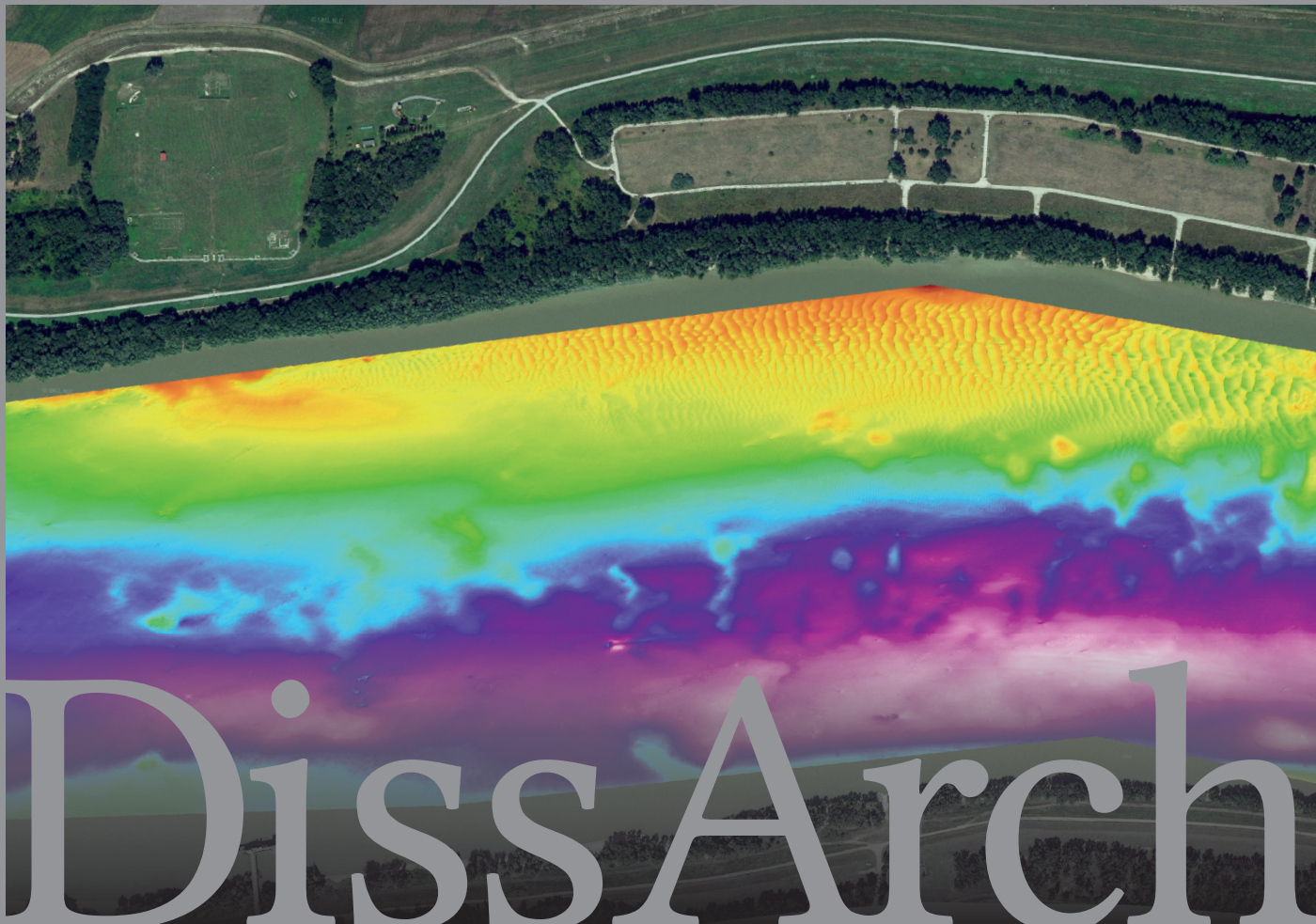


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ex Instituto Archaeologico

Universitatis de Rolando Eötvös nominatae



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Child graves from Brigetio

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Abstract: The cemeteries of Brigetio have been excavated since the 1920s, but a significant portion of the material has never been published. The best-researched part of the site is the western cemetery of the military town. Half of the known graves, more than 750, are from this cemetery. Unfortunately, a huge part of the documentation of the various excavations is missing, which makes the evaluation of these graves problematic. The focus of my PhD dissertation has been a comprehensive study of the burials at Brigetio. The current paper presents a special group within examined burials: child burials. All 85 phenomena defined as children's graves are inhumations, and most are quite simple in terms of burial type and grave goods, albeit the collection also includes unique infant burials amongst *imbrex* tiles. Examples of special child graves illustrate the characteristics of child burials in this cemetery and highlight the objects traditionally associated with them. Some graves stand out for their interesting or, at times, quite numerous grave goods; for example, some burials contain toys and gaming sets for children.

Keywords: Roman, Pannonia, cemetery, burial, Brigetio

Introduction

This paper presents some noteworthy child graves from the western cemetery of the *canabae* of Brigetio. The topic has been part of my PhD thesis on the Roman cemeteries and burials of Brigetio. I discussed it first in my BA dissertation, analysing eight Late Roman graves from the vicinity of the legionary camp. The work continued with a broader focus in the context of the MA dissertation, which included an evaluation of the findings from the so-called 'Nagymagtár' excavation.¹ As the first and biggest part of the doctoral research, I studied grave finds from Brigetio in the Roman Collection of the Hungarian National Museum (HNM).

Roman Period cemetery parts and the burial system of Brigetio

Brigetio, similar to Aquincum, had a three-part settlement system. The civil town was located about 2 kilometres west of the legionary camp along the *limes*. Like in other legionary camps of the Empire, the *castrum* of Brigetio was surrounded by an urban settlement on military ground.² Cemeteries in the Early and Middle Imperial periods were systematically positioned along the *limes* road crossing the town from east to west and the one leading from Brigetio towards the area of today's Tata.³ Since tradition and law forbade burial within the city limits, cemeteries were established out-

1 BA diss.: OLASZ 2017, finds from Komáromi Klapka György Museum, Komárom (KGYM); MA diss.: OLASZ 2020, finds from Kuny Domokos Museum, Tata (KDM).

2 BARKÓCZI 1951, 8.

3 SZÁMADÓ 2010, 150.

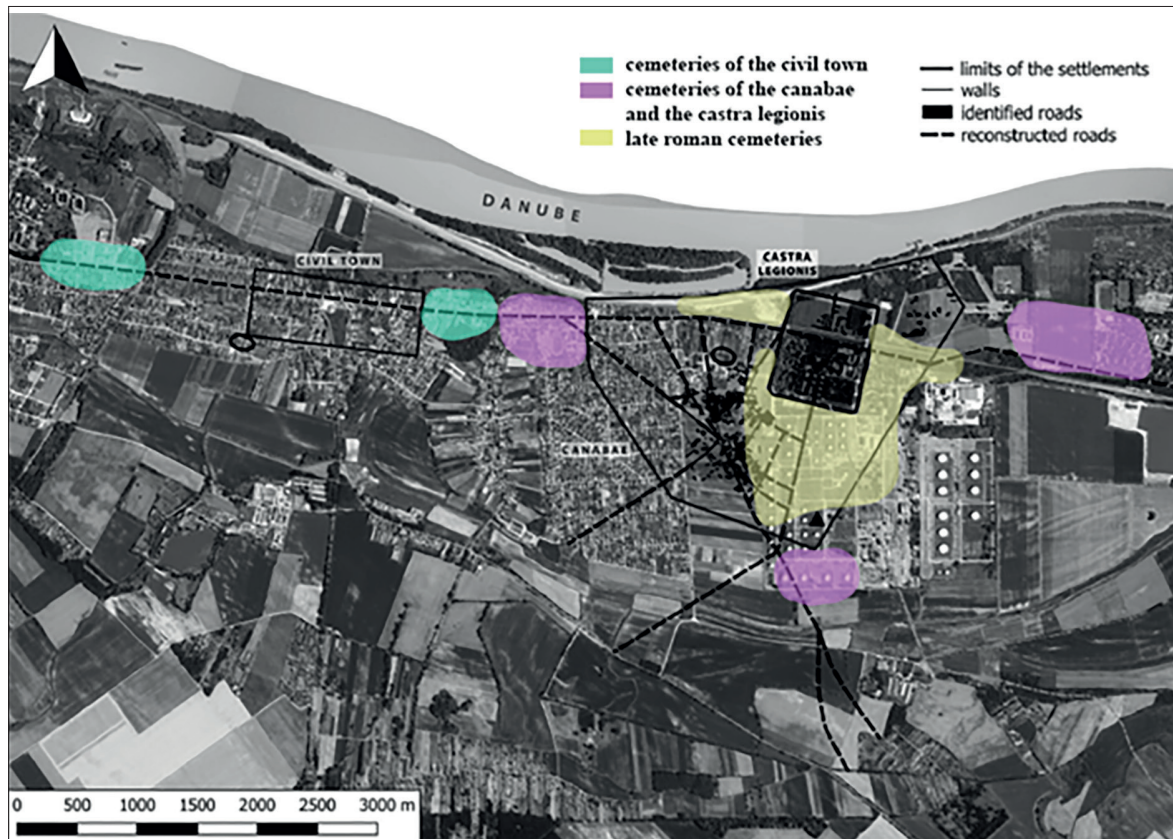


Fig. 1. Topography of Brigetio with markings of the cemeteries (based on BARTUS *et al.* 2018, 542, Fig. 1).

side its borders. Accordingly, these burial grounds contain valuable data not only on Roman society and material culture but also on settlement structure and topography. The position of a cemetery on the outskirts of a town often marks the settlement's largest extent, even delimiting the settlement area from several sides (Fig. 1). The investigated graves belong to all three settlement parts.

