

DELIVERABLE D.T1.1.2

Title Identification Pilot Sites

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PP Country Austria

Pilot Site Tulln/Comagena

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1. Basic Information on the Archaeological Site and its Location

Modern name of the site	Tulln
Roman name of the site, if known	Comagena/Comagenis
Country, Region	Austria, Lower Austria
Municipality	Tulln an der Donau
Type of the site (<i>e.g. fortification, settlement etc.</i>)	camp/fort; settlement, cemeteries
Single site or multiple component site (cluster)	multiple component
Dating of the Roman site	1st to 5th CE
Dating of construction phases, if known	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. wood-earth camp: late 1st CE 2. fort (stone-structure): 2 phases; stone-fort 1: from late 1st/early 2nd to 3rd CE ; stone-fort 2: Mid 4th to 5th CE 3. settlement: 1st to second half of 3rd CE 4. cemeteries: south: 1st to 5th CE; southwest: 4th to early 5th CE; west: late 1st to to early 3rd CE and late 3rd to early 5th CE; east: 2nd/3rd CE; southeast: ?
Area of the site [in ha]	fort: 5 ha
Elevation of the site [in m AA] ¹	180 m AA
Coordinates of the site using WGS84 = EPSG:4326 (<i>if your site covers a large area, indicate a single point its centre</i>)	Roman camp Comagena/Tulln, AT 48° 19' 51.76" N, 16° 3' 7.45" E 48.331044°, 16.05207°
Cover with building structures	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> fully/partly covered with modern superstructures <input type="checkbox"/> not covered <p>Short description: Partly covered with modern superstructure. A horseshoe tower ("Salzturm") on the west front of the fort is preserved up to the roof. The wall of the right gate of the fort (porta principalis dextra) and the southeastern fan tower near the main sports school are preserved and secured by protective structures. The east, south and west front of fort are partially preserved. The area of the former provincial hospital and the "Cemeteries West" are protected monuments.</p>
Site visibility	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> underground remains not visible <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> underground remains uncovered and visible (excavated, conserved) <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> archaeological remains above surface until today <input type="checkbox"/> physical reconstructions above archaeological remains

¹ m AA = Meters Above the Adriatic

State of research (<i>e.g. fully excavated, confirmed by geophysical surveys etc.</i>)	Tulln is not fully excavated. Excavations only possible in connection with construction work, because Roman Tulln is located under the modern structures.
Conservation status, if known	Horseshoe tower is completely preserved up to the roof; porta principalis dextra is preserved in foundation walls and conserved by a protective structure; Fan tower is preserved in foundation walls.
List of known remaining archaeological structures	Horseshoe-tower (westfront of fort); foundation walls of the right gate of the fort (porta principalis dextra); southeastern fan-tower (near the main sports school); east-, south- and west front of fort are partially preserved.
List of Roman military force stationed at the site (<i>e.g. LEGIO, COHORS, ALA</i>)	Ala I Commagenorum (according to building inscription AE 2003, 01319, dating 104 CE); equites promoti (according to Notitia Dignitatum occ. XXXIV 36); lanciarii Comaginenses (according to Notitia Dignitatum occ. V 260; VII 59); classis (Co)mmaginensis (Danube fleet) (according to Notitia Dignitatum occ. 34,42); foederati (according to Vita Sancti Severini 2,2; 1,4)
Access to the Danube in ancient times	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> yes <input type="checkbox"/> no
Access to the Danube today	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> yes <input type="checkbox"/> no
Access to a tributary river in ancient times	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> yes <input type="checkbox"/> no If yes, please indicate the name: Small and big Tulln
Access to Roman Road Network	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> yes <input type="checkbox"/> no If yes, please indicate the name of the road: Limes Road; Western outfall road, which leads to the main traffic road via Piro torto and Cetium/St. Pölten
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 checked="" type="checkbox"/> by national Monument Protection Law <input 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)	BDA Vienna (Federal Monuments Office), ASINOE GmbH (Archaeological services excavation company) Heimatkundlicher Arbeitskreis für den Berzirk und die Stadt Tulln (Local history association Tulln)
Institutions and stakeholders involved in the presentation of the site	BDA Vienna (Federal Monuments Office), ASINOE GmbH (Archaeological services excavation company, https://www.asinoe-gmbh.at/), Heimatkundlicher Arbeitskreis für den Berzirk und die Stadt Tulln (Local history association Tulln, https://www.heimatkunde-tulln.eu/)

