

## PERSEIDA

During the Second war with Rome, Macedonia around Stobi was often troubled by the incursion of Dardani. According to Livy (59 BC – 17 AD), Philip V in 183 BC decided to found a city in Deuriopus, near the Erigon River, not far from the ancient city of Stobi. To the new city he ordered the name of Perseida to be given, so as to show honor to his elder son. It is very likely that Bryanium as an already existing city of strategic importance was renamed to Perseida, since the city was in need to be rebuilt and better fortified. However, Perseida in short period of time was renamed to

*A monumental grave building in ruin on the foot of Drenovska Klisura, a possible place of a large city cemetery*



## DEURIOPUS

After the defeat of the battle at Pydna in 168 BC, Macedonia was severely punished and reduced to a Roman province when also Perseida as a town must have been quickly renamed to Deuriopus, to carry the same name as the whole region of Deuriopus.



There is a stone with inscription said to be found on the site of Styberra, erected there with the aim to commemorate a donation of 1500 denari, by Philip, who was a politarch of Deuriopus, i.e. an elected governor of the town during the Roman era of Macedonia.



*A decorative stone taken from Gradište - now kept in the church of Drenovo*

## EURISTUM

Ptolemaeus (90-168 AD) in his work "Geographiae" has listed Andaristus and Stobi in the district of Pelagonum, indicating that Deuriopus must have been renamed at that time. Euristus is also listed in the Tabula Peutingeriana as one of the station on the way from Stobi to Heraclea Lyncestis. The map shows that Euristus was on a distance of 12 roman miles from Stobi, which corresponds with location of the village Drenovo at the entrance of the gorge at the Rajec River. We guess that Deuriopus must have changed its name into Euristus at the time of the road constructed by the Romans and the creation of the first itineraria with listing of cities, villages and other stops in the fourth or early fifth century.



In the village of Drenovo there is an old church that was built for Tsar Dushan and finished with the paintings shortly after his death in 1356. The badly damaged church during the Turkish rule of Macedonia was restored by Mile Sazdov and his villagers in the beginning of the XIX centuries. Then, the villagers from Drenovo for the rebuilding of the church also brought building materials from Gradište; the marble columns, capitals and fundaments quarried from a ruined episcopal basilica that are now to be found in the church, outside it and elsewhere scattered in the village of Drenovo.



*A decorative capital in marble with a pedestal on it - taken from Gradište and placed outside the church of Drenovo*

Hierocles, a Byzantine geographer of the sixth century to the reign of Justinian I but prior to 535, lists eight episcopal cities in Provincia Macedoniae II as follows; Stoli, Argos, Eustraeum, Pelagonia, Bargala, Celenidin, Harmonia and Zapara. Our conclusion is that Eustraeum as an episcopi existed on Gradište on the site of Bryanium, Perseida Deuriopus and Euristus from where the magnificent rests episcopal church where quarried for the rebuilding of the medieval church in Drenovo.

## PERSEIDA

on  
Erigon River



Republic of Macedonia

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Дреново - Drenovo

Кавдарци

Bryanium - Perseida - Deuriopus - Euristus

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ПЕРСЕИДА  
на  
Црна Река

## DRENOVO

KAVADARCI

Drenovo is a village near Kavadarci in Republic of Macedonia, strategically located at the entrance of the gorge at Rajec River (Drenovska Klisura) on the road from Stobi to Styberra (Cepigovo) and Heraclea Lyncestis (Bitola) that was of importance for defense of the Kingdom of Macedonia. Archaeological artifacts quarried in the past from a place called Gradište or Markovo Kale, also known as Devol, indicates existence of an ancient city that coincides in chronology and ubication of Bryanium, Perseida, Deuriopus and Euristus, all with historical past of existence on the exact same location.



