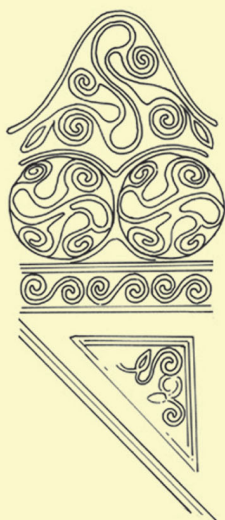




*protohistoire
européenne*

II
2009



Georg TIEFENGRABER
Boris KAVUR
Andrej GASPARI
(eds.)

Keltske študije II

Studies in Celtic Archaeology

Papers in honour of Mitja Guštin



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KELTSKE ŠTUDIJE II
STUDIES IN CELTIC ARCHAEOLOGY

Protohistoire Européenne

11

Collection dirigée par
Michel Py

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Introduction

A personal introduction

Not so long ago, at the opening of a new museum dedicated to a famous site and Celtic archaeology in general, we stood in front of a wall. I must have felt amazed, but still I was aware of his disillusion with the observed image. It was a nice map, painted with thick white colour on the gray concrete, showing the spread of Celtic occupation of Europe in the Late Iron Age. But both of us stared upon a small area of gray concrete, a little bit below the centre on the right hand side, where we expected it to be all covered in white, there was nothing to see. When we were leaving, he sorrowfully grumbled, that he dedicated the majority of his career to the research and promotion of archaeological heritage from that specific area and that he hopes the badly lightened map will remain mostly unnoticed. But deep in me, the decision fell... we have to do it internationally. 30 years after he edited and published *Keltske študije* in a small regional museum, we have to present a second volume with the same title and dedicate it to his jubilee. Three decades after the pioneer work, we, his friends and students, have to demonstrate the progress in research triggered, inspired and mentored by Mitja Guštin.

To complete the picture on that grey concrete wall we decided to invite contributors to demonstrate the improvement, development and changes in our knowledge on the Late Iron Age on the territory between the Alps, the Pannonian plain and the central Balkans. Themes ranging from the eve of the Celtic occupation to their submission were used to demonstrate the two sides of our scientific discipline. On one hand the archaeological record discussed was used to demonstrate the inclusion of the discussed area into the Celtic world and its regional peculiarities. And on the other hand it demonstrated the long regional history of research of these subjects, which confirmed the importance of the previously conducted work for the European history of Celtic archaeology.

We hoped that our contributions, published in an prestige international series, will be just the white paint, but soon after receiving the first contributions we realised that the volume will be not only a dedication to a personal jubilee, but more a compliment to the sense that the honoured developed and unfolded to observe, present and explain the big and small phenomenon and problems of Celtic archaeology. The variety of themes received had one thing in common, they were all focusing on the subjects Mitja Guštin started in his research. I had the feeling as if we were addressing our dedication to a *demiurge*, a primordial name-giver as called by the Greek philosophers, who stood at the beginning and designated names to the objects observed. I realised that with the presentation of new facts and compilation of new knowledge we did not only change the future, we have also confirmed the importance and the value of the humble beginnings started long time ago.

In the end, of course we partly failed ... It took much more time to finish the book as we have thought it will be necessary. With it finished in my hands, images of the things we did not manage to include shoot through my mind and remind me to apologize to all affected. I hope it was worth waiting.

Boris Kavur

A (scientific) introduction

This Festschrift, in honour of Professor Mitja Guštin, has the ambition of providing fresh impetus to the in-depth scientific research of the Celts in the South-Eastern Alpine area and of the role this area played in the events of a wider region between the Channel and the Black Sea, the Mediterranean and northern Europe. It is in fact Guštin who is to be credited with pioneering the research of the Late Iron Age in the hinterland of the northern Adriatic and western Balkans. The two proceedings of international symposia (Celtic Studies / Keltske študije, Posavski muzej Brežice, 1977, 1984), which include Guštin's chronology of the Mokronog Group that remains topical to this day, on the one hand, and his presentation of the Iron Age graves with wagons, on the other, certainly represent an excellent foundation for future work. Part of this foundation is also the extensive review article entitled Celts in Yugoslavia (JbRGZM, 1984), the organisation and heading of the Keltoi Project, one of the most important exhibitions ever to be mounted in Slovenia (National Museum of Slovenia, 1983), and Posočje, the dissertation on the Idrija Group (KiM 1991), to limit ourselves with only the most prominent results of Guštin's scientific endeavour. The value of the said foundation is well illustrated below, by the findings published by the author.

Desiderata in this field of research are, of course, mounting, not least due to the unjustified marginalisation of the research into the La Tène period within the framework of the late prehistoric studies on the university level. Slovene archaeology also has old debts in this field, which include a monographic analysis of the Middle La Tène cemeteries at Dobova and Brežice as well as the auxiliary necropolis at Verdun pri Stopičah. An integral publication of the Mihovo cemeteries represents another and a particularly formidable task in terms of cost and organization, the realisation of which will apparently need to wait for more propitious times. Much is expected from the detailed analysis of the grave groups from Kapiteljska njiva in Novo mesto, which in its relation to the roughly contemporaneous Celtic cemeteries in the Brežice Gate may allow crucial insight into the merging of the indigenous Hallstatt population with the newcomers. The absence of systematic research into settlements in the past has been temporarily filled by the discoveries of numerous sites on the routes of motorways and other building sites across Dolenjska (Bič pri Zagorici), Štajerska (Celje and surroundings of Maribor and Ptuj) and Prekmurje (Kotare-Krogi). Among other things, these discoveries lift the veil of mist surrounding the first waves of Celtic immigration at the end of the 4th century and help to complete the settlement picture of the north-eastern Slovenia in the Late La Tène that has thus far been only poorly documented. Of no lesser importance are the individual discoveries in Gorenjska (place of cult near the church of St. John the Baptist at Bohinj, bipyramidal iron ingots from Lesce and the wider research of ferrum noricum) and the analyses of new as well as previously known sites from western Slovenia. Locations such as the hillfort at Golo Brdo above the Idrija River, sanctuary at Gradič pri Kobaridu, funeral site Most na Soči as well as settlements and siege sites in the regions of Cerkljansko, Idrijsko and primarily in Notranjska are of key importance for the study of the political and military history of the wider area of the Italo-Illyrian Gates in the last centuries BC. The same can be said of the eagerly awaited analysis of the extensive body of the newly uncovered Celtic and Roman Republican coins and its importance for the economic history. Of equal interest is the question of localising pre-Roman Nauportus and the Celtic presence in the Ljubljana basin, which will at least in part be illuminated by the publication of the settlement at Tribuna in Ljubljana, and an integral analysis of the complexes of the Late Iron Age material from the Ljubljanica River. In light of the above, we cherish the hope that the esteemed professor rededicates himself, with his unique research fervour, to the study problems, which he so successfully broached already as curator at the Posavje Museum in Brežice.

