

# Emona and its pre-Roman population: epigraphic evidence

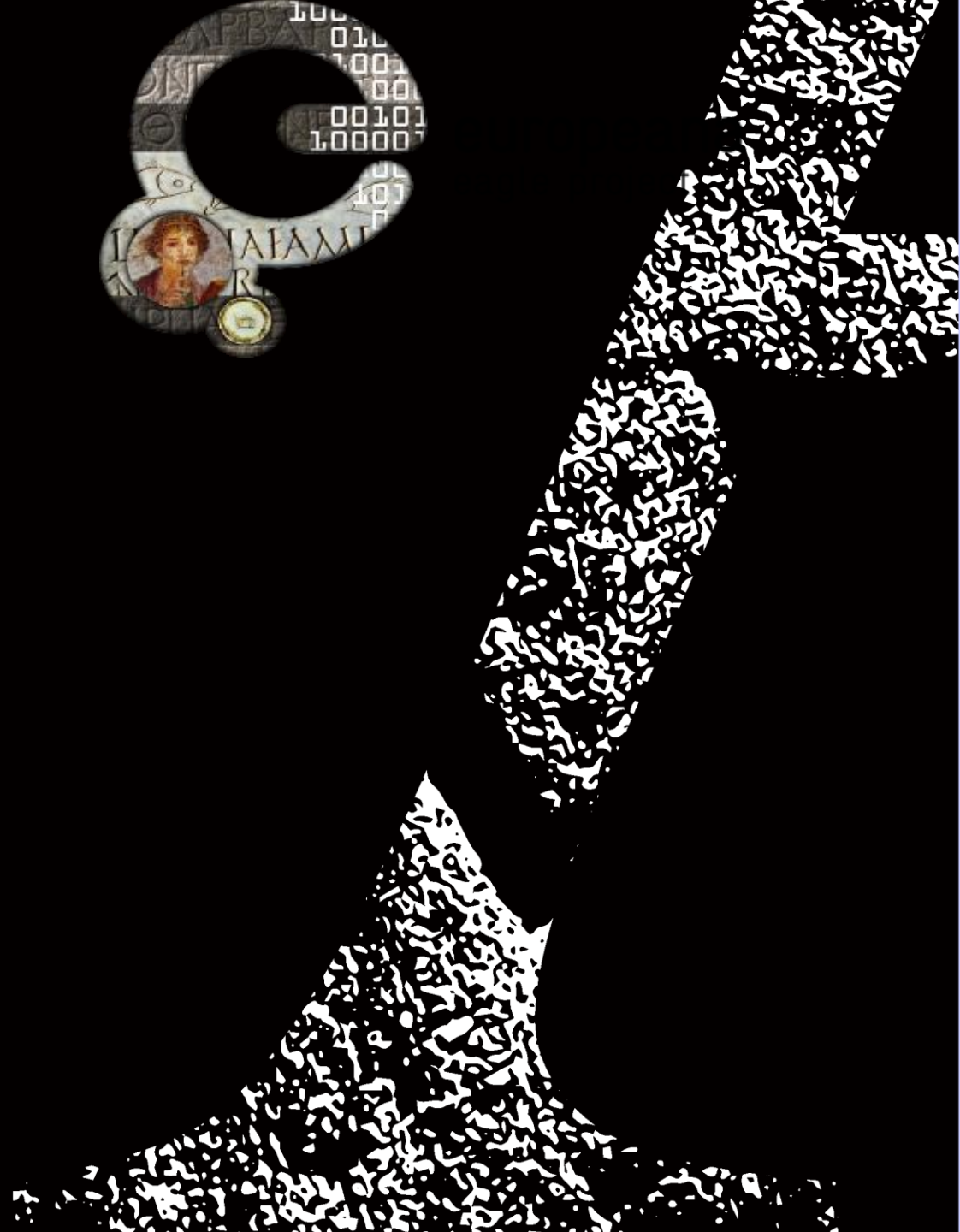
Marjeta Šašel Kos

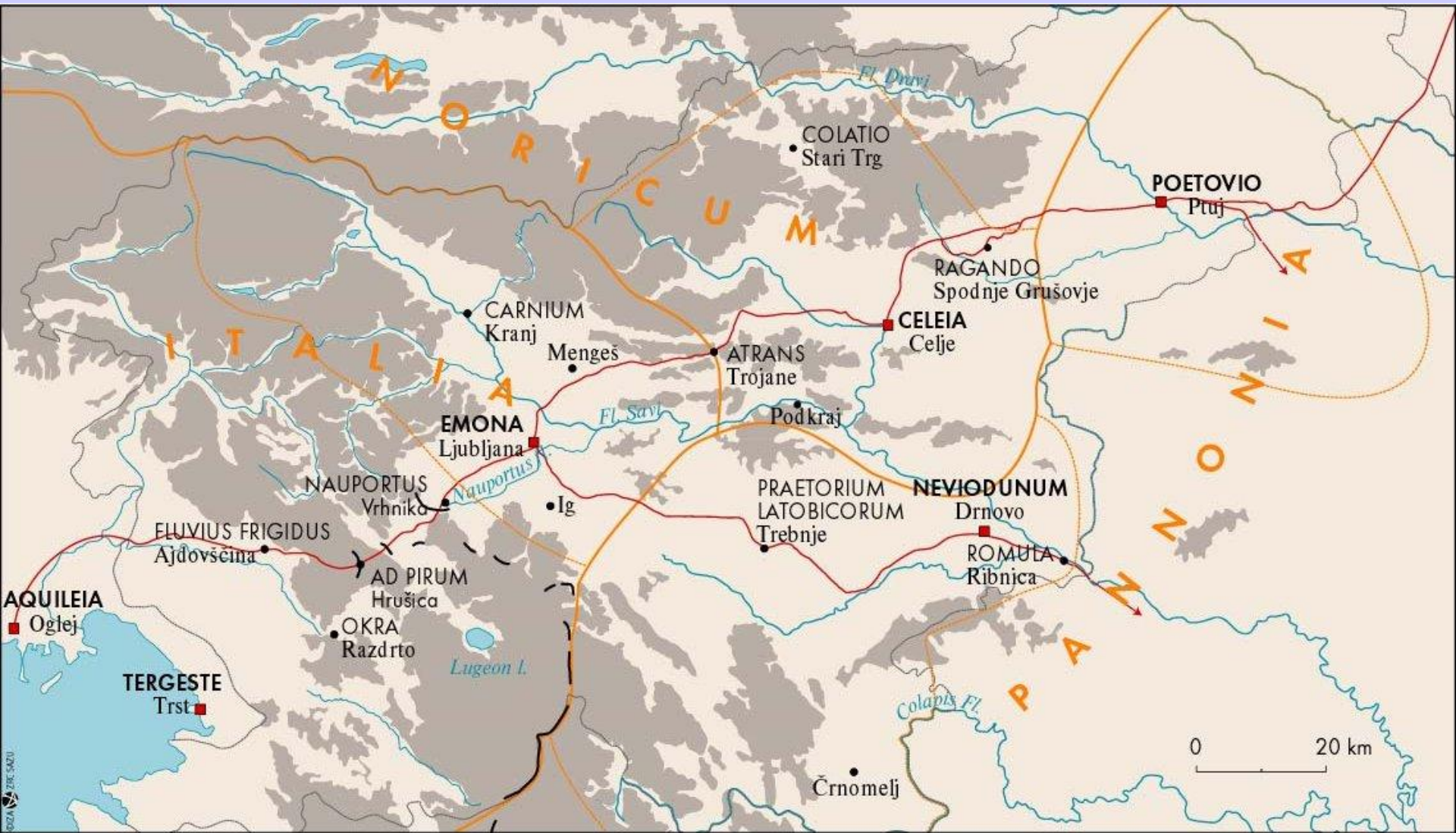
ZRC SAZU Inštitut za  