2. Archaeological Remains

2.1. History of the Site

In the late 1st century CE, a wood-earth camp was built, probably under Emperor Domitian. The stationed troops of this phase are unknown. A conversion into a stone fort began at the turn of the 1st and 2nd centuries CE according to a building inscription on the porta principalis dextra from 104 CE. This conversion was carried out by the Ala I Commagenorum, which was stationed here until the 3rd century CE. The north-south length of the fort can be reconstructed up to 250 meters. In total, the rectangular fort had an area of about 5 ha. In front of the defense walls there was a pointed ditch system, which shows at least two construction phases. Almost nothing is known about the interior construction. Only in the western part a north-south oriented crew barrack was documented. Two fire disasters are documented from the 3rd century CE. Further remodeling of the fort took place around the mid of the 4th century CE. The fan-tower at the southwest and southeast corners as well as a horseshoe-tower ("Salzturm") date from this period. After another fire disaster, further building measures took place under the Dux Ursicinus. In late antiquity, the fort was probably reduced in size, which would be indicated by a pointed ditch in the area of the Danube bank. From this time on, Tulln/Comagena became the naval base of the Danube fleet (classis (Co)magenensis) and the location of an equestrian unit (equites promoti Comagenis). In the 5th century CE an occupation by federates (foederati) is documented. Here, archaeological finds such as pottery and the Vita Sancti Severini, which describes that the gates of the Oppidum Comagenis were guarded by barbarian federates when Severin arrived in 456, coincide. Afterwards a civilian settlement took place in the camp area. Probably the old camp was abandoned after the Rugian campaigns and the emigration order of Odoacer (5th century). Research assumes a resettlement during Charlemagne's War of the Avars towards the end of the 8th century, in this temporal context also the ancient place name reappears. Only grave finds from the 10th century are archaeologically provable.

The oldest settlement features date to the 1st century CE and were overlaid by the southern cemetery in the 3rd century CE. Two construction phases were identified, with a wooden construction phase preceding the stone construction phase. Earth cellars, wells and waste pits as well as strip houses were documented. A late antique house with a t-shaped heating

construction was recorded near the southern front of the retentura. Significant finds for bone carving are known from the southern settlement area. From the second half of the 3rd century CE the settlement activity ends. The settlement encloses the fort from north to east to south, but a closed settlement area is purely hypothetical.

More than 300 Late Antique inhumations were found in the southern cemetery. These were buried in a leveled settlement horizon. This cemetery dates from the beginning of the 4th to the 5th century CE. The oldest graves represent simple earthen graves, which were overlaid by stone and brick slab graves. The youngest layer is again formed by earth graves. In the paved graves there were multiple burials. During the construction of the Empress Elisabeth Railway (Westbahn) early cremation graves were found near the station.

The southwest cemetery is only partially excavated. Cremations and inhumations were documented. There are 40 inhumations in simple earth graves and stone cists of the 4th and beginning of the 5th century CE known. Other graves were apparently destroyed, which is probably indicated by stray finds.

Cremated and inhumation burials of Late Antiquity are known from the West Cemetery. From the year 1958, 22 burials are documented and others destroyed by construction work. From 2006 to 2008, 497 burials were found on the site of the former fire school. They date, on the one hand, from the late 1st to the beginning of the 3rd century CE and, on the other hand, from the late 3rd to the beginning of the 5th century CE.

Six West-East oriented inhumation graves have been found in the eastern cemetery, which can be dated to the 2nd/3rd century CE.

