

ARCHAEOLOGICAL SITES

**CONSTANTA COUNTY
A DISCOVERY THAT IS ALWAYS RECENT**

ARCHAEOLOGICAL SITES

TOMIS – The Outdoor Archaeological Complex and the ruins of Tomis City

The life of Constanta city is carried out in the same hearth for almost 2600 years. **Tomis** - as it was called in the antiquity - was founded in the 6th century b.C. by the Greeks from Miletus. However, here there was already a settlement of the natives, as proven by the research made in the only place untouched by modern constructions - Cathedral's Park.

We reconstruct the history of the city based on the written sources, epigraphic documents and numerous materials discovered with the occasion of the rescue excavations arising from various urban-household works. This is how the Roman Mosaic-floored Edifice was discovered; this is also how it was brought to light and restored part of the enclosure wall from the 6th century a.C., a corner of a ancient neighborhood or the seven basilicas discovered in several areas of the city. The **Tomis Sculptures Thesaurus** - 24 statues and bas-reliefs - was discovered when digging the foundation hole of a building from the old train station area.

Tomis became polis only in the Hellenistic era; the importance of the city increases, and the welfare of the people also transpires from the number of public and private edifices beginning to be erected and from which we have columns and capitals, architraves, friezes and other architectural sculpture elements. Now is also raised a defense wall; the first enclosure occupying the space from the peak of the peninsula until Ovidiu square area.



Enclosure Wall of Tomis city

The appearance of Romans, in the years 72-71 b.C., determined geopolitical changes in the area. The Greek cities on the west-pontic shore formed a union - made at first of five cities, then six - whose residence was first at Odessos (Varna) and the, definitively, at Tomis. For the period at the beginning of the first century we find valuable information on the city and its population in the work of the Latin poet, Publius Ovidius Naso, who spent his last years in the pontic capital, where he was exiled from the order of the Emperor Octavian Augustus.



Urban inhabitation

After the establishment of Moesia Inferior province, and from the 2nd century a.C., when Tomis becomes its capital, the city will achieve a special urban development and it will slowly extend its surface, reaching the limit where today we see the enclosure wall.

We also witness a growth in the spiritual importance from the moment when the Christianity becomes official in the Empire, during the reign of Emperor Constantin the Great (306 - 337), the sources reminding several Bishops (Gerontios, Theotimos, Timotei, Ioan etc.), a metropolitan (Paternus), and the archaeological field research brought to light several basilicas and numerous religious sculpture elements.

5th-7th centuries were under the spectrum of numerous attacks from migratory people. After that, in 971, under the Byzantine Emperor Ioan Tzimiskes (969 - 976), the Byzantine administration is restored. **Tomis** will start being called Constantiniana or Constantia.

What can we see today in the ancient city?

Downtown, along Ferdinand Ave., one can follow the enclosure wall with two of its gates guarded by towers, as well as Butchers Tower situated right underneath the archaeological map of Dobroga, guarding the Archaeological Park where a series high capacity vessels, as well as various sculptural monuments are on display.



Enclosure Wall of Tomis city



Archaeological Park

In the courtyard of „Mihail Eminescu” College is kept the crypt of one of the basilicas; the traces of another basilica can be seen in front of gate no.1 of the Port.

In Ovidiu Square, near the National History and Archaeology Museum, the Roman Mosaic-floored Edifice was restored; in its continuation, on the cliff of the city were the Therms (partially searched).

Next to the Cathedral was searched - then restored - a corner of an ancient neighborhood. Here were unveiled several constructions, with different interior design, a fountain and streets with collecting channel.

The monuments brought to light by the rescue excavations of the archaeologists from Constanta: marble or chalk monuments (statues, bas-reliefs, inscriptions), ceramic or glass vessels (different shapes and functionality), tools, weapons, coins, ornaments may be admired in the rooms of the National History and Archaeology Museum.

The Roman Mosaic-floored Edifice



The Roman Mosaic-floored Edifice

For the thousands of visitors stepping year after year on the places where once the poet Ovidius cried the cruel fait of his exile, Tomis is firstly a surprising and suggestive contact with the Roman world, with the great Empire within whose borders was created, in the danubio-pontic space, the osmosis of local elements with the Greek-Roman civilization elements. Ancient Tomis - today's Constanta - always surprises us through the inestimable architectural and sculptural values it reveals, allowing one to see the particularly fruitful economical and cultural life of this old settlement since antiquity. Without any doubt, one of this exceptional discoveries is the **Roman Mosaic-floored Edifice**, discovered in 1959, with the occasion of some urban works made on the cliff of the modern port. The story of this amazing discovery is somehow simple: on 6 August 1959, during some works performed in the immediate vicinity of Ovidiu Square, the presence of a wall and several ancient mosaic fragment was signaled. The management of the History Museum, aware of the vestiges' importance, requested to the authorities to take immediate steps to protect them; this is how the area was declared archaeological reservation and, for ten years, the specialists unveiled the ruins of this great edifice. In parallel, thanks to the help given by the competent institutions from Bucharest, an important part of the edifice was preserved and restored, over which a modern building was erected, allowing the protection and preservation of the mosaic.

