

## Medieval and early modern finds in the collections of dr. Andrásy Ernő

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Ernő Andrásy held a rich collection of medieval finds, though his primary interests were in earlier periods. The medieval items came from incidental finds, field surveys and several excavations and were included in his collection which formed the museum of Valea lui Mihai / Érmihályfalva. The items of the former collections are unidentifiable today, except for several pieces, but the recovered documents of the museum founded by Andrásy offer an insight on the medieval discoveries. These documents include the inventory of the artifacts belonging to the museum; variants of a museum-guide prepared for publication in type-written pages; a handwritten booklet on the museum's collections; notes on archaeological discoveries, also on handwritten pages; and other various documents comprising letters to officials and researchers, accounts, lists, registers, and administrative records.<sup>1</sup> Based on the analysis of these documents, I will present in the following pages the results relating to the finds from the Middle Ages and early modern period.

The artifacts' inventory is a handwritten booklet with pages divided in columns and rows, and it contains inventory numbers (3476 entries), the date and place of the discoveries, their descriptions and further observations (only in several cases).<sup>2</sup> The entries are numbered continuously, but are grouped according to settlements, and the more recent discoveries were introduced later, therefore there are gaps in the continuous numbering, which was complemented by an index, prepared by Andrásy. The museum-guide was prepared in several variants, during the 1940s and 1950s. One of the variants was included page by page at the entries of the inventory at each settlement, while the other, somewhat larger variant was kept separately, the pages being bounded together.<sup>3</sup> Both guides contain the presentation of the discoveries with brief description of the contexts, grouped according to the settlements where they were discovered, and then they are presented chronologically. In several cases, the number of entries of the inventory are indicated, too. The earlier version of the museum-guide (*MÚZEUM-ISMERTETŐ*) is formulated as a narrative, while the newer and larger one (*RÉGISÉG-GYŰJTEMÉNYEM*) is merely an enumeration. A third variant of the museum guide is kept in a handwritten booklet, entitled *Múzeumom* (My Museum), written by dr. Andrásy himself, on the 1<sup>st</sup> of April, 1967, according to the date on it.<sup>4</sup> This work recalls the information of the previous versions, with slight differences – obviously an effort

<sup>1</sup> Part of the documents were transferred at the moment of Andrásy's arrest to the museum of Oradea (now Muzeul Țării Crișurilor / Körösvidéki Múzeum), while others at the museum of Săcuieni / Székelyhid, or remained in the property of the family. The copies of the documents related to the former museum were collected by the Andrásy family and their descendants. For this study, I have used these copies. I would like to express here my gratitude to Katalin Ottományi, Sándor Csorba (formerly the curator of the museum of Săcuieni) and Attila Nándor Hágó for granting me access to the documents they held, and their kind help and support.

<sup>2</sup> The register is cited below as *LELTÁR* (= Inventory).

<sup>3</sup> The larger variant is entitled *Az Érmihályfalvai "Dr. Andrásy" Régészeti Múzeum ismertetése* (Presentation of the "Dr. Andrásy" Archaeological Museum of Valea lui Mihai) and it was written in April 1946, as indicated on the first page; I will refer to it as *MÚZEUM-ISMERTETŐ* (= Museum-guide). The other variant, entitled *Régiség-gyűjteményem* (My Antiquity Collection) was prepared during the 1950s, and I will refer to it with his title: *RÉGISÉG-GYŰJTEMÉNYEM*.

<sup>4</sup> This manuscript will be cited as: *MÚZEUMOM*.

to reconstitute the then lost guide(s) and keep the memory of his collections. Another set of handwritten notes, entitled *Ásatási feljegyzéseim* (My Archaeological Notes), were prepared on the archaeological researches, in the 1950s, probably for the support of the museum-guides.<sup>5</sup> These notes were kept along the *LELTÁR*, and contain quite detailed descriptions of the discovery-contexts, compiled not at the sites during the research, but few years later. So, they are no proper diaries, but rather brief reports on the researches. It is obvious, that the documents reveal a fairly good amount of details on the site of the discoveries and on their nature, even if the finds themselves or several sites remain unidentified in the present.

Dr. Andrásy's archeological finds and the observations related to them became known by the researchers since the establishment of the museum, as they were communicated through letters, personal visits and several publications by dr. Andrásy. Several medieval sites identified by dr. Andrásy were mentioned in general archaeological repertories (the best known example: ROSKA 1942), and in the one made on the Bihar / Bihar County compiled in 1974 (DUMITRAȘCU et al. 1974), or on the Carci's / Nagykároly region (NÉMETI 1999). Some of the Árpadian age finds and settlements, discovered by dr. Andrásy, were included in the studies made on the period, too (RUSU 1960; DUMITRAȘCU 1983; CRIȘAN 2006). The former collection and dr. Andrásy's researches, however, became known better through the biographical works of Zoltán Nánási (NÁNÁSI 2003).<sup>6</sup> Dr. Andrásy's contribution to the archaeological research of the Ier / Ér region was presented by János Némethi, emphasizing their importance and highlighting several discoveries of the Árpadian age, too (NÉMETI 2011–2012). Furthermore, the archaeological activity of dr. Andrásy and his results, based on his manuscripts mentioned above, kept in the museum of Oradea (Muzeul Țării Crișurilor / Körösvidéki Múzeum), were used in works on the history of the archaeological research and the development of museum collections of Bihar / Bihar County (LAKATOS-BALLA 2014). Parts of these manuscripts and documents were translated in English, and published in 2016 (GHEMIȘ, 2016). Recently, some settlements of Árpadian age were identified through field surveys by Attila Lakatos-Balla, János Emődi, János Némethi, Károly Torockai, and Sándor Romát (LAKATOS-BALLA 2014, 215–217, 234–235; and ROMÁT 2016, 179, note 4); finally, several finds were analyzed and conferred with dr. Andrásy's observations by Sándor Romát (ROMÁT 2016; ROMÁT 2017 and ROMÁT 2021).

