



CH
WB

Cultural
Heritage without Borders
KULTURAV UTAN GRÄNSER

AN ARCHEOLOGICAL MAP OF THE HISTORIC ZONE OF PRIZREN

**PRIZREN
REHABILITATION
PROGRAMME**

CHwB Kosovo office
Report series No. 2/2006

CH
WB
Cultural
Heritage without Borders
KULTURAV UTAN GRÄNSER

**AN ARCHAEOLOGICAL
MAP OF THE HISTORIC
ZONE OF PRIZREN**

PRIZREN
REHABILITATION
PROGRAMME

CHwB Kosovo office
Report series No. 2/2006



Fig. 1 View on Prizren from the NW

BACKGROUND TO THE REPORT

The Swedish NGO Cultural Heritage without Borders (CHwB) runs a programme 'Preservation and Development Plan for the Historic Zone of Prizren'. The programme is based on an integrated conservation process and is aimed at enhancing sustainable urban development, which includes social, cultural, economical, and education development. The programme uses a participatory approach, involving the community and all relevant stakeholders.

Archaeological finds suggest that the Historic Zone of Prizren has been inhabited for c. 2000 years or more. Building works such as building foundations, road improvements and pipe or cable trenches can disturb archaeological layers underneath the present ground surface. An integrated approach to the cultural heritage of Prizren therefore requires an archaeological component which deals with the protection and the enhancement of the archaeological heritage. Therefore, CHwB commissioned a freelance archaeologist, Dr. Birte Brugmann, to liaise with the relevant Kosovan institutions for an archaeological component of the Programme.

Kemajl Luci, Cultural Manager and Kustos of the Kosovo Museum, and Luan Loçbashliu, Head of the Regional Archaeological Museum of Prizren, both experienced field archaeologists, agreed to run a project 'Compilation of an Archaeological Map of Prizren' with the aid of the Institute of Archaeology of Kosovo. The long-term aim of this project is to strengthen the basis for a future archaeological management of the Prizren Historic Zone 1 and the Fortress (Fig 2). As a systematic inventory of the archaeological heritage of Prizren, the project supports

the Archaeological Inventory for Kosovo, which forms parts of the Standards for Kosovo.

From 3 - 15 May 2006, a team of field archaeologists carried out a survey of the Historic Zone and of some threatened archaeological sites in Prizren outside the Historic Zone, with a grant from CHwB:

Luan Loçbashliu, Regional Archaeological Museum of Prizren,
Kemajl Luci, Museum of Kosovo,
Fatmir Peja, Museum of Kosovo,
Shafi Gashi, Archaeological Institute of Kosovo,
Milot Berisha, Archaeological Institute of Kosovo,
assisted by Birte Brugmann.

The present report is based on the mission report compiled by the Kosovan team members, entitled *Përçilimi i hartës arkeologjike të Prizrenit (Maj 2006)*.

ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS

The team wishes to thank Abib Ahmed, Director of the Institute for the Protection of Monuments in Prizren, and his staff for their support given during the survey. Furthermore, Muhamed Shukriu, former director of the Institute for the Protection of Monuments in Prizren, kindly shared his knowledge on the archaeology of the town.

A large part of the survey would have been impossible without the co-operation of the German KFOR troops based in Prizren who gave access to fenced-off sites. Special thanks go to liaison officer First Lieutenant Gideon Lenke, who assisted the team's work beyond duty.

INTRODUCTION

The Fortress of Prizren is located on a foothill of the Sharr/Šar mountains, at the exit of the Lumbardh/Bistrica river into the Dukagjin plain. Due to its favourable geographic position, the use of the hilltop goes back to prehistoric times. It seems likely that the area of modern Prizren, at the foot of the hill and extending towards the plain, was also inhabited to some extent: the ample water supply and the fertile soils are not only suitable for agriculture but are also positioned in reach of a hilltop providing relative safety from human attacks. Erosion affecting hill slopes and indications for minor changes in the river course in what is now the modern town suggest that the natural environment underwent some changes over time, though only on a local scale.

The Historic Zone 1 of Prizren (Fig. 2) covers a varied terrain: it includes part of the river valley as it forms a

gorge in the foothills of the mountains, extends towards the plain as far as the core of the town on both sides of the river, and includes the steep slope of the hill below the Fortress and above the town centre. In town, the Historic Zone covers c. 40ha. Through the remains of the Fortress have been designated as an historic site by themselves, the site forms an integral part of the geographical and culture-historic setup.

So far, archaeological evidence for prehistoric settlement in the area of the modern town is vague, but there can be no doubt about inhabitation in Roman times. In the Middle Ages, if not already in Late Antiquity, Prizren gained importance as a central place. Sacral and secular buildings from the late Middle Ages and the following periods demonstrate the importance of the town in later times. Today Prizren has c. 120 000 inhabitants living on c. 3000 ha.

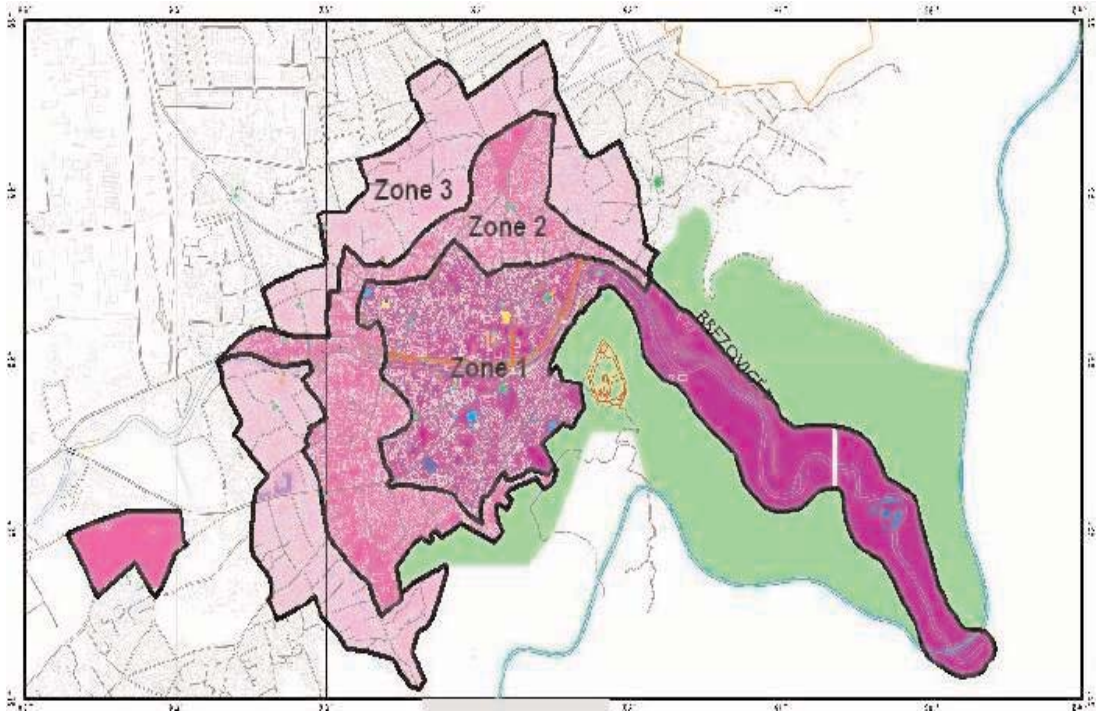


Fig. 2 The Historic Zones of Prizren. From: *Cultural Heritage without Borders* and Politecnico di Torino, PPD P Prizren. Pilot Preservation and Development Plan for the historical area. Mission report (August 2005) Table 34.