The construction holds three of the four terraces where the cliff of the port was placed in the antiquity. The first terrace is placed on the current level of Ovidiu Square and ensures the connection with one of the public squares of the ancient city. The following two terraces correspond to the main body of the edifice, under the shape of an elongated trapeze, developed on two levels- the upper one being a room with mosaic pavement, and a lower one a series of 11 vaulted rooms used as storehouses- storage for merchandises. The last terrace is situated at the level of the ancient port quays and contained another series of vaulted storehouses, covered today by the modern stepping level.



Pottery - Roman mosaic edifice Interior



Details pavement

The mosaic pavement, with a surface of over 2000 m² - one of the largest of the whole territory of the old Empire - was made of pebbles (tesserae) in seven colors: white, red, black, green-blue, yellow-ochre. The mosaic combines in a unique and refined manner the geometric decorative motifs with the vegetal decorative motifs: ivy haulm, intersecting circles, braiding and meander, and in the middle divided checkers in different geometric shapes, in which are inscribed images of Greek vessels with leaves.

On observe the fine performance of a kantaros, in whose handle is shaped a pigeon, the only zoomorphic representation from the Edifice, that may be correlated with the Christian practices of the era when it functioned.

As for the character and date of the economic-commercial complex, the testimonies revealed by the excavations converge to the idea that it was built in a great number of years, sometime in the first half of the 5th century a.C., but keeping a unitary plan and conception.

The mosaic, which was kept on a surface of over 600 m², shows traces of repeated restorations during 4th-6th centuries, and the archaeological material discovered in the vaulted rooms and in front of them - Roman import ceramics, decorated in a characteristic style for the 4th-6th centuries a.C., confirms the functionality of the Edifice during these centuries. Some materials - the cylindrical amphorae, some earthen-lamps and earthen-lamp patterns, coins, etc. - even raise the question of the use of this complex and in the first decades of the 7th century, so in the turbulent period, marked by the devastating avar-slav attacks in Dobrogea and the Balkan Peninsula.



Mosaic

Besides the special interest the upper terrace preserving the mosaic raises, in the vaults housed by terraces C and D were discovered numerous mineral and vegetal products preserved in hundreds of amphorae, as well as large quantities of resins (myrrh, incense), iron cramps, iron minerals, earthen-lamp patterns etc, discoveries sustaining the functionality of some stores for merchandises. The whole archaeological material recovered from here represents a spectacular scientific discovery – witness of the intense trade practicing in Tomis in the 4th-7th centuries a.C.

Sometimes in the first half of the 7th century the Roman Mosaic-floored Edifice ceased to exist, most likely after a cataclysm which caused the collapse of the bolted rooms. The few people who resisted decided to leave for good these inhospitable places, leaving this Edifice to oblivion and the cruel passage of time, the image of the great Greek-Roman civilization.

Besides the special interest it still raises among researchers, the great ensemble of terraces with mosaic situated in the ancient port area shows today to the thousands of visitors a suggestive image of the intense economical, social and commercial life once carried out within the borders of ancient Tomis.

Roman mosaic edifice courtyard



The outside of the Roman Mosaic floored Edifice

CALLATIS - The ruins of the ancient city Callatis

The city Callatis is a Dorian colony, founded by the Greeks from the Pontic Heracleea, colony of Megara. The city, built towards the end of the 6th century b.C. knows in the Hellenistic era, in the second half of the 4th century b.C., one of its main economical and social-politic development stages, situation confirmed by the minting of its first silver coins, the production of a significant and varied number of clay statuettes and of certain architectural and sculptural monuments. After the Macedonian expeditions undertaken towards the north, during the time of Philip the 2nd and Alexandru the Great, the Macedonian kingdom is extending up to the Danube. The Pontic cities entered into a state of dependency, being forced to accept the authority of the Macedonian state. Towards the middle of the 3rd century b.C., the war of the Callatiens, in alliance with Histria, against the city of Byzantion brought new prejudices to the **city of Callatis**; after this war the city knows some peaceful and even economic recovery. Callatis colony with the other west-pontic Greek cities are conquered by the Roman troops between 71-72 b.C. Regarding the date and conditions in which **Callatis city** ceased to exist, the archaeological and numismatic discoveries suggest that the city is abandoned at the beginning of the 7th century a.C.. This is due on one hand to the attacks from avars and slavs, and on the other hand, to the social-economic conditions of that time.