In this paper, I have systematically organized all accounts on medieval finds and sites, found in the abovementioned documents relating to the former collection of dr. Andrásy: they are grouped according to their location, chronology and type, and these pieces of information are assessed, in order to clarify their interpretation. Furthermore, in case of several sites, where it was available, I added references from repertories or those of specialists, in order to integrate dr. Andrásy's results in the archeological researches of the region. This methodology and analysis, I believe, can offer an instrument for future researches and it can prove its usefulness for other chronological periods, too. As it was mentioned, the items of the collection were not possible to identify yet, therefore this type of analysis remains the only tool to exploit the values of the collection and the research work of dr. Andrásy on the medieval history of the region. Moreover, the identification of the sites has not been made, except a few cases, therefore this remains a task for future regional research. Both the identification of the items of the former collections and of the sites itself, might change significantly the interpretations made below.

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<sup>5</sup> This manuscript will be cited as: *ÁSATÁSI FELJEGYZÉSEIM*.

<sup>6</sup> Zoltán Nánási published on the topic of the history of the Ier / Ér Valley Museum of Săcuieni / Székelyhíd since the 1970s, but, probably due to the threats from the oppressive regime, the role of dr. Andrásy was not exposed (NÁNÁSI 1972). Starting with the 1990s, however, he published studies on the biography of dr. Andrásy and on his role to create the museal collection, mainly in local periodicals and monographies. See the earlier works on dr. Andrásy in NÁNÁSI 2003.

The finds of the collection, according to the entries made on them belong to: medieval settlements (mostly Árpadian age villages from 11<sup>th</sup> to 14<sup>th</sup> century, which were abandoned later); medieval churches and the surrounding cemeteries; isolated discoveries with uncertain context; and coin-hoards, or single numismatic items of the Middle Ages and early modern period. The sites, where the finds were discovered are situated mostly in the Bihar / Bihor part of the region of the Ér (River Ier). In this sense, dr. Andrásy analyzed his discoveries in the context of the environment and the landscape, describing features which were proper for settling and for defense, mentioning the remnants of old roads, too. For the history of Middle Ages, it is important, the data – mostly from ethnographic sources – on the so-called salt-road along the river Ér / Ier, documented especially at Szalacs / Sălacea, Tarcsa / Tarcea and Érsemjén / Şimian (RÉGISÉG-GYŰJTEMÉNYEM, at the mentioned settlements).

A great number of medieval sites were identified by dr. Andrásy through accidental discoveries and field surveys, though there were several cases, where sondages and recurrent excavations were made, too. Among the most significant researches of medieval settlements are the sondages made at the disappeared Árpadian age village at Ęrmihályfalva / Valea lui Mihály – Jánostelke (Ferma lui János): two excavations were made here, which revealed traces of dwellings and fireplaces with fragments of ceramic vessels, millstones for hand-grinding, and weights for fishing nets; the finds were dated to the Árpadian age.<sup>7</sup> Another settlement research was conducted at Ęrkeserű / Cheşereu – Nagy-sziget (Insula Mare): dwellings belonging to an Árpadian age settlement were discovered by dr. Andrásy, with several sondages made in 1936.<sup>8</sup> A third medieval settlement was researched by Dr. Andrásy at Piskolt / Pişcolt around the Calvinist church (Református templom / Biserica reformată), in 1955: landscaping works revealed nearby church ovens with iron slag and pieces of melted metal, together with a coin minted in the 16<sup>th</sup> century. Several pits were found, too: in one of them, fragments of grey and black ceramic were found (dated in the 13<sup>th</sup> to 15<sup>th</sup> centuries), while in the other pits, glazed pottery from the early modern period were discovered.<sup>9</sup>

Further items of dr. Andrásy's collection, belonging to settlements of Árpadian age or later periods, came, as it was mentioned, from accidental discoveries or field surveys. Discoveries include ceramic fragments (11<sup>th</sup> to 17<sup>th</sup> cent.), several iron tools, and other objects of everyday use, from the sites: Bere / Berea – Calvinist Church;<sup>10</sup> Csomaköz / Ciumeşti – Calvinist Church;<sup>11</sup> Ęradony / Adoni – Vársziget

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<sup>7</sup> MŰZEUM-ISMERTETŐ, no. 13; ÁSATÁSI FELJEGYZÉSEIM, 1948.VII.10 and 1954.IX.5, p. 113; LETÁR, no. 1665–1714, 2327–2356. The site is mentioned in the literature at RUSU 1960, p. 9; DUMITRAŞCU et al. 1974, p. 84; NÉMETI 1999, p. 35; CRIŞAN 2006, p. 106; and NÉMETI 2011–2012, p. 19. It is not known where the artifacts discovered by dr. Andrásy are kept today; recently several field surveys were made at the site, and a great number of ceramic fragments were collected, including fragments of ceramic-cauldrons and pots decorated with waves, spiral-lines, and nail-indentations; a silver coin, and a Friesach-type denarius was discovered, too. The ceramic is typical for the rural settlements of Árpadian age, though further research is needed to establish when the settlement was abandoned: ROMÁT 2016, p. 181–182, and ROMÁT 2017.

<sup>8</sup> RÉGISÉG GYŰJTEMÉNYEM, p. 52; ÁSATÁSI FELJEGYZÉSEIM, 1936.V.12, p. 108. The site is mentioned by NÉMETI 1999, p. 36; and recent field-surveys confirmed the location of the site, while several ceramic fragments, among which some sherds of clay-cauldrons were collected: ROMÁT 2016, p. 182.

<sup>9</sup> MŰZEUM-ISMERETŐ, no. 15; ÁSATÁSI FELJEGYZÉSEIM, 1955.IV.23, p. 120–121; MŰZEUMOM; LETÁR, no. 2441–2455. The discoveries are mentioned by: NÉMETI 1999, p. 44; and CRIŞAN 2006, p. 181.

<sup>10</sup> Ceramic fragments of early Árpadian age were collected around the church by Kovács Gyula, the local Calvinist priest and donated to dr. Andrásy: MŰZEUM-ISMERTETŐ, no. 17; LETÁR, no. 2127–2137.

<sup>11</sup> Ceramic fragments of 12<sup>th</sup>–13<sup>th</sup> cent.: MŰZEUM-ISMERTETŐ, no. 18; LETÁR, no. 2138–2154.

