

## Editorial

### What to do in the future ?

In the past 8 years the activity of the *Instrumentum* association has focussed on the regular production of the Bulletin, the publishing of the Monographies series, the organizing of international meetings and work on the project CRAETS. Is that sufficient ?

Would new activities increase its importance and help achieve our main aims : to enlarge and deepen our knowledge of ancient crafts ?

First of all, new countries will soon be joining the existing members, e. g. Hungary, Serbia, Macedonia, Greece.

Next, because the Bulletin facilitates only the publication of notices, brief reports and short articles, the foundation of an *Instrumentum* Journal with an international editorial committee would be most welcome. Also, to create indispensable resource foundations for all kinds of scientific research the production of *Instrumentum*

Corpora would be essential. Such projects can nowadays be realized **only** on the international level and *Instrumentum* with its net-like organization could be a qualified promoter of them. Wouldn't everyone of us be very satisfied if, in the not very distant future, we had at our disposal e. g. the catalogues of all Roman gladii or medical instruments with a special emphasis on the find contexts, literary sources and representations ?

In addition, the foundation of an *Instrumentum* Library in some nice little place in the centre of Europe would highly stimulate and facilitate *Instrumentum* studies. We could start so that each member would donate books, written or edited by him, and his off-prints consecrated to *Instrumentum* themes. We could also enlarge the *Instrumentum* website with a bank of important older articles on all *Instrumentum* themes, published mostly in the 19th and the first half of the 20th century AD. Obtaining copies of them from colleagues or libraries costs a lot of time and money.

As our knowledge is constantly increasing we would be making a fatal error not to create the opportunity to transfer it to **younger** colleagues from all *Instrumentum* countries. An *Instrumentum*


Summer School would be the best solution. And, finally, to stimulate quality, the foundation of an *Instrumentum* Award for the authors of the best recent works would be justified.

Dragan Božič  
Vice-President, Slovenia

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### Estampilles sur amphores catalanes inédites ou peu connues



Cette étude, fondée sur le mobilier du site de la Nautique à Narbonne (Aude) et de quelques autres sites proches, vient compléter les travaux déjà publiés sur les estampilles sur amphores catalanes. Quatorze marques sont présentées et comparées aux découvertes plus ou moins anciennes. Si quelques-unes restent inédites (comme EVTICE[?]) ou peu connues (comme C. IVLI ANTI [?]), d'autres connaissent des parallèles essentiellement en Aquitaine, dans la vallée du Rhône et dans des régions méditerranéennes. Des lieux de production sont proposés pour certaines amphores estampillées : ainsi, la marque Q. POMPEI pourrait venir d'un atelier catalan, Calafell (Baix Pénèdes).

Pierre Abauzit (p. 24)

### A Roman grave with writing implements from Ljubljana (SI)

In 1980 Ljudmila Plesničar published a Roman grave, discovered to the south-east of the colony of Emona (modern Ljubljana) along the road leading towards the municipium Nevioudunum (modern Drnovo near Krško). The grave inventory included among others a marble casket, two iron and four bone objects, explained by the author as a chopping-knife, a bone pin, a bone tube, an iron adze and two bone spatulae. The last three can be identified as a fragmented iron wax spatula, a bone strip terminating in a perforated tab, probably a ruler, and a bone knife resembling modern paper knives. Roman bone or ivory knives, in form very close to iron-bladed pen-knives, are extremely rare. Apart from the knife from Ljubljana, two others have been found in graves associated with writing and measuring instruments.

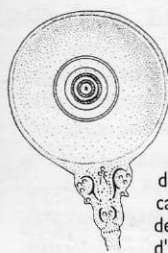
Dragan Božič (p. 33)

### Reconstitution de deux tours de tabletier gallo-romains ...

Suite à la découverte sur le site gallo-romain d'Aregenua (Vieux-la-Romaine) des vestiges d'un atelier de tabletterie, la reconstitution des outils de fabrication d'objets (en particulier de jetons et d'épingles) a été entreprise, en collaboration avec le Service départemental de l'archéologie du Calvados.

Jean Ladjadj (p. 18)

### Vaisselle en bronze d'une tombe gallo-romaine précoce ...



Les cinq puisoirs découverts dans une tombe de Roquemaure, il y a deux siècles, constituent un jalon important dans l'histoire de la vaisselle romaine en bronze : ils appartiennent en effet à une période charnière, entre la fin des productions italo-étrusques et le début de la grande époque des bronziers campaniens. Datable du début du I<sup>er</sup> s. de notre ère, ils ont pu sortir d'ateliers d'Italie septentrionale, qui restent à localiser.

Michel Feugère (p. 22)

### The Piddington Gladiator Clasp Knife

A clasp-knife handle found at Piddington, UK, is in the form of one of the most naturalistic and detailed gladiator images from the country. It shows a *secutor*, with visor-helmet, sword and shield of standard legionary type, and quilted padding on the sword arm and left leg. His sword and shield are held in the normal attacking position as if he is ready to fight. The knife blade is also complete, and has two small copper-alloy rings set into the surface. The context in which the knife was found is dated c AD 200-50.



