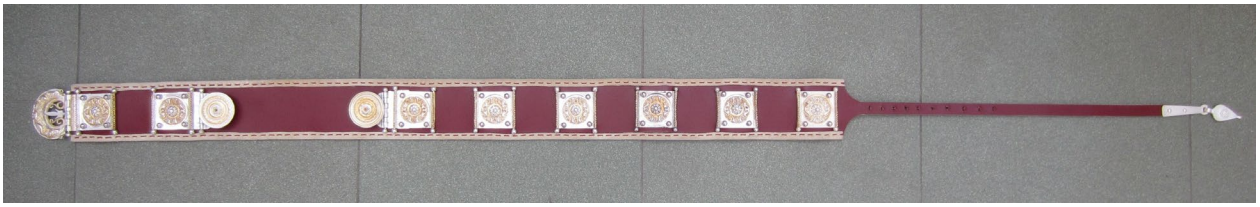
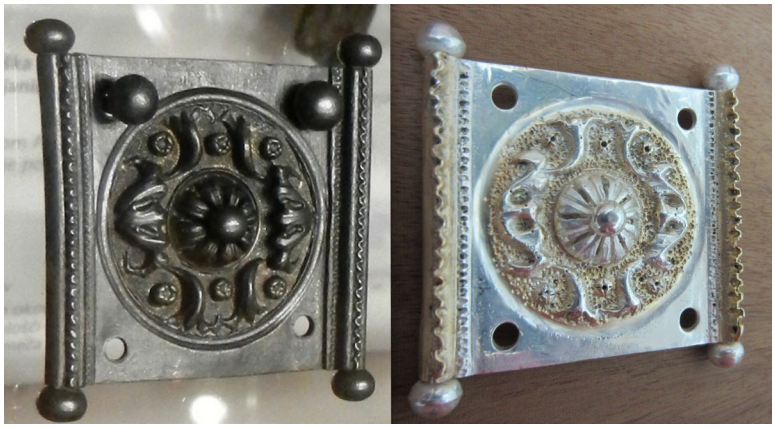
Cingulum plate from National Museum of Slovenia, River Ljubljanica

I started working on this project because of the anniversary of “Emona 2000”.

Exactly this one cingulum is designed for Centurion and includes pugio hangers buth without apron.



Finds from River Ljubljanica so-called early Roman “Hoard of Vrhnika” Includest the gladius and its scabbard, also the military belt-plate from the River Ljubljanica constitute a set. They are products of the Augustan period and originate in Italian territory. Because of the high artistic value and the prestigious character of this set, it seems likely that it had belonged to a Roman officer.



This is a collage of my replica along with the originals. The differences are based on my creative decision.The dimensions I have achieved for my replica are: Length 49 mm long (52 mm including the bulbous terminals on the hinge) and wide 43 mm.

(53 mm including the terminals), relatively massive, and weighs 30 grams.

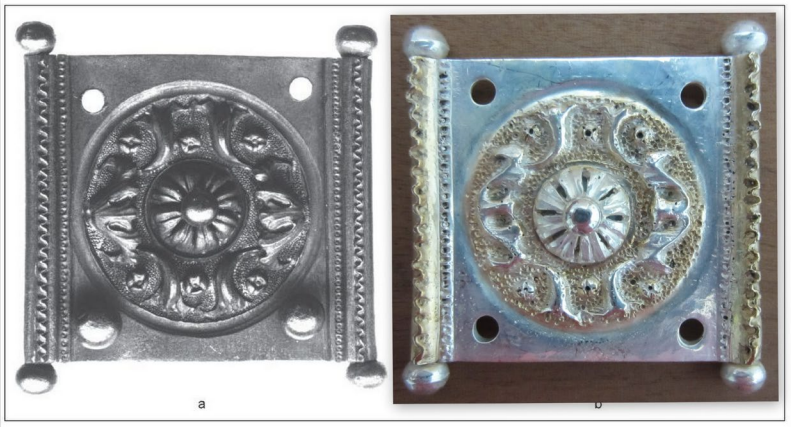


Fig. 5: A military belt-plate (Zn 149) from the River Ljubljanica at Bevke: (a) front, (b) back. Photo archive of the Archaeological Department of the National Museum of Slovenia (photo Tomaž Lauko). Scale = 1:1.5.