Enclosure wall of the ancient city Callatis

The defense wall- the city had during its existence two enclosures that kept the same route. The older wall, from the Hellenistic period, was built around the middle of the 4th century b.C.. from large blocks of limestone, very neatly carved. The new wall, from the Roman period, has a height of 3,40m and was provided with defense towers. Two gates of the city were also identified: a larger one, on the western side, being guarded by two big towers, and another one, smaller, on the southern side, provided with marble threshold and steps. This wall dates from the end of the 2nd century- the beginning of the 3rd century a.C. With some restorations, imposed by successive destructions, the wall under discussion defended the city until the end of its existence.

The "Syrian" type Basilica Edifice. In the north-eastern corner of the city are the ruins of a large Roman-Byzantine Edifice from the 5th-6th century a.C.. The building has a rectangular shape and was built of large limestone blocks, connected with lime mortar. In the western half of the building one can notice a large room, initially provided with two rows of columns and, in the same direction there is also a drain. At the northern end of the room appear three small rooms with brick pavement arranged in the middle room as rhombus. In the other half, situated towards east, one notices in the middle a patio, a sort of atrium of the Roman houses, provided on three sides with water drain channels.



Defense wall of the ancient city Callatis

Around it there is a porch whose roof was supported on marble columns and pillars. In this part of the building were found two marble capitals, particularly rich decorated. Their lower side is decorated with acanthus leaves, and the upper one with zoomorphic motifs, showing rams heads and eagles with the pray in the claws.

Extra Muros Neighborhood- The neighborhood was developed outside the defense wall, during the 3rd century a.C. This disappeared completely in the second half of the 3rd century a.C., after a large fire, probably caused by the tribes of Goths and Heruli.

Tomb with Papyrus- is built of large limestone blocks and was initially covered by a large mound of earth. Around it there is a stone circle, provided in the south-western side with a small altar to officiate ceremonies. In the ground covering the tomb were found four Greek vessels with black firnis and palm leaves applied decorations, and on the tombstone above, fragments from a wreath made of bronze leaves and ceramic beans, fixed on a bone frame, imitating the laurel wreath from the antiquity. Inside the tomb were also found remains from a wreath similar with that on the cover, traces of fabrics from clothes and remains of a papyrus written in Greek, being the first document of this type from Romania. Taking into account the habits of that period we can assume that we are dealing with an important man of the city, who brought important services to the city, reason for which he was twice laureate, or that the buried one is a man of letters, next to him being placed one of his most important work.



Tomb with papyrus

HISTRJA – The Ruins of Histria city

The city of Histria, situated on the shore of Sinoe lake, is the first Greek colony on the western shore of the Black Sea. Founded around the middle of the 7th century b.C. Histria has an uninterrupted development both in the Greek period, as well as in the Roman one, being for a long time the most important economic and cultural center from the mouths of the Danube. The history of the city knows in the Greek era periods of development uninterrupted by violent destructions due, in turn, to the following: the campaign of Darius against the Scythians (end of 6th century b.C.), the confrontations between Philip the 2nd and Ateas (the second half of 4th century b.C.) or the inclusion in the kingdom of Burebista (middle of 1st century b.C.).

Under Roman domination the city knows a nominal autonomy and accedes to „the Hellenic Community from Pont” (Hexapolis/Pentapolis). The prosperity during the Emperors Antonini and Severi (2nd century- the first decades of 3rd century a.C.) is interrupted by the Carpo-Gothic invasions from the middle of the 3rd century b.C.. During the Domination (the 4th-6th century a.C.) Histria knows a period of relative peace and development interrupted by attacks from the Huns (the 4th and 5th century a.C.), the Avars and Slavs (the second half of the 6th century a.C.). The actual end of Histriei as urban center is linked to the political and administrative conditions of Dobrogea in the 7th century a.C.. After thirteen centuries of existence, the history of the city ends.



