drastically attenuated, and the new Roman imports were correlated with the archaeological expression of the collectivities. However, the transition from the late La Tène phase to the early imperial era was not sudden. A transition sequence could be distinguished. This sequence is illustrated by the associations between the forms of local Late La Tène tradition and provincial imports. An emblematic example is the inventory of the tumulus „Movila Hârtoș” (Spânu 2019a, 115-



**Fig. 5.** The large fibula from the Remetea Mare hoard (silver); after Bleyer 1906, 364.

118, fig. 3). The ornamentation of some local types of brooches with decorative motifs inspired by provincial fibulae is also illustrative (Spânu 2019b, 119-121). In the context of these interferences, a unique fibula from the Remetea Mare hoard also fits appropriately (fig. 5).

The inventory of Remetea Mare hoard was lost in the harsh conditions at the end of the First World War. Fortunately, the silver objects were reproduced in an accurate engraving published by I. Bleyer (Bleyer 1906, 363-364). This hoard included, among other things, a spoon fibula and a batch of Republican denarii. The latest of these was issued in 15 BC.

Thus, the hoarding of the silver items from Remetea Mare can be framed during the reigns of Augustus and Tiberius. Later chronological markers are missing. Due to its morphological peculiarities, the large fibula from the Remetea Mare hoard could be perceived as a local replica of the early variants of the Norican-Pannonian fibulae (Almgren 236 a-c variants). The bow of this fibula was adorned with two bitronconic knots and has a rhombic plate (Fig. 5). This ornamentation - unique in the frame of the local („Dacian”) silver craft - stri-

kingly resembles the morphology of the bow of the Almgren 236 fibulae. It can be accepted that the local craftsman who created the large fibula from Remetea Mare saw an Almgren 236 fibula and used it as a source of inspiration. Therefore, Aurel Rustoiu's opinion according to which the large fibula from Remetea Mare is a local imitation of the early Norican-Pannonian fibulae (Rustoiu 1997, 43) is justified. In fact, the imitation of the Almgren 236 type in *barbaricum* is also attested by iron replicas made in the area of the Przeworsk culture (Godłowski 1994, 481; Łuczkiwicz 2009, 412 with literature). However, the Remetea Mare case retains its particular uniqueness, because only the morphology of the bow was imitated and not the entire fibula (the rope hook is missing, the rectangular catch-plate has a traditional morphology etc). Basically, the ornamentation of the Norican-Pannonian fibulae was applied creatively on a general structure of late La Tène tradition.

In any case, the large fibula from Remetea Mare could indicate the relative synchronism between the import of early specimens of the Almgren 236 type and the late phase of the "Dacian" hoards (LT D2b). In fact, the inventory of the „Movila Hârtop” tumulus confirms the relative synchronism between the early variants of the Almgren 236 type and the late variants of the local spoon fibulae. Thus, the possibility that early variants of Almgren 236 type have been imported to Poiana since the first half of the 1<sup>st</sup> century AD is clearly distinguished.

In fact, in Poiana there are also attested specimens of other types of fibulae from the early imperial era, such as: fibulae with canid protome (germ. *Tierkopffibeln*; Spânu 2019b), a Langton-Down fibula (Plantos 2019, 237-239, fig. 4/7), leontomorphic fibulae of Feugère 18b1 type (Spânu 2020), Aucissa type fibulae (Vulpe et al. 1951, 206, fig. 24/8; Vulpe, Teodor 2003, 217, nr. 157, fig. 104/4; Spânu 2019c, 193, fig. 10/7), Jezerine type fibulae (Vulpe, Teodor 2003, 217, nr. 160, 584, fig. 105/1) etc. The diversity of the spectrum of early Roman fibulae from Poiana is, therefore, impressive.

Most likely, Poiana was both a redistribution center of Roman goods in *barbaricum*, as well as an artisanal center where Roman models were imitated and copied. The activity in Poiana of itinerant craftsmen from the Central European provinces was proposed with convincing arguments in the literature (Rustoiu 2000, 339; Rustoiu 2002, 200; Spânu 2019a, 432-433). Most likely, Poiana had become one of the most important centers of propagation of Roman cultural influence on the lower Danube, even before the expansion of Moesia to Pontus. This event is framed after 46 AD, perhaps in Neronian time (cf. Pippidi 1955; Conole, Milns 1983; Matei-Popescu 2018). The Almgren 236 fibulae from Poiana contribute to the deepening of the polyvalent cultural connections of one of the most prosperous pre-Roman communities in eastern Dacia.