arheologijo

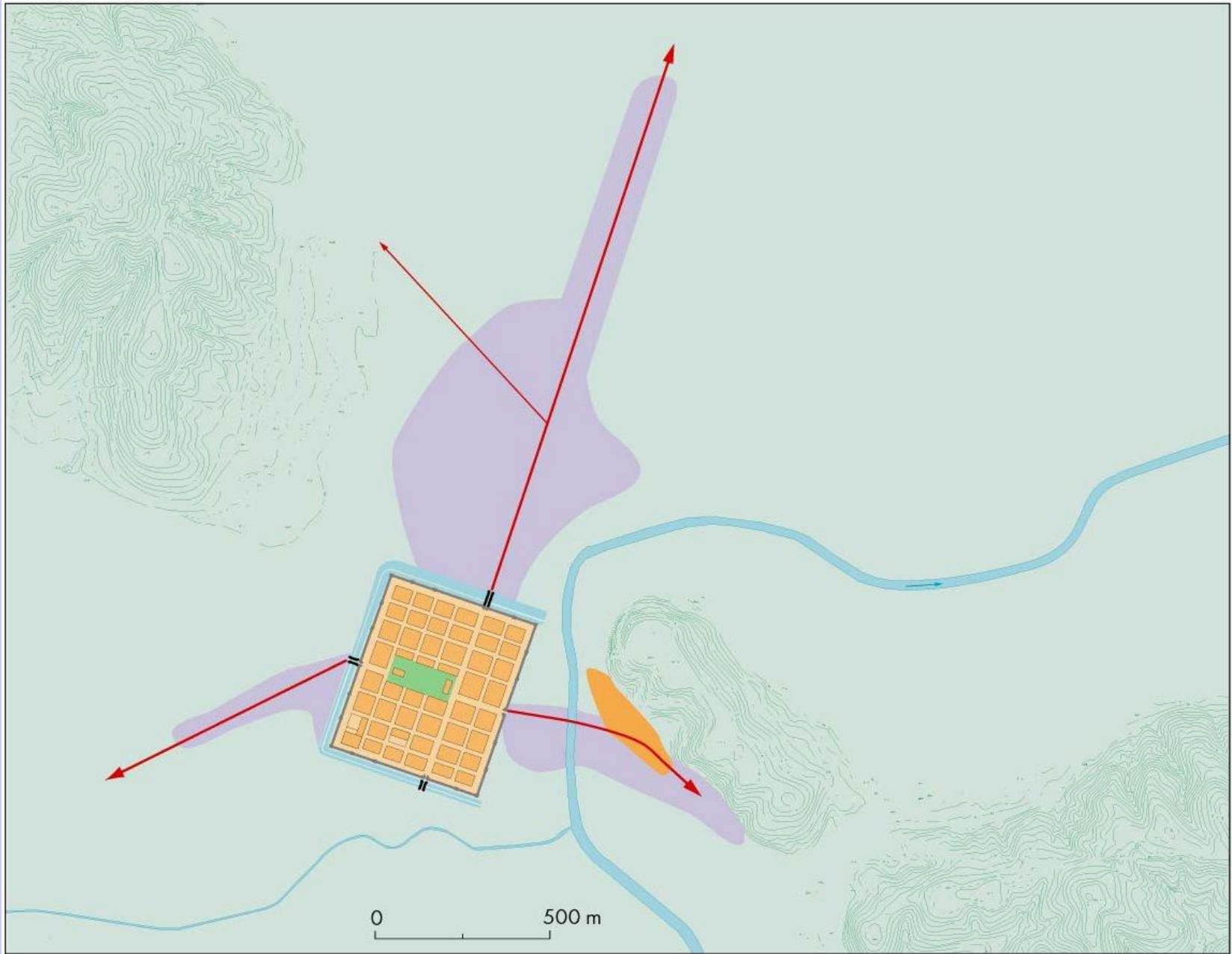


# EAGLE

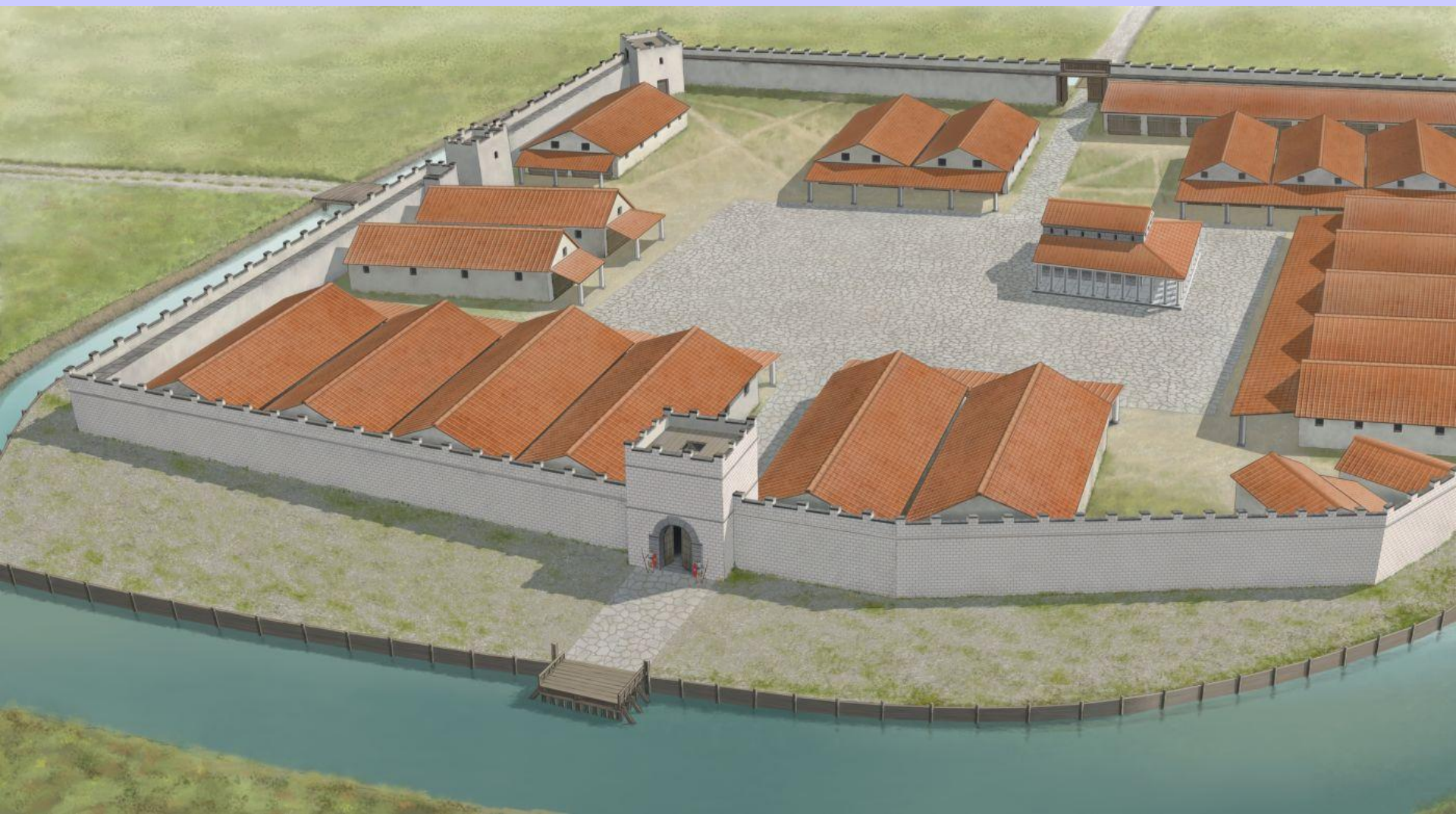
**Europeana  
network of  
Ancient  
Greek and  
Latin  
Epigraphy**







Emona: ground plan of the town with cemeteries



Nauportus: the Roman *vicus*, “*municipii instar*”.

Tentative schematic  
representation of different  
ancient languages  
spoken in Illyricum