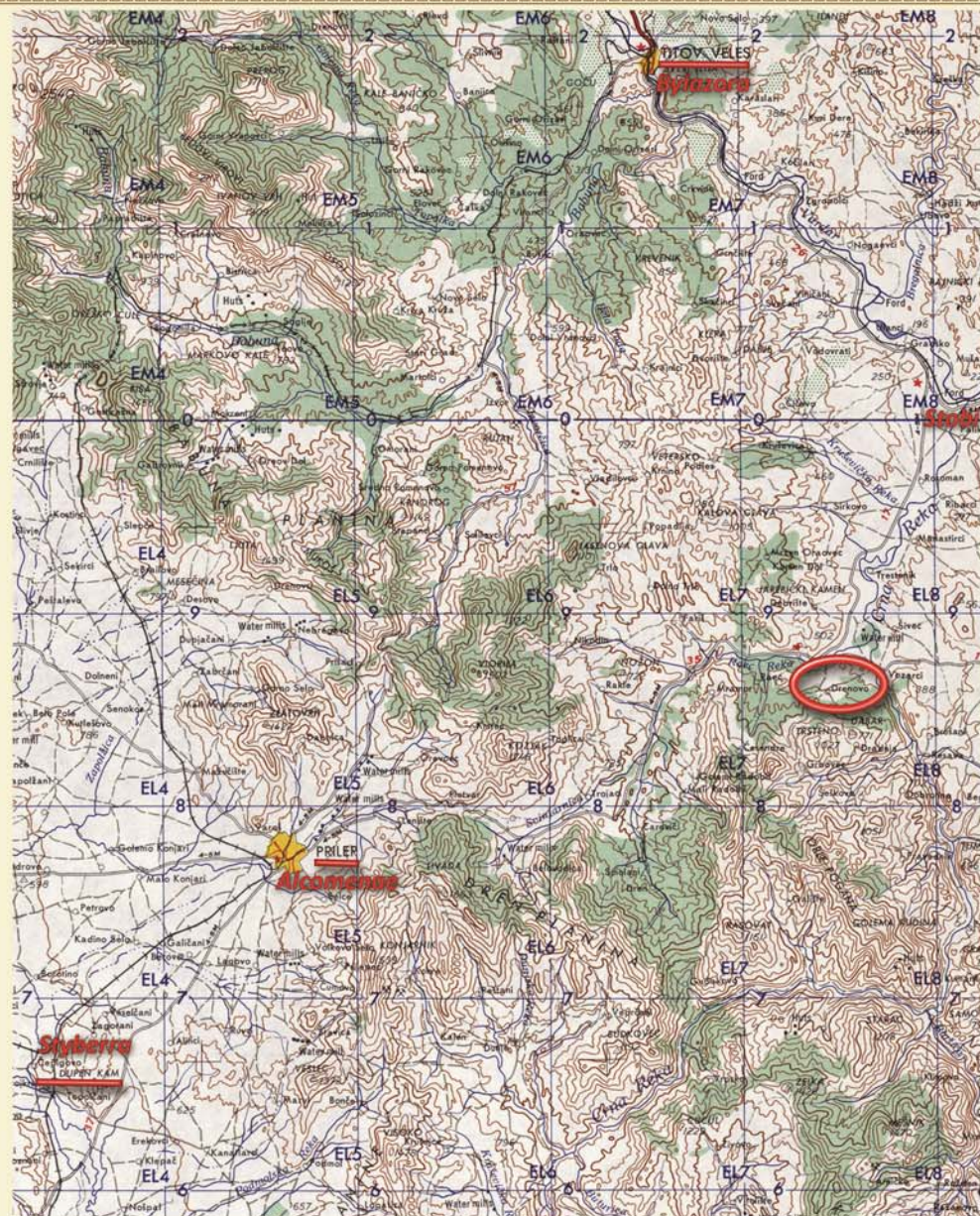
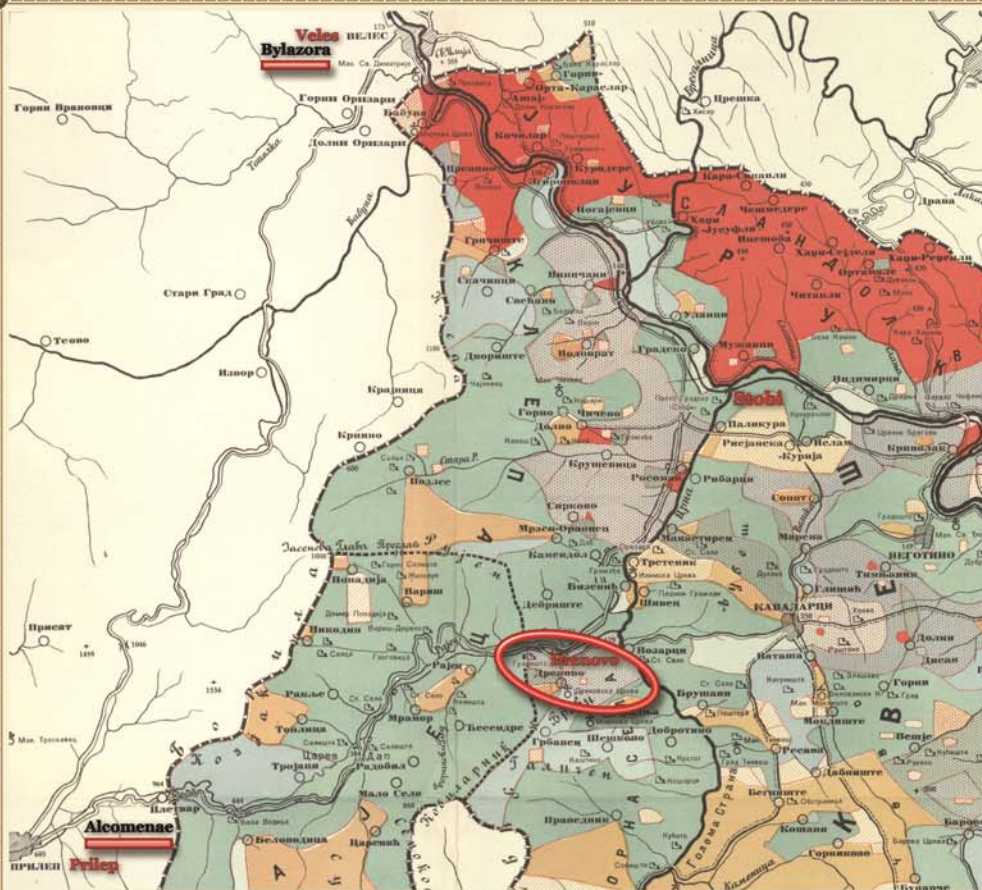
## BRYANIUM