(Szigeti vár / Cetate de pe Insulă);<sup>12</sup> Érdengeleg / Dindești;<sup>13</sup> Érmihályfalva / Valea lui Mihai;<sup>14</sup> Érsemjén / Șimian;<sup>15</sup> Értarcsa / Tarcsa – Tyúkszerapáti;<sup>16</sup> Gálospetri / Galošpetreu – Fráter-erdő (Pădurea Frater);<sup>17</sup> Penészlek;<sup>18</sup> and Érvasad / Vășad.<sup>19</sup>

Along the settlements, in some cases the finds included in dr. Andrassy's collection came from architectural monuments: manor-houses, remnants of early modern fortifications, or edifices of unclear function. At Éradony / Adoni – Vár (Cetate) remnants of a stone building were identified on an island of the marshland, and carvings were brought to the museum from here.<sup>20</sup> Similarly, some relics were found at Érdengeleg / Dindești – Várdomb (Dealul Cetății);<sup>21</sup> Érendréd / Andrid – Vár (Cetate);<sup>22</sup> Gálospetri / Galošpetreu – Dráveczky kastély (Castelul Dráveczky);<sup>23</sup> and Szalacs / Sălacea – Szent János halom (Dealul Sf. Ioan).<sup>24</sup>

<sup>12</sup> On the prehistoric settlement ceramic fragments of 11<sup>th</sup> and 12<sup>th</sup> century were found: MÚZEUM-ISMERTETŐ, no. 5; RÉGISÉG-GYŰJTEMÉNYEM, p. 48; LETÁR, no. 699–703. The site is mentioned by: RUSU 1960, p. 9; NÉMETI 1999, p. 35; and CRIȘAN 2006, p. 106.

<sup>13</sup> Fragments of ceramic vessels and stove-tiles discovered at the churchyard around the Calvinist church (Református templom / Biserica reformată): LETÁR, no. 1603–1617, 1619–1622; 1627–1630. The finds seem to date from the Árpadian age, late Middle Ages and even the early modern period. The medieval discoveries from the village, though without indicating the exact location, are mentioned by: RUSU 1960, p. 9; and NÉMETI 1999, p. 25.

<sup>14</sup> Finds suggesting the presence of medieval settlements were mentioned from various location: Dienesi dombok / Dealul Dienes (ceramic fragments, dated to the 11<sup>th</sup> and 12<sup>th</sup> century, discovered during the excavations of a prehistoric settlement: ÁSATÁSI FELJEGYZÉSEIM, 1953.XI.20, p. 119; LETÁR, no. 2017–2024; a bronze ring from the 16<sup>th</sup> cent.: LETÁR, no. 1249; the site is mentioned by CRIȘAN 2006, p. 215); Déda (mentioned by dr. Andrassy as a disappeared medieval settlement: MÚZEUMOM); Nagytótfalu str. no. 50 (ceramic fragments: LETÁR, no. 355–357); construction of the Calvinist school (a ceramic fragment: LETÁR, no. 499); Gencsi str. no. 18 (oven and ceramic fragments: LETÁR, no. 500–511); “Rubinstein telek” (a bronze ring of 16<sup>th</sup> cent: LETÁR, no. 1248).

<sup>15</sup> From various locations, due to farming, several medieval items were discovered accidentally: a silver ring with inscription; a big ceramic pot with the potter's mark, dated to the 13<sup>th</sup> cent.; a crest of an iron-spur, 15<sup>th</sup> cent.; and a panting iron: MÚZEUM-ISMERETŐ, no. 12; RÉGISÉG-GYŰJTEMÉNYEM, p. 34; MÚZEUMOM; LETÁR, no. 638–639, 1723, 1912. Medieval finds discovered here, without exact location are mentioned by: RUSU 1960, p. 9; and CRIȘAN 2006, p. 204.

<sup>16</sup> Dr. Andrassy marked the plot of the Bogdán family (Bogdán Lajos földjén), along the road to Érmihályfalva / Valea lui Mihai, as a disappeared medieval settlement: RÉGISÉG GYŰJTEMÉNYEM, p. 42; MÚZEUMOM; LETÁR, no. 2643–2653, 2800–2808, 3094–3098, 3406–3412. The site is mentioned by LAKATOS–BALLA 2014, p. 217.

<sup>17</sup> An iron-ax was discovered here, another at Malom-zug: MÚZEUM ISMERTETŐ, no. 3; RÉGISÉG GYŰJTEMÉNYEM, p. 68; LETÁR, no. 1006–1007. Field surveys identified here a disappeared medieval settlement: RUSU 1960, p. 35; NÉMETI 1999, p. 33; and CRIȘAN 2006, p. 148.

<sup>18</sup> Fragments of ceramics, with incised decoration dated to the 11<sup>th</sup> to 12<sup>th</sup> cent.: MÚZEUM-ISMERETŐ, no. 19; LETÁR, no. 2179–2190.

<sup>19</sup> Dr. Andrassy mentioned traces of an Árpadian age settlement on the bank of the river Ér / Ier, and recorded medieval discoveries on the territory of the settlement (“Pinčasánál”, “Cigánytelepnél, vályogvető helyen”): MÚZEUM-ISMERTETŐ, no. 8; RÉGISÉG GYŰJTEMÉNYEM, p. 64; LETÁR, no. 866; 1948.V.13, no. 1533–1534, 1577–1578. Field surveys identified two sites with medieval finds: NÉMETI 1999, p. 42–43; and CRIȘAN 2006, p. 217. A small jug with lobed mouth, discovered here, was presented by: FAZECAȘ–MARTA 2005.

<sup>20</sup> MÚZEUM-ISMERTETŐ, no. 5; RÉGISÉG GYŰJTEMÉNYEM, p. 48; MÚZEUMOM; parts of a carved pillar: LETÁR, no. 1714–1715.

<sup>21</sup> LETÁR, no. 1476–1483.

<sup>22</sup> Stone tool and an iron-ax discovered at the “cellar of the castle” (LETÁR, no. 1474–1475). For the localization of the site: NÉMETI 1999, p. 29.

