

Shipwreck at the Islet of Babuljaš Nova istraživanja antičkog brodoloma kod otočica Babuljaša

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The second underwater archaeological research campaign of the Roman shipwreck of the islet of Babuljaš was conducted in May of 2014. After an initial archaeological survey of the terrain (Pešić, Meštrov 2012) and archaeological excavations (Pešić 2013), research of this interesting shipwreck in the waters of Pakoštane continued this year. As in previous years, the research effort was financed by the Tourism Board of the Municipality of Pakoštane, with the archaeological research conducted by the International Centre for Underwater Archaeology in Zadar in collaboration with the Han-Vrana Agency. Serving as campaign leader was Mladen Pešić, with deputy campaign leader Luka Bekić DSc, joined by a team of experts consisting of Anita Jelić, Marina Šimičić, Roko Surić and Marko Meštrov. The international component of the expert archaeological team consisted of Roman Scholz and Antje Fischer (Germany), Nemanja Čavlović (Montenegro) and Elizabeth (Lisa) Briggs (USA).

The research was conducted this year over a surface area of twenty square metres, rounding out the area researched over two years at six by six metres. The trenches are concentrated in one spot and the method of documentation initiated last year was continued this year. All separate finds were measured from fixed points and a map was made of the site and the distribution of the finds within a grid frame.

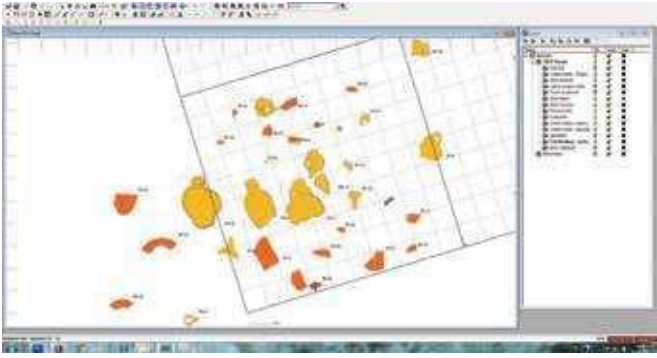
The final map is created in the Site Recorder software application, which allows us to have a detailed view of the distribution of finds and offers the possibility of various

views of finds based on typological characteristics. Finally, this method offers data on the distribution of finds within the shipwreck and allows us to determine the orientation of the ship and a number of other data on the organisation of the ship's cargo and equipment.

It was already determined last year that the bulk of the cargo transported by the ship off Babuljaš consisted of

1. Final planning ahead of a dive / Posljednji dogovori

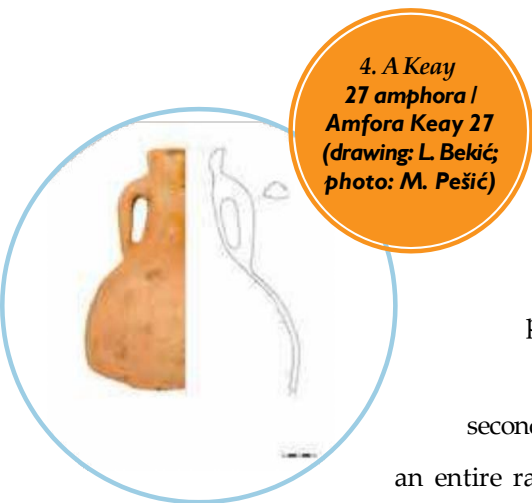
Istraživanja proveo je Međunarodni centar za podvodnu arheologiju u Zadru u suradnji sa javnom ustanovom Hrvatski Vrana. Voditelj istraživanja bio je Mladen Pešić, zamjenik voditelja dr. sc. Luka Bekić, a s njima su kao stručni dio ekipe u istraživanju sudjelovali Anita Jelić, Marina Šimičić, Roko Surić i Marko Meštrov. Međunarodni dio stručne arheološke ekipe su činili Roman Scholz i Antje Fischer (Njemačka), Nemanja Čavlović (Crna Gora) i Elizabeth (Lisa) Briggs (S. A. D.).