Our written sources about existence of Bryanium at the village of Drenovo are quite obscure. Strabo (64 BC – 24 AD) in his work Geography tells us that Bryanium, Alcomenae and Styberra were among the most populous cities on the Erigon River in Deuriopus district. Obviously, Deuriopus must have covered the whole region alongside the Erigon River as almost does Rajec today that during the Turkish reign of Macedonia was treated as a separate administrative unit called River Parish. Our assumption that Bryanium existed as a city in the past on the site of Gradište near by the hill of Devol is mainly based on the extensive occurrence of the archaeological finds and its strategic location at the gorge of Drenovo on the important road from Stobi to the interior of the Macedonian Kingdom.



*Drenovska Klisura - Fauces Pelagonia  
The entrance to the gorge at Rajec River*

Livy (59 BC – 17 AC) in his description of the Macedonian war with Rom tells us that the young prince Perseus was ordered by his father, Philip V to guard the passes to Pelagonia against the expected attack by Dardani. After the battle with the Roman army at Ottolobum in 200 BC, Philip V was forced to take the road to Bryanium over the mountains, which he knew that the Roman general would not attempt with his heavy column. When Philip V had established a base near Bryanium, marching from there across country he inspired sudden terror in the enemy.



Map showing location of Bryanium, Perseida, Deuriopus and Euristus, all with historical past of existence on the exact same location, at a place called Gradiste or Markovo Kale, also known as Devol. Deuriopus occupied the strategic location at the gorge of Drenovo on the important road from Stobi to the interior of the Macedonian Kingdom. Map source: Vojislav Radovanovič, Poreklo stanovništva Tikveša i Rajca, Naselja, knjiga 17, 1924, map scale 1:200000

Map showing location of Drenovo, near Kavadarci in Republic of Macedonia the place of ancient town Bryanium, Perseida, Deuriopus and Euristus at Drenovska Klisura, also known as fauces Pelagonia. Map scale 1:250000