Judit Pásztókai-Szeőke

Hungary

Following a Clew from Textile Tools to Textile Production in the Roman Province of Pannonia

It is *Pannonia* province, one of the European administrative units of the Roman Empire which is brought into the geographical scope of my research. Contrary to some other Roman provinces or regions, which were often praised for their outstanding textiles or as outstanding textile producing areas by the ancient literal sources, in the case of *Pannonia* this evidence is very silent about the local textile production of any rate.

It would be a misplaced *argumentatio ex silentio* to believe in that the ancient authors` silence on the topic mirrored the contemporaneous provincial reality completely being short of any local textile producing activity, since there should have been a great demand for textiles in the province itself deriving from their wideranging everyday usage such as clothing, coverings, soft furnishing, containers, sailcloths etc. This assumption is supported by the acknowledged archaeological evidence from Pannonia which e.g. in the testimony of the textile tools convincingly demonstrates that the claim was satisfied at least partially by locally manufactured textile goods.

I chose the textile tools as the archaeological evidence in the focus of my research. Breaking with the traditional approach in the archaeology of Pannonia, this study intends to grasp a more detailed picture of the local Roman provincial textile production and analyses the available corpus of textile tools found in archaeological contexts.

Contributor:
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