Although more than half of the buildings in the Historic Zone have been built since World War II, the town is still dominated by detached houses mostly with two floors and their own backyard (Figs 3 and 4).

It seems that traditional houses mostly did not have cellars and are likely to have been built on top of earlier occupation layers (Figs. 6 and 8). Modern building materials and techniques have changed the situation dramatically: Foundations for new houses are cut at least 2m meters into the ground with heavy machinery, turning large areas of the Historic Zone into archaeological wasteland. The replacement of traditional houses with modern

buildings has been extending this wasteland at an alarming rate.

With the Nënkalaja/Podkalaja quarter severely damaged in 2004 (Fig. 5), a large area in the Historic Zone is designated for redevelopment in the foreseeable future - a challenge for urban archaeology.

Yugoslavian law required building works to be stopped if archaeological layers were found during earthmoving operations, and the new law for Kosovo will doubtless require the same.

Fig. 3 Prizren. A view across the Historic Zone with the Fortress in the background.

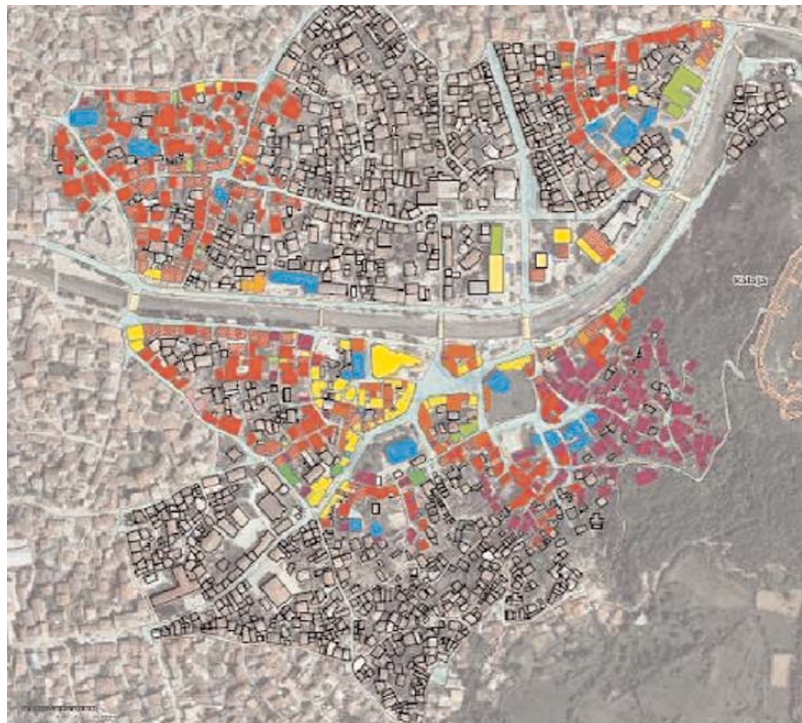


Fig. 4 Prizren Houses built before World War II are shown in yellow, buildings erected after World War II are shown in green. Buildings not coloured in were not surveyed.

From: Cultural Heritage without Borders and Politecnico di Torino, PPDP Prizren. Pilot Preservation and Development Plan for the historical area. Mission report (August 2005) Annex 14, Table 1.3.



Fig. 5 Prizren Houses not in use are shown in purple. Most of them mark the Nënkalaja/Podkalaja quarter severely damaged in 2004, which currently forms the largest urban area in Prizren designated for redevelopment. From: Cultural Heritage without Borders and Politecnico di Torino, PPDP Prizren. Pilot Preservation and Development Plan for the historical area. Mission report (August 2005) Annex 14, Table 1.3.



The reality on - or rather in the ground - is mostly different. It is not unusual for towns in Europe that early records of archaeological finds made during building works are only hearsay because the finds were noticed but neither were they recorded nor were the earthmoving operations works stopped temporarily and archaeologists called in to have a closer look. The best-known cases in Prizren are from a location called 'Tumba' ('Barrow') where allegedly one or more

prehistoric barrows were destroyed in 1949 (Site No. 22), from the modern town centre along the Farkatarëve Street (Site No. 27), of which is said that a Roman Period floor mosaic was noticed when the bank and the hotel were built in 1967, and from Terzi Mëhalla (Site No. 10) across the river, where in 1964 remains were observed during drainage works which may have been part of a Roman bath.

Fig. 6 (upper and bottom photo) Prizren. A former stable in the front yard of a house in Terzi Mëhalla (Site No. 10). The larger picture shows the excavated part of its foundations.

Fig. 7 Silver Roman coin found in a garden in Prizren (Site No. 26)



Fig. 8 Prizren. A building site in the Marash Quarter (Site No.5)



It is likely that these three sites form only the tip of the iceberg, and that in many other cases archaeological remains were not recognised because there were no professional archaeologists present. It would not be unusual if in other cases finds were made but kept secret because they were considered valuable. Some lucky finders, however, did report chance finds to the Regional Archaeological Museum, such as a Roman silver coin found in a garden not far from the Museum (Fig. 6, Site No. 26).

The earliest and most famous small-find in the archaeological record of Prizren is the so-called 'Runner of Prizren', the bronze figure of a running girl, which may have been attached to a vessel or a utensil (Fig. 11, No. 24.4). A dealer sold it to the British Museum in 1876. Unfortunately this means that we only have the dealer's word for the fact that the figure was found at Prizren. According to a specialist from the British Museum, the object was possibly made in Sparta between 520 and 500 BC. It may have got to Prizren as a precious gift, or as loot, and used as a grave-good before it was discovered in the 19th century.

The earliest research excavations in the Historic Zone, in 1927, were not actually carried out in the town itself but in the Monastery of the Holy Archangels situated upriver (Site No. 21), and in the remains of the Fortress in 1964 (Site No. 16). Between 1977 and 1994 a series of small-scale excavations followed in the town itself, but as the sites chosen were mainly Orthodox church precincts (Site Nos. 2, 4, 7-9, 21) and the vicinity of two mosques (Sites Nos. 5 and 8), the archaeological interest can be described as an archaeology of religious sites rather than urban archaeology in a broader sense. The excavations produced mostly evidence for cemeteries.

The first rescue excavation ahead of building works since the war was carried out next to the Sahat Kulla in 2003 and produced evidence from the Ottoman Period probably related to an 18th-century hammam. Research excavations in the Fortress (Site No. 16) followed in 2004, and the latest trial trench in Prizren was dug by the survey team to search for evidence of the possible Roman feature in Terzi Mëhalla, unfortunately without success (Site No. 10).