Ralph Jackson, Roy Friendship-Taylor (p. 24)

### Un premier médaillon en bois de cerf ...

La découverte d'un médaillon en bois de cerf dans la villa gallo-romaine de Vareilles à Paulhan (Hérault) contribue à revoir la répartition géographique de ces amulettes jusque-là connues essentiellement dans les régions septentrionales des Gaules, également en Bretagne romaine, en Germanie et en Suisse.

Pierre Abauzit (p. 37)

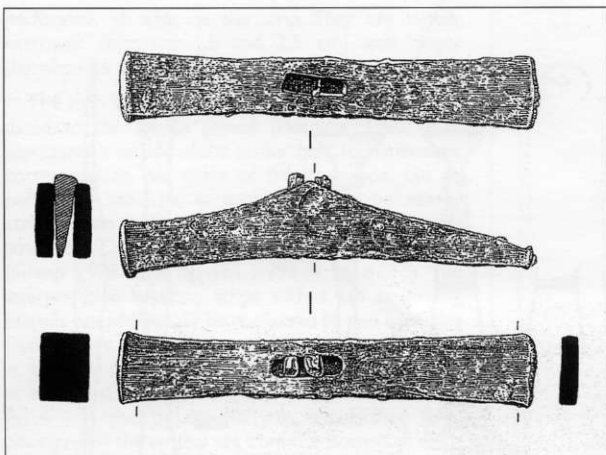


Fig. 6 — Zeithain (d'ap. Spehr 2002).

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Feugère 1986 : M. Feugère, Autres objets non céramiques. In : J.-L. Fiches, *Les maisons gallo-romaines d'Ambrussum (Villetelle, Hérault). La fouille du secteur IV, 1976-1980* (D.A.F., 5). Paris, 1986, 96-110.

Fiches 1986 : J.-L. Fiches, *Les maisons gallo-romaines d'Ambrussum (Villetelle, Hérault). La fouille du secteur IV, 1976-1980* (D.A.F., 5). Paris, 1986.

Harnecker 1997 : J. Harnecker, *Katalog der Eisenfunde von Haltern aus der Grabungen der Jahre 1949-1994* (Bodenalt. Westfalen 35), Mainz, 1997.

Lebeaupin 1999 : D. Lebeaupin, Évolution d'un groupe d'habitations du IV<sup>e</sup> siècle dans l'îlot 27. In : M. Py (dir.), *Recherches sur les quatrième siècle avant notre ère à Lattes (Lattara 12)*. Lattes, 1999, 129-170.

Py 1992 : M. Py, Meules d'époque protohistorique et romaine provenant de Lattes. In : M. Py (dir.), *Recherches sur l'économie vivrière des Lattareses (Lattara 5)*. Lattes, 1992, 183-232.

Raux 1999 : S. Raux, Les objets de la vie quotidienne à Lattes au IV<sup>e</sup> siècle avant notre ère. In : M. Py (dir.), *Recherches sur les quatrième siècle avant notre ère à Lattes (Lattara 12)*. Lattes, 1999, 439-518.

Reille 2000 : J.-L. Reille, L'apparition des meules rotatives en Languedoc oriental (IV<sup>e</sup> s. av. J.-C.) d'après l'étude du site de Lattes. *Gallia* 57, 2000, 261-272.

Spehr 2002 : R. Spehr, Neue steinzeitliche und germanische Funde an der Elbe um Nünchritz. *Heimatkalendar für die Großenhainer Pflege* 6, 2002, 61-68.

## A Roman grave with writing implements from Ljubljana (SI)

D. Božič

Over the last three years Roman wax spatulae have been the subject of three articles, published in this journal (Feugère, Giovannini 2000 ; Crummy 2001 ; Božič 2001b). Wax spatulae of different types being a rather rare find in Slovenia, every new example is important, especially when it comes from a complex which can give us additional data regarding the dating and the associated finds.

Up until now only four have been found. Two spatulae of Feugère's variant A1 were found in two graves in Ljubljana, one in grave 639 of the northern necropolis of the Roman colony of Emona (Nowotny 1908 - fig. 1) and one in the grave discussed below. On the site of the third Mithraeum at Ptuj (Roman colony of Poetovio) a bronze handle of the A4a variant (Božič 2001b) was excavated (Mikl Curk 1976, 56, no. 5, a, 100, no. 7931; Žižek 2001, 130, pl. 24 : 5 - fig. 3 : 1). A hitherto unpublished iron double wax spatula of the B2 variant is included among the finds deriving from the cemetery of Ljubljanska cesta at Novo mesto, which was explored in 1890 and the grave inventories of which can only partly be reconstructed (Narodni muzej Slovenije in Ljubljana, inv. no. R 1448 - fig. 3 : 2). It should be noted that a bronze inkwell of Biebrich type was also found in the same cemetery (Božič 2001d, 31, fig. 2).