2. A part of the site as seen in the Site Recorder / Prikaz dijela nalazišta u Site Recorderu (photo: M. Pešić)

North African amphorae of various types. The most numerous were amphorae of the Keay XXV type that appear on four versions – also of North African provenance are amphorae of the Keay XXVII and XXXVB type (Keay 1984). Most of these amphorae were used for the transport of oil and wine, but there are indications that the XXXVB type was used for the transport of fish sauces – a much-valued foodstuff in the Roman world (Bonifay 2004, 135). Other types of amphorae were also discovered during this year's research campaign that have not yet been typologically identified. The most interesting is an amphora with broad handles bearing strap-like grooves, with a neck decorated with a series of horizontal and wavy incisions. Based on typological characteristics its origin could be in the eastern Mediterranean area and – given that it was the sole specimen at the shipwreck site – we cannot say whether it was, like the North African amphorae, a part of the cargo.

3. Each separate find is measured out in detail / Svaki posebni nalaz detaljno je izmjereno (photo: M. Šimičić)



4. A Keay 27 amphora / Amfora Keay 27 (drawing: L. Bekić; photo: M. Pešić)

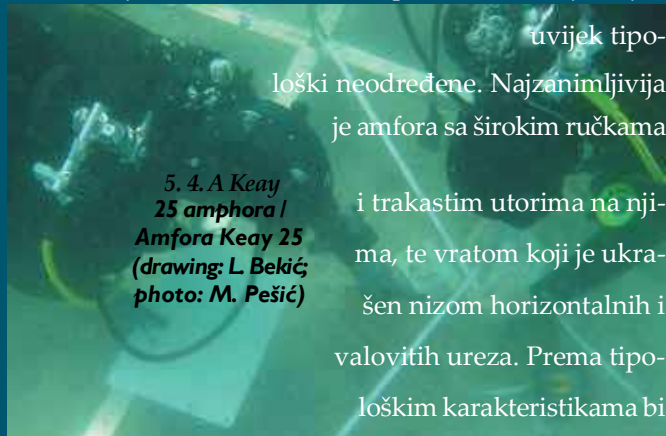
Along with the amphorae, which were taken off the ship off Babuljaš transported as its primary cargo, the

secondary cargo includes an entire range of coarse and fine ware originating from various parts of North Africa. We can divide the coarse ware into

several basic types according to Hayes – 181, 197, 182 and 196 – and all

of the types can be placed by time of manufacture in the late 4th and early 5th century (Hayes 1972). For the most part these are vessels of large dimensions that served for the preparation of food, and we find a large number of lids that were used to cover these vessels.

istraživanja otkriveni su i novi tipovi amfora koje su još



5. 4. A Keay
25 amphora /
Amfora Keay 25
(drawing: L. Bekić;
photo: M. Pešić)

uvijek tipološki neodređene. Najzanimljivija je amfora sa širokim ručkama i trakastim utorima na njima, te vratom koji je ukrašen nizom horizontalnih i valovitih ureza. Prema tipološkim karakteristikama bitno porijeklo moglo biti na prostoru istočnog



The greatest number of African red slip ware or terra sigillata chiara ceramic finds are fine pottery of orange colour with a slip of the same colour. This type of ware belongs to the category of luxury ware and, at this site, the majority of this ceramic ware is of the Hayes 50B type that is dated to the period of the 4th and 5th centuries. After a luxurious small



6.

An amphora with horizontal and wavy decoration / Amfora s horizontalnim i valovitim ukrasom (photo: M. Pešić)

bowl was found last year with a depiction of a leopard and a lion, we were fortunate enough again this year to find another specimen

of a small bowl of the same type, but in a better state of preservation with a very nice depiction. On the small bowl we recognise the depiction in relief of the figure of a shepherd with Phrygian cap dressed in a tunic carrying a ram over his shoulder with another ram standing next to him. This depiction may be characterised as being of the Good Shepherd, which is in fact a personification of Christ. The small bowl belongs to the Hayes 53A type, which is dated to the period from 350 to 430 (Hayes 1972, 78-82).

