

Magnetic and electromagnetic prospections at the Roman city of Hadrianopolis, southern Albania

Antonio Schettino (1), Roberto Perna (2), Pietro Paolo Pierantoni (1), Annalisa Ghezzi (1), Luca Tassi (1), and David Sforzini (2)

(1) University of Camerino, School of Science and Technology, Geology Division, Camerino, Italy (antonio.schettino@unicam.it), (2) Università degli Studi di Macerata – Dipartimento di Scienze Archeologiche e Storiche dell' Antichità, Macerata (MC), Italy

We report on a combined magnetic–GPR survey performed in 2015–2017 at the ancient Roman city of Hadrianopolis, located in southern Albania, in the context of the project Teatri Antichi Riuniti (TAU). The collected data supplemented previous archaeological surveys performed by the University of Macerata with the aim of promoting the valley and starting the realization of an archaeological park. Hadrianopolis was founded through a reorganization of a previous Hellenistic settlement. Starting from 2015, magnetic and GPR surveys were carried out in Hadrianopolis in order to determine the urban framework. The collected data revealed the existence of structures organized along two main different patterns, which have been interpreted as due to the superposition of Roman buildings and Late Antiquity structures. In fact, the arrangement of structures in the studied area shows a regular urban organization of Roman type separated by a less regular disposition of the buildings that can be attributed to the Byzantine age. The latter arrangement is superimposed on the previous Roman structures. A stone wall, clearly identified by the combination of magnetic anomalies and GPR images, separates the Byzantine settlement from the genuine Roman sector.