

Christianization of urban topography in Late Antique Thrace. A Case Study of Philippopolis

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The study of the Christianization of the society in Philippopolis has escaped the attention of the scholars so far. Indeed, there are some studies on the topic, but they deal mainly with the description of the Christian building (predominantly basilicas) and the problems concerning their architectural type, specifics and decoration. This is not surprising, if we have in mind the scarce information that has left to us. Indeed, there are traces of Christian buildings uncovered during rescue excavations in Plovdiv, but their impact on the Christianization of the society has not been established yet. I think that the hagiographical, archaeological and iconographic sources, although fragmentary, are sufficient to reveal not only the impact of the Christianization on the urban landscape, but on the Christianization itself. Some comments will be made in the presentation.

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