<sup>23</sup> Remnants of the building were identified next to the road to Értarcsa / Tarcea, and a carved stone was transported to dr. Andrassy's museum: RÉGISÉG GYŰJTEMÉNYEM, p. 68; MÚZEUMOM.

<sup>24</sup> The site is a small hill, where remnants of a construction and an iron cross were found (RÉGISÉG-GYŰJTEMÉNYEM, p. 74; LETÁR, no. 1226–1227).

A significant part of dr. Andrásy's researches were carried out at medieval churches and churchyard cemeteries. In case of some sites, sondages were made, while in other cases the site was only identified and the finds were discovered accidentally or on the surface. The items of the collection coming from cemeteries and churches are quite spectacular, they include coins, jewels – ear and hair-rings, pearls – and remnant parts of the coffin's decoration. At Érkeserű / Cheşereu – Püspök halom, within the prehistoric settlement, foundations of a church and burials of the surrounding cemetery were researched with several sondages by dr. Andrásy; the finds include: two bronze hair-rings found in a grave, beside the skull, one with an S-shaped end, while in the mouth there was a denarius of King Louis Anjou the Great with the motive of the Saracen-head; a brick and a stone fragment from the foundations of the church; and iron decoration of a coffin.<sup>25</sup> At Érkörtvélyes / Curtuişeni – Kápolna-hegy (Dealui Capelei), the surface of the site was marked with a concentration of brick-fragments, which led Dr. Andrásy to make here several sondages in 1931. Foundation of a church and four burials of the surrounding cemetery were identified, the finds include: pairs of bronze earrings; hair-rings; 17 pearls; and coins of king Solomon and of the Friesach-type.<sup>26</sup> Similarly, at Szalacs / Sălacea – Értölgyi erdő (Értölgyes-erdő, „Templom-sűrűje” / Pădurea Értölgy), a small church was revealed through several sondages, with burials; Dr. Andrásy identified it with the parish-church of Értölgy, a disappeared settlement of the Árpáadian age; three burials were identified with no grave goods.<sup>27</sup> The former St. George church was identified at the site Szalacs / Sălacea – Vida-hegy (Burga, Burga-tető / Dealul Vida, Burga), at the side of the hill with the Bronze age fortification.<sup>28</sup>

A part of the burials was discovered accidentally, during construction or field-works. In some cases, the context of the discoveries could be verified by dr. Andrásy, but most often only the finds were recorded. The sites with burials include: Éradony / Adoni;<sup>29</sup> Érkörtvélyes / Curtuişeni – Régi református temető (Cimitirul reformat vechi);<sup>30</sup> Érmihályfalva / Valea lui Mihai;<sup>31</sup> Érvasad / Văşad;<sup>32</sup> Gálospetri /

<sup>25</sup> MÚZEUM-ISMERTETŐ, no. 3; RÉGISÉG-GYŰJTEMÉNYEM, p. 52; ÁSATÁSI FELJEGYZÉSEIM, 1936.V.12, p. 108–109; LETÁR, no. 789–803. The site is mentioned by NÉMETI 1999, p. 36. A small-scale excavation, made in 2001, identified the features of the sites: the small church with several burials from the surrounding cemetery, and the construction sacrifice with a coin minted by King Sigismund Luxembourg; LAKATOS-BALLA 2014, p. 215–2216.

<sup>26</sup> MÚZEUM-ISMERTETŐ, no. 14; RÉGISÉG GYŰJTEMÉNYEM, p. 28; ÁSATÁSI FELJEGYZÉSEIM, p. 103; LETÁR, no. 527–536. The site was mentioned by DUMITRAŞCU et al. 1974, p. 30–31; NÉMETI 1999, p. 41; CRIŞAN 2006, p. 142; and NÉMETI 2011–2012, p. 19.

<sup>27</sup> MÚZEUM-ISMERTETŐ, no. 2; RÉGISÉG-GYŰJTEMÉNYEM, p. 74; ÁSATÁSI FELJEGYZÉSEIM, 1935.VII.30, p. 111–112; MÚZEUMOM; LETÁR, no. 1232–1246. The site is mentioned by NÉMETI 2011–2012, p. 19.

<sup>28</sup> Dr. Andrásy did not made excavations here, but collected from the surface here human bones, belonging to burials, metal finds and medieval ceramic fragments: MÚZEUM-ISMERTETŐ, no. 2; RÉGISÉG-GYŰJTEMÉNYEM, p. 74; MÚZEUMOM; LETÁR, no. 1222–1224. During the archaeological excavations, carried out between 1964 and 1969, along the prehistoric finds, an early medieval cemetery was discovered, but the church was not researched: CHIDIOŞAN 1969; DUMITRAŞCU 1983, p. 57; NÉMETI 1999, p. 34; CRIŞAN 2006, p. 191. Burials of the early medieval cemetery were reanalyzed, along with their inventory, and dated to the 10<sup>th</sup> and 11<sup>th</sup> century: LAKATOS-BALLA 2008.

<sup>29</sup> At the plot of Daróczy Károly, glass-beads, and a golden wire in lattice was found in a grave in 1957: LETÁR, no. 3349.

<sup>30</sup> From one grave of the old Calvinist graveyard glass-beads laced on copper wire were found, and identified by dr. Andrásy with the remnants of female head-gear: MÚZEUM-ISMERTETŐ, no. 14.

<sup>31</sup> Several burials were discovered in the neighborhood of the Calvinist church and at Templom str. no 3–6: LETÁR, no. 513–516, 1573 (?), 3320–3324; at Kisújváros str. no. 2. an iron stirrup was found in a grave, dated to 16<sup>th</sup> cent. (?): LETÁR, no. 320.

<sup>32</sup> Dr. Andrásy signaled medieval burials at „Kupóc” and near the church: MÚZEUM-ISMERTETŐ, no. 8; RÉGISÉG GYŰJTEMÉNYEM, p. 64.