Fig. 9 *Fatmir Peja records an unpublished inscription on a Roman altar from Prizren in the courtyard of the Regional Archaeological Museum.*



Fig. 10 *Luan Loçbashliu and Milot Berisha in Luan's office at the Regional Archaeological Museum in Prizren.*



Fig. 11 *The "Runner of Prizren" No. 24.4)*

THE SURVEY OF MAY 2006



Fig. 12 - 13
(first and second photo)
Pottery sherds from the fortress (Site No. 16) are washed and documented.



Fig. 14
Altar in the wall of Saint Friday's church.



Fig. 15 Prizren, Saint Friday church. Carved stone with a laurel wreath (upside down).

For the compilation of an archaeological map of the Historic Zone of Prizren, a range of archaeological methods was used which are standard in archaeology and have been well-tested during the survey for the 'Archaeological Map of Kosovo'. Using them in an urban environment instead of the countryside for the first time, however, required some adaptations.

DESK-BASED ASSESSMENT

The basis for the map (Fig. 30) forms a so-called 'desk-based assessment': a compilation and evaluation of all available information on archaeological remains known from Prizren, published and unpublished.

Though a team effort, it would have been impossible without the input of Luan Loçbashliu, who has been working as an archaeologist in Prizren for 31 years.

THE FIELDWORK

A 'field' survey in town is rather different from a survey in the countryside, as it was carried out by the team in Zidine (Site No. 19), a designated building site about 2km away from the town centre, and at the Fortress.

In the town itself, the only 'ploughed fields' that can be searched for surface finds (usually pottery sherds) are the vegetable patches and flower beds in the back gardens of the town houses - with limited results. Instead, spolia (re-used carved stones) turned out to be a challenge on an unfamiliar scale.

Fig. 16 The dotted line indicates the erosion that washes debris from the Fortress into Nënkalaja/Podkalaja.



The walls of the 14th-century Saint Friday Church (Site No. 2), for example, which was built on the site of a basilica, incorporates in its outer walls a Roman altar (Fig. 14) and a stone with part of a laurel wreath that may originally have been used for a public building (Fig. 15). The re-use of carved stones for new buildings was common because convenient. The Fortress, for example, was used as a 'quarry' for buildings in town until concrete became a more convenient material.

The spolia in the wall of Saint Friday Church may not have come from the church precincts, but were probably found in the area. Together with the altars and grave stones from other sites in town (Site Nos 10, 13, 23, and 24.3), these finds suggest that in the Roman Period, there was more than a farming village at Prizren.

Archaeological surface finds such as pottery, tiles and bricks were mostly found in Nënkalaja/Podkalaja, on the steep slope below the Fortress (Site No. 14). Archaeological finds from such an area would not be unexpected because fortifications usually attract settlement outside their walls.

It seems, however, that the archaeological material found during the survey is not from the area itself, but was washed down from the Fortress (Fig. 16).

The remains of the Fortress are severely threatened by erosion (Fig. 17), and it seems that the hill slope below will need to be stabilised before Nënkalaja/Podkalaja is rebuilt.

The survey in Nënkalaja/Podkalaja required permission from KFOR and had to be kept to the paths for security reasons because KFOR expects to find unexploded devices in the houses when they will be cleared eventually. In the two years since the March riots in 2004, the area has become much overgrown. This would have made it difficult to survey the terrain even if there had been better access.

Apart from the erosion material, which included carved stone fragments, only a tiny garden with carefully worked stone blocks in the entrance (spolia) was examined. Before the team entered the garden, it was searched by KFOR

Fig. 17 Erosion at the outer wall of the Fortress.



Fig. 18 Luan Koçbashliu, Shafi Gashi and Milot Berisha record surface finds in Nënkalaja/Podkalaja



Fig. 19 KFOR checks a garden before the team enters 15 KFOR checks a garden before the team enters





Fig. 20
The team standing on the site of the discovery made at Terzi Mëhalla in 1964.



Fig. 21
Digging the trial trench.



Fig. 22
Pottery from the trial trench.



Fig. 23 & 24
Shafi Gashi records the trial trench.

(Fig. 19).

Assessing the archaeological potential of what will be the biggest building site in the Historic Zone of Prizren in the foreseeable future, turned out to be more than could be achieved during the survey. Arguments against the existence of original archaeological layers in the area will need to be verified: that erosion washed them down even before the present buildings were erected, and that the buildings were cut into the hill instead of having been raised on artificial platforms. A trial trench in a location that is showing few signs of artificial levelling would be the most promising method to get an indication for archaeological layers in the area preserved in situ. Such a location was identified, and the next step will be to seek the house owner's permission for the trial trench.

A trial trench that could be dug during the survey was placed in a convenient spot close to the possible remains of a hypocaust found in 1964 during excavations for pipe trenches at Terzi Mëhalla (Fig. 20, Site No. 10). As no photos or descriptions of the features encountered in 1964 seem to exist, we can only guess at what it was that the local residents saw. A hypocaust could indicate a public Roman bath or the floor heating of a private building, possibly with a mosaic, as was allegedly found across the river, inside the Historic Zone 1 (Site No. 27).

Placing a trial trench in a densely inhabited area is not always easy because it may require preparations such as the opening and replacing of a tarmacked surface, relocating traffic, guarding the site at night etc. The survey team was lucky, however, because one of the residents who remembered the findings of 1964 offered the inside of a disused



stable in his courtyard, about 15m from the original find spot, for a trial trench. Though he was doubtful about the feature encountered in 1964 reaching this far, the team decided to use the opportunity.

The trench was excavated down to natural ground but produced only what may have been the edge of a pit with some sherds in it, the largest from a jar of the Ottoman period. It seems that the house owner was correct and that another trial trench closer to the original discovery may be more informative - certainly a future option.

The team's presence in the area had some positive side effects. Curious neighbours began to remember earlier finds in the area, and though the descriptions of human bones, pottery and 'green money' remained vague (Site No. 10.3), they give some idea of the kind of information a more detailed survey over a longer period could produce. The excavation raised the interest of two boys in particular, who began to search their parents' vegetable gardens for pot sherds. The idea that archaeology is about finding gold treasure is firmly rooted in most people's minds, but the enthusiasm of these two boys showed how easy it can be to take a young generation beyond this notion.

A project for Prizren schools about the archaeology of the region might be a next step. No matter how hard archaeologists try, at the end of the day it is the public interest that decides whether something like urban archaeology is sustainable. The conflict between the economic interest of a family wanting to build a house, for example, and the public interest in preserving or at least in recording the past, is real and needs a policy that offers solutions when such problems arise.

During the survey, a cursory watching brief (observing earth-moving operations on a building site in case archaeological remains are found) was carried out in Marash, on a site next to the river (Fig. 27, Site No. 15) This was possible because the owner kindly allowed the team onto the premises.

Fig 25
Kemajl Luci with an enthusiastic youngster.



Fig. 26
A building site at Marash. The section of the pit shows the remains of the river stone foundations of the demolished building, and an earlier wall next to it.



Fig. 27
Marash building site. The dark layer probably indicates the river bed at an earlier time.