During the Late Roman Period, as barbarian raids became more frequent and public security declined, Romans abandoned their settlements and moved within the walls of the legionary camp, which offered greater protection.⁴ The same happened in Brigetio. The military town likely did not cease to function overnight; thus, the shrinking of the inhabited area and the reuse of the abandoned land may have been a prolonged process. The funerary practice also adapted to this change: burials were



Fig. 2. Large-scale excavations of the western cemetery of the *canabae* in the 20th century. 1–2 – ‘Járóka’ cemetery, 1927, 1929 (J1, J2), 3–4 – ‘Sörházkert’ cemetery, 1940, 1946 (S1, S2), 5 – ‘Hangya’ cemetery, 1946 (H), 6 – ‘Nagymagtár’ cemetery, 1969 (M1) (based on BARTUS *et al.* 2016, 64, Fig. 1).

4 BARKÓCZI 1951, 9.

established in the territory of the former military town and even at the foot of the legionary camp's walls. Absolute dating of the graves in the area of the former *canabae* would greatly contribute to reconstructing the process of desertion and the different phases of abandonment of the town.⁵

Research in the databases of the Hungarian National Museum, the Kuny Domokos Museum of Tata, and the Klapka György Museum of Komárom has yielded information on about 1,500 graves from Brigetio. There might be more,⁶ but some are very difficult, or even impossible, to trace back and verify in the collections due to incomplete or inadequate descriptions. Of these graves, 950 are from cemeteries in the military town, most of which were found west of the *canabae* during the twentieth century. Six large-scale excavations and numerous small-scale rescue excavations were carried out in the western cemetery of the military town, which, with over 750 unearthed graves, is currently the best-researched cemetery in Brigetio today. Unfortunately, the quality of the surviving documentation is uneven; for example, grave surveys are known only from the 1946 'Sörházkert' and 'Hangya' excavations and the 1969 'Nagymagtár' excavation, and a cemetery survey map is known only from the latter.

The excavated graves span from the end of the 1st to the mid-3rd century AD, outlining two main horizons that correspond to the times of the Antonine and the Severan dynasties, respectively.⁷ Some earlier burials are also known, but Late Roman ones are more frequent, possibly representing a third grave horizon.

Survey data

This article encompasses a comparative analysis of the child burials from the best-documented excavations, including that of the 1929 'Járóka' cemetery by István Paulovics (J2)⁸, the 1946 'Sörházkert' cemetery by Aladár Radnóti (S2), the 1946 'Hangya' cemetery, also by Radnóti (H),⁹ and the 1969 'Nagymagtár' cemetery excavated by Endre Bíró and Gábor Vékony (M1).¹⁰ Although they all belong to the same large cemetery unit, differences can be observed between the parts (Fig. 2). Cemeteries J2 and M1 lie very close to each other, directly south of the *limes* road, and close to the western boundary of the *canabae*.¹¹ Cemetery S2 is located slightly west of them, north of the *limes* road. The fourth cemetery part (H), south of the *limes* road, is the westernmost excavated and the one closest to the civil town. Topographical research over the years has raised the question of where the dividing line between the eastern cemetery of the civilian town and the western cemetery of the military town lies.¹² Cemetery H is close to this boundary, but it seems to belong to the military town still.

5 BARKÓCZI 1961, 109.

6 HNM Archive: 97.Sz.I.4, the 'Paulovics Collection'; about two hundred more graves are mentioned in the letters of Major O. Voetter and the notes of I. Paulovics.

7 OLASZ 2020, 77–78.

8 HNM Archive: 74.B.I. In the following, diverse excavations and cemetery parts are referred to using the abbreviations given in parentheses.

9 HNM Archive: 63.Sz.I.

10 HNM Archive: XI.108.1978; KDM Archive: 133-77.

11 They are located about 1,200 m west of the *porta principalis sinistra* of the *castra legionis*.

12 Some researchers believed that the cemetery located between the *municipium* and the *canabae*, with particular regard to cemetery parts 'J' and 'S', belonged solely to the civilian town. The opposing view was that the cemeteries of the two settlements were located next to each other, and the dividing line between them lies at the Zichy manor's toll house. PAULOVICS 1930, 200; PAULOVICS 1941, 162–163; RADNÓTI 1946, 92 believe that the cemetery belonged to the *municipium*, while BARKÓCZI 1951, 8 and DELBÓ 2017, 8 associated it with the *canabae*.

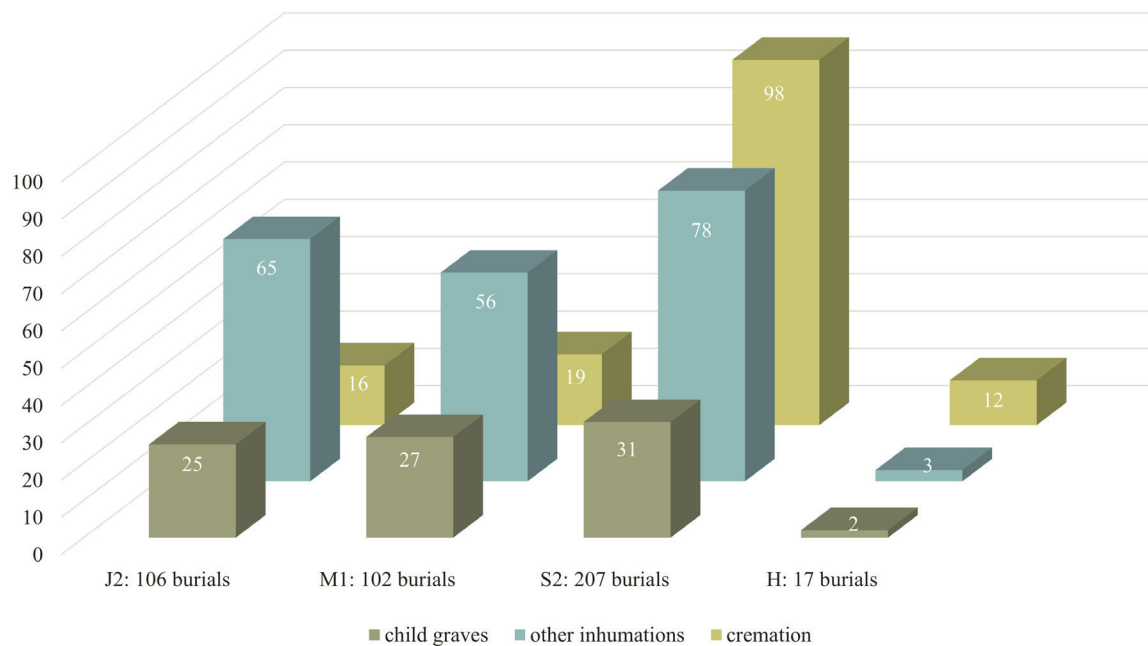


Fig. 3. Distribution of child graves.

Unfortunately, information on the funerary rites was not recorded for all graves. Data on burial rites is available on 106 graves in the J2, 207 graves in the S2, 102 graves in the M, and 17 graves in the H cemetery part. Of the cemeteries examined, children graves were found in the highest number in M, with 27 burials, accounting for a quarter of all graves. A similar proportion¹³ was observed in J2, which is not surprising given their proximity. The proportion of child graves in the other two areas is lower—two in H and 31 in S—representing 11–14% of all burials. The proportion of cremation graves in H and S2 is significant, while in the remaining areas, inhumation is predominant. It should be pointed out, however, that H is the cemetery unit with the lowest number of graves (barely 20), and that some burials were not properly documented. By contrast, most data is available from S2, although the number of child burials is not outstanding there. As the proportions of different rituals and grave finds in J2 and M1 show similarities, the two cemeteries seem very closely linked (Fig. 3).

The only overview map of the four cemeteries was made about the M1 part and the seven trenches excavated in 1969. It shows a dense cemetery with multiple superpositions in some parts, suggesting that this area was in use for a prolonged period. A concentration of infant and child burials was observed in Trench 6 (Fig. 4), comprising fourteen of the 27 child burials. Most were simple, unfurnished graves, indicating a burial ground of poor people or, more probably, a dedicated child burial site.¹⁴

Types of child burials

The four examined cemeteries included 85 child graves. A burial was classified as a child grave based on the size, condition, or absence of human remains and the size and shape of the grave pits; respective data were gleaned from field notes, drawings, and photographs. Some contained grave goods typical of child burials, corroborating the interpretation of the feature.¹⁵ All of them are inhumations,

13 Twenty-five of the total one hundred and six graves.

14 OLASZ 2020, 29–30, 11. ábra.

15 Children's burials were identified along similar principles, and the results of the morphological analysis of the human remains (by M. Merczi) in the Roman cemetery of Budaörs (OTTOMÁNYI 2016, 133–137).