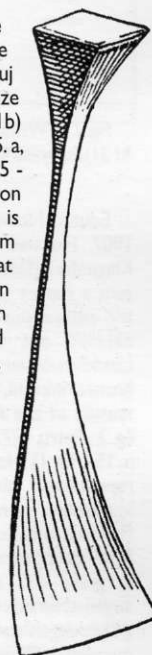


Fig. 1 — Iron wax spatula of variant A1 from grave 639 of the northern necropolis of Emona, published by Nowotny in 1908 (scale 1/2).

The triangular iron blade from the grave of Dolenjska cesta (fig. 2 : 1) was interpreted by Plesničar (1980, 461, fig. 3 : 3) as a chisel-like adze. Its upper and lower end are broken off. The fragment is 9,3 cm high. In my opinion, the blade represents a wax spatula of Feugère's variant A1. In the recent works on Roman wax spatulae we can regularly read the opinion (Boon 1991, 32, n. 79 ; Paffgen 1992, 245, n. 10 ; Franken 1994, 312, n. 6 ; Feugère 1995, 321, n. 1 ; Faust 1998, 105, n. 20 ; Amrein, Duvauchelle 1999, 335, n. 260 ; Feugère, Giovannini 2000, 35) that Wolfgang Gaitzsch was the first who recognized the real functions of this kind of implement (Gaitzsch 1980, 17 ; Gaitzsch 1984, 201 ; Gaitzsch 1985, 167).

In fact, one of its functions (to smooth over whole pages of writing on wax tablets) was known before 1900. Guhl and Koner (1893, 338, fig. 452 : b) identified the spatula appearing beside a set of wax tablets on a wall painting from Pompeii, known of since the 1<sup>st</sup> 8<sup>th</sup> century (Gaitzsch 1984, 206, no. 3, fig. 2), as an instrument probably used to smooth the wax coat of a tablet evenly in one move ("Das ... abgebildete Falzbein ... diente wahrscheinlich dazu, um den Wachsüberzug der Tafel mit einemale gleichmässig zu ebenen"). They called it Falzbein (Engl. folder/paperknife), obviously because this term was used by Overbeck and Mau for the same instrument depicted on the other well-known painting from Pompeii with the motif of *instrumentum scriptorium*, that is the one from the house of M. Lucretius (Overbeck, Mau 1884, 314, fig. 169). It is true that the term Falzbein was not appropriate, Falzbein being a bone instrument of a bookbinder in shape of a pointed strip (cf. Brockhaus *Enzyklopädie*, 17. Aufl., 1968, s. v. falzen and Gaitzsch 1980, 286, n. 33), but the purpose was correctly determined.

### Vereinsgründung :

## "Europäische Vereinigung zur Förderung der Experimentellen Archäologie" (European Association for the advancement of archaeology by experiment), kurz "exar" genannt

1990 hat das Landesmuseum für Natur und Mensch in Oldenburg (ehemals Staatliches Museum für Naturkunde und Vorgeschichte) die Wanderausstellung „Experimentelle Archäologie“ entwickelt und der Öffentlichkeit präsentiert. Im Anschluss daran wurde die Ausstellung bisher in 35 Städten im In- und Ausland gezeigt und zählte etwa 500.000 archäologisch interessierte Besucher.

In Verbindung mit der Ausstellung fand 1990 in Oldenburg die erste Tagung zur Experimentellen Archäologie statt, um Kontakte unter den Experimentatoren herzustellen. Danach folgten jährlich Tagungen an wechselnden Orten, u. a. in Zug (CH) und Eindhoven (NL). Diese Tagungen bekamen in den letzten Jahren zunehmend einen europäischen Charakter, da immer mehr Kolleginnen und Kollegen aus unterschiedlichen Ländern (Dänemark, Deutschland, Frankreich, Großbritannien, Italien, Niederlande, Österreich, Polen, Schweiz, Spanien, Tschechien, Ungarn) teilnahmen. Da der Wunsch nach einem Zusammenschluss immer deutlicher wurde, hat im Frühjahr 2002 eine Arbeitsgruppe Ideen zur Gründung einer europäischen Vereinigung zur Förderung der Experimentellen Archäologie entwickelt und eine Vereinssatzung ausgearbeitet. Die Vereinsgründung wurde dann am 30.08.2002 vollzogen und der juristische Akt zur Eintragung in das Vereinsregister Oldenburg sowie das Verfahren zur Anerkennung als allgemeinnützige Vereinigung am 12.10.2002 eingeleitet.

Im Rahmen der 11. internationalen Tagung zur Experimentellen Archäologie in Oldenburg (11.-13.10.2002) hielt der durch die Gründungsmitglieder gewählte Vereinsvorstand eine Informationsveranstaltung ab, um den anwesenden Kolleginnen und Kollegen vor allem den Zweck und die Aufgaben des Vereins zu erläutern sowie um aktive Mitarbeit zu bitten.