What if something more spectacular than a wall foundation had been noted while the pit was dug? Could the building works have been stopped immediately? Who would have made the decision? Who would have paid the expenses caused by a delay in the building works? Who would have paid for an archaeological excavation? Much will depend on the cultural heritage law currently developed for Kosovo.

THE RESULTS OF THE SURVEY

The survey lists 20 sites of archaeological interest within the Historic Zone 1 of Prizren, and five more sites in parts of the town beyond (Fig. 30). A further four sites which were considered significant for the survey are located outside the mapped area.

The original inventory of the recorded sites, compiled in Albanian language, is more detailed than the abbreviated version below. The entries give the site name and location, a GPS reading if possible, a short description of the nature of the site, events such as excavations or chance finds made, an indication of the features and finds the site produced, the known date range of the site, its present condition, and a bibliography. The record was made in the form of an electronic text with illustrations, a format that will have to be kept until an electronic database has been created for the Archaeological Map of Kosovo.



Fig. 28 (first) Milot Berisha working on the inventory in the office of the Regional Museum. (second) The team discusses the day's results.

FUTURE WORK

It is likely that the Archaeological Map of Prizren shows only the tip of the iceberg, as far as sites of archaeological interest in town are concerned. Much has probably been destroyed already by modern housing, and further archaeological wasteland is created at an alarming rate.

For a better understanding of the archaeological potential of the Historic Zone of Prizren, the survey team compiled a list of sites suitable for trial trenches, which is included in the original report. Depending on further funding, these could be given a systematic character. As a large area within the Historic Zone 1 designated for redevelopment, Nënkalaja/Podkalaja will need to be given priority in this respect.

As a local component of the Archaeological Map of Kosovo, the inventory of sites below forms part of the Archaeological Inventory of Kosovo. Further processing of the data, however, that is its entry into an electronic database, will have to wait for the procurement and implementation of an Archaeological Environment Record for Kosovo, as it is demanded by the Standards for Kosovo.

From c. 6000 BC

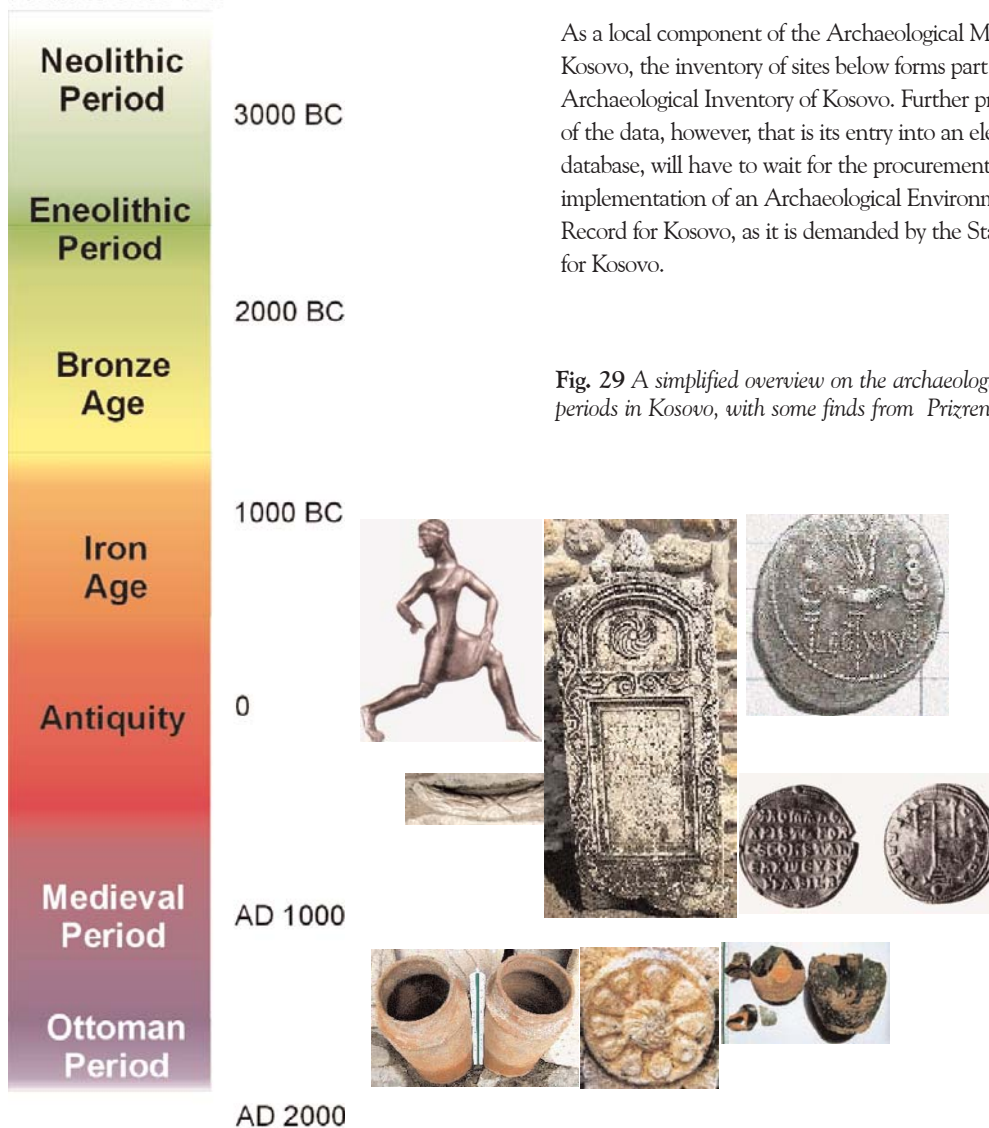


Fig. 29 A simplified overview on the archaeological periods in Kosovo, with some finds from Prizren

INVENTORY

For the full version, see the original report in Albanian language.

Abbreviations:

IPMP Institute for the Protection of Monuments in Prizren
 RAMP Regional Archaeological Museum in Prizren