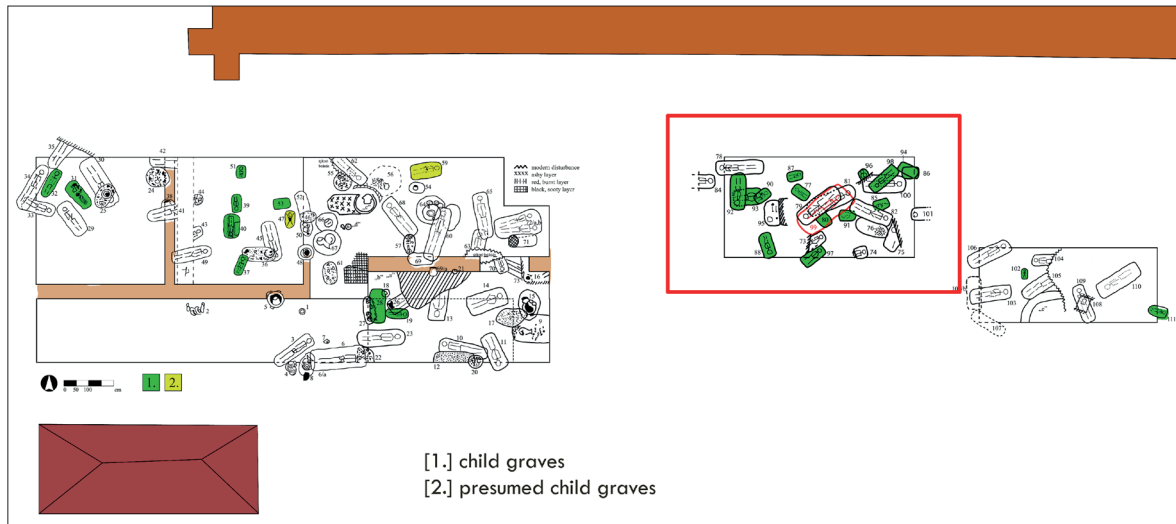


Fig. 4. Map of the M1 cemetery part. Legend: green – child graves, yellow – presumed child graves, red rectangle – Trench 6 (map by the author).

following the common practice of child burial of the Roman Period (cremation burials of children are also known,¹⁶ but even coeval sources suggest that inhumation was preferred for burying children¹⁷). Unfortunately, the surviving documentation of the excavations in Brigetio is not detailed enough to identify cremated burials of children. No part of the anthropological record has been analysed, and no information is available on the current whereabouts of the human remains; accordingly, the dataset at hand is insufficient to make generalisations, identify patterns, or test hypotheses. A. Márton found the greatest variety of children's cremation burials in Pannonia,¹⁸ although their number is considerably lower than that of inhumation graves. It can be assumed that children were cremated in Brigetio as well; only the associated features have not yet been found.

All inhumations but three are simple pit graves; those are *imbrex* burials of infants. The custom of burying newborns and infants between two inverted roof tiles appeared in Italy as early as the 7th century BC. The custom remained in practice in Italy and spread to Gaul during the Roman Period.¹⁹ It is quite rare in Pannonia,²⁰ and no analogues were found for the three graves (all from the J2 cemetery part). The first grave—the only one with a photo (but no survey)—is from J2 (Fig. 5). Grave J2/41 was east–west oriented; it contained the remains of an infant laid between two *imbres*, without any grave goods. The second grave is M1/40, without a photo or sur-

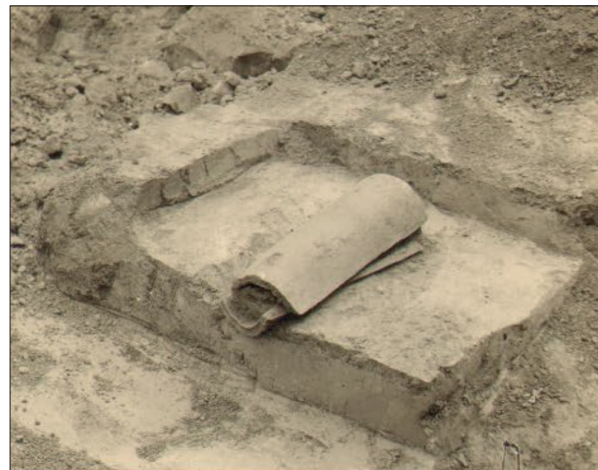


Fig. 5. The only photograph of the *imbrex* burial J2/41 (HNM Archive 74.B.1.).

16 For example, Porta Nocera, Pompeii: CARROLL 2018, 181; Solymár-Dinnyehegy: MÁRTON 2019, 79, Cat. S32.2.

17 CARROLL 2018, 180, *Juvenalis, Saturae* 15.139.

18 MÁRTON 2019, 79.

19 CARROLL 2018, 21, 189–190, Fig. 7.5. In a cemetery in Nuit-Saint-Georges, 113 of the 120 infant burials dating from the 2nd to the 3rd century AD were *imbrex* graves.

20 MÁRTON 2019, 79.

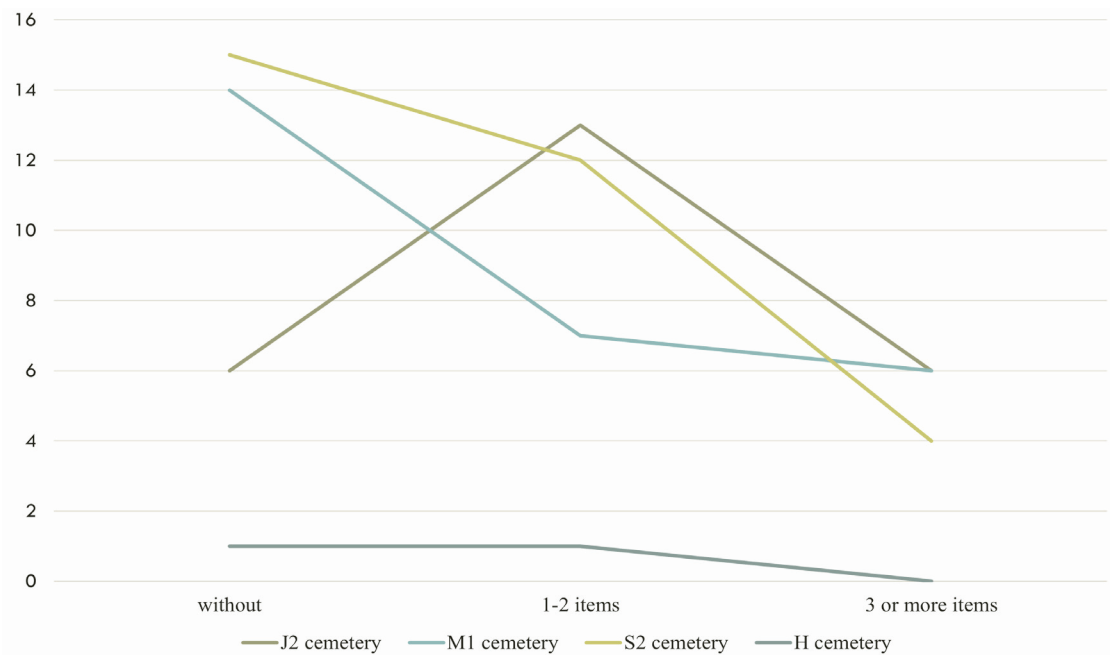


Fig. 6. The surveyed child burials by number of grave items.

vey sketch. According to the field description, the grave was south-north oriented, and half of a bronze coin was found under the infant's remains (Cat. 40, Fig. 11.5); in addition, a fragmented iron hoop (Cat. 43) was recovered from the north of the grave.²¹ The coin was seriously damaged, but it depicted a female member of the imperial family from the 2nd century. The third grave, J2/169, was east-west oriented and unfurnished. The custom of burying children in *imbrex* graves in Brigetio cannot be dated because the graves are simple, poorly documented, and the only coin found in this context cannot be dated more precisely than the 2nd century AD. All we know is that two graves were aligned east-west and the third aligned south-north, which alone is insufficient to draw further conclusions.

Grave finds

The 85 child burials can be classified into three groups based on the number of grave finds (Fig. 6).²² The first and biggest group consists of 38 graves without any (save for some occasional iron coffin nails), representing 43% of all graves. The next group consists of 33 graves with a small number (1–2) of grave finds, usually pottery (mostly cups and small vessels), coins, jewellery, and glass objects. Such simple burials make up 39% of all graves. The remaining 16 graves (19%) included a richer assemblage of artefacts, either in number or in value: usually a relatively large quantity of glassware, jewellery, pottery, amulets, lamps, and coins. Most child graves in M1 and S2 belong to the first category, while the vast majority of the burials (save for six) in J2 included some kind of addition. The third (richest) group is represented by 4–6 graves in each examined area. Generally, graves in M1 are the poorest, supporting the theory that it was indeed a burial ground for the poor; only one of the fourteen child graves there (Grave M1/88) could be classified as a burial with a relatively rich grave find assemblage.²³ Only two rather simple child graves were found in H; by contrast, cremation burials in that area are quite rich in grave goods.