Domus

The Enclosure Wall kept represents the last restriction of the city. Built after the Gothic destruction from the middle of the 3rd century a.C., the wall is destroyed at the end of the same century (295 a.C.) and restored in the 4th century a.C. in the time of Diocletian and Constantine the Great. Other restorations will take place during the reign of Anastasius and at the end of the 6th century - the beginning of the 7th century a.C. The western enclosure is provided with 7 towers and two gates. Other 3 towers and 2 smaller gates are built on the northern and southern sides of the enclosure.

The large gate of the city has an opening of 3,30m. It is provided with four towers, comprising between them a patio.

The Square and basilica type public edifices are immediately behind the gate. the Paleo-Christian Basilica, with crypt, situated in front of the entrance gate, was still functioning at the middle of the 6th century a.C.

Towards the south there area two civil basilicas, with two rows of columns, probably serving some administrative purposes.

The commercial edifice (tabernae), built in the 4th century a.C is made of a hall with abse and a long room provided with counters and compartments.



Entry to the high tower



Roman thermae Histria

The square with porch is situated at the end of the street leading to the thermes; it is paved with stone slabs and limited with column bases belonging to the Ionic Order.

The Roman Baths (thermes I)- arranged approximately in the 1st century a.C., will function until the end of the 4th century a.C. The edifice is made of access rooms (boxes separated by arches and paved with mosaic) and rooms with actual thermal function: tepidarium, caldarium, laconicum, frigidarium.

The eastern neighborhood (Domus)- situated on the shore of the lake. It is made of four insulae secular and religious edifices, placed at the intersection of two important circulation arteries. The rooms are laid around a patio with porches. Some of them involve storied floors or with a special functionality (residence of the Bishop, shelters for pilgrims, administrative-household spaces). The whole ensemble dates from the 4th-6th century a.C.



Inside details Histria city

The Episcopal Basilica- is one of the largest Christian basilicas from Dobrogea (it measures 58m length and 18m width). The access was made by three monumental portals, framed by decorative marble elements. The edifice was built in the first half of the 6th century a.C. over a smaller basilica from the end of the 4th century a.C.

The sacred area- certifies the first proofs of the existence of the city. The space is occupied by vestiges of the temples of Zeus, Aphrodite, probably that of Apollon, by altars and votive bases. It functioned from the middle of the 6th century b.C. until the end of the Hellenistic period.

The Roman Baths II- situated outside the Roman-Byzantine enclosure. The construction with a surface of about 1000m² has a patio surrounded on three sides by a porch with columns and arrangements specific for its destination (bathrooms, heating systems, sewage network).

The museum of the city shows a rich documentary material, a result of the archaeological research performed here for almost a century. They are inscriptions, architectural elements, sculptural fragments, ceramics, glass vessels, coins, etc.



The museum of Histria city



ADAMCLISI – The Ruins of Tropaeum Traiani City

Among the objectives with great importance attesting the beginnings of the historical continuation of the Roman people in the Istro-Pontic space, of a special interest in the **archaeological complex from Adamclisi** (monument, museum and city).

The monument, conceived as a symbol of Rome's force, was built by the Emperor Traian after some important victories won here in the first Dacian war. The triumphal monument, dedicated to the God Mars the Avenger (Mars Ultor) was built between 106 - 109 a.C., at the end of the Dacian wars. Its search is associated to the name of Grigore Tocilescu, seconded by the Austrian architects G. Niemann and Otto Bendorf. In its original state the monument was presented like a giant cylinder of 40 m in height (with a base diameter equal to the height), overlapped by a cone trunk covered with stone slabs. Above, two hexagonal prisms were serving as a socle for an enormous statue - the famous tropaeum. The decorative elements, arranged circularly, consist of the lower frieze, a succession of metopes framed by pillars and the upper frieze. The 54 metopes are running the film of the war events carried out here at the beginning of the 2nd century a.C.: the parade of Roman troops, images of Emperor Traian, fighting scenes, chained prisoners seconded by Roman militaries, the richness of the land etc. On the upper circumference, in the same circular arrangement, the row of 27 crenels present in relief figures of prisoners (Dacians, Germans, Sarmatians). In the end, at the top the statue of the trophy dominates, tall of about 5 m in height, where we recognize the costume and armor of a Roman military. All imposes by massiveness, creating the domination of the winner impression.

The restoration of the monument observes its authenticity, by preserving the original parts and faithfully restoring, in replica, figurative parts. We thus have the whole image of the monument in all its greatness, with all the educational, patriotic and tourism implications.