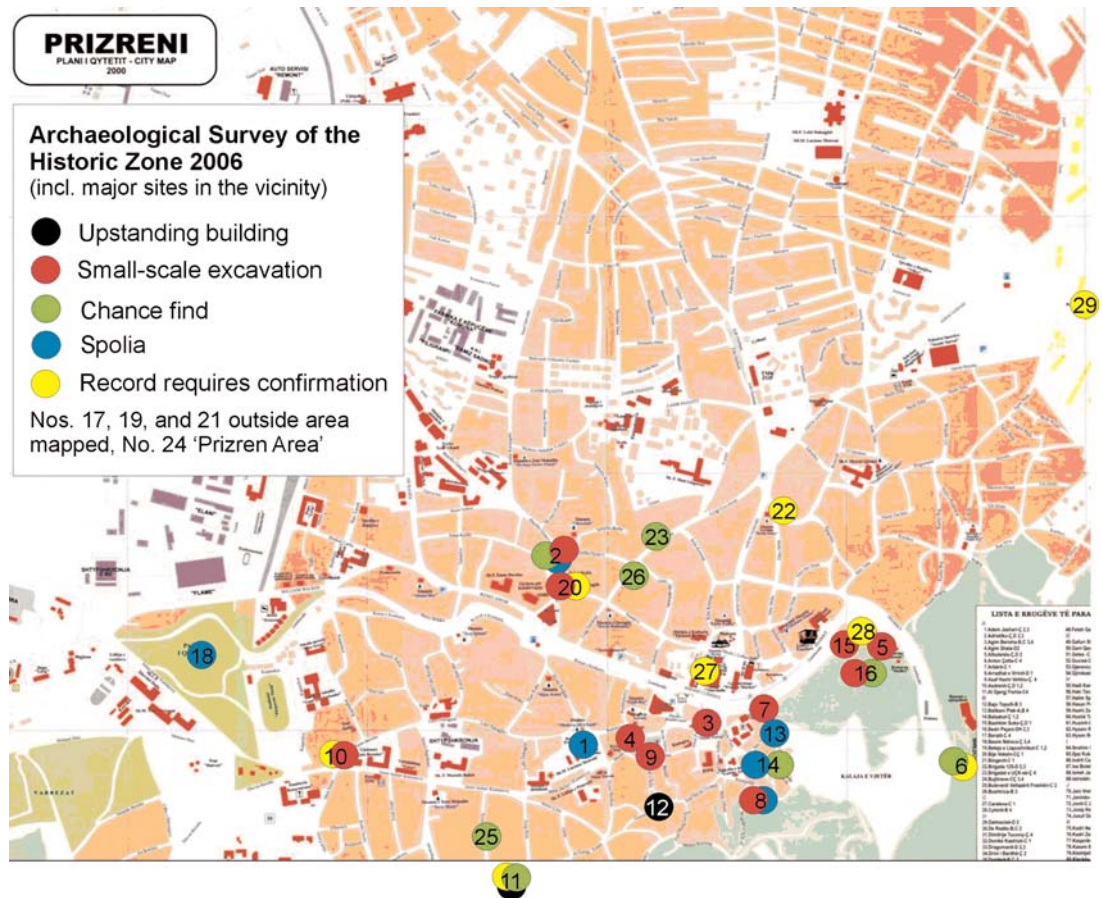


Fig. 30 The Archaeological Map of Prizren produced by the survey in 2006.

Survey No.: Pz06-05/01

Site Name: Precinct of the Lady Helper Church (Catholic, 19th century)

Site Location: Church precinct

GPS Reading: X=4673762, Y=7478858, Z=426 m

Events: 2006 Walk-over survey

Finds/Features: Worked stone and tiles kept in the church precinct, possibly not derived from local ground

Date: Undated

Site condition: Public access

Bibliography: None

Survey No.: **Pz06-05/02**

Site Name: **Saint Friday Church (Orthodox, 14th century)**

Site Location: Church and church precinct, Cadastral Lot 2387 GPS reading X=4674199, Y=7478638, Z=417 m

Events: 1963 Archaeological excavation directed by S. Nenadovic

1977 Rescue excavations during building works

2006 Record of spolia and worked stone fragments in church precincts

Finds/Features: 1977 Byzantine basilica, graves and coin discovered during excavations 2006 Spolia and worked stone fragments

Site condition: Mostly under special KFOR protection; partly built over

Date: Antique, Medieval, Ottoman

Bibliography: A.Deroko, Monumentalna i dekorativna arhitektura u srednjovekovnoj Srbiji, Beograd, 1953, 159-16. S.Nenadovi?, Bogorodica Ljeviska, Beograd, 1963. E. Shukriu, Kisha e Shën Premtës në Prizren, Separat nga Buletini i Fakultetit Filozofik, XXI-1991, Prishtinë, 1993. Work diary and report by N. Šutakovi?-Andri? and L.Koçbashliu, IPMP Archive.

Survey No.: **Pz06-05/03**

Site Name: **Area of the Sofi Sinan Pasha Mosque (17th century)**

Site Location: Pedestrian area in the former "Marshal Tito" street, on the left side of the river Lumbardhë (Bistrica)

GPS reading: X=4673944, Y=7479081, Z=416 m

Events: 3.1 1981 Trial excavation carried out by the IPMP 3.2 "Archaeological excavations in the front part show that the mosque steps arrived up to Lumbard's bank. In Lumbard the remains of the pillars holding front part of the arches have been found. Today these pillars stand as exhibition objects in front of the mosque" (see reference below). Information not checked during the survey.

Finds/Features: Human remains and Ottoman period

pottery presumably from a cemetery

associated with the mosque

Date: Ottoman and undated

Site condition: Built over

Bibliography: 3.1 Excavation records in IPMP Archive 3.2 NGO-Albanian Numismatic Association "Demastion" and Kolping Kosova, Prizreni in the ancient Illirian Dardan Roman Byzantine and Ottoman Period, Prizren 2003, 11

Survey No.: **Pz06-05/04**

Site Name: **Saint Koll Church (Orthodox, 14th century)**

Site Location: Cadastral lot number: 3194

GPS reading: X=4673829, Y=7478925, Z=421m

Events: 1984 Trial excavation carried out by the IPMP

Finds/Features: Human remains and Late Medieval pottery

Date: Ottoman and undated

Site condition: Under special KFOR protection

Bibliography: Excavation records in IPMP Archive

Survey No.: **Pz06-05/05**

Site Name: **Hysein Sheherzada Tekke (17th century)**

Site Location: Marash ward

GPS reading: X=4674244, Y=7479442, Z=418 m

Events: 1990 Trial excavation carried out by the IPMP

Finds/Features: Foundations, coins and pottery of the Ottoman Period; human remains

Date: Ottoman and undated

Site condition: Public access

Bibliography: Excavation records in IPMP Archive

Survey No.: **Pz06-05/06**

Site Name: **Marash Recreation Ground**

Site Location: Ground of the football tent and the path to the northwest

GPS reading: X=4673947, Y=7479758, Z=431m

Events: During earth-moving operations for the building of the football tent, L. Koçbashliu observed features in the ground, but a watching brief on site was not possible. 2006 Chance finds of pottery related to a feature in the bank to the NW of the ground were made by L.

Koçbashliu shortly before the survey

2006 Further sherds were found during the survey.

Finds/Features: Medieval pottery

Date: Early Medieval and undated

Site condition: Football ground built over,
public access to bank

References: PAMP Archive

Survey No.: **Pz06-05/07**

Site Name: **Remains of Saint Peter Church (Orthodox, 14th century)**

Site Location: Close to the river, next to the Southern City Waterline Company 'Cvilen', Cadastral Lot 3472

GPS reading: X=4674008, Y=7479224, Z=418 m

Events: 1990 Trial excavation carried out by the IPMP

Finds/Features: Church foundations, 14th - 16th-century pottery, nails

Date: Medieval and ?later

Site condition: Public access to upstanding remains of apse, ground built over

Bibliography: Excavation records in IPMP Archive

Survey No.: **Pz06-05/08**

Site Name: **Saint Saviour Church (Orthodox, 14th - 19th centuries)**

Site Location: On a plateau c. 300m SW of the Fortress, Cadastral Lot 3572

GPS reading: None

Events: 1994 Trial excavations on N side of church carried out by the IPMP 2006 Record of spolia made during survey

Finds/Features: Human remains, grave-goods, pottery and coins of the 14th-18th centuries

Date: Medieval, Ottoman and undated

Site condition: Under special KFOR protection

Bibliography: R.Timotijevi?, Crkva Sv.Spasa u Prizrenu, Starine Kosova, VI-VII, Priština, 1973. N. Šutakovi?-Andri?, Sonda□na arheološka iskopavanje na plato crkve Sv. Spasa, 1995/6, Zbornik za □aštitu Spomenika.