These hangers from the River Ljubljanica are also excellent hangers as a model that can be used for a main or 2nd belt.

They are products of the Augustan period and originate in Italian territory.

Because of the high artistic value and the prestigious character of this set, it seems likely that it had belonged to a Roman officer.

Belt and hangers both objects are united by the historical period of origin the beginning of the 1st century period and the fact that they are from River Ljubljanica (now on display National Museum of Slovenia).

How to hang a gladii sword on a belt! It doesn't matter what model the hangers are - simple concentric circles , floral decorations or with images of emperors.

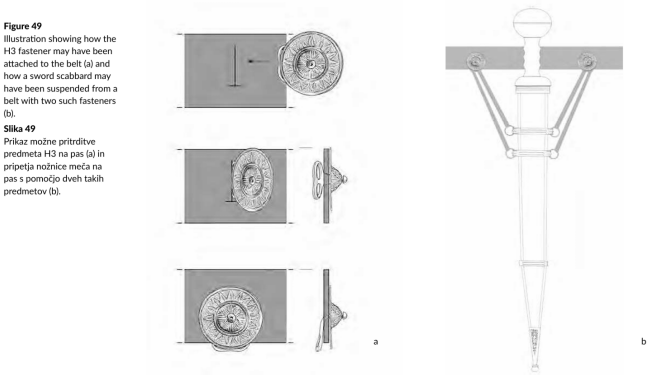


Figure 49
Illustration showing how the H3 fastener may have been attached to the belt (a) and how a sword scabbard may have been suspended from a belt with two such fasteners (b).

Slika 49
Prikaz možne pritrditve predmeta H3 na pas (a) in pripetja nožnice meča na pas s pomočjo dveh takih predmetov (b).

Detailed publications:

Ready set before being assembled.

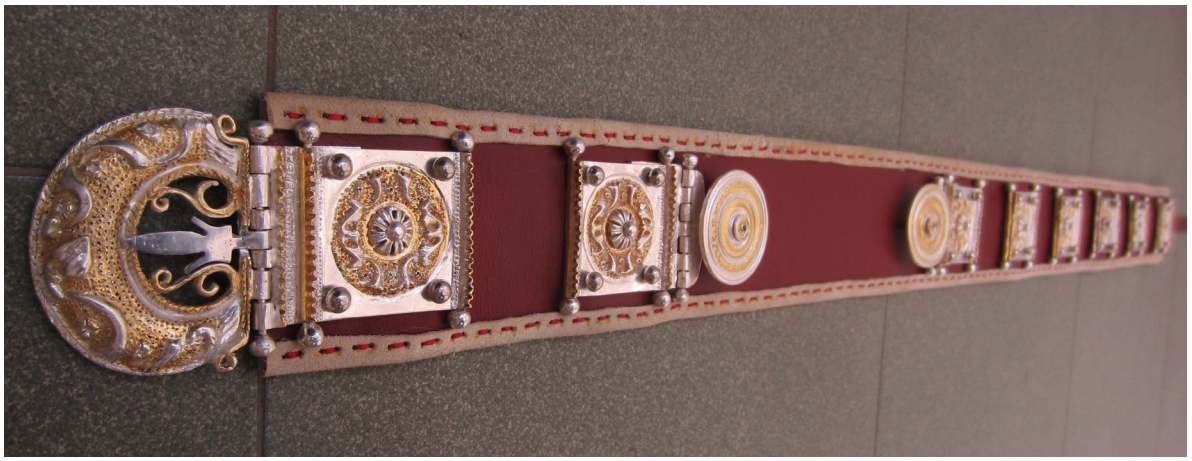
All material brass are silver plated, then partial gold plating according to archeology. As the Ljubljanica River find contains only a plate (regarding belt parts) combinations with buckles can be many!

After I thoroughly studied this plate and its specifics I have judged that it carries many common marks with the cingulum parts from Tekije silver belts from Belgrade Narodni Muzej. So I decided this time as a combination for buckles and pugio hangers to use this Tekije model (partially gold-plated). Of course other combinations with buckles and pugio hangers are possible.

