

# DELIVERABLE D.T1.1.2

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**Title** Identification Pilot Sites

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**PP Country** Croatia

**Pilot Site** Kopačevo – *Ad Labores*

**Author(s)** IARH

**Project ID** DTP3-359-2.2



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## 1. Basic Information on the Archaeological Site and its Location

Modern name of the site	Kopačevo
Roman name of the site, if known	Ad Labores
Country, Region	Croatia, Baranja
Municipality	Bilje
Type of the site ( <i>e.g. fortification, settlement etc.</i> )	Fortification, settlement, necropolis
Single site or multiple component site (cluster)	Multiple component site
Dating of the Roman site	3. – 4. century AD
Dating of construction phases, if known	/
Area of the site [in ha]	4.1 ha
Elevation of the site [in m AA] <sup>1</sup>	82 m
Coordinates of the site using WGS84 = EPSG:4326 ( <i>if your site covers a large area, indicate a single point its centre</i> )	<i>Roman fort Ad Labores/Kopačevo, HR</i> 45°36'22.4"N 18°47'35.7"E 45.606211°, 18.793237°
Cover with building structures	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> partly covered with modern superstructures <input type="checkbox"/> not covered Short description: The site is situated in a modern-day village of Kopačevo, on its northern edge. Part of the site is overbuilt with modern day buildings.
Site visibility	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> underground remains not visible <input type="checkbox"/> underground remains uncovered and visible (excavated, conserved) <input type="checkbox"/> archaeological remains above surface until today <input type="checkbox"/> physical reconstructions above archaeological remains
State of research ( <i>e.g. fully excavated, confirmed by geophysical surveys etc.</i> )	Partly excavated (2 excavation campaigns and development led excavations)
Conservation status, if known	Area protected by local Conservation Department; no specific conservation measures taken so far, since all archaeological structures are below surface and all excavation trenches have been backfilled with soil.
List of known remaining archaeological structures	Walls of a late Roman fort detected by geophysical survey in 2011; parts of the sewers system excavated and backfilled.
List of Roman military force stationed at the site ( <i>e.g. LEGIO, COHORS, ALA</i> )	<i>Unknown</i>
Access to the Danube in ancient times	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> yes

<sup>1</sup> m AA = Meters Above the Adriatic

	<input type="checkbox"/> no
Access to the Danube today	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> yes (depending on flooding season) <input type="checkbox"/> no
Access to a tributary river in ancient times	<input type="checkbox"/> yes <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> no If yes, please indicate the name:
Access to Roman Road Network	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> yes <input type="checkbox"/> no If yes, please indicate the name of the road: Mursa – Aquincum road
UNESCO status	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Tentative List status <input type="checkbox"/> World Heritage status <input type="checkbox"/> application process still ongoing <input type="checkbox"/> no UNESCO status
Legal protection	<input type="checkbox"/> by national Monument Protection Law <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> by planning tools (e.g. protection of townscape, designation of areas, zoning etc.) <input type="checkbox"/> others Please list and describe:
Institutions involved in research on the site (today and in the past)	Archaeological Museum Osijek, Conservation Department Osijek
Institutions and stakeholders involved in the presentation of the site	Nature Park Kopački Rit

## 2. Archaeological Remains

### 2.1. History of the Site

- *Kopačevo can be identified with the ancient site of Ad Labores attested on Tab. Peut. and on Rav. Cosm. The only historical evidence of the position in Kopačevo is the map of S.K. Pávia from 1798 or 1799 on which a rectangular ruin is drawn on the very northeastern edge of the settlement mentioned as “ruin”. This evidence has two problems: the first refers to the question of authenticity since subsequent, but not previously known maps do not show any object, while the second is primarily a question of scale, if it was a larger object (approx. 140x140 m) to which dating and identification of the auxiliary camp from the 2nd century can be ascribed, while if it is a smaller building, it is a late antiquity quadriburg. Finds that can be associated with this facility should be located in the northeastern part of the settlement. The house numbers in Š. Petefija Street between the 80s and 90s produced several fragments of pottery and architectural ceramic finds in the form of bricks and tegulae. Also, on house number 93, a possible sewer system was found that could be correlated with the fortification. K. Minichreiter mentions a possible wall east of the old football field and north of house number 93. The civil structures are represented by several brick and ceramic finds and pits / canals with finds in correlation*