Zweck des Vereins ist die Förderung von Arbeiten der Experimentellen Archäologie, die Förderung von Kontakten zwischen Wissenschaftlern / Experimentatoren sowie kulturellen und wissenschaftlichen Institutionen und der Öffentlichkeit, sowie die Förderung der Bildung auf nationaler und europäischer Ebene. Der Verein gibt eine wissenschaftliche Publikation (Zeitschrift) mit dem Titel "Experimentelle Archäologie in Europa" heraus. Neben der Herausgabe der Zeitschrift fördert der Verein Sonderpublikationen und wissenschaftliche Veranstaltungen, die mit dem Thema Experimentelle Archäologie und deren Vermittlung zu tun haben.

Wir bitten alle Kolleginnen und Kollegen sowie alle, die an diesem Thema interessiert sind, die Vorteile der Mitgliedschaft in diesem Verein in Anspruch zu nehmen und aktive Mitarbeit zu leisten.

Die 12. internationale Tagung zur Experimentellen Archäologie wird – in Verbindung mit der jährlichen Mitgliederversammlung des Vereins – vom 10.-12.10.2003 in Wien stattfinden.

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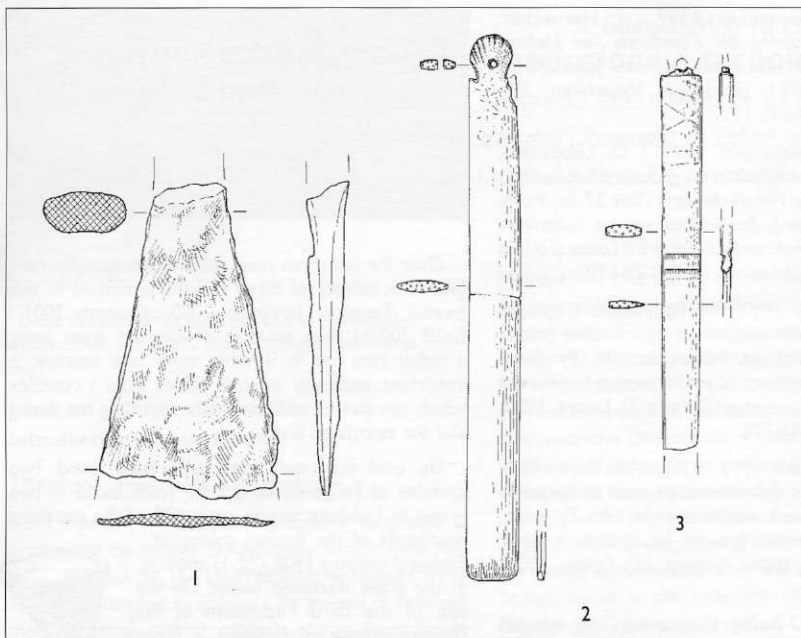


Fig. 2 — Writing implements from a grave of Dolenjska cesta in Ljubljana: iron wax spatula of variant A1 (1), bone strip with perforated tab (2) and bone knife (3) (scale 1/2).

Eduard Nowotny came to the same conclusion in 1907. He was at that time a lyceum professor at Klagenfurt (Slov. Celovec) in Austrian Carinthia, and he sent a report to the Zentralkommission in Vienna on the excavations of the northern necropolis of *Emona*, carried out by Walter Šmid, curator at the Landesmuseum of Carniola in Ljubljana. Apart from a bronze inkwell, grave 639 had produced a complete spatula of the A1 variant (Nowotny 1908, col. 152b, fig. 2; Petru 1972, 158, pl. 41 : 17; cfr. Paffgen 1992, 245, n. 15 - fig. 1). Nowotny was persuaded that the spatula represented an original of the triangular writing implement, painted on the two wall paintings from Pompeii, mentioned above. He deduced its function from its appearance together with writing instruments in grave 639 and on the wall paintings: "Es ist augenscheinlich das Original eines auf pompejanischen Abbildungen von Schreibutensilien zweimal ... vorkommenden ... Gerätes, das ich ... für ein Streicheisen zum Neuglätten gebrauchter Wachstafeln (a smoothing iron for re-smoothing used wax tablets) halten möchte".

A few years later, in 1912, another iron spatula of A1 variant was found in the so called Bottega di Verus at the Via dell'Abondanza at Pompeii. Matteo Della Corte first published a thorough description of the set of writing and measuring instruments from this Bottega (Della Corte 1912, 254-255) and ten years later also two photos of them (Della Corte 1922, col. 88-94, fig. 20 : 21). It was clear to him that the spatula, called by him "rallum or raschiatoio", had been used to delete (cancellare) and to renew (rinnovare) the wax tablets. The function of the spatulae of A1 variant as an instrument for smoothing of writing tablets was also recognized, long before Gaitzsch, by Felix Eckstein, who dealt with still lifes from Pompeii and Herculaneum (Eckstein 1957, 56, 72, n. 108 : "Der dreieckige Gegenstand in III 8 ist ... ein Glättblech zum Glätten der beschriebenen Diptychonseiten"; cfr. Merten 1987, 312, n. 45; Paffgen 1992, 246, n. 17).