Andrej Gaspari

Warum „KELTSKE ŠTUDIJE II“? – Eine Art „organistatorische“ Einleitung

Oder : Über die (unerreichbare) Kunst, einer *Koryphäe* ihres Faches, die von sich selbst behauptet erst 23 Jahre alt zu sein, eine Festschrift aus Anlass ihres (nachgewiesenermaßen!) 60. Geburtstages zu widmen und dabei gleichzeitig sämtlichen Kollegen, Freunden und Schülern die Möglichkeit zu geben, zu Ehren des Jubilars einen Beitrag für dieselbige zu verfassen, wohlwissend, dass dieser der Idee „Festschrift“ grundsätzlich mit gewissen Vorbehalten gegenüber steht (Zitat Mitja Guštin : „*Festschriften sind nur etwas für alte Leute!*“).

Die Herausgabe einer Festschrift für verdiente Wissenschaftler ist – ganz abgesehen von den redaktionellen Problemen – für gewöhnlich mit einer Reihe von grundsätzlichen Vorgaben verbunden. So kann es mittlerweile als Usus, ja beinahe schon „ungeschriebenes Gesetz“ angesehen werden, bereits bei der Auswahl des Titels einen dermaßen großen fachlichen Spielraum zu eröffnen, der einer möglichst großen Anzahl an Kollegen, Freunden und selbst Schülern die Möglichkeit bietet, ihre Forschungsergebnisse in Form eines gewidmeten Aufsatzes gleichsam als Würdigung des Jubilars beizusteuern. Die Folge sind in der Regel äußerst umfangreiche, ja mitunter mehrbändige Festschriften mit einer derartig weitgefächerten – oftmals überhaupt nicht mehr in das angedachte Gesamtkonzept passenden – Themenspanne, bei der der Leser sich mitunter nicht des Eindrucks erwehren kann, dass die Herausgeber – für gewöhnlich bedarf es hier schon eines ganzen „Herausgeberteams“ – eher von einem „quantitativ-agonalen“, denn von einem qualitätsbezogenen Prinzip geleitet werden. Für den Gewürdigten bzw. die Gewürdigte gibt der Umfang „seiner“ bzw. „ihrer“ Festschrift zwar einerseits jeden Grund zum Stolz, spiegeln sich darin doch oftmals jahrzehntelange Kontakte und Freundschaften sowie das eigene Wirken als universitärer Lehrer und – durchaus nicht in allen Fällen! – das breitgefächerte Arbeits- und Interessensgebiet wieder. Andererseits – und das wird wohl keiner bzw. keine der dermaßen Gewürdigten verneinen können – ist eine Zunahme des Umfanges ohne Zweifel auch immer mit einer Einbuße an inhaltlicher Qualität verbunden.

Demgegenüber stellt sich die Herausgabe einer Festschrift für einen „Spezialisten“, d. h. für einen Wissenschaftler mit fachlich schwerpunktmäßig eingeschränktem, kompaktem Arbeitsgebiet als ein auf den ersten Blick vermeintlich einfacheres Unterfangen dar, da die primäre Beschäftigung mit einem speziellen Fachgebiet dabei von vornherein nur einen selektierten Kollegenkreis als potentielle Autoren nahezulegen scheint. Je spezialisierter sich das fachliche Arbeitsgebiet des Gewürdigten darstellt, desto selektiver kann – in der Theorie – das Thema bzw. der Titel der Festschrift gewählt werden und desto spezifischer (und fachlich höherwertiger) sollten demzufolge auch die entsprechenden Beiträge ausfallen. Dass auch dies in der Praxis nicht immer funktioniert, braucht wohl nicht erst betont zu werden. Zumindest vermag der Fall einer thematisch „eingeschränkten“ Festschrift ein umfangmäßiges Ausufern zu vermeiden!

In Anbetracht dieser Vorüberlegungen standen die Herausgeber der geplanten Festschrift für Mitja Guštin vor zwei Alternativen :

1. Sämtlichen Kollegen, Freunden und Schülern des Jubilars sollte die Möglichkeit geboten werden, ihre Forschungsergebnisse etc. in Form eines Aufsatzes beizusteuern. Im Hinblick auf das sowohl fachlich, als auch geographisch enorm breitgefächerte Interessens- und Arbeitsgebiet des Jubilars, wäre dabei von einer thematisch derart weitläufigen, vom Umfang her sicher mehrbändigen Festschrift auszugehen, die darüberhinaus Beiträge in mehreren Sprachen umfasst hätte. Diese Variante, die zwar allen Gratulanten die Möglichkeit zur Partizipation geboten hätte, wäre einerseits für unser personell doch nur schwach besetztes Redaktionsteam nicht bewältigbar gewesen, andererseits wäre damit in weiterer Folge auch ein unmittelbares Problem der Druckkostenfinanzierung verbunden gewesen.

2. Beschränkung auf ein fachliches Thema bzw. einen Titel, das bzw. der mit dem Jubilar in engsten Bezug gesetzt werden kann : Hierbei ergab sich durch Zufall eine bemerkenswerte zeitliche Koinzidenz : Abgesehen vom 60. Geburtstag des Jubilars stellte das Jahr 2007 auch den 30. Jahrestag des von Mitja Guštin herausgegebenen Standardwerkes zur keltischen Archäologie im Südostalpenraum „KELTSKE ŠTUDIJE“ dar. Diese glückliche „Terminkollision“ ermöglichte es uns als Herausgeber nun mittels einer „Fortsetzung“ dieses grundlegenden Sammelbandes eine entsprechende wissenschaftliche Würdigung des Jubilars auf seinem eigentlichen Forschungsinteressenskernegebiet zu erreichen. Ein besonderer Dank gilt in diesem Zusammenhang Michel Feugère, der sich als langjähriger Freund und Kooperationspartner des Jubilars sofort bereit erklärte, diesen Band in die Reihe „Protohistoire Européene“ aufzunehmen.

Unter den geschilderten Aspekten ist nun die vorliegende Arbeit „KELTSKE ŠTUDIJE II“ primär als eine „*Hommage*“ an die pionierhaften Forschungsarbeiten Mitja Guštins auf dem Gebiet der keltischen Archäologie zu werten, und nicht als „Festschrift“ im eigentlichen Sinne, für die der Jubilar (nach seinen eigenen Angaben) ja auch noch gar nicht das geeignete Alter erreicht hätte!