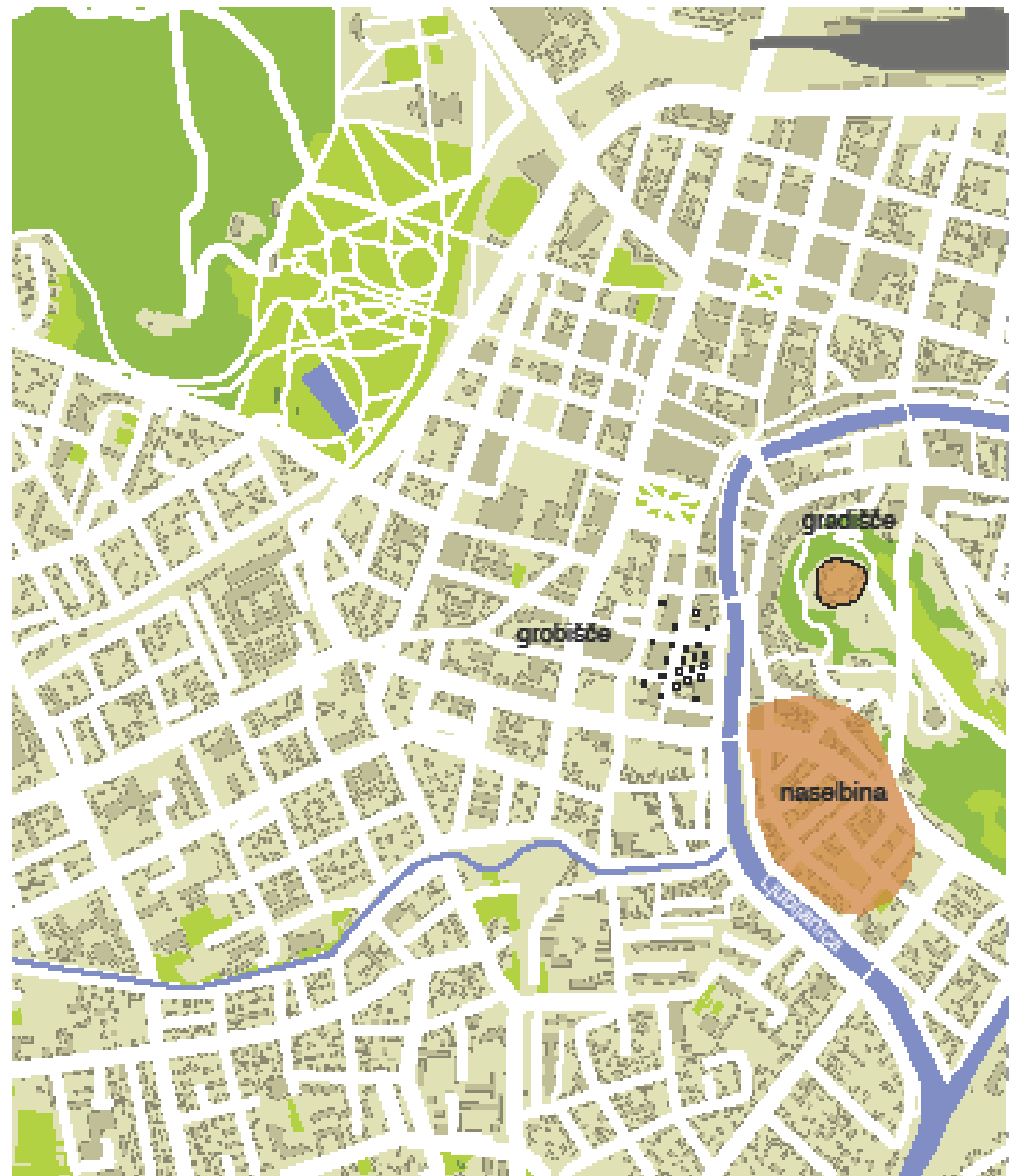
(from Šašel, *Anthroponymie*,  
1977, 367 [= *Opera*, 1992,  
126]).

- 1: Celtic;
- 2: Venetic;
- 3: Pannonian;
- 4: Istrian and Liburnian;
- 5: Dacian and Moesian;
- 6: Dardanian and Thracian;
- 7: Illyrian;
- 8: Epirote and Macedonian.