21 OLASZ 2020, Kat. 223, Kat. 51, 9. Tábla 40.1–2.

22 Only two confirmed child burials are known from area 'H', which slightly distorts the data; therefore, the other three cemetery parts are in focus here.

23 This grave, M1/88, contains only two glass beakers and one bronze object (Cats 45–47).

Grave goods

What makes a child's burial poor or rich? Giving an objective answer is difficult. Grave 64 in J2 is a good example of a rich burial (Figs 7–9). Although the foot area of the grave was partially disturbed by a modern grain storage pit, the presence and position of the grave goods suggest that the burial was not robbed. Unfortunately, the grave's position within the cemetery was not recorded, only that it was 175 cm deep and south-north oriented. The description does not mention a coffin, a stone monument, or a casket, suggesting a simple pit grave. Remains of a wooden box fastened with iron nails, 25 × 25 cm according to the field description, were found near the head of the deceased infant. It contained five glass discs, a bronze key, and lots of different beads. The seven iron nails (Cat. 21, Fig. 8.16) had round, flat heads; their lengths ranged from 8 to 16 cm. A carved bone decorative knob (Cat. 12, Fig. 8.7)²⁴ capped once the hinge of the lid of the wooden chest. The bronze key (Cat. 6, Fig. 8.1) might also belong to the box, although no parts of a locking mechanism were detected amongst the remains of the box. Alternatively, the key could be placed inside the chest with the other objects, which means its presence is symbolic rather than functional, and it does not necessarily belong to the box. D. Gáspár²⁵ classified it as Type IV.a'3', a highly diverse variant common in Pannonia but, unfortunately, one with almost no dating value.²⁶ Remarkable are the five glass fragments (Cat. 20, Fig. 8.15, Fig. 9.15), all base rings broken off different glass beakers. Their diameters range from 4.4 to 6.4 cm; four feature applied base rings, and one has a disc-like, folded base. They were likely reused (at least as cost-efficient grave goods) since no other glass sherds from the missing parts of these vessels were discovered in the small grave. The breaking surfaces on some are quite sharp and uneven, while a bit trimmed, but not polished, on others. Recycling broken cups via placing only a fragment into the grave to represent the whole vessel could be a possible explanation for their presence. K. Dévai has already examined this phenomenon in Pannonia and published similar pieces from Aquincum and Intercisa. The bases in Aquincum were also found in burial contexts, but were different from those in Brigetio; they had once been part of relatively large glass vessels or bowls and were placed upside down in the grave to reuse them as glasses or small bowls for offerings.²⁷ She collected 30 reused fragments from Intercisa, which were made similarly but served different purposes. All these fragments came from smaller vessels with short ring bases, which ruled out repurposing them as small cups. K. Dévai collected several viable options regarding their function from the works of S. Fünfschilling²⁸ and N. Crummy:²⁹ they could be lids, weights, gaming pieces, or counters/*calculi*, depending on diameter. For example, the smaller ones could serve as counting pieces while the bigger ones could rather be gaming chips, tokens, or discs.³⁰

Based on their size and position (in a small heap), the base rings in Grave J2/64 (Cat. 20, Fig. 8.15, Fig. 9.15) could be parts of a five-piece game set,³¹ together perhaps with the die and the small blue glass disc in the same grave. However, as the grave belonged to a child, one cannot rule out that the discs were some kind of counting aid or just simply toys.³² The small blue glass disc (Cat. 9, Fig. 7.4) was similar to a larger glass bead but was not perforated, indicating it was not part of the necklace

24 A similar piece is presented in DESCHLER-ERB 1998, Abb. 256.

25 GÁSPÁR 1986, Kat. 1202, Taf. 252.

26 GÁSPÁR 1986, 71.

27 DÉVAI 2016, 135–144.

28 FÜNFSCILLING 2015, 170–178.

29 Similar discs from all kinds of pottery are known across the Empire. Crummy published some from Colchester and discussed her ideas about their possible purposes. See CRUMMY 1983, 93–94.

30 DÉVAI 2019, 190.

31 For more information about Roman games and gaming equipment in the Kállay-collection (and Brigetio) see DOBOSI 2025.

32 Although a sharp piece of glass does not seem to be the most ideal object to put into the hands of a small child.



Fig. 7. Finds of Grave J2/64. 2 – Cat. 7, 3 – Cat. 8, 4 – Cat. 9, 5 – Cat. 10, 6 – Cat. 11, 8 – Cat. 13, 9 – Cat. 14, 10 – Cat. 15, 13 – Cat. 18. Cat. 16, 17 and 19 are not depicted.

in the wooden box. The blue glass object could also be a toy or token. The die (Cat. 11, Fig. 7.6) found in the grave was made of bone, has six sides, and has correctly arranged dot-circle points. Dice are regularly found in Roman graves; for example, Grave M1/6 also contained one. Besides gaming, a die could also serve as an amulet for the afterlife or have some other cultic purpose.³³

A total of 88 beads (Cat. 7–8, 15, Fig. 7.2–3, 10, Fig. 9.2) have been recovered from the remains of the box. One was a drop-shaped blueish bead still strung on a piece of bronze wire, probably from a dangling earring (Cat. 8, Fig. 7.3). Another one was a slightly bigger, bronze spherical bead (Cat. 15, Fig. 7.10), perhaps from a necklace, along with the remaining 86 glass beads (Cat. 7, Fig. 7.2, Fig. 9.2).

33 VASS – PÁNCZÉL 2009, 565.

These beads are quite diverse; they were classified into 13 categories by shape and colour, including gold-in-glass beads, long cylinder beads with a hexagonal cross-section, twisted cylinder beads, ribbed beads, biconical beads, etc.³⁴ The grave also contained a gold and some bronze clasps, links, and fragments (Cat. 10,14, Fig. 7.5,9), possibly all parts of a single, rather expensive necklace—although such a quantity of beads is enough for several pieces of jewellery (bracelets, for example). Since they were not found in a wearing position, the original number and character of the jewellery items cannot be determined, nor can it be estimated from the clasps and links.



Fig. 8. Finds of Grave J2/64. 1 – Cat. 6, 7 – Cat. 12, 15 – Cat. 20, 16 – Cat. 21.

34 Their precise typological classifications and descriptions can be found in the Catalogue.

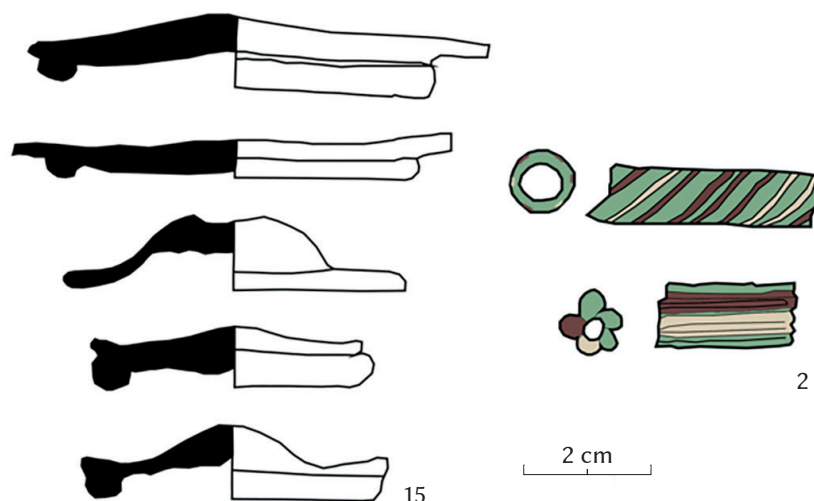


Fig. 9. Finds of Grave J2/64. 2 – Cat. 7, 15 – Cat. 20.

Besides the items in the box, the grave contained a simple bronze belt buckle, two fibulae, and two coins, but there is no information about their positions within the grave. The belt buckle (Cat. 13, Fig. 7.8) is *pelte*-shaped, with a rectangular eyelet; this type was most common in the 3rd century AD.³⁵ According to the inventory book, one of the brooches is an enamelled disc fibula (Cat. 18, Fig. 7.13), the other is a simple iron fibula (Cat. 19); both were missing for some time. Unfortunately, the iron brooch is still missing; only data on its diameter (2.8 cm) has survived. After a prolonged search, the other brooch, of the same size, was found. Based on their identical sizes, they might be worn as a pair; however, there is no data on their wearing positions. The enamelled fibula is disc-shaped, its pin is missing, and only parts of the polychrome enamel inlay survived. Concentric red circles divide its surface into three bands. The outer band is filled with ten or eleven radially arranged red squares, each filled with a 3 × 3 white and dark blue chessboard pattern; a greenish-white substance fills the space between them. The second, inner band or zone is quite fragmentary, with only scattered remains of gilded beading; traces of gilding are also visible within the beaded circle. The decoration of this field is largely incomplete, and the small central circle is also empty today, although it had likely been decorated as well. The chessboard pattern dates the disc fibula to the end of the 2nd–first half of the 3rd century AD.³⁶ The contrast is conspicuous between the expensive gilded, enamelled fibula and the (missing) iron brooch in the same grave, especially because iron fibulae are usually associated with adult men.³⁷ Although Grave J2/64 is rich, considering especially the number of finds, it contains both higher-quality and simpler, cheaper items.