(Š. Petefija 65 and L. Košuta 18). Two inscriptions were found, one at the entrance to the nature park, the other on the house number Š. Petefija 48. These are altars in both cases and the first can be dated to the period from the 2nd to the 3rd century. Necropolises, depending on the interpretation, exist in 2 or 3 locations. The first would be next to the old football field and maybe further west, the second confirmed is on the house number Š. Petefija 103 in the very north of the settlement, while the third in the position of Čorda is perhaps only a continuation of the first, and perhaps a separate necropolis.

## 2.2. Composition and Appearance of the Archaeological Site

Site consists of roman fort which was documented by geophysical prospection on the north side of the present-day village with associated necropolis. Civil part of the settlement is probably under the present-day settlement while remains of a necropolis can be found to the west of the village

## 2.3. Architectural Structures

No structures above ground, only structures are documented during geophysics prospection.

## 2.4. The Most Important Finds and their Message

Two Roman ara daring from 2.-3. century with inscription: [I(ovi)] O(ptimo) M(aximo) F(ulguratori) / C(aius) Ael(ius) Suri/nus de/c(urio) col(oniae) M(ursae) Ilv/iral(is) q(uin)q(uennalis) / des(ignatus) / v(otum) s(olvit) l(ibens) m(erito) (CIL III., 3560), and the other inscribed with: Cauto/pati / C(aius)Iul(ius) Ach/illean / v(ir?) l(audabilis?).

## 2.5. Surrounding Area

Surrounding area is consisting of Danube – Drava flooding area (marshland) surrounding the present-day village from 3 sides (north, south and east). To the north west a walkway of Nature Park almost reaches the area where a site is located. West of the village is the area under agricultural use and modern road network reaches the village from there.

## 2.6. Literary sources

*Tabula Peutingeriana* mentions the site of **Ad Labores** (VI., 2) –Lugione–XII–Antiana–XII–Donatianis–XIII–Ad Labores–XIII–Tittoburgo and the same site is mentioned again in *Ravennatis Anonymi Cosmographia et Guidonis Geographica* (IV., 19, 20), Donatianis–Ad Labores. Possible location of the late Roman fort is visible from 1789. map by S.K. Pávai titled *Tractus pratorum terreni Kopacsiensis*.



### 3. Research History

The history of Kopačevo's research is quite short, in 1955 a reconnaissance was conducted for the first time under the leadership of I. Degmedžić, while archaeological research was conducted on two occasions in 1976 under the leadership of M. Bulat and in 1983 under the leadership of K. Minichreiter. In the last 20 years, 3 development led excavations have been carried out in the village of Kopačevo: 2004, H. Goricke - Lukić, 2010. D. Dujmić and 2011. I. Vukmanić.

### 4. Considerations for Touristic Exploitation

#### 4.1. Practical Information

Closest urban community / city	
Ownership	10% public 90% private
Limits of use of or activities at the site (e.g. due to the presence of strategic complexes, factories, companies, military etc.)	<input type="checkbox"/> yes <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> no Mostly agricultural use
Access to the site ( <i>multiple choices possible</i> )	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> open to the public <input type="checkbox"/> controlled <input type="checkbox"/> entry fee <input type="checkbox"/> closed to the public <input type="checkbox"/> restricted (e.g. only on request, in summer time etc.) <input type="checkbox"/> others. Please describe:
Site connected to modern road network and public transport	Road network: <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> yes <input type="checkbox"/> no Parking available: <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> yes <input type="checkbox"/> no Public transport: <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> yes <input type="checkbox"/> no Further connected via: <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> bicycle routes <input type="checkbox"/> ship cruises <input type="checkbox"/> others. Please indicate:  <i>Please give a short itinerary: 5 km northeast of Osijek (15 min by car) via Biljska cesta and Š. Petefija, take the first left upon entering Kopačevo village (parking available at the Nature Park Kopački Rit) and you are at your destination. From here on you can reach the site which is 2 minutes' walk away.</i>