Ad multos annos!

Georg Tiefengraber



Most na Soči 2007



Martina Blečić Kavur*

Universal and Original. Transformation of style in the North-Adriatic Region

Summary : The author presents and discusses fibulae of the Middle La Tène scheme characteristic of the region of the northern Adriatic *koinè* at the time of the Late Iron Age in the 3rd and 2nd centuries BC. She supplements previous knowledge about Kastav type and variety fibulae by new data, which considerably broaden what, has until now been the established distribution of their find spots. A distinct kind of fibula is singled out from among them, of the Nesactium type in the Middle La Tène scheme, which appears in two possible variants. It seems that both the variants are chronologically concurrent and originated and developed under La Tène influence as the last outcrops in the production of a local workshop.

Keywords : Northern Adriatic, Late Iron Age, La Tène influence, Kastav type fibulae, Nesactium type fibulae

* Martina Blečić Kavur
Filozofski fakultet Sveučilišta u Rijeci
Trg Ivana Klobučarića 1
HR-51000 Rijeka
E-mail : martyna7@yahoo.com

The year 2007 was for many reasons truly a jubilee year for our guest of honour, Professor Mitja Guštin. His untiring work has left an indelible stamp on research into the Celtic culture in central and south-eastern Europe.

Therefore the choice of the title *Celtic Studies II* for this collection is more than appropriate and thematically completely justified. Professor Guštin is also marking another important jubilee inseparably linked to this subject, the twentieth anniversary from the *inauguration* in scholarly and broader professional literature of “La Tène fibulae from Istria”¹. Although he had addressed this subject even earlier², he developed and has added to it in more recent research and writing, in the first place in many works about the Celts on the Adriatic³. In these, he paid special attention to defining the fibula of the Middle La Tène scheme of the Kastav type, with regional variants.

In this article I have published, with the most heartfelt motivation and esteem, new material and data to broaden knowledge about Kastav type fibulae and kindred specimens from the region of the northern Adriatic *koinè*, as a contribution to the tribute offered to their originator and promoter.

The Kastav variant of the Kastav fibula has in more recent research been recorded and/or found distributed in the wider region of *Caput Adriae* (Fig. 2). This especially refers to the Friuli area on one hand, and on the other to the area of Lika. The “picture” for the Kvarner basin was added to and rounded off as expected, especially due to island finds on Krk and Cres (Fig. 2)⁴. The fibulae from Kastav are the most numerous, and to them have now been added the specimens⁵ in the Desetinec Parish Collection in Vrbnik (Fig. 1)⁶.

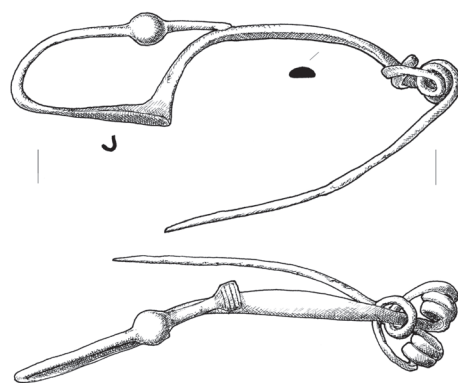


Fig. 1 : Fibula of the Kastav type and variant, from the eponymous archaeological site (Desetinec Parish Collection, Vrbnik, isl. of Krk).

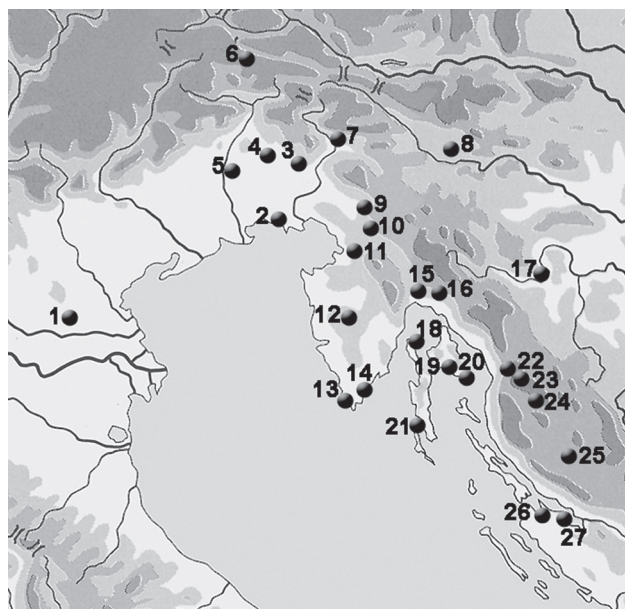


Fig. 2 : Map of the distribution of Kastav type and variant fibulae (supplemented after Guštin 1987b).

These are followed in number by the fibulae from Golek pri Vinici,⁷ while other sites usually produced only one or two specimens of these fibulae, only occasionally three. From Iapodic territory only the fibula from Prozor is known and has been evaluated, whose bow, foot and knob are richly decorated with a geometrical ornament of engraved lines and crosses⁸. The only identical fibula known at present is from Kompolje where, like on other Iapodic sites, many fibulae of the Middle La Tène scheme were found and where the Kastav type was especially well represented (Fig. 2)⁹. In Friuli there have been important new

¹ Guštin 1987a; Guštin 1987b.

² Guštin 1984.

³ Guštin 1991; Guštin 2001; Guštin 2002; Guštin 2005a; Guštin 2005b.

⁴ Carlo Marchesetti mentioned many rather damaged fibulae of the Middle La Tène scheme in Osor as early as 1924 – Marchesetti 1924, 145. When fibulae were charted and analysed a find of the same kind of fibula from Dalj was left out (Majnarić Pandžić 1970, 20 T. 6, 1) because its secondary inclusion among the finds of Dalj material in the Archaeological Museum in Zagreb had already been confirmed earlier (Blečić 2002, 117).

⁵ The fibula is 4.2 cm long, 2.5 cm wide, and the diameter of its bow is 0.6 cm. It was restored by Slađana Latinović and the drawings were made by Miljenka Galić, both colleagues from the Archaeological Museum in Zagreb, for which I thank them cordially.

⁶ The Desetinec Parish Collection in Vrbnik is rich in various materials that were collected from the nineteenth century to the present. The professional public knows only about what was published in the older works of Šime Batović and Dunja Glogović, who concentrated on the material heritage of pendants, amulets and some fibulae, all of them found on the Kastav site, probably the Veli Miščinac necropolis (Batović 2003, 306 fn. 143; Glogović 1989, 46). Thanks to the kindness of Father Anton Zec, parish priest of Vrbnik, I was given the opportunity to examine and catalogue all the material in this collection, for which I use this occasion to once more thank him most sincerely.