In the southeast cemetery it should be noted that several cremation burials were destroyed during the construction of a railroad embankment. One grave had a mound-shaped cover of rubble stones.

2.2. Composition and Appearance of the Archaeological Site

The archaeological remains like towers and the porta principalis dextra are located in the city centre of Tulln close together. They are visible and preserved by protective structures like the porta principalis dextra or embedded in the cityscape like the late antique towers and can be viewed from the outside. The Roman Museum and the Virtulleum App show more finds and objects from this environment and period and provide information about the historical development of the city Tulln.

2.3. Architectural Structures

The east, south and west wall of the earlier stone fort are partially preserved. The wall had a width of 1.20 to 1.50 m in the west and east, and up to 2 m in the south.

The porta principalis dextra (right gate of the fort) measures 22 m and was flanked by two rectangular towers protruding by about 1.90 m. It's fully excavated and preserved.

The horseshoe-tower, also known as "Salzturm", is located at the west front of fort. The 8 m long U-shaped tower jumped back into the interior of the camp by 3.1 m. The horseshoe-tower was built as an intermediate tower for reinforcement. Possibly there was a counterpart in the form of an intermediate tower in the south.

The southeastern fan-tower was partially investigated. Its walls were up to 1.65 m thick and in the rising masonry up to 2.5 m. On the outside the eastern wall adjoined, which could be proved only in a few stone courses. A pointed ditch was located in front of it. An opposite tower is postulated for the southwest corner of the fort.

2.4. The Most Important Finds and their Message

A Milestone measures the distance a Cetio Milia Passuum XXIII, which would correspond to the location of Tulln. The milestone is dated to 235/239 CE, the reign of Maximinus Thrax.

Fragments of an architectural inscription were found in the porta principalis dextra and name the Ala I Commagenorum. It is dating to 104 CE.

A brick stamp with the abbreviation AIC for A(la) I C(ommagenorum) was also found. This inscription also appears in the association of the noric army on military diplomas of 106 CE (CIL XVI 52), 138 CE (AEA 2009, 31) and 151 CE (RMM 32).

Coin hoards are also documented. They date to the years 258 and 283. They prove the two fire catastrophes from the 3rd century CE.

2.5. Surrounding Area

The fort is situated between the mouths of the big and small Tulln on an alluvial gravel terrace on the Danube and lies under the medieval old town, in the area between Nibelungengasse, Wienerstraße, Danube bank and the former regional hospital/sports ground. The fort site was located on the Limes road. The western outfall road can be grasped in its northeast-southwest orientation by the grave road. In its further course the road leads to the main traffic road via Piro torto and Cetium/St. Pölten. From the military point of view, the fort could probably have guarded the center of the whole Tulln field as well as the crossing over the Danube.

Around the fort there is the settlement. It lies between the Danube bank in the north, the Nussallee and the Stadtgraben in the west, the Franz-Josef-Straße and Wilhelmstraße in the south and the Karl-Metz-Gasse in the east.

Cemetery Aouth is located on the south side of the old town of Tulln, between Wilhelmstraße, Feldgasse, railroad line and "Lagerhaus".

Cemetery Southwest is located south of Konrad-von-Tulln-Straße, east of Grünwaldgasse, north of Grillengraben and west of Franz-Schubert-Straße.

Cemetery West is located west of the Minoritenkloster, between Danube bank and Schießstattgasse.

Cemetery East is located east of the fort on Langenlebarner Straße (federal school center).

Cemetery Southeast is located south of the present cemetery and west of the Tulln railroad station, near the junction with the Danube on both sides of the railroad embankment.

2.6. Literary sources

Eugippius - Vita Sancti Severini (511 CE):

Tulln was cited as the place of residence of St. Severin (1,3; 33).

For the 5th century CE several chapters of the Vita Sancti Severini (1,4; 2; 3,1; 33) describe the current situation in Comagenis/Tulln. At this time the fort served as a central place of civil and military population, of Romani and Foederates (2,2; 1,4).