Tourist and visitor infrastructure available	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> yes <input type="checkbox"/> no
Tourist and visitor infrastructure planned	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> yes <input type="checkbox"/> no
If there is an entrance fee to the site, indicate prices.	Entrance fee for Natural Park Kopački Rit (10 Kuna per pearson)

#### 4.2. Presentation of the Site

Site visualisation, presentation and conservation on-site	<input type="checkbox"/> physical reconstructions for presentation <input type="checkbox"/> virtual reconstructions for presentation <input type="checkbox"/> open air presentation <input type="checkbox"/> protections structures for architectural remains <input type="checkbox"/> museum <input type="checkbox"/> information boards <input type="checkbox"/> audio guides <input type="checkbox"/> guided tours <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> others. Please describe: nonexistent so far but possible to incorporate with NP Kopački Rit in many of the mentioned forms
Service	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> souvenir shop <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> restaurant <input type="checkbox"/> others. Please describe:
Festivals and events held on-site in the past. Please list.	Roman festival held in 2017. in Kopačevo
Future festivals and events planned to be organized on-site. Please list.	
Media appearance (please list past and upcoming TV/radio broadcasts, newspaper articles etc.)	<a href="https://radio.hrt.hr/clanak/kopacevo-i-rimljani-u-ritu-preko-vikenda/153290/">https://radio.hrt.hr/clanak/kopacevo-i-rimljani-u-ritu-preko-vikenda/153290/</a>
Social media appearance	<a href="https://www.facebook.com/kopacki.rit">https://www.facebook.com/kopacki.rit</a>

#### 5. Protection

Potential threats caused by nature and human	Potential damage due to urban development (illegal construction) and flooding damage
Existing Cultural Property Protection (CPP) strategies and emergency plans	<input type="checkbox"/> yes <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> no If yes, please list and describe them:
Existing cooperation with Emergency Responders (military, firefighters, civil protection etc.)	<input type="checkbox"/> yes <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> no If yes, please list and describe them:

## 6. Further Practical Information

### 6.1. International Cooperation

EU funded projects	DANUBE parks CONNECTED project by NP Kopački rit (finished)
Research projects	/
International schools / camps	/
Other types of partnership	Potential cooperation agreement with between IARH and NP Kopački Rit

### 6.2. Information Relevant for Further Living Danube Limes Project Activities

Possibility to berth the LDL ship at the end of the project	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> yes <input type="checkbox"/> no If no, is there a “partner site” where the LDL ship can land in 2022? Which? Due to inconsistent annual water level in the Nature Park canal system there is a high chance that ship could land in Sakadaš lake right next to the site, if that proves not to be an option the landing could be relocated to Tikveš – Zlatna greda area.
Site accessibility for visitors 2020-2022	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> accessible <input type="checkbox"/> not accessible <input type="checkbox"/> not known
Site availability for public LDL events and project activities	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> yes <input type="checkbox"/> no If no, is there a “partner site” where the LDL events can be hosted? Which?

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## 8. Remarks

Natural Park Kopački Rit is open for any form of cooperation and highly motivated and interested in including interpretation of the Roman site of Kopačevo (Ad Labores) within its presentation capabilities in their visitors' center. Distance between visitors' center and the location of the Roman fort is around 300 meters and it could be easily included within the park's educational walkways around visitors' center. All of the subsequent visualizations, augmented reality and educational presentations could be easily integrated with the Parks already existing infrastructure. Park also offers cruises along the canal network which can potentially lead out to Danube depending on water levels in the park and can thusly be utilized for presentation of the Roman ship, if water doesn't permit it the location of the ships landing presentation can be located few kilometers to the north still within the parameters of the Nature Park.



*Figure 1 PP Kopački rit docks (© Nature Park Kopački 2021)*



*Figure 2 PP Kopački rit Visitors center (© Nature Park Kopački 2021)*