⁷ Vogt 1934, Pl. XXI, 117; Guštin 1984, Abb. 30, 21; 360/Liste 7-Peabody Museum of Archaeology and Ethnology, Harvard.

⁸ Todorović 1968, T. LIX, 8.

⁹ Drechsler Bižić 1970, 244 fn. 3. I thank Ms. Dubravka Balen Letunić, museum counselor in the Archaeological Museum in Zagreb, on verified

List of sites (Fig. 2) :

No.	Finding site	Pieces/Context	Literature
1	Este (It)	1 : grave 37, Randi necropolis	Teržan 1976, 371 Fig. 39, 3.
2	Aquileia (It)	1 : individual find, settlement	Fischer 1966, Fig. 1, 6; Desinan 1990, 87; Buora 1991, T. V, 3; Guštin 2002, 69 Fig. 1, 63.
3	Dernazzacco (It)	3 : necropolis	Brozzi – Tagliaferri, 1985, 63 Fig. 14, 8; Guštin 2002, 36 Fig. 1, 14; Pettarin 2006, 216 T. XXXI, 536; Mlinar – Pettarin 2007, 46 Fig. 7, 4–5.
4	Pavia di Udine (It)	1 : individual find	Seidel 2008, 88, cat. 45.
5	Gradisca di Sedegliano (It)	1 : settlement, individual find	Buora 1991, T. VI, 2; Gergolet 2001/02, 126 Fig. 2, Seidel 2008, 88 cat 46.
6	Misincinis di Paularo (It)	1 : necropolis	Vitri 2001, 31, 33 Fig. 11, 4; Donat – Righi – Vitri 2007, 96 Fig. 9, 1.
7	Most na Soči-Repelc (Si)	1 : necropolis	Pettarin 2006, 216 f. n. 123; Mlinar 2008, 132, T. 30, 2.
8	Veliki Mengeš (Si)	1 : individual find	Sagadin 1979, 271–272 Fig. 16.
9	Šmihel-Za Polšno (Si)	1 : grave 116	Guštin 1979, 44 T. 53, 14.
10	Povir (Si)	1 : chasm-grave find	Marchesetti 1895, Fig. 2; Crismani – Righi 2002b, 92–93 Fig. 52.
11	Socerb (Si)	3 : 1 individual find on a necropolis beside graves 53 and 54; 2 ?	Moser 1903, Fig. 163; Mahr 1934, P. 130; Crismani – Righi 2002a, 70 Fig. 28.
12	Beram (Cro)	1 : necropolis	Marchesetti 1883, 21 T. 3, 21; Kučar 1979, T. 12, 9, Guštin 1987b, 46 Fig. 4, 5–6.
13	Pula (Cro)	1 : necropolis	Guštin 1987b, 51; Percan 2008.
14	Nesactium (Cro)	1 : necropolis?	Guštin 1987b, 51.
15	Kastav (Cro)	6 : necropolis	Matejčić 1974, 51–52 T. 2–3; Guštin 1987b, Fig. 6, 2; 7, 1. 6; Blečić 2002, Fig. 9, T. 8, 1.6.1–3; Fig. 1; Desetinec Collection, Vrbnik.
16	Grobnik (Cro)	2 : necropolis	Guštin 1987b, Fig. 5, 3; Blečić 2004, Fig. 15, c–d, T. 4, 1.4.1–2.
17	Golek pri Vinici (Si)	1(?) : necropolis	Vogt 1934, Pl. XXI/117; Peabody Museum of Archaeology and Ethnology, Harvard, unpublished.
18	Beli, is. Cres (Cro)	1 : individual find	Archaeological Museum Zagreb, unpublished.
19	Zagrajine, is. Krk (Cro)	2 : destroyed tumulus	Collection of the Košljun Franciscan Monastery, unpublished.
20	Baška, is. Krk (Cro)	1 : necropolis?	Lo Schiavo 1970, T. XXIV, 6.
21	Osor, is. Cres (Cro)	1 : individual find	Guštin 1987a, 51; permanent exhibition of the Archaeological Museum of Istria in Pula.
22	Vlaško polje (Cro)	2 or more? : necropolises	Archaeological Museum Zagreb, unpublished.
23	Kompolje (Cro)	4 or more? : necropolises	Archaeological Museum Zagreb, unpublished.
24	Prozor (Cro)	2 or more? : necropolises	Todorović 1968, T. LIX, 8; Archaeological Museum Zagreb, unpublished.
25	Vrebac, Velika njiva (Cro)	1 : outside graves	Drechsler Bižić 1958, 44 T. X, 83.
26	Nin-crkva Sv. Jurja (Cro)	1 : grave 19	Hiller 1991, 370 T. 26, 284.
27	Kosa-Ljubač (Cro)	1 : necropolis ?	Brusić 2002, 238 Fig. 38, 8.

finds of these fibulae in the Misincinis di Paularo necropolis and, of course, in Dernazzacco (Fig. 2)¹⁰. However, in the publications of Italian researchers these fibulae are often equalised with type XXIIa in Anne Marie Adam's classification of La Tène fibulae from Trento¹¹, although they do not belong to the same typological scheme mostly because of the distinctly shaped foot, pin holder and the coils of the fibula wound from the outer side of the spring. It seems that the Kastav type and variant of fibula was not a popular subject for many researchers who were always confined to a strictly regional approach. Its distribution map, however, shows the opposite because it is increasingly becoming a superregional variety known in the entire *Caput Adriae* (Fig. 2).

Guštin dated the above fibulae on the basis of graves, or groups of graves, in the Veli Mišincac necropolis in Kastav¹². Unfortunately, fibulae of this kind have so far not been documented in clear contexts that would make it possible to date them more specifically and precisely. Their form and workmanship shows that the production of this functional and decorative part of the costume was made in the Late Iron Age at the end of the third and in the second century BC, at the time of the developed Middle La Tène period in the central European periodisation (Lt C). However, some details, such as the design and decoration of the foot or the crafting of the spring, clearly indicate a characteristic local component which could have developed along peripheral Celtic areas and intensified under the strong influence of the newly-founded colony in Aquileia¹³. The basic universal La Tène model of the fibula was taken over, carefully redesigned and worked according to local standards or traditional taste, and this resulted in an authentic and recognisable costume accessory.