Gaitzsch supported his interpretation of the triangular iron spatulae, apart from their appropriate form, with a 17th-century literary description of the production of the wax coating of writing tablets, which mentions a "Schabeisen", and above all with the antique representations (Gaitzsch 1984, 194-199, 206-207, fig. 2-7). He cited and republished all three wall paintings showing groups of writing instruments that included a wax spatula (two already mentioned from Pompeii and one from Boscoreale, published in 1921), as well as the tombstone of *Manius Servius Primigenius* (not *Primegius*, as stated in the article of Feugère, Giovannini 2000, 35 and fig. 5) from Aquileia, on which a very similar motif with three objects appears: a wax tablet, an inkwell and a spatula. The tombstone was at that time not unpublished, as he thought (Gaitzsch

1980, 286, n. 33; Gaitzsch 1984, 196, n. 22), as it had already been published twice, by Maionica (1903, 366, fig. 1) and Brusin (1929, 105, no. 39, fig. 61). If Della Corte was probably the first who identified the triangular wax spatulae on the tombstone of *L. Cornelius Atimetus* in Rome (1922, col. 93, n. 1), Gaitzsch emphasized (1984, 196) that they appeared here in connection with styli.

Paffgen (1992, 245, n. 15) stressed the fact that the function of the wax spatulae could be additionally confirmed by graves containing a wax spatula and other pieces of writing equipment, which was not mentioned by Gaitzsch. Indeed, besides grave 639 in the northern necropolis of *Emona*, mentioned by Nowotny in 1908, several other graves with writing instruments can be cited, each having one, and one even having four, spatulae of the A1 variant: the grave from S. Egidio at Aquileia, excavated in 1902 (Maionica 1903; Feugère 2000), grave 15 from Via Cappuccini at Brinidisi (Cocchiaro, Andreassi 1988, 160-175), grave 80 from Via Rossini at Alba (Filippi 1997, 376-378) as well as four graves (nos. 1, 8, 9 and 11) from the western necropolis of Nijmegen (Koster 1997, 18-20).

In this connection it should be mentioned that the wrong wax spatula was published by Feugère as having been found in the grave from S. Egidio. This small spatula, only 11,7 cm high and 4 cm wide (Feugère 2000, 124, fig. s. n.; Feugère, Giovannini 2000, 35, fig. 2 : 1), was in fact discovered, according to Maionica (1903, 365, n. 4), in December 1902 in a stone urn together with a coin of *Claudius I*, a glass balsamary and a bone pin. In 1903 the iron triangular spatula from the S. Egidio grave was recorded as no less than 21 cm high and 11 cm wide at the base (*ibid.*, 365 above). It was incorrectly published by Feugère and Giovannini (2000, 35, fig. 2 : 2) as a specimen without context data. In its present condition the somewhat smaller width at the base is the result of corrosion.

• One of the two bone "spatulae", found in the grave of Dolenjska cesta in Ljubljana (Plesničar 1980, 462, fig. 2 : 7; Obmann 1997, 127, no. 1481), is a narrow rectangular strip of lenticular section, which terminates at the upper end in a perforated shell-like tab (fig. 2 : 2). The tab's margin is decorated by seven short incisions. The right upper corner of the strip is broken off. The height of the strip is 15,9 cm and its width increases from 1,5 cm at the top to 1,6 cm at the bottom. Such strips have been studied by Oldenstein (1976, 95, pl. 10 : 23, 24) and, because they resemble *tesserae nummulariae* (Gostenčnik 2001a, 385, fig. 5 : 20, 21; Mainardis 2001), have quite often been identified as labels (most recently, e. g., by Obmann 1997, 76 : Etiketten; Mikler 1997, 27 s : Anhängeschilder; Deschler-Erb 1998, 153 : Etiketten).

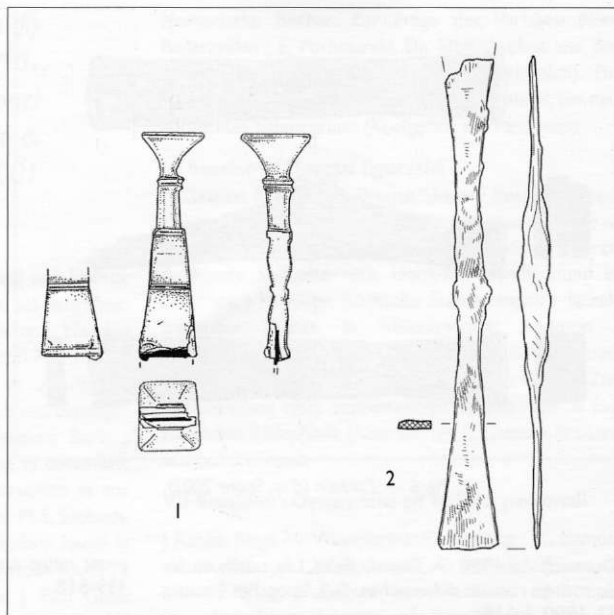


Fig. 3 — Bronze handle of a wax spatula of variant A4a from the third Mithraeum at Ptuj (1) and iron wax spatula of variant B2 from the cemetery of Ljubljanska cesta at Novo mesto (2) (scale 1/2).