The inventory mentions only one unidentifiable bronze coin from the 1st–3rd century AD (Cat. 17), but K. Bíró-Sey's 1977 publication lists another.³⁸ This second coin is supposed to be a Constans AE3 (Cat. 16) from the 4th century AD, which does not really fit the dating of the grave or the cemetery. Based on grave finds and coins, the second grave horizon lasted until the end of the 3rd century AD at the latest. Since neither the original documentation nor the inventory book mentions this

35 See analogues in OLDENSTEIN 1976, Taf. 76, Kat. 1011–1014; KOSTROMICHYOV 2016, 144, Fig. 4.C1, 147, Fig. 9.

36 RIHA 1979, 190; BÓNIS – SELLYE 1988, 29. More pieces with a similar design and enamel decoration are known from Brigetio; see SELLYE 1939, Pl. 5.21, Pl. 6.15; HNM 16.801.

37 Although T-shaped iron brooches are known from women's graves (Páty, Grave 573: MERCZI 2019, 41–42; OTTOMÁNYI 2019, 48, 30. tábla; Függelék XIV.2; Aquincum, Graphisoft Park cemetery, Grave 590: SÁRÓ 2022, 173, Kat. 6.16).

38 BÍRÓ-SEY 1977, 117, Kat. 151a–152.



Fig. 10. Items from the *crepundia* in Grave J2/64. Cat. 1–5 (HNM Archive 72.B.I.).

grave was likely more symbolic, a protective, apotropaic offering. A half coin (Cat. 40, Fig. 11.5) was found under the skeleton of the infant in Grave M1/40, an *imbrex* burial. In some cases, halved or damaged coins are added to the burial by chance, but the choice can also be deliberate. Such coins may reflect a shortage of change (for example, halving an *as* coin could quickly produce a *semis*)—coin mutilation was an unofficial way to make change. Counterfeit coins could also be cut in two to remove them from circulation, or they could also be friendship or business tokens.⁴² In summary, it cannot be determined why the coin in Grave J2/64 was halved.

L. Juhász observed several perforated and punctured coins in child graves in the Graphisoft Park cemetery of Aquincum. He has also noticed a certain concentration of coins with three perforations in the central Danube area, mainly in Pannonia and Moesia Superior. Such objects also occur in Brigetio.⁴³ Two such coins have been found in the western cemetery of the *canabae*, one in the Nagymagtár area in 1969 and the other in the Járóka cemetery unit in 1929, the area where Grave J2/64 was discovered. In Grave M1/111, a coin with three perforations (Cat. 49, Fig. 11.4) was found on the child's chest. It was a low-value, early, heavily worn coin of Claudius or Domitianus, perforated with three round holes around the emperor's head. The holes indicate reuse, where the type or value of the coin played a secondary part (if any); however, the perforations usually avoid the head.⁴⁴ A perforated coin could be a pendant, part of a bracelet or an ornament, or a toy. The number of holes usually ranges from one to three and may determine the function. A coin with a single hole could be used for any purpose, but two holes prevented it from flipping (for example, when sewn onto clothing), while a coin with three holes could be fastened even more securely.⁴⁵ The coin from Grave M1/111 could be a pendant or sewn onto a cloth or a shroud. The other coin with three holes (Cat. 1) comes from Grave J2/38, and it could be interpreted as part of a child's toy or a rattle (*crepundia*). The grave also contained two perforated shells attached to a bronze hoop (Cat. 2–3), a blue glass bead, and a chicken bone with bronze patina stains (Cat. 4–5, Fig. 11.2–3). Likely not only the seashells were strung on a hoop but also the bead, the coin, and the stained wing bone, which were all parts of the same rattle. The child could have used

4th-century AD coin in the first place, its association with Grave J2/64 seems questionable. If it indeed came from this cemetery, it was likely a stray find. The other coin, Cat. 17, is used and worn, a typical example of the use of low-value money in burial.³⁹ These coins are symbolic, '*pars pro toto*' representations of the entire wealth of the deceased or serve as *obols* to pay Charon.⁴⁰ Even when a grave, like J2/64, was furnished with relatively valuable items, the money added to it was usually almost worthless. From this perspective, death levelled the difference between rich and poor: in afterlife, everyone paid the same fee to the ferryman.⁴¹ However, in the case of children, money in the

39 JUHÁSZ 2019, 12.

40 ALFÖLDY-GÄZDAC – GÄZDAC 2009, 163–164.

41 PERASSI 1999, 47.

42 BUTTREY 1972, 31.

43 JUHÁSZ 2019, 98, Fig. 9.

44 JUHÁSZ 2019, 95.

45 DOYEN 2013, 23.

the toy during his lifetime, and after his death, the rattle received a secondary, apotropaic function.⁴⁶ *Crepundia* (or *crepitacula*) is a collective name for a bundle of various small objects that rattle, clatter, or twinkle, created to amuse and occupy children. They could be more than toys, carrying an apotropaic function, as rattling helped keep evil spirits away from the child.⁴⁷ Grave J2/80 also contained a fragmentary shell (Cat. 28, Fig. 11.1) which was previously identified as a toy, although it shows no signs of suspension. The grave also contained a beaked glass vessel, a bronze object (now missing), and two glass beads (Cat. 25–27, Fig. 12.5), about which there is not enough information to decide whether they were also parts of the child's *crepundia*.

Glass objects (mainly beads, flasks, cups, and perfume vessels) are often found in children's graves. Perfume bottles are usually linked to women's graves, but from time to time, they occur in burials of children, too. For example, Grave S2/48 contained two unique perfume vials: one shaped like a miniature *aryballos* (Cat. 29, Fig. 12.4) and another resembling an amphora (Cat. 30, Fig. 12.3). L. Barkóczi dated both to the first half of the 3rd century AD.⁴⁸ Besides glass beads and reused base rings, there is one more glass object type worth mentioning in relation to children. Beaked bottles like Cat. 38 (Fig. 12.1) and Cat. 25 (Fig. 12.5) were identified by early researchers as nursing bottles for babies. Although the origin and exact purpose of these uniquely designed glass vessels remain a question, today's research is moving away from László Barkóczi's suggestion on how the bottle with the pointed 'beak' was used.⁴⁹ The frequent occurrence of these vessels in children's graves supports his interpretation, which,

however, includes serious safety concerns. Nowadays, it has become more accepted that these vessels were used to dispense wine, water, oil, or other liquids. This vessel type, with little formal variation, was in use across the Empire, including Pannonia, between the 1st and 4th centuries AD.⁵⁰

J2/73, another child grave, contained a small, round, convex glass sheet (Cat. 24, Fig. 12.2) which can be linked to the so-called lead mirror frames. The mostly rectangular mirror frames were made

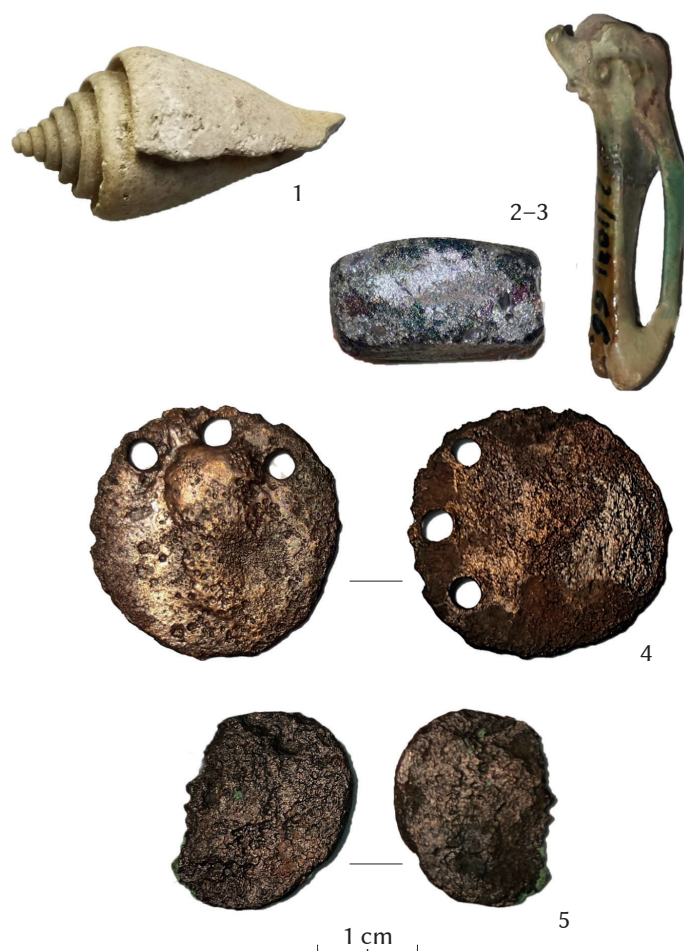


Fig. 11. Possible children's toys. 1 – Cat. 28, 2–3 – Cat. 4–5, 4 – Cat. 49, 5 – Cat. 40.g

⁴⁶ PERASSI 2011, 284–285.

