CONSTANTINE PORPHYROGENITUS (905-959) ON THE BORDERS OF THE ABKHAZIAN KINGDOM

A long tradition of interpretation of the treatise “De administrando imperio” (ascribed to the Byzantine emperor-historian Constantine VII Porphyrogenitus) offers us several opinions regarding the location of the fortress of Soterioupolis - that is, as the text tells us, the south border of Abasgia. The article analyzes the most important concepts concerning the subject and points out a number of weak arguments in the polemics concerning Soterioupolis. Measurements, made by using a free map service “Google maps”, allowed to re-analyze the available information on the whereabouts of Sotirioupolis. In the conclusion, the author makes an attempt to reconcile the two main points of view on the allocation of Sotirioupolis. Bibliogr. 21 names.

Keywords: Sotirioupolis, Abasgia, Constantine Porphyrogenitus, “De administrando imperio”.

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