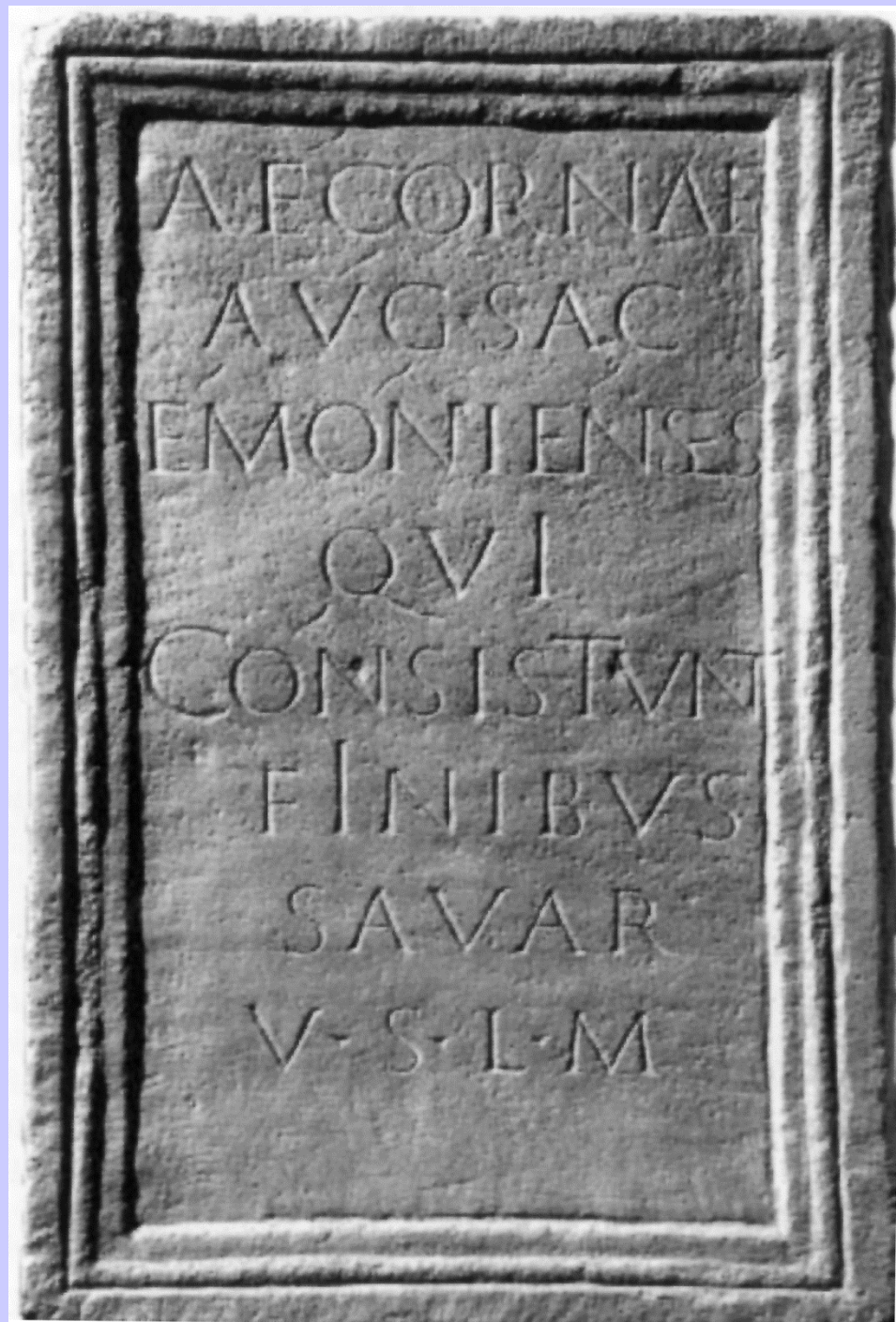


Iron Age Emona:  
Hillfort settlement  
Cemetery  
Settlement by the  
river

From Bernarda  
Županek



*Aecornae /  
Aug(ustae)  
sac(rum) /  
Emonienses / qui /<sup>5</sup>  
consistunt / finibus  
/ Savar(iae) /  
v(otum) s(olverunt)  
l(ibentes) m(erito).*





*L(ucius) Maximi  
fil(ius) / dom(o)  
Emon(a)  
an(norum) (!) /  
v(ivus) f(ecit) sibi et  
sui(s) / et Saloniae  
Mar/cellae  
con(iugi)  
pie(ntissimae)  
an(norum) XXX*

*CIL III 4196 = lupa 7971*



Some bore Latin names, perhaps translated from their language: **Maximus, Rusticus, Secundus, Quartus.**

Mainly their names are characteristic for the northern Adriatic or Venetic area: **Laepius, Plator, Voltupar, Voltaronti, Amatu, Brocc(i?)us, Eppo, Buio, Buco, Manu, Nammo, Secco.**

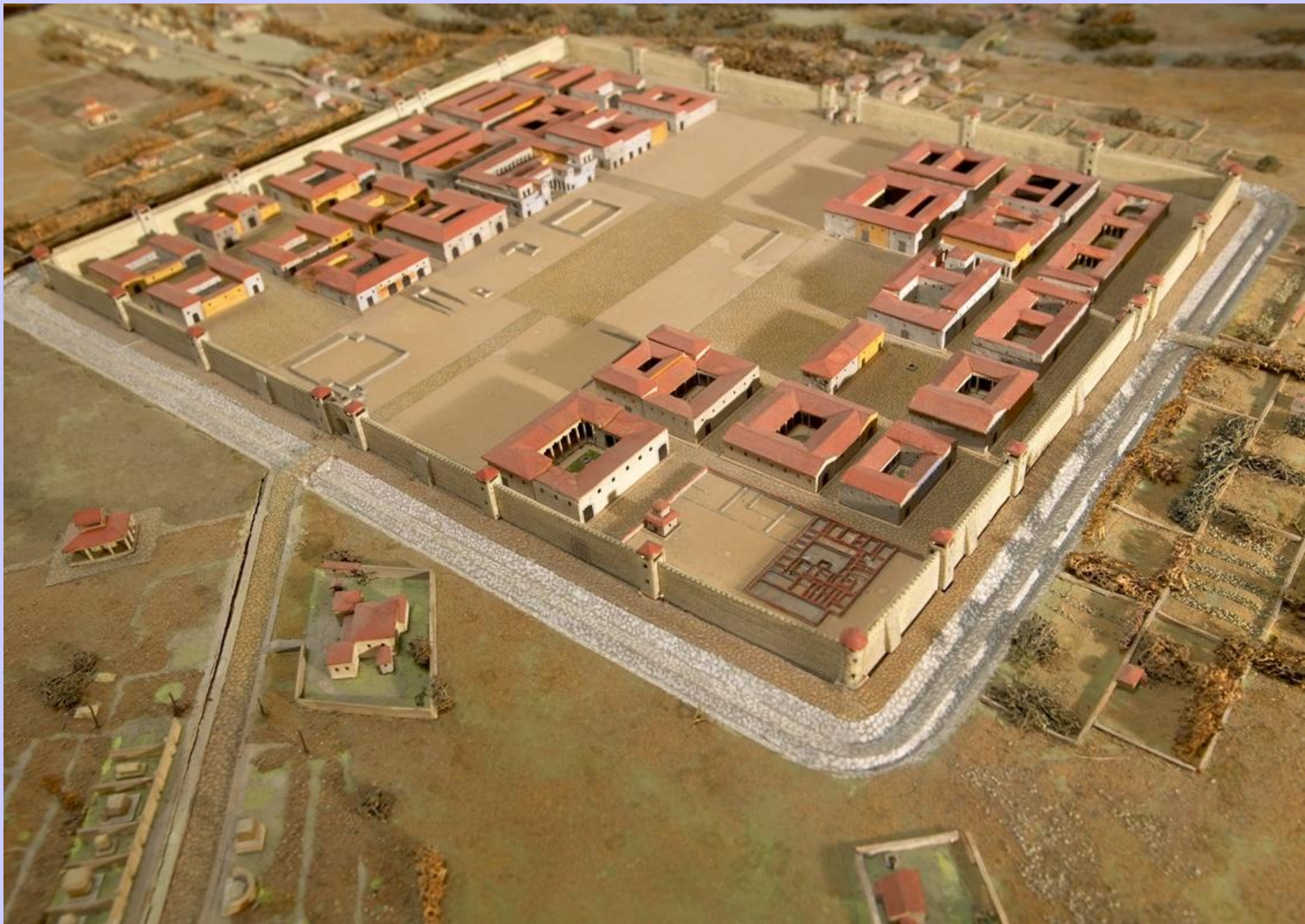
A few names are not known elsewhere: **Aicon(i)us, Bolerianus, Buctor, Buquorsa, Ennina, Moiota.**

Celtic Adnamatus was assimilated as **Adnomatus.**



*RINMS 3:*

T. Caesernius Diphilus, freedman of Assupa, member of the board of six priests (?) at Aquileia, had (his tombstone) erected while still living. [*Inscribed later*]: Dignus, freedman, while still living.



