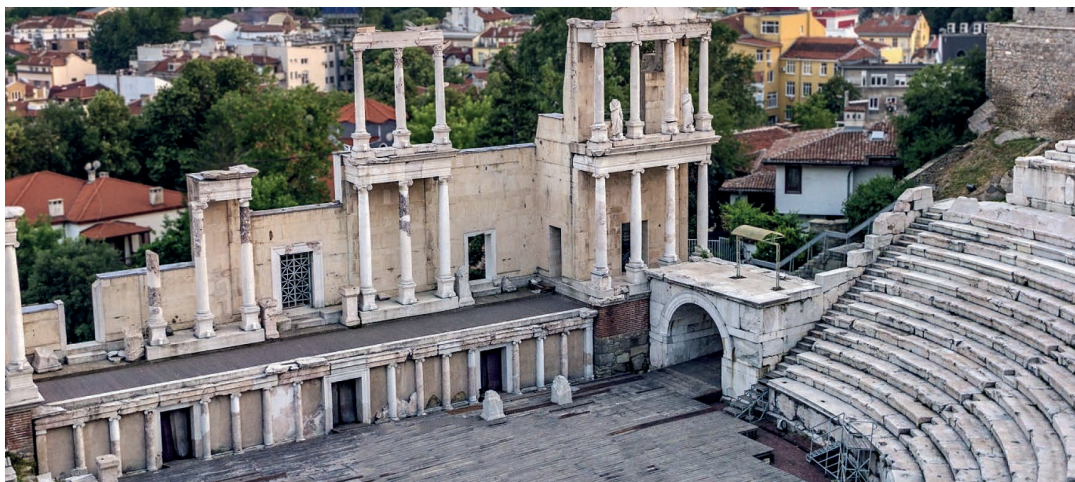




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ARCHITECTURAL MANIFESTATION OF SPECTACULA IN THE ROMAN PROVINCES OF LOWER MOESIA AND THRACE

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The archaeological excavations conducted in recent years have allowed the layout and the chronology of buildings accommodating gladiatorial fights and wild-beast hunts in the Roman provinces of Lower Moesia and Thrace to be elucidated, refined and even corrected. The research is to a large extent successful in clarifying their relationship to the urban setting and integration in the urban fabric. The epigraphic monuments found during the excavations supplement the outline of the social and economic frame of the provincial cities as regards demand for munera gladiatoria and construction of buildings where they were staged. The new studies throw further light on adopting the Roman-style spectacles in both Roman provinces, being part of the process defined by scholars as acculturation, Romanization or imperial culture.