Galoşpetreu – Malom-lucernás;<sup>33</sup> Ottomány / Otomani – Kastély (Komáromi kúria, volt TSZ székhely / Conac, fostul sediu CAP);<sup>34</sup> Piskolt / Pişcolt – Calvinist church;<sup>35</sup> and Szalacs / Sălacea – Várbóc (Dealul Cetății / Varboț).<sup>36</sup> Several cemeteries, recorded by dr. Andrásy are from the period of the Hungarian conquest, for example: Gálospetri / Galoşpetreu – Malom-domb (Centrul comunei, terasa Ierului);<sup>37</sup> and Szalacs / Sălacea – Szállás-domb (Dealul Sălaş).<sup>38</sup>

The collection dr. Andrásy comprised thousands of numismatic pieces, of which a significant part was medieval or early modern. From the records an important coin-hoard can be identified: the one discovered at Értarcsa / Tarcea in a ceramic pot, consisting 4700 coins.<sup>39</sup> The oldest coins were minted by King Matthias Corvinus, the newest ones by King Rudolph in 1608, and they comprise Hungarian, Polish and Prussian currency. Another coin-hoard from dr. Andrásy's collection came from Érmihályfalva / Valea lui Mihai, and contained 675 pieces from the 14<sup>th</sup> to 17<sup>th</sup> centuries.<sup>40</sup> None of the coin-hoards were published in academic literature, and no items from the hoard can be identified today.<sup>41</sup> The discovery of the coin-hoard of Friesach-type denarii at Szalacs / Sălacea is only mentioned by

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<sup>33</sup> Nails from coffins were discovered here from 18<sup>th</sup> century burials: *LELTÁR*, no. 2418–2422.

<sup>34</sup> Several burials were discovered during construction works at the manor house (formerly the seat of the local farmers' cooperative), one burial contained a silver hair-ring. Nearby, an oven dug into the earth was identified, with pot-sherds in the fill, some of them glazed: *ÁSATÁSI FELJEGYZÉSEIM*, 1957.IV.12, p. 123; *LELTÁR*, no. 3074–3076. The discoveries were mentioned by: *DUMITRAŞCU et al.* 1974, p. 51; *NÉMETI* 1999, p. 35; and *CRİŞAN* 2006, p. 172.

<sup>35</sup> As it was mentioned above, during construction works in 1955, human bones were discovered around the church, and dr. Andrásy, who was called for archaeological supervision, identified a female burial with a coin from the 18<sup>th</sup> cent.: *MÚZEUM-ISMERTETŐ*, no. 15; *ÁSATÁSI FELJEGYZÉSEIM*, 1955.IV.23, p. 120–121; *MÚZEUMOM*; *LELTÁR*, no. 2441–2455. For further discoveries made at the site: *NÉMETI* 1999, p. 43–44. Furthermore, Dr. Andrásy recorded a bronze ring of the 16<sup>th</sup> century, found in the old Calvinist graveyard: *LELTÁR*, no. 1250.

<sup>36</sup> Over the settlement of Neolithic and Copper Age a medieval cemetery was identified: *MÚZEUM-ISMERTETŐ*, no. 2; *RÉGISÉG-GYŰJTEMÉNYEM* p. 74; *MÚZEUMOM*. The site is mentioned by *DUMITRAŞCU et al.* 1974, p. 64; *NÉMETI* 1999, p. 34; and *CRİŞAN* 2006, p. 192; there were no excavations here, only field surveys, which noted that the burials, dated to the Árpáadian age, are visible at the edge of the hill and continuously disturbed by sand-extraction: *LAKATOS-BALLA* 2014, 234–235.

<sup>37</sup> In the center of the village, vis-à-vis with the Calvinist church, four burials from the Hungarian conquest period were found during a construction in 1942: *ÁSATÁSI FELJEGYZÉSEIM*, p. 112; *LELTÁR*, no. 2418–2422. The discoveries were published by *CHIDIOŞAN* 1965, and mentioned by *NÉMETI* 1999, p. 33; and *NÉMETI* 2011–2012, p. 19.

<sup>38</sup> A burial from the age of the Hungarian Conquest, and a bronze medallion with the representation of a warrior (St. George?) was found here: *RÉGISÉG-GYŰJTEMÉNYEM*, p. 74; *LELTÁR*, no. 1993. The discoveries were mentioned by *DUMITRAŞCU et al.* 1974, p. 64; and *CRİŞAN* 2006, p. 192; the medallion is in the collection of Muzeul Țării Crişurilor, inv. no. 1270, dated to the 11<sup>th</sup> century (see: *BÍRÓ* 1943).

<sup>39</sup> The pot was inventoried at *LELTÁR*, no. 683, on 20<sup>th</sup> of May 1941; the discovery was made at the field of Dániel Szilágyi: *MÚZEUM-ISMERTETŐ*, no. 6; *RÉGISÉG GYŰJTEMÉNYEM*, p. 42.

<sup>40</sup> Mentioned by Z. Nánási (*NÁNÁSI* 2003, p. 33), based on documents of the former dr. Andrásy's museum. I was not able to identify these documents, and I did not find any trace of this coin-hoard neither in the inventory, nor in the available documents.

<sup>41</sup> Dr. Andrásy was persecuted by the authorities for the holding these precious-metal items, and they were confiscated even before its arrest and political persecution.

dr. Andrásy.<sup>42</sup> Other coins entered in dr. Andrásy's collection as inventory of the discovered medieval graves, as mentioned above, or from accidental discoveries, as the two Friesach-type denars, found at Érmihályfalva in a pot.<sup>43</sup> The main part of the numismatic collection, however, comprised items which were collected as antiquities, and include medieval, early modern and recent currencies minted in Transylvania, Hungary, Holy Roman Empire and Poland.

As a brief conclusion, the most important result of dr. Andrásy's work in regard of the Middle Ages is the identification of several important sites in the region of Ér. In the absence of an archeological topography of the region, his contribution is all the more significant. Furthermore, his efforts to collect and protect the finds cannot be neglected. It is the fault of posterity that the main part of the collection cannot be identified anymore.