Survey No.: **Pz06-05/09**

Site Name: **Saint George Church (Orthodox, 17th century)**

Site Location: Cadastral Lot 3369

GPS reading: X=4673805, Y=7478967, Z=422m

20

Events: 1994 Trial excavations carried out by the IPMP

Finds/Features: Human remains (without grave-goods) and Early Medieval coins and pottery

Date: Early Medieval, ?other

Site condition: Under special KFOR protection

Bibliography: Muhamed Shukriu, Prizreni i Lashtë-Morfologjia e ecurive për ruajtjen e kulturës materiale, Prizren 2001, f.3-7. Excavation records in IPMP Archive

Survey No.: **Pz06-05/10**

Site Name: **Terzi Mëhalla,**

Cadastral Lot 4891

Site Location: 10.1 Ali Berisha Street, at the Gjon Buzuku Gymnasium 10.2 Ali Berisha Street No. 42

GPS reading: 10.2 X= 4673619, Y= 7478259, Z= 424m.

Events: 10.1 1964 During earthmoving operations opposite the sports hall of the Gjon Buzuku Gymnasium, 'walls' made of small tiles were observed. The oral record suggest a hypocaust indicating a Roman bath or possibly a public building.

10.2 2006 The survey team carried out a test excavation c. 15m to the NW of the 1964 building site. The small trench produced the edge of a ?pit and some Ottoman Period pottery.

10.3 2006 During the trial excavation, local residents reported earlier finds in the area, including human remains and pottery in the school ground and a hoard of "green money" (presumably corroded copper-alloy coins) found when the house a few meters down from the trial trench had been built. No factual evidence obtained during the survey.

Finds/Features: Ottoman Period pottery

Date: Antique?, Ottoman and undated

Site condition: 10.1 Built over

10.2 Private access

Bibliography: Muhamed Shukriu, Prizreni i Lashtë-Morfologjia e ecurive për ruajtjen e kulturës materiale, Prizren 2001, f.3-7 Excavation records in IPMP Archive

Survey No.: **Pz06-05/11**

Site Name: **Farmakos Pharmaceutical Factory**

Site Location: Mahmud Pasha Seraglio, Cadastral Lot 4562

GPS reading: 11.1 X=4673422, Y=7472701, Z=446 m

11.3 X=4673360, Y=7478768, Z=476 m

Events: 11.1 c. 1950 According to the architect Prof. Stanko Manchidas, he saw as a young boy at least 50 Roman grave stones in the grounds of the factory.

11.2 The RAMP holds in its collection a 2nd-3rd-century Roman grave stone from the area of the Farmakos Factory that may be related to the Record No. 11.1

11.3 2006 The walkover survey of the area (c. 2ha) in 2006 showed the hill slope above the built area to be much overgrown and suffering from erosion. At the foot of the slope, above the garage, stands a small building of the Ottoman Period, probably a halvet or cilhane; remains of a wall further up the slope probably belonged to the seraglio. The fragments of water pipelines c. 50m from the ramp of the garage belong to the Ottoman Period city pipeline. It was not possible to confirm the information by S. Manchidas. A site with as many as fifty Roman grave stones still visible in the mid-20th century seems unlikely.

Finds/Features: 11.2 Antique

11.3 Fragments of Ottoman Period water pipes

Date: Antique, Ottoman

Site condition: No public access

Bibliography: Muhamed Shukriu, Prizreni i Lashtë-Morfologjia e ecurive për ruajtjen e kulturës materiale, Prizren 2001, f-7. N.Vulic, Spomenik, SKA,LXXI, Beograd, 1931, 134.

Survey No.: **Pz06-05/12**

Site Name: **Potok Mëhalla, Saint Ana?**

Site Location: Cadastral Lot 3839

GPS reading: X=4673721, Y=7478955, Z=442 m

Events: 2006 The walkover survey showed the site of an upstanding wall, which may be the remains of the Medieval Saint Ana Church

Finds/Features: Upstanding wall with a small fragment of wall painting

Date: Undated

Site condition: According to local residents to be demolished in the course of further building works

Bibliography: See also Muhamed Shukriu, Prizreni i Lashtë-Morfologjia e ecurive për ruajtjen e kulturës materiale, Prizren 2001, f.3-7

Survey No.: **Pz06-05/13**

Site Name: **Saint Sunday Church**

(Orthodox, 14th century)

Site Location: Nënkalaja/Podkalaja, Cadastral Lot 3510

GPS reading: None

Events: 2006 Inside of the church not checked during the survey

Finds/Features: Spolia inside the church: Roman altar dedicated to Asclepius (mid-3rd century AD). This altar together with Pz06-05/24 suggests the existence of a Roman temple to Asclepius in the city area.

Date: Antique

Site condition: Church locked and under special KFOR protection

Bibliography: M.Ivanovi?, Starine Kosova, Knjiga X, Priština,1997, 19 M.Dušani?, Asklepijev Ex Voto, *Q*iva Antika, 33,1 (1983) 27-32

Survey No.: **Pz06-05/14**

Site Name: **Nënkalaja/Podkalaja residents' area**

Site Location: On the steep slope below the Fortress

GPS reading: 14.1.2 X=4673898, Y=7479217, Z=445m

14.2.3 X=7479270, Y=4673873, Z=466m

Events: 2006 With one small exception, the survey in the KFOR-protected zone had to be kept to the paths because the area has not yet been cleared of UEDs KFOR expects to find inside the building remains.

14.1 Spolia (for detailed descriptions see the original survey report)

14.1.1 2006 Ca. 20m to the W of Saint Sunday's Church (Pz06-05/13), in the wall of the house no. 11, a worked stone was re-used in the wall (undated).

14.1.2 2006 In the Jani Veto Street No. 4, at the main entrance to the front garden of the house, carefully worked stones seem to be re-used as stairs; the garden included a well made of unusual and carefully worked stones (undated). The small garden was secured by KFOR personnel before the survey team entered.

14.2 Surface finds 2006 As much debris is washed from the Fortress (Pz06-05/16) into the residents' area, it seems likely that the surface finds in the residents' area originate from the outer wall of the Fortress above.

14.2.1 2006 Outside Saint Sunday's Church (Pz06-

05/13), down the path, a fragment of a profiled tuff stone was observed (undated)

14.2.2 2006 Twenty metres down the path from Saint Sunday's Church, a further fragment of a profiled tuff stone was observed.

14.2.3 2006 At the junction of the five paths, a pile of debris which had been washed down the slope had accumulated. This included tiles probably of Roman date and pottery.