Besides publishing the Kastav type fibula and its regional variants, Guštin was also the first to publish and thus turn attention to a completely separate kind of fibula of the Middle La Tène scheme¹⁴. It is much smaller than the Kastav type, with a knee-shaped bow plastically moulded on the bent in imitation of a knob decorated, as a rule, with engraved lines and/or geometrical patterns (Fig. 4, 1–4, 6–7). If the fibula's foot has been preserved, the same decoration is repeated on its knob, and the foot itself ends in a row of incised lines on the joint that attaches it to the fibula bow (Fig. 4, 1–3, 8). It was this decorative element at the end of the foot and the coils of the spring

around the bow that were a direct link or similarity with the Kastav type fibula.

In Kristina Mihovilić's monograph "The Grave Vault of Epulon's Ancestors" or "the grave vault excavated in 1981", two or four fibulae of this kind were documented under Temple B in Nesactium¹⁵. The author classified them as the Kastav type and variant, clearly demonstrating their basic differences from the given form, design and decoration so characteristic of the Kastav type fibula. Although she linked them chronologically, she also pointed out their broader spatial distribution¹⁶, which later works unfortunately did not echo. The fibula found in Socerb was also classed as the Kastav type and variant, like those from Nesactium, and a detailed explanation was given of the differences as had been done in the case of the analogous fibulae from Istria¹⁷. This work also mentioned a fibula of the same kind found in Kaštelir at Nova Vas, which will soon be published in Maša Sakara Sučević's monograph as belonging to the *Nesactium type*¹⁸. She used this typological designation at the suggestion of Marko Gergolet who classified the fibulae according to the eponymous archaeological site on which their greatest number had been recorded until then, and which is still where the largest number of them has been found¹⁹.

The recently processed and presented archaeological material from the Desetinec Parish Collection in Vrbnik has two fibulae that are designated as originating from the "Kastav" site, and which have typological and stylistic characteristics completely identical with those mentioned above (Fig. 3; 4, 6, 11). I therefore considered it useful to devote myself to this kind of fibula in more detail and perhaps indicate the role it undoubtedly played and its importance in the area of the northern Adriatic. Considering that the fibula has already been terminologically classified in archaeological literature, I find the *Nesactium type* a suitable name that could lastingly be used for this unusual fibula of the Middle La Tène scheme.

It must be borne in mind that the identical fibulae from Numana and Gazzo Cassinate were published much earlier than the Istrian specimens (Fig. 4, 1–2)²⁰, except of

data for fibulae from Iapodic territory and on her great help.

¹⁰ Vitri 2001, 31, 33 Fig. 11, 4. Although the Dernazzacco fibula was already known from the publication of Marco Brozzi and Amelio Tagliaferri (1985, 63; Sparsi 14, 8) and charted in M. Guštin (1987a, 51; 2002, Fig. I, 14). Silvia Pettarin published some new specimens, all of them illustrated (Pettarin 2002, 66 Fig. I, 57; Pettarin 2006, 216; Mlinar – Pettarin 2007, 46).

¹¹ Adam 1996, T. X, 262.

¹² Matejčić 1974, 2–10; Blečić 2002, 77–85.

¹³ Guštin 1987b, 50–51; Božić 1999, 203; Guštin 2005a, 119; Guštin 2005b, 11.

¹⁴ Guštin 1987a, Fig. 2, 5; 7; 3, 2; Guštin 1987b, Fig. 2, 3; 3, 5; 4, 5; 6, 8.

¹⁵ Gabrovec – Mihovilić 1987, T. XXXIV, 8; Guštin 1987b, 51 Fig. 4, 8; The preceding authors published only one fibula, while Mihovilić's monograph published two fibulae and mentioned a third identical fibula from Nesactium, but without any closer explanation: Mihovilić 1996, 52 fn. 115, T. 1, 8–9. Finally, this publication presents that Nesactium fibula and one other – see here Mihovilić 2008, Fig. 2, 5–6.

¹⁶ Mihovilić 1996, 52–53; Mihovilić 2001b, 272 Fig. 6, 4.

¹⁷ Crismani – Righi 2002, 70; Crismani – Righi 2002a, 90.

¹⁸ Sakara Sučević 2004, 24–25, 162. The author did not enter into a detailed discussion of typological differences nor did she compare these more closely with other fibulae from Istria of the Middle La Tène scheme. On the contrary, she gives a wrong parallel, which refers to a fibula from Socerb, but of the Late La Tène scheme.

¹⁹ Gergolet 2001/02, 66, 81 Fig. V, 9.

²⁰ Lolli 1979, 57 Fig. 1; Salzani 1976, Fig. 37, 1: see list of sites at Fig. 5. D. G. Lolli also in earlier published synthesis about the Picene culture mentions a fibula of the Middle La Tène scheme, but from that collection



Fig. 3 : *Nesactium* type fibulae of the I (A) and II (B) variant from Kastav (Desetinec Parish Collection, Vrbnik, isl. of Krk; Photo : M. Blečić Kavur).

course that from Beram²¹. They were treated in the context of the other fibulae of the Middle La Tène scheme that appeared or developed under strong Celtic influence in large urban commercial or mediating centres, such as Gazzo and Numana²². As the Numana fibula came from the *Rilli Collection*, without details about its discovery, Delia G. Lollini included it among the other material characteristic of the VI phase of the Piceni culture in the region inhabited by the Piceni, not the Marche inhabited by the Senones²³. Venceslas Kruta, on the other hand, singled it out as an exception and emphasised its non-Italic origin, connecting it with fibulae of the Middle La Tène scheme of the so-called *Illyrian source*. In doing so he relied on the Kastav type fibulae, Ribić variant, known from the Ribić necropolis on the Una and published by Zdravko Marić²⁴, although these fibulae were already known, mostly to the Italian scholarly public, from the work of Fulvia Lo Schiavo at the Jezerine and Ribić sites²⁵.

Finally, the survey on the Celtisation of Veneto also took over this attribution for the two fibulae; both typologically and culturally, but in the charting they were not singled out from the known Italic “circle” of fibulae belonging to the Middle La Tène scheme²⁶. Three bronze fibulae from Este should also be added to the group of finds in the Apennine region. The fragments of two fibulae of this kind were discovered in Reitia Sanctuary (Fig. 4, 7–8), while the small fibula was documented in the Villa Benvenuti site, in Tomb 123 one of the most important tombs of the late Este culture (Fig. 4, 5)²⁷. The tomb was used by sev-

eral generations and is dated to the period from the middle of the third to the beginning of the first century BC.

