

## Bič

IRN 15543 Pristavica pri Velikem Gabru – Pule archaeological site

Motorway section KO 14 Bič–Trebnje

Geographical coordinates x 491364 y 86658 z 305

Primary topographical map sheet TTN5 Višnja Gora 47

Cadastral register c.c. Zagorica (TR), cadastral plot nos. 562/1, 2, 4, 5, 6, 7, 569/2, 571/1, 2, 3, 632/1 &amp; 633/1

Site type Settlement, refuse pit

Period Prehistory, Roman, Middle Ages

Method and date of discovery, site discovered by Archaeological survey 2001, Gojko Tica and Bojan Djurić

Fieldwork method and date Excavation 2002

Excavation director Gojko Tica

Excavated area 2,000 m<sup>2</sup>

Site Archive kept by Akord, d.o.o.

Archaeological excavation was undertaken on both sides of the present Ljubljana–Zagreb highway between the hamlets of Dobravica and Pristavica near Veliki Gaber. The area was divided into Sector no. 1 to the south and Sector no. 2 to the north of the road. Several smaller, shallow pits without finds were excavated in Sector no. 1. The two small hearths and an old ground surface in both sectors were undoubtedly of prehistoric origin. The material is still being processed, which makes more accurate dating impossible at the present time. It can be approximately classified as originating from the Late Bronze Age or Early Iron Age.

Layers and structures from the Late Middle Ages and the beginning of the Modern period were excavated in Sector no. 2. Two structures were most distinct: a 5.5 m long and 0.8 m wide group of rounded limestone rubble deposited in several layers. It was not possible to define the purpose of this structure; it could be the foundation of a timber house or remains of a plot boundary, which was also marked at



Prehistoric potsherds



the same spot in the Franciscan cadastral register from the turn of the 18th century. A large pit was discovered to the immediate west of the structure. It was approximately 1 m x 1 m in size and 0.15 in depth. The upper part contained sherds of medieval coarse ware, whilst the lower part was filled with a dark brown deposit with charcoal and occasional pottery fragment inclusions. The pit base was floored with closely fitting square limestone slabs. It was most probably used as a rubbish pit, where damaged or broken potsherds were dumped. A layer with a small iron knife and pottery that can be compared with the pottery from the pit was excavated around both structures. There were no Modern finds in this layer, which can thus be interpreted as evidence of intensive medieval or early modern use of space.

The presence of numerous Roman finds on the site has remained unaccounted for. Over 100 fragments of Roman pottery were discovered in the upper, mixed layers, but no undamaged Roman layer was found beneath them. The finds can be interpreted as a result of post-depositional processes, the movement of material from an area of intact deposits (colluviation) or as a result of destruction of a shallow Roman layer in this area. Roman remains appeared directly beneath the circa 20 cm deep topsoil at the site of Zagorica, which is only a few hundred metres away. It may, thus, be suggested with some conviction that the Roman settlement remains in the excavated part of the site are entirely destroyed, as were those in the immediate vicinity.



Medieval potsherds  
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#### GOJKO TICA

#### References

- DJURIČ, BOJAN; TICA, GOJKO, *Poročilo o rezultatih arheološkega pregleda na potencialnem najdišču Bič*, Ljubljana 2001.
- MUŠIČ, BRANKO, *Poročilo o geofizikalni raziskavi na lokaciji Zagorica–Bič*, Ljubljana 2002.
- TICA, GOJKO, *Poročilo o arheoloških izkopavanjih na lokaciji Bič na trasi AC Bič–Korenitka*, Novo Mesto 2002.