

An Changing Image. The Early Medieval Landscape at Lower Danube. Case Study: Hârşova

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Abstract: *Archaeological research carried out in recent years at Hârşova (Constanța County), in two early medieval settlements (one open settlement, and the other one fortified), offered us the chance to analyze, through comparison, of the transformations experienced by these settlements from Lower Danube at the end of 8th century - 11th century AD. These relate primarily the factors that have determined the choice of the terrain for their location, changes that occurred in the layout of the settlements and what determined them, observation of housing structures, the way that the events from the end of 10th century AD changes the human perception regarding the surrounding landscape and its rapport with them. Through the analyze of different components (settlements, waters, forests, fortifications, quarries etc.), we try to establish the landscape features from Hârşova, from the Early Middle Ages.*

Keywords: *settlement, environment, inventory, early medieval period, Hârşova, Dobrudja.*

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