### Sources

ÁSATÁSI FELJEGYZÉSEIM = My field records

Andrásy Ernő ásatási feljegyzései. (Field records of Ernő Andrásy)

LELTÁR= Inventory book

Andrásy Ernő leltárkönyve. (Inventory book of Ernő Andrásy)

MÚZEUM-ISMERTETŐ = Museum guide

Andrásy Ernő: Az Érmihályfalvai "Dr Andrásy" Régészeti Múzeum ismertetése (Presentation of the "Dr. Andrásy" Archaeological Museum of Valea lui Mihai)

MÚZEUMOM = My museum

Andrásy Ernő: Múzeumom, 1967. (My museum, 1967)

RÉGISÉG-GYŰJTEMÉNYEM = My collection of antiquities

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<sup>42</sup> The hoard was discovered at Szalacs / Sălacea – Banko („Banko” völgy, „Banko” út / „Banca”). Close to the „Értölgy” site, on the location of the disappeared settlement a coin-hoard comprising of Friesach-type denars were found: MÚZEUMOM. According to ȘTIRBU – VELTER 1996, the hoard contained around 800 pieces, of which 100 items entered in the collection of the National History, Bucharest, other 100 pieces at the Transylvanian History Museum, Cluj-Napoca, while around 600 remained at the museum of Oradea: Muzeul Țării Crișurilor. See also: DUMITRAȘCU et al. 1974, p. 64; CRIȘAN 2006, p. 192. Two more coin-hoards with Friesach-type denars were discovered at Szalacs / Sălacea, with unknown location, but on the territory of Szalacs / Sălacea, which highlights the importance of the settlement at the turn of the 12<sup>th</sup> and 13<sup>th</sup> centuries: KEVE 2014.

<sup>43</sup> MÚZEUM-ISMERTETŐ, no. 13; LELTÁR, no. 320.

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### List of Medieval and early modern sites and finds

*Bere / Berea – Református templom (Biserica reformată)*. Ceramic fragments of early Árpadian age were collected around the church by Kovács Gyula, the local Calvinist priest, and donated to dr. Andrásy (MÚZEUM-ISMERTETŐ, no. 17; LETÁR, no. 2127–2137).

*Csomaköz / Ciumești – Református templom (Biserica reformată)*. Ceramic fragments of early Árpadian age were collected around the church (MÚZEUM-ISMERTETŐ, no. 18; LETÁR, no. 2138–2154).

*Gálospetri / Galošpetreu – Fráter-erdő (Pădurea Frater)*. An iron-ax entered in dr. Andrásy's collection from here (MÚZEUM ISMERTETŐ, no. 3; RÉGISÉG GYŰJTEMÉNYEM, p. 68; LETÁR, no. 1006). Field surveys identified here a disappeared medieval settlement: RUSU 1960, p. 35; NÉMETHI 1999, p. 33; CRIȘAN 2006, p. 148.

*Gálospetri / Galošpetreu – Malom-zug*. Iron-ax (LETÁR, no. 1007).

*Gálospetri / Galoşpetreu – Dráveczky kastély (Castelul Dráveczky)*. Remnants of the building were identified next to the road to Értarcsa / Tarcea, and a carved stone was transported to dr. Andrásy's museum (RÉGISÉG GYŰJTEMÉNYEM, p. 68; MŰZEUMOM).

*Gálospetri / Galoşpetreu – Malom-domb (Centrul comunei, terasa Ierului)*. In the center of the village, vis-à-vis with the Calvinist church, four burials from the Hungarian conquest period were found during a construction in 1942 (ÁSATÁSI FELJEGYZÉSEIM, p. 112; LETÁR, no. 2418–2422). CHIDIOŞAN 1965; NÉMETI 1999, p. 33; NÉMETI 2011–2012, p. 19.

*Gálospetri / Galoşpereu – Malom-lucernás*. Iron nails belonging to coffins from burials of the 18<sup>th</sup> cent. (LETÁR, no. 2418–2422).

*Éradony / Adoni – Vár-sziget (Szigeti vár / Cetate de pe Insulă)*. On the prehistoric settlement ceramic fragments of 11<sup>th</sup> and 12<sup>th</sup> century were found (MŰZEUM-ISMERTETŐ, no. 5; RÉGISÉG-GYŰJTEMÉNYEM, p. 48; LETÁR, no. 699–703). RUSU 1960, p. 9; NÉMETI 1999, p. 35; CRIŞAN 2006, p. 106.

*Éradony / Adoni – Vár (Cetate)*. Remnants of a stone building, were identified on an island of the marshland, from here, stone-carvings were brought to the museum (MŰZEUM-ISMERTETŐ, no. 5; RÉGISÉG GYŰJTEMÉNYEM, p. 48; MŰZEUMOM; parts of a carved pillar: LETÁR, no. 1714–1715).

*Éradony / Adoni – Daróczy Károly telke (lotul Daróczy Károly)*. Glass-beads, golden wire in lattice was found in a grave in 1957 (LETÁR, no. 3349).

*Érendréd / Andrid – “Vár”*. Stone tool and an iron-ax discovered at the “cellar of the castle” (LETÁR, no. 1474–1475). NÉMETI 1999, p. 29.

*Érdengeleg / Dindeşti – Várdomb (Dealul Cetăţii)*. Various medieval and early modern finds (LETÁR, no. 1476–1483).

*Érdengeleg / Dindeşti – Református templom (Biserica reformată)*. Fragments of ceramic vessels and stove-tiles were discovered at the churchyard (LETÁR, no. 1603–1617, 1619–1622; 1627–1630). RUSU 1960, p. 9; NÉMETI 1999, p. 25.

*Érkeserű / Cheşereu – Püspök-halom (Dealul Episcopului)*. Foundations of a church and burials were researched with several sondages by dr. Andrásy within the prehistoric settlement. In a grave, beside the skull, two bronze hair-rings were found, one with S-shaped end, while in the mouth there was a denarius of King Louis Anjou the Great with the motive of the Saracen-head (MŰZEUM-ISMERTETŐ, no. 3; RÉGISÉG-GYŰJTEMÉNYEM, p. 52; ÁSATÁSI FELJEGYZÉSEIM, 1936. V. 12, p. 108–109; LETÁR, no. 789–803). NÉMETI 1999, p. 36. A small-scale excavation, made in 2001, identified the features of the sites: the small church with several burials from the surrounding cemetery, and the construction sacrifice with a coin minted by King Sigismund Luxembourg; LAKATOS-BALLA 2014, p. 215–2216.