*Tesserae nummulariae* are, however, much shorter and thicker (cf. Obmann 1997, 76, n. 203) and their tab is perforated in a different way. In addition, they almost always bear inscriptions. None of the strips like that from the Dolenjska cesta grave is inscribed. Moreover, the examination of strips with a tab from Augst under ultraviolet light has shown that none bore a faded ink inscription (Deschler-Erb 1998, 153, n. 706). For this reason Kordula Gostenčnik remarked several times that the interpretation as a label was incorrect (e. g. in Gostenčnik 2001b, 169).

She proposed that this kind of bone strip, several of which had been listed by Béal (1983, 374, no. 1329), Mikler (1997, 27-28), Obmann (1997, 127) and Greep (1998, 283), could be identified as a weaving tool (Gostenčnik 2000, 19, fig. 1 : 15 - Webgerät; Gostenčnik 2001b, 169, fig. 2 : 3 - Webgerät mit Öse). None of the above-mentioned authors who dealt with bone strips with a tab knew that both Bilkei in 1980 (79, no. 68 and 80, no. 95) and Boeselager in 1989 (227 s) had recognized them as writing utensils, possibly used for polishing parchment (Glättstifte, Pergamentglätter). Bilkei and Boeselager came to this conclusion because such strips were found in graves containing writing sets in Hungary (Szöny and Obuda), Belgium (Berlingen) and the Netherlands (Nijmegen). In addition, Boeselager (1989, 227, fig. 14) discovered that in the writing sets represented on the tombstone of *L. Cornelius Atimetus* in Rome (Božič 2001a, fig. 2) the upper parts of rectangular strips with a small perforated tab could clearly be seen behind the upper ends of the wax spatulae of the A1 variant. This statement remained totally unrecognized, probably because she did not publish an illustration of such a strip in her study. It is not clear why Martin-Kilcher (1991, 65), dealing with a bone strip from Oberwinterthur, even cited the study of Boeselager, but she asserted that "allerdings fehlen bislang gesicherte Spatel aus Bein auch bei den Schreibetuis" (however, no bone strip has yet been positively shown to form part of a writing set).

The bone strips with a tab can be divided into two types (Božič 2001c, 23). The examples of the earlier type (cfr., e. g., Roosens, Lux 1973, 31, fig. 20 : 38d; Klee 1986, 121 s, no. 20, pl. 28 : 20; Cocchiaro, Andreassi 1988, 171, no. 304; Greep 1998, 283 and 285, fig. 124 : 189, 191 - fig. 4), produced in the 1st century AD, perhaps also in the first half of the 2nd century (cfr. Klee 1986, 59, 121 s, pl. 28 : 20; Mikler 1997, 28, n. 78), have a small perforated tab. The height of these strips, including the tab, is predominantly between 13 and 14,5 cm, their width between 2,5 and 3,5 cm. The strips of the later type (Božič 2001c, fig. 1), datable to the 3rd century AD and perhaps the second half of the 2nd century, are characterized by having a tab, rarely

perforated, as wide as the strip. They are mostly narrower (between 1,5 and 2,5 cm) and longer (between 16 and 19 cm).

The strip from the Dolenjska cesta grave (fig. 2 : 2), dated to the Flavian period (Plesničar 1980, 462), represents a variant of the earlier type. Its dimensions correspond to the strips of the later type, but its perforated tab can, in form and size, be readily compared to some tabs of the earlier type. A narrow strip from Castleford can be cited as a close parallel (Greep 1998, 285, fig. 124 : 191 – fig. 4 : 5). The interpretation of bone strips with a tab as writing utensils can additionally be confirmed by two examples from a grave and one from a settlement context, that is, by two strips from grave 15 of Via Cappuccini at Brindisi (Cocchiaro, Andreassi 1988, 171, no. 304 - fig. 4 : 3) and by the hitherto unpublished strip, belonging to the writing set from the Bottega di Verus at Pompeii (Della Corte 1912, 254). The exact function of the strips can not be determined. In correspondence, Kordula Gostenčnik has suggested that they might have been rulers (Božič 2001c, 24).

• The other bone "spatula" from the discussed grave (Plesničar 1980, 462, fig. 2 : 8) has got a straight slender blade, the point of which has broken off (fig. 2 : 3). The flat handle is up to 1,2 cm wide and up to 0,4 cm thick. It almost certainly terminated in a small ring only 2 mm thick. The preserved length measures 11,2 cm.

This fragmented "spatula" in fact is part of a knife made completely out of bone. Such knives are rather rare. When in 1984 Jean-Claude Béal in his book, devoted to the bone artifacts from the Archaeological Museum at Nîmes, mentioned a bone knife from a grave at Nîmes (fig. 6 : 1), he knew of only one parallel, from a Roman grave found at Sijana in Pula in Istria (Béal 1984, 11, n. 2). We now know of 8 examples in all, mostly fragmented (fig. 5 and 6). Four were settlement finds (Augst – Deschler-Erb 1998, 131, pl. 7 : 94 ; Magdalensberg – Gostenčnik 2001b, 170, fig. 4 : 2 ; Knossos – Sackett 1992, 382, 388, pl. 316 : 13 ; 322 : 111 ; Pompeii – Collezioni 1986, 232, no. 20) and four were found in graves (Nîmes – Fiches, Veyrac 1996, 405, fig. 314 ; Brindisi – Cocchiaro, Andreassi 1988, 170, no. 299 ; Pula – Gnirs 1904, col. 15, fig. 2 ; Ljubljana).