⁴⁷ HORN – MARTENS 2009, 184–185.

⁴⁸ BARKÓCZI 1988, Typ. 112 (amphora-shaped) and Typ. 141 (*aryballos*).

⁴⁹ BARKÓCZI 1988, 126.

⁵⁰ DÉVAI 2012, 49–50.



Fig. 12. Glass vessels from child graves. 1 – Cat. 38, 2 – Cat. 24, 3–4 – Cat. 29–30, 5 – Cat. 25.

of lead, had one large and multiple smaller holes for glass plates, and were usually decorated with nautical and ornamental motifs. Because of their size and design, lead mirror frames of this kind and similar types were not used as actual mirrors but rather as symbolic objects in a funerary context.⁵¹ Lead mirrors replaced previous mirror types made from more expensive metals.⁵² Most lead mirror frames known from Pannonia come from cemeteries, mostly from graves dated to the 3rd and 4th centuries AD. The convex glass sheet in Grave 73 was found next to the head of the deceased, without a frame, demonstrating the magical, otherworldly qualities of mirrors.⁵³

51 OTTOMÁNYI 2016, 194.

52 BÓZSA – SZABÓ 2014, 199.

53 BÓZSA 2012, 36–37.

Besides the glass bottles (Cats 29–30, Fig. 12.3–4), Grave S2/48 included an amber object (Cat. 32, Fig. 13.3) and an incomplete bronze bracelet. The amber object is small, fragmentary, flat, and hollow, resembling a small glass perfume flask. By its size, it could be a large amber bead, but it is not completely drilled through. Alternatively, it could be an amber amulet with a missing suspension part. Although amber was a rare and expensive material, it is not surprising to find it in children's graves, as Pliny the Elder describes that, in addition to its decorative and healing effects, amber is good for babies when placed as an amulet next to them.⁵⁴ Amber in Pannonia arrived via trade along the Amber Road; its general scarcity in burial contexts suggests that only the affluent could afford it.



Fig. 13. Amulets, jewellery, and other accessories from child graves. 1 – Cat. 34, 2 – Cat. 35, 3 – Cat. 32, 4–5 – Cat. 41–42.

⁵⁴ Plin, *Nat. Hist.* 37.XII.50.

Amulets were often placed in children's graves as tokens of care and protection in the afterlife. The most common amulet type in child burials is the *bullā*. *Bullae* were usually made of bronze, rarely of silver or gold, and worn around the neck, as depicted in several statues.⁵⁵ They are oblate spherical capsules with a single ear for suspension, and sometimes encased different apotropaic inscriptions or botanical or other organic remains. The child in Grave S2/132 was buried with two bronze *bullae* between the feet (Cat. 34, Fig. 13.1). Such amulets appeared in Pannonia in the 2nd century AD and became common in the 3rd century AD.⁵⁶ The pieces found in grave contexts come almost exclusively from burials of children or women.⁵⁷ They were traditionally given to newborns, first as marks of civic rank and later as amulets. Once the boys reached adolescence and put on the *toga virilis*, they placed their old *bullae* on the household altar (*lararium*). Although it is commonly assumed that girls usually took off their *bullae* upon marriage, the many *bullae* found in women's graves call this into question, as it seems unlikely that so many women remained unmarried.⁵⁸ In addition to amulets and necklaces, children's graves sometimes contain other jewellery, such as bracelets, bangles, small rings, and beads. Grave S2/157 was disturbed; only an arm remained intact with a quite small (only 3.6 cm in diameter), fragmentary bronze wire bracelet (Cat. 35, Fig. 13.2).

Grave M1/59 is interesting both for its size and find assemblage. The grave pit measures 0.6 × 1.2 m—smaller than that of a typical adult's but bigger than a child's grave. Based on that—since the bones were not preserved—the deceased was likely young, maybe an adolescent. The burial was intact, and the grave goods remained in a primary position, thus indicating the original body position of the skeleton. Two perforated dog teeth (Cat. 41, Fig. 13.4), possibly protective amulets, were found at the neck of the child.⁵⁹ Wearing objects of animal origin as amulets is a Celtic custom, and dogs are primarily associated with guarding and protection. The dog was also a symbol of death and healing in the ancient world, where Kerberos, the three-headed dog, guarded the entrance to the underworld.⁶⁰ L. Pauli observed that the use of apotropaic objects is continuous but tends to increase during times of crisis.⁶¹ Grave S2/132 contained a dog skull; the mourners had put the animal's head next to the feet of the child. Unfortunately, the skull's exact position was not marked in the grave survey, and it was not included in the inventory either; nevertheless, its apotropaic function seems correctly assumed. Grave M1/59, mentioned above, also contained a strange, rather fragmentary object (Cat. 42, Fig. 13.5), originally identified as a knife or dagger. The numerous fragments belong to a 28 cm-long, narrow rod with an iron core in a sheet-bronze cover, each end capped by a slightly widening sphere. Most of the bronze coating broke off; only one section shows how the sheets were originally fastened to the iron core. The object is too thin and long to be a knife. It was found in the area of the left arm—probably that is why it was identified as a knife. As of yet, its purpose remained to be determined. The grave also included iron pins and hoops—likely from a horse harness—in the foot area. Based on the grave finds, the older child was probably a boy.

Summary

The western cemetery of Brigetio's military town included 85 child burials, of which this paper focused on the richest, most special, and significant ones to use them as examples to illustrate common and unusual types of child burials and grave find assemblages. It must be emphasised that this

55 Louvre: inv. Br. 17, INV 648; inv. MR 337; inv. MR 338; inv. MNE 845; inv. MR 349.

56 SZILÁGYI 2005, 151–152.

57 R. FACSÁDY 2009, 63.

58 SZILÁGYI 2005, 155.

59 Similar items are known from Augusta Raurica, see DESCHLER-ERB 1998, 27, 390, Taf. 38.3977.

60 TOYNBEE 1971, 108.

61 PAULI 1975, 207–210.

dataset is incomplete, representing the first main phase of the related research. Almost all discussed child burials were simple pit graves, save for three outstanding *imbrex* burials. Most graves were unfurnished or held only a modest assemblage. Grave J2/64 is the most outstanding in terms of the number and the quality of additions—the gaming set and the jewellery attest to the wealthy background of the interred child. Graves M1/59 and J2/38, with the dogteeth amulets and the *crepundia*, respectively, are also worth mentioning. Usual additions to the rest of the child graves include pottery, glassware, jewellery, and coins. *Bullae*, which are quite specific to children's burials, also occur in the examined cemetery part.

Catalogue of the discussed child graves

'Járóka' cemetery (J2) – I. Paulovics, 1929

Grave J2/38. Undisturbed inhumation burial. Orientation N–S; depth: 130 cm. Grave finds: 1. Bronze coin of Traian, with three perforations (HNM 2.1931.63) (Fig. 10). Found in the child's hand. Lost, survived in a photo. 2. Perforated shell on a bronze hoop (HNM 2.1932.64) (Fig. 10). Found in the foot area. Lost, survived in a photo. 3. Perforated shell on a bronze hoop (HNM 2.1932.65) (Fig. 10). Found in the foot area. Lost, survived in a photo. 4. Chicken bone (HNM 2.1931.66) (Fig. 10, Fig. 11.3) Wing bone with traces of green patina, originally perhaps attached to or lying near a bronze ring. Found in the foot area of the grave. Length: 3.7 cm. 5. Glass bead (HNM 2.1931.67) (Fig. 10, Fig. 11.2) Dark blue, polyhedral glass bead with square cross-section and diamond-shaped facets. Found in the foot area of the grave. 1 × 1 cm, length: 1.9 cm, type: Tempelmann-Maczyńska, Gruppe XIV, Typ. 126v.⁶²

Grave J2/41. Undisturbed inhumation burial of a child laid to rest between two 45 cm-long *imbrex* tiles. Orientation: E–W; depth: 100 cm. Unfurnished.