14.3 2006 Area designated for a trial trench. As there is currently no evidence for archaeological remains in situ in the residents area, and as there is very limited access for a walkover survey, a trial trench in a spot that is likely to preserve archaeological layers, is the most promising method to establish the archaeological potential of the area. The most promising spot for a trial trench seems to be the inside of a presumably private house on a terrace below Saint Sunday's Church, across the street.

Finds/Features: Roman/Byzantine? tiles, pottery fragments, spolia and worked stone fragments (undated)

Date: Roman? and undated

Site condition: Under special KFOR protection and largely inaccessible for security reasons; the ground is too full of rubble and was too overgrown in May for detailed observations. As the suggested trial trench is probably situated on private ground, the owner's permission will need to be sought.

Bibliography: None.

Survey No.: **Pz06-05/15**

Site Name: **Marash Quarter**

Site Location: Property of Mr. Nazimi Koloni, Cadastral Lot 1883 GPS reading: X=4674214, Y=7479341, Z=418 m

Events: 2006 Cursory watching brief during earthmoving operations carried out by the Survey Team

Finds/Features: A building on foundations of river stones (no cellar), which the owner believed to have been over a 100 years old, had been demolished and the foundations for a modern house were being excavated at the time of the survey. A close watching brief was not possible but a dark layer c. 1.20m below the street level was observed, which probably indicated the river bed at an earlier time, c. 10 m away from the current bed of the

river lined now by a 20th-century wall.

Date: Undated

Site condition: Built over.

Bibliography: None.

Survey No.: **Pz06-05/16**

Site Name: **Fortress (6th - 18th centuries)**

Site Location: On a hilltop overlooking the river and the city

GPS reading: None

Events: 1964 According to the excavator, the excavations produced 6th - 18th-century evidence

2004 A small excavation produced evidence from the Bronze Age to the Ottoman Period 2006 During the walk-over survey Ottoman Period pottery was collected and some of the erosion that effects Nënkalaja/Podkalaja recorded

Finds/Features: 2006 Ottoman Pottery

Date: Bronze Age to Ottoman Period

Site condition: Public access; archaeological remains threatened by erosion

Bibliography: J.Kovacevic, Arheološko iskopavanje i istraživanje u kalaji, 1969, Beograd-Prizren, 1970

G.Hoxha, Raport mbi gërmimet arkeologjike me karakter kontrolli në kalanë e Prizrenit, 2004.

The Prizren Fortress (Kalaja). Preliminary Technical Assessment of the Architectural and Archaeological Heritage in South East Europe. Regional Programme for Cultural and Natural Heritage in South East Europe 2003 - 2006 (2004).

Survey No.: **Pz06-05/17**

Site Name: **Jaglenica**

Site Location: NE suburb of Prizren

GPS reading: None

Events: 1939 Chance find of a copper-alloy figure; exact find spot unknown 2006 A cursory walkover survey on a part of the hill slope overlooking Jaglenica on which large-scale earthmoving operations had recently been carried out, produced no archaeological evidence

Finds/Features: Copper-alloy figure of a sitting goat held (6th c. BC; Vranje Museum, Serbia)

Date: Iron Age

Site condition: Unknown

Bibliography: Muhamed Shukriu, Prizreni i Lashtë-Morfologjia e ecurive për ruajtjen e kulturës materiale, Prizren 2001, f.3-7

Survey No.: Pz06-05/18

Site Name: City Park

Site Location: c. 40m from the city football stadium towards the SE entrance of the park; Cadastral Lot 2747
GPS reading: X=4673663, Y=7477959, Z=404m

Events: 2006 Walk-over survey

Finds/Features: Ottoman Period spolia in the vault of a (now?) subterranean structure possibly of the Ottoman period; in vicinity the foundations of a wall mainly built of tuff stones.

Date: Ottoman

Site condition: Public access; the vault is integrated into a structure made of cement

Bibliography: IPMP Archive

Survey No.: Pz06-05/19

Site Name: **Zidine**

Site Location: c. 2km to the SSW of Prizren city, c. 50m off the main road to Zhur/Zur

GPS reading: Ploughed field X=4672991, Y=7475621, Z=373m, 'Tumba' X=4672305, Y=7472891, Z=334m

Events: 1973 E. Shukriu and L. Koçbashliu carried out a field survey covering an area of c. 15ha which produced evidence for intensive Roman occupation. About 200-300m further towards Prizren, a mound was recorded.

Residents remember at least another six or seven mounds ploughed out in the 1950s and 60s. 2006 A cursory walkover survey produced further Roman surface finds (roof tiles and pottery) as far as the village Poslishte. At the village cemetery, some small mounds were noted, which the residents call 'tuma' (barrow graves).

Finds/Features: Roman Period bricks, tiles, pottery (also some Ottoman Period pottery)

Date: Antique and later

Site condition: Ploughed and interspersed with groups of shrubs and trees. The area is designated for housing development.

Bibliography: E.Shukriu-Hoti, Rezultate paraprake arkeologjike përgjatë rrjedhës së poshtme të Drinit të Bardhë, Separat nga Gjurmime arkeologjike-Seria e shkencave

historike, IV-V, 1974-1975, Prishtinë, 1977,f-181.

Survey No.: Pz06-05/20

Site Name: **Sahat Kulla**

Site Location: 20.1 Xhevdet Doda Street, property of Mr. Miftar Hasani, on S side of the Sahat Kulla and SW to RAMP; Cadastral Lot 2747, owner list no. 347

20.2 Wall on the left side of the entrance to the RAMP
GPS reading: 20.1X=4674143, Y=7478690, Z=397m

Events: 20.1 2003 Rescue excavations carried out by the IPMP ahead of building works

20.2 pre-2001 Roman Period wall at the Sahat Kulla observed

Finds/Features: 20.1 Ottoman Period pottery and wall foundations related to a 18th-century hammam known from written records

20.2 2006 Wall plastered; the information could therefore not be confirmed

Date: 20.1 Ottoman

20.2 Antique

Site condition: 20.1 Built over

20.1 Covered by plaster

Bibliography: 20.1 L. Koçbashliu, Raport nga gërmim-sondazhi arkeologjik në rrugën "Xhevdet Doda" p.n., Prizren, 2003.

20.2 Muhamed Shukriu, Prizreni i Lashtë-Morfologjia e ecurive për ruajtjen e kulturës materiale, Prizren 2001, f.3-7

Survey No.: Pz06-05/21

Site Name: **Monastery of the Holy Archangels (14th century)**

Site Location: c. 2km upriver from the city centre, on a bank in the gorge

GPS reading: X=4672899, Y=7480582, Z=476M

Events: 1927 First research excavation

1992-97 According to the excavator, the research excavations carried out in 1992-94 produced evidence from the Eneolithic to the Late Medieval Period

1995 Rescue excavations in the Upper Castle (part of the monastery precincts) ahead of building works

2006 Cursory walk-over by the Survey Team

Finds/Features: 2006 56+ 14th-century architectural fragments from the site, which had been held in the col-

lection of the RAMP until 1997

Date: Eneolithic to Late Medieval

Site condition: Under special KFOR protection

Bibliography: R.M.Gruji?, Otkopavanje Svetih Arhan?ela kod Prizrena, Gl.Sk.Nauc. dr. III,1928, 239-274

S.Nenadovi?, Konzervacija Ruševina Manastira Svetih Arhan?ela kod Prizrena,Starine Kosova... ,Knjiga IV-V, 1968-71, Priština, 401-409.