- Érkeseerű / Cheşereu – Nagy-sziget (Insula Mare)*. Dwellings belonging to an Árpáadian age settlement were discovered by dr. Andrásy, through sondages made in 1936 (RÉGISÉG GYŰJTEMÉNYEM, p. 52; ÁSATÁSI FELJEGYZÉSEIM, 1936. V. 12, p. 108).  
NÉMETI 1999, p. 36. Recent field-surveys confirmed the existence of the site and several ceramic fragments, among which some sherds of clay-cauldrons were found: ROMÁT 2016, p. 182.
- Érkörtvélyes / Curtuişeni – Kápolna-hegy (Dealul Capelei)*. A church and the surrounding cemetery were researched by Dr. Andrásy with several sondages in 1931. Along the foundations of the church, made of brick, the finds include silver and bronze jewelry, together with coins of king Solomon and of the Friesach-type (MÚZEUM-ISMERTETŐ, no. 14; RÉGISÉG GYŰJTEMÉNYEM, p. 28; ÁSATÁSI FELJEGYZÉSEIM, p. 103; LETÁR, no. 527–536).  
DUMITRAŞCU et al. 1974, p. 30–31; NÉMETI 1999, p. 41; CRIŞAN 2006, p. 142; NÉMETI 2011–2012, p. 19.
- Érkörtvélyes / Curtuişeni – Régi református temető (Cimitirul reformat vechi)*. From one of the graves glass-beads laced on copper wire were found, and identified by dr. Andrásy with the remnants of female head-gear (MÚZEUM-ISMERTETŐ, no. 14).
- Érmihályfalva / Valea lui Mihai – Jánostelke (Ferma lui János)*. A disappeared medieval settlement, where dr. Andrásy made several sondages and discovered dwellings with ovens, together with ceramic fragments and tools (MÚZEUM-ISMERTETŐ, no. 13; ÁSATÁSI FELJEGYZÉSEIM, 1948. VII. 10 and 1954. IX. 5, p. 113; LETÁR, no. 1665–1714, 2327–2356).  
RUSU 1960, p. 9; DUMITRAŞCU et al. 1974, p. 84; NÉMETI 1999, p. 35; CRIŞAN 2006, p. 106; NÉMETI 2011–2012, p. 19. Recently several field surveys were made at the site, and a great number of ceramic fragments were collected: ROMÁT 2016, p. 181–182, and ROMÁT 2017.
- Érmihályfalva / Valea lui Mihai – Dienes*. Bronze ring, 16<sup>th</sup> cent., 1935. III. 6, (LETÁR, no. 1249).
- Érmihályfalva / Valea lui Mihai – Dienesi dombok (Dealul Dienes)*. Several ceramic fragments were discovered, dated to the 11<sup>th</sup> and 12<sup>th</sup> century, during the excavations of a prehistoric settlement (ÁSATÁSI FELJEGYZÉSEIM, 1953. XI. 20, p. 119; LETÁR, no. 2017–2024).
- Érmihályfalva / Valea lui Mihai – Déda*. The site of a disappeared medieval settlement is signaled here by dr. Andrásy (MÚZEUMOM).
- Érmihályfalva / Valea lui Mihai – Gencsi u. 18*. Oven and ceramic fragments (LETÁR, no. 500–511).
- Érmihályfalva / Valea lui Mihai – Kisújváros 2. sz.* Iron stirrup (grave goods), 16<sup>th</sup> cent. (1939. IX. 17, LETÁR, no. 320).
- Érmihályfalva / Valea lui Mihai – Nagy-tófalva u. 50, a kertben*. Ceramic fragments (LETÁR, no. 355–357).
- Érmihályfalva / Valea lui Mihai – Református iskola építésénél*. A ceramic fragment (LETÁR, no. 499).
- Érmihályfalva / Valea lui Mihai – Ref. templom mögött kerítésnél sírban*. Sword hilt, 19<sup>th</sup> cent. (1948. II. 25, LETÁR, no. 1573?).

*Érmihályfalva / Valea lui Mihai – Ref. templom mellett.* From burials ornaments of the vestimentation, rings with turquoise and glass inlays, and an iron mount from the top of the coffin (LELTÁR, no. 3320–3324).

*Érmihályfalva / Valea lui Mihai – Rubinstein telek.* Bronze ring, 16<sup>th</sup> cent. (1934. VIII. 15, LELTÁR, no. 1248).

*Érmihályfalva / Valea lui Mihai – Templom u. 3–6 sz.* Six graves were discovered at the end of the lot, the finds include a woolen calpac, male skull, coffin nail, and iron ax (LELTÁR, no. 513–516).

*Értarcsa / Tarcea.* A coin-hoard comprising 4700 pieces were discovered in 1941 at the field of Dániel Szilágyi (LELTÁR, no. 683, inventoried at 20. V. 1941). The coins came from Hungary, Poland and Prussia, the oldest being minted by king Mathias Corvinus, while the most recent one by emperor Rudolf in 1608 (MÚZEUM-ISMERTETŐ, no. 6; RÉGISÉG GYŰJTEMÉNYEM, p. 42).

*Értarcsa / Tarcea – Tyúkszerapáti (Bogdán Lajos földjén).* Dr. Andrassy signaled here, along the road to Érmihályfalva / Valea lui Mihai, a disappeared medieval settlement (RÉGISÉG GYŰJTEMÉNYEM, p. 42; MÚZEUMOM; LELTÁR, no. 2643–2653, 2800–2808, 3094–3098, 3406–3412).

*Érvasad / Vășad.* Dr. Andrassy marked traces of Árpadian age settlement on the bank of the river Ér / Ier, and medieval burials at „Kupóc” and near the church. Sites mentioned: “Pinceásánál”, “Cigánytelepnél, vályogvető helyen” (MÚZEUM-ISMERTETŐ, no. 8; RÉGISÉG GYŰJTEMÉNYEM, p. 64; LELTÁR, 1938. IX. 20, no. 866; 1948. V. 13, no. 1533–1534, 1577–1578).