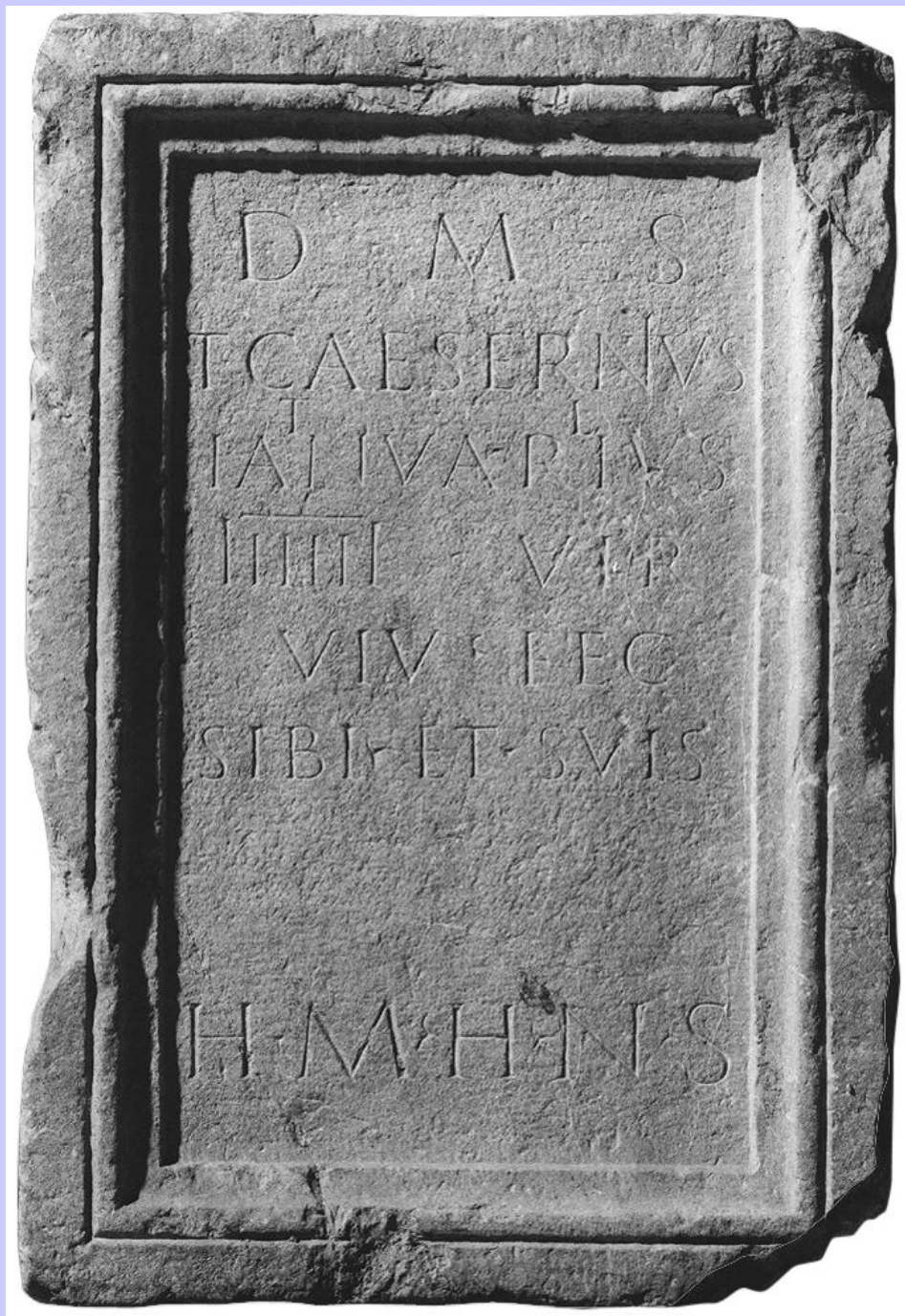


*RINMS 3:*

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Sacred to the Spirits  
of the Departed.

**Titus Caesernius  
Ianuarius, freedman  
of Titus, member of  
the board of six  
priests, erected (the  
tombstone) while still  
living, for himself  
and his (family). This  
monument is not  
inheritable.**





Thalnitscher's  
*lapidarium*



Etia B&K fecit et Labay

Ioannes Gregori, Thalniticher de Thal:  
perg Carniol, Labacensis. et: suæ æt. A. 1700.