The remains of the ship's wooden structure have yet to be found, but because of the breadth of the site there is a possibility that it will be discovered in further research efforts. Certainly telling in favour of the existence of the ship's structure in this area is the find of lead plating of small dimensions and bronze and iron nails. Bronze nails appear in two variants – all are of square cross-section and

7. Excavation and find documentation /

Iskopavanja i dokumentacija nalaza (photo: M.

Pešić)

Mediterana, a budući da je to jedini primjerak s brodoloma, ne možemo reći da li je ona, kao i sjevernoafričke amfore, bila dio tereta.

Uz amfore, koje je brod s Babuljaša prevezio kao primarni teret, kao sekundarni teret nalazimo čitavu paletu grubog i finog posuđa porijeklom iz različitih dijelova sjeverne Afrike.

Grubo posuđe možemo razdijeliti u nekoliko osnovnih tipova po Hayes-u - 181, 197, 182, 196, a svi tipovi se prema vremenu proizvodnje mogu smjestiti u kraj 4. i početak 5. st. (Hayes 1972). Uglavnom se radi o zdjelama većih

dimenzija koje su služile za pripremu hrane, a nalazimo i veći broj poklopaca koji je služio za pokrivanje istih.

Najveći broj keramičkih nalaza koje se naziva African red slip ware, ili terra sigillata chiara, predstavlja inu keramiku narandčaste boje s premazom u istoj nijansi. Ovakav tip posuđa





*8. The find of a bowl with depiction in relief /
Pronalazak zdjele s reljefnim ukrasom (photo: L.
Bekić)*



9. A bowl with depiction in relief / Zdjela s reljefnim prikazima (photo: M. Pešić)

some have a broad, calotte-shaped head, while some appear without heads.

spada u kategoriju luksuznog posuđa, a na nalazištu većina takvog keramičkog posuđa pripada posudama Hayes 50B koje se datiraju u period 4. i 5. st. Nakon što je prošle godine nađena luksuzna zdjelica s prikazom leoparda i lava, i ove smo godine imali sreću naći još jedan primjerak zdjelice istog tipa, ali bolje očuvane i s vrlo lijepim prikazom. Na zdjelici se u reljefnom ukrasu prepoznaje lik pastira s frigijskom kopicom obučenim u tuniku, koji preko ramena nosi ovna, a uz njega stoji još jedan ovan. Ovakav prikaz može se okarakterizirati kao prikaz Dobrog pastira, što je zapravo personifikacija Krista. Zdjelica pripada tipu Hayes 53A koji se datira u period od 350. - 430 g. (Hayes 1972, 78-82).

Ostatci drvene brodske konstrukcije još uvijek nisu nađeni, no zbog širine nalazišta postoji mogućnost da će biti otkriveni u daljnjim istraživanjima. U prilog postojanju brodske konstrukcije na ovom dijelu, zasigurno ide u prilog pronalazak olovnih oplata manjih dimenzija te brončanih i željeznih čavala. Brončani čavli se javljaju u dvije varijante, svi su četvrtastog presjeka, neki imaju široku kalotastu glavu, dok se neki javljaju bez glave.