Besides a large number of parts of jewellery, costumes and grave gifts, the most valuable finds are certainly four urns with inscriptions, outstanding among which is situla 43²⁸. Although our fibula has been only partly preserved, the section and shape of the bow is recognisable, the moulded thickening on the bow and the characteristic spring with three coils and one wrapped around the bow. It differs from the other examples only in lack of the typical decoration on the moulded part of the bow and on the joint. Most recent research has attributed it to the Kastav type, and the authors rightly differentiate it from the one that was found in the Randi 37 Tomb, placing it within the framework of the third and second centuries BC²⁹.

Although there is no data about their archaeological context, the Numana and Gazzo Cassinate fibulae are especially interesting (Fig. 4, 1–2), in the first place because of their state of preservation that allows better and clearer examination of their morphology and ornamentation, which we also find on all the other *Nesactium* type fibulae on the eastern Adriatic coast. The most complete examples, which are the closest in technological solutions and practical production, come from Picugi, on which the whole foot has also been preserved (Fig. 4, 3), and from Socerb (Fig. 4, 4) and Kastav (Fig. 4, 6)³⁰, where the foot is missing in both cases. It is easy to see that on these fibulae the functional and the decorative are clearly differentiated but strongly combined. Thus, the moulded protrusion on the bow is functional, designed so that the joint lies against it completely and is thus more secure. Aesthetically this is a geometrical but well designed and harmoniously dynamic decoration that “runs” along the entire visible side of the fibula. The plastically moulded knob is decorated with the incised “X” symbol or the “clepsydra”, a composition of two or three slanting lines combined with one or two lines incised across them (Fig. 4, 1–4. 6–7). The same decoration is found on the knob of the sharply bent foot. This clepsydra motif is similar to the decoration on the Kastav type and variant fibulae known from Prozor and Kampilje³¹ and is also met, although very rarely, on some variants of Certosa type fibulae, such as the one from Dernazzacco near Udine³². This way of decorating jewellery and costumes

publishes only individual finds of luxury ceramics : Lollini 1976, 157 T. 12, 14.

²¹ Marchesetti 1883, T. 3, 21.

²² In general in Zuffa 1978; Lollini 1976, 168–169; Spade 1978, 184–189; Ruta Serafini 1984, 11, 30; Salzani 1984, 788–789.

²³ Lollini 1976, 157; Lollini 1979, 59–60; Kruta 1983, 11.

²⁴ Kruta 1983, 9 fn. 36, 11; Marić 1968, T. IV, 6; XIII, 22–23. 25. 40. V. Kruta cited the same work by Z. Marić but published in German (*Die Japodischen Nekropolen im Unatal. Wissenschaftliche Mitteilungen des bosnisch-herzegovinisches Landesmuseums in Sarajevo I/A, 1971*).

²⁵ Lo Schiavo 1970, 456 T. XXXIV, 17.

²⁶ Calzavara Capuis – Ruta Serafini 1987, 289–290 fn. 25, Fig. 1; 7.

²⁷ Meller 2002, 31 T. 2, 20. 22; Capuis – Chieco Bianchi 2006, 285 T. 159, 92.

²⁸ Capuis – Chieco Bianchi 2006, 288–294 T. 150–161.

²⁹ Capuis – Chieco Bianchi 2006, 292 fn. 362. As the tomb was never completely published, this fibula is published and described here for the first time. It is rather corroded and badly damaged, and was not restored. Perhaps this is why the decoration cannot be seen?

³⁰ The fibula from Kastav is partly preserved, with insignificant damage and without major corrosion of the bronze. Missing are part of the pin, pin holder and foot, while the bow and the joint are complete. The spring consists of three coils on either side of the bow, and one wrapped around the bow. The coil is cracked. Size : length 4.2 cm, height 2.5 cm, bow diameter 0.6 cm.

³¹ Prozor : Todorović 1968, T. LIX, 8; Kampilje : Archaeological Museum Zagreb.

³² De Piero 1985, 183 Fig. 5a, b – The fibula belongs to the VIIc Certosa type, which appeared with specimens of the X kind and remained fashionable for a long time : Teržan 1976, 327, 357 Fig. 44.

