In the last fifteen years the archaeology of the Roman provinces of Noricum, Pannonia and Moesia experienced a slow but steady growth of stone studies. They were initially related mostly to the various analyses of the sepulchral monuments for which they provided a new element for classifications and groupings as well as workshop definitions and reconstructions of their production stages. Parallel to these attempts, the need to study the field of stone production as a part of the ancient economy was soon recognized. Besides the sculpted monuments and the various white and colored marbles used, the building activities of the specific towns were taken into account and “poor”, local variants of rocks considered.

Based on an early 1st c. AD colony (colonia Iulia Emona, Regio X) and an early 4th c. fortified imperial villa (Felix Romuliana, Dacia Ripensis), a general model of the stone supply from the 1st to the 4th century will be explained and differences pinpointed. The new data on the stone use and patterns of the stone supply in different Pannonian towns (Mursa, Sopianae, Sirmium) will be presented to help us understand the stone economy in an area that is almost completely cut off from the main Mediterranean marble resources and poor in good stone as well.