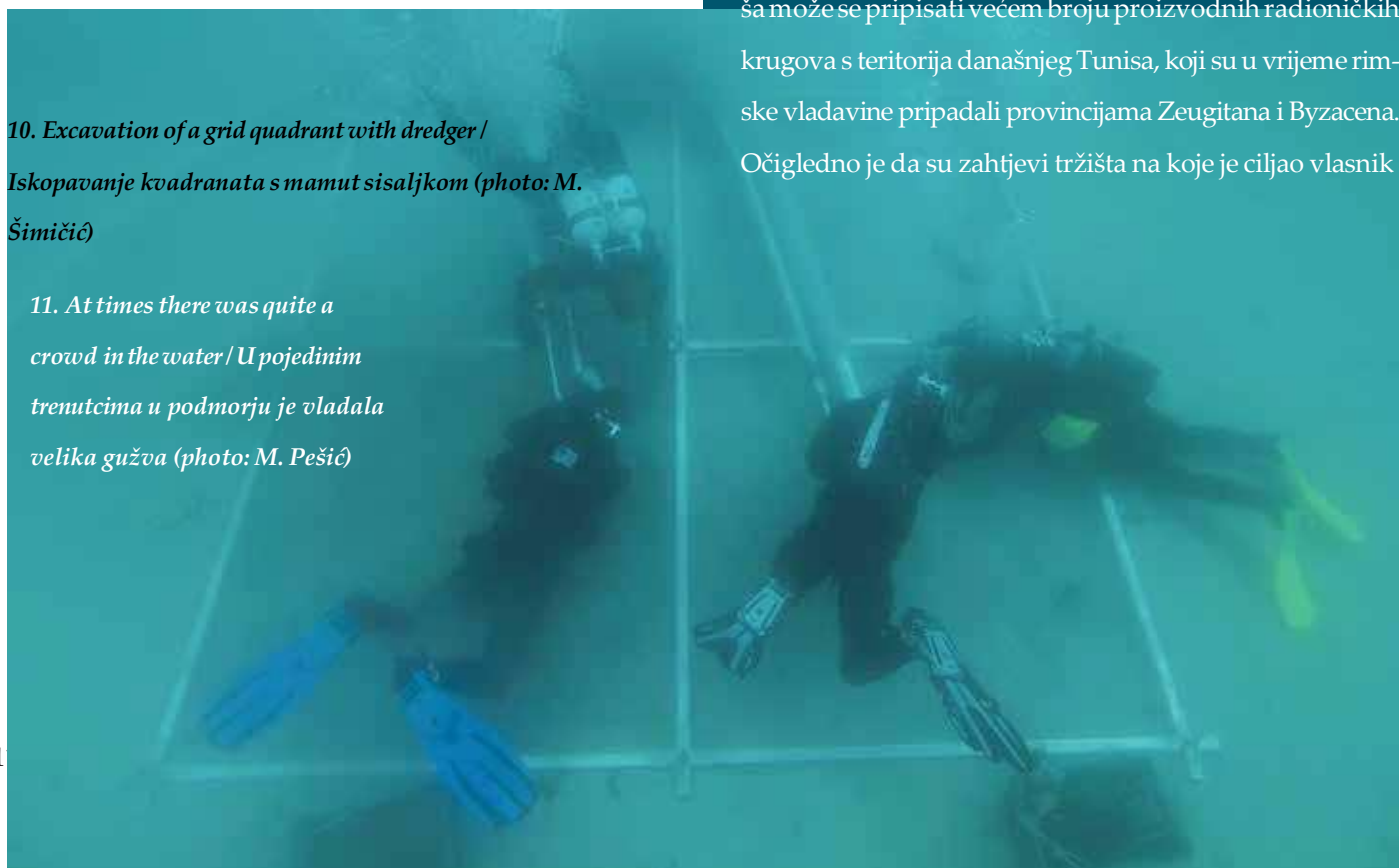
Porijeklo amfora, grubog i sigilatnog posuđa s Babuljaša može se pripisati većem broju proizvodnih radioničkih krugova s teritorija današnjeg Tunisa, koji su u vrijeme rimske vladavine pripadali provincijama Zeugitana i Byzacena. Očigledno je da su zahtjevi tržišta na koje je ciljao vlasnik



the amphorae and the coarse and sigillata ware from Babuljaš may be at-

10. Excavation of a grid quadrant with dredger / Iskopavanje kvadranta s mamut sisaljkom (photo: M. Šimičić)

11. At times there was quite a crowd in the water / U pojedinim trenucima u podmorju je vladala velika gužva (photo: M. Pešić)



tributed to a large number of workshop circles in the territory of present-day Tunisia that, during Roman rule, were part of the provinces of Zeugitana and Byzacena. It is evident that the demands of the market targeted by the owner of the cargo were diverse and that there was a need for the products we find at the site of the shipwreck to be sourced from various parts of the North African provinces.

12. The team of archaeologists from the research at Babuljaš in 2014 / Arheološka ekipa s istraživanja Babuljaša 2014:

from

the left / S lijeva: Marko Meštrov, Roko Surić, Nemanja Čavlović, Mladen Pešić, Antje Fischer, Marina Šimičić, Anita Jelić, Roman Scholz, Elizabeth Briggs, Luka Bekić (photo: Nadji Laguna)

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