In the vicinity of the triumphal monument there is also the mausoleum of a high Roman officer fallen into the battle and an altar - cenotaph on whose walls are carved in stone the names of over 3800 Roman soldiers „who died terribly fighting for the country”.



Tropaeum Traiani monument

The City

Situated in the SE side of Adamclisi and at about 1500 m from the monument, the city occupies a surface of over 10 ha. The native settlement preceding the Roman city was populated by veterans and civil Roman elements. Even from the 2nd century a.C. the settlement is transformed in a thriving urban center and is elevated to the rank of municipality. After the destructions caused by the Costoboci (around 170 a.C.), the city continues its development. Public and private edifices, paved streets with sewage, temples and porches etc. are built. After the Carpo-Gothic attacks from the second half of the 3rd century a.C. the city is rebuilt at the beginning of the 4th century a.C., under the Emperors Constantine the Great and Licinius. After the urban flourishing from the 4th century a.C. and from the first half of the 6th century a.C., the Avar-Slav invasion from 586 a.C. strongly affects the city. Given that the imperial power becomes nominal, in the 7th century a.C. the city is broken up and the population retreats in the surrounding forest areas.



West gate

Monuments included in the city's visitation circuit.

The enclosure wall kept dates from the Constantine age; it has a length of about 1200 m. Two U shaped towers frame the two main gates (eastern and western) marking the ends of the axial street. A third gate is at the south and is framed by two massive bastions. Due to its size a rectangular tower (lung long of about 25 m) is distinguished, found in the middle of the western enclosure.

The main street (*via principalis*) oriented to east-west, unites the two main gates; it has a length of about 300 m and a width of 14 m. The carriageway, wide of 7 m, is joined on both sides by porches designed for the pedestrians' circulation.

The basilicas - in the number of 6m, are the expression of the development of Christianity and the building of an Episcopal center.

One of the most imposing is the secular basilica forensis from the 3rd-4th century a.C. Two rows of 18 columns divided the interior in three vessels. To the construction is added in the 5th century a.C. a Christian chapel.

The other edifices are designed by: the simple basilica, the reservoir basilica, the transept basilica, the marble basilica and the graveyard basilica

The archaeological complex from Adamclisi - the restored monument, the fortified city with its edifices and modern museum is an important tourist objective, by offering an unparalleled page of history.



West Gate - Inside View



Basilica Forensis


CAPIDAVA - The Ruins of Capidava City

At half the distance between Harsova (the ancient Carsium) and Cernavoda (the ancient Axiopolis), on the shore of the Danube, it is one of the cities built during the time of Emperor Traian (2nd century a.C.) as a strengthening measure of the Roman frontier along the river. The fort was built by the detachments of the 5th legion Macedonica and the 11th Claudia. The Getic toponym (Capidava meaning „the city from the turning point”) confirms a pre-Roman habitation in the area, also archaeologically certified, in a place so important to the communication and commercial trades between Dacian-Getaes from Dobrogea and those from the Muntenian Plain.

The city built in the 2nd century suffered a first destruction after the Carpo-Gothic attacks so that, towards the end of the 3rd century was fully rebuilt; other destructions also followed (more important the one from 337) after which, when rebuilding, the focus was on the defensive capacity of the fortification. The rebuilt city, whose massive and imposing ruins we see today, has a rectangular plan (105 x 127 m), with thick walls of over 2 m and tall of 5-6 m, with 7 towers, which were tall of almost 11 m (three quadrilateral towers on the center of the sides, two quarter-circle towers on the corners and two intermediate towers horseshoe-shaped, on the long site (which was given up at the last restoration), has only one access gate, wide of 2,36 m, situated on the south-eastern side and a strategic gate on the south-western side of tower no. 1, allowing the exit to the Danube where there is a port settlement. After the violent events from the middle of the 5th century a.C., with the occasion of the second massive restoration, numerous artistically shaped or carved stones were included in the walls: capitals, architraves, statues, cult or funeral reliefs, inscriptions, taken from the adjoining civil settlement or from the necropolis, which show us on one side the urgent character of the repairs, and on the other it constitutes indisputable evidences regarding the developed urban character, about monumental architecture and the rich artistic manifestations from the settlement form Capidava.

From the epigraphic documents we discover that here it was the capidavens territorial center, in direct dependency to the commander of the fort, which included several rural localities from the vast territory he controlled, among which vicus Ulmetum, vicus Sceno(pesis) and several villae rusticae (farms). Here is also found one of the most important customs points.