Field surveys identified two sites with parts of a medieval settlement: NÉMETI 1999, p. 42–43; CRIȘAN 2006, p. 217. A small jug with lobed mouth, discovered here, was presented by: FAZECAȘ –MARTA 2005.

*Penészlek.* Ceramic fragments (LELTÁR, no. 2179–2190).

*Piskolt / Pișcolt – Református templom (Biserica reformată).* Dr. Andrassy conducted rescue excavations around the church, due to the systematization of the terrain in 1955. An early modern burial was found, with a coin from the 18<sup>th</sup> century. Nearby, ovens with iron-lag and pieces of melted metal were found, together with a coin from the 16<sup>th</sup> century. Several pits were found, too. In one of them, fragments of grey and black ceramic were found (dated in the 13<sup>th</sup> to 15<sup>th</sup> centuries), while in the other pits, glazed pottery from the early modern period were discovered (MÚZEUM-ISMERTETŐ, no. 15; ÁSATÁSI FELJEGYZÉSEIM, 1955. IV. 23, p. 120–121; MÚZEUMOM; LELTÁR, no. 2441–2455).

NÉMETI 1999, p. 44; CRIȘAN 2006, p. 181.

*Piskolt / Pișcolt – Old cemetery.* Bronze ring, 16<sup>th</sup> cent. (LELTÁR, no. 1250).

*Ottomány / Otomani – Kastély (Komáromi kúria, volt TSZ székhely / Conac, fostul sediu CAP).* Several burials were discovered during construction works at the manor house (formerly the seat of the local farmer’s cooperative), one with silver hair-ring. Nearby, an oven dug into the earth was identified, with pot-sherds in the fill, some of them glazed (ÁSATÁSI FELJEGYZÉSEIM, 1957. IV. 12, p. 123; LELTÁR, no. 3074–3076).

DUMITRAȘCU et al. 1974, p. 51; NÉMETI 1999, p. 35; CRIȘAN 2006, p. 172.

*Szalacs / Sălacea – Értölgyi erdő (Értölgyes-erdő, „Templom-sűrűje” / Pădurea Értölgy).* A small church was revealed through several sondages, with burials. Dr. Andrásy identified it with the parish-church of Értölgy, a disappeared settlement of the Árpáadian age (MÚZEUM-ISMERTETŐ, no. 2; RÉGISÉG-GYŰJTEMÉNYEM, p. 74; ÁSATÁSI FELJEGYZÉSEIM, 1935. VII. 30, p. 111–112; MÚZEUMOM; LELTÁR, no. 1232–1246).  
NÉMETI 2011–2012, p. 19.

*Szalacs / Sălacea – Banko („Banko” völgy, „Banko” út / „Banca”).* Close to the „Értölgy” site, on the location of the disappeared settlement, a coin-hoard comprising Friesach-type denars was found (MÚZEUMOM).

ȘTIRBU – VELTER 1996: the hoard contained around 800 pieces, of which 100 items entered in the collection of the National History, Bucharest, other 100 pieces at the Transylvanian History Museum, Cluj-Napoca, while around 600 remained at the museum of Oradea: Muzeul Țării Crișurilor. See also: DUMITRAȘCU et al. 1974, p. 64; CRIȘAN 2006, p. 192. Two more coin-hoards with Friesach-type denars were discovered with unknown location, but on the territory of Szalacs / Sălacea, which highlights the importance of the settlement at the turn of the 12<sup>th</sup> and 13<sup>th</sup> centuries: KEVE 2014.

*Szalacs / Sălacea – Vida-hegy (Burga, Burga-tető / Dealul Vida, Burga).* The site is a Bronze age fortification, Dr. Andrásy identified at the side of the hill, the place of the former St. George church due to the discovery of medieval burials and metal finds. Medieval ceramic fragments were recovered from here, too (MÚZEUM-ISMERTETŐ, no. 2; RÉGISÉG-GYŰJTEMÉNYEM, p. 74; MÚZEUMOM; LELTÁR, no. 1222–1224).

During the archaeological excavations, carried out between 1964 and 1969, along the prehistoric finds, an early medieval cemetery was discovered, but the church was not researched: CHIDIOȘAN 1969; DUMITRAȘCU 1983, p. 57; NÉMETI 1999, p. 34; CRIȘAN 2006, p. 191. Burials of the early medieval cemetery were reanalyzed, along with their inventory, and dated to the 10<sup>th</sup> and 11<sup>th</sup> century: LAKATOS-BALLA 2008.

*Szalacs / Sălacea – Várbóc (Dealul Cetății / Varboț).* Over the settlement of Neolithic and Copper age a medieval cemetery was identified (MÚZEUM-ISMERTETŐ, no. 2; RÉGISÉG-GYŰJTEMÉNYEM p. 74; MÚZEUMOM).

DUMITRAȘCU et al. 1974, p. 64; NÉMETI 1999, p. 34; CRIȘAN 2006, p. 192. There were no excavations here, only field surveys, which noted that the burials, dated to the Árpáadian age, are visible at the edge of the hill and continuously disturbed by sand-extraction: LAKATOS-BALLA 2014, 234–235.

*Szalacs / Sălacea – Szállás-domb (Dealul Sălaș).* A burial from the age of the Hungarian Conquest, and a bronze medallion with the representation of a warrior (St. George?) was found here (RÉGISÉG-GYŰJTEMÉNYEM, p. 74; LELTÁR, no. 1993).

DUMITRAȘCU et al. 1974, p. 64; CRIȘAN 2006, p. 192. The medallion is in the collection of Muzeul Țării Crișurilor, inv. no. 1270, dated to the 11<sup>th</sup> century, see: BÍRÓ 1943.

*Szalacs / Sălacea – Szent János halom (Dealul Sf. Ioan).* A small hill, where remnants of a construction and an iron cross were found (RÉGISÉG-GYŰJTEMÉNYEM, p. 74; LELTÁR, no. 1226–1227).