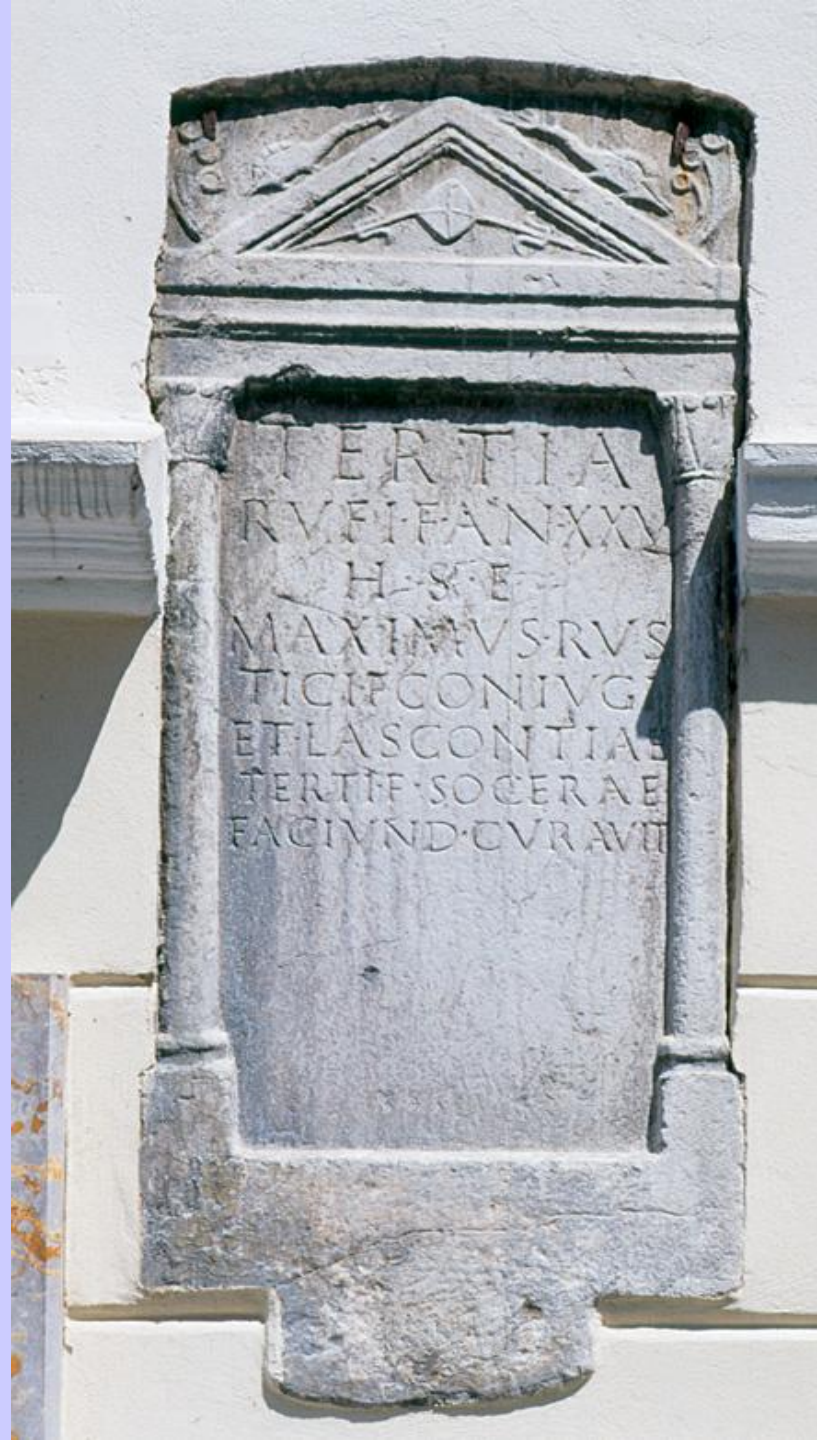


D(is) M(anibus) s(acrum) / Buio Vibi  
f(ilius) / v(ivus) posuit sibi / et coniugi  
Lascio/<sup>5</sup>{ a }nti(a)e Q() Subloani f(iliae) /  
Θ(obitae) an(norum) XXXX et f(ilio?)  
Fibioni / Θ(obito) an(norum) VII [---] /  
[---?].

Sacred to the spirits of the departed. Buio, son of Vib(i)us, had (the monument) erected in his lifetime for himself and his wife Lasciontia, daughter of Subloanus (?), who died at the age of 40, and to the son (?) Fibio (?), who died at the age of 7 ...

*CIL* III 3855; *lupa* 4200

Tertia, daughter of Rufus, lies here. Maximus, son of Rusticus, had (the tombstone) made for (his) wife **and (his) mother-in-law Lascontia, daughter of Tertius.**



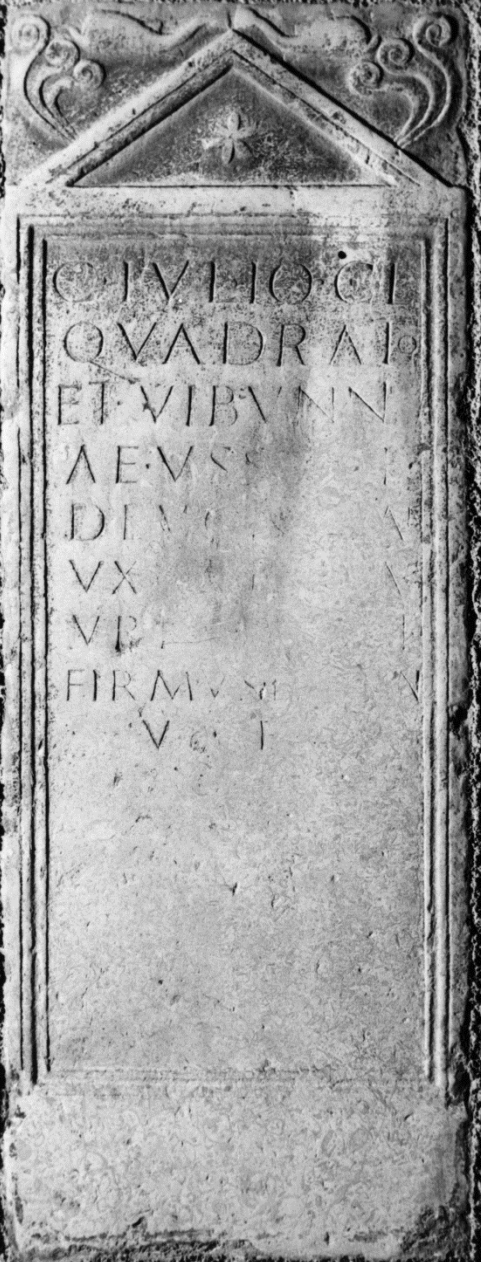
Names characteristic of autochthonous population are also *Enno*, *Em(m)o* and *Enna* and *Ennia*, as well as *Secco*.