Grave J2/64. Inhumation burial disturbed by a modern grain storage pit. With remains of a wooden box reinforced with iron nails (Cat. 21) found under the head of the skeleton, containing the bases of glass beakers (Cat. 20), a key (Cat. 6), and beads (Cat. 7 and 8). Orientation: S–N; depth: 75 cm. Grave finds: 1. Bronze key (HNM 2.1931.104) (Fig. 8.1) Intact bronze key with a flat, flared bit with a large hole and a perpendicular, notched, rectangular, rod-shaped bow. 6.3 × 2 cm. Thickness: 0.3–0.9 cm, type: Gáspár Typ. IV.a'3'.⁶³ 2. String of 86 beads (HNM 2.1931.105) (Fig. 7.2) Glass beads in different shapes and colours: A. long, green-ribbed bead with a flower-shaped cross-section, comprising six threads. 1.1 × 1 cm, length: 1.7 cm, type: Tempelmann-Maczyńska, Gruppe XVIII, Typ. 183;⁶⁴ B. long, green-red ribbed bead, with flower-shaped cross section, comprising four green and two red threads. 1.9 × 1 cm, length: 2.2 cm, type: Tempelmann-Maczyńska, Gruppe XVIII, Typ. 183v;⁶⁵ C. 2 long, green, cylindrical beads with twisted red and white stripes. Diameter: 0.8 cm, length: 3–3.3 cm, type: Tempelmann-Maczyńska, Gruppe XXII, Typ. 304v;⁶⁶ D. three merged, amorphous, off-white spherical beads. Diameter: 0.3–0.5 cm, length: 0.8 cm; E. ten segmented and spherical gold-in-glass beads. 0.2–0.3 cm, length: 0.3–0.8 cm, type: Tempelmann-Maczyńska, Gruppe XIX, Typ. 387;⁶⁷ F. twenty big greenish blue spherical beads. Diameter: 0.3–0.4 cm, length: 0.3 cm, type: Tempelmann-Maczyńska, Gruppe I, Typ. 4a;⁶⁸ G. seventeen small greenish-blue spherical beads. Diameter: 0.3 cm, length: 0.2 cm, type: Tempelmann-Maczyńska, Gruppe I, Typ. 20;⁶⁹ H. two red, ribbed spherical beads. Diameter: 0.3 cm, length: 0.3 cm, type: Tempelmann-Maczyńska, Gruppe XVIII, Typ. 158v;⁷⁰ I. purple, spherical bead. Diameter: 0.4 cm, length: 0.3 cm, type: Tempelmann-Maczyńska, Gruppe I, Typ. 3;⁷¹ J. fourteen green, flat, biconical

62 TEMPELMANN-MACZYŃSKA 1985, 37.

63 GÁSPÁR 1986, 61.

64 TEMPELMANN-MACZYŃSKA 1985, 39.

65 TEMPELMANN-MACZYŃSKA 1985, 39.

66 TEMPELMANN-MACZYŃSKA 1985, 52.

67 TEMPELMANN-MACZYŃSKA 1985, 64.

68 TEMPELMANN-MACZYŃSKA 1985, 27.

69 TEMPELMANN-MACZYŃSKA 1985, 27.

70 TEMPELMANN-MACZYŃSKA 1985, 39.

71 TEMPELMANN-MACZYŃSKA 1985, 27.

beads. Diameter: 0.5 cm, length: 0.2 cm, type: Tempelmann-Maczyńska, Gruppe IV, Typ. 70;⁷² K. nine white, ribbed, spherical beads. Diameter: 0.4 cm, length: 0.3 cm, type: Tempelmann-Maczyńska, Gruppe XVIII, Typ. 155;⁷³ L. three white spherical beads. Diameter: 0.4 cm, length: 0.3 cm, type: Tempelmann-Maczyńska, Gruppe I, Typ. 1;⁷⁴ M. five blue, ribbed, spherical beads. Diameter: 0.4 cm, length: 0.3 cm, type: Tempelmann-Maczyńska, Gruppe XVIII, Typ. 162.⁷⁵ 2. Earrings (HNM 2.1931.106) (Fig. 7.3). A drop-shaped dark blue glass bead strung on a piece of thin bronze wire, perhaps part of an earring. Bead: 0.2–0.7 cm, length: 1.2 cm, wire diameter: 0.1 cm, length: 1.5 cm. 3. Glass disc (HNM 2.1931.107) (Fig. 7.4). Fragment of a flat, bluish green glass disc. Diameter: 1.7 cm, height: 0.6 cm. 4. Gold chain link (HNM 2.1931.108) (Fig. 7.5). Tiny, thin, open hoop made of flattened gold wire, perhaps part of the bead necklace. 0.4 × 0.6 cm, thickness: 0.003 cm. 5. Bone die (HNM 2.1931.109) (Fig. 7.6). Almost regular bone die cube with dot-circle numbers in a standard layout. 0.7 × 0.7 × 0.6 cm. 6. Fragments of furniture hinge (HNM 2.1931.110) (Fig. 8.7). Probably a box hinge fragment; profiled, made of carved bone. A thin, fragmentary bone spike is inserted into its bottom. Hinge ornament: 1.1 × 2.8 cm; rod: 2.4 × 0.3 cm, dating: second half of the 1st–first half of the 3rd century AD.⁷⁶ 7. Bronze belt buckle with a *pelte* frame (HNM 2.1931.111) (Fig. 7.8). Openwork bronze belt buckle with a *pelte*-shaped frame, the ends of which curl inward on the two sides of the bar. Instead of a buckle plate, a widening, openwork, trapezoid eye with a T-shaped perforation is attached to the other side of the bar. 3.3 × 2.8 cm, thickness: 0.2 cm, type: Kostromichyov Variant C1.⁷⁷ 8. Four bronze rings or chain links (HNM 2.1931.112) (Fig. 7.9). Small bronze rings and fragments, probably chain links. Two whole, open hoops and two fragmentary pieces. Diameter: 0.7–0.8 cm, thickness: 1–1.5 cm. 9. Bronze bead (HNM 2.1931.113) (Fig. 7.10). Thick, large, cylindrical bronze bead. Diameter: 1.2 cm, length: 0.7 cm, type: Riha Gruppe 11.8.⁷⁸ 10. *AE3 follis* from the 4th century AD (not listed in the inventory book). Constans *centenionalis*, Siscia. Type: LRBC 1128. RIC VIII 232, dating: AD 346–350.⁷⁹ 11. Bronze coin (HNM 2.1931.114). Heavily worn. Dating: 1st–3rd century AD.⁸⁰ 12. Enamelled disc fibula (HNM 2.1931.115) (Fig. 7.13). The enamelled fibula is disc-shaped, its pin is missing, and only parts of the polychrome enamel inlay survived. Concentric red circles divide its surface into three bands. The outer band is filled with ten or eleven radially arranged red squares, each filled with a 3 × 3 white-and-dark-blue chessboard pattern; a greenish-white substance fills the space between them. The second, inner band or zone is quite fragmentary, featuring scarce remains of gilded beading; traces of gilding are also visible within the dotted line. The decoration of this field is largely incomplete, and the small central circle is also empty today, although it was likely also decorated once, perhaps with enamel or gemstone inlay. Diameter: 2.8 cm, thickness: 0.15 cm, type: Berecz IIA/1a,⁸¹ dating: 1st–3rd century AD. 13. Iron fibula, lost (HNM 2.1931.116). Heavily corroded iron disc(?) fibula. Diameter: 2.8 cm. 14. Glass base rings and bottom fragments from five different glass vessels (HNM 2.1931.117) (Fig. 8.15, Fig. 9.15). Glass discs, originally ring bases of vessels, likely reused as toys: A. slightly indented base disc of a glass green, bubbly vessel, with a chamfered side and a pontil mark on the exterior. Diameter: 6.3 cm; B. colourless, slightly greenish, flat base disc of a vessel, with chipped side and a pontil mark. Diameter: 5.8 cm; C. colourless, curved, indented base fragment of a slightly bubbly glass beaker, with a pontil mark on the exterior and the attachment site of the wall on the interior. Diameter: 5.5 cm; D. slightly indented base disc of a glass green vessel, with chipped side and a pontil mark on the exterior. D: 4.6 cm; E. indented, conical base disc of a slightly greenish beaker with a pontil mark on the exterior. Diameter: 4.4 cm. 15. Seven iron nails (HNM 2.1931.118) (Fig. 8.16). Round, flat-headed iron nails in various sizes; corroded. Found by the head of the deceased, they probably belong to a wooden box of 25 × 25 cm.

Grave J2/73. Undisturbed inhumation burial. Orientation: E–W; depth: 160 cm. Grave finds: 1. Grey slipped beaker (HNM 2.1931.123), perhaps a *Pannonische Glanztonware* beaker found at the feet of the deceased; missing. Diameter: 3.2 cm, height: 9.5 cm. 2. Bronze earring (HNM 2.1931.123a). A pair of bronze wire earrings with three glass beads; missing. 3. Glass fragment (HNM 2.1931.124) (Fig. 12.2). Thin, convex, circular glass

72 TEMPELMANN-MACZYŃSKA 1985, 31.

73 TEMPELMANN-MACZYŃSKA 1985, 39.

74 TEMPELMANN-MACZYŃSKA 1985, 27.

75 TEMPELMANN-MACZYŃSKA 1985, 39.

76 DESCHLER-ERB 1998, 182.

77 KOSTROMICHYOV 2016, 144.

78 RIHA 1990, 85.

79 BÍRÓ-SEY 1977, 152.

80 BÍRÓ-SEY 1977, 153.

81 BEREZ 2008, 117–118.

sheet found at the head of the deceased; missing. It could be part of a mirror frame. Diameter: 3.2 cm, thickness: 0.03 cm.