These knives are made predominantly of bone and sometimes of ivory. Their length varies from 12,5 cm (Pula) to 20 cm (Nîmes). The handle is either plain or decorated by grooves or mouldings. One knife had a ring at the upper end (Ljubljana) and another had two rings (Nîmes). In most cases the handle terminal has the form of a curved strip with inwardly coiled ends, which closely resembles the iron terminals of the knives with waisted ends (Greep 1982, fig. 1-4). That the Magdalensberg knife originally had such terminal has already been recognized by Kordula Gostenčnik. The same can be assumed for the Brindisi example, which corresponds to that from Pompeii in every detail. The knife fragment from Augst terminated, judging by the published drawing, in only two curves. But Sylvia Fünfschilling checked it and established that small protrusions flanking the curves were in fact break points. The handle is in several cases rather thin (3 to 4 mm), but the knife from Pula, however, as Alka Starac communicated to us, is thicker (8 mm).

All these knives closely resemble the different iron-bladed or iron knives I have suggested may be Roman penknives (Božič 2001a). This proposal is supported by several knives which appear in graves with other writing implements (e. g. in grave II from Winchester, grave 26 from Berlingen and in graves 1, 8, 9 and 11 from Nijmegen-West), in some cases obviously consisting of a whole writing set, and by the appearance of knives of two easily recognised types on the tombstone of *L. Cornelius Atimetus*, where they occur in close connection with four writing sets (Schreibzeugfuttrale) and two wax spatulae. It might be reasonably expected that a normal penknife, like those in other graves with writing equipment, would have been found in a) the grave from Dolenjska cesta in Ljubljana, which had an iron wax spatula and a bone strip with a tab, in b) grave 15 of Via Cappuccini at Brindisi, which contained a hoard of writing utensils (Cocchiaro, Andreassi 1988, 160-175), and c) in the grave from Sijana in Pula, where half of an ivory foot

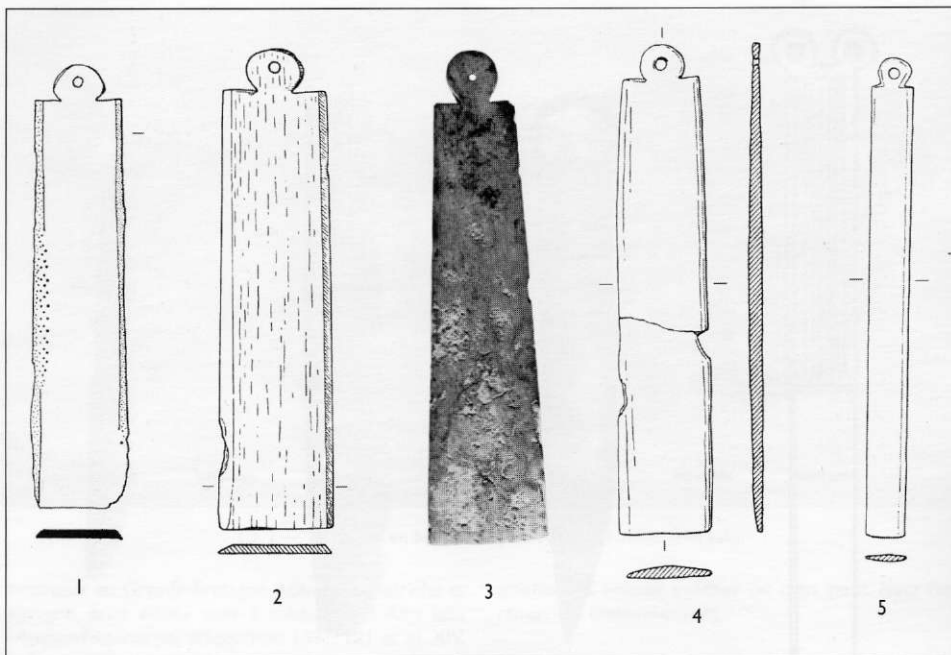


Fig. 4 — Bone strips with a tab of the earlier type from grave 26 at Berlingen (1), from Rottweil (2), from grave 15 of Via Cappuccini at Brindisi (3) and from Castleford (4-5) (scale 1/2).