## Appendix 1

Description of the discoveries made at Poiana, “Cetățuia” site, surface K on August 10, 1950, according to Radu Vulpe’s diary I / 1950 (Archive of the Institute of Archeology):

„În (suprafața) K, la 1,70 m (adâncime), întreg, un dinte de urs găurit la rădăcină ca amulet, 8 cm lungime. Perlă de sticlă sferoidală piriformă, riptă la capăt; albă, cu decor negru. De fapt un pandantiv. / Altă perlă de sticlă neagră cu ochi roșii cu cerc alb 1 1/2 cm diametru. Denar roman republican de argint cu capul Romei privind spre stânga. Av: Capul Romei. Rv: Victorie în quadrigă spre stânga. Inscr(iptie): AED? (COILIVS CALDUS). Urnă întreagă (cu) luciu roșcat, puțin spartă la gură. Bitronconică. Făcută cu mâna. 20 cm în(ălțime), 12 cm diam. În această săpătură, până la acest nivel (cazmaua 9 pe alocuri), n-au apărut decât foarte rare cioburi primitive cu luciu negru. În schimb sunt destul de dese acelea cu luciu brun ori roșcat. Strecurătoare cenușie superioară, fund lipsă. Polizor. Fragmente de ceramică romană de import. Capac, pandantiv mic 7 cm diam. Copită de cal. Cățuie poroasă primitivă, cu brâu la buză. Rondele. Cuțitașe de fier. Fibulă de fier. Fusaiole. Sule de os. Obiect de fier: o bucată curbată cu cârlig (de) 11 cm lungime/ Fibulă mare de bronz, Latène III, noduri pe arc. Placa ajurată. Lipsă din resort (sic: de fapt din ac) și din placă”.

Translation: „In (surface) K, at 1.70 m (depth), whole, a bear’s tooth drilled at the root like an amulet, 8 cm long. Pear-shaped spheroidal glass pearl, ripped at the end, white, with black decoration. Actually a pendant. / Another black glass pearl with red eyes with a white circle 1 1/2 cm in diameter. Roman Republican silver denar with Rome’s head looking to the left. Av: Cape of Rome. Rv: Victory in the quadriga to the left. Legend: AED? (COILIVS CALDUS). Whole urn, reddish luster, slightly broken in the mouth. Bitronconica. Handmade. 20 cm in (height), 12 cm diam. In this excavation, up to this level (9th spade), only very rare primitive shards with black luster appeared. Instead, those with brown or reddish luster are quite common. Upper gray strainer, missing bottom. Grinder. Fragments of imported Roman pottery. Lid, small pendant 7 cm diam. Horseshoe. Primitive porous dog with a belt at the lip. Rondele. Iron knives. Iron brooch. Fusaiole. Bone sole. Iron object: a curved piece with a hook (of) 11 cm long / Large bronze brooch, Latène III, knots on the bow. Openwork plate. Lack of spring (sic: actually made of needle) and plate”

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## Fibulele Almgren 236 de la Poiana

### Rezumat

Printre numeroasele fibule de epocă imperială timpurie descoperite la Poiana (jud. Galați, România) se numără și câteva exemplare ale tipului Almgren 236/237 denumite și fibule norico-pannonice sau (germ.) *Doppelknopffibeln*. Trei exemplare (fig. 1 și 2) se păstrează și astăzi la muzeele din Tecuci și București. Alte trei exemplare s-au pierdut probabil în timpul celui de al II-lea Război Mondial, dar existența lor este atestată de schițele din jurnalele inedite realizate de Radu Vulpe (fig. 3). Cu excepția unei fibule descoperite în rugul funerar din tumulul „Movila Hârtoș” de la Poiana, toate celelalte provin din contexte insuficient documentate din așezarea protoistorică de pe situl „Cetățuie”. Din această așezare provin cele mai multe fibule Almgren 236-237 descoperite până acum în situri pre-traianice de pe teritoriul României (fig. 4). Fibulele prezentate indică strânse contacte cu provinciile alpine în epoca timpurie a Principatului. Încadrarea tipologică și cronologică a fibulelor de la Poiana este deficitară datorită stării fragmentare a exemplarelor păstrate. Cu toate acestea, familiarizarea mediilor locale cu fibulele norico-pannonice încă din perioada Augustus-Claudius este sugerată de o imitație locală din argint descoperită în tezaurul de la Remetea Mare (fig. 5).

**Cuvinte cheie:** fibule Almgren 236/237, importuri romane în Barbaricum, perioada imperială timpurie România, aculturație, imitație.

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