3. Research History

In the 19th century Tulln was equated with Comagena. The exact location became known only through excavations in the 20th century. The porta principalis dextra (the right camp gate) was excavated in 1980/1981. The early imperial wood-earth camp was proved in course of that excavations. In 1992, the extent of the wood-earth camp became known. In 2000, the fragments of a building inscription naming Ala I Commagenorum were discovered. In 2003, parts of barracks buildings were documented.

In the settlement investigations took place from the 1970s. From 2006 to 2009 the last major excavations were initiated at the main square.

In 1896, during the construction of the embankment of the Franz-Josef railroad, a cemetery was discovered and scientifically evaluated. In 1927/28 a cemetery was explored southwest of the settlement. North of it another cemetery was discovered after the 2nd World War. From 2006 to 2008 about 500 graves of the 1st to 5th century CE were found. Consequently, more and more graves were documented in the south (Tulln railstation). In 2000 also in the east a grave area at the Langenlebarner Straße came up.

4. Considerations for Touristic Exploitation

4.1. Practical Information

Closest urban community / city	Tulln
Ownership	90% public (Roman Museum Tulln, porta principalis dextra) 10% private (club house for student's association)
Limits of use of or activities at the site (e.g. due to the presence of	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> yes <input type="checkbox"/> no

<p>strategic complexes, factories, companies, military etc.)</p>	<p>The museum is very centrally located. People settle all around this place. Noise pollution could become a problem and limit activities. Mostly, however, controllable, as events (Roman Festivals etc) have already taken place from the museum and announced.</p>
<p>Access to the site (<i>multiple choices possible</i>)</p>	<p> <input type="checkbox"/> open to the public <input type="checkbox"/> controlled <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> entry fee (Museum, city tours) <input type="checkbox"/> closed to the public <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> restricted (The horseshoe tower, the fan tower as well as the porta principalis dextra usually are only visitable from the outside, but the Roman Museum Tulln offers tours for archaeological places in the city on request; mostly in the context of city tours. There are fixed dates in the summer, which are announced in the museum or website.) <input type="checkbox"/> others. Please describe: </p>
<p>Site connected to modern road network and public transport</p>	<p> 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 checked="" type="checkbox"/> ship cruises <input type="checkbox"/> others. Please indicate: </p> <p>by car: 45 km northwest of Vienna (45 min by car) via A22 and S5, take exit 9 “Tulln” (parking available) and follow B19. You have to pass several roundabouts, please follow the brown signs “Historisches Zentrum”.</p> <p>Also easy to reach by train (S40) from Vienna Franz-Josefs-Bahnhof (35 min by train).</p> <p>By bus (regional bus: 341/439: Tulln - Tulbing - Klosterneuburg - Wien Heiligenstadt; 409: Tulln - Langenrohr - Judenau - Sieghartskirchen (Mo-Sa über Bahnhof Tullnerfeld); 410: Tulln - Zöfing - Judenau - Sieghartskirchen (Mo-Sa über Bahnhof Tullnerfeld); 440: Stadtverkehr Tulln; 441: Tulln - Tulbing - Königstetten - Zeiselmauer; 442: Tulln - Judenau - Neulengbach (Mo-Sa über Bahnhof Tullnerfeld); 443:</p>