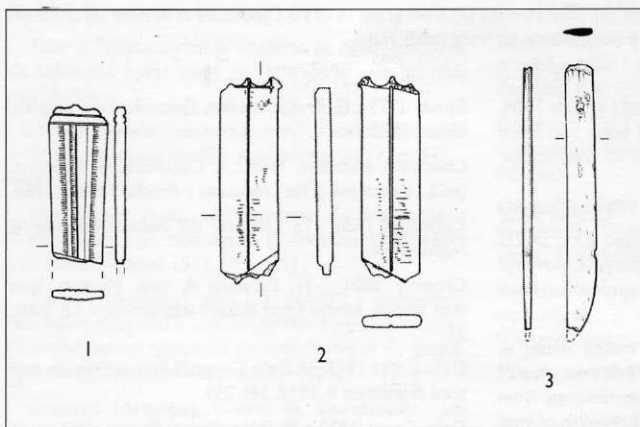


Fig. 5 — Fragmented bone knives from Augst (1), Magdalensberg (2) and Knossos (3) (scale 1/2).

## Appel à contributions / Call for papers LE TOURNAGE, DES ORIGINES À L'AN MIL

Lieu : Niederbronn-les-Bains (Bas-Rhin, F)

Date : du 2 au 5 octobre 2003

Thème : le tournage de tous matériaux, des origines à l'an mil : origine et diffusion de la technologie ; techniques de tournage ; traces archéologiques ; applications selon les périodes et les régions ; expérimentation.

Responsables : M. Feugère (CNRS, UMR 154 *Instrumentum*) et J.-C. Gérold (Maison de l'Archéologie des Vosges du Nord, Niederbronn-les-Bains).

L'ambition de ce colloque est de regrouper les résultats de la recherche récente sur le développement du tournage au cours des siècles, afin d'esquisser une histoire renouvelée de cette technique, fondamentale dans l'évolution des cultures humaines. La rencontre comprendra, d'une part, des exposés scientifiques sur les techniques de tournage, les sources littéraires et iconographiques, les productions d'objets tournés de différentes périodes, les traces d'outils et leur interprétation ; d'autre part, des démonstrations d'archéologie expérimentale portant sur des points précis ; enfin, des films et documents audiovisuels sur les techniques anciennes ou traditionnelles de la tournerie.

Les Actes du colloque seront publiés dans la collection "Monographies Instrumentum".

Les personnes qui souhaitent participer à ce colloque, que ce soit par une communication orale ou par une démonstration expérimentale, sont invitées à contacter rapidement les organisateurs.

If you want to contribute to the meeting, either through a communication or with an experimentation, please contact the colloquium secretary as soon as possible.

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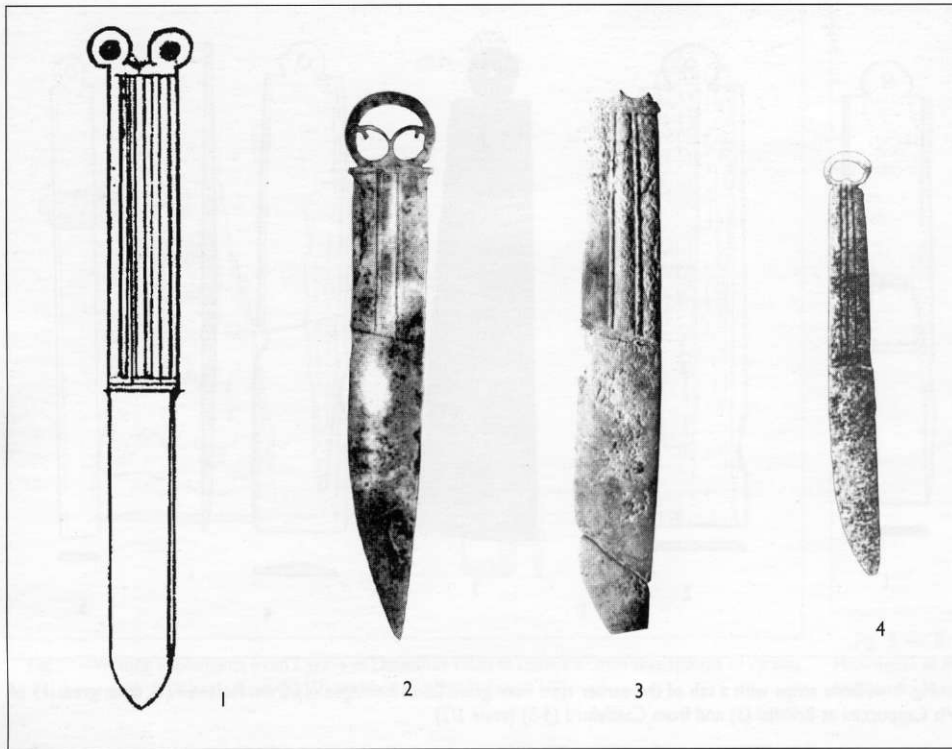


Fig. 6 — Knives from grave 47 at Nîmes (1), from Pompeii (2), from grave 15 of Via Cappuccini at Brindisi (3) and from grave at Šijana in Pula (4). 1 bone, 2 and 4 ivory, 3 bone or ivory (scale 1/2).

rule was found as well as the ivory knife (Gnirs 1904, col. 15). Therefore, is it possible that bone and ivory knives represent safe substitutes, given to children, for real (i.e. dangerous) knives?

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