

Archaeological records regarding the University Square in Bucharest

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Rezumat. *Săpăturile edilitare efectuate în centrul Bucureștiului au permis cercetarea urmelor arheologice ale Mănăstirii Sf. Sava. Construită la sfârșitul secolului al XVI-lea, mănăstirea a devenit sediul Școlii Domnești, iar în timpul domniei lui Constantin Brâncoveanu (1688-1714) a dobândit rangul de Academie Domnească. Fundațiile celor două biserici din mijlocul mănăstirii sunt înconjurate de un cimitir și de zidurile construcțiilor care serveau pentru găzduirea călugărilor, pentru școală, pentru prima bibliotecă publică, primul muzeu, o tipografie și multe altele. Lucrarea de față urmărește discutarea sitului arheologic „Sf. Sava” în lumina săpăturilor executate pe Bd. Regina Elisabeta și în Piața Universității.*

Abstract. *Urban public works done in the centre of Bucharest allowed recording the archaeological remains of Sf. Sava Monastery. Built at the end of XVI century, the monastery became the seat of Waivode School and under the reign of Constantin Brancoveanu (1688-1714) gained the rank of Waivode Academy. The base of two churches from the middle of the monastery surrounded by a graveyard, the remains of some buildings in which found a shelter monks, the school, the first public library, the first museum, a typography and many others. The present paper have the purpose to discuss the archaeological site “St. Sava” by the reason of the excavations made on the Queen Elisabeth Boulevard and in University Square.*

Keywords: Sf. Sava Monastery, churches, Constantin Brâncoveanu, University Square of Bucharest, archeological survey, construction phases.

The University Square in Bucharest is a major guiding mark in the topography of the city, marking the meeting place of two large avenues orientated N-S and E-W. Practically it is composed of the roundabout created at the meeting point of important thoroughfares and of the garden with the four statues built in the carpet of grass and flowers in front of the University Palace.

Archaeologically, the University Square set up in the second half of 19th century is placed north of the precinct of the medieval city and historically speaking this looks like an authentic pole of the spiritual life of Bucharest housing today vestiges from the Saint Sava Monastery including also the Royal Academy, the first public library, the first museum the tradition of which is continued by the Museum of Bucharest and in the near proximity the Colțea Hospital with its pharmacy, the oldest of Țara Românească, the Colțea School and typography.

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