M.Ivanovi?, Starine Kosova i Metohije, Knjiga 10, Priština,1997. str.23.

Survey No.: **Pz06-05/22**

Site Name: **'Tumba'**

Site Location: Queen Teuta Street

GPS reading: X=4674445, Y=7479139, Z=426m

Events: 1949 Building works for an open space in a location locally known as 'tumba' (mound).

2006 Mr.M.Gjergjizi (now 80 years old), who witnessed the building works in 1949, reports that the site was destroyed on purpose and that human remains were found.

2006 According to Enver Batiu (IPMP), it is said that weapons, dress accessories and pottery were also found. This suggests one or more prehistoric graves. No factual evidence for this obtained during the survey.

Finds/Features: None preserved

Date: Bronze or Iron Age?

Site condition: Built over

Bibliography: None

Survey No.: **Pz06-05/23**

Site Name: **Çlirim i Popullit Street**

Site Location: Cadastral Lot 2218

GPS reading: None

Events: 1976 Chance find of an 2nd - 3rd-century altar

Finds/Features: Altar in the collection of the RAMP

Date: Antique

Site condition: Unknown

Bibliography: None

Survey No.: **Pz06-05/24**

Site Name: **Prizren area**

Site Location: Exact location unknown

GPS reading: None

Events: 24.1 1958 The Dalmatian epigraphist Martin Gabricevic reported 18 Roman grave stones.

24.2 1979 According to M. Shukriu, a further four grave stones were found.

24.3 An altar dedicated to the Asclepius and to the Genius Iuppiter Dolichenus is held in the collection of Skopje Museum. This altar together with Pz06-05/13 suggests the existence of a Roman temple to Asclepiion.

24.4 1876 An Armenian dealer sold the copper-alloy figure of a running girl to the British Museum, which he claimed was found at Prizren.

24.5 2006 It was not possible during the survey to verify the information in Nos. 24.1-4.

24.6 2006 Two carved stones of the Ottoman Period presumably from the Prizren area were deposited with Turkish KFOR and subsequently delivered at the IPMP
Finds/Features: 24.3 Altar in the collection of Skopje Museum

24.4 Copper-alloy figure of a running girl, possibly originally attached to a vessel or utensil (Greek, ?Sparta, c. 520-500 BC; British Museum acc. no. GR 1867.5-10.1, Bronze 208)

24.5 Two carved stones of the Ottoman Period in the collection of the RAMP

Date: Antique, Ottoman

Site condition: Unknown

Bibliography: 24.4 J. Swaddling, The ancient Olympic Games, 2nd edition, London, The British Museum Press 1999, 42f.

24.3 M. Speidel, An altar to the healer gods and the genius of Iuppiter Dolichenus, Arheološki Vestnik, XXXI, 1980, Ljubljana, 182-185.

24.1-2 Muhamed Shukriu, Prizreni i Lashtë-Morfologjia e ecurive për ruajtjen e kulturës materiale, Prizren 2001, f.3-7

Survey No.: **Pz06-05/25**

Site Name: **Sezai Surroi Street 17**

Site Location: Property of Mr. Leman Bërlajolli; Cadastral Lot 4083

GPS reading: None

Events: Chance find of the fragment of a capital in the backyard

Finds/Features: Object in the collection of the RAMP

Date: Undated

Site condition: Private property

Bibliography: IPMP Archive

Survey No.: **Pz06-05/26**

Site Name: **Çlirimi i Popullit Street**

Site Location: Property of Mr. Beza Shporta, Cadastral Lot 1395

GPS reading: None

Events: Chance find of a Roman silver coin of the 1st century BC in the garden

Finds/Features: Coin in the collection of the RAMP

Date: Antique

Site condition: Private property

Bibliography: IPMP Archive

Survey No.: **Pz06-05/27**

Site Name: **Blacksmith Street**

Site Location: Modern buildings (bank and hotel) next to the minaret

GPS reading: X=4674051, Y=7479167, Z=408 M

Events: 1967 Allegedly, a Roman Period floor mosaic was found during building works

2006 It was not possible to obtain factual evidence during the survey. A trial trench in a part of the area which is not built over is suggested.

Finds/Features: None extant

Date: Antique ?

Site condition: Mostly built over

Bibliography: Muhamed Shukriu, Prizreni i Lashtë-Morfologjia e ecurive për ruajtjen e kulturës materiale, Prizren 2001, f.3-7

Survey No.: **Pz06-05/28**

Site Name: **Bunarllëk**

Site Location: No exact location

GPS reading: None

Events: pre-2001 According to the architect Prof. Stanko Manchidas, there were Roman grave stones on the left shore of the river

2006 It was not possible to verify the information during the survey. The location of the site on the map in this report is shown as indicated on p. 8 by M. Shukriu (see reference below)

Finds/Features: None extant

Date: Antique?

Site condition: Unknown

Bibliography: Muhamed Shukriu, Prizreni i Lashtë-Morfologjia e ecurive për ruajtjen e kulturës materiale, Prizren 2001, f.3-7

Survey No.: **Pz06-05/29**

Site Name: **KFOR headquarters**

Site Location: No exact location

GPS reading: None

Events: 1976 Kemajl Luci (Kosovo Museum) observed Antique capitals in the then Yugoslavian military compound

2006 It was not possible to check the site during the survey.

Finds/Features: Unknown

Date: Antique?

Site condition: Unknown

Bibliography: None

AN ARCHEOLOGICAL MAP OF THE HISTORIC ZONE OF PRIZREN
(CHwB Kosovo office, Report Series No. 2/2006)

Project was compiled by:

Luan Loçbashliu, Regional Archaeological Museum of Prizren,
Kemajl Luci, Museum of Kosovo,
Fatmir Peja, Museum of Kosovo,
Shafi Gashi, Archaeological Institute of Kosovo,
Milot Berisha, Archaeological Institute of Kosovo,
assisted by Birte Brugmann FSA.

Text:

Dr. Birte Brugmann FSA

Pictures:

all pictures were taken from Birte Brugmann, except:

Fig. 2, Fig. 4 and Fig. 5 are from the PPDP for Prizren, CHwB

Fig. 11 was taken with the permission of Institute for Protection of Monuments of Culture in Prizren

Fig. 30 was taken with the permission of KFOR

Text revised by:

Caroline Martinsson, Språkservice Sverige AB

Page cover photo:

Archeological find exhibited in Prizren Archeology Museum, author: Birte Brugmann FSA

Graphic design:

Kujtim Kuçi and Enes Toska

The CHwB projects are financed by



Swedish International Development
Cooperation Agency



address: CHwB Kosovo office, Zogovic str.,
Qyteza Pejton 10000 Prishtina, Kosovo.
phone: +381 38 243 918
fax: +381 38 243 918
e-mail: kosovo@chwb.org
www: www.chwb.org, ww.chwb.org/kosovo