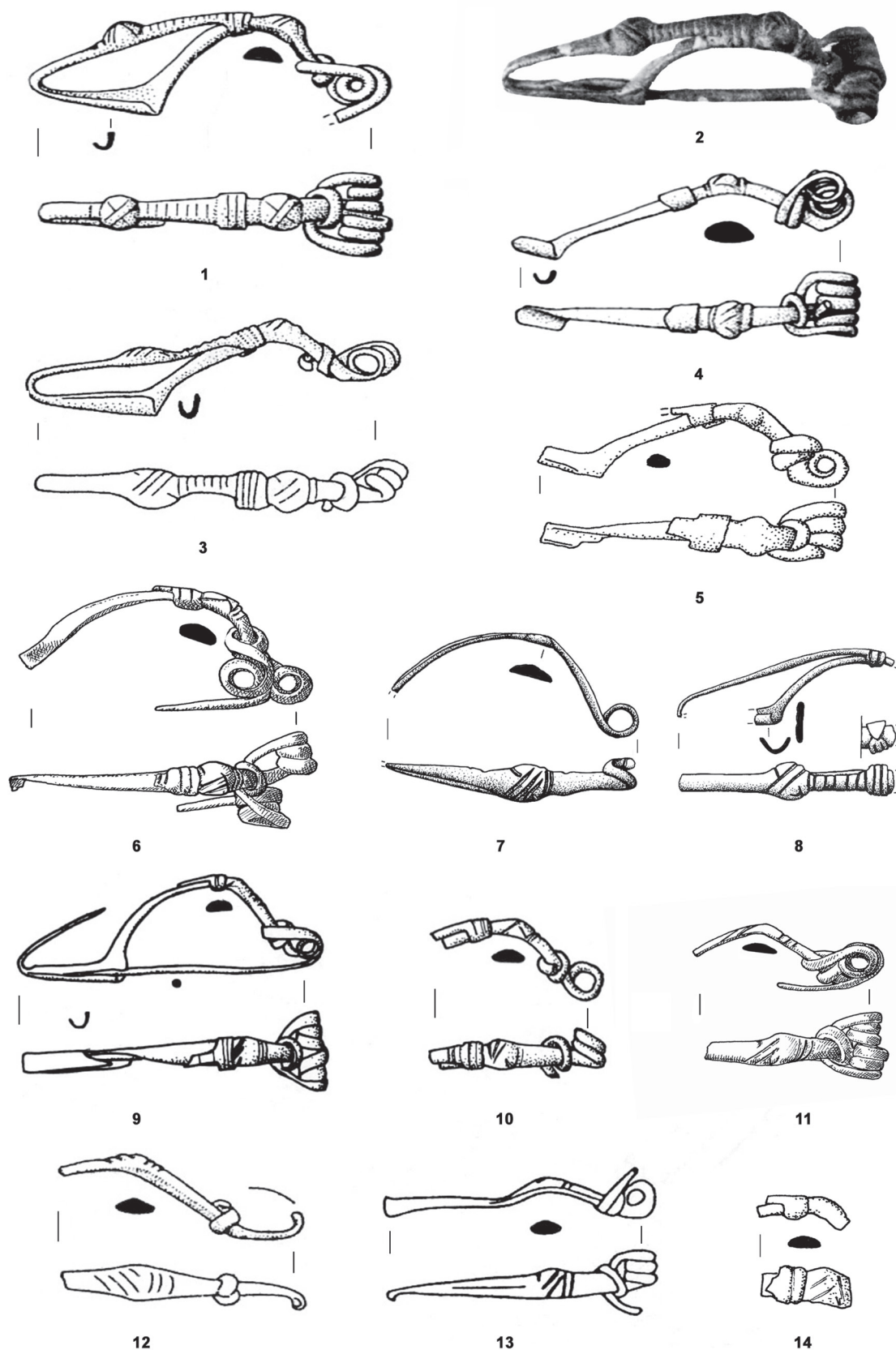


Fig. 4 : 1 Gazzo Cassinate, 2 Numana, 3 Picugi, 4 Socerb, 5 Este, 6 Kastav, 7–8 Este, 9–10 Nezakcij, 11 Kastav, 12 Koper, 13 Kaštelir-Nova vas, 14 Pula. Different scales (1 after Salzani 1976; 2 after Lollini 1979; 3 after Guštin 1987b; 4 after Crismani – Righi 2002; 5 after Capuis – Chieco Bianchi 2006; 7–8 after Meller 2002; 9–10 after Mihovilić 1996; 12 after Guštin 1987b; 13 after Sakara Sučević 2004; 14 after Percan 2008).

undoubtedly had, although this was not the rule, a symbolical meaning besides a decorative and aesthetic one. It is accepted that the clepsydra, often entwined or in combination with the sign of the cross, marked the solar aspect, the life cycle, perhaps emphasising the higher status of the person who wore such decorations and/or symbols and even their connection to religious cults or services³³. Wearing it on clothes and jewellery gave it an apotropaic meaning, which was especially indicative on helmets of the Illyrian type, 3A 2b variant, after Biba Teržan, from Viča luka on the island of Brač, from Zagvozd or from Sućuraj on the island of Hvar³⁴. On the other hand, it secured for its wearer heavenly protection, vitality and life force, and was thus often used to decorate fibulae. Besides the Certosa type or the Kastav type of fibulae already mentioned, clepsydrae are also found on, for example, Baška type fibulae from Nin, Solin and Viča luka³⁵, or on so-called *lanceolate fibulae* of the Middle La Tène scheme from Velje ledine near Gostilj or Mahrevići³⁶. Be that as it may, because of all their characteristics these fibulae undoubtedly differ from the other specimens and may be considered as belonging to the first, more luxurious or decorated variant of *Nesactium type* fibulae, from whose conspicuous decorative canon only the fibulae from Socerb and Este at present deviate.

This completely defined aesthetic structure, workmanship and style is contrasted to another, more modest variant of the *Nesactium type II* fibula marked by the knee-shaped bow, not a plastically moulded thickening on it. These are decorated with two or three lines cut into the bottom back part of the bow, which is bent in the place where there are usually two or three transversal incised lines.

The decoration, unlike that on *Nesactium type I*, is less precise and could be called clumsy, and it is similar on the fibulae from Kastav (Fig. 3B; 4, 11)³⁷, Nesactium (Fig. 4, 9–10), Koper (Fig. 4, 12), Kaštelir near Nova vas (Fig. 4, 13) and Pula (Fig. 4, 14)³⁸. Only the incompletely preserved joint with incised lines on the Nesactium and Pula fibulae show that the decoration was originally unbroken (Fig. 4, 9–10. 14).

In general, all the *Nesactium type* fibulae are much more delicate and sensitively built than the Kastav type fibulae, so this may explain why their foot and, as a rule, pin are

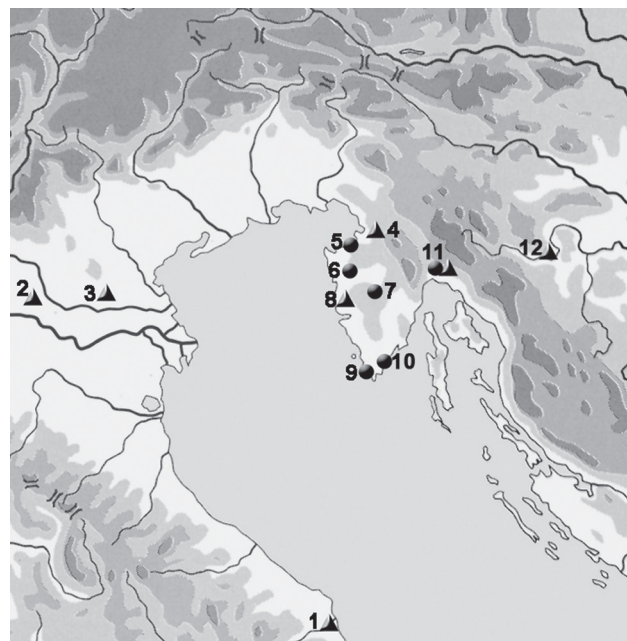


Fig. 5 : Distribution map of *Nesactium type* fibulae variant I (▲) and II (●).

missing. The best-preserved specimens are certainly those from Numana, Gazzo Cassinate and Picugi, while pins attached to a pin holder are only known from Numana and Nesactium. It will probably also be possible to classify the Golek pri Vinici fibulae under the first variant of *Nesactium* fibulae, but it is truly very interesting that, insofar as we know to date and from accessible material, there were none in Iapodic territory.

The distribution map shows (Fig. 5) that *Nesactium type* fibulae originate from the Istrian peninsula both in quantity and also in quality and distinctiveness.