At the end of the 6th century - the beginning of the 7th century a.C., after the Huns burned down the city, inside the city was built a small fort, quadrilateral, with the side of 60 m, occupying the southern quarter of the enclosure; the archaeological excavations revealed the rute of its enclosure wall, the wave, as well as the ditch protecting it.



The population from the civil settlement moved inside the city rearranging the space for living and for the different activities it performed. In the 7th century a.C., after the attacks of the Avars and Slavs, the city is completely destroyed and abandoned by the last remains of troops surveying the area. The civil population rearrange their space: they level the ruins, then, using the brick and stone walls that remained partially standing, adding adobe walls, they build new constructions, unpretentious, the so called surface huts.

Being firstly a military resort, in the city of **Capidava** were quartered for almost five centuries several troops known from the inscriptions discovered so far. After its building and until 143 a.C., cohorts I Ubiorum was brought here, which was followed for another one hundred years by cohorts I Germanorum. In the Romano-Byzantine era (4th-7th centuries) other military units are attested (both infantry as well as cavalry): vexillatio Capidavensium (a detachment from the 2nd legion Herculia), cuneus equitum Solensium and cuneus equitum scutariorum.

In the 9th century, with the reorganization of the Byzantine limes, **Capidava**, by its strategic position, constitutes a significant point in the new defensive system. Thus, over the ruins of the late Roman fortified settlement is built a peasant fortress of stratiotai (frontier guard peasants), whose life is certified until the 11th century; this is also the last life level of the city. Although known from the ancient routes and epigraphic sources, the city of **Capidava** was discovered by accident. Here the brothers Ghenciu from Braila had their quarry. The exploitation of the quarry caused the breakage of the west corner of the fort, which brought to light the enclosure wall. We owe to Vasile Parvan the undertaking of steps to give the owners another quarry and to pass into the patrimony of the Romanian Academy the plateau where the city was so that it can be searched. Due to the events from the first decade of the 20th century, the systematic archaeological searches at **Capidava** were started only in 1924 under the lead of prof. Grigore Florescu. With some interruptions, also caused by enemy events, the systematic excavation are still carried out, Capidava being a school-site for those who want to become archaeologists or restorers-preservers.

The city, with its imposing walls, is between the Danube and the homonymous village, catching the look of everybody passing the road. A lot of them stop and cross its paths to see the ruins of the constructions brought to light. Following a route leading to the gate of the city, the visitors can see the enclosure wall and decode the different stages of the repairs made over the centuries at the wall and towers. Reaching the south-east side, the visitor is before the only gate of the city, guarded by only one tower, to the Danube. Entering the city he sees the main road (via principalis - as long as it was revealed) with only one sidewalk kept (on the right side) and has - on the left and on the right a series of massive constructions dating from the 4th-6th century a.C. On the left there is firstly the early fortification where the construction of the Body Guard can be seen, with two rows of pillars in the inside, limited by a street provided with porches, a street covered sometime, when changing the street texture in the area due to some new constructions.

On the right side of the street was revealed a large edifice, made of several rooms arranged on both sides of a corridor and having - in a certain moment of its functioning - a patio provided with surrounding porches. Here were also revealed other rooms that, together with the edifice, were arranged around a small stone-paved square under which there was a channel (the unloading arch can be seen); this could be followed only on one of its access paths of the sector provided with collecting channel which flowed somewhere outside the enclosure. Among the constructions from this side of the city we also notice the one with the hypocaust, near the south-east side, ensuring the heating of the surrounding rooms.

Moving forward, passing the center of the city, which has not been searched yet, the visitor sees a series of wholes which probably (or surely) seem uninteresting, but he needs to know that these are the houses of the border guard peasants (stratiotai) from the 9th-11th century. Also in this side, more precisely in the northern corner of the city, a church with one vessel was revealed (in progress of search), which also had a locus under the altar where the relics were probably kept.

The visitor can descend in the 1st tower of the city to exit through the small gate - where the tracks of the crowbar's places blocking it on the inside can still be seen - from where he can descend to the Danube where a part of the ancient port's quay can be seen.

But the archaeological searches did not reveal only constructions. The objects discovered are numerous and varied both regarding the materials they are made of, as well as their utility. They are in the storehouses of the city and of the museum from Constanta, and the most special ones can be admired in the windows of the same museum. We are talking about funeral and votive monuments, ceramic objects (big sized faces, amphorae - different types and sizes, pots, pitchers, mugs, cups, plates, earthen lamps), glass vessels, bronze and iron parts, bone and horn parts, ornaments, tools and different utilitarian objects, toys, coins.



Enclosure wall of Capidava city



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