Regarding the plates assembly, I tried to make the difficult option.The variants with curved tunnels for the wire and the balls. In my version, the wire and balls are mounted separately, as it is by archeology.

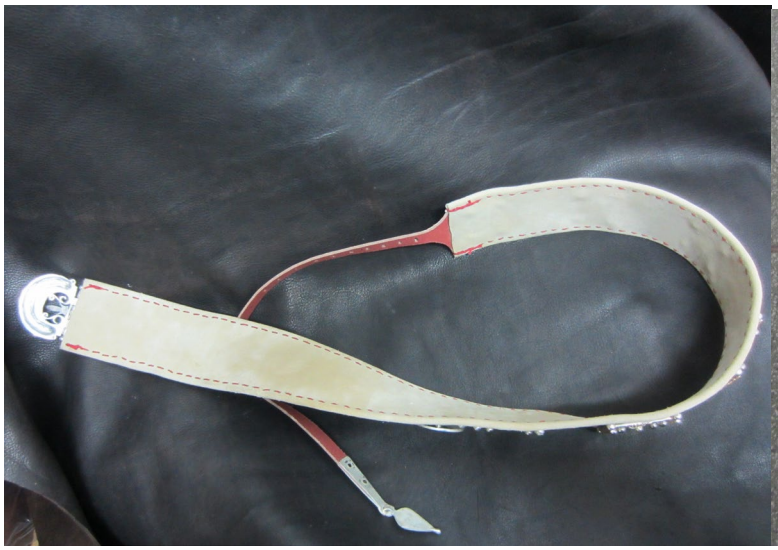
From this picture is visible that in order to pull out a relief I have to hit about hundreds of points with a sharp object. This is a model in the process of production. From here it can be seen that flower decoration in the middle are made and mountedin separate with rivet (as the original).

The buckles and pugio hangers of this Tekije model (are partially gold-plated). Of course other combinations with buckles and pugio hangers are possible. Ljubljanica River Ljubljanica plate has been described in publications as Augustan period and originate in Italian territory. The Tekije silver belts has been described in publications as late Flavian (Domitianus) and early Trajan period.These models of parts may have been produced in the same workshop in a long historical period by different masters. Inheriting tools, dies and the appearance of plates, buckles and other details. Of course every master in this workshop has introduced novelties in the details which leads to various modifications in the archaeological finds scientific publications :
The Early Roman “Hoard of Vrhnika”: and quote from the scientific publication: A Collection of Finds from the River Ljubljanica Janka ISTENIČ



“The gilding is evident on the central, chased part of the belt-plate and was confirmed by the analyses (Appendix, Fig. 9/ Table 1: 16,17). Under a microscope, the traces of gilding can also be seen on the relief petals of the rosette and on both the bands of the hinges. On the acanthus leaves and other parts of the relief-decoration over the chased background, there is no sign of gilding, either under a microscope or with the PIXE analysis (Appnedix, Fig. 9/Table 1: 15).
The belt-plate is very well preserved. The surface is covered by a thin layer of dark grey patina. It is rectangular in shape, almost a square, and was made by hammering. It is 48 mm long (51 mm including the bulbous terminals on the hinge) and 43 mm wide (53 mm including the terminals), relatively massive, and weighs 34.20 grams. Along the vertical sides, silver sheet metal less than a millimetre thick was rolled over to form a 3-4-mm-wide tube on each side. In each tube is a spindle, fixed into the cylinder with a massive terminal on each side (c. 6 m wide). The tube and the spindle form a cylindrical hinge, the function of which was purely decorative (i.e. a pseudo-hinge - cf. Bishop, Coulston 1993, 98). The area where the upper side of the beltplate joins the rolled-over metal plate is covered by a band c. 4 mm wide and c. 1 mm thick. Its chased decoration includes a row of tiny circles on one inner side and a wavy line on the outer.”

Belt is assembled with double sewn leather and is decorated with a double-bracket with a spear-shaped pendant with the image of the head of Kupit.



Option with black leather.