Like *Devontia* (*Devonti*) on the next tombstone, and *Lasc(i)ontia* (*Lasc(i)onti*), some female names in the Ig-Emona area were formed in *\*-ontī*, which is a typically local and epichoric phenomenon. These female names was integrated into the standard Latin paradigm ending in *-iā*.

C(aio). Iulio. C(ai). l(iberto) / Quadrato  
/ et. Vibunni/ae. Uss ... f(iliae) /<sup>5</sup>  
Devontiae / uxori vivae / Urb. ...  
f(ilio?) / Firmus. I ... N / v(ivus).  
f(ecit).

To Gaius Iulius Quadratus, freedman of Gaius, and to Vibunna, daughter of Uss[-]. To Devontia, his wife, in her lifetime. To Urb[-], his son (?). Firmus ... (had the tombstone) made in his lifetime.

*CIL* III 3863 = 10759 = *AIJ* 189 = *lupa* 3704



CIVLIO CI  
QVADRAI  
ET VIBVNNI  
A E V S S  
D E V S S  
V X  
V P  
F I R M V S S  
V O T

---?] / Vibunniaes / Matrones /  
in agro p(edes) LS (!) / in  
fronte /<sup>5</sup> p(edes) XXVIII.

*CIL* III 14354,16 = *RINMS* 60 = *lupa* 1158

URBVM NINIAS  
MATRONES  
IN AGRO PIS  
IN ERONITE  
PXXVIII





Southern city walls of Emona

[Vict]ori/[ae]  
Aug(ustae)  
Sa(nctae) /  
[s]acrum / Sex(tus)  
Vibun/<sup>5</sup>nus Avitus  
/ ex vot(o).

*RINMS 27 = AIJ 163*



Roman  
inscriptions  
from Carniola  
published in  
Schönleben's  
*Carniolia*.

multos annos infertus est lapis quadratus referens offigiem pectoralem viri cum hac Epigraphe.

D. M.  
AVR. AV.  
PI. ☉. AV.  
LXX.

IV. Quartus lapis ante septem vel octo annos erutus est in horto Excellentissimi Domini Comit. D. Wolfgangi Engelberti ab Aursperg supremi Capitanei Provinciæ, & ibidem muro infertus cum hac Inscriptioe

DIS MAN.  
L. PVBL. A. PRO  
LIB. ET. TABVL.  
REL. PVBL. AVG.  
GRATVITO  
VIVVS FEC. SIB

Peribit & iste lapis propediem, quia expositus scopo jaculatorum.

V. Quintus lapis cernitur in pariete Palatij Episcopalis, obverso plateæ cujus sub tribus humanis capitibus hæc est inscriptio:

D. M. S.  
DVRRIVS AVITVS  
E PETRONIA  
MAXIMILLA VIVI  
FECERVNT. SIBI. E  
FILIÆ. MAXIMÆ ☉  
AV. XVII. INFELICIS-  
SIME. PARENTES

VI. Sextus lapis est in eodem Palatio Episcopali in ambitu medio, quæ Ecclesia acceditur, parieti immuratus, cum hac inscriptione:

Q. ANNAIVS. Q. L.  
TORRAVIVS  
M. FVLGINAS M. L  
PHILOGENES  
MAG. VICI. DI

VIC S. PORTIC. F. COIR.

VII. Septimus lapis repertus est circa annum 1635. cum ab Ædile civitatis edificaretur publicum hospitium

A. in suburbio versus S. Christophorum, quod hodie adhuc extat è regione Cænobij Patrum Discalceatorum. Lapis muro infertus ad publicam viam hanc exhibet inscriptionem.

SECVNDÆ.  
EPPONIS F.  
GVEDIVS RVFVS  
: : : : : : : | FECIT  
: : : : : : : | VXORI  
ET SABINO E  
IN FRONT. P. XII  
IN AGRO P. XVIII.

B. Sub hoc lapide inventa fuit tum-  
ba lapidea trium vel quatuor pedum longa: in ea paucæ officulæ, & annuli duo brachiales aurei, cum parva catenula aurea. Pars scripturæ in hoc lapide scilicet pro jam olim erasa est: videntur tamen in quarta linea vestigia literarum M. O, ut suspicer scriptum fuisse EMON.

VIII. Octavus lapis cernitur in pariete Ecclesiæ S. Bartholomæi extra civitatem in villa dicta Sishka, cum hac inscriptione.

D. M.  
M. OCTAVIUS  
SATULLVS  
VIUS F. SIBI. ET  
C. CONIUGI. DOMITIÆ  
FORTUNATÆ.

IX. Nonus lapis erutus est Anno 1674. in horto D. Francisci de Zergollern, videtur fuisse basis vnius statuæ cujus vnus superior angulus fractus est. Inscriptio hæc est.

I. O.  
M. AUREL.  
SERENUS.  
VIR. E. EX.  
VOTO. P.

X. Decimus lapis esto Recentior, huc tamen spectat, quia ex eo agnoscitur potest sensus maiorum nostrorum, de veteri nomine vrbis Labacensis, qui sic habet:

SECVNDAE.  
EPPONIS F.  
GVEDIVS RVFVS  
: : : : : | FECIT  
: : : : : | VXORI  
ET SABINO E  
IN FRONT. P. XII.  
IN AGRO P. XVIII.

Secundae / Epponis f(iliae) /  
G(aius) Veditius Rufus / [vivus?]  
fecit / <sup>5</sup> [sibi et?] uxori / et Sabino  
<f>(ilio). / In front(e) p(edes) XII  
/ in agro p(edes) XVII.

*CIL III 3872 = lupa 4204*



*AIJ 186*





Archaeological park: Emonian House