Only a few sporadic finds were made outside its perimeter, in areas with which the Histri had traditionally established and reliable relations of various kinds, such as Veneto or the Marche. Regional production following a model is known from the Early Iron Age among the Histri,³⁹ so in this case the development and formation of a local taste using forms taken over from the style then dominant in the La Tène civilisation is not surprising. However, the more luxurious *Nesactium type I* fibulae have so far usually been found outside Istria, presumably they were made for the external market or for a more representative reason and later, by way of trade, exchange or similar contacts, they reached the region of the western Adriatic coast. The more modest II variant of *Nesactium* fibulae is more numerous and mostly typical of the local area on the eastern coast of the northern Adriatic in the Late Iron Age. It is arguable whether quantity of finds determines place of production, especially if specific archaeological contexts are missing. However, since we have sure data only for the finds under

³³ Marović – Nikolaci 1968/69, 36, 39; Stipčević 1981, 21, 33.

³⁴ In *Viča luka*, the rich Grave 4 has a helmet and spoils with the clepsydra symbol: Nikolaci 1959, 81 T. VII, 1; Marović – Nikolaci 1968/69, 26 Fig. 13, 30; 16, 39; *Zagvozd*: Nikolaci 1959, 82, 85 T. VIII, 2; *Sućuraj*: Nikolaci 1960, 31–34 Fig. 1; Teržan 1995, 87–88, 118–119 Abb. 8.

³⁵ *Nin* 20: Hiller 1991, T. 26, 291; *Solin*: Marović 1960, 20–22 Fig. 9, 1; *Viča luka*, Grave 3: Marović – Nikolaci 1968/69, 18, 43–44 Fig. 9, 2.

³⁶ Truhelka 1912, 24 Fig. 28; Popović 1994, 57–59 Abb. 3, 1.

³⁷ All that remains of the Kastav fibula is the spring, part of the bow and the pin. Size: length 3.3 cm, height 1.1 cm, diameter of bow 0.4 cm.

³⁸ I cordially thank my dear colleague Tihomir Percan for providing me with an opportunity to see the material from the Pula necropolis, and on his help. The material was processed for writing a graduation thesis at the Department of Archaeology of the Faculty of Philosophy in Zagreb. For new finds of these fibulae, see here Mihovilić 2008, Fig. 2, 5–6; 3, 24.

³⁹ See in general and most completely in Mihovilić 2001a.

List of sites (Fig. 5) :

No.	Finding site	Pieces/Context	Literature
1	Numana (It)	1 : individual find	Lollini 1979, Fig. 1. (<i>Fig. 4, 1</i>)
2	Gazzo Cassinate (It)	1 : necropolis?	Salzani 1976, Fig. 37, 1; Rizzetto 1978, Tav. 2, 3; Calzavara – Capuis – Ruta Serafini 1987, 290 Fig. 7; Salzani 1987, 79 Fig. 75. (<i>Fig. 4, 2</i>)
3	Este (It)	1 : Villa Benvenuti 123; 2 : Reitia Sanctuary	Capuis – Chieco Bianchi 2006, T. 159, 92; Meller 2002, T. 2, 20, 22. (<i>Fig. 4, 5. 7–8</i>)
4	Socerb (Si)	1 : necropolis?	Crismani – Righi 2002a, 50 Fig. 23, 70–71; Crismani – Righi 2002b, 90 Fig. 31; Gergolet 2001/02, 66 Fig. V.9. (<i>Fig. 4, 4</i>)
5	Koper (Si)	1 : individual find, settlement	Guštin 1987b, Fig. 2, 3. (<i>Fig. 4, 12</i>)
6	Kaštelir-Nova Vas (Cro)	1 : grave ?	Sakara Sučević 2004, 162 cat. 65. (<i>Fig. 4, 13</i>)
7	Beram (Cro)	1 : grave ?	Marchesetti 1883, T. 3, 21; Guštin 1987a, Fig. 2, 7; Guštin 1987b, Fig. 4, 5.
8	Picugi (Cro)	1 : individual find	Gabrovec – Mihovilić 1987, Fig. 18, 17; Guštin 1987b, Fig. 3, 5; Mihovilić 1991, 162 Fig. 1, 16. (<i>Fig. 4, 3</i>)
9	Pula (Cro)	1 : grave Fondo Dejak 101/187; 1 : Herkulova vrata, settlement	Mihovilić 1996, 52, fn. 115; Percan 2008; see here : Mihovilić 2008, Fig. 3, 24–25. (<i>Fig. 4, 14</i>)
10	Nezakcij (Cro)	4 : from temple B; 2 : from tombs 1981; 2 : from central part of temple B	Gabrovec – Mihovilić 1987, T. 34, 8; Guštin 1987b, Fig. 4, 8; Mihovilić 1996, 52 T. 1, 8–9; fn. 115; Mihovilić 2001b, Fig. 6, 4; see here : Mihovilić 2008, Fig. 2, 5–6. (<i>Fig. 4, 9–10</i>)
11	Kastav (Cro)	2 : necropolis?	Desetinec Collection, Vrbnik. (<i>Fig. 3; 4, 6. 11</i>)
12	Golek pri Vinici (Si)	2 : necropolis	Peabody Museum of Archaeology and Ethnology, Harvard, unpublished.

Temple B in Nesactium and from the Pula necropolis⁴⁰, while Tomb 123 in Villa Benvenuti from Este shows a longer continuity of burial, it could be that these small but interesting fibulae were produced somewhere in southern Istria. As such they probably mark the last independent expression of craftsmanship of an alochthonous form and autochthonous aesthetics, and were truly a derivative of the Kastav type fibula from the third and second centuries BC in the then flourishing Middle La Tène period of the wide continental region.

On the other hand, the presence of both variants in Kastav is understandable because Kastav was equally a gravitation centre and a developed junction for contacts and commercial communication with the interior of the continent. It was on the easiest and fastest route to Bela krajina, i. e. to Vinica, where both *Kastav type* and *Nesactium type* fibulae were found⁴¹. Finally, Kastav and Socerb, as the end points and the two “Istrian sentries”, played an important role in absorbing and also in radiating influence and cultural currents towards the eastern sub-Alpine region on one hand, and Lika and Bela krajina on the other, at the time of the Late Iron Age when the Roman Republic

was ambitiously nearing their territory, or just before the beginning of a completely new historical episode.

Whether what has been described above makes it possible to recognise or consider a relationship between a universal style and its transformation into original local creativity and craftsmanship is a question that will provide motivation for further research, which was also Mitja Guštin’s visionary wish twenty years ago⁴².

⁴⁰ Gnirs 1925; Percan 2008; Mihovilić 2008.

⁴¹ These, of course, are not the only material remains linking Kastav and Grobnik with Vinica; indeed, there are many such similarities and connecting items. See in general in Blečić 2002; Blečić 2004.

⁴² Academy Professor Biba Teržan and PhD Boris Kavur provided me with the indispensable discussion, advice and help in the writing of this work, for which I thank them sincerely.

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