Grave J2/80. Undisturbed inhumation burial. Orientation: E–W; depth: 150 cm. Grave finds: 1. Glass vessel with a beak (HNM 2.1931.128) (Fig. 12.5). Free-blown, green, bubbly, spherical glass bottle with a tapered beak on one side. The tip of the beak broke off. The vessel has a cylindrical neck, a funnel lip, and an outward-folded rim. Its shape is uneven, slightly deformed, and dented. Diameter (rim): 3.3 cm, (base): 5 cm, height: 9 cm, type: Dévai E4.⁸² 2. Bronze cap (HNM 2.1931.129), fragmented; missing. 3. Two glass beads (HNM 2.1931.130), a smaller and a larger one; missing. 4. Snail shell (HNM 2.1931.131) (Fig. 11.1). Conical snail shell, likely a child's toy; fragmented. 3.5 × 1.2 cm.

‘Sörházkert’ cemetery (S2) – A. Radnóti, 1946

Grave S2/48. Undisturbed inhumation burial, poorly preserved. Orientation: S–N; grave pit: 40 × 100 cm; depth: 130 cm. Grave finds: 1. Glass perfume bottle (HNM 2.1946.176) (Fig. 12.3). Small glass *aryballos* with a long cylindrical neck and a horizontal, flared, rounded rim. The dolphin-shaped handles are different in size. Found at the right hand of the deceased. Diameter (rim): 1.4 cm, (base): 1.3 cm, handle: 0.2–0.4 cm, height: 3.5 cm. Type/literature: Barkóczi 1988, Typ. 141, Kat. 362; dating: first half of the 3rd century AD. 2. Glass perfume bottle (HNM 2.1946.177) (Fig. 12.4). Small, off-white, elongated amphora made of bubbly glass; with a cylindrical neck, a rounded, horizontal rim, and a slightly indented base; slightly deformed. Found at the right hand of the deceased. Diameter (rim): 1.8 cm, (base): 1.8 cm, height: 8.4 cm. Type/literature: Barkóczi 1988, Typ. 112, Kat. 279 (published with an incorrect inventory number);⁸³ dating: unique piece from the first half of the 3rd century AD. 3. Bronze bracelet (HNM 2.1946.178). Half of a bronze wire bracelet with a flattened and flared end, found on the left hand of the deceased; missing. 4. Amber amulet (HNM 2.1946.179) (Fig. 13.3). Small hollow amber vessel resembling a glass bottle, possibly an amulet or a large bead. Its body is flat, slightly faceted oval, with a tapered, long neck, part of which broke off. 5.2 × 3.5 cm, thickness: 0.7 × 2.7 cm.

Grave S2/132. Undisturbed inhumation burial with a sidewall niche on the southern side. The skeleton is quite poorly preserved. A dog skull was found in the foot area. Orientation: E–W; grave pit: 50 × 110 cm; depth: 280 cm. Grave finds: 1. Four iron nails, probably from the coffin, were found in the corners of the grave. Not inventoried, survived only in a drawing. 2. Two bronze *bullae* (HNM 2.1946.227) (Fig. 13.1). Only one remained; the other survived only in drawing. The surviving piece is a thin, round, enclosed bronze *bulla* with a chipped rim and a suspension loop; its backplate is fragmented. The two *bullae* were found between the legs of the deceased. 2.5 × 2.7 cm, height: 1 cm; dating: 2nd century AD.⁸⁴

Grave S2/157. Disturbed inhumation burial; only one arm remained intact. Depth: 130 cm. Grave finds: 1. Bronze bracelet (HNM 2.1946.234) (Fig. 13.2). Small bronze wire bracelet with a simple loop-and-hook lock, of which the hook broke off. Made of oval-profile wire, tapered and flattened towards the ends. Diameter: 3.6 cm, thickness: 0.1–0.3 cm, type: Facsády III,⁸⁵ dating: 3rd century AD.

Grave S2/169. Non-disturbed child inhumation burial with poorly preserved remains, between two 40 cm long *imbrex* tiles. Unfurnished. Orientation: E–W, 25 × 40 cm. Depth: 40 cm.

Grave S2/175. Undisturbed inhumation burial, poorly preserved. Orientation: N–S; grave pit: 50 × 100 cm; depth: 120 cm. Grave finds: 1. Coarse grey cup (HNM 12.1951.66). Pear-shaped, with a coarse surface; found next to the right foot. Diameter (rim): 7.2 cm, (base): 3.8 cm, height: 11.9 cm. 2. Bronze bracelet found on the left hand of the deceased. Not inventoried, survived only in a drawing. 3. Beaked glass vessel (HNM 2.1946.241) (Fig. 12.1). Free-blown, greenish, transparent, bubbly, spherical glass bottle with a conical beak on one side (its tip broke off), a cylindrical neck, and a horizontal, inward-folded, rounded rim. Found by the left side of the head. Diameter (rim): 4.1 cm, (base): 5.4 cm, height: 9.7 cm, type: Dévai E4,⁸⁶ literature: BARKÓCZI 1968, Kat. Nr. 11/d.

82 DÉVAI 2012, 214.

83 Barkóczi published the item under inventory number 2.1946.165; however, based on the available drawing and data on its dimensions, it can be identified with certainty as Inv. no. 2.1965.177 in the HNM collection, while the other number (2.1946.165) refers to a grey pot (GÁTFALVI-DELBÓ 2019, Kat. 55).

84 R. FACSÁDY 2009, 63.

85 R. FACSÁDY 2009, 46.

86 DÉVAI 2012, 214.

'Nagymagtár' cemetery (M1) – E. Bíró, 1969

Grave M1/40. Undisturbed inhumation burial; the child was laid to rest between two *imbrex* tiles. Orientation: S–N; depth: 120 cm. Grave finds: 1. Iron hoop (KDM 79.40.1). Fragmentary, corroded, thick iron hoop, perhaps a buckle or a snaffle. Diameter: 6.1 cm; literature: OLASZ 2020, Kat. 51. 2. Half of a bronze coin (KDM 79.87.1) (Fig. 11.5). Heavily burnt; its obverse depicts perhaps a female member of the imperial family. Weight: 2.09 g, 2 × 1.5 cm, dating: 2nd century AD (based on size), literature: OLASZ 2020, Kat. 223.

Grave M1/59. Undisturbed inhumation burial, the skeleton was completely dissolved. The pottery and animal bone fragments found in a layer at a depth of 60 cm, i.e. 60 cm above the skeleton level, may be remains of a post-funeral ritual. The phenomenon is only mentioned in the field notes; the items have not been inventoried. Orientation: E–W; depth: 120 cm. Grave finds: 1. Pair of dogtooth amulets (KDM 79.52.1) (Fig. 13.4). Two perforated and polished dog canines, likely pendants or amulets. Length: 6.8–7 cm, literature: OLASZ 2020, Kat. 81. 2. Long rod with an iron core and bronze coating (KDM 79.52.2) (Fig. 13.5). Long iron object with a round-profile rod core ending in two bigger spheres, in a bronze sheet cover; very fragmented, heavily corroded. Length: 28 cm, diameter: 0.4–0.8 cm, literature: OLASZ 2020, Kat. 82. 3. Iron hoop (KDM 79.52.3). Large iron hoop with a hinged joint that broke off. It could have been a snaffle. 4.5 × 5 cm, hinge: 7.5 × 1.5 cm, thickness: 1–1.2 cm, literature: OLASZ 2020, Kat. 83. 4. Iron nails (KDM 79.52.4). Large, flat-headed iron nails; heavily burnt. Length: 5–9 cm, literature: OLASZ 2020, Kat. 84.

Grave M1/88. Undisturbed inhumation burial, poorly preserved. Orientation: S–N; depth: 130 cm. Grave finds: 1. Glass cup (KDM 79.68.1). Off-white, transparent, slightly bubbly, hemispherical glass cup with a slightly flared rim, a slightly indented base, and two incised lines under the rim. Diameter (rim): 8.6 cm, (base): 5 cm, height: 6 cm, type: Dévai P5.2⁸⁷; Rütti AR 40/60.1, dating: before the mid-3rd century AD,⁸⁸ Literature: OLASZ 2020, Kat. 132. 2. Glass cup (KDM 79.68.2). Missing, survived only in drawing. Might have been similar to the other glass cup from the grave (Cat. 45). Literature: OLASZ 2020, Kat. 133. 3. Bronze hoop (KDM 79.68.3). Missing, marked only in the grave survey. Literature: OLASZ 2020, Kat. 134.

Grave M1/111. Undisturbed inhumation burial. Orientation: E–W; depth: 190 cm. Grave finds: 1. Self-coloured jug (KDM 79.76.1). Porous, yellow, round jug with a ribbon handle, made of gravel-tempered clay. It has a collared, profiled rim with two ridges and a pair of ribs along the handle. Diameter (rim): 4.4 cm, (base): 7.1 cm, height: 21.5 cm, literature: OLASZ 2020, Kat. 144. 2. Bronze coin with three perforations (KDM 79.76.2) (Fig. 11.4). Heavily burnt bronze coin with three holes. Probably of Claudius or Domitian. Weight: 4.22 g, 2.5 × 2.7 cm, literature: OLASZ 2020, Kat. 145.

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