	<p>Tulln - Judenau - Heiligeneich - Würmla (Mo-Sa über Bahnhof Tullnerfeld); 444: Tulln - Langenrohr - Zwentendorf - Reidling; 445: Tulln - Unterkirchbach - Wien Silbergasse/Neuwaldegg; 447: Hütteldorf - Gablitz - Sieghartskirchen - Kogl - Kronstein - Rekawinkl; 449: Tulln - Königstetten - Mauerbach; 800: Tulln - Hausleiten - Göllersdorf - Hollabrunn; 861: Tulln - Kirchberg/Wagram - Großriedenthal; Nachtbus N439: Tulln - Klosterneuburg - Wien Heiligenstadt (in den Nächten auf Sa, So und Feiertag); Wieselbus D: Klosterneuburg - Kierling - Tulln - St. Pölten.</p> <p>From the beginning of May to the end of September, several shipping companies dock in Tulln on Saturdays and Sundays (Donauschiffahrt Wurm und Köck, DDSG Blue Danube Schifffahrt GmbH, Fahrpläne der Donau Schiffsstationen in Niederösterreich)</p>
Tourist and visitor infrastructure available	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> yes <input type="checkbox"/> no
Tourist and visitor infrastructure planned	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> yes (for instance: new cafe/restaurant at the Danube bank Tulln) <input type="checkbox"/> no
If there is an entrance fee to the site, indicate prices.	<p>Roman Museum: Adults: € 6,00 Reduced tickets adults: € 5,00 (groups of 10 or more and senior citizens) Children and teenagers (11-18 years): € 3,00 (Servants, apprentices and students up to 25 years) Reduced tickets children and youth: € 2,00 (school and youth groups from 10 persons without guided tour) Family ticket: Mother or father with max. 4 children (11-18 years): € 7,00 Parents with max. 4 children (11-18 years): € 12,00 € 1,- reduction with the Tulln-Ticket! Free admission with the Niederösterreich-CARD (except special events)</p> <p>Guided tours (through Roman era): by appointment at +43 (0)660 8711356 or buchung@kumkum.at (Claudia-Maria Behling) during opening hours. Age-specific educational programs and workshops are offered for schools. Cost: Pupils: € 3.50/person, minimum booking 20 pupils, 2 accompanying persons free, free museum admission for guided school classes.</p>



	<p>Adults: € 3,50/person, minimum booking 20 persons, plus museum entrance fee</p> <p>Notice: Due to the Corona Virus, changed regulations for group maximum sizes are currently in effect.</p>
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4.2. Presentation of the Site

Site visualisation, presentation and conservation on-site	<input type="checkbox"/> physical reconstructions for presentation <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> virtual reconstructions for presentation (Virtulleum) <input type="checkbox"/> open air presentation <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> protections structures for architectural remains (porta principalis dextra) <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> museum <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> information boards <input type="checkbox"/> audio guides <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> guided tours <input type="checkbox"/> others. Please describe: guided city tour with Virtulleum App . Knowledge transfer through the app by means of selected objects in connection with certain places in the city. Historical insight into the city of Tulln. Ideal for families, groups and individual interested persons.
Service	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> souvenir shop <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> restaurant (offers in the city, not in museum) <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> others (another souvenir offer in the tourist information centre Tulln)
Festivals and events held on-site in the past. Please list.	for instance: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> – small Roman festivals (topics: medicine, cosmetic, cooking etc.) – Long Night of Museums (Lange Nacht der Museen) – Museum Spring Lower Austria (Museumsfrühling Niederösterreich)
Future festivals and events planned to be organised on-site. Please list.	none
Media appearance (please list past and upcoming TV/radio broadcasts, newspaper articles etc.)	none
Social media appearance	Facebook; Youtube (frequently used for promoting museum and sites)



5. Protection

Potential threats caused by nature and human	The only threat would be flooding by the Danube, but it is controlled by the hydroelectric power plant Greifenstein. No other threats known.
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 checked="" type="checkbox"/> yes <input type="checkbox"/> no If yes, please list and describe them: not in relation to the museum itself, but from the municipality of Tulln

6. Further Practical Information

6.1. International Cooperation

EU funded projects	Virtulleum App (leader project); Interreg Danube Transnational Programme Project <i>Living Danube Limes</i>
Research projects	none
International schools / camps	none
Other types of partnership	none

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?
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?

7. Bibliography

Friesinger/Krinzinger 1997: H. Friesinger / F. Krinzinger (eds), Der römische Limes in Österreich. Führer zu den archäologischen Denkmälern (Wien 1997), 226-230.

Gassner/Pülz 2015: V. Gassner / A. Pülz (eds), Der römische Limes in Österreich. Führer zu den archäologischen Denkmälern (Wien 2015), 229-233.

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8. Remarks