



**FOLLOWING IN
THE FOOTSTEPS OF OUR
ANCESTORS - THE STORYTELLERS**



CÂMPULUNG MUSCEL

SIGHTS

The Fortress of Jidava (Jidova)

The year 106 BC, the year of the conquest of Dacia by the Romans, has opened a distinct period in our history and, hence, in this area. As a border province of the Roman Empire, Dacia had a major role in the defense against barbarian attacks, assuming building lines of fortification, with stone made camps placed along.



By the middle of the current county of Argeş passed one of the lines of fortification designed to defend the border of the Roman province of Dacia - Limes Transalutanus - along which the sequence of military camps stretched.

The other components of the limes were the fortifications where Roman troops (auxiliary troops) stationed.



Transalutanus, spanning a length of 235 km, was built at a distance of 10-15 km east from the river Olt. It proceeded north from Rucăr to south and stopped at the Flămânda hill.

The composition was of soil with burnt core, it was 3 m high and 10-12 m wide, had a trench to the east. To the back front, the “limes” was leaning against a line of towers and camps, connected to the strategic road.



Limes Transalutanius was built by Septimius Severus (193-211 AD) to create a safety line to the Olt defense (Limes Alutanius).

After the year 245 AD, under the powerful attacks from Carpi, it was abandoned and the defense returned to River Olt border (Limes Alutanius).



Of the 13 camps known of this line of fortifications, Camp Jidova (Jidava), located in today's Pescăreasa, southern district of Câmpulung, is the only one built of brick and stone and, at the same time, the largest.

The camp was rectangular, with sides of 132 meters and 98 meters, with four regular doors: *porta praetoria*, facing south, *porta decumana*, to the north, *porta principalis sinistra* to the east, and *porta principalis dextrata* to the west.



It was surrounded by a wall of enclosure, provided with rectangular towers on the sides and semicircular on the corners and served to control the way through the Bran pass, with access to the north for military, trade and travel.

If the beginning of the construction of the camp is only presumed in the times of Septimius Severus, the end of its existence is placed with certainty in the middle of the third century A.D., the last coins found dating from the age of Emperor Gordian the Third.



Research conducted at the camp near Câmpulung brought important contributions in the elucidation of local population's continuity during and after the Roman rule, problem which raises two aspects: the continuity of Dacians during the Roman rule and of the Daco-Romans after the Aurelian withdrawal.

Archaeological excavations have revealed, in addition to objects of Roman origin, Dacian ceramics, weapons, jewelry, tools, demonstrating the existence of the native population in this area during the Roman rule.



All Dacian settlements from Câmpulung and surrounding areas specifically reflect a mass of population with remarkable demographic dynamics and uninterrupted continuity, both during the Dacian - Roman times and later, which also justifies the possibility of forming a center in this area – the medieval settlement of Câmpulung Muscel.



The Roman Fortress of Jidava is situated four kilometers from Campulung, to Pitesti, on DN 73 (national route).

At present it is restored and can be visited.

A large number of artifacts, discovered on archaeological research carried on here is to be found in the Art and History Museum of the City of Campulung.



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